

## A flawless 4D city modelling information chain

### Where do 4D data requirements and 4D data collection possibilities meet?

Jantien Stoter  
Professor 3D Geoinformation  
Delft University of Technology  
Researcher @ Kadaster NL  
Netherlands

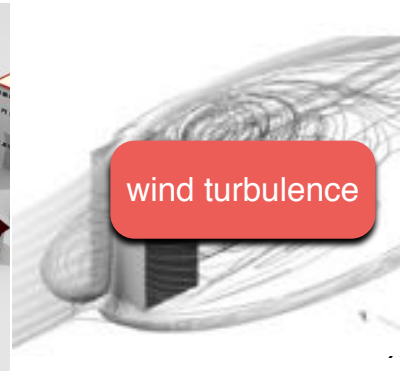
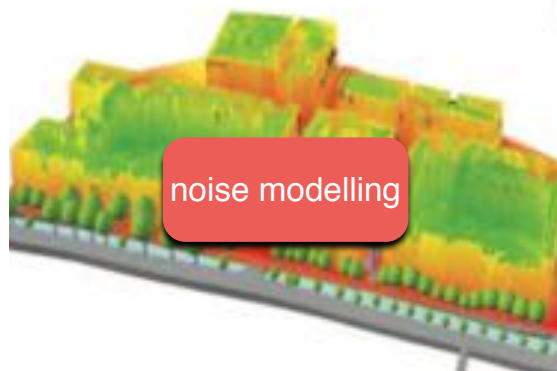
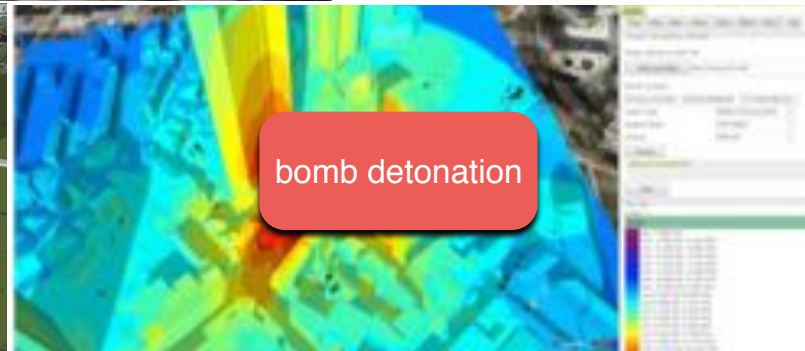
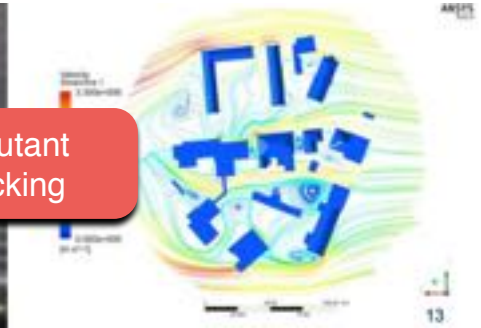
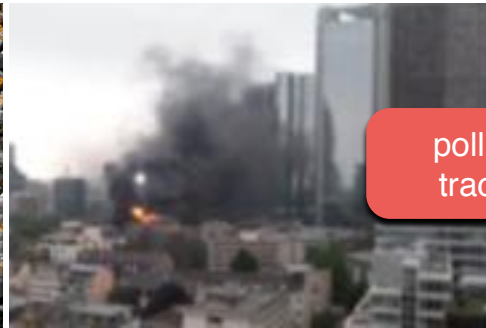


# Relatively easy to reconstruct 3D city models





# 3D is used in city planning & environmental simulations



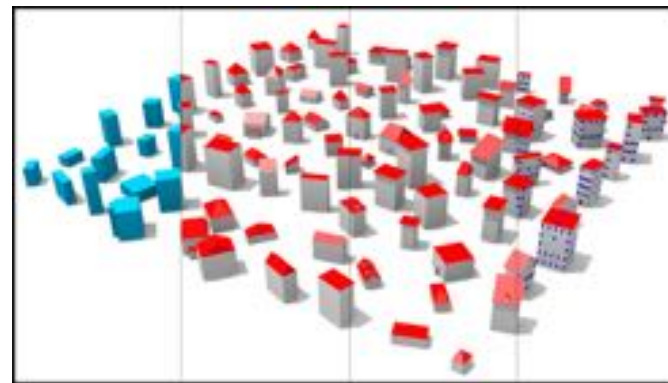
But 3D city models differ a lot, due to

differences in acquisition methods

- generated independently with different reconstruction methods, software and sensor data

differences in applications

- every application requires its own specific semantic and geometric LoD of the 3D data



*F.Biljecki*

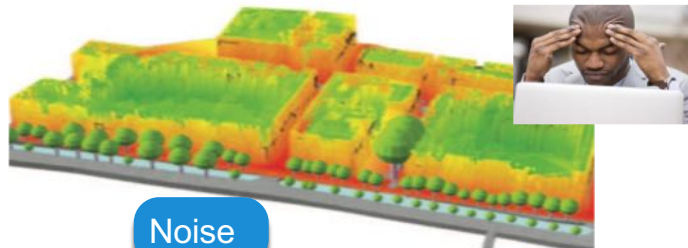
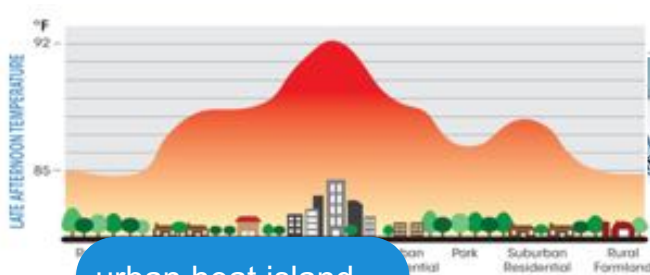
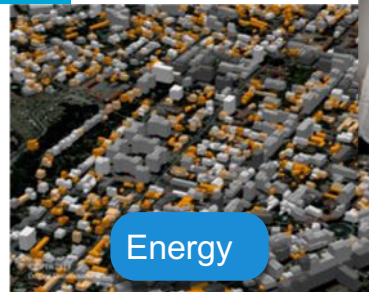
# Problems of differences in current 3D city models



- Non-consistent
- Once collected 3D data for an appl can hardly be reused
- 3D city models often require (interactive) processing to use the data



# Domain experts spend 70% of their time on 3D data processing



Where do I find useful data

# Where do 4D data requirements and 4D data collection possibilities meet

3D/4D acquisition

3D/4D applications

# Where do 4D data requirements and 4D data collection possibilities

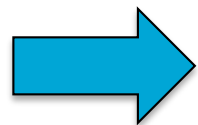
Content of my presentation:

- Current 4D modelling practices:
  - what do those imply for the data acquisition process?
- Quality requirements of 3D city models
- Data requirements of 3D/4D applications

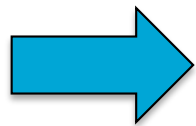


# 4D: 3D+time models

- Temporal requirements for acquisition:



- Detect and acquire changes in reality



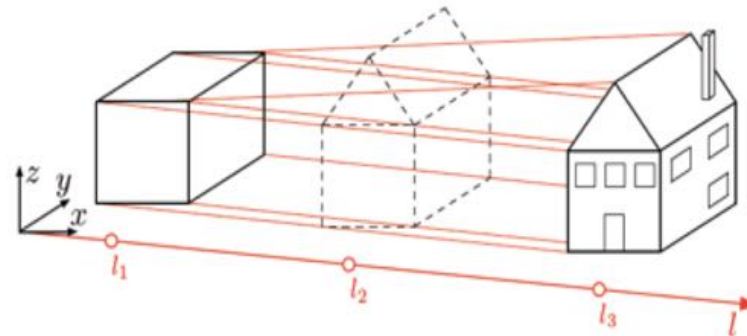
- Models remain consistent over time if reality does not change

- Use of dense image matching PC instead of LiDAR should yield same heights

# 4D: 3D+LoD

## 4D modelling

Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl



- Well-known 5 LoDs for buildings in CityGML

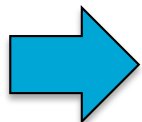
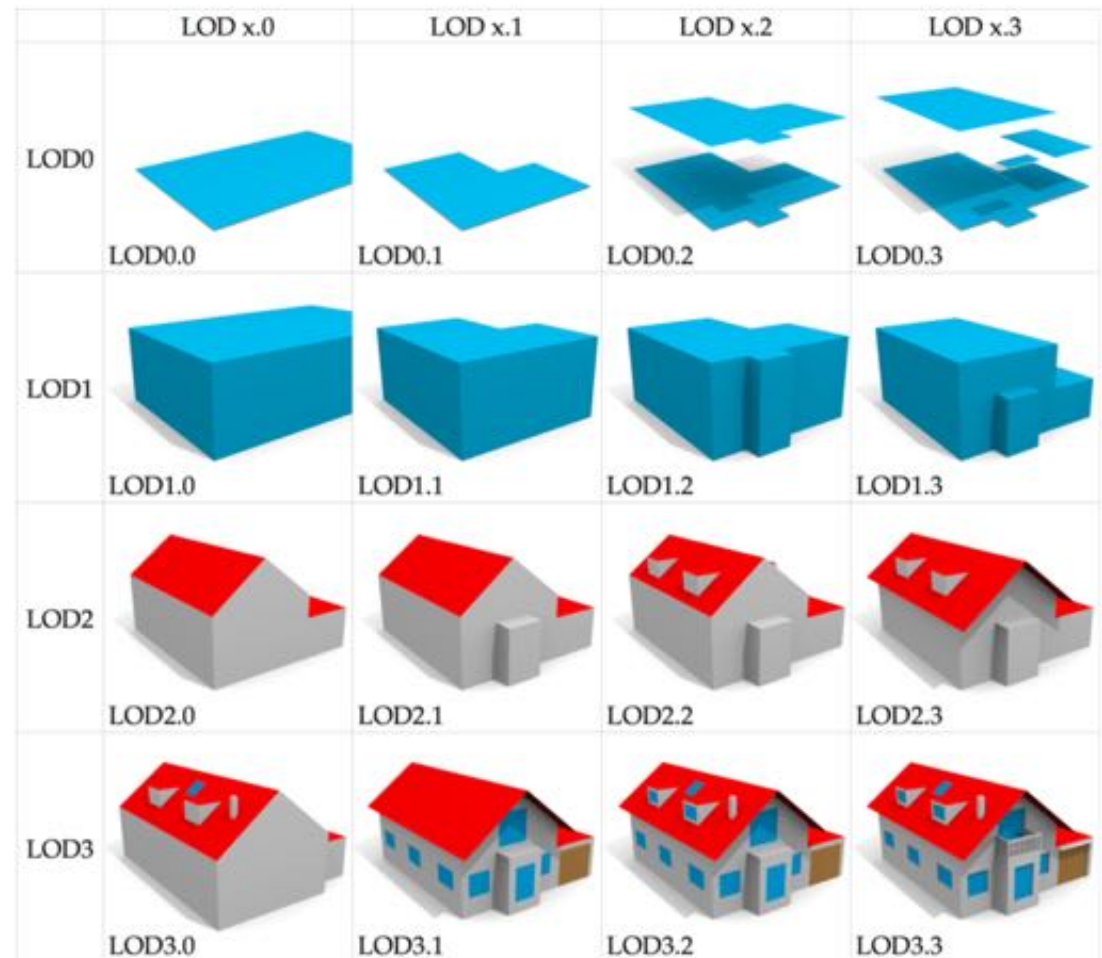


**OGC**<sup>TM</sup>  
Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc.

- But what is less known....

# Each LoD can have different implementations

**4D modelling**  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl



Be precise & refine

- Simply saying “LoD2” is not sufficient

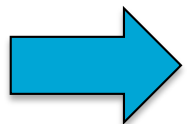
*Biljecki, 2016*



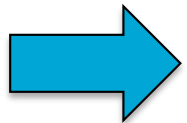
## Even LoD1 models have different realisations



- Which height is used for extrusion?
  - Gutter? Maximum height?  $2/3$ ,  $1/2$  of roof height?
  - Application dependent
- How calculated? e.g. max height:
  - Highest point that falls in polygon? Median? Using buffer?
- Often users are not aware of possible differences



Be clear about which height reference and how obtained  
(preferably more than one)



More standardisation is needed



# INSPIRE

## Data Specs for Buildings

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl

- attribute elevationReference specifies height reference



Figure 15: Examples of elevation references for different kinds of building

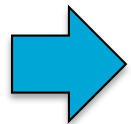
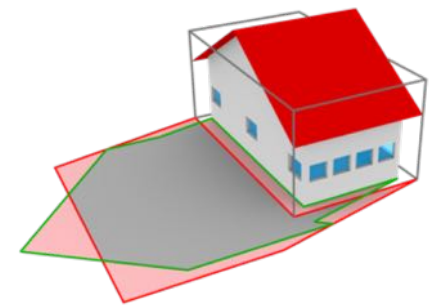
“The more detailed, the better”

“Lod2 is more accurate than LoD1”

***The effect of acquisition error and level of detail on the accuracy of spatial analyses***

*Filip Biljecki, G Heuvelink, H Ledoux, J Stoter, Cartography and Geographic Information Science, 45(2): 156-176, 2018.*

- Accuracy of acq method more impact on quality of spatial analysis than LoD
- Higher LoDs do not always bring significant improvements
  - LoD1 versus LoD3 for shadow estimation
- 3D CMs can be too detailed



Not always strive for highest LoD, relate it to app

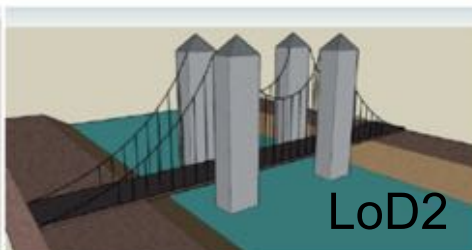
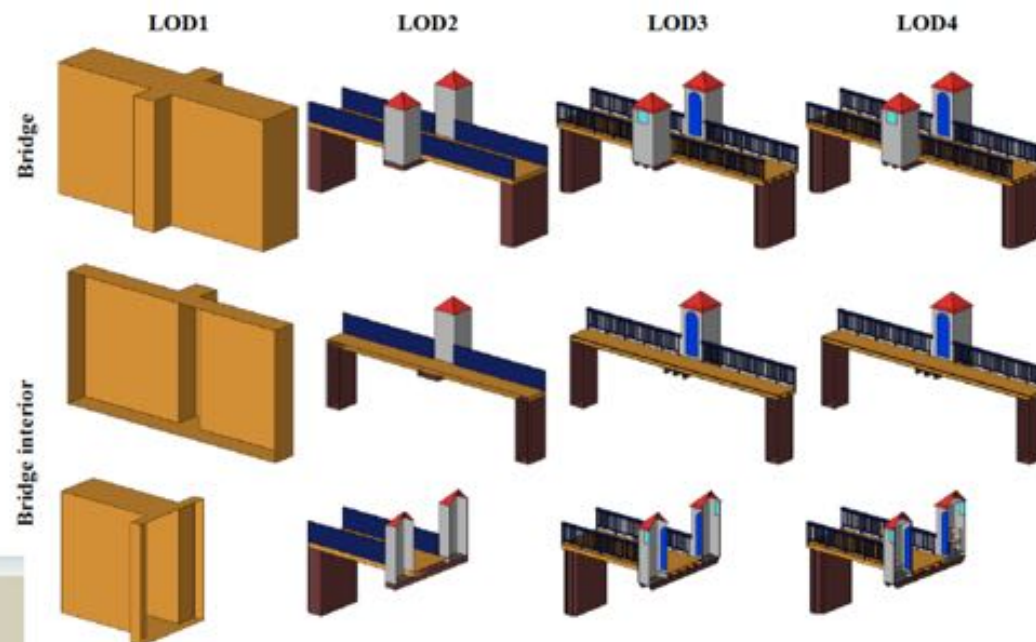


**A lot is known  
about LoD of buildings**

**what about other types of features?**

# Bridges and tunnels

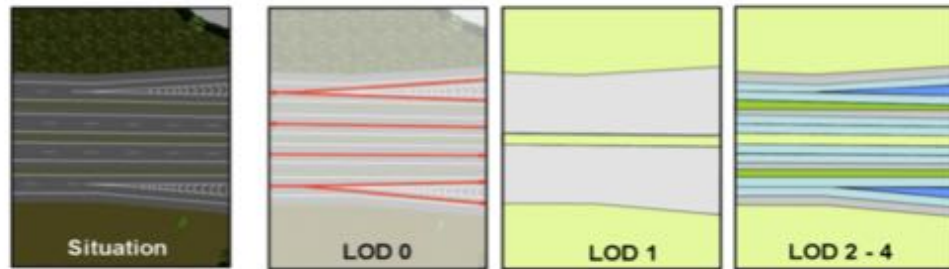
**4D modelling**  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl



# LoD Roads (transport) in CityGML

## 4D modelling

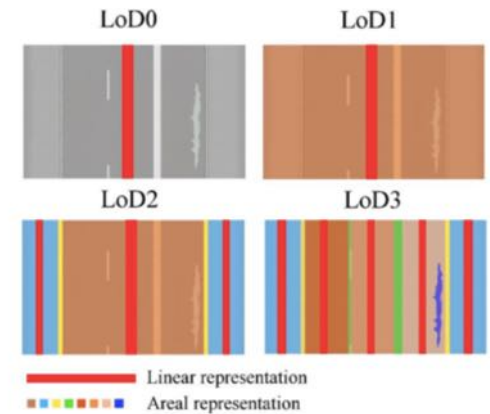
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl



TransportationComplex  
provides linear network  
with line objects  
— line objects

TransportationComplex  
provides surface geometry  
describing the actual  
shape of the object  
□ TransportationComplex  
(Surface geometry)  
■ Terrain surface

Surface geometry is divided  
thematically into TrafficAreas,  
like:  
■ Traffic – cars  
■ Traffic – emergency lane  
■ Traffic – restricted area  
■ Auxiliary – grass



Beil, C. and Kolbe, T. H., 2017

- Network only for LoD0
- Lod1-4 surfaces (no relation with network)



# CityGML as a data format

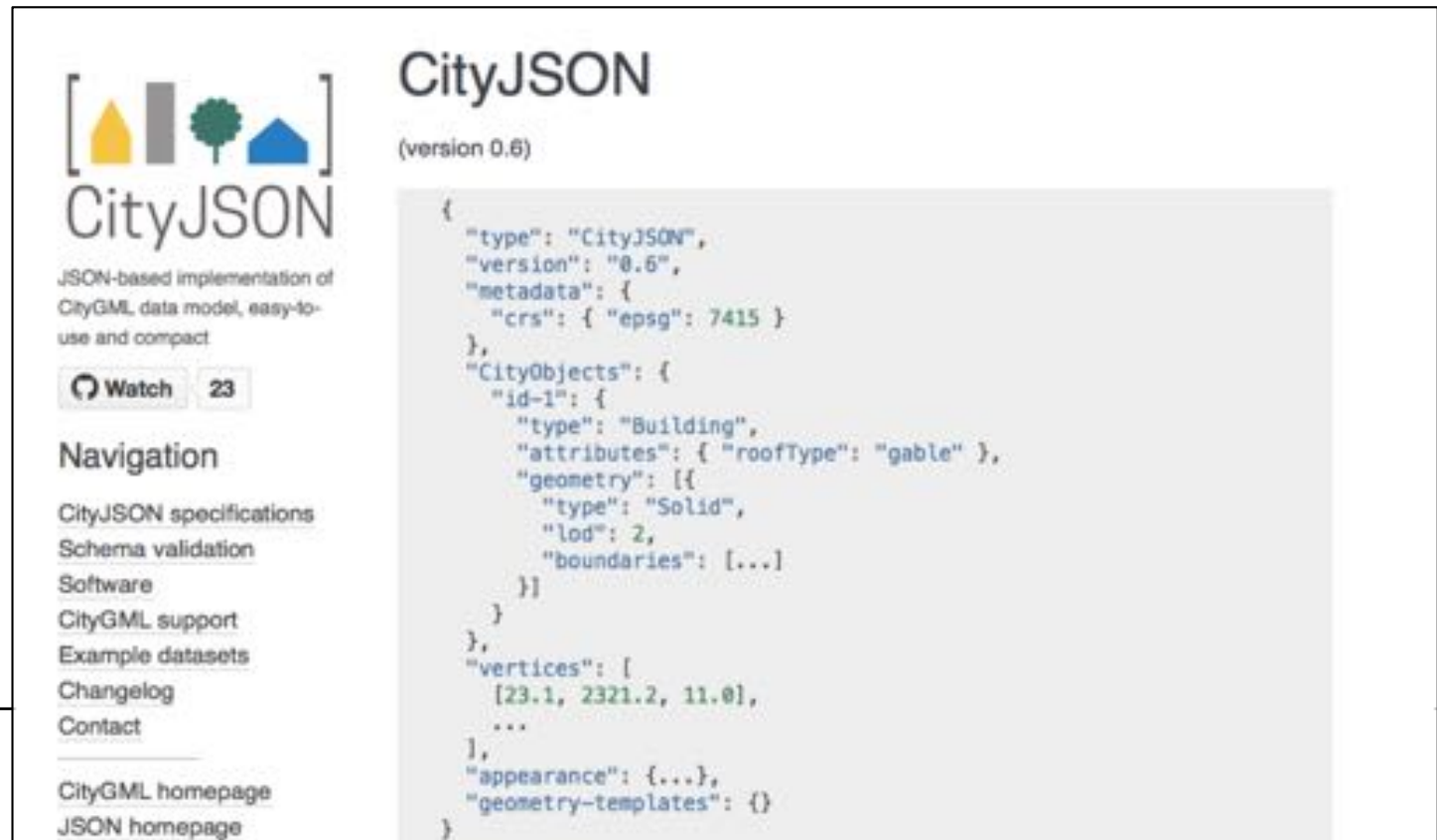


Complete, but verbose & complex, and therefore sometimes difficult to work with

# CityJSON encoding

## JavaScript Object Notation

- Easy-to-use for developers; compression 7 to 10 x compared to CityGML



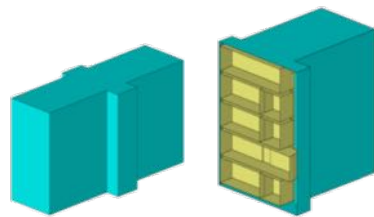
The screenshot displays the CityJSON website. On the left, there is a navigation menu with links to CityJSON specifications, Schema validation, Software, CityGML support, Example datasets, Changelog, and Contact. Below the navigation menu are links to the CityGML homepage and JSON homepage. The main content area features the CityJSON logo (a stylized cityscape with a yellow house, a grey building, a green tree, and a blue house) and the text "CityJSON (version 0.6)". To the right of the logo is a sample CityJSON structure in JSON format:

```
{
  "type": "CityJSON",
  "version": "0.6",
  "metadata": {
    "crs": { "epsg": 7415 }
  },
  "CityObjects": {
    "id-1": {
      "type": "Building",
      "attributes": { "roofType": "gable" },
      "geometry": [{
        "type": "Solid",
        "lod": 2,
        "boundaries": [...]
      }]
    }
  },
  "vertices": [
    [23.1, 2321.2, 11.0],
    ...
  ],
  "appearance": {...},
  "geometry-templates": {}
}
```

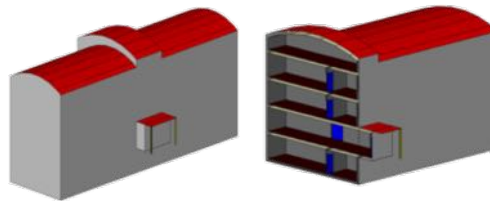
# CityGML 3.0

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl

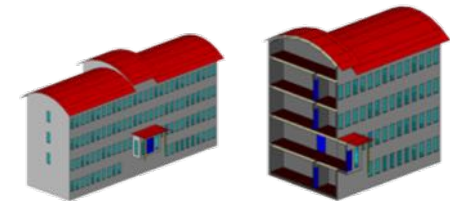
- Major revision compared to 2.0
- Support for storeys; versioning
- No LoD4; LoD0-LoD3 for indoor and outdoor
- Distinguish between Conceptual model and GML encoding



LoD1



LoD2



LoD3

# Content

- Current 4D modelling practices:
  - what does that imply for the data acquisition process?
- **Quality requirements of 3D city models**
- Data requirements of 3D/4D applications



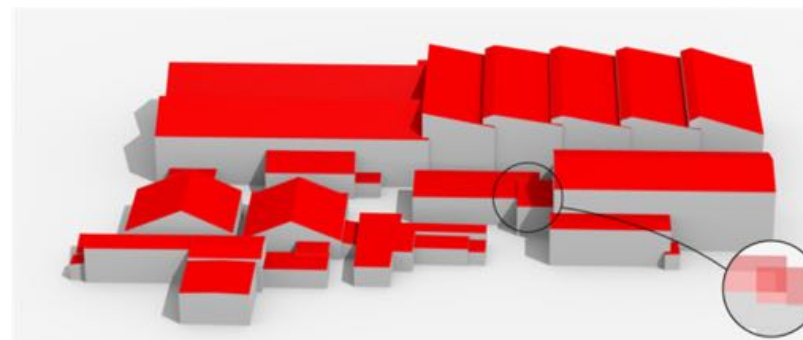
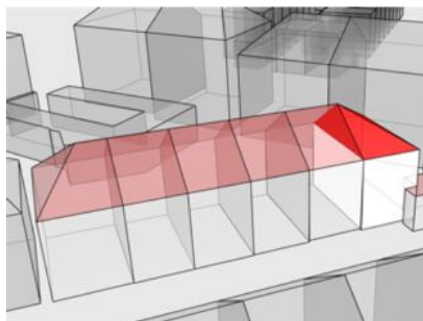
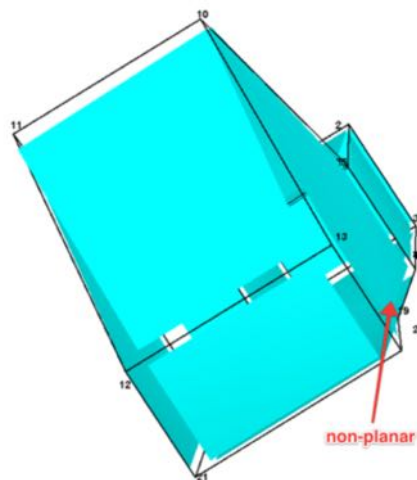
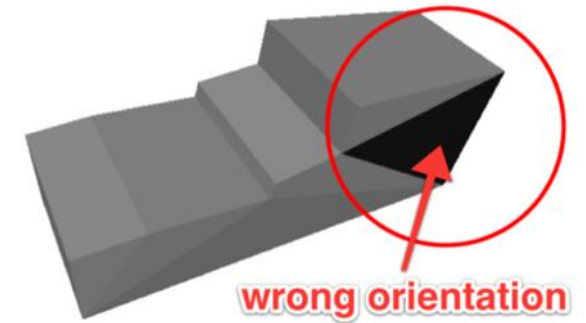
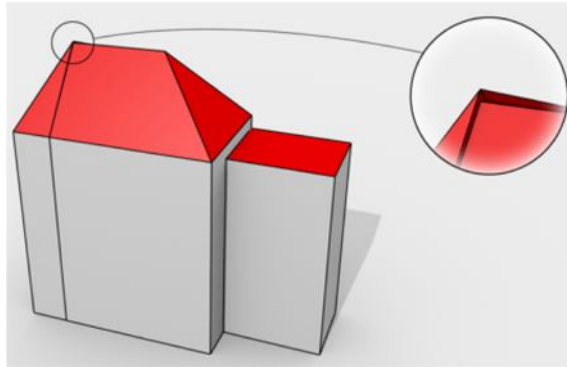
# 3D model is not a 1:1 model of reality

- For 3D applications, we need:
  - Data beyond the “wow” effect
  - Up-to-date
    - Not only acquisition: also maintenance
  - Consistent (4D)
  - Without errors



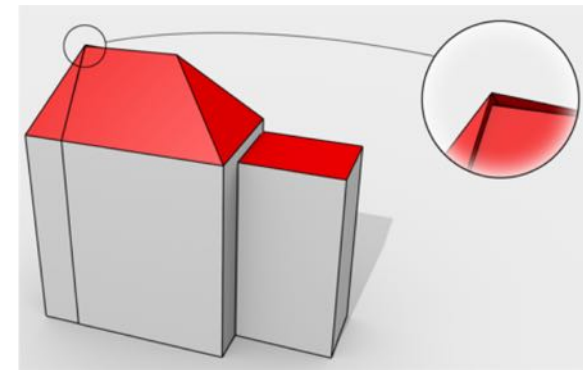
# errors = common in 3D

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of appl



# Errors in 3D models

- Not visible-> users are not aware
- May give no problems in specific software or applications
- But not possible to reuse 3D data in other software and applications



# Software to validate 3D data



- Validates geometries according to international standards (ISO19107 & OGC)
- Web interface: <http://geovalidation.bk.tudelft.nl>
- Reads CityGML

***Val3dity: validation of 3D GIS primitives according to the international standards.*** Hugo Ledoux. *Open Geospatial Data, Software and Standards 3 (1)*, 2018, pp. 1



## Software to validate 3D data

To understand quality of existing 3D data sets

- Applied to 37 datasets in 9 countries
  - 3.6m buildings
  - 16m 3D primitives
  - 40m surfaces



# Conclusion

## validating existing 3D city models

*The most common geometric and semantic errors in CityGML datasets*

*Filip Biljecki, Hugo Ledoux, Xin DU, Jantien Stoter, Kean Huat SOON, Victor KHOO  
ISPRS Ann. Photogramm. Remote Sens. Spatial Inf. Sci., IV-2/W1: 13-22, 2016.*

- CityGML data without errors are rare
- Most valid models are LoD1 models
- Many errors can be automatically fixed or prevented:
  - missing faces; geometries not properly snapped; orientation of surfaces; non planar faces (often caused by deviations of few cm only)



***Reconstruct valid 3D models, if you want  
your 3D data to be (re)used***

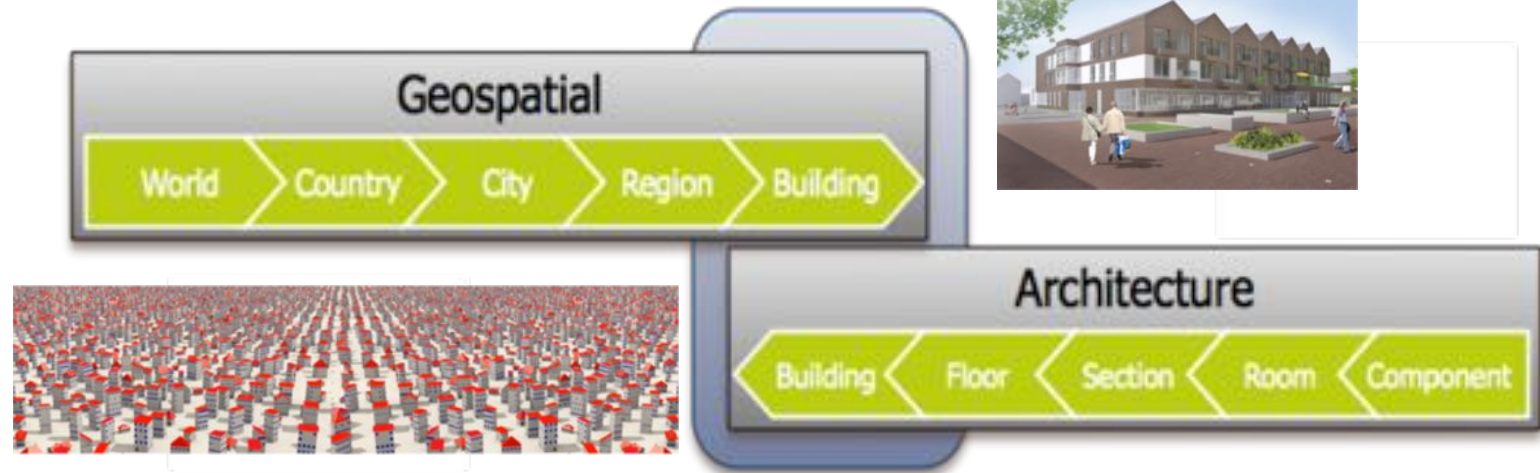
# Content

- Current 4D modelling practices:
  - what does that imply for the data acquisition process?
- Quality requirements of 3D city models
- **Data requirements of 3D/4D applications**

## 3D GIS

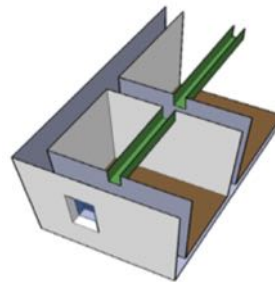
## BIM

Focus area:

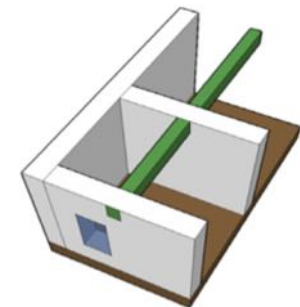


Concepts:

Geographical concepts: space, outdoor shell



Constructions



Geometry:

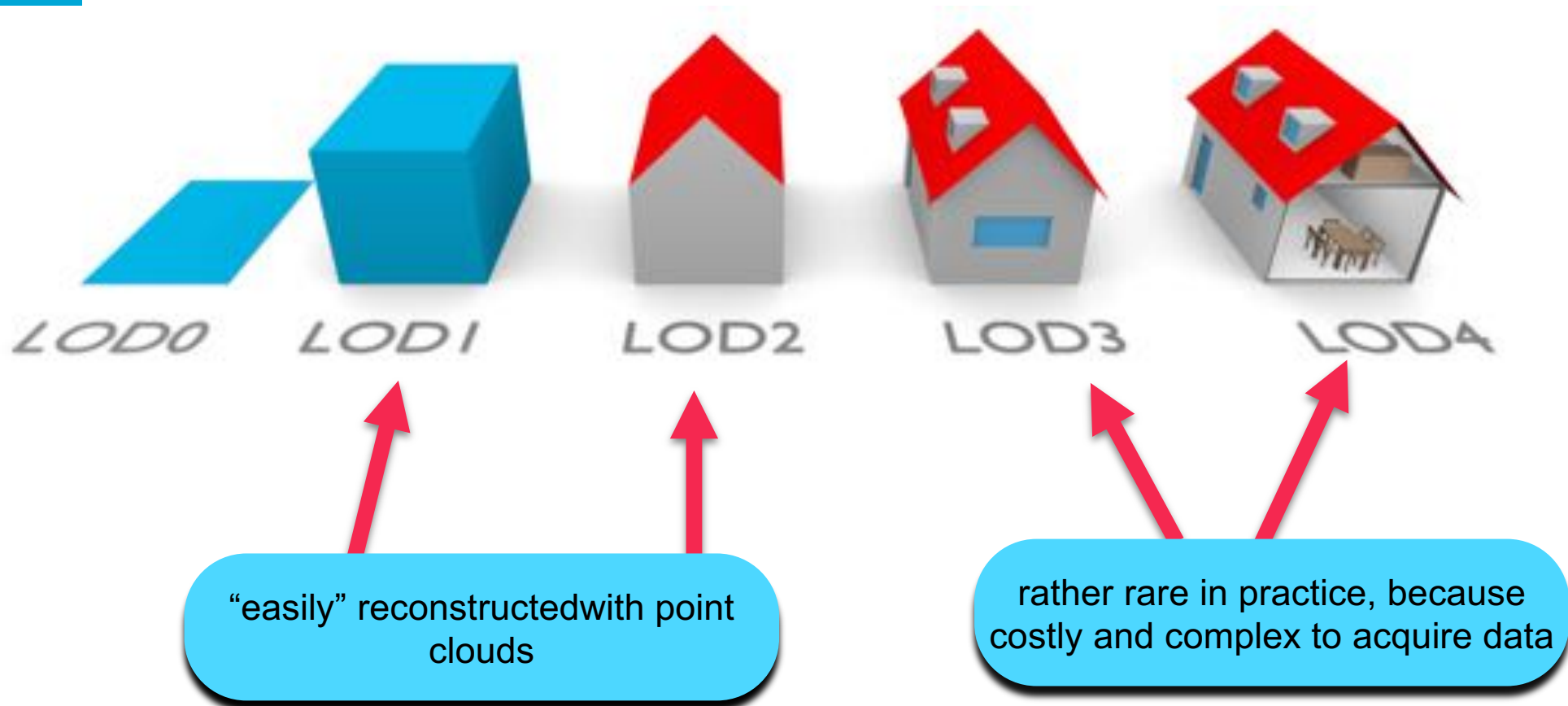
Measured

Designed



# GeoBIM integration: to reuse data

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of 4D appl



- To be realised with IFC

# Industry Foundation Classes

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
**Data requirements of 4D appl**

IfcActuatorType  
IfcAirTerminalBoxType  
IfcAirTerminalType  
IfcAirToAirHeatRecoveryType  
IfcAlarmType  
IfcAnnotation  
**IfcBeam**  
IfcBoilerType  
IfcBuildingElementPart  
IfcBuildingElementProxy  
IfcBuildingStorey  
IfcCableCarrierFittingType  
IfcCableCarrierSegmentType  
IfcCableSegmentType  
IfcChillerType  
IfcCoilType  
IfcColumnType  
IfcCompressorType  
IfcCondenserType  
IfcControllerType  
IfcCooledBeamType  
IfcCoolingTowerType  
IfcCovering  
IfcCurtainWall  
IfcDamperType  
IfcDistributionChamberElementType  
IfcDistributionControlElement  
IfcDistributionElement  
IfcDistributionFlowElement  
**IfcDoorType**  
IfcDuctFittingType  
IfcDuctSegmentType  
IfcDuctSilencerType  
IfcElectricApplianceType  
IfcElectricFlowStorageDeviceType  
IfcElectricGeneratorType  
**IfcElectricHeaterType**  
IfcElectricMotorType  
IfcElectricTimeControlType  
IfcElementAssembly

IfcEnergyConversionDevice  
IfcEvaporativeCoolerType  
IfcEvaporatorType  
**IfcFanType**  
IfcFastenerType  
IfcFilterType  
IfcFireSuppressionTerminalType  
IfcFlowController  
IfcFlowFitting  
IfcFlowInstrumentType  
IfcFlowMeterType  
IfcFlowMovingDevice  
IfcFlowSegment  
IfcFlowStorageDevice  
IfcFlowTerminal  
IfcFlowTreatmentDevice  
IfcFooting  
IfcFurnishingElement  
IfcFurnitureType  
**IfcGasTerminalType**  
IfcHeatExchangerType  
IfcHumidifierType  
IfcJunctionBoxType  
IfcLampType  
IfcLightFixtureType  
IfcMechanicalFastenerType  
IfcMemberType  
IfcMotorConnectionType  
IfcOpeningElement  
IfcOutletType  
IfcPile  
**IfcPipeFittingType**  
IfcPipeSegmentType  
IfcPlateType  
IfcProtectiveDeviceType  
IfcPumpType  
IfcRailing  
IfcRamp  
IfcReinforcingBar  
IfcReinforcingMesh

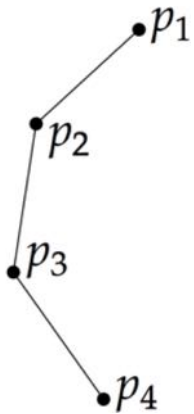
**IfcRoof**  
IfcSanitaryTerminalType  
IfcSensorType  
IfcSite  
**IfcSlab**  
**IfcSpace**  
IfcSpaceHeaterType  
IfcStackTerminalType  
**IfcStair**  
IfcSwitchingDeviceType  
IfcSystemFurnitureElementType  
IfcTankType  
IfcTransformerType  
IfcTransportElementType  
IfcTubeBundleType  
IfcUnitaryEquipmentType  
IfcValveType  
**IfcWall**  
IfcWasteTerminalType  
IfcWindowType

1000+ in total

# Many more IFC geometric classes than GML (point, curve, surface and solid)

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of 4D appl

## Curves/wires

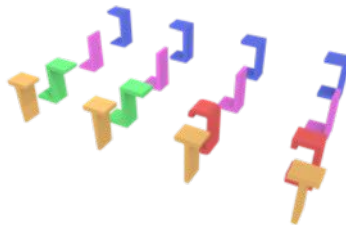


IfcCircle  
IfcEllipse  
IfcLine  
IfcEdge  
IfcOrientedEdge  
IfcEdgeLoop  
IfcPolyLoop  
IfcPolyline  
IfcCompositeCurve  
IfcTrimmedCurve

## Faces

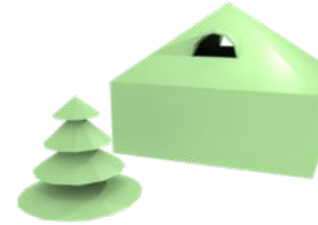


- IfcArbitraryClosedProfileDef
- IfcArbitraryProfileDefWithVoids
- IfcRectangleProfileDef
- IfcRoundedRectangleProfileDef
- IfcRectangleHollowProfileDef
- IfcTrapeziumProfileDef
- IfcCircleProfileDef
- IfcCircleHollowProfileDef
- IfcEllipseProfileDef
- IfcFace



IfcCShapeProfileDef  
IfcLShapeProfileDef  
IfcIShapeProfileDef  
IfcTShapeProfileDef  
IfcUShapeProfileDef  
IfcZShapeProfileDef  
IfcDerivedProfileDef

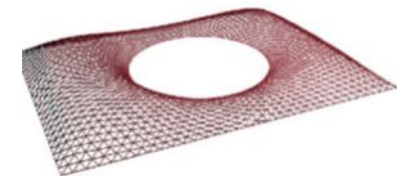
## Volumetric shapes



- IfcExtrudedAreaSolid
- IfcExtrudedAreaSolidTapered
- IfcConnectedFaceSet
- IfcCsgSolid
- IfcBlock
- IfcBooleanResult
- IfcSphere
- IfcRectangularPyramid
- IfcRightCircularCylinder
- IfcRightCircularCone
- IfcTriangulatedFaceSet
- IfcHalfSpaceSolid

## Abstract shapes

IfcRepresentation  
IfcGeomaticSet  
IfcShellBasedSurfaceModel  
IfcManifoldSolidBrep  
IfcMappedItem  
IfcFaceBasedSurfaceModel



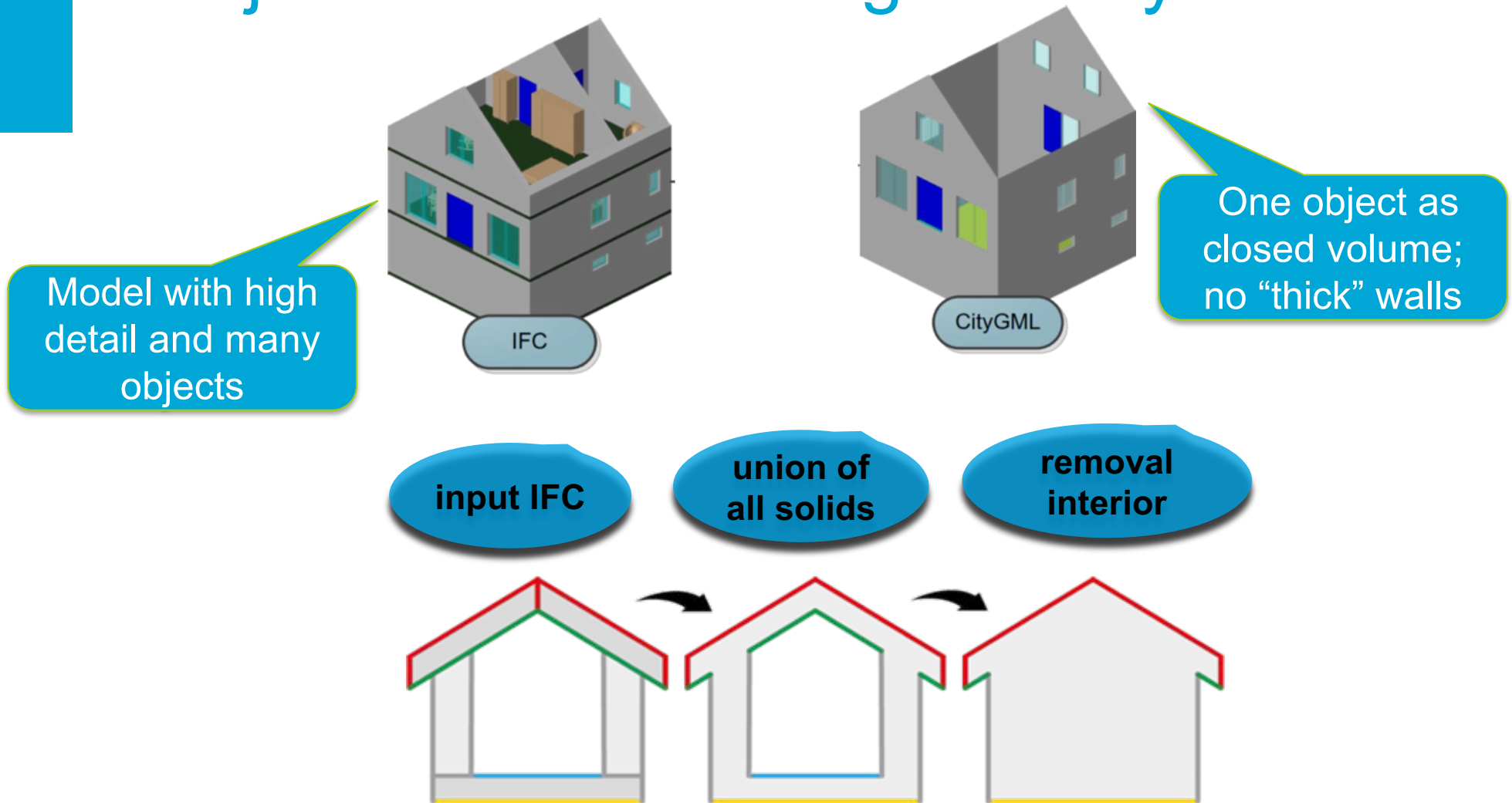
# IFC -> CityGML

## Not just conversion of geometry

4D modelling

Quality requirements

Data requirements of 4D appl



S Donkers, H Ledoux, J Zhao, J Stoter: **Automatic conversion of IFC datasets to geometrically and semantically correct CityGML LOD3 buildings.** *Trans. GIS* 20(4): (2016)

# Conversion IFC-> CityGML

- Works on “academic” and “clean” IFC models:
  - Modelled as expected
  - Without errors
- In practice, conversion of real models is difficult, in practice:
  - IFC files are not “standard” and vary a lot in their structure and classes used
  - IFC models contain errors, because support of main softwares is missing





## Future City Pilot-1: Using IFC/CityGML in Urban Planning Engineering Report

Publication Date: 2016-10-03

Approval Date: 2017-08-17

Posted Date: 2017-06-27

Reference number of this document: OGC 16-097

Reference URL for this document: <http://www.opengis.net/doc/PER/FCP1-UPrules>

Category: Public Engineering Report

Editor: Mohsen Kalantari

Title: Future City Pilot 1: Using IFC/CityGML in Urban Planning Engineering Report

**OGC Engineering Report**

**COPYRIGHT**

Copyright © 2017 Open Geospatial Consortium. To obtain additional rights of use, visit <http://www.opengeospatial.org/>

Main conclusion:

*“integration was not possible due to inconsistent coding of IFC elements that made transformation to CityGML complicated”*

*-> “a clear set of specification needs to be set for the preparation of IFC files”*

# We're making specific recommendations for geo-ready IFC data



Instead of throwing data over the fence, enable downstream use of the data

1. How to construct valid volumetric objects
2. How to avoid self-intersections
3. Where IfcSpaces should be used
4. Which Ifc classes should be used
5. How to correctly georeference

# EuroSDR GeoBIM project

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of 4D appl



- Lantmateriet Sweden
- GUGiK Poland
- NLS, Finland
- Kartverket, Norway
- ADSE, Denmark
- Kadaster, NL
- Swisstopo, Switzerland
- Ordnance Survey, UK
- Ordnance Survey, Ireland
- IGN, France
- ICGC, Catalonia



**Use case 1:  
From design to construction**



**Use case 2:  
Lifecycle support in AM**

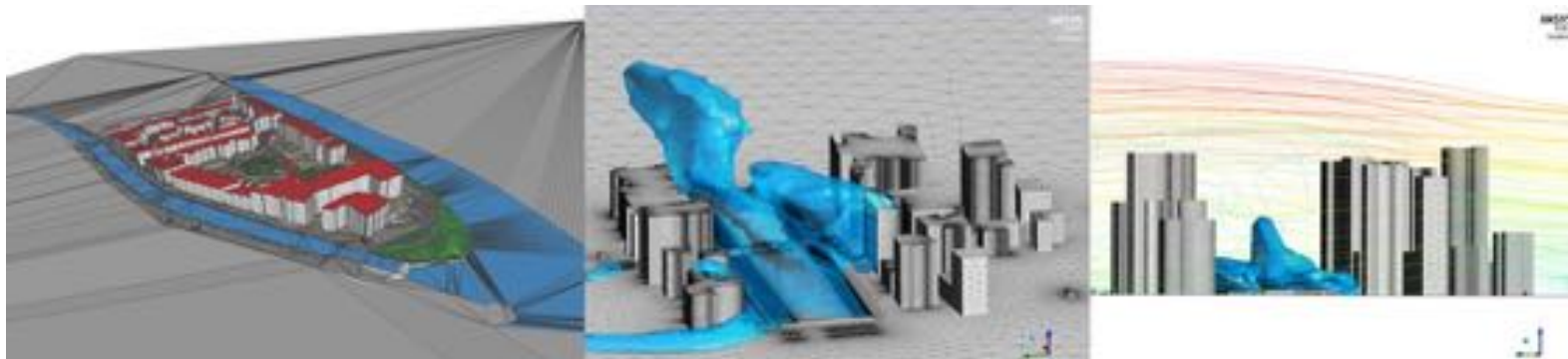
# Applications

- Few words about other applications

# 3D data for Simulation - CFD

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of 4D appl

- Computer fluid dynamics modelling (wind, air quality, temperature)
- Application specific requirement of CFD modelling:
  - LoD1 model (max height)
  - should be 100% closed

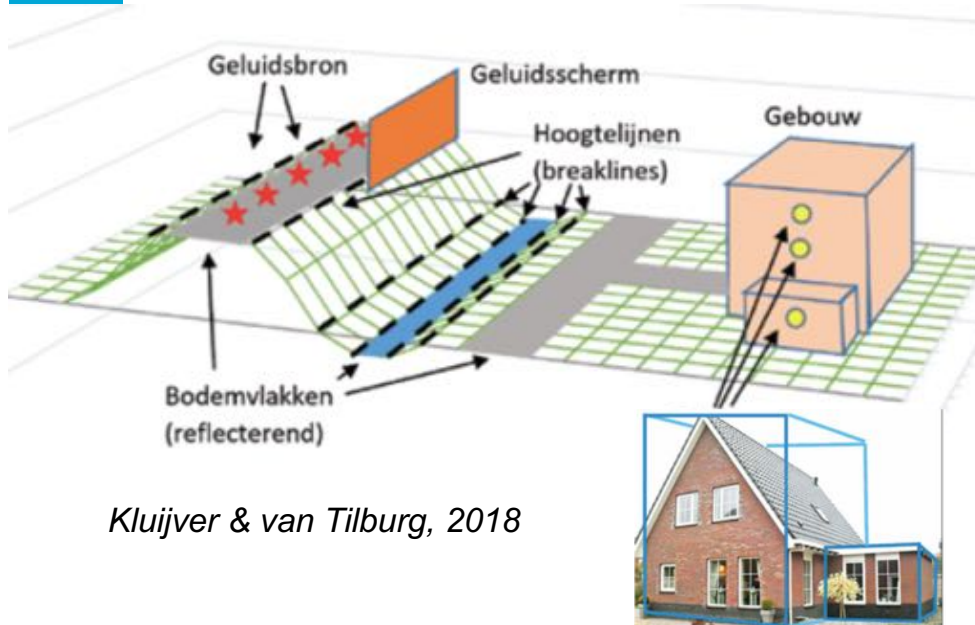




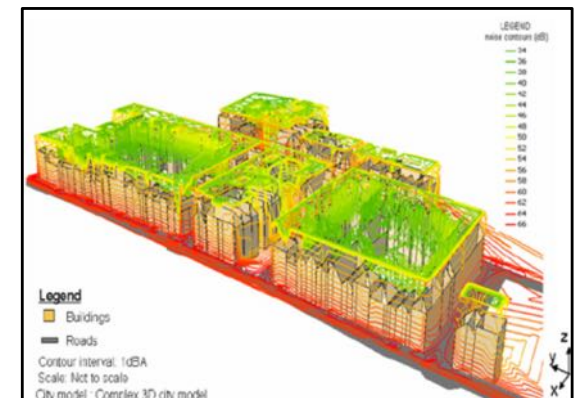
# 3D data for noise simulations

4D modelling  
Quality requirements  
Data requirements of 4D appl

European Environmental Noise Directive

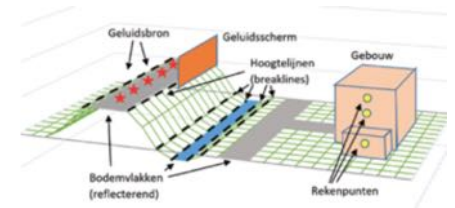
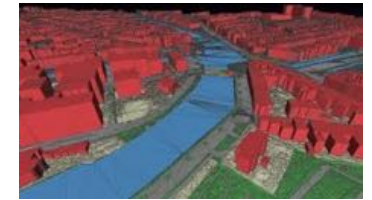
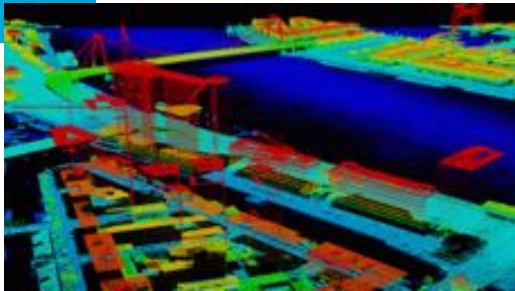


*Kluijver & van Tilburg, 2018*

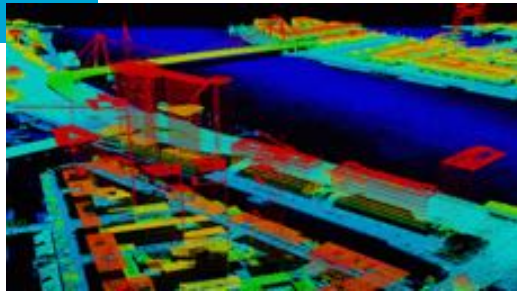


- Most remarkable 3D data requirements:
  - block models are sufficient (max height)
  - block models should model varying heights; even for one footprint
  - height differences with as few height lines as possible (no isolines)

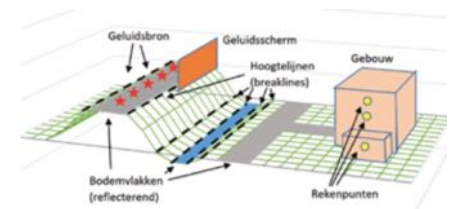
# Open software to reconstruct 3D models



# Reconstruction of country-wide, application specific 3D data



Creates up-to-date, valid and application specific 3D data



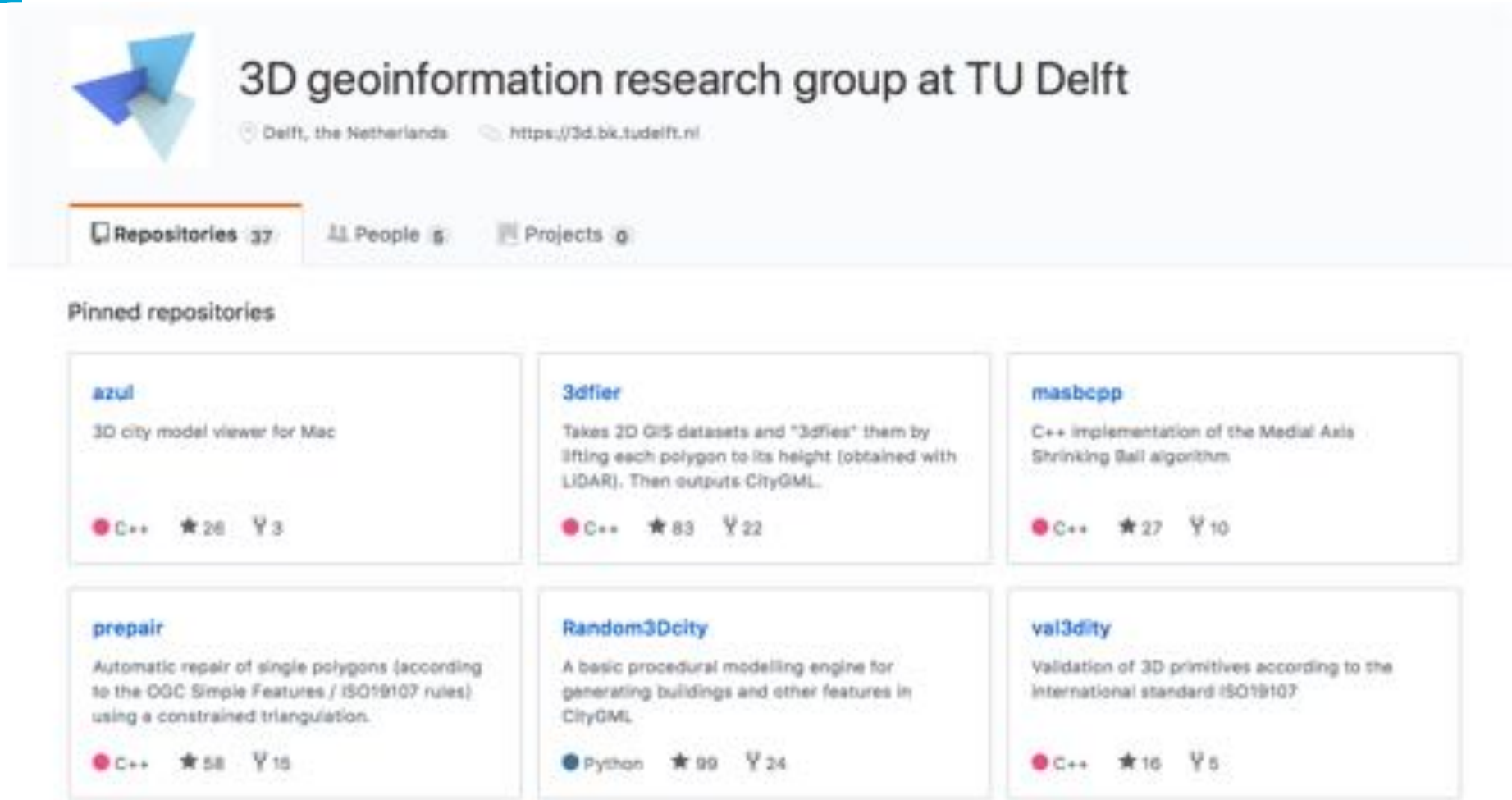
# Conclusions: bridging the gap between 4D acquisition and 4D applications

- Enables reuse of once captured 3D data models in other applications and software
- Solves current inconsistencies of 3D CM
- Recommendations:
  - Be precise in defining 3D data specifications: “LoD2” is not enough
  - Highest LoD is not always best
  - Different apps need different LoDs (not only buildings)
  - Important to create valid 3D city models



# Open source software

[github.com/tudelft3d](https://github.com/tudelft3d)



The screenshot shows the GitHub profile of the "3D geoinformation research group at TU Delft". The profile header includes a repository icon, the group name, location (Delft, the Netherlands), and website (https://3d.bk.tudelft.nl). Below the header, there are tabs for "Repositories" (37), "People" (5), and "Projects" (0). The "Pinned repositories" section displays six projects in a grid:

Repository Name	Description	Language	Stars	Forks
azul	3D city model viewer for Mac	C++	26	3
3dfier	Takes 2D GIS datasets and "3dfies" them by lifting each polygon to its height (obtained with LiDAR). Then outputs CityGML.	C++	83	22
masbcpp	C++ implementation of the Medial Axis Shrinking Ball algorithm	C++	27	10
prepair	Automatic repair of single polygons (according to the OGC Simple Features / ISO19107 rules) using a constrained triangulation.	C++	58	15
Random3Dcity	A basic procedural modelling engine for generating buildings and other features in CityGML.	Python	99	24
val3dity	Validation of 3D primitives according to the international standard ISO19107	C++	16	5





Thank you!

[j.e.stoter@tudelft.nl](mailto:j.e.stoter@tudelft.nl)



For more information, visit [3D.bk.tudelft.nl](http://3D.bk.tudelft.nl)

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to my colleagues of 3D Geoinformation research group @ Delft University of Technology and the 3D team of Kadaster