

# Managing Air for Green Inner Cities

The Challenge:

Can we develop cities with no air pollution  
and no heat-island effect by 2050?

# Partners

# MAGIC

Envisaging a world with greener cities

## EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

## ARUP

**B**B Breathing  
Buildings

## CERC

Duvas  
Technologies 

## dyson

## Foster + Partners

## EC Harris LLP

## LAING O'ROURKE

## NPL

**FFI** Forsvarets  
forskningsinstitutt  
Norwegian Defence Research Establishment



London South Bank  
University



The University of Reading



[www.magic-air.uk](http://www.magic-air.uk)

 UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

Imperial College  
London

 UNIVERSITY OF  
SURREY

# New Circle Members

**MAGIC**

Envisaging a world with greener cities



# MAGIC Circle

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Envisaging a world with greener cities

- 14 Inaugural partners
- 48 Non-academic organisations
- 20 Universities (8 overseas)

# About

**MAGIC**

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## **Imagine a city with no air pollution or heat island**

- Current HVAC system is carbon intensive

## **We need to think differently**

- Natural ventilation in buildings
- Integrated green and blue spaces
- Diluted air pollution levels
- Increased albedo
- Public education and policy change

# How

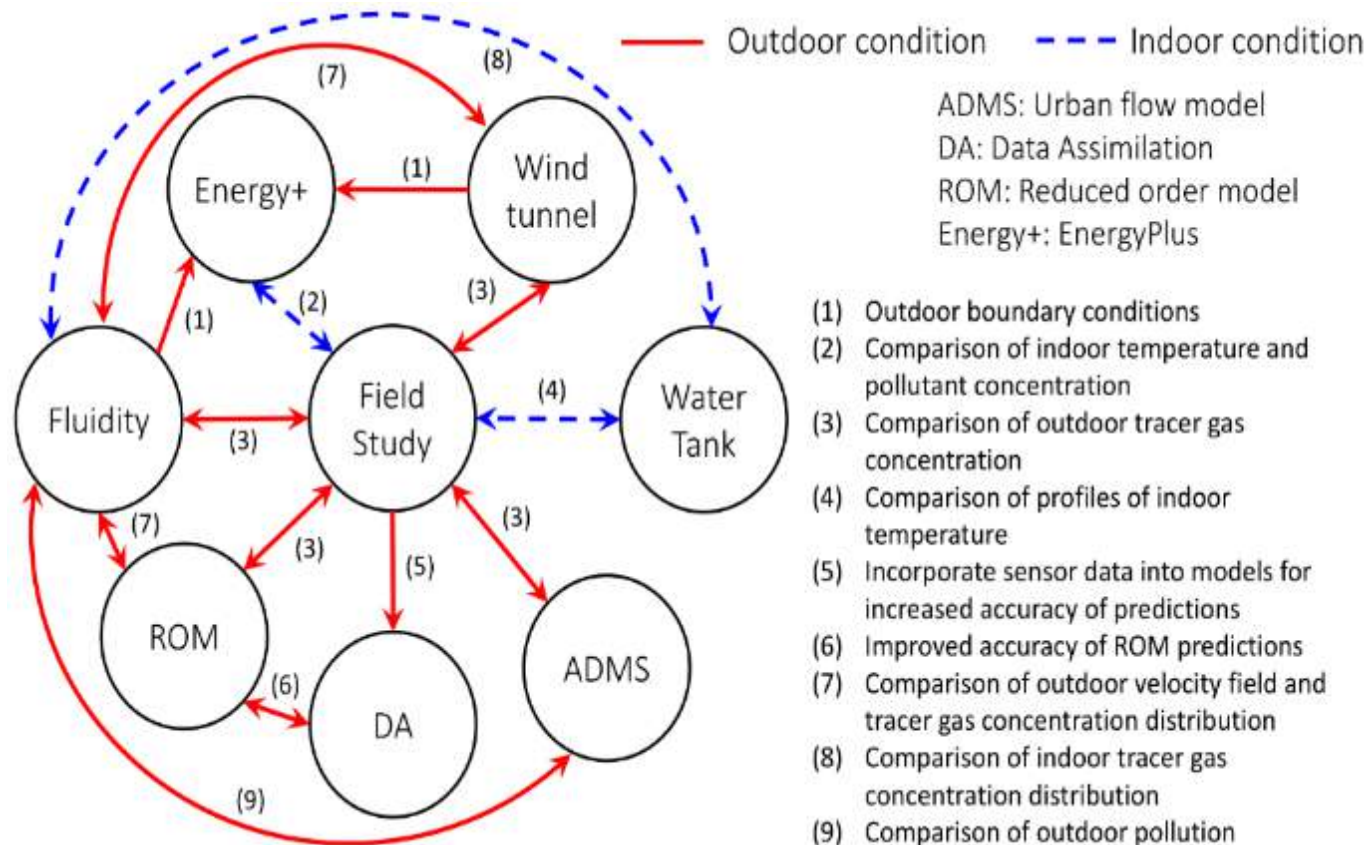
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- What will this look like?
  - Fully integrated suite of models
  - Management tools
  - Decision support tools
- Comprised of:
  - Fully resolved air quality model with data assimilation
  - Reduced order models
  - Cost-benefit analysis

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# Progress

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- Test sites
- Fluidity development
- Wind tunnel studies
- Ventilation studies
- Energy calculations
- Traffic emissions
- Integration
- Future work



# Progress

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- Test sites
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# London field study 2017

# MAGIC

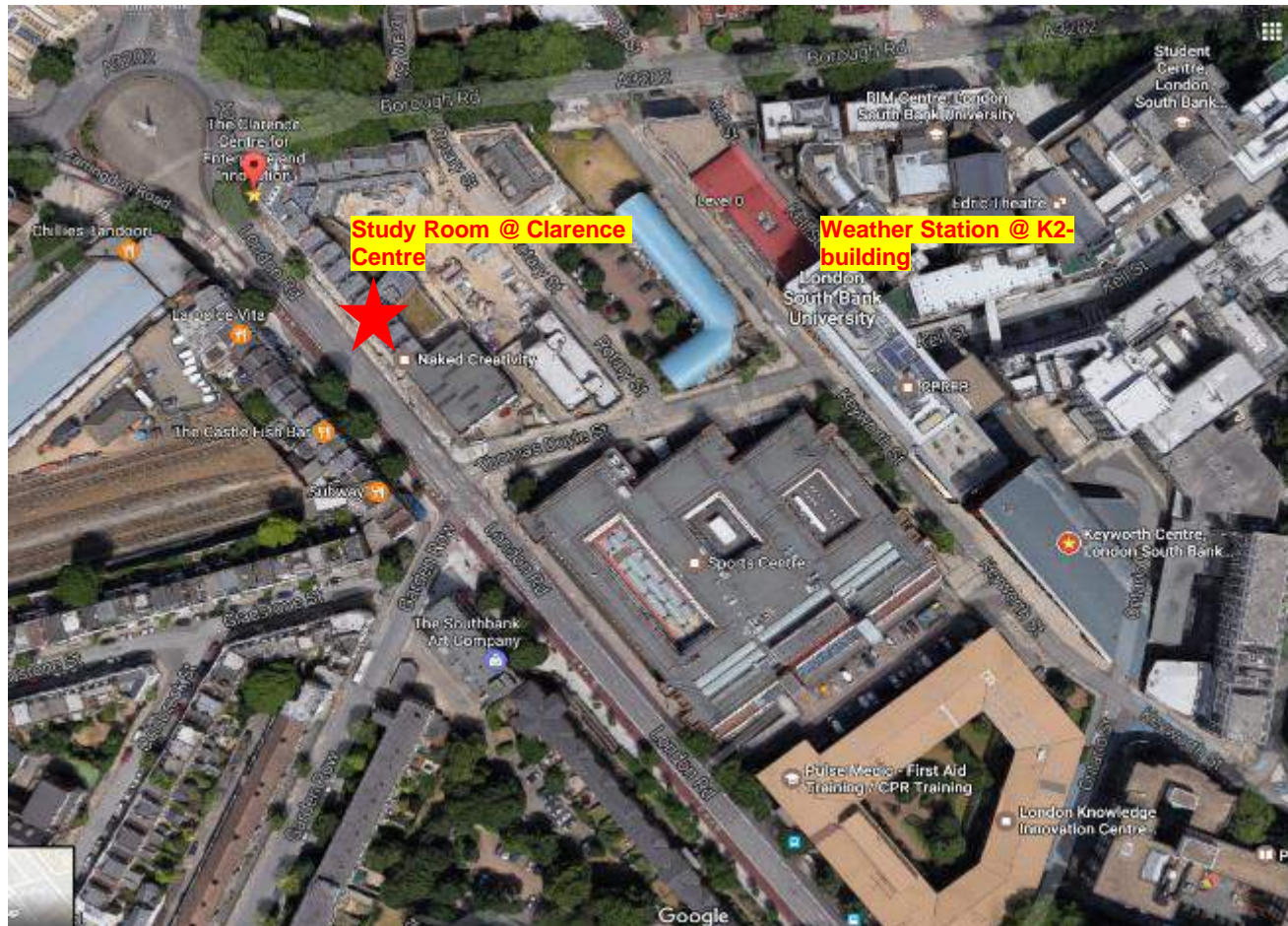
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# Test site

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# Case study room

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London Road Side



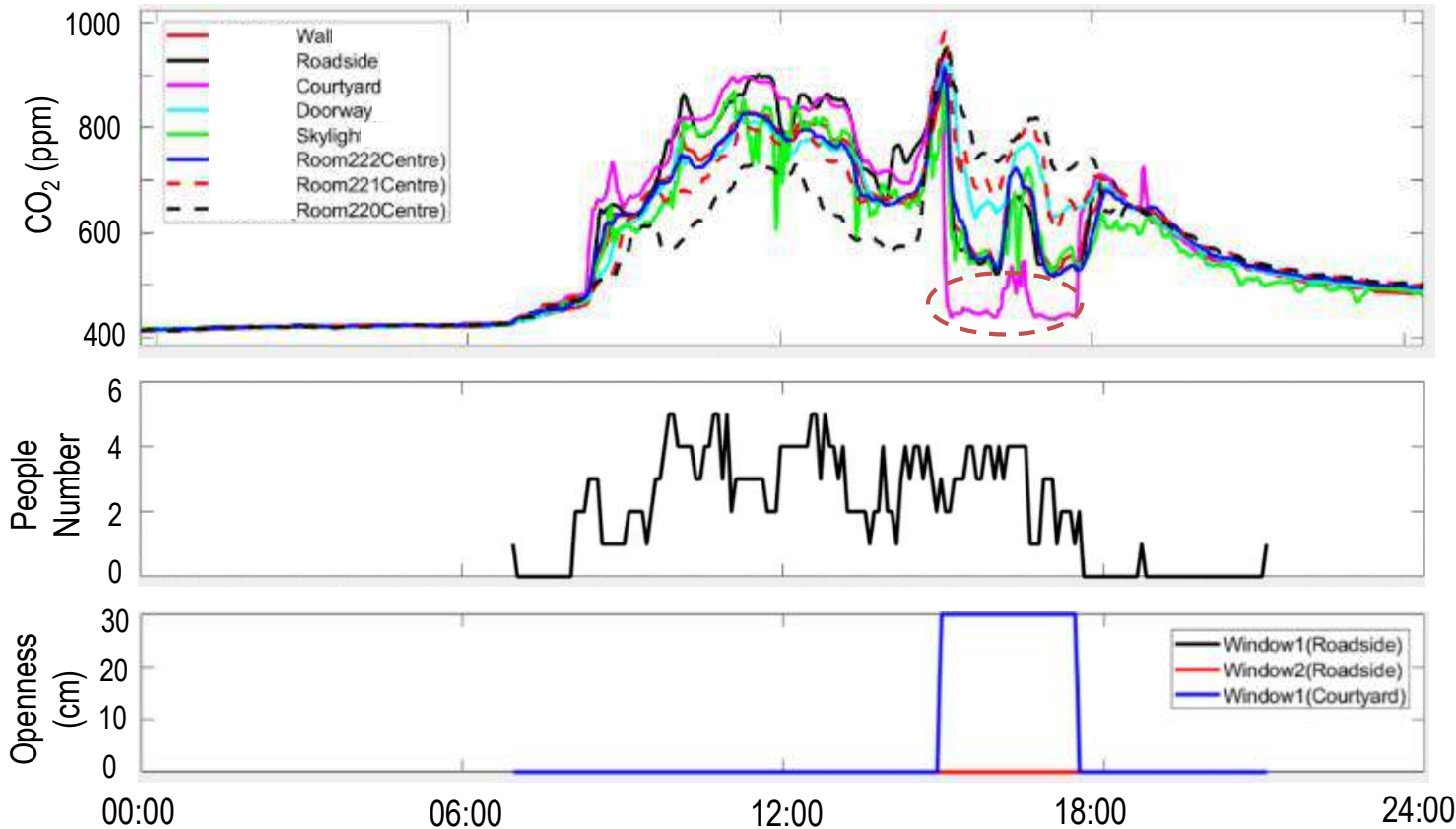
Courtyard Side



# Indoor CO<sub>2</sub> – Single-sided Ventilation

# MAGIC

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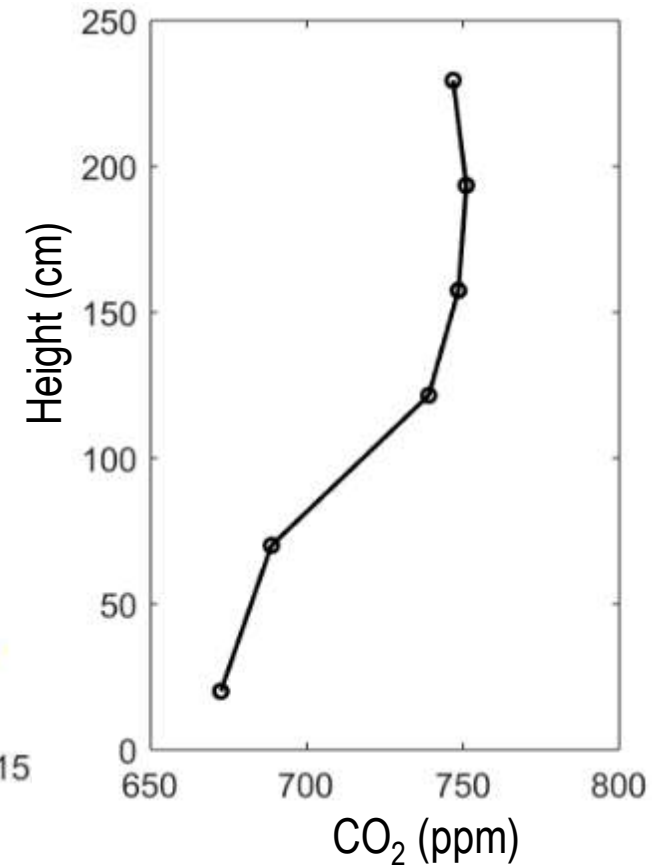
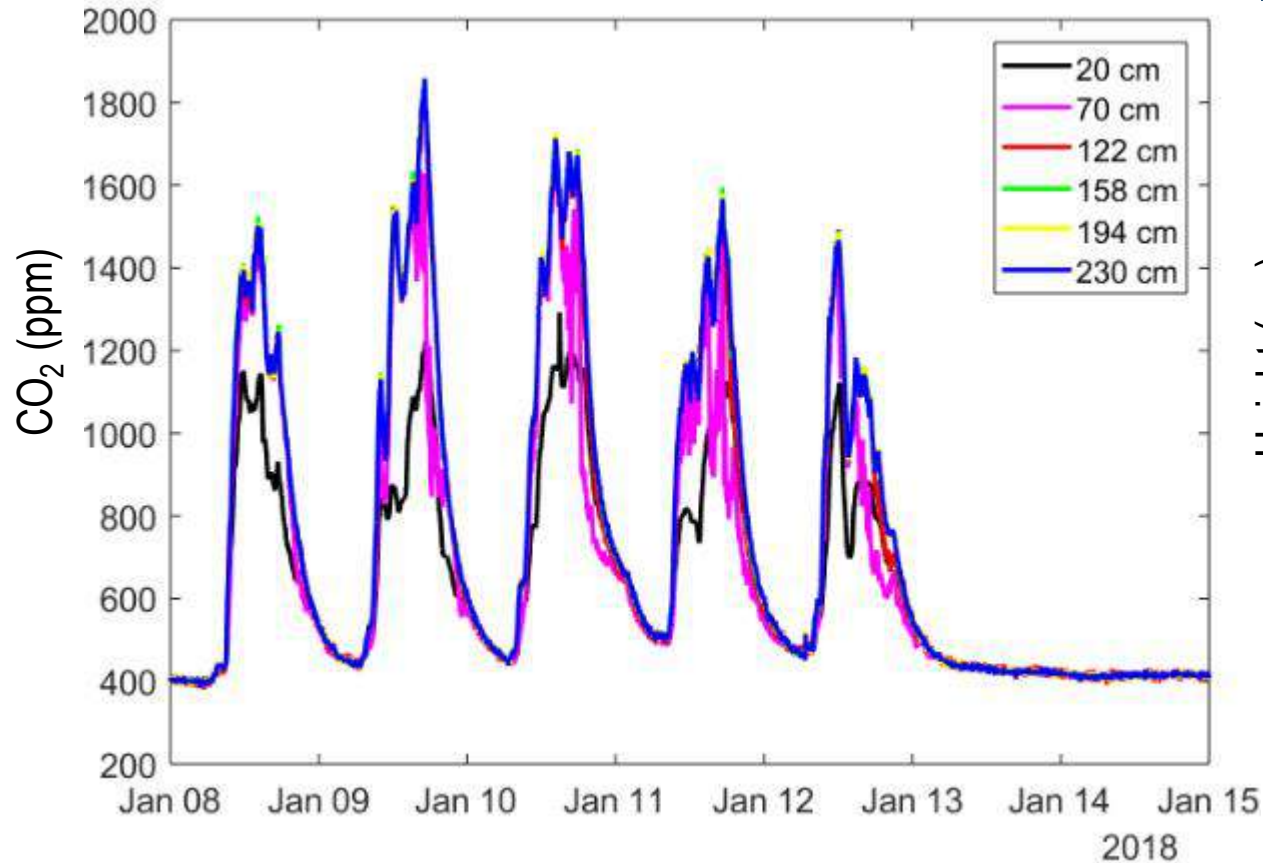


- CO<sub>2</sub> highly correlates to the number of occupants in the room
- CO<sub>2</sub> reduction is clear when the window is open and CO<sub>2</sub> by the window is close to outdoor
- CO<sub>2</sub> spatial variation is observed

# Indoor CO<sub>2</sub> Vertical Stratification

# MAGIC

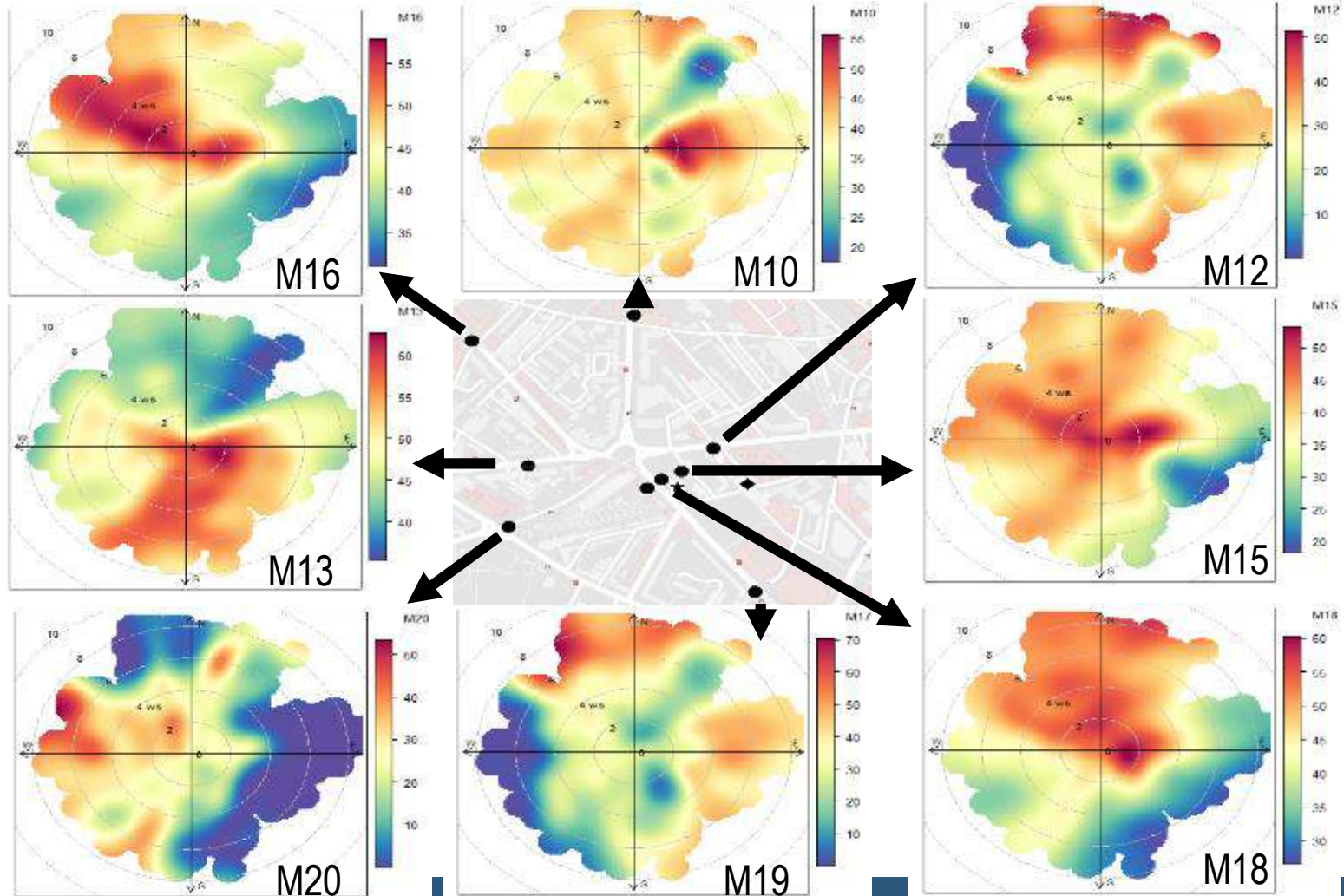
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# Outdoor monitoring

## MAGIC

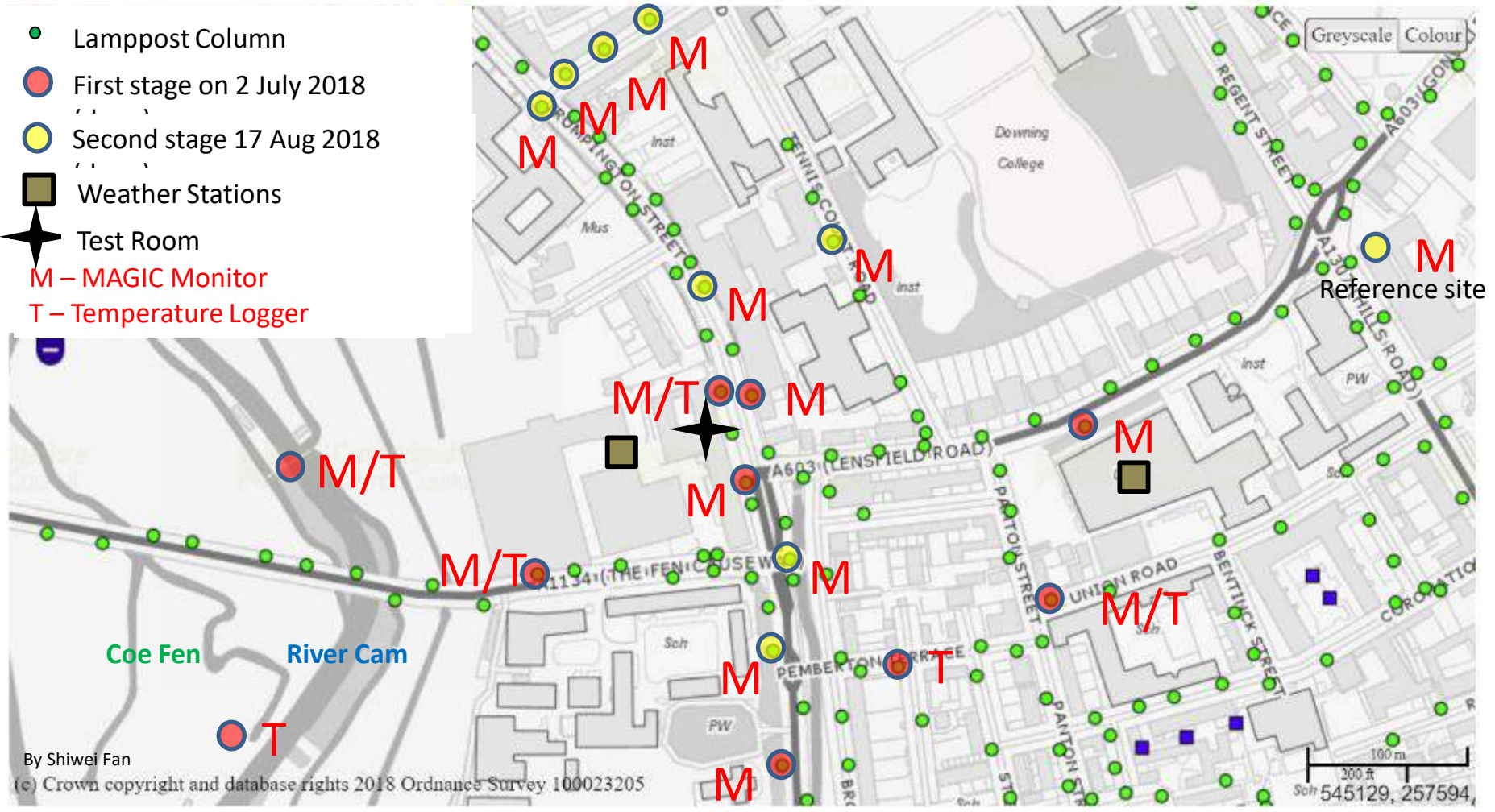
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# Cambridge field study 2018



- Lamppost Column
- First stage on 2 July 2018
- Second stage on 17 Aug 2018
- Weather Stations
- Test Room
- M – MAGIC Monitor
- T – Temperature Logger



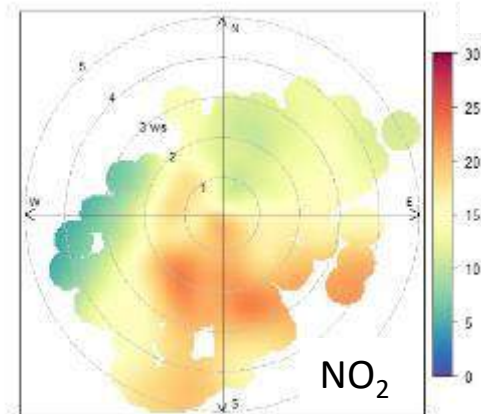
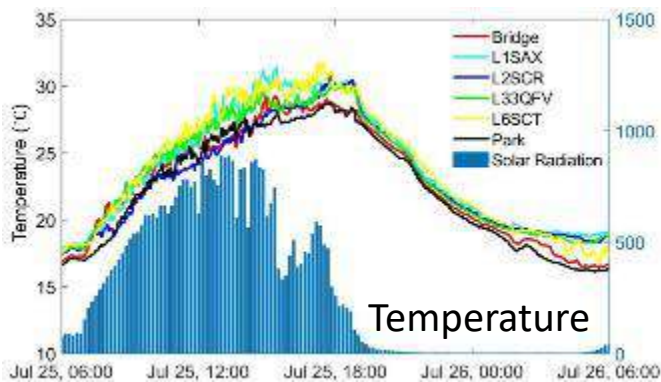
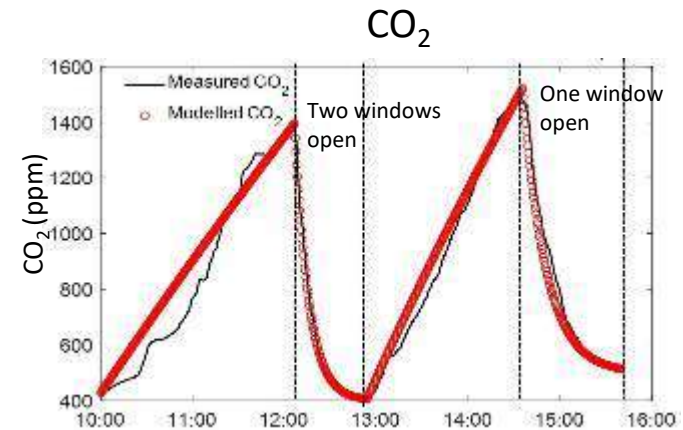
By Shiwei Fan  
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# Cambridge Study



- Operated from July 2018 and completed in Feb 2019
- Indoor: ventilation/pollutants, thermal stratification
- Outdoor: pollutants, temperatures in green/blue spaces and urban areas
- Others: reference wind speed/direction, and solar radiation
- Controlled ventilation tests with traffic monitoring



# Progress

MAGIC

Envisaging a world with greener cities

- Test sites
- **Fluidity development**
- Wind tunnel studies
- Ventilation studies
- Energy calculations
- Traffic emissions
- Integration
- Future work

# Fluidity development

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- **Urban Terreno**

- Purpose: automatic generation of unstructured and 3D mesh for complex urban environment. Developed to be as generic as possible and run in parallel. ✓
- Topography of the terrain can be considered. ✓
- Identify and remove automatically topological problem. ✓
- Identify buildings, roads, green and blue spaces region (needed to assign proper boundary conditions). ✓

- **LSBU test site**

- Comparison with wind tunnel data
  - Mean velocities, reynolds stresses, pollutant concentration and pressure coefficients ✓
- Data Assimilation
  - Link Fluidity and DA ✓
  - Wind tunnel data to be assimilated ✓
- Comparison between Fluidity results and NIROM results ✓

- **Cambridge test site**

- Implementation of thermal effect ✓
  - Conduction through walls and ground ✓
  - Convection between air and urban setting ✓
  - Radiation: direct and diffuse ✓
- Implementation of near wall log-law function ✓
- Comparison with wind tunnel experiment ✓

# Numerical modelling



Laetitia Mottet



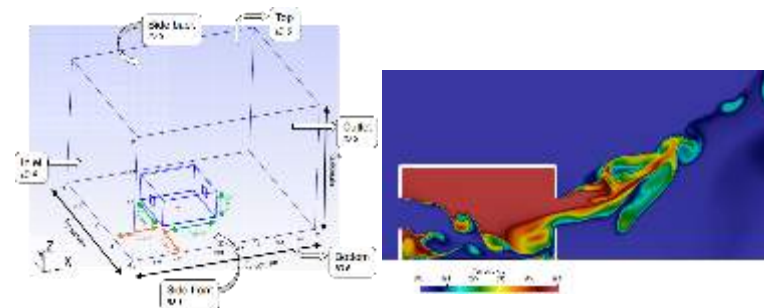
Carollanne Vouriot

# MAGIC

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- Fluidity manual based on indoor-outdoor exchange (with Carollanne Vouriot)

|       |   |    |       |   |     |        |   |     |
|-------|---|----|-------|---|-----|--------|---|-----|
| 1     | Introduction  | 5  | 5     | Mesh adaptivity - Example                                   | 63  | 9      | Fluidity in parallel                              | 107 |
| 11    | Purpose and aim of the document   | 5  | 5.1   | Application in Fluidity                                     | 63  | 9.1    | When should Fluidity be run in parallel?          | 107 |
| 12    | Getting and installing Fluidity   | 5  | 5.1.1 | Installations   | 63  | 9.2    | Running on a PC                                   | 107 |
| 12.1  | Getting binary source of Fluidity for user role                               | 5  | 5.1.2 | Tricks to set up mesh adaptivity                            | 66  | 9.3    | Running on CXC                                    | 107 |
| 12.2  | Getting source code of Fluidity for developer                                 | 6  | 5.2   | Adaptation of the simulation                                | 66  | 10     | Post-processing data obtained with Fluidity       | 109 |
| 13    | Quick start   | 7  | 5.3   | Field specific adaptation                                   | 67  | 10.1   | Paraview  | 109 |
| 2     | Geometry and mesh   | 8  | 5.3.1 | Set up of the examples                                      | 67  | 10.2   | Python scripts                                    | 109 |
| 2.1   | Introduction  | 8  | 5.3.2 | Adaptation based on the temperature field                   | 68  | 10.3   | Mass flow rate at the openings                    | 111 |
| 2.2   | Quick start   | 8  | 5.3.3 | Adaptation based on the velocity field                      | 65  | 10.3.1 | Test case   | 111 |
| 2.3   | Geometry file   | 8  | 5.3.4 | Adaptation based on the velocity and the temperature fields | 66  | 10.3.2 | Geometry and method                               | 112 |
| 2.3.1 | Checking the consistency of the geometry                                      | 9  | 5.3.5 | Computation time  | 74  | 10.3.3 | Results   | 112 |
| 2.3.2 | Parameters of the geometry  | 9  | 5.4   | Python script to refine zones                               | 74  | 10.3.4 | Numerical implementation                          | 113 |
| 2.3.3 | Defining the geometry   | 11 | 5.4.1 | Set up of the examples                                      | 74  | 10.4   | Plane profiles                                    | 114 |
| 2.3.4 | Subsets with faces  | 14 | 5.5   | Advection of the mesh                                       | 81  | 10.4.1 | Test case   | 114 |
| 2.3.5 | Defining the physical ES  | 15 | 5.6   | Common errors associated with mesh adaption                 | 82  | 10.4.2 | Geometry  | 115 |
| 2.3.6 | Advice  | 16 | 6     | Other fields  | 83  | 10.4.3 | Descriptor of the methods                         | 115 |
| 2.4   | Meshing   | 16 | 6.1   | Characterisation  | 83  | 10.4.4 | Outputs and plots                                 | 115 |
| 2.4.1 | Generating the mesh   | 16 | 6.2   | Passive fields  | 84  | 10.4.5 | Numerical implementation                          | 112 |
| 2.4.2 | Checking the consistency of the mesh  | 18 | 6.3   | Diagnostic fields in Diamond                                | 86  | 10.5   | Save file   | 111 |
| 2.5   | Flaring around  | 19 | 6.3.1 | Density field   | 86  | 10.6   | Tools   | 133 |
| 3     | Equations and numerical methods   | 20 | 6.3.2 | Diagnostic fields   | 86  | 10.6.1 | renumberedpoint                                   | 132 |
| 3.1   | Equations   | 20 | 6.3.3 | Notes about the time-averaged field                         | 89  | 10.6.2 | python  | 134 |
| 3.1.1 | Navier-Stokes and Large Eddy Simulation (LES)                                 | 20 | 7     | Details of options  | 90  | 10.6.3 | gapped  | 134 |
| 3.1.2 | Advection-Diffusion equation  | 21 | 7.1   | Geometry  | 91  | 11     | Others  | 135 |
| 3.1.3 | Turbulence approximation  | 21 | 7.2   | Input-Output  | 91  | 11.1   | Previous and current people working with Fluidity | 135 |
| 3.2   | Numerical methods   | 22 | 7.3   | Time stepping   | 94  | 11.2   | Some useful websites and open-source data set     | 136 |
| 3.2.1 | Discretisation  | 22 | 7.4   | Physical parameters   | 94  |        |   |     |
| 3.2.2 | CFL number  | 22 | 7.5   | Material phase  | 94  |        |   |     |
| 3.2.3 | Solve   | 22 | 7.5.1 | Equation of state   | 95  |        |   |     |
| 4     | Boundary conditions - Examples  | 23 | 7.5.2 | Progressive fields  | 95  |        |   |     |
| 4.1   | Introduction  | 23 | 7.5.3 | Diagnostic fields   | 95  |        |   |     |
| 4.2   | Quick start   | 24 | 7.6   | Mesh adaptivity   | 98  |        |   |     |
| 4.3   | Thermal boundary conditions   | 26 |       | Articles  | 100 |        |   |     |
| 4.3.1 | Dirichlet boundary condition: Constant temperature                            | 26 | 8.1   | Size of the domain  | 100 |        |   |     |
| 4.3.2 | Neumann boundary condition: Heat flux   | 30 | 8.1.1 | Volume ratio  | 100 |        |   |     |
| 4.3.3 | Robin boundary condition  | 31 | 8.1.2 | Height of the domain  | 100 |        |   |     |
| 4.4   | Initial conditions for temperature  | 34 | 8.1.3 | Width of the domain   | 101 |        |   |     |
| 4.5   | Velocity boundary conditions  | 34 | 8.1.4 | Length of the domain  | 101 |        |   |     |
| 4.5.1 | Dirichlet boundary condition: inlet wind with a constant and uniform velocity | 34 | 8.2   | Instabilities at the edges of the domain                    | 102 |        |   |     |
| 4.5.2 | Synthetic eddy method: Turbulent inlet velocity                               | 38 | 8.3   | Reference temperature                                       | 104 |        |   |     |
| 4.5.3 | Dirichlet boundary condition on outlet for velocity                           | 44 | 8.4   | Walls boundary condition                                    | 104 |        |   |     |
| 4.6   | Reference pressure  | 50 | 8.4.1 | Alignment of the boundary conditions                        | 105 |        |   |     |
| 4.7   | Common errors   | 50 | 8.4.2 | No-slip boundary conditions                                 | 105 |        |   |     |
|       |   |    | 8.5   | Consistent adaptation                                       | 105 |        |   |     |
|       |   |    | 8.6   | Compressing files   | 105 |        |   |     |
|       |   |    | 8.7   | Checkpointing   | 105 |        |   |     |



# Fluidity development



Laetitia  
Mottet



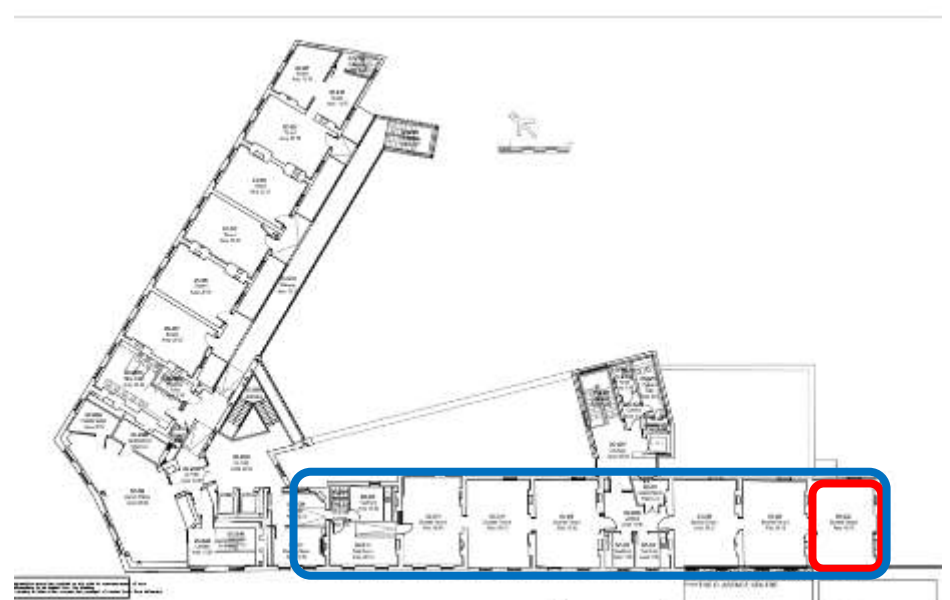
Carolanne  
Vouriot

# MAGIC

Envisaging a world with greener cities

- **Indoor modelling**

- Fluidity is tested to be used for complex indoor modelling ✓
  - LoHCool project: test of adaptation scheme to enhance natural ventilation.
- Indoor modelling of Clarence Center (Carolanne Vouriot) ✓



Only that part of the **building** will be modelled + the **room** + the **building next** to the test room

# Fluidity development



Laetitia Mottet



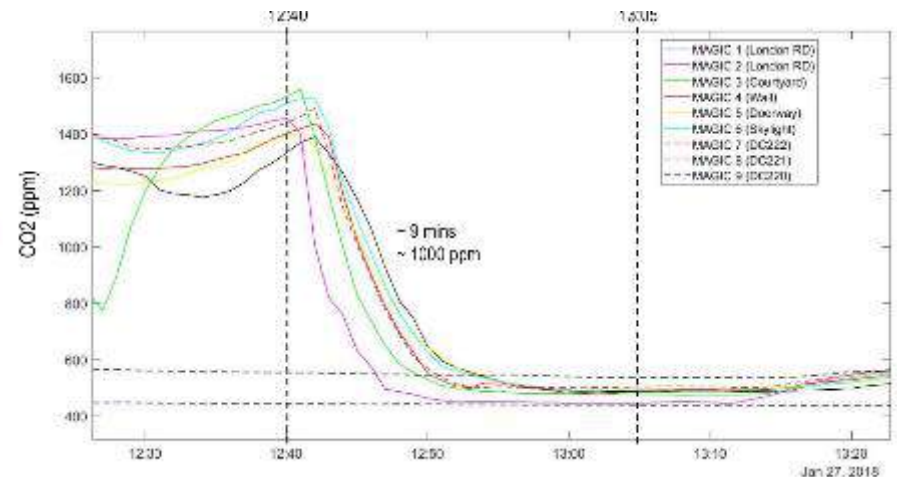
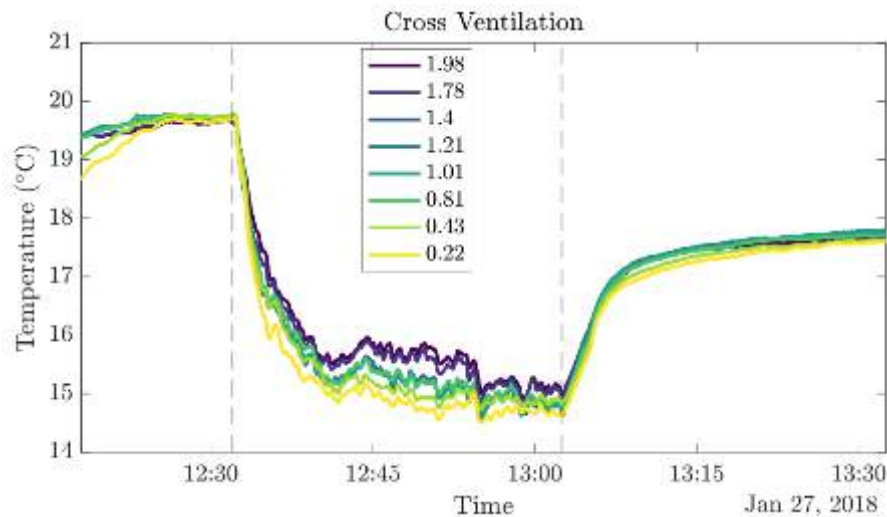
Carollanne Vouriot

# MAGIC

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- **Indoor modelling**

- Fluidity is tested to be used for complex indoor modelling ✓
  - LoHCool project: test of adaptation scheme to enhance natural ventilation.
- Indoor modelling of Clarence Center (Carollanne Vouriot) ✓
  - Temperature field and CO2 decay will be compared for the cross ventilation controlled experiment (25 minutes) made in January 2018.



# Fluidity development



Laetitia Mottet

# MAGIC

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- **More physics**
  - **Implementation of thermal effect** ✓
    - Conduction through walls and ground ✓
    - Convection between air and urban setting ✓
    - Radiation: direct and diffuse ✓

- Objective: Compute the **air temperature** field in the domain
  - Advection-Diffusion equation

$$\rho_{air} c_{p,air} \frac{\partial T_{air}}{\partial t} + \rho_{air} c_{p,air} (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T_{air}) = \nabla \cdot (k_{air} \nabla T_{air}) + S$$

- Need to determine correct **boundary condition**, i.e. surface temperature of buildings, ground using a

## SURFACE ENERGY BALANCE

$$\underbrace{\rho_s c_{p,s} d_s}_{\text{Properties and thickness of the surface}} \frac{dT_s}{dt} = \underbrace{K}_{\text{Net shortwave radiation}} + \underbrace{L}_{\text{Net longwave radiation}} - \underbrace{H}_{\text{Sensible heat flux}} - \underbrace{E}_{\text{Latent heat flux}} - \underbrace{G}_{\text{Ground heat flux}}$$

# Fluidity development



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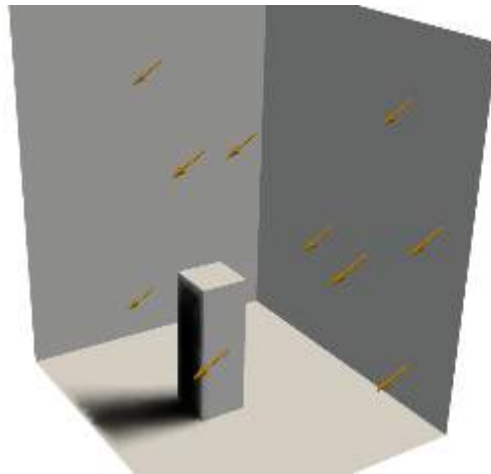
# MAGIC

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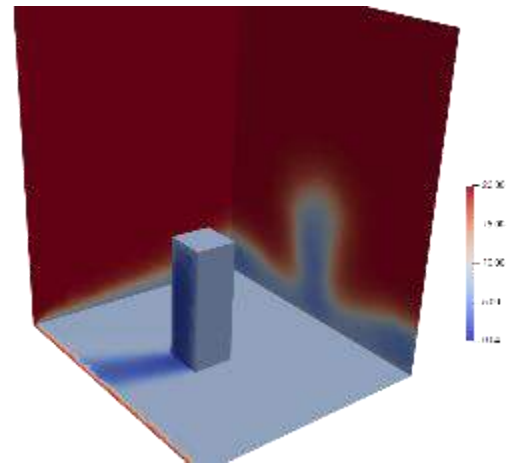
- **More physics**
  - **Implementation of thermal effect** ✓
    - Conduction through walls and ground ✓
    - Convection between air and urban setting ✓
    - Radiation: direct and diffuse ✓

Example of results: Assuming direct solar radiation of the net shortwave radiation

$$\rho_s c_{p,s} d_s \frac{dT_s}{dt} = K$$



*Value of K: direct solar radiation only.*



*Surface temperature computed.*



# Fluidity development

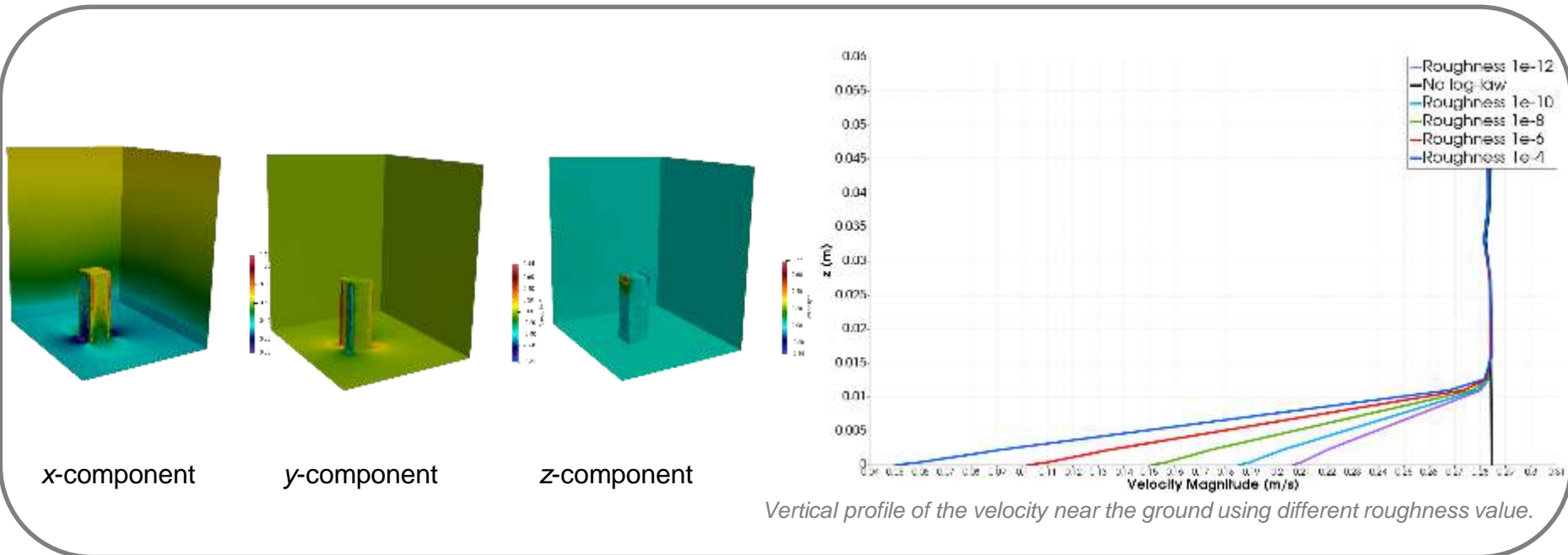


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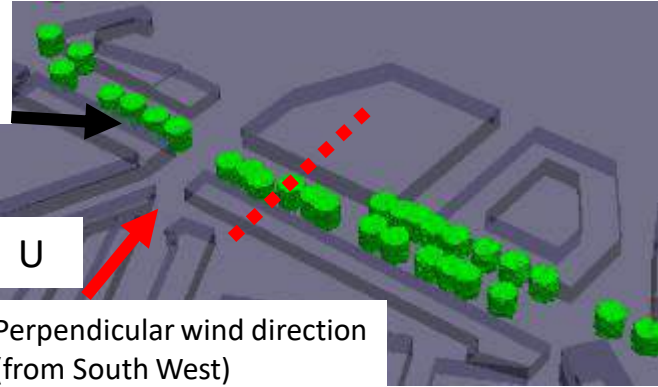
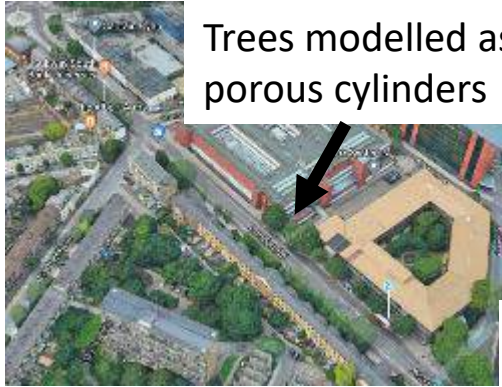
## MAGIC

Envisaging a world with greener cities

- **More physics**
  - Implementation of thermal effect ✓
    - Conduction through walls and ground ✓
    - Convection between air and urban setting ✓
    - Radiation: direct and diffuse ✓
  - Implementation of near wall log-law function associated with a slip BC ✓



# Simulation of trees in London Road



## MAGIC

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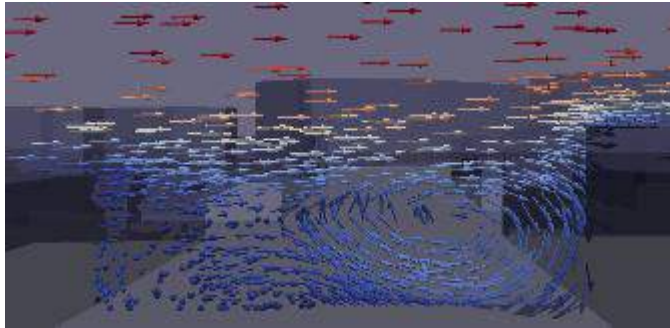
Momentum sink due to tree:

$$S = -C_D \cdot LAD \cdot \frac{1}{2} (\rho u |u|)$$

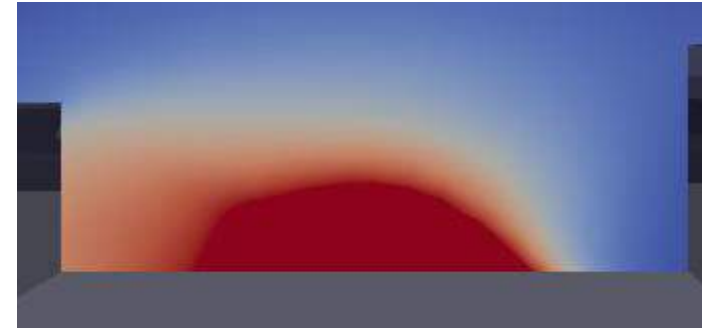
$C_D = \text{drag coeff.}$

$LAD = \text{Leaf Area Density}$

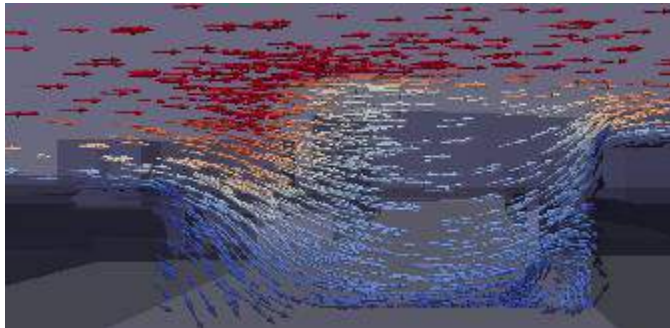
**No trees –**  
vortex in  
street canyon



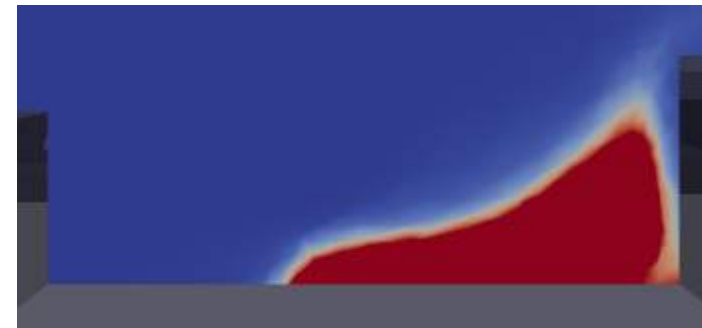
**No trees –**  
tracer  
dispersed to  
leeward  
side



**With trees –**  
no street  
canyon vortex



**With trees –**  
tracer  
dispersed to  
windward  
side



# Progress

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- Test sites
- Fluidity development
- **Wind tunnel studies**
- Ventilation studies
- Energy calculations
- Traffic emissions
- Integration
- Future work

# Wind tunnel model studies

## Update on LSBU site

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### Activities

- Measured velocity and concentration fields for a range of wind directions
- Measured surface pressures on Clarence House
- Joint measurements of all three fields

### Motivation

- To provide data for evaluating performance of computational methods (e.g. Fluidity).
- To understand flow and dispersion physics in complex urban environments.
- To compare behaviour with previous studies in the Marylebone Road area of London.

# Wind tunnel highlights

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- Studied the effect of model scaling
  - Compared 1:500 model against 1:200 model
  - Small blockage effect observed (< 10% speed-up in larger model)



500x smaller than actual London



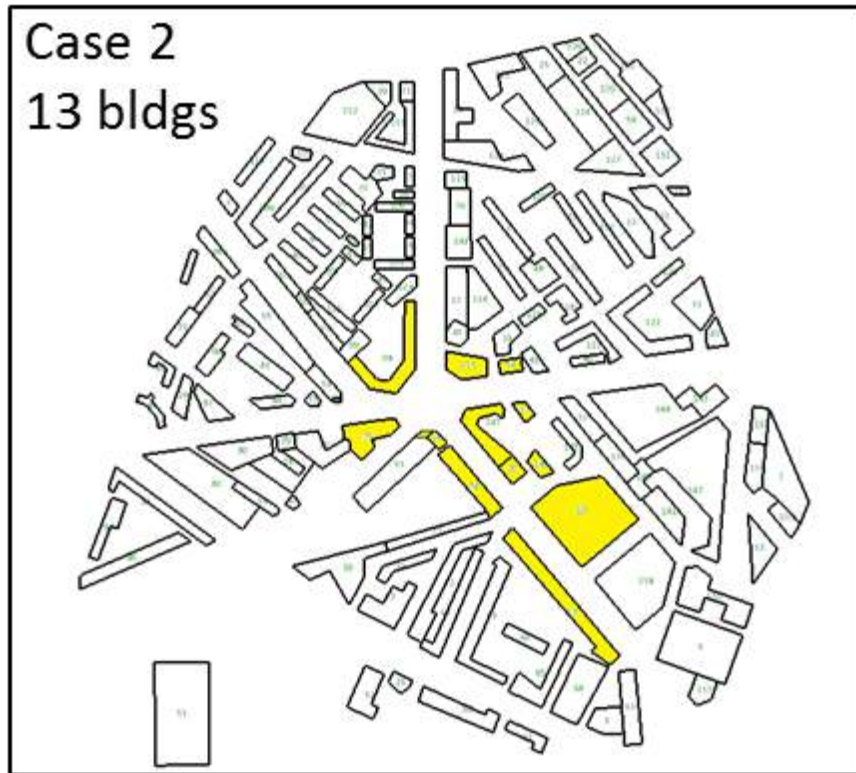
200x smaller than actual London

# Wind tunnel highlights

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- Studied the effect of model extent
  - Compared 13-building model against 147-building model
  - Moderate differences in velocities (generally  $< 15\%$  of reference)

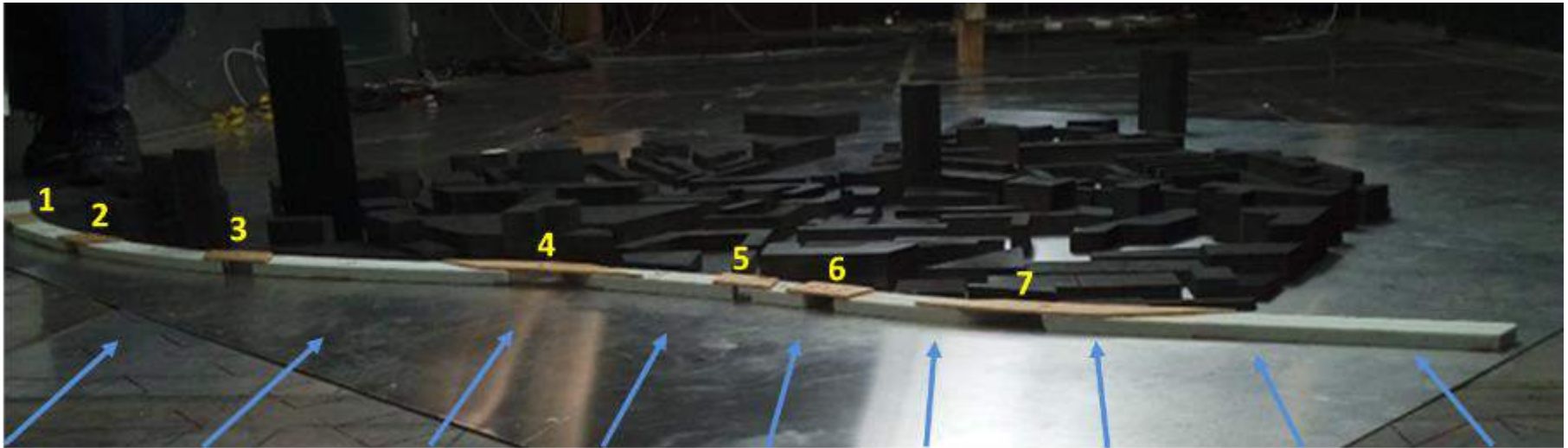


# Wind tunnel highlights

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- Studied the effect of SE features
  - Added rail viaduct and 8 additional buildings
  - No observed change to flow at Clarence Centre / London Rd
  - Channelling effects appear to be mostly localised around viaduct road passages



# Progress

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Envisaging a world with greener cities

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- **Ventilation studies**
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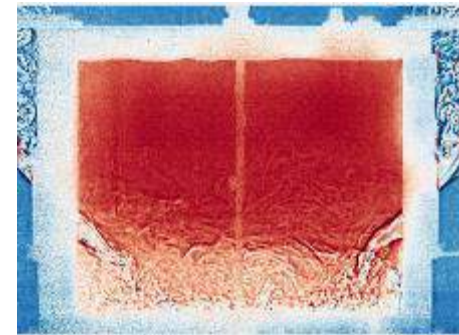
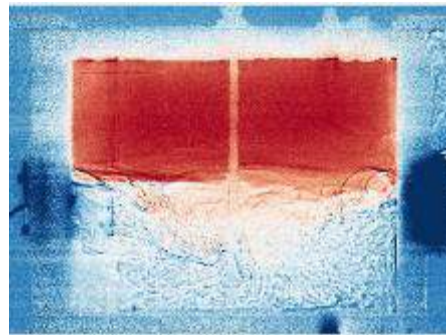
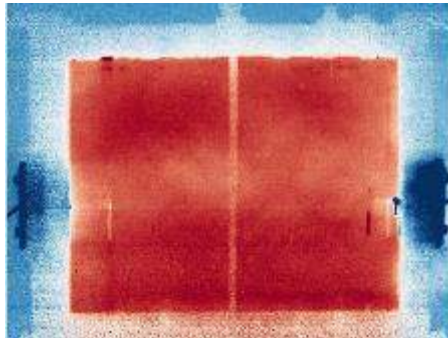
# Water-bath experiments

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**Wind-dominated cross-ventilation:** Model as wind only with reduced room volume.

**Buoyancy-dominated cross-ventilation:** Model as exchange flow with a Froude number correction.



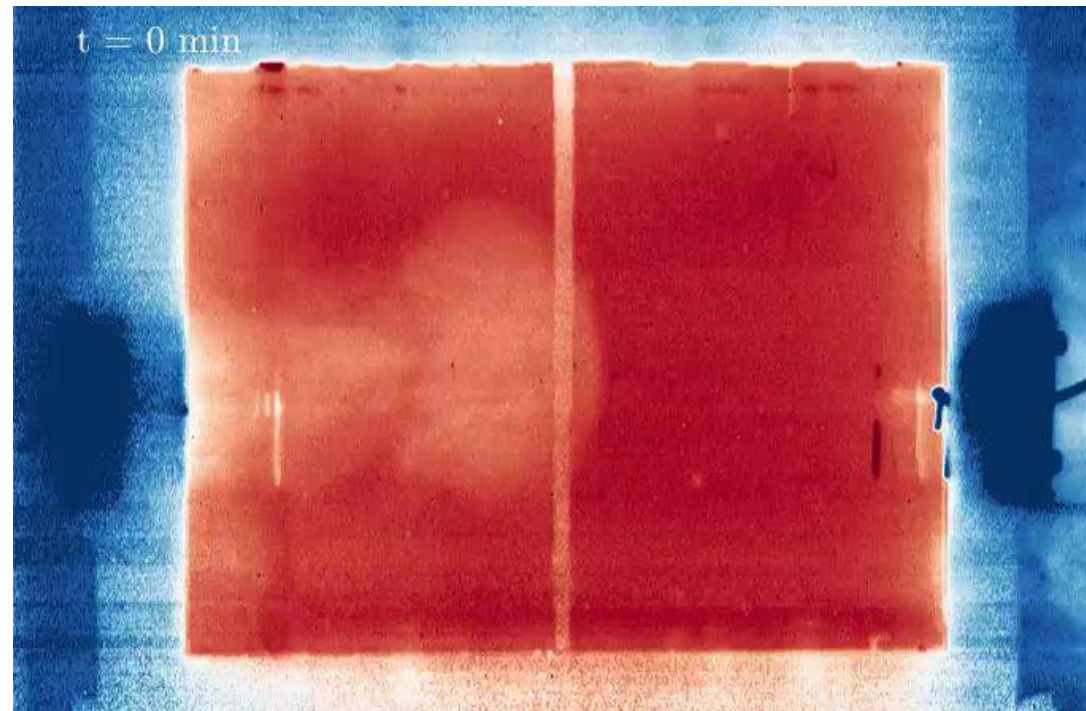
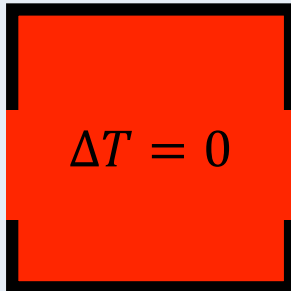
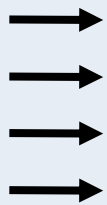
**Future plans:** EnergyPlus model, single-sided ventilation.

# Cross-ventilation

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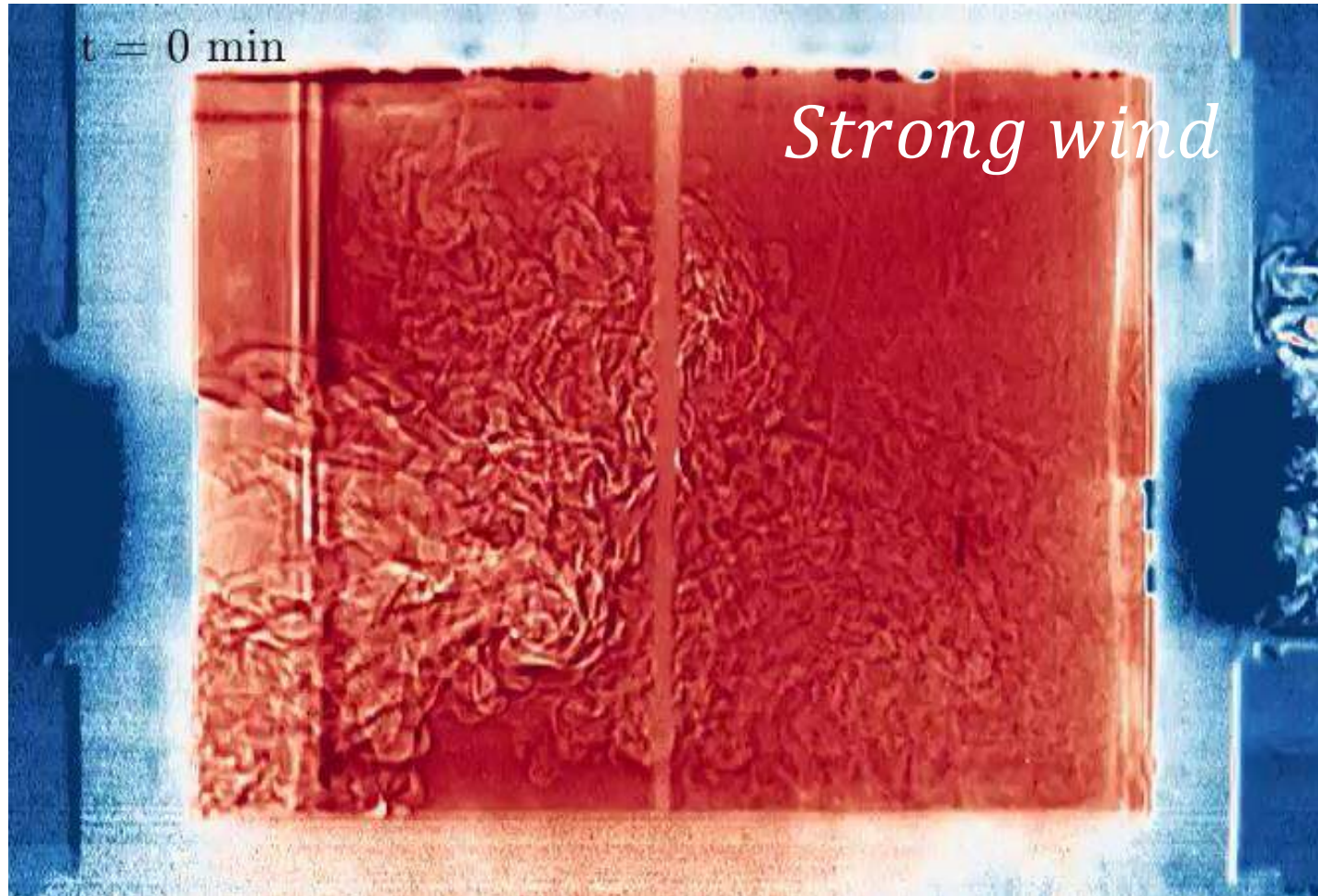
$$U = 2.5 \text{ cm/s}$$



# Wind and buoyancy

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# Progress

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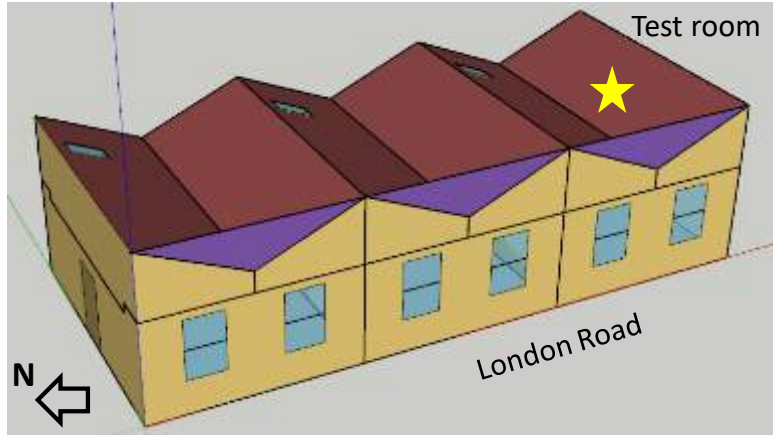
- Test sites
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# EnergyPlus simulation

# MAGIC

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## London test room



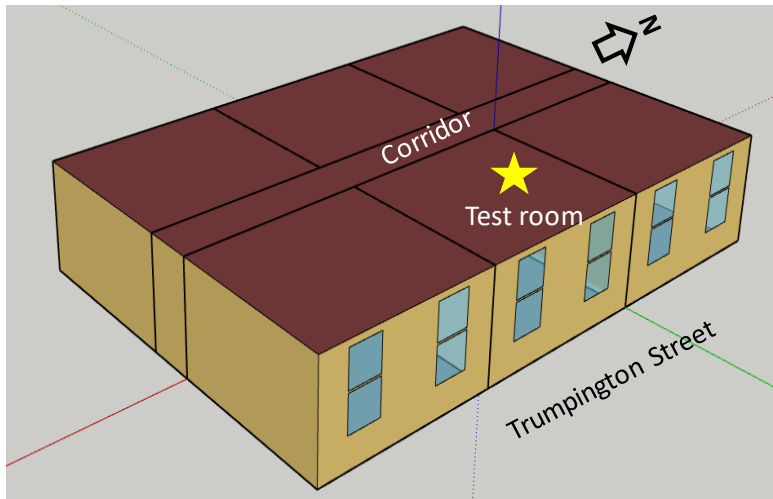
### Finished:

- ✓ Worked on my LSBU E+ paper (Enriched Introduction and Methods & study room part, polished & replotted figures);
- ✓ Simulated the LSBU room by using two sets of Cp data with original and twice London Road width, compared the results and added the discussions into the LSBU E+ paper.
- ✓ Submitted a EnergyPlus contribution proposal of Cambridge Cross Ventilation Model with MDW to EnergyPlus development group for review.

### To do:

- Keep on working on my LSBU E+ paper by polishing figures, results, discussions and conclusions.
- Develop a new module in E+ if the proposal is approved.

## Cambridge test room



### Finished:

- ✓ Worked on the occupancy schedules of people number, door & window & blind status for the Cambridge test room;
- ✓ Finished E+ simulation of temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> for the Cambridge test room by incorporating realistic occupancy schedules of 2 weeks (Jul 16-26) in July 2018 and 2 weeks (Sep 17-30) in September 2018.

### To do:

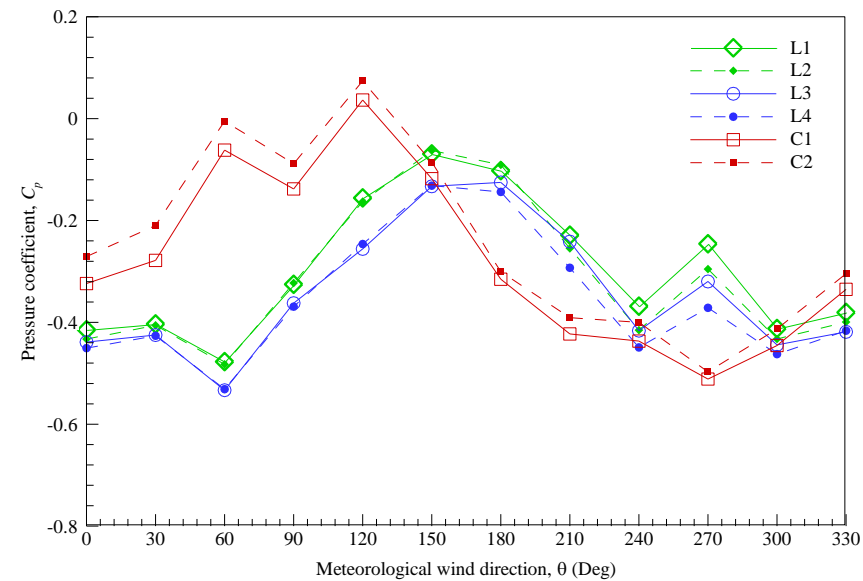
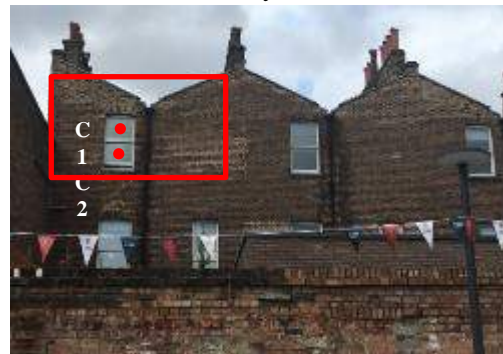
- Model traffic pollution (CO, NO) effects on indoor environment;
- Incorporate Cp results from CFD and WT to improve E+ results.

## EnergyPlus model with 6 external AFN nodes

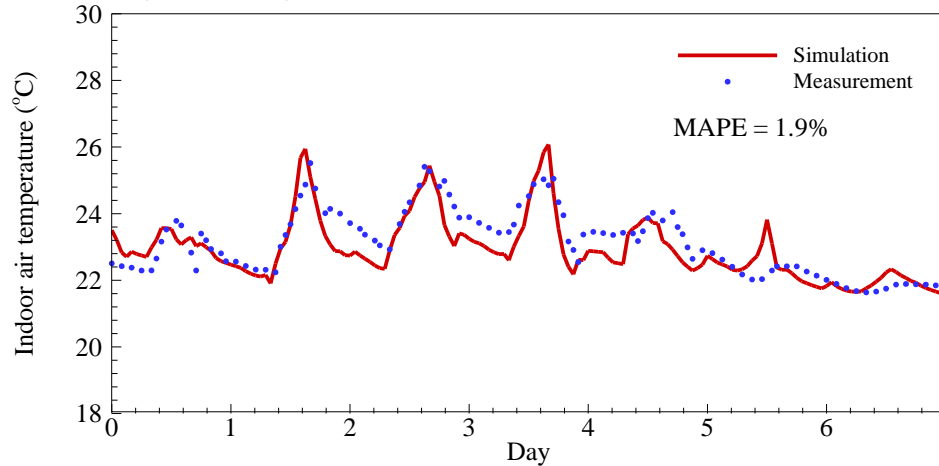
(a) London Road side



(b) Courtyard side



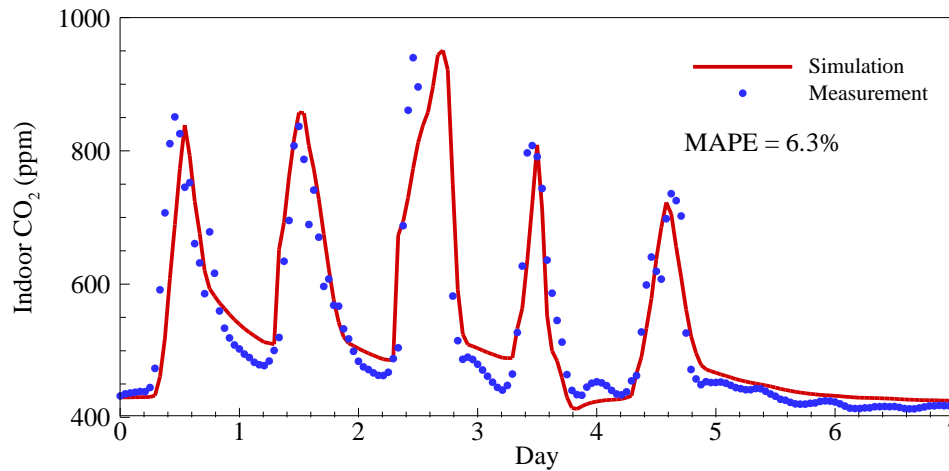
Comparison between measurement and simulation of indoor air temperature and CO<sub>2</sub> in LSBU test room from Sep. 25 to Oct. 01, 2017 (Mon-Sun).



MAPE:

Mean absolute percentage error

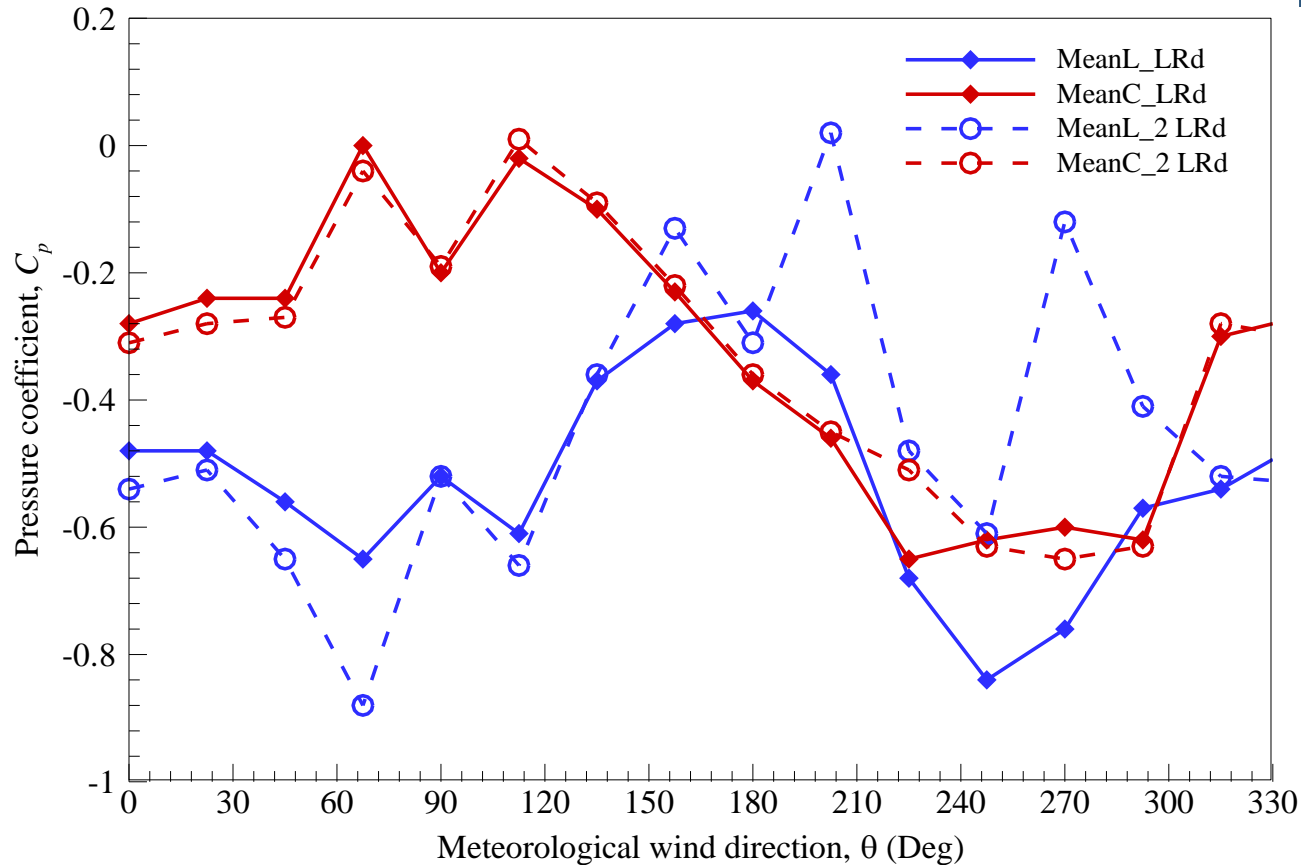
$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \left| \frac{mea - sim}{mea} \right| \cdot 100\%$$



# The impact of urban form changes with widened London Road

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MeanL:  $C_p$  averaged over the 4 windows on the London Road side

MeanC:  $C_p$  averaged over the 2 windows on the Courtyard side



# Progress

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- Test sites
- Fluidity development
- Wind tunnel studies
- Ventilation studies
- Energy calculations
- **Traffic emissions**
- Integration
- Future work

# Vehicle emissions modelling

(Anna Schroeder)

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WB counter 1: 45  
WB cars 1: 43  
WB motorbikes 1: 0  
WB buses 1: 2  
WB trucks 1: 0

EB counter 1: 75  
EB cars 1: 73  
EB motorbikes 1: 0  
EB buses 1: 0  
EB trucks 1: 2

WB counter 2: 45  
WB cars 2: 43  
WB motorbikes 2: 0  
WB buses 2: 1  
WB trucks 2: 1

EB counter 2: 75  
EB cars 2: 75  
EB motorbikes 2: 0  
EB buses 2: 0  
EB trucks 2: 0



- Computer vision algorithm working
  - Detects and tracks vehicles
  - Highly accurate count values
  - Gives speed and acceleration estimates
- Study conducted to compare on-road PM measurements with observed vehicle behaviour (results in preparation)

# Vehicle emissions

- Study on Fen Causeway, Cambridge:
  - measurement of PM and filming of road traffic completed (3 weeks of data, Dec 18)
  - initial code for detecting, tracking, counting and extracting positional data (for speed and acceleration) of vehicles is working
- Next steps:
  - improve code and analyse video footage
  - predict emissions based on video footage and compare with measurements
  - extract number plate information if possible to get better vehicle emission estimates

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# Progress

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- Test sites
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## The OPAL framework

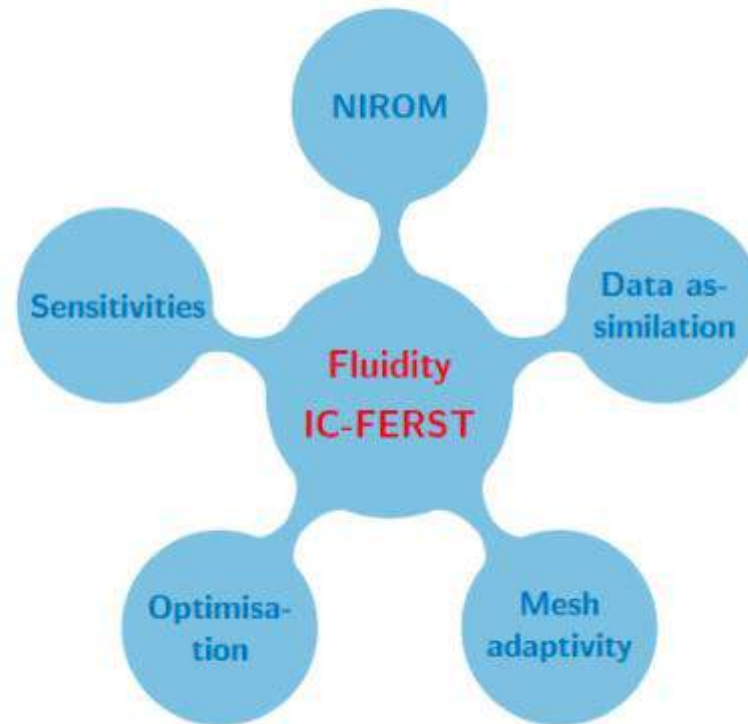
**OPAL** is collection of functions and scripts written in Python that

- generate input files for Fluidity or IC-FERST,
- run Fluidity or IC-FERST,
- access and manipulate the solutions (in the (p)vtu files).

Within OPAL it is currently possible to

- perform non-intrusive reduced order modelling,
- calculate ensemble-based sensitivities,
- perform ensemble-based data assimilation,
- optimisation (with a genetic algorithm).

## The OPAL framework



# Progress

MAGIC

Envisaging a world with greener cities

- Test sites
- Fluidity development
- Wind tunnel studies
- Ventilation studies
- Energy calculations
- Traffic emissions
- Integration
- **Future work**

# Future work

- More controlled tests with traffic monitoring added are planned
  - Simultaneous indoor and outdoor pollutants monitoring
  - Controlled indoor tests with window openings to estimate ventilation rates
  - Indoor and outdoor exchange during window opening events
  - Collect traffic data for traffic modelling

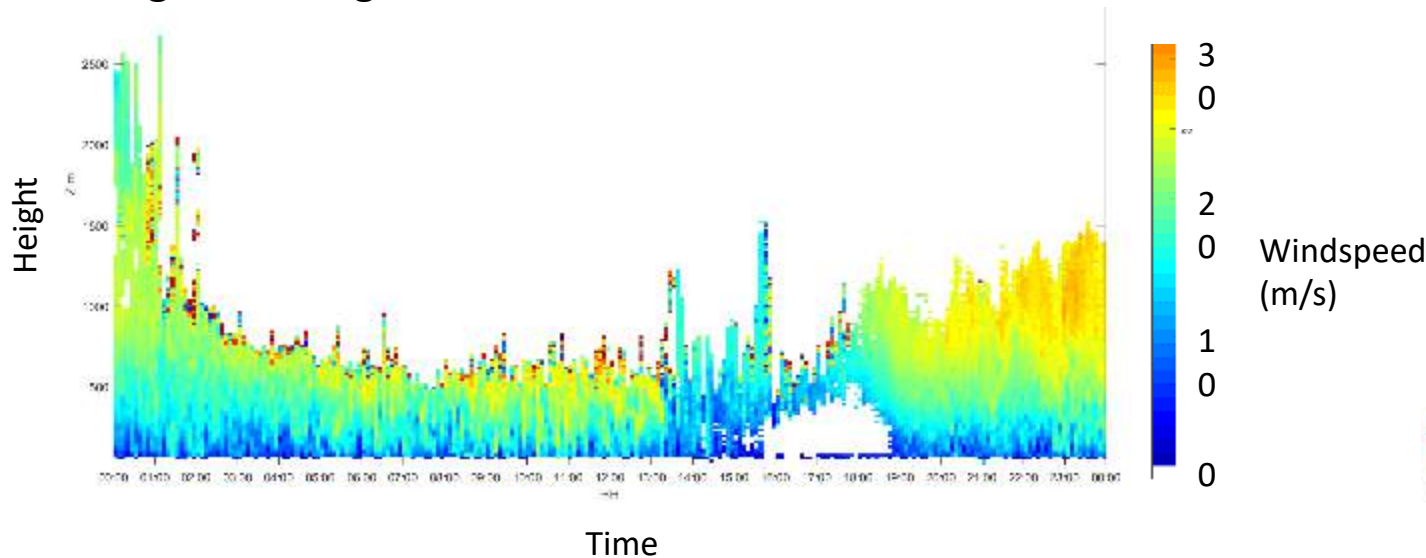




# Doppler LIDAR wind measurements

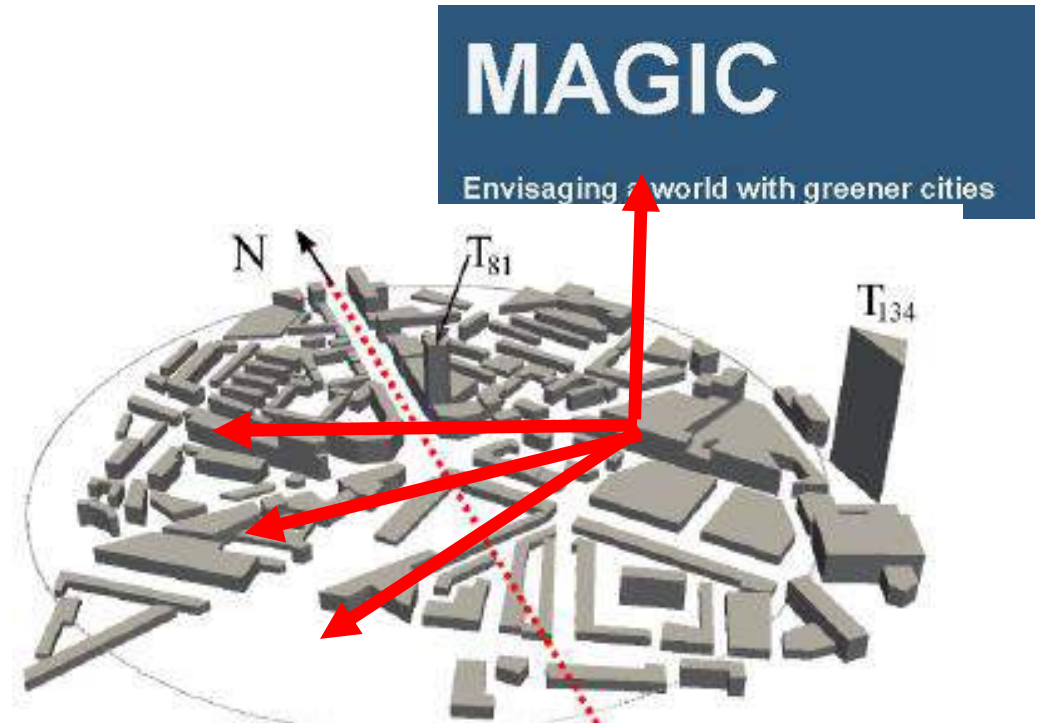
Prof Janet Barlow, Dr Hannah Gough (Uni of Reading)

- Halo Photonics Streamline Doppler LIDAR
- Uses 1.5 micron pulses (20kHz) of laser light to measure pollution particle backscatter and velocity every second
- Lidar scans give wind profiles, pollution mixing heights, building wake lengths



# Location

- London South Bank K2 building
- Building 26.5 m high
- Good view for scanning tall building wakes, flow above Clarence Centre
- Compare with wind tunnel and CFD simulations



Thanks to Dr Elsa Aristodemou

at LSBU



London eye

Building T81

Shard

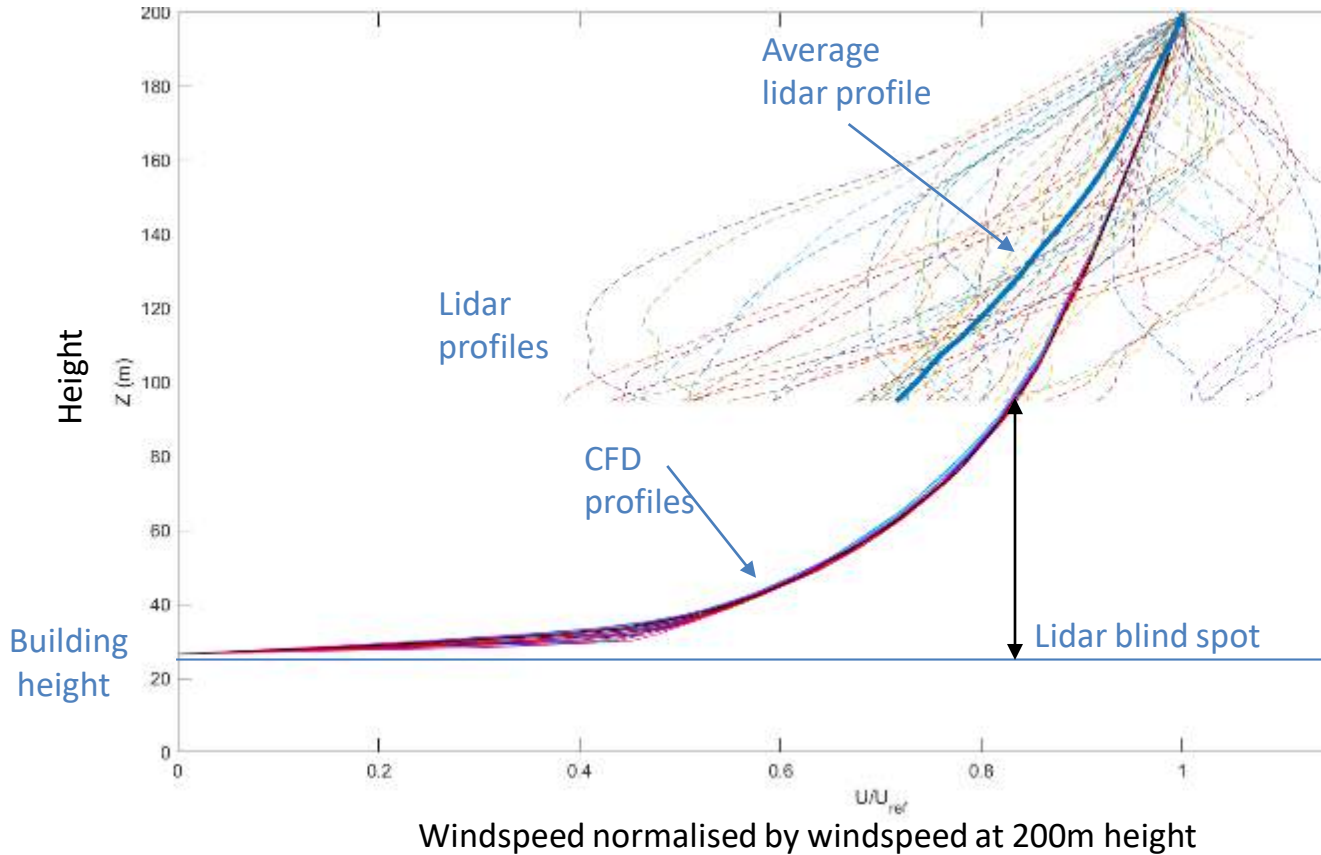
Meteorological Mast

Building T134



## Preliminary CFD comparison - NW direction

Wind profile more sheared (slowed down) by city roughness than in simulations



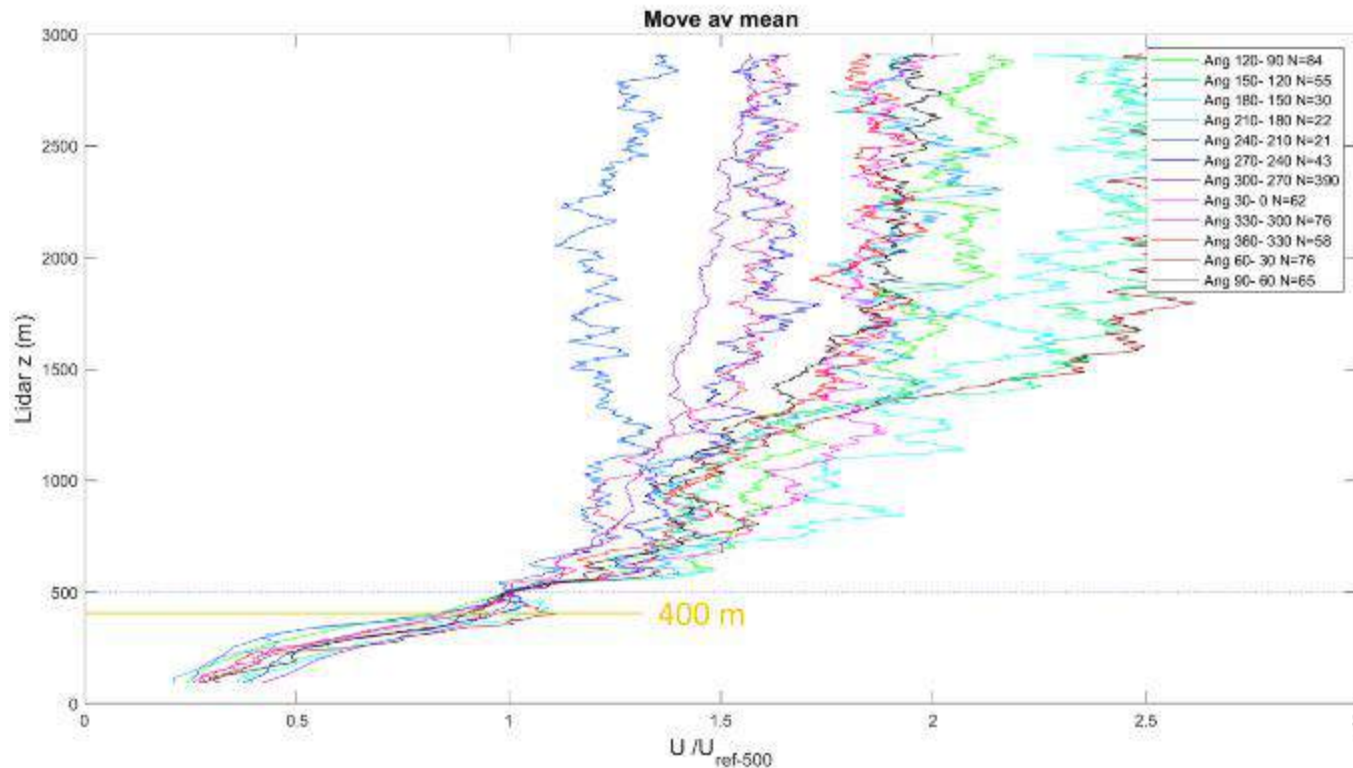
CFD profiles on roof

# Comparison with lidar

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- Lidar mounted on K2 Bldg roof
  - Initial comparisons show promising agreement on profile shape



Lidar data courtesy of H Gough & J Barlow



# Plans for 2019

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- Complete Fluidity development and testing
- Link with ROM and DA
- Conduct further room ventilation studies
- Choose 2019 test site(s) for Case Study
- Develop a cost-benefit model

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