



# SimCenter Recap

**Frank McKenna**  
University of California, Berkeley



NSF award: CMMI 1612843

# Outline

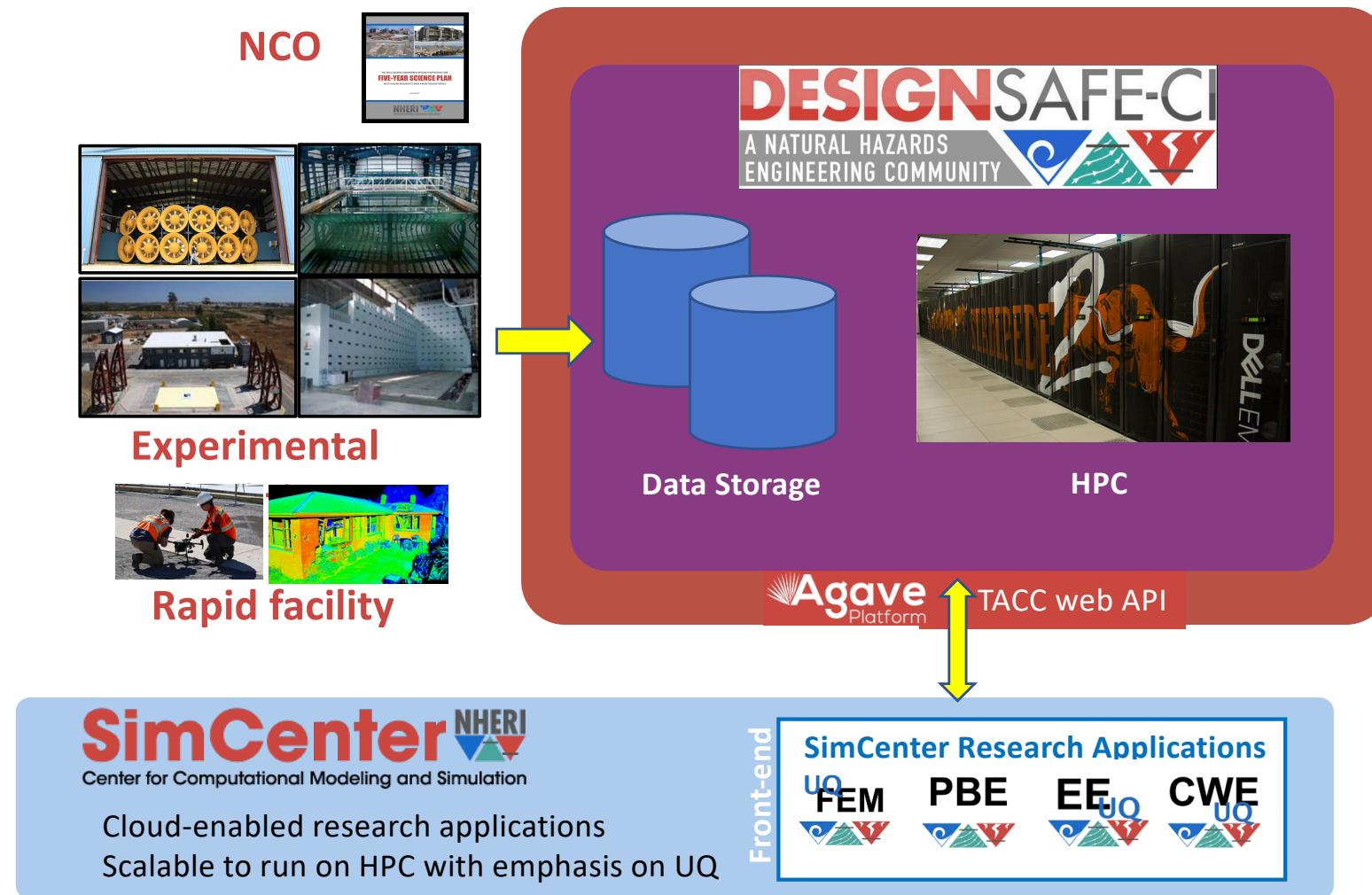
Introduction to SimCenter

Research Applications

Education & Outreach

# NSF NHERI

(Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure)



We are a Virtual EF

# Leadership Group



**Sanjay Govindjee**  
UC Berkeley



**Ahsan Kareem**  
Notre Dame



**Laura Lowes**  
Washington



**Greg Deierlein**  
Stanford



**Satish Rao**  
UC Berkeley

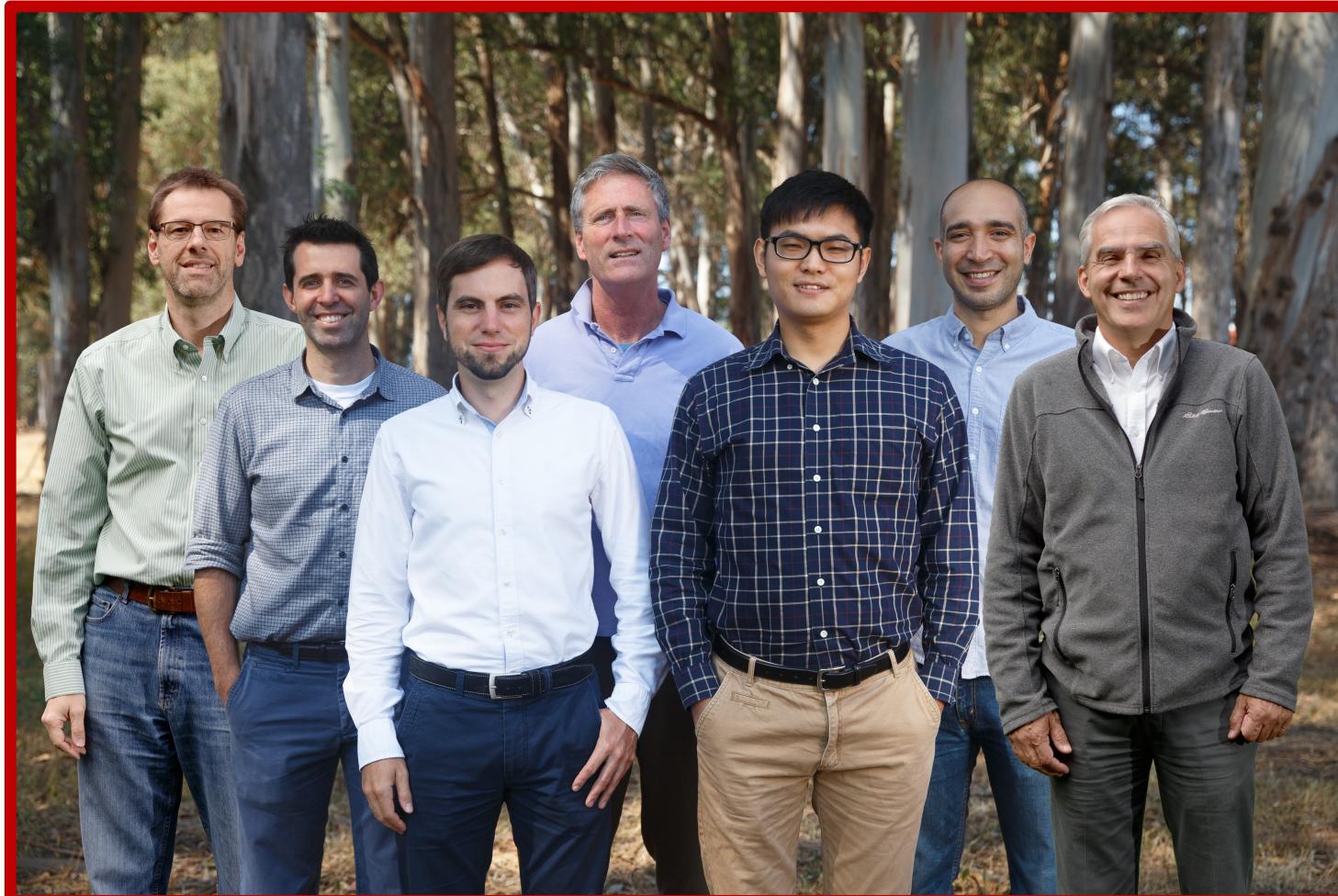


**Frank McKenna**  
UC Berkeley



**Matt Schoettler**  
UC Berkeley

# Software Development Team



**Peter (UW), Michael, Adam (Stanford), Frank,  
Charles, Wael, Pedro (UW)**



**Qian**



**Ziad**



**Jiawai  
(ND)**



**Barbara**

# Domain Experts

Additional experts in engineering, urban planning, social science, and computer and information science



Iris Tien



George Deodatis



Patrick Lynette



Alex Taflanidis



Jack Baker



Ann-Margret Esnard



Joel Conte



Vesna Terzic



Jonathan Bray



Tracy Kijewski-Correa



Michael Motley



Paul Waddell



Camille Crittenden



Filip Filippou



Ewa Deelman



Kincho Law



Ertugrul Taciroglu



Stella Yu



Eduardo Miranda



Andrew Kennedy

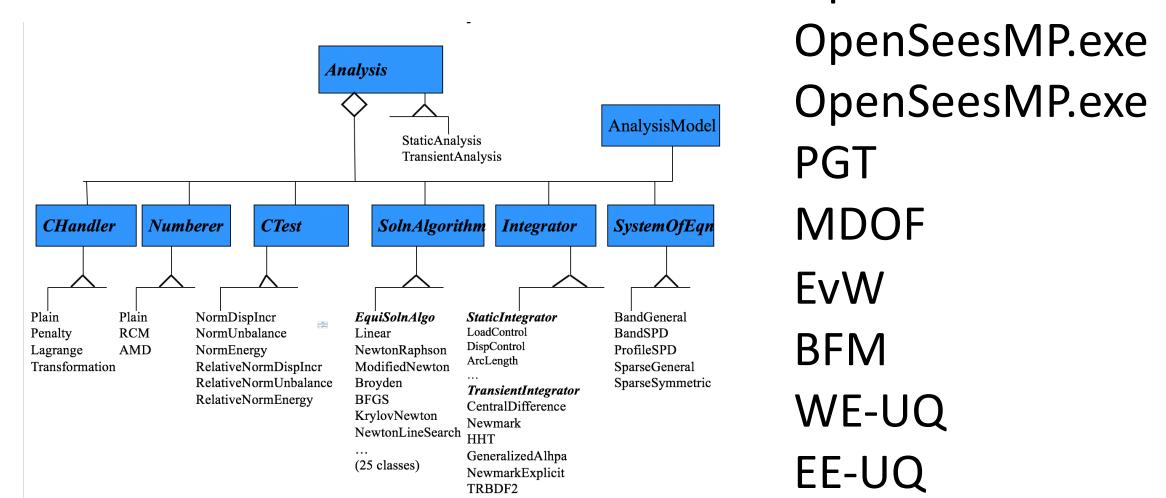
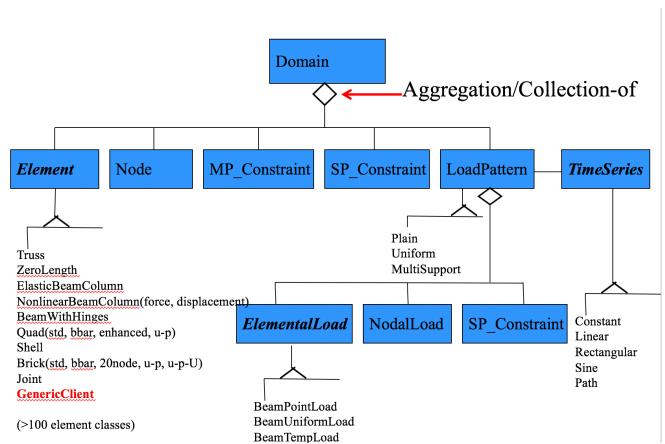
# Mission

“Transforming the nation’s ability to understand and mitigate adverse effects of natural hazards on the built environment through advanced computational simulation”

**Grounded in the present**  
**Five year focus**  
**Ten year vision**

# SimCenter Mission to Produce Extensible Software that Researchers in Natural Hazards Engineering can use in their research

- Develop an **open-source computational framework** for **building workflow applications** to support decision-making to enhance community resilience to natural hazards **in the face of uncertainty**;
- **Design a framework** that is sufficiently **flexible, extensible, and scalable** so that any component of it can be enhanced to improve the analysis and thereby better meet the needs of the community;
- **Seed the framework** with enough **data** and **interfaces to existing simulation tools** so that it can be used in the near-term using SimCenter developed Applications;
- **Release tools/applications built using this framework** that meets the computational needs of researchers in natural hazards engineering;
- **Provide an ecosystem** that fosters collaboration between scientists, engineers, urban planners, public officials, and others who seek to improve community resilience to natural hazards.



OpenSees.exe  
 OpenSeesMP.exe  
 OpenSeesMP.exe  
 PGT  
 MDOF  
 EvW  
 BFM  
 WE-UQ  
 EE-UQ

# Outline

Introduction to SimCenter  
Research Applications

Education & Outreach

# Some Released Software For Looking at Effect of Hazard At Individual Building Level



## Unique Features

- Uncertainty Quantification
- Local or Remote Execution
- Event Selection

# Applications **ARE NOT** Deterministic Applications

i.e. they do not produce a single output result for every response parameter

# Applications **ARE** UQ Applications

i.e. for each output response they produce information on the response and some measure on the uncertainty in the computed response, e.g. mean and std. dev

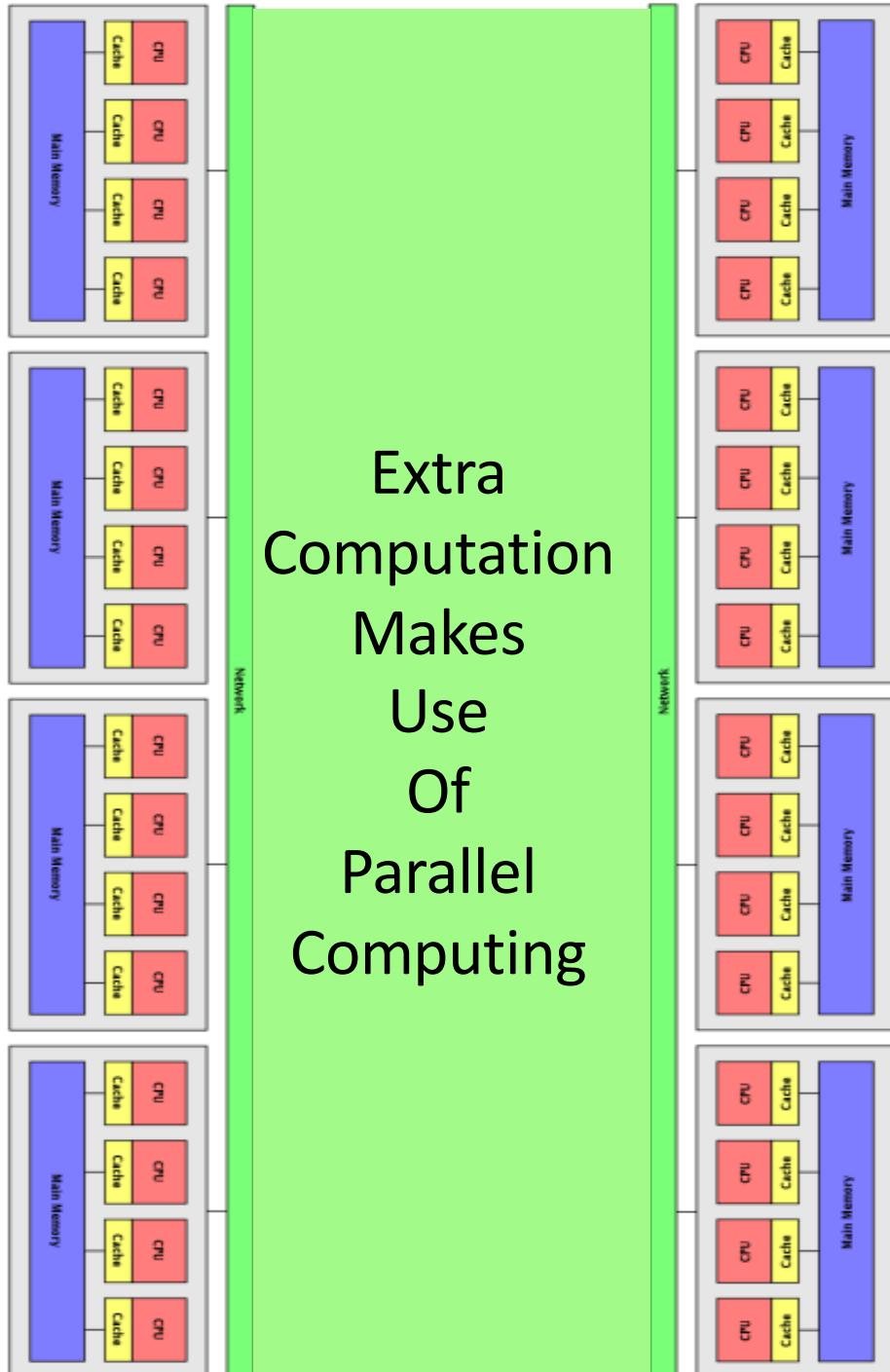
# This Requires Extra Input From User



User has to identify certain parameters as being **Random Variables**



User then has to define the **Distribution** associated with these Random Variable



## Extra Computation Makes Use Of Parallel Computing

- Applications can run these computations in parallel using the cores of your local computer;
- They also allow you to run the simulations through the Cloud on the HPC resources provided through DesignSafe-ci.

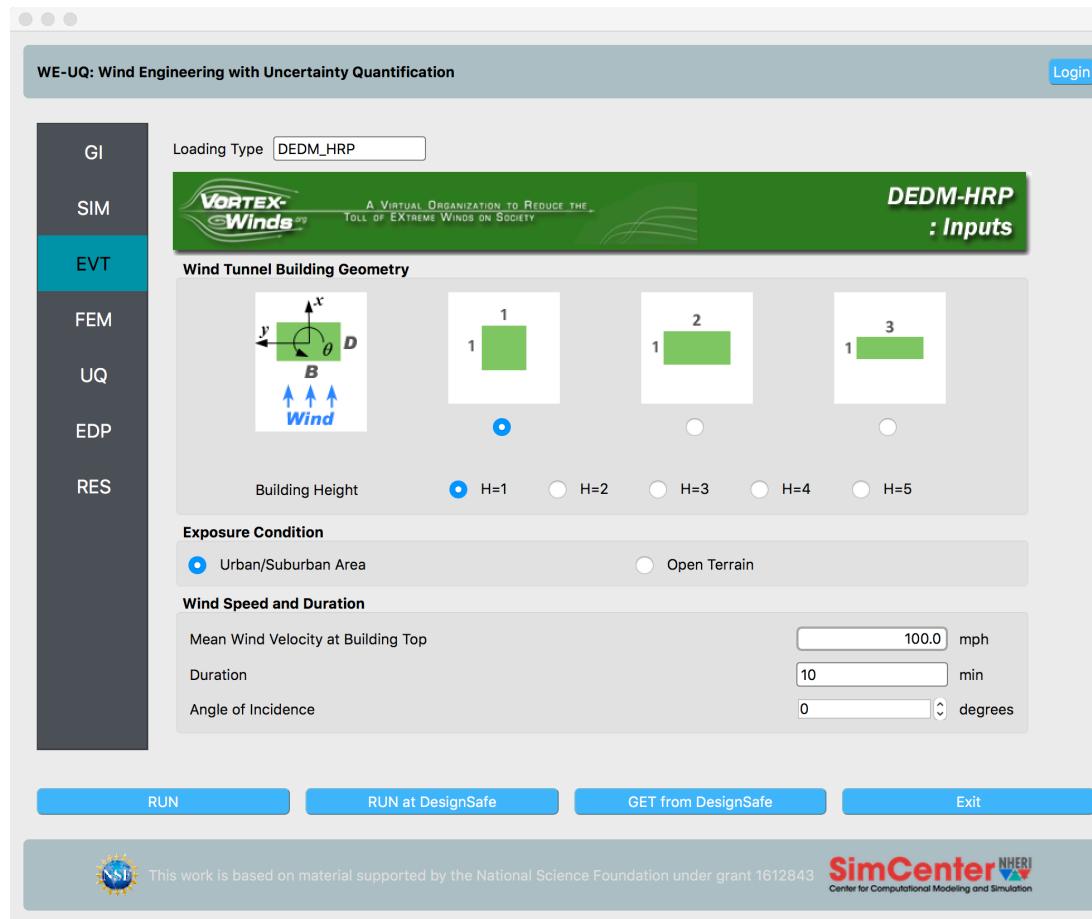
Applications split into 2 applications:

Front End  
UI

Backend  
Workflow

- Front end is an application runs on your desktop
- Backend workflow applications run on either your desktop or HPC at TACC

# Frontend - UI



UI Creates an INPUT File for Backend and:

- UI Invokes Python Application in Backend
- UI Sends to DesignSafe and Invokes Agave App

# Backend – A Scientific Workflow Application



- \* Python Application Runs the Workflow using **Subprocess**
- \* Inputs & Outputs from Applications are in a **JSON** file format

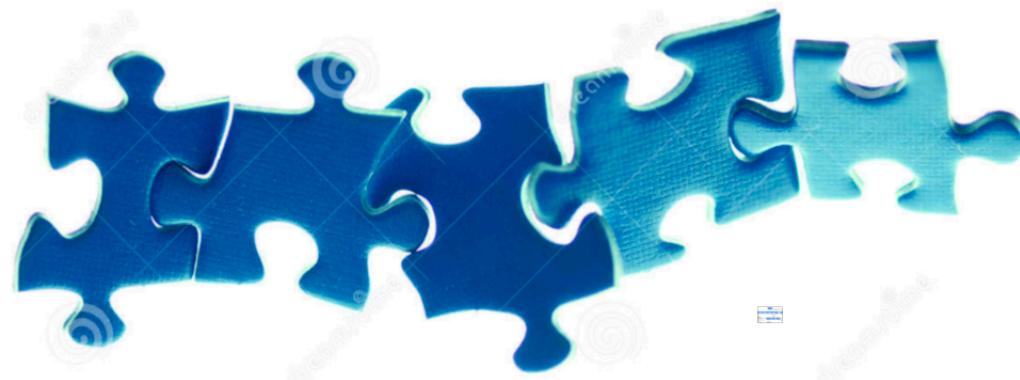
# Definition

**Scientific Workflow Application:** A scientific workflow is the **automation** of a process in which information is passed from **one application to the next.**



SimCenter classes  
are  
Applications

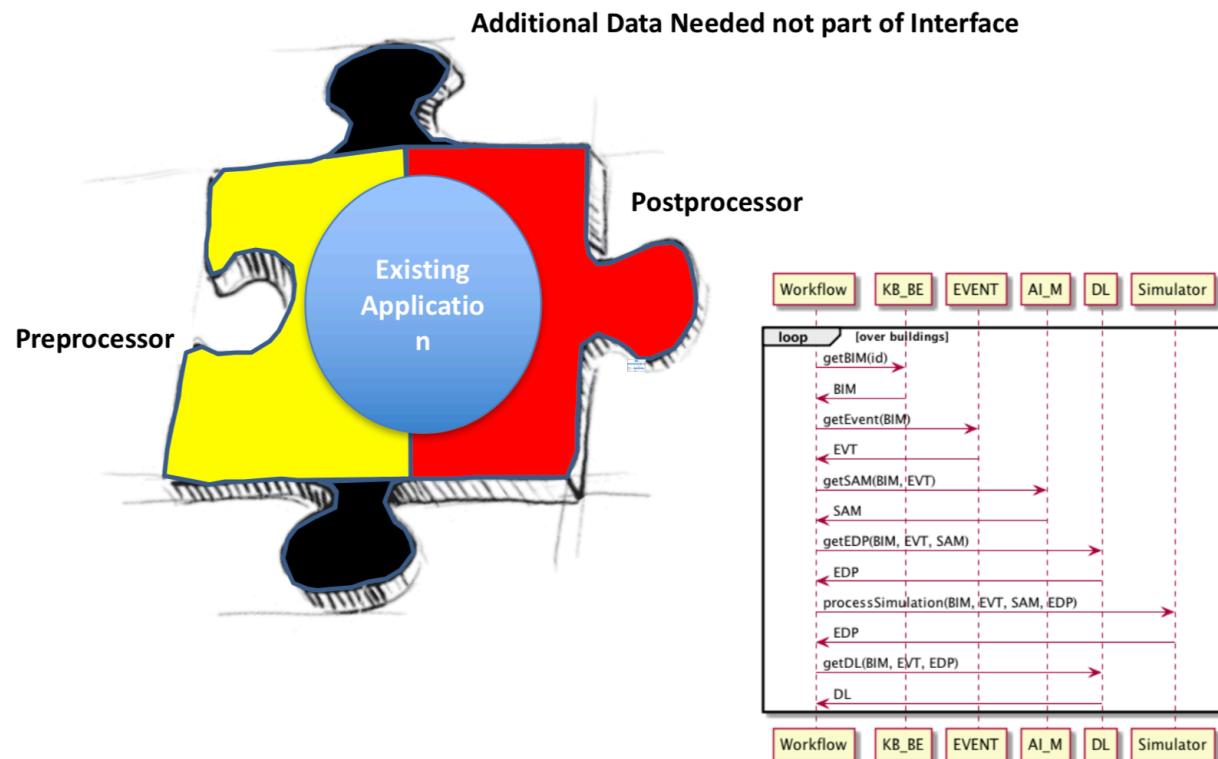
Existing Applications, which of course  
do not work together



SimCenter defining **interfaces** they must meet!



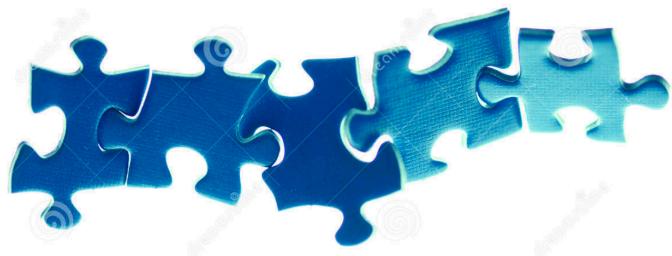
# And Writing Code to incorporate Existing Applications into Workflow





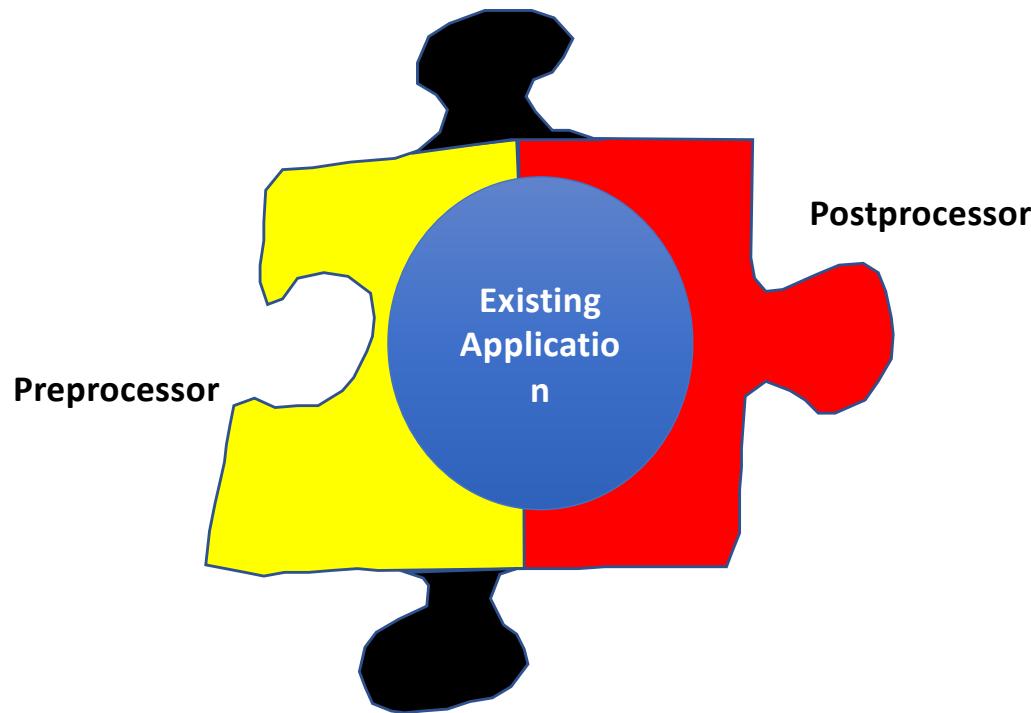
# JSON input/output causes problems for Existing Code

## Existing Software & APIs



OpenFOAM, OpenSEES, Dakota,  
PEER NGA, Vortex-Winds

Data Needed not part of Interface



# Input file for Backend is a JSON file

```
{  
  "Applications": {  
    "EDP": {  
      "Application": "StandardWindEDP",  
      "ApplicationData": {}  
    },  
    "Events": [  
      {  
        "Application": "StochasticWindInput-WittigSinha1975",  
        "ApplicationData": {},  
        "EventClassification": "Wind"  
      },  
      {  
        "Modeling": {  
          "Application": "MDOF_BuildingModel",  
          "ApplicationData": {}  
        },  
        "Simulation": {  
          "Application": "OpenSees-Simulation",  
          "ApplicationData": {}  
        }  
      }  
    ]  
  }  
}  
dakota.json
```

# Configuration File is a JSON file

```
"EventApplications": {  
    "API": {  
        "Inputs": [  
            {  
                "id": "filenameBIM",  
                "type": "string",  
                "default": "BIM.json"  
            }  
        ],  
        "Outputs": [  
            {  
                "id": "filenameEVENT",  
                "type": "string",  
                "default": "EVENT.json"  
            }  
        ]  
    },  
    "Applications": [  
        {  
            "Name": "StochasticWindInput-KwonKareem2006",  
            "ExecutablePath": "applications/createEVENT/NOWS1/NOWS1",  
            "ApplicationSpecificInputs": []  
        },  
        {  
            "Name": "DEDM_HRP",  
            "ExecutablePath": "applications/createEVENT/DEDM_HRP/DEDM_HRP.py",  
            "ApplicationSpecificInputs": []  
        },  
        {  
            "Name": "NREL5MW",  
            "ExecutablePath": "applications/createEVENT/NREL5MW/NREL5MW",  
            "ApplicationSpecificInputs": []  
        }  
    ]  
}
```

WorkflowApplications.json

# UQ: Forward Uncertainty Propagation

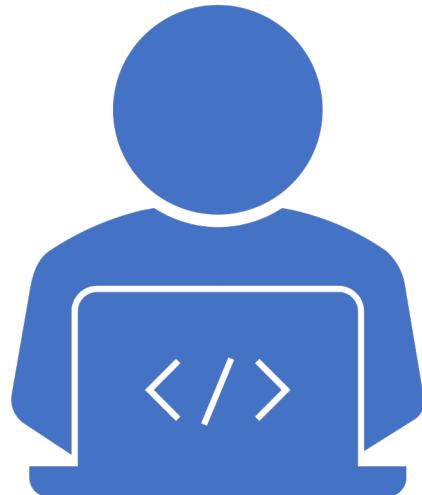
- Uncertainties are handled using Dakota
- Each workflow application is called initially to define random variables
- Dakota samples the random variables and runs the workflow applications for each sample



Adams, B.M., Bauman, L.E., Bohnhoff, W.J., Dalbey, K.R., Ebeida, M.S., Eddy, J.P., Eldred, M.S., Hough, P.D., Hu, K.T., Jakeman, J.D., Stephens, J.A., Swiler, L.P., Vigil, D.M., and Wildey, T.M., "Dakota, A Multilevel Parallel Object-Oriented Framework for Design Optimization, Parameter Estimation, Uncertainty Quantification, and Sensitivity Analysis: Version 6.8 Theory Manual," Sandia Technical Report SAND2014-4253, May 2018.

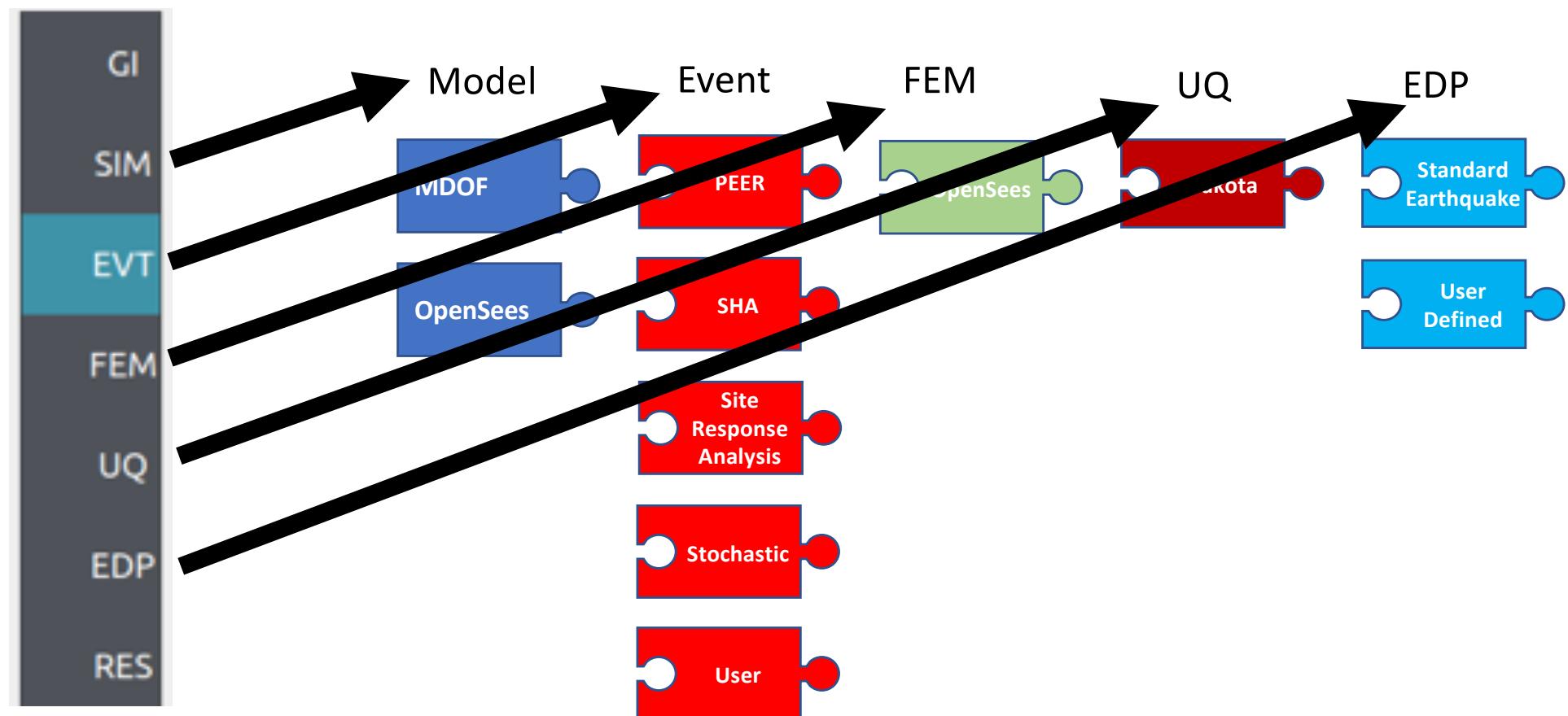
Applications are in actuality

## Scientific Workflow System



- they provide an interface to allow user to select from different applications to run in a scientific workflow
- The interface also allows users to specify specific inputs, schedule and run the workflow, and to monitor the progress.

# Applications Present Users With a Lot of Options



# Which allows User to Mix and Match

Chain a set of applications into a building workflow

Workflow 1



Workflow 2



Workflow 3



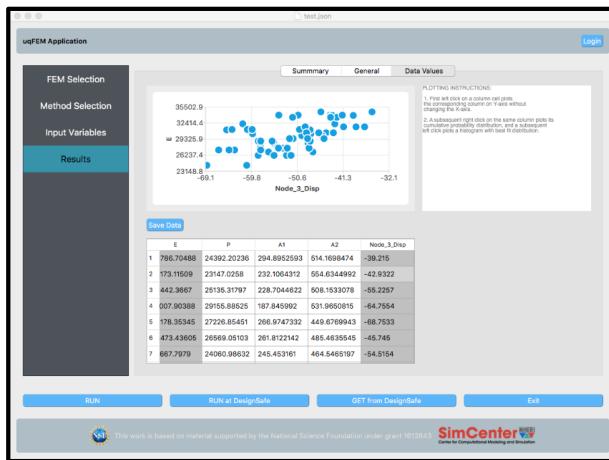
Research Applications  
Are Designed To Be  
Flexible & Extensible

# Open-Source Source Code

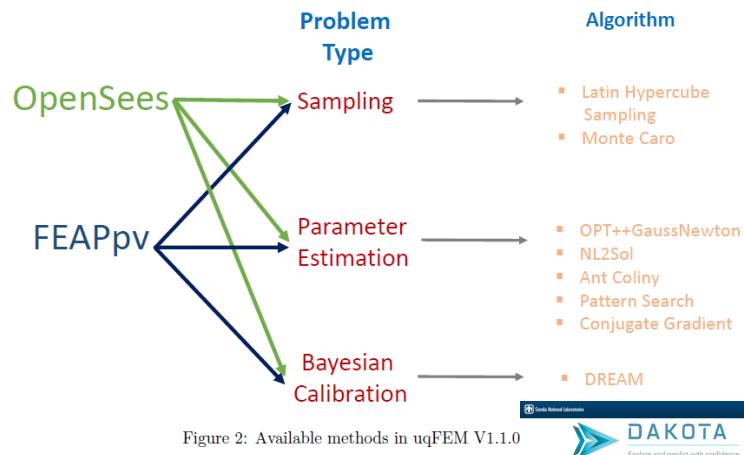
The screenshot shows the GitHub organization page for 'NHERI-SimCenter'. At the top, there's a search bar and navigation links for 'Pull requests', 'Issues', 'Marketplace', and 'Explore'. Below the header, the organization's logo (a blue square icon) and name 'NHERI-SimCenter' are displayed. A navigation bar includes 'Repositories 24', 'Packages', 'People 9', 'Teams 4', 'Projects', and 'Settings'. A search bar at the top of the main content area allows users to 'Find a repository...' and includes dropdowns for 'Type: All' and 'Language: All'. A green 'New' button is also present. The main content area lists three repositories: 'BracedFrameModeling', 'EVW', and 'PileGroupTool', each with a brief description, statistics (e.g., C++, stars, forks), and an 'Updated 11 hours ago' message. To the right, there are two boxes: 'Top languages' (C++, Python, C, TeX) and 'People' (a grid of nine user profiles).

- **PELICUN:** Probabilistic estimation of losses, injuries and community resilience under natural disasters  
Miranda, Terzic, Baker, Kijewski-Correa, Adam Zsarnóczay
- **SMELT:** Stochastic, Modular and Extensible Library for Time history generation  
Michael Gardner
- **S3hark Site Response**  
Deodatis, Bray, Arduino, Baker, Taciroglu, Charles Wang
- AI Tools  
Yu, Law, Taciroglu, Charles Wang

# (to be renamed quoFEM)



Govindjee, Conte, Kennedy & Taflanidis  
Frank McKenna & Ziad Ghauch



## Current Release V1.1 (Oct 2018)

- Correlation matrix for sampling methods
- Computation for Sobolev indices for sampling algorithms
- Specifying user-defined probability distribution functions for random variables (for sampling methods)
- Fitting of probability distribution functions for sampling results
- Conjugate gradient for calibration problems
- Pattern search for calibration problems

## Future Release V2.0 (Sept 2019)

- Summary Statistics
- Correlation Matrix Testing with multiple events options
- User Defined Distribution



Arduino, Baker, Bray, Conte, Deodatis,  
Tacioglu & Taflanidis

**Frank McKenna, Wael Elhaddad,  
Charles Wang & Michael Gardner**

## Current Release V1.1 (March 2019)

- Loading:
  - PEER Motions
  - Site Response 2D/1D motion, Effective Stress
  - Stochastic Loading – Vlachos et al.
  - Site Hazard Analysis
- Shear Building Model & OpenSees Models
- Earthquake & User Defined EDP

## Future Releases

### V1.2 (June 2019)

- Loading - Soil Column - 2d Motion, Effective Stress

### V2.0 (Sept 2019)

- Loading:
  - Random Field Vertical
  - Stochastic Loading – Dobaghi
- Building:
  - Expert System for Walls, Moment Frames and Braces
  - Conditional Spectrum



WE-UQ: Wind Engineering with Uncertainty Quantification

Login

GI  
SIM  
**EVT**  
FEM  
UQ  
EDP  
RES

Loading Type : DEDM\_HRP

VORTEX-Winds<sup>HRP</sup> A VIRTUAL ORGANIZATION TO REDUCE THE TOLL OF EXTREME WINDS ON SOCIETY

**DEDM-HRP : Inputs**

Wind Tunnel Building Geometry

Building Height: H=1, H=2, H=3, H=4, H=5

Exposure Condition: Urban/Suburban Area (selected), Open Terrain

Wind Speed and Duration

Mean Wind Velocity at Building Top: 100.0 mph

Duration: 10 min

RUN RUN at DesignSafe GET from DesignSafe Exit

National Science Foundation SimCenter Center for Computational Modeling and Simulation

## Initial Release V1.0 (June 2019)

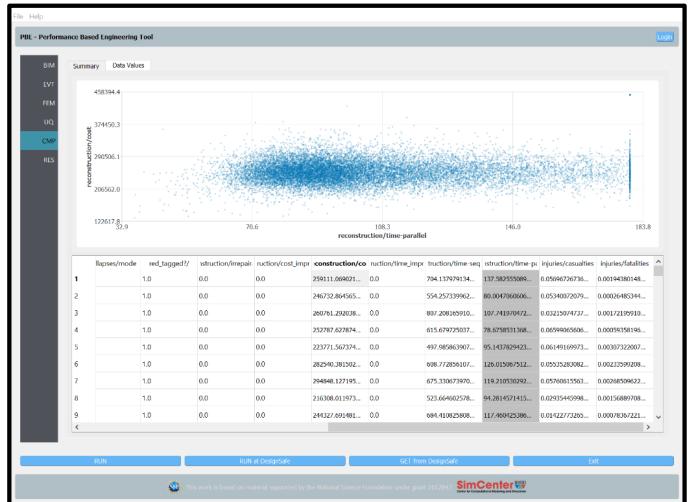
- Wind Engineering Tool to consider UQ
  - Random Variables in all but CFD
  - Sampling Methods
- Loading
  - Stochastic loads.
  - Interface to Vortex Winds (HighRise).
- CFD
  - User defined meshes.
  - Inflow for the initial conditions

## Release V1.1 (Sept 2019)

- UQ for CFD
- Basic Meshing
- Low Rise Buildings

Kareem, Kennedy, Motley & Taflanidis  
Frank McKenna, Peter Mackenzie-Helnwein,  
Jiawei Wan, Wael Elhaddad, Charles Wang &  
Michael Gardner

# PBE



Deierlein, Baker, Taflanidis & Terzic  
Frank McKenna & Adam Zsarnóczay

## Current Release V1.1 (March 2019)

- Incorporates EE-UQ features for building system analyses
- Enabled component-group-based (FEMA P58-style) loss assessment for earthquake hazard.

## Future Release V2.0 (Sept 2019)

- Extend to incorporate damage and loss functions for wind and storm surge (HAZUS).
- Enable response estimation without simulation (HAZUS-style simplified approach typically using a simple formula), Business interruption (HAZUS).
- More sophisticated injury characterization (HAZUS).
- Downtime (REDi)
- Alternative UQ propagation methods for combining collapse and damage

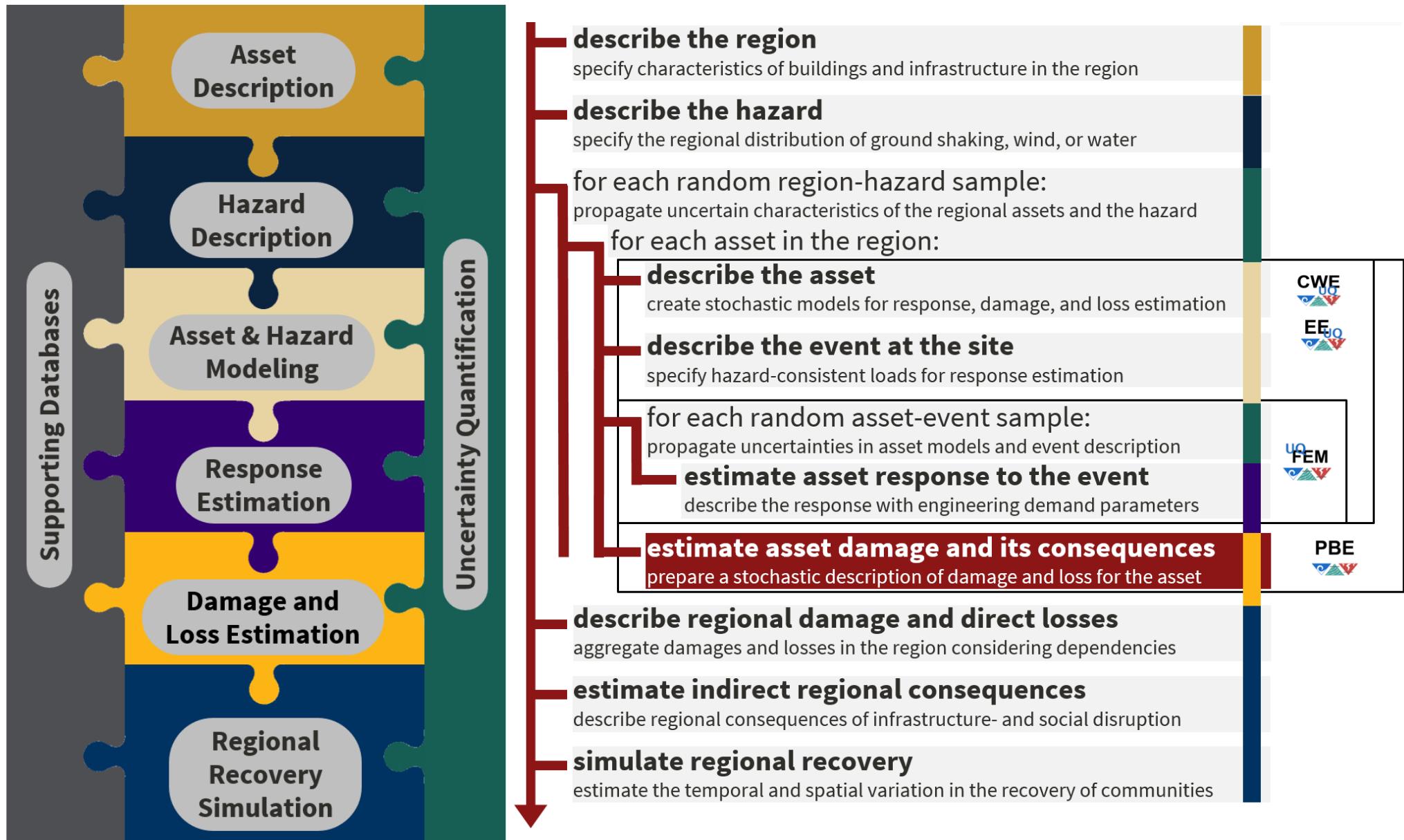
# Major Upcoming Applications (within next year)

RDT



If we can do a building  
why not extend to a region!

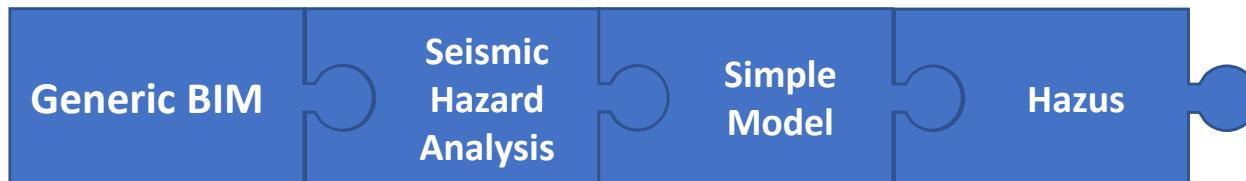
# Resiliency Decision Tool



# Regional Workflow for Hazard And Loss Estimation

rWHALE

Deierlein, Kareem, Conte, Deelman, Deodatis,  
Kijewski-Correa, Taflanidis & Tien  
**Frank McKenna & Wael Elhaddad**



**Current Release V1.1 (Feb 2019)**

- Regional earthquake workflow
- Various hazard representations

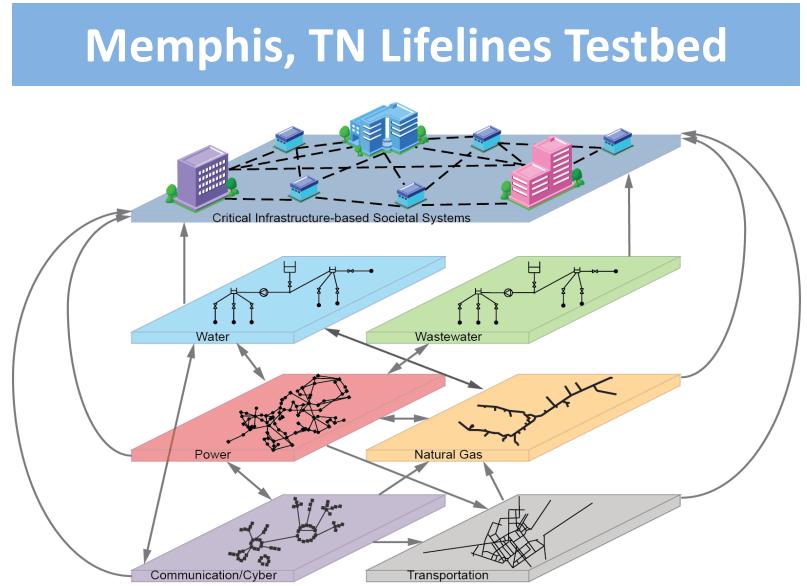
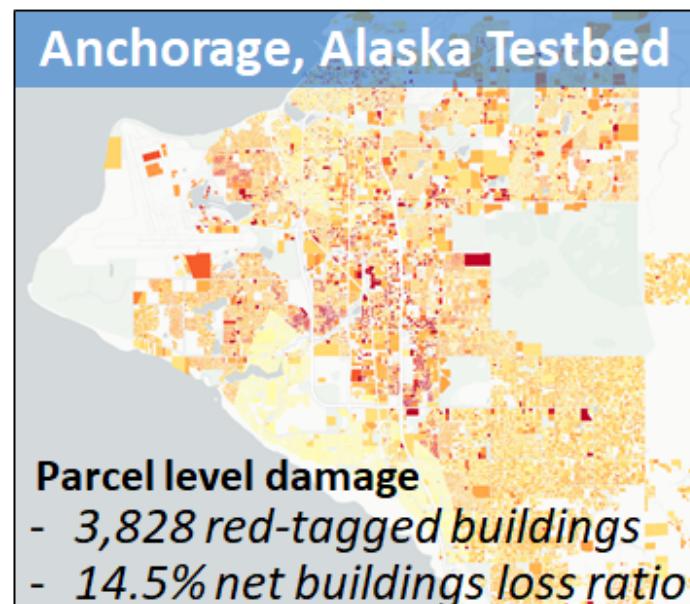
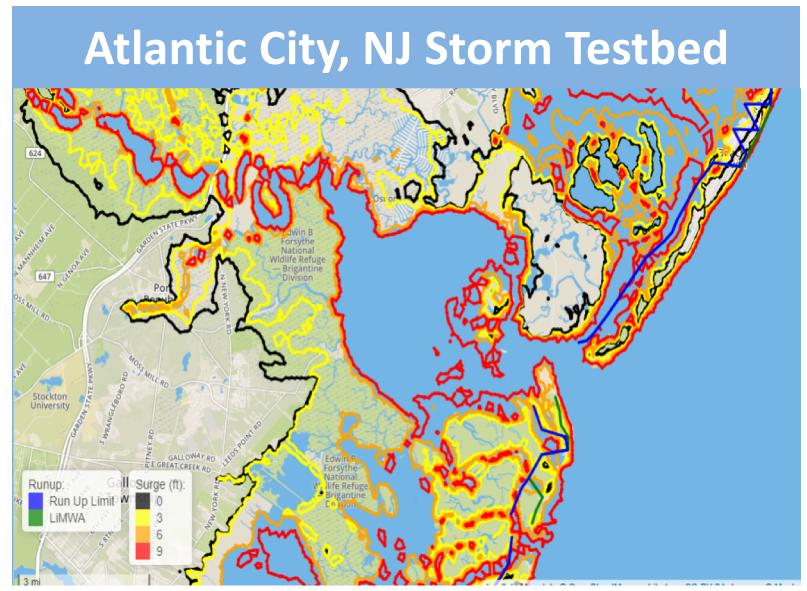
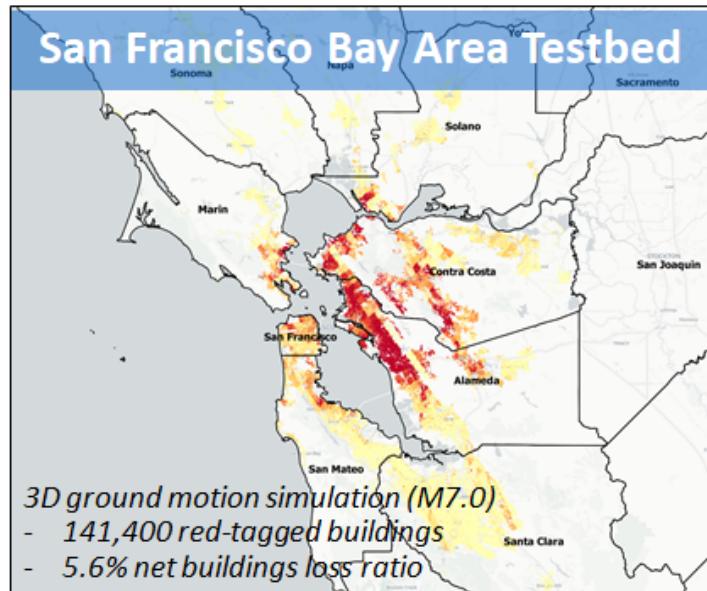


**Future Release V2.0 (Sept 2019)**

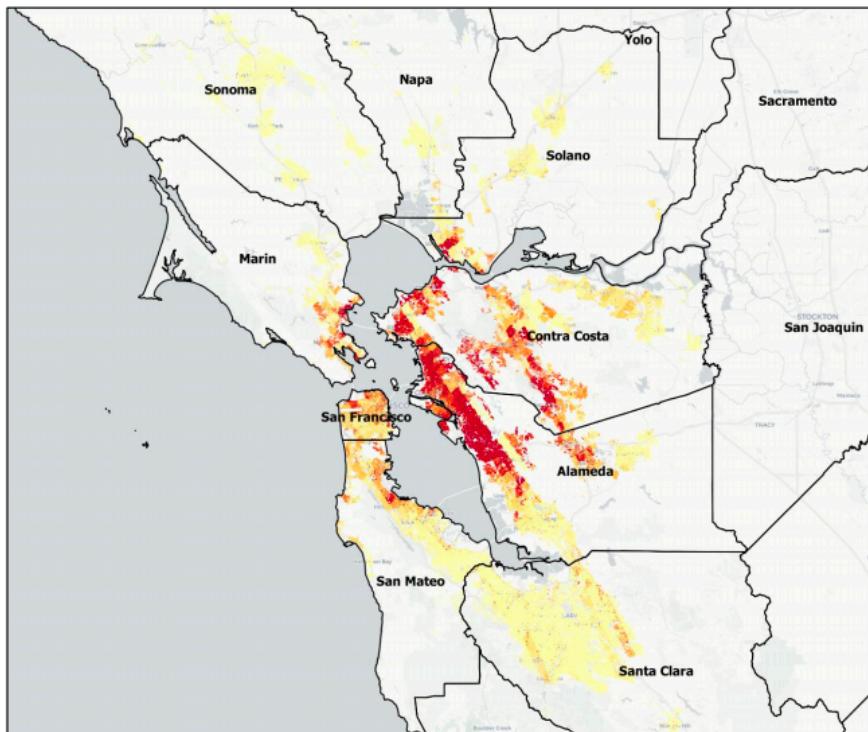
- Regional storm workflow
- Initial version to consider ASCE7 wind loading and HAZUS type damage and loss



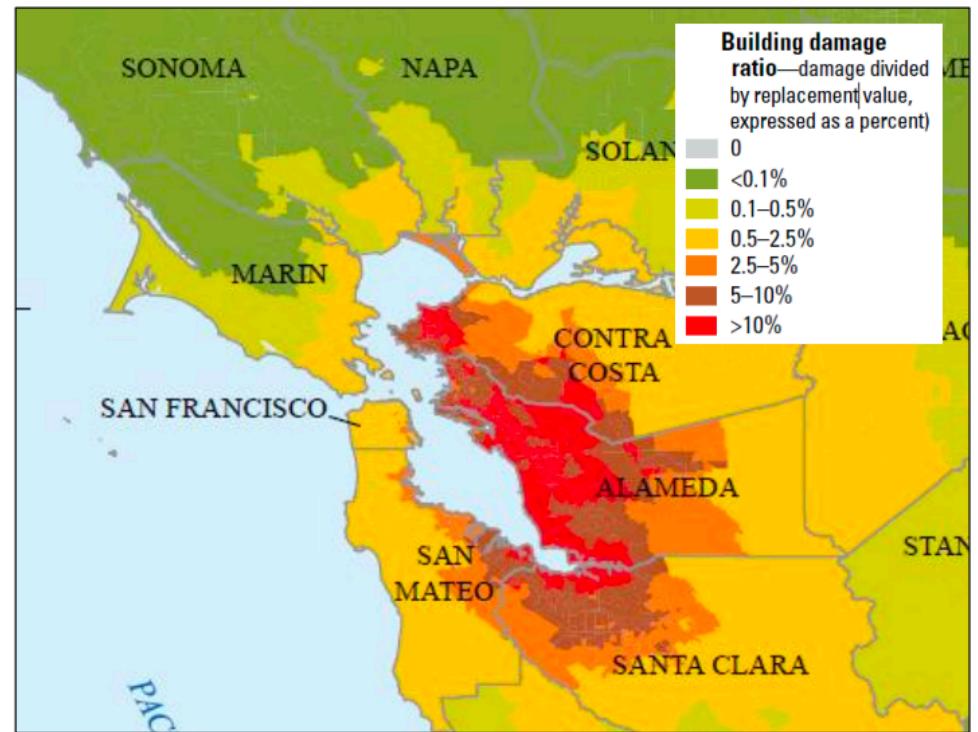
# Regional Workflow Testbeds to Verify rWhale



# It's NOT HAZUS



SimCenter Workflow

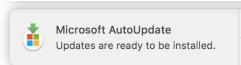


USGS Haywired

If know area, to east of fault there are hills and no construction! **SimCenter Info at parcel level**

# There is Of Course the Small Matter of where we get the Data!

## Web Services



### ■ ATC API

- Hazard by Location API: <https://hazards.atcouncil.org/api>
- Example: <https://api-hazards.atcouncil.org/wind.json?lat=35.4676&lng=-97.5164>

### ■ USGS APIs (NSHMP-ws)

- Hazard Service: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/nshmp-haz-ws/>
- Design Maps: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/ws/designmaps/>

### ■ FDSN

- Earthquake Catalog: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/fdsnws/event/1/>
- Examples:

Ridgecrest, CA

<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/fdsnws/event/1/query?format=geojson&starttime=2019-01-01&endtime=2019-07-24&latitude=35.6225&longitude=-117.6709&maxradiuskm=50&minmagnitude=6>

Anchorage, AK

<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/fdsnws/event/1/query?format=geojson&starttime=2018-11-30&endtime=2018-12-01&latitude=61.2181&longitude=-149.9003&maxradiuskm=50&minmagnitude=6>

### ■ DataSF Portal

- Tall Building Inventory
  - Map: <https://data.sfgov.org/Housing-and-Buildings/Map-of-Tall-Buildings/xnf9-cudk>
  - Inventory: <https://data.sfgov.org/Housing-and-Buildings/Tall-Building-Inventory/5ky4-mfst>
  - Request: <https://data.sfgov.org/resource/5ky4-mfst.json>

...

### ■ Census API

- <https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets.html>

# Well Then Collecting The Data!

## Python Libraries

---

- **Requests**

- Submit HTTP requests and get the response
- Documentation: <https://2.python-requests.org/en/master/>

- **Selenium**

- Webdriver to control the web browser
- Documentation: <https://selenium-python.readthedocs.io/getting-started.html>

- **BeautifulSoup, lxml**

- Packages to facilitate processing html
- Documentation: <https://www.crummy.com/software/BeautifulSoup/bs4/doc/#quick-start>

- **Census, US**

- Python package to facilitate querying Census data
- Documentation: <https://github.com/datamade/census>

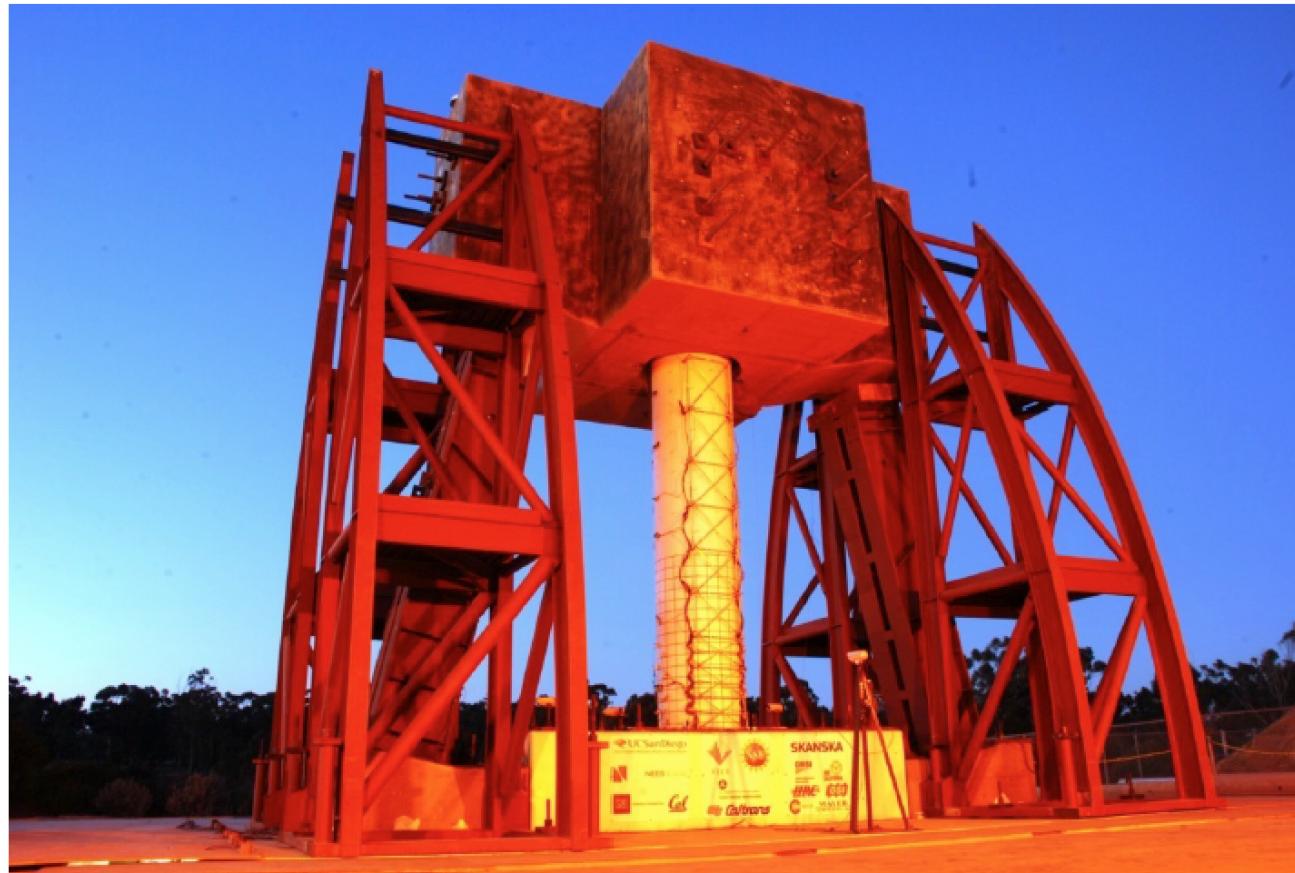
And (as you will see) we are also  
making the Data Freely Available @  
DesignSafe.

Our Intention is Not To  
Release Tools That Do  
Everything .. Our Intent  
is to Provide Tools that  
Represent State-of-the-  
Art and Ensuring that  
the Design of Them Will  
Allow Researchers Such  
as Yourselves to Make  
your Own Contributions



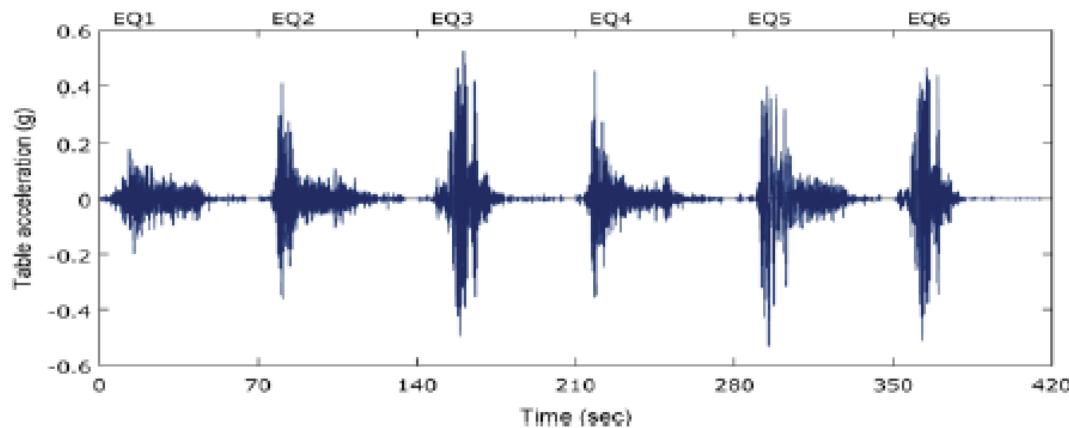
# For Where Are We?

**Today:**  
**PEER Bridge Column Benchmark @ UCSD**

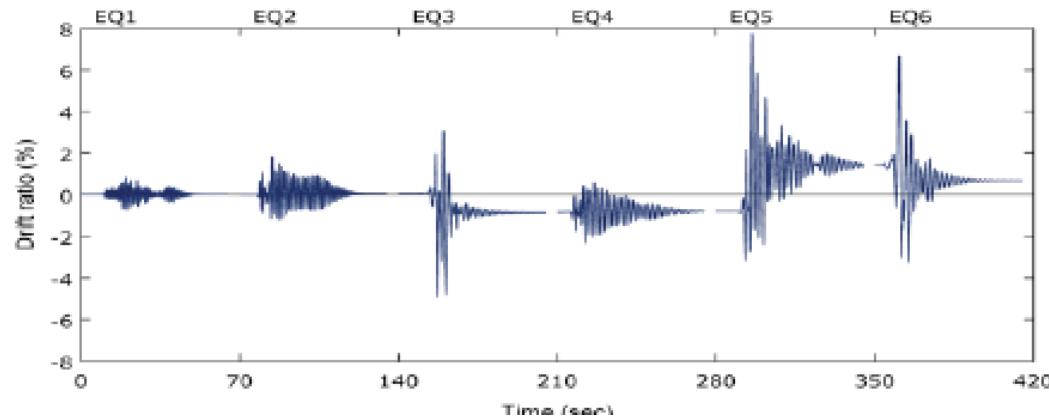


# Today: PEER Bridge Column Benchmark @ UCSD

- Earthquake acceleration time histories

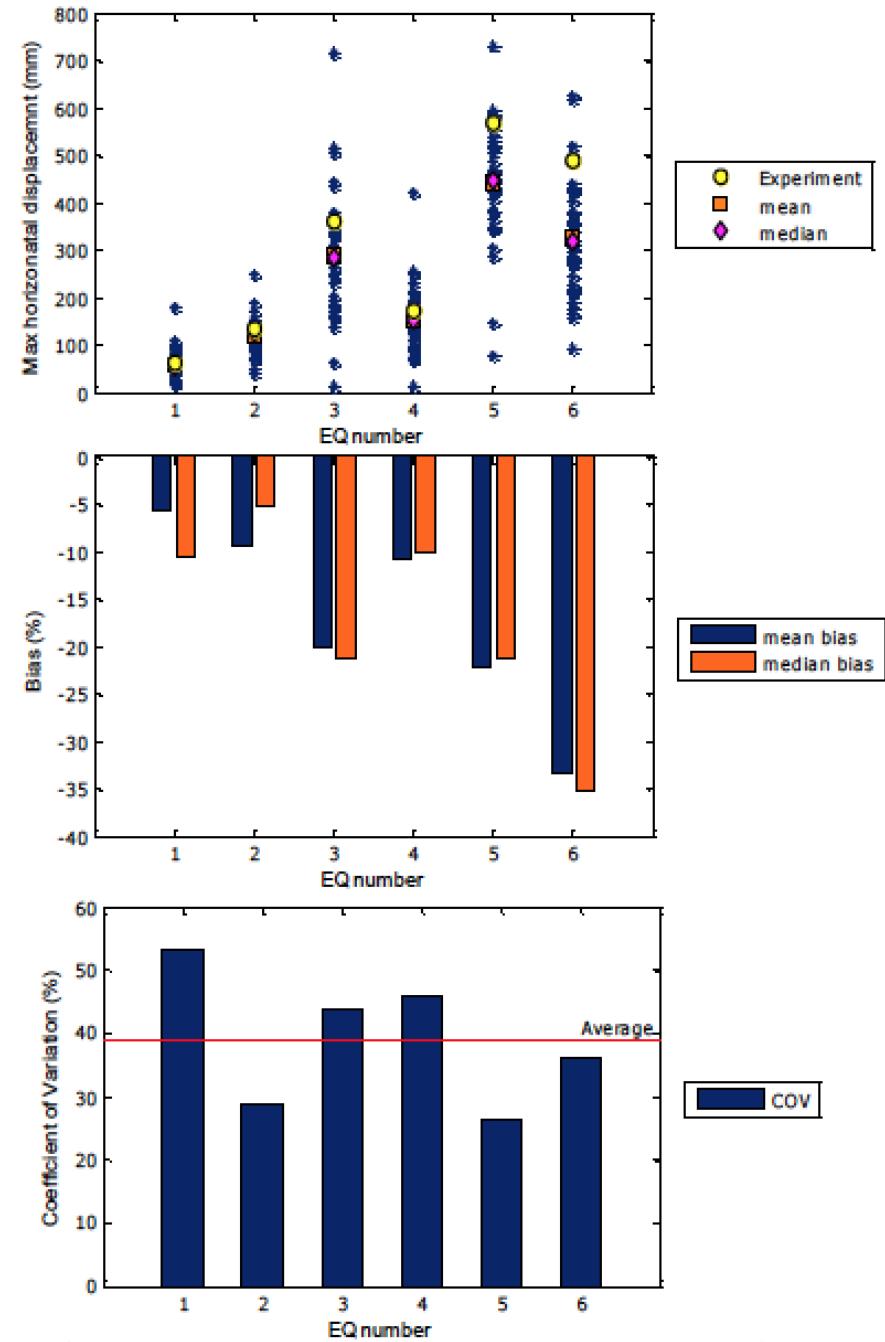


- Drift ratio time histories



# Today

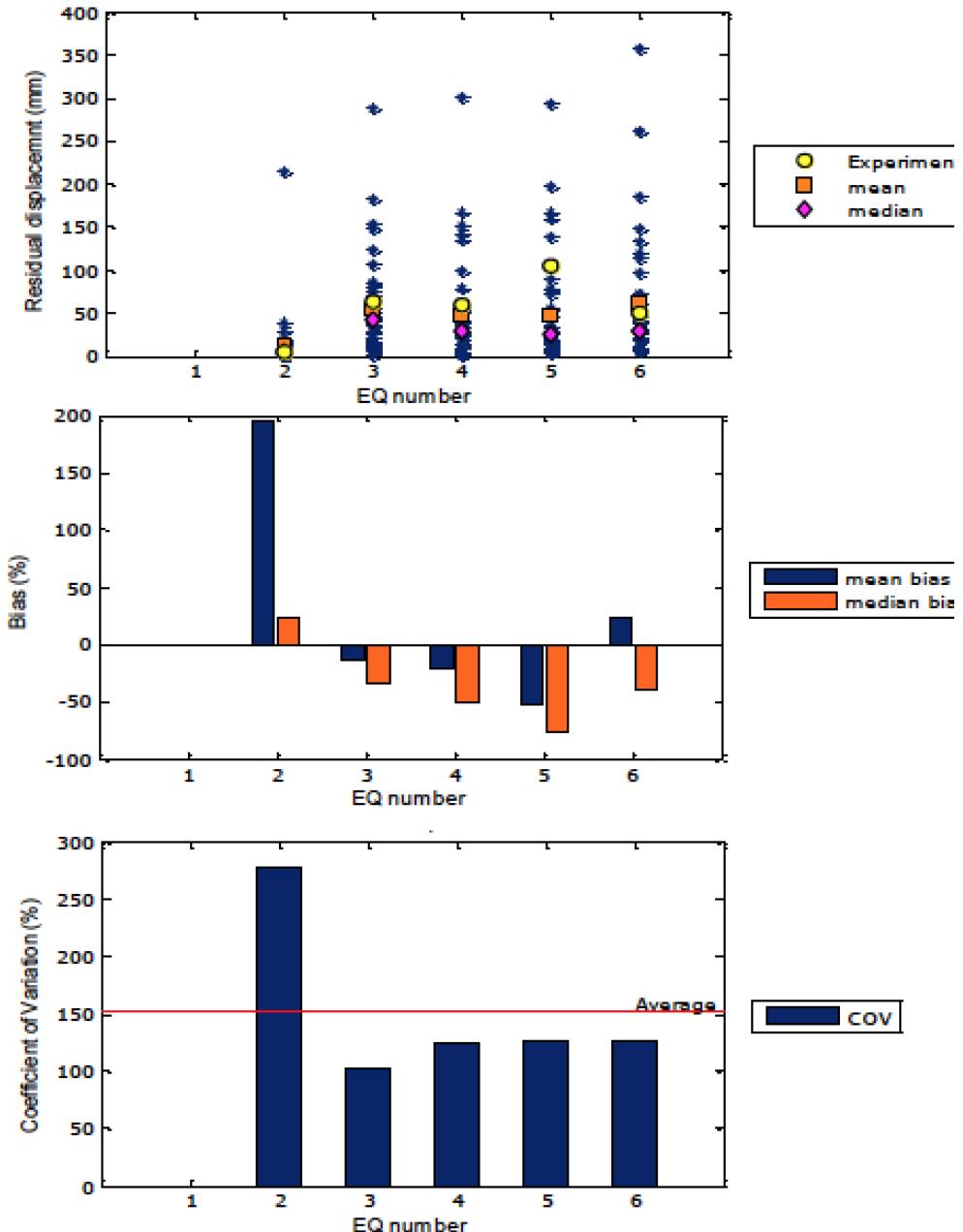
- Prediction of the relative displacement of the top of the column:
  - Very large scatter among the 41 simulations
  - Bias is negative (model underestimates the benchmark) and growing with increase of earthquake intensity
  - CoV is, on average, 39%



source: Prof. B. Stojadinovic

# Today

- Prediction of the residual displacement of the top of the column:
  - HUGE scatter among the 41 simulations
  - Bias is mostly negative (model underestimates the benchmark) and there is no pattern
  - CoV is, on average, larger than 100%



source: Prof. B. Stojadinovic

# Outline

Introduction to SimCenter

Research Applications

Education & Outreach

# SimCenter ECO Activities

- Training
  - Online Webinars
  - Workshops
    - Tool Training
    - Programming Bootcamp
  - NHERI Summer REU Program
  - State-of-the-Art Report
- Education
  - Educational App's
- Learn about the SimCenter
  - NHERI Summer Institute
  - Subscribe to SimCenter news and join Slack channels  
<https://simcenter.designsafe-ci.org/join-community/>

# Training Activities: Workshops

- SimCenter Tool Training Workshop (June 13-14 2019)
  - Hands-on software training and instruction in SimCenter Tools and their useful applications in natural hazards engineering (45 registered)
- Summer Programming Bootcamp (July 22-26, 2019)
  - Goal is to train NHERI researchers in the programming paradigms not covered in traditional civil engineering coursework, but required to advance NHE simulation capabilities (30 registered)



# Educational Applications (Years 1&2)

