

Applying an environmental modelling framework to assess the impact of transport on air quality

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Modelling framework: overview

Mobility

Emissions

Concentration

Exposure

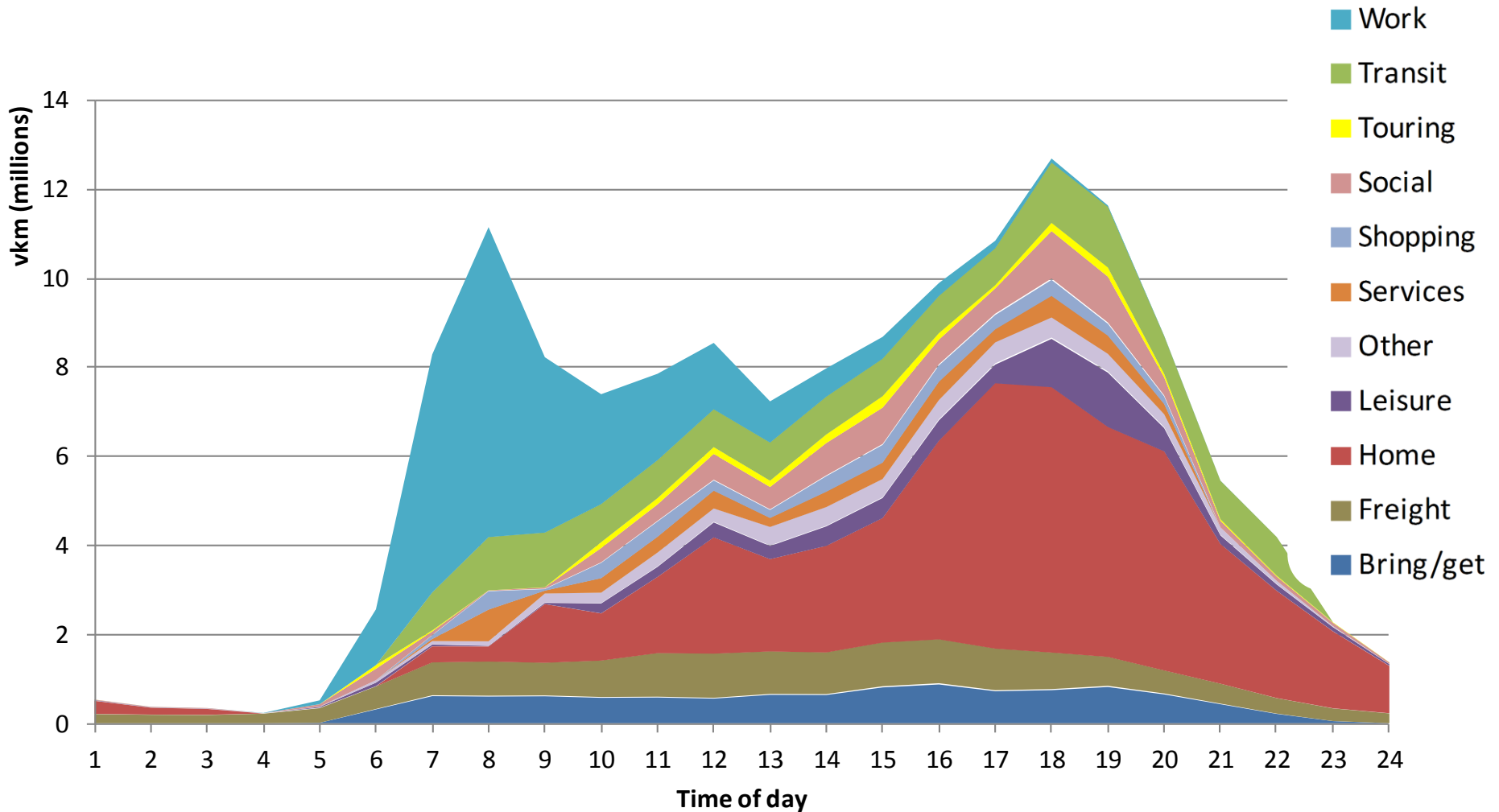
Modelling transport



=> Activity-based travel demand model
'FEATHERS' (Bellemans et al. 2010)

- » Agent-based
- » Activity-schedules for individuals (what, where, when,...)
- » Transport is derived from the activities
- » Study area: Flanders + Brussels (appr. 5 million adults)
- » Only motorised vehicle trips were analysed
- » Trips per hour for average week
- » Traffic assignment: number of vehicles per traffic link, per time of day
- » “Why are people travelling?” -> **Analysis per trip motive**

Modelling transport: vkm per trip motive

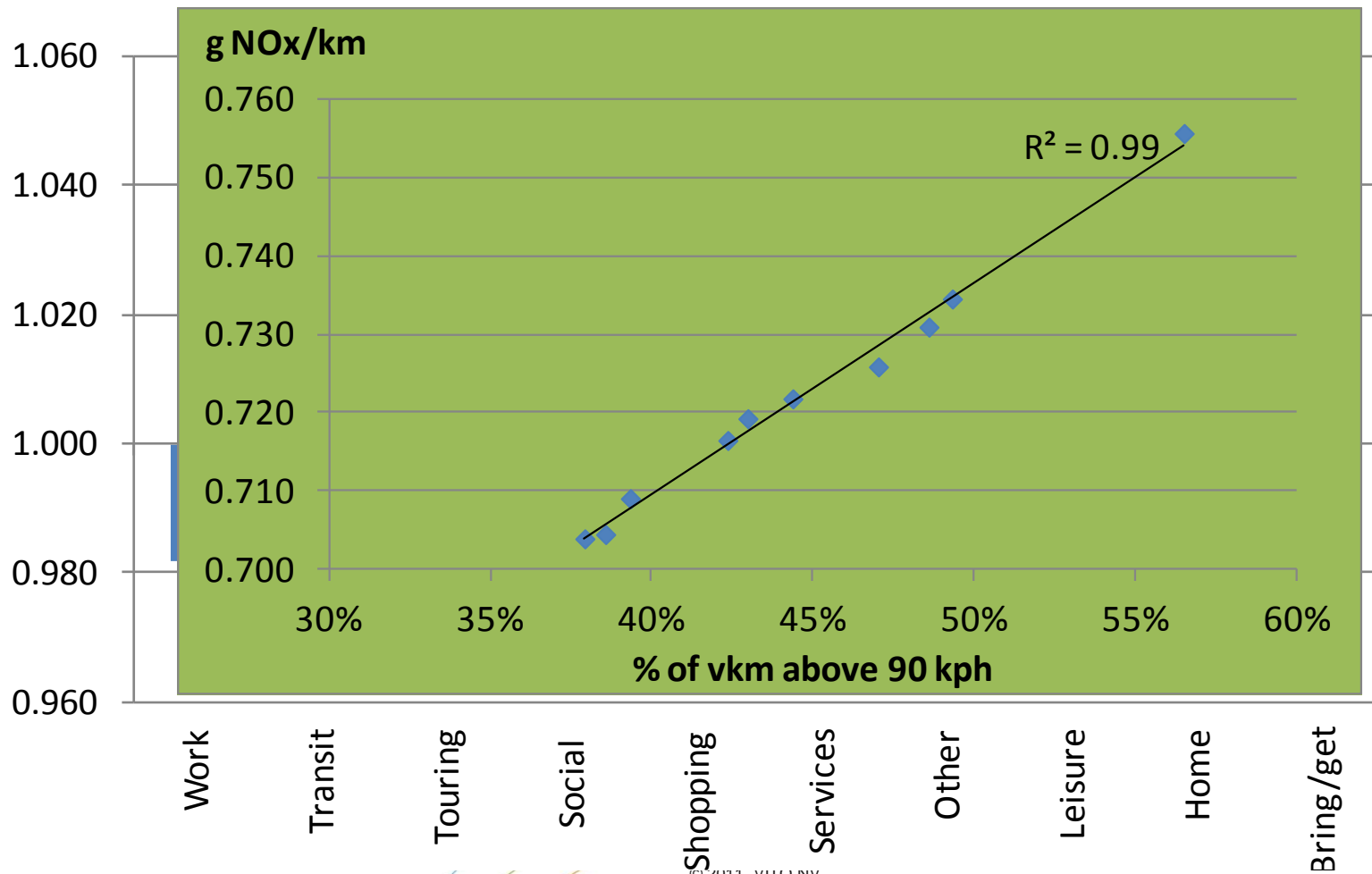


Modelling emissions

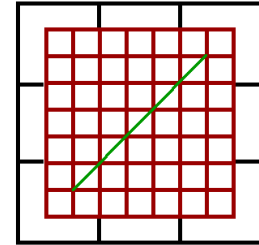
- » VITO's emission model **MIMOSA 4** (E-motion Road)
 - » CopertIV
 - » Traffic volume
 - » Fleet composition
 - » Speed
- » Spatially and temporally distributed emissions
- » Emission factors per trip motive

Modelling emissions: EF per trip motive

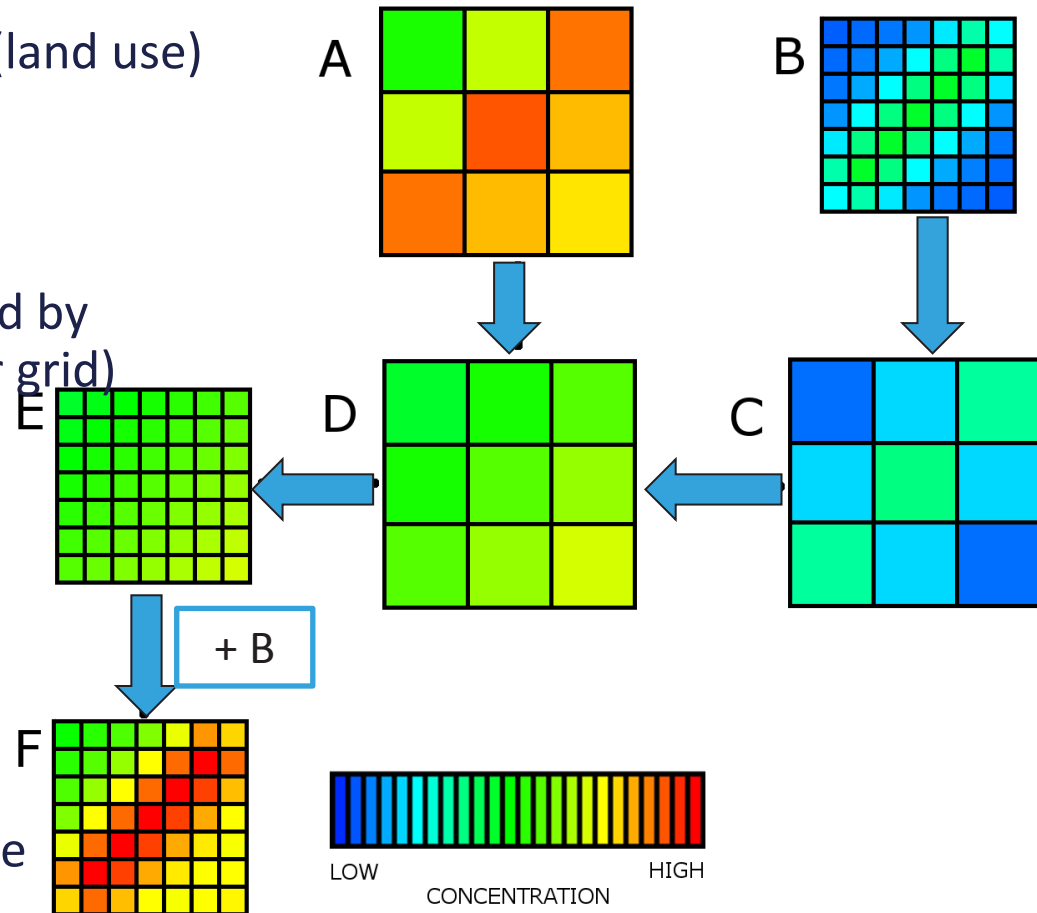
- » EF Freight: 8 to 9 times higher than car (6.282 g NO_x/km; not shown)
- » Speed



Modelling concentrations

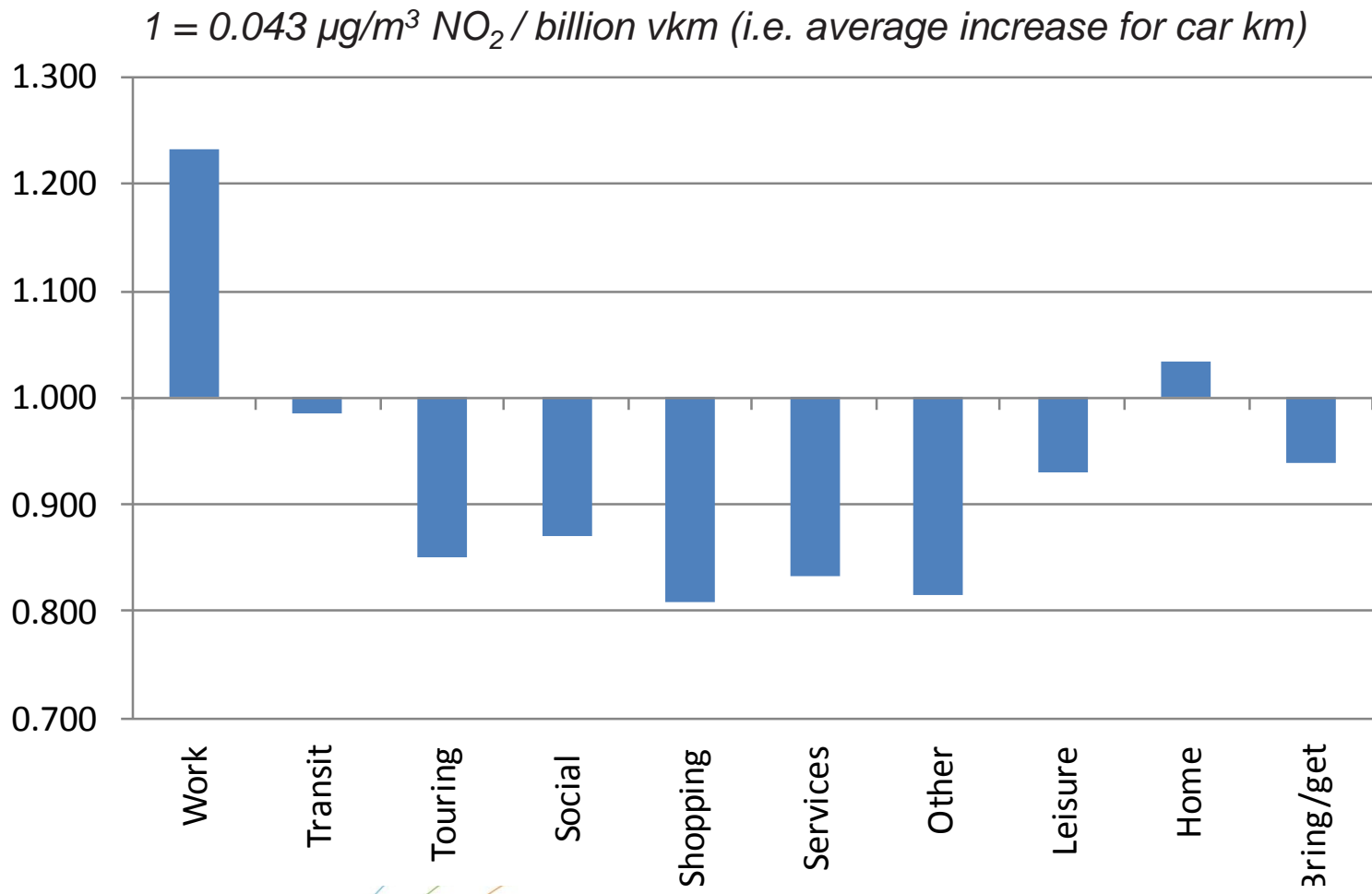


- Background concentrations provided by **RIO** (regular grid) (Janssen et al. 2008)
 - Measurements + interpolation (land use)
 - Hourly scale
 - 4 x 4 km
- Local concentration gradients caused by traffic, calculated by **IFDM** (irregular grid)
 - 1 x 1 km
 - + line source following grid
- Eliminating double counting of emissions
- Concentration impact per trip motive



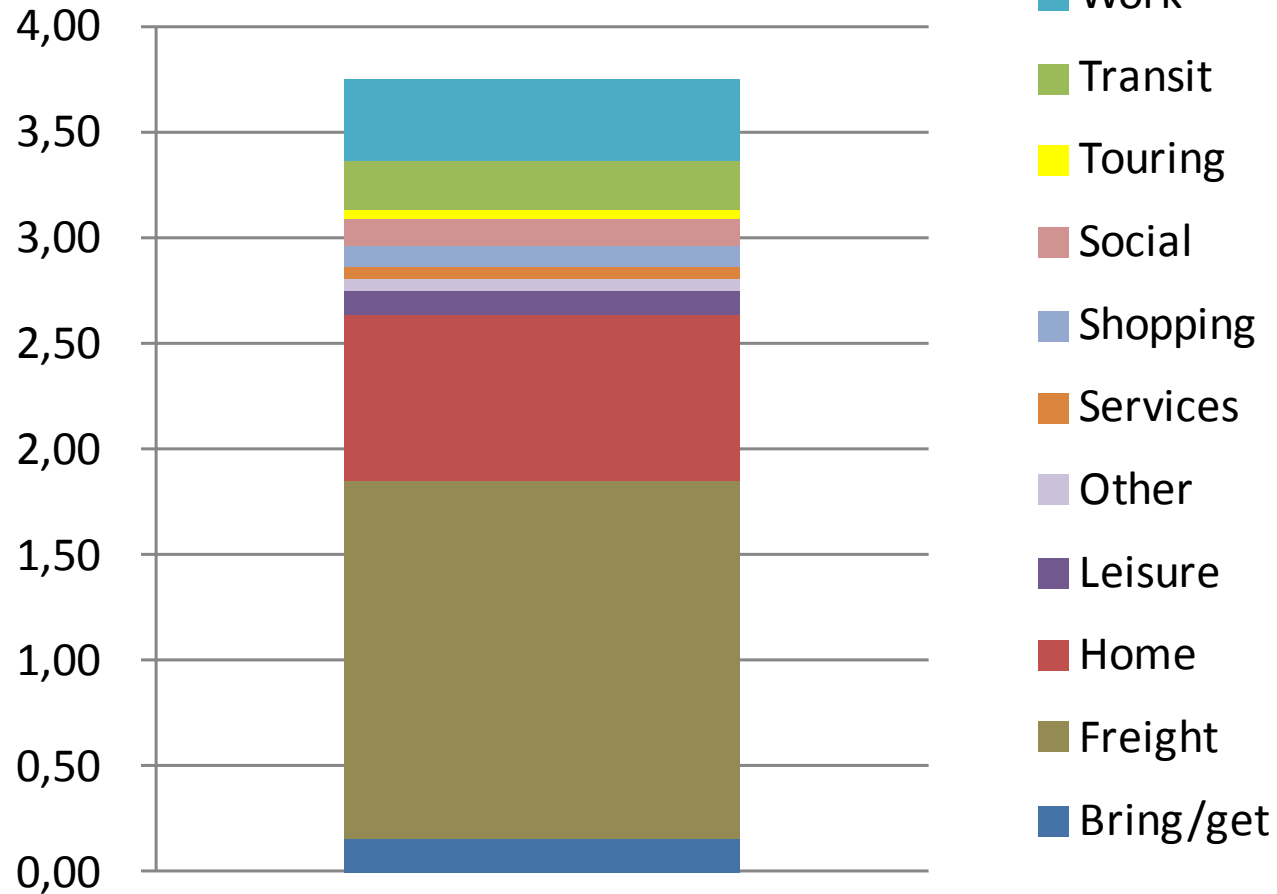
Modelling concentrations

- » Freight: 8 to 9 times higher ($0.0385 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 \text{NO}_2/\text{billion vkm}$; not shown)
- » Early morning trips -> large atmospheric stability -> bad dispersion



Modelling concentrations

NO₂ µg/m³



Mobility

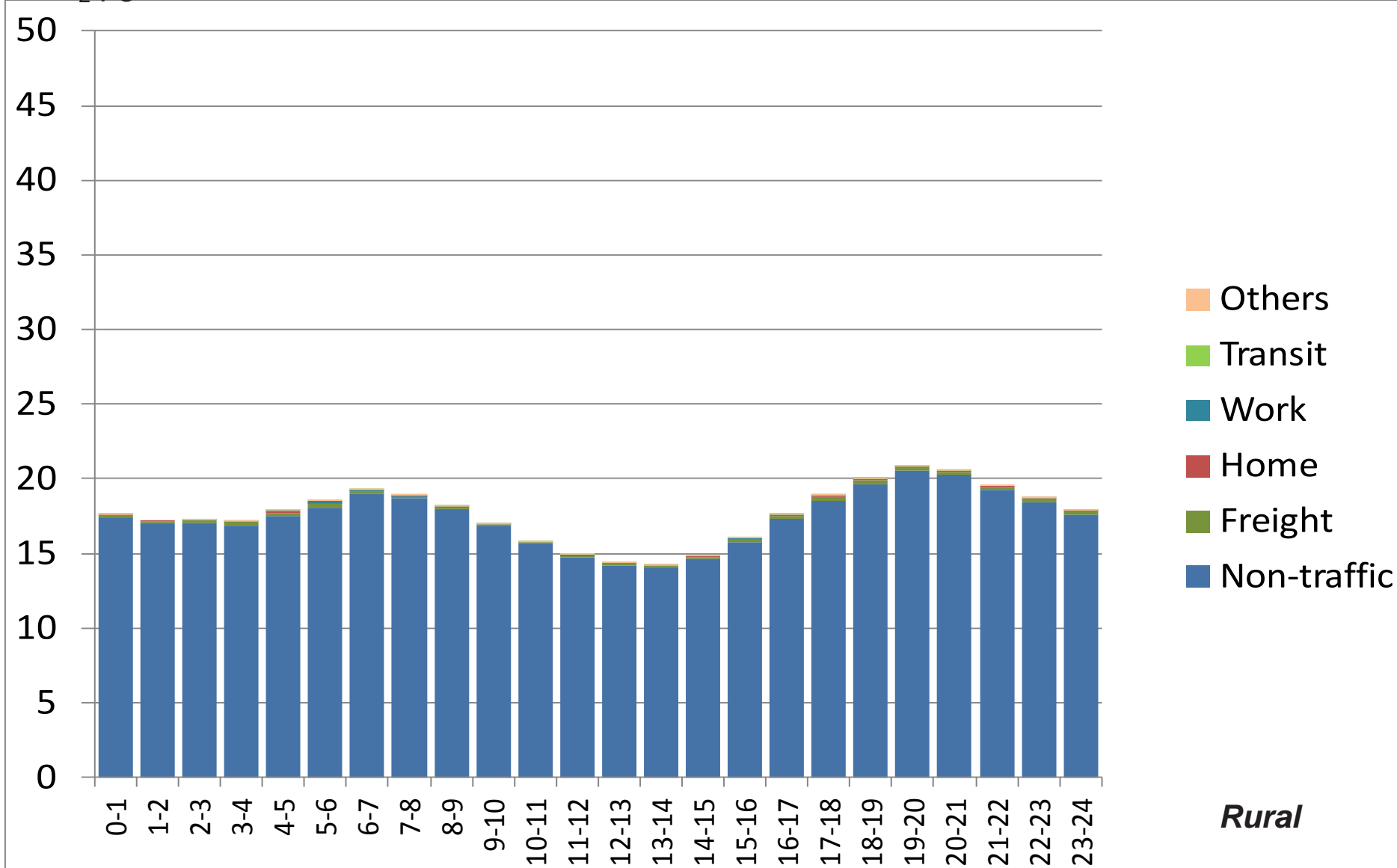
Emissions

Concentration

Exposure

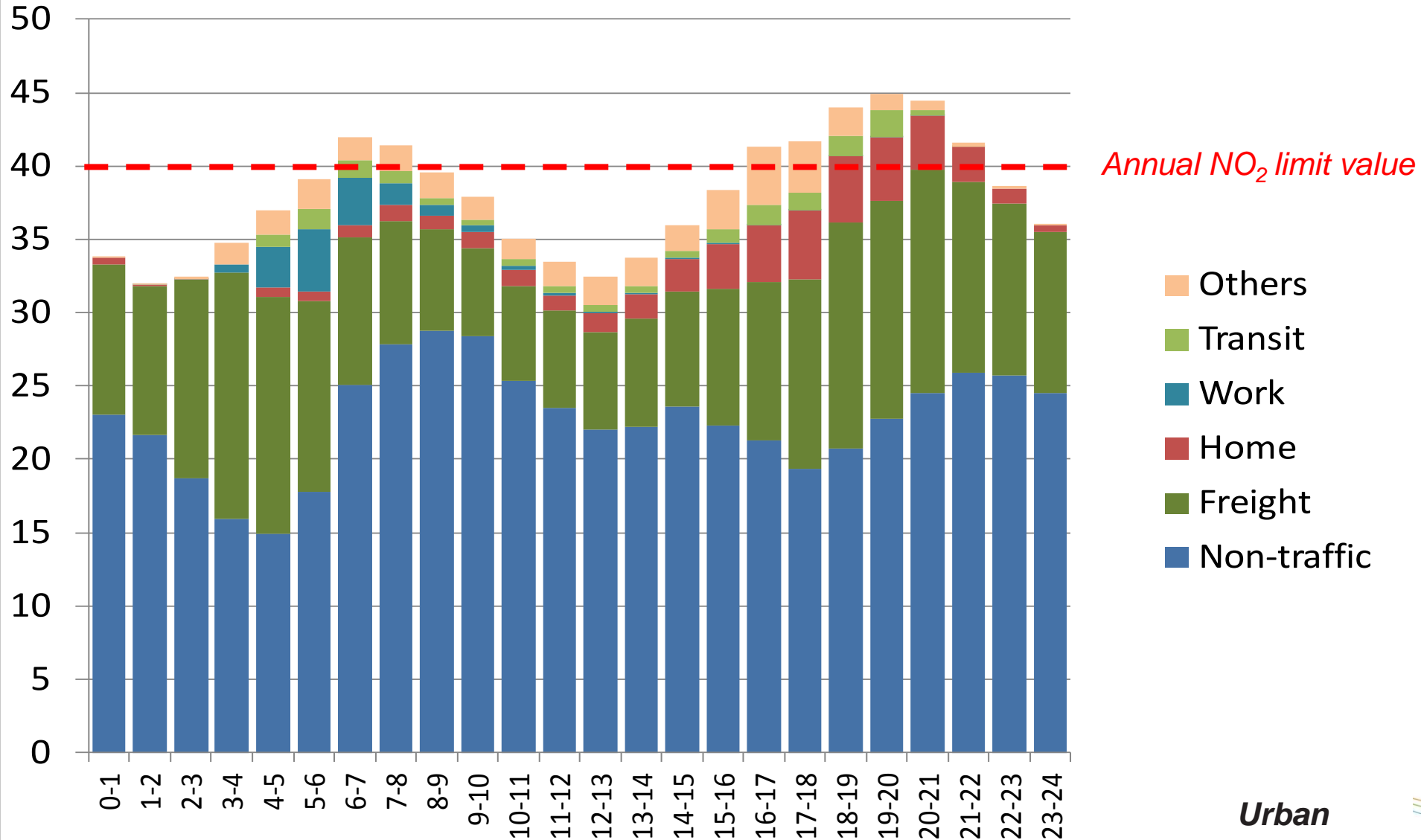
Modelling concentrations

NO₂ µg/m³



Modelling concentrations

NO₂ µg/m³



Exposure

- » Residential address information (static)
- » High resolution population data (up to 5m)
- » Only outdoor exposure

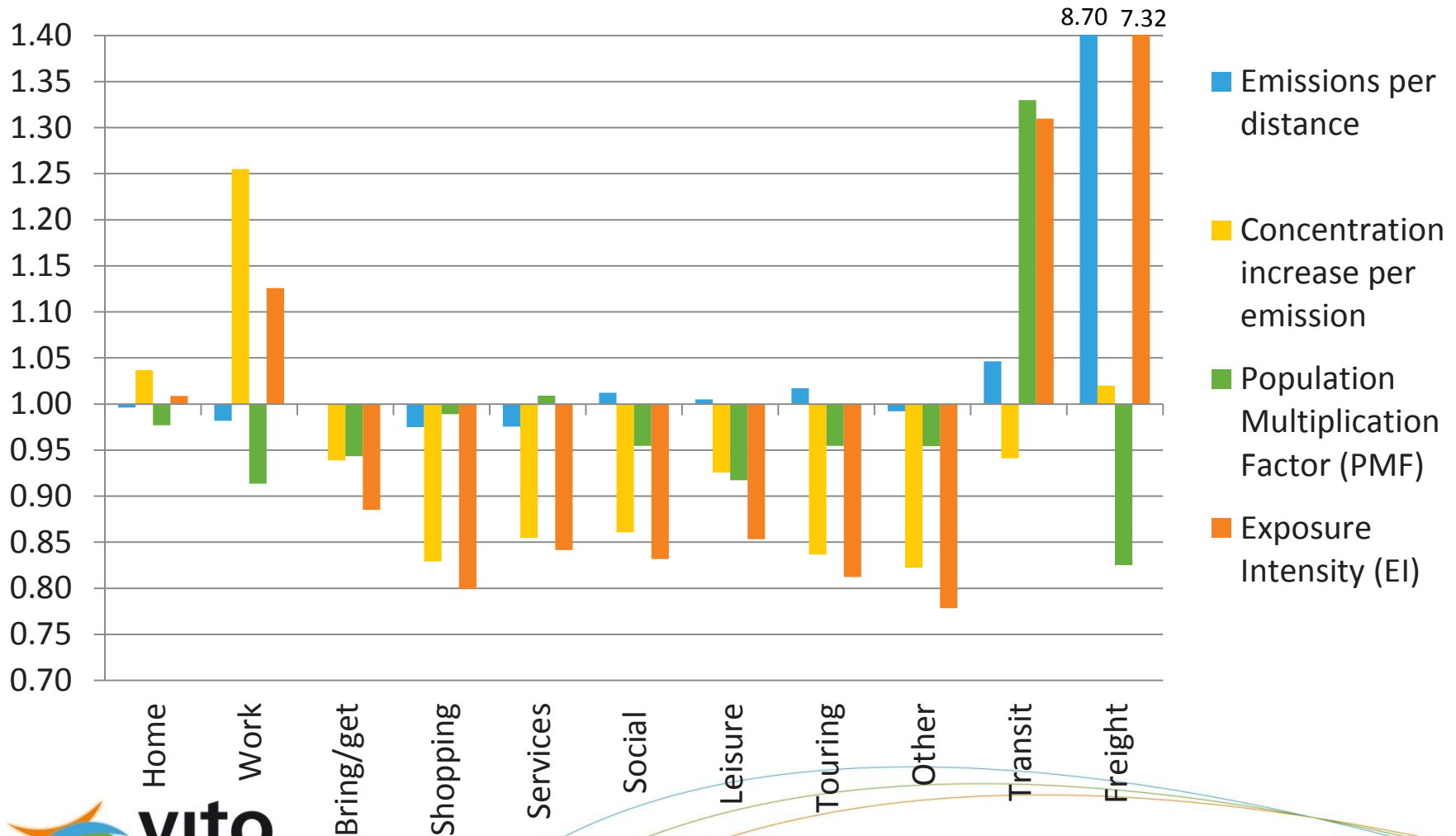
- » Exposure intensity (EI)

$$EI = \frac{n\Delta C}{Vkm}$$

- » Population Multiplication Factor (PMF)

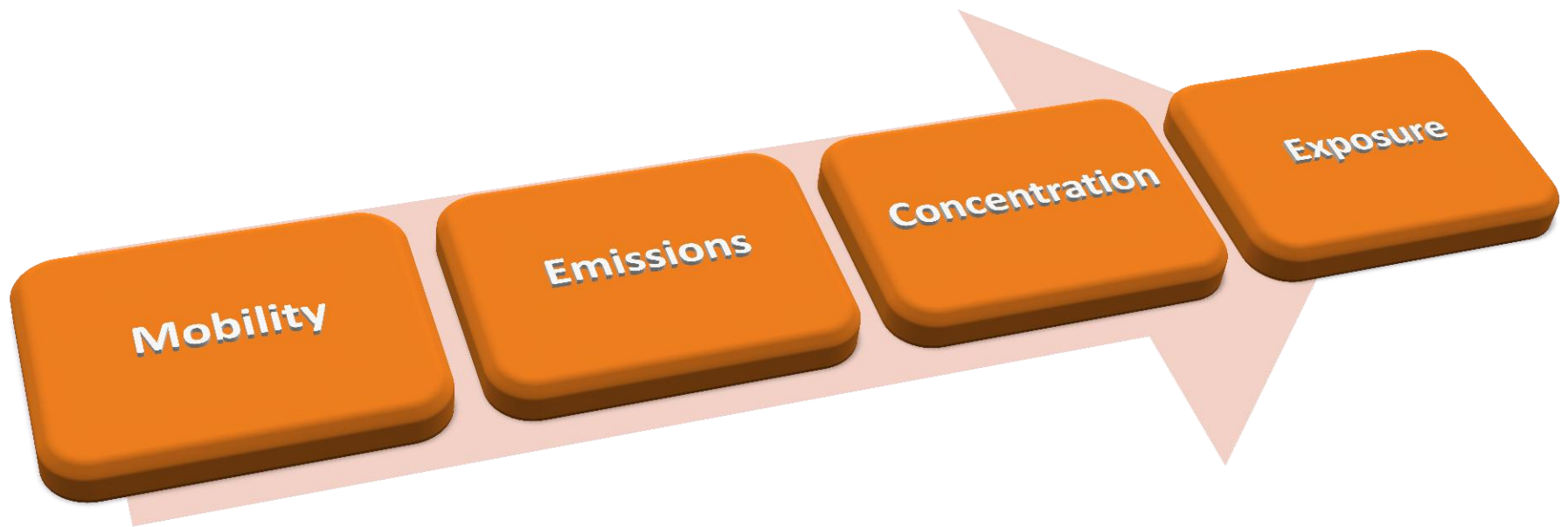
$$PMF = \frac{n\Delta C}{N\Delta C}$$

(Marginal) impact of transport on air quality per trip motive



Impact of transport on air quality?

“Not every trip (kilometer) yields the same impact on the environment”



Emissions => **Vehicle type** (car vs. trucks) and **speed**

Concentrations => Emissions and **time of day**

Exposure => Emissions, concentrations and **location**