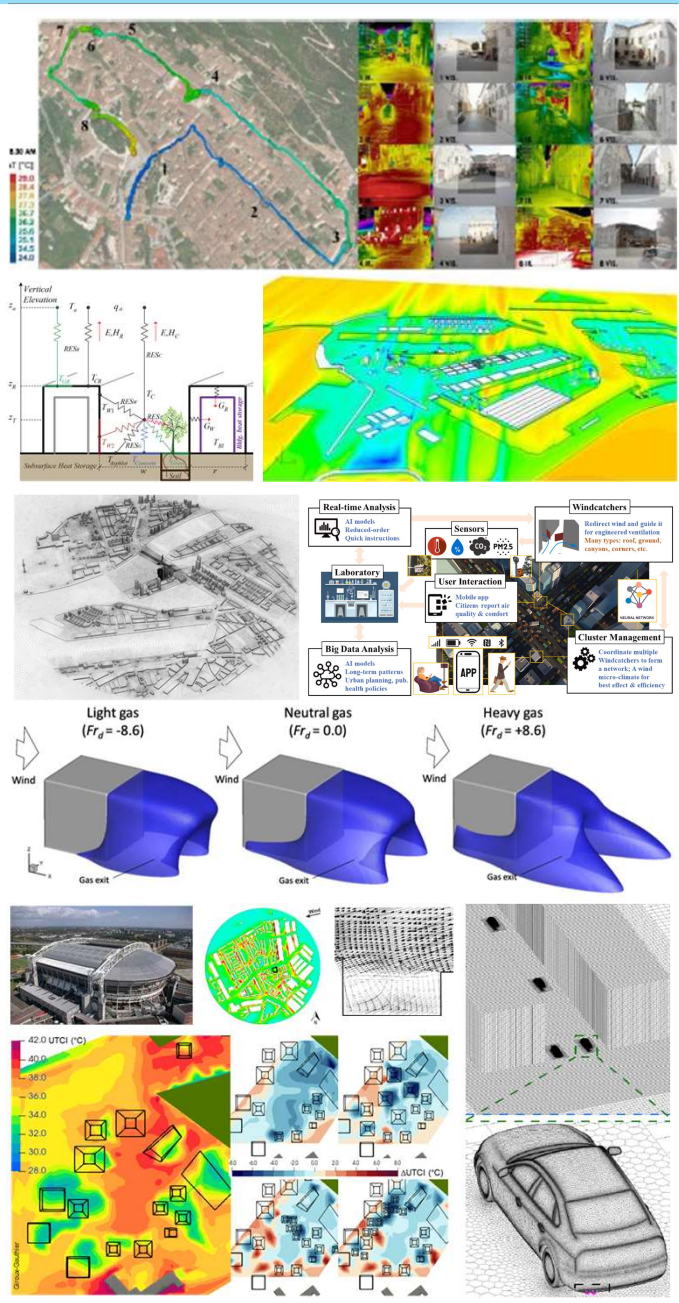


The Grand Societal Challenges



Topics



SCOPE

Urban Physics is the science and engineering of physical processes in urban areas. It basically refers to the transfer of heat and mass in the outdoor and indoor urban environment, and its interaction with humans, fauna, flora and materials. Urban Physics is a rapidly increasing focus area as it is key to understanding and addressing the **grand societal challenges** that are **climate change, energy, health, security, transport and ageing**. The main assessment tools in Urban Physics are field measurements, full-scale and reduced-scale laboratory measurements and numerical simulation including computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and building energy simulation (BES).

Urban Physics is intrinsically multidisciplinary and multiscale. **Topics** range from climate change over heat stress and cooling of cities and buildings to sustainable seaports and airports. In addition, this School will also include a session on the history of Albania and two informative and entertaining sessions on **academic publishing experiences** by scientific journal editors.

This edition of the Urban Physics School is organised by Heriot-Watt University (UK) in collaboration with ETH Zurich (Switzerland), Université de Sherbrooke (Canada) and IUSS Pavia (Italy), supported by local host Tirana University (Albania). It follows the previous successful editions of the School in the period 2011-2019.

The School is defined especially for PhD students, postdocs and young researchers & academic staff and intends to provide state-of-the-art knowledge in Urban Physics focused on its role in tackling the grand societal challenges. We look forward to welcoming you at this Autumn School to meet experts and colleagues working in this exciting field.

REGISTRATION

Participants can register by sending an email to b.blocken@hw.ac.uk. On-site and online attendance are possible. The school fee is 980 € per person for one-person room; 840 € pp for two-person room and 720 € pp for three-person room. Online attendance fee is 400 €. Number of available rooms is limited. The fee covers course registration, course materials, accommodation (6 nights), welcome reception, and half board (breakfasts & midday lunches).

Instructions on the payment will be sent after registration via email. A letter of confirmation will be sent to the registered participants after the payment has been received. The number of on-site places are limited, and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Urban Physics Autumn School 2025

An International Specialised Workshop for PhD students, postdocs and young academic staff.
26 October – 1 November 2025
Golem, Albania
www.urbanphysics.net/UPAS2025.htm

ORGANISERS/
LECTURERS

Prof. Bert Blocken

Heriot-Watt University, UK

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ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Prof. Dominique Derome

Université de Sherbrooke, Canada

Prof. Alessio Ricci

IUSS Pavia, Italy

In alphabetical order

Prof. Elie Bou-Zeid

Princeton University, USA

Prof. Costin Cosoiu

Tech. Univ. of Civil Engineering, Romania

Prof. Ana Ktona

Tirana University, Albania

Prof. Cruz Li

Chongqing University, China

Prof. Anna-Laura Pisello

University of Perugia, Italy

Prof. Riccardo Buccolieri

University of Salento, Italy

Prof. Mattheos Santamouris

University of New South Wales, Australia

Prof. Ted Stathopoulos

Concordia University, Canada

Prof. Yoshihide Tominaga

Niigata Institute of Technology, Japan

Prof. Maarten van Reeuwijk

Imperial College, UK

Prof. Sviatoslav Yutskevych

Kyiv Aviation Institute, Ukraine

INVITED LECTURERS

Lecturers and participants will stay together in the **beautiful 5* Supreme Hotel at the beach in Golem, Albania**. Because of its beauty, friendly people and affordable prices, Albania is often called the “new Croatia”, but of course Albania has its own great features, people and culture. The hotel offers single rooms, double rooms and triple rooms. Double and triple rooms are only recommended for participants that know each other well and are of the same gender.

More information on travel will be provided upon registration.



Organisers:

Prof. Bert Blocken

Prof. Jan Carmeliet

Prof. Dominique Derome

Prof. Alessio Ricci

Supported by:

Prof. Ana Ktona



PROGRAMME CONTENT

I. Welcome to UPAS 2025 and Welcome to Albania

1. Welcome to UPAS 2025. Urban physics to tackle the grand societal challenges (**Prof. Bert Blocken**)
2. Welcome to Albania (**Prof. Ana Ktona**)

II. Urban Physics to tackle the Grand Societal Challenges

II.A. Impacts and Assessments

1. The impact of urban overheating on energy, environment, health, low-income population, productivity and cognitive performance (Prof. Mattheos Santamouris)
2. Aviation and the environment: a complex relationship (Prof. Sviatoslav Yutskevych)
3. The effects of exposure on wind velocity and wind pressure (Prof. Ted Stathopoulos)
4. Wind tunnel atmospheric boundary layer characterisation & wind energy applications (Prof. Costin Cosoiu)
5. Sound & noise: context and research on deaf children inclusion (Prof. Ana Ktona)

II.B. Methods – Part 1

1. Multisensory environments in the urban climate change context (Prof. Anna-Laura Pisello)
2. CFD for urban physics: basics (Prof. Bert Blocken)
3. Best practice guidelines in urban CFD (Prof. Yoshihide Tominaga)
4. Geometrical simplifications for CFD in the built environment (Prof. Alessio Ricci)
5. Modeling extreme winds in complex environments (Prof. Alessio Ricci)

II.C. Methods – Part 2

1. Urban microclimate modelling using a multiscale approach (Prof. Jan Carmeliet)
2. Wind tunnel testing (Prof. Ted Stathopoulos)
3. Understanding the urban surface energy balance: theory and high-fidelity simulations (Prof. Maarten van Reeuwijk)
4. The physics of urban canopy models (Prof. Elie Bou-Zeid)
5. Power of orthogonal decompositions in urban environment analysis (Prof. Cruz Li)

II.D. Mitigation & Adaptation

1. Future challenges of urban overheating & recent developments of heat mitigation (Prof. Mattheos Santamouris)
2. On the role of trees in urban physics (Prof. Dominique Derome)
3. Urban ventilation: assessing the impact of morphology on air quality and microclimate (Prof. Riccardo Buccolieri)

III. Academic Publishing in Scientific Journals

1. Editor’s expertise and tips for young authors and reviewers (Prof. Ted Stathopoulos)
2. Ten tips for a truly terrible journal article (Prof. Bert Blocken)

Time Table

	Sun 26/10	Mon 27/10	Tue 28/10	Wed 29/10	Thu 30/10	Fri 31/10	Sat 1/11
							Breakfast
							Departure
	9 half-days of interactive courses, half day free						
Arrival							
Welcome reception							