



**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**  
*Centro Nacional de Supercomputación*



**SECRETARÍA DEL  
MEDIO AMBIENTE**

# A modelling system for air quality forecast and air quality management in Mexico City

Marc Guevara Vilardell

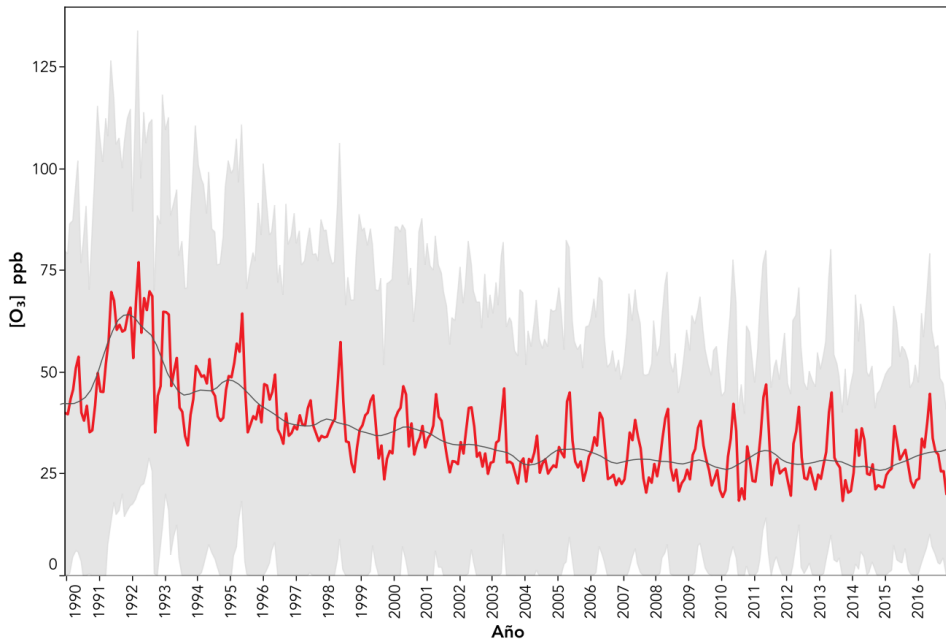
26/09/2018

Taller para la evaluación del PROAIRE 2011-2020 e identificación de estrategias para la mejora de la calidad del aire , CDMX, Mexico

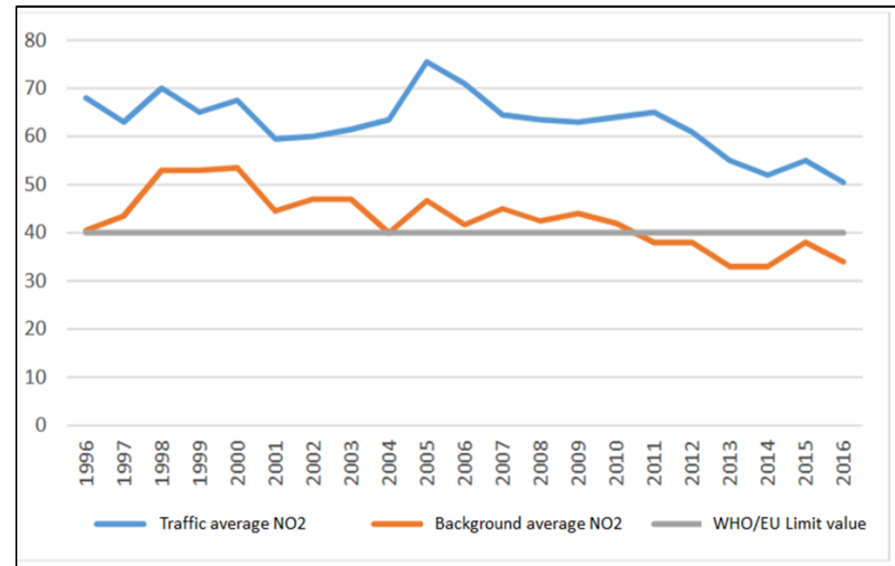
# The great challenges to air pollution

Air pollution is improving overall but more work is needed to reduce exceedances

## O<sub>3</sub> levels in CDMX (1990-2016)



## NO<sub>2</sub> levels in BCN (1996-2016)

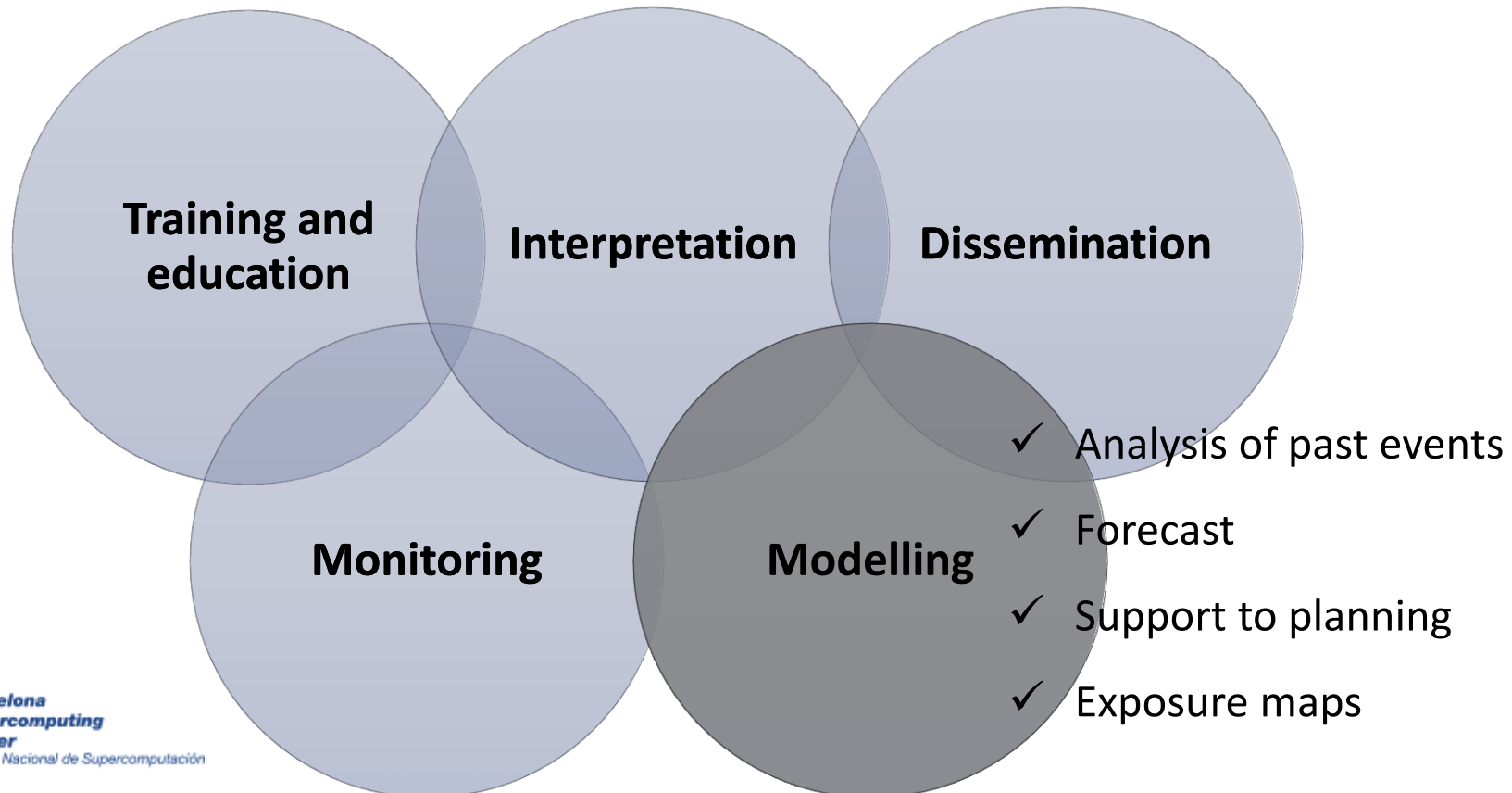


# Five steps to improve air-quality forecasts

*A worldwide monitoring and modelling network would reduce the dramatic toll of air pollution on health and food production, urge Rajesh Kumar and colleagues.*

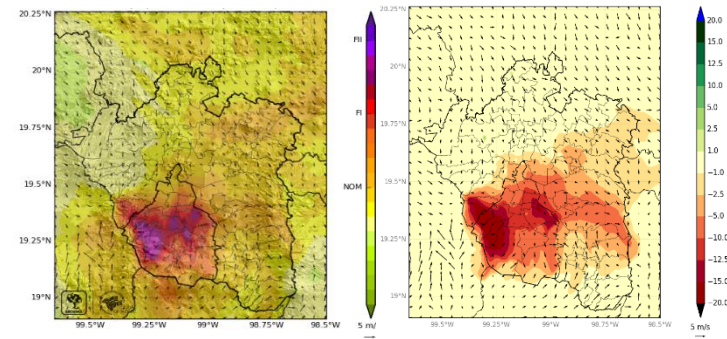
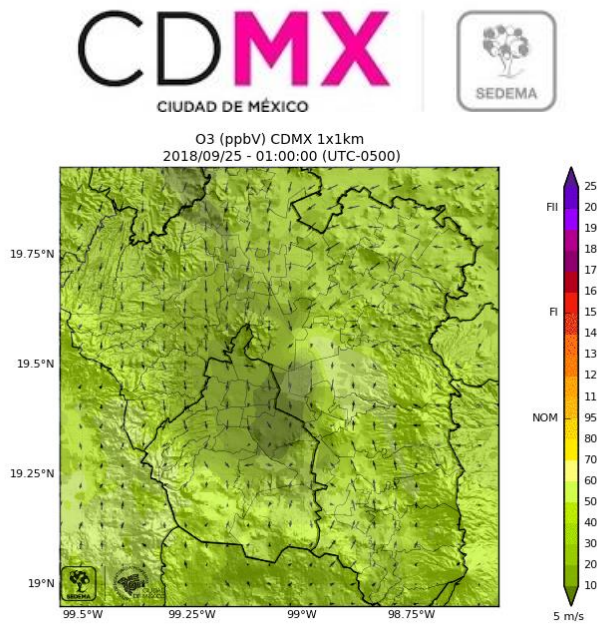
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-06150-5>

Rajesh Kumar ✉, Vincent-Henri Peuch, James H. Crawford & Guy Brasseur



# Air quality modelling system for Mexico City

A high resolution and flexible forecasting and planning tool for policy makers



Se activa **FASE 1** de Contingencia Ambiental Atmosférica por Ozono en la Zona Metropolitana del Valle de México

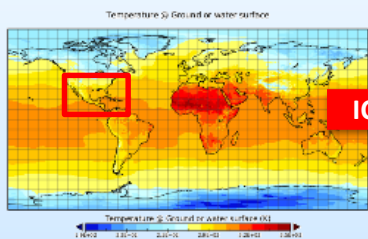
NO CIRCULAN

hoyestado.com

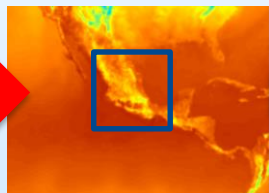
<http://www.aire.cdmx.gob.mx/pronostico-aire/>

# Workflow of the operational system

## METEOROLOGICAL MODEL (WRF)

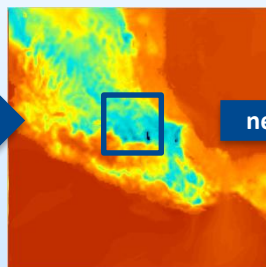


NCEP GFS  
0.25° x 0.25°



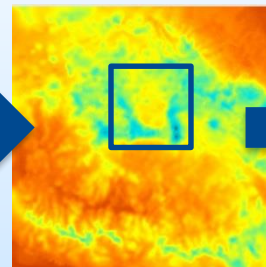
WRF-ARW  
27 km x 27 km

nesting



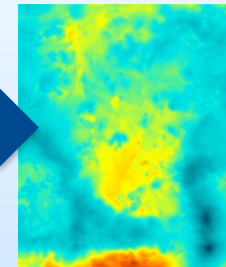
WRF-ARW  
9 km x 9 km

nesting



WRF-ARW  
3 km x 3 km

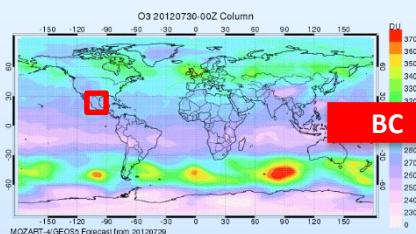
nesting



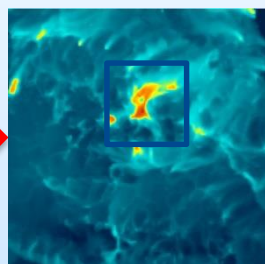
WRF-ARW  
1 km x 1 km

*Meteo*

## AIR QUALITY MODEL (CMAQ)

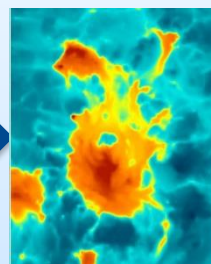


UCAR MOZART4  
1.9° x 2.5°



CMAQ  
3 km x 3 km

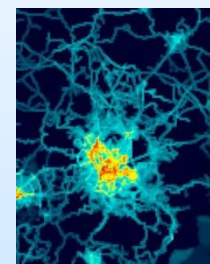
nesting



CMAQ  
1 km x 1 km

*Emis*

## EMISSION MODEL (HERMES-Mex)

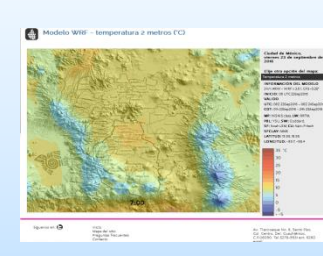
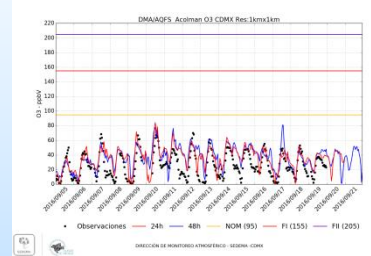
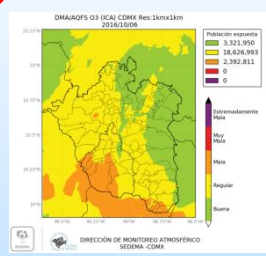
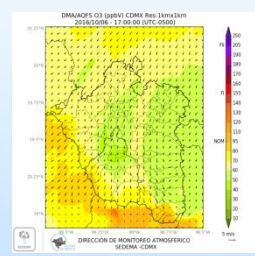
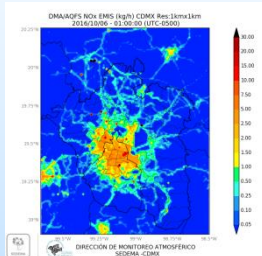


HERMES-Mex  
1 km x 1 km



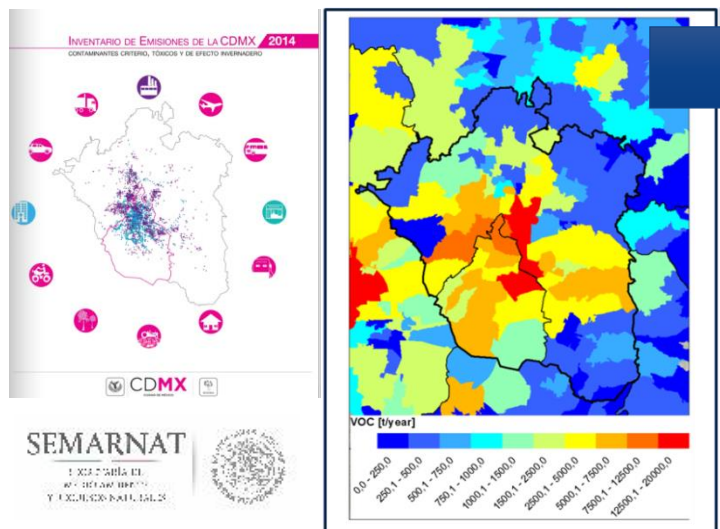
*Post-procesos*

## PRODUCTS



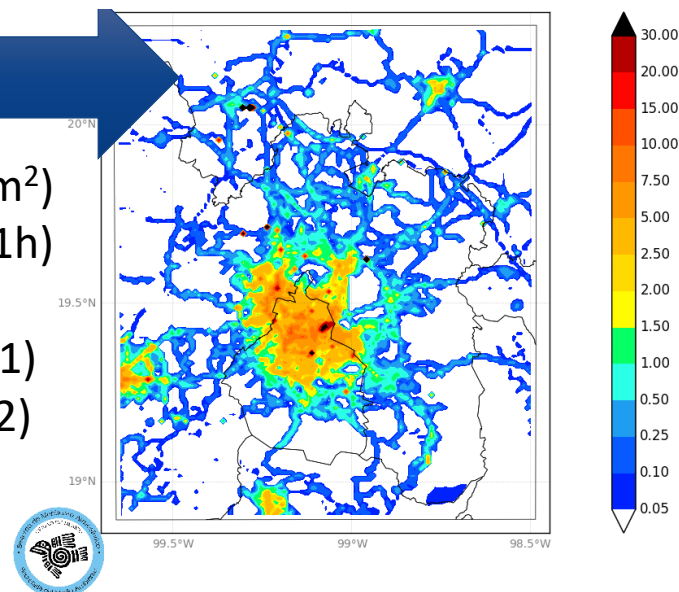
# HERMES-Mex: An emission processing tool for Mexico

## Official Emission Datasets



## CMAQ ready emission data

Spatial distribution (1km<sup>2</sup>)  
Temporal distribution (1h)  
Speciation (CB05)  
+ biogenic (MEGANv2.1)  
+ forest fires (GFASv1.2)  
+ trash burning



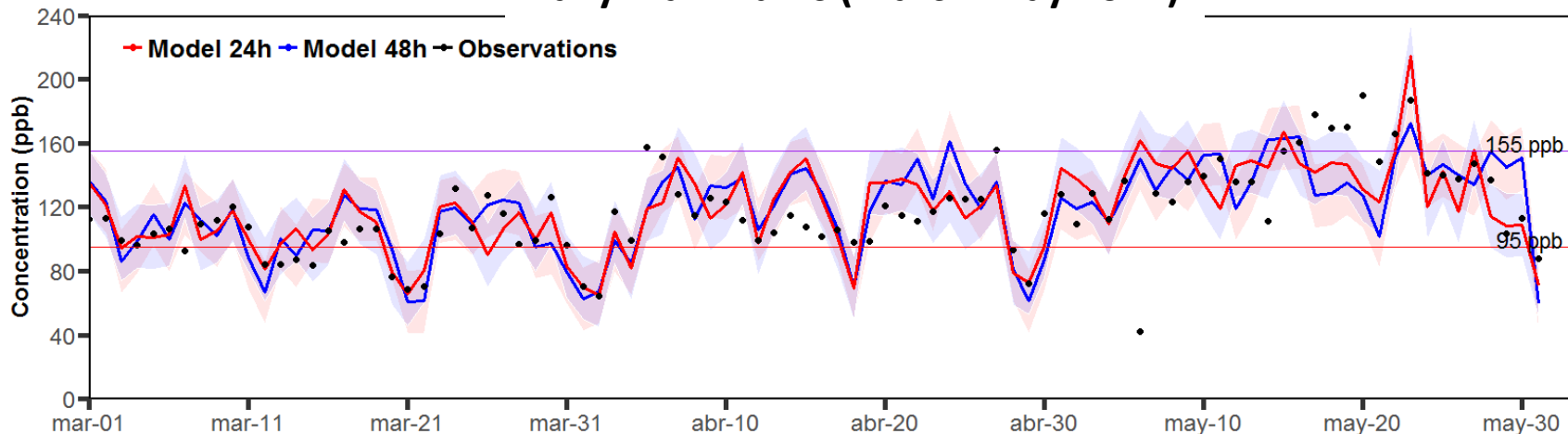
Flexible platform for emission scenario and contribution analysis:

- 101 emission source categories (source type, fuel, technology)
- Individual industrial facilities
- Option to deactivate or apply a scaling factor to individual sources

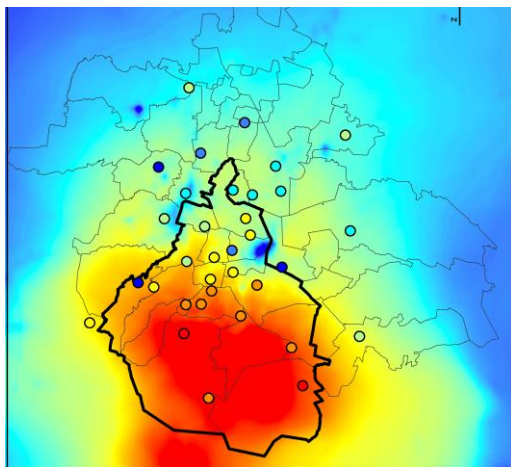
# Forecast evaluation

Near real-time evaluation of the modelled results using observations from the Mexico City's automatic air quality monitoring network

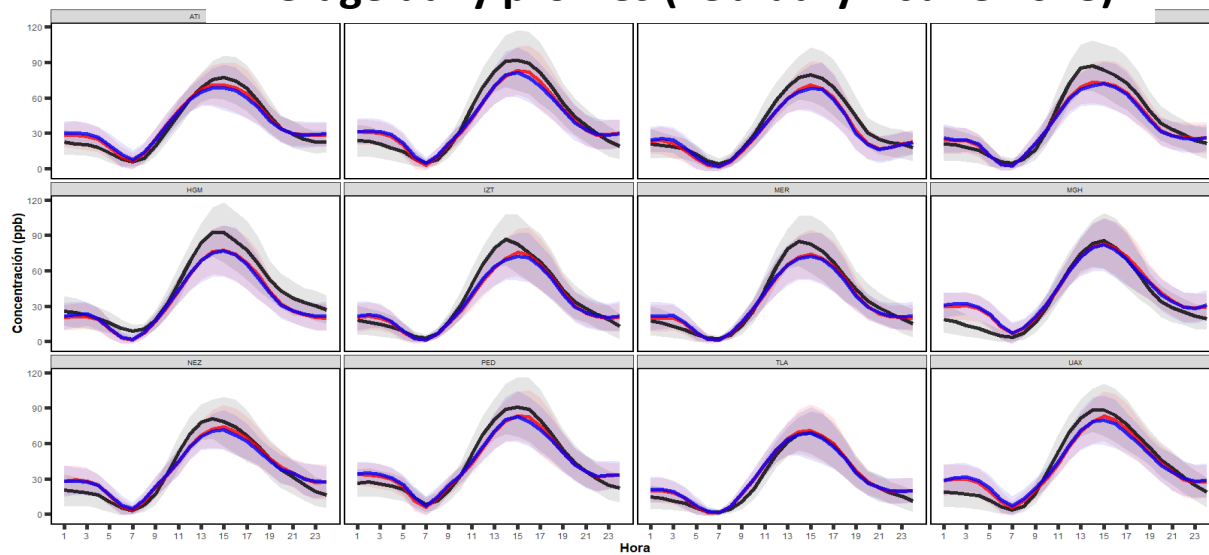
## Daily maximums (March-May 2017)



## Mean 13:00 to 18:00h March - May 2017

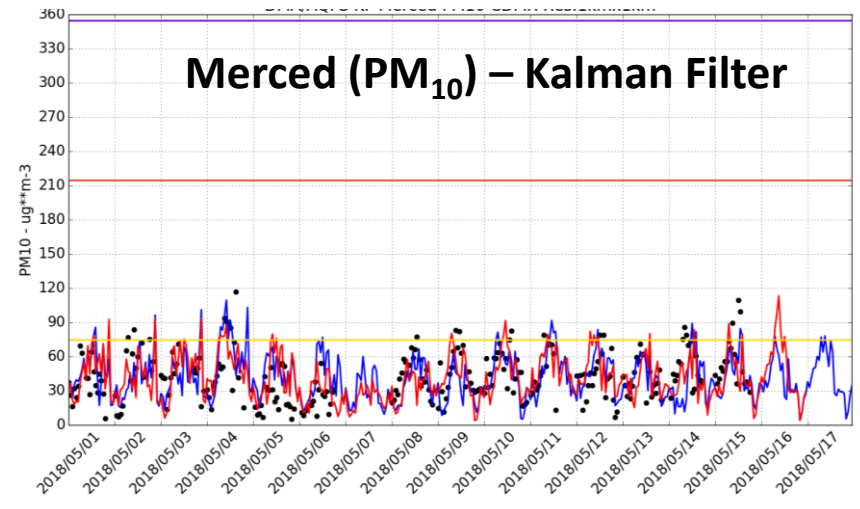
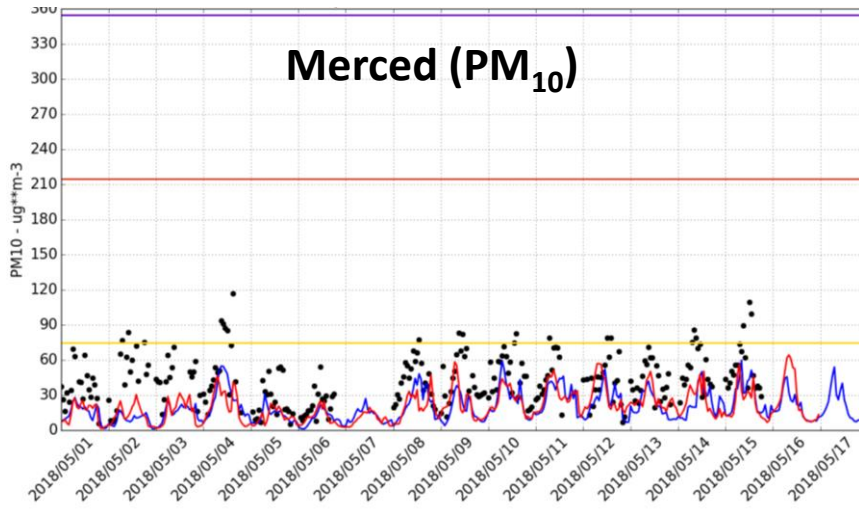


## Average daily profiles (February - June 2018)



# Bias reduction

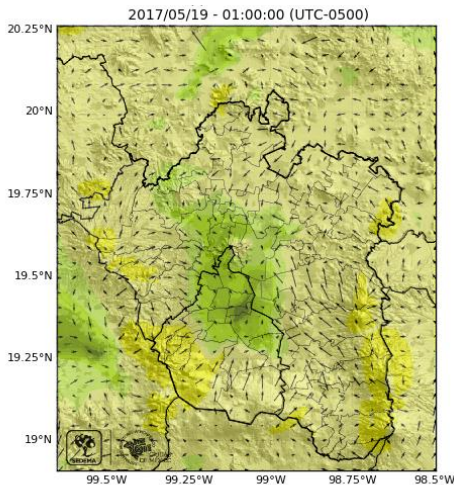
## Systematic Error Removal (Kalman Filter)



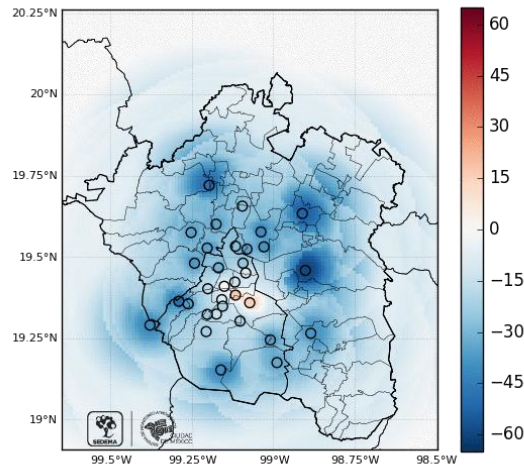
• Observaciones — 24h — 48h — NOM (75) — FI (215) — FII (355)

## Spatial Interpolation (Barnes Scheme)

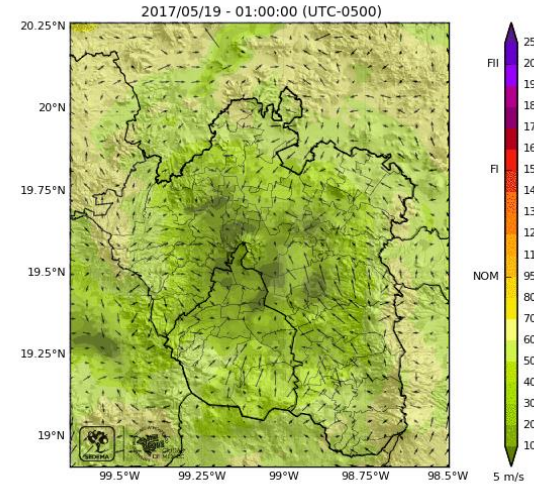
### O<sub>3</sub> Forecast



### Gridded bias



### Improved O<sub>3</sub> forecast



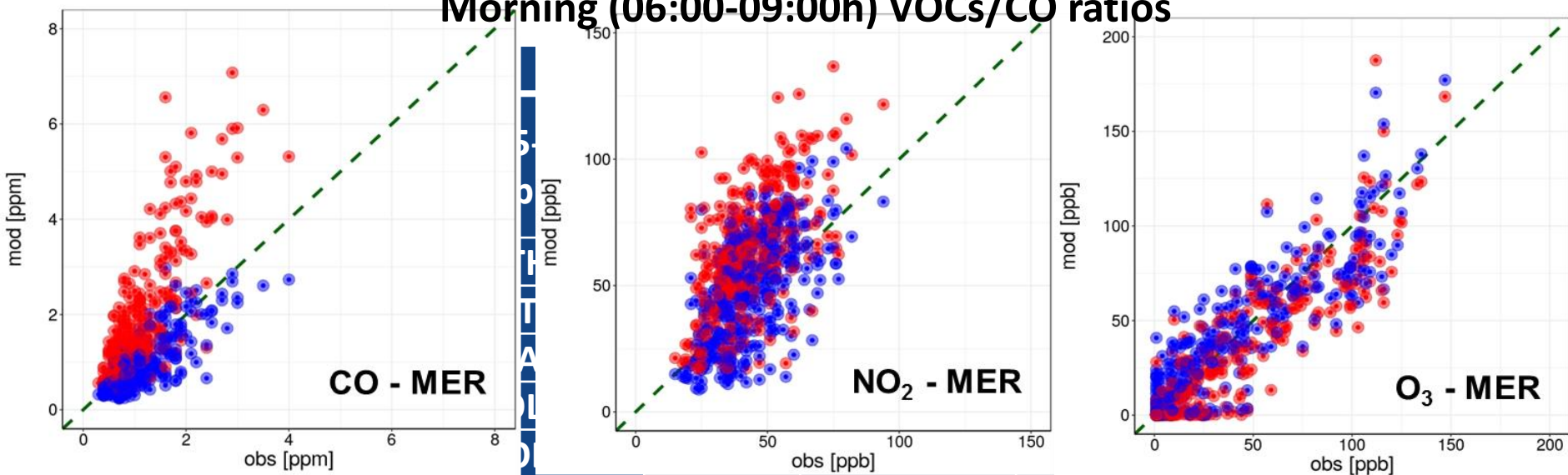


# Road traffic emissions: MOBILE6.2-Mex versus MOVES-Mexico

Changes in the MCMA emissions when replacing MOBILE6.2-Mex for MOVES-Mexico

	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	VOC	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
<b>Total Sources</b>	-37%	-52%	-26%	8%	6%

Morning (06:00-09:00h) VOCs/CO ratios

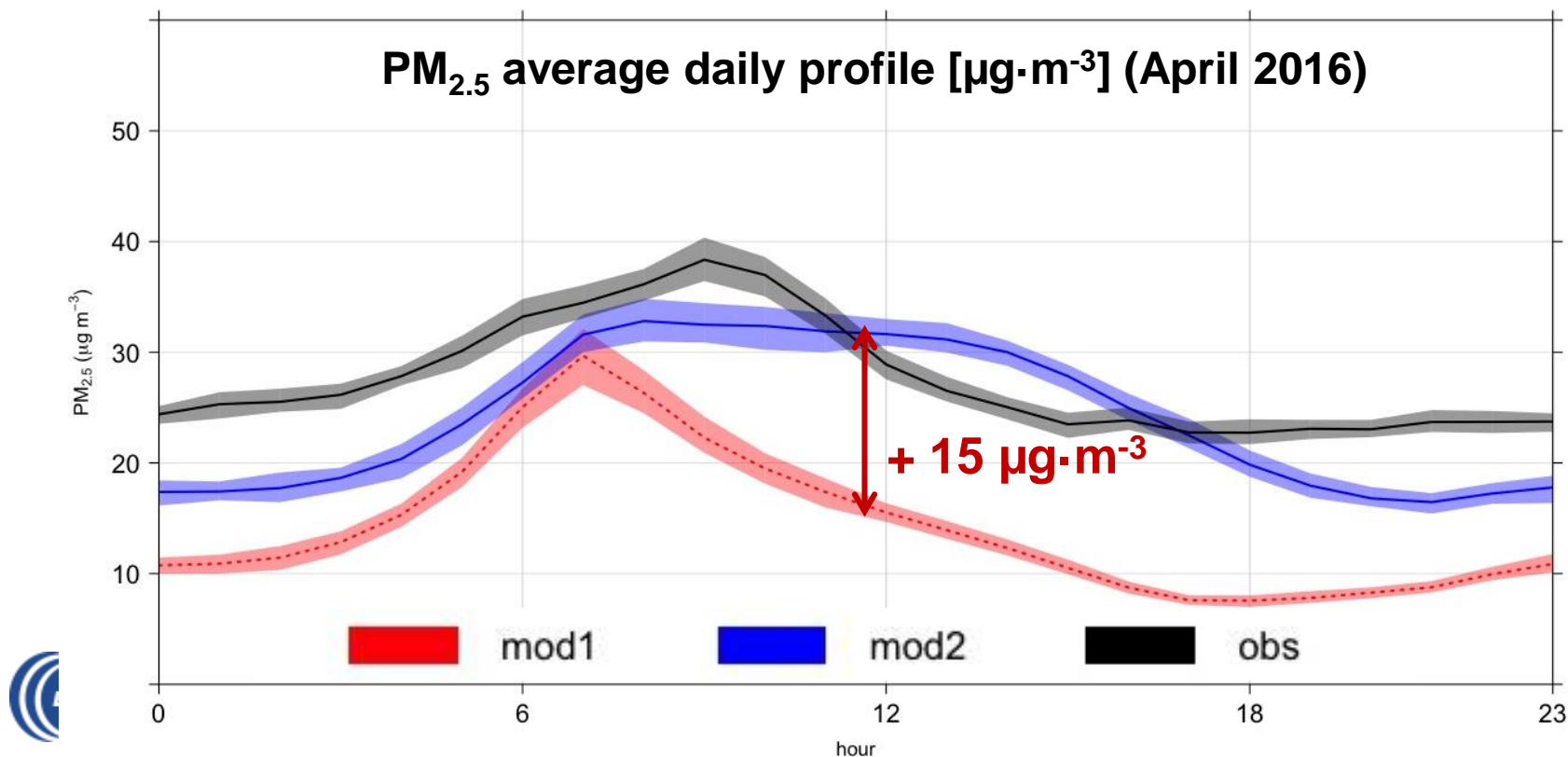


	MOBILE6	MOVES	ISOP
<b>BENZENE</b>	1.2	1.6	1.6
<b>TOL</b>	7.8	9.2	13.9
<b>XYL</b>	2.5	5.5	6.4

# Updating the system to improve PM<sub>2.5</sub>

Replacement of CMAQv5.0.2 for CMAQv5.2, which include the implementation of (Murphy et al., 2017):

- POA semivolatile partitioning and aging
- Potential SOA from combustion emissions



# The Environmental Atmospheric Contingency Program (PCAA)

Case Study May 15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2017:

- What is the impact of the PCAA on emissions and O<sub>3</sub> levels?
- Does the non-fulfillment of the PCAA's restrictions have a significant effect to its performance?
- What would be the impact if more restrictive measures are applied (Stage 2 instead of Stage 1 restrictions)?

Air Quality Index	O <sub>3</sub> (ppb, 1-hour)
0 – 50 (very good)	0 – 70
51 – 100 (good)	71 - 95
101 – 150 (regular)	96 – 154
<b>151 – 200 (bad)</b>	<b>155 – 204</b>
<b>201 – 300 (very bad)</b>	<b>205 – 404</b>



**PCAA Stage 1**

**PCAA Stage 2**

# The Environmental Atmospheric Contingency Program (PCAA)

## Emission scenarios

Based on the official measures reported in the PCAA document

Stage 1  
Non-fulfillment

Stage 1  
Fulfillment

Stage 2  
Non-fulfillment

Stage 2  
Fulfillment

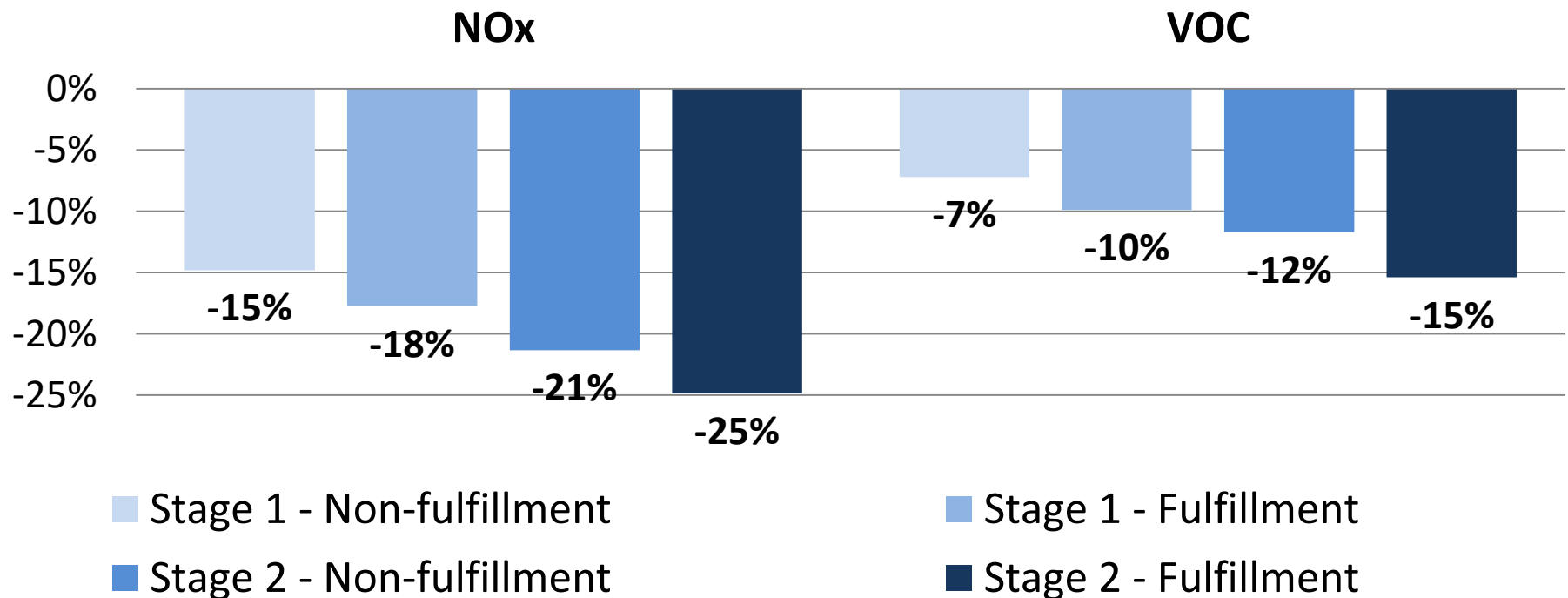
Based on the number of infractions registered during the control campaigns performed when the PCAA is activated

# The Environmental Atmospheric Contingency Program (PCAA)

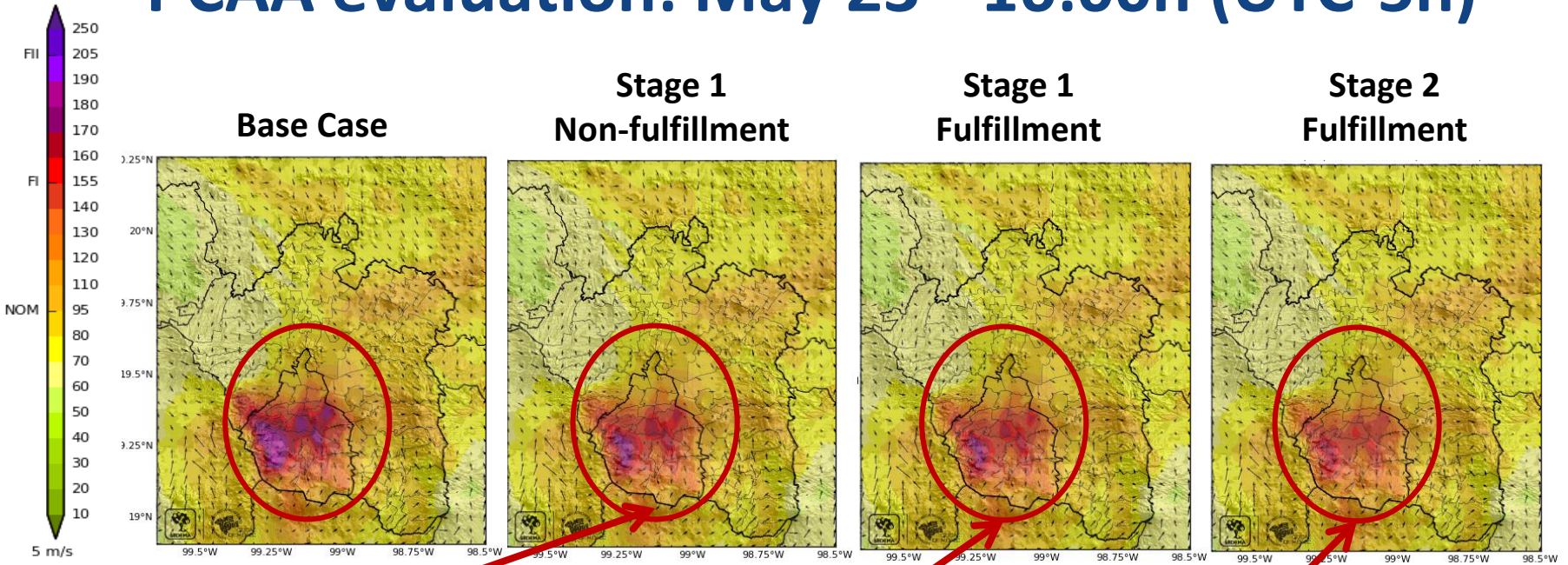
Reductions of **TOTAL** emissions in the MCMA are higher for NO<sub>x</sub> than for VOC (+8%):

1. PCAA's reductions mainly come from traffic restrictions in all scenarios
2. Total MCMA's NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are governed by traffic (>75%), while **VOC are mainly dependent on use of solvents/paints and leakage of fuels (>60%)**

**Not restricted by the PCAA**



# PCAA evaluation: May 23<sup>rd</sup> 16:00h (UTC-5h)



Average reduction: -6.3 ppb  
Maximum reduction: -13.8 ppb

Average reduction: -8.1 ppb  
Maximum reduction: -17.1 ppb

Average reduction: -12.2 ppb  
Maximum reduction: -21.6 ppb

**But some areas still remain above the hourly limit value (155ppb)**

# The Program to improve air quality in Mexico City (PROAIRE 2011 – 2020)

## Emission scenarios

### PROAIRE2020 scenario

¿What will be the impact of the measures that are yet to be applied (2017-2020)?

### Base case scenario

April 2016

### No-PROAIRE scenario

¿What would be the impact if no measures had been applied (2012-2016)?

2012

2016

2020

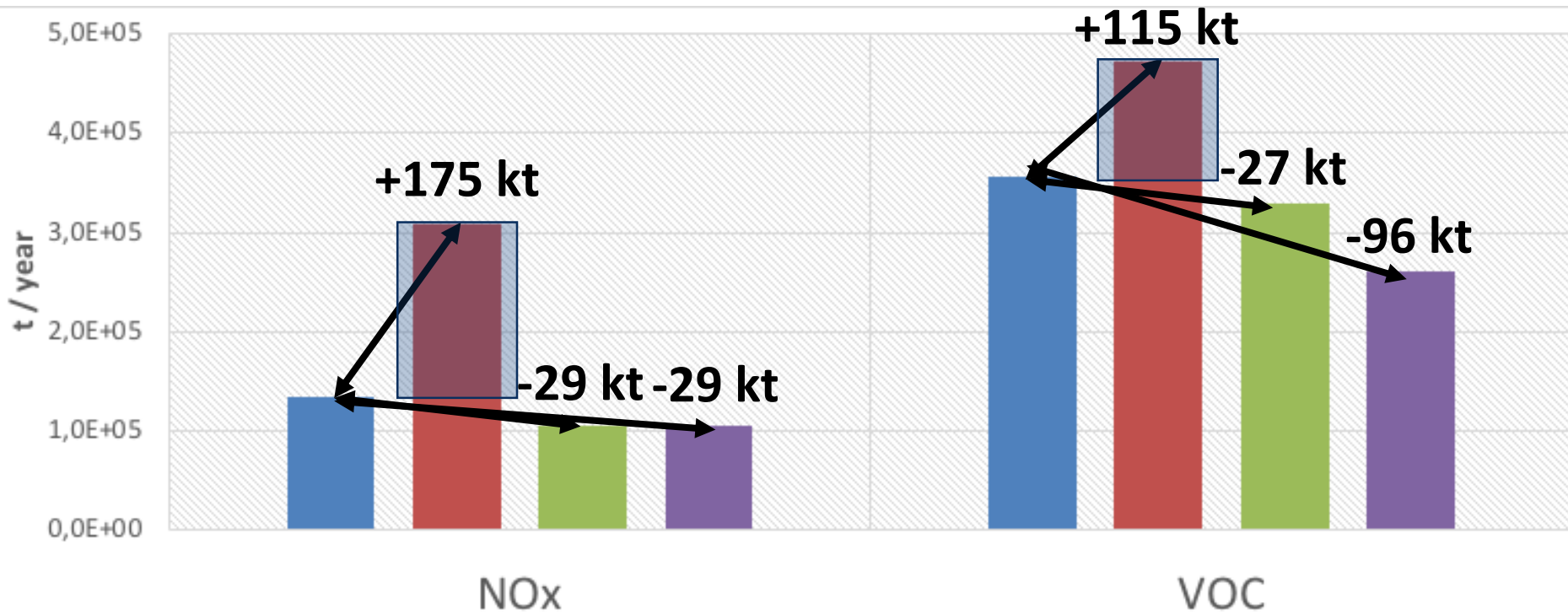
### PROAIRE2020 + scenario

¿What would be the impact if extra measures for reducing VOC were applied (2017-2020)?

- Local industries (-20%)
- Use of solvents (-30%)
- LPG leakage and incomplete combustion (-30%)

# The Program to improve air quality in Mexico City (PROAIRE 2011 – 2020)

Total emissions in the MCMA for each scenario



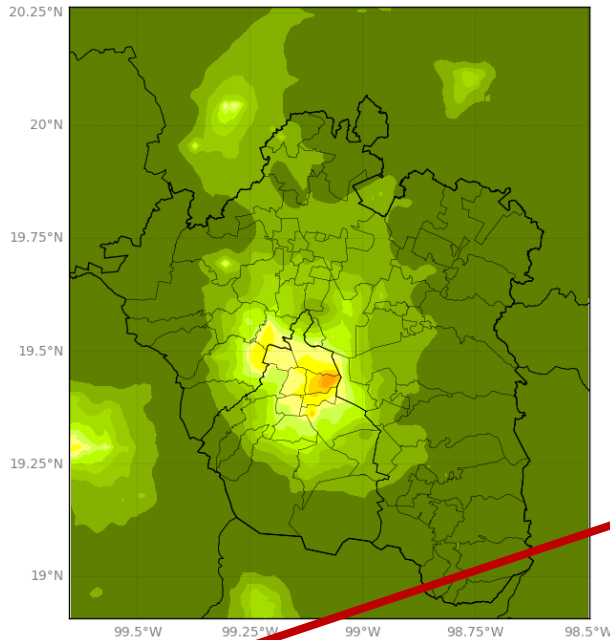
Only scenario in which the relative reduction of VOC emissions (-27%) is larger than the NOx one (-21%)



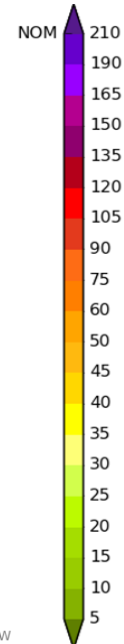
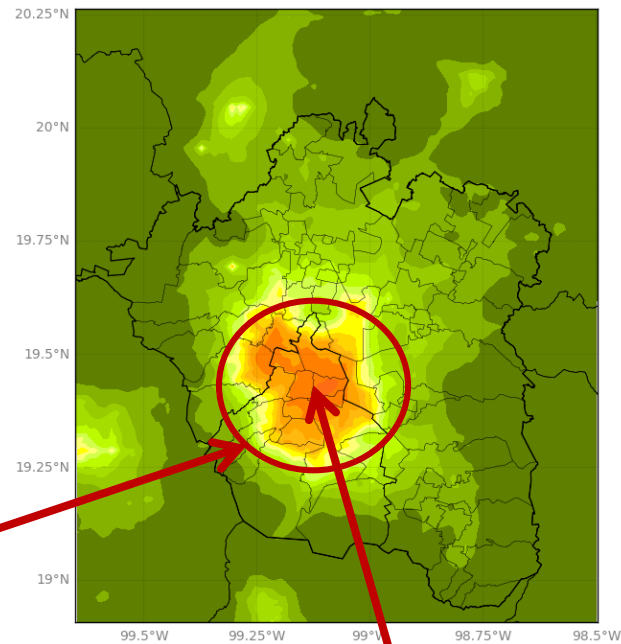
# Scenario analysis – No-PROAIRE

## NO<sub>2</sub> hourly average (April 2016)

### Base Case

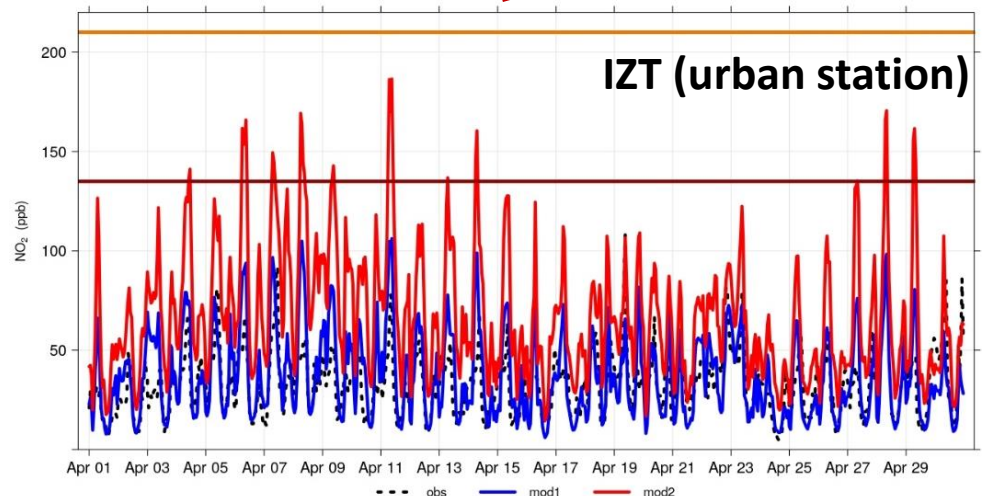


### No -PROAIRE



Average increase: +26 ppb

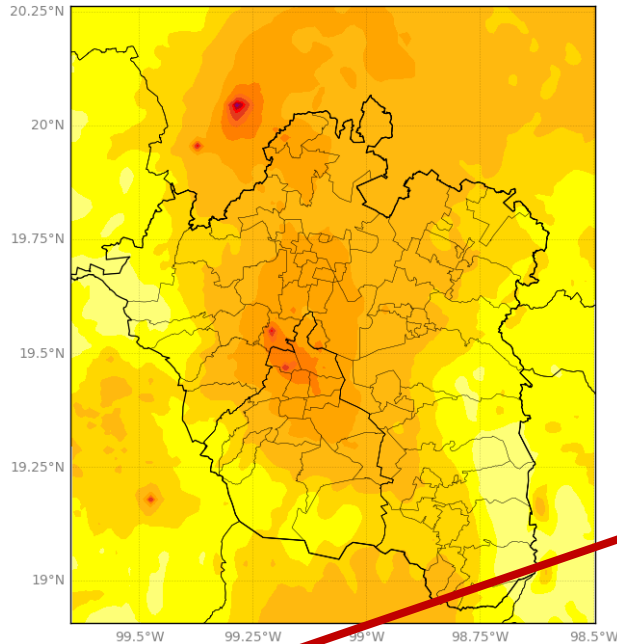
Peak daily increase: up to +80 ppb  
Exceedances of the WHO hourly limit value



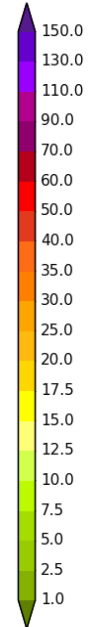
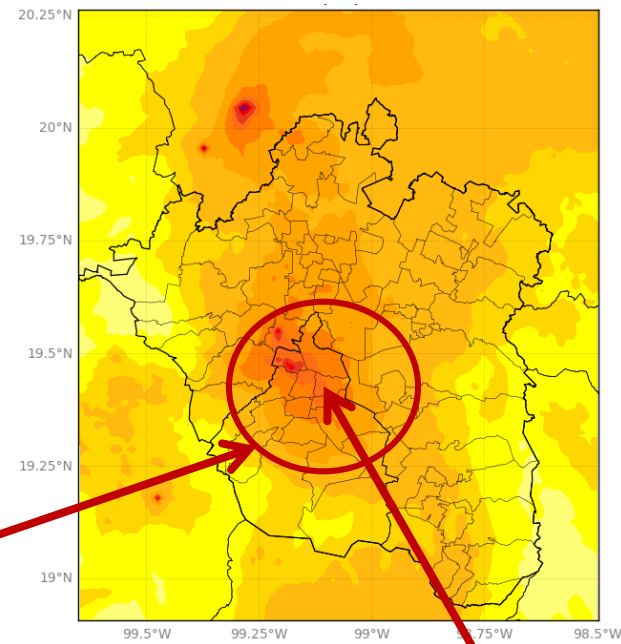
# Scenario analysis – No-PROAIRE

## PM<sub>2.5</sub> hourly average (April 2016)

### Base Case



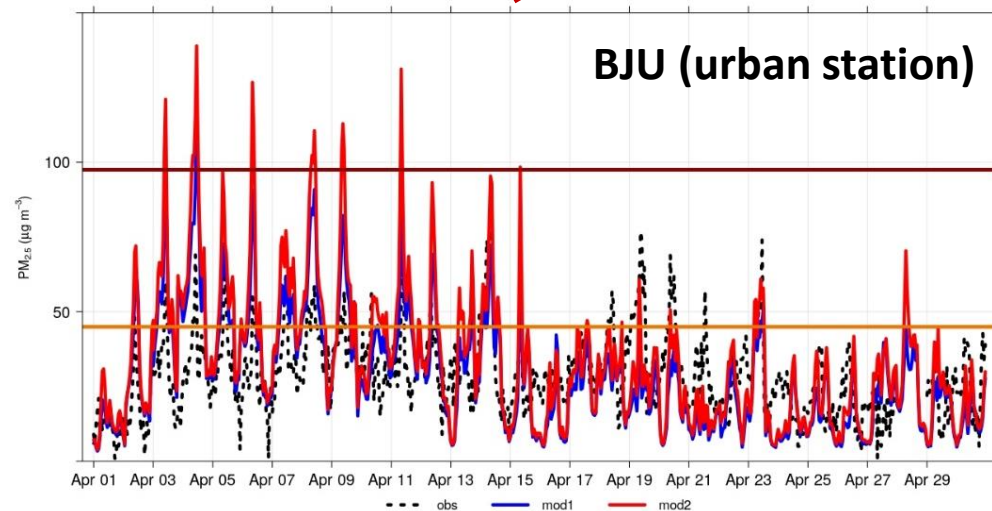
### No -PROAIRE



Average increase:  $+4.5\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$

Peak daily increase: up to  $+30\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$

### BJU (urban station)

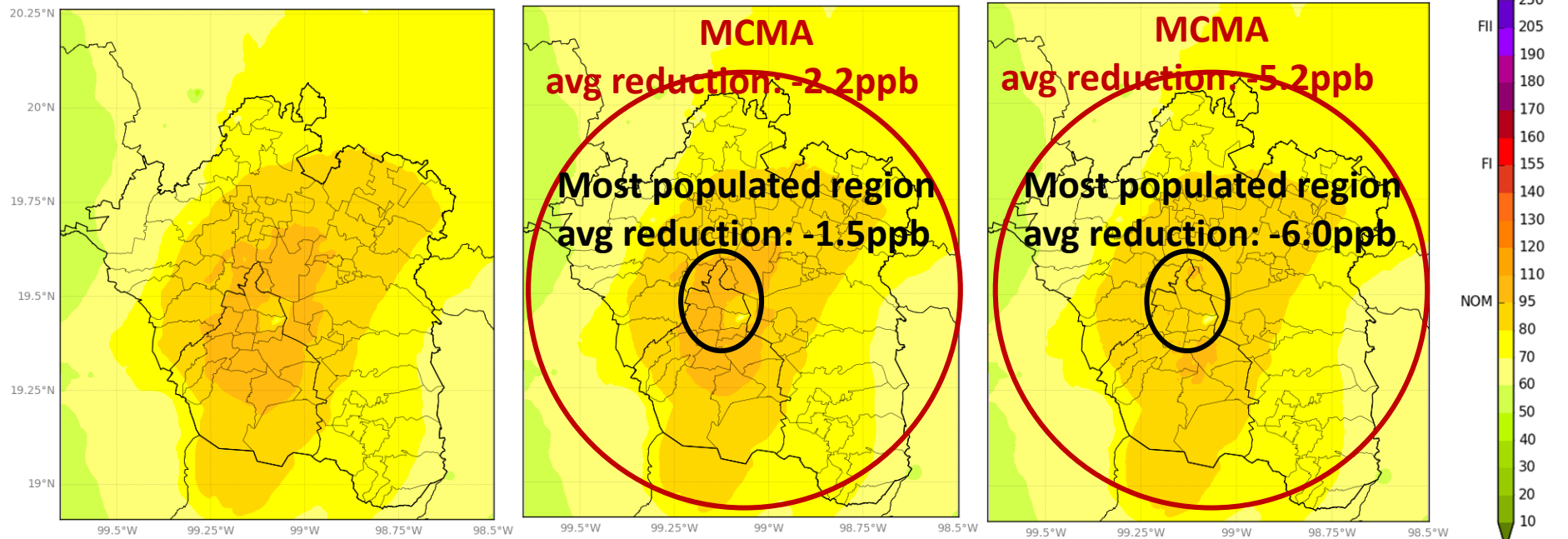


# Scenario analysis – PROAIRE2020 & PROAIRE 2020+ O<sub>3</sub> hourly average (April 2016)

## Base Case

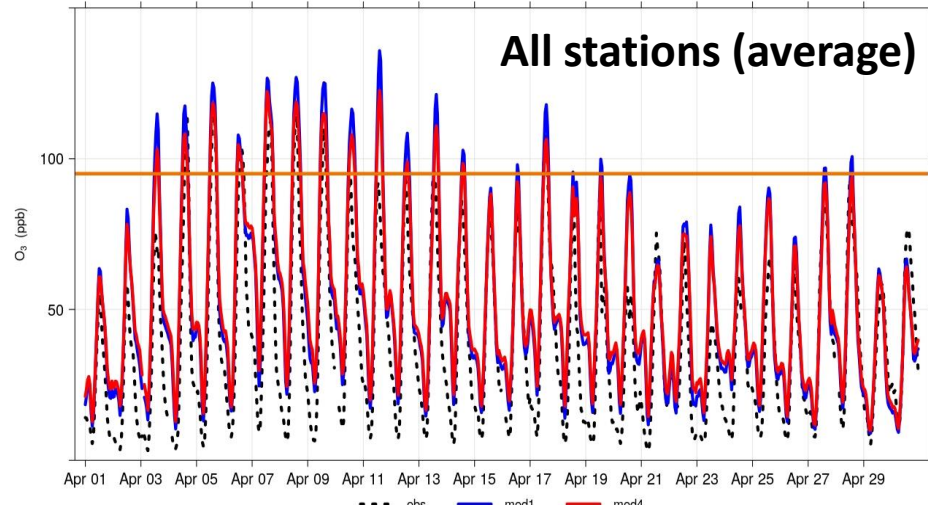
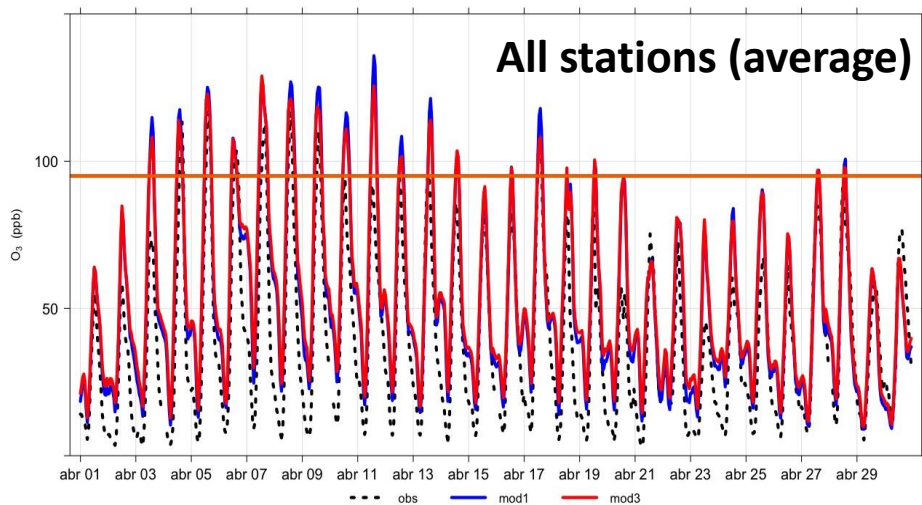
## PROAIRE 2020

## PROAIRE 2020 +



## All stations (average)

## All stations (average)



# Take home messages

- The use of modelling tools (combined with observations) is crucial for the decision-making process on air quality management policies.
- Emissions are key inputs. The use of emission factors based on local and real world on-road measurements is necessary to improve their characterization.
- More actions to tackle VOC emissions should be included in future plans in order to effectively reduce the current O<sub>3</sub> levels (CDMX O<sub>3</sub> production is VOC-limited).
- The PVVO and HNC programs, which have proved to be effective for reducing NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, should be regularly updated in future plans to extend their effect to a larger amount of vehicles.
- Short term versus long term air quality plans/actions: where should we put more efforts? (reduce the peak or the average levels)
- Air pollution has no administrative boundaries: Policy coordination with other regional authorities and the central government is needed to control emission that are occurring in the CDMX but are beyond its jurisdiction (e.g. cars coming from other municipalities, solvent content in products)



## Superblocks (Superilles)



There is a scientific consensus that measures that affect citizen daily life will have to be applied to improve urban air quality. Social sciences can enhance understanding of perceptions, attitudes, behaviors, and other human factors that drive levels of engagement with and trust in air quality managers.

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