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Urban scale modelling for climate applications



Problem setting

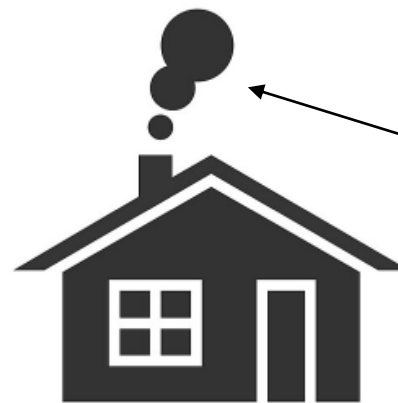
How to manage urban environment under multiple and diverse constraints in an optimal way?

Example

- Public authorities wants to eliminate/reduce concentrations that exceed a given/prescribed threshold (40 mkg m^{-3})
- Public authorities have limited economic incentives (50 MNOK) and limited policy instruments (a directive to install new-type wood-burning ovens)
- The task is to evaluate air quality outcomes resulting from implementation of the designed policy scenarios
- The challenge (an optimization problem) is to find an optimum scenario that provides for the most within the available resources.

Complications:

- Emissions come from different sources
- Policy measures change not only emissions but also behavior of people
- Scenario evaluation should be transparent and cost efficient



Chimney emission ~ 10 m

Car emission ~ 0.5 m



Quantitative information is not used in discussion and decision-making process

Symbolic context of the air quality problem

Inversjon – as a textual symbol

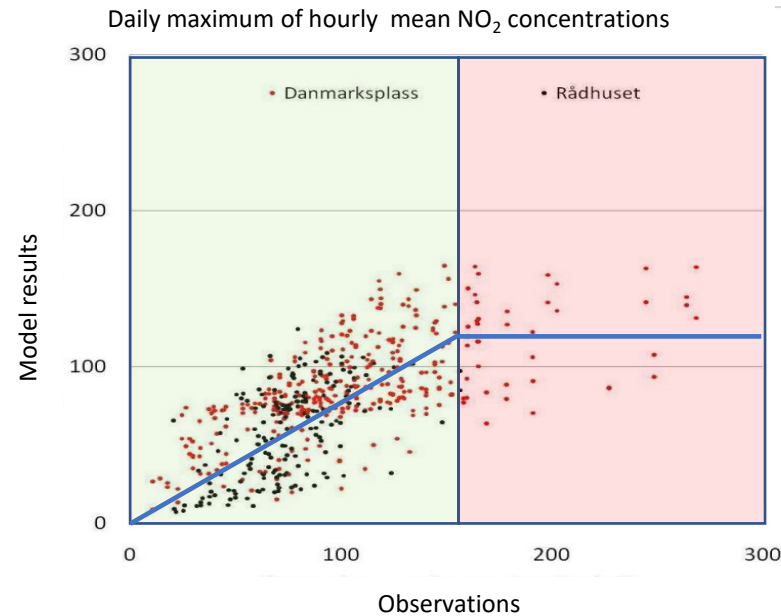
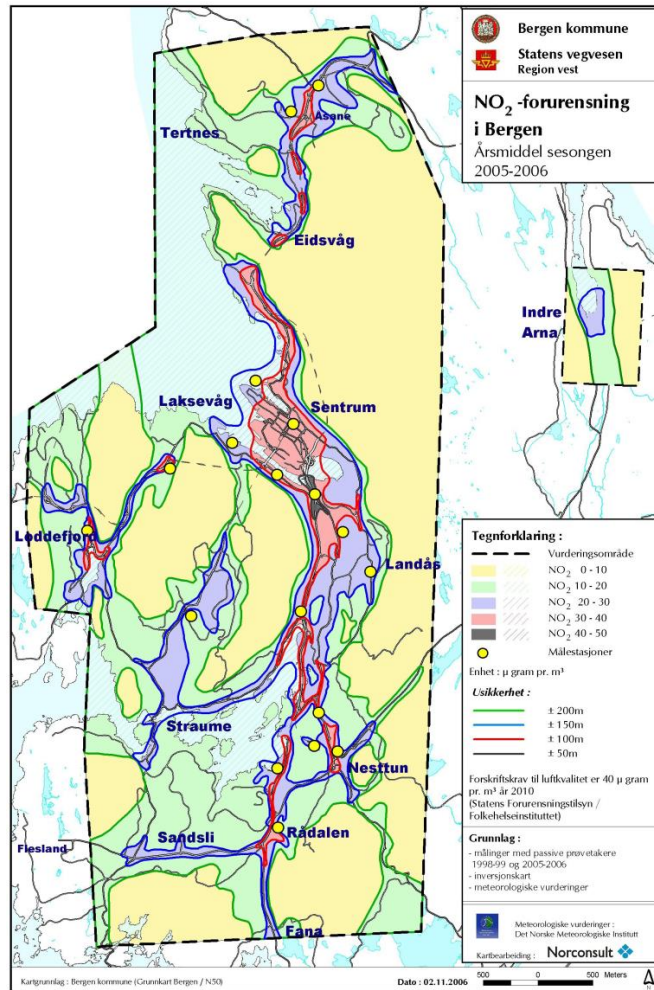
Giftloket – as a visual symbol

Single measurement point
as an objective symbol

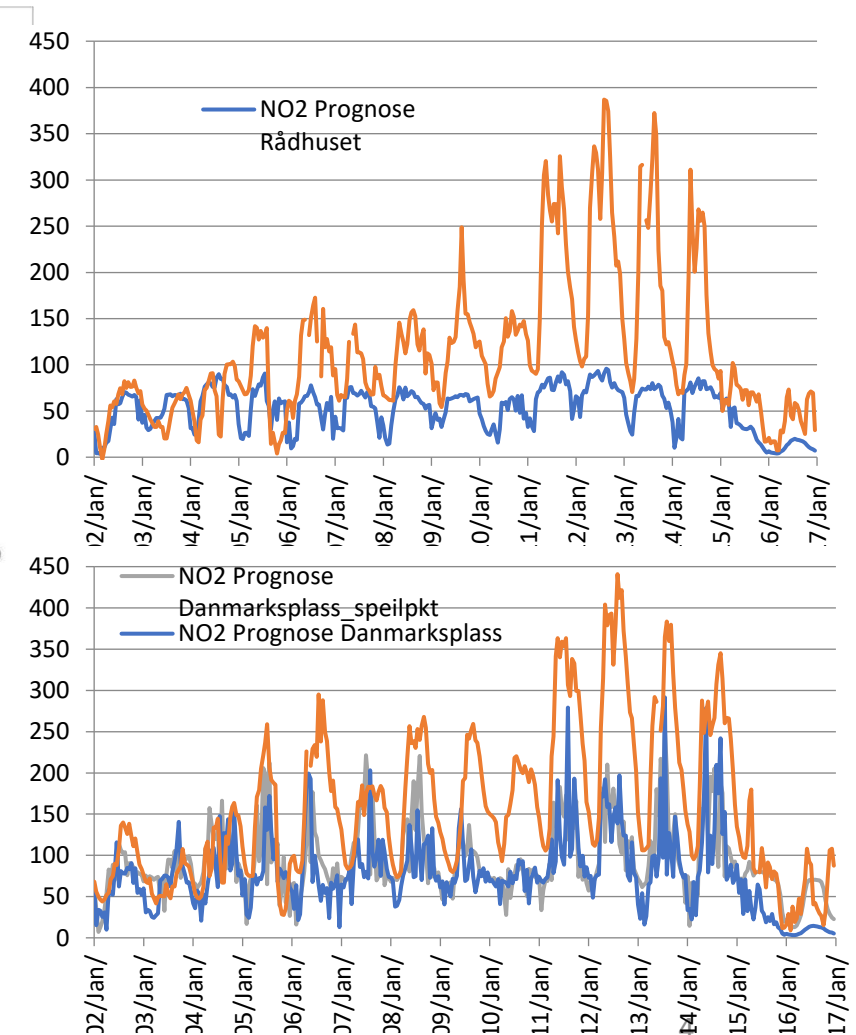


Traditional approaches are unsatisfactory

Gaussian approaches and RANS turbulence closures do not reproduce extremes



Bergen (2 – 16 Januar 2010)
Pål Rosland (Vegvesen)
Leiv Håvard Slørdal (NILU)





High-resolution atmospheric modeling



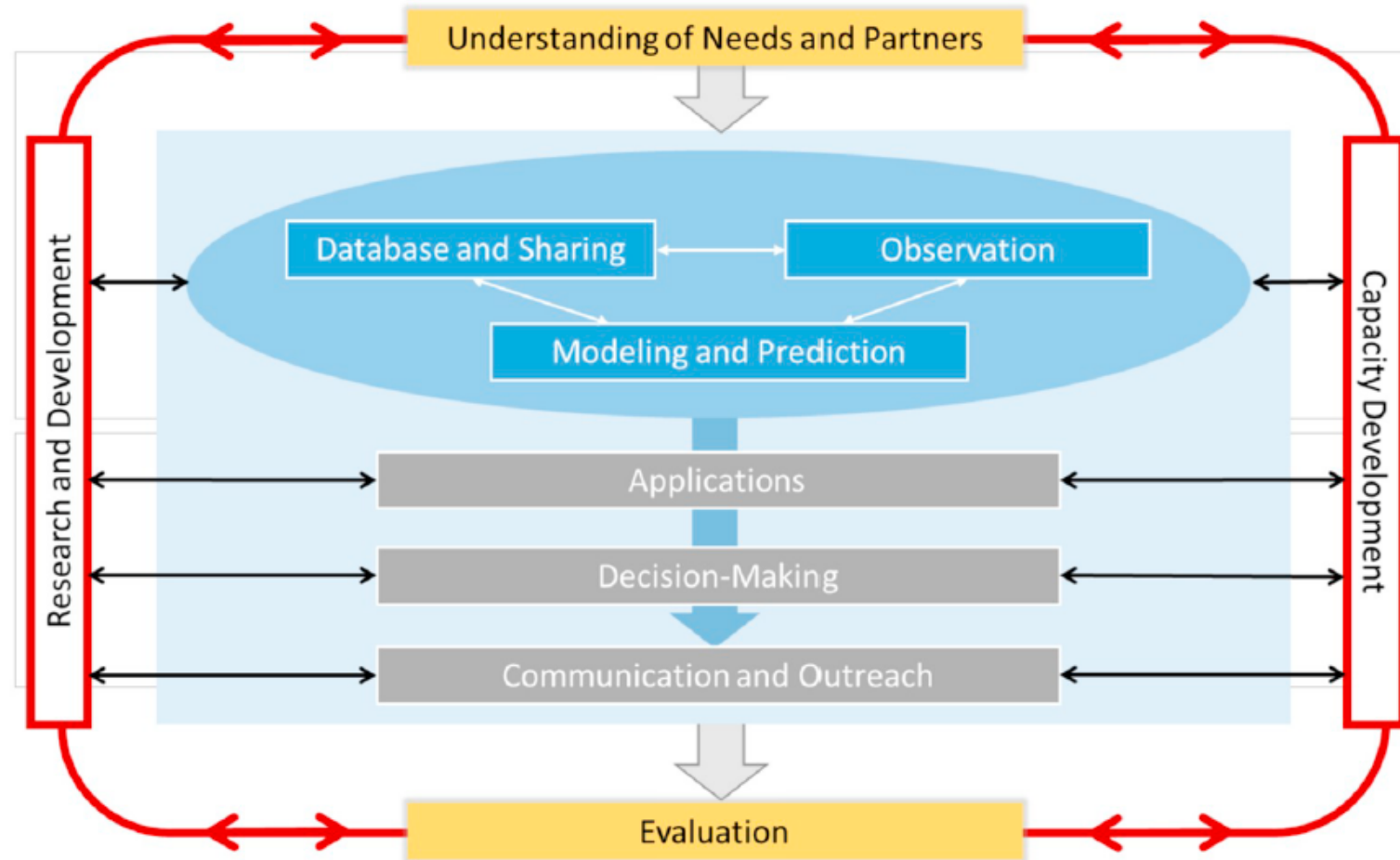
Integrated urban hydrometeorological, climate and environmental services: Concept, methodology and key messages

Sue Grimmond^a, Veronique Bouchet^b, Luisa T. Molina^c, Alexander Baklanov^d, Jianguo Tan^e, K. Heinke Schlünzen^f, Gerald Mills^g, Brian Golding^h, Valery Massonⁱ, Chao Ren^j, James Voogt^k, Shiguang Miao^l, Humphrey Lean^o, Bert Heusinkveld^m, Anahit Hovespyan^d, Giacomo Teruggi^d, Patrick Parrish^d, Paul Joe^{n,*}

Integrated Urban hydrometeorological, climate and environmental Services (IUS) is a ***World Meteorological Organization (WMO) initiative*** to aid development of science-based services to support safe, healthy, resilient and climate friendly cities.

- Atmospheric boundary layer: static stability over horizontal heterogeneity
- Turbulent mixing and local flows
- Turbulence-resolving simulations: principles of large-eddy simulations
- Subgrid-scale filtering and turbulence closures
- Modeling system COSMO-PALM
- “Urbanization” of meso-scale meteorological models

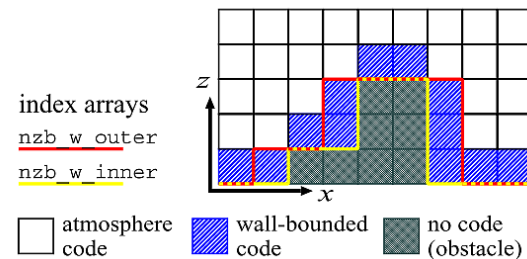
Components of an Integrated Urban Hydrometeorological, Climate and Environmental Service (IUS) System



Scherer, D., Antretter, F., Bender, S., ... Scherber, K. (2019). Urban climate under change [UC]2 - A national research programme for developing a building-resolving atmospheric model for entire city regions. *Meteorologische Zeitschrift*, 28(2), 95–104.

The Parallelized Atmospheric Large-eddy simulation Model (PALM) :

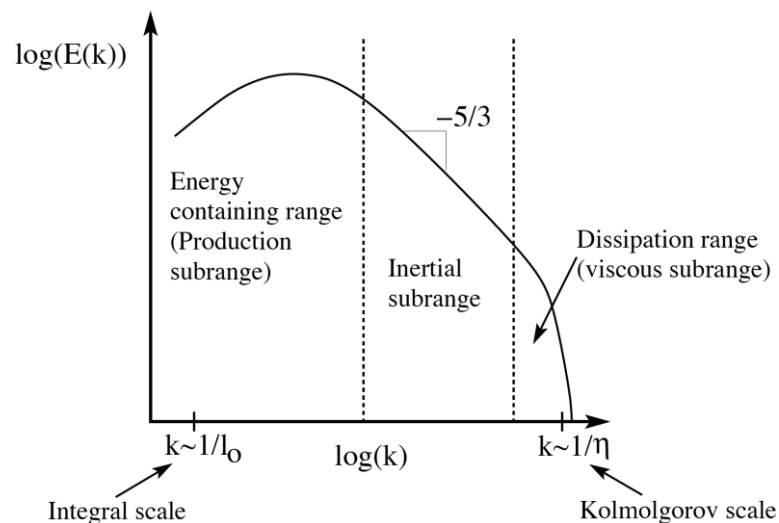
- Large-eddy simulation (LES) class model to resolve the most energetic part of turbulence explicitly
- Solves 3D primitive hydro-thermo-dynamical equations for incompressible Boussinesq fluids:
 - Momentum equations
 - Potential temperature equation
 - Scalar transfer equation
- C-type mesh
- Different advection and pressure schemes
 - **5th-order scheme** after Wicker and Skamarock (2002)
 - Multi-grid pressure solver
- Turbulence closure: **1.5-order TKE equation** closure in 3D
- Surface is described using cuboid approximation
- ***PALM has very rich set of features, which are not used in our simulations however***



The PALM model system has been mainly developed and is maintained by the **PALM group** at the Institute of Meteorology and Climatology (IMUK) of Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany.

Large-eddy simulations

© by Rob Stoll

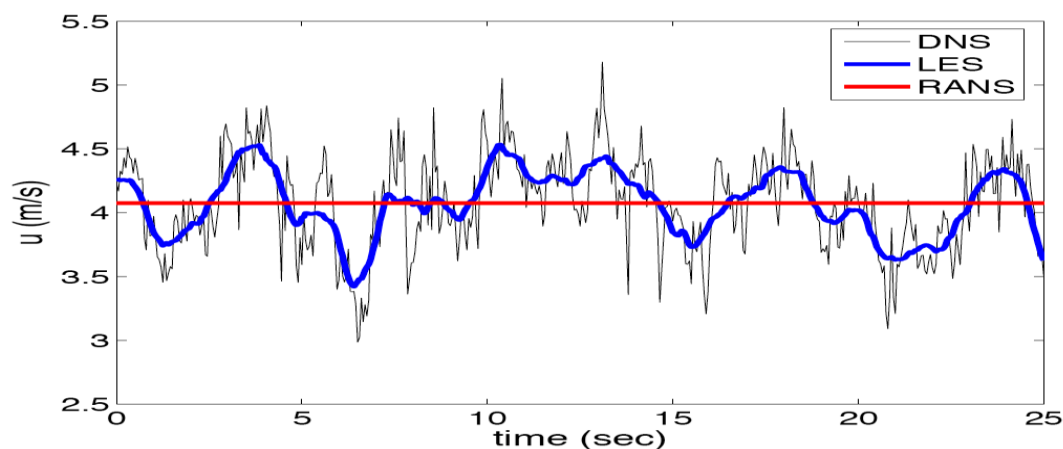


$$E(k) = c_k \epsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} = 0 \quad \text{Conservation of Mass}$$

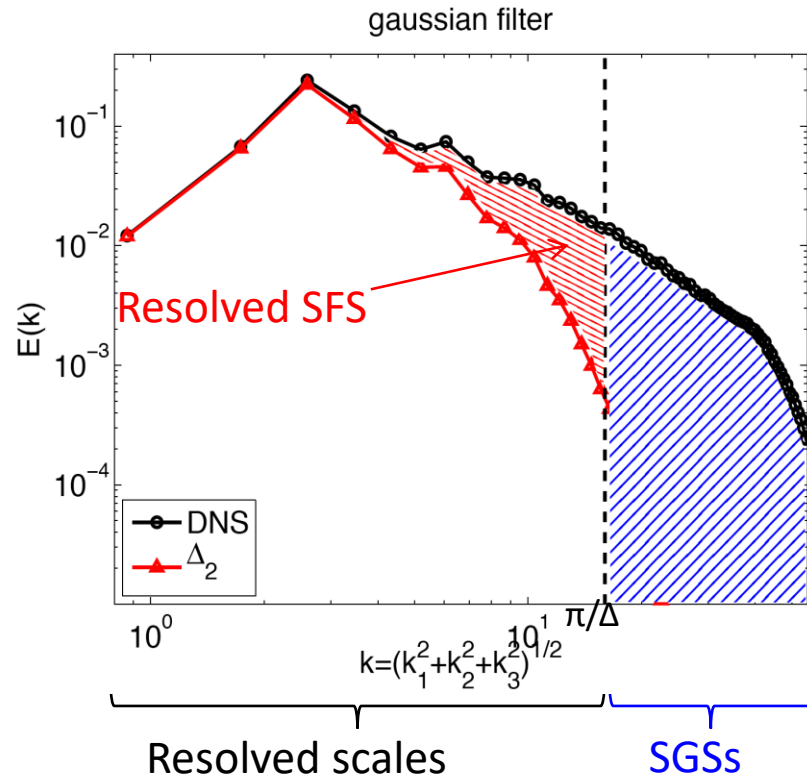
$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u_i u_j}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_j^2} + F_i \quad \text{Conservation of Momentum}$$

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u_i q}{\partial x_j} = \nu_q \frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x_j^2} + Q \quad \text{Conservation of scalar (temp, species, etc.)}$$



Turbulence subgrid-scale closure and filtering

© by Rob Stoll



$$\phi = \tilde{\phi} + \phi'$$

$$\tilde{S}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{u_i u_j} &= \overline{(\tilde{u}_i + u'_i)(\tilde{u}_j + u'_j)} \\ &= \widetilde{\tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j} + \widetilde{\tilde{u}_i u'_j} + \widetilde{\tilde{u}_j u'_i} + \widetilde{u'_i u'_j} \end{aligned}$$

$$\widetilde{\tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j} = \underbrace{(\widetilde{\tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j} - \tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j)}_{L_{ij}} + \tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j \quad \rightarrow \text{known}$$

L_{ij} - Leonard term (stress)

$$C_{ij} = \widetilde{\tilde{u}_i u'_j} + \widetilde{\tilde{u}_j u'_i} \Rightarrow \text{interaction between resolved and SFSs}$$

$$R_{ij} = \widetilde{u'_i u'_j} \Rightarrow \text{SFS "Reynold's" stress} \quad \rightarrow \text{unknown}$$

Required closure for the turbulent stress term

$$\tau_{ij} = L_{ij} + C_{ij} + R_{ij} = \widetilde{u_i u_j} - \tilde{u}_i \tilde{u}_j$$

$$\tau_{ij} - \frac{1}{3} \tau_{kk} \delta_{ij} = -2\nu_T \tilde{S}_{ij} \quad \rightarrow \text{parametrization (J. Smagorinsky)}$$

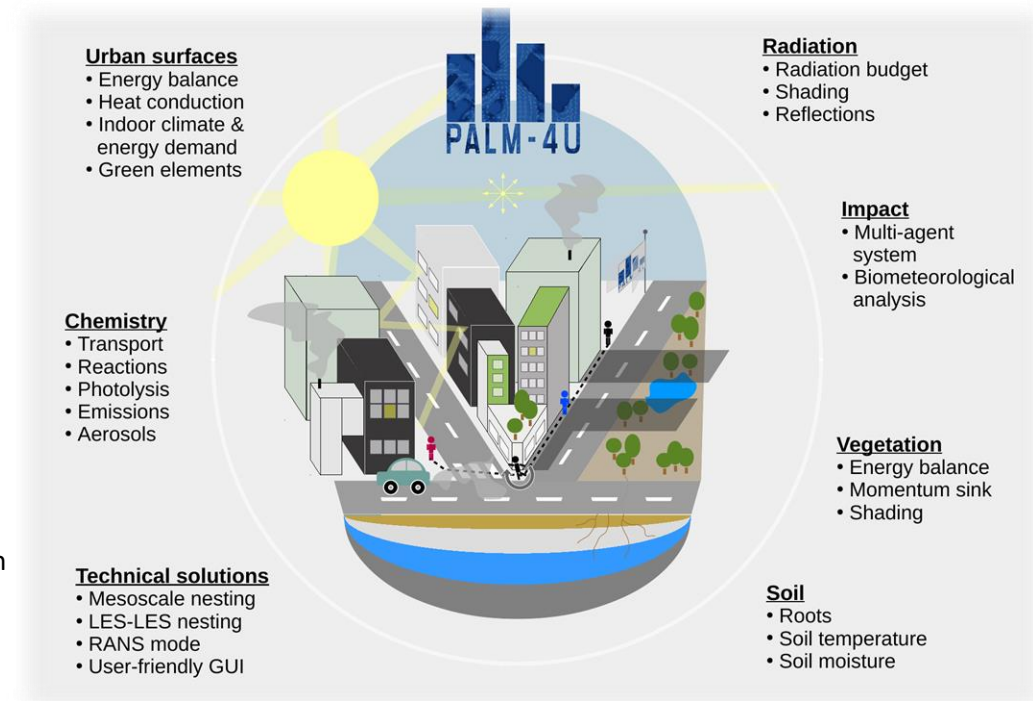
Model PALM (6.0)



The Parallelized Atmospheric Large-eddy simulation Model (PALM) with urban features PALM-4U ver. 6.0:

(Developed after our study)

- Excellent scaling, so far tested up to **32,000 cores**
- Online data analysis (during model runs) in order to avoid I/O bottlenecks
- Interactive land surface model, coupled to the RRTMG radiation model
- Wind turbine model (ADM-R) is implemented
- Ocean mode with salinity equation and equation of state for seawater
- **Coupled atmosphere-ocean mode on turbulence scales**
- Bulk cloud physics (Seifert-Beheng scheme)
- Embedded parallelized Lagrangian particle model for various applications
 - (footprint calculation, simulation of cloud droplet growth, visualization, etc.)
- Dynamic core and thermodynamics runs on multiple GPUs using CUDA-aware MPI
- **Urban Features:**
 - Energy balance solvers for building and paved surfaces
 - Radiative transfer within the urban canopy layer, including shadowing effects and multiple reflections between urban structures
 - Wall material model for heat transfer between atmosphere and building
 - Indoor climate module, predicting indoor temperature, energy demand, and waste heat
 - Chemistry module for the transport and conversion of reactive species
 - Model self-nesting that allows to increase either model domain size or to focus on near-surface processes
 - A multi-agent system for urban residents, allowing for biometeorological studies and escape scenarios
 - **Quasi-automatic external forcing by COSMO-DE model data**
 - A Reynolds-averaged Navier Stokes (RANS) type turbulence parameterization can be used instead of LES to reduce computational costs
 - Analysis tools and direct output of biometeorological quantities

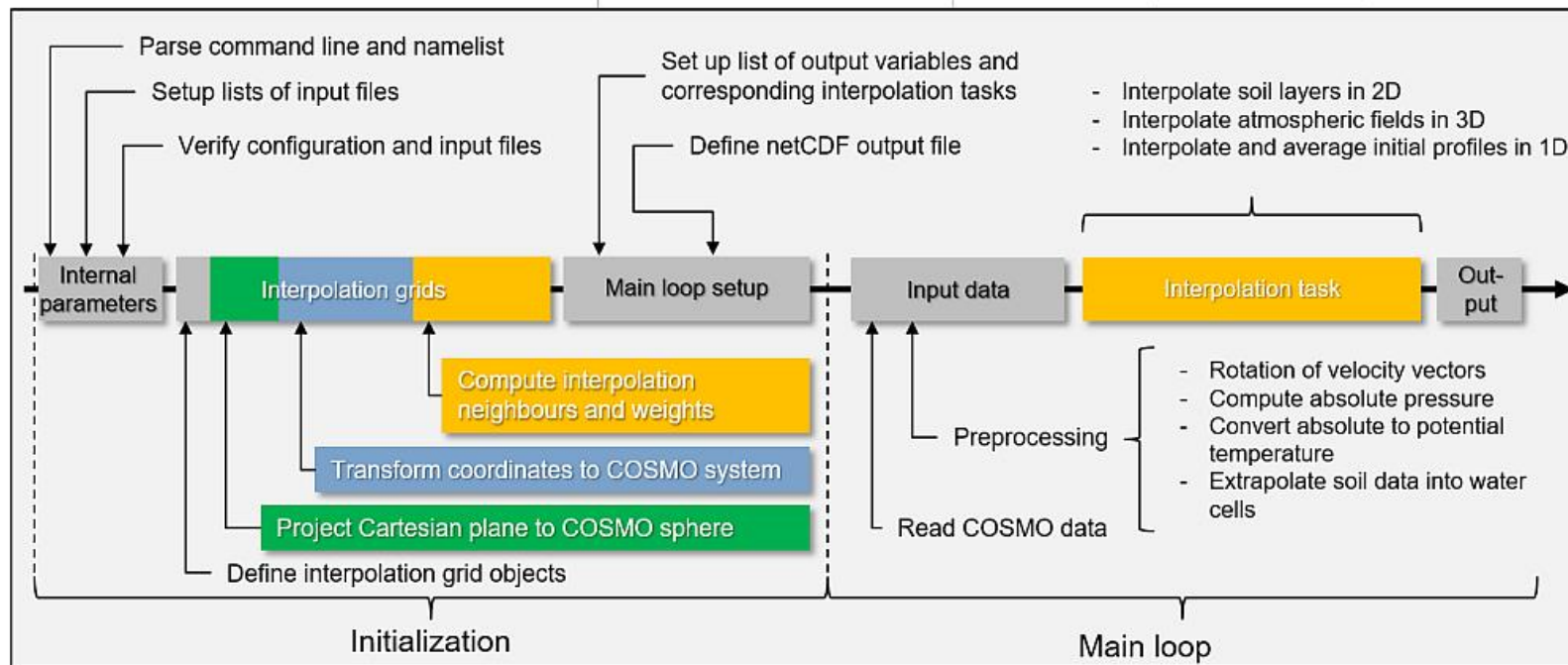


<https://palm.muk.uni-hannover.de/trac>

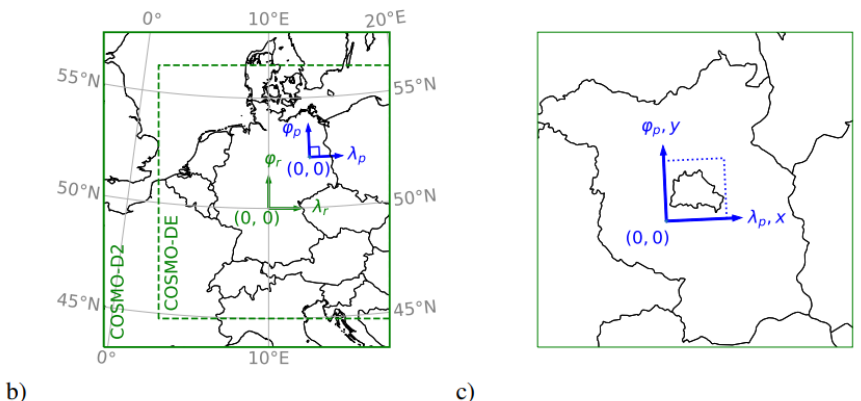
Modeling system COSMO-PALM



Figure 2. Example PALM domain (blue) for Berlin nested within the DWD COSMO configurations (green). Panel (a) Shows the rotated-pole system of COSMO-DE and -D2, the rotated North Poles of which are both located at $(\lambda^N, \varphi^N) = (170^\circ\text{W}, 40^\circ\text{N})$, placing their origin at $(\lambda, \varphi) = (10^\circ\text{E}, 50^\circ\text{N})$ (see panel (b)). Panel (b) shows the horizontal domain extents of both COSMO configurations. COSMO-D2 extends over $\lambda_r \in [7.5^\circ\text{W}, 5.5^\circ\text{E}]$, $\varphi_r \in [6.3^\circ\text{S}, 8.0^\circ\text{N}]$ (solid green), which is slightly increased compared to the COSMO-DE domain with $\lambda_r \in [5.0^\circ\text{W}, 5.5^\circ\text{E}]$, $\varphi_r \in [5.0^\circ\text{S}, 6.5^\circ\text{N}]$ (dashed green). Panels (b) and (c) show an example configuration with a PALM domain of $50\text{ km} \times 50\text{ km}$ (dashed blue).



Kadasch, E., Sühling, M., Gronemeier, T., Raasch, S., 2021.
Mesoscale nesting interface of the PALM model system 6.0.
Geosci. Model Dev. 14, 5435–5465.
<https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-14-5435-2021>



«Urbanization» of meso-scale models

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Urban canopy models in WRF /HIRLAM:

Both models have three different urban schemes included in the official releases: bulk approach, SLUCM, MLUCM (Chen et al. 2011, Baklanov et al., 2008)

Urban canopy models in COSMO:

1) TERRA_URB scheme (Wouters et al., 2015; 2016) – fast and efficient

scheme based on the bulk approach, planned be included to the official COSMO code in the last unified model version 6.0

- Standard surface and soil properties from TERRA land model (albedo, emissivity, roughness, etc.) are modified by **SURY** (Semi-empirical Urban canopy parameterization)
- Puddles parameterization for impervious surface
- Pre-defined anthropogenic heat flux according to (Flanner, 2009)

2) TEB (Town Energy Balance) – single layer urban canopy

model (Masson, 2000; Trusilova et al., 2013), problems in coupling have been revealed

3) DCEP (Shubert et al., 2012) and BEP-Tree (Musetti et al., 2019) schemes - the most advanced multi-layer schemes for COSMO

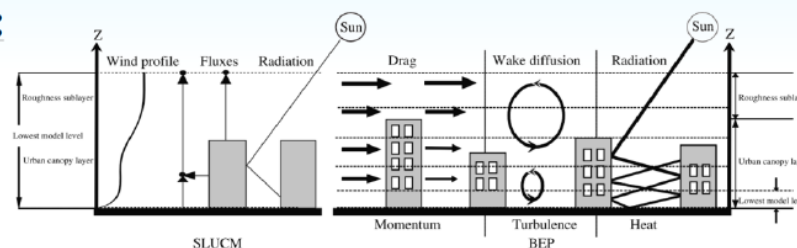
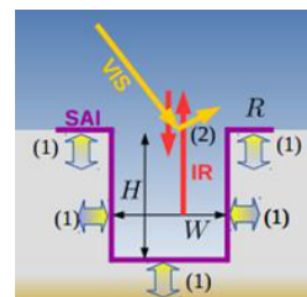
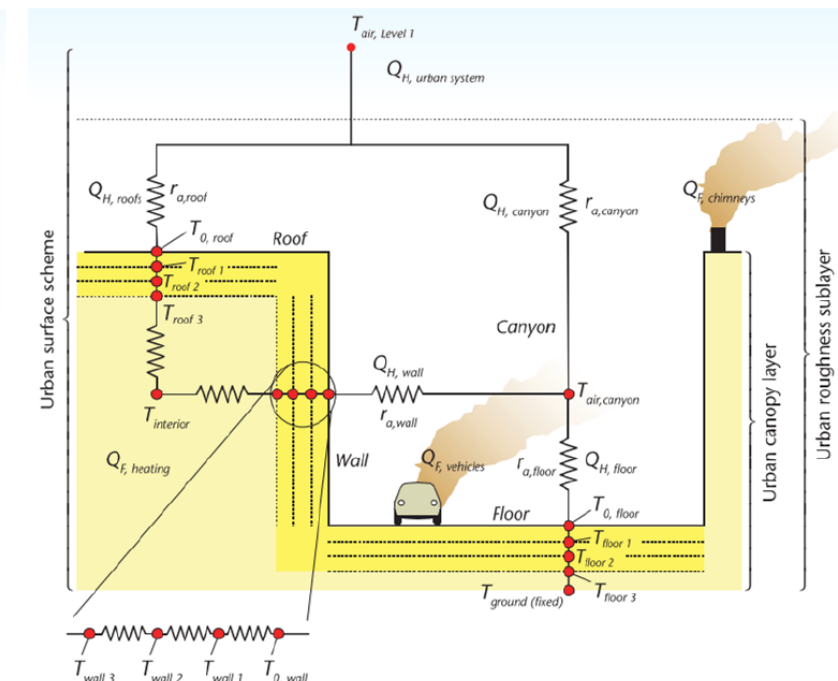


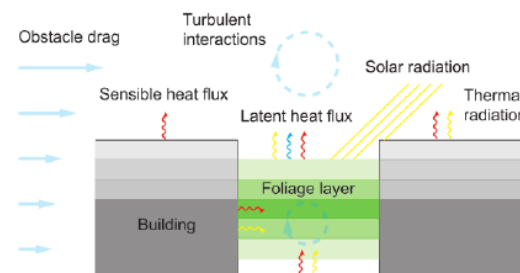
Figure 2. A schematic of the SLUCM (on the left-hand side) and the multi-layer BEP models (on the right-hand side).



“Translation of urban canopy parameters into bulk parameters”



TEB (Town Energy Balance) scheme (Masson, 2000)



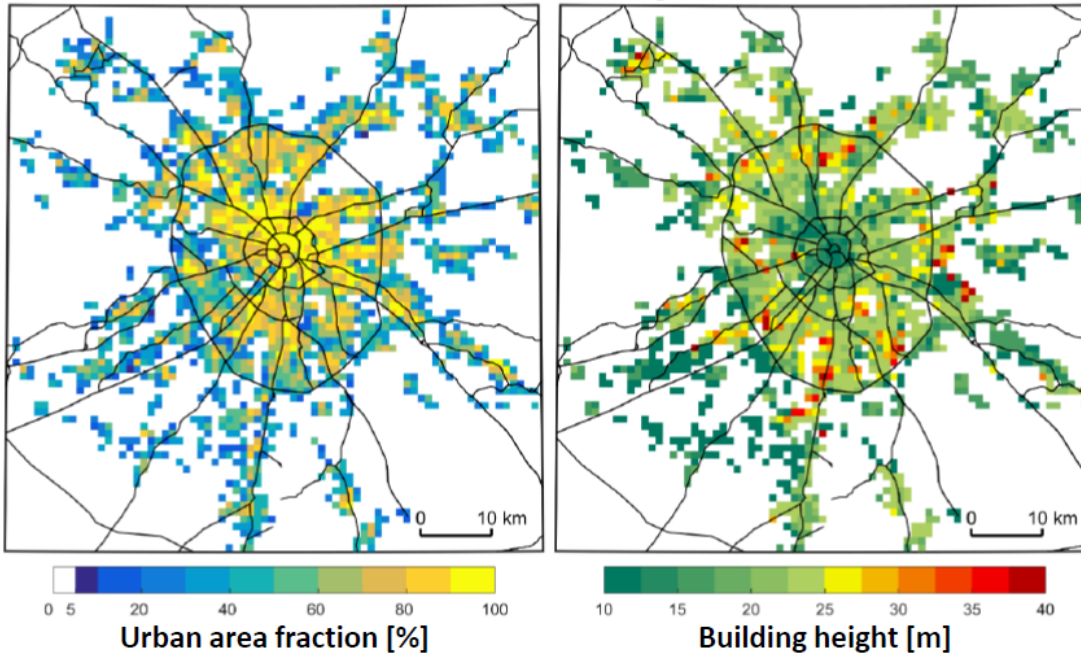
BEP-Tree

Urban canopy parameters

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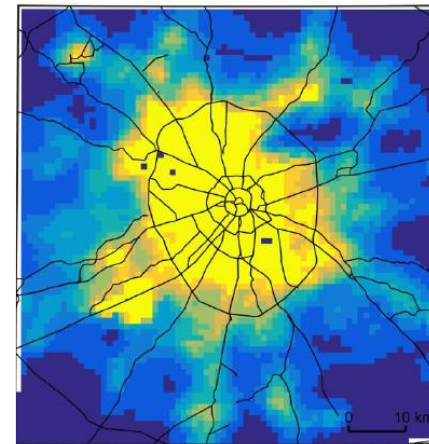
Required urban canopy parameters for TERRA_URB:

- Urban area fraction (= impervious surface fraction, ISA)
 - Annual-mean anthropogenic heat flux (AHF)
 - Building area fraction
 - Building height H
 - Street canyon aspect ratio (H/W)
- Additionally introduced as external parameters

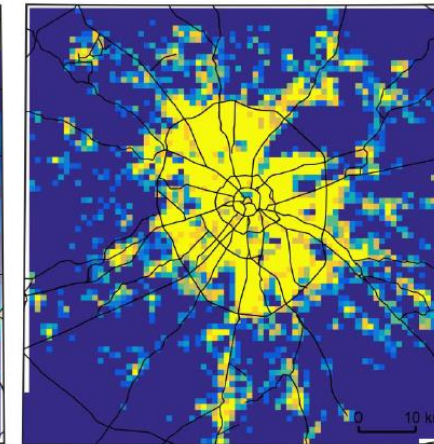


Urban (impervious) fraction

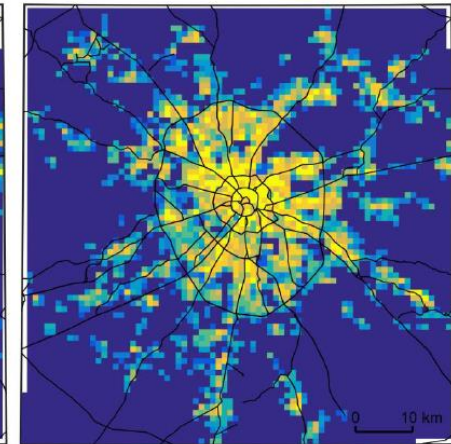
ISA/FR_PAVED field from EXTPAR



URBAN field from EXTPAR (based on Globcover LU classes)



Our empiric estimate based on OpenStreetMap data



$$F_{urb} = \min[1 - F_{nat}, \max(F_{bld} + F_{road} + k_{ind} \cdot F_{ind} + k_{res} \cdot F_{res}; F_{bld} + F_{can})]$$

Natural ("green") fraction

Buildings

Roads

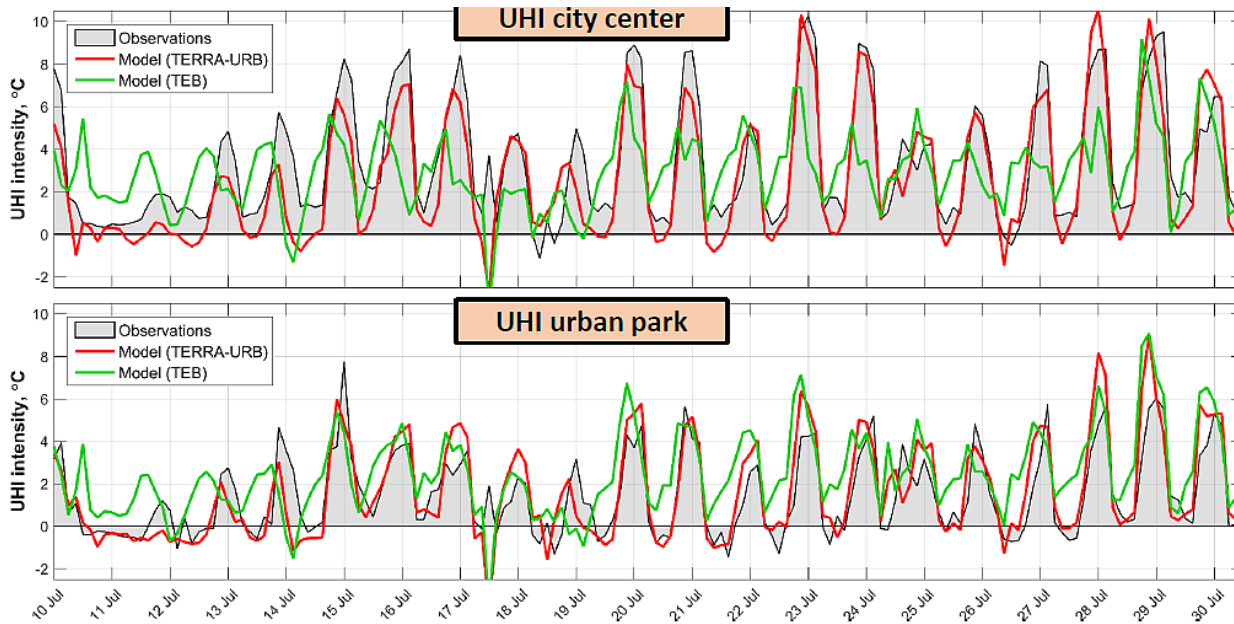
Industrial areas

Residential areas (courtyards)

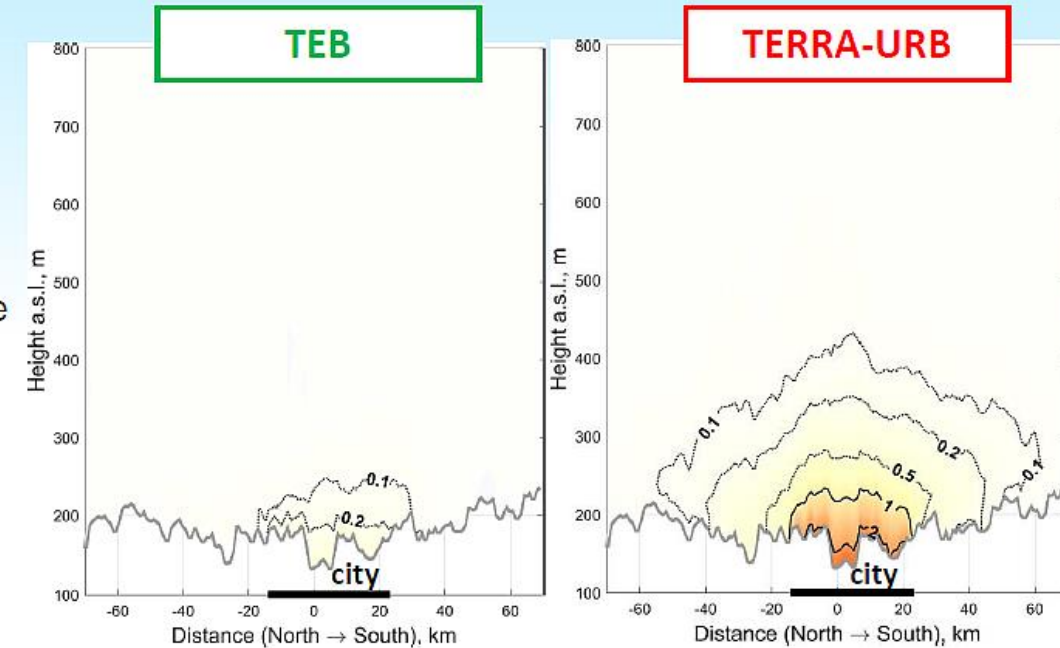
Street canyons

Plurality of urbanization model results

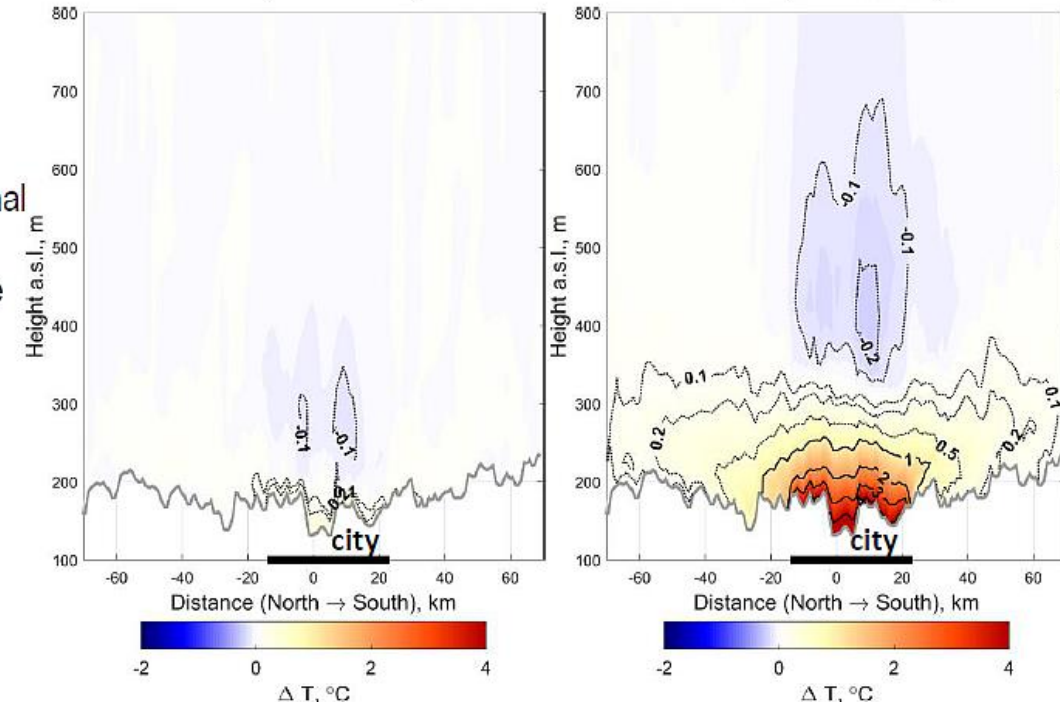
© Mikhail Varentsov



Day mean
temperature
response



Mean nocturnal
(0 UTC)
temperature
response

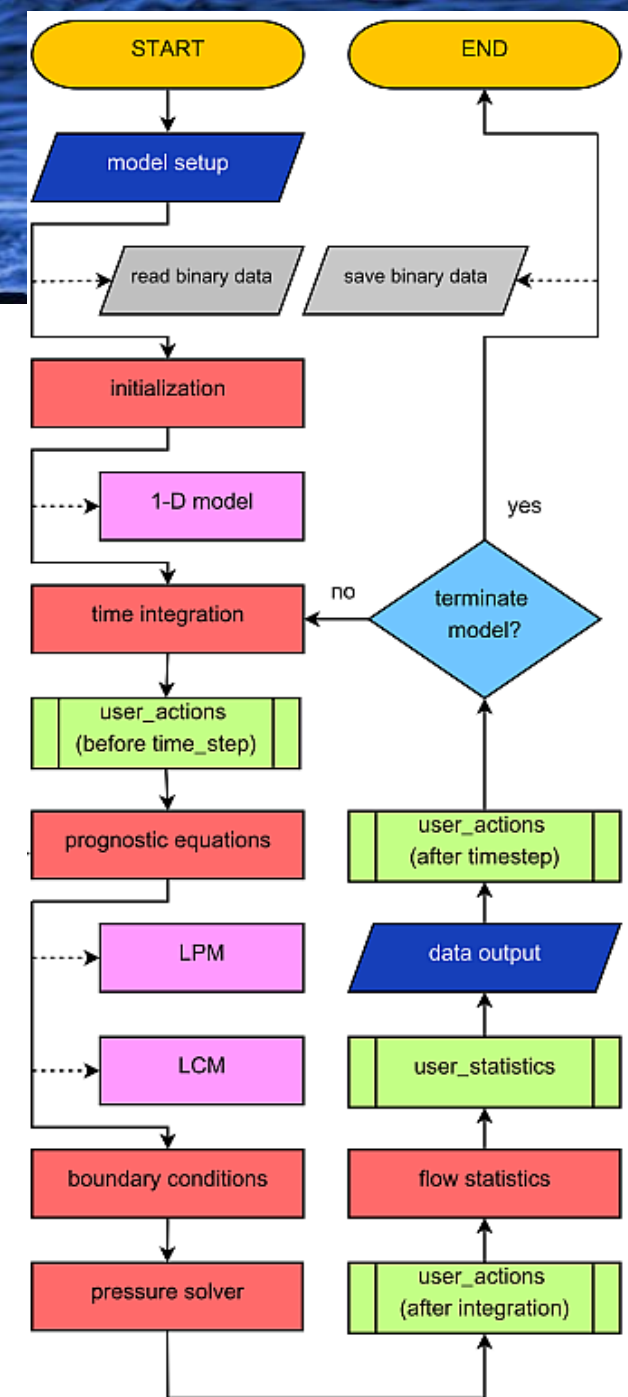
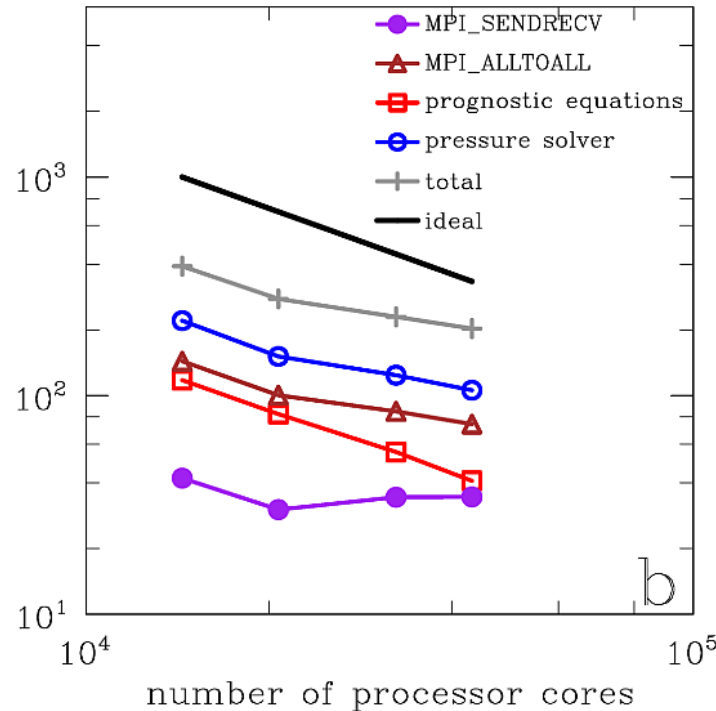
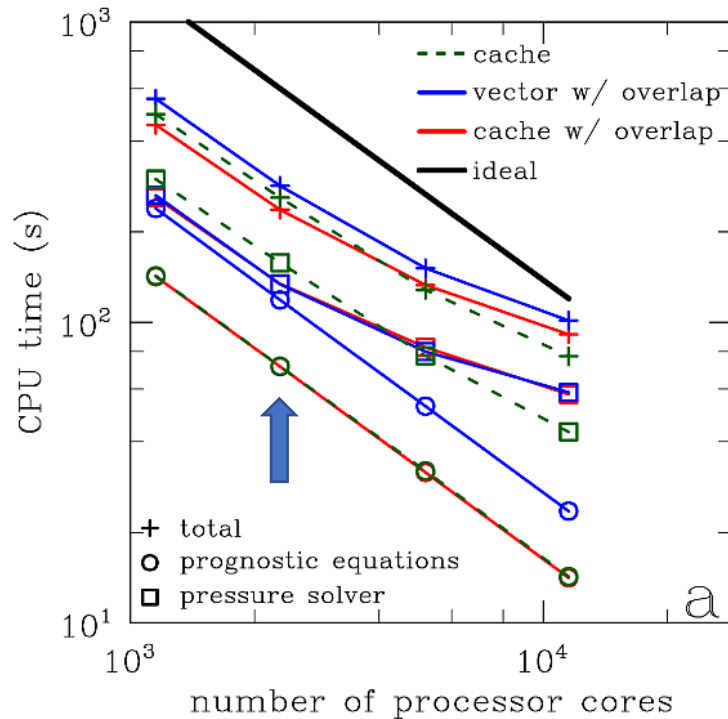


Vertical cross-sections, built for temperature response
to switching on the urban scheme (for mean summer T)

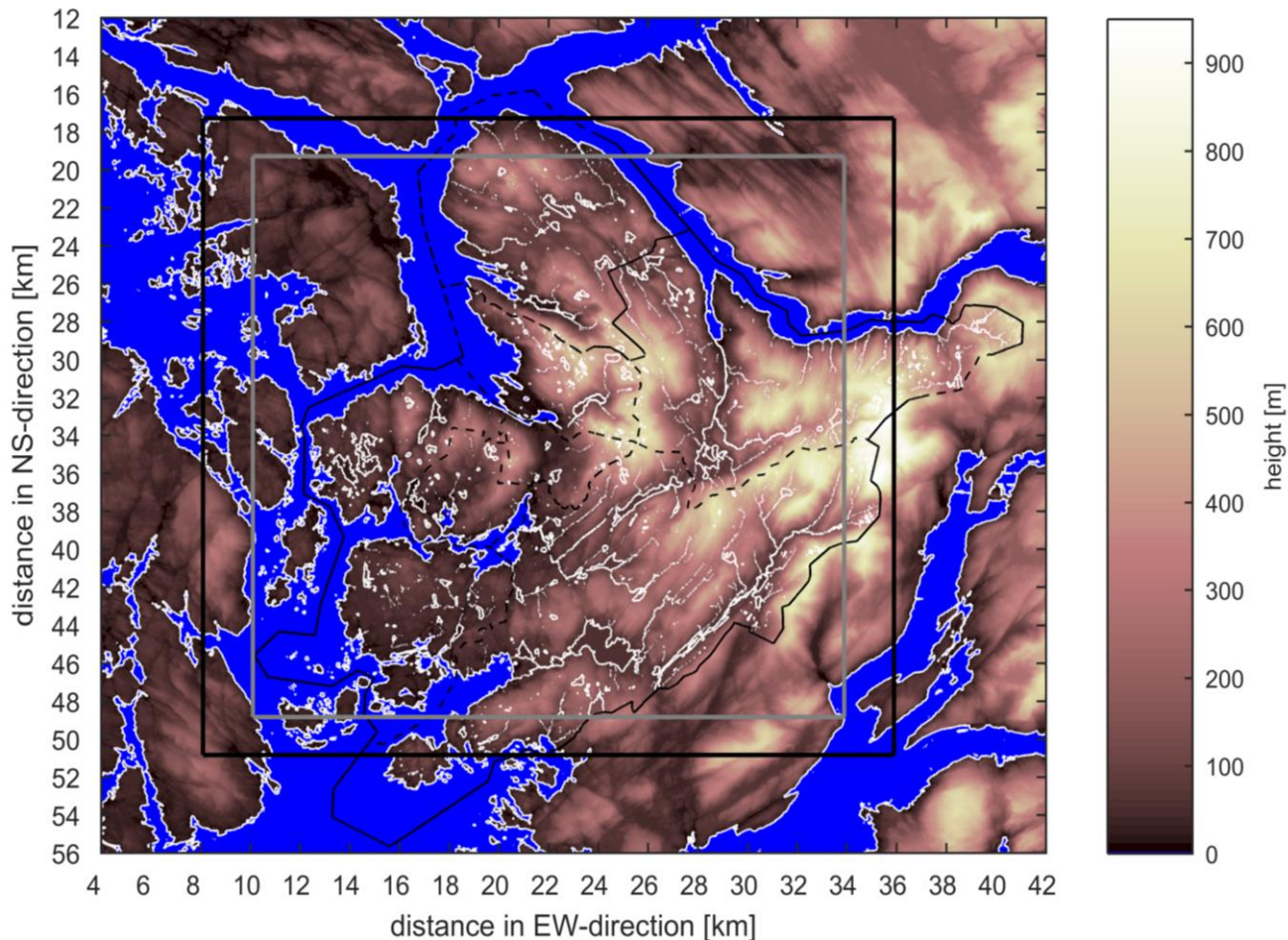
Модель PALM

The Parallelized Atmospheric Large-eddy simulation Model (PALM):

- Optimized to run on massive-parallel
 - This study completed on HEXAGON (decommissioned in 2019) at SIGMA-2 Norwegian national HPC center
 - New studies run on FRAM at SIGMA-2 Norwegian national HPC center
- This study runs PALM on **2048** CPU cores; one run took about **6 hours**
- Allows to include user modules (user_actions) as independent subroutines



Model configuration



Topographic map of the Bergen area. The black square indicates the final model domain used for the PALM simulations; the gray square indicates the focus area for the analysis of the PALM simulations.

Periodic lateral boundary conditions.

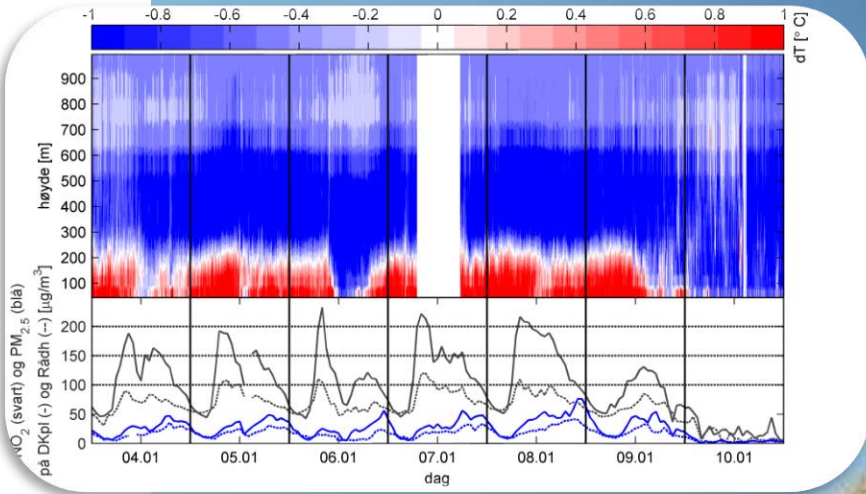
The total domain size is $28800 \times 34560 \text{ m}^2$ in the zonal and meridional directions, respectively, including buffer zones for linear interpolation between the periodic boundaries of 1000 m width.

The horizontal grid cell resolution is 10 m.

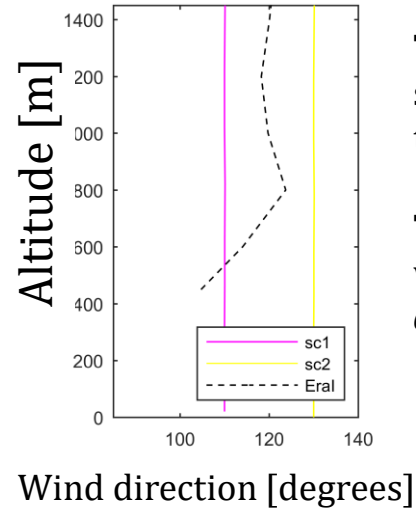
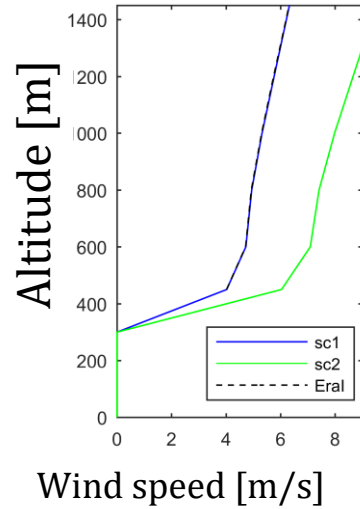
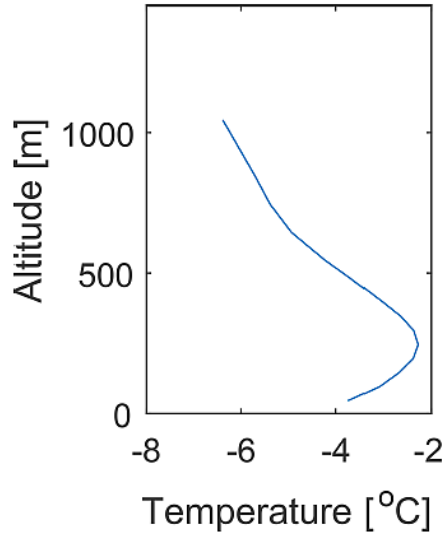
The vertical resolution is 10 m up to a height of 660 m. Above that the vertical resolution increases by 1 % for each additional grid level. The total domain height is 160 levels or 2239 m.

Digital elevation model (DEM) from the Norwegian mapping authority in the GeoTIFF format. We used ArcGIS in order to process the data and create a complete topography data set at 10 m horizontal resolution; linear interpolation to fix small gaps due to missing laser data.

Initial conditions and scenarios

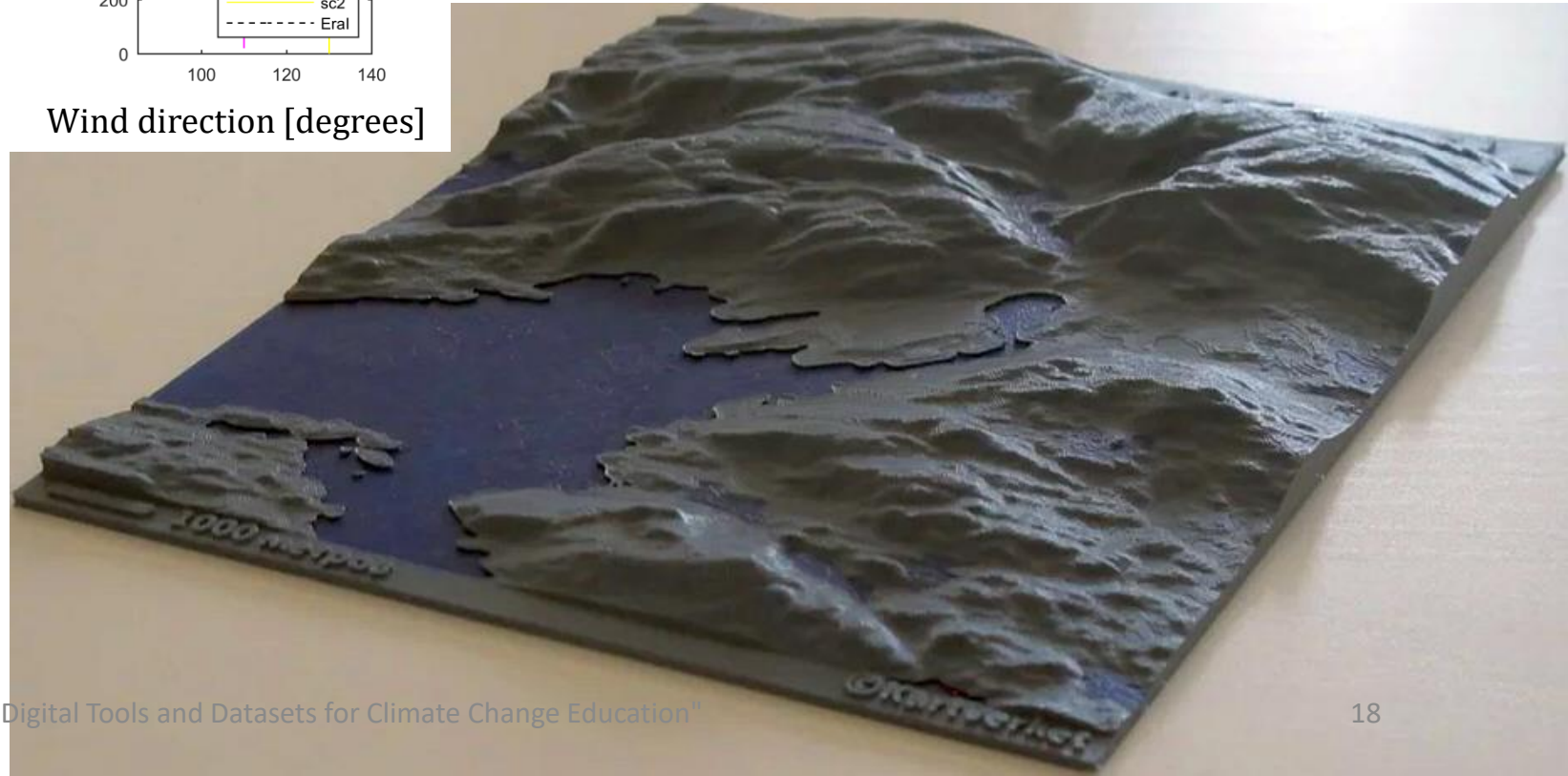


Initial conditions and scenarios



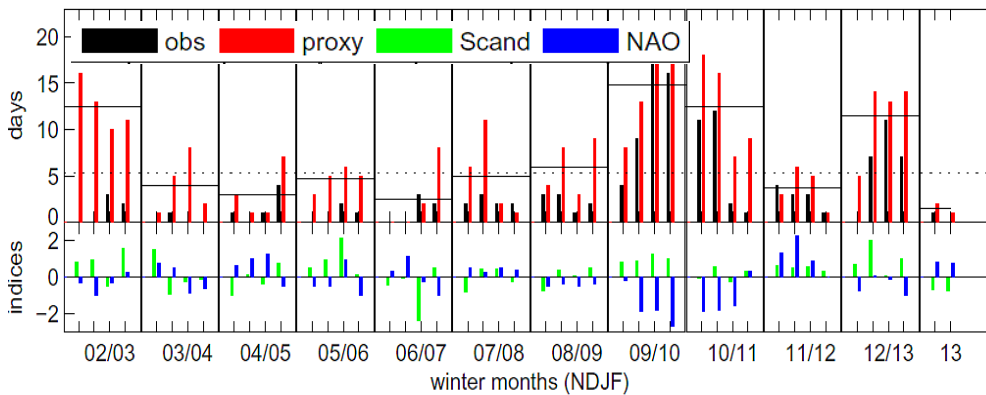
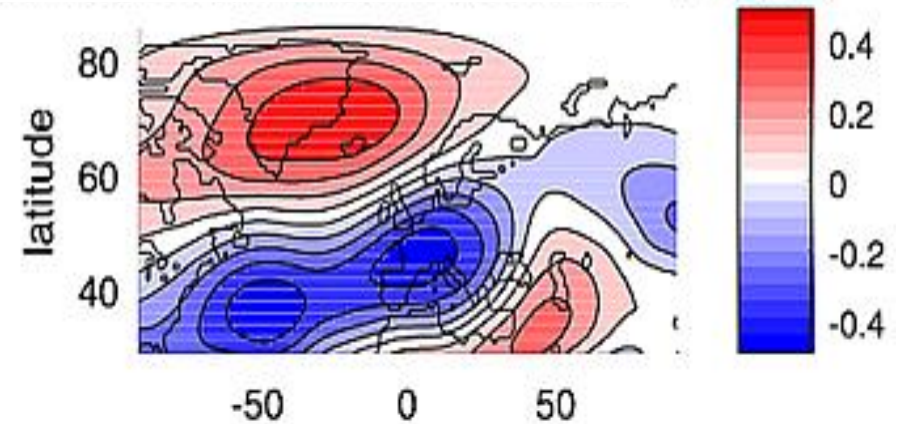
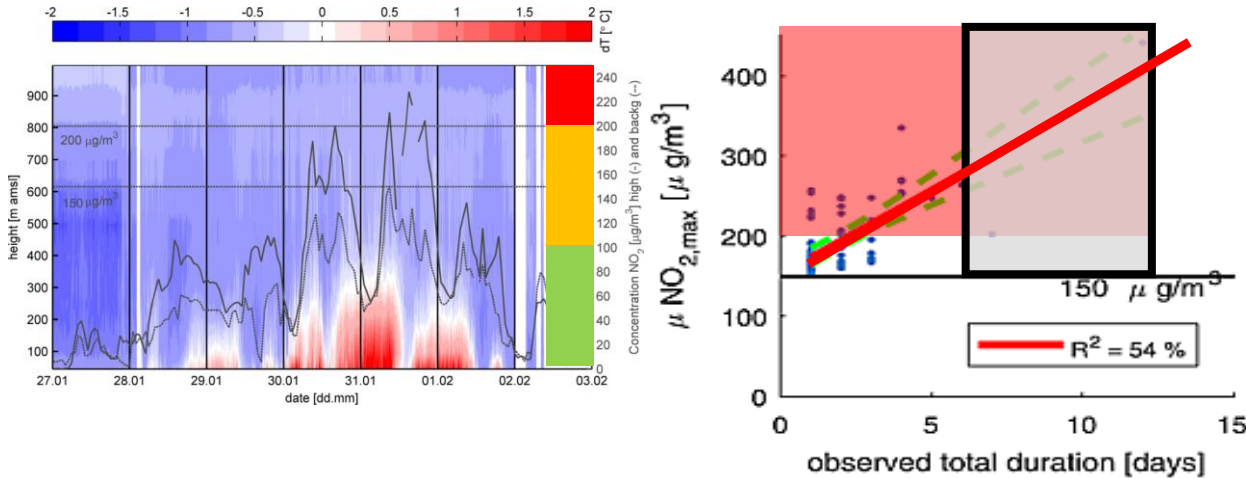
The First Scenario (sc1): Low speed south-eastern wind with sea surface temperature by 2.5°C warmer than the land surface temperature

The Second Scenario (sc2): Low-to-middle speed more southern wind with equal sea surface and land surface temperatures – *characterize air stagnation in the city centrum*



Influential scenarios

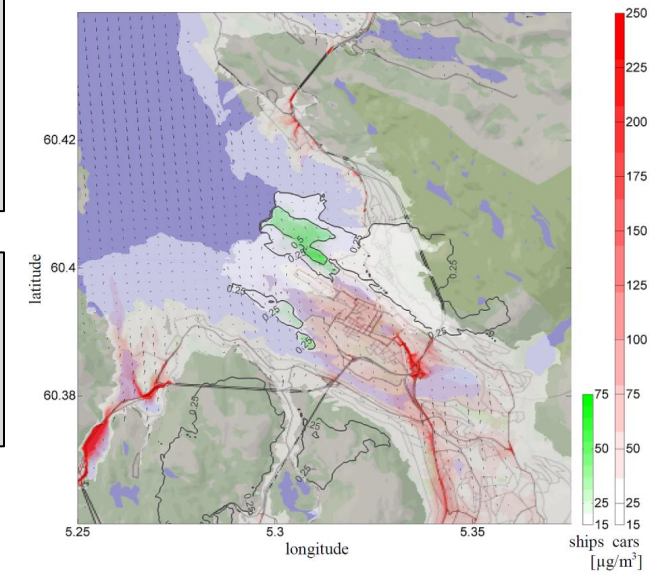
Extreme local hazards require persistent weather conditions and large-scale circulation anomalies $R^2: 33\%$



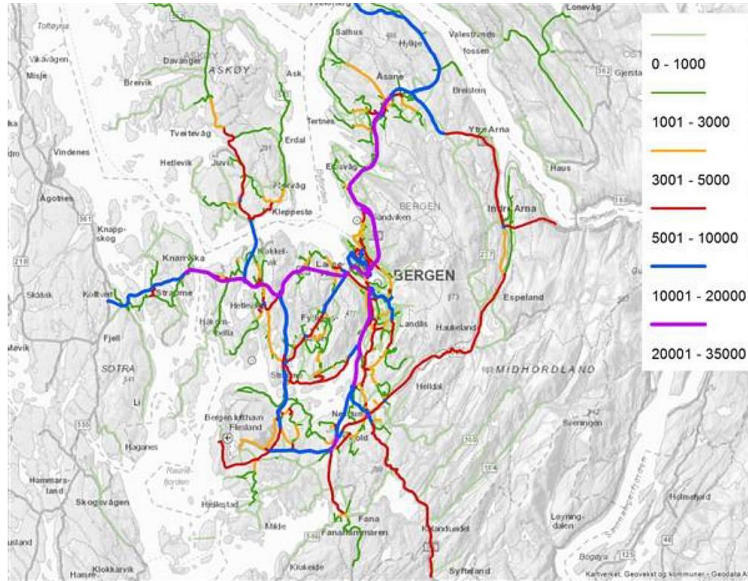
Extreme concentrations
accumulate longer than **3 days**

The Greenland blocking

Corresponding local extremes
could be captured by the high-
resolution models

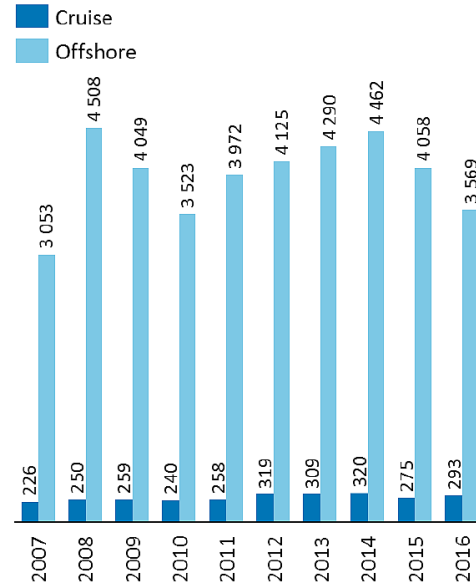


Pollution sources



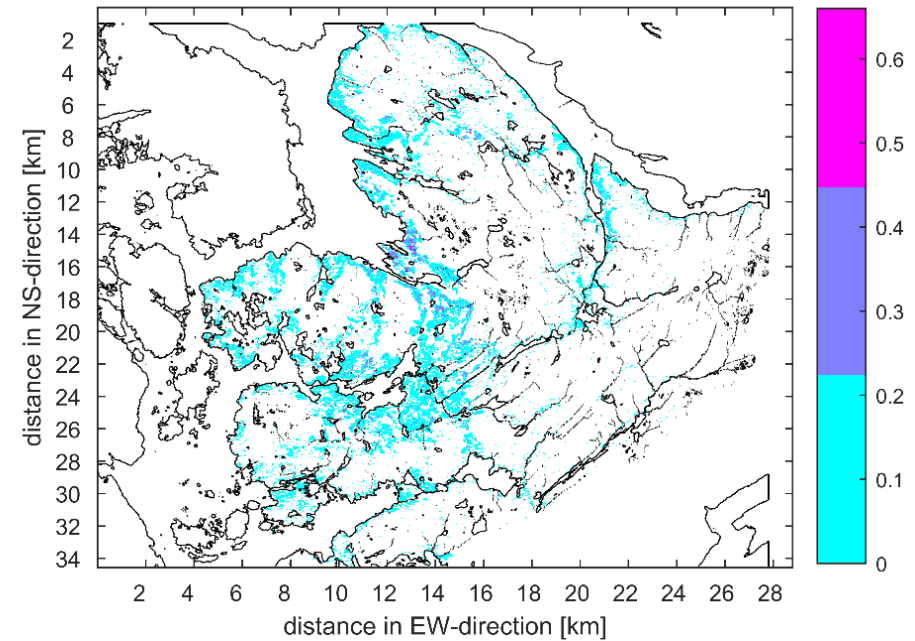
Mean daily road traffic in Bergen
Source: NILU report no15, 2017

Road Traffic



Total annual number of ships in the Bergen Harbour

Ships in the Harbor



Map with the locations of wood ovens in Bergen within the modelled domain (centred over Bergen).
The colour shading indicates the number of properties with a registered wood oven averaged over 3 x 3 boxes. Black lines indicate the waterfront.
Based on data from Bergen Municipality and Fire department, respectively.

Wood-burning ovens in private Households

Co-variability: Blocking – air quality

SO₂

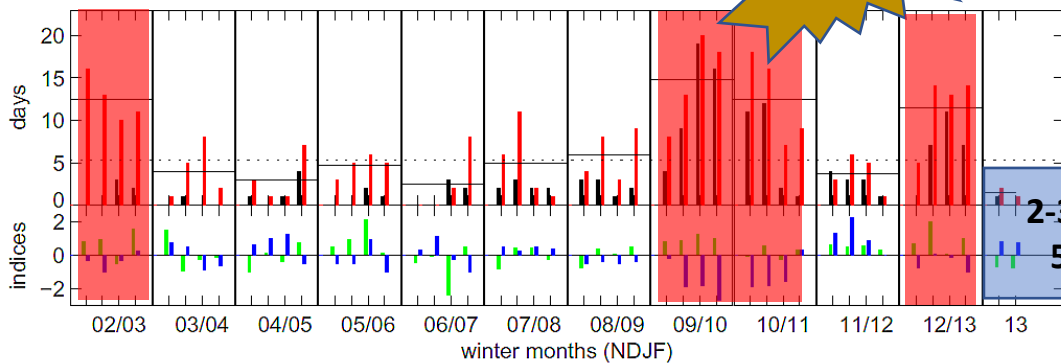
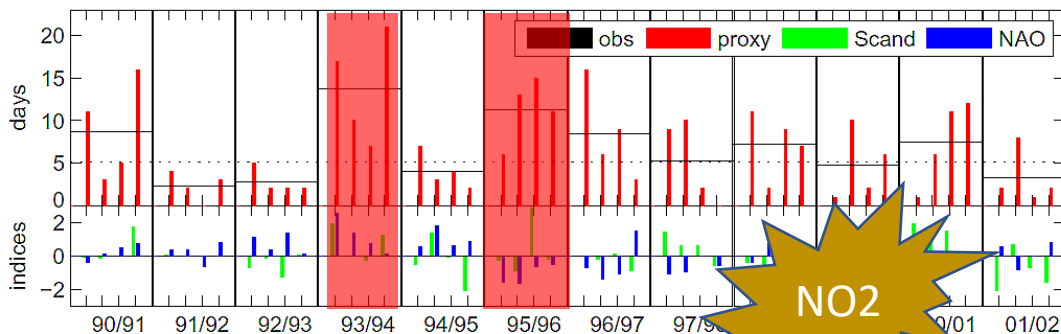
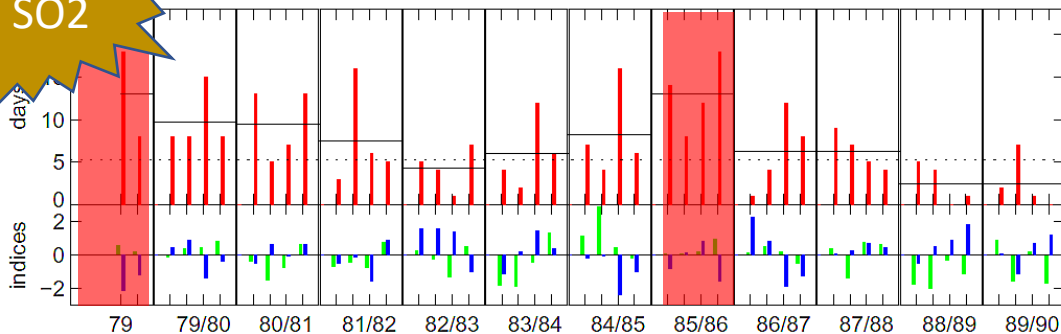


Table 1. The empirically identified thresholds for the atmospheric circulation proxy.*

Variable	Thresholds	Thresholds (day-1)
Wind	$05^{\circ} < wd < 175^{\circ}, ws < 3 \text{ m/s}$	$00^{\circ} < wd < 360^{\circ}, ws < 4 \text{ m/s}$
	$85^{\circ} < wd < 155^{\circ}, ws < 4 \text{ m/s}$	$85^{\circ} < wd < 165^{\circ}, ws < 5 \text{ m/s}$
	$85^{\circ} < wd < 135^{\circ}, ws < 5 \text{ m/s}$	$105^{\circ} < wd < 165^{\circ}, ws < 6 \text{ m/s}$
	$105^{\circ} < wd < 135^{\circ}, ws < 6 \text{ m/s}$	$105^{\circ} < wd < 115^{\circ}, ws < 8 \text{ m/s}$
	$105^{\circ} < wd < 115^{\circ}, ws < 7 \text{ m/s}$	
Temperature	$\Delta T < -0.7 \text{ K}$	$\Delta T < -0.5 \text{ K}$

*The atmospheric circulation proxy is set to 1 if all variables are within their respective ranges. Abbreviations: *wd* – wind direction; *ws* – wind speed and ΔT – temperature deviation from the climatological seasonal mean cycle.

Table 2. Detection and false alarm rate (Ryan et al., 2000) of the proxy and correlations between the monthly and seasonal sum of observed and predicted polluted days.*

	Skill scores	Skill scores WE14
Detection rate	0.82	0.80
False alarm rate	0.55	0.62
Correct null prediction rate	0.87	0.84
Correlation days per month	0.89	0.85
Correlation days per season	0.93	0.93

*For the correlations on a seasonal basis, only complete winter-seasons (NDJF) are considered. All correlations are significant at the 99% level.

2-3 years polluted air winters
5-7 years clean air winters

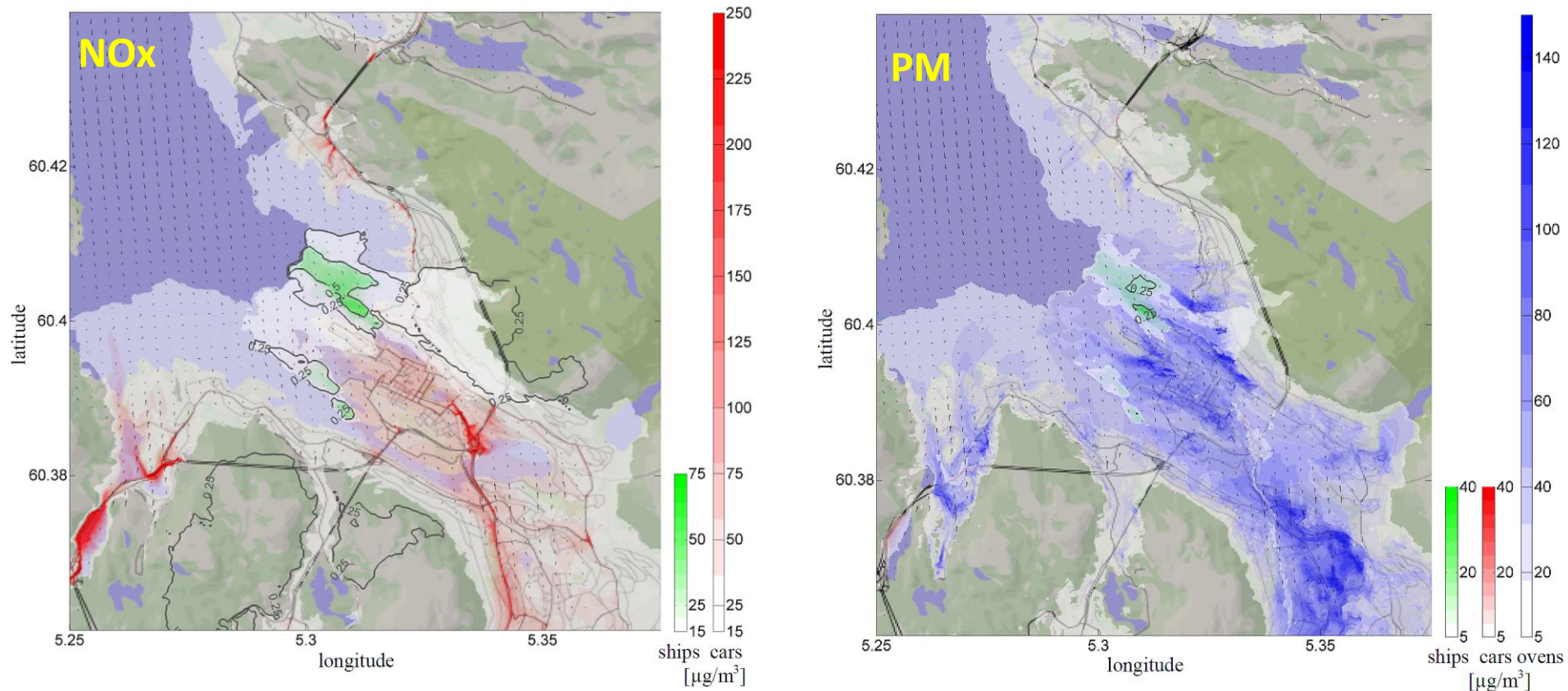
PM

?

14/15 15/16 16/17 17/18 18/19

Model runs and interpretation of results

Wolf, T., Pettersson, L. H., and Esau, I., 2020: A very high-resolution assessment and modelling of urban air quality, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 20, 625–647, <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-20-625-2020>



Model sensitivity

Wolf-Grosse, T., Esau, I., & Reuder, J. (2017). Sensitivity of local air quality to the interplay between small- and large-scale circulations: a large-eddy simulation study.

Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 17(11), 7261–7276.

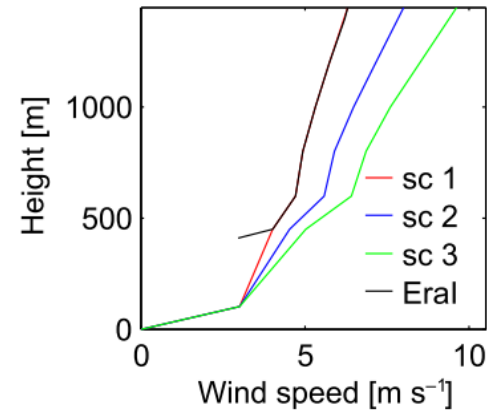
<https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-17-7261-2017>

Table 1. Model simulations.

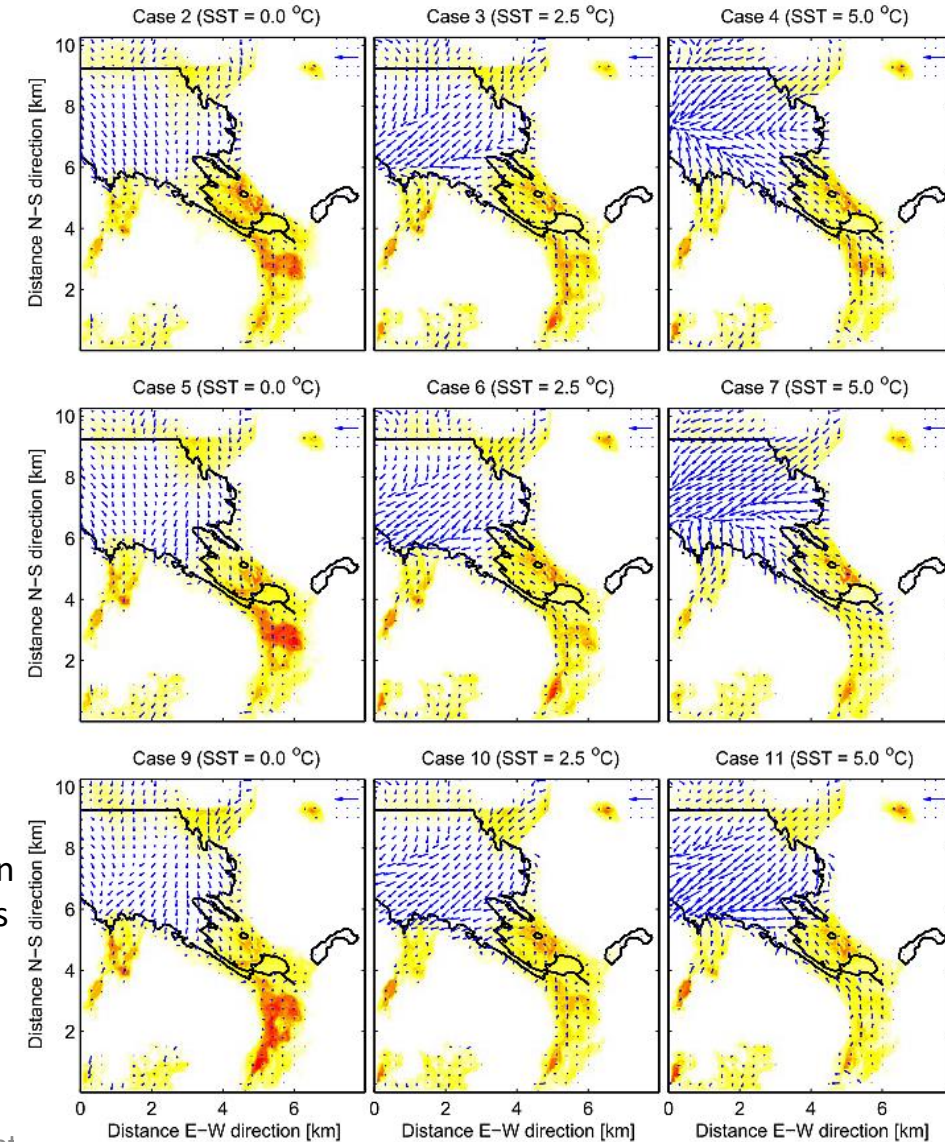
Case	Wind scenario	θ_{fjord} (K)	$T_{2\text{m}}$ (fjord) (K) ^b	$T_{2\text{m}}$ (area 1) (K) ^b	$T_{2\text{m}}$ (area 2) (K) ^b
Case 0 ^a	sc 1	—	—	—	—
Case 1	sc 1	270.7	271.5	269.8	268.0
Case 2	sc 1	273.2	273.6	271.3	269.1
Case 3	sc 1	275.7	275.4	272.0	270.1
Case 4	sc 1	278.2	277.4	273.0	271.6
Case 5	sc 2	273.2	273.7	271.5	269.0
Case 6	sc 2	275.7	275.4	272.2	270.8
Case 7	sc 2	278.2	277.4	273.3	272.8
Case 8	sc 2	280.7	279.1	274.4	273.3
Case 9	sc 3	273.2	273.7	271.7	269.8
Case 10	sc 3	275.7	275.5	272.5	271.0
Case 11	sc 3	278.2	277.3	273.5	272.4
Case 12	sc 3	280.7	279.1	275.1	275.2
Case 13 ^c	sc 3	273.2	273.7	271.7	269.8
Case 14 ^c	sc 3	275.7	275.5	272.5	271.1
Case 15 ^c	sc 3	278.2	277.3	273.5	272.4

^a Simulation with Neumann BC and $H_0 = 0 \text{ K m}^{-1}$ over entire domain.

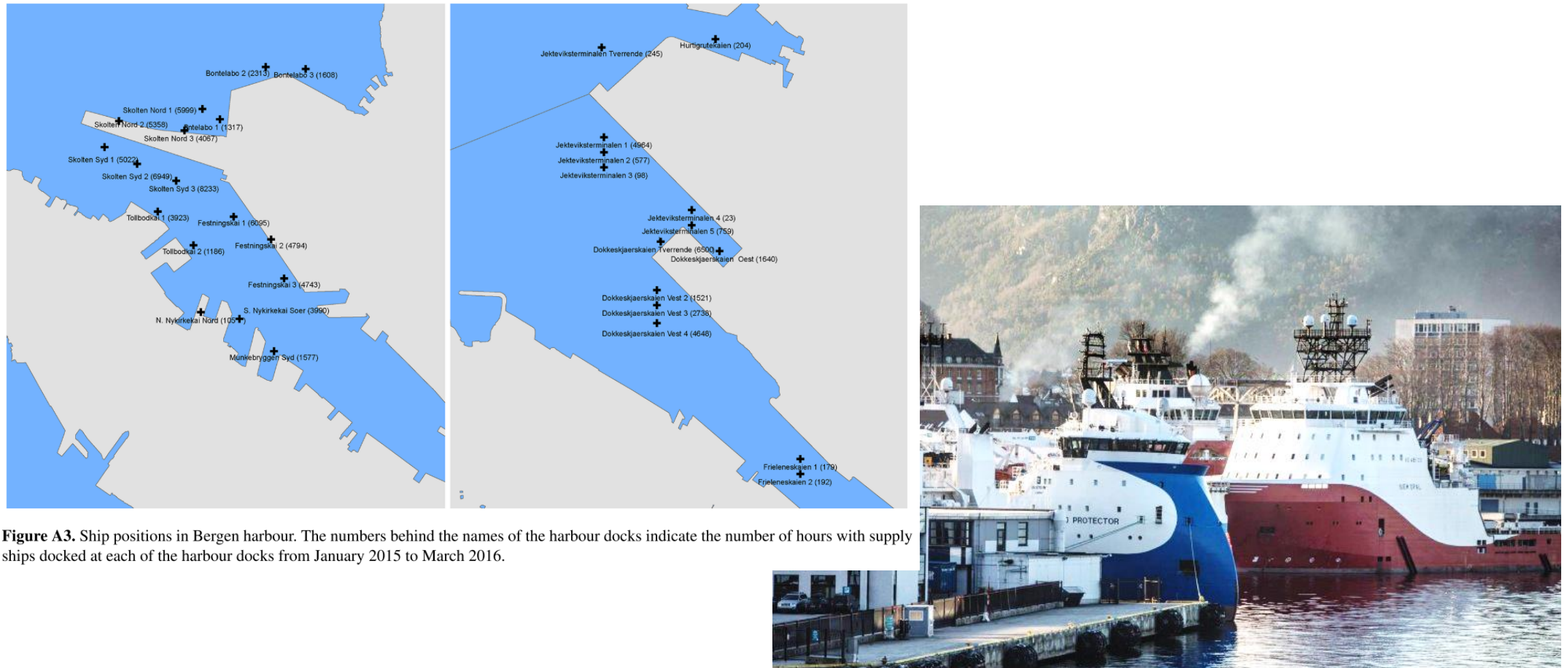
^b Calculated from a linear extrapolation of the potential temperature gradient between the two lowest grid points above topography. Absolute temperature calculated with reference pressure 1000 hPa. The mean temperatures over land contain areas up to 70 m surface elevation. In inversion conditions this results in a higher mean temperature than only for the lowest areas. ^c Emissions only from the largest street in the Bergen Valley.



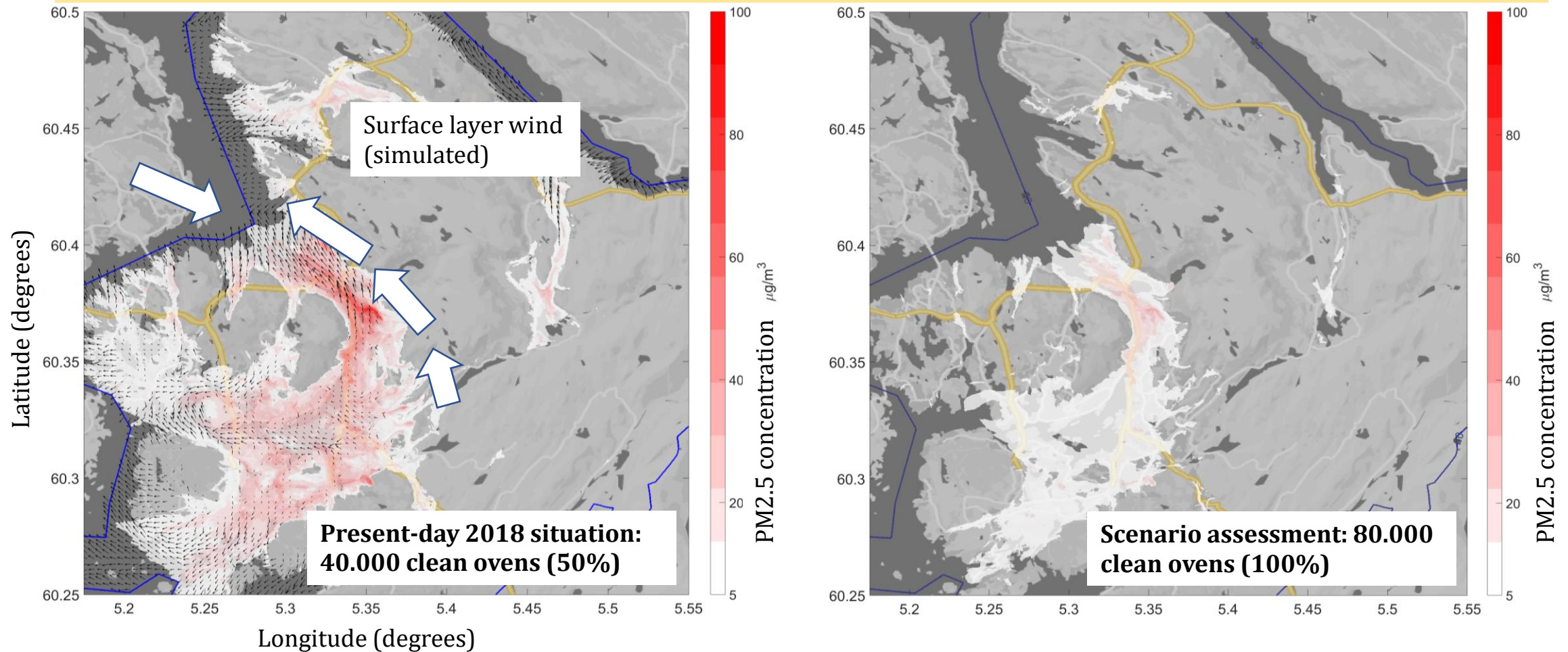
Wind fields at 55m height and passive tracer concentration 2m above the surface. The top, middle, and bottom panels show the results for wind speed scenario 1, 2, and 3. All data are means over the last four output steps of the 12 h simulation. Each output step is an average of 15 min.



Modeling scenarios for optimization of environmental management



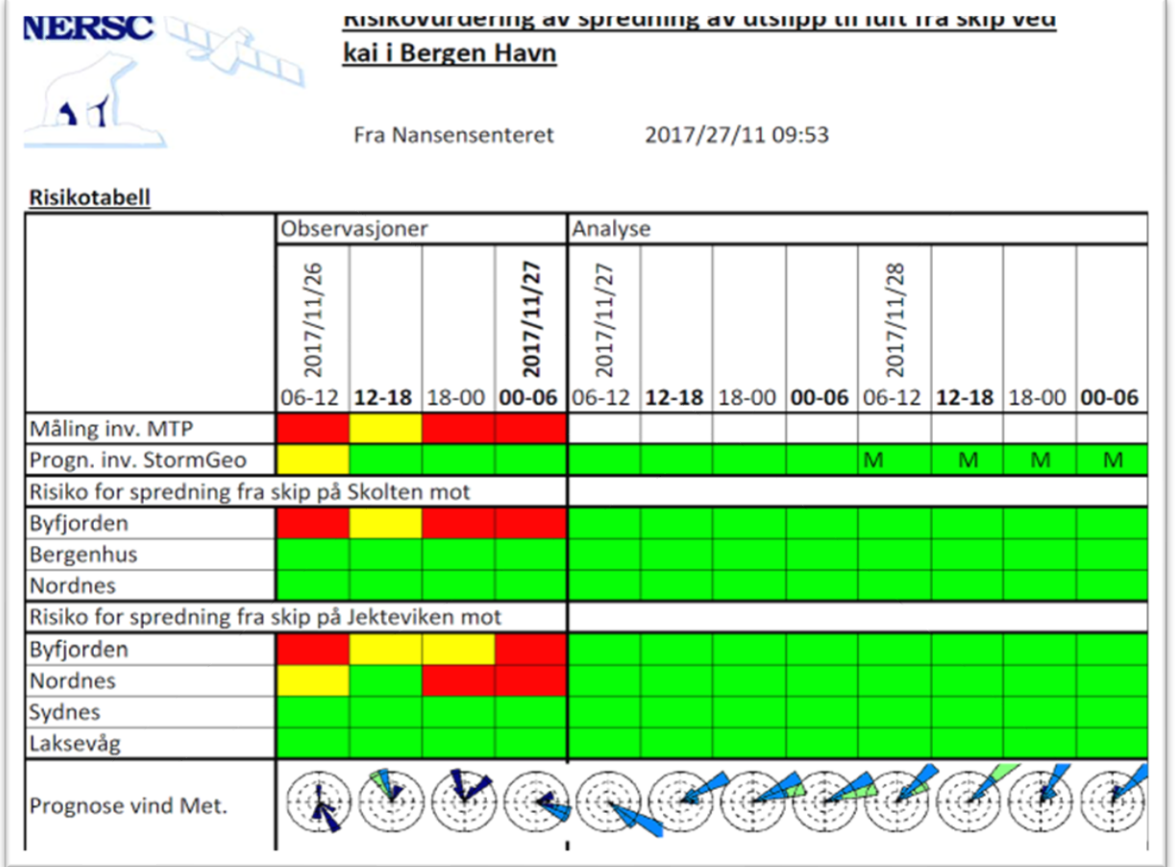
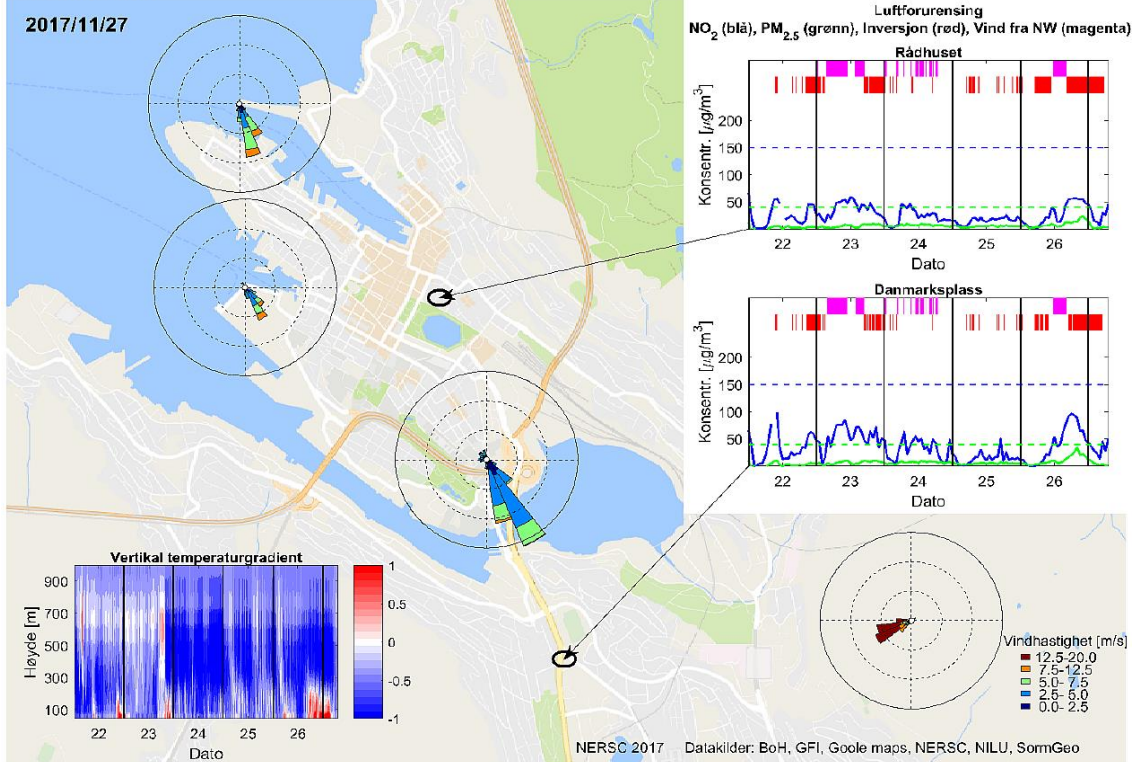
Modeling scenarios for optimization of environmental management

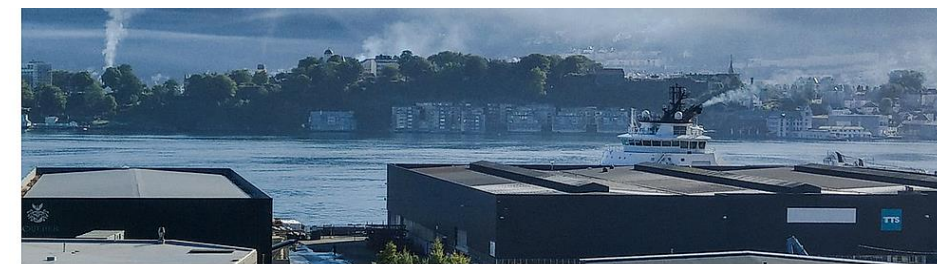
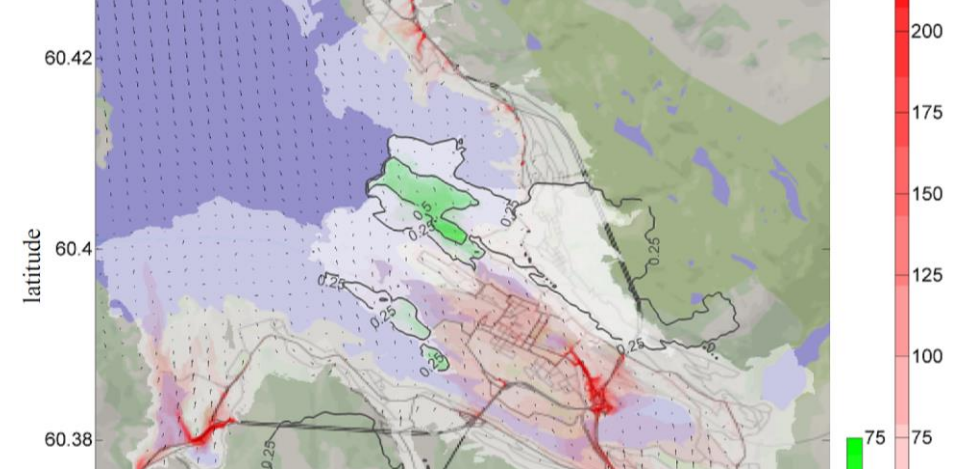
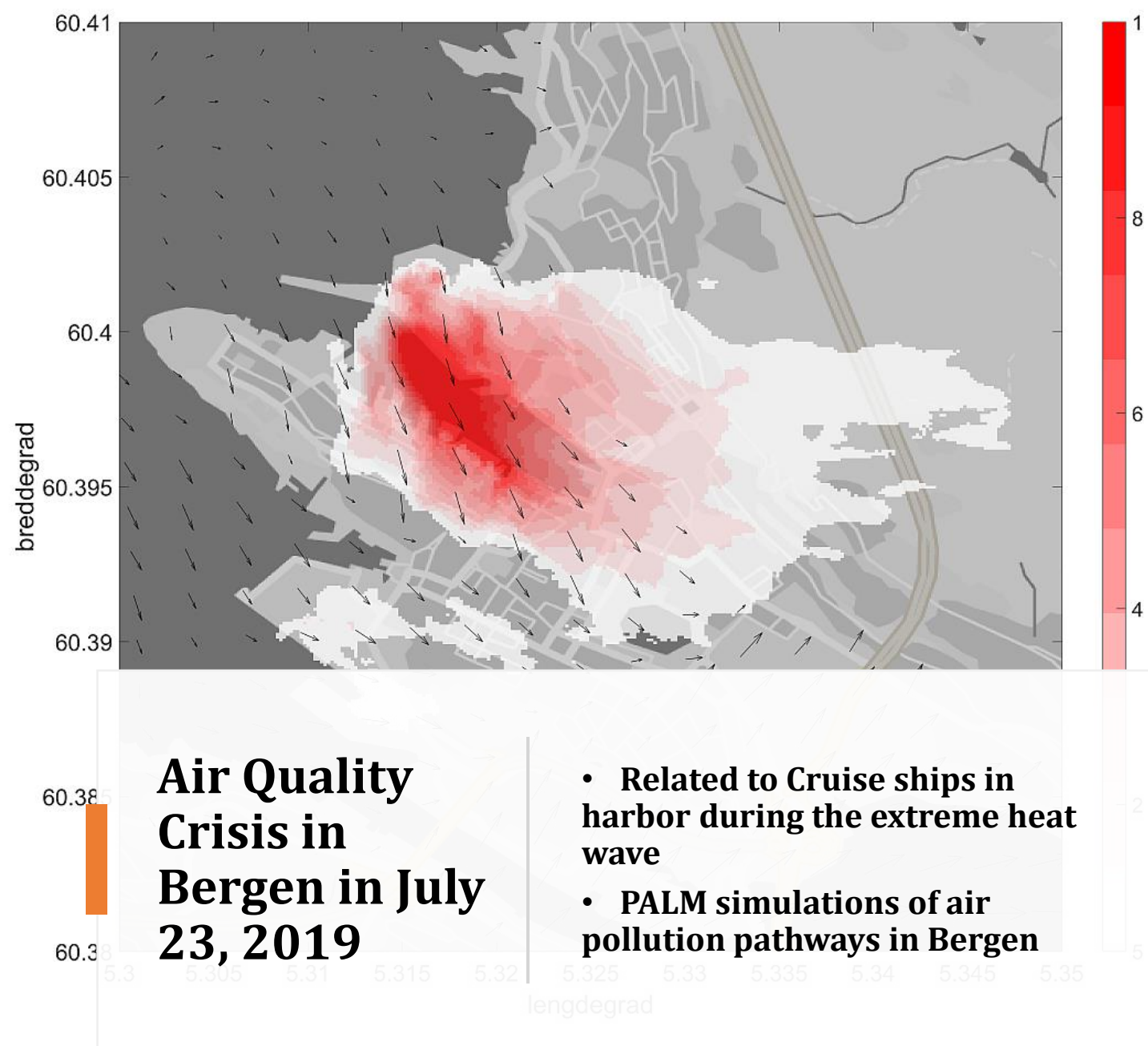


The PM2.5 concentrations from wood-burning household fireplaces (ovens): Present day oven composition impact (left panel) versus future composition impact (right panel) in the first typical **winter scenario**

Urban modeling for climate services

Oversiktskart





FORURENSNING OVER BYEN: Slik så det ut fra Laksevåg tirsdag ved 8-tiden. FOTO: HELGE MISJE JOHANNESSEN

– Skipene som spyr ut forurensning burde vært senket for lenge siden

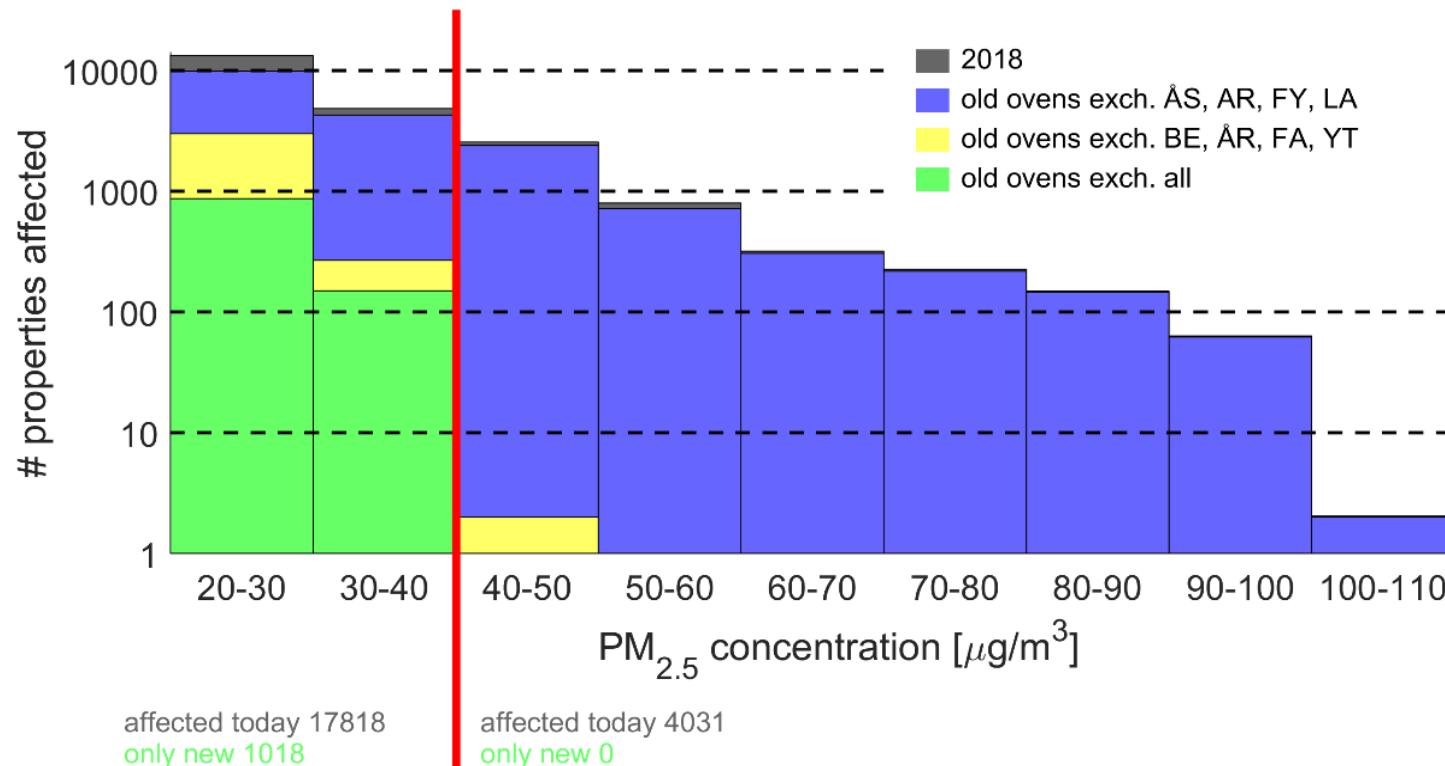
– Har ikke sett det verre i sommer. Dette kan vi ikke leve med. Rydd opp!



The Bergen study: Effective Scenarios

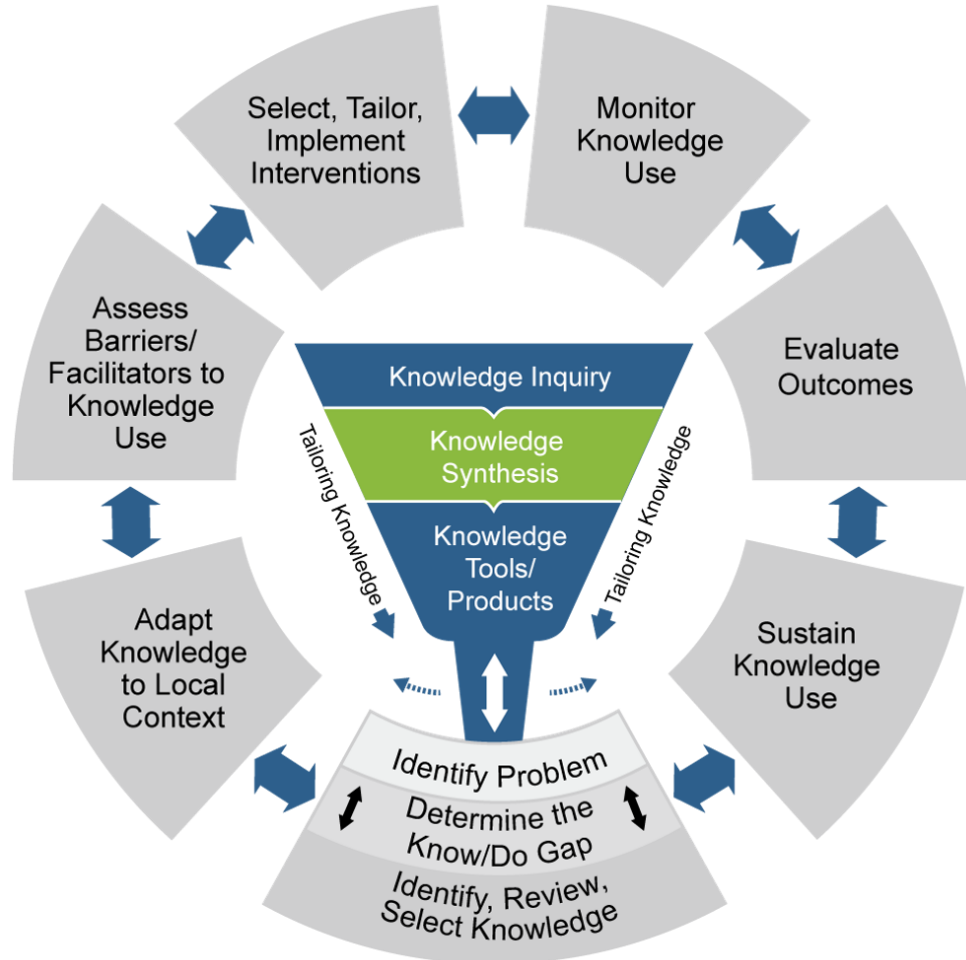
The effects of different policy measures (identified by colors) on the PM_{2.5} concentration exposures given in the number of affected households

Yellow policy measures: Policy and economic incentive focus on just a few central urban districts will lead to practical elimination of dangerous (40 mkg/m³ or more) level exposure of households

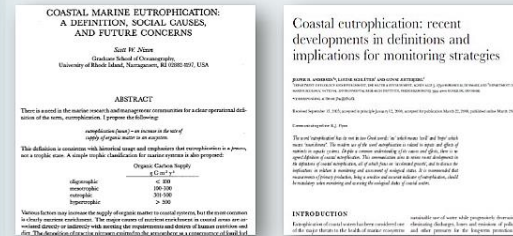


Communication of urban climate modeling

Recognize differences in communication techniques



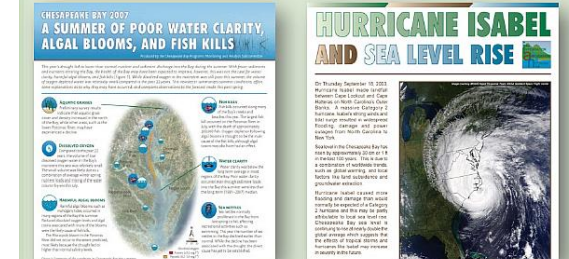
Scientific writing



- Providing scientific context (references)
- Text > graphics
- Authorship exclusive
- Focus on results & interpretation



Science communication



- Providing societal context (examples)
- Text ≈ graphics
- Authorship inclusive
- Focus on conclusions & recommendations

