

# On the Effective Width for District Heating Systems

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# Overview

- Introduction
- Research questions
- Data
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion



# Introduction

- Model developed by Werner and Persson:

$$\text{Specific Distribution Cost} \propto \frac{\text{Trench Length} \cdot \text{Average diameter}}{\text{Heat Demand}}$$

- How to measure the pipe length → Effective width concept,  $w$

$$w = \frac{\text{Land area}}{\text{Trench length}} \rightarrow \frac{m_{\text{ground}}^2}{m_{\text{trench}}}$$



# Introduction

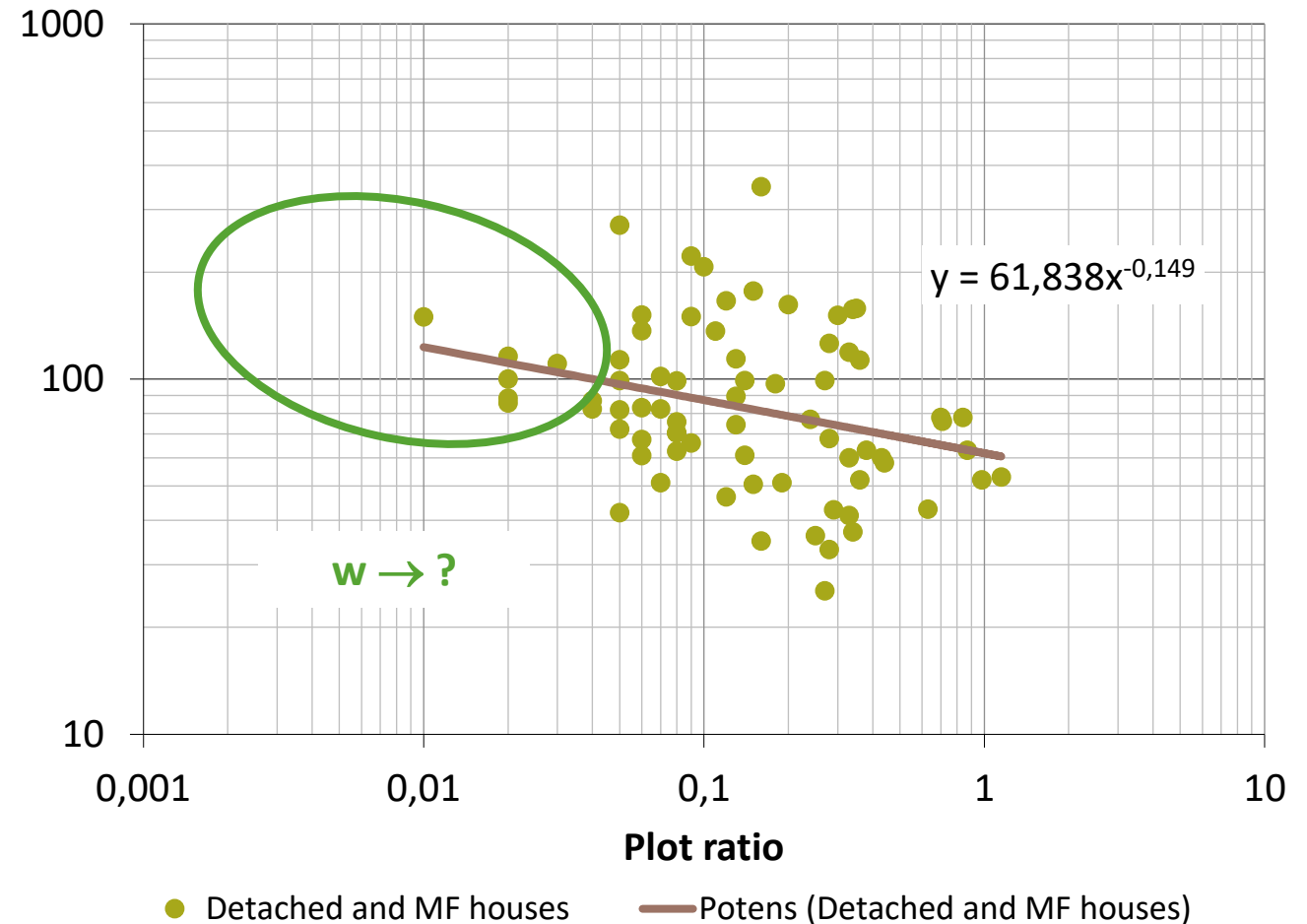
In previous studies:

- Effective Width dependent on Plot Ratio
- In dense areas,  $w \rightarrow 50$  m
- Sparse areas are mostly unknown.
- Definition of land area has not been systematic.
- Only Distribution Pipes were studied



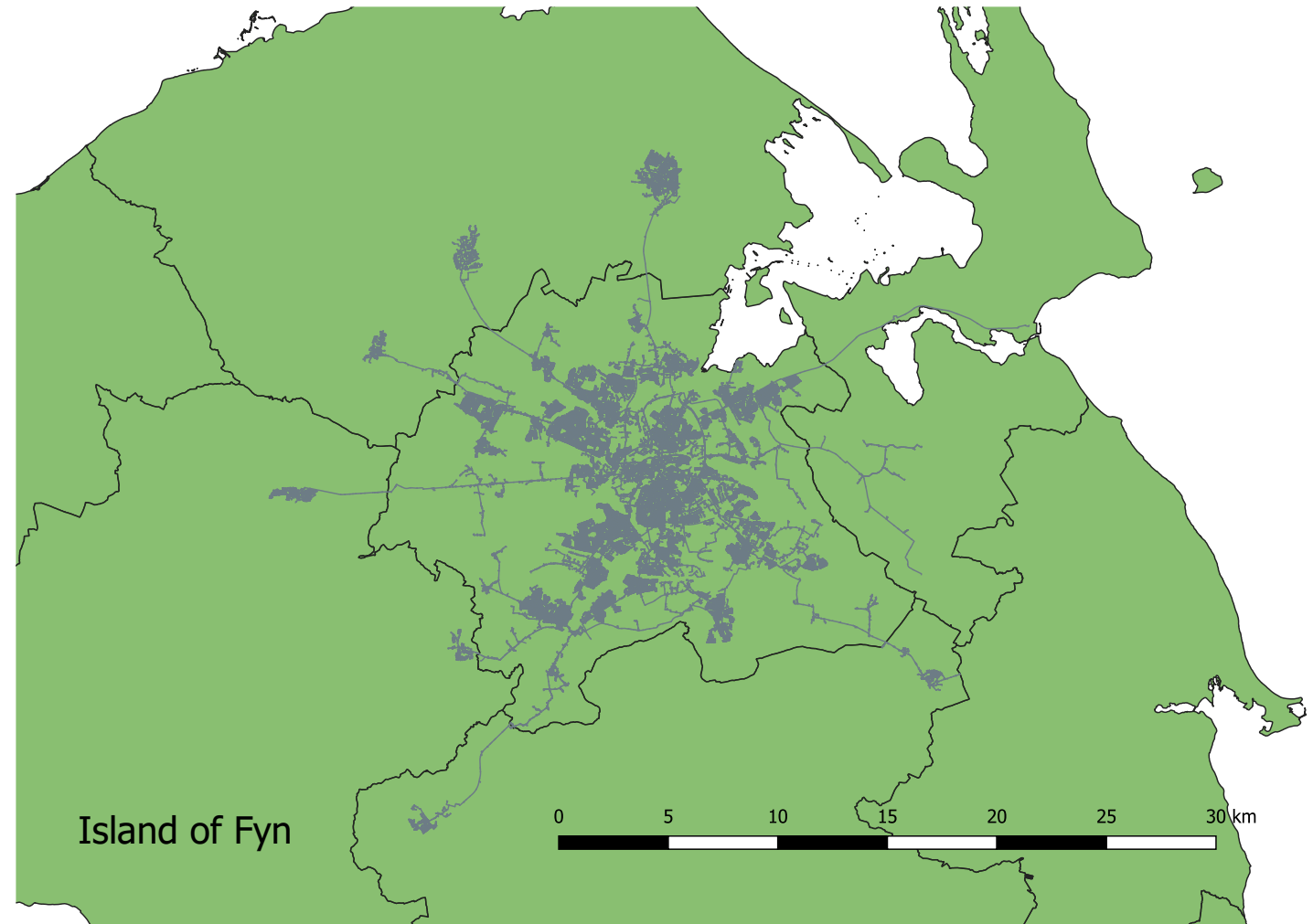
# Research questions

- What is the behaviour of effective width in sparse areas?
- What is the behaviour of effective width for both Distribution and Service pipes?
- Is the plot ratio the best independent variable?



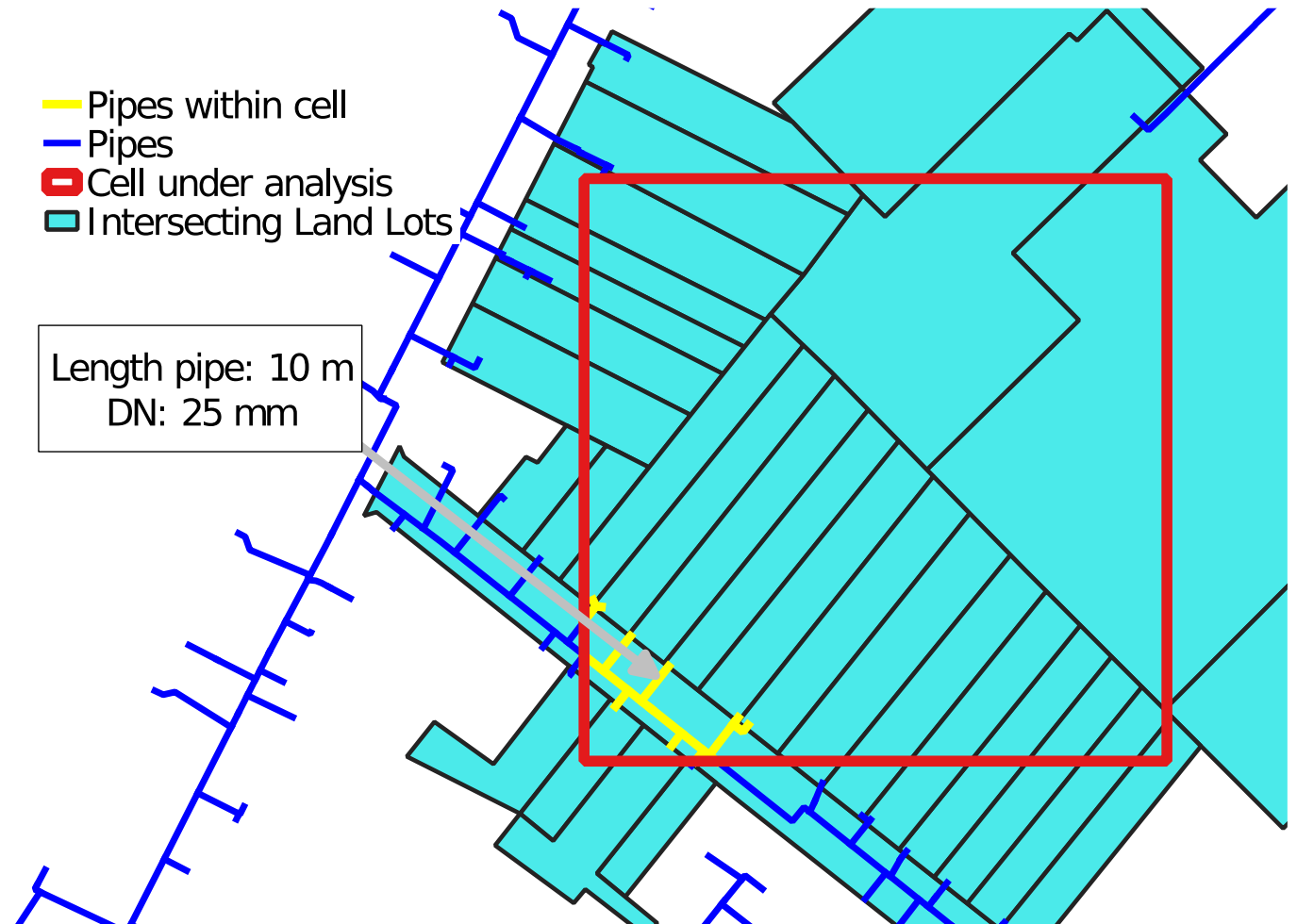
# Data

- District Heating Network of Fjernvarme Fyn (Denmark)
- 2 264 km of trench length.
- District Heating Network of Aarhus (Denmark)
- More than 2 100 km of trench length.
- Danish Cadastre (BBR) for floor areas.



# Methodology

1. 1-ha-cell grid.
2. Pipe length (Distribution and Service).
3. Effective Width
4. Floor area and Number of Buildings

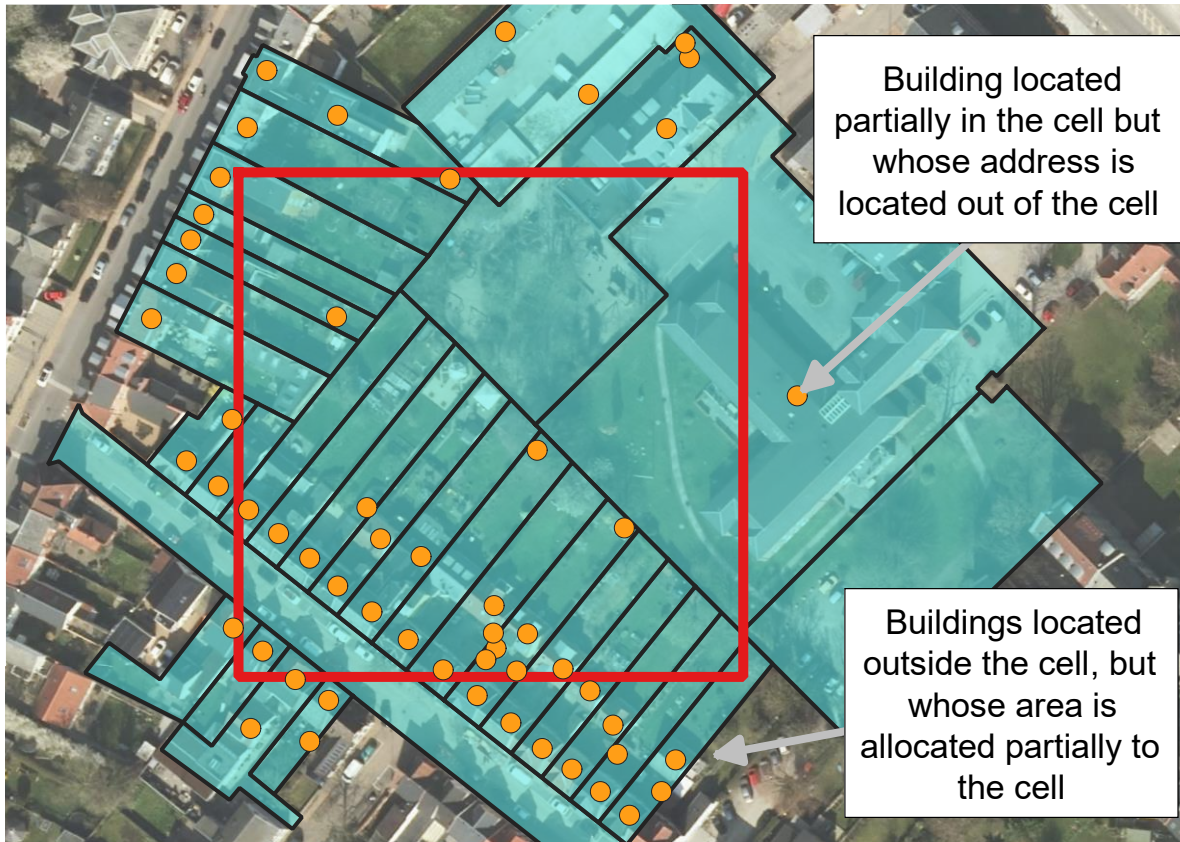


Method for determining the pipe length in a given cell

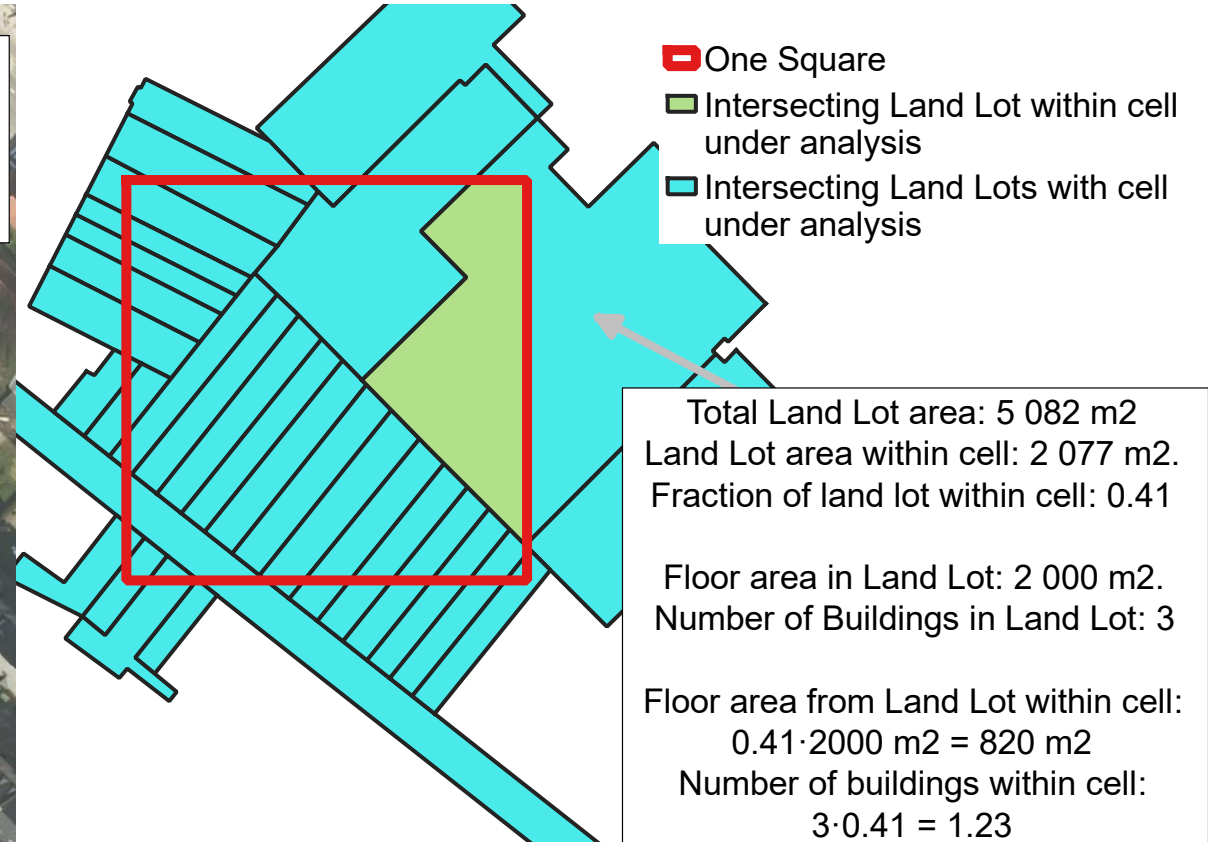


# Methodology

A



B

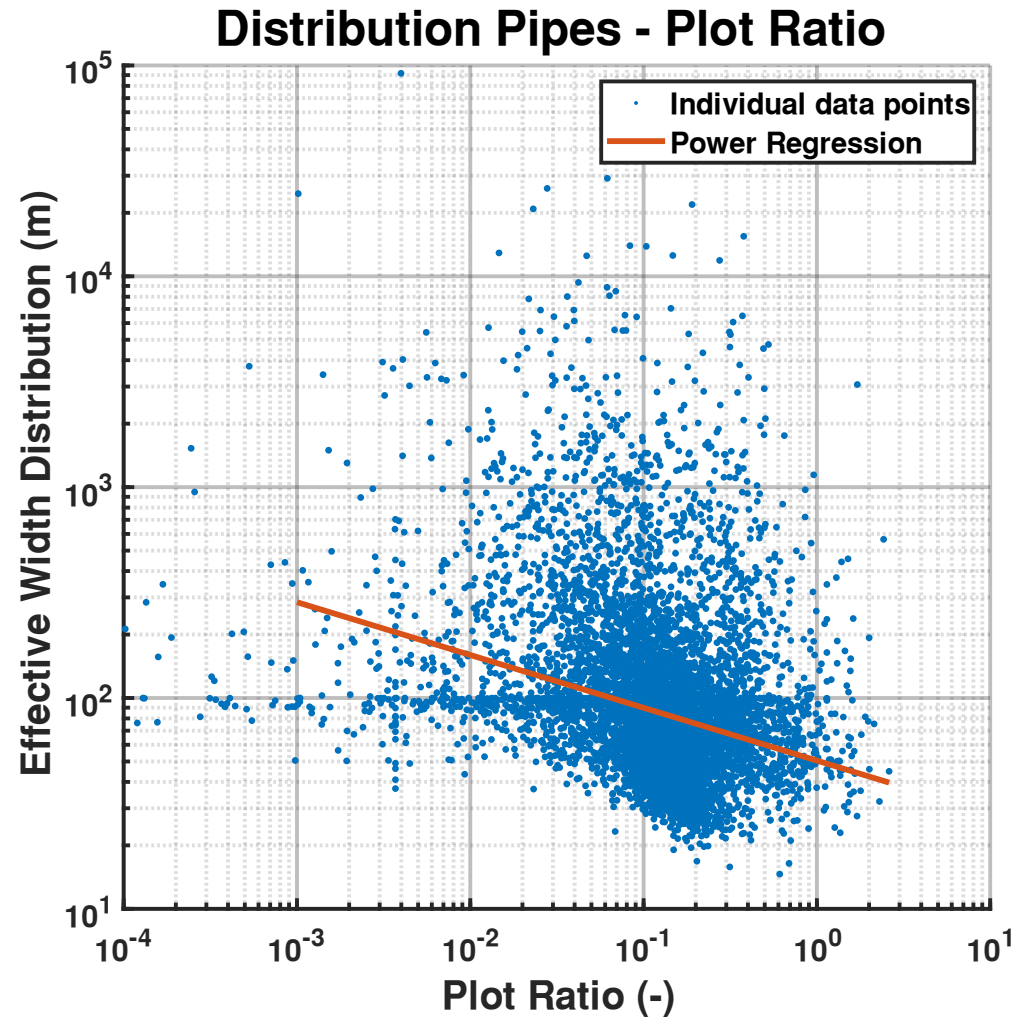


Method for determining the Number of Buildings and Floor area in the cell

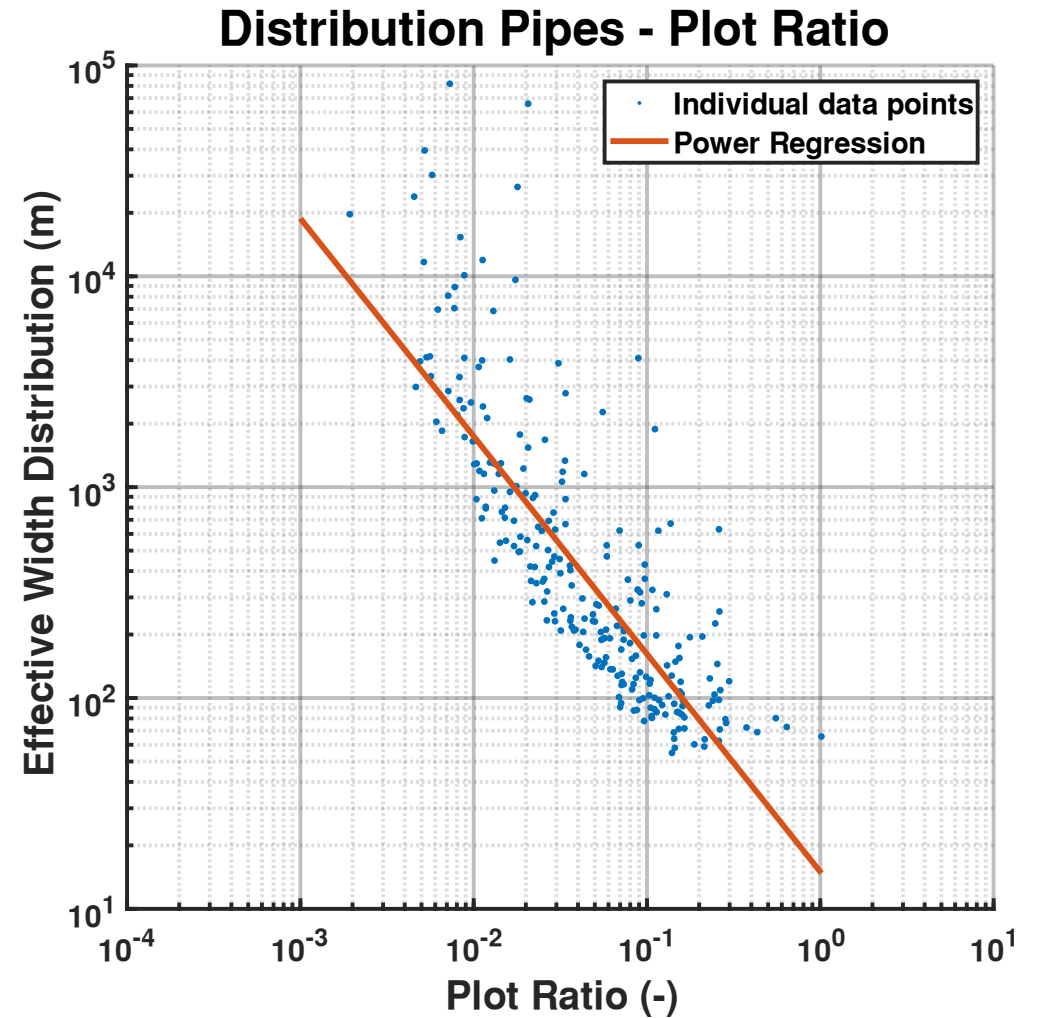


# Results

Which cell size is the best?



Cell Size of 1 ha

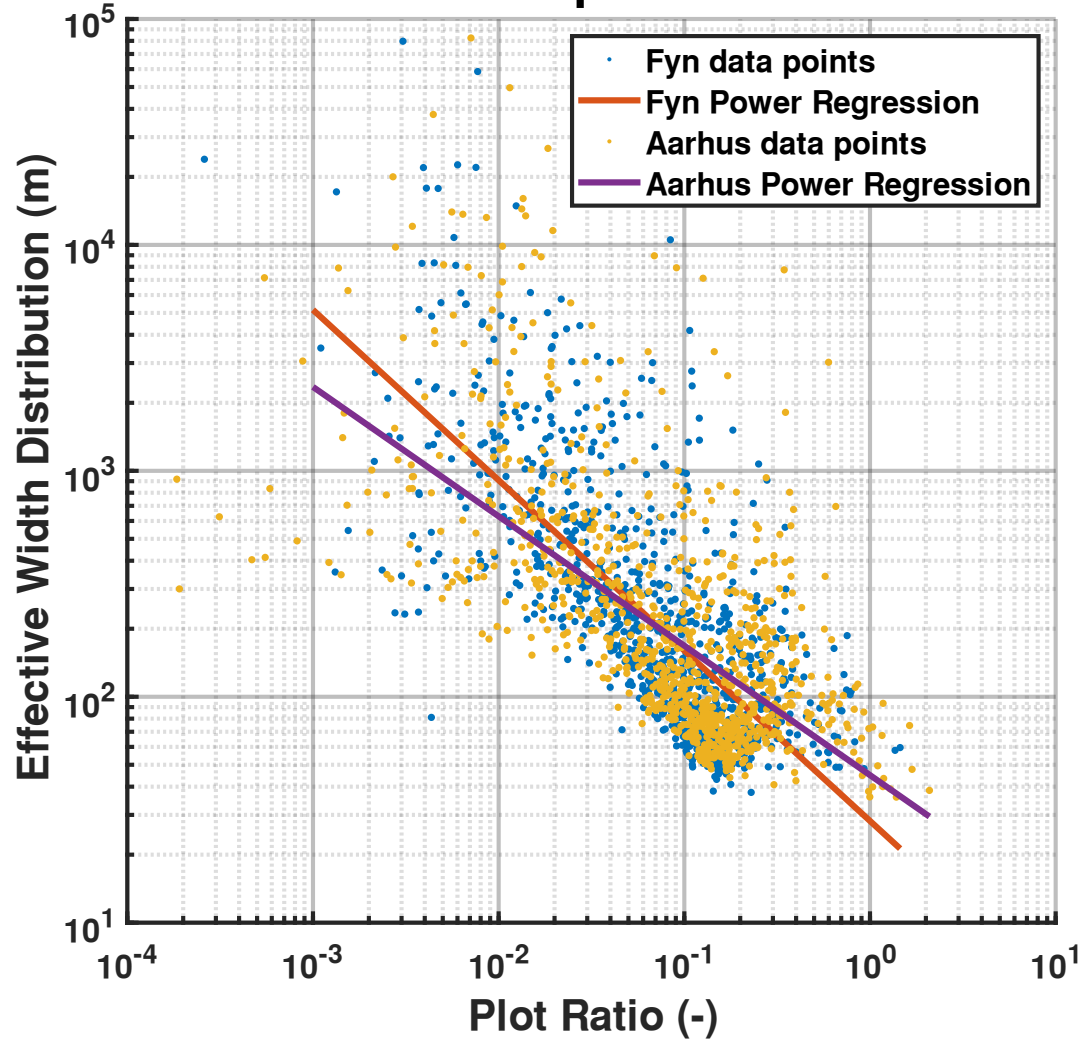


Cell Size of 100 ha

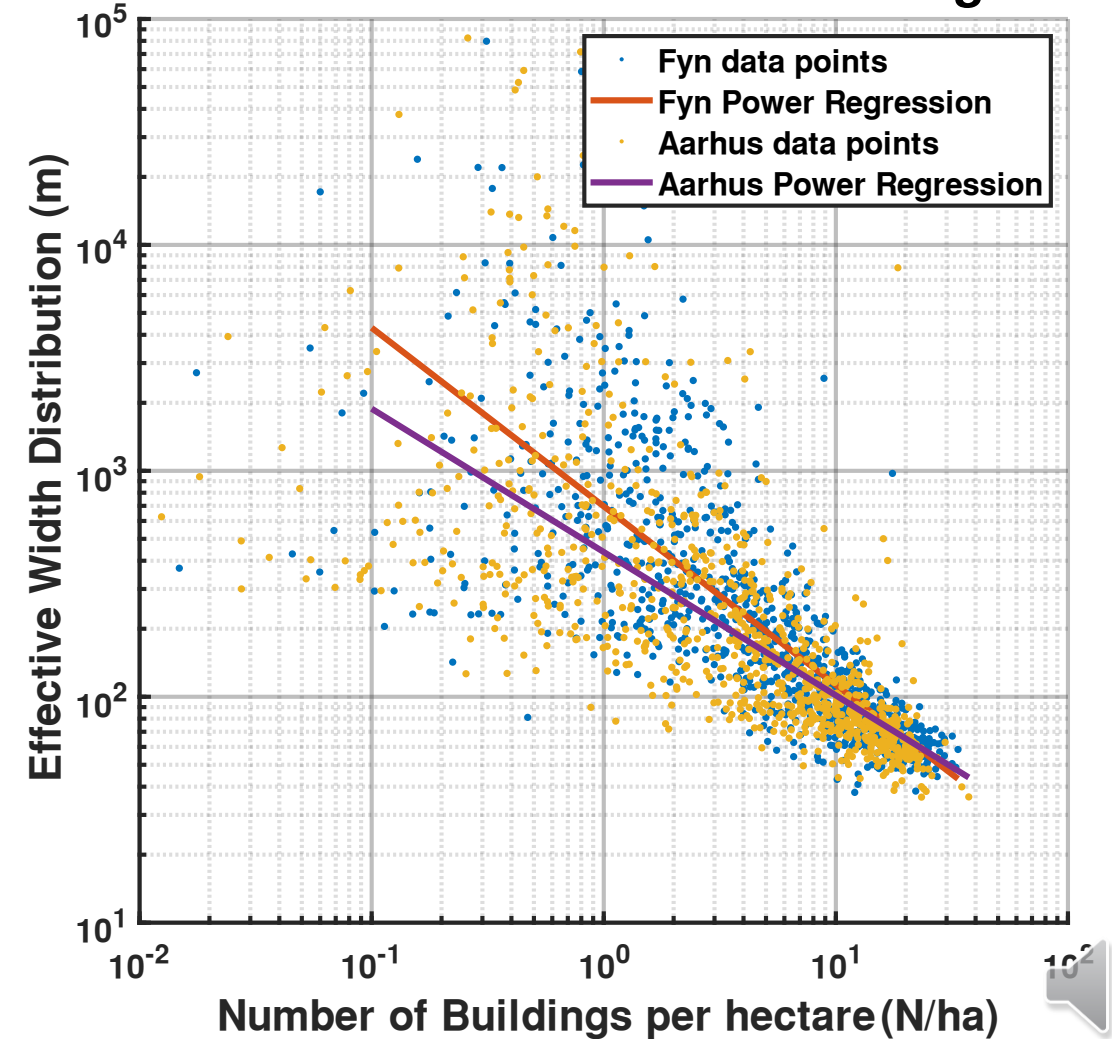
# Results

Effective Width for a cell size of 16 ha.

## Distribution Pipes - Plot Ratio



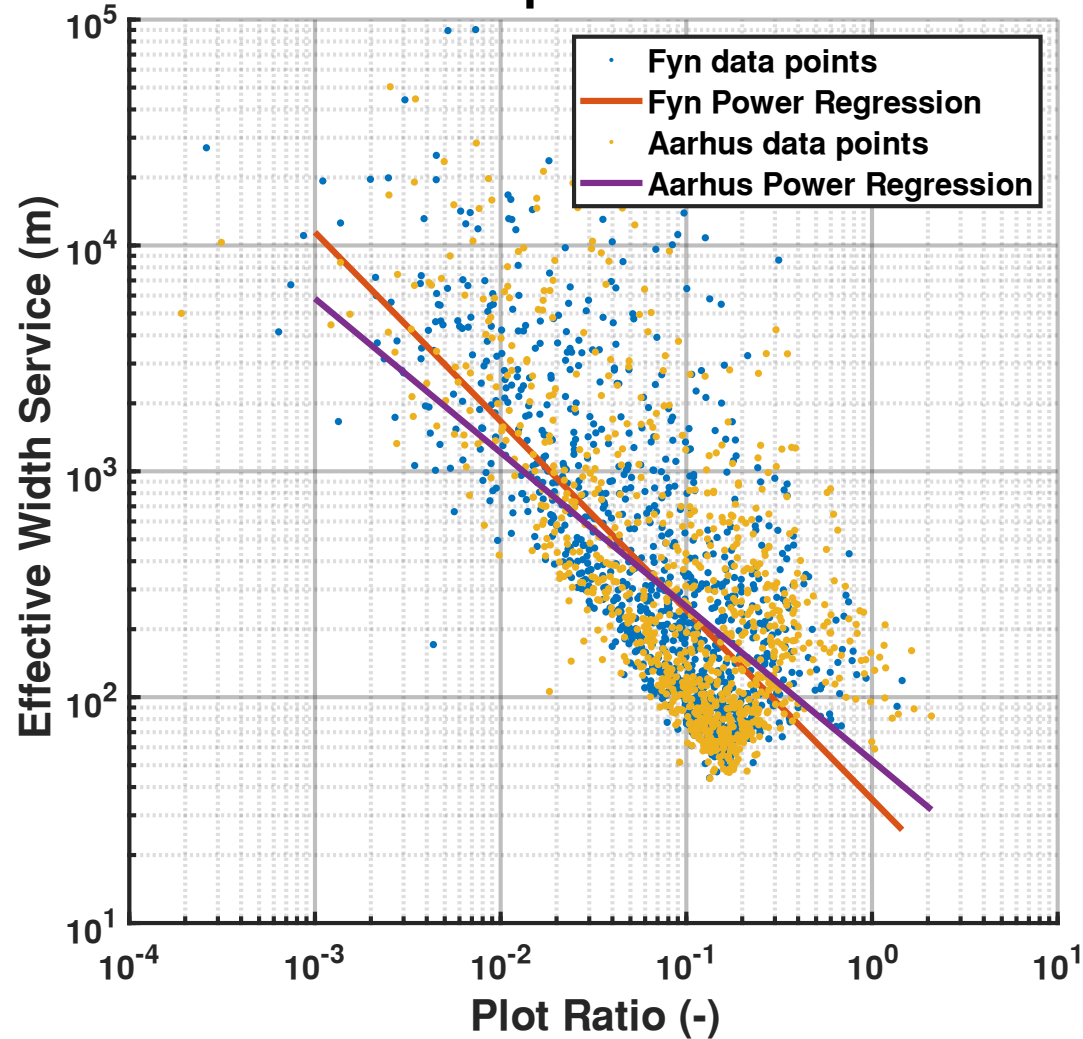
## Distribution - Number of Buildings



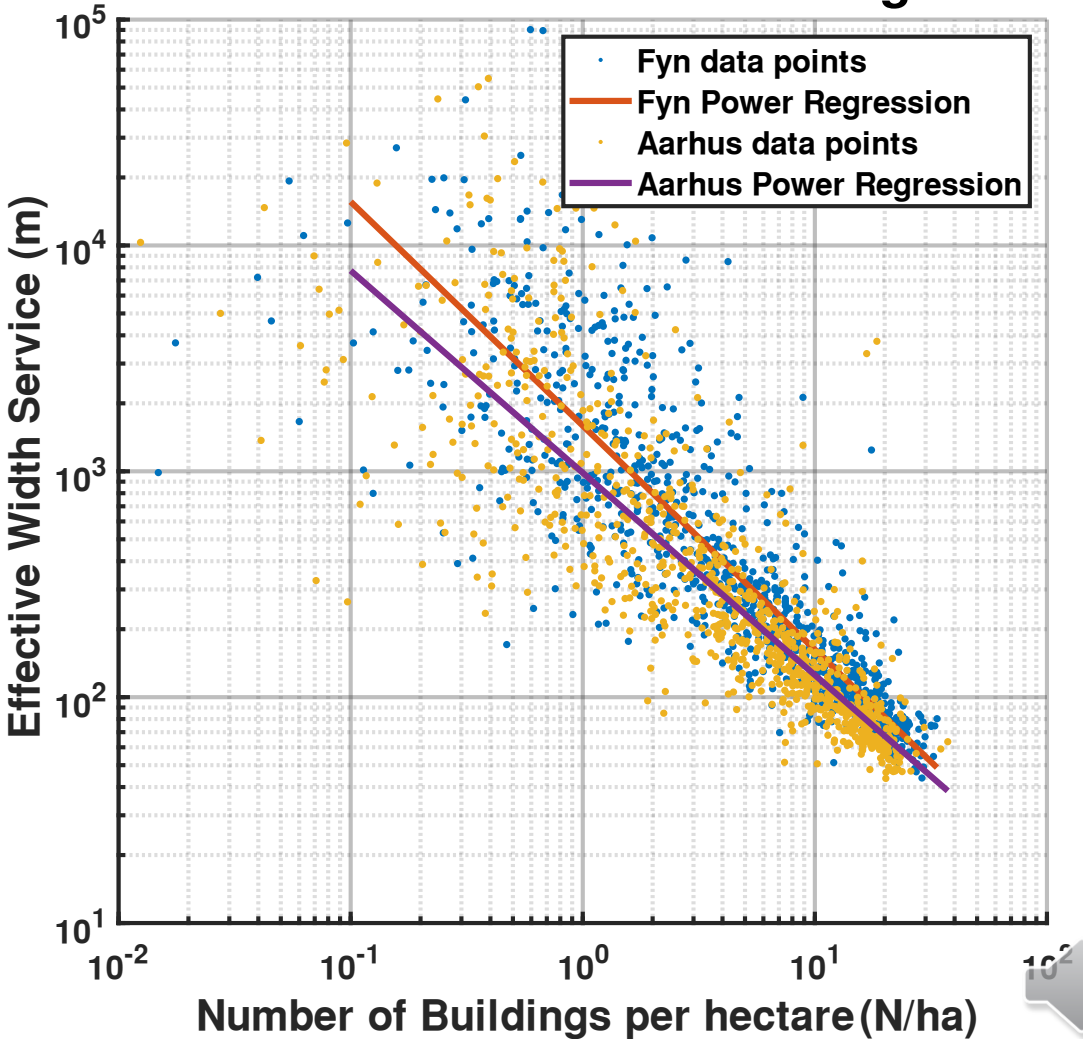
# Results

Effective Width for a cell size of 16 ha.

Service Pipes - Plot Ratio



Service - Number of Buildings



# Key takeaways and Discussion

## Key results:

- Confirmation of previous model for Distribution pipes.
- New model for Service pipes.
- High possibility of lower bound for effective width in high density areas.
- Number of buildings is a better estimator than plot ratio.
- Very small cells lead to poor regressions.





# Key takeaways and Discussion

Some problems still remain:

- High variability of effective width for the same value of the independent variable → The estimation of costs will not be very accurate.
- Residuals are highly skewed when using the plot ratio.
- Implicit Assumption: 100% penetration in areas with pipes
- Survival bias?





