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Uncertainty and global sensitivity analysis

on building performance simulation (BPS)

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Aims of this workshop

- Acquire the concept and the basis of uncertainty and sensitivity analysis
- Understand some key point for the management of uncertainties in building simulation (or other complex model) and the use of uncertainty and sensitivity analysis
- Overview of the capabilities of these statisticals methods
- → Advantages and limits of the most known methods (SOBOL, MORRIS, etc.)

Means

Applications and case studies in building performance simulation to illustrate the purpose

References to simplify research on each aspect of the methods Advice and good practice in the presentation

At the end: demonstration of the capabilities of the library on Sensitivity Analysis SALib in Python by Nicolas Cellier (15 min) [Jupyter Notebook]

Performing easily SA with Morris, Sobol, RBD-FAST, etc...

Structure of the presentation

- Introduction: Building Performance and uncertainty
- Warning: Avoid the One factor At the Time technique!
- Methodology: The 6 steps to perform Uncertainty and Sensitivity Analysis
- Application: Methods for Building Performance Simulation
- → Understand the differences between Morris and RBD-FAST
 - → Presentation of RBD-FAST Method

Introduction

Building Performance Simulation and Uncertainties

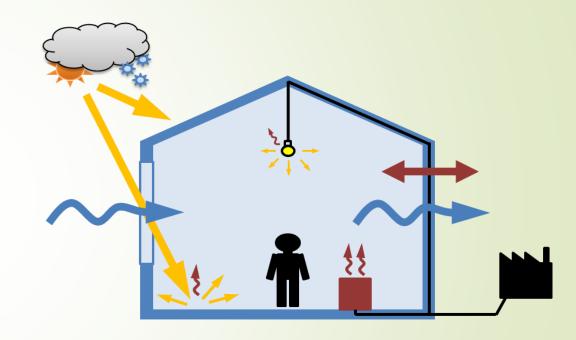
Deterministic versus statistic

- Uncertainty and sensitivity analysis → statistical methods
- Explore the model over different combinations of values for the uncertain inputs
- bring a statistical approach from the deterministic model
 - → deterministic result
 - → N evaluation with the same inputs → N same result
 - → Building performance simulation

Building performance simulation (BPS)

6

- Annual simulation with a hourly timestep
- Modelling of the physical phenomena
- Energy transfer in a zone
 - combined heat and mass transfer, ventilation, infiltration, phase change, radiation, daylighting, ...
 - Generation of energy
 - Internal gain: people equipement, lighting, HVAC sytem, etc... Etc.

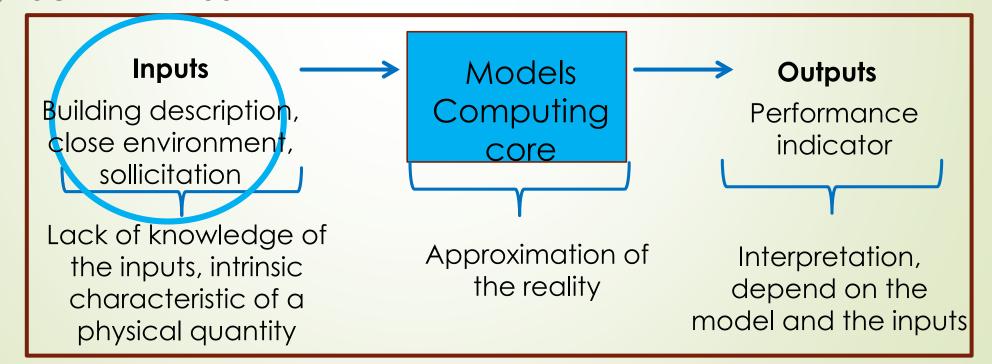


- Performance indicator
 - Energy need
 - Consumption (equipement and use as scenarios and occupant)
 - Thermal, visual comfort, ventilation, air quality, mould risk, ...

A need of reliability

- BPS: Complex model, not transparent, modular (choice of sub model depending on the building case), no linear, no monotonic with a lot of uncertain inputs
- - → Reliability, risk assesment on the result
 - → Uncertainty at each step of the BPS

SOFTWARE USER



7

The albedo

The ratio between the incident solar part and the reflected part (value between 0 and 1)

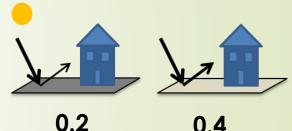
The value commonly used: concrete ground: 0.2

Close Environment of the real building studied: white concrete: 0.4

In situ measure

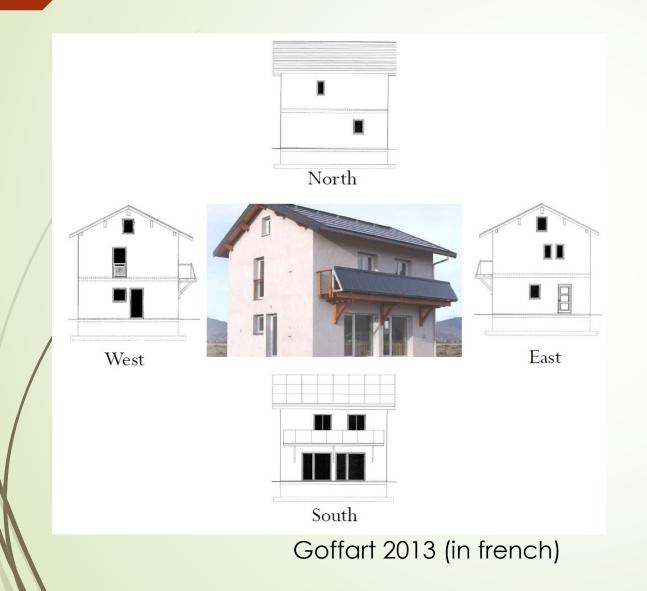
Variability during the day: temporal dependence Short campaign measure (2 weeks in april): order of magnitude

| Type d'information | Valeur |
|--------------------|----------|
| Moyenne | 0,39 |
| Max | 0,43 |
| Min | $0,\!25$ |



Impact of the underestimation of the albedo during the summer?

Case study: uncertainty on a assumption



Bio-climatic insulated building in France

improve free energy gain

- Increase solar gain in winter and reduce energy loss
 Huge window at south facade vs tiny window in north
- Decrease solar gain in summer:
 reduce internal temperature
 →Overhang: balcony at the south
 façade

Impact of an assumption, an approximation of the solar part?

impact of the albedo on summer discomfort

Evaluation of the indoor air temperature during july and august

Output: number of hour T_{in} > 27 °C Equivalent of the day of discomfort

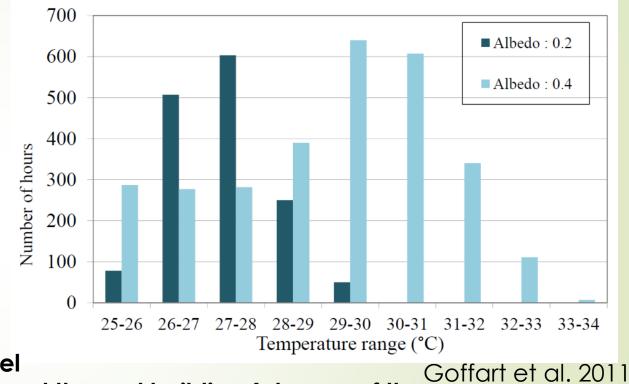
| Albedo 0.2 | Albedo 0.4 |
|------------|------------|
| 40 days | 99 days |

Significant impact in a particular case: **Involve different kind of uncertainty:**

- Variability of the input
- Constant value assumption: the model

Difference between the design stage and the real building (change of the close environment ground)

Different kind and level of uncertainty



A need of methodology to identify how important are the individual inputs for the prediction And to acquire more knowledge on the most important input

Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis techniques in order to gain into transparence in building simulation

- Sensitivity analysis: determine the most influential input
 - Point the weaknesses of the model, the reduction of the uncertainty of some inputs,...
 - Simplification of the model (no influential inputs)
 - Prioritizing research effort (modelling, instrumentation)
 - Prioritizing input estimation, measure
- Uncertainty analysis: evaluate the uncertainty of an output model from the input uncertainty: confidence bound

 - Confidence bound → Risk analysis, Model ROBUSTNESS



Stability of the response model under an uncertain environment

the ability of tolerating perturbations

Procedure

Input uncertainty:

Different kind?

What is an uncertainty?

How to determinate?

Sample generation

Output

Propagation through model

Dynamic (temperature)

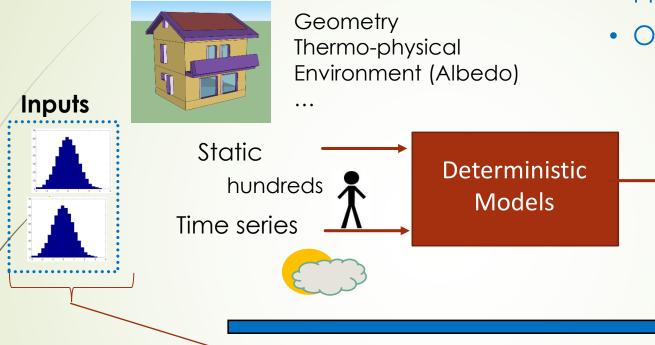
Threshold (discomfort, mould

Scalar (energy need,

consumption)

Output analysis

risk)



Extract, determine which input is the most responsible for the uncertainty input

→ Sensitivity analysis

Estimate confidence bound

→ Uncertainty analysis

GLOBAL Sensitivity Analysis: both UA and SA

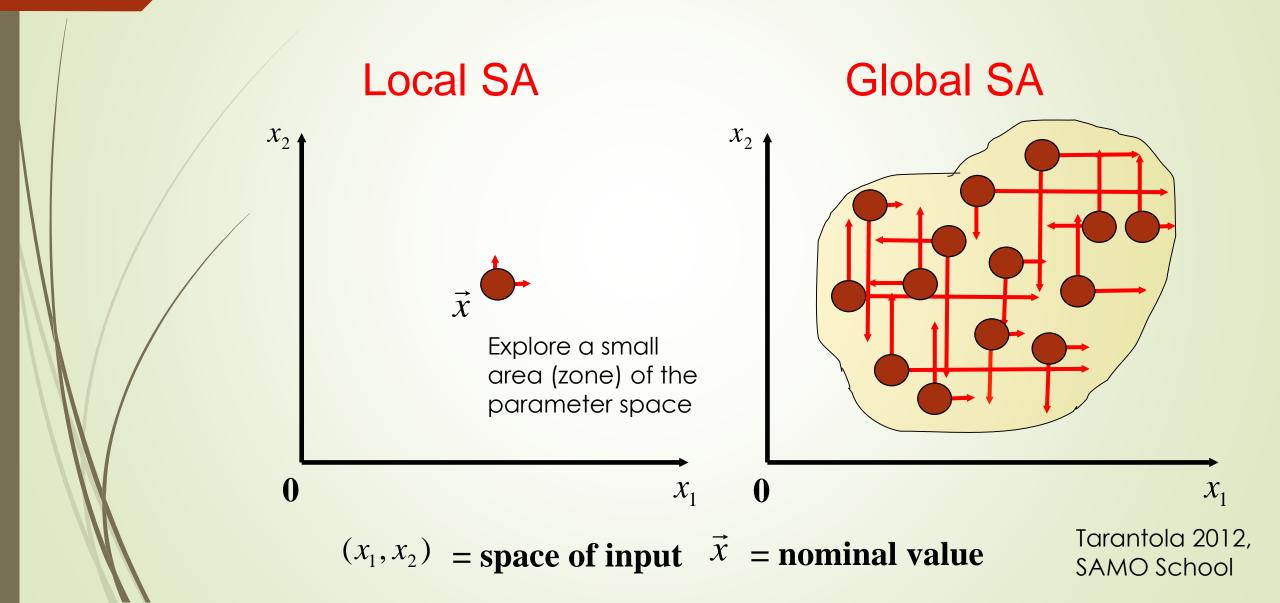
« Uncertainty » workshop : Antoine Caucheteux [Tuesday]

13

Not LOCAL

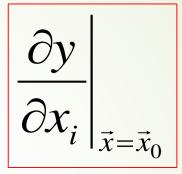
Not « One factor At the Time » (OAT)

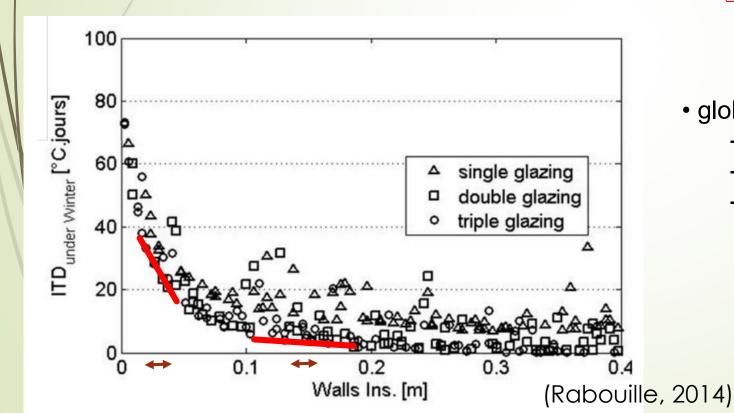
Local vs global techniques



Local vs global techniques

- · local SA:
 - evaluation of partial derivatives
 - works in the neighborhood of nominal point x₀
 - use of Taylor-like formulas





- global SA:
 - full range of uncertainty
 - Monte Carlo methods to generate samples
 - All factors explored simultaneously

Local vs global techniques

| Local | Simple to evaluate Require only few model runs Unt | Explore very small area of input space One factor at a time til 99 % unexplored space (Saltel) | li et al. 2010b |
|--------|--|--|-----------------|
| Global | Explore full range of uncertainty All factors explored simultaneously | Require high number of model runs Reduced by RBD FAST (Second part of the presentation) | |

OAT -> Parametric study (not a sensitivity analysis) Until 99 % unexplored space

Variation of only one input, the other are fixed

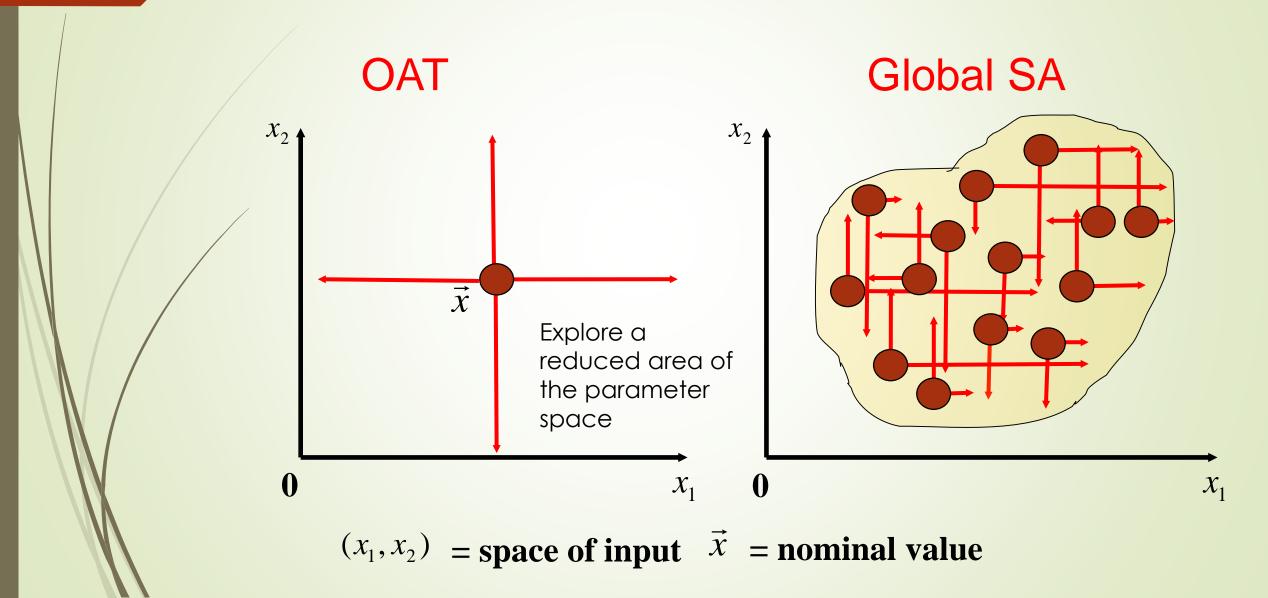
→ Choice of the fixed values ?

heat rate gain [W/m²]

U-value \rightarrow 1.44 0.720.48 0.280.36 Solar absorptivity [-] 0.8 20 0.4 Insulation [cm]

OAT Doesn't Catch the Interactions

One factor at the time



Methodology to perform uncertainty and GLOBAL sensitivity analysis

The 6 steps

Steps for a GLOBAL uncertainty and sensitivity analysis

As Lilburne et al. 2009, a global SA follows six steps:

- (1) **Specify** the goal of the study: output of interest? Question?
- (2) Select the inputs of interest
- (3) Assign a range and a statistical distribution to the selected inputs
- (4) Apply a sampling design to generate a sample of size N from the distributions of the inputs
- (5) Evaluate the model for each sample set of input values obtaining N values for the output
- (6) Use the results of step 5 for uncertainty analysis and apply an estimator of sensitivity to obtain the relative importance of the inputs

Add a step (7): **interpret** the estimator of sensitivity according to the context of the study

Important preliminary research work

DEFINITION of the STUDY

Statistics Methods



here!

- (1) Specify the goal of the study: output of interest? Question?
- (2) **Select** the inputs of interest

The most important question is the question! (Saltelli)

What is the output of interest, how to quantify my issue?

What are the uncertain inputs?

→What are the **fixed inputs**?

→At what value is the fixed input fixed?

Which range of variation?

Which distribution law?

What model? (assumptions on the building modelled, etc.)





Add a step (7): **interpret** the estimator of sensitivity according to the context of the study

Step (3): assign range and distribution to inputs

The uncertainty of model inputs can be characterized through a probability density function (pdf).

Characterizing uncertainties is a challenge!

Scientific literature

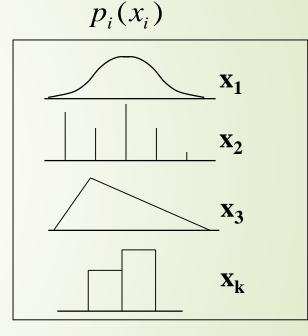
Physical bounds

Experiments

Expert review processes

Opinion polls, surveys

Underestimate or overestimate the range of the uncertainty may imply different result: coherent with the goal of the study



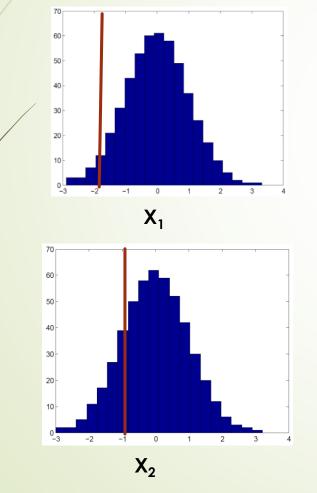
Helton et al.1993

EX: Uncertainties of the conductivity of the insulation: laboratory measure, aging effect, construction defect etc... It depends on the issue of the study

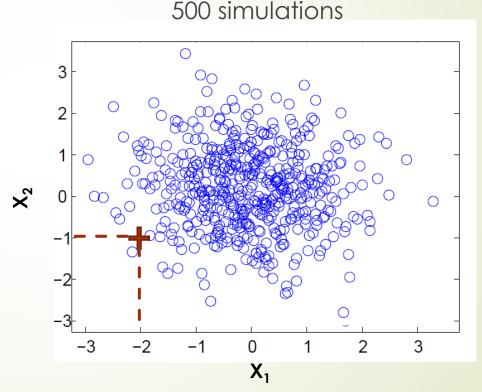
Sample Generation : Monte Carlo

Generation random numbers from the distribution of the model parameters, that is used for the analysis

→ Explore the entire range of variation (Global)



23



- Optimizing the exploration space
- → LHS, etc.

24

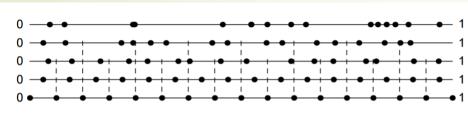


Figure 2.2 Different ways of distributing points from 0 to 1

[Saltelli 2008]

Latin Hypercube Sampling: LHS (Helton 1993)

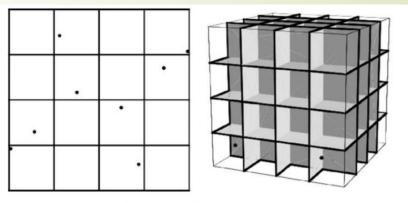
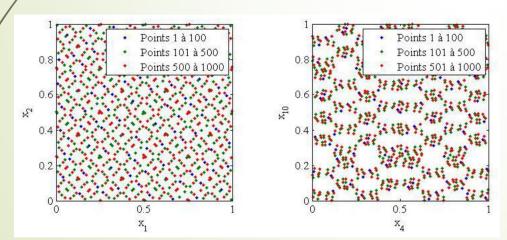
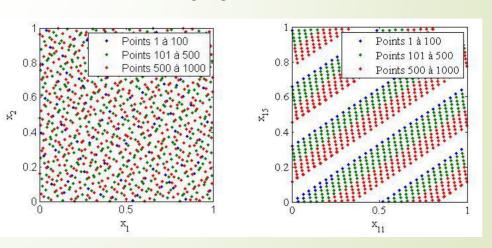


Figure 2.7 Combined fractional factorial - Latin hypercube design

Quasi-Monte Carlo Sobol Sequence



Halton



[Rabouille 2014]

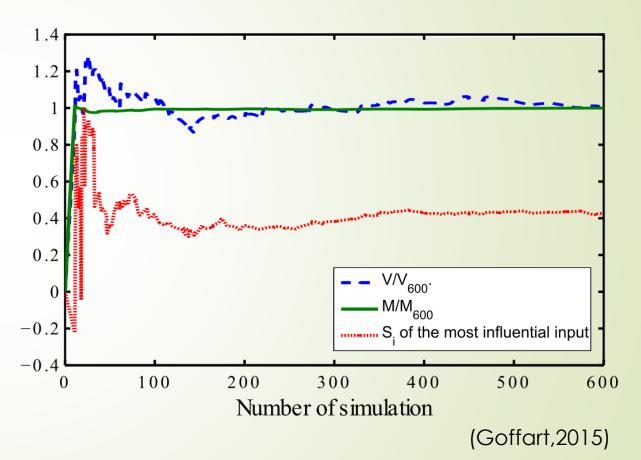
Less simulation to obtain the same statistical result

Convergence

 Evolution of statistical quantities according to the number of simulations

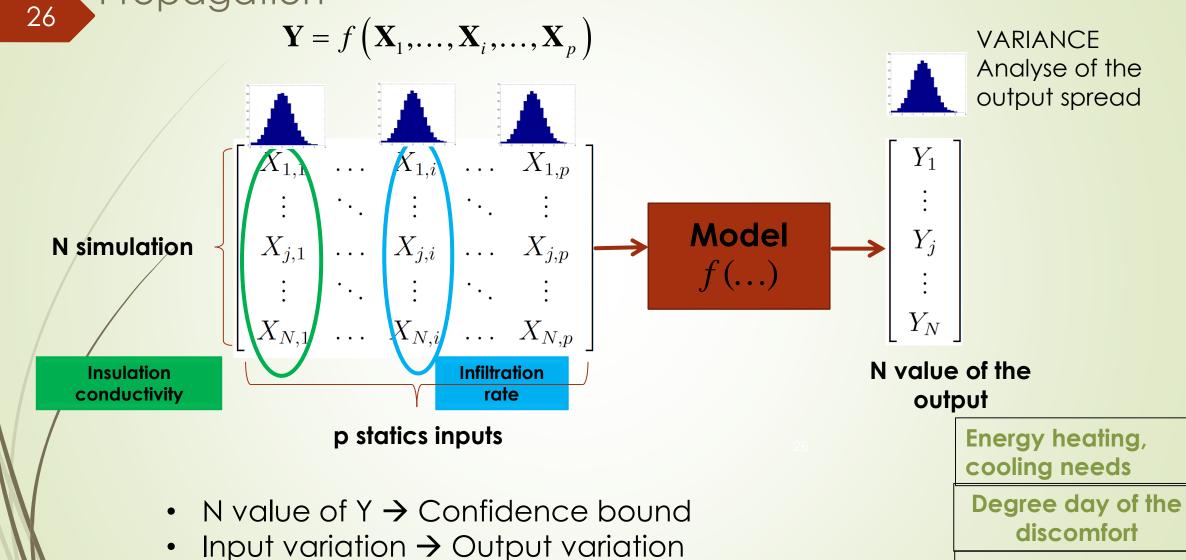
Mean, Variance, etc.

- Sufficient evaluation to obtain a stable result
- → representative sample

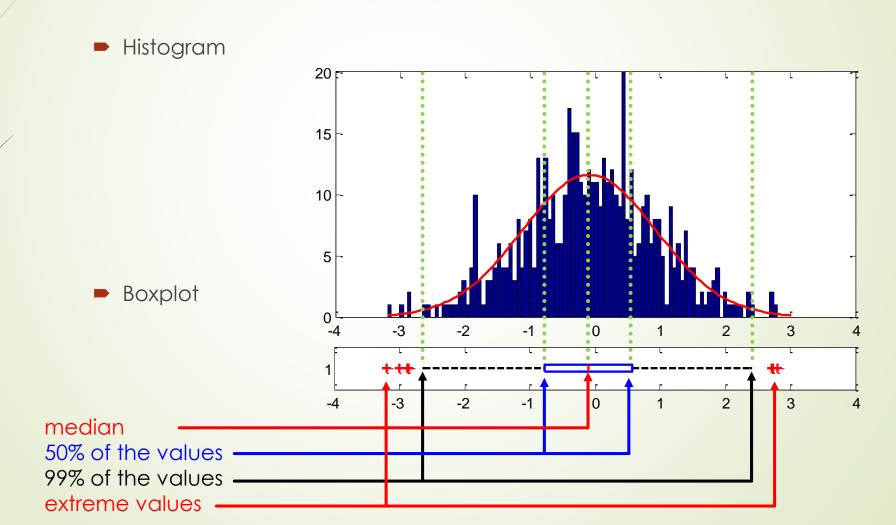


(5) Evaluate the model for each sample set of input values obtaining N values for the output

Propagation



Representation and interpretation of output uncertainty



Boxplot

→ Convenient for asymmetric distribution

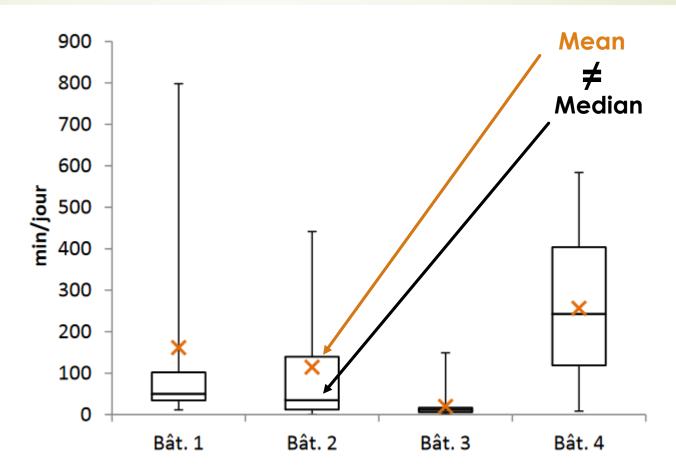
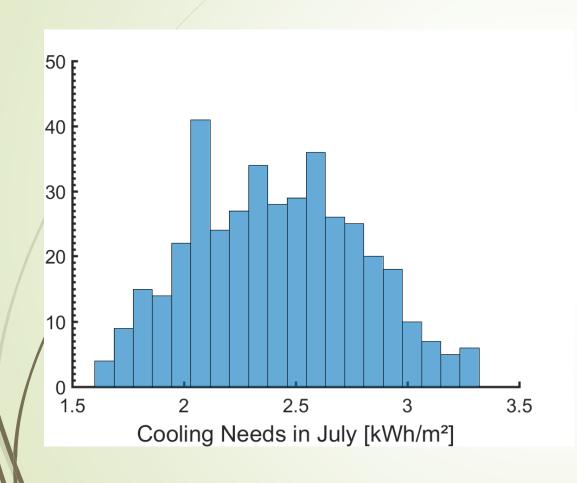


Figure 101 : Boxplots des durées d'ouvertures des fenêtres pour les quatre bâtiments instrumentés. Les moyennes sont représentées par les croix oranges.

First Result: Output Uncertainty



- N value of Y → Confidence bound
- Input variation → Output variation
- → 39 uncertain inputs
- → 400 Simulations

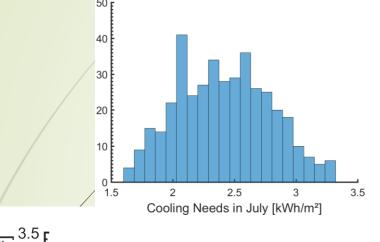
And Then?

Reducible ? Manage the main input responsible? By measure etc..

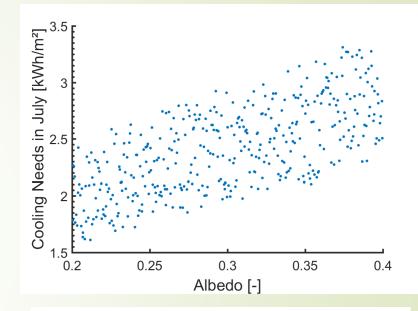
Input(s) responsible(s) for this dispersion ?

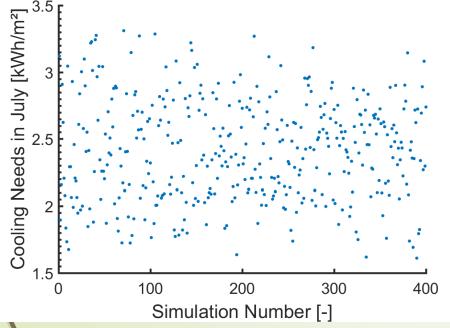
→ Sensitivity Analysis

Scatterplot: Output dispersion VS Input Variation

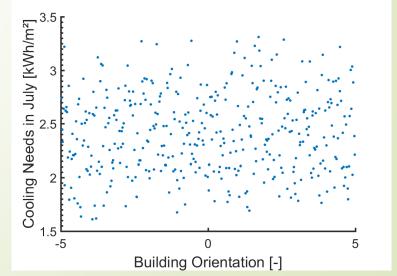


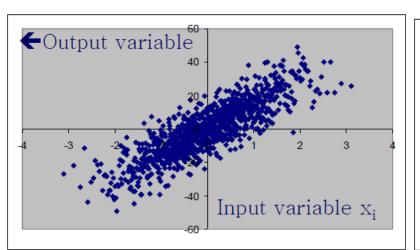
According to the albedo variation

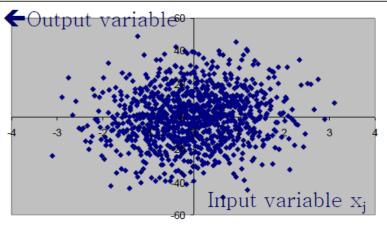




According to the orientation variation



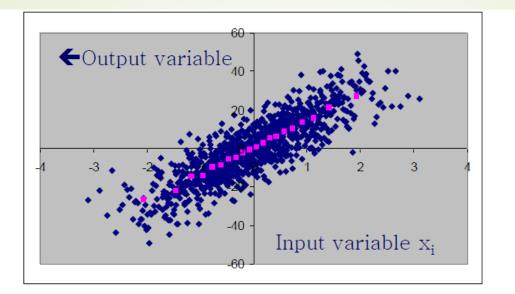


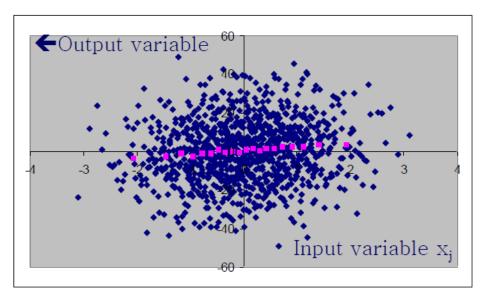


Which factor is more important?

Why?

From Saltelli's presentation: http://www.andreasaltelli.eu/file/repository/Berkeley_ensalada1.pdf

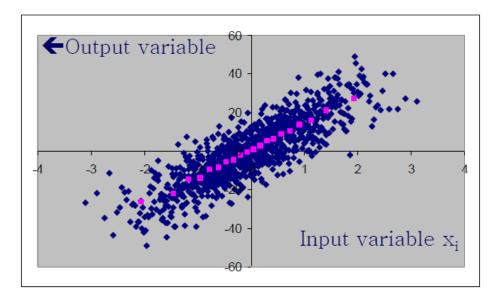




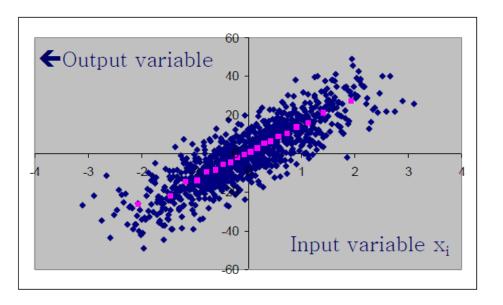
~1,000 blue points

Divide them in 20 bins of ~ 50 points

Compute the bin's average (pink dots)

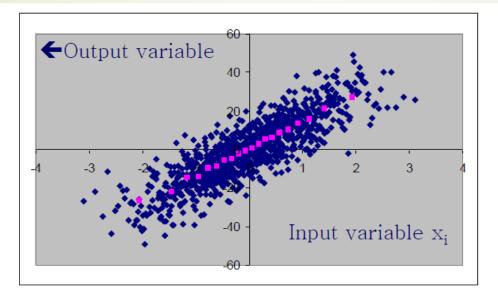


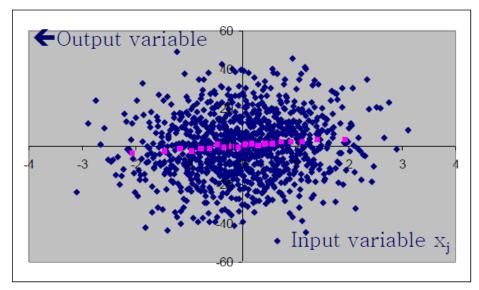
Each pink point is ~
$$E_{\mathbf{X}_{\sim i}}(Y|X_i)$$



Take the variance of the pink points and $V_{X_i}\left(E_{\mathbf{X}_{\sim i}}\left(Y|X_i\right)\right)$ the pink points and you have a sensitivity measure

$$V_{X_i}\left(E_{\mathbf{X}_{\sim i}}\left(Y|X_i\right)\right)$$



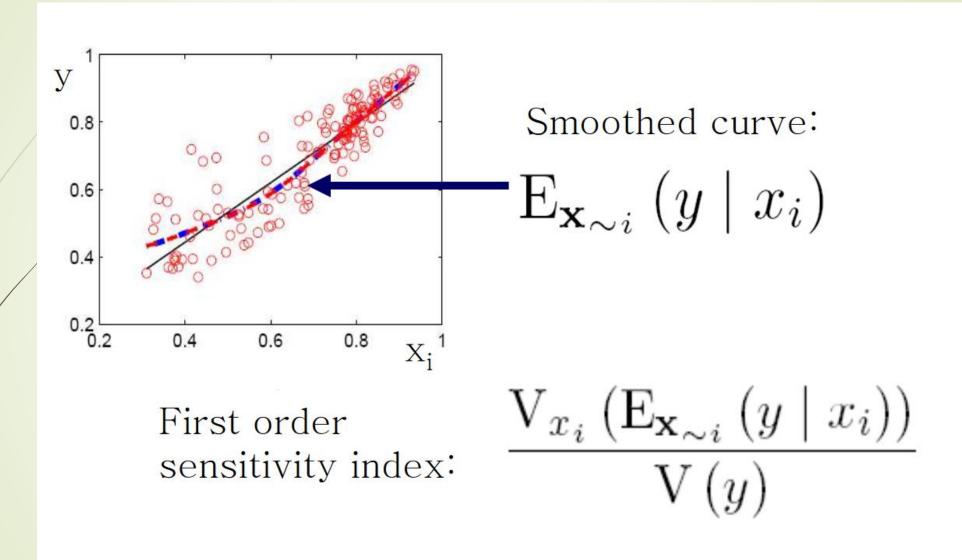


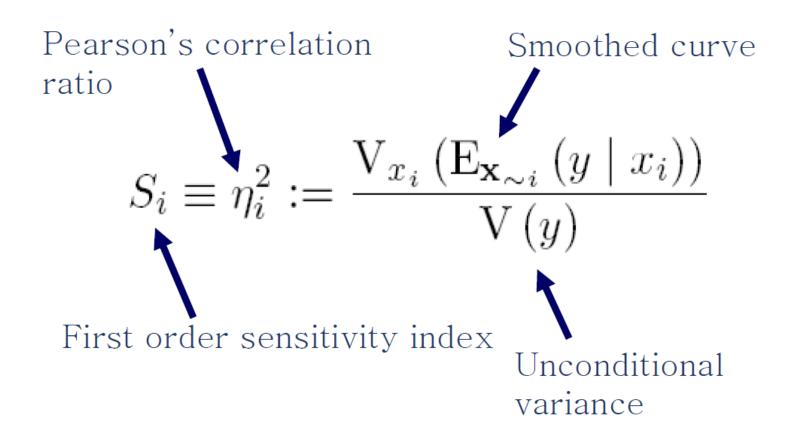
Which factor has the highest

$$V_{X_i}\left(E_{\mathbf{X}_{\sim i}}\left(Y|X_i\right)\right)$$
?

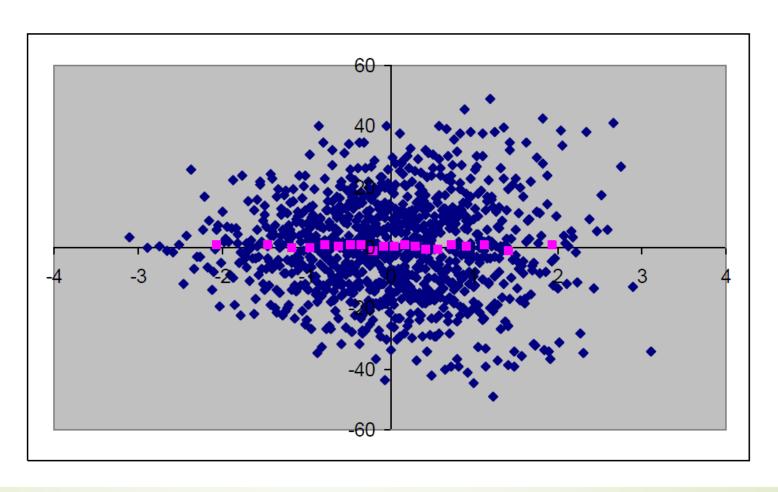
(6) **Use** the results of step 5 for uncertainty analysis and **apply** an estimator of sensitivity to obtain the relative importance of the inputs

$$S_i \equiv \frac{V(E(Y|X_i))}{V_Y}$$





Is $S_i = 0$? Is this factor non-important?



High order effect

Variance decomposition (ANOVA)

$$V(Y) =$$

$$\sum_{i} V_{i} + \sum_{i,j>i} V_{ij} + ... + V_{123...k}$$

First order effect

Second order effect

k order effect

Variance-based sensitivity indices

Sobol's Sensitivity indexes of the first order (Sobol, 1993)

$$S_{i} = \frac{V(E[Y|X_{i}])}{V(Y)}$$

- → Part of the Y variance due to the input X_i
- → Input responsible

Sobol's Decomposition of the variance (Independent p input) (Sobol 1993)

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{p} V_i + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le p} V_{ij} + \ldots + V_{1 \dots p}$$

Sobol indices for the second and third order

$$S_{ij} = \frac{V_{ij}}{V}$$

$$S_{ij} = \frac{V_{ij}}{V} \qquad S_{ijk} = \frac{V_{ijk}}{V}$$

- Robust, intuitive (between 0 and 100 %), independent of the model complexity
- Highlighting interactions among uncertain inputs
- Applicable to any kind of model

Interactions

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{p} V_i + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le p} V_{ij} + \ldots + V_{1 \dots p}$$

$$\frac{V}{V} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{p} V_i}{V} + \frac{\sum_{1 \le i < j \le p} V_{ij}}{V} + \dots + \frac{V_{1...p}}{V}$$

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^{p} S_i + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le p} S_{ij} + \dots + S_{1...p}$$

$$S_{ijk} = \frac{V_{ijk}}{V}$$

Divide by the total Variance V

$$S_i = \frac{V_i}{V} \quad S_{ij} = \frac{V_{ij}}{V}$$

$$S_{ijk} = \frac{V_{ijk}}{V}$$

Very often: all the output dispersion explained by the first order

VERIFICATION If
$$\sum_{i=1}^{p} S_i \neq 1$$



INTERACTIONS

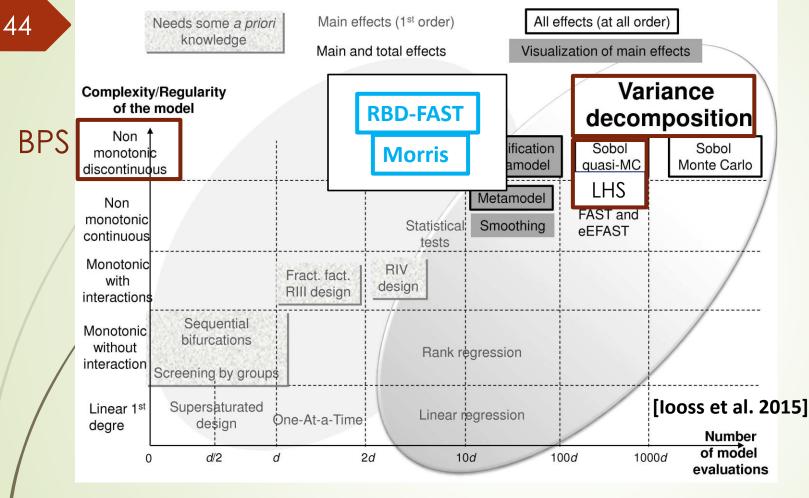
→ Second, third and/or higher effect to compute

Sensitivity analysis: methods for Building Performance Simulation

Presentation of RBD-FAST

-> most suitable method for BPS

Sensitivity Analysis Methods

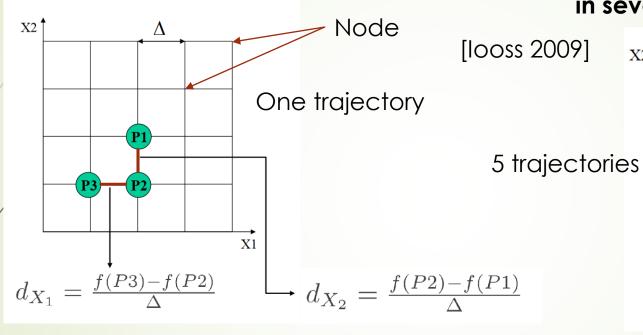


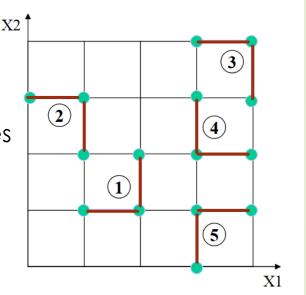
- Functional Variance decomposition
- →Sobol's Method (Saltelli et al. 2010a)
 - Quantity and quality of the extractable information
 - 8 Simulation Cost
- Morris' Screening
 - Rank estimation (qualitative)
 - Simulation Cost
 (Divide by 100 until 1000 compared to Sobol)
- RBD FAST: Variance decomposition with low cost simulation (compute S_i)
 - © Quality and quantity of the extractable information
 - © Simulation cost

Principle of Morris Screening and Improvements

- Morris: A "one factor at a time" method improved
- \rightarrow Grid: Space discretization (\triangle)

→ Estimation of the local elementary effect in several points of space





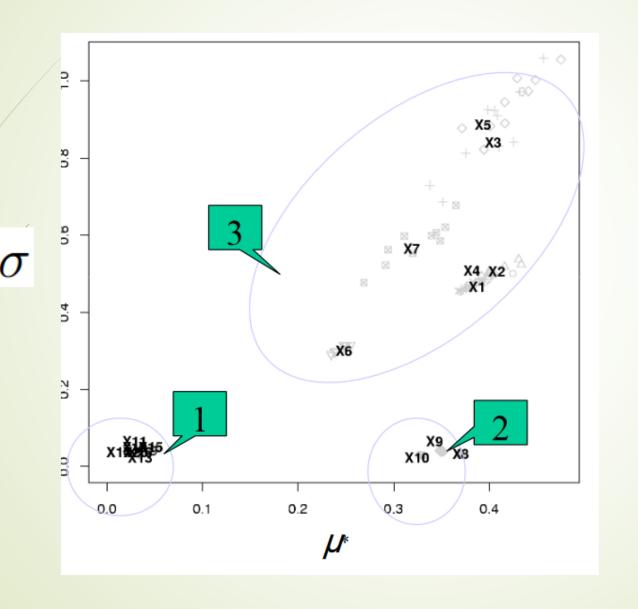
- → 2 indicators for the classification of the effects
 - μ*: average of the absolute values of the effects
 Estimate the influence of each variable
 - $-\sigma$: standard deviation of the effects

Estimate the non-linearity of the variable itself and/ or the interactions with other variables

→ Choice and number of trajectories

Optimisation of the space parameter [Campolongo et al. 2007]

Principle of the Morris Plot



Example: [looss 2009]
20 inputs
210 simulations
→ Plot (mu*, sigma)

3 groups:

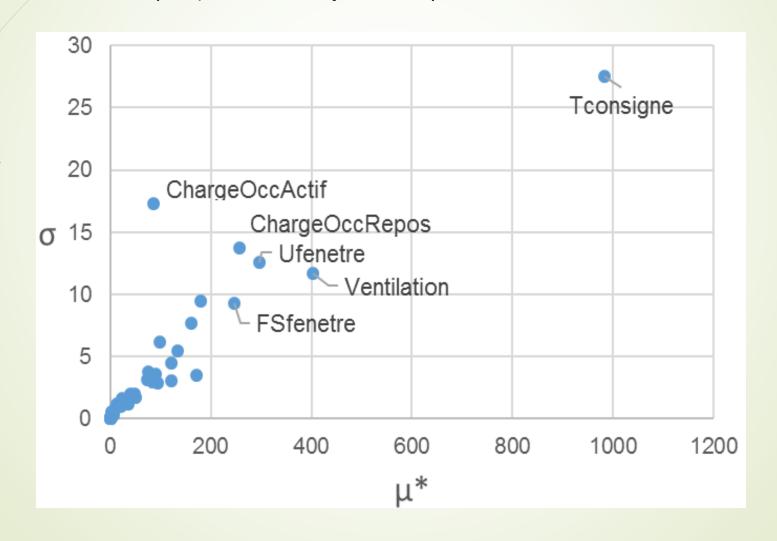
- 1. Negligeable effects
- 2. Linear Effects
- 3. Non-linear effects and/or with interactions

BPS example: 50 inputs, 306 simulations

[Goffart, 2018]

MORRIS

→ 306 simulations (6 optimised trajectories)



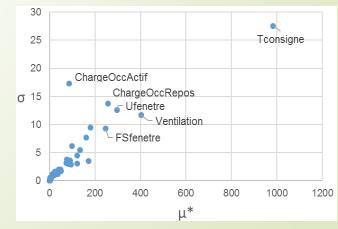
$$d^* = \sqrt{\mu^{*2} + \sigma^2}$$

BPS example: 50 inputs, 306 simulations [Goffart, 2018] MORRIS

$$d^* = \sqrt{\mu^{*2} + \sigma^2}$$

| | Paramètres | Variation du paramètre dans 1'AS | Distance d^* Morris | Rang Morris |
|---|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Température de consigne [°C] | 20 ± 1 | 984 | 1 |
| / | Ventilation [m ³ /(s.m ²)] | $2,05.10^{-4} \pm 10 \%$ | 404 | 2 |
| | Conductance Fenêtre [W/(m ² .K)] | $1,3 \pm 10 \%$ | 298 | 3 |
| | Charge interne occupant au Repos [W] | 63 ± 20 | 257 | 4 |
| | Facteur solaire Fenêtre [-] | $0,49 \pm 10 \%$ | 246 | 5 |
| | Albédo [-] | 0.3 ± 0.1 | 179 | 6 |
| | | | | |

Rank estimation: Qualitative

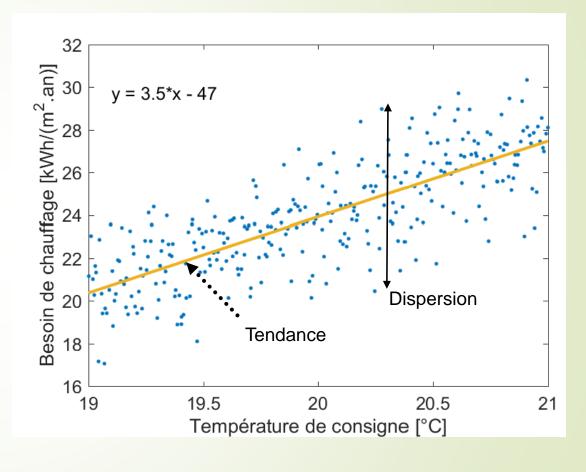


BPS example: 50 inputs, 306 simulations [Goffart, 2018] RBD-FAST (First order sensitivity indices)

| Paramètres | Variation du paramètre dans l'AS | Indice de sensibilité RBD-FAST | Distance d* Morris | Rang Morris |
|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Température de consigne [°C] | 20 ± 1 | 60 % | 984 | 1 |
| Ventilation [m ³ /(s.m ²)] | $2,05.10^{-4} \pm 10$ | 11 % | 404 | 2 |
| Charge interne occupant au Repos [W] | 63 ± 20 | 8 % | 257 | 4 |
| Conductance Fenêtre [W/(m ² .K)] | $1,3 \pm 10 \%$ | 7 % | 298 | 3 |
| Albédo [-] | 0.3 ± 0.1 | 7 % | 179 | 6 |
| Puissance équipement le matin de 6 h à 8 h [W] | 200 ± 200 | 5 % | 162 | 8 |
| Facteur solaire Fenêtre [-] | $0,49 \pm 10$ % | < 4 % | 246 | 5 |
| | $\sum_{i=1}^{p} S_i \simeq 1$ | No inte | eraction | effect |

RBD-FAST (First order sensitivity indices)



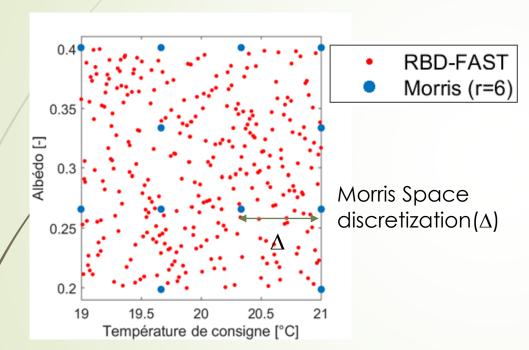


51

RBD FAST: Low cost variance based method [Tarantola et al. 2006]

→ Both sensitivity and uncertainty

 Space exploration: optimised and homogeneous (LHS)



→ Quantify the influence of each input

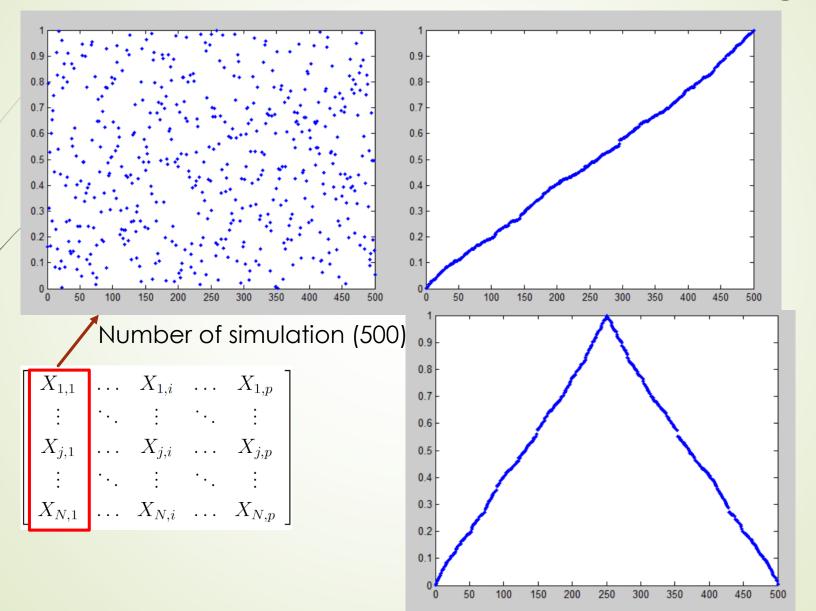
- Frequential decomposition of the variance by **Fourier Transform**
- First order sensitivity indices of Sobol
 - Part of the Y variance due to the variable Xi
 - Intuitive: between 0 and 1

$$S_{i} = \frac{V\left(E[Y|X_{i}]\right)}{V(Y)}$$

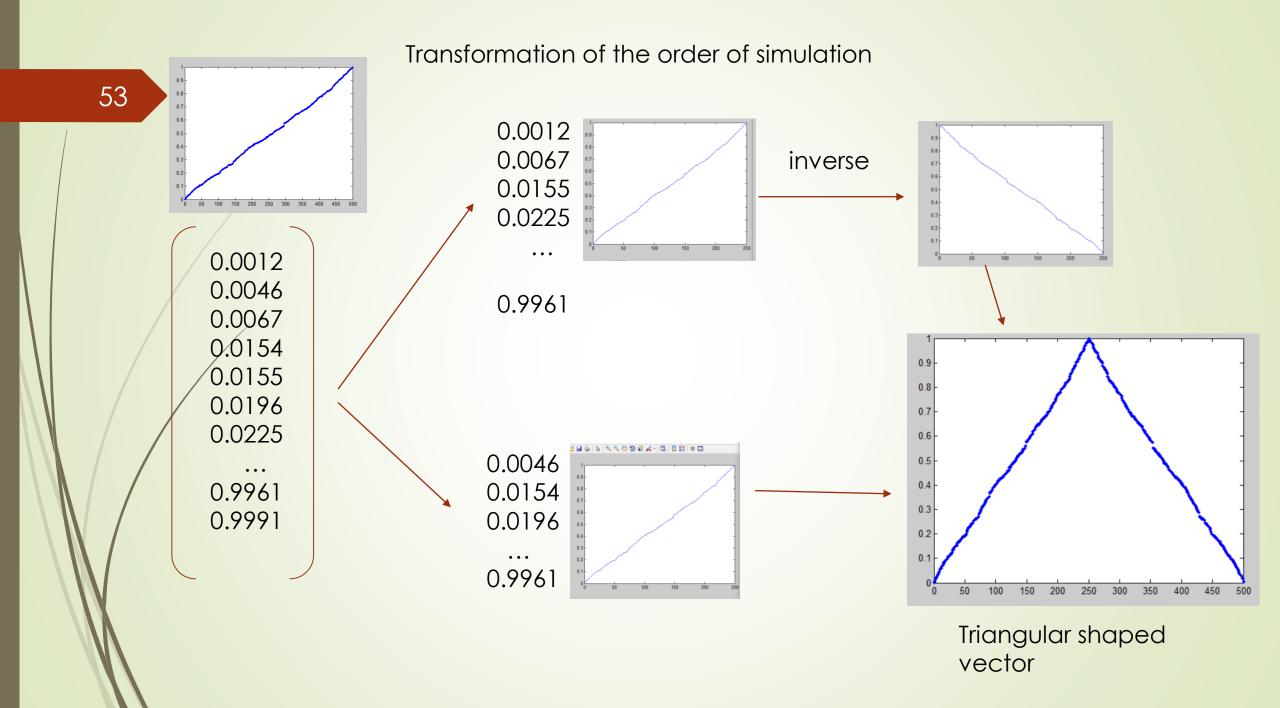
→ Trick of permutation and reordering the simulations with a frequency

- Compute all the first order sensitivity indices with one set of samples
- EASI: induce triangle shape frequency [Plischke 2010]

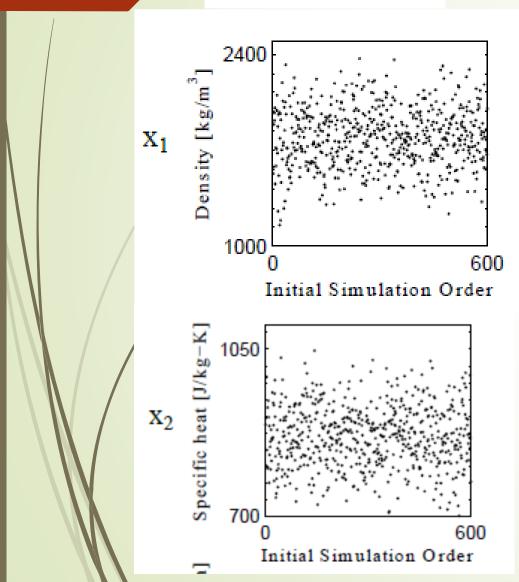
RBD FAST and the pre-processing EASI

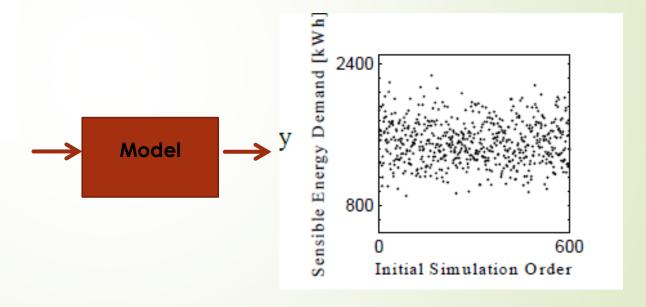


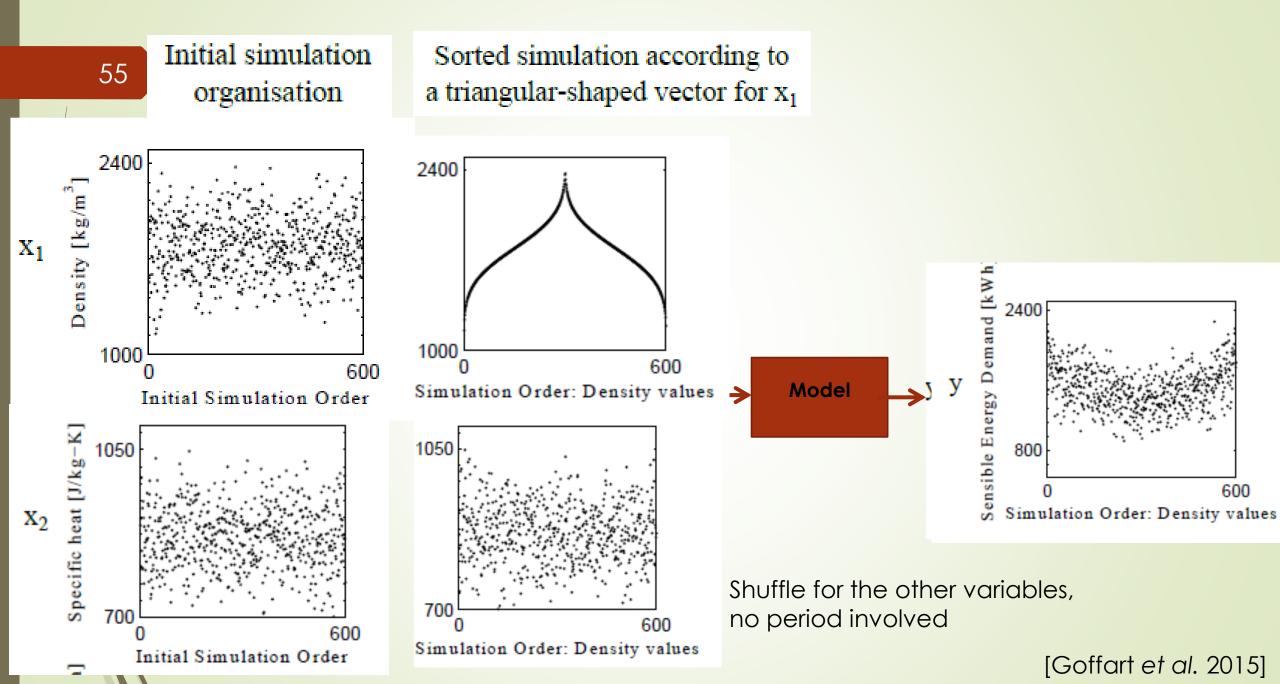
0.0012 0.0046 0.0067 0.0154 0.0155 0.0196 0.0225 ... 0.9961 0.9991

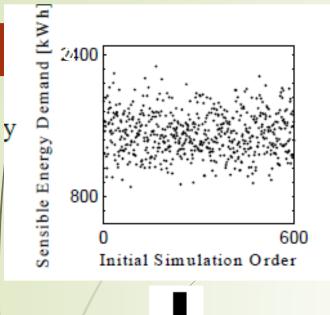


Initial simulation organisation





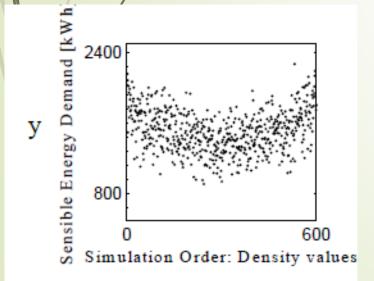




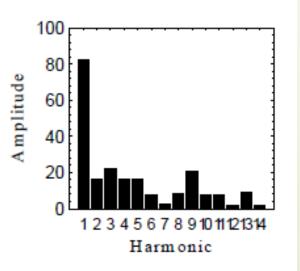
Resorted the output directly according to the vector triangular shaped for X1

without a reevaluation of the model!

→ Order of simulation







Frequency analysis of the sorted output

Effect of X₁
[Goffart et al. 2015]

57

RBD-FAST: Obstacle of the variance decomposition is overcomed

- Same number of simulations with Morris and RBD-FAST or less
- → HUNDREDS with 50 uncertain inputs (Check the convergence at each study!)

RBD-FAST: high level of extractable information

- First order effect quantification
- Indicate interaction existence
- Both uncertainty and sensitivity analysis with one set of samples
- Visualization of the output according to the input → tendency

Suitable and Easy to apply on BPS issues

- Free model method (whatever the model complexity, low, high)
- Implemented by [Team LOCIE] in SALib (Sensitivity Analysis Library) Python https://github.com/SALib/SALib [Nico's Jupyter Notebook]

EnergyPlus Coupling available: IDF modification

https://github.com/santoshphilip/eppy

General Conclusion

Warnings

- Important work of definition of the study, the result depends on the fixed input, the variation range, the kind of law, etc..
- > Challenge to define the uncertainties ...
- Have to be aware about the assumptions (uncertainty description, and/or assumptions on the input or on the model)
- Understanding of the building model
- Sensitivity methods mastering
 - Good use of sensitivity ? → Check with test fonction
 - Sufficient number of simulations ?
 - → Check the convergence

Not only push on a button ... → Expertise

Table Of Contents

SALib - Sensitivity Analysis Library in Python

- Supported Methods
 - Indices and tables

This Page

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Quick search

Go

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SALib - Sensitivity Analysis Library in Python

docs failing build passing coverage 85% Code issues DOI 10.5281/zenodo.160164

10SS 10.21105/joss.00097

Python implementations of commonly used sensitivity analysis methods, including Sobol, Morris, and FAST methods. Useful in systems modeling to calculate the effects of model inputs or exogenous factors on outputs of interest.

Supported Methods

- Sobol Sensitivity Analysis ([Sobol 2001], [Saltelli 2002], [Saltelli et al. 2010])
- Method of Morris, including groups and optimal trajectories ([Morris 1991], [Campolongo et al. 2007])
- Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (FAST) ([Cukier et al. 1973], [Saltelli et al. 1999])
- Random Balance Designs Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (RBD-FAST) ([<u>*Tarantola et al. 2006</u> https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-01065897/file/Tarantola06RESS HAL.pdf], [Elmar Plischke 2010], [Tissot et al. 2012])
- Delta Moment-Independent Measure ([Borgonovo 2007], [Plischke et al. 2013])
- Derivative-based Global Sensitivity Measure (DGSM) ([Sobol and Kucherenko 2009])
- Fractional Factorial Sensitivity Analysis ([Saltelli et al. 2008])
- Getting Started
 - Installing SALib

Ressources

61

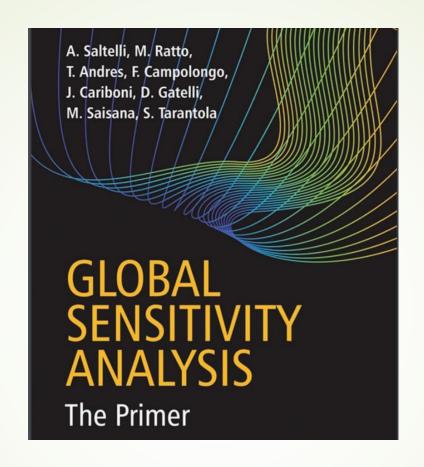
GDR MASCOT-NUM:

- http://www.gdr-mascotnum.fr/
- http://www.gdr-mascotnum.fr/software.html





Algorithm template R packages Matlab/Octave Scilab Python Others



http://www.andreasaltelli.eu/file/repository/A_Saltelli_Marco_Ratto_ Terry_Andres_Francesca_Campolongo_Jessica_Cariboni_Debora_ Gatelli_Michaela_Saisana_Stefano_Tarantola_Global_Sensitivity_An alysis_The_Primer_Wiley_Interscience_2008_.pdf RESSOURCES (Codes Matlab, R, Python; Presentation and paper)
Community: GDR MASCOT-NUM http://www.gdr-mascotnum.fr/ (in english)
JRC (SAMO, conferences and schools)

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