



High-resolution, large-scale, and fast calculation of solar irradiance with 3D City Models

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Content

- Research background & Objective
- Related Work
- Methodology
- Results & Discussion
- Conclusions



Research background & Objective

Research background & Objective

Why predicting solar irradiance is important?



Global Energy Contribution



Urban Flexibility



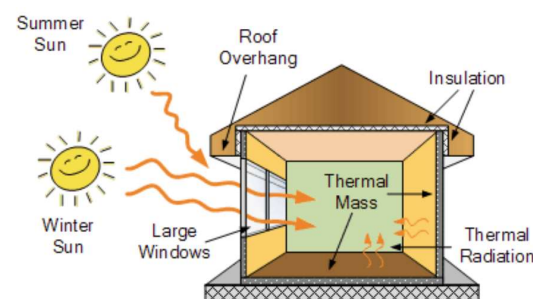
Impact on Urban Climate and Human Behavior



Adrian C. (2010)



<https://rmi.org/insight/page/28/>

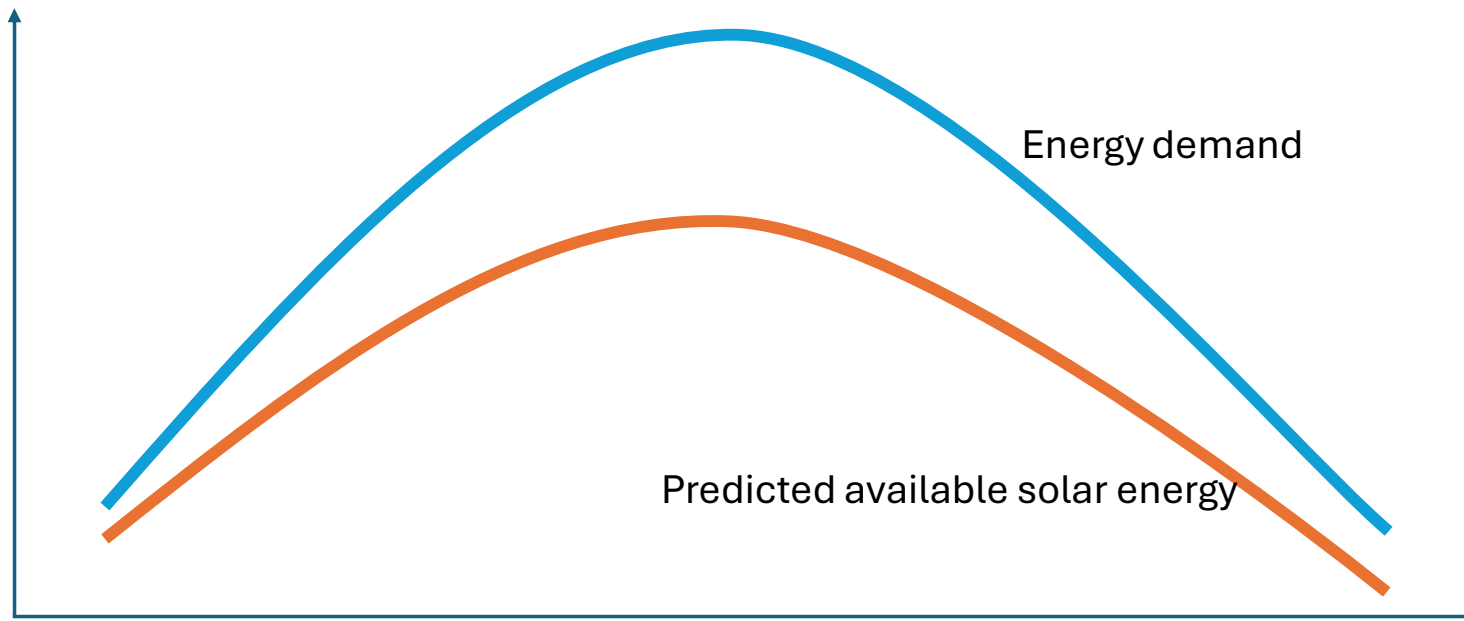


<https://au.pinterest.com/pin/passive-solar-building-design-360-building-solutions--718394578055713790/>



Research background & Objective

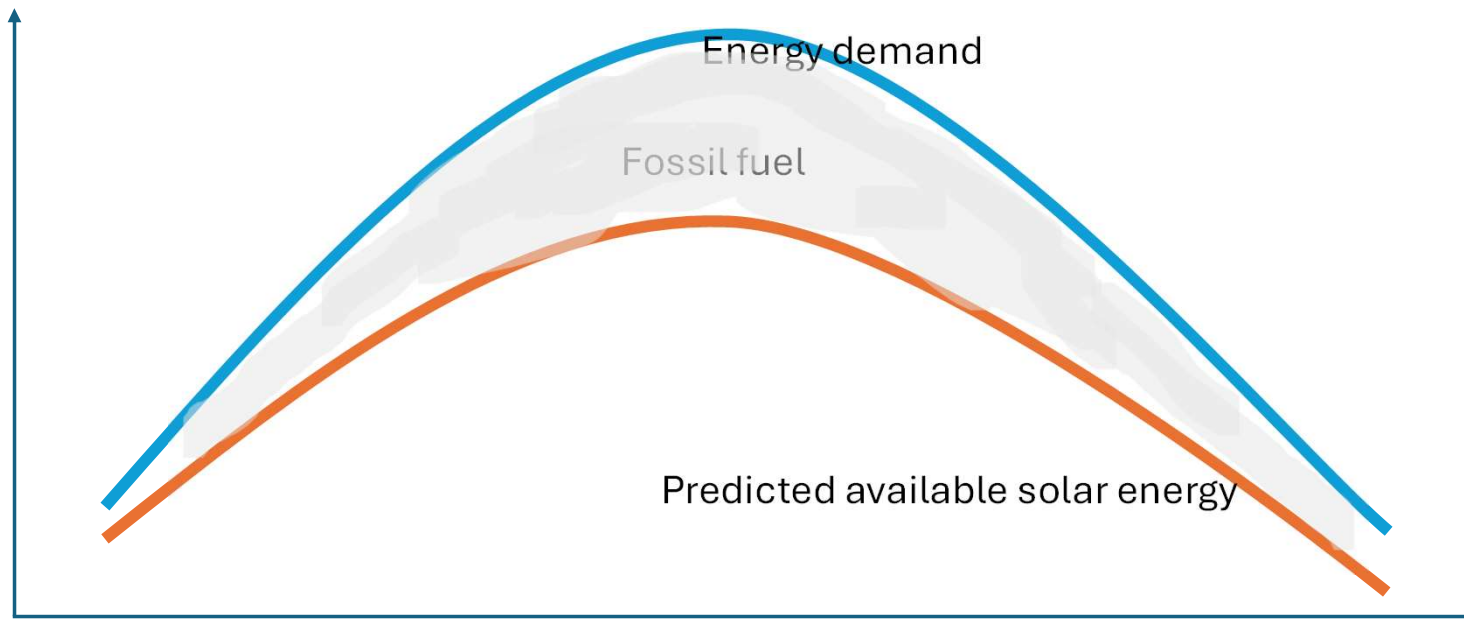
Why predicting solar irradiance is important?





Research background & Objective

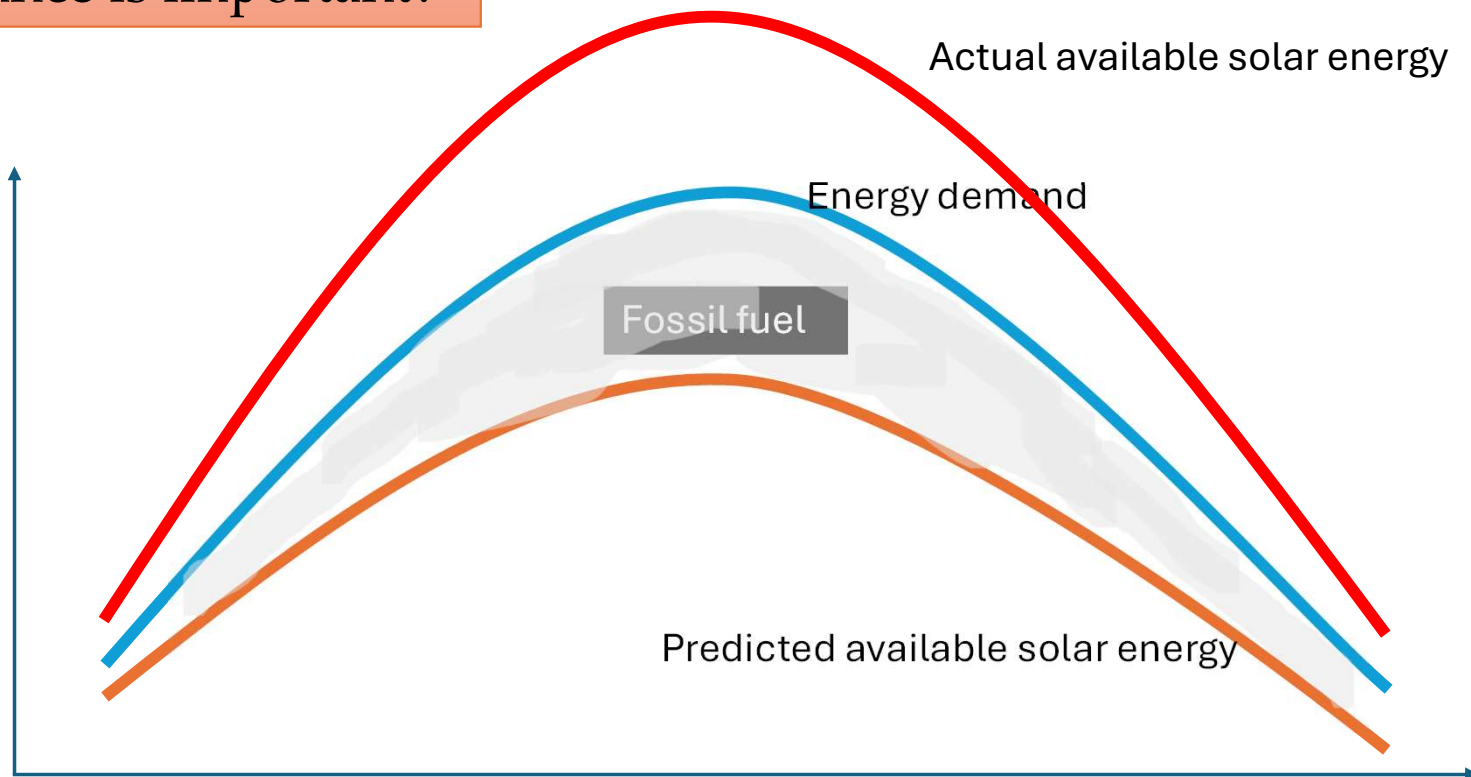
Why predicting solar irradiance is important?





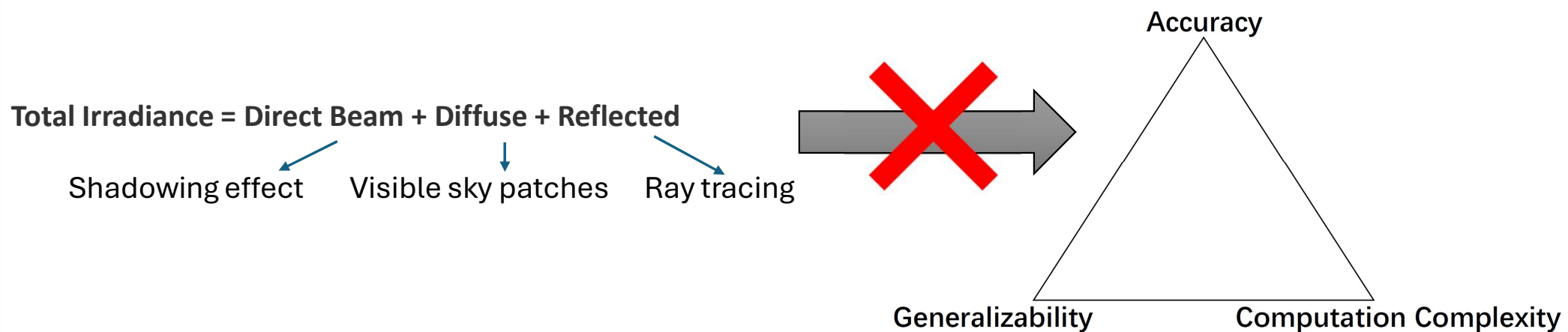
Research background & Objective

Why predicting solar irradiance is important?



Research background & Objective

What is the research gap?





Research background & Objective

How can a solar irradiance simulation method be developed to balance accuracy and computational efficiency for city-scale simulations while utilizing semantic information from 3D city models?

- In what ways can semantic data derived from 3D city models refine the precision of solar irradiance simulations by considering the direct, diffuse and reflected solar components?
- What are the potential trade-offs between accuracy and computation simplification when utilizing 3D city models for estimating solar irradiance at an urban scale?



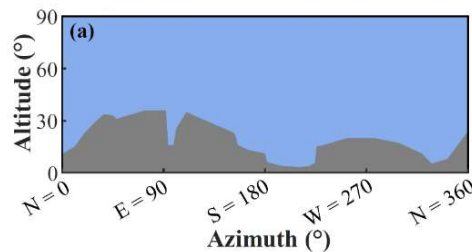
Related Work



Related Work: Viewshed-based methods



(a) The scene

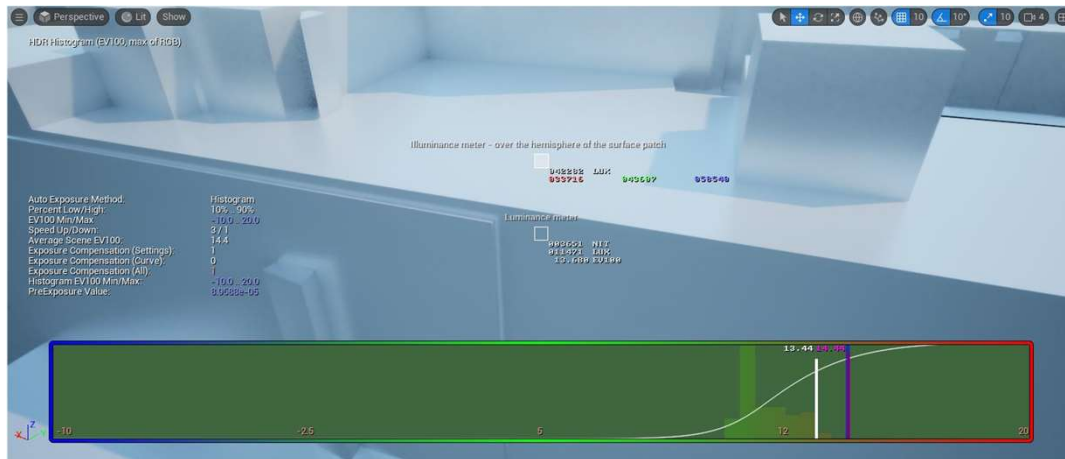


(b) The resulting viewshed

Calcabrini, A. (2023)

- Simplified surroundings
- Inaccurate shadowing effect
- Lack of support for 3D data

Related Work: Pixel counting methods

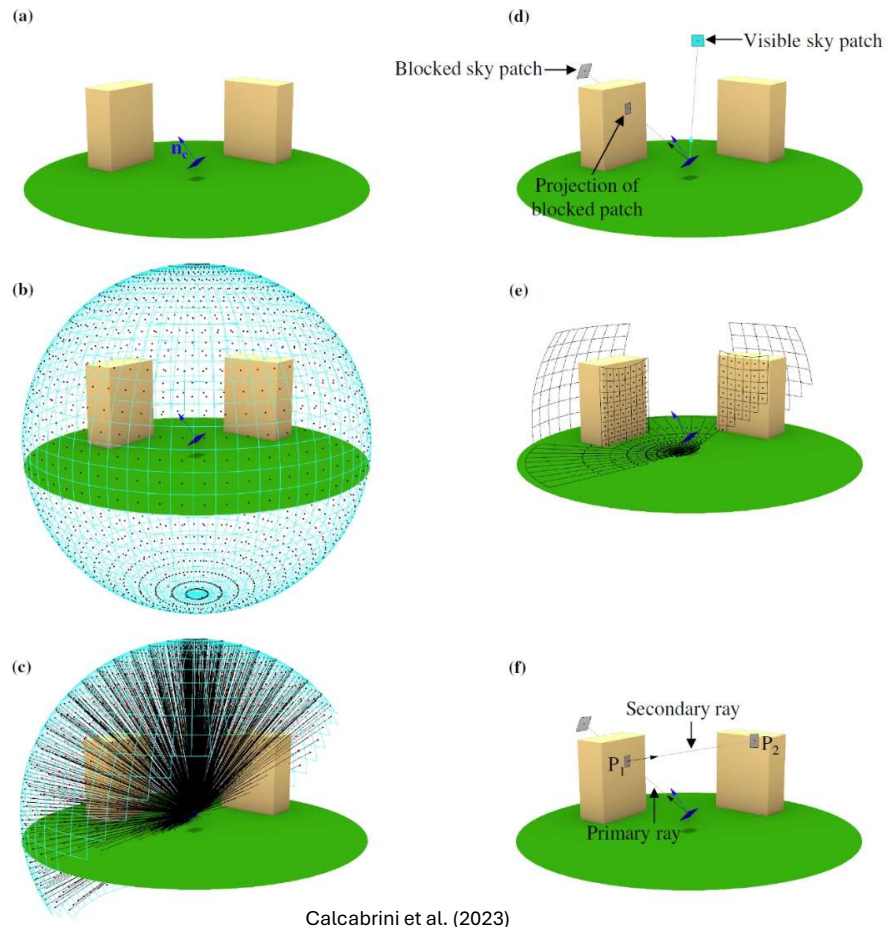


Meines, S. (2023)

- Black/Grey box mechanism
- Low generalizability



Related Work: Ray Tracing based methods



- Computational expensive

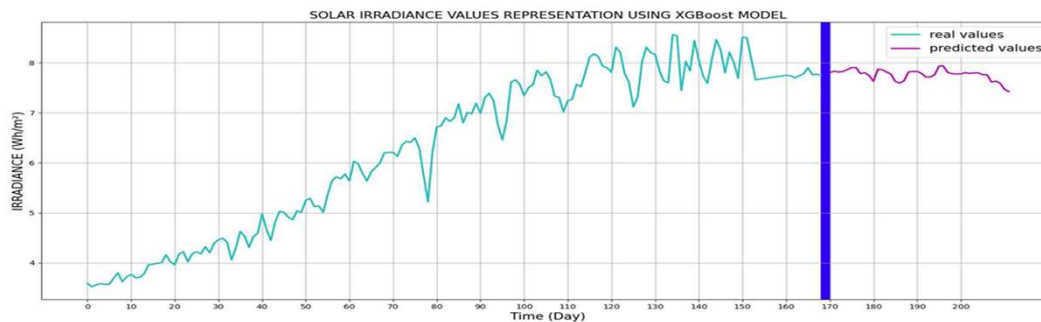


Related Work: Empirical methods

$$I_T = I_{h,b}R_b + I_{h,d} \left[(1 - F_1) \left(\frac{1 + \cos \beta}{2} \right) + F_1 \frac{a}{b} + F_2 \sin \beta \right] + I_h \rho \left(\frac{1 - \cos \beta}{2} \right)$$

Perez, R. (1987)

- Low accuracy
- Low generalizability

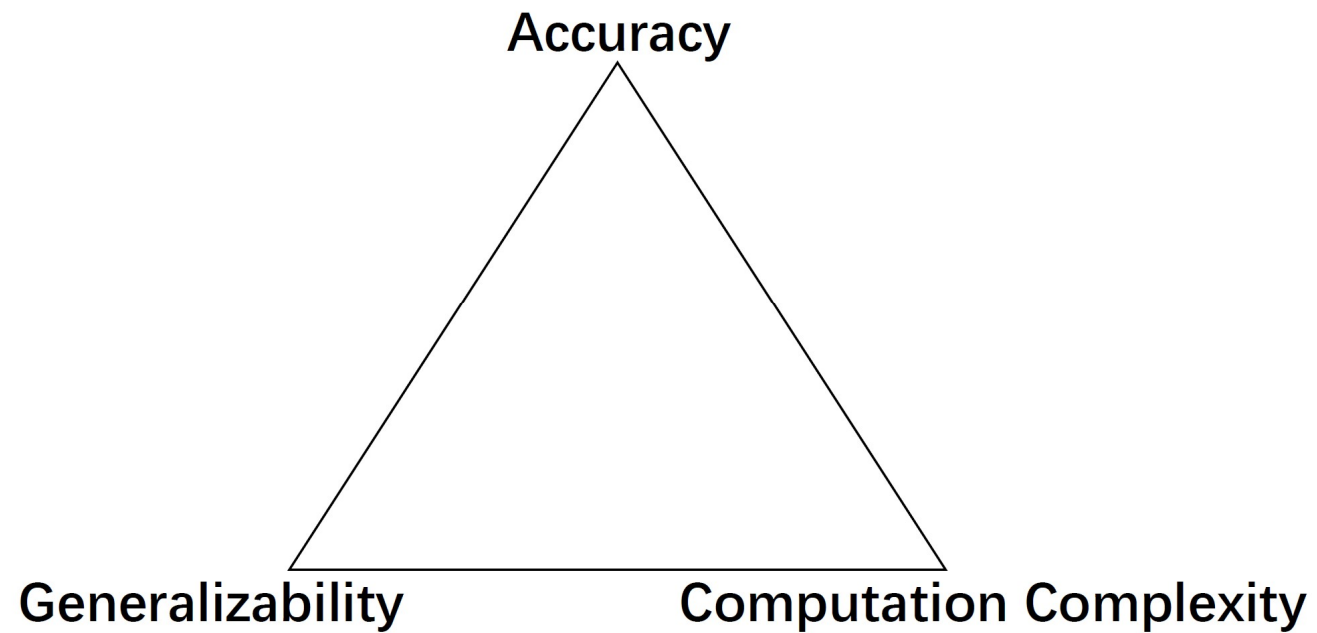


Tercha et al. (2024)



Related Work: Summary

The “impossible” triangle

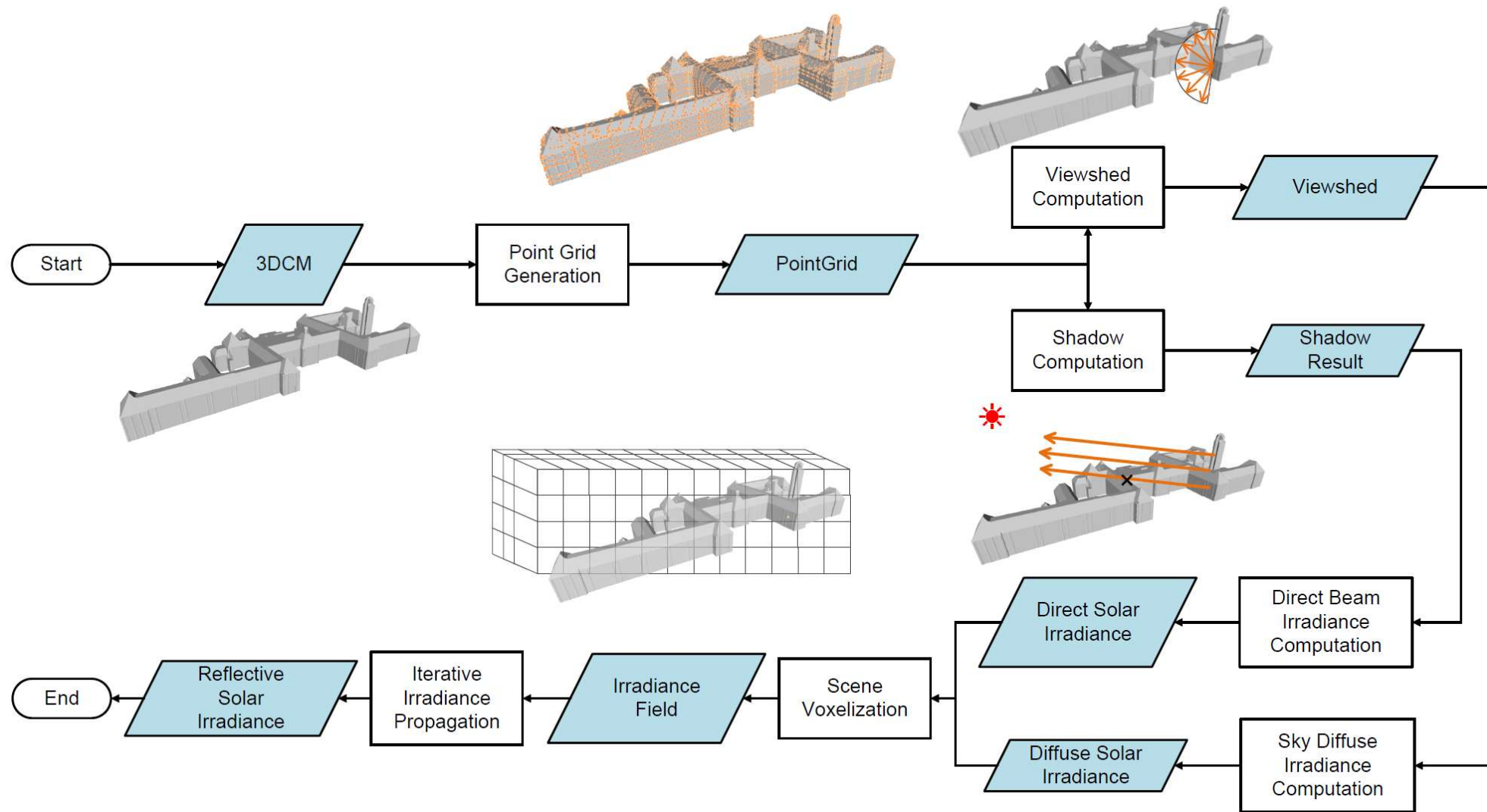




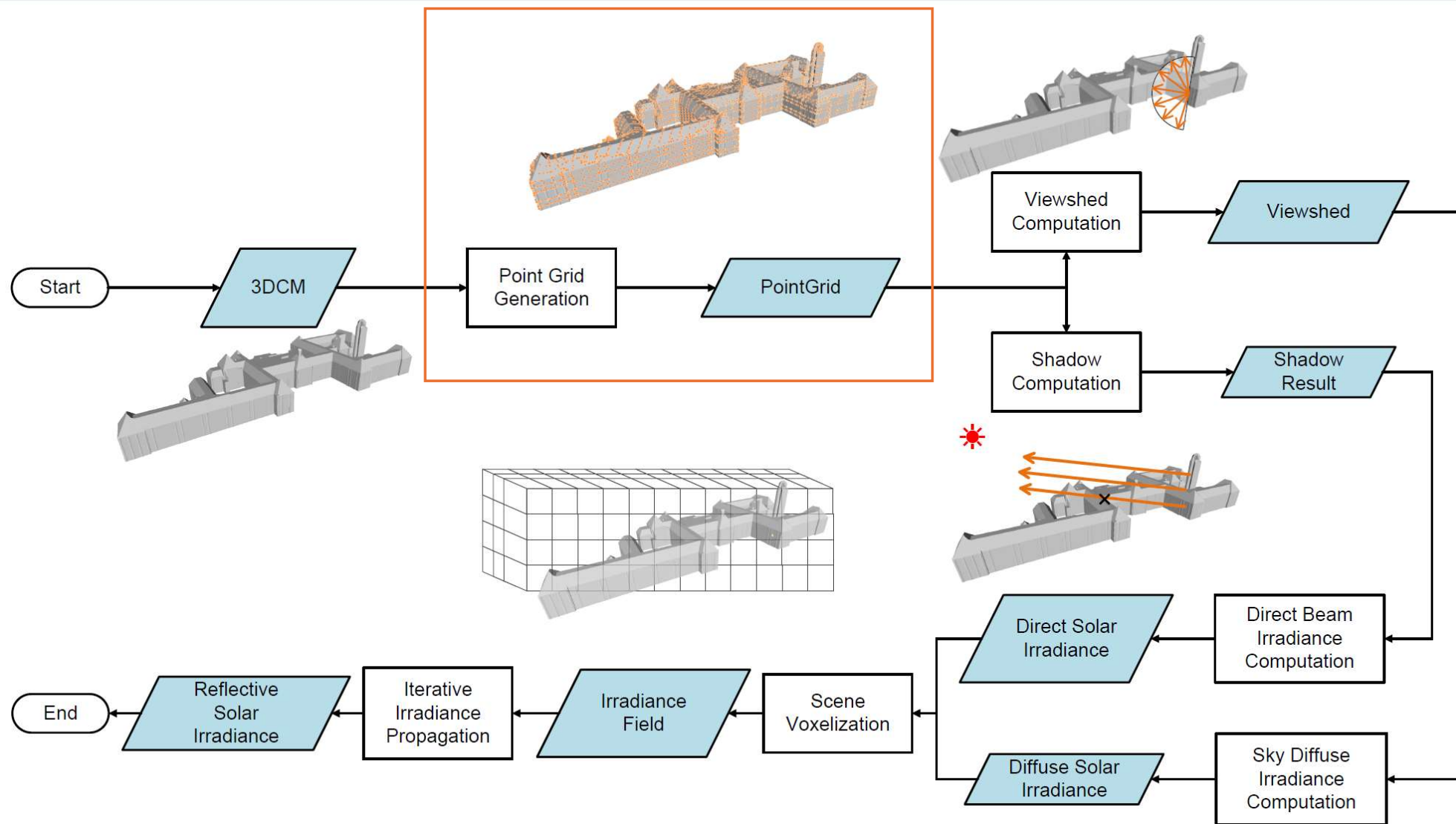
Methodology



Methodology

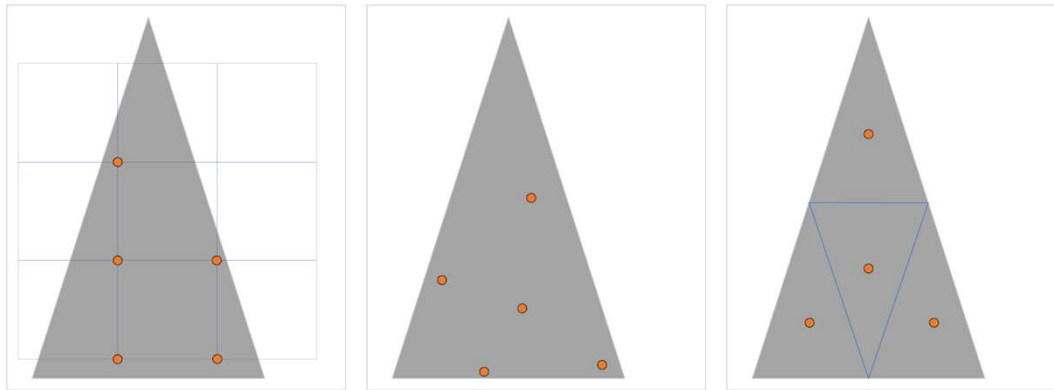


Methodology: Point Grid Generation





Methodology: Point Grid Generation



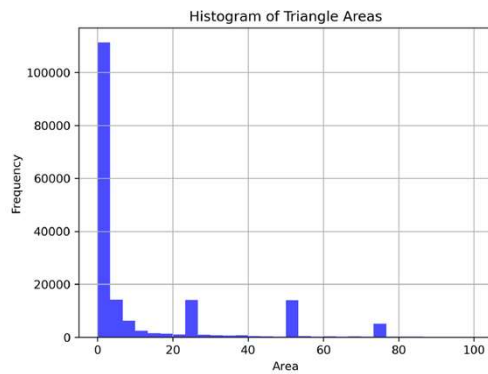
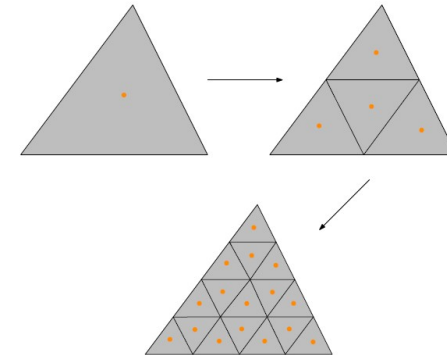
(a) Grid sampling



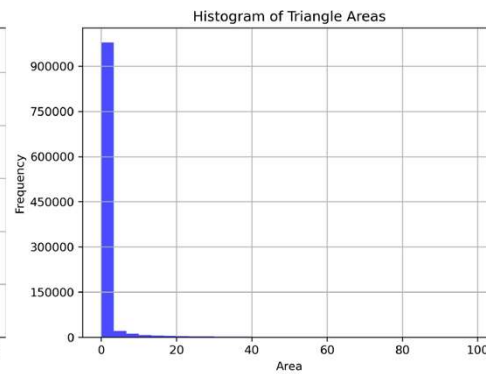
(b) PDF sampling



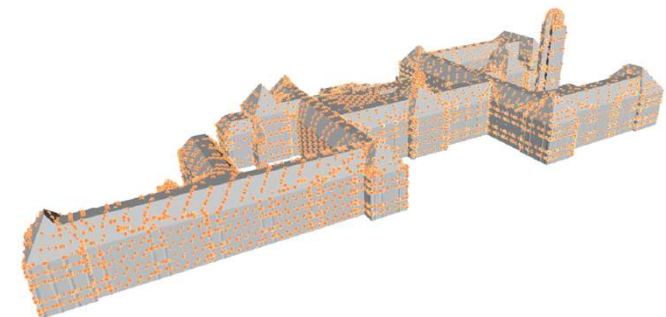
(c) Split sampling



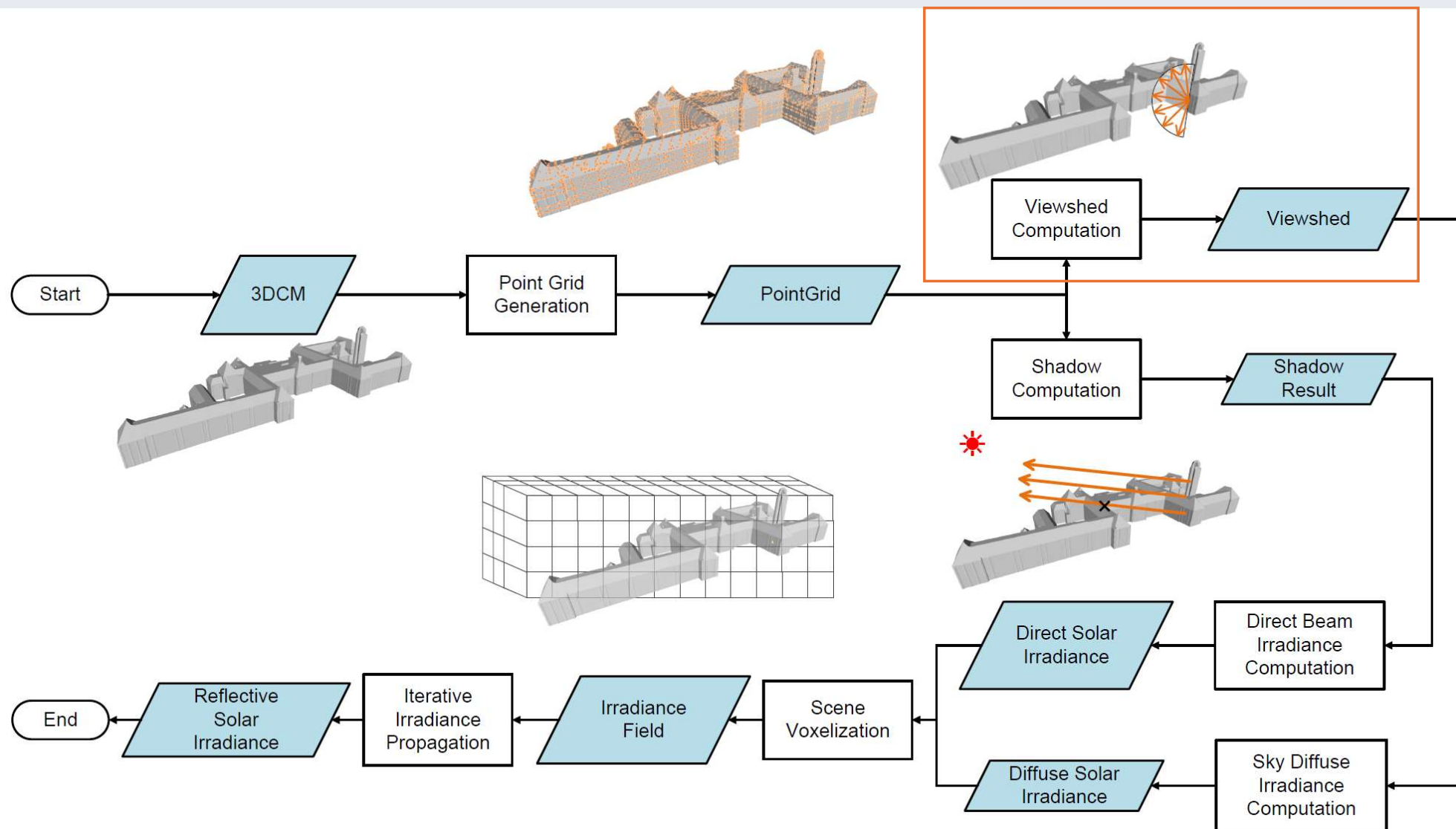
(a) Heino weather station dataset



(b) TU Delft dataset

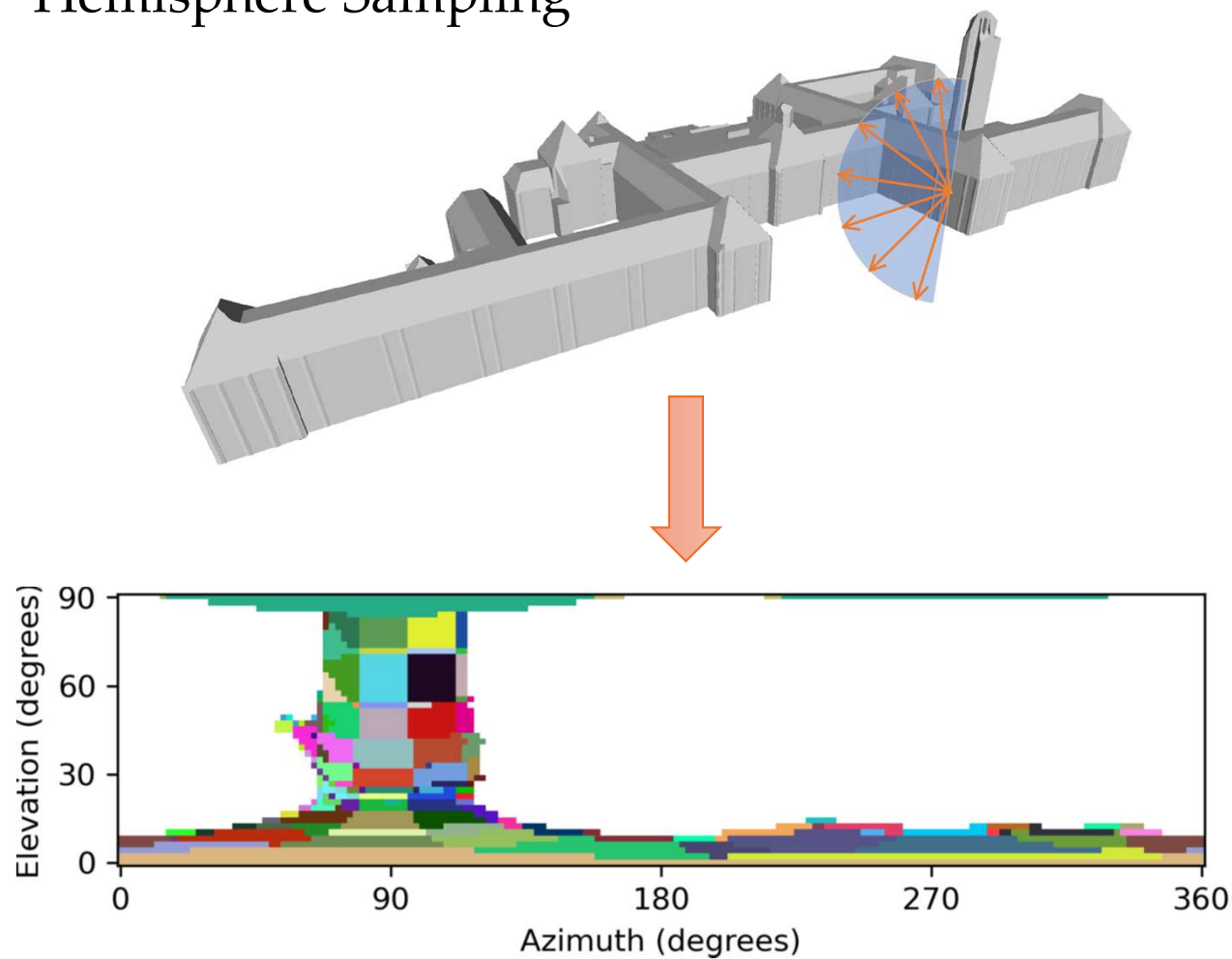


Methodology: Viewshed Computation



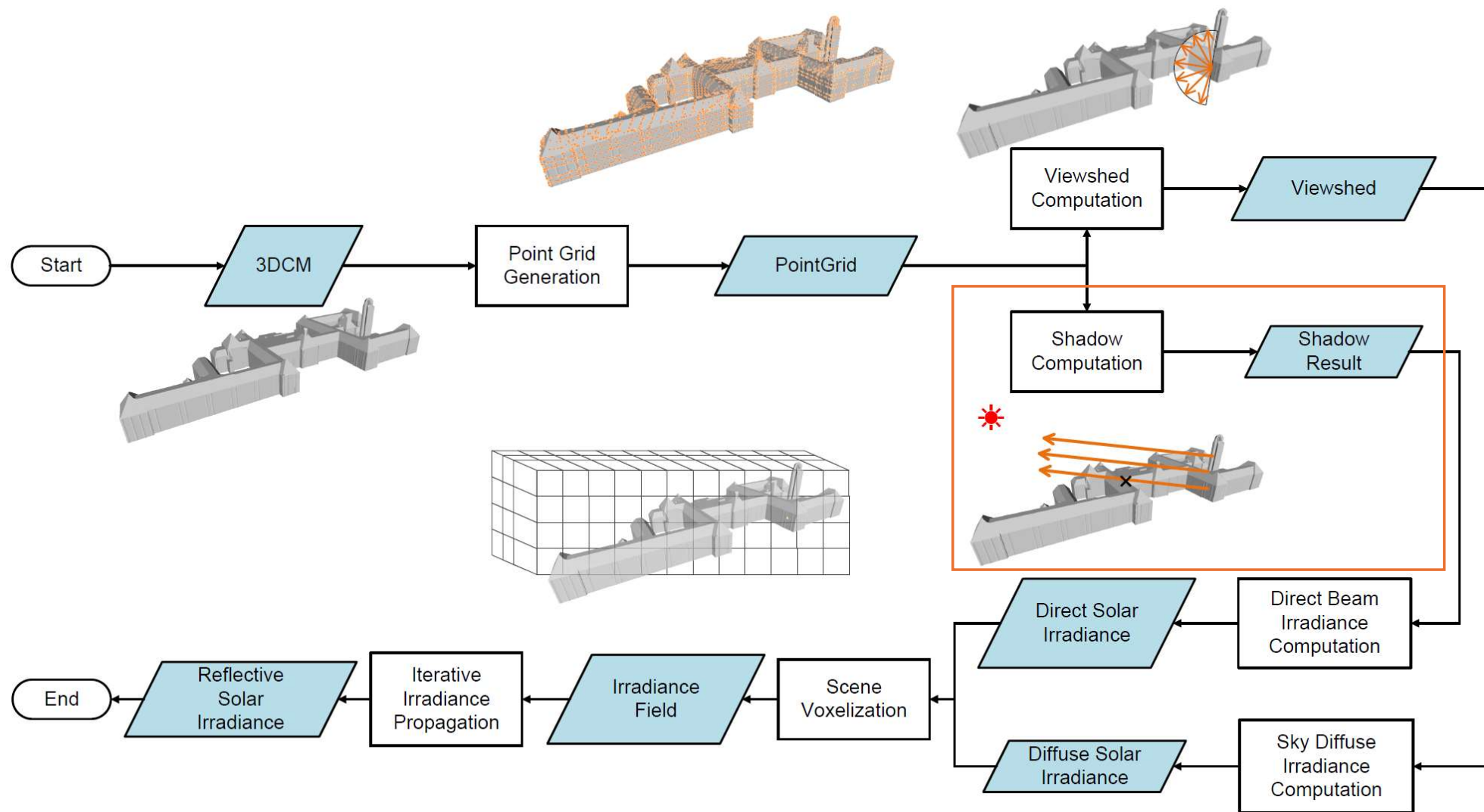
Methodology: Viewshed Computation

Hemisphere Sampling



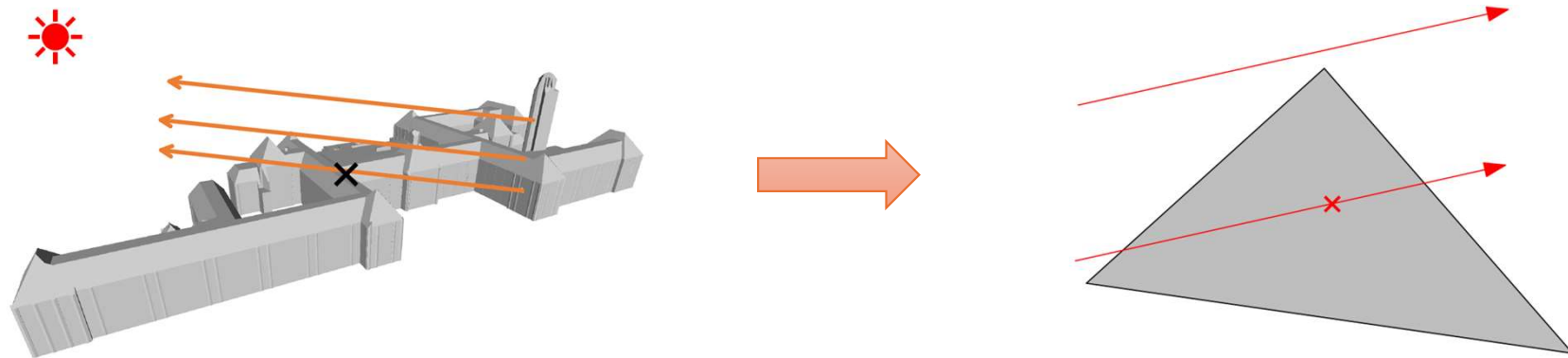
- Object ID
- Surface ID
- Object type
- Surface type
- Sky View Factor
- Ground View Factor
- ...

Methodology: Viewshed Computation



Methodology: Shadow Computation

Determine shadowing effect: **Ray-Object Intersection Test**



For 3DCM with 500,000 surfaces and 1,000,000 sample points:
500,000,000,000 (500 billion) intersection tests

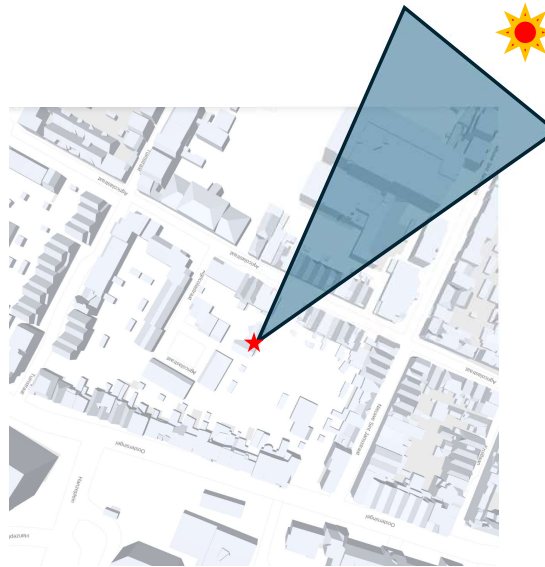
Optimization required for city-scale computation

Methodology: Shadow Computation

Existing methods:



Radius Culling



View frustum culling

Problem remains:

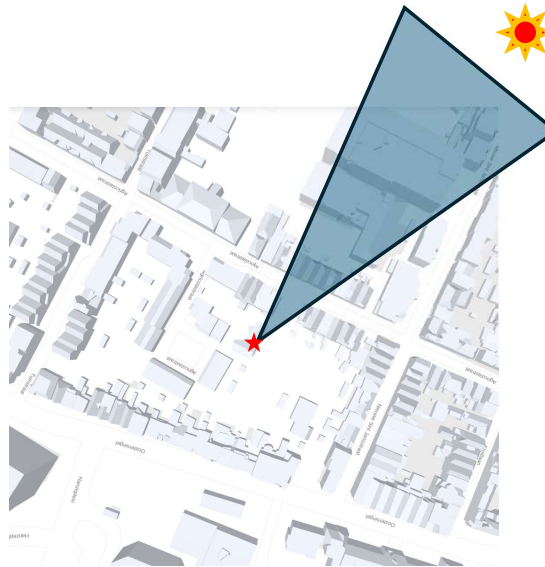
- Radius setting
- Computation complexity

Methodology: Shadow Computation

Existing methods:



Radius Culling



View frustum culling

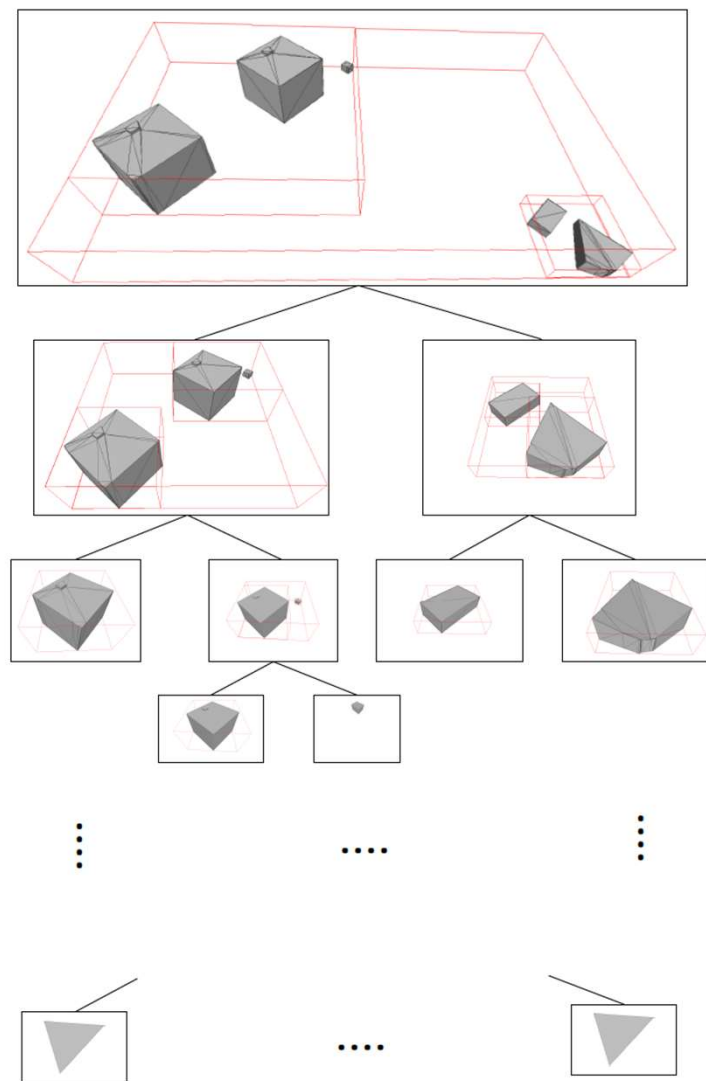
Problem remains:

- Radius setting
- Computation complexity



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/275352964692412846/>

Methodology: Shadow Computation



Bounding Volume Hierarchy



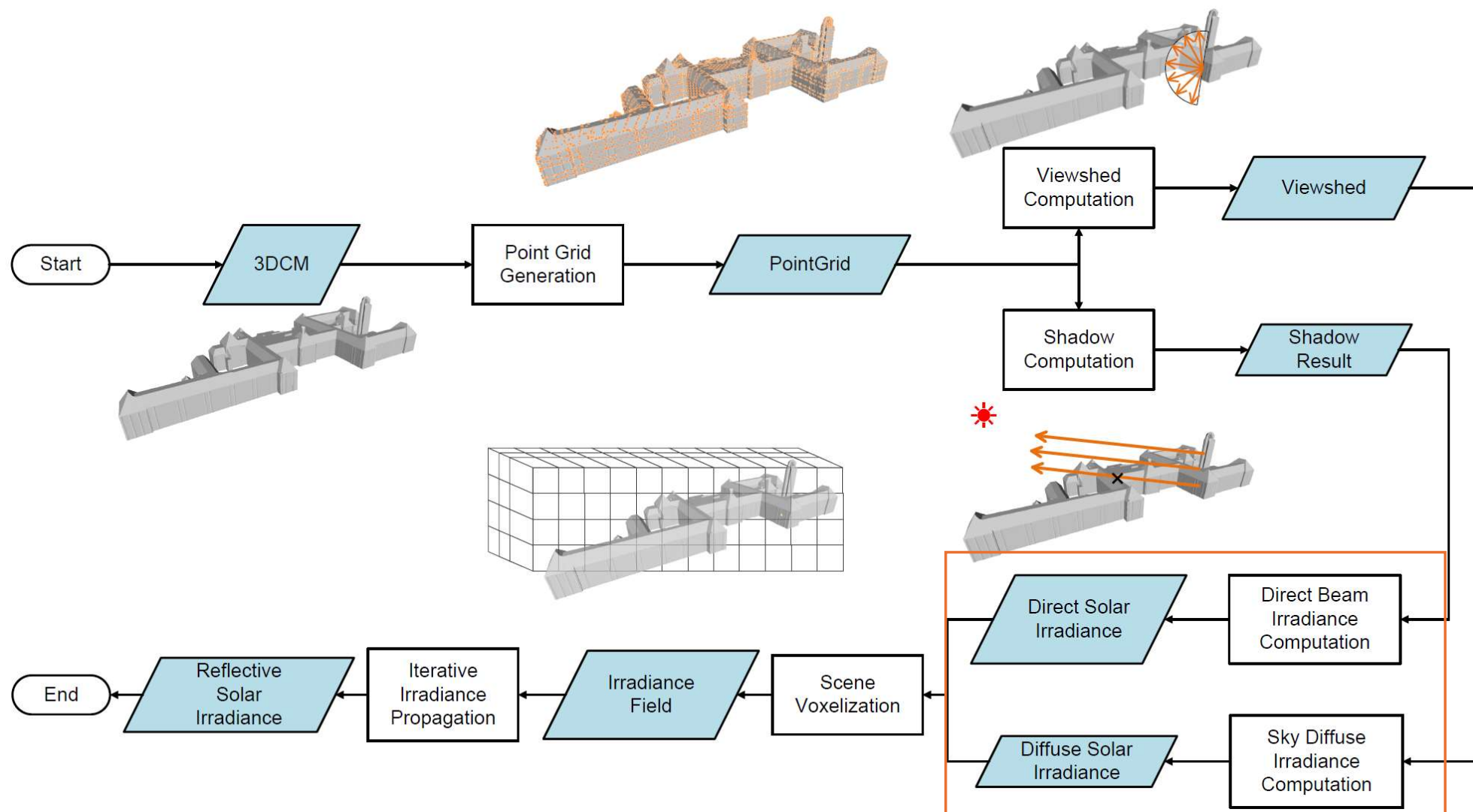
Reduce computation complexity from $O(NM)$ to $O(N \log M)$

For 3DCM with 500,000 surfaces and 1,000,000 sample points:

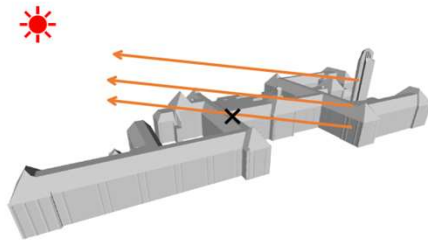
A tree depth of 19 is enough

38,000,000 <<< 500 billion

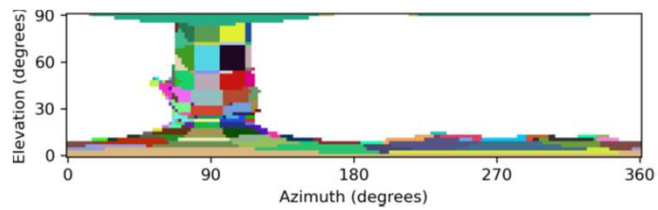
Methodology: Direct and Diffuse Computation



Methodology: Direct and Diffuse Computation

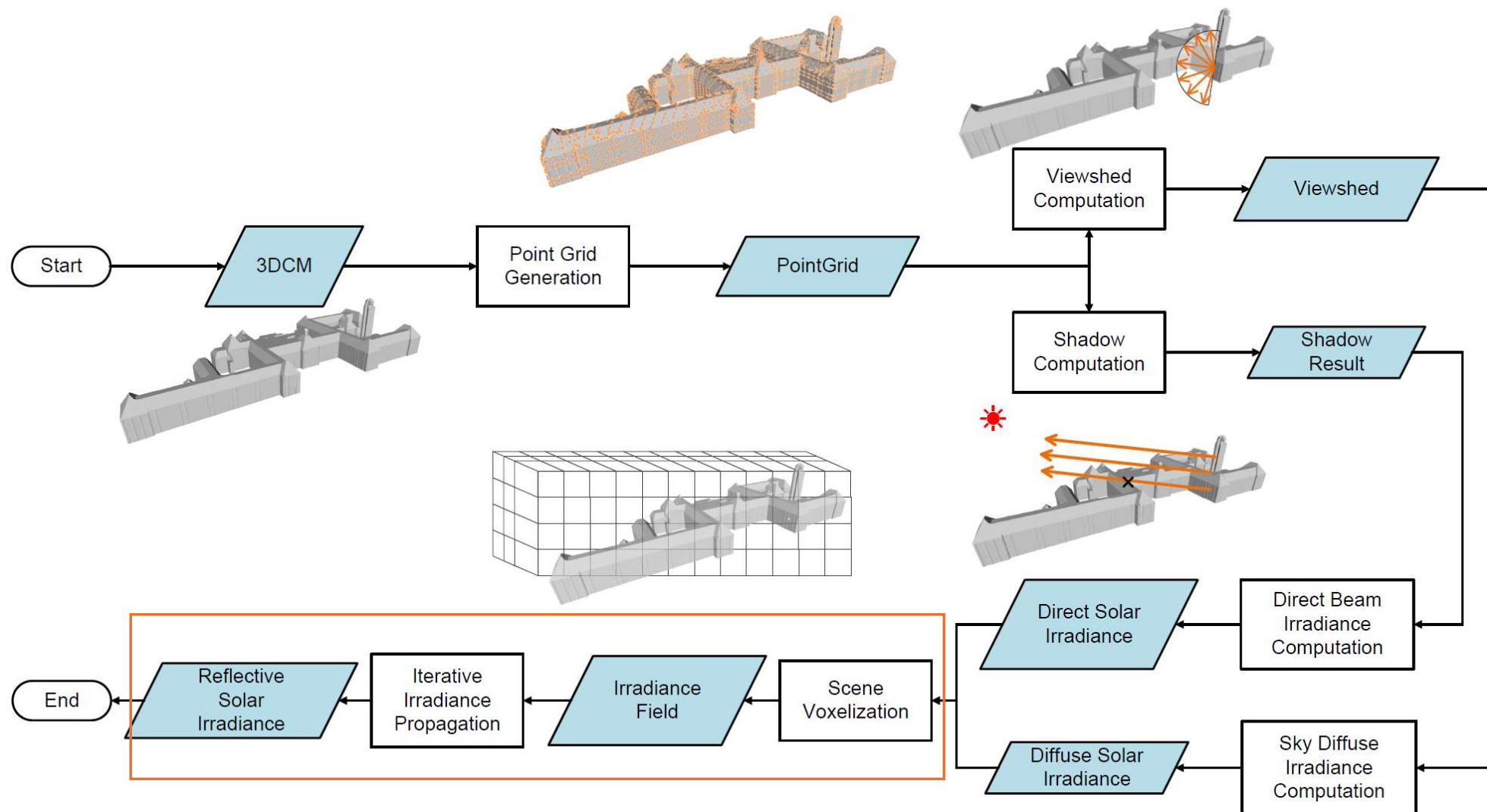


$$I_{S,dir,\beta} = M_{shadow} \cdot DNI \cdot \cos \delta$$



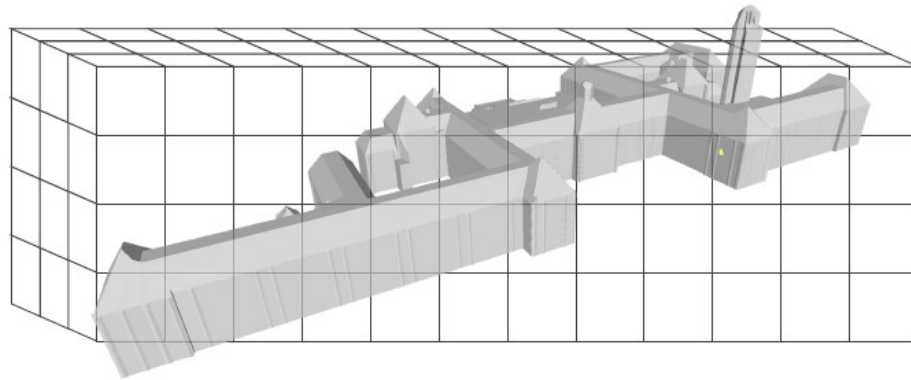
$$I_{S,diff,\beta} = DHI \cdot SVF$$

Methodology: Direct and Diffuse Computation

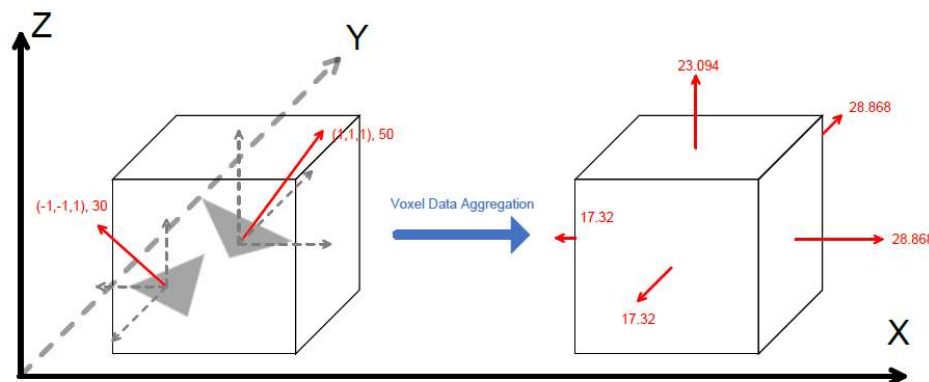




Methodology: Reflective Irradiance Computation



Light field

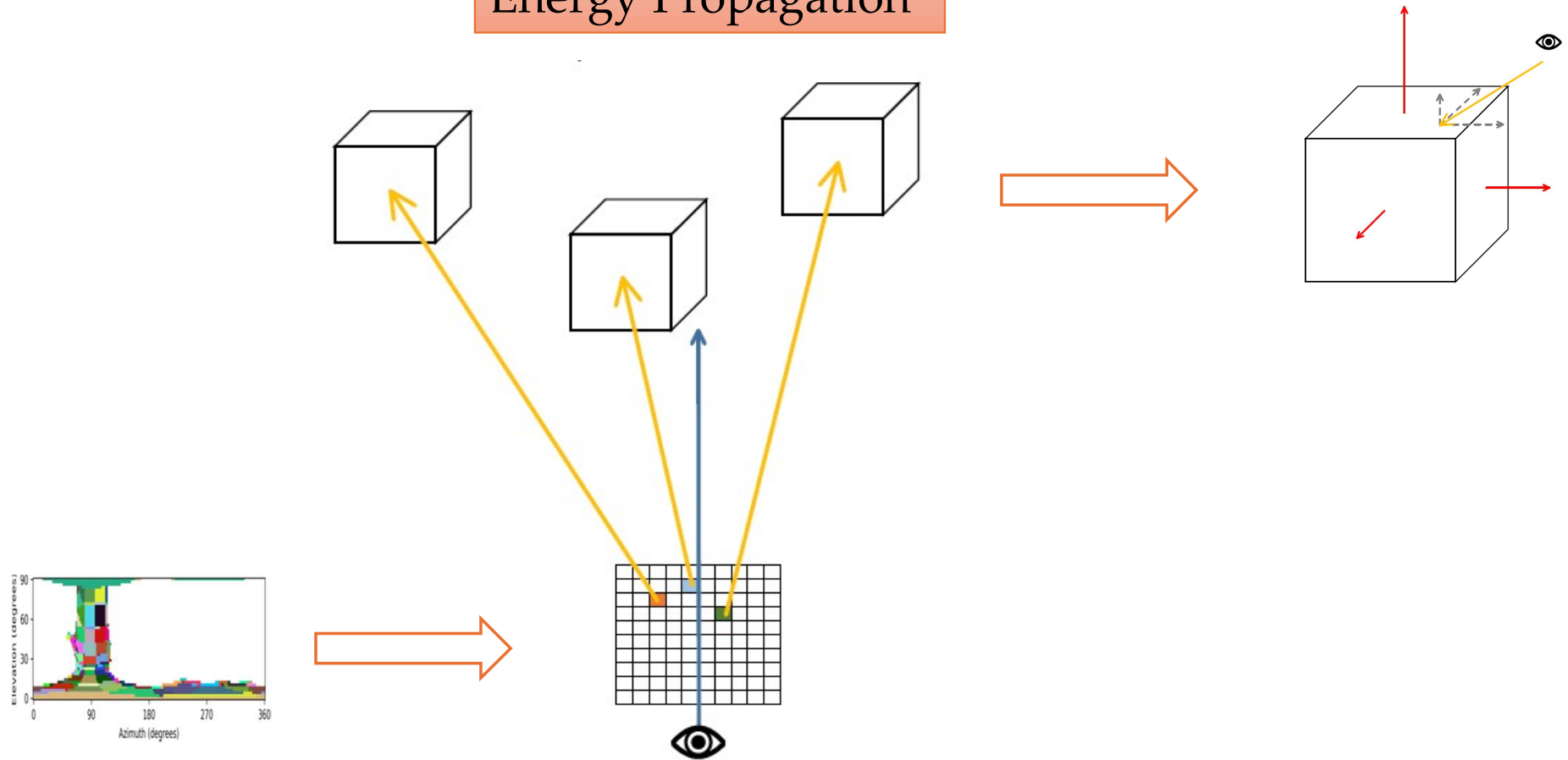


Aggregate the sample points within voxels



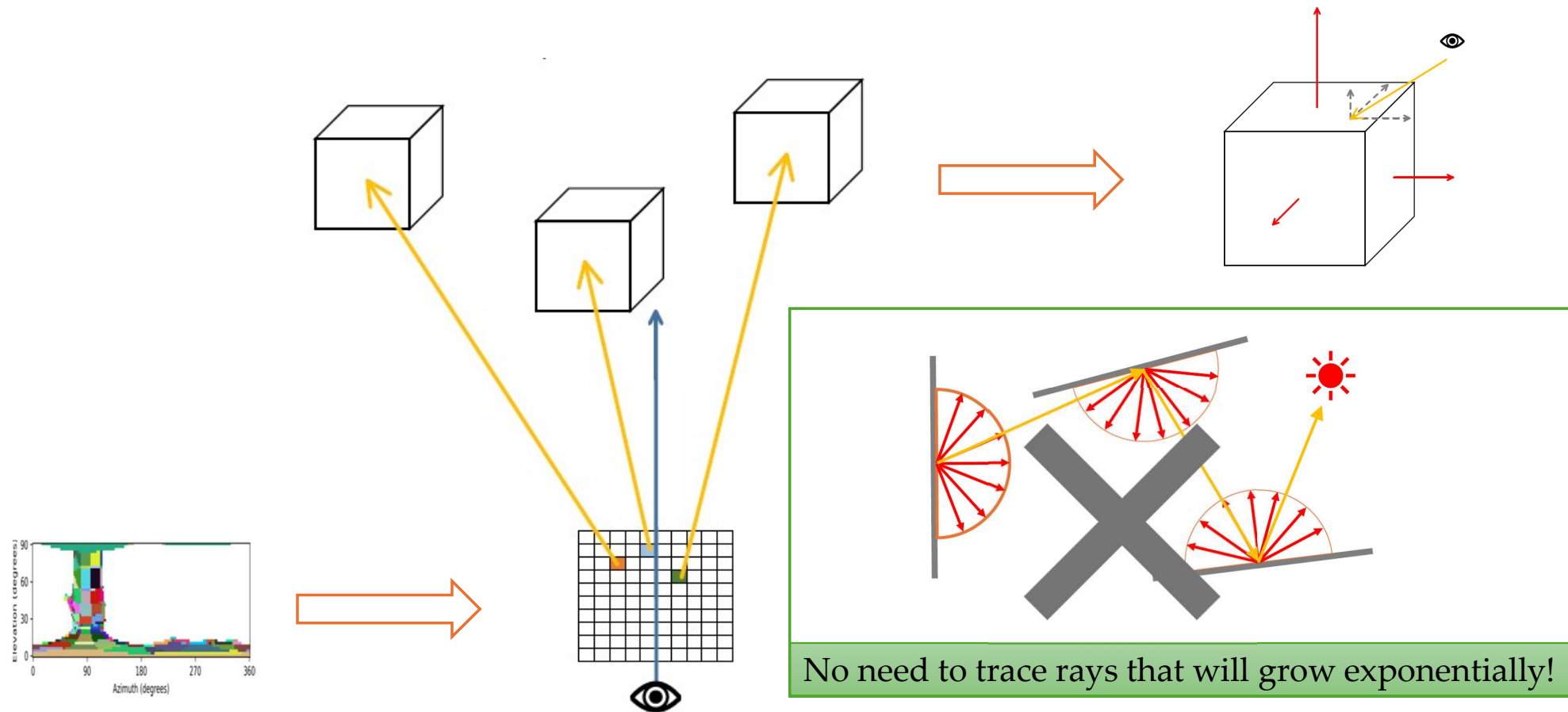
Methodology: Reflective Irradiance Computation

Energy Propagation





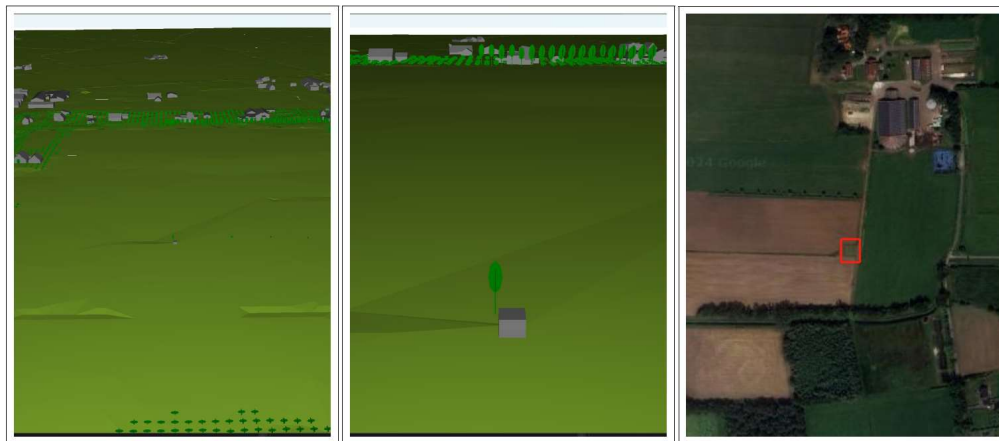
Methodology: Reflective Irradiance Computation



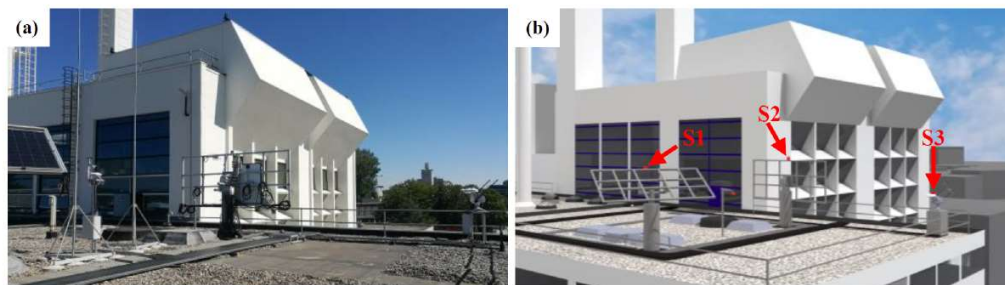
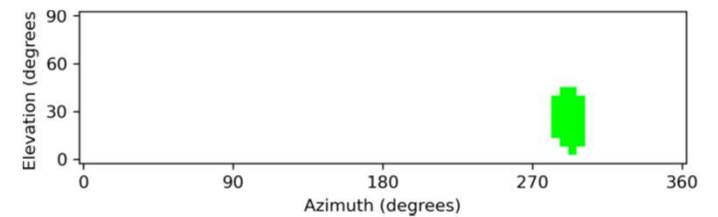


Results & Discussion

Results & Discussion: Validation

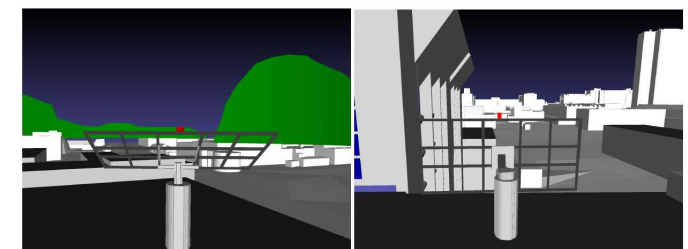


Heino KNMI weather station



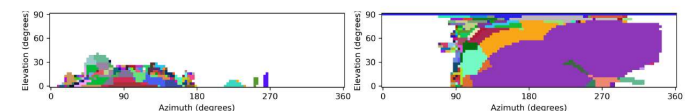
TU Delft (PVMD group data)

Calcabrini et al. (2023)



(a) Scene S1

(b) Scene S2



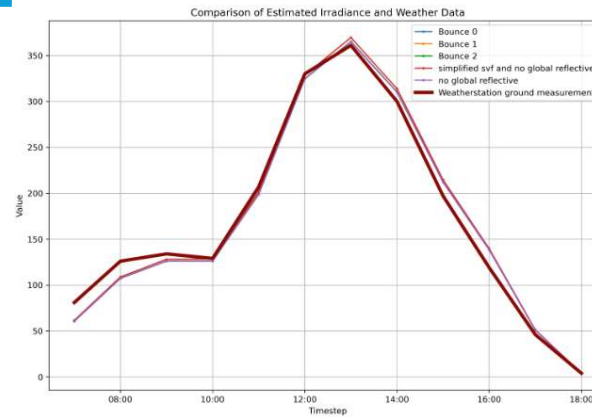
(c) Viewshed S1

(d) Viewshed S2

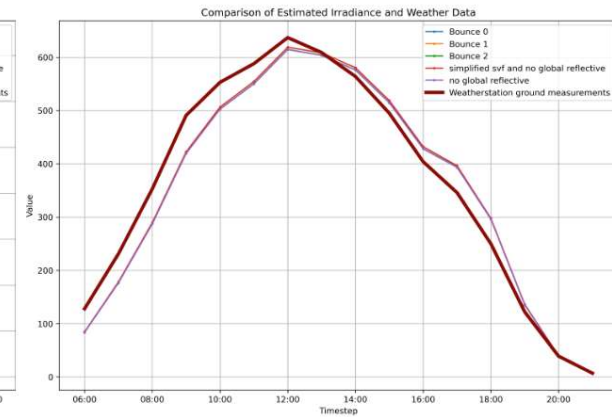


Results & Discussion: Validation

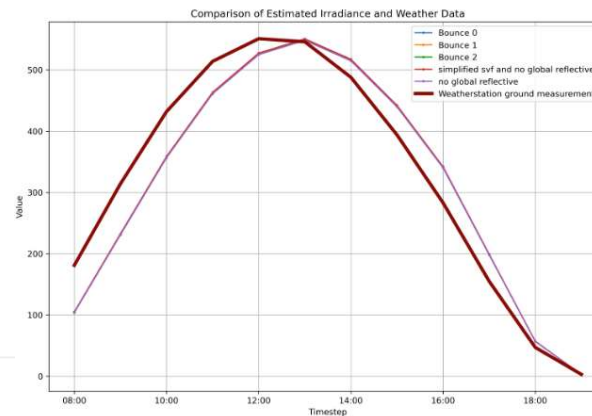
Heino KNMI weather station



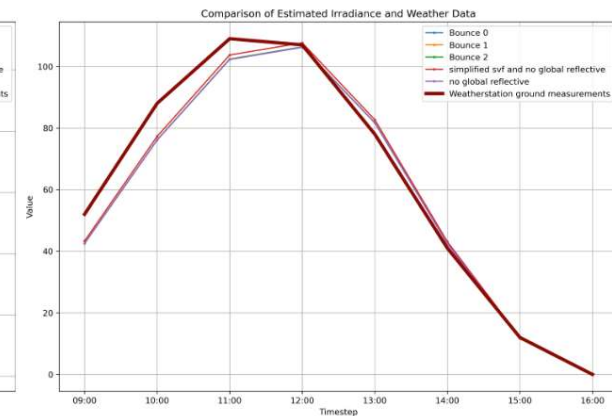
(a) Heino March 21



(b) Heino June 21



(c) Heino Sept 22



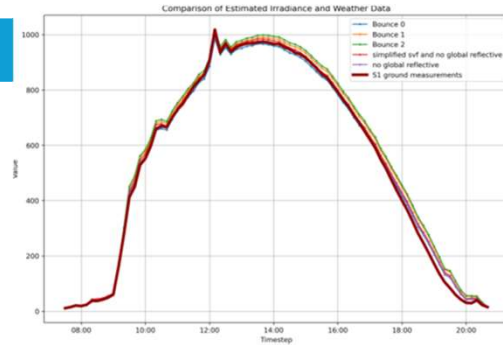
(d) Heino Dec 22

- Bounce 0
- Bounce 1
- Bounce 2
- simplified svf and no global reflective
- no global reflective
- S1 ground measurements

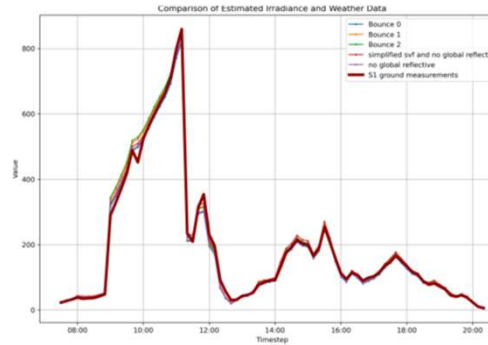


Results & Discussion: Validation

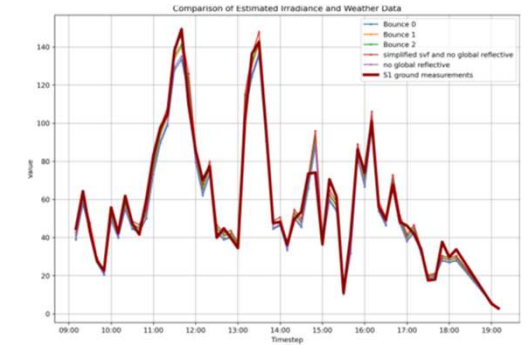
Sensor S1



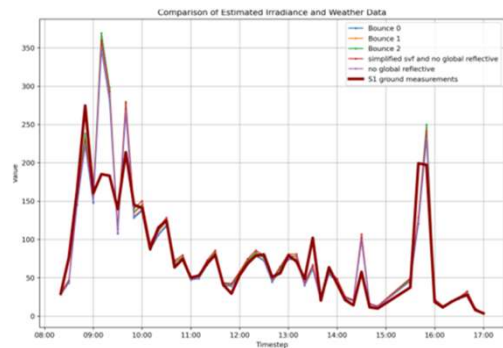
2020/8/20



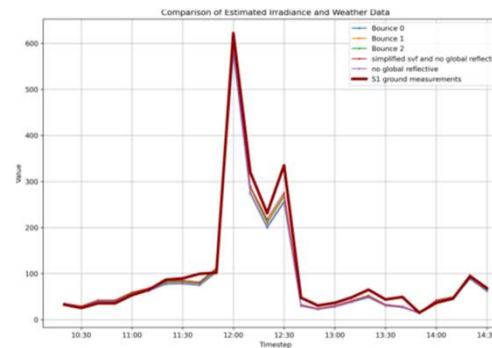
2020/9/1



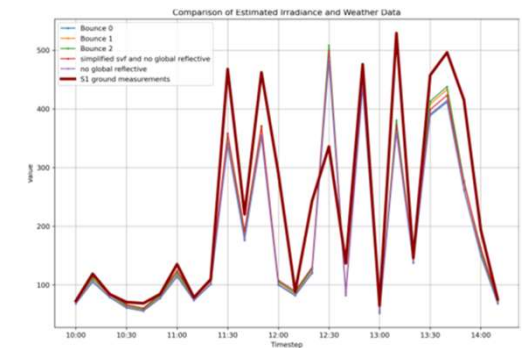
2020/10/1



2020/11/1

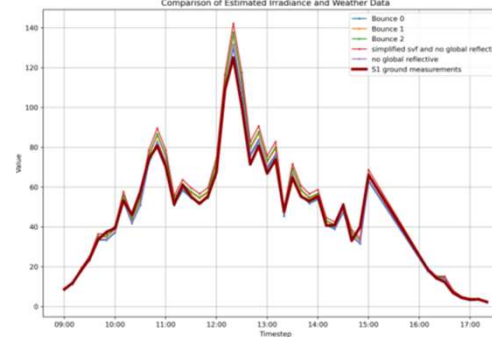


2020/12/1



2021/1/1

- Bounce 0
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- simplified svf and no global reflective
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- S1 ground measurements

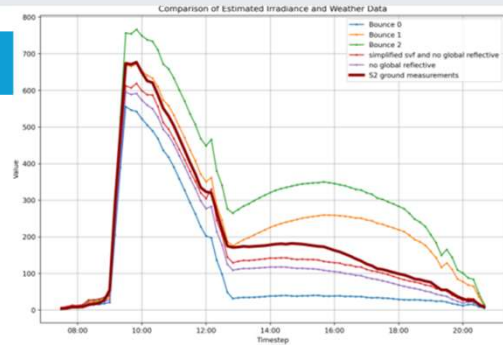


2021/2/1

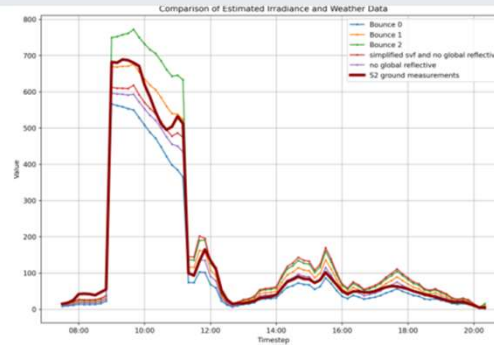


Results & Discussion: Validation

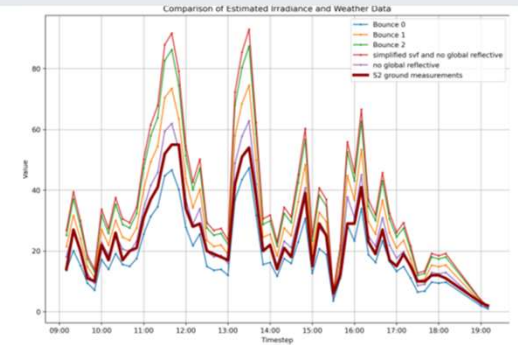
Sensor S2



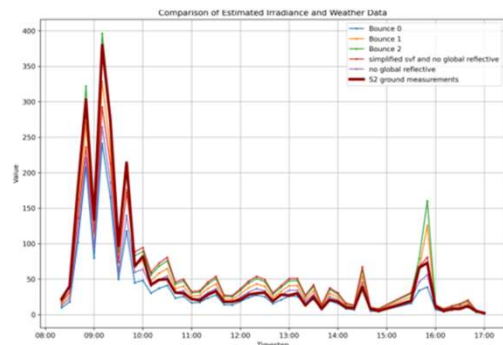
2020/8/20



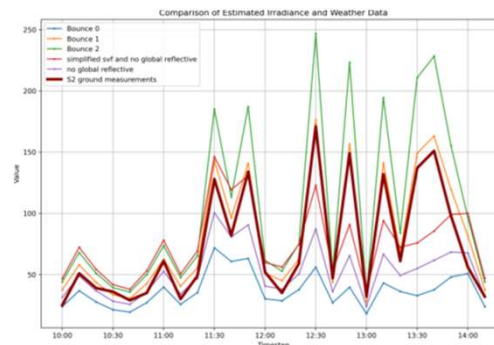
2020/9/1



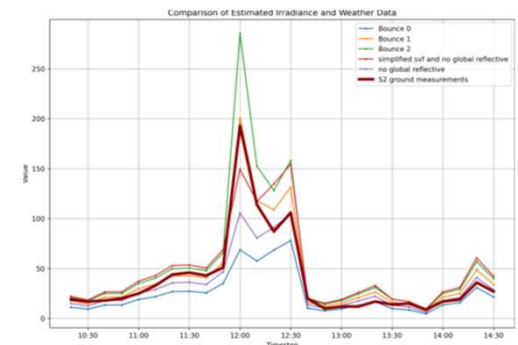
2020/10/1



2020/11/1

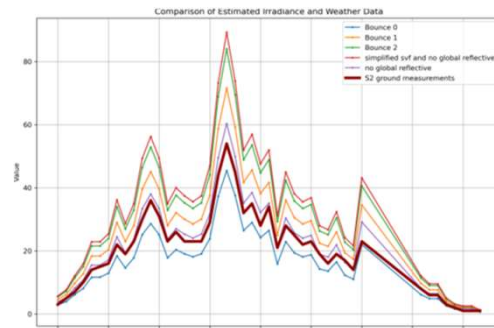


2020/12/1



2021/1/1

- Bounce 0
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2021/2/1

Results & Discussion: Validation

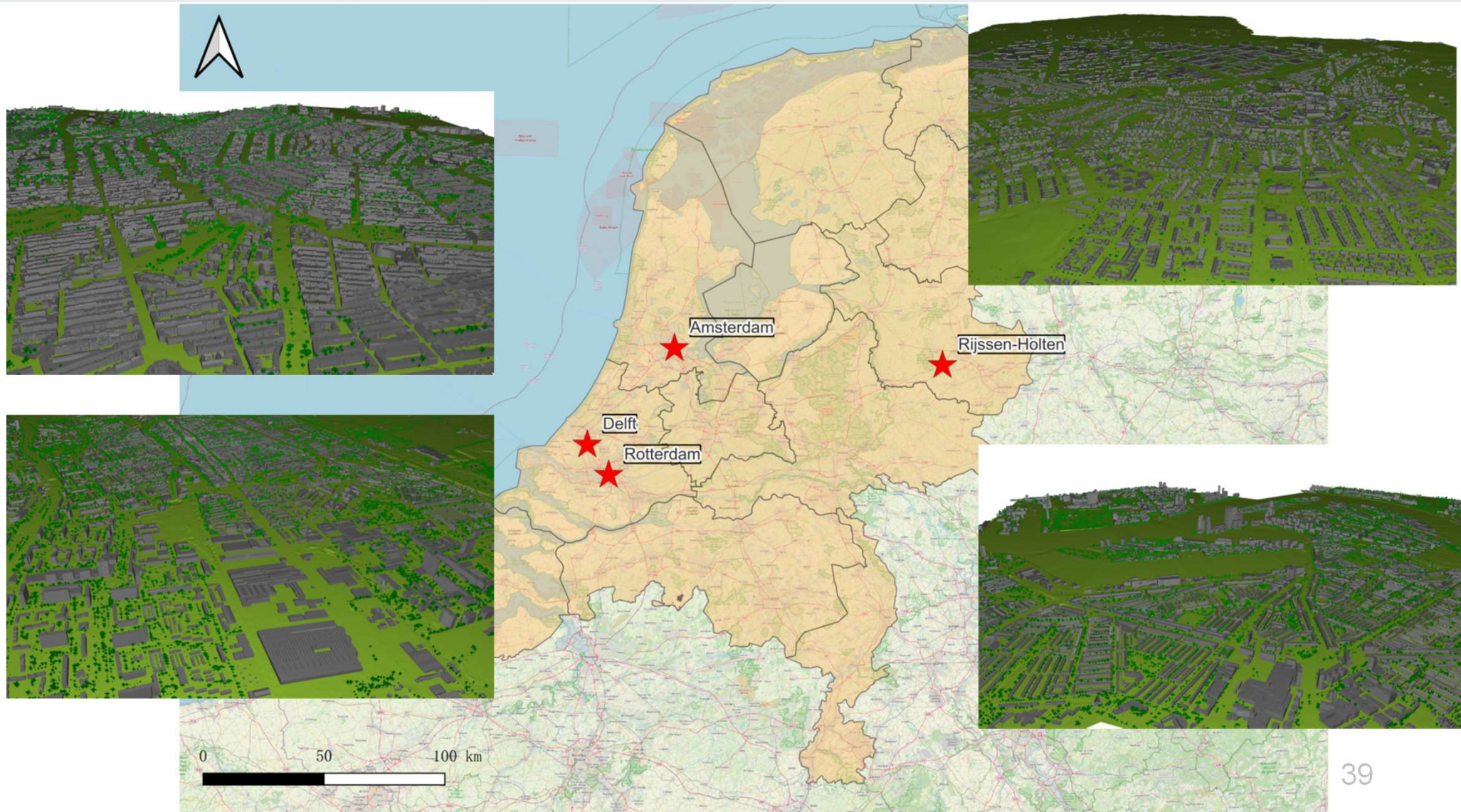
Sensor S2

Metrics	Setting	2020/8/20	2020/9/1	2020/10/1	2020/11/1	2020/12/1	2021/1/1	2021/2/1	Average
Correlation	b=0	0.9695	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.6786	0.9036	0.9966	0.9326
	b=1	0.9735	0.9964	0.9897	0.9872	0.9907	0.9903	0.9966	0.9892
	b=2	0.9558	0.9949	0.9897	0.9856	0.9932	0.9941	0.9966	0.9871
	setting 1	0.9968	0.9928	0.9897	0.9825	0.7749	0.9256	0.9966	0.9513
	setting 2	0.9949	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.8111	0.9346	0.9966	0.9596
nMBE	b=0	-0.4327	-0.2205	-0.1831 [†]	-0.3358	-0.4966	-0.3751	-0.1822 [†]	-0.3180
	b=1	0.2435	0.0487*	0.2865	0.0050*	0.1035 [†]	0.1123*	0.2880	0.1554 [†]
	b=2	0.5738	0.2183	0.5091	0.1988	0.4224	0.3729	0.5108	0.4009
	setting 1	-0.1065*	0.0513 [†]	0.6040	0.0649 [†]	0.0293*	0.2467	0.6059	0.2137
	setting 2	-0.2009 [†]	-0.0995	0.0842*	-0.1906	-0.2910	-0.1509 [†]	0.0854*	-0.1090*
nMAE	b=0	0.4327	0.2205	0.1831 [†]	0.3365	0.4966	0.3776	0.1835 [†]	0.3186
	b=1	0.2554	0.0999*	0.2878	0.2071*	0.1142*	0.1436*	0.2880	0.1994 [†]
	b=2	0.5770	0.2410	0.5094	0.2241 [†]	0.4224	0.3746	0.5108	0.4085
	setting 1	0.1180*	0.1787	0.6041	0.3220	0.3162 [†]	0.3318	0.6059	0.3538
	setting 2	0.2024 [†]	0.1221 [†]	0.1024*	0.2491	0.3186	0.2021 [†]	0.0874*	0.1834*
nRMSE	b=0	0.4968	0.3493	0.2119 [†]	0.6674	0.7139	0.7306	0.2150 [†]	0.4836
	b=1	0.3234	0.1330*	0.3535	0.3141*	0.1395*	0.2083*	0.3498	0.2602*
	b=2	0.6471	0.3613	0.6051	0.3212 [†]	0.5451	0.6336	0.6109	0.5320
	setting 1	0.1427*	0.2271	0.7133	0.4467	0.4023 [†]	0.4745 [†]	0.7227	0.4470
	setting 2	0.2340 [†]	0.2163 [†]	0.1382*	0.5347	0.5158	0.4785	0.1190*	0.3195 [†]

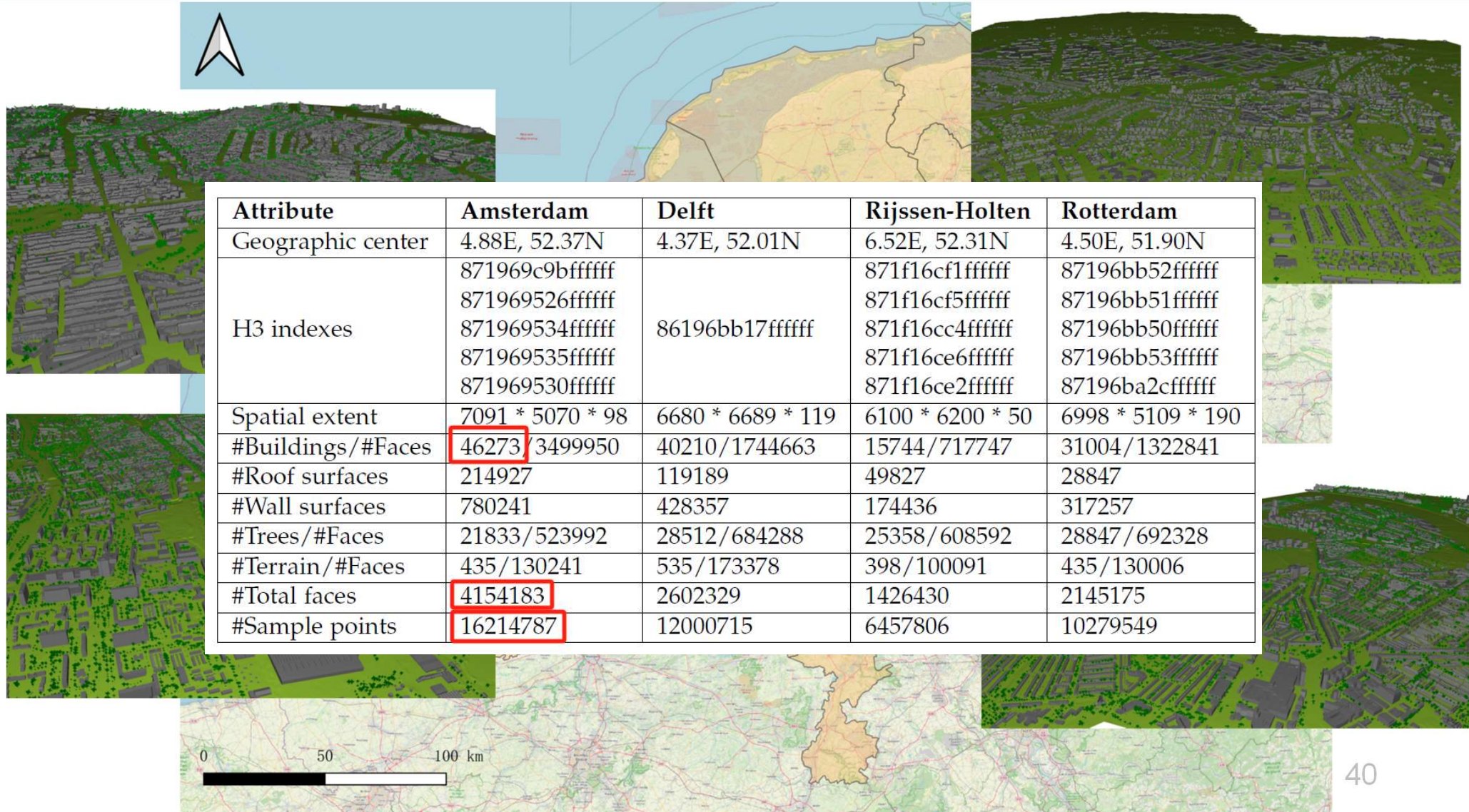
Table 6.6.: Sensor S2. Table showing various metrics across different settings and dates. Numbers marked with * represent the best entry, while the numbers marked with [†] represent the worst entry



Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas



Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas

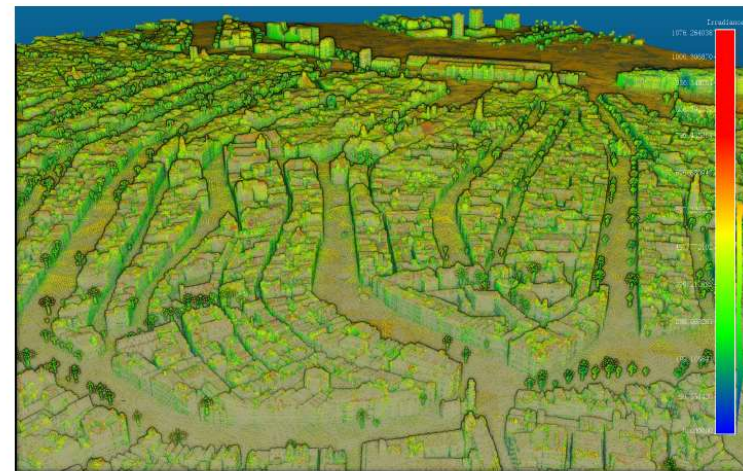




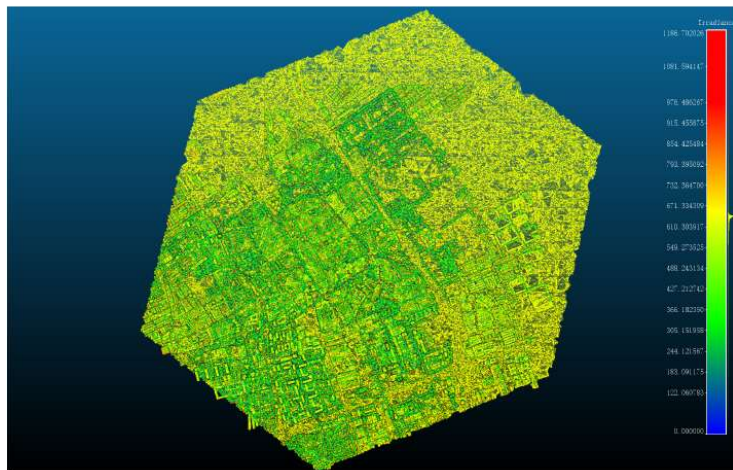
Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas



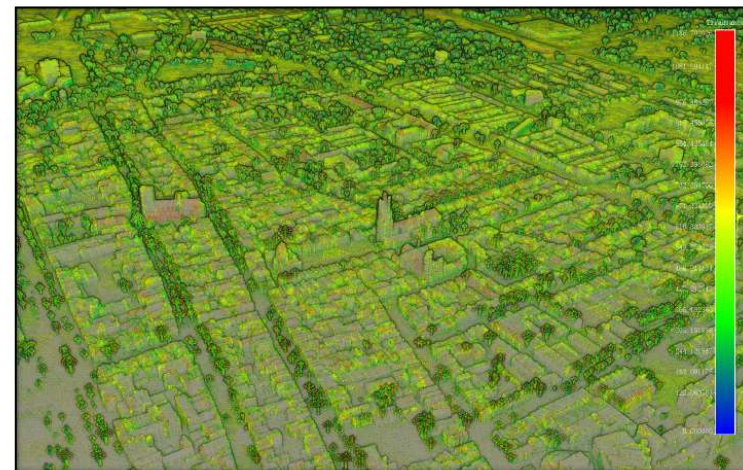
(a) Amsterdam - overview



(b) Amsterdam - zoomed in



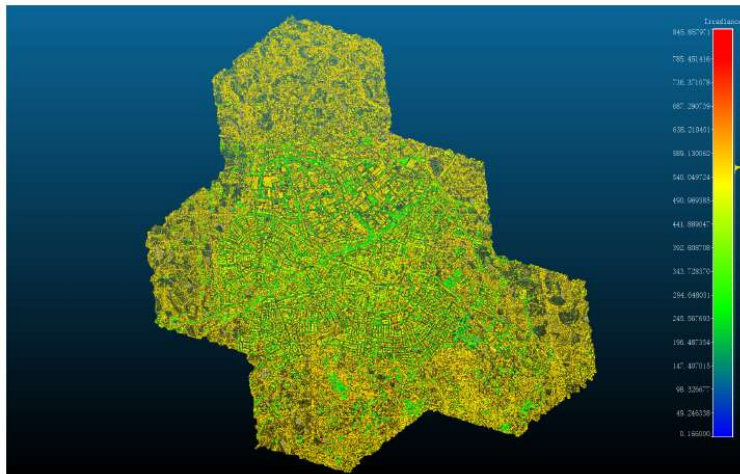
(c) Delft - overview



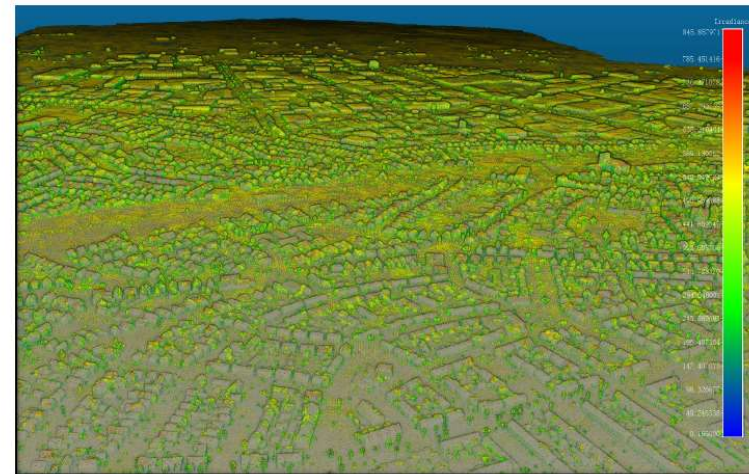
(d) Delft - zoomed in



Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas



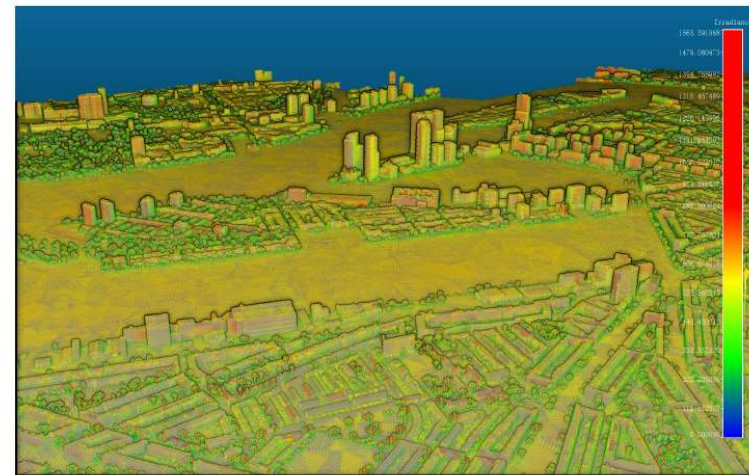
(e) Rijssen-Holten - overview



(f) Rijssen-Holten - zoomed in



(g) Rotterdam - overview



(h) Rotterdam - zoomed in

Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas

Simulation for 2021 Feb 1 with
10 minutes time interval

Within several minutes!

27 hours

City	#Timestep	Shadow computation	SVF computation	Direct+Diffuse	Reflective	Total	Reflective ratio
Amsterdam	54	2.33	406.48	27.06	98302.20	98738.07	99.56
Delft	54	1.57	301.10	16.21	79782.55	80101.43	99.60
Rijssen-Holten	54	1.02	151.44	5.97	42941.12	43093.58	99.65
Rotterdam	54	1.58	240.70	14.39	80424.76	80681.43	99.68

12 hours

Attribute	Amsterdam	Delft	Rijssen-Holten	Rotterdam
Geographic center	4.88E, 52.37N	4.37E, 52.01N	6.52E, 52.31N	4.50E, 51.90N
H3 indexes	871969c9bffffff	86196bb17ffffff	871f16cf1ffffff	87196bb52ffffff
	871969526ffffff		871f16cf5ffffff	87196bb51ffffff
	871969534ffffff		871f16cc4ffffff	87196bb50ffffff
	871969535ffffff		871f16ce6ffffff	87196bb53ffffff
	871969530ffffff		871f16ce2ffffff	87196ba2cffffff
Spatial extent	7091 * 5070 * 98	6680 * 6689 * 119	6100 * 6200 * 50	6998 * 5109 * 190
#Buildings/#Faces	46273/3499950	40210/1744663	15744/717747	31004/1322841
#Roof surfaces	214927	119189	49827	28847
#Wall surfaces	780241	428357	174436	317257
#Trees/#Faces	21833/523992	28512/684288	25358/608592	28847/692328
#Terrain/#Faces	435/130241	535/173378	398/100091	435/130006
#Total faces	4154183	2602329	1426430	2145175
#Sample points	16214787	12000715	6457806	10279549

Results & Discussion: Testing on larger areas

Orientation	Amsterdam	Delft	Rijssen-Holten	Rotterdam
east	301.90	390.17 ⁻	361.43 ⁻	349.95 ⁻
north	267.16 ⁻	435.10	424.53	400.49
northeast	293.52	414.16	451.07	405.99
northwest	303.21	408.25	446.68	398.53
south	457.67*	615.00*	484.40	611.62*
southeast	440.36	549.69	492.35	516.33
southwest	379.14	587.55	494.79*	592.71
west	302.90	546.36	443.82	499.84

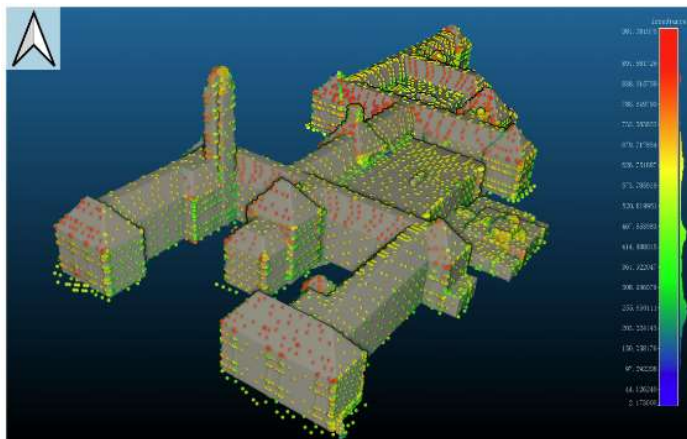
Inclination	Amsterdam	Delft	Rijssen-Holten	Rotterdam
-0°	135.98 ⁻	168.86 ⁻	116.81 ⁻	195.08 ⁻
-75°	304.13	453.66	329.67	442.60
-60°	265.97	368.49	220.01	328.79
-45°	214.57	276.47	209.53	237.93
-30°	163.63	277.59	135.32	165.47
-15°	131.12	144.04	128.71	155.22
0°	494.71	575.38	502.79	581.44
15°	440.42	553.81	506.38	540.40
30°	502.76	597.69*	518.69*	581.93
45°	504.07*	594.85	503.19	595.61*
60°	457.81	575.24	480.62	580.60
75°	428.53	543.52	426.92	545.44
90°	273.96	411.45	300.83	405.19

City	Orientation	Inclination	Irradiance
Amsterdam	south	45°	634.20
Delft	south	30°	791.49
Rijssen-Holten	south	45°	636.74
Rotterdam	south	30°	812.10

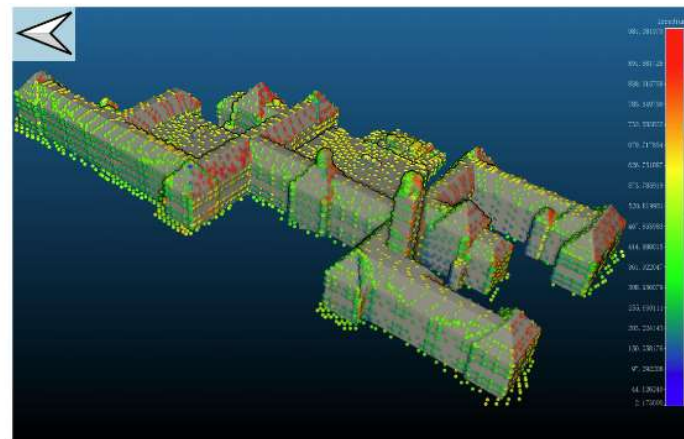
City	Orientation	Inclination	Irradiance
Amsterdam	north	-15°	39.08
Delft	north	-15°	56.83
Rijssen-Holten	southwest	-30°	62.83
Rotterdam	northwest	-15°	78.83

Surface type	Amsterdam	Delft	Rijssen-Holten	Rotterdam
Wall surface	260.65 ⁻	393.17 ⁻	288.28 ⁻	390.05 ⁻
Roof surface	497.54*	592.64*	509.72*	587.60*
Terrain surface	406.78	547.52	504.82	532.83
Vegetation surface	363.20	456.67	325.88	441.15

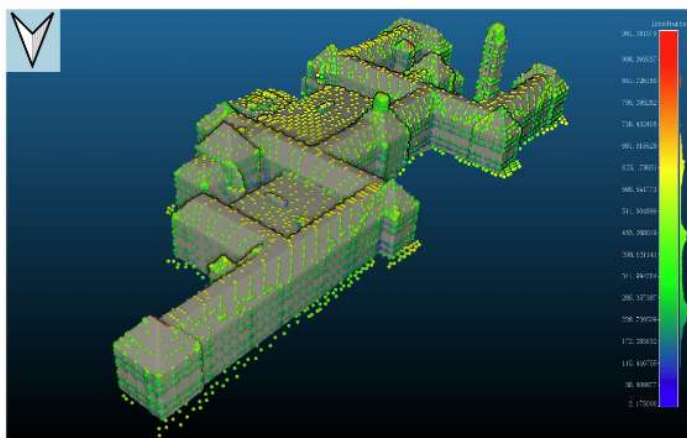
Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings



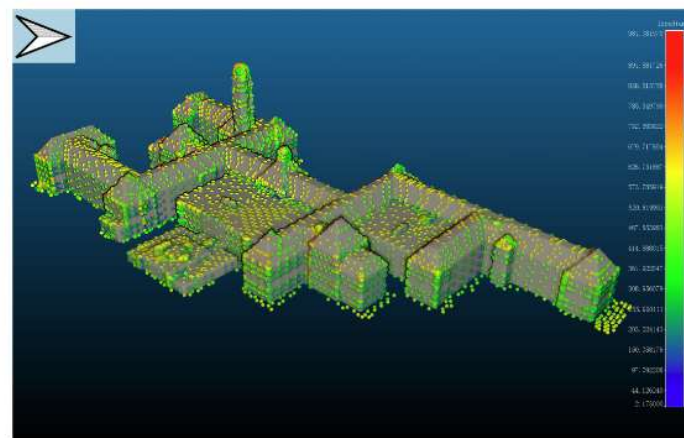
(a) Looking at the north direction



(b) Looking at the east direction



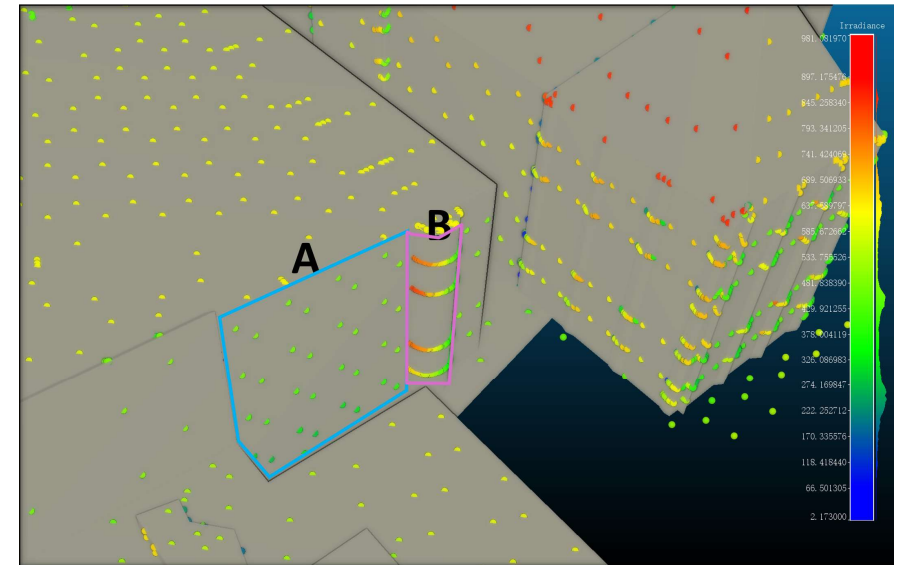
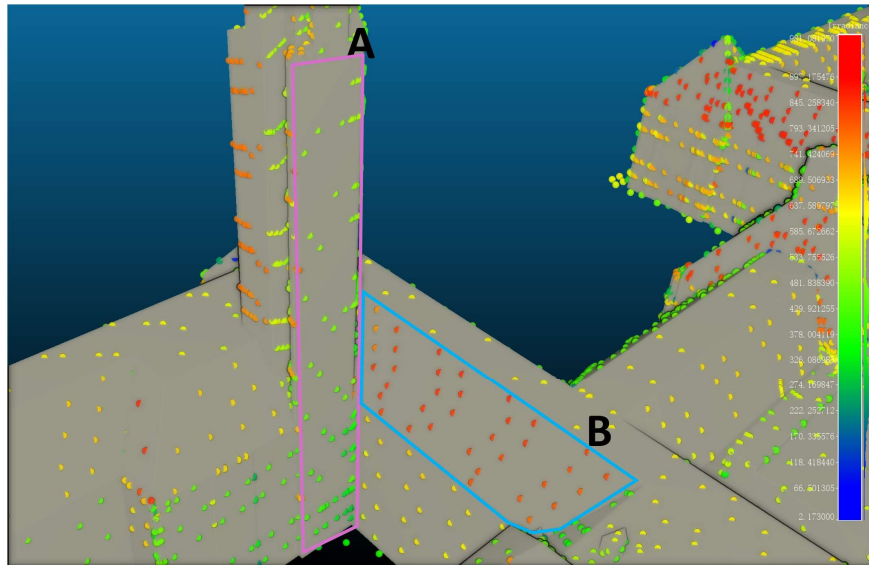
(c) Looking at the south direction



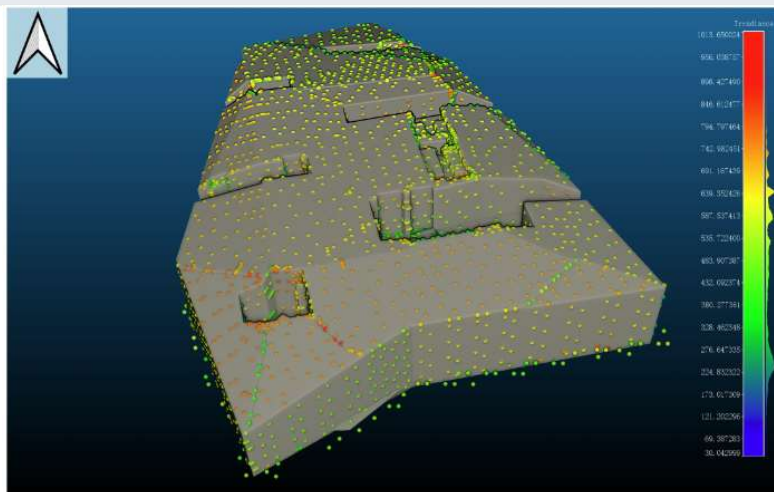
(d) Looking at the west direction



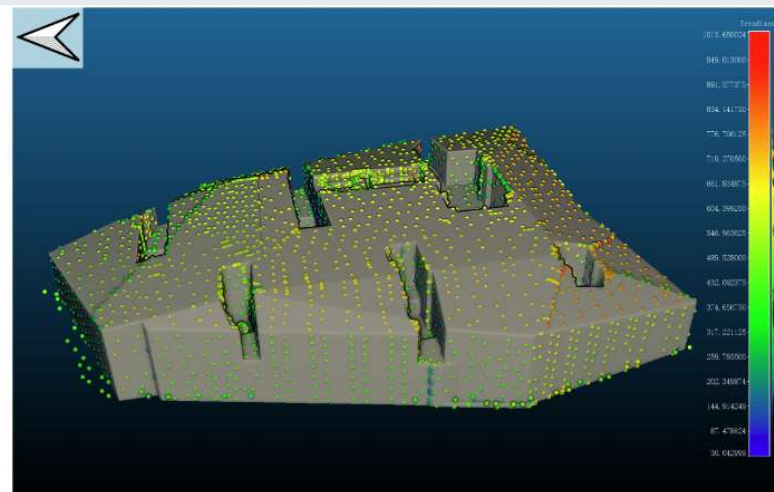
Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings



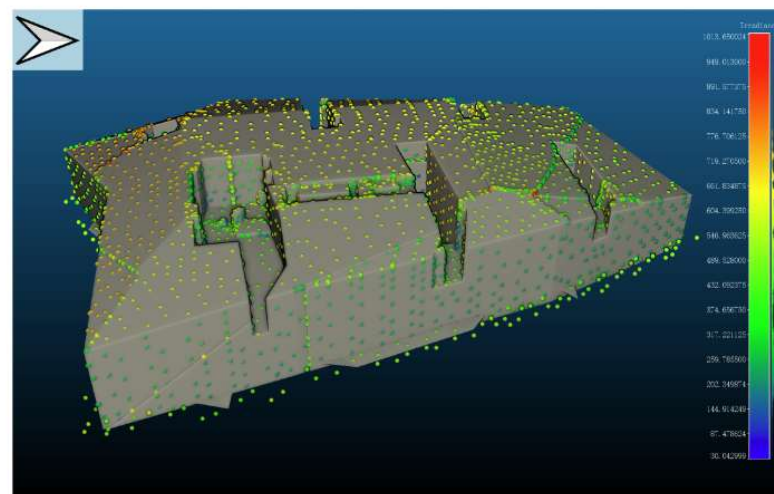
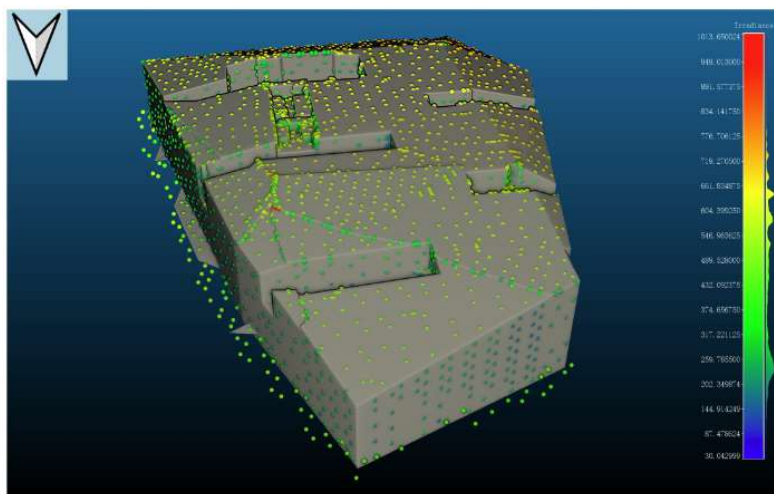
Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings



(a) Looking at the north direction

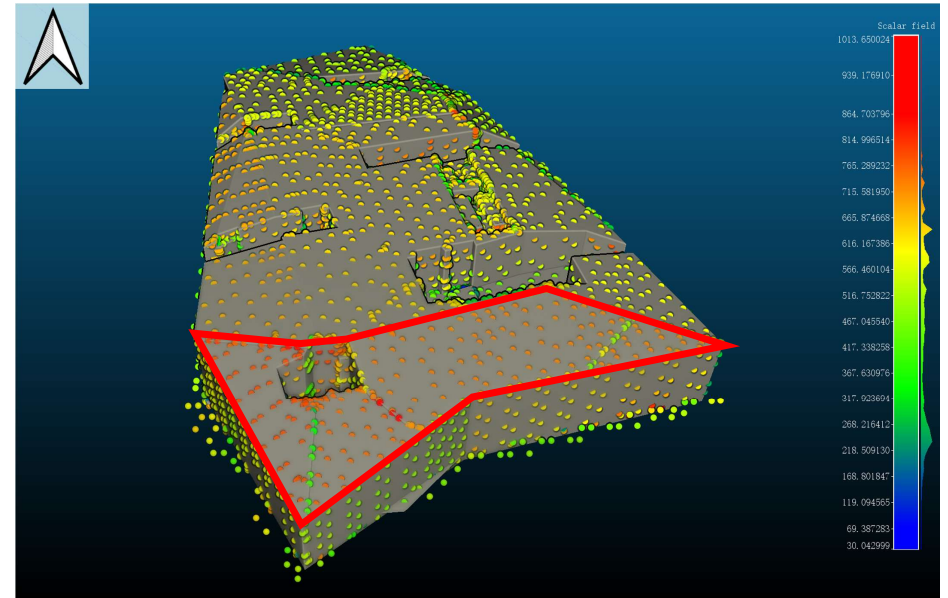


(b) Looking at the east direction





Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings



Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings

Orientation	BK	Delft Station
east	343.83	380.12
north	268.48 ⁻	340.37 ⁻
northeast	298.51	350.99
northwest	293.43	340.57
south	526.48	632.45*
southeast	465.82	545.03
southwest	676.35*	504.08
west	427.11	434.49

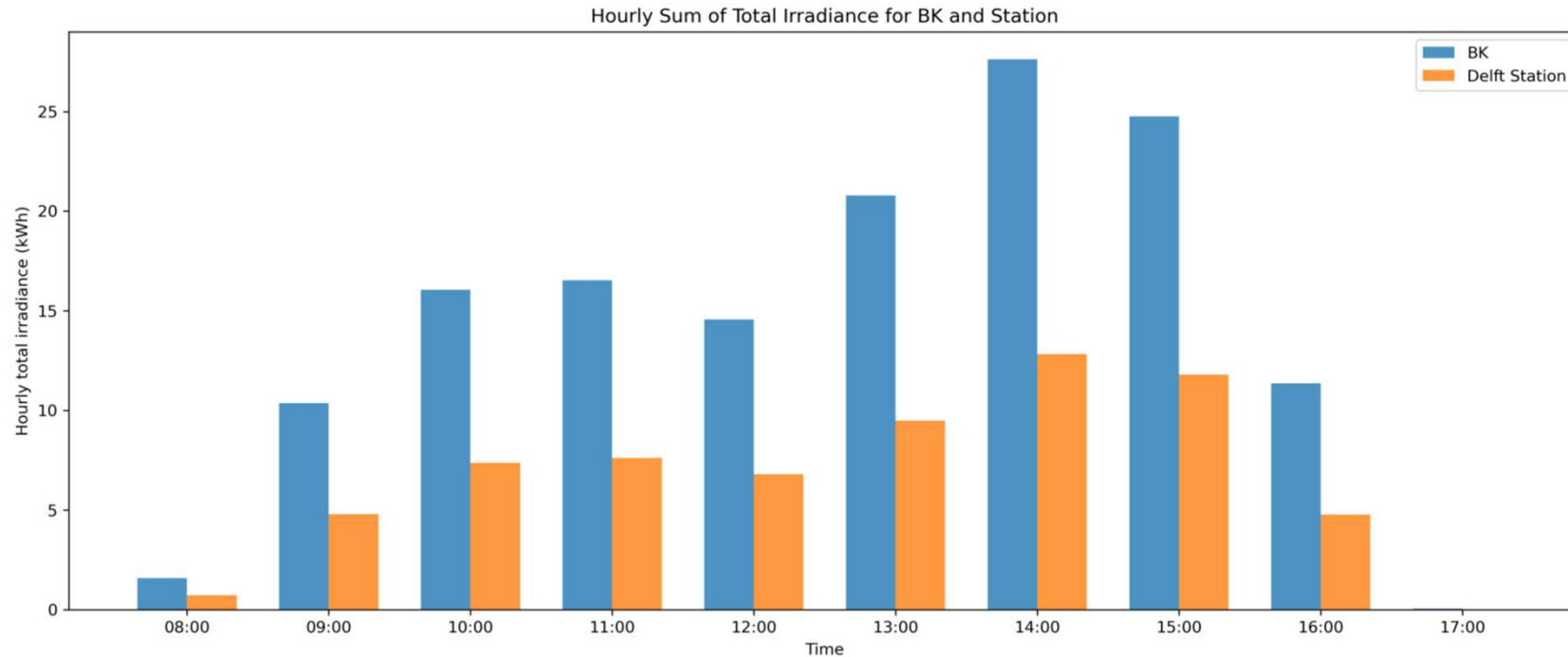
Inclination	BK	Delft Station
-75°	368.65	394.72
-30°	274.00 ⁻	Nan
0°	409.29	383.80 ⁻
15°	424.01	582.82
30°	640.90*	670.40*
45°	609.10	602.24
60°	570.48	Nan
75°	471.85	Nan
90°	380.09	428.60

Building	Orientation	Inclination	Irradiance
BK	southwest	75°	867.58
Delft Station	southwest	30°	779.85

Building	Orientation	Inclination	Irradiance
BK	northeast	90°	227.48
Delft Station	north	45°	103.19

Surface type	BK	Delft Station
Wall surface	379.01 ⁻	428.13 ⁻
Roof surface	576.70*	563.80*

Results & Discussion: Testing on specific buildings



Daily total:

- BK: 143.70 kWh
- Delft Station: 66.24 kWh

20 Days of electricity use for an average NL households

Results & Discussion: Findings

- **More detailed usage of 3DCM information can provide high accuracy**
 - With more detailed modelling of reflective irradiance, the accuracy is higher under clear-sky conditions

Metrics	Setting	2020/8/20	2020/9/1	2020/10/1	2020/11/1	2020/12/1	2021/1/1	2021/2/1	Average
Correlation	b=0	0.9695	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.6786	0.9036	0.9966	0.9326
	b=1	0.9735	0.9964	0.9897	0.9872	0.9907	0.9903	0.9966	0.9892
	b=2	0.9558	0.9949	0.9897	0.9856	0.9932	0.9941	0.9966	0.9871
	setting 1	0.9968	0.9928	0.9897	0.9825	0.7749	0.9256	0.9966	0.9513
	setting 2	0.9949	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.8111	0.9346	0.9966	0.9596
nMBE	b=0	-0.4327	-0.2205	-0.1831 [†]	-0.3358	-0.4966	-0.3751	-0.1822 [†]	-0.3180
	b=1	0.2435	0.0487*	0.2865	0.0050*	0.1035 [†]	0.1123*	0.2880	0.1554 [†]
	b=2	0.5738	0.2183	0.5091	0.1988	0.4224	0.3729	0.5108	0.4009
	setting 1	-0.1065*	0.0513 [†]	0.6040	0.0649 [†]	0.0293*	0.2467	0.6059	0.2137
	setting 2	-0.2009 [†]	-0.0995	0.0842*	-0.1906	-0.2910	-0.1509 [†]	0.0854*	-0.1090*
nMAE	b=0	0.4327	0.2205	0.1831 [†]	0.3365	0.4966	0.3776	0.1835 [†]	0.3186
	b=1	0.2554	0.0999*	0.2878	0.2071*	0.1142*	0.1436*	0.2880	0.1994 [†]
	b=2	0.5770	0.2410	0.5094	0.2241 [†]	0.4224	0.3746	0.5108	0.4085
	setting 1	0.1180*	0.1787	0.6041	0.3220	0.3162 [†]	0.3318	0.6059	0.3538
	setting 2	0.2024 [†]	0.1221 [†]	0.1024*	0.2491	0.3186	0.2021 [†]	0.0874*	0.1834*
nRMSE	b=0	0.4968	0.3493	0.2119 [†]	0.6674	0.7139	0.7306	0.2150 [†]	0.4836
	b=1	0.3234	0.1330*	0.3535	0.3141*	0.1395*	0.2083*	0.3498	0.2602 [†]
	b=2	0.6471	0.3613	0.6051	0.3212 [†]	0.5451	0.6336	0.6109	0.5320
	setting 1	0.1427*	0.2271	0.7133	0.4467	0.4023 [†]	0.4745 [†]	0.7227	0.4470
	setting 2	0.2340 [†]	0.2163 [†]	0.1382*	0.5347	0.5158	0.4785	0.1190*	0.3195 [†]

Table 6.6.: Sensor S2. Table showing various metrics across different settings and dates. Numbers marked with * represent the best entry, while the numbers marked with [†] represent the worst entry

Results & Discussion: Findings

- Accurate modelling of direct beam irradiance and sky diffuse solar irradiance provide good results
 - But performance not stable

Metrics	Setting	2020/8/20	2020/9/1	2020/10/1	2020/11/1	2020/12/1	2021/1/1	2021/2/1	Average
Correlation	b=0	0.9695	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.6786	0.9036	0.9966	0.9326
	b=1	0.9735	0.9964	0.9897	0.9872	0.9907	0.9903	0.9966	0.9892
	b=2	0.9558	0.9949	0.9897	0.9856	0.9932	0.9941	0.9966	0.9871
	setting 1	0.9968	0.9928	0.9897	0.9825	0.7749	0.9256	0.9966	0.9513
	setting 2	0.9949	0.9972	0.9897	0.9929	0.8111	0.9346	0.9966	0.9596
nMBE	b=0	-0.4327	-0.2205	-0.1831 [†]	-0.3358	-0.4966	-0.3751	-0.1822 [†]	-0.3180
	b=1	0.2435	0.0487*	0.2865	0.0050*	0.1035 [†]	0.1123*	0.2880	0.1554 [†]
	b=2	0.5738	0.2183	0.5091	0.1988	0.4224	0.3729	0.5108	0.4009
	setting 1	-0.1065*	0.0513 [†]	0.6040	0.0649 [†]	0.0293*	0.2467	0.6059	0.2137
	setting 2	-0.2009 [†]	-0.0995	0.0842*	-0.1906	-0.2910	-0.1509 [†]	0.0854*	-0.1090*
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	b=1	0.2554	0.0999*	0.2878	0.2071*	0.1142*	0.1436*	0.2880	0.1994 [†]
	b=2	0.5770	0.2410	0.5094	0.2241 [†]	0.4224	0.3746	0.5108	0.4085
	setting 1	0.1180*	0.1787	0.6041	0.3220	0.3162 [†]	0.3318	0.6059	0.3538
	setting 2	0.2024 [†]	0.1221 [†]	0.1024*	0.2491	0.3186	0.2021 [†]	0.0874*	0.1834*
nRMSE	b=0	0.4968	0.3493	0.2119 [†]	0.6674	0.7139	0.7306	0.2150 [†]	0.4836
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	b=2	0.6471	0.3613	0.6051	0.3212 [†]	0.5451	0.6336	0.6109	0.5320
	setting 1	0.1427*	0.2271	0.7133	0.4467	0.4023 [†]	0.4745 [†]	0.7227	0.4470
	setting 2	0.2340 [†]	0.2163 [†]	0.1382*	0.5347	0.5158	0.4785	0.1190*	0.3195 [†]

Table 6.6.: Sensor S2. Table showing various metrics across different settings and dates. Numbers marked with * represent the best entry, while the numbers marked with [†] represent the worst entry

Results & Discussion: Findings

- **Method scalable for city-scale applications**
 - Simulation not detailed model reflective components takes within several minutes
 - 1~5 hours for simulation of 1 million sample points, one day, 10 minutes time interval)
 - 24 hours for 16 million sample points

Attribute	Value
Geographic center	52.43, 6.26
Spatial extent	2665 * 2665 * 17
#Buildings/#Faces	272/29409
#Trees/#Faces	3950/94800
#Terrain/#Faces	121/86020
#Total faces	210229
#Sample points	1539022

Attribute	Value
Geographic center	52.6, 4.23
Spatial extent	1174 * 1178 * 99
#Buildings/#Faces	1114/99738
#Trees/#Faces	3/153
#Terrain/#Faces	20/964403
#Total faces	1064294
#Sample points	889500

Date	#Timestep	Shadow computation	SVF computation	Direct+Diffuse	Reflective	Total	Reflective ratio
2024/3/21	12	0.13	37.37	0.29	3232.19	3269.98	98.84
2024/6/21	16	0.20	46.61	0.37	5271.96	5319.14	99.11
2024/9/22	12	0.22	44.67	0.29	4675.88	4721.06	99.04
2024/12/22	8	0.20	41.60	0.26	4022.49	4064.55	98.97

Table 6.7.: Computation time Heino with proposed method

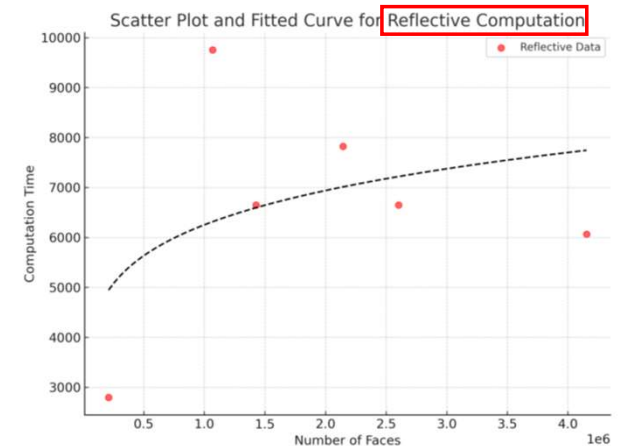
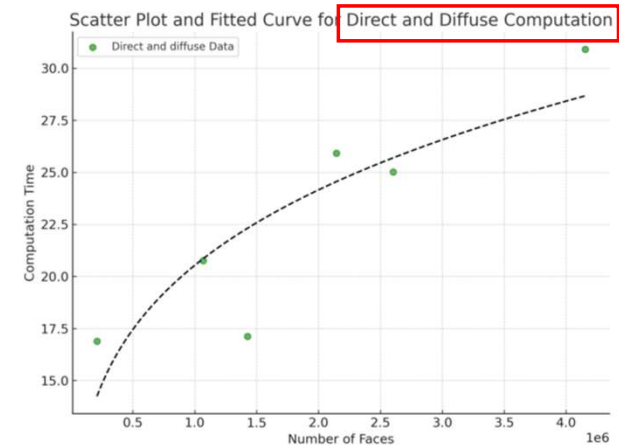
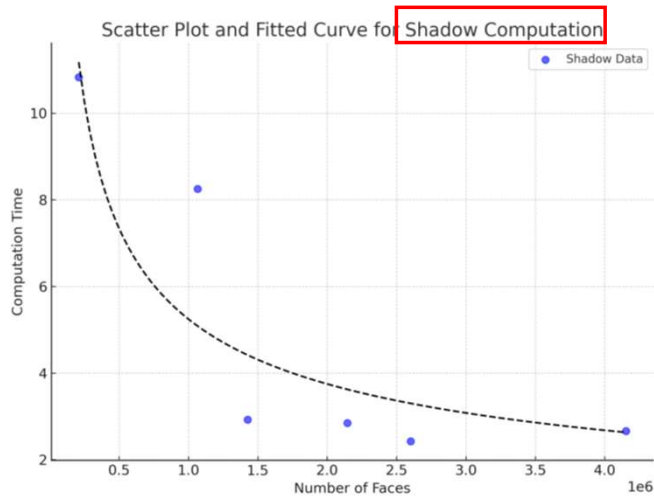
Date	#Timestep	Shadow computation	SVF computation	Direct+Diffuse	Reflective	Total	Reflective ratio
2024/8/21	80	0.62	51.03	1.47	12319.02	12372.14	99.57
2024/9/1	77	0.58	49.63	1.39	15331.52	15383.12	99.66
2024/10/1	57	0.51	41.64	1.00	9093.19	9136.34	99.53
2024/11/1	50	0.44	32.25	0.99	8118.75	8152.43	99.59
2024/12/1	26	0.23	31.56	0.59	4073.14	4105.52	99.21
2024/1/1	26	0.12	23.44	0.46	3765.48	3789.50	99.37
2024/2/1	45	0.22	26.76	0.68	8017.02	8044.68	99.66

City	#Timestep	Shadow computation	SVF computation	Direct+Diffuse	Reflective	Total	Reflective ratio
Amsterdam	54	2.33	406.48	27.06	98302.20	98738.07	99.56
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	871969526fffff		871f16cf5fffff	87196bb51fffff
	871969534fffff		871f16cc4fffff	87196bb50fffff
	871969535fffff		871f16ce6fffff	87196bb53fffff
	871969530fffff		871f16ce2fffff	87196ba2cfffff
Spatial extent	7091 * 5070 * 98	6680 * 6689 * 119	6100 * 6200 * 50	6998 * 5109 * 190
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#Total faces	4154183	2602329	1426430	2145175
#Sample points	16214787	12000715	6457806	10279549

Results & Discussion: Findings

- **Method scalable for city-scale applications**
 - Simulation not detailed model reflective components takes within several minutes
 - 1~5 hours for simulation of 1 million sample points, one day, 10 minutes time interval)
 - 24 hours for 16 million sample points





Results & Discussion: Limitations

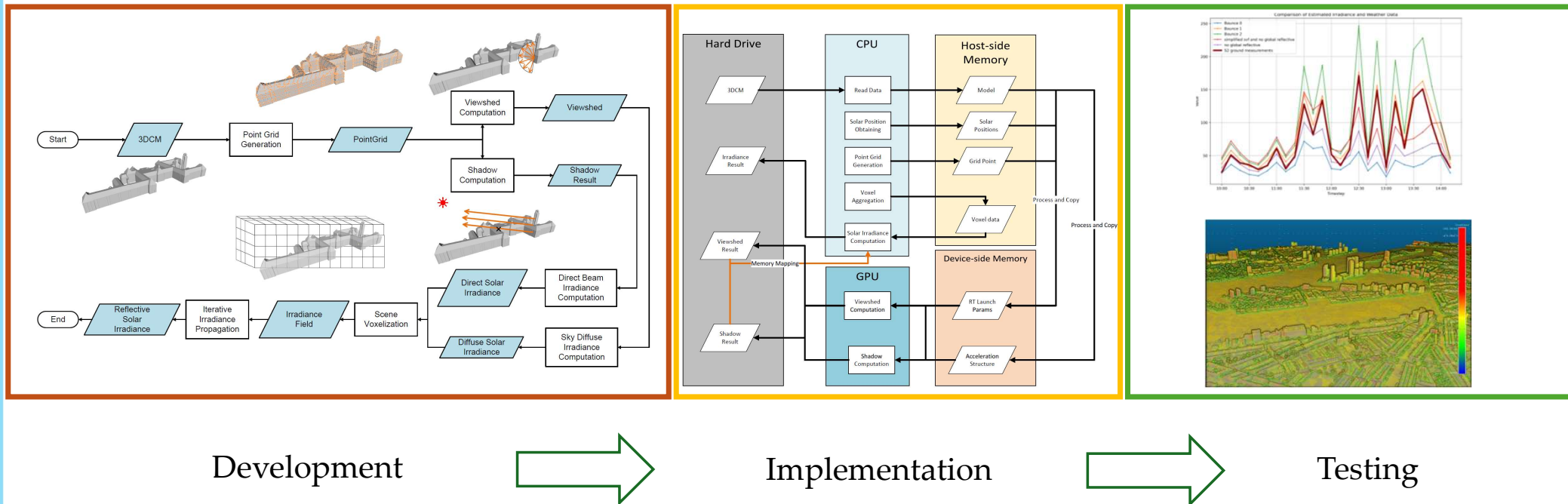
- **Accuracy**
 - Under overcast conditions the method does not show clear advantage
- **Computation Time**
 - Reflective solar irradiance computation takes up over 99% of computation time (Not optimized)
- **Ground Measurement Data Availability**
 - Only S2 has complex visibility
 - Lack of material data
- **Simplification still exist**
 - 3DCM
 - Isotropic model for sky diffuse
 - Voxelization
 - Assume all surfaces to be Lambertian surfaces



Conclusions

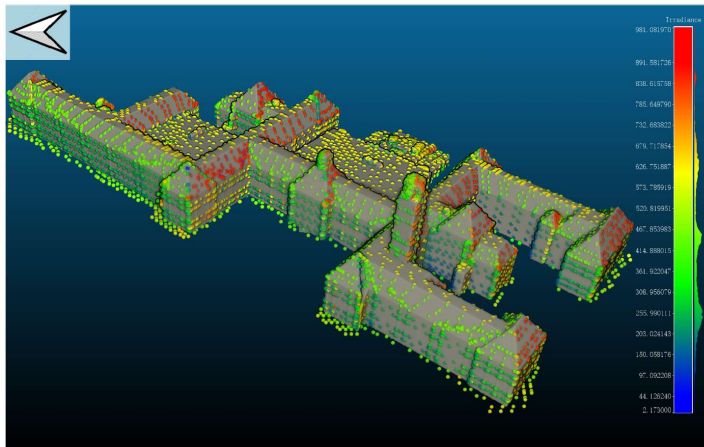
Conclusions

Developed, implemented, and tested a solar irradiance simulation method that is realistic and scalable.

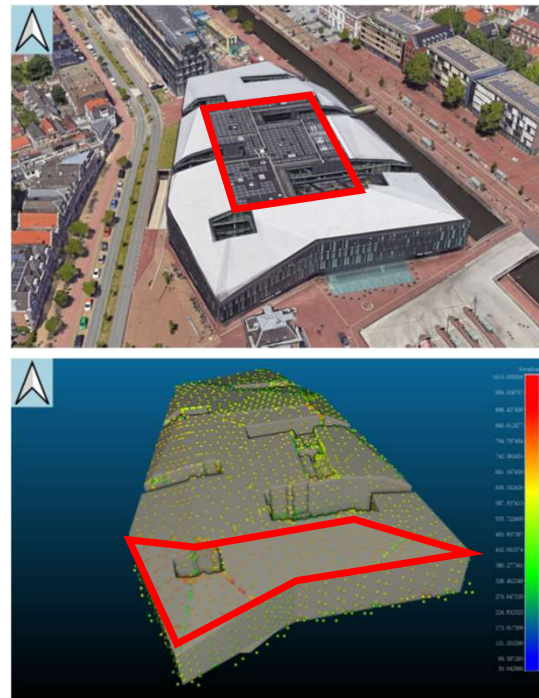


Conclusions

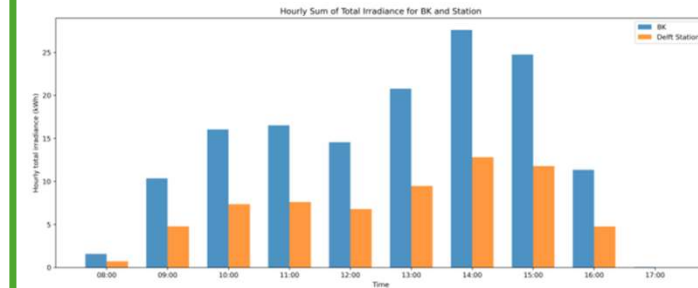
We discussed and tested the potential applications of the proposed simulation method.



Visualization



Solar panel installation



Energy potential



Conclusions: Future work

- More detailed input data
- Enhanced modeling of sky diffuse irradiance
- Improved light field representation
- Model calibration
- Database input support
- Integration with remote sensing data



Conclusions: Future work

- More detailed input data
- Enhanced modeling of sky diffuse irradiance
- Improved light field representation
- Model calibration
- Database input support
- Integration with remote sensing data



Thank you for your attention!



3D geoinformation

Department of Urbanism
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment
Delft University of Technology