



Mid-21st century air quality at the urban scale

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This discussion paper is/has been under review for the journal Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics (ACP). Please refer to the corresponding final paper in ACP if available.

# Mid-21st century air quality at the urban scale under the influence of changed climate and emissions: case studies for Paris and Stockholm

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Received: 6 July 2015 – Accepted: 8 September 2015 – Published: 7 October 2015

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Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union.

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## Abstract

Ozone, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations over Paris, France and Stockholm, Sweden were modeled at 4 and 1 km horizontal resolutions respectively for the present and 2050 periods employing decade-long simulations. We account for large-scale global climate change (RCP-4.5) and fine resolution bottom-up emission projections developed by local experts and quantify their impact on future pollutant concentrations. Moreover, we identify biases related to the implementation of regional scale emission projections over the study areas by comparing modeled pollutant concentrations between the fine and coarse scale simulations. We show that over urban areas with major regional contribution (e.g., the city of Stockholm) the bias due to coarse emission inventory may be significant and lead to policy misclassification. Our results stress the need to better understand the mechanism of bias propagation across the modeling scales in order to design more successful local-scale strategies. We find that the impact of climate change is spatially homogeneous in both regions, implying strong regional influence. The climate benefit for ozone (daily average and maximum) is up to -5 % for Paris and -2 % for Stockholm city. The joined climate benefit on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in Paris is between -10 and -5 % while for Stockholm we observe mixed trends up to 3 % depending on season and size class. In Stockholm, emission mitigation leads to concentration reductions up to 15 % for daily average and maximum ozone and 20 % for PM and through a sensitivity analysis we show that this response is entirely due to changes in emissions at the regional scale. On the contrary, over the city of Paris (VOC-limited photochemical regime), local mitigation of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions increases future ozone concentrations due to ozone titration inhibition. This competing trend between the respective roles of emission and climate change, results in an increase in 2050 daily average ozone by 2.5 % in Paris. Climate and not emission change appears to be the most influential factor for maximum ozone concentration over the city of Paris, which may be particularly interesting in a health impact perspective.

# 1 Introduction

There is a growing body of literature on the projected effects of climate and emission reduction scenarios on future air quality. The published research encompass an envelope of models and methodologies; up to now global scale models have been extensively used to study the impact of climate on tropospheric ozone at global or regional scales (Liao et al., 2006; Prather et al., 2003; Szopa and Hauglustaine, 2007), while chemistry transport models (CTMs), having more advanced parameterization of physical and chemical processes, are applied to study selected regions with refined horizontal resolution (Andersson and Engardt, 2010; Colette et al., 2012, 2013; Katragkou et al., 2011; Langner et al., 2012a; Nolte et al., 2008; Zanis et al., 2011).

Numerical models are used to study future evolution of air quality as they allow the evaluation of the effectiveness of planned strategies to mitigate pollutants concentrations. This is particularly important since it is now well established that elevated concentrations deteriorate human health (Jerrett et al., 2009; Lepeule et al., 2012), while new scientific evidence indicate that pollution is harmful at even lower levels than previously thought (REVIHAAP, 2013). There is an increasing number of studies investigating the health effects of population exposure to specific emission source types such as traffic, industry or biomass burning (REVIHAAP, 2013 and references therein). Although a clear association is not established, there is evidence that living near busy roads substantially increases the total burden of disease attributable to air pollution (Pascal et al., 2013). In Europe, one third of the urban population resides in areas where the legislated target value for PM<sub>10</sub> is exceeded (EEA, 2013).

The fact that today most of the world's (and Europe's) population lives in cities stresses the need to resolve the variability of pollutant concentrations and provide predictions of future air quality at the urban scale (Riahi et al., 2011). Up to now the principal focus of relevant research was solely on the global and regional scales utilizing modeling resolutions of a few hundred (global) to a few tenths (regional) of kilometers. Nevertheless, it has been repeatedly shown that coarse resolutions are inadequate to

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indicators which are a measure of radical production/loss processes (Beekman and Vautard, 2010; Sillman et al., 2003).

## 2 Materials and methods

The IdF region is located in north-central France (1.25–3.58° E and 47.89–49.45° N) with a population of ca. 11.7 million, more than two million of which live in the city of Paris. The area is situated away from the coast and is characterized by uniform and low topography, not exceeding 200 m a.s.l. Stockholm is located in south-eastern Sweden, with a population of 1.4 million. Stockholm is located partly on islands where the western coast of the Baltic Sea meets Lake Mälaren. Figure 1 illustrates the modeling domains of the urban scale simulations over IdF and Stockholm regions and the boundaries of the cities of Paris and Stockholm. 10 year long simulations were carried out over each domain to represent present-time (1991–2000) and mid-21st century (2046–2055) air quality.

### 2.1 Regional downscaling of climate and air-quality data

A different chain of models was implemented for each case study. Table 1 summarizes the different models and configurations for the three scales (i.e. global, regional and urban scale) for both meteorology and air quality modeling. To derive projections of the main climate drivers over Europe at 0.11° horizontal resolution (CORDEX coordinated initiative, see Giorgi et al., 2009), we used the IPSL-CM5A-MR (Dufresne et al., 2013) global climate model downscaled with the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) regional climate model (Skamarock and Klemp, 2008) for the IdF region and the EC-EARTH global climate model, downscaled with the RCA4 regional climate model (Jacob et al., 2014; Strandberg et al., 2014) for Stockholm. In total, 8 (for present and future) meteorological simulations were implemented in this study.

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For both case studies, pollutant concentrations at the global scale were simulated (Szopa et al., 2013) with the LMDz-OR-INCA global model (Hauglustaine et al., 2004) at monthly temporal resolution. The regional downscaling of multi-year pollutant concentration averages though, is done separately for each case study, first over 0.44° (~ 50 km) resolution grids over Europe and then with a single nest over a 4 km resolution grid over the IdF region and a two-step nesting over grids of 0.11° (~ 12 km) and 1 km resolution over Sweden and Stockholm respectively (6 simulations in total were conducted at present day conditions). A thorough presentation of the regional scale air-quality simulations used as boundary conditions for the urban scale runs are provided in Watson et al. (2015).

Two sets of simulations (for each scale) were conducted at future conditions; in the first case we implement future meteorology along with present-time emissions in order to isolate the effect of climate change whereas in the second case we utilize future meteorology and projected emissions to quantify the combined effect of climate and emissions change. The signal of emission mitigation alone can be subsequently derived from the concentration difference between the two aforementioned runs. Finally, only for the Stockholm domain we run an additional test case that allows the quantification of the contribution of emission changes at the regional scale compared to the role of the local scale emission mitigation. This is completed using future projections of local emissions for Stockholm but keeping the respective emissions of the regional scale simulation at present-time levels.

Air-quality simulations were conducted with the CHIMERE (Menut et al., 2013) and MATCH (Robertson et al., 1999) CTMs for the IdF and Stockholm regions respectively. CHIMERE implements is used at both urban and regional scales and it has been benchmarked in a number of model inter-comparison experiments (see Menut et al. (2013) and references therein). The MATCH model is applicable to scales from urban to hemispheric and has been extensively used to study the connection between climate change and air quality in Europe (e.g., Andersson and Engardt, 2010; Engardt et al., 2009; Langner et al., 2005, 2012b). Both models are used operationally for emer-

agency preparedness, environmental surveillance and air-quality forecasts at PREV'AIR (<http://www.prevoir.org>) and SMHI (e.g., <http://www.macc.eu>) in France and Sweden respectively. The CHIMERE model includes gas-phase, solid-phase and aqueous chemistry, biogenic emission modeling with the MEGAN model (Guenther et al., 2006), dust emissions (Menut et al., 2005) and re-suspension (Vautard et al., 2005) modules. Gas-phase chemistry is based on the MELCHIOR mechanism (Lattuati, 1997) and includes more than 300 reactions of 80 gaseous species. CHIMERE treats sulfates, nitrates, ammonium, organic and black carbon, dust and sea-salt. The gas-particle partitioning is treated with ISORROPIA (Nenes et al., 1998).

The MATCH model includes options for data assimilation (e.g., Kahnert, 2008), modules describing aerosol microphysics (Andersson et al., 2015) and ozone- and particle-forming photo-chemistry considering ~ 60 species (Langner et al., 1998; Andersson et al., 2007, 2015) based on Simpson et al. (2012). MATCH also includes secondary organic aerosol (SOA) formed by oxidation of biogenic and anthropogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC and AVOC). The SOA-modeling is based on the volatility basis set (VBS) scheme in the EMEP MSC-W model (Bergström et al. (2012) with modifications from Bergström et al., 2014). In the present study, primary organic aerosol emissions were considered non-volatile and VBS schemes were only used for “traditional” ASOA and BSOA; BVOC-emissions of isoprene and monoterpenes (MT) were calculated in the model, using the methodology of Simpson et al. (2012). A small emission of sesquiterpenes, equal to 5 % of the daytime MT emissions, was added (as in Bergström et al., 2014). A detailed description of the organic aerosol scheme in the MATCH model will be presented in a separate publication (Bergström, 2015).

## 2.2 Urban scale air-quality modeling and emissions

For the urban scale simulations over the IdF region we used the same model setup as in Markakis et al. (2014, 2015) with a mesh-grid of 4 km horizontal resolution consisting of 39 grid cells in the west–east direction and 32 grid cells in the north–south direction. Based on the sensitivity on vertical model resolution presented in Markakis et al. (2015)



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we structure the model with a relatively coarse resolution of 8  $\sigma$ -p hybrid vertical layers from the surface (999 hPa) up to 5.5 km (500 hPa). The lowest layer is 25 m thick. The 1 km resolution domain, covering Stockholm, consists of  $48 \times 48$  grid cells. The vertical resolution follows the layers of the driving RCM, distributed between 20 layers with a 60 m thick surface layer.

Present-time emission estimates for the IdF region are available at a 1 km resolution grid. Emissions are compiled with a bottom-up approach by the IdF environmental agency (AIRPARIF) combining a plethora of city-specific information (AIRPARIF, 2012). The spatial allocation of emissions is either source specific (e.g. locations of point sources) or completed with proxies such as high-resolution population maps and a detailed road network. The inventory has hourly source specific, temporal resolution. The compilation of present-time emission for the Stockholm region (covering an area of 30 municipalities and ca. 2 million inhabitants) is also based on a bottom-up approach e.g., the estimates of total traffic volumes are primarily based on in-situ measurements and variations of vehicle composition and temporal variation of the traffic volumes are described for different road types. Vehicle fleet composition and vehicle exhaust emission factors are based on the Swedish application of the ARTEMIS model (Sjödin et al., 2006). There are also large non-tailpipe emissions due to road, tyre and break wear. In Stockholm the non-tailpipe emissions dominate and emission factors are estimated based on local measurements (Omstedt et al., 2005; Ketzel et al., 2007). The emission database has hourly source specific, temporal resolution. More details on the emission data and how they were compiled can be found in Gidhagen et al. (2012).

### 2.3 Climate and regional scale emission projections

Climate follows the long-term RCP-4.5 pathway that exhibits a 20 % greenhouse gas emission reduction for Europe, constant population and mid-21st century global radiative forcing at  $4 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ , increasing to  $4.5 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  by 2065 and stabilizing thereafter (Clarke et al., 2007). Shown in previous work (Markakis et al., 2014) this scenario represents an intermediate alternative between the pessimistic and optimistic RCPs (8.5



ARTEMIS model (details found in Gidhagen et al., 2012). Other emissions besides the traffic-related were not changed from the present to the future in Stockholm.

Figure 2 illustrates the annual, sectoral emissions of  $\text{NO}_x$ , NMVOCs,  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  in the IdF domain for the present-time and the 2030 scenario. Present-time  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions mainly stem from the transport sector ( $\sim 60\%$  of annual emissions), largely mitigated by 2030 (emissions decline from 60 to 20 Gg). The leading emitter of NMVOCs at present-time is the “use of solvents” sector accounting for 49% of all-sector annual emissions. Interestingly the emissions coming from this sector are hardly mitigated in the future compared to  $\text{NO}_x$ ; the corresponding reduction reaches only 11%. The transport, industrial and heating sectors have important  $\text{PM}_{10}$  emission shares at present day. The heating and transport sectors are strongly mitigated (reductions reach  $\sim 60\%$ ) while industrial emissions are abated by only 18% mainly due to the fact that their primary origin is fugitive dust released during production processes whereas the mitigation plan introduces fuel-based reductions. The main contributors of annual fine particles emissions are the transport and the heating sectors, both strongly mitigated strongly by 2030 (transport sector’s emissions drop by 96%). Total present-time emissions are reduced by 55% for  $\text{NO}_x$ , 32% for NMVOCs, 37% for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and 54% for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ . For Stockholm the domain-wide  $\text{NO}_x$ , NMVOCs and primary  $\text{PM}_{10}$  emissions decrease by 16, 18 and 10% respectively. The decrease in emissions is mainly a result of planned renewal of the traffic fleet and stricter emission limits.

Finally, we assume that local emissions are unchanged between 2030 and 2050 to be in line with the larger-scale perspective; the European scale emissions in the same period decrease by only 3.4% for  $\text{NO}_x$ , 1.2% for NMVOCs, 1% for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and 1% for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ .

### 3 Model evaluation

In this section we evaluate the present day simulations at the study domains. Surface ozone concentrations modeled with CHIMERE and MATCH (averaged over the ozone

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north-east of Stockholm, is only slightly affected by urban plumes, therefore we use it as an indicator of the regional influence in the area. The local contribution is defined as the difference between concentrations monitored at the Torkel Knutsson (urban) and Norr Malma (rural) sites. The Stockholm city exhibits weak titration as the daily average ozone concentrations measured at the two sites are similar (Table 2). The performance of MATCH is therefore mainly driven by the simulations at the coarser scales which overestimate nighttime ozone (not shown) due to too efficient vertical mixing during the night; this results for the MATCH model to overestimate the regional contribution in Stockholm by 17 % (not shown), which also explains the major part of the positive bias at the 1 km resolution simulation by 10 % (Fig. 3d). On the contrary, the regional contribution in modeled MD8hr is well represented (bias < 1 %) leading to unbiased MD8hr in the high-resolution modeling.

Annual mean  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations are accurately reproduced (Fig. 3e) by the MATCH model over the city but summertime levels are overestimated by 14 % and wintertime by 40 %. This is due to a large over-production in total sea salt in the Stockholm domain, during the whole year ( $+2.1 \mu g m^{-3}$ ), but mostly during winter ( $+3 \mu g m^{-3}$ ). Despite this an underestimation of  $PM_{10}$  concentrations by 26 % is observed over the whole year (Fig. 3f). This is due to a large summertime underprediction of  $PM_{10}$  (40 %), partly explained by the model's lack of aerosols of biogenic origin, which are mainly assigned to the coarse mode of the size distribution. Spores and other primary organic material have an important contribution to the speciation of the organic aerosol in northern Europe (20 to 32 % of the total carbon during summer, Yttri et al., 2011). Another possible reason is the underestimation of OC (by  $1.5 \mu g m^{-3}$ ) and EC (by  $0.1 \mu g m^{-3}$ ), which is probably due to the bias inherited by the regional scale simulations since less than 38 and 26 % of city's  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations respectively stem from local sources (Table 2). The regional contribution to  $PM_{10}$  concentrations based on monitor data is about 60 % but due to the aforementioned reasons 17 % lower based on the MATCH simulation (annual average) mainly stemming from the summer period ( $-43 \%$ ).

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## 4 Present-time air-quality modeling analysis

Maps of present-time ozone daily average concentrations (in the ozone period) and annual mean  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations are illustrated in the left columns of Figs. 4 and 5 for IdF and Stockholm domain respectively. Concentrations that are spatially averaged over the cities of Paris and Stockholm (see Fig. 1) and domain-averaged concentrations that are representative of rural areas, are discussed separately. Consequently, lower ozone concentrations are found over the city-centers due to titration while higher levels are modeled at the surrounding areas due to photochemical formation (IdF) or long-range transport (Stockholm). The urban increment of daily average ozone, defined here as the difference between the urban and the domain-averaged concentration, is  $-13 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in IdF and only  $-1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the Stockholm domain. Ozone formation in IdF is VOC-limited and therefore, titration rate over Paris is high (Markakis et al., 2014). On the contrary, ozone levels over the city of Stockholm are mainly due to transport from the boundaries and much less affected by local  $NO_x$  emission and titration (see also discussion in the previous section). Annual  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations (Fig. 4e and i) are high over areas of intense anthropogenic activity such as the Charles-de-Gaulle international airport (north-east in the IdF domain), the city-centre and the suburbs of Paris due to road transport and wintertime heating emissions while local dust contributes with  $PM_{10}$  emissions to the south. The spatial pattern of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in the Stockholm domain mainly reflects major roads, i.e. traffic emissions (Fig. 4e and i).

## 5 Future climate and air-quality analysis

### 5.1 Climate projections for 2050

In Table 3 we show the projected domain-wide values of key meteorological variables. A warmer climate is expected in both regions. Surface temperature in IdF increases

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is only estimated during winter, and similarly to ozone it is linked to regional-scale changes.

### 5.3 Local air quality at 2050 due to emission reductions

The spatial distribution of changes in annual average ozone concentrations due to emission mitigation in the IdF region reveals two opposing trends (Fig. 4c); in Paris there is an overall increase of daily ozone by  $4.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (Table 4) despite the enforced  $\text{NO}_x$  emission mitigation. Under the VOC-limited photochemical regime characterizing the city,  $\text{NO}_x$  abatement inhibits the ozone titration process resulting in higher ozone levels. The magnitude of the ozone increase due to emission mitigation outbalances the predicted climate benefit and the combined effect leads to an overall penalty of  $+1.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  over Paris. In contrast, the domain-wide ozone concentrations decrease by  $6.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  since ozone over the rural areas are less affected by titration (Markakis et al., 2014). It is worth noting that the absolute change in the MD8hr concentration over Paris due to climate change is two times higher than due to emission mitigation (Table 4). Therefore, while local emission mitigation has a stronger impact on background ozone levels, climate change affects more the ozone peaks (found at around 15:00 LT in Paris). This may be particularly interesting from a health impact assessment standpoint where the MD8hr indicator is typically implemented (Likhvar et al., 2015).

Emission reduction policies appear to be more efficient for ozone abatement over the Stockholm region, with reductions reaching  $\sim 11$  and  $\sim 13 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  for the average and MD8hr respectively indistinctively for the city and the domain-averaged concentrations (Table 4). Based on the sensitivity simulations we find that the observed ozone decrease is entirely attributed to emission mitigation at the regional rather than the local scale (Table 5). We should note however, that the role of local emission reductions is probably underestimated in Stockholm due to lack of non-traffic emission abatement.

Particle concentrations are very sensitive to their primary emission changes (Markakis et al., 2015). Therefore, it is not surprising that PM concentration reductions are mainly due to emission mitigation in both domains (Table 4). The domain-wide an-

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nual average in IdF decline by 7.2 and 8.1  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  and in the Stockholm domain by 1.9 and 1.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  respectively. In IdF the decrease is higher over areas and seasons with high primary PM, e.g., Paris compared to the rural areas of IdF (Fig. 4g and k) as well as in wintertime compared to summertime ( $-8.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  vs.  $-5.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  respectively for annual average  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) due to significant abatement in the heating sector. In contrast, in the Stockholm domain the seasonal and spatial distribution of changes are much less prominent due to the prevailing regional influence (Table 5).

#### 5.4 Future changes in population exposure to ozone

In this section we discuss future changes in SOMO35 over the two study regions. SOMO35 is ozone related population exposure metric recommended by WHO and typically used in health impact assessment studies. SOMO35 is calculated as the sum of the differences between maximum daily 8 h running means and the  $70 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  threshold value.

Present-time levels of SOMO35 in Paris are significantly lower than in the rural areas (represented by the domain average value) due to ozone titration over areas of high  $\text{NO}_x$  emission. It has been shown already that MD8hr is expected to decline by  $\sim 2.5\%$  in 2050 (Table 4). Never the less the corresponding drop in SOMO35 is significantly higher reaching 26% (Table 6) due to the dependence of SOMO35 on its  $70 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  cut-off concentration. In future conditions MD8hr for a considerable number of days will shift below threshold levels substantially reducing SOMO35. Similarly, in the Stockholm city, SOMO35 is expected to drop by 74% whereas MD8hr by only 17.4%. The examples of Paris and Stockholm presented here suggest that the use of SOMO35 as an indicator of population exposure may be misleading, since it is based on the underlying hypothesis that no health effects of ozone are present below  $70 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . In the rural areas the implemented emission reduction policies will have substantial benefits in population exposure; SOMO35 drops by 69% in IdF and by 73% in the Stockholm domain.

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## 5.5 Future evolution of ozone chemical regimes under local and regional scale chemistry-transport modeling in Paris

In this section we study the long-term evolution of ozone chemical regimes in the city of Paris. This analysis is not performed for Stockholm where ozone concentrations are controlled by long-range transport and less by the local chemistry which determines the regime (see discussion in Sect. 5.3). For each simulated day in the ozone period, in both present and future decades, we determine MD8hr concentrations of  $\text{NO}_y$  and the ratios of  $\text{O}_3 : \text{NO}_y$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 : \text{NO}_y$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 : \text{NO}_z$ . The threshold values proposed in order to discriminate between the two chemical regimes (i.e.,  $\text{NO}_x$  or VOC-limited) are 7.6 ppb for  $\text{NO}_x$  (Beekman and Vautard, 2010), 5.5 for  $\text{O}_3 : \text{NO}_y$  (Sillman et al., 2003), 0.12 for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 : \text{NO}_y$  (Sillman and He, 2002) and between 0.21 and 0.41 for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 : \text{NO}_z$  (Beekman and Vautard, 2010). The aforementioned analysis is applied on both regional (coarse-res) and urban-scale (high-res) simulations for present and future decades. Three indicators agree on a VOC-limited characterization of present-time ozone production at the urban scale simulation in agreement to the findings of Markakis et al. (2014) while only two indicators classify the regional scale ozone simulation as VOC-limited (Fig. 6). Despite a similar trend towards a more  $\text{NO}_x$ -limited photochemistry in 2050 at both high and coarse simulations, still three out of four indicators characterize the high-resolution simulation as VOC-limited at 2050 whereas the coarse resolution is positively  $\text{NO}_x$ -limited according to all four indicators.

## 5.6 Policy implications based on comparison of air quality projections from high and coarse resolution modeling

Air quality projections for 2050 indicate that ozone levels in Paris will increase by 8 and 3% for daily average and MD8hr respectively as a response to the enforced emission mitigation plan. On the contrary, the coarse resolution simulation yields 7 and 15% decrease in these metrics (Table 7). A similar inconsistency was found in Markakis et al. (2014), where the Global Energy Assessment (GEA) emission projection (Riahi

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in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and 28 % in NMVOCs emissions. Such reductions enhance the shift towards NO<sub>x</sub>-limited ozone production. This remark, suggests that coarse-resolution ozone projections may be too optimistic over VOC-limited areas, mainly found in North-Western Europe (Beekman and Vautard, 2010) as well as PM projections over heavily populated urban areas. It is plausible that new updated protocols taking into account regional particularities should be implemented in European emission mitigation schemes and more credible assessments could be achieved by incorporating local policy in large scale inventories. This point is particularly relevant for areas such as Stockholm, where the regional scale mainly drives pollutant concentrations. The transfer of bias from the larger to the finer scale may lead to misclassification of local policy.

Despite the large differences in ozone concentrations simulated at regional and urban scales over the urban area of the city of Paris, rural concentrations are very similar; the projections at both scales show a decrease in ozone at 2050 at comparable magnitudes (Table 7). Therefore, fine-scale information provides little advantage in simulating rural ozone responses in agreement with Markakis et al. (2014). On the contrary, PM rural projections are very different between simulations at different resolutions (Table 7) suggesting that regional scale biases may be transferred to the finer scale run.

A final remark relates to the relative role of climate-change and emissions in future pollutant concentration projections. In contrast to the general conclusion of most recent pan-European scale studies (Colette et al., 2013; Geels et al., 2015; Lacressonnière et al., 2014; Watson et al., 2015; Langner et al., 2012b) we find that maximum ozone projections over Paris, modelled at the local scale are more sensitive (based on the absolute concentration change from present day) to climate change than to emission mitigation (Sect. 5.3). This suggests that the coarse-resolution applications could over-estimate the magnitude of the contribution of the future emissions mitigation to the overall ozone concentration response.

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concentrations respectively due to titration inhibition. Under VOC-sensitivity ozone benefit may be attained by either pushing NMVOCs mitigation over  $\text{NO}_x$  or by enforcing stronger mitigation of  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions that will allow a shift of the photochemical regime towards  $\text{NO}_x$ -limited conditions prior to 2050. In our assessment neither is valid. The long-term evolution of chemical regimes studied with the use of regime indicators has shown that the city will not undergo the regime shift by 2050.

In Paris, the increase in the daily average ozone due to emission changes counterbalances the climate benefit to such extent that the combined effect is an overall penalty of +2%. In contrast changes in MD8hr concentrations due to climate ( $\Delta c = -4.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) are larger compared to those introduced by emission abatement ( $\Delta c = +2.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), indicating that the local maximum is more sensitive to climate change while background ozone concentration levels are more sensitive to emission changes. In the Stockholm city and the domain, emission mitigation is largely influential, with reductions several times higher than those introduced by climate both for ozone and PM. Contrary to Paris, we show that this response is entirely attributed to changes at the regional scale. Finally, the cumulative effect of climate and emissions in the city of Paris reaches +2.3% for daily average ozone, -2.4% for MD8hr ozone, -26% for SOMO35, -33% for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and -45% for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  while for the Stockholm city, -17% for daily average ozone, -18% for MD8hr ozone, -74% for SOMO35, -20% for  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and -20% for  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ .

Another aim of this work was to quantify the plausible added value of the assimilation of local policy into regional scale inventories. To do so, we compared pollutant concentration changes modeled over the two cities at urban scale against regional-scale simulations over the same areas forced by ECLIPSE, a state of the art emission inventory designed to cope with the drawbacks of inventories such as the RCPs, by assimilating air-quality policy at a continental scale. Over Paris the regional scale simulation is more optimistic than its urban scale counterpart. The fine scale modeling yields increase in ozone over the city of Paris (by 8 and 3% for daily average and MD8hr respectively) while the regional scale modeling yields a 7 and 15% drop respectively. Regional scale

simulations are more optimistic for PM concentrations as well with about 10% larger reductions compared to the urban scale projections. These discrepancies are a direct effect of the much stricter mitigation of primary anthropogenic emissions under the ECLIPSE scenario.

Overall our assessment suggests that the long-term evolution of atmospheric pollution solely based on regional scale emissions may lead to misclassification of the effect. The stricter mitigation in ECLIPSE projections is mainly due to the spatial allocation algorithm, which assigns unrealistically high mitigation over urban areas. It is plausible that new updated protocols taking into account the particularities of regions should be implemented in European emission mitigation schemes and that more credible assessments could be achieved by incorporating local policy to those inventories. An effect, overlooked by the coarse scale modeling, is the response of MD8hr ozone, a crucial input of health impact assessment studies: for Paris this metric is more prominent to climate change rather than to emission mitigation.

For Stockholm the comparison of regional and urban scale simulations shows small discrepancies given the major role of long-range transport over the area. This stresses the need to better understand the mechanism of bias propagation across the modeling scales in order to design more successful local-scale strategies.

*Acknowledgements.* This work was carried out within the ACCEPTED project, which is supported by the ERA-ENVHEALTH network (grant agreement no. 219337), with funding from ANSES, ADEME, BeISPO, UBA and the Swedish EPA. Part of the work was also funded by the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007–2013) under the project 760 IMPACT2C: Quantifying projected impacts under 2 °C warming, grant agreement no. 282746. The ECLIPSE emissions used in this study have been developed by IIASA under the European Commission FP7 project ECLIPSE (Project no. 282688), while additional tasks (development of the MFR scenario) were supported by PEGASOS (Project no. 282688) and “Assessment of hemispheric air pollution on EU air policy” (contract no. 07.0307/2011/605671/SER/C3).

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**Table 2.** Quantification of the regional and local contributions to the present-time concentration levels at the city of Stockholm.

	City concentration levels ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) <sup>a</sup>	Local contribution <sup>b</sup>	Regional contribution <sup>c</sup>
Ozone daily mean	62.5	−0.8	63.3
Ozone MD8hr	78.5	−3.3	81.8
PM <sub>10</sub> annual mean	14.7	5.7	9.0
PM <sub>10</sub> JJA mean	13.1	3.5	9.6
PM <sub>10</sub> DJF mean	12.7	4.4	8.3
PM <sub>2.5</sub> annual mean	7.3	1.9	5.4
PM <sub>2.5</sub> JJA mean	6.5	1.5	5.0
PM <sub>2.5</sub> DJF mean	7.7	2.0	5.7

<sup>a</sup> based on the only available urban background station in the domain (Torkel Knutsson).

<sup>b</sup> Calculated from the concentration difference between the Torkel Knutsson and the Norr Malma sites.

<sup>c</sup> Based on measured concentrations at the Norr Malma site.

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**Table 3.** Future changes in key meteorological variables in the study regions under the RCP-4.5 climate scenario. Seasonal averages include both day-time and night-time values.

IdF Variable	Summer (JJA)		Winter (DJF)	
	REF	2050	REF	2050
2 m temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	18.8	+0.2	4.2	+0.4
Specific humidity ( $\text{g kg}^{-1}$ )	7.9	+0.3	3.4	+0.2
Precipitation ( $\text{kg m}^{-2}$ )	118	+7.1	130	+4.7
Radiation ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ )	262	-6.5	50	-1.9
10 m wind speed ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )	4.0	+0.2	6.8	-0.2
Boundary layer height (m)	643	+22	727	-41
Stockholm domain	Summer (JJA)		Winter (DJF)	
Variable	REF	2050	REF	2050
2 m temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	12.9	+1.3	-1.2	+1.4
Specific humidity ( $\text{g kg}^{-1}$ )	7.7	+0.6	3.1	+0.3
Precipitation ( $\text{kg m}^{-2}$ )	223	-14	159	+2.7
Radiation ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ )	232	-0.4	28.2	-0.7
10 m wind speed ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )	3.2	-0.1	4.3	-0.1
Boundary layer height (m)	673	+6	574	-11





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**Table 6.** SOMO35 (in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  days) in the two study regions for the present day simulation (REF) and the future projection (accounting for both climate and emission changes). The relative change between present and future is also given in parenthesis.

	REF	2050
Paris	9807	7080 (−26 %)
IdF Domain	20 611	7297 (−65 %)
Stockholm	2576	676 (−74 %)
Stockholm Domain	2660	714 (−73 %)

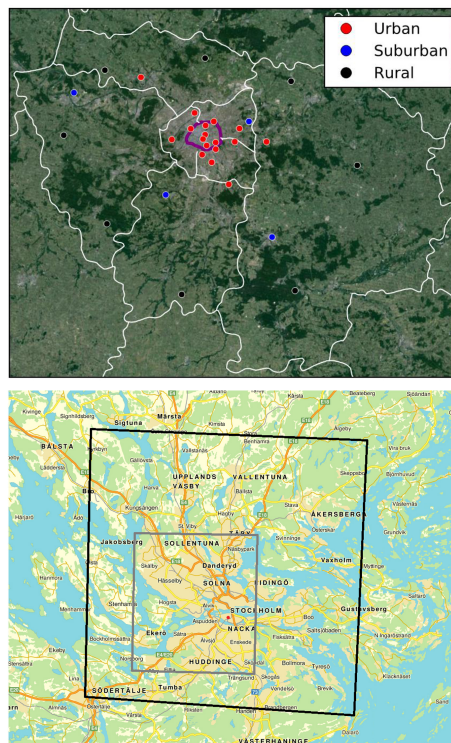
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**Figure 1.** Top panel illustrates the IdF 4 km resolution modeling domain, with the city of Paris in the centre (area enclosed by the purple line). Circles correspond to sites of the local air-quality monitoring network (AIRPARIF) with red for urban, blue for suburban and black for rural. Bottom panel represents the Stockholm 1 km resolution modeling domain (black outline) with the urban area enclosed in the grey rectangle. The red circle corresponds to the urban monitoring

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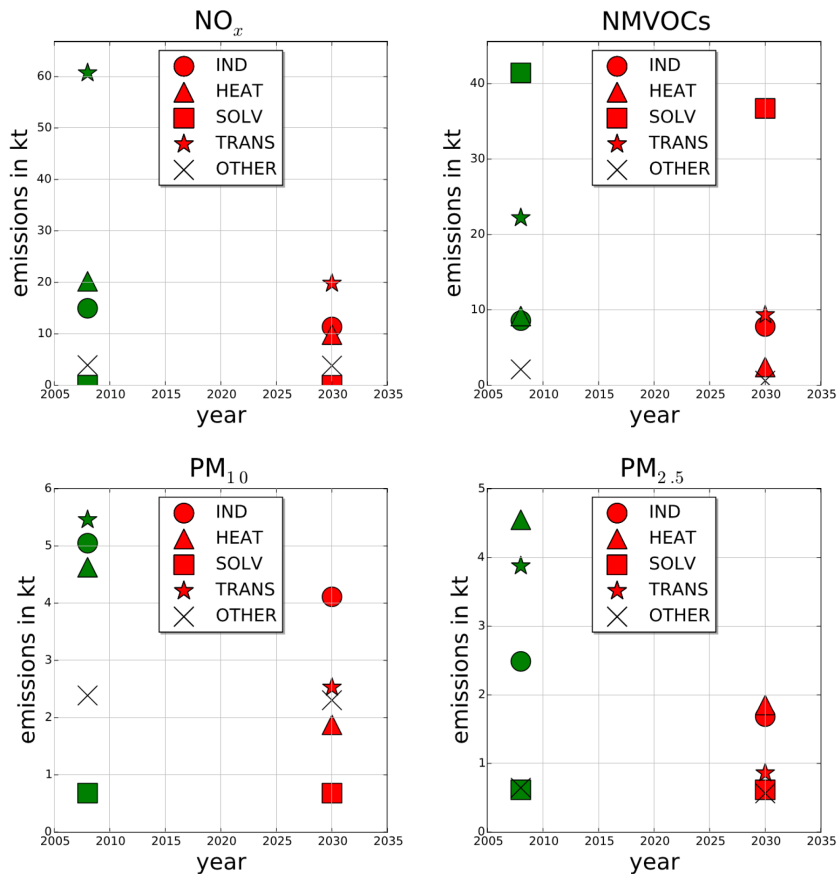
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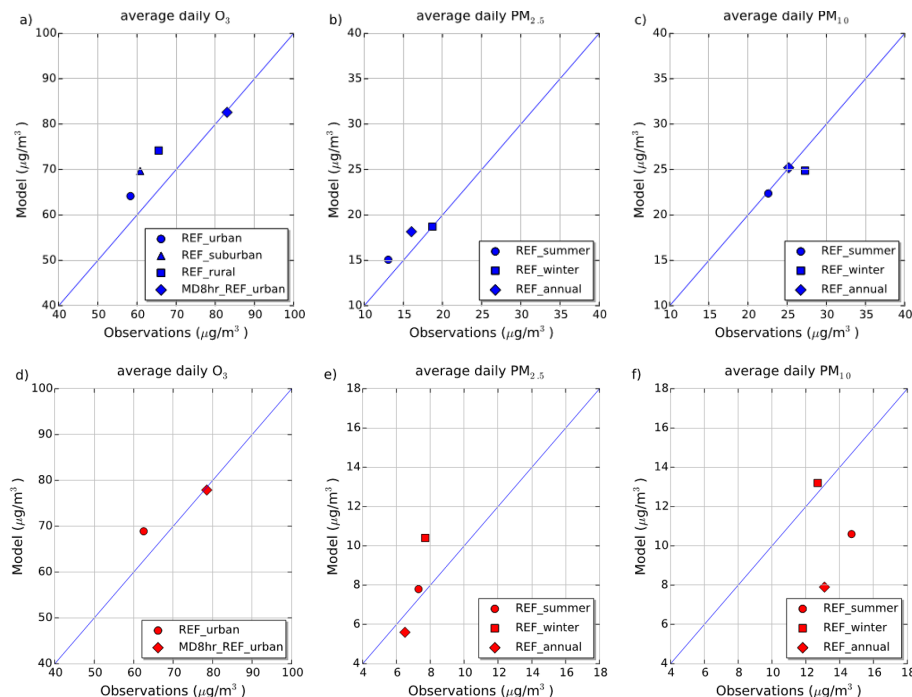




**Figure 2.** Annual present-time emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOCs, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in IdF and their projections for 2030. IND corresponds to industrial emissions (SNAP1, 3 and 4), HEAT to heating activities (SNAP2), SOLV to solvents use (SNAP6), TRANS to road and non-road transport (SNAP7 and 8) and OTHER represent the remaining source sectors (SNAP5, 9 and 10).

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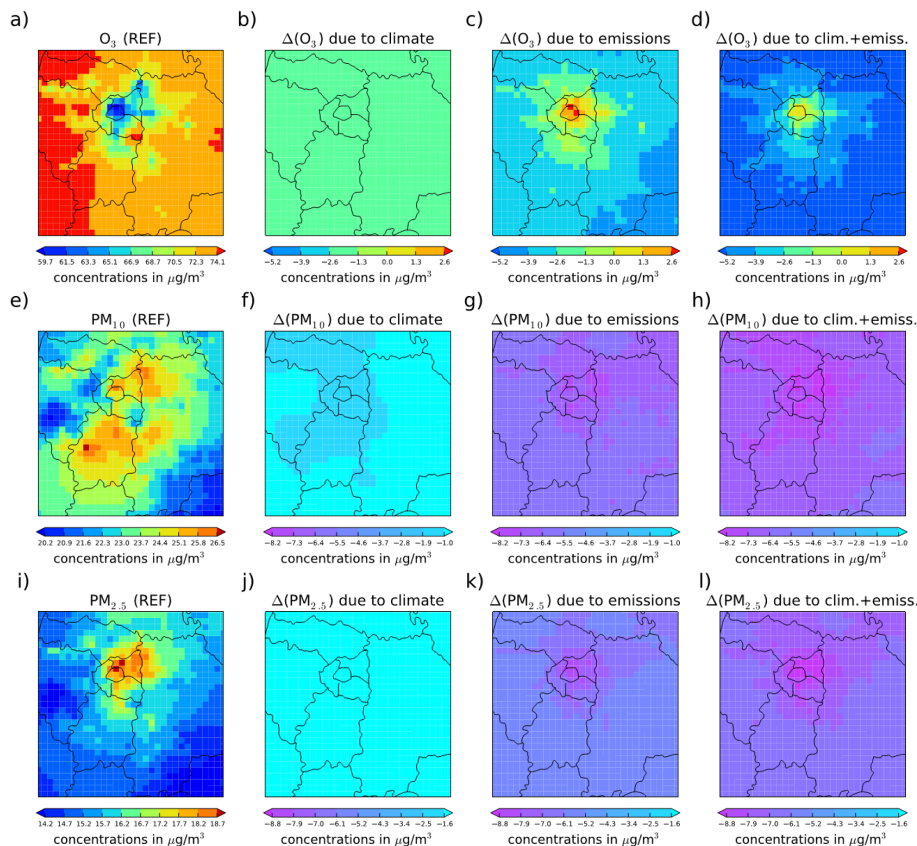
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**Figure 3.** Ozone period (April–August) average ozone concentrations at urban, suburban and rural stations in IdF **(a)** and one urban station in the Stockholm area **(d)**. The average daily maximum 8 h mean values at urban locations are also shown (MD8hr\_REF\_urban). Average PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in wintertime (DJF), summertime (JJA) and on annual basis over urban stations in IdF are shown in panels **(b)**, **(c)** (panels **e**, **f** for Stockholm).

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**Figure 4.** April–August mean ozone, annual mean PM<sub>10</sub> and annual mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration maps ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) for IdF, expressed as absolute values at present-time (a, e, i) and as deltas between present-time and 2050 due to climate change (b, f, j), emissions changes (c, g, k) and the cumulative effect (d, h, l).

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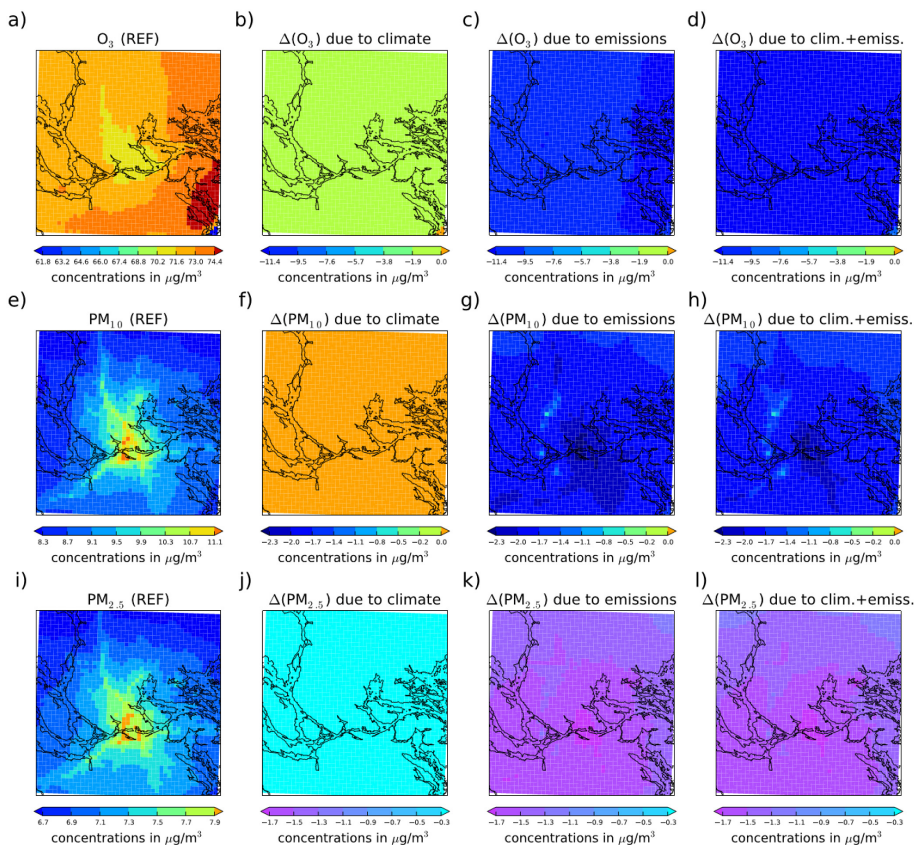


Figure 5. Similar to Fig. 4 for Stockholm.

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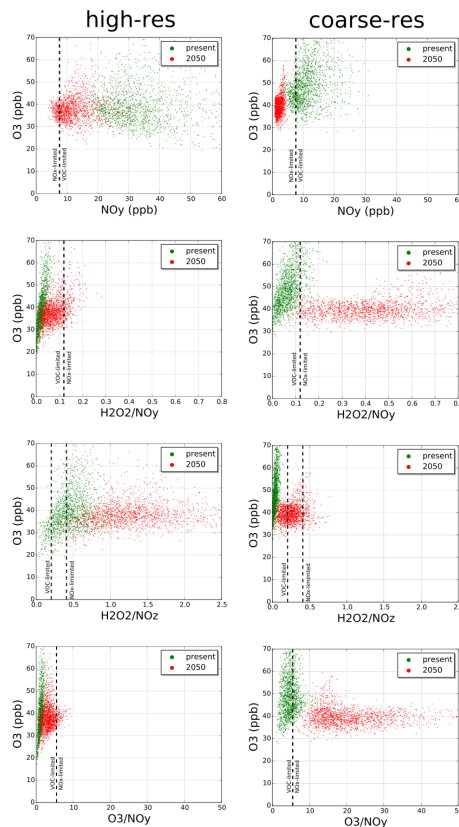
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**Figure 6.** Scatter plots of MD8hr ozone concentrations ( $y$  axis) against chemical regime indicators ( $x$  axis) for the present and future runs in Paris. Results are presented for the high-resolution (left panels) and the coarse-resolution (right panels) applications. Dots represent MD8hr concentrations for each day of the ozone period. For each indicator the limit value that separates the regimes is also depicted with a dashed line.