BI Dry 3.0 – A COMSOL® App for Simulating Concrete Drying

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- Graphical User Interface
- Setting Up a Model
- Graphics

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- Underlying COMSOL Model
- Access to Specific Functionality
- Conclusions



Introduction

Background and benefits of the software



Concrete Drying

- Moisture enhances concrete curing, but fast drying and low relative humidity (RH) are essential for flooring to prevent deterioration of flooring adhesive
- Drying is slow and can delay construction, resulting in premature floor installation and costly testing, disputes, or repairs
- Factors like temperature, wind, rain, construction type, and dimensions affect drying rates



Simulating Concrete Drying

- An effective way to predict concrete drying is through finite element-based simulations
- Setting up a finite element model requires expertise, but the process is simplified with a compiled COMSOL® app
 Any contractor can leverage the power of COMSOL Multiphysics[®]
- By using simulations, contractors can choose the optimal concrete mix, minimizing environmental impact and reduce costs



Reductions & Savings



CO₂ Emission Reductions

- Decrease the amount of binder
- Use lower-grade concrete where applicable
- Incorporate binder combinations with slag, fly ash and other additions
- Select an optimal design



Cost Savings

- Accelerate construction timelines
- Prevent costly failures







Longstanding Expertise For decades, Heidelberg Materials has offered customers finite element-based software solutions



Launch of HETT²² in 2022 [1]

A COMSOL Multiphysics[®]-based tool, HETT²² was developed to simulate early-age temperature and strength development



Development of BI Dry 3.0

Following the success of HETT²², Heidelberg Materials chose the same platform to support BI Dry 3.0, a software focused on simulating concrete drying



Differences between HETT²² and BI Dry



Timescale

While HETT²² and BI Dry share similarities, concrete drying in BI Dry spans months or years, unlike the shorter timescale of hours or days required for early-age strength de♥elopment in HETT²².

Modeling

Both HETT²² and BI Dry utilize the Maturity Method and the heat transfer equation. Additionally, BI Dry solves a convection-diffusion equation for moisture content, which is coupled with heat transfer.



Joint Efforts



Collaborative Development of HETT²² Created through a partnership between Deflexional AB, a COMSOL Certified Consultant, and Heidelberg Materials

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BI Dry 3.0 Development Team

Deflexional worked closely with concrete drying experts from Lund University and Heidelberg Materials



Project Success

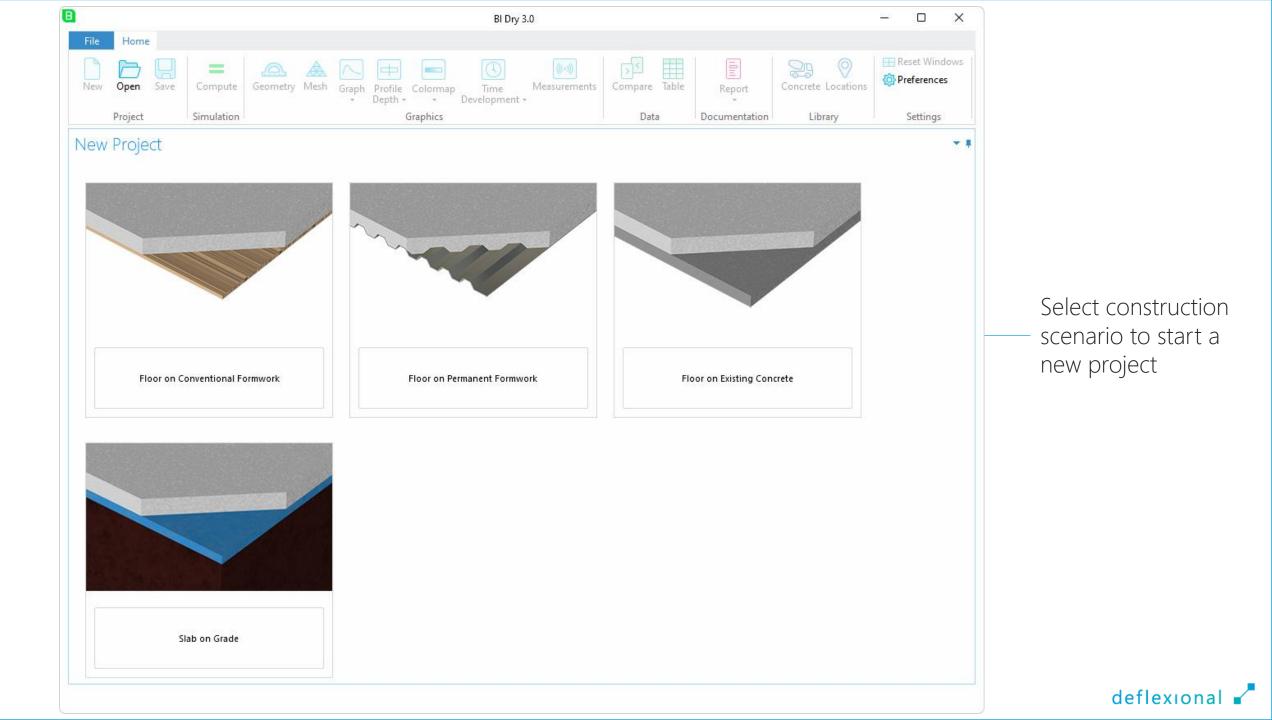
The achievements of this project underscore the essential contributions and collaboration from all involved parties

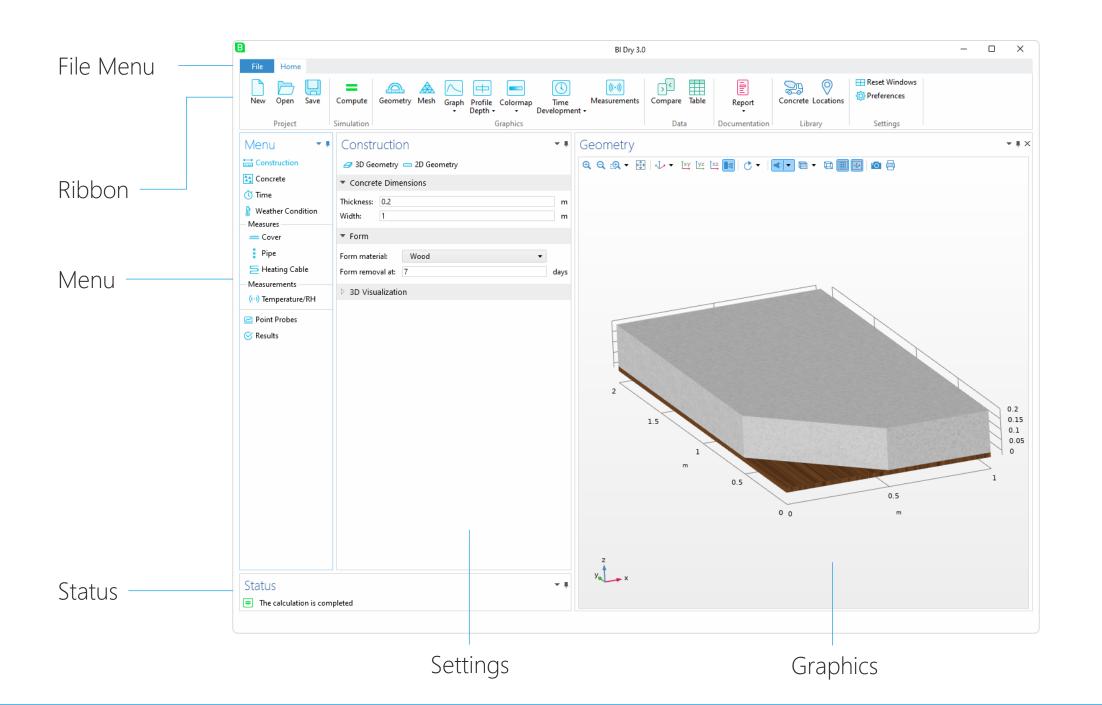


Graphical User Interface

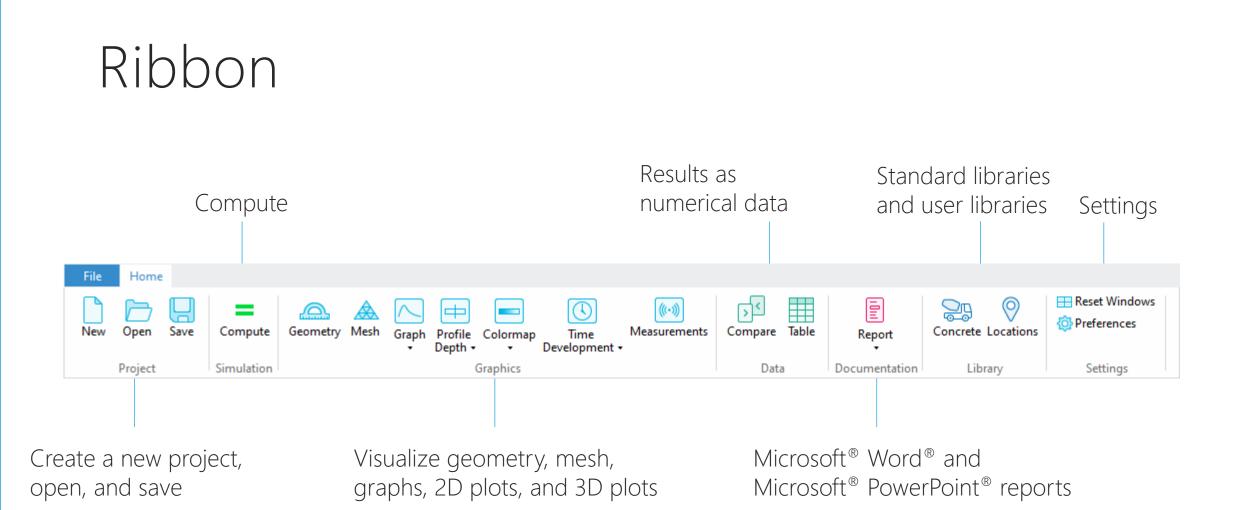
An intuitive interface enables contractors to perform advanced simulations with ease





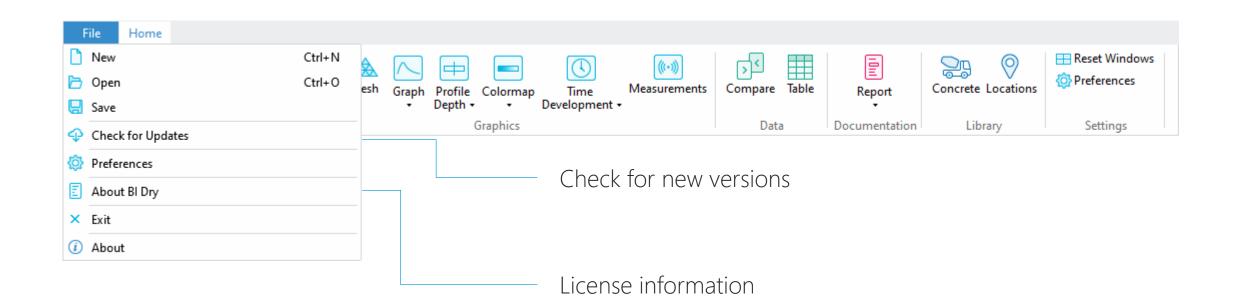


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File Menu



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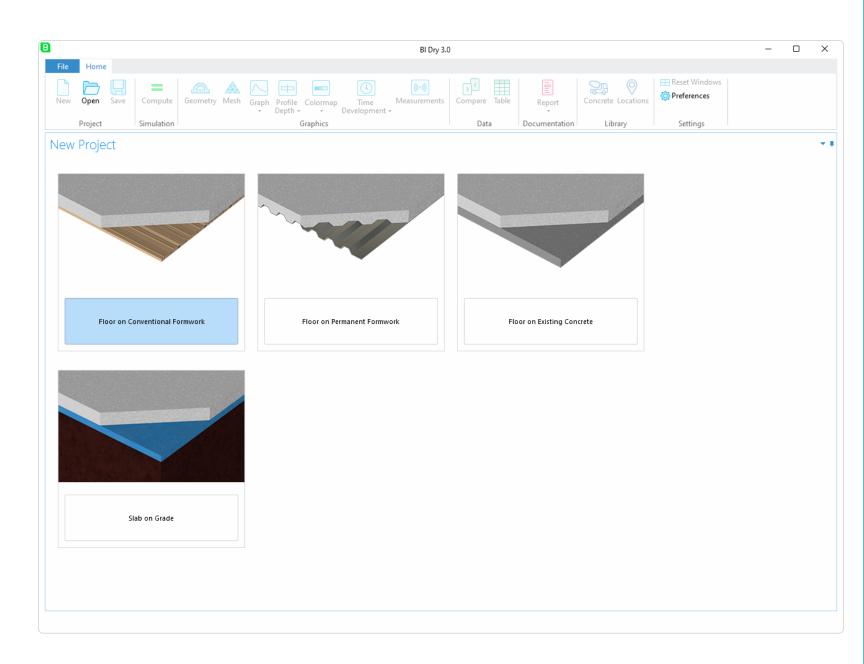
Setting Up a Model

Follow the left menu step-by-step from start to finish



New Project

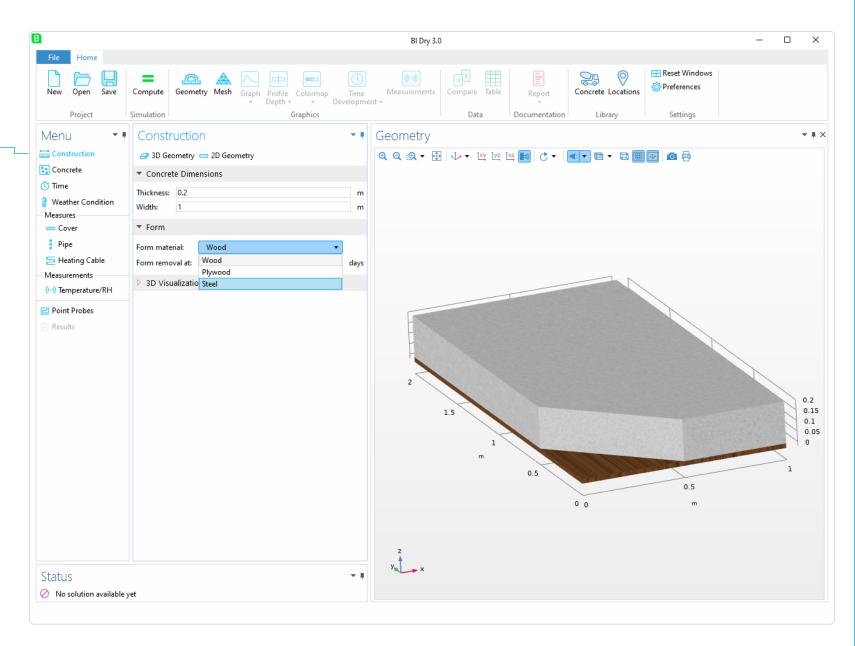
 Select the construction scenario





Construction

 Change dimensions and materials





Construction

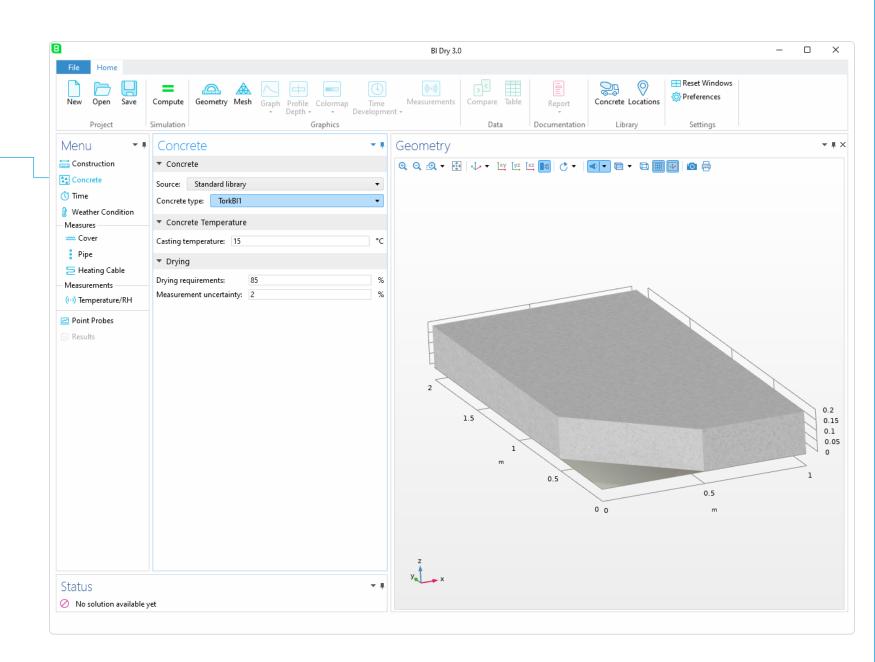
Visualization in 3D of the construction and the materials

		Bi Dry 3.0 – 🗆 🗙
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Venu • F Construction Concrete Time Weather Condition	Construction JD Geometry Concrete Dimensions Thickness: 0.2 m	Geometry ▼↓> Q Q ☆ ♥ ₩ ↓ ▼ № № № № № № № № № № № № № № № № № №
Measures Cover Pipe Heating Cable Measurements (+) Temperature/RH	Width: 1 m ▼ Form Form material: Steel Form removal at: 7 days ▷ 3D Visualization	
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Concrete

- Set the concrete type and the casting temperature
- Define drying requirements



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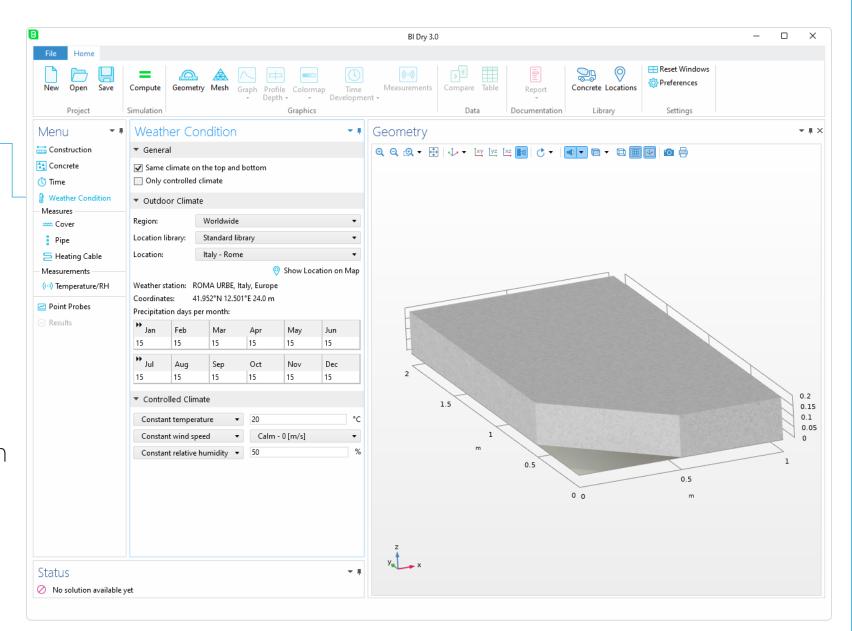
- Time
- Set dates for the different events
- The time between the casting and the simulation time after flooring will be the total simulation time

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	Time between weatherproof and controlled climate:	
	30 days	2
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	▼ Flooring	
	✓ Set date automatically	1
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	30 days	
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Weather Condition

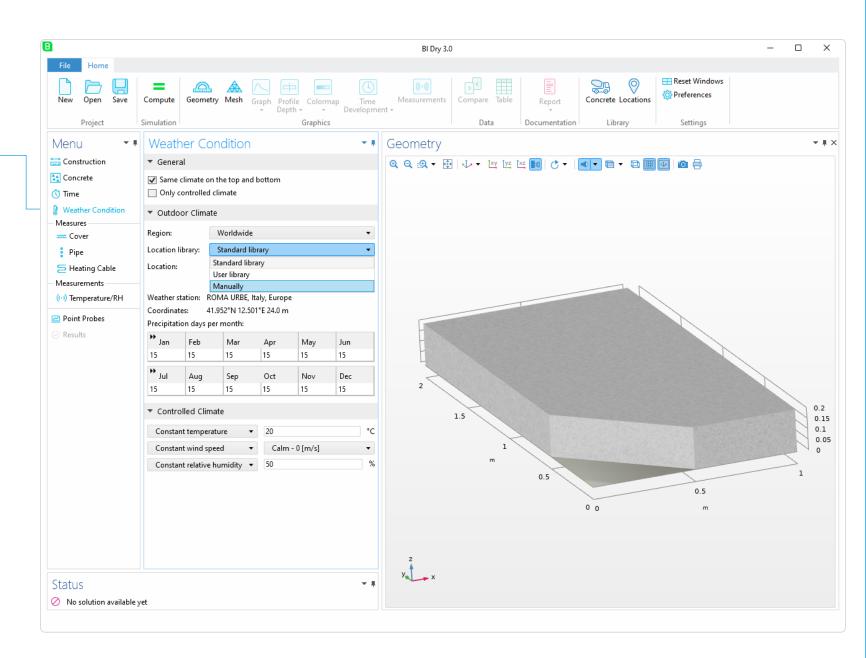
- Temperature, wind, and RH comes from the ASHRAE 2021 database
- Precipitation days per month must be set manually for locations outside of Sweden
- For Sweden, precipitation data is sourced from SMHI



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Weather Condition

 The Location Library makes it easy to re-use data for construction sites

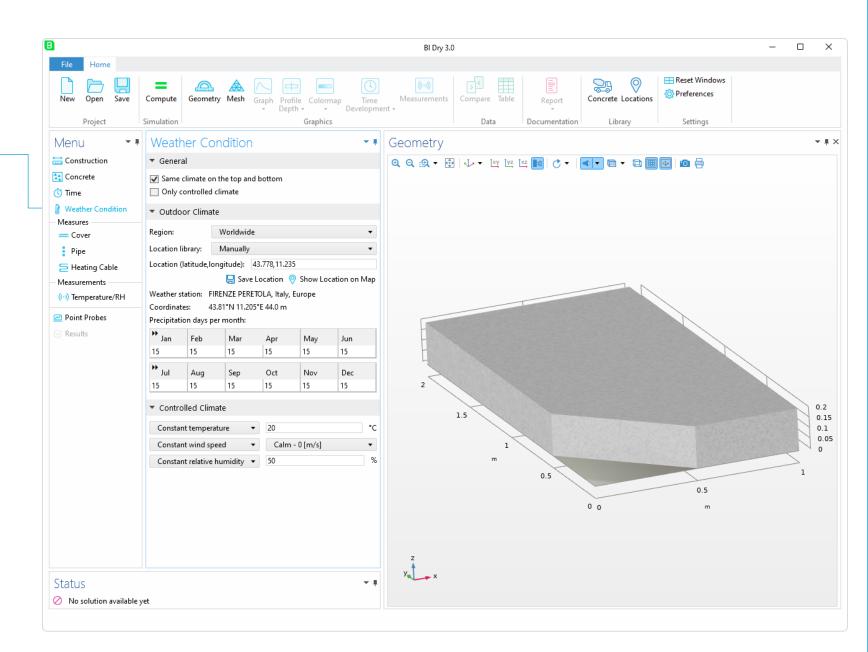




Weather Condition

- Enter the coordinates for Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino
- Show Location on Map opens Google Maps
- Save Location opens a new dialog to save the location:

B Save to U	lser Library	×				
New name:	Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino					
	ОК	Cancel				

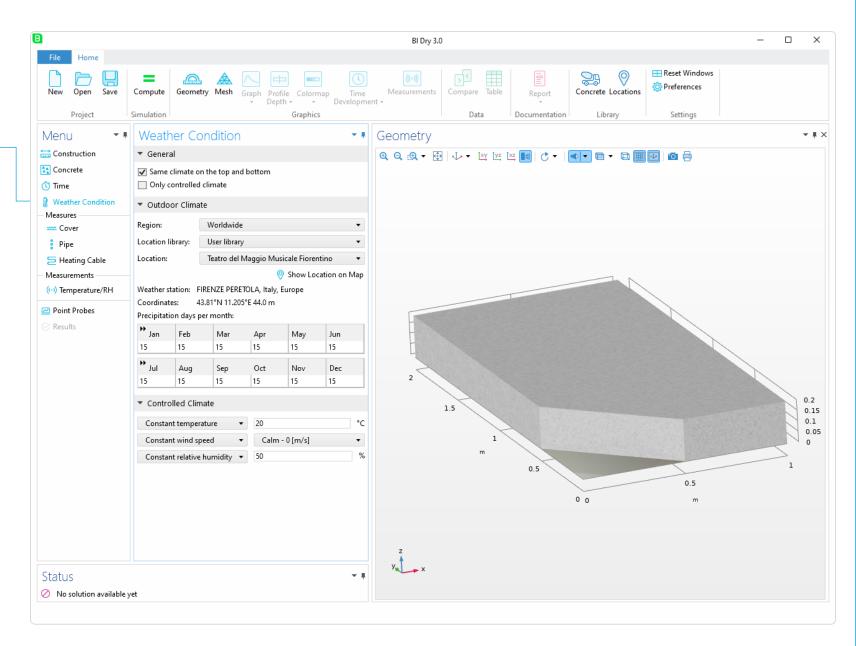


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Weather Condition

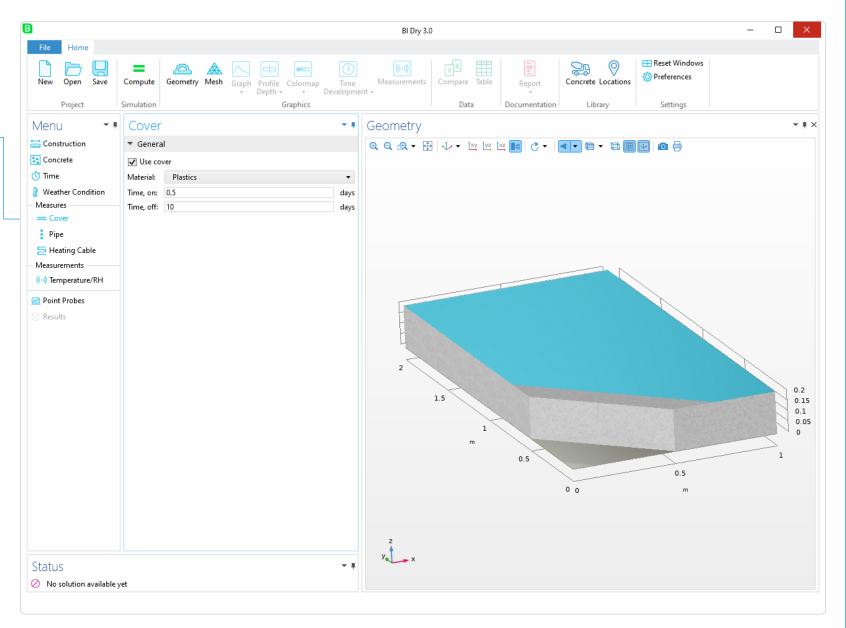
 Locations are saved to the library

Locations Region							
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Heidelberg Materials - Germany	49.413,8.677						
Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino	43.778,11.235						
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- Cover
- Cover of different materials can be added
- Time for on/off condition





Pipe

 Pipes with fluid can cool or heat the concrete

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Heating Cable	Start point, y: 0.1 Distance in x-direction: 0.1		m							
- Measurements	Distance in y-direction: 0.1		m							
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🗠 Point Probes	Number in y-direction: 1									
⊘ Results	Data									
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	Material thickness:	2	mm							
	Thermal conductivity, solid:		W/(m⋅K)	2						
	Medium:	Water	•							
	Flow rate:	25	l/min		1.5					0.2
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Pipe

- Can include several pipe series with different properties
- The pipe medium can be altered

3			BI Dry 3.0 – 🗆 🗙
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Heating Cable	Start point, y: 0.05	n	
Measurements	Distance in x-direction: 0.15 Distance in y-direction: 0.1	r	
(••) Temperature/RH	Number in x-direction: 6		
Point Probes	Number in y-direction: 1		
Results	Data		
⊙ Nesuits	Outer diameter: 20	0 mm	
	Material thickness: 2	mm	
	Thermal conductivity, solid: 4	5 W/(m·k	
	Medium:	Glycol/water 🔹	2
	Mixture: 25% glycol	•	
	Flow rate: 25	5 I/min	1.5
	Description:	On/off •	
	Time, on: 0.5	day	
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Pipe

 2D visualization provides an easy-to-use interface for geometric dimensioning

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leasurements	Distance in y-direction: 0.1		m							
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	Medium:	Glycol/water	•		Pipe #1					
	Mixture: 25% glycol	25	•		•	•	Form	•	•	
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	Description: Time, on: 0.5	Un/off								
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Heating Cable

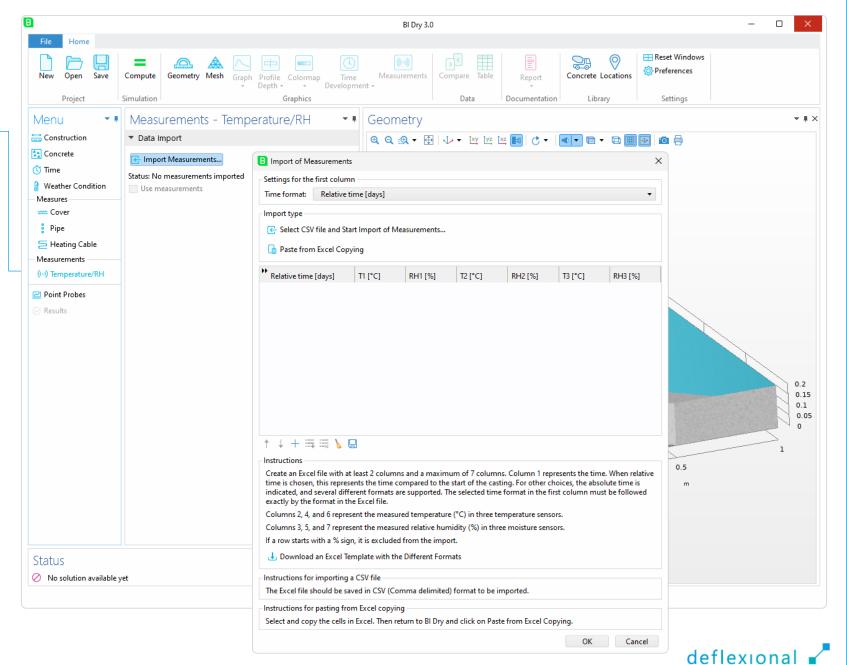
 Heating cables can be arranged in a manner similar to pipe installation

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E Heating Cable	Start point, y: 0.100 m Distance in x-direction: 0.15 m	
Measurements	Distance in y-direction: 0.1 m	
(••) Temperature/RH	Number in x-direction: 6	
Point Probes	Number in y-direction: 1 Data	
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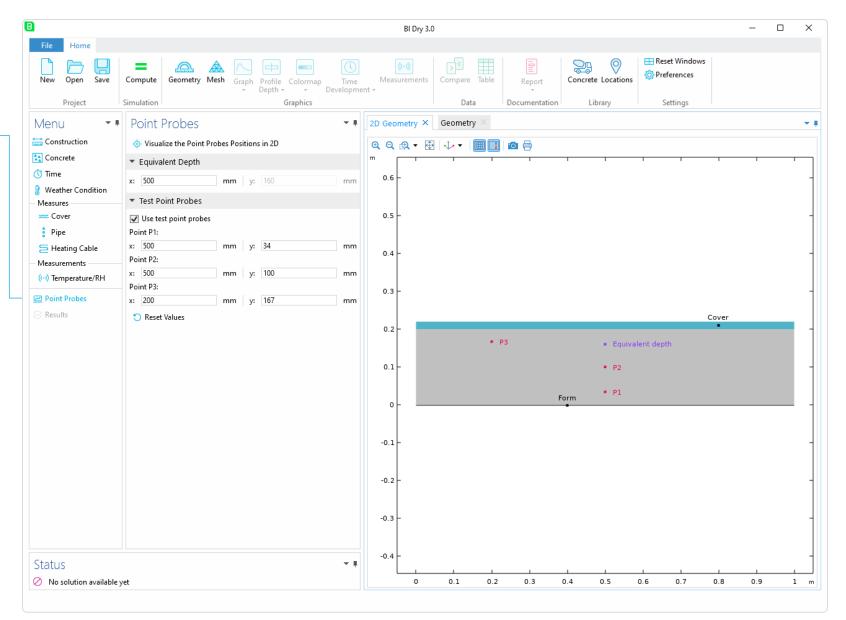
Measurements

- Add measurements to compare simulations with on-site sensor data
- Capable of handling large datasets efficiently
- Accepts local user settings in a comma-delimited format



Point Probes

- Enables the visualization of output data at selected points
- The y-coordinate for the equivalent depth is fixed and cannot be edited, as it depends on the construction type
- The x-coordinate is crucial when using pipes or heating cables



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Results -

- Notifications and warnings
- Date when drying requirement is met

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File Home		
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Construction	 Results During Simulation 	Q Q Ø + ፼ Ⅲ Ⅲ Ⅲ □ □ □ □
Concrete	Temperature, max: 21.2 °C	Relative humidity (%)
🕚 Time	Temperature, min: 6.5 °C	
Weather Condition Measures	Temperature difference, max: 1.20 °C RH at equivalent depth, min: 77.1 %	95
Cover		90
i Pipe	 Notifications and Warnings The structure dries out before the flooring installation is 	Drying requirement is met 29 March 2025, after 165 days
Heating Cable	planned to take place	
(+) Temperature/RH	Number of days until the drying requirement is met: 165 Date when the drying requirement is met: 29 March 2025	
Point Probes		75
⊘ Results		
		65
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		Equivalent depth Max Average Min Air top side Air bottom side Test point probes
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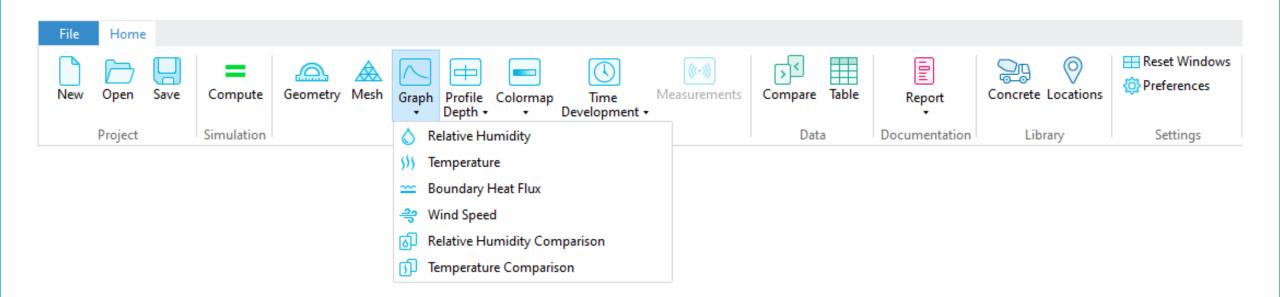
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Graphics

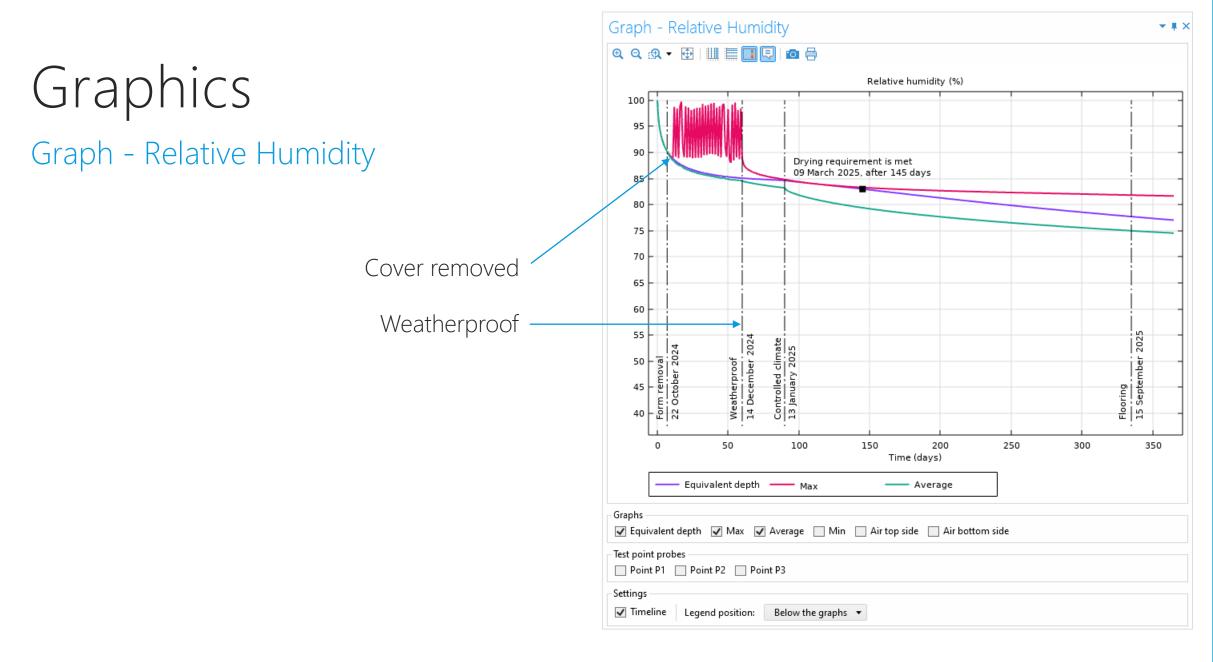
Results visualization



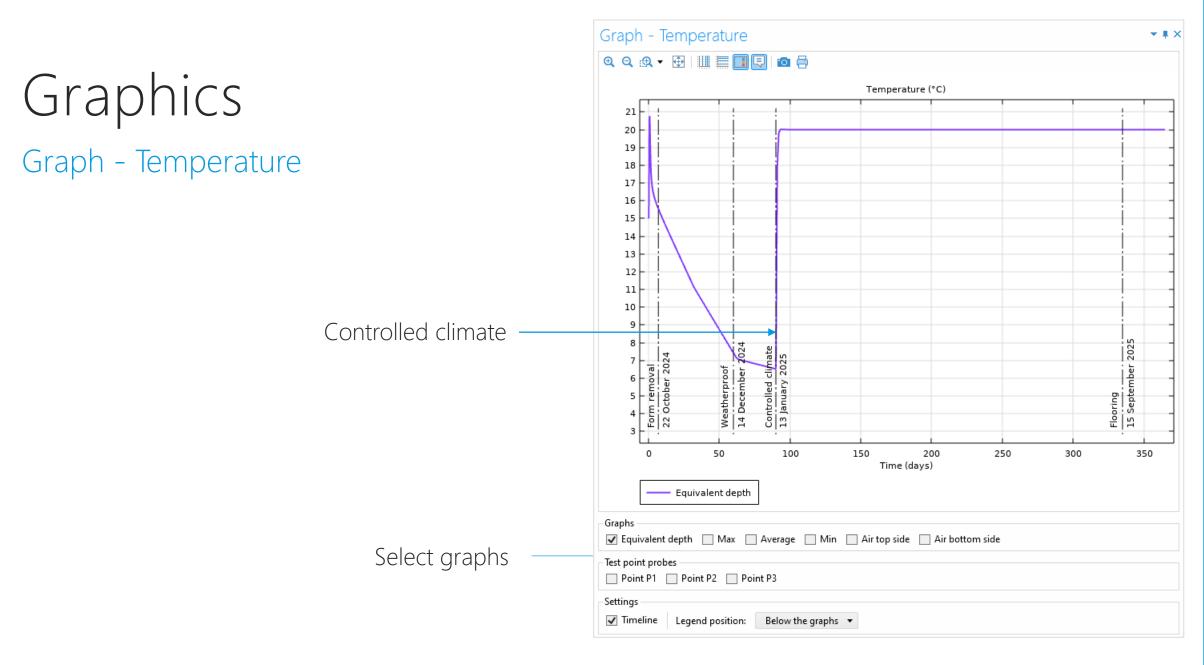
Graphics Graph Menu





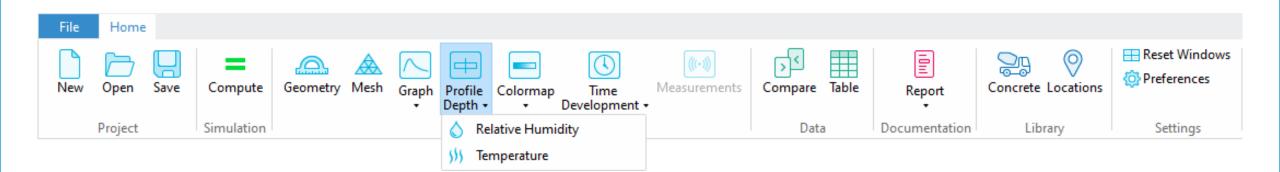


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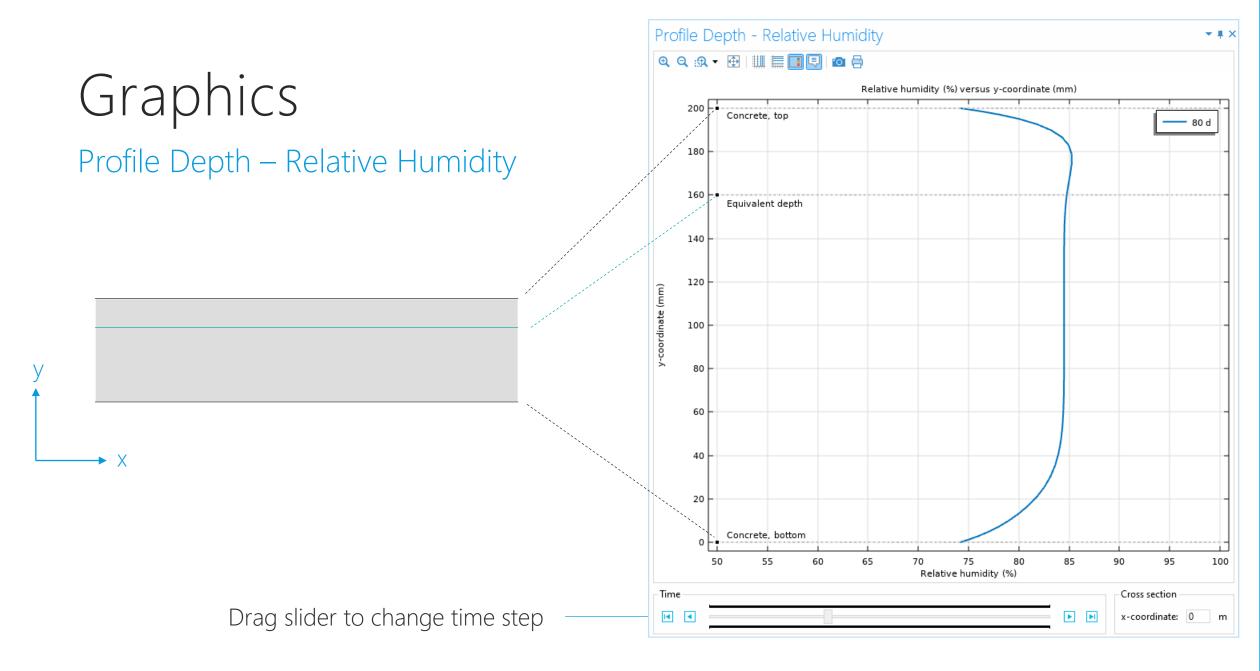


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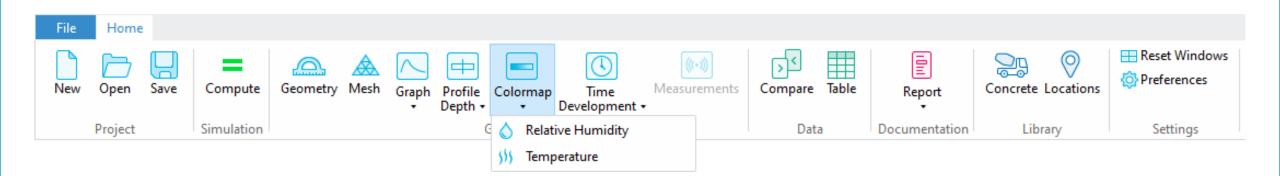
Graphics Profile Depth Menu





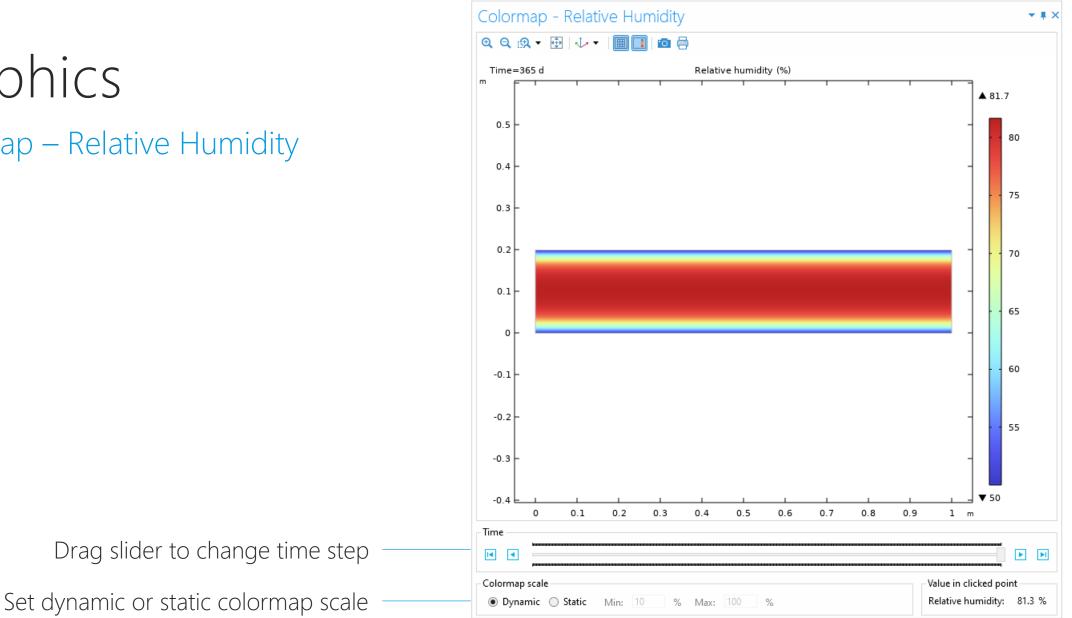


Graphics Colormap Menu

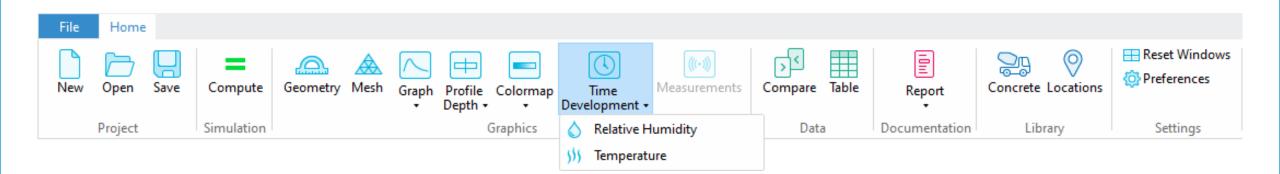




Graphics Colormap – Relative Humidity



Graphics Time Development Menu

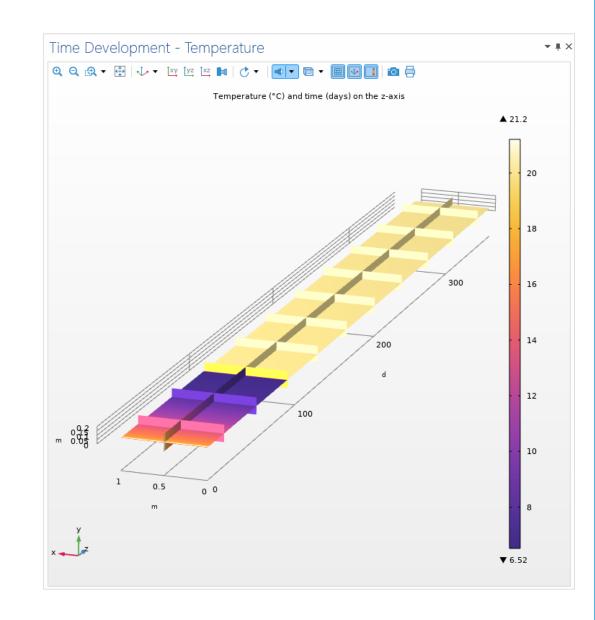




Graphics

Time Development - Temperature

The z-coordinate represent time (days)



Results

Compare data and create reports



Compare

Compare and Visualize Different Solutions

- Each time a solution is computed, relevant data is saved, allowing for easy comparison of different inputs and outputs
- Solutions can be renamed and sections can be filtered
- Plots can be updated automatically

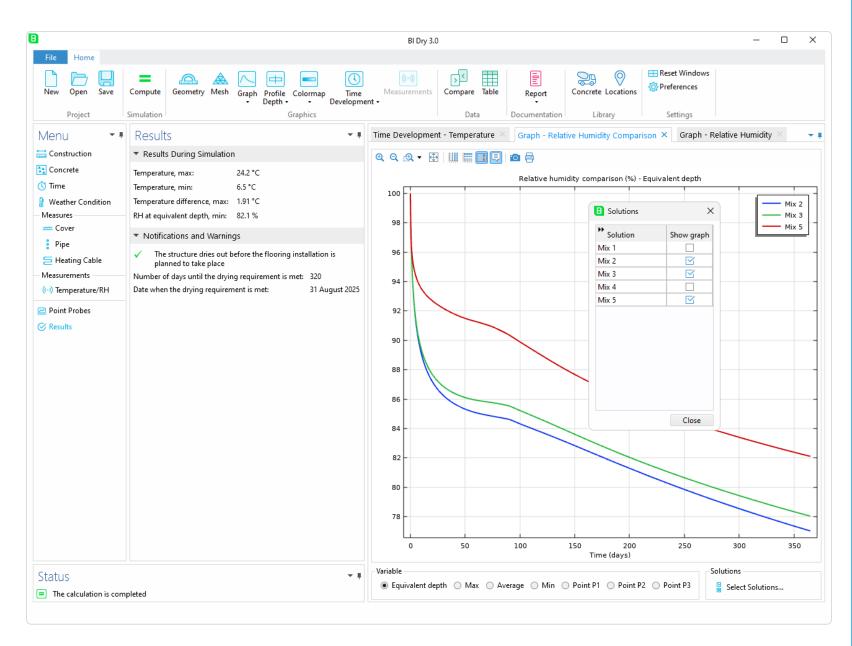
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			Concrete, drying requirements [%]	85	85	85						
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Compare

Visualize

 Easy to rename and enable/disable the visualization of different solutions



Report Microsoft Word

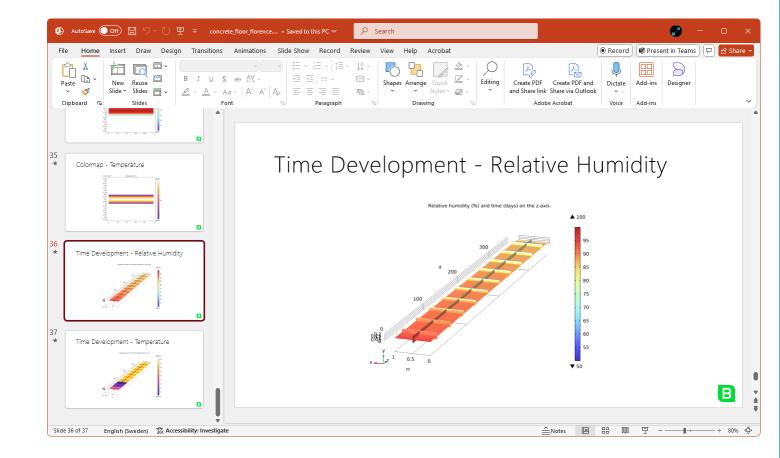
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Report

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		OK	Ca	ancel



Set language, region, appearance, and more



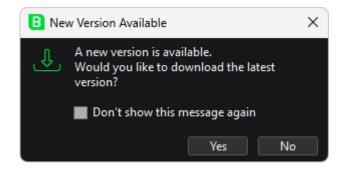
Local Settings

- Language can be set to English or Swedish
- If the region is set to Sweden, precipitation data averaged from 1991 to 2020 is provided by the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI).

Preferences		:
Local settings		
Language:	English	•
Country or region:	Sweden	•
Default location librar	y: Standard library	•
Default location:	Abisko	-
User information		
Name: Daniel Er	icsson	
Company: Deflexion	nal AB	
Visualization	 Dark Light blue vindows after calculation: 	1 •
Graphics window 1:	Graph - Relative humid	lity •
Graphics window 2:	Graph - Temperature	
Graphics window 3:	Profile depth - Tempera	ature 👻
Graphics window 4:	Colormap - Relative hu	midity
Concrete user library	Below the graphs er library is activated until:	• 2025-01-15
🔍 Add or Edit the l	icense Key to Activate	
	electrise key to Activate	

Software Updates and Appearance

- The user can choose between three different themes
- Every time BI Dry starts it can check for new versions automatically



B Preferences	:						
_ Local settings							
Language:	English 👻						
Country or region:	Sweden 👻						
Default location library:	Standard library 👻						
Default location:	Abisko 👻						
User information							
Name: Daniel Erics	son						
Company: Deflexional	AB						
Software updates	ns automatically						
Apperance							
Theme: 🔵 Light O	Dark 🌘 Light blue						
┌ Visualization ────							
Number of graphics wind	dows after calculation: 1 🔹						
Graphics window 1:	Graph - Relative humidity 🔹 👻						
Graphics window 2:	Graph - Temperature						
Graphics window 3:	rofile depth - Temperature						
Graphics window 4:	Colormap - Relative humidity						
Graphs							
Legend position: Below the graphs							
Concrete user library The concrete user library is activated until: 2025-01-15 Add or Edit the License Key to Activate							
	OK Cancel						

Visualizations and Graphs

- The number of graphics windows after a calculation can be adjusted from 1 to 4
- Each graphics window can have a default plot
- For graphs, the default position for the legends can be set

Preferences	s	
Local settings	s	
Language:		English
Country or re	egion:	Sweden
Default locati	ion library	y: Standard library
Default locati	ion:	Abisko
User informat	tion —	
Name:	Daniel Eri	icsson
Company:	Deflexion	nal AB
Software upd		sions automatically
Apperance — Theme: 💿	Light (🔵 Dark 🔘 Light blue
Visualization		
Number of g	raphics w	vindows after calculation: 4
Graphics win	dow 1:	Graph - Relative humidity
Graphics win	dow 2:	Graph - Temperature
Graphics win	dow 3:	Profile depth - Temperature
Graphics win	dow 4:	Colormap - Relative humidity
Graphs		
Legend posit	tion: B	Below the graphs
Concrete use	r library –	
 The con 	crete use	r library is activated until: 2025-01-15
	Edit the L	icense Key to Activate
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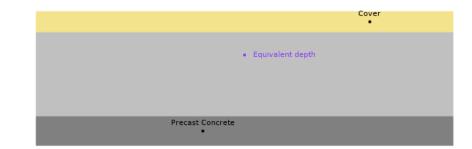
Underlying COMSOL Model

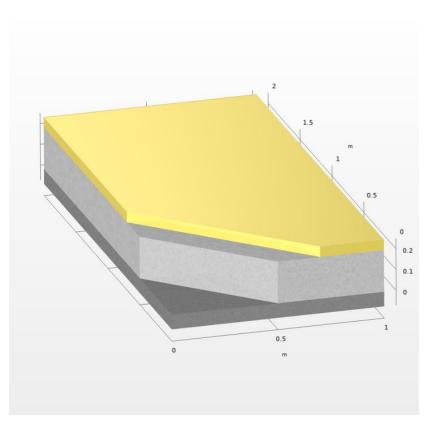
Combining the Model Builder with methods



Geometry

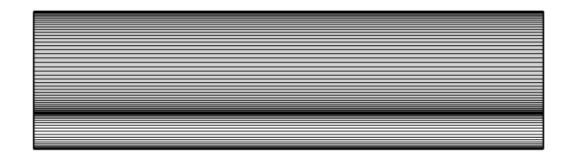
- The 2D geometry is dynamically generated in the Application Builder using methods tailored to the selected construction case
- A secondary 3D component is used to visualize the construction with material colors

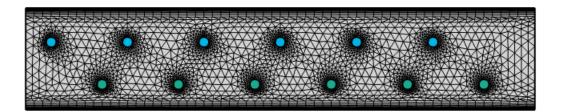


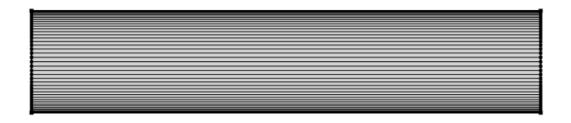


Mesh

- The mesh automatically adjusts to the selected construction scenario.
- If pipes or heating cables are included, boundary layer meshing is added automatically
- The problem is always solved in 2D, but the mesh has only one element in the x-direction, effectively reducing it to 1D when possible







Physics Interfaces

- Heat Transfer in Solids
 - Heat Source
 - Heat Flux
 - Thin Layer
- Stabilized Convection-Diffusion Equation
- Domain ODEs and DAEs
 - Calculate the equivalent time (maturity)

Events

 Efficiently manages dynamic changes in the model such as formwork removal, cover additions, or the activation/deactivation of heating cables or pipes



Access to Specific Functionality

A portion allocated for advanced users and researchers



Concrete User Library

- The Concrete User Library enables researchers to add their own concrete mixes
- Requires a license key which is bound to the MAC address

	B Preferences		×
	Local settings		
	Language:	Englis	h 🔹
	Country or region:	Swede	en 🔻
	Default location library:	Stand	ard library 🔹
	Default location:	Abisko	•
B Concrete User Library	- 0	×	
License Key for Activation			
Enter the new license key in the field below:			
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			ght blue
			5
Please contact your representative at Heidelberg Materials to obtain a li			
MAC address of this computer, as shown below. The license key will be The MAC addresses of this computer:	bound to this specific compute	r.	alculation: 4 🔹
60-E3-2B-4B-43-52			tive humidity 🔹
60-E3-2B-4B-43-4E 60-E3-2B-4B-43-4F			perature
62-E3-2B-4B-43-4E			- Temperature
	ОК С	ancel	Relative humidity
	Graphs)
		v the gra	phs 🔹
	Concrete user library		
	-	rary is act	ivated until: 2025-01-15
	🔦 Add or Edit the Licen	-	
			OK Cancel

License Keys

- The Deflexional License Manager manages license key generation and integration with the COMSOL App
- Can be tested for free at: <u>deflexional.com/license-manager</u>

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Deflexional License Manager

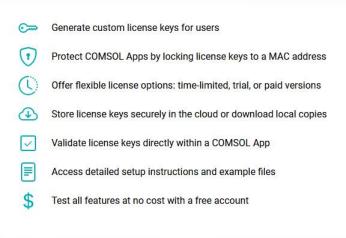
Protection and licensing for compiled COMSOL® Apps

20 Create Account

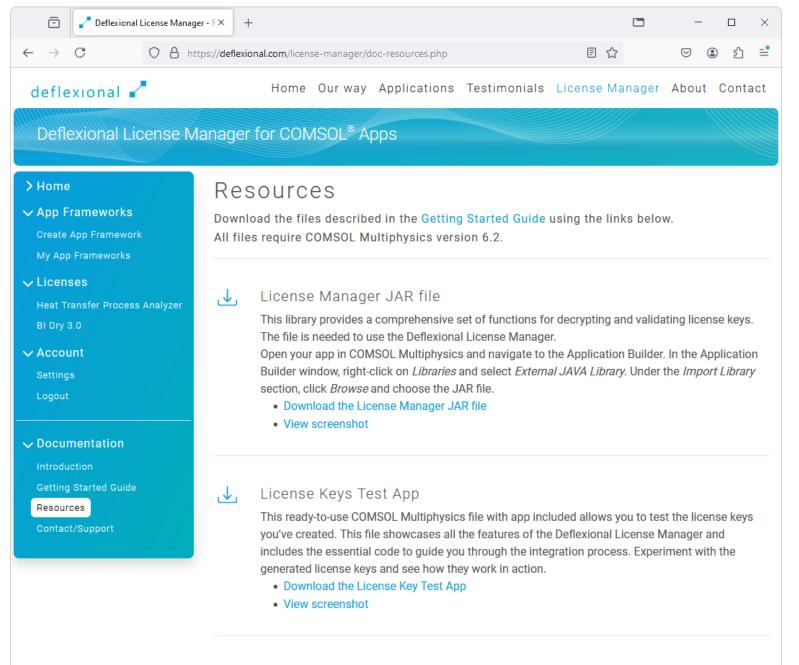
음 Login

Need a solution to protect your compiled stand-alone COMSOL®Apps? The Deflexional License Manager offers a powerful, easy-to-use solution for COMSOL App developers, enabling seamless integration of licensing features into your applications.

Key Benefits



Deflexional License Manag	er - CX +		- 🗆 X
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deflexional 🦨	Home Our way Applications Testimonials	License Manager	About Contact
Deflexional License N	anager for COMSOL® Apps		
 Home App Frameworks Create App Framework My App Frameworks Licenses Heat Transfer Process Analyzer BI Dry 3.0 Account Settings Logout Documentation Introduction Getting Started Guide Resources Contact/Support 	BIDry 3.0 EList License Keys Create New License Number Trial license Lock license key to MAC address MAC address:* ? 60-E3-2B-4B-43-4Y Time limitation:* Version:* 1 year Version:* 1 year Version:* 1 year Version:* 1 year Version:* 1 year John Doe Email:* Company:* john@doe.com John Doe, Inc Country: USA + Create New License Number	and License Key	



Example App



Conclusions

Contractors can now use the latest technology to simulate drying of concrete



Conclusions

- Given the success of HETT²², BI Dry 3.0 has been completely rebuilt on the same platform utilizing COMSOL Multiphysics[®] and COMSOL Compiler[™].
- BI Dry 3.0 uses the Maturity Method and the heat transfer equation plus a convection-diffusion equation for moisture content, coupled with heat transfer.
- By using simulations, significant cost savings and environmental benefits can be realized by choosing the right concrete and construction under certain conditions.
- BI Dry 3.0 is scheduled for release before the end of 2024.
- Any contractor can now leverage the power of COMSOL Multiphysics[®] to simulate the drying of concrete.



We maximize the benefits of engineering simulations

Daniel Ericsson CEO & Founder

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