



# COMPARING DISPERSION MODELLING AND FIELD INSPECTION FOR ODOUR IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN THE VICINITY OF TWO ANIMAL HUSBANDRY FARMS



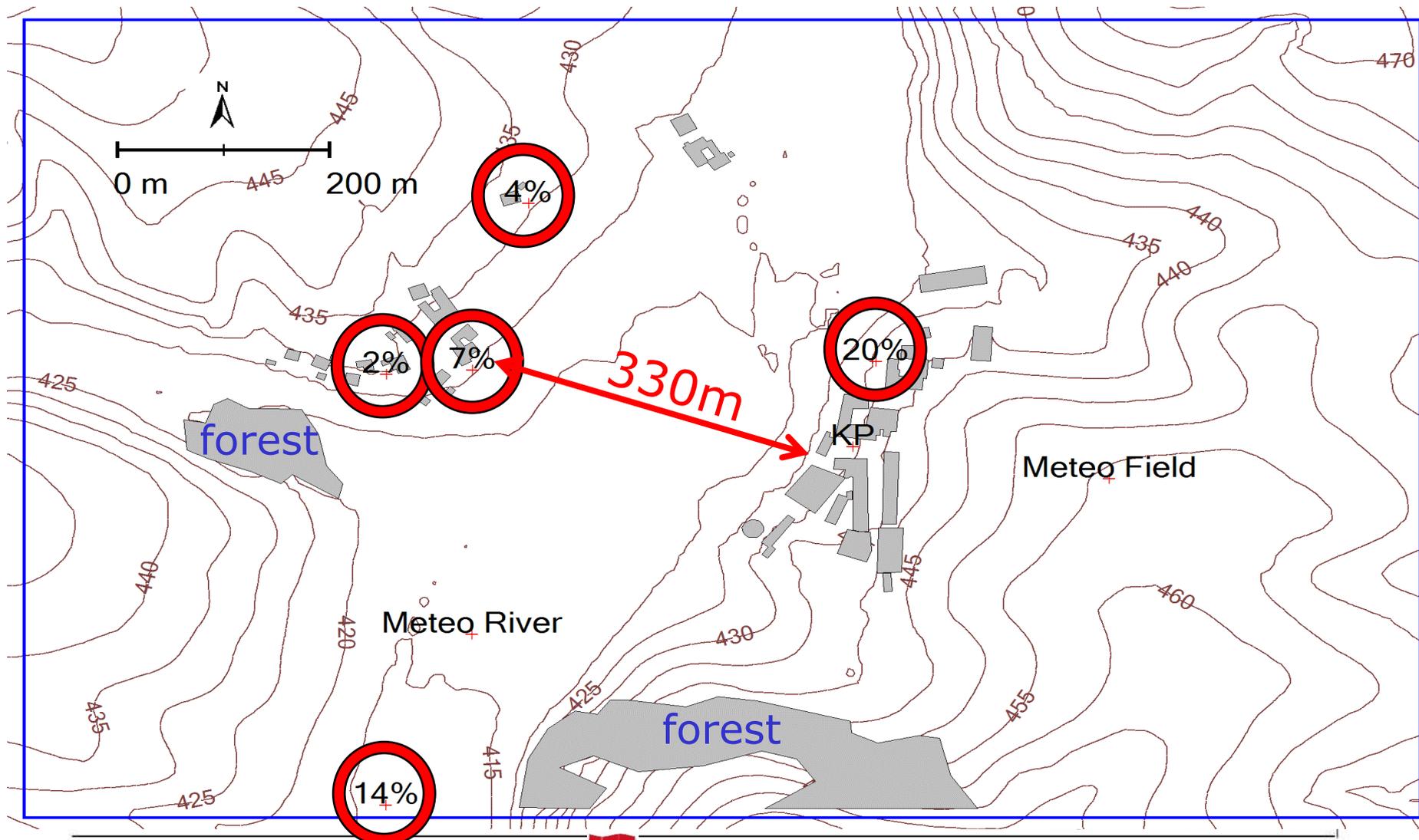
Dietmar Oettl, Air Quality Control, Government of Styria, Austria  
Stefan Oitzl, Environmental Protection, Government of Upper Austria



Das Land  
Steiermark



# Data set A



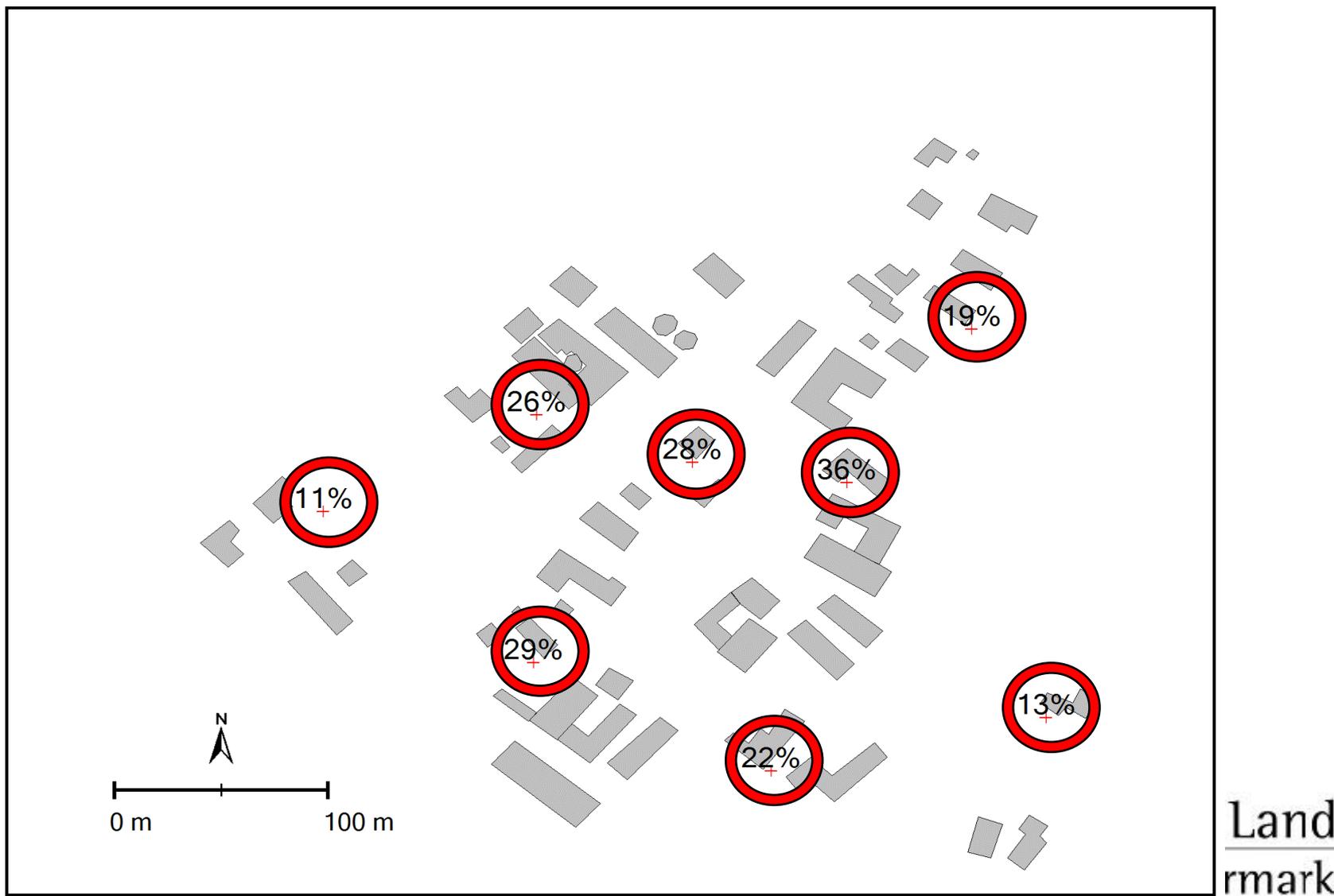
# Data set A



- 1.600 fattening pigs
    - Multi-phase feeding -> 20% reduction of emission factor according to VDI 3894-1
    - Ventilation by multiple chimneys
  - 17.000 broilers
    - Ventilation via horizontal openings
  - Open manure tank
  - Open maize silage
- Total emission rate: 55 MOU/h



# Data set B



# Data set B



- 2.000 fattening pigs
- 600 piglets
- 150 breeding sows
  - Ventilation either via chimneys or open windows
  - Emission factors were reduced by 50 % in case of open windows due to low ventilation rates
- Several solid manure storages
- Total emission rate: 55 MOU/h

# Lower emission factor in case of ventilation via open windows



Dependency of emission factors on the normalized ventilation rate according to KTBL (2012):

$$e = e_0 V_n^{c_v}$$

$c_v = 0.32$  (Schauberger et al., 2012)



When assuming  $V_n$  to be about 90 % lower in case of non-forced ventilation via open windows compared to forced ventilation via chimneys, emission rates are lower by about 50 % compared to the standard values listed in VDI 3894-1.

# Field inspections: methodology

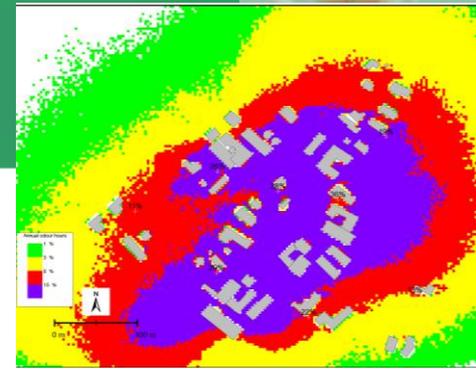


- Carried out by the Environmental Advocacy of Upper Austria
- Role-model: VDI 3940-1 (**CEN/TC264/WG27**)
  - Odour frequencies were evaluated solely at specific receptor points
  - Only **two** panellists instead of **ten** performed the inspections in both case studies
- Average olfactory sensibilities for *n*-butanol of the two panellists were for
  - data set A: **84  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**
  - data set B: **189  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**

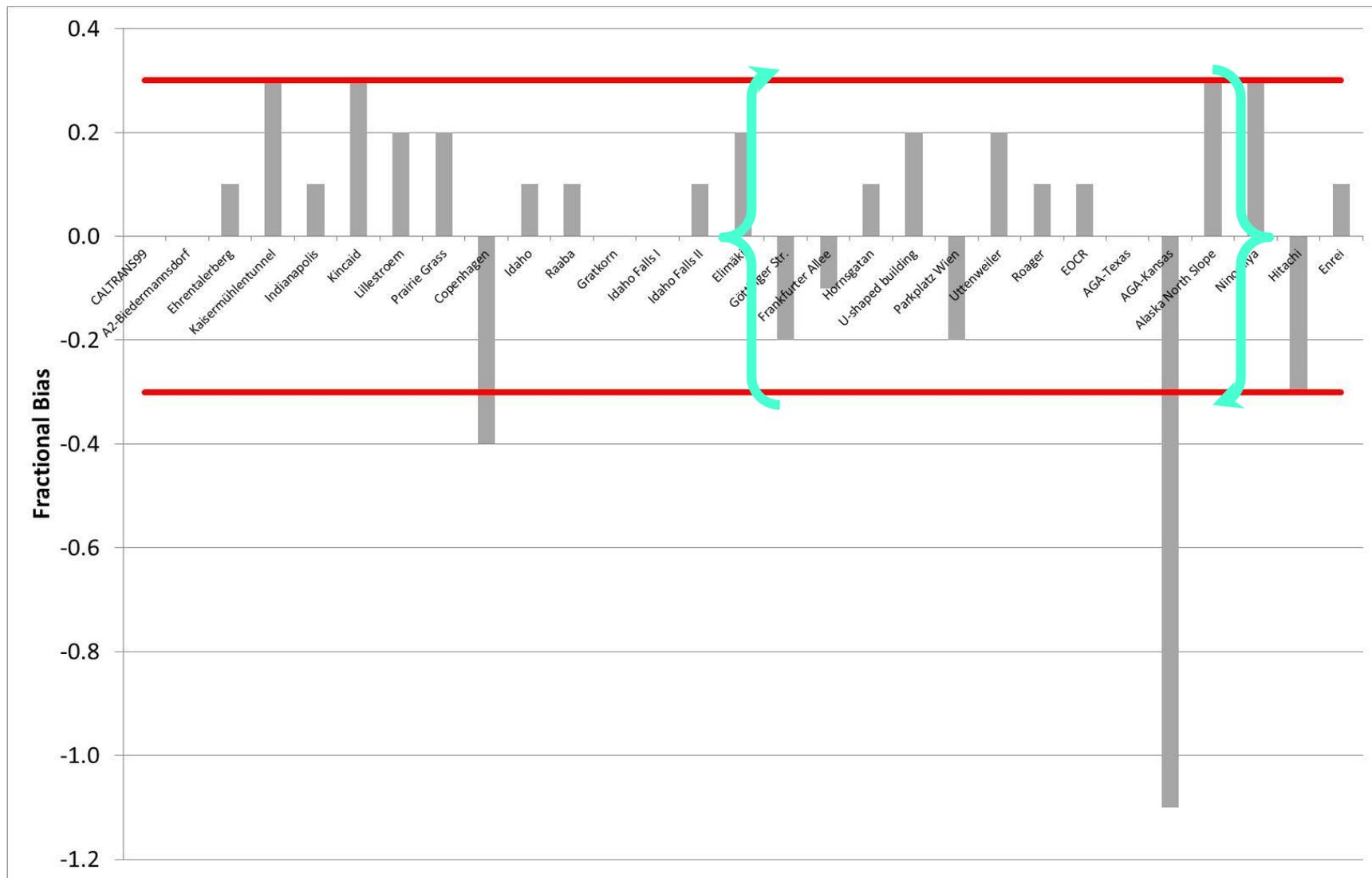


# Modelling: methodology

- Lagrangian particle model GRAL 15.7  
Accounts for plume rise due to buoyancy and exit velocity
- Effects of orography in data set A:  
Mesoscale, prognostic, non-hydrostatic model GRAMM  
100m x 100m x 10m
- Influence of obstacles:  
Microscale, prognostic, non-hydrostatic flow field model  
implemented in GRAL 3m x 3m x 1.5m
- Odour hour:  $\geq 6$  minutes odour perception  
90 Percentile / 1h mean = 4 : 1



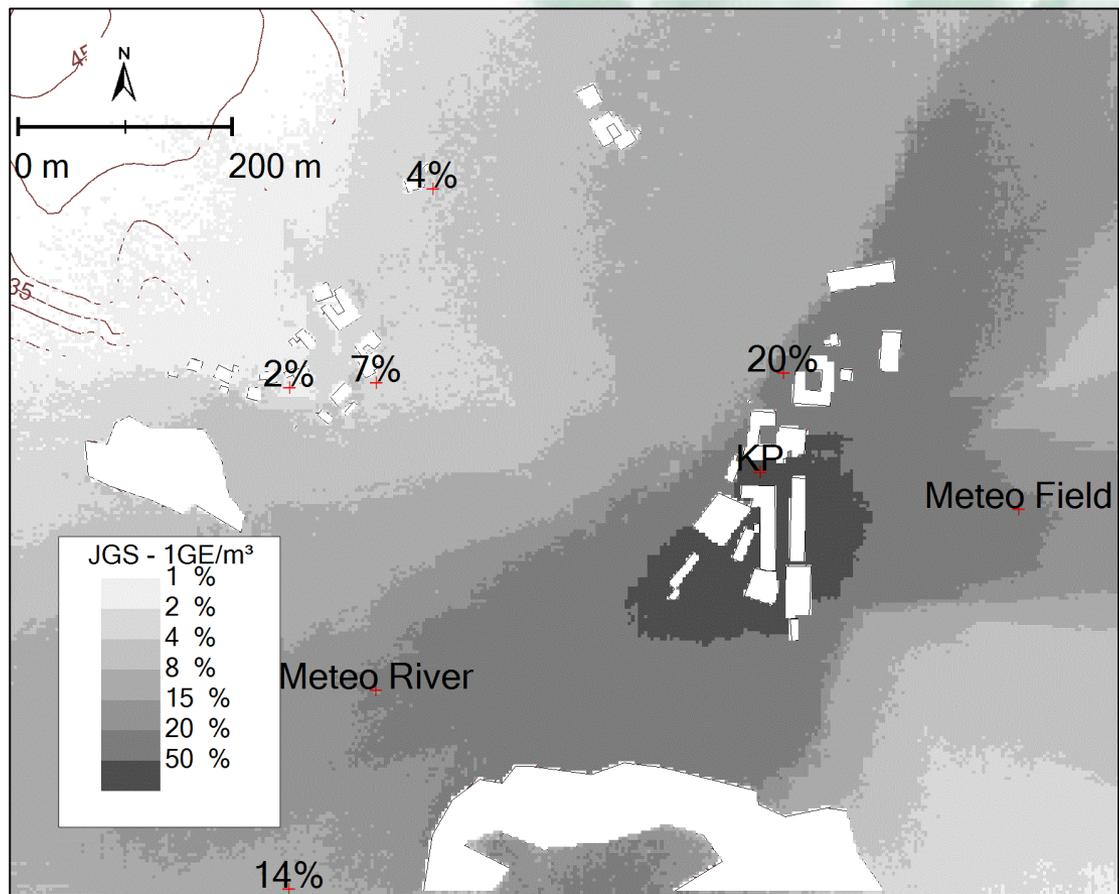
# Modelling: quality assurance



# Results: data set A – 1 OU/m<sup>3</sup>



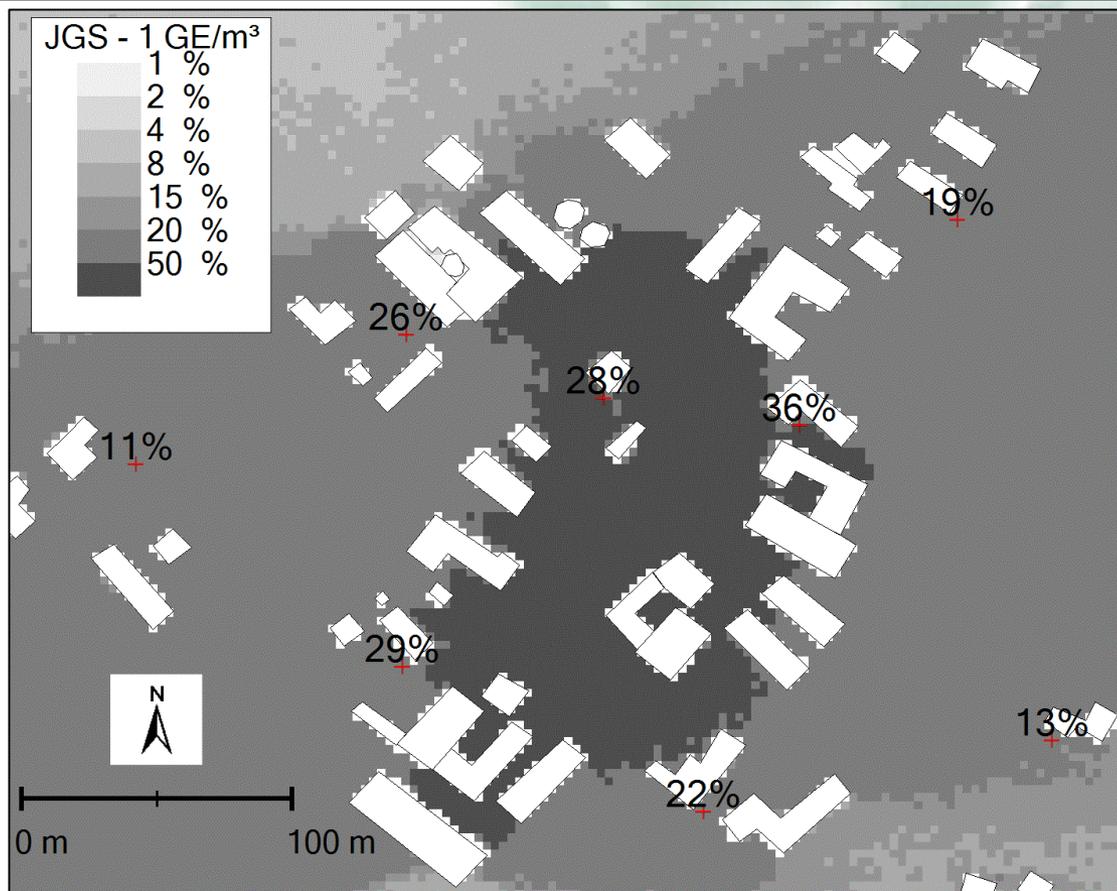
Receptor	1	2	3	4	5
Field inspection	14%	2%	7%	4%	20%
Model	13%	2%	5%	4%	25%



# Results: data set B – 1 OU/m<sup>3</sup>



Receptor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Field inspection	13%	22%	29%	11%	26%	28%	36%	19%
Model	23%	30%	38%	30%	32%	58%	60%	37%



# The problem of odour adaption



What exactly is the threshold for odour perception?

- Literature says: 2 - 5 OU/m<sup>3</sup>
- According to VDI 3940-1 panellists need to sniff at each location exactly 10 minutes
- Simulations according to the German GIRL standard is based on an odour threshold of 1 OU/m<sup>3</sup>
- Is this the reason for model overestimations as discussed in previous studies? (e.g. Mueller und Riesewick 2013; Grotz and Zimmermann 2015; Hartmann and Borchering 2015)

# Assumption: odour threshold 2 OU/m<sup>3</sup>



- Remember: Different olfactory sensibilities
  - data set A: 84 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - data set B: 189 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Allowed range: 64 – 256 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (mean: 160 µg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- If 10 panellists had participated, the average olfactory sensibility would have been 160 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Correction factors:
  - data set A: 84/160 = 0.53
  - data set B: 189/160 = 1.18
- “Effective odour threshold”:
  - data set A: 0.53 \* 2 OU/m<sup>3</sup> = 1.05 OU/m<sup>3</sup>
  - data set B: 1.18 \* 2 OU/m<sup>3</sup> = 2.36 OU/m<sup>3</sup>



# Results: odour threshold – 2 OU/m<sup>3</sup>



## Data set A:

Receptor	1	2	3	4	5
Field inspection	14%	2%	7%	4%	20%
Model	13%	2%	5%	4%	25%

## Data set B:

Receptor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Field inspection	13%	22%	29%	11%	26%	28%	36%	19%
Model	11%	19%	27%	17%	22%	23%	23%	23%



# Conclusions



- The current criterion of the allowed range for the olfactory sensibility ( $64 - 256 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for *n*-butanol) seems to be too high.
- It might be better to define a smaller range applicable to the average olfactory sensibility of all participating panellists in field inspections.
- Increasing the odour threshold in dispersion models might improve the comparability between simulations and field inspections according to VDI 3940-1 (**CEN/TC264/WG27**)

