# Anwendungsbaustein - Auswertung von fds-Daten

Lukas Arnold Simone Arnold Matthias Baitsch Marc Fehr Sebastian Seipel Florian Bagemihl Maik Poetzsch

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#### **Preamble**



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BibTeX-Vorlage

```
@misc{BCD-Styleguide-2024,
```

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url={https://github.com/bausteine-der-datenanalyse/a-auswertung\_fds\_daten}}

## Intro

#### Requirements

- Basic knowledge of python
- Importing packages
- NumPy basics
- Pandas basics
- Plotting with matplotlib
- Basic knowledge in simulating fires

#### Used packages and data sets

- NumPy
- pandas
- matplotlib
- fdsreader

### Time required

Geschätzte Bearbeitungszeit: 4h

# Learning objectives

- Reading in data using the fdsreader
- Analyzing the data to perform an ASET analysis

### 1 Introduction ASET

ASET (Available Safe Egress Time) is a critical concept in fire safety engineering that represents the time available for occupants to safely evacuate a building before conditions become untenable due to fire, smoke, or heat. It is calculated based on factors such as fire growth rate, detection time, and the building's design features, including exits and fire suppression systems. Ensuring that the ASET exceeds the Required Safe Egress Time (RSET) is essential for developing effective evacuation plans and enhancing the safety of building occupants during an emergency.

#### 1.1 Data acquisation

The data we will look at were generated using the Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS). FDS (Fire Dynamics Simulator) is a computational fluid dynamics model used to simulate fire-driven fluid flow, allowing for the analysis and prediction of fire behavior and its impact on buildings and environments.



Warning

This building block wont go any further into simulations and fds. The resulting simulation data used in this block will be provided as a download.

#### 2 Fdsreader

In order to analyse simulation data computed by FDS with Python, the group of Prof. Lukas Arnold has developed the Python module fdsreader. Its aim is to read most data output formats generated by FDS and map them to Python data structures.

The freely available and open source. The source code is hosted at GitHub: FireDynamics/fdsreader and there is also an API documentation.

#### 2.1 Installing and importing the package

The fdsreader module can be installed via pip (see also the GitHub repository):

```
pip install fdsreader
```

To learn the basic usage of the fdsreader module we will look at a simple FDS scenario. Lets first import the module:

```
import fdsreader
```

Since we will also plot the data we will import matplotlibtoo.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

#### 2.2 Choosing the correct folder

Next, the reader needs to be pointed to the directory, which contains the simulation data, especially the smokeview file.

```
# define the path to the data
path_to_data = '../skript/01-data/first_example'
sim = fdsreader.Simulation(path_to_data)
```

The Simulation object sim contains now all the information and data about the simulaiton output:

#### sim

```
Simulation(chid=StecklerExample,
           meshes=1,
            obstructions=7,
            slices=5,
           data_3d=5,
            smoke_3d=3,
           devices=4)
```

The variable sim contains information about the mesh (MESH), four slices (SLCF) and four point measurements (DEVC). The additional device – there were just three defined in the FDS input file – is the time column.

#### 2.3 Device Data

#### Devices in FDS

Devices act like virtual sensors, allowing one to record data such as temperature, heat flux, gas concentration, velocity, and more, at specific locations within the simulation domain. This data can be crucial for understanding the behavior of fire and smoke under different conditions.

A device can get a label (ID), which makes it much easier to identify in the comma separated value (CSV) file created during the simulation. It needs a location and a quantity.

Locations can be provided in different ways, we focus her on a single point using XYZ. However, lines, planes and volumes are possible as well.

The QUANTITY parameter expects a string to define what values are to be recorded. As an example, let's take the gas temperature, using TEMPERATURE.

The simplest data set is the output of the DEVC directives. The available data and meta information can be directly printed:

```
# short reference for convinience, i.e. `devc` contains all devices
devc = sim.devices
print(devc)
```

```
[Device(id='Time', xyz=(0.0, 0.0, 0.0), quantity=Quantity('TIME')),
Device(id='Temp_Door_Low', xyz=(1.45, 0.05, 0.1), quantity=Quantity('TEMPERATURE')),
Device(id='Temp_Door_Mid', xyz=(1.45, 0.05, 1.0), quantity=Quantity('TEMPERATURE')),
Device(id='Temp_Door_High', xyz=(1.45, 0.05, 1.65), quantity=Quantity('TEMPERATURE'))]
```

The Device class contains all relevant information, see device documentation.

Individual devices, including the time column, are accessable as dictironary entries using their ID as key. The data of each individual device (Device.data) is stored as a numpy array:

```
type(devc['Temp_Door_Mid'].data)
```

numpy.ndarray

The length matches the expected value, i.e. 1801, as the simulation time was and the divices were writen out every second, including the initial time step, here at t = 0s.

```
len(devc['Time'].data)
```

1801

A raw look at the data (Device.data):

```
devc['Temp_Door_Mid'].data
```

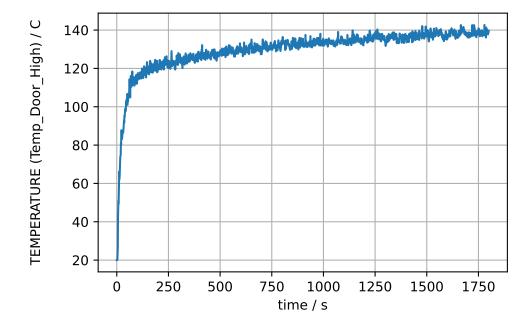
```
array([ 20. , 20.002083, 20.034418, ..., 105.32822 , 114.82179 , 115.01705 ], dtype=float32)
```

The device data can be also visualised with matplotlib:

```
# create the plot
plt.plot(devc['Time'].data, devc['Temp_Door_High'].data)

# label the axes
plt.xlabel("time / s")
devc_id = devc['Temp_Door_High'].id
devc_q = devc['Temp_Door_High'].quantity_name
devc_u = devc['Temp_Door_High'].unit
plt.ylabel(f"{devc_q} ({devc_id}) / {devc_u}")

# add a grid
plt.grid()
```



In the same manner a set of devices can be plotted at once. Like all devices with names starting with Temp\_:

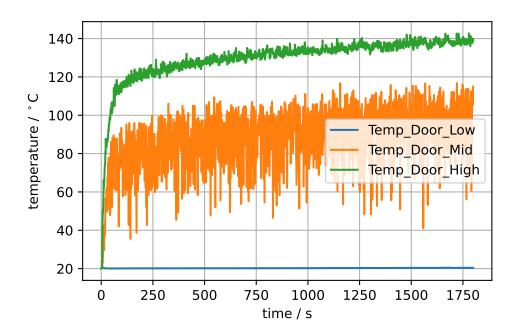
```
# loop over all devices
for i in devc:

# consider only devices with an ID that starts with 'Temp_'
if not i.id.startswith('Temp_'):
        continue

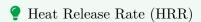
plt.plot(devc["Time"].data, i.data, label=i.id)
```

```
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel("time / s")
plt.ylabel('temperature / $^\circ$C')
plt.grid()
```

<>:12: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\c'
<>:12: SyntaxWarning: invalid escape sequence '\c'
/var/folders/p\_/ks3trxjx0jd839\_g4g0vm4nc0000gn/T/ipykernel\_85247/1295739546.py:12: SyntaxWarning: plt.ylabel('temperature / \$^\circ\$C')

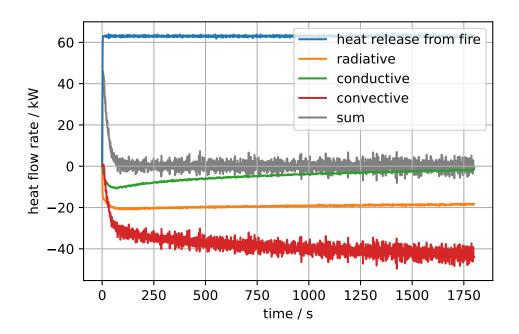


#### 2.4 HRR Data



The crucial parameter in fire modeling, representing the rate at which energy is released by a fire, typically measured in kilowatts (kW) or megawatts (MW).

In the same fashion as the DEVC data, the data written to the HRR file can be directly accessed. It is not stored in the devices but in the hrr element of the Simulation object.



#### 2.5 Slice Data



Slice data

Sclices are a type of output that allows you to visualize the distribution of specific quantities (e.g., temperature, velocity, smoke concentration) within a plane of the simulation domain. These slices are essentially cross-sectional views of the data, providing insight into how these quantities vary within a specific area of the simulated environment.

Data generated by SLCF directives span over two or three spatial dimensions plus the time dimension. Besides that, they can be distributed across multiple meshes.

The data of a slice is stored for each mesh individually. In this simple example, there is only a single mesh, yet for formal consistency it still needs to be referred.

The data structure is as follows:

```
sim.slices[sliceid][meshid].data[timestep, direction1, direction2]
```

where sliceid is just the index of the slice, meshid is the index of the mesh, here in this example 0, and the reference to the data is given by the time step id and then the two spatial indices (for two dimensional slices).

In general there are multiple slice objects available:

```
Orientation [1/2/3]: 1

Slice Type [2D/3D]: 2D
  Quantity: U-VELOCITY
  Physical Extent: Extent([-1.40, 2.60] x [0.00, 0.00] x [0.00, 2.20])
  Orientation [1/2/3]: 2

Slice Type [2D/3D]: 2D
  Quantity: W-VELOCITY
  Physical Extent: Extent([-1.40, 2.60] x [-1.40, 1.40] x [1.80, 1.80])
  Orientation [1/2/3]: 3
```

There are multiple ways to find the right slice in the set of all slices. One way is to filter for a quantity using the filter\_by\_quantity function or choose a slice by its ID.

```
# get the W-VELOCITY slice(s)
w_slice = sim.slices.filter_by_quantity("W-VELOCITY")
print(w_slice)
```

SliceCollection([Slice([2D] quantity=Quantity('W-VELOCITY'), cell\_centered=False, extent=Extent([2D] quantity=Quantity('W-VELOCITY'), cell\_centered=False, extent=Extent([-1.40, 2.60]

Another way is to select a slice based on its distance to a given point.

```
# select slice, by its distance to a given point
slc = w_slice.get_nearest(x=1, z=2)
print(slc)
```

Slice([2D] quantity=Quantity('W-VELOCITY'), cell\_centered=False, extent=Extent([-1.40, 2.60]

To access the actual slice data, the actual mesh and a point in time needs to be specified. In this example, there is only one mesh, thus the index is 0. The function <code>get\_nearest\_timestemp</code> helps to find the right time index.

```
# choose and output the time step, next to t=75 s
it = slc.get_nearest_timestep(25)
print(f"Time step: {it}")
print(f"Simulation time: {slc.times[it]}")
```

Time step: 25

Simulation time: 25.02111

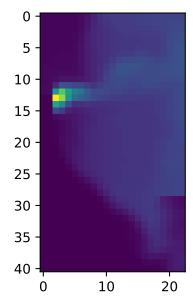
The following example illustrates the visualisation of the data and steps needed to adjust the representation. The needed adjustments are due to the data orientation expected by the imshow function.

```
# choose the temperature slice in y-direction
slc = sim.slices.filter_by_quantity('TEMPERATURE').get_nearest(x=3, y=0)
print(slc)
# only one mesh
slc_data = slc[0].data
print(slc_data)
```

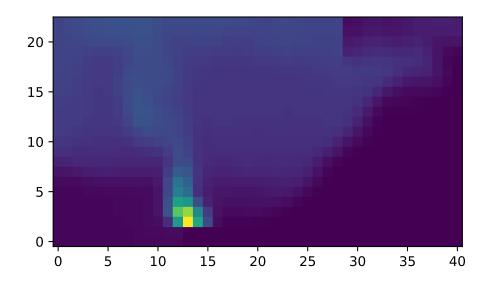
```
Slice([2D] quantity=Quantity('TEMPERATURE'), cell_centered=False, extent=Extent([-1.40, 2.60]
[[[ 20.
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                20.
                                                                         ]
  [ 20.
                                                                20.
                                                                         ]
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                         ]
  [ 20.
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                20.
  . . .
                                                                         ]
  [ 20.
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                20.
  [ 20.
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                20.
                                                                         ]
                                     . . .
  [ 20.
               20.
                          20.
                                         20.
                                                     20.
                                                                20.
                                                                         ]]
 [[ 20.030926
             20.031328
                          20.032204 ...
                                         20.001385
                                                    20.001268
                                                                20.00117 ]
  [ 20.030703
                          20.033634 ...
                                         20.001493
                                                                20.001238]
              20.031597
                                                     20.001345
  20.038801 ...
                                         20.001757
                                                     20.001535
                                                                20.001389]
  . . .
  [ 20.006077
              20.004908
                          20.002953 ...
                                         20.001383
                                                     20.001154
                                                                20.00104 ]
  [ 20.005085
              20.004053
                          20.00236
                                         20.00129
                                                     20.001116
                                                                20.001026]
                                    . . .
  20.0021
                                    . . .
                                         20.00125
                                                     20.001104 20.001026]]
 [[ 20.12404
                                         20.026028
                                                     20.02525
                                                                20.025595]
               20.126698
                          20.133305 ...
  [ 20.116137
               20.11882
                          20.12633
                                         20.02626
                                                     20.025606
                                                                20.02608 ]
  [ 20.114033
               20.117645
                          20.128752 ...
                                         20.02802
                                                     20.027351
                                                                20.027908]
  . . .
  [ 20.018784
               20.016739
                          20.013128 ...
                                         20.00563
                                                     20.004776
                                                                20.004353]
  [ 20.015898
              20.014067
                          20.010876 ...
                                         20.005054
                                                    20.004427
                                                                20.004118]
  [ 20.01441
               20.012737
                          20.00983
                                         20.004791
                                                     20.004278
                                                                20.00403 ]]
                                    . . .
 [[ 44.00391
                          43.920734 ... 143.89009
               43.917053
                                                    142.69537
                                                               142.16621 ]
                          43.708996 ... 143.29715
  [ 44.004223
               43.863914
                                                    142.09953
                                                               141.6622
  [ 43.81018
               43.64982
                          43.4085
                                    ... 142.64955
                                                    141.90448
                                                               141.75969 ]
  . . .
```

```
[ 20.284891
             20.19156
                        20.076902 ...
                                      90.631195 78.81051
                                                            72.00585 ]
 [ 20.218634
            20.140545
                       20.047134 ...
                                      56.04536
                                                 43.176456
                                                           39.645744]
 [ 20.151264
             20.09307
                        20.028439 ...
                                      34.67456
                                                 27.534237
                                                            27.970665]]
[[ 45.228874 45.115242
                       44.938766 ... 150.18481
                                                           149.83371 ]
                                                150.12732
                        44.180614 ... 149.79759
[ 44.492287
             44.350613
                                                150.0778
                                                           149.77635 ]
 [ 43.646873
             43.590538
                        43.562504 ... 147.7298
                                                148.82109
                                                           149.29768 ]
 . . .
 [ 20.281096
             20.186028
                        20.071451 ... 106.69953
                                                 93.09295
                                                            83.79199 ]
 [ 20.205025
             20.13359
                        20.046276 ... 80.62758
                                                            62.30358 ]
                                                 71.11945
[ 20.16152
             20.102564
                       20.033293 ...
                                      65.56552
                                                 56.724525
                                                           46.839134]]
[[ 42.762764 42.892406
                                                           144.58104 ]
                       42.67096
                                 ... 146.0912
                                                145.20709
[ 43.14627
             43.263447
                        43.141045 ... 145.02187
                                                           143.69063 ]
                                                144.6713
 [ 43.753468 43.769325
                        43.798447 ... 141.0417
                                                           141.77148 ]
                                                142.32797
 . . .
 [ 20.268656
            20.194078
                       20.08938
                                 . . .
                                      72.89162
                                                 70.64532
                                                            65.348694]
 20.052374 ...
                                      59.554634
                                                 49.809177
                                                           42.573883]
 20.035168 ...
                                      48.16472
                                                 36.145966
                                                            31.134487]]]
```

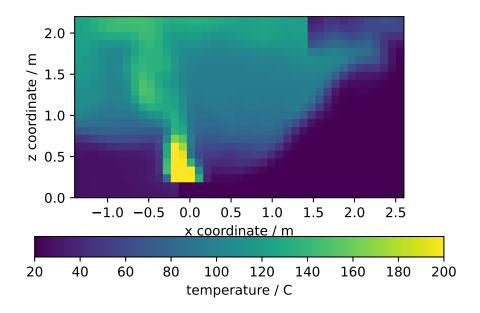
# Initial visualasation of the data at time t=50 s
it = slc.get\_nearest\_timestep(50)
plt.imshow(slc\_data[it])

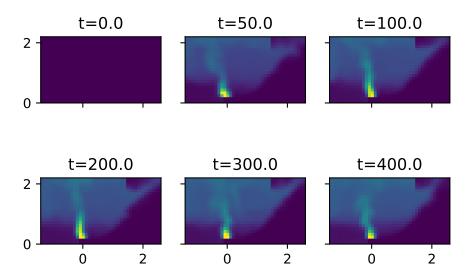


# Access the transpose data using ndarray.T and set the origin of the output
plt.imshow(slc\_data[it].T, origin='lower')



Text(0, 0.5, 'z coordinate / m')





# 3 Available safe egress time

```
import fdsreader
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
```

This example demonstrates an analysis of slice data, here to determine the map of available safe egress time (ASET) and the temporal evolution of the smoke layer height. The used scenario is a multi-room appartment.

```
path_to_data = '../skript/01-data/apartment_01'

sim = fdsreader.Simulation(path_to_data)
print(sim)
```

```
# get the soot density slice, normal to z at 1.5m height
slc = sim.slices.get_by_id('SootDensityZ_1.5m')

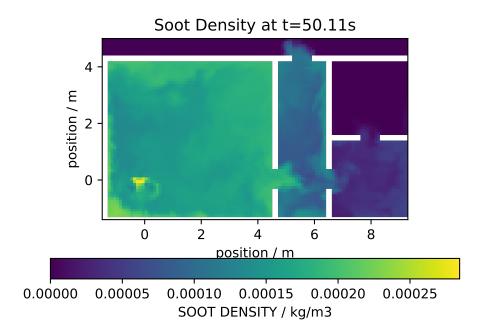
# as the simulation is based on multiple meshes, a global
# data structure is created, walls are represented as
# non-valid data points, i.e. nan
slc_data = slc.to_global(masked=True, fill=np.nan)
```

First, a visualisation of the data at a selected point is done with the imshow function.

```
# find the time index
it = slc.get_nearest_timestep(50)

# visualise the data
plt.imshow(slc_data[it,:,:].T, origin='lower', extent=slc.extent.as_list())

# add labels
plt.title(f'Soot Density at t={slc.times[it]:.2f}s')
plt.xlabel('position / m')
plt.ylabel('position / m')
plt.colorbar(orientation='horizontal', label=f'{slc.quantity.name} / {slc.quantity.unit}' )
```



Now, the local ASET values are computed:

- 1. Iterate over all spatial elements of the slice
- 2. Determine all points in time which exceed the tenability threshold
- 3. f this happens at any time, set the first time to be the local ASET value

```
# set arbitrary values as tenability threshold
soot_density_limit = 1e-4

# create a map with max ASET as default value
aset_map = np.full_like(slc_data[0], slc.times[-1])
```

With the computed map, a graphical respresentation of the ASET map is done the same way as with the other quantities. Here, a discrete color map is used.

```
# create a discrete (12 values) color map
# cmap = matplotlib.cm.get_cmap('jet_r', 12)
cmap = plt.cm.get_cmap('jet_r', 12)

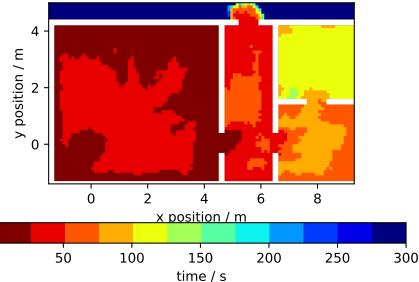
# visualise the data
plt.imshow(aset_map.T, origin='lower', extent=slc.extent.as_list(), cmap=cmap)
plt.title(f'ASET Map with Soot Density Limit of {soot_density_limit:.1e}')
plt.xlabel('x position / m')
plt.ylabel('y position / m')
plt.colorbar(orientation='horizontal', label='time / s' );

# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_aset_map.svg', bbox_inches='tight')

# plt.close()
```

/var/folders/p\_/ks3trxjx0jd839\_g4g0vm4nc0000gn/T/ipykernel\_95944/3953631812.py:3: Matplotlib cmap = plt.cm.get\_cmap('jet\_r', 12)





#### 3.1 Smoke layer

In this example, the smoke layer height is analysed. The distinction made here is based on a simple threshold in temperature: The local smoke layer height is given by the lowest point above a given temperature. The evaluation is done based on a slice across the burner and normal to the x-direction.

```
# find the slice
slc = sim.slices.get_by_id('BurnerTempX')

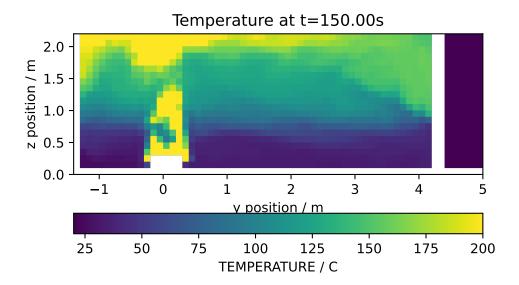
# convert it to a global data structure and get the coordinates
slc_data, slc_coords = slc.to_global(masked=True, fill=np.nan, return_coordinates=True)
```

First, the data at a arbitrary point in time is visualsied. The white parts represent the obsticles.

```
# pick a time index
it = slc.get_nearest_timestep(150)

# visualise the data
plt.imshow(slc_data[it,:,:].T, origin='lower', vmax=200, extent=slc.extent.as_list())
plt.title(f'Temperature at t={slc.times[it]:.2f}s')
```

```
plt.xlabel('y position / m')
plt.ylabel('z position / m')
plt.colorbar(orientation='horizontal', label=f'{slc.quantity.name} / {slc.quantity.unit}' )
# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_temp_slice.svg', bbox_inches='tight')
# plt.close()
```



Now, for each y-position the z-indices are found, where the temperature exceedes the limit temperature. The lowest value is the smoke layer height at the y-position.

```
# set temperature limit
temperature_limit = 75

# create a data array to store the local height values, default
# is the maximal z-coordinate
layer_height = np.full(slc_data.shape[1], slc_coords['z'][-1])

# loop over all indices
for ix in range(len(layer_height)):
    # find indices which exceed the limit
    lt = np.where(slc_data[it, ix, :] > temperature_limit)[0]
    # if there are any, pick the lowest one
    if len(lt) > 0:
        layer_height[ix] = slc_coords['z'][lt[0]]
```

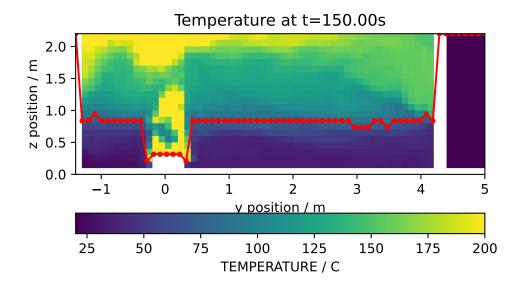
The resulting values can now be plotted over the slice file, to check for plausibility.

```
# slice data
plt.imshow(slc_data[it,:,:].T, origin='lower', vmax=200, extent=slc.extent.as_list())
plt.title(f'Temperature at t={slc.times[it]:.2f}s')
plt.xlabel('y position / m')
plt.ylabel('z position / m')
plt.colorbar(orientation='horizontal', label=f'{slc.quantity.name} / {slc.quantity.unit}' );

# smoke layer height
plt.plot(slc_coords['y'], layer_height, '.-', color='red')

# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_temp_slice_height.svg', bbox_inches='tight')

# plt.close()
```



Using the above approach for a single point in time, a loop over all times can be used to compute, e.g., the mean and standard deviation of the smoke layer height.

```
layer_mean = np.zeros_like(slc.times)
layer_stddev = np.zeros_like(slc.times)

res = np.zeros(slc_data.shape[1])

for it in range(len(slc.times)):
```

```
res[:] = slc_coords['z'][-1]

for ix in range(len(res)):
    lt = np.where(slc_data[it, ix, :] > temperature_limit)[0]
    if len(lt) > 0:
        res[ix] = slc_coords['z'][lt[0]]

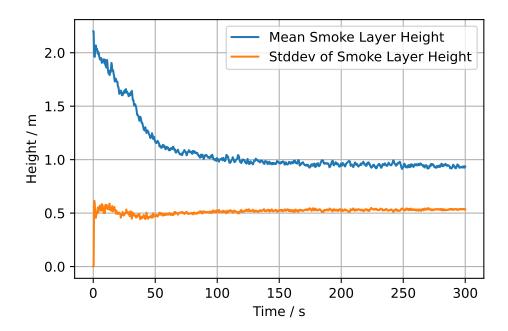
layer_mean[it] = np.mean(res)
layer_stddev[it] = np.std(res)
```

```
# plot the mean and stddev values as functions of time
plt.plot(slc.times, layer_mean, label='Mean Smoke Layer Height')
plt.plot(slc.times, layer_stddev, label='Stddev of Smoke Layer Height')
plt.grid()
plt.legend()
plt.rlabel('Time / s')
plt.ylabel('Height / m')

# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_layer_mean_stddev.svg', bbox_inches='tight')

# plt.close()
```

```
Text(0, 0.5, 'Height / m')
```



Both values can be combined and visualised jointly, where the standard deviation is used to indicate a fluctuation band around the mean value.

```
# plot the mean
plt.plot(slc.times, layer_mean, label='Mean Smoke Layer Height')

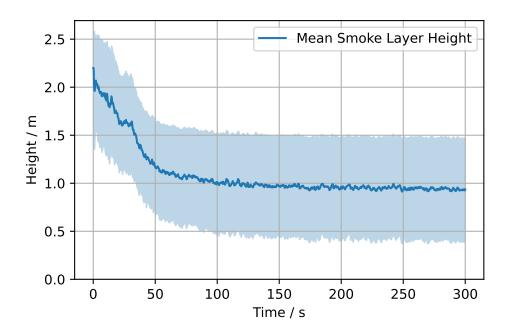
# plot a band around the mean, using the stddev as band borders
plt.fill_between(slc.times, layer_mean-layer_stddev, layer_mean+layer_stddev, color='CO', alg

# show the floor for reference
plt.ylim(bottom=0)
plt.grid()
plt.legend()
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('Time / s')
plt.ylabel('Height / m')

# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_layer_mean_band.svg', bbox_inches='tight')

# plt.close()
```

Text(0, 0.5, 'Height / m')



If parts of the region shall be excluded in the analysis, a coordinate dependent mask can be used for this.

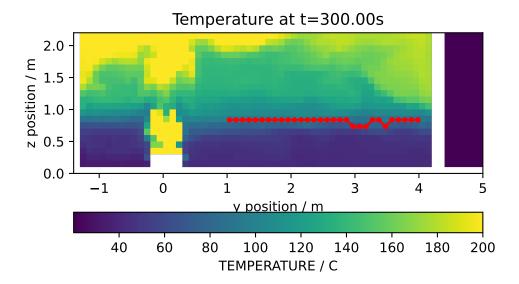
```
# find indices, where the y coordinate is between the given values
ymin = 1
ymax = 4
coord_mask = np.where((slc_coords['y'] > ymin) & (slc_coords['y'] < ymax))</pre>
```

```
# slice data
plt.imshow(slc_data[it,:,:].T, origin='lower', vmax=200, extent=slc.extent.as_list())
plt.title(f'Temperature at t={slc.times[it]:.2f}s')
plt.xlabel('y position / m')
plt.ylabel('z position / m')
plt.colorbar(orientation='horizontal', label=f'{slc.quantity.name} / {slc.quantity.unit}' );

# smoke layer height
plt.plot(slc_coords['y'][coord_mask], layer_height[coord_mask], '.-', color='red')

# save output to file
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_temp_slice_height_mask.svg', bbox_inches='tight')

# plt.close()
```



The above procedure can be reused, yet the computation of the mean and standard deviation is carried out on the masked values.

```
for it in range(len(slc.times)):
    res[:] = slc_coords['z'][-1]

    for ix in np.ndindex(res.shape):
        lt = np.where(slc_data[it, ix, :] > temperature_limit)[1]
        if len(lt) > 0:
            res[ix] = slc_coords['z'][lt[0]]

# computation is carried out on the masked values now
layer_mean[it] = np.mean(res[coord_mask])
layer_stddev[it] = np.std(res[coord_mask])
```

```
# same plot as above
plt.plot(slc.times, layer_mean, label='Mean Smoke Layer Height')
plt.fill_between(slc.times, layer_mean-layer_stddev, layer_mean+layer_stddev, color='CO', alg
plt.ylim(bottom=0)
plt.grid()
plt.legend()
plt.xlabel('Time / s')
plt.ylabel('Height / m')
# save output to file
```

```
#plt.savefig('figs/appartment_layer_mean_band_mask.svg', bbox_inches='tight')
# plt.close()
```

Text(0, 0.5, 'Height / m')

