

**CCSI**<sup>TM</sup>  
Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative

# Uncertainty Analysis for the Full-scale Regenerator Model as a Post-combustion Carbon-Capture Unit

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

# Carbon Capture and Sequestration (CCS)

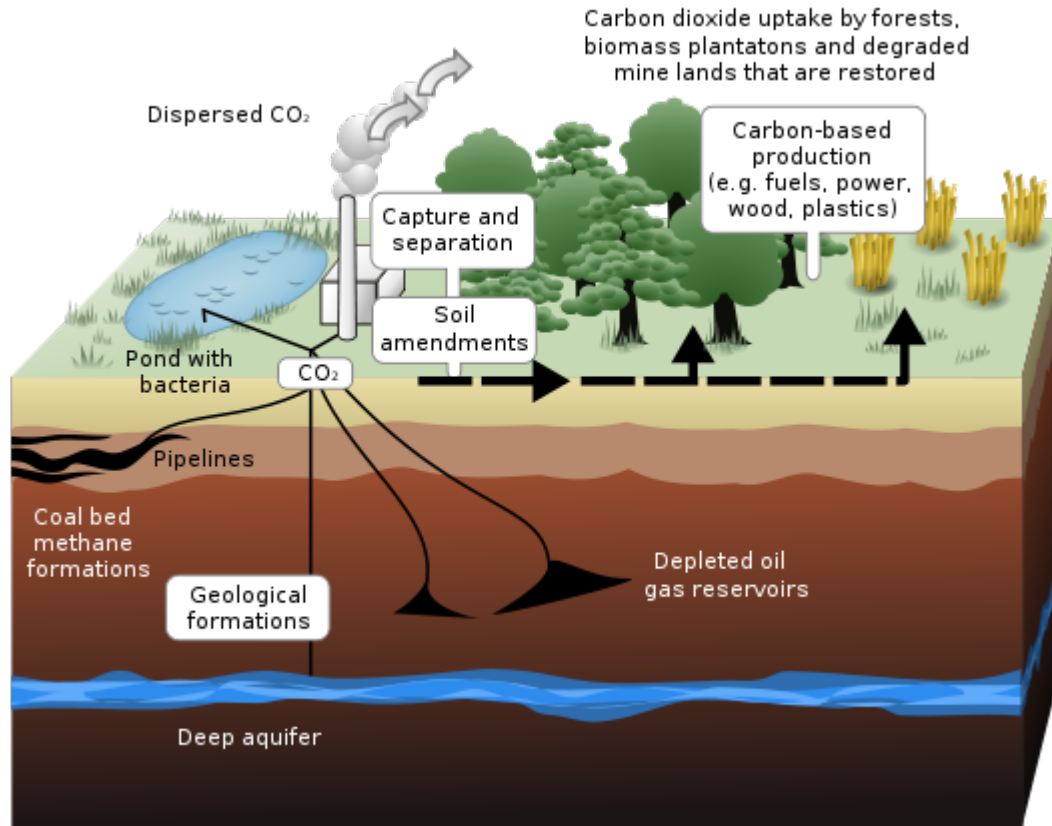
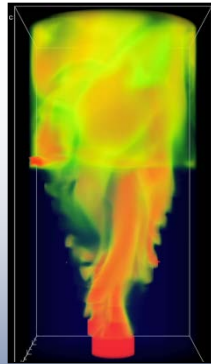
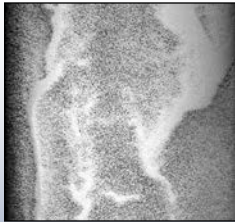
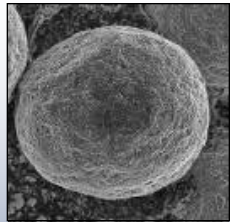


Image from wikipedia.

- **Thermal power plants continue to produce  $\text{CO}_2$ .**
- **To reduce emissions,**
  - *Chemically extract  $\text{CO}_2$  from power plant exhaust.*
  - *Utilize or store  $\text{CO}_2$  elsewhere.*
    - *E.g., pump it underground.*
- **CCSI Objectives**
  - *Promote faster commercialization of CCS.*
  - *Develop CFD-based predictive models.*
  - *Uncertainty and risk analysis.*
  - *Develop tools for end-users (industry).*

# Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative



Identify promising concepts



Reduce the time for design & troubleshooting



Quantify the technical risk, to enable reaching larger scales, earlier



Stabilize the cost during commercial deployment

## National Labs



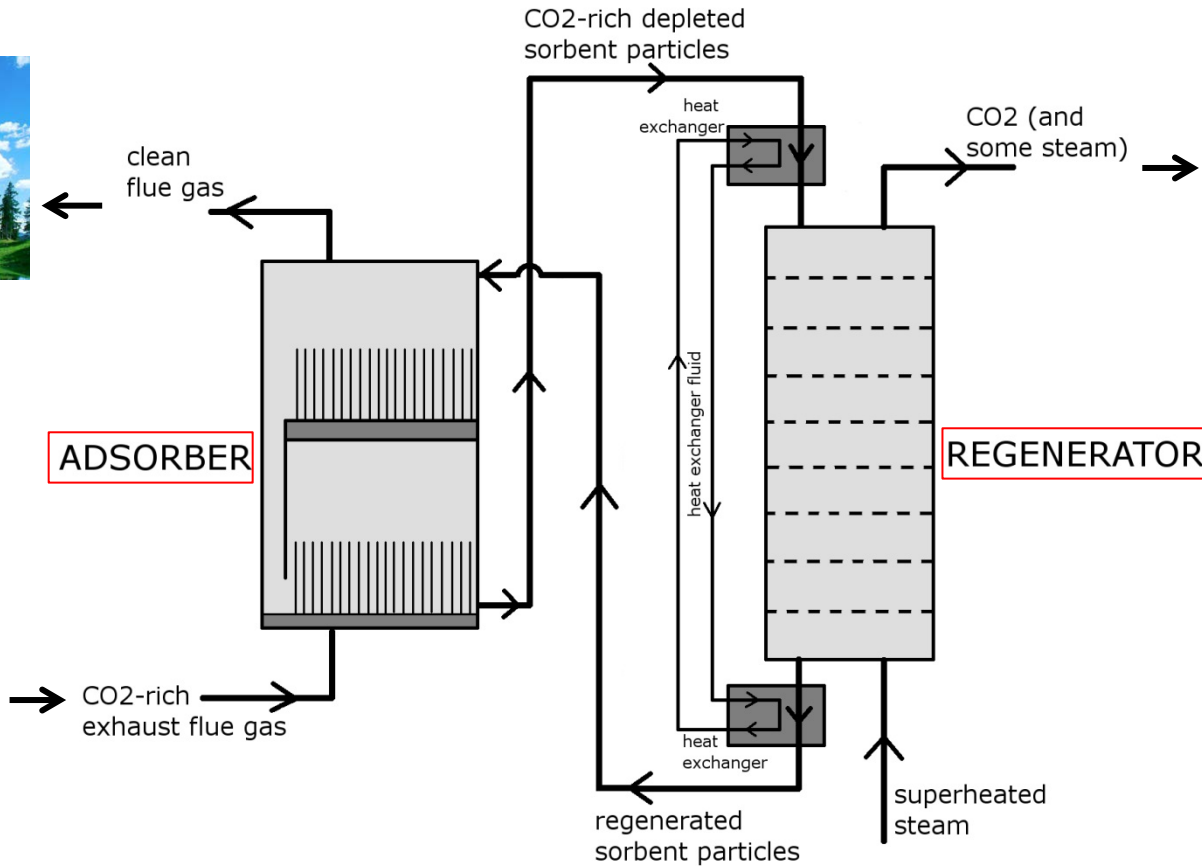
## Academia



## Industry



# The CCSI Carbon Capture Unit

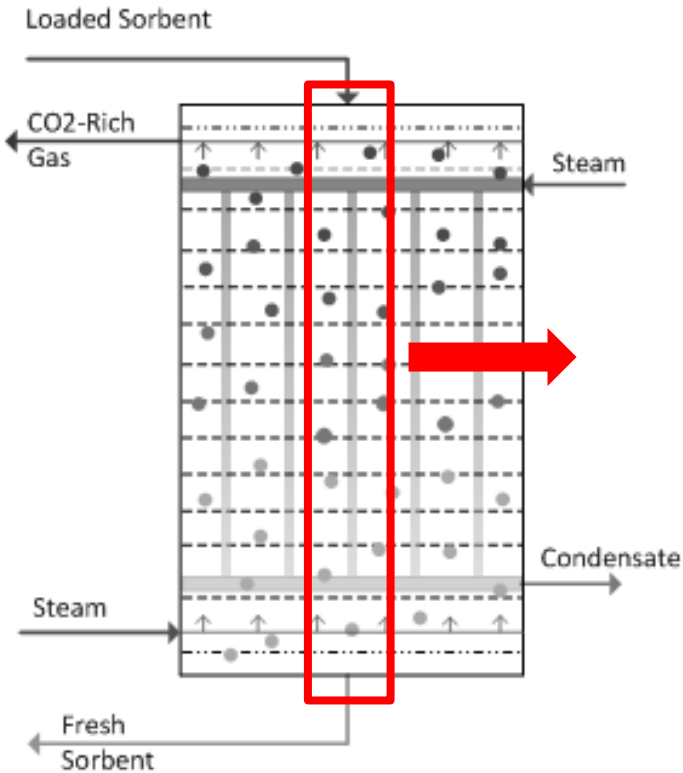


*underground  
sequestration  
of CO<sub>2</sub>*

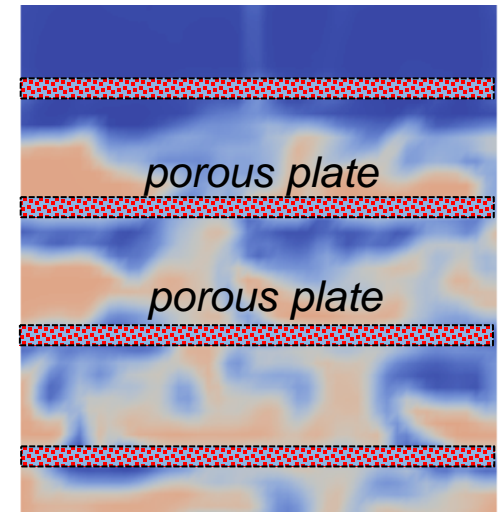
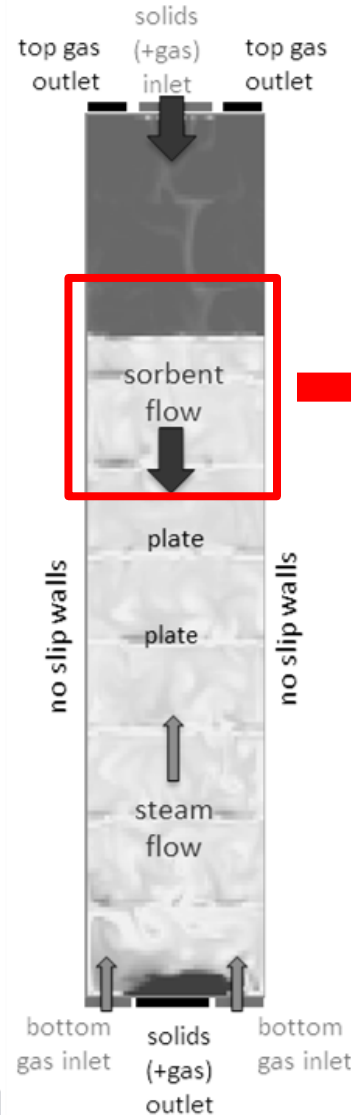


# Modeling the Regenerator

## Full-scale regenerator design (10 m x 10 m)



## Regenerator model (2 m x 10 m)



Porosity fixed at 80% for this work.



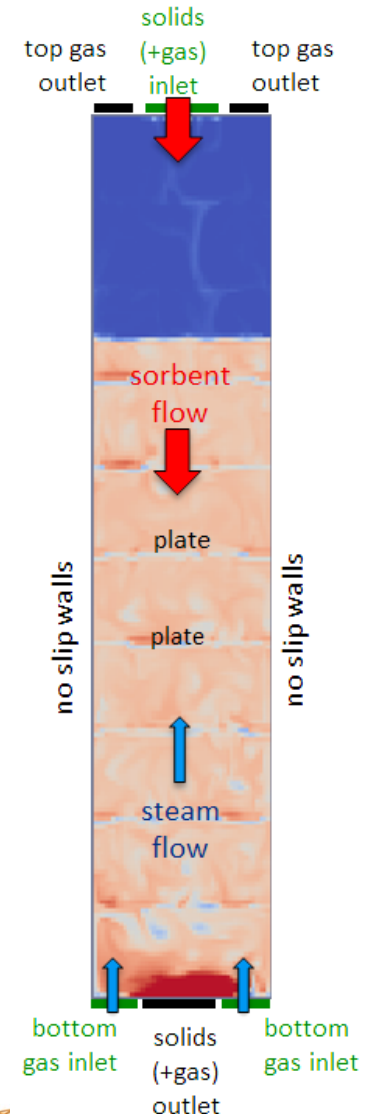
# Regenerator Parameters

## □ Preliminaries

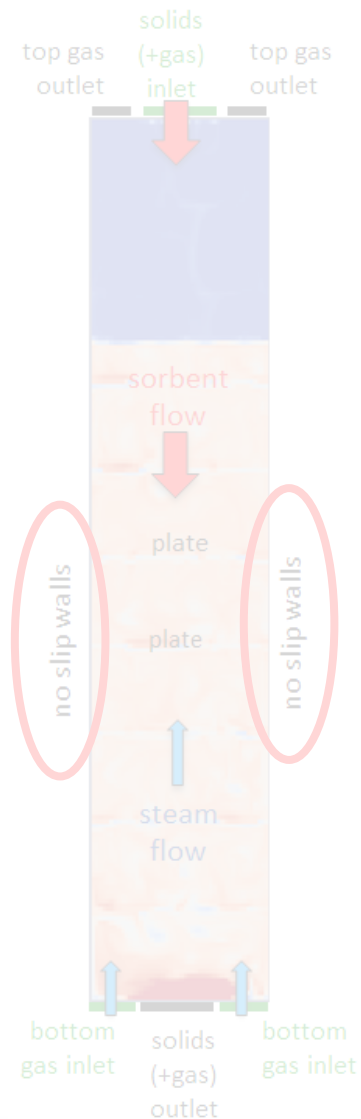
- Side-wall boundary conditions
- Grid size

## □ Operating conditions

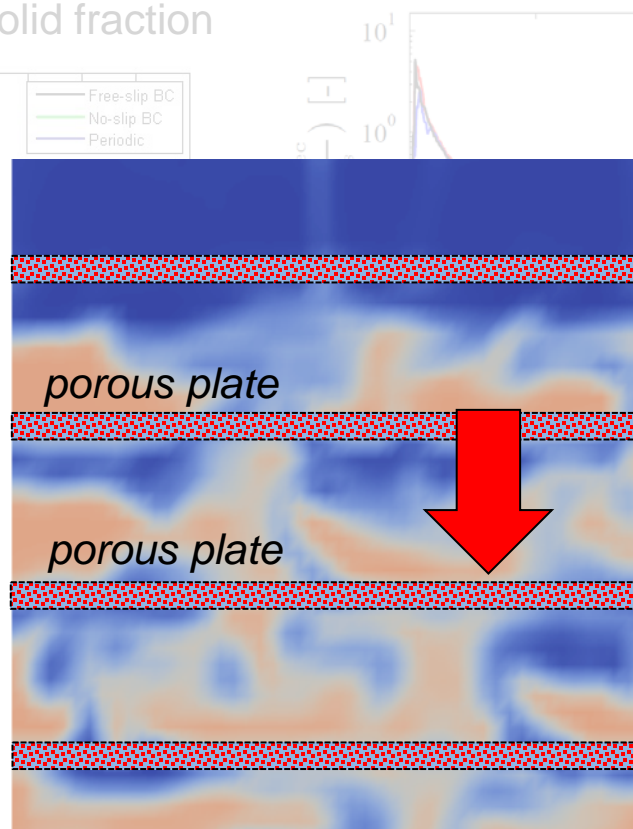
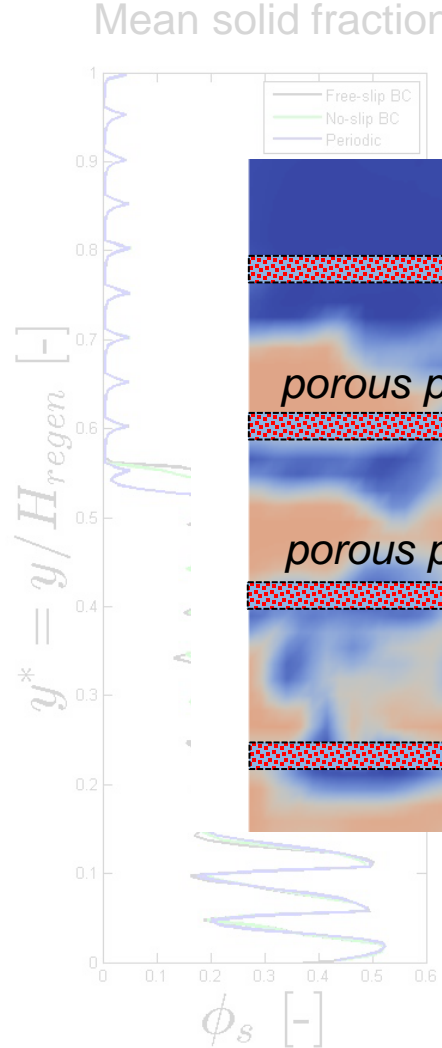
- Sorbent holdup (fill level)
- Sorbent particle size
- Inlet steam velocity



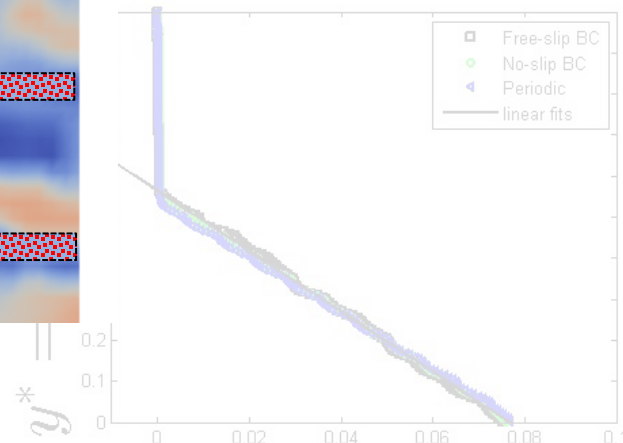
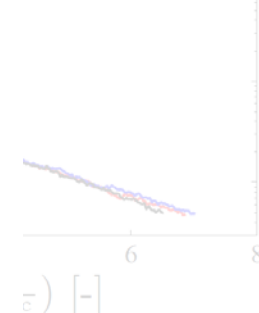
# Preliminaries: Effect of Side Wall Boundary Conditions



Mean solid fraction



Residence time distribution



$$P^* = \frac{P(y) - P_{out}}{P_{out}} [-]$$

# Uncertainty Quantification

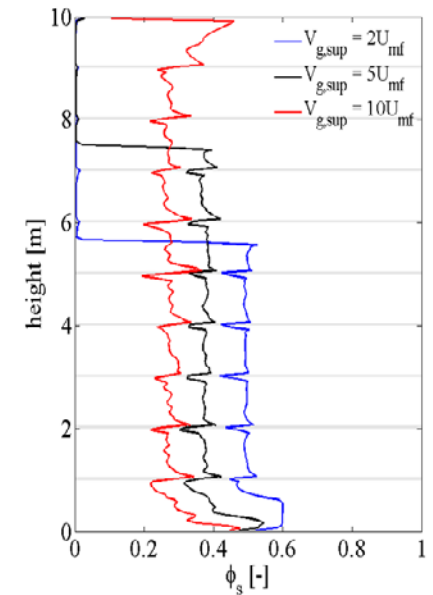
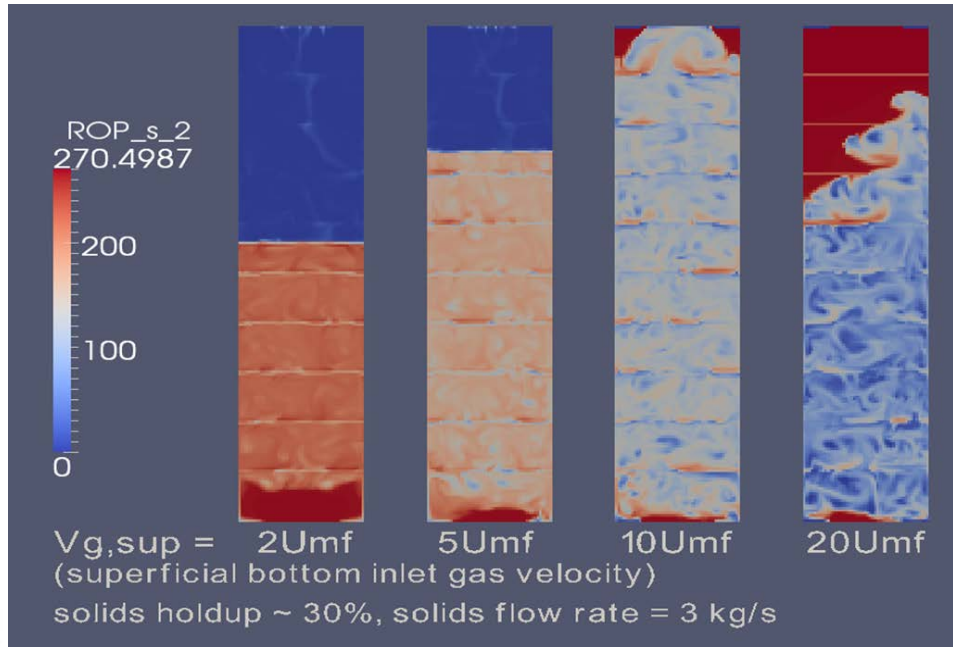
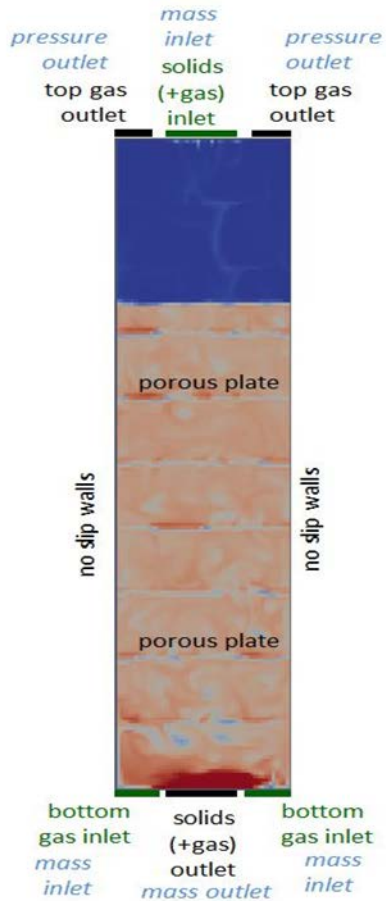
- UQ broadly: includes methods and tools to identify and quantify uncertainty at all levels of a system and incorporate that uncertainty in system performance analyses.
- UQ capability: is critical to simulation based analysis of carbon capture systems due to complexity and high cost of implementation of candidate systems.
- UQ needs: to understand and manage economic impact of incorporation of carbon capture systems in current industry operations.



# Immediate objectives

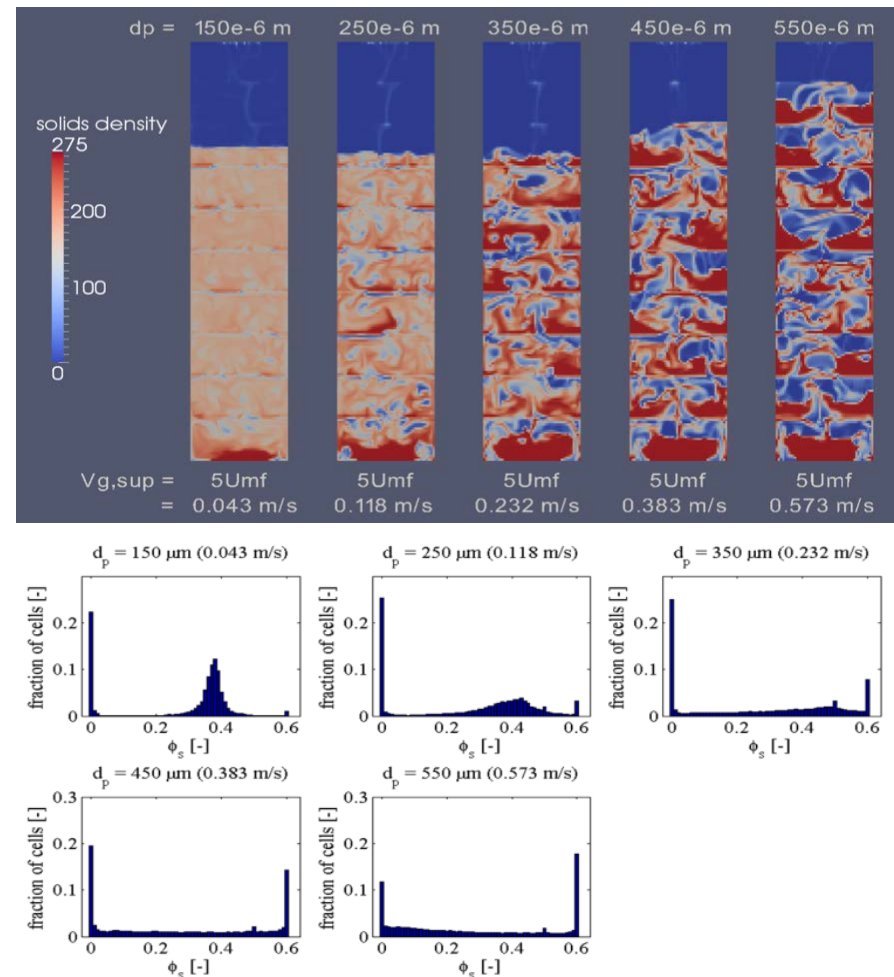
- Illustrates the use of a few UQ concepts in early stage development and evaluation of requirements for developing a full scale simulation.
- Input sensitivity and uncertainty: identify appropriate input ranges and impacts on simulation code results.
- Input calibration: estimate 'best' simulation input or parameters that determine equilibrium constants consistent with physical experimental results.
- Quantify the uncertainty: evaluate the posterior distribution of the parameters and the model.

# Full-scale Regenerator Model



# Frequency Distribution of the Solids Fraction ( $\phi_s$ ) for Different Particle Size and Inlet Gas Velocity

- Frequency distribution of the solids fraction ( $\phi_s$ ) in all the cells.
- For smaller sorbent diameters, most of the particles are uniformly fluidized at an intermediate solids fraction of  $\phi_s \sim 0.4$ .
- For larger diameters, two distinct modes are seen at  $\phi_s = 0$ , representing the stream only regions, and  $\phi_s = 0.6$ , indicating a densely packed bed of sorbents.



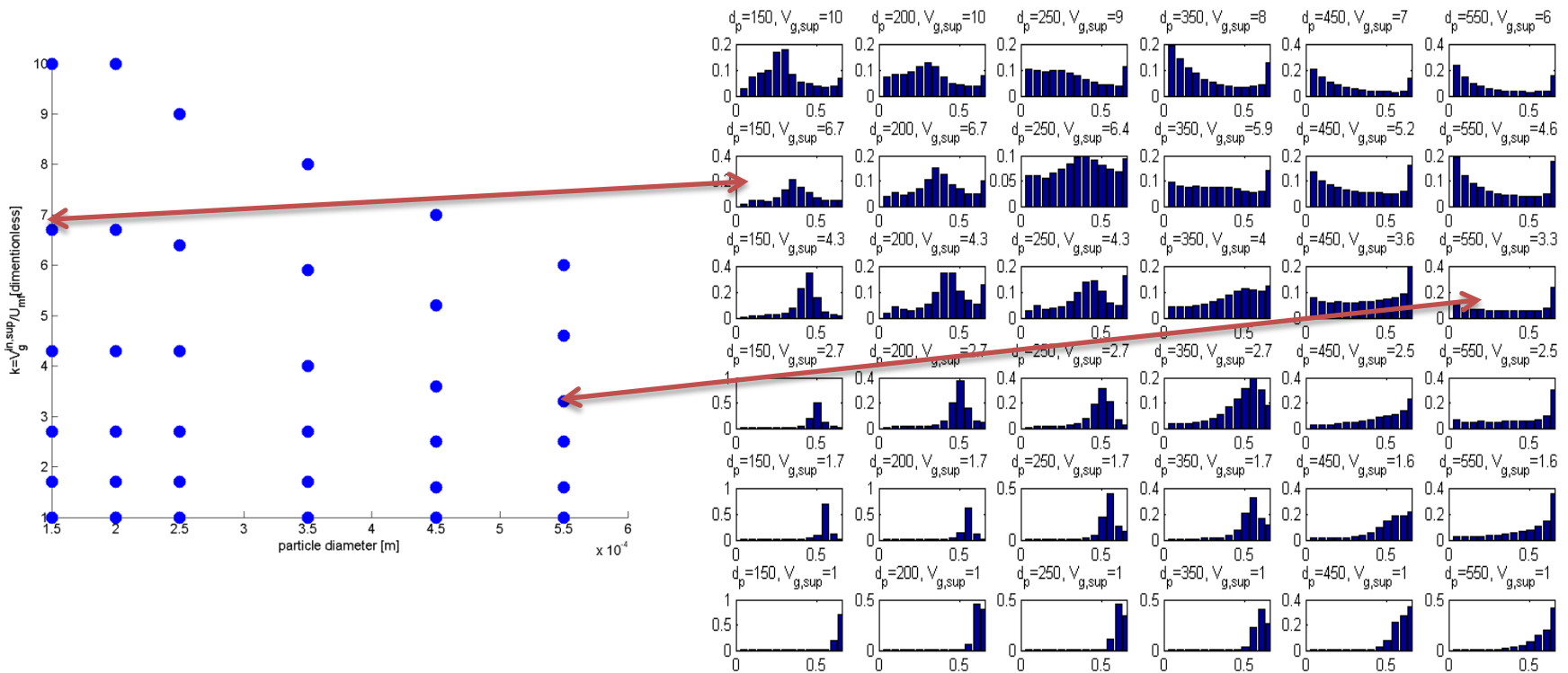
# Building Statistical Model for Uncertainty Quantification

Use Gaussian process (GP) to model for the pressure drop gradient and the odds frequency distribution logarithm of the solid fraction.

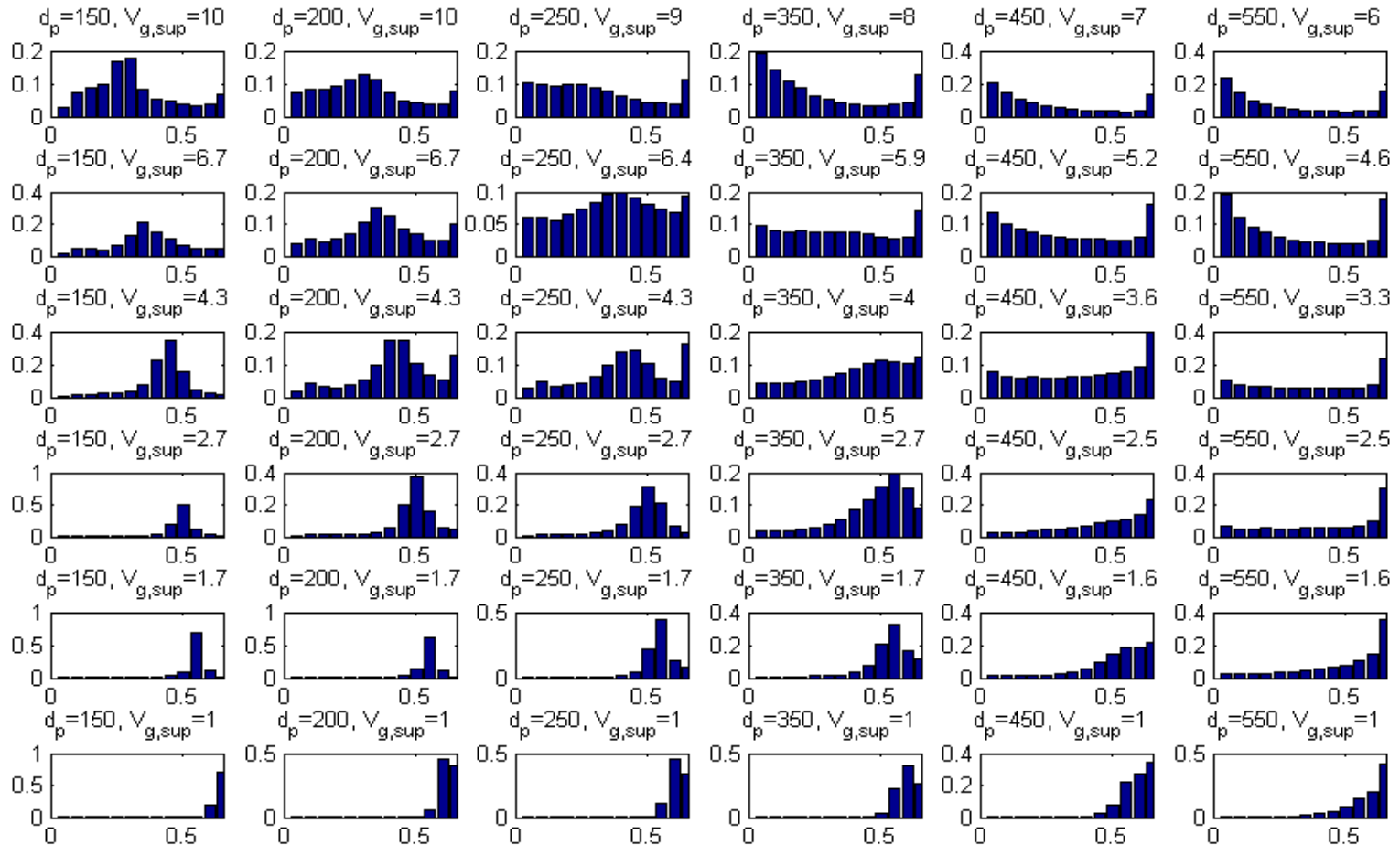
$$\ln \left( \frac{\pi_i(s)}{1 - \pi_i(s)} \right) = \mu_i(s) + w_i(s) + \epsilon_i(s)$$

- $\pi_i(s)$  probability of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  bin.
- $s$  represent the input variables.
- $i$  represent the  $i^{\text{th}}$  cell.
- $\mu_i(s)$  is a generalized regression.
- $w_i(s)$  is the spatial error and  $\epsilon_i(s)$  is the nugget error.

# Simulated Cases & Corresponding Solid Fraction Distribution

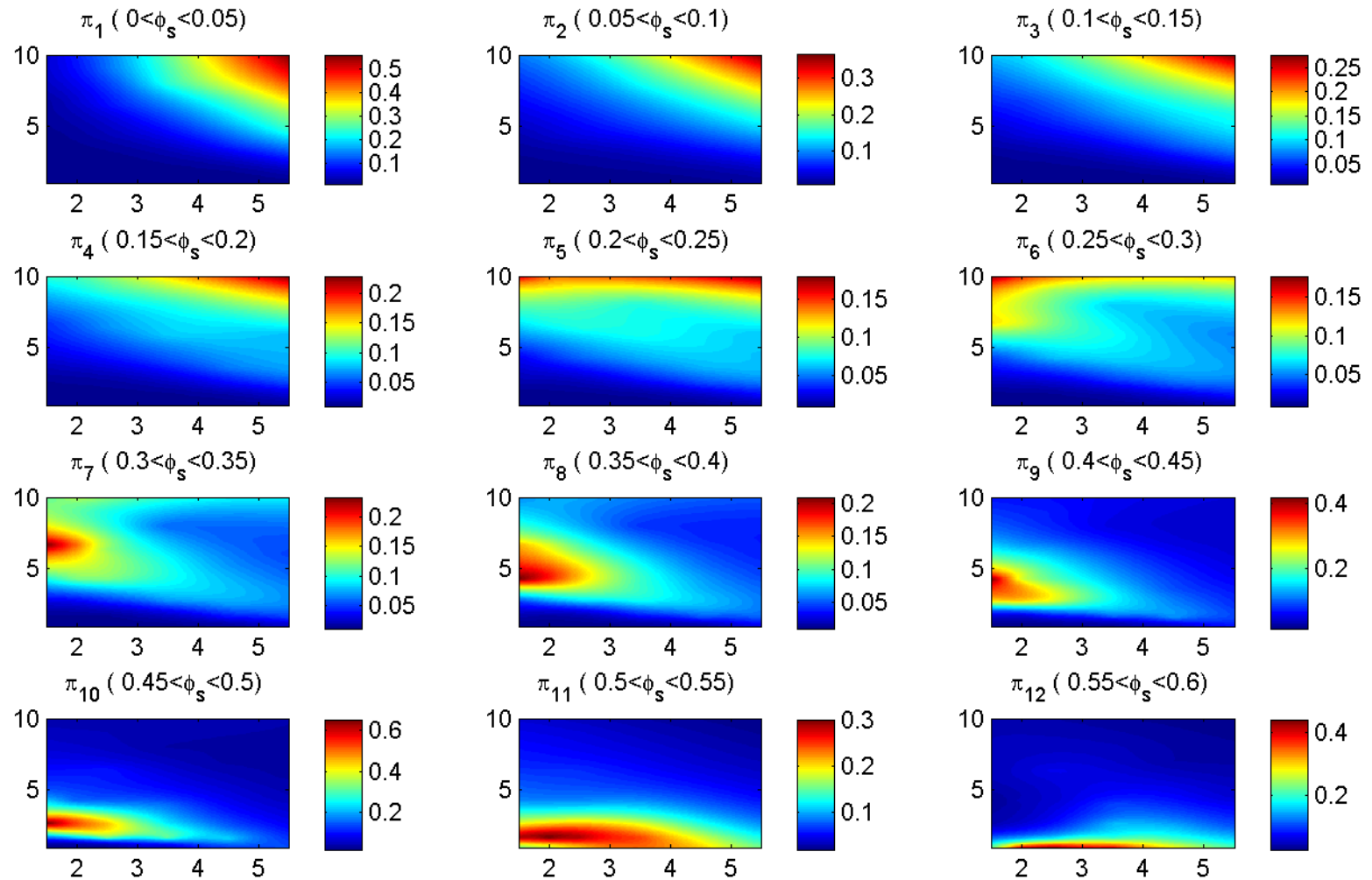


# Real Solid Fraction Distributions (36 observations)

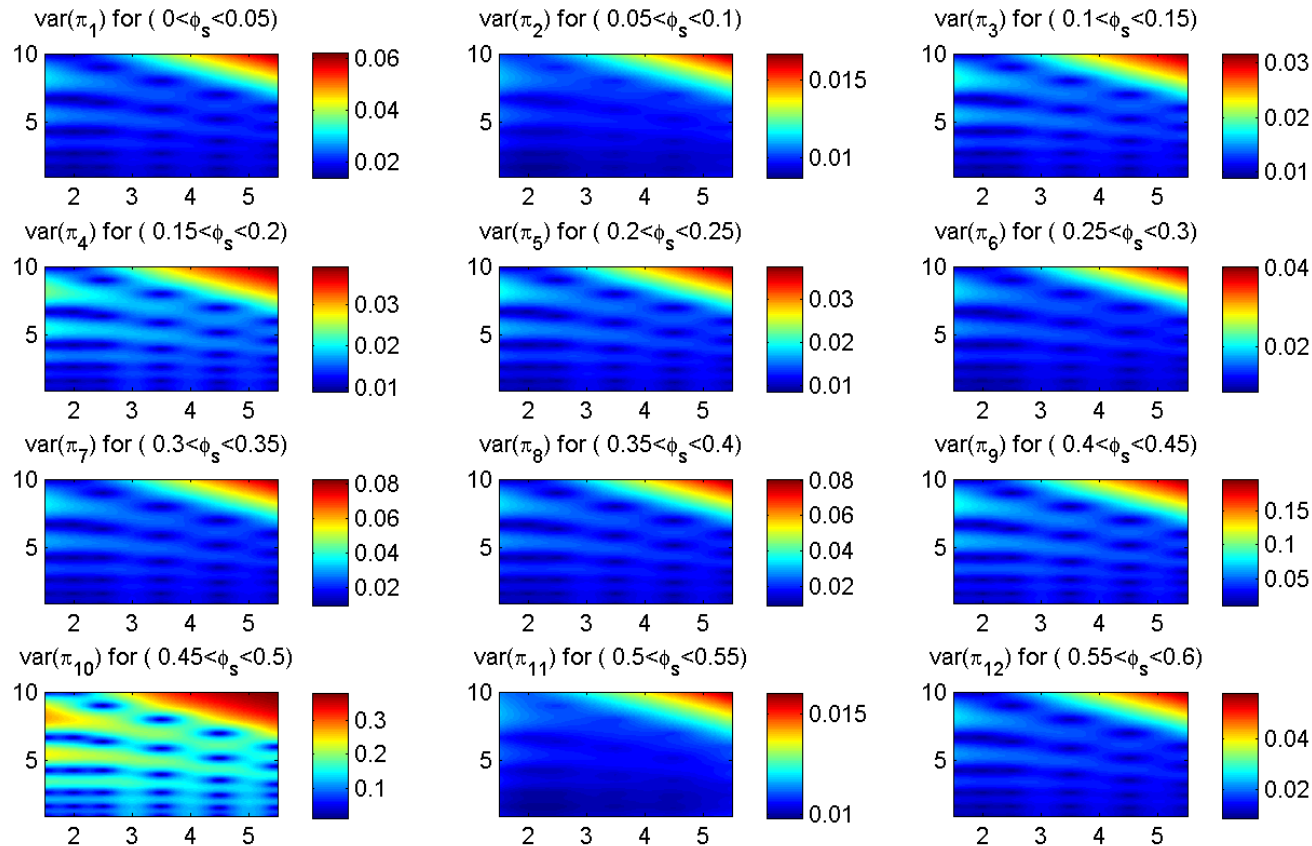




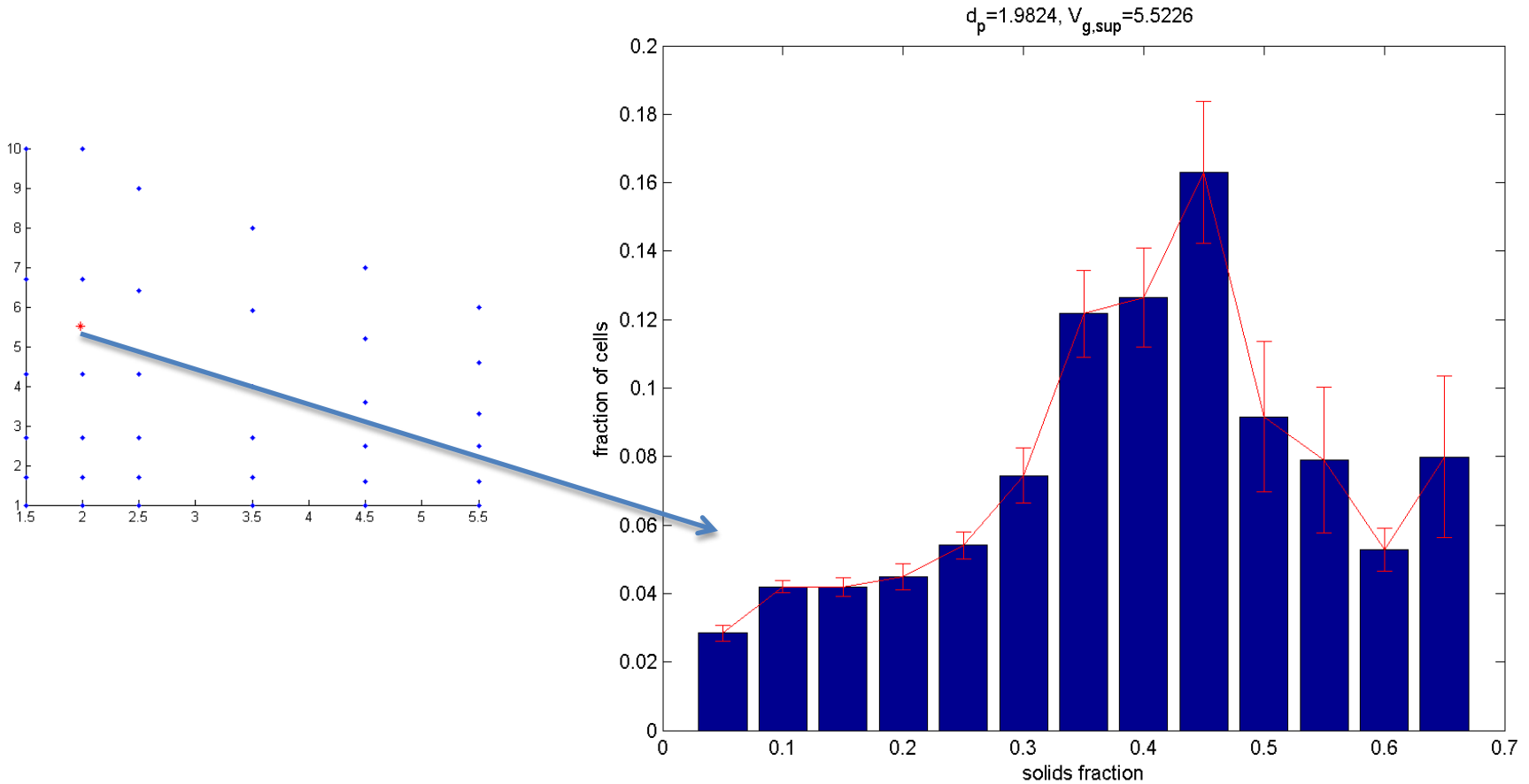
# Predicted Probabilities of Solid Fraction Distribution Bin Magnitudes



# Variance of Predicted Probabilities of Solid Fraction Distribution Bin Magnitudes

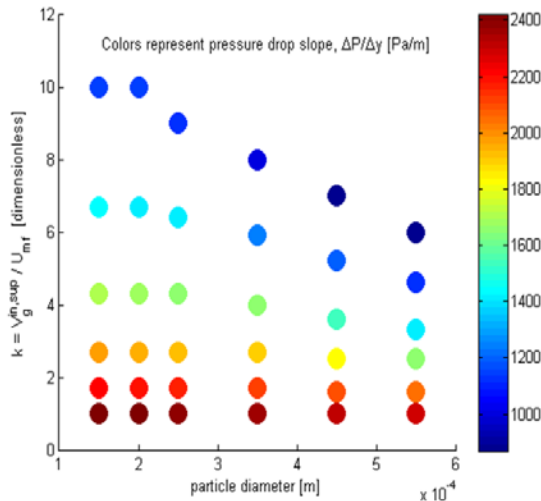


# Example of Predicted Solid Fraction Distribution with Error Bars



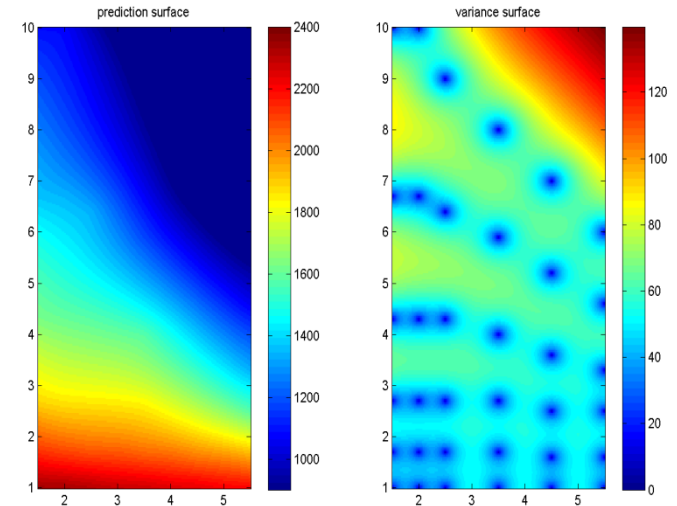
# Predicted Probabilities for Pressure Gradient

- Find the posterior distribution of the parameters.
- Find the response surface and its uncertainty.
- Construct confident intervals.

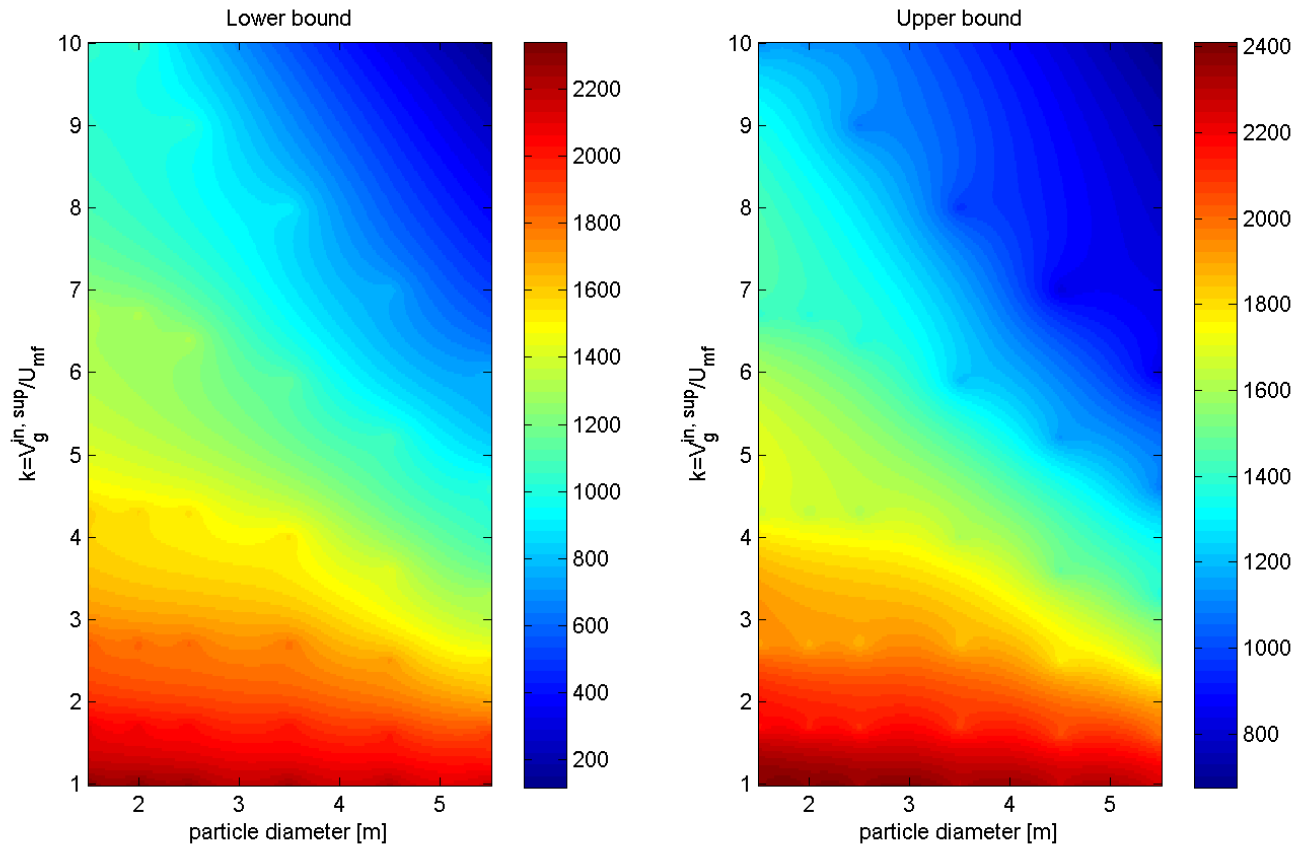


← Real observation of the pressure drop slope.

Prediction and variance → of the pressure drop slope  
 Prediction surface matches well with left observed data.



# Confident Interval: Lower and Upper Bound of the Predicted Pressure Drop



# Summary

- ▶ Developed a CFD model for flow in the regenerator.
- ▶ Due to the computational cost, we only simulated 36 realizations in the input space.
- ▶ Developed a Gaussian process model for uncertainty analysis.
- ▶ Construct a response surface with error bars for the solid fraction distribution and the pressure drop gradient.
- ▶ Parametric uncertainty studies show:
  - Gas velocity and particle size more significant.
  - Smaller particles → uniform fluidization but allow small gas flow rates.
  - Larger particles → allow larger gas flow rates but tend to form dense clusters.



# Questions?

## Acknowledgements

- Fellow CCSI team members: G. Karagiannis, W. Pan, W. Xu, D. Suh, K. Saha, C. Montgomery, D. Miller, D. Mebane, J. Wendelberger, C. Tong.

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