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# Data-driven trajectory management at airports

Applied Machine Learning Days 2020, Lausanne

# Applied Learning

Four weeks in a lab saves  
you one day in the library.



# Single European Sky ATM Research Programme

## *SESAR solutions at current release 5*

### Moving from airspace to 4D trajectory management

- S32 Free Route through the use of Direct Routing
- S33 Free Route through Free Routing (cruise/vertical)
- S37 Extended Flight Plan

### Airport Integration & Throughput

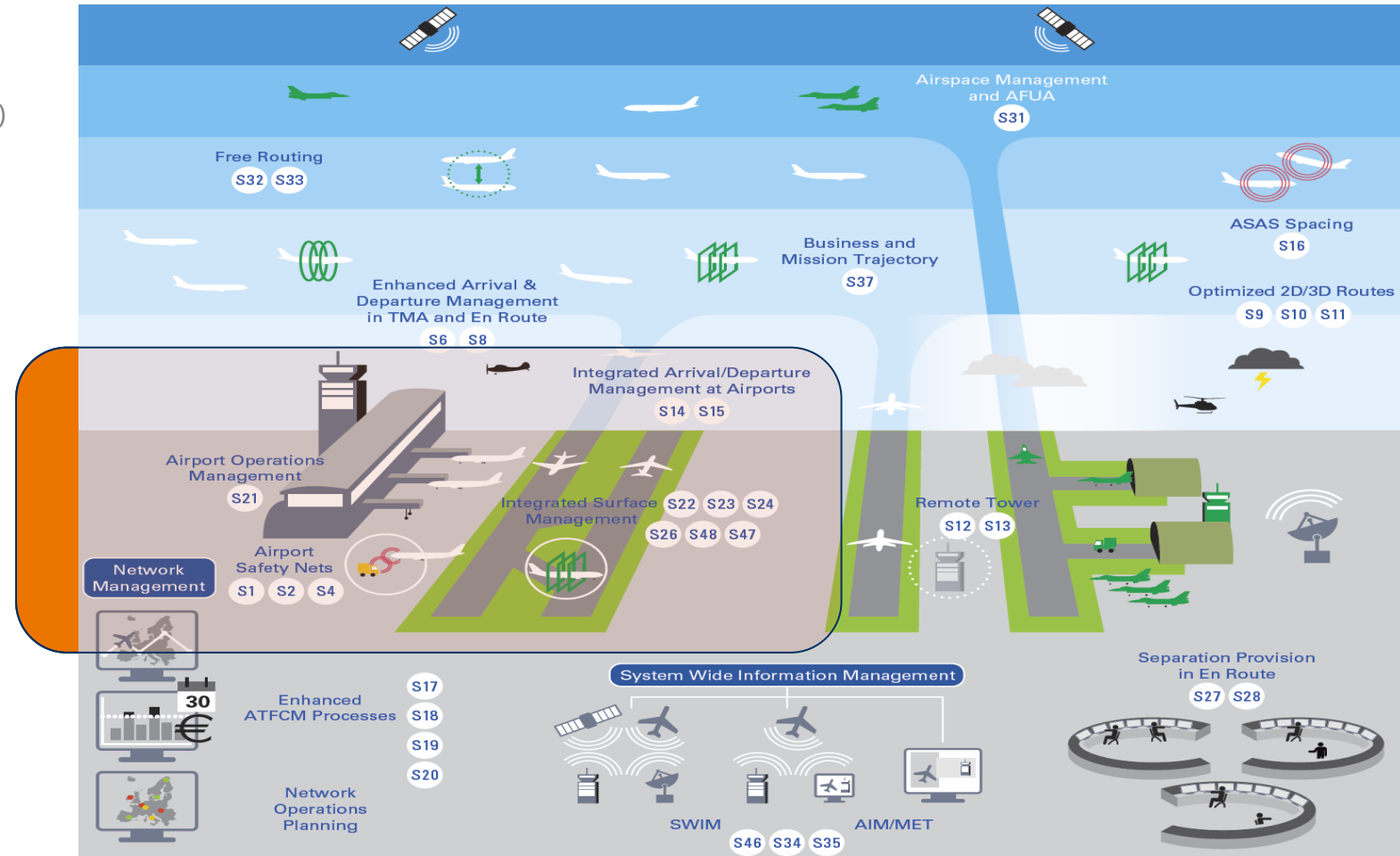
- S1 Runway Status Light
- S2 Airport Safety Nets for controllers ...
- S4 Enhanced Traffic Situational Awareness ...
- S12 Single Remote Tower operations ...
- S13 Remotely-Provided Air Traffic Service ...
- S22 Automated Assistance to Controller ...

### Network Collaborative Management

- S17 Advanced Short ATFCM Measures ...
- S18 Calculated Take-Off Time (CTOT) ...
- S19 Automated support for Traffic ...
- S20 Collaborative NOP ...
- S31 Variable profile military reserved ...

### SWIM

- S34 Digital Integrated Briefing
- S35 MET Information Exchange
- S46 Initial SWIM



<https://www.sesarju.eu/newsroom/brochures-publications/release-5>, [https://www.atmmasterplan.eu/data/sesar\\_solutions](https://www.atmmasterplan.eu/data/sesar_solutions)

# Why airport?

Local airport operations and operational efficiency impacts the performance of the whole aviation network

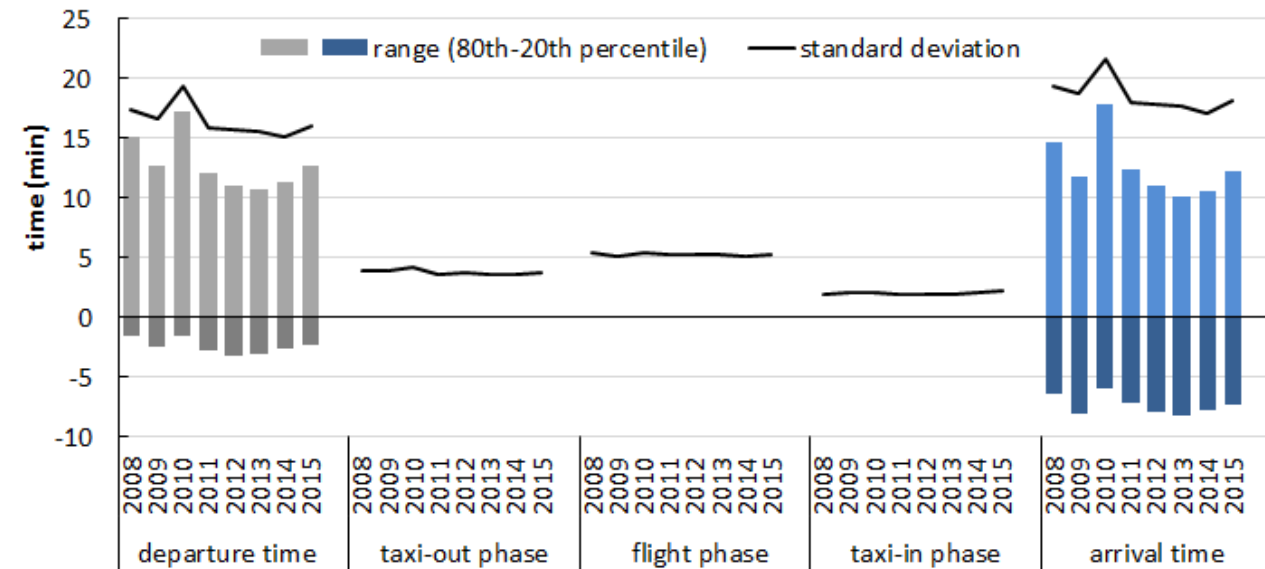
average time variability ( $\sigma^2$ ) during

- flight phase (*5.3 min*)
- taxi-out (*3.8 min*) and taxi-in (*2.0 min*) phases
- DEP (*16.6 min*) and ARR (*18.6 min*) phases

2013: *84%* punctual flights

2016: *81%* punctual flights

2019: *77%* punctual flights



Analysis of European flights from 2008–2015  
regarding variability of flight phases, not considering  
flights departing to or arrival from outside Europe

Schultz et al. 2018. *Weather Impact on Airport Performance*, Aerospace 5(4), 109

# Ready for Boarding?

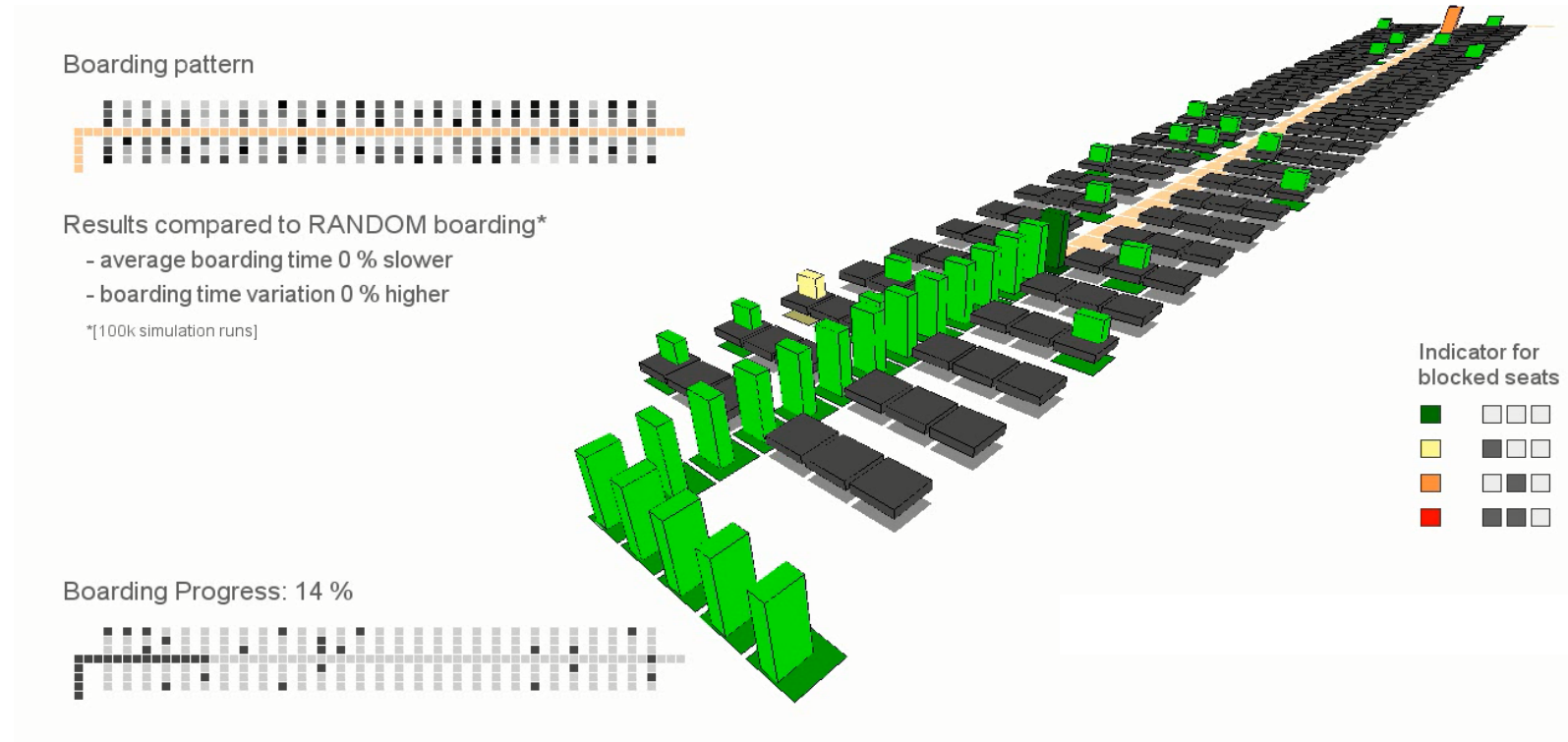
*200-400 non-experts enter the aircraft*





# Data Available

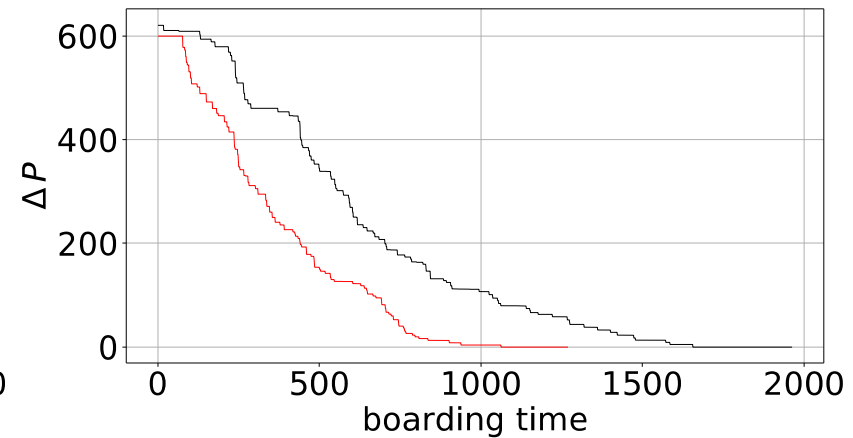
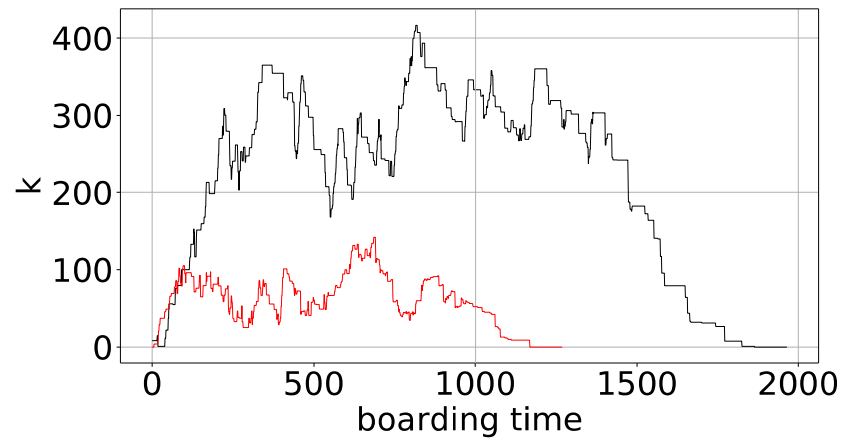
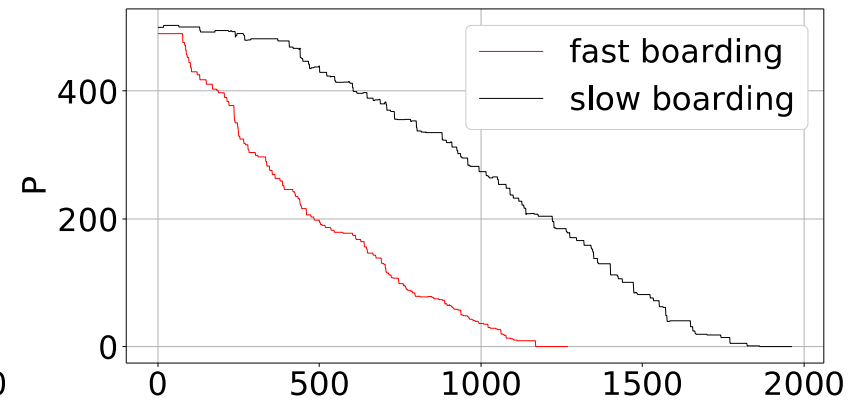
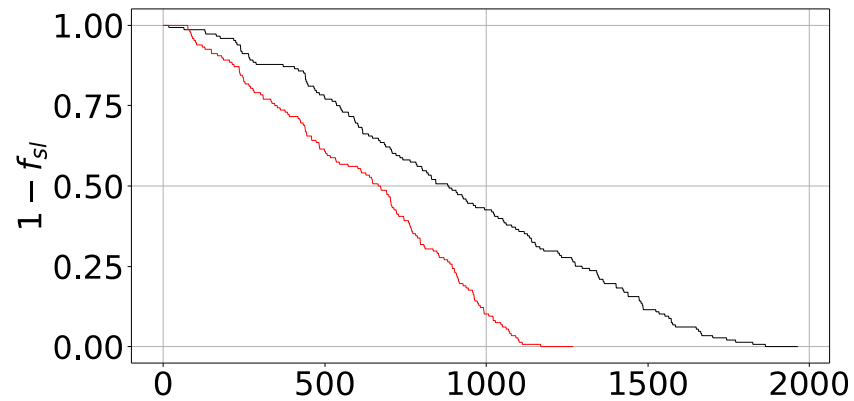
## *field validation and simulation environment*



M. Schultz and S. Reitmann. 2018. *Machine learning approach to predict aircraft boarding*, J. of Transp. Res. Part C 98: 391-408

# Input Data – Complexity Measures

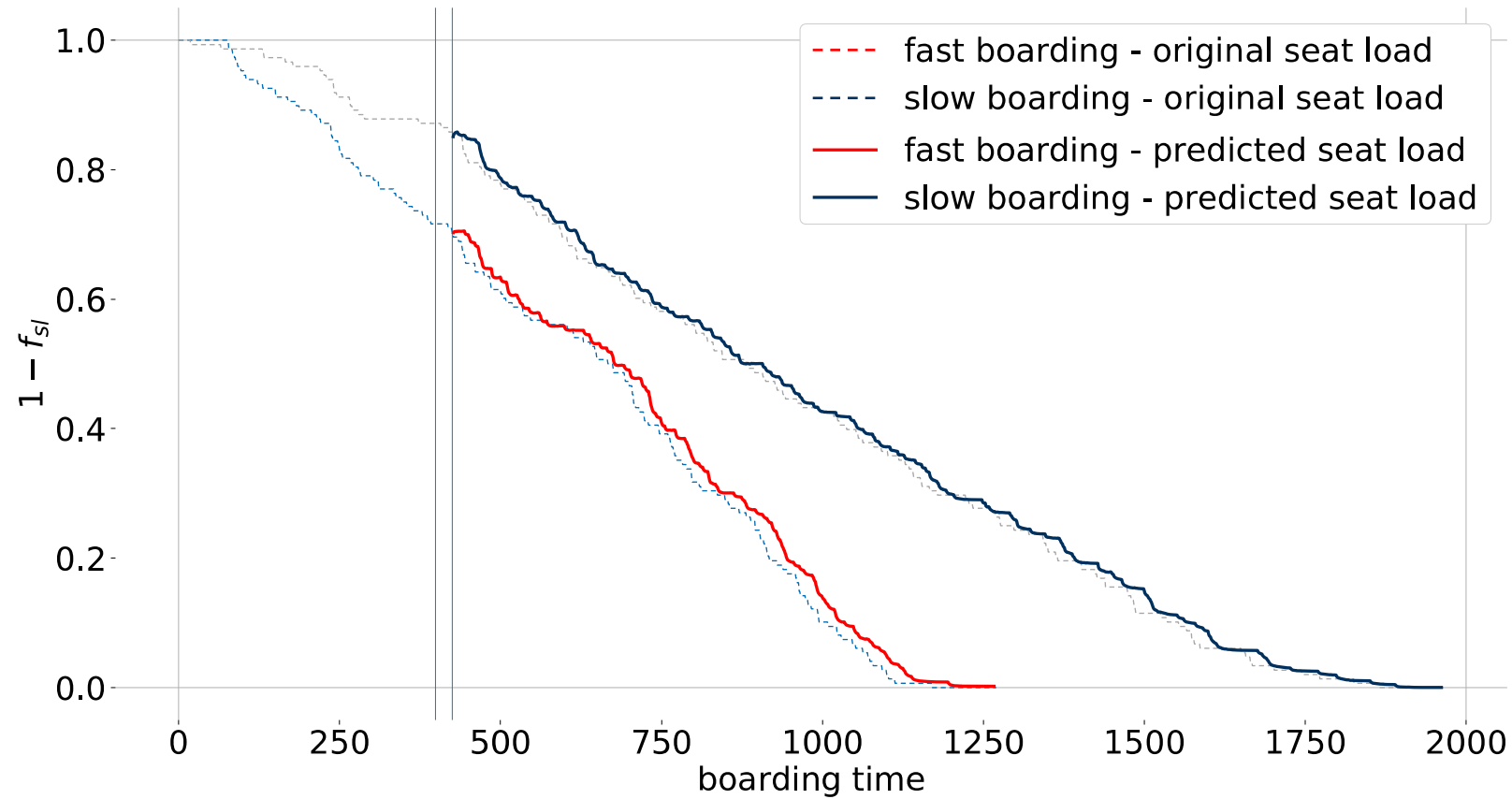
*boarding simulation to train and evaluate*



M. Schultz and S. Reitmann. 2018. *Machine learning approach to predict aircraft boarding*, J. of Transp. Res. Part C 98: 391-408

# Prediction of Boarding Progress

*long short-term memory approach*



M. Schultz and S. Reitmann. 2018. *Machine learning approach to predict aircraft boarding*, J. of Transp. Res. Part C 98: 391-408



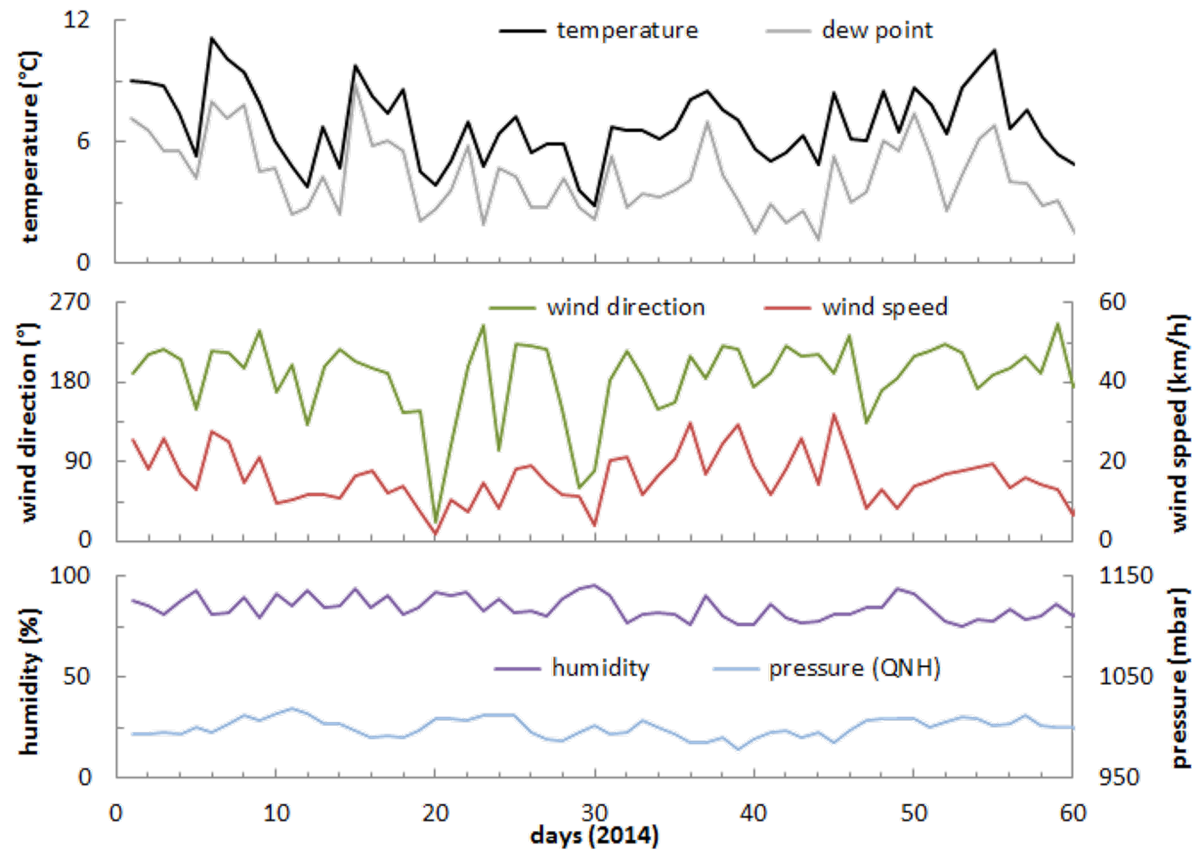
# Weather & Airport Performance

*weather data*



# Weather & Airport Performance

## *weather data*

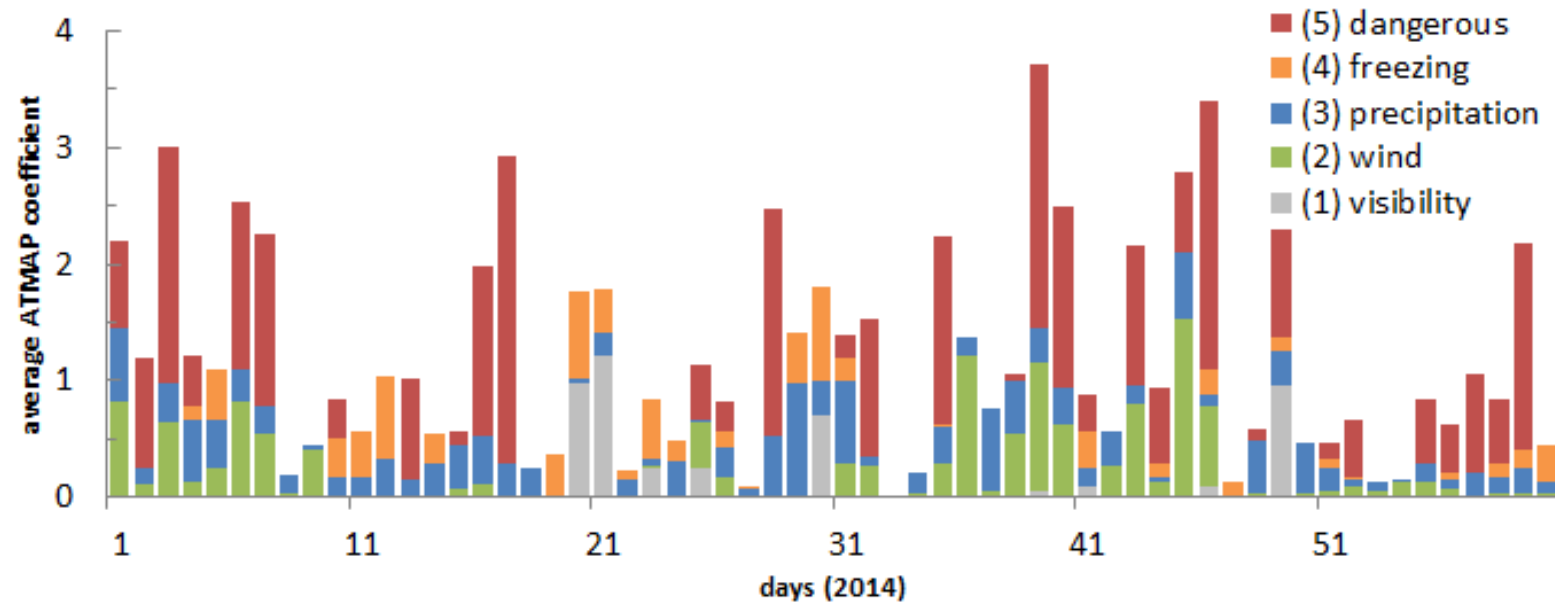


Weather data from the first 60 days in 2014 at Gatwick airport (exhibits exemplary weather information derived from the METAR dataset (average per day): temperature, dew point, wind direction and speed, humidity, and pressure).

S. Reitmann et al. 2019. *Advanced Quantification of Weather Impact on Air Traffic Management*, 13<sup>th</sup> USA/Europe ATM Research and Development Seminar

# Weather & Airport Performance

## *aviation weather Eurocontrol ATMAP approach*



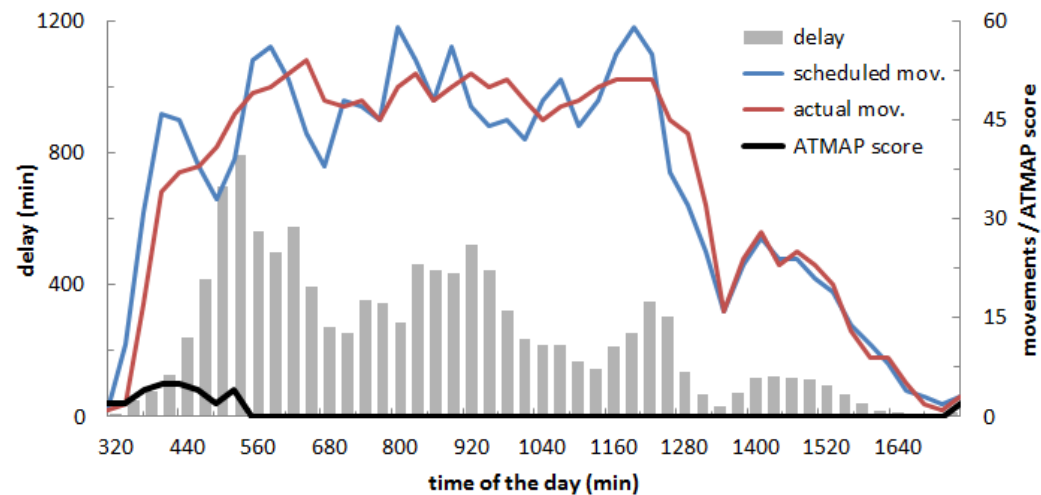
Weather data from the first 60 days in 2014 at Gatwick airport using ATMAP weather score.

S. Reitmann et al. 2019. *Advanced Quantification of Weather Impact on Air Traffic Management*, 13<sup>th</sup> USA/Europe ATM Research and Development Seminar

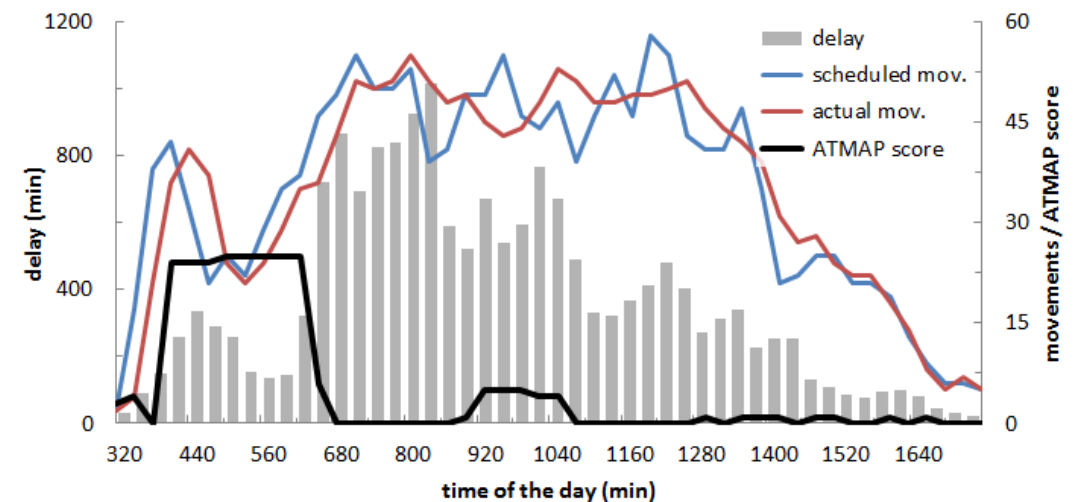
# Weather & Airport Performance

## *flight plan and weather*

If the airport performance and flight plan data are combined with the weather data a more complete picture about airport operations and their weather dependencies will be arise



Delay at the airport increases rapidly to 795 minutes at the beginning of the day of operations due to a 2 hour period of fog

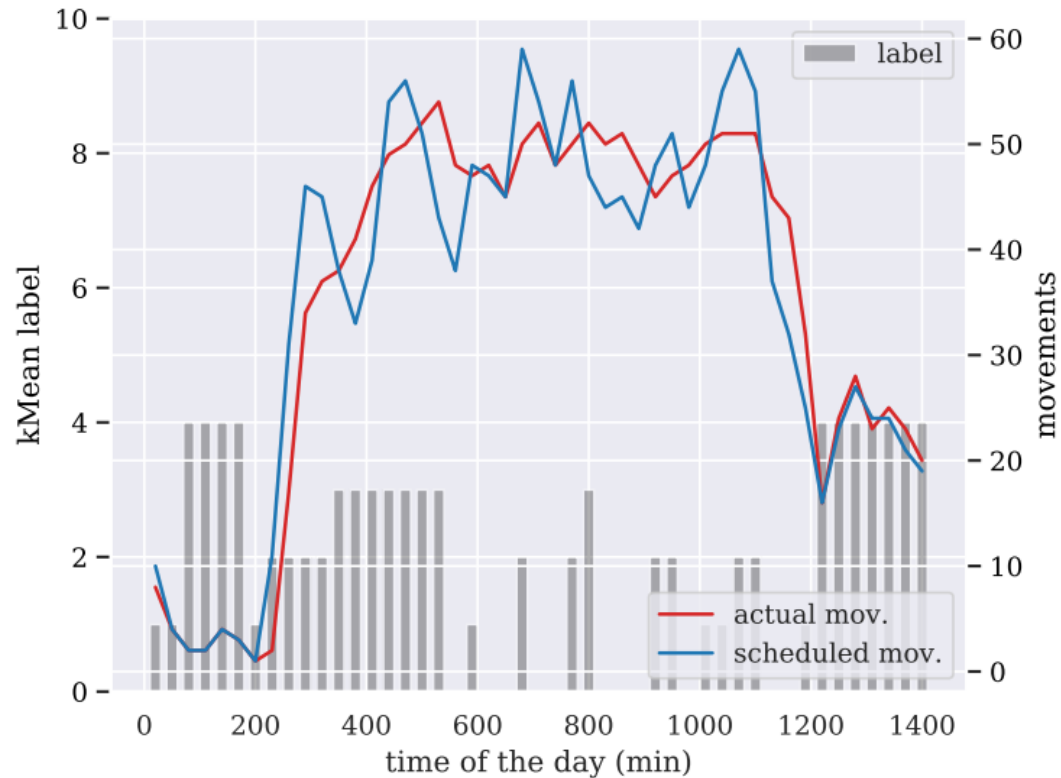


Consequences of 4 hours (06:50 - 10:20 hours) of thunderstorm and rain in the vicinity of the airport

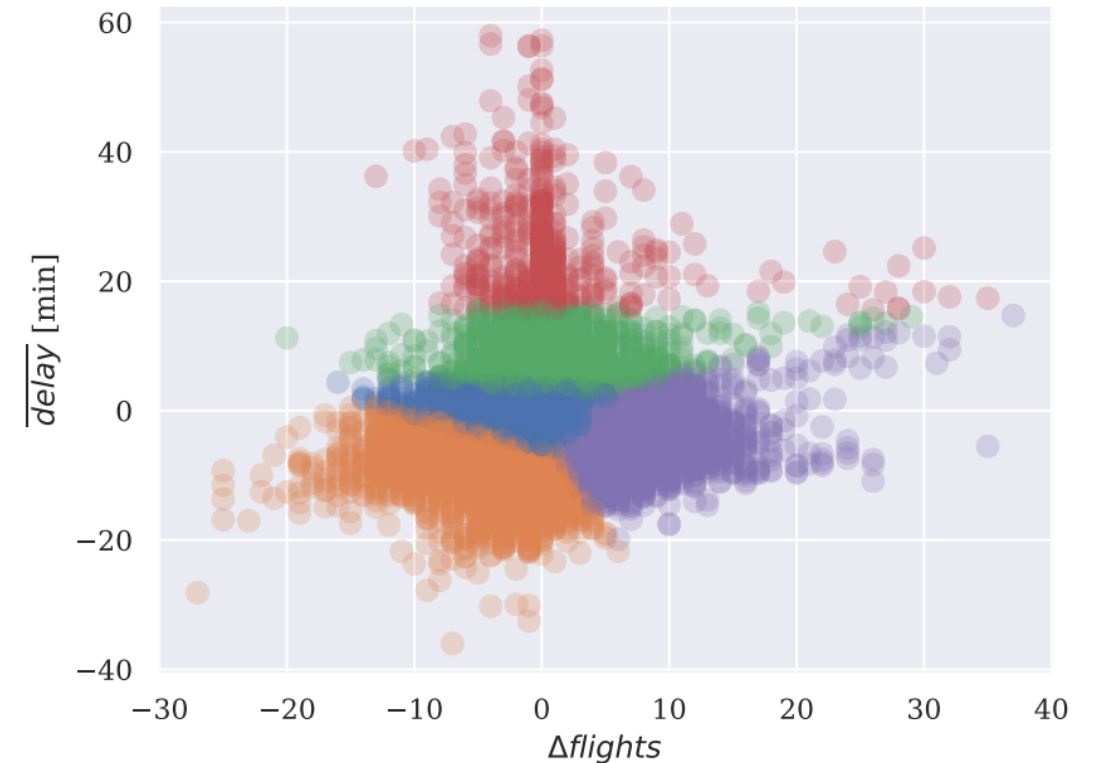
S. Reitmann et al. 2019. *Advanced Quantification of Weather Impact on Air Traffic Management*, 13<sup>th</sup> USA/Europe ATM Research and Development Seminar

# Application

## *weather impact labelling*



London Gatwick airport data, labelled and slotted.



k-Means-clustered 2D-data set with  $k = 5$  clusters.

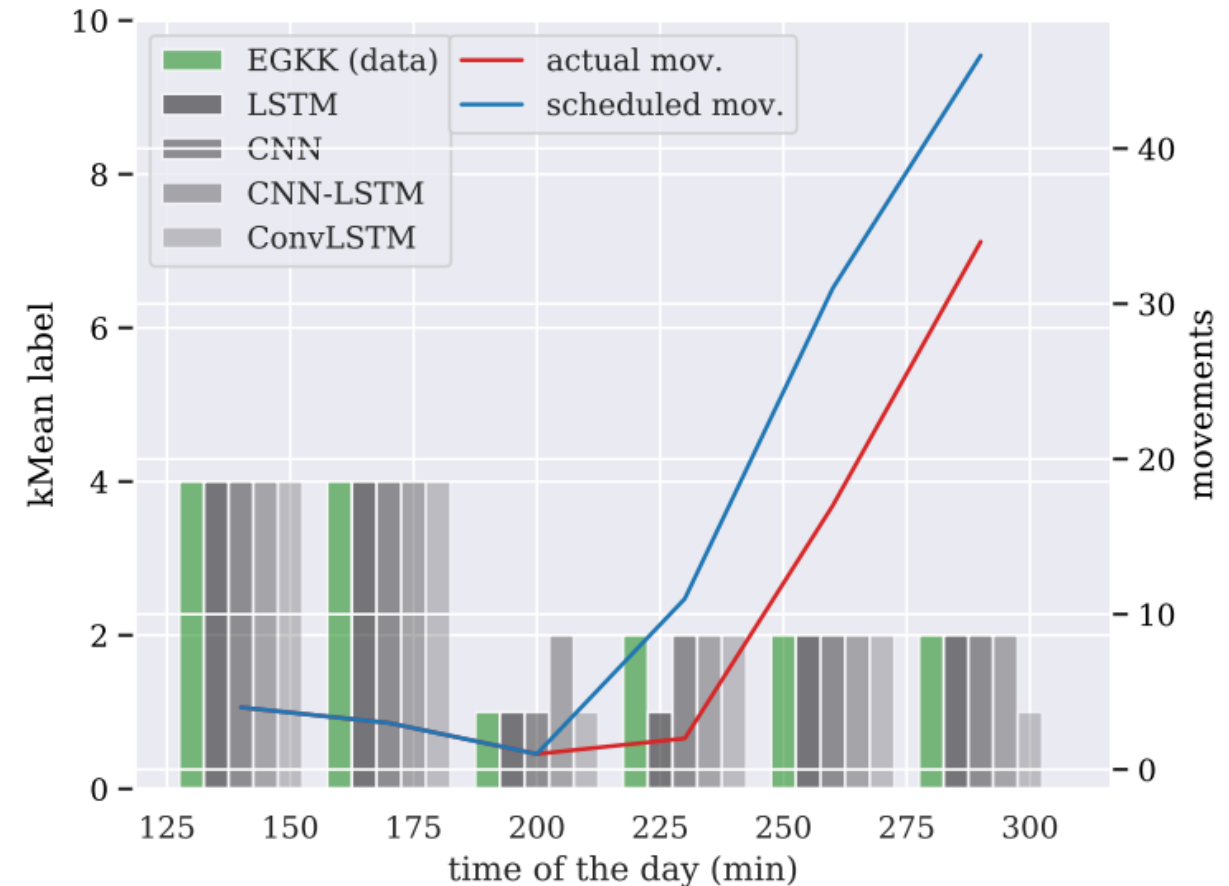
S. Reitmann et al. 2019. *Advanced Quantification of Weather Impact on Air Traffic Management*, 13<sup>th</sup> USA/Europe ATM Research and Development Seminar

# Application

## *slot predictive classification*

Values represent the labels (cluster numbers) of the k-Means clustering

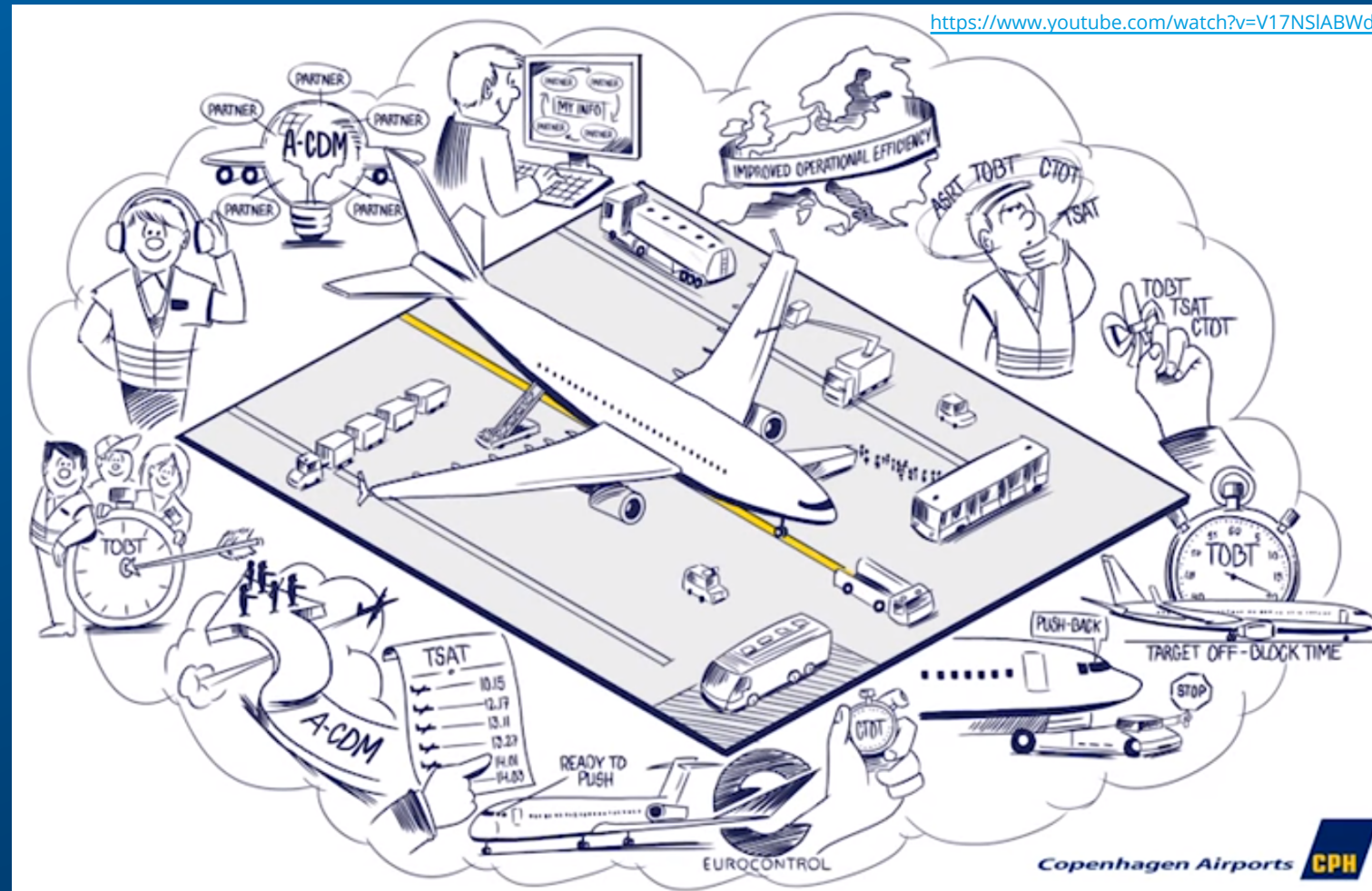
	$t+1$	$t+2$	$t+3$	$t+4$	$t+5$	$t+6$
<b>EGKK (raw)</b>	4	4	1	2	2	2
<b>LSTM</b>	4	4	1	1	2	2
<b>CNN</b>	4	4	1	2	2	2
<b>CNN-LSTM</b>	4	2	2	2	2	2
<b>ConvLSTM</b>	4	4	1	2	2	1



S. Reitmann et al. 2019. *Advanced Quantification of Weather Impact on Air Traffic Management*, 13<sup>th</sup> USA/Europe ATM Research and Development Seminar



# Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM)

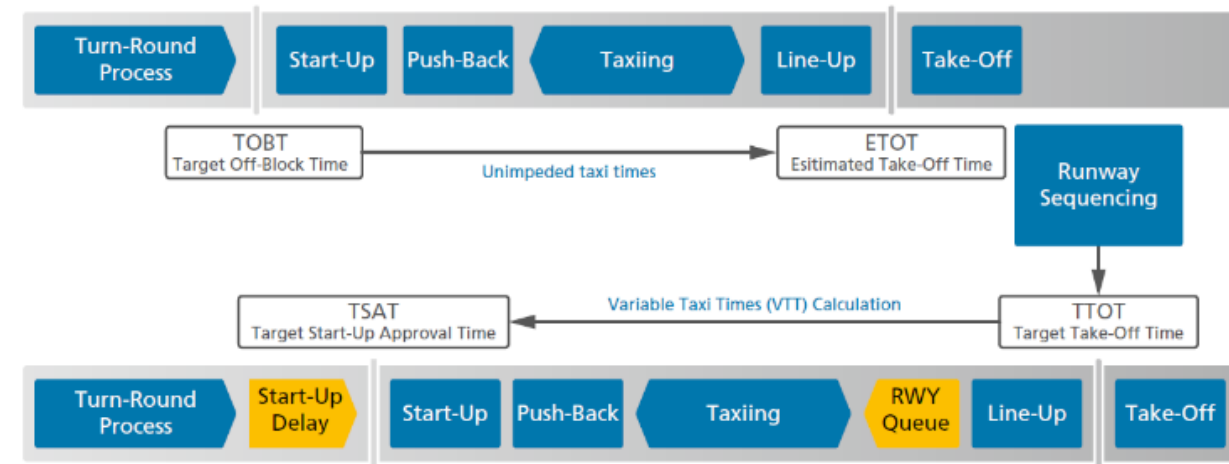
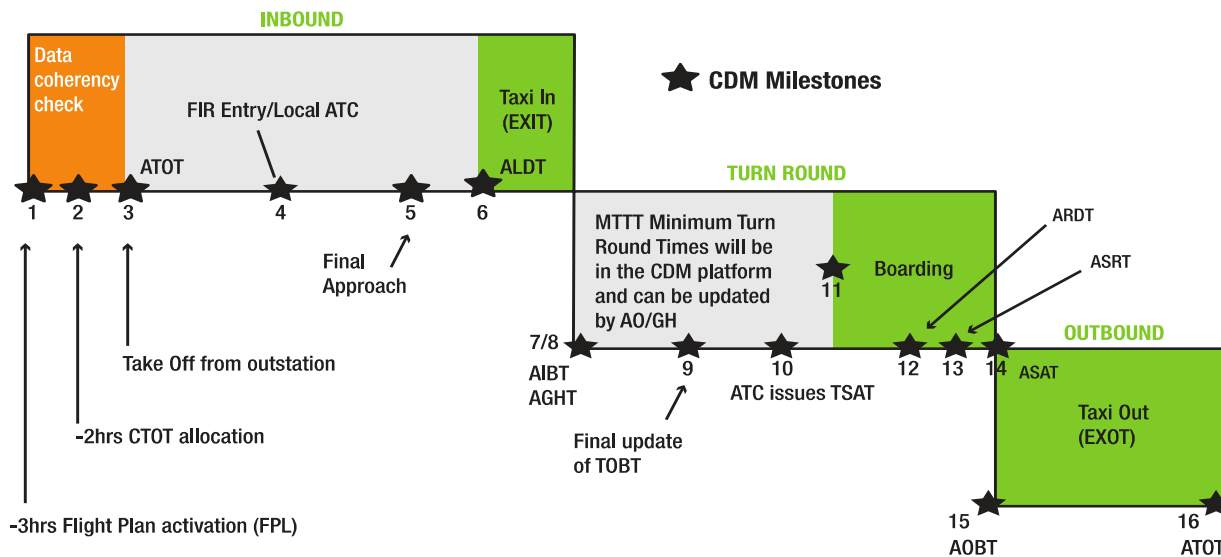


# Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM)

## *milestones approach for aircraft trajectories*

A-CDM concept consists of 16 milestones along the aircraft trajectory at the airport

- monitored by the corresponding stakeholders
- provide reliable target off-block time (TOBT), as the most important control parameter



M. Schultz et al. 2019. A-CDM Lite: situation awareness and decision making for small airports based on ADS-B data, 9<sup>th</sup> SESAR Innovation Days

# Data Available

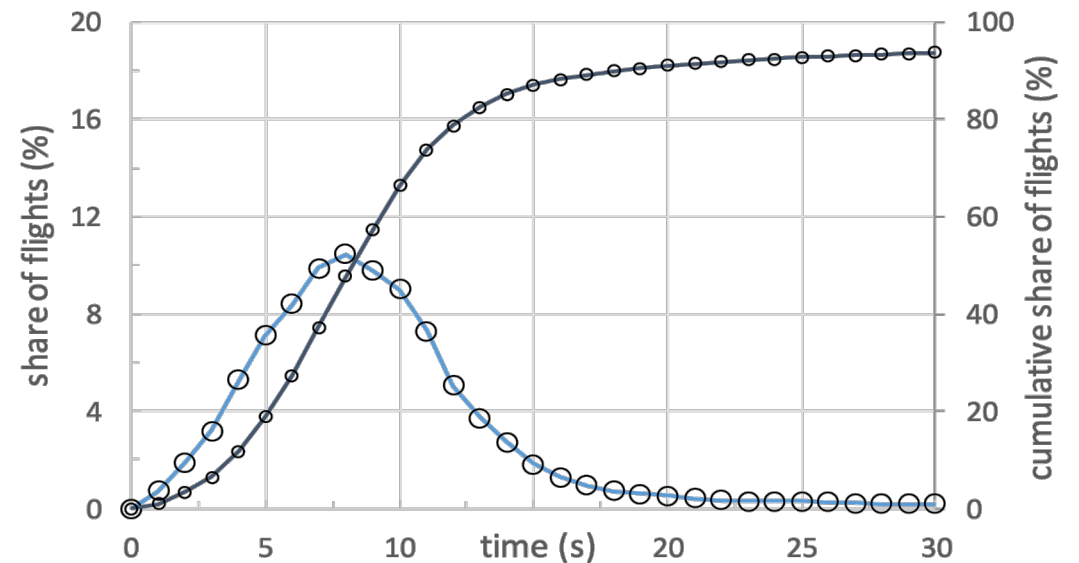
## *automatic dependent surveillance - broadcast*

ADS-B messages contain relevant information

- latitude and longitude (°), 4 digits
- altitude (ft, 25ft steps)
- time (UTC, s)
- ground speed (kts)
- on ground indicator (boolean)
- climb rate (ft / s)
- aircraft type
- aircraft tail number
- flight number
- unique identifier for each flight

Inter-arrival times between two received messages, containing a specific, aircraft-based

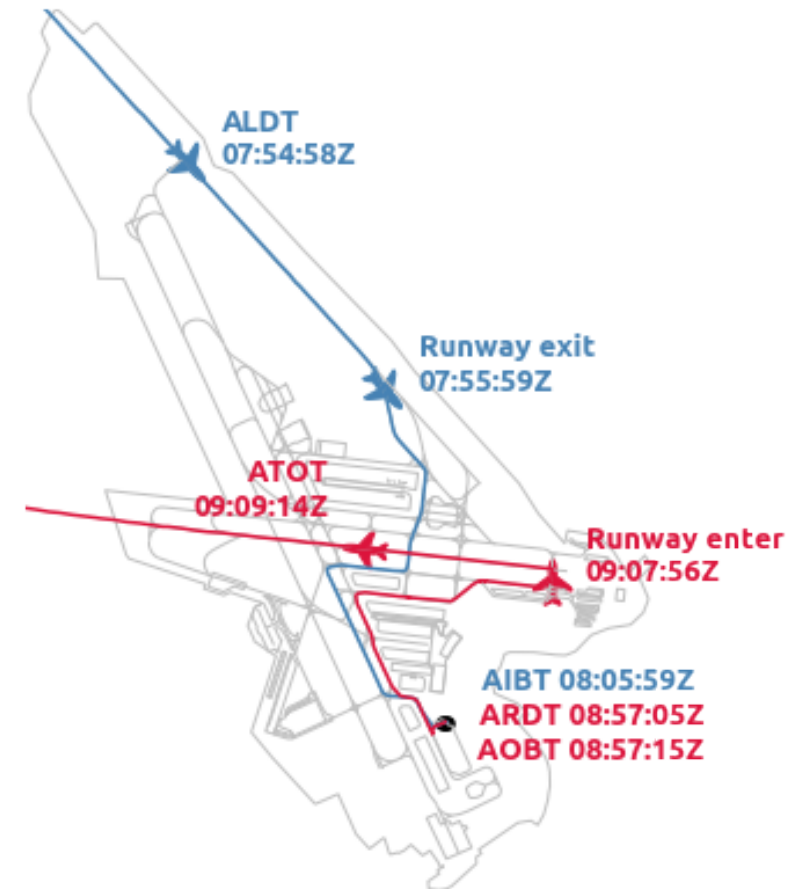
- 20% of the updates are received within 5 s,
- 66% within 10 s
- 92% within 20 s



M. Schultz et al. 2019. A-CDM Lite: situation awareness and decision making for small airports based on ADS-B data, 9<sup>th</sup> SESAR Innovation Days

# A-CDM (lite) Milestones

*exemplary aircraft trajectory – ground and air view*

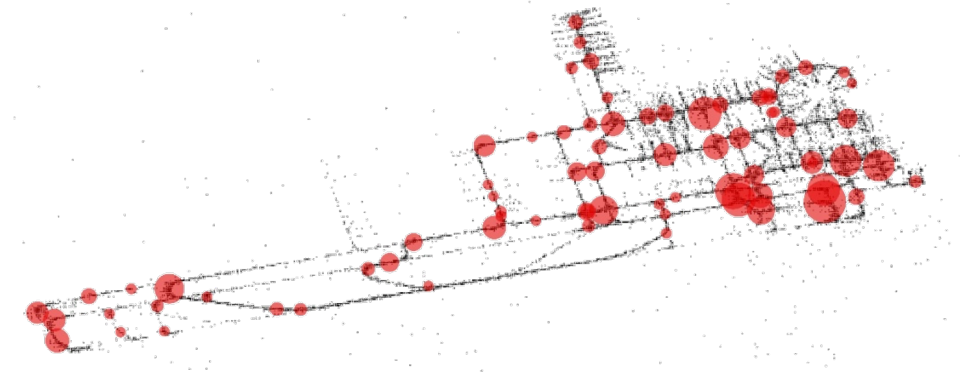
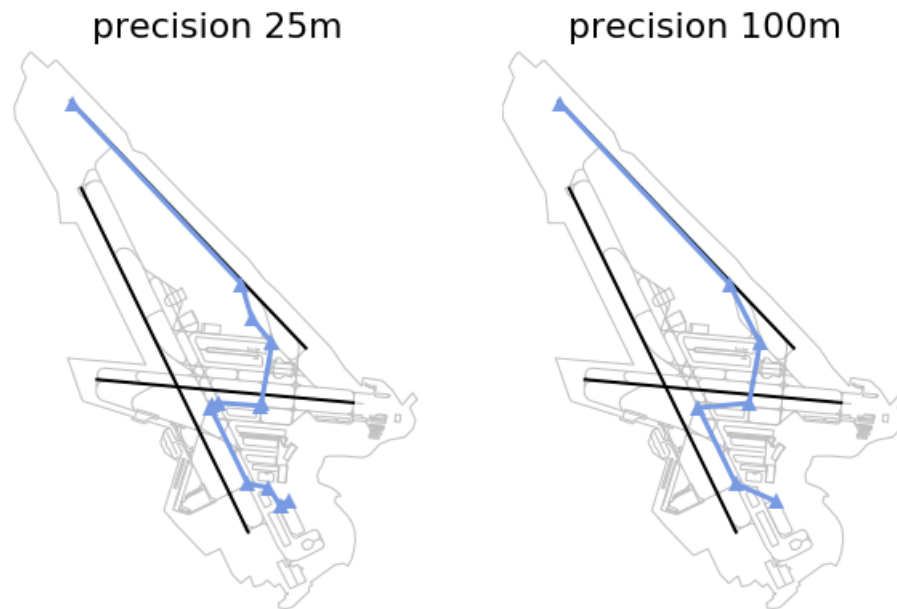


M. Schultz et al. 2020. *Analysis of airport ground operations based on ADS-B data*, 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics in Air Transportation

# Data Reduction

## *identification and operational hotspots*

Ramer-Douglas-Peucker algorithm



Edge and node – graph representation



Stop points at apron

M. Schultz et al. 2020. *Analysis of airport ground operations based on ADS-B data*, 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics in Air Transportation

# Trajectory Extraction

*data handling: pre-processing and cleaning*

data offset



missing data



special operations



M. Schultz et al. 2019. A-CDM Lite: situation awareness and decision making for small airports based on ADS-B data, 9<sup>th</sup> SESAR Innovation Days



# Airport Operations

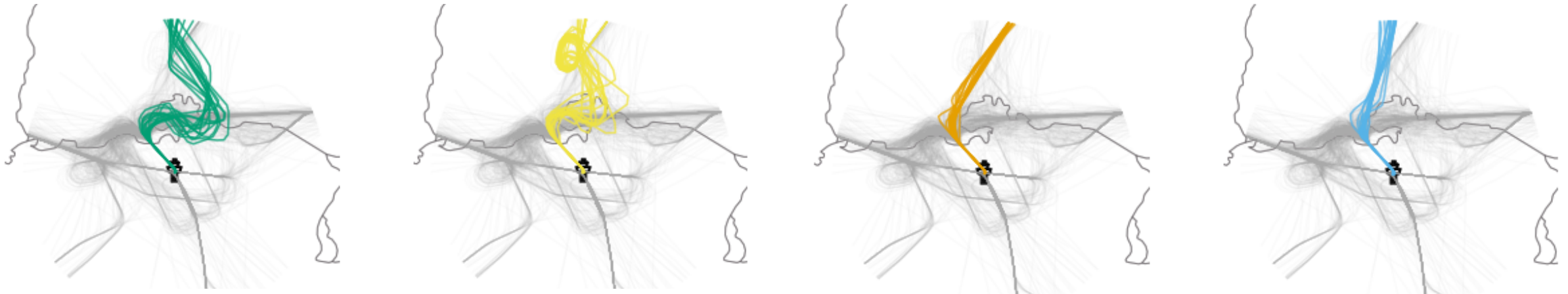


# Airport Operations

## *arrival*

Clustering of arrival flows in the airport sequencing and metering area (40NM around airport)

Prediction of arrival routes used and time needed

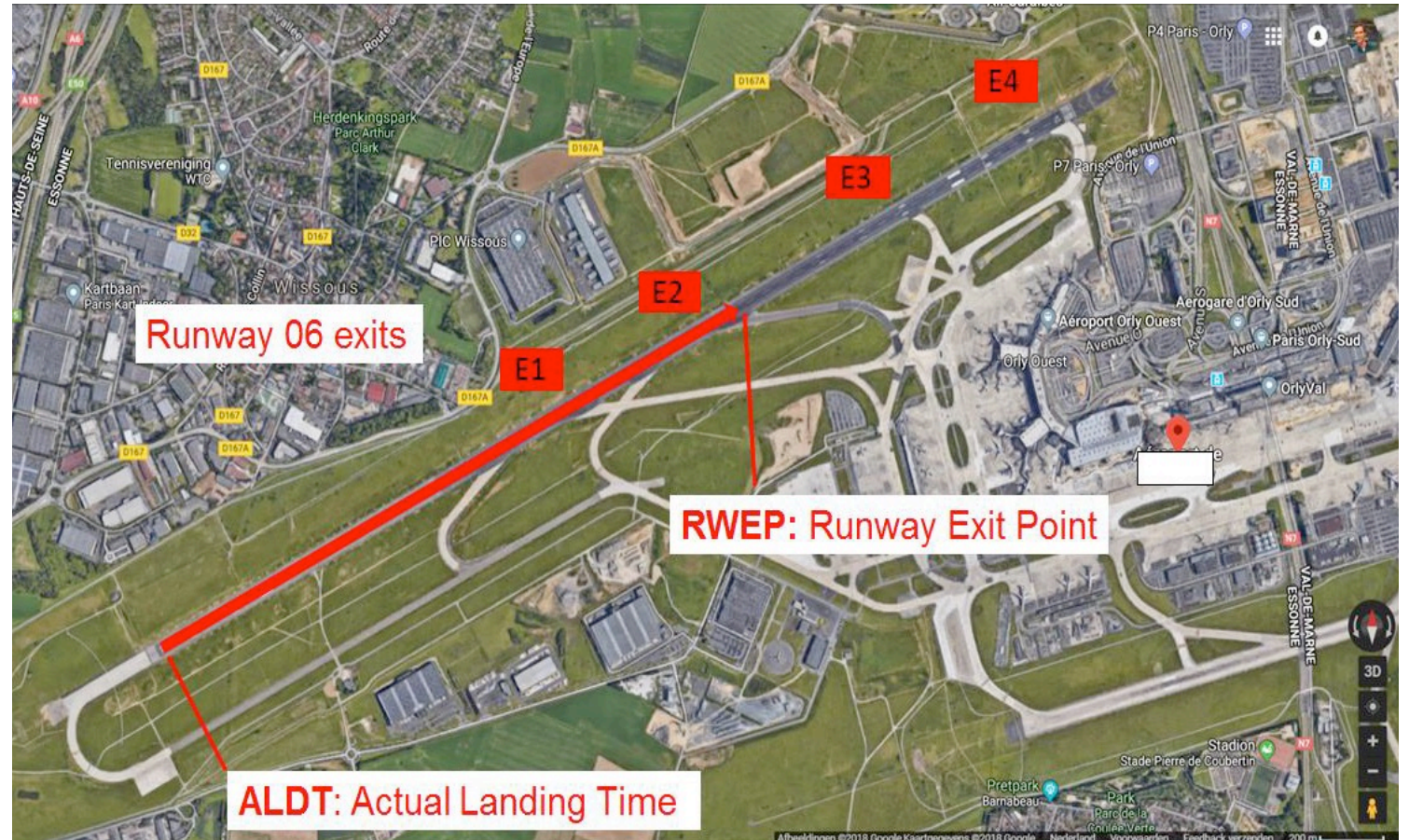


M. Schultz et al. 2020. *Analysis of airport ground operations based on ADS-B data*, 1<sup>st</sup> Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics in Air Transportation



# Airport Operations

## *runway occupancy time*



F. Herreman et al. 2019. *A machine learning model to predict runway exit at Vienna airport*, Transportation Research Part E 131 (2019) 329–342

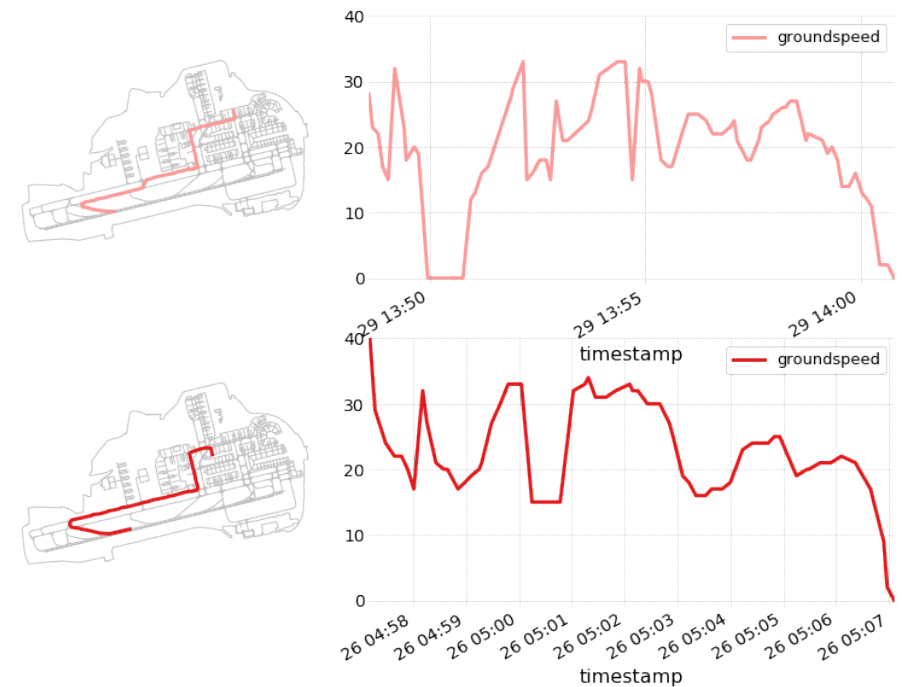
# Airport Operations

## *aircraft apron/ taxi movements*

Different clusters based on aircraft position and groundspeed



Different speed profiles (waiting queues)



M. Schultz et al. 2019. A-CDM Lite: situation awareness and decision making for small airports based on ADS-B data, 9<sup>th</sup> SESAR Innovation Days

# Data-driven trajectory management at airports

**Thank you.**

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[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Michael\\_Schultz6](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Michael_Schultz6)