











Italian network of four permanent observatories: implementation of background data selection (BaDSfit) and 5-year analysis of the atmospheric CO₂ mixing ratio.

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MEASUREMENT SITES



PRS - Plateau Rosa (RSE S.p.A.)
 45°56′N 7°42′E, 3480 m a.s.l.





CMN – Mt. Cimone
 (ISAC-CNR and CAMM, Italian Air Force)
 44°12′ N, 10°42′ E, 2165 m a.s.l.



• CGR – Capo Granitola (ISAC– CNR) 37° 34' N, 12° 40' E, 15 m a.s.l.

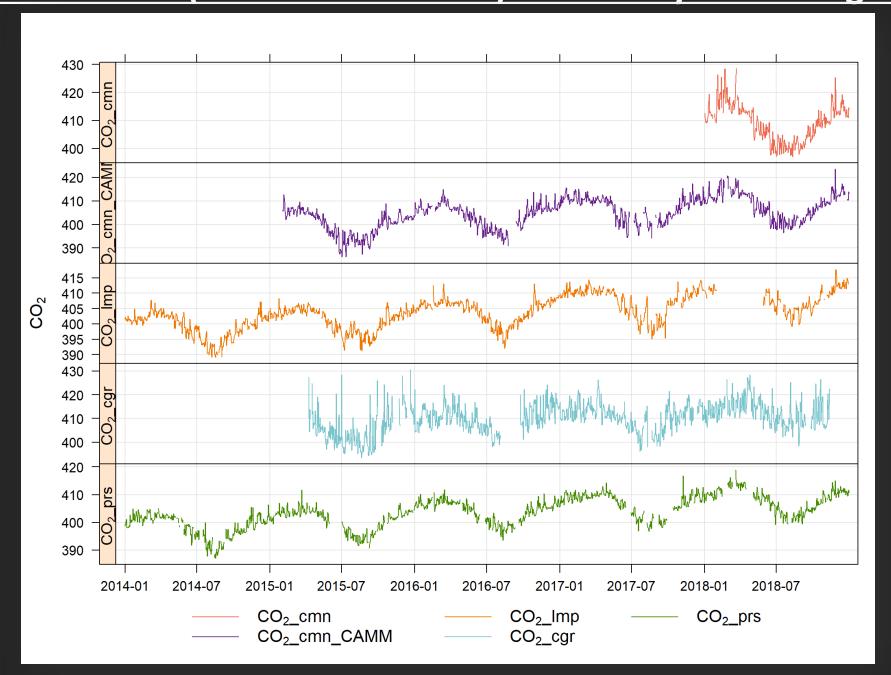


LMP – Lampedusa (ENEA)
 35° 31′ N, 12° 38′ E, 45 m a.s.l.

Dataset:

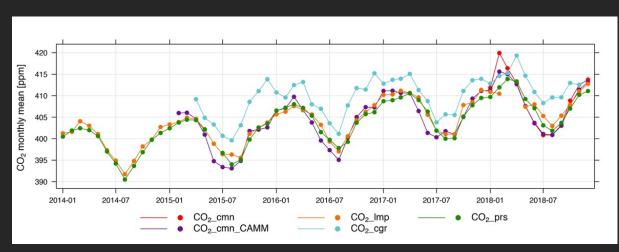
PRS	CMN - ISAC	CMN-CAMM	CGR	LMP
2014-2018	2018	2015-2018	2015-2018	2014-2018

Data overview (2014 - 2018) - daily average values

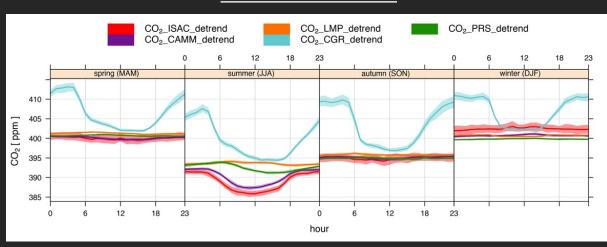


Data overview (2014 – 2018)

Monthly values

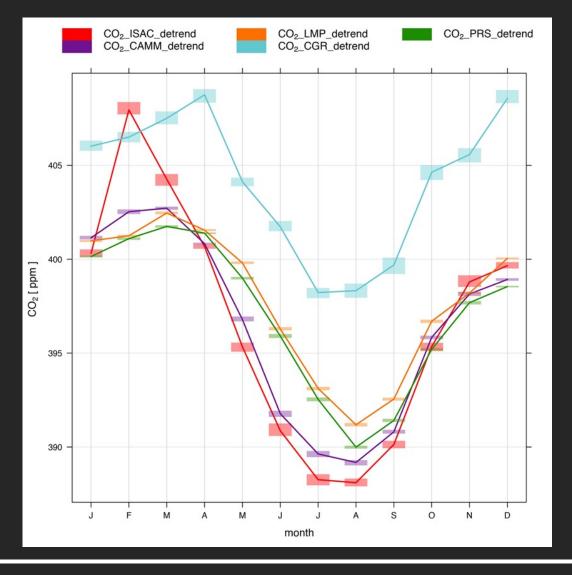


Diurnal variations



Diurnal wind breezes at CMN and CGR

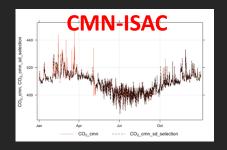
Annual cycle

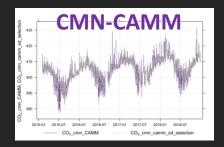


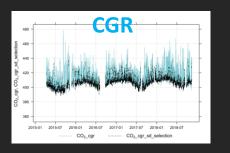
Background data selection for Italian stations (BaDSfit)

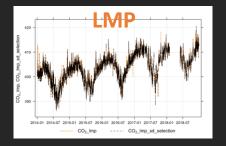
BaDSfit consists of 3 steps:

- 1) Selection of data with hourly CO_2 standard deviation (calculated from 1-min mean values) < 1 ppm a. calculate a running median on 504 hours (21 days) with the selection; b. calculate the average difference between consecutive hourly mean values (defined as the "S" parameter).





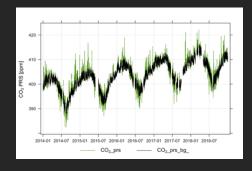


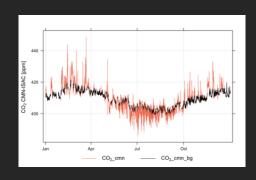


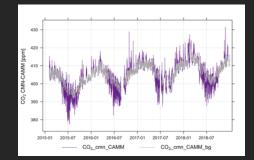
- 2) Selection of data for which the difference (ΔC) between retained hourly values and running median (504-hours) is < n*S, where *n* is an adjustable parameter
- 3) Selection of data for which the difference (δC) between and the hourly mean values ($\sigma < 1$ ppm) and the corresponding 48-hours running mean calculated with retained values of previous step, is < n*S

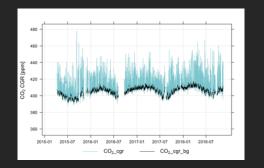
All data points with $|\delta| C| > n*S$

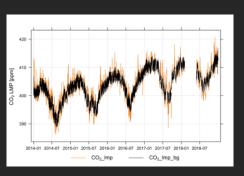
are flagged as "not background"





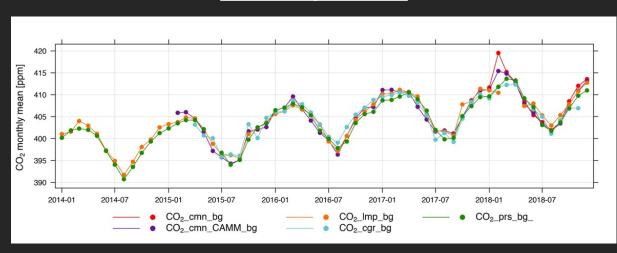




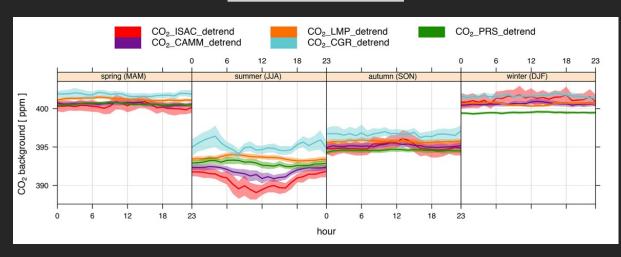


Selection results

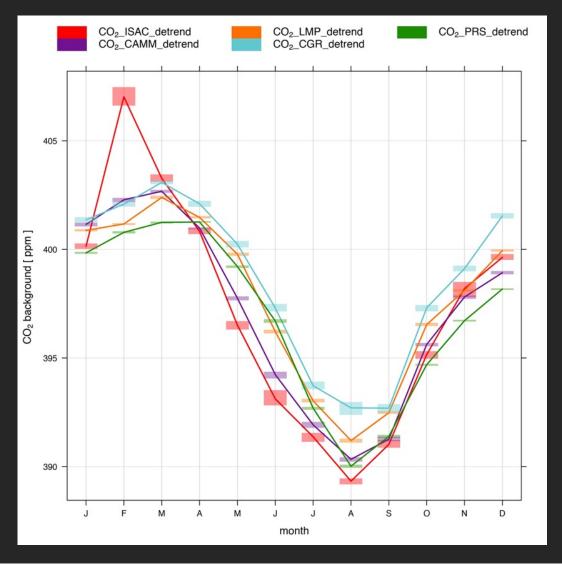
Monthly values



Diurnal variations



Annual cycle



SUMMARY

Dataset from the Italian network of GHG atmospheric observatories are presented for the period 2014-2018.

These observatories are managed by different Institutions with different strategies for air sampling, calibration, data quality checks, and flagging.

A procedure to select background observations (BaDSfit) was implemented and the interannual, seasonal, and diurnal of CO₂ variability was investigated.

Considering original dataset:

- a low average diurnal amplitude (less than 1 ppm) characterizes PRS and LMP during all seasons;
- a significant diurnal cycle is evident at CMN during vegetative months (vertical transport of air-masses depleted in CO₂ due to vegetation photosynthesis);
- a significant diurnal cycle is evident at CGR (due to the transport of airmasses affected by anthropogenic emissions during night-time).

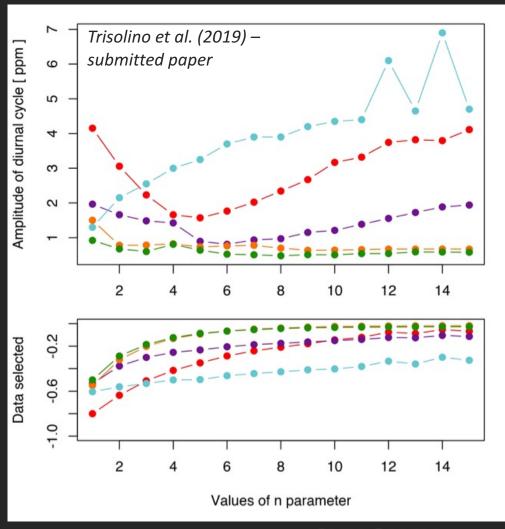
Considering background data:

- The *BaDSfit* algorithm leads to identify as non-background conditions about 4% of the data at LMP, 7% at PRS, 19% at CMN and 61% at CGR.
- A more coherent diurnal and seasonal evolution among the various datasets was obtained after *BaDSfit* application.

These results suggest that the adopted algorithm is capable of identifying background conditions and allows the separation of local/regional scale from large scale phenomena in the CO₂ time series

Supplementary material

Sensitivity study of *n* parameter



On the top:

the median values of the CO₂ diurnal cycle amplitudes (calculated over the whole dataset) as a function of "n" parameter

On the bottom:

the **fraction of data discharged** as a function of "n" parameter because defined as "not background".

Selection	PRS n=6 S=0.36	CMN-ISAC n=5 S=0.52	CMN-CAMM n=7 S=0.36	CGR n=1 S=1.43	LMP n=8 S=0.30
Original dataset	0.78	4.47	3.77	8.90	0.58
Background dataset	0.52 (7%)	1.57 (35%)	0.92 (19%)	1.30 (61%)	0.70 (4%)
					-

Color legend: PRS, CMN-ISAC, CMN-CAMM, CGR and LMP.