

Use of satellite data to assess emissions from Large Combustion Plants

FINAL RESULTS – Preliminary presentation



Federico Antognazza / SEEDS General Assembly / 5 December 2024



Use of satellite emissions data at EEA

**ASSESSMENT
OF RELEVANT
SOURCES**

**SUPPORT ON DATA
REPORTING**

POLICY

**NATURAL
SOURCES**



**FOREST
FIRES**



QA

GAP FILLING

ASSESSMENT

**NECD
IMPLEMENTATION**

AQ PLANS

**Use of Copernicus data for assessing
emissions from Large Combustion Plants**





2021

Case Study

12 LCPs

Model set-up



ETC/ATN secretariat partners:
NILU - Norwegian Institute for Air Research

European Environment Agency
European Topic Centre on Air pollution,
transport, noise and industrial pollution



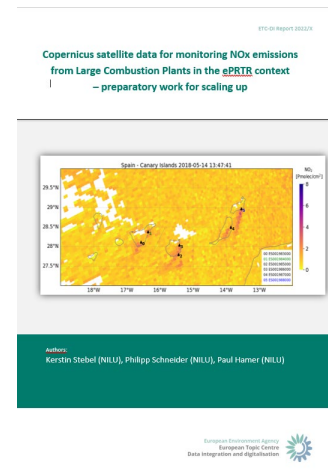
2022

Extensive analysis

Wider number of LCPs

Sensitivity

Evaluation of possible implementation



2023

Implementation?

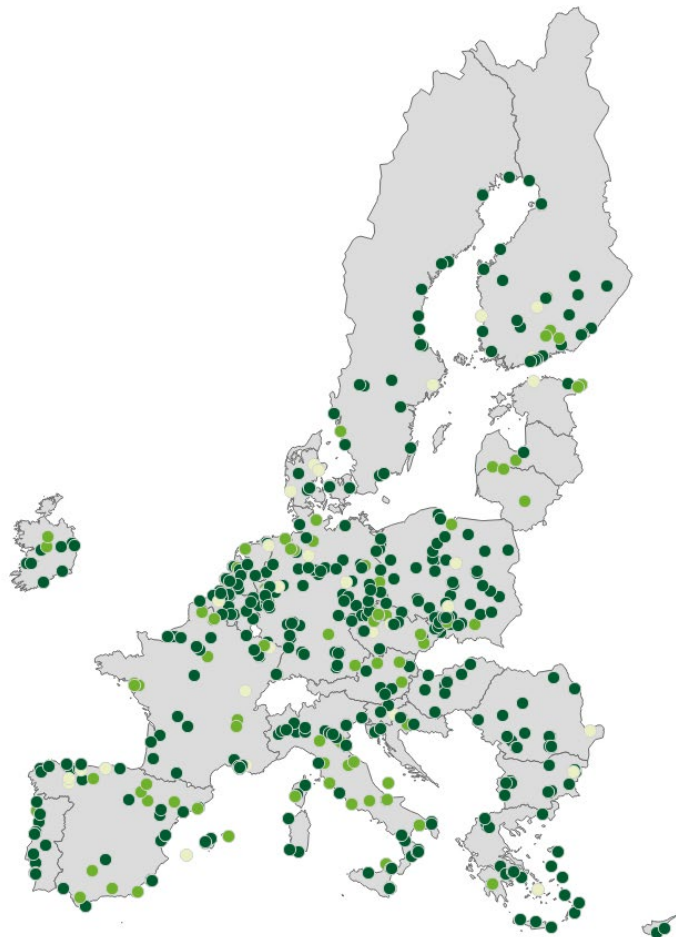
QA input to reporting data validation

Gap-filling of late or not reported dataset



Scope of the study

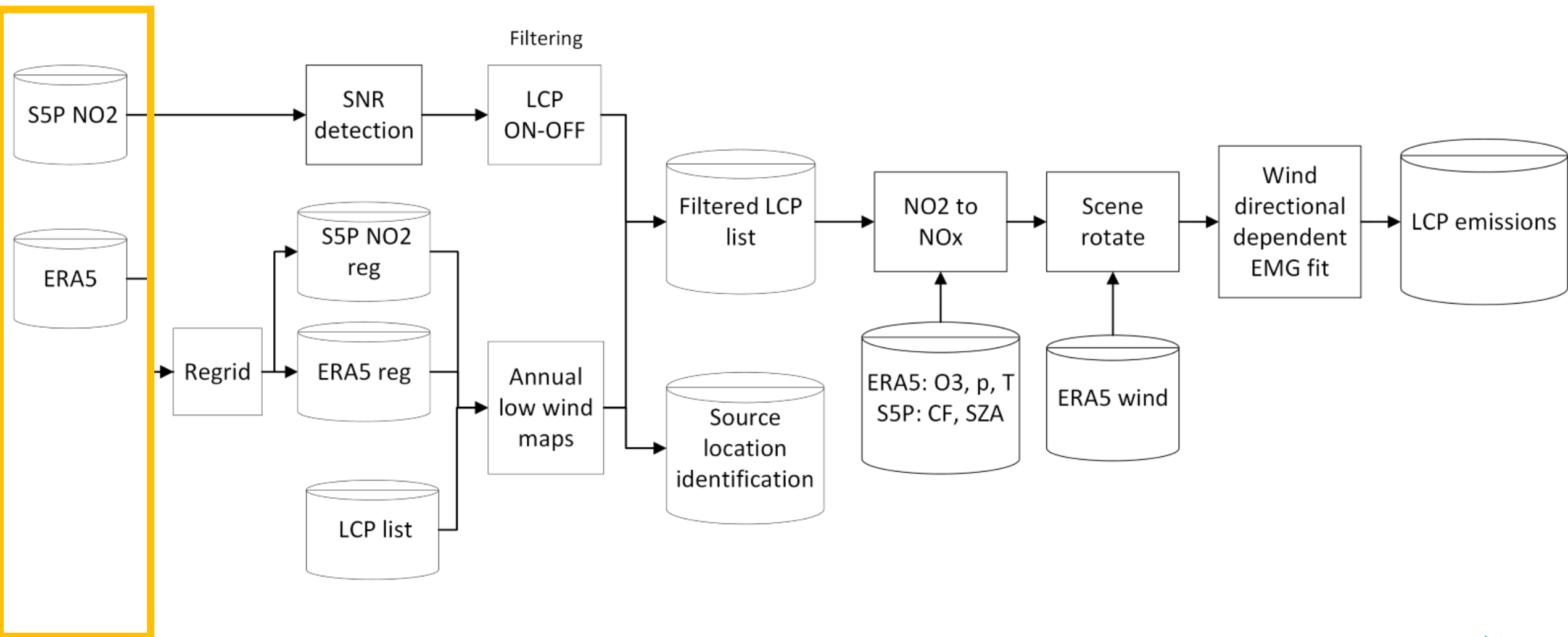
Facilities with NO_x > 250 tonnes



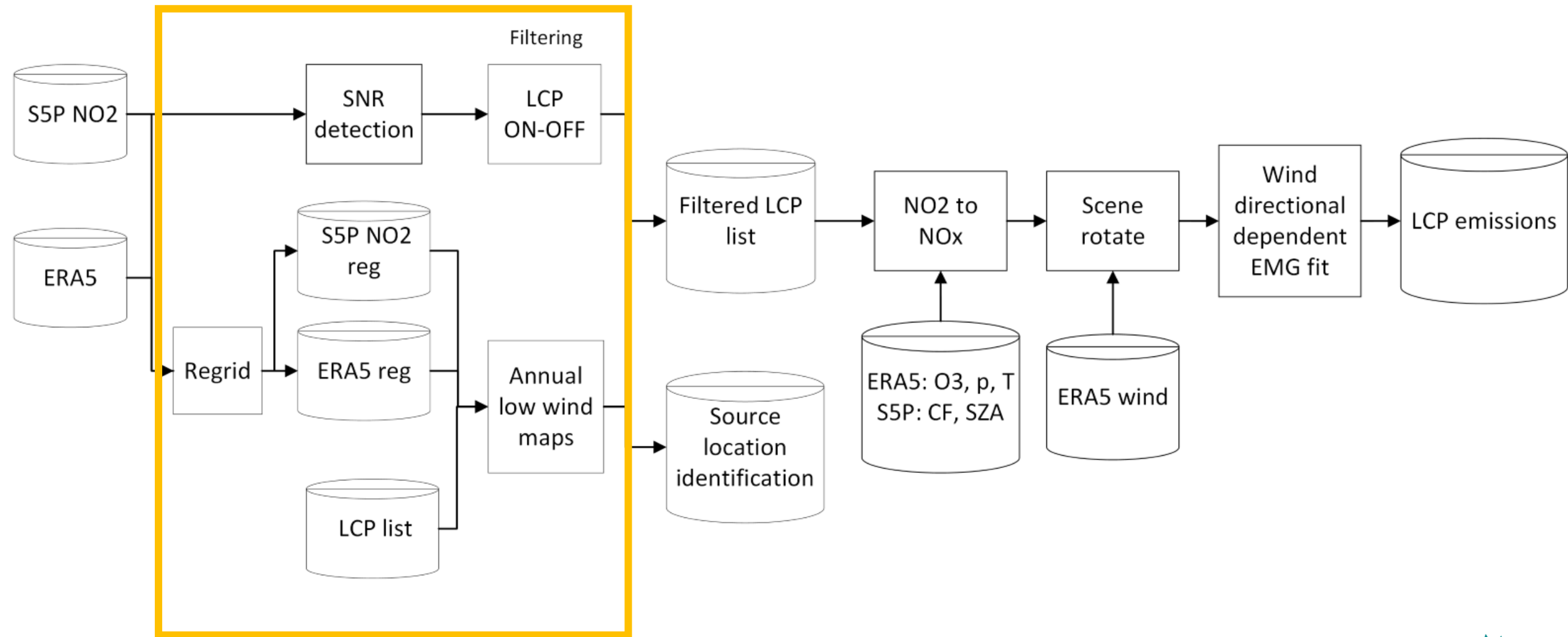
- Cover time period **May 2018 – December 2022**
- All facilities with LCPs with aggregated annual NO_x emission > 250t
- Comprehensive **assessment report on usability of Sentinel-5P** to estimate status of emissions from LCPs in Europe



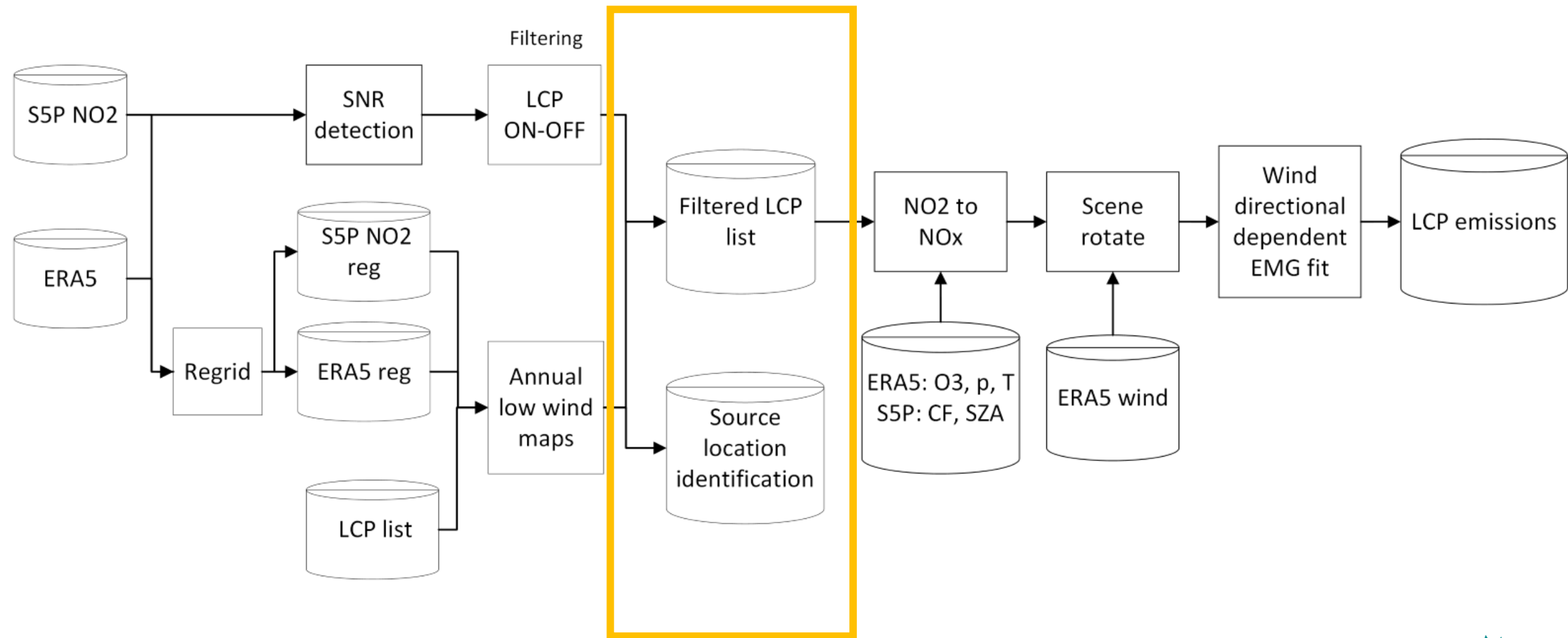
General concept of work



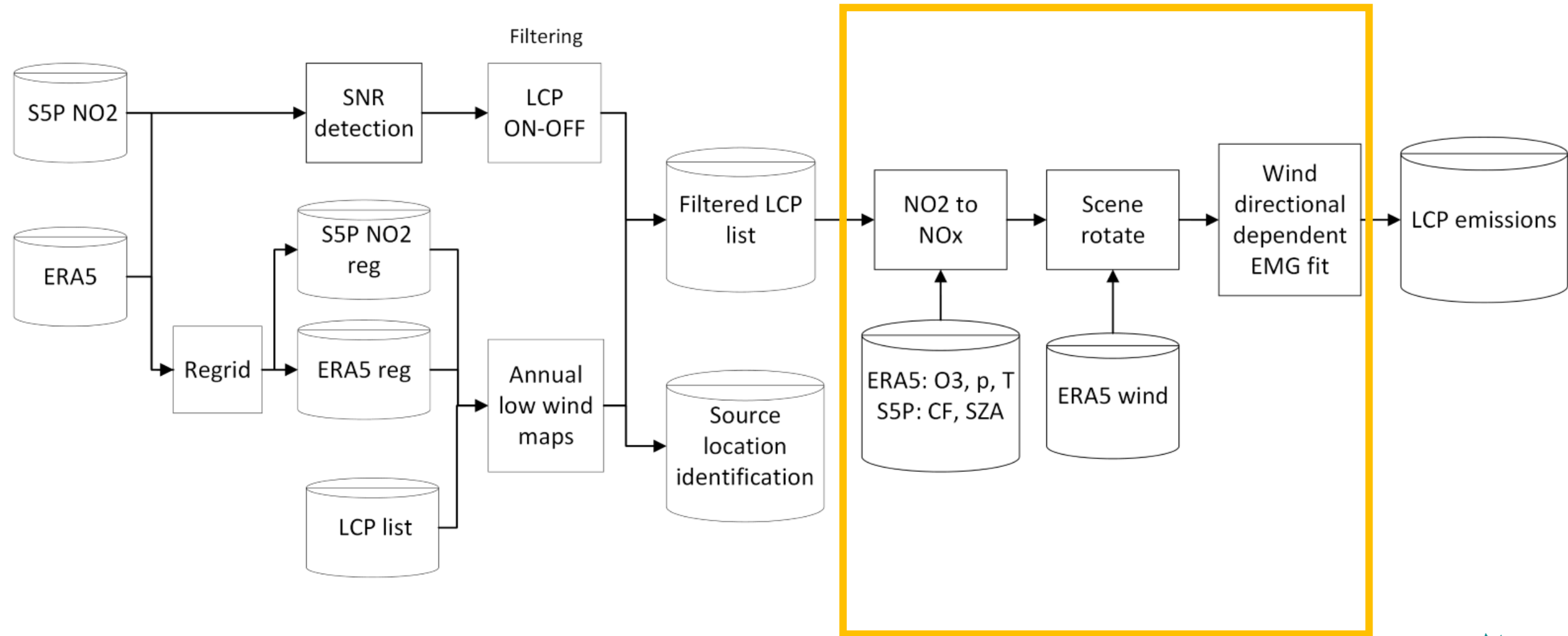
General concept of work



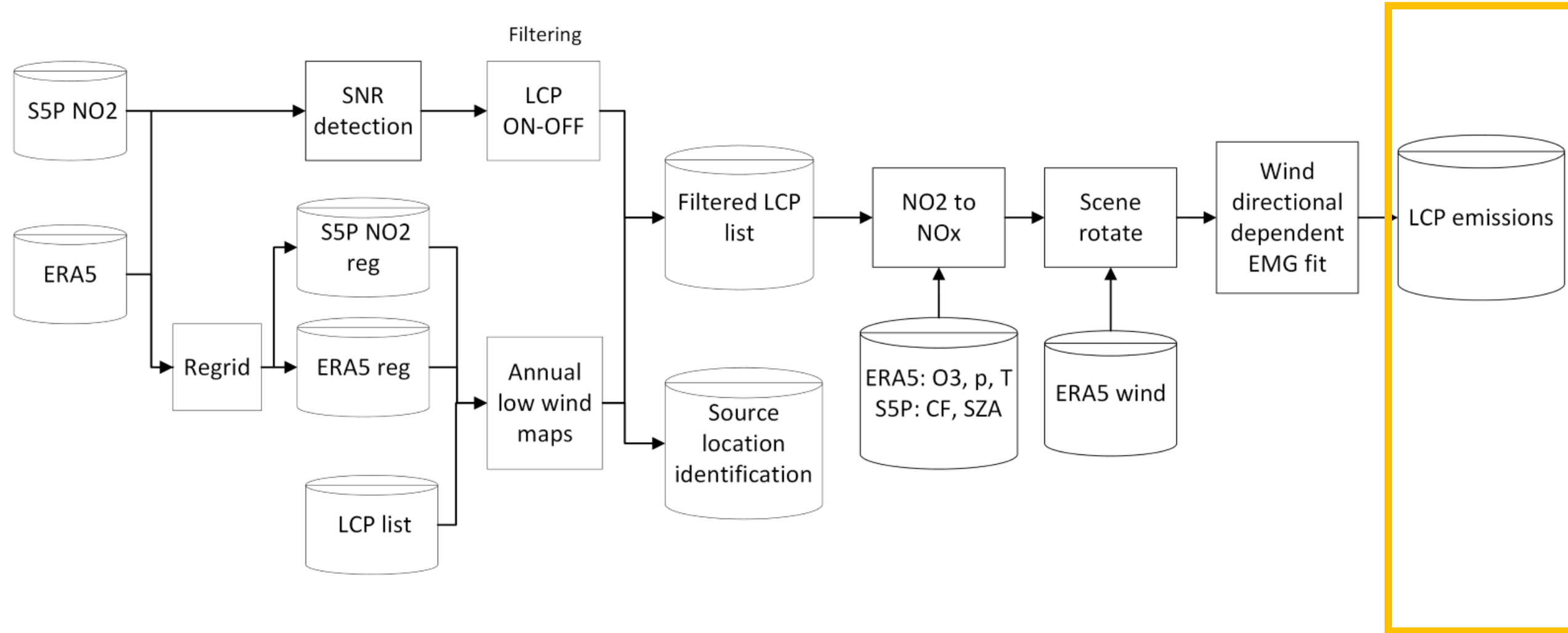
General concept of work



General concept of work

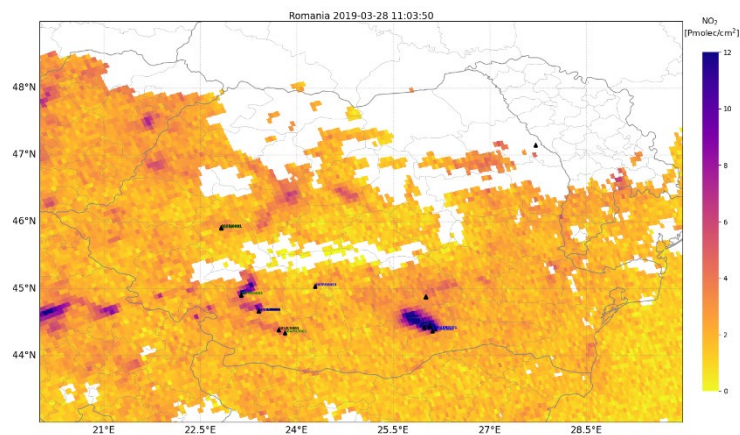
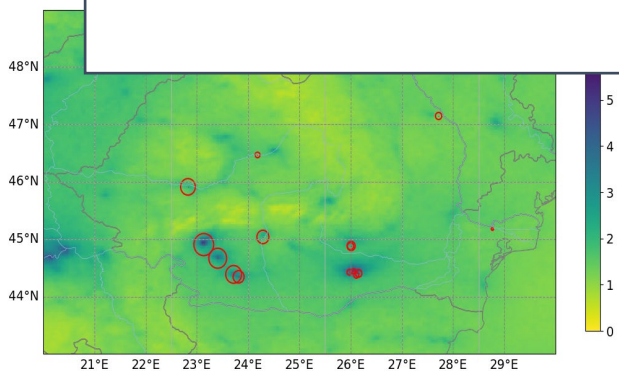


General concept of work



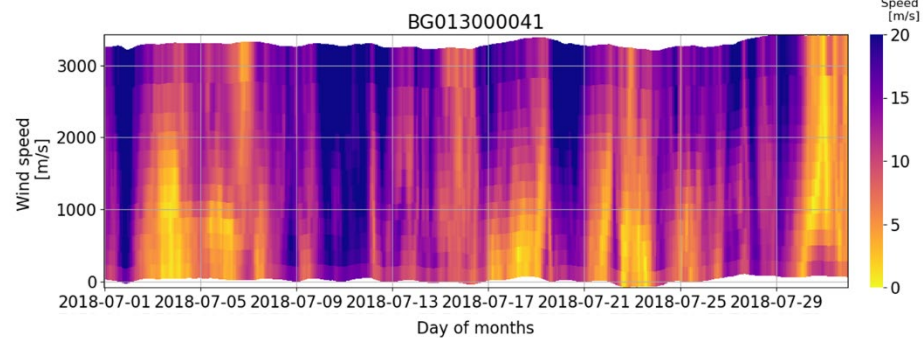
Input data

TROPOMI NO2



ERA5 meteorological data from ECMWF

- (hourly data have a spatial horizontal resolution of $0.25^\circ \times 0.25^\circ$)



Coordinates of LCP from E-PRTR/LCP Database

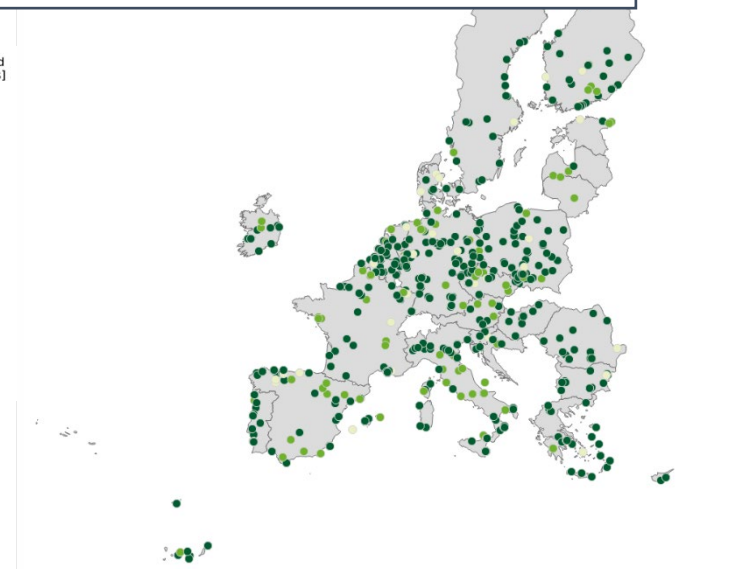
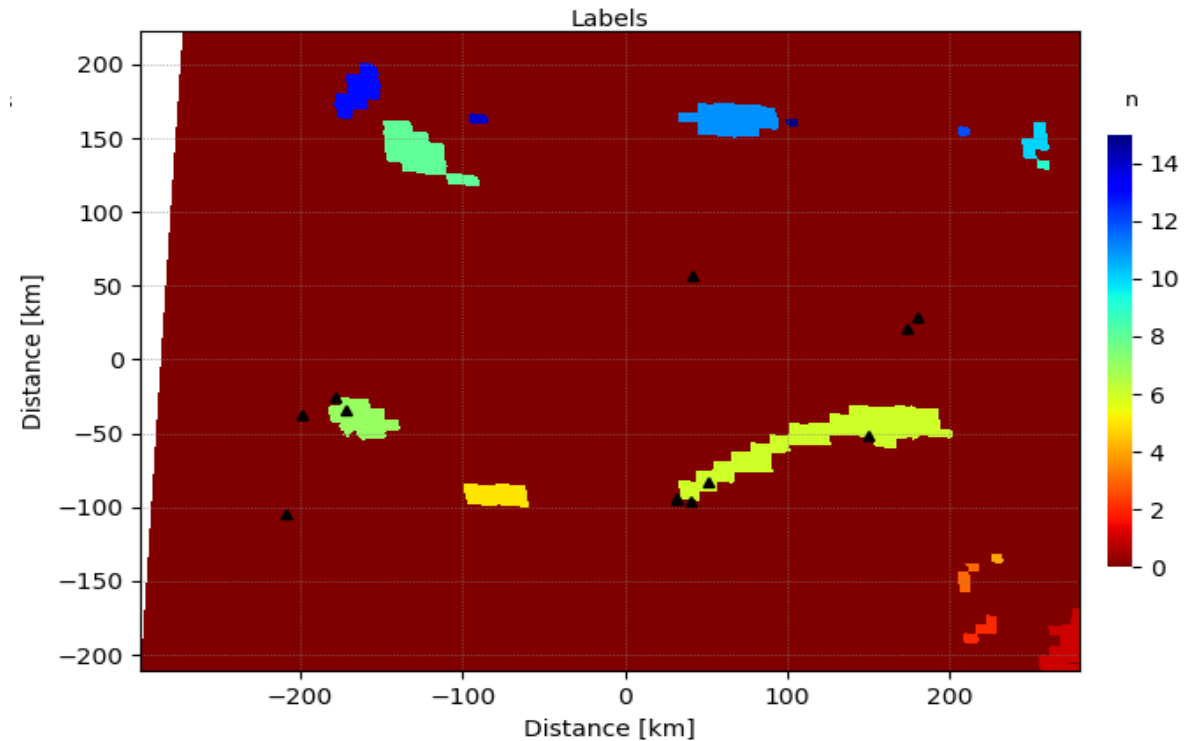
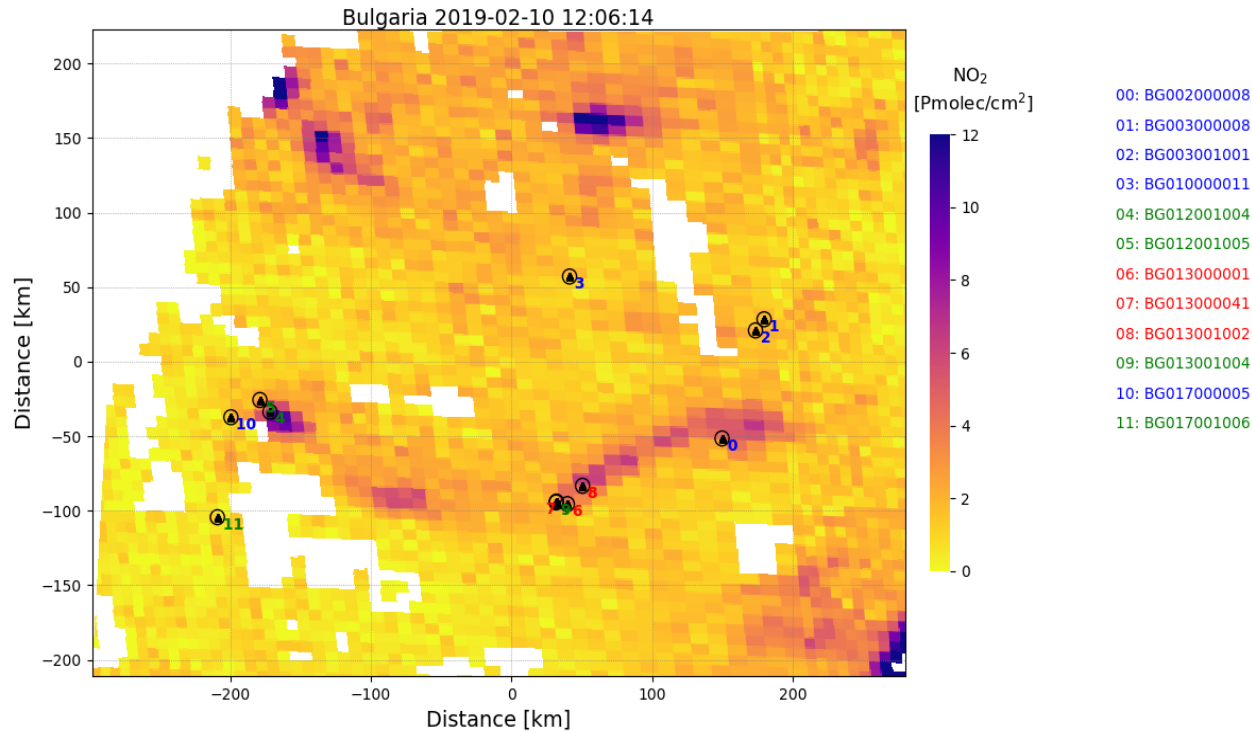


Image processing

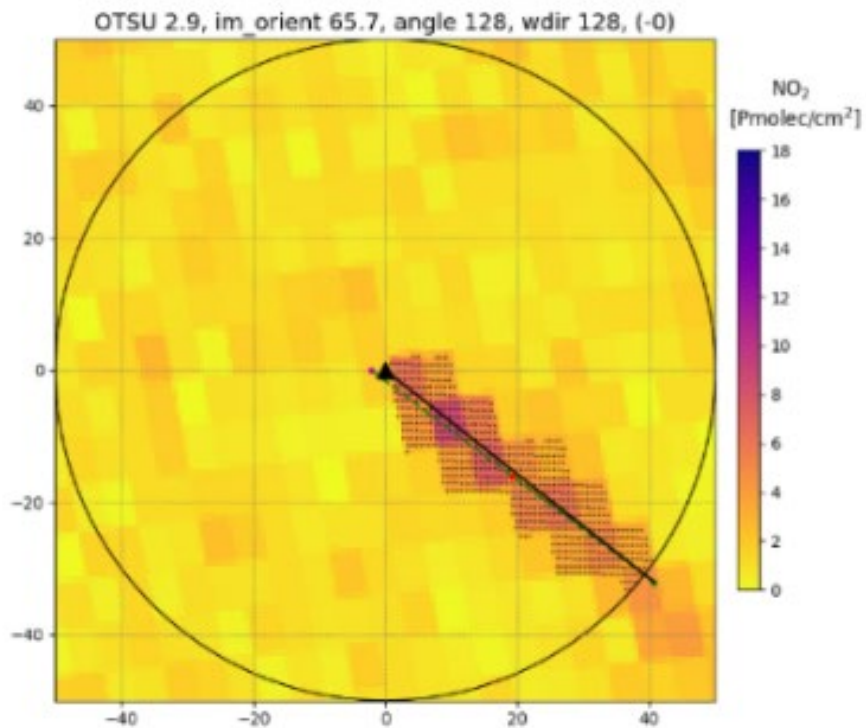


Example of plume detection and plume sequencing for a single overpass over Bulgaria. The left panel shows the NO₂ observations and the location of the different facilities (color code represents emissions below 0.5 kt (blue), between 0.5 – 1 kt (green) and above 1 kt (red)). The right panel shows the plume segmentation

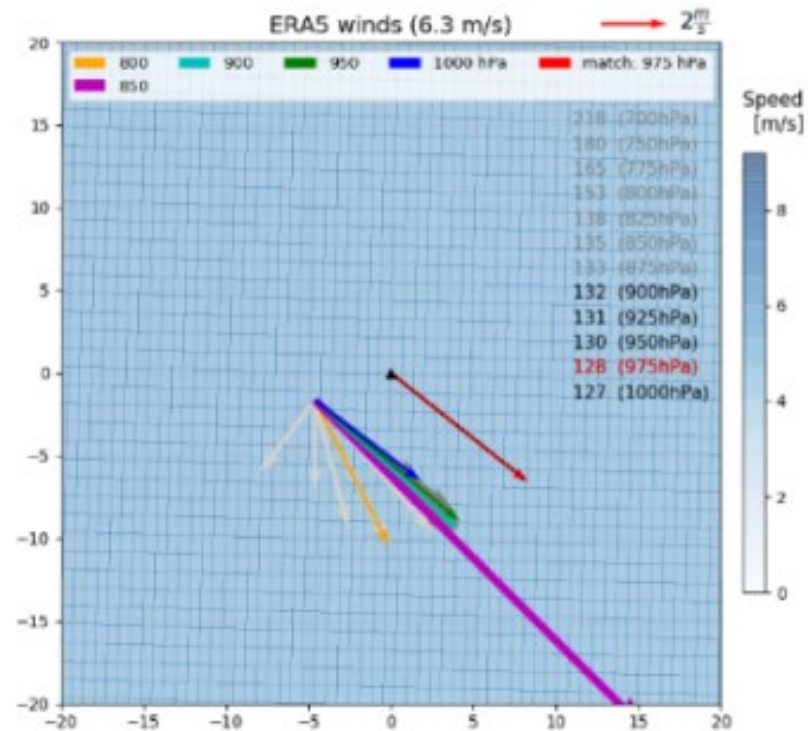
Euro

$$\frac{X_p - X_{bg}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_{ssp}^2}{n_p} + s_{bg}^2}} > z(q),$$

Matching plume direction with winds



TROPOMI NO₂ plume
(20 km circle around LCP site)



ECMWF winds at different
pressure levels

Determination of pressure level (ERA5 winds and O₃) to be used for the NO₂ to NO_x conversion and wind-speed for the emission estimates.

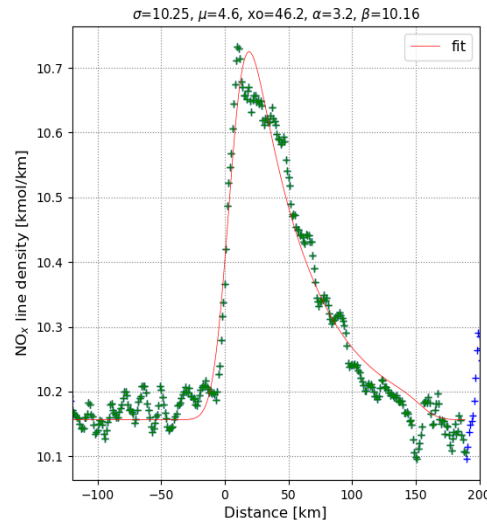
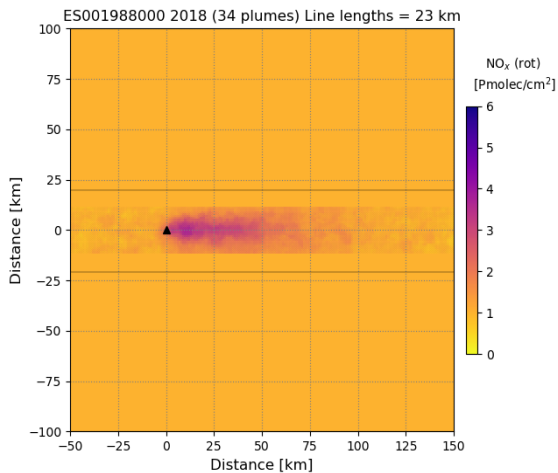
Rotation of all plumes to increase SNR

Conversion of NOx and TROPOMI line density

NO_x / NO₂ conversion factor for the photochemical steady state

$$\frac{[NO_x]}{[NO_2]} = 1 + \frac{[NO]}{[NO_2]} = 1 + \frac{J_{NO_2}}{k_{NO+O_3} * n_{O_3}}$$

TROPOMI NO₂ line density (S)



w = 6.4 m/s
 τ = 2.0 h
 E = 266.4 g/s (8402 t/year)

From Exponentially Modified Gaussian fit determine:

$\tau = x_0 w$ effective lifetime

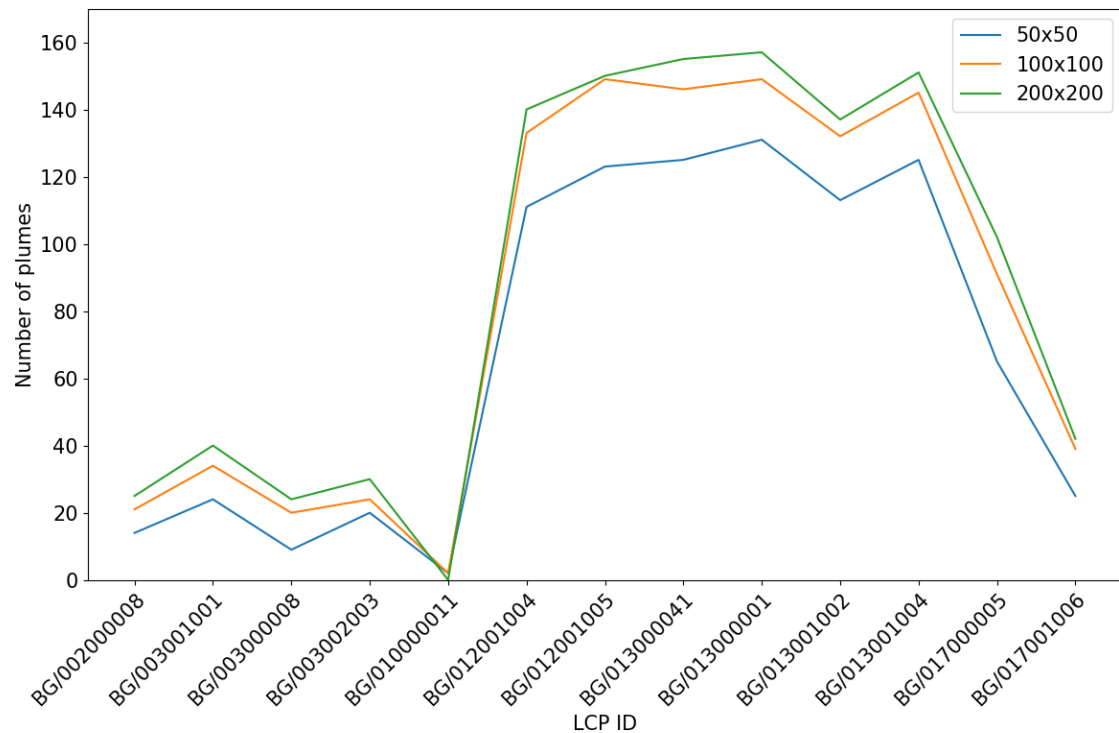
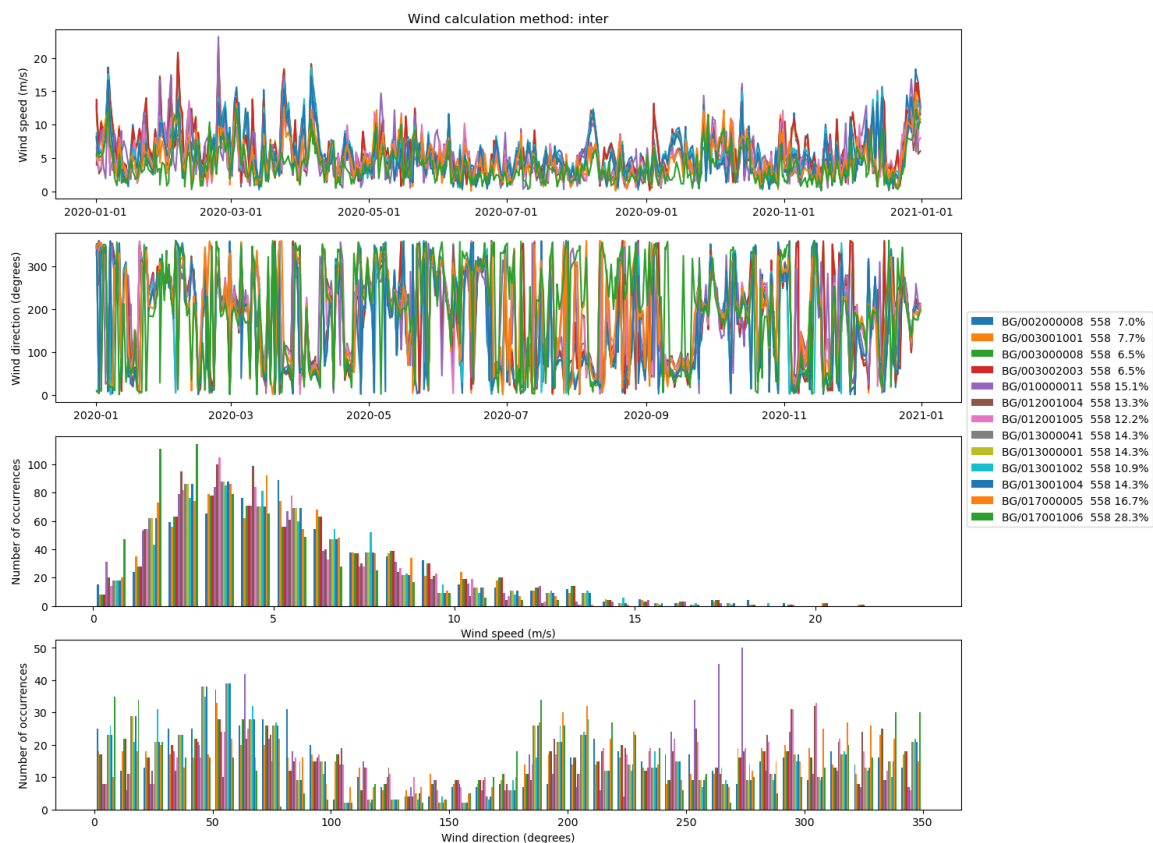
$E = \alpha / \tau$ NO_x emission rate

Illustration of EMG fit procedure. Left panel: Visualization of the averaged rotated plume and the determined width for the line-density calculation for the LCP facility ES001988000, which is located on the Canary Islands for the year 2018. Right panel: line density (green points) and EMG fit (red line). α, the total number of NO_x observed near the power plant, x₀ is the e-folding time, w is wind-speed



Sensitivity analysis

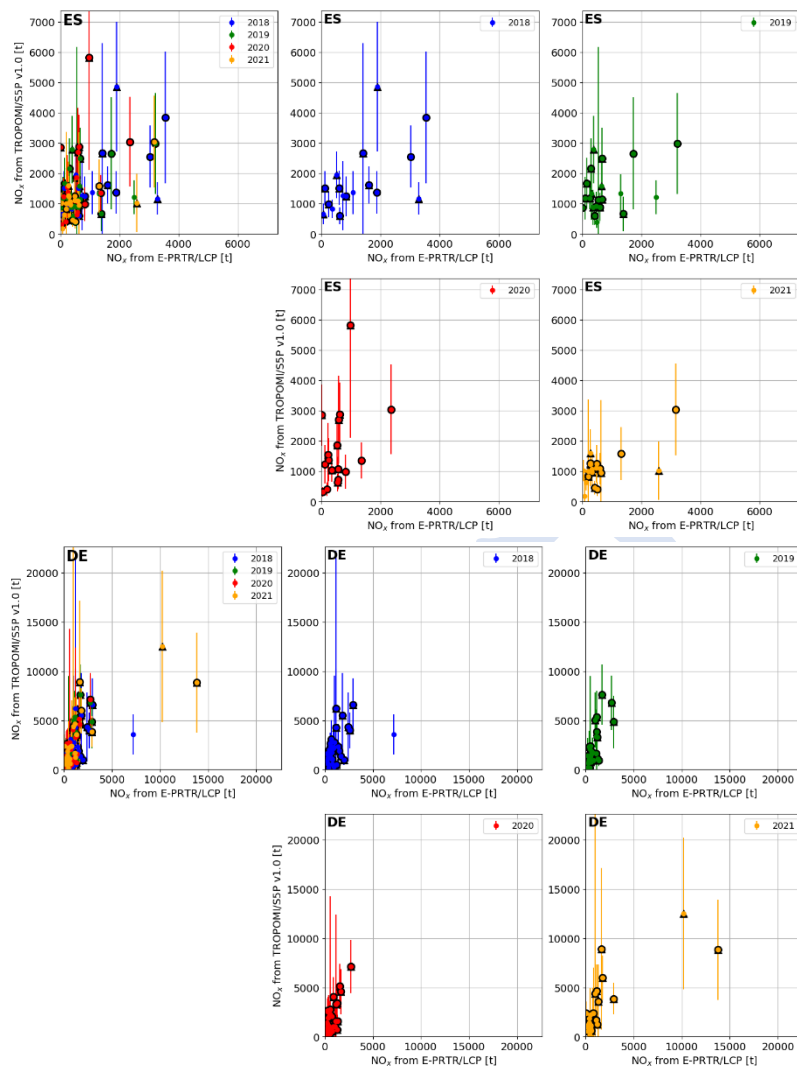
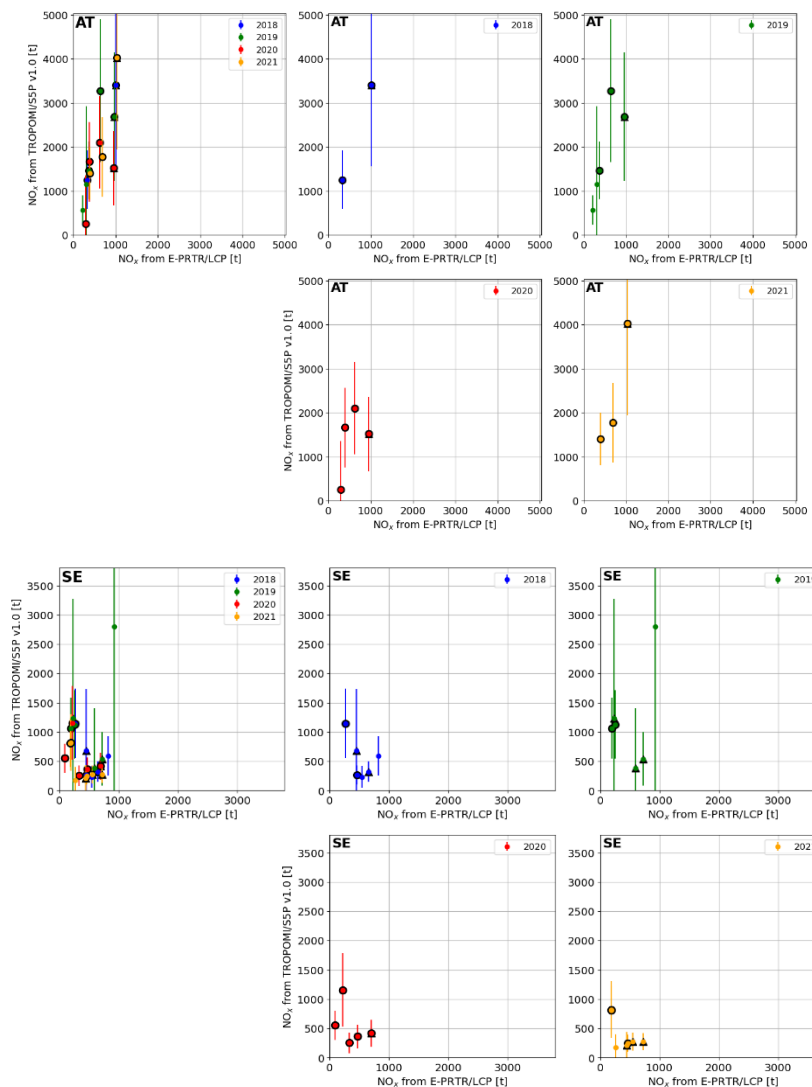
Number of visible plums according to pixel window size



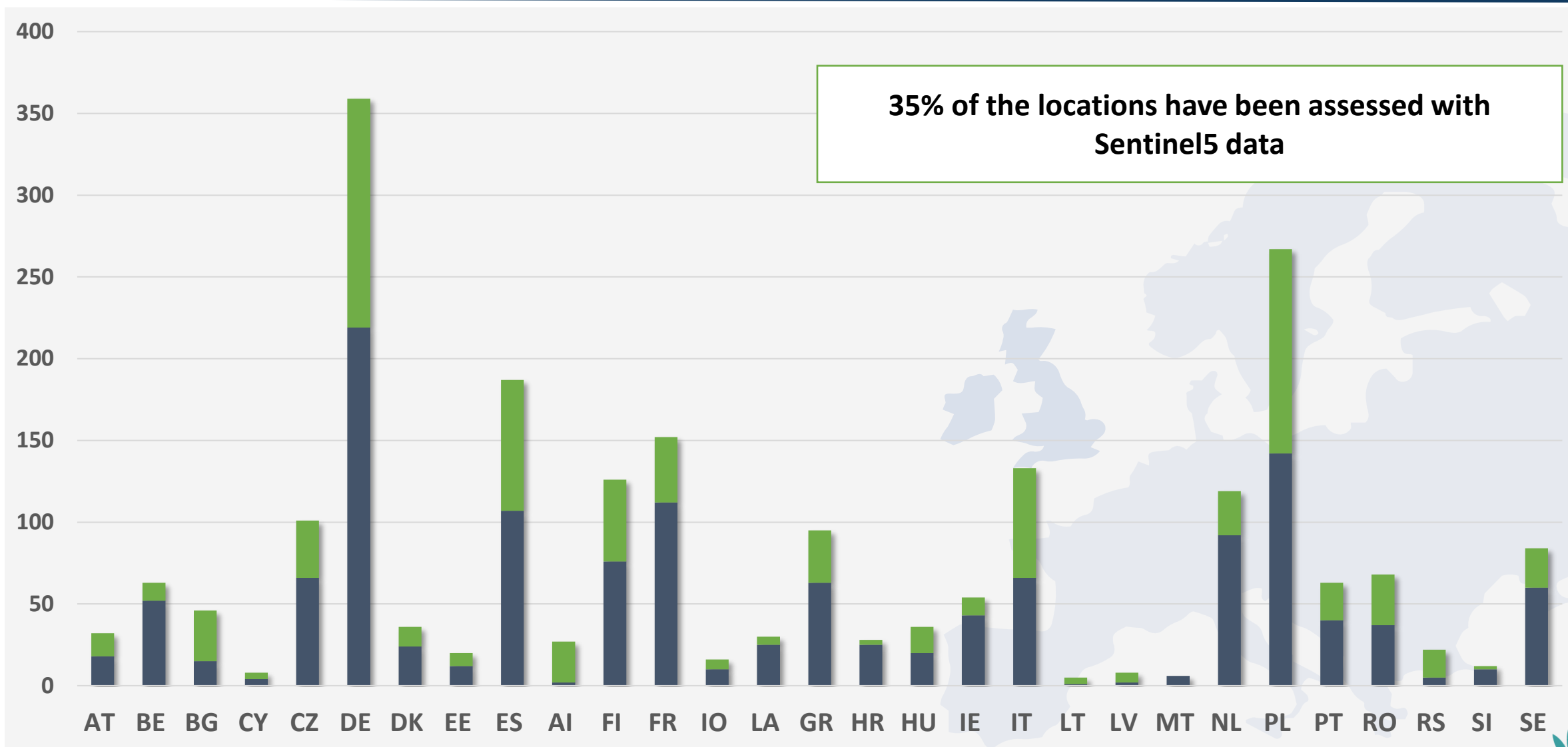
Wind and speed direction and percentage of values in the quiet wind zone (< 2m/s)



Final results



Final results



Key findings

- Use of a **single instrument** key to have robust assessment
- About **35% of the reported points above the threshold have been assessed**
- **Detection threshold: 1kt NO_x per year**
- **Background NO_x pollution level** is a key limiting factor to identify clear point sources
- **Big cities proximity** prevent from assessing point sources
- Sensitivity analysis and improvement in methodology helps **in identifying country specific limits**



Thank you



Federico Antognazza / SEEDS Assembly / 5 December 2024

With the contribution of: Kerstin Stebel, Philipp Schneider, Arve Kylling, Paul Hamer (NILU)

