9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban Climate, 20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> July 2015, Toulouse, France

## Sensitivity of mesoscale models to scale dependent UCP inputs:

Urban thermofluid dynamics, multi-scale interactions, multi-scale models, and scale-adaptive representations

<u>M.Neophytou</u>, University of Cyprus, CYPRUS P.Mouzourides, University of Cyprus, CYPRUS A.Kyprianou, University of Cyprus, CYPRUS R.Choudhary, University of Cambridge, UK J.Ching, University of North Carolina, U.S.A.



#### On the Nature of Urban Fluid Dynamics

# Multi-scale phenomena and interactions





# Multi-scale interactions and models



WUDAPT, a worldwide urban database & access portal tools for climate and environmental modeling,

Innovation concepts to reality, Implications for integrated modeling

Jason Ching, Gerald Mills, Linda See and collaborators



### Motivation for Urban Fluid Dynamics – Open Questions







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(2) How does this representation change with scale/model resolution Consistent scale-adaptive and sub-grid scale representations



(1) Macroscopic fluid dynamical feedback of cities into larger scale models

(3) Building unit attributes are determined by local fluid dynamicse.g. what are the total energy demands for building heating and cooling as a result of the spatial variability of local micro-climate

Global

Regional

# **Motivation**

How can we characterize attributes of highly complex geometries with scale-adaptive and spatially varying descriptions, e.g. for model nesting, consistent scale-aware information exchange and appropriate subgrid scale parameterizations?



Example attributes: packing density, Population density, energy consumption

### 1. Introduction (contd):

Regional

Global

- 1. Introduction: Background, Motivation, Nature, Context
- 2. Theory & Methodology: brief overview
- 3. Preliminary Results
- 4. Concluding Remarks & Future Work and Challenges

## Multi-Resolution Analysis (Mallat, 2009)

can produce <u>different levels of approximation</u> of an (urban) database,

by decomposing iteratively the "urban signal" into an <u>approximation and a detail</u>

enabling at all times full recovery of the original signal



Mouzourides, Kyprianou, Neophytou (2013). A scale-adaptive approach for spatially-varying urban morphology characterization in the boundary layer parameterization using Multi-Resolution Analysis. Int. Journal of Boundary-Layer Meteorology, DOI : 10.1007/s10546-013-9848-4 9

# **Multi-Resolution Analysis**

- MRA repeatedly decomposes a signal f(x,y) to smoother parts at scales 2<sup>n</sup>T<sub>s</sub> producing subsequent multi-scale samples
  - $T_s$  is the sampling distance (or sampling period in spatial variables  $\Delta x \Delta y$ )
  - *n* is called decomposition level

#### Mouzourides, Kyprianou, Neophytou (2013).

A scale-adaptive approach for spatially-varying urban morphology characterization in the boundary layer parameterization using Multi-Resolution Analysis. Boundary-Layer Meteorology, DOI : 10.1007/s10546-013-9848-4

#### 2. Theory & Methodology – brief overview

### Consequence of MRA axioms (Mallat, 2005)...in mathematical terms:

a Scaling function  $\phi_{j,n} = \frac{1}{\left(\sqrt{2}\right)^j} \phi\left(\frac{t-2^j n}{2^j}\right)$ 

And a Wavelet function exist

$$\psi(t) = \sqrt{2} \sum_{n} g_n \phi(2t - n)$$

such that

Producing multi-scale samples and corresponding details

$$f_{j} = f_{j+1} + d_{j+1}$$

2. Theory & Methodology – brief overview

## Methodology – Example from a building data set Oklahoma City

Apply 2D MRA to an urban database with building height information, h=f(x,y)

A mesoscale grid cell Of size ~1X1 km

Oklahoma City (Google image)





#### Digitized within-cell signal (height)

#### 2. Theory & Methodology – brief overview



## MRA analysis of Oklahoma City (CBD) Building Database Information



### **Example: Inter-comparison of Cities**



Mouzourides, Kyprianou, Carissimo, Choudhary, Brown, Neophytou (2014). Searching for the distinctive signature of a city: Could the MRA provide the DNA of a city? Int. Journal of Urban Climate

## **Distinctive capacity**



MRA deduced results

**Calculated results** 

## Scaling and Wavelet functions within MRA analysis

-Depending on the nature to be captured e.g. mean or peak characteristics

- Time-dependent characteristics





#### London (UK) and Westminster City Council Data





**3. Results** 

Heating Demands/Energy Consumption for Westminster City Council at 4pm Level 1 (20x20 m<sup>2</sup>)









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**3. Results** 

## Scale-adaptive representations and associated sub-grid information Heating Demands at 4am (kWh) in London Westminster Borough

**Effect of MRA function - mean versus peak characteristics** 



**3. Results** 

# 4. Conclusions & Future Work

-Rigorous and consistent scale-adaptive representations are obtained

-Spatial inhomogeneity is enabled -Different natures (mean vs peak values) can be captured

- the analysis enables a city (or urban database) to retain its distinctive signature/identity

# → hence the DNA of a city!

Mouzourides, Kyprianou, **Neophytou** (2013). A scale-adaptive approach for spatially-varying urban morphology characterization in the boundary layer parameterization using Multi-Resolution Analysis. Int. Journal of *Boundary-Layer Meteorology*, DOI : 10.1007/s10546-013-9848-4

# 4. Conclusions & Future Work



Global

-WUDAPT and WRF modelling applications are under design to illustrate the impact of MRA consistent scale-adaptive representations - Coupling of urban-scale models with Building Energy Models to illustrate the Capacity to retrieve the details if needed



Further applications: coupling knowledge from idealized lab experiments

Extraction of dynamic characteristics: e.g. exchange and breathability variation with packing density



Neophytou, Markides, Fokaides (2014): An experimental study of the flow through and over two dimensional rectangular roughness elements: Deductions for urban boundary layer parameterizations and exchange processes. Physics of Fluids **26**, 086603 Examples of further applications (for tailored policy – making) :

## **Westminster's Breathability**



Thank you!