

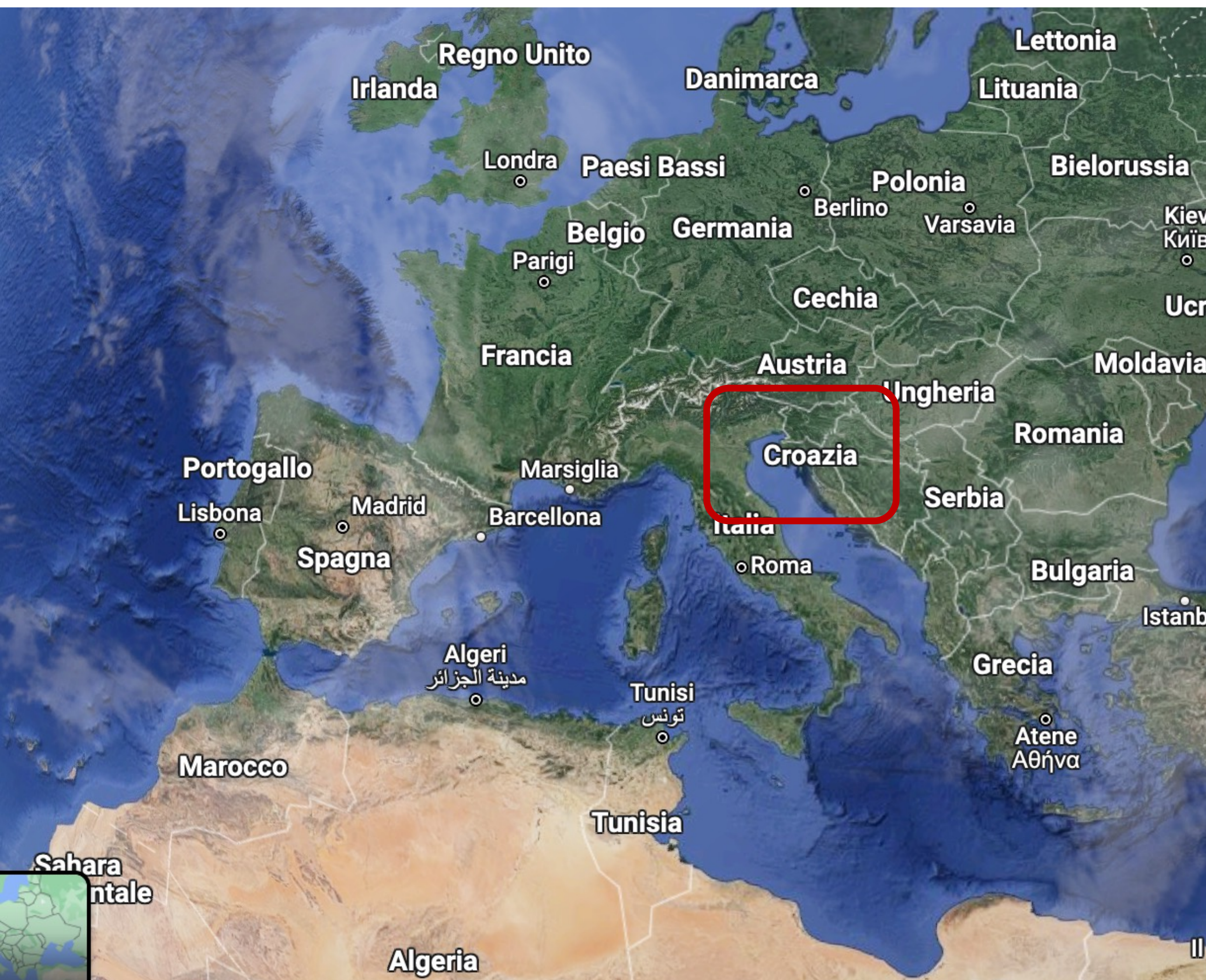
The coupled biogeochemical model SHYFEM-BFM for scenario analysis in the regulated Venice Lagoon system

Donata Melaku Canu, Leslie Aveytua-Alcazar, Celia Laurent, Ginevra Rosati, Cosimo Solidoro

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Outline

- **The high-resolution finite element coupled model SHYFEM-BFM and Hg simulating water transport, diffusion, and radiative transfer, biogeochemical cycles and pollution in the Venice Lagoon is applied to simulate water circulation, sea level, salinity, water temperature and productivity, contamination.**
- **Model projections for two climate scenarios (RCP 8.5 and RCP 4.5) to the end of the century using projected downscaled atmospheric forcing and boundary conditions from a regional climate model COSMO_CLM and the regional ocean coupled physical-biogeochemical model NEMO+OGSTM-BFM.**
- **Simulations of human regulation, closure of inlets to protect the city from flood events.**
- **Projected changes in the lagoon's thermohaline and hydrodynamics are expected to impact the lagoon's ecology, from individuals to communities, habitat distribution patterns, lagoon ecosystems, and ecosystem services.**
- **Effects on biogeochemistry, contamination and clam farming**





The Venice Lagoon Sentinel-2 processed in natural color on 28th February 2019. (Photo: ESA)

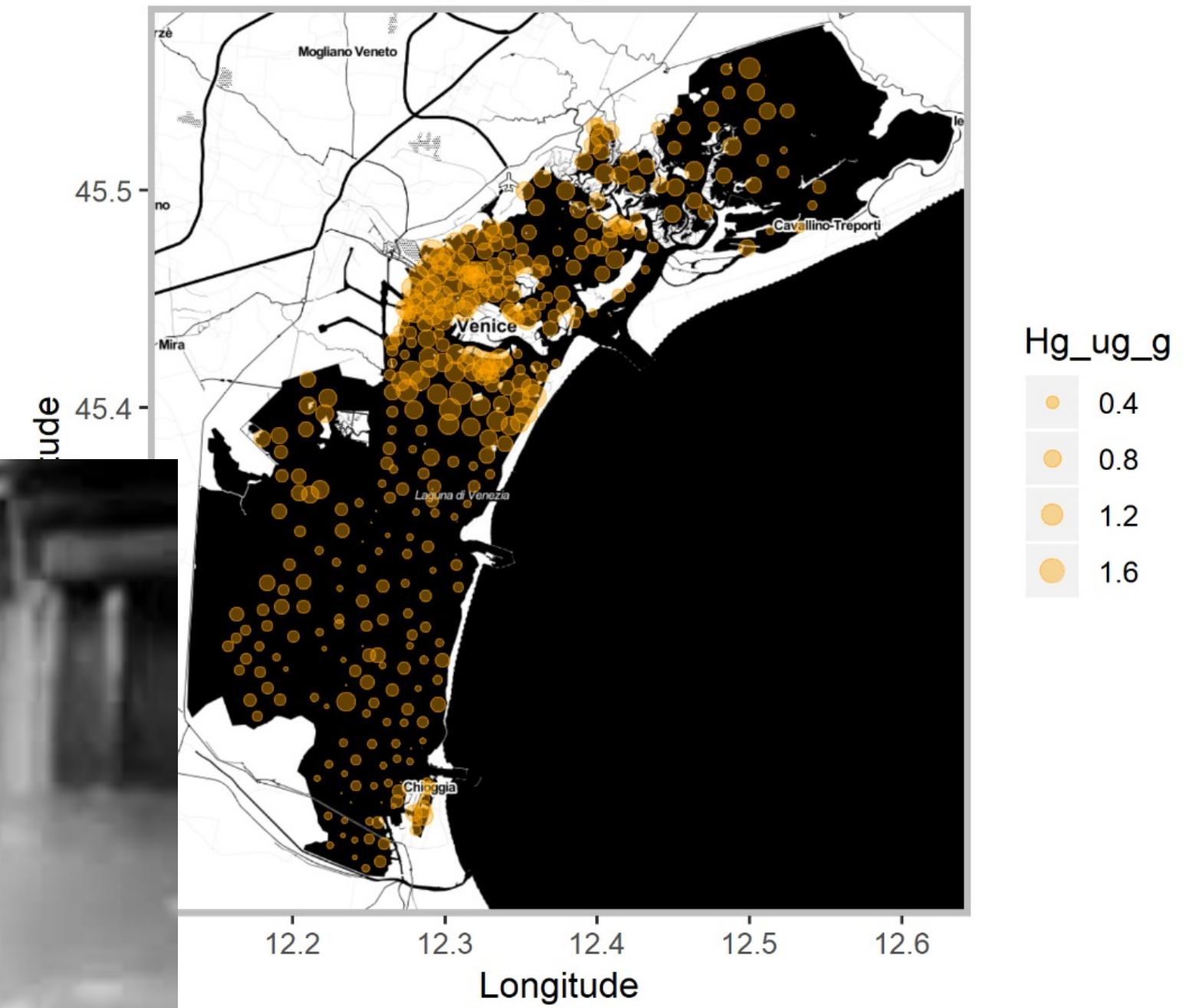
Total surface of 550 km²,
made up of islands (44
km²), wetlands
("barene") and tidal flats
("velme")

average depth 1m; deep
channels allow
navigation (65 km²).

11 tributaries: average
freshwater discharge \approx
 3×10^6 m³ day⁻¹

3 inlets: $\approx 3.85 \times 10^8$ m³
day⁻¹ water exchanged
through the inlets $\approx 1/3$ of
the total volume in a tidal
cycle

Evolving environment and pressures



Some questions → **Management responses**

How climate changes and human uses affect the lagoon trophic state, contamination levels, state of the ecosystems and their services? → **regulation, adaptation, mitigation**

How changes in land use affect the Lagoon water quality? → **Maximim Load, regulation**

How the water regulations affect the lagoon trophic state from the lower to the highest levels? → **adaptation**

How are contaminated sediments moving/contaminating the lagoon ecosystem? → **regulation**

Which are the effects on the lagoon Ecosystem Services, such as fishery production? → **regulation, adaptation, mitigation**



SHYFEM

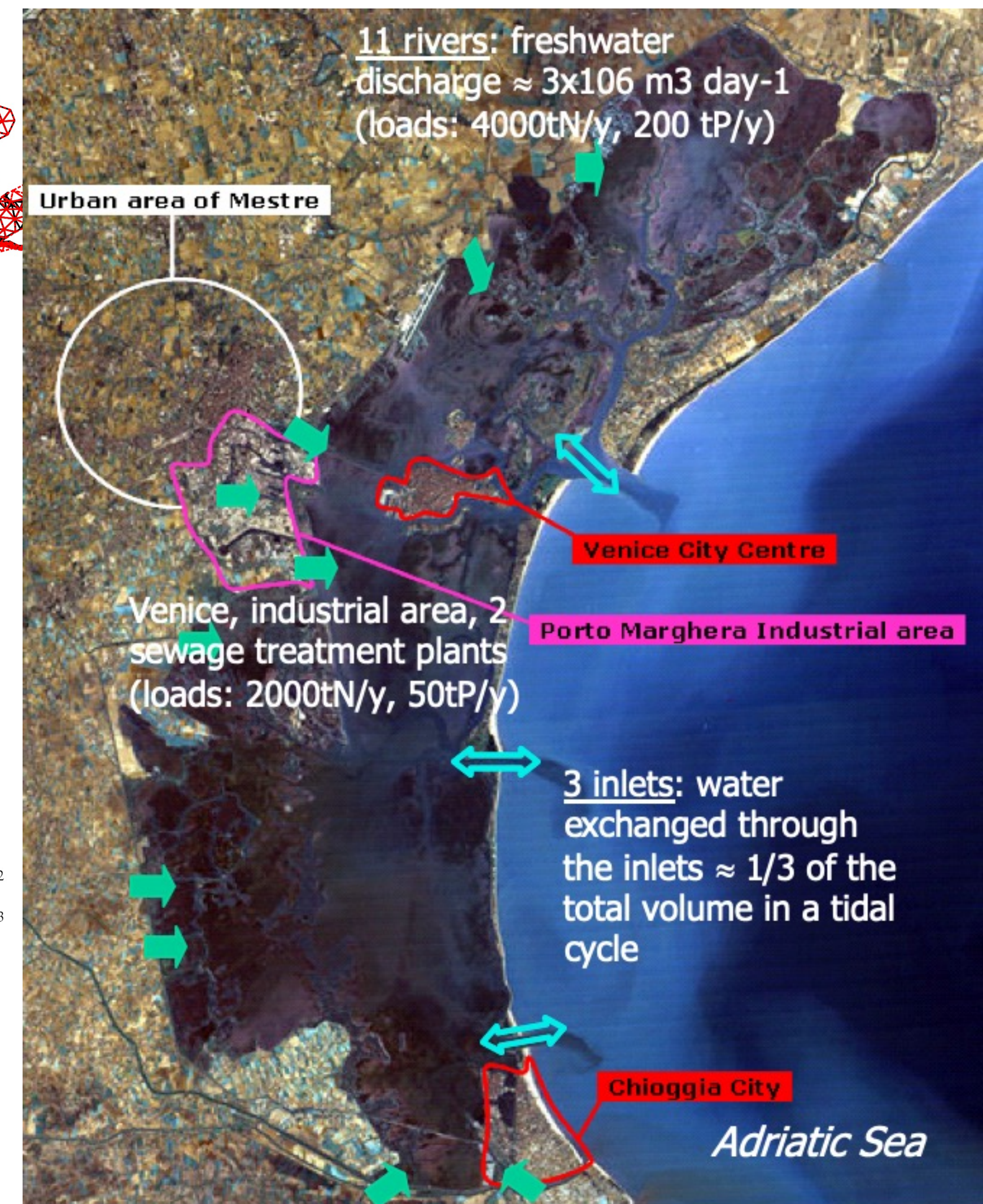
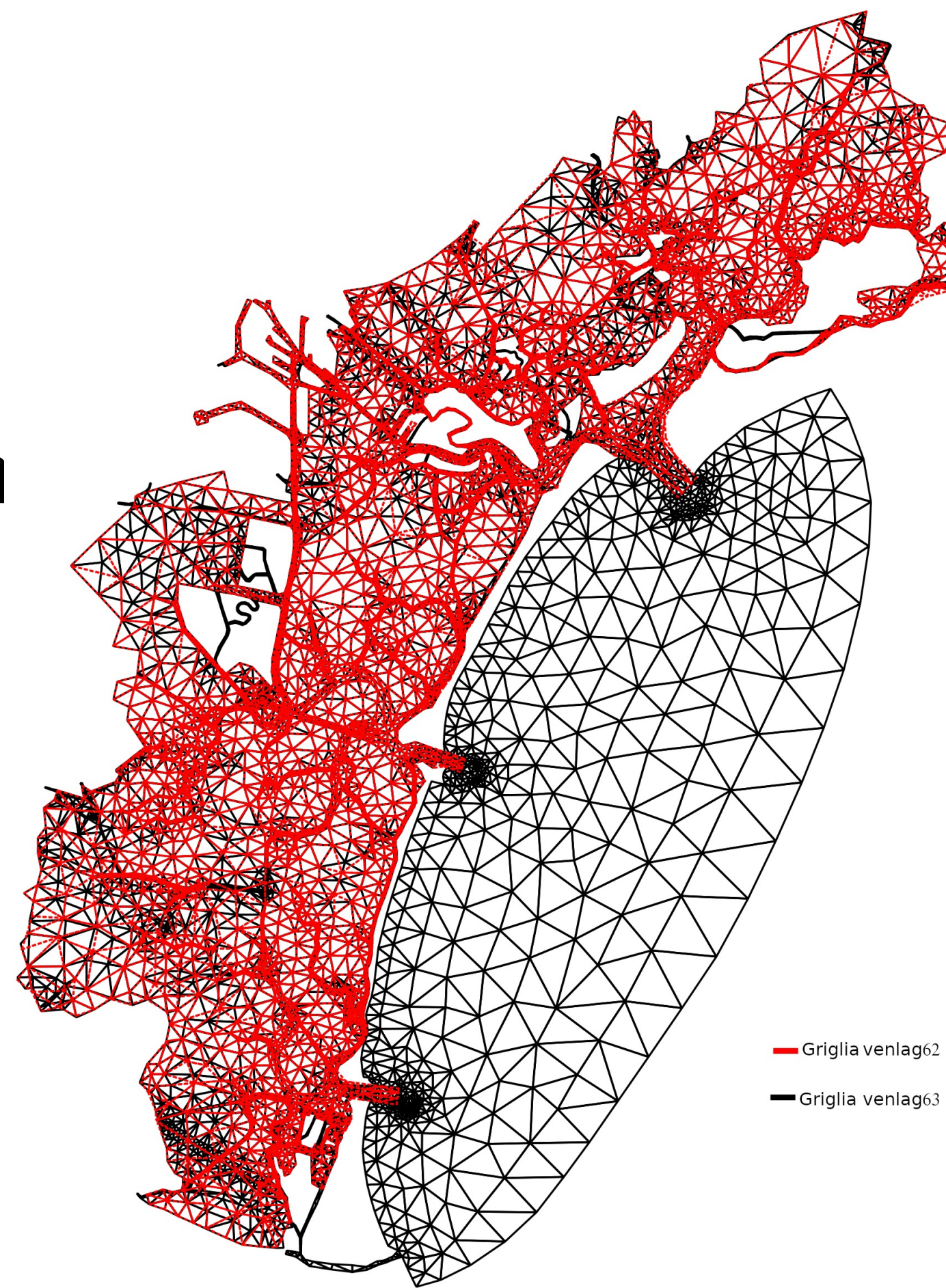
3D hydrodynamic model
Coupled with several modules:
biogeochemistry, ecology, sediment transport, pollution.

High resolution: 6686 nodes
Triangular elements
7 vertical levels

Open sea boundaries

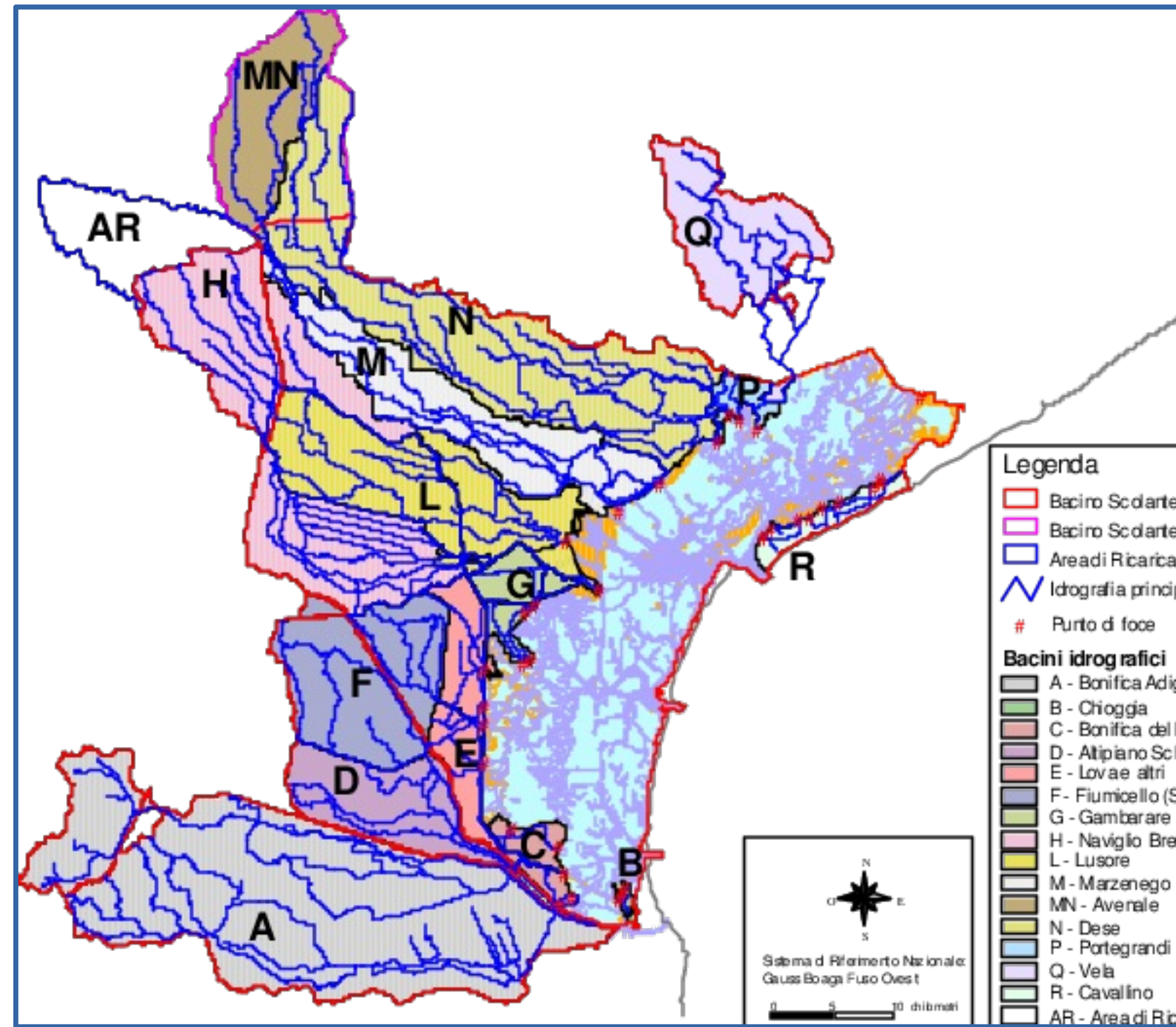
River inputs of water and substances
And point sources

Atmospheric forcing and inputs of water and substances



Umgiesser G., Melaku Canu D., Cucco A., Solidoro C. 2004. A finite element model for the Venice Lagoon. Development, set up, calibration and validation *Journal of Marine Systems*, Volume 51, Issues 1-4, pp. 123-145

Coupled models

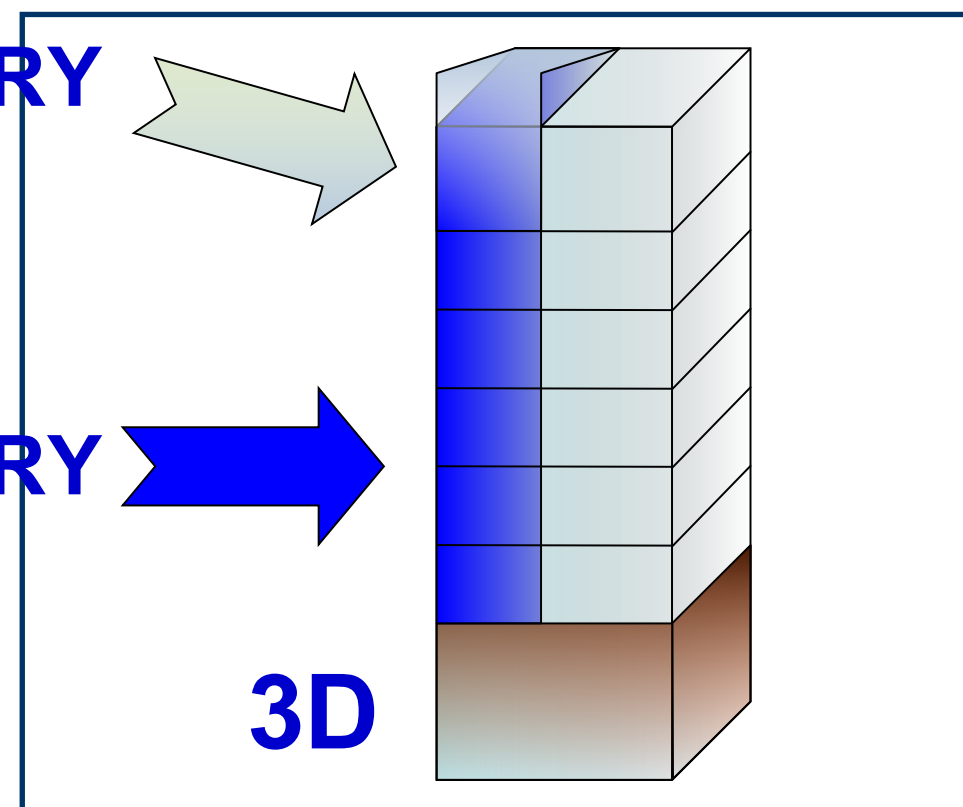
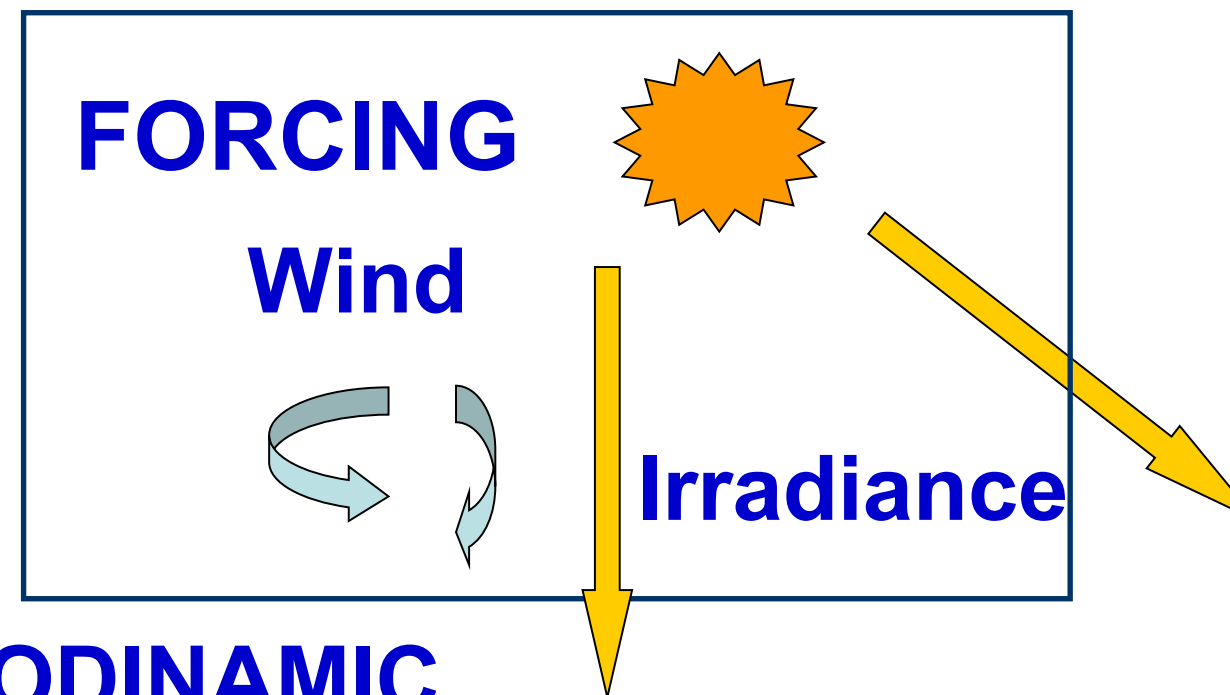


HYDRODYNAMIC

BOUNDARY RIVER

BOUNDARY TIDE

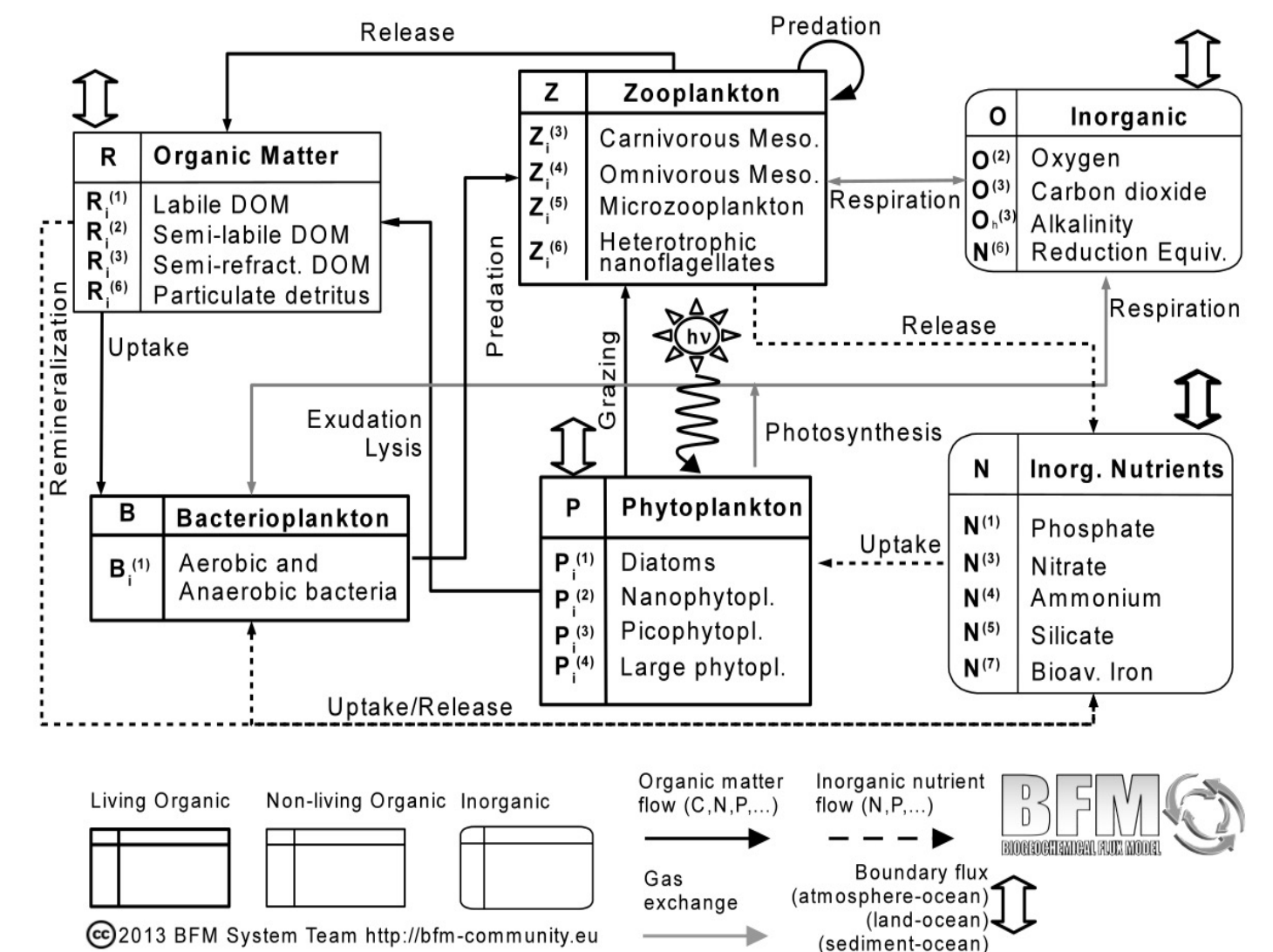
3D



BIOGEOCHEMICAL

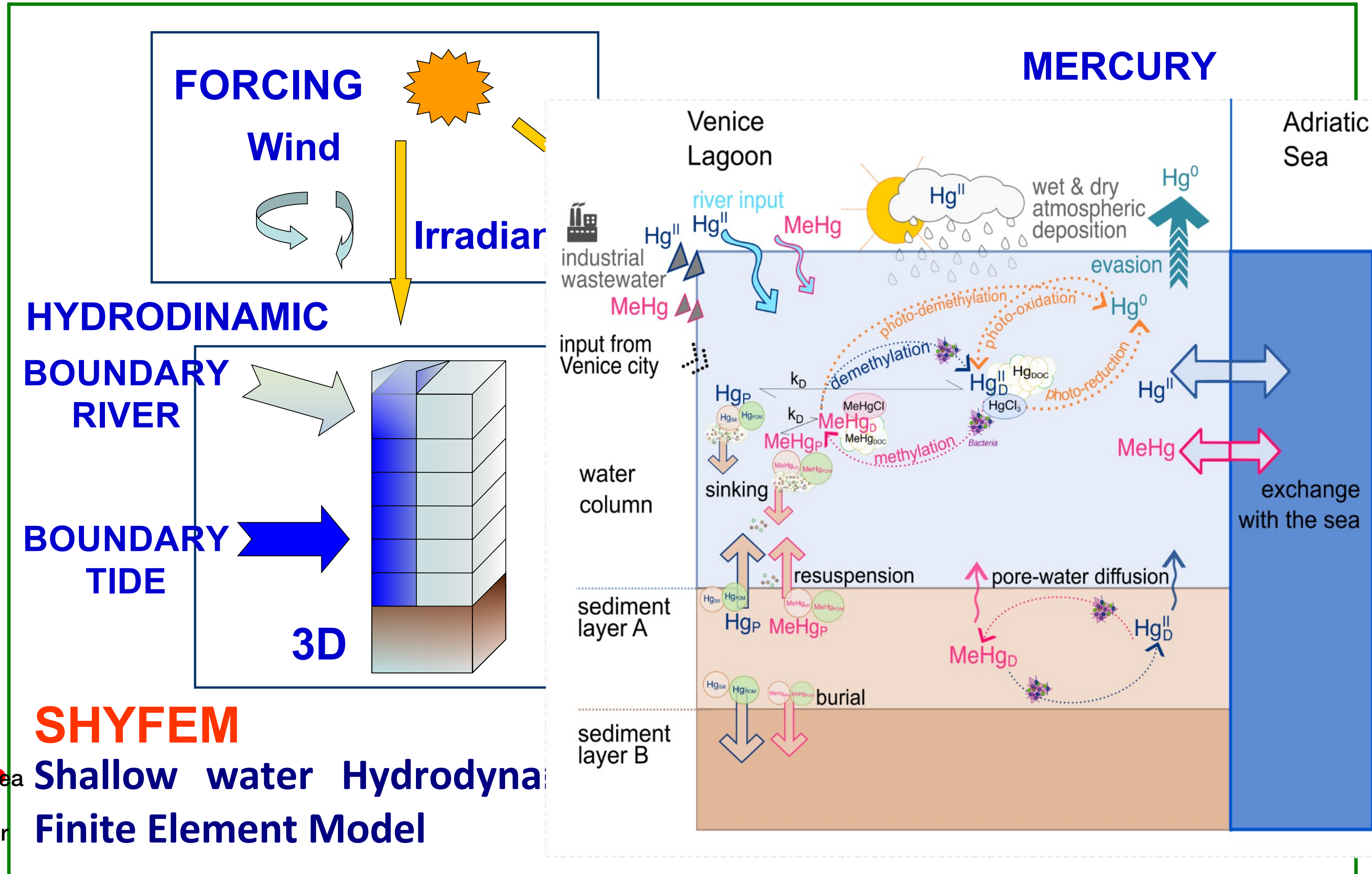
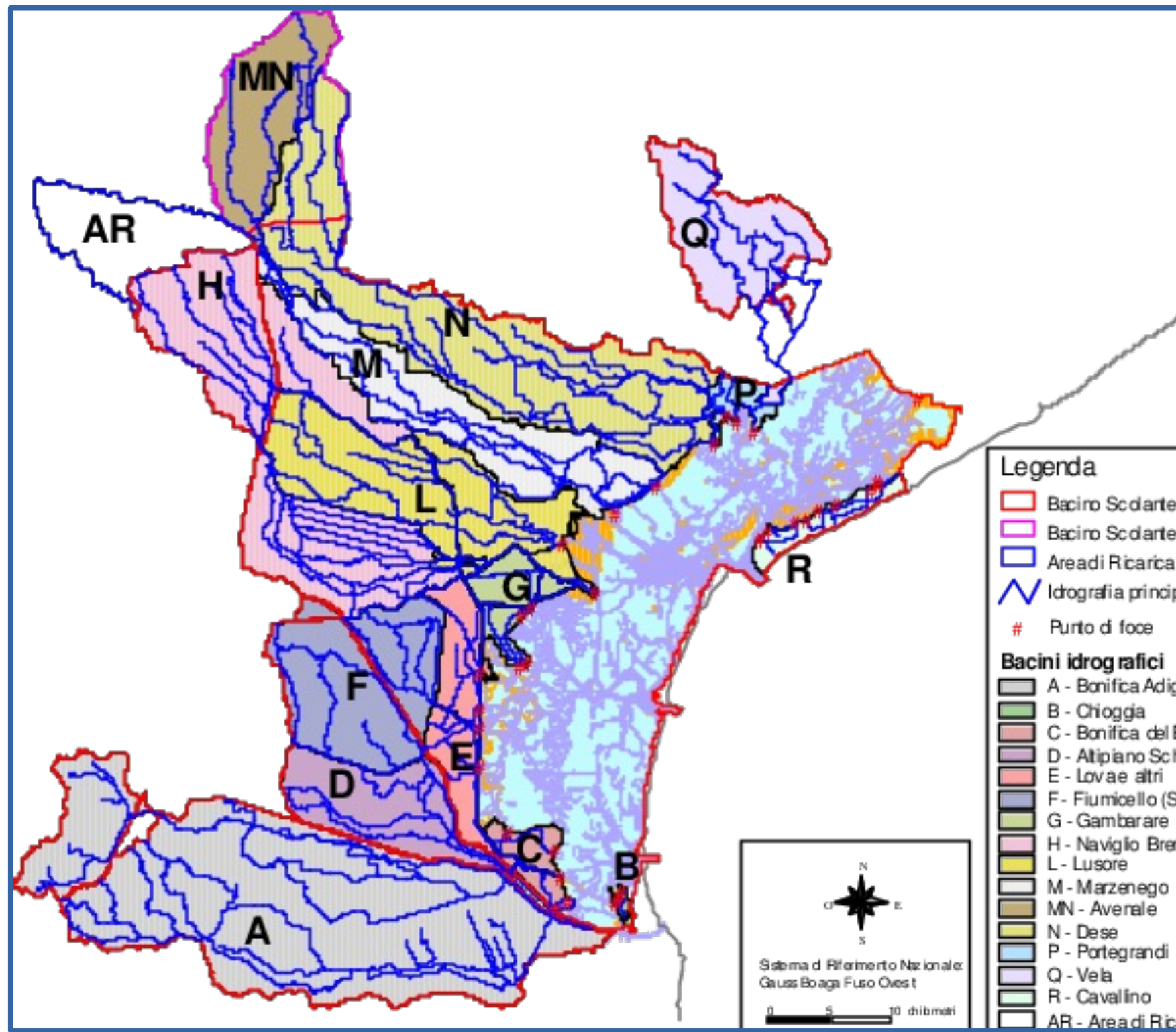
BFM

- Biogeochemical flux model



- **SHYFEM**
- Shallow water Hydrodynamic Finite Element Model

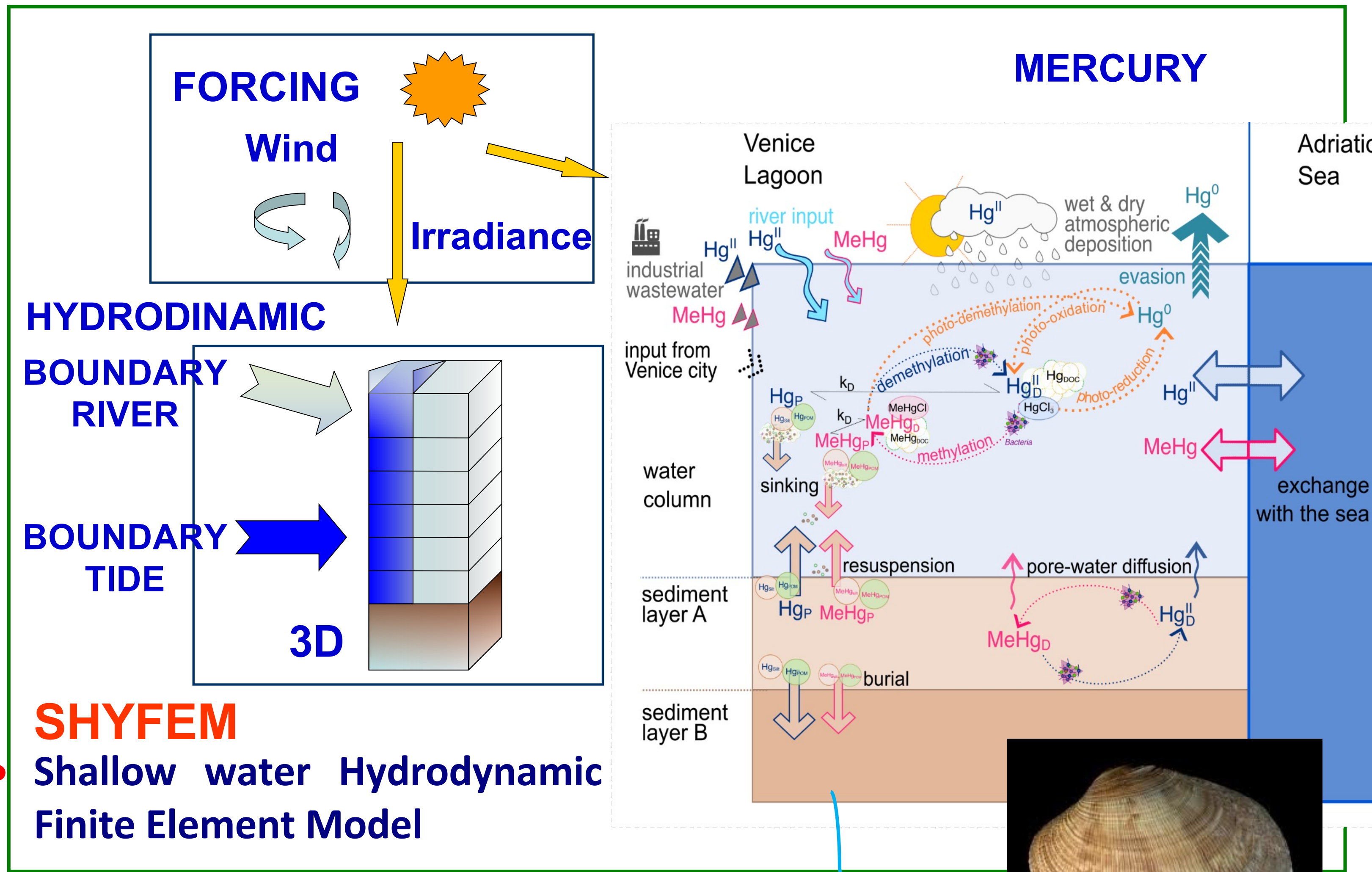
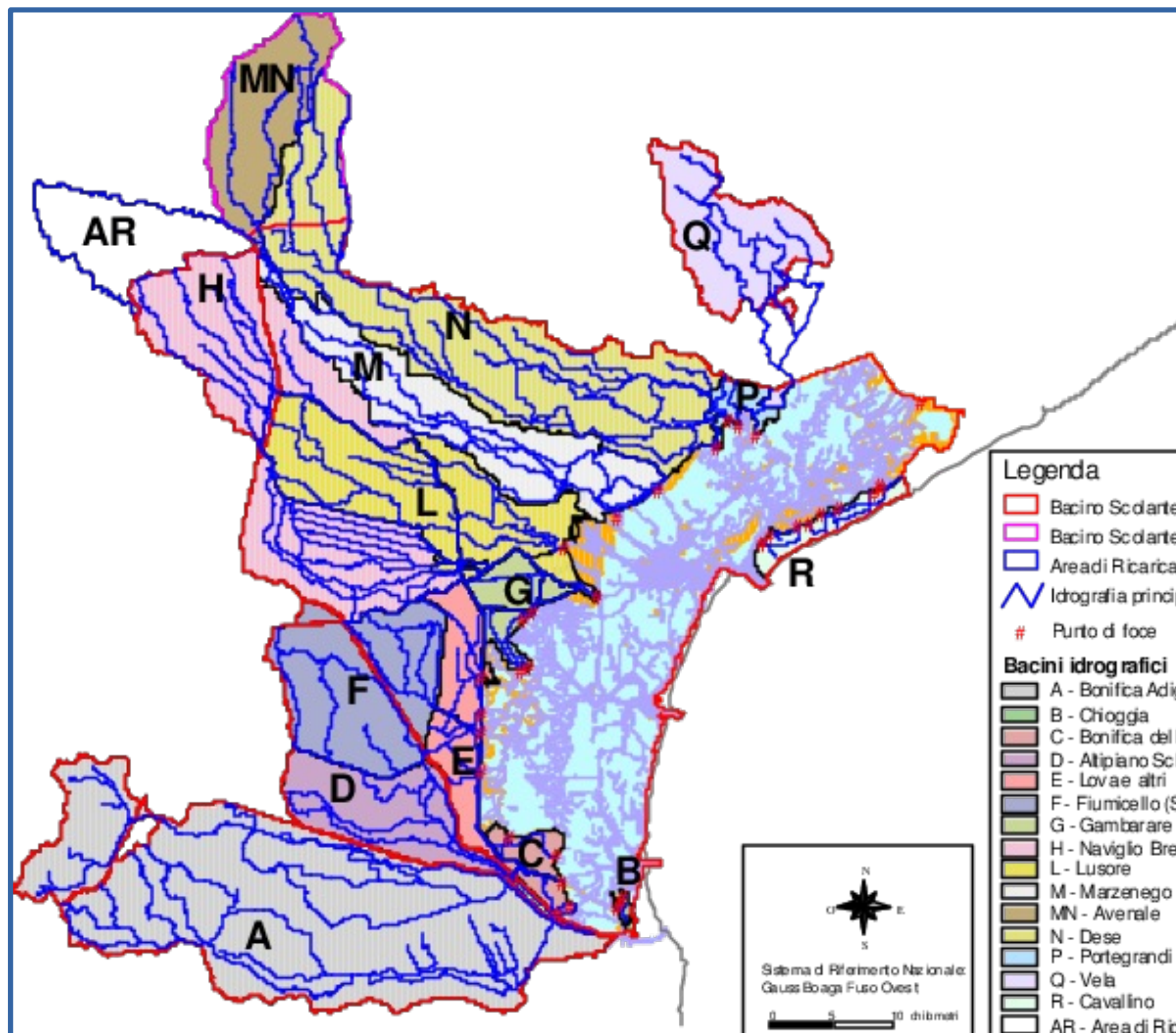
Coupled models, mercury POLLUTION



Rosati G., Solidoro C., Canu D. Mercury dynamics in a changing coastal area over industrial and postindustrial phases: lessons from the Venice Lagoon. 2020, accepted. Science of the total environment. Volume 74315 November 2020. Article 140586. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.140586>

Rosati et al., Mercury cycling in contaminated coastal environments: modeling the benthic-pelagic coupling and microbial Hg resistance in the Venice Lagoon in prep.

Coupled models, POLLUTION, bioaccumulation

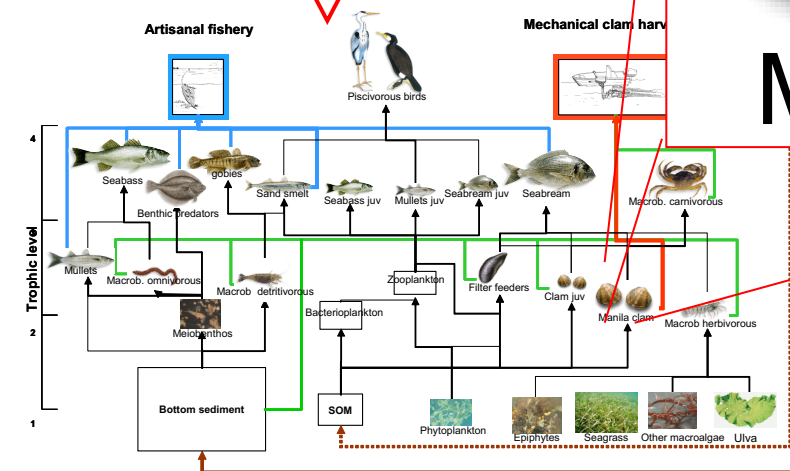
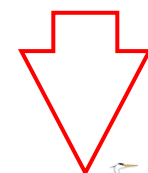
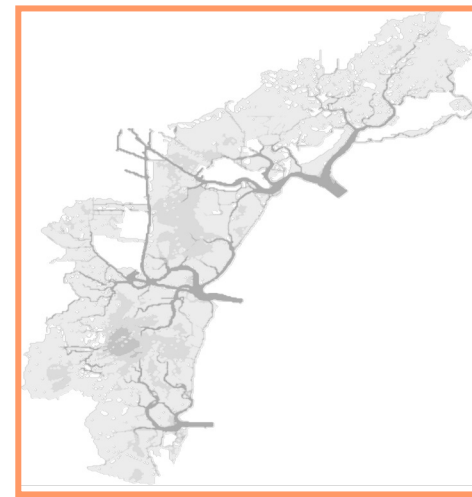
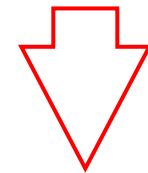
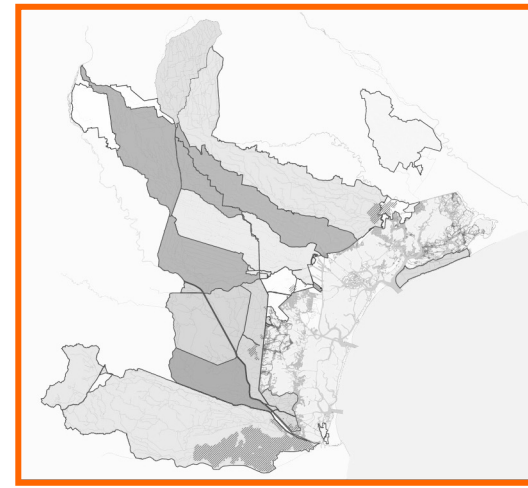
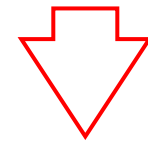
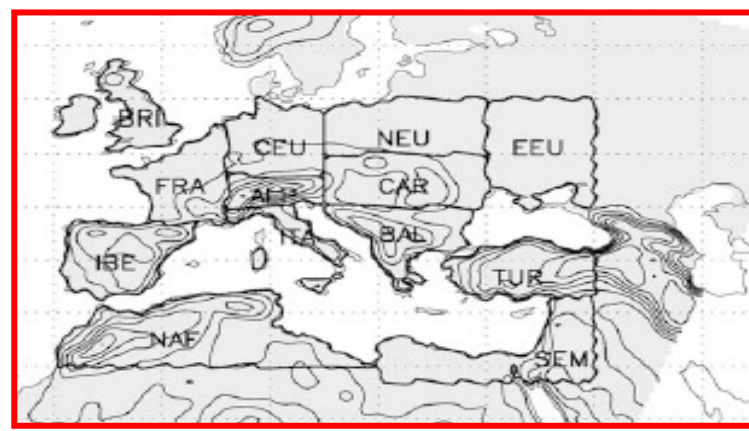


SHYFEM

- Shallow water Hydrodynamic Finite Element Model

Hg, MeHg





Manila clam

[1] high resolution regional climate model

rain

T, solar radiation, humidity

wind, pressure

rain

[2a] statistical model of nutrient input

[2b] statistical model of sea-lagoon boundaries

boundary conditions

boundary conditions

[3] biogeochemical model of the lagoon of Venice

Plankton productivity

[4a] Food web model of the lagoon

[4b] clam aquaculture

SCENARIO SIMULATIONS : levels, temperature and salinity Up to 2100, RCP 8.5 RCP 4.5

WATERSHED

River discharge, temperature

ATMOSPHERIC FORCING

(Regional downscaled model

(Bucchignani et al., 2016, Zollo et al. 2016).

Atmospheric conditions (wind, rain, pressure, solar radiation): hourly

URBAN

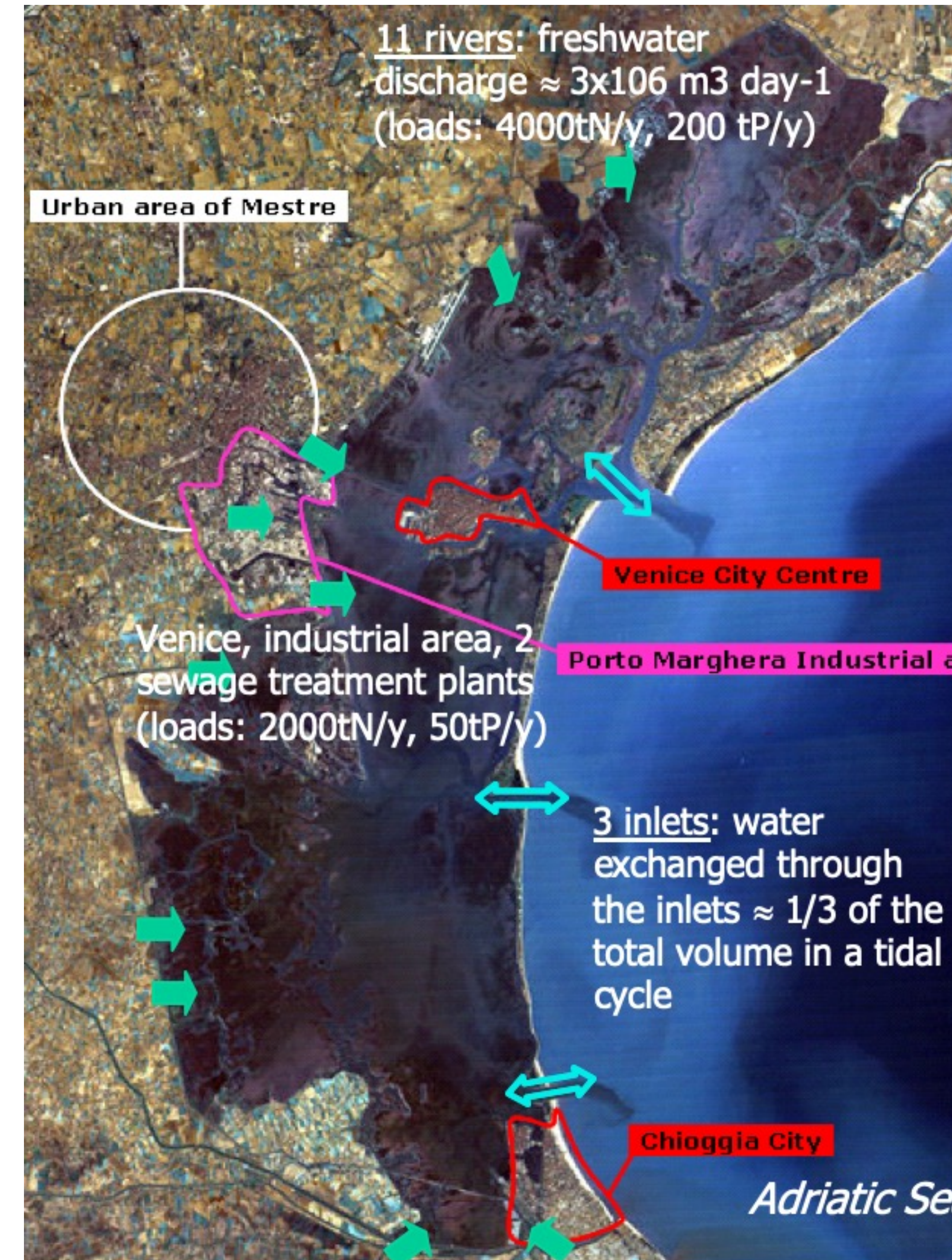
Local urban and sewage inputs of water

SEA

Water levels *(Zanchettin et al., 2020)*

temperature, salinity: hourly

(Reale et al., 2022)



SCENARIO SIMULATIONS : levels, temperature and salinity Up to 2100, RCP 8.5 RCP 4.5

WATERSHED

River discharge, temperature

METEOROLOGY

(Regional downscaled model
(*Bucchignani et al., 2016, Zollo et al. 2016*).

Atmospheric conditions (wind, rain, pressure, solar radiation): hourly

URBAN

Local urban area, sewage inputs of water

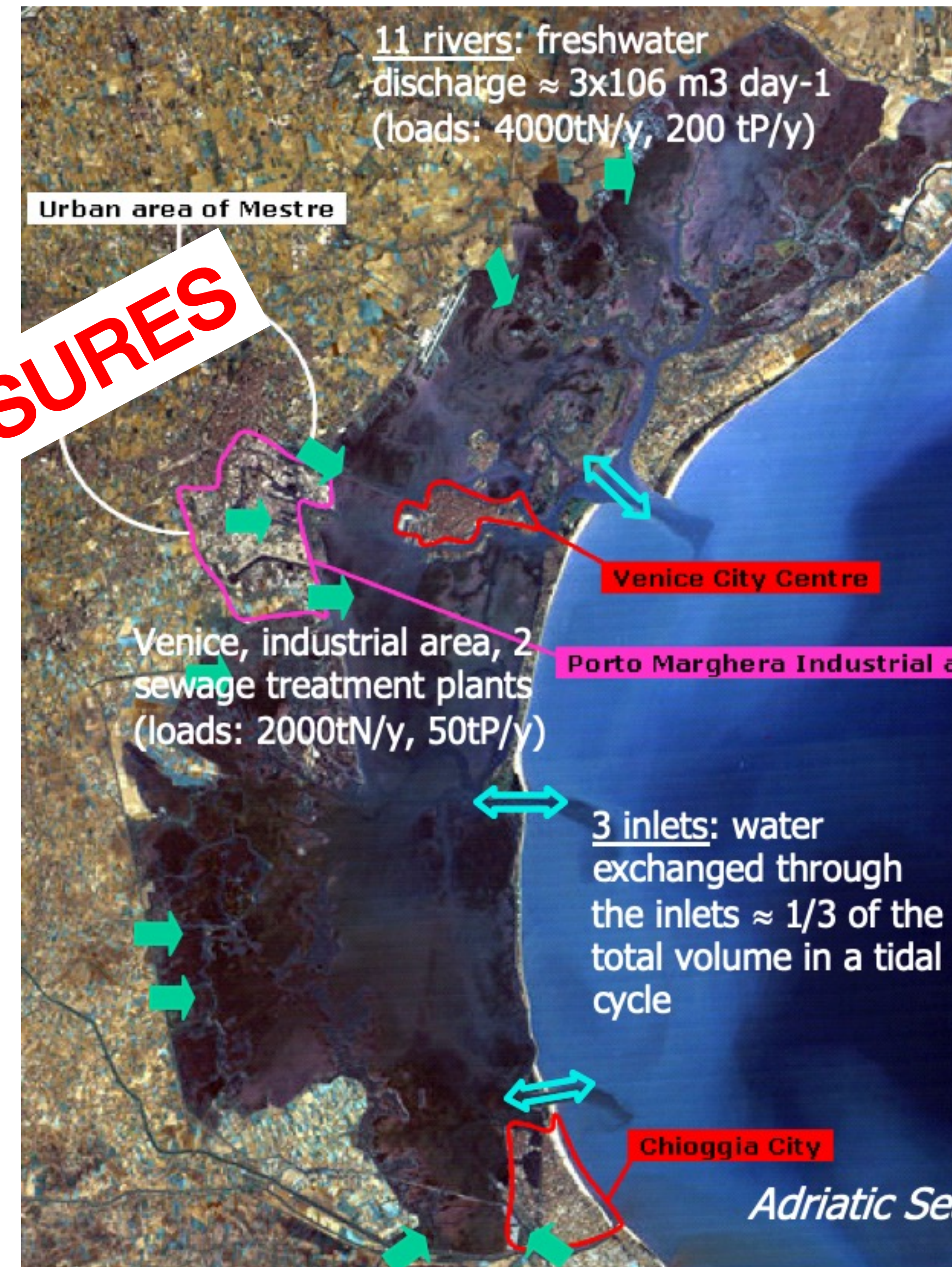
SEA

Water levels (*Zanchettin et al., 2020*)

temperature, salinity: hourly

(*Solidoro et al., 2021, Reale et al., 2022*)

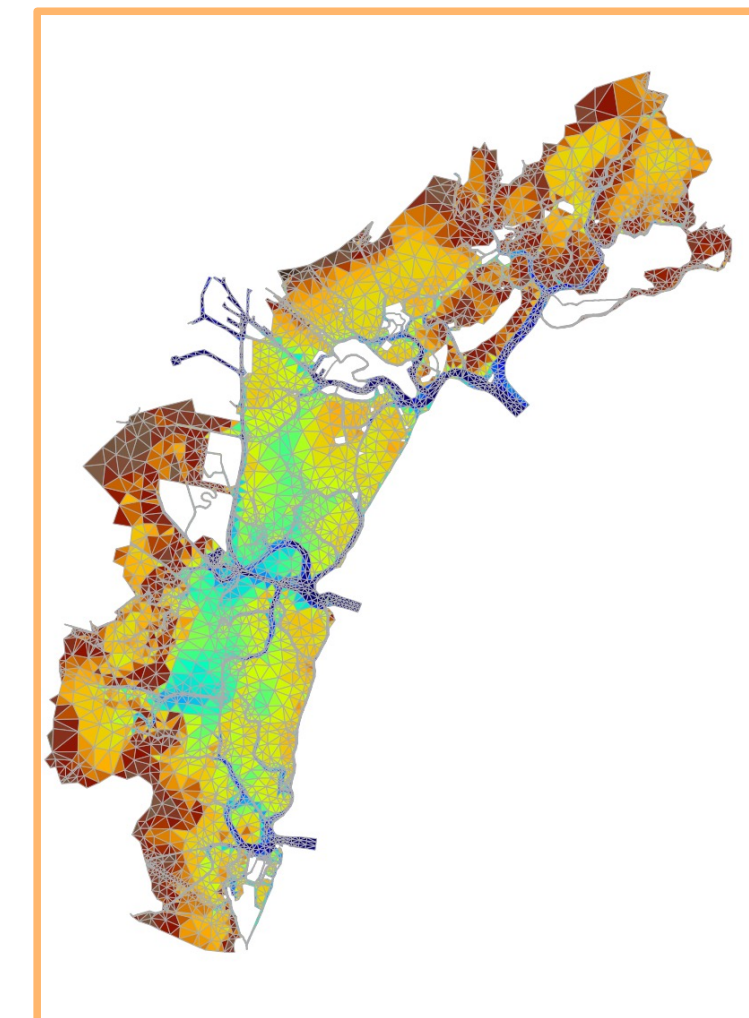
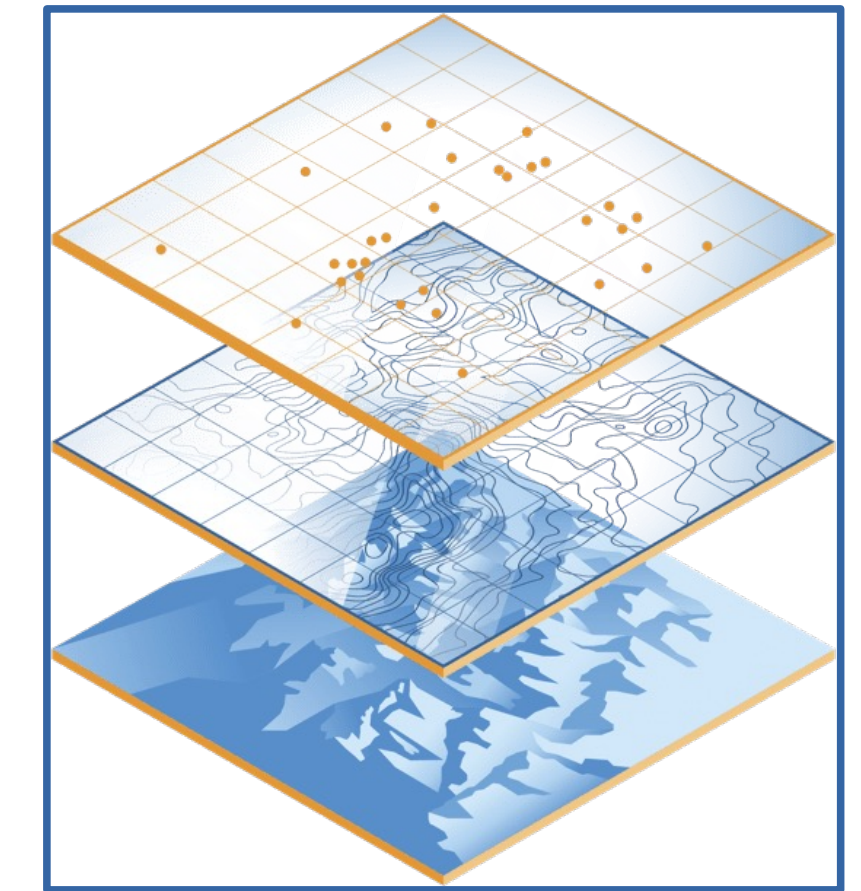
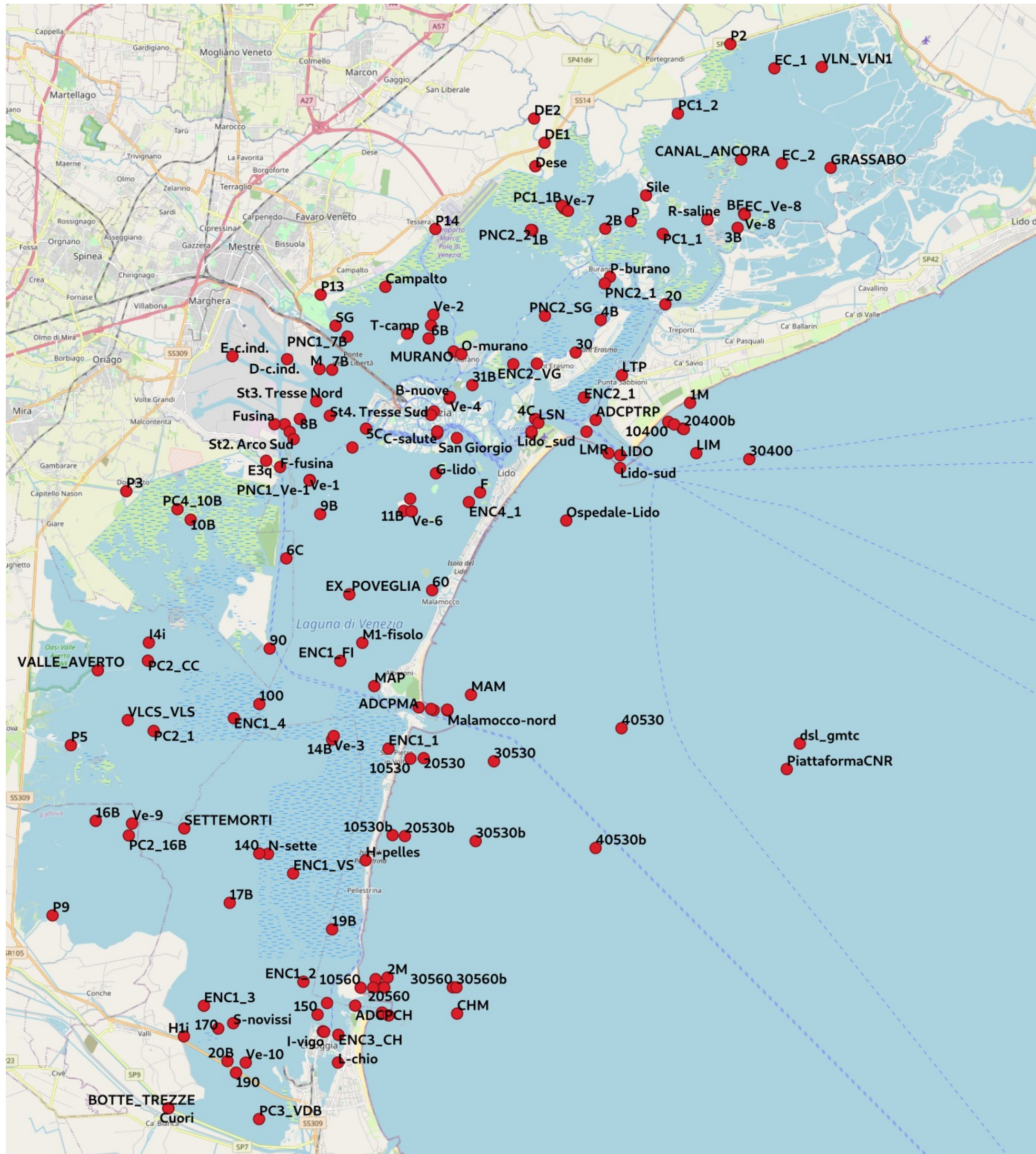
WITH AND WITHOUT MOSE CLOSURES



In-situ data

~ 65 variables for a total of over 30 million measurements (2000-2020). Some of the variables:

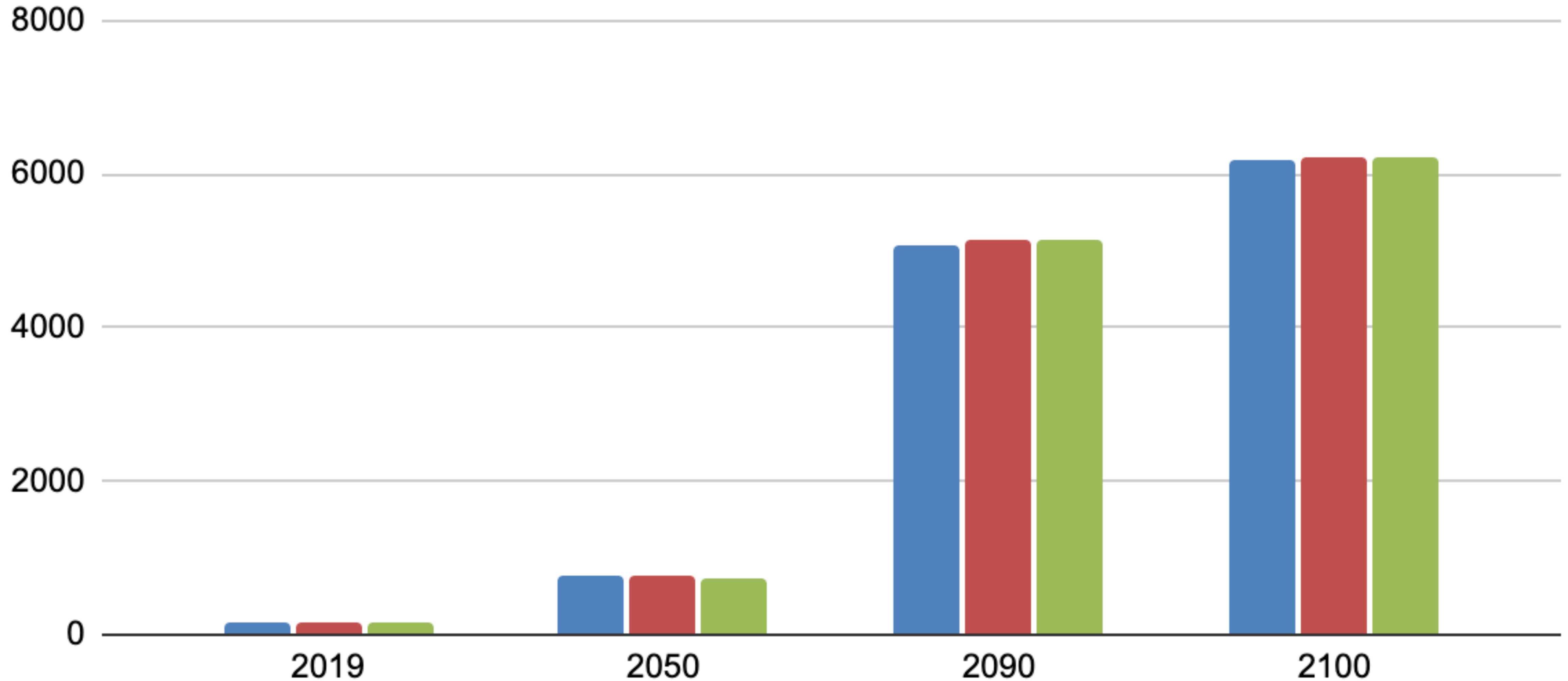
- river flow rates
- sea level
- current speed (ADCP)
- solar radiation
- atmospheric pressure
- air temperature
- rain
- air humidity
- wind direction and speed
- water temperature
- salinity
- dissolved oxygen
- alkalinity
- pH and redox potential
- turbidity
- dissolved nitrogen
- silicates
- dissolved phosphorus
- dissolved and particulate organic carbon
- chlorophyll-a



MOSE closures, RCP 8.5 -50th percentile

HOURS OF CLOSURES

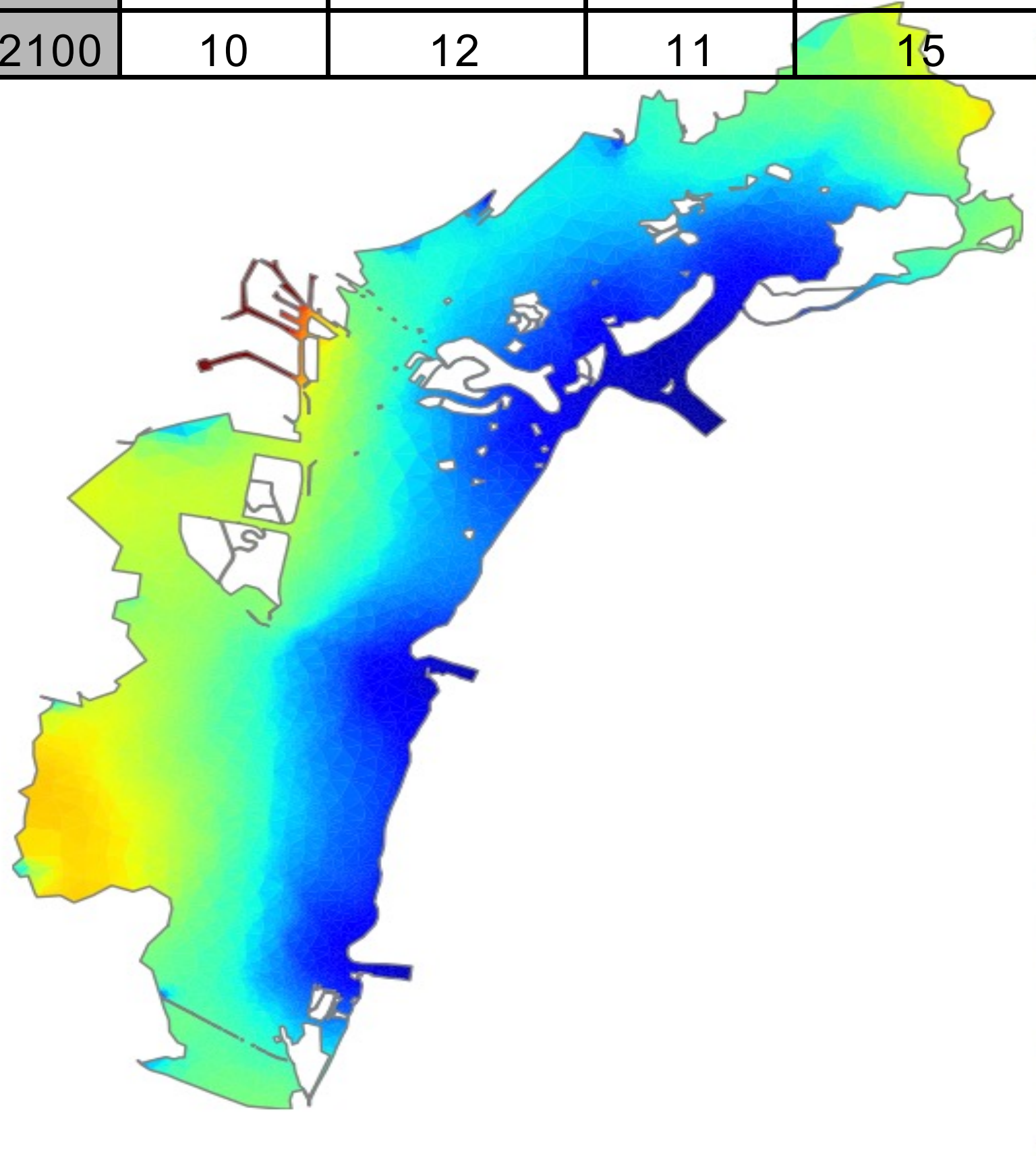
Lido Malamocco Chioggia



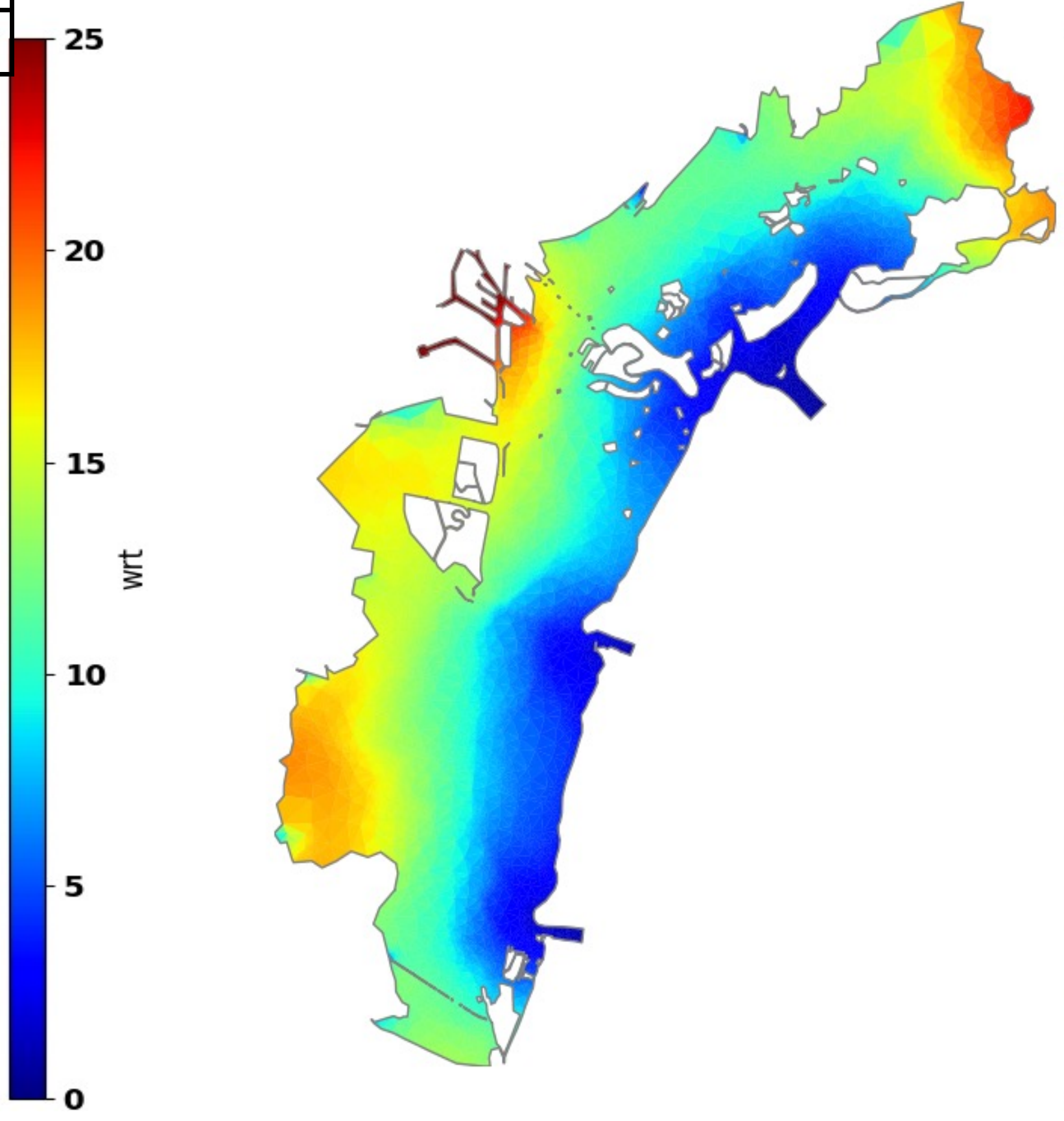
Hours of closures

WATER RESIDENCE TIMES

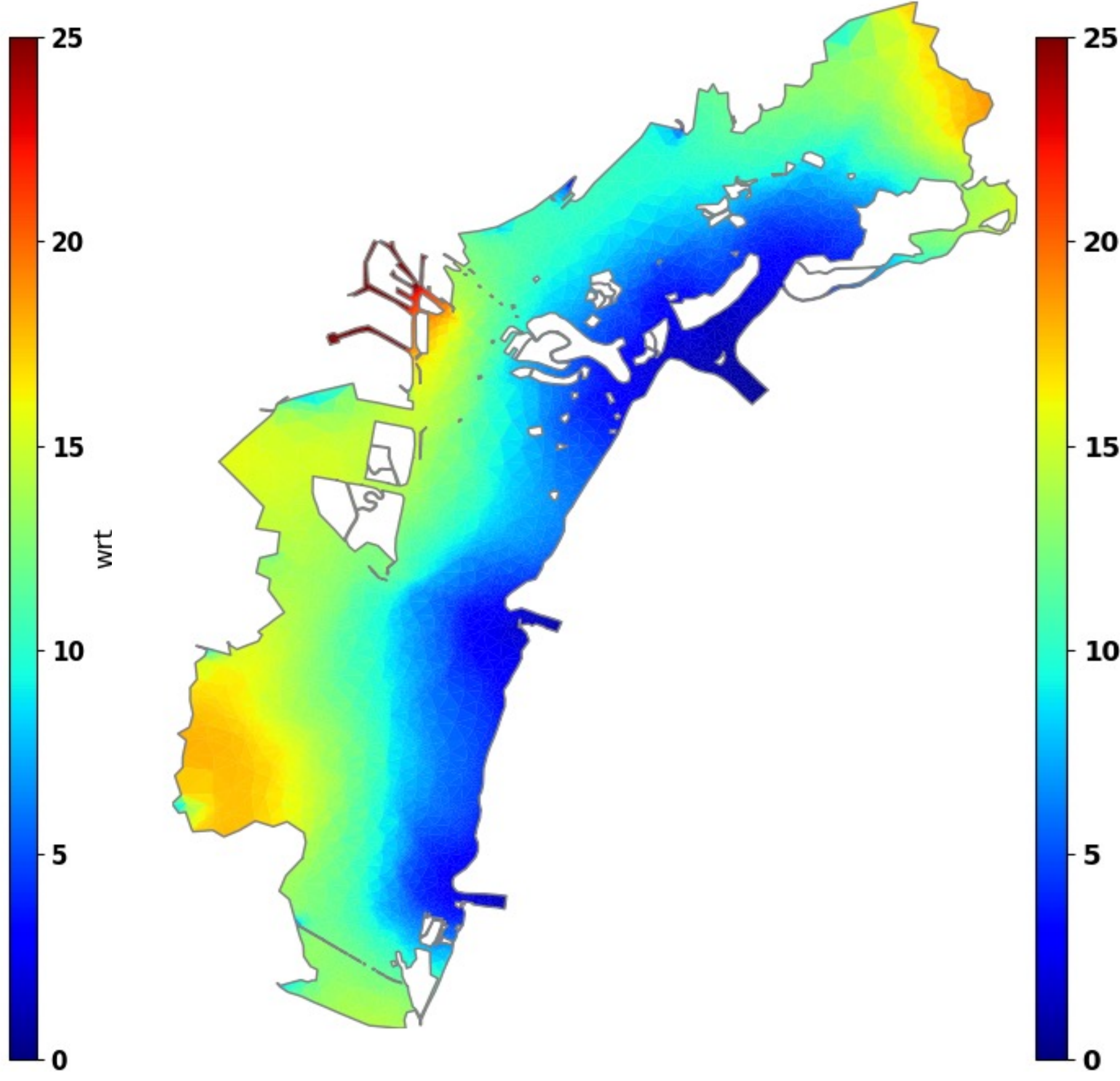
	rcp45	rcp45Close	rcp85	rcp85Close
REF	9	9	9	9
2050	10	10	10	10
2100	10	12	11	15



WRT 2019
Average 9 days



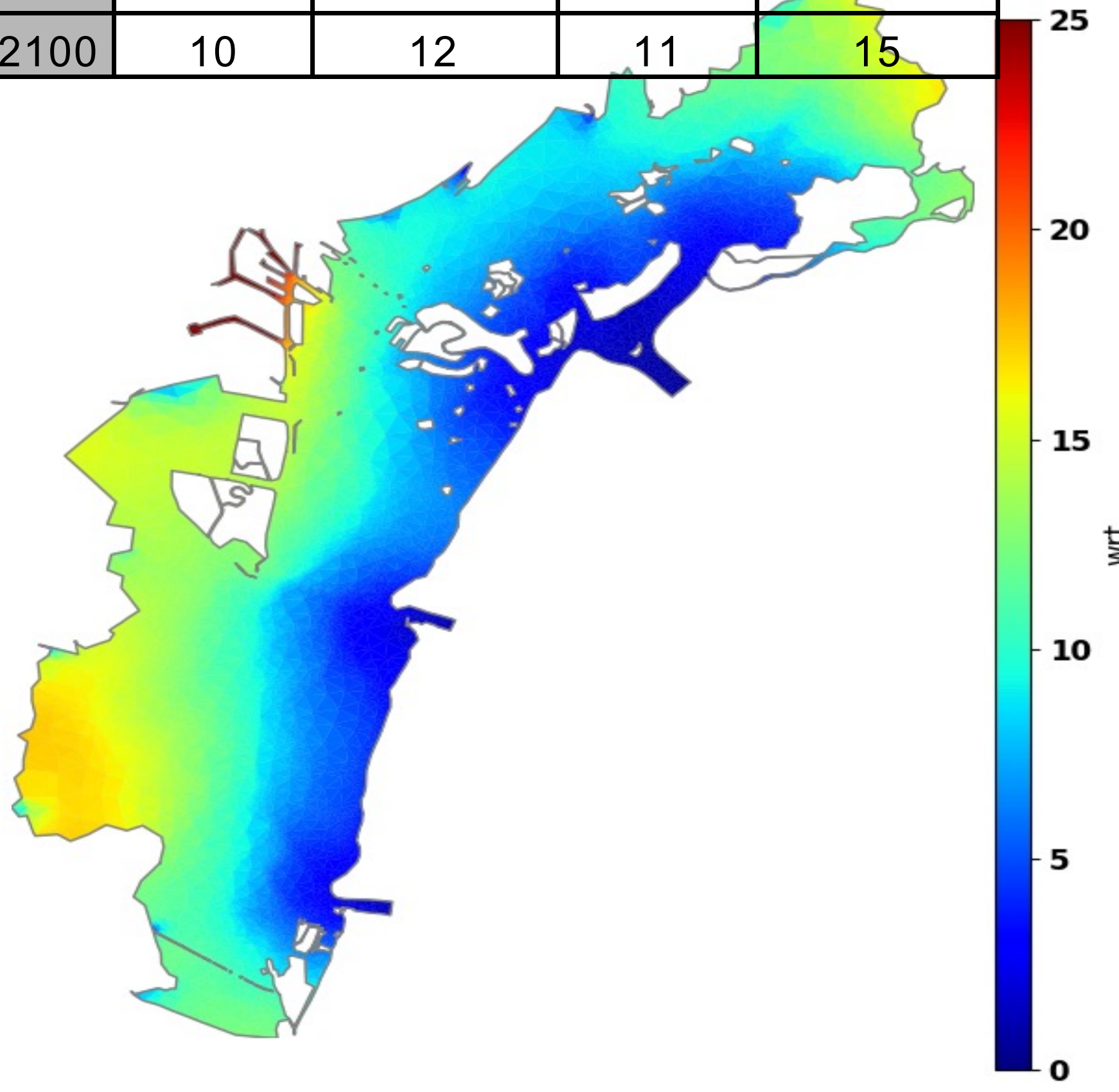
WRT 2050 RCP 4.5
Average 10 days



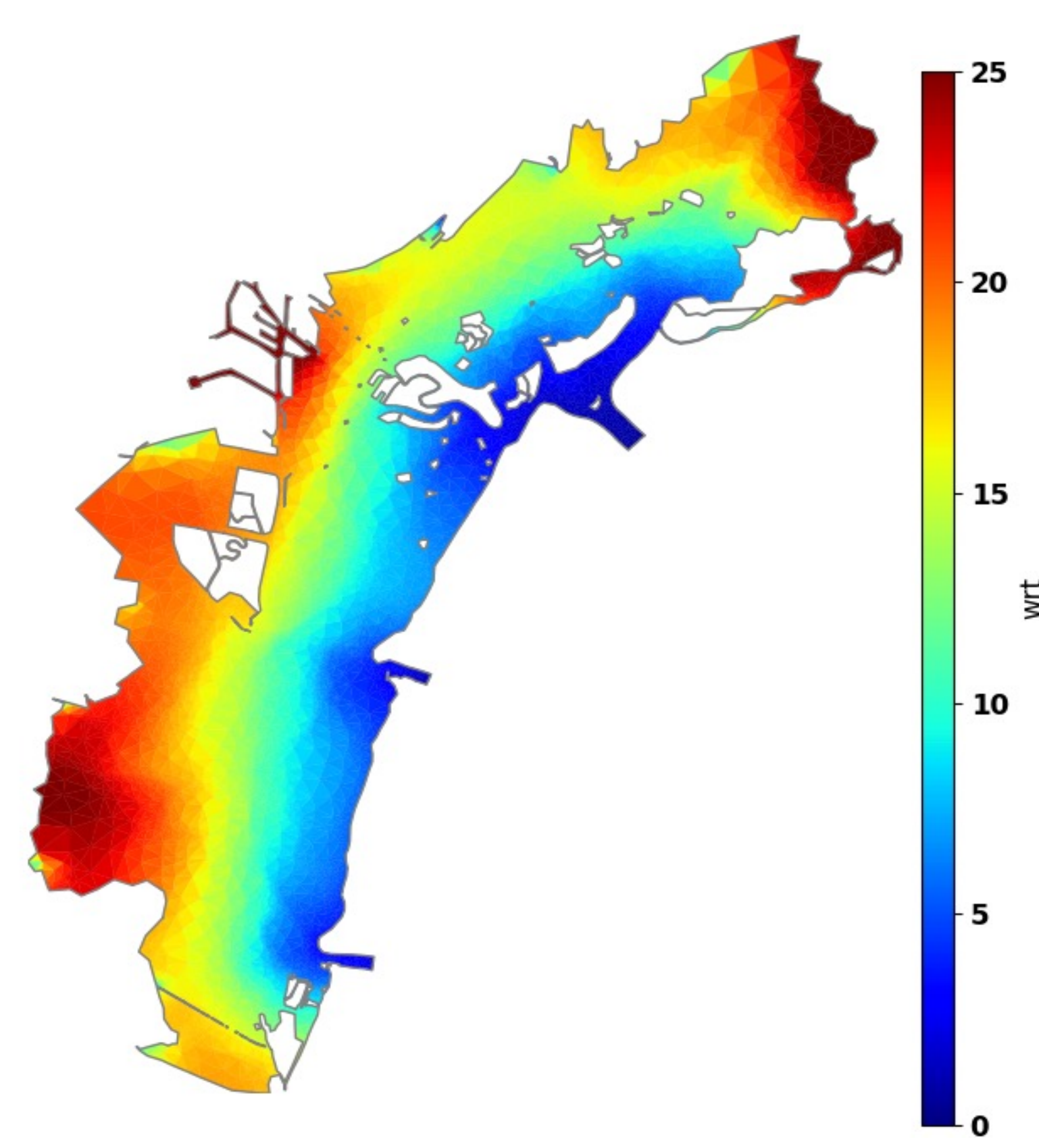
WRT 2100 RCP 4.5
Average 10 days

WATER RESIDENCE TIMES

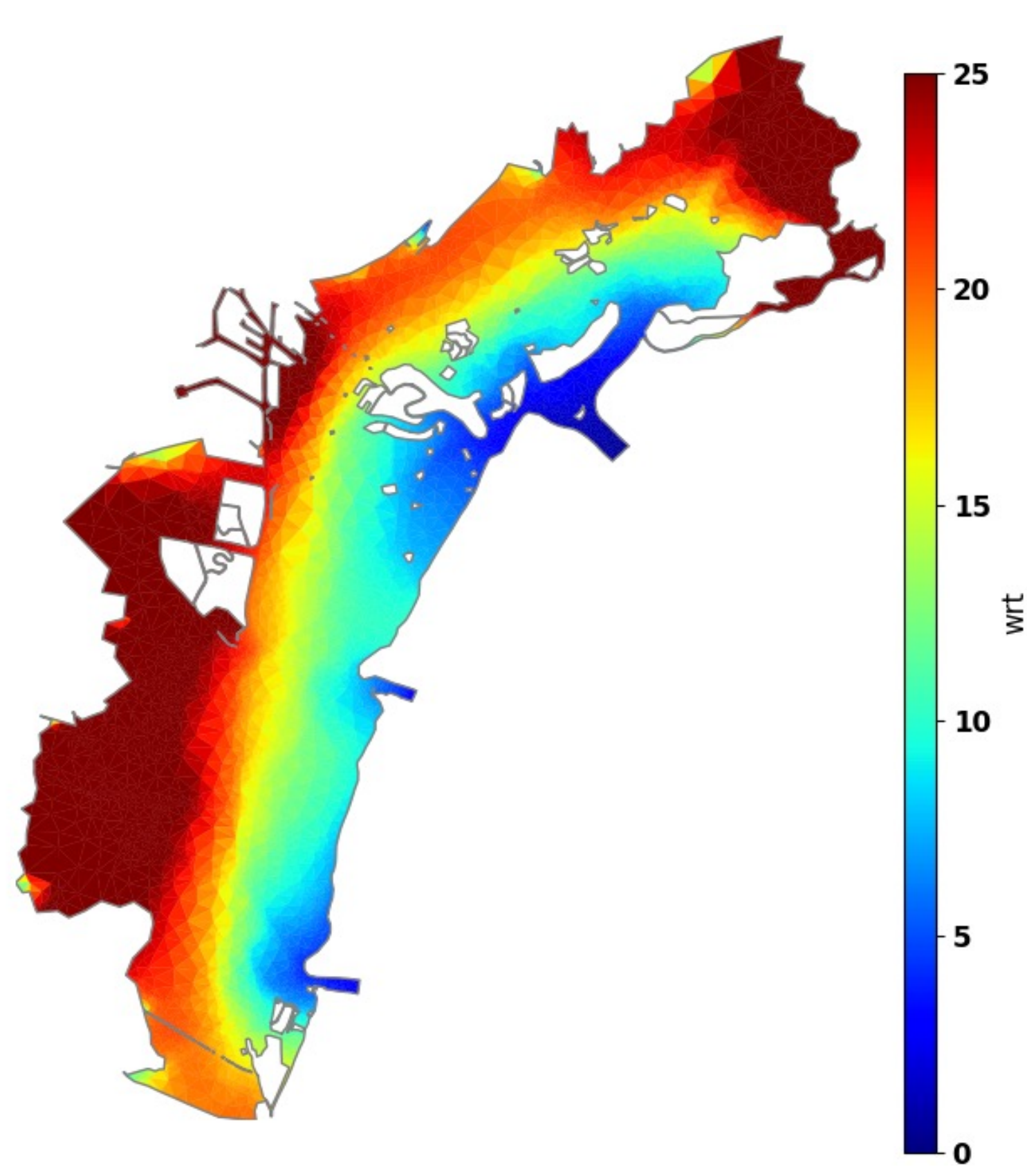
	rcp45	rcp45Close	rcp85	rcp85Close
REF	9	9	9	9
2050	10	10	10	10
2100	10	12	11	15



WRT 2019
Average 9 days



WRT 2050 RCP 8.5
Average 12 days

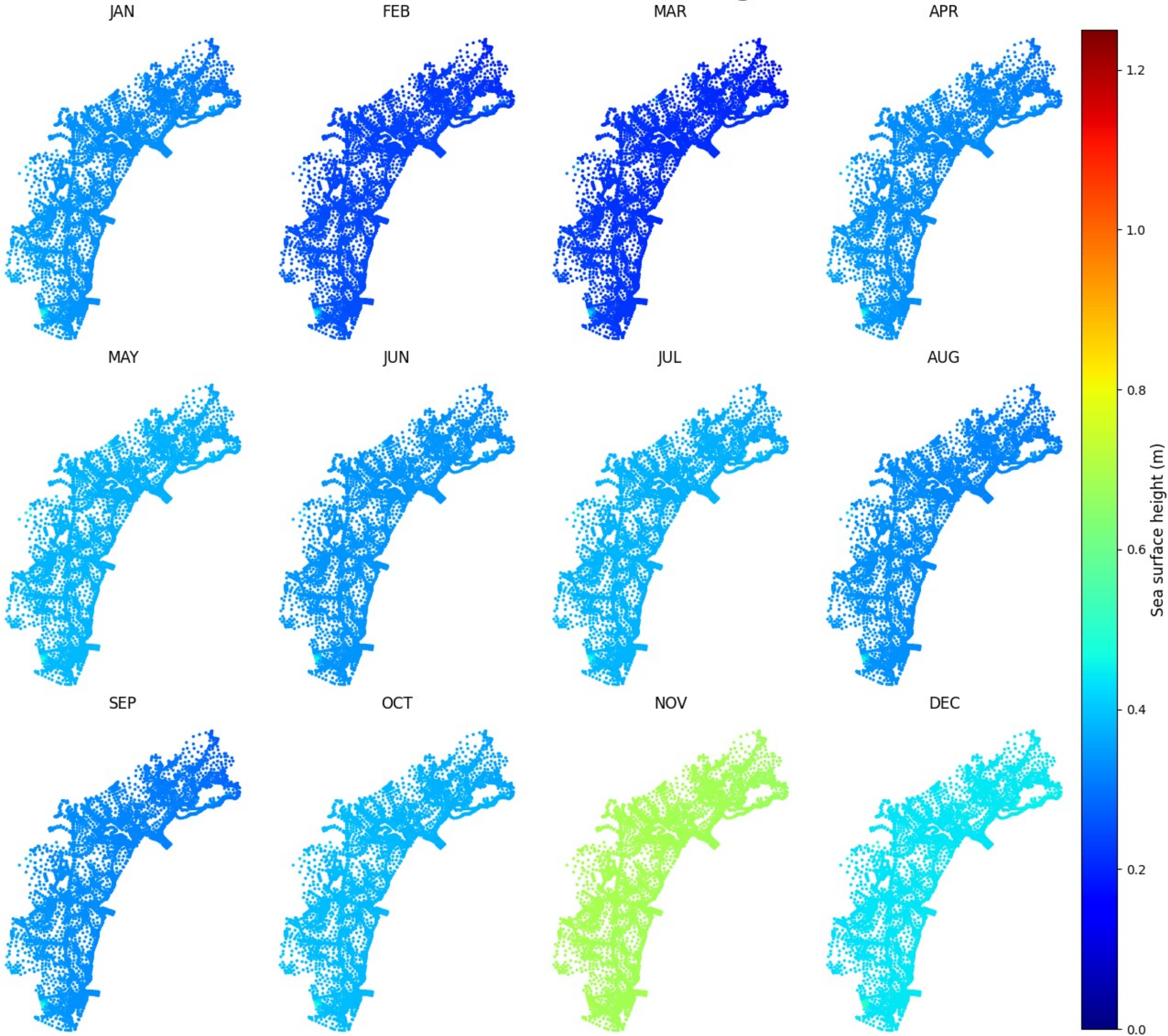


WRT 2100 RCP 8.5
Average 15 days

SEA LEVEL RISE, MONTHLY MEANS

2019 : Sea surface height

2019

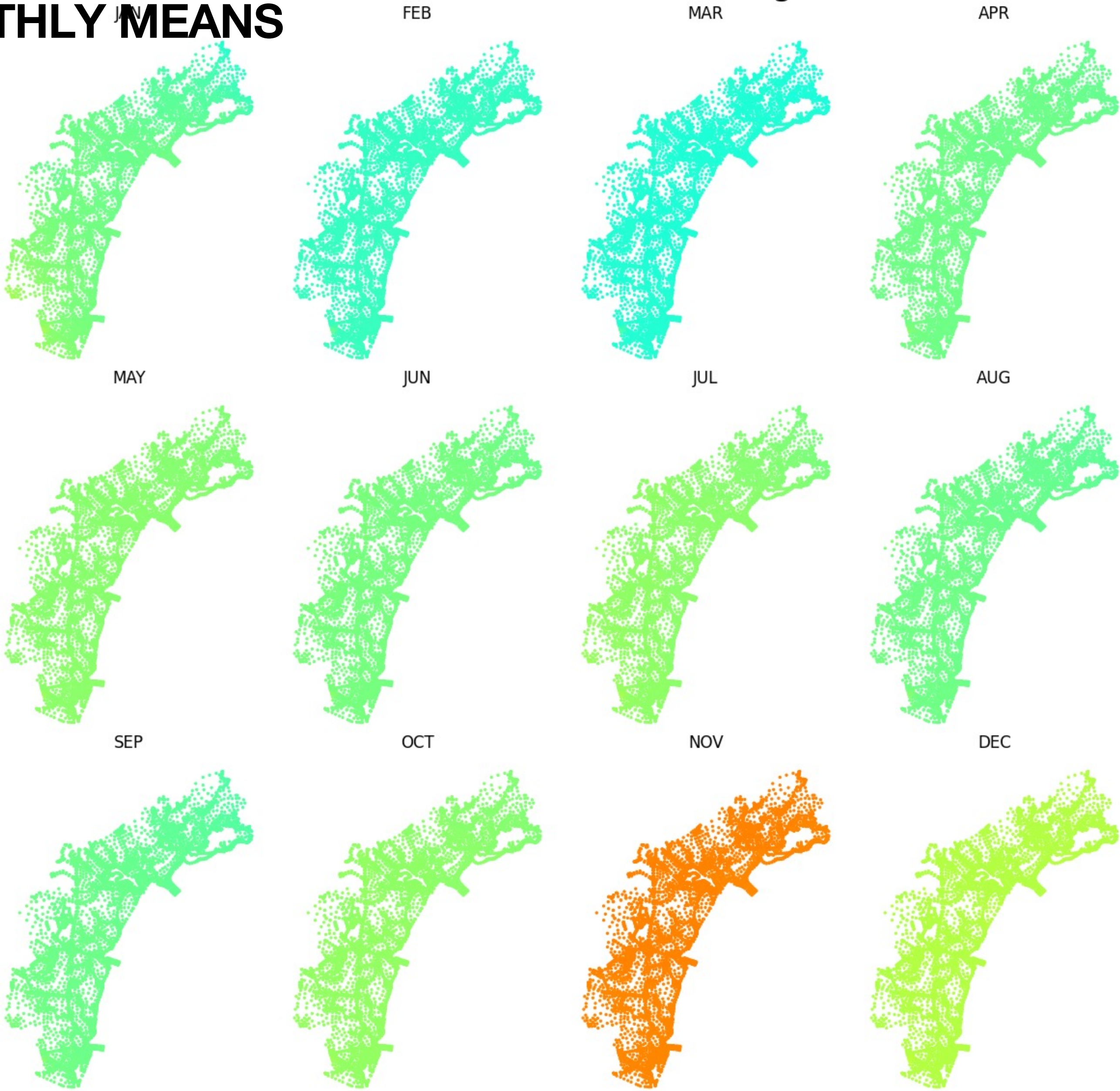


no MOSE closures

SEA LEVEL RISE, MONTHLY MEANS

2050

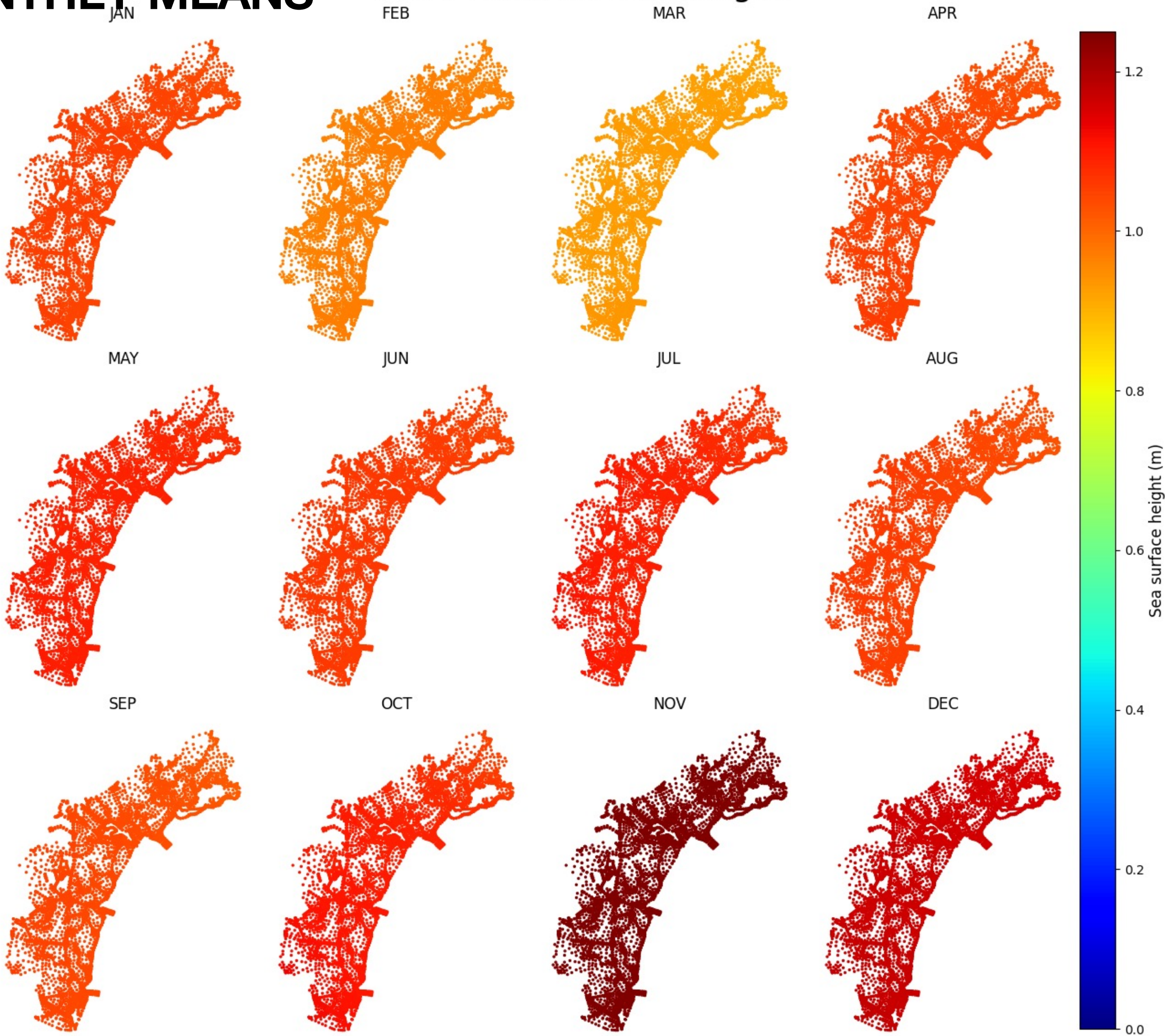
2050 : Sea surface height



SEA LEVEL RISE, MONTHLY MEANS

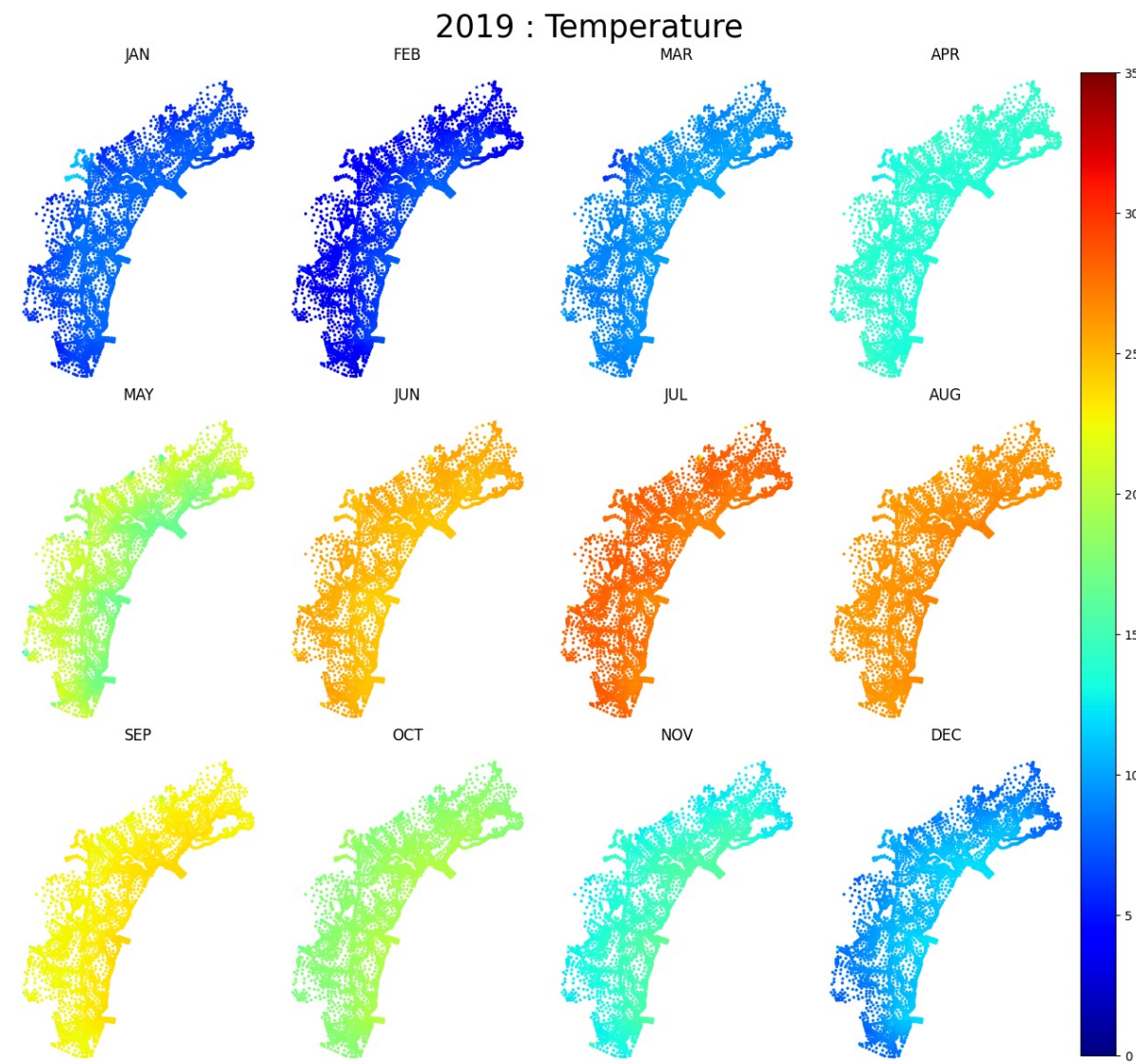
2100 : Sea surface height

2100

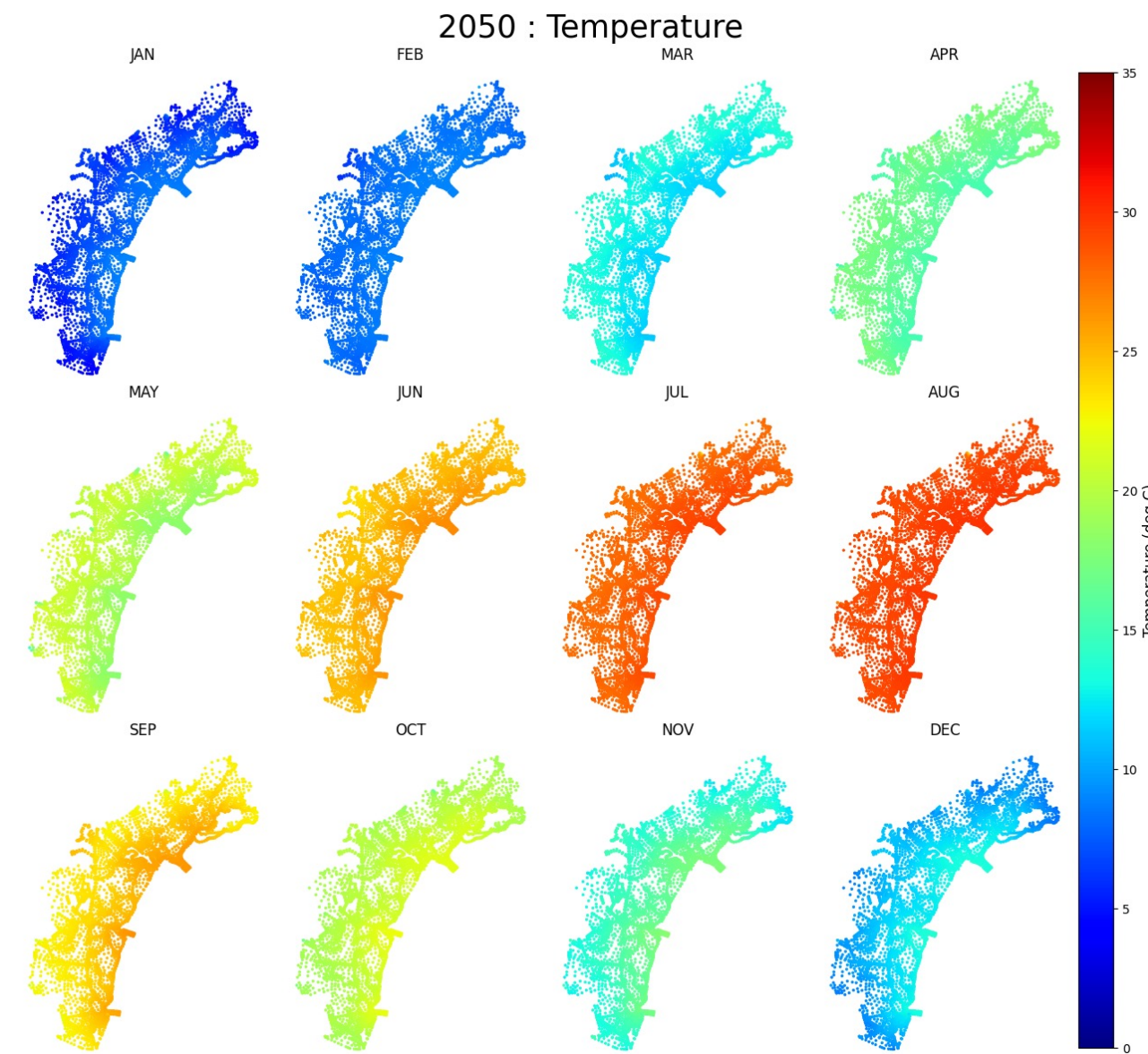


no MOSE closures

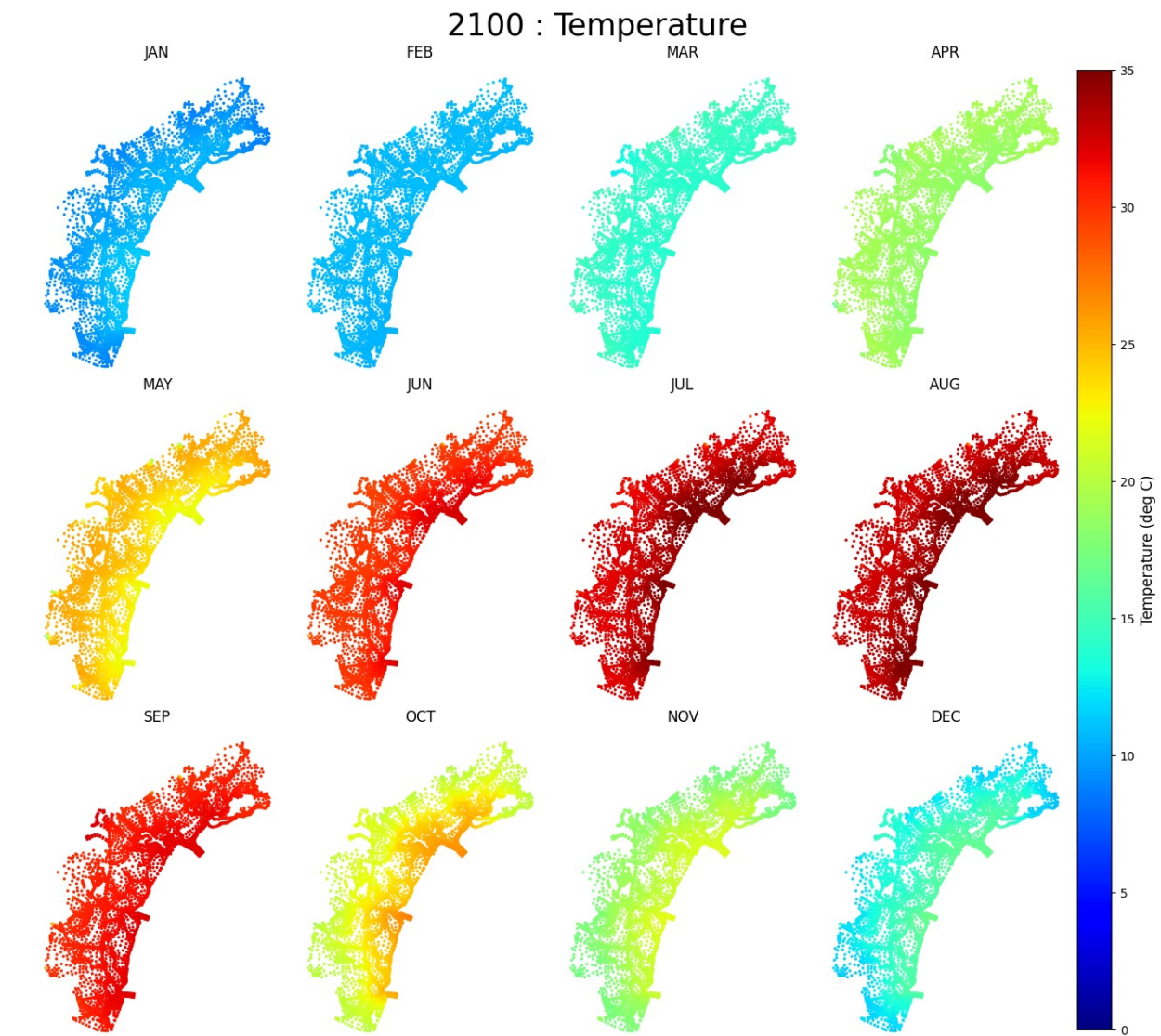
WARMING, MONTHLY MEANS



2019

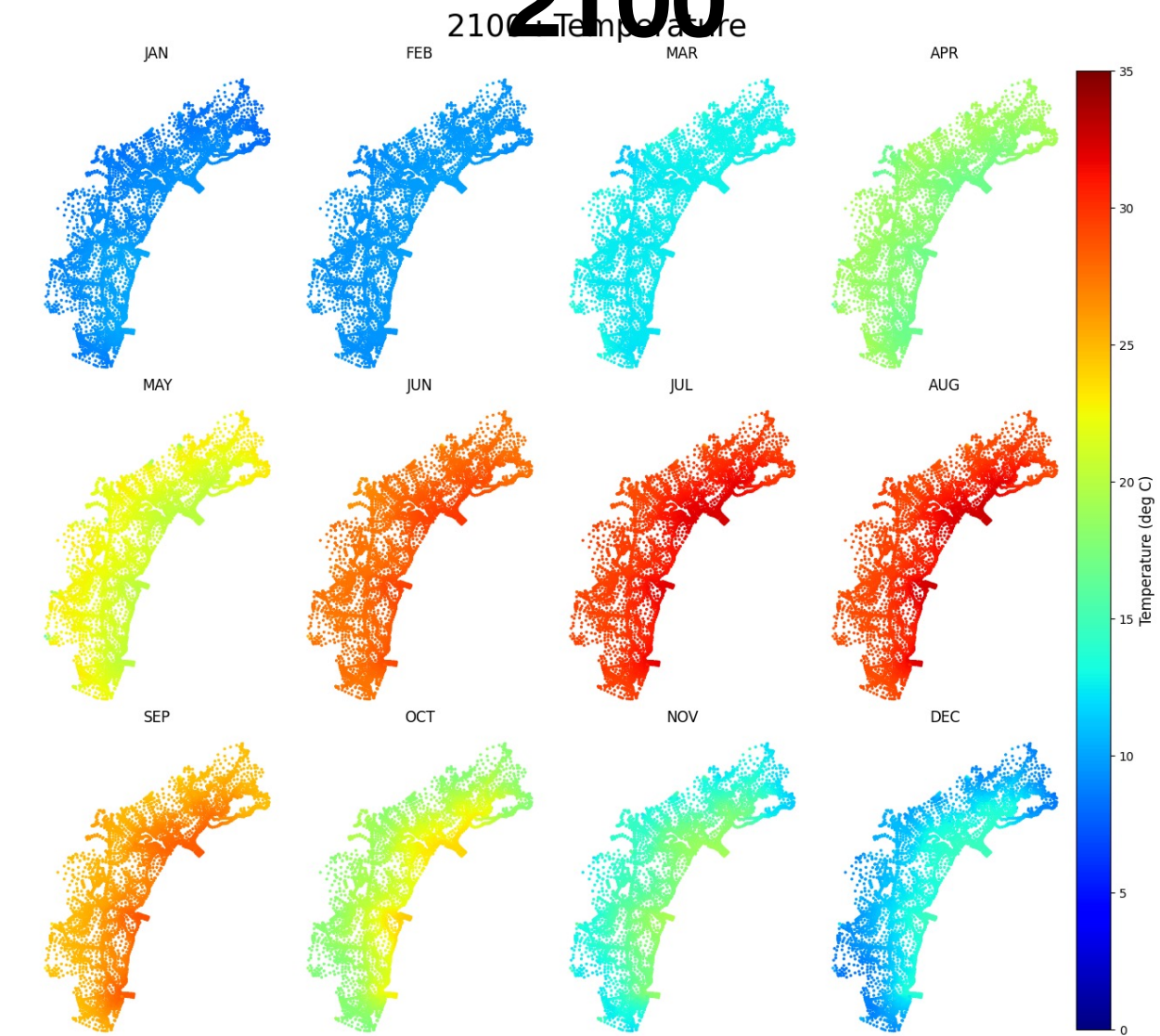
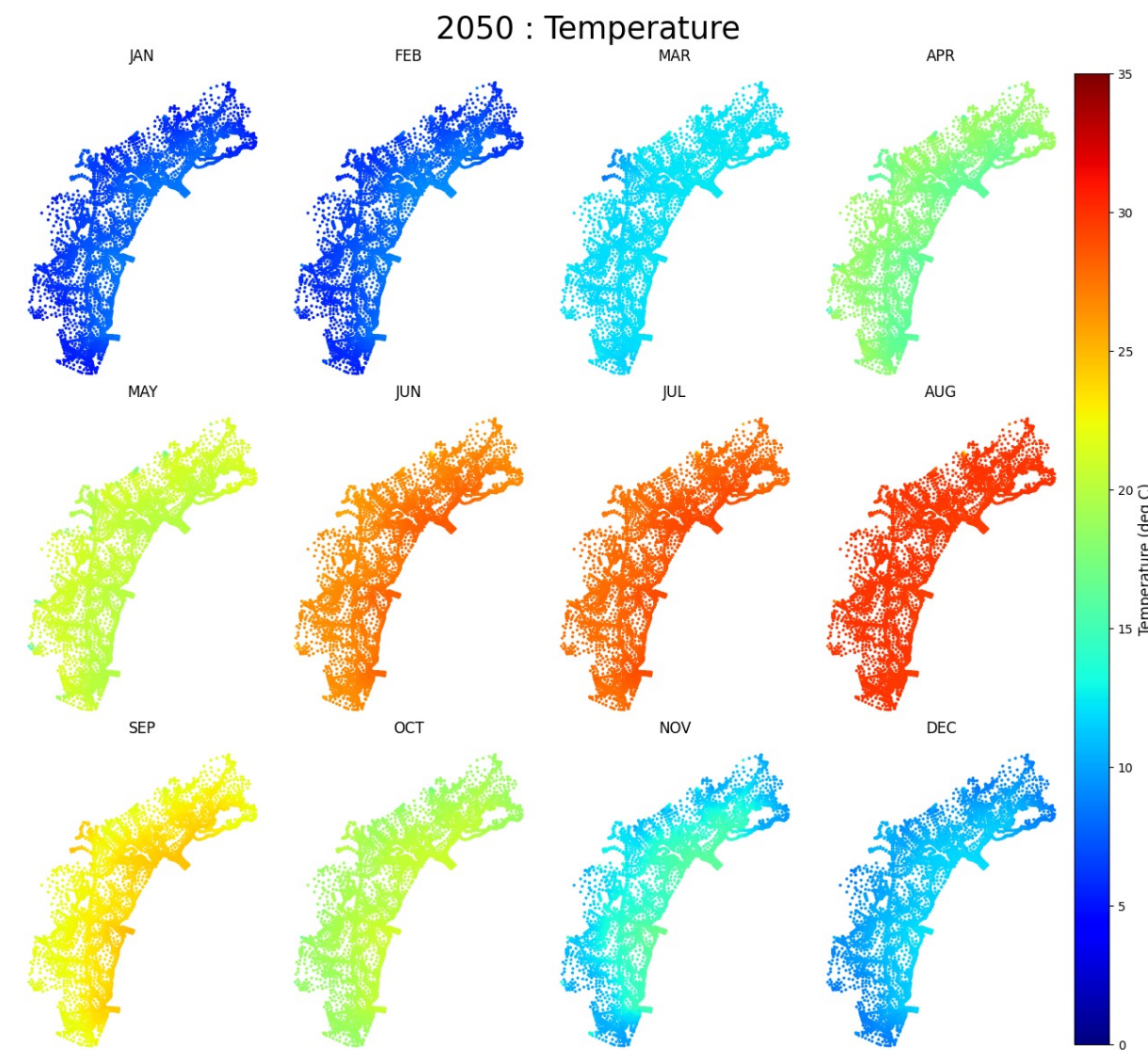
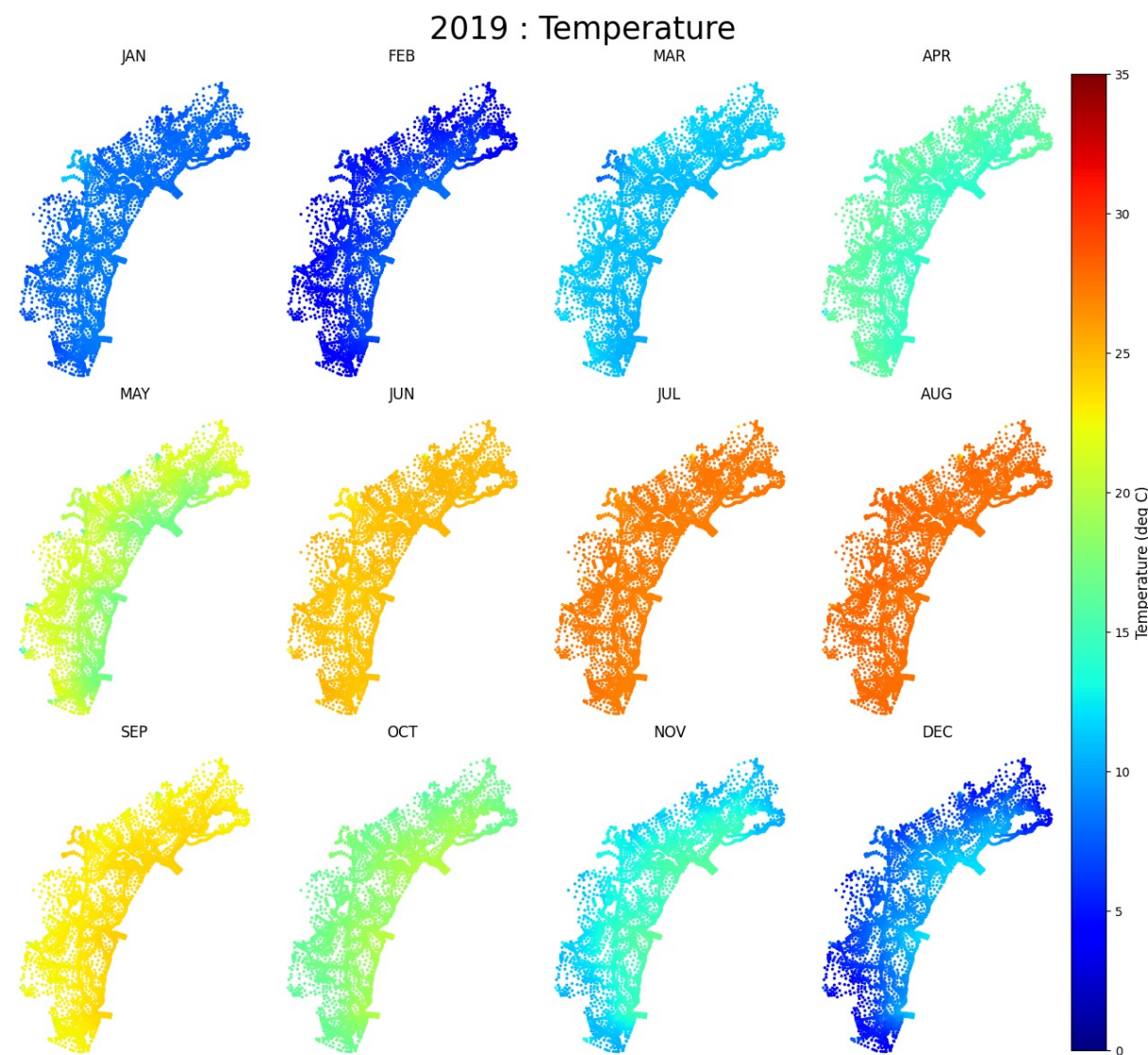


2050



2100

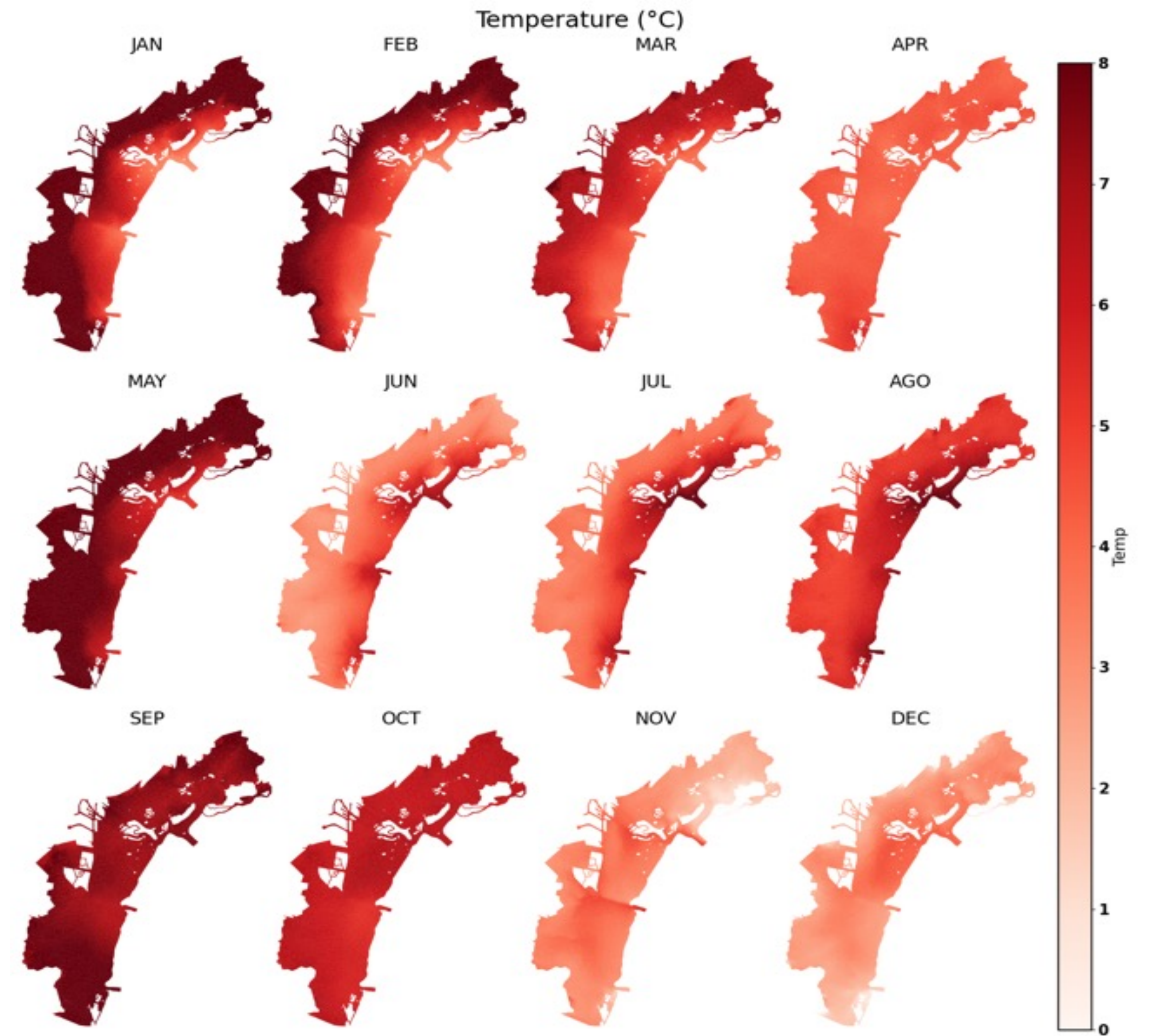
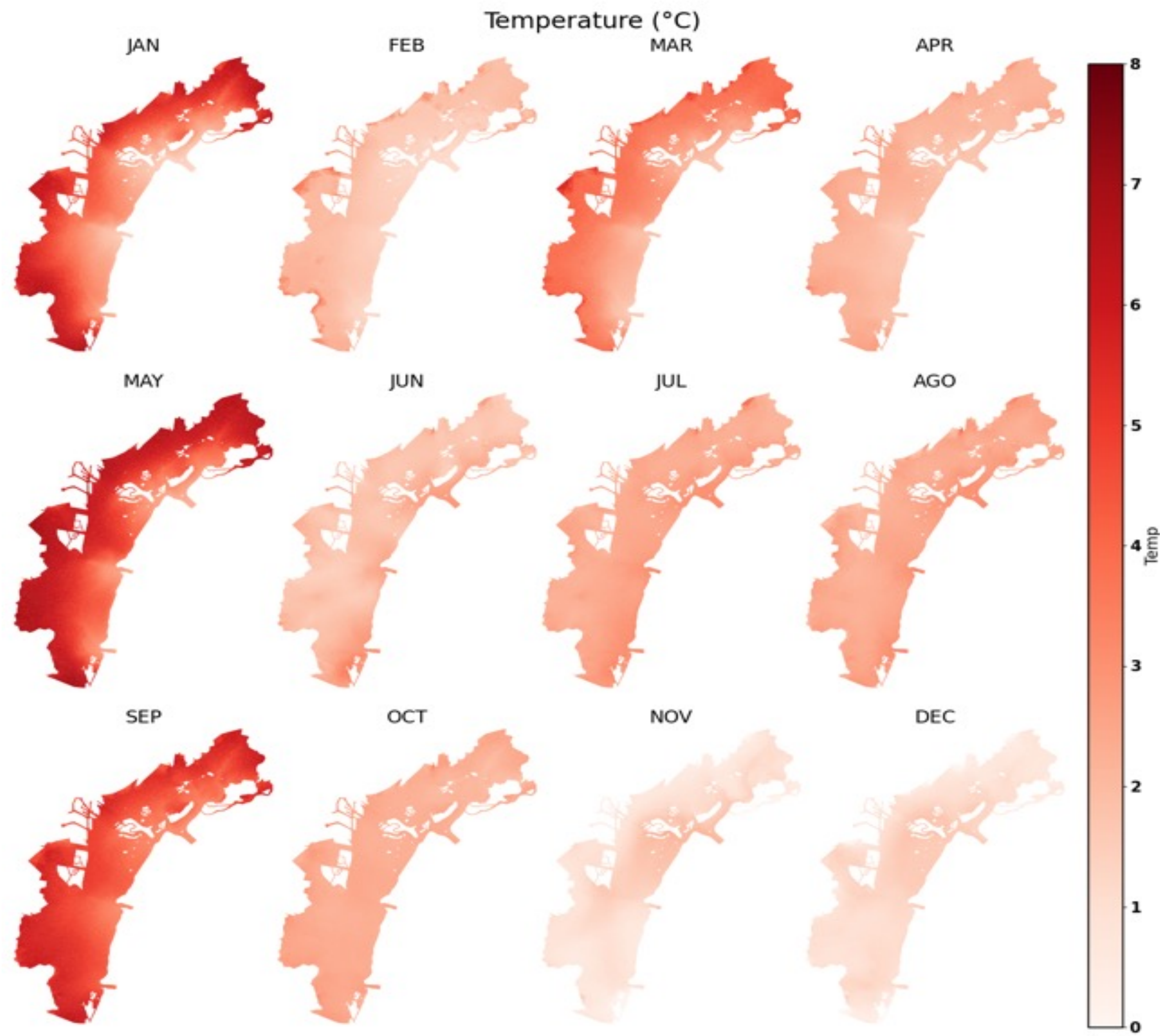
RCP 8.5



RCP 4.5

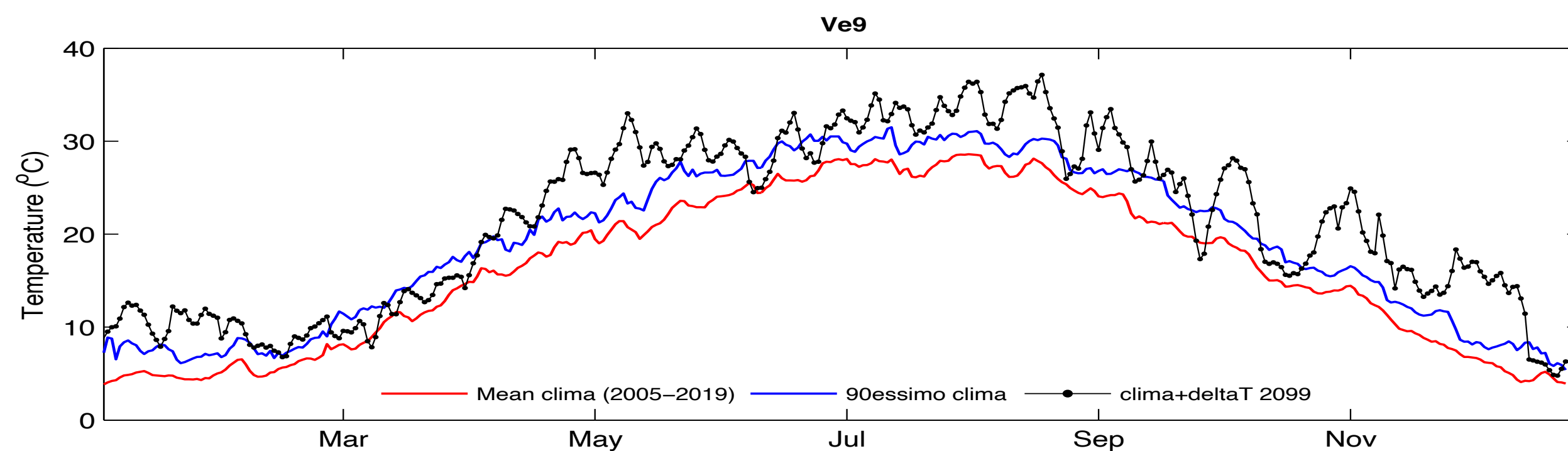
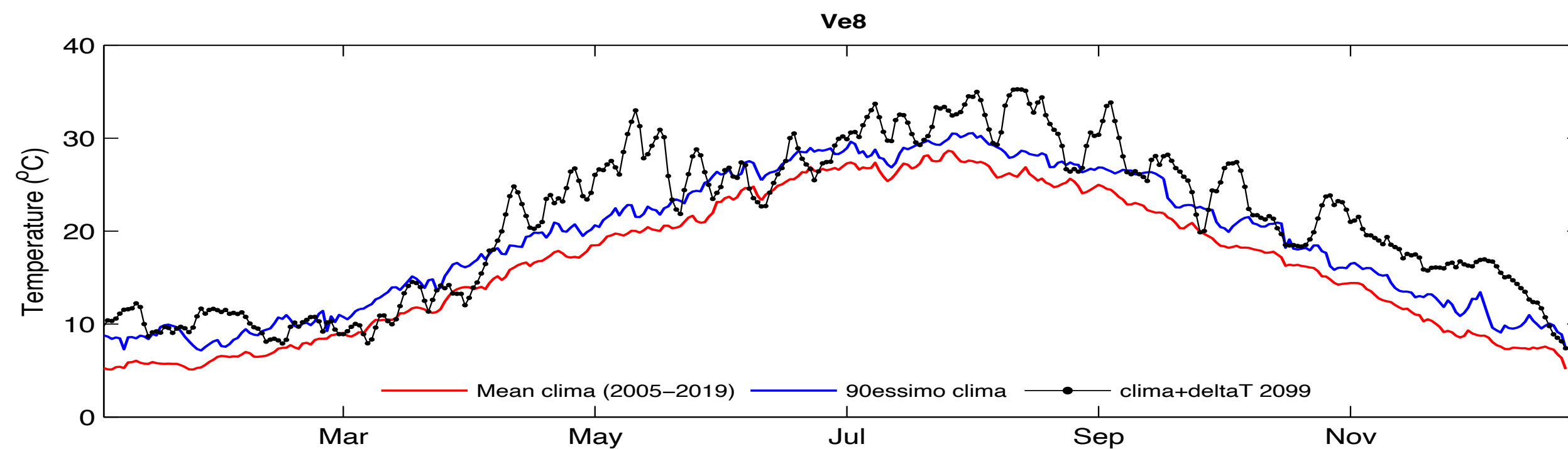
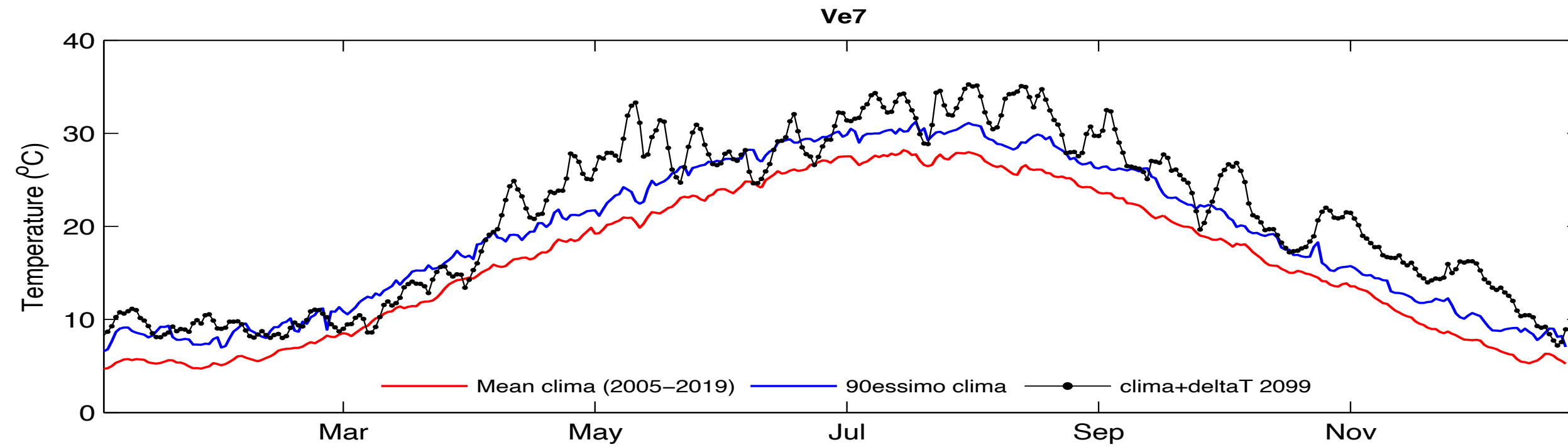
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY, MONTHLY MEANS 2050

2100



RCP 8.5 with MOSE closures

- mean (2002-2019) (red line)
- 90th percentile of the climatology (years 2002-2019) (blue line)
- model projection far future (2100) (black line)



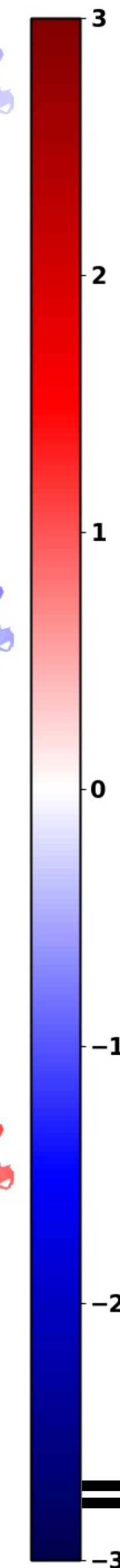
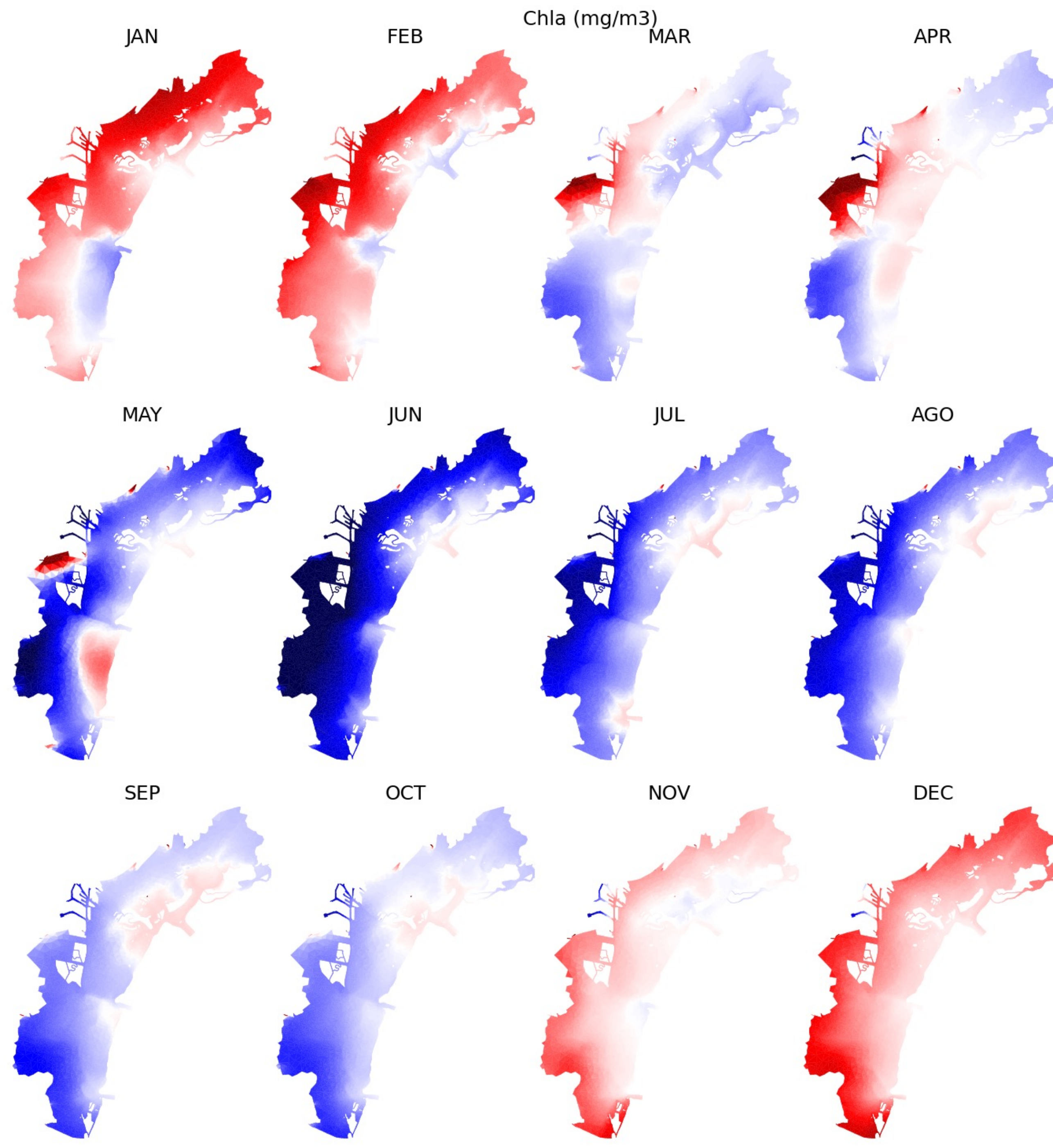
MHW (Hobday et al., 2016, 2018)

MHW are defined as prolonged episodes with temperatures that reach critical levels (>4 over 90° perc > 4 cons. days)

MHW are already reached in most of the stations in the mid-future scenario, and are present for almost the 30% of time

Anomalies 2050

However, different
assumption can be made
regarding the boundary
inputes from the watershed



Chlorophyll

DECREASES!!!

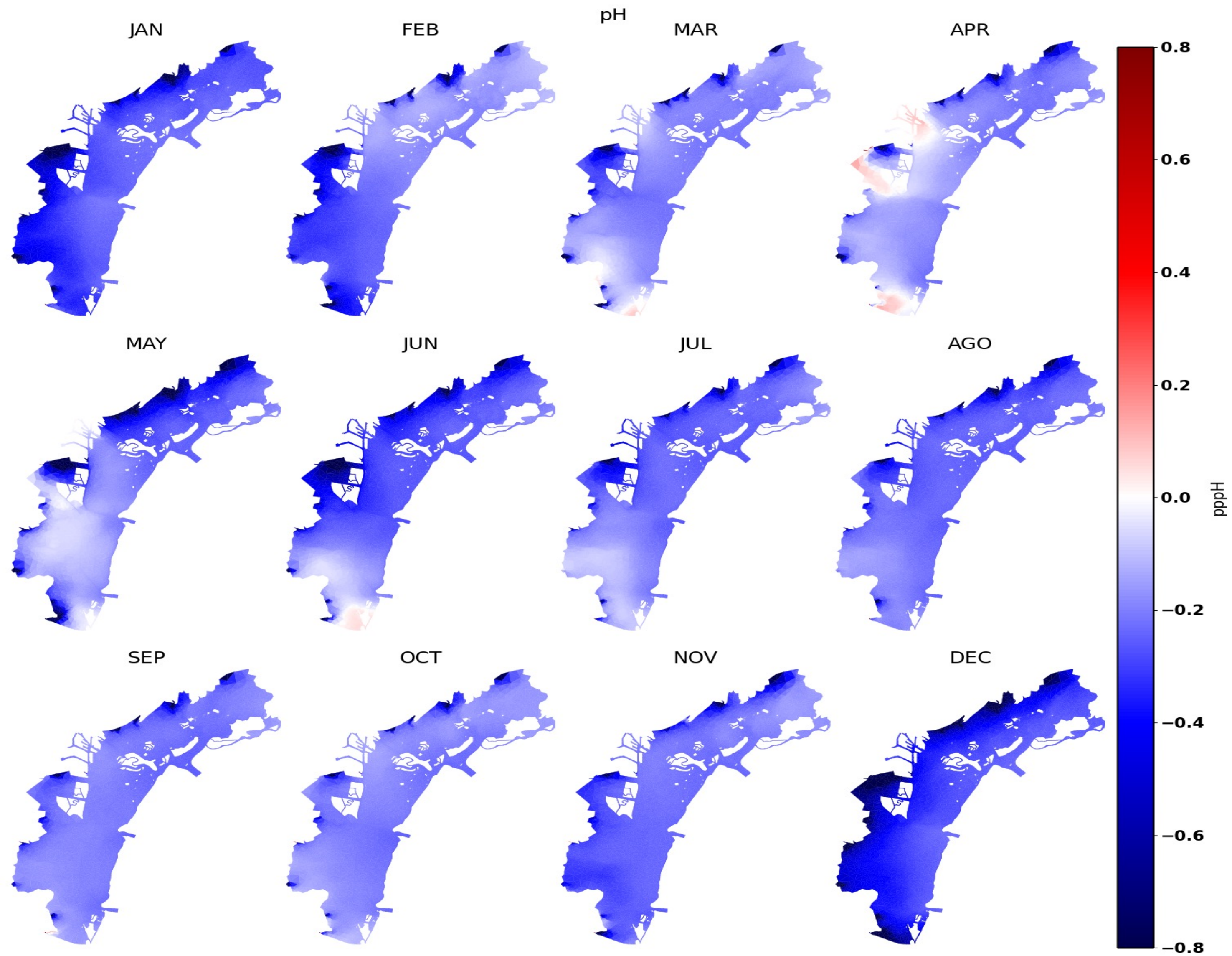
**Due to
Increase
in respiration**

=less productive

Anomalies

2100

Acidification

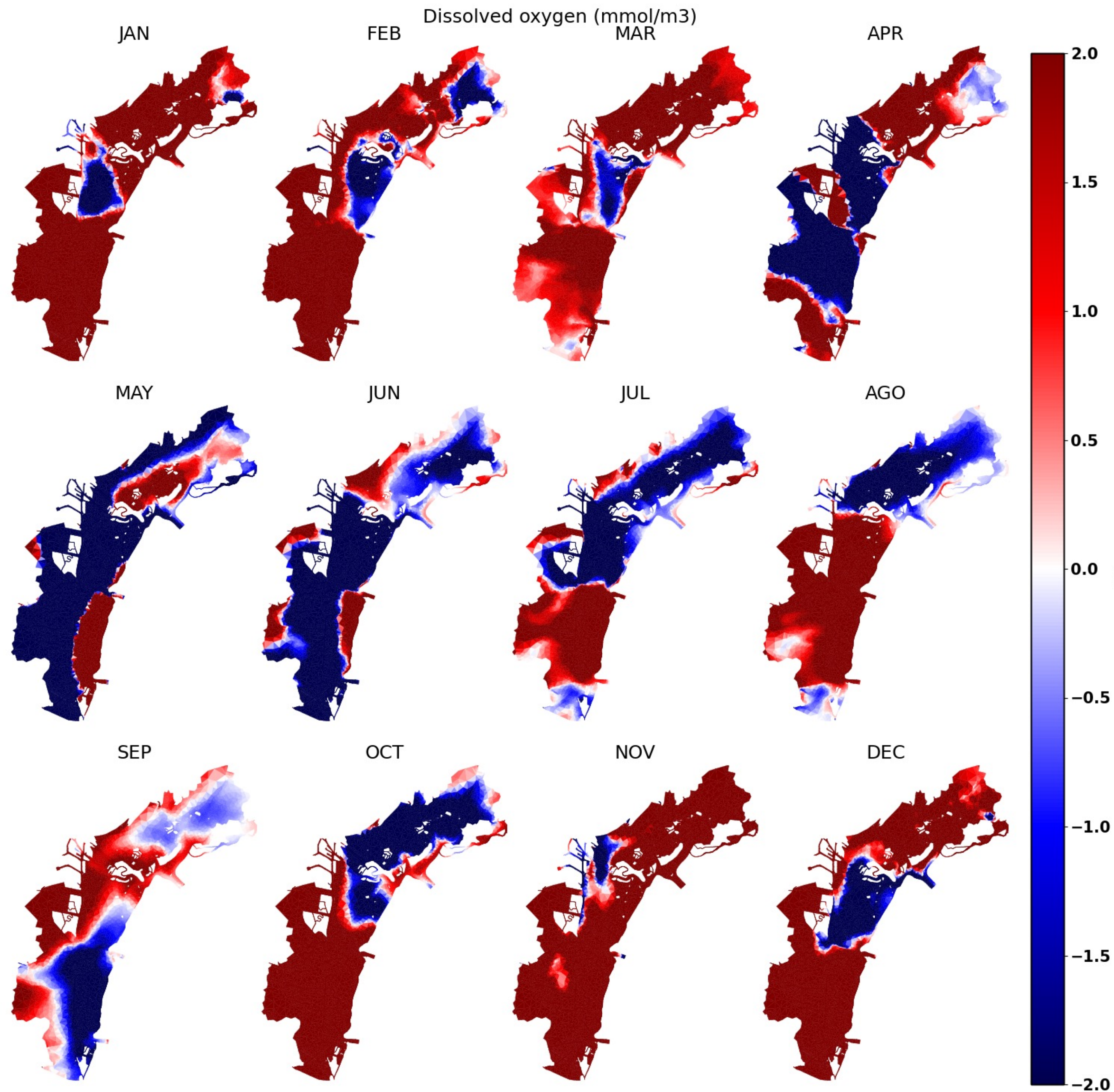


pH

MOSE CLOSURES

ANOMALY
CLOSE-NOCLOSE
2100
RCP 8.5

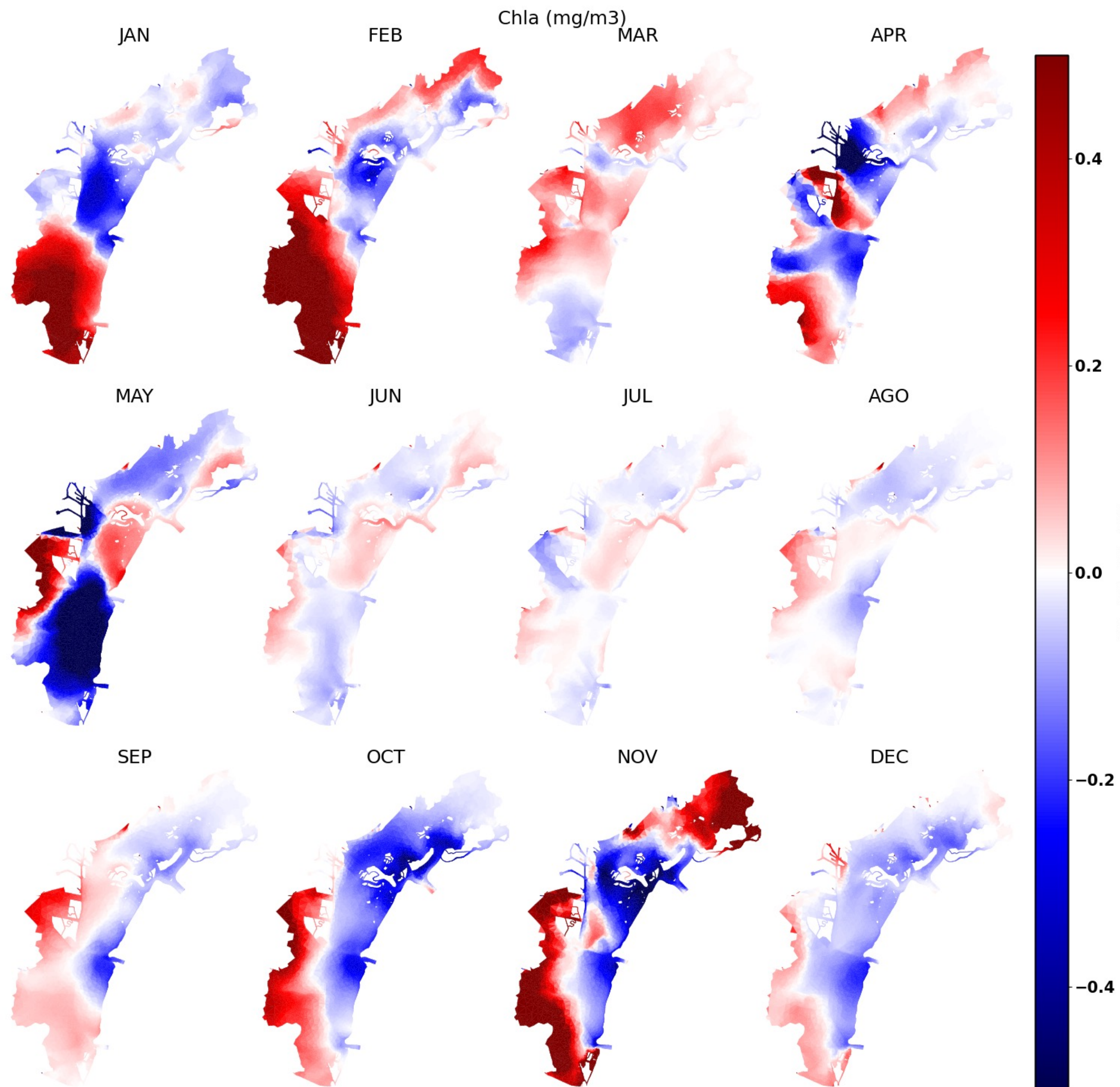
DISSOLVED OXIGEN



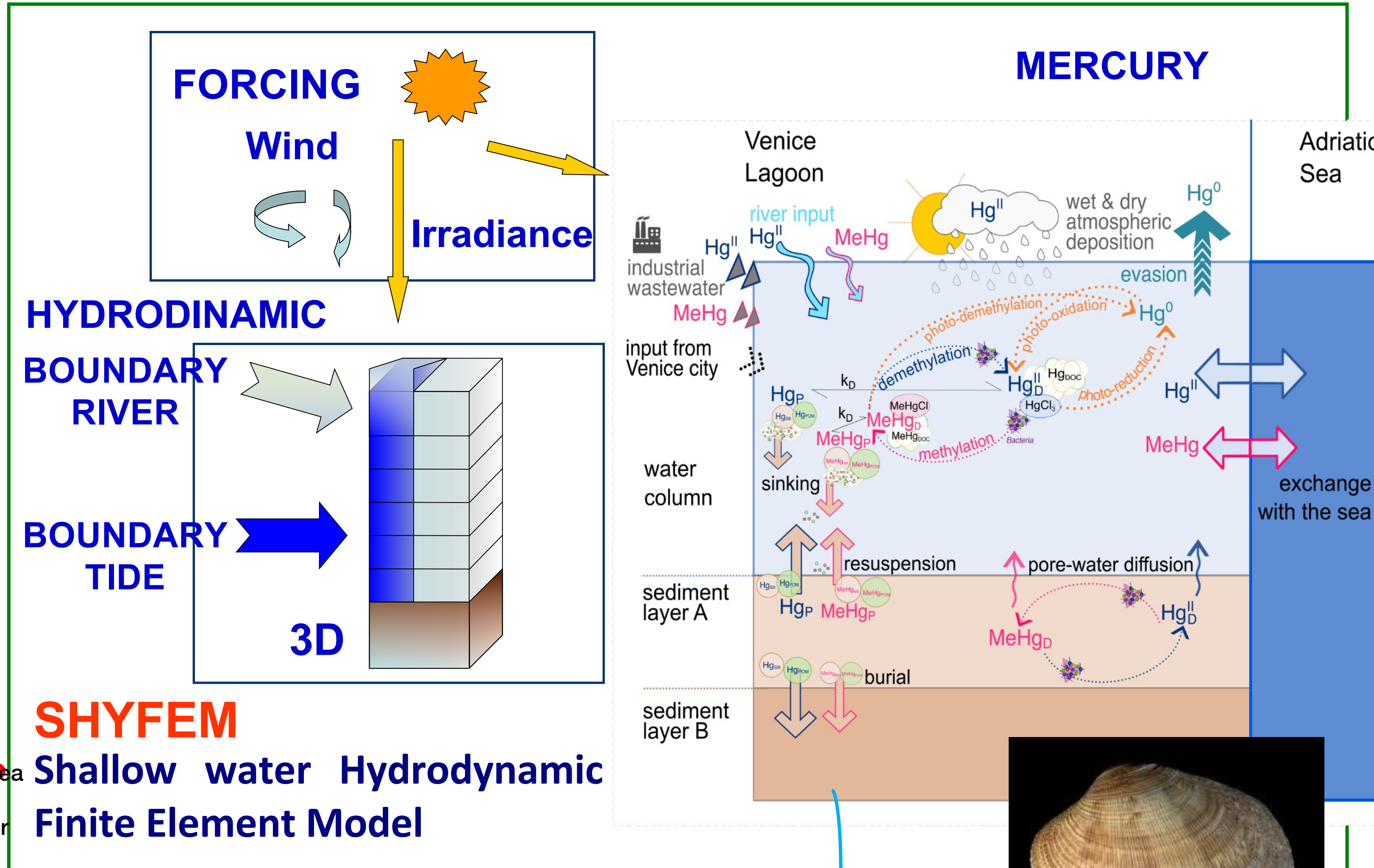
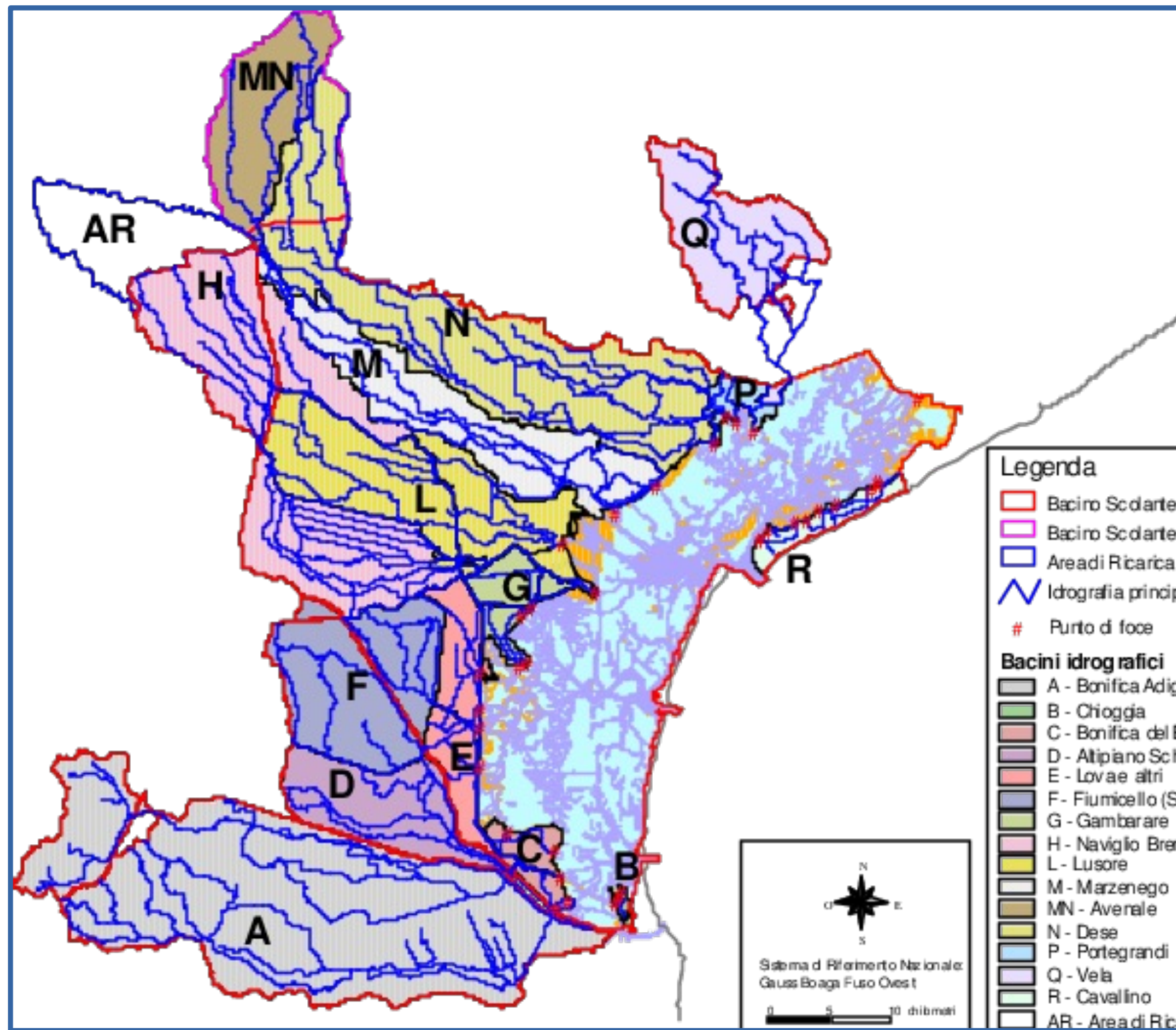
MOSE CLOSURES

ANOMALY
CLOSE-NOCLOSE
2100
RCP 8.5

Chlorophyll



Coupled mercury models, POLLUTION



Hg, MeHg

Rosati G., Solidoro C., Canu D. Mercury dynamics in a changing coastal area over industrial and postindustrial phases: lessons from the Venice Lagoon. 2020, accepted. Science of the total environment. Volume 74315 November 2020. Article 140586. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.140586>

Rosati et al., Mercury cycling in contaminated coastal environments: modeling the benthic-pelagic coupling and microbial Hg resistance in the Venice Lagoon in prep.



RCP8.5 climate change scenario

MeHg in water



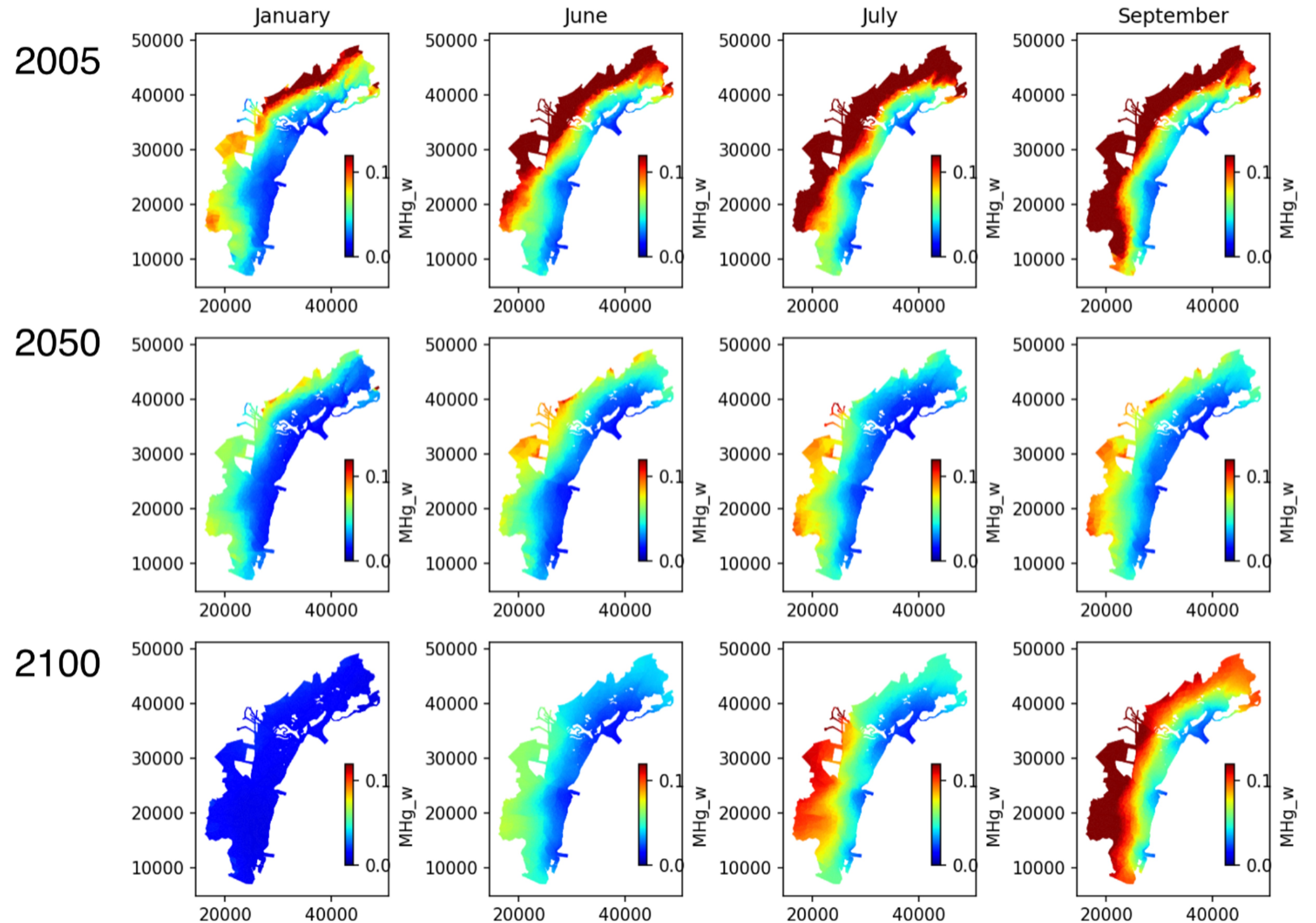
MeHg

Decrease in 2050

- Related to a reduction of sediment resuspension

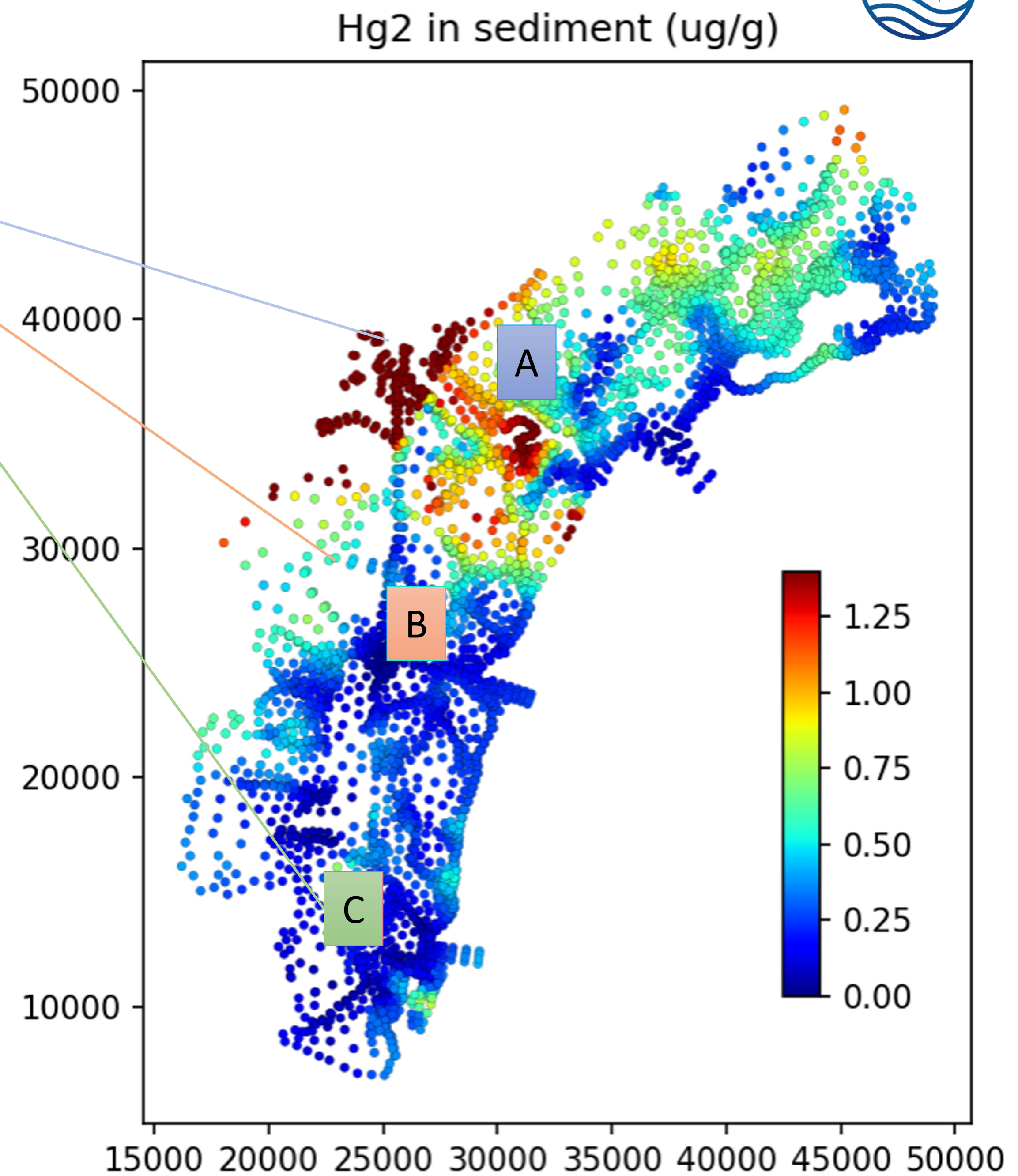
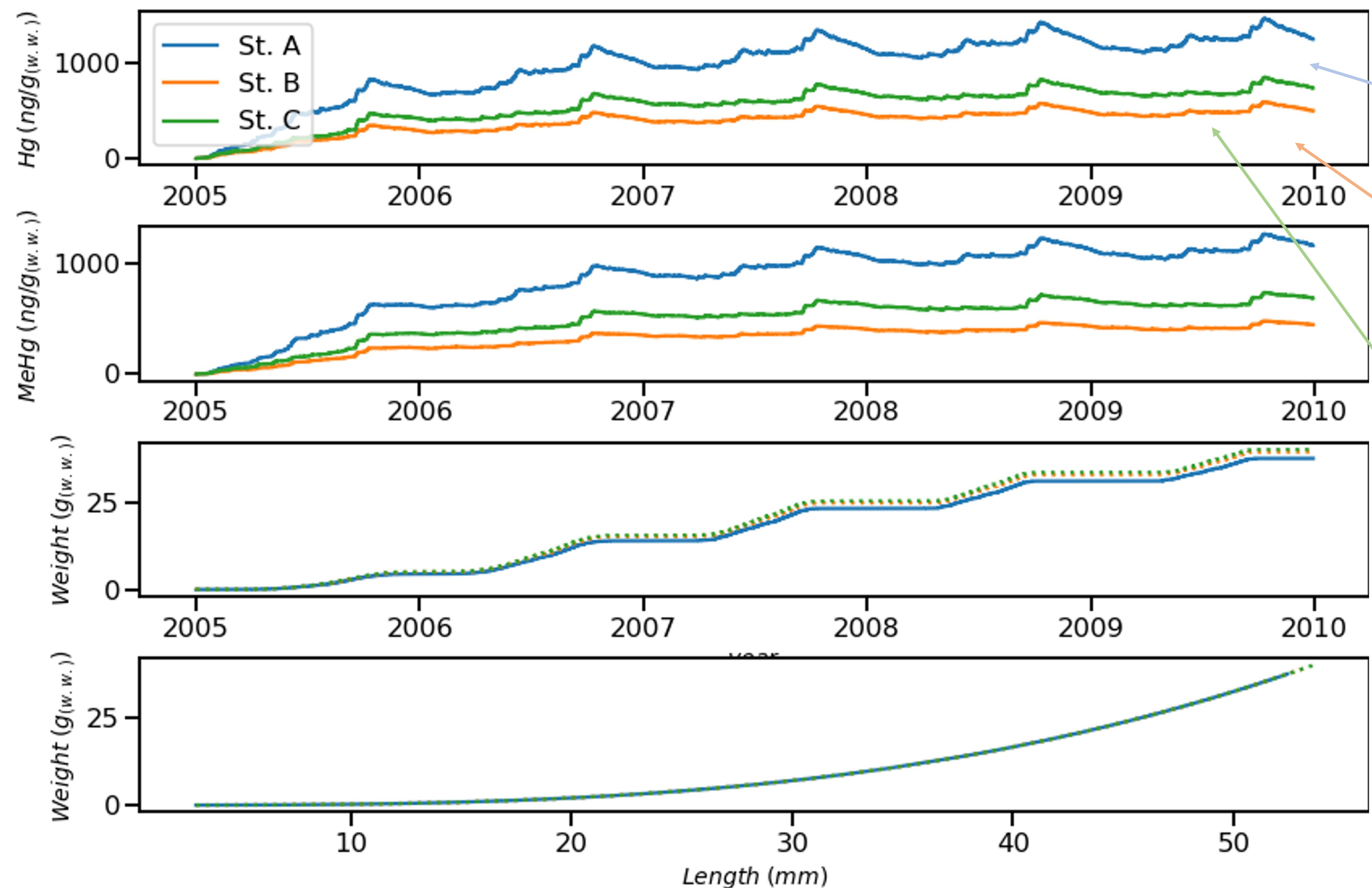
Increase in 2100

- Related too increase in summer temperatures





Bioaccumulation model



SHYFEM model shows:

- **general increase in the frequency and magnitude of extreme conditions in future scenarios, site specific response to CC is high! (temperature, salinity, water levels, water residence times, pH, chlorophyll, oxygen)**
- **not linear effects, nor uniformly distributed, spatially, but shaped by the combined acting forcing conditions**
- **increasing intensity and duration of marine heatwaves, with MHW4 occurring almost for the 30% of the days in the RCP 8.5 scenario 2100**
- **adoption of the downscaled and high-resolution approach allows to address the expected changes at local scales**
- **crucial to support risk assessment to ecosystems and ecosystem services**

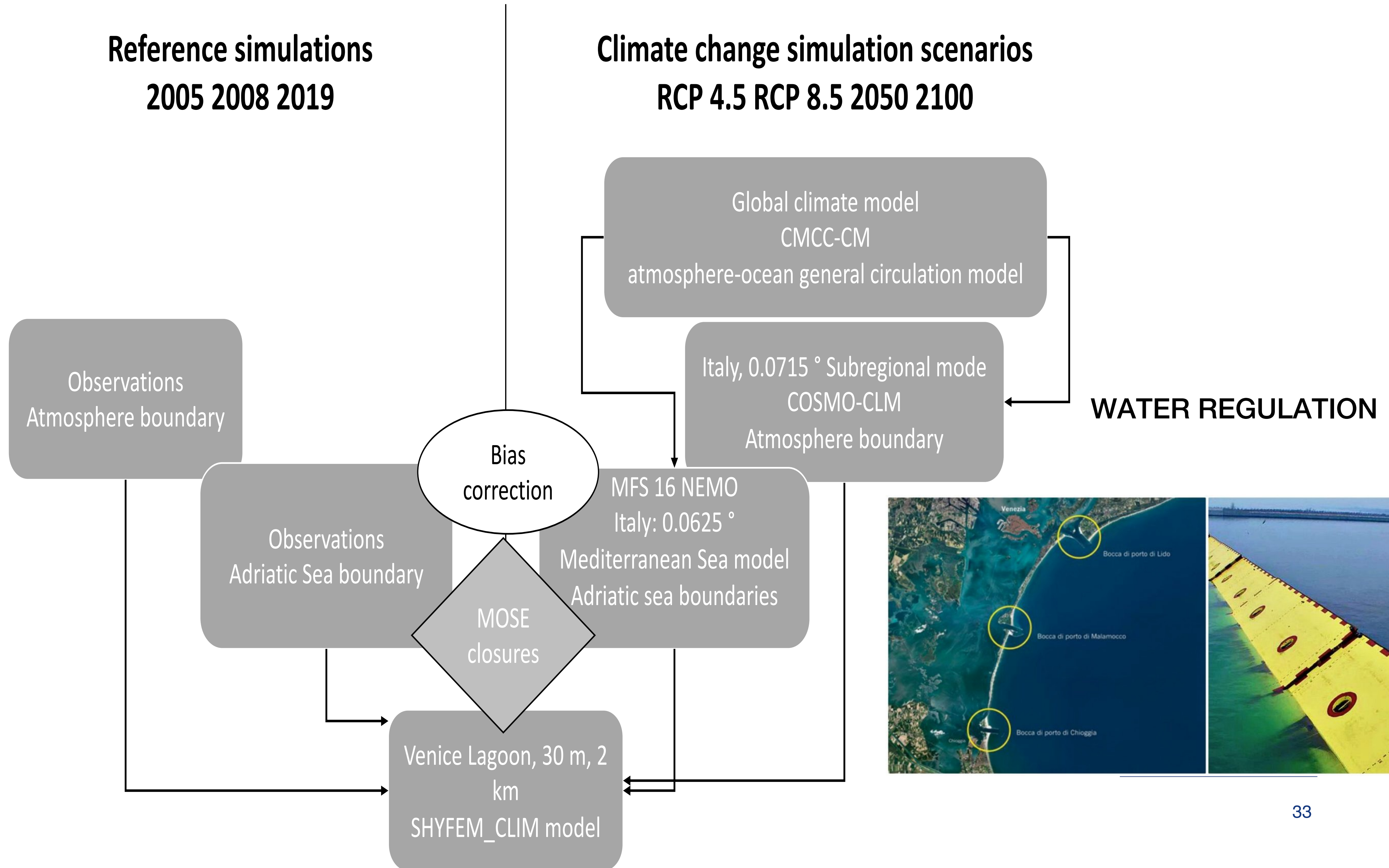
Acknowledgmente



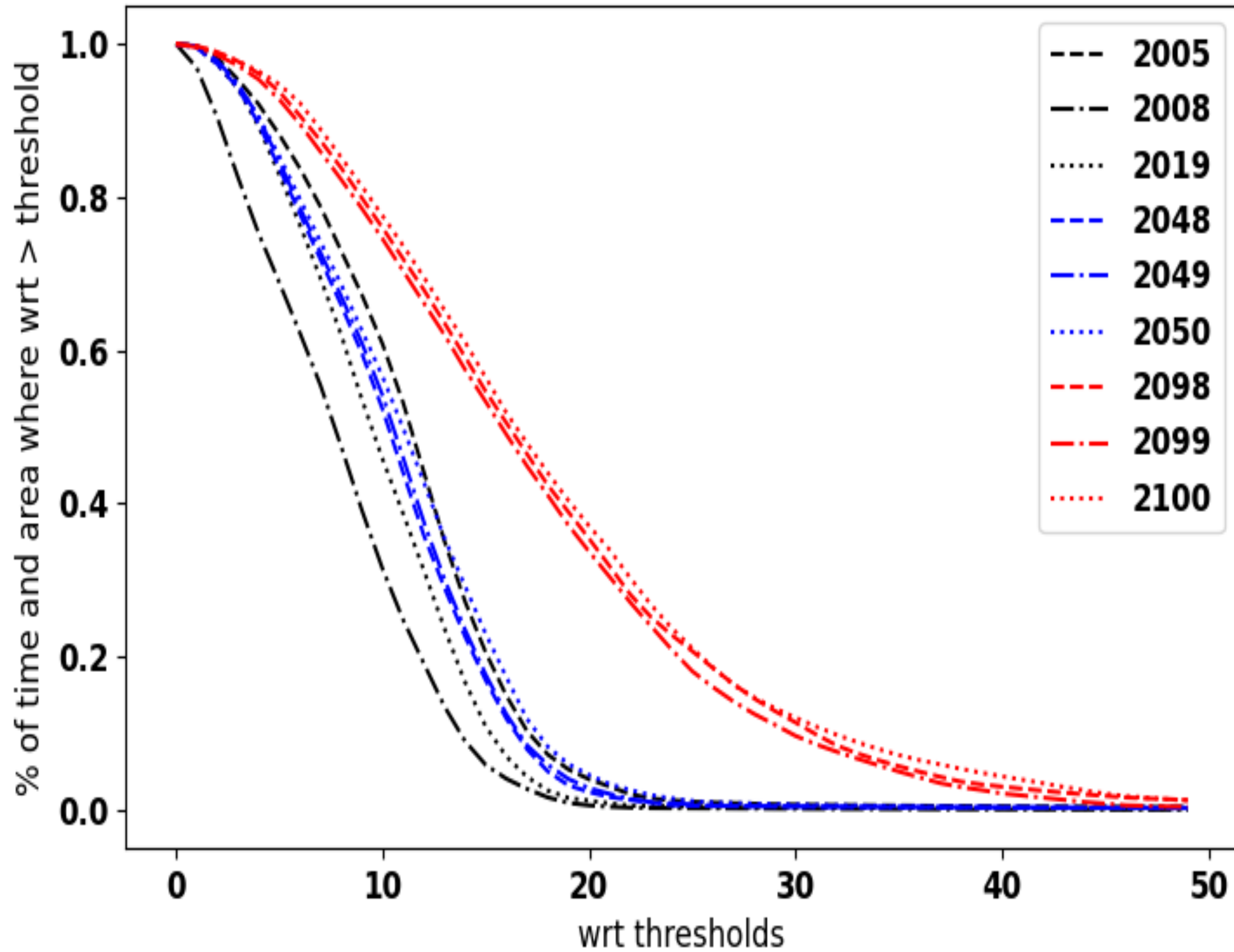
Questions?

**Reference simulations
2005 2008 2019**

**Climate change simulation scenarios
RCP 4.5 RCP 8.5 2050 2100**



scenario rcp85m



	rcp45	rcp45Close	rcp85	rcp85Close
REF	9	9	9	9
2050	10	10	10	10
2100	10	12	11	15

The comparison of the distribution of the % of times and lagoon surface where the WRT value reaches the thresholds values, in days for the 3 years of reference (black lines), mid-future (blue lines), far-future (red lines) for the two scenarios RCP 8.5, with closures.



Effects on biogeochemistry, analysis in progress

- *Temporal shifts in phytoplankton blooms and grazing, anticipated to early spring*
- *Increase of detritus processes*
- *Decrease in chlorophyll concentration*