

# Current and future air quality in the historic city of Bruges (Belgium)

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INTERNATIONALE *Congress*

*i-SUP 2008*

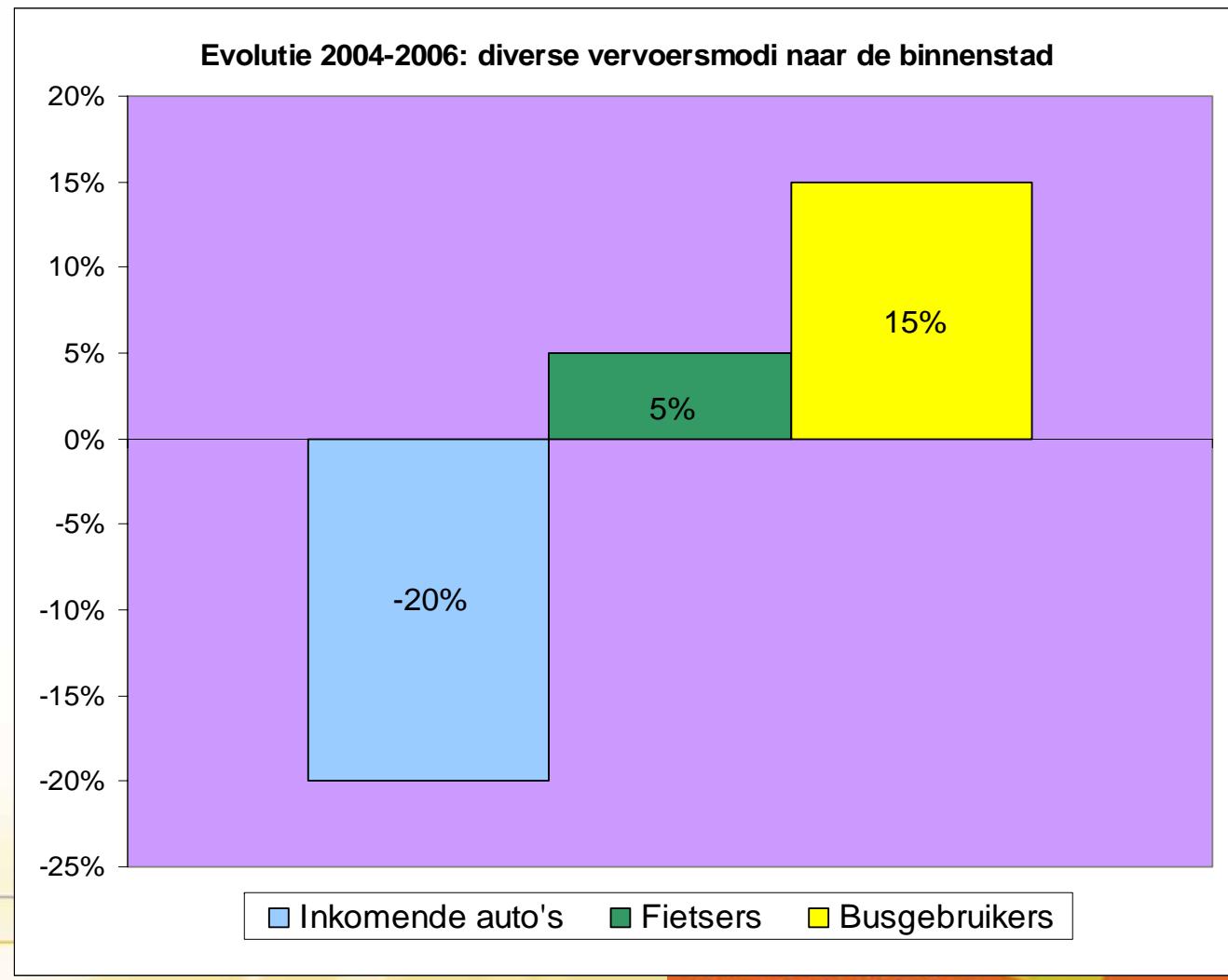
*Innovation for Sustainable  
Production 2008*

# Mobility policy in Bruges

- Some History
  - Innovation
  - Quality of life in the centre
    - Noise pollution
    - Accessibility
- Measures taken
  - parking
  - speed restrictions
  - alternative modes
  - cycling



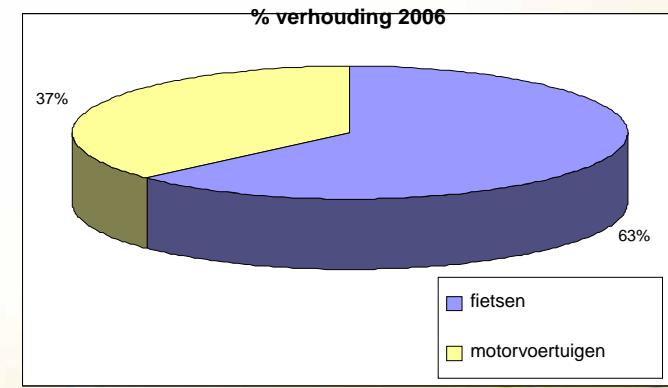
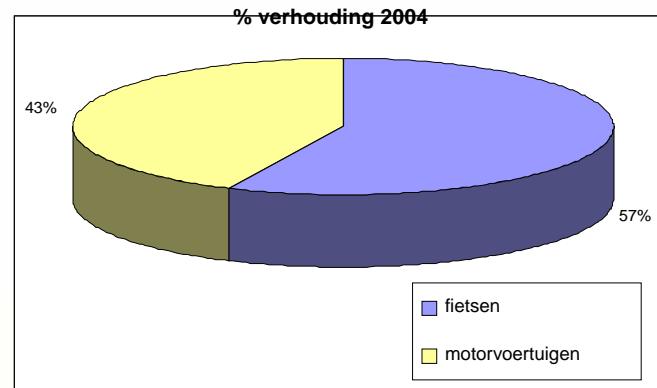
## Evaluation of the local mobility plan: Proportion of modal choice has changed





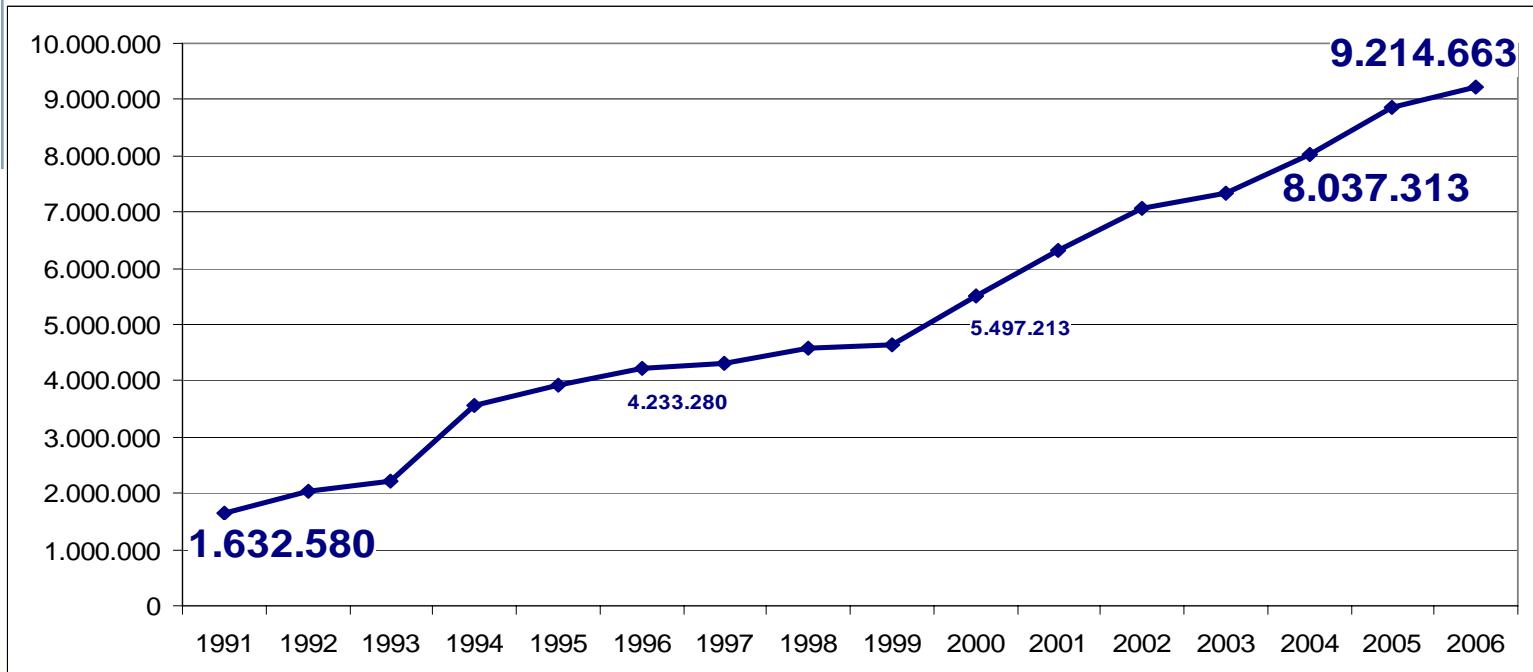
## Evaluation of the local mobility plan: Inbound commuters: cars and cyclists

Vervoersmiddel	2004		2005		2006	
	Totaal	%	Totaal	% verschil t.o.v. 2004	Totaal	% verschil t.o.v. 2004
Auto	3703	100%	3197	-15,80%	3078	-20,30%
Fietsers	4928	100%	5001	+1,5%	5195	+5,2%





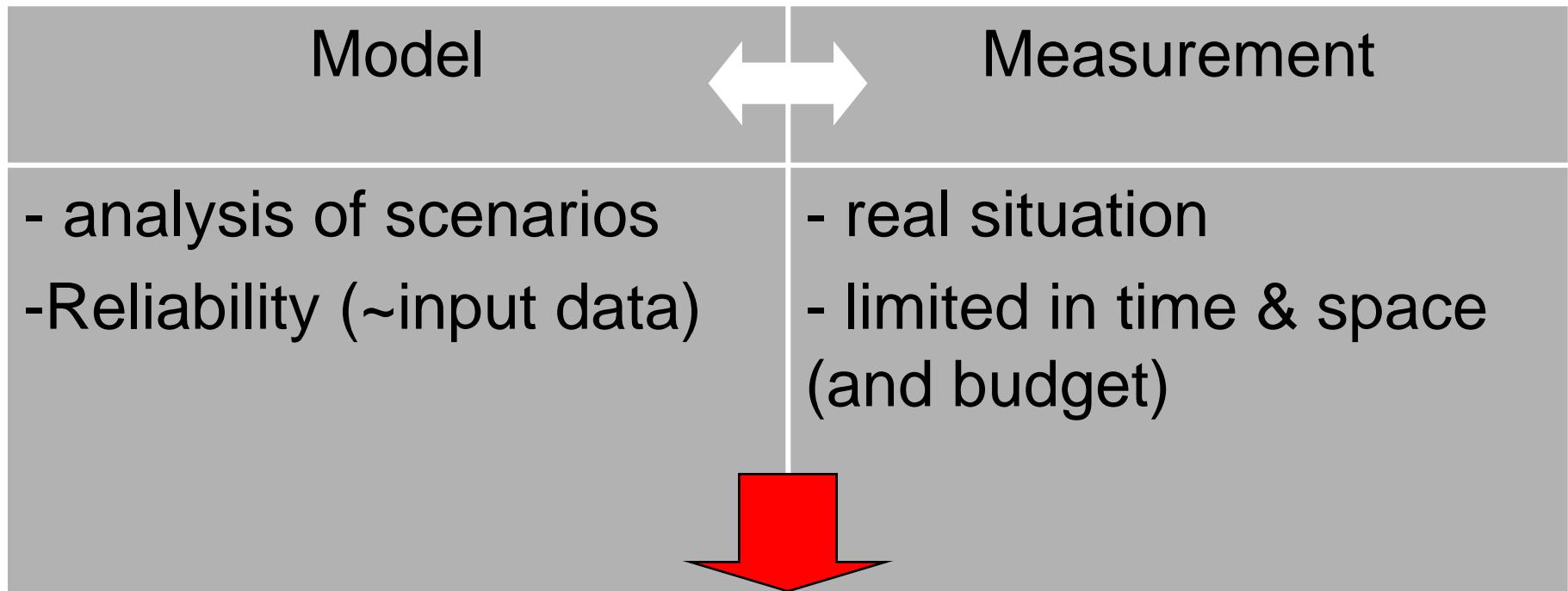
## Evaluation of the local mobility plan : Evolution of public transport (diesel buses)



# Context of this study

- Innovation
- Air quality concerns
  - World heritage sites
  - Inhabitants
  - Problems outside of the city centre
- Which measures to take ?
  - Present air quality?
  - Present noise levels?
  - Future EU air quality directives
  - Which vehicles/measures are relevant?
- Measure and model present air quality
  - Predict future air quality
  - Identify specific problems in specific streets

# Modelling or measuring AQ?



**Combined approach**

# Measurements



## 5-6 sites during 4 weeks:

- PM<sub>10</sub> Partisol (EU reference methodology)
  - PM<sub>10</sub> concentration
  - Black smoke
- Mobile lab (1 week at each site)
  - NO/NOx
  - PM<sub>10</sub> & black smoke (TEOM-FDMS monitor)
- NO<sub>2</sub> with passive samplers

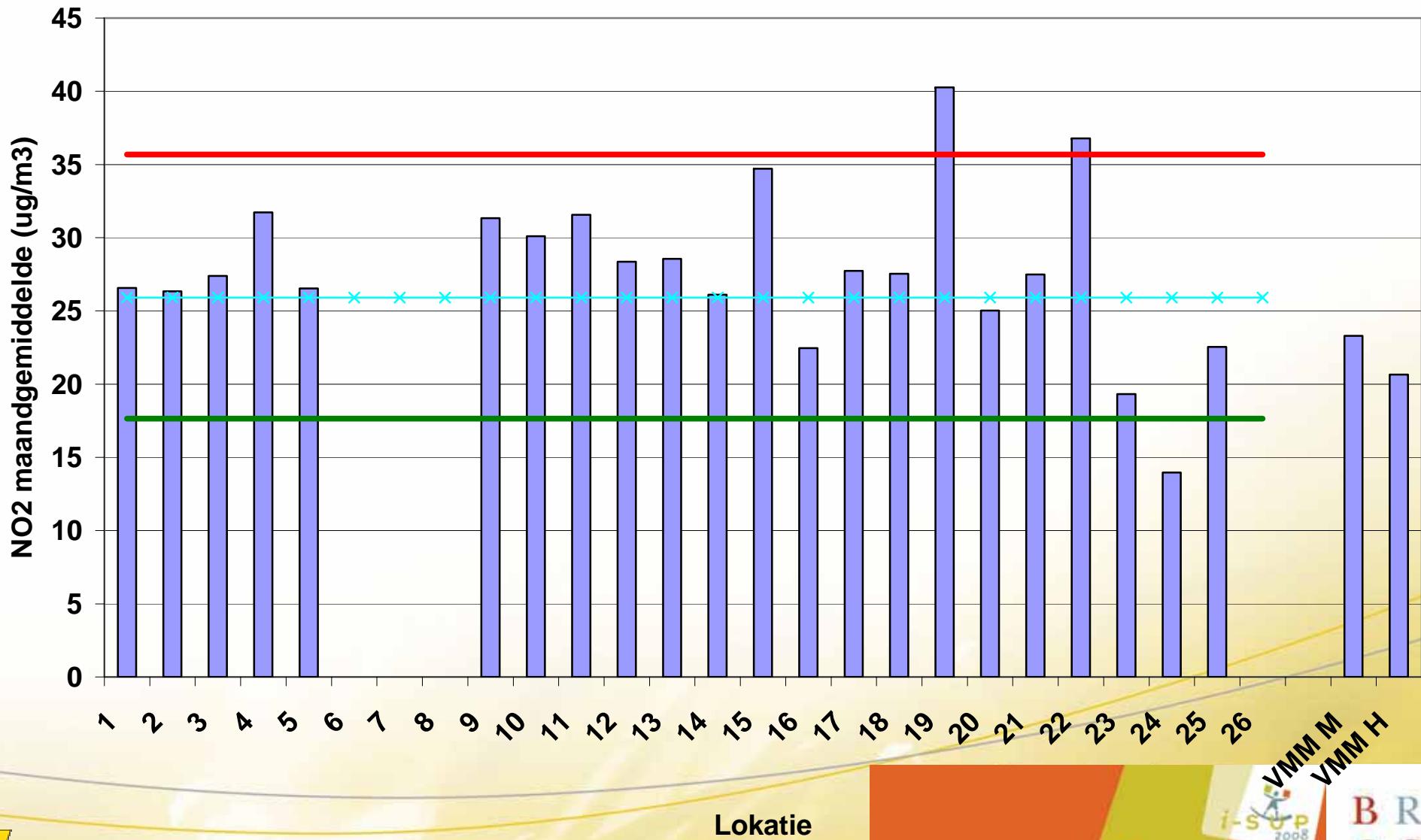


## 10-20 sites during 1 week (or monthly average)

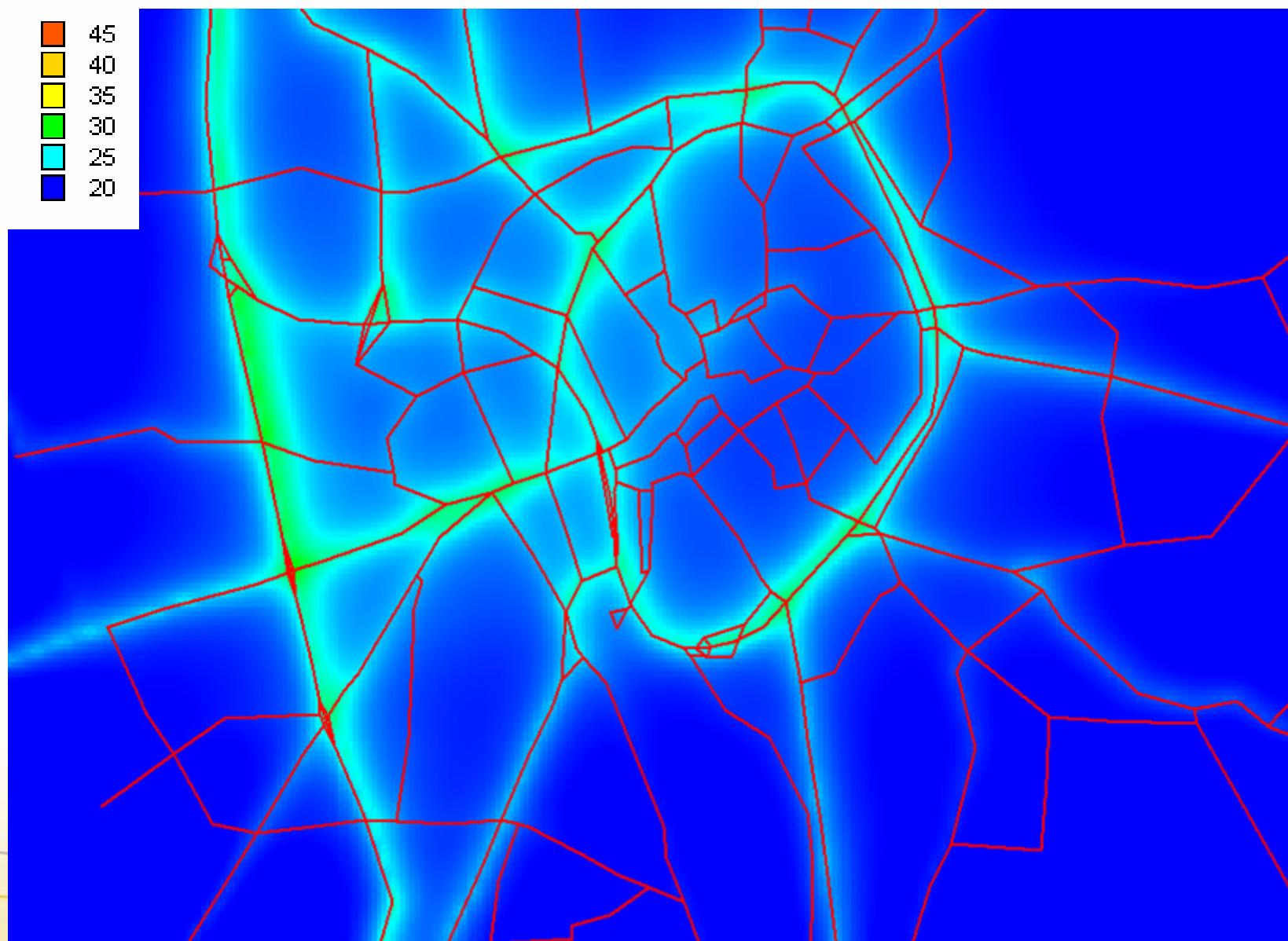
- NO<sub>2</sub> (passive samplers including some organic pollutants)
- Short PM measurements
- Mobile mapping (bicycle)



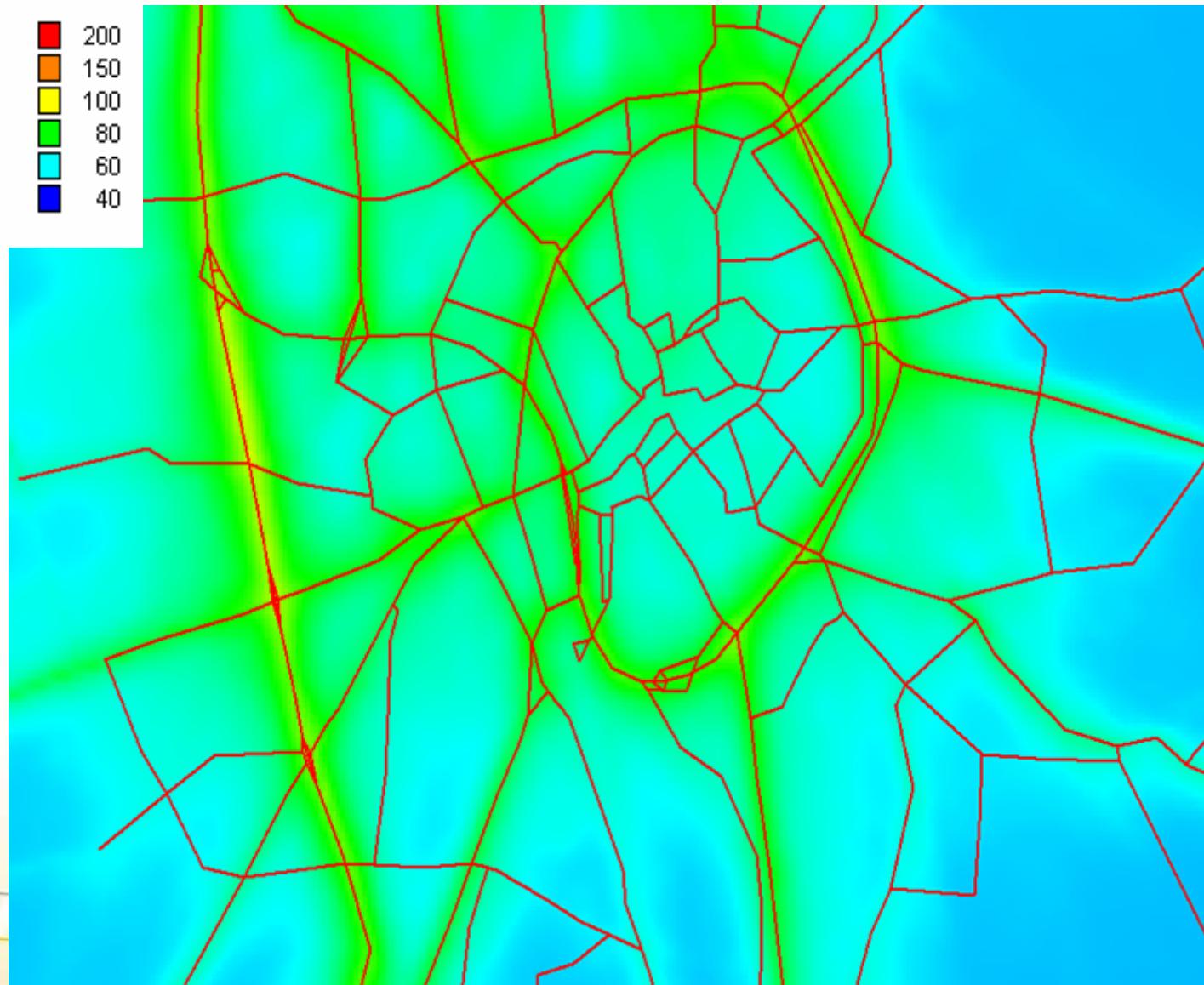
# $\text{NO}_2$ , model/measured values



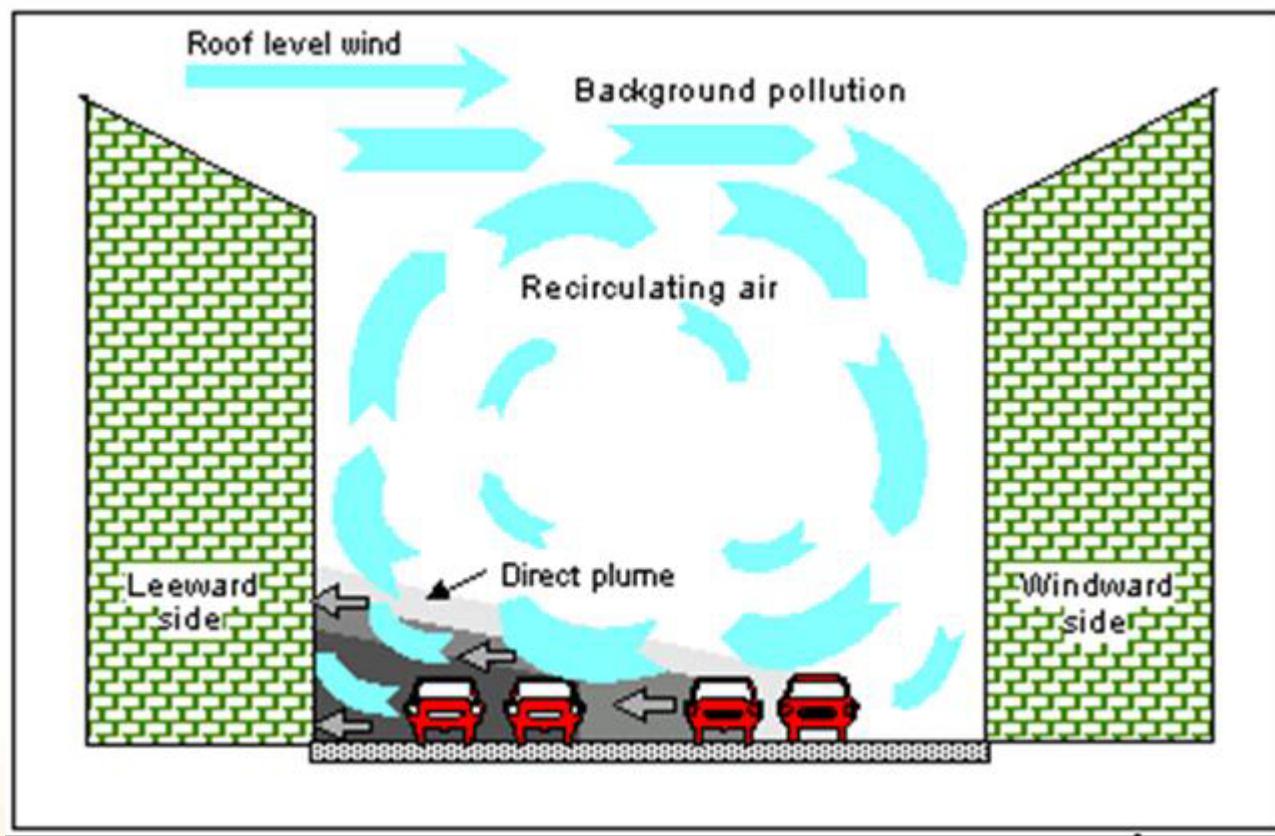
# 2003, air quality ( $\text{NO}_2$ )

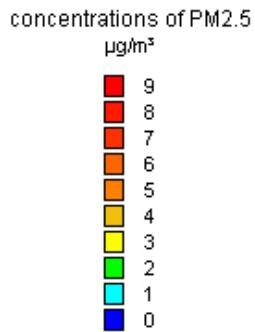


# 2003, NO<sub>2</sub> P99.79

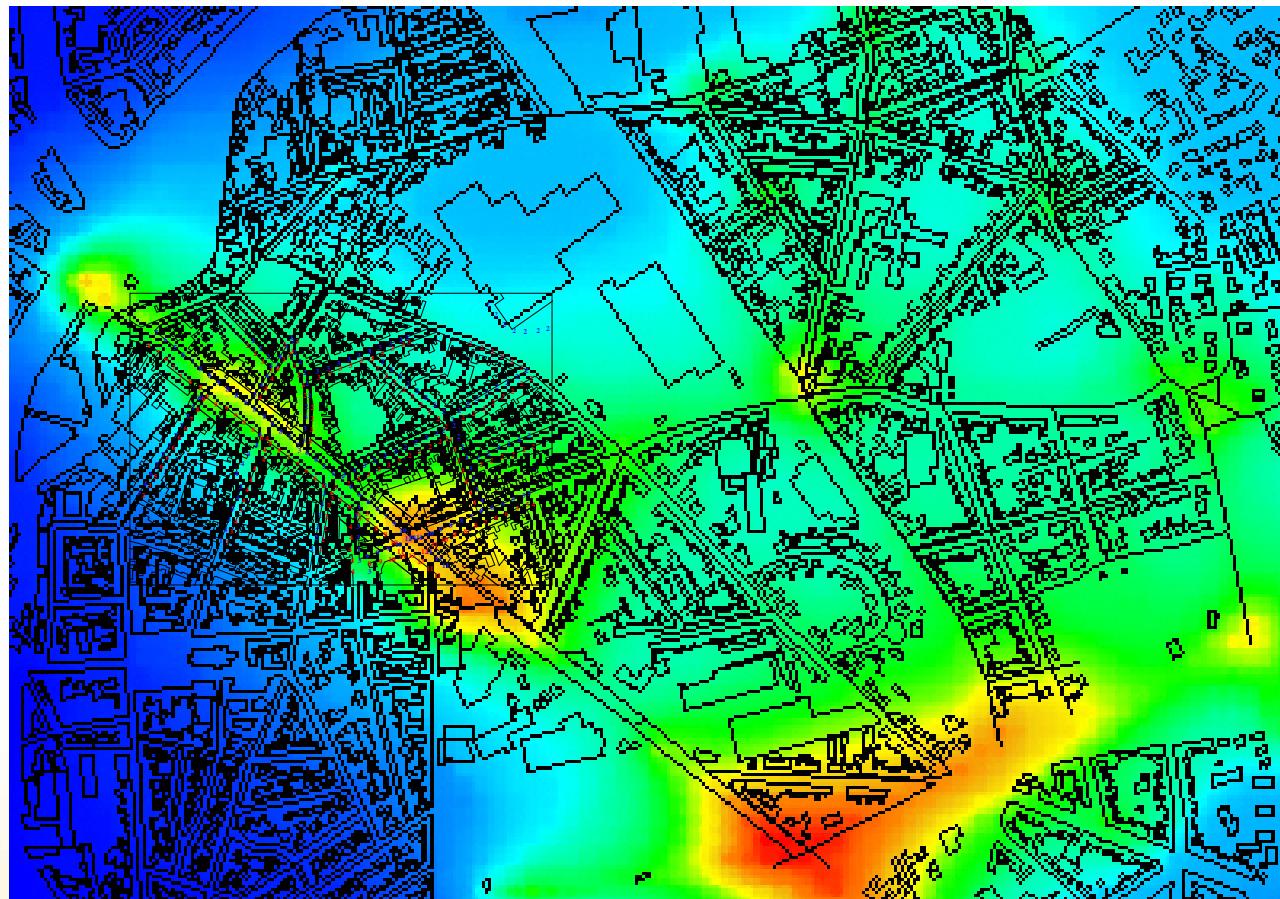


# Dispersion of pollutants in a street canyon





# Gentbrugge PM<sub>2.5</sub> (2003)

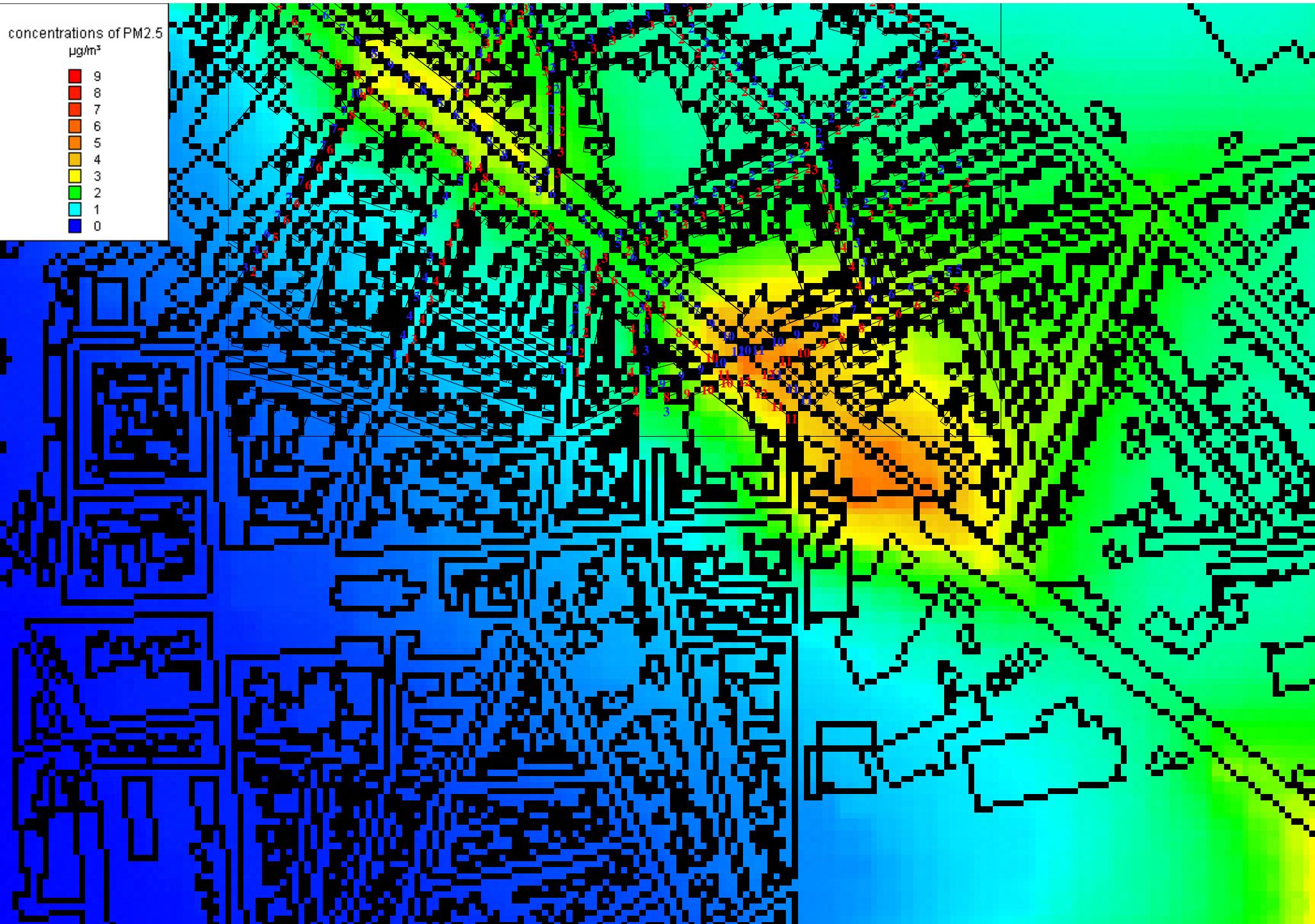


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B R U  
G G E  
WORLDLEADER STAD



# 2003, NO<sub>2</sub>, in canyons in Bruges

## Ezelstraat/Guldenvlieslaan



# 2003, NO<sub>2</sub>

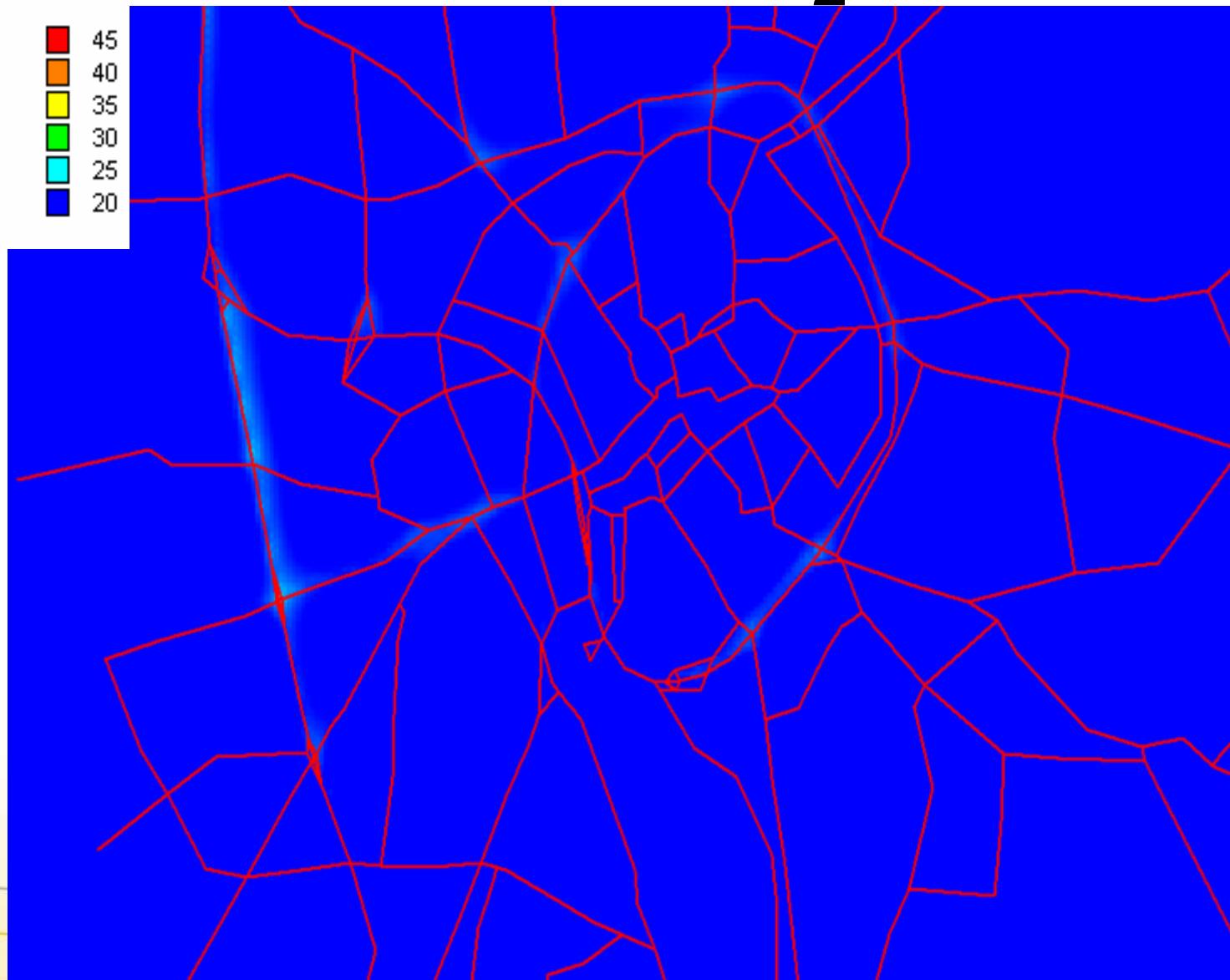
- Sint Jorisstraat
- Kalkovenstraat
- Clear Canyon-effects
- Important?



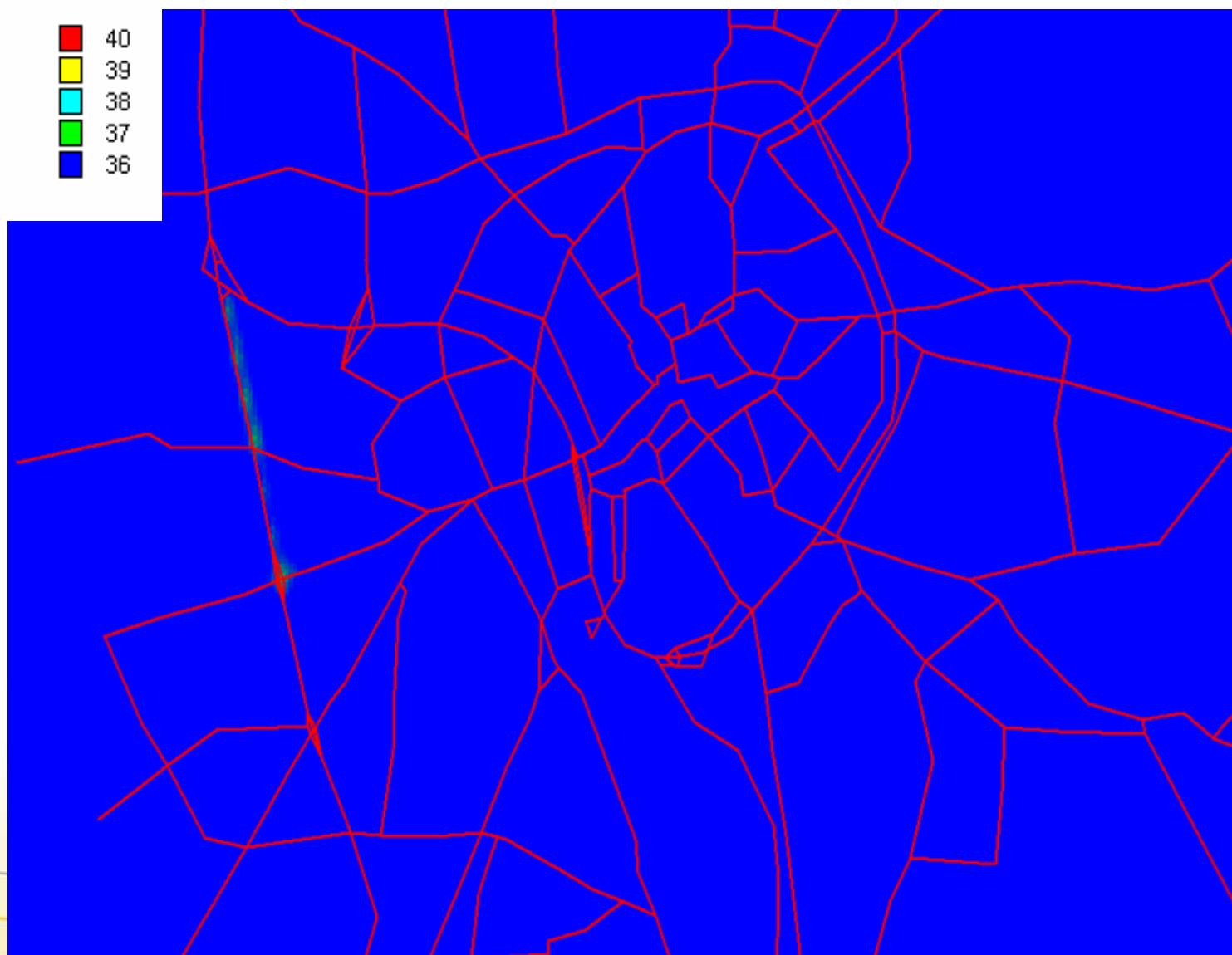
# 2003, historical centre NO<sub>2</sub>



# 2012, NO<sub>2</sub>

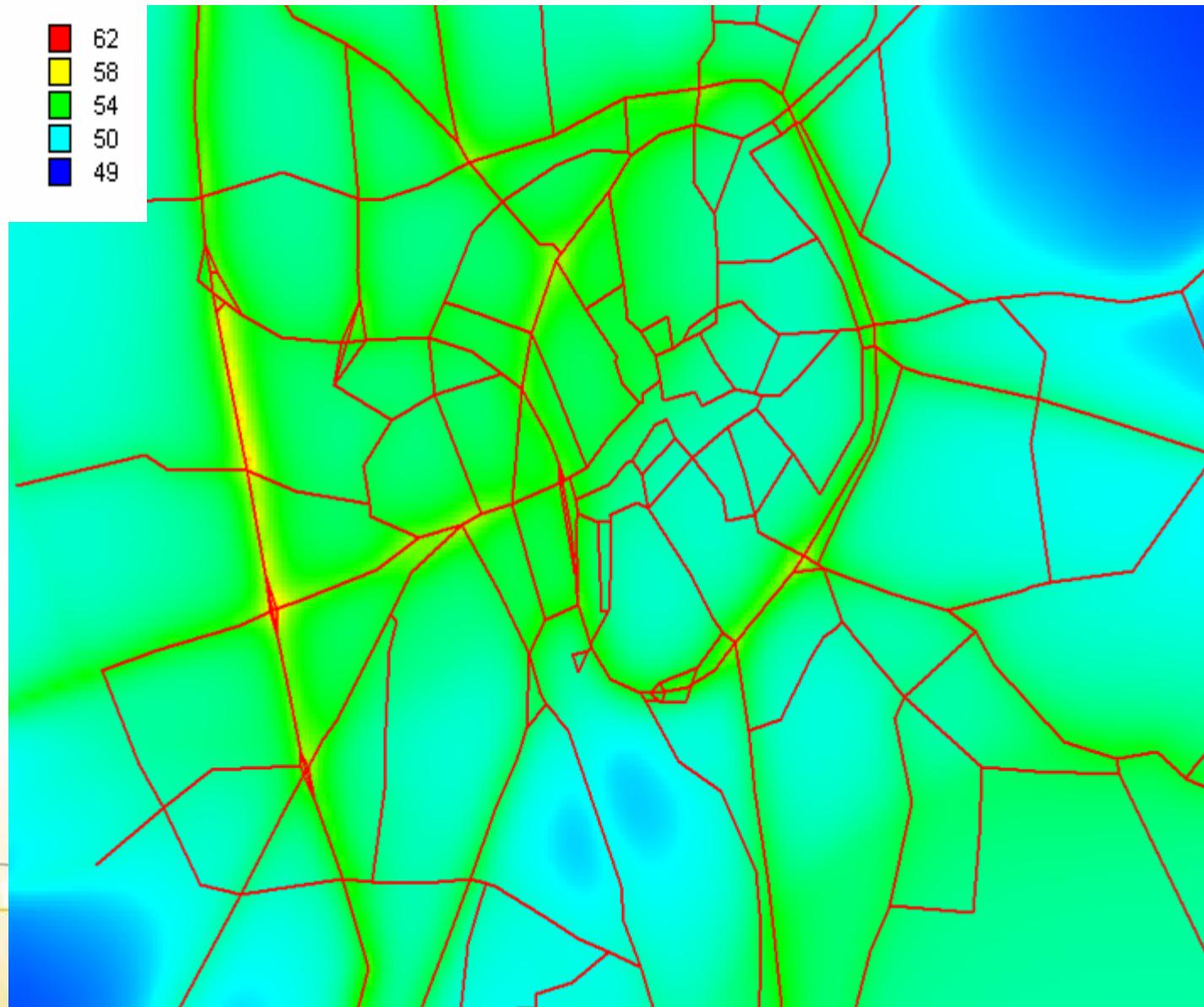


# 2003, PM<sub>10</sub>



# 2003, PM<sub>10</sub>

daily limits are frequently exceeded (>>35x 50µg/m<sup>3</sup>)



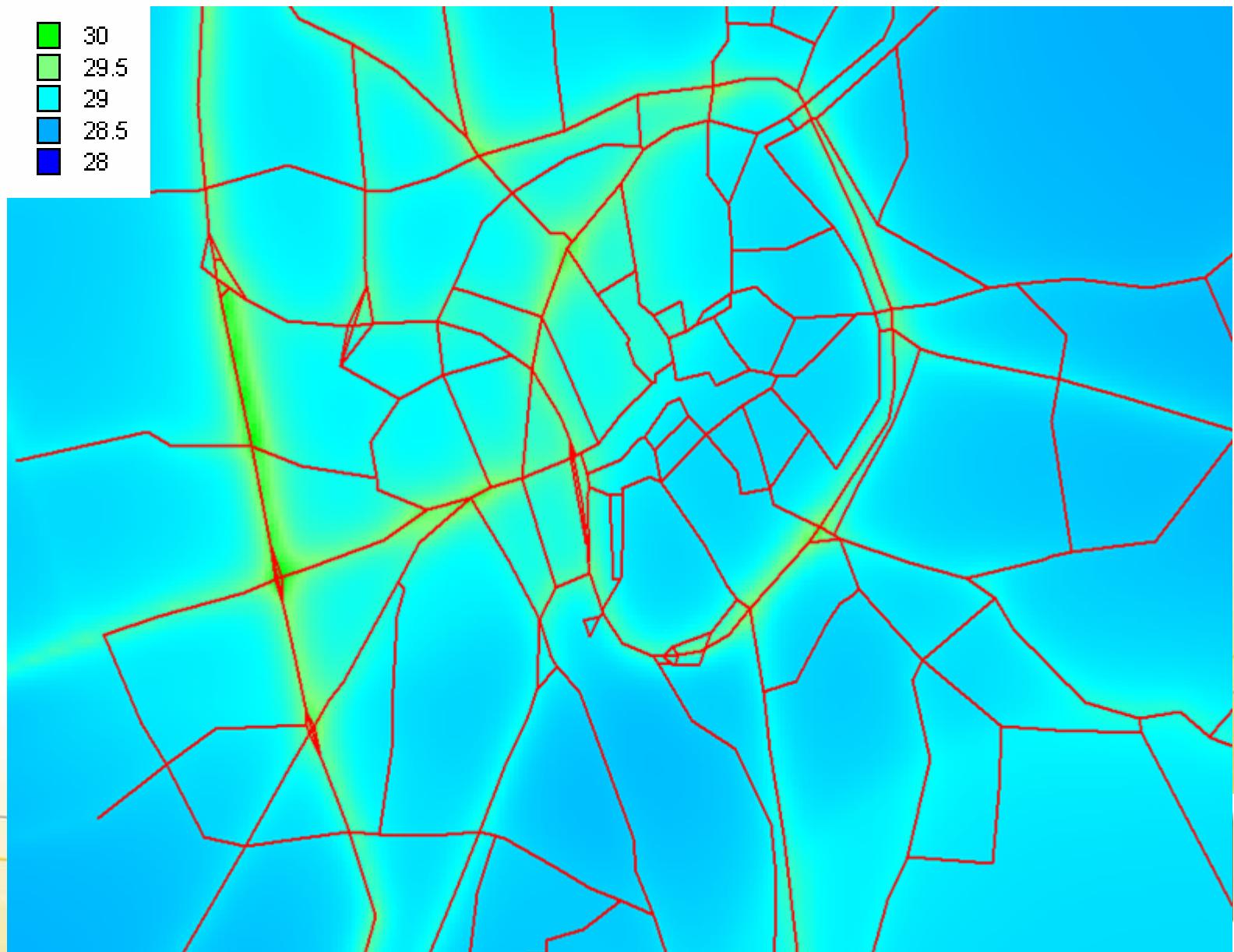
# 2003, PM<sub>10</sub>

# exceedences in the canyons



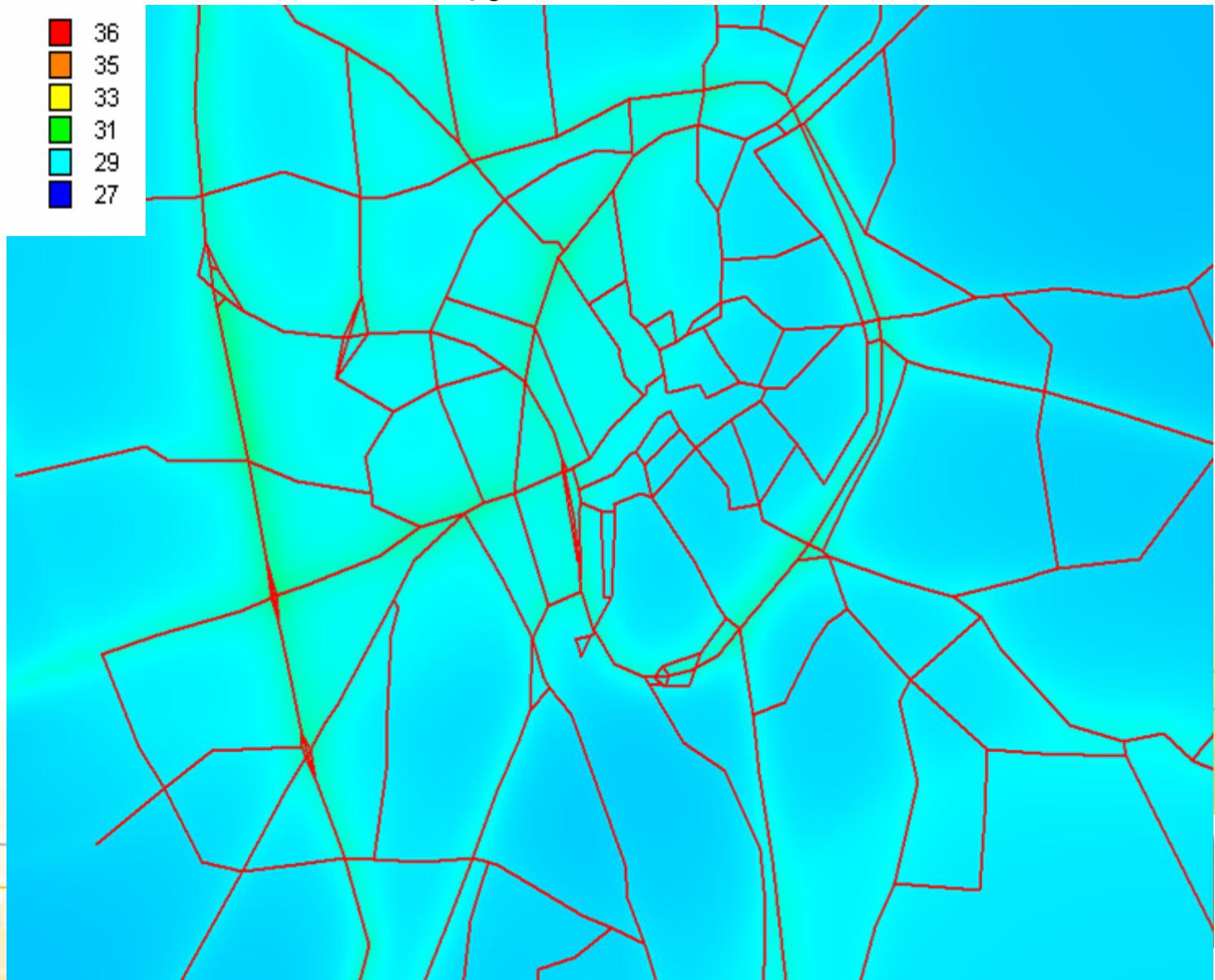
# Model predictions

## 2012, PM<sub>10</sub> annual average



# Model predictions

## 2012, PM<sub>10</sub>, exceedences



# Policy measures

- NO<sub>2</sub>: no major problems expected
- N31: major problems
  - ~noise
  - ~ Heavy vehicles
  - ~speed / congestion
  - ~ new stadion
- PM “*problems*” with daily limit value
- 2012: good air quality/noise possible but:
  - Ring/N31
  - Canyons centre
  - Heavy vehicles
    - Buses
    - Coaches
    - Trucks

# Measures discussed

## Voorbeeld functie

- Automatische meting luchtkwaliteit
- Informatiebord
- Vergroening stedelijke vloot
- Geavanceerde voertuigen
  - Elektrisch (fiets, Segway)

## Snelheid/congestie

- ISA
- Doorstroming bruggen

## Technisch

- Geavanceerde bussen
- % hybriede voertuigen
  - Parkeerbeleid

## Volumes

- Fiets
- Promotie OV (1-dag)-toeristen
- Carpool/Telewerk
- Bedrijfsvervoerplannen
- Uitbreiden Cambio (andere centra)

## Canyons

- LEZ (low emission zone)
  - Lengte/tonnage beperking
  - Verplichte roetfilter (HDV)
  - Politiecontrole (heavy smokers)
- Voetgangerszone
- Fietstrajecten



## Evaluatie mobiliteitsplan: voorstellen Luchtkwaliteit

- ↳ Aanbevelingen VITO zullen de leidraad zijn van het beleid voor de komende jaren in de relatie mobiliteit – verkeer – luchtkwaliteit.
  
- ↳ Realisatie concrete maatregelen voorgesteld door VITO:
  - invoering van milieuvriendelijke hybride bussen
  - gebruik van propere brandstoffen en motoren
  - vergroening van het stedelijk wagenpark
  - concrete opvolging van de luchtkwaliteit door het stadslabo

# *Is this the Way forward to Sustainable Development and Market Opening?*

- Who did we convince?
  - Bruges city council
- How were they convinced?
  - Continuation of successful mobility policy
  - Simultaneous concerns on noise/air quality
  - The desire to be first/best

# Conclusions (AQ)

- Combination of measurements & models yields reliable results
- Present AQ in the city centre is good  
(and better than most other Flemish cities)
  - No problems with NO<sub>2</sub>  
(concentration below annual average and hourly limits)
  - Daily limit for PM10 is frequently exceeded in most places in and around Bruges (up to 60x each year)
- Important improvements are possible by 2012
  - Cleaner cars introduced under European legislation
  - Local policies
  - Daily limit value for PM10 *may* be met in Bruges
- Additional local policies and measures are necessary to avoid exceedences in 2012
  - In street canyons (with increasing bus traffic)
  - On regional roads (road transport of sea containers)

# Conclusions (mobility)

- First hybrid bus will be operational in 2008
- 4 more buses operational early 2009 at the latest
- Ensure
  - Continued growth of urban bus transport
- Avoid
  - complaints on odour & noise