



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
BERGAKADEMIE FREIBERG

Die Ressourcenuniversität. Seit 1765.

# Unsharp Finite Element Analysis Based on Random Set Theory



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# Unsharp physical quantities

## **Unsharp physical quantities:**

**Unsharp physical quantities are a serious problem often faced especially in geotechnical engineering**

**Geometrical and structural configuration, material parameters, boundary conditions, initial stress state, contact behaviour, load history and other thinkable modelling information remains often unsharp**

**Unsharp physical quantities:**

**Limited and spatially restricted  
geotechnical site investigation**

**Dominant diversity in structure, in  
mechanical, hydraulic and thermal  
behaviour of geotechnical materials**

**Uncertainties in stress history, loading  
conditions and laboratory testing results**

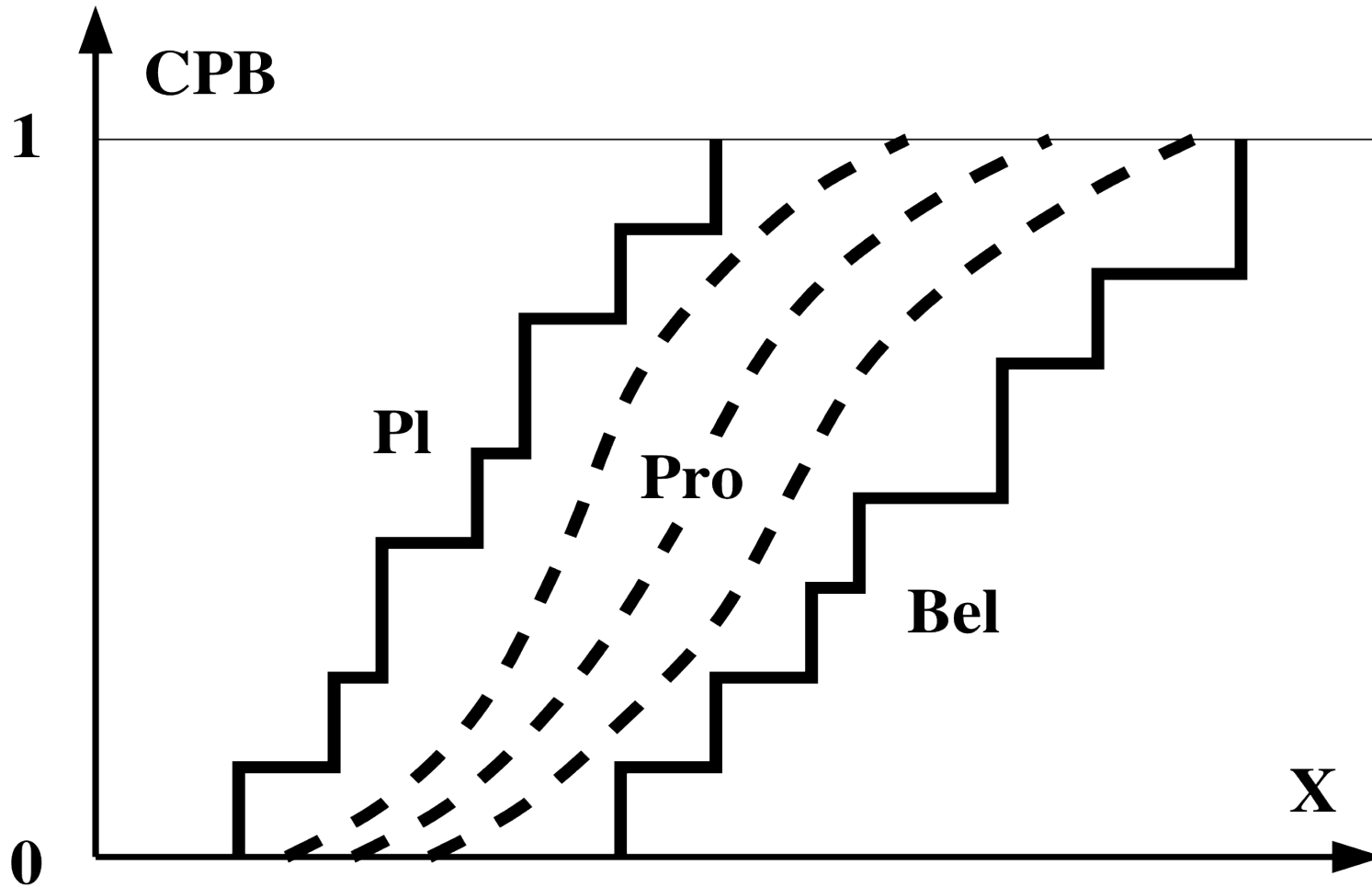


# The Random Set Theory

## The Random Set Theory:

**Unsharp quantities are enclosed in a lower and an upper bound interval range using discrete  $Pl(X)$  (plausibility) and  $Bel(X)$  (belief) functions bracketing possible continuous probability distribution functions  $Pro(X)$**

**Stochastic property of unsharp physical quantities is represented by a cumulative probability CPB**



## The Random Set Theory:

**Unsharp quantities are represented with a set of focal elements defining intervals combined with the probability of inclusion**

$$P \left( m_i \mid \text{MIN}_i \leq m_i \leq \text{MAX}_i \right)$$



## The Random Set Theory:

**In computations, all combinations of focal element limiting values are systematically considered and new limiting values are derived in the result**

**The probability corresponding to the resulting focal elements is the product of the input focal element probabilities assuming probabilistic independence**

## **The Random Set Theory:**

**The Random Set Theory combines interval logic with a probabilistic modelling**

**The number of required computations is significantly lower than in comparable methods such as Monte Carlo simulations**

**The Random Set Theory is best suited for analytical or numerical analyses with limited number of computations**

# Random Set Theory implementation in GIBIANE with object orientation

# The Random Set Procedure Collection:

**#@RSTH.procedur**  
**#@RSTH.notice**

**Object oriented GIBIANE library  
implementing the  
Random Set Theory in Cast3M**

**(Possible) inclusion into Cast3M after  
final validation and verification**

## The Random Set Procedure Collection:

**'#' symbol marks a container of multiple methods in a single file (as METHods are restricted to OBJEcts)**

**'@' symbol marks external contribution**

**Methods create, initialize, operate and evaluate a (repeated or simultaneous) simulation with a given Random Set parametrized in a TABLE variable**

# The Random Set Procedure Collection:

## Creation of a Random Set Object:

**RS = OBJET @RSTH ;**

**Initialisation of a Random Set Object  
with the operator %'RST' (reset) with  
Random Set data in the TABLE R:**

**RS%'RST' R ;**

# **The Random Set Procedure Collection:**

**Operation of a Random Set Object  
with the operators**

**RS%'RSV' (value) and RS%'RSR' (result)**

**Evaluation of a Random Set Object  
with the auxiliary operators**

**RS%'SCV' and RS%'SCS'**

**generating evolution components  
for visualisation and output**

# Trivial analytical example

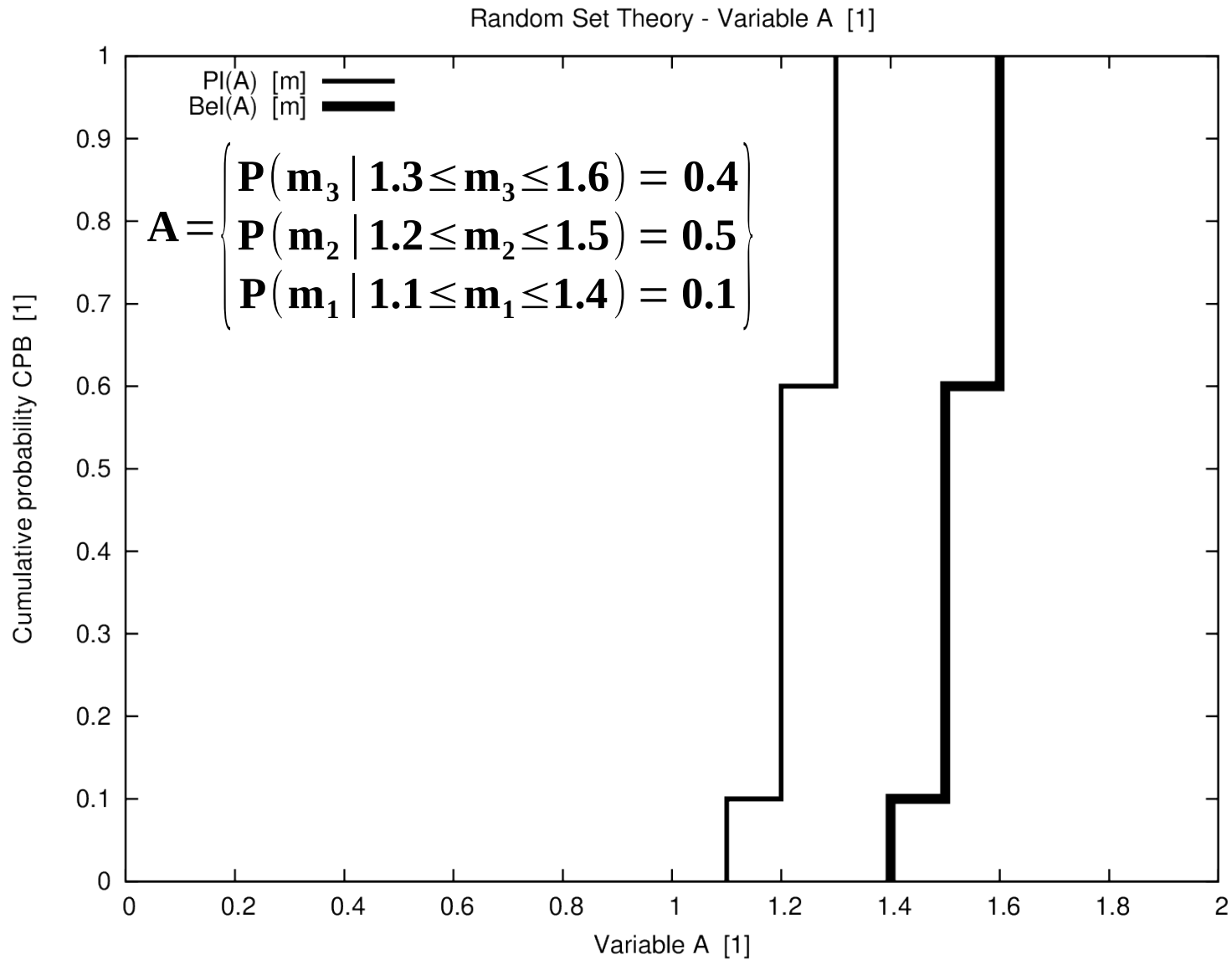


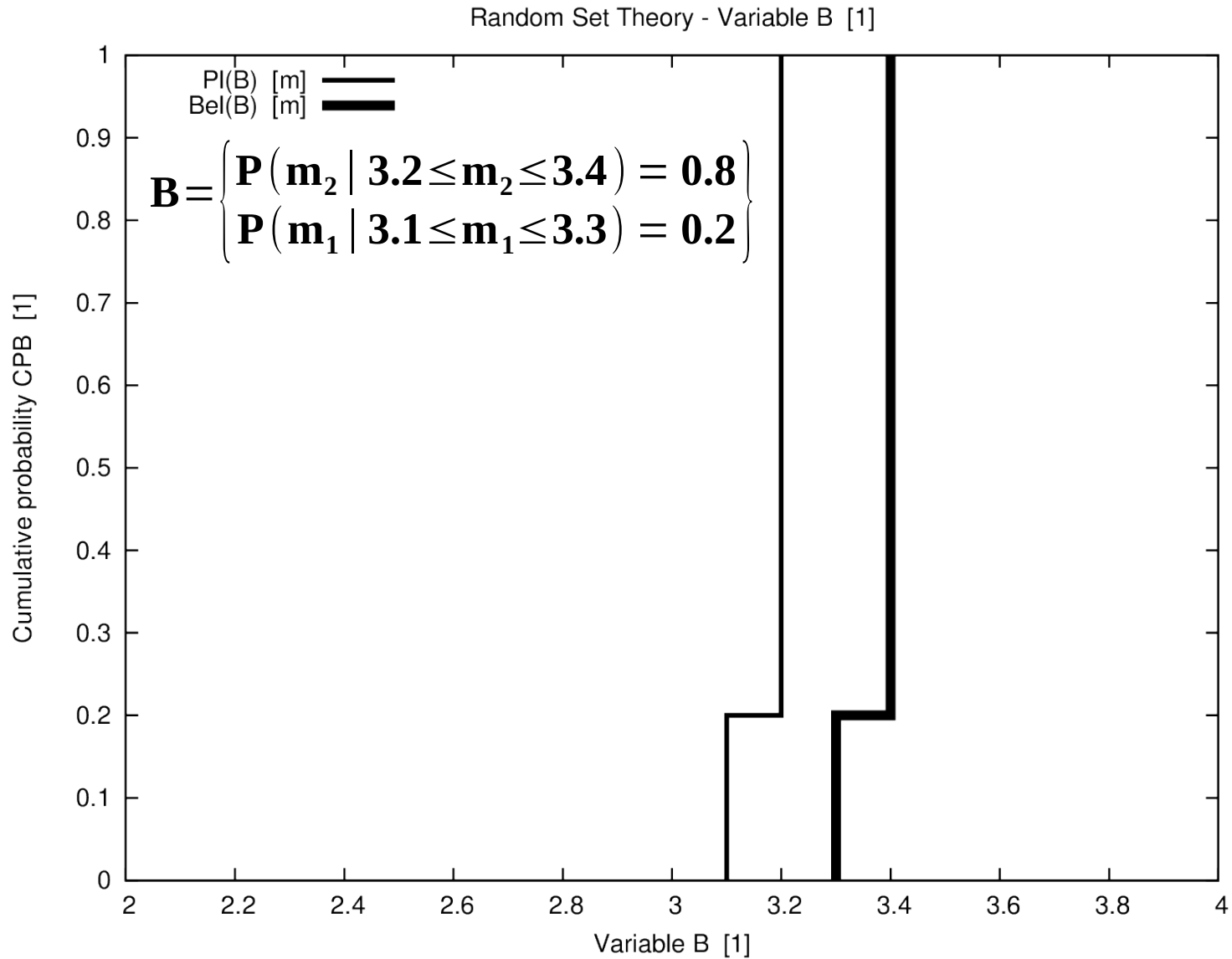
## Trivial analytical Random Set analysis example for three functions:

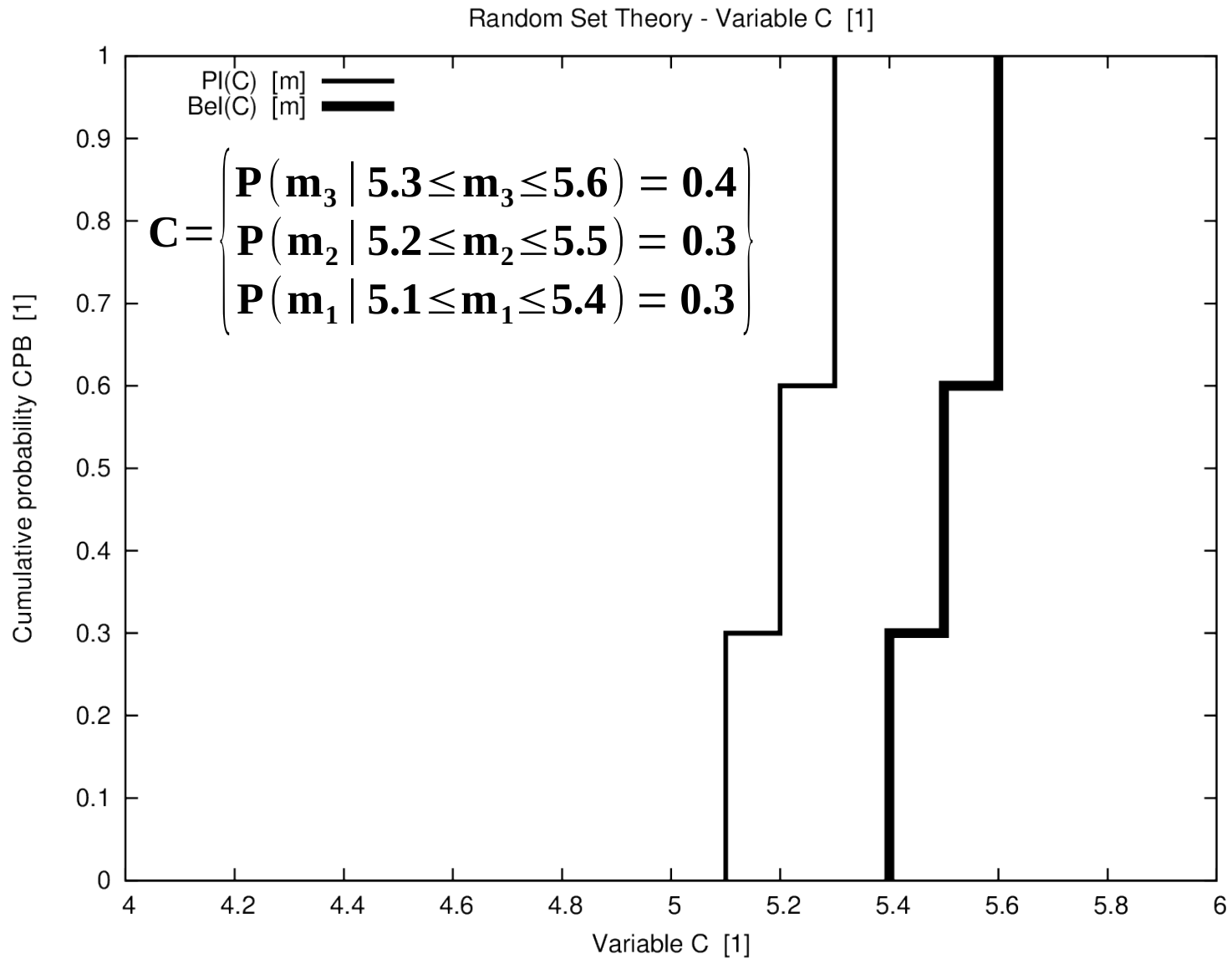
$$PA(a, b, c, d) = a + (b * c * d)$$

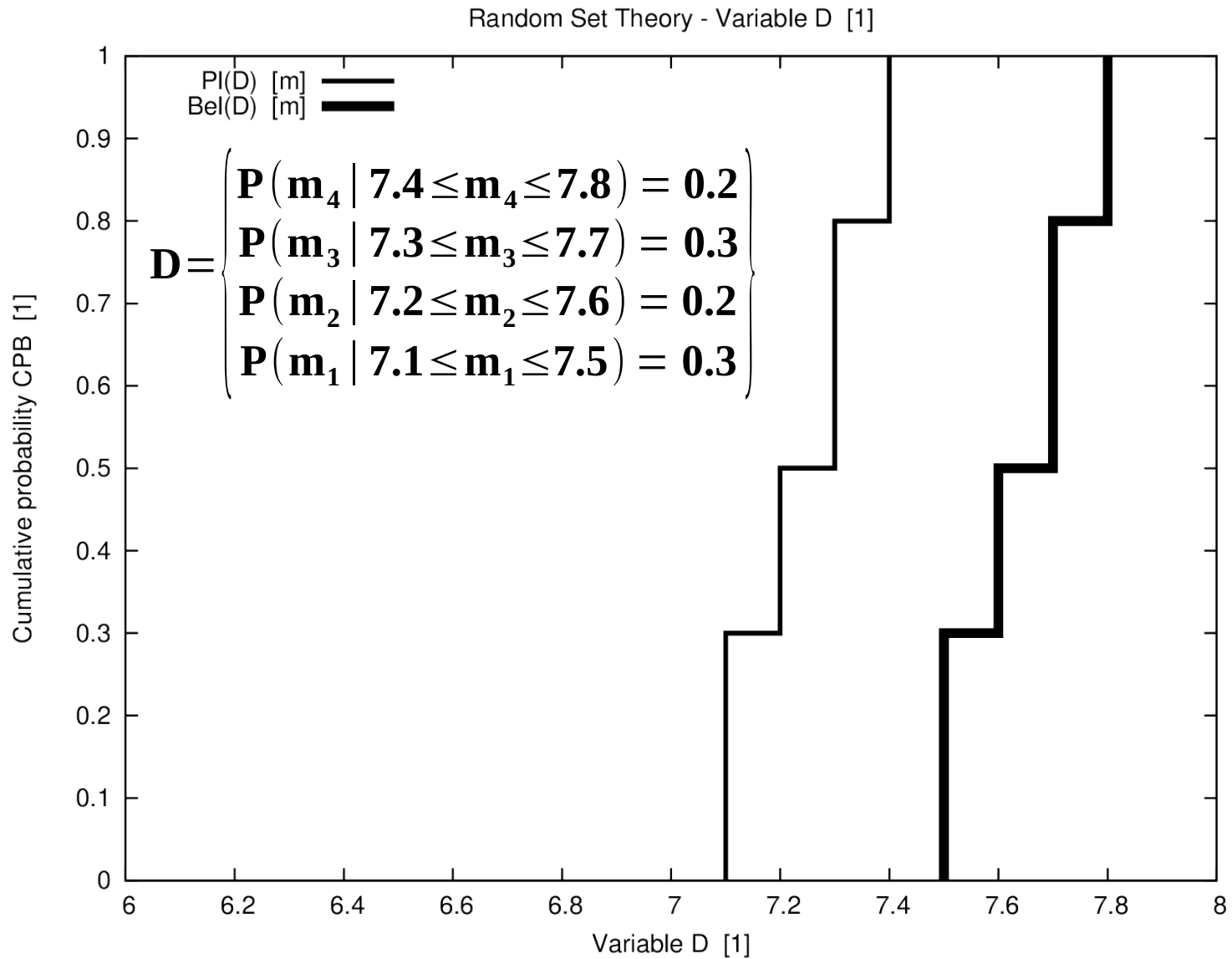
$$PB(a, b, c, d) = (a * b) + (c * d)$$

$$PC(a, b, c, d) = (a * b * c) + d$$





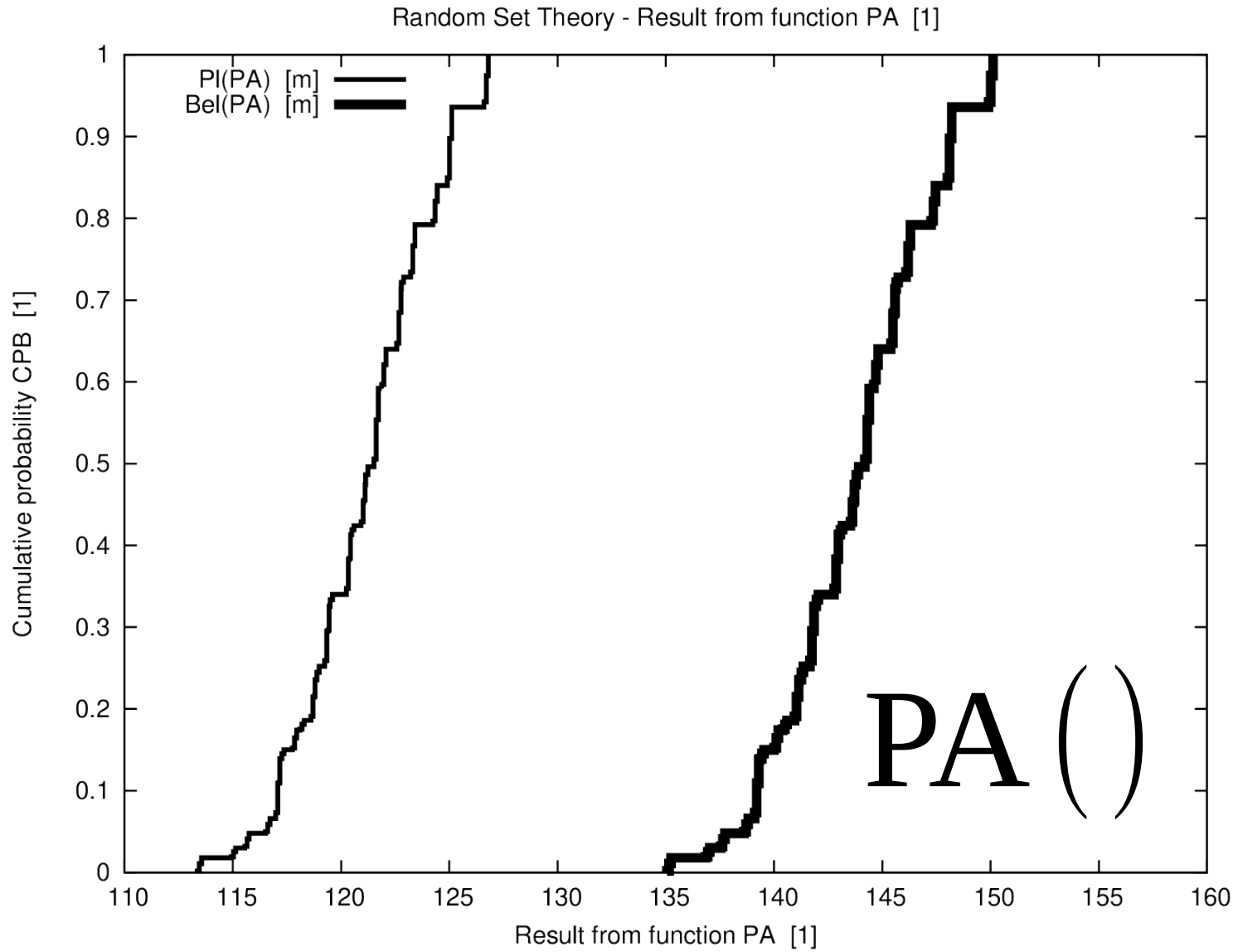


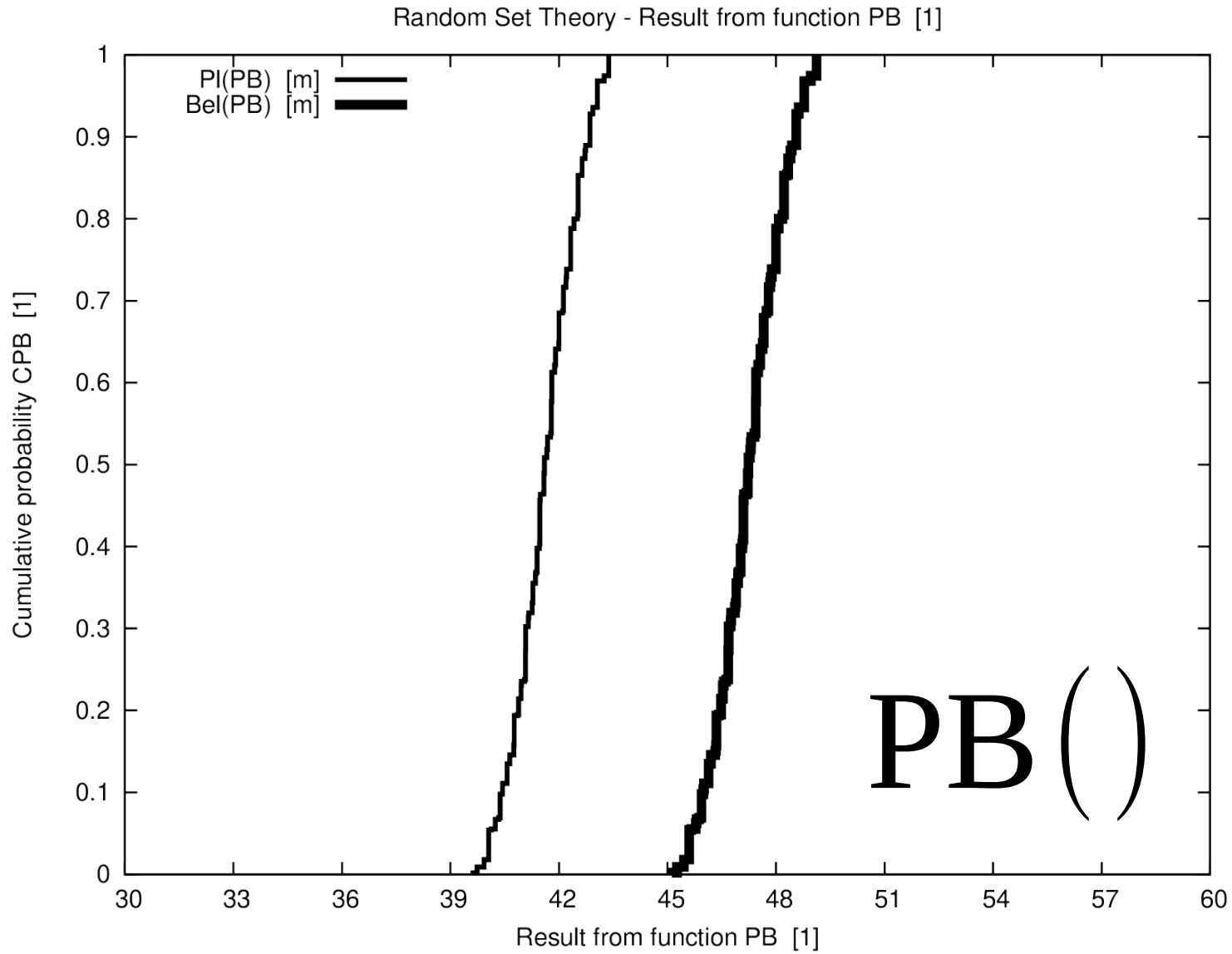


## Number of required operations in order to solve the analytical problem:

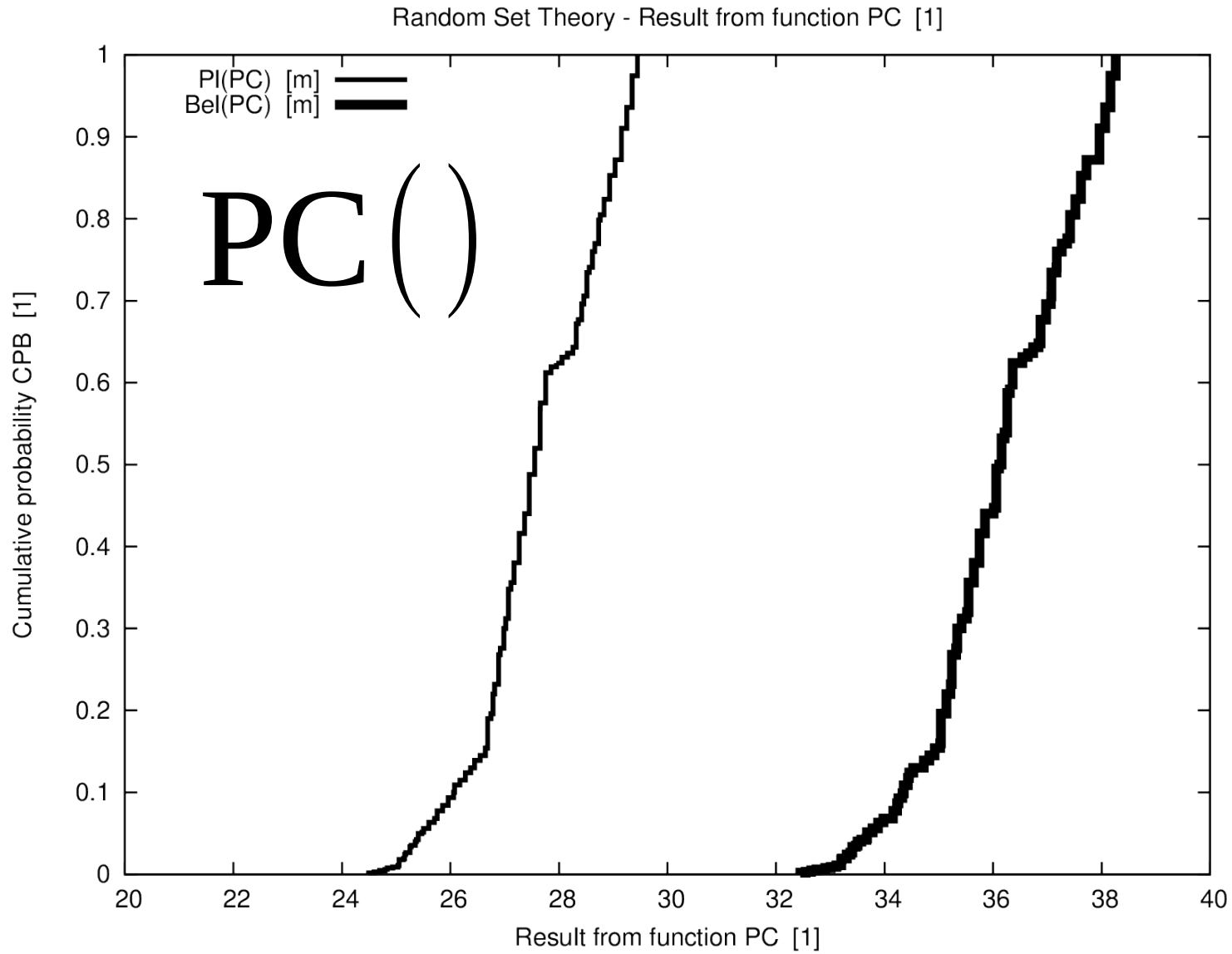
$$N = 2^n \cdot \prod_{j=1}^n n_j(m_i)$$

$$N = 2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = \mathbf{1152}$$



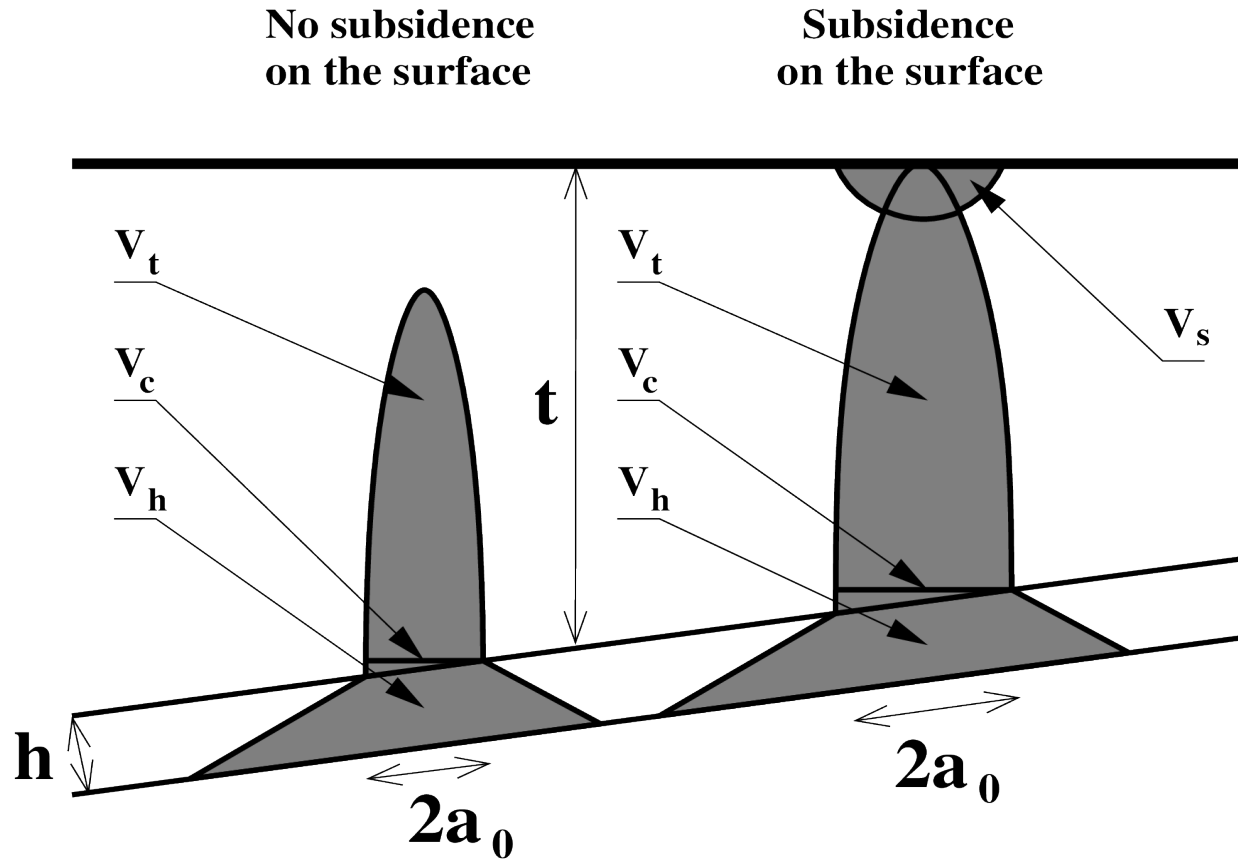








# Applied analytical example



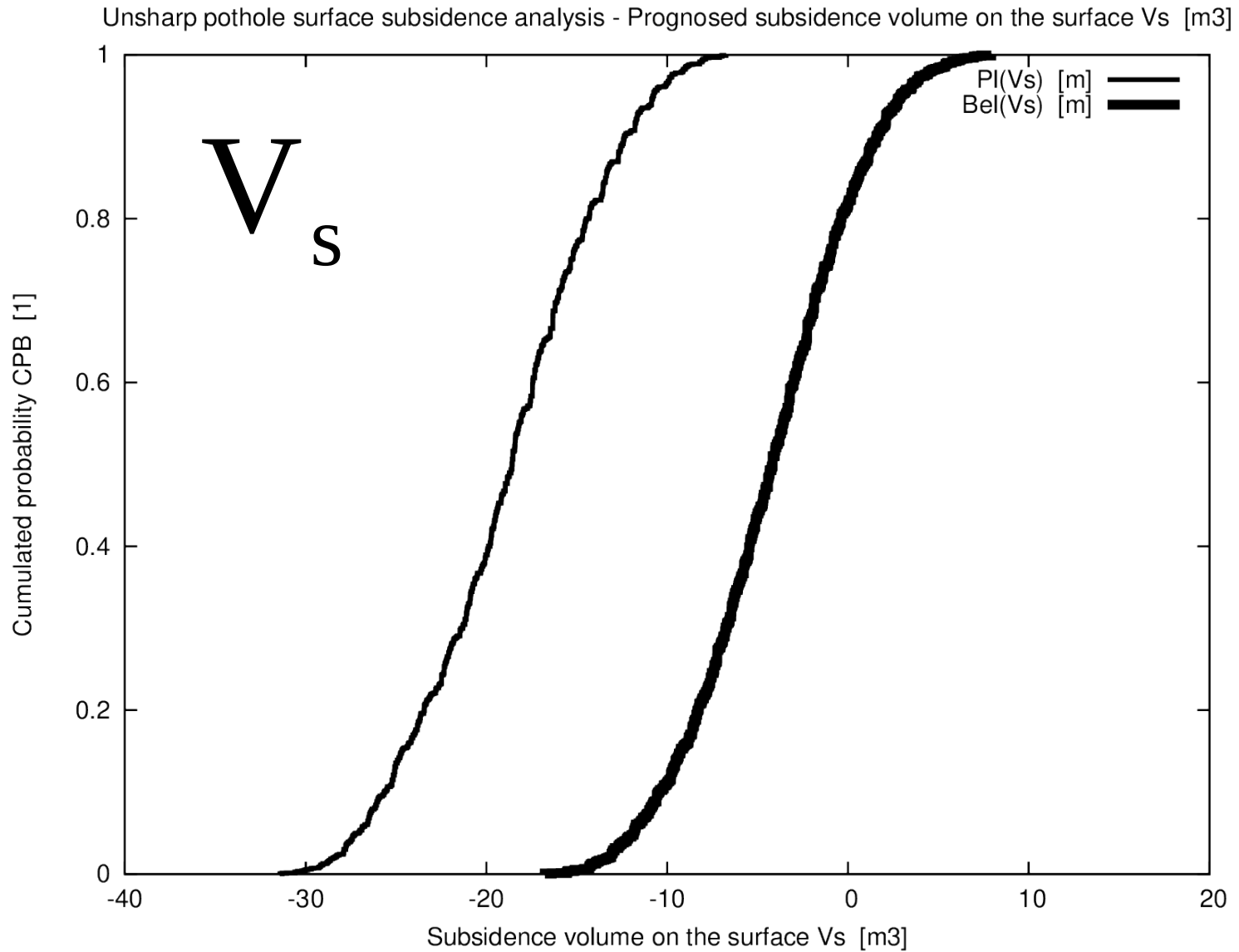
**Analytical pothole subsidence analysis and prognosis with the failure mass volume balance method including six parameters for a single layer problem**

$$V_s = V_s ( h , a_0 , \alpha , \varphi , s , t )$$

**Number of required operations in order to solve the analytical problem with 6 parameters and 3 focal elements each:**

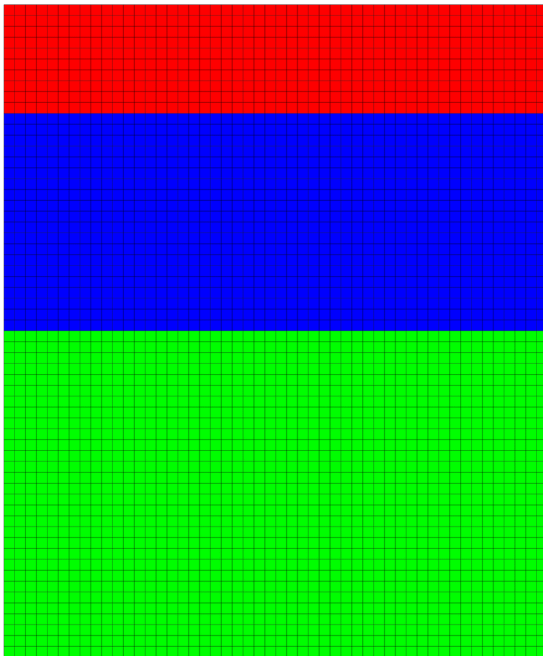
$$N = 2^n \cdot \prod_{j=1}^n n_j(m_i)$$

$$N = 2^6 \cdot 3^6 = \mathbf{46656}$$



# Numerical example with a post-modern geotechnical design approach

## Cast3M

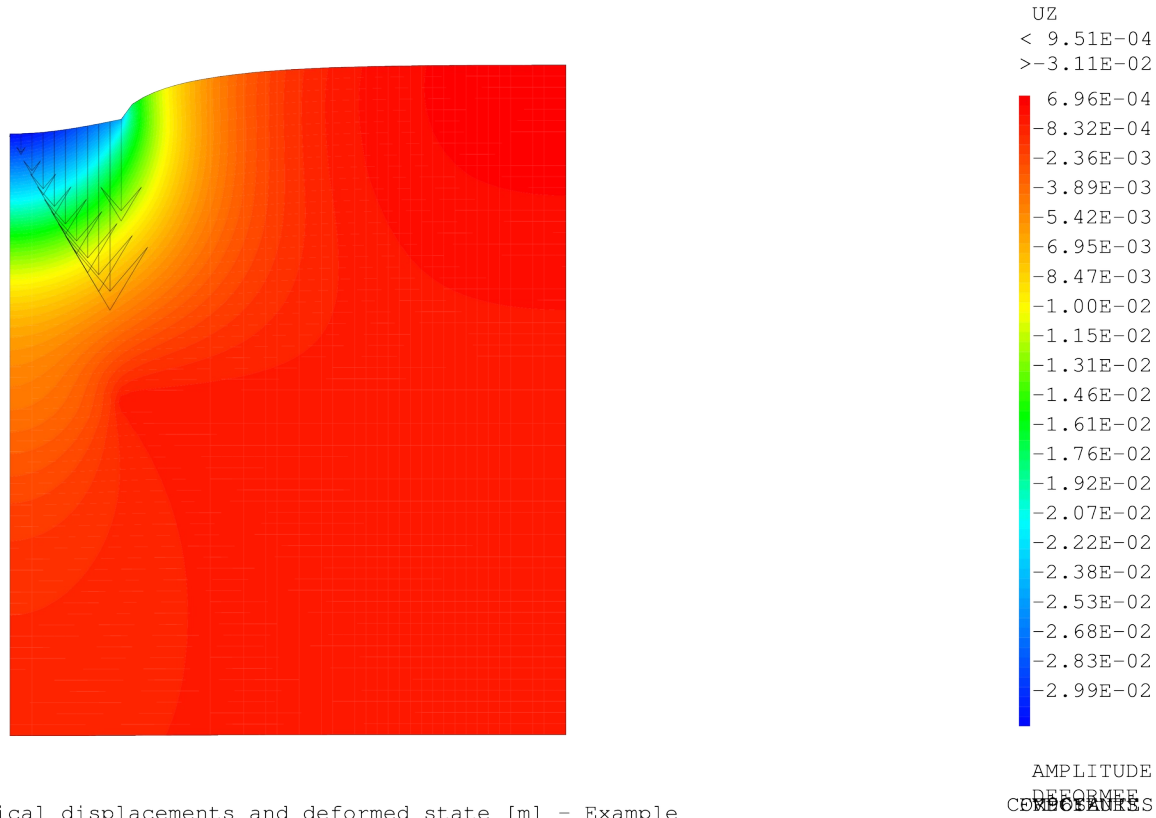


Random-set Theory - Foundation settlement analysis - Mesh

**Demonstration of the Random Set Finite Element Method (RS-FEM) on a very simple example problem (test case):**

- **Axially symmetric mechanical model**
- **Stiff disk foundation on a three layer subsoil with isotropic elastic behaviour**
- **Thin upper SAND layer (index  $S_a$ )**
- **Thick middle SILT layer (index  $S_i$ )**
- **Very thick lower CLAY layer (index  $C_l$ )**
- **Only deformations resulting from the surface load are considered**
- **Young modulus, Poisson ratio and the foundation load are considered to be STOCHASTIC and UNSHARP**
- **Resulting foundation settlement is also STOCHASTIC and UNSHARP**
- **Number of computations is feasible for elastic deformation process**

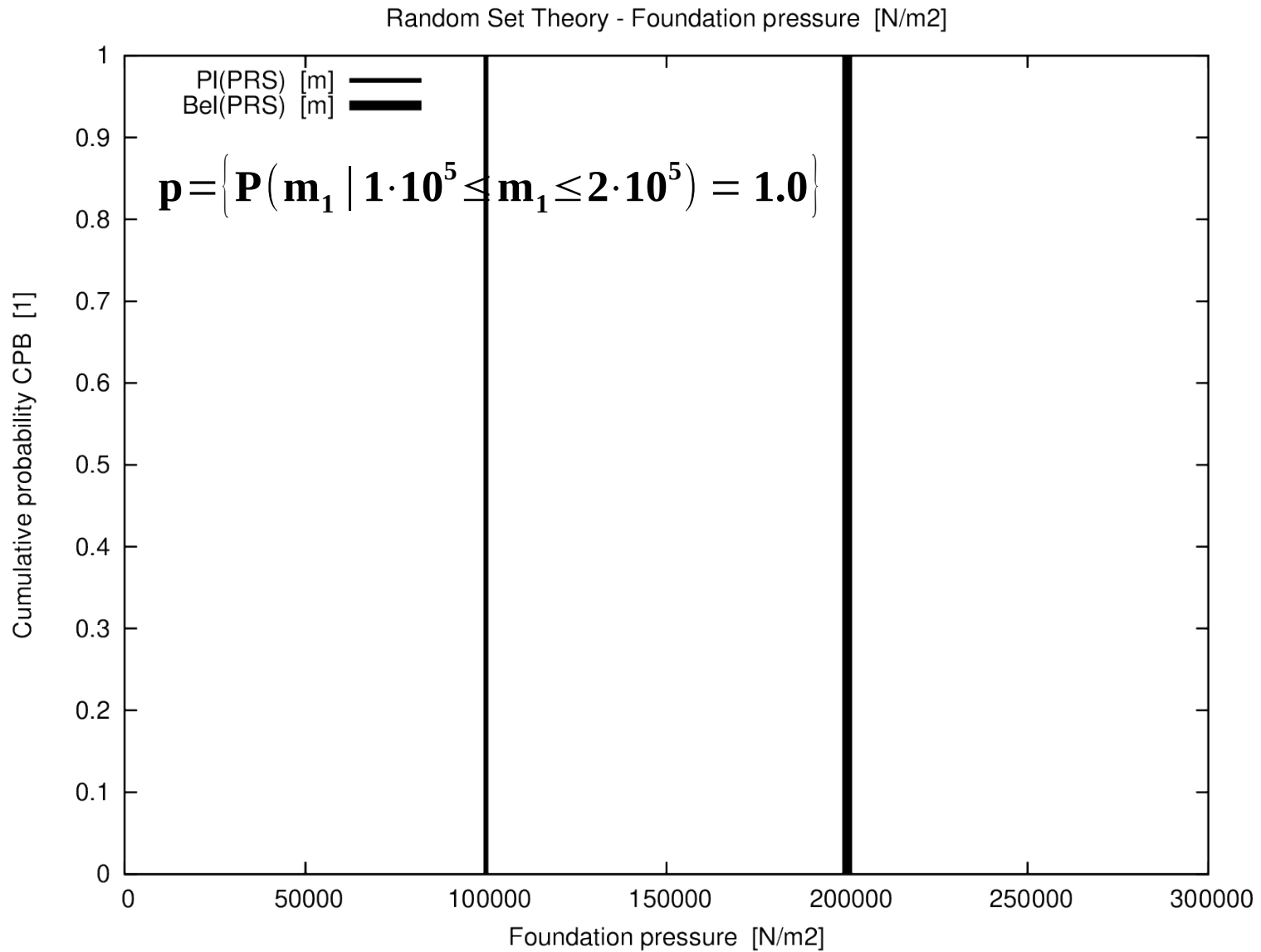
## Cast3M

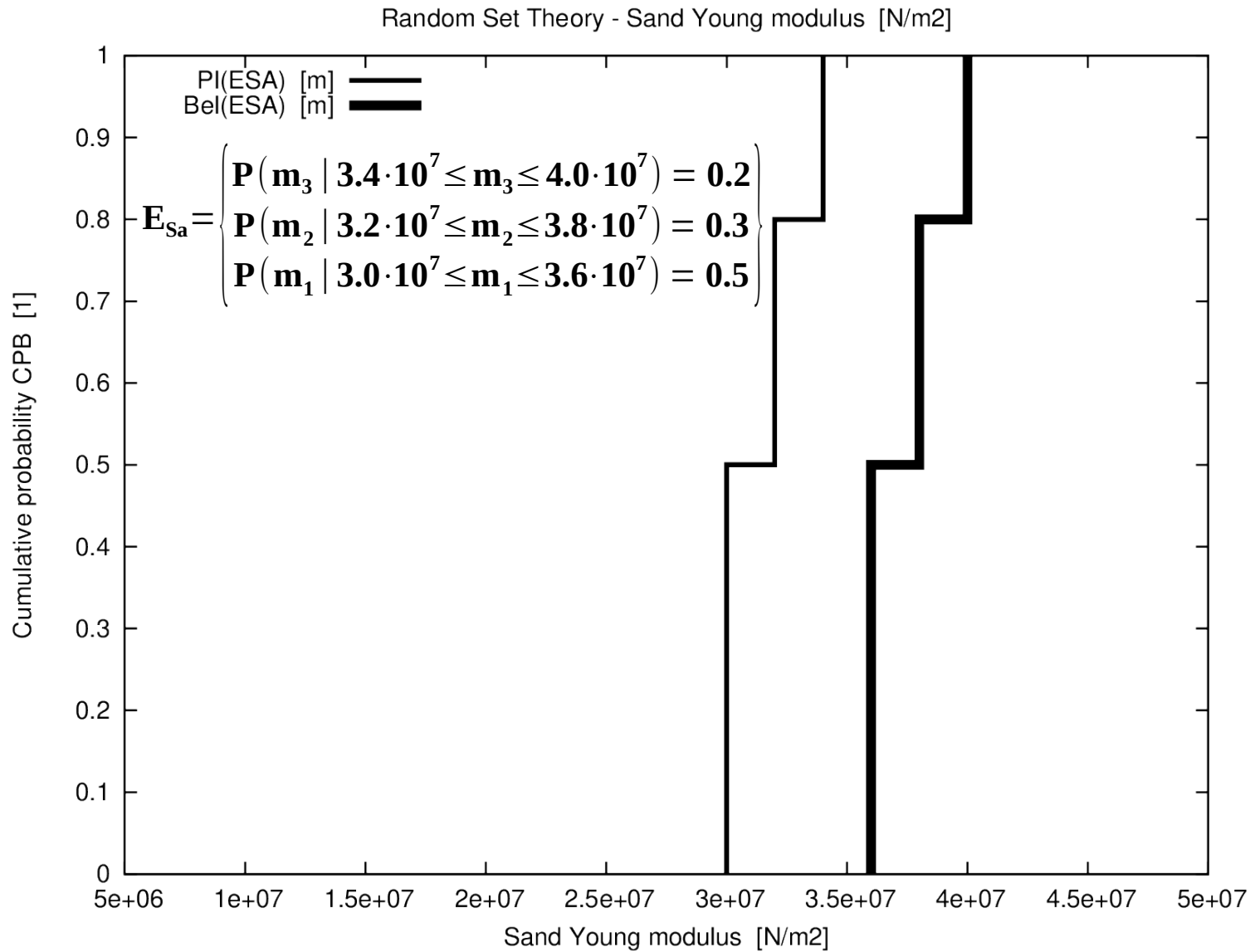


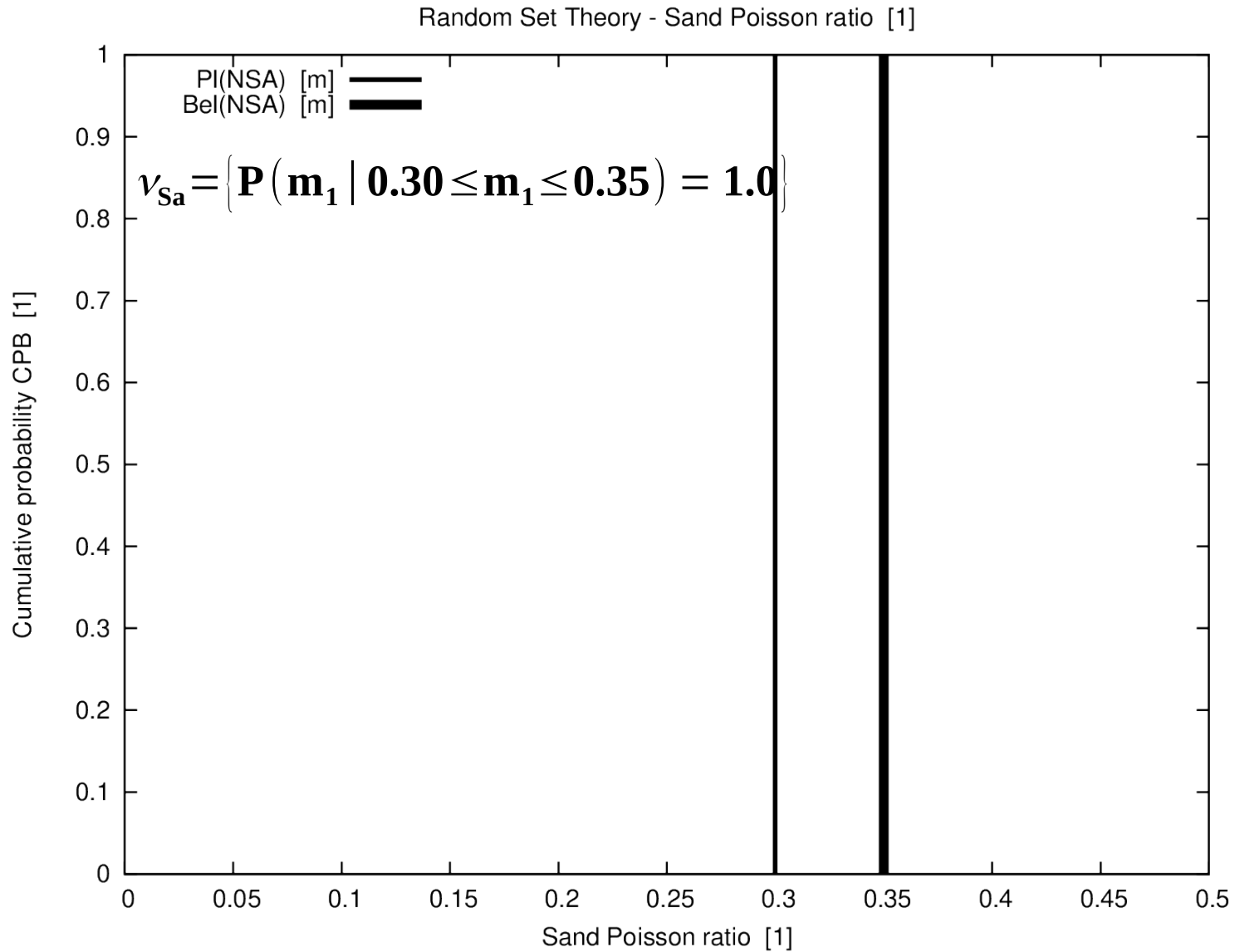
Vertical displacements and deformed state [m] - Example

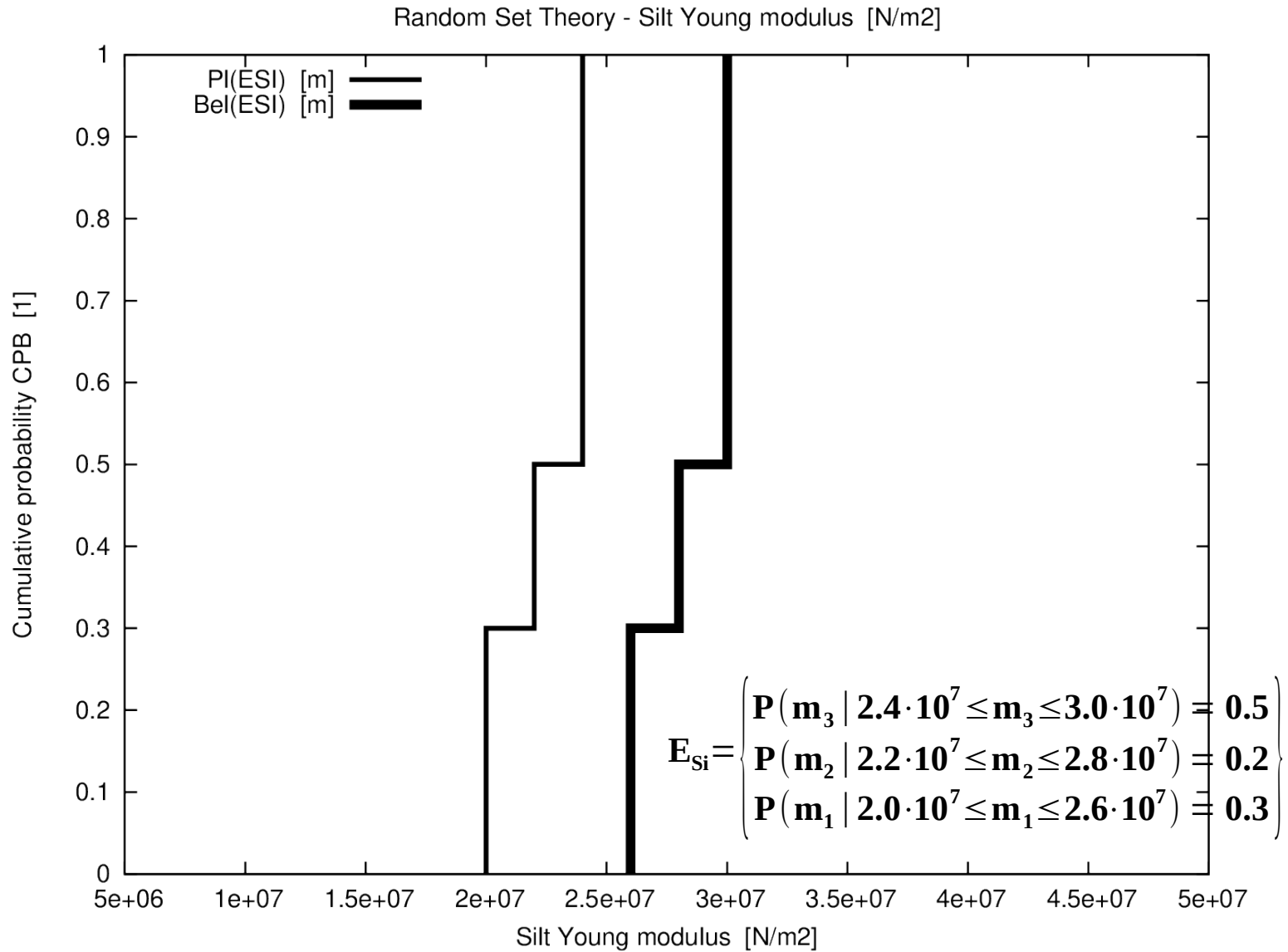
## Example vertical displacement field from a single numerical analysis

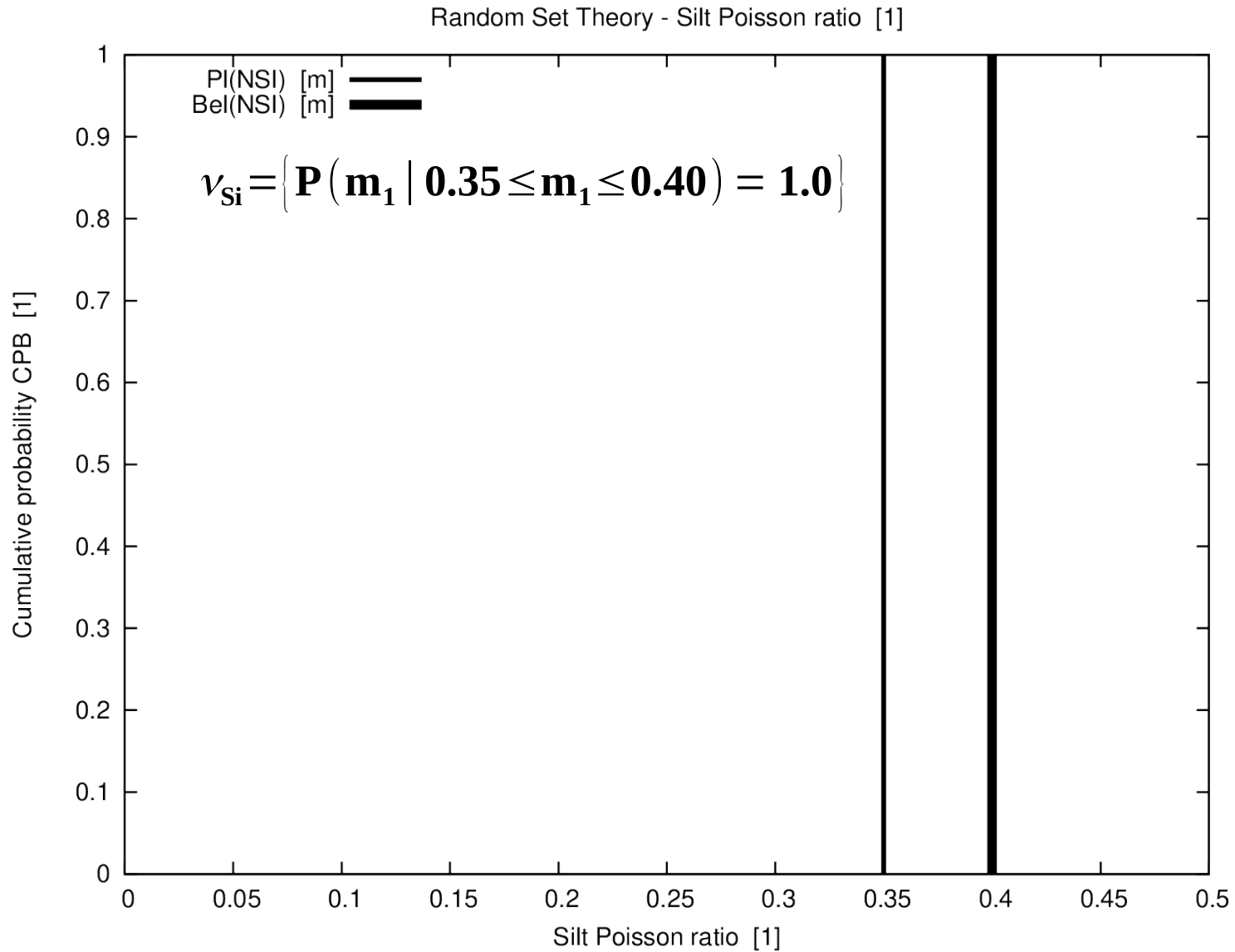


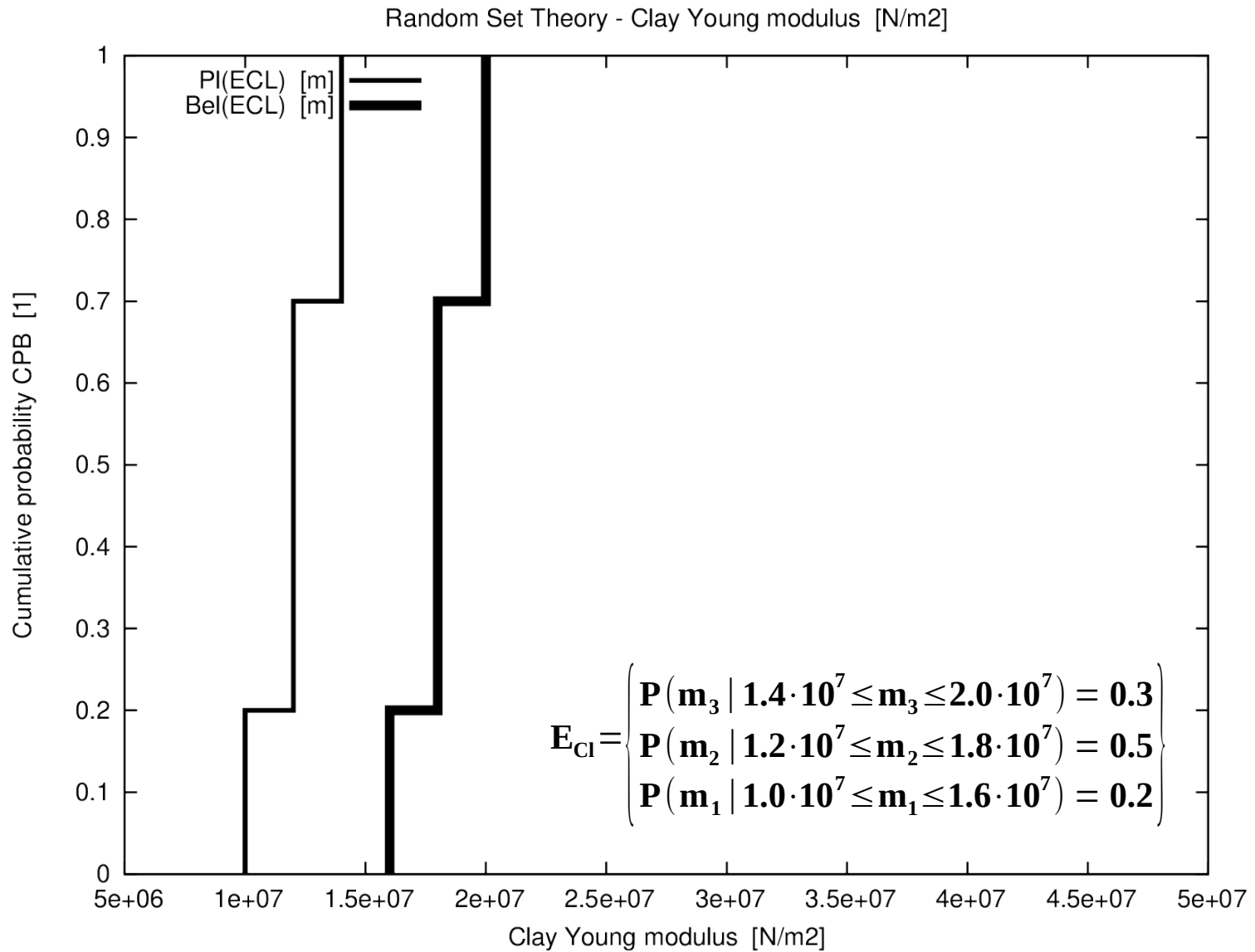


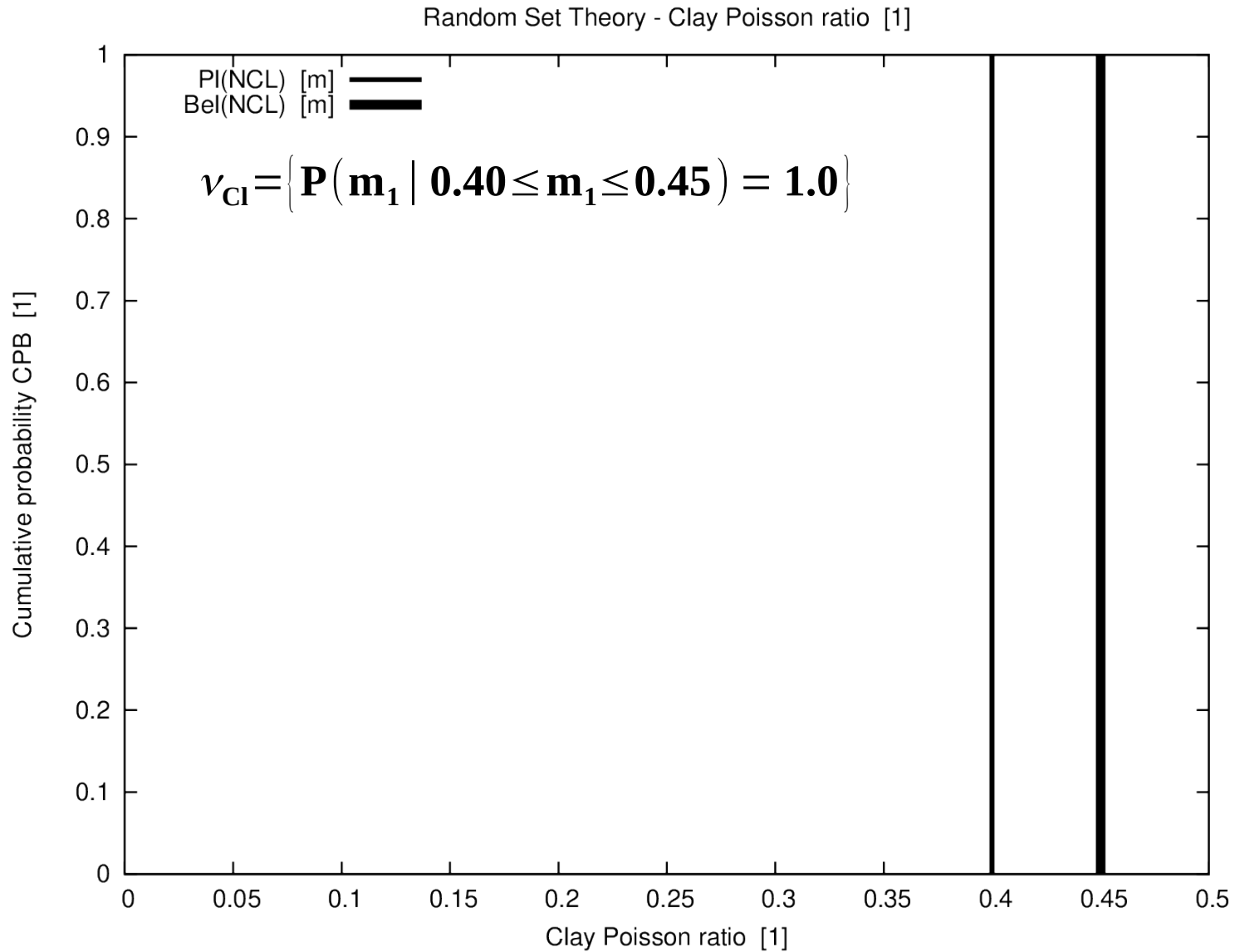










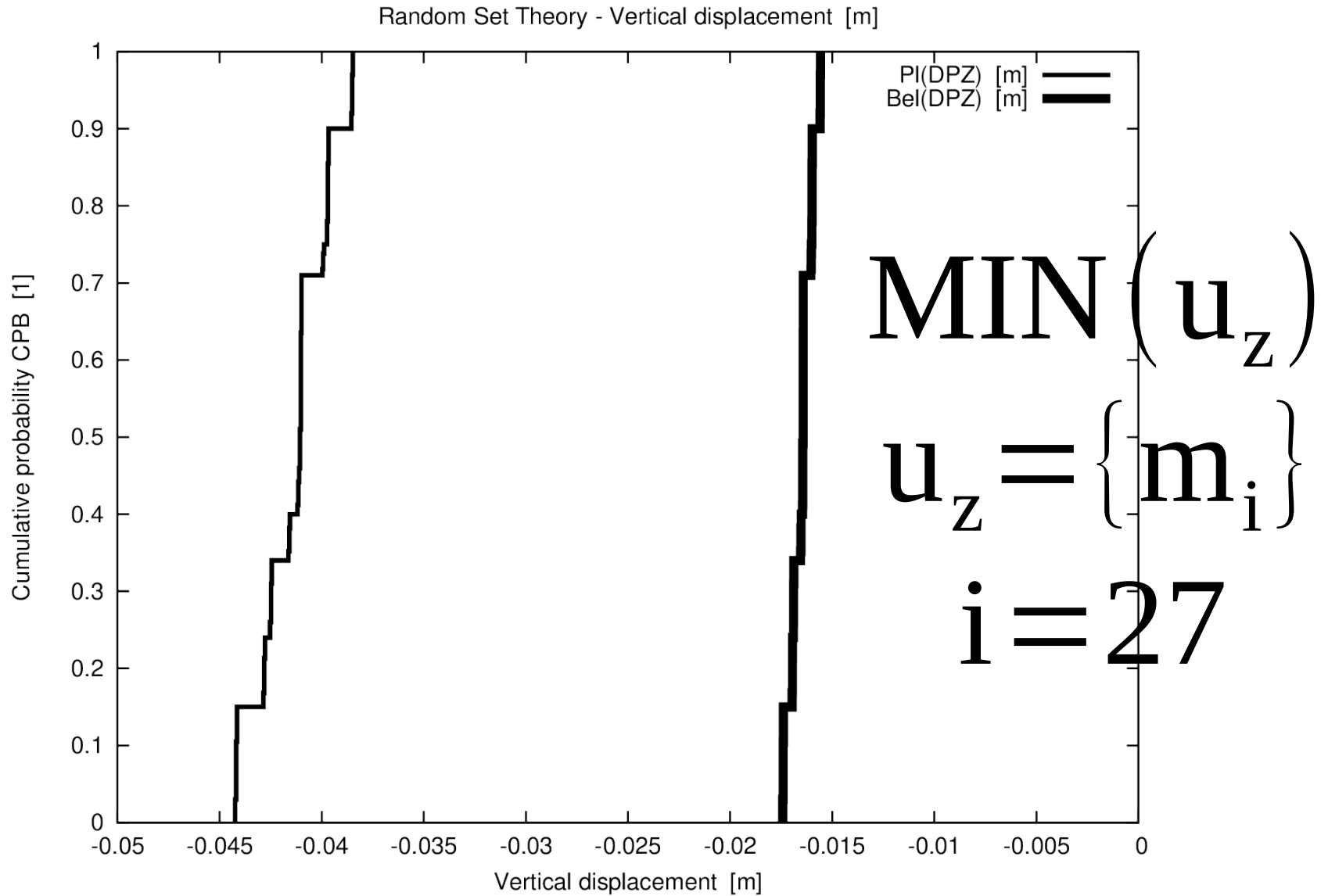


## Number of required operations in order to solve the numerical problem:

$$N = 2^n \cdot \prod_{j=1}^n n_j(m_i)$$

$$N = 2^7 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 = 3456$$







# Summary and conclusions

## **Summary and conclusions:**

**The Random Set Theory has been implemented into GIBIANE with object orientation and is available in Cast3M**

**The Random Set Theory poses no restriction on the physical modelling method and its mathematical formulation**

## **Summary and conclusions:**

**In the GIBIANE implementation of the Random Set Theory only ONE concurrent simulation can be run in Cast3M**

**In order to reduce the number of imperatively required computations, a sensitivity analysis should be combined with the application of the powerful Random Set Theory**

## **Summary and conclusions:**

**The Random Set Theory analysis leads to cumulative probabilities for the calculation results that can be further interpreted with methods of stochastic analysis**

**In risk analysis, required failure probabilities can be derived from Random Set Theory analysis for arbitrary physical systems under consideration**

# Some notes and comments on object oriented programming in GIBIANE

## **Some notes on object oriented programming in GIBIANE:**

**Object variable and function names should always be protected within object methods with apostrophes: %'VAR'**

**Objects are based on the concept of TABLE named fields and (public) internal object variables can be readily accessed: OBJ . 'VAR'**

## **Some notes on object oriented programming in GIBIANE:**

**Variables transmitted to objects are passed by reference and can be modified**

**Object oriented approach offers a well organized and very recommendable method of code and data management in GIBIANE procedures**

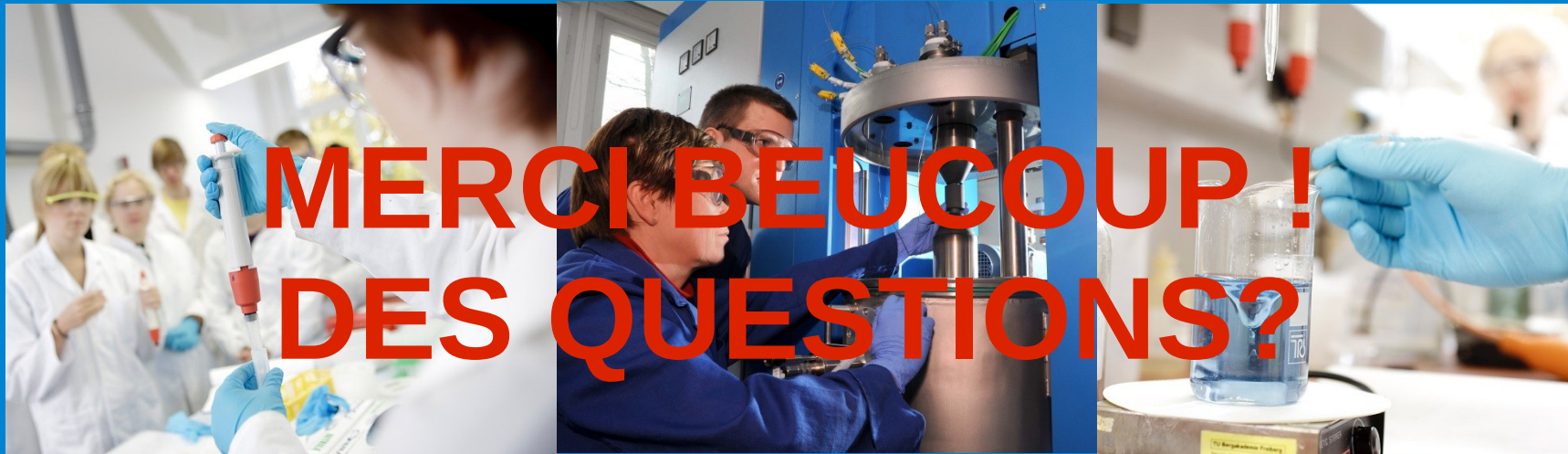




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