

High resolution observations and modelling during a heatwave: urbisphere-Berlin

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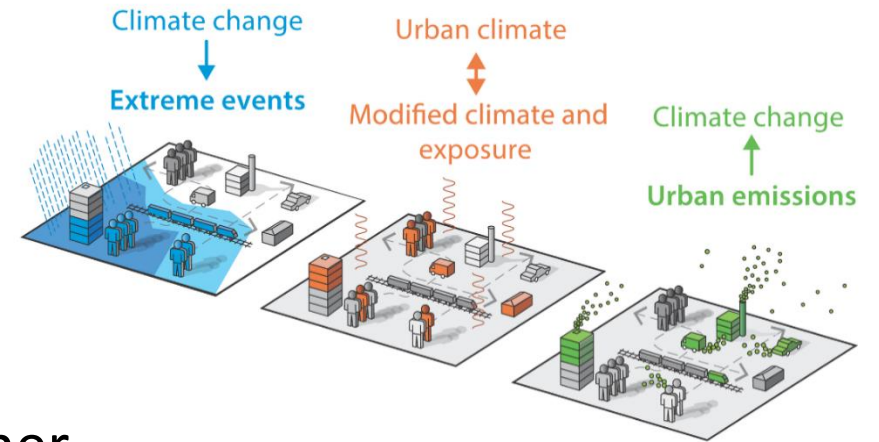
³University of Freiburg

⁴Technical University, Berlin

urbisphere

ERC Synergy Grant (2020-2027)

- **Goal:** Forecast and project urban futures and climates
- Develop *dynamic modelling framework* considering weather, exposure, and vulnerability of people using simplification of high-resolution simulations (neighbourhood to city scale)
- Understand links between climate change and urban transformation
- *Field campaigns* in different cities alongside model development



<http://urbisphere.eu/>



urbisphere-Berlin

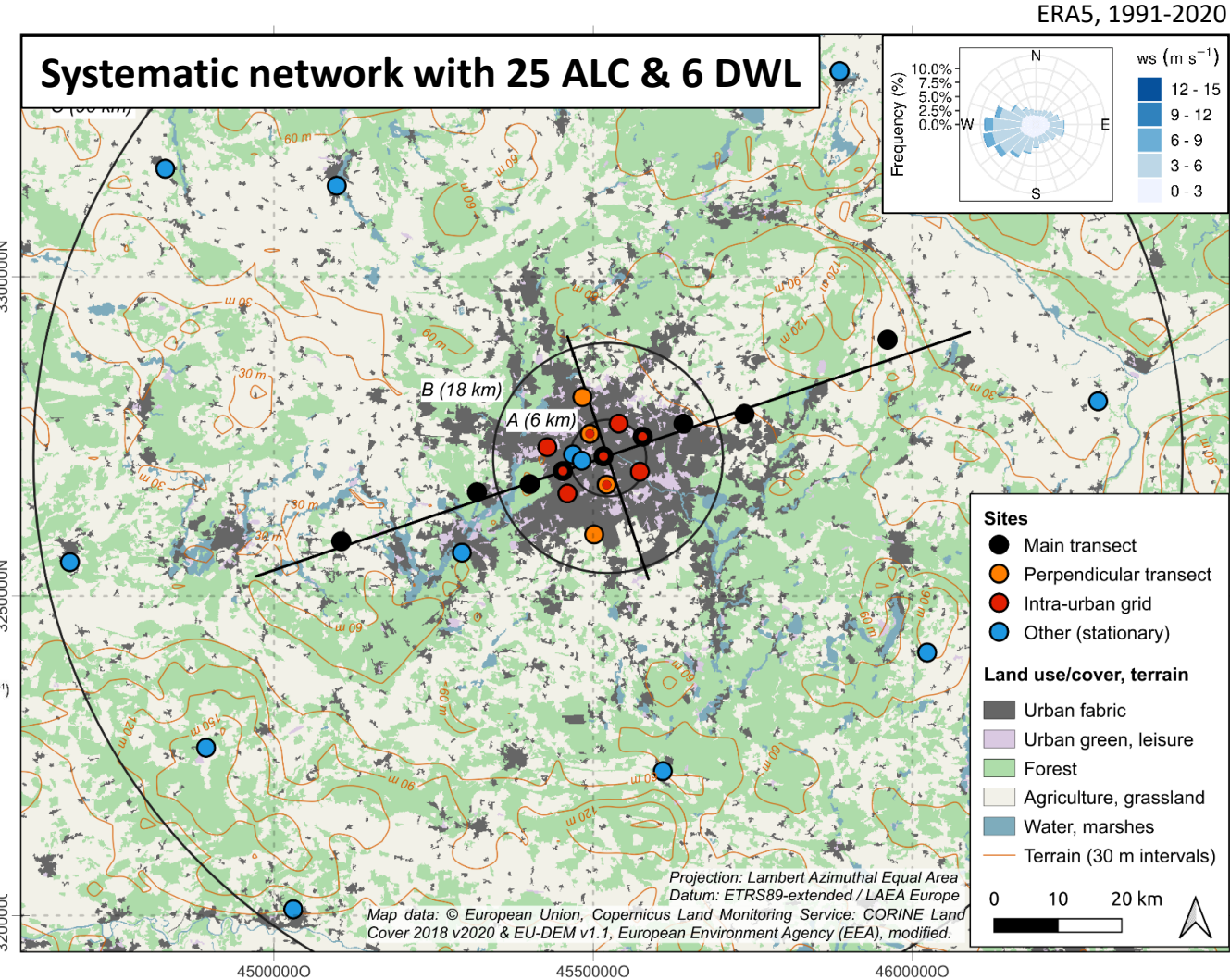
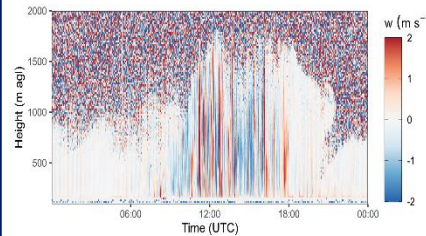
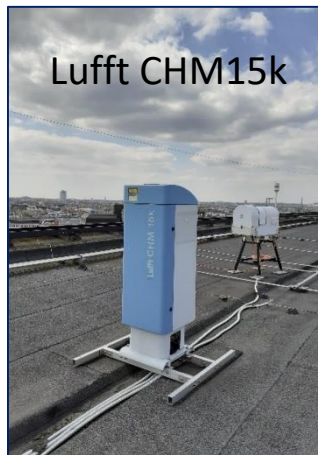
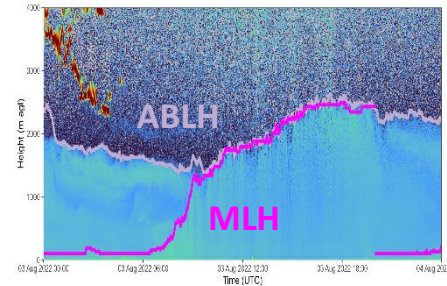
Focus: (urban) atmospheric boundary layer (ABL)

- Gain understanding of interactions between city and ABL
 - Investigate urban-rural & intra-urban variability of ABL
 - October 2021 – September 2022
 - Wide range of instruments for ABL observations
 - Complement **existing observations by partners** (TU Berlin, DWD, FU Berlin, BTU)
- create spatially dense, city-specific data set of ABL observations



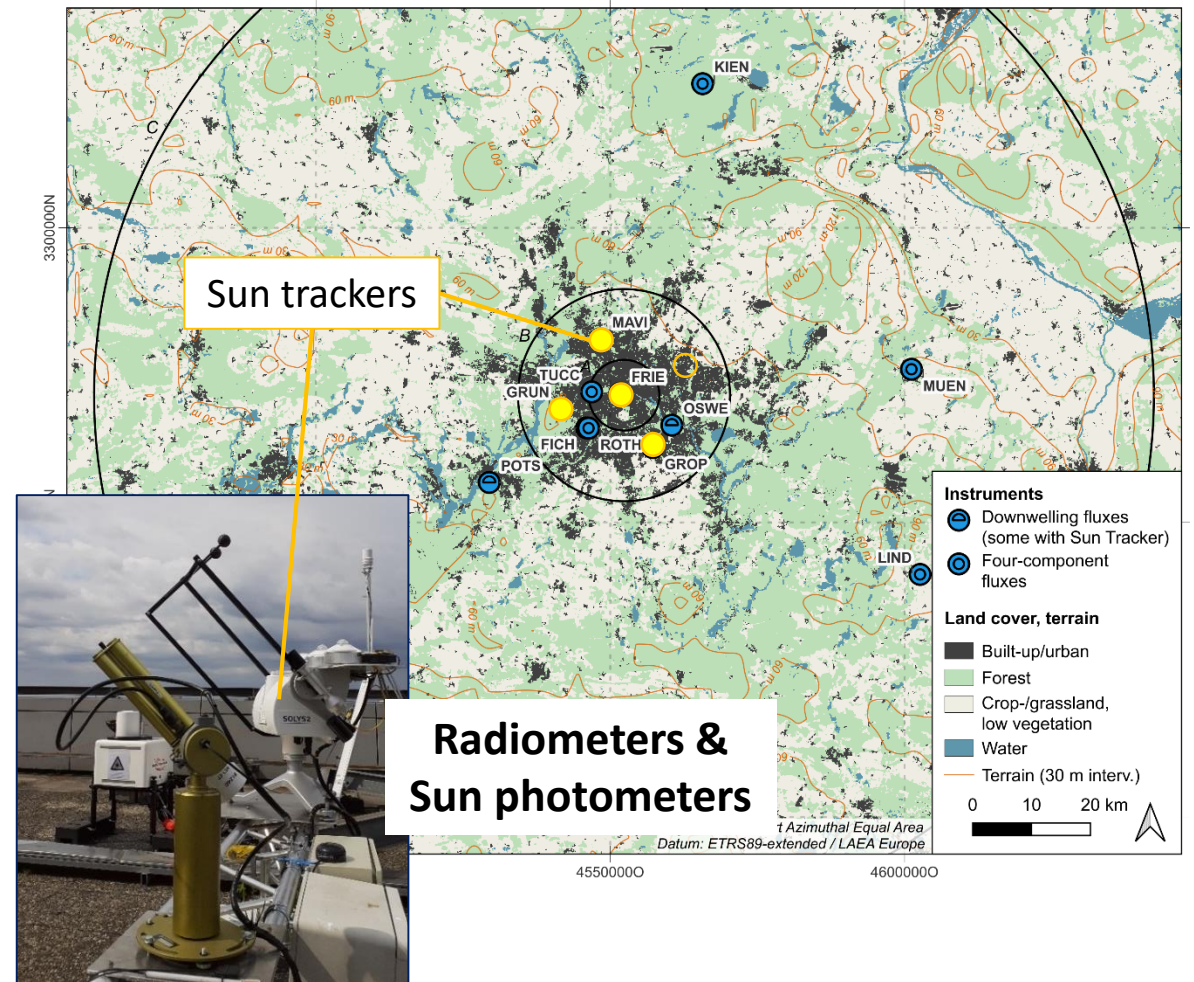
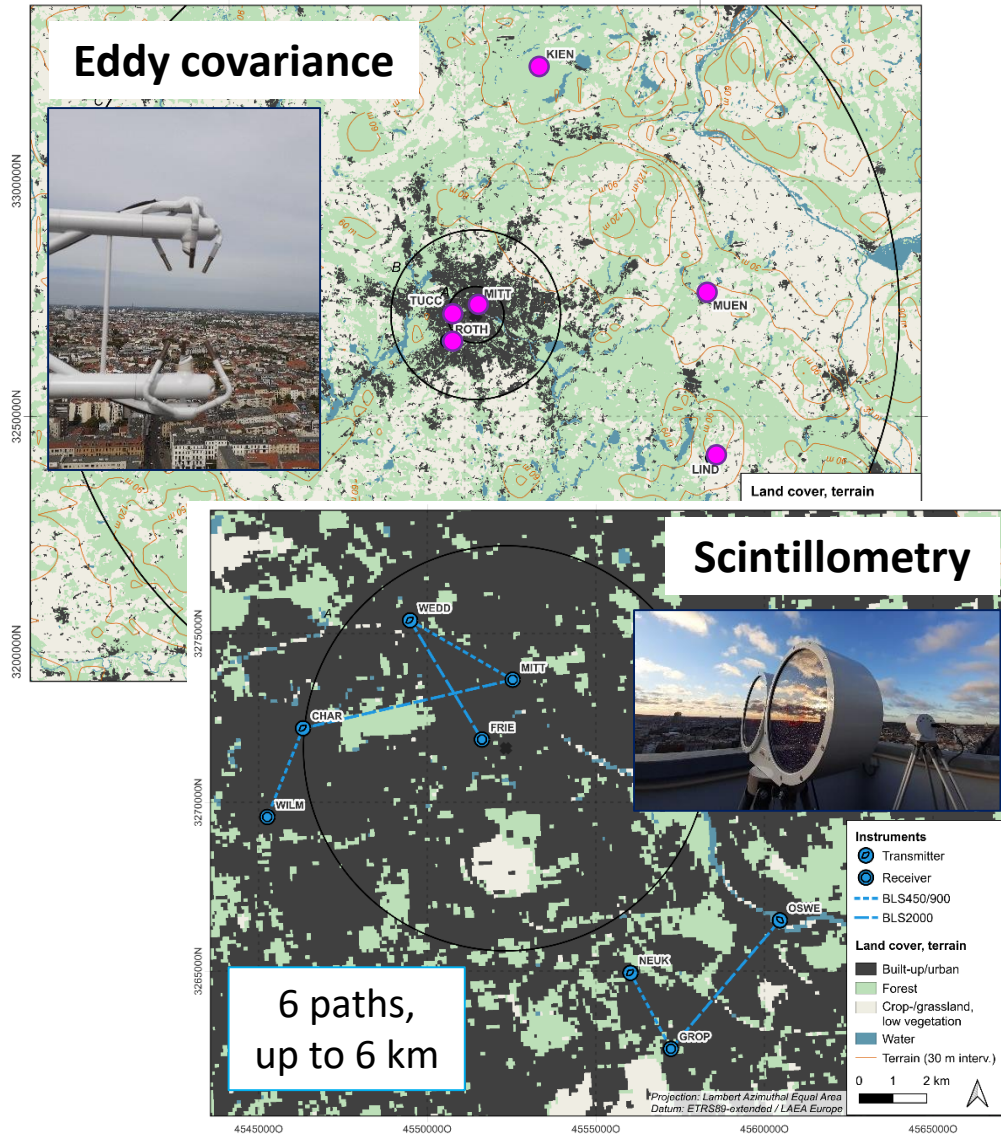
Systematic ALC & DWL network

Automatic Lidars and Ceilometers (ALC) & Doppler-Wind Lidars (DWL) as a core component of the campaign for **determining mixed-/mixing-layer heights and wind profiles**



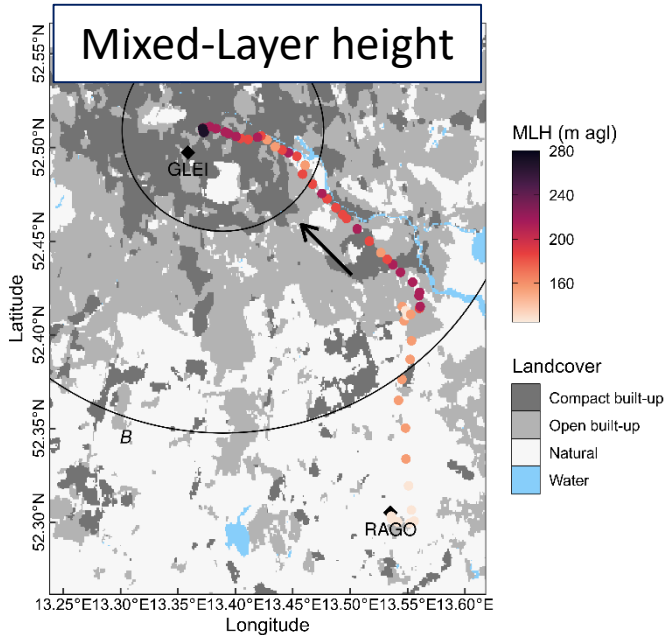
Turbulent-energy & radiation fluxes

Observations of turbulent-energy and radiation fluxes in different urban & rural settings to **link surface fluxes with ABL characteristics**

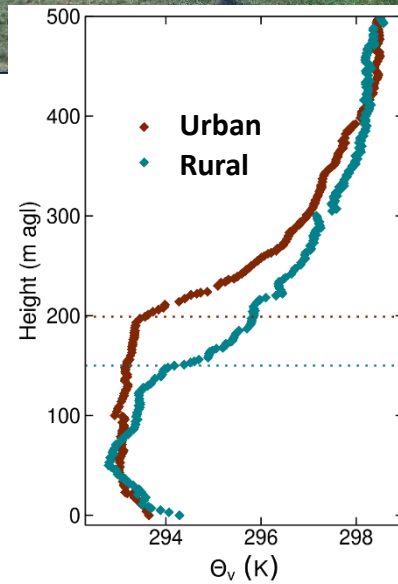
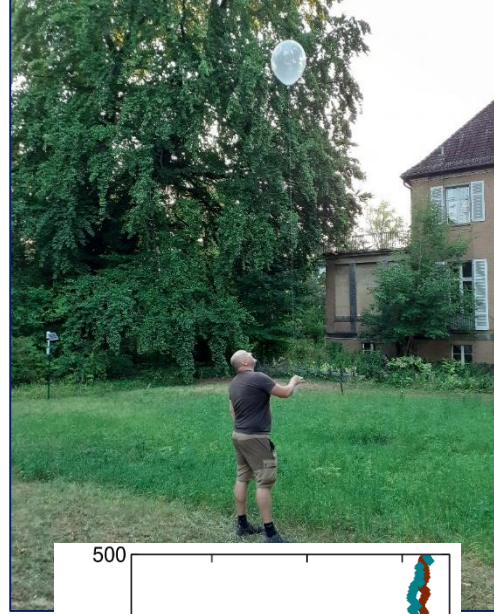


Further observations

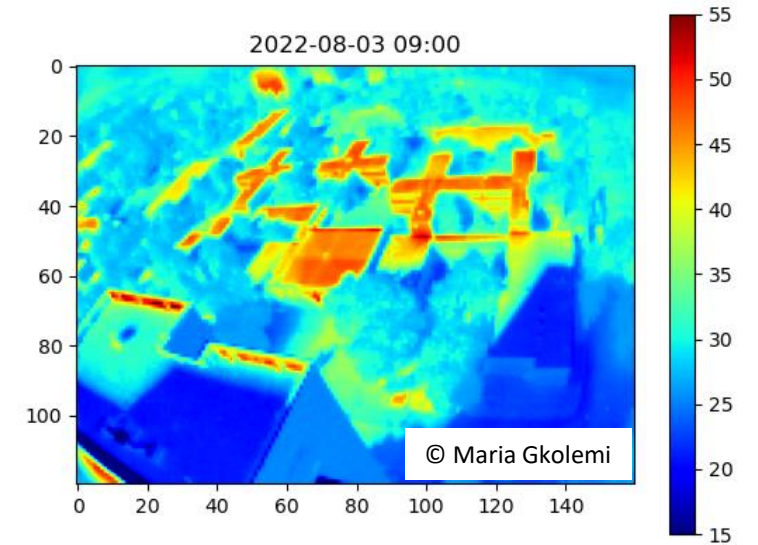
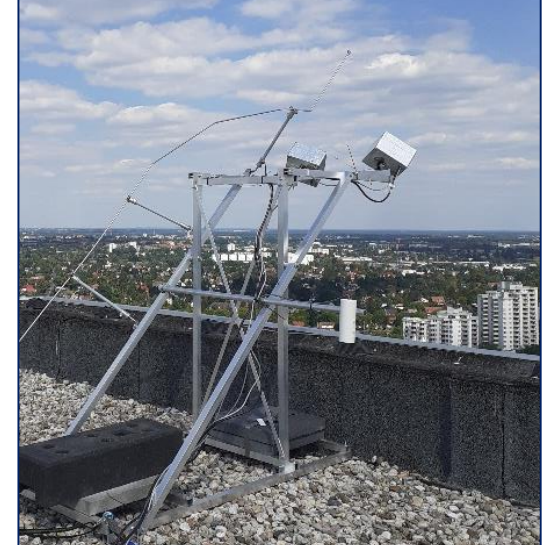
Mobile ALC measurements



Concurrent urban & rural radiosoundings



Surface-temperature measurements (IRT, cameras, UAV)



urbisphere-Berlin

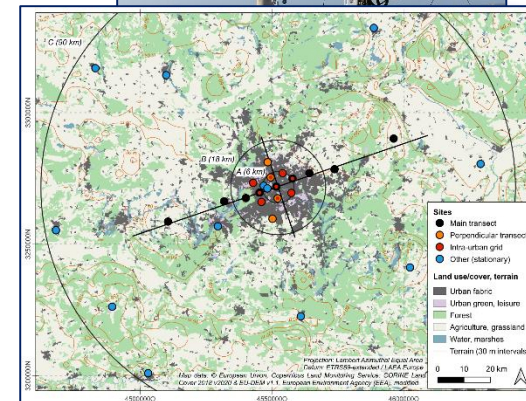
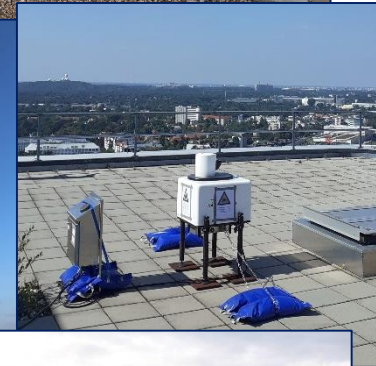
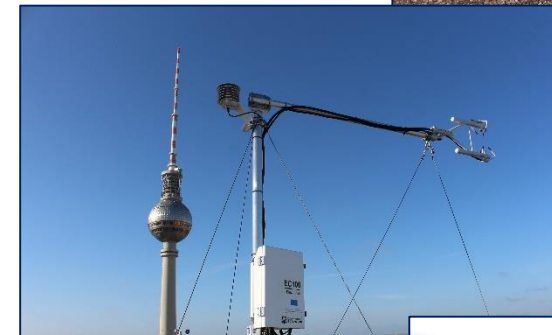
Focus: (urban) atmospheric boundary layer (ABL)

- October 2021 – September 2022
- Wide range of instruments for ABL observations
- **spatially dense, city-specific data set**
- **Final stages of BAMS manuscript – Fenner et al.**

Campaign lead and contact point:

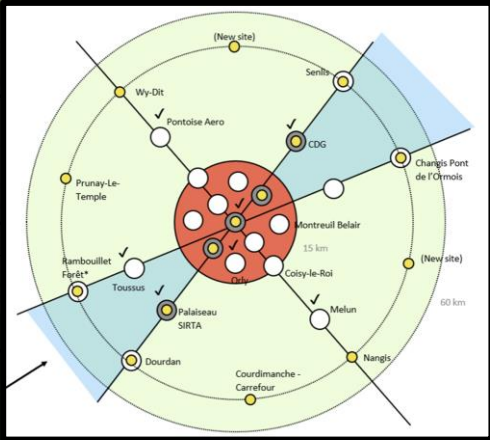
Daniel Fenner

daniel.fenner@meteo.uni-freiburg.de









urbisphere-Paris 2023: Sensor Network

Courtesy of Will Morrison



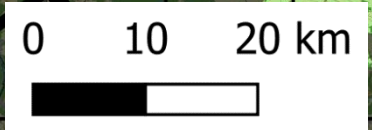
50 km "ring"

Instrument model

-  CL31 ceilometer
-  CL61 ceilometer
-  CHM15k ceilometer
-  Doppler wind lidar
-  Sun tracking radiometers
-  Kdn, Ldn radiometers

Number of sites:
19 urbisphere sites
4 key partner sites

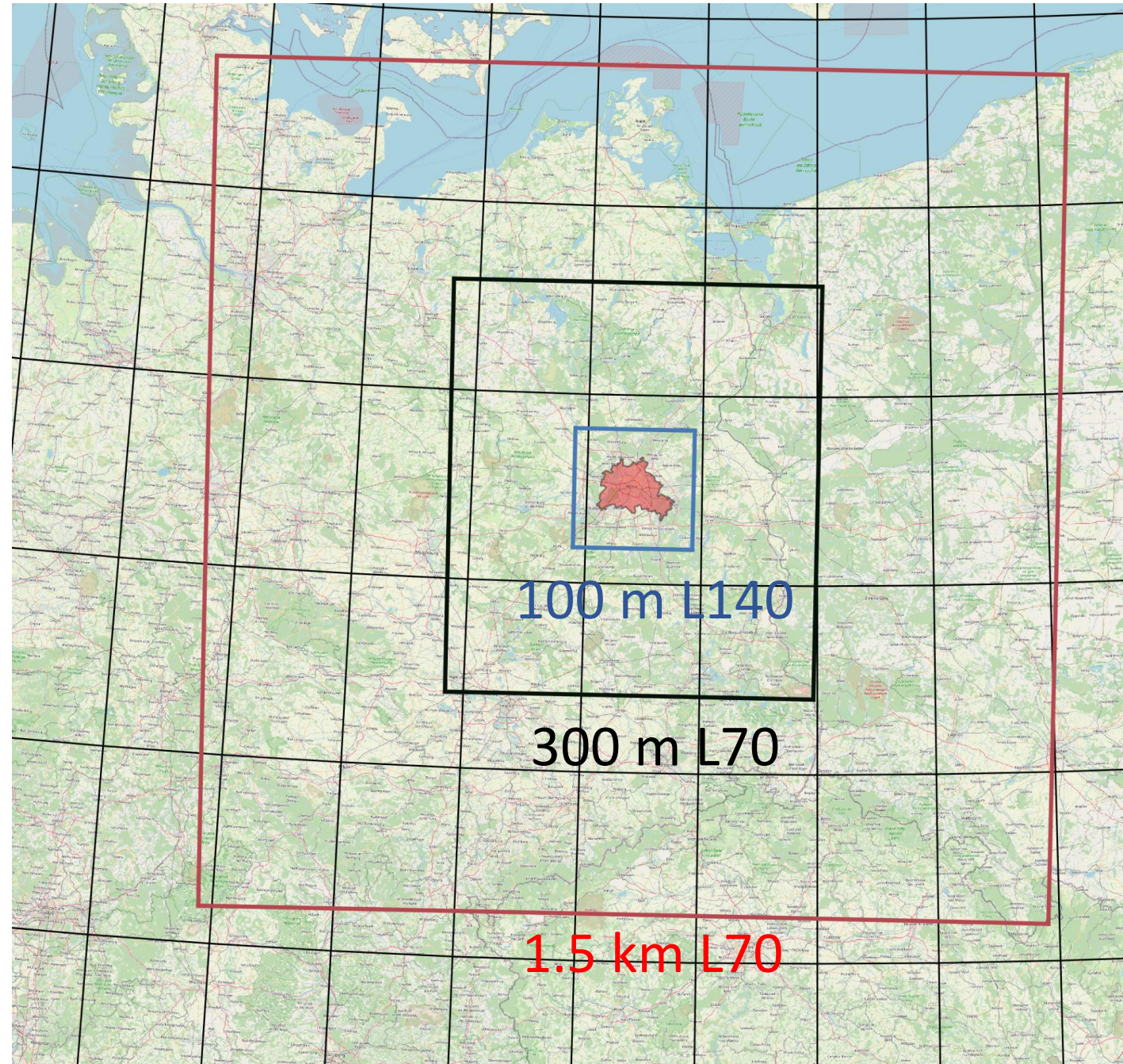
Campaign period:
Start: Autumn 2022
End: Jan 2024



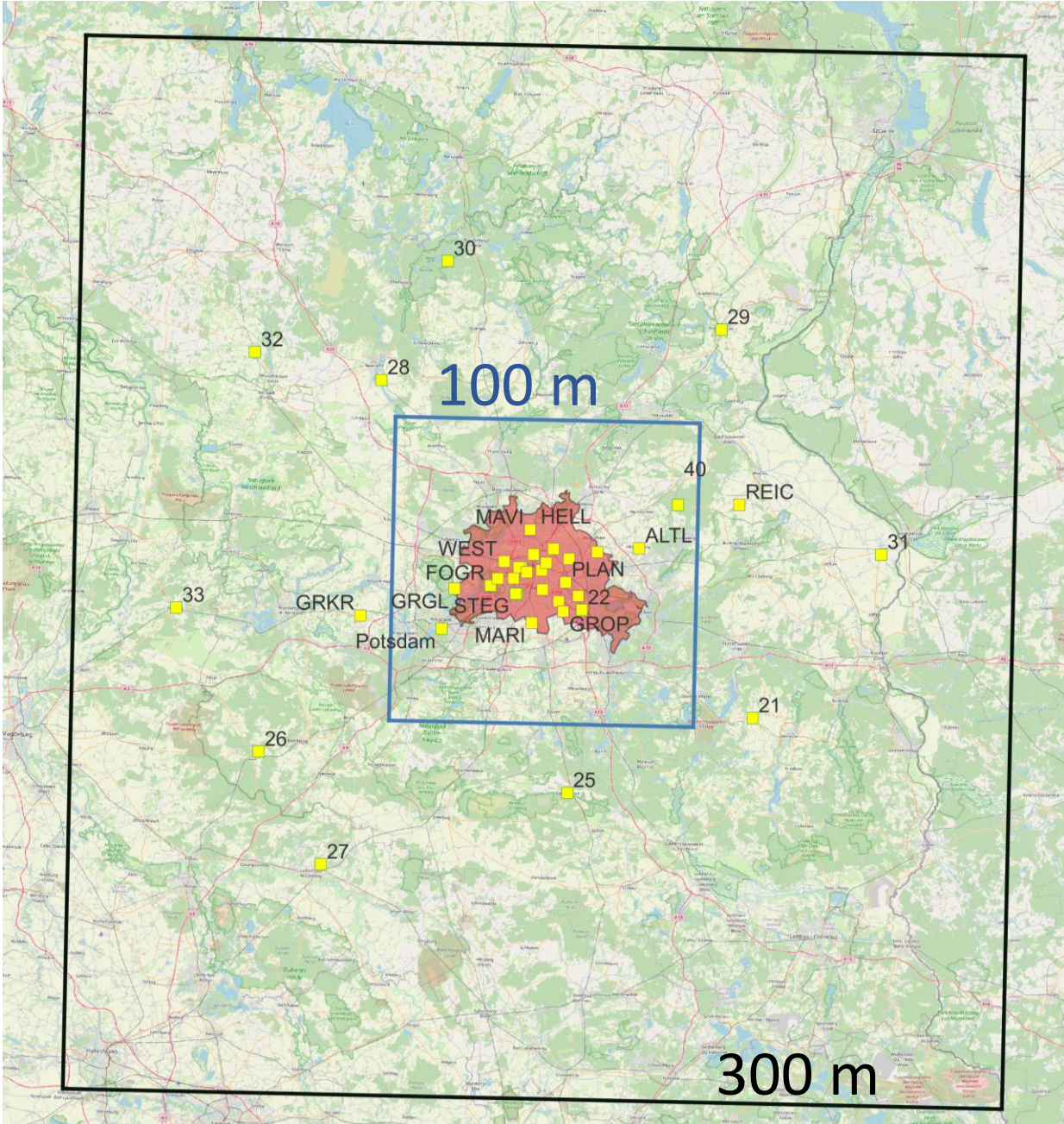
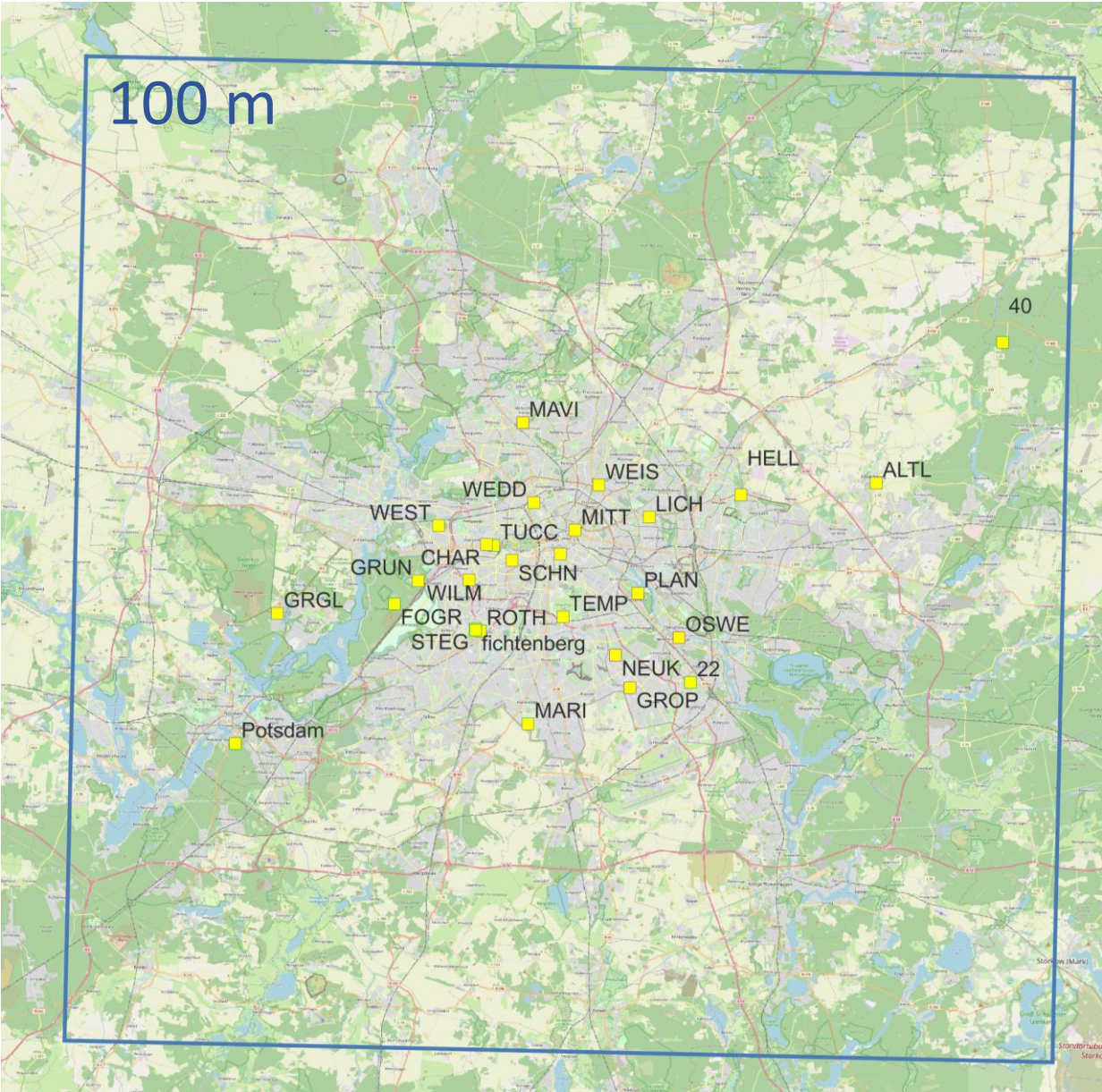
Model Configuration

Met Office Unified Model (UM) RAL3.1

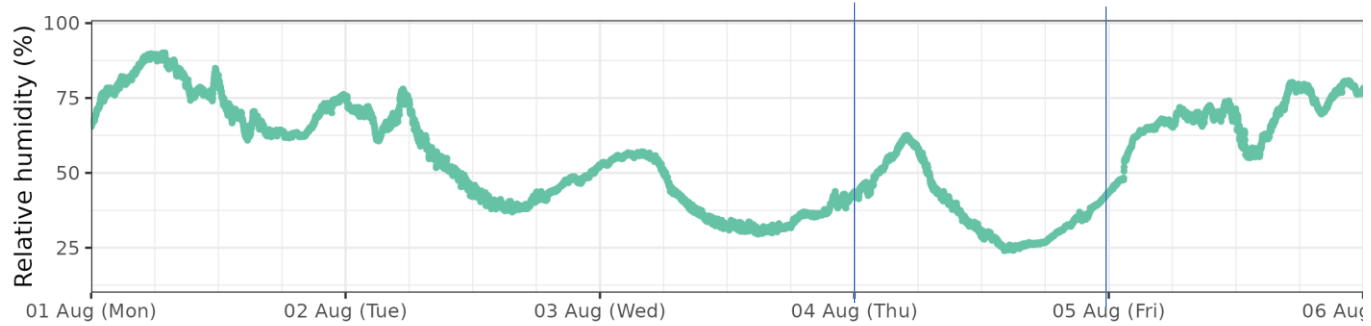
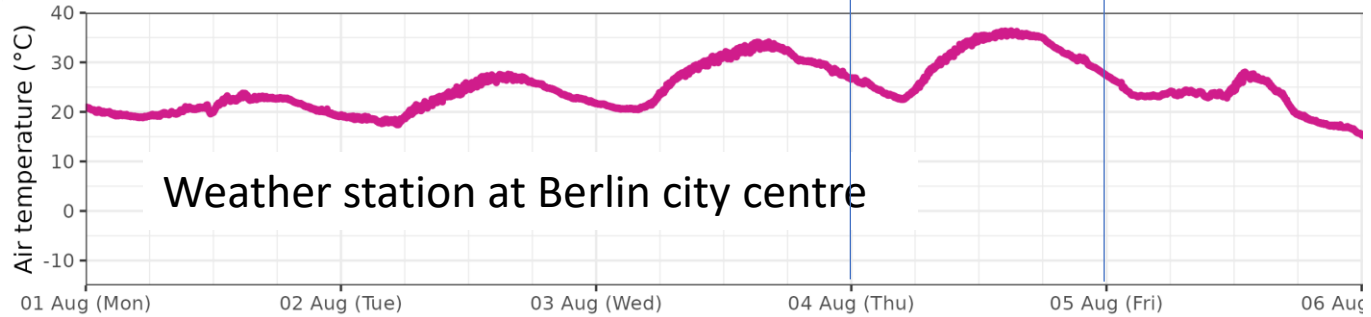
- Scale-aware turbulence scheme (Boutle et al. 2014)
- 3D Smagorinsky-Lilly preferred over 1-D scheme with higher grid-resolution
- 36-h simulation (12 h spin-up)
 - 12z 03 Aug – 00z 5 Aug 2022
- Model forcing:
 - UM global (~10 km) – 1-way nested
- JULES
 - MORUSES – urban 2-tile scheme
 - Roof and street canyon
 - Land cover: CClv1



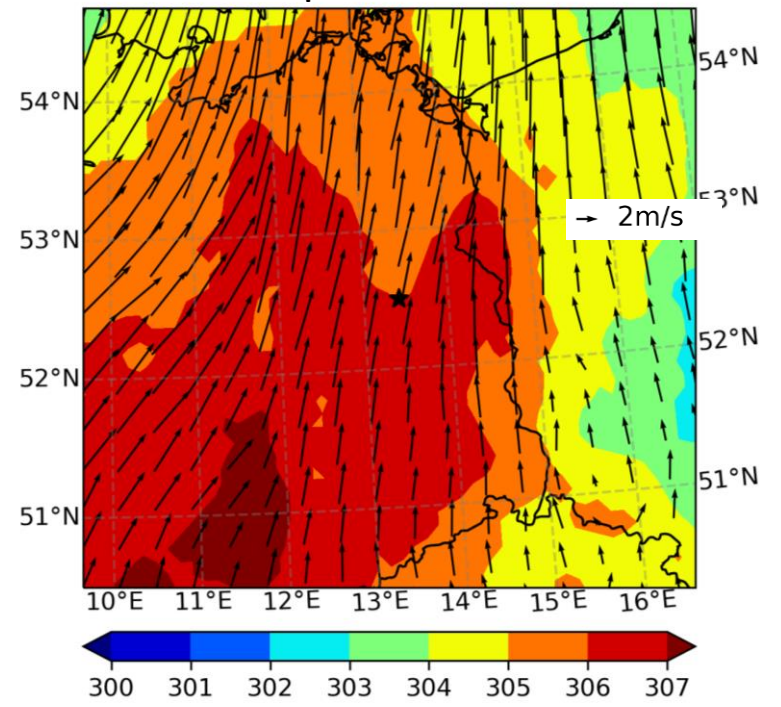
Observation Sites



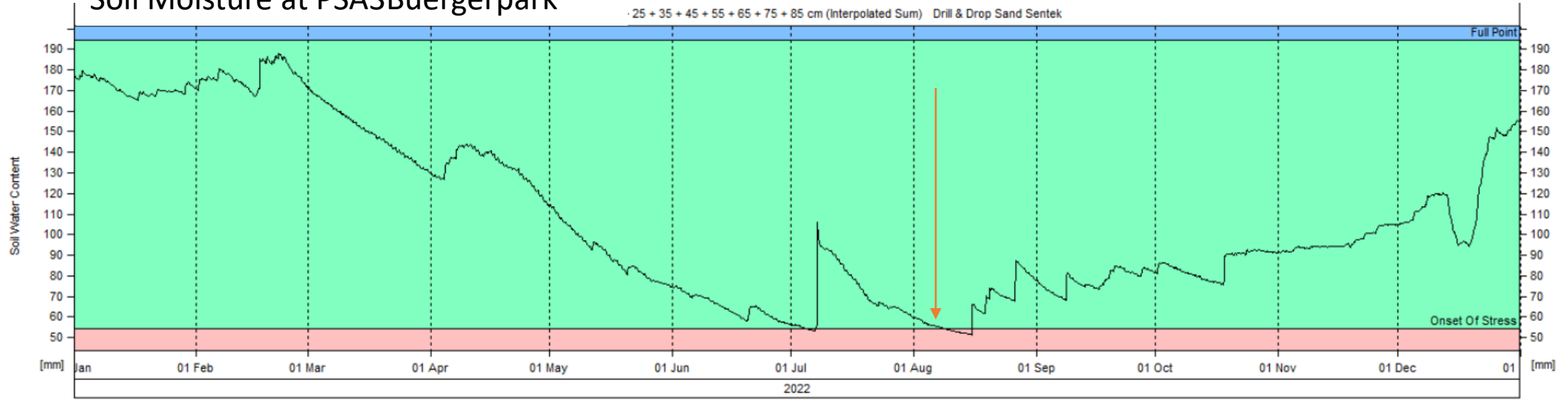
4 August 2022 Heatwave



Global UM model ~10 km 14UTC
850hpa Wind and Θ



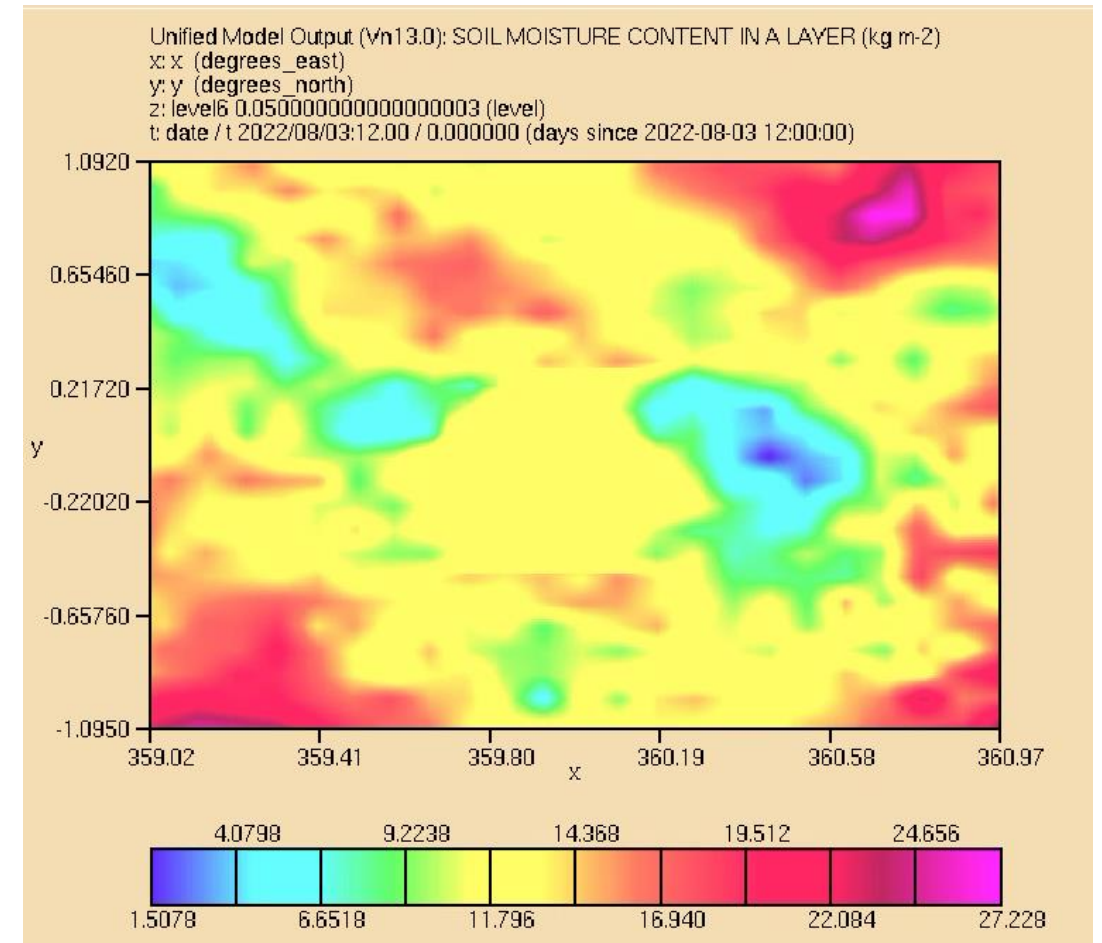
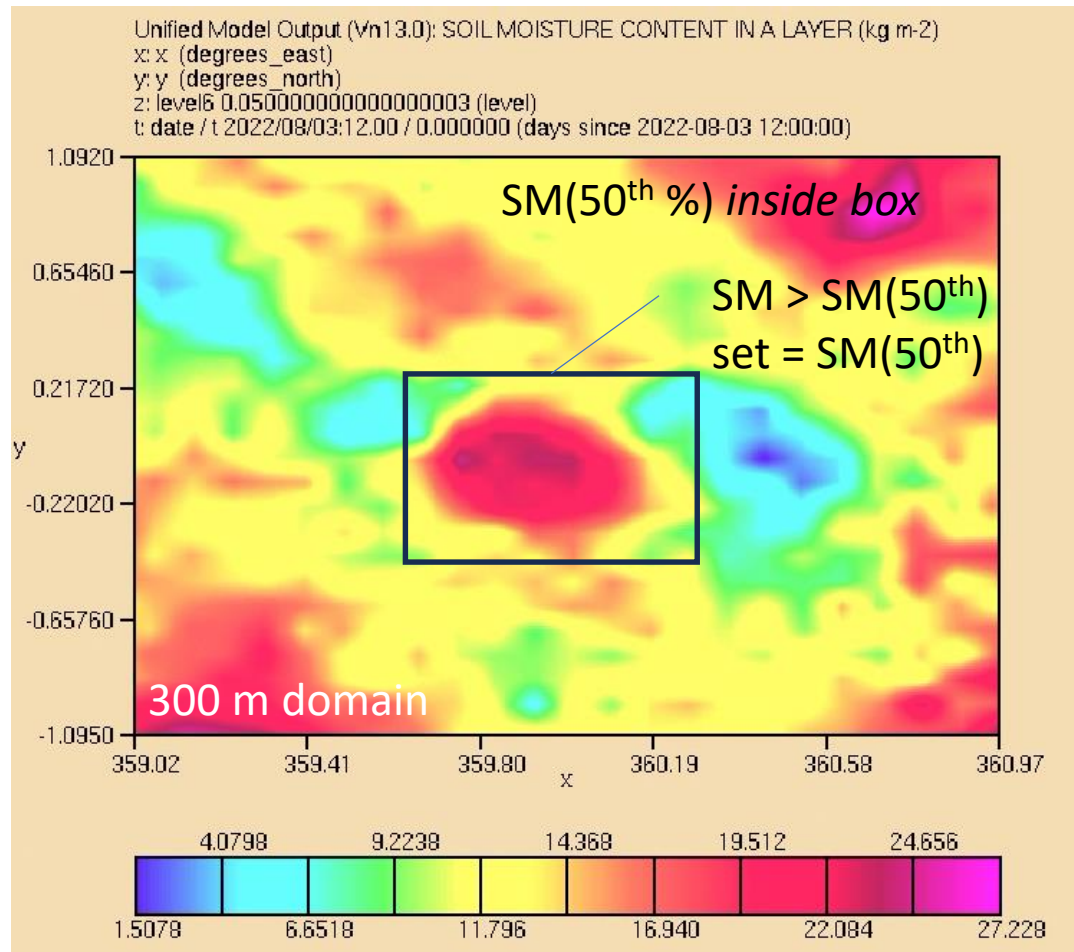
Soil Moisture at PSA3Buergerpark



Known Soil Moisture (SM) Data Assimilation (DA) issue

DA from ASCAT → global UM
results in high SM for urban areas

After SM modification

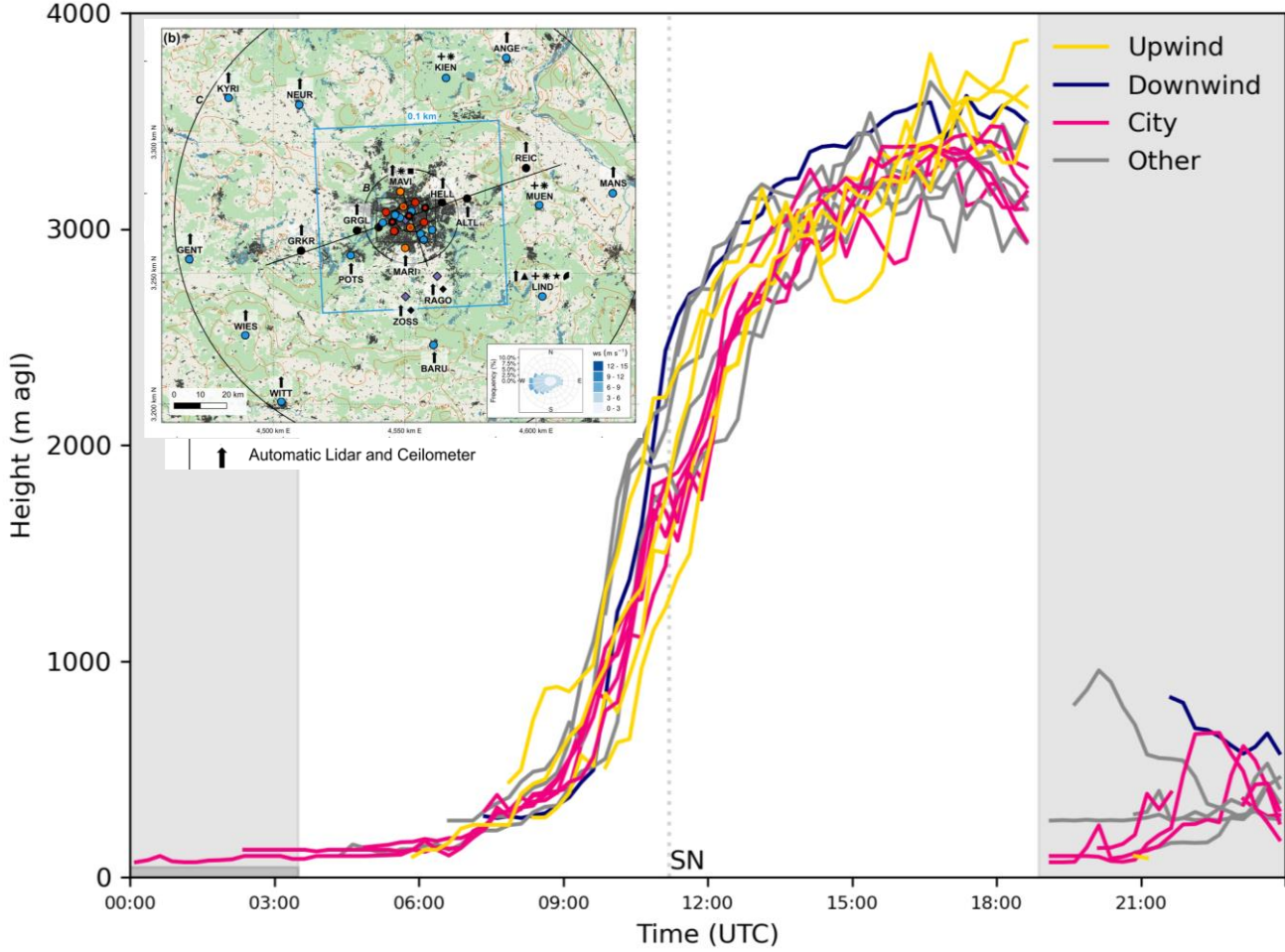


Initial simulation: issues

- City
- Upwind
- Downwind
- Other

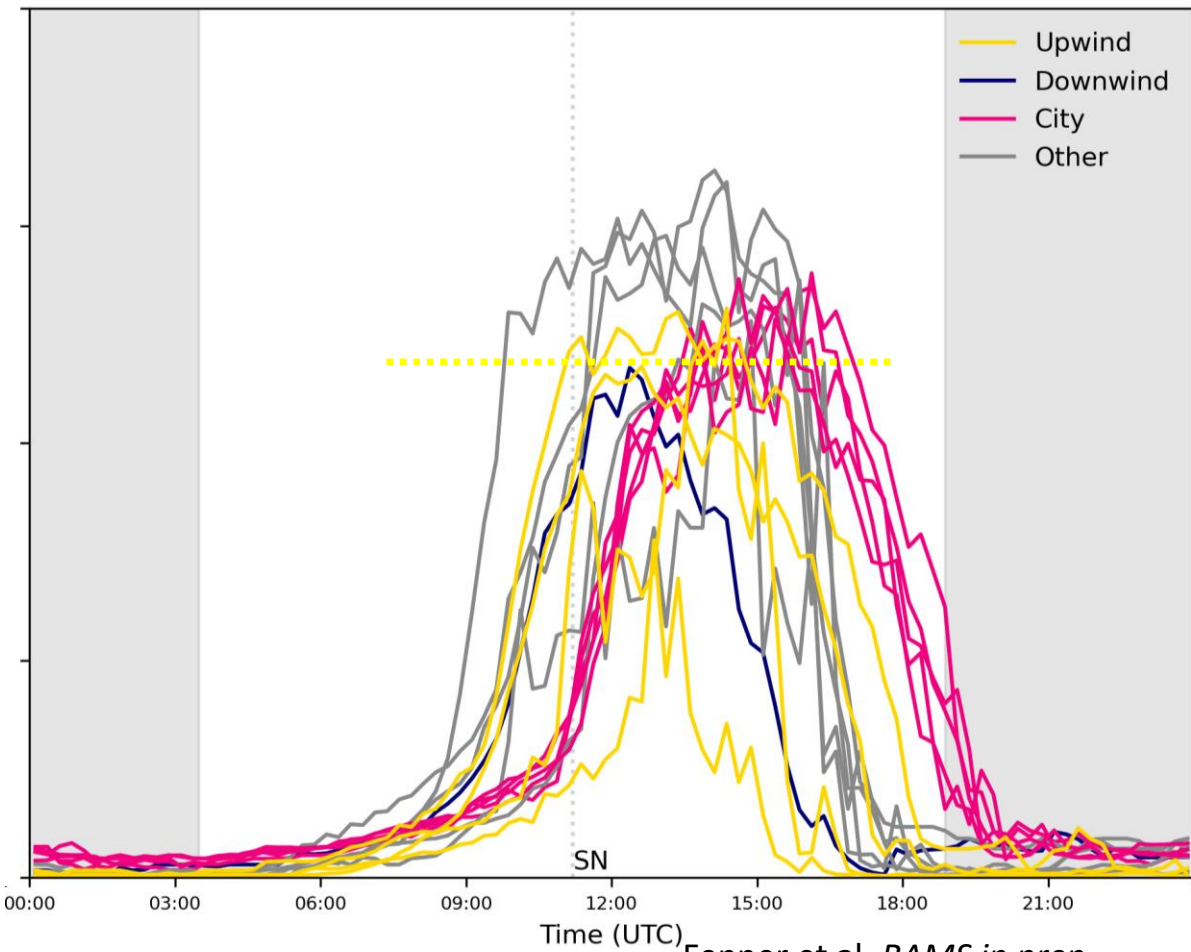
Observations

MLH – ALC analysed with STRATfinder

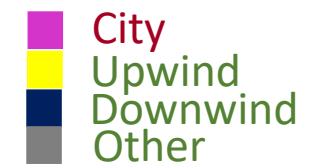


Initial 300 m model

Model default BLD diagnostic – (Parcel method)

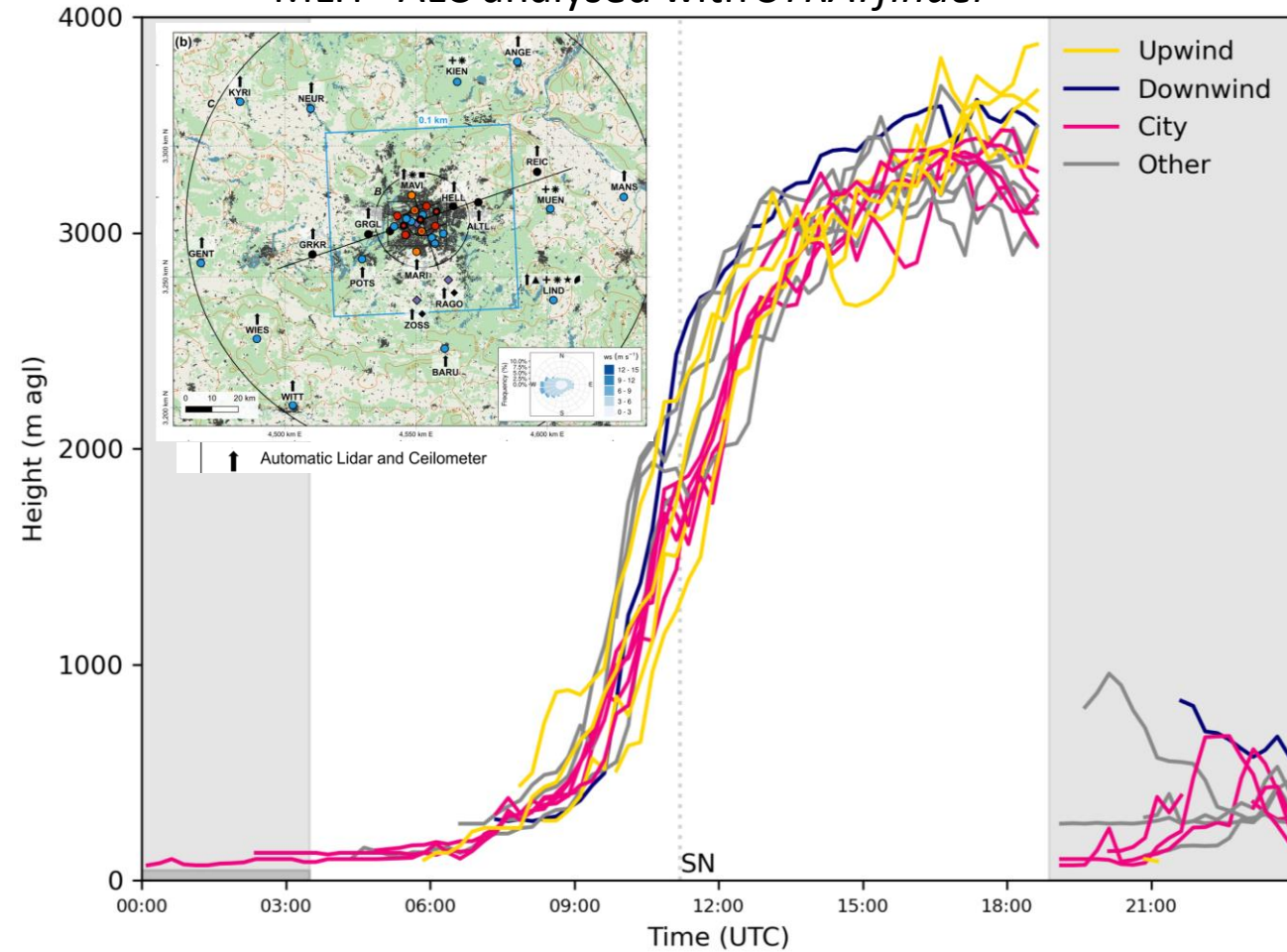


Impact of SM modification on BL



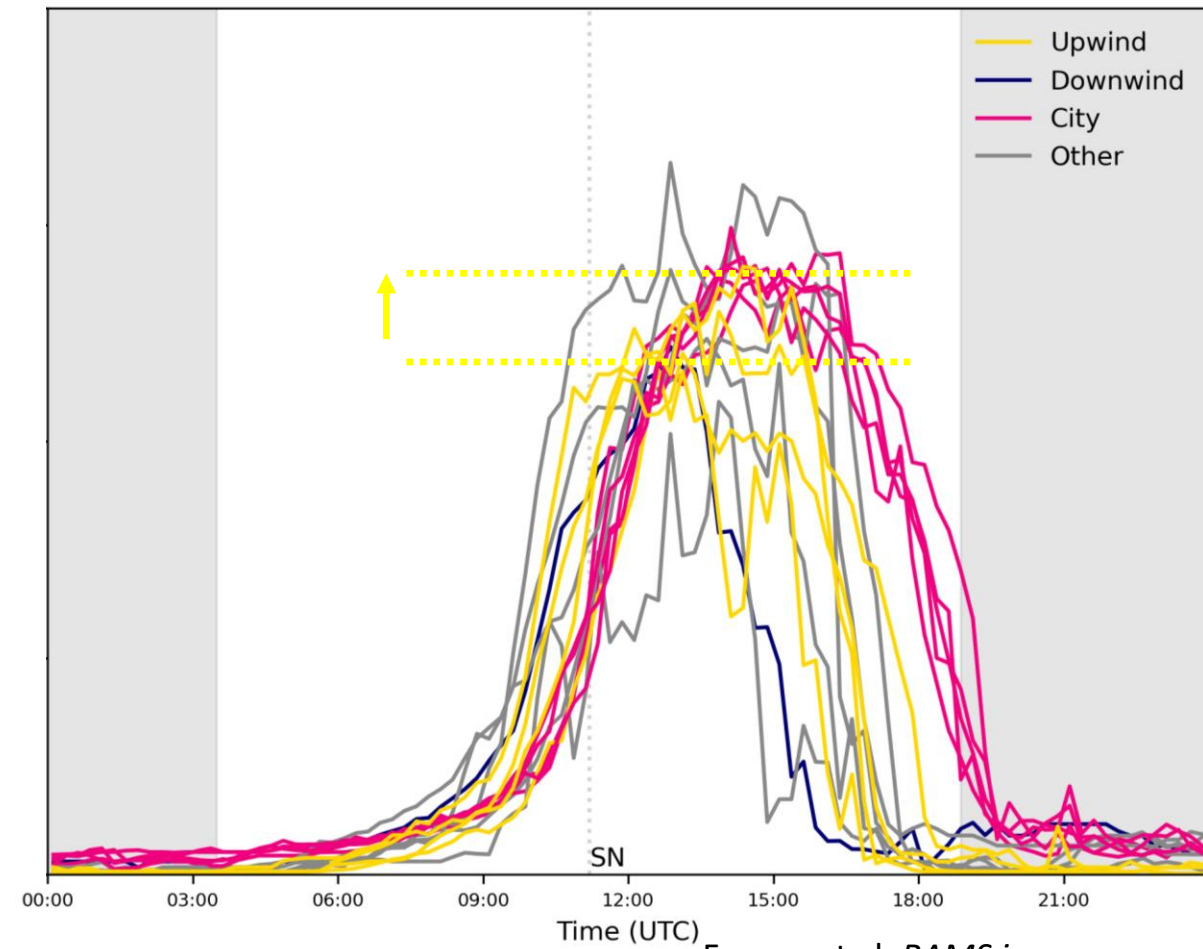
Observations

MLH –ALC analysed with *STRATfinder*



300 m model after SM modified

Model default BLD diagnostic – (*Parcel method*)



Surface fluxes urban and rural

Observations:

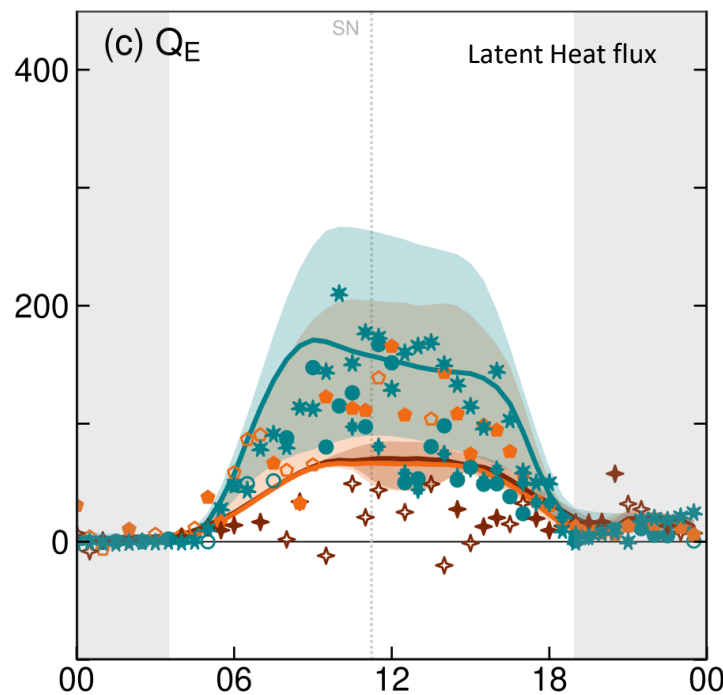
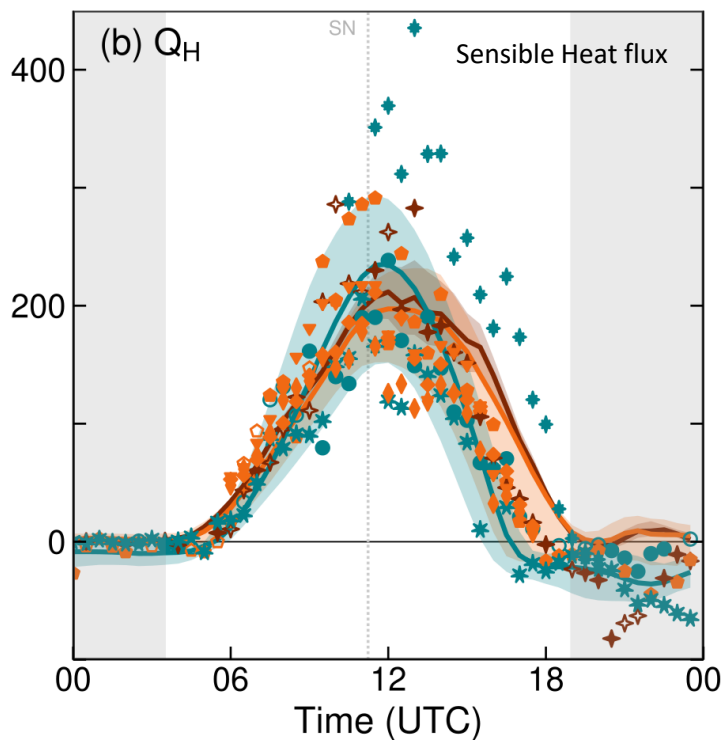
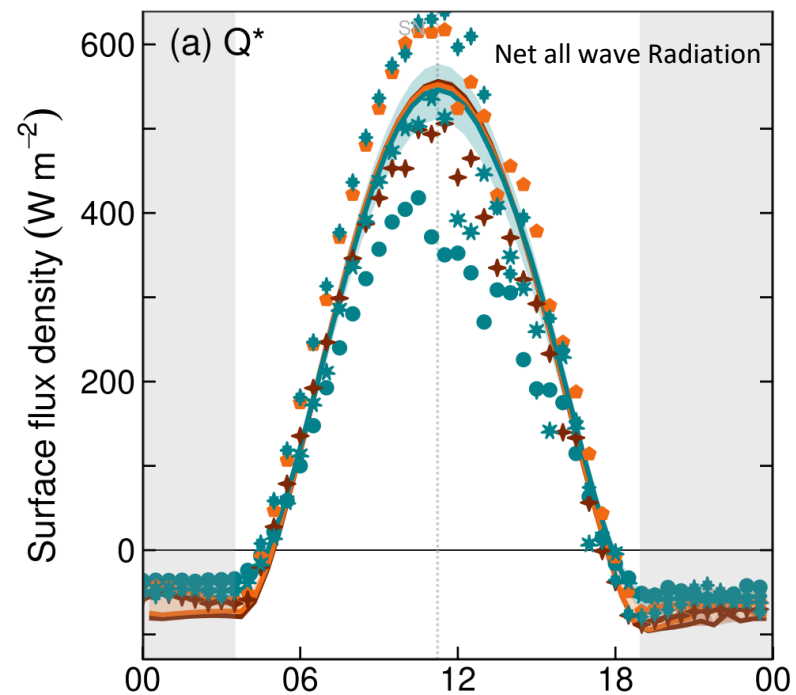
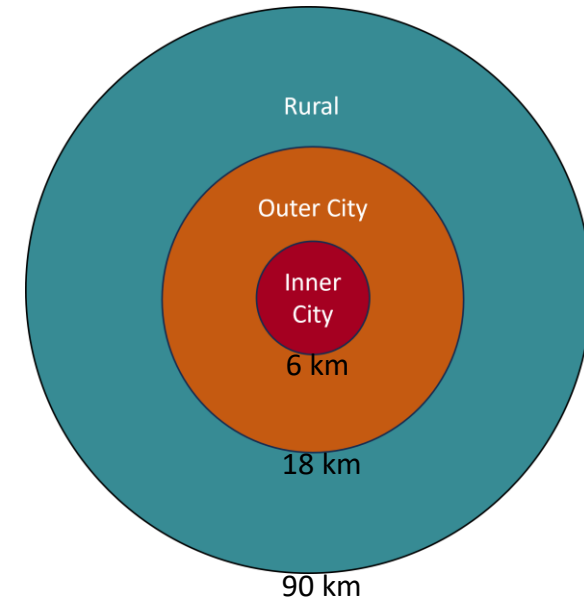
- Radiometers
- Eddy covariance, Large Aperture Scintillometry (LAS)

Model: line median

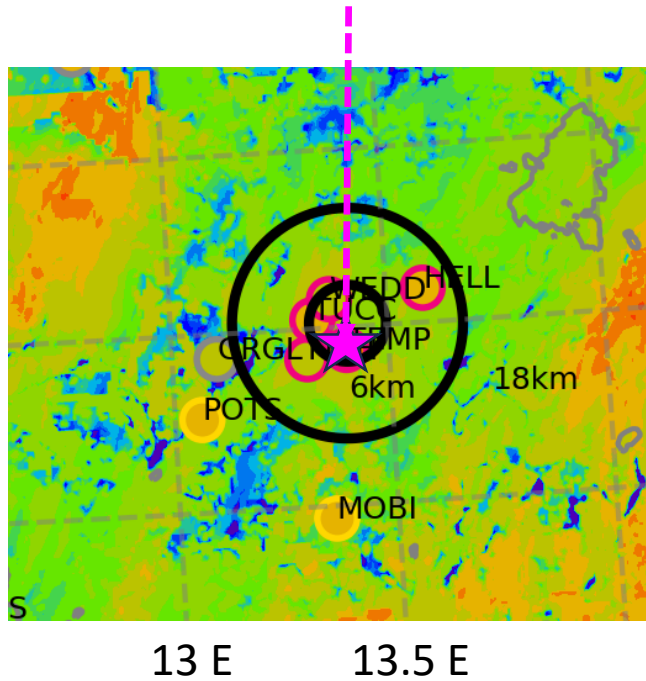
: shading IQR

- full ring/donut

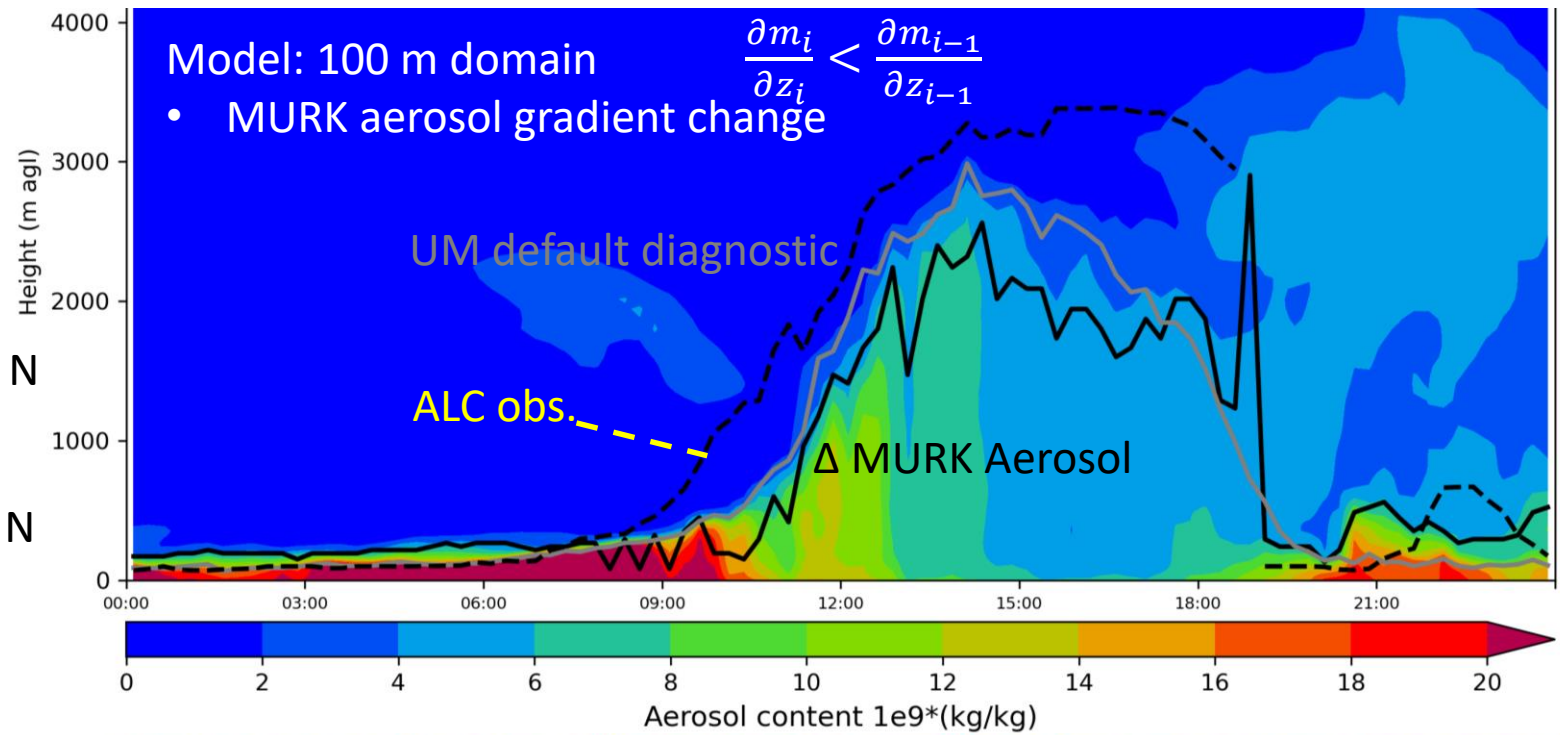
Observations: symbols



Site: TEMP

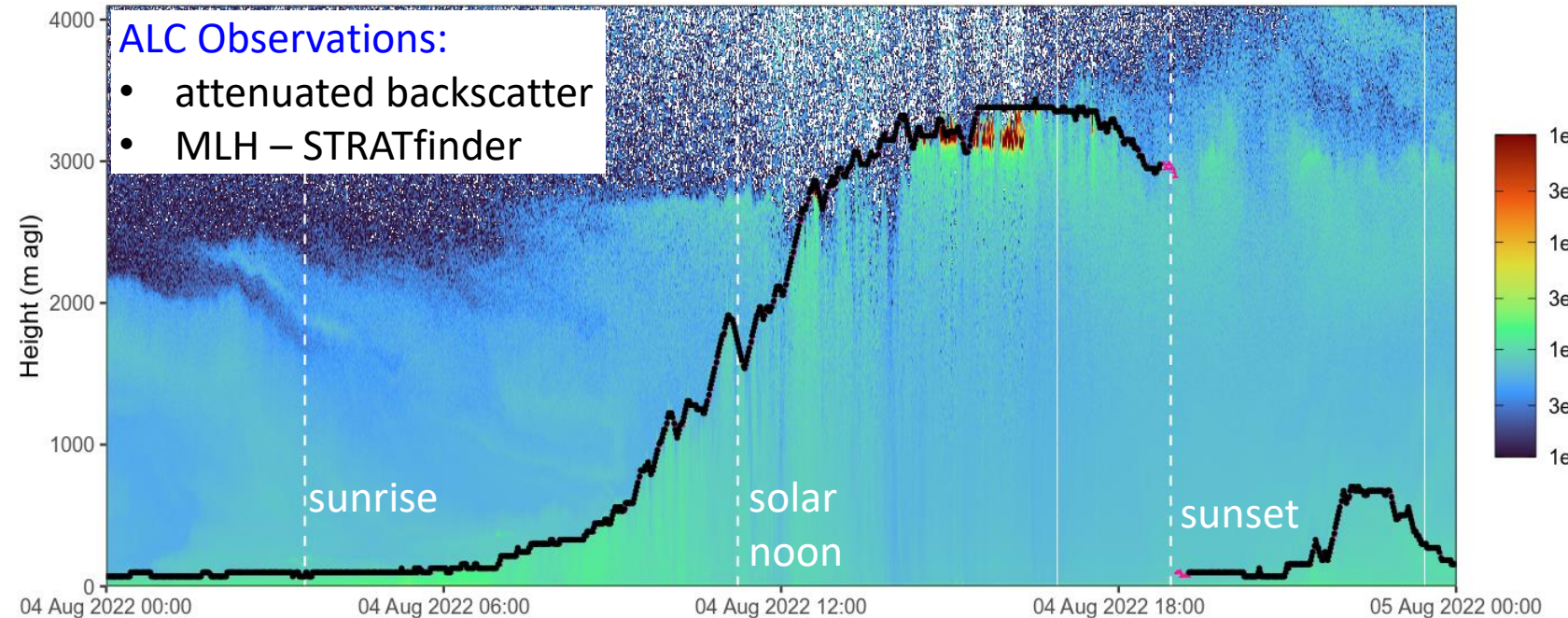


52.8 N
52.5 N



ALC Observations:

- attenuated backscatter
- MLH – STRATfinder



Other BLH metrics to be analysed

- Forward operator: Warren et al. (2018)
- Doppler wind lidar (W variance)

Evolution of BL near City Centre in 100 m model

Contours = theta (0.5 K intervals)

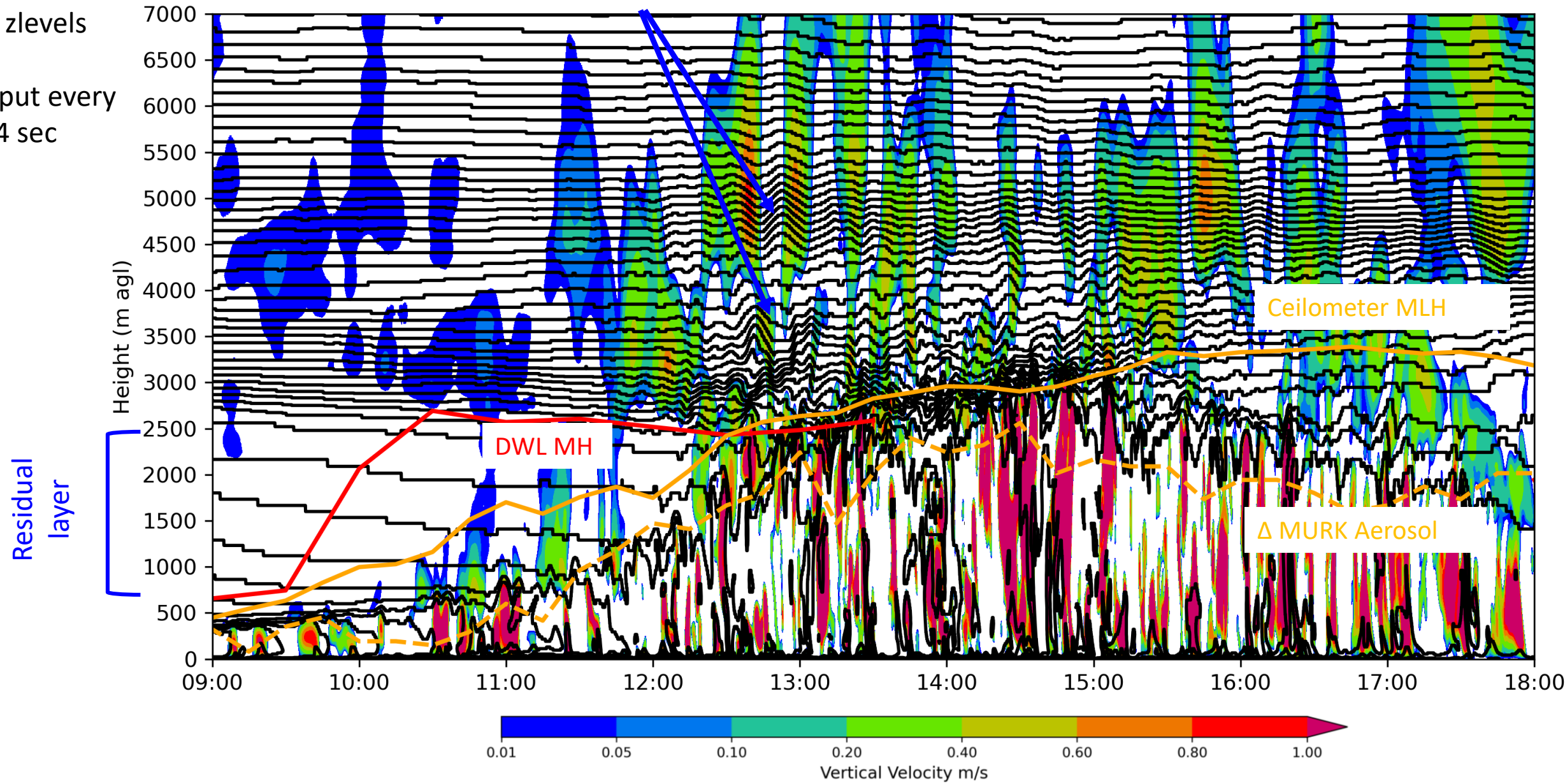
100 m model:

140 zlevels

Output every

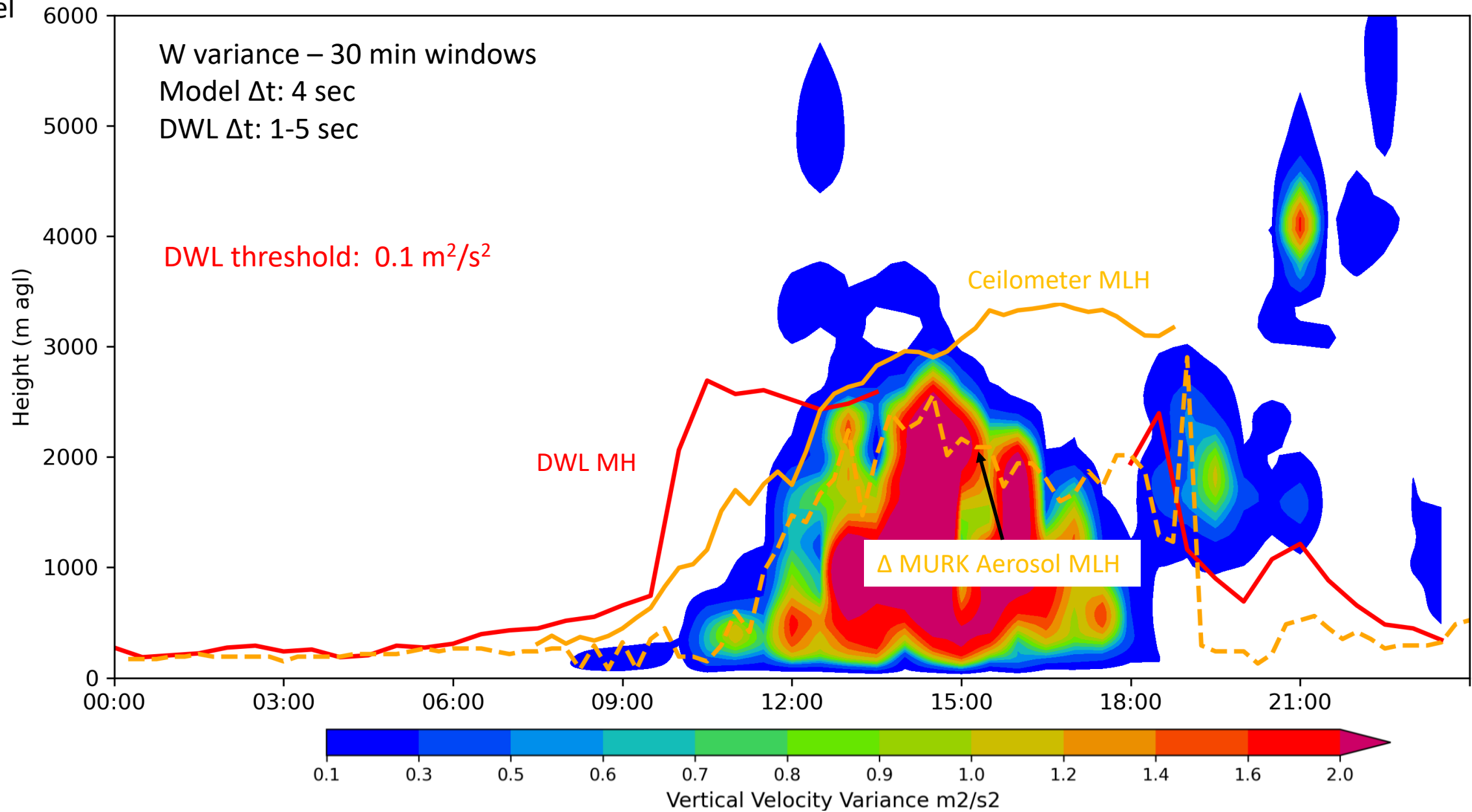
Δt : 4 sec

Wave motion above BL



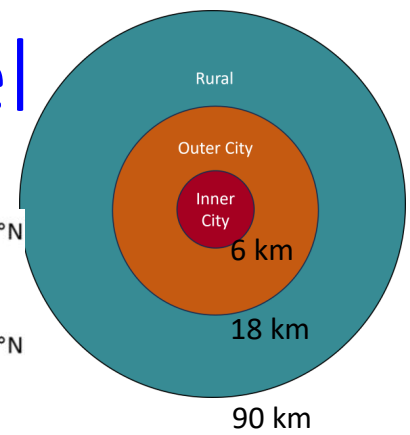
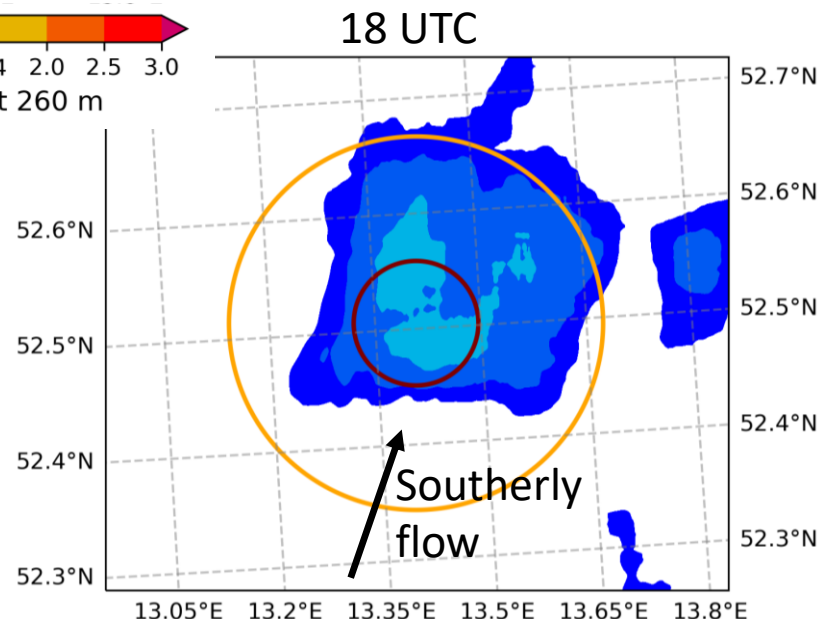
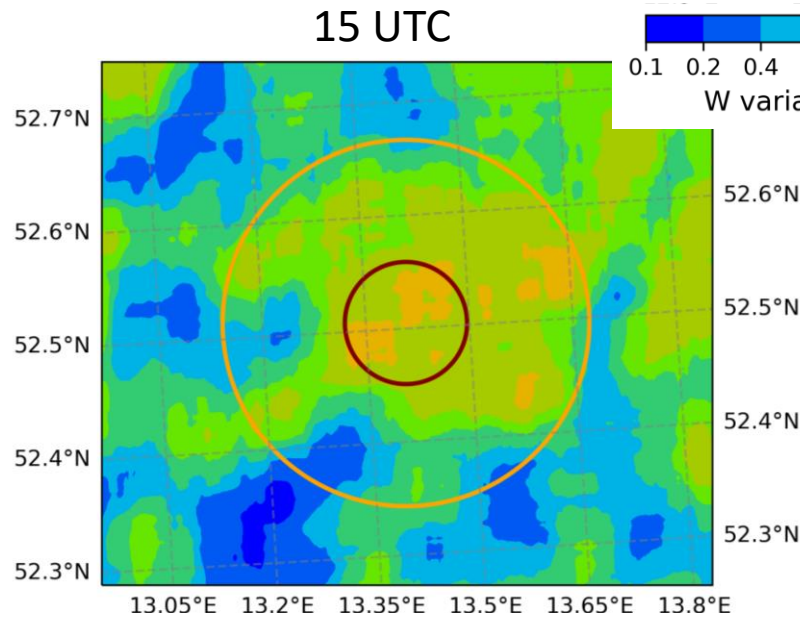
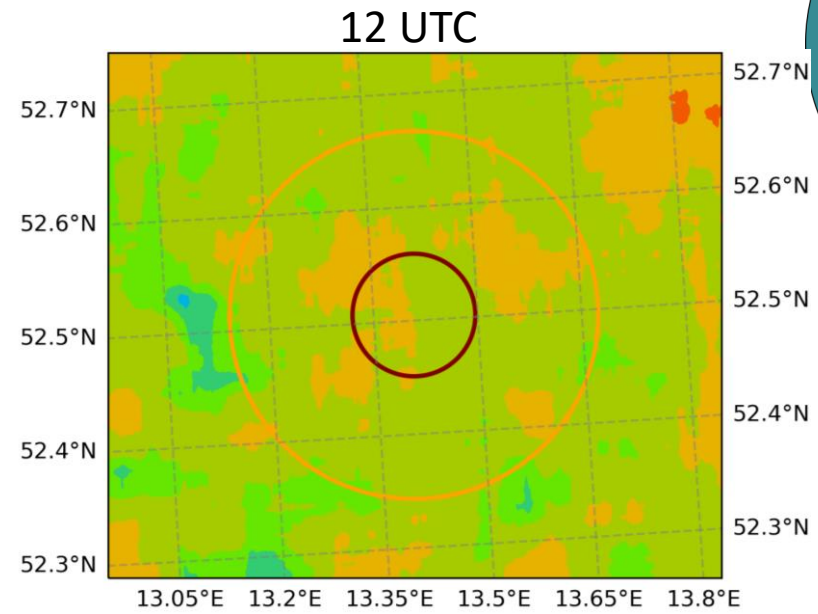
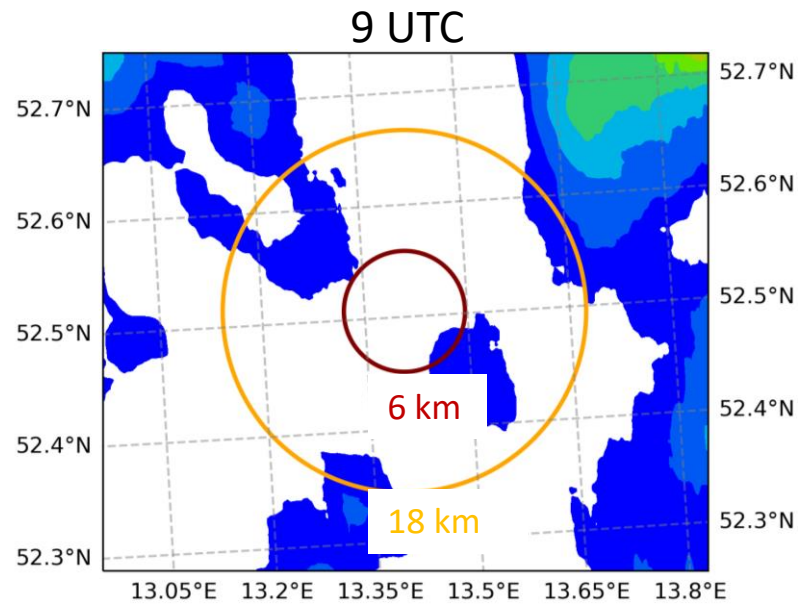
Model w variance compared to DWL (FRIE)

100 m model



Spatial variance of w at ~6 km scale: 100 m model

at 260 m



Final Comments

- 4 August: clear sky, dry, low soil moisture → observed urban – rural differences are minimal
- Soil moisture: correction in urban areas necessary
 - Revisit urban SM issue: use obs. profiles
 - Model sensitivity to SM: Heatwave specific?
- Model issues:
 - a) Near surface urban areas: high thermal inertia, too little Q_H during day – too much at night
 - b) BL collapses too early before sunset in rural **but not inner city**
- BL turbulence over the city continues into evening in 100 m model – what about intra-urban variability?
- **Future:** use more realistic urban form in model from urbisphere data

Still too wet!

