

**COST Action FP1303 Short Term Scientific Mission:**  
**Development of an algorithm for  
computation of the weather dose  
used for natural weathering models**

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# Weathering

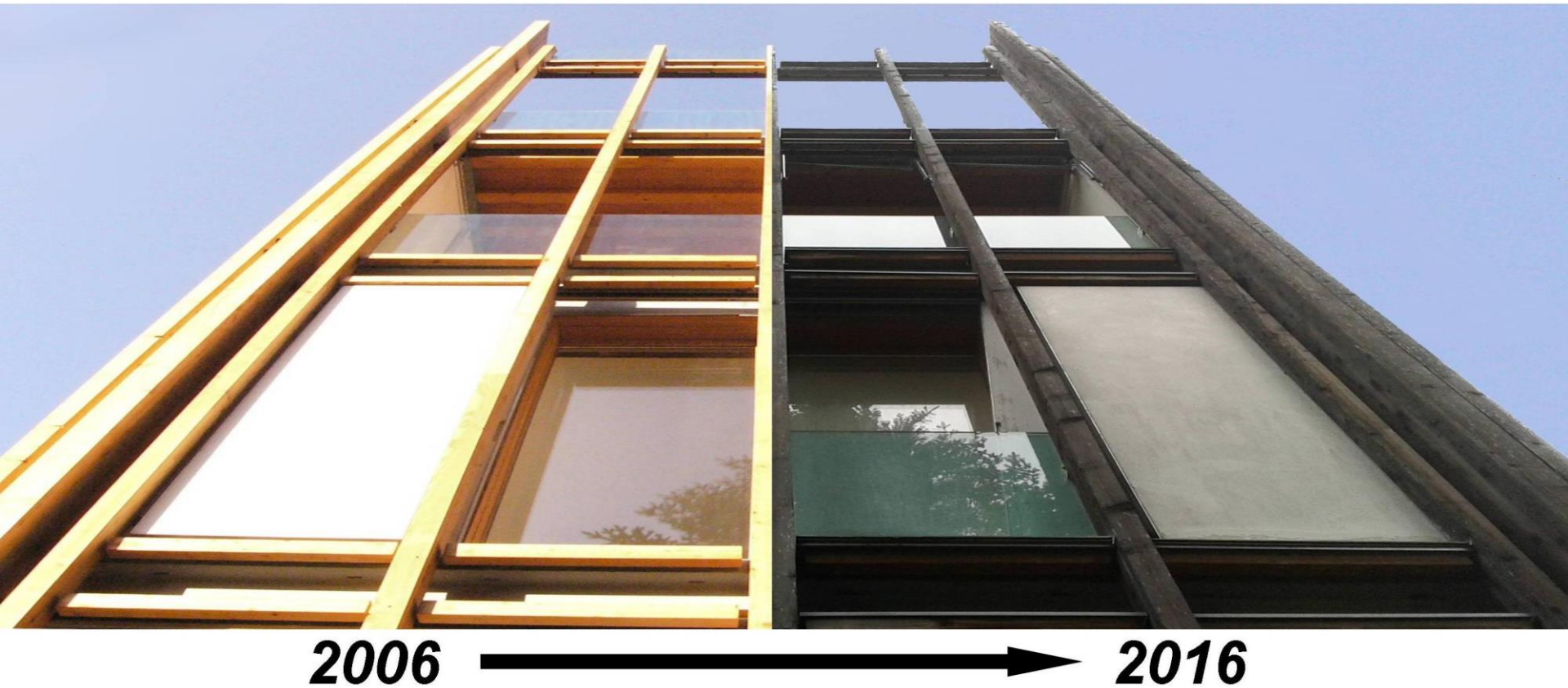
- Weathering is the general term used to define the **slow degradation** of materials exposed to the weather condition.
- The rate of weathering varies within **timber species, function of product, technical/design solution, finishing technology** applied but most of all on the **specific local conditions**.
- The process leads to a slow **breaking down of surface fibres**, their **removal**, and in consequence to a **roughening of the surface** and **reduction of the glossiness**.
- The formation of discontinuities on the wooden surface can cause penetration of the **wood-decaying biological agents** into the material structure and influencing mechanical performances of the load-bearing members.



# “Facades” change in time

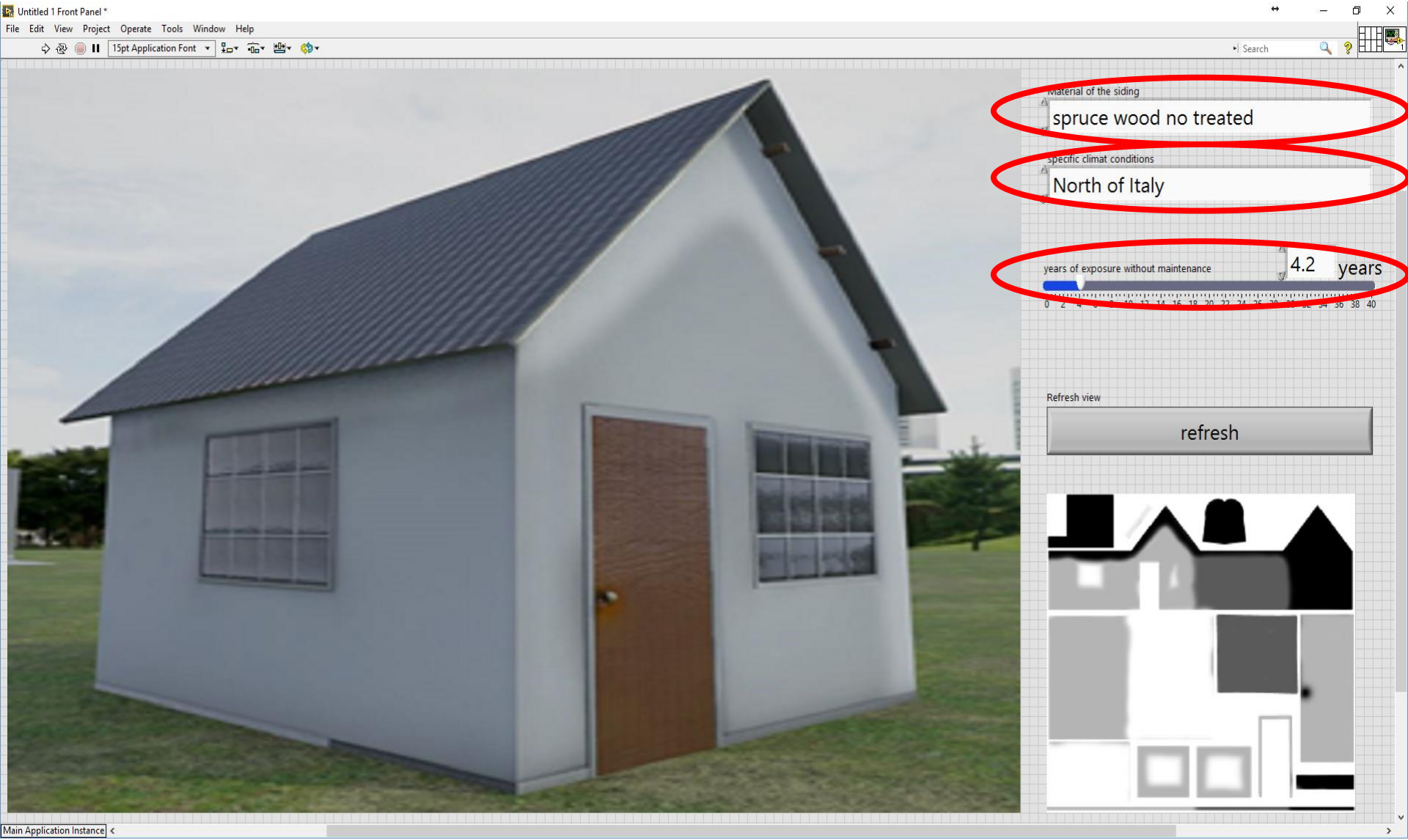


# Appearance change of the unprotected wooden structure in time

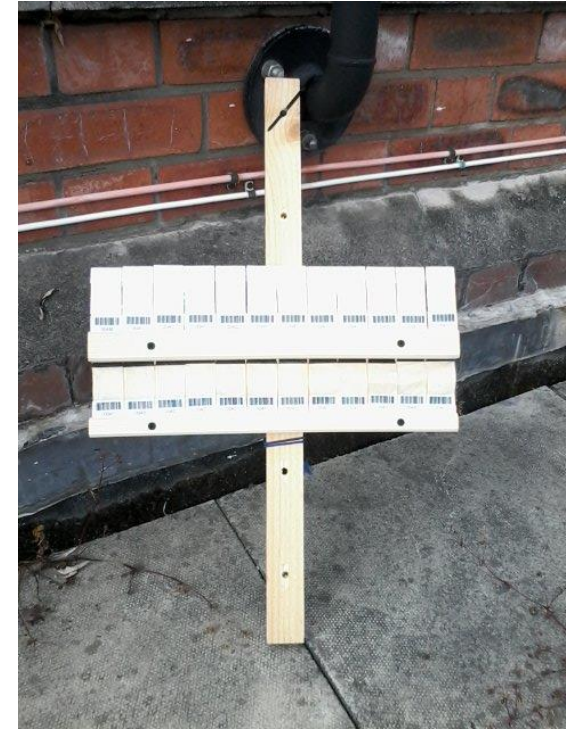


*Challenge: is it possible to model it?*

# BIO4ever project & modeling



# “Heritage” of the COST FP1006 Round Robin test



- 28 sets of samples (*Picea abies*) were exposed in 16 locations in Europe and Brazil.
- Samples were collected after 0, 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24 and 28 days of weathering
- Characterized with color CIE Lab, VIS, NIR and MIR spectra, imaging, gloss, XRF, roughness, microscopy, TGA, hyperspectral imaging

## DEFINITIONS: Weather dose $D$

- is a **quantity of energy** provided to the system and such energy affects changes of material due to weathering
- the value of  **$D$  depends on the climate data**:  $D = f(T, H, Q)$  where  $T$  – surface temperature,  $H$  relative humidity of air close to the surface,  $Q$  –direct solar radiation
- the value of  **$D$  does not depend on the history**:  $D(t) \neq f(D(t-1))$
- The dose  $D$  can be defined for different periods of time (minute, hour, day, month) but it preserves the energy balance law:  $D(1-3) = D(1) + D(2) + D(3)$

## DEFINITIONS: **Material state**

- Is a **set of characteristics** describing current status of the material regarding process of degradation by weathering
- Parameters describing material state are for example:
  - *CIE Lab* or *CIE dE*
  - FT-NIR spectra converted to the weathering index (value 0 to 1000)
  - HI-NIR spectra converted to the weathering index (value 0 to 1000)
  - Visual assessment according to well defined procedure
  - Any other objective parameter changing along the weathering (gloss, roughness, etc.)



# Defects appearing along the weathering

The image illustrates the relationship between weathering defects in wood and skin aging signs. On the left, a woman's face is shown with various signs of aging, each labeled with a text box. On the right, a grid of six images shows different wood weathering defects, each with a lightning bolt icon and a corresponding label.

**Labels on the woman's face:**

- DROOPY EYEBROWS
- CREASES BETWEEN BROWS
- HOLLOW TEMPLES
- LOSS OF VOLUME IN CHEEKS
- UNDEFINED NOSE OR TIP
- HOLLOWNESS UNDER EYES
- EAR LOBE CORRECTION
- UNDEFINED JAWLINE
- LAUGH LINES
- LIPSTICK LINES
- MARIONETTE LINES
- THIN LIPS
- SAGGING CORNERS
- CHIN WRINKLES

**Labels for wood weathering defects:**

- mod ation
- blistering
- checking
- ed s
- peeling
- moulds

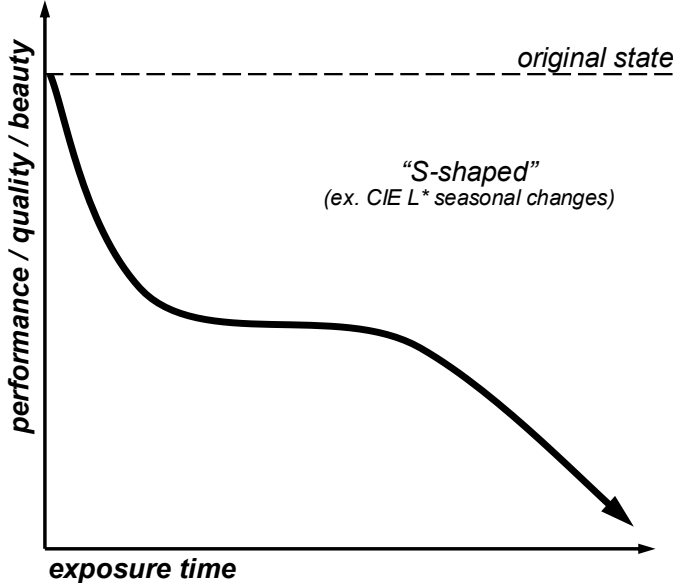
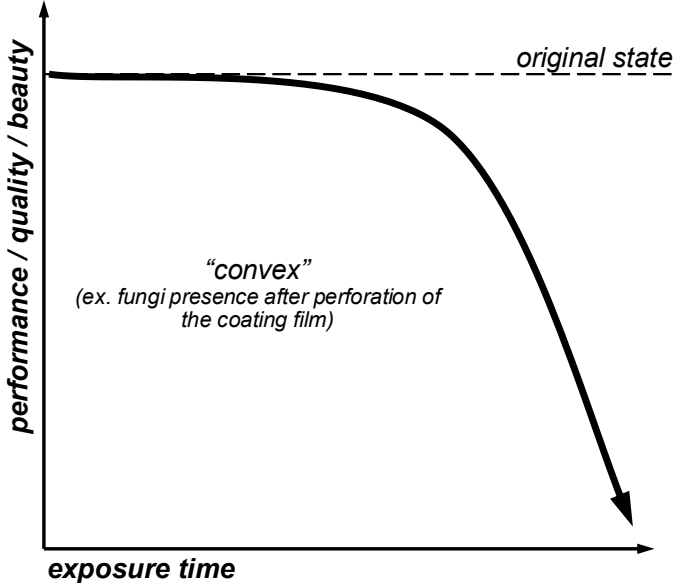
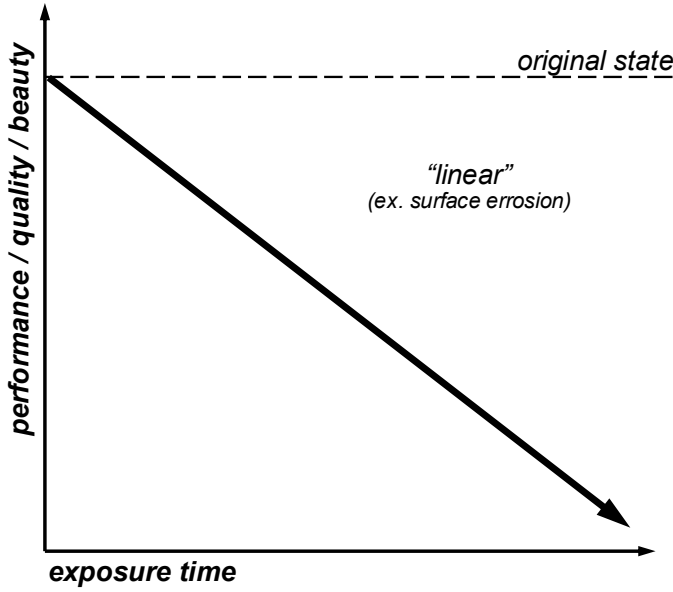
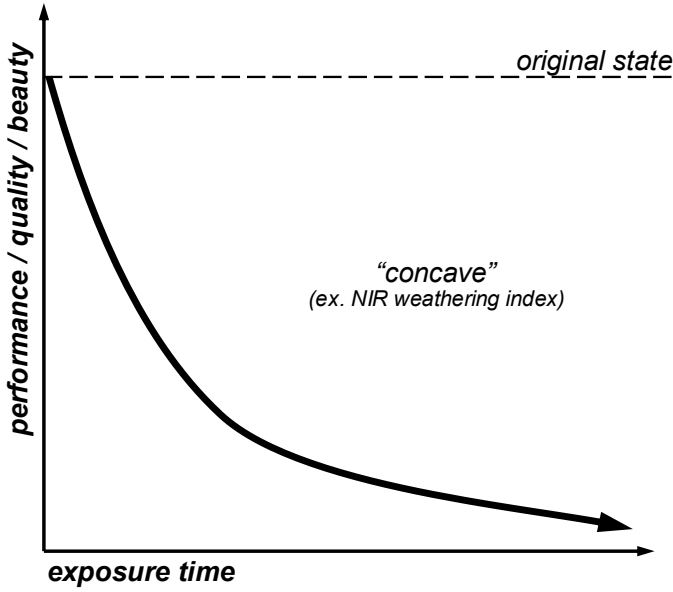
## DEFINITIONS: Weathering progress/index $W$

- Is an **indicator describing how advanced is the progress of weathering** compare to the original state
- The progress of weathering  $W$  is not really correlated to time but it **is related to the cumulative weather dose  $D$**
- There is a **universal path of the weathering progress** that can be defined for any material state characteristics independently, on the base of material state analysis
- The kinetics of material state characteristics may be different in relation to time but is always related to the sum of doses  $\Sigma D$ .

# DEFINITIONS: Model curve of weathering

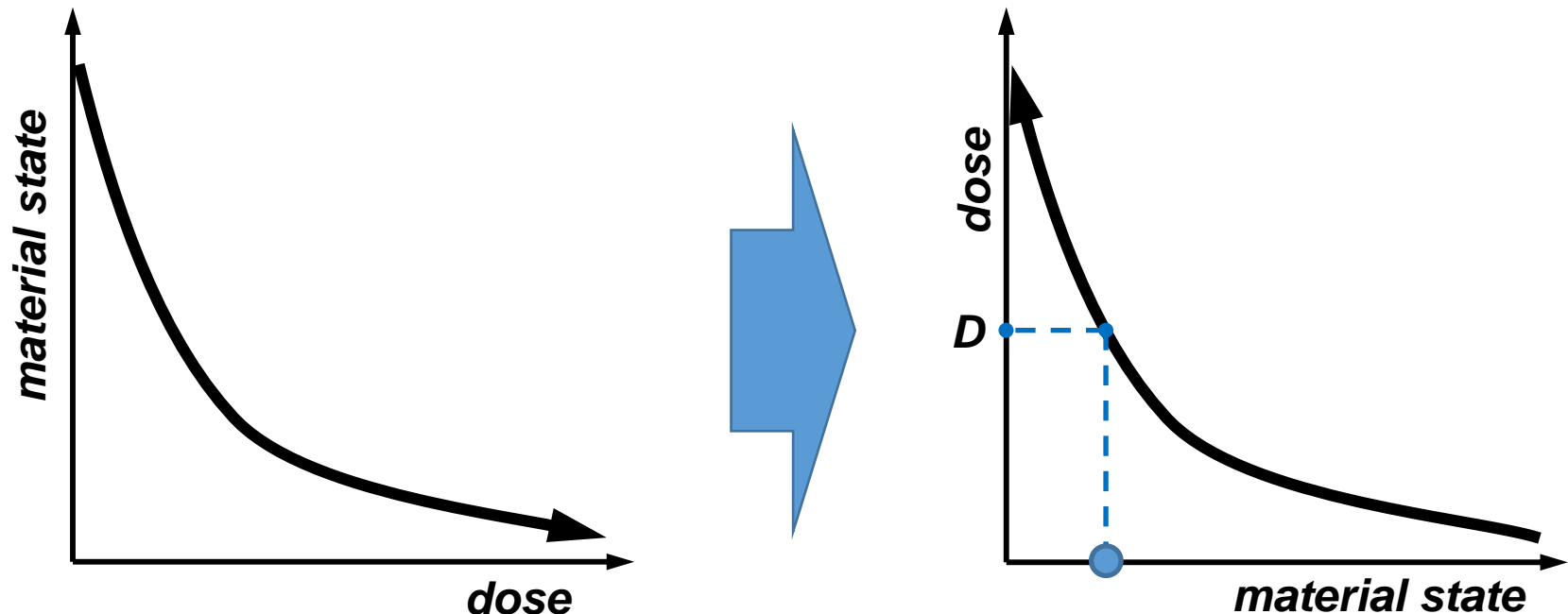
- Is a function **linking material state with the weather dose  $D$**
- The model curve is computed on the base of **experimental data**
- The horizontal axis corresponds to the normalized weathering progress in the range of 0 (not weathered surface) to 1000 (state of the common reference weathering)
- The model curve of weathering should be determined on the big dataset
- The model curve can be built on the average trend or on the worst case scenarios

# Examples of model curves

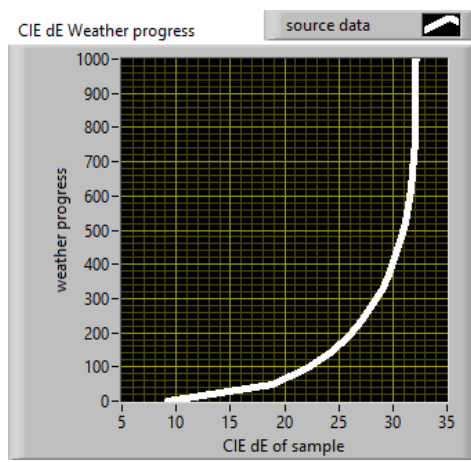
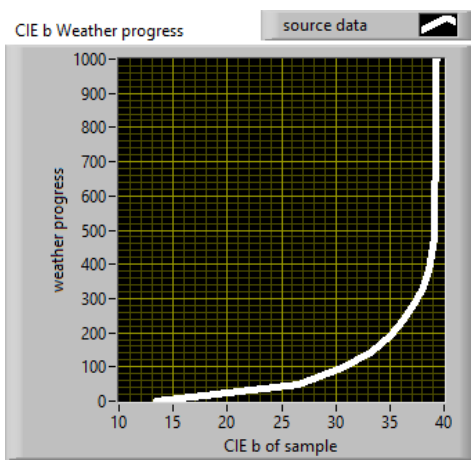
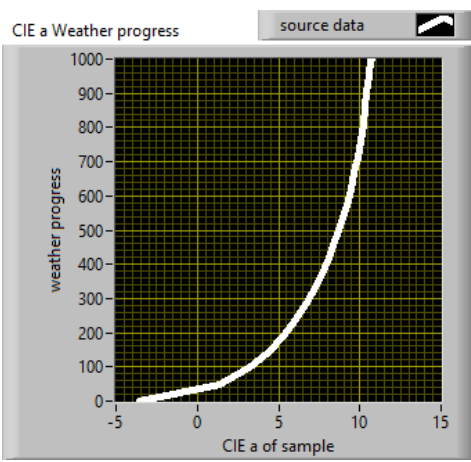
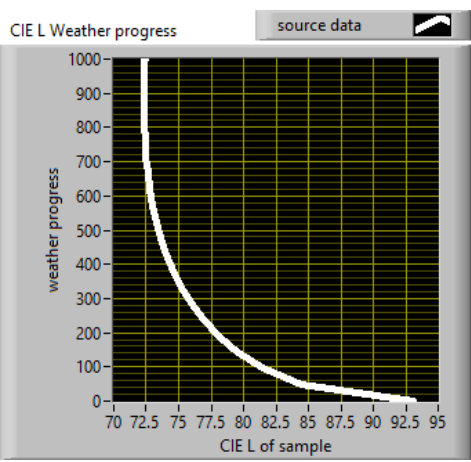
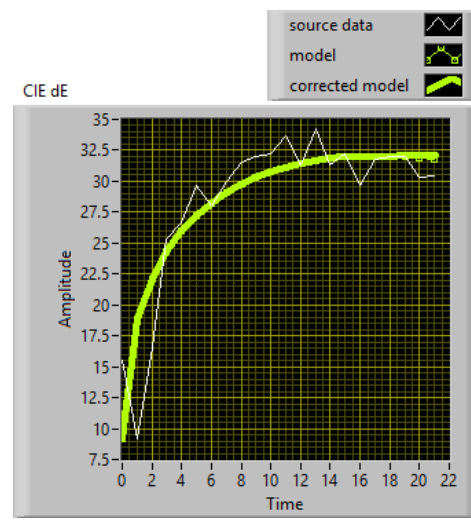
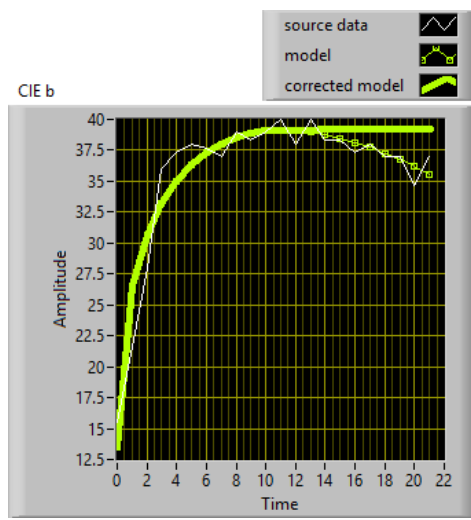
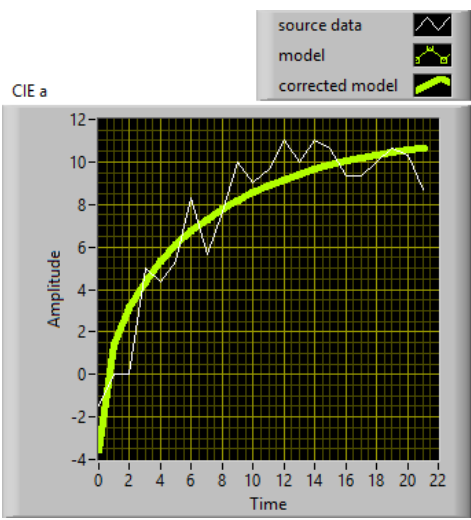
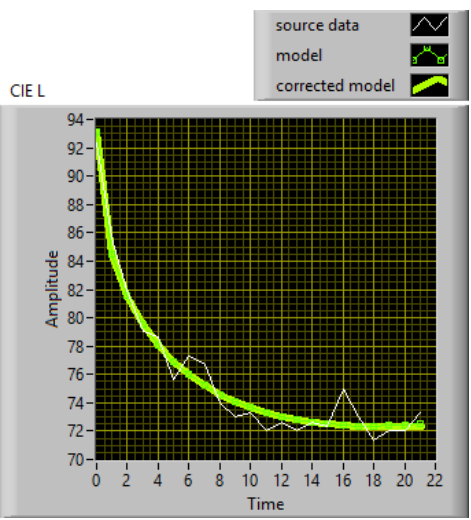


# DEFINITIONS: Inversed model curve of weathering

- It is a **variation of the Model curve of weathering**, where X and Y axis are inverted
- It is used for determination of the **total accumulated weather dose  $D$**  along the (time independent) weathering.
- The value of dose  $D$  is directly computed by the algorithm on the base of the given material state parameters



# model curves of real weathering data



# Presentation of the climat data to the numerical model

*... a key result of the STSM is development of the alternative way(s) for presentation of the weather data and computation of the weather dose*

# Climate in Europe

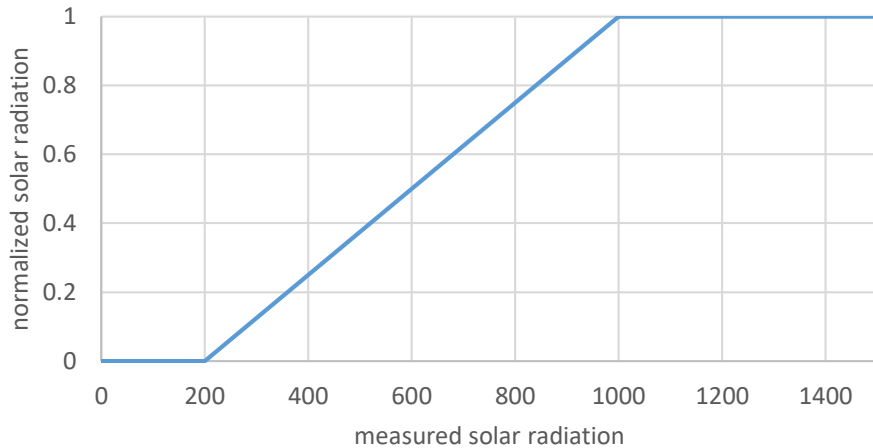




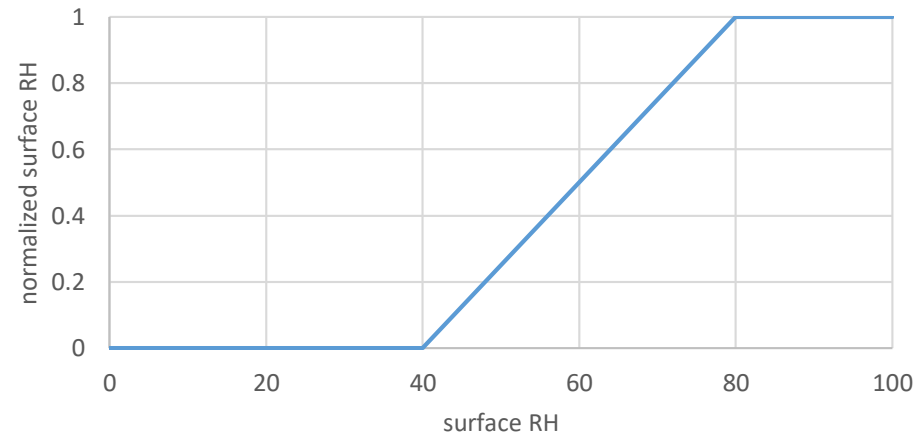


# #1: Normalization of the hourly weather parameters by means of the logistic functions

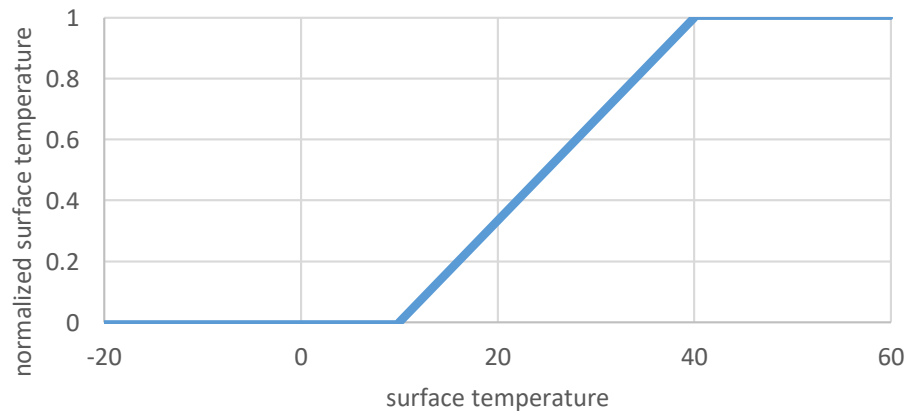
normalized solar direct radiation



normalized surface relative humidity



normalized surface temperature



+ weighted average

# the software for analysis of the weathered wood samples developed during STSM

software for visualization of Ingunn samples manual.vi

File Edit View Project Operate Tools Window Help

stop

sample number: 22

next sample

day of starting: 19-Apr start day: 0 index for starting: 0

day of end: 10-May end day: 21 index for ending: 504

CIE L: 73.33 CIE a: 8.67 CIE b: 37

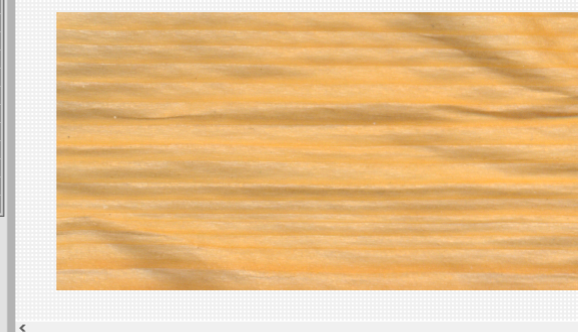
CIE L model: 73.4696 CIE a model: 9.17403 CIE b model: 34.7374

total DOSE CIE dE: 975.923

total DOSE CIE L: 511.321 total DOSE CIE a: 2927.03 total DOSE CIE b: 279.609

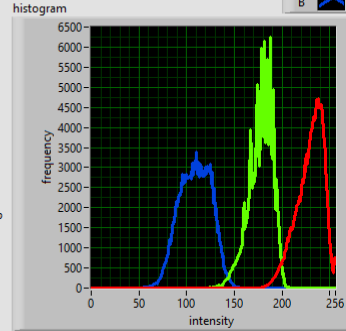
Mean R: 229.407 Mean G: 177.555 Mean B: 108.997

color image

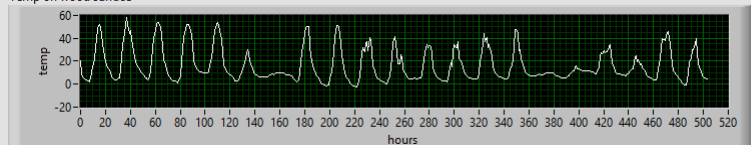


525x276 1X 32-bit RGB image 231,191,130 (0,0)

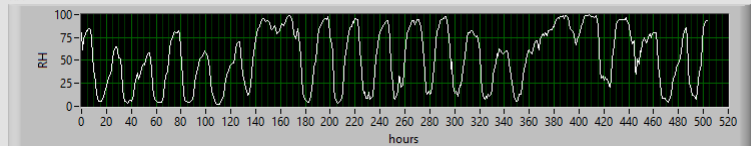
histogram



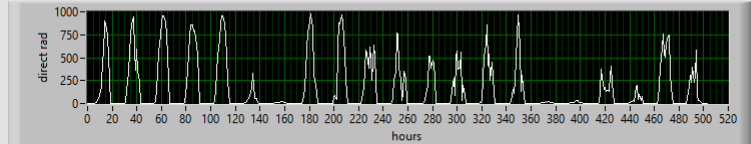
Temp on wood surface



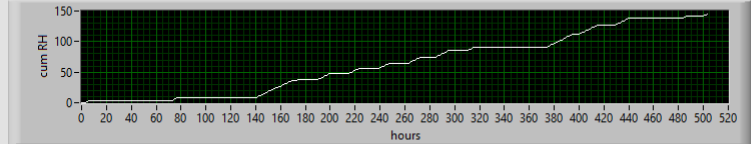
RH



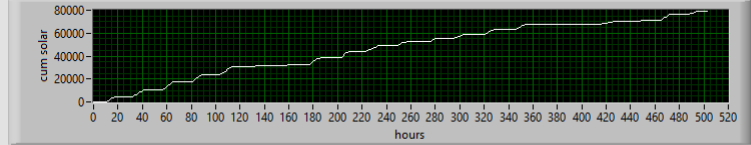
direct radiation



cumulative RH



cumulative solar



Red Histogram Report

0	0	0	0
172.00	Minimal Value	255.00	Maximal Value
0.00	Starting Value	1.00	Interval Width
229.41	Mean Value	13.88	Standard Variator
144900	Area (pixels)		

Green Histogram Report

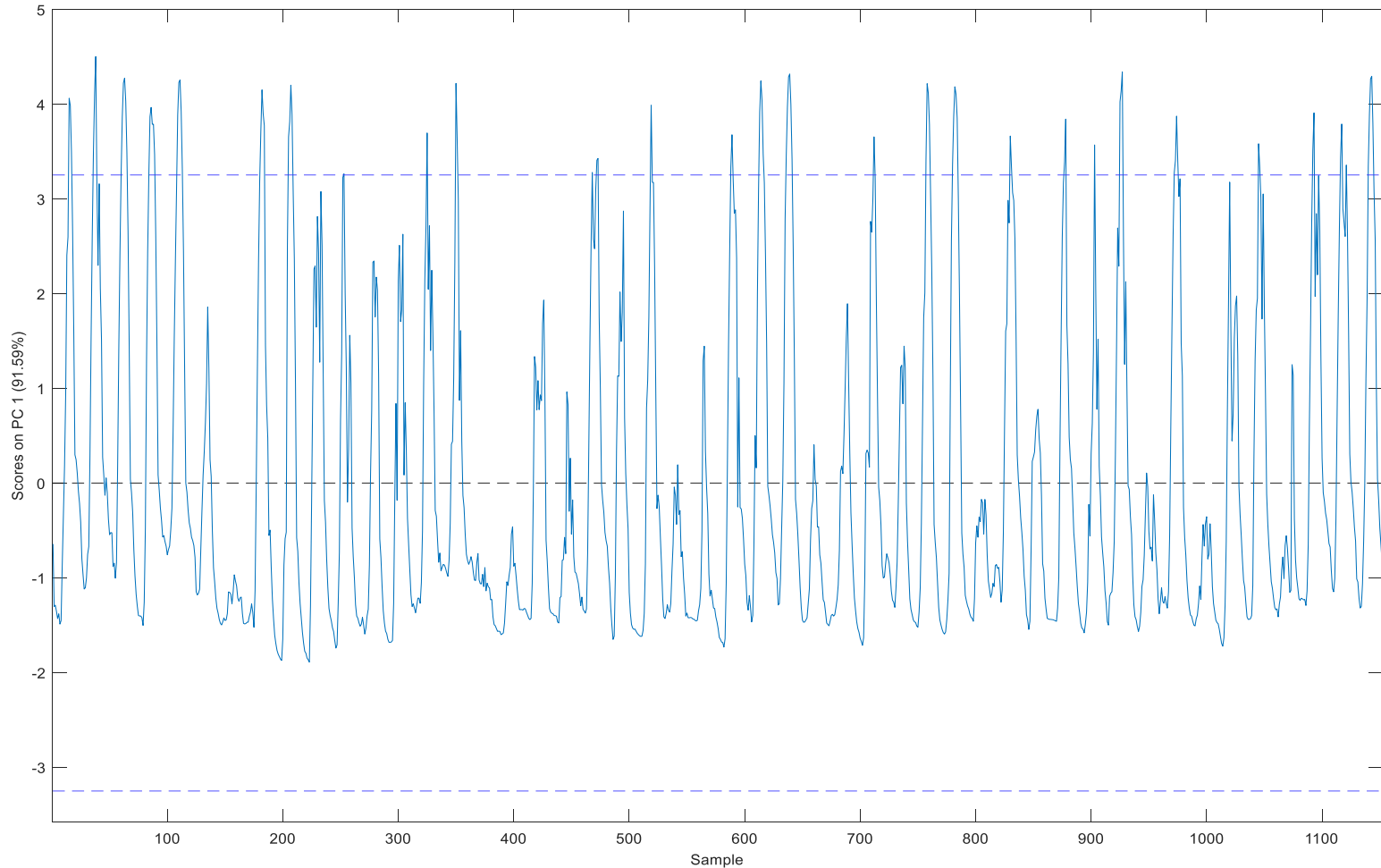
0	0	0	0
118.00	Minimal Value	213.00	Maximal Value
0.00	Starting Value	1.00	Interval Width
177.55	Mean Value	12.40	Standard Variator
144900	Area (pixels)		

Blue Histogram Report

0	0	0	0
99.00	Minimal Value	164.00	Maximal Value
0.00	Starting Value	1.00	Interval Width
109.00	Mean Value	16.40	Standard Variator
144900	Area (pixels)		

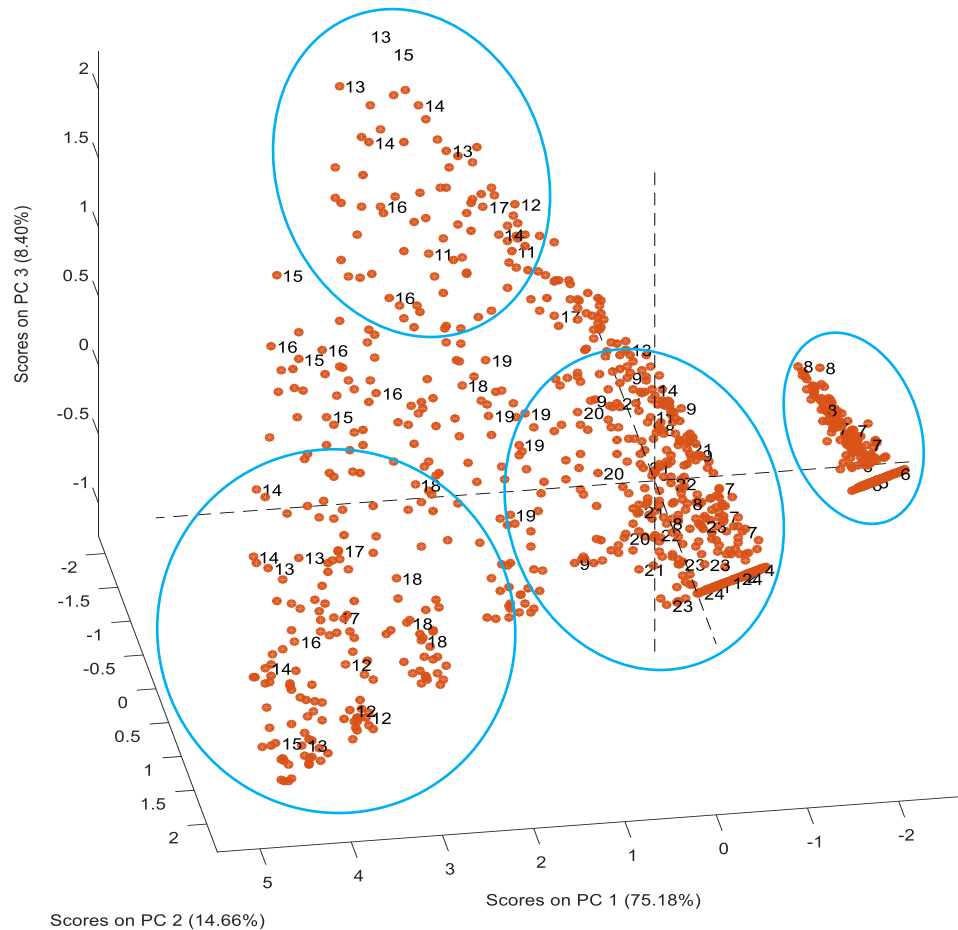
Main Application Instance

# #2: Determination of the single PCA component describing hourly weather conditions



- 92% of the total variance recorded in the weather data described with a single PC!
- weather data from As (Norway) –thanks to Ingunn!

# #3: multi-component PCA model describing hourly weather conditions



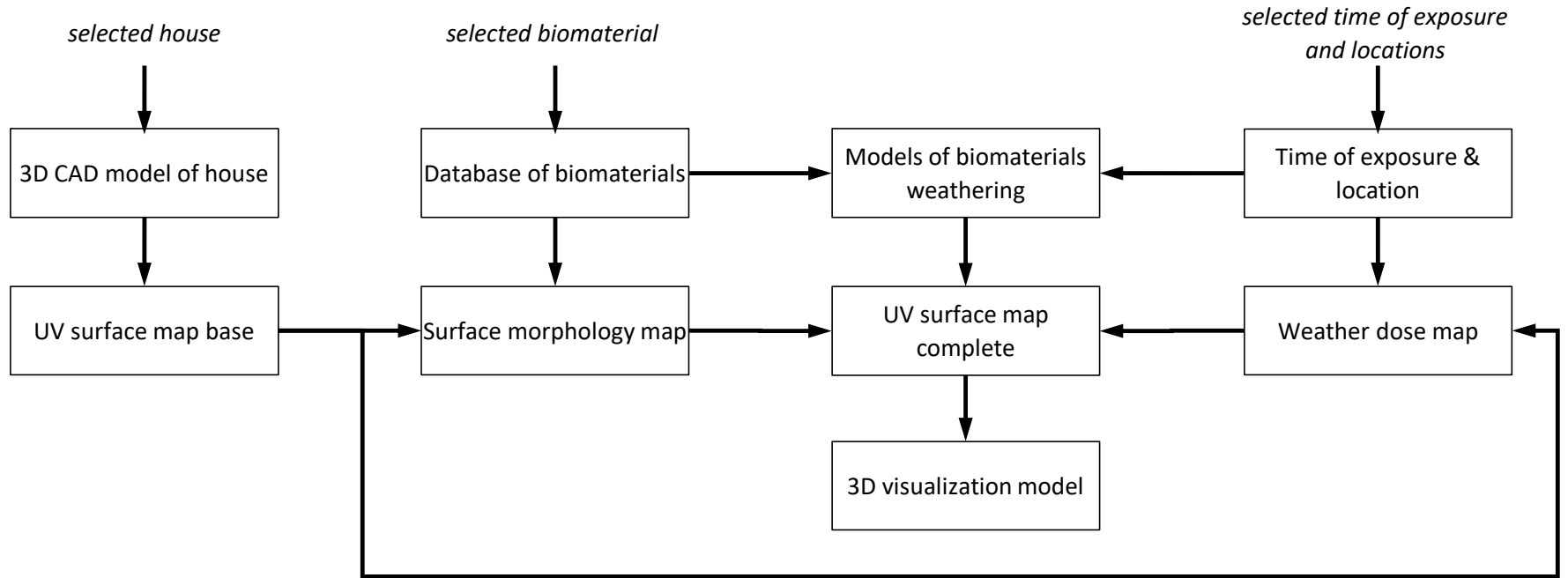
clustering periods of “similar weather”

Possibility for objective classification of data in to fuzzy values: “cold & sunny” “rainy”

# Procedure for weather data treatment before its use in models

- Collect meteorological data in the standard Common Climate Data Format (CCDF), if such presented data are not available it is necessary to change it according to CCDF format requirements
- Compute  $T$ ,  $H$ , and  $Q$  ( $T$  – surface temperature,  $H$  - relative humidity of air close to the surface,  $Q$  – direct solar radiation) on the base of meteorological data and custom software tools
- Present the processed weather data in a form of EXCEL template
- The preferred resolution of the weather data representation is 1 hour
- If 1-hour resolution is not possible, then average values over other period of time are used instead
- *Optionally: The structured data are presented to the PCA model and are converted in to a single value (PC1), closely related to the dose  $D$  (to be confirmed – work in progress)*
- Such structured weather data are presented directly to the modelling software

# Ongoing work



# Concluding remarks

- the **conversion** of the weather data collected during the Round Robin, including its **unification** and determination of the surface temperature, relative humidity close to the surface as well as direct radiation is fundamental for further numerical model development
- STSM was extremely useful for me to develop the core software tools indispensable to modelling of the wood weathering on the base of alternative dose-response approach
- The following work is already ongoing and it is conducted in a close collaboration with COST Action FP1303 participants



# Acknowledgments

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- I am very grateful for the greatest hospitality, intensive discussions and openness of my hosts and all Norwegian colleagues. Special thanks to my supervisor, Professor **Ingunn Burud** (with Family), Professor **Thomas Thiis** (with Family), Doctor **Dimitrios Kraniotis** for their time, friendship and numerous debates ending very late. My apologies for frequent changing of ideas and to many monologues 😊.
- I would also like to thank Doctor **Lone Ross Gobakken**, Doctor **Peder Gjedrum**, Doctor **Andreas Treu**, and The Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO) for support of STSM and possibility to visit laboratories.

**BIO4ever**





# Wood performance

