Urban-scale air pollution model using Data Lake's Near-Data Computing

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EUMETSAT

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Motivation

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Over 75% of citizens in urban areas are exposed to levels of pollution above the limits established by the World Health Organization [1], making air pollution an environmental issue of public interest. Several pollutants can be found in cities, but as many studies indicate, particulate air pollutants (PM2.5, PM10, black carbon, dust, aerosols, etc.) can have a direct negative effect on health [2,3,4]. Such particulate air pollutants are composed of a number of solid and liquid substances which can be derived both from human activity such as road traffic, industrial processes and construction works, and from natural sources such as dust storms, volcanic eruptions and forest fires [5,6]

The main goal of the present use case is to implement and test a simplified potential flow-based urban-scale particulate air pollutant predictive tool in the city of Barcelona. Succeeding in this work means that decision-makers will have a practical forecasting tool that can effectively guide them in the local-scale management of urban areas.



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