


# Influence of geometrical levels of detail and inaccurate material optical properties on daylight simulation results

Nima Forouzandeh , Eleonora Brembilla,  
Liangliang Nan, Jantien Stoter, Alstan Jakubiec

A large, faceted blue sculpture, resembling a globe or a large gemstone, is the central focus. It is made of many triangular and quadrilateral facets, each reflecting the surrounding environment. The sculpture is set on a brick-paved town square. A woman with curly hair, wearing a dark blue top and a patterned skirt, stands to the right of the sculpture, smiling. In the background, there are European-style buildings, trees, and other people walking around. The sky is clear and blue.

*Greetings  
from  
Delft*

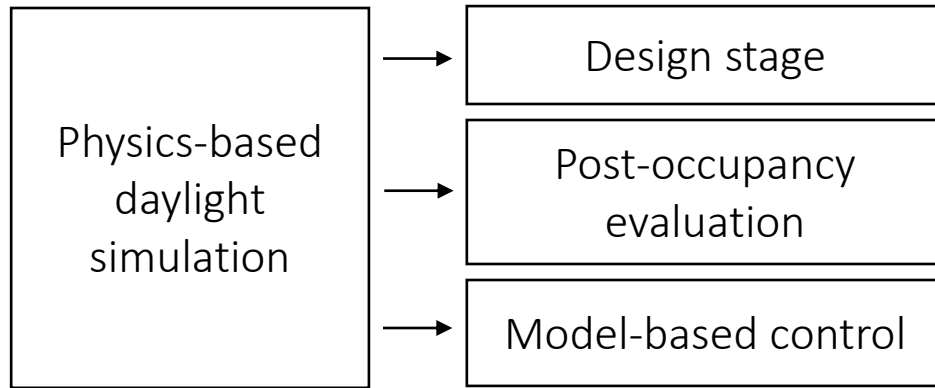
**"The only town  
with a statue to  
BSDFs"**

**– John**

# overview

- Introduction
- Research questions
- Definition of geometrical levels of detail (GLOD) and material classes of accuracy (MCOA)
- Influence of varying GLODs, MCOA on annual daylight results

# Introduction



- Uncertainties caused by inaccurate definition of material and geometry

# Introduction - Related works

- **Brembilla et al.** > sensitivity of CBDM results to the reflectance of different semantics, e.g., walls, floors.
- **Sadeghi and Mistrick** > model the exterior geometry in six different levels of detail by the inclusion of different semantics based on size at each LOD
- **Biljecki** > propagation of positional errors in the estimation of the solar irradiation of building roofs based on TU Delft's LODs jointly with varying XY/Z accuracy levels
- Definitions of indoor geometrical LODs are suited for:
  1. Natural disaster management
  2. Area determination
  3. Route visualization

# Introduction - Questions

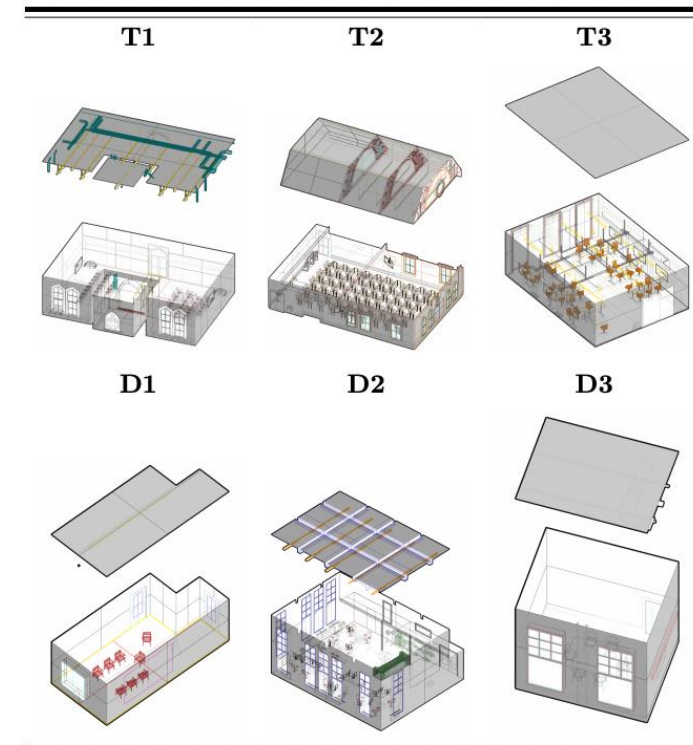
- How to standardize the geometry and material inputs for CBDM?
- Impact of incomplete geometry on CBDM results?
- Impact of inaccurate material definition on CBDM results?

# Methodology - Case study spaces

Case study spaces - general information

Space ID	Location	Space type	Dimensions [m*m*m]	WFR [%]
T1	Toronto, CA	Classroom	14.5 * 9.7 * 3	9.6
T2	Toronto, CA	Classroom	16.6 * 10.6 * 3.5-6.7	9.1
T3	Toronto, CA	Classroom	11.7 * 8.3 * 4.0	14.1
D1	Delft, NL	Meeting room	5.8 * 4.4 * 5.8	9.1
D2	Delft, NL	Open office	12 * 9.8 * 5.8	29.4
D3	Delft, NL	Meeting room	7.2 * 3.4 * 2.6	40.9

Case study spaces – 3D representation



# Methodology - Geometrical Level of Detail (GLOD)



GLOD0



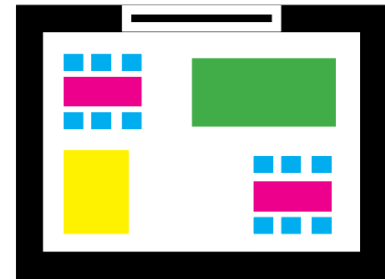
GLOD1



GLOD2



GLOD3

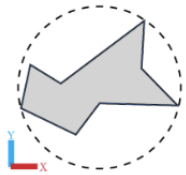


GLOD4

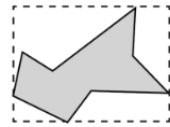


# Methodology - Geometrical Level of Detail (GLOD)

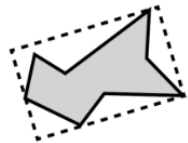
What measure for size?



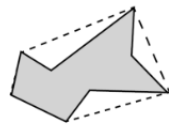
Surrounding Sphere



Axis-aligned bounding box



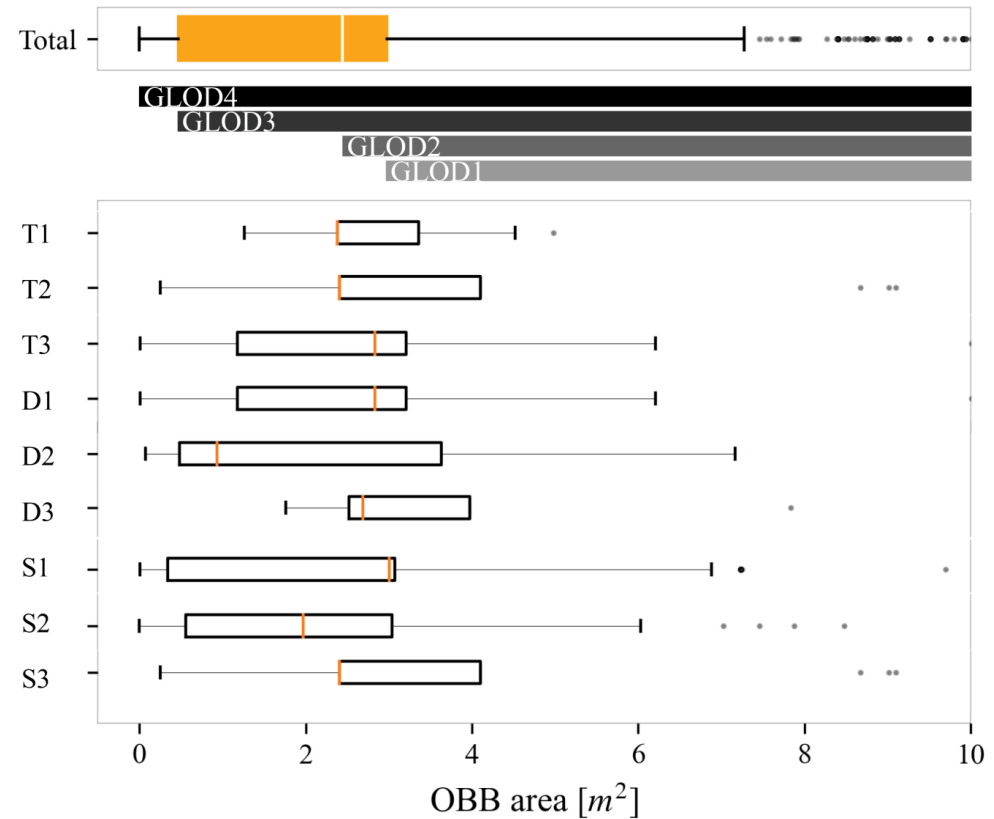
Oriented Bounding Box(OBB)



Convex hull

*Bounding geometries*

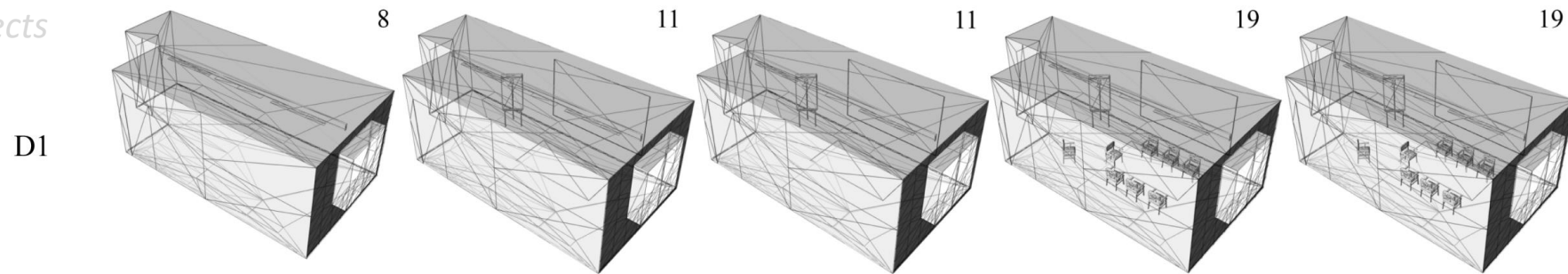
What thresholds to pick?



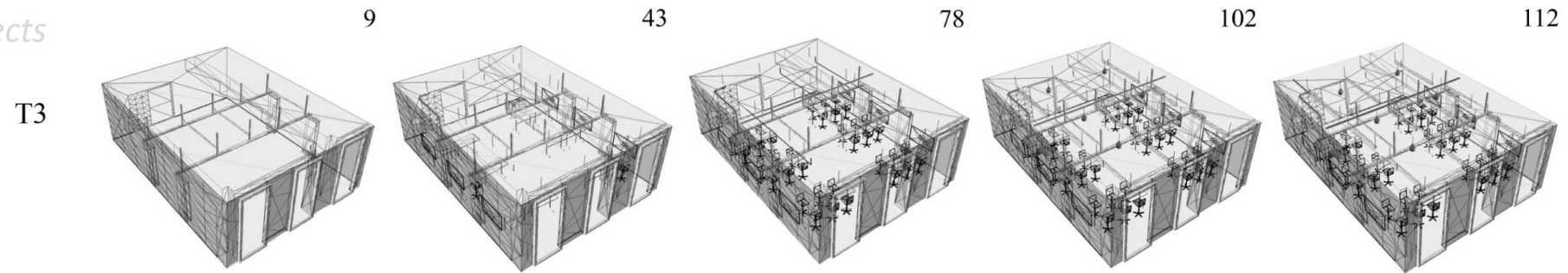
*Summary of object sizes in the case study spaces*

# Methodology - Geometrical Level of Detail (GLOD)

Number of objects



Number of objects



**GLOD0**

**GLOD1**

**GLOD2**

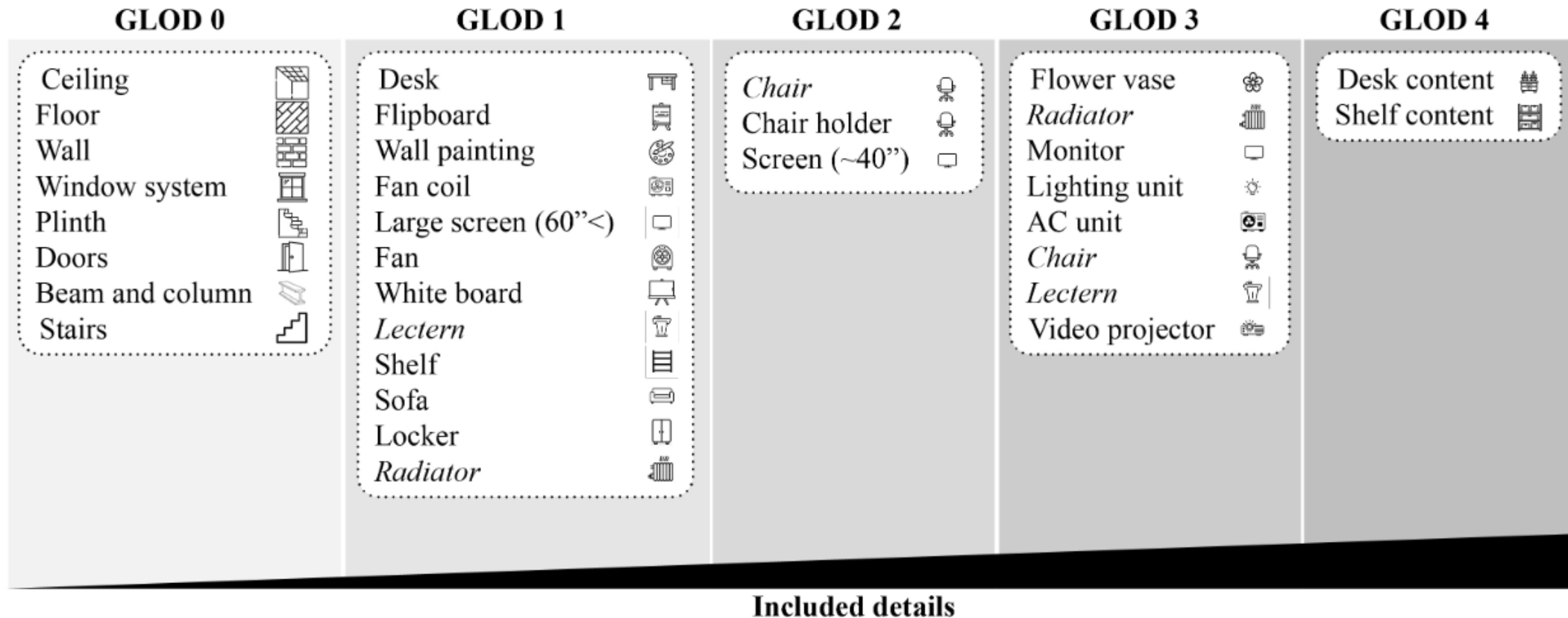
**GLOD3**

**GLOD4**

3D representation of spaces in multiple GLODs

Influence of geometrical levels of detail and inaccurate material optical properties on daylight simulation results

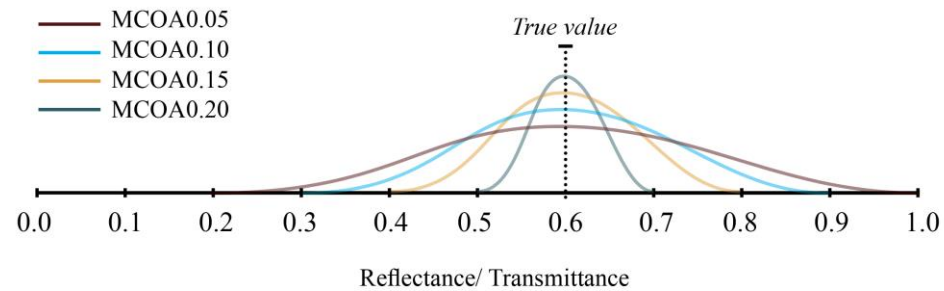
# Methodology - Geometrical Level of Detail (GLOD)



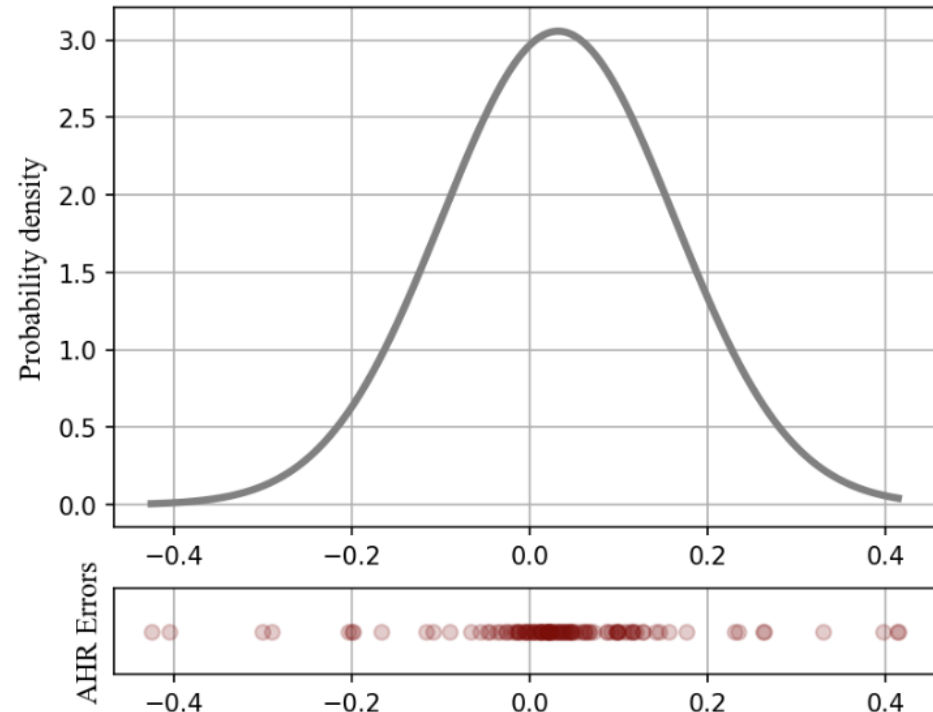
The GLOD where each semantic first appears in the models.

Influence of geometrical levels of detail and inaccurate material optical properties on daylight simulation results

# Methodology - Material classes of accuracy (MCOA)



An example of four MCOAs used in the Monte Carlo simulation. In this example the ground truth is 0.6



Bell curve fitted to AHR errors, when compared against measurement from a reflectance spectrophotometer

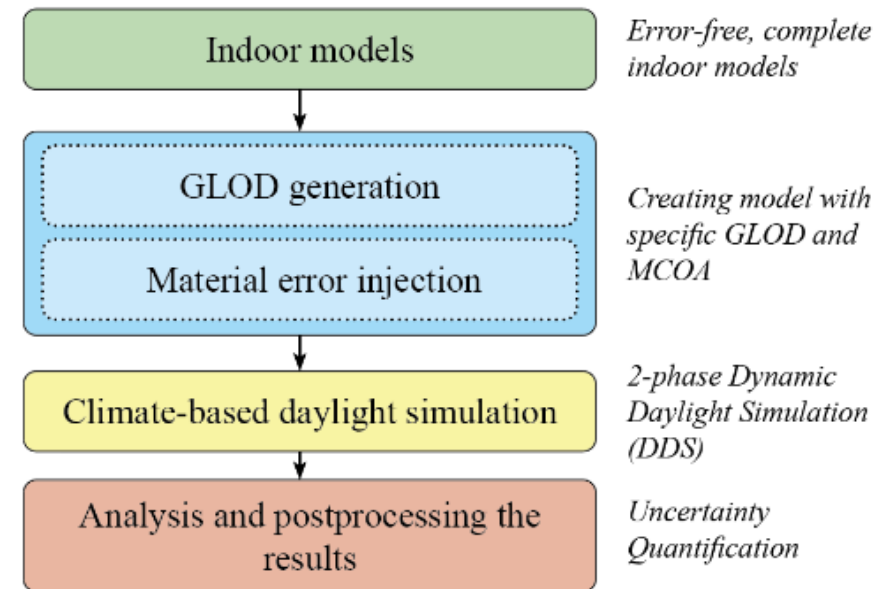
# Methodology - Monte Carlo simulation

- Dynamic daylight Simulation(DDS) method
- 500 simulations for each cell in the matrix with varying optical properties

*Higher material accuracy* →

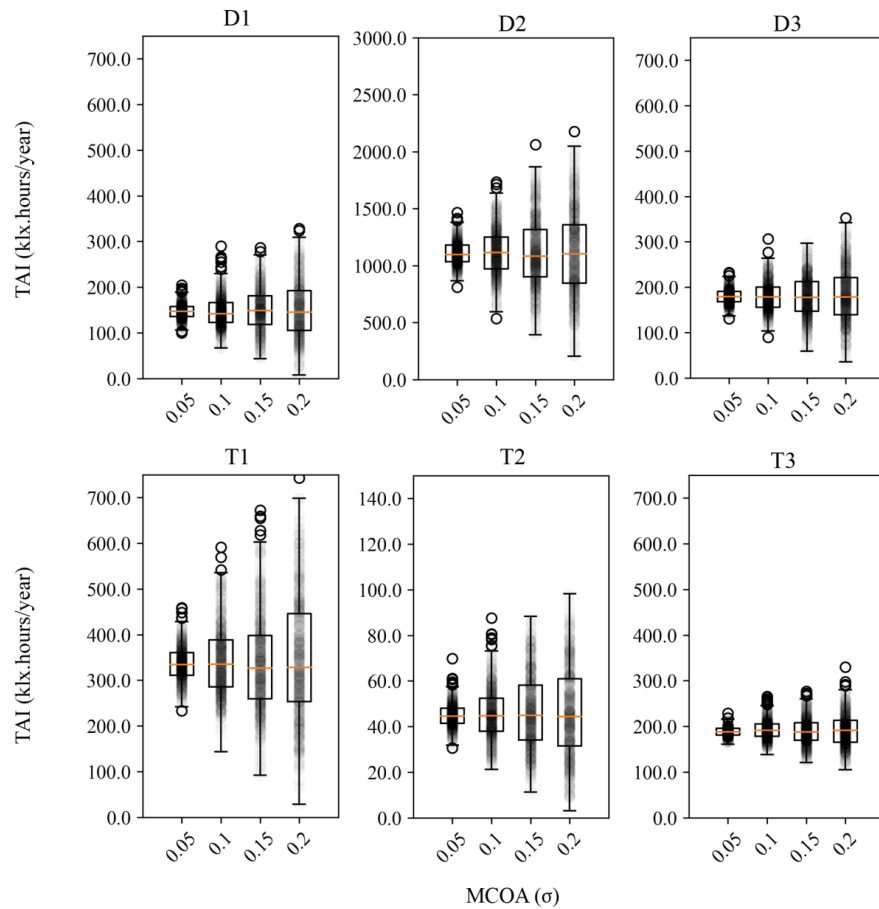
	MCOA0.20	MCOA0.15	MCOA0.10	MCOA0.05
<i>Higher geometrical accuracy</i> ↓				
<b>GLOD0</b>				
<b>GLOD1</b>				
<b>GLOD2</b>				
<b>GLOD3</b>				
<b>GLOD4</b>				

The GLOD-MCOA matrix

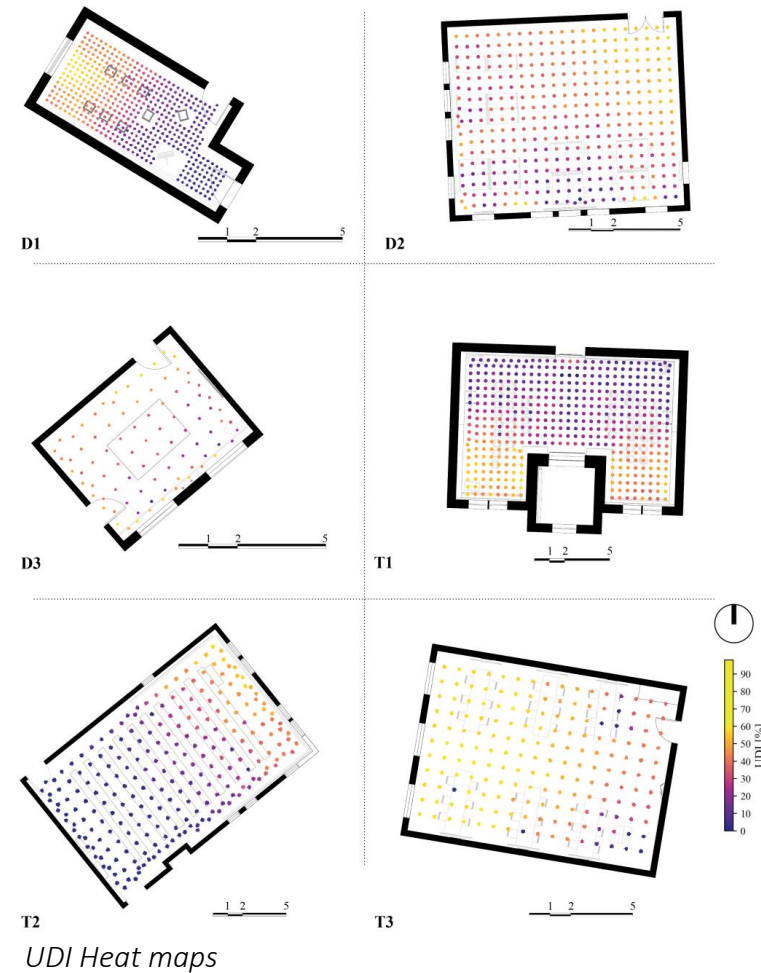


Workflow of the uncertainty quantification study

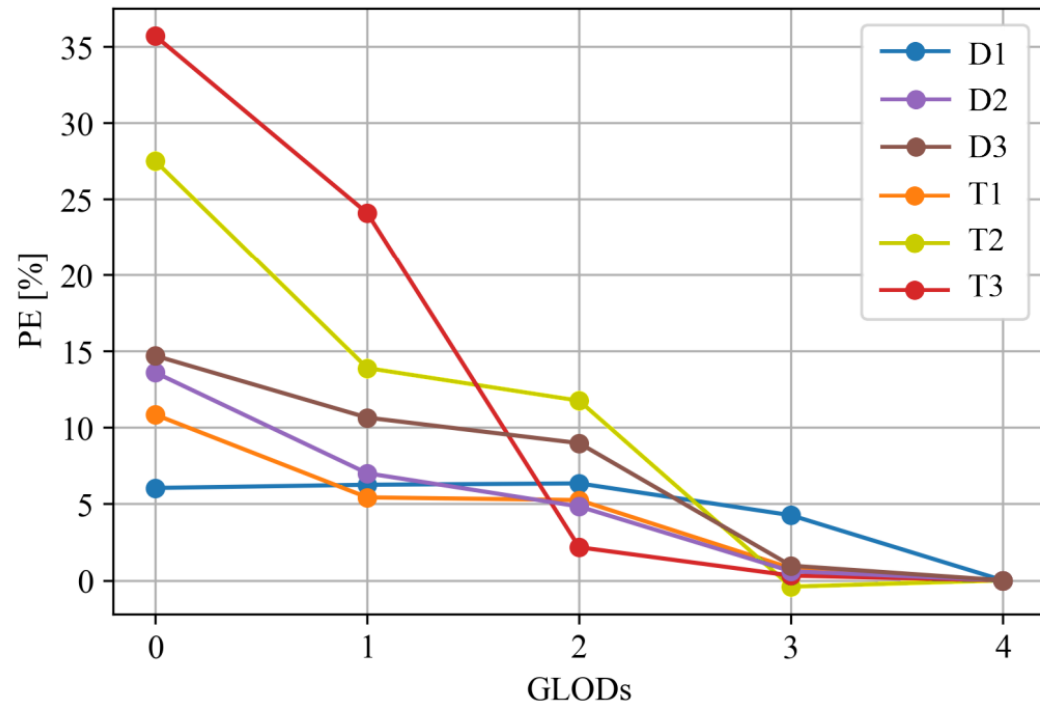
# Results - Daylight availability in the studied spaces



TAI results, all in GLOD 4. Boxplots show the interquartile values for one GLOD-MCOA combination.



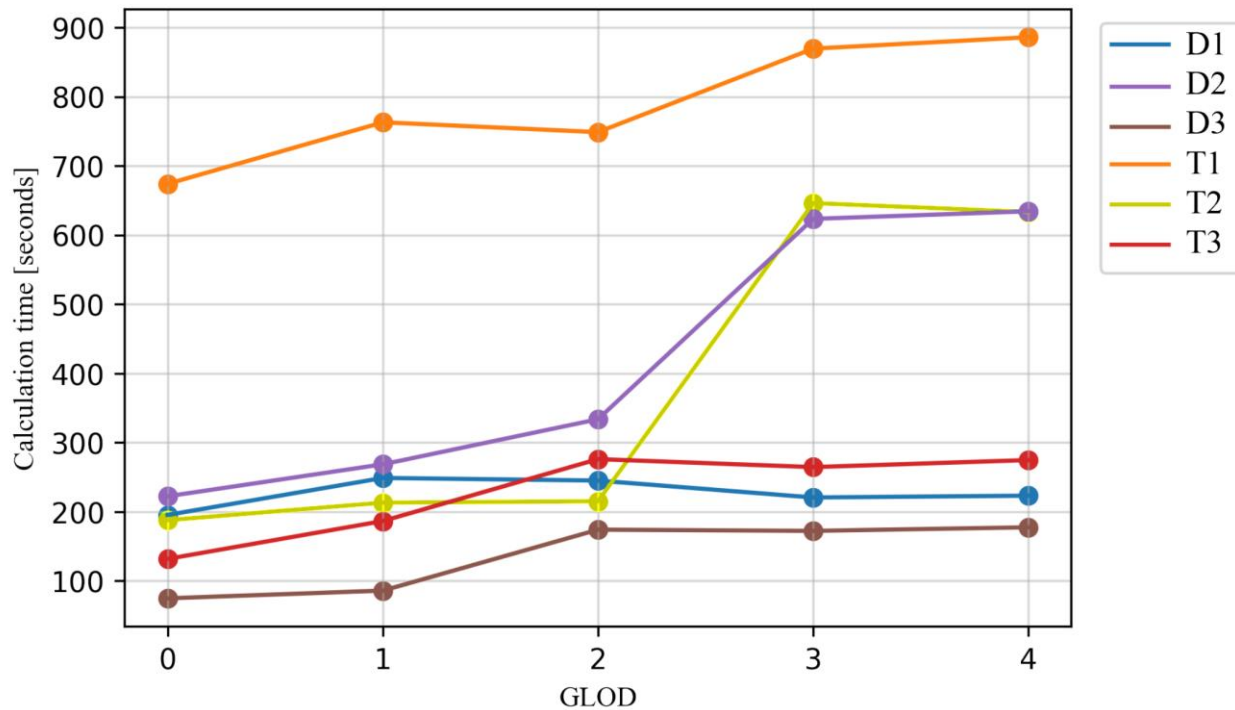
# Results - Influence of varying GLODs, accuracy



Influence of geometrical resolution on annual illuminance predictions

	GLOD0	GLOD1	GLOD2	GLOD3
<i>PE [%]</i>				
<b>min</b>	6.04	5.42	2.16	0
<b>max</b>	35.67	24.07	11.75	4.25
<b>mean</b>	18.05	11.21	6.55	1.08
<i>RMSE [lx]</i>				
<b>min</b>	57	894	50	44
<b>max</b>	949	51	876	841
<b>mean</b>	320	302	292	279

# Results - Influence of varying GLODs, simulation time

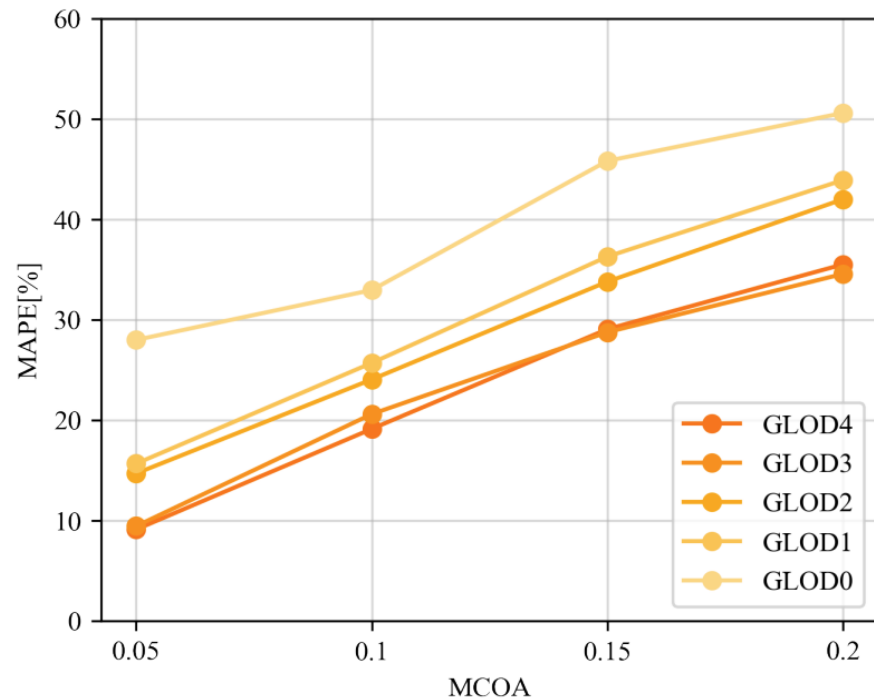


- The simulation time can decrease by 200%.
- Model complexity.

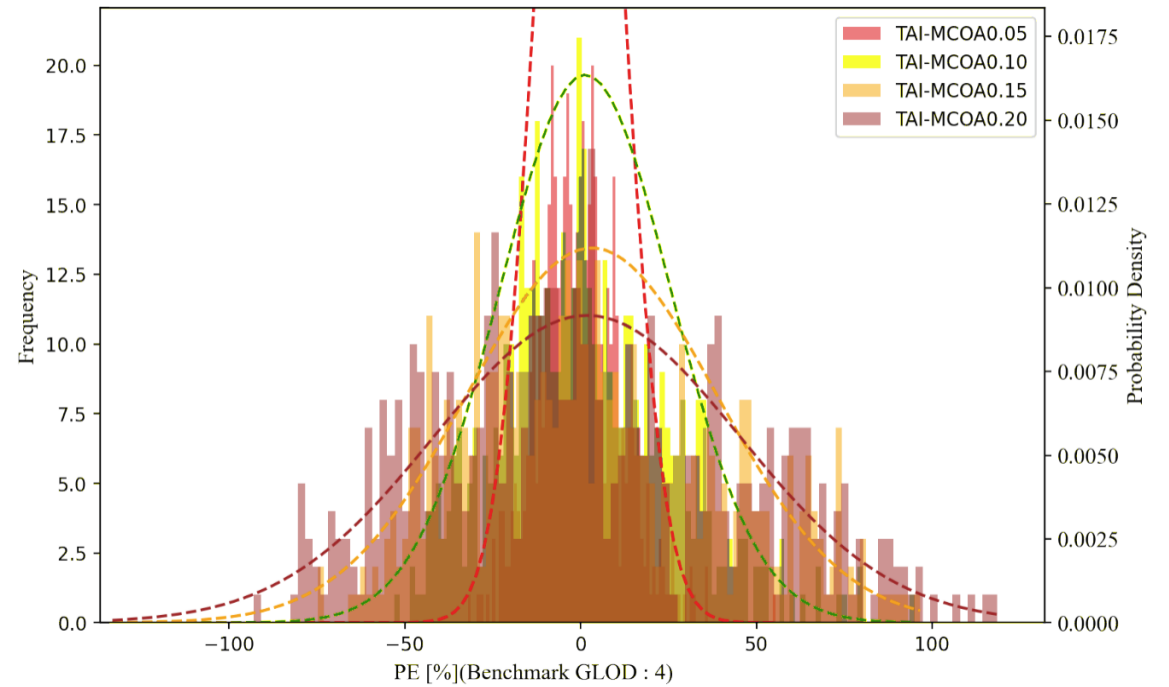
*Influence of geometrical resolution on simulation times*



# Results - Influence of varying MCOAs

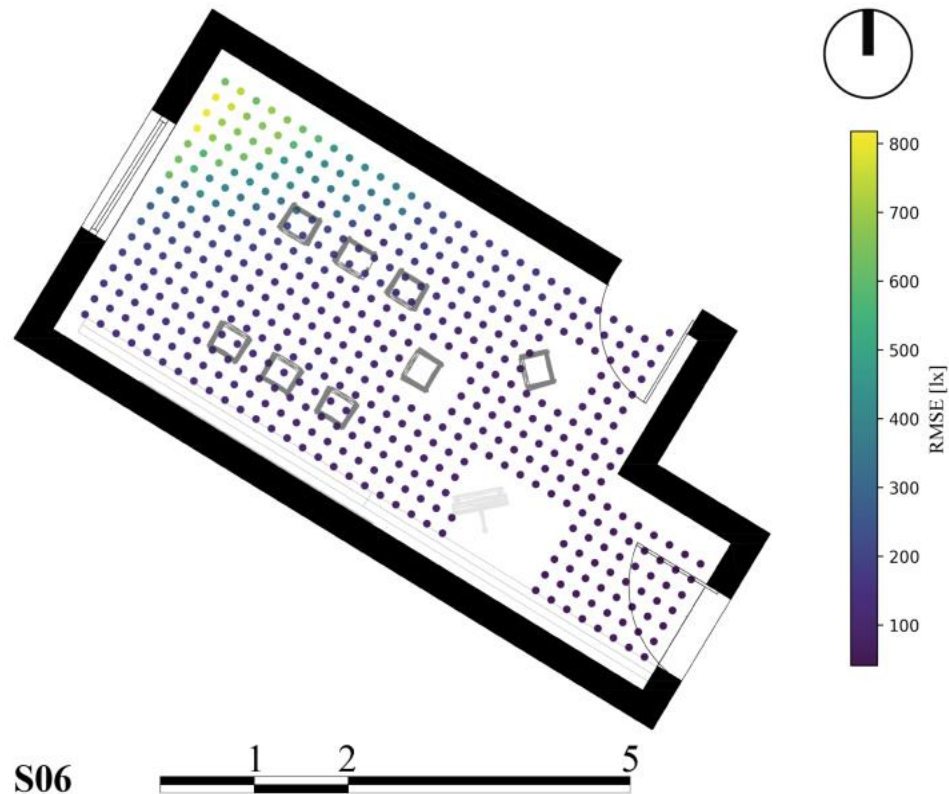


Influence of varying MCOA



Distribution of errors in the estimation of the TAI for space T2 with the four different MCOA and the fitted normal probability density functions for each one (T2)

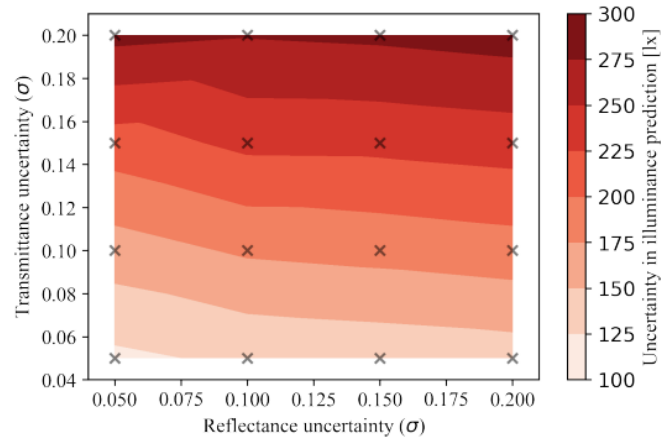
# Results - Influence of varying MCOAs – spatial distribution



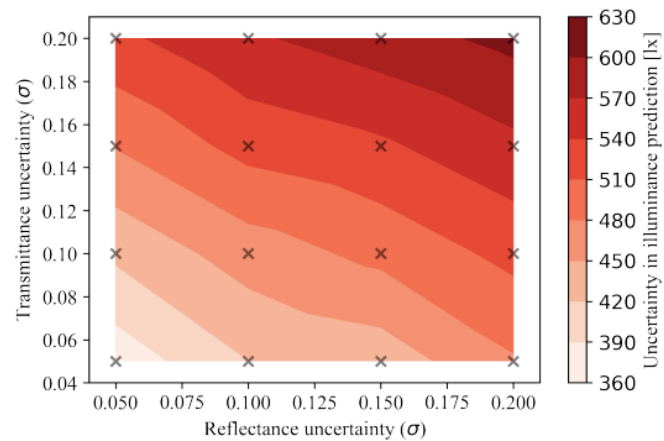
- The uncertainty is pronounced around the windows.
- What is the relative importance of transmittance and reflectance?

*Spatial distribution of prediction errors caused by inaccurate material definition (MCOA0.2-GL0D4-D1)*

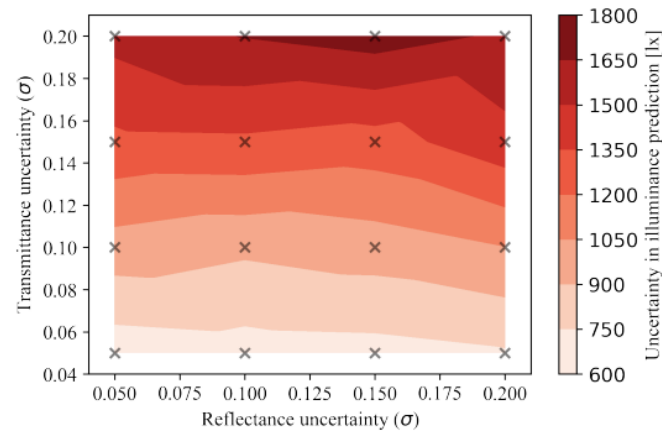
# Results - Influence of varying MCOAs – Error isolation



(a) S06 (WFR: 9.1%)



(b) S09 (WFR: 14.1%)



(c) S11 (WFR: 40.9%)

*Uncertainty in the calculation of annual grid-based illuminance values, gradient colors represents the interpolated uncertainty across the 2D domain of 0.05-0.20 reflectance-transmittance independent uncertainties*

# Discussion/limitations

- Focus on non-permanent objects.
- 2 ways for GLOD definition: inclusion/exclusion approach vs. Mesh simplification approach.
- We ignore the influence of proximity to windows and object orientation.
- MCOAs and generalizability to other measurement approaches/ maintenance factors.

# Conclusion

- Exclusion of non-permanent objects in GLOD3-GLOD0 causes on average 1.08, 6.55, 11.21, and 18.05 % errors in the output TAI values
- Excluding the non-permanent objects is shown to make the simulation run up to threefold faster
- The errors arising from inaccurate definitions of material optical properties exhibit a normal distribution.
- The uncertainty in measurements linearly increases with higher levels of input material uncertainty by 10-30% depending on the space.
- The uncertainty is more pronounced around the openings. This can be attributed to the fact that the overall uncertainty is primarily influenced by the uncertainty in the transmittance of materials.

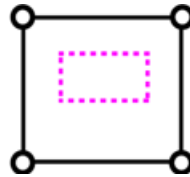
# Work in progress

- Semi-automatic reconstruction of indoor spaces from point clouds

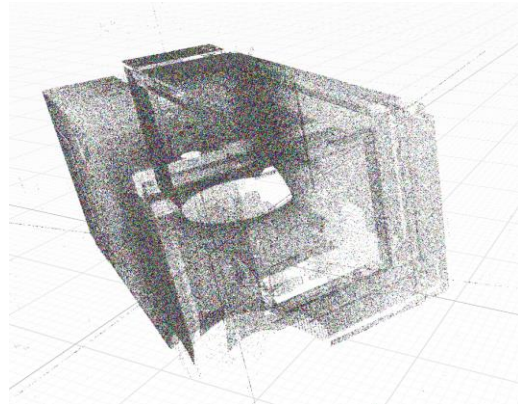
**Watertight**  
*(permanent structures)*



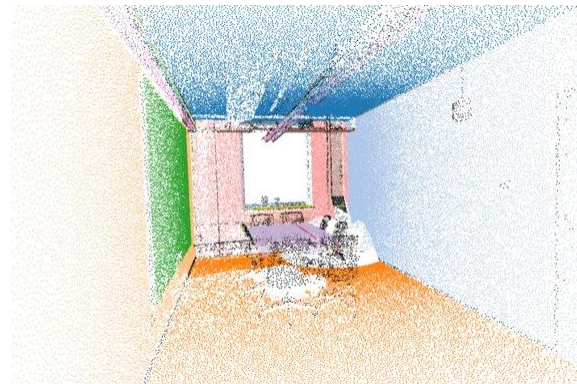
**Window boundaries**



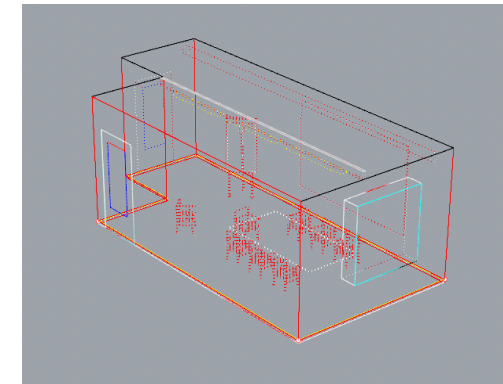
**Major furniture pieces**



Point cloud acquisition



Segmentation



Surface Reconstruction

**Thank you for your attention,  
Questions and comments are welcome!**

[n.forouzandeh@tudelft.nl](mailto:n.forouzandeh@tudelft.nl)

