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A photograph of a grassy field with several wind turbines in the distance under a cloudy sky.

Physical Modeling of Bolund in an

Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel

Brad C. Cochran

Sr. Associate

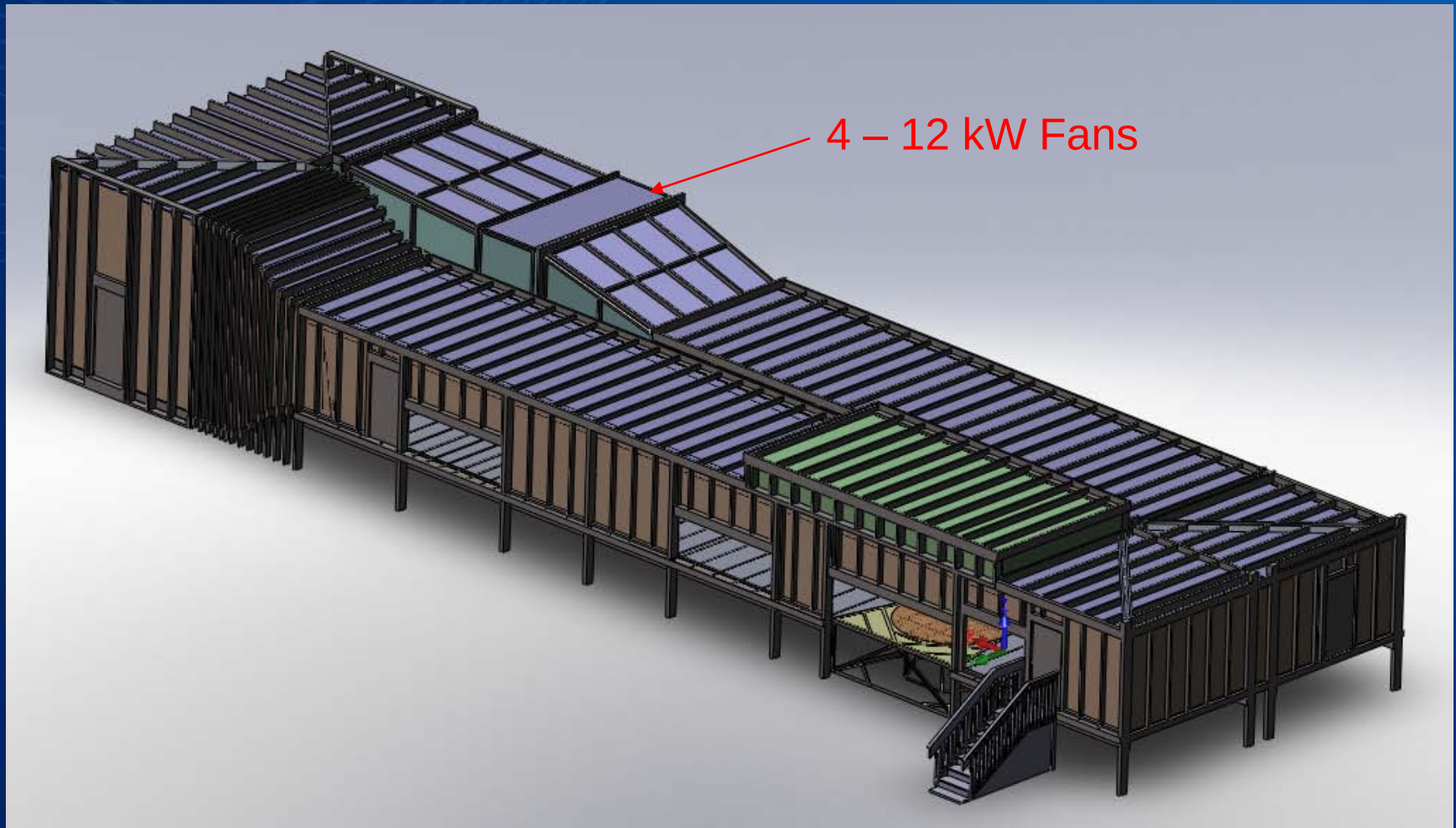
CPP, Inc.

1415 Blue Spruce Drive

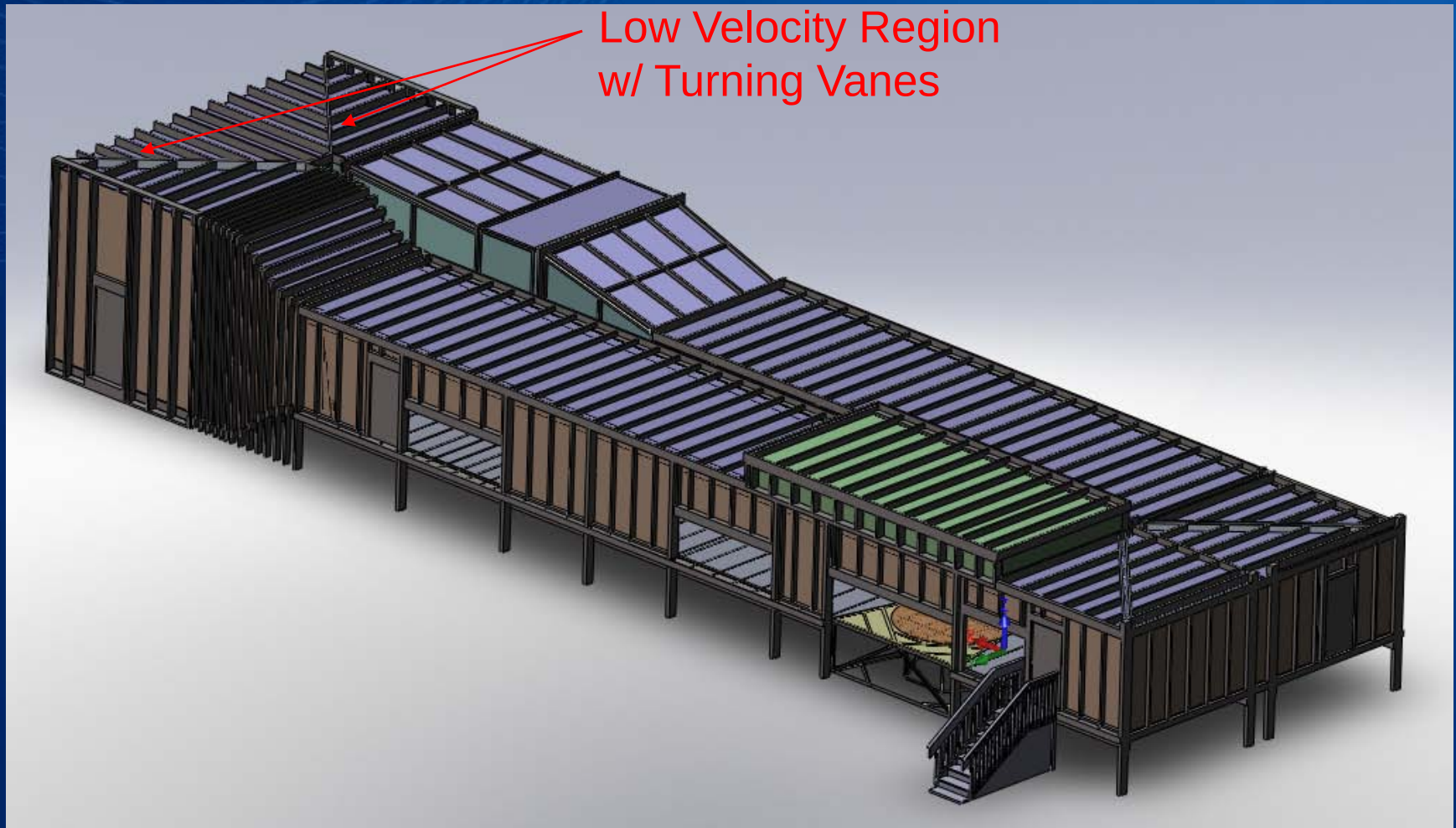
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www.cppwind.com

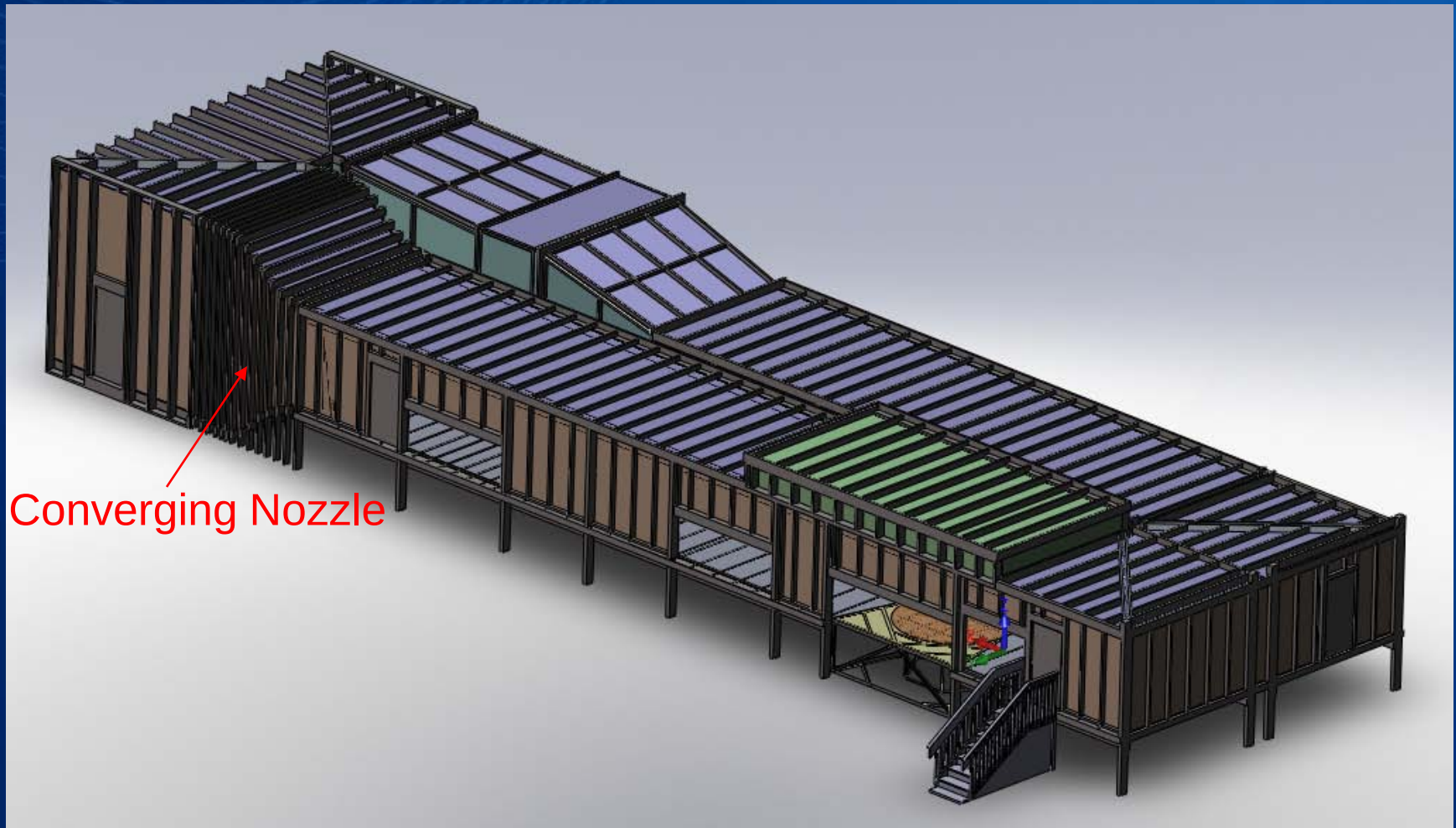
Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



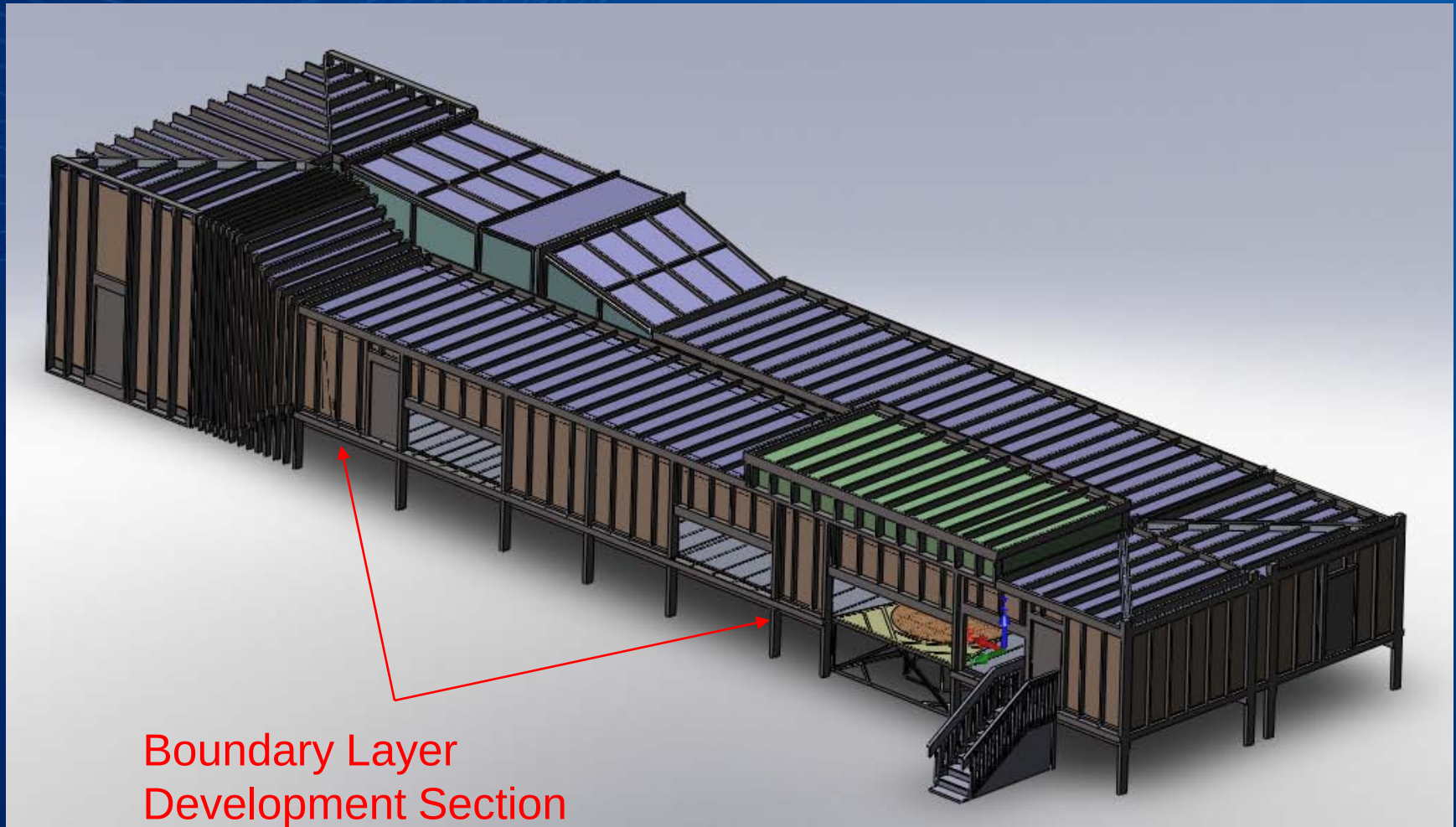
Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



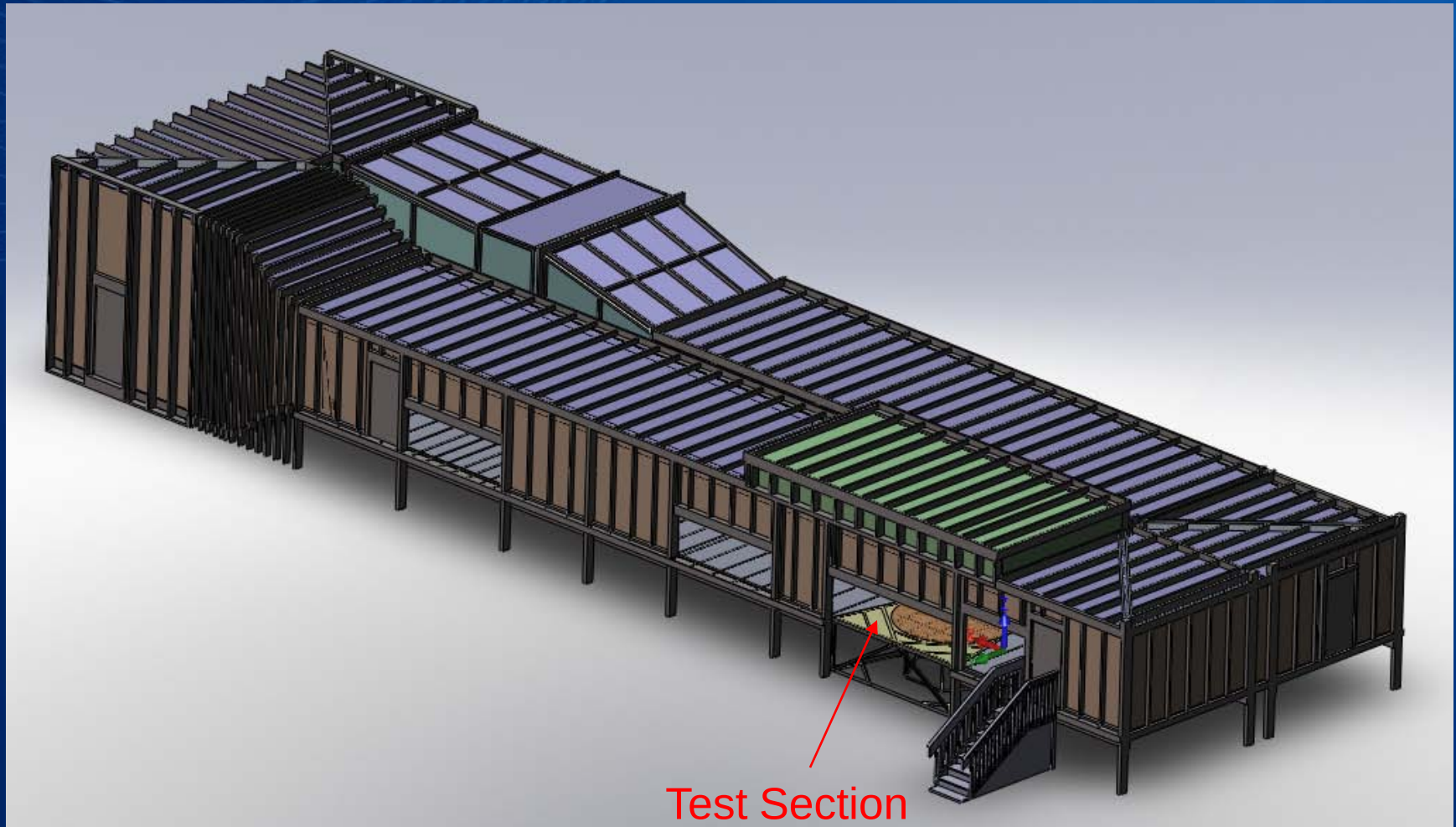
Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



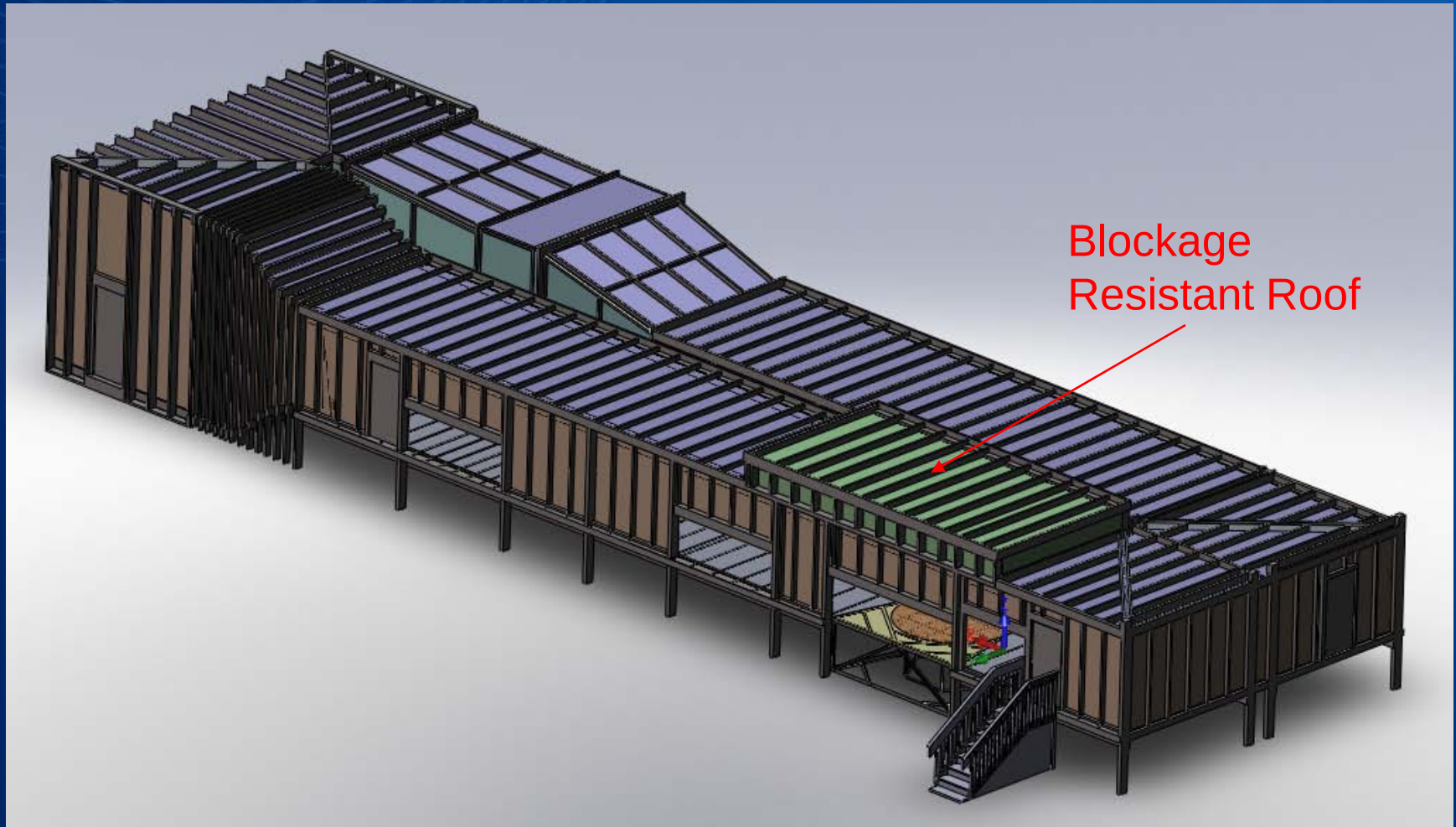
Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic

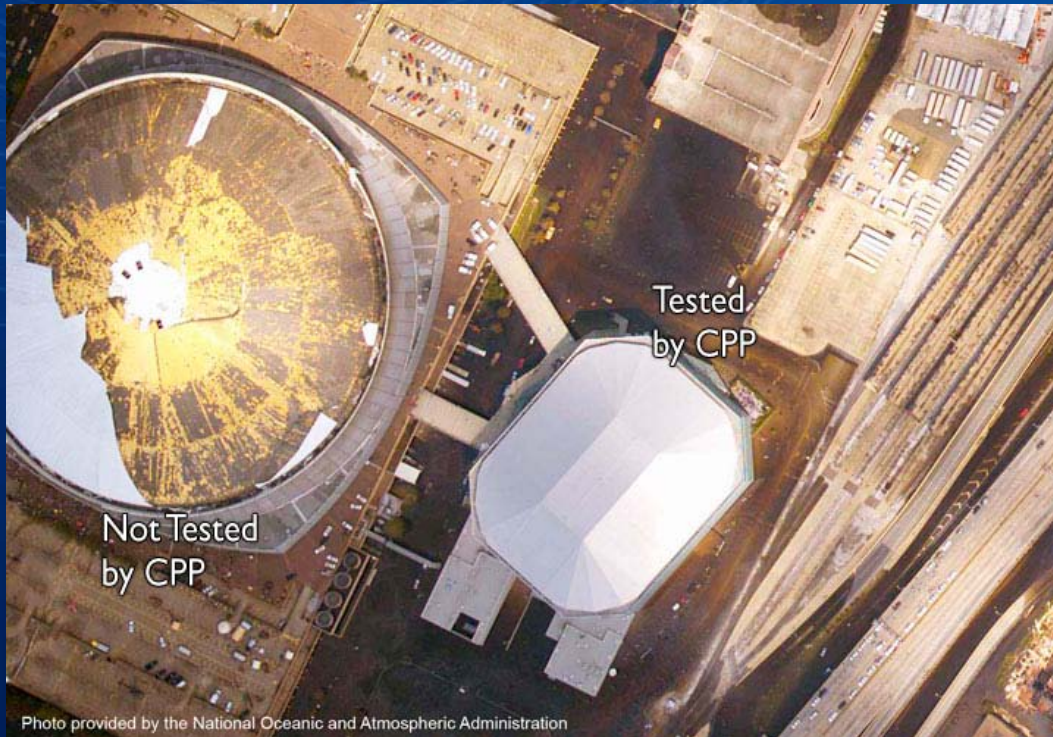


Atmospheric Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Schematic



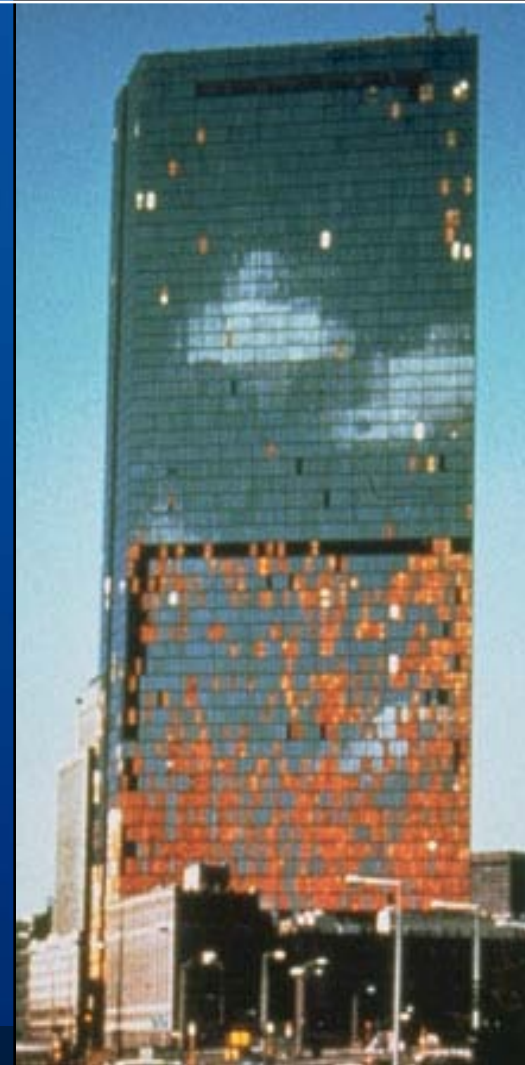
Typical Applications

Wind Induced Building Loads



Superdome and New Orleans Arena

John Hancock Building - Boston →



Typical Applications

Pedestrian Level Wind Environment



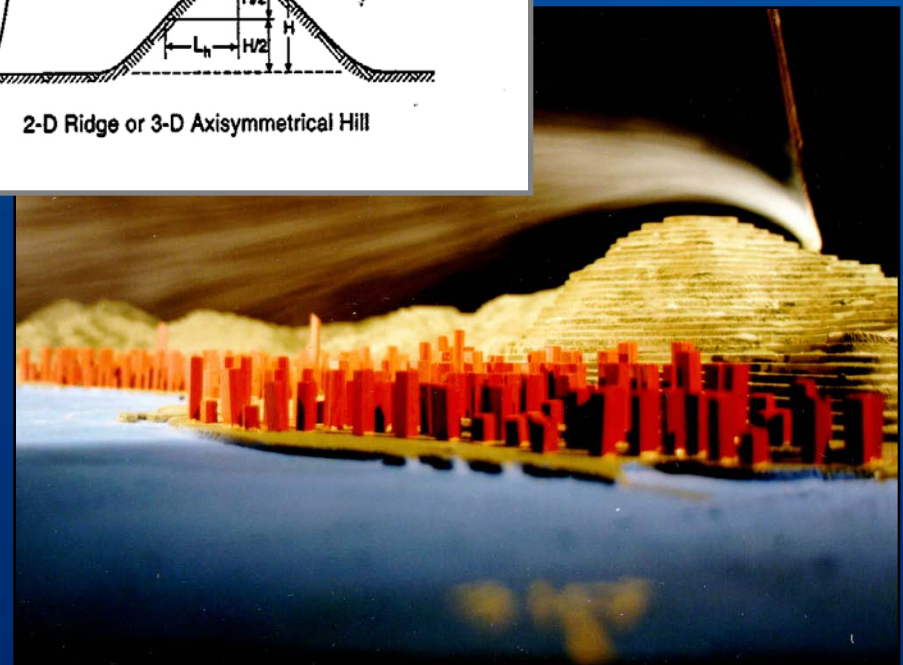
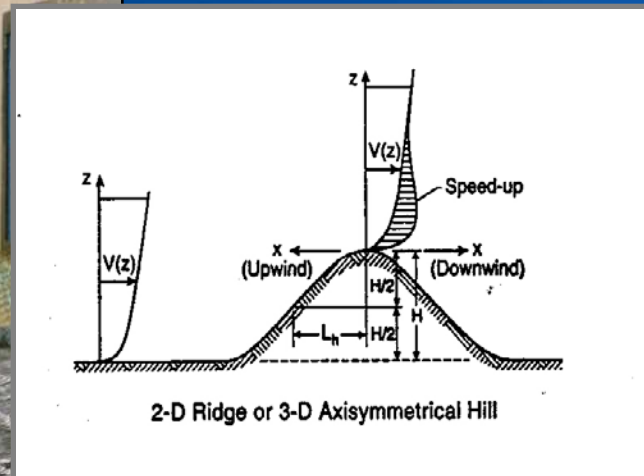
Typical Applications

Plume Dispersion



Typical Applications

Airflow in Complex Terrain Environments



Physical Modeling

Theory

Navier-Stokes Equations

Continuity

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho \mathbf{v}) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \rho \mathbf{F}$$

Momentum

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

Energy

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho e) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} e) = -p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \boldsymbol{\tau} : \nabla \mathbf{v} - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}$$

Physical Modeling

Scaling Parameters

- Undistorted scaling geometry
- Equal dimensionless boundary and approach flow conditions
- Equal Rossby number – $UL\Omega$
- Equal gross Richardson number – $[\Delta T/T](L/U^2)g$
- Equal Reynolds number – UL/ν
- Equal Prandtl number - $\nu/(k/\rho C_p)$
- Equal Eckert number – $U^2/[C_p(\Delta T)]$

Physical Modeling

Scaling Parameters

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- Coriolis effects minimal in the near field**

Physical Modeling

Scaling Parameters

- Undistorted scaling geometry
- Equal dimensionless boundary and approach flow conditions
- ~~• Equal Rossby number – $U/L\Omega$~~
- ~~• Equal gross Richardson number – $[\Delta T/T](L/U^2)g$~~
- Equal Reynolds number – UL/ν
- ~~• Equal Prandtl number – $\eta/(k/\rho C_p)$~~
- ~~• Equal Eckert number – $U^2/[C_p(\Delta T)]$~~

Neutral
Stratification

Physical Modeling

Scaling Parameters

$$\left(\frac{UL}{\nu}\right)_{\text{model}} = \left(\frac{UL}{\nu}\right)_{\text{fullscale}}$$

$$(L)_{\text{model}} = (L)_{\text{fullscale}} / 100$$

$$(\nu)_{\text{model}} = (\nu)_{\text{fullscale}} \quad \text{NOT}$$



$$\text{POSSIBLE!}$$
~~$$(U)_{\text{model}} = (U)_{\text{fullscale}} \times 100 = 1,000 \text{ m/s}$$~~

Physical Modeling

Reynolds Number Independence

- Ensure a fully turbulent wake flow

Terrain or Building Reynolds Number greater than 11,000 ($Re_T = UH_T/\nu$)

$$U = 10 \text{ m/s}$$

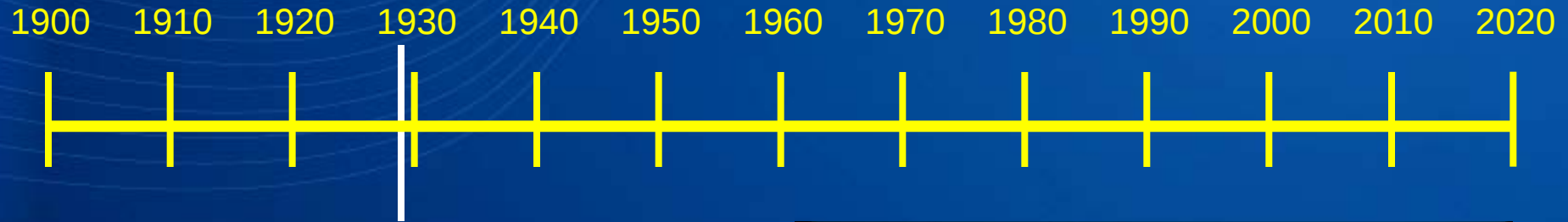
$$H_T = 0.25 \text{ m}$$

$$\nu = 1.15 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$

$$Re_T = 217,391$$

History

Timeline

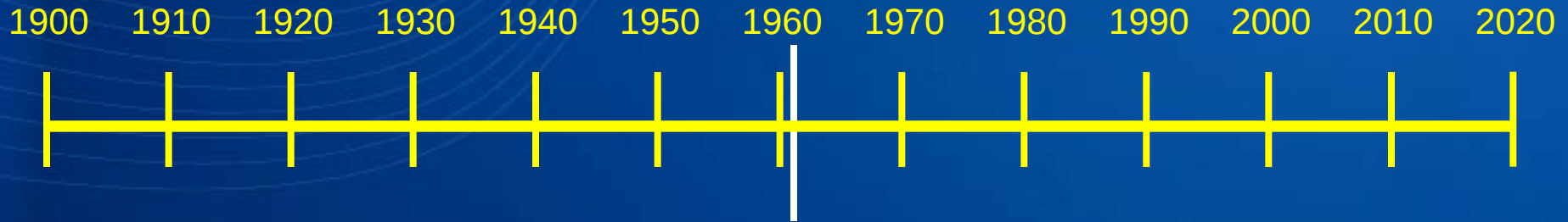


Abe (1929) studies
air flow over a scale
model of Mt. Fuji



History

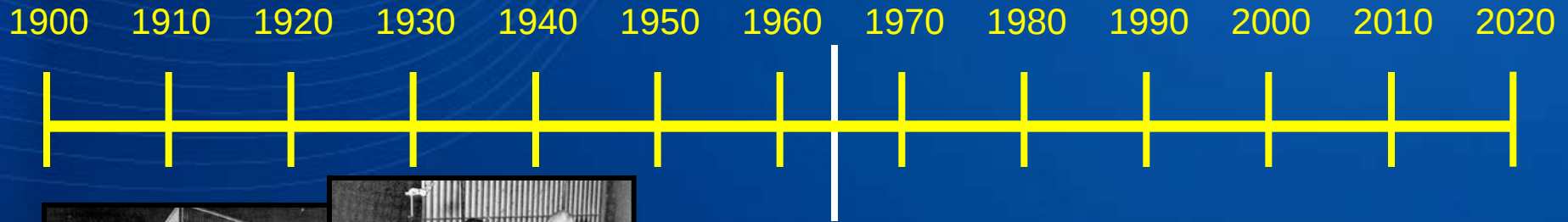
Timeline



Golden (1961) Defines
minimum acceptable
Reynolds number to
achieve Reynolds number
independence

History

Timeline



Cermak and Davenport
(1964) measured wind
loads on a scale model of
the World Trade Centers in
New York

History

Timeline

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020



Cermak (1975) Publishes
Freeman Scholar Lecture on
wind tunnel simulation methods
(Resulting in wind tunnel
modeling being accepted by
most building codes)

History

Timeline



US EPA (1981) Publishes
Fluid modeling guideline
for wind tunnel simulations

History

Timeline

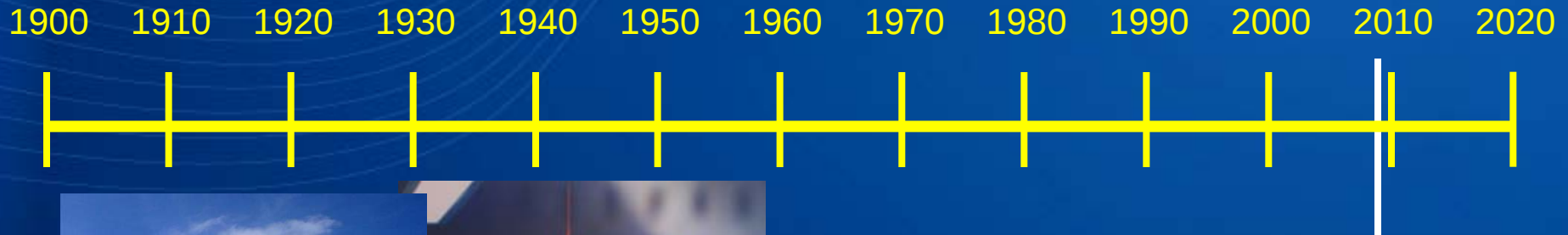
A properly executed wind tunnel study is, in effect, equivalent to an analog computer with near infinitesimal resolution and near infinite memory.

The basic equations are solved by simulating the flow at a reduced scale, then measuring the desired quantity

- U.S. EPA Fluid Modeling Guideline

History

Timeline



By 2009 over 5000 building have been testing in an atmospheric boundary layer wind tunnel, including the worlds tallest Burj Dubai

History

Validation in Wind Energy Applications



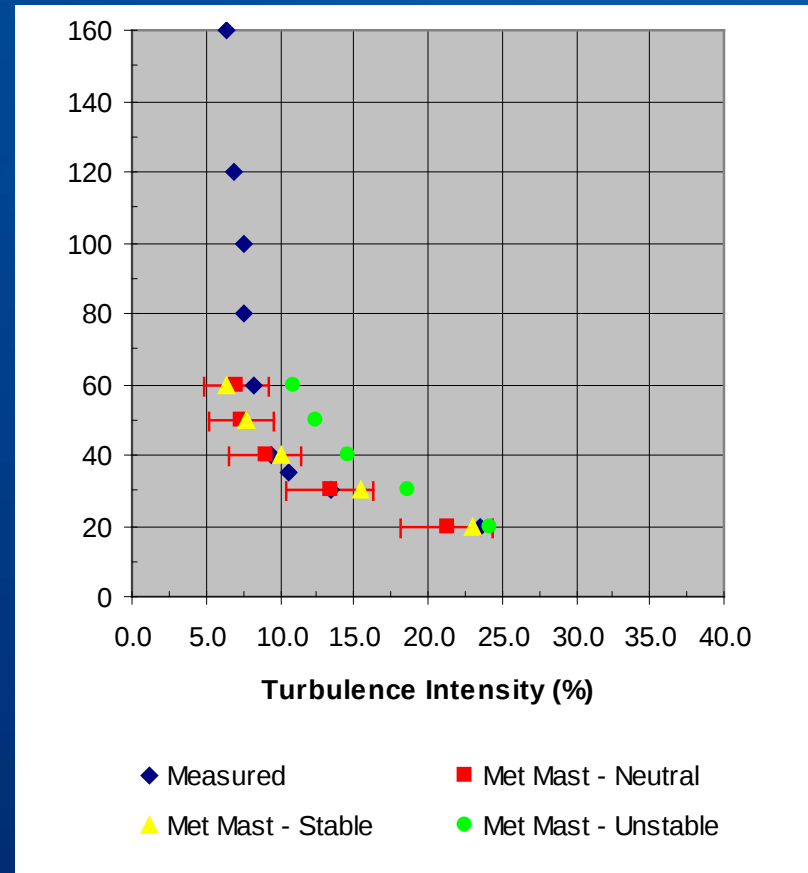
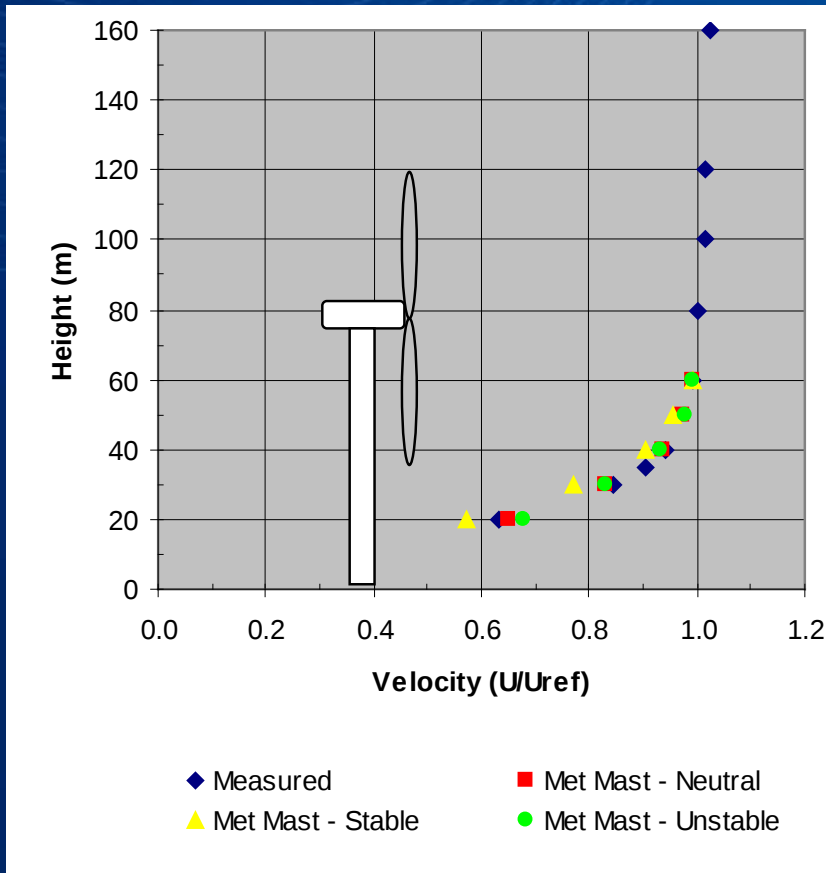
History

Validation in Wind Energy Applications



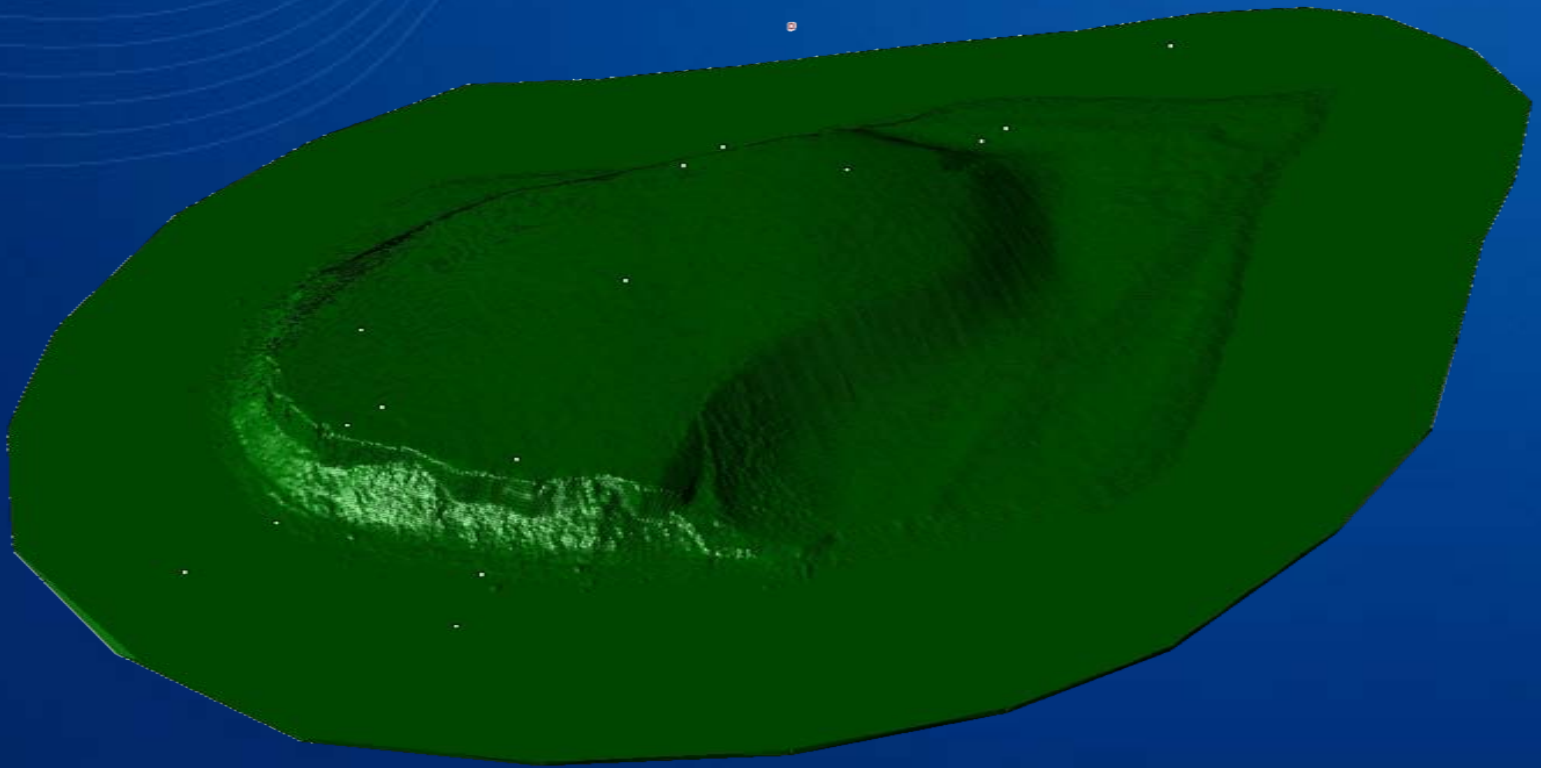
History

Validation in Wind Energy Applications



Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Create 3-D representation in CAD



Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Create Physical Model using a 3-D Mill



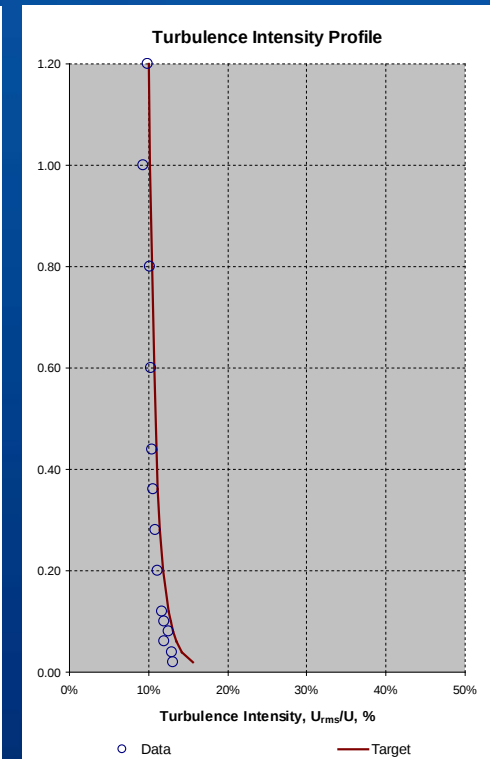
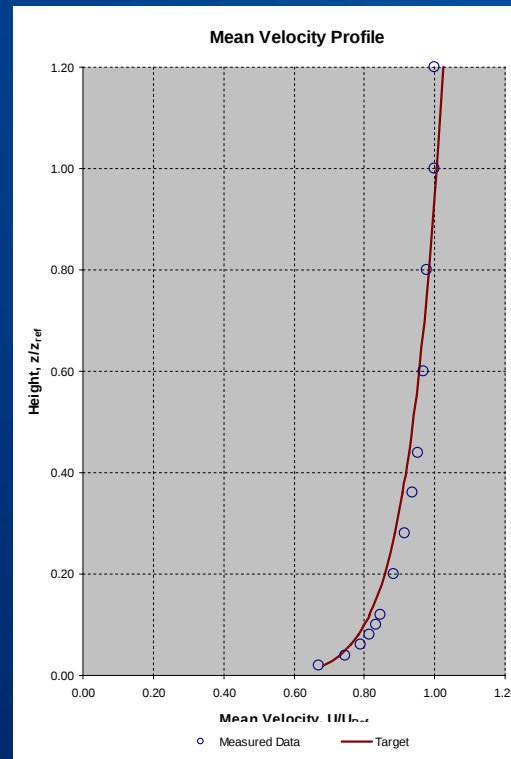
Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Establish an Atmospheric Boundary Layer

Data Power Law	
n=	0.09
intercept =	0.006

Data Log Law	
n=	0.12
U^* =	0.320
z_0 =	0.0001

Target	
n=	0.10
z_0 =	0.0003



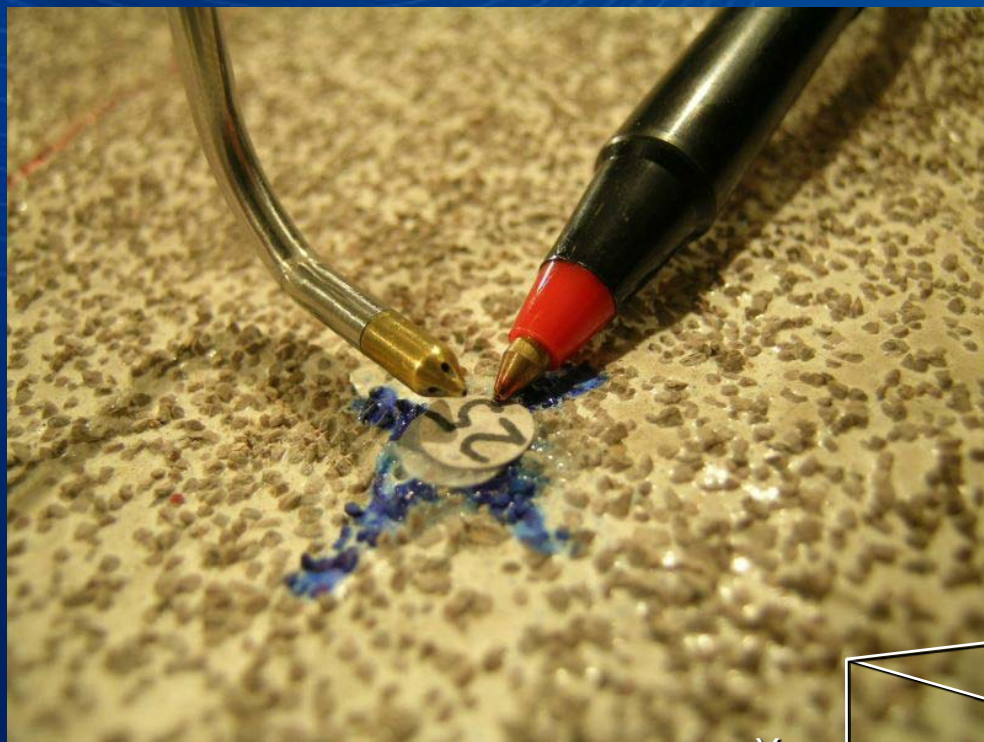
Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Install Model in the Wind Tunnel

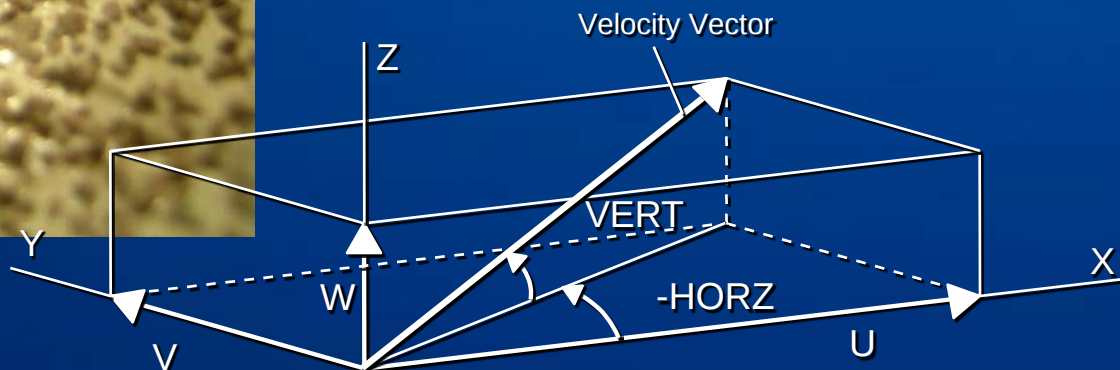


Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Measure wind speeds using a 5-holed probe mounted on a 3-D traverse



5-Holed Probe Used to Measure the Local Wind Vector and Turbulence Intensity



Definition of flow angles; x axis defines the approach wind direction

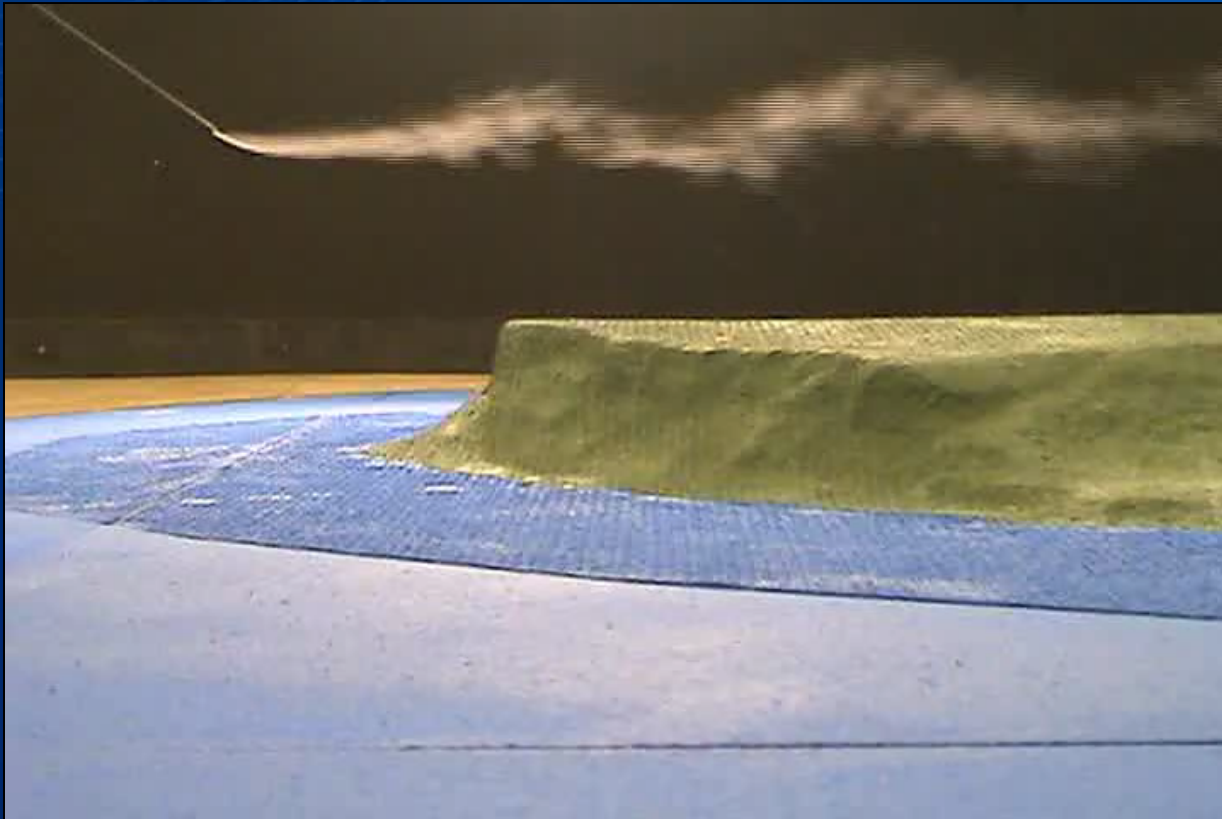
Conducting a Wind Tunnel Study

Measure wind speeds using a 5-holed probe mounted on a 3-D traverse



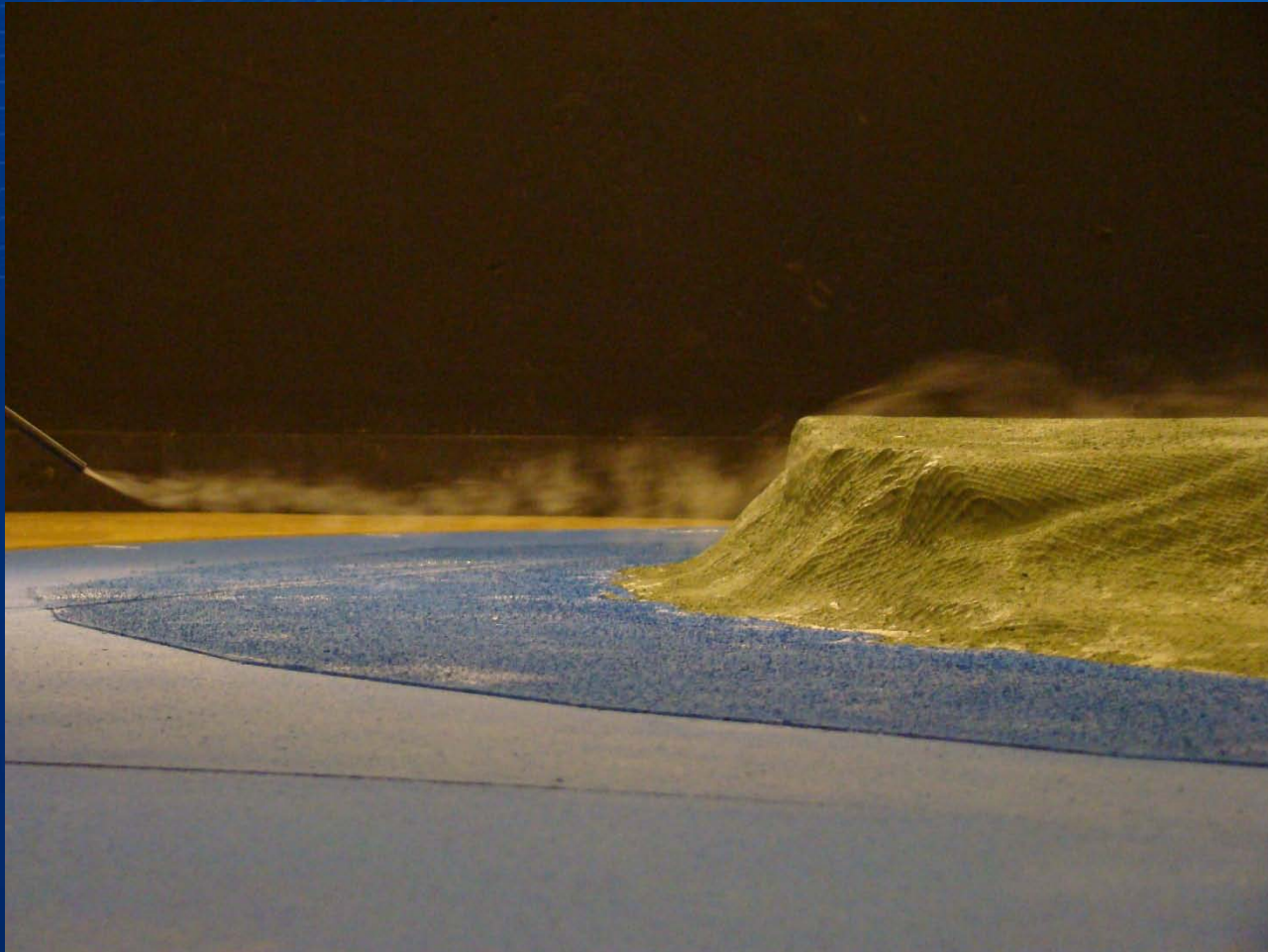
Flow Visualization

270 Degree Wind Direction



Results

239 Degree Wind Direction



Flow Visualization

270 Degree Wind Direction



Flow Visualization

239 Degree Wind Direction





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