Analysis of Textile Filter Media and Simulation of Filtration Processes Based on µCT Scans

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How can simulations help to improve a filter?

Step 1: Understand the existing filter material

- CT Scan
- Simulations on CT Scan

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- Analyze CT Scan
- Create structure model
- Simulations on Structure model

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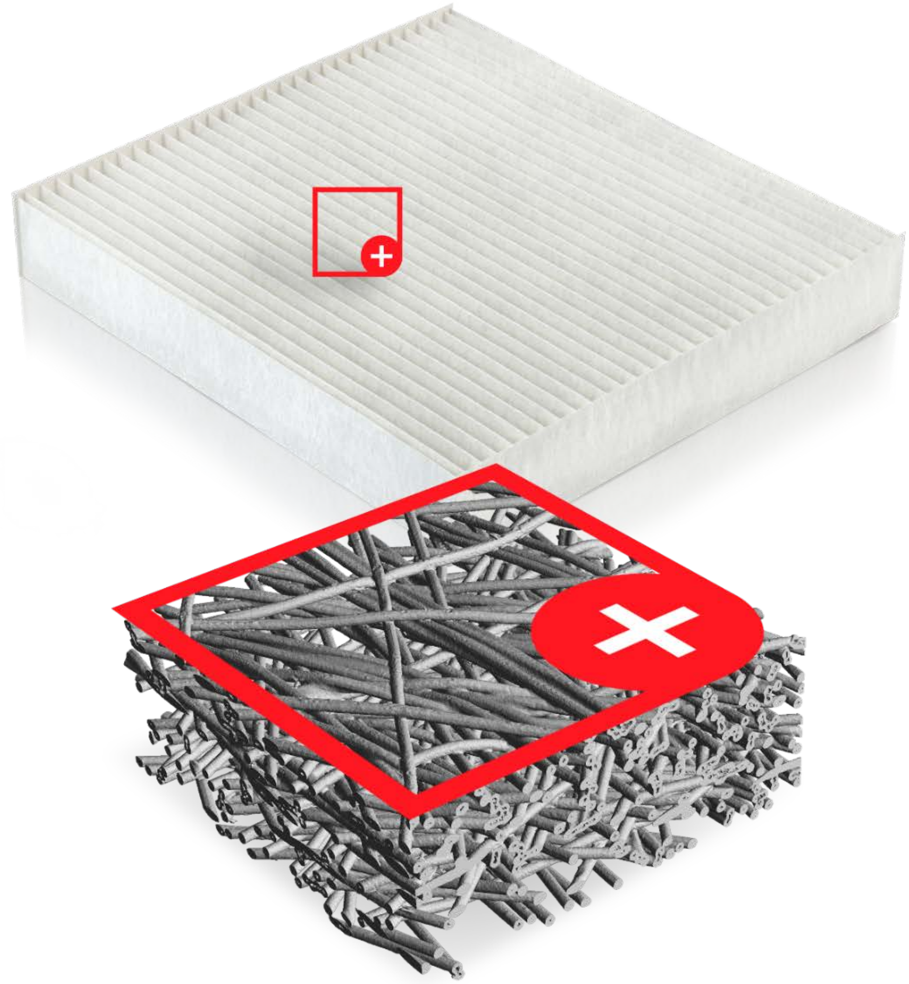
Step 3: Modify the structure model

Sample Structure: Cabin Air Filter



- Commercially available filter
- CT scan by service provider RJL Micro&Analytic

Step 1:

Understand the existing filter material

Determine Flow Rate or Pressure Drop

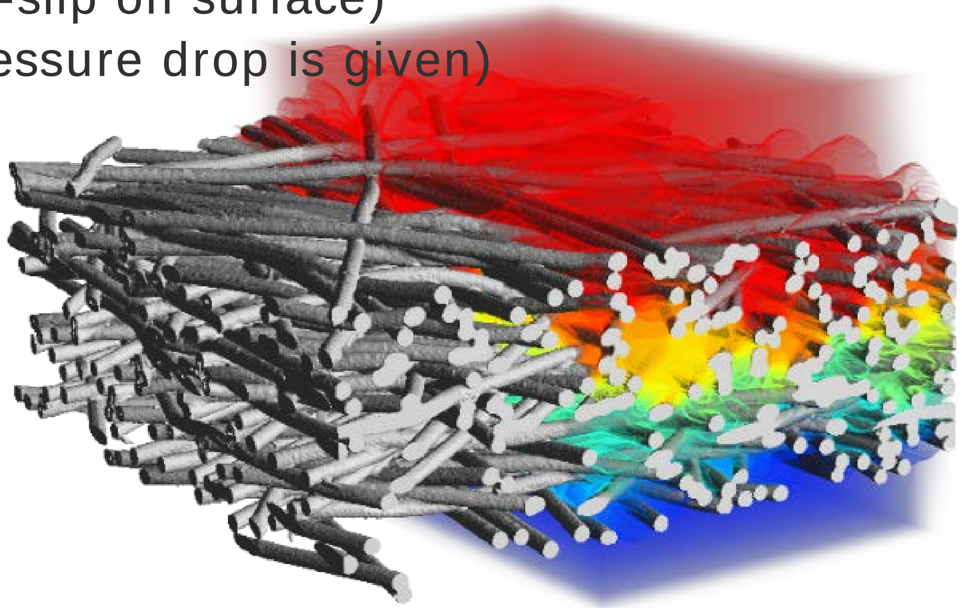
Stationary Navier-Stokes flow:

$-\mu\Delta\vec{u} + \rho(\vec{u}\cdot\nabla)\vec{u} + \nabla p = 0$ (momentum balance)

$\nabla\cdot\vec{u} = 0$ (mass conservation)

$\vec{u} = 0$ on Γ (no-slip on surface)

$P_{in} = P_{out} + const$ (pressure drop is given)



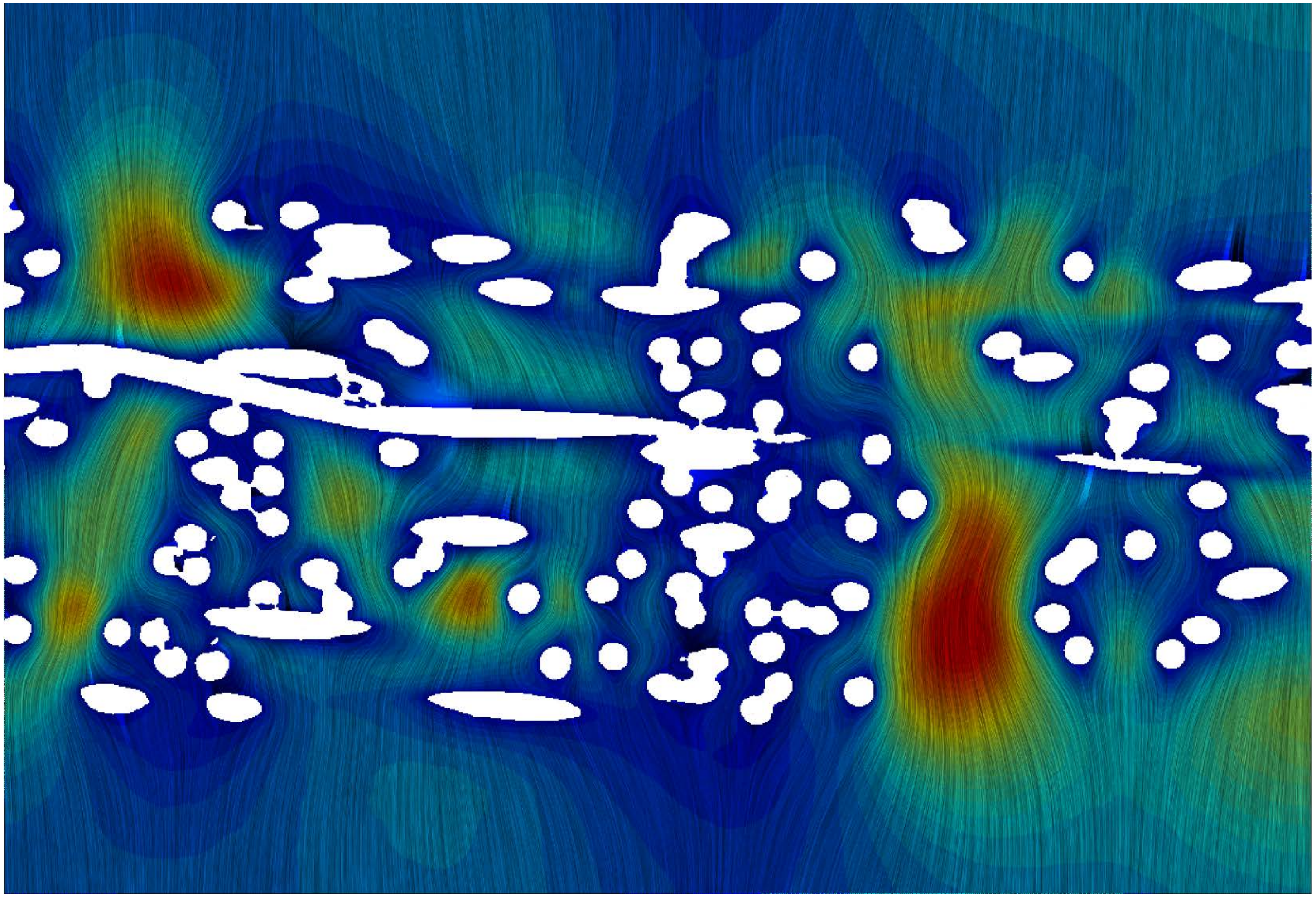
$\vec{u}$: velocity

p: pressure

μ: dynamic viscosity

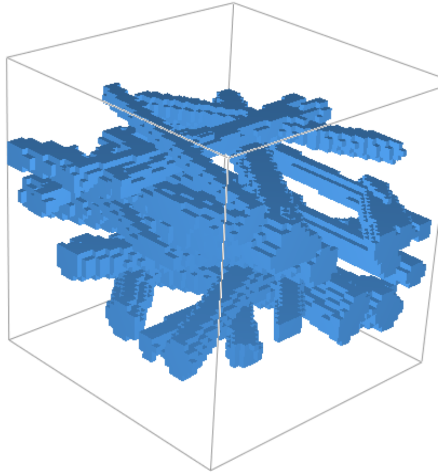
ρ: fluid density

Result for Clean Cabin Air Filter Media (Flat Sheet): Pressure drop of 7.35 Pa at 0.1 m/s mean velocity



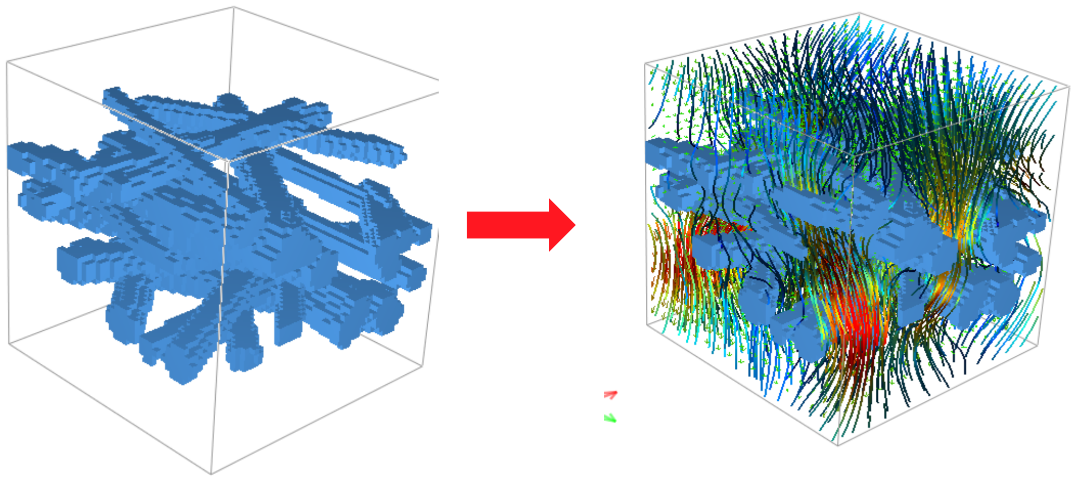
Efficiency of Clean Filter Media: Method

1. Filter media model



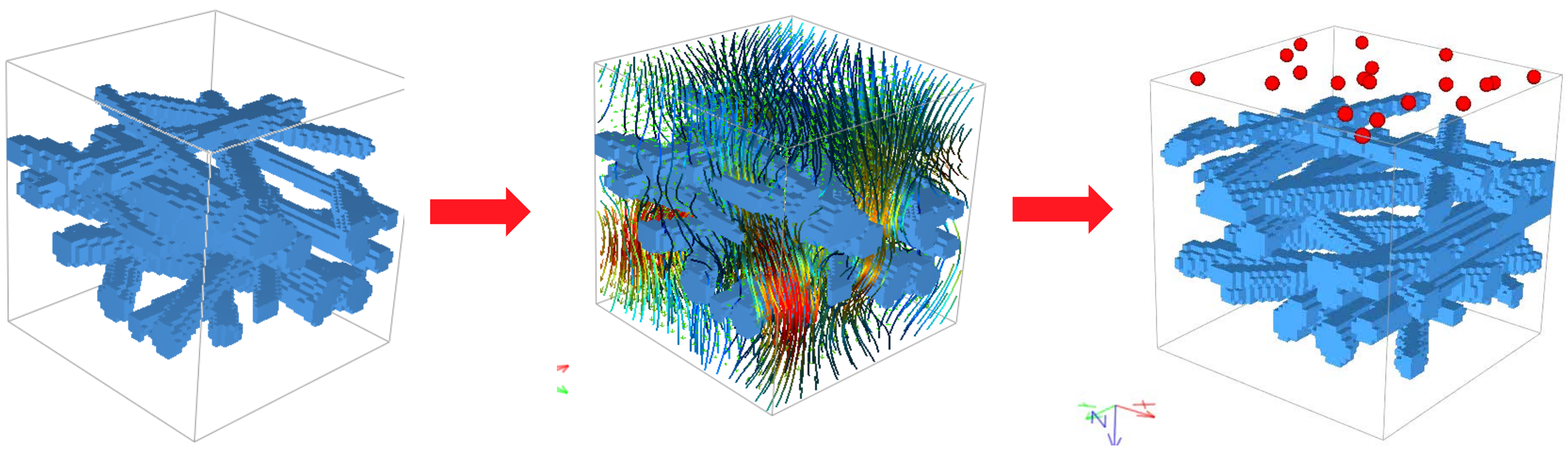
Efficiency of Clean Filter Media: Method

1. Filter media model
2. Determine flow field



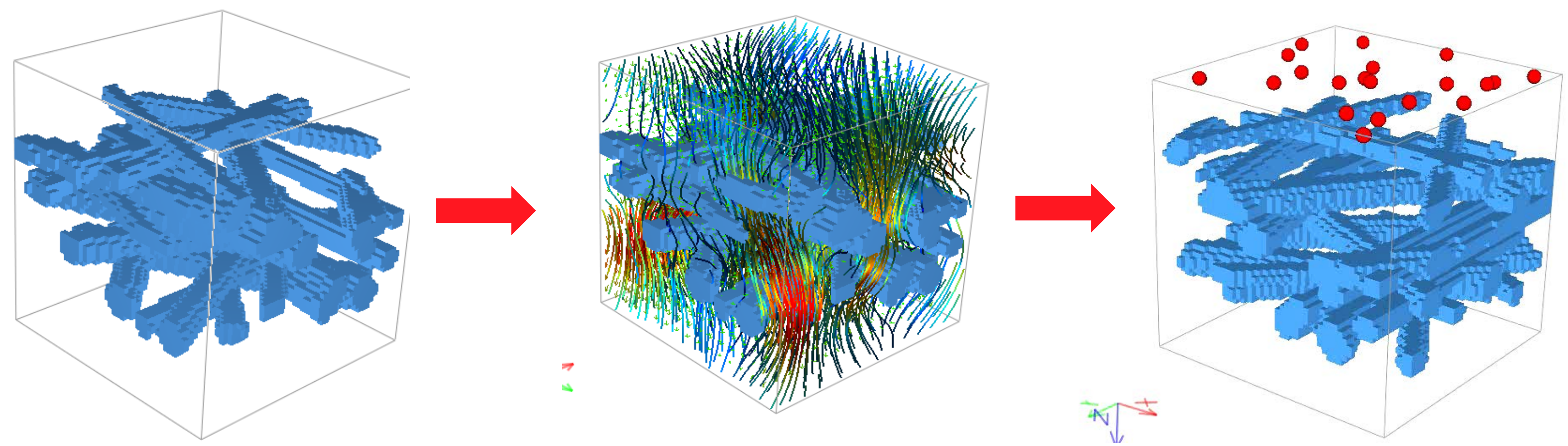
Efficiency of Clean Filter Media: Method

1. Filter media model
2. Determine flow field
3. Track particles (filtered or not?)



Efficiency of Clean Filter Media: Method

1. Filter media model
2. Determine flow field
3. Track particles (filtered or not?)
4. Result: percentage of filtered particles of each size



Movement of Particles in a Flow Field: Balance of Forces Equation

Impulse — Stokes Drag — Electrostatic Force

$$m\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = 6\pi\mu\frac{R}{C_c}\left(\vec{u}-\vec{v}+\sqrt{2D}\frac{d\overrightarrow{W}(t)}{dt}\right) + Q\vec{E}$$

$\vec{v}$	: particle velocity [m/s]	μ	: dynamic viscosity [kg/m·s]
$\vec{u}$	: fluid velocity [m/s]	Q	: particle charge [C]
R	: particle radius [m]	E	: electric field [V/m]
C_c	: Cunningham correction	D	: Diffusivity [m²/s]
m	: particle mass [kg]	$d\overrightarrow{W}$	: 3D Wiener process

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Cunningham Corrected Particle Radius

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Impulse | Stokes Drag | Electrostatic Force

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Brownian Motion

Cunningham Corrected Particle Radius

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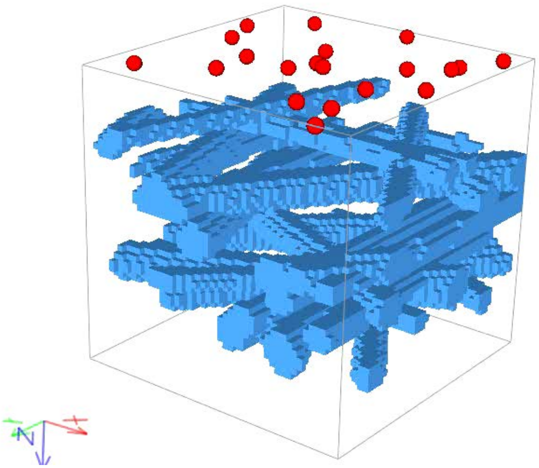
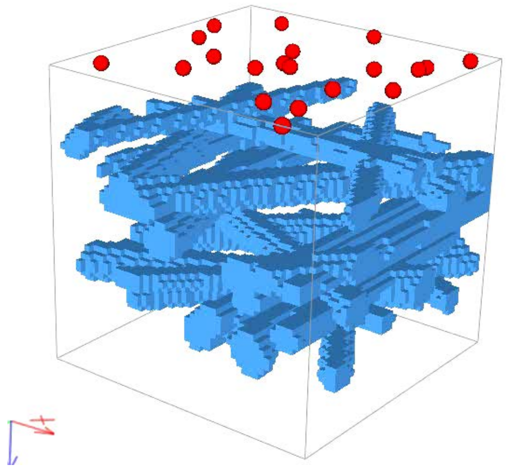
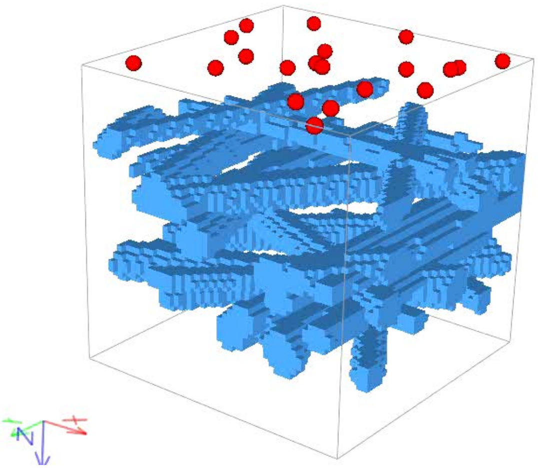
Particle Adhesion Models

What happens when a particle touches a fiber?







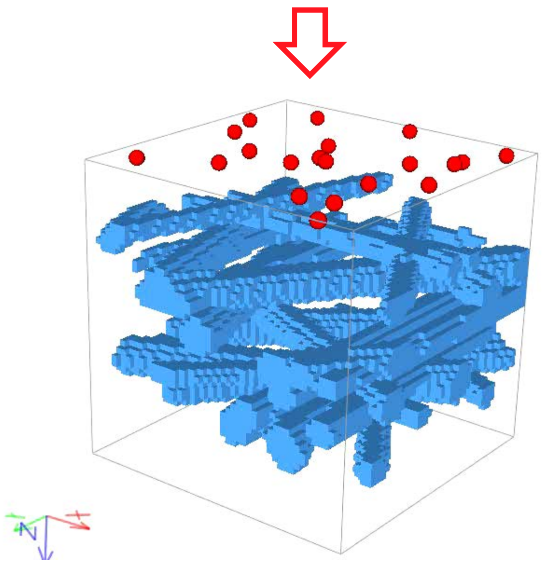
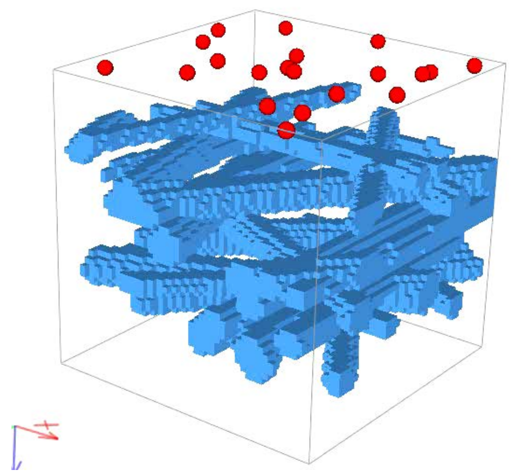
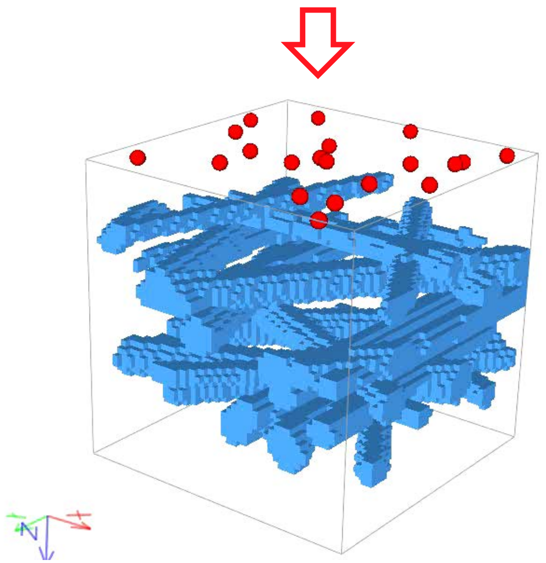
Caught on first touch

Compare Kinetic and Adhesive Forces

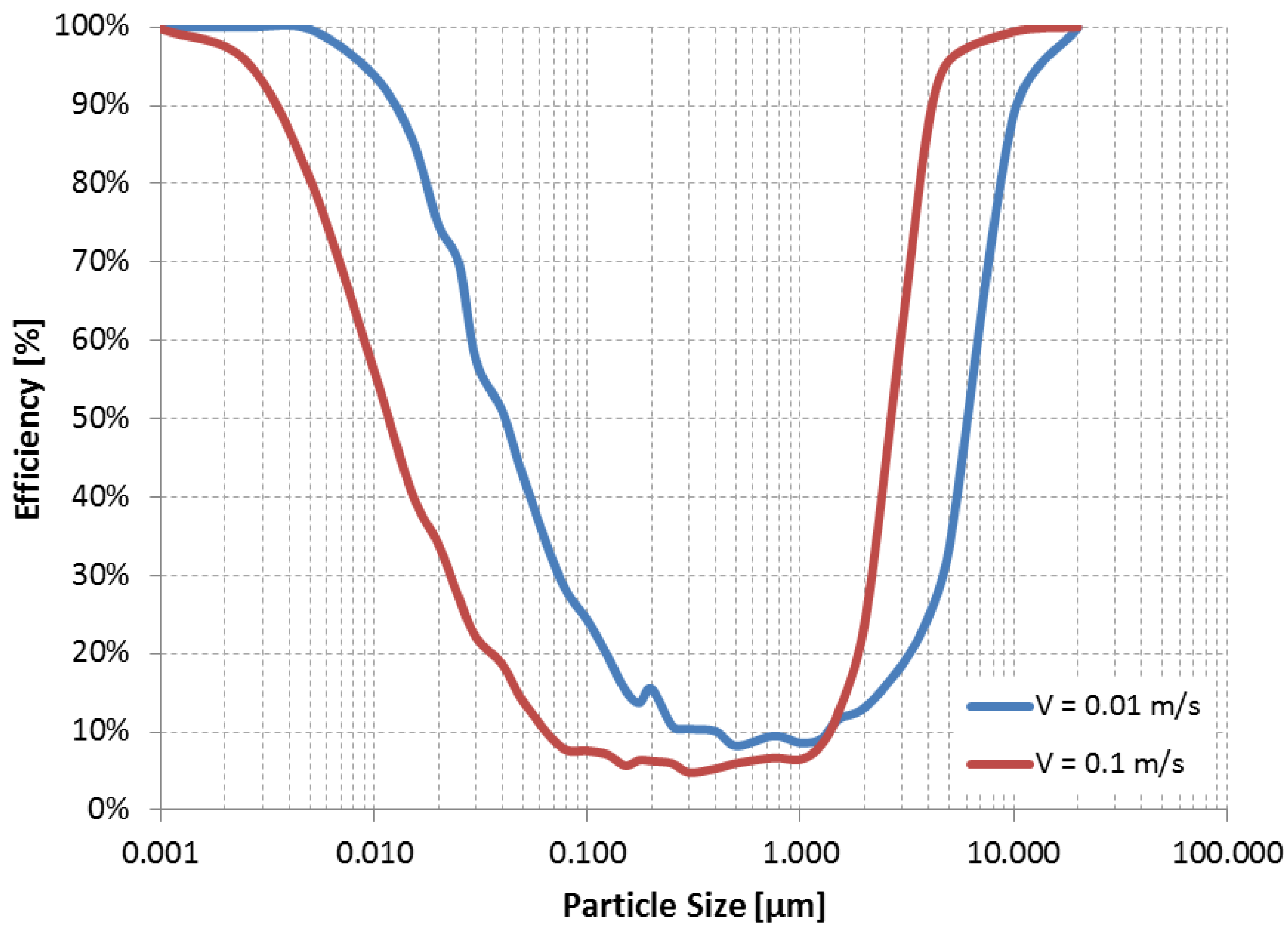
Sieving

Particle Adhesion Models

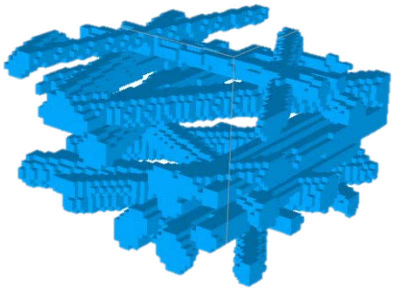
What happens when a particle touches a fiber?

Air Filtration		Oil Filtration
		
Caught on first touch	Compare Kinetic and Adhesive Forces	Sieving

Cabin Air Filter
Fractional Efficiency (w/o Electrostatic Attraction)



Filter Life Time Simulation - Method



1. Filter Model

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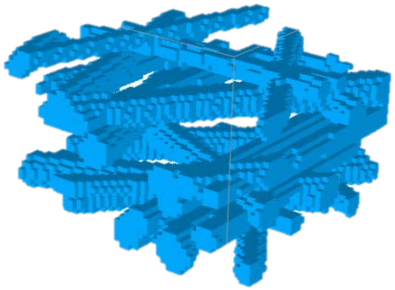

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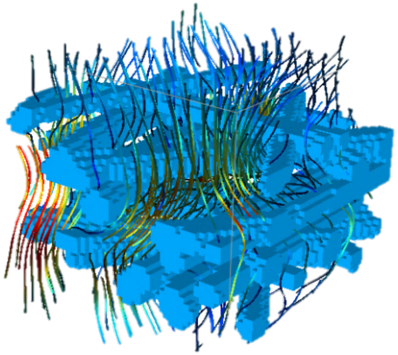
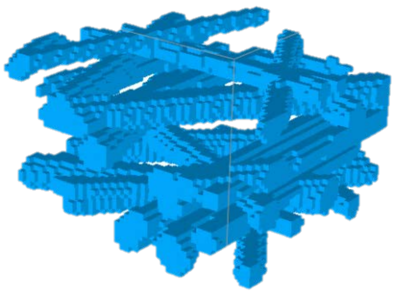


2. Flow Field

Filter Life Time Simulation - Method



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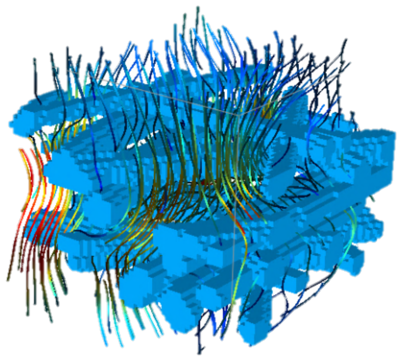

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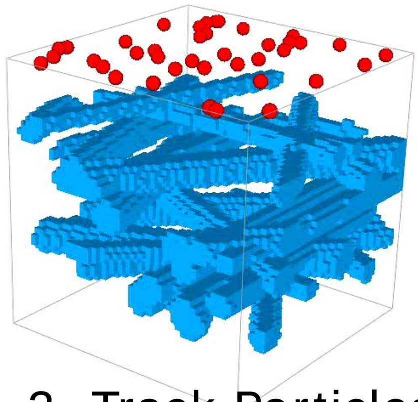
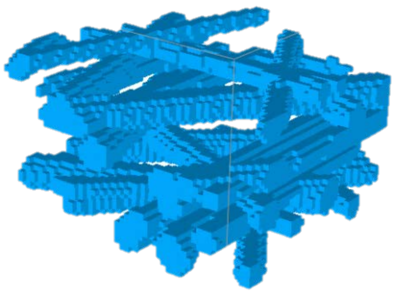


3. Track Particles

Filter Life Time Simulation - Method



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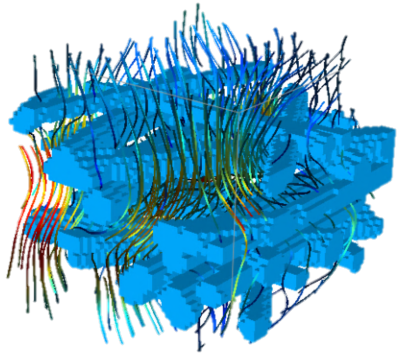

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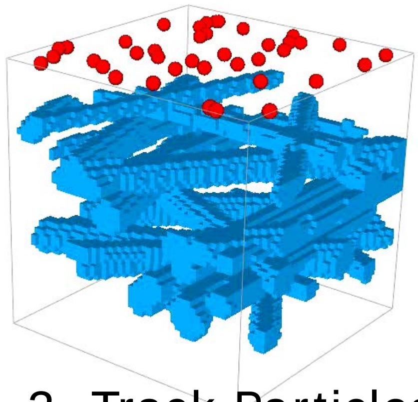

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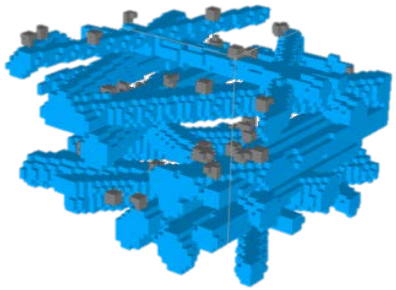
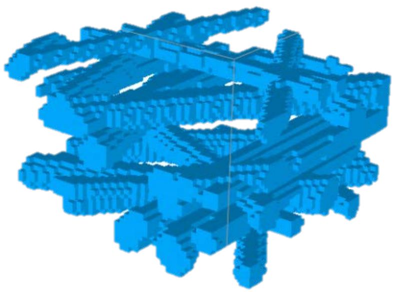


4. Deposit Particles

Filter Life Time Simulation - Method



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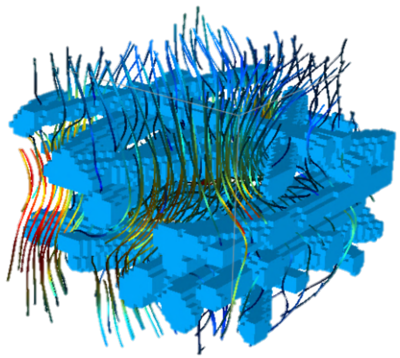

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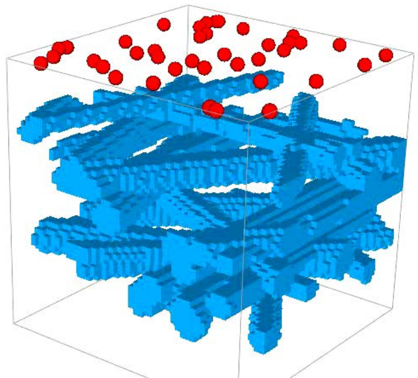

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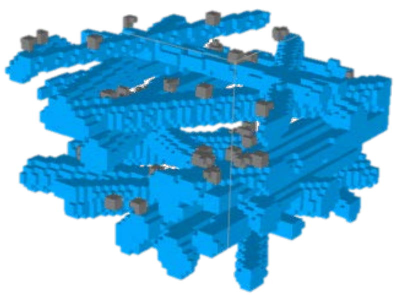

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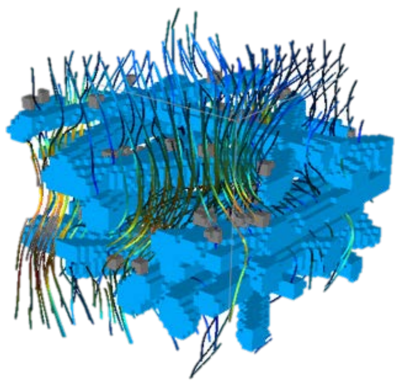
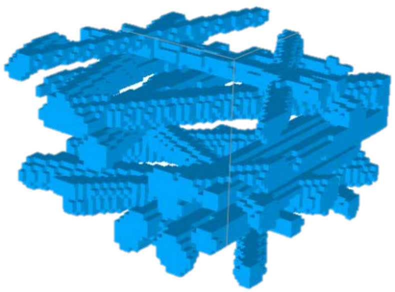


5. Recompute Flow

Filter Life Time Simulation - Method



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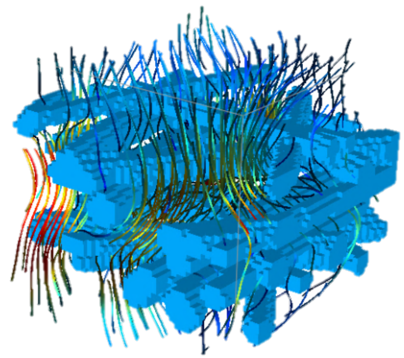

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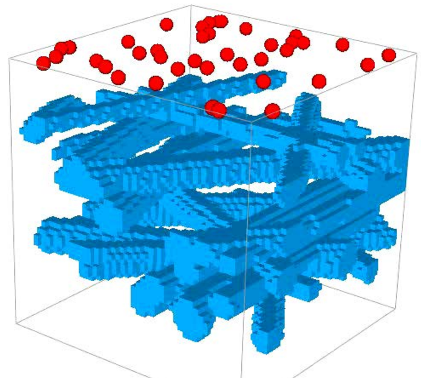

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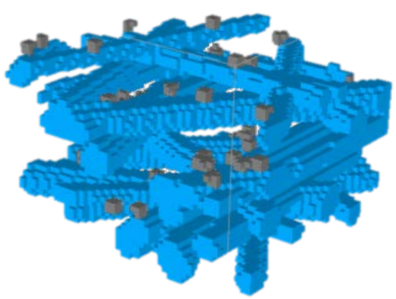

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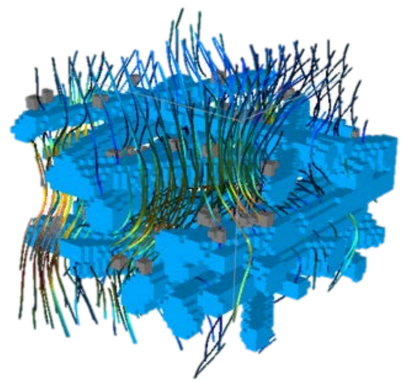

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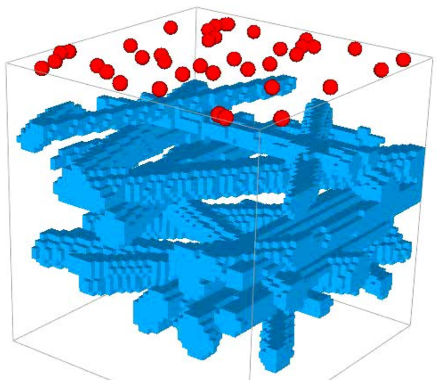
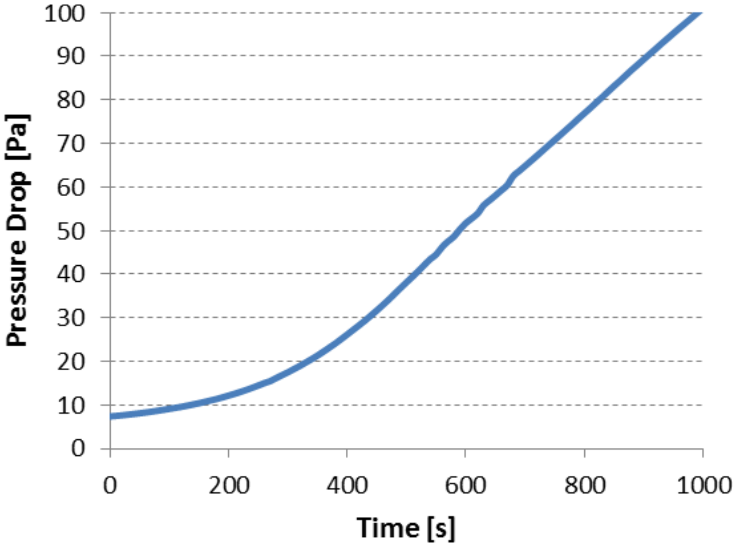
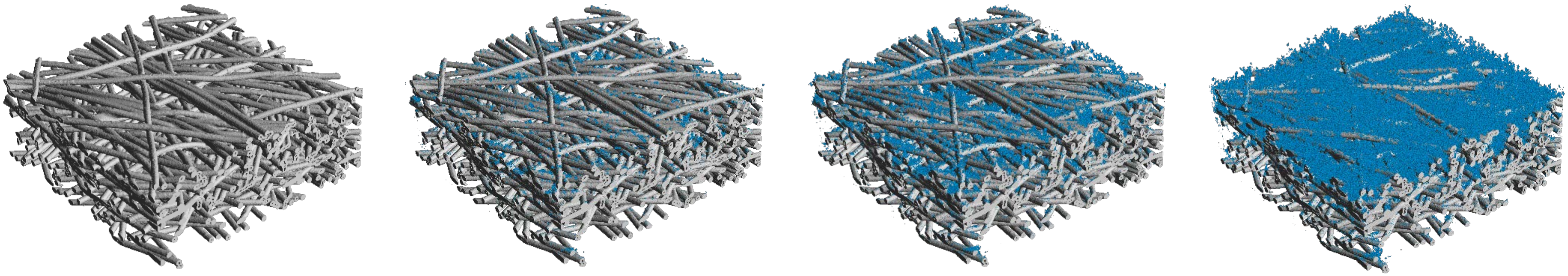


6. Repeat ...

Cabin Air Filter - Life Time Simulation

Initial pressure drop	7 Pa
Pressure drop after 1000s	101 Pa
Total deposited dust after 1000s	93 g/m²
Total filter efficiency	93% (weigth)





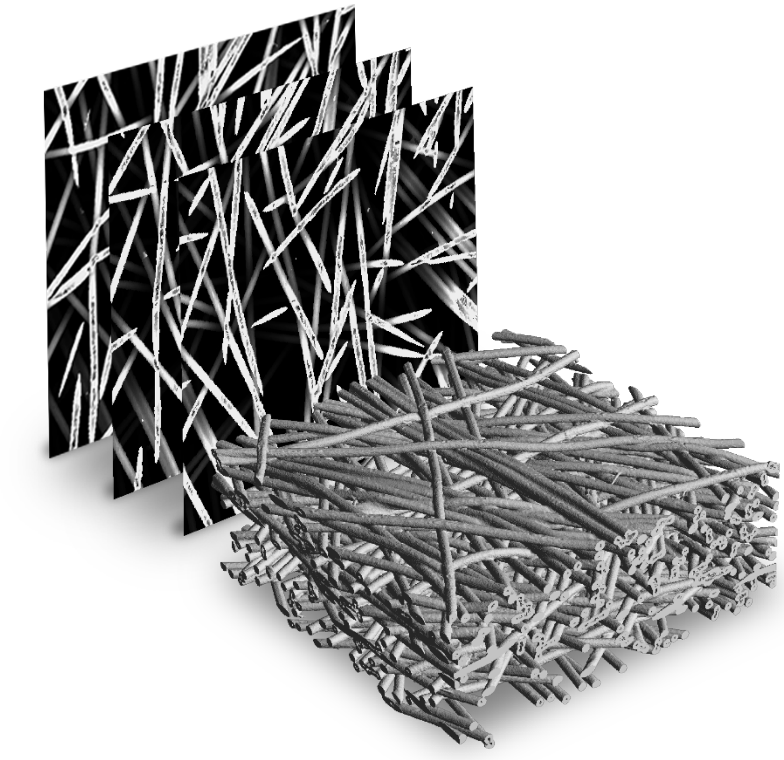
Step 2:

Create a model of the existing material

Creating a filter model

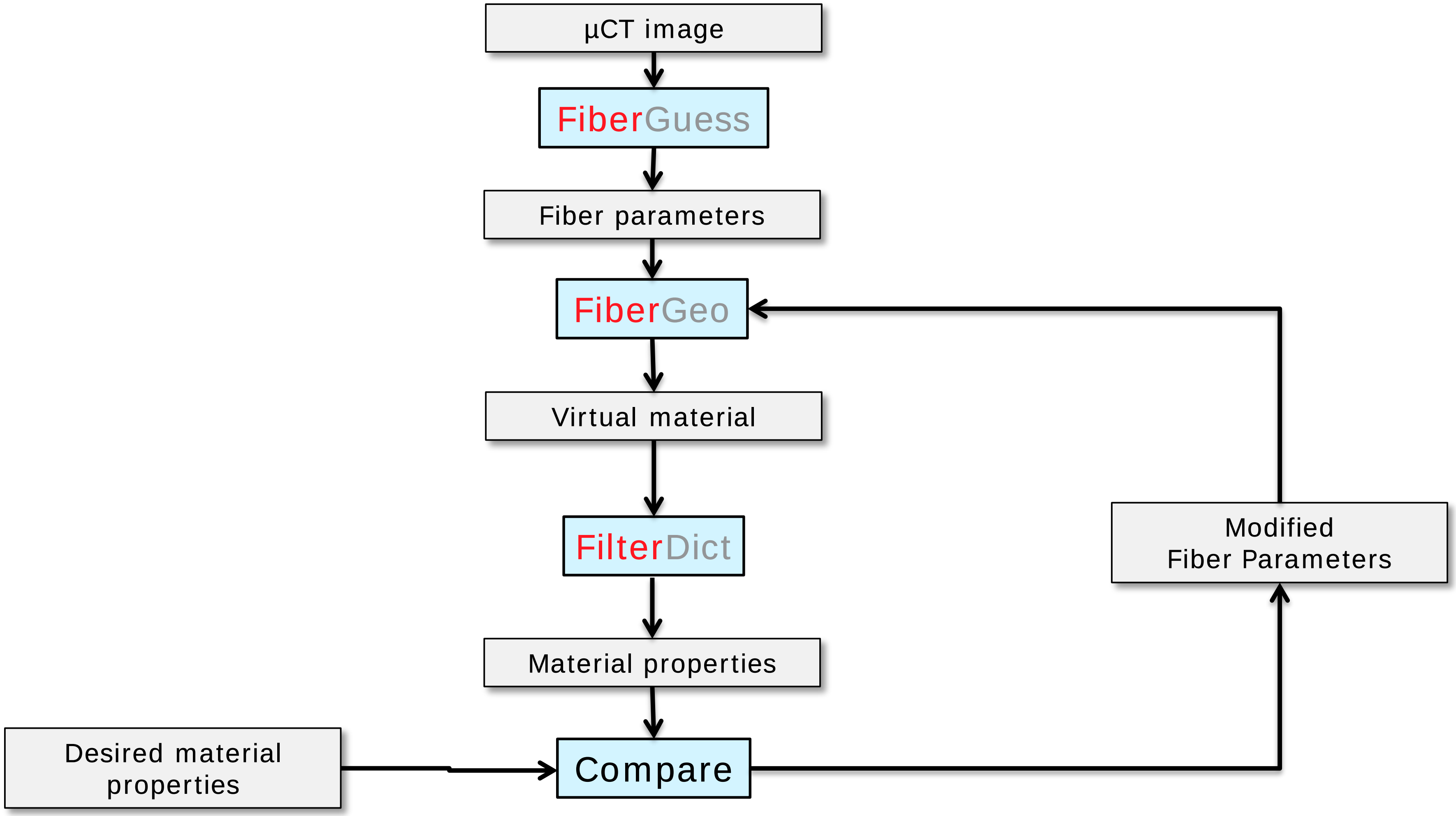
Why create a filter model?

- A CT scan is an image!
  - It can only be changed voxel-by-voxel.
  - It is not possible to remove a fiber
  - It is not possible to change diameters or shape

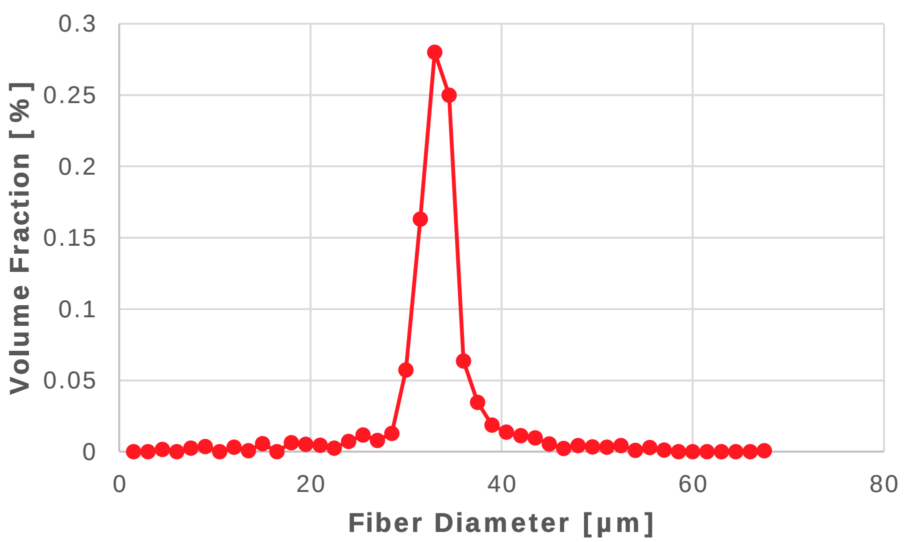


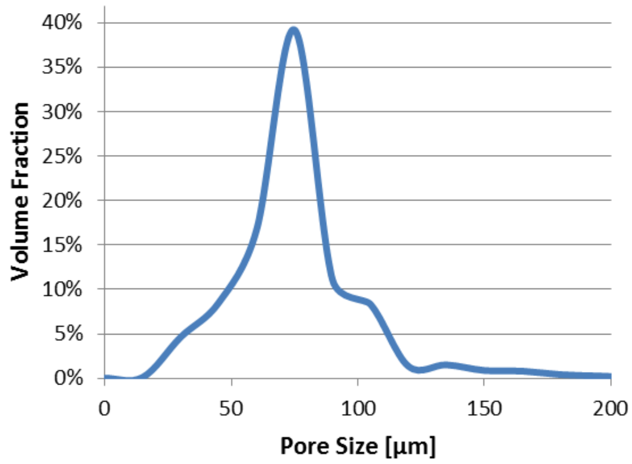
=> We need to “understand” the image!

GeoDict Workflow

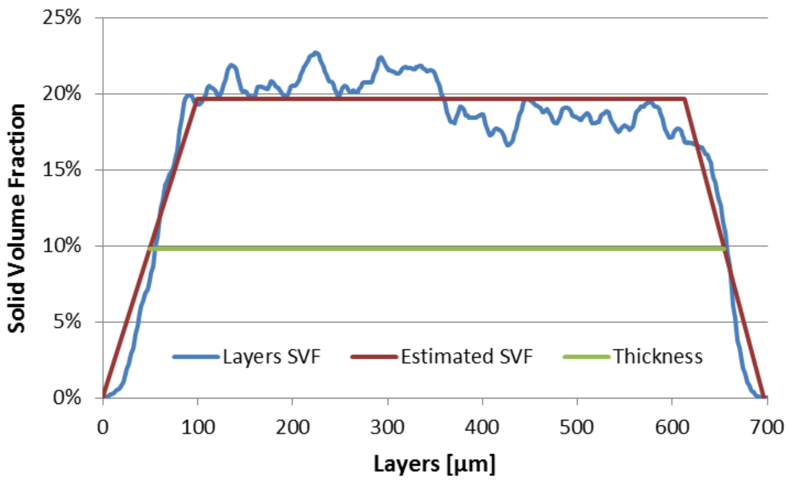


Geometric Analysis I:
Media Thickness, Porosity, Pore Sizes, Fiber Diameter





Average fiber diameter: 33.6 µm
Porosity: 80.4 %
Thickness: 605 µm



Geometric Analysis II: Fiber Orientation

How is fiber orientation measured?

0.33	0	0
0	0.33	0
0	0	0.33

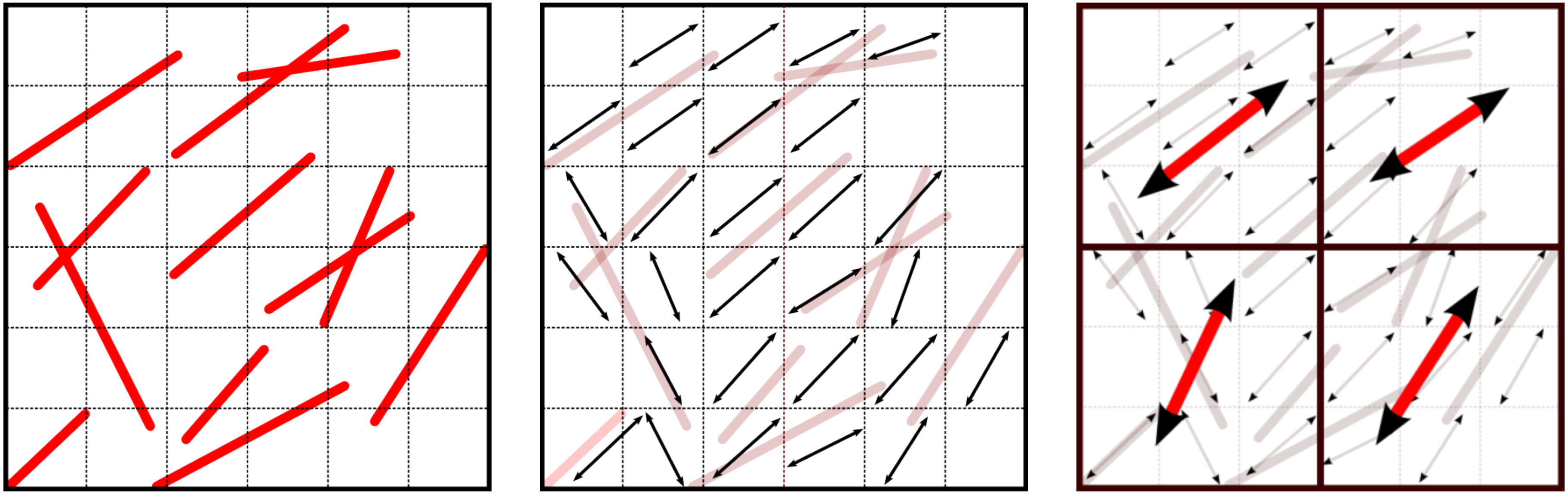
0.5	0	0
0	0.5	0
0	0	0

0.9	0	0
0	0.05	0
0	0	0.05

Orientation tensor describes probability of direction component.

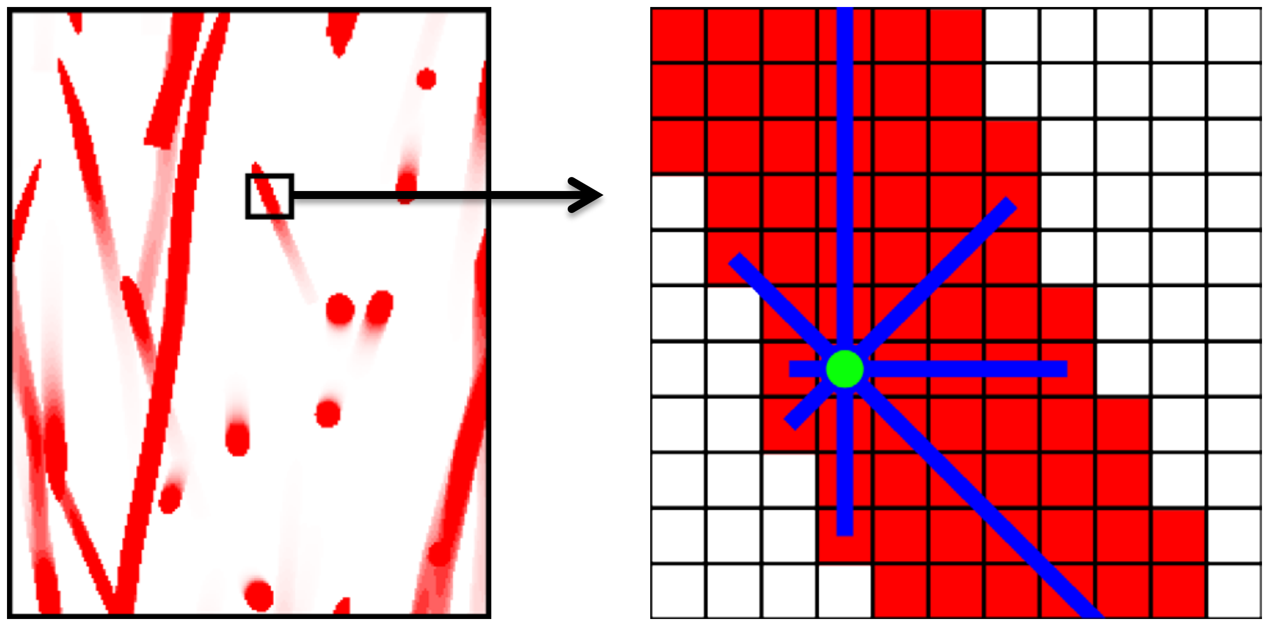
Orientation analysis – Method 1:
Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

1. PCA subdivides domain into windows of given size
   - Automatic window size estimates about 2x fiber diameter
2. For each window, finds fiber fragments and analyzes direction tensor
3. For each block, averages direction tensors over windows in that block



Orientation analysis – Method 2: Star Length Distribution (SLD)

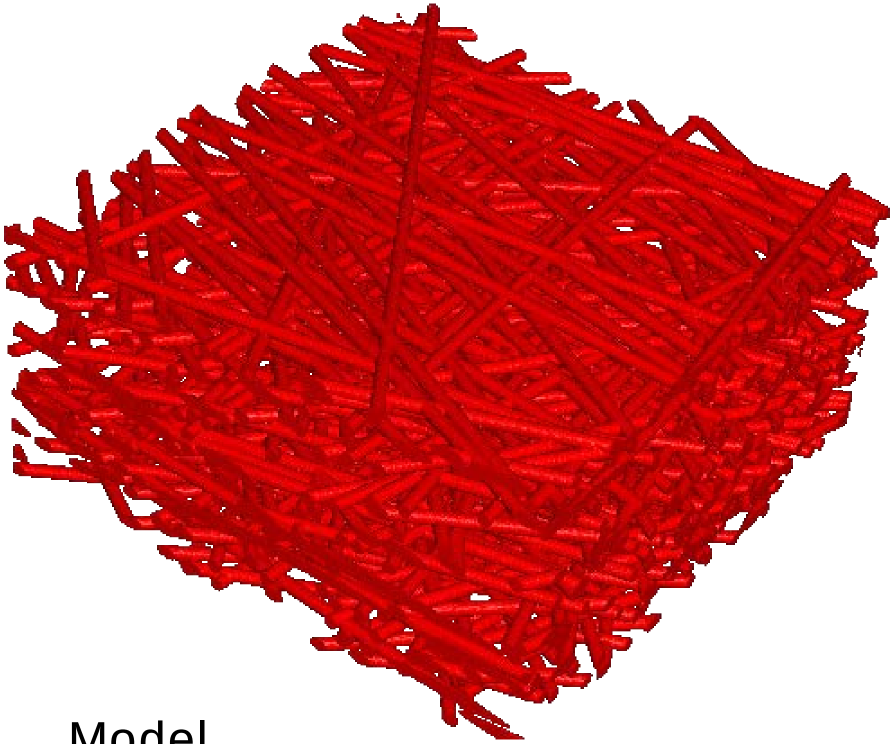
- For each voxel, SLD analyzes chord lengths through it for fixed set of directions
- The relative length of the chords gives per-voxel orientation tensor
- The tensors are averaged over all voxels in the block (similar to PCA)



Smit, Th H., E. Schneider, and A. Odgaard. "Star length distribution: a volume-based concept for the characterization of structural anisotropy." *Journal of microscopy* 191 (1998): 249-257.

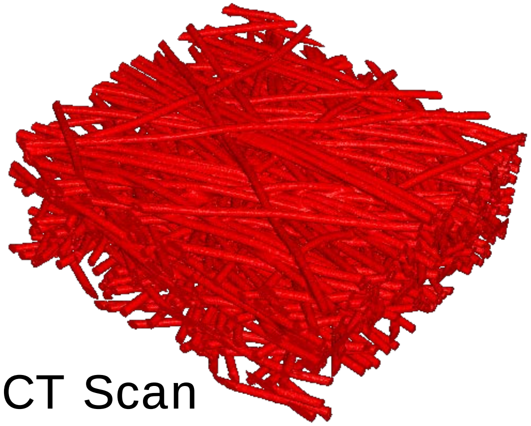
Comparison of CT Scan and Model

CT Scan

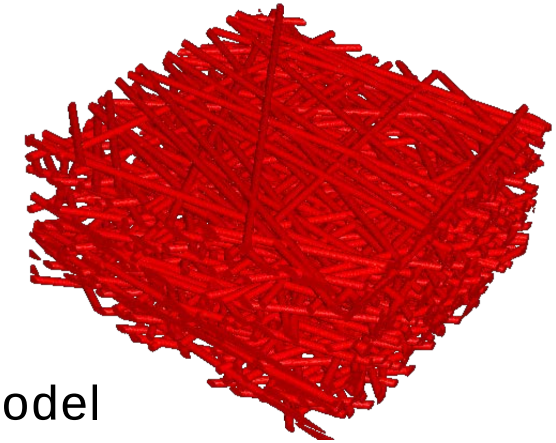


Model

Comparison of CT Scan and Model



CT Scan



Model

Input parameters found by CT-Scan analysis:

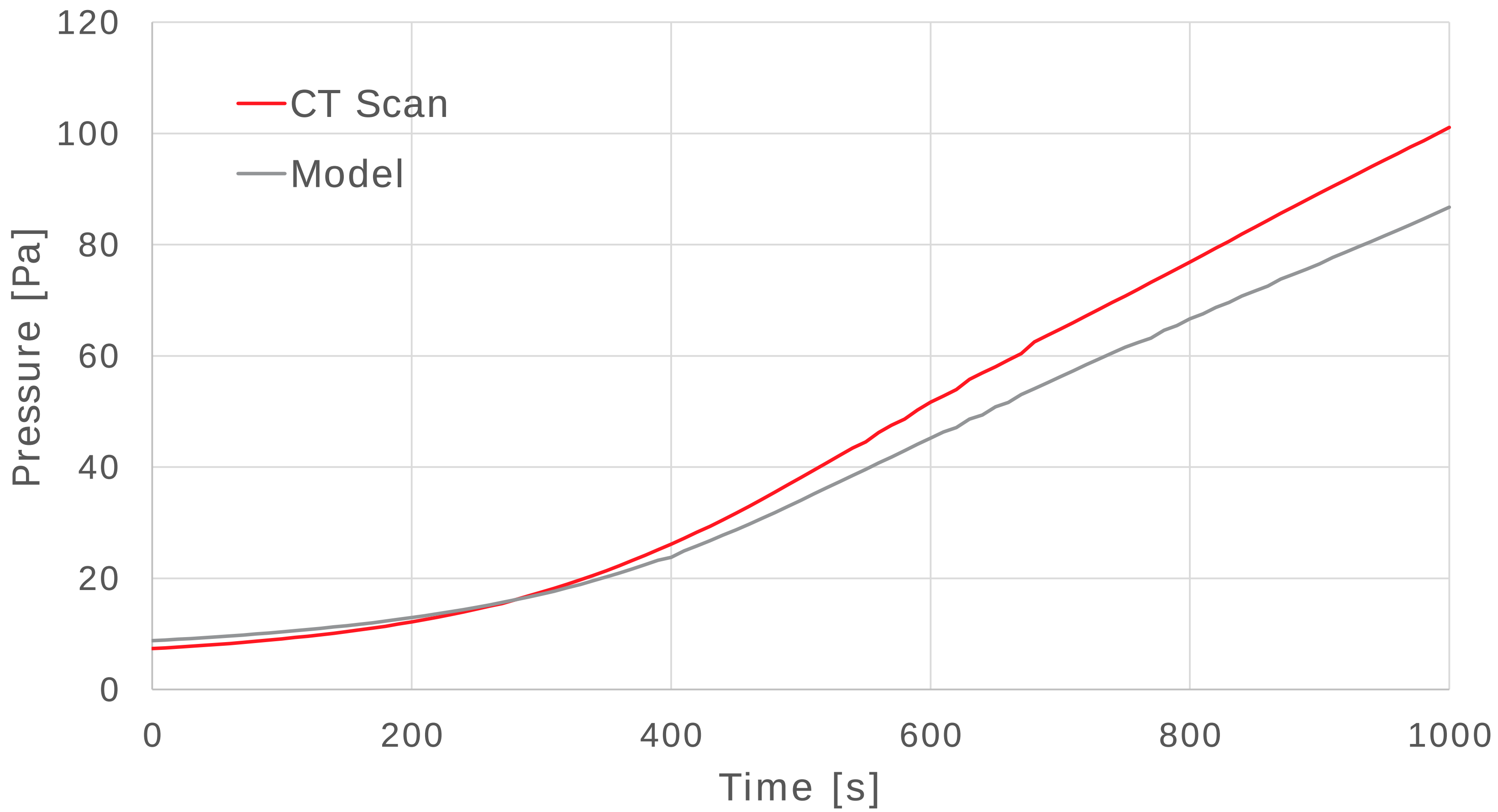
- media thickness
- porosity
- fiber diameter
- in-plane anisotropy

Input parameters taken from assumptions:

- straight fibers
- fibers oriented in-plane
- homogeneous distribution
- circular cross section

Filter Life Time

Filter Life Time Simulation
Comparison CT Scan vs Model



Filter Life Time Simulation
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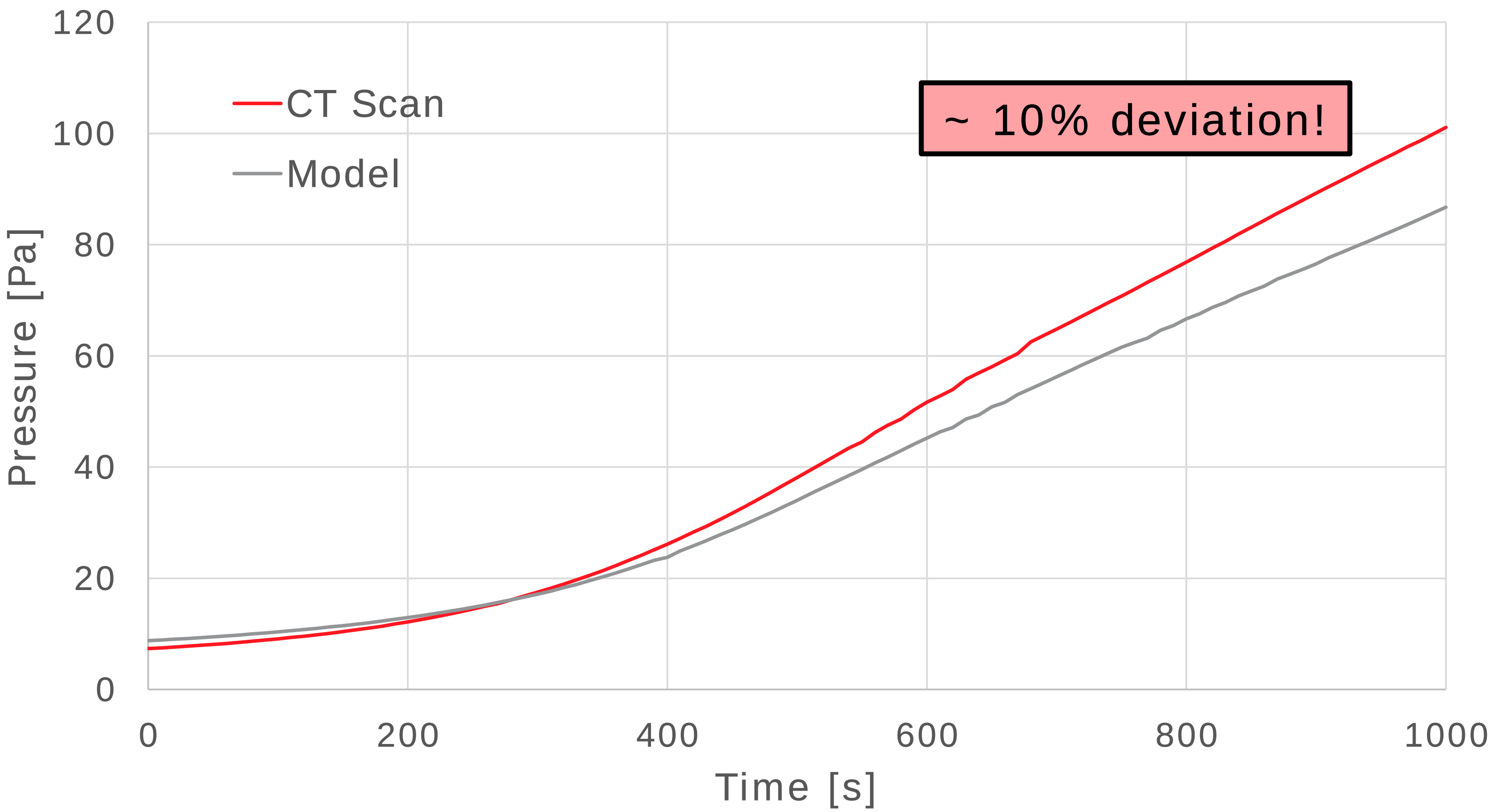

Step 3:

Modify the structure model

Possibilities in GeoDict to Vary the Structure Model

- Fiber diameter
- Fiber orientation
- Fiber cross sectional shape
- Curved fibers instead of straight fibers
- Density gradient in through-plane direction
- Porosity
- Media thickness

Summary and Outlook

Overall goal of this work:

- get from CT-Scan to Model structure automatically

Current state:

- works for straight fibers with circular cross section

Work in progress: curved fibers with circular cross section

- Determine curvature distribution from CT
- Realize given curvature distribution in a model

GeoDict

The Digital Material Laboratory

Standard Edition

info@math2market.de
www.geodict.com

Software Design:
Dr. Jürgen Becker, Liping Cheng, PhD,
Dr. Erik Glatt, Dr. Sven Linden,
Dr. Christian Wagner, Dr. Rolf Westerteiger,
Nicolas Harttig, Andreas Grießer,
and Andreas Wiegmann, PhD

Art Design:
Steffen Schwichow

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