



HSE  
Occupational Health and Safety



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DES SCIENCES  
APPLIQUÉES  
LYON

# Evaluation of ground relaxation parametrization over complex terrain and experimental validation for pollutant dispersion: application to the CERN Meyrin site

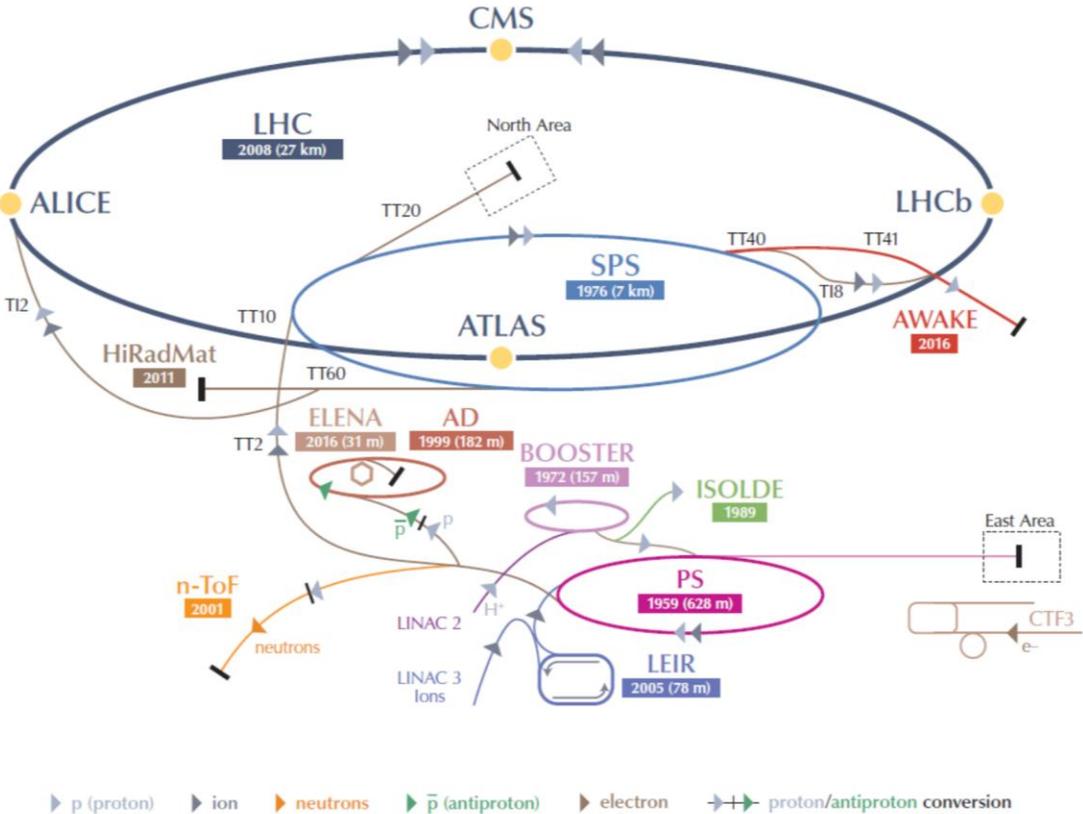
J. Rico-Orero<sup>1,2</sup>, G. Lamaison<sup>1</sup>, O. Rios<sup>2</sup>, L. Soulhac<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> INSA Lyon, CNRS, Ecole Centrale de Lyon, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, LMFA, Villeurbanne, France

<sup>2</sup> CERN, Genève, Switzerland



# Why study pollution dispersion at CERN?



LHC Large Hadron Collider   SPS Super Proton Synchrotron   PS Proton Synchrotron  
 AD Antiproton Decelerator   CTF3 Clic Test Facility   AWAKE Advanced WAKEfield Experiment   ISOLDE Isotope Separator OnLine DEvice  
 LEIR Low Energy Ion Ring   LINAC LINear ACcelerator   n-ToF Neutrons Time Of Flight   HiRadMat High-Radiation to Materials

CERN accelerator complex schematic, CERN

## Europe's premier particle-physics lab

- Large underground infrastructure
- Large on-site population

## Complex built environment + varied terrain

- >100 experiments, radioactive and chemical laboratories

## Fire + radioactive particle-release risk

- Swiss regulations ENSI G-14

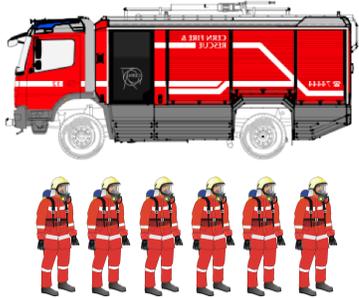
## Pollution dispersion challenges:

- Lack of unified methodology
- Lack of real-time, terrain-aware dispersion tools
- Need for accurate near-field (local scale) resolution

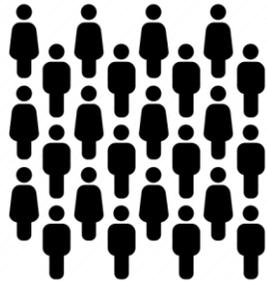
# FIRIA: From Concept to Dispersion-Risk Assessment

The Fire Induced Radiological Integrated Assessment Project

Fire Service



Public



Environment



Life

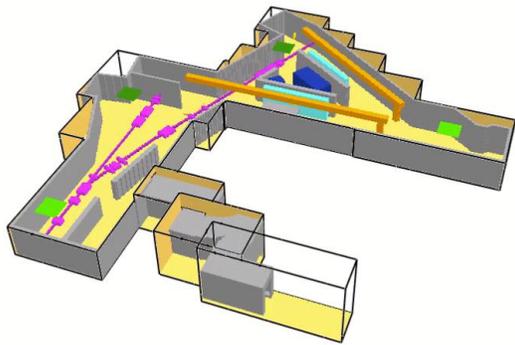
Occupants, neighbors,  
first responders

Environment

Property

Continuity of operation

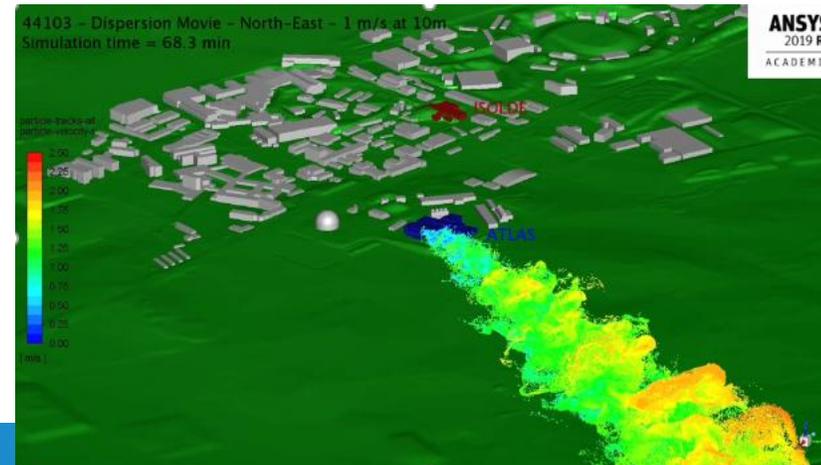
Indoor fire dynamics  
FDS



Soot testing  
campaign



Pollution dispersion in the ABL



Collaboration  
CERN fire brigade



Time: 74.8

# What do we need?

## Context

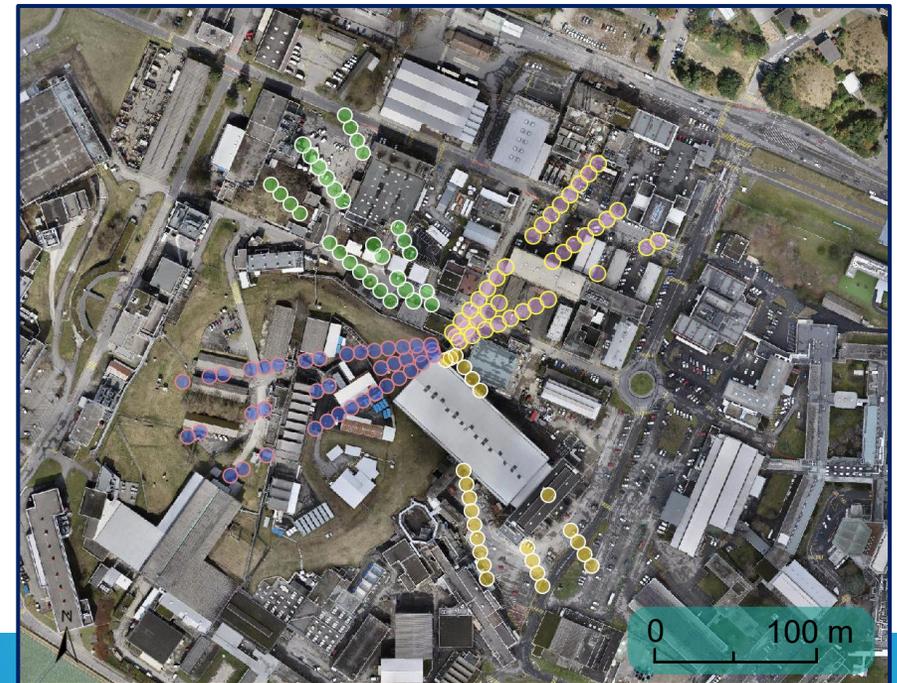
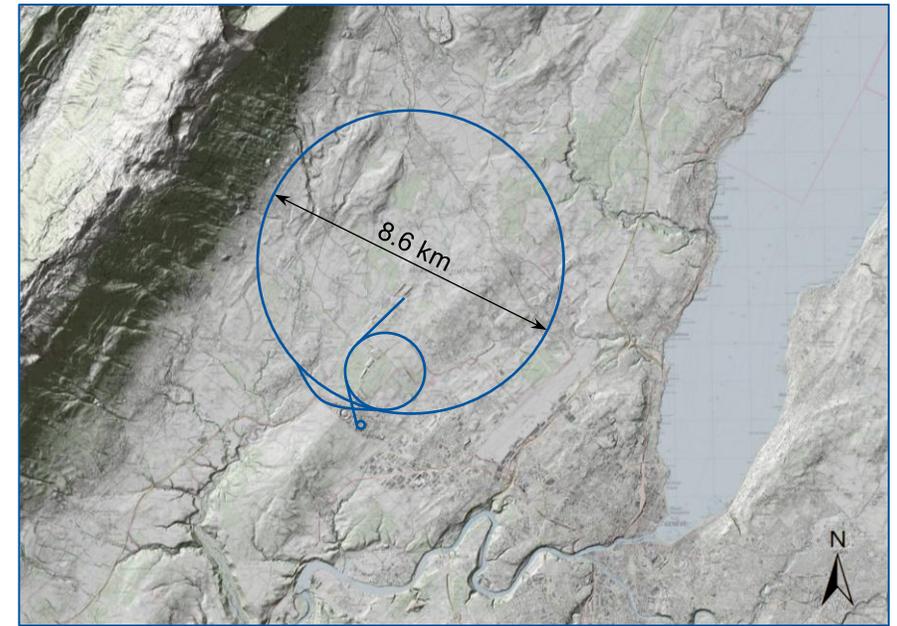
- Large areas around complex terrain
- Local-scale dispersion on several CERN sites

## Operational requirements

- Evaluation of multiple scenarios
- Based on worst-case analyses
- Accurate outputs with operational capabilities
- Variable atmospheric conditions

## Modelling choice

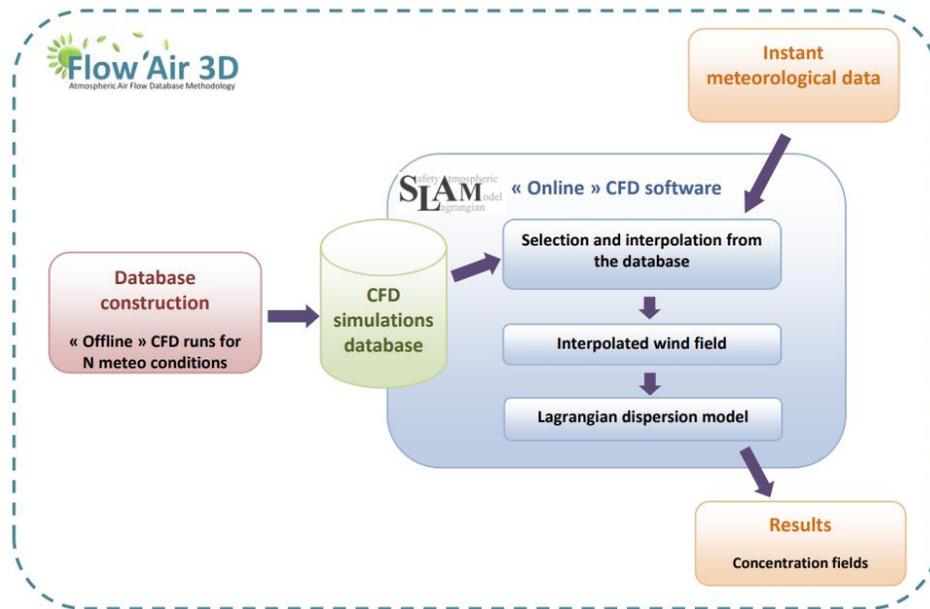
- CFD for wind fields (ANSYS Fluent)
- Lagrangian dispersion model (SLAM)
- Combined for emergency decision support



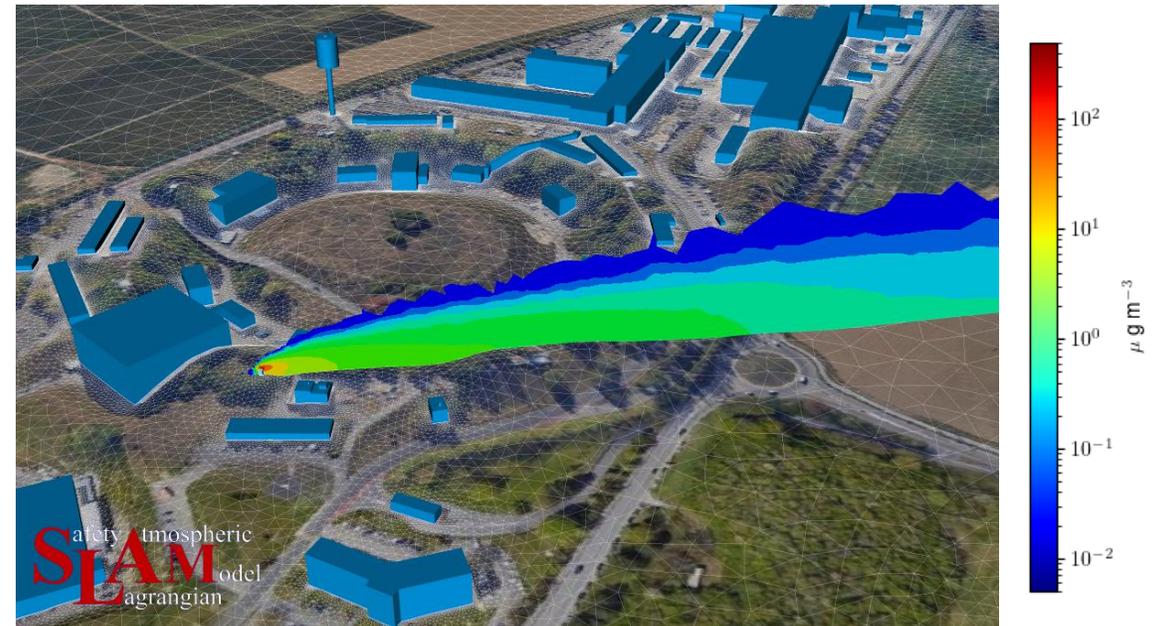
# CFD and Lagrangian model coupling

## SLAM: Safety Lagrangian Atmospheric Model

- Developed by LMFA
- Lagrangian stochastic particles dispersion model
- Coupled to CFD wind/turbulence database (Generated with Ansys Fluent)
- Validated in ECL's wind tunnel (Vendel et al., 2011, Marro et al., 2014)
- Operational capabilities: Concentration fields in ~minutes



Source: SLAM website, <http://air.ec-lyon.fr/SLAM/>



Concentration of pollutants over CERN Meyrin site, calculated with SLAM

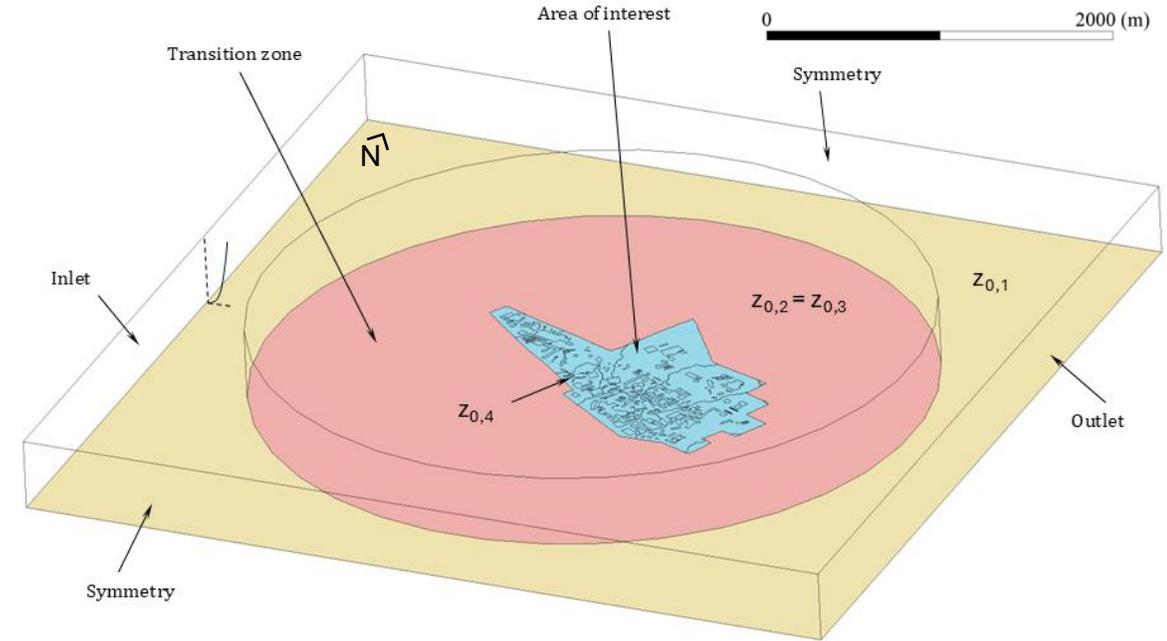
# How to specify boundary conditions?

$$u_z = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{z-d}{z_0} \right) \right]$$

Flat terrain allows to define homogeneous ABL at domain boundaries

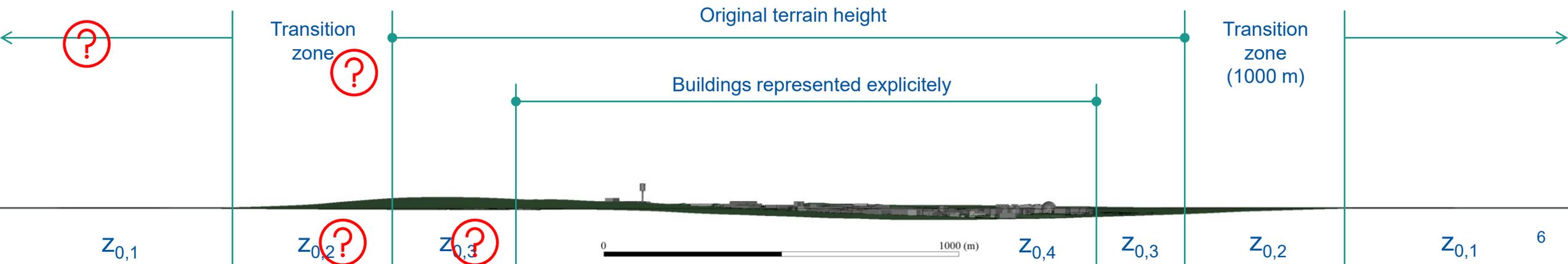
## Open questions

- How long must relaxation be?
- How should we blend  $z_0$  and height?
- Which is the impact on concentration profiles?



Domain & boundary conditions of the CERN Meyrin case

*Goal: maximize SLAM versatility while limiting relaxation-induced effects at the area of interest*



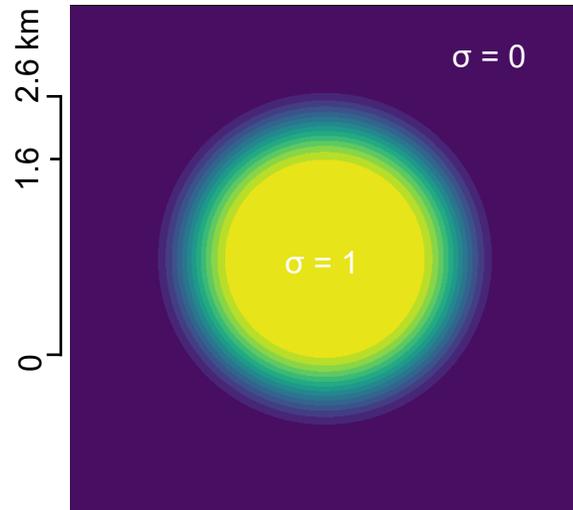
# Terrain manipulations

Optimal relaxation unknown → Reference case → Reproducible and comparable

- Terrain relaxed with a smooth cosine function based on Balogh & Kristóf's (2009) method

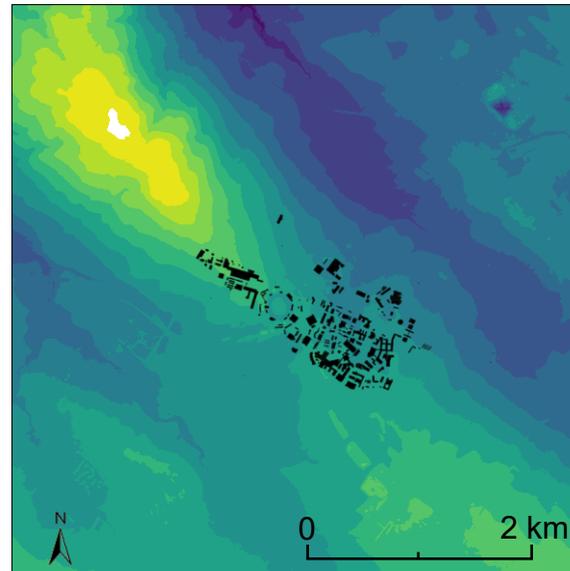
$$\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1 + \cos(\tilde{R}(x, y))}{2}$$

$$H_{\text{relaxed}}(x, y) = (H(x, y) - H_c) \cdot \sigma(x, y) + H_c$$

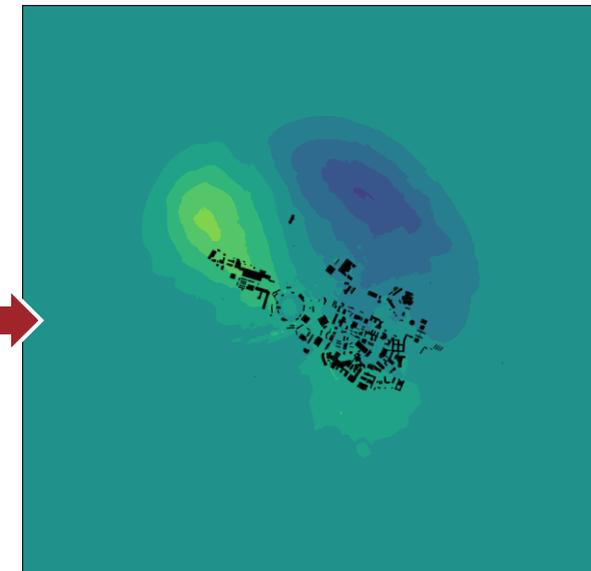


Representation of the applied relaxation mask

Original elevation



Elevation after relaxation



[m, AMSL]

495  
477  
459  
441  
423  
405

Elevation plots of the domain used for the modelling of the CERN Meyrin site, before and after relaxation, with buildings

# Meshing and flow field database

## Meshing

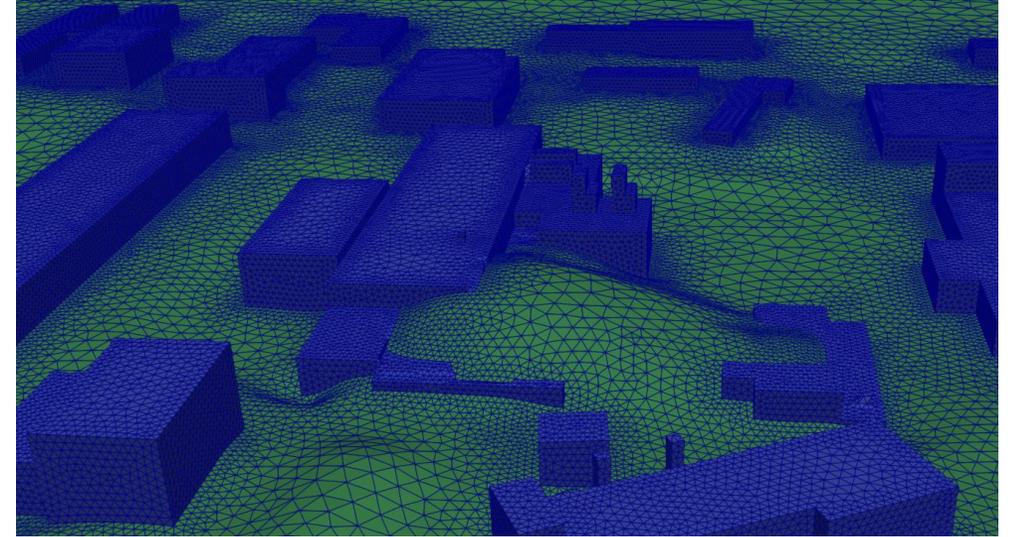
- Poly-hex unstructured mesh, 4-cell inflation layer
- Cell and mesh size: 0.3 – 50 m, 7M cells

## Boundary conditions

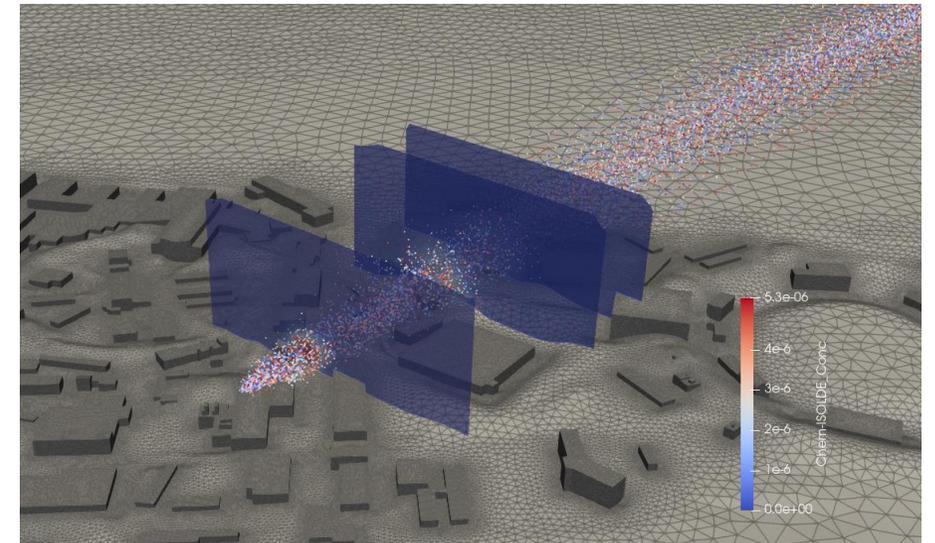
- 30-m top entrainment layer
- Inlet log wind profile, neutral stability
- Chimney release (10 m a.g.l.):
  - Inert, no chemical reactions
  - Nombre de particules → 50000

## Database

- RANS k- $\epsilon$ , SIMPLE algorithm and 2<sup>nd</sup> order schemes
- 18 wind directions in neutral stability



Screenshots from the numerical model and mesh used in the SLAM tool



Pollutants particle release and concentration over CERN Meyrin site, calculated with SLAM

# Experimental wind-tunnel campaign

## Mock-up

- Mock-up built by EWTL Hamburg
- 1:250 scale, 3.5 m diameter
- 2 wind directions, 2 source points

## Description of the Wind-tunnel

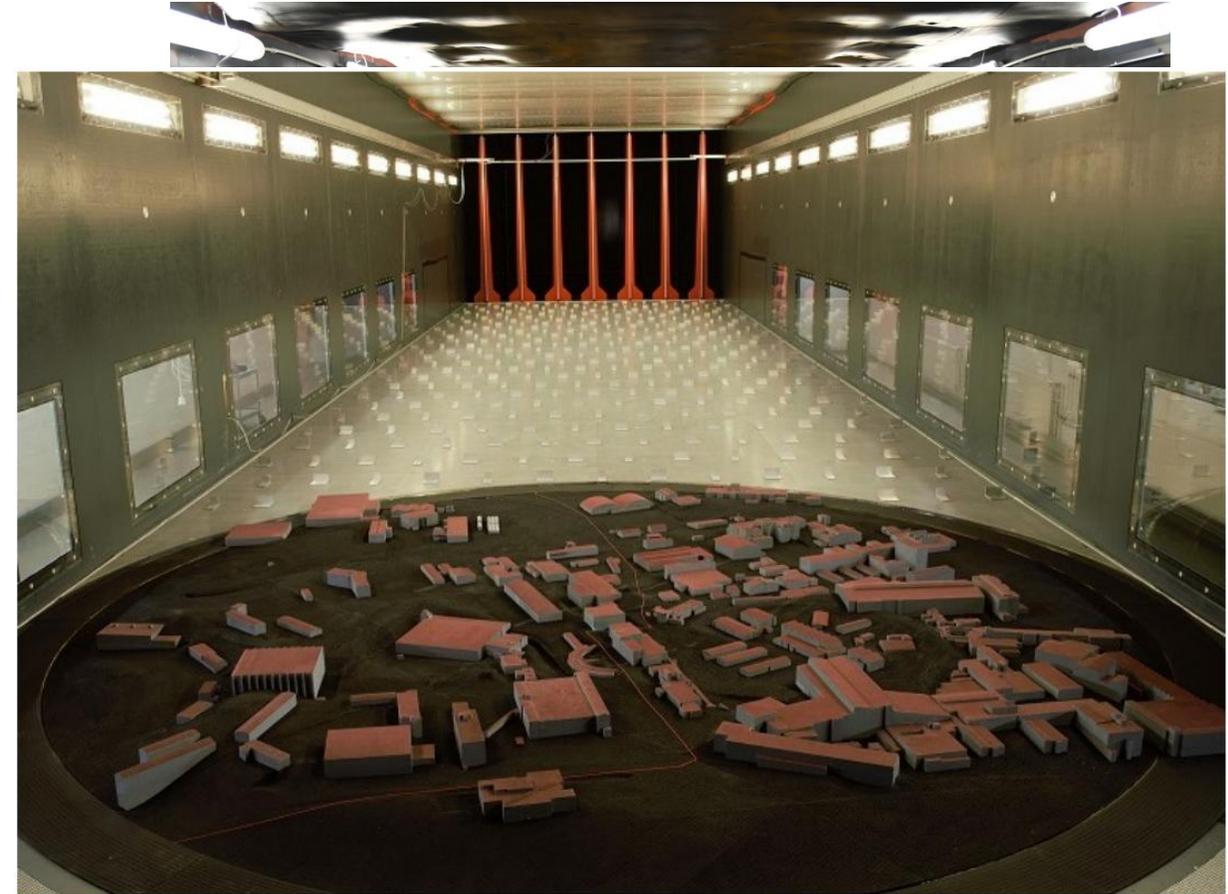
- Wind-tunnel facility of LMFA
- 14 m x 3.7 m x 2 m, test section

## Wind field measurements

- Hot-wire anemometry (HWA)
- Verification of the results with Nironi (2015)

## Concentration measurements

- Flame ionization detector (FID)
- ~600 measurement points per scenario



Visualization campaign performed in the LMFA wind-tunnel, with the CERN Meyrin mock-up

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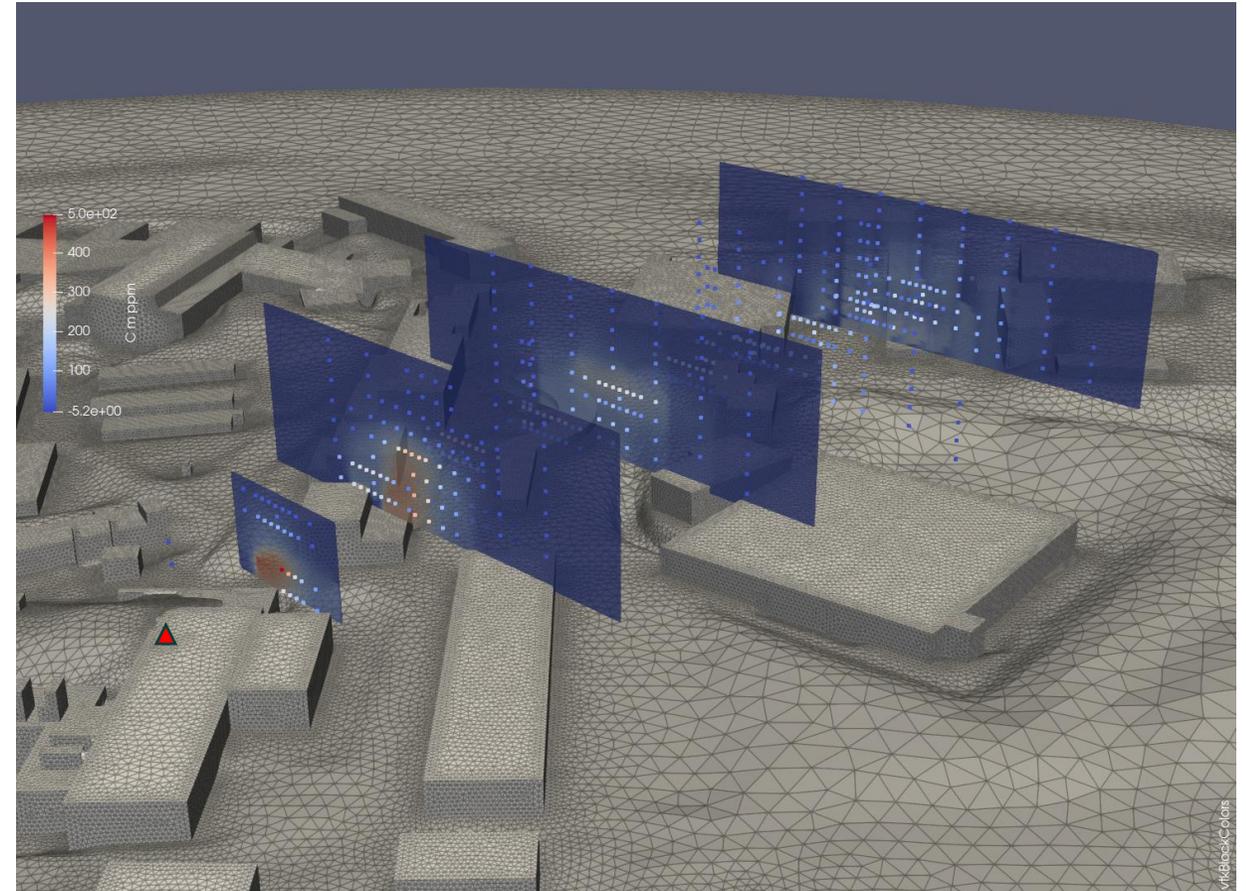
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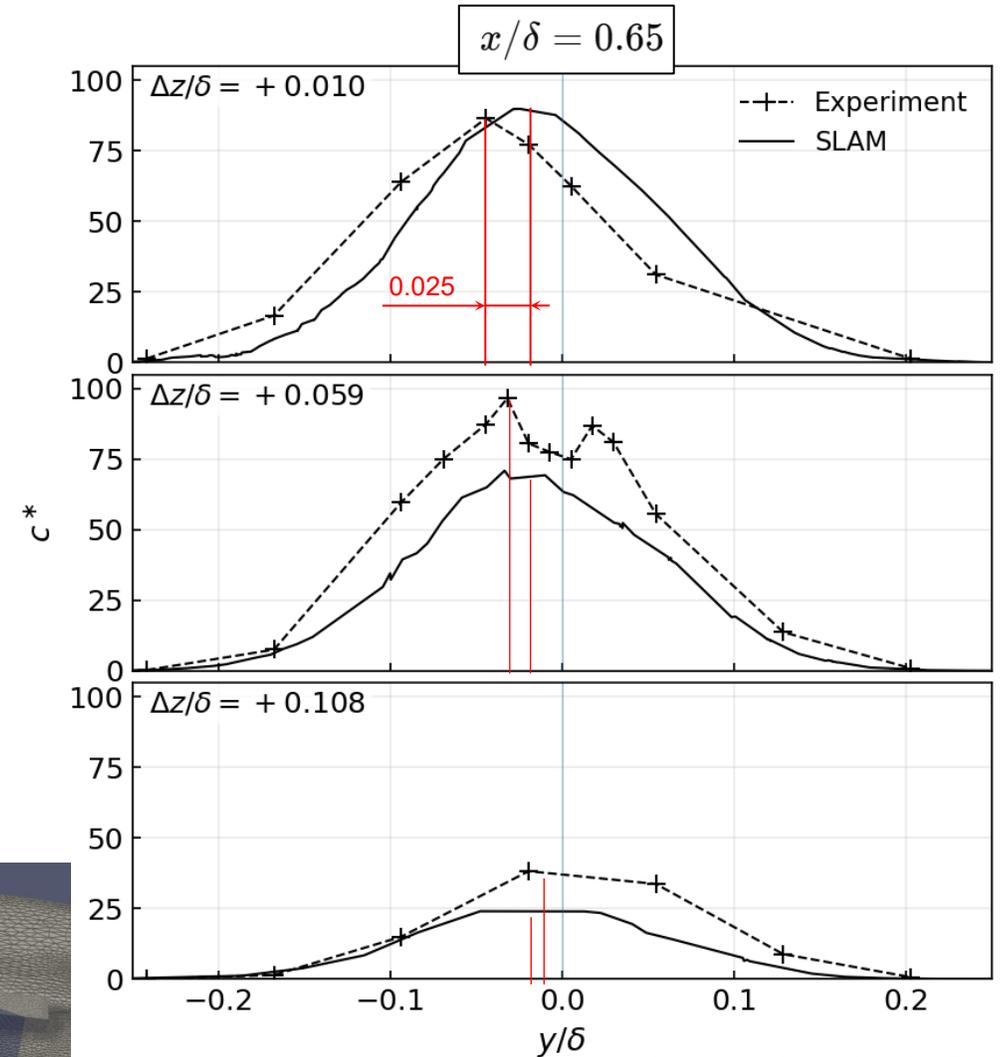
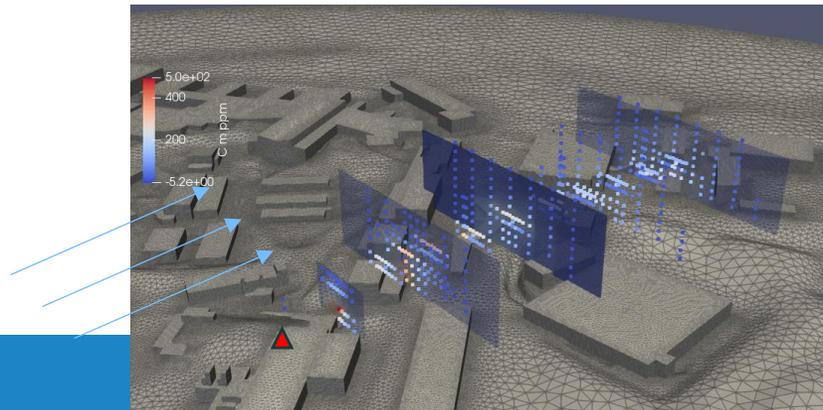


Wind-tunnel concentration measurements (dots) and interpolation on vertical contour plots located at  $y/\delta = 0.26, 0.32, 0.64$  and  $1.25$ . The red triangle marks the release point.

# Comparison of concentration measurements

## Transversal plane

- Adimensionalized concentrations :  $C^* = \frac{C U_\infty \delta^2}{Q}$
- Good agreement between numerical and experimental results on max. values and plume size
- Slight lateral deviation, decreasing with height
  - Max. deviation =  $0.025 y/\delta \rightarrow \sim 2.2^\circ$
  - Wind-tunnel flow direction uncertainty:  $\pm 2.5^\circ$  (Ben Salem et al., 2015)

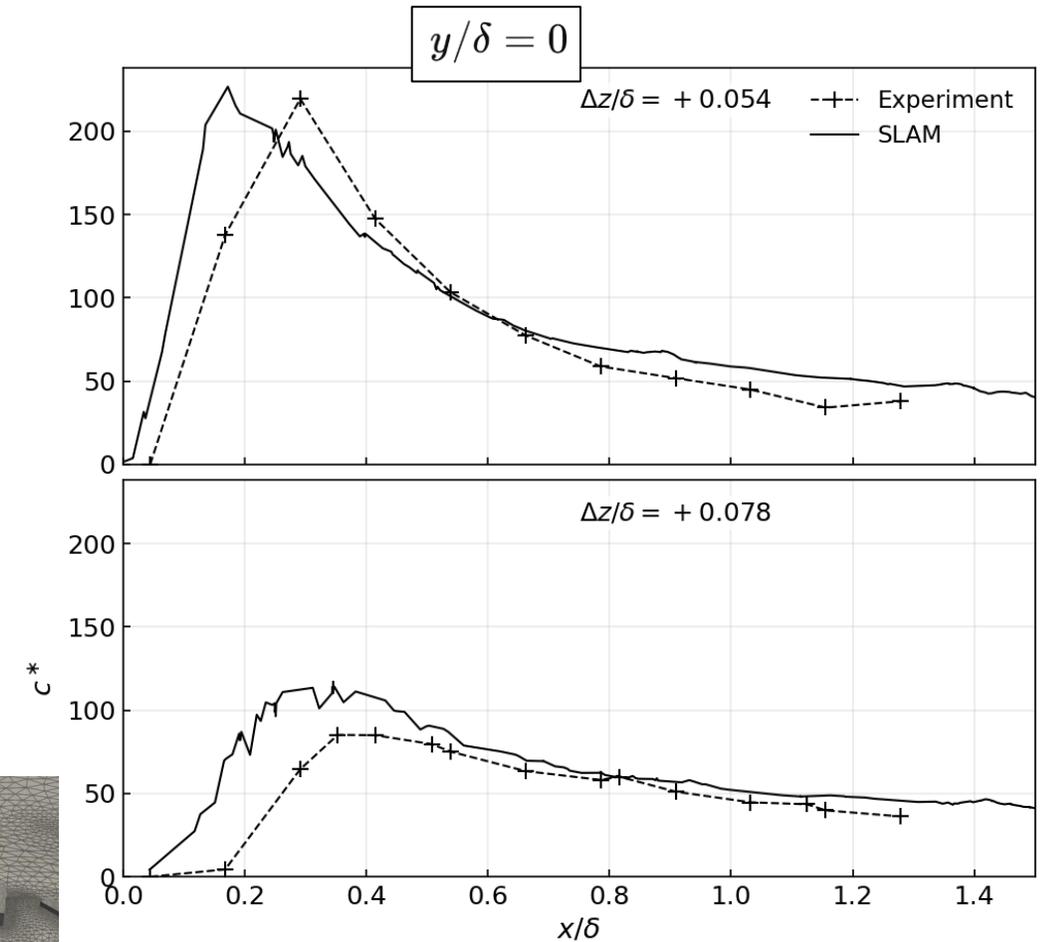
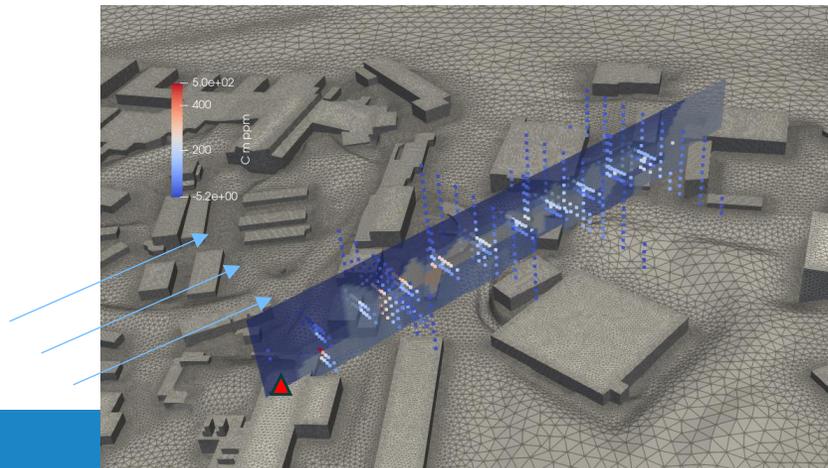


$\Delta z \equiv z - \text{release height}$ ,  $\delta = 204$  m,  
Comparison of adimensionalized concentration profiles at different heights,  
measured at  $x/\delta = 0.65$  from the source

# Comparison of concentration measurements

## Longitudinal plane

- Adimensionalized concentrations : 
$$C^* = \frac{C U_\infty \delta^2}{Q}$$
- Good agreement between numerical and experimental results on max. values and plume behaviour after a certain distance
- Slight longitudinal delay in the plume centerline
  - Tuning of release characteristics



$\Delta z \equiv z$  - release height,  $\delta = 204$  m,  
Comparison of adimensionalized concentration profiles at different heights,  
measured over the  $y=0$  axis

# Future work

Schematic of different types of land use around CERN Meyrin, extracted and simplified from CORINE Land Cover

## Study of remaining wind directions:

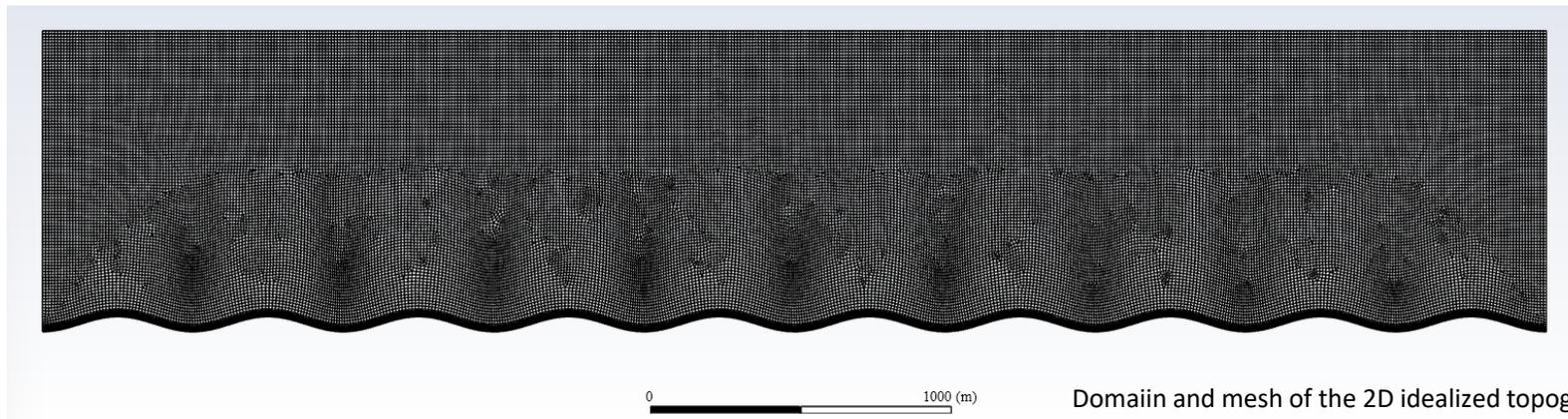
- Compare remaining experimental results

## Domain simplification:

- Study on idealized topography (2D, 2.5D and 3D)
- Building representation methodology

## Ground use analysis:

- Improve roughness length definition by ground-use analysis and relaxation of these parameters



Domain and mesh of the 2D idealized topography for future work



HSE  
Fire Safety Engineering Team



**Thank you for your attention**

**Joan Rico Orero**  
joan.rico-orero@insa-lyon.fr  
joan.rico.orero@cern.ch