

The Role of Earth Observation in Urban Air Quality Monitoring and Forecasting

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Mediterranean City 2014

10-11 June 2014, Athens, Greece



Air pollution is a silent killer

- A large part of European citizens still lives in areas, mainly cities, with **air pollution exceeding the levels** defined by the European Directive (EEA, 2014).
- At current standards, healthcare costs associated with poor air quality are estimated to reach at least **€189 billion/year by 2020 in Europe**, EUROSTAT, 2012).

Sensitivity of Air Pollutants to Meteorological Variables

Variable	Ozone	Particulate Matter
Temperature	++	-
Stagnation	++	++
Wind speed	-	-
Mixing Depth	0	--
Humidity	0	+
Cloud cover	-	-
Precipitation	0	--

Jacob and Winner, 2009

Climate Change, Air Pollution, Mediterranean Cities

Long term effects

- Various feedback mechanisms
- Less precipitation and higher temperature favor O₃ and PM exceedances
- Increase in summertime ozone in urban areas by $\sim 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ decade

Air pollution episodes

- Dust outbreaks and wildland fires will become more important PM sources, increasing natural contributions
- Heat waves linked with air pollution

→ EO can significantly contribute to monitor long term effects and air pollution episodes and minimize the error bars for radiative forcing estimates

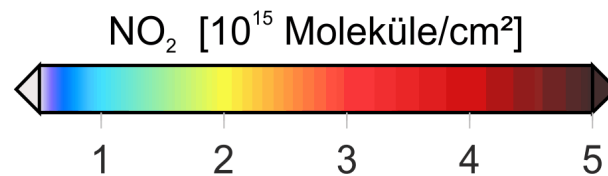
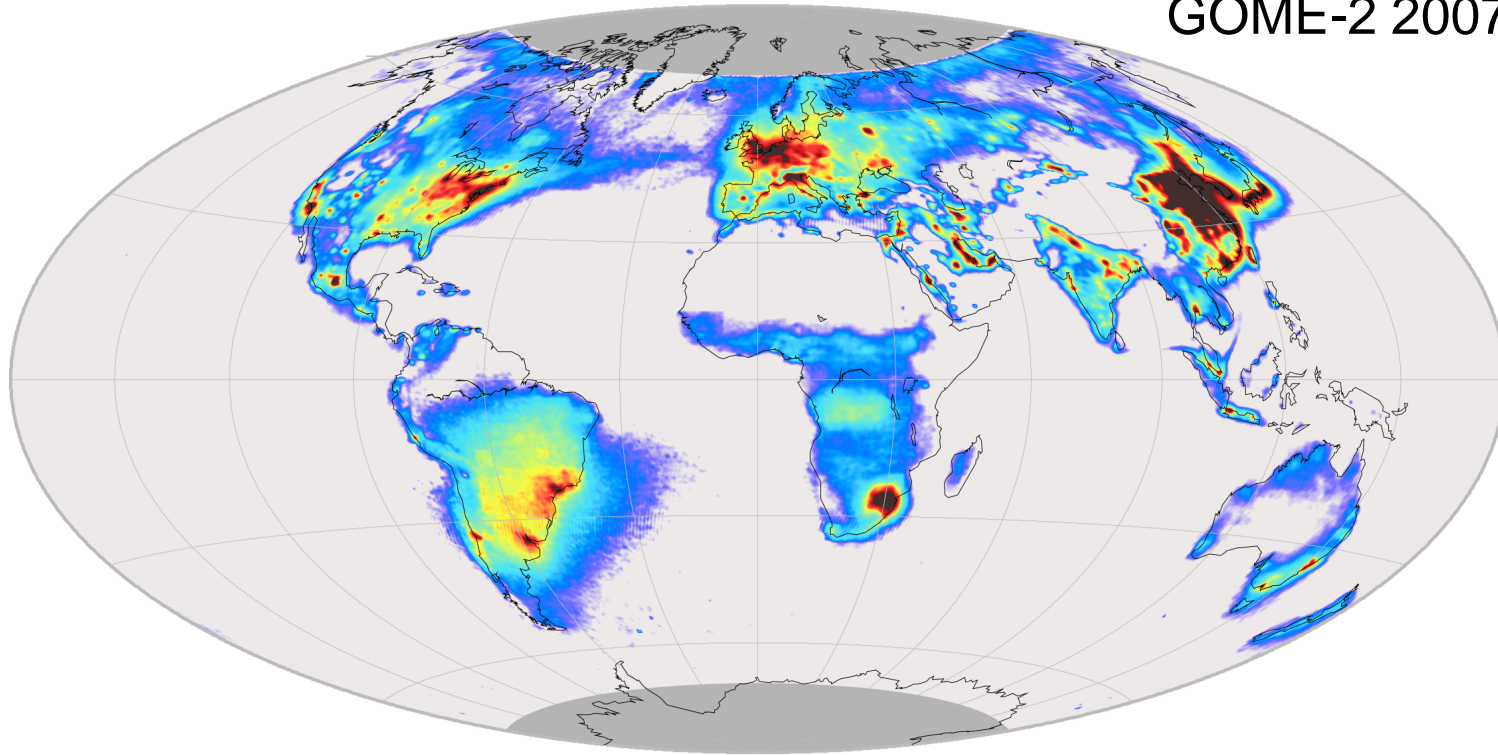
Copernicus AQ Downstream Project PASODOBLE

Development of 30 user-driven services for the regional and local air quality sector in Europe by combining EO data, in-situ data, numerical modelling and information technology for:

- **Satellite-based compliance monitoring support**
for environmental agencies
- **Forecasting and assessment support**
for agencies, authorities, citizens
- **Health community support**
for people at risk, hospitals, pharmacies and doctors

Tropospheric NO₂ monitoring from space

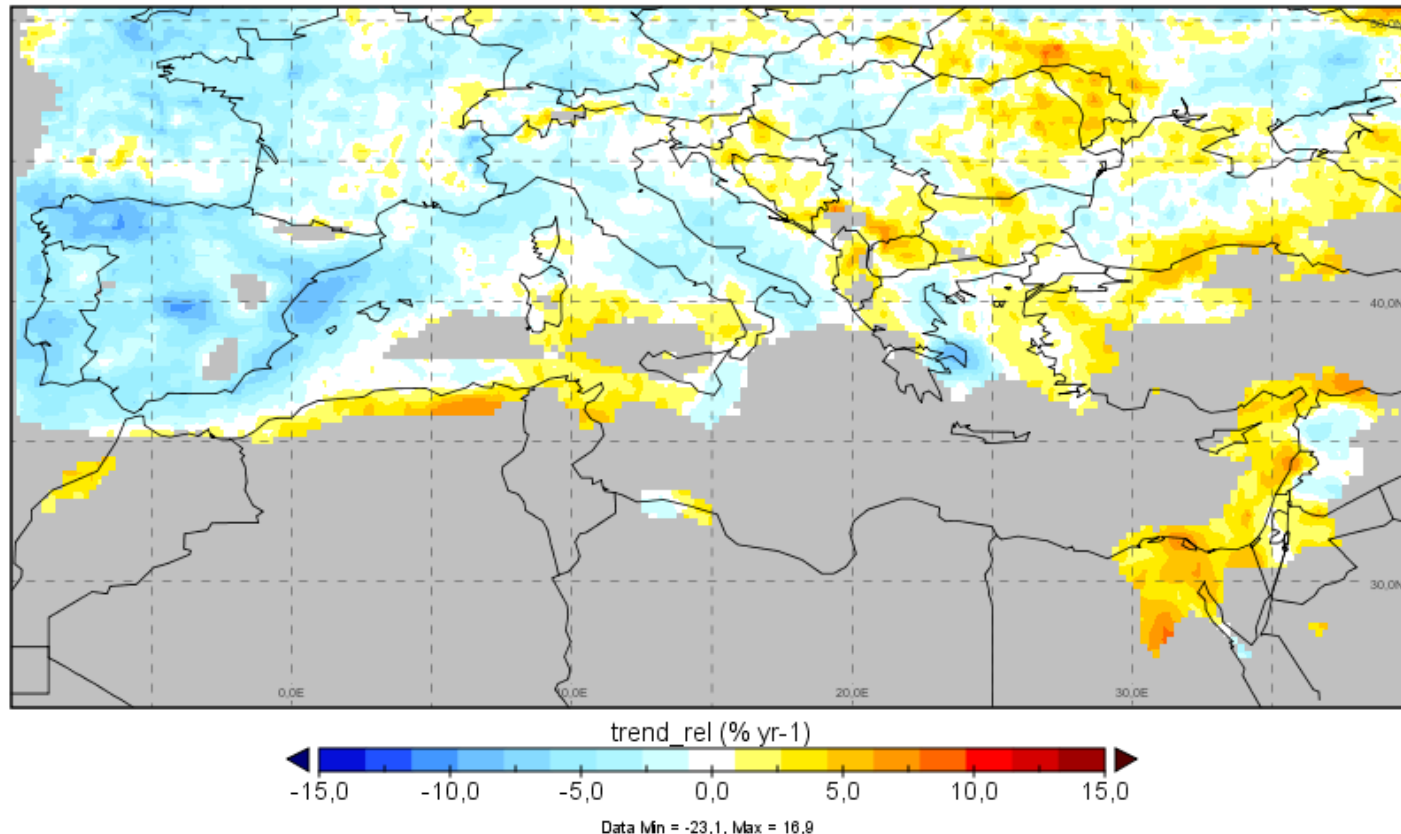
GOME-2 2007-2013
Mean



Tropospheric NO₂ trends from space

Relative Trend in %/year

GOME-2 2007-2013



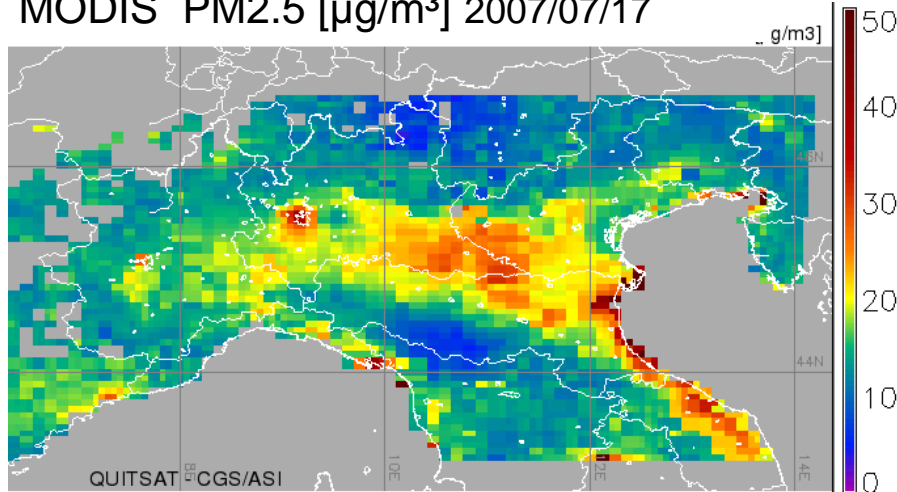
Urban Tropospheric NO₂ Trends

City	Sensor	Period	Relative Trend [%/yr]
Athens	GOME-2	2007-2013	-8.36
	SCIA	2002-2012	-5.58
Thessaloniki	GOME-2	2007-2013	-2.16
	SCIA	2002-2012	-1.09

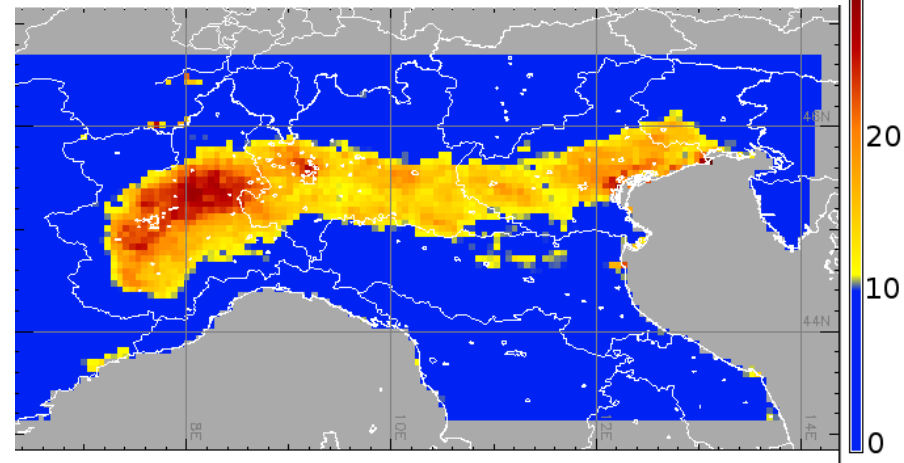
Satellite-based Compliance Monitoring of Partulate Matter

- Facilitate compliance reporting for environment agencies
- Establish satellite data complementary to in-situ data
- Help explain exceedances (local emissions/advected dust)

MODIS PM2.5 [$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$] 2007/07/17



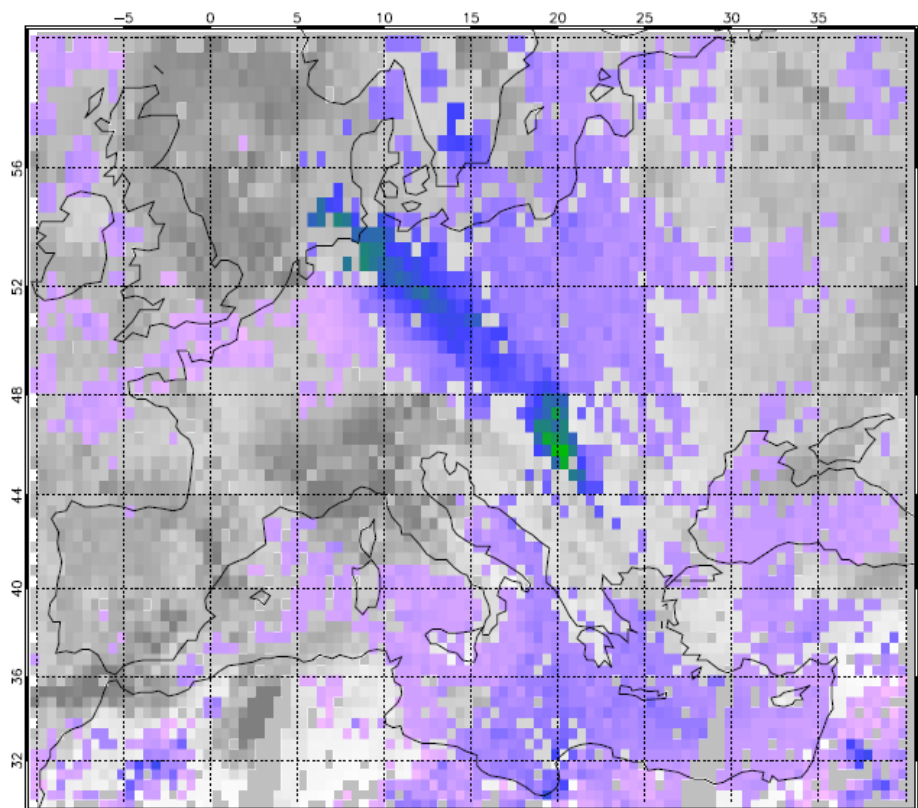
Percentage of days exceeding $25\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



Bias Yearly Mean: PM10: $4\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ PM2.5: $2.5\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Monitoring mineral dust outbreaks with IASI

helps explain exceedances in cities (local emissions/advected dust)



30 May 2008 MetOp/IASI
Horizontal Res 12km
Coverage twice daily

Comparison w/th AERONET
 $R=0.757$
 $\text{RMSD} = 0.174$
 $\text{bias} = +0.003$
 $N = 190$

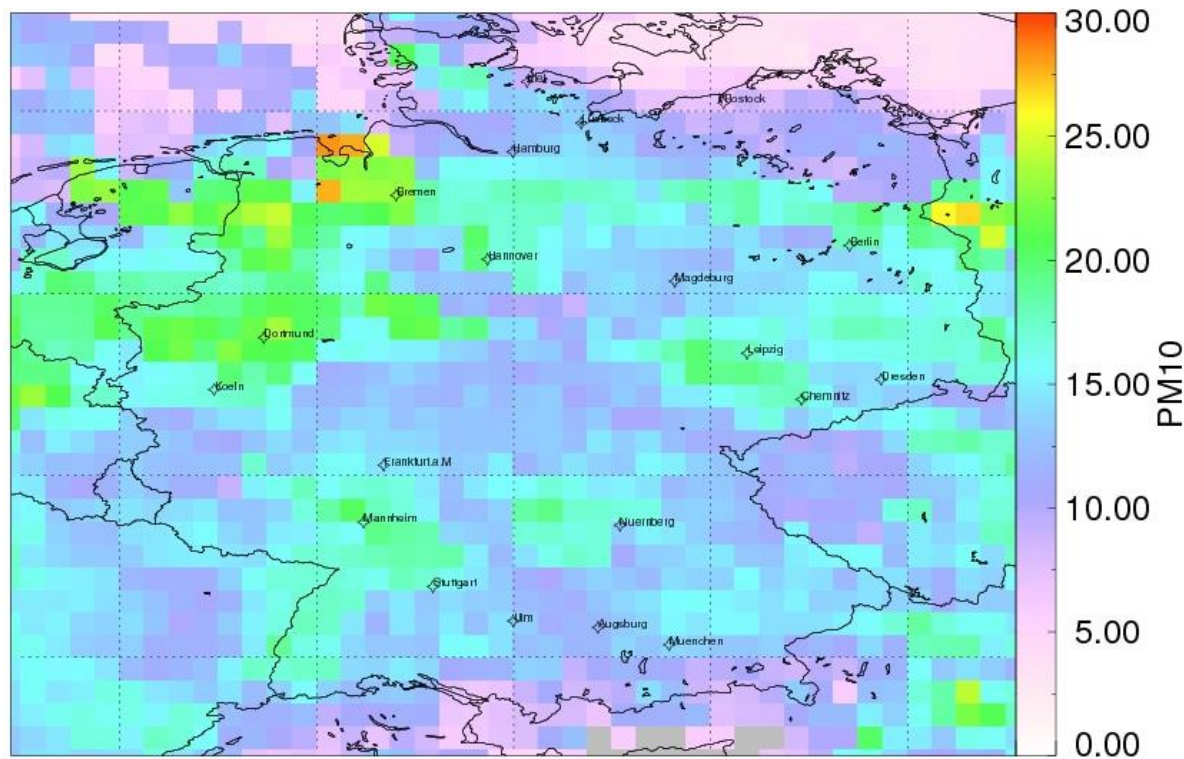
Mass [g/m^2]



0.0 3.0 6.0 9.0 12.0

Separating Natural and Anthropogenic PM

Quantification of aerosol composition with SYNAER: soot, sea salt, min dust, sulfates and nitrates, biomass burning



ENIVSAT/SCIA/AATSR

RMSE versus EMEP

$PM_{2.5}$: $4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PM_{10} : $6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

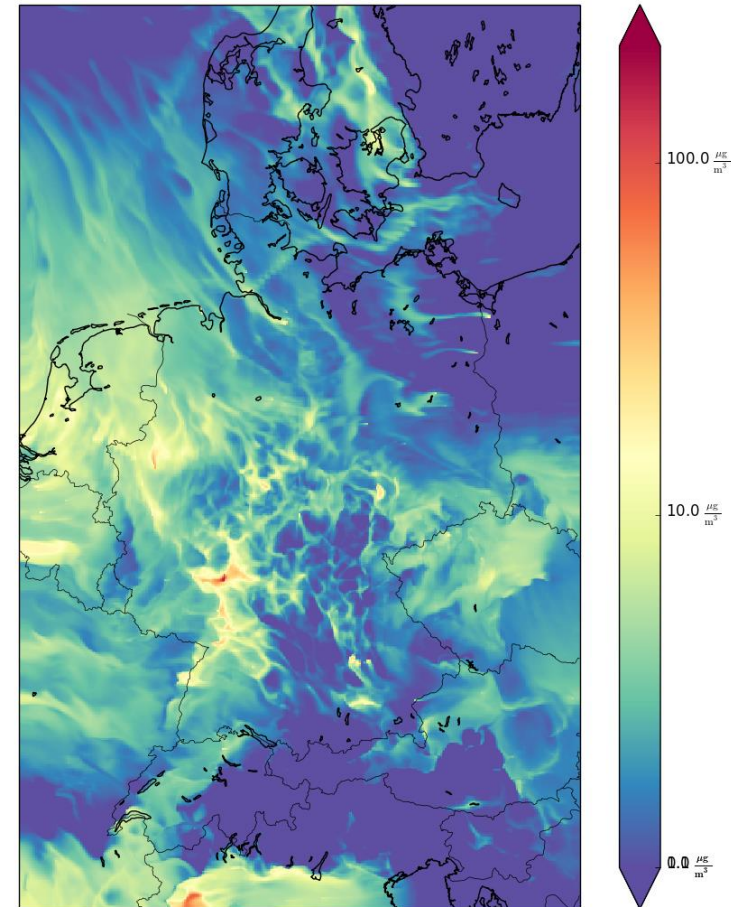
$R=0.5$

ESA Aerosol_CCI

→ CMUG

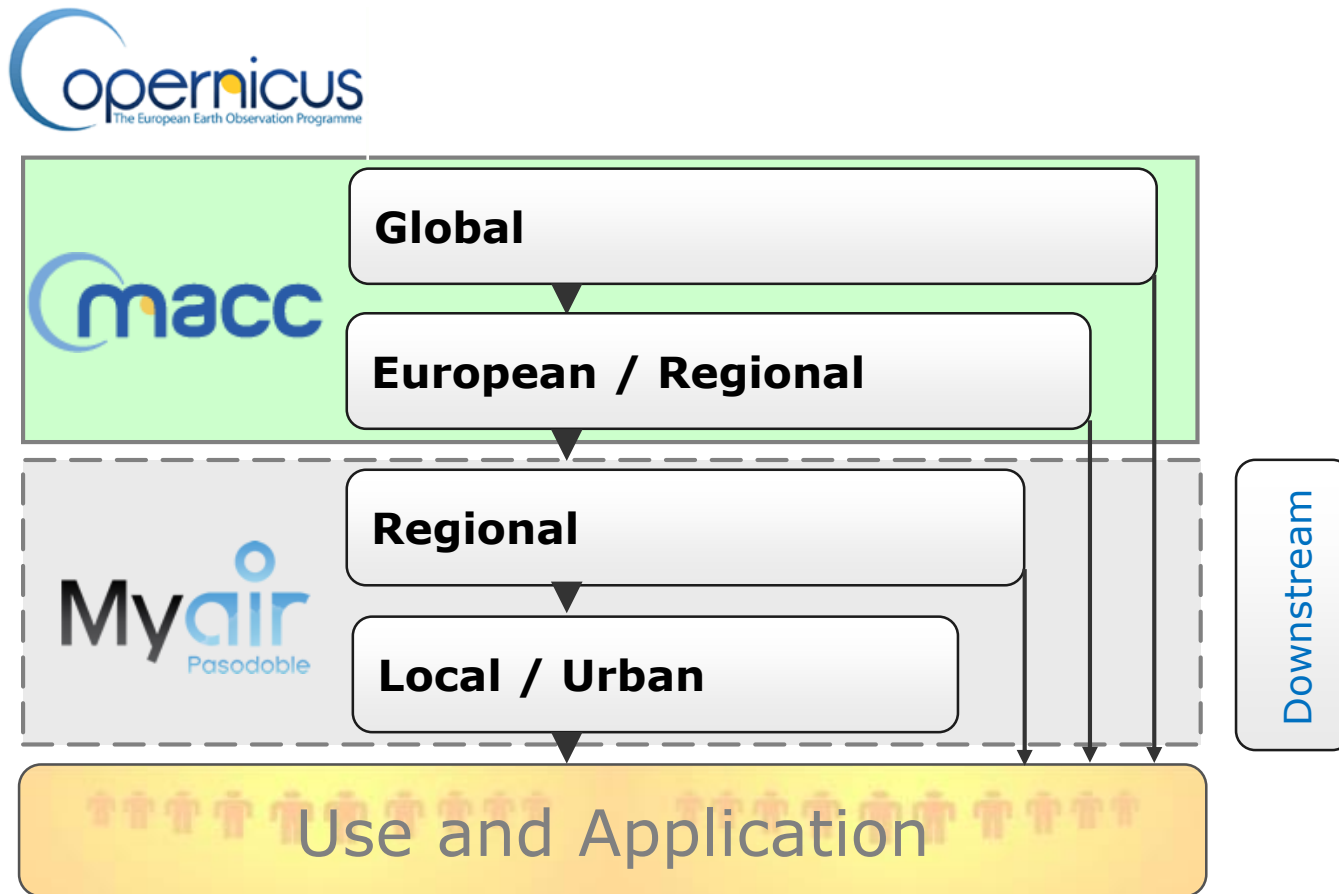
Developments in Assessment and Forecasting

- Assimilation of in-situ + satellite data
- Improved emissions and resolution
- Integration of physical, chemical and biological weather
- Regional harmonisation
 - Nesting in Copernicus Atmosphere
 - Following FAIRMODE guidance
 - Quality Management / Validation
 - INSPIRE and ISO compliance
 - Interoperability (OGC)



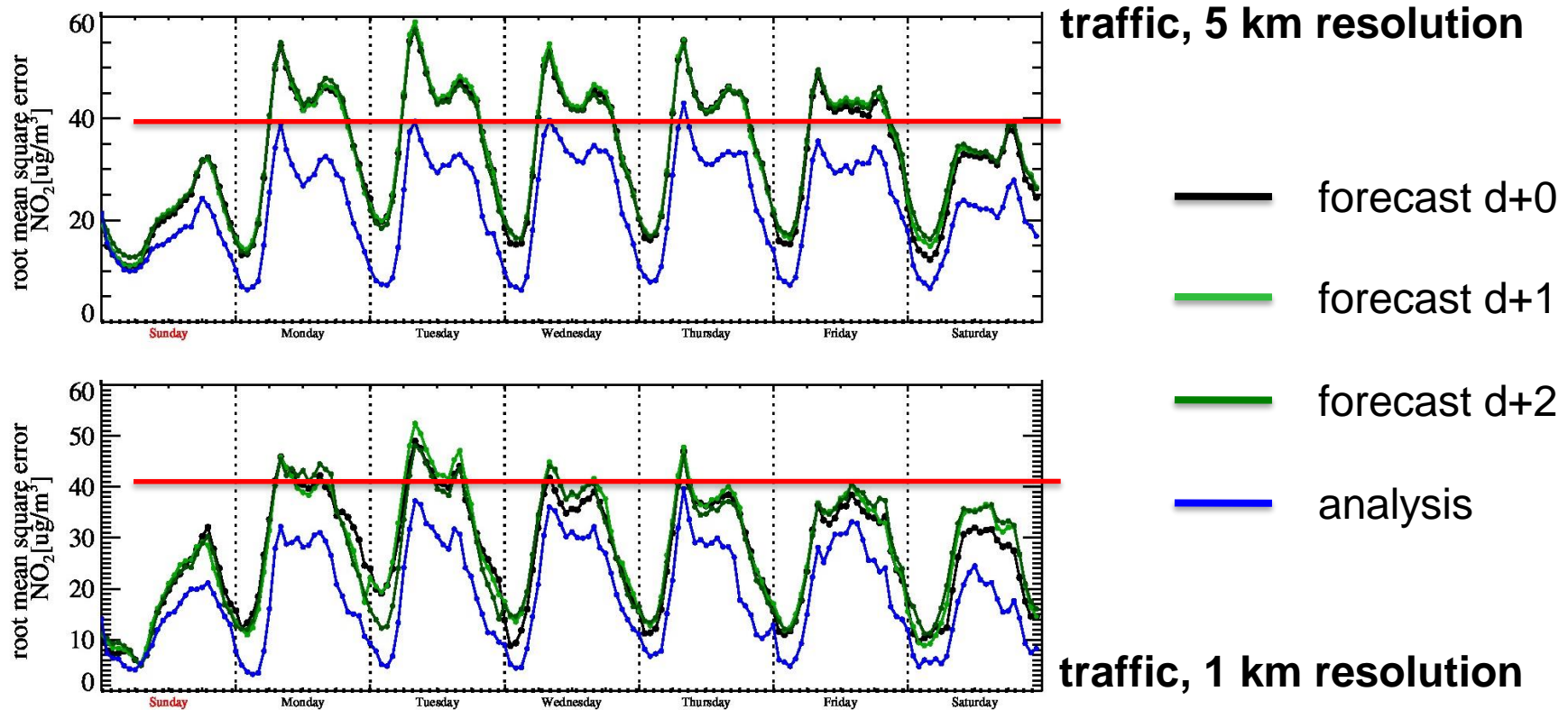
POLYPHEMUS/DLR, NO2, 72h forecast

Copernicus Air Quality Service Chain



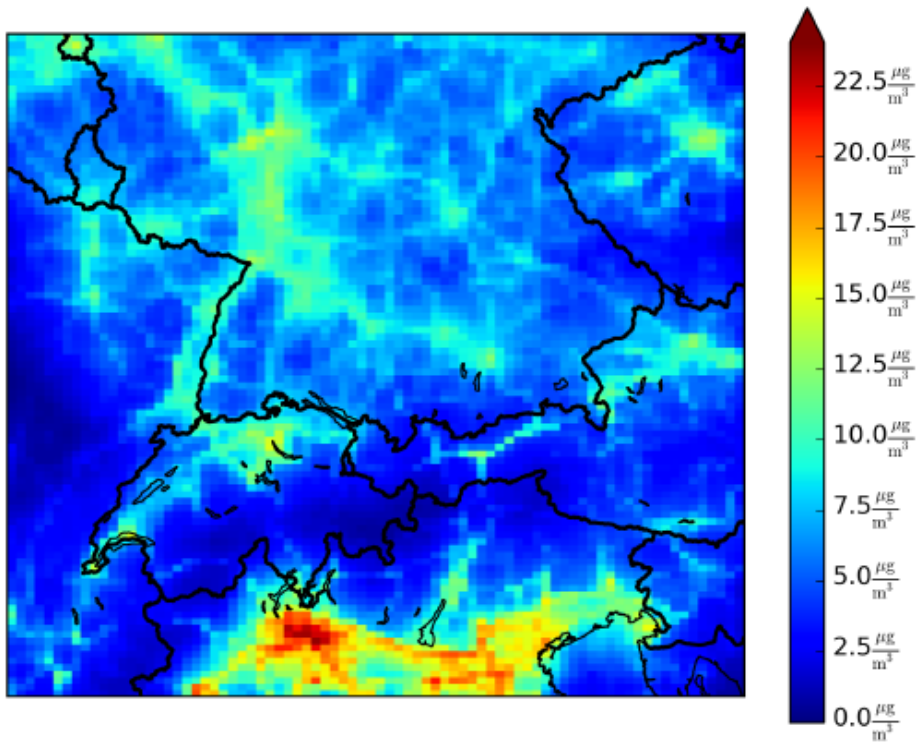
Forecasts/Analyses for Northrhine-Westfalia (EURAD-IM)

Time-series of NO₂ **RMSE** weekly cycle, averaged over 4 months
-> Improvement with model resolution

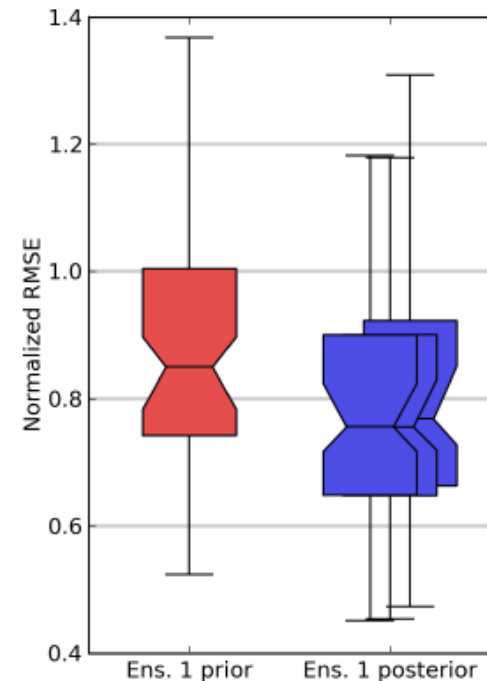


22. Jan., 0 UTC – 20. April 2012, 23 UTC

Ensemble Data Assimilation and Bayesian Filtering



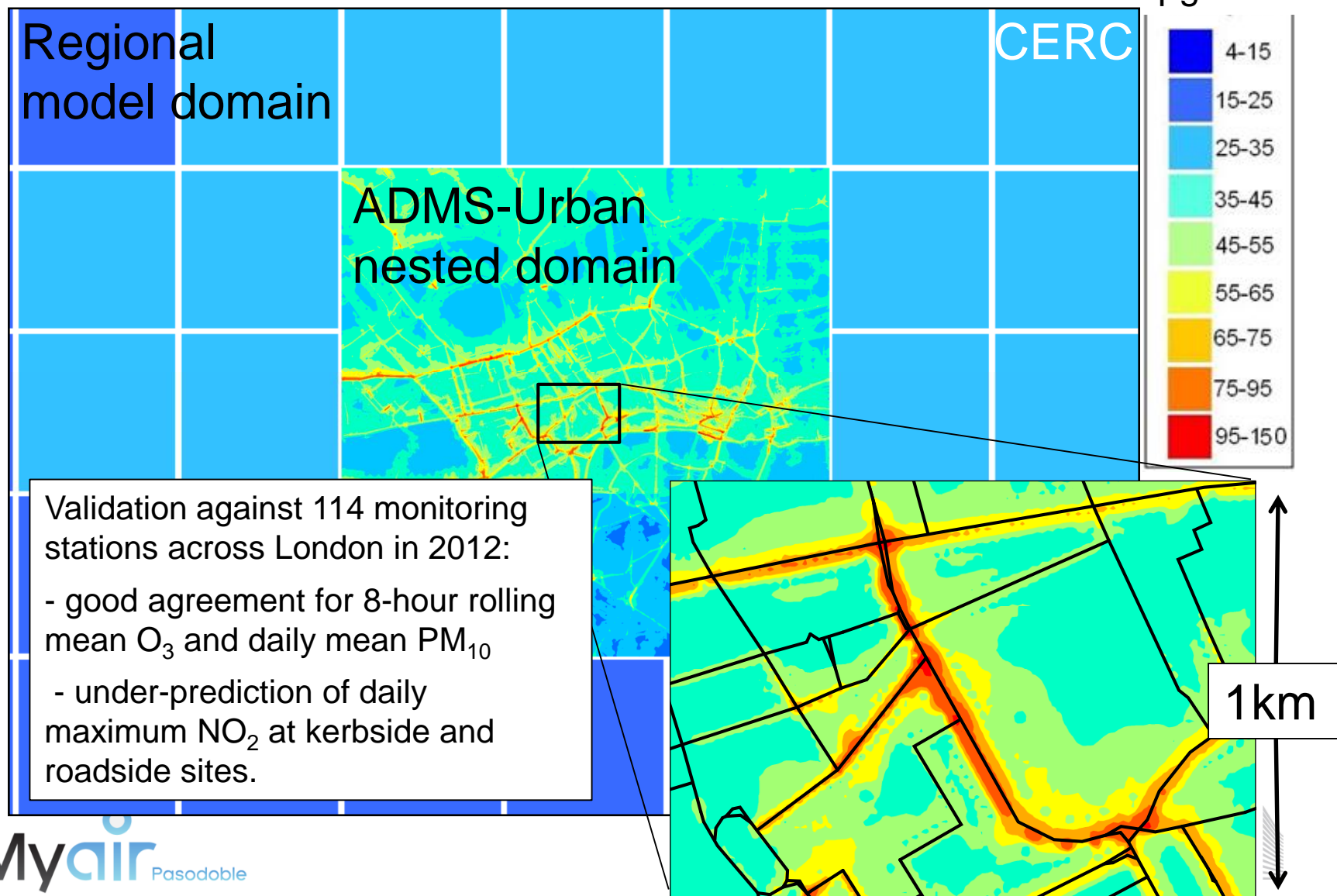
O3 RMSE deviation between posterior and prior distributions



NRMSE for O3 at verification stations

→ Bayesian Filtering improves air pollution analysis

London: ADMS-Urban Operational 72 h Forecasts



Public Information for London Olympics 2012

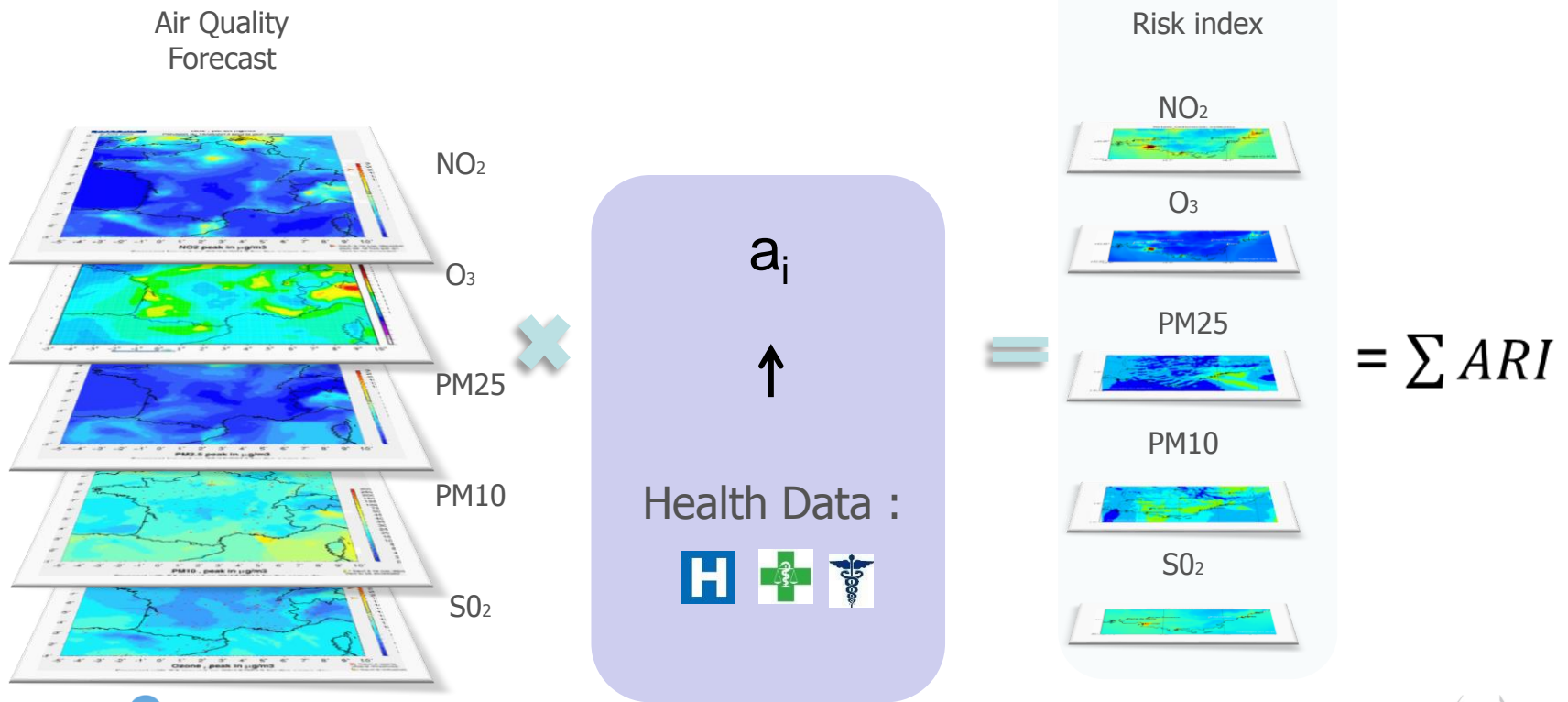


Push service to >7.000 subscribers by Private Sector (CERC)

Aggregate Risk Index

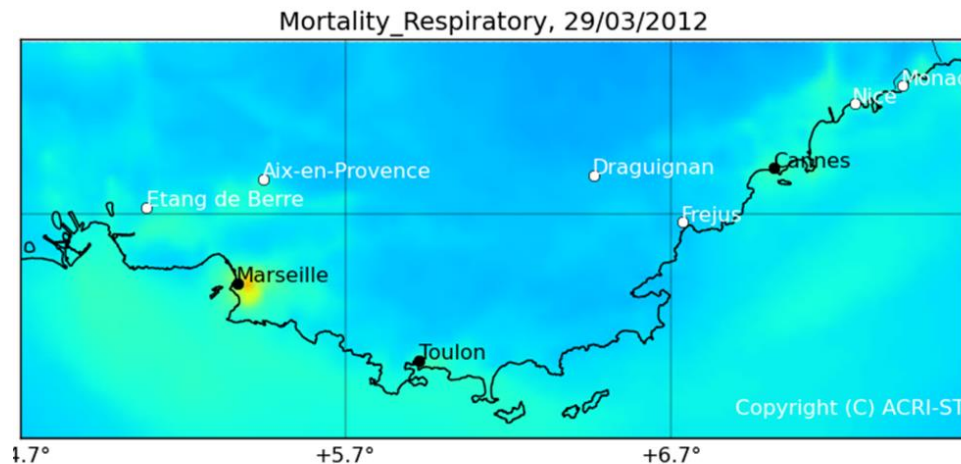
Assessment of additive effects of short-term exposure to mixture of air pollutants for different pathologies:

$$ARI = a_{O_3} * c_{O_3} + a_{NO_2} * c_{NO_2} + a_{SO_2} * c_{SO_2} + a_{PM_{2.5}} * c_{PM_{2.5}} + a_{PM_{10}} * c_{PM_{10}}$$

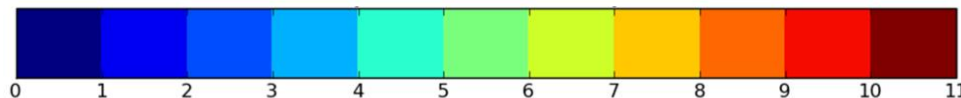


Agregate Risk Index Forecasts

- Development of ARI accounting for multiple exposure impacts
- Forecasts enable communication of health risk for different pathologies and sensitive groups to take precautionary action
- Demonstrators in Athens, Thessaloniki and South of France



Aggregate Risk Index



Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.

Follow your doctor's advice for exercise.

Consider reducing strenuous physical outdoor activities, or reschedule to times when index is lower.

Follow your doctor's advice for exercise.

Reduce physical exertion outdoors and particularly if you experience symptoms.

Follow your doctor's usual advice. People with asthma may need their reliever inhaler more often. If symptoms persist seek medical advice.

Health Warning of emergency conditions. Avoid physical activities.

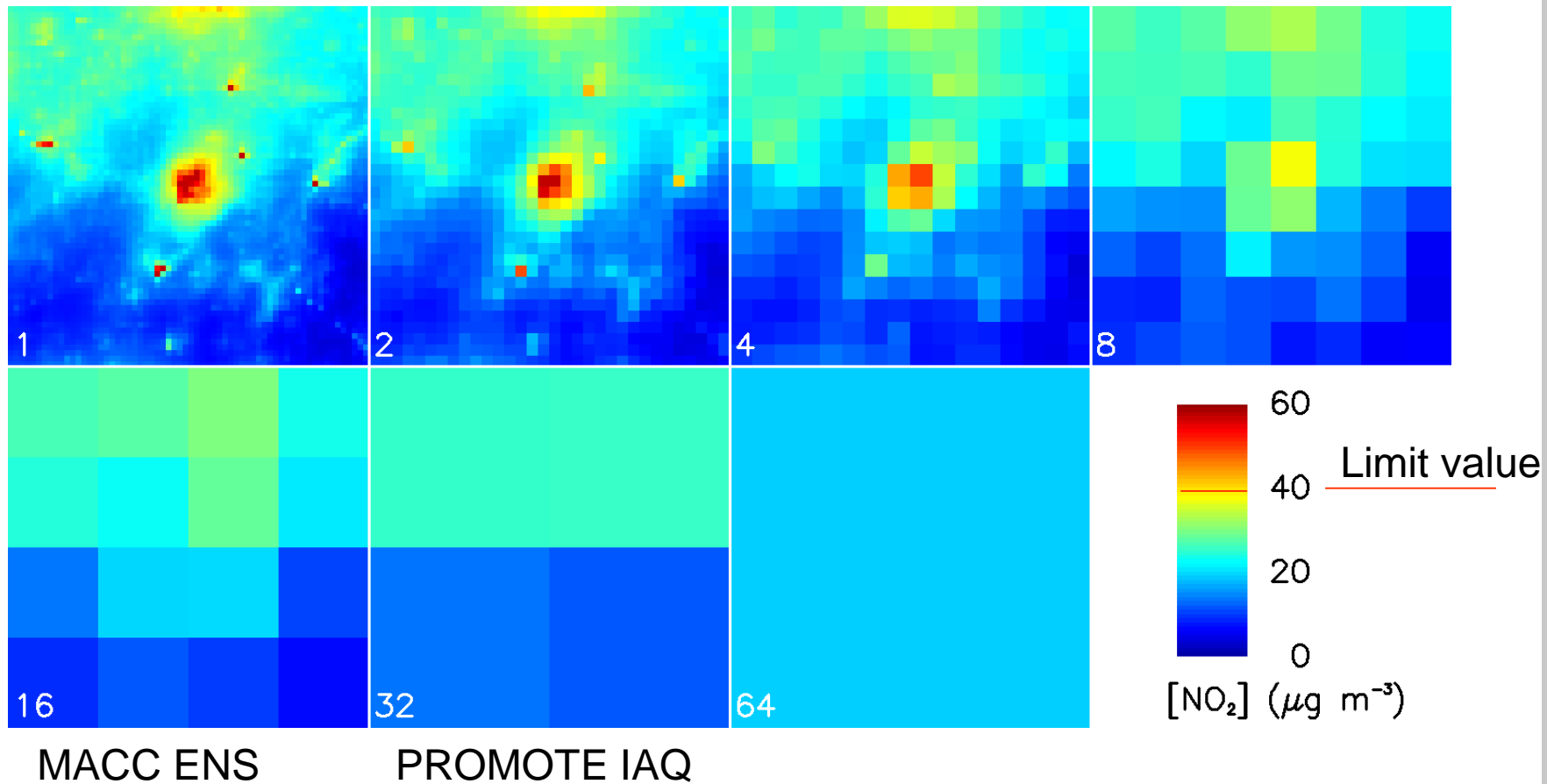
Follow your doctor's usual advice. People with asthma may need their reliever inhaler more often.

Air Quality Monitoring and Forecasting Services...

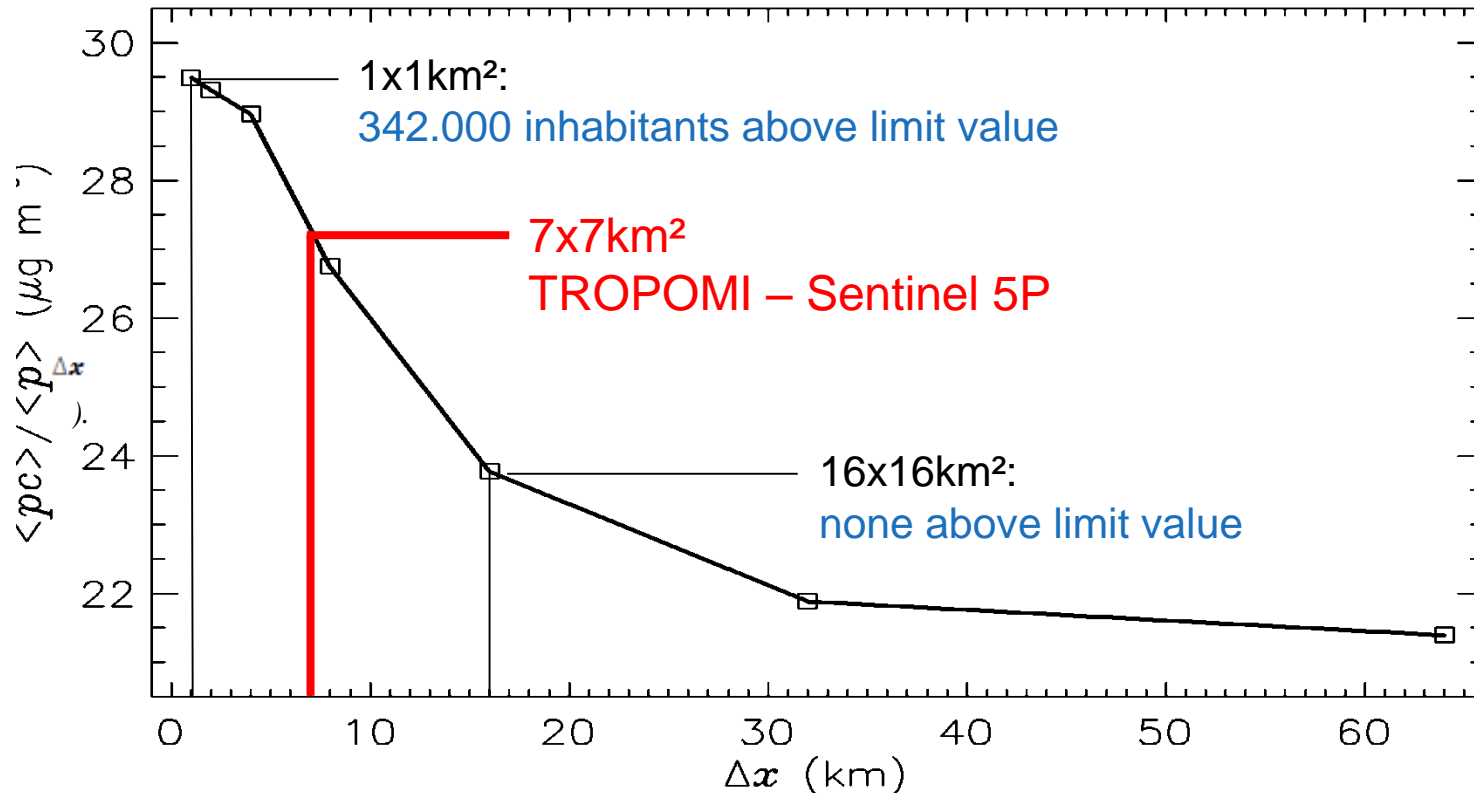
... play a key role in Climate Change Adaption by:

- Raising public awareness
- Advising people at risk to take precautionary actions
- Informing hospitals, pharmacies and doctors on upcoming episodes
- Providing information to stakeholders and policy makers
- Enabling the monitoring of mitigation plans
- Facilitating daily working practise and reporting

Need for considering Urban Scales – Brussels NO₂ 2005



Need for considering local scales - Brussels



Population density weighted concentration (i.e., exposure) for a $64 \times 64 \text{ km}^2$ sub-domain, as a function of spatial resolution

Summary and Outlook

- EO can significantly contribute to monitor long term trends and air pollution episodes and minimize error bars to estimate radiative forcing
- Current instruments mainly designed for stratospheric O3 monitoring, but outcome already impressive (NO2, O3, PM+, SO2, CO, NH3) columns
- Sentinel-3, -4, -5 and -5P will offer unprecedented possibilities for urban air pollution monitoring (GEO, Horiz Res. Below 10x10km²)
- We should strive for a combined and complementary use of EO data, in-situ data and numerical modelling
- Long time series and sustainable data provision is essential
- Copernicus framework important, but downstream services essential to bridge the gap to local stakeholders and the citizen
- Commitment to stakeholder involvement essential