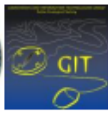


# XIII Convegno Nazionale GIT-SI

11-13 Giugno 2018

Fortezza Firmafede, Sarzana (Sp)



*Società Geologica Italiana*  
Sezione GIT - Geosciences and Information Technologies  
SI - Sezione di Idrogeologia



*Sessione tematica SI: "La gestione quantitativa delle risorse idriche sotterranee: effetti delle variazioni di utilizzo delle risorse e delle variazioni climatiche".*

## HYDRO-GEOTECHNICAL MODELLING OF COMO SUBSIDENCE

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(1) Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra "A. Desio" Università degli Studi di Milano



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELLA TERRA



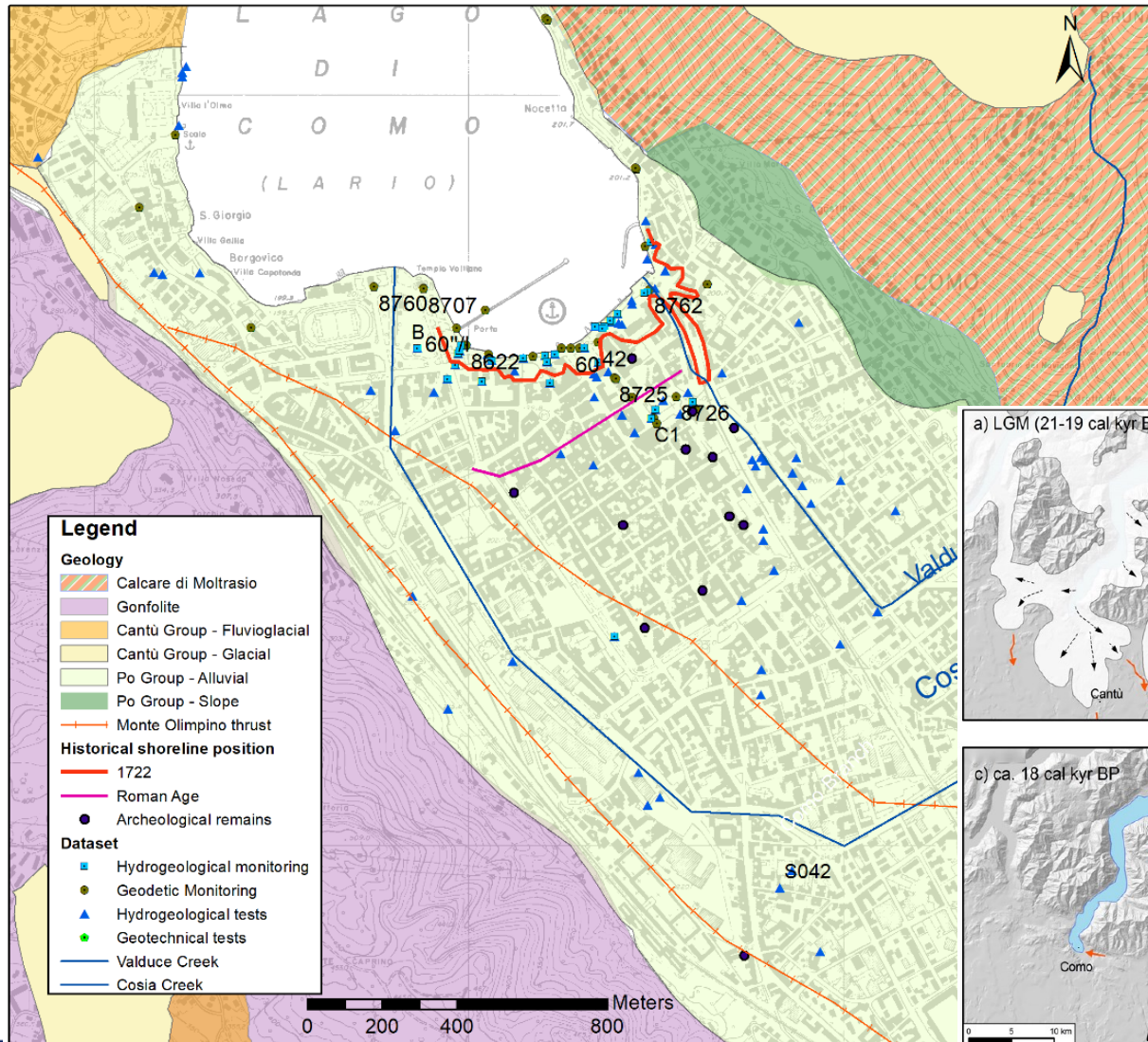
# COMO URBAN AREA

Geological Framework

Shoreline evolution

Historical subsidence records

Lake Flooding

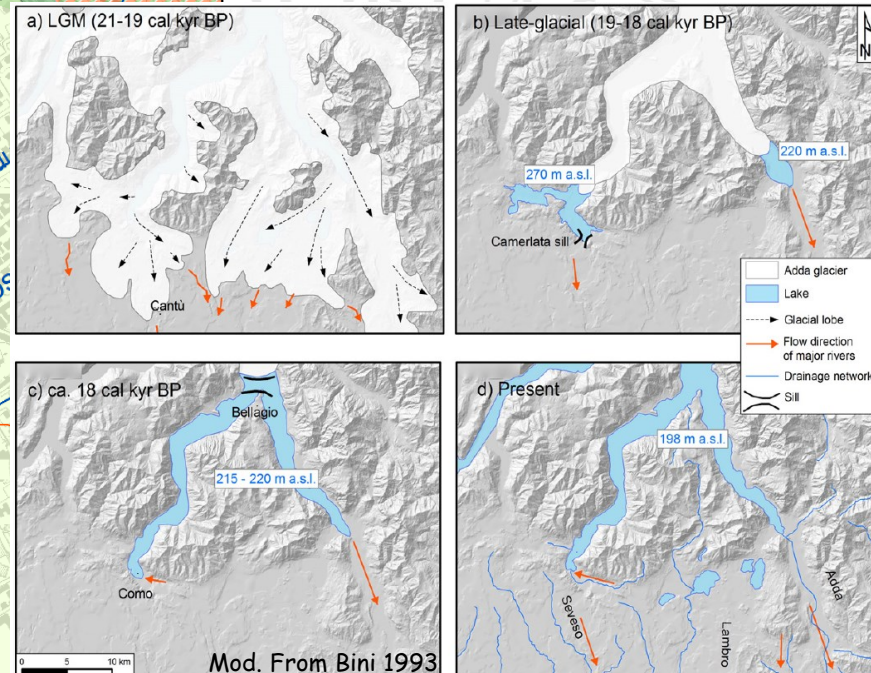


## MESOZOIC UNITS

- Gonfolite
- Lombarda Group
- Moltrasio Limestone

## QUATERNARY DEPOSITS

- Po Synthem
- Cantù Synthem





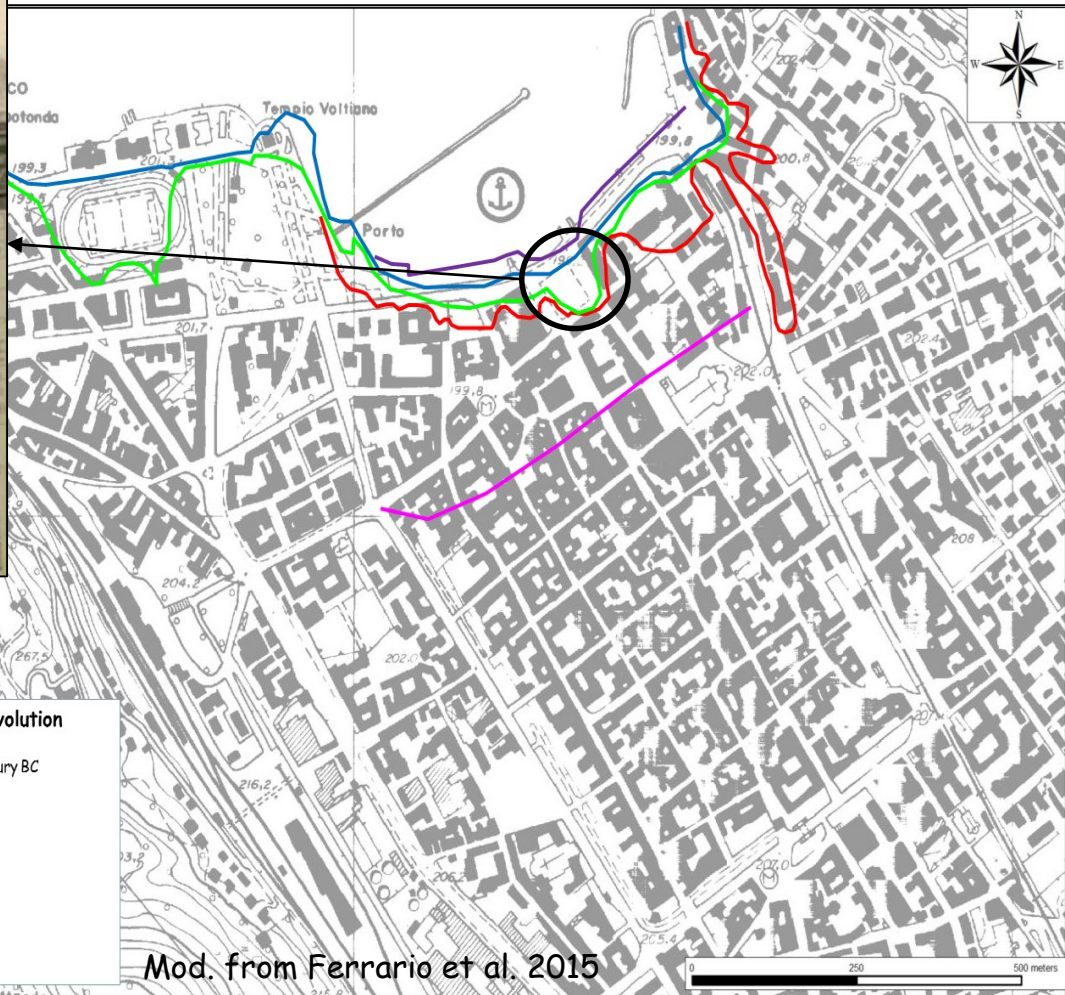
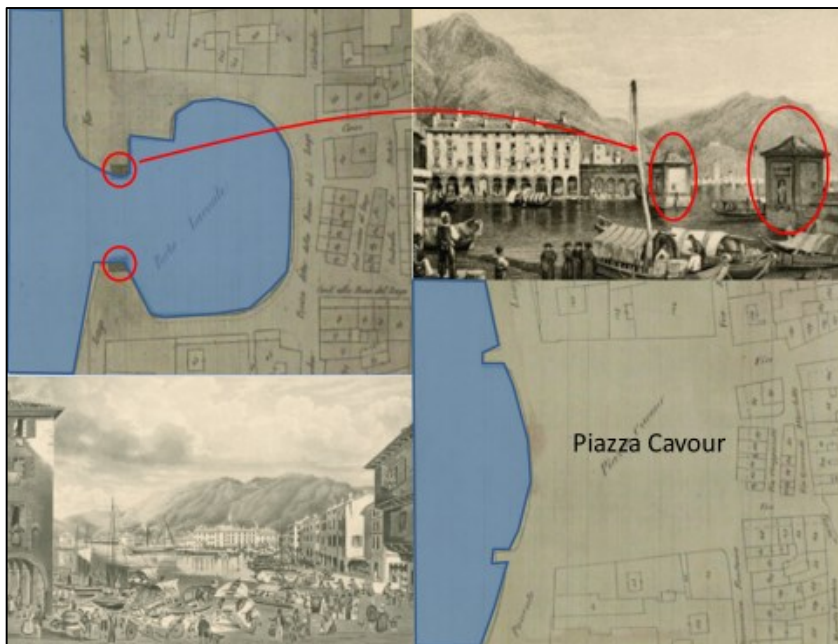
# COMO URBAN AREA

Geological Framework

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Lake Flooding



## SINCE ROMAN AGE:

- ❖ Environmental remediation of marshy areas
- ❖ Artificial deviation of fluvial streams (Valduce and Cosia)
- ❖ Shoreline progradation and rettification by placing artificial reworked material
- ❖ Ancient harbor conversion in the modern Cavour Square (1872)



# COMO URBAN AREA

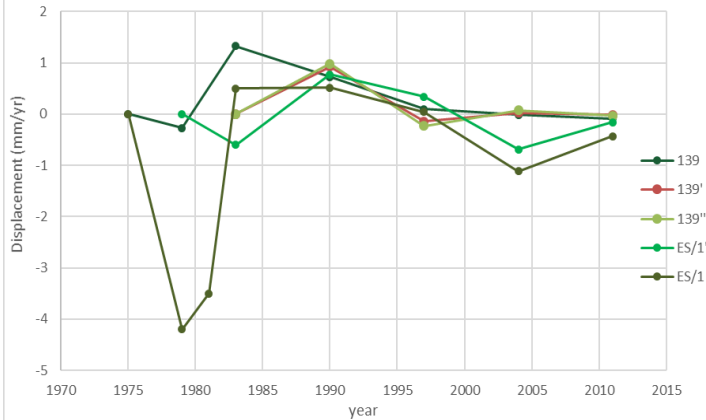
Geological Framework

Shoreline evolution

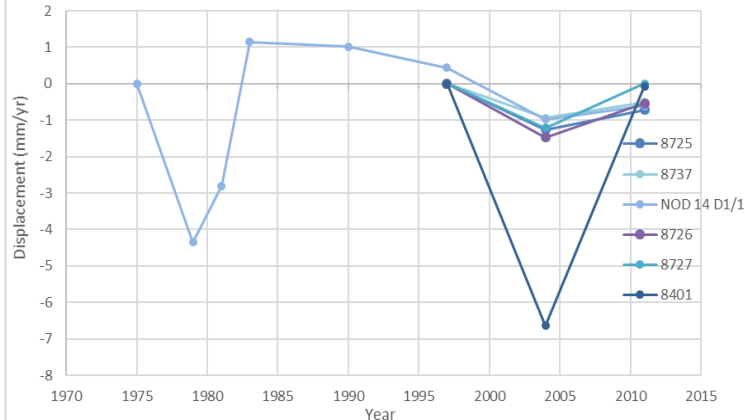
Historical subsidence records

Lake Flooding

E-W Coast



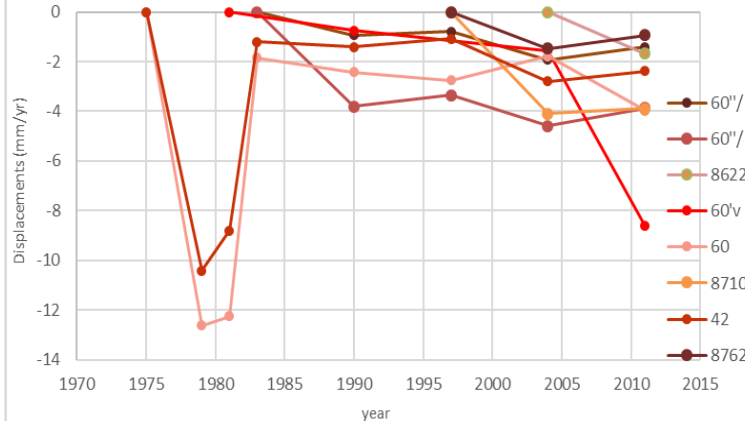
Historical Center



Voltiano Temple



Shoreline



70s-80s

**ANTHROPIC  
SUBSIDENCE**  
20 mm/year



**AQUIFER  
OVER-  
EXPLOITATION**

150-160 l/s

Geometric levelling  
(1974 - 1984 - 1986 -  
1996 - 1997  
2004-2011-2014)  
PSInSAR  
Interferometry (1992  
÷ 2003, 2003 ÷  
2012)

Natural trend: 2/3 mm/year





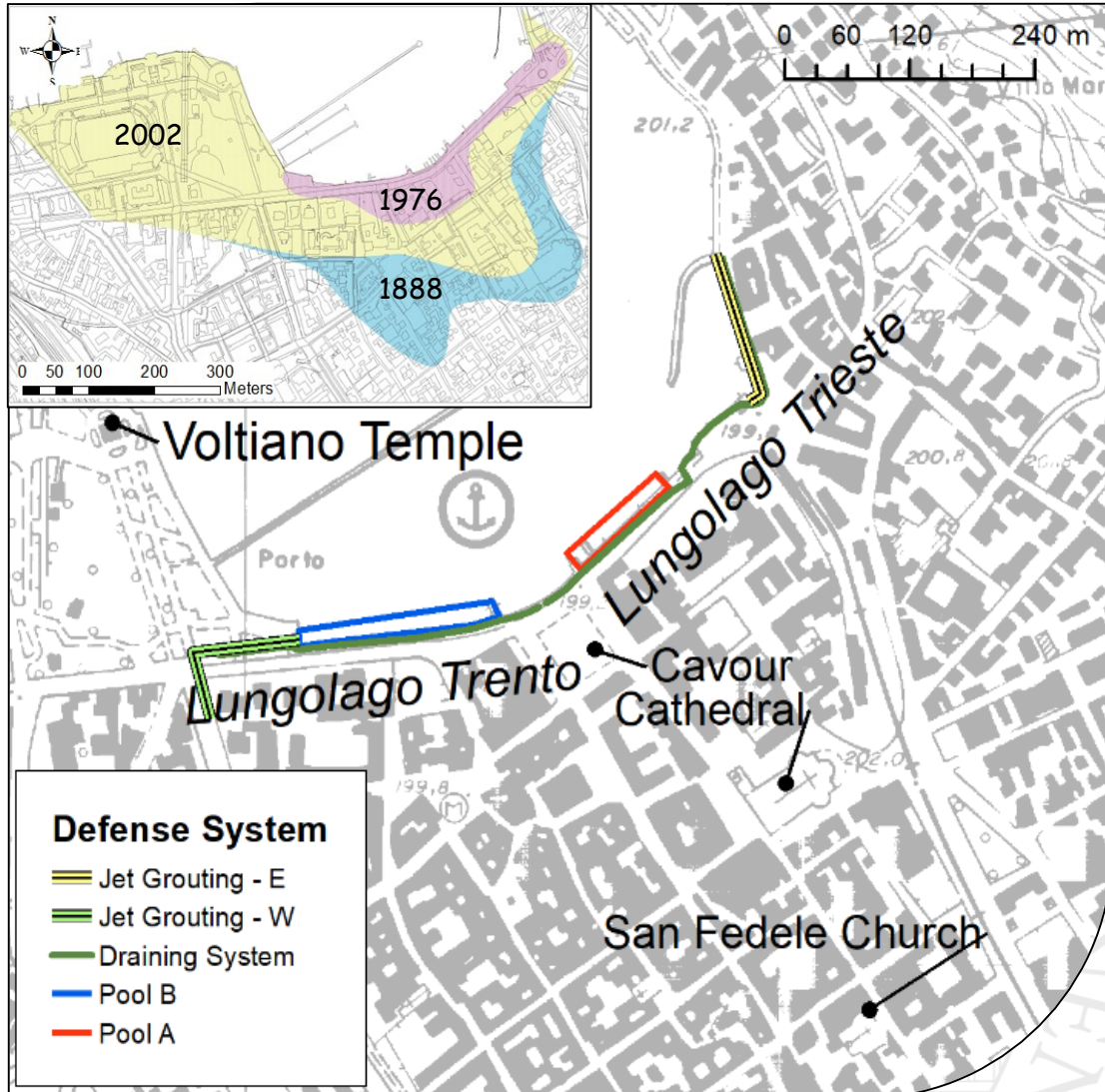
# COMO URBAN AREA

Geological Framework

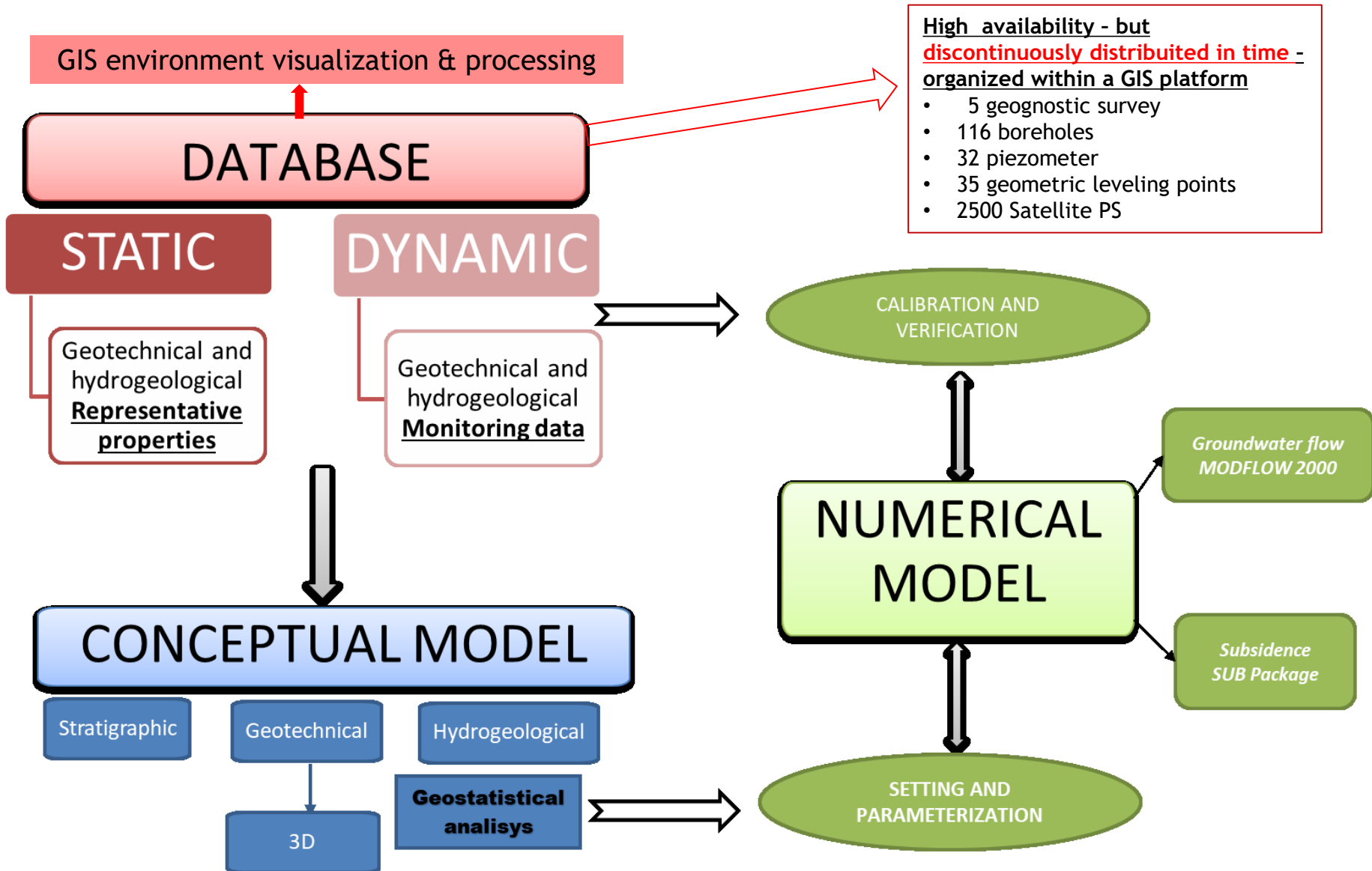
Shoreline evolution

Historical subsidence records

Lake Flooding



# WORKING FLOWCHART



DATABASE

STATIC

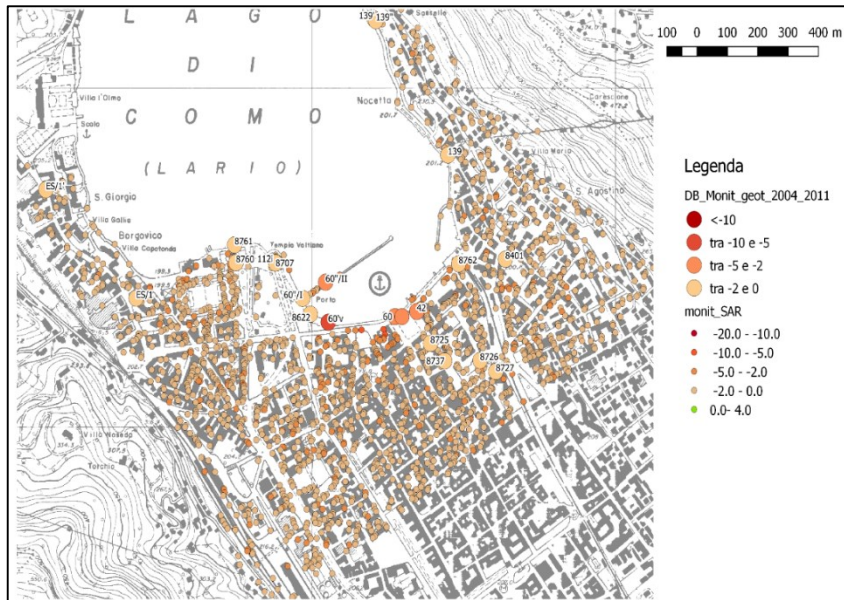
DYNAMIC

Geotechnical and hydrogeological Representative properties

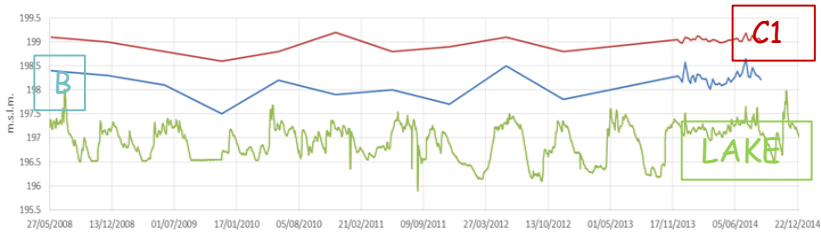
Geotechnical and hydrogeological Monitoring data

# DATABASE CREATION and INTERPRETATION

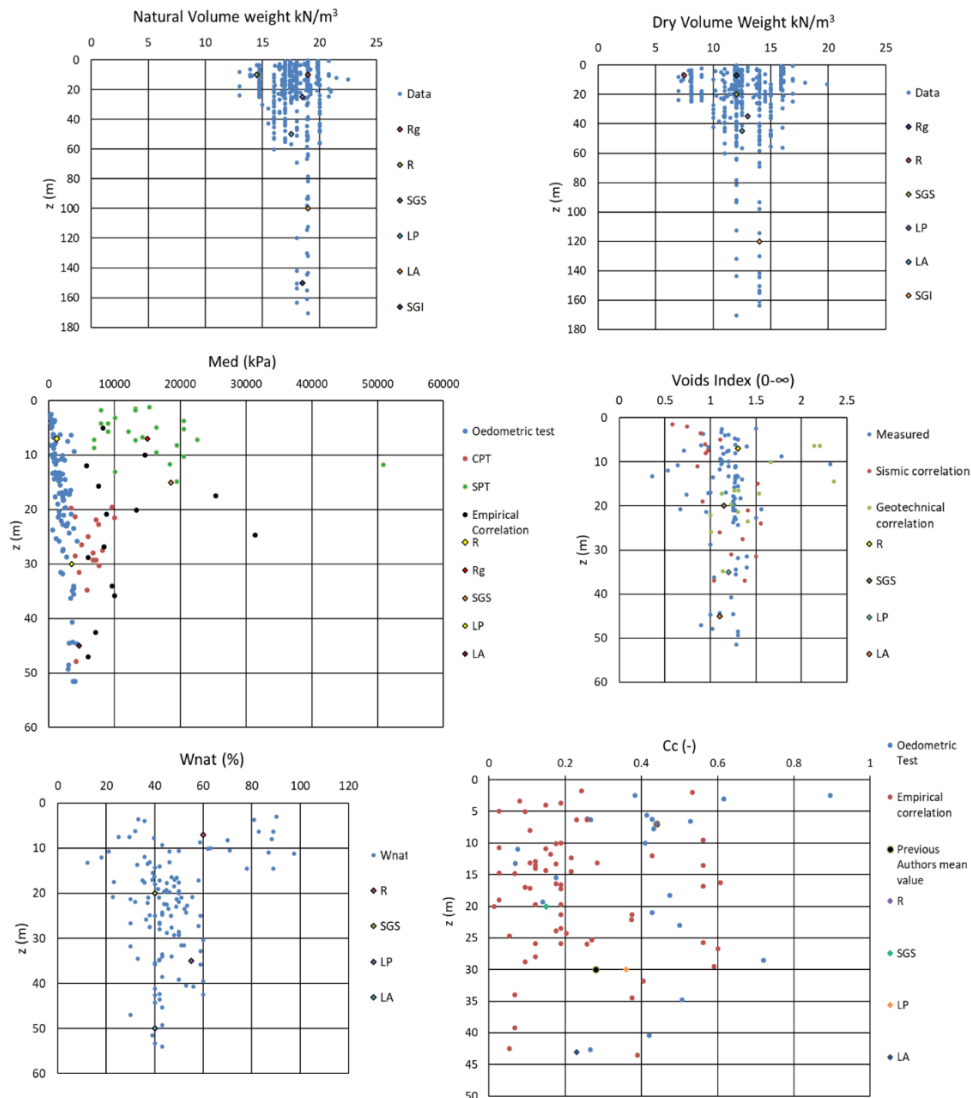
## PS SAR and geometric leveling data comparison



## Groundwater and lake mutual relationship analysis



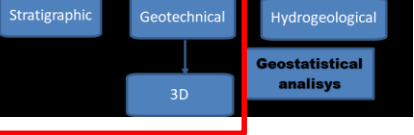
## Geotechnical data plotting





# CONCEPTUAL MODEL

# CONCEPTUAL MODEL



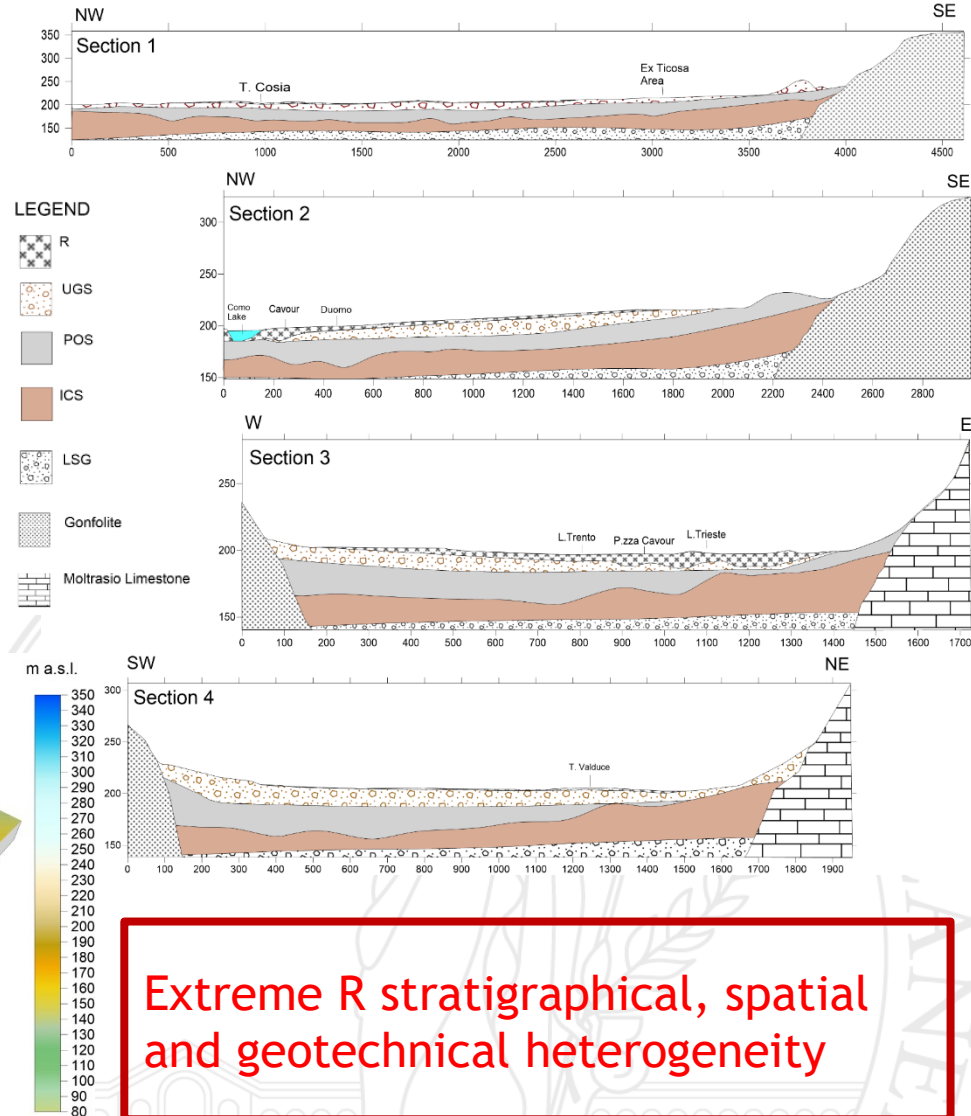
**REWORKED ANTHROPIC MATERIAL (R) 0-15 m. from g.l.**

**UPPER SAND and GRAVEL (UGS) 3-25 m from g.l.**

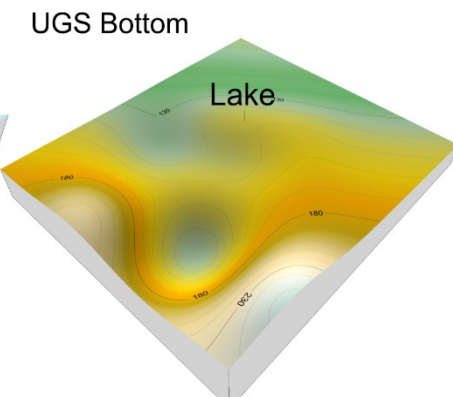
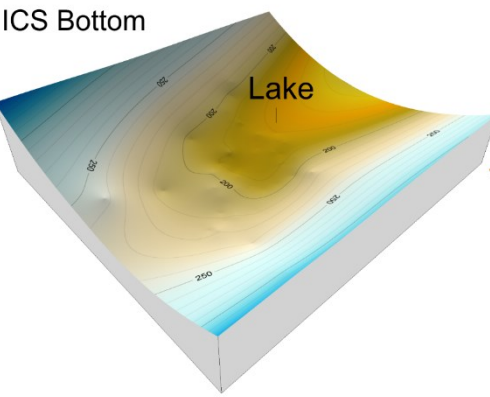
**ORGANIC PALUSTRINE SILTS (POS) 20-40 m from g.l.**

**SILTY INORGANIC GLACIOLACUSTRINE CLAYS (ICS) 25-70 m from g.l.**

**LOWER SAND and GRAVEL (LSG) (60-170 m from g.l.**



**Extreme R stratigraphical, spatial and geotechnical heterogeneity**

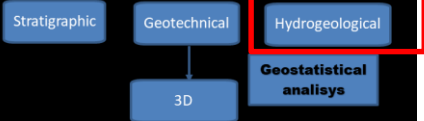


KRIGING GEOSTATISTICAL PROCEDURE

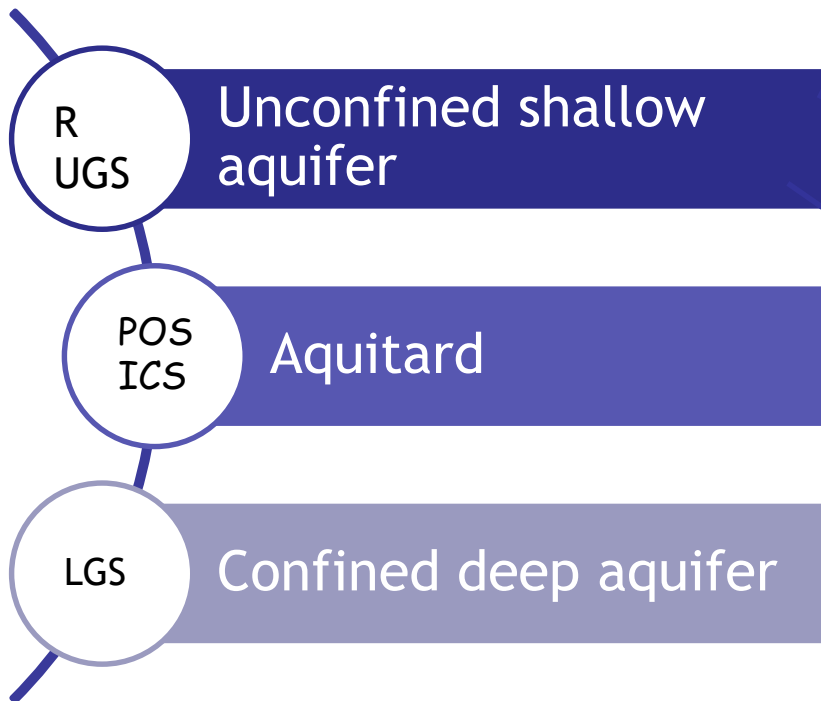




## CONCEPTUAL MODEL



# CONCEPTUAL MODEL



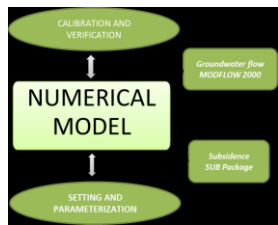
### MAIN FEATURES

- ❖ Unit R k heterogeneity  $10^{-2} \div 10^{-4}$  m/s
- ❖ Variable Groundwater depth from 1.5÷2 m along the shoreline to 10÷15 m at the SE end of the basin
- ❖ Cosia and Valduce creek w/ cemented riverbed and rectified stream.

### RECHARGE

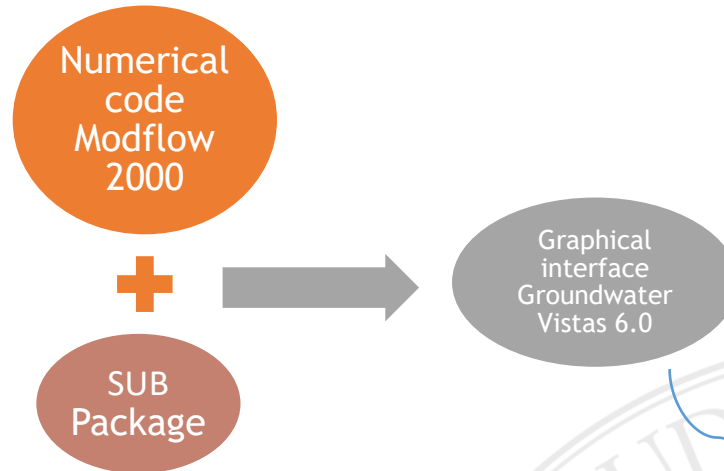
- ❖ Mainly lateral supply from rocky reliefs
- ❖ Local contribute from Respaù creek paleo-channel (SW) recharge anomaly
- ❖ Localized karst phenomena





# NUMERICAL MODEL

## Background theory



Inelastic and elastic deformation depending on the preconsolidation stress - effective stress mutual relationship

*Preconsolidation stress*  
=  
*Soil maximum effective stress*  
=  
*Piezometric minima (or p minima) of the simulation*

Graphical interface  
Groundwater  
Vistas 6.0

$$\Delta h \rho_w g = \Delta p$$

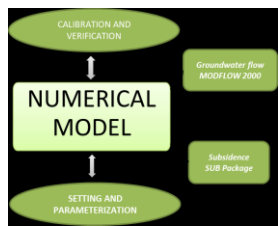
$$\Delta \sigma' = -\rho_w g \Delta h$$

COUPLED HYDRO-GEOTECHNICAL MODEL



# NUMERICAL MODEL

## Setting and parameterization



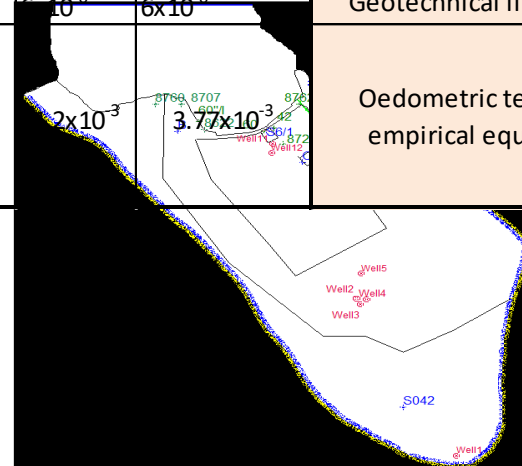
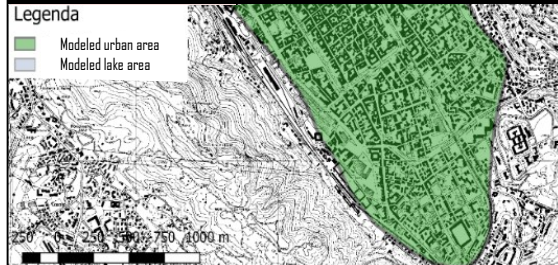
1. TEMPORAL and SPATIAL DISCRETIZATION

2. BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

3. MODEL PARAMETERS

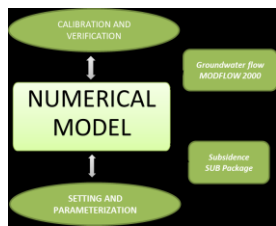
Parameter	UNIT				SOURCE
	R	UGS	POS	LA	
<b>k (m/s)</b>	$5,3 \times 10^{-4}$	$2,6 \times 10^{-3}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ CHD - Medium and High</li> <li>➤ Pumping Wells - Lateral recharge</li> <li>➤ 450 l/s (THORNTON) + CN procedure)</li> </ul>	$4,73 \times 10^{-6}$	pumping, oedometric, borehole permeability tests
<b>Sy o Ss (-)</b>	Modes: 1 SS e 8 TR to 2011 0.3	0.2	0.01	0.006	Pumping tests, empirical equations, previous studies
<b>Sske(1/m)</b>	$6 \times 10^{-6}$	$3 \times 10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	$6 \times 10^{-6}$	Geotechnical literature
<b>Sski (1/m)</b>	$1,3 \times 10^{-6}$ shoreline $1,76 \times 10^{-6}$ Cavour $3 \times 10^{-6}$ Historical town	$3 \times 10^{-6}$	$2 \times 10^{-3}$	$3,7 \times 10^{-3}$	Oedometric tests and empirical equations

Calibration process of the parameters, varying the values within the observed real data ranges, until obtaining an acceptable RMS (<10%)

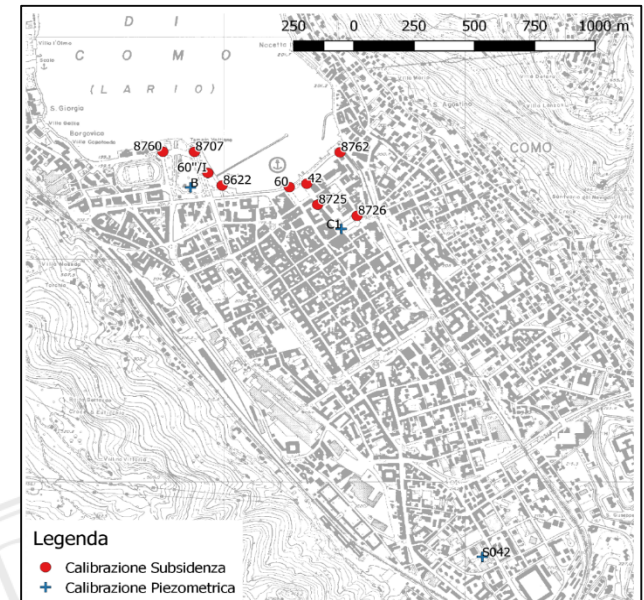




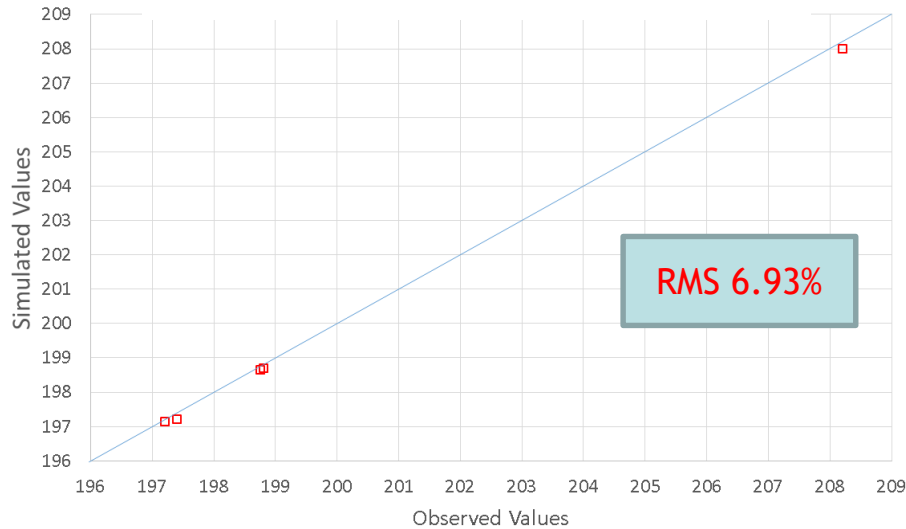
# NUMERICAL MODEL Calibration



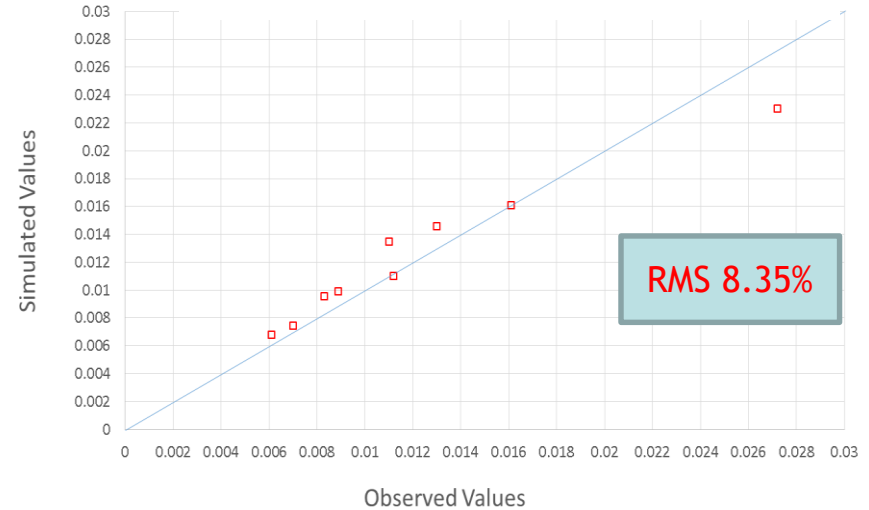
Root Mean Square error (RMS)  
Anderson & Woessner (1992)



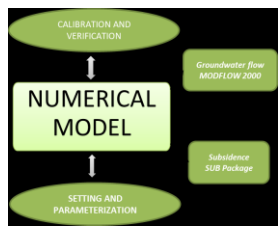
## Piezometric calibration



## Subsidence calibration

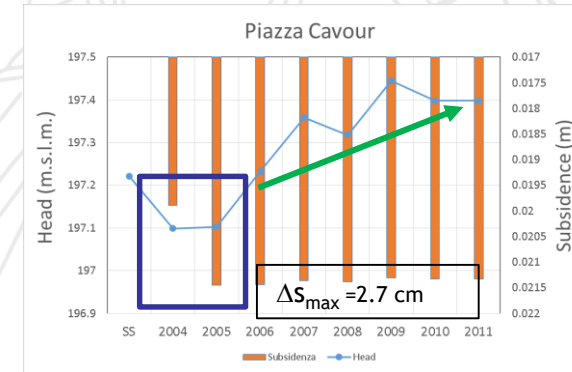
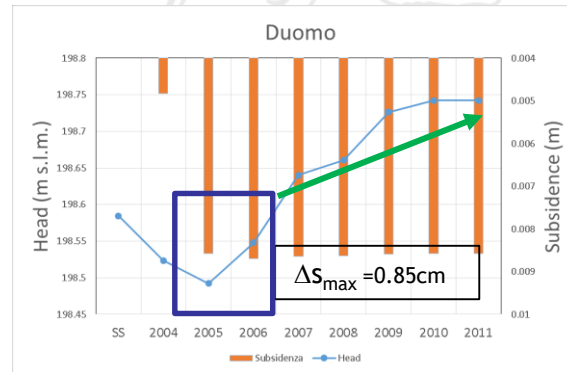
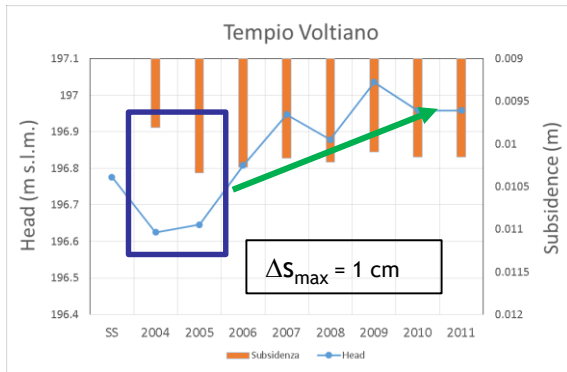
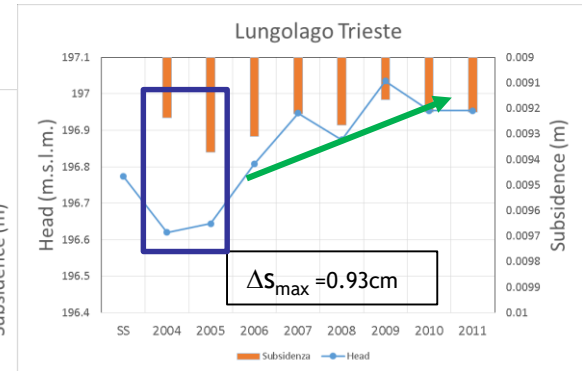
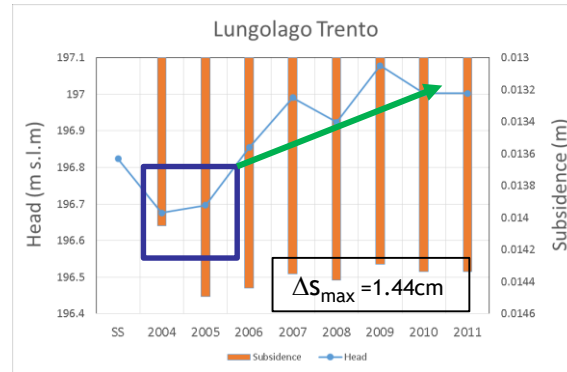
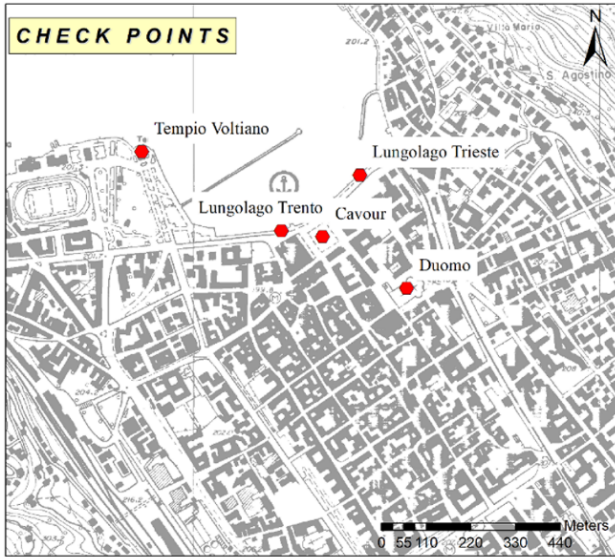


# NUMERICAL MODEL Results



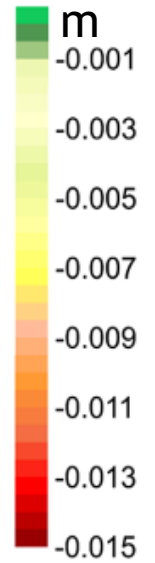
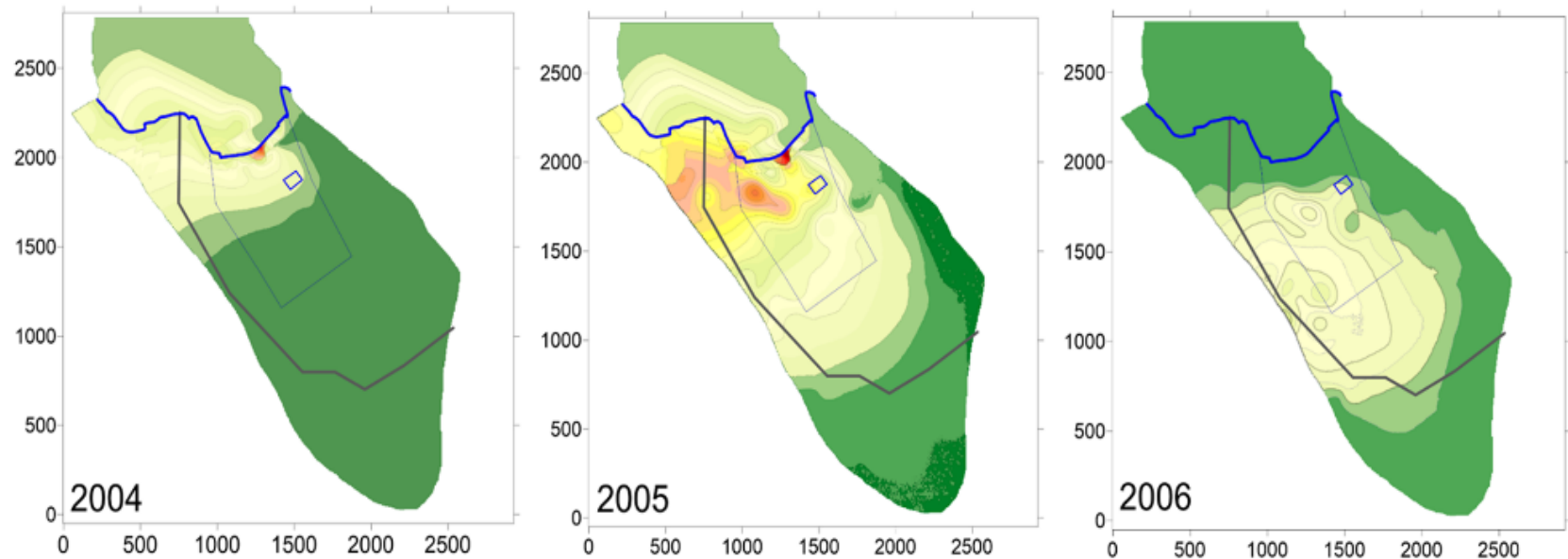
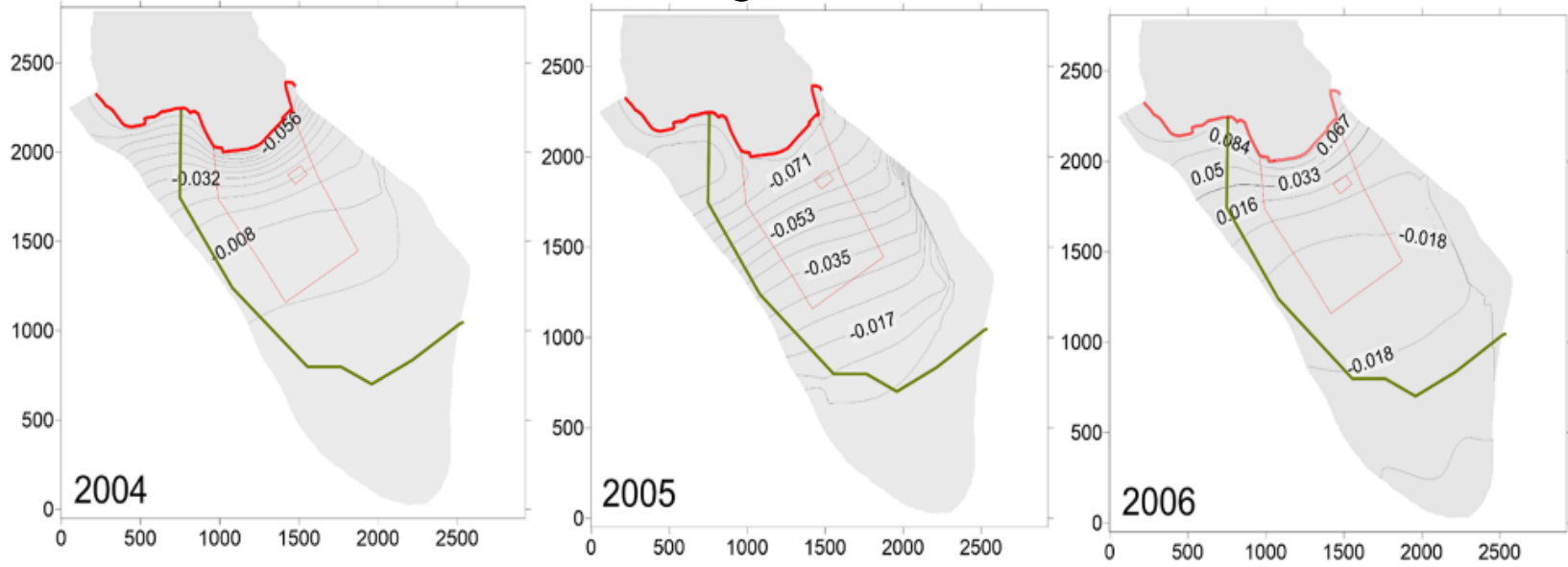
PIEZOMETRIC MINIMA → 2004-2005

INELASTIC and ELASTIC SUB CYCLES



# Annual groundwater level variation

m

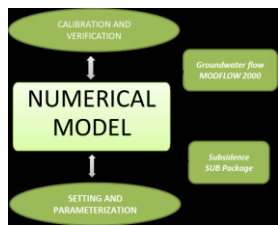


# Annual subsidence variation

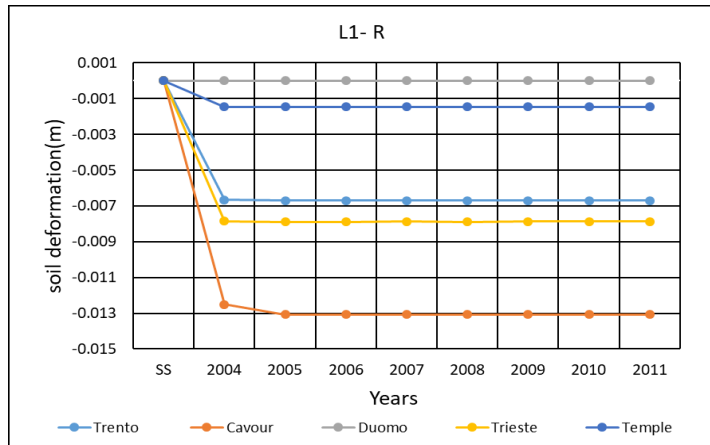




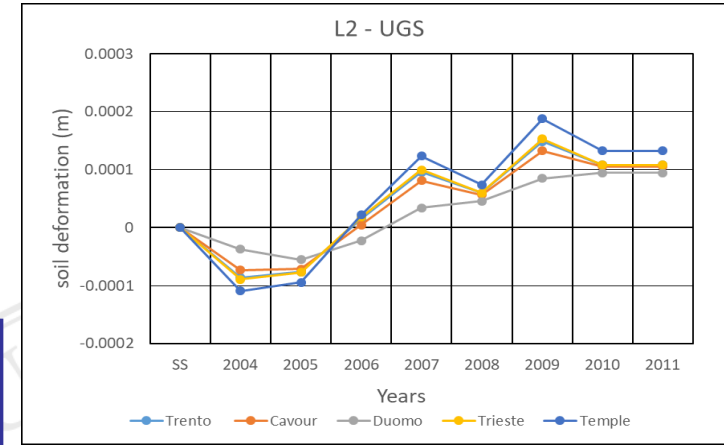
# NUMERICAL MODEL Results



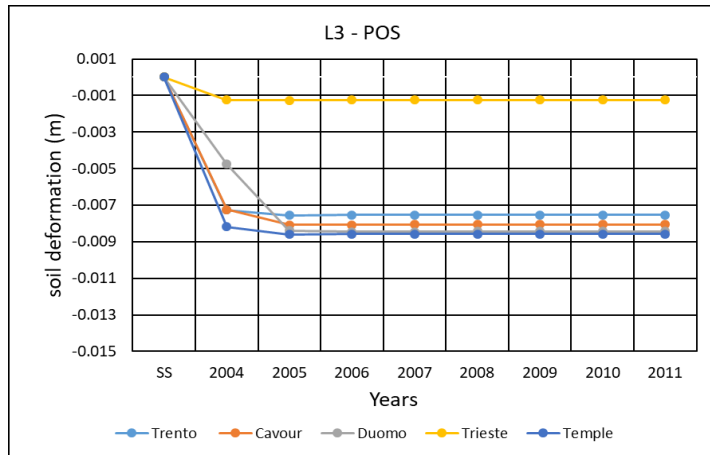
## Deformation per layer



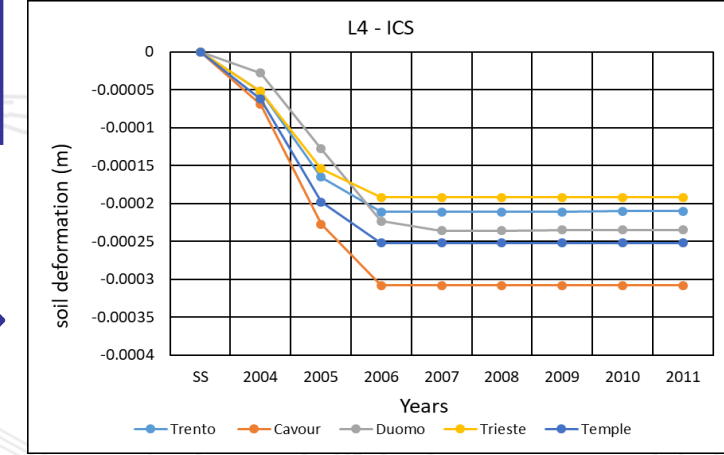
Elastic recovery linked to the coarser unit

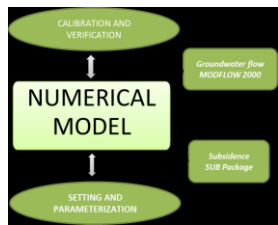


Unit R and POS contribute to almost the whole deformation



ICS contribute negligibly to the phenomenon due to its depth and low k





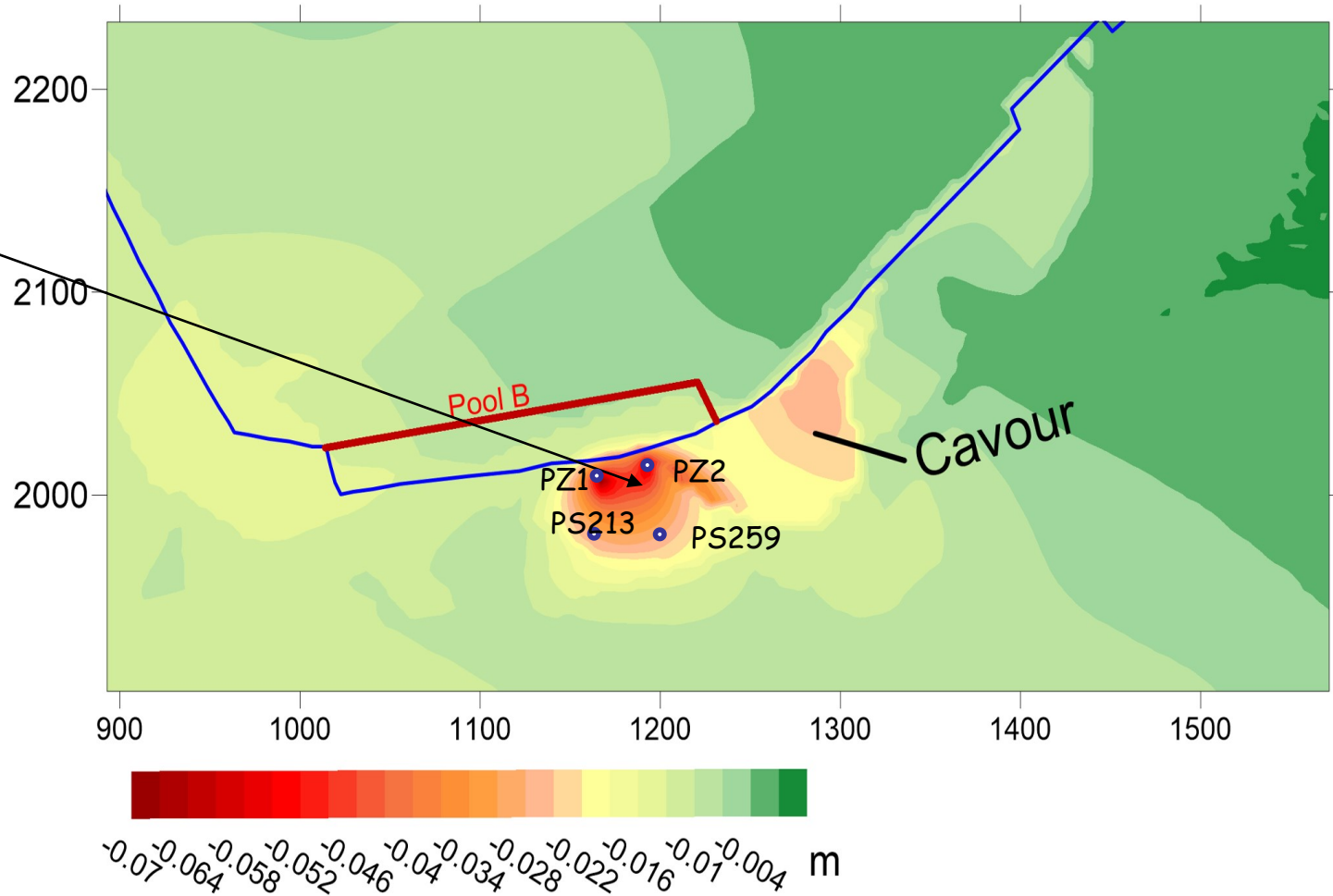
# NUMERICAL MODEL Verification

Pumping induced subsidence - 2009

ANTHROPIC  
PERTURBATION

100 l/s

LOCALIZED  
DEFORMATION  
INCREMENT UP  
TO A MAXIMUM OF  
6-7 cm



# CONCLUSIONS - APPLICATIONS - LIMITATIONS

## CONCLUSIONS

- Natural or anthropogenic perturbation of the aquifer system could induce a deformation of the relative **solid skeleton** of soils.
- Development of an effective procedural scheme to **analyze and forecast** subsident critical zone: it cannot prescind from the **hydro-geotechnical comprehension** of the subsoil

## APPLICATIONS

### Urban management

- Pool A induced subsidence evaluation (R ~12 m)
- Groundwater response assesment linked to anthropic or natural perturbations.

## LIMITATIONS

- Constant recharge (annual model)
- Most recent and complete available data 2004-2011
- No-delay beds =instantaneous deformation

$$\tau = S_{skv} \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 / K_v$$

TIME DELAY ESTIMATION - Riley equation

UNIT	$S_{skv}$ (m <sup>-1</sup> )	$b_{av}$ (m)	$K_v$ (m/s)	$\tau$
R	1.3x10 <sup>-2</sup>	8	5.3x10 <sup>-5</sup>	Instantaneous (<1day)
POS	4.2x10 <sup>-3</sup>	30	7x10 <sup>-7</sup>	15 ÷ 30 days
ICS	3.77x10 <sup>-3</sup>	40	4.73x10 <sup>-9</sup>	10 years





# Thanks for your attention!



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Prof.ssa Tiziana APUANI

Prof. Giovanni Pietro BERETTA



DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE DELLA TERRA "ARDITO DESIO"

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*We would like to acknowledge Dr. Jacopo Terrenghi for the precious help in approaching the numerical model.*

*Additional thanks go to Local Authorities and Municipality of Como for the data made available.*

