



August 16-18, 2022

The International Symposium on Nondestructive Testing in Civil Engineering is coming to Zurich, Switzerland.



# Application of simulation software for NDT in Civil Engineering

*Fabrice, FOUCHER, Roman FERNANDEZ (EXTENDE)*

*Daniel ALGERNON (SVTI)*

*Vincent DORVAL, Nicolas LEYMARIE, Stéphane LEBERRE (CEA)*



# Outline



- | Introduction to modelling benefits and capabilities
  
- | Applications
  - Sound Field characterization
  - Defect response scenarios
  - Impact of rebars on detectability
  - Parametric studies, sensitivity analysis and POD curves
  
- | Conclusion

# NDT in Civil Engineering

## Context:

- **General aging** of civil engineering infrastructures
- **Needs efficient and reliable NDT method** to be developed and carried out to assess structural integrity of assets and decide of repairs/replacements
- NDT needs preliminary tests and investigations to be developed and qualified before implementation

## Benefits of simulation:

- « **Virtual testing** » to help NDE method **development**:
  - Wide range of testing scenario to converge to a promising solution before implementing physical trials,
  - Gives insights for a better understanding and then mastering of underlying physical phenomena,
  - Less physical mock-ups and less iterations: Save time and money
- Easy and fast to generate **large amount of data (parametric variations)** needed for sensitivity analysis and NDE process **qualification**

# CIVA software in a few words

| Software platform **dedicated** to NDE simulation & analysis



| Multi-technique **Simulation**:



**UT: Ultrasounds**



**RT-CT: Radiography & Computed Tomography**



**ET: Eddy Current**



**GWT: Guided Waves**



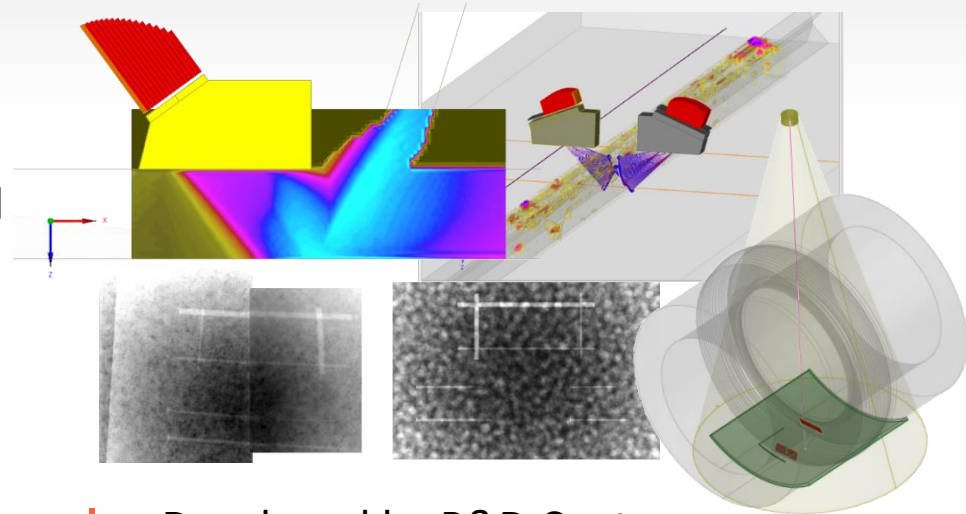
**SHM-GWT: Structural Health Monitoring by Guided Waves**



**TT : Thermography Testing**



**UT Data Analysis**



| Developed by R&D Center :  
**CEA LIST**



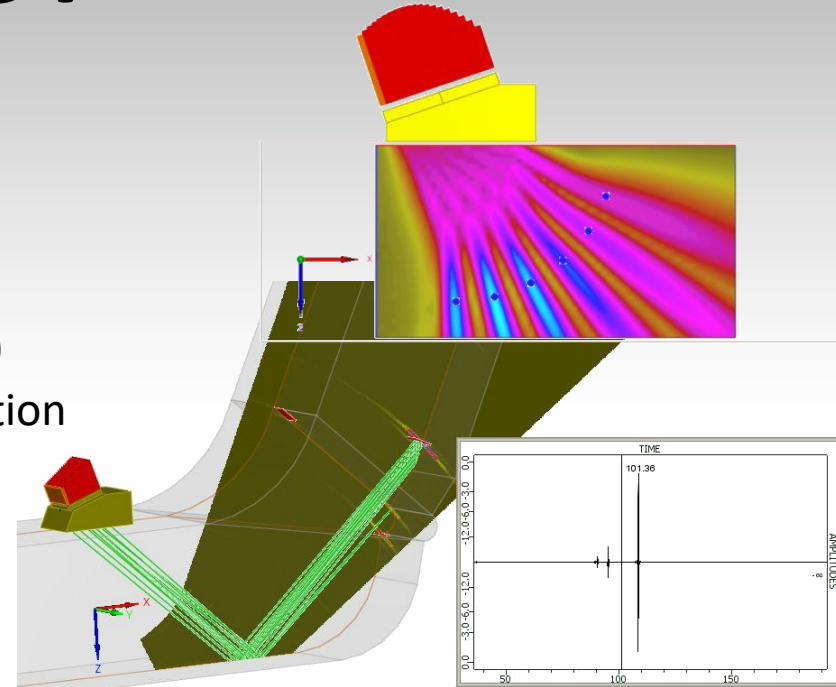
| Exclusive Distribution : **EXTENDE** | **N·D·E** |  
**CIVA**

| More than 300 different companies using CIVA worldwide



## CIVA UT includes:

- Beam Calculation tool
- PA settings calculations (delay laws, etc.)
- Inspection Simulation tool (predict echoes)
- Sensitivity analysis & POD curves computation



## Modelling approaches:

- Historically based on **fast semi-analytical models** (i.e., “Ray-based” methods: Pencil models, Kirchhoff & GTD beam/flaw interaction models, etc.)
- Implementing **also FEM solvers**:
  - In house FEM solver is based on high-order spectral Finite Elements showing very good performances compared to traditional generic FEM solvers
  - Also implements **hybrid SA - FEM** approaches (Beam – Beam/Defect interaction) to benefit from advantages of each method

# CIVA UT for concrete

Current version already includes a homogenized model for concrete:

- Description of aggregates and cement acoustic properties:

Name: Aggregate

Type: Simple

Density: 2.5  $g.cm^{-3}$

Properties

Symmetry: Isotropic

Homogeneity type: Homogeneous

Longitudinal wave velocity: 4110  $m.s^{-1}$

Transverse wave velocity: 2770  $m.s^{-1}$



Name: Cement

Type: Simple

Density: 1.9  $g.cm^{-3}$

Properties

Symmetry: Isotropic

Homogeneity type: Homogeneous

Longitudinal wave velocity: 3500  $m.s^{-1}$

Transverse wave velocity: 2310  $m.s^{-1}$

- Description (table) of aggregates distribution in the concrete block

Description: Homogenized

Inclusion density: 73.3 %

Diameter (mm)	Associates percentage
0.125	2
0.25	3.5
0.5	8.5
1	8
2	9.5
4	14.5
8	22
16	32

- **Waterman & Truell** homogenization implemented gives mean acoustic properties and attenuation data (+ possibly structural noise)

Description: Homogenized

Name: Homogeneous material

Density: 2.34  $g.cm^{-3}$

Properties: Attenuation / Structural Noise

Symmetry: Isotropic

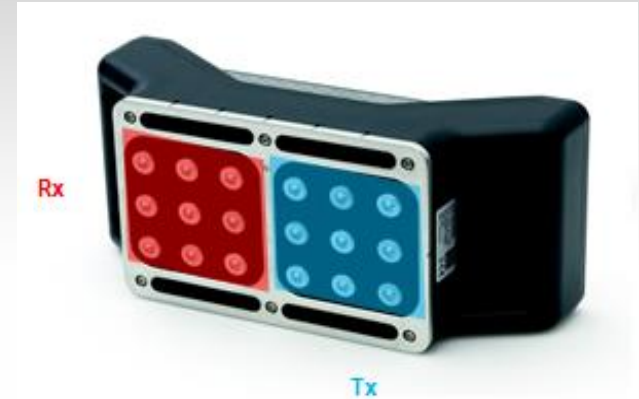
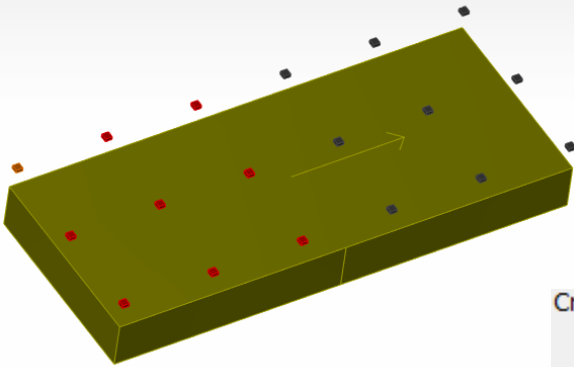
Homogeneity type: Homogeneous

Longitudinal wave velocity: 4004.498  $m.s^{-1}$

Transverse wave velocity: 2641.678  $m.s^{-1}$

# CIVA UT for concrete

- Now also includes **dry contact 0° shear wave probes**, reflecting start of the art technique for concrete



Crystal shape \_\_\_\_\_

Pattern

Solicitation type

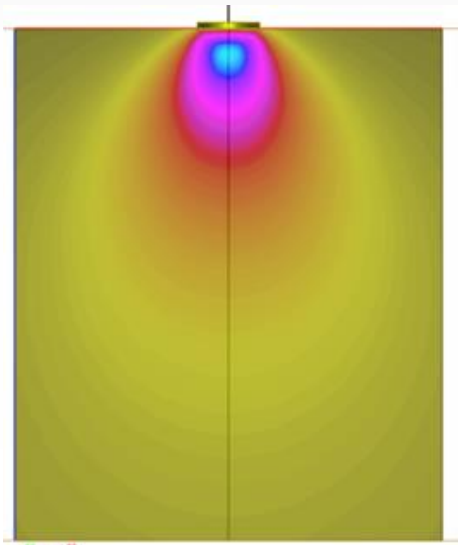
- FEM solvers for concrete** inspection modelling (non homonized approach) also being implemented (in progress)

*See the presentation in this session: "FEM-based simulation tools for ultrasonic concrete inspection" (Dr Dorval, CEA)*

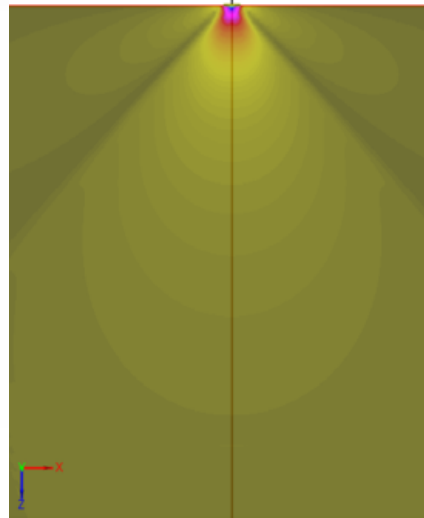
# Probe selection and characterization

Compare **Ultrasound Fields** for different probes :  
*performed in the concrete block described before*

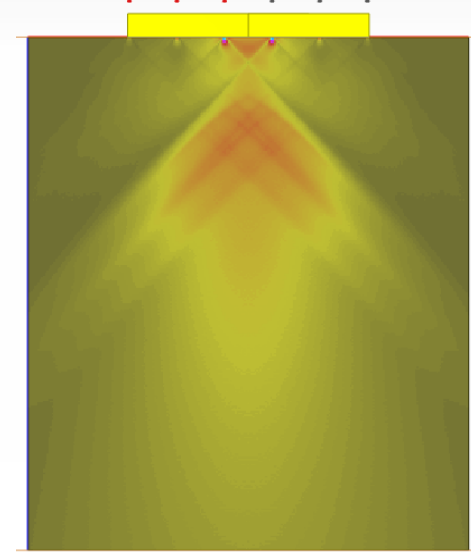
L waves 0°  
Single Element  
54kHz



S waves 0°  
Single Element S1802  
50kHz



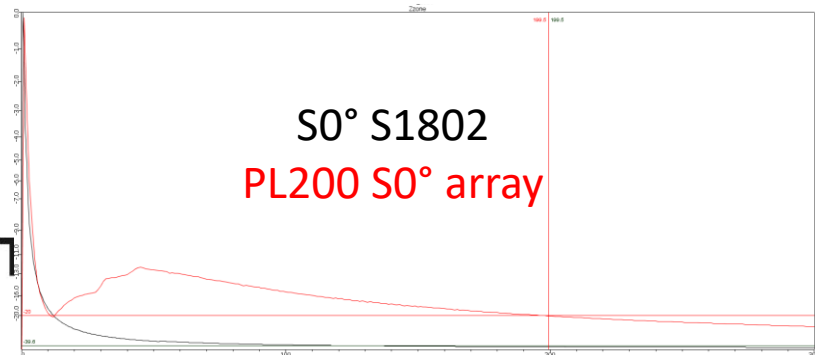
S waves 0°  
« PL200 » Array probe  
50kHz



Beam profile extractions :  
(i.e., field amplitude vs depth)

SVTI  
ASIT

EXT

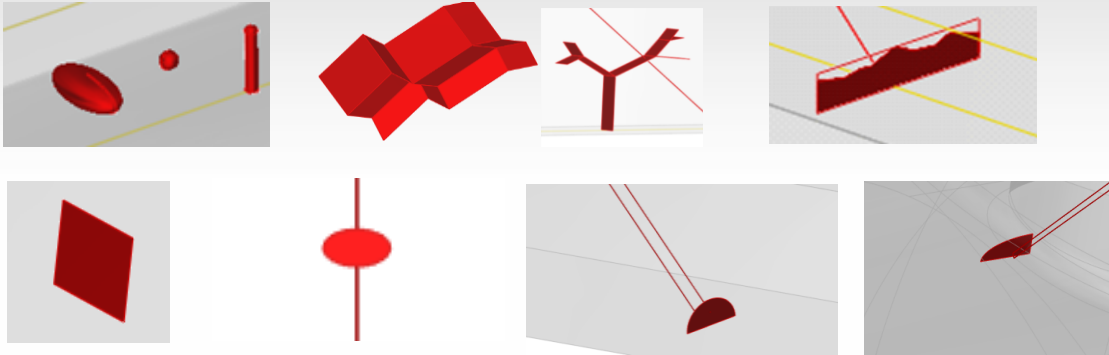




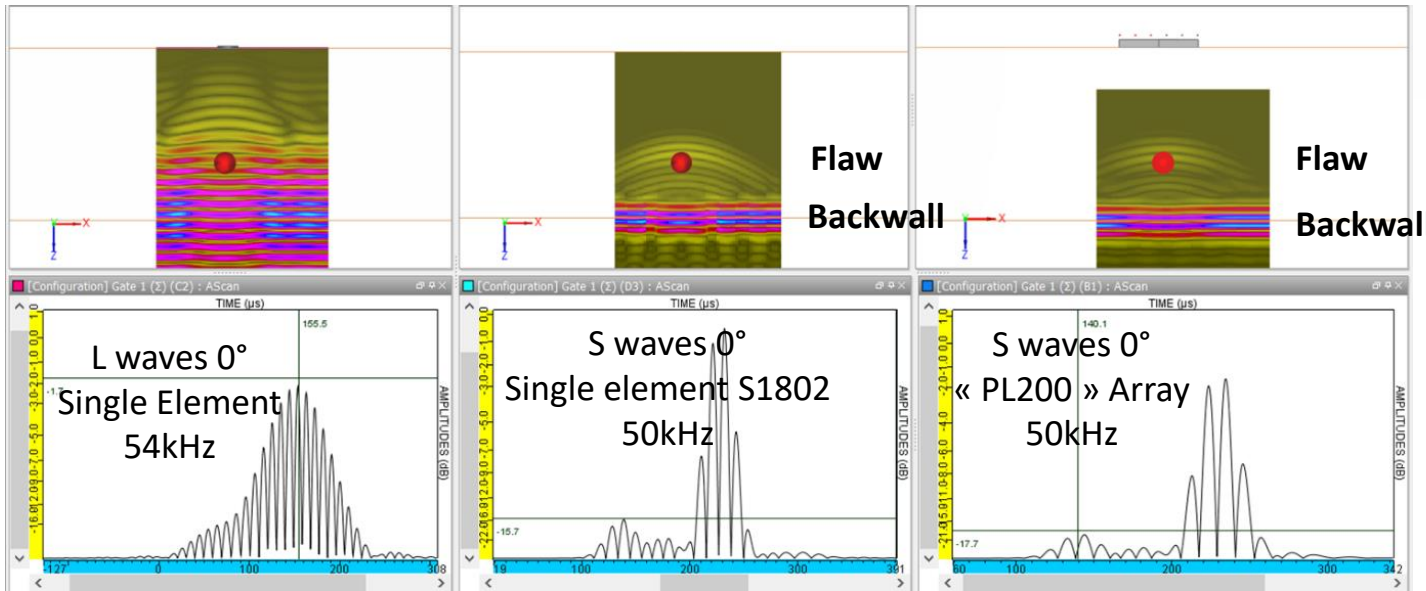
# Defect response simulation

Many damage/defect scenarios can be simulated:

- Cracks, holes, notches, clusters of voids (« honeycomb »), delaminations, etc.



Example of signal obtained with a  $\Phi$  24 mm void spherical flaw at 200mm depth in the same concrete block (normalized vs backwall echo at 300mm depth) for the 3 probes:



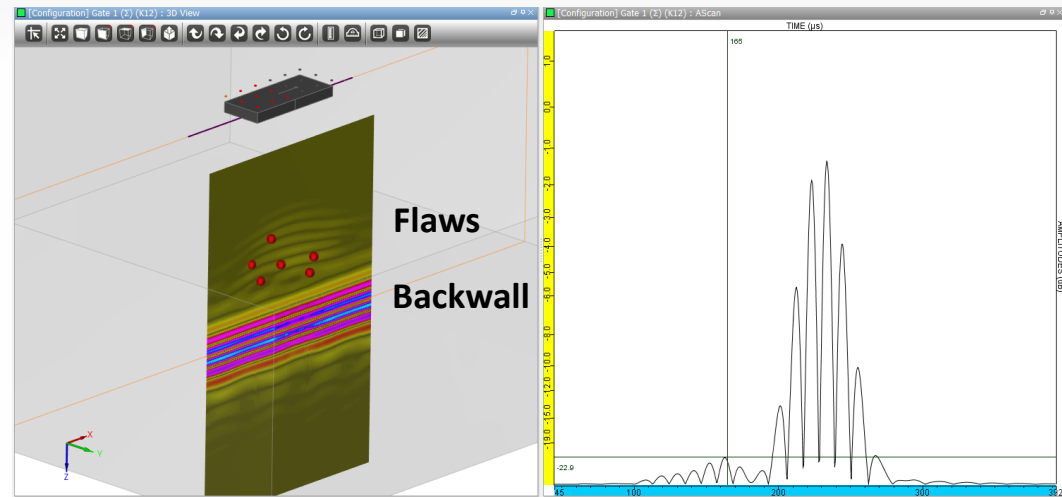
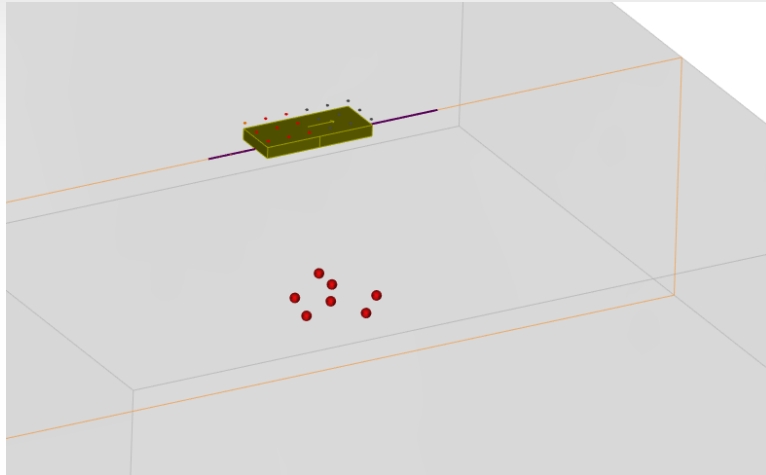
B-Scan views

A-Scan views

# Defect response simulation

« Honeycomb » modelled by a set of seven  $\Phi$  24 mm void spherical flaws located around 200mm depth :

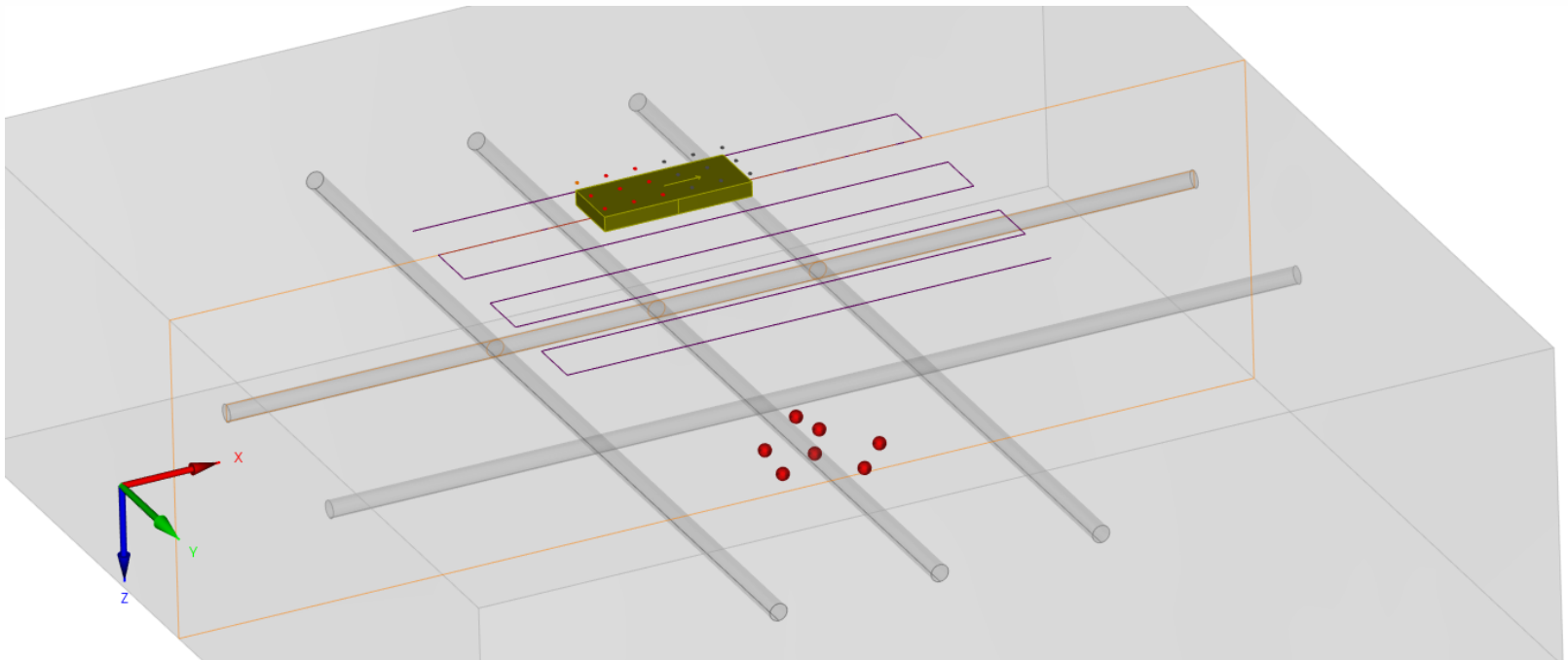
*Just a few minutes to simulate this scan and obtain these B-Scan/A-Scans images*



Knowing noise level versus reference echo (such as backwall echo), you can predict detectability for many defect scenarios

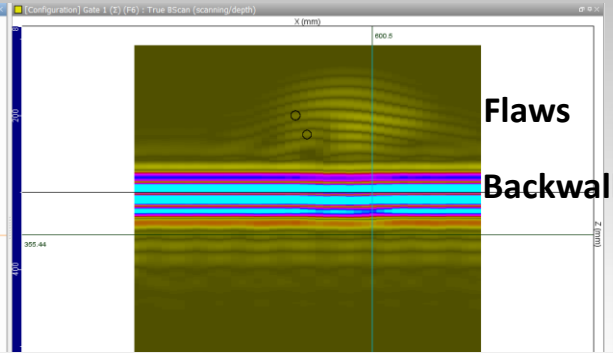
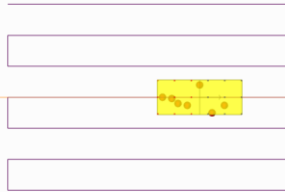
# Impact of rebars on flaw detectability

- | **Reinforcement steel bars** in concrete parts may interact with the sound beam : Additional echoes, shadowing on flaw echoes, etc.
- | Modelling helps to **understand** phenomena and to **predict flaw detectability** depending on rebars location, flaw location and sizes, etc.
- | Illustrative example:
  - Same probe and defect as before with a grid of nine  $\Phi$  24 mm steel bars



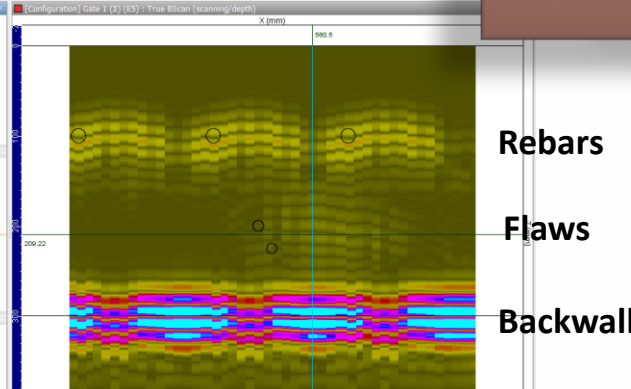
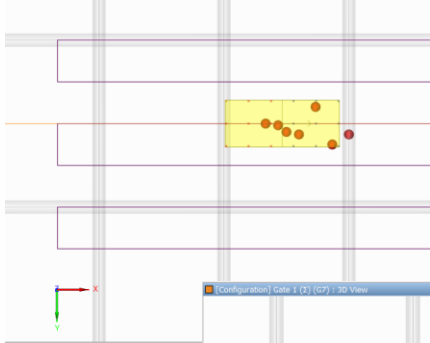
# Impact of rebars on flaw detectability

## Scenario #1 : No rebar

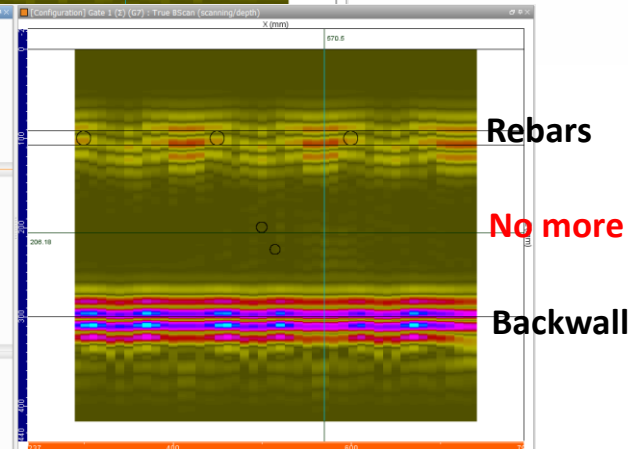
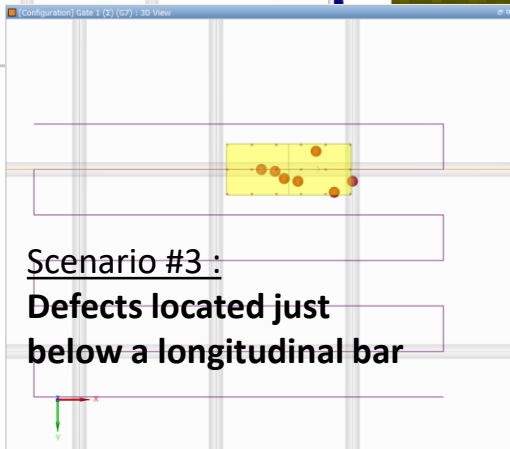


Modelling help to predict **worst case scenario** and investigate solutions to overcome such situation (reduced scanning step, scanning from another side, etc.)

## Scenario #2 : Defects located between rebars

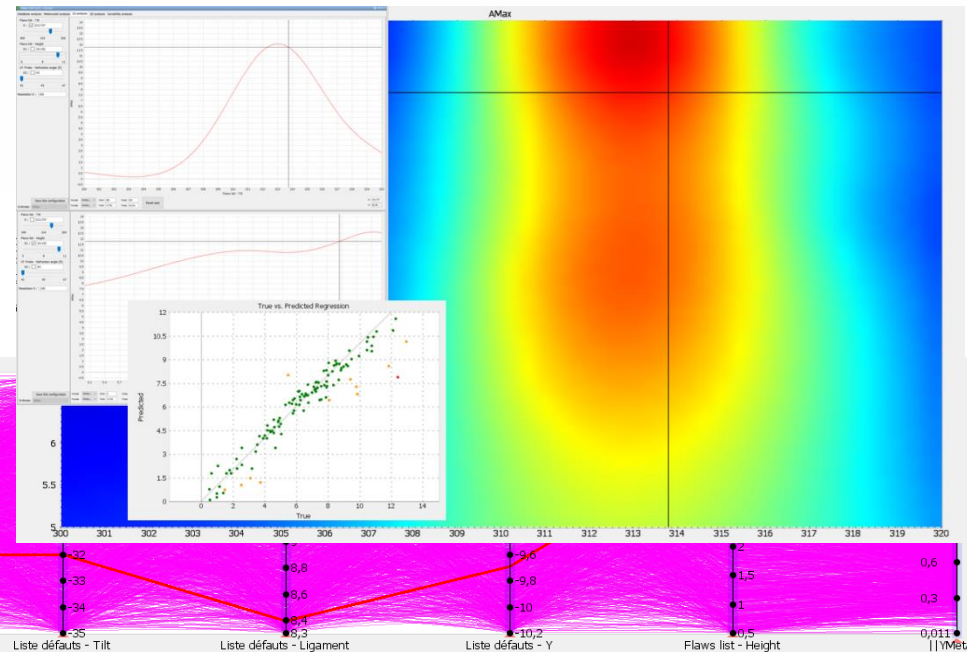
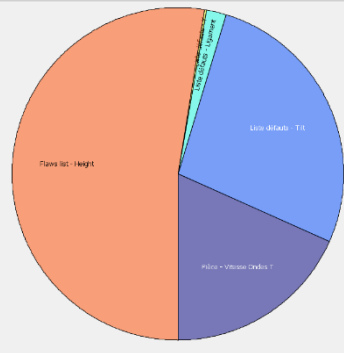
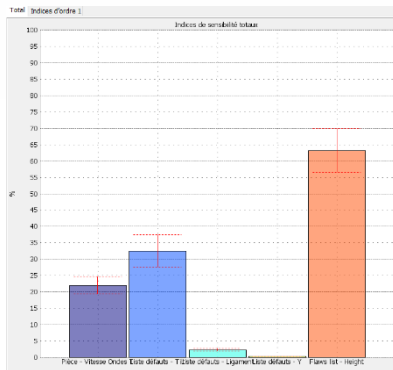


## Scenario #3 : Defects located just below a longitudinal bar



# Parametric studies

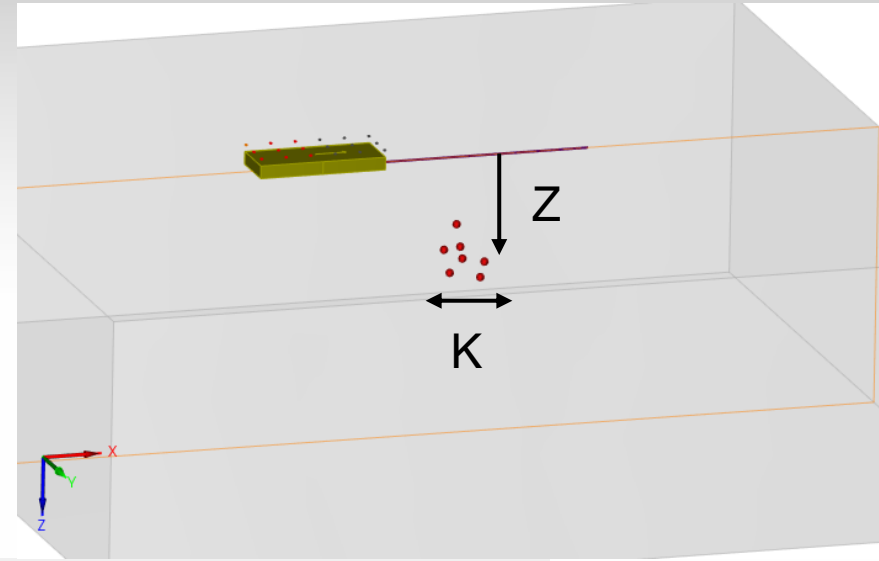
- | **Optimization** or **reliability** analysis studies needs a quite large amount of data to provide reliable metrics and statistical analysis
- | **Very costly** with a pure experimental approach
- | Modelling constitutes an **alternative approach**. CIVA features :
  - Easy **monitoring** of many parameters
  - **Fast** computation times
  - **Metamodels** (surrogate models based on smart interpolators)
  - Suitable analysis tools



# Parametric study example

## Design of experiment :

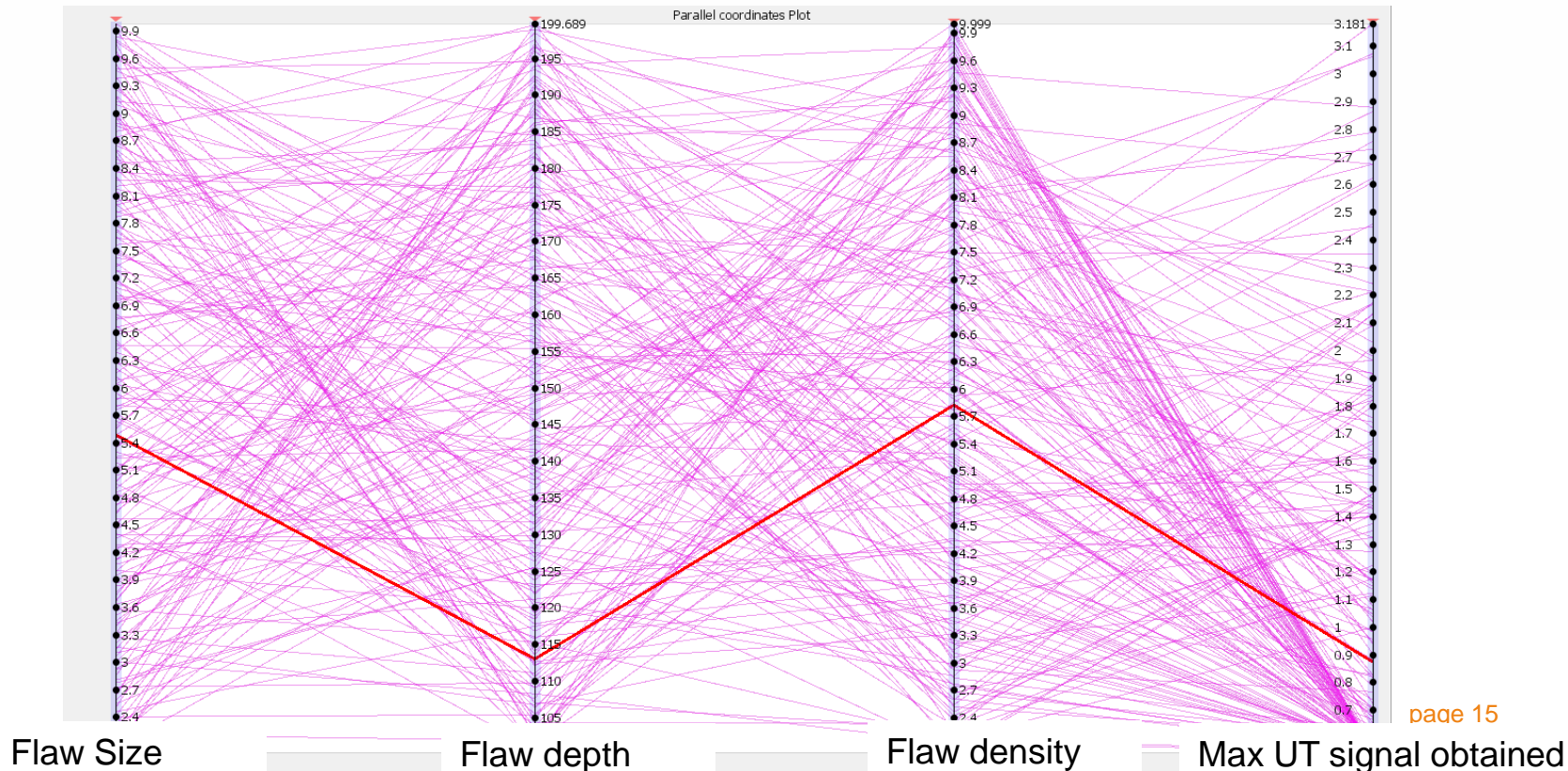
- 200 simulations
- 3 variables :
  - Flaw depths « **Z** »
  - Flaw sizes « **Radius** »
  - Void distribution density in the whole honeycomb « **K** »
- Formulae can be defined to link together flaw properties



Nu...	Category	Tag	Type	Min	Max	Size	Current v...	Dim
1	Variable	RADIUS	LHS	2.0	10.0	200	4.409	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Formula	RADIUS1	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Formula	RADIUS2	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Formula	RADIUS3	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Formula	RADIUS4	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Formula	RADIUS5	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Formula	RADIUS6	Equation	6.0	7.0	200	4.409	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Variable	Z	LHS	100.0	200.0	200	100.358	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Formula	Z1	Equation	175.0	275.0	200	125.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Formula	Z2	Equation	120.0	220.0	200	70.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Formula	Z3	Equation	162.0	262.0	200	112.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Formula	Z4	Equation	175.0	275.0	200	125.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Formula	Z5	Equation	154.0	254.0	200	104.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Formula	Z6	Equation	157.0	257.0	200	107.358	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Variable	K	LHS	2.0	10.0	200	2.024	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Formula	X	Equation	466.0917...	519.7136...	200	523.807	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Formula	X1	Equation	493.8073...	527.3210...	200	529.879	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Parametric study example

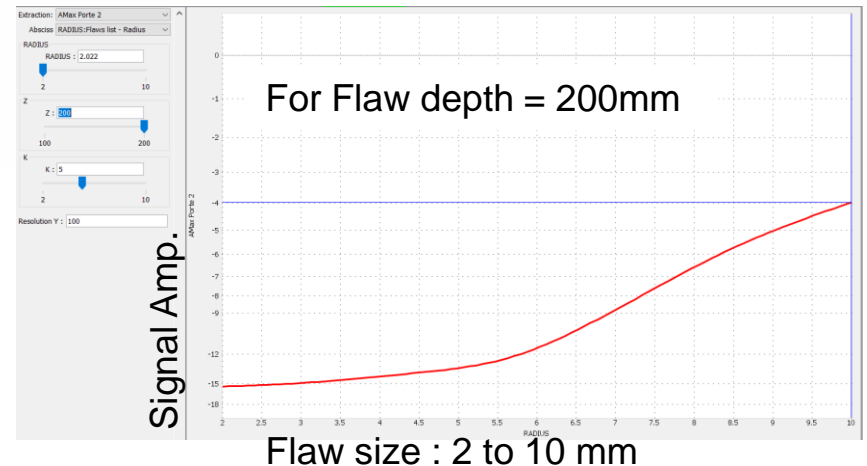
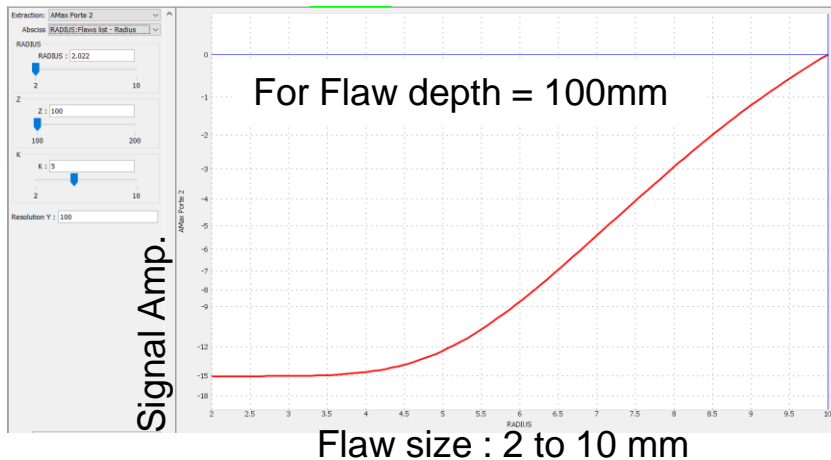
- Different sampling techniques available :  
Regular step, Monte Carlo sampling based on a density function, etc.  
Full factorial or Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) for multiparametric scenarios, etc.
- Here, **200 Simulations** with LHS sampling have been performed (in **only 4 hours**)
- Each case can be analysed individually
- Parallel plot view gives at a glance an overview of the simulations performed and the value for a given criterion (for instance max of the UT signal)



# Parametric study example

A metamodel is built from the simulation performed and a parametric analysis can be done from metamodel data:

- Access to **analysis plots** built with metamodel data (and not any more only the 200 results « grid »)
- « Continuous » sampling and exploration of the full range of potential combination of all parameters : **1D plot**
  - Impact of flaw size (between 2mm and 10mm) increase on signal amplitude
    - For defect at 100mm depth : + 15 dB in this case
    - For defect at 200mm depth : + 11 dB in this case



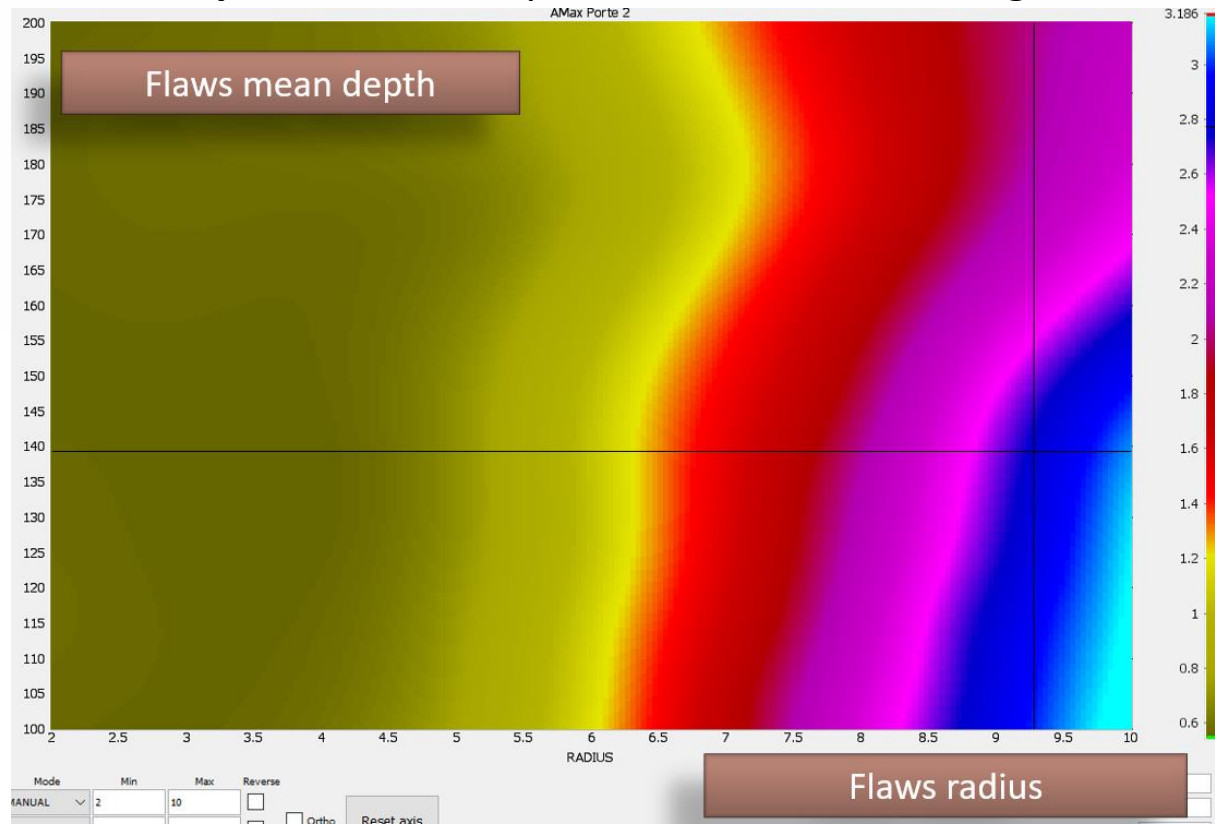


# Parametric study example

A metamodel is built from the simulation performed and a parametric analysis can be done from metamodel data:

- Access to **analysis plots** built with metamodel data (and not any more only the 200 results « grid »)
- « Continuous » sampling and exploration of the full range of potential combination of all parameters : **2D plot**

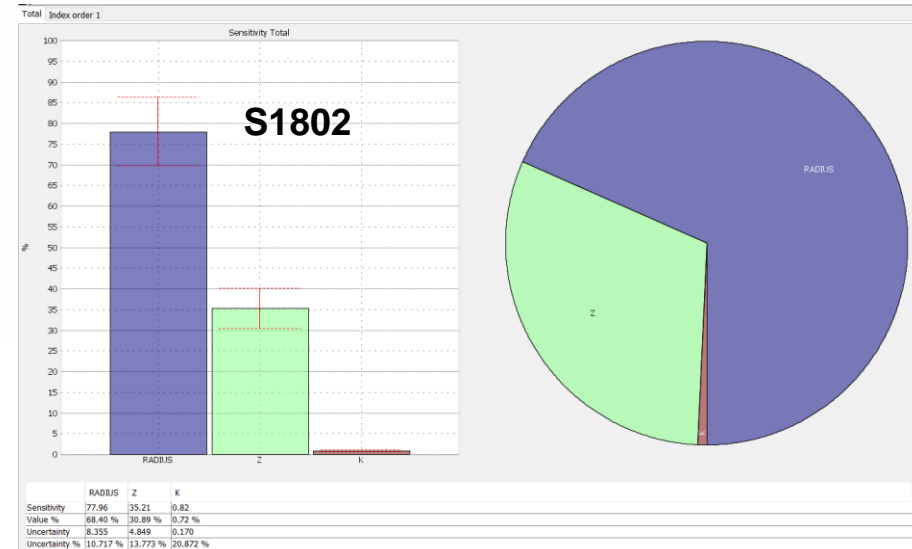
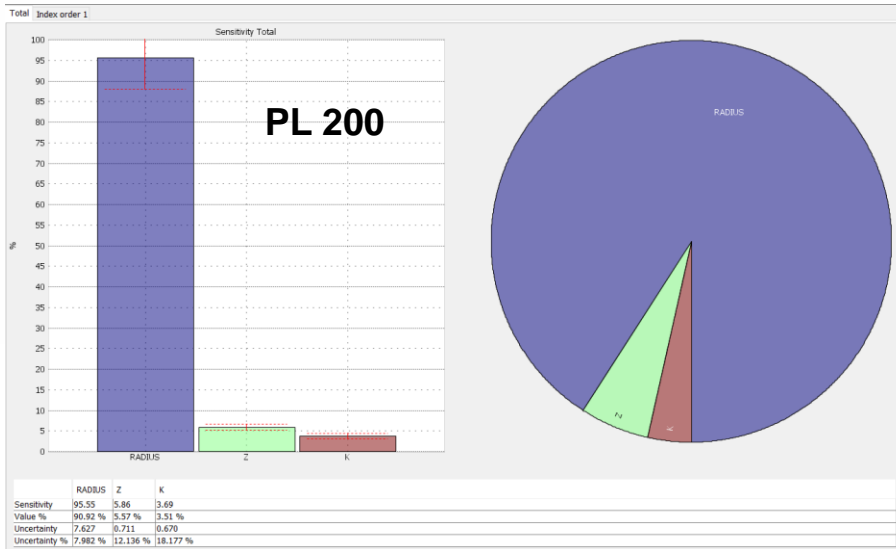
- **Joint impact** of flaws depth and radius seen at a glance



# Parametric study example

## Parametric analysis from metamodel data:

- Sobol indices allows to quantify the influence of parameters on the output signals considering parameters interactions and density functions to account for variable parameters occurrence (uniform, gaussian law, etc. )
  - Sobol Indices diagram for the PL200 probe
  - Sobol Indices diagram for the S1802 probe

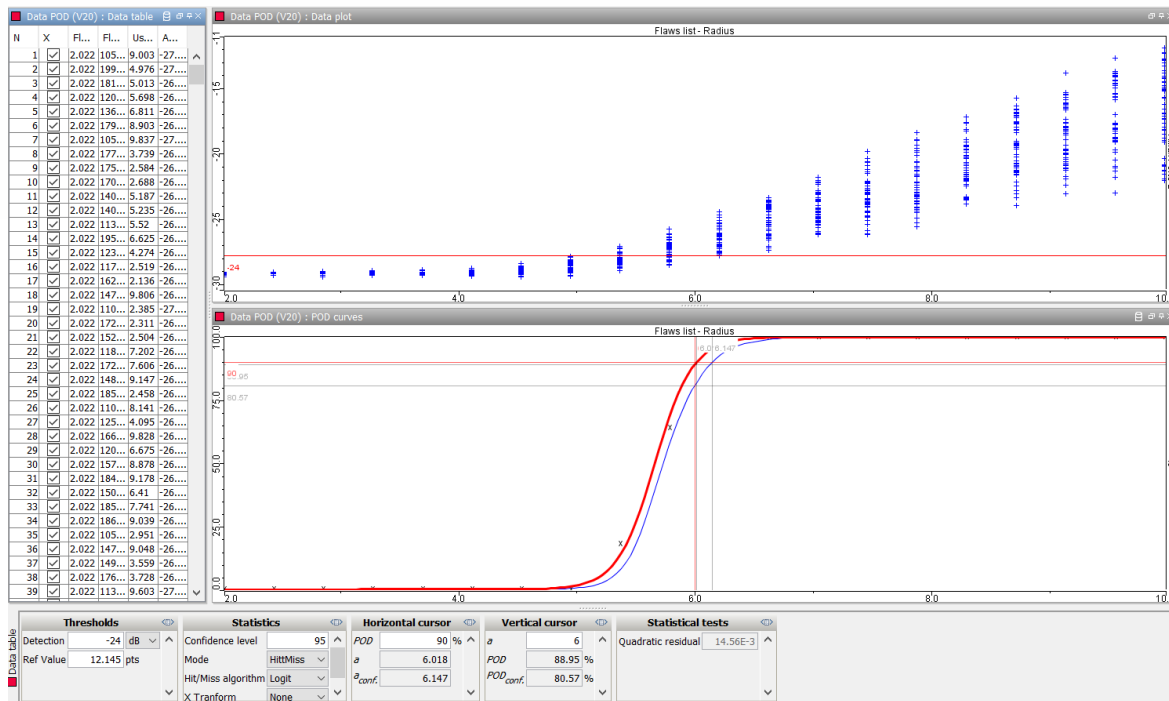


Radius is the predominant parameter for signal amplitude.  
S1802 is much more sensitive to flaw depth compared to PL 200 (more divergent beam)

# Parametric study example

I A **POD analysis** can be created from the metamodel in a few seconds:

- Selection of the « characteristic value » for defect size (e.g. radius)
- Selection of assumed statistical distributions for test variables
- Data sampling definition (# of defect sizes, # of tests) :  
**No limits thanks to metamodel**
- Definition of threshold (for instance here, -24dB vs backwall echo amp.)
- Selection of suitable POD model ( $\hat{a}$  vs  $a$ , Hit/Miss or non parametric)



# Conclusion

- | Simulation should help NDE procedures development and qualification in civil engineering (virtual testing, help for understanding, parametric studies):
  - Less iterations and more mastering
  - Less physical mock-ups / Less defects in physical mock-ups
  - Save time and money
  
- | CIVA is a well-established software for metallic parts inspection modelling with efficient computation times.
- | It now includes more and more capabilities for concrete specimens.
- | Several examples have been illustrated here.
  
- | Questions ?

[contact@extende.com](mailto:contact@extende.com) / [www.extende.com](http://www.extende.com)

