



WP4 - Atmosphere

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 - Giuseppe D'Amico ->Benedetto De Rosa (CNR-IMAA)
- + all WP4 participants







IR000032 – ITINERIS, Italian Integrated Environmental Research Infrastructures System
(D.D. n. 130/2022 - CUP B53C22002150006) Funded by EU - Next Generation EU PNRR-
Mission 4 “Education and Research” - Component 2: “From research to business” - Investment
3.1: “Fund for the realisation of an integrated system of research and innovation infrastructures”



WP4 Structure



-  **Objective 1** Integration and harmonization within the Italian Network of Environment RIs
-  **Objective 2** Pilot service on Aerosol types and sources
-  **Objective 3** Pilot service on Planetary Boundary Layer height and its impact on aerosol and trace gases concentration at ground
-  **Objective 4** Pilot service on impact of natural and anthropic fires on atmospheric composition

WP4 deliverables status at B10 (IO 4.5 - June 2024)

Deliverables released (PI4.4) - Status at June 2024:

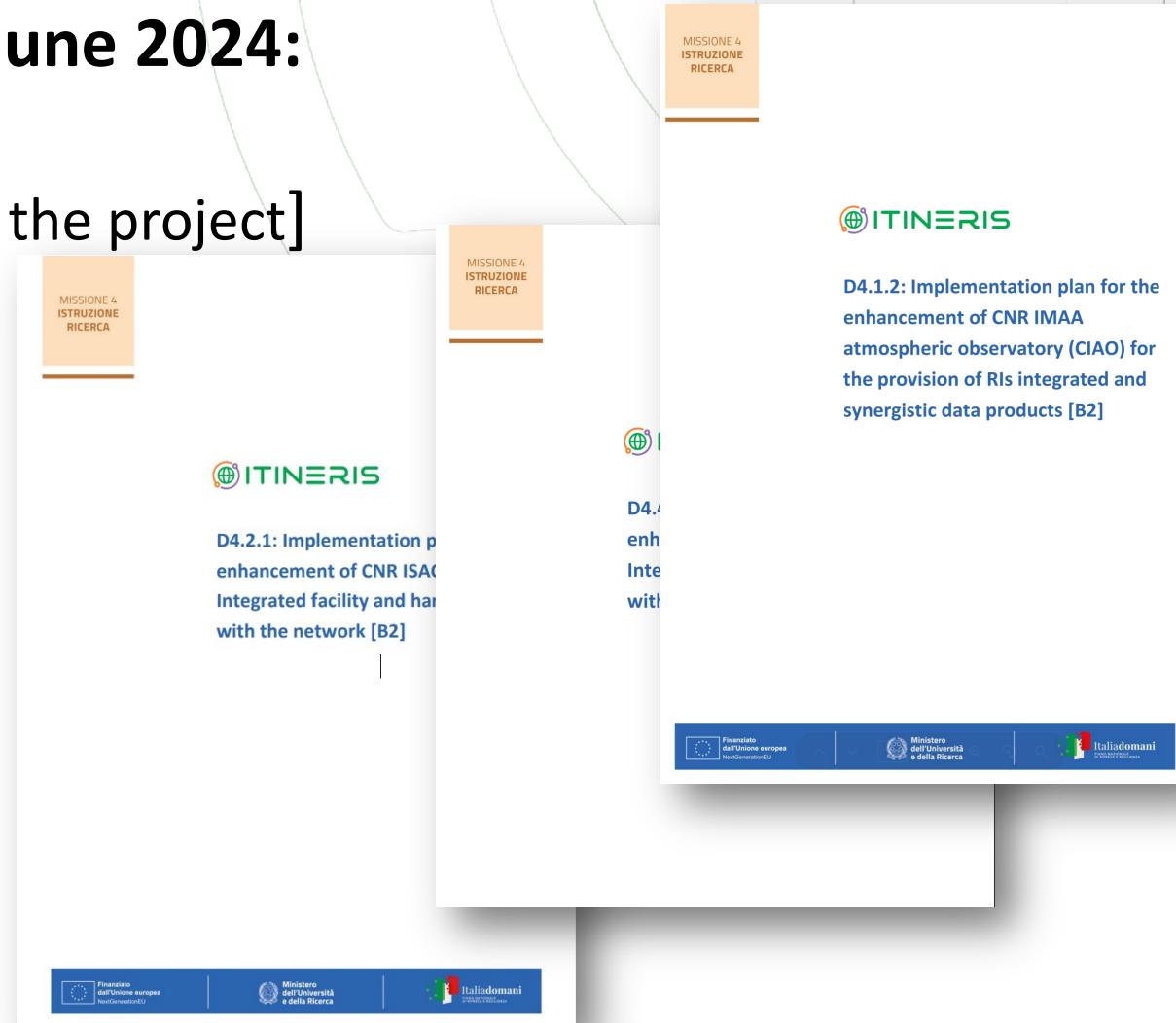
OBJ 1: **18** deliverables [33 due at the end of the project]

OBJ 2: **4** deliverables [9]

OBJ 3: **4** deliverables [6]

OBJ 4: **2** deliverables [3]

Everything released on schedule 



Performance indicators status at B10 (IO 4.5 - June 2024)



Purchase procedures (PI 4.1; 4.2): Slightly delayed

Delays occurred in starting procedures:

- 45% of procedures started (expected status at B10: 70%)
- 33% of contract signed (expected status at B10 : 60%)

Realignment expected in next months

Personnel selection (PI 4.1; 4.3): Completed!

12 Researchers, 4 Technicians and 12 Technologists

Datasets production (PI 4.5): 60 datasets at the project end

First survey: 30 datasets + SIOS and Cetra (rough estimate 15)



Università
Ca' Foscari
Venezia

Dipartimento di Scienze Ambientali,
Informatica e Statistica

info missing from some units

Good!

OBJ1: Integration Harmonization – Main achievements



- ❑ Deploying trans–RI instruments at the different sites
- ❑ Reinforcing the observational capability at RI locations and beyond
- ❑ Building and empowering the digital resources collection & provision in atmospheric domain
- ❑ Building up a National community strengthening cooperation and collaboration
 - Mutual use of resources available in the National community for progressing on science
 - Mutual support based on specific expertise
 - Training activities (organized in WP3) saw the involvement of groups as lecturers and as attendees

OBJ1: Integration Harmonization – An example



□ Instruments for airborne measurements of aerosol

- *Aethalometer for black carbon concentration, including biomass burning (BB) fraction*
- *SMPS Scanning mobility particle Spectrometer 10 to 800 nm range (customized for airborne use)*
- *APS - aerosol particle sizer 0.5 to 20 um (customized for airborne use)*
- *Nephelometer for scattering and backscattering coefficient*
- *Dust monitor 0.15-40 um (customized for airborne use)*
- *CPC CEN (customized for airborne use)*
- *Airborne Meteorological System (airborne use)*
- *Airborne isokinetic Aerosol inlet (airborne use)*
- *Other possible inlets*



Piper Seneca III owned by OGS



The perfect link between different sites

OBJ1: Integration Harmonization – *Extra Domain*



CNR
ISMAR
ISTITUTO
DI SCIENZE
MARINE



Development of Lidar observation capabilities at **AAOT** (WP4.6) and **Gaia Blu** (WP5.16) for regular monitoring of relevant and marine variables and for innovative air-sea interaction studies

Atmospheric Variables

Vertical profiles of:

- Particle backscatter coefficient and depolarization ratio from aerosols and clouds
- Particle extinction coefficient from aerosols and clouds
- Aerosol fluorescence



Marine Variables

Vertical profiles of:

- Chlorophyll-a concentration
- Particulate backscattering coefficient
- Depolarization ratio of ocean waters
- Diffuse attenuation coefficients of downwelling irradiance
- Colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM) concentration



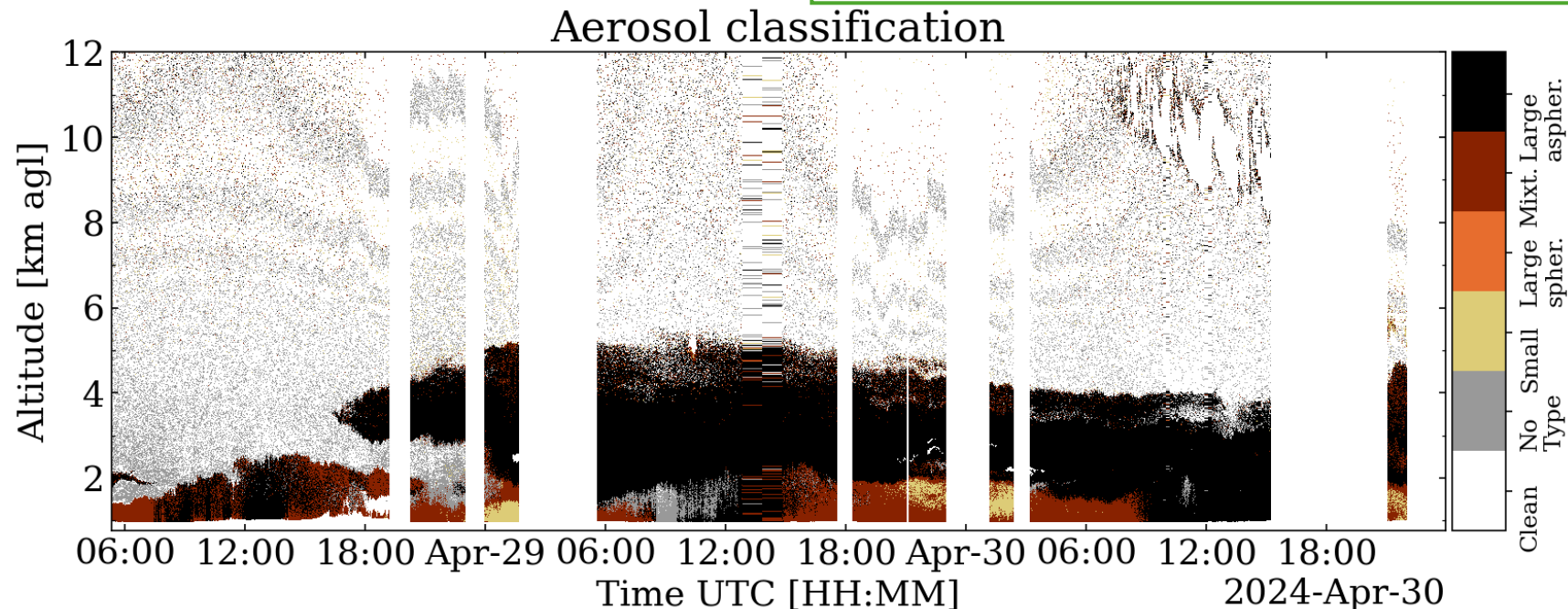
Interconnections between marine ecosystems, aerosols, and clouds

Task 4.11 – Aerosol typing

- 🌐 **3 aerosol typing algorithms** have been translated into python and fine-tuned to accept ACTRIS-like lidar data
- 🌐 **+ 1 high-temporal-resolution aerosol typing methodology** has been developed for ACTRIS lidar data

🌐 A **dedicated server** hosts the abovementioned algorithms and their output with the goal to become the centerpiece of this task

🌐 A dataset of **pure dust vertical profiles** has been created using aerosol lidar measurements provided by the ACTRIS lidar stations in Italy



Task 4.11 - Aerosol Typing over Italy from AERONET

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¹⁴Laboratorio Analisi e Osservazioni del Sistema Terra, National Agency for New Technologies,

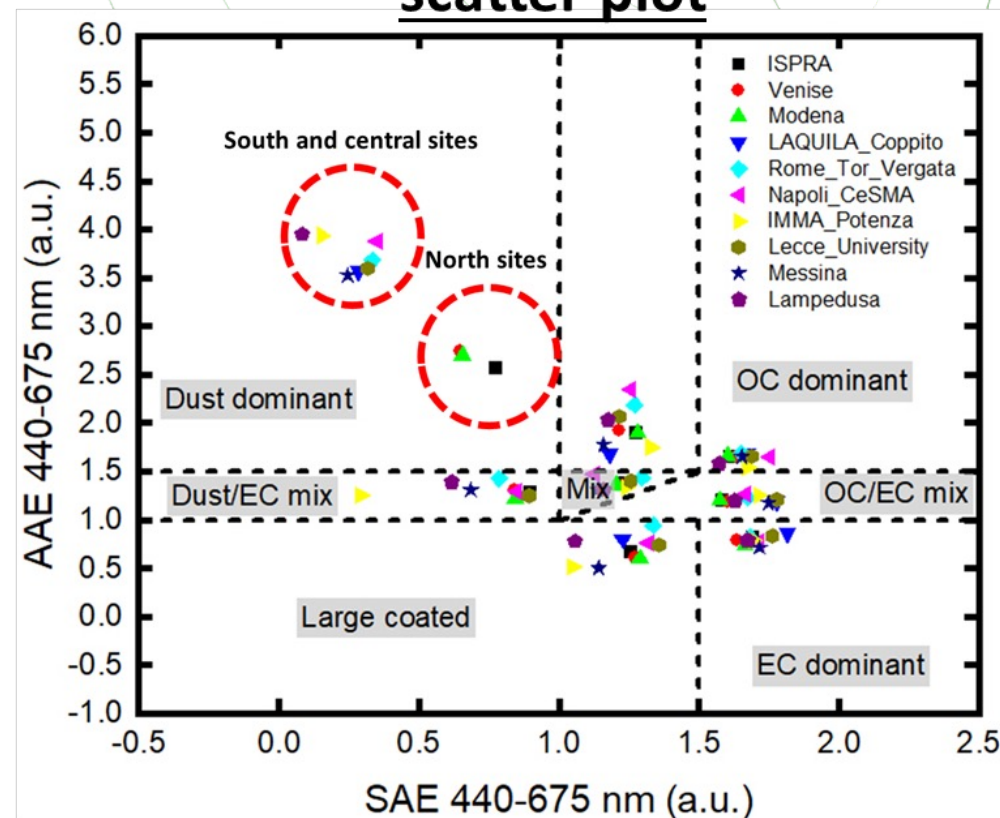
Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), Rome, Italy

¹⁵ENEA LAMPEDUSA, UTMEA-TER, Lampedusa, Italy

CIMEL CE318-T photometer at CNR-ISAC Lecce

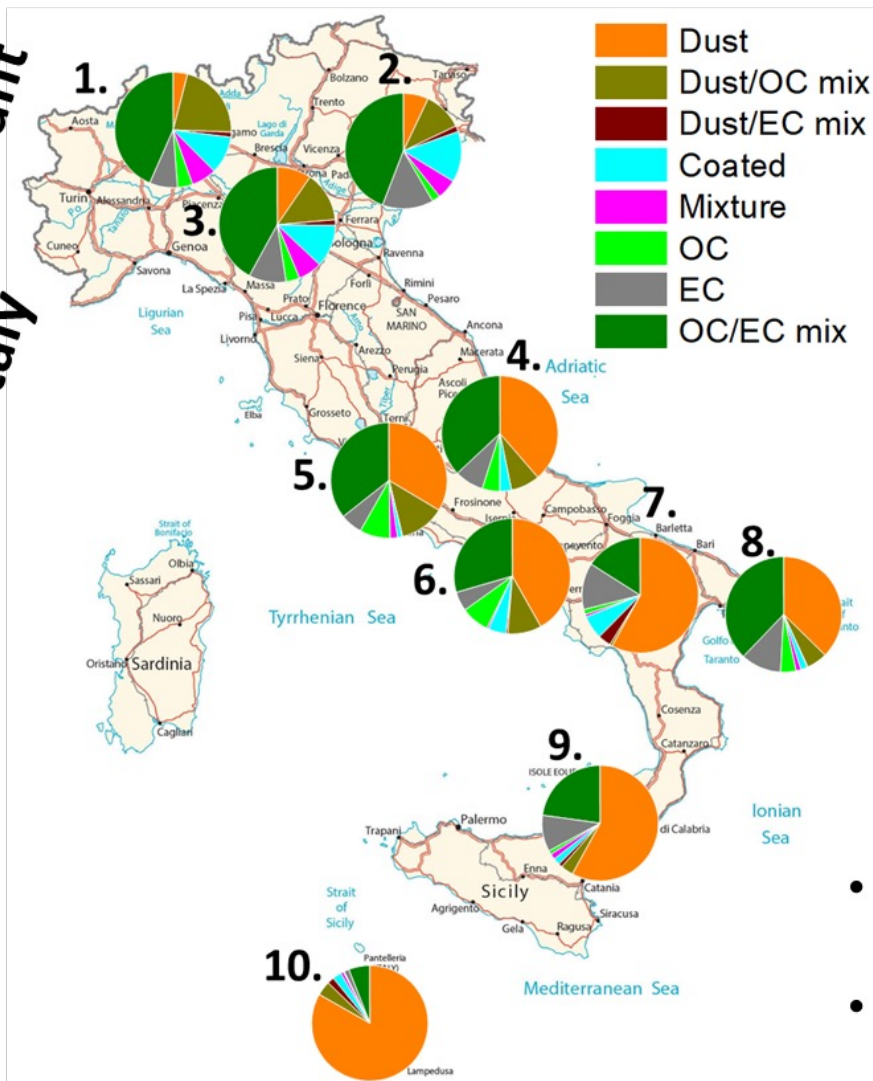


Average AAE vs. SAE 440-675 nm scatter plot



Task 4.11 - Aerosol Typing over Italy from AERONET

Relative proportion of dominant aerosol types over Italy



Site	Dust %	Dust/OC mix %	Dust/EC Mix %	Coated %	Mixture %	OC %	EC %	OC/EC mix %
1. Ispra	4.02	21.57	1.46	10.54	6.93	4.23	7.77	43.48
2. Venise	7.02	10.87	1.65	14.24	5.57	2.27	14.17	44.22
3. Modena	9.54	14.07	1.54	11.96	6.63	3.80	10.35	42.12
4. LAQUILA_Coppito	38.71	8.06	-	3.23	-	4.84	8.06	37.10
5. Rome_Tor_Vergata	33.63	12.61	0.18	1.23	2.10	8.41	6.13	35.73
6. Napoli_CeSMA	41.87	9.36	0.49	4.93	0.49	7.88	5.42	29.56
7. IMAA_Potenza	57.97	0.72	3.62	6.52	0.72	1.45	13.04	15.94
8. Lecce_University	37.40	5.76	0.13	1.88	1.34	4.29	11.26	37.94
9. Messina	57.91	3.49	1.07	1.88	1.61	1.07	10.19	22.79
10. Lampedusa	83.29	4.04	1.89	2.43	0.81	0.27	1.35	5.93



- Higher proportion of Dust dominant aerosol type in the south (closer to source, Saharan desert).
- Higher proportion of OC/EC mixture in north (continental pollution).

Task 4.11 - Aerosol Typing

Bioaerosol

Systematic studies on the effects of atmospheric conditions on bacteria viability

Vernocchi et al., (2023). Atmos. Meas. Tech., 16, 5479-5493

New experimental protocol

BACTERIA
PREPARATION

Bacteria growth
Inoculum characterization

BACTERIA
EXPOSURE

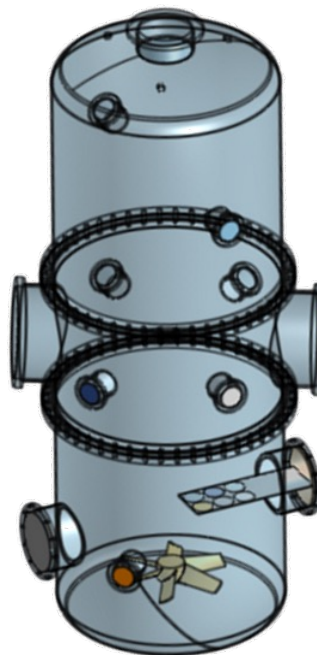
Bacteria injection in ChAMBRé
Setting of atmospheric conditions in ChAMBRé
Bacteria sampling

DATA ANALASYS

Determination of bacteria total concentration
Determination of bacteria viable concentration

ChAMBRé

Chamber for Aerosol Modelling
and Bio-aerosol Research



Optical properties

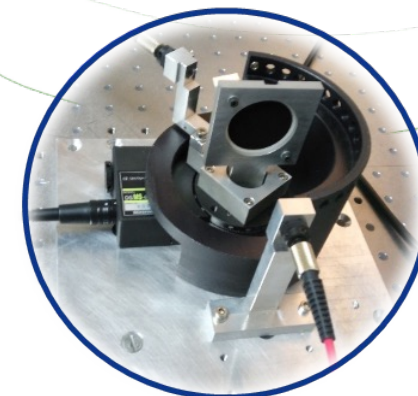
Online and offline determination of absorption/scattering/extinction coefficients

Isolabella et al., (2023). NCC-C, 46, 1-4

Production of "aerosol standards"

BLAnCA

A new instrument for full-spectrum light absorption measurements of aerosols collected on filters



Optical apportionment of carbonaceous aerosol

Isolabella et al., (2024). Atmos. Meas. Tech., 17, 1363-1373

Task 4.12 - Aerosol sources – NPF events

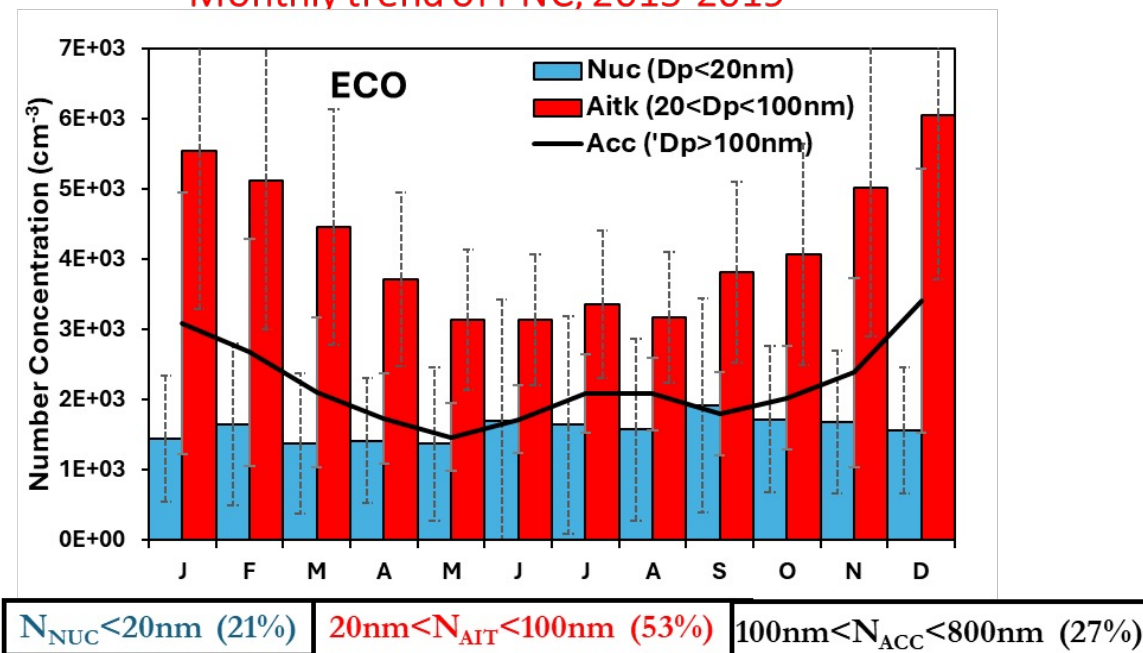
SITE: ECO Observatory (40°N;18°E) urban background, 5 km from Lecce. Regional stations of GAW/ACTRIS.

INSTRUMENTATION

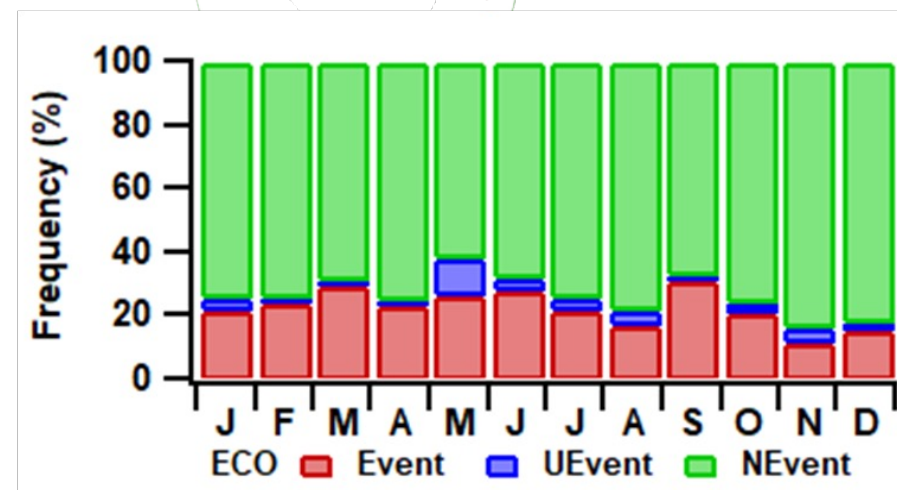
PNC (10-800nm) by MPSS;
 SO₂ (Thermo Instruments analyzers, TEI 43i); Meteo data (T, WS, WD, RH, rain, Solar Flux)



Monthly trend of PNC, 2015-2019

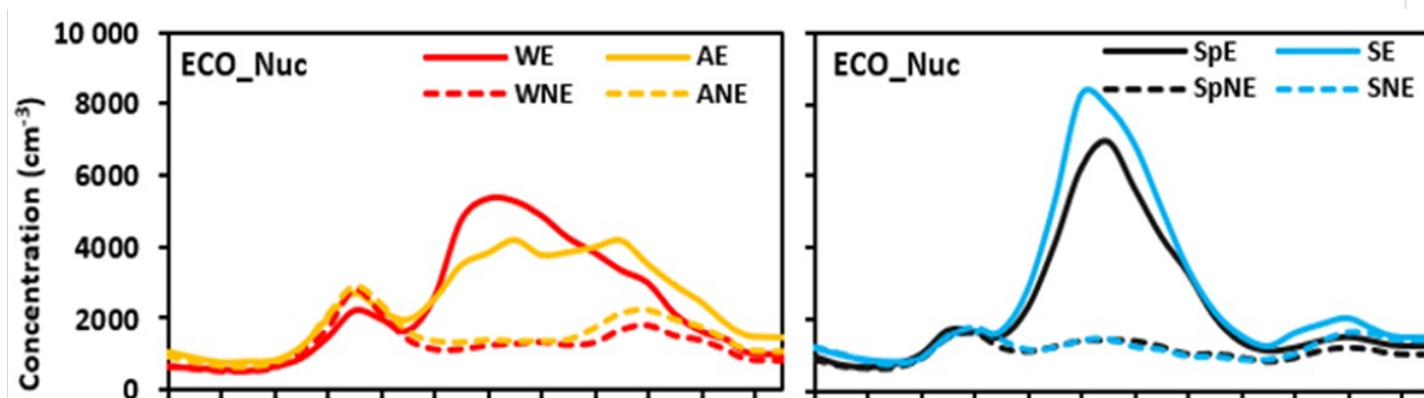


Classification of new particle formation events

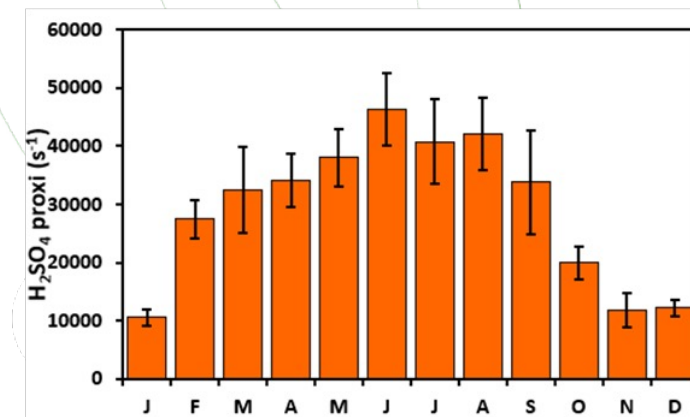
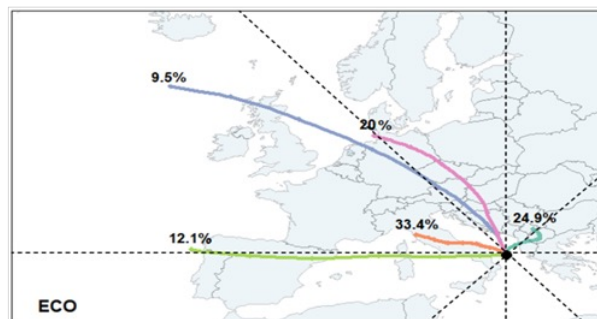
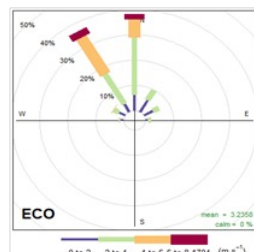
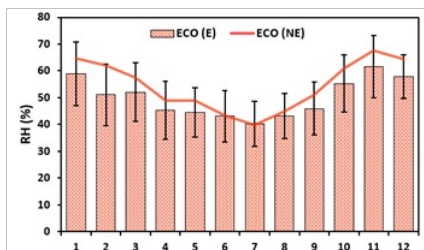


Frequency (%) > March and September (30%);
 < November and December (12%-16%)

Task 4.12 - Aerosol sources – NPF events



Factors associated with NPF events



The monthly values of the H_2SO_4 proxy are larger in warm months with values ~ 35% higher during event days.

Local weather: clear skies, $RH < 52\%$ and moderate ws 3-4 m/s.

Cluster analysis of back trajectories (72 h, 500 m h) associated with NPF events, 6 centroids.

The air masses come from European continental areas, highly anthropized, and the marine environment before reaching the receptor point. The lack of air masses from the southern sector (dust can suppress photochemical activity by scavenging reactive gases and condensable vapours) emphasizes their role in terms of transport of precursors and synoptic atmospheric conditions to them associated (Dinoi et al., ACP 23(3)2167-2181, 2023).

Collaboration with ACTRIS/RI-URBAN to a paper on inter-annual trends of ultrafine particles in urban Europe (Environment international 185, 108510, 2024) and to a paper on source apportionment based on PNSD (in preparation).

Task 4.12 - Aerosol sources - source apportionment

- **24 sites in total.** 21 in the area of Lecce (South Italy) and 3 in small villages (< 25000 inhabitants in the province ~ 40 km from Lecce).
- One site was the **ECO ACTRIS observatory of Lecce.**
- **30 samplers** (22 for PM_{2.5} and 8 for PM₁₀) at 9-19 m agl.

Classification of the sites

- **FU/S:** 11 sites of urban background/city background.
- **TU:** 8 sites urban traffic.
- **I/CS:** 2 sites at large commercial centers.
- **PR:** 3 sites in the province of Lecce.

Composition analysis and post-processing

- Chemical analysis for metals (ED-XRF); OC/EC (Sunset-EUSAARII) and water soluble carbon (TOC/TN); major ions (IC).
- Application of EPA-PMF5.0 for source apportionment separately for the two size fractions but pooling together the different sites.

Main results

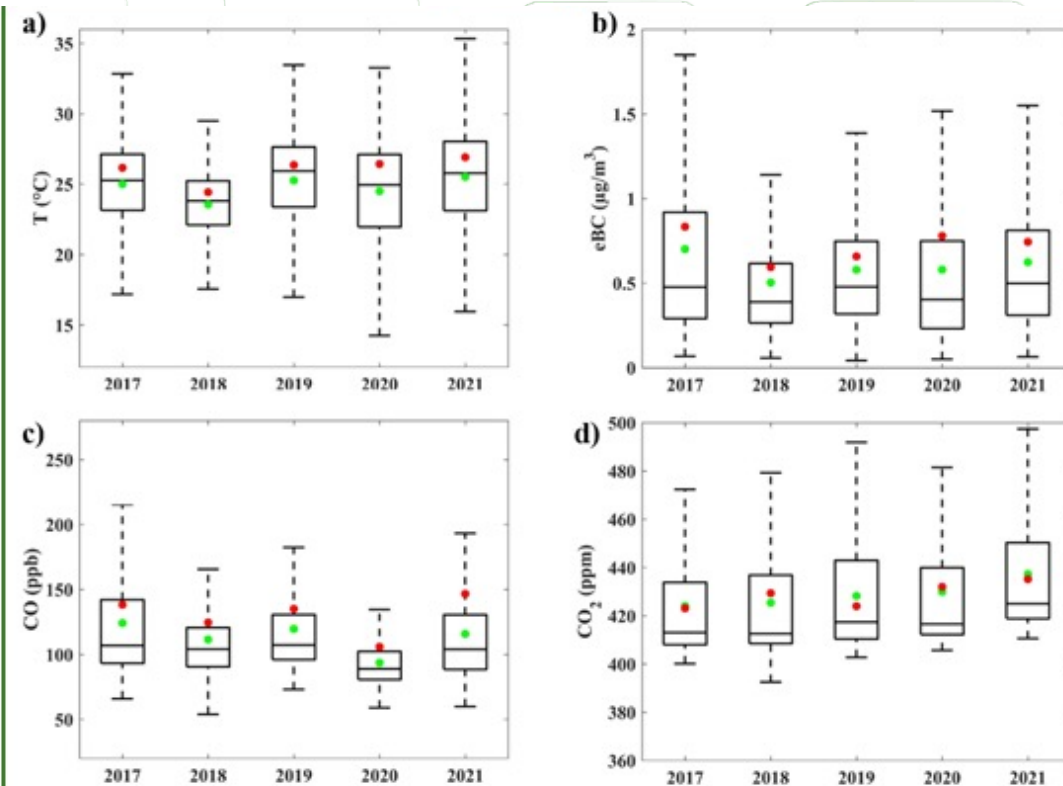
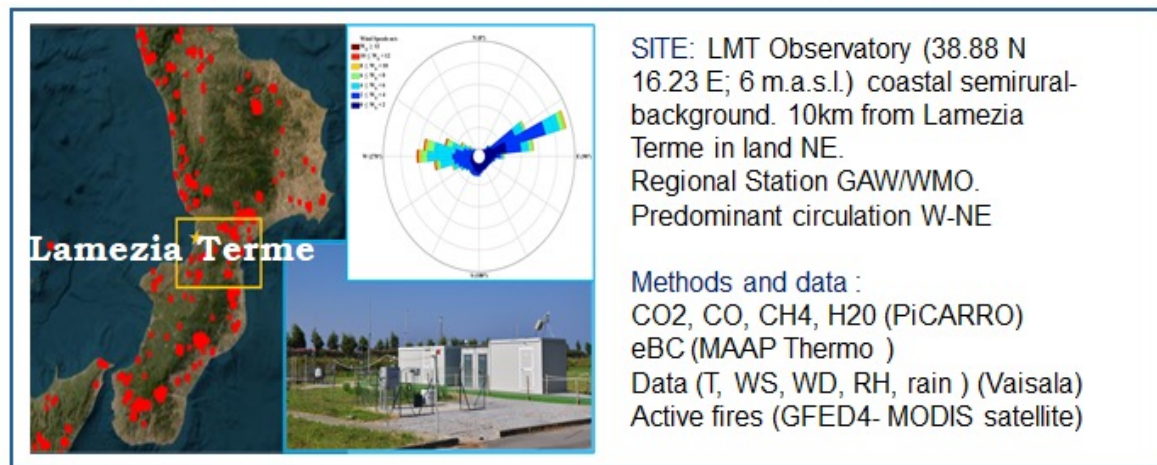
- Spatial variability was smaller than seasonal variability with the exclusion of biomass burning (BB) source.
- Industrial contribution limited and visible only on PM_{2.5}.
- Soluble and insoluble Ca allowed to separate crustal and carbonates contributions in both size fractions.



Samplers installed at heights agl 9-19.5 m at public buildings, schools and private houses

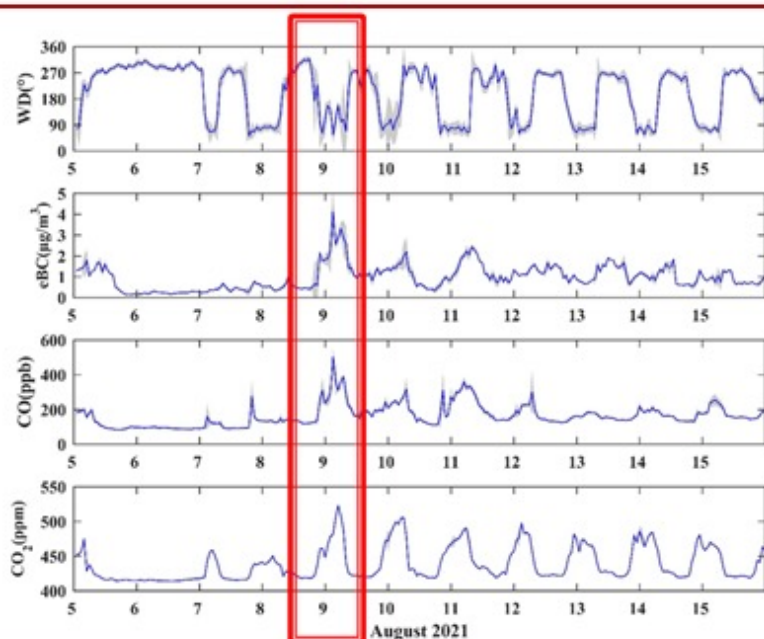
Sampling campaign: Dec 2021 – Dec 2022

Task 4.16 - Open Fire, case and tracers identification



For each year 2017 – 2021 (years with biggest concentration of fires) for air-temperature (a), eBC (b), CO (c) and CO₂ (d).

- the average summer season values (green spots),
- the mean values for August months (red spots)
- the median (bold lines) and
- the 5th, 25th, 75th and 95th percentiles (box and whiskers)



RESULTS

First case study of the 8th-12th August 2021 - the directionality of atmospheric circulation and wind fields, using also WRF output, with respect to the location of the experimental site were able to provide sufficient information to corroborate the hypotheses of comparison between the sources of fire events (yellow box in map above) and the concentrations of the detected combustion products in situ time series

WP4 Atmosphere



4.14 Impact of atmospheric boundary layer height on aerosol and trace gases concentration at the ground

4.15 Atmospheric boundary layer height (ABLH)



Operative Unity

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Istituto di Scienze dell'Atmosfera e del Clima(CNR-ISAC)



Operative Unity

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Istituto di Metodologie per l'Analisi Ambientale (CNR-IMAA)

Atmospheric boundary layer relevance

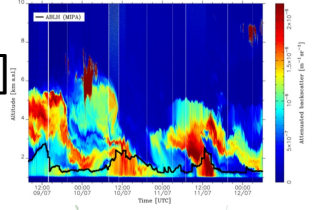
- 🌐 The atmospheric boundary layer (ABL) is the part of the troposphere that is **directly or indirectly influenced by the Earth's surface** (land and sea). It usually responds to atmospheric changes in an hour or less.
- 🌐 The characterization of ABL is of primary importance in a variety of fields as weather forecasting, climate change modelling and air quality prediction.
- 🌐 The PBL height (ABLH) is a relevant meteorological variable with a strong effect on air pollution as it **defines the atmospheric volume that can be used for pollutant dispersion**.



4.15 → CIAO ABLH campaign



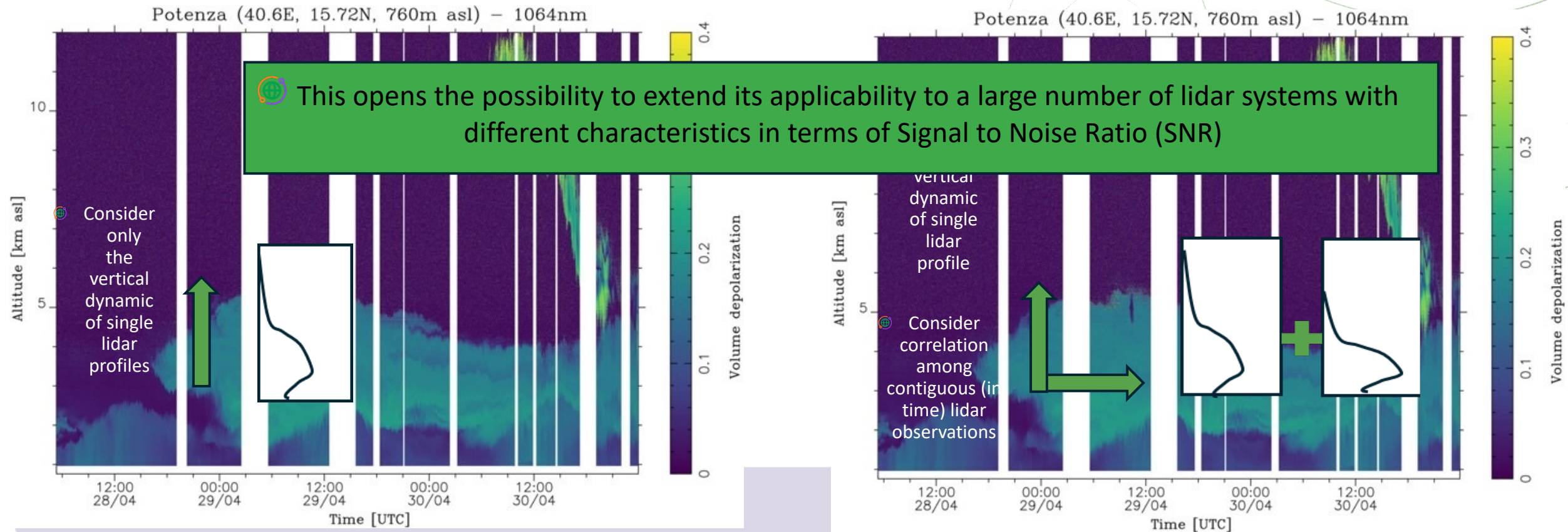
The CIAO ABLH measurement campaign was aimed at the optimization/validation of MIPA (Morphological Image Processing Approach). The algorithm MIPA has been developed at CNR-IMAA [Vivone et al. ACP 2021]. MIPA is based on artificial intelligence algorithms already used for satellite image processing.



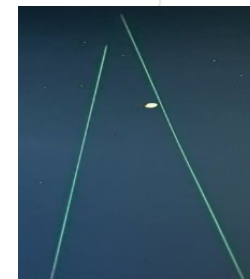
MIPA operates on timeseries of lidar profiles and not on single lidar profile

Traditional lidar ABLH retrieval techniques

MIPA

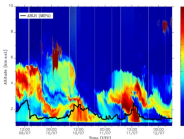


CIAO ABLH campaign



Reference technique against which to compare the values obtained from MIPA.

The number of radio soundings carried out in short time periods represents the uniqueness of this study.



The CIAO ABLH measurement campaign was aimed at the optimization/validation of MIPA.



Started April 15, 2024

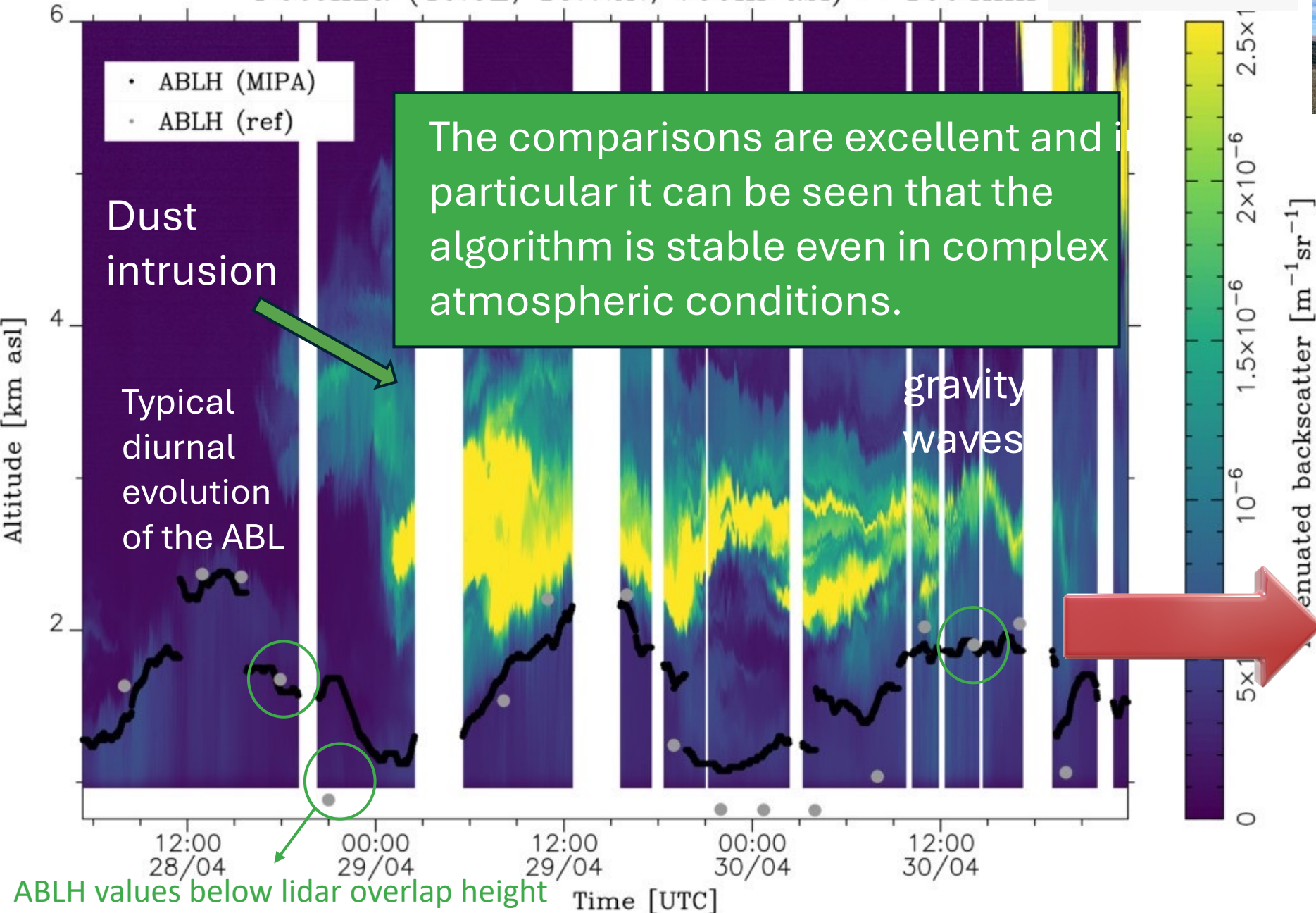
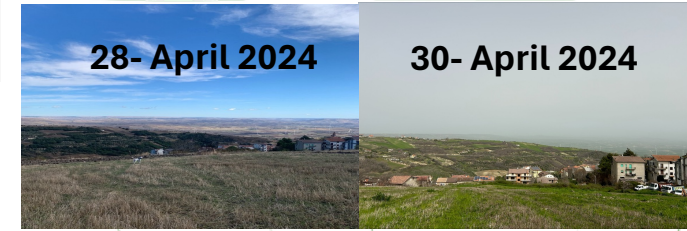


The main goal is to have different types of remote sensing instruments operating simultaneously and continuously 24/7 together with frequent radiosondes' launches to establish a reference dataset for the ABLH retrieval.

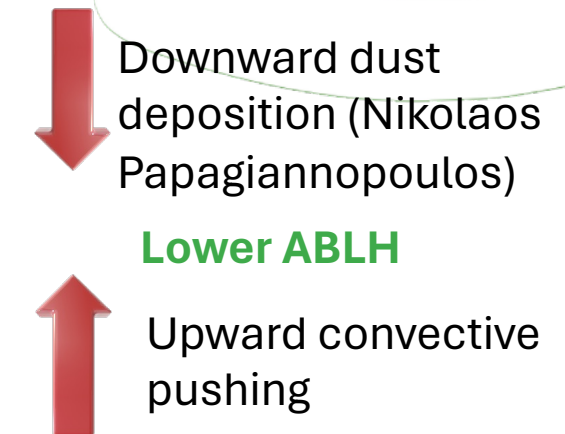
Two case studies were selected to test the algorithm in complex meteorological conditions.

Case study 1) 28-29-30 April 2024

Potenza (40.6E, 15.72N, 760m asl) – 1064nm



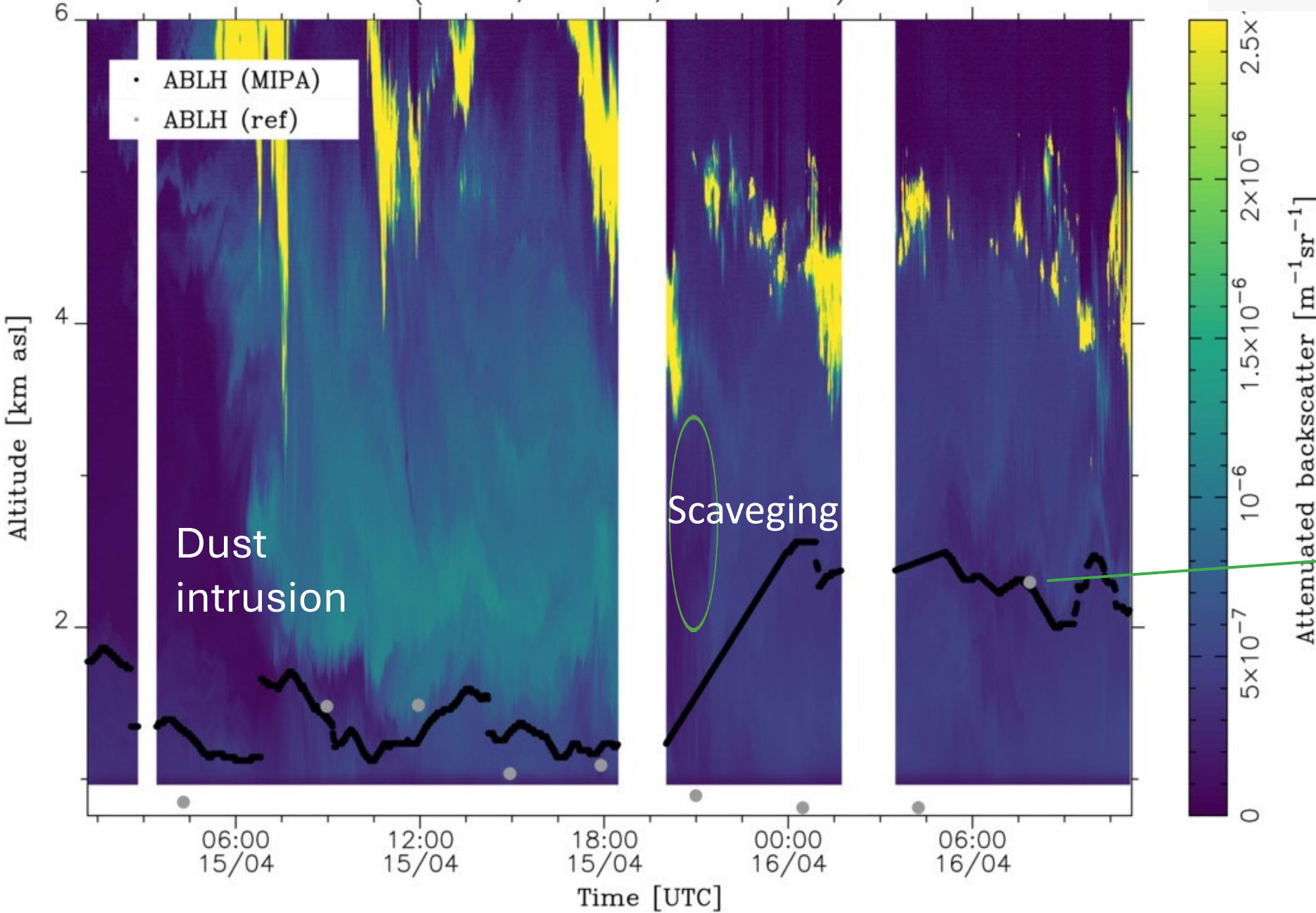
- 17 radiosoundings: high launch frequency is a crucial factor for the assessment of MIPA algorithm
- 69 hours of almost continuous observations made by POLPO (Potenza lidar for Particle Observation).



ABLH values below lidar overlap height

Case study 2) 15-16 April 2024

Potenza (40.6E, 15.72N, 760m asl) – 1064nm



- 9 Radiosoundings
- 36 hours of almost continuous PL observations made by POLPO lidar.

The dust layer is still present, but its concentration is reduced allowing the ABLH to grow more than on the previous day.

Conclusion

All reference points

Only reference points above lidar full overlap height

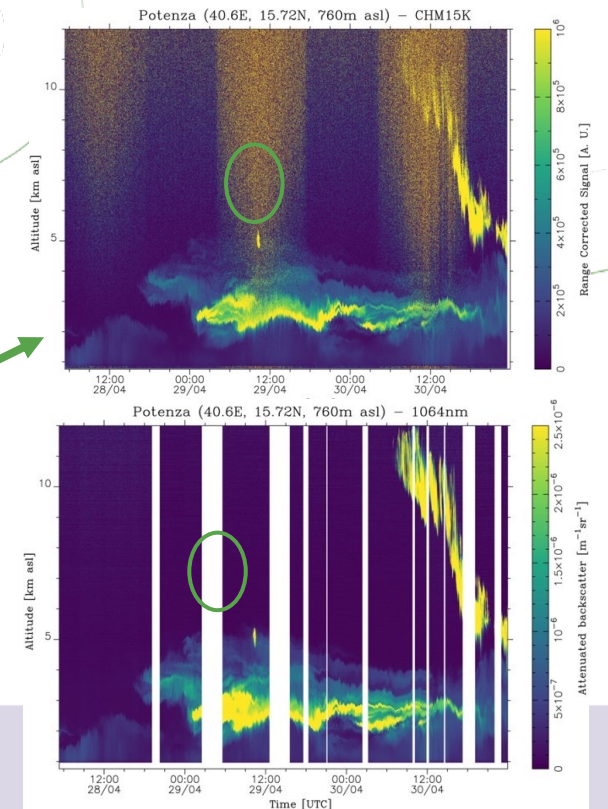
Δ_{mean} [m]	365	151
Δ_{med} [m]	240	116
Δ_{SD} [m]	434	105
Δ_{SE} [m]	85	26
Δ_{min} [m]	16	16
Δ_{max} [m]	1750	373
N	26	16

Next steps:

- 🌐 **New case studies**
- 🌐 **We will check how MIPA works when it is applied to timeseries of total attenuated backscatter at shorter wavelengths (355 nm, 532 nm).**
- 🌐 **Evaluation of the optimized MIPA configuration on ceilometer measurement campaign datasets.**
- 🌐 **Since during the campaign all the instruments were in continuous operation it will be possible the evaluation of ABLH retrieval using a multi-sensor approach.**

- 🌐 **Algorithm (MIPA)**
- 🌐 **Instrumental limitations (ABLH values below lidar overlap height)**
- 🌐 **Different ABL definitions (thermodynamic one in case of reference dataset, based on aerosol as ABL tracers in case of lidar dataset)**

Considering that the cases were selected for their complexity, the comparisons are excellent.



Aerosol in-situ instrumentations was operating continuously for the whole campaign period providing useful information for the aerosol full characterization at the ground (*short oral Laurita- July 10, 2024*).



Sensor type	Instrument	Main Products
In situ	Aethalometer AE33	Absorption coefficient and equivalent Black Carbon (eBC) concentration
	Nephelometer Aurora 3000	Scattering and back scattering coefficient
	Aerodynamic Particle Size APS 3321	Particle size distribution (0.5-20 μm)
	Condensation Particle Counter (CPC 3750)	Particle number concentration (> 10 nm)
	Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS 3938)	Size distribution and concentration (10-800 nm)
	ToF-ACSM	Chemical composition and mass concentration of non-refractory aerosol (<1 μm)
	PMx Samplers	PM10, PM2.5, PM1 concentration



Sampled filters sent to LABEC laboratory of the INFN in Florence for elemental composition analyses.



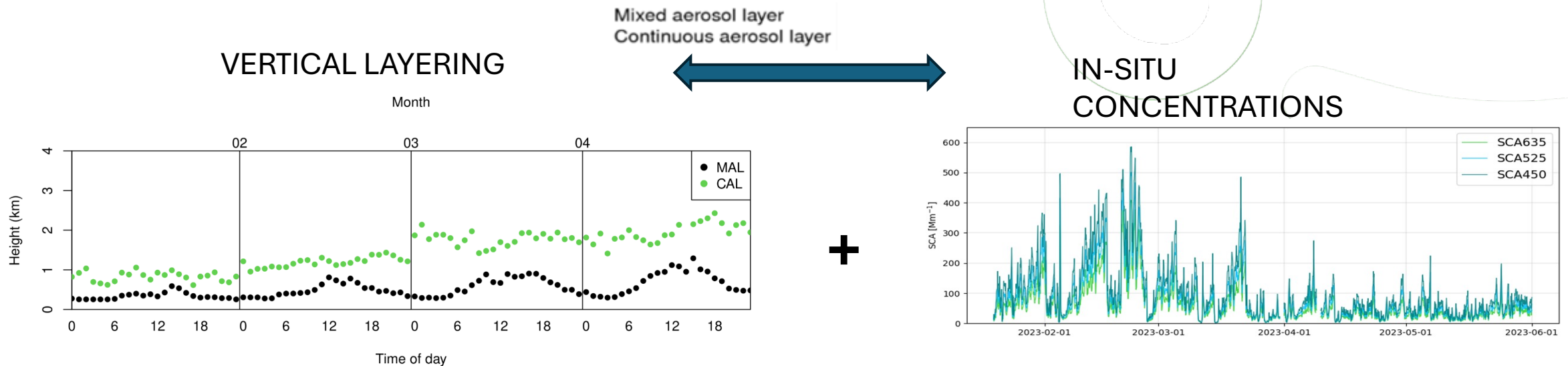
Development of methods in 4.14



4.14 Impact of atmospheric boundary layer height on aerosol and trace gases concentration at the ground

- 🌐 Compare in situ AQ data & vertical structure
- 🌐 Identify Key variables influencing concentration of in situ species
- 🌐 Quantify the capacity of vertical mixing to dilute pollutants concentrations

CAMPAIGN in Milan during 2023



Milan monthly BC measurements



winter spring PBL evolution and in-situ BC apportioned (solid vs liquid fuels).

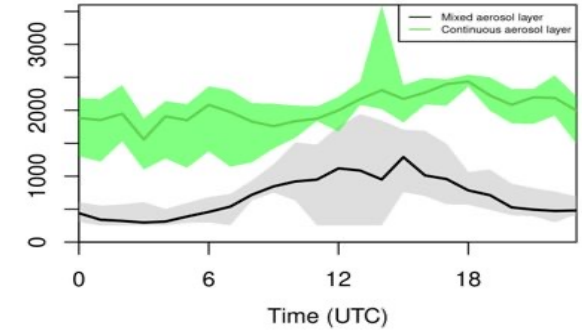
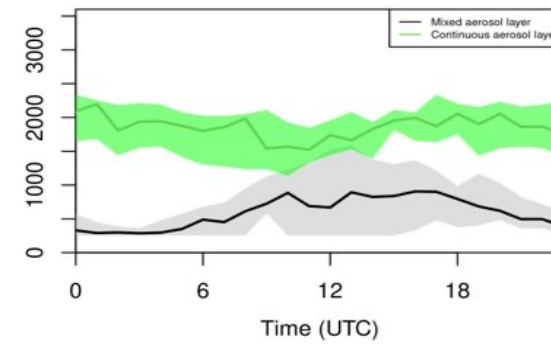
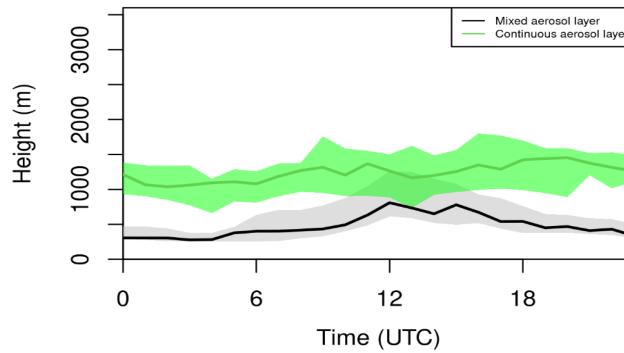
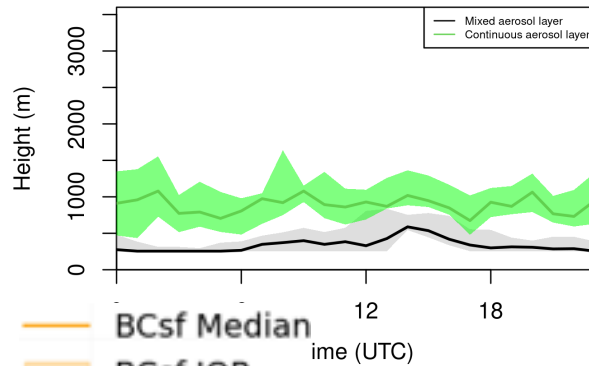
— Mixed aerosol layer
 — Continuous aerosol layer

January 2023

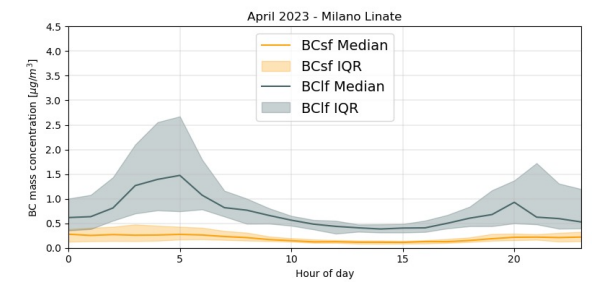
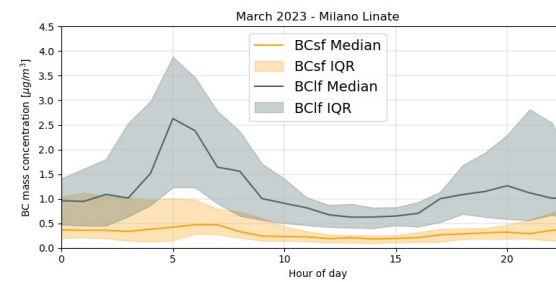
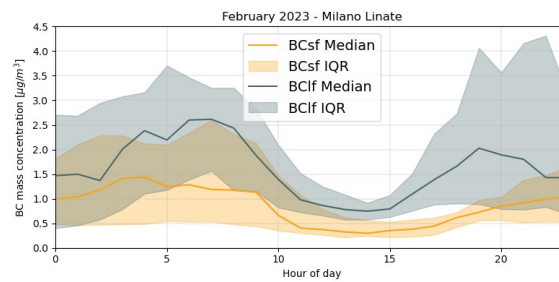
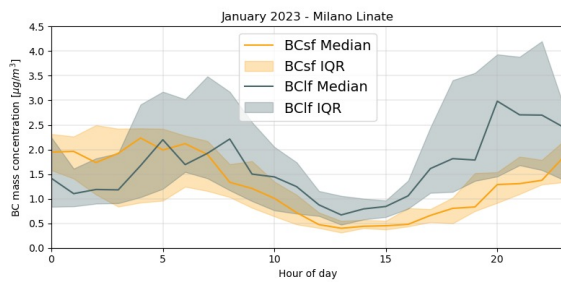
February 2023

March 2023

April 2023



— BCsf Median
 — BCsf IQR
 — BCIf Median
 — BCIf IQR



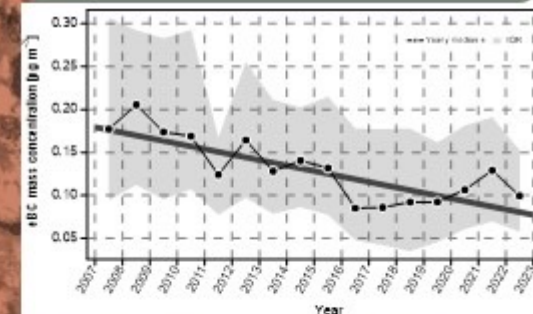
Influence of PBL on mountain free troposphere, the Monte Cimone observatory long data series (e.g. eBC)

The “Ottavio Vittori Observatory”
Italy (44°12' N, 10°42' E)
Peak of Monte Cimone (2165 m asl)

Meteorology

Seasonal evolution of boundary layer
Cold winter: free troposphere
Warm summer: boundary layer

2007-2023 tendency
-64 ng m⁻³/decade



Networks and RIs
GAW global station
European RI : ACTRIS and ICOS

Aerosol representativity

Mediterranean anomalies
Long range transport
Po Valley pollution

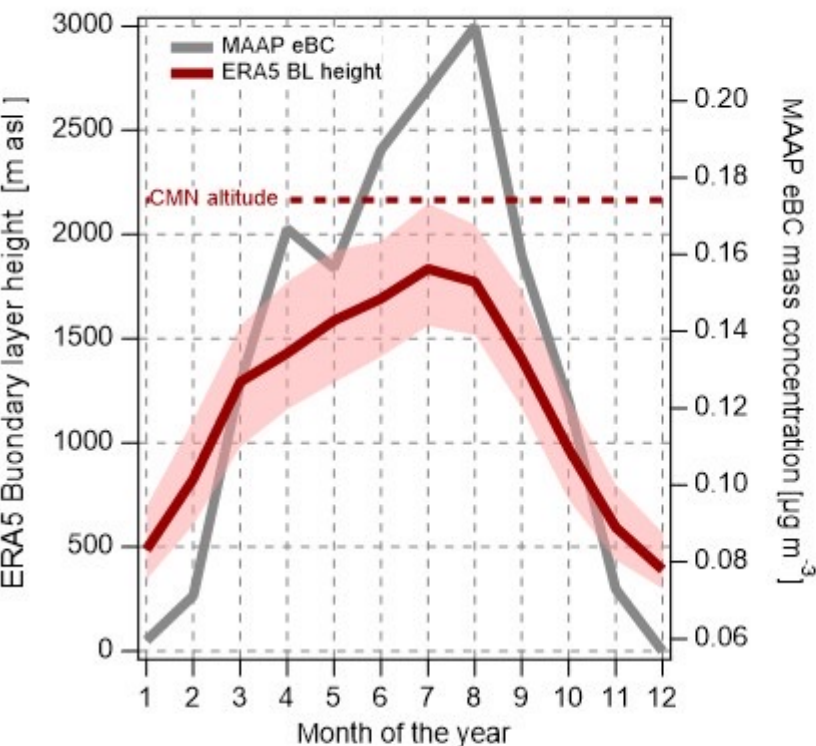


Merging observations with reanalysis data



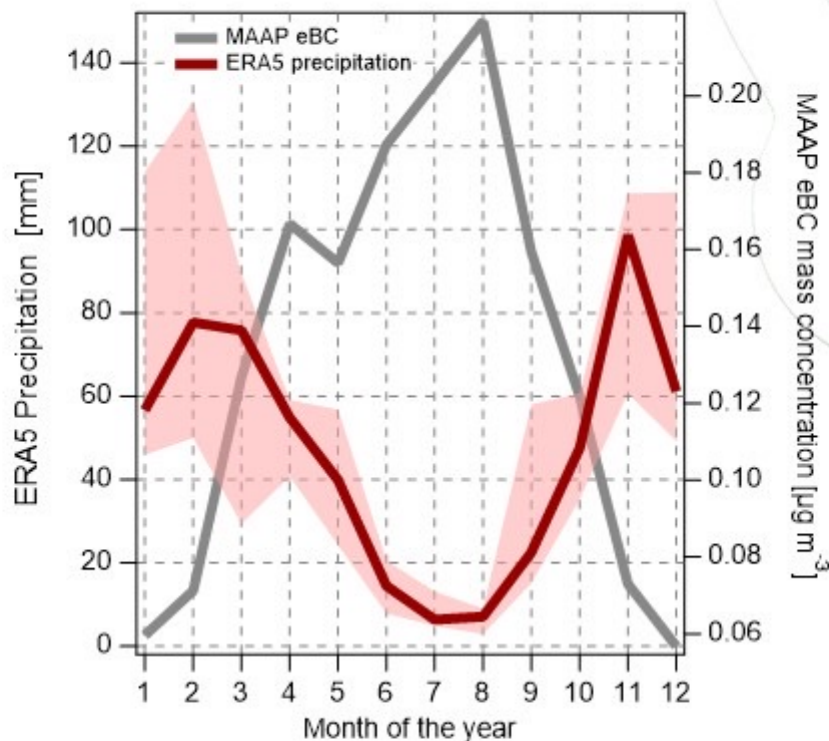
ERA-5 boundary layer height

h resolution
CMN



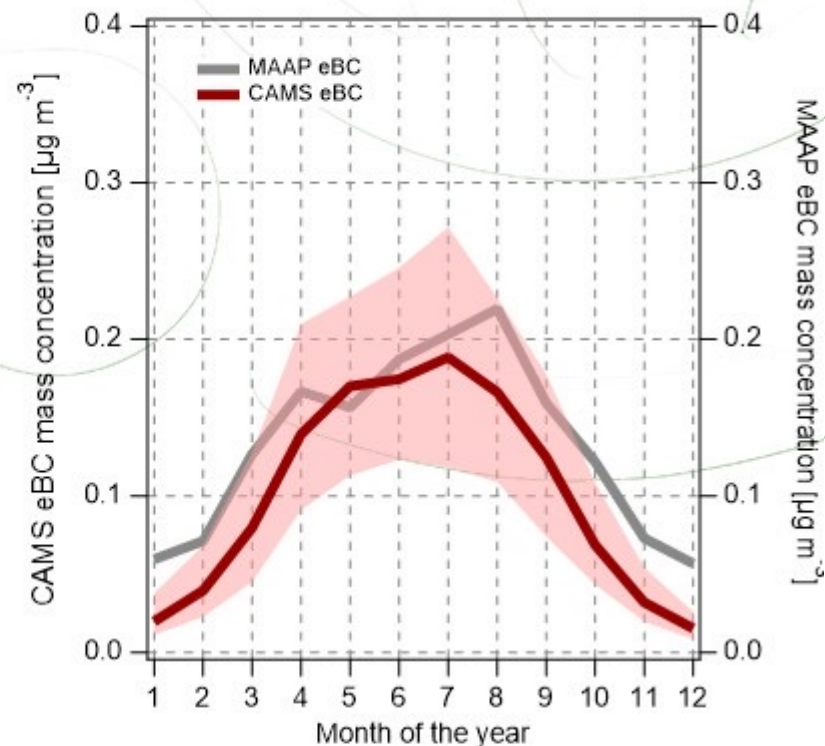
ERA-5 large scale precipitation

h resolution
CMN



CAMS BC conc

h resolution
Po Valley



Multi Angle Absorption Photometer (MAAP)

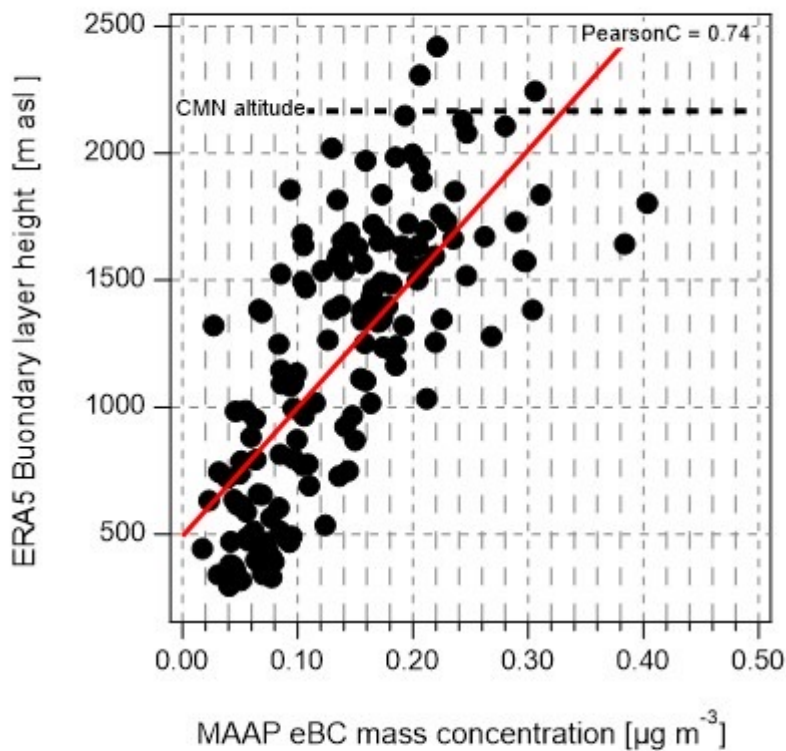
Merging observations with reanalysis data



ERA-5 boundary layer height

h resolution

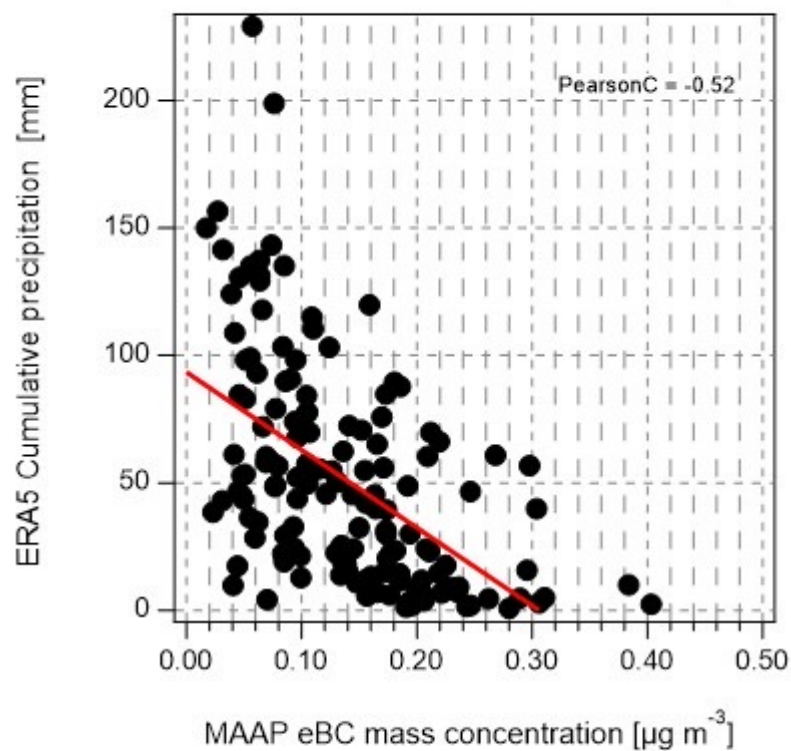
CMN



ERA-5 large scale precipitation

h resolution

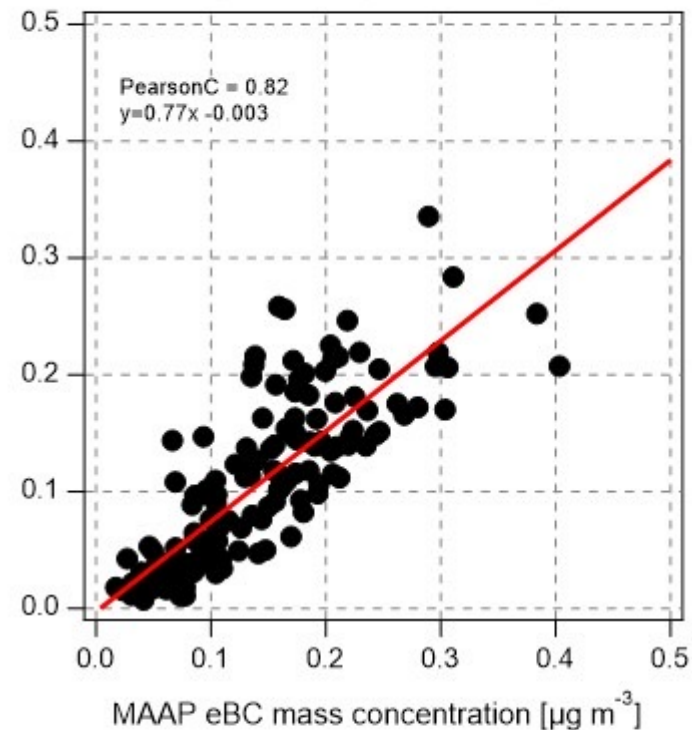
CMN



CAMS BC conc

h resolution

Po Valley



What next?

Start of measurements with ITINERIS instruments

Progresses on research activities

Next campaigns

- ITINERIS instruments + ACTRIS MAGA exploratory platform – Campaign in Rome
- 2 sites campaigns for pollution aims 20

Forest fire campaign

Objective: understanding the impact of forest fires through on gas-particle chemical condition e dyn (on), post campaign summertime in L

APNEEA campaign

Air Pollution in the NorthErn Adriatic at Acqua alta

Objective: quantify the influence of shipping and Po valley outflow on the atmospheric pollutants in the marine boundary layer of the northern Adriatic

Period: spring 2025

Site: Acqua Alta Oceanographic Tower (RI involved: DANU)

Instruments: online measurements of trace gas concentra

Location
Total ve
vessel
calculati
Marine

Trans WP action: WP5 (CNR-ISMAR Venezia) and WP4 (CNR-ISAC Bologna)

GAIA campaign

Objective: understanding the dynamic of marine PBL influence on aerosol climate-relevant parameters in the Arctic ocean

AIRPODYNAMIC campaign

Objective: understanding the influence of the PBL dynamics on gas-particle chemical, physical and optical properties and source apportionment during summertime in the Po-valley region

Period: from July 2024 to September 2024

Sites: urban background (Bologna, CNR-ISAC) + mountain free troposphere (Mt. Cimone)

Instruments:

- Chemical composition [ACSM (BO+CMN), PTR-ToF-MS (BO)]
- Physical and optical properties [Aethalometer, Nephelometer](BO+CMN)
- PBL height [Ceilometer, Radon](BO)

Po Valley

CNR-ISAC Bologna

Mt. Cimone 3428m

Arctic Ocean onboard of Polarstern vessel (AWI)

Objective: understanding the dynamic of marine PBL influence on aerosol climate-relevant parameters in the Arctic ocean

What next?

 **Access provided to external (link to WP2 activities) and used in WP4 to support the objectives of WP4?**

- **IMAA -> INFN BL campaign analysis**
- **Mobile platforms -> ISAC LT for fires campaign**
- **Mobile Platforms -> Italian RI sites for OBJ purposes**

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WP4 scientific production (PI 4.6)

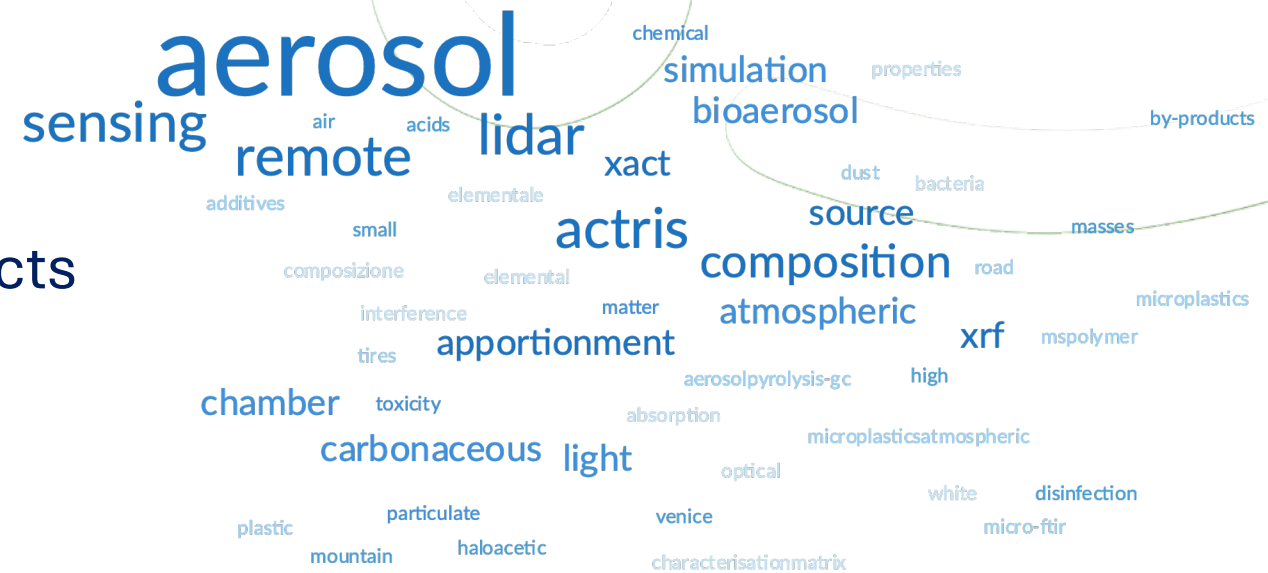
Current status 24 products: 8 articles in scientific journals; 16 abstract in conferences

Target value at the end of the project: 30 Scientific products.

Main Topics

Scientific production per topic

- OBJ1: 12 scientific products
- OBJ2 (Typing): 8 scientific products
- OBJ3 (PBL): 4 scientific products
- OBJ4 (Forest fires): no scientific products yet



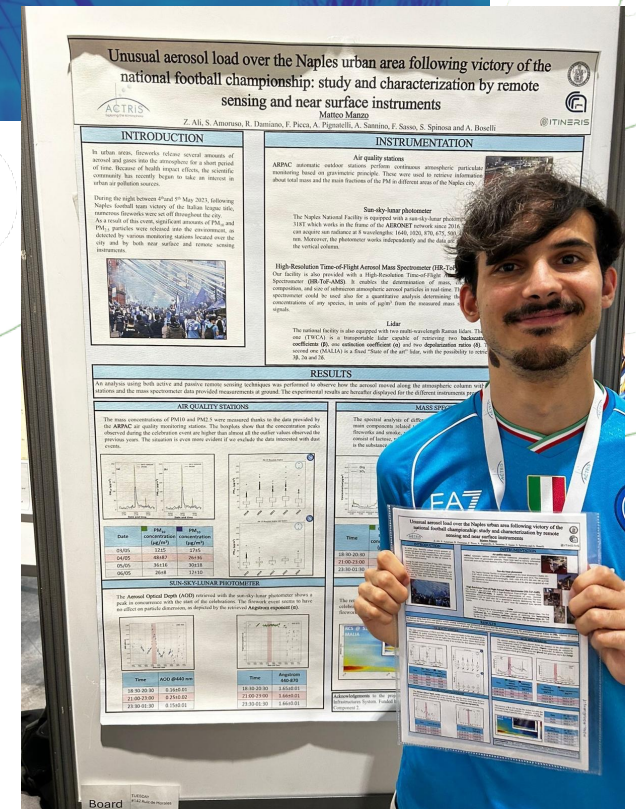
WP4 scientific awards!



Best Poster

Matteo Manzo. UniNa, CNR-IMAA

Unusual aerosol load over the Naples urban area following the victory of the national football championship: study and characterization by remote sensing and near-surface instruments



WP4 scientific awards!



Grant for joint research with Research Institute for Applied
Mechanics, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan

Bracci Alessandro. CNR-ISAC 

*Research Title: Long-term Statistics of Snowfall Microphysical Features for
EarthCARE validation activities*

WP4 linkages with European and National projects



SYLVA
Observing life in air

RI URBANS

ARCTIC PASSION

ATMO ACCESS
Access to Atmospheric Research Facilities

ITINERIS

Copernicus
Europe's eyes on Earth

IRISCC

CAMS21b C3S2_311

INSINERGIA

INSYDE-HU
Integrated Systemic Detection of Pollutants in the Human Body

ASI
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

PRIMARY

Return

PRIN2022 - FEMTO

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY FUTURE CENTER

TOX
in air

PRIN2022 - PBHLSat

INFN - CSN5 2024 - HardLife

International Cooperative for Aerosol Prediction (ICAP)





THANKS!

IR0000032 – ITINERIS, Italian Integrated Environmental Research Infrastructures System
(D.D. n. 130/2022 - CUP B53C22002150006) Funded by EU - Next Generation EU PNRR-
Mission 4 “Education and Research” - Component 2: “From research to business” - Investment
3.1: “Fund for the realisation of an integrated system of research and innovation infrastructures”

