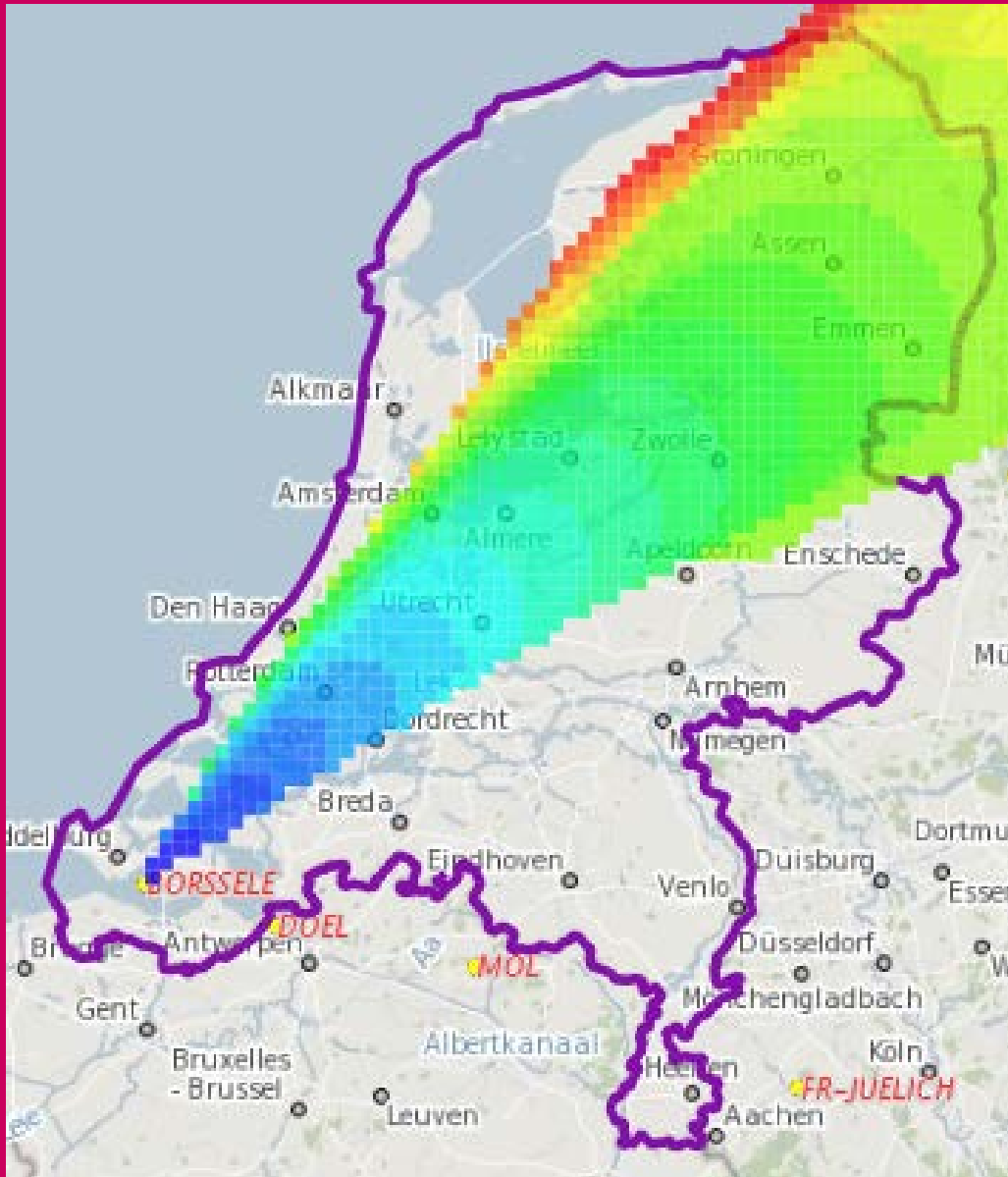




National Institute for Public Health  
and the Environment  
*Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport*



## A probabilistic approach for determining potentially affected areas for accidental releases

Astrid Kloosterman, Chris Twenhöfel, Teun van Dillen, Jasper Tomas

National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), The Netherlands  
Department Radiological Incidents, Monitoring, and Analyses



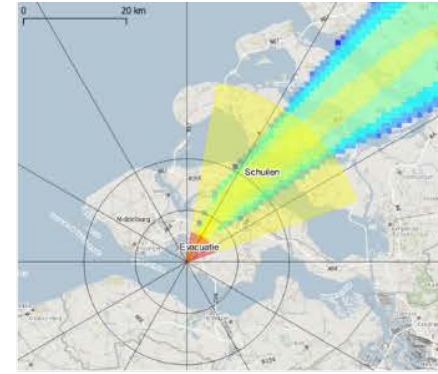
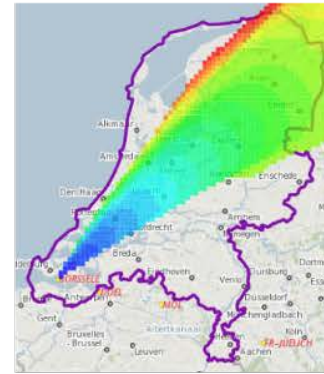
# Nuclear accident

- › Release of radioactive material into the air
  - Dispersion
- › Radiation exposure → radiation dose → health effects
- › Protective measures to avoid or reduce health effects
  - Evacuation, sheltering, iodine thyroid blocking
  - Dose criteria
  - Preparations in planning areas
- Estimation of the potential dose





# Model chain - emergency



scenario incident

source term

air dispersion modelling

doses

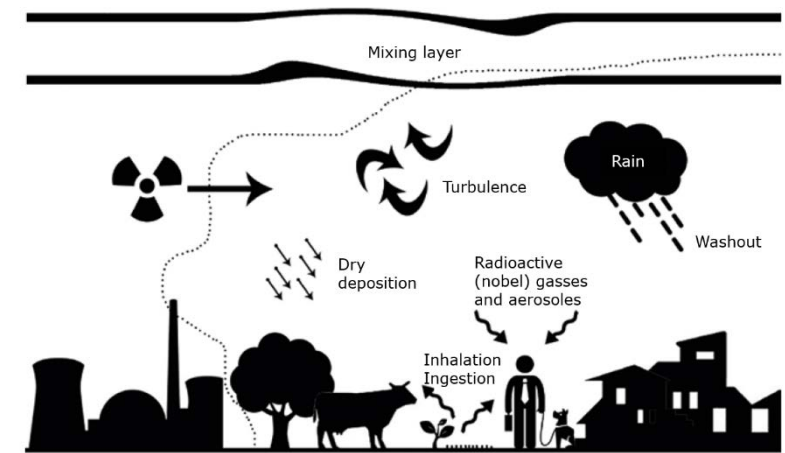
measures

weather model  
meteorological data

sheltering  
evacuation  
iodine thyroid blocking



# Dose calculation



air concentration

deposition

dose



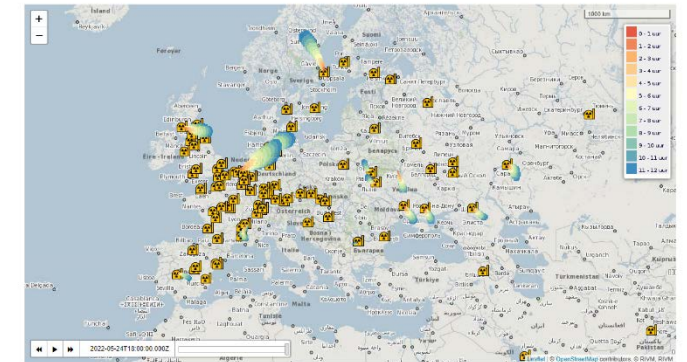
- Dose contributions:
- passing radioactive cloud (external radiation, inhalation)
  - deposition (external radiation)

Other pathways are not considered – small contributions



# Preparation

- › Planning areas based on wide range of meteorological conditions
  - Probabilistic modelling:
    - multiple releases of radioactive material
    - varying meteorological conditions
    - covering seasonal and day-to-night variations
- › Geometrical characteristics of affected areas
- › Effect release duration (4 & 96 hours) and height (25 & 60m)





# Probabilistic model chain

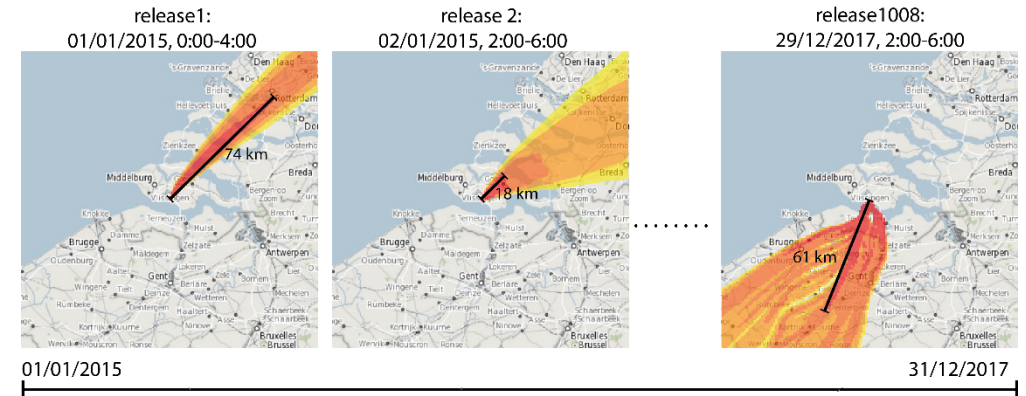
every 26 hours, 3 years (2015-2017)  
~ 1000 NPK-PUFF model runs (Gaussian puff)  
nested grid (1x1, 2x2, 4x4 km; 150, 300, 600km)

large core meltdown (duration), smaller (height)

NWP HARMONIE

(2.5x2.5 km; 10, 50, 100, 200, 300m)

distances and areas



# Results

## release duration

**Table 1.** Percentiles of maximum distance and surface area for exceeding dose criteria in scenario 1a.

Measure	Percentiles (km) distance					Percentiles (km <sup>2</sup> ) surface area				
	50%	75%	80%	90%	95%	50%	75%	80 %	90%	95%
Evacuation (adults) <i>100 mSv effective dose</i>	4	6	8	11	14	3	5	7	12	18
4 hours Sheltering (adults) <i>10 mSv effective dose</i>	16	24	30	42	55	29	56	89	207	592
Iodine tablets (1-year-old) <i>50 mSv thyroid dose</i>	38	57	71	95	119	161	310	456	707	1007

**Table 2.** Percentiles of maximum distance and surface area for exceeding dose criteria in scenario 1b.

Measure	Percentiles (km) distance					Percentiles (km <sup>2</sup> ) surface area				
	50%	75%	80%	90%	95%	50%	75%	80 %	90%	95%
Evacuation (adults) <i>100 mSv effective dose</i>	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	4	5
96 hours Sheltering (adults) <i>10 mSv effective dose</i>	11	14	16	18	21	43	56	65	80	97
Iodine tablets (1-year-old) <i>50 mSv thyroid dose</i>	30	37	41	47	55	282	380	449	551	693

### › Shorter release:

- larger maximum distances and areas (green)
  - Spread due to varying meteorological conditions
- relatively larger difference between 50 and 95 percentile (pink)
  - More variation in size and distance for planning



# Results

## release height

**Table 3.** Percentiles of maximum distance and surface area for exceeding dose criteria in scenario 2a.

Measure <i>Dose criterion</i>	Percentiles (km) distance					Percentiles (km <sup>2</sup> ) surface area				
	50%	75%	80%	90%	95%	50%	75%	80 %	90%	95%
Evacuation (adults) <i>100 mSv effective dose</i>	-	-	1	2	3	-	-	1	1	1
Sheltering (adults) <i>10 mSv effective dose</i>	6	8	10	13	17	5	9	13	19	29
Iodine tablets (1-year-old) <i>50 mSv thyroid dose</i>	11	16	19	26	33	15	28	44	74	103

**Table 4.** Percentiles of maximum distance and surface area for exceeding dose criteria in scenario 2b.

Measure <i>Dose criterion</i>	Percentiles (km) distance					Percentiles (km <sup>2</sup> ) surface area				
	50%	75%	80%	90%	95%	50%	75%	80 %	90%	95%
Evacuation (adults) <i>100 mSv effective dose</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheltering (adults) <i>10 mSv effective dose</i>	5	7	9	12	15	4	5	7	12	16
Iodine tablets (1-year-old) <i>50 mSv thyroid dose</i>	11	16	19	26	33	14	24	37	67	91

- > Higher release has slightly lower maximum distances and lower areas
  - Less pronounced for thyroid doses





# Conclusion

- › Methodology for identifying characteristics of planning zones for nuclear accidents
- › Results for two specific scenarios
- › Insight into indicators for deriving planning zones
- › Methodology can be applied to wide range of cases where current meteorological conditions are for example unknown or rapidly changing



Thank you for your attention

[astrid.kloosterman@rivm.nl](mailto:astrid.kloosterman@rivm.nl)