

# Thunderhead Engineering – Continuing the Rand Hall Ethos

Daniel Swenson Brian Hardeman







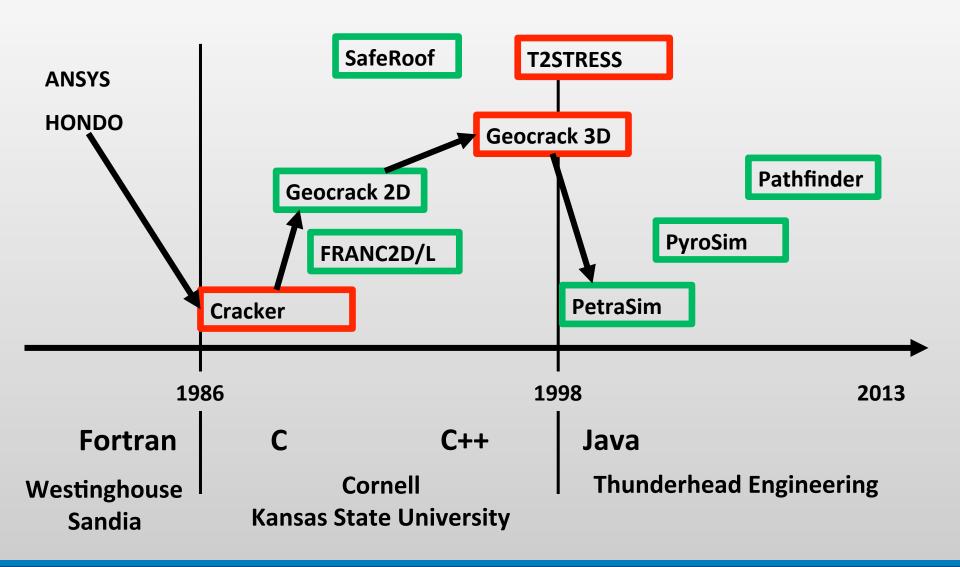
#### **Ethos**



The distinguishing character, sentiment, moral nature, or guiding beliefs of a person, group, or institution.

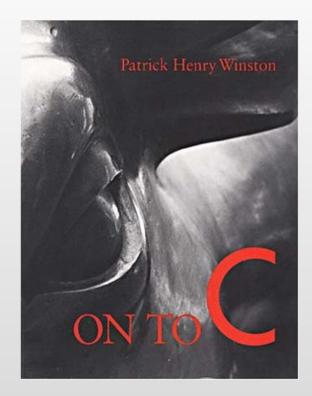
# Codes – Living and Dead

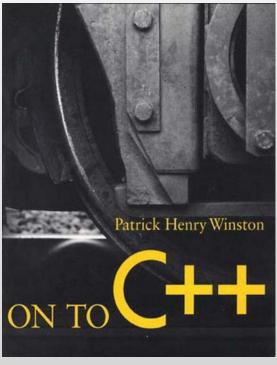


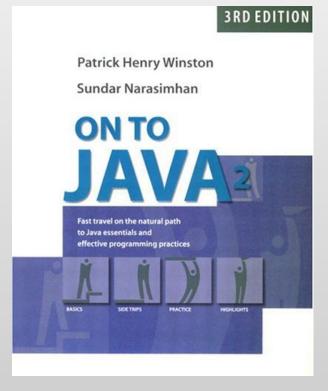


#### **Short Texts**



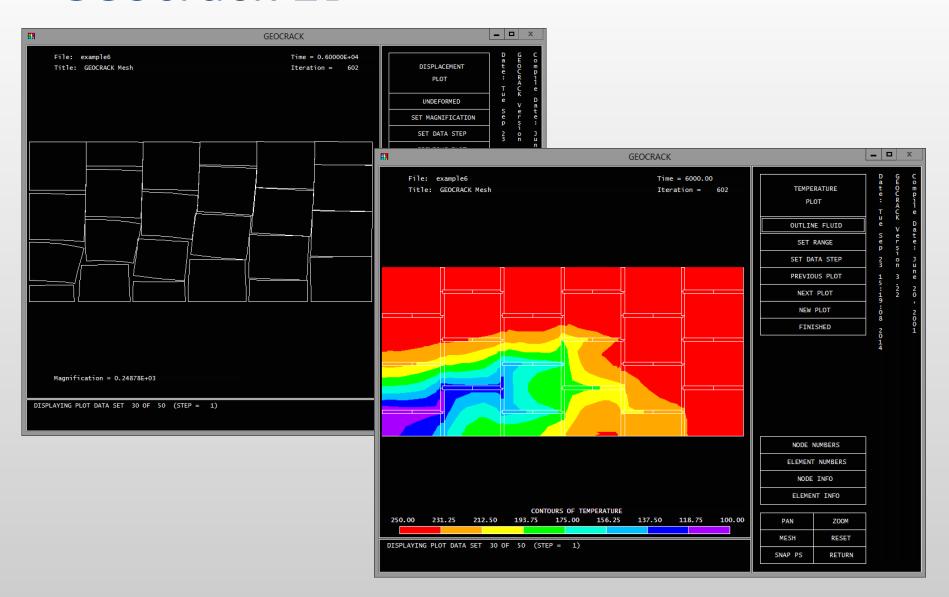






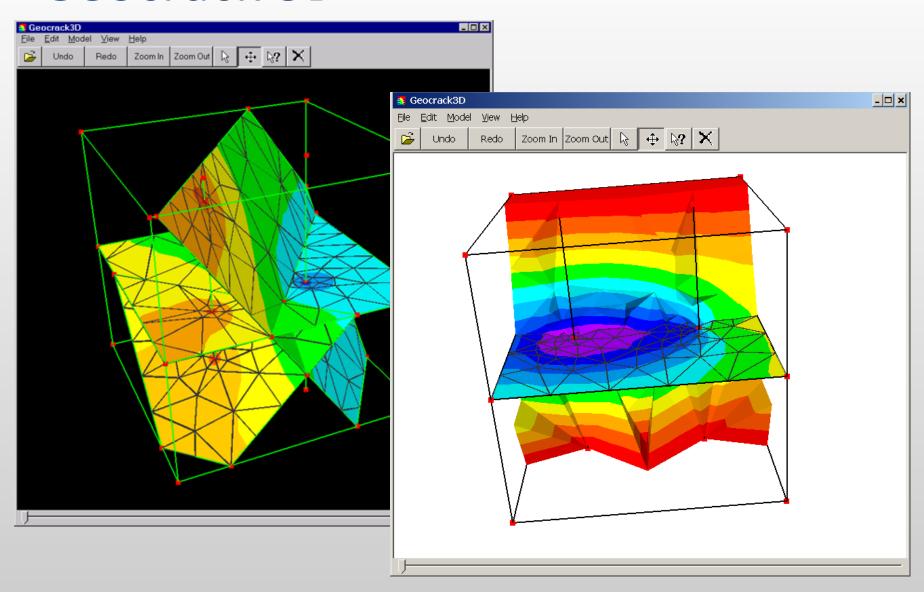
#### Geocrack 2D





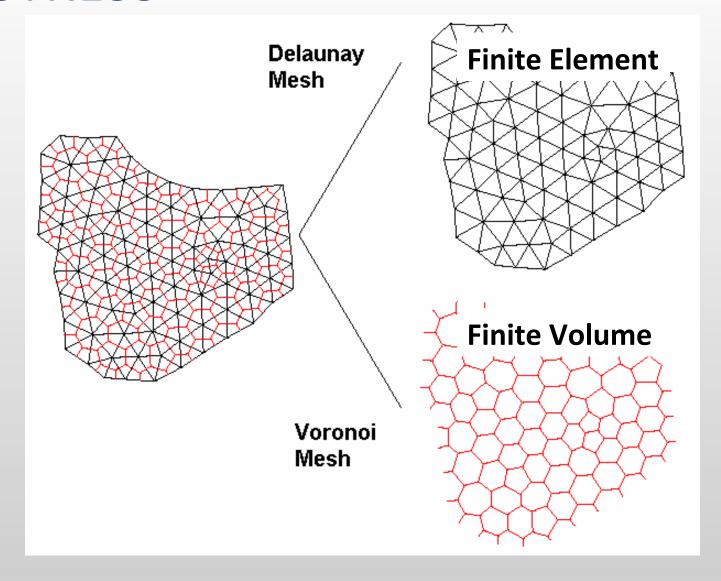
# Geocrack 3D





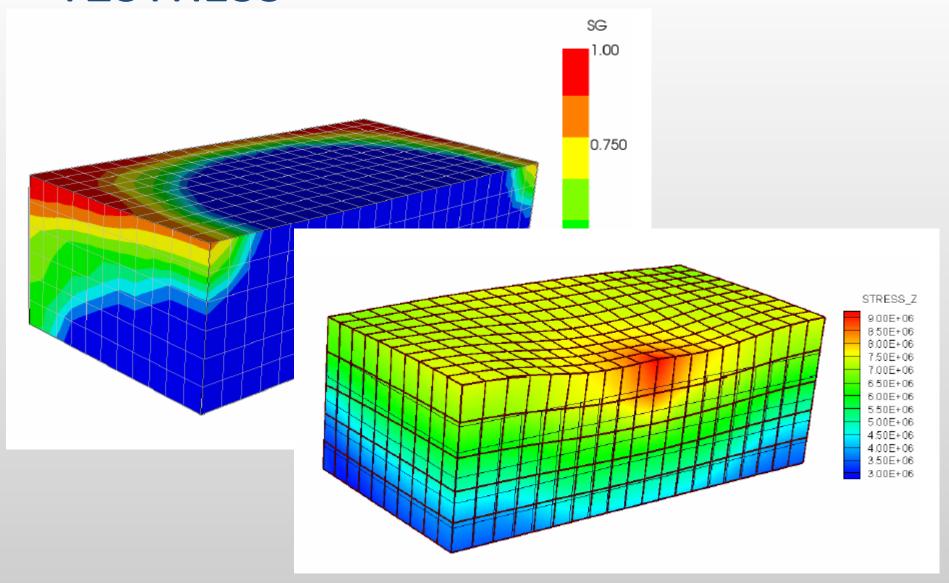
### **T2STRESS**





# **T2STRESS**





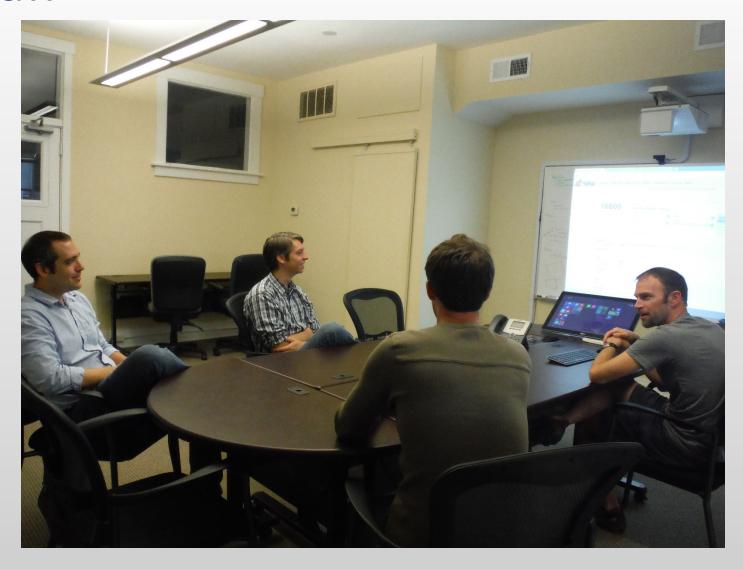
# Thunderhead Engineering



- 1998
- Brian Hardeman
- Work on Geocrack 2D and 3D gave credibility in geothermal community
- SBIR to develop PetraSim funded by DOE
- Two more SBIR grants PyroSim and Pathfinder
- Last external funding in 2006

# Staff





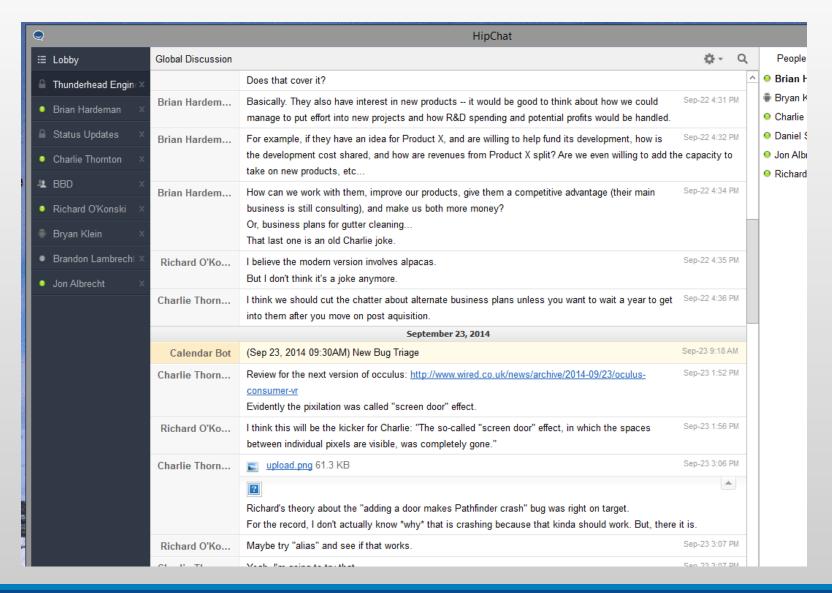
#### Remote Staff





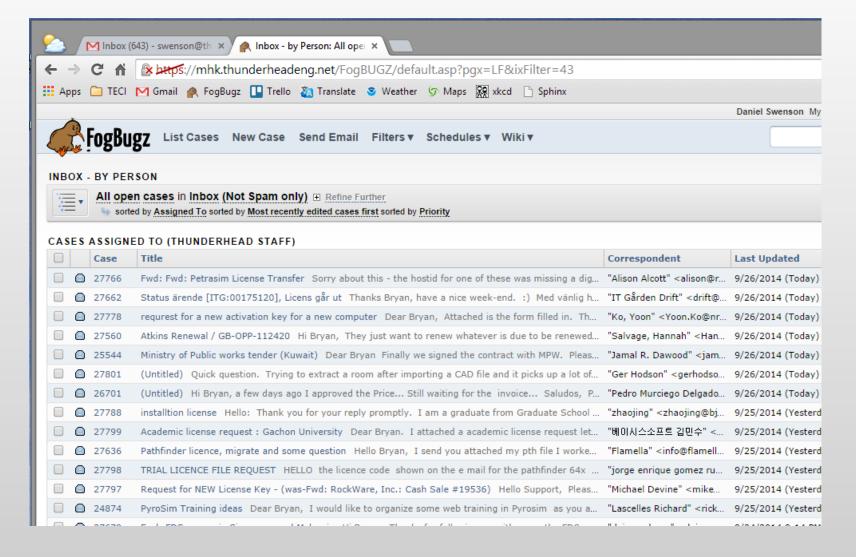
### HipChat





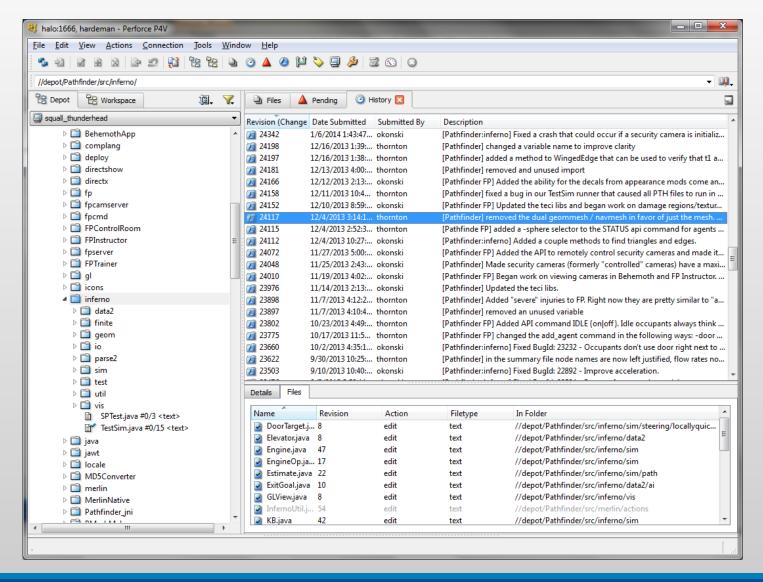
### FogBugz





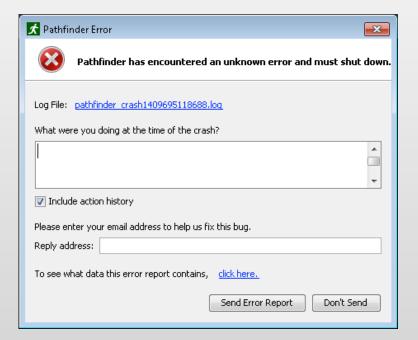
#### Source Control

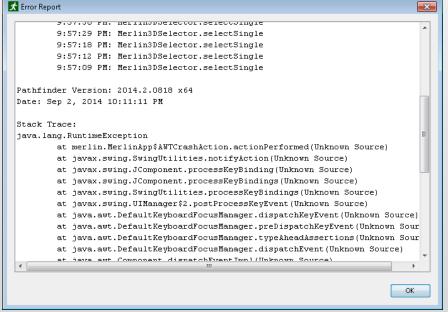




# **Error Handling**



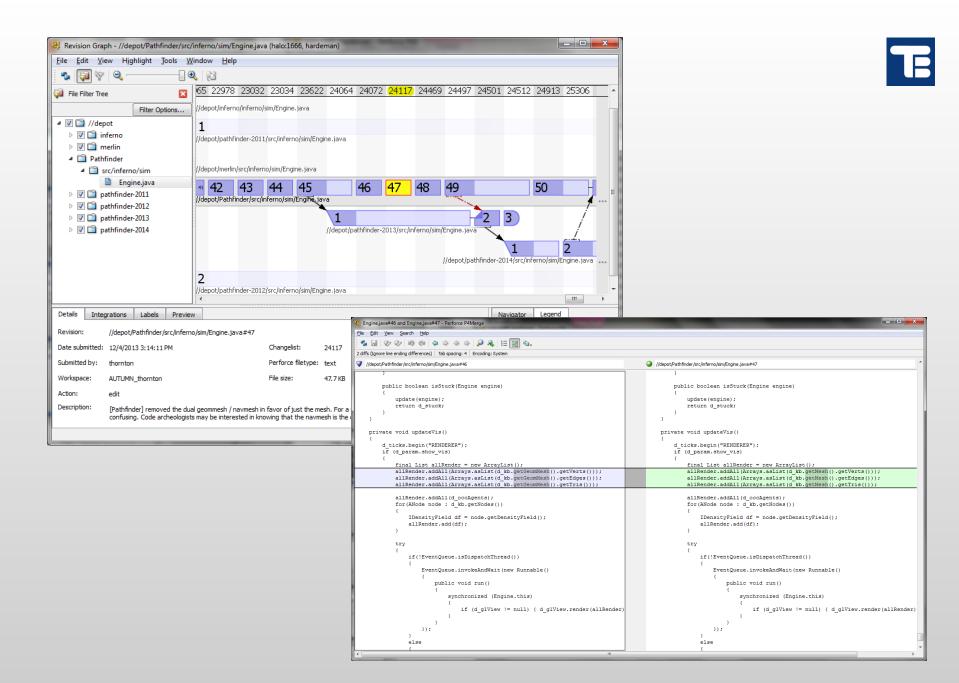




# Quality Assurance Process

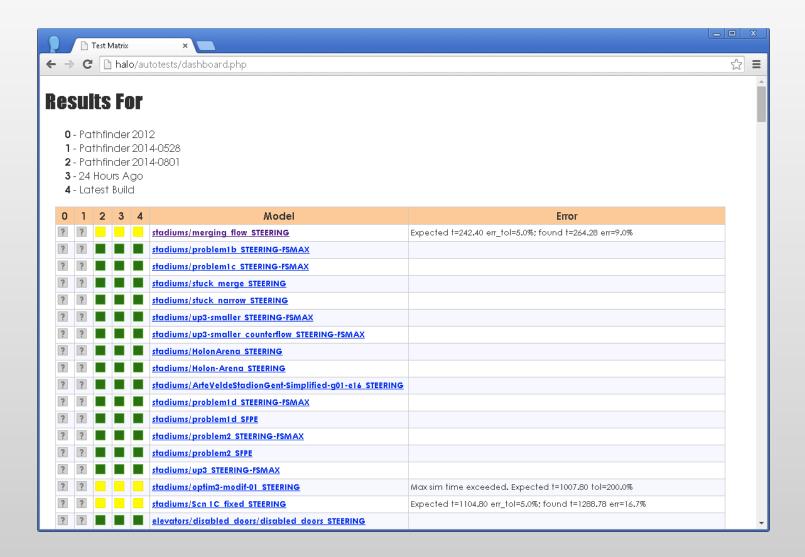


- Source Code Control
- Continuous Integration
  - Entire system rebuilt after every change
- Automated Testing
  - Tests run automatically after every build
  - 117 test cases in 2012
  - 308 test cases in 2014
- Testing Dashboard
- Automated Error Reporting
  - Reports categorized and scheduled weekly









#### Verification and Validation Guide







403 Poyntz Avenue, Suite B Manhattan, KS 66502 USA +1.785.770.8511 www.thunderheadeng.com

#### Verification and Validation

Pathfinder 2014.2 Release 0730 x64 Pathfinder Verification and Validation

#### 6 Comparisons to Experiments

This section presents Pathfinder models designed to reproduce experimental results.

#### 6.1 Seyfried et al.

This validation test compares Pathfinder to a series of small-scale experiments (Seyfried, Passon, et al., Capacity, Estimation for Emergency Exits and Sottlenecks 2007). The experiments were conducted in a room constructed with dividers and an adjustable-width corridor. Once occupants had exited the corridor they were clear of the experimental environment. Figure 37 illustrates the experimental setup.

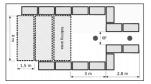


Figure 37: Experimental setup (Seyfried, Passon, et al., Capacity Estimation for Emergency Exits and Bottlenecks 2007).

Each holding area can accommodate 20 occupants, allowing for experiments to be run with 20, 40, and 60 occupants. The corridor width was adjusted in the range from 0.8 m to 1.2 m at 0.1 m intervals. These two variables provide for 15 test cases. Figure 38 shows the Pathinder model used to simulate all 15 cases. Currently, only the bottom row of test cases can be compared because the experimental data vaniable for direct comparions is limited to the 1460 cases.

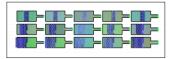
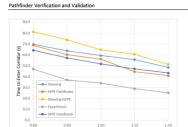


Figure 38: A Pathfinder model designed to replicate all 15 cases of the experiments.

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#### Figure 39: Comparison of times to exit room

In addition, we are able to compare the overhead camera footage in the experiment to the results visualization in PathInder. The east case cameral shown in the video at the left of Figure 40 is unknown, but based on the apparent door width and ability of occupants to form two distinct columns, the results video for a stering simulation using door width of 1.1 meters was selected for comparison (at right. The figure was created using the cylinder visualization that illustrates occupant orientation with an inset triangle.

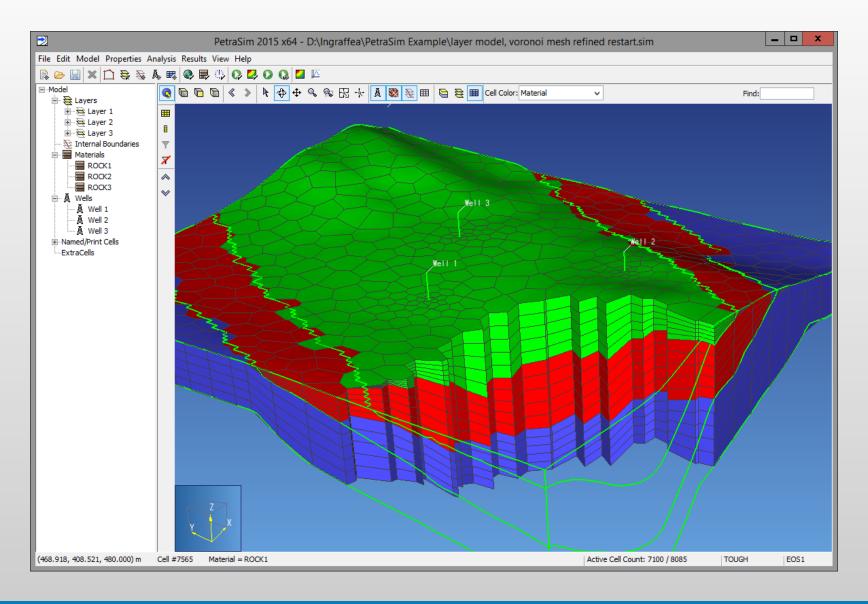


Figure 40: Experimental video (Seyfried, Passon, et al., Pedestrian and Evacuation Dynamics NETwork 2009) compared to Pathfinder visualization.

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# PetraSim - User Interface to TOUGH2





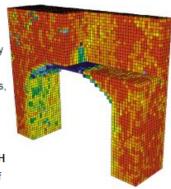
# PetraSim/TOUGH2





# **TOUGH:** Suite of Simulators for Nonisothermal Multiphase Flow and Transport in Fractured Porous Media

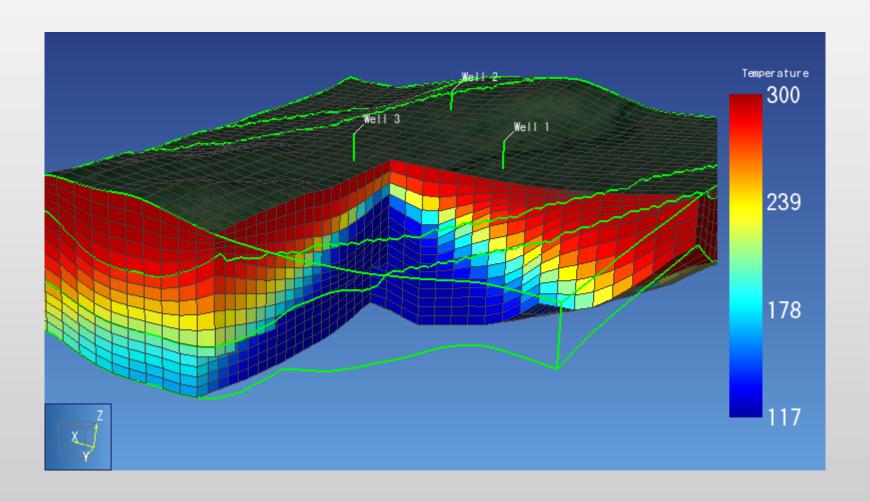
The TOUGH ("Transport Of Unsaturated Groundwater and Heat") suite of software codes are multi-dimensional numerical models for simulating the coupled transport of water, vapor, non-condensible gas, and heat in porous and fractured media. Developed at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in the early 1980s primarily for geothermal reservoir engineering, the suite of simulators is now widely used at universities, government organizations, and private industry for applications to nuclear waste disposal, environmental remediation problems, energy production from geothermal, oil and gas reservoirs as well as gas hydrate deposits, geological carbon sequestration, vadose zone hydrology, and other uses that involve coupled thermal, hydrological, geochemical, and mechanical processes in permeable media. The TOUGH suite of simulators is continually updated, with new equation-of-state (EOS) modules being developed, and refined process descriptions implemented into the TOUGH framework (see the overview of the TOUGH development history). Notably, EOS property modules for mixtures of water, NaCl, and CO<sub>2</sub> has been developed and is widely used for the analysis of geologic carbon sequestration processes.



Karsten Pruess was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award for Development of the TOUGH Codes on Tuesday, September 18th at the 2012 TOUGH Symposium in Berkeley, CA.

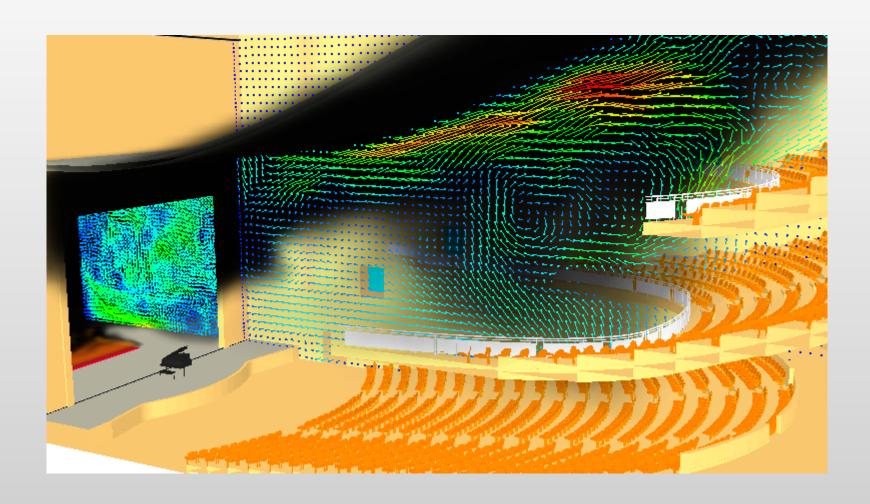
#### PetraSim Results





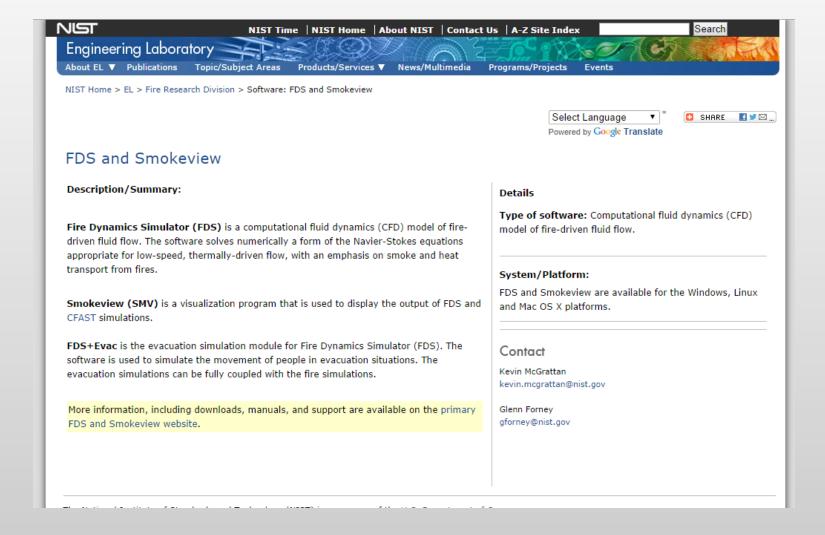
# PyroSim





# **NIST Fire Dynamics Simulator**





# **Developer Perspective**



- Keeping PyroSim up-to-date with FDS
- Parsing FDS input files correctly
- Simplifying input
  - Abstract complex information into simpler ideas
  - Identify common operations and provide shortcut
- Deciding how far to go with geometry creation tools
- Rasterization of geometry

#### Candle Flame







#### PyroSim – Modeling Fire Part 1 - Reactions

Reviews how *reactions* are used as the first step in defining fire parameters.

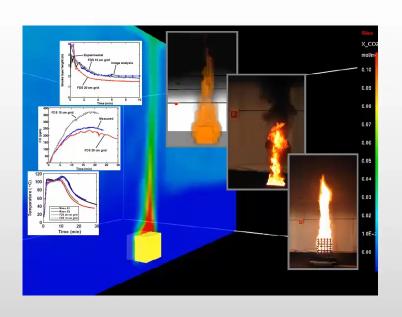
Thanks to Anchony Hamins for providing the FLS randle model. Reference. Amnony Hamins Marthew Burdy, and Scott Dillon. "Characterisation or Canale Flatnes." Journal of FIRE TROTECTION ENGINEERING. Jol. 1.—November 2005. pp. 565-298.

www.thunder/readeng.com

#### **Wood Crib**



#### This Example Based on Research at VTT



# Experimental Validation of the FDS Simulations of Smoke and Toxic Gas Concentrations

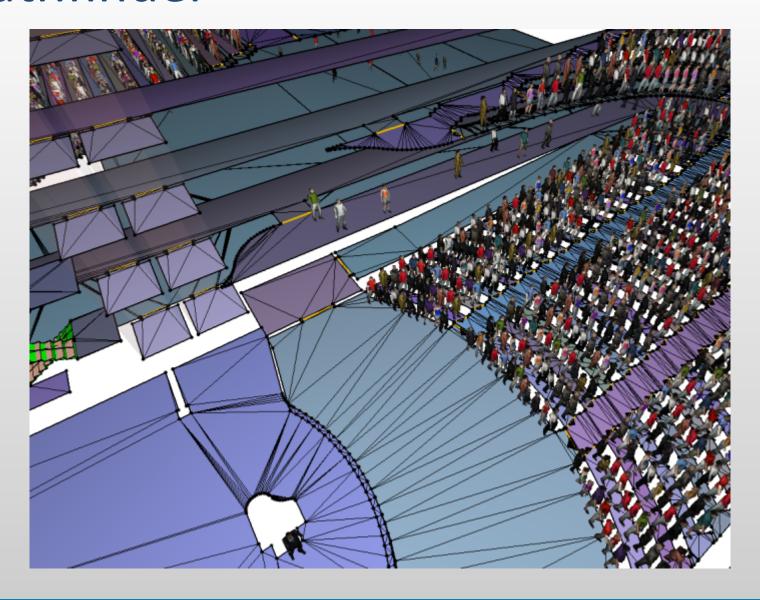
Tuomo Rinne, Jukka Hietaniemi & Simo Hostikka VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

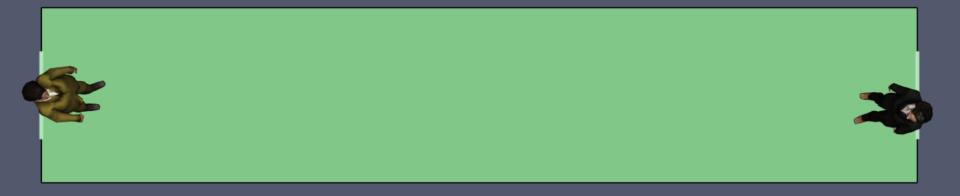
http://www.vtt.fi/inf/pdf/workingpapers/2007/W66.pdf

www.thunderheadeng.com

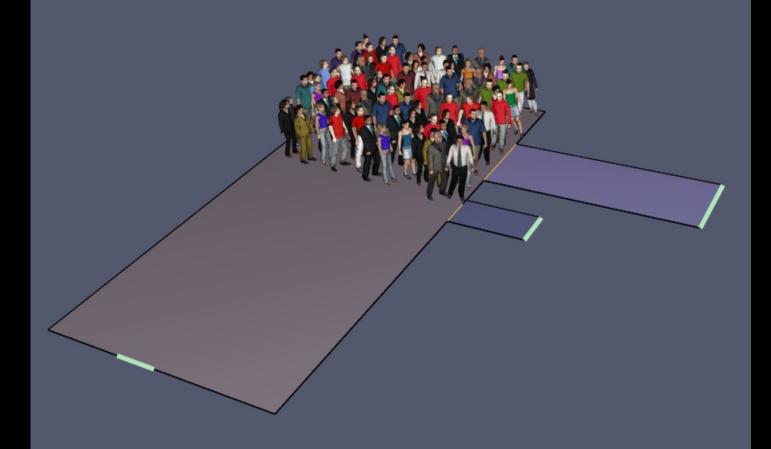
# Pathfinder





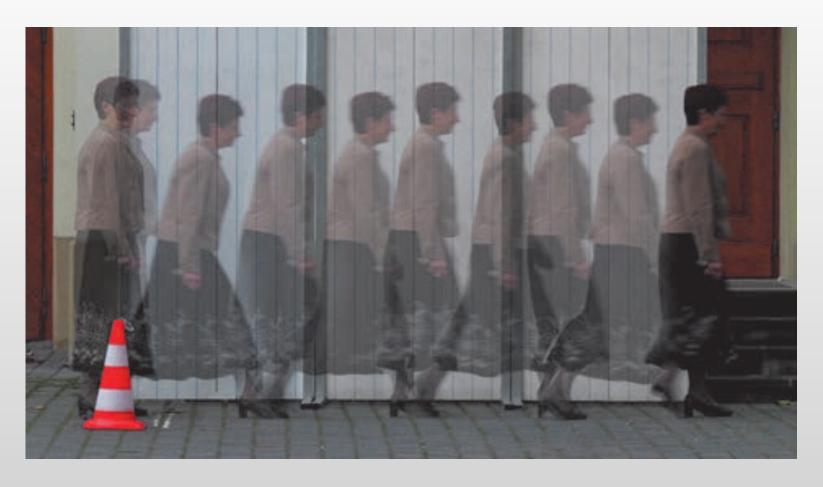


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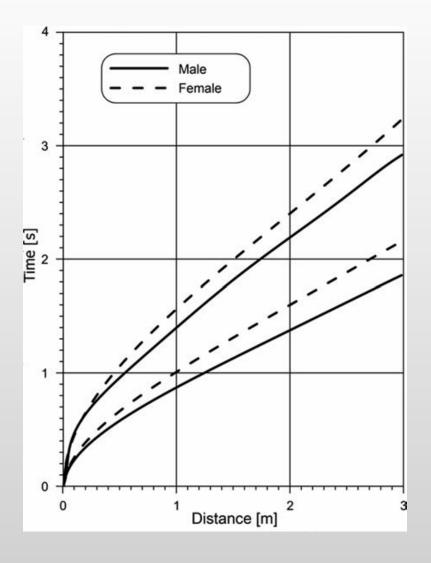
#### Pedestrian Acceleration

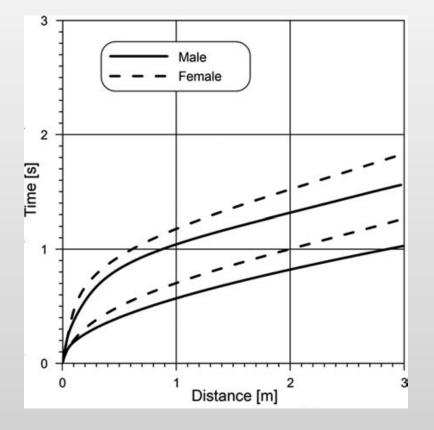




Problems of Forensic Sciences 2012, vol. 91 Jakub Zębala, Piotr Ciępka, Adam Reza Institute of Forensic Research, Kraków, Poland





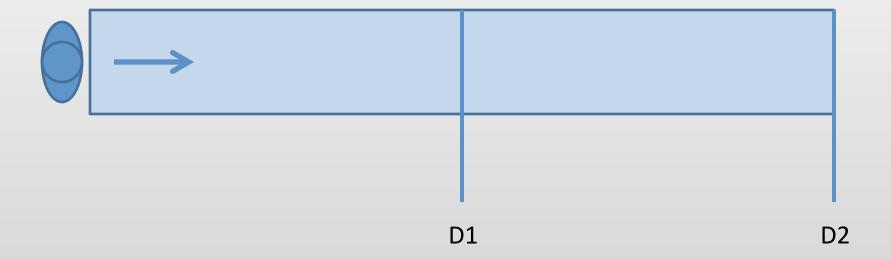


Walking

Sprinting

# Hallway Experiment





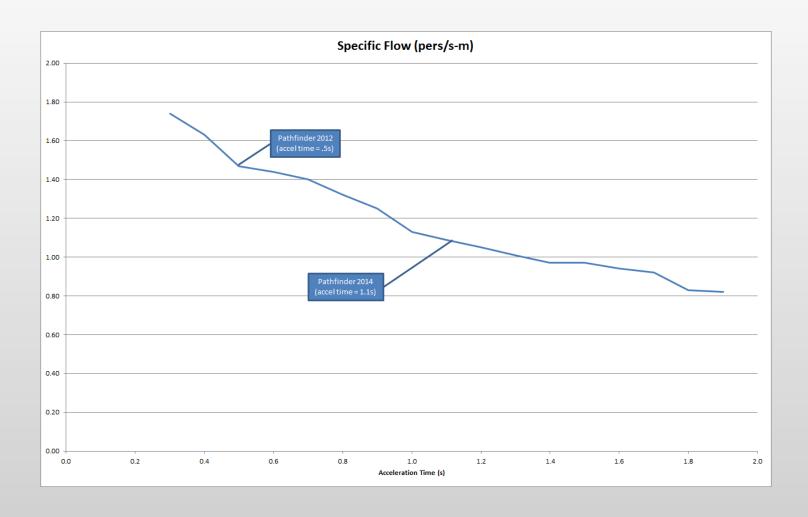




	D1	D2	t	V	a	a/v	t_accel
Richard1	4.24	3.55	7.79	1.3	0.9	0.7	1.4
Richard2	4.25	3.63	7.88	1.3	1.0	0.8	1.2
Richard3	4.4	3.9	8.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0
Jon1	3.81	3.61	7.42	1.3	3.2	2.5	0.4
Jon2	4.11	3.55	7.66	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.1
Brian1	3.45	3.35	6.8	1.4	6.8	5.0	0.2
Brian2	3.67	3.11	6.78	1.5	1.3	0.9	1.1
Brian3	3.23	3.13	6.36	1.5	7.3	5.0	0.2
Charlie1	4.2	3.74	7.94	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.9
Charlie2	4.38	3.81	8.19	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.1
Joe	3.97	3.7	7.67	1.2	2.3	1.9	0.5
Dan1	3.83	3.25	7.08	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.2
Dan2	3.82	3.07	6.89	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.5
Average					2.3	1.7	0.9

#### Flow vs. Acceleration





### **Agent Acceleration**

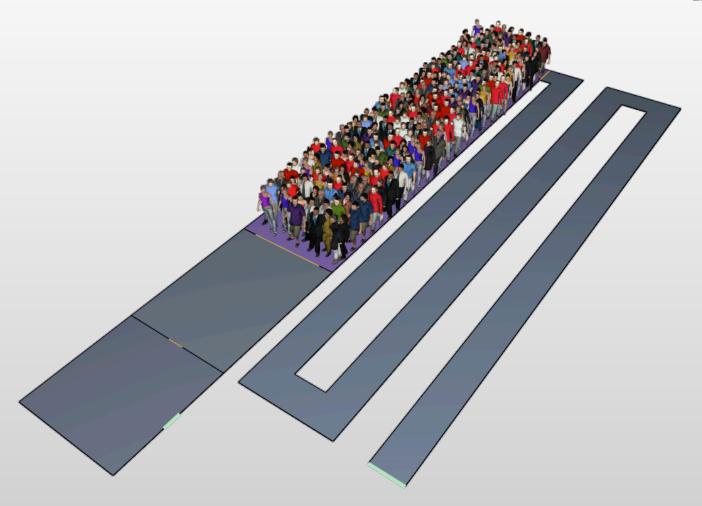


- Changed default value
- Exposed parameter for user input
- Re-run verification problems
- Update tests with new results

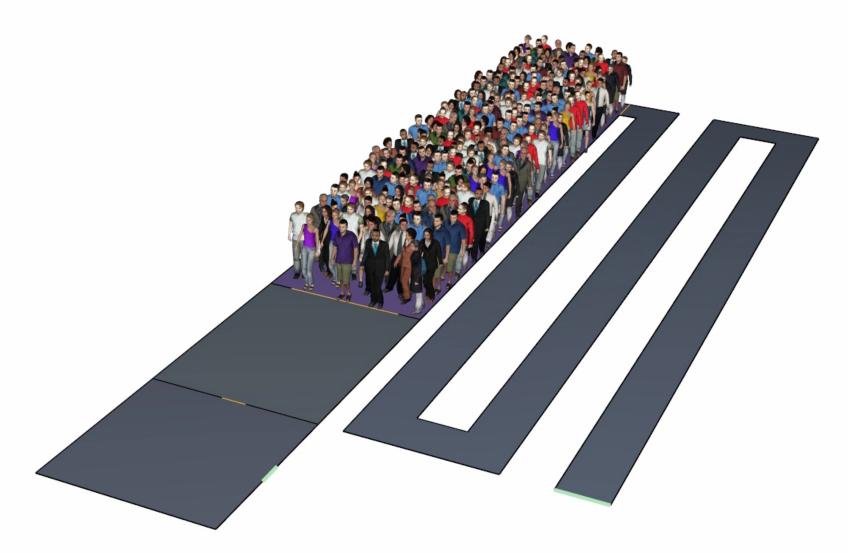
#### Improving Locally-Quickest Door Choice



Exited: 0/252



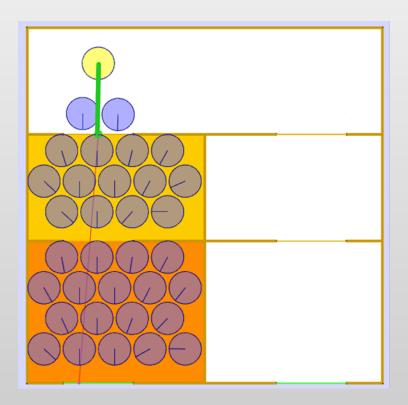
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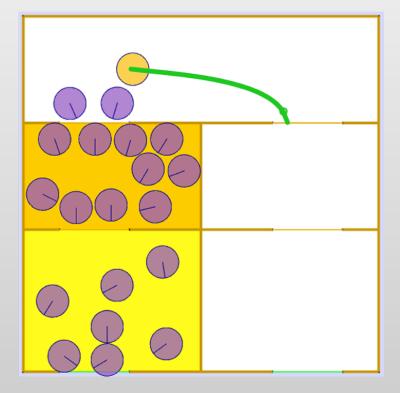


# **Proposed Solution**



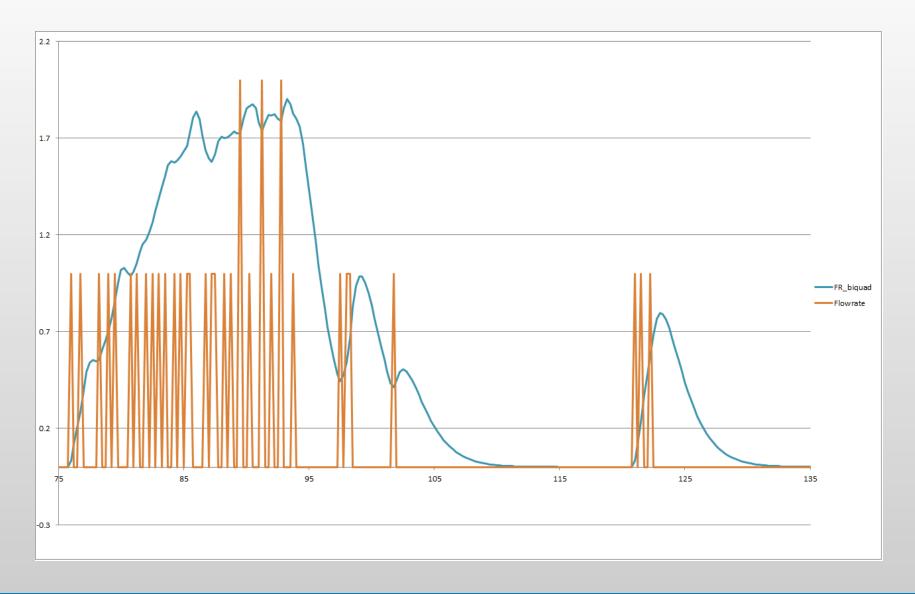
Use actual door flowrates to estimate queue wait times



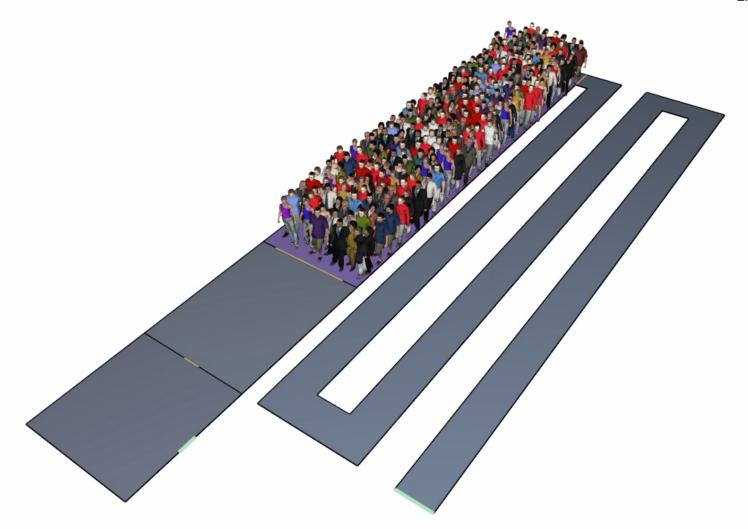


#### Low-Pass Filter





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### **Stadium Evacuation**





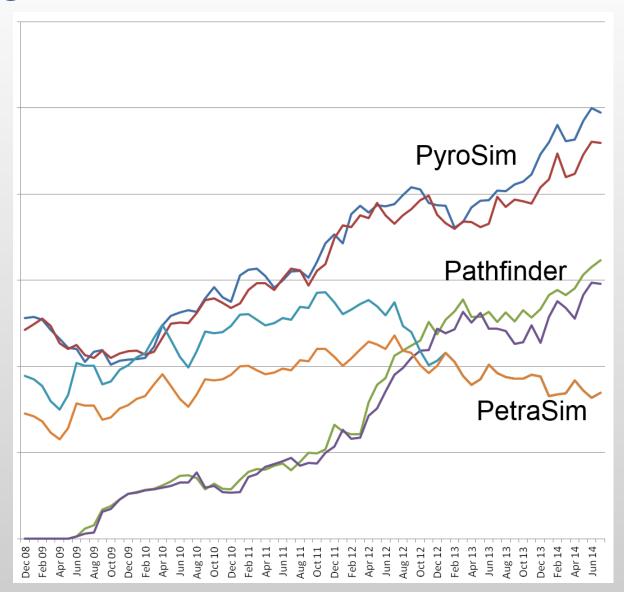
# Company Philosophy



- Run the company as though all staff were shareholders
- Decent wages
- 15-20% retirement benefits
- Healthcare
- At the end of year, we share the profit
- Sustainable work loads

#### Sales





## Challenges



- Competition from Revit or Hughes/RJA
- Transfer Swenson stock to selected employees
- Diversity in hiring
- Kansas politics
  - Remote workers
- We will be hiring in near future

# Thank you



