

# Computational Methods for External Flooding PRA

**Dr. Curtis Smith, Director  
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Research Division  
Idaho National Laboratory**

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## Outline of my talk today

- **Definition of Computational Risk Assessment**
- **Computational resources**
- **Simulating physical phenomena via Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics**
- **Performing assessment via CRA**

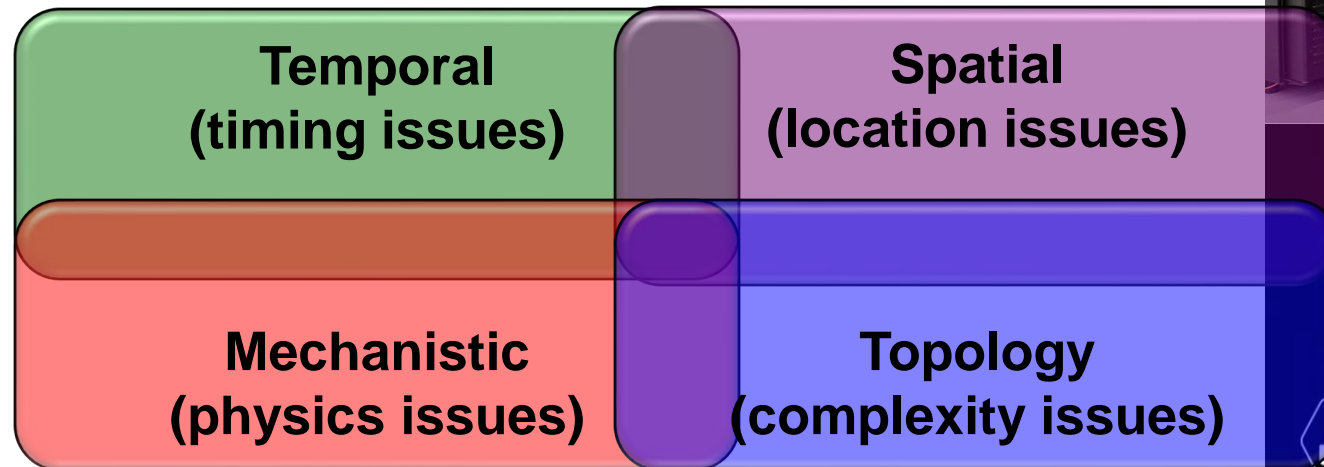
# Computational Risk Assessment (CRA)

- **Computational Risk Assessment is a focus of current research and development**
- **CRA is a combination of**
  - Probabilistic (i.e., dynamic) scenario creation where scenarios unfold and are not defined a priori
  - Mechanistic analysis representing physics of the unfolding scenarios
- **CRA relies on the availability of computational tools**
  - Processors (hardware)
  - Methods (software)
- **CRA is not simply solving traditional PRA models faster or with higher precision**
  - It is a **different way of thinking** about the safety problem

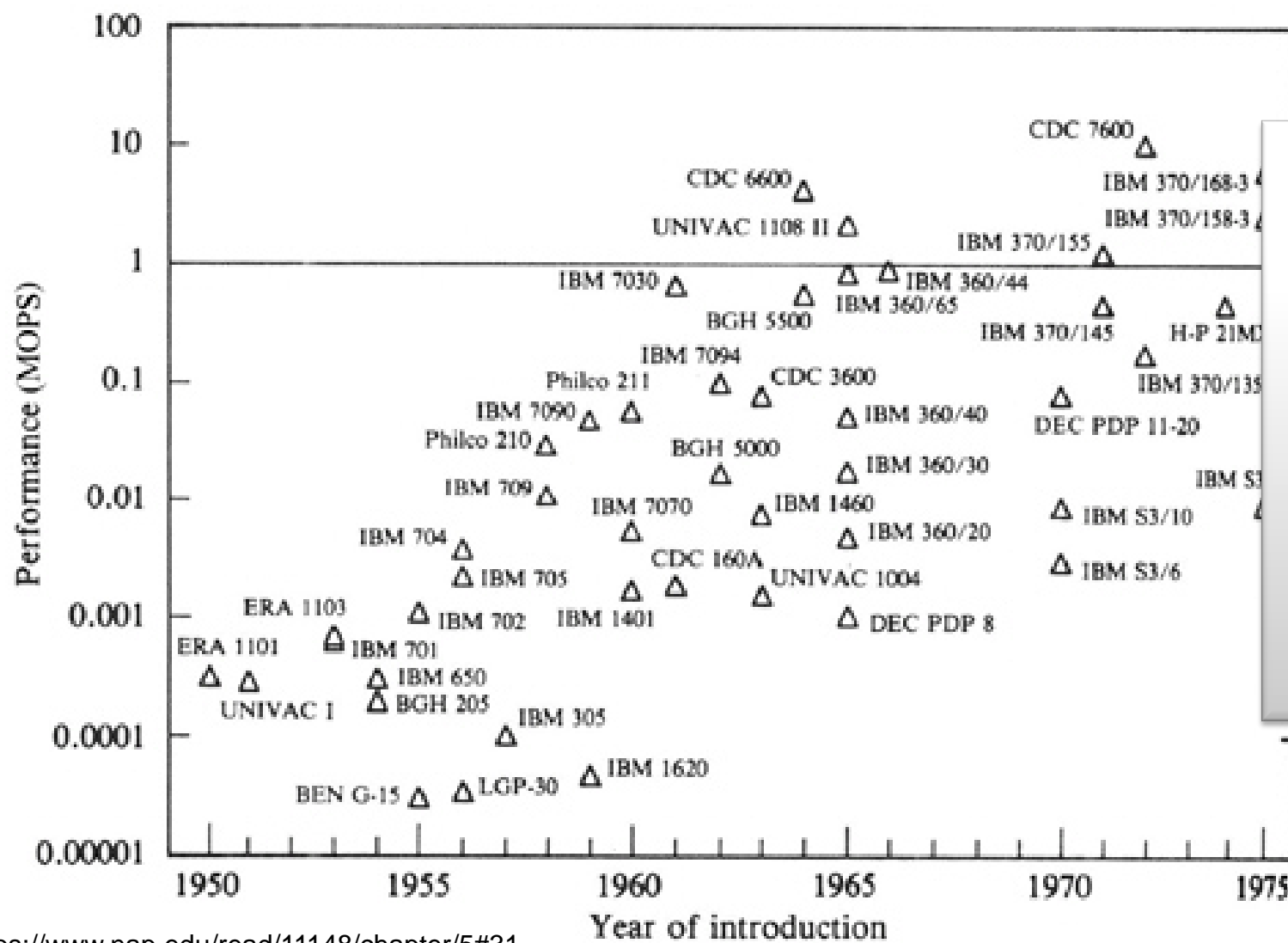
**Integrating the worlds  
of physics and  
probability leads us to  
predictions based upon  
an approach called  
“computational risk  
assessment”**

# CRA driving factors

- **Computers are improving**
- **Software is improving**
  - And much of it is free
- **Analysis characteristics including**



# Computational performance @ dawn of risk and reliability analysis

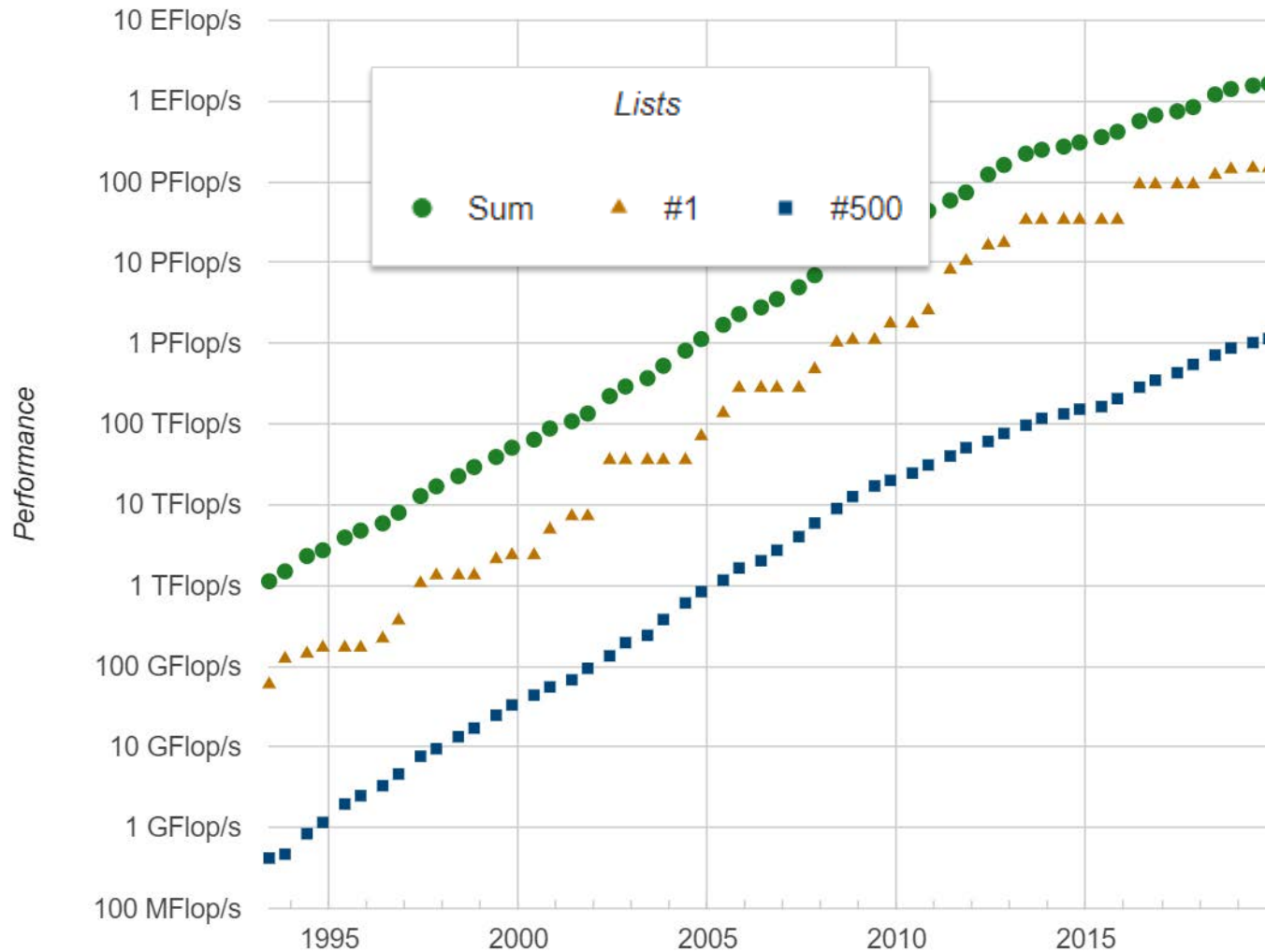


**MOPS = millions of operations per second**



# Computational performance over time has steadily increased

Performance Development



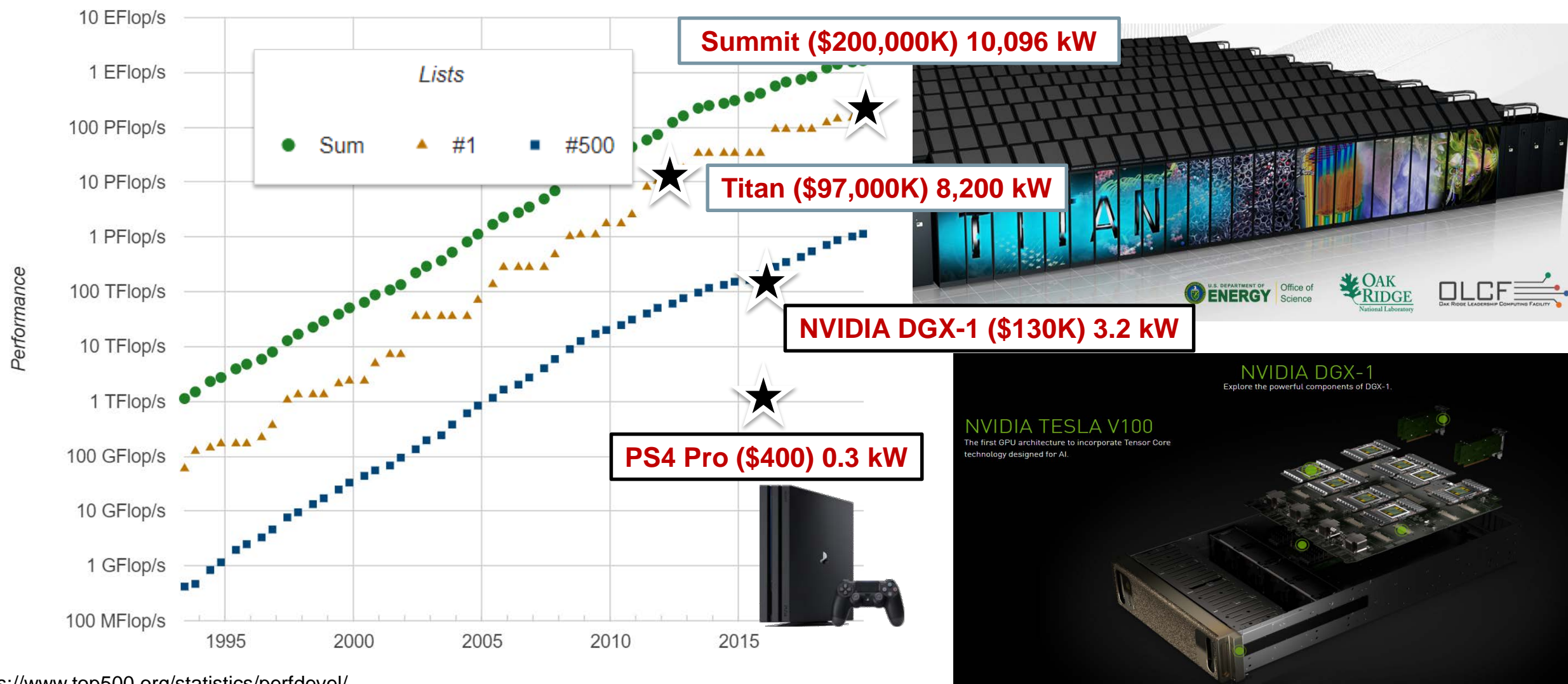
## Notes:

1 EFlop/s = one  
exaFLOPS, or a billion  
billion calculations per  
second ( $10^{18}$ )

1 MOPS does not even  
appear on this plot.

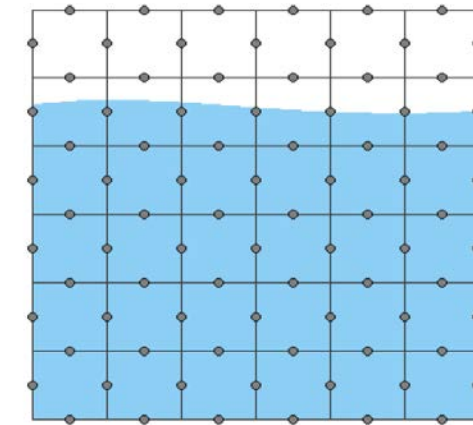
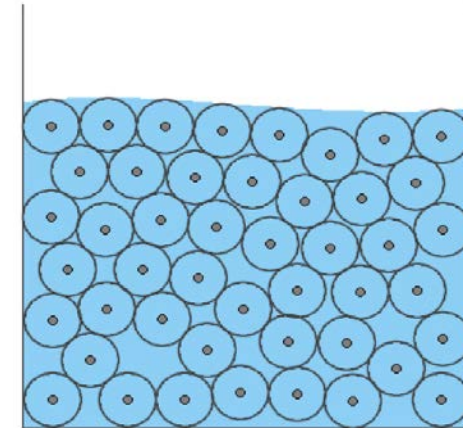
# But how available is this “computational performance?”

## Performance Development



# Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics

- **A way to simulate flooding scenarios is needed**
- **Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH)**
  - Particle based method
  - Originally developed for astrophysics applications in 1977
  - Later extended for fluid dynamic applications
- **SPH allows for flooding scenarios to be simulated**
  - Does not confine fluid to meshes
  - Allows for a natural flow to be modeled
- **A reliable SPH code is needed**
  - Compare to experimental results

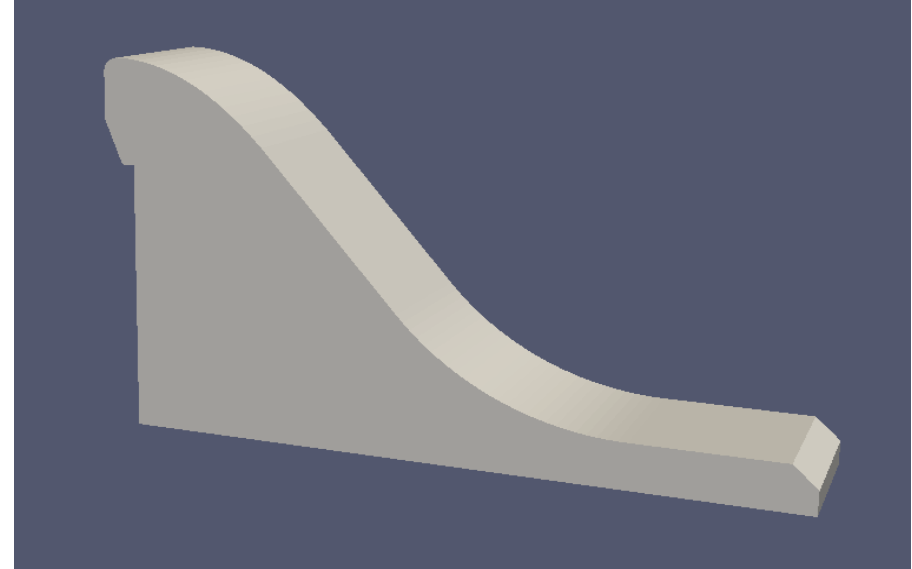
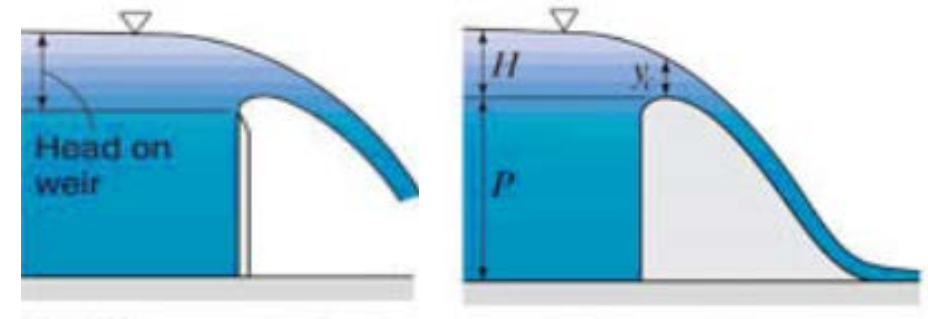




# Ogee Spillway Comparison

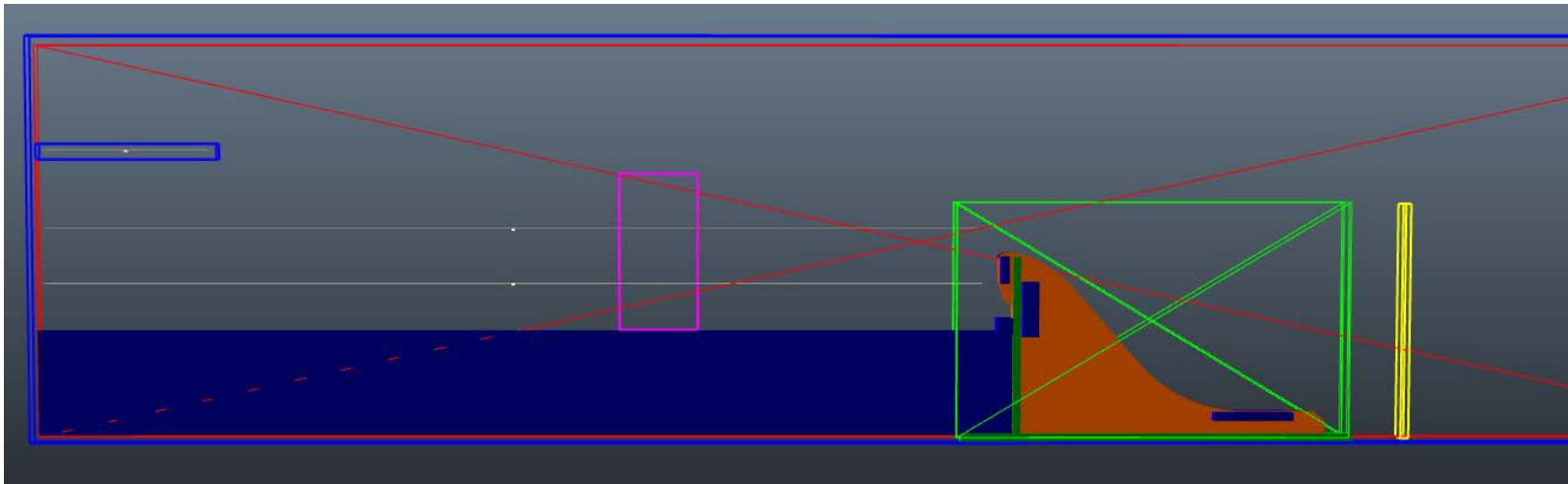
- **Comparison Model**

- Ogee spillway with horizontal apron
- Details of experiment provided in Flow over Ogee Spillway: Physical and Numerical Model Case Study by Bruce M. Savage and Michael C. Johnson
- Experiment details (scaled model):
  - Measurements taken 2 m upstream
    - Flow Rate
    - Total Head
  - Ten different runs conducted
- Prototype scale was used for the SPH comparison which required scaling the model scale up 30 times



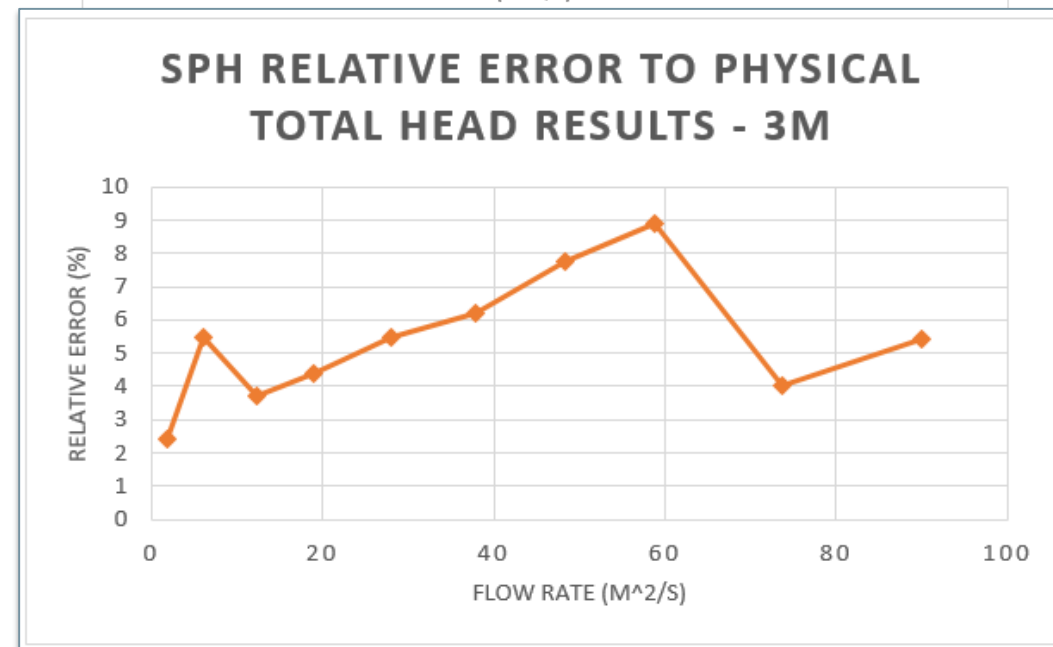
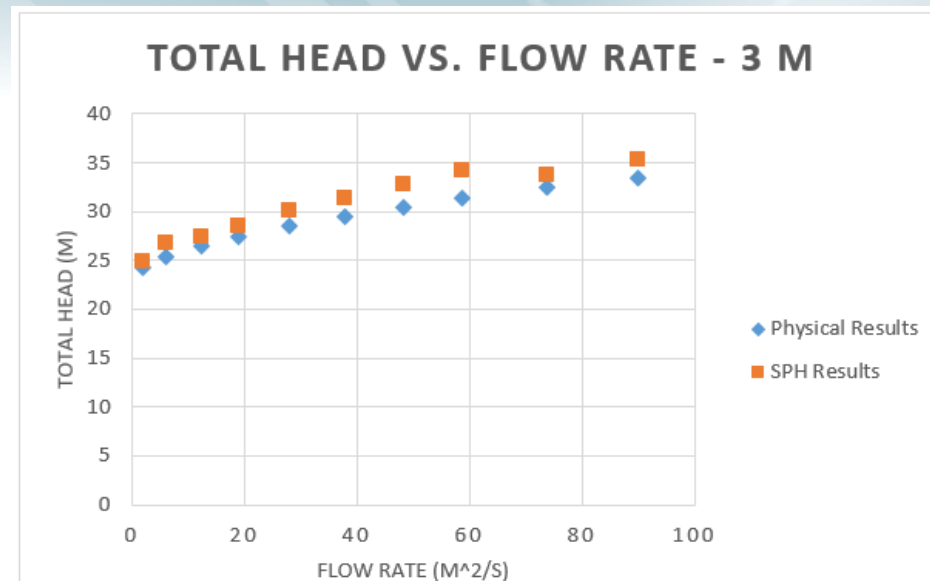
# Neutrino Model

- **Developmental SPH code Neutrino was used to conduct the comparison**
- **Model construction process:**
  - Determine how to fill particles behind the spillway
  - Reduce leakage
  - Determine particle emitter location to set total head
  - Determine particle emitter location to set flow rate instead
  - Conduct parametric studies on model width and particle size
  - Reduce leakage again
  - Change particle emitter types



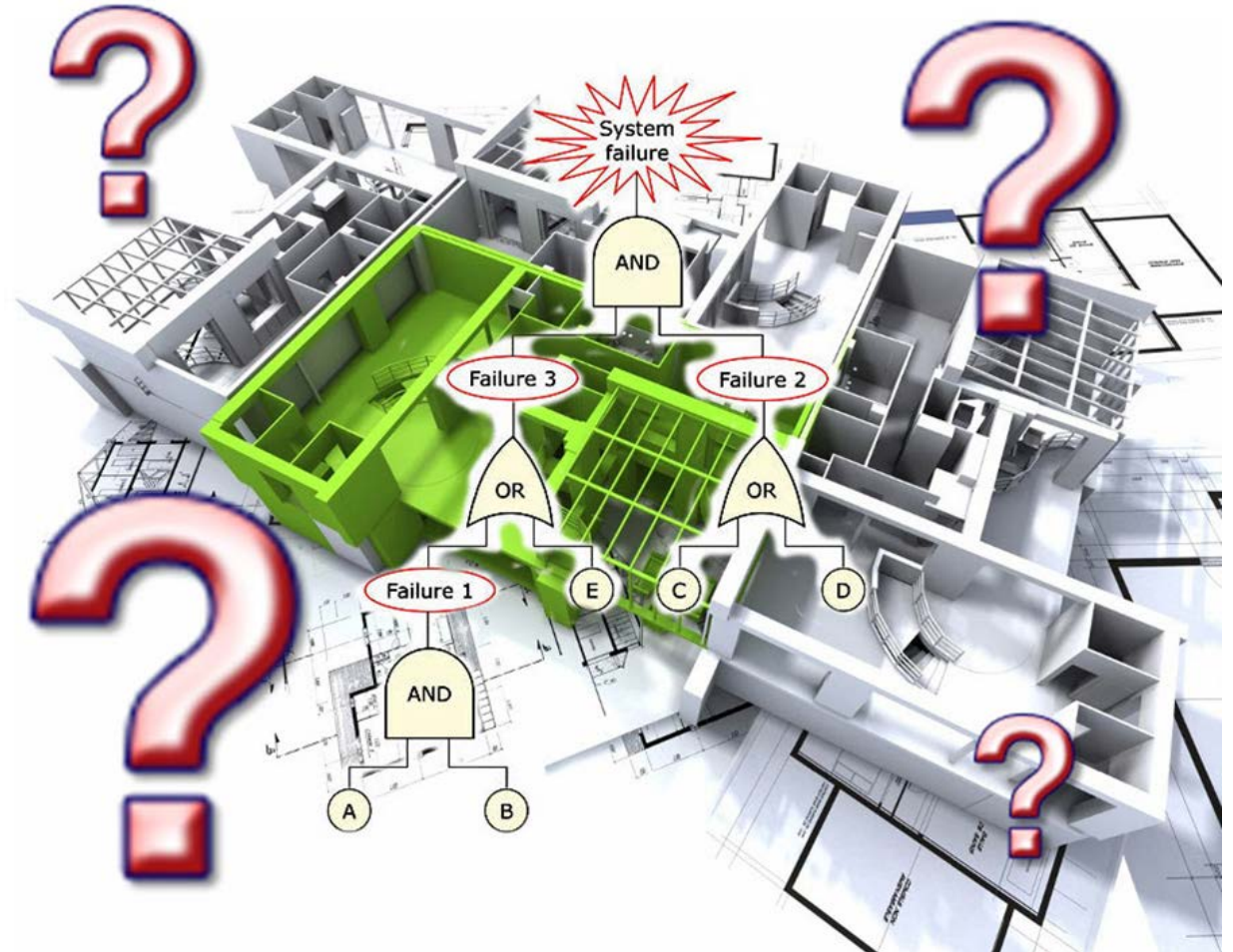
# Comparison Results

Run	Flow Rate	Physical Total Head Result	SPH Total Head Result	Relative Error
1	1.9 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	24.3 m	24.9 m	2.4 %
2	6.0 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	25.3 m	26.7 m	5.5 %
3	12.3 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	26.5 m	27.5 m	3.7 %
4	19.0 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	27.4 m	28.6 m	4.4 %
5	27.9 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	28.5 m	30.0 m	5.5 %
6	37.8 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	29.5 m	31.3 m	6.2 %
7	48.2 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	30.4 m	32.8 m	7.7 %
8	58.9 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.25%	31.4 m	34.1 m	8.9 %
9	73.8 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.5%	32.4 m	33.7 m	4.0 %
10	89.9 m <sup>2</sup> /s ± 0.5%	33.5 m	35.3 m	5.4 %



# How to Join Physics Model & System Model

- **Good** - Run repeated simulations and add the failure information into the existing static models
- **Better** – Dynamic PRA model that can interact with the simulation
  - No corrections needed for time dependent calculations
  - Determine average or mean time of particular outcomes
  - Analyze time order of failures to determine early protection methods





Risk Analysis  
Steps for  
Scenario  
Generation

Enabling  
Conditions

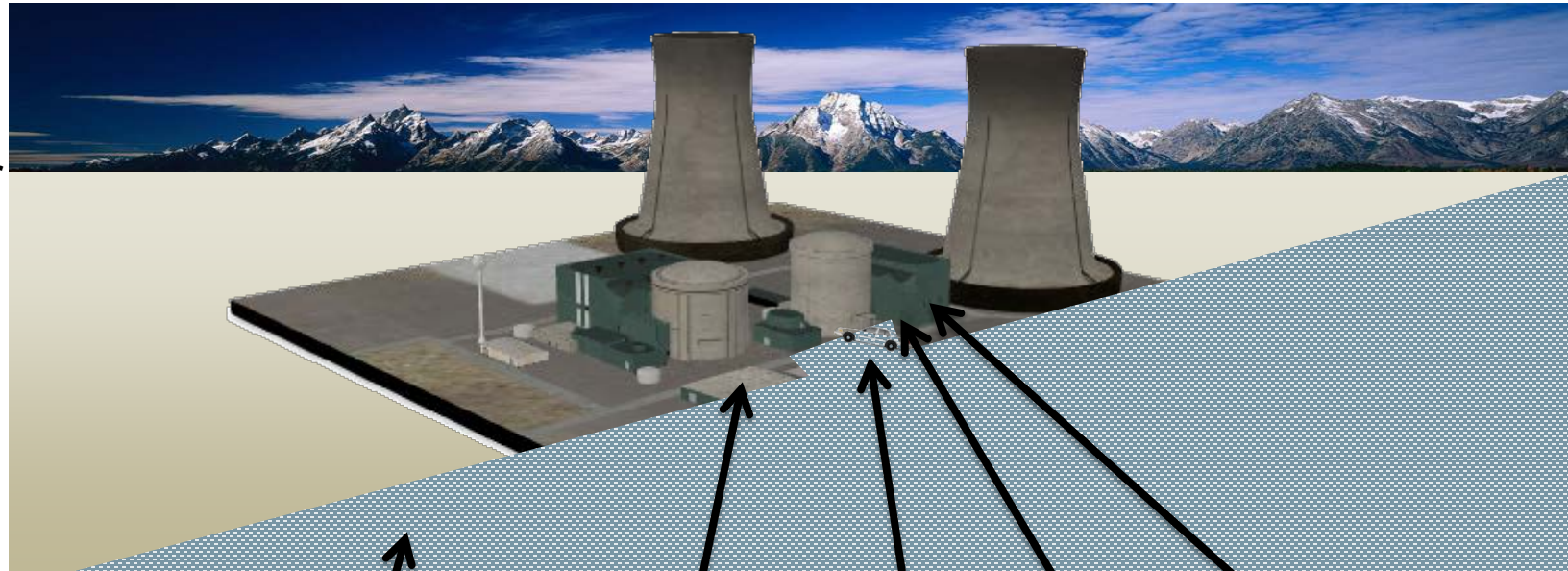
**Flood**

Plant SSC  
Response  
to Initiator

SSC  
Failures &  
Successes

Scenario Simulation

3D Models for  
the Facility  
including  
Systems,  
Structures, &  
Component  
(SSC)



Computational Layers  
Used for the  
Analysis

Probabilistic events

Seismic

Flooding

Hazard Freq.

Static/Dynamic  
Loads

Debris

Water Migration

Fragilities

...

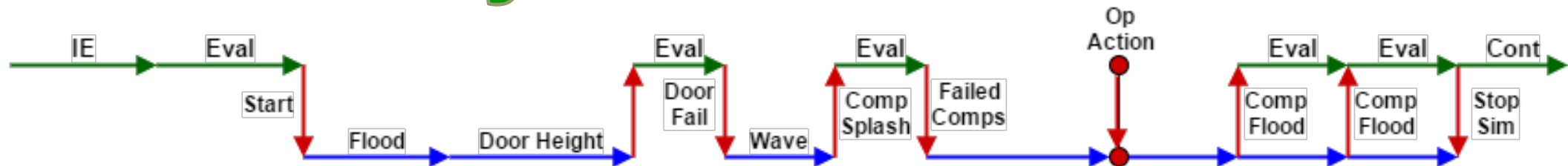
Thermal-hydraulics

# Timing is Everything



- Physics simulation are dynamic and time dependent
- Control logic is not always available in simulations
- Need to modify the behavior of the simulation at during execution.

## System Model



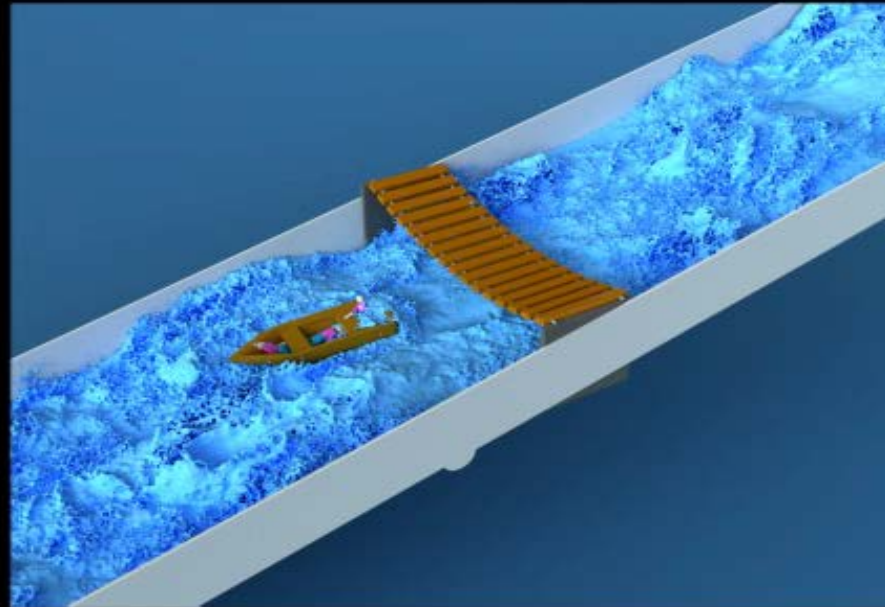
# Simulation



## Example of a fluid solver (physics representation)

### River

Up to 6M fluid particles

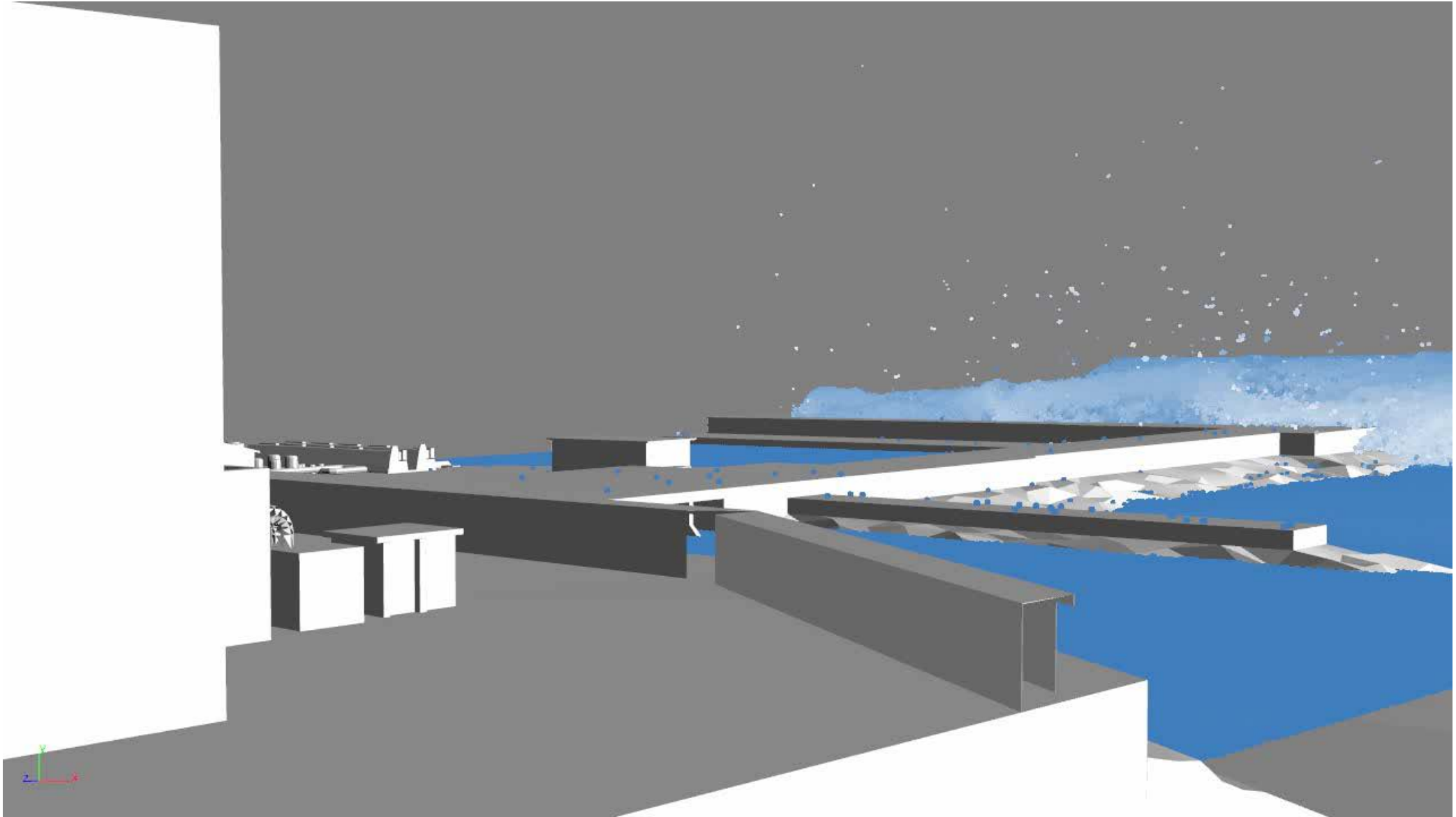


## Making a wave CRA style (water physics)



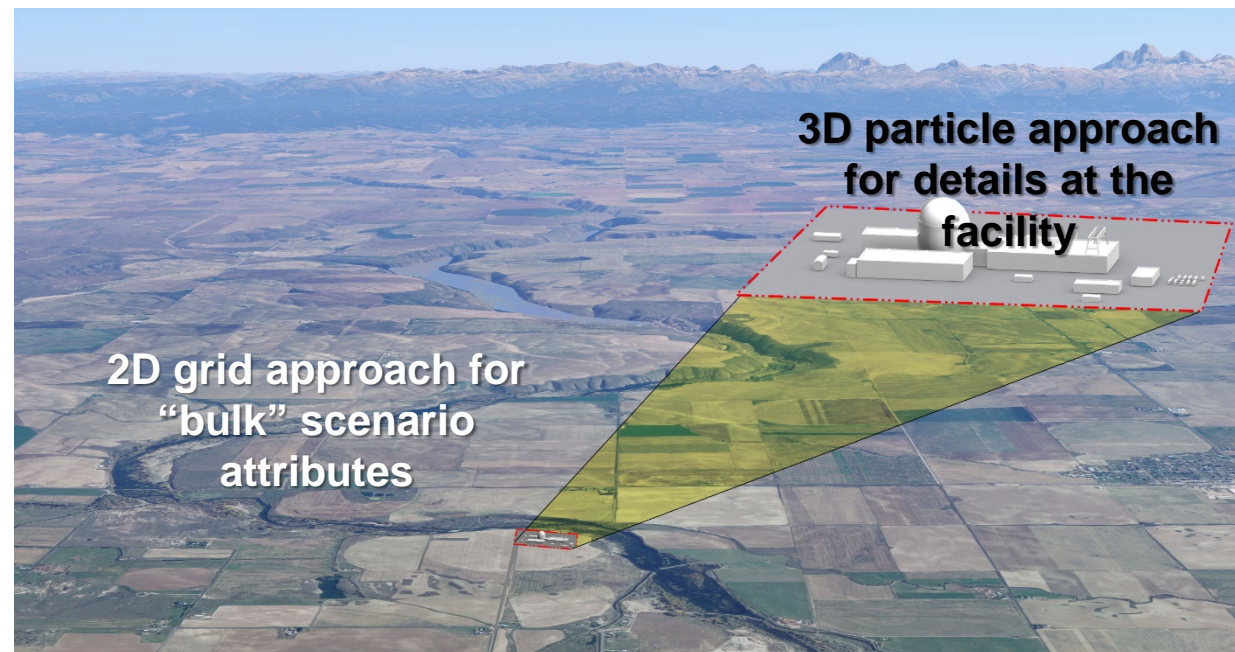


**Physics (water) + facility model + probabilistic failures = CRA**



# River flood modeling

- **INL/EXT-15-37091, Flooding Capability for River-based Scenarios**
- **Evaluated two different types of potential river-based flooding tools**
  - 1D/2D grid based (GeoClaw, EPA's SWMM code, and Army Corps HEC)
  - 3D particle based
  - Both the 2D and 3D methods have positives and negatives
- **Combination of both seems to be best approach moving forward**





# Dam break and subsequent river flood

by

## Steve Prescott (INL)

# Ram Sampath (Centroid Lab)

## Donna Calhoun (BSU)





## Conclusions

- The Idaho National Laboratory is demonstrating a next-generation uncertainty and risk-assessment approach that supports PRA and decision-making
- Combines mechanistic physics-based models with probabilistic analysis (CRA)
- Provides new opportunities for the next generation of scientists/engineers to attract talent
  - Uncertainty analysis can be built upon and supported for next-generation methods and tools
  - Provides an opportunity to greatly enhance the realism in our risk models
    - Can provide solution to “what’s next” in modeling (e.g., synthetic data for machine learning, digital twin framework)





**Curtis.Smith@inl.gov**

**Thank you!**