

# SMOKE TRANSPORT MODELING: VALIDATION STUDY

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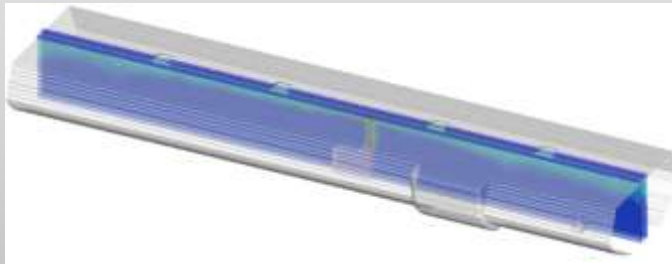


# DETECTION SYSTEM DESIGN TOOL DEVELOPMENT

## OBJECTIVE:

DEVELOP A MODEL-BASED TOOL TO AUGMENT DETECTION SYSTEM DESIGN AND STREAMLINE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

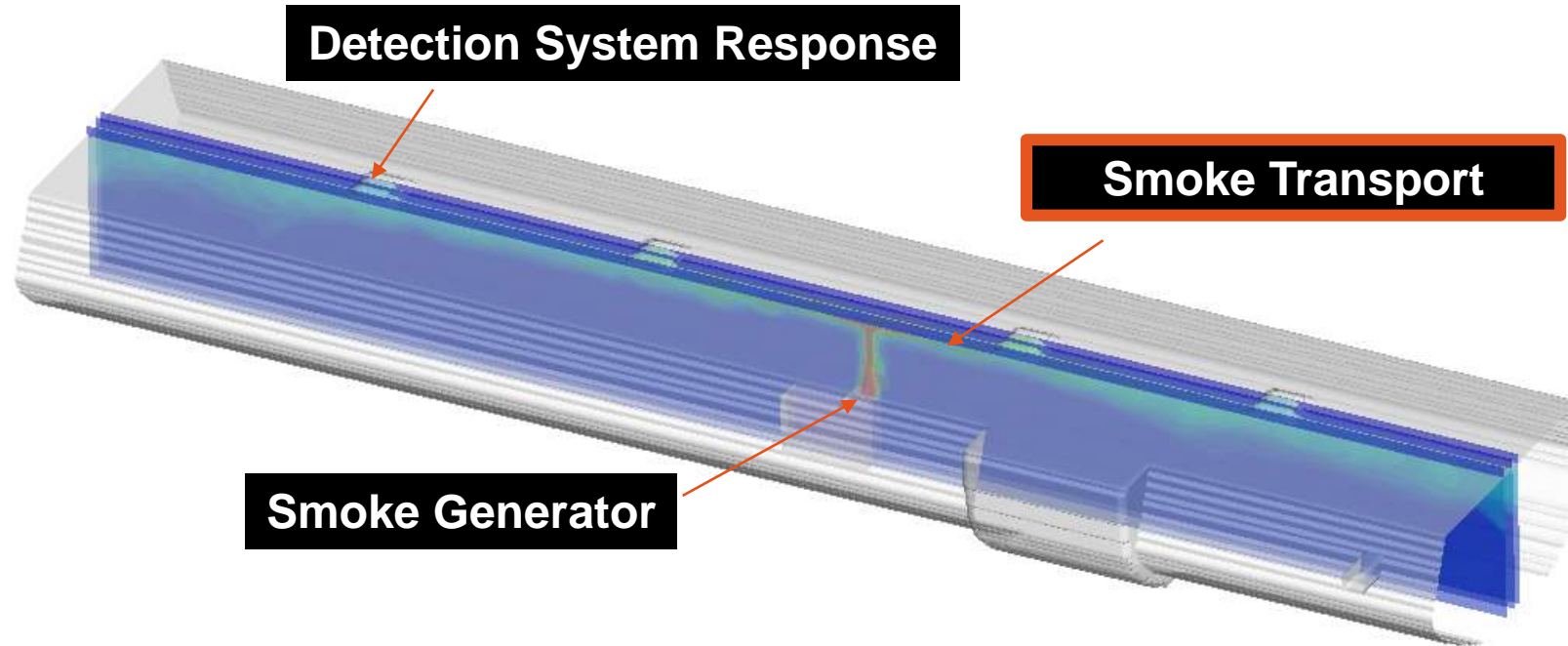
### Cargo Bay Detection System Design Tool



#### **Benefits:**

- Virtual tests
- Parametric variations
- Physical insight
- Accelerate design & development
- Reduce number of flight certification tests
- Reduce cost of certification

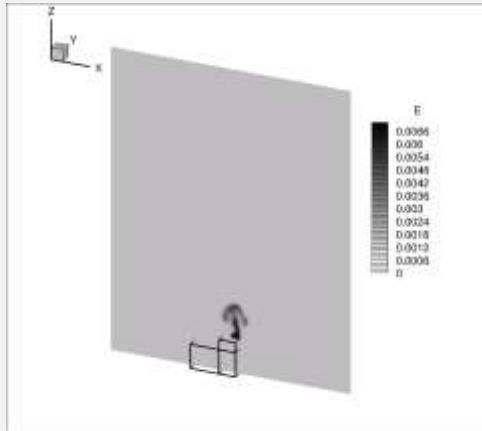
# COMPONENTS OF THE MODEL-BASED DESIGN TOOL



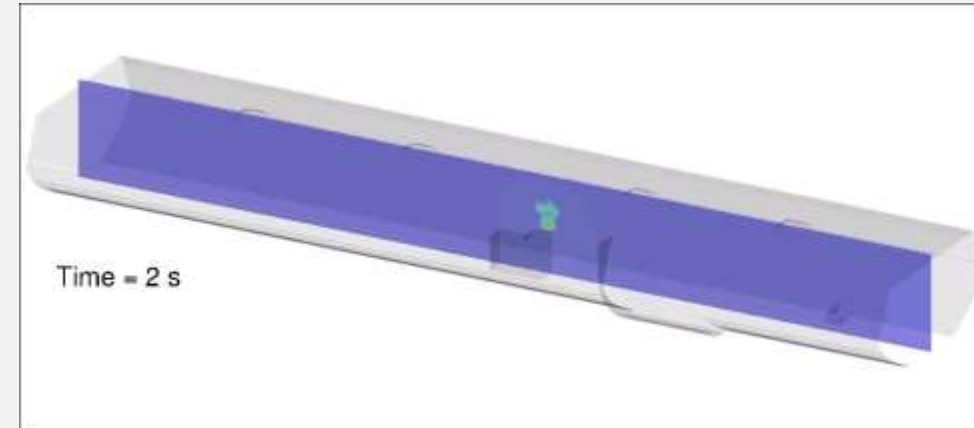
**Smoke transport takes up a large portion of the detection system response time. Predicting smoke transport accurately is key to the design tool robustness.**

# DESIGN TOOL DEVELOPMENT STATUS

May 2018: Developed approach to model smoke generator dispersion



Nov 2018: Demonstrated method to simulate smoke transport and predict alarm times in a cargo bay



**Today's focus:**

- 1) **Validate development of buoyant plume from the smoke generator**
- 2) **Investigate the effect of ceiling height on the buoyant plume and ceiling jet**

# SMOKE GENERATOR CHARACTERIZATION SET-UP

## UTRC Multiphase Injection Lab



Enclosed room

Option to turn ventilation off during tests

## Smoke Generator (SG) Placement



### Ground SG

Ceiling height comparable to cargo bay with high ceilings



### Raised SG

Ceiling height comparable to cargo bay with low ceilings

# TEST METHODS



Vane anemometer  
cross-checked with  
hot film anemometer

One set of smoke generator settings tested

Velocity and temperatures measured at multiple increments along plume centerline

Multi-channel data acquisition system sampled at 10 Hz

Tests repeated on different days

Experimental error within 10%

Detailed characterization methodology used to acquire data sets for model validation

# CFD MODEL SET-UP

## Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS)

3-D, unsteady solver from NIST (version 6.6.0)

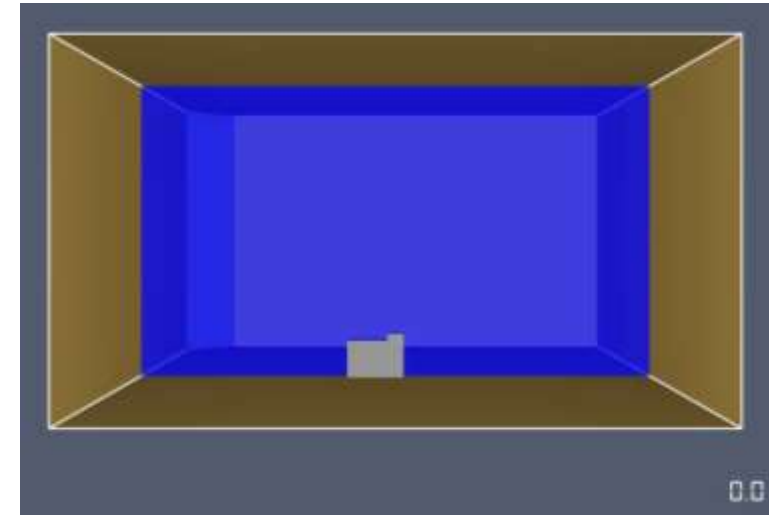
Large Eddy Simulation (LES)

### Parametric Study

- Mesh size and distribution
- SG exit plane boundary conditions
- Turbulence intensity
- Turbulence model



### Simulation Settings



Average number of hexahedral cells: 40 million

Non-uniform sized mesh

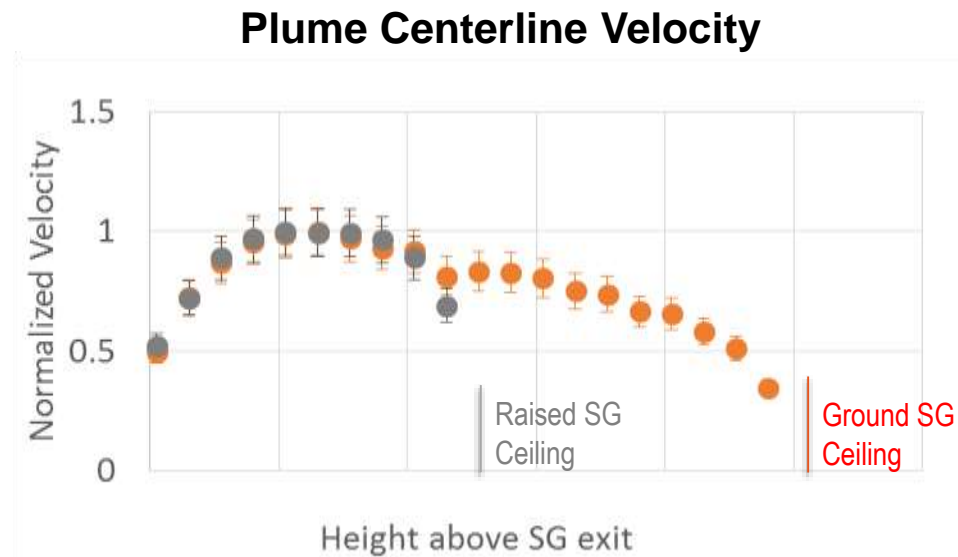
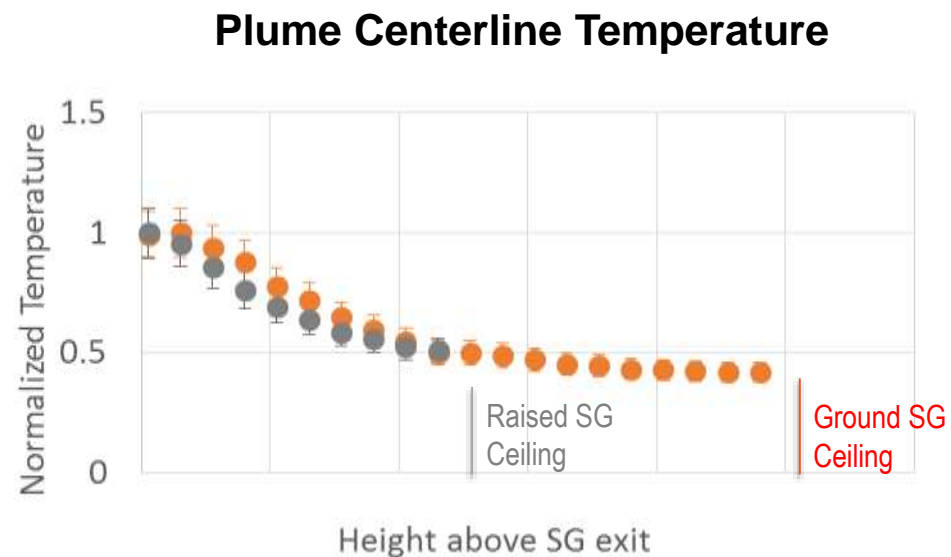
Input conditions: measurements at SG exit plane

Parallel computing cluster: ~60 cores

Wall clock time: 80 hours

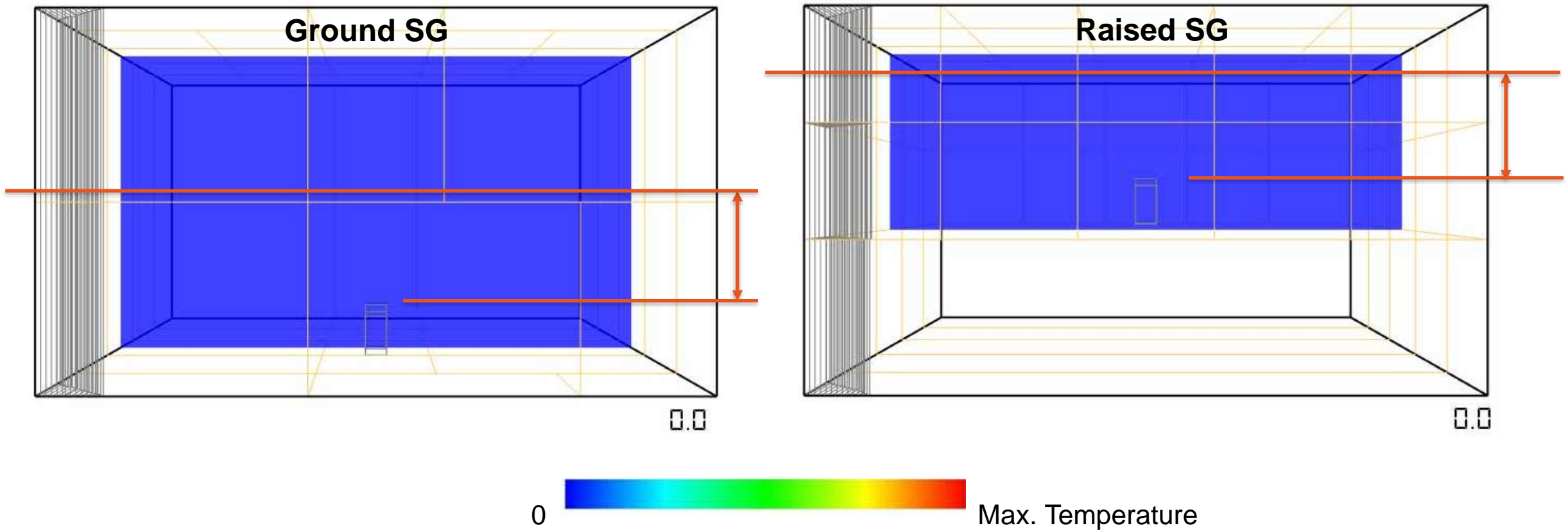
Over 30 simulations conducted to identify best methodology to simulate buoyant plume

# MEASUREMENTS: PLUME CENTERLINE



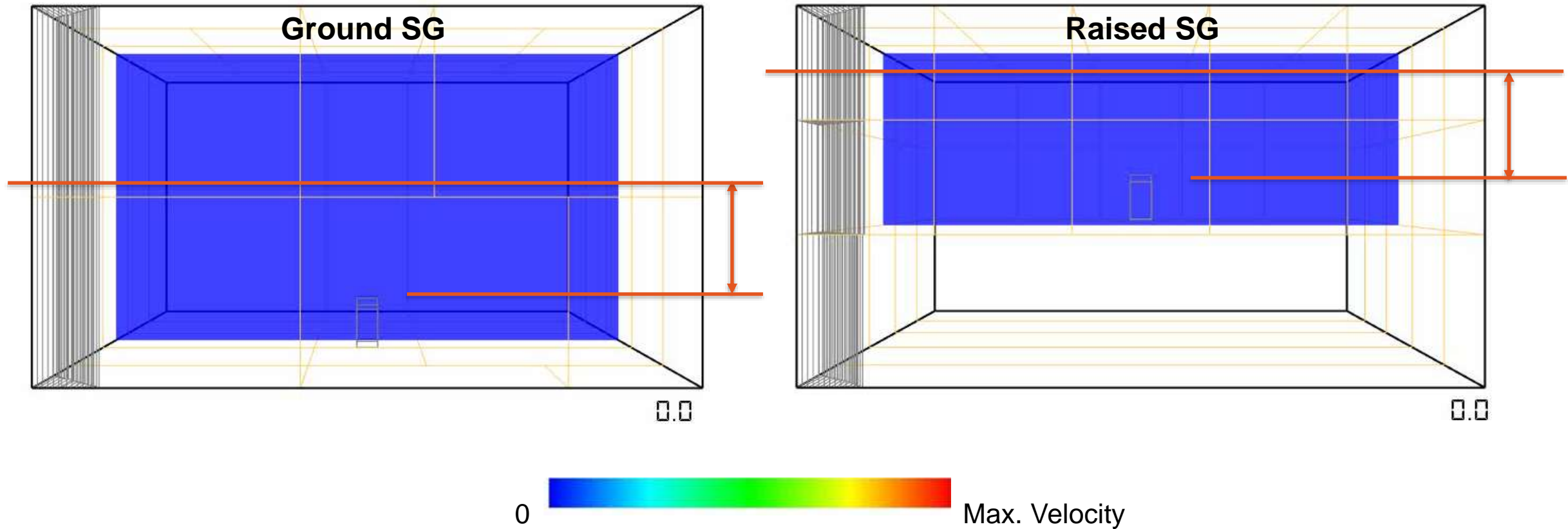
Similar plume centerline profiles obtained for the two ceiling heights

# CFD: CENTERLINE TEMPERATURE MOVIES



Similar temperature profiles along the plume centerline at same comparable heights

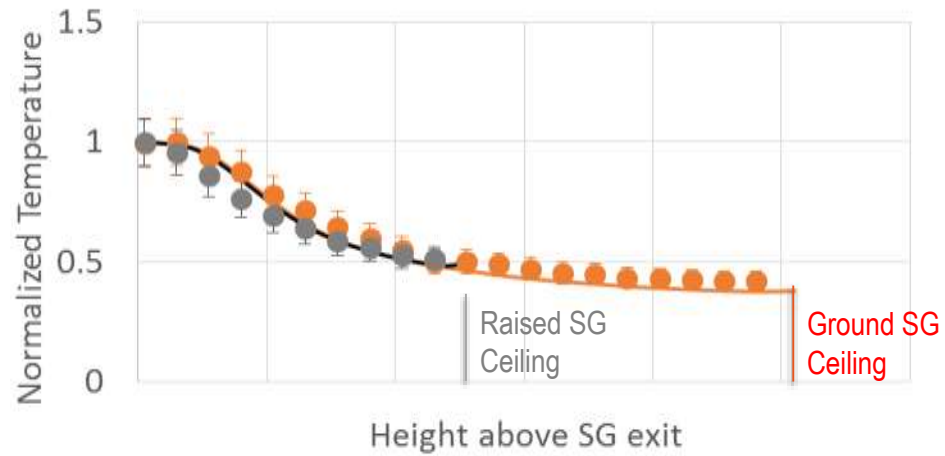
# CFD: TOTAL VELOCITY MAGNITUDE MOVIES



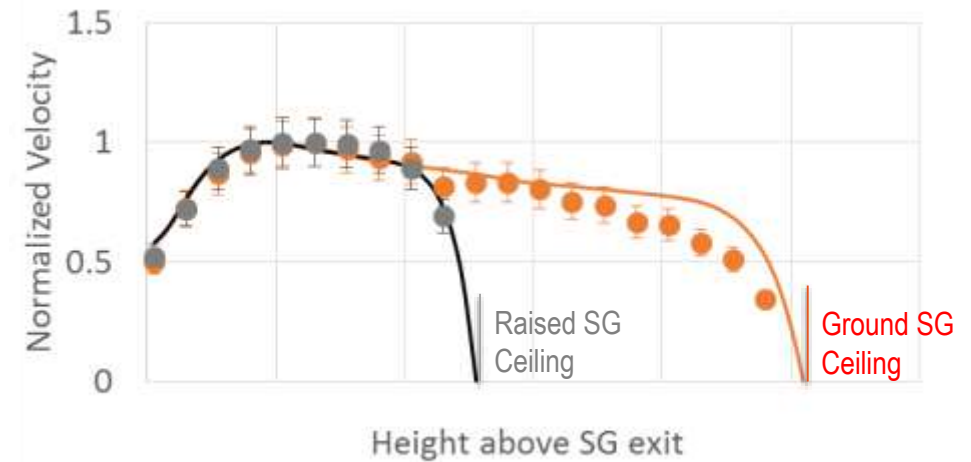
Similar velocity profiles along the plume centerline at same comparable heights

# CFD VALIDATION: PLUME CENTERLINE

## Plume Centerline Temperature



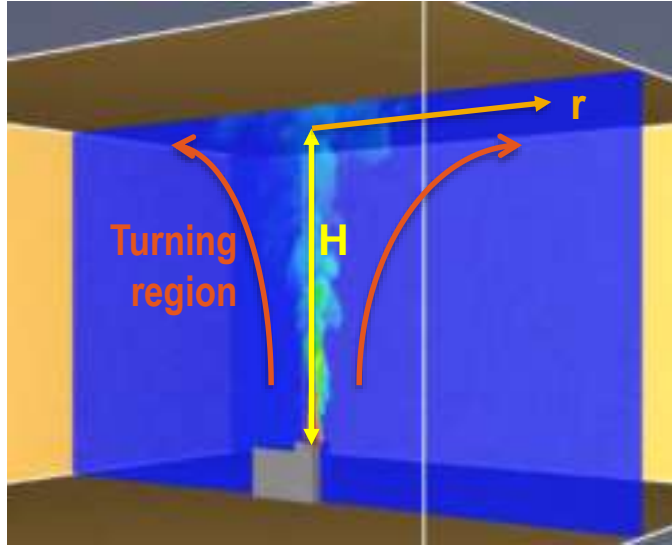
## Plume Centerline Velocity



— Sim.: Ground SG    ● Exp.: Ground SG  
— Sim.: Raised SG    ● Exp.: Raised SG

CFD accurately predicts the measured centerline data for both plume heights

# CEILING JET CORRELATION



Experimentally-derived correlations for ceiling jet flow\*  
(beyond the turning region at the ceiling)

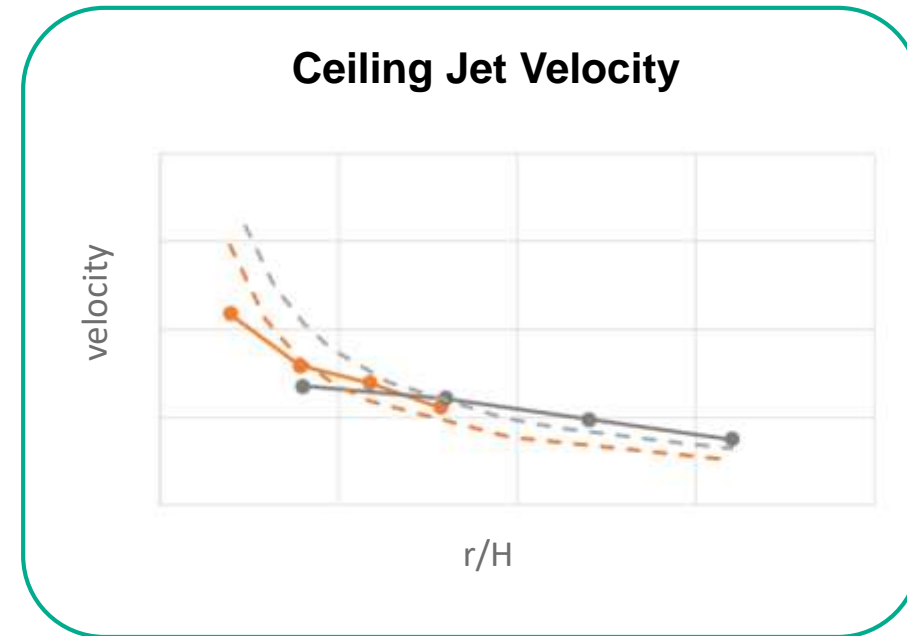
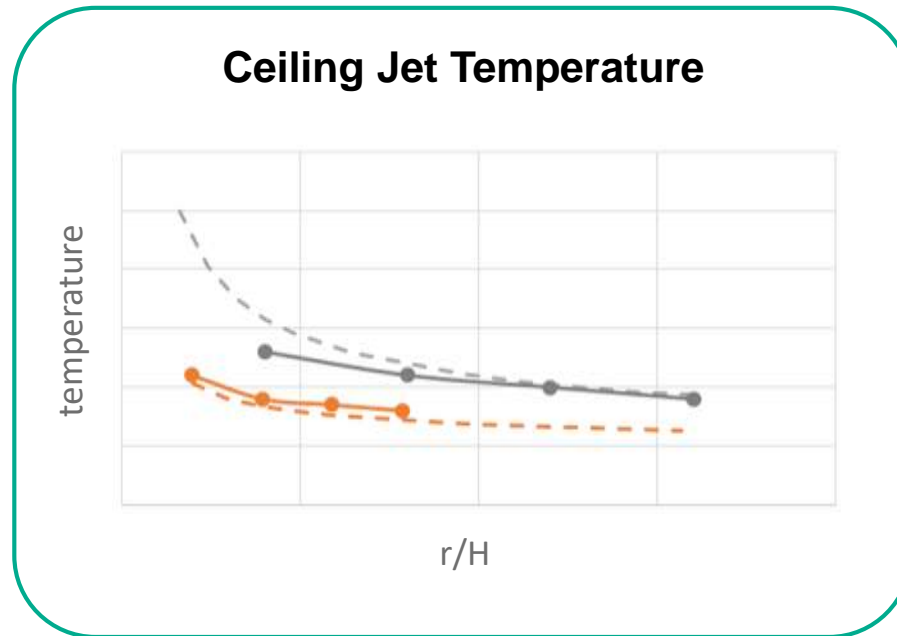
$$T - T_{\infty} \propto \frac{(\dot{Q}/r)^{2/3}}{H} \quad \text{For } r/H > 0.18$$

$$U \propto \frac{\dot{Q}^{1/3} H^{1/2}}{r^{5/6}} \quad \text{For } r/H > 0.15$$

Where  $\dot{Q}$  is the total energy release rate in kW  
 $T$  is the temperature in °C  
 $U$  is the velocity in m/s  
 $r, H$  are the radial position and plume height in meters

\*Alpert, R.L., *Fire Tech.*, 8, 181 (1972)

# CFD & CORRELATION COMPARISON: CEILING JET TEMPERATURE AND VELOCITY



—●— CFD results: Ground SG

—●— CFD results: Raised SG

- - - Correlation: Ground SG

- - - Correlation: Raised SG

CFD simulations confirms correlation trends for ceiling jet temperatures and velocities

# DETECTION SYSTEM DESIGN TOOL DEVELOPMENT

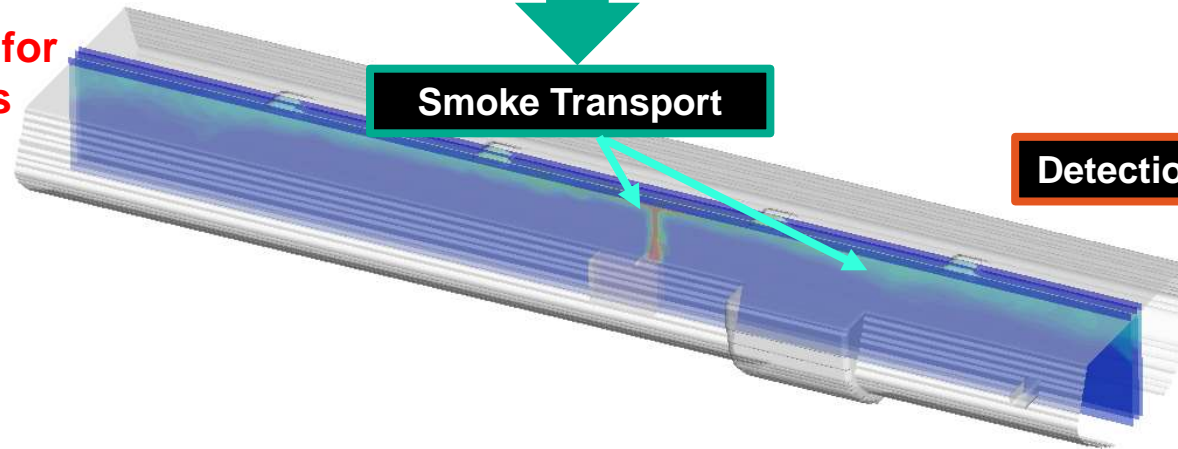
**SUMMARY** Developed CFD simulation / test methodologies to simulate and validate the buoyant plume

Validated CFD simulations of buoyant plumes under two ceiling heights for:

*Plume centerline temperatures & velocities*

*Ceiling jet temperatures & velocities*

Predictive modeling tool for  
smoke detection systems



Smoke Transport

Detection System Response

**NEXT STEP**

Validate the detector alarm times predicted by the tool with acquired test data