

# A Distributed Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Model for Estimation of Room Air Levels of Selected Aerosol Chemicals from Emission of E-Vapor Products (EVP)

*Ali A. Rostami<sup>1</sup>, Samuel A. Agyemang<sup>2</sup>  
and Yezdi B. Pithawalla<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Altria Client Services LLC, Research Development & Regulatory Affairs, Richmond, Virginia, USA

<sup>2</sup> TriMech Solutions LLC , Glen Allen, Virginia , USA



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CORESTA Congress, October 9-13, 2016,  
Berlin, Germany

# Health Effects of E-Cigarettes on Non-Users

*FDA has expressed interest in understanding:*

- What chemicals are potentially delivered to nonusers?
- How do exhaled aerosol properties impact potential secondhand exposures?
- How far can aerosols travel in a confined environment?
- What is aerosol level in different space settings such as cars, homes, office and public buildings?

## Proposed Approach

Combination of controlled clinical studies & computational modeling

Source: FDA Public Workshop - **Electronic Cigarettes and the Public Health**, June 1-2, 2015,  
<http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/NewsEvents/ucm439029.htm>

# Approach: Exposure Assessment of Secondhand Exposure from Vaping

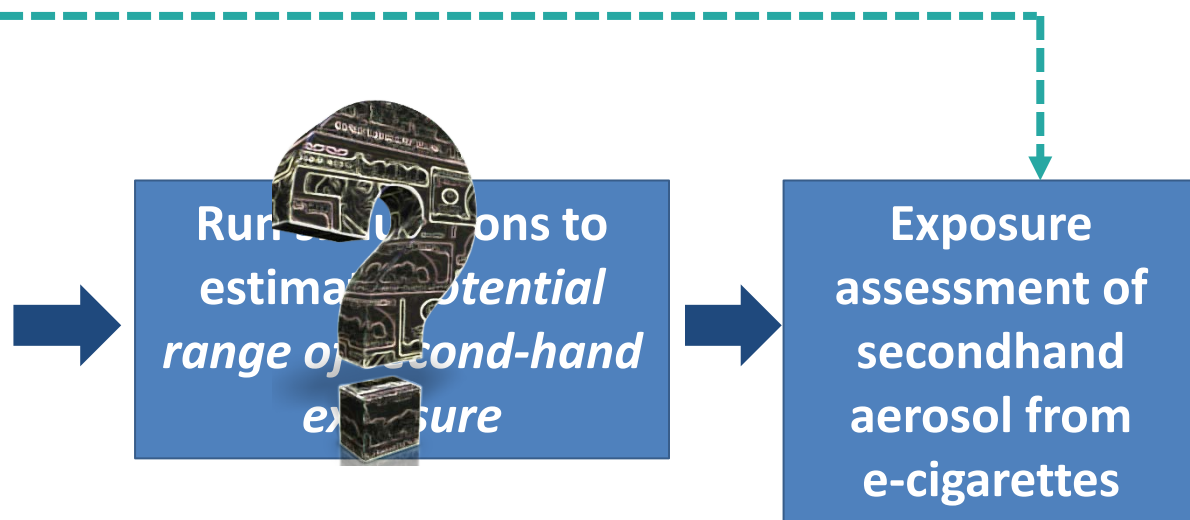


Picture from: <http://site1.inflamaxresearch.com/>

**Controlled Clinical Study:** Measure room air levels of selected constituents



**Develop Computational Models**



- Individual user variability
- Number of occupants
- Space settings: Homes, cars, etc.
- Size, ventilation, etc.



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\*M. Sarkar et. al. "Are Chemical Constituents Exhaled in a Room where e-vapor products are used?". Presented at 69<sup>th</sup> Tobacco Science Research Conference, Sept. 20-23, 2015.

\*A Rostami et. al. "Computational Tool for Estimating Indoor Aerosol/Vapor Concentration ". Presented at 69<sup>th</sup> Tobacco Science Research Conference, Sept. 20-23, 2015.

# Two Types of Computational Models Developed at ALCS\*

Models based on principles similar to those used in the indoor air quality assessment models, referred to by the EPA\*\*

## Well-mixed Model

- Total, vapor and particulate concentrations of each constituent in air
- Average values for the entire space as a function of time

*Rostami et al. , A well-mixed computational model for estimating room air levels of selected constituents from e-vapor product use, Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health , August 2016.*

## Distributed CFD Model

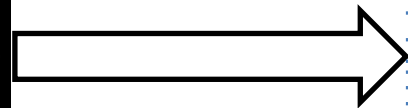
- Total, vapor and particulate concentrations of each constituent in air
- Spatial and temporal distribution inside the space

# Physical and Mathematical Bases of Model

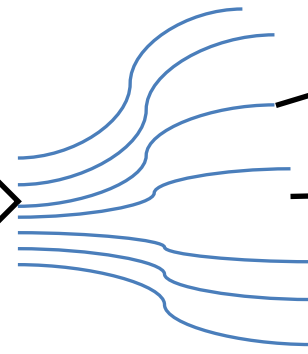


Exhaled E-cigarette  
Aerosol Particles

Mix with room air



Evaporation



Vapors

Exit through vent

Remains airborne  
(Secondhand exposure)

Deposits on surfaces  
(Thirdhand exposure)

## Energy Conservation Equation

$$\frac{\partial(\rho c_p T)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho c_p u_j T)}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \left( k + \frac{\rho c_p v_T}{Pr_T} \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_j} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^4 h_i \rho \left( D_i + \frac{v_T}{Sc_T} \right) \frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial x_j} \right] + S^{(E)}$$

## Species Transport Equation

$$\frac{\partial(\rho Y_i)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u_j Y_i)}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \rho \left( D_i + \frac{v_T}{Sc_T} \right) \frac{\partial Y_i}{\partial x_j} \right] + S_i^{(Y)}$$

Notations are given in the addendum

# Physical and Mathematical Bases of Model

## Particle Transport Equation

$$\frac{d}{dt}(m_p u_p) = F^D + F^L + F^{BM} + F^G$$

$$\frac{dm_p}{dt} = - \sum_{i=1}^4 \pi d_p^2 J_i$$

## Thermodynamic Relations

$$H_i = A_i \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_{c,i}} \right)^{n_i}$$

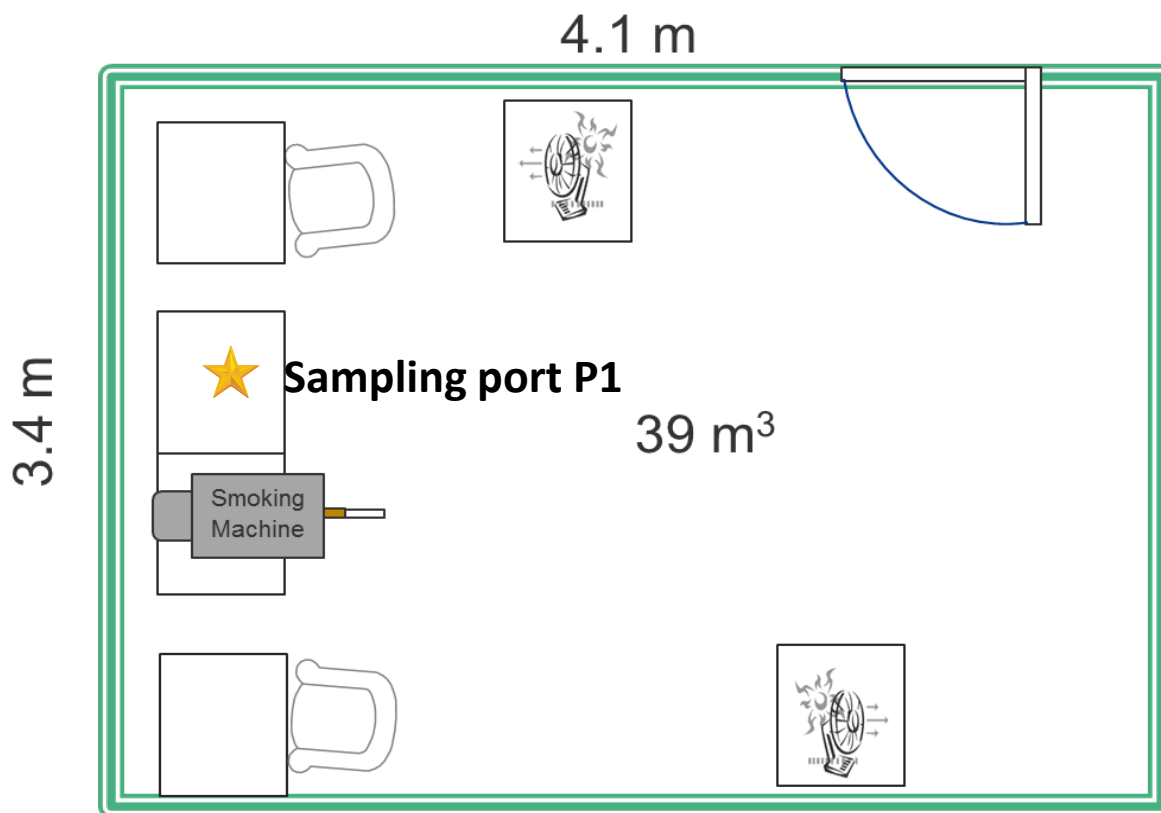
$$\text{Log}_{10} P_{sat,i} = A_i + \frac{B_i}{T_p} + C_i \text{Log}_{10} T + D_i T + E_i T^2$$

## Other Equations in Model

- Mass Conservation/Continuity Equation
- Momentum Conservation Equation
- Turbulence Models (Realizable k-ε)
- User Defined Functions (UDF's)

**Model Development Platform:  
ANSYS® Fluent 17.0 Computational Fluid Dynamics Software**

# Model Validation: Smoking Machine Case<sup>1</sup>



- Two doses of aerosols from e-cigarettes are released into the room at 30 minutes apart
- Each dose is either 15 (high) or 7 (low) puffs
- Ventilation levels ( high ~ 10 ACH, low ~7 ACH)

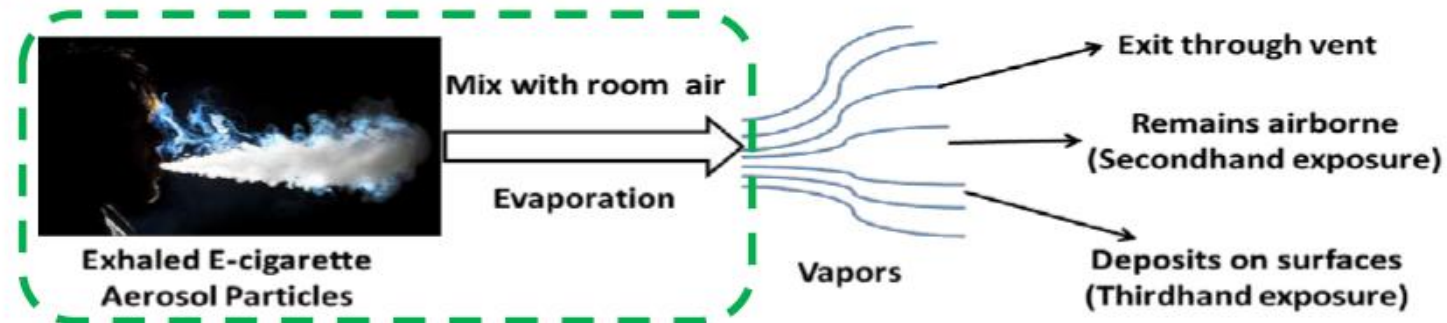
**Locations of equipment and fans are estimated  
(actual setting not known)**

<sup>1</sup>Czogala et al. (2014), Secondhand exposure to vapors from electronic cigarettes, *Nicotine and Tobacco Res*, 16 (6): 655-662.

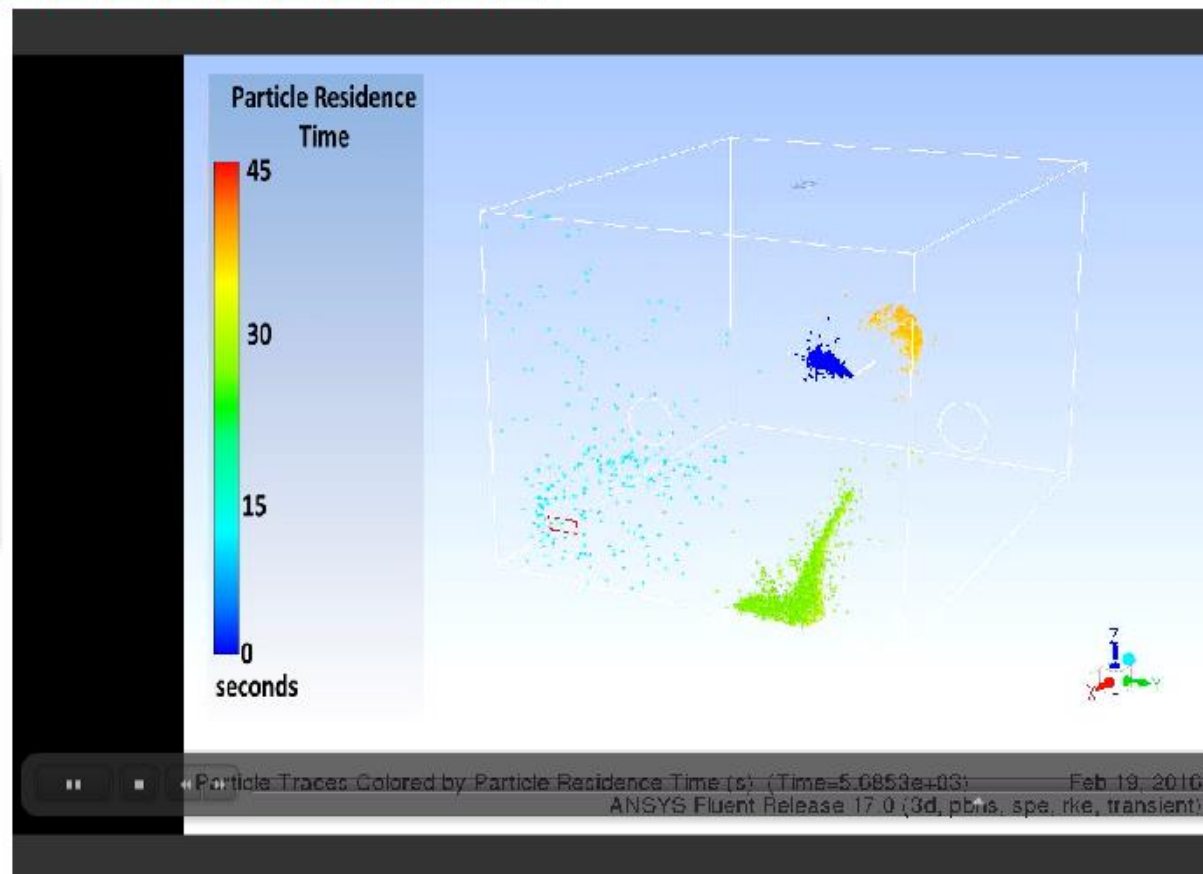
ACH = Air Change per Hour



# Room Aerosol Circulation Profile



- 2 aerosol doses released in 1 hour
- 15 Puffs in each dose for 3 minutes
- Ventilation rate: 6.83 ACH





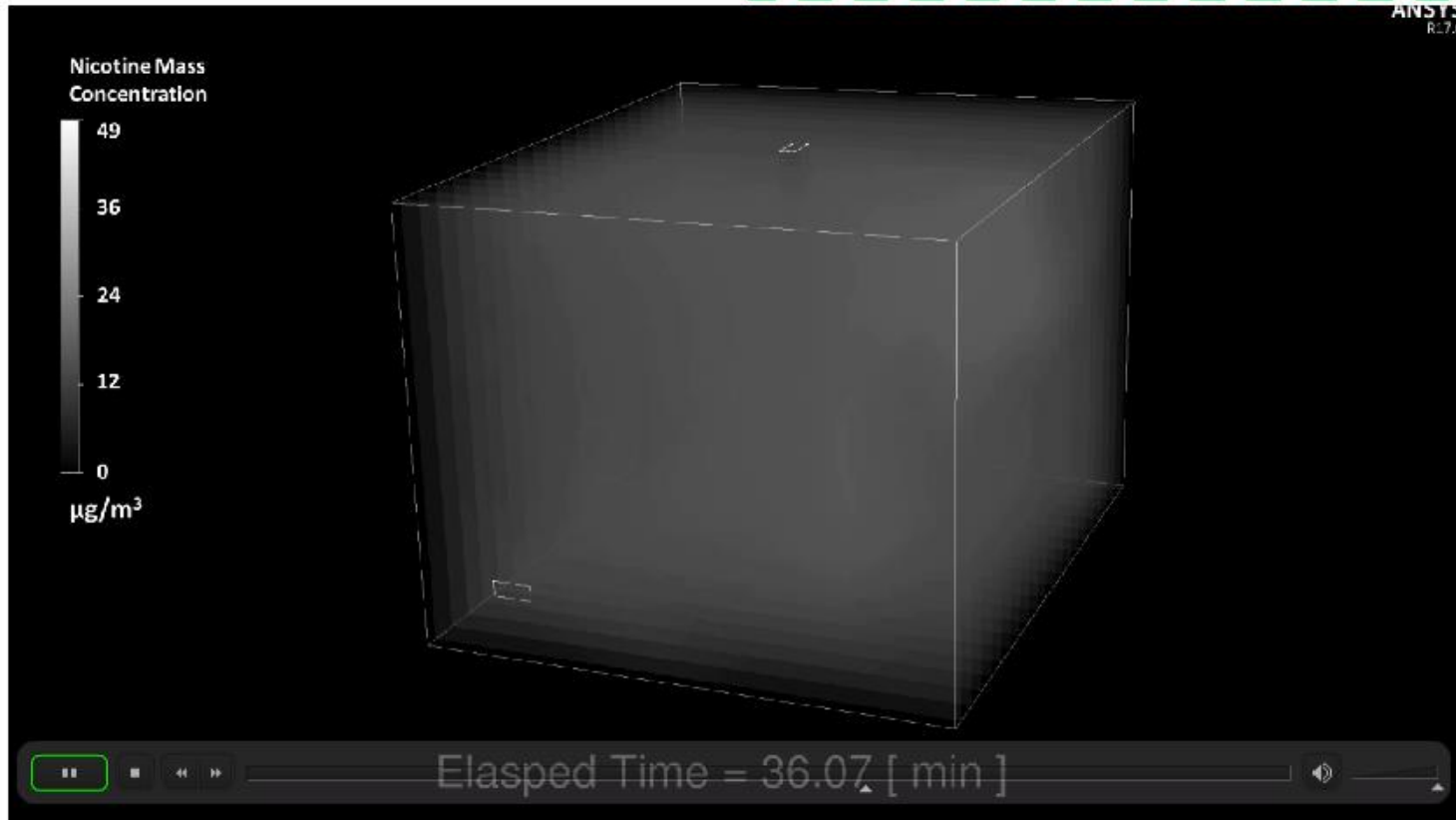
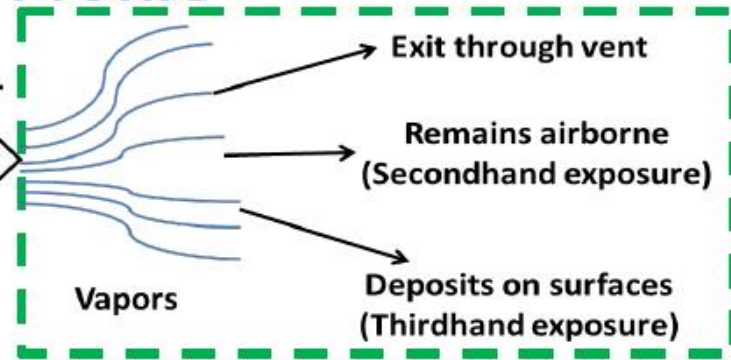
# Room Nicotine Concentration Profile



Exhaled E-cigarette  
Aerosol Particles

Mix with room air

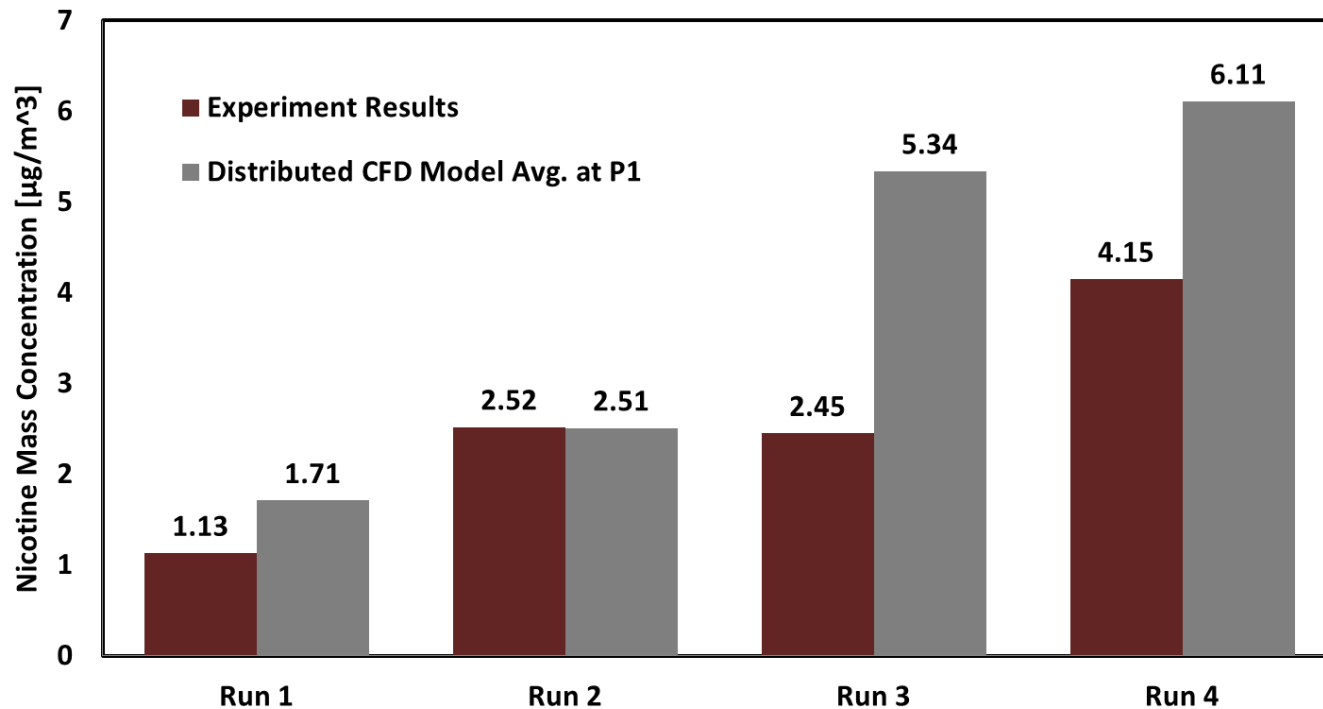
Evaporation



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# Distributed CFD Model Average vs. Experimental Data



Runs	Nic.% in formulation	Aerosol Release	Ventilation (ACH)
Run 1	1.8 (EC2)	Low (7 puffs)	9.86
Run 2	1.8 (EC2)	Low (7 puffs)	6.81
Run 3	1.8 (EC2)	High (15 puffs)	6.83
Run 4	1.8 (EC2)	High (15 puffs)	6.8



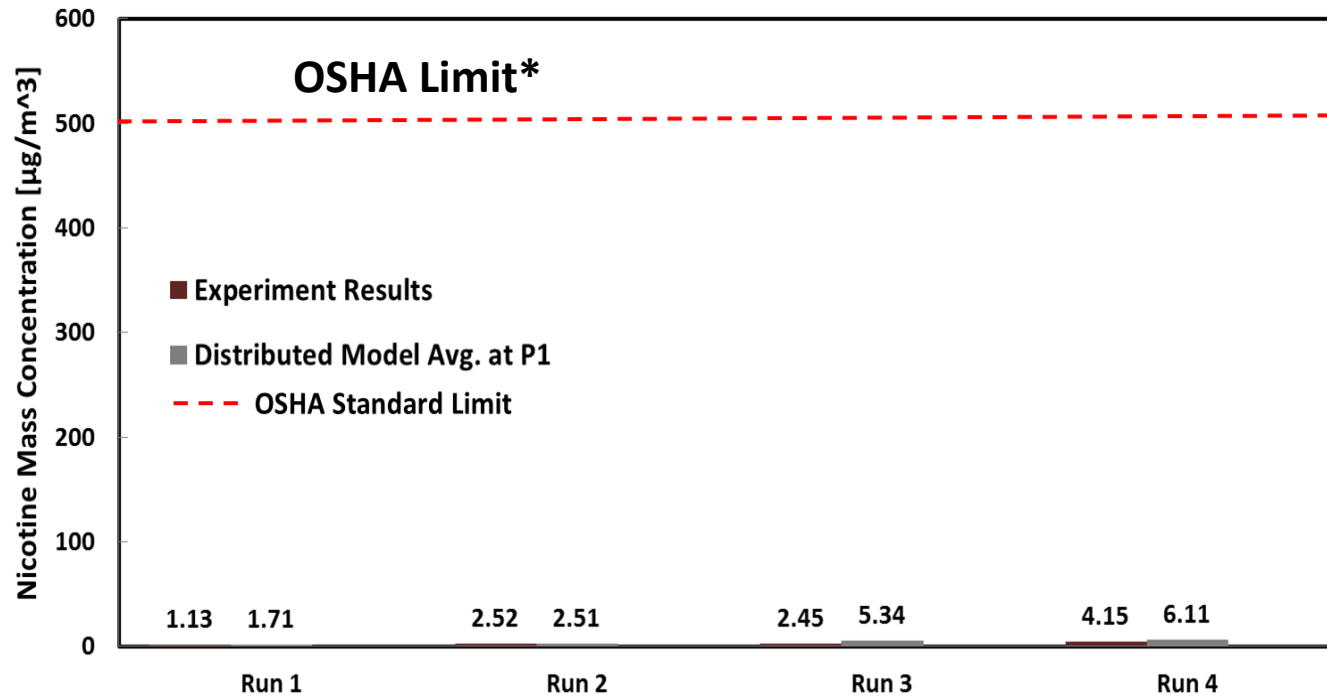
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ACH= Air Change per Hour

\*For 8 hour exposure

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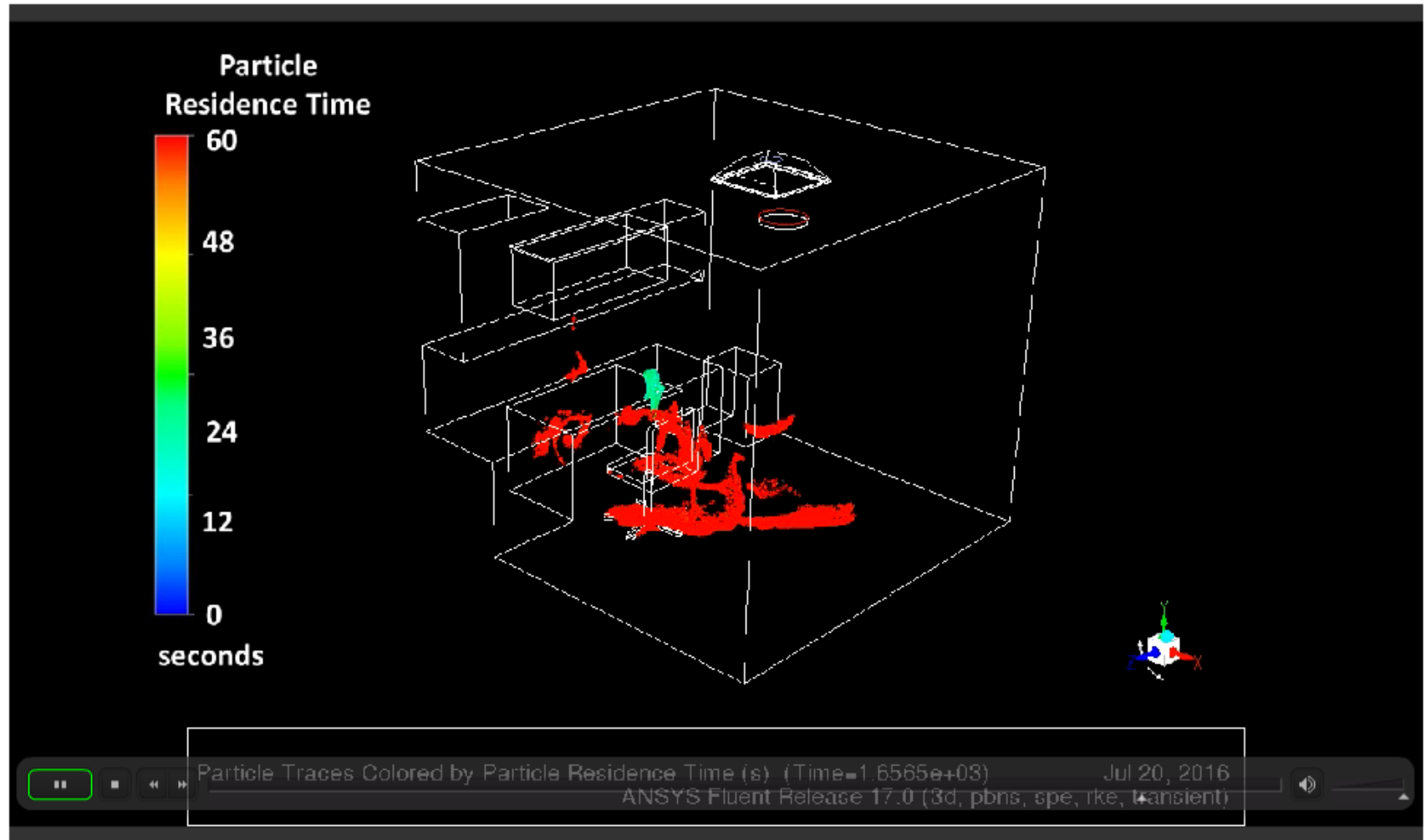
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ACH= Air Change per Hour

\*For 8 hour exposure

# Modeling Example 1: Office Space Aerosol Circulation Profile



- 10 Puffs in 30 minutes
- Ventilation Rate: 0.35 ACH (ASHRAE Standard)

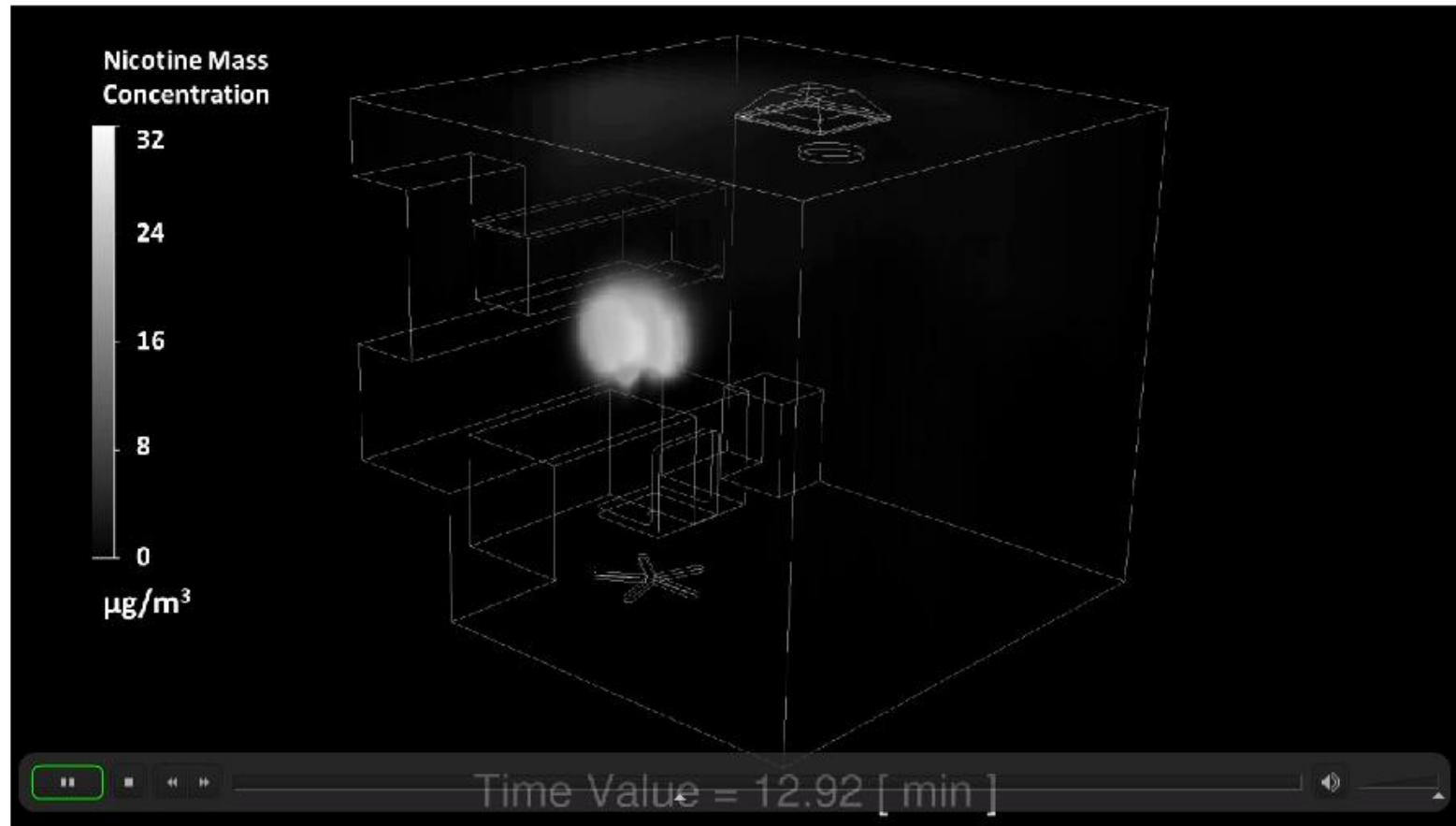
ASHRAE = American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers



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# Modeling Example 1: Office Space Nicotine Vapor Concentration Profile



**Time-weighted average concentrations over 60 min**  
Nicotine:  $2.30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; PG :  $76.55 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; Glycerol :  $102.96 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



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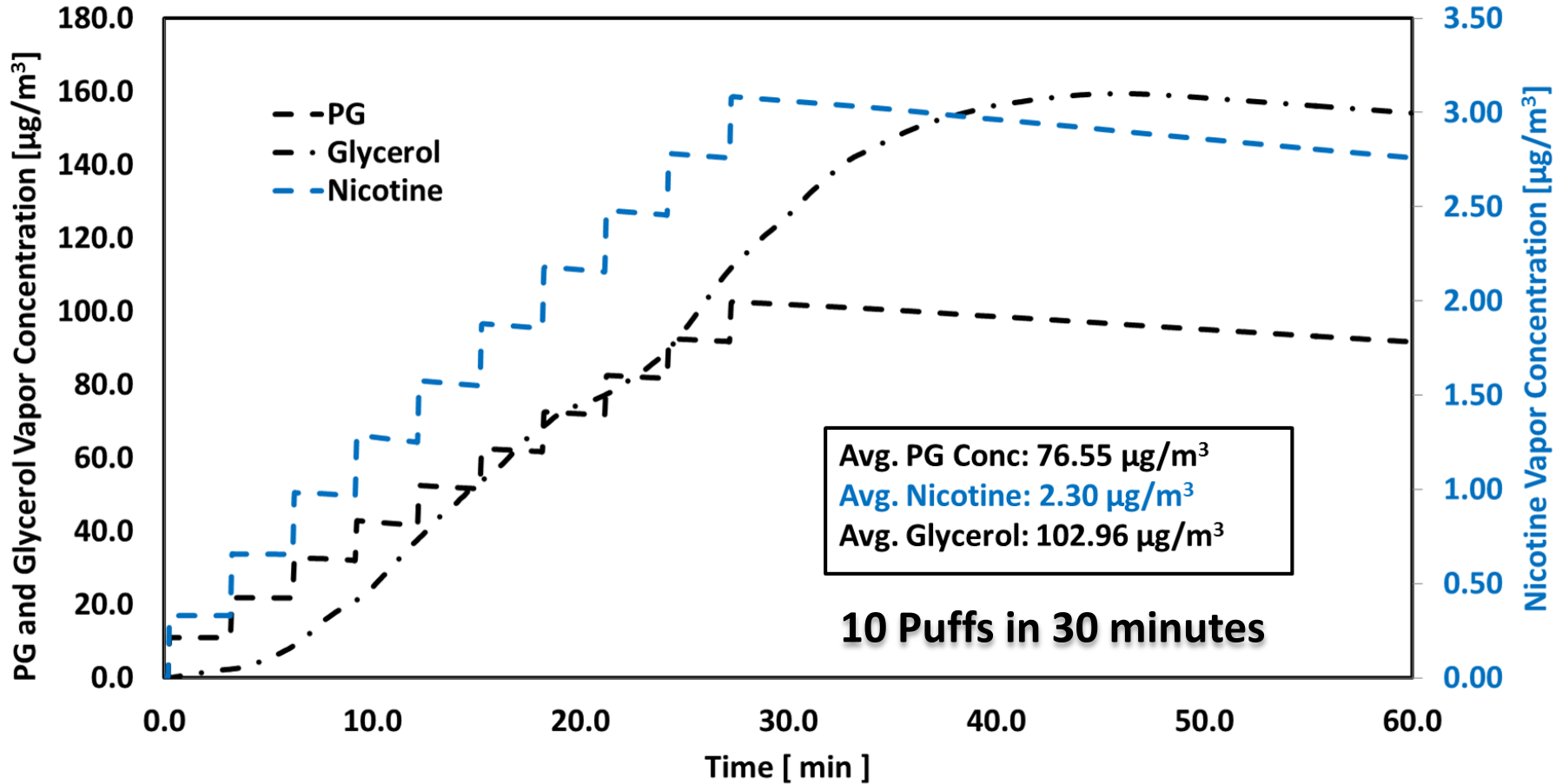
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*\*OSHA Limit for Nicotine ( $500 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and for Glycerol ( $15,000 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )*

Altria Client Services | RD&RA | Yezdi Pithawalla | Oct 2016 |

# Modeling Example 1: Office Space Vapor Concentrations

## Instantaneous concentrations over 60 min

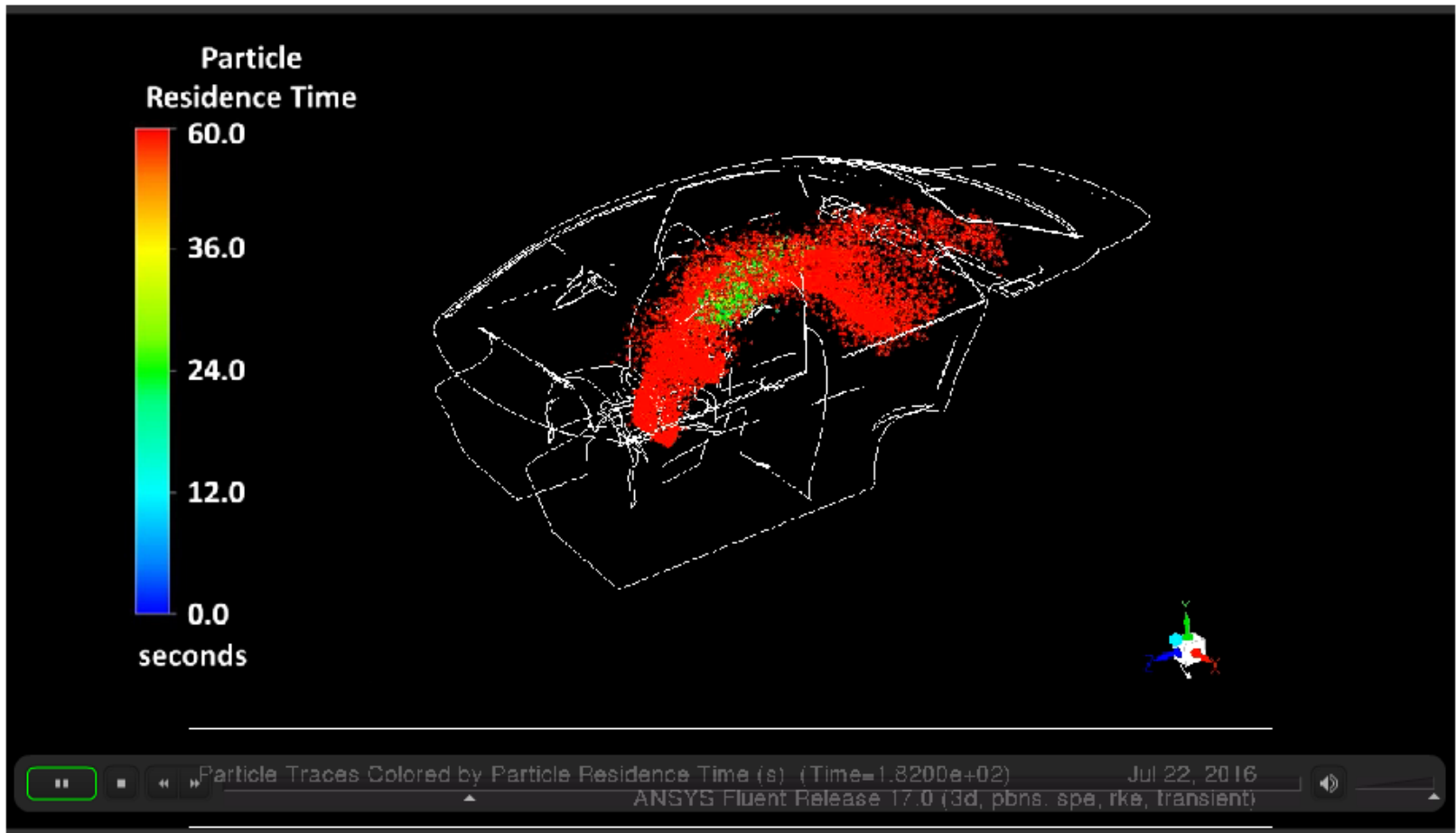


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\*OSHA Limit for Nicotine (500  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and for Glycerol (15,000  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

# Modeling Example 2: Car Cabin Aerosol Circulation Profile with Windows Closed



- **10 Puffs in 10 minutes**
- **Ventilation rate: 3.23 ACH\***



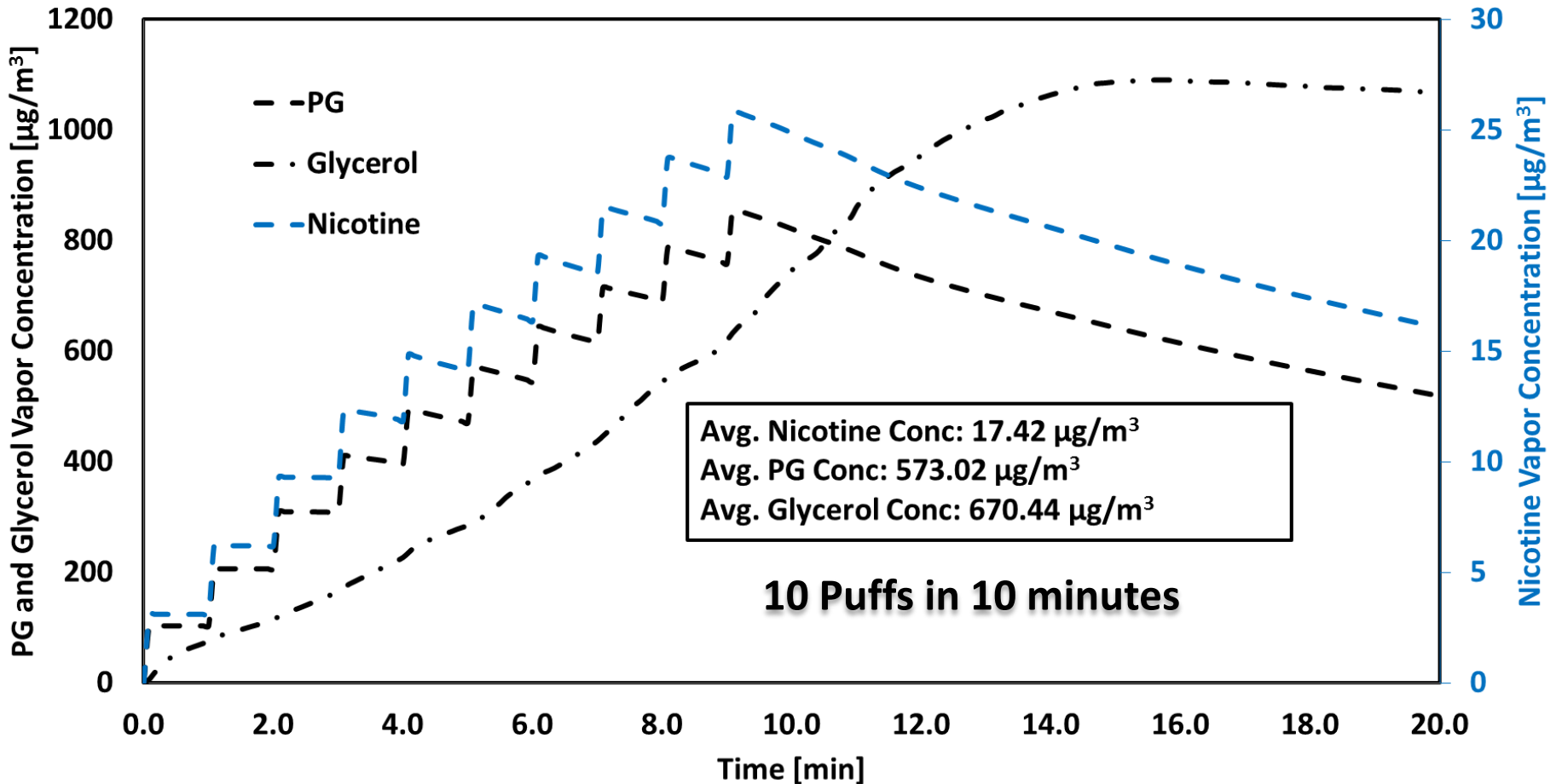
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\*Wayne et al. (2008) Air change rates of motor vehicles and in-vehicle pollutant concentrations from secondhand smoke.

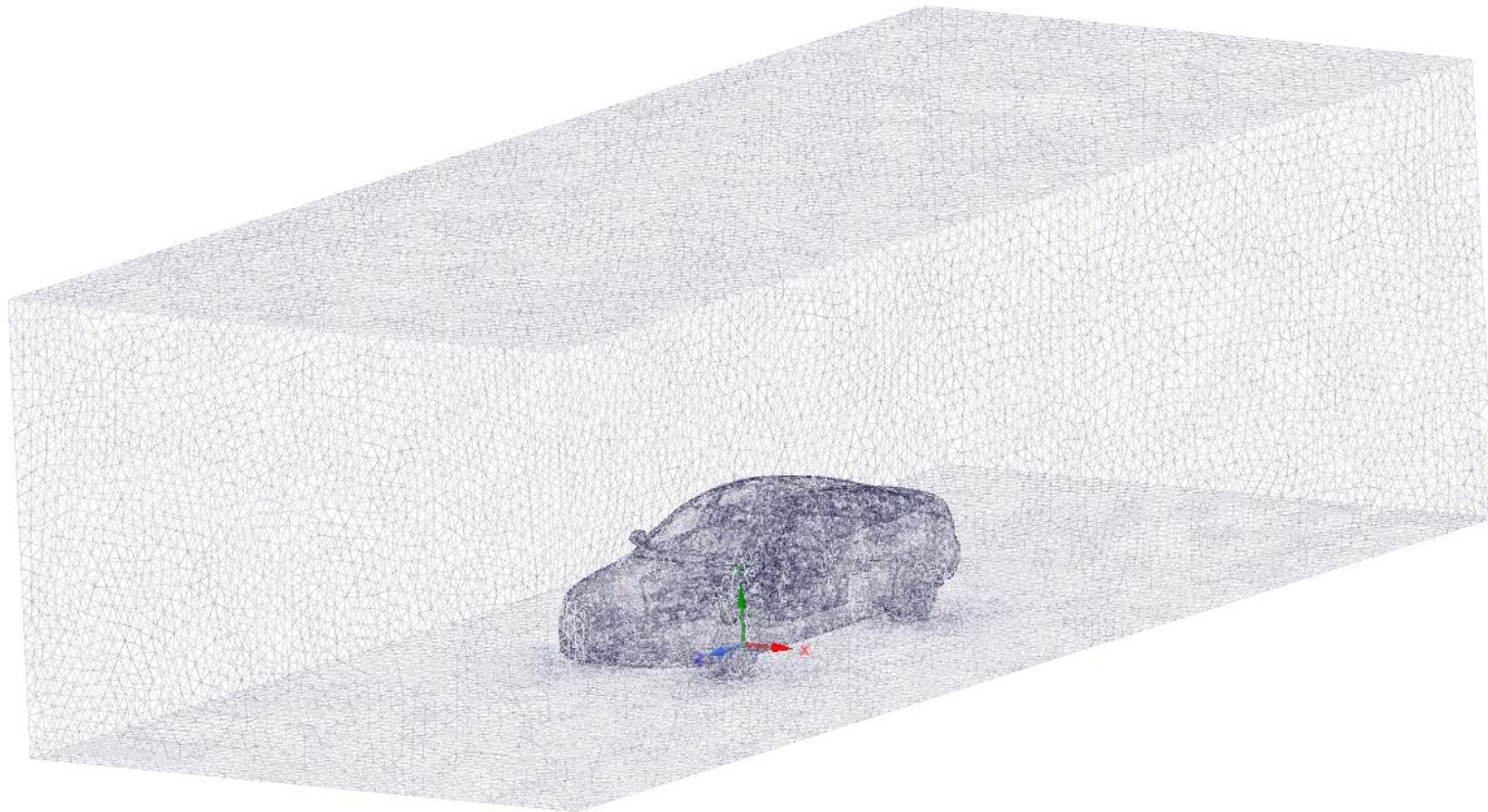
# Modeling Example 2a: Car Cabin Vapor Concentrations with Windows Closed

Instantaneous concentrations over 20 min

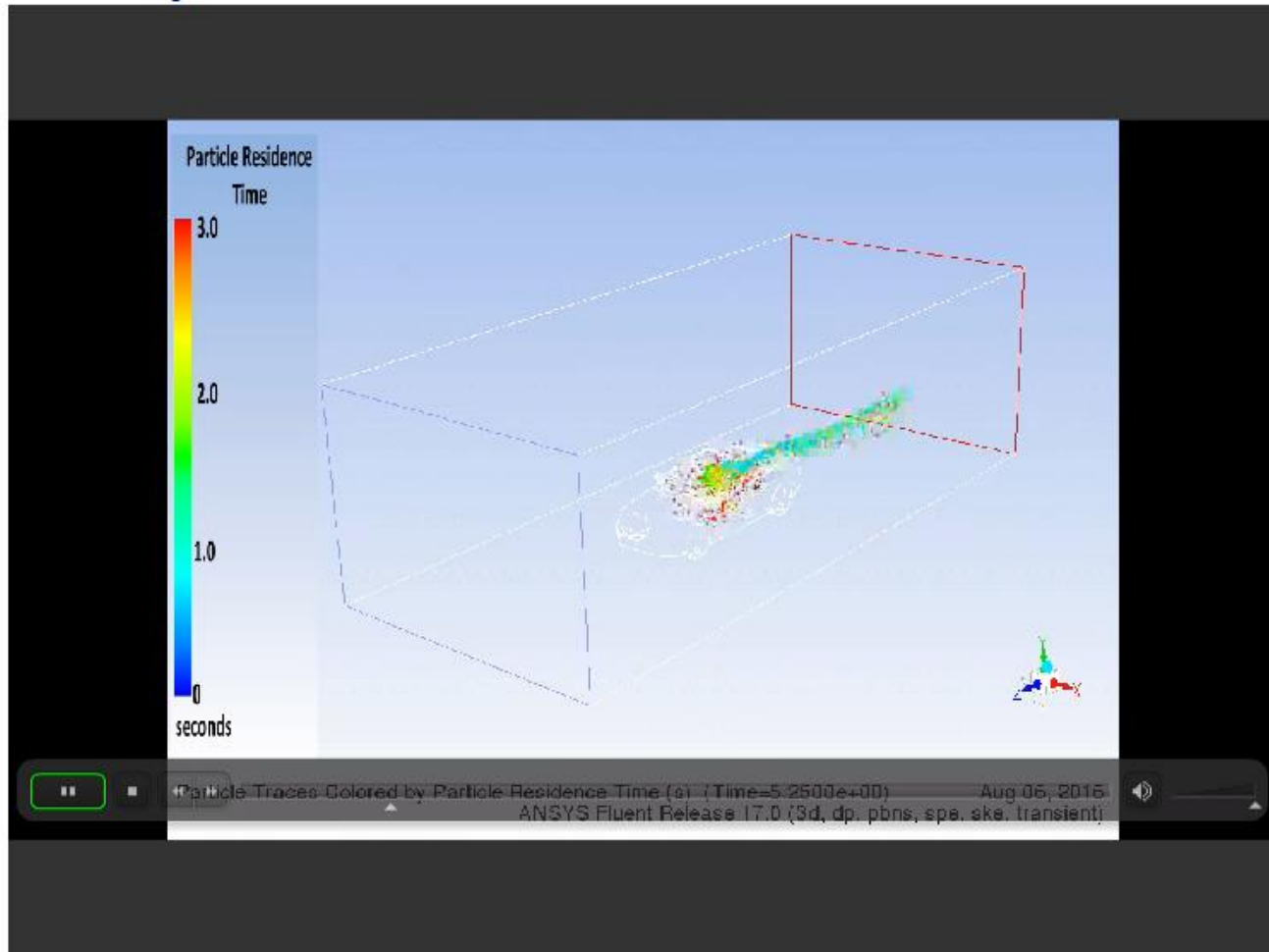




# Model Application Example 2b: Geometry/Mesh for Car with open Windows



# Modeling Example 2b: Car Cabin Aerosol Circulation Profile with Windows Open



- **10 Puffs in 10 minutes**
- **Vehicle traveling at 35mph; windows fully opened**

# Modeling Example 2b: Car Cabin Vapor Concentrations with Windows Opened

Aerosol Vapor Constituents	Average Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
Nicotine	0.0021
PG	0.0695
Glycerol	0.0860

*\*OSHA Limit for Nicotine ( $500 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and for Glycerol ( $15,000 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )*

# Summary

- We developed computational models to estimate room air concentration of constituents from e-cigarette use
- The model can be used to estimate the secondhand exposure level in a variety of use conditions and indoor settings
- Results from modeling can be used to better inform and strengthen the scientific understanding to evaluate and regulate electronic cigarettes
- We plan to continue sharing our progress with the scientific community

# Thank You

Copy of presentation available at ALCS Science website:

<http://www.altria.com/ALCS-Science>



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# Addendum: Notations for Equations

<b>ACH</b>	<b>Air Change per Hour</b>	<b><math>h^{-1}</math></b>	<b><math>k_{m,i}</math></b>	<b>Mass transfer coefficient of constituent i</b>	
<b>UDF</b>	<b>User Defined Function</b>		<b><math>v</math></b>	<b>Velocity</b>	<b>m/s</b>
<b><math>P_{rT}</math></b>	<b>Turbulent Prandtl Number</b>	<b>Dimensionless</b>	<b><math>t</math></b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>s</b>
<b><math>Sc_T</math></b>	<b>Turbulent Schmidt Number</b>	<b>Dimensionless</b>	<b><math>S_i^{(E)}</math></b>	<b>Energy source/sink for species i</b>	
<b><math>\nu_T</math></b>	<b>Turbulent Viscosity</b>	<b>Pa s</b>	<b><math>S_i^{(Y)}</math></b>	<b>Mass source term for constituent i</b>	<b><math>kg/m^3s</math></b>
<b><math>C_p</math></b>	<b>Specific Heat Capacity</b>	<b>kJ/kgK</b>	<b><math>n_c</math></b>	<b>Total number of Particles in a computational cell</b>	
<b>T</b>	<b>Temperature</b>	<b>K</b>	<b><math>d_p</math></b>	<b>Particle Diameter</b>	<b>m</b>
<b><math>T_p</math></b>	<b>Particle Temperature</b>	<b>K</b>	<b><math>m_p</math></b>	<b>Particle Mass</b>	<b>kg</b>
<b><math>S^{(E)}</math></b>	<b>Energy Source Term</b>		<b><math>u_p</math></b>	<b>Particle Velocity</b>	<b>m/s</b>
<b><math>S_i</math></b>	<b>Mass source term for constituent i</b>		<b><math>J_i</math></b>	<b>Mass Flux of Constituent i</b>	<b><math>kg/m^2s</math></b>
<b><math>\rho</math></b>	<b>Density</b>	<b><math>kg/m^3</math></b>	<b><math>H_i</math></b>	<b>Latent Heat of Species i</b>	<b>kJ/mol</b>
<b>k</b>	<b>Thermal Conductivity</b>	<b>W/mK</b>	<b><math>h_i</math></b>	<b>Enthalpy of Species i</b>	
			<b><math>D_i</math></b>	<b>Molecular Diffusivity of <math>i^{th}</math> vapor constituent</b>	

# Addendum: Notations for Equations (Cont.)

$A_i, B_i, C_i, D_i, E_i$	Antoine Equation Constants for each species <i>i</i>	
$T_{c,i}$	Critical Temperature of constituent <i>i</i>	K
$C_i$	Mass concentration of vapor constituent <i>i</i>	$\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$
$C_{i,s}$	Vapor species concentration on particle surface	
$n_i$	Constant	
$V_c$	Computational Cell Volume	$\text{m}^3$
$F^D$	Drag Force	N
$F^L$	Lift Force	N
$F^{BM}$	Brownian Motion Force	N
$F^G$	Gravity Force	N
R	Universal Gas Constant	$\text{m}^3\text{Pa}/\text{molK}$
M	Molecular Mass	$\text{kg}/\text{kmol}$
$M_i$	Molecular Mass of constituent <i>i</i>	$\text{kg}/\text{kmol}$
$\gamma_i$	Activity Coefficient of constituent <i>i</i>	Dimensionless
$x_i$	Mole Fraction of constituent <i>i</i>	
$y_i$	Mass Fraction of constituent <i>i</i>	
$Y_{i,s}$	Mass fraction of vapor constituent <i>i</i> at the particle surface	
$P_{sat}$	Saturated Vapor Pressure	$\text{kg}/\text{ms}^2$
Sh	Sherwood Number	Dimensionless
Re	Reynolds Number	Dimensionless