

# **THE PROBLEM OF LIMIT VALUES EXCEEDANCES DETECTION IN COMPLEX TERRAIN USING MEASUREMENT AND MODELS**

**dr. Marija Zlata Božnar,  
dr. Boštjan Grašič, dr. Primož Mlakar,**

**MEIS d.o.o.,  
Mali Vrh pri Šmarju, Slovenia  
[www.meis.si](http://www.meis.si)**

# **Why should we care for very complex terrain areas?**

**We live on complex terrain**

**Air pollution, weather prediction,  
climate data collection.....**

**Needed at least everywhere  
where there are settlements**

**URBAN ? : RURAL ?**

# **URBAN : RURAL**

**Slovenia: more than 1/2 of people  
living in rural areas**

**Accurate air pollution control  
is needed in rural areas as well**

**Rural and also urban  
== complex terrain in Slovenia  
=> non-homogeneous air pollution**

# Protection of population ?

average values are important

but

we have to correctly detect the  
occurrence of peak values –  
episodes of high concentrations  
when limit values are exceeded

how ?

# THE DETERMINATION OF EXCEEDANCES OF THE LIMIT VALUES OF POLLUTANTS IN AMBIENT AIR

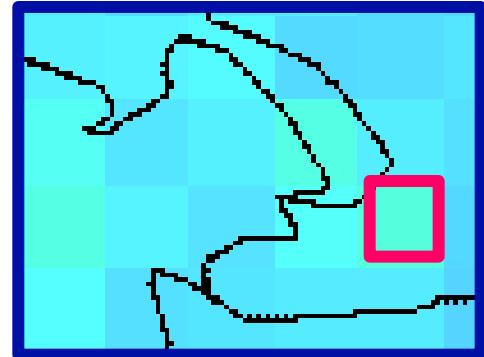
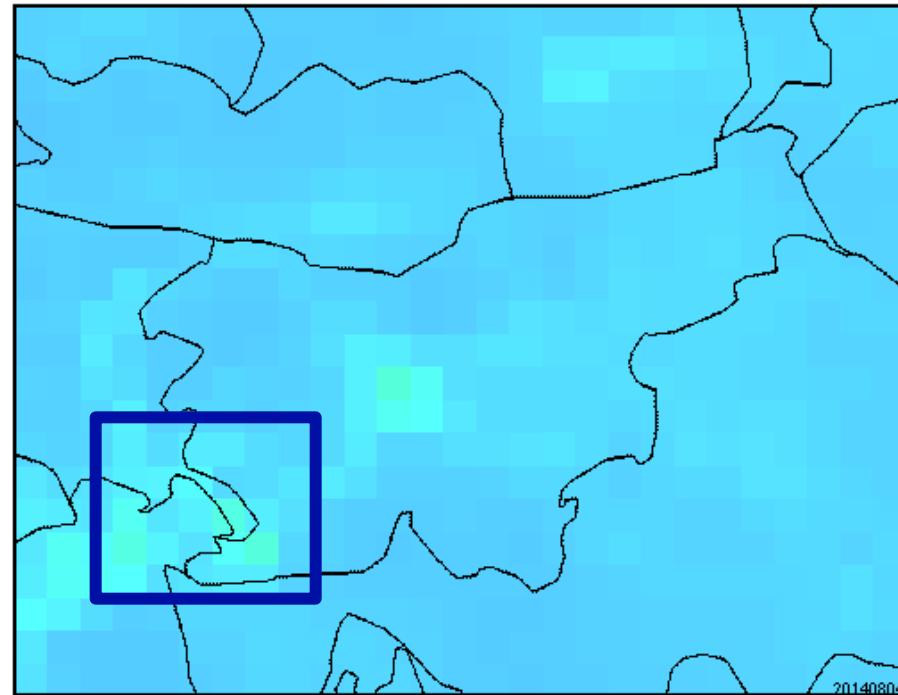
## air pollution measurements



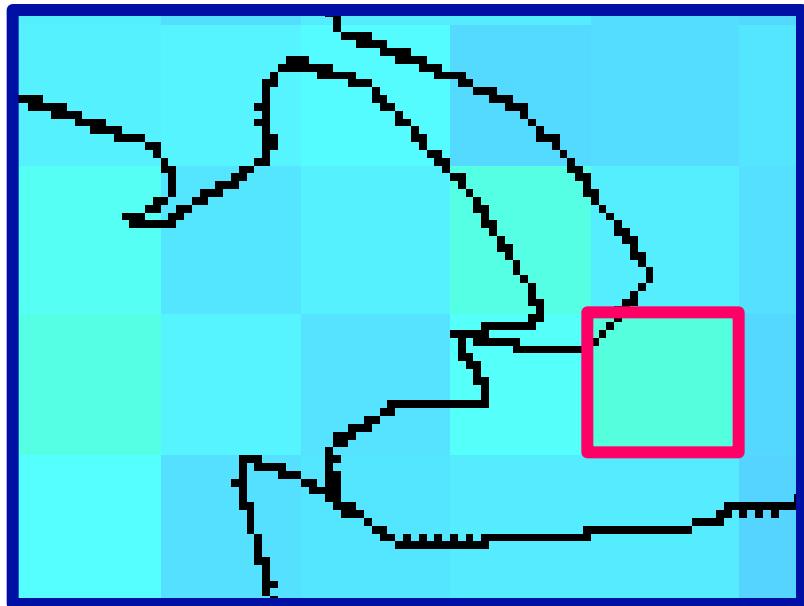
# THE DETERMINATION OF EXCEEDANCES OF THE LIMIT VALUES OF POLLUTANTS IN AMBIENT AIR

## air pollution modelling

05-08-14, 07:00, Slovenija, 1-urni, NO<sub>2</sub>, Povp.



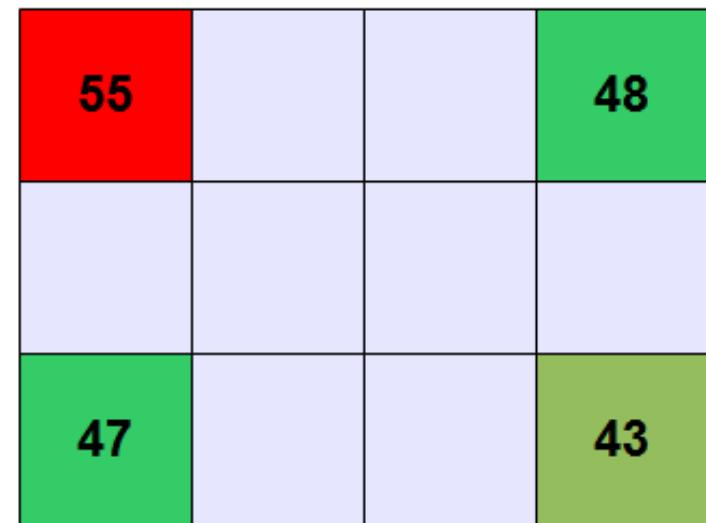
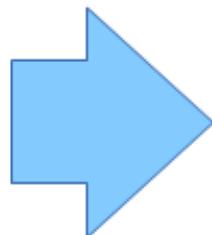
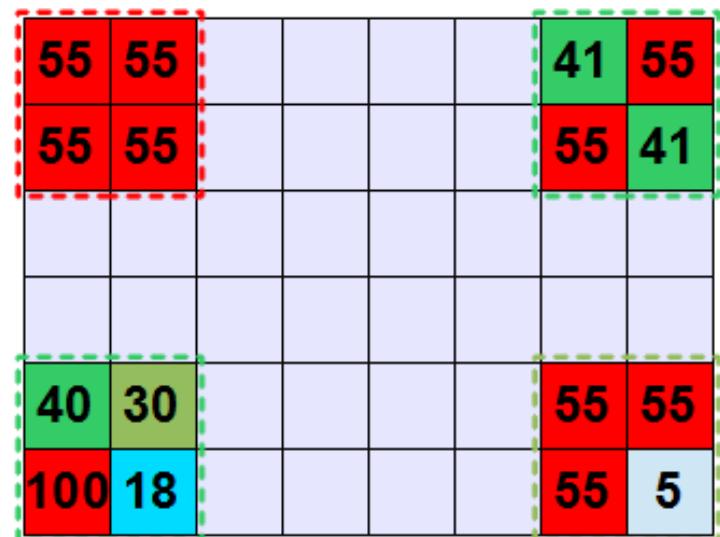
# DETECTING HIGH CONCENTRATION EVENTS USING MODELS



Are concentrations  
really homogeneous  
in the cell ?

# Are concentrations really homogeneous in the cell ?

smoothing can hide exceedances



# Three valey's of Zasavje region example of PM10 pollution



[http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img\\_zagorje/origin/01.jpg](http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img_zagorje/origin/01.jpg)  
Roman Rozina



<http://sftp.slovenka.net/rr/h/it/hrastnik/hrastnik.jpg>



<http://projekti.gess.si/unite/images/anim/IMGP1165.jpg>  
© Gimnazija in ekonomska srednja šola Trbovlje, 2008

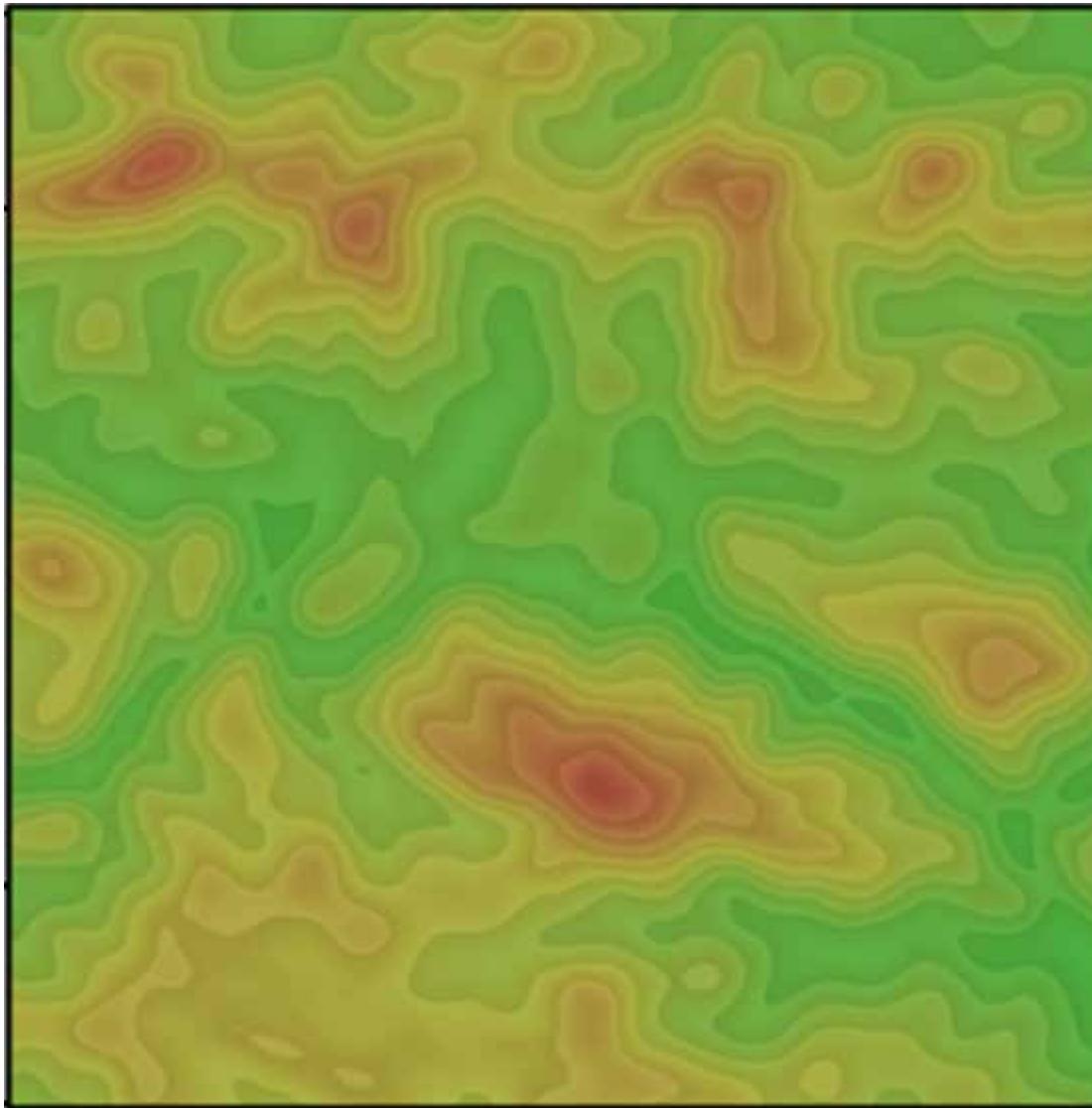
# Zasavje - industrial area (lime, cement, glass factory, TPP) over very complex terrain



# Air pollution from domestic heating in villages



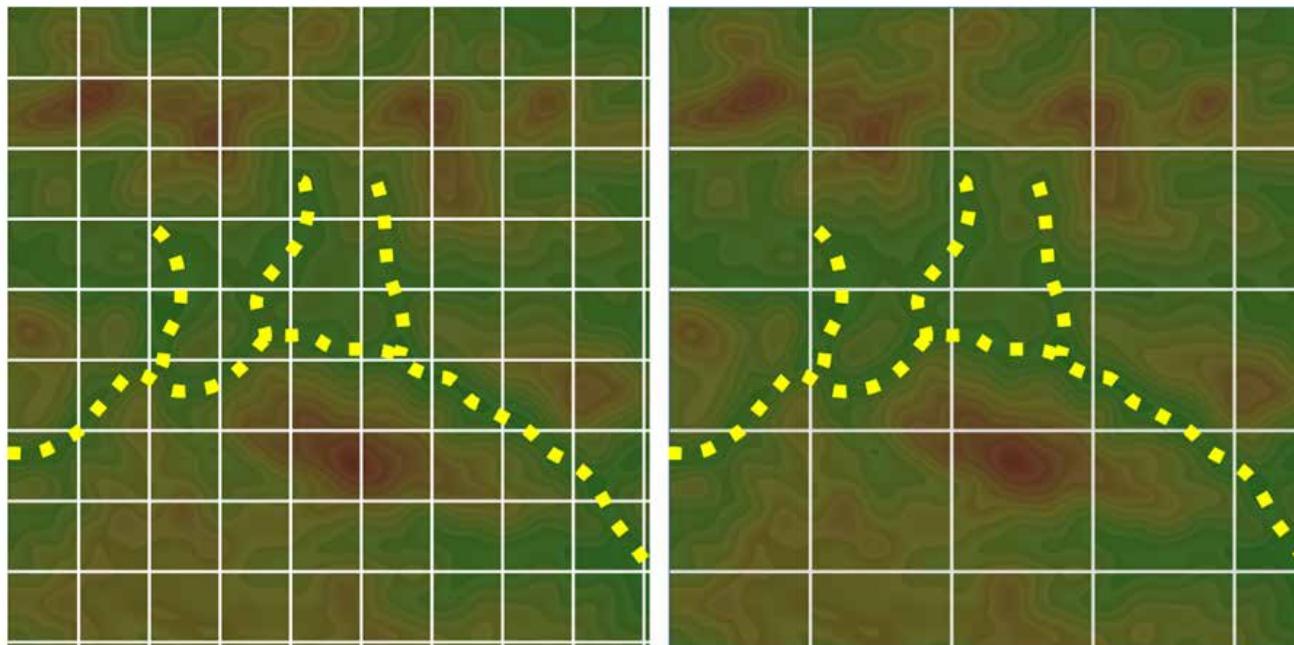
# Example of Zasavje region (complex terrain in Slovenia)



**20 km x  
20 km**

# Smoothing can hide exceedances

## Example of Zasavje region (complex terrain in Slovenia)



DOMAIN SIZE = 20 km  
CELL SIZE = 2,2 km

DOMAIN SIZE = 20 km  
CELL SIZE = 4,4 km

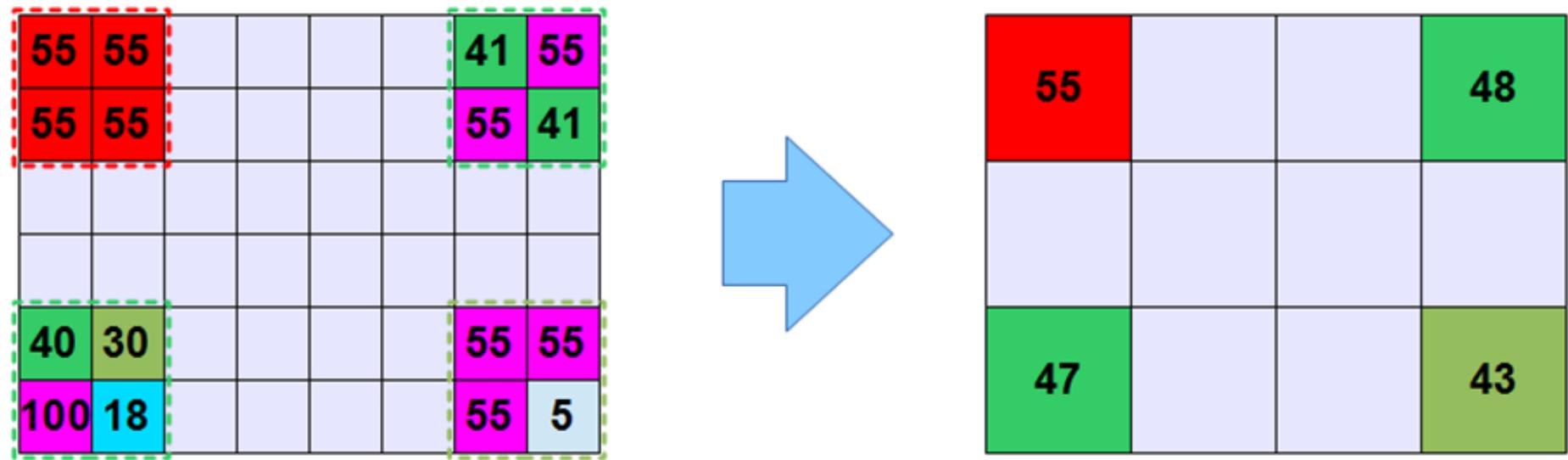
# ...but even one smaller cell is not fine enough!

< --- >  
cca  
3km



[http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img\\_zagore/origin/01.jpg](http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img_zagore/origin/01.jpg)  
Roman Rozina

# Smoothing hides exceedances!



# SOLUTIONS ??

# Fine resolution air pollution modelling == solution only for small domains

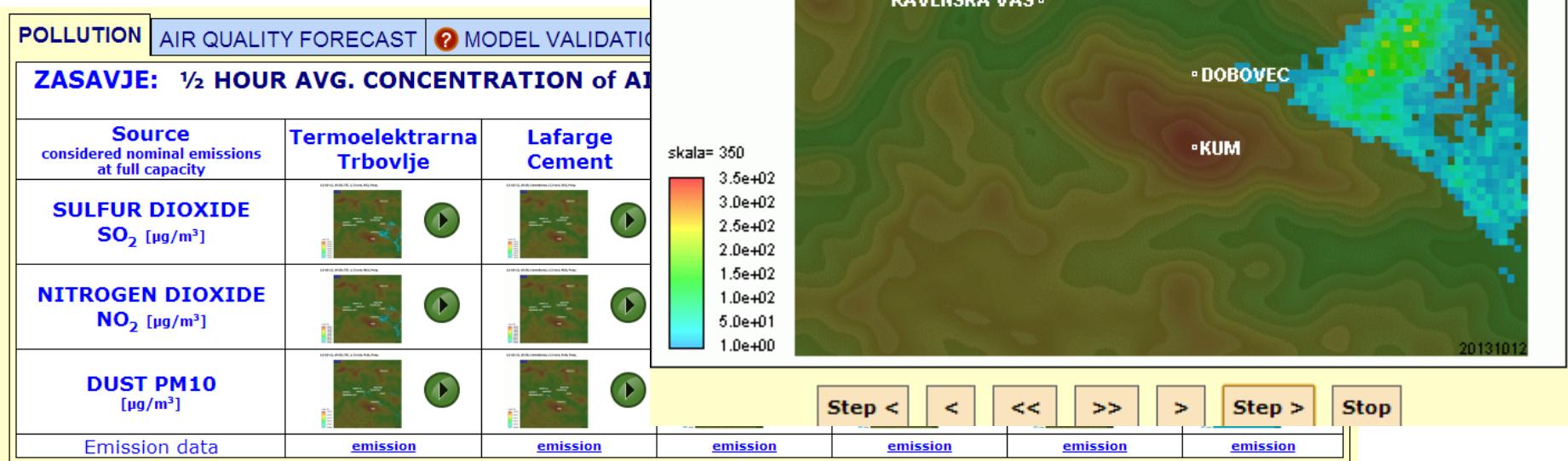
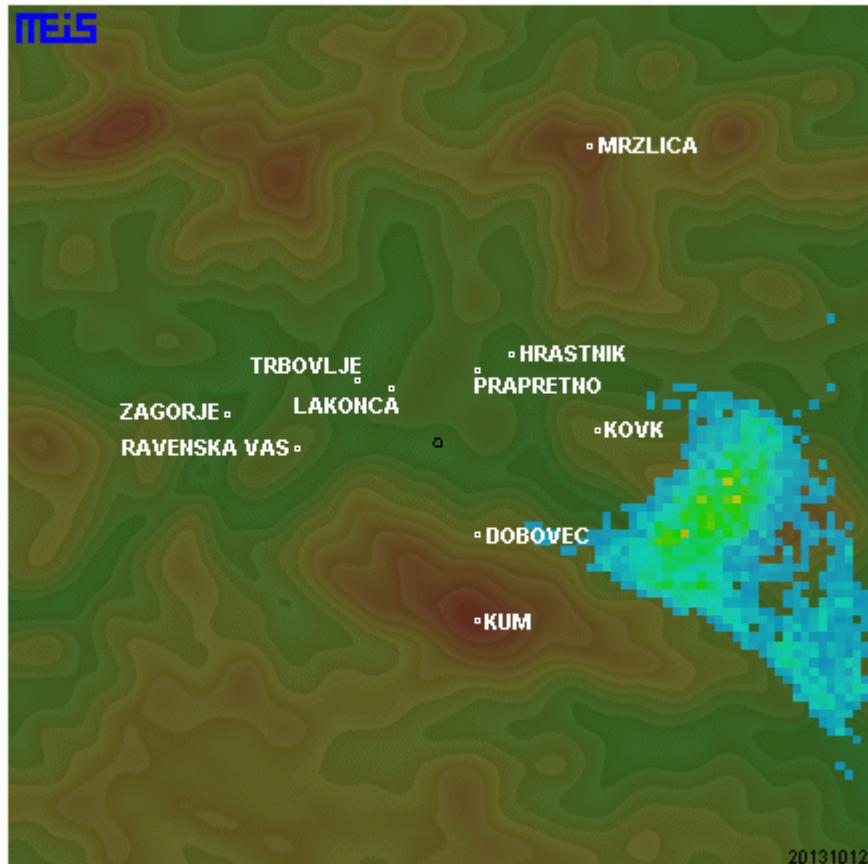
Area:

20 km x 20 km

Horiz. resolution:

200 m x 200 m

12-10-13, 18:30, TET, 1/2-urni, SO<sub>2</sub>, Povp.



# A lot of air quality stations ... too expensive



# Summary of problems in complex terrain

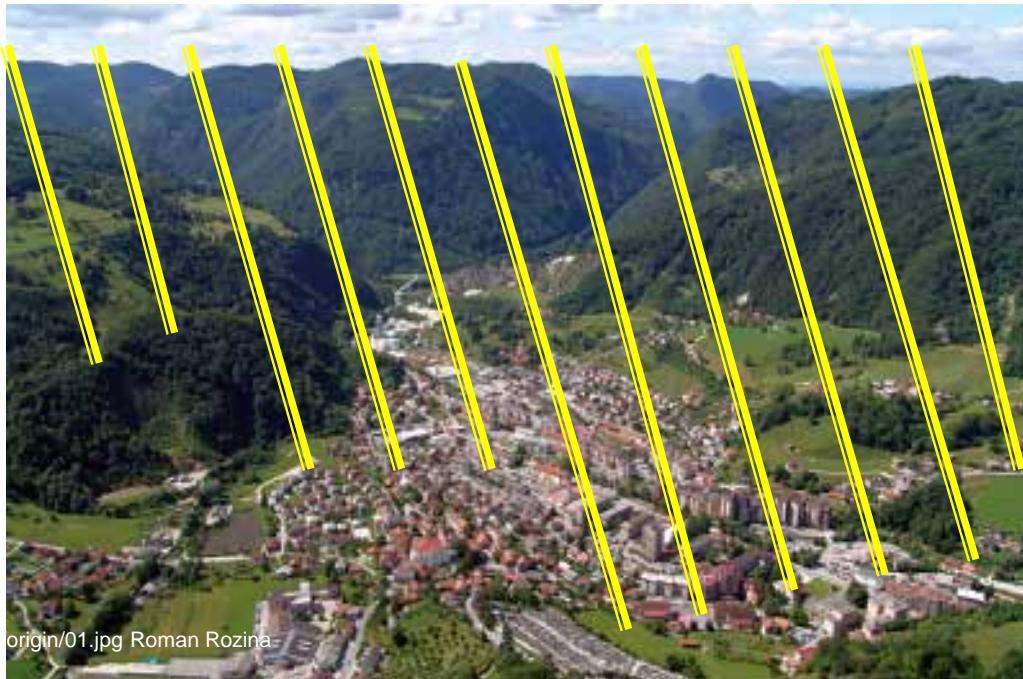
- Air quality stations in complex terrain:
  - Not representative for wider areas,
  - Never enough of stations
- Models:
  - Bad emission inventories...
  - are uncertain ...
  - Fine resolution impossible for huge areas



[http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img\\_zago\\_rje/origin/01.jpg](http://www.slo-flute-festival.org/img_zago_rje/origin/01.jpg)  
Roman Rozina

# SATELLITE MEASUREMENTS + / -

- + to some degree can replace in-situ measurement
- + enable spatial coverage with representative data for areas where in-situ measurements will never be feasible
- The same resolution problems as the models have



origin/01.jpg Roman Rozina

# **PROPOSAL FOR AREAS WITH HIGHLY NON-HOMOGENEOUS CONCENTRATIONS**

**corrective factor that would  
downscale the limit values  
in inverse proportion to the size of the model cell  
or resolution of satellite observation**

**The factor would be equal one only when  
adequately small ground-level model cells are used  
so that concentrations are actually homogeneous  
within individual ground-level cells in reality**

# Thank you!



From complex terrain J