

# Assessing sensitivity regimes of secondary inorganic aerosol formation in Europe with the CALIOPE-EU modeling system

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## Abstract

Modeling and measuring studies have shown that sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides form two of the chemical component with the largest contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Europe: ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate. Site-specific observations can more accurately characterize the distribution of pollutant, but cannot predict the effectiveness of emission control. Understanding (and controlling) the formation regimes for these components can importantly contribute to the achievement of the reduction objectives established in the European legislation for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (20% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> triennial for mean of urban background levels between 2018 and 2020). In this sense, the CALIOPE-EU high-resolution air quality modeling system (12 km x 12 km, 1h) has been implemented in this work in order to investigate the formation of secondary inorganic aerosols (SIA) ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , which involve an important part of particulate matter over Europe) with respect to gas-phase precursor concentrations ( $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ) during the year 2004. The modeling system performs well at estimating inorganic species when compared to the measurements of EMEP monitoring network, but errors are larger for precursor species. Ammonia is underestimated in warmest months, nitric acid tends to be overestimated in the summer months, and sulfur dioxide appears to be systematically overestimated. The temporal treatment of ammonia emission is found to be source of uncertainty in the model representation of SIA. Furthermore, we discuss the annual pattern for each inorganic aerosol and gas precursor species over Europe estimated with the EMEP data and CALIOPE-EU outputs, comparing the performance with other European studies. In order to understand the sensitivity of each SIA component to the emission their precursors, the spatial distribution of several widely-used indicators is also

included. Results indicate that sulfate ion is not usually fully neutralized to ammonium sulfate in ambient measurements and is usually fully neutralized in model estimates. CALIOPE-EU and EMEP concentrations agree that the more continental regions in Europe tend to be HNO<sub>3</sub>-limited for nitrate formation. Regulatory strategies in this region should focus on reductions in NO<sub>x</sub> rather than NH<sub>3</sub> to control ammonium nitrate. CALIOPE-EU provides us an opportunity to assess how well the modeling system reproduces the spatial and temporal variability of important precursor species and co-located ions and also complement the measurement findings.

Keywords: Air quality, model evaluation, aerosol precursors, geochemistry, sulfate, nitrate, ammonia

## 1 Introduction

Atmospheric particulate matter (PM), or aerosols, play a central role in atmospheric processes (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007). They have adverse effects on human health (Pope et al., 2009) and affect visibility (Altshüller, 1984), ecosystems (Niyogi et al., 2004; Bytnerowicz et al., 2007), air quality and climate change (IPCC, 2007). To alleviate some of these atmospheric problems, the control atmospheric PM concentration is demanding. European legislation has established regulations regarding PM<sub>10</sub> (particles with  $d_p < 10 \mu\text{m}$ ) and recently for PM<sub>2.5</sub> ( $d_p < 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ ) in order to reduce human exposure to high concentration of PM (European Commission, 2008).

PM is both emitted directly from a large variety of anthropogenic, biogenic and natural sources and formed in the atmosphere by chemical and physical processes from gas-phase precursors such as NMVOC, NO<sub>x</sub> (NO+NO<sub>2</sub>), SO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> (Seinfeld and Pandis, 1998). Therefore, to fulfill the task of reducing human exposure to PM, policies must focus not only on the reduction of primary particulate emissions, but also on the reduction of precursor emissions for the formation of secondary particles (Wu et al., 2008; Renner and Wolke, 2010).

Several experimental studies have analyzed levels, speciation and origin of PM over Europe (Querol et al., 2004, 2009; van Dingenen et al. (2004); Putaud et al., 2004, 2010). They found that the European background levels, derived from 31 European air monitoring stations, have been  $7.0 \pm 4.1 \mu\text{gPM}_{10} \text{ m}^{-3}$  and  $4.8 \pm 2.4 \mu\text{gPM}_{2.5} \text{ m}^{-3}$ , over the past decade. The observed

aerosol composition revealed that organic matter is the major component in PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, except at rural background sites where secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA) contribution prevailed. The dominant SIA species are ammonium sulfates ((NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and ammonium nitrates (NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>) salts.

The formation of SIA is a two-step process. First, the primary emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> are oxidized to form aerosol precursor nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) and sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), respectively, precursors of secondary aerosols. Second, a fraction of the H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> partition between the gas and particle phase according to thermodynamic equilibrium determined by temperature, relative humidity and molar concentration of SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, total nitrate (TNO<sub>3</sub>=HNO<sub>3</sub>+ NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) and total ammonia (TNH<sub>3</sub>=NH<sub>3</sub>+ NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>). SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Europe have been reduced ~67% from 1980 to 2000 (EMEP, 2004; Fagerli and Aas, 2008; Hamed et al., 2010). Thus, nowadays less NH<sub>3</sub> is converted to (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and more NH<sub>3</sub> is available for the formation of NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>. This situation leads to a higher residence time of TNO<sub>3</sub> in air (Fagerli and Aas, 2008).

Because of the complex relationship between SIA (Ansari and Pandis, 1998; Vayenas et al, 2005) the control of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is still nowadays a difficult challenge. In this sense, air quality models (AQMs) are important tools for air quality management and the evaluation of emission control policies, but it becomes necessary to assess their ability not only in simulating air quality levels, but also to perform diagnostic evaluations. Single model evaluation studies (Schaap et al., 2004a, Sartelet et al., 2007; Stern et al., 2008; Matthias, 2008), model inter-comparison (Hass et al., 2003, van Loon et al., 2004); and model ensembles (Vautard et al., 2009) showed that models tend to underestimate observed PM. Furthermore, Renner and Wolke (2010) modeled the formation of atmospheric transport of SIA over high ammonia emissions areas in north Germany. The results of these studies point to large uncertainties in the estimation of the meteorological input data; uncertainties in the modeling of the anthropogenic PM sources, missing natural and anthropogenic sources and also with gaps in the knowledge of many of the physical and chemical processes which lead to the formation of SIA.

So, the main objective of this work is to investigate the formation regimes of SIA over Europe by means of the CALIOPE-EU air quality modeling system (Pay et al., 2010a; Baldasano et al., 2011) with a simulation covering the whole year 2004. For that purpose, this paper is structured as follows. Section 2 describes the modeling system, the observational database

and the evaluation tools. Section 3 analyses the modeling results against available measured data for the year 2004 and discusses the modeled and observed annual patterns of SIA and their gas-precursors. Also a discussion about aerosol formation regimes over Europe is provided. Section 4 presents a thorough comparison with other European studies. Finally, conclusions are drawn in Section 5.

## **2 Methods**

### **2.1 CALIOPE-EU modeling system**

CALIOPE (Baldasano et al., 2008a) is a complex system that integrates a meteorological model (WRF-ARW), an emission processing model (HERMES-EMEP), a chemical transport model (CMAQ) and a mineral dust dynamic model (BSC-DREAM8b) together coupled in an air quality modeling system (Fig. 1 of Pay et al., 2010a). CALIOPE encompasses a high-resolution air quality modeling system which provides 48-h air quality forecasts in Europe (12 km x 12 km) and Spain (4 km x 4 km) (available at: [www.bsc.es/caliope](http://www.bsc.es/caliope)). The system has been widely evaluated during its development over northeastern Spain (Jiménez et al., 2005a,b, 2006a,b, 2007), the Iberian Peninsula (Jiménez-Guerrero et al., 2008a; Baldasano et al., 2008a, 2011; Pay et al., 2010b) and Europe (Pay et al., 2010a). Furthermore, it has been used for assessing air pollution dynamics (Gonçalves et al., 2009a) and as management tool to study air quality impact of urban management strategies (Jiménez-Guerrero et al., 2008b; Gonçalves et al., 2008; 2009b; Soret et al., 2011).

CALIOPE system applied over the European domain in 2004 is namely thereafter as CALIOPE-EU. For a detailed description of the modeling system we refer to aforementioned studies. Here, we summary the main characteristics for this study.

Meteorological input data for the photochemical modeling runs are processed using the Advanced Research Weather and Forecasting model (WRF-ARW) version 3.6.1 (Michalakes et al., 2004; Skamarock and Klemp, 2008).

The Models-3 Community Multiscale Air Quality Modeling System (Models-3/CMAQ) version 4.5 is a three-dimensional Eulerian photochemical transport model that uses state-of-the-science routines to model gas and particulate matter formation and removal processes (Byun and Schere, 2006; Appel et al., 2008; Roy et al., 2007). The model is applied with the Carbon Bond IV chemical mechanism (CBM-IV, Gery et al., 1989) following the criteria of

Jiménez et al. (2003). Photolysis rates are computed off-line, as done in the photolysis rate preprocessor JPROC. The aerosols are modeled using the AERO4 module (Binkowski and Roselle, 2003) which comprises the following aerosol components:  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , elemental and organic carbon. SIA are generated by nucleation processes from their precursors. Then, the ISORROPIA thermodynamic module (Nenes et al., 1998) computes the equilibrium between gaseous  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$  and fine-particle  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , and aerosol water.

Emission data are processed using the High-Selective Resolution Modeling Emission System (HERMES, Baldasano et al., 2008). In the European domain, the inventory of the anthropogenic emissions of  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$ , NMVOC, CO, PM, and  $\text{NH}_3$  is derived from the 2004 annual EMEP emission database (EMEP, 2007). The inventory uses the source categories following the Selected Nomenclature Air Pollution (SNAP). Disaggregation of EMEP (50 km x 50 km) data is performed in space (12 km x 12 km) and time (1h). The spatial and temporal top-down disaggregation is sector-dependent. In the horizontal dimension, emission data are remapping to finer grid applying different criteria through three datasets (1) high-resolution land use map (EEA, 2000), (2) coordinates of industrial sites (EPER), and (3) vectorized road cartography of Europe (ESRI). In the vertical dimension, the sector-dependent emission distribution for gases is applied following the EMEP model (Simpson et al., 2003). In the time dimension, data are mapping from annual to an hourly basis using the temporal factors of EMEP/MS-CW (Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West). Biogenic emissions are estimated internally as a function of temperature, radiation and land-use (Baldasano et al., 2008).

Fig. 1 and Table 1 show the annual averaged emissions of the most contributed sectors of the emitted compounds  $\text{SO}_x$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$  and NMVOC in Europe. In 2004, 56% of the total  $\text{SO}_x$  emissions were attributed to energy transformation. 64% of  $\text{NO}_x$  total emissions are attributed to transport (road and no-road, sector 7 and 8). 94% of  $\text{NH}_3$  total emissions are attributed to agriculture and livestock. Domestic animals contribute most to total emissions, followed by fertilizers, crops and others. The fact that agricultural activities contribute most to ammonia emissions implies that densely populated regions tend to have the highest ammonia emissions. 33% of VOC total emissions are attributed to on-road transport and other 33% to the use of solvents. Last, 50% of CO total emissions are attributed to on-road transport.

The photochemical modeling domain consists of 479 cells in the X direction and 399 cells in the Y direction covering the European domain with 12 km x 12 km grid cells in a Lambert projection. The CMAQ horizontal grid resolution corresponds to that of WRF. Its vertical structure was obtained by a collapse from the 38 $\sigma$ -WRF layers to a total of 15  $\sigma$ -layers steadily increasing from the surface up to 50 hPa with a stronger concentration within the PBL. The chemical boundary conditions are based on the global climate chemistry model LMDz-INCA2 (Piot et al., 2008; Szopa et al., 2009).

## **2.2 Air quality network for gas and aerosol phase**

Model output for gas precursors and SIA particulate phase concentrations are compared with ground-based measurements of SO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HNO<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, TNO<sub>3</sub>, and TNH<sub>3</sub> from the EMEP monitoring network for the year 2004. EMEP stations are assumed to be representative of regional background concentrations (Torseth and Hov, 2003). Therefore, the authors wish to stress that the model performances presented in this paper are evaluated only for background concentrations. EMEP has an extensive quality control of the data that are included in the database, freely available on its web page (<http://www.emep.int>). However, accurate measurements of SIA aerosol remain a challenge. Inorganic species may be accurately measured with an uncertainty of about  $\pm 10\%$  for major species (Putaud et al., 2004). Hence, measured NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> are found to be uncertain under warm conditions (Schaap et al., 2004b).

All EMEP measurement data are given on a daily average. As a result, 31 stations were selected to evaluate SO<sub>2</sub>, 53 for SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, 8 for HNO<sub>3</sub>, 31 for NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, 7 for NH<sub>3</sub>, and 15 NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, for respectively. SIA and gas precursors are also indirectly evaluated with measurements of TNO<sub>3</sub> and TNH<sub>3</sub> available over 31 stations. The selected EMEP stations and measured pollutants that are used for this comparison are briefly described in Table 2 and presented in Fig. 2. Note that the final coverage of the dataset is rather disperse since France, Italy and southeastern Europe only include several stations. Also, it is important to remark that the availability of stations measuring nitrogenous gas precursors (HNO<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>) is scarce and not well distributed.

## **2.3 Evaluation and assessment tools**

Modeled aerosol outputs are post-processed for the comparison with quantified measured. A list of CMAQ aerosol module variables can be found in Table 1 of Binkowski and Roselle

(2003). From these variables, fine-particles  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  are approximated by summing the appropriate Aitken- and accumulation-mode concentrations. Although CALIOPE-EU system estimates sulfate from sea salt, fine-particle sulfate only takes into account that with anthropogenic origin, hereinafter referred to as  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ .

To pair observations and model results in space a bilinear interpolation is used, since EMEP are representative of regional background concentrations. Measurements are in daily basis, thus aerosols are compared in terms of daily averages from the modeling system.

Metrics used to describe the modeling system performance include classical statistics. Besides mean of modeled and measured values we show mean bias (MB), root mean square error (RMSE), correlation coefficient (r), mean fractional bias (MFB), and error (MFE) (Boylan and Russell, 2006; Dennis et al., 2010). The bias and error describe the performance in terms of the measured concentration units ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) assuming that measurements are the truth. On the other hand, fractional metrics describe performance as a percent, taking into account that the measurements have their own uncertainty due to biases and artifacts related to sampling and laboratory analysis methods (Boylan and Russell, 2006; Putaud et al., 2010). The best model performance is when MFB and MFE approach 0. The fractional metrics are bounded by 200%, which is considered very poor performance. The fractional bias and error metrics normalize large and small concentrations, making seasonal trends in model performance more discernable.

The aerosol compounds are compared to the daily averages from the model, and daily statistics and graphics methods were computed to describe the model skills and weaknesses. The inorganic and organic chemical species data were analyzed from the PM<sub>2.5</sub> fraction, whereas natural aerosol such as sea spray and mineral dust from the Saharan desert, were analyzed from the PM<sub>10</sub> particle concentrations.

The bias metrics between SIA and gas-phase precursors are examined for relationships to determine how much of the error in precursor model performance translates into error for co-located ion model estimates. Besides, to assess the chemical behavior of aerosol chemical composition, we introduce four indicators extracted from bibliography to examine the SIA formation regimens. S-ratio (Hass et al., 2003) indicates the ability of the model to form the sulfate aerosols. Concentrations are expressed as  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the S-ratio equation.

$$S - ratio = \frac{SO_2}{SO_2 + SO_4^{2-}}$$

SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> is produced during the transport by heterogeneous processes in clouds. A ratio close to unity indicates that only a small fraction of the emitted SO<sub>2</sub> has been converted to the sulfate aerosol.

Free ammonia (F-NH<sub>x</sub>) indicator quantifies the amount of ammonia available, after neutralizing SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, for NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> formation. This indicator is based on the fact that (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> aerosol is the favored form for sulfate. F-HH<sub>x</sub> is defined as the total ammonia minus twice the sulfate concentration on a molar basis:

$$F - NH_x = TNH_3 - 2SO_4^{2-}$$

The gas-aerosol equilibrium in the SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>/NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> system is analyzed using the G-ratio (Ansari and Pandis, 1998; Pinder et al., 2008) which indicates whether fine-particle NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> formation is limited by the availability of HNO<sub>3</sub> or NH<sub>3</sub>. All the terms in the following equation are expressed molar basis (μmole m<sup>-3</sup>).

$$G - ratio = \frac{F - NH_x}{TNO_3}$$

G-ratio > 1 indicates that nitric acid is limiting, while G-ratio < 0 indicates the ammonia is severely limiting. G-ratio between 0 and 1 indicates ammonia is available for reaction with nitric acid, but ammonia is the limiting species.

Pinder et al. (2008) suggested an adjust G-ratio which takes into account that sulfate is not always fully neutralized. That is true especially during winter, when nitrate is thermodynamically more stable than sulfate. However, we decided not to use this adjust G-ratio since only 5 stations are available to evaluate the modeled pattern.

### 3 Results and discussion

First, in Section 3.1, a model evaluation is performed through statistical performance. Fig. 3 compares the CALIOPE-EU model outputs with measurements for inorganic aerosols (sulfate, nitrate and ammonium) and their precursors (sulfur dioxide, nitric acid and ammonia) computed on a daily basis using all the EMEP stations with available data. Also, Fig. 4 shows



the monthly MFB and MFE for each species (gas and precursor) compared to proposed performance goals and criteria by Boylan and Russell (2006). Second, in Section 3.2, a general description of the annual mean distribution of each pollutant is provided to determine each pattern across Europe (Fig. 5). Latter, Section 3.3 the discussion is focused on the use of indicators that allow detecting SIA formation regimens over Europe (Fig. 6).

### 3.1 Model evaluation

#### 3.1.1 Sulfur dioxide and sulfate

For SO<sub>2</sub>, the model results are evaluated against 31 stations located across the Iberian Peninsula, central and north-eastern Europe. Fig. 3a for SO<sub>2</sub> shows the temporal evolution of CALIOPE-EU system which is able to reproduce the annual variation of daily measurements ( $r = 0.60$ ) although it overestimates some observed peaks ( $MB = 0.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). As shown in Fig. 4a and b bias and errors for SO<sub>2</sub> do not present a significant seasonal variation. Monthly biases are relatively low ( $0\% < \text{MFB} < 30\%$ ) and fall within the performance goal proposed by Bolan and Russell (2006). Nevertheless monthly fractional errors only accomplish the criteria ( $60\% < \text{MFE} < 75\%$ ).

SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentrations are compared with 53 stations which cover Spain, eastern and central Europe and Nordic countries. The annual variability of the modeled SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> concentrations agrees fairly well with measurements ( $r = 0.49$ ,  $\text{RMSE} = 1.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and modeling results present a low negative bias along the year ( $MB < -0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) (Fig. 3b). Best model performances are achieved during warm seasons ( $\text{MFB} \sim 0\%$  and  $\text{MFE} \sim 50\%$ , Fig. 4a and b) when ambient concentrations are highest due to enhanced photochemistry, low air mass renovation regional scale, and the increase of the summer mixing layer depth favoring the regional mixing of polluted air masses (Querol et al., 2009). Only during cold seasons SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> from CALIOPE-EU does not accomplish the goal for MFB and MFE. This result is geographically biased by winter underestimations at eastern European stations (E. Eu region), where MB by station ranges from  $-0.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  to  $-2.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .

January and March undergo three major episodes of enhanced SO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>. The model reproduces accurately the SO<sub>2</sub> variability meanwhile sulfate events are not reproduced. Overall, the positive mean bias only for SO<sub>2</sub> suggests that non-marine SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> formation in the modeling system is often limited by oxidant availability and not always by sulfur dioxide availability. Winter underestimation of SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> is a common issue in most models integrated in

Europe which represent a direct couplet of sulfur chemistry with photochemistry, even detected with CMAQ over Europe (Matthias, 2008). This feature can be probably explained by a lack of model calculated oxidants or missing reactions (Kasibhatla et al., 1997). In this context, besides the gas phase reaction of SO<sub>2</sub> by OH, Tarrasón and Iversen (1998) and Schaap et al. (2004a) included additional oxidation pathways in clouds under cool and humid conditions that improve modeled SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> performance.

### 3.1.2 Nitric acid, nitrate and total nitrate

HNO<sub>3</sub> is evaluated over 8 EMEP stations located in eastern Europe, Nordic countries and Italy. Overall, CALIOPE-EU system is able to reproduce annual variability for HNO<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 3c), presenting the highest values during summer as measurements ( $r = 0.41$ , RMSE = 1.1 µgm<sup>-3</sup>). However, as shown also in Fig 4c and d, CALIOPE-EU underestimates HNO<sub>3</sub> in coldest months (MFB > -30%), has a small bias during spring (MFB ≤ ±30%, within the goals) and overestimates in summer seasons (MFB > 30%). CALIOPE-EU NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations have already been evaluated over EMEP in Pay et al. (2010a). The MFB for NO<sub>2</sub> was examined by season and did not show a strong seasonal trend, but the lowest bias are found in summer and spring (MFB ~ -50%). This finding, together with an overestimation of HNO<sub>3</sub> in warm seasons indicates that either the chemical transport model (CMAQv4.5) may be generating too much nitric acid though photochemical reactions or summer deposition processes are not appropriately characterized (Baker and Scheff, 2007).

The NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations are evaluated over 31 EMEP stations which cover mainly Spain and central Europe. Time series in Fig. 3d show that the modeling system reproduces the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> daily variability throughout the year ( $r=0.58$ , RMSE= 2.3 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), presenting higher levels during winter and lower levels during summer due to its thermal instability (Querol et al., 2009). NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations are on average underestimated, although large underestimations and errors are found in warm seasons (Fig. 4c and d) with |MFE| ~ 130%. Note that summer underestimation occurs under low concentrations where relative model performance is not as important; indeed, both the model and observed NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> are typically quite low during summertime (Fig. 3c). In any case, monthly fractional biases and errors for NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> fall within the criteria. The NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> errors are roughly 2 times higher than the corresponding SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> errors, reaching till 3 times in summer. Such finding is consistent with other modeling studies (Yu et al., 2005; Tesche et al., 2006). Diagnostic evaluations performed by Yu et al. (2005) indicate

that a large source of error in simulating nitrate came from errors in the simulation of total ammonia, sulfate and, to lesser extent, total nitrate.

Measurements of  $\text{TNO}_3$  are available over 31 stations covering Spain, north and central Europe. The  $\text{TNO}_3$  in the modeling system reproduces the annual trend with high temporal correlation as shown the temporal series in Fig. 3g ( $r = 0.50$ ,  $\text{RMSE} = 1.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). High modeled and measured levels of  $\text{TNO}_3$  in winter can be explained by the higher stability of  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  in winter, which causes a higher portion of the  $\text{NO}_3^-$  to partition to aerosol, which has a longer lifetime than nitric acid against deposition (Schaap et al., 2004a). Monthly fractional biases and errors (Fig. 4c and d) indicate that large deviations are presented in the coldest months, dominated by the calculated underestimation of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  in these seasons ( $\text{MFB} < -50\%$ ). The low fractional bias in summer results from the compensation error between the overestimation of  $\text{HNO}_3$  ( $\text{MFB} \sim 50\%$ ) and underestimation of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  ( $\text{MFB} \sim -130\%$ ). In warm months (from April to October) the model fractional biases and error are within the criteria:  $\text{MFB} \leq \pm 60$  and  $\text{MFE} \leq 75$ .

The largest underestimations are located over the E.IP-W.Med and C.Med regions and the Eastern Europe (E.Eu regions, except Illmitz and Sniezka) with mean biases of  $-1.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  and  $-1.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively in both areas. The model presents the best skills in the western Iberian Peninsula, with high correlations ranging from 0.40 to 0.65 by stations, and with annual mean biases less than  $1.0 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , and RMSE less than  $1.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .

### **3.1.3 Ammonia, ammonium and total ammonia**

$\text{NH}_3$  is measured in 7 stations located in western Iberian Peninsula (2), central Mediterranean (1), and northern (2) and eastern (2) Europe. Temporal series (Fig. 3e) indicate that the CALIOPE-EU system reproduces the annual variability for  $\text{NH}_3$  ( $r = 0.56$ ) with a low mean bias ( $\text{MB} = -0.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). However, during warm season, April to August, modeled  $\text{NH}_3$  is systematically underestimated.  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions predominantly come from agricultural sources, primarily from livestock animal waste (Table 1). Livestock sources vary during the year since volatilization of  $\text{NH}_3$  from the animal waste is a function of temperature (Gilliland et al, 2003). Seasonality in  $\text{NH}_3$  emission is expected since field application of fertilizers occurs during specific seasons (Asman, 2001).

A total of 15 EMEP stations provide measurements of  $\text{NH}_4^+$  to evaluate ammonium in 2004, mainly covering eastern Europe. Modeled  $\text{NH}_4^+$  comparisons to measured data (Fig. 3f) reveals

that annual variability is correctly reproduced ( $r = 0.62$ ,  $RMSE = 1.2 \mu g m^{-3}$ ). However annual mean model is on average underestimated in 36%. Monthly fractional errors (Fig. 4e and f) fall within the criteria ( $-60\% < MFB < 0$  and  $MFE < 75\%$ ) except in the coldest months. Despite the underestimations during winter, the temporal variability is correctly captured in these months ( $r = 0.70$ ).

$TNH_3$  measurements are available over 31 stations covering Spain, north and central Europe. The temporal series (Fig. 3f) indicates that the  $TNH_3$  levels are on average in agreement with observation along the year ( $r = 0.50$ ,  $RMSE = 2.1 \mu g m^{-3}$ ) with relatively low bias ( $MB = -0.5 \mu g m^{-3}$ ). The fractional bias distribution by months (Fig. 4 e and f) for  $TNH_3$  shows that the modeling system does not provided enough  $TNH_3$  in spring ( $MFB \sim -25\%$ ) and lightly too much in winter ( $MFB \sim 10\%$ ).  $TNH_3$  falls within criteria for fractional bias and error, but partition between gas and aerosol is not totally well characterized. On one hand,  $TNH_3$  underestimation in the warm season is biased by gas-phase  $NH_3$  which presents its largest underestimation from May to August with  $MFF \sim -100\%$  (Fig. 3e). On the other hand,  $TNH_3$  overestimations in winter are biased by the tendency of the model to overestimate gas-phase  $NH_3$  at some stations (Fig. 3e).

From May to October,  $SO_4^{2-}$  is overestimated ( $MFB \sim 10\%$ ) and  $NH_4^+$  reaches its minimum bias ( $MFB \sim -10\%$ ). In this case, the underestimation of ammonia during the same period indicates that the excessive  $SO_4^{2-}$  in the model keeps ammonium in the particulate phase when it should be in the gas phase or available to potentially neutralize  $NO_3^-$ . This fact also explains the maximum overestimation of  $HNO_3$  ( $MFB \sim 50\%$ ), the large underestimation of  $NO_3^-$  ( $MFB \sim -120\%$ ) and the minimum bias in  $TNO_3$  ( $MFB \sim -20\%$ ) during the same period, since too much  $NO_3^-$  is remaining in the gas phase because there is not enough  $NH_4^+$  to neutralized  $NO_3^-$ . This fact demonstrates that temporal representation of  $NH_3$  emission could have a large effect on the results. Significant uncertainty exists in the magnitude and temporal variability of  $NH_3$  emissions in Europe (Gilliland et al., 2003; Schaap et al. 2004a; Gilliland et al., 2006).

#### **3.1.4 Bias relationship between SIA and gas precursors**

The relationship in model-observation bias for SIA species and precursors is examined using the correlation coefficient (Table 3) to determine whether biases in precursor species directly translates into biases for aerosol species. These correlation coefficients compare the bias metric distributions over all sites and days for a pair of species. A number close to 1 indicates a strong relationship in the bias metric between a pair of species. A strong relationship is seen

between model-observation bias for  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (bias correlation = 0.59) and also between  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (bias correlation = 0.75). This makes sense since these ions are chemically coupled in the atmosphere.  $\text{SO}_2$  bias has a fairly weak relationship with  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  bias, which is interesting since a more direct relationship might be expected between them.  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  bias is weakly associated with biases in the aerosol species (bias correlation < 0.1). These weak relationships between precursor gases and aerosol species indicate that model performance for precursor gases does not directly translate into model biases for particulate matter species in the same ambient sample. This likely reflects the different time scales of particulate formation and the influence of the regional transport.

## 3.2 Pattern description

Next section discusses the spatial distribution of annual concentrations modeled with CALIOPE-EU system (12 km x 12 km) for SIA and gas-phase precursors in 2004 taking into account annual mean concentrations measured with EMEP monitoring network.

### 3.2.1 Sulfur dioxide and sulfate

Fig. 5a shows the  $\text{SO}_2$  pattern over Europe which presents a significant relationship with the distribution of  $\text{SO}_2$  emission sources in Fig. 1c. They are mainly produced by power generated and transformation industries (Table 1) located in northwestern Spain, eastern Europe, UK, Belgium and the southwestern Netherlands. These localized industries generate large plumes of high- $\text{SO}_2$  affecting the air quality on a local to regional scale. Background concentrations in eastern countries ( $8\text{--}20\ \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) are greater than in West ( $\sim 2\ \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Various disperse punctual  $\text{SO}_2$  emissions in the east contribute to an increase of the regional concentration ( $30\text{--}50\ \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Over sea, the highest concentrations are found along the main shipping route, since fuels used have high- $\text{SO}_2$  content. Comparisons with 31 observed annual means show a high spatial correlation ( $r = 0.80$ ), resulting from the detailed methodology of spatial (horizontal and vertical) disaggregation of EMEP (50 km x 50 km) data over the high-resolution CALIOPE-EU grid (12 km x 12 km).

In CALIOPE-EU system fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  has an anthropogenic origin and is directed emitted, generated by nucleation and/or condensation from the gas phase oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$  and hydroxyl radical (OH) and by heterogeneous oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$  in clouds (aqueous-phase oxidation by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ , and peroxyacetic acid) (Binkowski and Roselle, 2003). With respect to  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  presents a pattern more dispersive pattern (lower spatial

variability) since  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is partly produced during the transport of the  $\text{SO}_2$  air masses (Fig. 5b). Regions with high levels of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  correspond with important  $\text{SO}_2$  emission point sources (Fig. 1c and Fig 5a). The highest levels are found in eastern and south-eastern Europe and Po Valley (2 to 5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), followed by those obtained over the Benelux region and northeastern Spain (2-3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The highest  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  levels over eastern Europe deplete the available gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$  so that little  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  can form due to the low  $\text{NH}_3$  levels as can be seen latter in Fig 5c. These findings are consistent with the results presented in Querol et al. (2009). In remote continental regions  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  mean levels range between 1-2  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . However, over Scandinavia and elevated terrains (e.g. Alpine and Pyrenean chains) levels remain below 1.0  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . Over the ocean, fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  contributes < 1.5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the Atlantic Ocean and between 1.0 - 2.7  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  over the Mediterranean Sea. The calculated spatial correlation over 53 EMEP stations indicates that there is a high agreement for background annual sulfate levels between CALIOPE-EU and EMEP stations over Europe, indicating that the modeling system is able to reproduce long-range transport, chemical processes and sinks of sulfate.

### 3.2.2 Nitric acid and nitrate

$\text{HNO}_3$  is produce by heterogeneous hydrolysis of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  and by oxidation of  $\text{NO}_2$  by hydroxyl radicals (Meng et al. 1997; Nguyen and Dabdub, 2002). According to  $\text{NO}_2$  performance, a detail discussion is provided in a separate paper Pay et al. (2010a). However, additional information about  $\text{NO}_2$  is provided in the supplementary material. CALIOPE-EU is able to reproduce  $\text{NO}_2$  with high good agreement over Europe, with spatial correlation of 0.75 (Fig S1, supplementary material). Nevertheless,  $\text{NO}_2$  background levels are significantly underestimated, MB = -3.7  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  (Pay et al., 2010a).

The annual patter of  $\text{HNO}_3$  over Europe presents a high spatial variability (Fig. 5c). At continental regions the annual concentrations remain mainly below 1.0  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , meanwhile over the sea concentrations are larger than those over land. A long the ship routes, where large amount of  $\text{NO}_x$  are emitted (Fig. 1c), the largest concentrations of  $\text{HNO}_3$  are also modeled. Mean values in the Mediterranean Sea are ~ 3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  reaching maximum levels over the Alboran Sea along the Strait of Gibraltar (~ 5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), meanwhile over North Sea and English Channel  $\text{HNO}_3$  levels are lower (~ 3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The calculated spatial correlation is 0.63 which is biased by the stations of Illmitz where measurements seem to have more variability during winter than modeled (without Illmitz, the spatial correlation increase to 0.77).

$\text{NO}_3^-$  is modeled as  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  in the fine fraction and its formation is bound by  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ .  $\text{NO}_3^-$  spatial variability is high over Europe (Fig. 5d) with no clear relationship either anthropogenic activities or gas precursor  $\text{HNO}_3$  (Fig. 5c) and  $\text{NO}_2$  (Fig S1, supplementary material). Both ammonium nitrate and nitric acid are water soluble and efficiently wet deposited. However, nitric acid is a volatile gas with a rapid dry deposition, meanwhile ammonium nitrate particles dry deposit slowly.  $\text{NO}_3^-$  levels are significant over land, since  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentrations rapidly decrease from the coast to open ocean.  $\text{NO}_3^-$  presents the highest concentration in the Po valley (between 3 and 4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) where both large anthropogenic sources of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  from agriculture and industrial-related sources are located. Elevated concentrations are also identified over The Netherlands, Belgium, eastern Germany and northern France ( $\sim 2.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) which are affected by high levels of  $\text{NH}_3$ . Overall, in southern Europe (latitude less than  $44^\circ\text{N}$ )  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentrations are lower, not exceeding 1.5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  and remaining below 0.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  over the sea. Despite the high  $\text{HNO}_3$  levels due to ship tracks over the Mediterranean Sea,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentrations remain low because  $\text{NH}_3$  availability is limiting. The annual spatial correlation shows a high agreement between CALIOPE-EU and EMEP observations ( $r=0.80$ ). Despite such good spatial correlation, modeled background mean  $\text{NO}_3^-$  levels are somehow underestimated  $\sim 1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  over most of the stations as shown in the evaluation section.

Modeled  $\text{TNO}_3$  annual distribution (Fig. 5h) shows the sum of contribution of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ . In continental region, as for  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , the highest levels are found over the Po valley ( $\sim 5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Over the sea, the highest values are found along the maritime traffic routes and the Strait of Gibraltar ( $\sim 4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The spatial correlation for  $\text{TNO}_3$  is relatively high ( $r=0.76$ ), indicating a good agreement between formation of secondary gas and aerosol.

### 3.2.3 Ammonia and ammonium

Fig. 5e shows annual European pattern of gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$  in 2004. Agriculture and livestock are estimated to produce around 94% of  $\text{NH}_3$  emission in Europe (Table 1). Due to the short atmospheric lifetime of ammonia, its concentration field strongly resembles its emission distribution, as shown in Fig. 1a, and maximum concentrations occur in the areas with the highest emissions. Outside the source areas the ammonia concentration declines rapidly ( $< 1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Maximum concentrations are located in The Netherlands and Po valley ( $\sim 8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), followed by southern Germany and western France ( $\sim 5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Significant high levels (2-4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) are also found over southwestern France, northeastern Spain, central Poland and

southeastern Europe. Comparisons with annual mean observations show high spatial correlation ( $r=0.93$ ). Nevertheless this correlation is not representative since only seven stations are taking into account.

In air masses with a continental signature aerosol  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  are associated with  $\text{NH}_4^+$ . Atmospheric  $\text{NH}_3$  is first neutralized by  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to form  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ . Remaining  $\text{NH}_3$  may then combine with  $\text{HNO}_3$  to form  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ . In this sense,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  presents a gradient distribution pattern more similar to  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  than to  $\text{NH}_3$  since  $\text{NH}_4^+$  neutralizes those anions (Fig. 5f).  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentrations are around  $1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  over most of Europe and decrease near the coast. Like for  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , the highest  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentrations are detected over the Po Valley ( $2\text{--}3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). High  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentrations are also found over the Benelux region and southwestern Europe with values ranging from 1 and  $2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . Low concentrations are found in southern Europe ( $<1.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The low  $\text{NH}_4^+$  availability in the southern part of Europe ( $< 40^\circ \text{N}$ ) is mainly used in the neutralization of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , meanwhile  $\text{HNO}_3$  remains in the gas phase. The lowest concentrations are found in Nordic counties and high mountains ranges ( $< 0.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Annual mean spatial correlation shows a high agreement between model and observations ( $r=0.80$ ).

$\text{TNH}_3$  annual distribution is also shown in Fig. 5g; the pattern is obviously dominated by gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$ . Spatial correlation for total ammonia is 0.68, lower than for  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ . More stations are used to compute the correlation coefficient for  $\text{TNH}_3$ , and this result is deviated by the stations of Payerne and Els Torms. Without these two stations spatial correlation increase to 0.71.

### 3.3 Aerosol formation indicators

#### 3.3.1 S-ratio

The ability of the model to form fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is investigated by the use of the S-ratio indicator (Hass et al., 2003). Fig. 6a presents the annual S-ratio distribution over Europe in 2004 modeled with CALIOPE-EU and measured at EMEP stations. Fig. 7c shows the observed and calculated annual S-ratios at each EMEP station lumping by regions (described previously in Table 2 and Fig. 2) and compared with the model performance for  $\text{SO}_2$  (Fig. 7a) and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (Fig. 7b).



The observed S-ratios range from 0.24 (Tange-DK03) to 0.63 (Sniezka-PL03), meanwhile the modeled S-ratios tend to basically overestimate the observed range due to different regimens dominated in diverse regions. The highest S-ratio (observed and modeled S-ratio > 0.5) are found in eastern Europe and western Iberian Peninsula which indicates that fresh sulfur dominates these regions (oxidation processes are limiting). In this case, CALIOPE-EU overestimates these ratios, which is consistent with the model overestimation of the highest SO<sub>2</sub> levels, especially in eastern Europe (Fig. 7a and Section 3.1.1). S-ratios between 0.4 and 0.5 (modeled and observed) are found over the Mediterranean Basin (C.Med and E.IP-W.Med), central, northwestern, and north Europe (C.Eu, NW.E. and Nor.) where sulfur is dominated by SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> generated during the long-range transport. In this regime, CALIOPE-EU tends to overestimate S-ratio, mainly dominated by the SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> underestimations, which depict deficiencies of the SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> parameterizations (e.g. limitation to the availability of aqueous phase oxidants such as H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and ozone as shown in other European studies (Stern et al., 2008; Schaap et al., 2004a; Kim et al., 2011).

The lowest observed and modeled S-ratios (S-ratios < 0.35) are found in northern Europe, at the stations of DK03, DK08 and SE11. Thus, this region is affected by SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> from transport, since no large isolated point sources are located there (Fig. 1a) and is only affected by ship emissions. Under this regime, CALIOPE-EU overestimates these ratios at these three stations, since modeled SO<sub>2</sub> levels are largely overestimated (Fig. 7a). This could indicate that ship emission estimates in the EMEP inventory are too high over these areas as pointed out by Tarrasón et al. (2007).

The spatial correlation is relatively high (r=0.52) since it is biased by the under- and overestimation of sulfur compounds in different regions. Nevertheless, the modeled S-ratio over Europe is consistent with the patterns discussed before for SO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>. On one hand, the major shipping routes (from the North Sea, passing by the English Channel, through Portugal, Spain and northern Africa towards the Suez Canal) and power plants in eastern Europe (Poland, Serbia, Rumania, Bulgaria and Greece), northwestern Spain and northwestern Europe (UK, Belgium, The Netherlands) are responsible for fresh sulfur. On the other hand, central Europe and over the Mediterranean Basin are regions affected by the secondary SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> transported from the aforementioned emitted areas which is secondary formed favored by the meteorological pattern (Querol et al. 2009).

### 3.3.2 Free ammonia

The F-NH<sub>x</sub> indicator is a useful tool to identify potential regions with high potential to generate NH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, based on the fact that it will be formed if there is enough NH<sub>3</sub> available after the neutralization of the SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>. Fig. 6b presents the modeled annual F-NH<sub>x</sub> distribution over Europe in 2004. Fig. 8a shows the observed and calculated annual F-NH<sub>x</sub> at each EMEP stations lumped by regions.

Observed F-NH<sub>x</sub> is in a range of -0.05 to 0.13 μmol m<sup>-3</sup> (Fig 6c and d). Calculated spatial correlation is relatively high (r=0.65). However, CALIOPE-EU system presents a tendency to overestimate F-NH<sub>x</sub>. Under this condition, NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> could be enhanced in the model. Nevertheless, the dominant regimens depend on the region.

Modeled F-NH<sub>x</sub> decreases from the coastal areas to the ocean. The lowest (modeled and observed) free ammonia (F-NH<sub>x</sub> < 0 μmol m<sup>-3</sup>) is mainly confined to coastal stations where acid displacements with sea-salt aerosol take place (Athanasopoulou et al., 2009).

Regions with low potentiality to form NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (0 μmol m<sup>-3</sup> < F-NH<sub>x</sub> < 0.02 μmol m<sup>-3</sup>) are found in northern Europe and western Iberian Peninsula. In the first case, it is due to the low emissions and gas-phase NH<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 1a and Fig. 6e, respectively). In the second case, despite there is enough NH<sub>3</sub> emission, the elevated S-ratio regime indicates that available NH<sub>3</sub> is partitioned to aerosol phase to neutralized SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>.

Regions with relatively high potentiality to form NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (0.02 μmol m<sup>-3</sup> < F-NH<sub>x</sub> < 0.04 μmol m<sup>-3</sup>) are eastern Iberian Peninsula and eastern Europe. In both cases, NH<sub>3</sub> emissions are high (100-250 Mg/yr and small areas 250-450 Mg/yr). CALIOPE-EU tends to underestimate F-NH<sub>x</sub> over Iberian Peninsula since TNH<sub>3</sub> are underestimated.

The highest measured and observed F-NH<sub>x</sub> (F-NH<sub>x</sub> > 0.04 μmol m<sup>-3</sup>) are found in central (south Germany and Po valley) and northwestern Europe (Benelux and eastern France) where the highest and extended NH<sub>3</sub> emissions (>1,400 Mg/yr) together with meteorological conditions (low temperature and high relative humidity) favored the partition of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> to aerosol phase. In this case, CALIOPE-EU tends to overestimate the highest F-NH<sub>x</sub> since TNH<sub>3</sub> are overestimated in those areas.

### 3.3.3 G-ratio

Fig. 6c shows the annual distribution pattern of observed and calculated G-ratios over 2004. G-ratio is useful to analyze which reactant,  $\text{NH}_3$  or  $\text{HNO}_3$ , limits the formation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  (Ansari and Pandis, 1998). Fig. 8c shows the observed and calculated annual G-ratio at each EMEP stations compared with the performance of F- $\text{NH}_x$  (Fig. 8a) and T $\text{NO}_3$  (Fig. 8b).

The modeled and observed spatial distribution of G-ratio indicates that, based on annual average concentration, over continental Europe the  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  formation is limited by the formation of  $\text{HNO}_3$  (G-ratio  $> 1$ ). Adams et al. (1999) showed the same tendency over the European continent using the global model GISS GCM II. Also Sartelet et al. (2007) and Kim et al. (2011) estimated the same pattern over continental areas with the POLYPHEMUS system using different chemical mechanisms (CB05 and RACM). Such findings indicate that  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  concentration in these areas could increase dramatically given an increase in  $\text{HNO}_3$  concentration, or indirectly given an increase of  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions. It is also consistent with results obtained by Renner and Wolke (2010) over northwestern Europe, who demonstrate that ammonium nitrate, but above all ammonium sulfate, is not sensitive to  $\text{NH}_3$  emission changes when  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_x$  are limiting.

Over ocean,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  is produced over the English Channel, Atlantic coast of France, and the North Sea, although  $\text{NH}_3$  limits its formation ( $0 < \text{G-ratio} < 1$ ). An acidic sulfate aerosol dominates the Mediterranean Sea (G-ratio  $< 0$ ) severely limited by  $\text{NH}_3$ , where intense maritime traffic generate high  $\text{NO}_x$  (indirectly  $\text{HNO}_3$ ) and  $\text{SO}_2$  emissions.

The low spatial correlation ( $r = 0.27$ ) are related with the fact that this equation may be too simplistic for location where  $\text{NO}_3^-$  is often neutralized by sodium or calcium, such as coastal areas or western Mediterranean Basin (Querol et al., 2009). Even though, CALIOPE-EU system estimates sea-salt emissions; however, replacement of chloride by nitrate in mixed marine/urban air masses is not implemented in AERO4 (Kelly et al., 2010).

## 4 Comparison with other AQM evaluation studies

Recent AQM studies have provided more insight in the SIA formation in Europe. This section discusses a comparative analysis between various European model evaluations and the results obtained here from the CALIOPE-EU system. Note that this is not an exhaustive inter-comparison study because of the different configuration of the diverse works. Nevertheless, it

provides a good basis for assessing the reliability of the results obtained in the context of the European model evaluation which also complement that presented in Pay et al. (2010a). Table 4 shows a chronological list of published AQM evaluation studies on SIA and precursors gases, which are presented along with CALIOPE-EU evaluation results. Following the criteria in Pay et al. (2010a) those evaluation studies have several characteristics in common: (1) European domain; (2) the regional scale (horizontal resolutions are between 12 km to 55 km); (3) the simulation period, mainly annual, except in the case of Kim et al. (2011) and Stern et al. (2008); and (4) the used of the EMEP monitoring network to evaluate the models. Table 5 presents the common statistics for the fine inorganic aerosols ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ). Gas-phase aerosol precursors (nitric acid and ammonia) and total nitrate and ammonia are presented in Table 6. Results for sulfur dioxide are presented at Table 5 in Pay et al. (2010a). Three common statistics parameters are considered: the ratio between modeled mean and observed mean (Ratio), correlation coefficient (r), and RMSE.

For  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  concentration CALIOPE-EU presents satisfactory annual correlations in comparison to the other studies (0.49 versus 0.37-0.65 in annual basis). However, the RMSE obtained with CALIOPE-EU is the lowest from all the models ( $1.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  for CALIOPE-EU versus  $1.7\text{-}5.89 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). As other European modeling system, CALIOPE-EU tends to underestimate  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  annual concentrations.

Considering  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , the annual correlation obtained for CALIOPE-EU ( $r = 0.58$ ) is, with LOTOS8, the third highest value after EURAD9 ( $r=0.61$ ) and the EMEP6 ( $r = 0.80$ ). Note that EMEP6 presented also the highest correlation for  $\text{NO}_2$  (Pay et al., 2010a). The other studies calculated lower correlations for nitrate ranging from 0.17 to 0.50. The RMSE for CALIOPE-EU are in the low range from the other studies ( $2.30 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  against  $1.59\text{-}6.39 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Differently from the other European modeling system, CALIOPE-EU tends to simulate slightly lower aerosol nitrate concentrations than those measured presenting the lowest Ratio (Ratio = 0.50), closely followed by CMAQ3 (Ratio = 0.63).

As for  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , the annual correlation for  $\text{NH}_4^+$  obtained within CALIOPE-EU ( $r = 0.62$ ) is the same as for LOTOS8, and the second highest value after EMEP6 ( $r = 0.82$ ). The other studies present lower correlations but always higher than those obtained for  $\text{NO}_3^-$  (0.39-0.61). RMSE for CALIOPE-EU is in the same range as the other studies ( $1.20 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  against  $0.83\text{-}2.90 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Again, conversely from the other studies, CALIOPE-EU tends to underestimate  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,

presenting the second lowest Ratio (Ratio = 0.67), after MATCH9 (Ratio = 0.55) and relatively closer to CMAQ3 (Ratio = 0.75).

As discussed in Pay et al. (2010a), the CALIOPE-EU evaluation results for SO<sub>2</sub> show very satisfactory performances in comparison with other studies, mainly attributed to the high resolution of the CALIOPE-EU system which enables a well-defined spatial and temporal description of SO<sub>2</sub> sources over Europe. As CALIOPE-EU most of the European models present the a tendency to overestimate SO<sub>2</sub>, e.g. bias of 1.3 µg m<sup>-3</sup> for CALIOPE-EU versus biases between 1.0 and 2.3 µg m<sup>-3</sup> for EUROTRAC models (Hass et al., 2003). For HNO<sub>3</sub>, not too much comparison can be done since there are only few stations that measured this compound. Annual correlation coefficient is higher than that presented in other studies (0.41 for CALIOPE-EU versus 0.26 (POLYPHEMUS5) - 0.38 (EMEP6)). RMSE is in the same range than that obtained POLYPHEMUS5.

Overall, CALIOPE-EU performances for NH<sub>3</sub> are superior to other European studies. The correlation obtained in this study is the highest from all considered models (0.56 against 0.05-0.33). The RMSE is in the lowest range from other European studies (1.1 µg m<sup>-3</sup> for CALIOPE-EU versus 5.40 -7.50 µg m<sup>-3</sup>). As other European studies, the CALIOPE-EU system tends to underestimate NH<sub>3</sub> in the gas phase (0.77 against 0.18-0.85). Given the strong gradients in NH<sub>3</sub> levels, the high resolution of CALIOPE-EU, both vertical and horizontal, could justify its better skills to reproduce the large NH<sub>3</sub> gradients compared to other European models (Asman, 2001).

For TNO<sub>3</sub>, correlations are in the same range of the other European studies (0.50 for CALIOPE-EU against 0.37-0.56). Only EMEP6 is out the mean (r = 0.87) consistently with its highest correlation for NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. RMSE for all the models is in the same range (2.1 for CALIOPE-EU versus 1.80 µg m<sup>-3</sup> - 3.70 µg m<sup>-3</sup>). Similar results for TNO<sub>3</sub> are found in LOTOS8 for correlation (0.50 against 0.52), RMSE (2.1 µg m<sup>-3</sup> against 2.3 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), and a similar tendency to underestimate TNO<sub>3</sub> (Ratio = 0.77 vs. Ratio = 0.81). As for TNO<sub>3</sub>, statistics for TNH<sub>3</sub> modeled by CALIOPE-EU system is in the range of other studies.

The different performance of SIA and precursor gases seems to be related with the chemical mechanism and thermodynamic equilibrium. Most of European models in this comparison used the Carbon Bond IV chemical mechanism. The CB-IV has recently been updated, namely CB05 (Yarwood et al., 2005). Yu et al. (2010) found that CB05 has the relatively

better performance for  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{SO}_2$  than for CB-IV. This update is interesting since, as showed before, nitrate formation tends to be  $\text{HNO}_3$ -limited over continental areas. Recently, Kim et al. (2011) tested the impact of RACM2 (updated version of RACM, Goliff and Stocwell, 2010) and CB05 on the formation of SIA over Europe and showed that differences in SIA result from differences in oxidant concentration ( $\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_3$ ).

According to the thermodynamic equilibrium, EQSAM module (Metzger et al., 2002) is widely used in EMEP model and global models (MATCH and DEHM). This module is very simplified and tends to partition too much  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  to aerosol phase under lower temperatures (Tarrasón et al., 2006) causing the aforementioned overestimation of these species. ISORROPIA has proved to be the model of choice for many three-dimensional air quality models in Europe due to its **computationally efficient** and rigor. An important limitation of ISORROPIA is the lack of treatment of crustal species (Ca, K, Mg), important in simulating the partitioning of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , especially in areas like the southern Europe where dust (from deserts or resuspended from arid areas) comprise a significant portion of  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  (Querol et al., 2009). Recently, an update version of ISORROPIA that includes crustal species has been published, namely ISORROPIA II (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007).

## 5 Summary and Conclusion

This paper presents an evaluation of the results of the CALIOPE-EU high-resolution modeling system (12 km x 12 km, 1hr) in terms of secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA) ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) and its gas precursors ( $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ) using a full-year simulation for 2004 over Europe. Modeling results have been compared to long-term surface concentration from the EMEP monitoring network and to other European evaluation studies. The evaluation is focused on the capability of the model to reproduce (1) the temporal and spatial distribution of SIA and its precursors, in terms of statistics; and (2) the inorganic aerosol formation regimens, in terms of so-called indicators, over Europe.

CALIOPE-EU presents a high accuracy for reproducing SIA levels and (spatial and temporal) variability. Although the total amount of SIA is on average underestimated by 18-50% in most regions of Europe, the temporal variability and hence the transport patterns of these species are captured rather well, as indicated by the correlation coefficients, which range between 0.49 and 0.62. Taking into account that natural sources of SIA precursors are not

673 considered in the emissions this result is satisfying. Performance for **N-compounds** gas  
674 precursor species (nitric acid and ammonia) is not as accurate as for aerosol based on  
675 fractional biases and errors.

676 Results indicate that there is no significant relationship between SIA evaluation and  
677 performance for gas-phase precursors.  $\text{SO}_2$  is systematically over-predicted by CALIOPE-EU  
678 system. Since  $\text{SO}_2$  emissions are dominated by large electrical power plants and they are  
679 traditionally well understood, deposition mechanism and meteorological performances could  
680 be responsible from this underestimation. Overall, the positive mean bias for only  $\text{SO}_2$   
681 suggests that non-marine  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  formation in the modeling system is often limited by oxidant  
682 availability and not always by sulfur dioxide availability.

683 Overall  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentrations are underestimated in -60% in winter and < -100% in summer.  
684 The uncertainty of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$  measurements hampers to discern if the model  
685 overestimation of  $\text{HNO}_3$ , especially in summer, results from deficiency in model-process  
686 description. The summer overestimation of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and underestimation of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  should have  
687 minimal impact on regulatory applications since the warm temperatures do not favor the  
688 ammonium nitrate formation.

689 Simulated  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentrations were generally underestimated (~ 20%). Two factors that  
690 most strongly influence simulated  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentration in Europe are  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$   
691 concentration. Modeled  $\text{NH}_3$  does not compare as well with observation as  $\text{NH}_4^+$  does. The  
692 modeled  $\text{NH}_3$  concentrations are underestimated by ~100% during summer.

693 SIA and its gas precursors have been also analyzed in terms of goals and criteria following  
694 Boylan and Russell (2006).  $\text{SO}_2/\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{TNH}_3/\text{NH}_4^+$  monthly concentrations accomplish  
695 the criteria for bias and errors.  $\text{TNO}_3$  falls within the criteria in warm seasons for biases and  
696 errors. The larger errors and fraction biases are found for  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$ .

697 Fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  shows a lower spatial variation which indicates that it is produced mainly  
698 from cloud processing over large scales rather than from direct gas phase oxidation of  $\text{SO}_2$ .  
699  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  presents a clear west-east gradient over Mediterranean Basin, dominated by the large  
700 isolated sources located in eastern Europe. In contrast with  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  presents a prominent  
701 east-west and south-north increasing gradient over Europe. Special features may account for  
702 these differences: (1) the high levels of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in eastern Europe depletes the available gas-  
703 phase  $\text{NH}_3$  so that little  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  can form in this region due to the low  $\text{NH}_3$  levels, and (2)

704 the higher ambient temperature in the south favors the gas phase prevalence of  $\text{NO}_3^-$ .  
 705 Concerning  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , concentrations patterns shows low variability and it follows  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$   
 706 concentrations.

707  $\text{HNO}_3$  levels decrease over land and increase over the oceans. Despite the high  $\text{HNO}_3$  levels  
 708 due to ship tracks over the Mediterranean Sea,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentrations remain low because  $\text{NH}_3$   
 709 availability is limiting. Gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$  concentrations are high in continental areas with high  
 710  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions, particularly if little  $\text{SO}_4^-$  is present.  $\text{NH}_3$  concentrations are found to be  
 711 highest regionally in UK, The Netherlands, southwestern France, the Po valley, central  
 712 Poland, southeastern Europe and southern Sweden.

713 Modeled and observed S-ratios indicates that fresh sulfur dominate eastern Europe, western  
 714 Iberian Peninsula, and the major shipping routes, where oxidants are limiting the formation of  
 715 sulfate. On the other hand, central Europe and the Mediterranean Basin are regions affected  
 716 by the secondary  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  transported from the aforementioned emissions. The free ammonia  
 717 indicator estimated by CALIOPE-EU system tends to agree with the observed estimations and  
 718 improves the confidence on the fact that modeled nitrate will respond appropriately to change  
 719 in precursor emissions.

720 Fine-particle nitrate formation is mostly limited by the availability of  $\text{HNO}_3$  over continental  
 721 region in Europe. Based on the analysis of the three studied indicators (S-ratio, F- $\text{NH}_x$  and G-  
 722 ratio) formation of SIA in Europe tends to be limited by precursors  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$  due to the  
 723 relatively high  $\text{NH}_3$  emission, mainly from agriculture, especially in northwestern Europe.  
 724 Regulatory strategies in this part of Europe should focus on the reduction of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{SO}_2$   
 725 rather than in  $\text{NH}_3$  to control ammonium nitrate and ammonium sulfate, respectively.

726 The comparison with previous modeling results suggest that CALIOPE-EU performs  
 727 relatively well for  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  concentrations while high scores were obtained for  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , and  
 728 gas-phase aerosol precursors ( $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ). However, substantial efforts should be  
 729 made in the temporal description of  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions, which determinates the formation of  
 730 ammonium sulfate and gas-aerosol partitions. The correlations of primary gases ( $\text{SO}_2$  and  
 731  $\text{HN}_3$ , and also  $\text{NO}_2$ ) are notably higher for CALIOPE-EU than for other European system.  
 732 Most models are based on EMEP emission inventory, but the disaggregation methodologies  
 733 are different in each case. The higher horizontal resolution and the detailed disaggregation  
 734 techniques of CALIOPE-EU system may be responsible for the better scores obtained in  $\text{SO}_2$ .



735 The horizontal resolution may impact urban and industrial areas at a higher degree than rural  
736 areas. In this sense, the higher horizontal resolution of CALIOPE-EU system may be  
737 responsible for the better scores obtained for  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_2$ . It is reasonable to think that a  
738 detailed emission inventory at a finer horizontal resolution could further improve the air  
739 quality model performances.

740 Another relevant issue it that arises from the model comparison is the impact of vertical  
741 resolution. Models presented in this evaluation ranges from 3 to 20 vertical layers. It is  
742 expected that models with higher vertical levels are able to simulate the vertical mixing better,  
743 especially for  $\text{NH}_3$  which is shown to have a high vertical gradient (Schaap et al., 2004a).

744 Overall, the performances on the gas-phase precursor gases ( $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ) and fine-particle  
745  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  are relatively poor, but the intercomparison detailed in this work shows that the  
746 uncertainties and the lack of understanding around nitrate compounds is a general feature  
747 affecting most models. On the other hand, the model performance for  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is better. The  
748 emissions of  $\text{SO}_2$  are rather well known and the formation of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  is not as complex as for  
749  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ ; also a long history of research has been devoted to this component.

750 Furthermore, modeling evaluation of in terms of indicators suggests that CALIOPE-EU  
751 system is appropriate for regulatory modeling applications. Nevertheless, it is important to  
752 continue to examine CALIOPE-EU performance for these chemical species and their  
753 precursors to continue to improve model estimates of these species. The results of this study  
754 suggest several points for future research devoted to this topic, which are presently being  
755 implemented:

- 756 - A better characterization of  $\text{NH}_3$  emission factors according to inter-annual variability.
- 757 - An increase of the spatial coverage and reliability of data sets on  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$   
758 and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , which allow a full evaluation of photochemical model results.
- 759 - Implement ISORROPIA II thermodynamic equilibrium, allowing an accurate  
760 representation of nitrate since it includes interaction with crustal material.
- 761 - Implement the update version of the chemical mechanism CB05.
- 762 - Implement biomass burning and natural  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions (e.g. lightnings, soils) which  
763 could contribute to the underestimation of N-compounds.

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## Tables

Table 1: Total emission of SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOC, PM2.5, PM coarse, CO and NH<sub>3</sub> for the year 2004 for anthropogenic activities in Europe sort by SNAP (Selected Nomenclature Air Pollution) category.

SNAP	Description	SO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	NMVOC	PM2.5	PM coarse	CO	NH <sub>3</sub>
1	Energy transformation	9323	3483	137	295	386	852	7
2	Small combustion sources	1161	1028	1163	825	314	10803	7
3	Industrial combustion	2096	2096	180	299	202	5499	6
4	Industrial process	734	385	1504	552	315	3643	106
5	Extraction of fossil fuels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Solvent and product use	0	0	4300	21	11	22	5
7	Road transport	314	6491	4355	361	95	26001	82
8	Non road transport	2868	6166	754	487	57	3115	2
9	Waste handling and disposal	25	41	159	97	15	1832	143
10	Agriculture	2	246	508	176	332	535	5823
	Total	16522	19937	13059	3113	1727	52303	6182

Table 2. Coordinates, altitude and the chemical species measured of the 54 selected EMEP stations. The code is composed by 2-letter country code plus 2-digit station code. Zone is defined as follows: Western Iberian Peninsula (W.IP); Eastern Iberian Peninsula-Western Mediterranean (E.IP-W.Med), Central Mediterranean (C.Med), Eastern Mediterranean (E.Med), North of Italy (N. It.), Eastern Europe (E.Eu), Northwestern Europe (NW.Eu), Southern France (S.Fr.), Central Europe (C.Eu), Nordic (Nord), Central France (C.Fr) and North Atlantic (N.Atl).

	Station Name	Code	Zone	Lon.(°N)	Lat.(°E)	Alt.(m)	SO <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub>	HNO <sub>3</sub>	TNH <sub>3</sub>	TNO <sub>3</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>
1	Anholt	DK08	Nord	56.717	11.517	40	x					x	x	x
2	Barcarrota	ES11	W.IP	38.476	-6.923	393	x	x				x	x	x
3	Birkenes	NO01	Nord	58.383	8.25	190	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
4	Cabo de Creus	ES10	E.IP-W.Med	42.319	3.317	23	x	x				x	x	
5	Campisábalos	ES09	W.IP	41.281	-3.143	1360	x	x		x		x	x	x
6	Chopok	SK02	E.Eu	48.933	19.583	2008	x							
7	Deuselbach	DE04	NW.Eu	49.767	7.05	480	x					x	x	
8	Diabla Gora	PL05	E.Eu	54.15	22.067	157	x					x	x	
9	Donon	FR08	C.Eu	48.5	7.133	775	x							x
10	Els Torms	ES14	E.IP-W.Med	41.4	0.717	470	x	x				x	x	x
11	Eskdalemuir	GB02	NW.Eu	55.313	-3.204	243	x							
12	High Muffles	GB14	NW.Eu	54.334	-0.808	267	x							
13	Illmitz	AT02	E.Eu	47.767	16.767	117	x	x	x	x	x			x
14	Iraty	FR12	S.Fr	43.033	-1.083	1300	x							x
15	Iskrba	SI08	N.It	45.567	14.867	520	x					x	x	
16	Ispra	IT04	N.It	45.8	8.633	209	x	x	x					
17	Jarczew	PL02	E.Eu	51.817	21.983	180	x	x	x			x	x	x
18	Jungfraujoch	CH01	C.Eu	46.55	7.983	3573	x	x	x					
19	Kollumerwaard	NL09	NW.Eu	53.334	6.277	1		x	x					
20	Kosetice	CZ03	E.Eu	49.583	15.083	534	x					x	x	x
21	K-pusztá	HU02	E.Eu	46.967	19.583	125	x	x	x	x	x			
22	La Tardière	FR15	C.Fr	46.65	0.75	746	x							
23	Le Casset	FR16	C.Eu	45	6.467	746	x							
24	Leba	PL04	Nord	54.75	17.533	2	x	x	x			x	x	x
25	Liesek	SK05	E.Eu	49.367	19.683	892	x	x			x			
26	Lough Navar	GB06	N.Atl	54.443	-7.87	126	x							
27	Melpitz	DE44	NW.Eu	52.53	12.93	86	x	x	x					
28	Montandon	FR14	C.Eu	47.183	6.5	746	x							
29	Montelibretti	IT01	C.Med	42.1	12.633	48	x	x	x	x	x			x
30	Morvan	FR10	C.Fr	47.267	4.083	620	x							
31	Niembro	ES08	W.IP	43.442	-4.85	134	x	x		x		x	x	x
32	O Savião	ES16	W.IP	42.653	-7.705	506	x	x				x	x	x
33	Payerne	CH02	C.Eu	46.817	6.95	510	x					x	x	
34	Penausende	ES13	W.IP	41.283	-5.867	985	x	x				x	x	x
35	Peyrusse Vieille	FR13	S.Fr	43.375	0.104	236	x							x
36	Preila	LT15	Nord	55.35	21.067	5	x					x	x	x
37	Rão	SE14	Nord	57.4	11.917	5	x					x	x	
38	Revin	FR09	NW.Eu	49.9	4.633	390	x							x
39	Rigi	CH05	C.Eu	47.069	8.466	1030	x					x	x	x
40	Risco Llamo	ES15	W.IP	39.517	-4.35	1241	x	x				x	x	x
41	Rucava	LV10	Nord	56.217	21.217	5	x	x	x			x	x	x
42	Skreådalen	NO08	Nord	58.817	6.717	475	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
43	Snieszka	PL03	E.Eu	50.733	15.733	1603	x	x	x			x	x	x
44	Starina	SK06	E.Eu	49.05	22.267	345	x	x			x			x
45	Svratouch	CZ01	E.Eu	49.733	16.033	737	x					x	x	x
46	Tange	DK03	Nord	56.35	9.6	13	x					x	x	x
47	Topolniki	SK07	E.Eu	47.96	17.861	113	x	x			x			
48	Uto	FI09	Nord	59.779	21.377	7	x		x			x	x	
49	Valentina Observatory	IE01	N.Atl	51.94	-10.244	11	x					x	x	
50	Vavíhill	SE11	Nord	56.017	13.15	175	x					x	x	x
51	Víznar	ES07	E.IP-W.Med	37.233	-3.533	1265	x	x				x	x	
52	Yarner Wood	GB13	NW.Eu	50.596	-3.713	119	x							
53	Zarra	ES12	E.IP-W.Med	39.086	-1.102	885	x	x				x	x	x
54	Zoseni	LV16	Nord	57.133	25.917	183	x	x	x			x	x	x

1073 Table 3: Bias correlation coefficients of the secondary inorganic aerosol and their gas  
 1074 precursors between each other for all the data points available for 2004. Mean and standard  
 1075 deviation (STD) of the bias are in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .

	NH <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	HNO <sub>3</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>
Mean	-1.36	-1.01	-0.97	0.50	-0.29	-0.45
STD	1.09	2.10	1.64	2.14	1.31	1.08
NH <sub>3</sub>	1.00 (7/2562)	0.03 (7/2562)	0.55 (5/1830)	-0.03 (4/1464)	0.02 (7/2562)	0.07 (5/1830)
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>		1.00 (27/9882)	-0.16 (8/2928)	-0.06 (15/5490)	0.29 (26/9516)	0.75 (14/5124)
HNO <sub>3</sub>			1.00 (8/2928)	-0.07 (3/1098)	0.04 (8/2928)	0.00 (5/1830)
SO <sub>2</sub>				1.00 (31/11346)	0.01 (25/9150)	0.07 (7/2562)
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>					1.00 (53/19398)	0.59 (14/5124)
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>						1.00 (15/5490)

1076 <sup>a</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents the correlation coefficient.

1077 <sup>b</sup>The first and second values in parenthesis represent the number of stations and the number of  
 1078 data points respectively used to calculate the correlation coefficient.

1079

Table 4: List of published European model evaluation studies for secondary inorganic aerosol and their main characteristics to be compared with CALIOPE-EU evaluation results (this study).

Reference	Modeled Year <sup>1</sup>	Modeling System	Horizontal Resolution/layers	Chemical Mechanism <sup>2</sup>	Thermodynamic Inorganic Equilibrium <sup>3</sup>	Study number
This study	2004	CALIOPE	12 km x 12 km/15	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	CALIOPE-EU04
Kim et al. (2011)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	RACM	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS1
Kim et al. (2011)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	CB05	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS2
Matthias (2008)	2001	CMAQ	54 km x 54 km/20	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	CMAQ3
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	CHIMERE	0.25° x 0.25°/8	MELCHIOR	ISORROPIA	CHIMERE4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	EURAD	125 km x 125 km/23	EuroRADM	RPMARES	EURAD4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	LOTOS-EUROS	0.25° x 0.25°/4	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS-EUROS4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.25°/5	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	LM-MUSCAT	0.25° x 0.25°/40	RACM	Hinneburg et al. (2007)	LM-MUSCAT4
Sartelet et al. (2007)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	RACM	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS5
Tarrasón et al. (2006)	2004	Unified EMEP	50 km x 50 km/20	EMEP	EQSAM	EMEP6
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	CHIMERE	0.5° x 0.5°/8	MELCHIOR	ISORROPIA	CHIMERE7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	DEHM	50 km x 50 km/20	EMEP	EQSAM	DEHM7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	Unified EMEP	50 km x 50 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	EMEP7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	MATCH	55 km x 55 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	MATCH7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	LOTOS	0.25° x 0.5°/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	CMAQ	36 km x 36 km/21	RADM2	ISORROPIA	CMAQ7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.5°	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID7
Schaap et al. (2004)	1995	LOTOS	25 km x 25 km/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS8
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	DEHM	50 km x 50 km/10	CBM-IV	EQSAM	DEHM9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	EURAD	27 km x 27 km/15	EuroRADM	RPMARES	EURAD9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	EUROS	0.55° x 0.55°/4	CBM-IV	EQSAM	EUROS9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	LOTOS	0.25° x 0.5°/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	MATCH	55 km x 55 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	MATCH9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.5°	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID9

<sup>1</sup>Evaluation studies are done over a full year. Evaluated period for Kim et al (2001) corresponds from 15 July to 15 August.

Evaluated period for Stern et al. (2008) corresponds from 6 February to 30 March.

<sup>2</sup>CBM-IV, see Gery et al. (1989); CB05, see Yarwood et al. (2005); EMEP, see Simpson et al. (2003); EuroRADM, see Stockwell and Kley (1994); MELCHIOR, see Schmidt et al. (2001); RACM, see Stockwell et al. (1997); RADM2, see Stockwell et al. (1990).

<sup>3</sup>ISORROPIA, see Nenes et al. (1998); RPMARES, see Binkowski and Shankar (1995); EQSAM, see (Metzger et al., 2002).



1092 Table 5: Comparison of the statistics modeled mean/observed mean (Ratio), correlation  
1093 coefficient (r), and root mean squared error (RMSE,  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) between CALIOPE-EU and  
1094 other European models<sup>1,2</sup> for secondary inorganic aerosol ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) in daily  
1095 basis.

1096

Study Number	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> daily average			NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> daily average			NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> daily average		
	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE
CALIOPE-EU04	0.82 (0.56,2.0)	0.49 (0.15,0.81)	1.30 (0.3,2.3)	0.50 (0.14,2.0)	0.58 (0.20,0.77)	2.30 (0.6,3.8)	0.67 (0.38,1.35)	0.62 (0.30,0.73)	1.20 (0.3,4.1)
POLYPHEMUS1	0.86			1.5			1.1		
POLYPHEMUS2	0.96			1.7			1.2		
CMAQ3	0.83 (0.54,1.36)	(0.21,0.72)		0.62 (0.39,1.0)	(0.30,0.80)		0.75 (0.53,0.94)	(0.30,0.75)	
CHIMERE4	0.69	0.48	3.4						
EURAD4	0.64	0.46	3.3						
LOTOS-EUROS4	0.57	0.47	3.7						
REM-CALGRID4	0.99	0.47	2.9						
LM-MUSCAT4	0.91	0.57	2.7						
POLYPHEMUS5	0.84	0.56	1.7	1.6	0.41	3.1	1.1	0.52	1.3
EMEP6	0.86	0.67		1.4	0.80		1.2	0.82	
CHIMERE7	0.67/0.72	0.49/0.53	2.5/2.07	0.94/0.80	0.44/0.46	2.74/2.73	1.11/1.01	0.41/0.56	1.27/1.38
DEHM7	0.93/0.85	0.57/0.55	2.36/1.77	1.80/1.63	0.34/0.25	3.02/2.53	1.10/0.79	0.51/0.49	0.98/0.83
EMEP7	0.91/0.88	0.57/0.58	2.1/1.84	1.63/1.04	0.50/0.34	3.51/2.08	1.26/1.00	0.51/0.47	1.22/0.86
MATCH7	1.0/1.17	0.56/0.62	2.1/1.86	0.88/0.83	0.47/0.40	1.74/1.59	1.01/1.62	0.53/0.55	0.94/2.09
LOTOS7	1.03/1.3	0.37/0.50	2.9/2.89	0.79/0.95	0.26/0.17	2.19/1.94	1.21/1.01	0.37/0.44	1.21/1.10
CMAQ7	1.22/-	0.46/-	2.67/-	2.65/-	0.47/-	1.74/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
REM-CALGRID7	0.91/0.93	0.51/0.53	2.36/2.03	1.15/0.74	0.42/0.35	2.43/1.92	1.33/1.23	0.45/0.45	1.24/0.99
LOTOS8	0.92	0.60	2.60	1.10	0.58	3.57	1.08	0.62	1.54
DEHM9	1.11	0.37	5.89	1.07	0.32	4.12	0.94	0.39	2.43
EURAD9	1.52	0.52	4.25	2.04	0.61	6.14	1.87	0.50	2.90
EUROS9	0.98	0.47	4.39	2.13	0.30	6.39	-	-	-
LOTOS9	0.91	0.54	2.76	1.59	0.49	4.07	1.23	0.51	1.57
MATCH9	0.84	0.65	2.49	0.78	0.50	2.55	0.55	0.61	1.46
REM-CALGRID9	0.81	0.50	2.78	1.07	0.53	3.10	1.07	0.43	1.63

<sup>1</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents yearly averages in the entire domain. The first and second values in parenthesis represent the minimum and maximum value respectively obtained among all stations in the entire domain. <sup>2</sup>Values reported with a slash correspond to two different years studied: the number before the slash corresponds to the year 1999; the number after the slash correspond to the year 2001.

1100 Table 6: Comparison of the statistics modeled mean/observed mean (Ratio), correlation  
1101 coefficient (r), and root mean squared error (RMSE,  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) between CALIOPE-EU and  
1102 other European models<sup>1,2</sup> for total nitrate ( $\text{TNO}_3 = \text{HNO}_3 + \text{NO}_3^-$ ), total ammonia  
1103 ( $\text{TNH}_3 = \text{NH}_3 + \text{NH}_4^+$ ) and gas-phase aerosol precursors ( $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ) in daily basis. Note  
1104 that the other gas-phase aerosol precursors,  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_2$  have been compared with other  
1105 European studies in Pay et al. (2010a).

1106

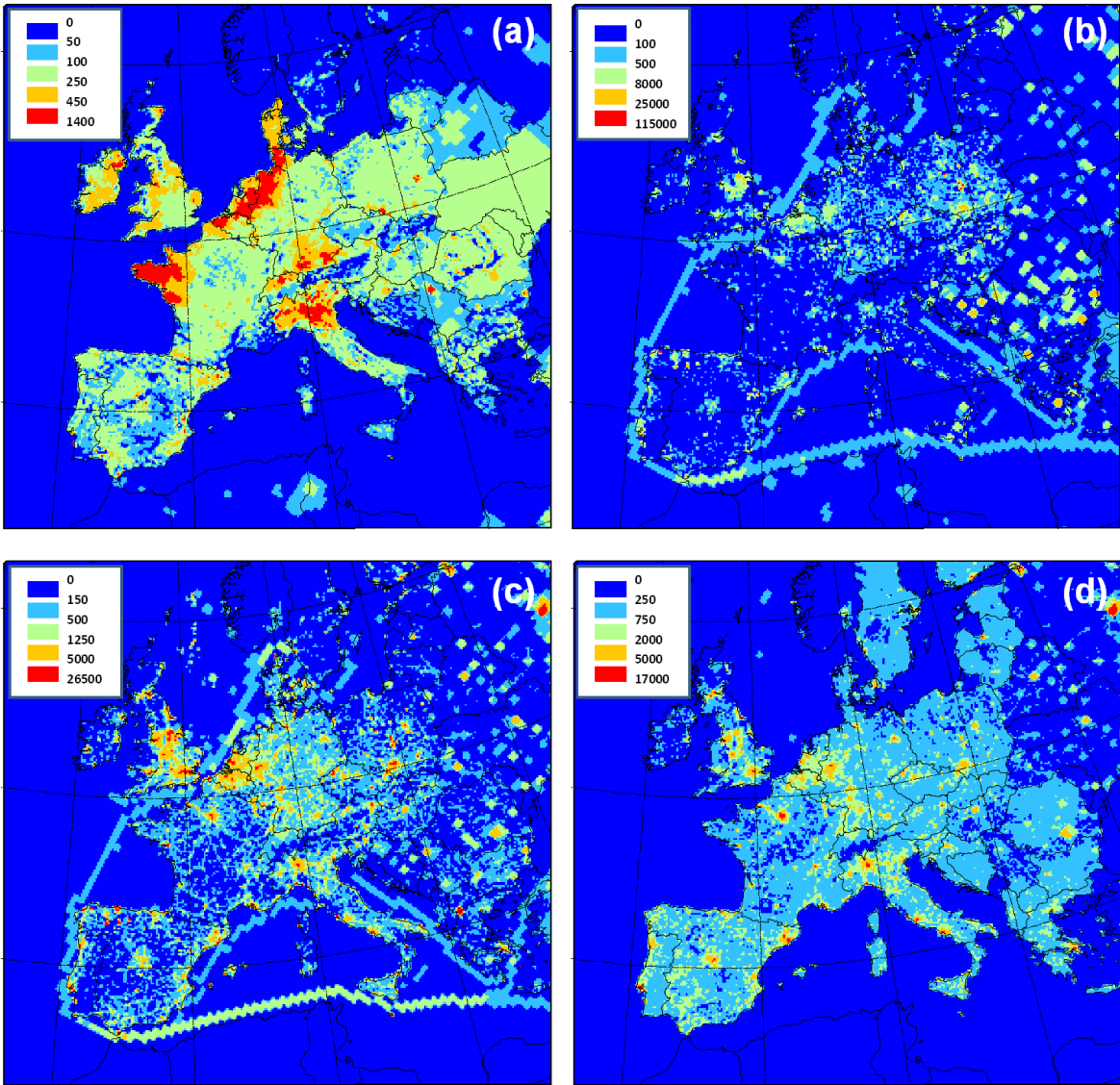
1107

Study Number	HNO <sub>3</sub> daily average			TNO <sub>3</sub> daily average			NH <sub>3</sub> daily average			TNH <sub>3</sub> daily average		
	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE
CALIOPE-EU04	1.00 (0.35,4.0)	0.41 (-0.11,0.78)	1.1 (0.4,3.5)	0.77 (0.45,1.2)	0.50 (0.14,0.70)	2.1 (0.9,3.6)	0.71 (0.1,1.0 )	0.56 (0.10,0.40)	1.1 (0.3,1.3)	0.94 (0.62,2)	0.50 (0.10,0.72)	1.8 (0.4,3.3)
CHIMERE4				0.70	0.47	4.4				1.1	0.49	1.9
EURAD4				2.90	0.46	19.4				3.0	0.45	8.3
LOTOS-EUROS4				0.94	0.67	3.1				1.0	0.58	1.6
REM-CALGRID4				0.87	0.56	3.5				1.4	0.57	2.1
LM-MUSCAT4				0.44	0.42	5.8				1.6	0.56	3.5
POLYPHEMUS5	1.85	0.26	1.4				0.85	0.29	5.4			
EMEP6	0.73	0.38		1.23	0.87					1.26	0.63	
CHIMERE7				0.90/0.83	0.39/0.37	3.02/2.82				1.18/1.05	0.35/0.43	2.98/1.74
DEHM7				1.68/1.73	0.42/0.31	3.03/3.02				0.86/0.79	0.46/0.45	1.85/1.14
EMEP7				1.40/1.16	0.51/0.36	2.62/2.42				1.05/1.00	0.42/0.40	1.95/1.28
MATCH7				0.85/0.95	0.52/0.41	1.88/1.91				0.71/1.62	0.48/0.42	1.82/2.17
LOTOS7				0.72/0.70	0.23/0.20	2.31/2.27				1.12/1.01	0.27/0.29	2.25/1.49
CMAQ7				1.82/-	0.52/-	1.88/-				-/-	-/-	-/-
REM-CALGRID7				1.10/0.86	0.39/0.31	2.26/3.02				1.35/1.23	0.27/0.30	2.39/1.49
LOTOS8				0.81	0.52	2.31				0.88	0.58	1.50
DEHM9				1.09	0.45	2.75	0.38	0.27	7.38	0.79	0.47	3.69
EURAD9				1.85	0.50	3.72	0.56	0.15	5.88	1.24	0.54	3.40
EUROS9				2.49	0.41	5.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOTOS9				1.67	0.44	2.82	0.18	0.05	7.50	0.58	0.46	2.77
MATCH9				0.94	0.52	1.94	0.64	0.33	5.59	0.84	0.57	2.54
REM-CALGRID9				1.20	0.38	2.13	0.58	0.09	6.10	0.91	0.26	3.09

<sup>1</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents yearly averages in the entire domain. The first and second values in parenthesis represent the minimum and maximum value respectively obtained among all stations in the entire domain. <sup>2</sup>Values reported with a slash correspond to two different years studied: the number before the slash corresponds to the year 1999; the number after the slash correspond to the year 2001.

1113 **Figures**

1114 Figure 1: Distribution of the emission (Mg/yr) of NH<sub>3</sub> (a), SO<sub>x</sub> (b), NO<sub>x</sub> (c), NMVOC (d).



1115

1116

1117 Figure 2: Spatial distribution of 54 selected EMEP stations over the study domain. The  
 1118 different colors indicate the different zones defined in Table 2. Number of each station is  
 1119 listed in Tables 2.

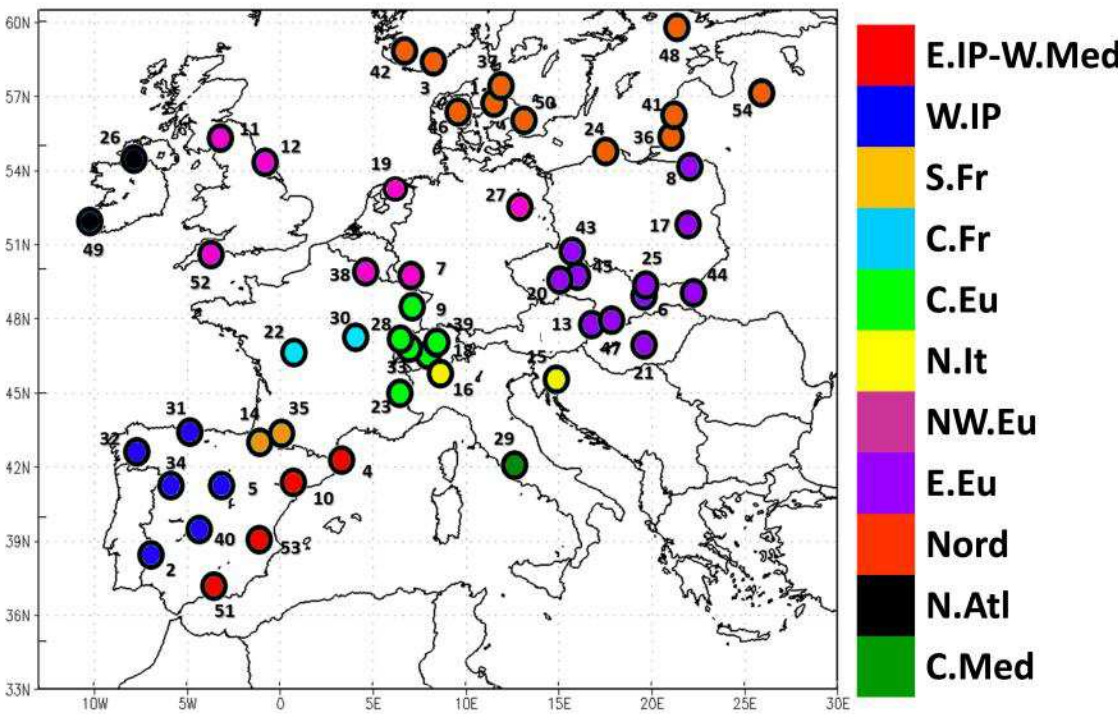


Figure 3: Annual temporal series for  $\text{SO}_2$  (a), fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (b),  $\text{HNO}_3$  (c), fine-particle  $\text{NO}_3^-$  (d), gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$  (e), fine-particle  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (f),  $\text{TNO}_3$  (g) and  $\text{TNH}_4^+$  (h) in daily basis calculated as an average over all EMEP stations in 2004. Diamonds represent EMEP measurements (in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and black continuous lines represent CALIOPE-EU outputs (in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Blue columns indicate daily mean bias ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). Annual statistics are shown top-right: observed mean (OM), modeled mean (MM), number of data points (N), correlation coefficient (r) and root mean squared error (RMSE).

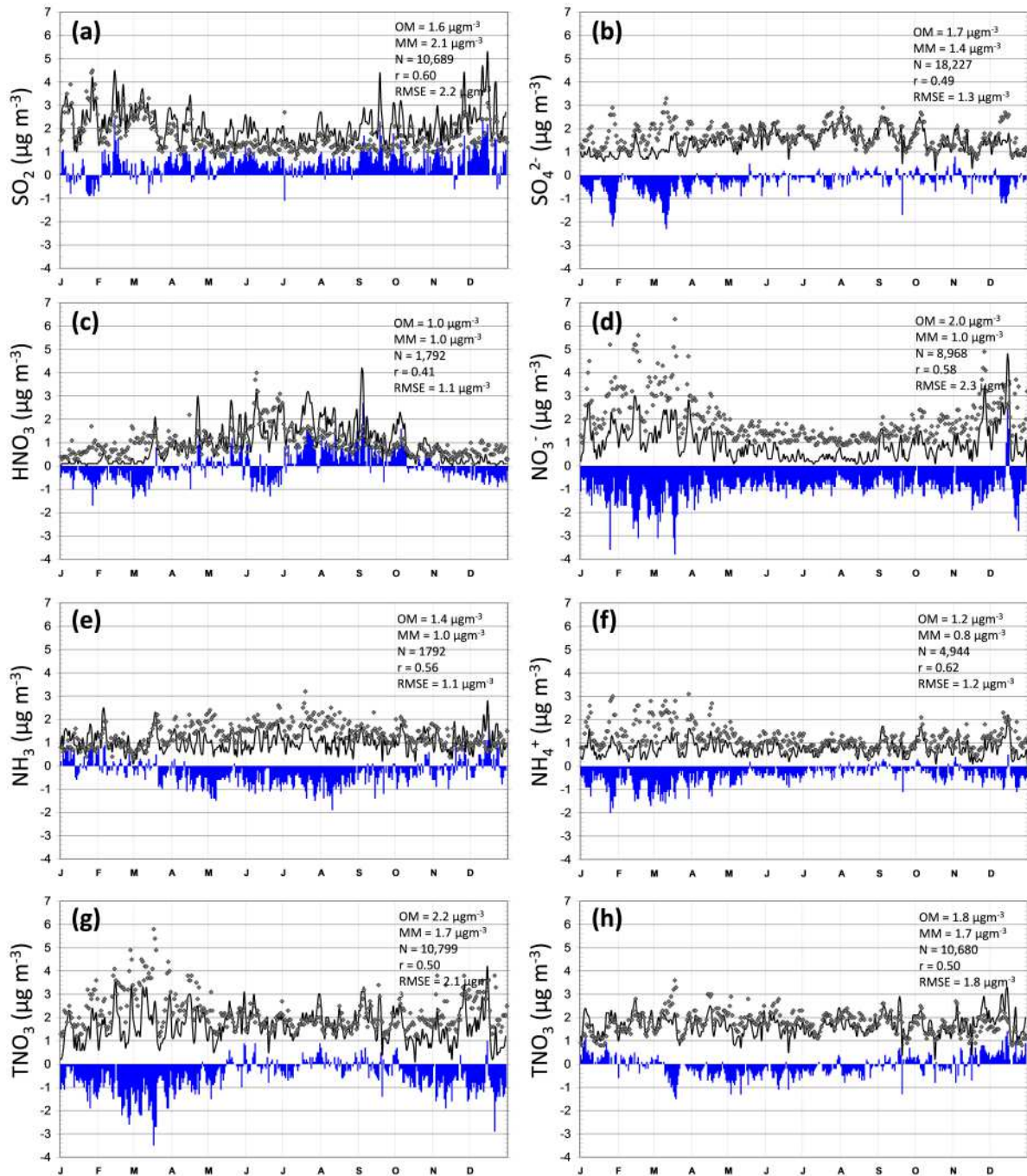
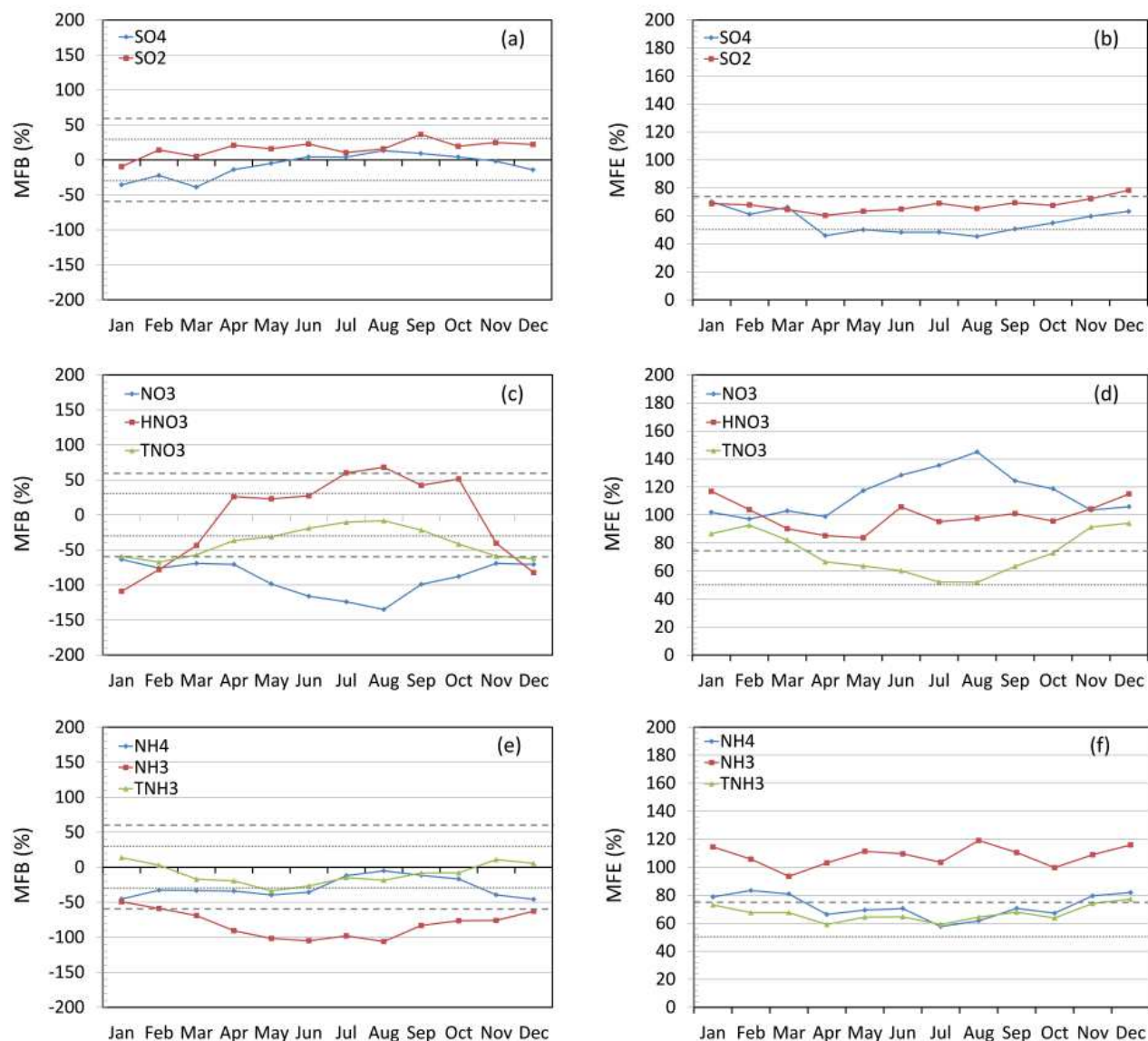


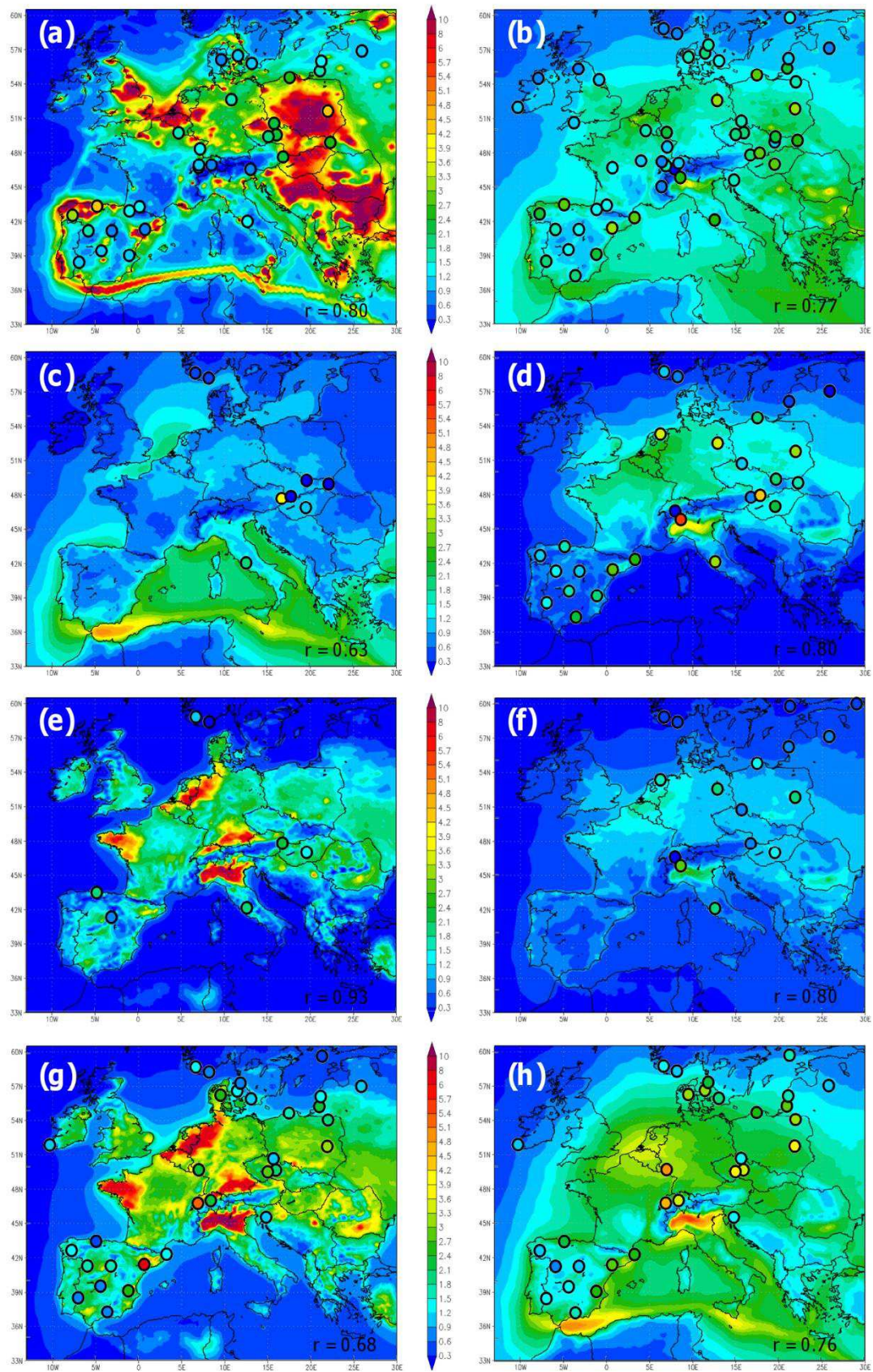


Figure 4: Monthly mean fractional bias (MFB, right column), and mean fractional error (MFE, left column) compared with goals and criteria proposed by Boyland and Russell (2006). MFB and MFE are averaged over the sites within the EMEP network in 2004 for:  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (a and b);  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{TNO}_3$  (c and d); and  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and  $\text{TNH}_3$  (e and f). Dotted lines represent the goals ( $\text{MFB} \leq \pm 30\%$  and  $\text{MFE} \leq 50\%$ ). Broken lines represent the criteria ( $\text{MFB} \leq \pm 60\%$  and  $\text{MFE} \leq 75\%$ ).



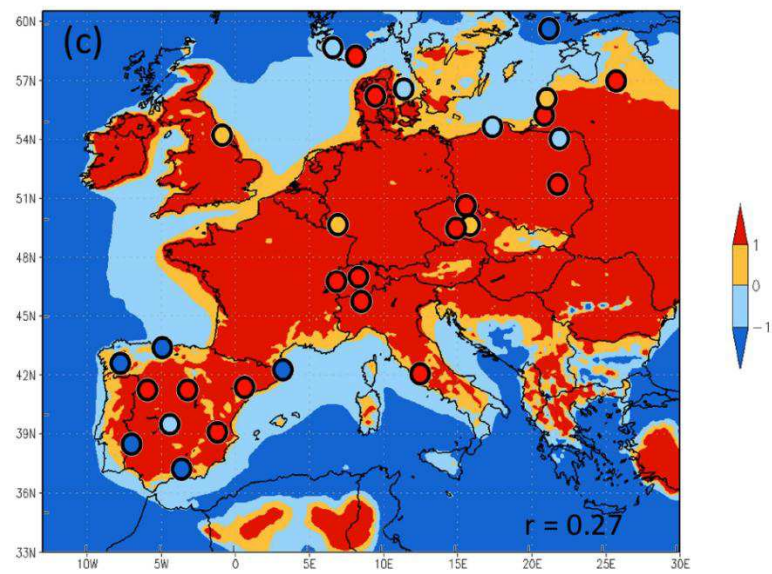
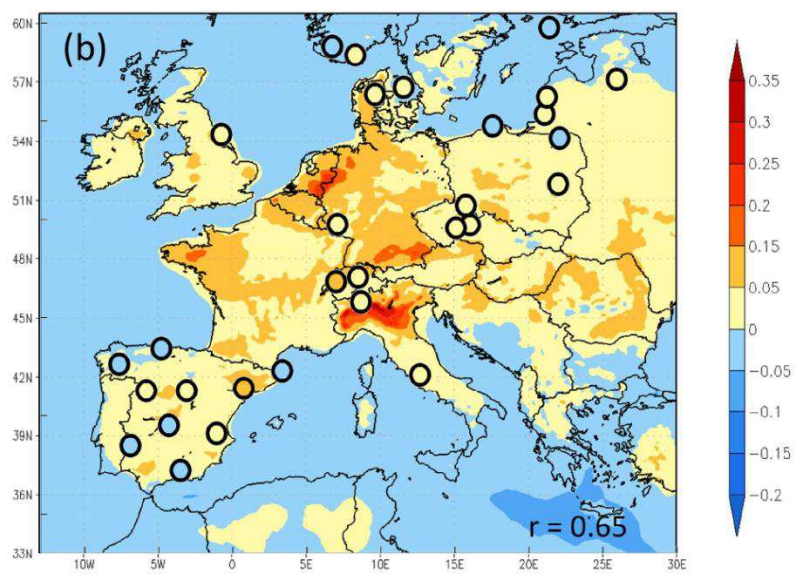
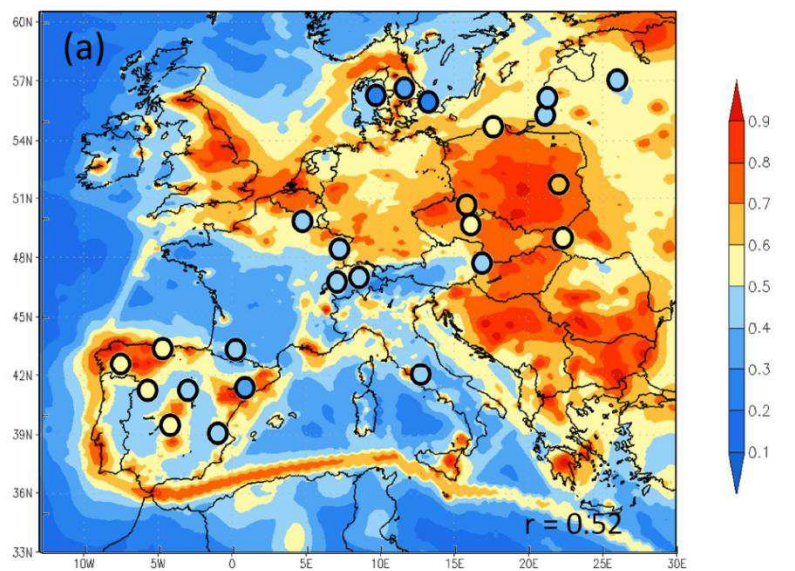


1138 Figure 5: 2004 annual mean distributions over Europe for  $\text{SO}_2$  (a), fine-particle  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (b),  
1139  $\text{HNO}_3$  (c), fine-particle  $\text{NO}_3^-$  (d), gas-phase  $\text{NH}_3$  (e), fine-particle  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (f),  $\text{TNO}_3$  (g) and  
1140  $\text{TNH}_4^+$  (h) at the lowest level. Points represent measured annual concentrations at the EMEP  
1141 stations. Number at bottom-left in each figure is the spatial correlation between modeled and  
1142 observed annual mean at each station.

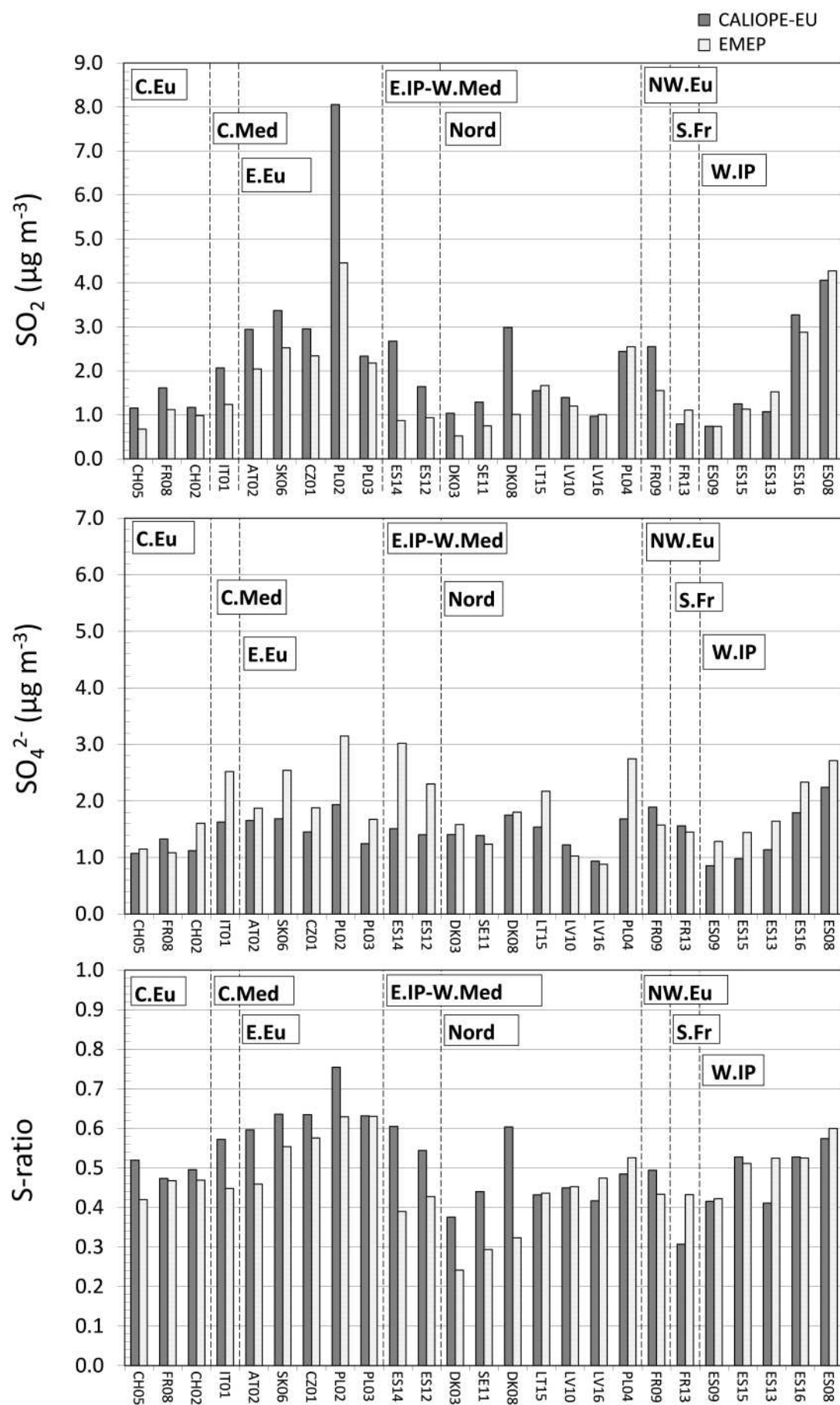


1144 Figure 6: Annual spatial distribution of the indicators: S-ratio (a and b), Free ammonia (c and  
1145 d, in molar basin), and G-ratio (e and f) calculated within the CALIOPE-EU system over  
1146 Europe in 2004. Dots represent the estimated indicators based on EMEP measurements.

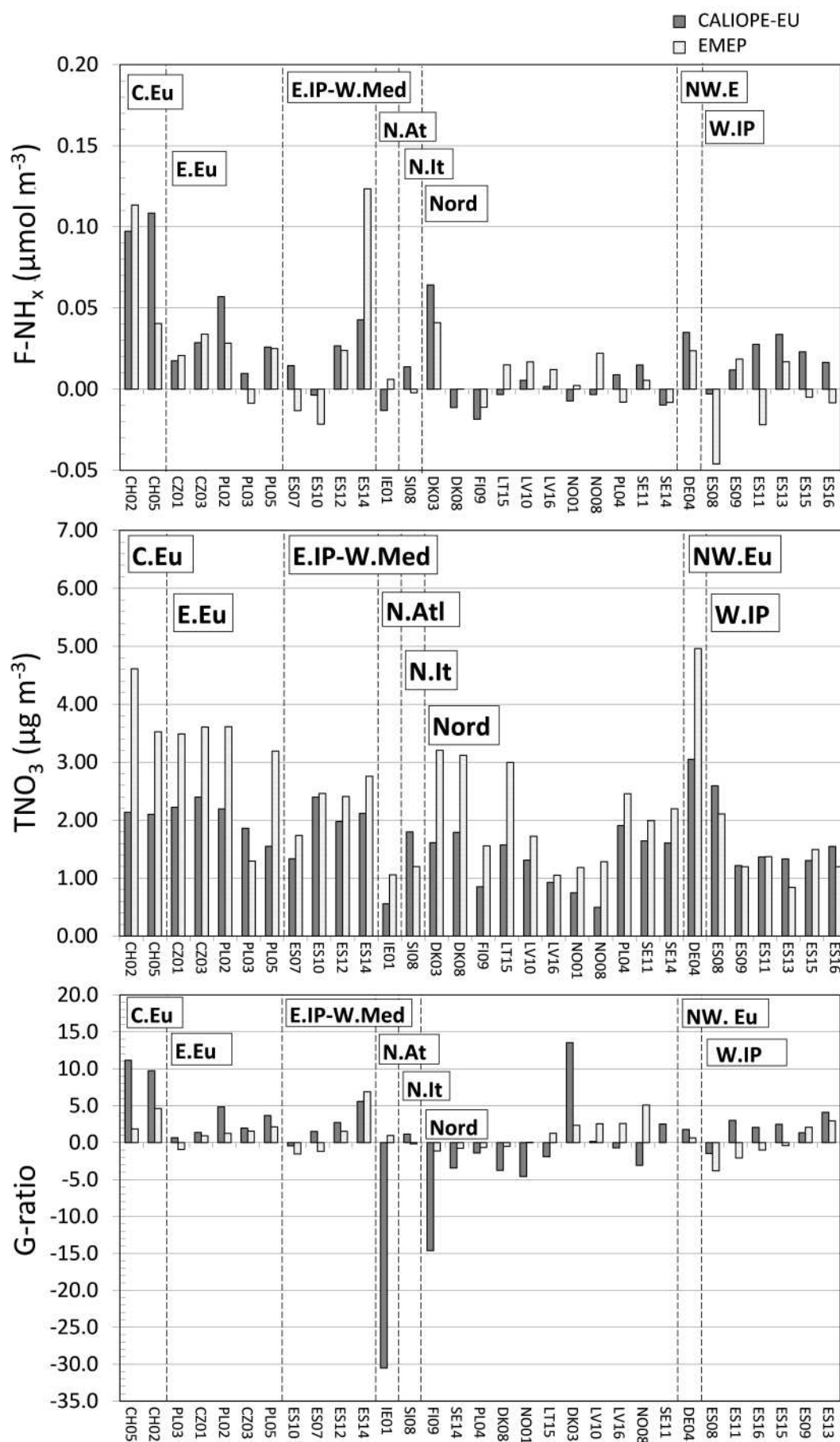




1148 Figure 7: Modeled and observed annual (a) SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (μg m<sup>-3</sup>), (b) SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>  
1149 concentrations, and (c) S-ratio defined as SO<sub>2</sub>/(SO<sub>2</sub>+SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>) for each EMEP stations. The  
1150 observed values are the light grey columns and the modeled values are the dark grey column.  
1151 EMEP stations are represented by a code defined in Table 2 and they are sorted according to  
1152 zones described in Table 2.



1154 Figure 8: Modeled and observed annual (a) Free ammonia ( $\text{F-NH}_x$ ,  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-3}$ ), (b) Total  
1155 nitrate ( $\text{TNO}_3$ ,  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), and (c) G-ratio defined as  $\text{F-NH}_x$  over  $\text{TNO}_3$  on molar basis. The  
1156 observed values are the light grey columns and the modeled values are the dark grey column.  
1157 EMEP stations are represented by a code defined in Table 2 and they are sorted according to  
1158 zones described in Table 2.





## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### 1. Annual pattern for NO<sub>2</sub>

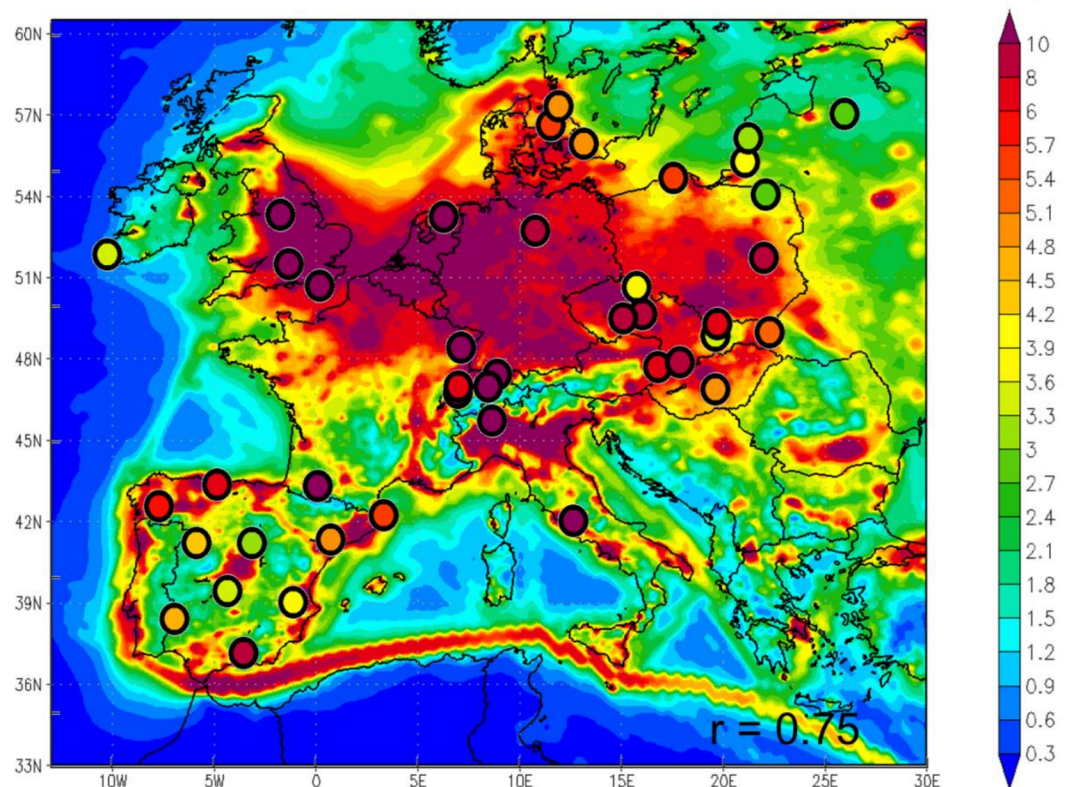


Figure S1: Annual average concentrations (in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) for NO<sub>2</sub> at lower-most level simulated by CALIOPE over Europe at a 12 km x 12 km spatial resolution in 2004. Points represent measured annual concentrations at the EMEP stations. Number at bottom-left in each figure is the spatial correlation between modeled and observed annual mean at each station.

Figure1

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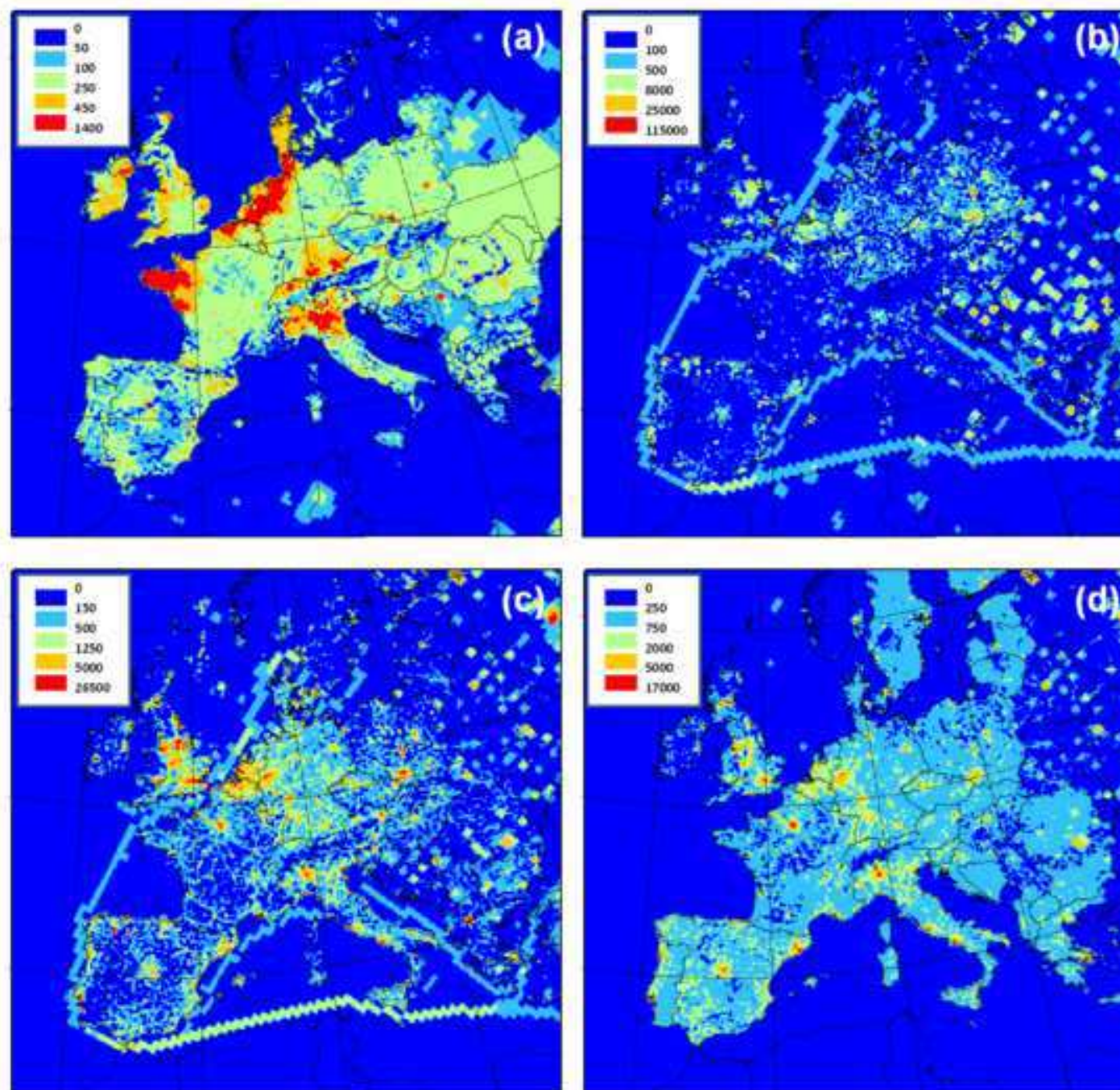




Figure2

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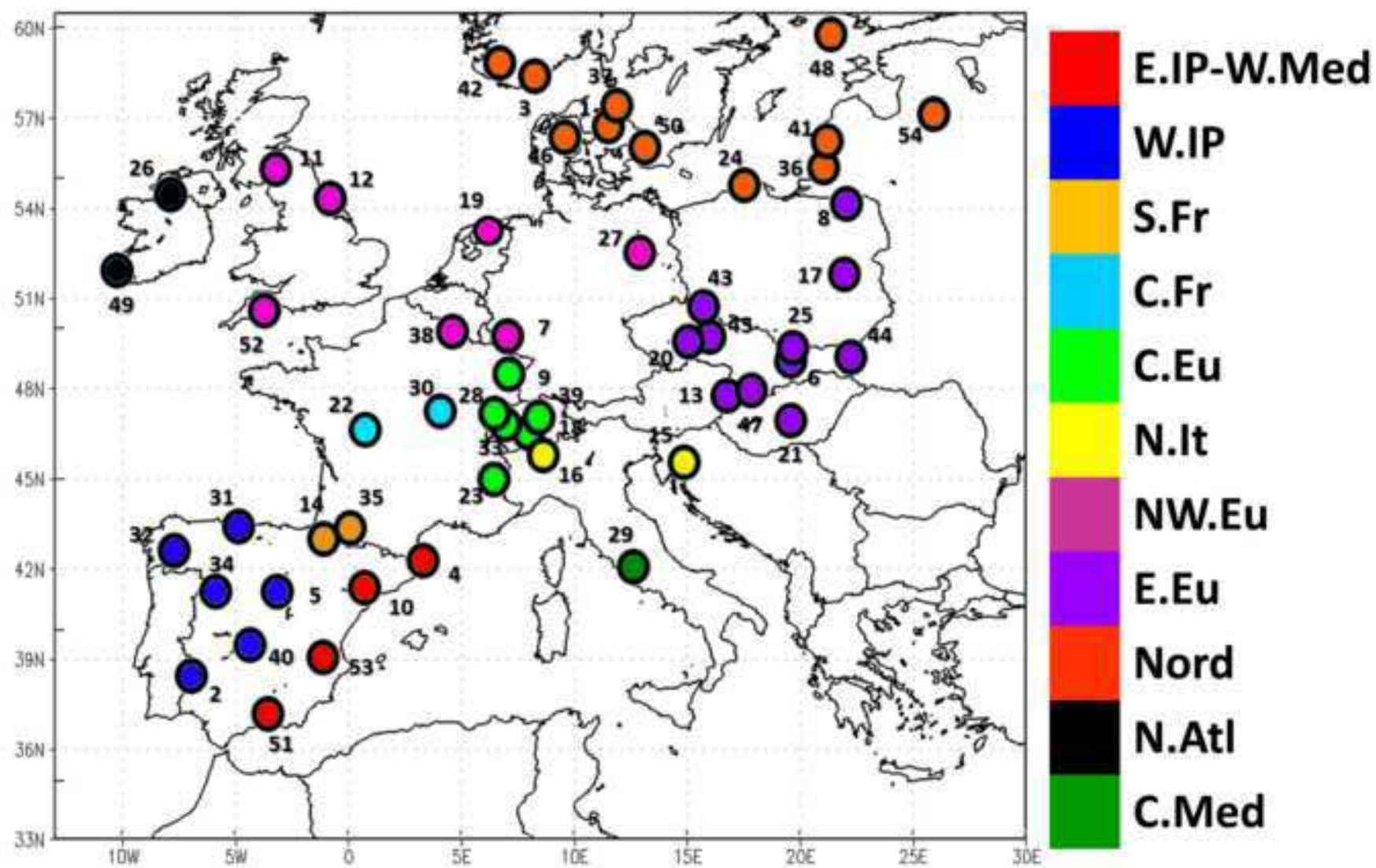


Figure3  
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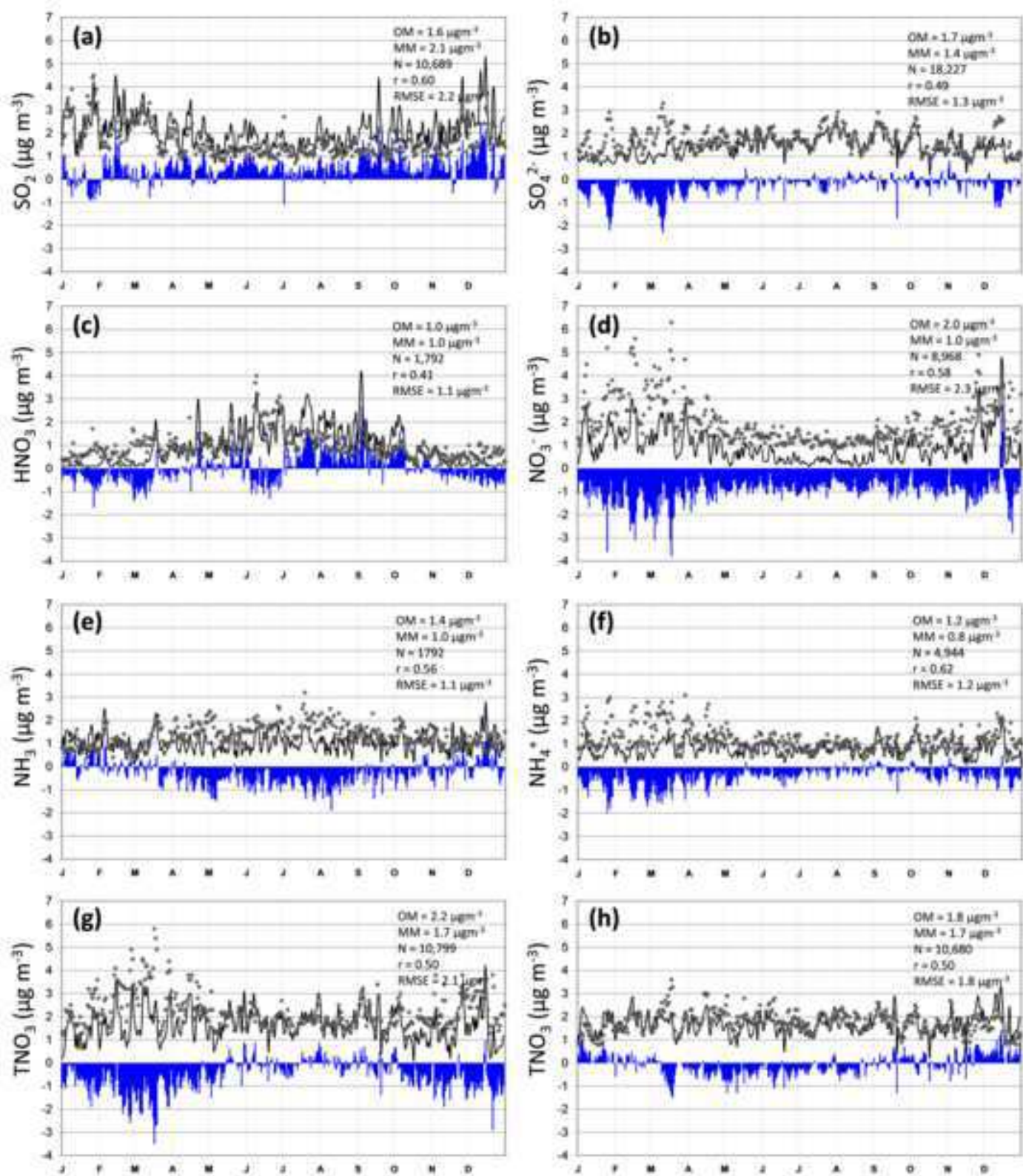


Figure4

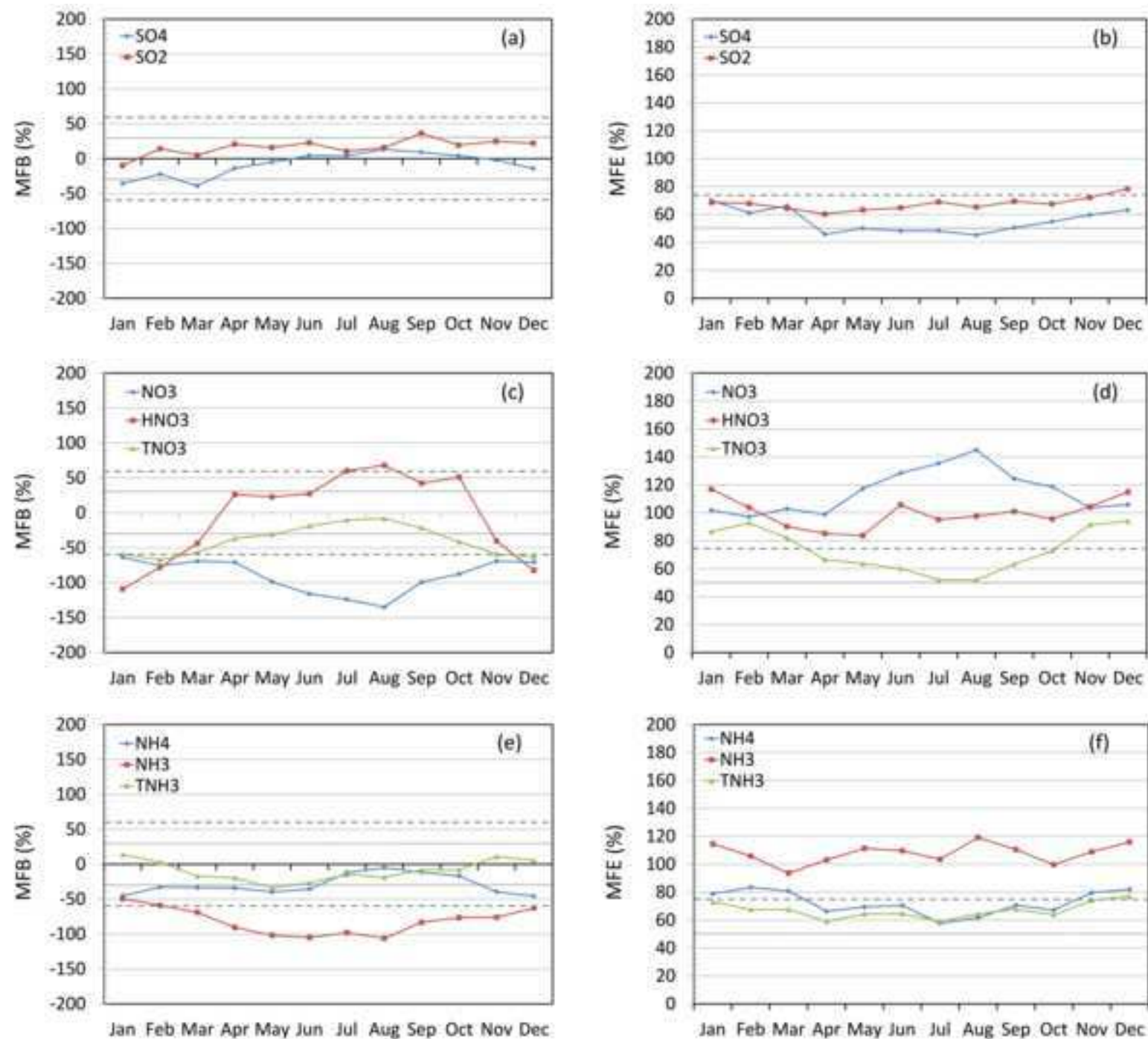
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Figure5

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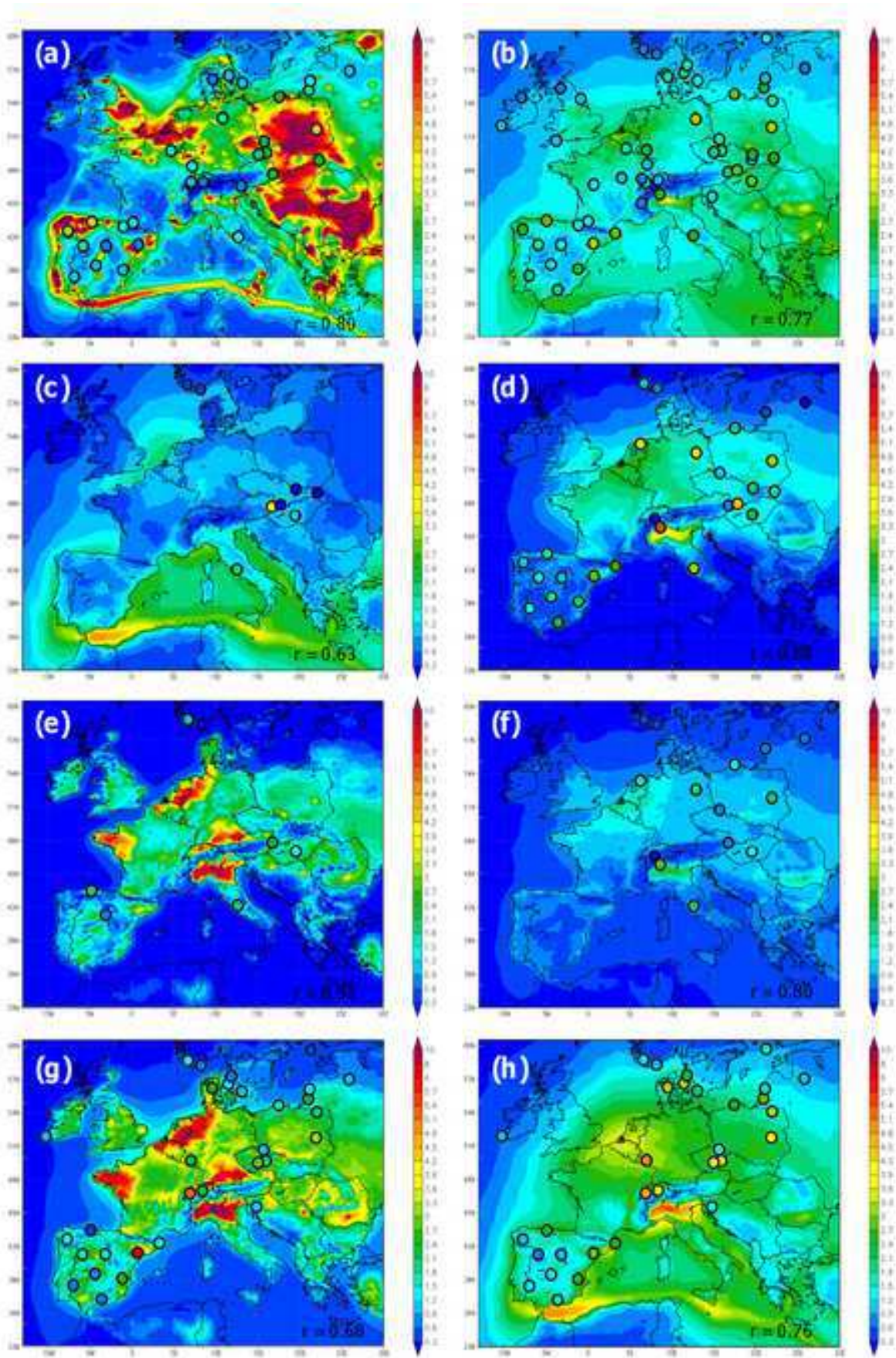




Figure6  
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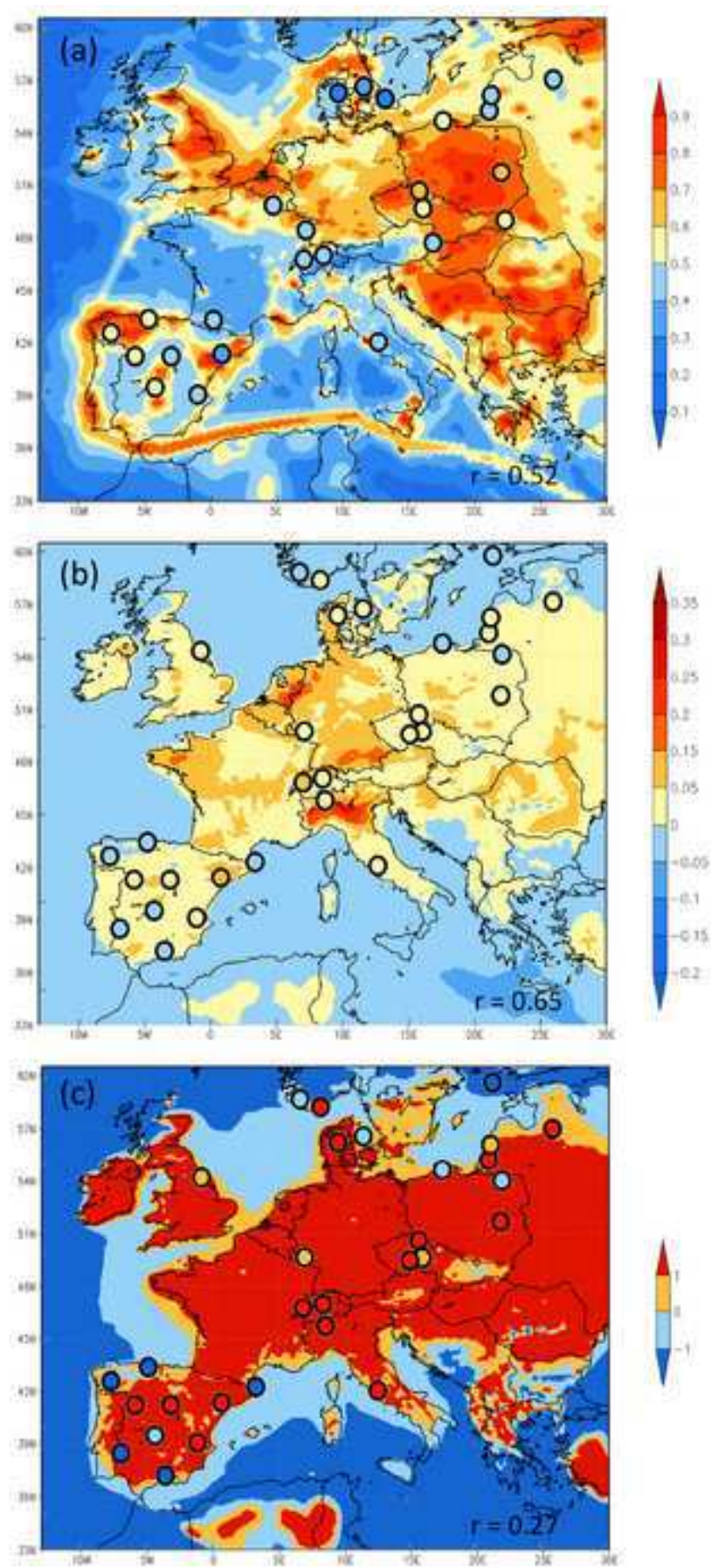


Figure7  
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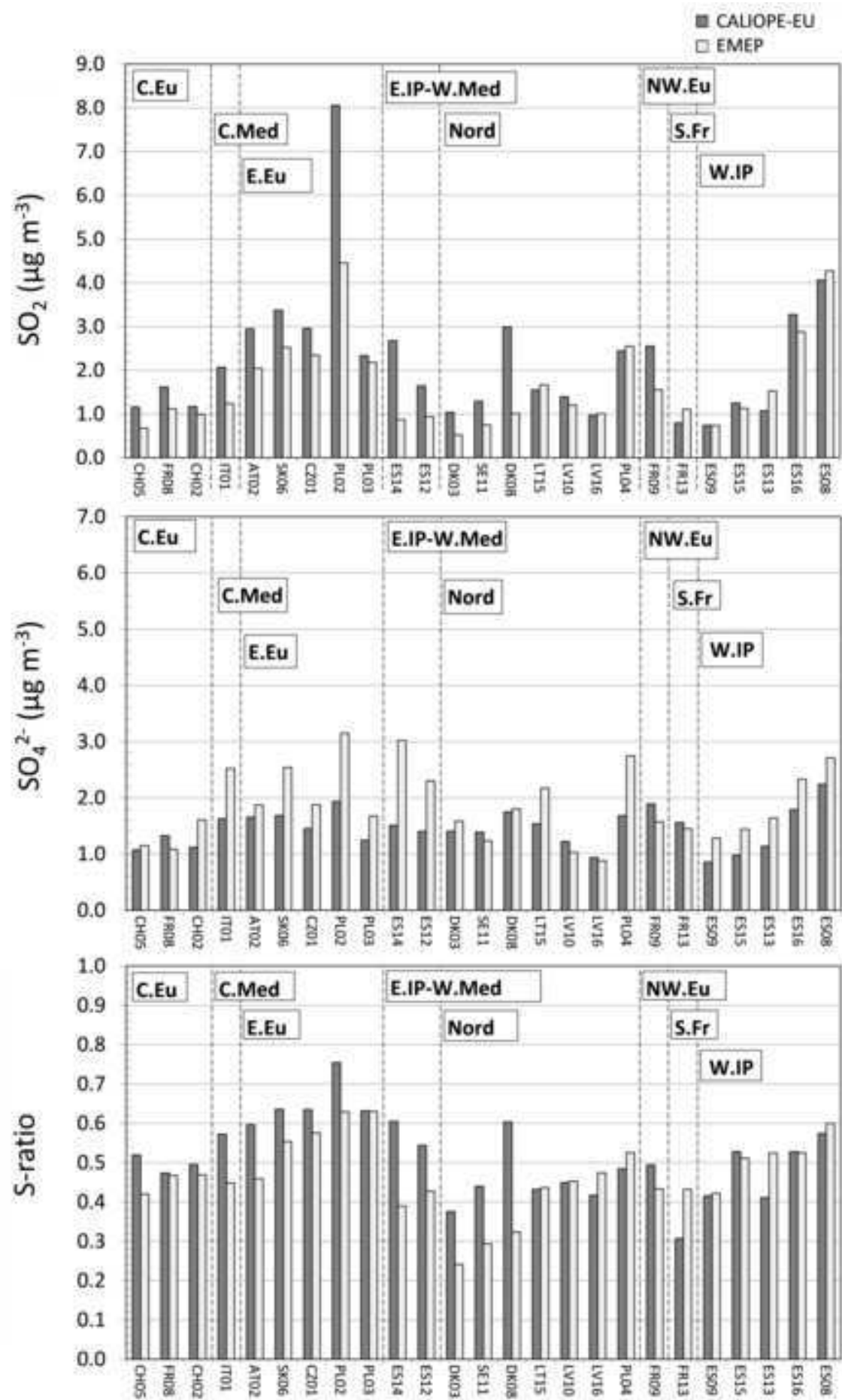




Figure8  
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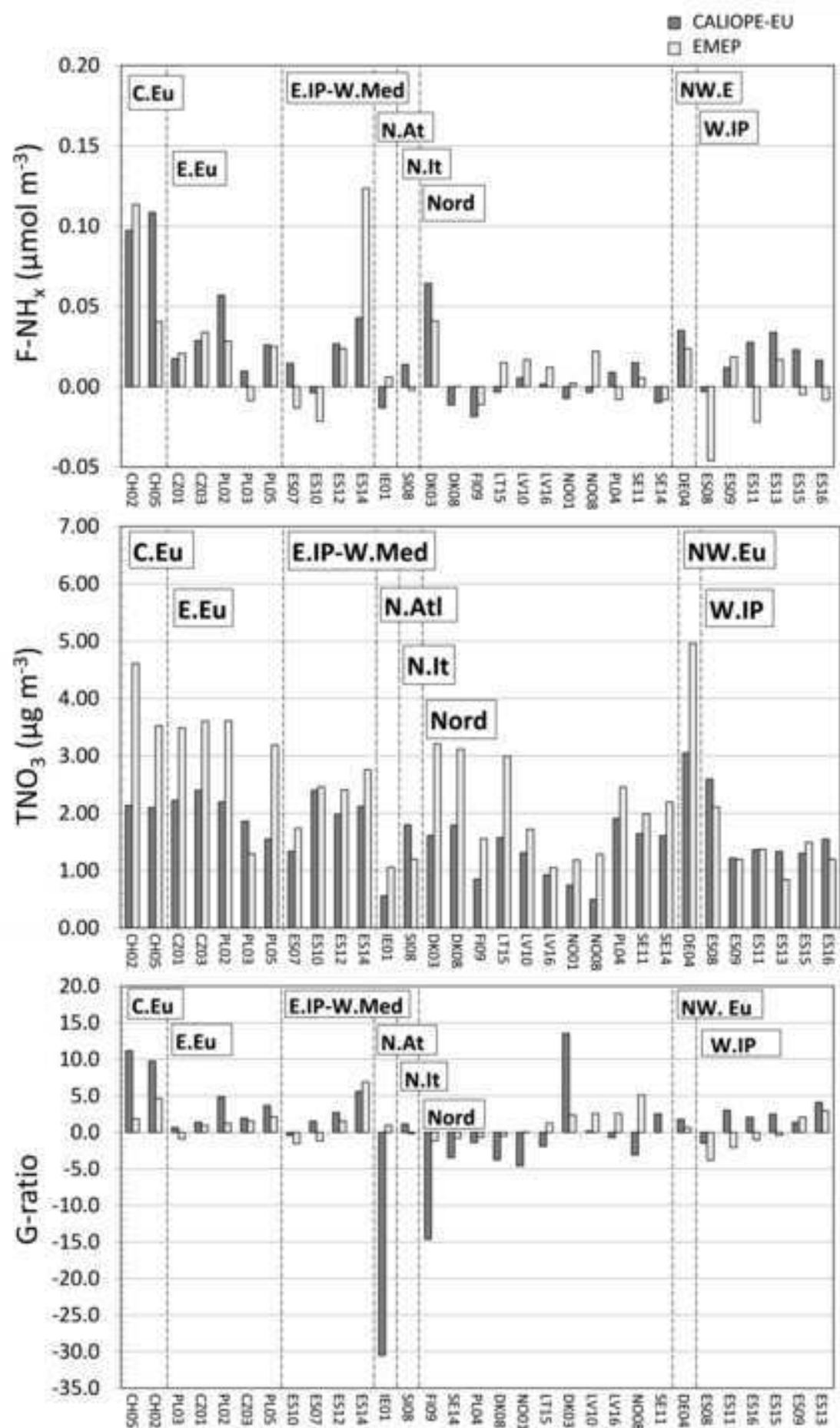


Table 1. Total emission of SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOC, PM2.5, PM coarse, CO and NH<sub>3</sub> for the year 2004 for anthropogenic activities in Europe sort by SNAP (Selected nomenclature air pollution) category.

SNAP	Description	SO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	NMVOC	PM2.5	PM coarse	CO	NH <sub>3</sub>
1	Energy transformation	9323	3483	137	295	386	852	7
2	Small combustion sources	1161	1028	1163	825	314	10803	7
3	Industrial combustion	2096	2096	180	299	202	5499	6
4	Industrial process	734	385	1504	552	315	3643	106
5	Extraction of fossil fuels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Solvent and product use	0	0	4300	21	11	22	5
7	Road transport	314	6491	4355	361	95	26001	82
8	Non road transport	2868	6166	754	487	57	3115	2
9	Waste handling and disposal	25	41	159	97	15	1832	143
10	Agriculture	2	246	508	176	332	535	5823
	Total	16522	19937	13059	3113	1727	52303	6182

Table 2. Coordinates, altitude and the chemical species measured of the 54 selected EMEP stations. The code is composed by 2-letter country code plus 2-digit station code. Zone is defined as follows: Western Iberian Peninsula (W.IP); Eastern Iberian Peninsula-Western Mediterranean (E.IP-W.Med), Central Mediterranean (C.Med), Eastern Mediterranean (E.Med), North of Italy (N. It.), Eastern Europe (E.Eu), Northwestern Europe (NW.Eu), Southern France (S.Fr.), Central Europe (C.Eu), Nordic (Nord), Central France (C.Fr) and North Atlantic (N.Atl).

	Station Name	Code	Zone	Lon.(°N)	Lat.(°E)	Alt.(m)	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	NH <sub>3</sub>	HNO <sub>3</sub>	TNH <sub>1</sub>	TNO <sub>1</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>
1	Anholt	DK08	Nord	56.717	11.517	40	x					x	x	x
2	Barcarota	ES11	W.IP	38.476	-6.923	393	x	x				x	x	x
3	Birkenes	NO01	Nord	58.383	8.25	190	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
4	Cabo de Creus	ES10	E.IP-W.Med	42.319	3.317	23	x	x				x	x	
5	Campisábalos	ES09	W.IP	41.281	-3.143	1360	x	x		x		x	x	x
6	Chopok	SK02	E.Eu	48.933	19.583	2008	x							
7	Deuselbach	DE04	NW.Eu	49.767	7.05	480	x					x	x	
8	Diabla Gora	PL05	E.Eu	54.15	22.067	157	x					x	x	
9	Donon	FR08	C.Eu	48.5	7.133	775	x							x
10	Els Torms	ES14	E.IP-W.Med	41.4	0.717	470	x	x				x	x	x
11	Eskdalemuir	GB02	NW.Eu	55.313	-3.204	243	x							
12	High Muffles	GB14	NW.Eu	54.334	-0.808	267	x							
13	Illmitz	AT02	E.Eu	47.767	16.767	117	x	x	x	x	x			x
14	Iraty	FR12	S.Fr	43.033	-1.083	1300	x							x
15	Iskrba	SI08	N.It	45.567	14.867	520	x					x	x	
16	Ispira	IT04	N.It	45.8	8.633	209	x	x	x					
17	Jarczew	PL02	E.Eu	51.817	21.983	180	x	x	x			x	x	x
18	Jungfraujoch	CH01	C.Eu	46.55	7.983	3573	x	x	x					
19	Kollumerwaard	NL09	NW.Eu	53.334	6.277	1		x	x					
20	Kosetice	CZ03	E.Eu	49.583	15.083	534	x					x	x	x
21	K-puszt	HU02	E.Eu	46.967	19.583	125	x	x	x	x	x			
22	La Tardière	FR15	C.Fr	46.65	0.75	746	x							
23	Le Casset	FR16	C.Eu	45	6.467	746	x							
24	Leba	PL04	Nord	54.75	17.533	2	x	x	x			x	x	x
25	Liesek	SK05	E.Eu	49.367	19.683	892	x	x			x			
26	Lough Navar	GB06	N.Atl	54.443	-7.87	126	x							
27	Melpitz	DE44	NW.Eu	52.53	12.93	86	x	x	x					
28	Montandon	FR14	C.Eu	47.183	6.5	746	x							
29	Montelibretti	IT01	C.Med	42.1	12.633	48	x	x	x	x	x			x
30	Morvan	FR10	C.Fr	47.267	4.083	620	x							
31	Niembro	ES08	W.IP	43.442	-4.85	134	x	x		x		x	x	x
32	O Savãno	ES16	W.IP	42.653	-7.705	506	x	x				x	x	x
33	Payerne	CH02	C.Eu	46.817	6.95	510	x					x	x	
34	Penausende	ES13	W.IP	41.283	-5.867	985	x	x				x	x	x
35	Peyrusse Vieille	FR13	S.Fr	43.375	0.104	236	x							x
36	Preila	LT15	Nord	55.35	21.067	5	x					x	x	x
37	Råö	SE14	Nord	57.4	11.917	5	x					x	x	
38	Revin	FR09	NW.Eu	49.9	4.633	390	x							x
39	Rigi	CH05	C.Eu	47.069	8.466	1030	x					x	x	x
40	Risco Llamo	ES15	W.IP	39.517	-4.35	1241	x	x				x	x	x
41	Rucava	LV10	Nord	56.217	21.217	5	x	x	x			x	x	x
42	Skreådalen	NO08	Nord	58.817	6.717	475	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
43	Sniezka	PL03	E.Eu	50.733	15.733	1603	x	x	x			x	x	x
44	Starina	SK06	E.Eu	49.05	22.267	345	x	x			x			x
45	Svratouch	CZ01	E.Eu	49.733	16.033	737	x					x	x	x
46	Tange	DK03	Nord	56.35	9.6	13	x					x	x	x
47	Topolniky	SK07	E.Eu	47.96	17.861	113	x	x			x			
48	Utö	FI09	Nord	59.779	21.377	7	x		x			x	x	
49	Valentina Observatory	IE01	N.Atl	51.94	-10.244	11	x					x	x	
50	Vavihill	SE11	Nord	56.017	13.15	175	x					x	x	x
51	Viznar	ES07	E.IP-W.Med	37.233	-3.533	1265	x	x				x	x	
52	Yarner Wood	GB13	NW.Eu	50.596	-3.713	119	x							
53	Zarra	ES12	E.IP-W.Med	39.086	-1.102	885	x	x				x	x	x
54	Zoseni	LV16	Nord	57.133	25.917	183	x	x	x			x	x	x

Table 3. Bias correlation coefficient of the secondary inorganic aerosol and their gas precursors between each other for all the data points available for 2004. Mean and standard deviation (STD) of the bias are in  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .

	NH <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	HNO <sub>3</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>
Mean	-1.36	-1.01	-0.97	0.50	-0.29	-0.45
STD	1.09	2.10	1.64	2.14	1.31	1.08
NH <sub>3</sub>	1.00 (7/2562)	0.03 (7/2562)	0.55 (5/1830)	-0.03 (4/1464)	0.02 (7/2562)	0.07 (5/1830)
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>		1.00 (27/9882)	-0.16 (8/2928)	-0.06 (15/5490)	0.29 (26/9516)	0.75 (14/5124)
HNO <sub>3</sub>			1.00 (8/2928)	-0.07 (3/1098)	0.04 (8/2928)	0.00 (5/1830)
SO <sub>2</sub>				1.00 (31/11346)	0.01 (25/9150)	0.07 (7/2562)
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>					1.00 (53/19398)	0.59 (14/5124)
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>						1.00 (15/5490)

<sup>a</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents the correlation coefficient.

<sup>b</sup>The first and second values in parenthesis represent the number of stations and the number of data points respectively used to calculate the correlation coefficient.

Table 4. List of published European model evaluation studies for secondary inorganic aerosol and their main characteristics to be compared with CALIOPE-EU evaluation results (this study).

Reference	Modeled Year <sup>1</sup>	Modeling System	Horizontal Resolution/layers	Chemical Mechanism <sup>2</sup>	Thermodynamic Inorganic Equilibrium <sup>3</sup>	Study number
This study	2004	CALIOPE	12 km x 12 km/15	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	CALIOPE-EU04
Kim et al. (2011)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	RACM	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS1
Kim et al. (2011)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	CB05	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS2
Matthias (2008)	2001	CMAQ	54 km x 54 km/20	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	CMAQ3
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	CHIMERE	0.25 ° x 0.25 °/8	MELCHIOR	ISORROPIA	CHIMERE4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	EURAD	125 km x 125 km/23	EuroRADM	RPMARES	EURAD4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	LOTOS-EUROS	0.25° x 0.25°/4	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS-EUROS4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.25°/5	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID4
Stern et al. (2008)	2003	LM-MUSCAT	0.25° x 0.25°/40	RACM	Hinneburg et al. (2007)	LM-MUSCAT4
Sartelet et al. (2007)	2001	POLYPHEMUS	0.5° x 0.5°/5	RACM	ISORROPIA	POLYPHEMUS5
Tarrasón et al. (2006)	2004	Unified EMEP	50 km x 50 km/20	EMEP	EQSAM	EMEP6
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	CHIMERE	0.5° x 0.5°/8	MELCHIOR	ISORROPIA	CHIMERE7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	DEHM	50 km x 50 km/20	EMEP	EQSAM	DEHM7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	Unified EMEP	50 km x 50 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	EMEP7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	MATCH	55 km x 55 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	MATCH7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	LOTOS	0.25° x 0.5°/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	CMAQ	36 km x 36 km/21	RADM2	ISORROPIA	CMAQ7
van Loon et al. (2004)	1999/2001	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.5°	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID7
Schaap et al. (2004)	1995	LOTOS	25 km x 25 km/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS8
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	DEHM	50 km x 50 km/10	CBM-IV	EQSAM	DEHM9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	EURAD	27 km x 27 km/15	EuroRADM	RPMARES	EURAD9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	EUROS	0.55° x 0.55°/4	CBM-IV	EQSAM	EUROS9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	LOTOS	0.25° x 0.5°/3	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	LOTOS9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	MATCH	55 km x 55 km/10	EMEP	EQSAM	MATCH9
Hass et al. (2003)	1995	REM-CALGRID	0.25° x 0.5°	CBM-IV	ISORROPIA	REM-CALGRID9

<sup>1</sup>Evaluation studies are done over a full year. Evaluated period for Kim et al (2001) corresponds from 15 July to 15 August. Evaluated period for Stern et al. (2008) corresponds from 6 February to 30 March.

<sup>2</sup>CBM-IV, see Gery et al. (1989); CB05, see Yarwood et al. (2005); EMEP, see Simpson et al. (2003); EuroRADM, see Stockwell and Kley (1994); MELCHIOR, see Schmidt et al. (2001); RACM, see Stockwell et al. (1997); RADM2, see Stockwell et al. (1990).

<sup>3</sup>ISORROPIA, see Nenes et al. (1999); RPMARES, see Binkowski and Shankar (1995); EQSAM, see (Metzger et al., 2002).

Table 5. Comparison of the statistics modeled mean/observed mean (Ratio), correlation coefficient (r), and root mean squared error (RMSE,  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) between CALIOPE and other European models<sup>1,2</sup> for secondary inorganic aerosol ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) in daily basis.

Study Number	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> daily average			NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> daily average			NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> daily average		
	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE
CALIOPE-EU04	0.82 (0.56,2.0)	0.49 (0.15,0.81)	1.30 (0.3,2.3)	0.50 (0.14,2.0)	0.58 (0.20,0.77)	2.30 (0.6,3.8)	0.67 (0.38,1.35)	0.62 (0.30,0.73)	1.20 (0.3,4.1)
POLYPHEMUS1	0.86			1.5			1.1		
POLYPHEMUS2	0.96			1.7			1.2		
CMAQ3	0.83 (0.54,1.36)	(0.21,0.72)		0.62 (0.39,1.0)	(0.30,0.80)		0.75 (0.53,0.94)	(0.30,0.75)	
CHIMERE4	0.69	0.48	3.4						
EURAD4	0.64	0.46	3.3						
LOTOS-EUROS4	0.57	0.47	3.7						
REM-CALGRID4	0.99	0.47	2.9						
LM-MUSCAT4	0.91	0.57	2.7						
POLYPHEMUS5	0.84	0.56	1.7	1.6	0.41	3.1	1.1	0.52	1.3
EMEP6	0.86	0.67		1.4	0.80		1.2	0.82	
CHIMERE7	0.67/0.72	0.49/0.53	2.5/2.07	0.94/0.80	0.44/0.46	2.74/2.73	1.11/1.01	0.41/0.56	1.27/1.38
DEHM7	0.93/0.85	0.57/0.55	2.36/1.77	1.80/1.63	0.34/0.25	3.02/2.53	1.10/0.79	0.51/0.49	0.98/0.83
EMEP7	0.91/0.88	0.57/0.58	2.1/1.84	1.63/1.04	0.50/0.34	3.51/2.08	1.26/1.00	0.51/0.47	1.22/0.86
MATCH7	1.0/1.17	0.56/0.62	2.1/1.86	0.88/0.83	0.47/0.40	1.74/1.59	1.01/1.62	0.53/0.55	0.94/2.09
LOTOS7	1.03/1.3	0.37/0.50	2.9/2.89	0.79/0.95	0.26/0.17	2.19/1.94	1.21/1.01	0.37/0.44	1.21/1.10
CMAQ7	1.22/-	0.46/-	2.67/-	2.65/-	0.47/-	1.74/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
REM-CALGRID7	0.91/0.93	0.51/0.53	2.36/2.03	1.15/0.74	0.42/0.35	2.43/1.92	1.33/1.23	0.45/0.45	1.24/0.99
LOTOS8	0.92	0.60	2.60	1.10	0.58	3.57	1.08	0.62	1.54
DEHM9	1.11	0.37	5.89	1.07	0.32	4.12	0.94	0.39	2.43
EURAD9	1.52	0.52	4.25	2.04	0.61	6.14	1.87	0.50	2.90
EUROS9	0.98	0.47	4.39	2.13	0.30	6.39	-	-	-
LOTOS9	0.91	0.54	2.76	1.59	0.49	4.07	1.23	0.51	1.57
MATCH9	0.84	0.65	2.49	0.78	0.50	2.55	0.55	0.61	1.46
REM-CALGRID9	0.81	0.50	2.78	1.07	0.53	3.10	1.07	0.43	1.63

<sup>1</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents yearly averages in the entire domain. The first and second values in parenthesis represent the minimum and maximum value respectively obtained among all stations in the entire domain. <sup>2</sup>Values reported with a slash correspond to two different years studied: the number before the slash corresponds to the year 1999; the number after the slash correspond to the year 2001.



Table 6. Comparison of the statistics modeled mean/observed mean (Ratio), correlation coefficient (r), and root mean squared error (RMSE,  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) between CALIOPE and other European models<sup>1,2</sup> for total nitrate ( $\text{TNO}_3 = \text{HNO}_3 + \text{NO}_3^-$ ), total ammonia ( $\text{TNH}_3 = \text{NH}_3 + \text{NH}_4^+$ ) and gas-phase aerosol precursors ( $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$ ) in daily basis. Note that the other gas-phase aerosol precursors,  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{NO}_2$  have been compared with other European studies in Pay et al. (2010).

Study Number	HNO <sub>3</sub> daily average			TNO <sub>3</sub> daily average			NH <sub>3</sub> daily average			TNH <sub>3</sub> daily average		
	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE	Ratio	r	RMSE
CALIOPE-EU04	1.00 (0.35,4.0)	0.41 (-0.11,0.78)	1.1 (0.4,3.5)	0.77 (0.45,1.2)	0.50 (0.14,0.70)	2.1 (0.9,3.6)	0.71 (0.1,1.0 )	0.56 (0.10,0.40)	1.1 (0.3,1.3)	0.94 (0.62,2)	0.50 (0.10,0.72)	1.8 (0.4,3.3)
CHIMERE4				0.70	0.47	4.4				1.1	0.49	1.9
EURAD4				2.90	0.46	19.4				3.0	0.45	8.3
LOTOS-EUROS4				0.94	0.67	3.1				1.0	0.58	1.6
REM-CALGRID4				0.87	0.56	3.5				1.4	0.57	2.1
LM-MUSCAT4				0.44	0.42	5.8				1.6	0.56	3.5
POLYPHEMUS5	1.85	0.26	1.4				0.85	0.29	5.4			
EMEP6	0.73	0.38		1.23	0.87					1.26	0.63	
CHIMERE7				0.90/0.83	0.39/0.37	3.02/2.82				1.18/1.05	0.35/0.43	2.98/1.74
DEHM7				1.68/1.73	0.42/0.31	3.03/3.02				0.86/0.79	0.46/0.45	1.85/1.14
EMEP7				1.40/1.16	0.51/0.36	2.62/2.42				1.05/1.00	0.42/0.40	1.95/1.28
MATCH7				0.85/0.95	0.52/0.41	1.88/1.91				0.71/1.62	0.48/0.42	1.82/2.17
LOTOS7				0.72/0.70	0.23/0.20	2.31/2.27				1.12/1.01	0.27/0.29	2.25/1.49
CMAQ7				1.82/-	0.52/-	1.88/-				-/-	-/-	-/-
REM-CALGRID7				1.10/0.86	0.39/0.31	2.26/3.02				1.35/1.23	0.27/0.30	2.39/1.49
LOTOS8				0.81	0.52	2.31				0.88	0.58	1.50
DEHM9				1.09	0.45	2.75	0.38	0.27	7.38	0.79	0.47	3.69
EURAD9				1.85	0.50	3.72	0.56	0.15	5.88	1.24	0.54	3.40
EUROS9				2.49	0.41	5.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOTOS9				1.67	0.44	2.82	0.18	0.05	7.50	0.58	0.46	2.77
MATCH9				0.94	0.52	1.94	0.64	0.33	5.59	0.84	0.57	2.54
REM-CALGRID9				1.20	0.38	2.13	0.58	0.09	6.10	0.91	0.26	3.09

<sup>1</sup>Value reported without parenthesis represents yearly averages in the entire domain. The first and second values in parenthesis represent the minimum and maximum value respectively obtained among all stations in the entire domain. <sup>2</sup>Values reported with a slash correspond to two different years studied: the number before the slash corresponds to the year 1999; the number after the slash correspond to the year 2001.



