

# **Digital Human Body Modeling: A Priority to Address Future Vehicle Safety Challenges**

**Saeed D. Barbat, Ph.D., FSAE, FASME**

Executive Technical Leader for Safety, Policy and Vehicle  
Analytical Tool  
Ford Motor Company

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Future Mobility Safety Science  
and Technology**

**Pilsen, Czech Republic, October 17-18, 2019**

# Outlines

- Motor Vehicle Crashes Statistics and Fatality Trends
  - Demographic and Physiology Trend
    - » Aging and Elderly Population Growth
    - » Obesity Growth
- Safety Regulatory and NCAP Ratings Trends
- Emerging Technologies Trends and User Experience Challenges
- Human Body Modeling Motivation
- Examples of Automotive Application and Potential Use (Elderly, Obesity, Brain Injury Criteria, Risk Curves Development, AV etc.)
-

# Leading Causes of Death, All Age Groups in 2016

- The World Health Organization (WHO) reported 1.25M traffic fatalities in 2013, it was estimated the **Ninth** leading cause of death across all age groups globally.
- Traffic fatalities have increased to 1.35 million in 2106. Estimated the **Eights** leading cause of death across all age groups globally.

Rank	Cause	% of total deaths
<b>All Causes</b>		
1	Ischaemic heart disease	16.6
2	Stroke	10.2
3	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	5.4
4	Lower respiratory infections	5.2
5	Alzheimer's disease and other dementias	3.5
6	Trachea, bronchus, lung cancers	3.0
7	Diabetes mellitus	2.8
8	Road traffic injuries	2.5
9	Diarrhoeal diseases	2.4
10	Tuberculosis	2.3

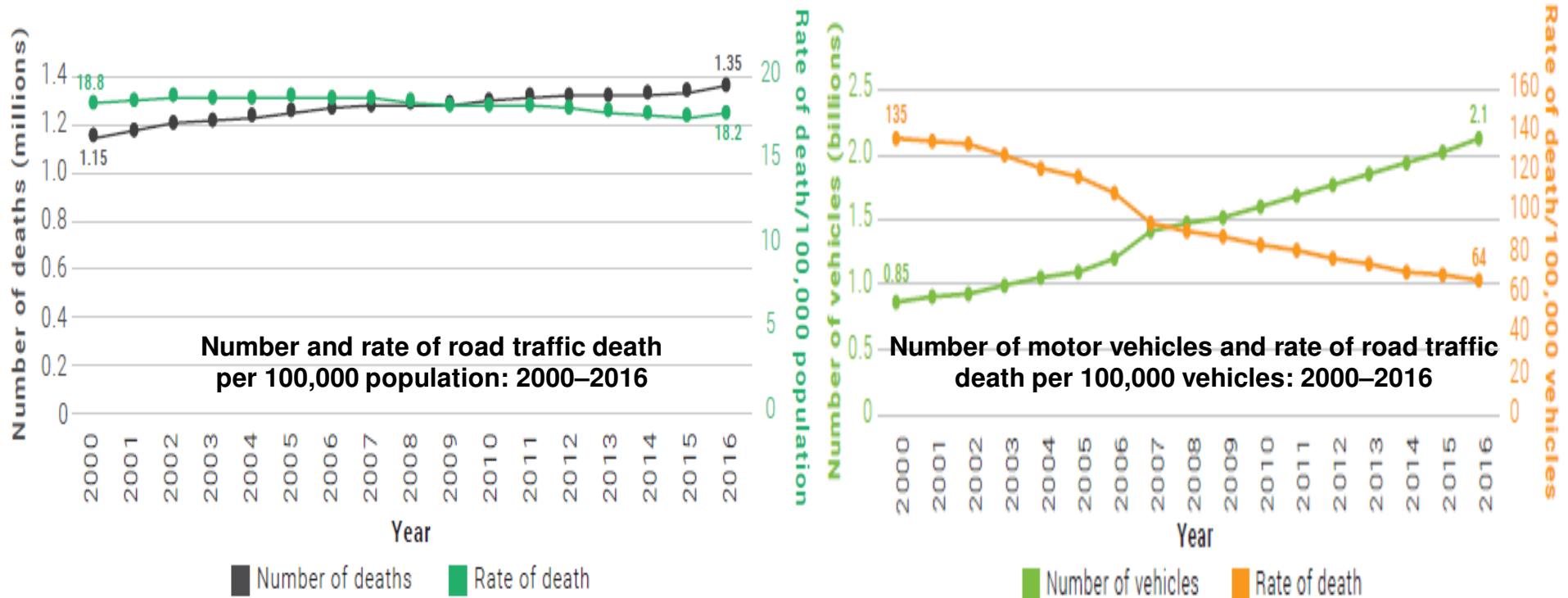


2016 WHO Global Health Estimates

- Road traffic injury is the leading cause of death for people aged 5 - 29, in 2016.
- Some reasons for this trend: demographics, rapid urbanization, poor safety standards, lack of enforcement, distracted or fatigued driving, others under the influence of drugs or alcohol, speeding, failure to wear seat-belts or helmets.

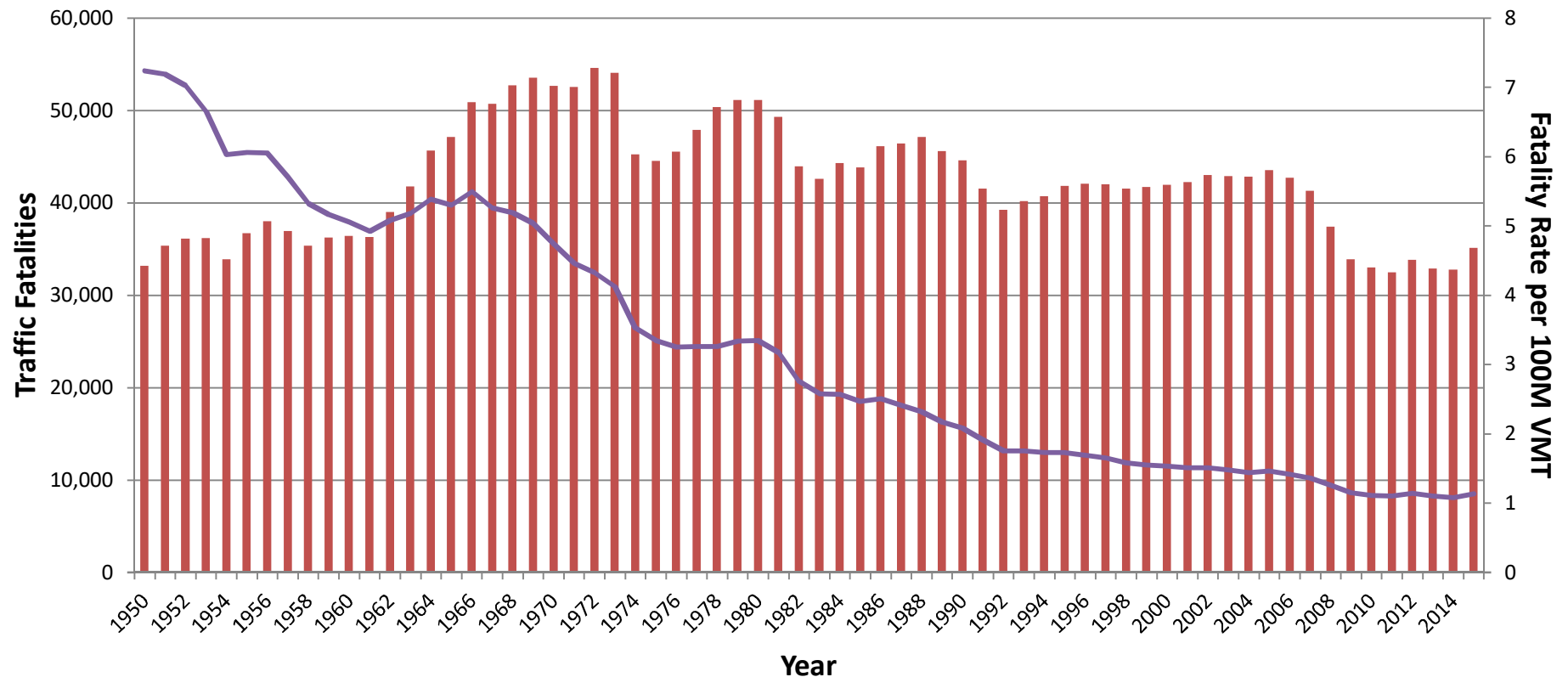
# Leading Causes of Death, All Age Groups in 2016

- Between the year 2000-2016, the rate of death relative to the size of the worlds population has stabilized and declined relative to the number of motor vehicle in recent years (0.85 Bil – 2.1 Bil)



- While this does not suggest that problem is not worsening, the world is far from achieving the 50% target reduction in the number of deaths by half by 2020.
- The data shows that the progress has not occurred at a pace fast enough to compensate for rapid population growth and increasing motorization

# 1950 - 2015 US Traffic Fatalities by Calendar Year

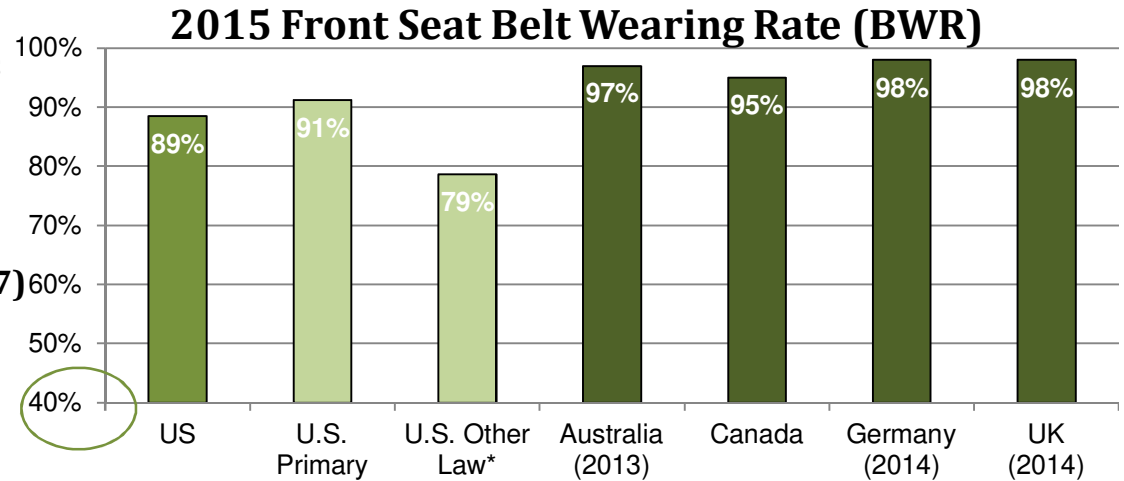


- Year-over-year increases in traffic fatalities often occur during periods of economic recovery
- Fatality rates continue to trend downward (attributed to vehicle design improvements, public domain testing and regulations **(But Increased In 2015, 2016, and 2017)**)
- OEMs are poised to contribute more with introduction of DAT, CAT, and AD
- These new technologies will not eliminate crashes all together and the need to mitigate injuries and reduce fatalities in the remaining crashes is still needed
- *Safer Driver/Road User Behaviors, Infrastructure Improvements and Vehicle Safety Enhancements Will Continue Drive Traffic Safety Improvements*

Sources: *Traffic Safety Facts 2015 Annual Report*, NHTSA  
*Highway Statistics Summary to 1995*, FHWA, fi200.xls; *Traffic Safety Facts 2010* (DOT HS 811659), *2011 Motor Vehicle Crashes Overview* (DOT HS 811701), NHTSA  
*Road Safety in the United States: Are the (Relatively) Good Times Over?*, UMTRI-2012-26, September 2012

# 2017 U.S. Safety Facts and Restraint (Belts & Bags) Use

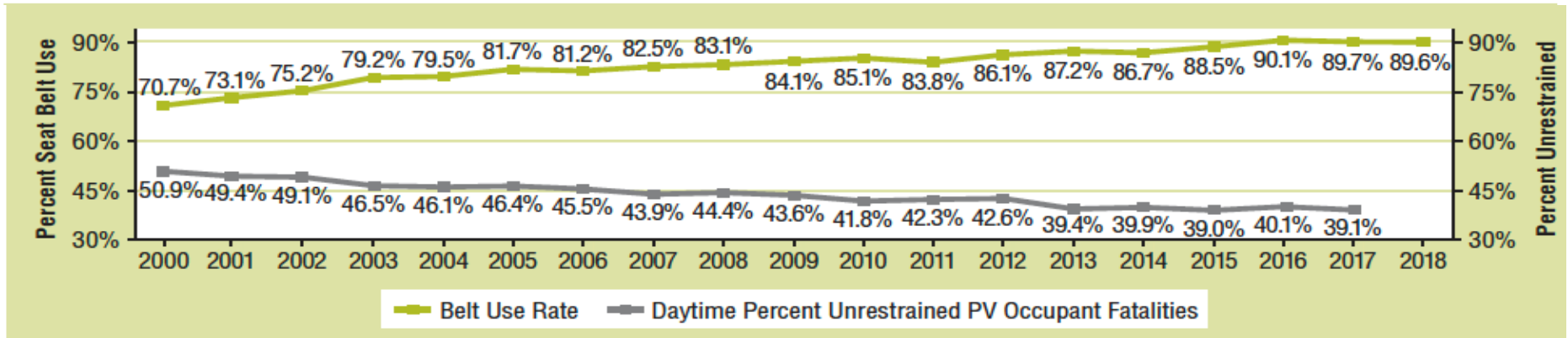
- Although the U.S. safety belt wearing rate has generally been increasing, it remains lower than Australia, Canada & many countries in Europe (e.g., Germany, UK)
- Belt use up from 83.1% in 2008 to 90.1% in 2016 then drops to 89.6% in 2018 (NOPUS 17)
- Incremental increase is difficult to achieve
- Vehicle based technological (e.g. SBAS) have the potential to increase belt usage rates



\*U.S. Primary & Other Law Rates for All

Sources: US- Seat Belt Use in 2014(NHTSA, DOT HS 812 113); IRTAD Road Safety Annual Report 2016

## National Seat Belt Use Rate and Daytime Percentage of Unrestrained Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities



Source: NOPUS and FARS

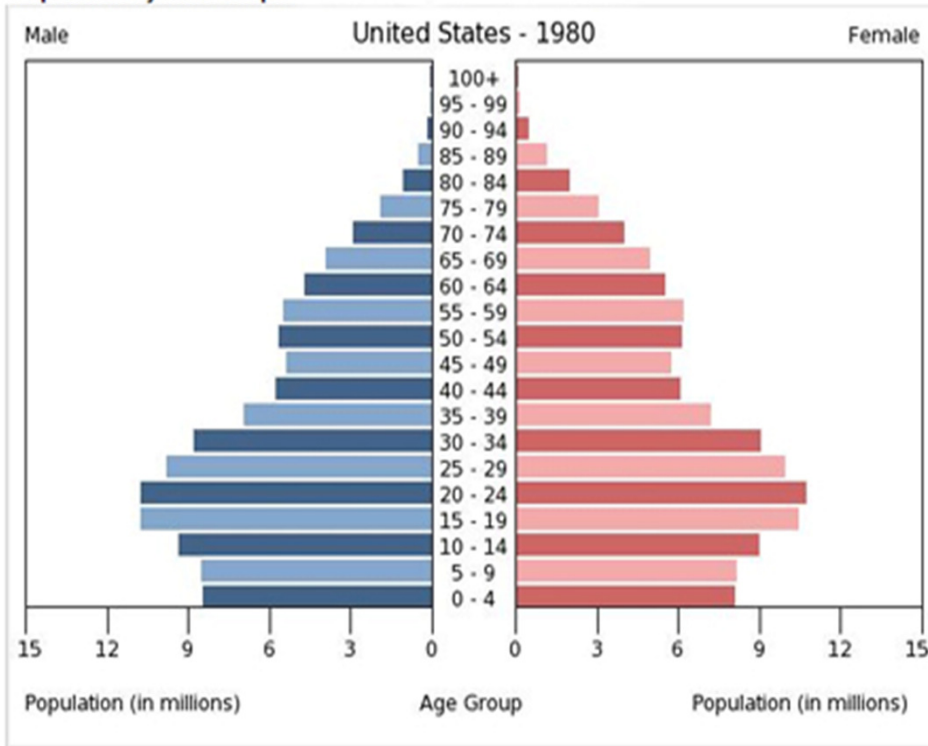
- Countries with Belt Wearing Rates higher than the US have had long-standing, very aggressive public education and law enforcement efforts
- Current demographic trends (obesity, elderly, law enforcement officers) may contribute to low BWR
- Ford continues to support increased safety belt usage through the development and use of Digital Human Body Model to help develop advanced safety belts

# Outlines

- Motor Vehicle Crashes Statistics and Fatality Trends
  - Demographic and Physiology Trend
    - » Aging and Elderly Population Growth
    - » Obesity Growth
- Safety Regulatory and NCAP Ratings Trends
- Emerging Technologies Trends and User Experience Challenges
- Human Body Modeling Motivation
- Examples of Automotive Application and Potential Use (Elderly, Obesity, Brain Injury Criteria, Risk Curves Development, AV etc.)

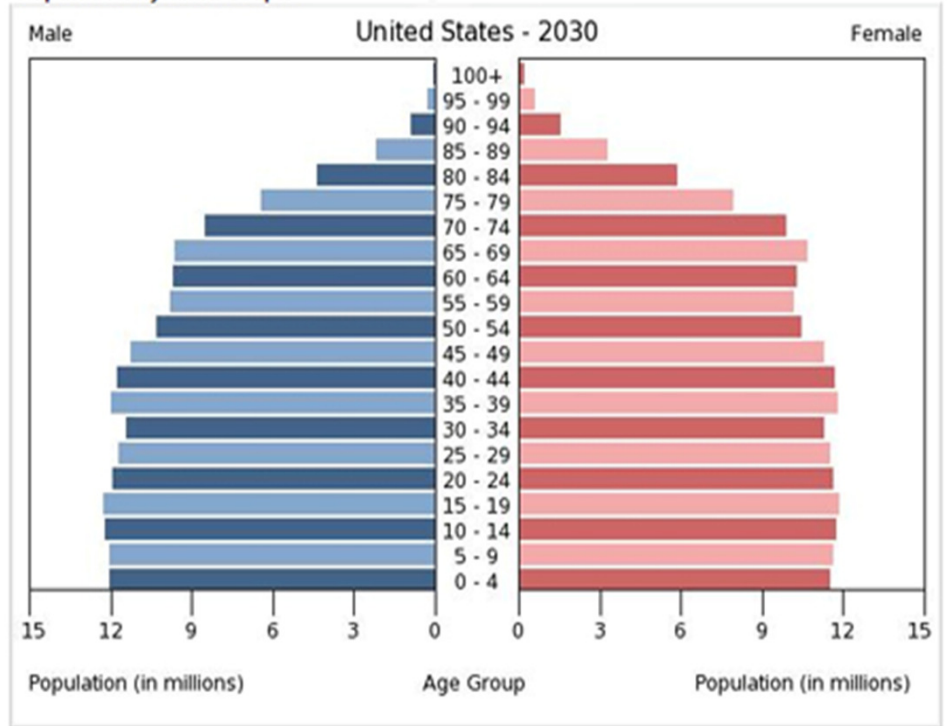
# Changing Age and Gender Population Distribution: In 2030, the U.S. will have more equal numbers of all age groups

Population Pyramid Graph



1980

Population Pyramid Graph



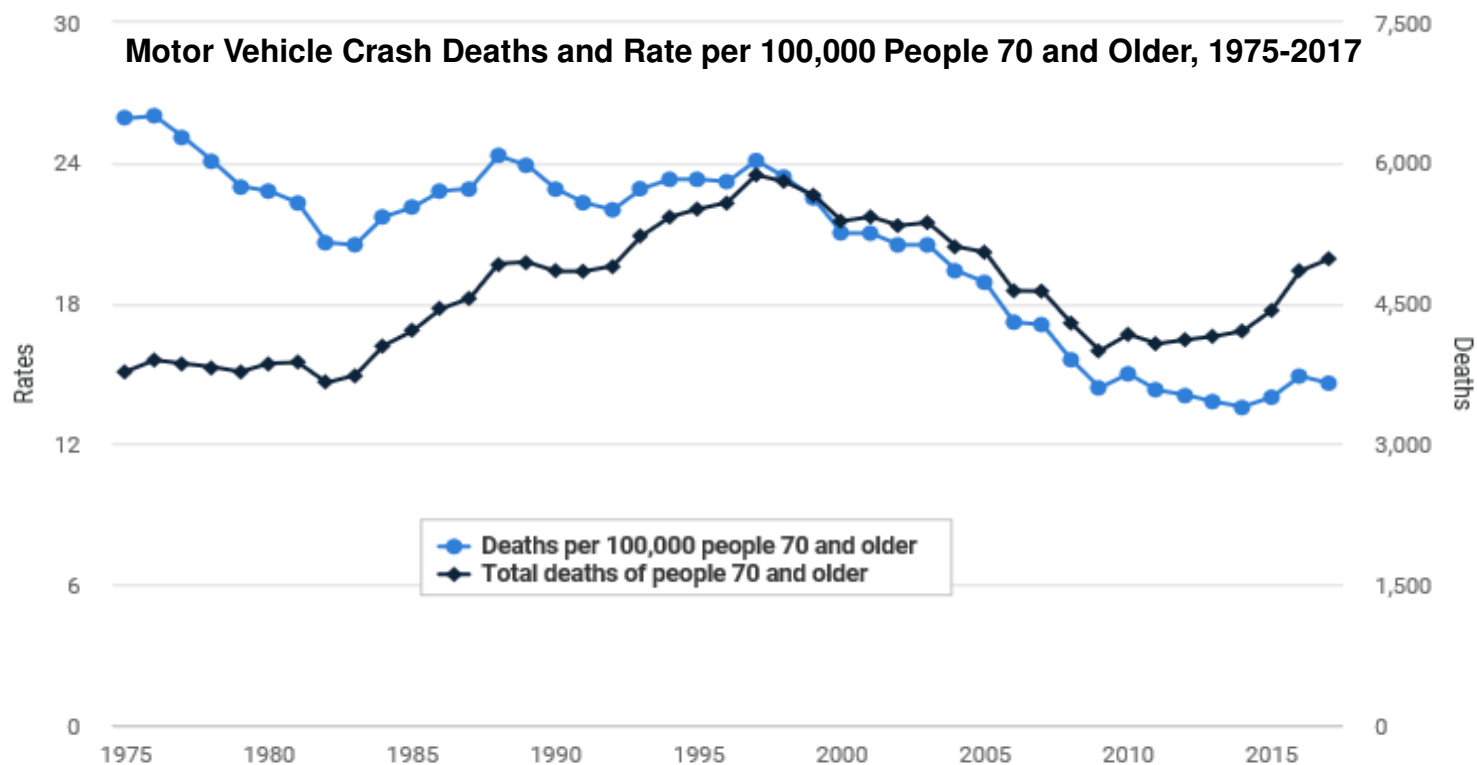
2030

- Older age groups are projected to be the fastest growing segment of the US population.
- The increasing number of older occupants presents continued challenges for restraint system design and absence of evaluation tools to balance customer safety, comfort, and convenience.

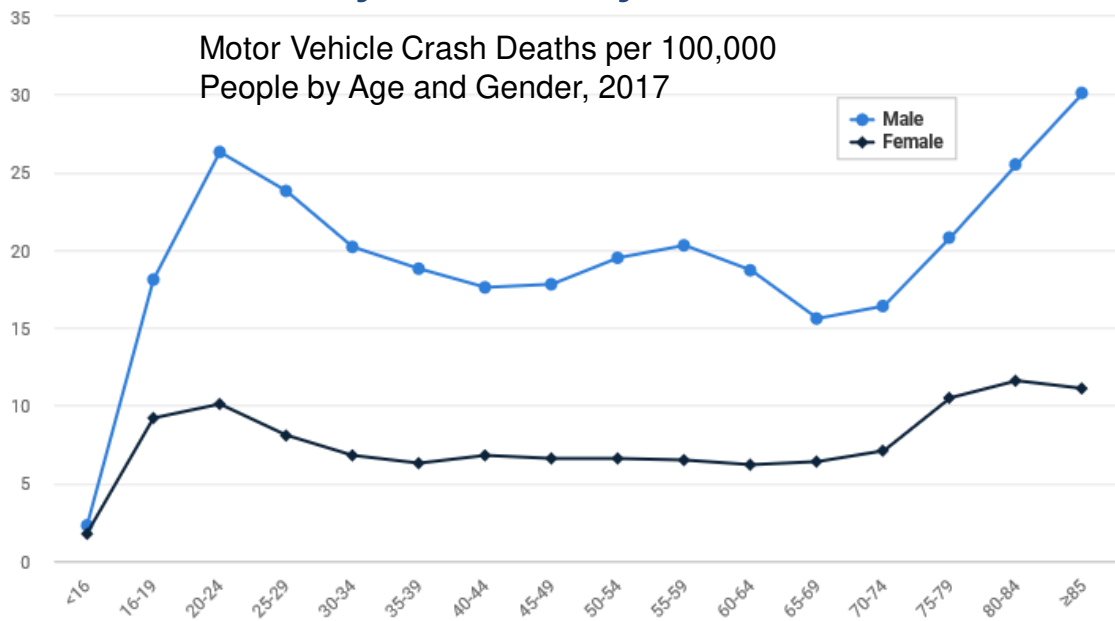


## 2017 IIHS Study on Elderly Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Crashes Based on FARS

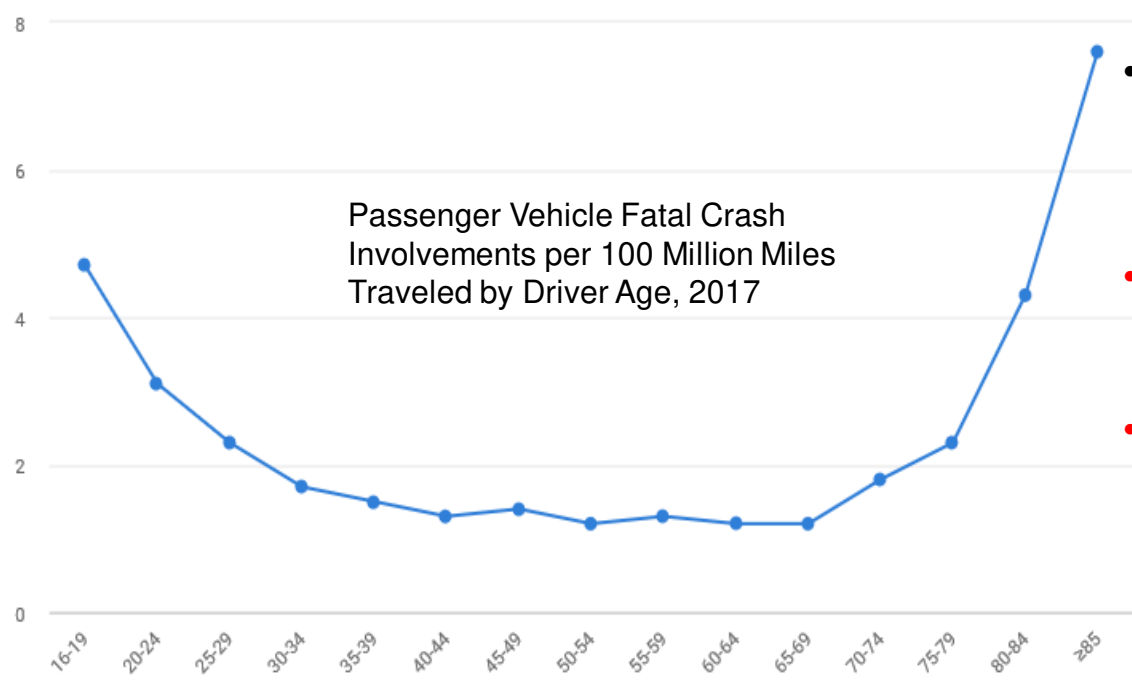
- There were almost 42 million licensed drivers age 65 and older in 2016 in the US, which is a 56% increase from 1999
- The elderly occupants are more vulnerable to get seriously injured or die in a motor vehicle crash. This is largely due to chest injuries associated with low bones density
- A total of 4,974 people ages 70 and older died in motor vehicle crashes in 2017
- This is 15% fewer than in 1997, when deaths peaked, but a 32% increase since 1975
- The rate of fatalities per capita among older people has decreased 44% since 1975.
- Seventy-five percent of people 70 and older killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2017 were passenger vehicle occupants, and 16 percent were pedestrians



# 2017 IIHS Study on Elderly Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Crashes Based on FARS



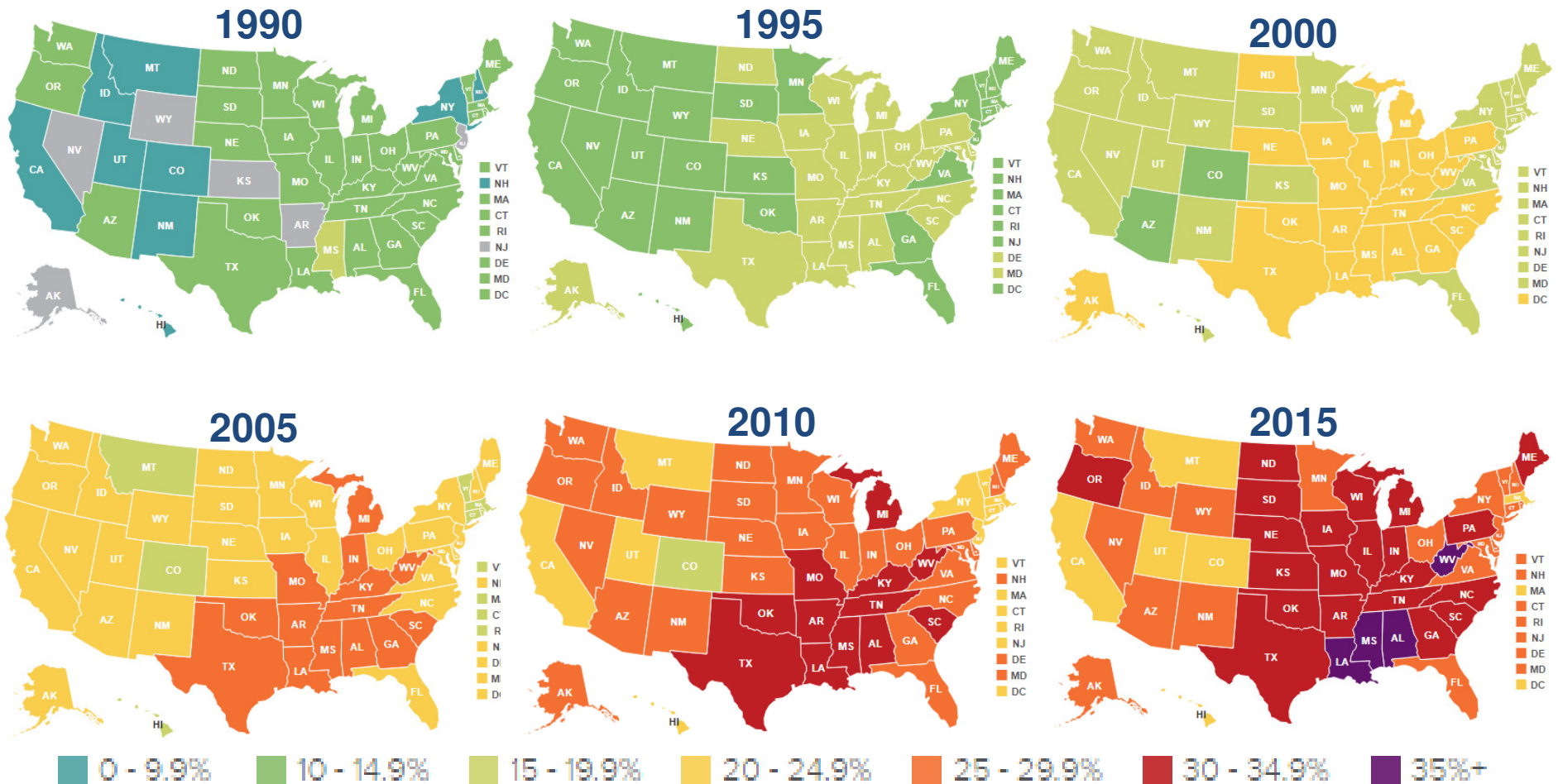
- In 2017, motor vehicle crash death rates per capita increased among males starting at ages 70-74 and among females gradually beginning at ages 65-69
- Males had substantially higher death rates than females for ages 16 and older.



- Per mile traveled, fatal crash rates increase noticeably starting at age 70-74 and are highest among drivers 85 and older
- **Currently no regulations, and no crash dummy to assess performance and restraint**
- **HBM has potential use in driving dummy design and developing risk curves/injury criterion**

# Obesity is Increasing Among U.S. Adults

Percent of State Population with BMI\*  $\geq 30$  by Calendar Year

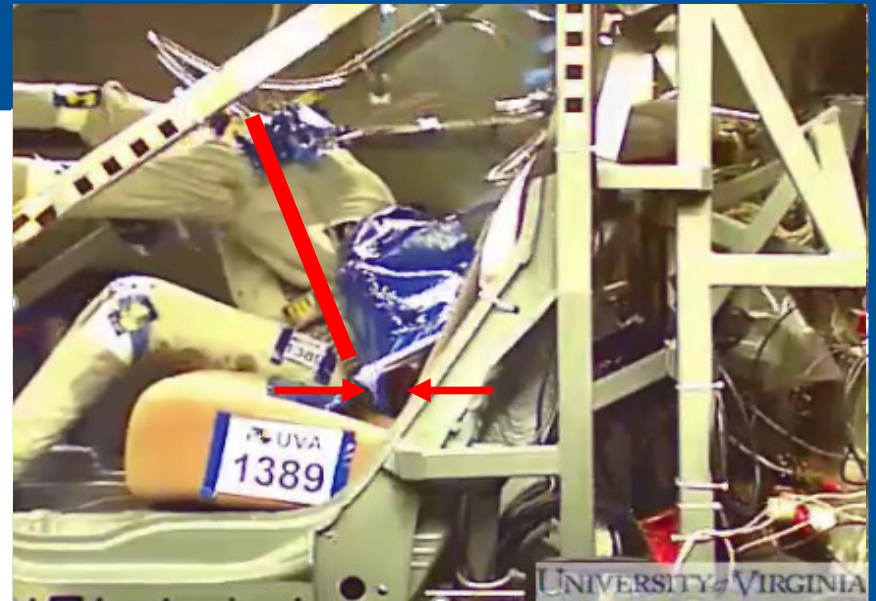
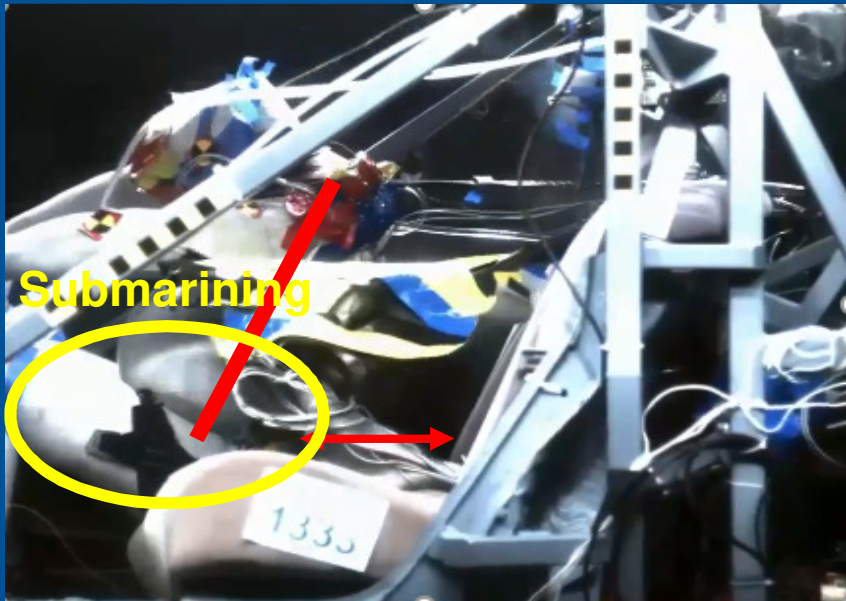


- Body Mass Index (BMI) is the ratio of an adult's weight to height:  $BMI = W \text{ (kg)} / [H \text{ (m)}]^2$
- Today, Obesity is defined as  $BMI \geq 30$  based on standing posture. *New definition is needed!*
- Adult obesity rates exceed 35% in 4 states, 30% in 25 states and are above 20% in all states
- **Obese crash dummy is researched and no tools are available to evaluate belt fit on obese**

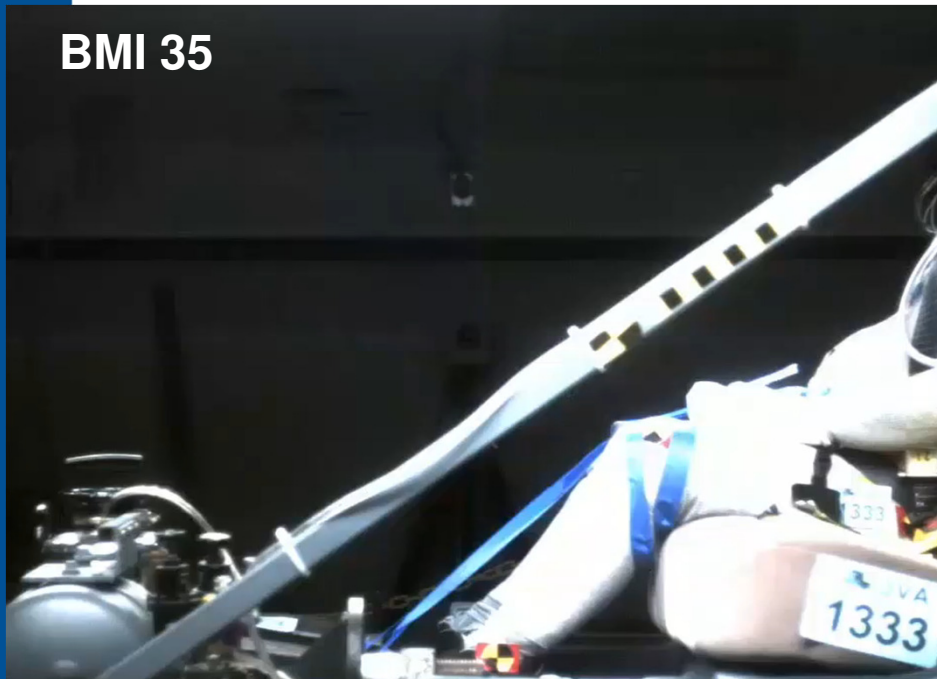
Data Source: The STATE of OBESITY (<https://stateofobesity.org/>)



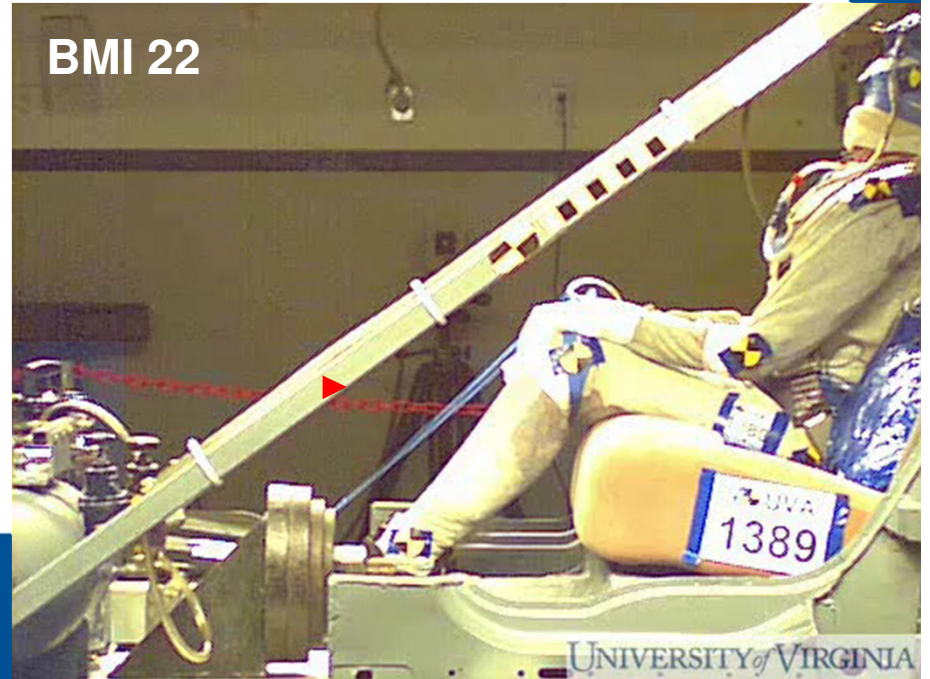
# Rear-seat frontal impact sled tests



BMI 35



BMI 22



Source: 2019 G/I meeting (University of Virginia Center for Applied Biomechanics)

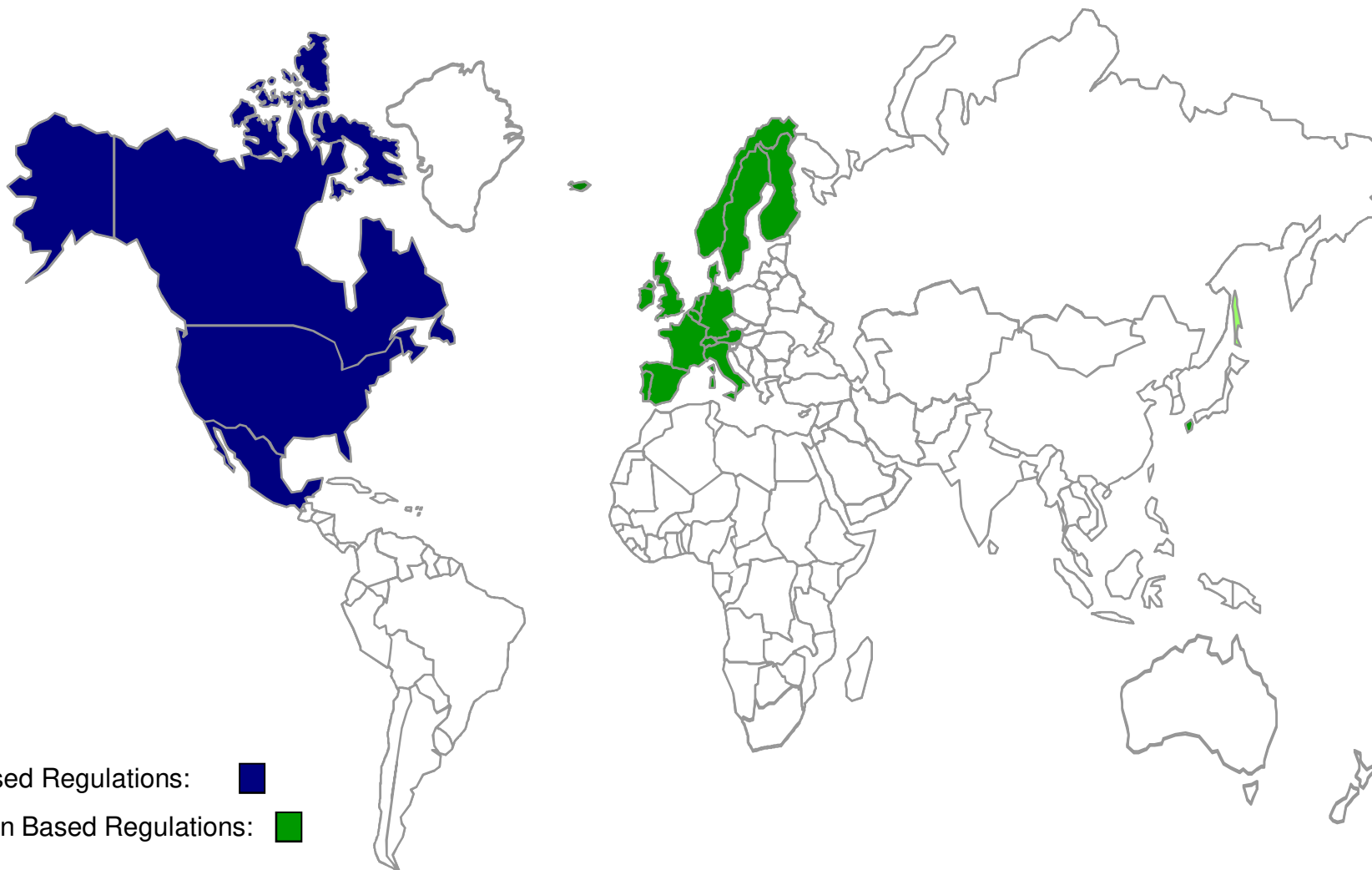
# Outlines

- Motor Vehicle Crashes Statistics and Fatality Trends
  - Demographic and Physiology Trend
    - » Aging and Elderly Population Growth
    - » Obesity Growth
- Safety Regulatory and NCAP Ratings Trends
- Emerging Technologies Trends and User Experience Challenges
- Human Body Modeling Motivation
- Examples of Automotive Application and Potential Use (Elderly, Obesity, Brain Injury Criteria, Risk Curves Development, AV etc.)
-

# Historical Global Regulatory Overview

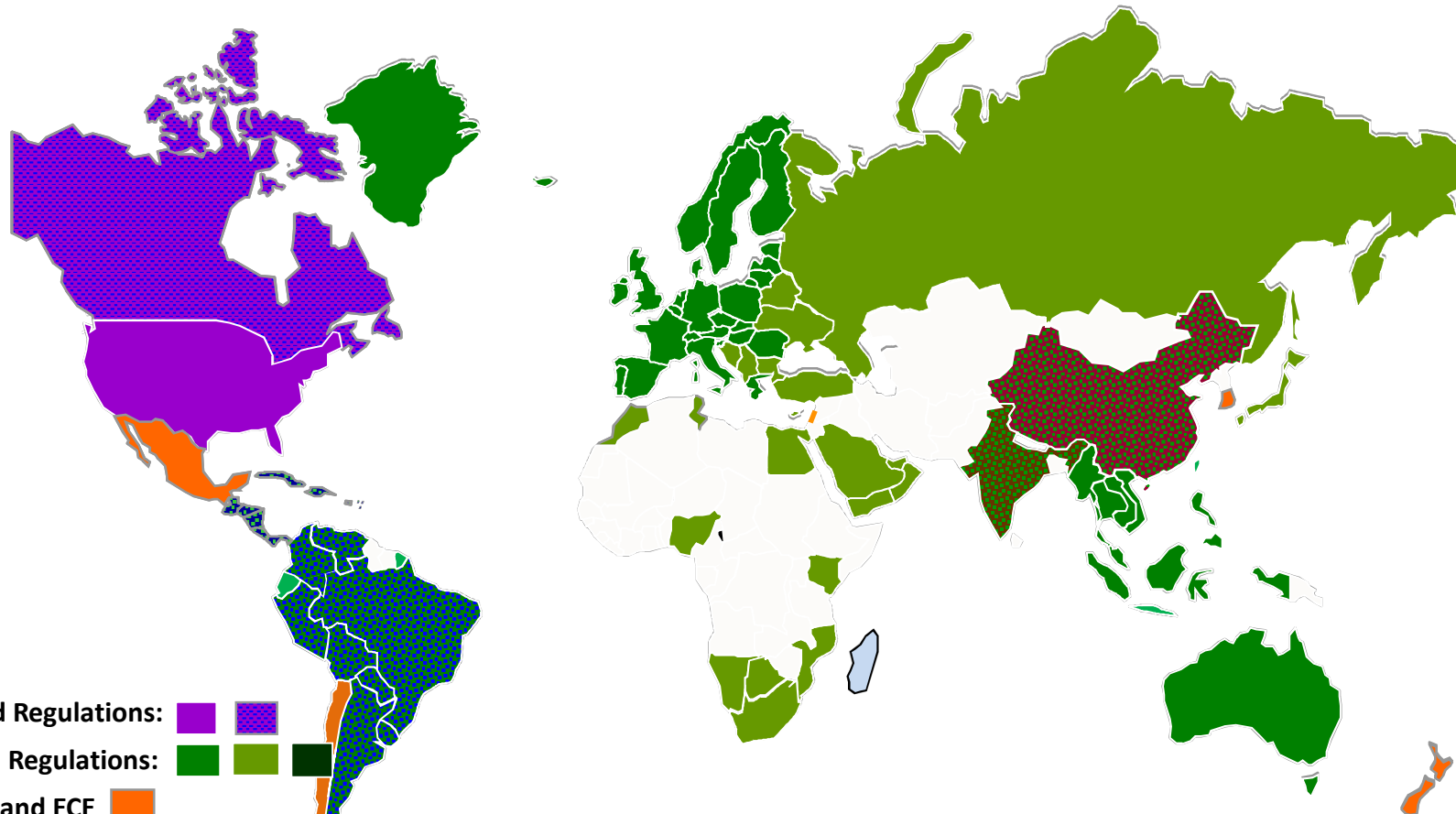
## History: A Simpler World—North America and Europe

---



# Global Regulatory Overview

**Current State: Complex, Expanding Global Framework**



Key:

U.S. Based Regulations:  

ECE Based Regulations:   

Both USA and ECE 

Mix of U.S. and ECE Based Regulations:  

No Regulations or gravitating towards ECE 

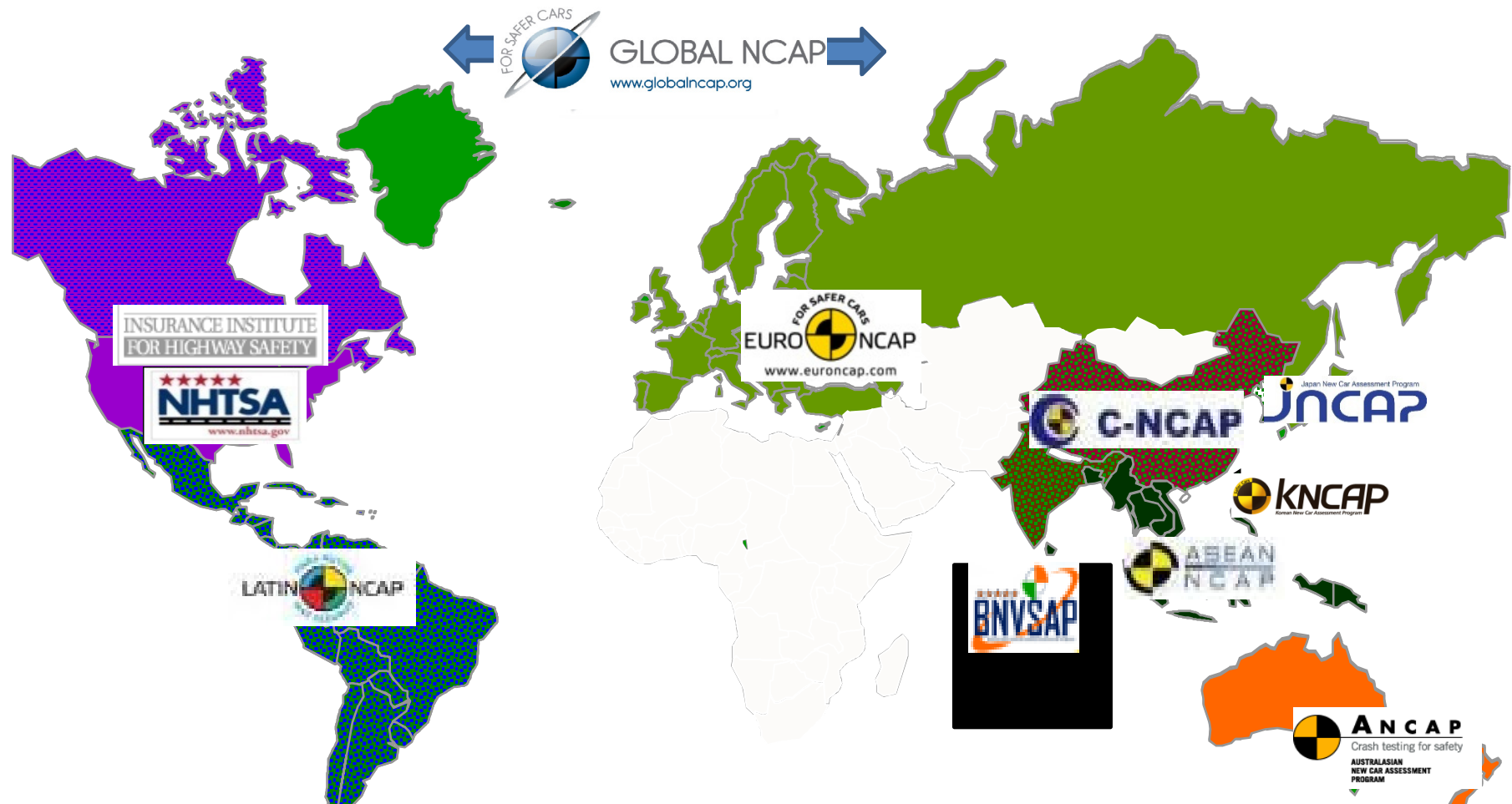
China , India  (both generally based on ECE Regulations)

Note – Some countries with UN-ECE based requirements accept import of vehicles meeting FMVSS requirements.

**The global regulatory framework has shifted from a two-system framework to a more complex regulatory framework dominated by ECE based regulations which can vary by region.**



# Global Safety Public Domain Organizations



Public domain organizations continue to expand assessment complexity:

- High interest incorporation of Driver Assist and Active Safety technologies
- Focus on 2<sup>nd</sup> row ratings and new crash dummies/injury criteria (THOR/WSID/Qs/BrIC)
- New crash conditions (e.g. Euro-NCAP MPDB and NHTSA's Oblique Impact)
- As the PD assessments expand, there seems to be a divergence of harmonization



# Outlines

- Motor Vehicle Crashes Statistics and Fatality Trends
  - Demographic and Physiology Trend
    - » Aging and Elderly Population Growth
    - » Obesity Growth
- Safety Regulatory and NCAP Ratings Trends
- Emerging Technologies Trends and User Experience Challenges
- **Human Body Modeling Motivation**
- Examples of Automotive Application and Potential Use (Elderly, Obesity, Brain Injury Criteria, Risk Curves Development, AV etc.)

# Motivations for Digital Models for Human Body

- **Human Body Models (HBM), enabled by FEA are deemed necessary to:**
  - **Predict tissue level injuries as opposed to forces and displacements using crash dummies**
  - **Help identify biomechanics issues, injury trends and evaluate restraint performance in non-conventional seating configurations in future autonomous vehicles cabins (Only Tools Today)**
  - **Help guide the development of future crash dummies for AV/UX**
  - **Current FE HBM can serve as the base for developing Elderly/Obese/children HBMs**
  - **Vulnerable occupants HBMs can be used to generate risk curves for various body parts to help develop new injury criteria**
  - **Can be used for real world accident reconstructions when combined with vehicle models**
  - **Potential use in Virtual Certifications in regulations/public domain ratings (Euro\_NCAP/BrIC)**
  - **Injury criteria for children is tentative and is based on old research. Child HBMs can be used to generate risk curves and develop new injury criteria.**

## **Some Limitations of Digital Models for Human Body**

- **Require more knowledge of material properties of body parts tissue**
- **Experimental validation of the Human Body Model is cadaver based (lack of muscles, aged, propensity)**
- **Responses can only simulate cadavaric tests and not living human**
- **Child's body is not a miniature adult, scaling of models and injury criteria has limitations**
- **HBM's results can be FE Code or solver dependent**

# Outlines

- Motor Vehicle Crashes Statistics and Fatality Trends
  - Demographic and Physiology Trend
    - » Aging and Elderly Population Growth
    - » Obesity Growth
- Safety Regulatory and NCAP Ratings Trends
- Emerging Technologies Trends and User Experience Challenges
- Human Body Modeling Motivation
- Examples of Automotive Application and Potential Use (Elderly, Obesity, Brain Injury Criteria, Risk Curves Development, AV etc.)

# Development and Validation of Age-Dependent FE HBMs (35 Year, 55 Year and 75 Year Old)

## Geometrical Changes with Age

- Kent et al. (2005) reported the following relation between the rib inclinations and age (with the ribs becoming more perpendicular to the spine as age increases): 161 sample; 18y-89y in sagittal plane

$$\text{Rib Angle (degrees)} = 0.0811 \text{ Age (years)} + 48.962$$

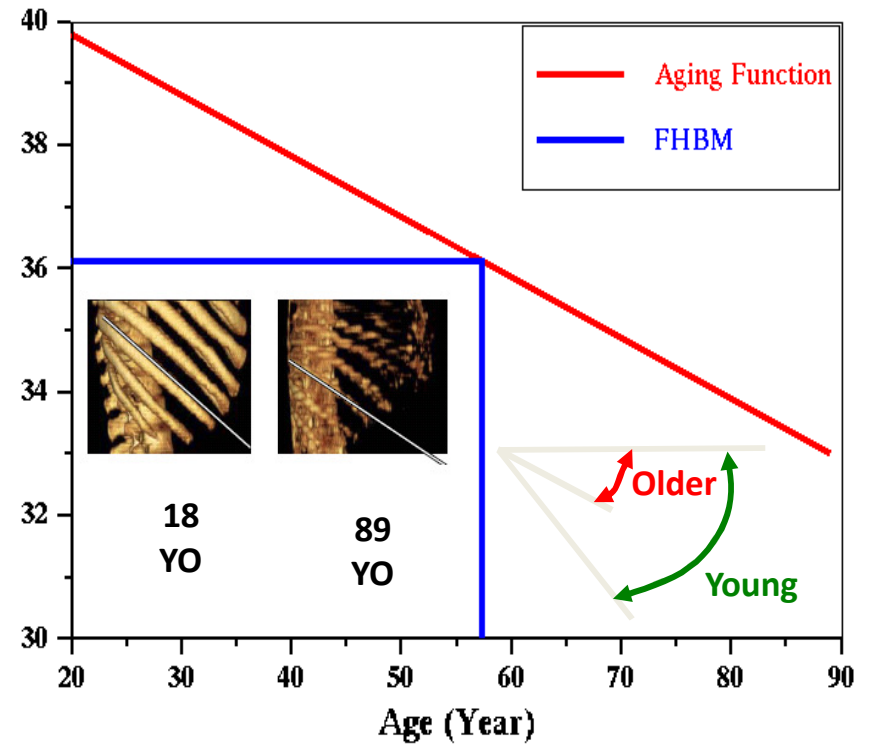
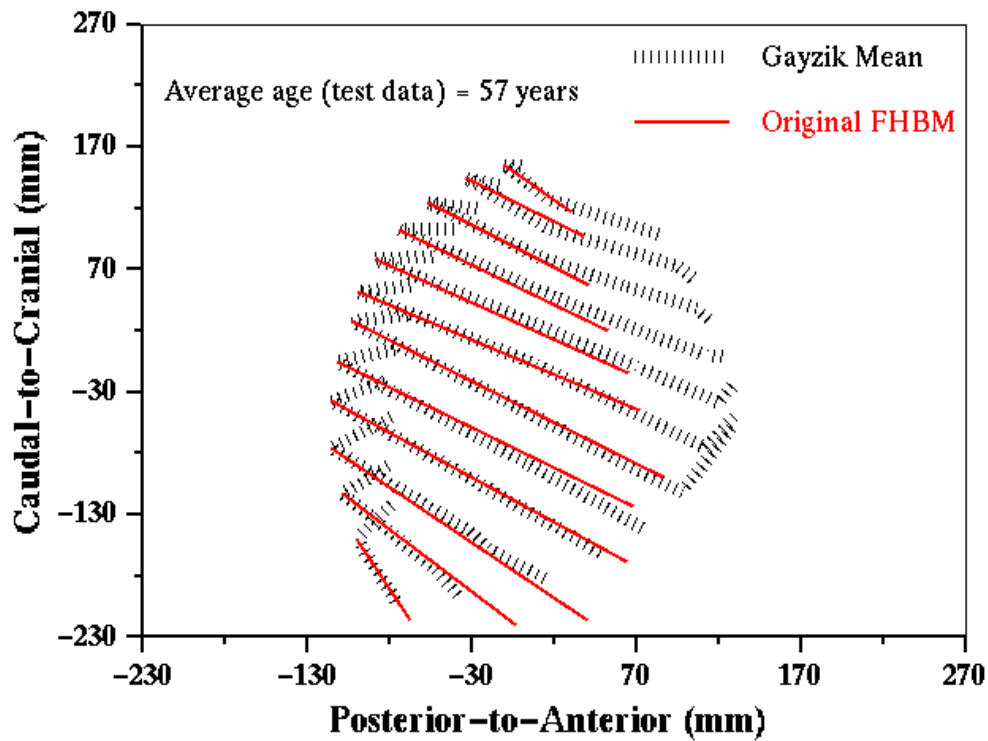
- Stein and Granik (1976) derived the following equation of the change in cortical rib area with age:

$$\text{Rib Cortical Area (mm}^2\text{)} = 32.9 - 0.19 \text{ Age (years)}$$

- Ruff and Hayes (1988) reported a 0.35% annual decrease in the cortical bone thickness of the femur.

# Rib Inclinations Using 63 Subjects (Gayzik et al.)

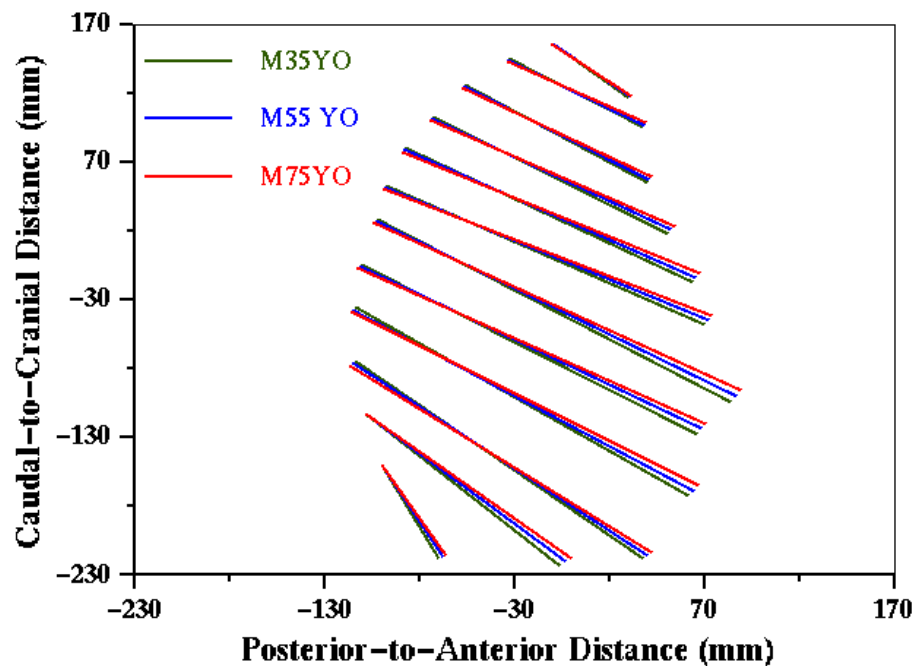
# Ninth Rib Angle Changing Function (Kent et al.)



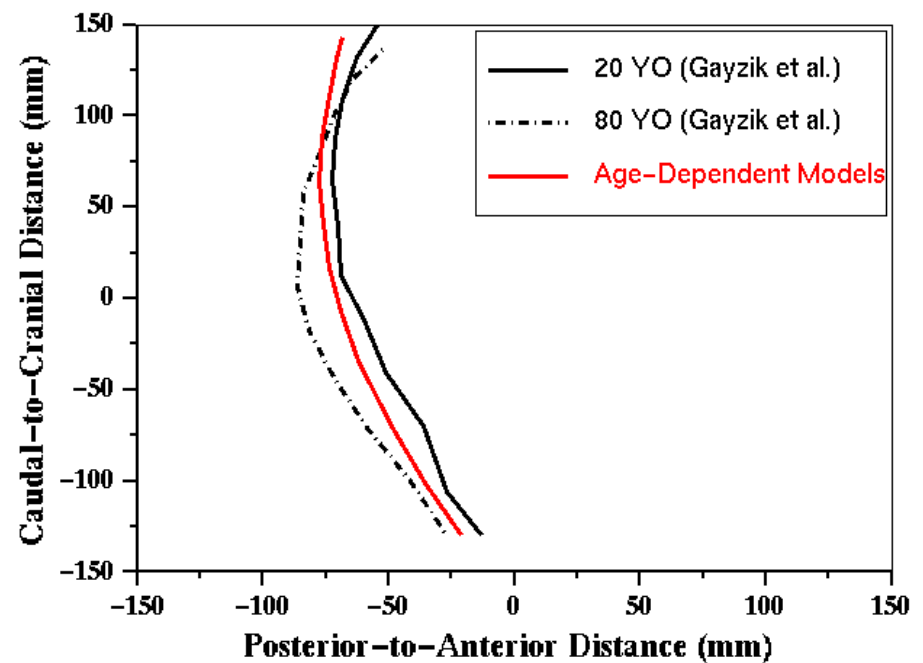
# Geometrical Changes

- The following geometrical changes were made to the original FHB model to develop the 35- and 75- year old models:
- The rib inclinations were changed following Kent et al. rib angle and age relation.
- The rib cortical shell areas were changed based on Stein and Granik relation.
- The cortical shell thickness of all long bones were changed based on Ruff and Hayes criterion.

## Rib Inclinations



## Spine Curvature

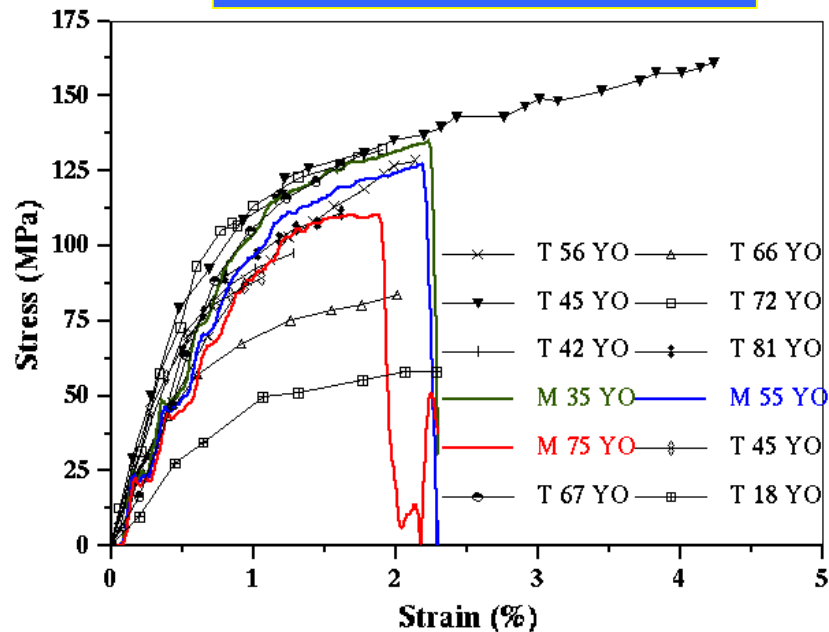


# Structural Changes

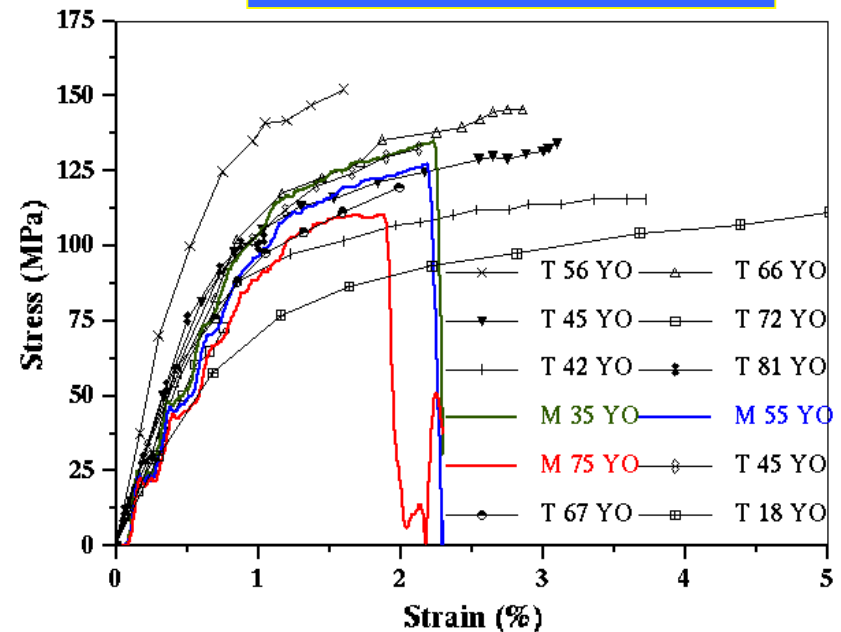
- The following structural changes were made to the original Ford human body model to develop the age-dependent models:
- The modulus of elasticity, UTS, and yield stress of all bones and ribs were changed following Dokko's aging function.
- The same parameters of the skin were changed following Yamada's aging function.
- The bulk moduli of the flesh and intercostal muscles were changed following Yamada's aging function.

## Cortical Rib Tension Test (Kemper et al.)

### Anterior Location



### Lateral Location



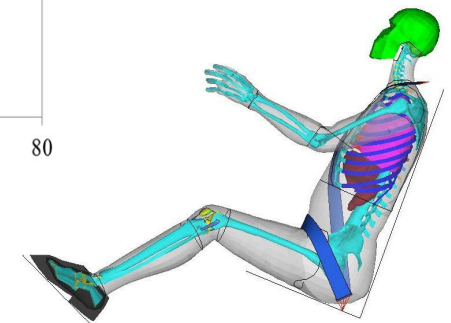
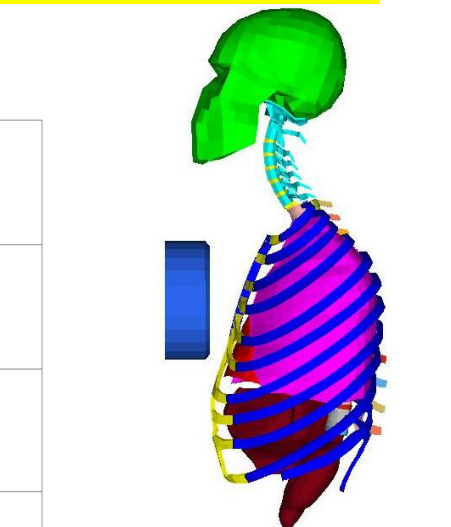
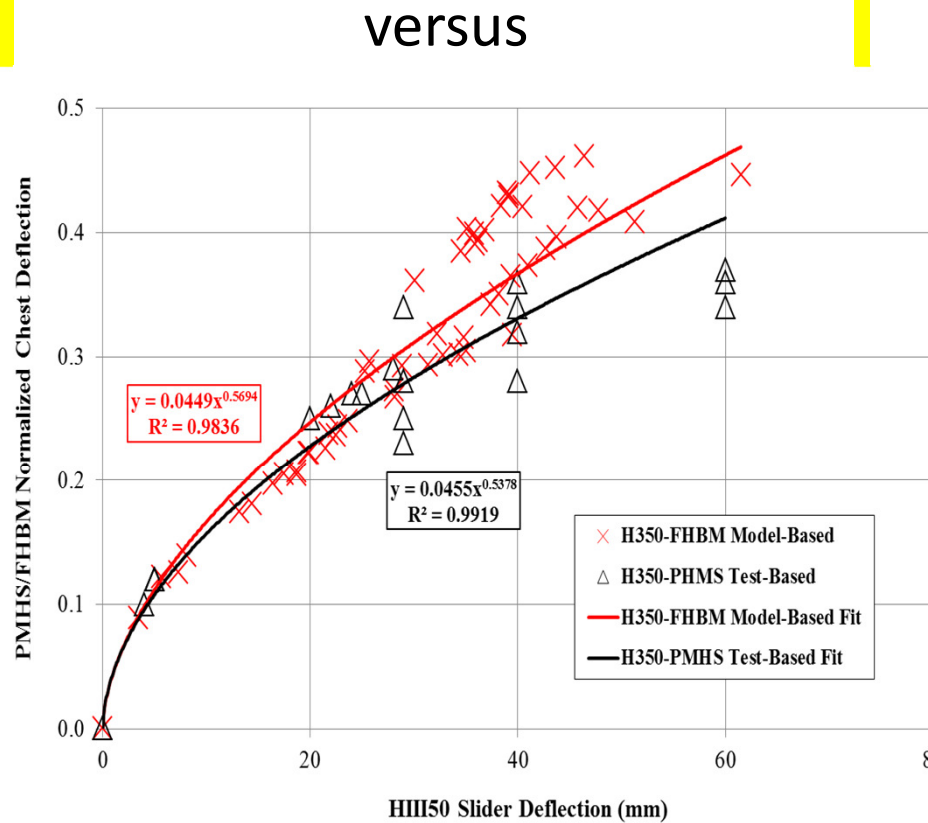
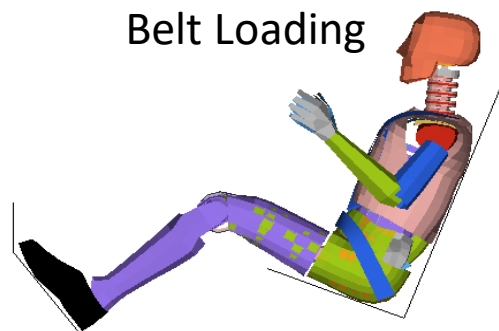
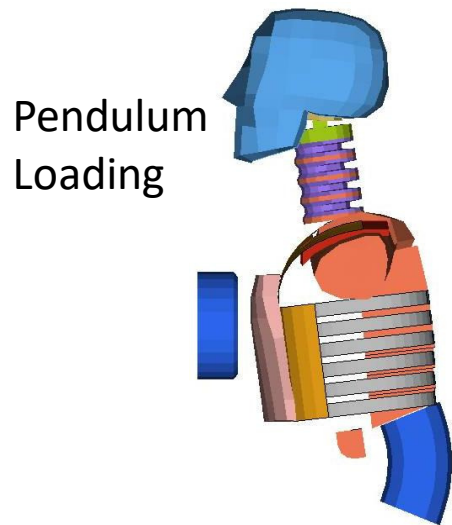


# A "Closure Model" via Matched Simulations for Generating Thoracic Risk Curves

Test Dummy (HIII50)

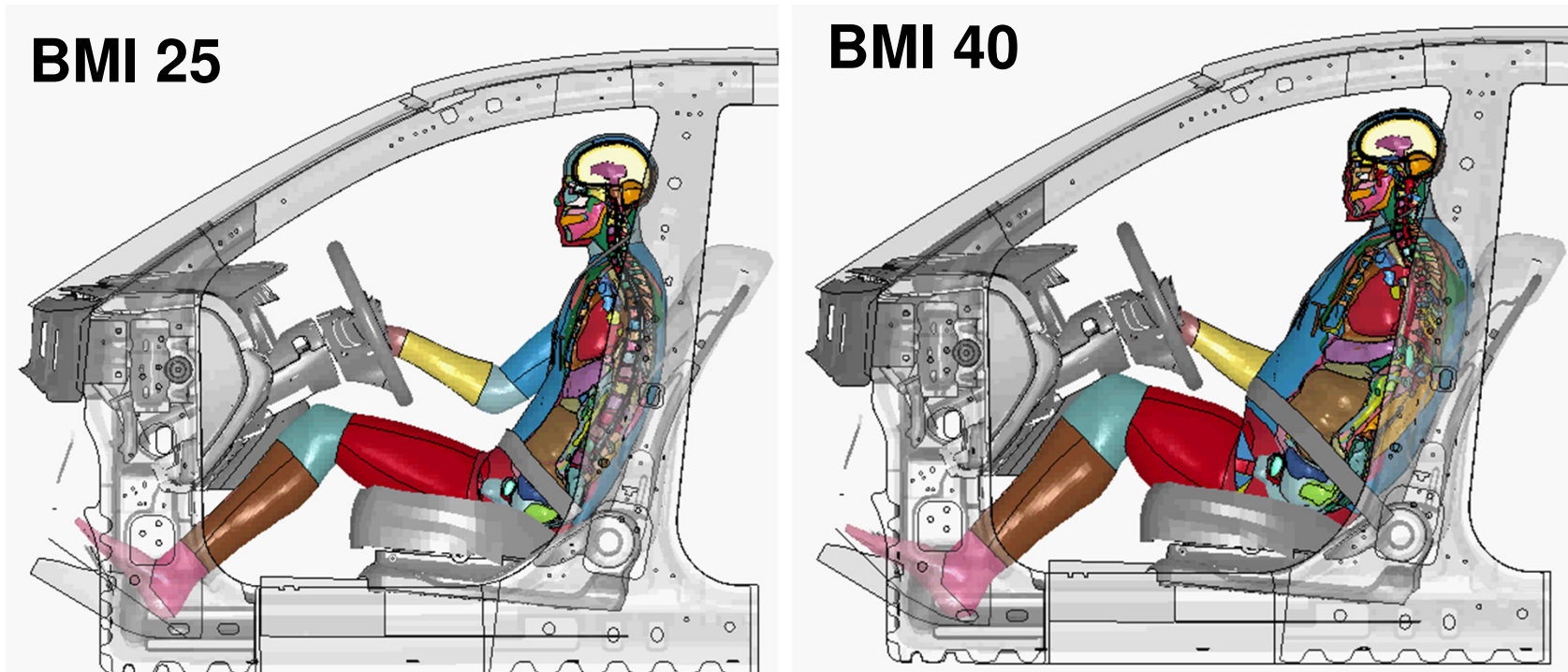
Closure Equation Derivation, Chest deflection

Mid-size Male Human (3 ages)



versus

# Parametric Study on Obesity



Source: Ford/UMTRI Jointed Research



**Trunk volume would be a better definition of obesity for automotive environment**

- Propose new definition for OBESITY based on sitting configuration
- Identify adult Obese population representative Posture and Weight
- To help develop a single adult Obese HBM for restraint evaluation
- To help develop future Obese crash dummy

# Selecting an Appropriate Database

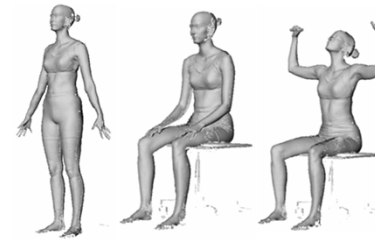
## NHANES

- The **National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)** is a program of studies designed to assess the and nutritional status of adults and children in the United States and to track changes over time. The results shown are for ~20,000 male subject age 18 and older, 1999-2012

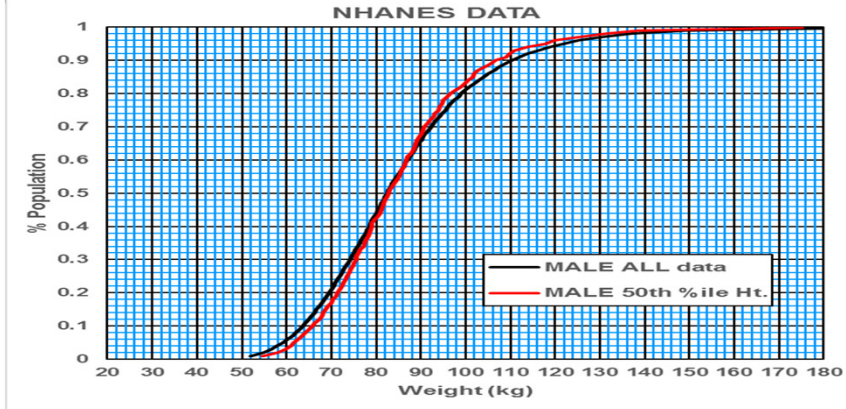
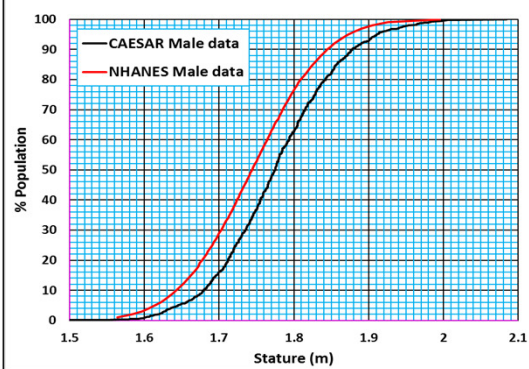
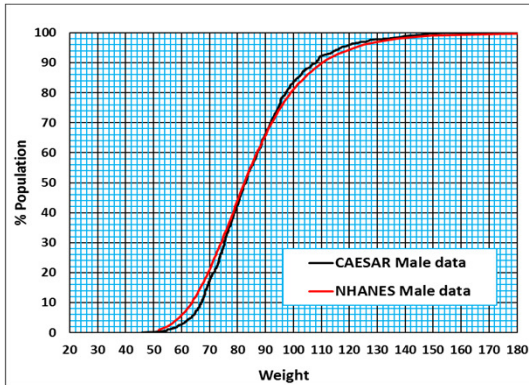
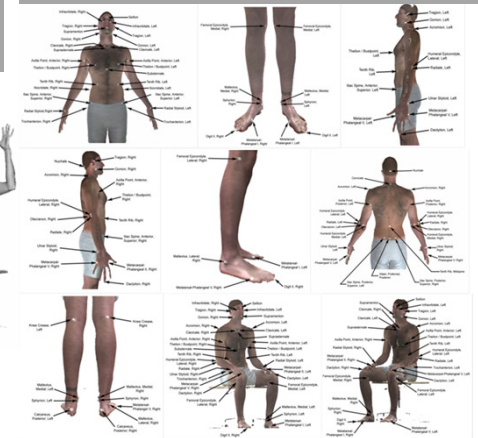
## CAESAR

- The **Civilian American and European Surface Anthropometry Resource (CAESAR)** project was conducted between 1998-2001. Data represented 2,400 *North American* male and female subjects of age 18-65 at 12 Regional Data Collection Sites

Individuals scan data in three different poses

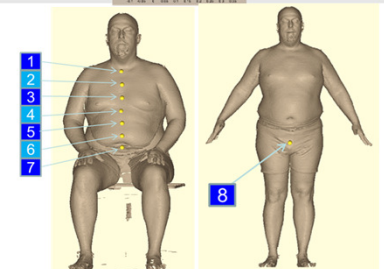


Number of landmark data



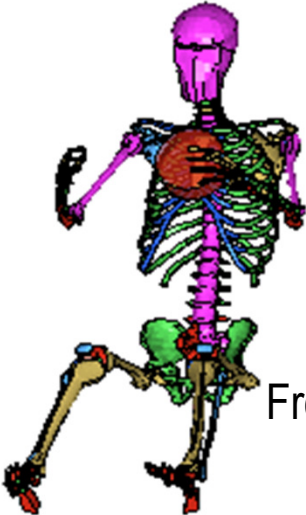
Section	Curve	Example
1	Hyper Ellipse	<p>Y Distance (m)</p> <p>Actual Section Hyper Ellipse Fit</p> <p>Forward</p>
2		
3		
4		
5	Modified Bean	<p>Actual Section Bean Curve Fit</p> <p>Forward</p> <p>Note: Sections are assumed to be mirrored over x-axis so only +Y values are shown and fitted.</p>
6		
7		
8	Ellipse	<p>Forward</p>

For this study, focus was on :  
**Male 50<sup>th</sup> Stature – 1.77 m;**  
**95<sup>th</sup> %ile weight – 118 kg**

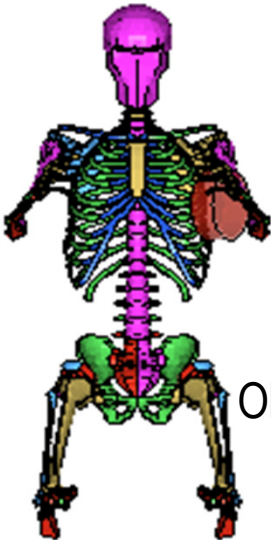




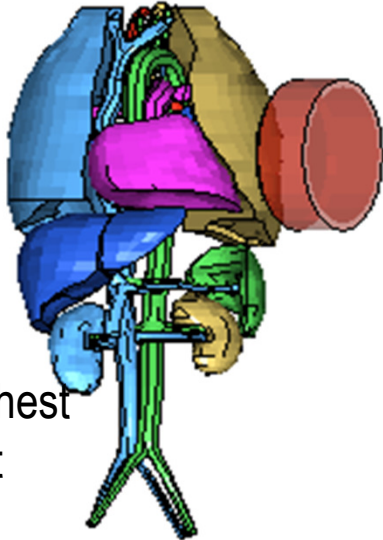
# Blunt Impact Test Simulations



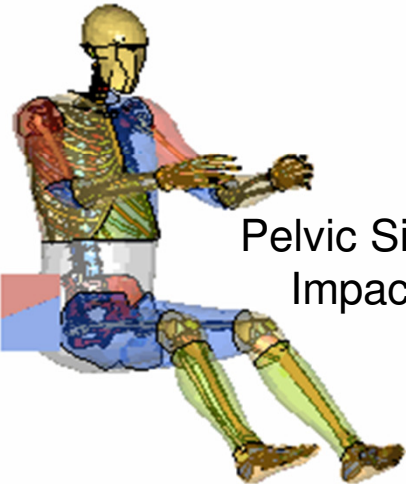
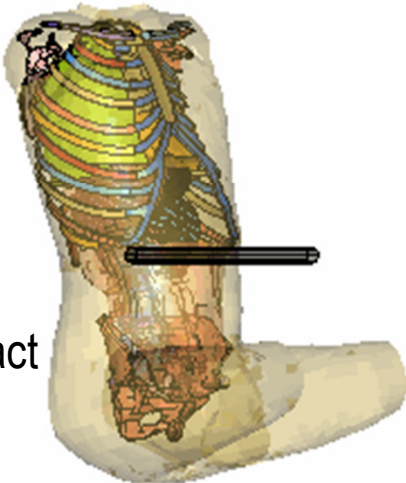
Frontal Chest Impact



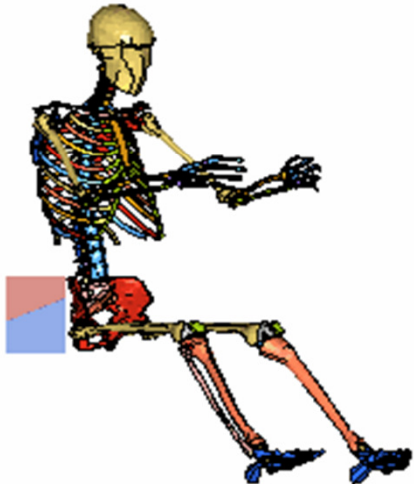
Oblique Chest Impact



Frontal Abdominal Rigid Bar Impact

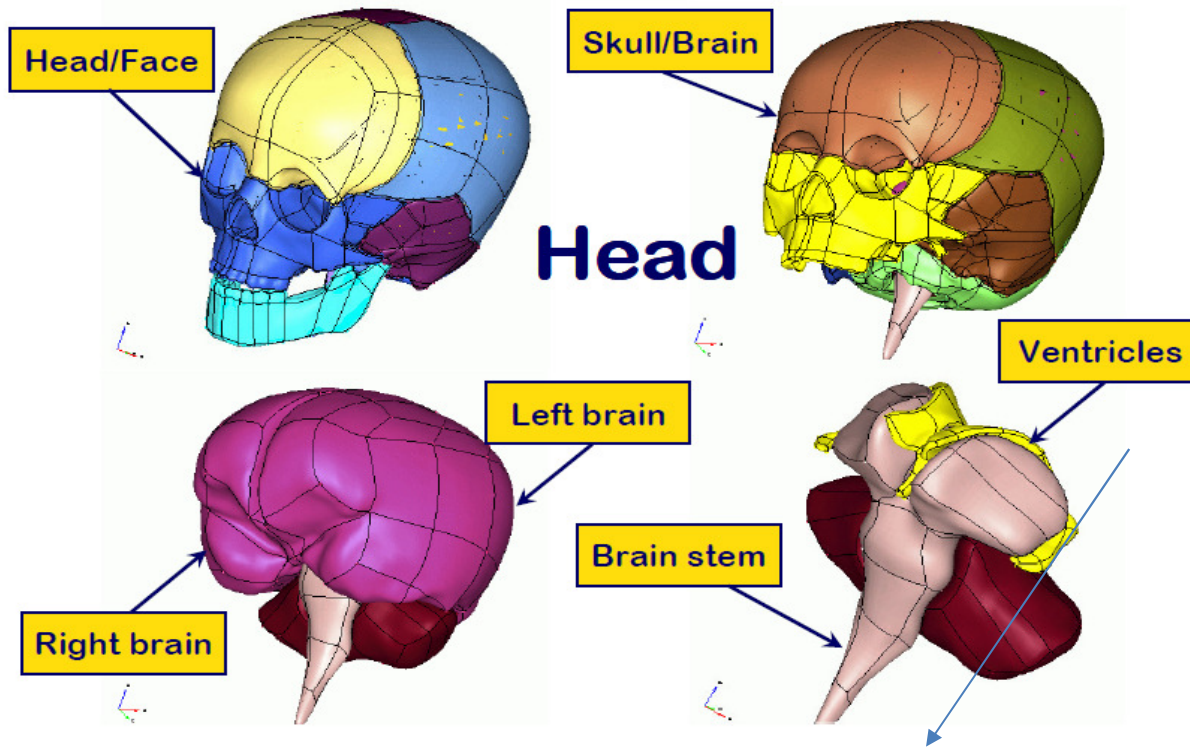


Pelvic Side Impact



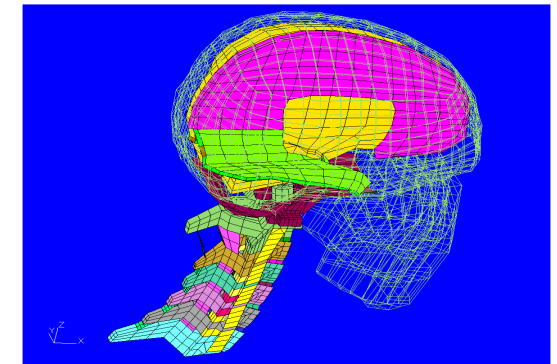
# Human Head/Brain & Neck Models

## Six-year Old Child Human Body Modeling

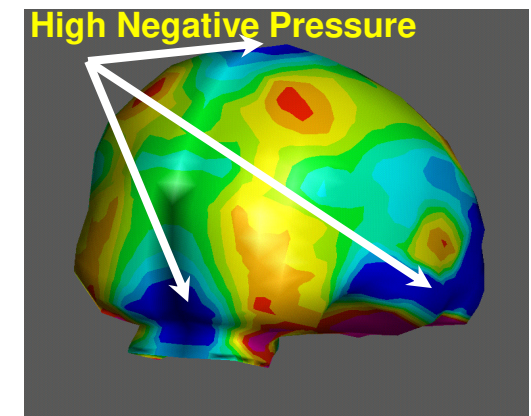


No scaling of mass and / or geometry

## 6-Year Old Head/Brain Model



## Adult Head/Neck Model



## Pressure of the Brain Adult Head/Brain Model

# Fracture Modeling Inputs for a Human Body Model via Inference:

## *Application for Skull Fracture Potential*

- An FE-based failure model should be validated relative to tests
- involving **post mortem human subjects (PMHS)**.
- However, such validations present challenges because,
  - Local fracture stress and fracture strain are not often measured in PMHS tests, and
  - When test-based fracture data are reported, they often demonstrate considerable variability.
- Yet, in separate analyses, analysts implicitly incorporate variability
- when deriving a **“risk curve”** — a function which relates a predictor variable to an injury probability.

# Outline



Example application:  
**Skull fracture potential**

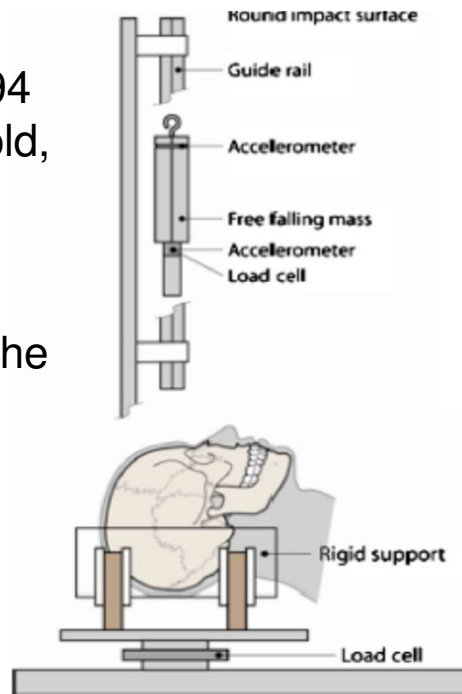
- A four-step process was developed to quantify failure criteria for a human body model:
  - Step 1: A “reference risk curve” was derived from a test-based cadaver dataset involving a specific test setup.
  - Step 2: Models of the test setup were generated, *subject to assumed failure criteria*, to produce the experimentally-observed spread of the response criteria used for the reference risk curve.
  - Step 3: The model-based outcomes were analyzed subject to the same statistical approach applied in Step 1.
  - Step 4: Iteration was applied on the failure criteria until the model-based risk curve approximated the test-based risk curve (i.e., the reference).

# Step 1: Reference Risk Curve

- We considered a PMHS dataset (n=46) developed by Cormier et al. (2011).

## PMHS Details:

- All test subjects were **men**.
- The age range was 41- 94 yrs old, (Average =72 yrs old, std dev = 16).
- Height and weight were measured for nearly all of the cases.
- Details such as head circumference were not reported.



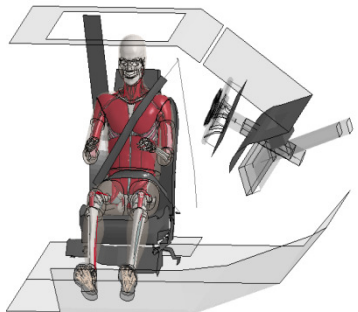
Cormier et al. (2011)

## Test Details:

- The test involved **dynamic loading** (speed range = 1.6 – 5.7 m/s).
- The head was **rigidly supported**.
- Contact was to the **frontal bone** (either left or right aspect) via a **rigid impactor**.
- Load time history was measured via a load cell, and **peak force** was estimated.
- Acoustic emission sensors were used to estimate the time of fracture and a corresponding **"fracture force."**



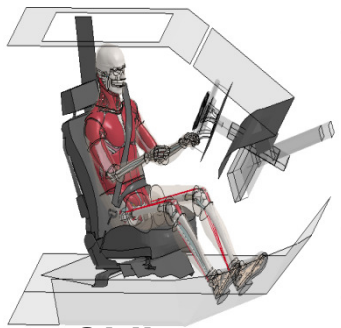
# AVs Regulatory, Flexible Interior Use Cases and Safety Challenges



*Lateral*



*Reclined*



*Oblique*

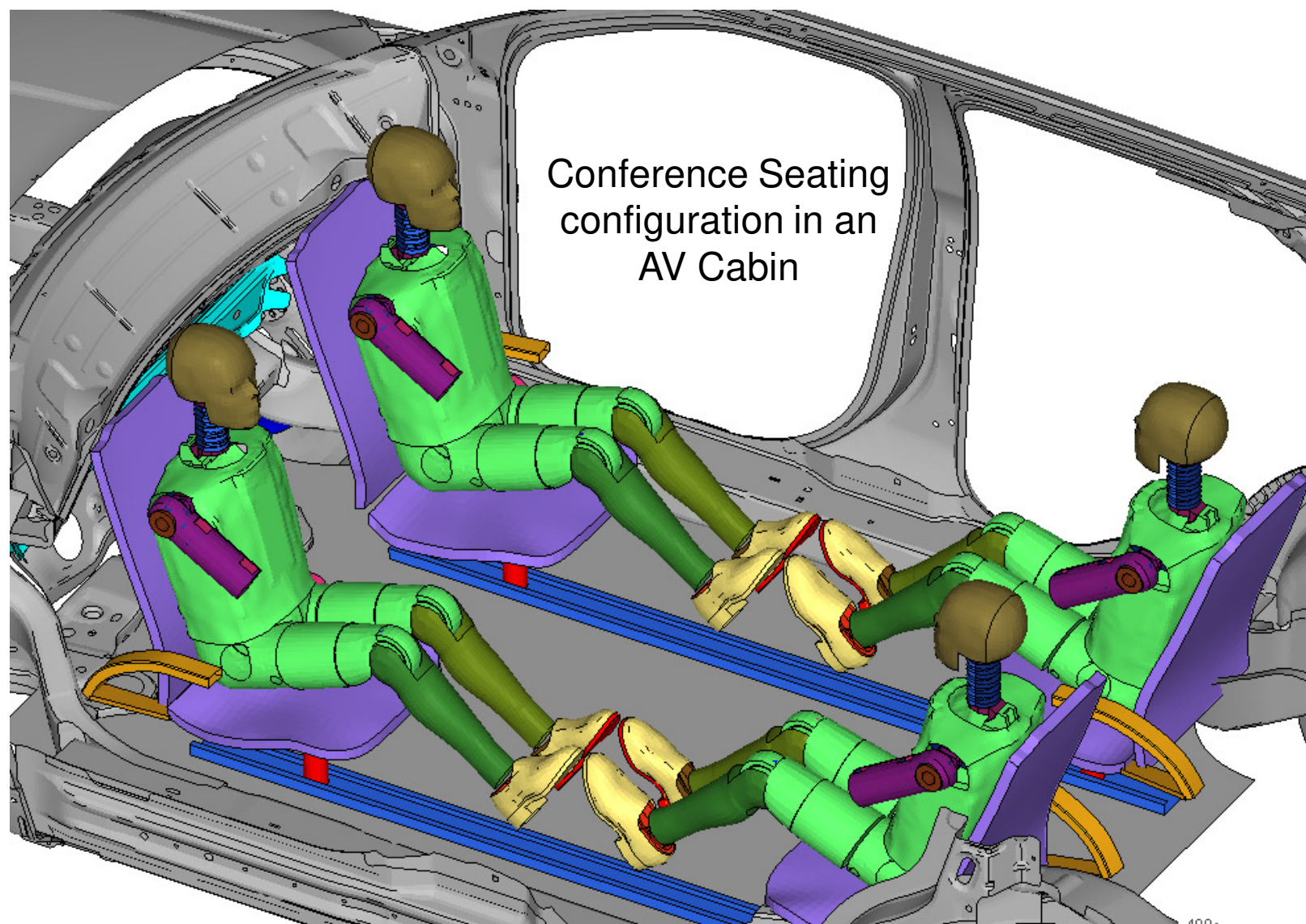


*Reverse*

- **Applicability of current Safety Standards (FMVSS)**
- **Development of New AV Safety Standards**
- **Biomechanics investigations of flexible seating confi**
- **Monitoring occupant behaviors during driving:**
  - **Dynamic position & posture estimation/tracking**
  - **Vision Based Driver State Monitor Technologies**
  - **High accuracy in-cabin vision systems**
- **Sensing technologies for occupant detection and identification**
- **Innovations in restraint and seats adaptivity**
- **Cybersecurity and privacy**
- **Integrated safety technologies**
- **others**



# Rear-Facing Occupants in Generic AV Environment

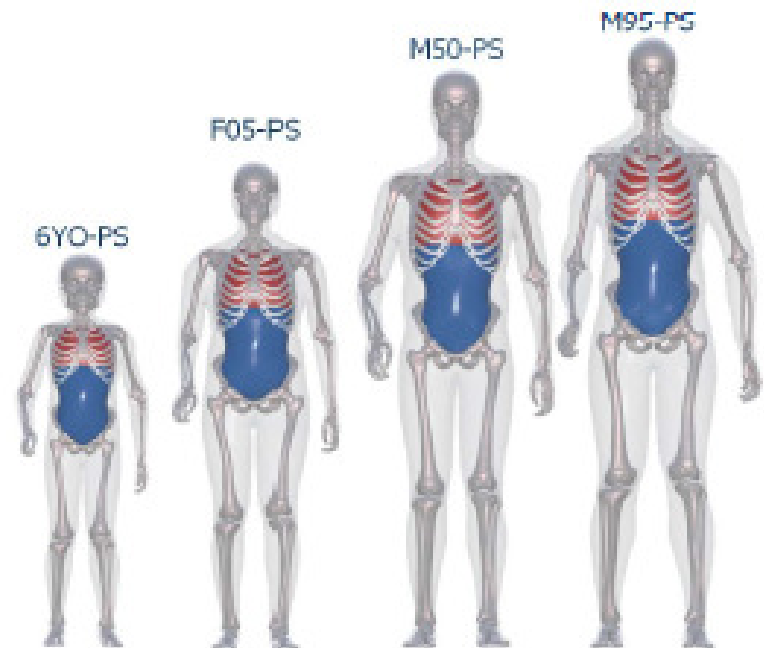
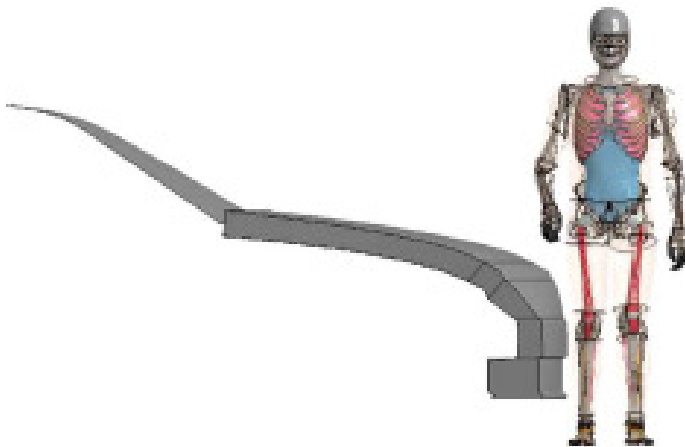


# Euro\_NCAP Electronic Certification for Active Devices in Pedestrian Impact

## Digital Certification

### Pedestrian Models in EuroNCAP

- What potential pedestrian would be hardest to detect in a strike?
- Where will the head strike?
- Evaluation of active bonnet systems in new cars



**Thank You**  
**Q?**