

# CAPTOR

## TROPOSPHERIC OZONE POLLUTION: THE CAPTOR EXPERIENCE



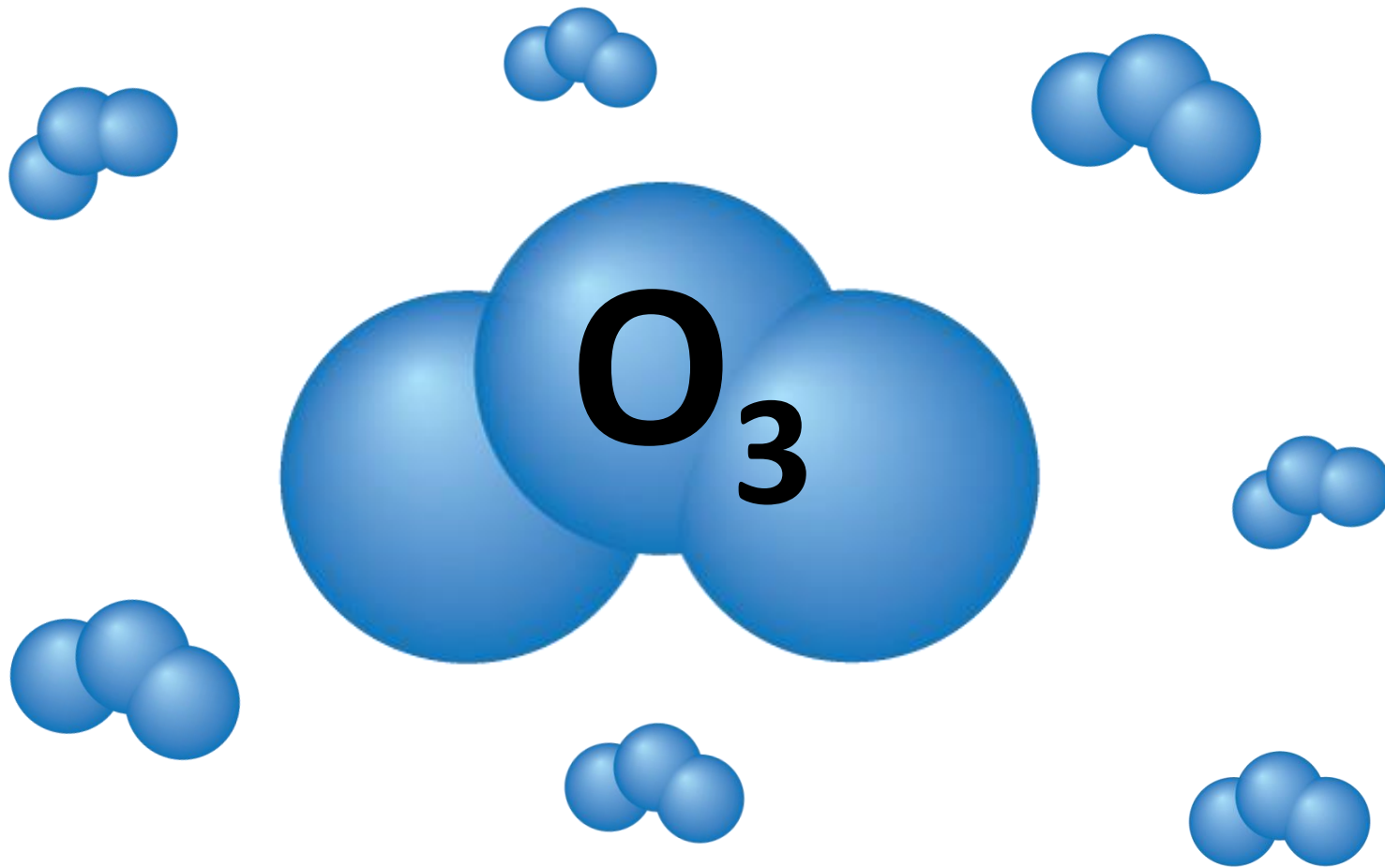
**CSIC**

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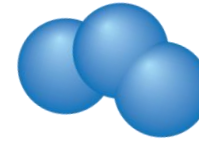
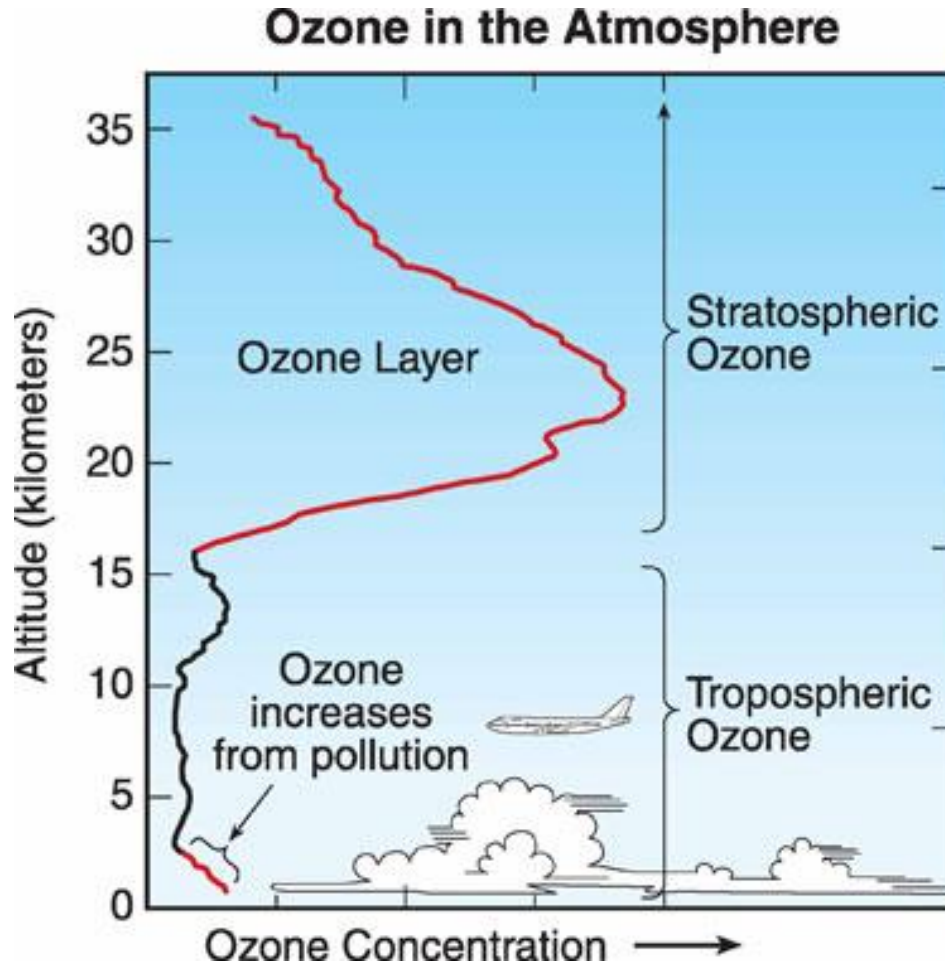
Mar Viana, Anna Ripoll, Xavier Querol  
CAPTOR International Conference  
Milano, 14-15 November 2018



# What is ozone?



# What is tropospheric ozone?



## STRATOSPHERIC OZONE

(forms the Earth's protective ozone layer)



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## TROPOSPHERIC OZONE

(affects human health and vegetation)



# How is tropospheric ozone formed?

## Ozone precursors

Nitrogen oxides

**NO<sub>x</sub>**

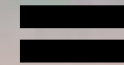
(NO & NO<sub>2</sub>)



Carbon species

**VOCs**

(CO & CH<sub>4</sub>)



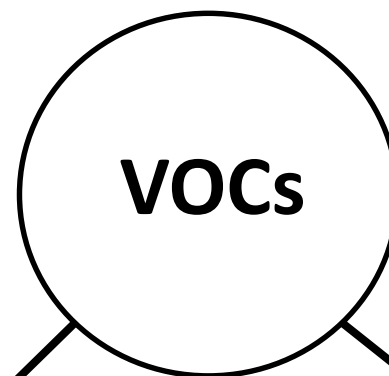
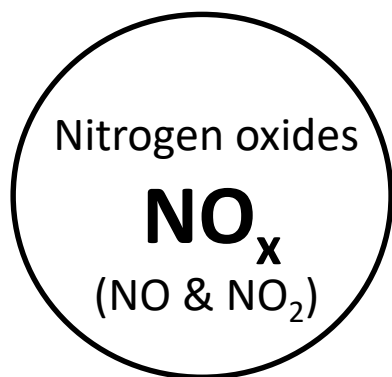
Tropospheric  
ozone

**O<sub>3</sub>**



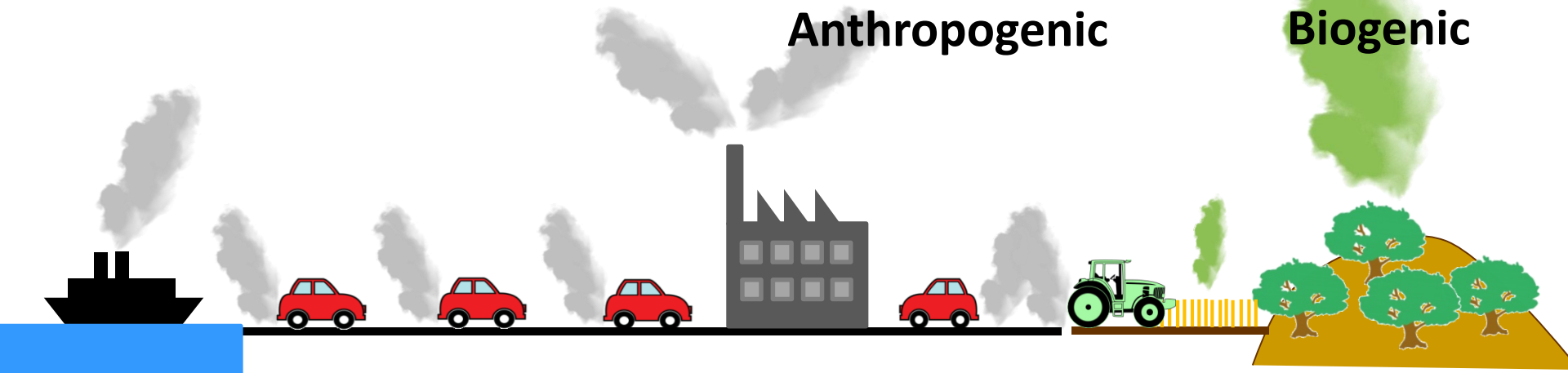
# How is tropospheric ozone formed?

## Ozone precursors



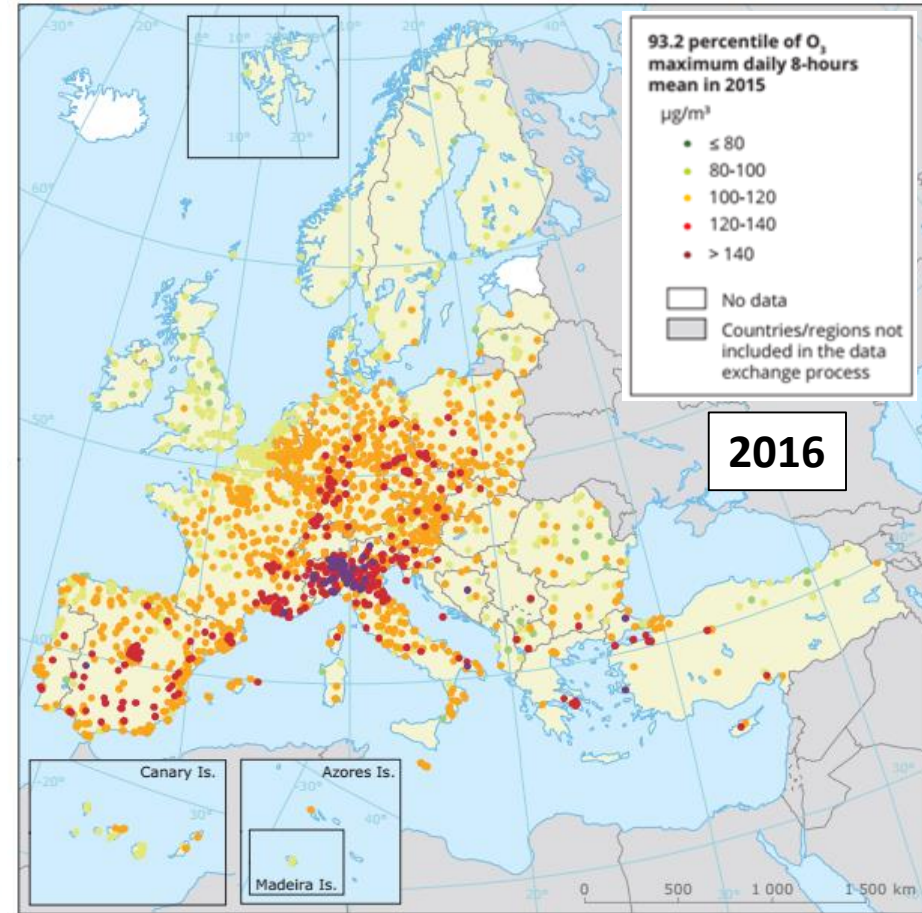
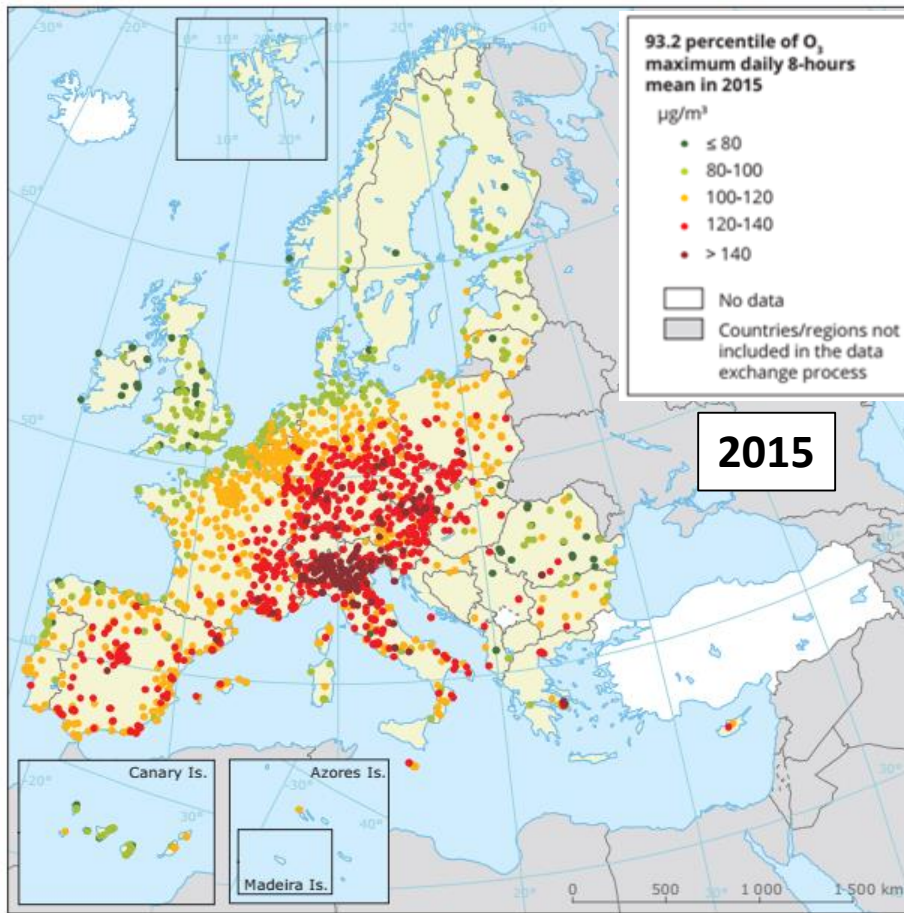
Anthropogenic

Biogenic



# Ozone in Europe

## EEA Air Quality in Europe



**Large interannual variability dependent on meteorology**



# Ozone in Europe

## EU target value for protection of human health (120 microg/m<sup>3</sup>)

- 17% of stations > O<sub>3</sub> target value for protection of human health.
- 17% (2016) << 41% (2015), but higher than in 2014 - interannual variability.

## WHO AQ guideline (100 microg/m<sup>3</sup>)

- 96% of stations > WHO AQG value for O<sub>3</sub>.

**Table ES.1 Percentage of the urban population in the EU-28 exposed to air pollutant concentrations above certain EU and WHO reference concentrations (minimum and maximum observed between 2014 and 2016)**

Pollutant	EU reference value (a)	Exposure estimate (%)	WHO AQG (a)	Exposure estimate (%)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Year (25)	6-8	Year (10)	→ 74-85
PM <sub>10</sub>	Day (50)	→ 13-19	Year (20)	42-52
O <sub>3</sub>	8-hour (120)	7-30	8-hour (100)	95-98
NO <sub>2</sub>	Year (40)	7-8	Year (40)	7-8
BaP	Year (1)	→ 20-24	Year (0.12) RL	→ 85-90
SO <sub>2</sub>	Day (125)	< 1	Day (20)	21-38

*EEA Air Quality in Europe, 2018*



- To **foster bottom-up collaboration of local communities, citizens, NGOs, and scientists**, to raise awareness of air pollution problem, and especially of tropospheric ozone.
  - To engage a **network of local communities** in three European regions for **monitoring tropospheric ozone**.
  - To give technical support in developing **low-cost sensors** and data manager.
  - To empower citizens and engage them in promoting **active participation in decision making to drive solutions**.

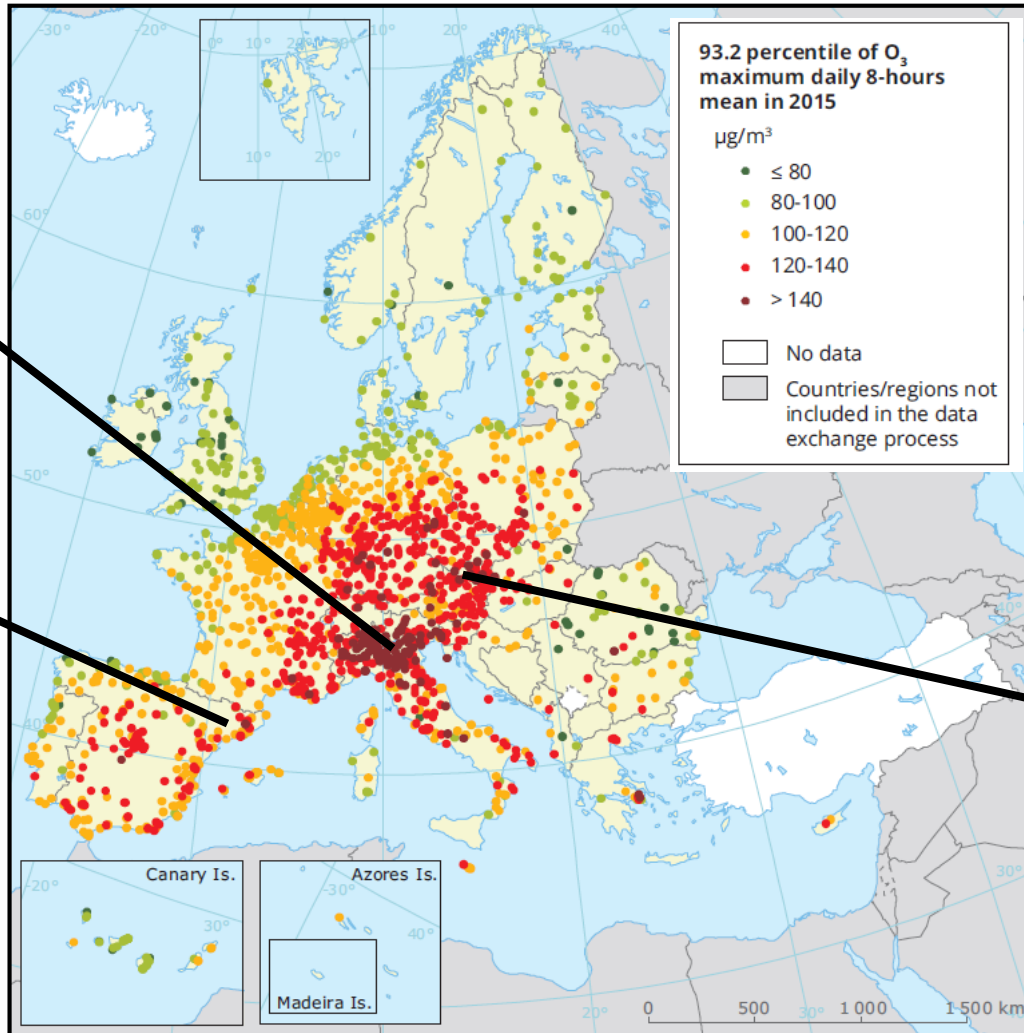




# Study areas

**Italy:**  
Piedmont,  
Lombardy,  
Emilia  
Romagna and  
Veneto

**Spain:**  
Barcelonès,  
Vallesos,  
Maresme  
and Osona



**Austria:**  
Burgenland,  
Steiermark and  
Niederösterreich



2016

2017

2018

## Citizen measurement campaigns of tropospheric ozone



## Low-cost sensors developed



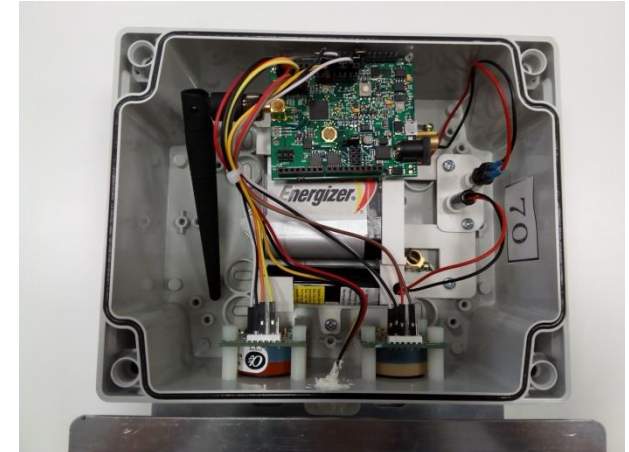
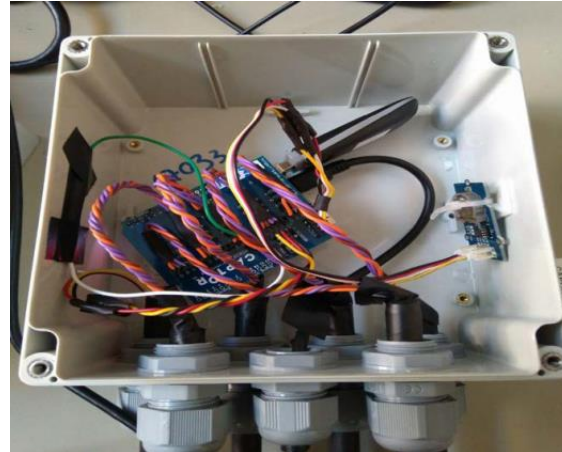
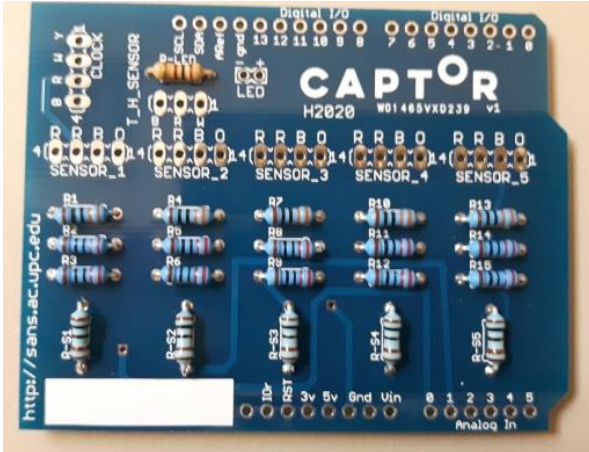
**CAPTOR:**  
metal oxide  
low-cost sensors (UPC)



**RAPTOR:**  
electrochemical  
low-cost sensors (UCA)

	Captors	Raptors
Spain	25	1
Italy	10	10
Austria	0	15

# Low-cost sensors developed



# Low-cost sensors calibration



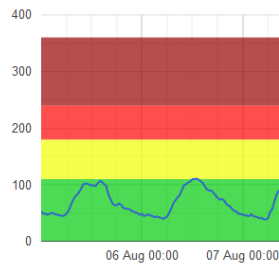
# Where to check the data?



<https://captorair.org/list/>



Period: 05/08/2018 - 11/08/2018



The data generated by the CAPTOR nodes show that:  
In 6 days the information threshold ( $180 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) was exceeded.  
In 6 days the alert threshold ( $240 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) was exceeded.

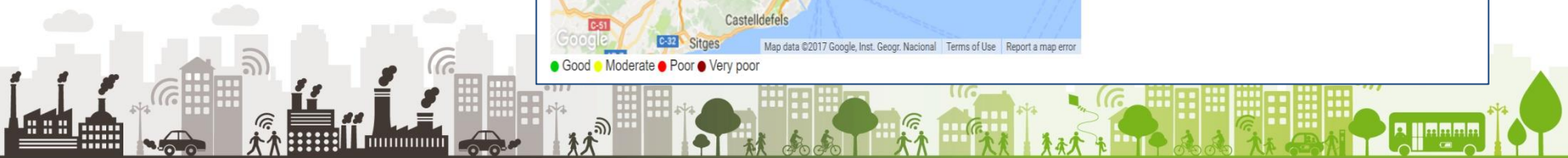
Sant Vicenç de Torelló

Ozone hourly mean **50 ug/m3**  
25/07/2017 07:30:02 UTC

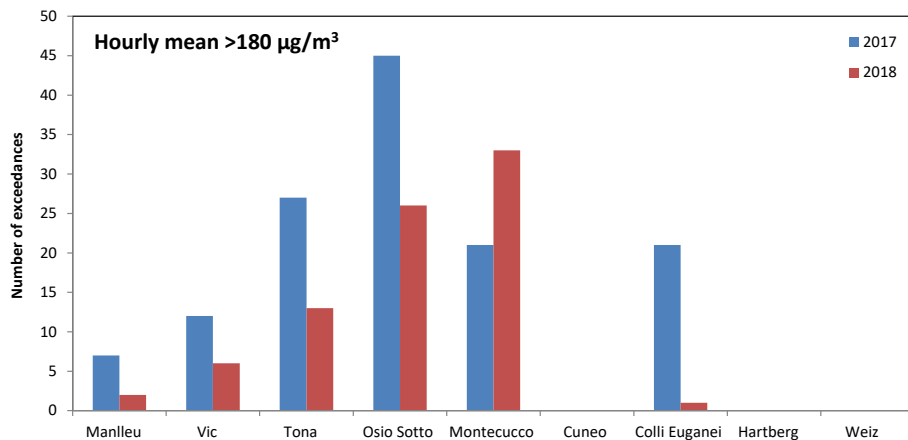
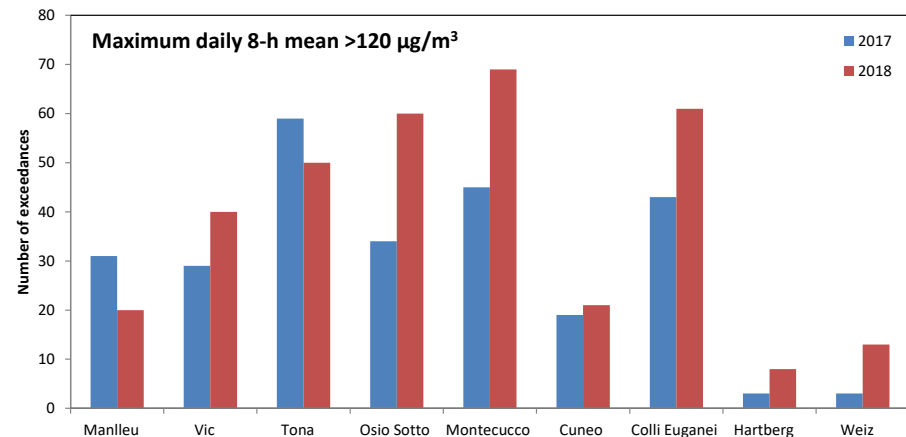
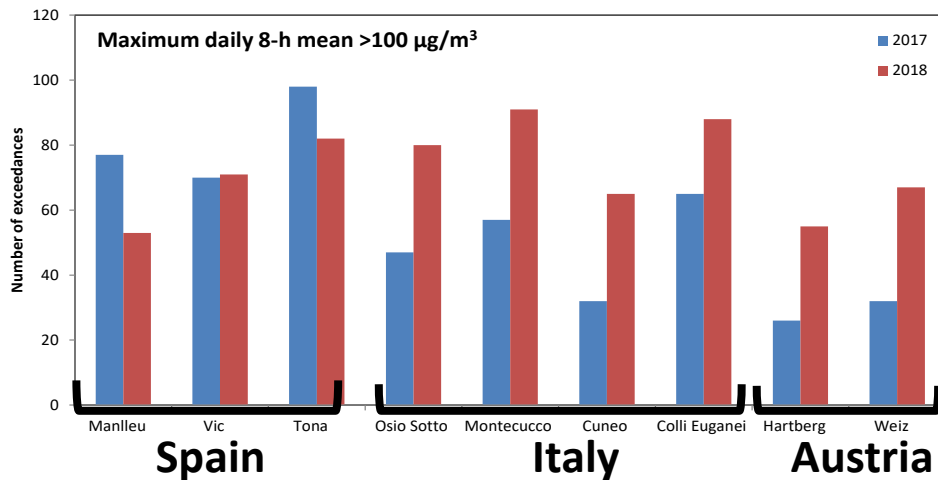
Ozone eight hours mean **33 ug/m3**  
25/07/2017 07:30:02 UTC

The data generated by the CAPTOR nodes should only be considered informative and not be used for regulatory compliance purposes.

**NOT for compliance-checking purposes!**



# Results

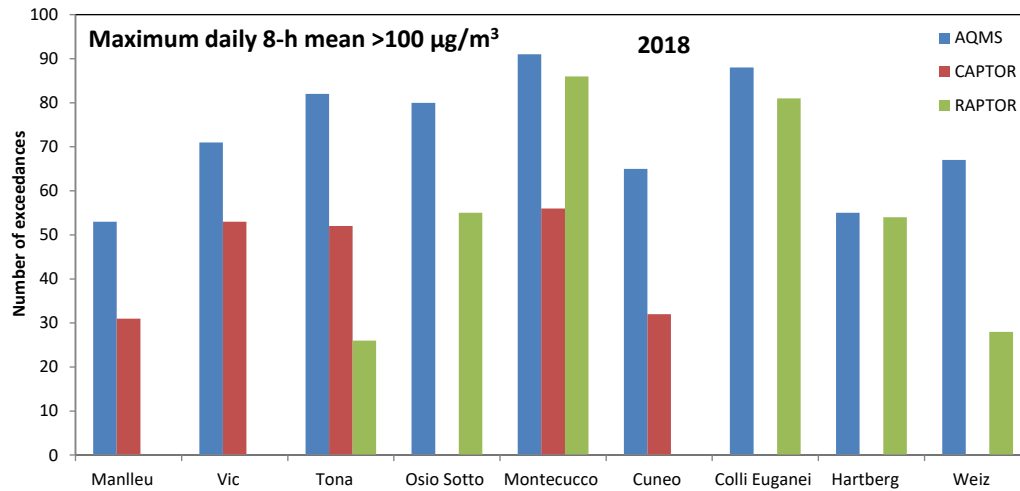


Sensor data useful to assess:

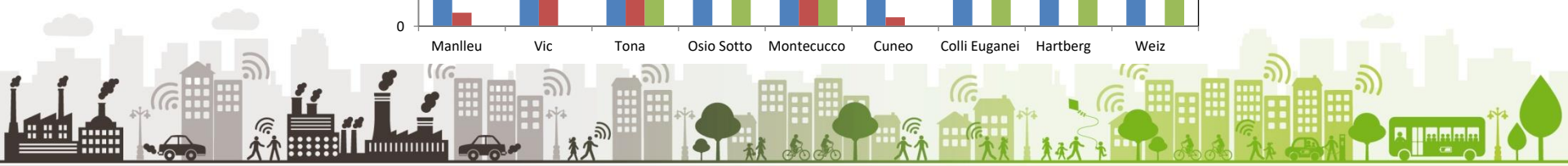
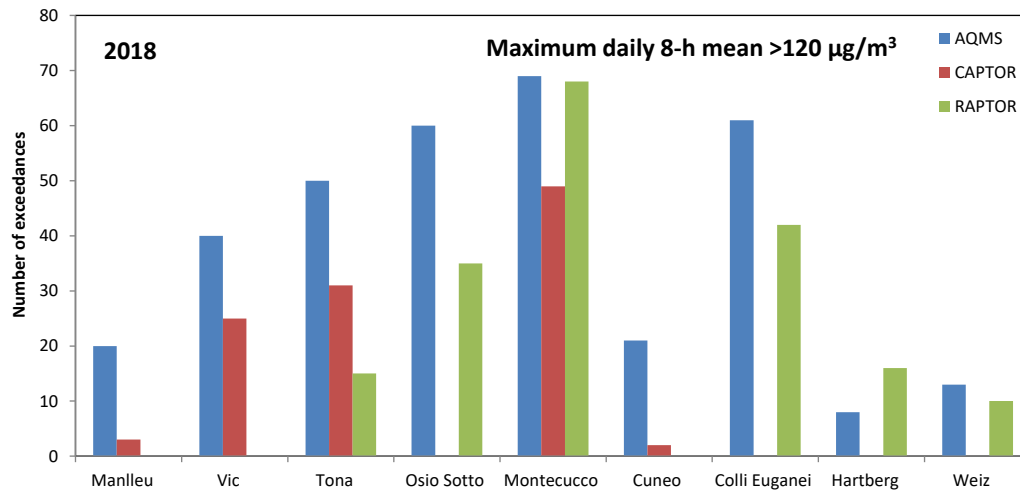
- Geographical variability:  
Italy/Spain/Austria
- Temporal variability:  
relative differences 2017 – 2018



# Results



**Sensor data are more conservative than reference stations – no social alarm created**

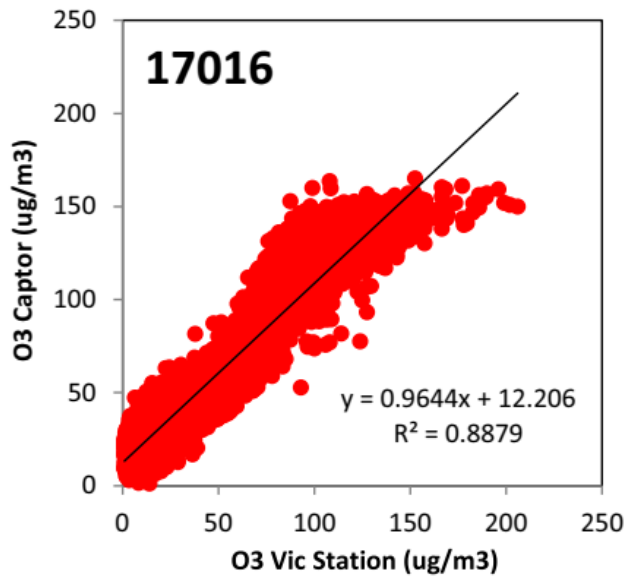




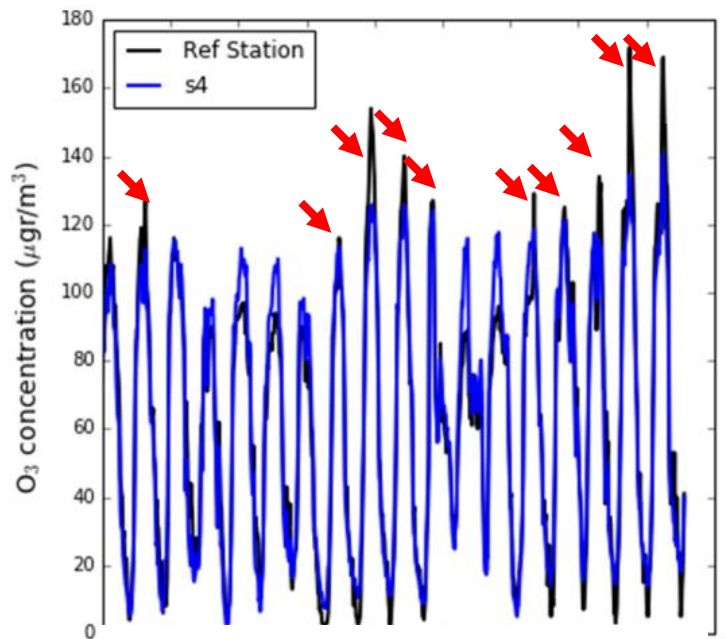
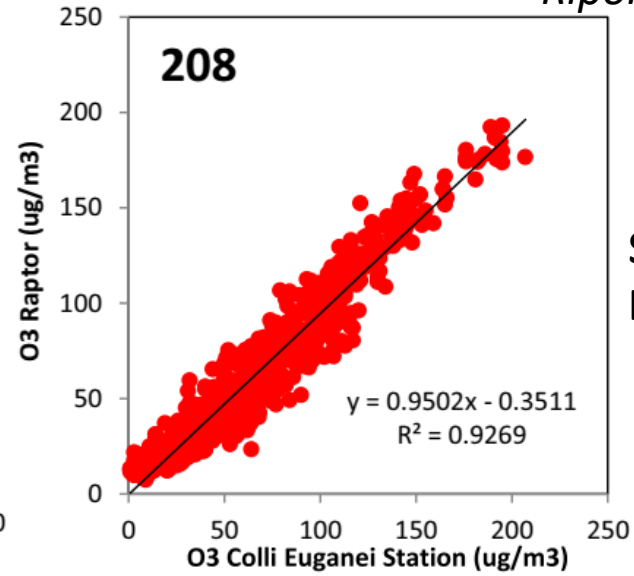
# Results: limitations

Ripoll et al., 2019

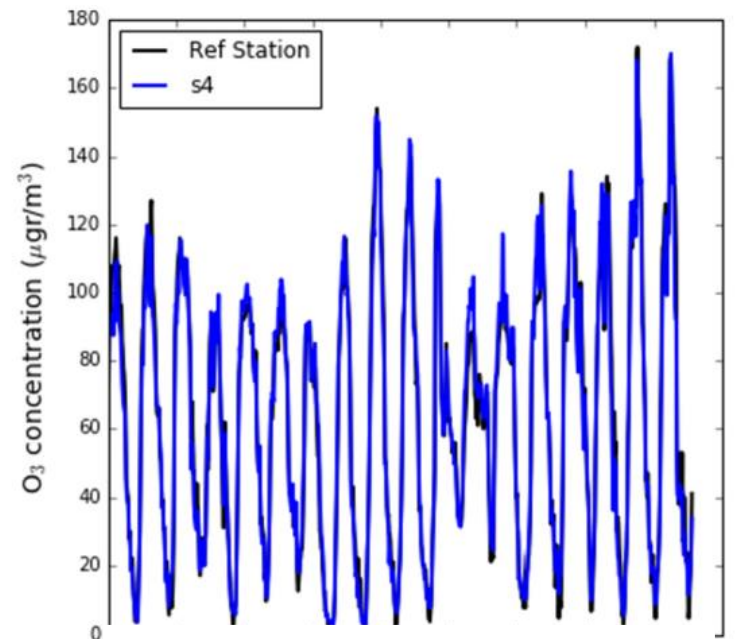
Sensor:  
Metal oxide



Sensor:  
Electrochemical



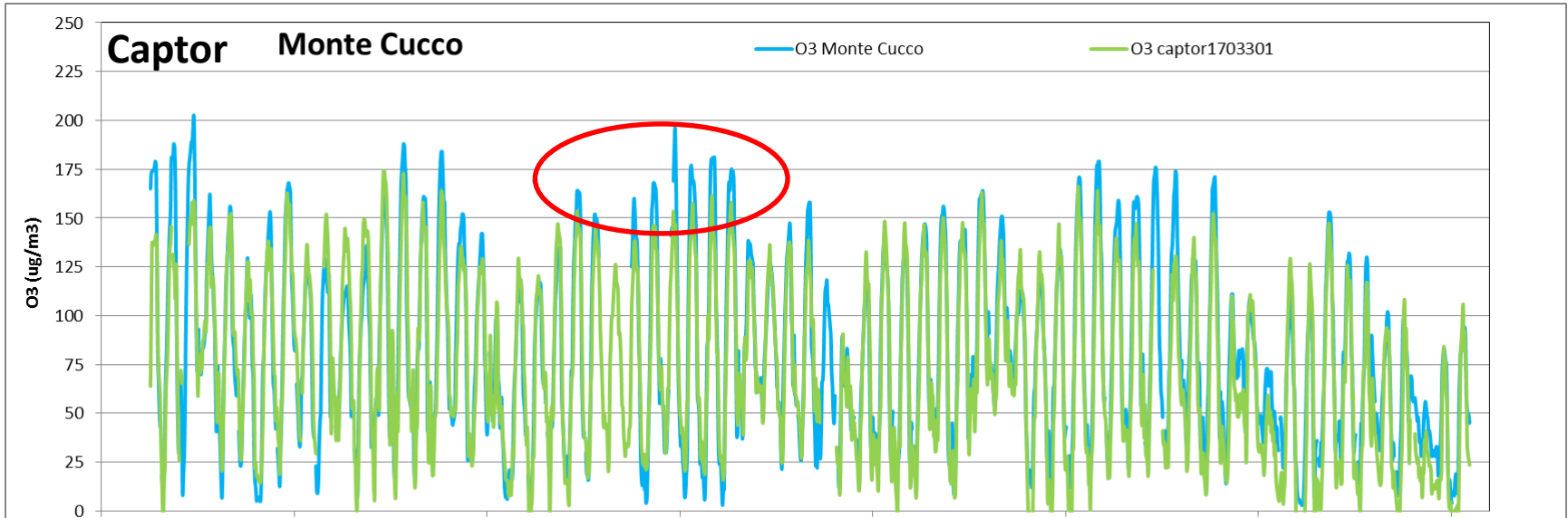
Linear calibration



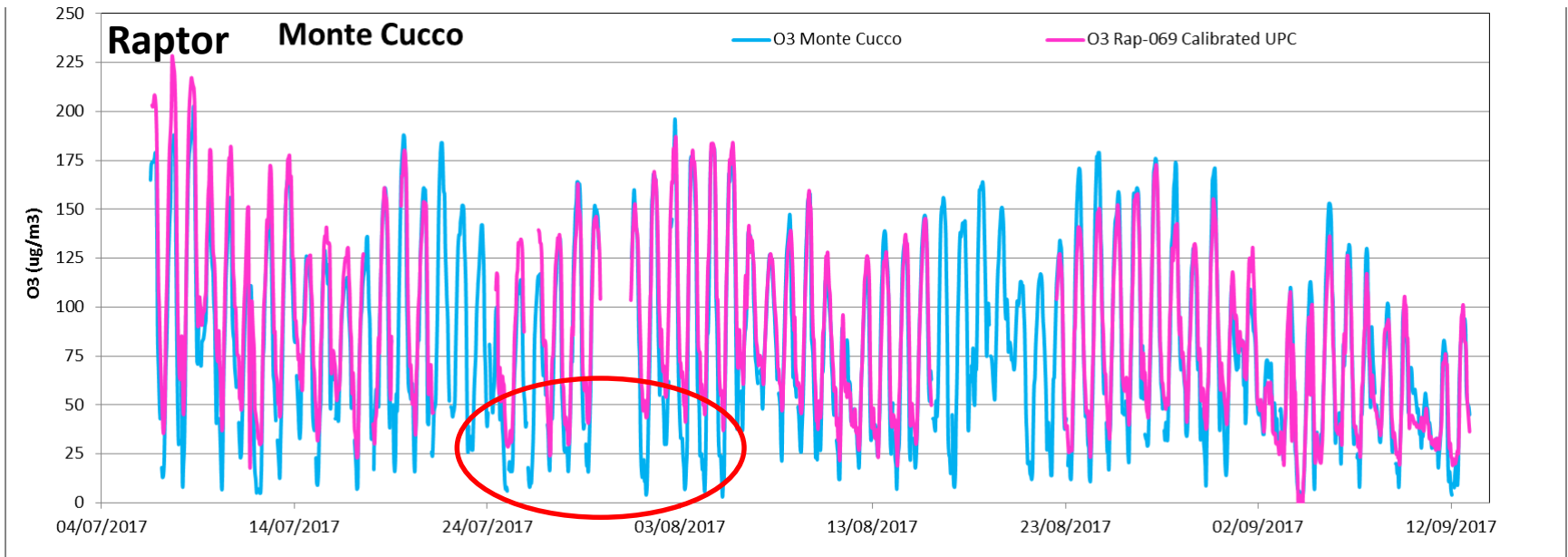
Non-linear calibration



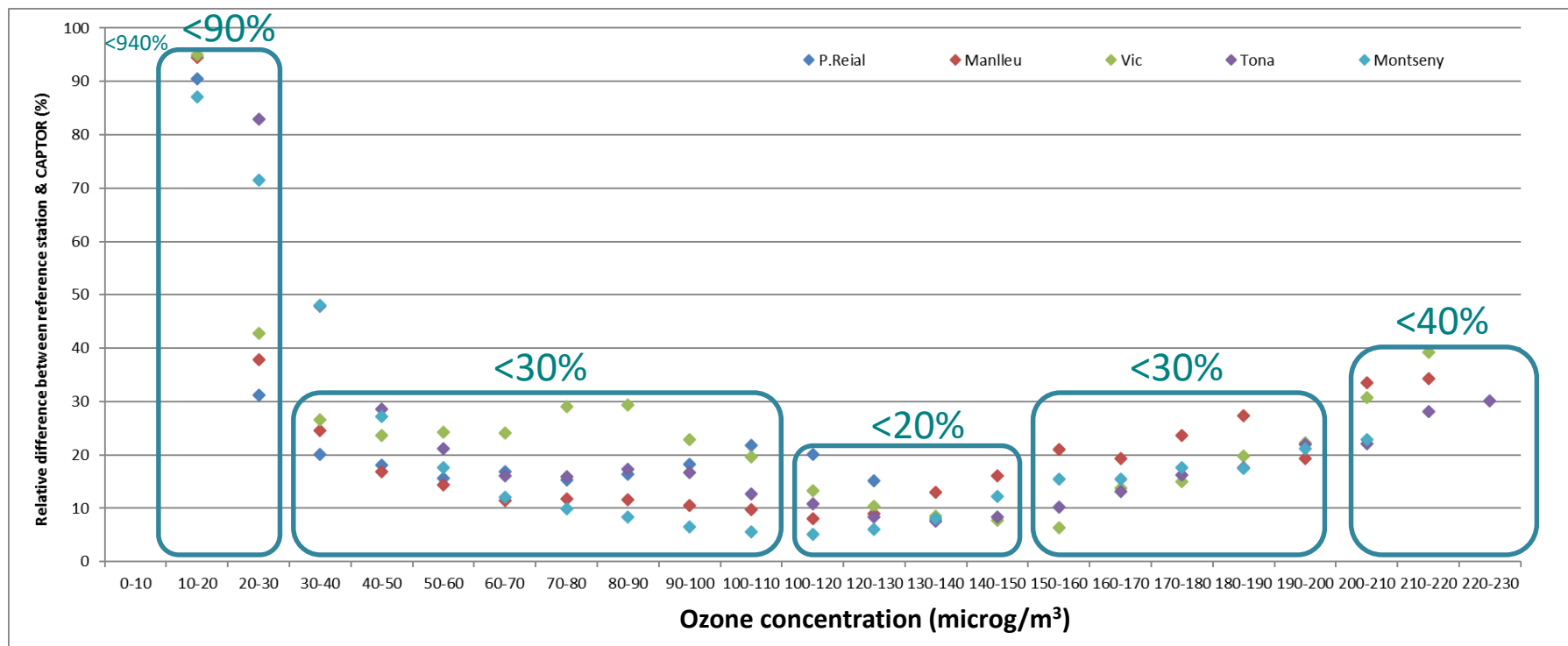
## Results: limitations



**Sensor performance: acceptable for mean concentrations, but not for peaks (high and low)**



## QUANTIFICATION OF UNCERTAINTIES



## Conclusions

- Ozone pollution is an issue in Southern and Central Europe, mainly affecting rural areas
- High interannual and spatial variability
- CAPTOR: Sensors were deployed in a citizen science approach
- Ozone data obtained has good scientific quality for sensor research and for awareness raising
- Peak concentrations not recorded by sensors
- Uncertainties = 20-40%, depending on ozone concentration
- Sensor data are more conservative than reference stations – no social alarm created



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

COLLECTIVE AWARENESS PLATFORM  
FOR TROPOSPHERIC OZONE POLLUTION

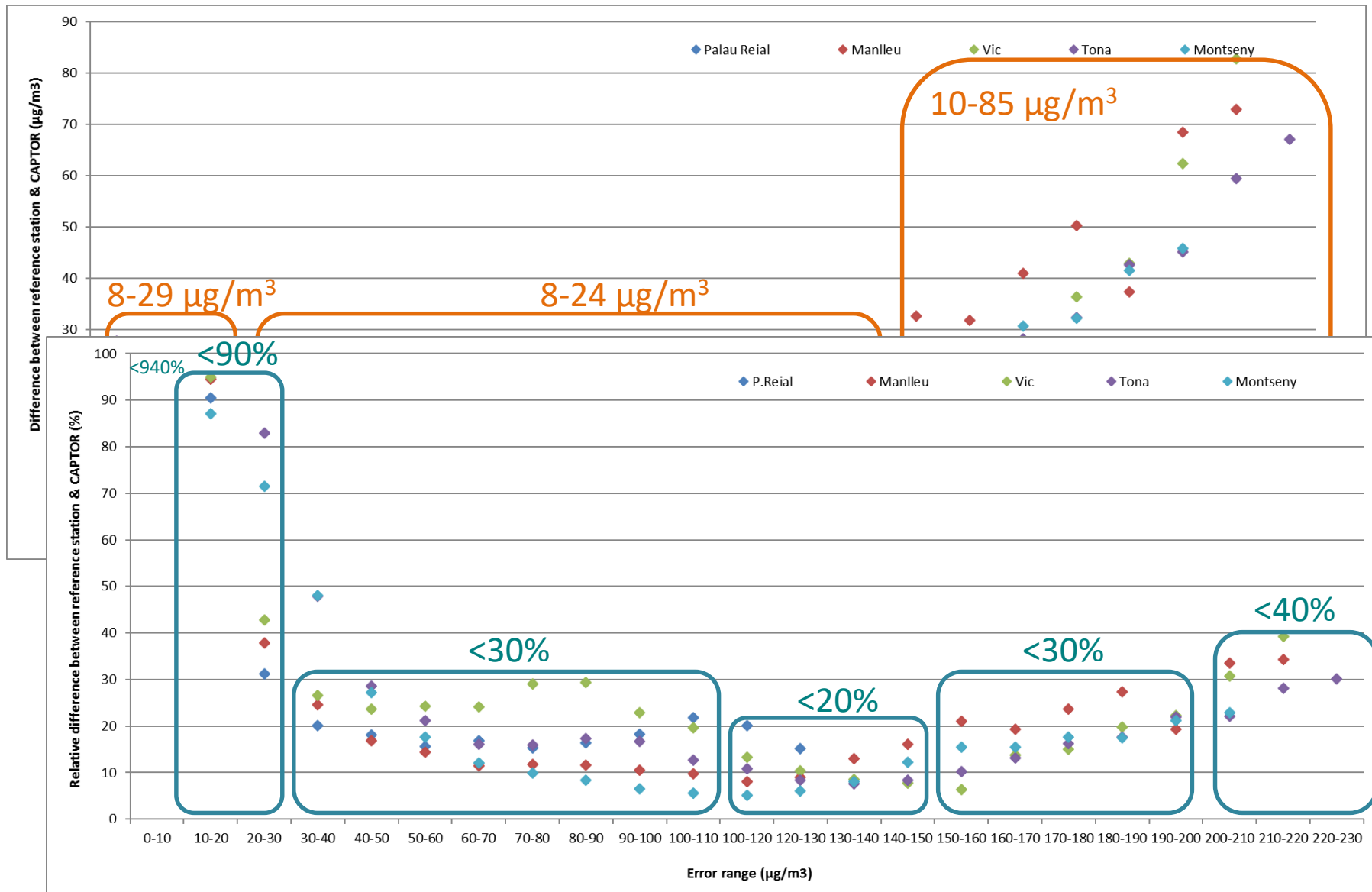


**CSIC**

CONSELL SUPERIOR D'INVESTIGACIONS CIENTÍFIQUES



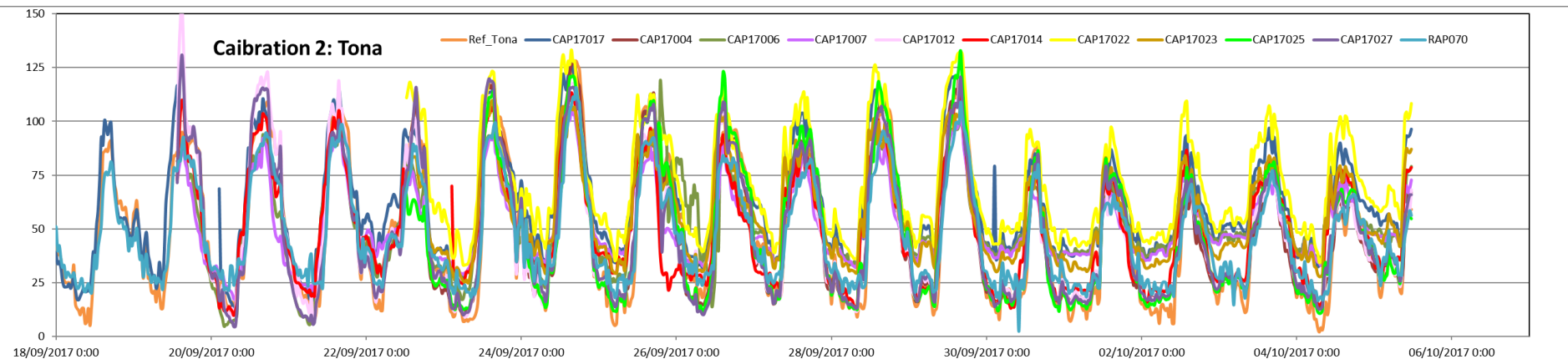
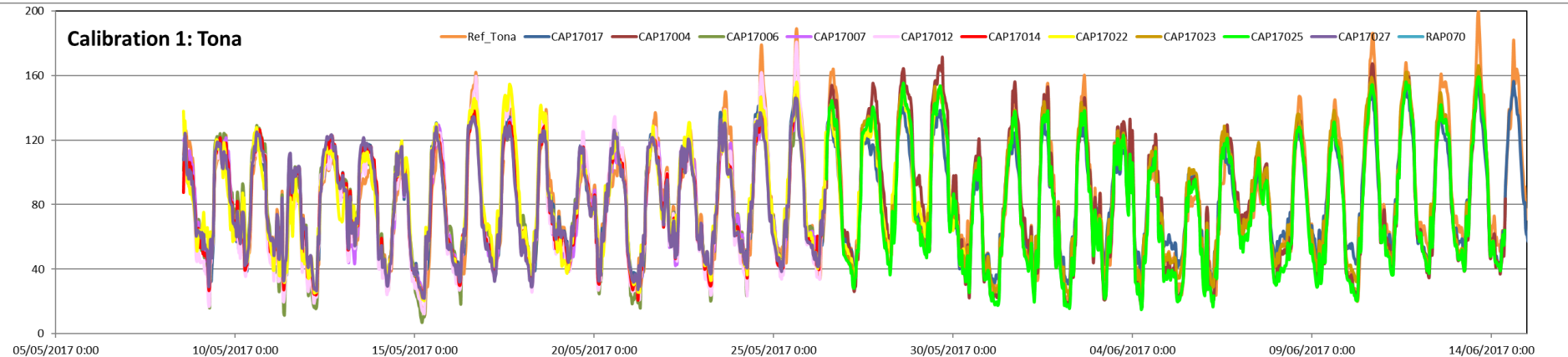
## QUANTIFICATION OF UNCERTAINTIES



## Results: limitations

# UNIT-TO-UNIT VARIABILITY

10 Captor + 1 Raptor nodes co-located at a reference station (May-June)



Intra-unit variability increased significantly during Calibration2 period (Sept-Oct)  
Cause: lower concentrations? Ageing?