



HTCO GmbH

Strömungsphysik - Strömungssimulation

# Sunburned Products: Numerical Aging caused by Sun Exposition

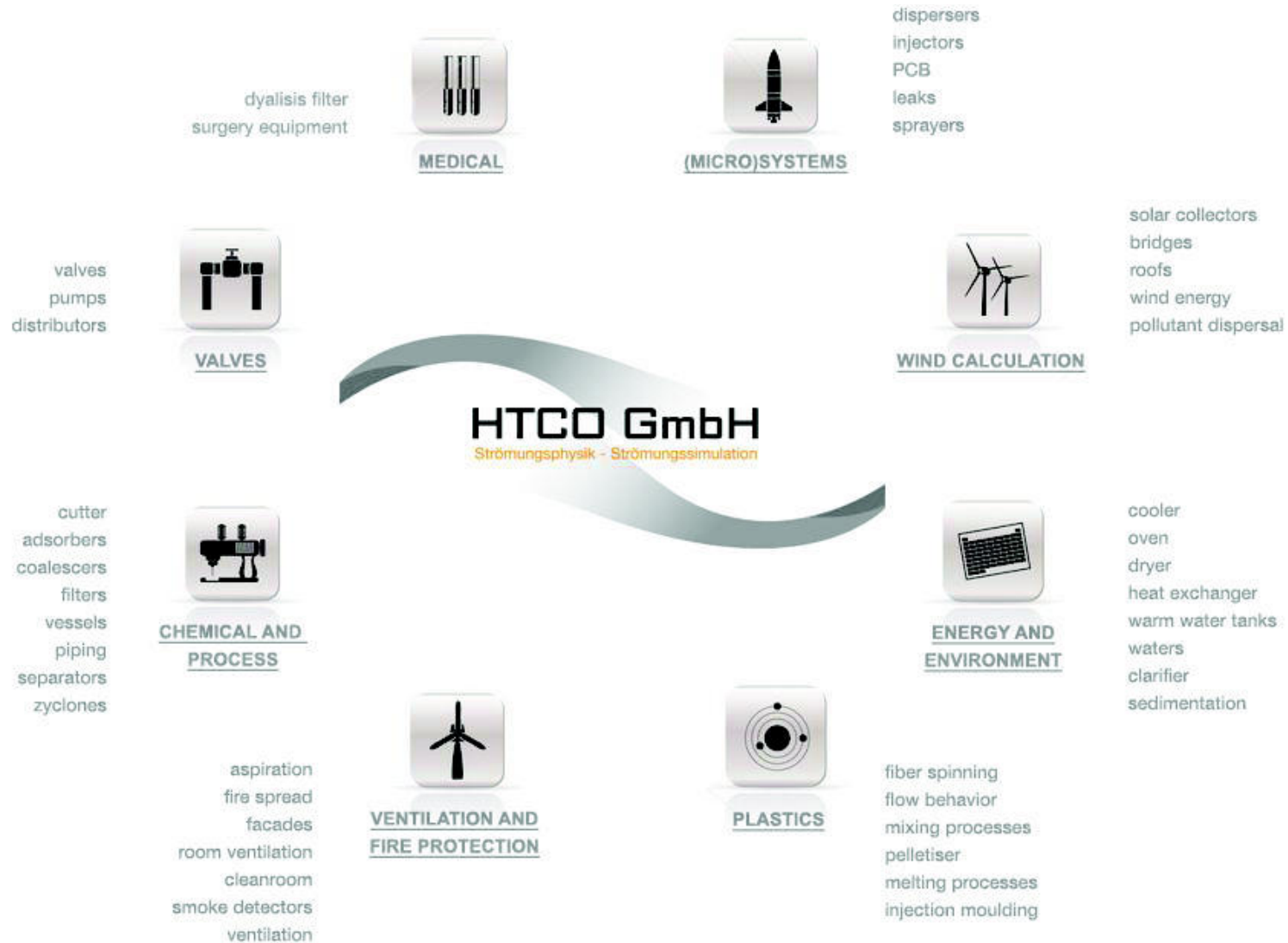
**Dr. Axel Müller & Teodora Vatahska**  
**HTCO GmbH**  
**Freiburg, Germany**

**CEEES Conference 2012**

**October 18<sup>th</sup> 2012**  
**Rotterdam, Netherlands**

# HTCO: Expertise

## Application Fields



# Sunburned Products

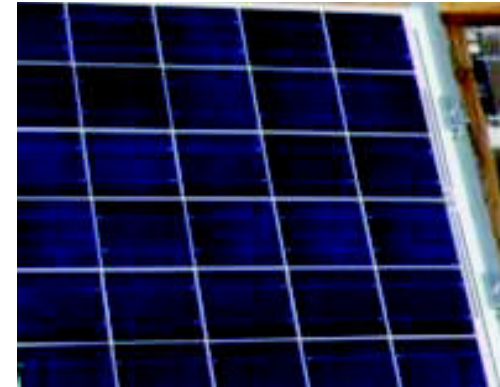
## A new Simulation Approach

### What is a sunburned product?

It is a product which is exposed to the sun and shows change of its material properties (aging), e.g.

- colour
- gloss
- cracks

over time.

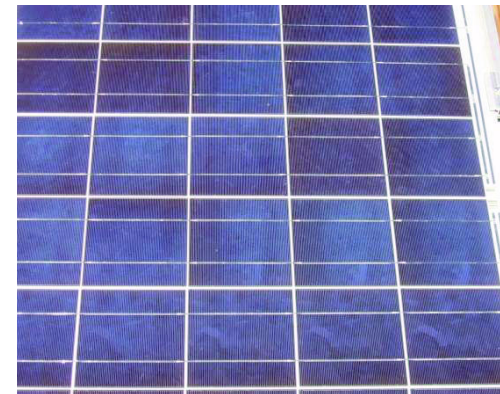


### What is numerical aging?

A way to predict material aging caused by environmental impacts, e.g.

- temperature
- solar radiation
- humidity

by numerical simulation on the basis of geographical, geometrical, environmental, material data, and time.



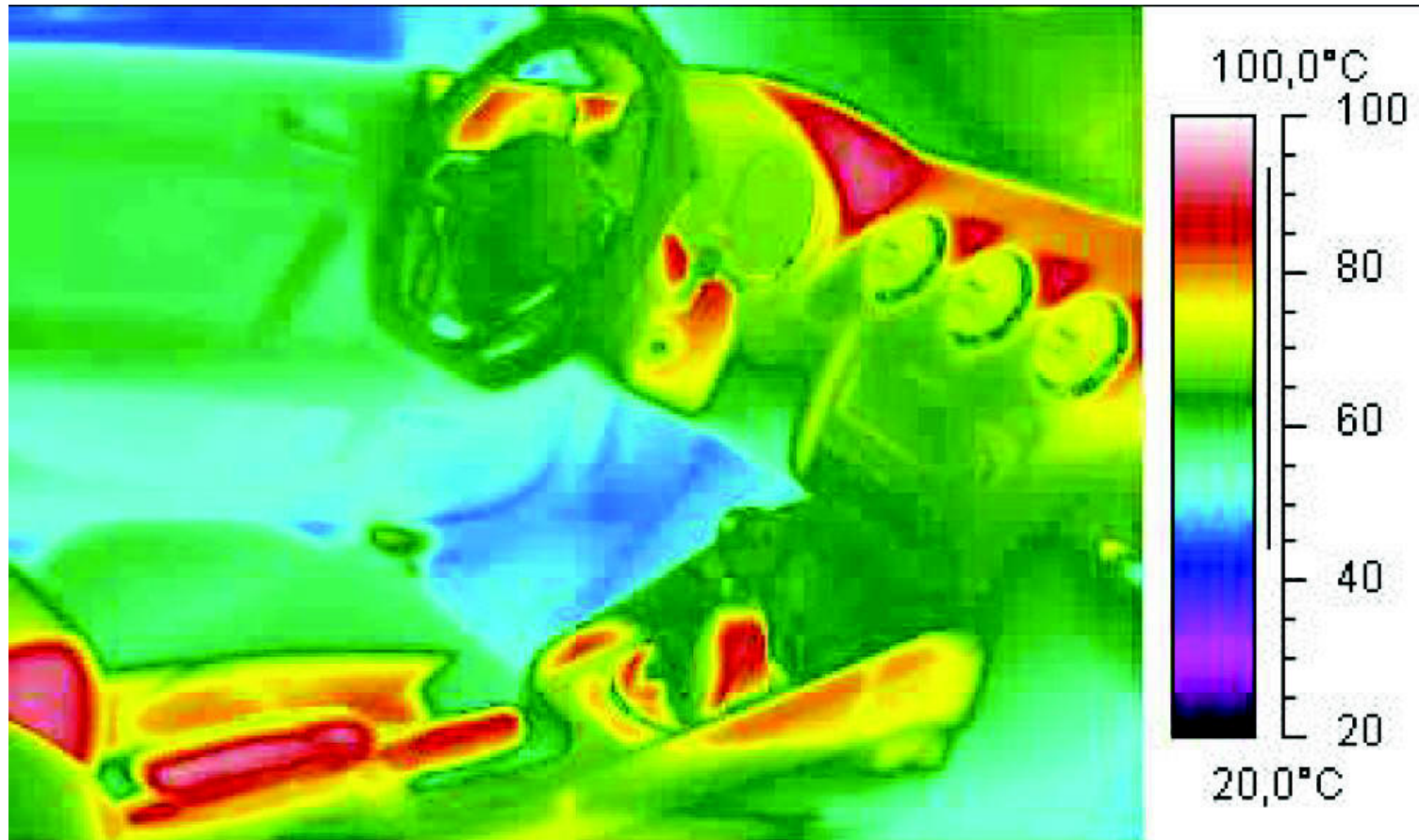
\* Source: Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Research (ISE), Freiburg, Germany



# How important is Aging to Industry?

## Motivation

### Temperature distribution in a car standing in the sun



\* Source: ATCAE Conference Oxford, England, 2008, Dr. Stahl, Audi AG

# How important is Aging to Industry?

## Motivation



**It is very important!**

*Costly experimental outdoor weathering tests*

*Instrument panel in an IP/DP-box*

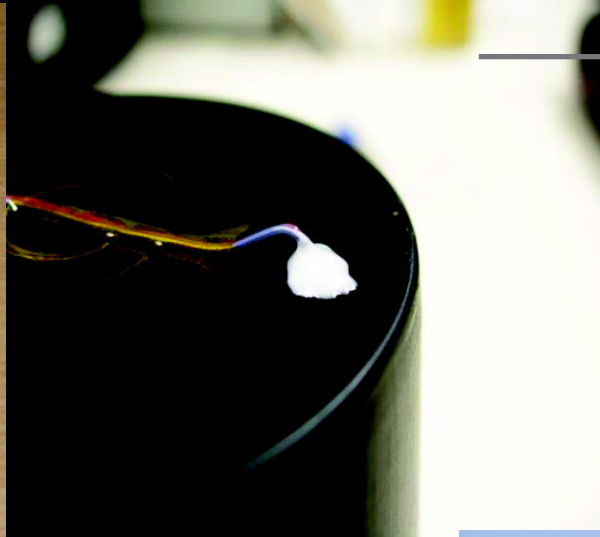


*\*Source: ATCAE Conference Oxford, England, 2008  
Dr. Stahl, Audi AG*



# Research Project VipQuali

## Experimental Part



*The research specimen is a polypropylene hat (black and white). Its surface temperature is being measured by temperature sensor.*

*Outdoor weathering tests in IP/DP-box in Phoenix, Arizona*



### VipQuali Consortium



# Research Project VipQuali

## Input

### What is needed to simulate Aging ?

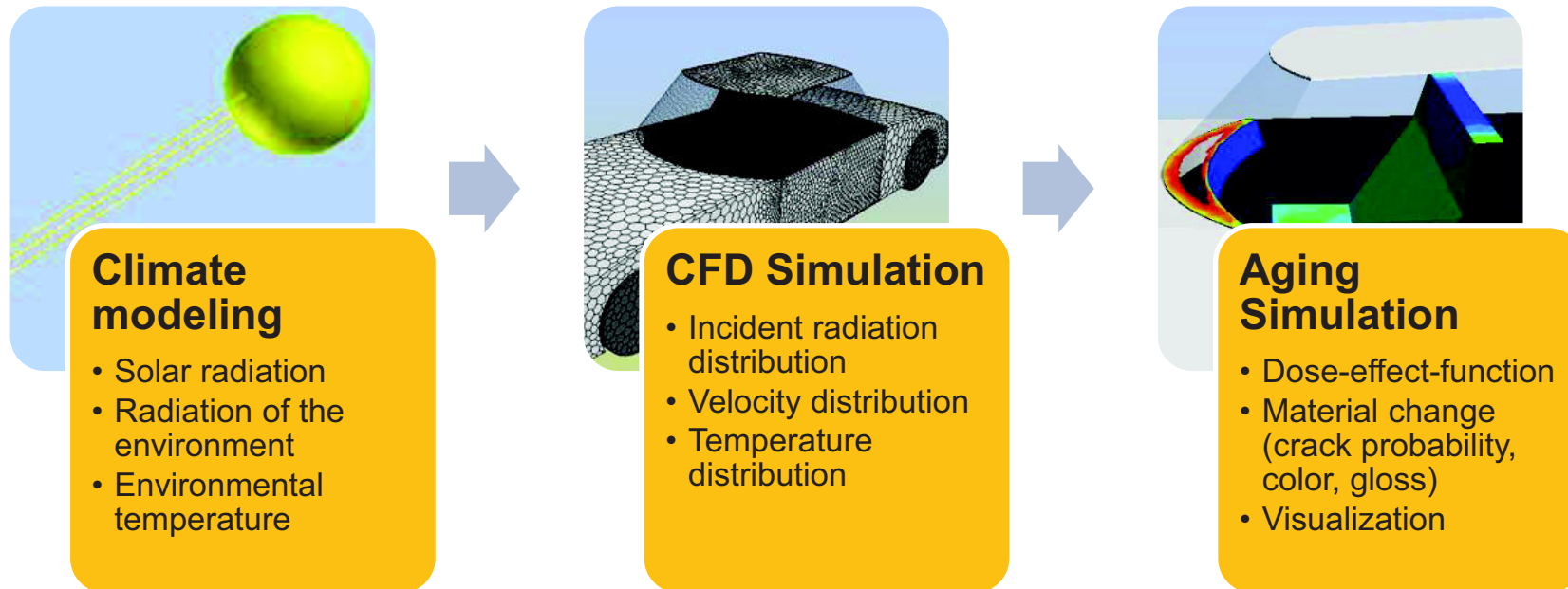
- 1) Temperature Distribution on the Specimen and in the Box
- 2) Radiation of the Sun and the Environment
- 3) Positions of the Sun
- 4) Dose-Effect-Relationship (change of the material as a function of Irradiation, Temperature, etc. and Time)
- 5) Method to visualise the change of the material



# Methodology and Tools

## The numerical Aging Approach

### Aging simulation workflow and modules



### Solution approach

Similarly to computational fluid dynamics the complex and continuous aging process can only be numerically treated and solved by means of intelligent discretization methods

# Climate Modeling

## Data Acquisition and Preparation

### Climate data acquisition

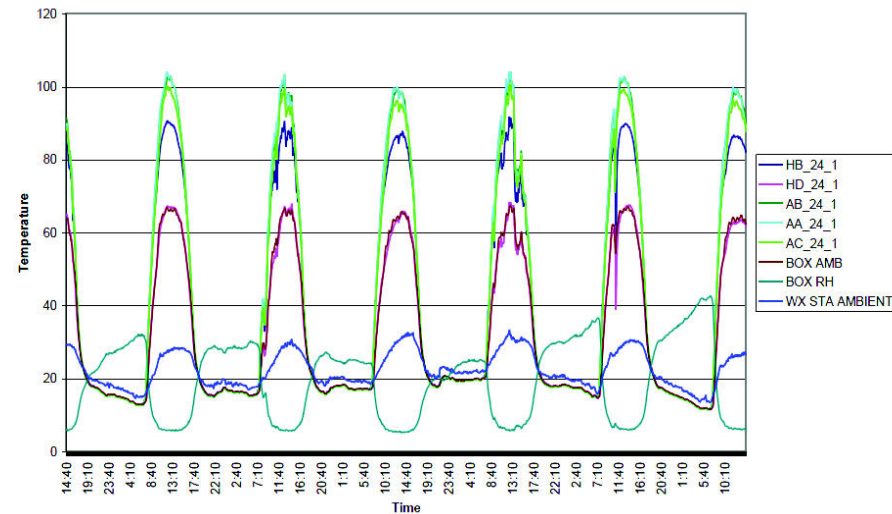
- Ambient temperature
- Solar radiation (direct, diffuse, environmental) on horizontal surfaces
- Wind
- ...

### Data preparation tool

Measurements have to be translated into boundary conditions required for the simulation

- Radiation on inclined external surfaces
- Calculation of sun position for specific location and time
- ...

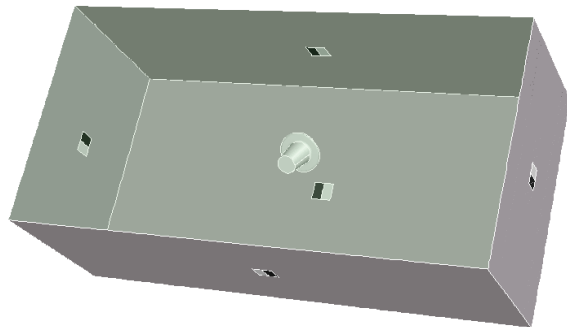
Temperature data measured in Arizona



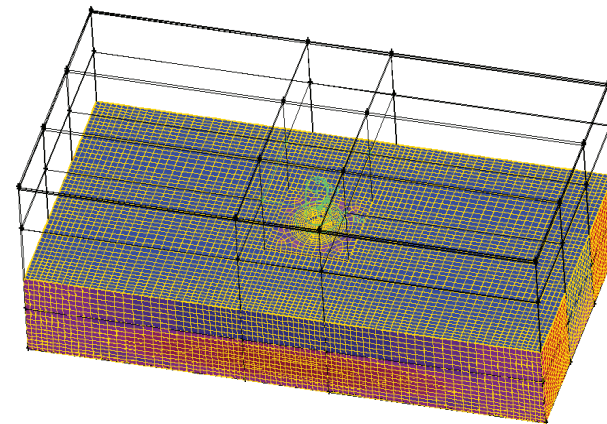
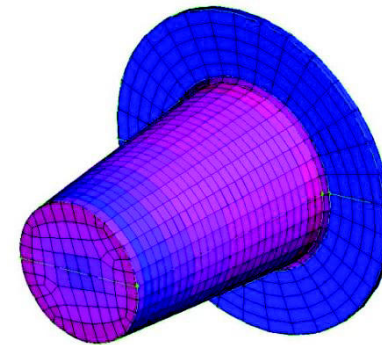
# CFD Simulation

## Numerical Model

### Buildup of the Models for the Simulation (CFD)



*CAD- Model*



*Finite-Volume-Mesh*





# CFD Simulation

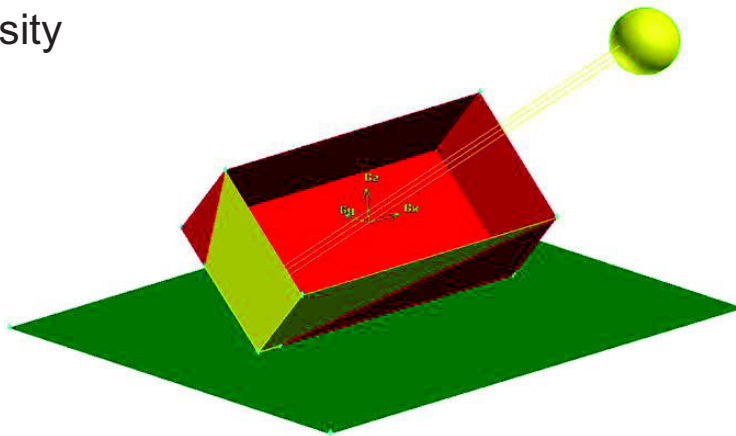
## Boundary Conditions

### Materials

- Window – glass
- Hat – black (white) polypropylen
- Box – silver aluminium

### Material properties

- Emission- and transmission coefficients
- Heat conductivities
- Viscosity
- ...



### Solar load

- Direct and diffuse radiation
- Azimuth and altitude angle of the sun

### Boundary conditions on external walls

- Effective radiation temperature
- Environmental temperature
- Heat transfer coefficient

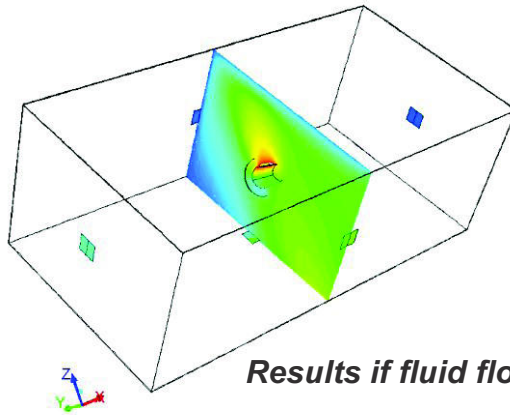
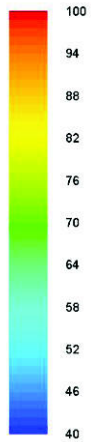
### Boundary conditions on internal walls

- None (calculated by solar load)

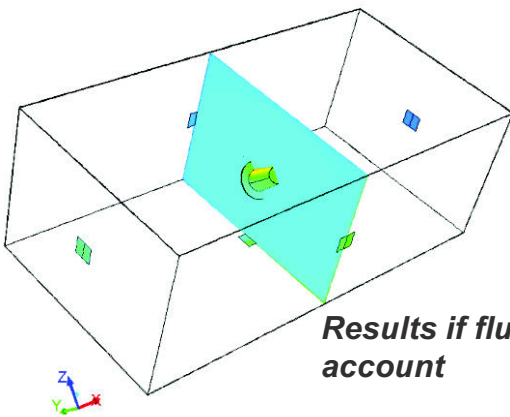
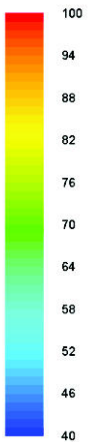
# CFD Simulation

## First Results

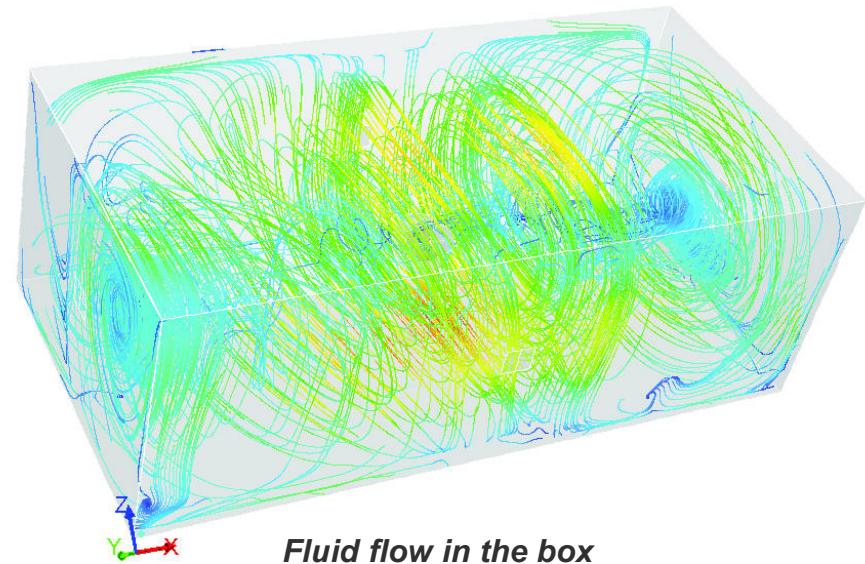
### Temperature Distribution for the Hat and the Box



*Results if fluid flow is neglected*



*Results if fluid flow is taken into account*

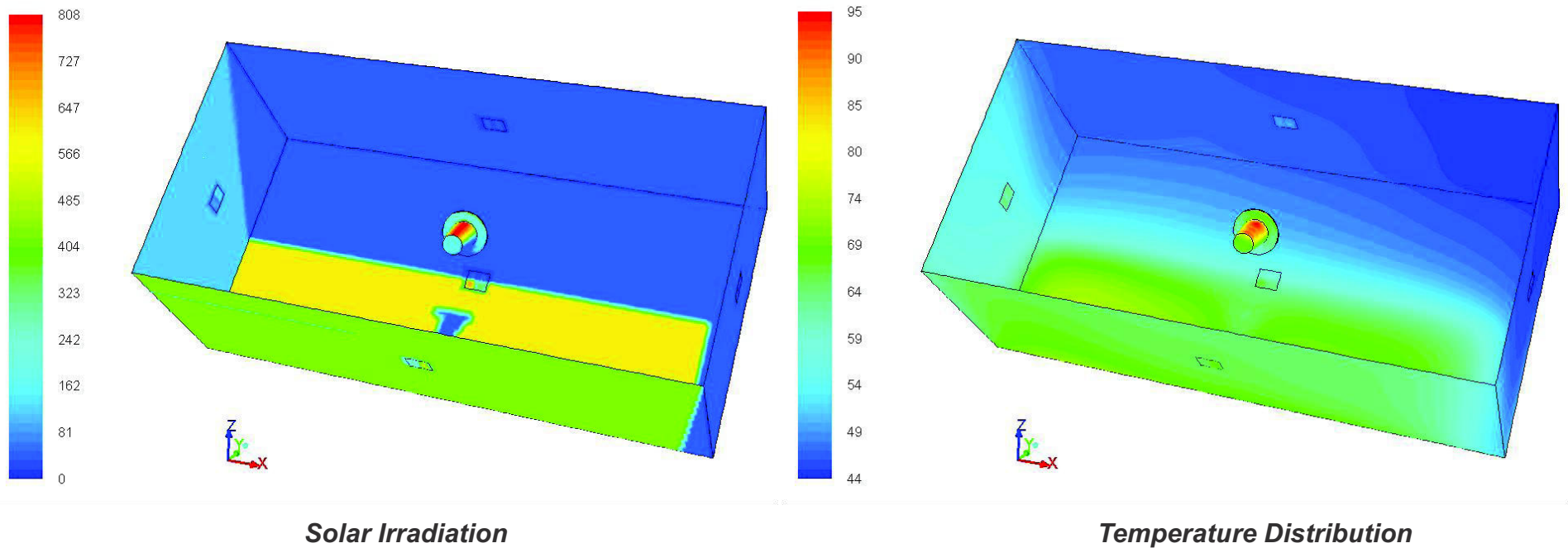


*Fluid flow in the box*

# CFD Simulation

## Results

### Solar Irradiation and Temperature Distribution for one Sun Position



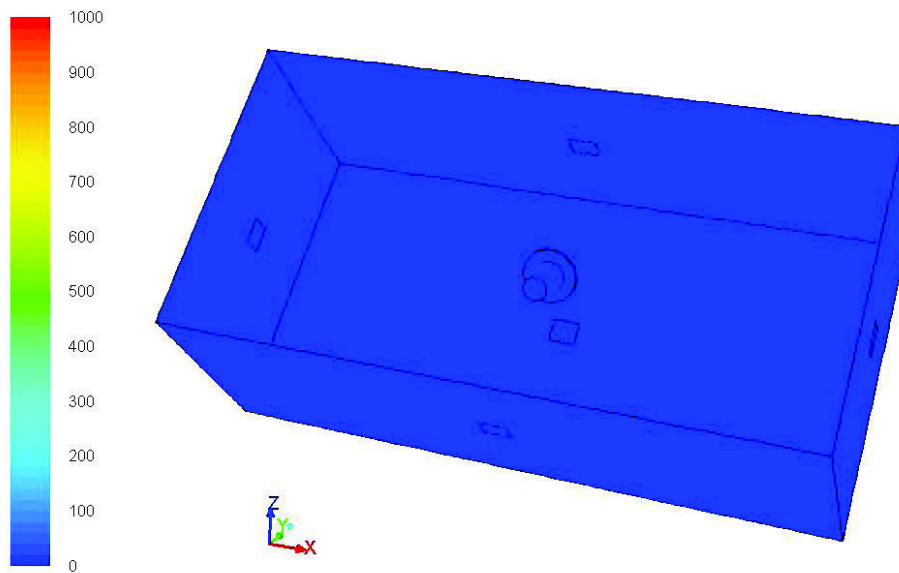
June, 24, 2008, 12:30



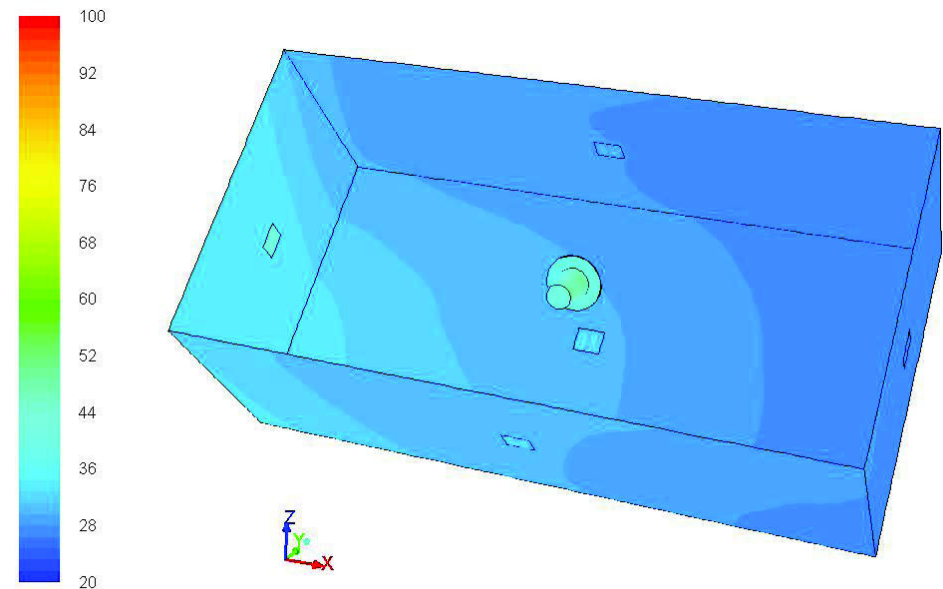
# CFD Simulation

## Results

### Absorbed Radiation and Temperature Distribution for one day



Contours of Solar Heat Flux (w/m2)



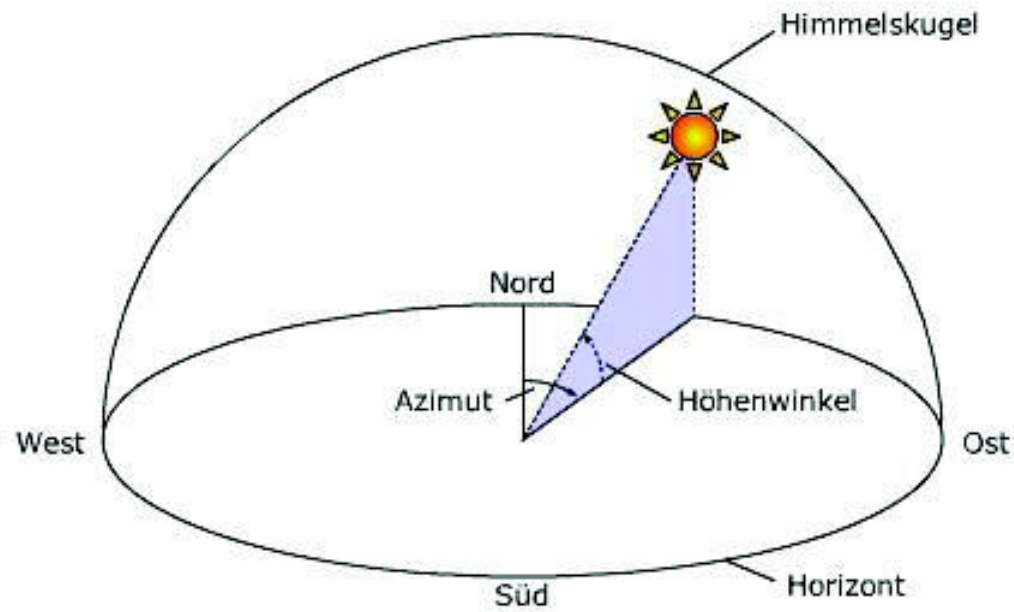
Contours of Static Temperature (c)

*June 2008, 24, Arizona*

# Discretization Approach

## Sun Positions

## Sun Positions



*Azimuth of the Sun*

*Height of the Sun*

# Discretization Approach

## Sun Positions

### Challenge

Aging under sun exposition is a continuous (transient) process since

- the sun continuously changes its position during the day and the year
- the boundary conditions for the simulation continuously change

### How to handle this?

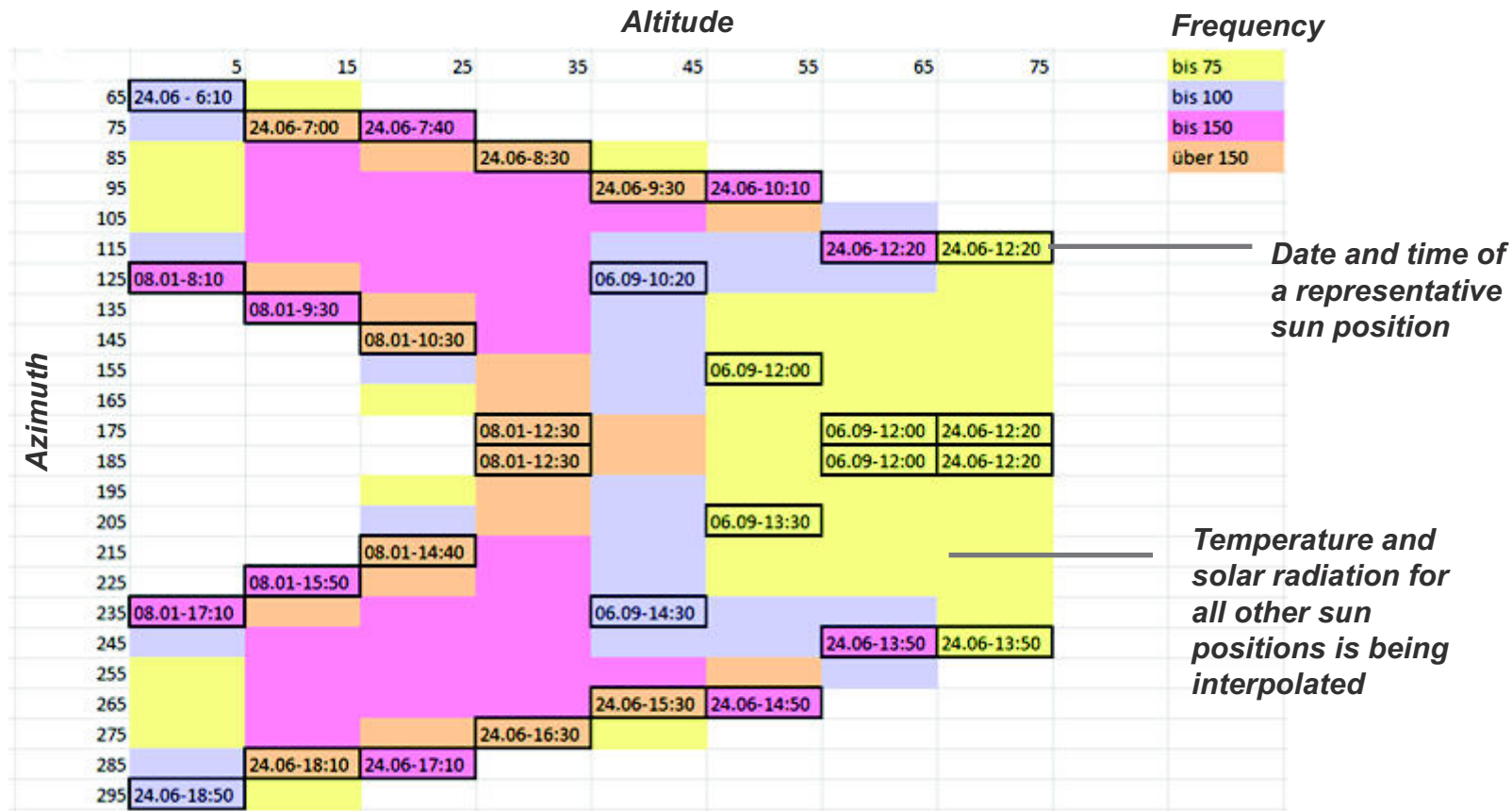
- Reduction to a finite number of relevant situations and performing stationary simulations for each one of them
- Combination of similar situations (sun positions) in clusters
- Representation of each cluster by one characteristic sun position and its frequency and the corresponding ambient temperature



# Discretization Approach

## Characteristic Sun Positions

### Sun positions occurring in Arizona and cluster representatives





# Aging Simulation

## Dose-Effect-Relationship

### Probability of crack formation\*

This dose-effect-relationship ( $w$ ) describes the material change as a function of irradiance ( $E$ ) and temperature ( $T$ ) over the time.

$$w_0(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \int_{\lambda_0}^{\lambda_E} \frac{0.0218}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{\lambda - 324.8}{20.3}\right)} \cdot E_\lambda(t) \cdot d\lambda \cdot 1900 \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-2464}{T(t)}\right) \cdot dt$$

Wavelength integration                      Arrhenius-factor

Time integration

### Aging algorithm

Calculation of  $w(t)$  for all specimen surfaces by summation over all occurring sun positions and their frequencies

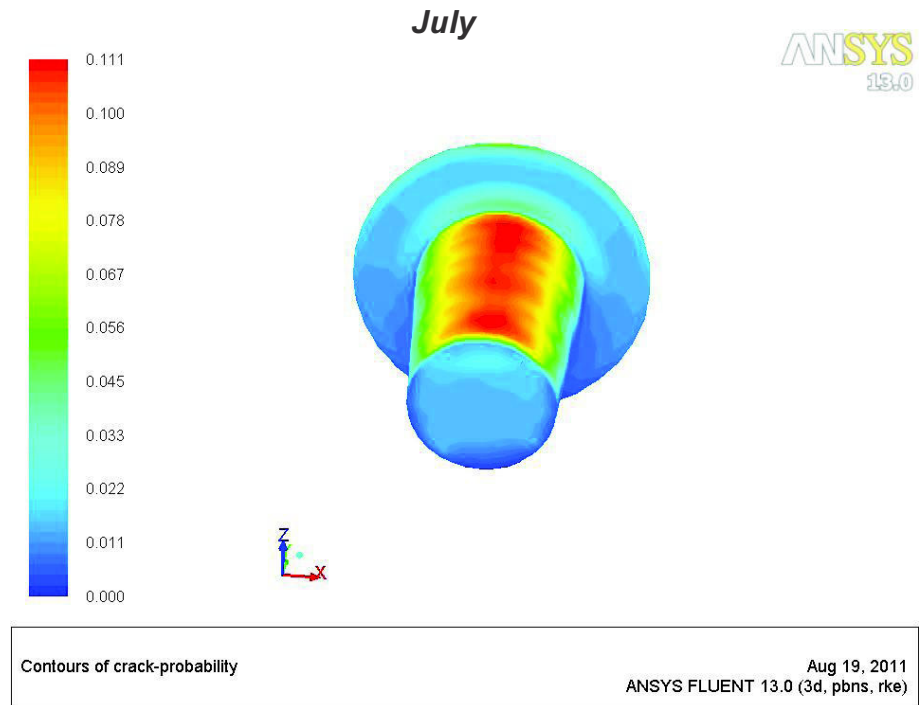
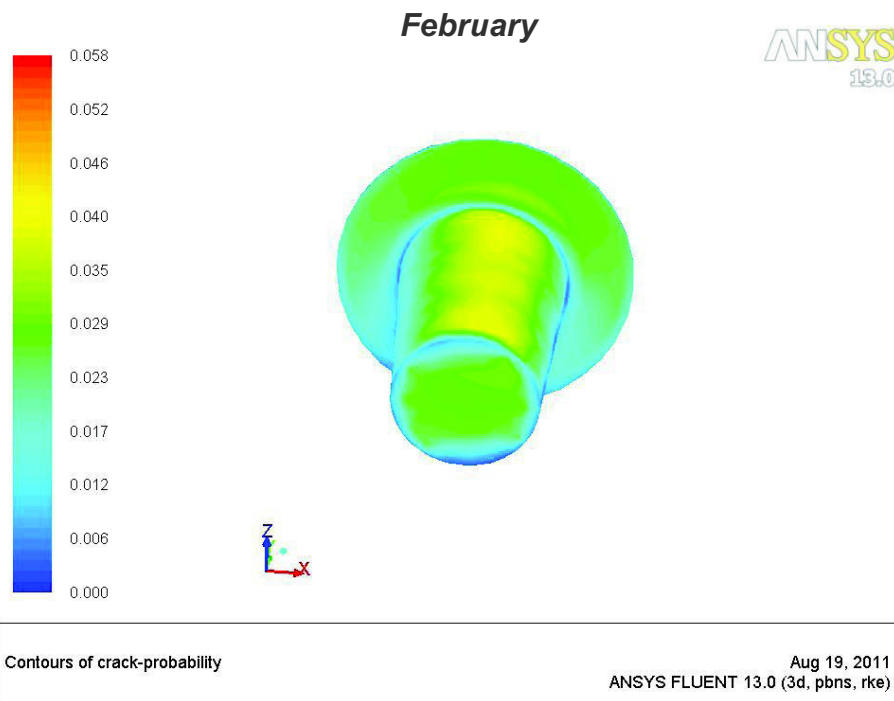
\* Source: German Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing BAM, Berlin, Germany, Dr. Anja Geburtig)

# Aging Simulation

## Results

### Monthly Contributions to the Crack Probability

Summation of the contributions to the Dose-Effect-Relationship with their monthly appearing frequency

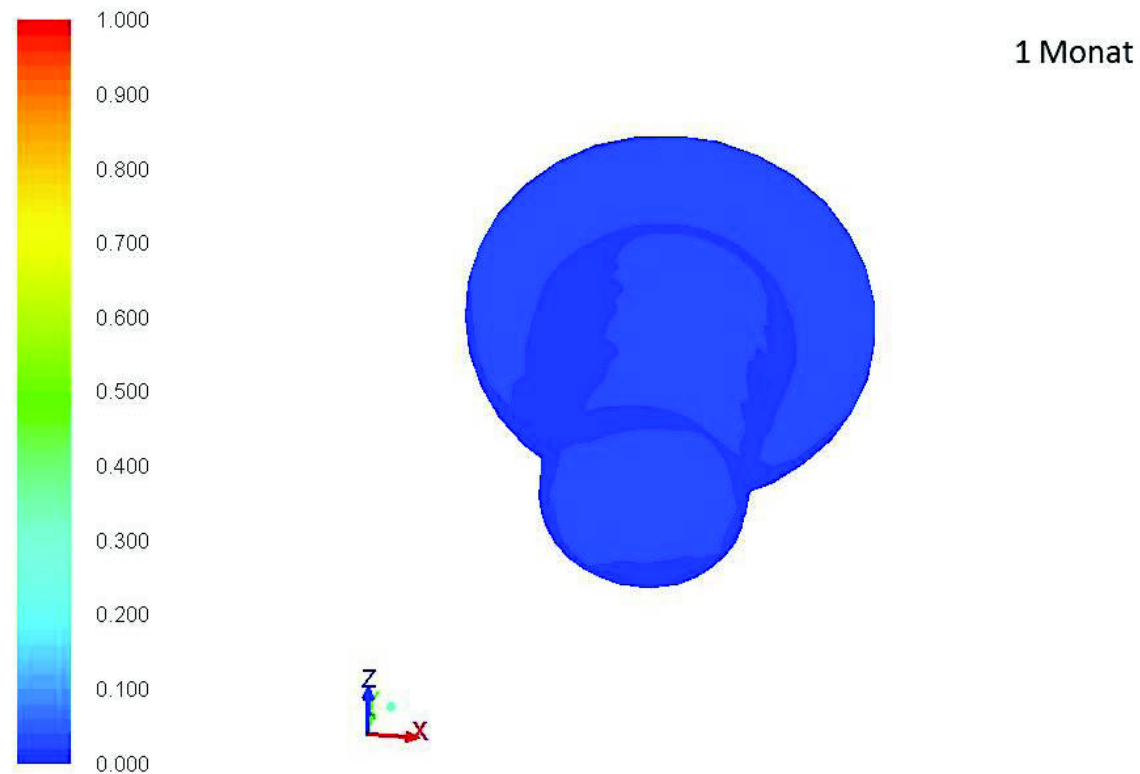




# Aging Simulation

## Results

### Crack Probability of the black hat in time

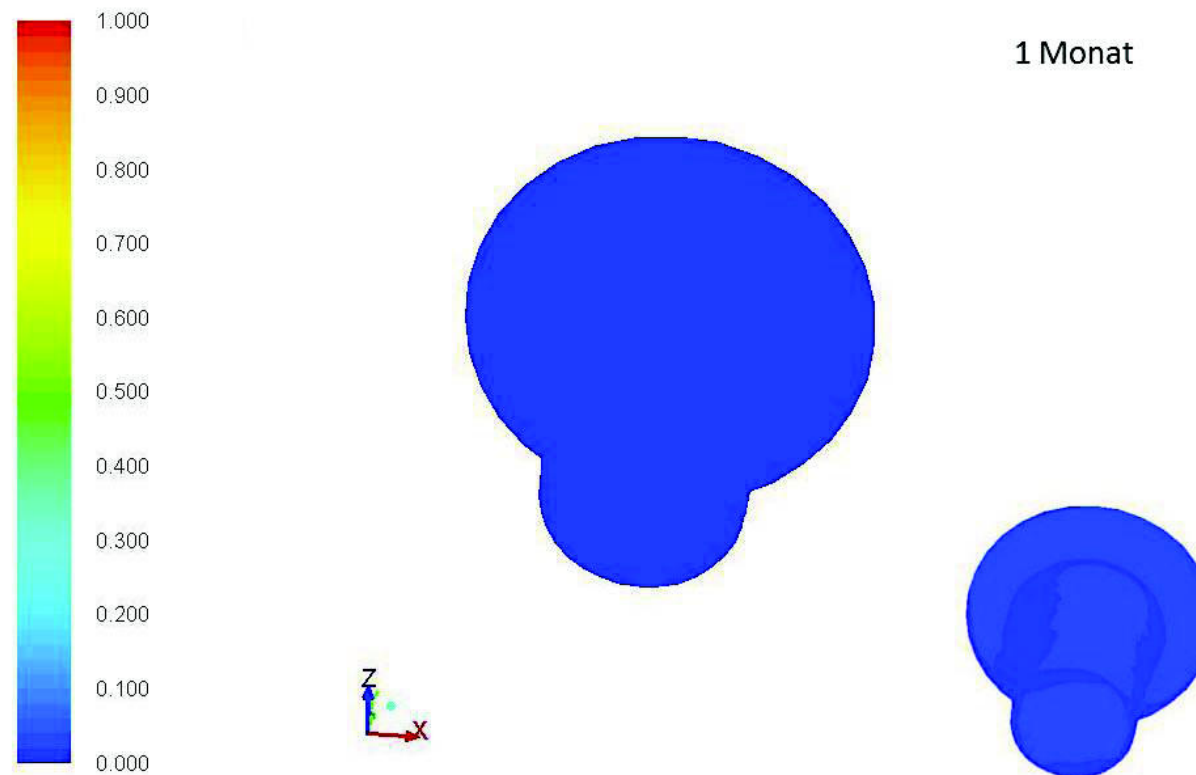


Contours of crack-probability

# Aging Simulation

## Results

### Crack Probability of the white (large) and black (small) hat in time



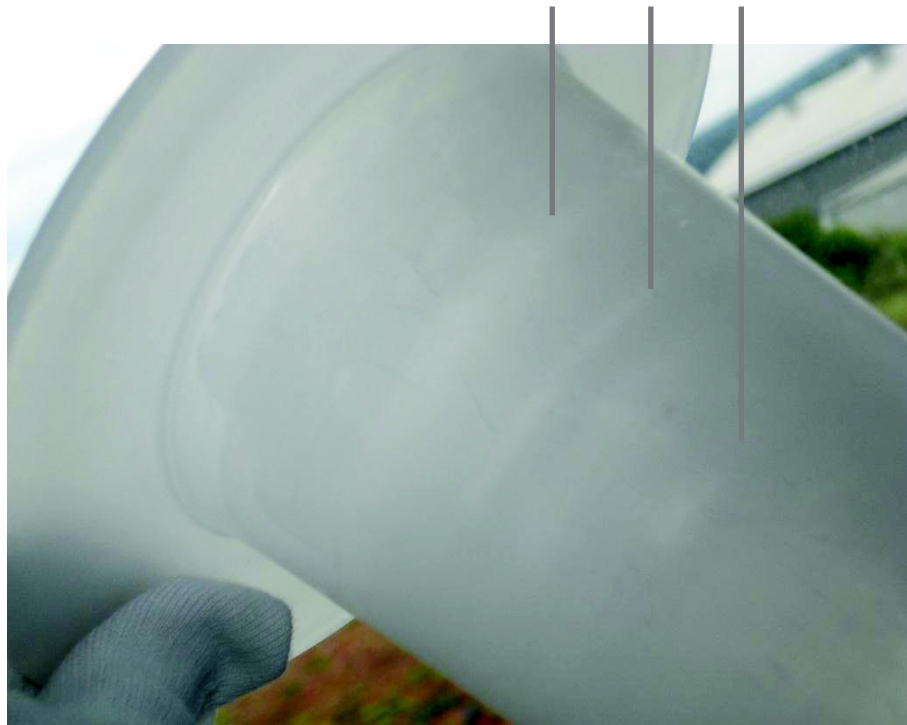
Contours of crack-probability

# Research Project VipQuali

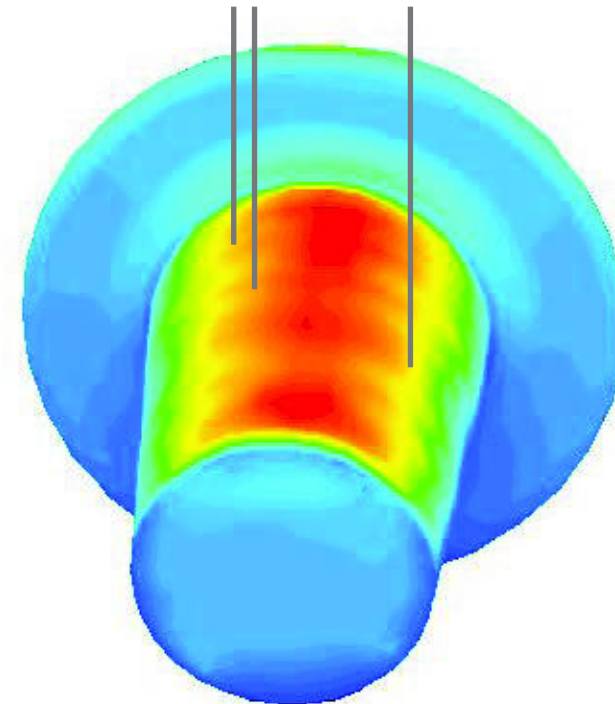
## Experiment vs. Simulation

Material damage of the specimen after 2,5 years exposition in the sun

*Material damage stripes*



*Experimental results*

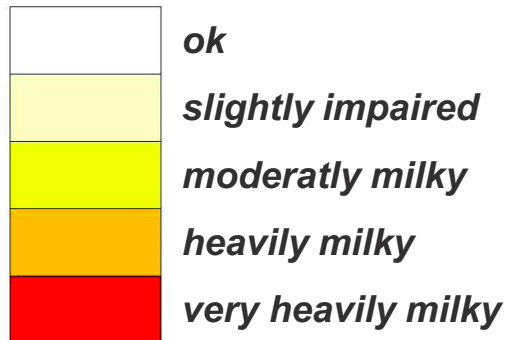
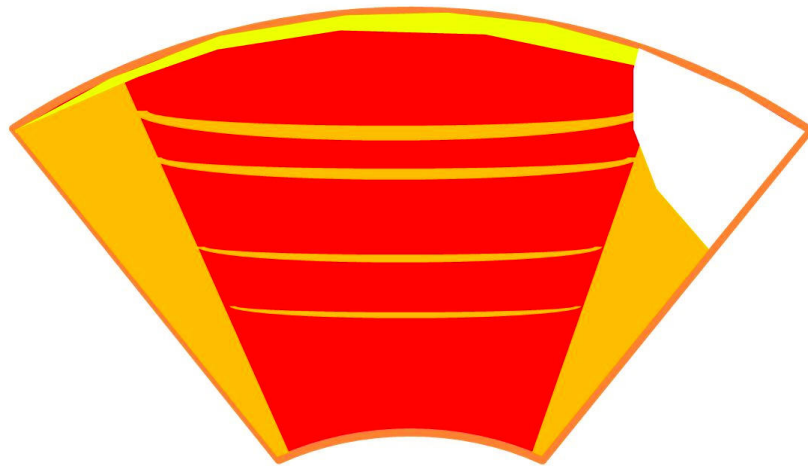


*Simulation results: crack probability*

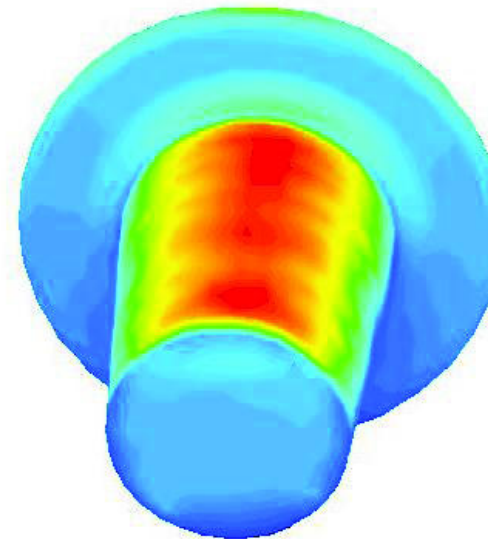
# Research Project VipQuali

## Experiment vs. Simulation

Material damage of the specimen after 2,5 years exposition in the sun



*Experimental results*



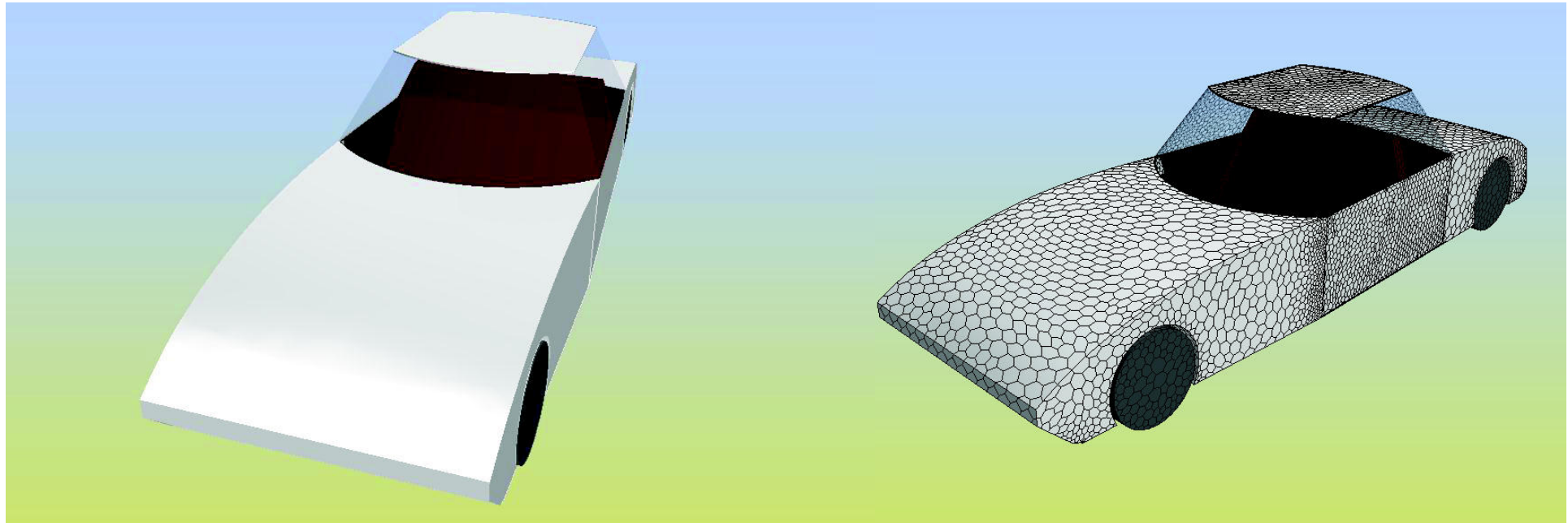
*Simulation results: crack probability*



# Industrial Application

## Aging Simulation in a Car Cabin

Methodology transfer to a real problem



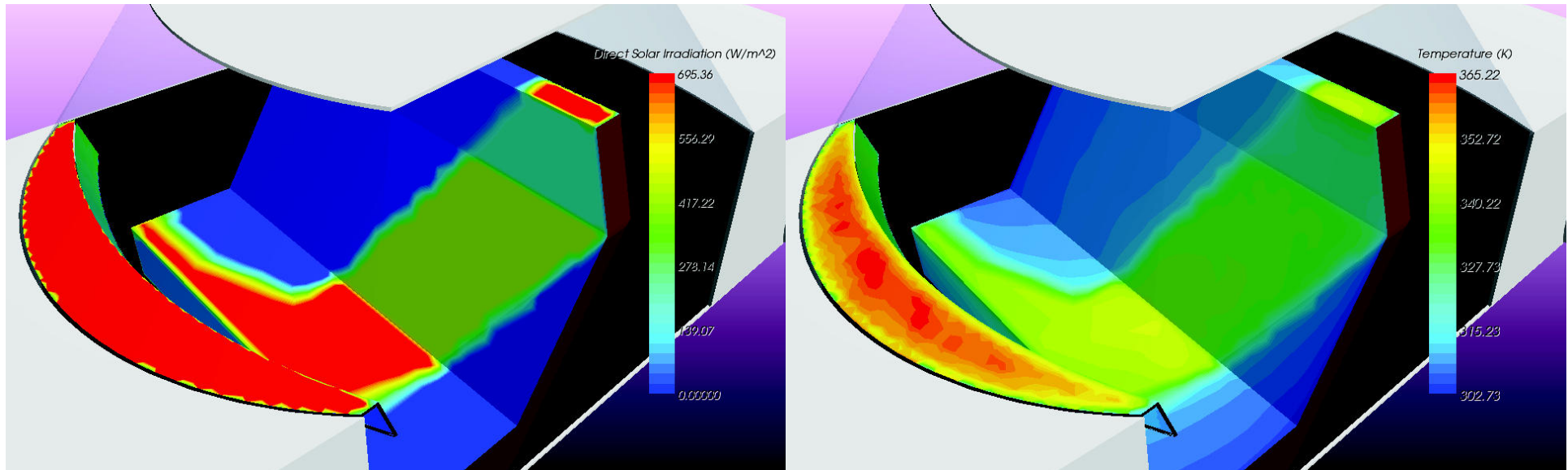
*Geometrical model*

*Finite volume mesh*

# CFD Simulation

## Results

### Irradiation and temperature distribution for a given sun position

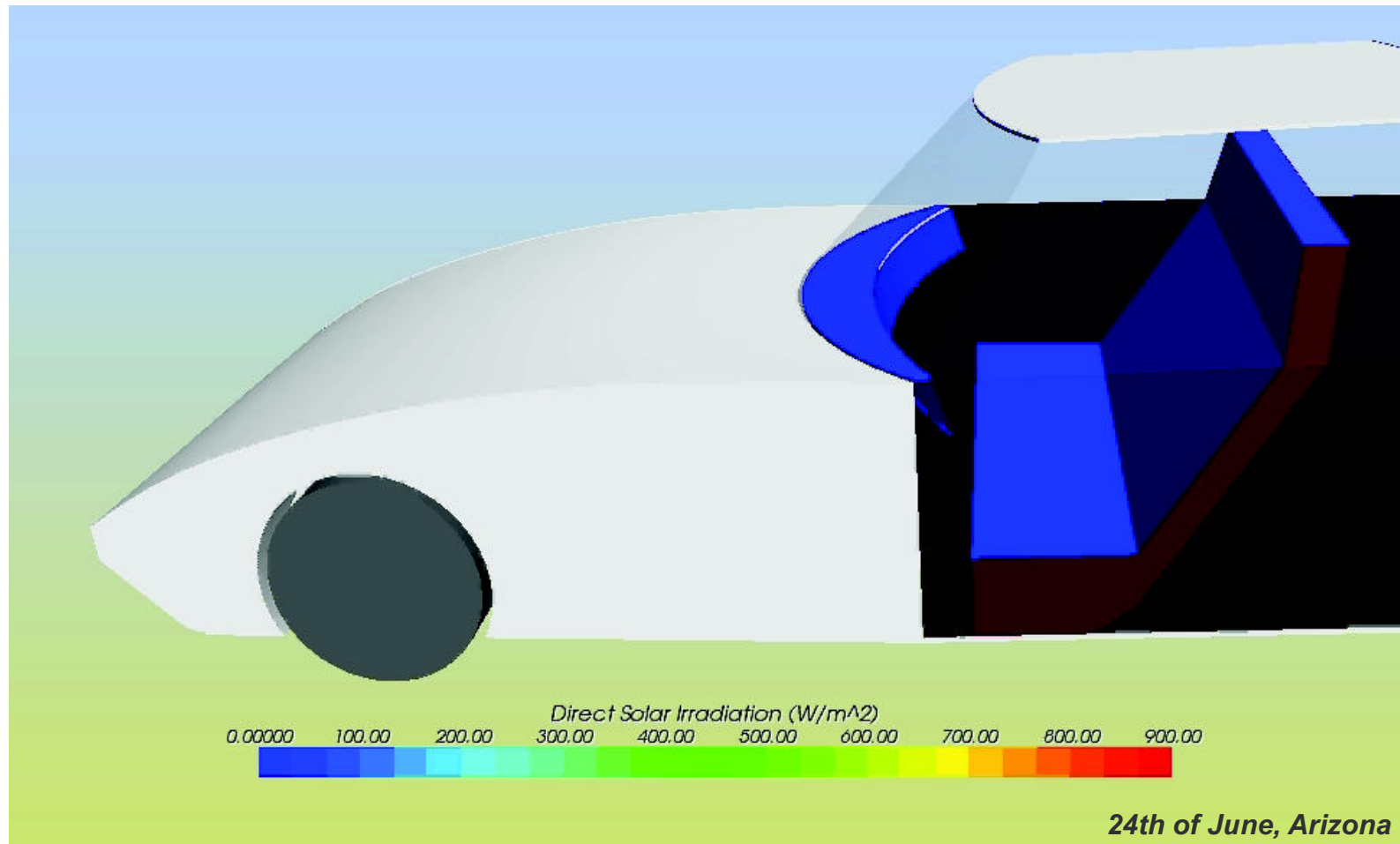


10:10 a.m., 24th of June, Arizona

# CFD Simulation

## Results

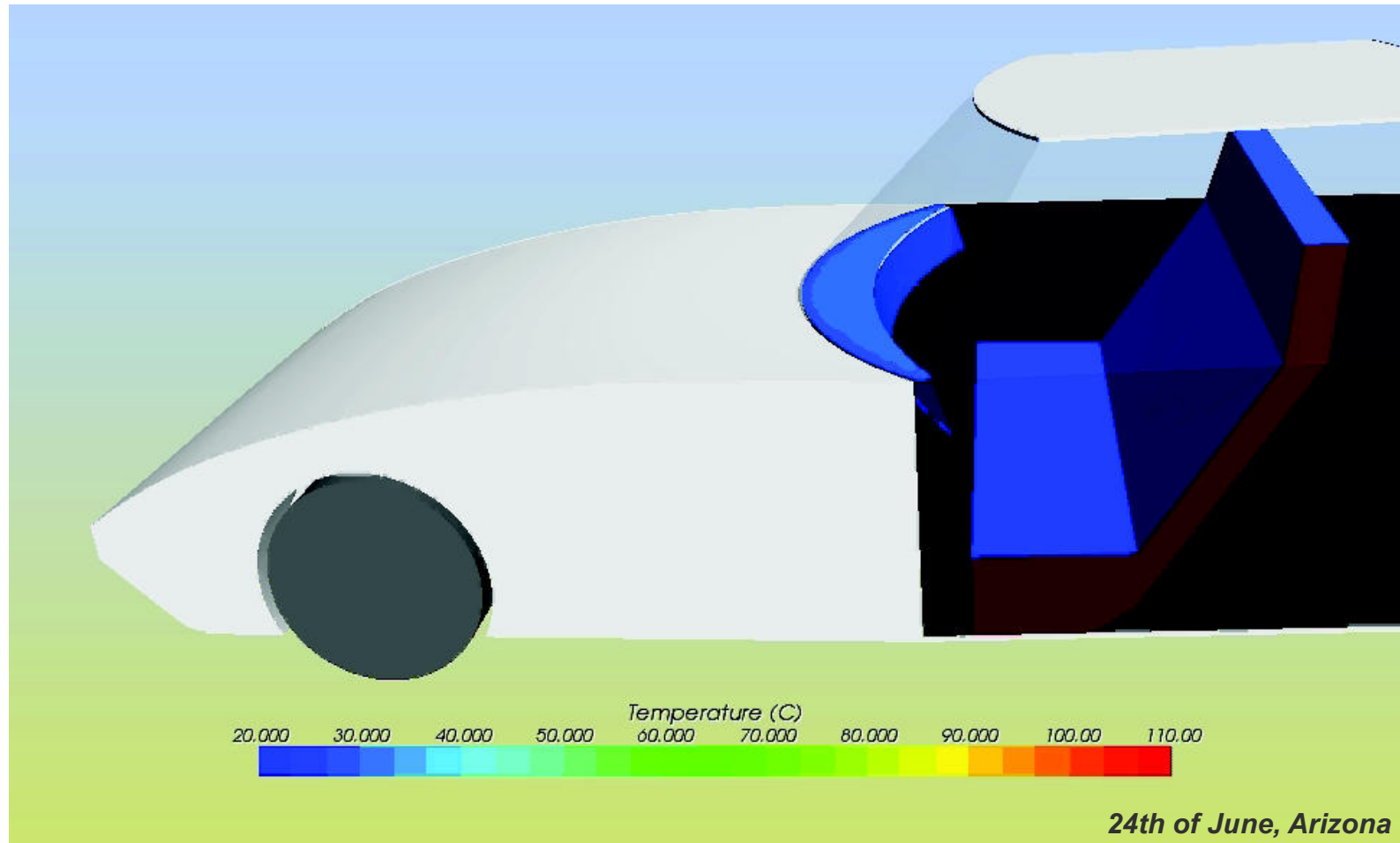
### Irradiation distribution for one day



# CFD Simulation

## Results

### Temperature distribution for one day

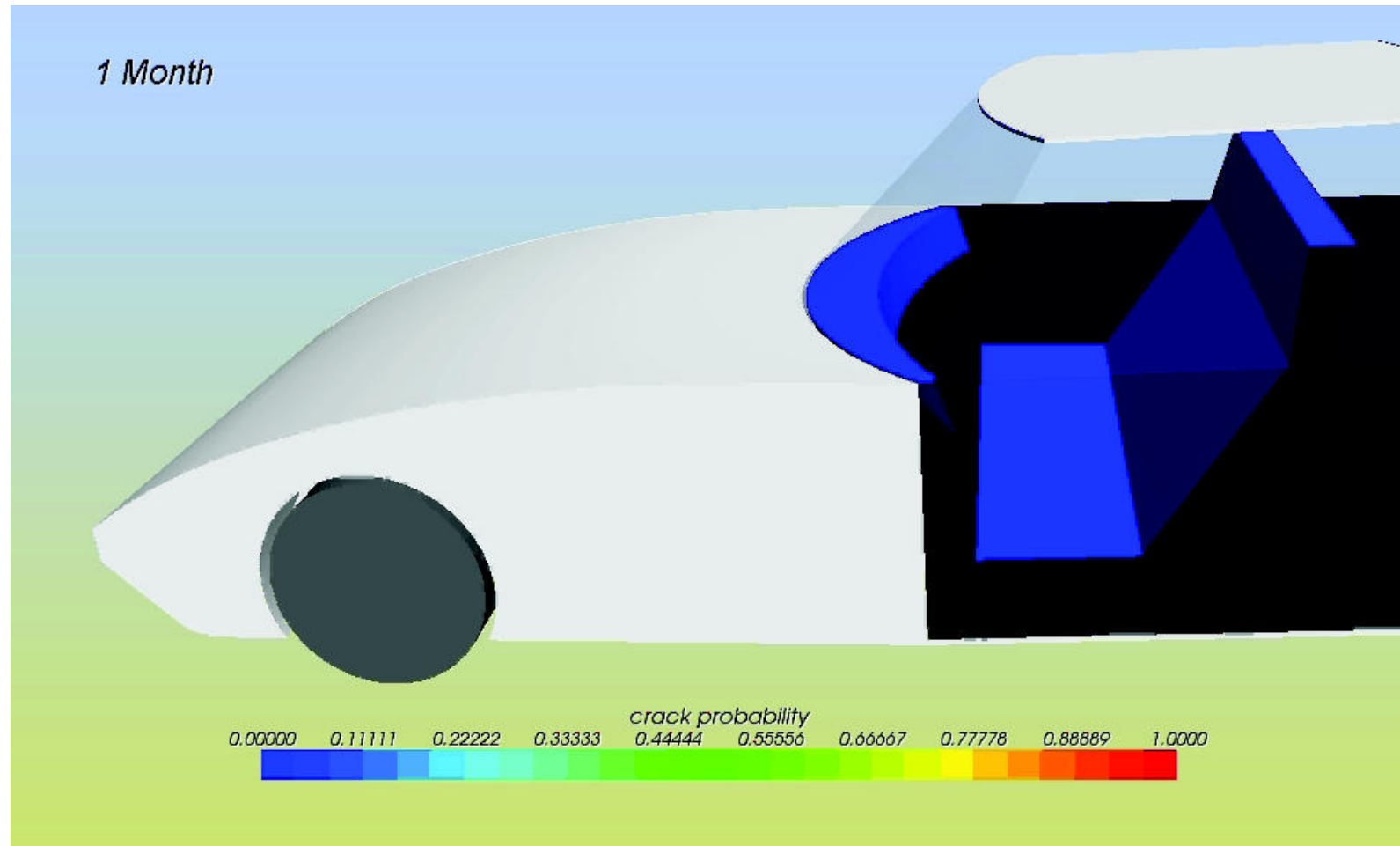




# Aging Simulation

## Results

### Probability of crack formation over two years



# The Numerical Aging Tool

## Modules

### Climate Module

- Calculation of all occurring sun positions (azimuth and altitude) at an arbitrary geographical location
- Calculation of direct and diffuse solar radiation for an arbitrary geographical location, sun position and wall orientation
- Calculation of effective radiation temperature on the external walls of an arbitrary specimen
- Discretization of sun positions into characteristic clusters and interpolation of simulation results for all occurring sun positions

### CFD Modul

- FLUENT, STAR CCM+

### Aging Modul

- Calculation of the dose-effect-function by means of summation over all occurring sun positions and their frequencies
- Visualization tool

# Applications and Research

## Outlook

### Application of the methodology for every product exposed in the sun

- Temperature, radiation and velocity distribution can be calculated for an arbitrary product at any geographical location and climate
- Accumulation of the effects of these physical quantities over time

### Perspectives

- Correct aging simulation of other materials requires additional experimental research in order to find a real dose-effect-relationship for these materials
- Future cooperation with companies interested in industrial and scientific projects on this topic

**cogito ergo sim**  
**think and simulate**