



AIR QUALITY IN PORTUGAL: 1995-2013 ASSESSMENT

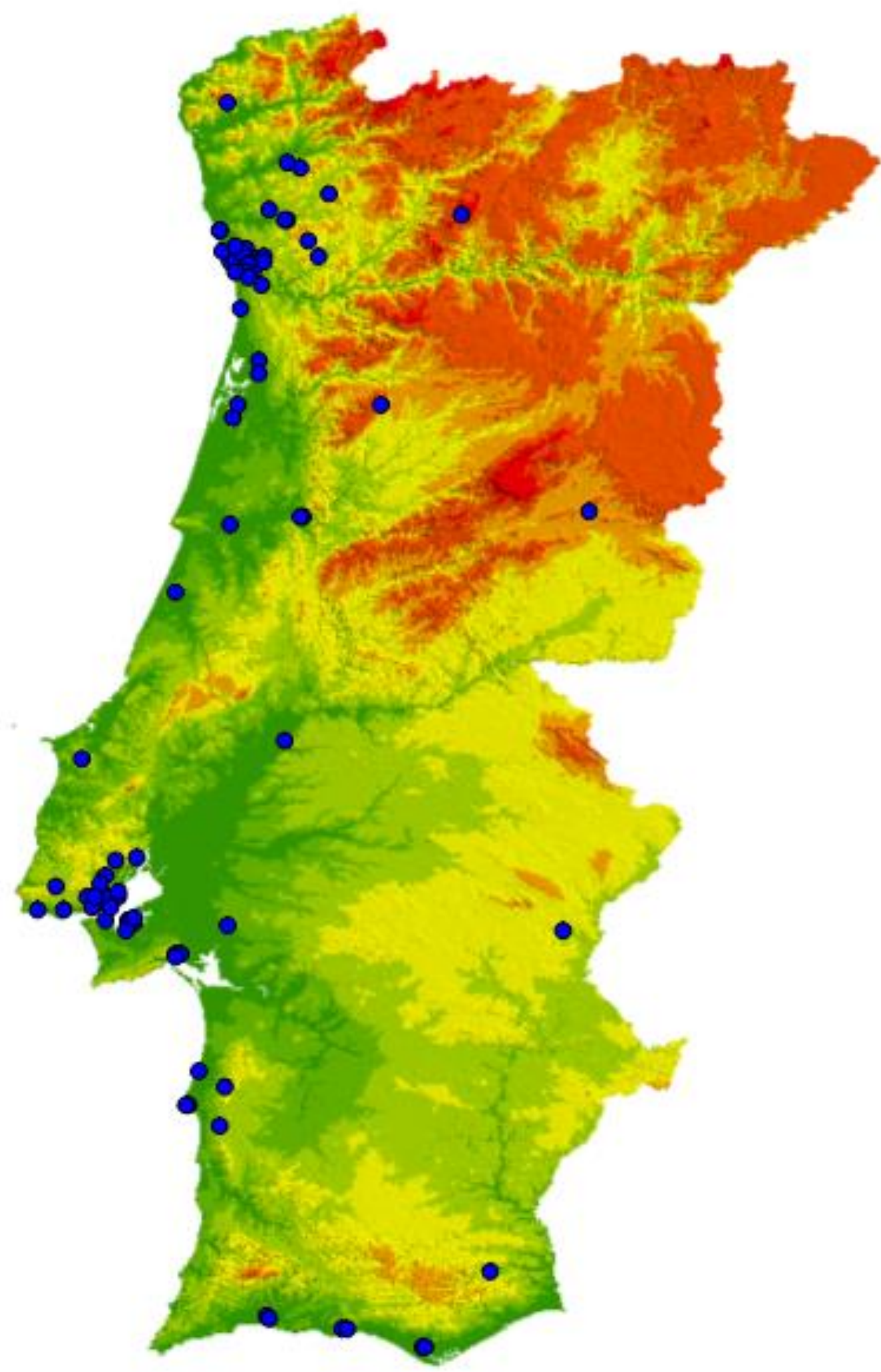
José Manuel Fernández-Guisuraga^{1*}, Amaya Castro¹, Célia Alves², Ana Calvo¹, Elisabeth Alonso-Blanco³, Roberto Fraile¹

¹Department of Physics, IMARENAB, University of León, 24071 León, Spain. *E-mail address: jferng11@estudiantes.unileon.es (Fernández-Guisuraga)

²Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies (CESAM), University of Aveiro, Portugal, 3810-193

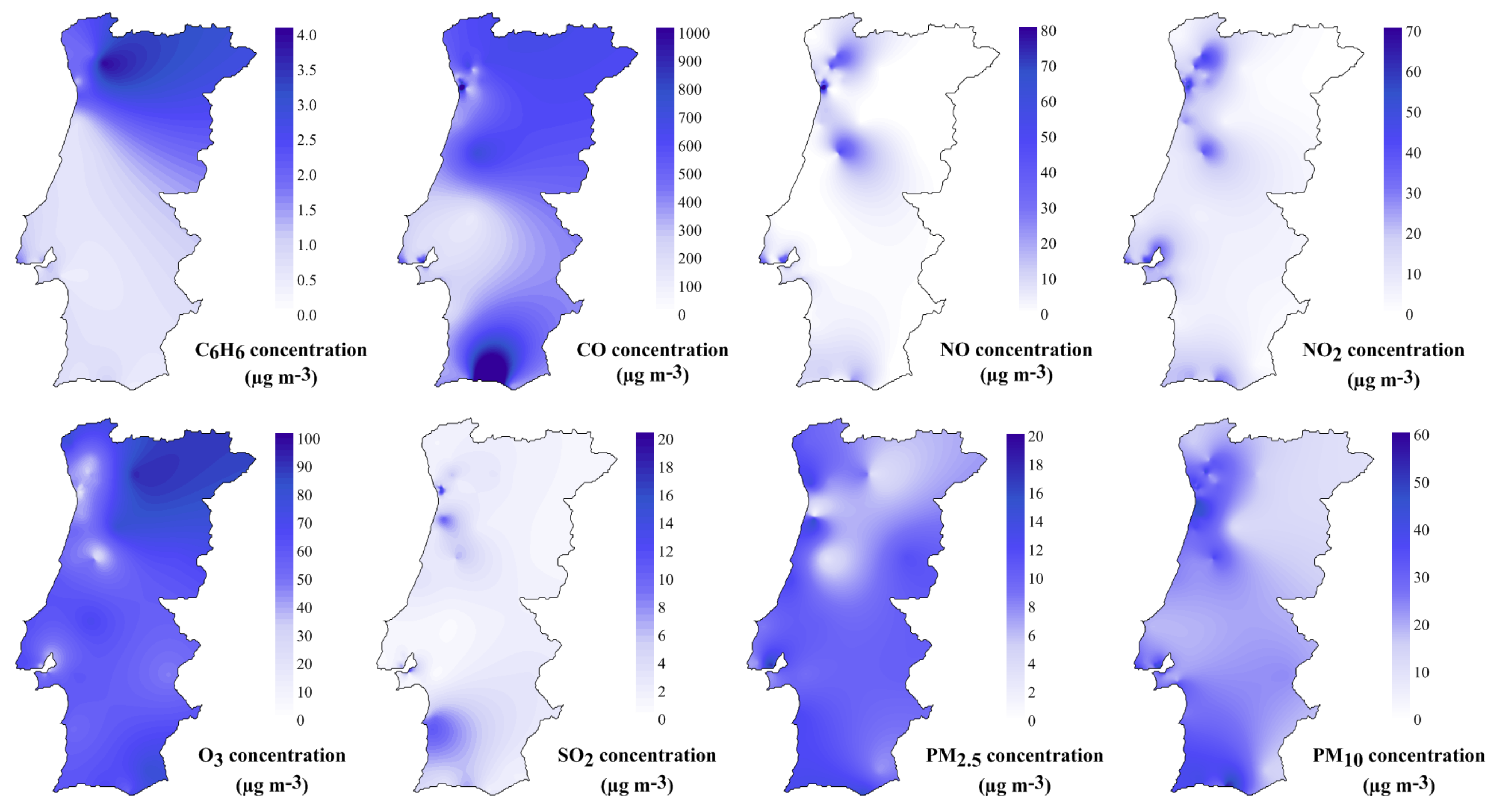
³Research Centre for Energy, Technology and the Environment (CIEMAT), Madrid, Spain

AREA OF STUDY



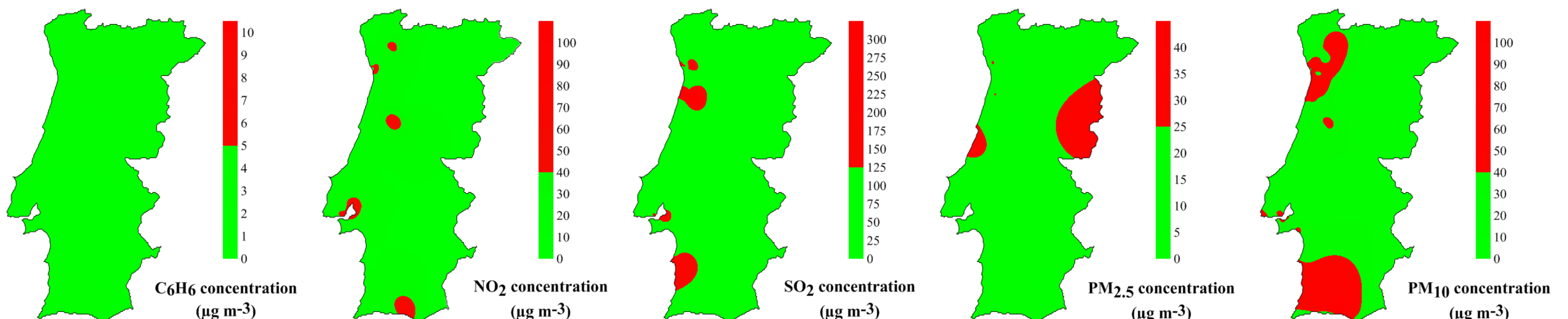
Distribution of air quality monitoring stations in continental Portugal

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION



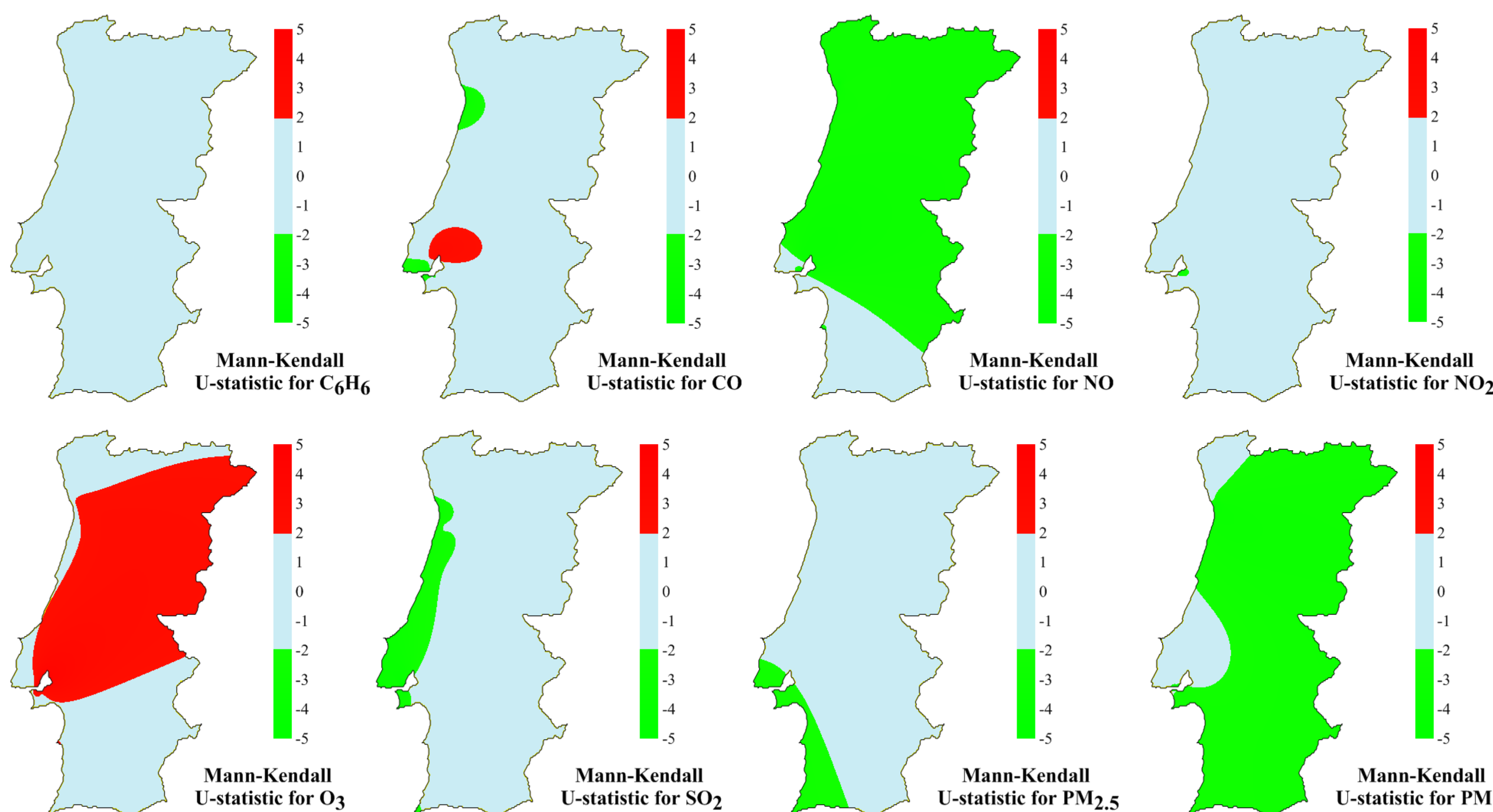
Annual averaged (1995-2013) concentration maps of C₆H₆, CO, NO, NO₂, O₃, SO₂, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀

EXCEEDANCE OF AIR QUALITY LIMIT VALUES



Portugal areas where pollutant concentrations exceeded the EU limit values set for the protection of human health during the study period (red areas)

TRENDS



Annual averages of C₆H₆, CO, NO, NO₂, O₃, SO₂, PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ for the period 1995-2013 were used to assess the trend in the concentration of these pollutants by the Mann-Kendall sequential test (SQMK) for those stations with continuous data for a minimum of ten years.

The SQMK test is a non-parametric test that can be applied to non-normally distributed data with missing points. Significance of trends was evaluated at the 0.05 levels. When the values of the U-statistic become significant (greater than 1.96 for a two-tailed test at 95% level of significance), an increasing (red areas) or decreasing trend (green areas) can be observed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors wish to thank QualAr for providing Portugal pollutants data, and Transvalor S.A. for providing solar radiation data series. This study was partially supported by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation (Grants TEC2014-57821-R and CGL2014-52556-R), by FEDER funds through the Programa Operacional Factores de Competitividade – COMPETE and by Portuguese national funds through FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, within the framework of the CLICURB project “Urban Atmospheric Quality, Climate Change and Resilience” EXCL/AAGMAA/0383/2012. E. Alonso-Blanco acknowledges the FPI grant to carry out the doctoral thesis/PhD at the Research Centre for Energy, Environment and Technology (CIEMAT)