



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

# Lessons learnt from Catalonian emissions in cooperation with SEEDS

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with contributions from B. Mijling, R. van der A and  
J. Ding from KNMI

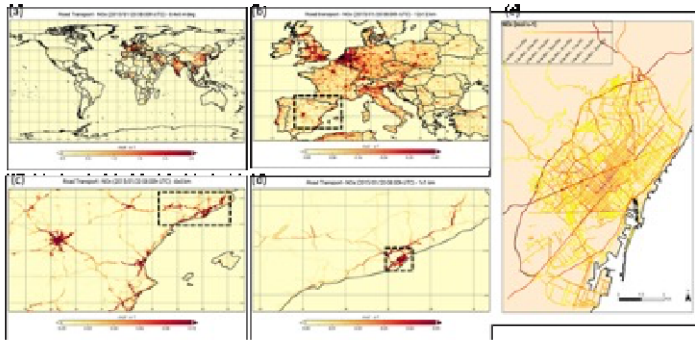
30/03/2023

SEEDS General Assembly and Stakeholder Engagement meeting

# Air quality @BSC: Model and tool developments

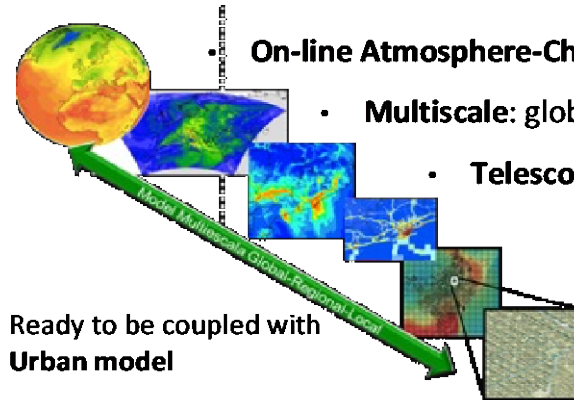
## HERMESv3

A python-based, open source, parallel and multiscale emission model



## MONARCH

- On-line Atmosphere-Chemistry coupling
- Multiscale: global to local (1km)
- Telescoping nesting



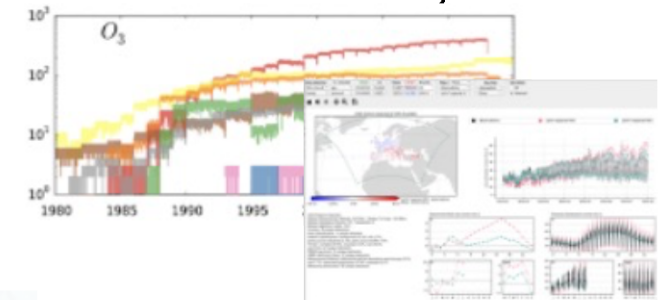
Ready to be coupled with Urban model

Contributes to the Copernicus CAMS regional production chain



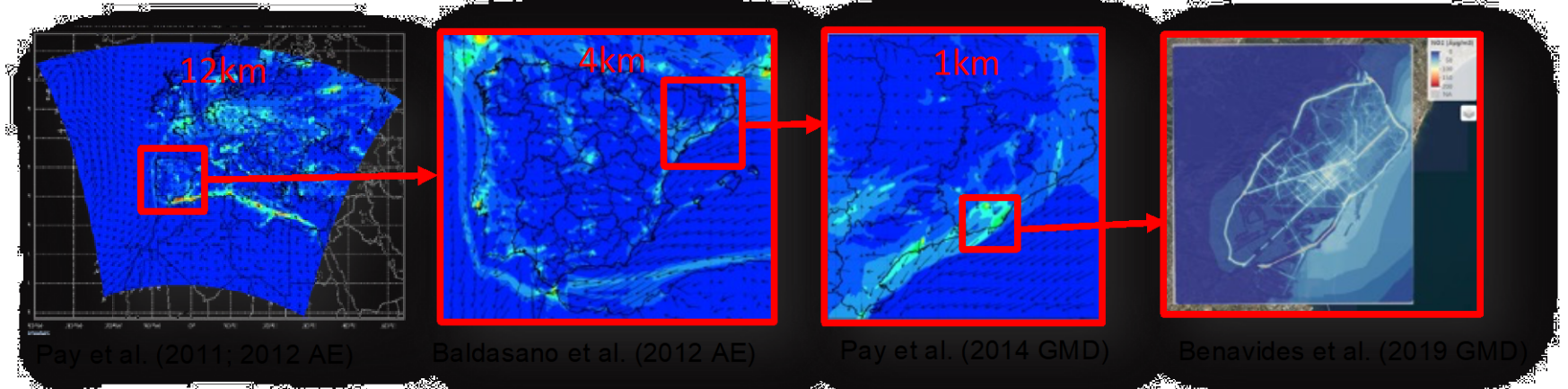
## GHOST/Providentia

Harmonised treatment of observations and dynamic/flexible evaluation system



## CALIOPE air quality forecasting system

Provides air quality forecast for Spain, hot spot areas at 1km and urban areas with CALIOPE urban model ([www.bsc.es/caliope](http://www.bsc.es/caliope))



Pay et al. (2011, 2012 AE)

Baldasano et al. (2012 AE)

Pay et al. (2014 GMD)

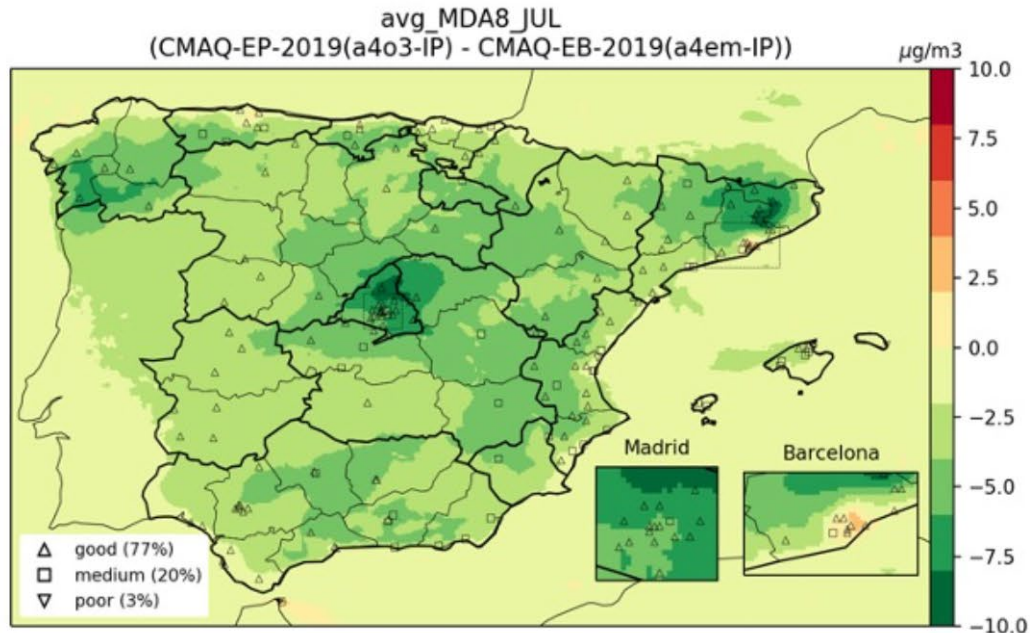
Benavides et al. (2019 GMD)

# Impact assessment

## National O3 plan



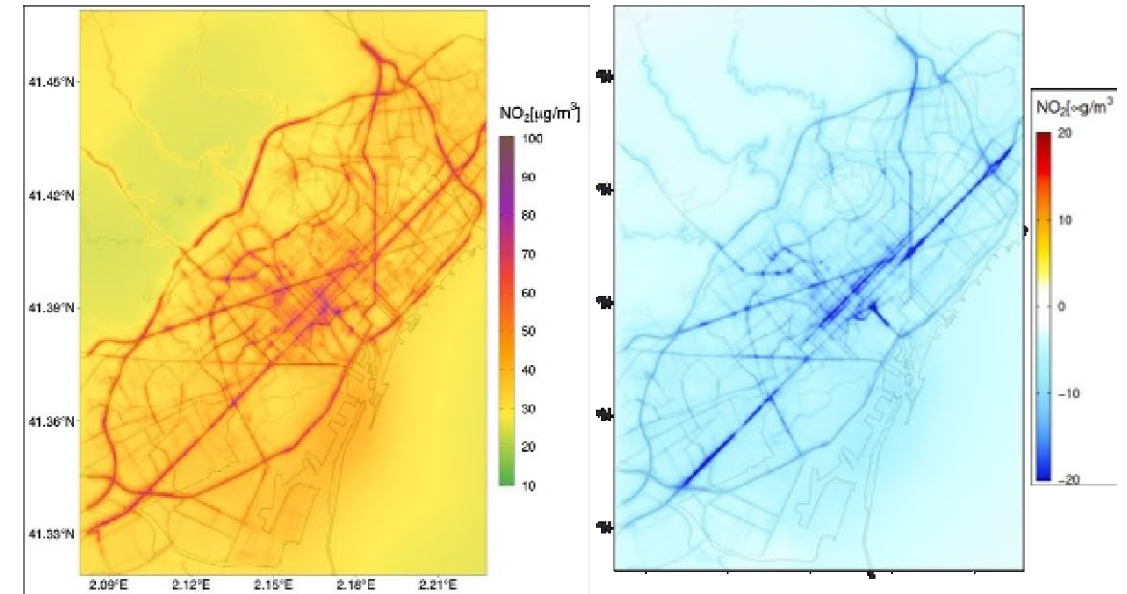
Establishing the scientific basis for the development of a national plan to tackle the O3 problem in Spain



## VITALISE



Assess the impact of traffic management strategies on urban air quality and public health in Barcelona

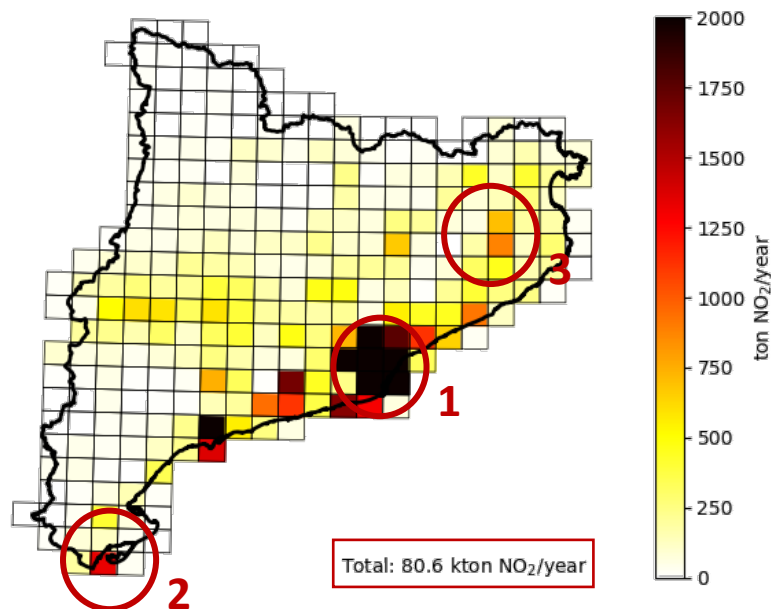


in collaboration with

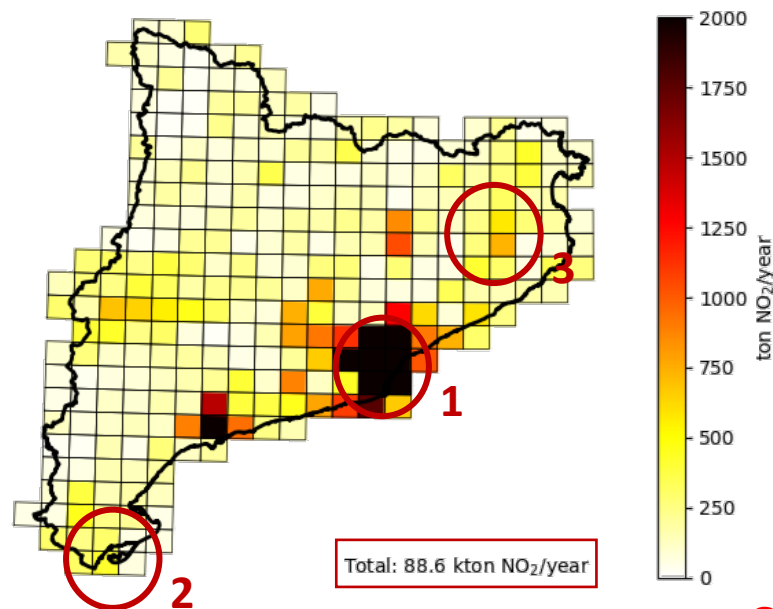
**ISGlobal** Instituto de Salud Global  
Barcelona

# HERMESv3 versus DECSO

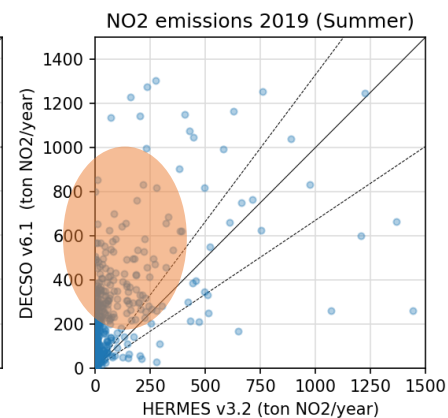
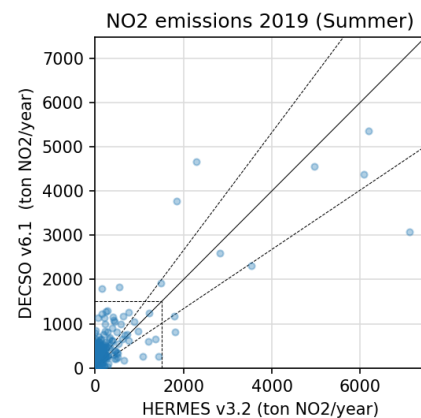
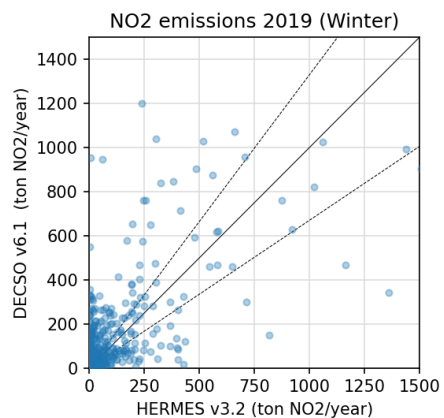
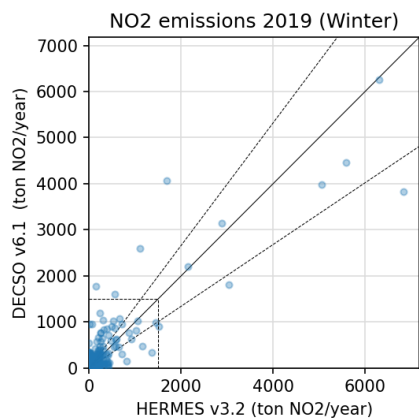
NOx Emissions Catalunya 2019 (HERMES v3.2)



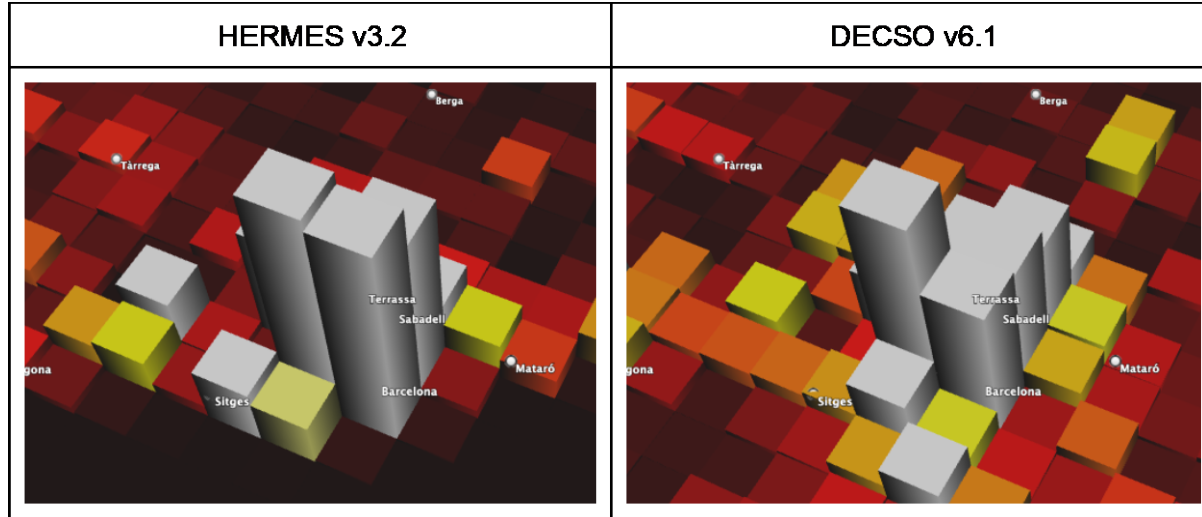
NOx Emissions Catalunya 2019 (DECSO v5.6)



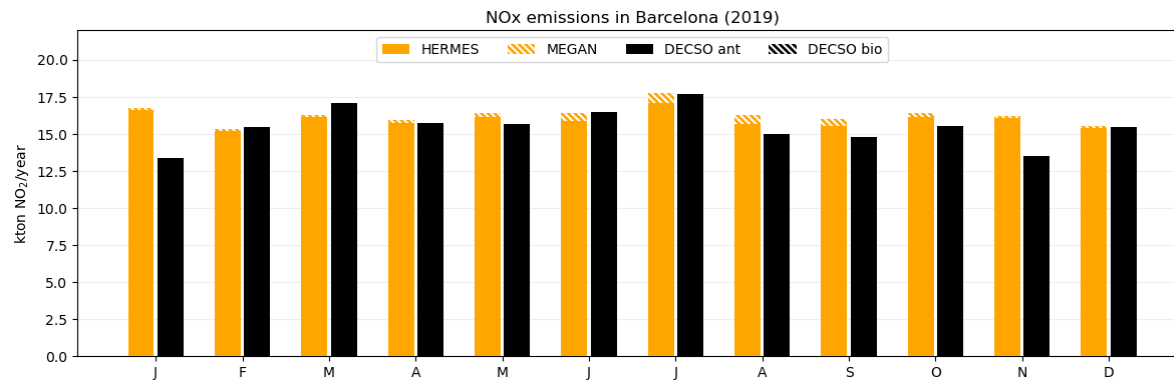
Soil NOx emissions



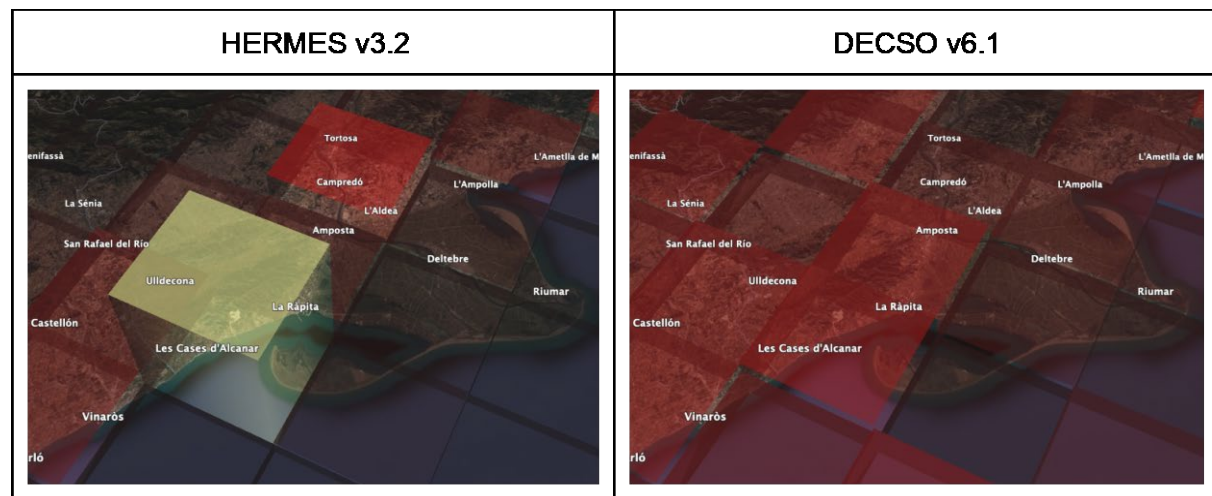
# Barcelona area



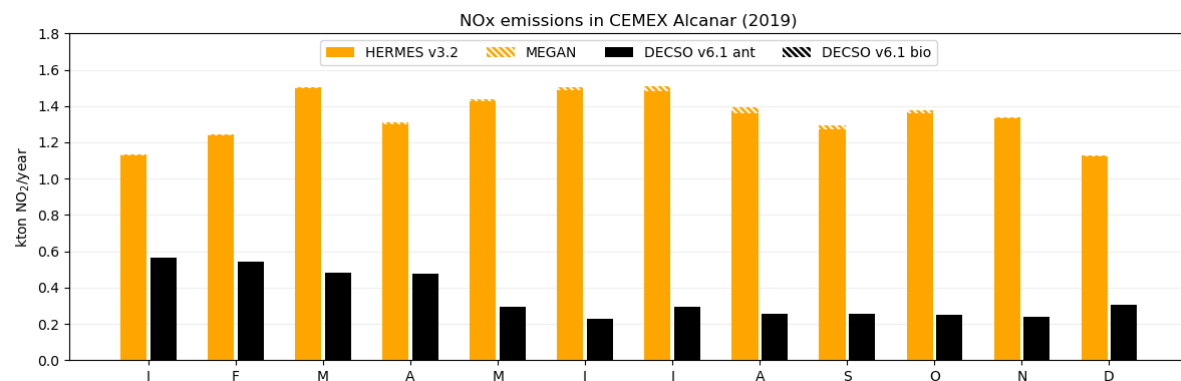
- 27.3 kton NO<sub>2</sub>/year according to HERMES, which is about 34% of the total emissions found in Catalunya.
- DECSO estimates slightly less NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for this area: 26.1 kton NO<sub>2</sub>/year.
- Although differently distributed over the grid cells, the aggregated emissions are well in line.
- No strong seasonalities identified neither in HERMES nor DECSO



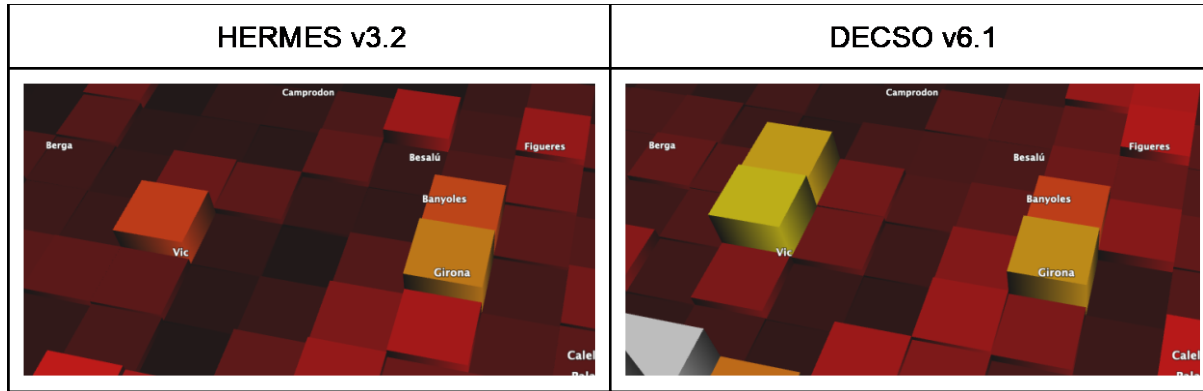
# Industrial hotspot in Alcanar



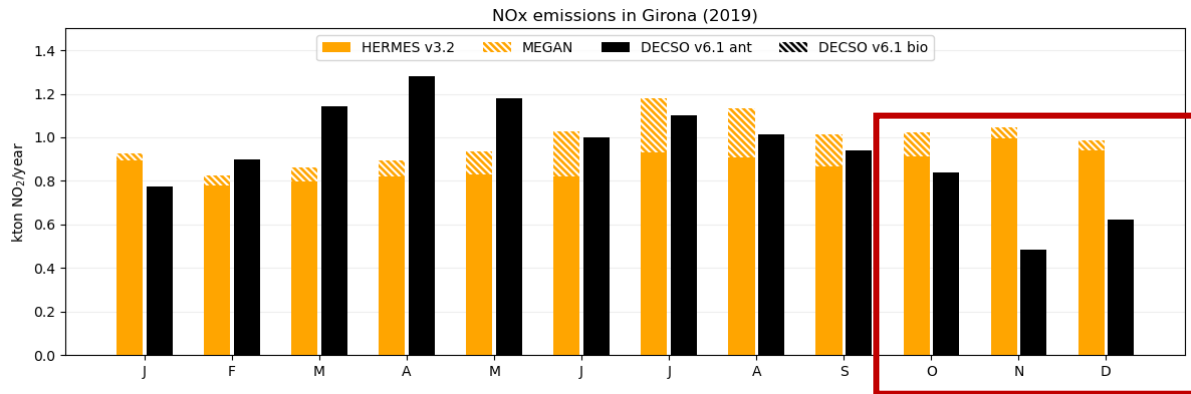
- A strong registered point source in HERMES (**1.33 kton NO<sub>2</sub>/year**) → emissions derived from the Large Point Source Database provided by the Spanish Ministry of Environment
- The DECSO estimation, however, is 74% lower: **0.35 kton NO<sub>2</sub>/year**
- Results from the Continuous Emission Monitoring System provided by the Government of Catalonia indicate emissions of **1.1kton NO<sub>2</sub>/year**
- The large disagreement is not well understood, and subject of further investigation (factory hotspot hardly visible in the level-2 TROPOMI satellite product, errors in the assumed surface albedoe?)



# Girona area



- Results in total annual emissions agree very well, with HERMES having slightly stronger emissions.
- Important differences in the seasonal cycle: DECSO shows a continuous decrease during OND, while HERMES maintains almost constant emissions
- Influence of emissions from agricultural machinery and associated crop calendar considered in HERMES



Crop type	Soil cultivation	
	Start_date	End_date
Wheat	1 <sup>st</sup> November	31 <sup>st</sup> December
Rye	1 <sup>st</sup> September	31 <sup>st</sup> October
Barley	1 <sup>st</sup> November	31 <sup>st</sup> December
Oat	1 <sup>st</sup> October	31 <sup>st</sup> November

# Take home messages

- Both the “bottom-up community” can learn from the top-down results, and the “top-down community” can learn from the bottom-up results
- HERMES and DECSO compare reasonably well, especially looking at yearly totals and main urban hotspot (Barcelona urban area)
- DECSO highlights important role of biogenic NO<sub>x</sub> emission (specially in summer)
- The industrial facility in Alcanar, which appears a strong hotspot in HERMES, is largely unnoticed by DECSO (need further investigation)
- Comparison of seasonalities highlights the need to review assumptions for seasonal distribution of agricultural machinery emissions in HERMESv3





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# Thank you!

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