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Voxel modelling sands and gravels of Pleistocene Rhine and Meuse in Flanders (Belgium)

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part of VITO and Flemish Government*

Outline

1. Introduction
2. Why voxel modelling?
3. Sands and gravels as a resource
4. Voxel model methodology
5. Results
6. Lessons learned

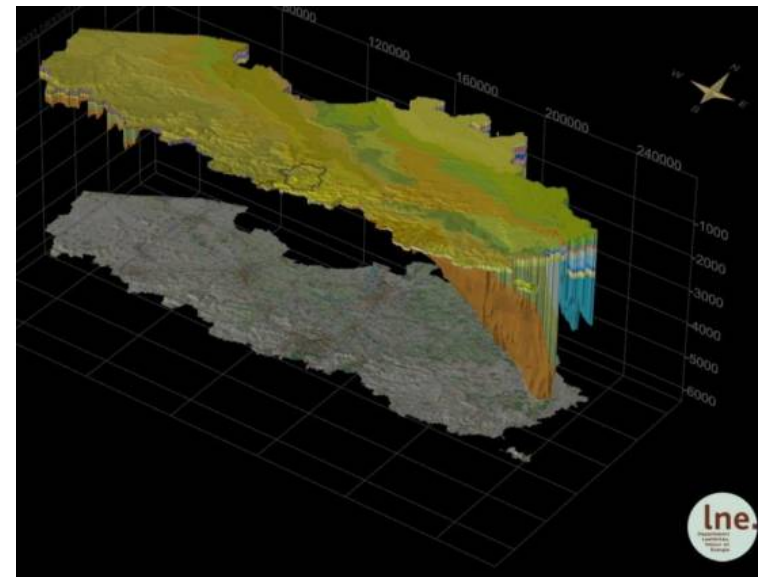
1. Introduction

Introduction

- » Voxel model part of geological 3D layer model of Flanders, Belgium
 - » Area: Flanders and Brussels Capital Region
 - » Free accessible @ <http://dov.vlaanderen.be>



www.dov.vlaanderen.be



www.dov.vlaanderen.be

Introduction

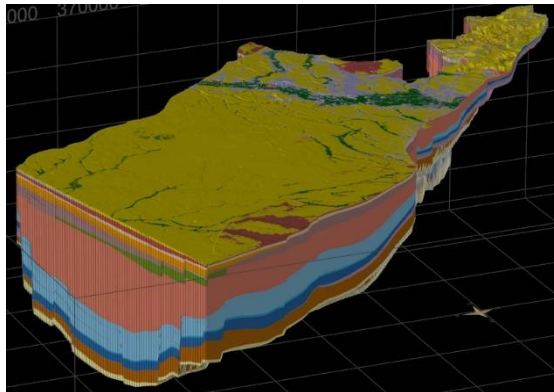
2006: start

2013:

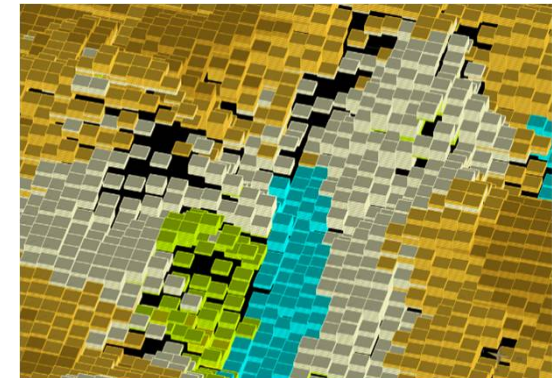
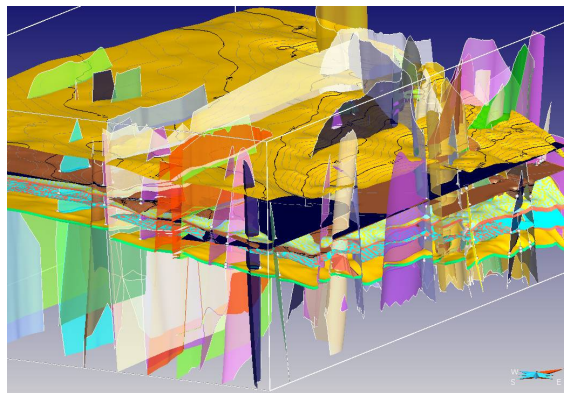
1st complete
layer model

2011: first
modelling
results

2015: 1st
voxel model



www.dov.vlaanderen.be



(Van Haren, 2017)

2. Why voxel modelling?

Why voxel modelling?

» Ordered by Flemish Government – Natural Resources Service

Support of:

1. Management of the (deep) subsoil
2. Geological knowledge: policy-supporting research & data sharing
3. Resource Policy

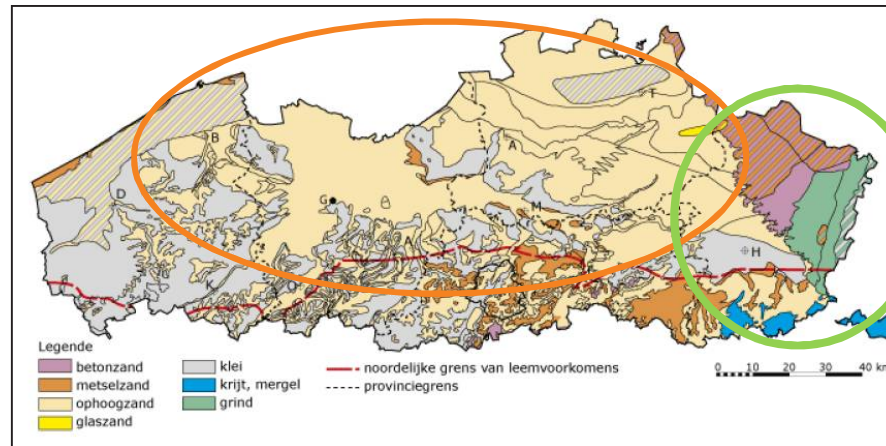
» To enrich the geological framework with more substantive resource information

» Focus on superficial Quaternary resources

3. Sands and gravels as a resource

Sand and gravel resources

- Heterogeneous Rhine and Meuse coarse sands and gravels are of high interest

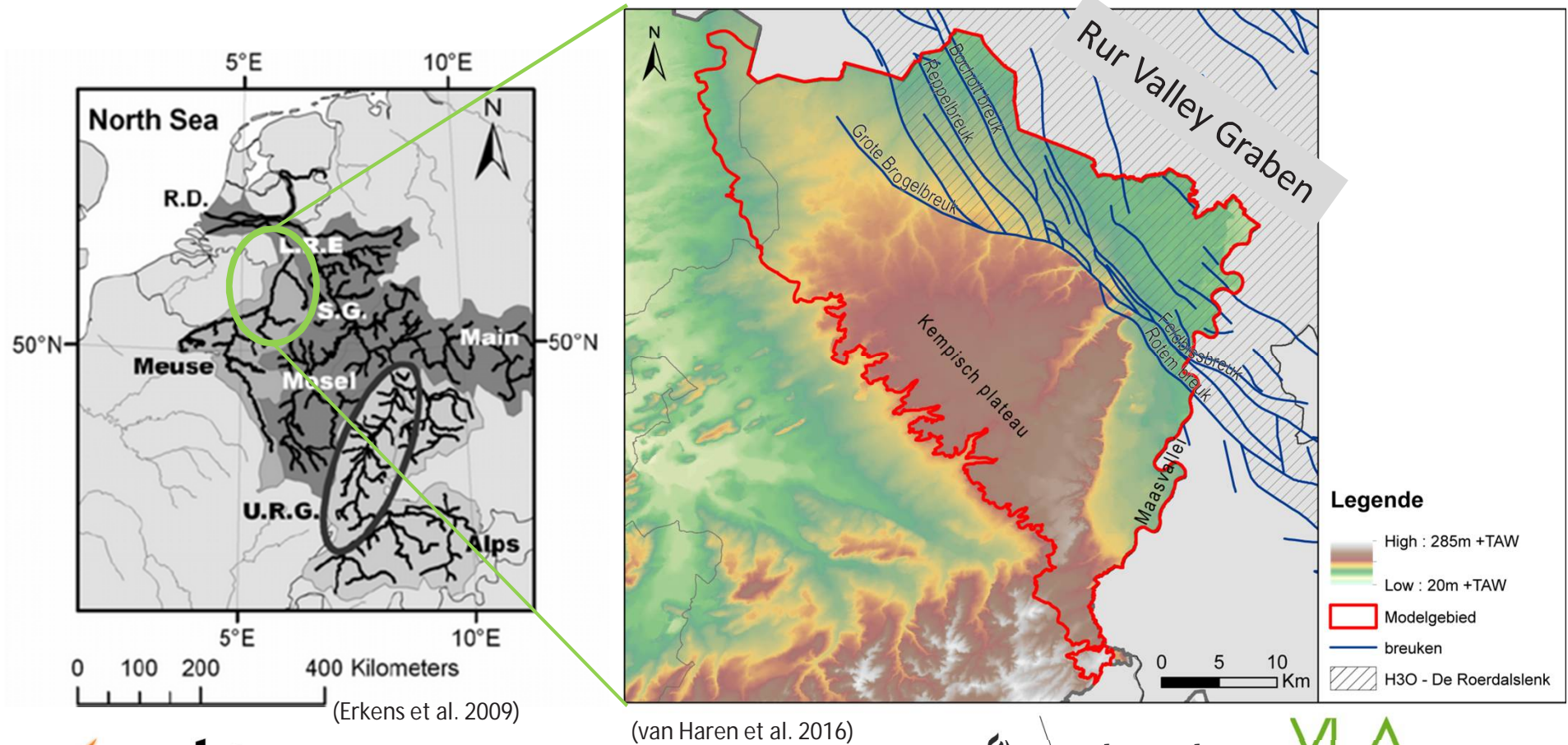


(Broothaers, 2000)

- Applications of these sands and gravel mainly in construction and building-materials industry

Area of interest

- » Sands and gravels of Pleistocene Rhine and Meuse deposits




Modelling resource potential of sands and gravel

- Resource characteristics
 - Grain size and granulometric composition
 - Lithological composition
 - Grain form
 - Hardness
 - Color
 - Mineral composition
 - ...

Resource potential vs. data input

- What resource parameters can be modelled?
 - Grain size and granulometric composition
 - Lithological composition
 - Grain form
 - Hardness
 - Color
 - Mineral composition



 Boring kb32d104w-B42

Boring
Proefnummer: kb32d104w-B42
X (mLashert): 18301.0 (XVT, geïmpulseerd op topkaat)
Y (mLashert): 16471.70 (XVT, geïmpulseerd op topkaat)
Z (mTA W): 9000 (Z, afgeleid van topkaat)
Gemeente: BOVENAARDEN
Uitvoerder: Belgische Geologische Dienst
Opmerking: opkwalificatie: BGD

Aanvraagdatum: 07/06/1981
Uitvoeringsmethode: onbemand (bevalend onbemand)
Diepte (m): 510

Mineralogische beschrijving
Auteur: Bult A. (Belgische Geologische Dienst)
Betrovingsheid: goed

Vanaf Totwaarts Beschrijving
0:00 4:00 Zand
4:00 5:00 Klei met zand en coarses
5:00 5:10 zand en Tyle

Grondstratigrafie-01011993
Auteur: Van Praet A. (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)
Betrovingsheid: goed

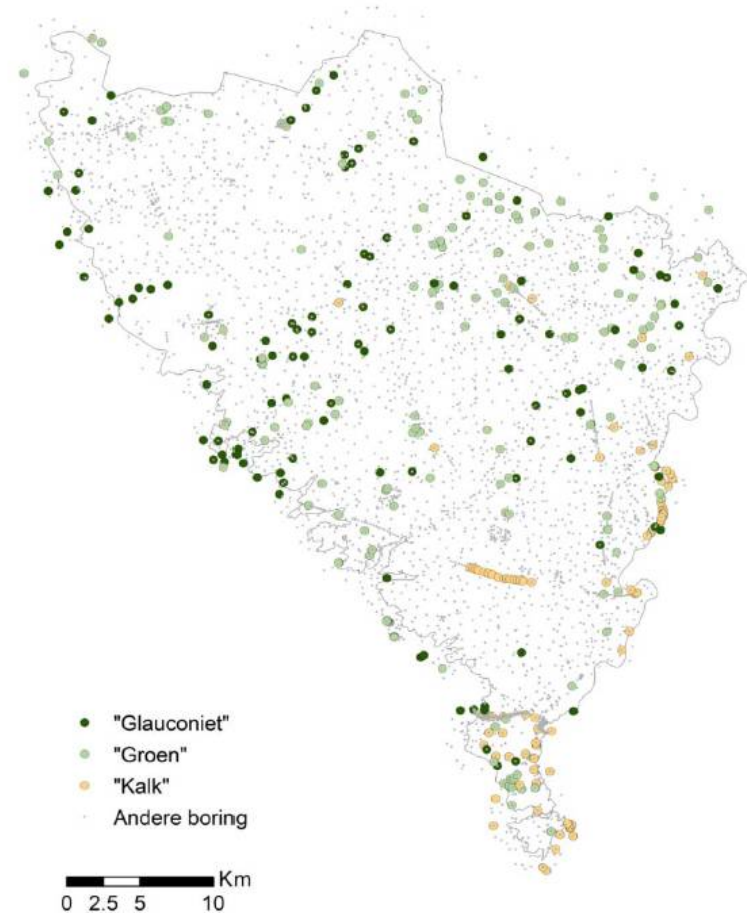
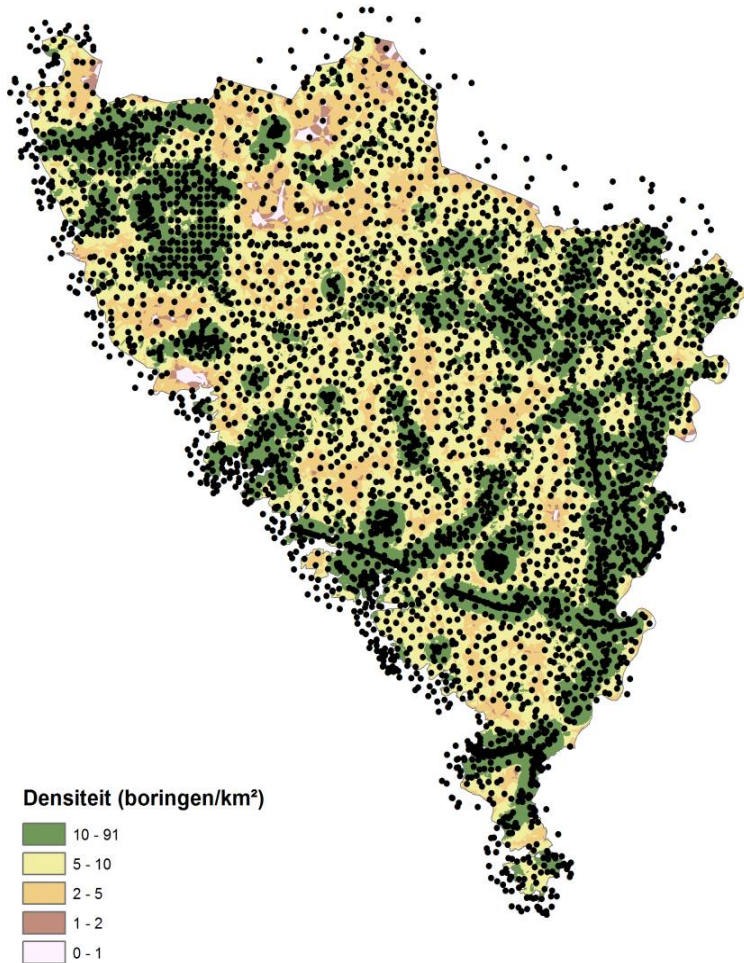
Vanaf Totwaarts Beschrijving
0:00 5:00 Overeen afzetting
5:00 5:10 Formule van het Huid van de Huid

Betrovingsheid
goed
goed

DATAJOUR: 01/06/1981
20/05/11
p.1

~ 5.000 borehole descriptions

Mineral examples: glauconite, chalk content




(van Haren et al, 2017)

Resource potential vs. data input

- What resource parameters can be modelled?
 - Grain size and granulometric composition
 - Lithological composition
 - Grain form
 - Hardness
 - Color
 - Mineral composition



 Boring kb32d104w-B42

Boring
Proefnummer: kb32d104w-B42
X (mLashert): 18501.0 (XVT, geïmpulseerd op topkaat)
Y (mLashert): 16471.70 (XVT, geïmpulseerd op topkaat)
Z (mTA W): 9000 (Z, afgeleid van topkaat)
Gemaal: B075AARFEDY
Uitvoerder: Belgische Geologische Dienst
Opstelling: opkachelruimte: BGD

Aanvraagdatum: 07/06/1981
Uitvoeringsmethode: onbemand (bevalend onbemand)
Diepte (m): 510

Mineralogische beschrijving
Auteur: Rutit A. (Belgische Geologische Dienst)
Betrovingsheid: goed

Vanaf Toten Beschrijving
0:00 4:00 Zand
4:00 5:00 Klei met zand en coarses
5:00 5:10 zand en Tyle

Grondstratigrafie-01/01/1993
Auteur: Van Praetere A. (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)
Betrovingsheid: goed

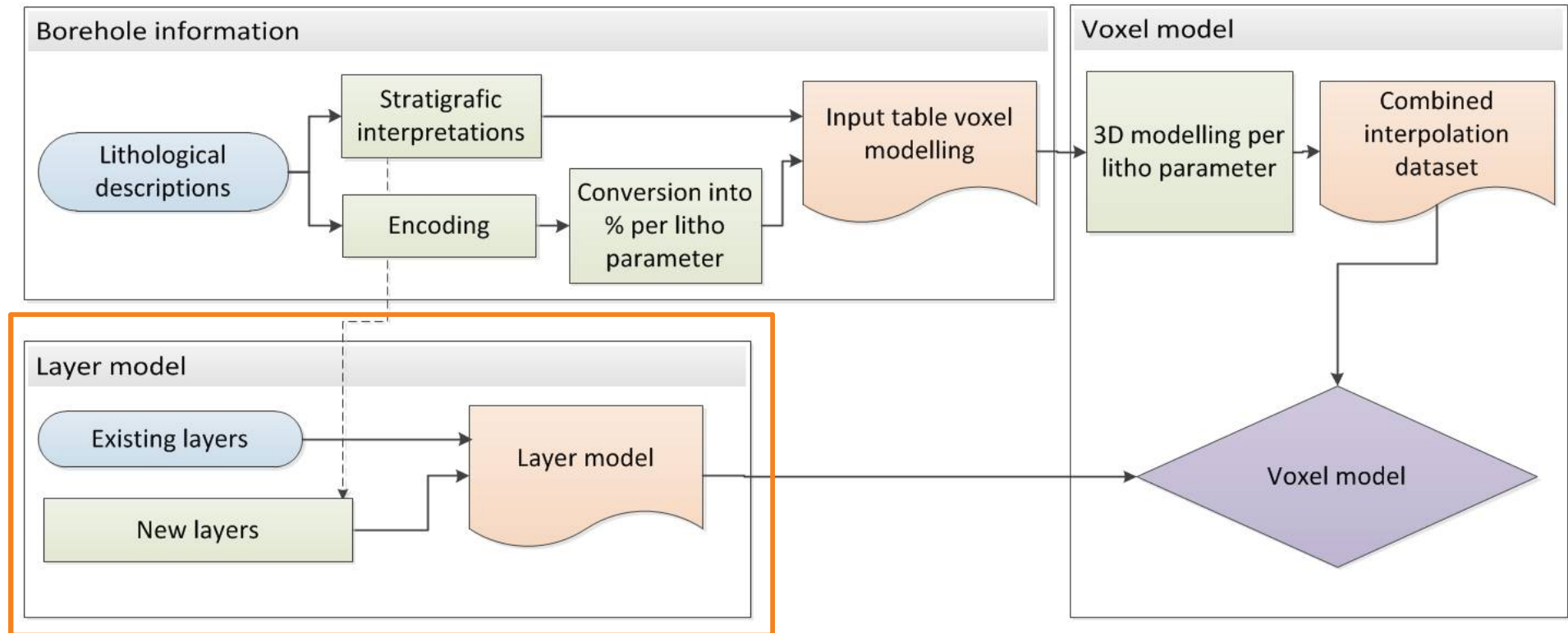
Vanaf Toten Beschrijving
0:00 5:00 Overeen afzetting
5:00 5:10 Promete van het Hubs en de Hen
goed
goed

DATAJOUR: 01/01/1993
20/01/01
p.1

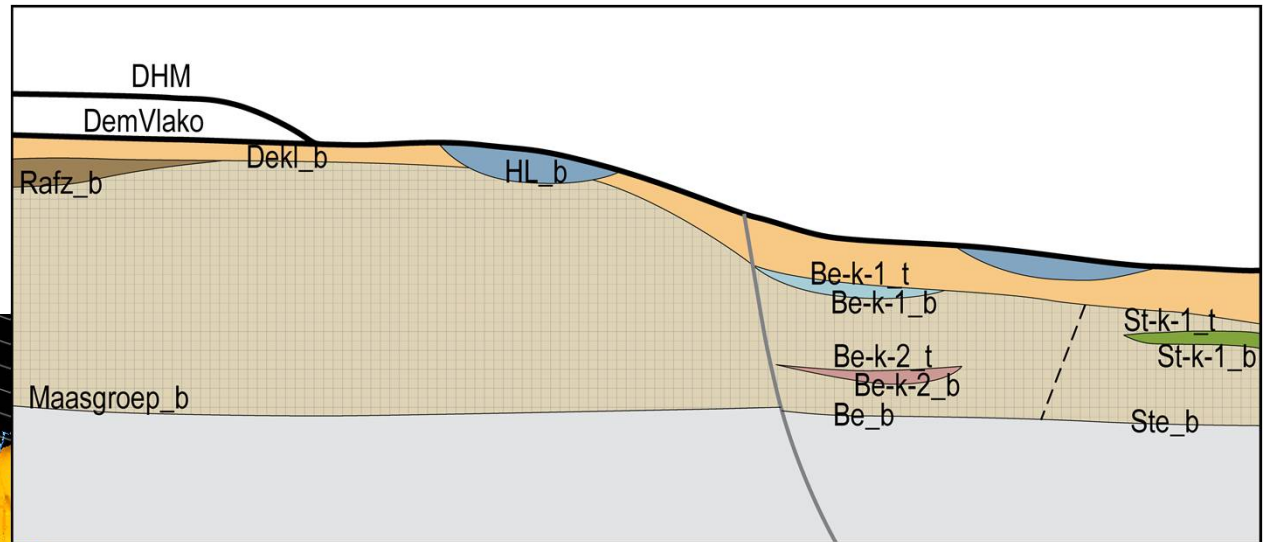
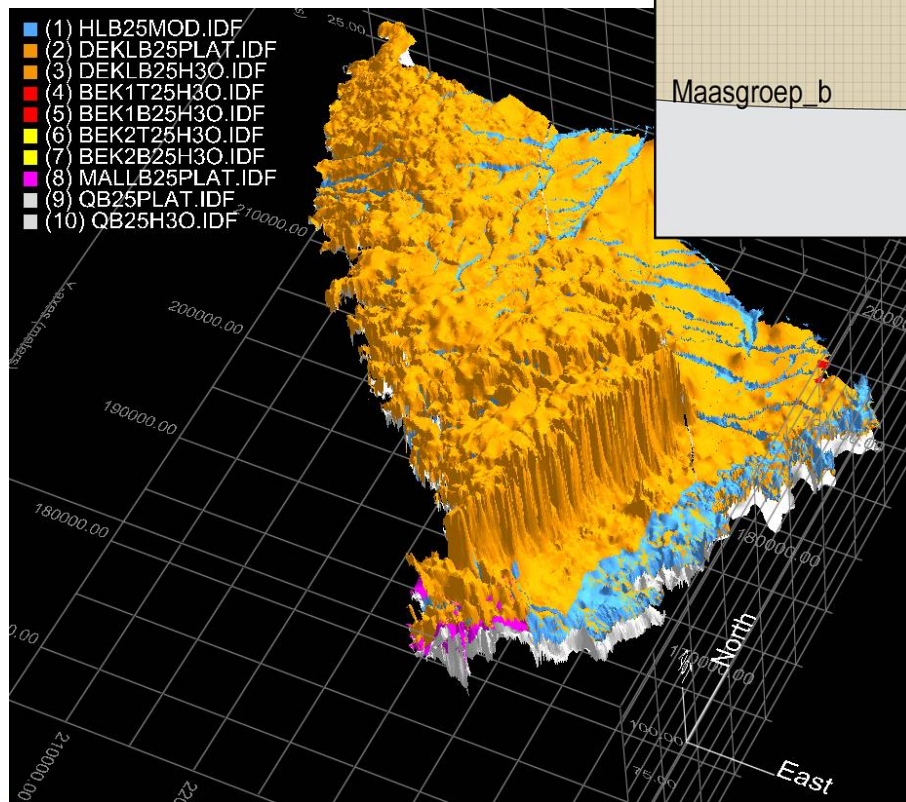
~ 5.000 borehole descriptions

4. Voxel model methodology

General workflow



Layer model



Layer model

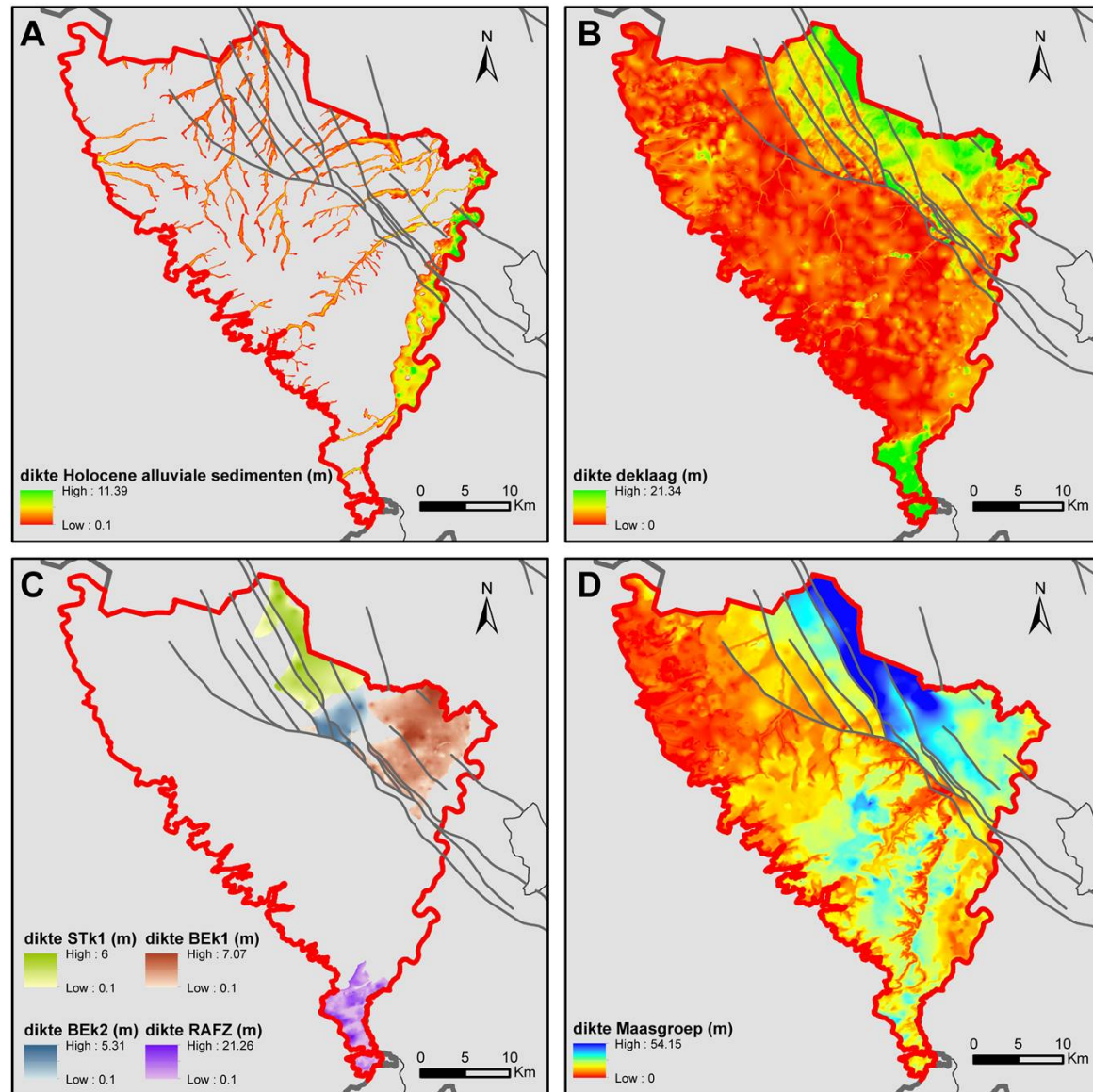
Thickness maps:

A: Holocene alluvium

B: coversands / loess

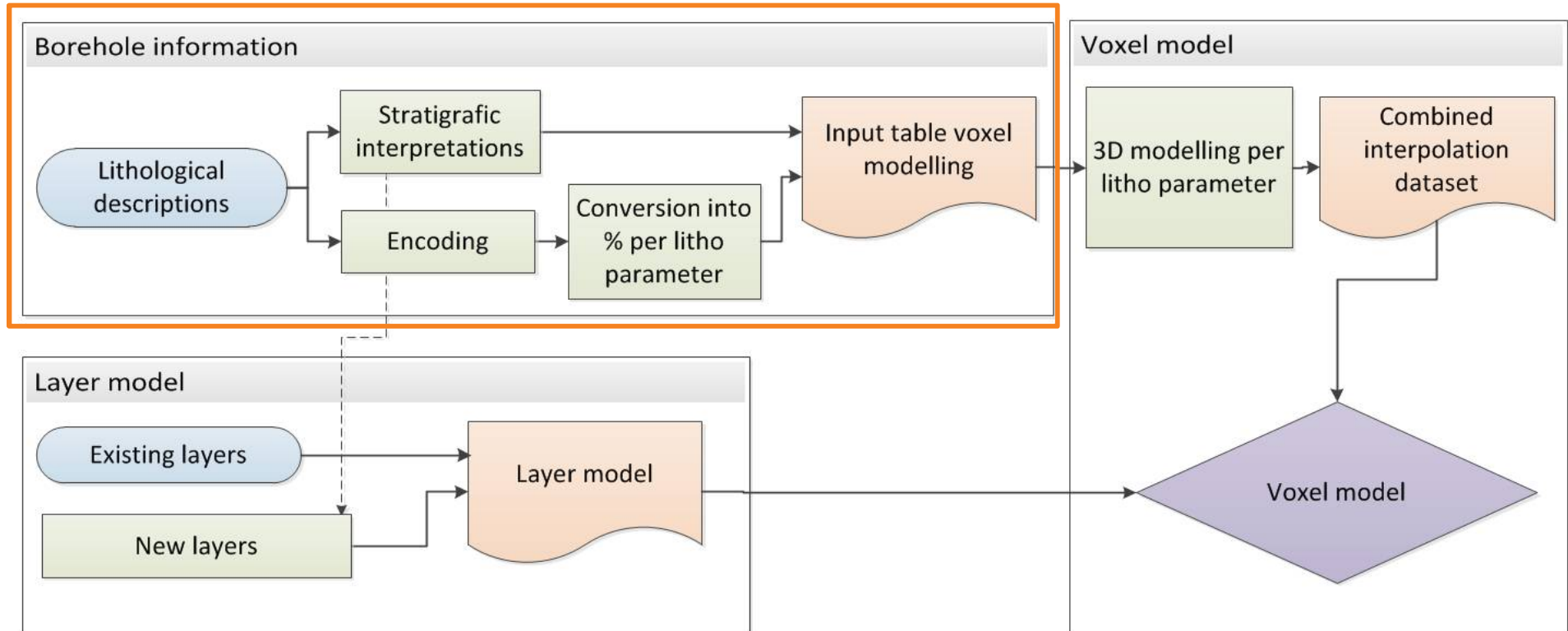
C: Clay-intercalations

D: Rhine/Meuse sands+gravels

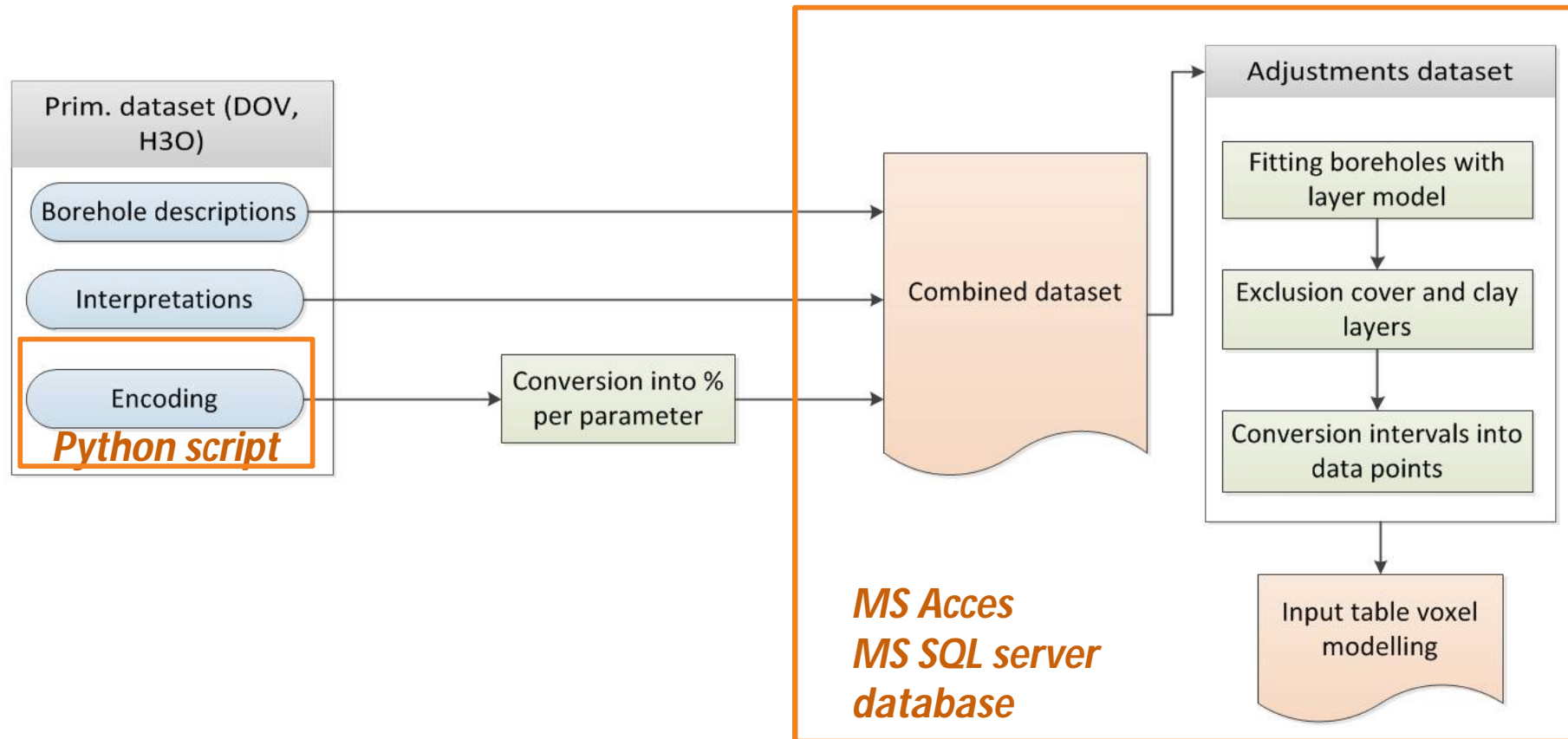


(van Haren et al., 2017)

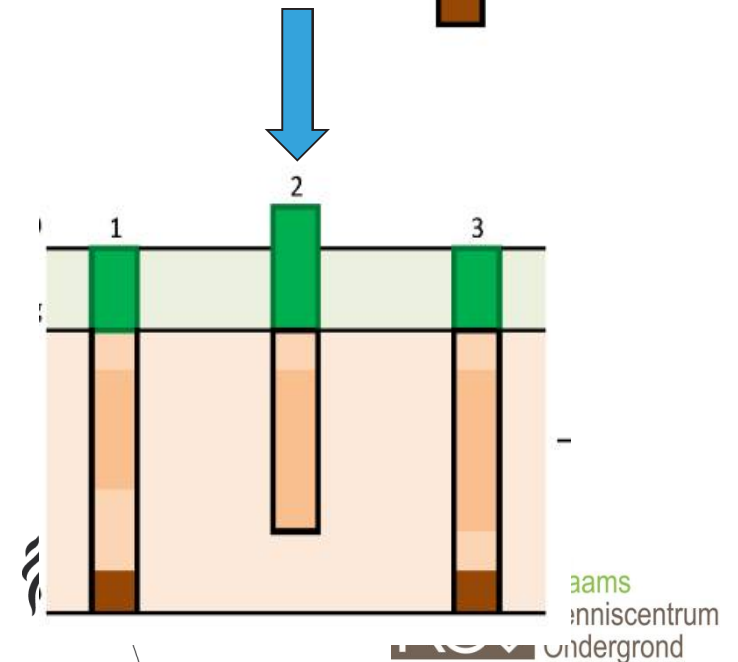
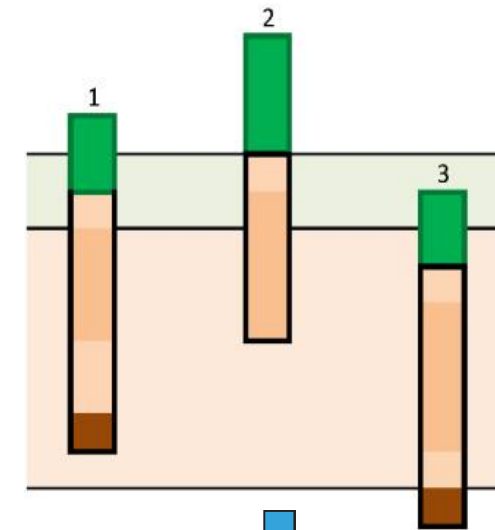
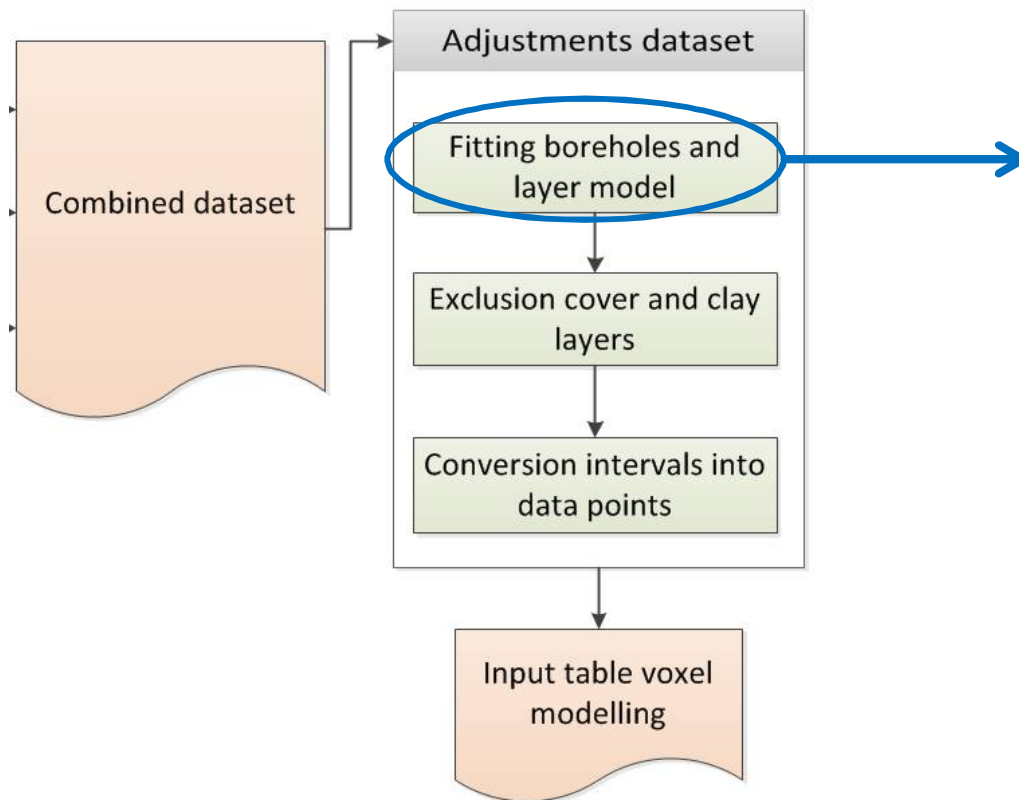
General workflow



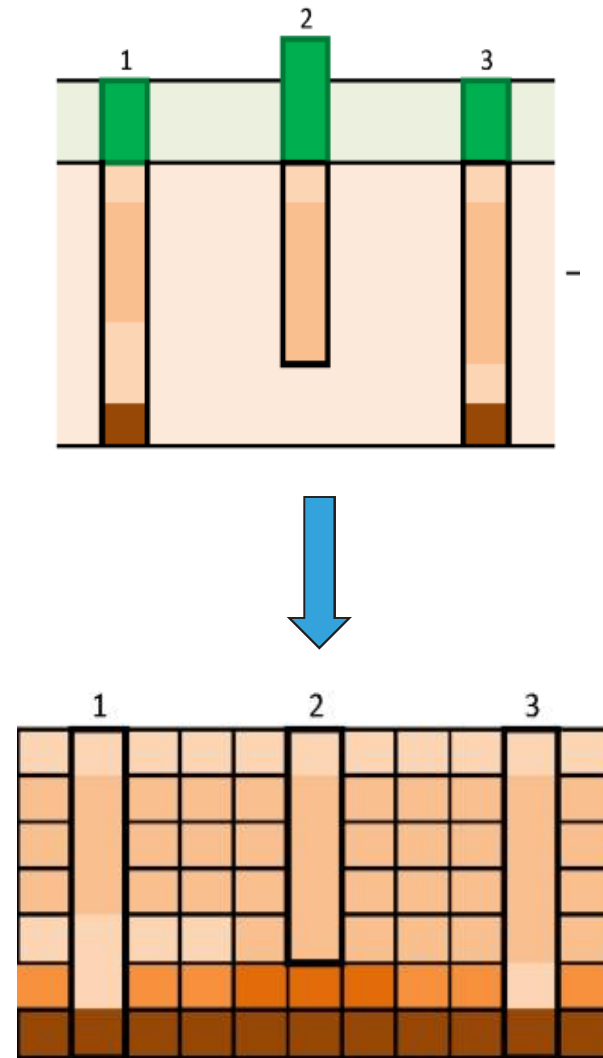
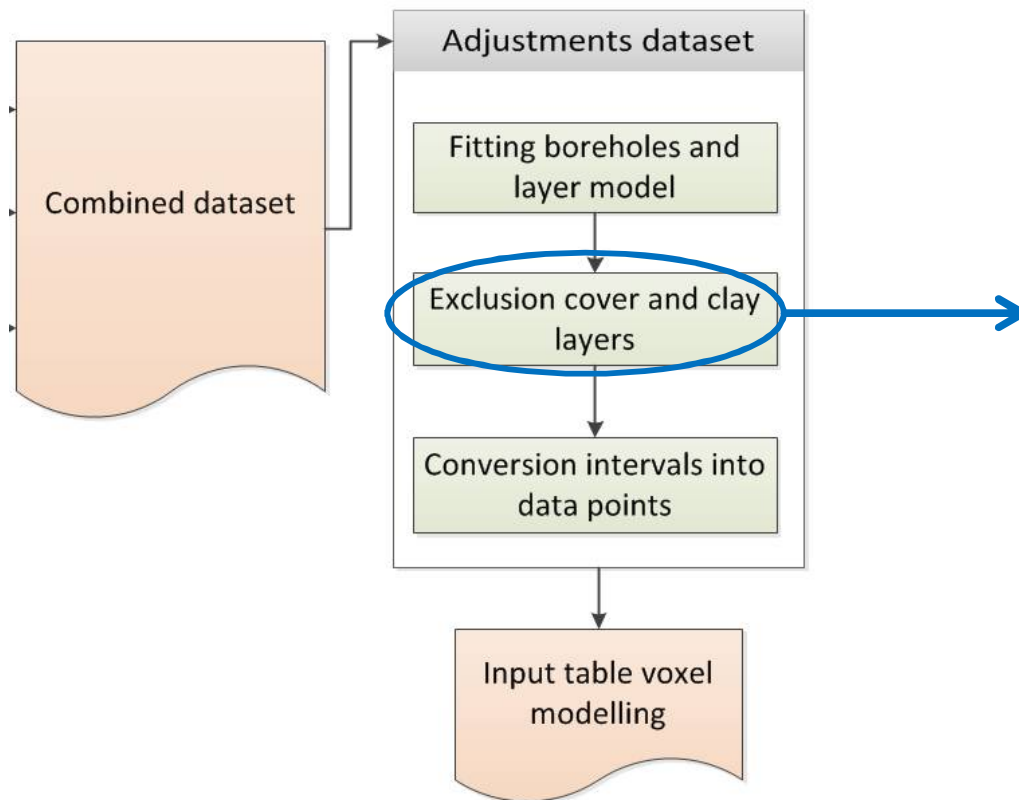
Data workflow



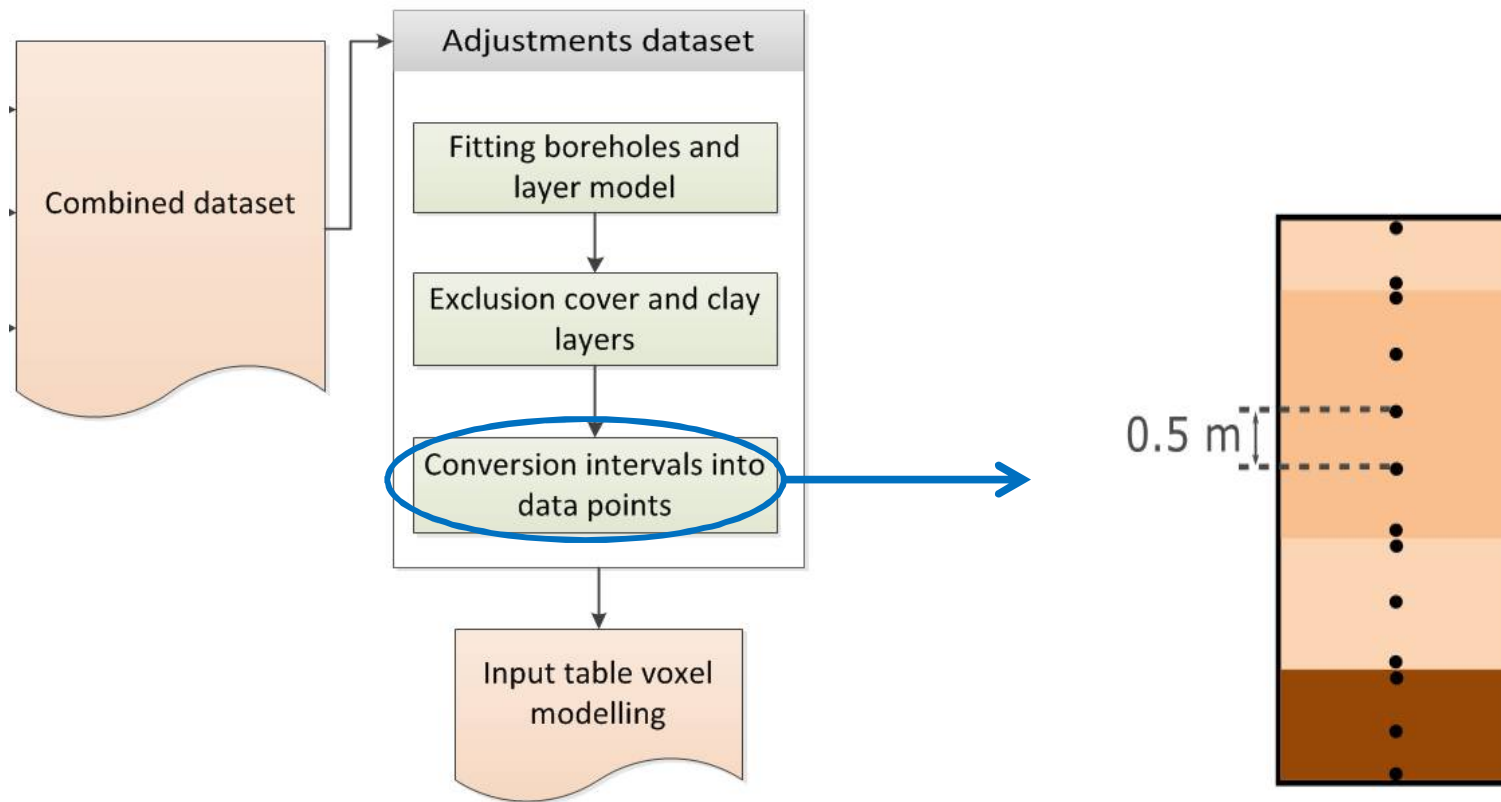
Adjustments dataset



Adjustments dataset



Adjustments dataset



Resulting input table for 3D-interpolation

borehole	x	y	z	clay	fine sand	medium sand	coarse sand	gravel
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	33.84	0.75	0.15	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	33.35	0.75	0.15	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	33.33	0.15	0	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	32.83	0.15	0	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	32.33	0.15	0	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	32.30	0.15	0	0	0	0.1
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	32.28	0	0	0.1	0	0.9
B/932/22/2	231040	214203	31.78	0	0	0.1	0	0.9

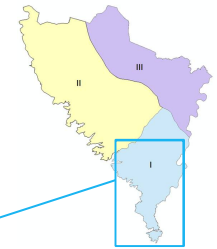
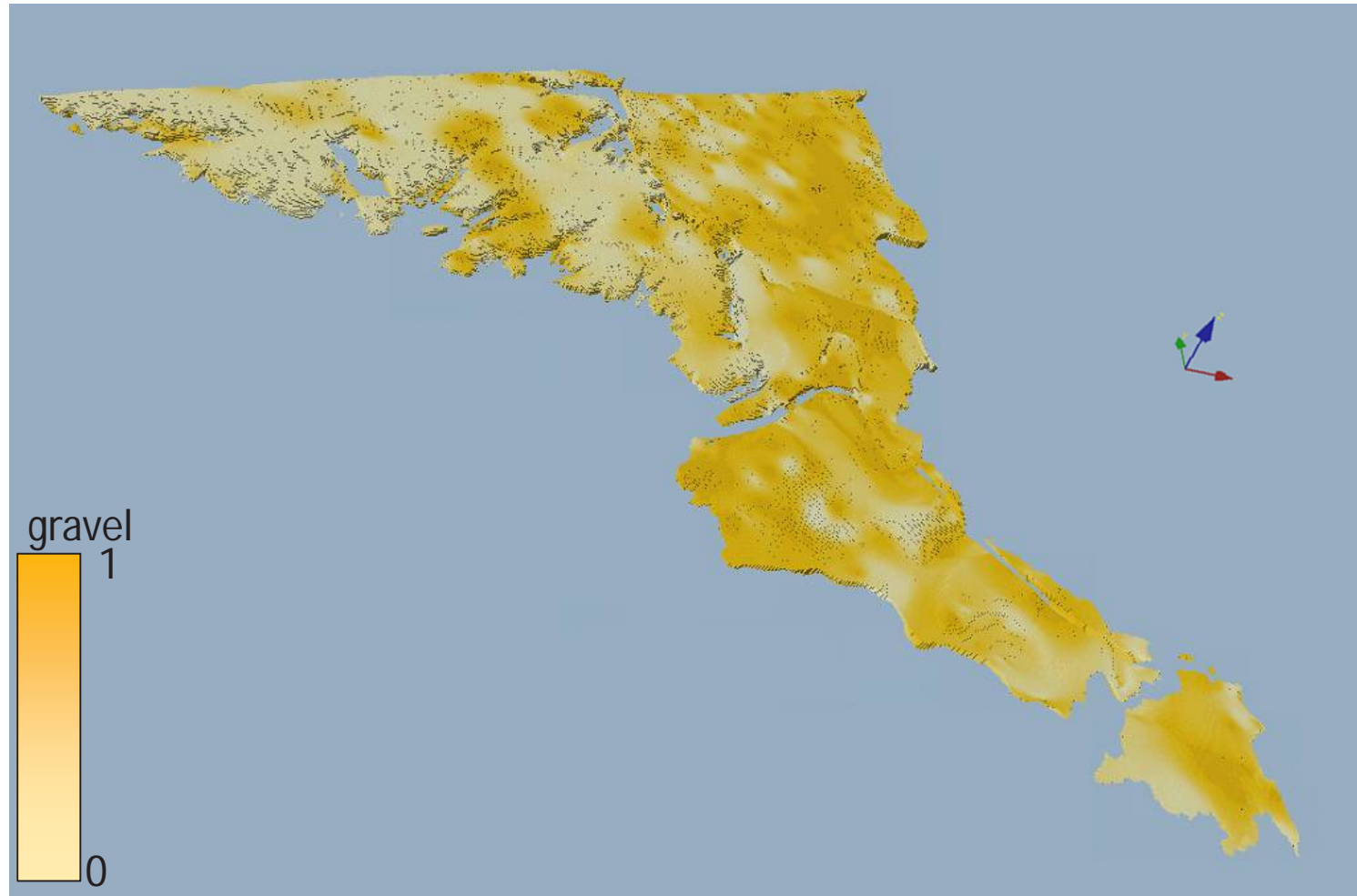
“Fine sandy clay with some gravels”

3D-interpolation

- Interpolation on every grain size parameter
- Combining interpolation results per voxel $[x,y,z]$
- Fixed values for voxels in cover and clay layers

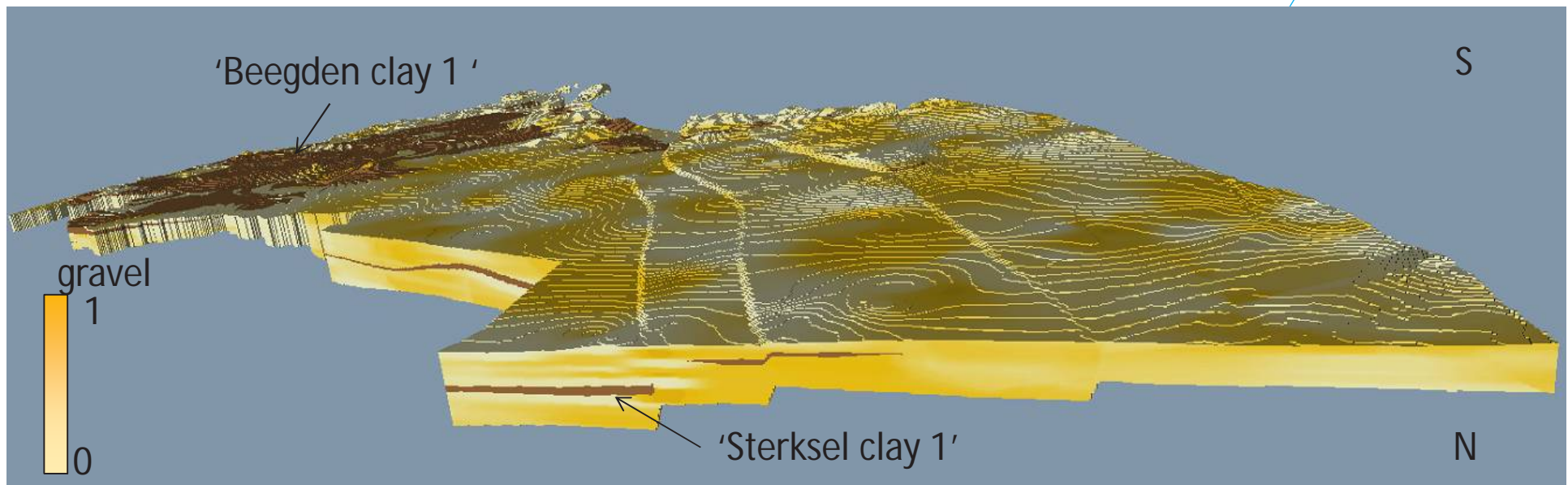
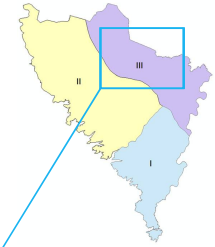
5. Results

Results

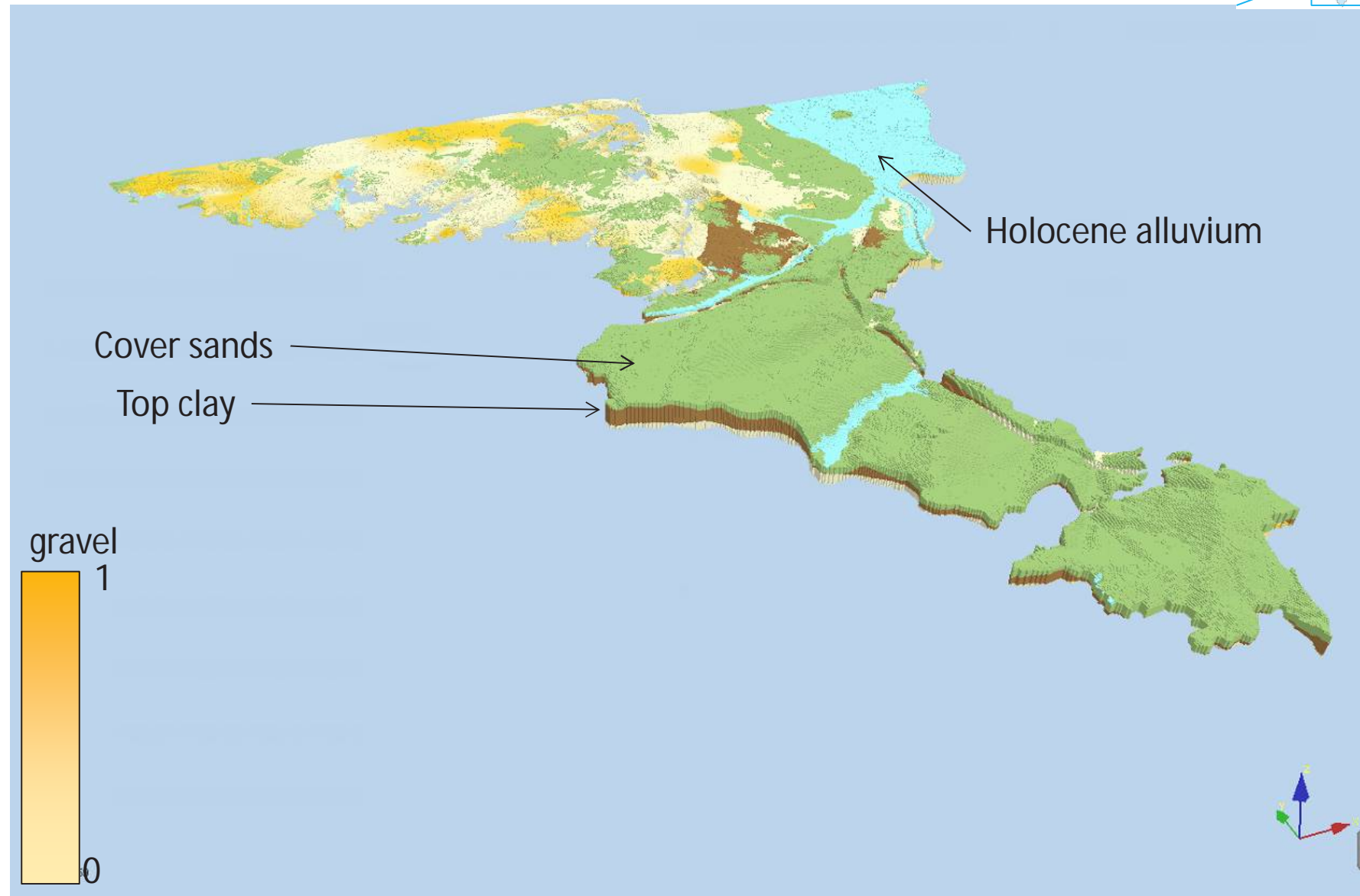
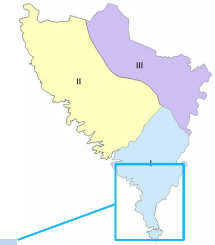


Results

- % gravel and clay intercalations

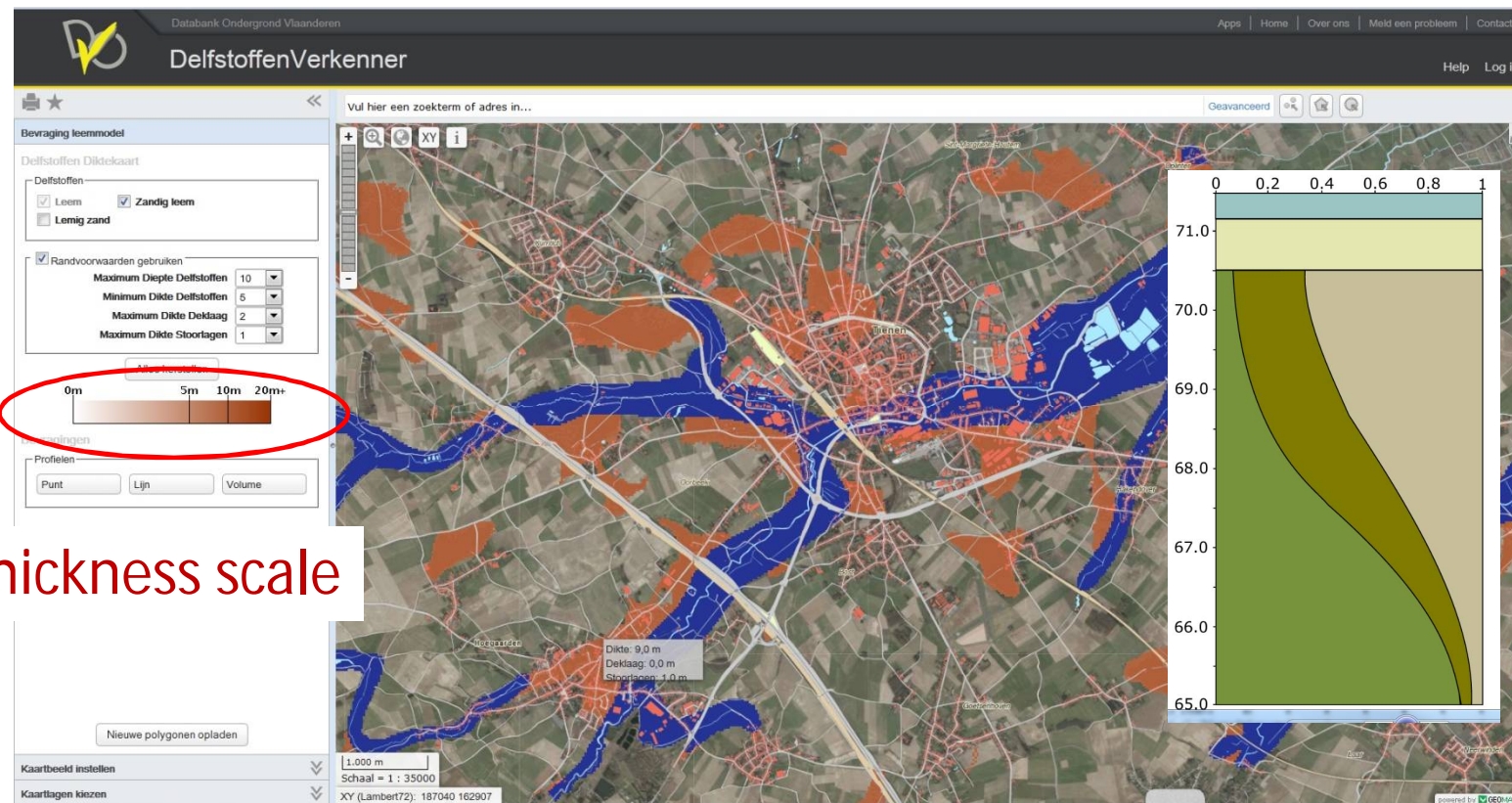


Results



Online resource viewer

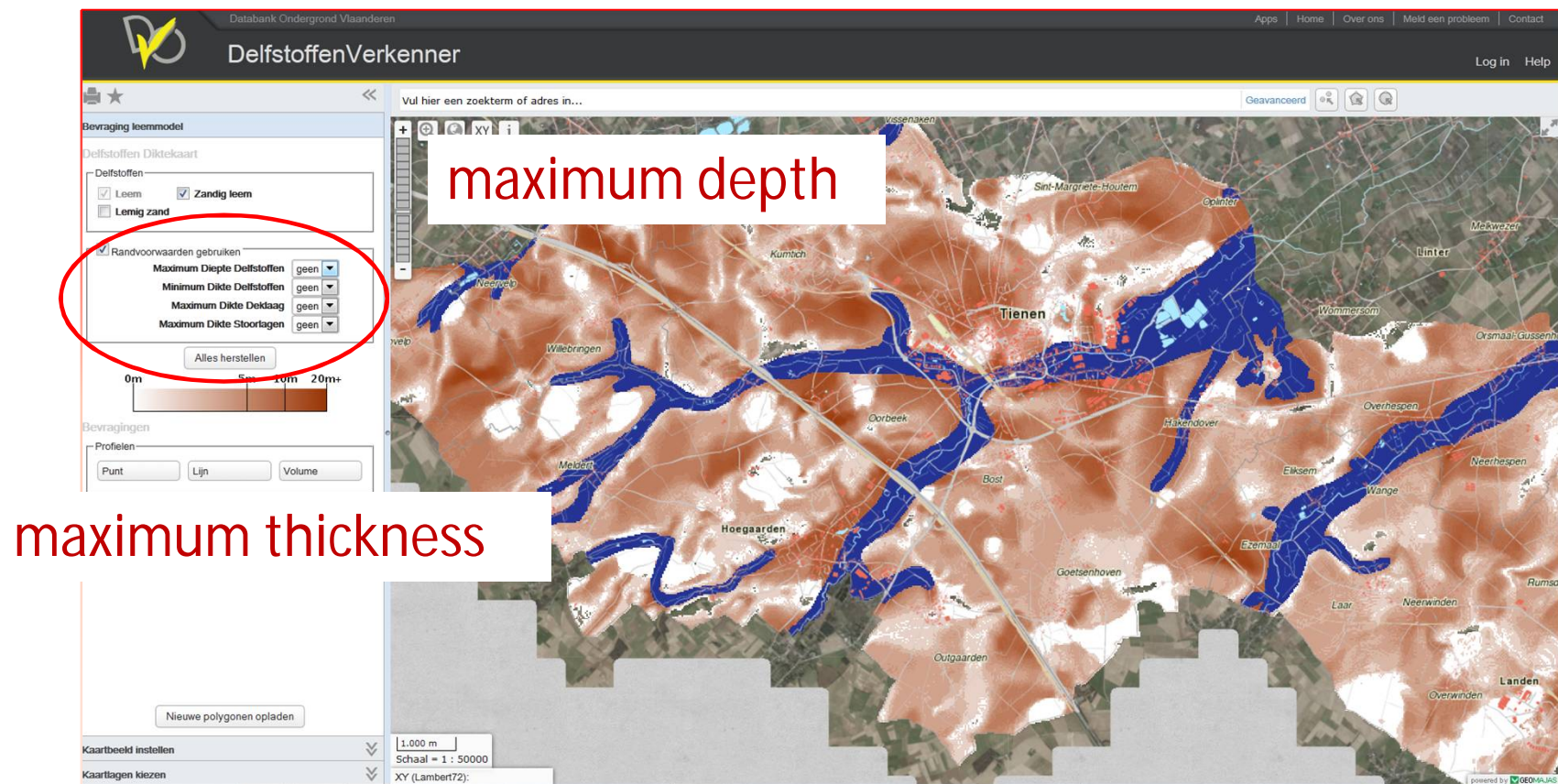
- » Sands and gravel: in development
- » Loess deposits are online



Thickness scale

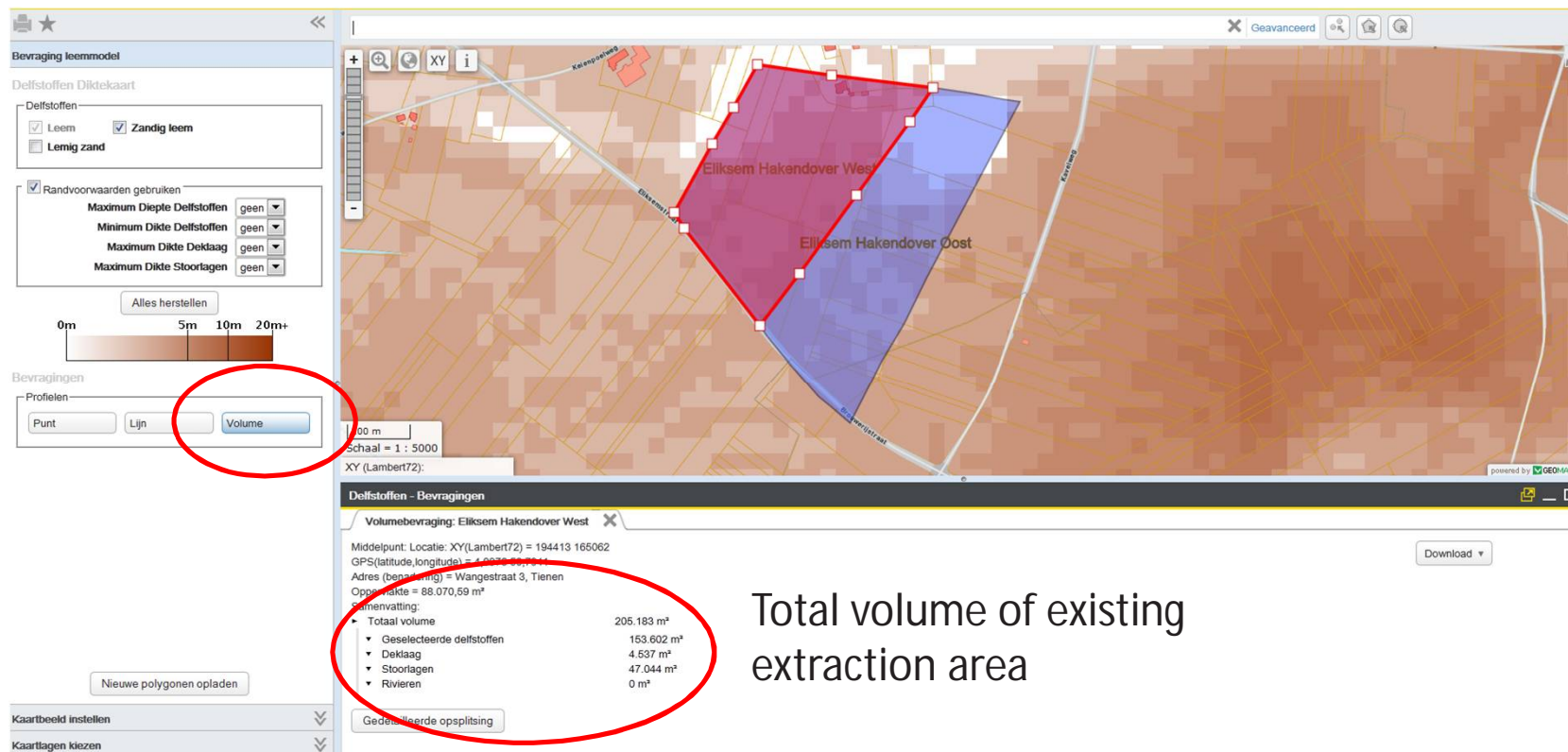
Online resource viewer

- » possible to determine the extractable mineral resources based on certain preconditions



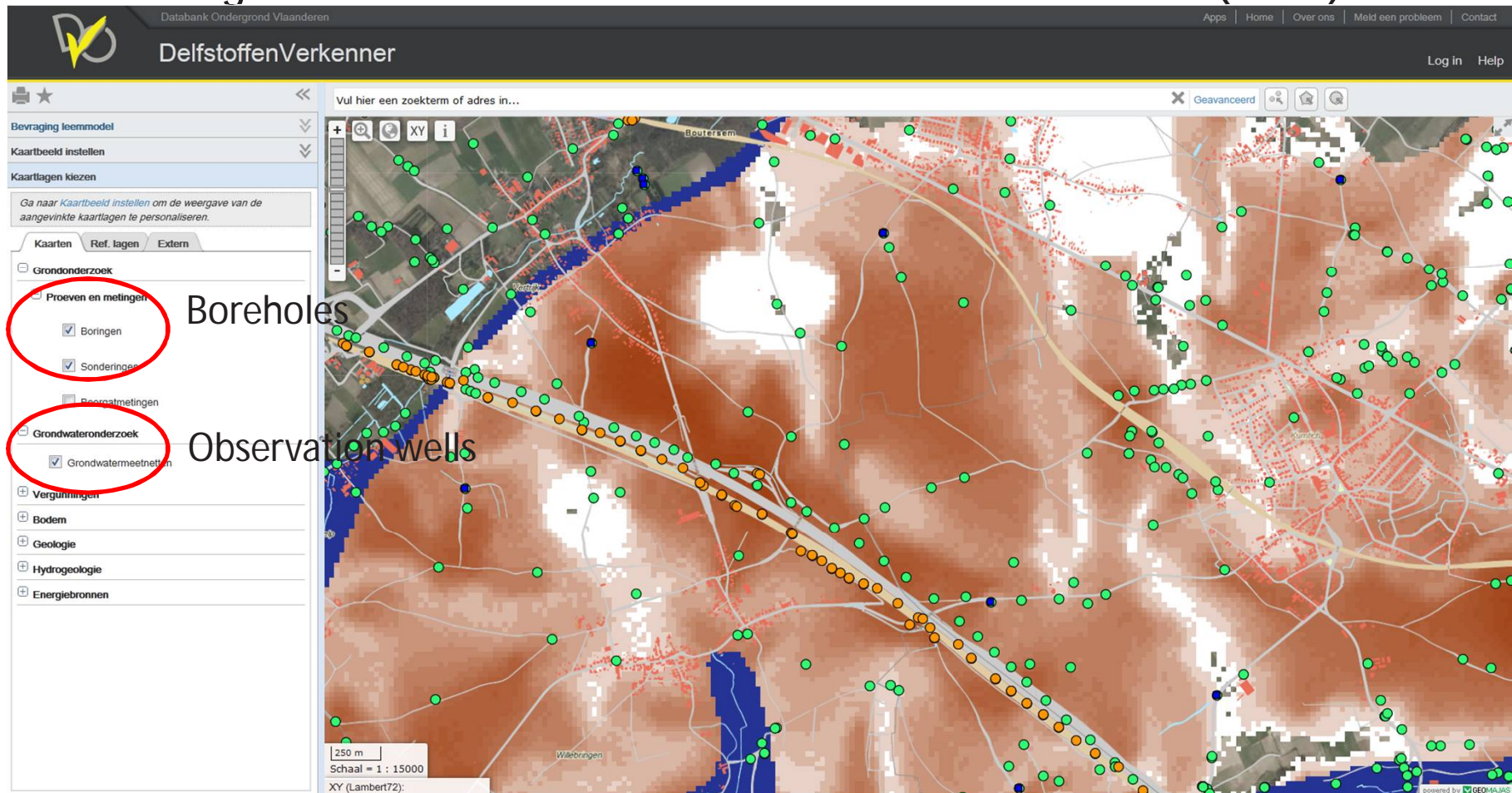
the 'Mineral Resource Explorer'

- » More functionalities:
 - » GIS functionalities and volume calculation



the 'Mineral Resource Explorer'

» Integration in Flanders' Soil and Subsoil Database (DOV)



6. Lessons learned

Lessons learned

- » Data analysis → significant part of modelling process prior to 3D interpolation
 - » Unravelling deposit distribution
 - » To understand limitations of dataset
 - » Prediction of model outputs
- » Database development (SQL / Access)
 - » Helps data preparation
 - » QC on data (errors easy traceable and adjusted)
 - » automatization iterative processes
 - » Filtering data out of model results
- » Development online resource viewer:
 - » Viewer for sand and gravel to be developed right from the beginning. Can be helpful guiding modelling process.

Thank you for your attention
Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit

Any questions?

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