## Source apportionment

Tagging and Brut Force:

Similar, complementary or designed for different purposes ?

FAIRMODE Forum for air quality modelling in Europe



## Brute Force (PI) and Tagging (TC)

Two source apportionment methods based on Air Quality Models



## **Data Analysis**

Data used by Thunis et al. (2019) and by Belis et al. (2021).

1 year (2010) CAMx simulations over the Po Valley



- □ Base case (including PSAT)
- Reduction scenarios:
  - at 20%, 50% and 100%,
  - affecting the sectors of transport, industry and agriculture.





Averages and aggregations end up making **NOT ALL** results similar









The two methods give similar results for non reactive species (linearity for 0 to 100% reduction):





Belis et al. (2021) conclude:

"in most situations the two approaches (i.e. TC and PI) provide similar results for annual averages"

but an analysis of the situation as a whole leads to a slightly different conclusion:

"PI and TC results differ in most of cases" (Thunis et al.; 2019)



#### Other options for TC

Belis et al. (2019): « An option emphasize the role of agriculture with this approach (i.e. TC) would be to develop a version based on the molar ratio instead of the mass »









The choice for the source repartition could change arbitrary

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#### Other options for PI

Belis et al. (2021): "in the majority of the tested scenarios at 50% and 20% ERLs (i.e. Emission Reduction Levels), interaction terms are either negligible or remain low. In these conditions, the TC and PI approaches provide comparable results".



## Other options for PI

Source allocation (& DDM)

= PI for « low » emission reduction levels





#### Conclusions?

- PI and TC results differ in most of cases. Results are similar only in case of linearity from 0 to 100% emission reductions
- TC are based on source repartitions that could change arbitrary. How to choose between the different options and for what purpose?
- Source allocation (DDM) is the best alternative to compute source apportionment components related to reduction impacts.



#### Next steps?

Further investigation to clarify the limitations and purposes of the different source apportionment methods

Volunteers to participate in a new publication?

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# Thank you for your attention

