



PROGRAMME OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION



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**Satellite observations, ground-based measurements,
modelling simulations and everything in between.**

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**With contributions from Andreas Pseftogkas and Ioanna Skoulidou
Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**

**Fifth Joint School on Atmospheric Composition
September 14 – 29, 2023**

The future of space-based remote sensing

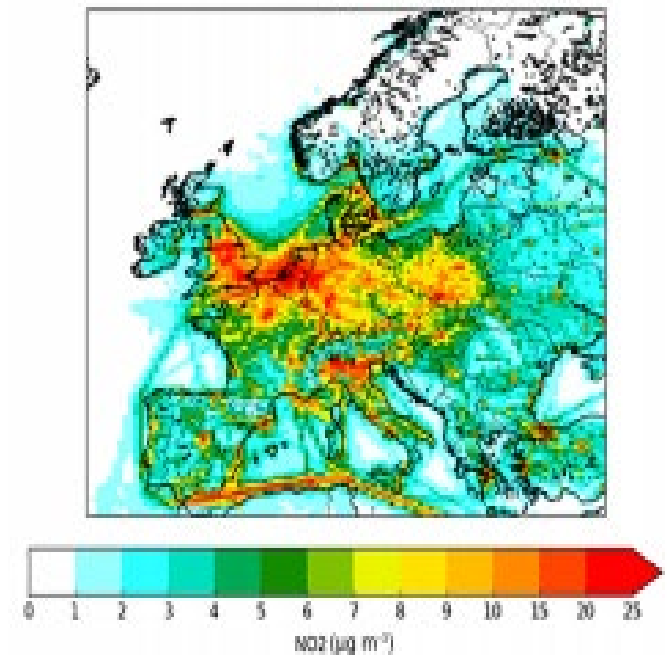
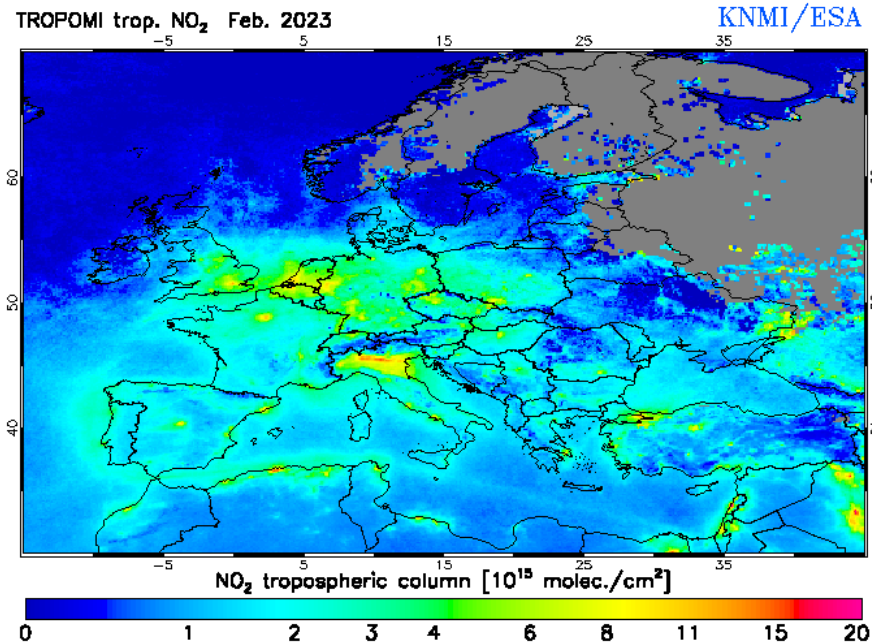
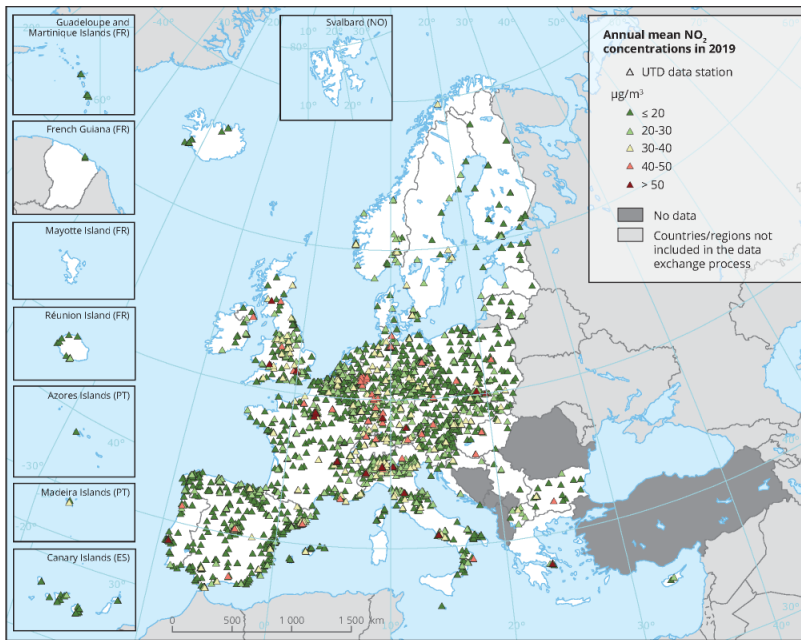


- **Urban air quality:** how satellite observations, ground-based measurements and CTM simulations each provide their unique individual picture.
- **Using satellite data to sense abrupt changes:** how satellite observations can detect anomalous air quality levels
- **Using satellite data to create new data:** how satellite observations, using mathematical formalisms and CTM simulations, can provide novel air quality datasets.
- **Using satellite data to update emission inventories:** the way to the future, the direct application of space-born observations to emission monitoring.

Why are we even interested?

NO₂ plays a significant role in the atmospheric chemistry and causes severe health and environmental effects

Tools: in-situ (and ground-based) measurements, satellite observations and model simulations

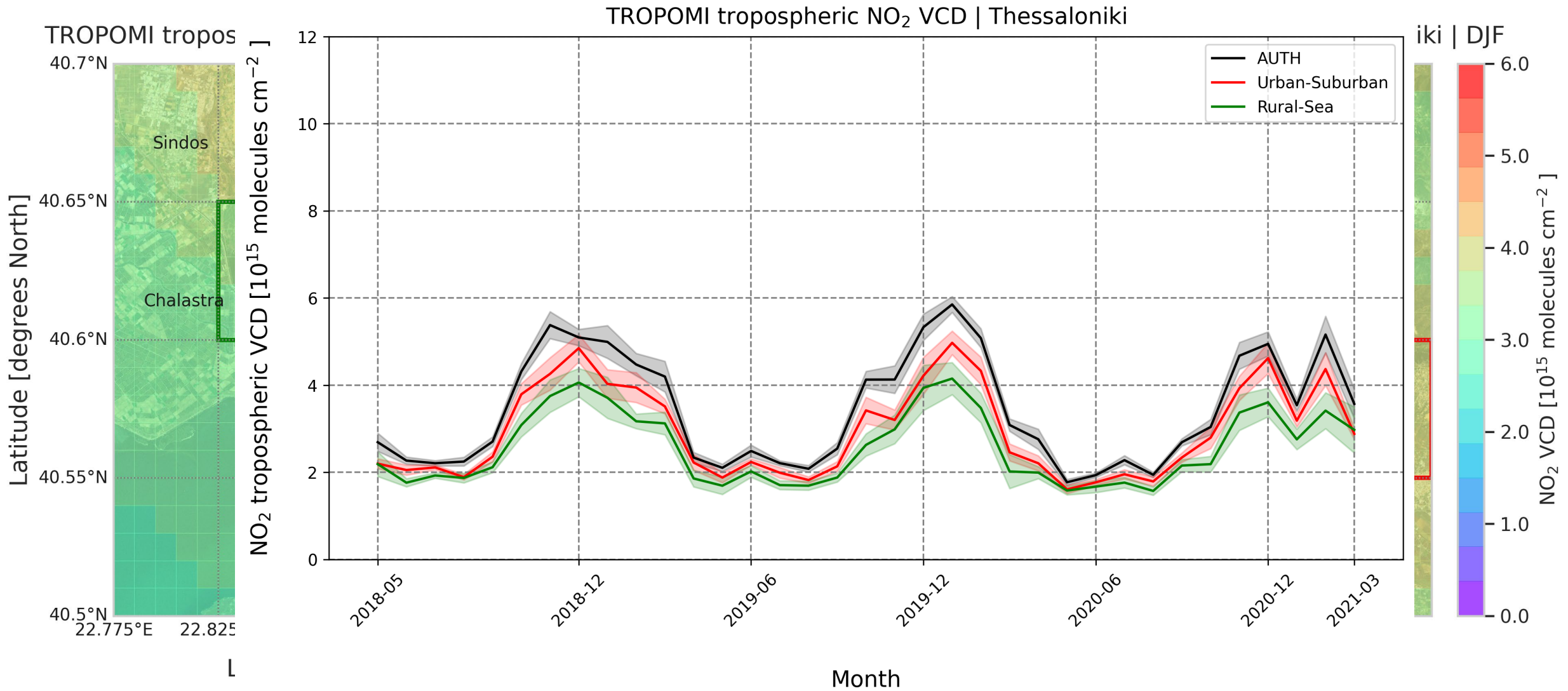




Urban air quality

Koukouli M-E, Pseftogkas A, Karagkiozidis D, Skoulidou I, Drosoglou T, Balis D, Bais A, Melas D, Hatzianastassiou N. **Air Quality in Two Northern Greek Cities Revealed by Their Tropospheric NO₂ Levels.** *Atmosphere*. 2022; 13(5):840. <https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos13050840>

Spatial observations of tropospheric NO₂



MAX-DOAS & DOAS observational systems

Instruments:

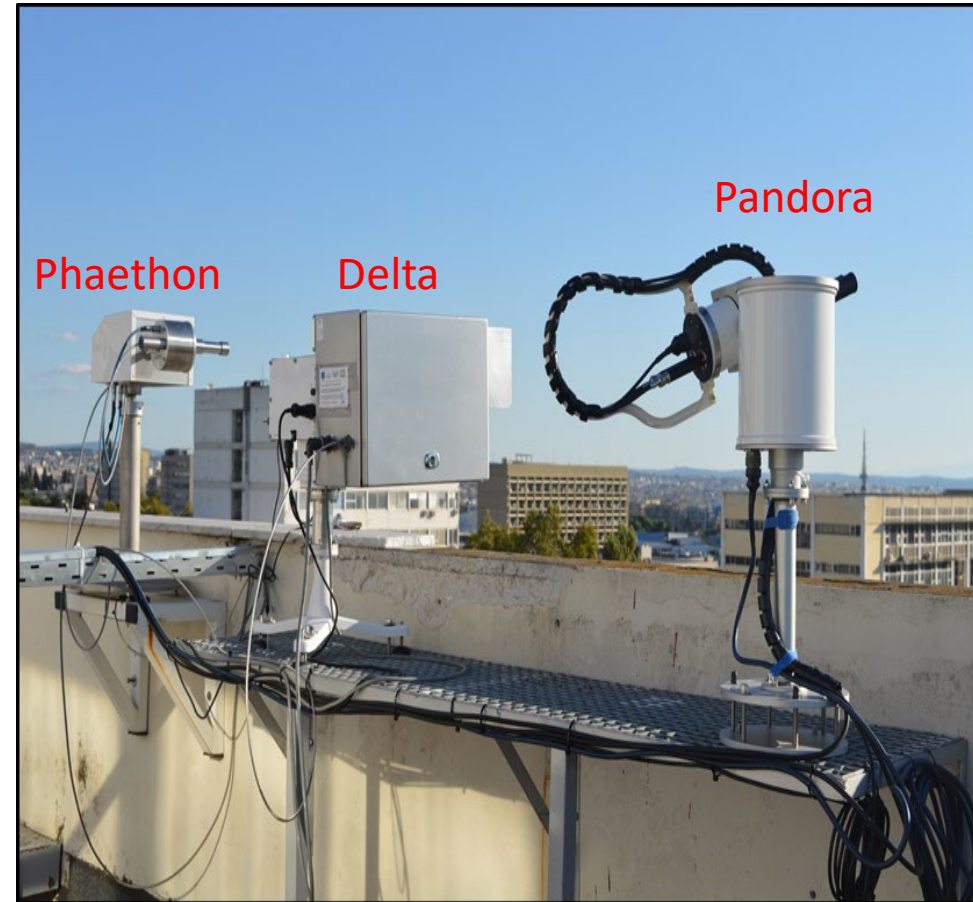
- **Phaethon** (home made – since 2006)
- **Delta** (research grade – since 2022)
- **Pandora** (Pandonia network) – since 2022)

Measurements:

- Direct-sun/sky-radiance spectra (UV / VIS ranges)
- 2-axis trackers (3D observations elevation/azimuth)
- CCD-based spectrographs

Products:

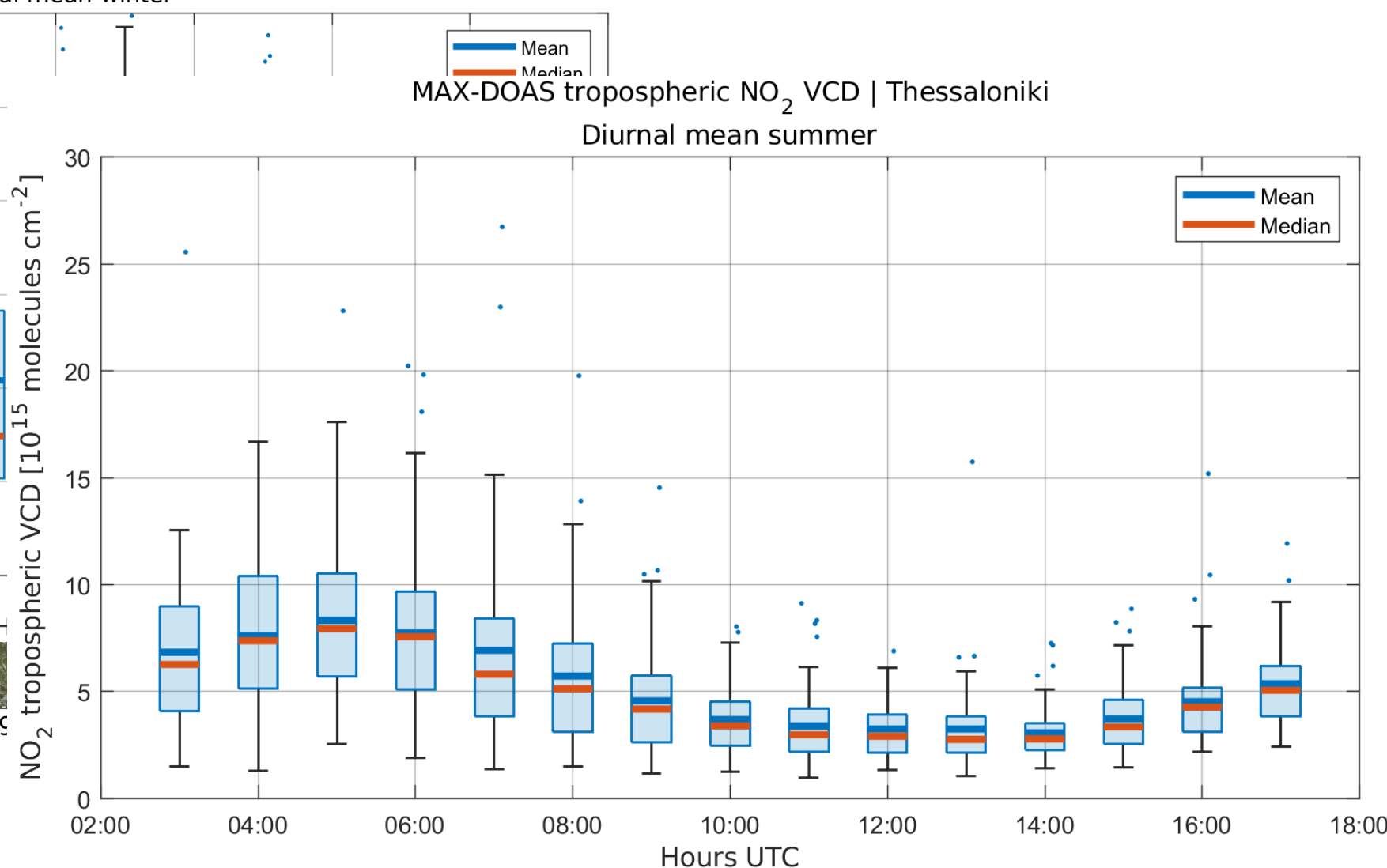
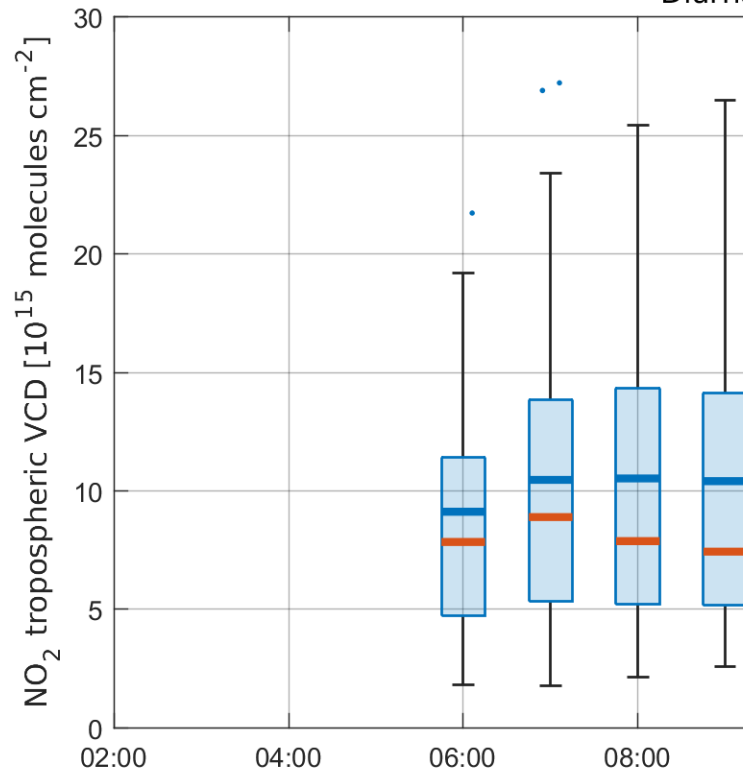
- Total and tropospheric columns
- Vertical profiles – surface concentrations
- Species NO_2 , O_3 , HCHO , SO_2
- O_4 – proxy for aerosol extinction profiles & optical depth



Temporal variations of tropospheric NO₂

MAX-DOAS tropospheric NO₂ VCD | Thessaloniki

Diurnal mean winter



The LOTOS-EUROS model and input data

Input data

Meteorology

Boundary and Initial conditions

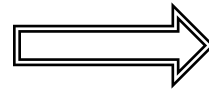
Land use

Emissions

Biomass burning and wildfires

The Global Fire Assimilation System v1.2 (GFAS) is used

transport (wind and turbulence)
Emissions

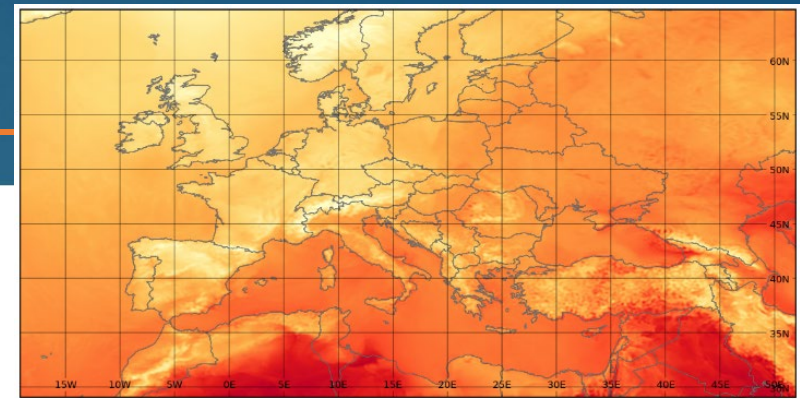


Natural emissions

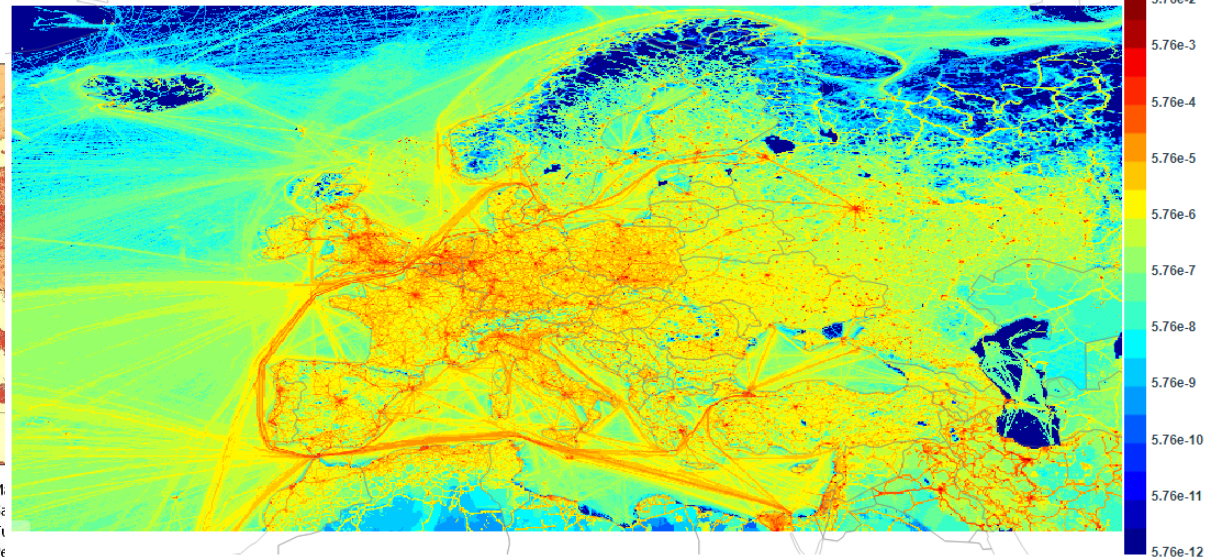
Biogenic, soil NO_x, mineral dust and sea salt emissions are calculated **on-line** using meteorological variables

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<https://land.copernicus.eu/>

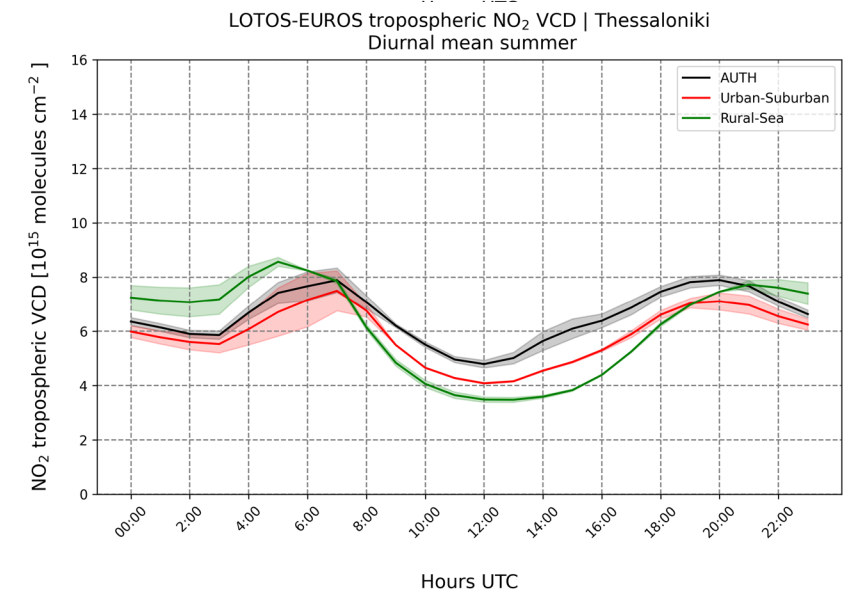
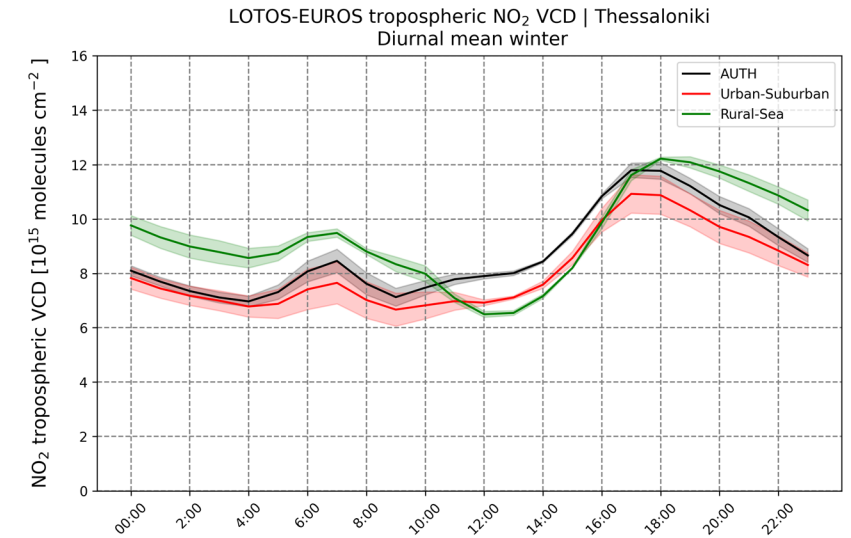
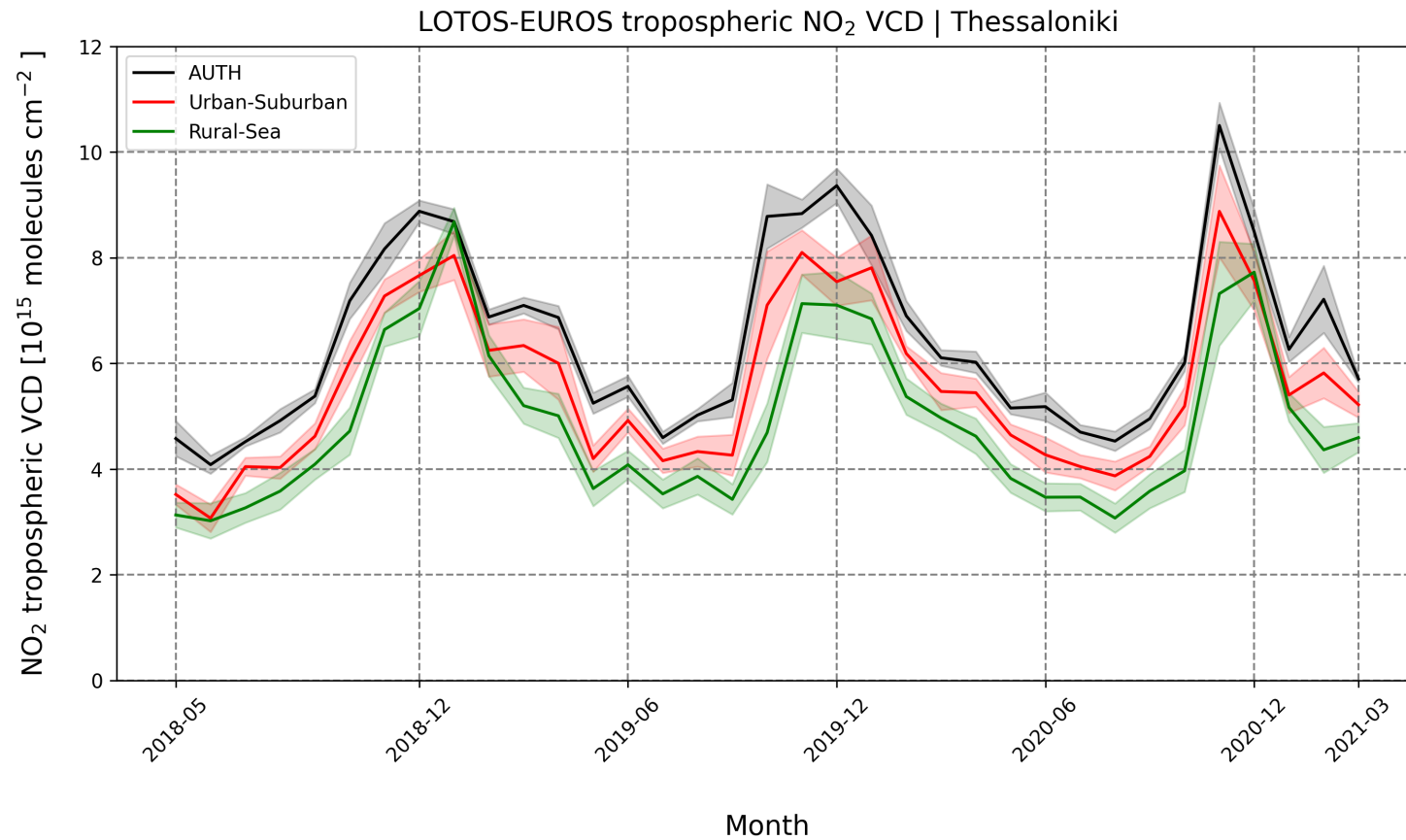


(1) CAMS-REG-AP 0.05x0.1 Anthropogenic NO_x - Sum Sectors - v4.2 - - 2017-01-01



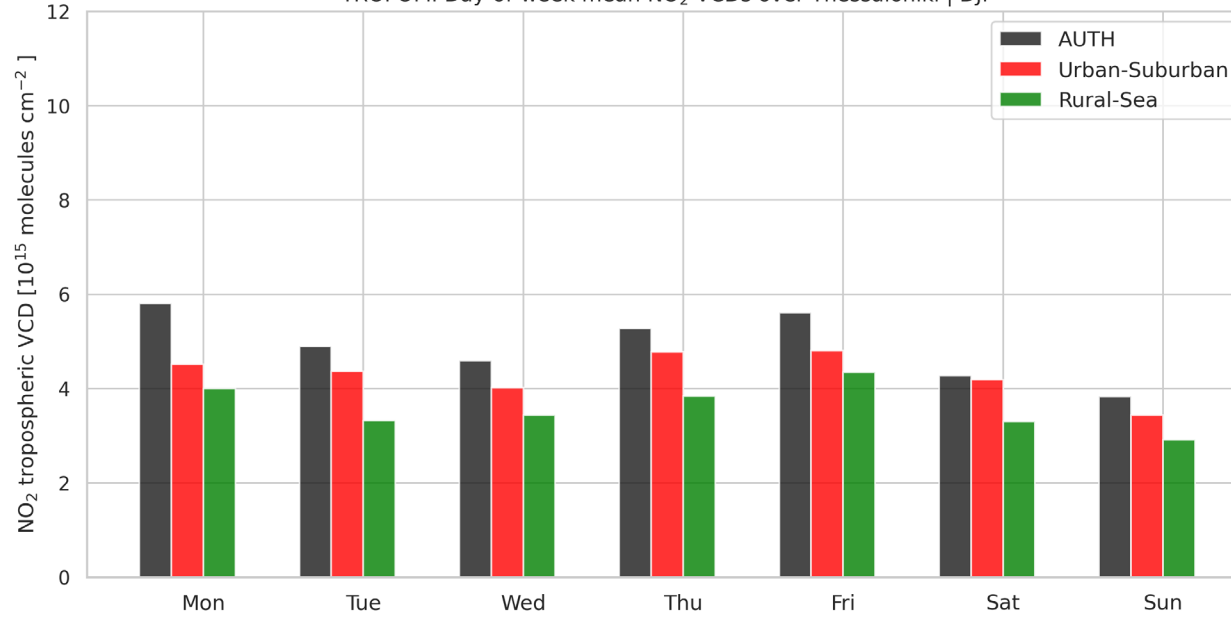
CAMS regional emission inventory (CAMS-REG) (Kuenen et al., 2022)

Spatio-Temporal variations of tropospheric NO₂

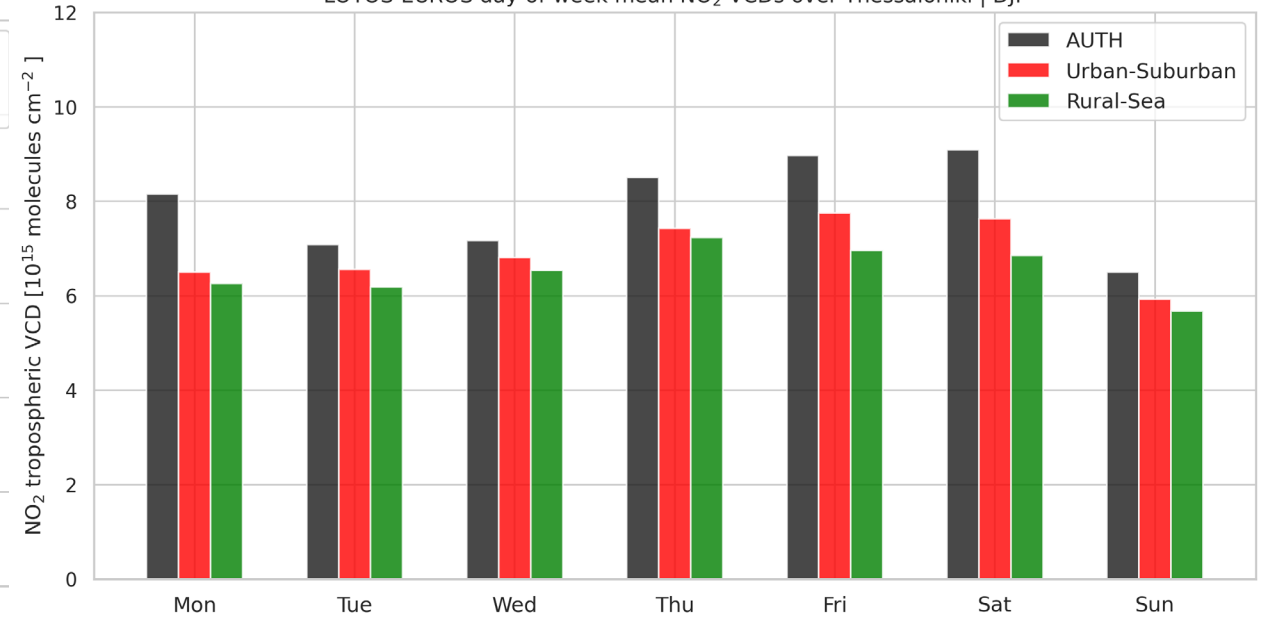


Day-of-week variations of tropospheric NO₂

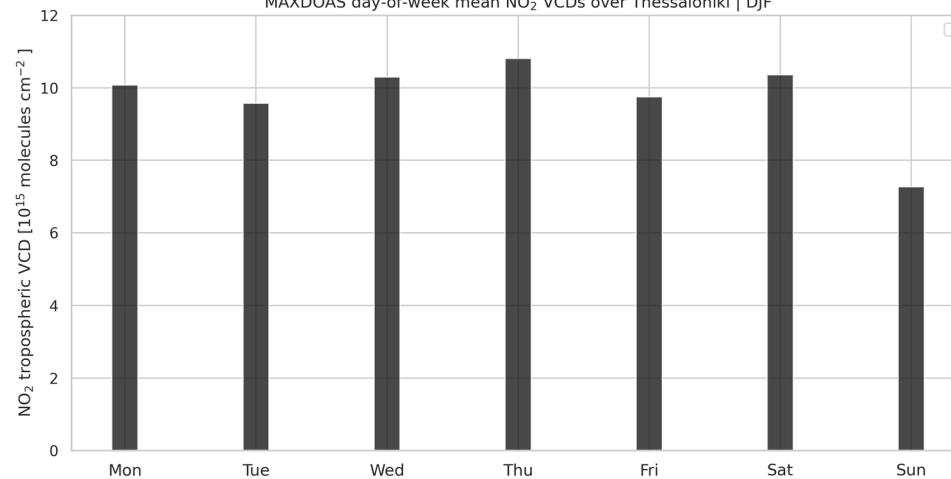
TROPOMI Day-of-week mean NO₂ VCDs over Thessaloniki | DJF

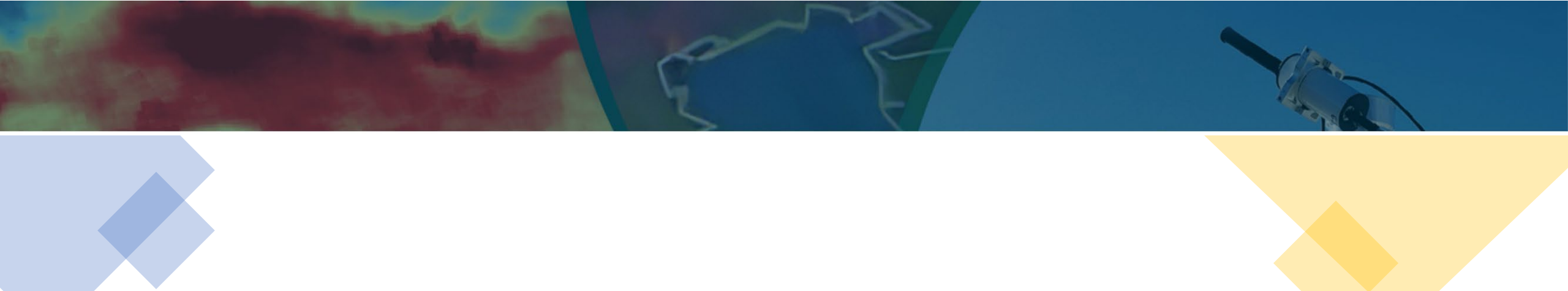


LOTOS-EUROS day-of-week mean NO₂ VCDs over Thessaloniki | DJF



MAXDOAS day-of-week mean NO₂ VCDs over Thessaloniki | DJF





Dataset	Temporal Resolution	Spatial Resolution	Strong Points	Limitations
TROPOMI/S5P	Once per day	3.5 × 5.5 km pixel	High spatial coverage	Temporal coverage
MAX-DOAS	Every 15 m in daylight	Point location, ~15 km horizontal viewing	High temporal coverage	Spatial coverage
LOTOS-EUROS CTM	Every 1 h	Depending on input parameters	High spatiotemporal coverage	Input information



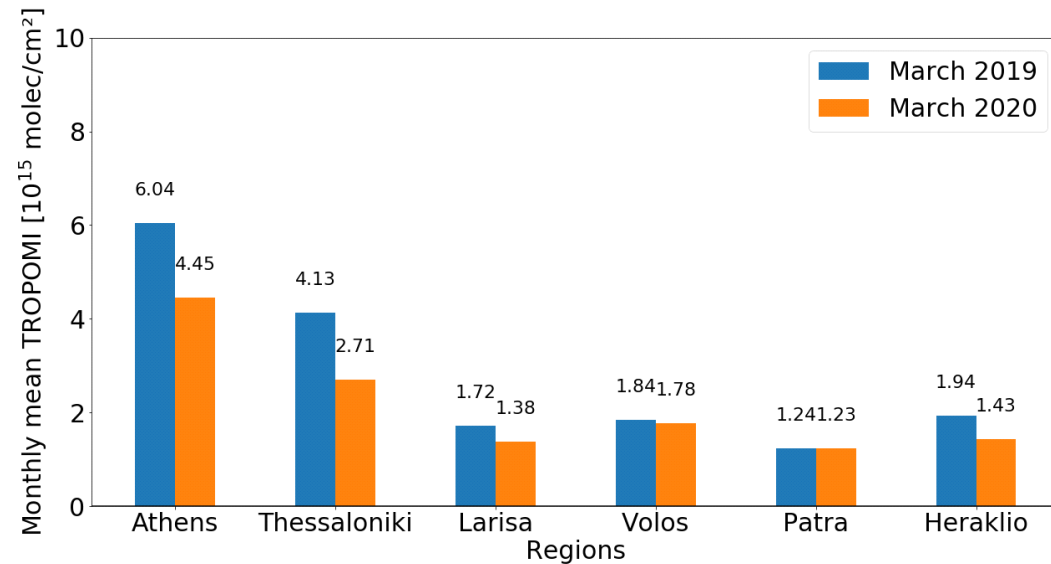
Using satellite data to sense abrupt changes in air quality

Koukouli, M.-E., Skoulidou, I., Karavias, A., Parcharidis, I., Balis, D., Manders, A., Segers, A., Eskes, H., and van Geffen, J.: **Sudden changes in nitrogen dioxide emissions over Greece due to lockdown after the outbreak of COVID-19**, *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 21, 1759–1774, <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-21-1759-2021>, 2021.

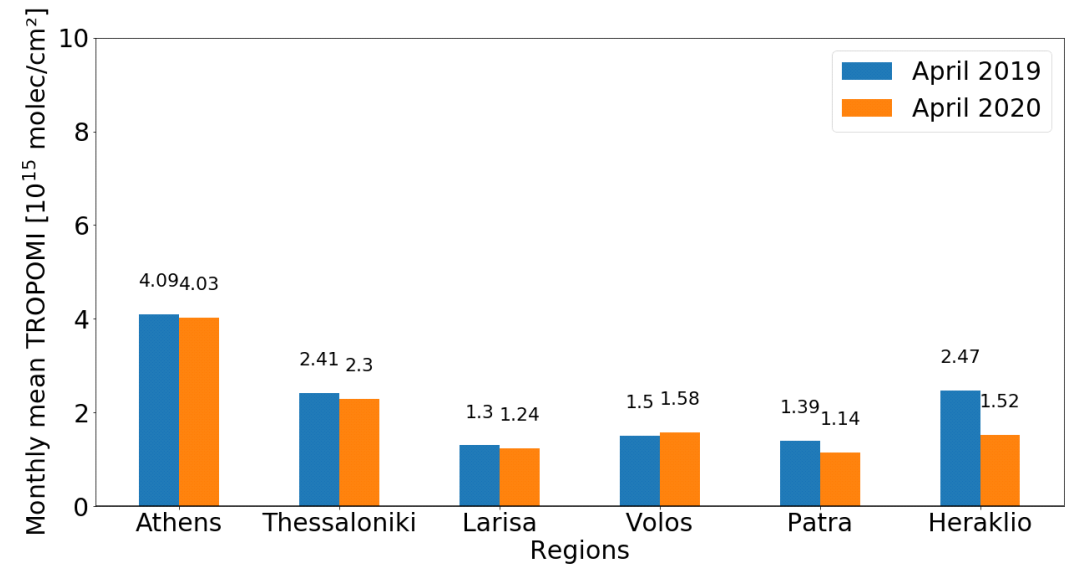
S5P/TROPOMI Tropospheric NO₂ monthly fields

March

April



2

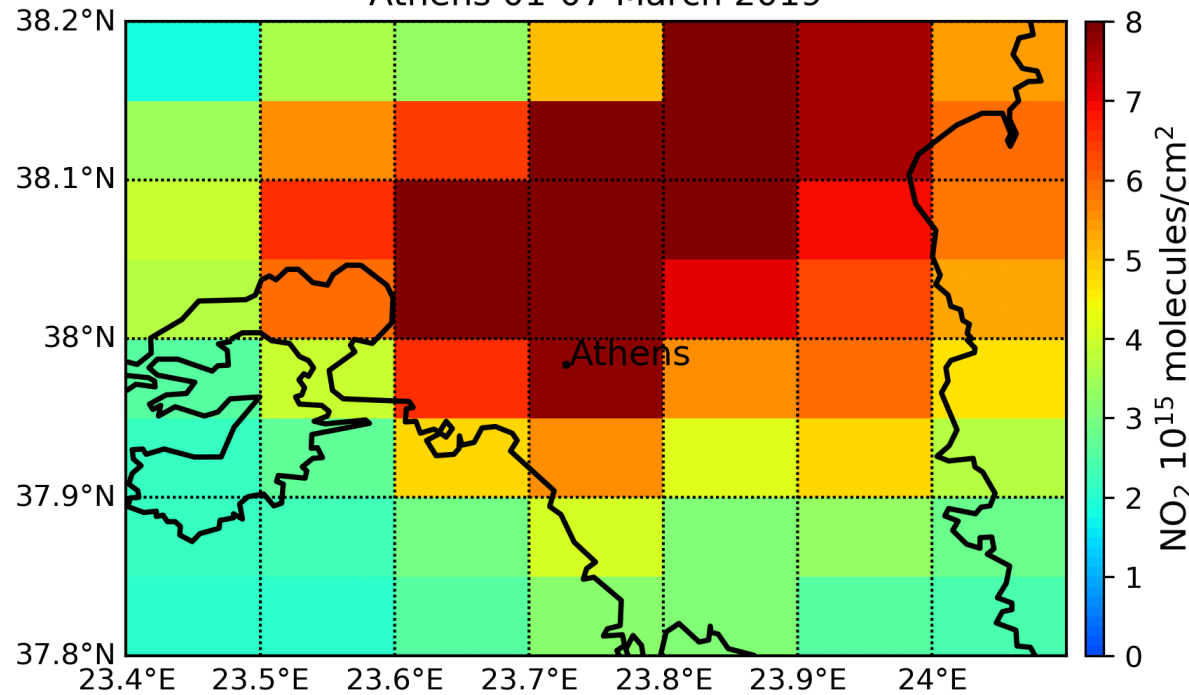


How can the effects of meteorology be compensated for?

Weekly NO₂ load over Athens during March & April

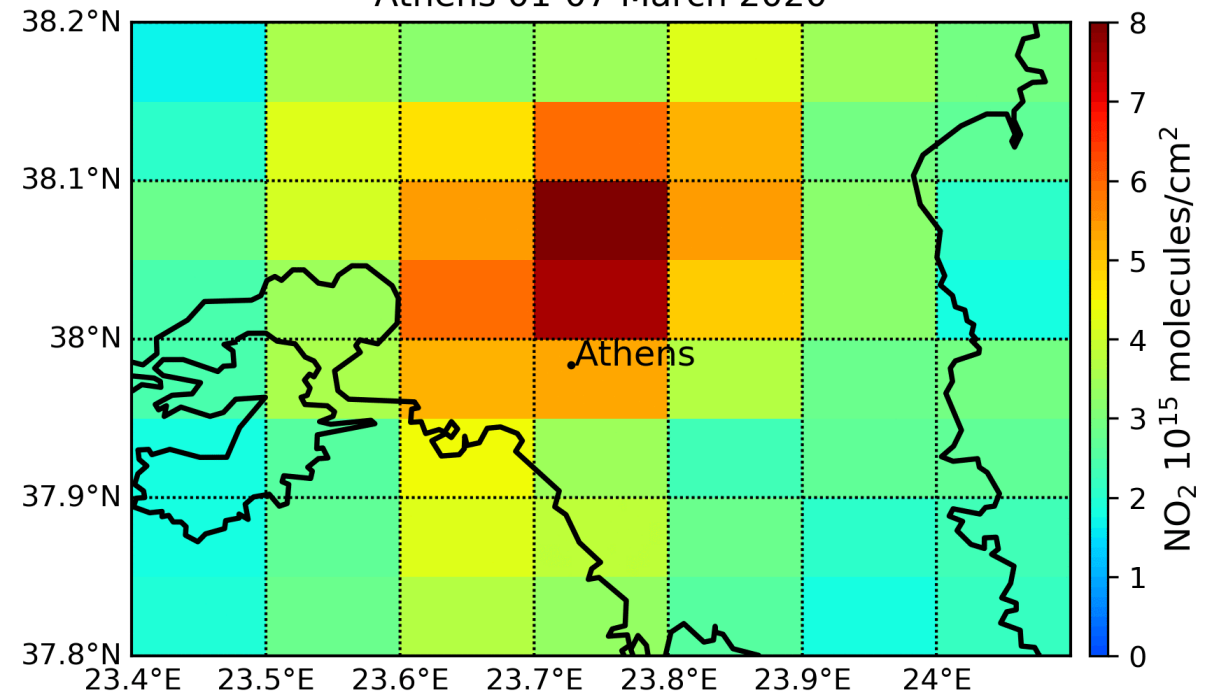
2019

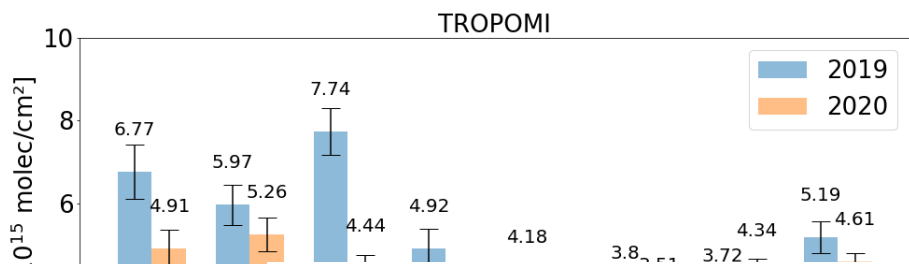
S5P/TROPOMI NO₂ Tropospheric VCD
Athens 01-07 March 2019



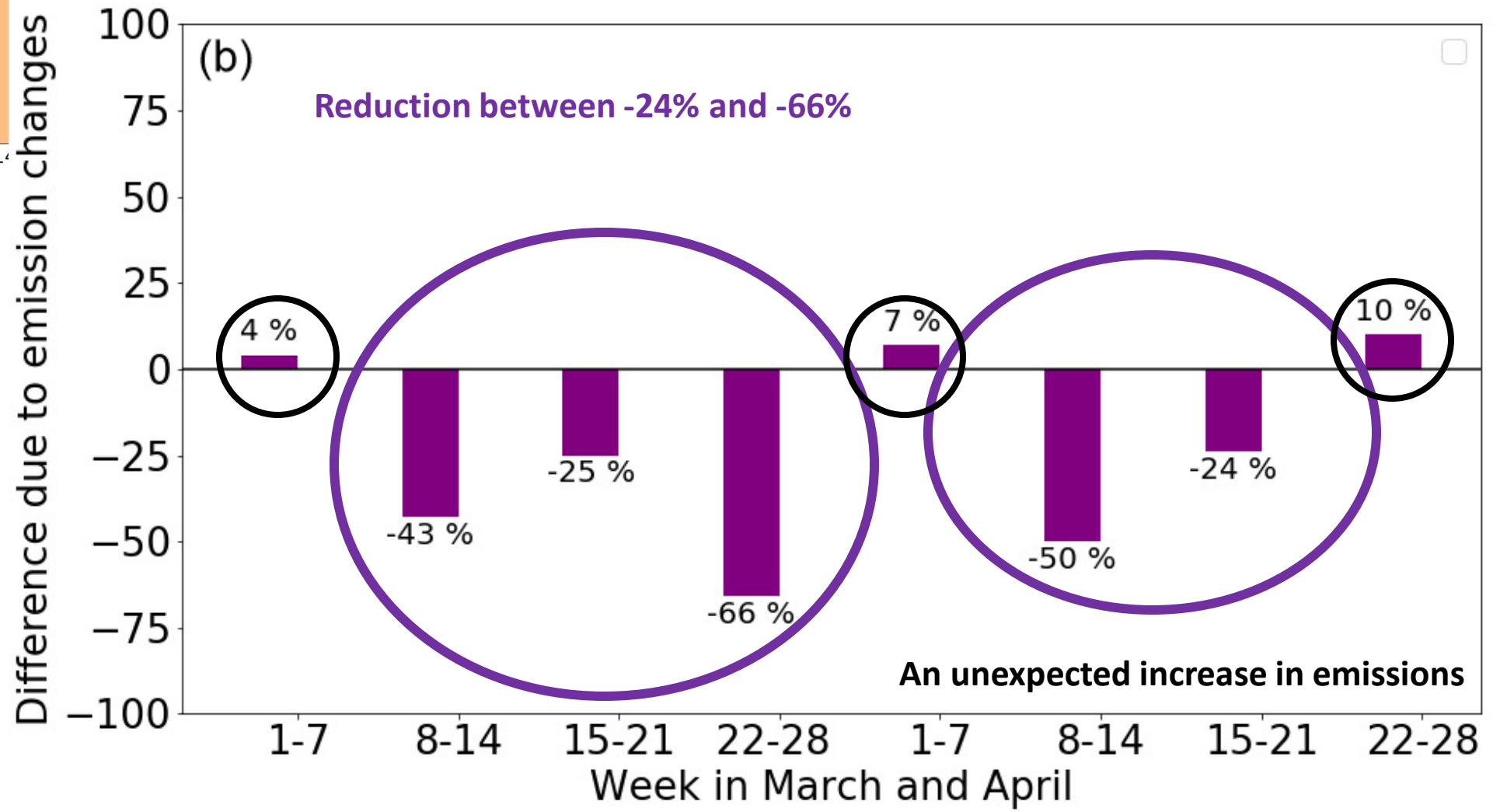
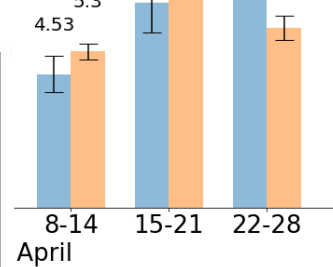
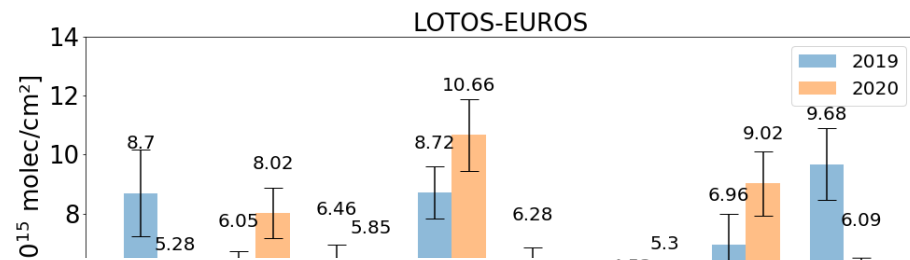
2020

S5P/TROPOMI NO₂ Tropospheric VCD
Athens 01-07 March 2020





Average weekly concentration (ug/m³)

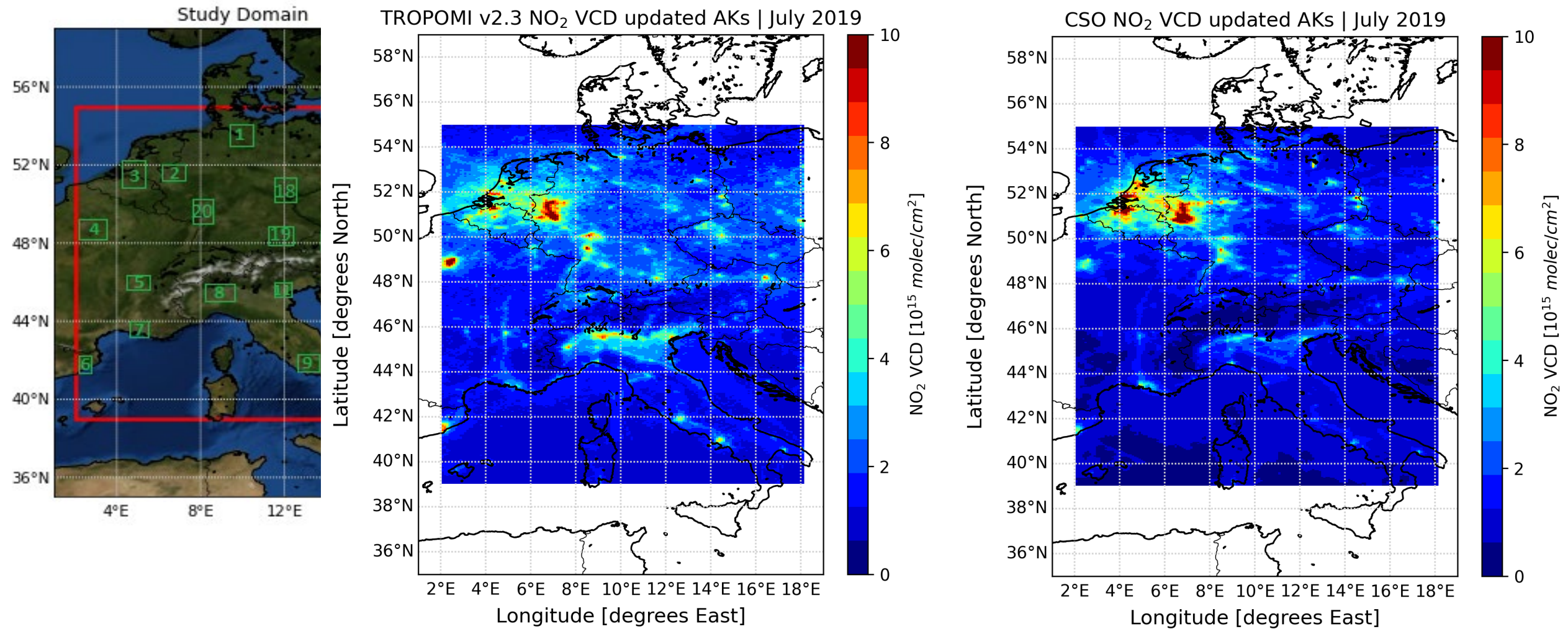




Using satellite data to make new data

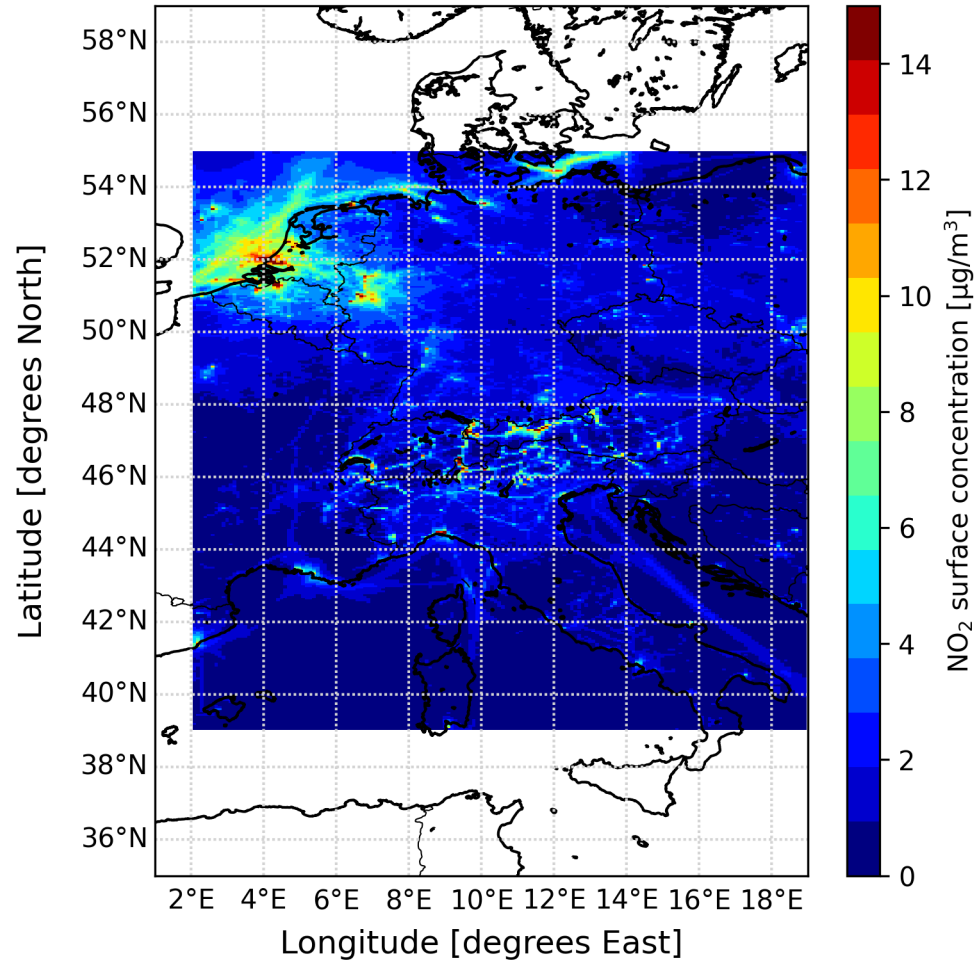
Pseftogkas A, Koukouli M-E, Segers A, Manders A, Geffen Jv, Balis D, Meleti C, Stavrakou T, Eskes H. **Comparison of S5P/TROPOMI Inferred NO₂ Surface Concentrations with in situ Measurements over Central Europe.** Remote Sensing. 2022; 14(19):4886.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14194886>

Using S5P NO₂ to infer NO₂ surface concentrations on a European Scale

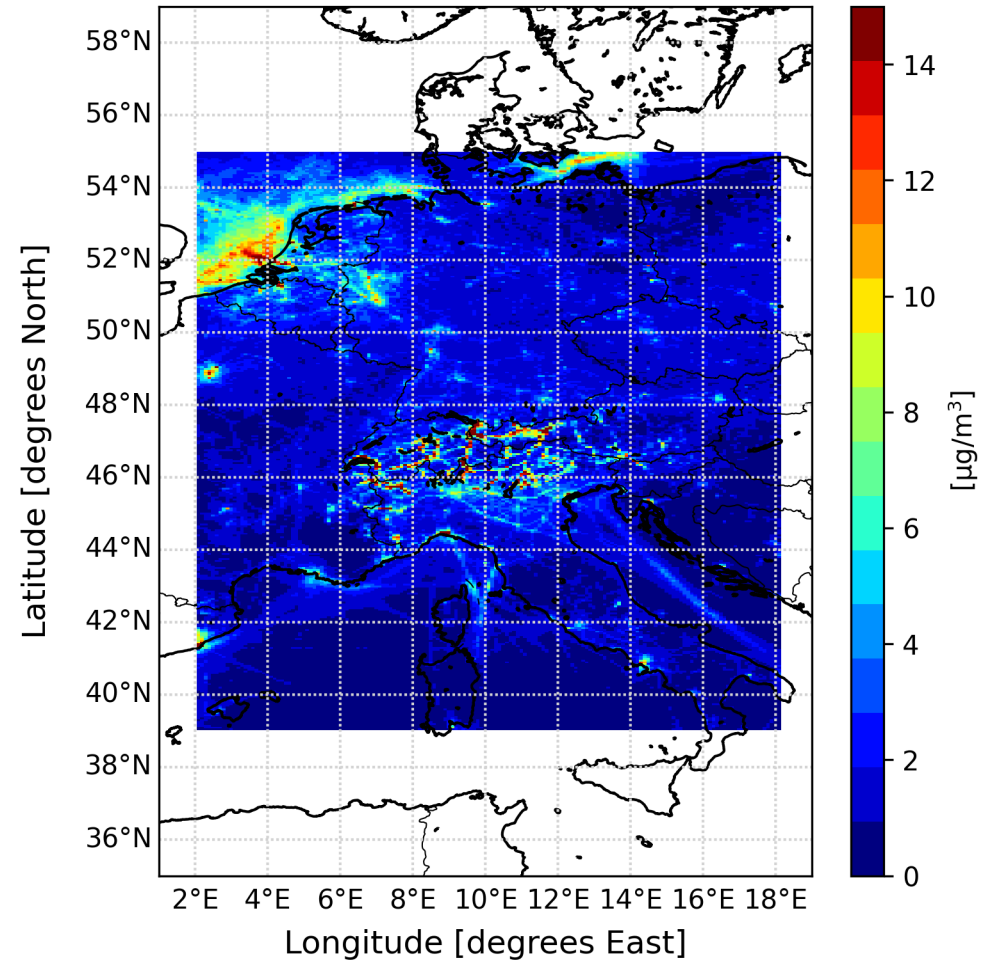


Using S5P NO₂ to infer NO₂ surface concentrations on a European Scale

LOTOS-EUROS NO₂ surface concentration | July 2019



TROPOMI v2.3 inferred NO₂ surface concentration
Setup 3 | July 2019

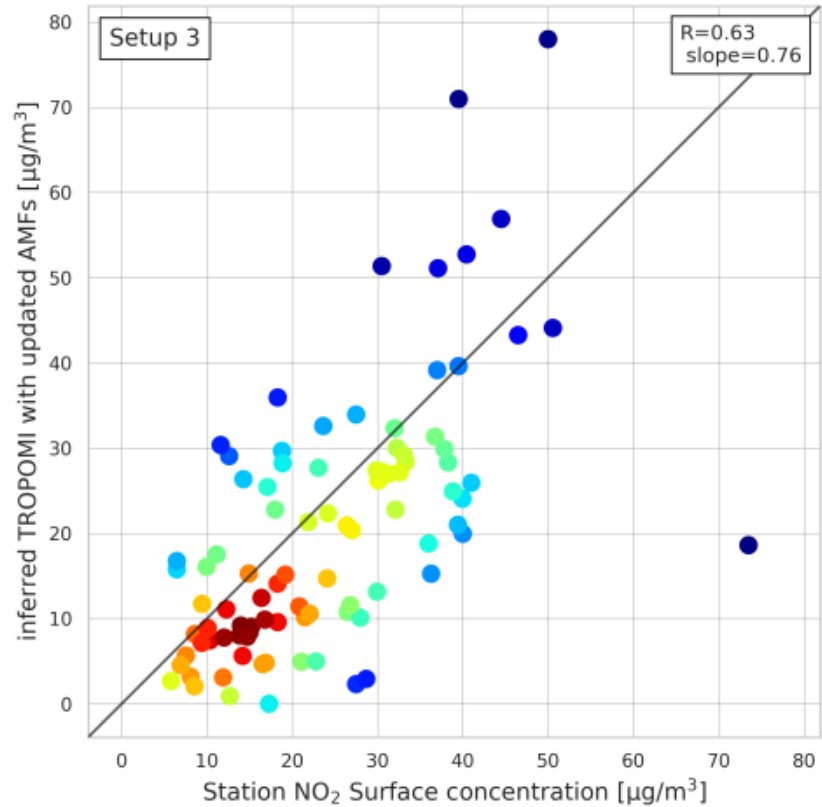


Validation using the air quality monitoring network of EEA

NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Rural background

NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Urban traffic

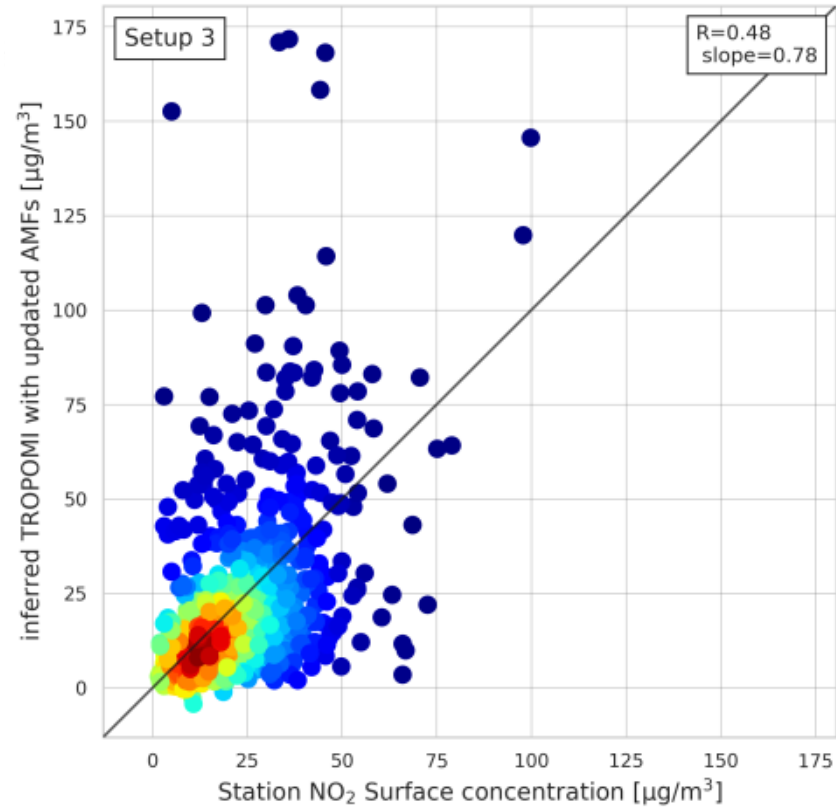
NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Suburban industrial
TROPOMI v2.3



NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Rural industrial

NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Urban background

NO₂ surface concentration comparison | December & January
Suburban background
TROPOMI v2.3



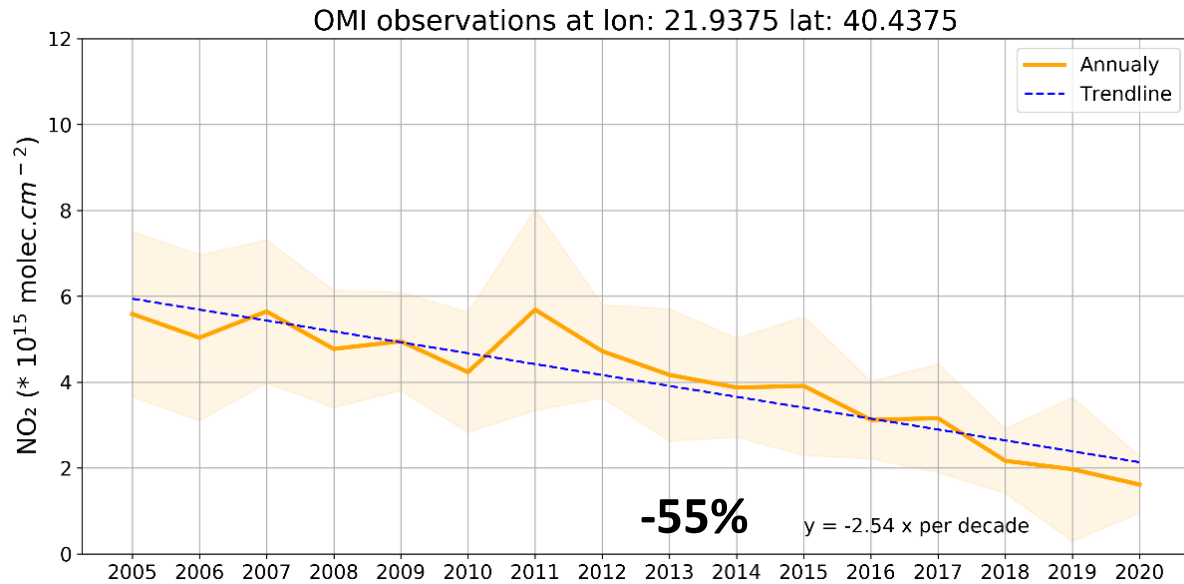


Using satellite data to update emission inventories | part A | power plants

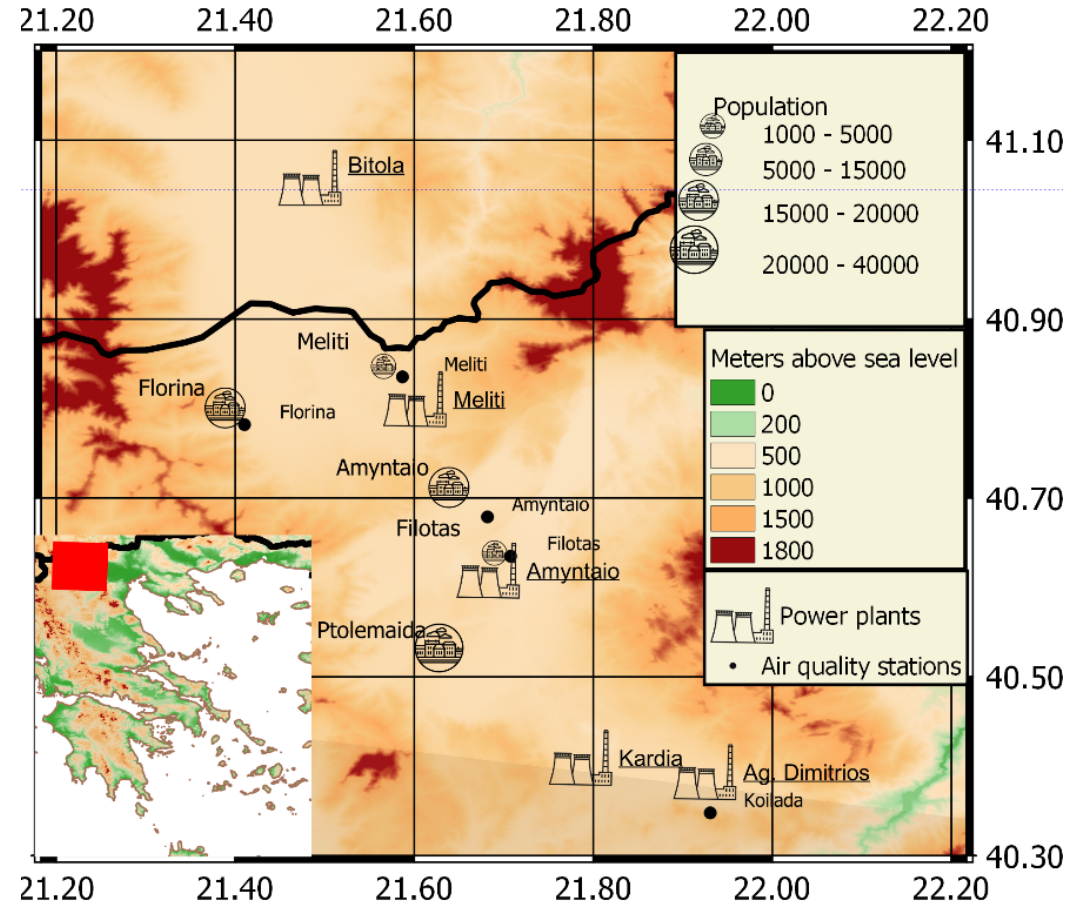
Skoulidou I, Koukouli M-E, Segers A, Manders A, Balis D, Stavrakou T, van Geffen J, Eskes H. **Changes in Power Plant NO_x Emissions over Northwest Greece Using a Data Assimilation Technique**. Atmosphere. 2021; 12(7):900. <https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos12070900>

Large reduction in NO_x emissions in Greece

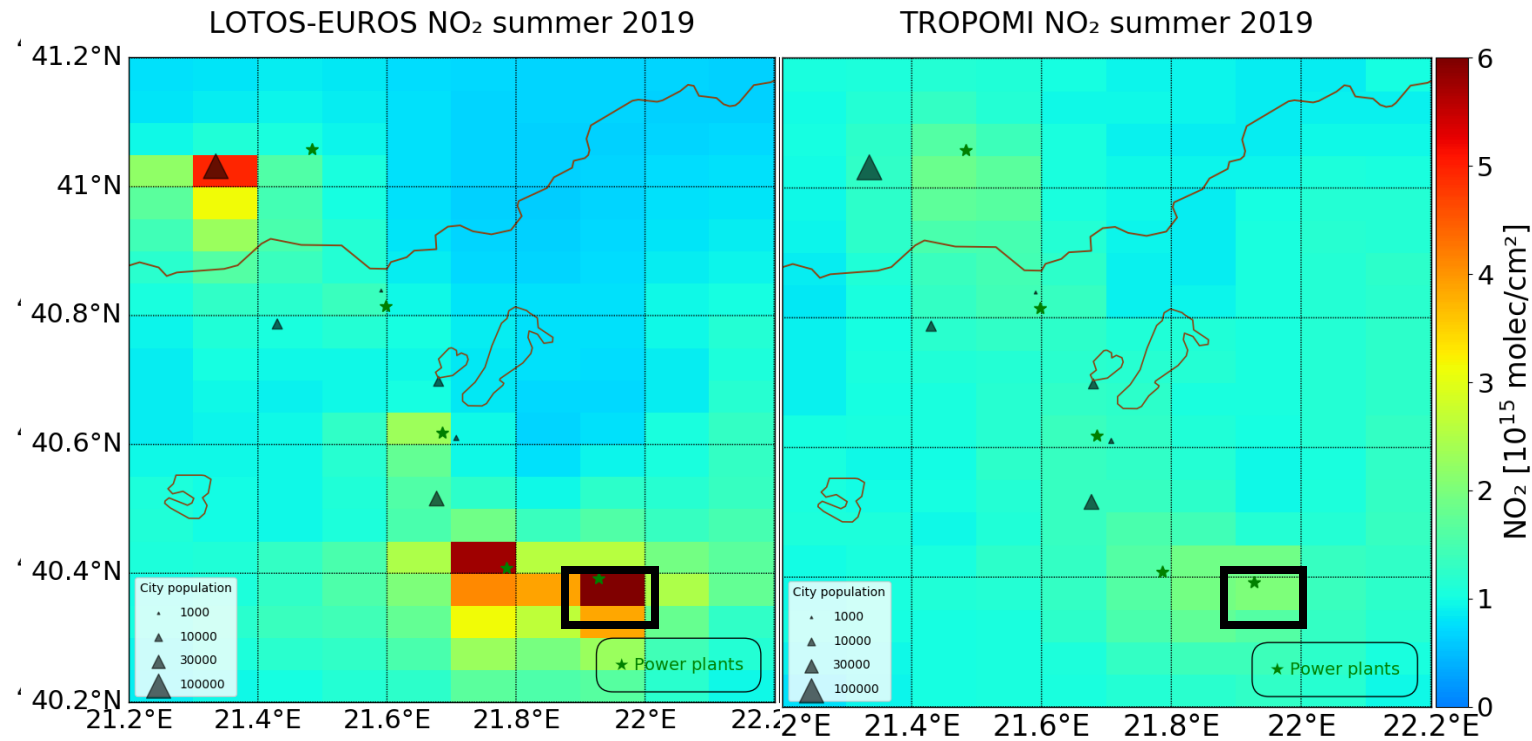
Greek National Energy and Climate Plan mandates a reduction in NO_x emissions of 31% [2020 – 2029] and of 55% [from 2030] compared to 2005.



Mean annual NO₂ columns from OMI/AURA over the larger power plant location

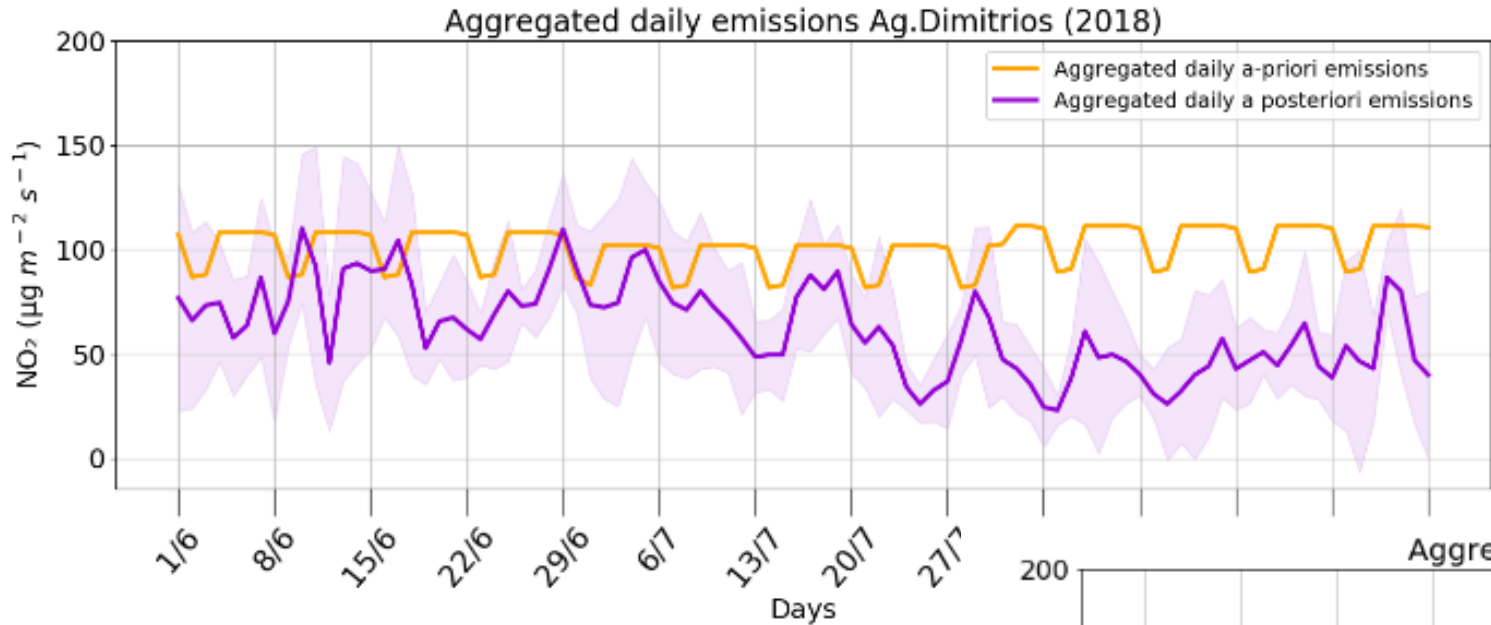


Large disagreement between model and space-borne estimates



Bias 6.86 10¹⁵ mole.cm⁻²

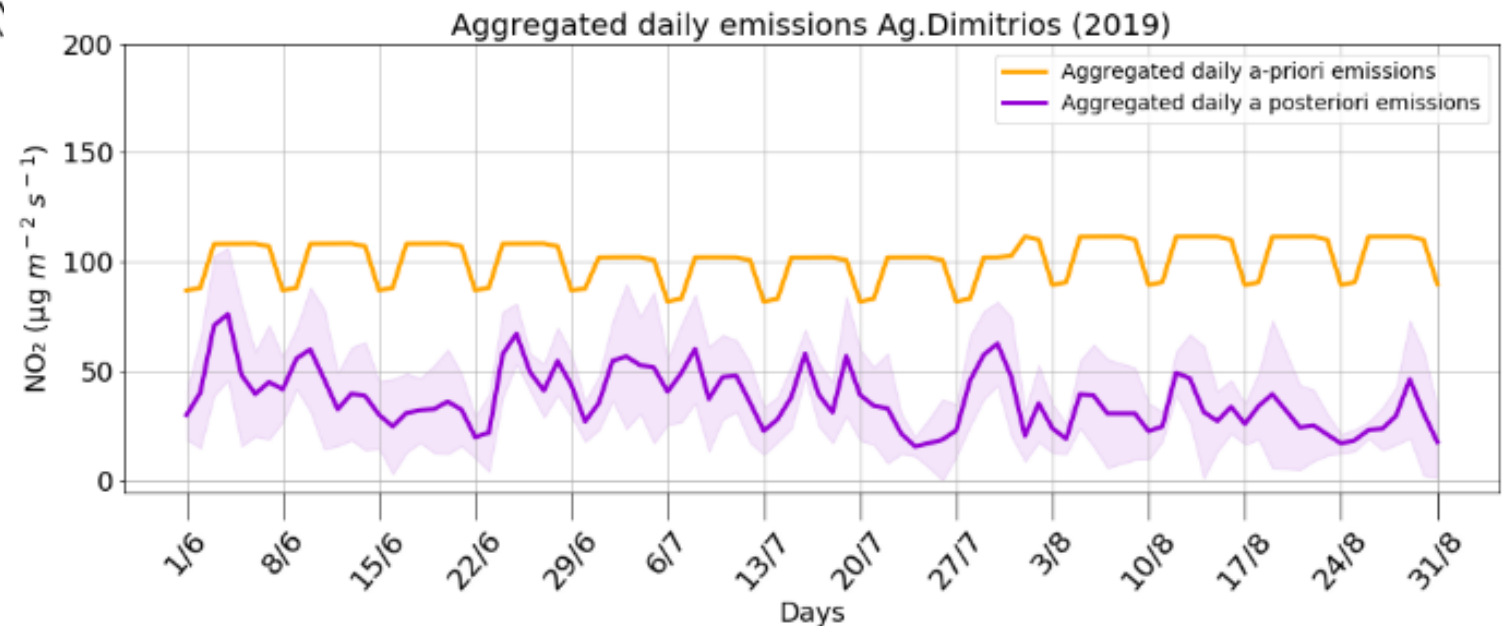
Updating the emission inventory by assimilating TROPOMI observations



In 2019 they remain low throughout the summer and decrease by 28% in August compared to June and July

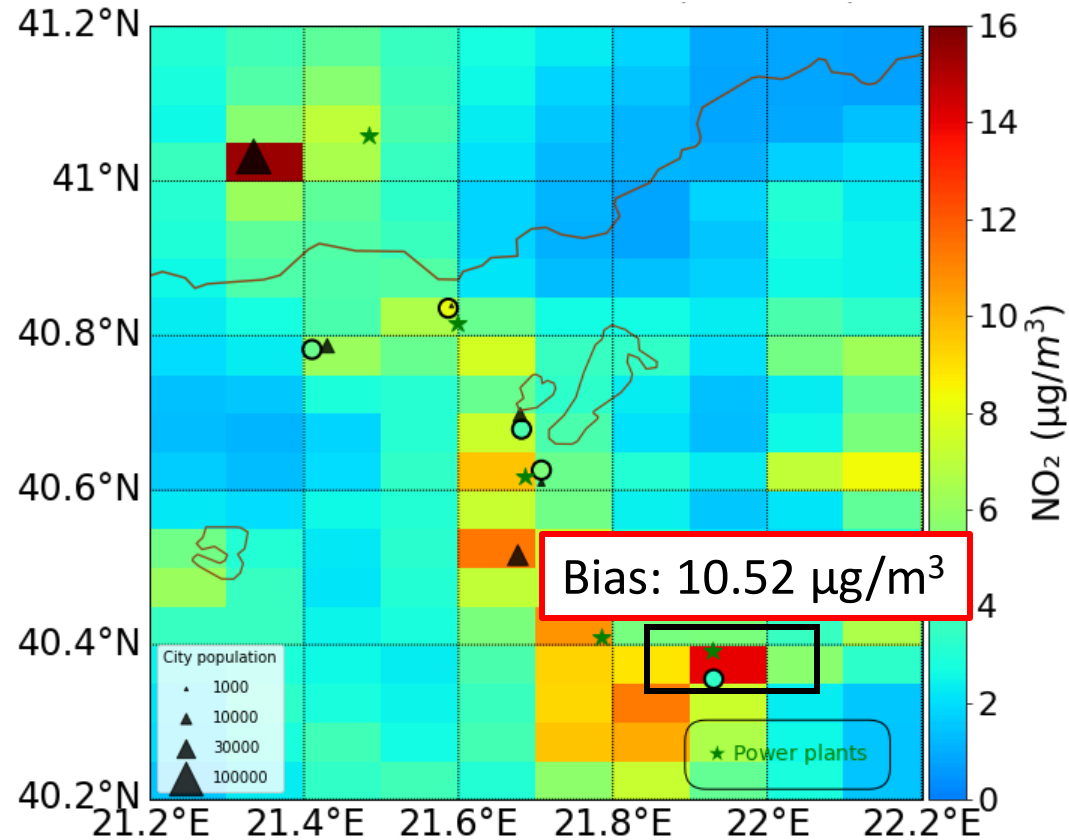
Decreased emissions after assimilation.

Emissions are found to strongly decrease in August 2018 by around 40% and 30% compared to June and July

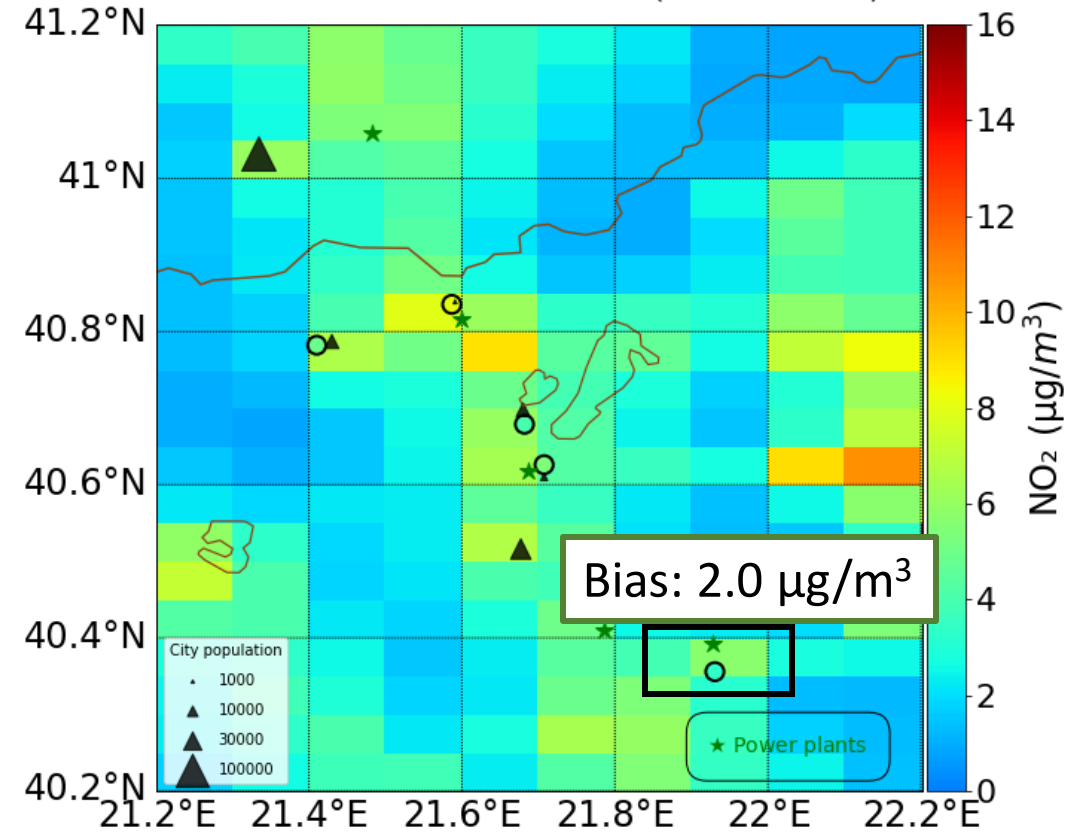


Validation – surface simulations vs in situ NO_2 measurements

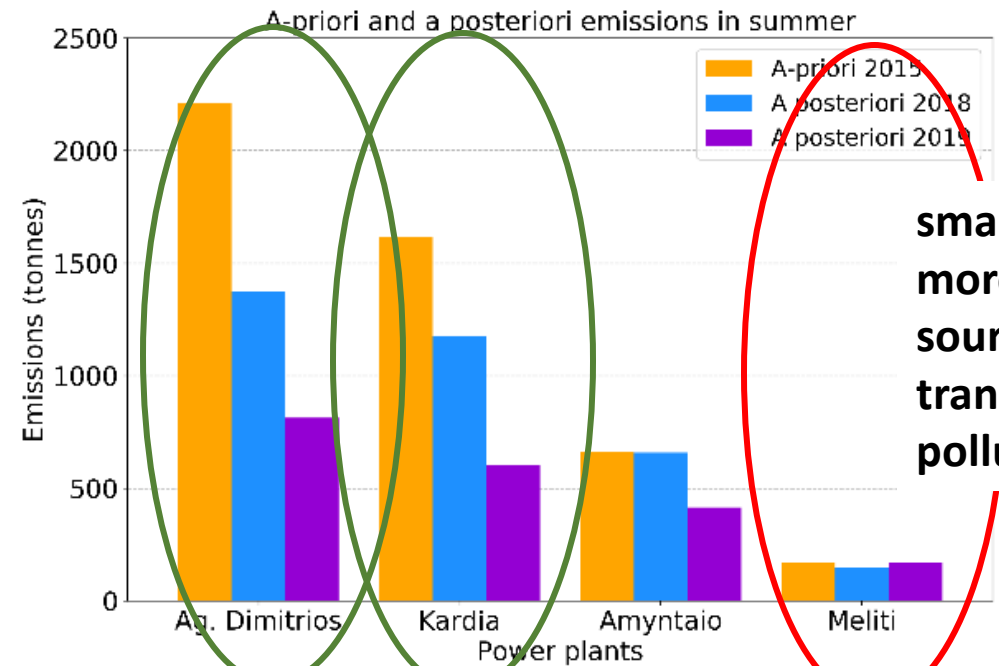
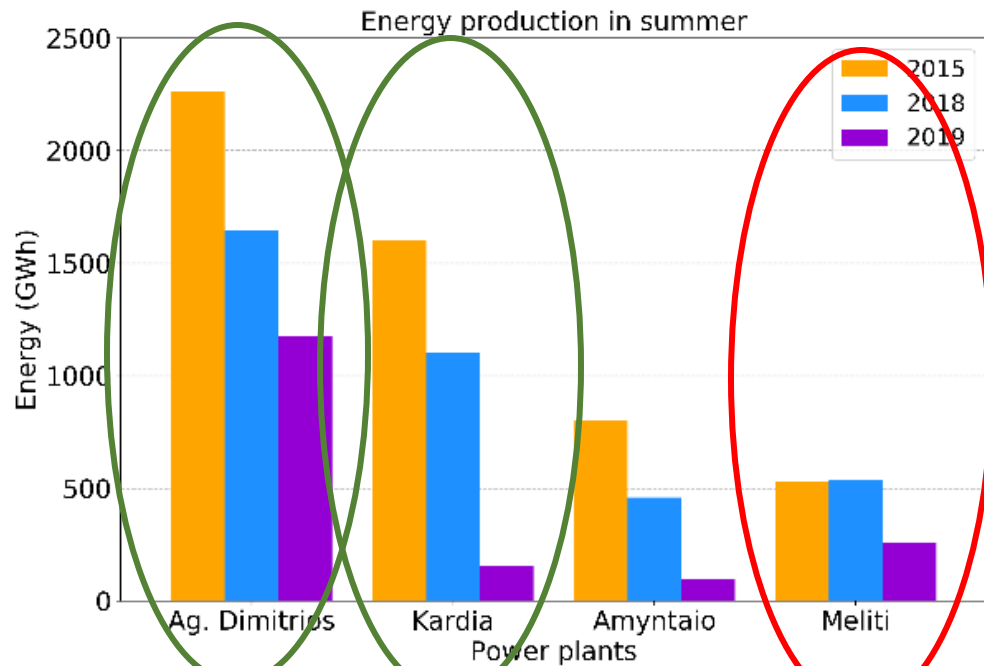
NO_2 surface simulations using **a priori**
 NO_x emissions



NO_2 surface simulations using **a posteriori** NO_x
emissions



Validation– a posteriori emissions vs energy reports



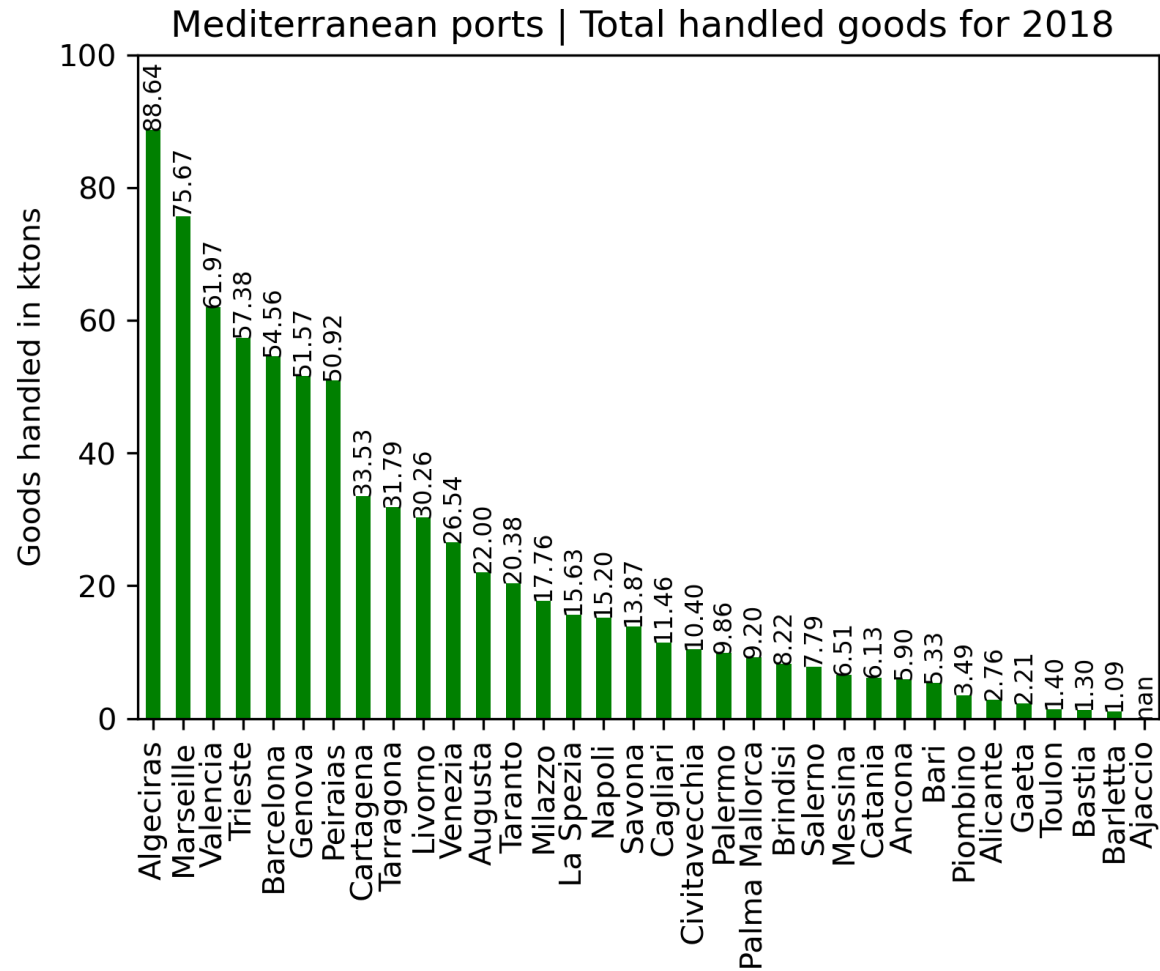
Power plant	Ag. Dimitrios		Kardia		Amyntaio		Meliti	
	Energy	Emissions	Energy	Emissions	Energy	Emissions	Energy	Emissions
Rel. Differences								
2018-2015/ 2015	-27%	-38%	-31%	-27%	-43%	-1%	2%	-11%
2019-2015/ 2015	-48%	-63%	-90%	-63%	-88%	-37%	-51%	-1%



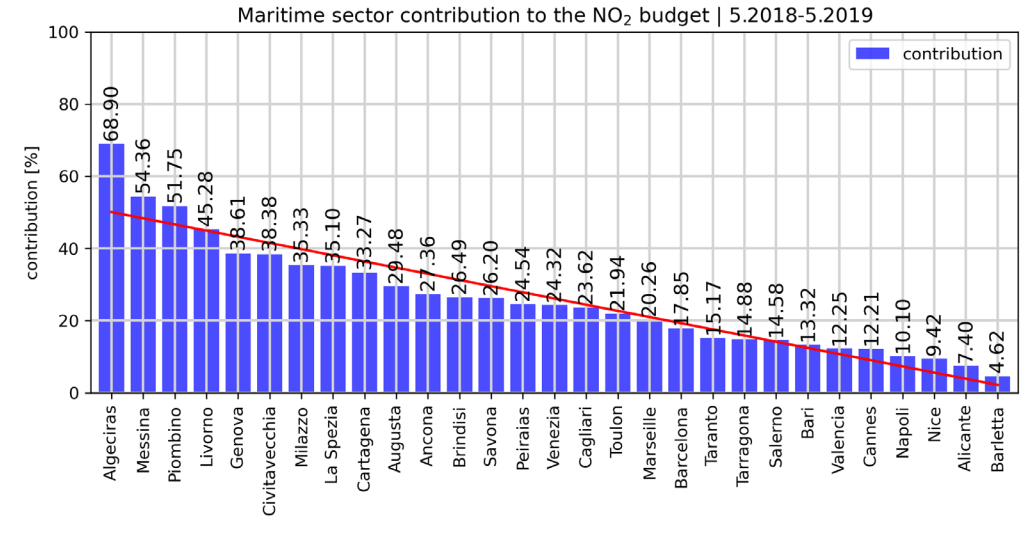
Using satellite data to update emission inventories | part B | maritime emissions

Pseftogkas A, Koukouli M-E, Skoulidou I, Balis D, Meleti C, Stavrakou T, Falco L, van Geffen J, Eskes H, Segers A, et al. **A New Separation Methodology for the Maritime Sector Emissions over the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions.** *Atmosphere.* 2021; 12(11):1478.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos12111478>

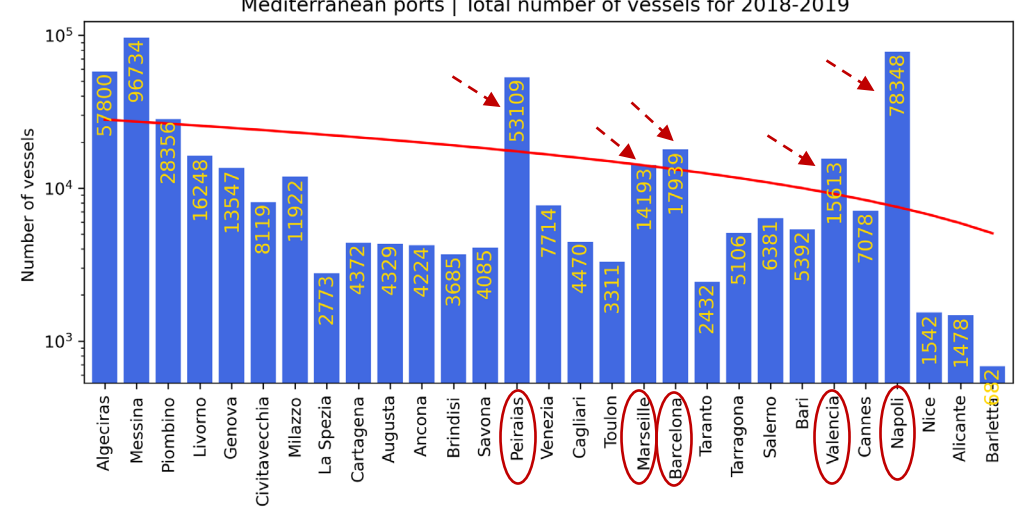
The maritime sector activities in the Mediterranean Sea



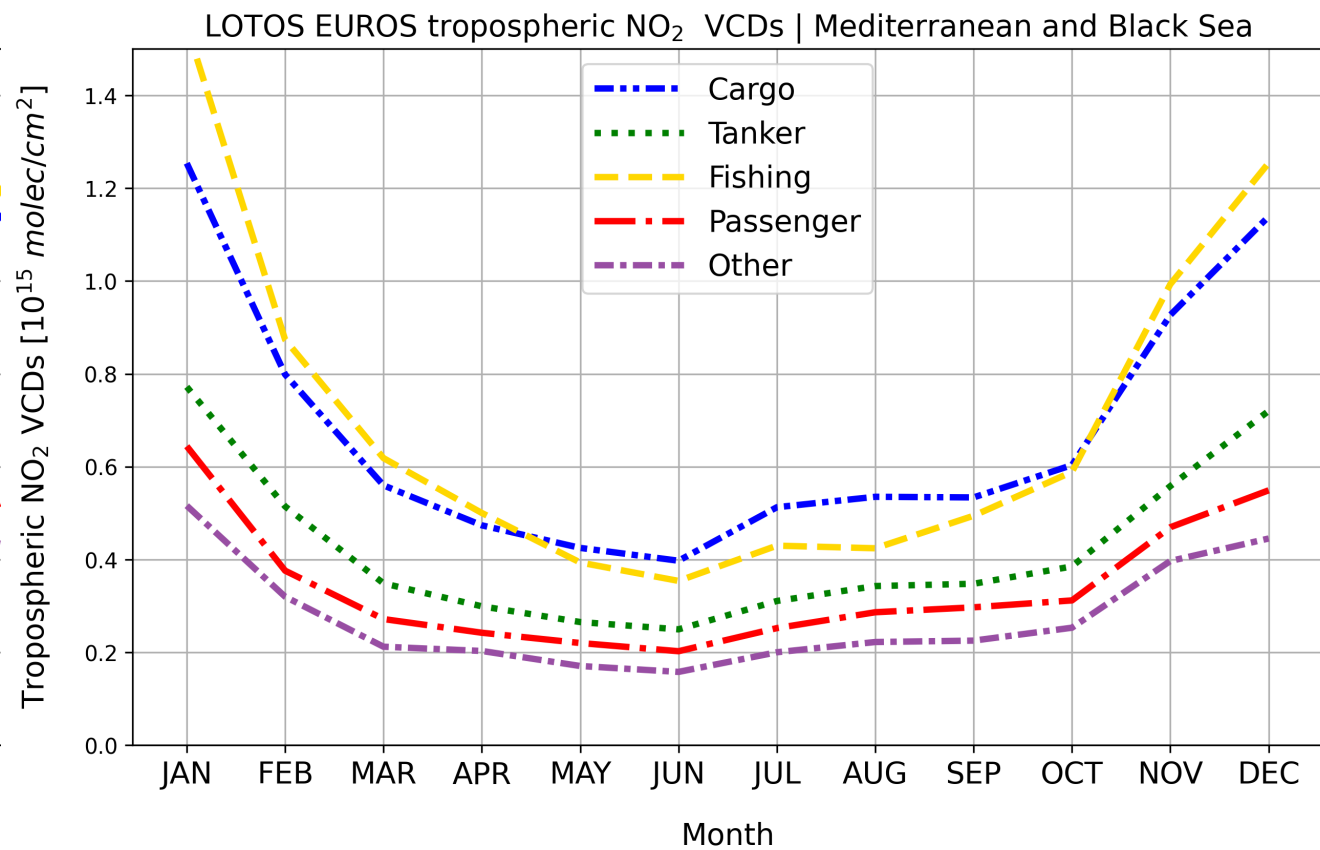
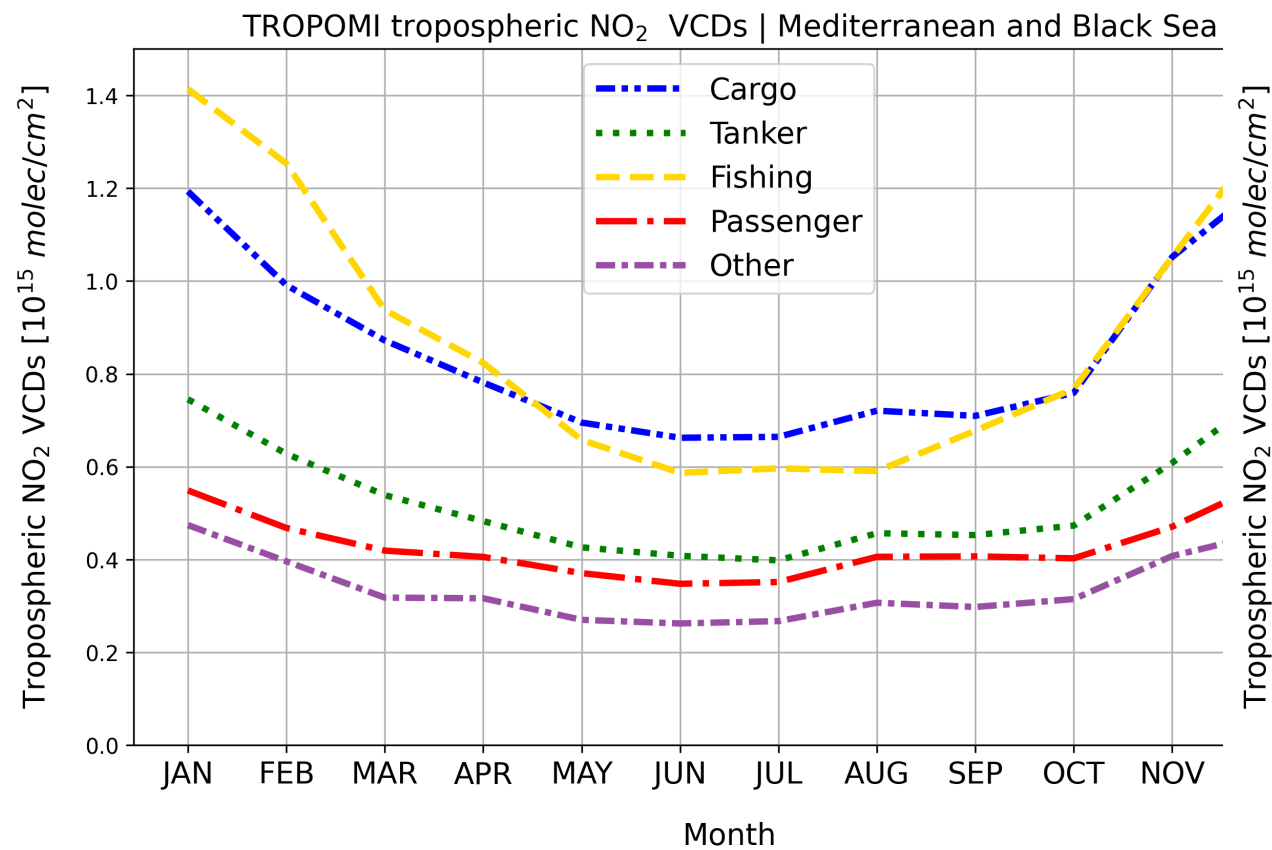
Contribution [%]



Number of vessels

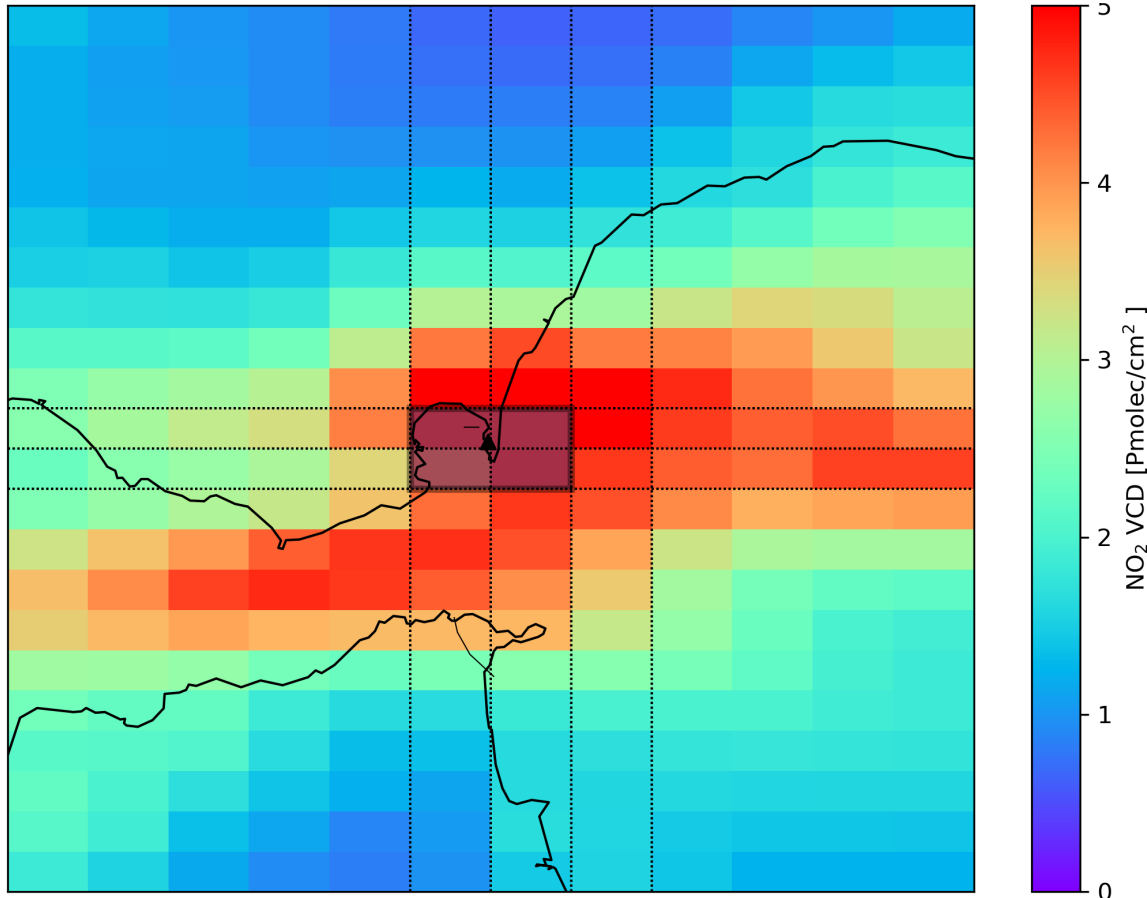


Using S5P NO₂ to relate NO_x emissions to shipping activities in the Mediterranean Sea

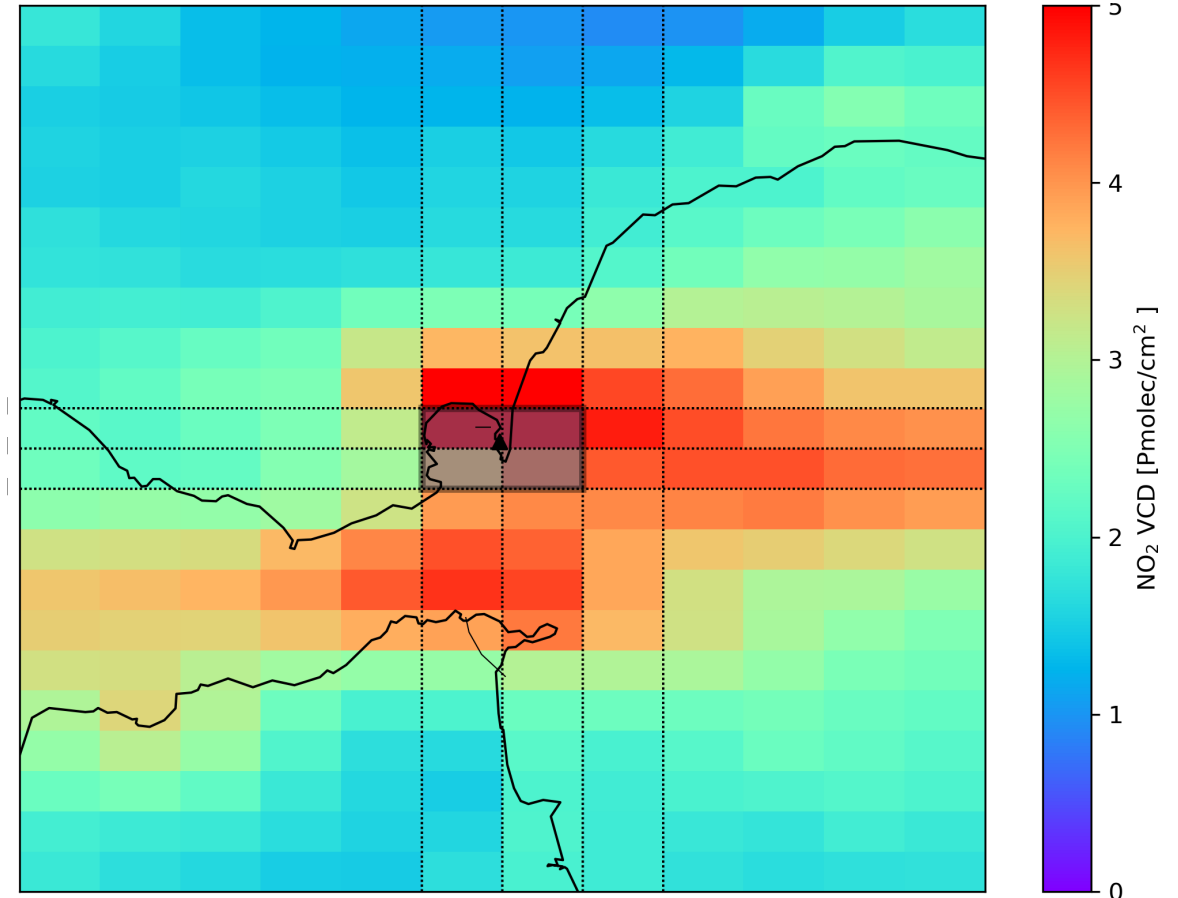


The port of Algeciras, Spain

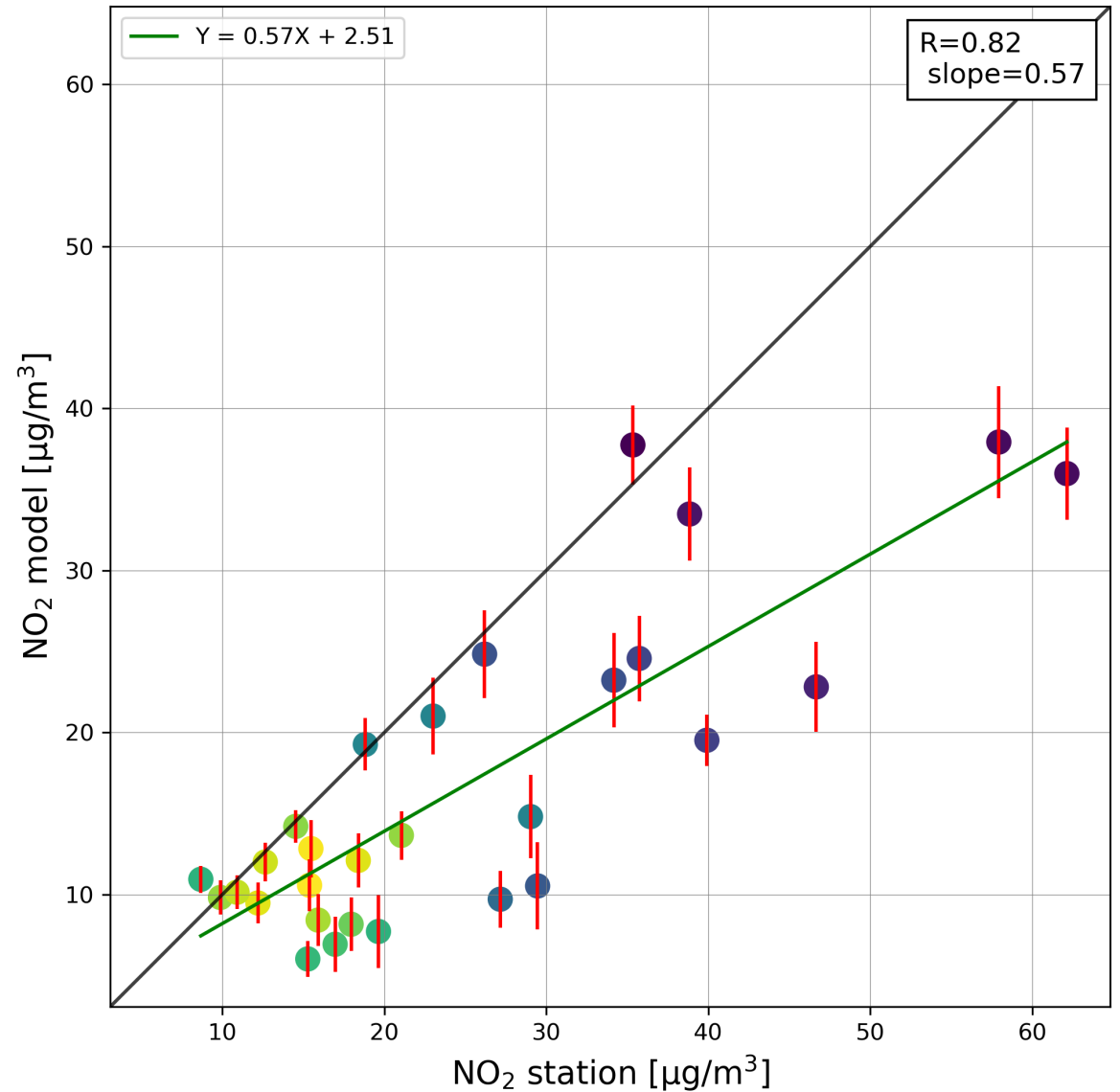
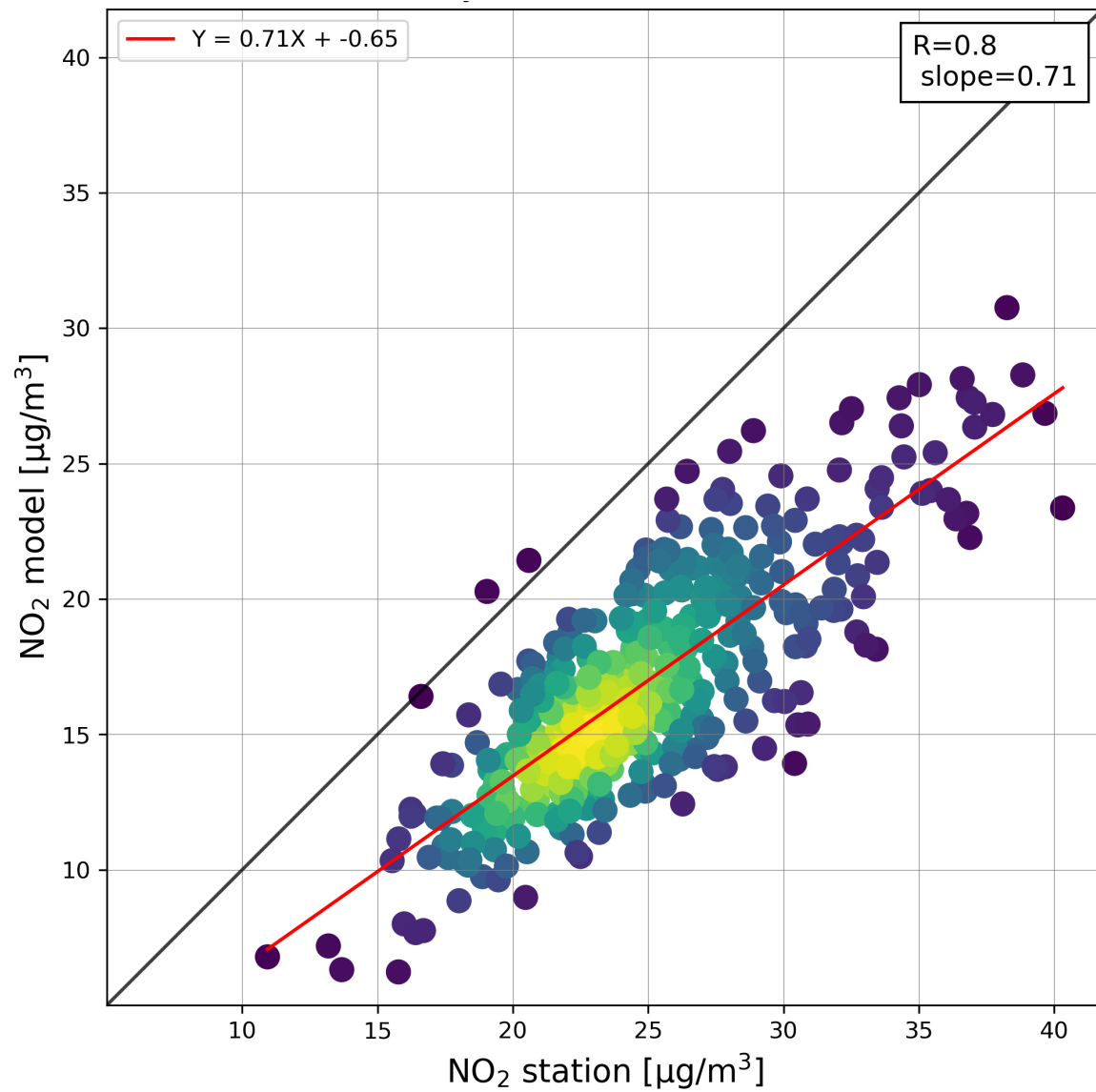
LOTOS-EUROS tropospheric column



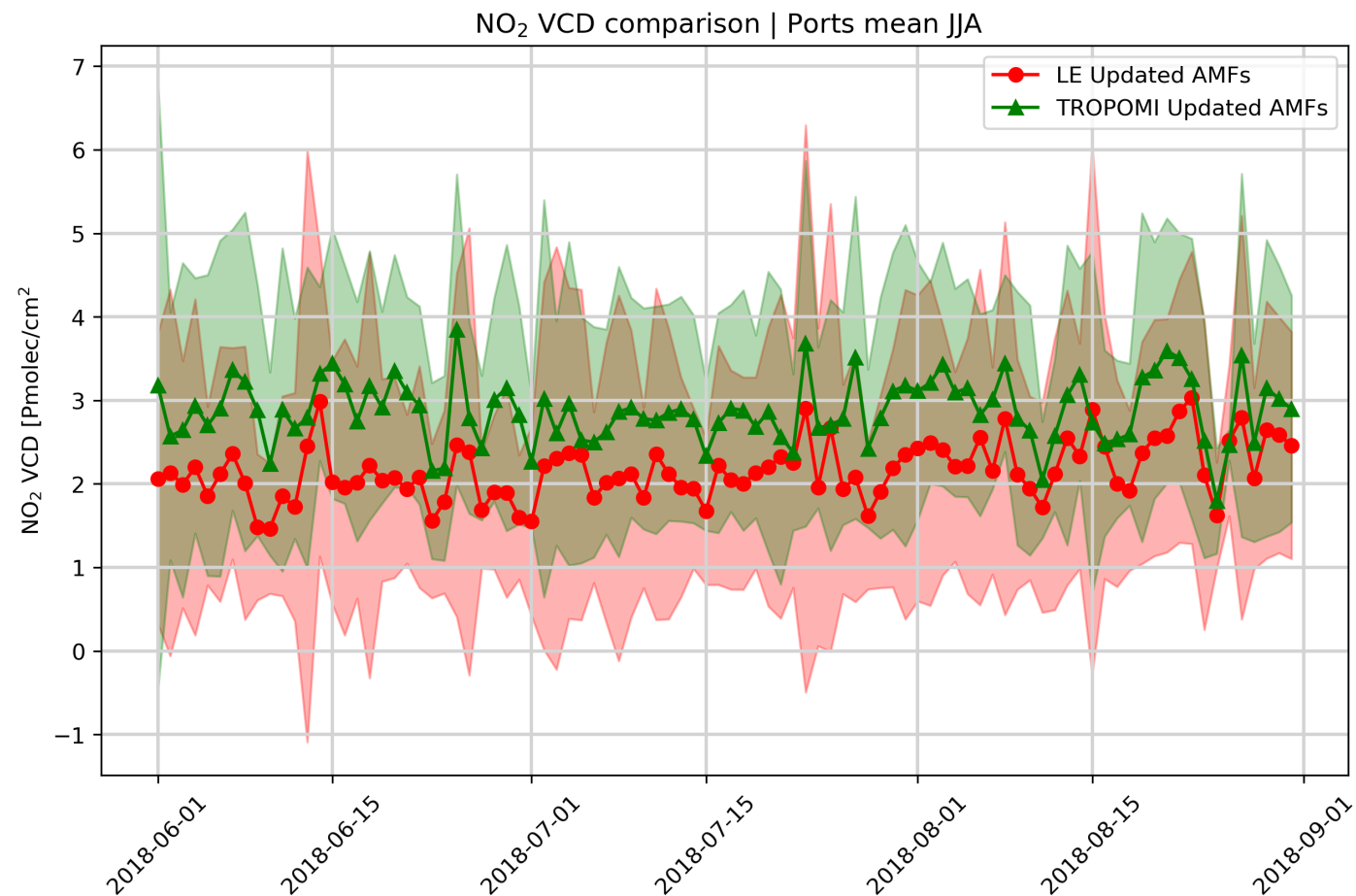
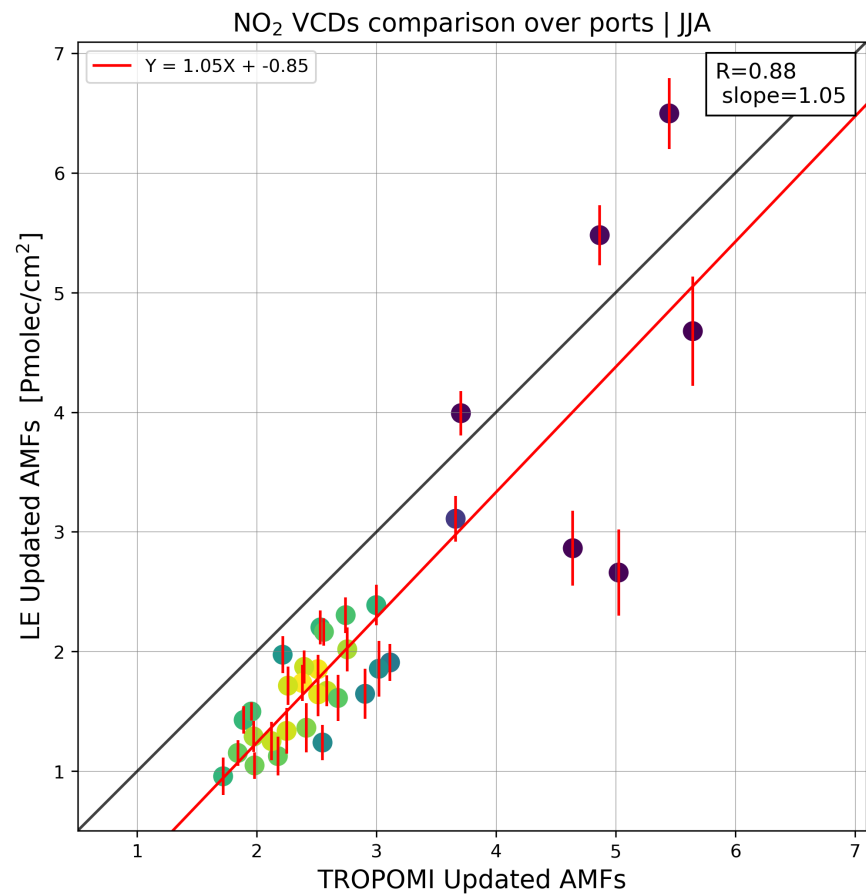
TROPOMI tropospheric column



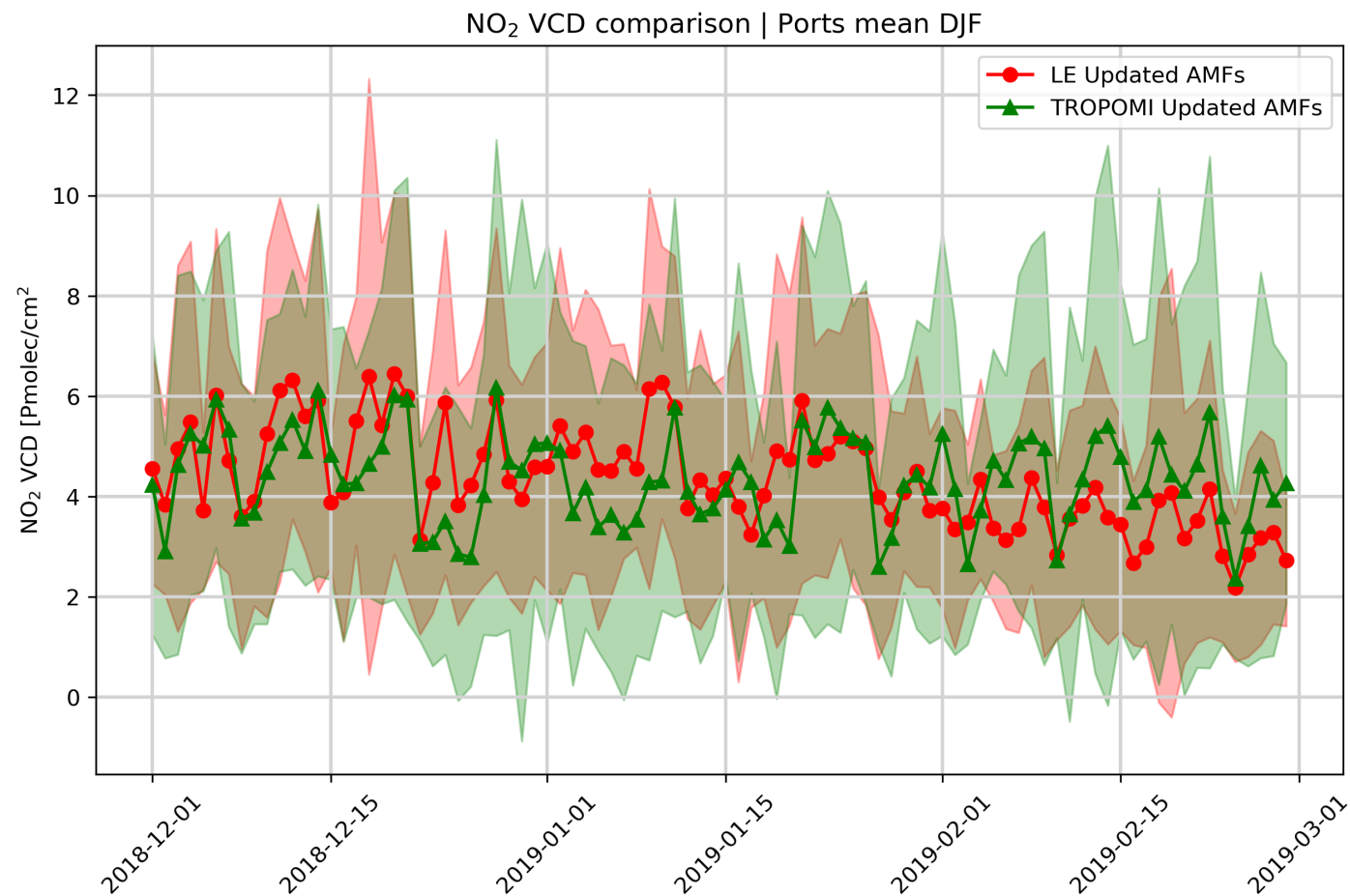
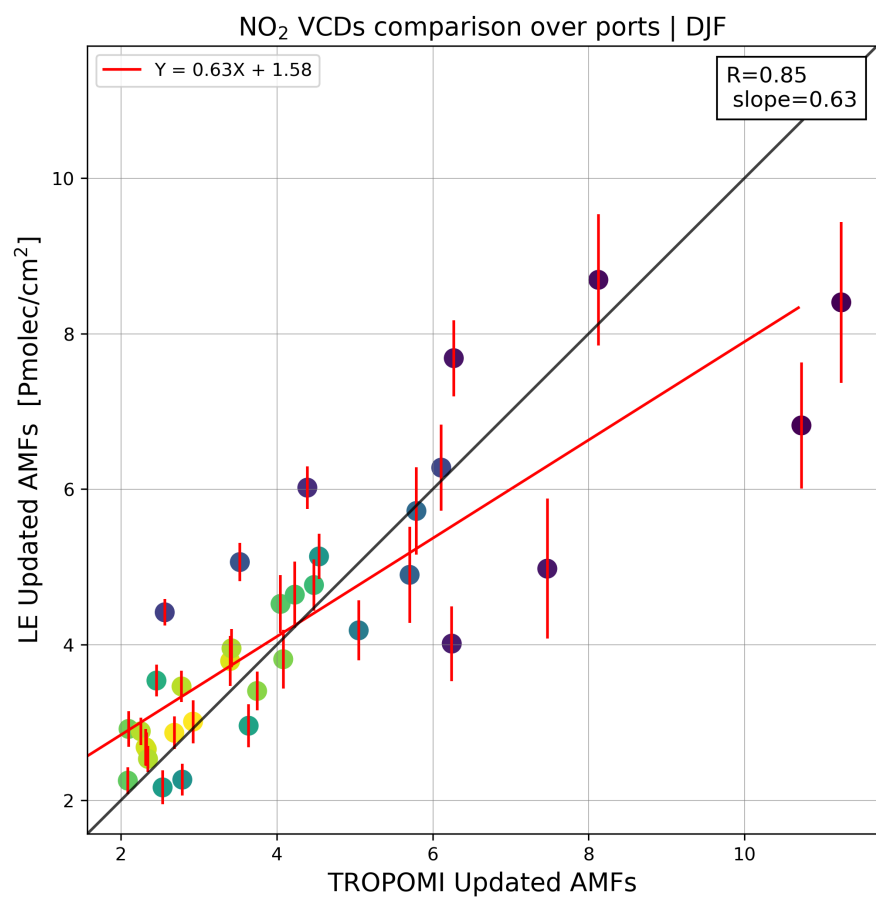
First, we verify the model using in situ measurements...



... then we compare the satellite with the model | Summer



... then we compare the satellite with the model | Winter



Take away message

- Current space-borne observations can provide a wealth of additional information on the state of our atmosphere.
- Auxiliary data are required, to verify, understand, analyze the observations as well as the model simulations.
- The age of synergy is upon us; use all available information to comprehend, classify and quantify air quality levels.
- ... and always evaluate, verify, validate!

