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1 **Deconstruction of annoyance due to air pollution by multiple correspondence analyses**

2

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18 ***Abstract***

19

20 Annoyance caused by air pollution is a matter of public health as it can cause stress and
21 ill-health and affect quality of life, among other burdens. The aim of this study is to apply
22 the multiple correspondence analyses (MCA) technique as a differential tooling to
23 explore relationships between variables that can influence peoples' behaviour concerning
24 annoyance caused by air pollution. Data were collected through a survey on air pollution,
25 environmental issues and quality of life. Face-to-face survey studies were conducted in
26 two industrialized urban areas (Vitoria in Brazil and Dunkirk in France). These two
27 regions were chosen as their inhabitants often report feeling annoyed by air pollution and
28 both regions have similar industrial characteristics. The results showed a progressive
29 correspondence between levels of annoyance and other active variables in the "air
30 pollution" factor group: as the levels of annoyance increased, the levels of the other
31 qualitative variables (importance of air quality, perceived exposure to industrial risk,
32 assessment of air quality, perceived air pollution) also increased. Respondents who
33 reported feeling annoyed by air pollution also thought that air quality was very important
34 and were very concerned about exposure to industrial risks. Furthermore, they often
35 assessed air quality as horrible and they could frequently perceive air pollution by dust,
36 odours and decreased visibility. The results also showed a statistically significant
37 association between occurrence of allergies and high levels of annoyance.

38

39 ***Keywords:*** *air pollution, perceived annoyance, behaviour, health impacts, Multiple*
40 *Correspondence Analysis.*

41 **1. Introduction**

42
43
44 Air pollution can cause various health impacts, such as respiratory and cardiovascular
45 diseases, hypertension and cancer among others (WHO, 2014; Lercher et al., 1995; Llop
46 et al., 2008; Nascimento et al., 2017; Souza et al., 2018). In addition to the direct health
47 effects caused by the exposure to pollutants, air pollution may also cause annoyance
48 (Amundsen et al., 2008; Machado et al., 2018; Orru et al., 2018b). The concept of
49 annoyance can be complex and extremely subjective as it can be experienced as a
50 perception, an emotion, an attitude or a mixture of these (Berglund, Berglund & Lindvall,
51 1987). Lindvall and Radford (1973) defined annoyance as “a feeling of displeasure
52 associated with any agent or condition known or believed by individuals or groups to
53 adversely affect them”. Annoyance can be associated with negative emotions, such as
54 anger, disappointment, dissatisfaction, helplessness, anxiety and agitation, and
55 behavioural/social changes, such as interference with intended activities (Blanes-Vidal
56 et al., 2012). Furthermore, the World Health Organization (WHO, 2005) defines health as a
57 “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of
58 disease or infirmity”. Therefore, annoyance caused by air pollution can be considered as
59 a health problem and an ambient stressor that affects the quality of life.

60
61 Although a significant number of studies linking air pollution and human health risks
62 exist in the literature (for example Oglesby et al., 2000; Llop et al., 2008; Stenlund et al.,
63 2009; Egondi et al., 2013; Orru et al., 2018), comparatively, there are few studies
64 exploring perceived annoyance caused by air pollution as a health risk and its influencing
65 parameters. According to Jacquemin et al. (2007), there are factors or groups of
66 qualitative variables that can be determinants of the perceived annoyance, such as
67 sociodemographic factors, health symptoms, location of residence and perception of
68 levels of particulate matter.

69
70 One way to better understand the relationship among qualitative variables related to
71 annoyance is through the technique of correspondence analysis. Multiple Correspondence
72 Analysis (MCA) is a multivariate analysis technique for categorical data that allows to
73 graphically assess the differences, similarities and relationships between variables and
74 their response categories (Benzécri et al., 1973; Greenacre & Blasius, 2006).

75
76 The objective of the present work is to analyse and compare the relationships between
77 qualitative variables determining the nuisance caused by air pollution. Although the MCA
78 technique has not been applied before in relation to air pollution, it is a well-valued
79 technique for exploring qualitative variables related to annoyance caused by air pollution
80 and health risks. The MCA is developed here to evaluate the datasets from two surveys
81 conducted in different urban and industrialized regions, namely Dunkirk (France) and
82 Vitoria (Brazil), which have many characteristics in common.

83 84 **2. Materials and methods**

85 86 **2.1. Characteristics of the regions**

87
88 The study was conducted in two distinct urban industrialized regions located in coastal,
89 port and industrial areas (Figure 1 and Figure 2): Dunkirk (France) and Vitoria (Brazil).
90 This allowed for the comparison of the annoyance levels observed in two regions with

91 similar characteristics and provided further insight into the relationship between
92 annoyance and air pollution effects.
93 Despite the geographic and socioeconomic differences between these regions, both are
94 exposed to high levels of air pollution and their inhabitants often report annoyance due to
95 air pollution to their local authorities. According to a report concerning the industrial risk
96 perception in Dunkirk (Calvo-Mendieta et al., 2008, Hellequin et al, 2010), air pollution
97 is cited as the first environmental problem by its inhabitants, followed by water and soil
98 pollution. In Vitoria, according to the local environmental agency more than 24% of the
99 complaints refer to air pollution (Machado et al., 2018). In 2009, Dunkirk and Vitoria
100 signed an international cooperation agreement to develop a variety of events, organizing
101 projects in the realm of environment, culture, economy, port activities, urban
102 development and university research (Les ateliers, 2010).

103 104 *2.1.1. Dunkirk*

105
106 The metropolitan region of Dunkirk (MRD) has about 210,000 inhabitants, is the third
107 largest port in France and an industrialized region containing steel, food, pharmaceutical
108 and chemical industries, an oil refinery and also a nuclear power station for electricity
109 production (risk's source). The climate is oceanic, that is strongly influenced by the wind:
110 summer breeze sometimes contributes to increase sunshine hours, but there are also
111 episodes of "squalls" accompanied by penetrating winter rains (Boyouk et al., 2011;
112 Salvador et al., 2016). The anthropogenic activities present potential sources of
113 particulate matter, which is the main cause of complaints by the resident population in
114 this region (PPA, 2002). Measurement of air pollutant concentrations are being carried
115 out by air quality monitoring stations distributed according to the French national
116 guidelines (ADEME, 2002), which implement European Union Directives 96/62/EC and
117 99/30/EC.

118
119 According to the Protection Plan of the Atmosphere (PPA, 2002), the emission inventory
120 of MRD clearly shows that the industrial sector is the largest emitter of pollutants. For
121 particulate matter (PM₁₀) the main sources in the region are industries, incineration plants,
122 collective and individual heating, followed by road transport. In PPA (2002) there are
123 measures established for local industries, to prevent and reduce the dispersion of particles,
124 such as spraying water on stock piles, watering paths and storage areas, as well as
125 changing the conditions of discharge.

126 127 *2.1.2. Vitoria*

128
129 The metropolitan region of Vitoria (MRV) has about 1,500,000 inhabitants (IBGE, 2010)
130 and is located on the south-eastern coast of Brazil (Figure 2). The MRV climate is
131 classified as tropical, hot and humid, characterized by long summers (usually October to
132 April) and high temperatures, with maximum temperatures occurring usually in
133 December and January. Winter is weak, with average temperature of the coldest month
134 about 18°C, the cold sensation existing occasionally related to the occurrence of cold
135 fronts. The prevailing wind direction is north-easterly which contributes to the dispersion
136 of pollutants emitted from the main large industries in the area towards the city (Andréão
137 et al., 2019).

138
139 The MRV comprises a large port system, heavy vehicular traffic and an industrial park
140 that includes, among others, steel production, pelletizing, quarry, cement and food

141 industries, chemical industries and an asphalt plant, that are all potential sources of air
142 pollution (Santos et al., 2017). In recent years, the region of Vitoria has experienced a
143 process of economic growth and increased industrial production as well as urban
144 development (IJSN, 2015). To monitor the air quality in the Vitoria region, eight air
145 quality monitoring stations, set in different locations in MRV, are managed by the state
146 environmental agency. According to Santos et al., (2017) the major contributor sources
147 of total particles in Vitoria are resuspension due to vehicular traffic in paved and unpaved
148 roads, followed by industrial emissions (mainly the pelletizing and steel industries) and
149 vehicles exhausts. Machado et al. (2018) found that most of the complaints about air
150 pollution are related to nuisance from particles.

151 **2.2. Measured air quality levels**

152
153 Recent studies have shown that fine ($\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$, $\text{PM}_{2.5}$) and ultrafine particles ($\leq 0.1 \mu\text{m}$,
154 $\text{PM}_{0.1}$) are associated with diseases in the lower respiratory system (Farfel et al., 2005,
155 Souza et al., 2017). Inhalable particles ($\leq 10 \mu\text{m}$, PM_{10}), that also include fine and ultrafine
156 particles, also pose severe public health concerns, such as upper respiratory system
157 disturbances and in some cases persistent nuisance (Vallack and Shillito, 1998;
158 Amundsen et al., 2008; Blanes- Vidal et al., 2012; Machado et al., 2019).

159
160 Table 1 shows some descriptive statistics of 24-hour average PM_{10} concentrations
161 measured at the air quality stations in Dunkirk during the year 2008 (Atmo Nord-Pas-de-
162 Calais, 2009). As can be seen from this table, the mean concentration levels differ
163 significantly among stations. The largest standard deviations were observed for the
164 concentrations measured in the stations: Fort Mardyck, St Pol Mer Nord, Grande-Synthe
165 and Mardyck. This is due to the large variability between the minimum and maximum
166 concentration values registered in these stations. The 24-hour average PM_{10}
167 concentrations surpassed in several occasions the respective WHO annual air quality
168 guideline, which is $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (24h mean) (WHO, 2005).

169
170 Table 2 presents the descriptive statistics of 24-hour average PM_{10} concentrations measured during 2011
171 at the air quality monitoring stations located in MRV, except at Vila Velha-Centre station,
172 which in 2011 did not register enough data (min70%) for analysis. As can be seen, the
173 largest standard deviation (variability between the minimum and maximum concentration
174 values) are measured in the stations: Laranjeiras, Vila Velha-Ines and Cariacica. At all
175 air quality stations, the 24-hour mean is higher than the WHO annual air quality guideline
176 for PM_{10} (WHO, 2005). As in the case of Dunkirk, the PM_{10} data show the occurrence of
177 high concentration peaks during the year.
178

179 **2.3. The surveys**

180
181 A survey was conducted at the MRD in 2008 with a representative sample of 518 people
182 (over 18 years old) interviewed using face-to-face questionnaires. The respondents were
183 chosen at random at urban communities grouped into 10 sub-regions: Bourbourg,
184 BrayDunes/Leffrinckoucke, Téteghem, Coudekerque Branche, Gravelines, St Pol sur
185 Mer, Grand Synthe, Petite-Synthe, Dunkirk and Malo/Rosendael. The sample size was
186 proportionally distributed according to gender, geographic location (near or far from
187 industries/port area), and socio-professional category.
188
189

190 A separate survey was conducted in the MRV in 2011; the sample size was determined
191 by using a simple random sampling with proportional allocation method (Cochran, 1977)
192 totalling a representative sample of 515 respondents (over 16 years old), which were
193 distributed proportionally in the sub-regions around the eight air quality monitoring
194 station: Laranjeiras, Carapina, Ibes, Jardim Camburi, Vitoria-Centre, Enseada do Sua,
195 Cariacica and Vila Velha-Centre. It should be noted that the locations of the eight
196 monitoring stations in the MRV were originally planned according to the population
197 density and the proximity to the main industrial sources, vehicular sources and port area.

198

199 The questionnaire used in the MRD in 2008 was adapted and applied in the MRV region
200 in 2011. A piloting questionnaire was used for a pre-test to ensure stability over time and
201 internal consistency. The main questions selected, for the analysis in this study, are
202 displayed in Table 3.

203

204 The surveys contained questions concerning socioeconomic and demographic factors
205 such as age, level of education, occupation, habits, gender and location of residence (see
206 Table 3). These were closed-ended questions providing answer options based on a Likert
207 scale. To quantify nuisance, categorical scales were prepared and applied according to
208 the context of each question (for example, “*Do you feel annoyed by air pollution?*”, with
209 the categorical answer options: *not annoyed, slightly annoyed, very annoyed, extremely*
210 *annoyed* and “*do not know*”).

211

212 Categorical scales are often applied in studies on annoyance caused by particles, odour
213 and noise, such as in the studies conducted by Passchier & Passchier (2000) and Klæboe
214 et al. (2000), for instance. Atari et al. (2009) adopted five-point categorical and numerical
215 scales to measure annoyance caused by odour. Blanes-Vidal et al. (2012) adopted a
216 qualitative scale with five intensity levels (not annoyed, slightly annoyed, moderately
217 annoyed, very annoyed and extremely annoyed) to measure annoyance caused by
218 ammonia. Llop et al. (2008) measure the annoyance caused by air pollution from outdoor
219 sources (such as smoke, gas and particles) by categorizing annoyance through a scale
220 including: not (0), slightly (1-3), moderately (4-7) and extremely (8-10) annoyed. To
221 measure the perceived annoyance, the qualitative answers were recorded in a categorical/
222 ordinal 4-point scale (1 for not annoyed; 2 for slightly annoyed; 3 for very annoyed; and,
223 4 for extremely annoyed) to facilitate the interpretation of results by the Multivariate
224 Correspondence Analysis (MCA) technique. Table 3 presents the questions listed in both
225 surveys, the variable from each question and the factor groups of variables. For all
226 questions the answer option "not know" (NK), was also included.

227

228 **3. Multiple Correspondence Analysis (MCA)**

229

230 MCA is a multivariate data analysis technique applicable to a large set of categorical
231 variables (Greenacre, 2007). MCA, as the counterpart of PCA for categorical variables,
232 became standard for the analysis of questionnaires (Le Roux & Rouanet, 2010). MCA is
233 used to detect and represent data graphically (by the scatterplot) as a set of points with
234 respect to two perpendicular coordinate axes: the horizontal axis often referred to as the
235 *x*-axis and the vertical one as the *y*-axis. The objective of this technique is to analyse
236 graphically the relationships between variables, response categories and objects, by
237 reducing the dimensionality of the data set (Crivisqui, 1995; Lebart et al., 1984). The
238 graphical representation can be made for individuals, for the variables, for the response
239 categories as well as for the categories and individuals (Le Roux & Rouanet, 2010).

240

241 To apply MCA in the present study, data were initially organized in an Excel table
242 containing respondents versus questions: the lines represented the respondents
243 participating in the survey and the columns represented the questions listed in the applied
244 questionnaire (each filled cell is the response category (answer) chosen by each individual
245 for each question). The questions are categorized variables with finite number of response
246 categories. For example, considering the question "Do you feel annoyed with air
247 pollution?", the variable "annoyance" has the following response categories (with their
248 encodings): not annoyed (ANNOY-1); Slightly annoyed (ANNOY-2); very annoyed
249 (ANNOY-3); extremely annoyed (ANNOY-4), as well as the possibility of "no
250 response/not known (NR/NK)" (ANNOY-9/99). Each respondent can choose one and
251 only one response category for each variable or question. If the individual of line 1
252 answered "very annoyed" to the above question, the variable cell was filled with the
253 "ANNOY-4" category, and so on for all the individuals for each variable.

254

255 According to Le Roux & Rouanet (2010), the interpretation of the MCA outcome is based
256 on the observation of the cloud of points, which is defined as a finite set of points in a
257 geometric space. The cloud of points can represent variables, response categories and
258 individuals. In this work, the cloud of points represents the response categories. The great
259 advantage of MCA is the possibility to reduce the multi-dimensional space in an optimal
260 subspace that allows the study of the scatterplot and the consequent analysis and
261 interpretation of results. The generated graphs allow to visually assess whether all the
262 variables of interest have associations among them and how they are associated.

263

264 The size of the scatterplot depends on the number of information points in each row or
265 column, minus one. If the number of columns is related to K categories of responses of Q
266 variables, the maximum dimensionality of the scatterplot of categories is given by:

267

$$(K_1 - 1) + \dots (K_q - 1) + \dots (K_Q - 1) = (K_1 + \dots + K_q + \dots + K_Q) + (-1)Q = K - Q \quad \text{Eq.1}$$

268

269 The dimensionality reduction is normally made to R^2 , to facilitate interpretation of the
270 cloud of points (scatterplot). Le Roux and Rouanet (2010) define the middle point of the
271 cloud of points in the following way: Let P be any point in space and $(M^k)_{(k=1,2,\dots,K)}$ the
272 points of categories for the scatterplot. The midpoint of the cloud point is the G point by
273 the vector \overrightarrow{PG} as:

273

$$\overrightarrow{PG} = \frac{1}{n} \sum \overrightarrow{PM^k} \quad \text{Eq.2}$$

274

275 Point G does not depend on the choice of point P , i.e., whatever the chosen point P is,
276 point G is always the same. Thus, point G is defined as the average of the coordinates of
277 all points given by:

$$G = \frac{1}{n} \sum M^k \quad \text{Eq.3}$$

278

279 The distance between points depends on the different response categories for each
variable. The lower the frequencies of the response categories are, the greater the distance

280 between points. Let n_{kk}^i be the number of subjects who chose both categories k and k' ,
 281 then the square of the distance between M^k and $M^{k'}$ is:

$$d^2(M^k M^{k'}) = \frac{n_k + n_{k'} - 2n_{kk}^i}{n_k n_{k'} / n} \quad \text{Eq.4}$$

282 As more categories k' and k are chosen for the same individuals, as shorter the distance
 283 between M^k and $M^{k'}$ is, and as closer two category points are, the stronger is the
 284 association between them. As lower the frequency for category k is, the farther from the
 285 centre the point M^k is. The less frequent the category of response is, the more it
 286 contributes to the overall variance of the cloud of individual points. And the less frequent
 287 the standard of responses of an individual is, the more it contributes to the total variance
 288 (Le Roux and Rouanet, 2010).

289
 290 The first principal axis of a cloud of categories can be defined as the line passing through
 291 the midpoint of the cloud. The second main axis is perpendicular to the first one and is
 292 also passing through the midpoint of the cloud of categories points. The same process is
 293 followed to define the third axis, the fourth axis, and so on. There are no set rules for the
 294 number of axes to be analysed (Grenacre, 2006). In this study, it appears that the first two
 295 axes hold the highest percentage of the total variability of the data. Therefore, scatter plots
 296 of categories are formed from the first two axes.

297
 298 The results of the MCA can be confusing depending on the number of variables. Because
 299 of this, the values of the contributions generated from the application of MCA
 300 “collaborate” in the interpretation of the axes (Le Roux and Rouanet, 2010). Therefore,
 301 in the present work, the contribution of each category as well as the summation are
 302 analysed to identify the variable that contributes most to the interpretation of a particular
 303 axis.

304
 305 It is possible to select rows and columns that will generate the active points and also the
 306 illustrative points (supplementary points). The active points are responsible for
 307 determining the orientation of the principal axes, providing the necessary information for
 308 the construction of the optimal cloud of category points. However, it is possible to include
 309 more information which is represented by supplementary or illustrative points. The
 310 supplementary points may be plotted on the map along with the active points, and they
 311 are useful in interpreting features discovered in the primary data, but do not contribute to
 312 the construction of the axis (Grenacre, 2007). The supplementary points are used to
 313 represent information about the phenomenon under study and invariable information over
 314 time, such as sex, race, or information for infrequent categories.

315
 316 According to Le Roux & Rouanet, (2010), the contribution of a category point to
 317 construct a particular axis defines the importance of this point for this same axis. Through
 318 the coefficients of this contribution, it is possible to identify which categories (or points)
 319 should be considered for the interpretation of each principal axis. The relative
 320 contribution constitutes the axis contribution to the variance of the individual point, the
 321 quality of representation of a point corresponds to the sum of the squared cosines of axes
 322 1 and 2 (see Table 4 and Table 8). The test values assist the interpretation, but they don't
 323 contribute to the total variance and are interpreted as how well represented the
 324 supplementary points are (Greenacre, 2007) (see Tables 5, 6, 7 and 9).

325

326 To generate each MCA stage, active and supplementary variables were defined and the
327 number of factors to compose the factorial plans was set. This decision was based on the
328 analysis of the population composition. There is no set of rules defining how many
329 factorial plans should be scanned in graphics (Le Roux & Rouanet, 2010). To facilitate
330 interpretation, a decision was made to select the first two factorial plans (axis 1 and 2) to
331 compose the correspondence graph or the cloud of points (scatter plot). The coordinates
332 for the axes F1 and F2 are those of the position of each category in the scatter plot. The
333 proportion of the variance of the cloud due to a point is called the contribution of the point
334 to the cloud. The sum of the category contributions for each variable shows which
335 variable contributes the most to the cloud and also to each axis. The representation's
336 quality is expressed by the value of squared cosines (the higher the square cosine value,
337 the higher the quality of representation).

338

339 Table 3 presents all questions, the name of each variables to represent these questions and
340 the factors groups represented for each variable/question. The variables selected to all
341 response categories were unified to a single database as the results of both surveys, since
342 the goal is to analyse differences and associations among annoyance caused by air
343 pollution. The sociodemographic and local variables are considered in order to compare
344 differences and similarities between the respondents' opinions in the two study areas. It
345 is important to note that in the first MCA (Figure 3) the active variables selected are
346 nominal/ ordinal while the supplementary variables are nominal.

347

348 **4. Results and discussion**

349

350 Tables 4 to 9 present the numerical results obtained using the MCA from a matrix
351 intersection of respondents (rows) and their responses to the five questions (columns) of
352 the questionnaire (factor group named as in Table 3). For each active or supplementary
353 variable, the response options (categories), encoding, frequency and percentages,
354 coordinates of the two axes (F1 and F2), contributions in the construction of the two axes
355 and the squared cosine values are presented.

356

357 In Table 4 the sum of the category contributions for each variable shows the active
358 variable “annoyance” contributes the most to the cloud and also to each axis (annoyance
359 contributes 27.9% to the axis F1 and 25.9% to F2). Figure 3 is the correspondence graph
360 (scatterplot) with the coordinates of axes F1 and F2 generated for the active variables
361 shown in Table 4 (“air pollution”) and the supplementary variables shown in Table 5
362 (“local”). The axes F1 (52,67%) and F2 (18,25%) explain about 71% of the variability
363 from the database, considering all active variables simultaneously, which is considered
364 as an excellent performance (Le Roux & Rouanet, 2010).

365

366 In Figure 3 analysing the direction from right to left on the F1 axis, there is a progressive
367 tendency for increased levels of annoyance as indicated by the position of the respective
368 categories (ANNOY1-not annoyed, ANNOY2- slightly annoyed, ANNOY3-very
369 annoyed and ANNOY4-extremely annoyed). The same progressive tendency (from
370 categories 1 to 4) can be observed for the variables: importance of air quality (IMP1-not
371 important, IMP2- slightly important, IMP3-very important, IMP4-extremely important);
372 industrial risk perception (RISK1-not exposed, RISK2-slightly exposed, RISK3-very
373 exposed, RISK4-extremely exposed); assessment of air quality (AIRQ1-excellent
374 AIRQ2-good, AIRQ3-bad, and AIRQ4-horrible); and also, to the air pollution perception

375 variable (PPOL1-never, PPOL2-sometimes, PPOL3-often, PPOL4-always). The axis F1
376 can be interpreted as defining (from the right to the left) a scale of “perceived annoyance”,
377 and the axis F2 appears to oppose moderate response categories (lower side) to both
378 extremely positive and extremely negative responses.

379

380 Continuing in Figure 3, the scatter plot can also be interpreted through the parabolic shape
381 of the cloud of points of the chart from the bottom to the centre, setting categories for
382 “slightly” and “very” levels, while the upper right corresponds to the “not” level and the
383 upper left to the categories represented by the level “extremely”. Such a pattern of
384 responses suggests what is known in the literature as the “Guttman effect” (Greenacre &
385 Blasius, 2006) or “horseshoe effect” (Van Rijckevorsel, 1987 *in* Greenacre & Blasius,
386 2006) due to its parabolic shape or arch. This is a structured form of the distribution of
387 the categories of annoyance levels, which are arranged in a hierarchical way, from those
388 who do not report nuisance (upper right), to those who express moderate annoyance
389 (vertex of the parabolic) and arriving at extremely annoyed level (top left).

390

391 Also, in Figure 3 the joint progression of annoyance levels and other active categories
392 from right to left in axis F1 indicates that an individual who reported being extremely
393 annoyed due to air pollution also thought that the air quality was extremely important,
394 felt extremely exposed to industrial risks, assessed air quality as horrible and always
395 perceived air pollution by dust/odour/air visibility. Another possible pattern visible in
396 Figure 3 is the “battery effect” which is often observed in survey analysis, where the
397 respondents choose similar answers without necessarily considering the content of the
398 questions. However, these questions were not presented in the same order to the Dunkirk
399 and the Vitoria inhabitants as selected for this analysis. Furthermore, the response options
400 presented for the question concerning the assessment of air quality were ordered in such
401 a way that they express “opposed feelings” in relation to the response to other questions,
402 causing the respondent to give due regard before answering.

403

404 Table 5 presents the categories for the sub-regions/areas where the respondents live, the
405 code for each location, the frequencies and percentages of responses, the coordinates for
406 each response category and the test values for the axes F1 and F2 related to the
407 supplementary variables of the “Local” group. The test value is an indication of the
408 significance of the obtained results (5% p-value or 1.96 p-value in absolute terms)
409 (Crivisqui, 1995). The test value was calculated as the distance from each point to the
410 origin of the axes F1 and F2, in numbers of standard deviations.

411

412 It is important to observe the negative test values in Table 5, since the negative values in
413 axis F1 correspond to the local variables or the area where people have reported to be
414 very annoyed, while positive test values correspond to the area where people have
415 reported little or no annoyance by air pollution. According to the correspondence graph
416 in Figure 3, the locations where respondents reported being very annoyed due to air
417 pollution correspond to the localities that have negative test values (on the left part of the
418 F1 axis): Grande Synthe (LOCAL-D7) where the location is at -2.699 standard deviations
419 from the mean point (origin) on axis F1; Petite-Synthe (LOCAL-D8) test value = -3.11;
420 Jardim Camburi (LOCAL-V4) test value = -4.138 and Enseada do Sua (LOCAL-V6) test
421 value = -4.812. These regions are geographically close to the main industrial sources in
422 both regions. The residents in these sub-regions reported intense levels of annoyance;
423 they also reported being very exposed to industrial risk, often assessed the air quality as
424 “horrible” and perceived high levels of air pollution due to dust/odour/ visibility in their

425 neighbourhoods. It is very interesting to note that a comparison between the air quality
426 results shown in Tables 1 and 2, for both urban areas, shows that the PM₁₀ concentrations
427 are high, with peaks indicated by the maximum concentration, which suggests that the
428 annoyance is not related only with this variable.

429
430 Figure 4 shows the correspondence graph between the active variables in the “air
431 pollution” group and the supplementary variables in the “sociodemographic” group. In
432 this graph, the local variables were removed to facilitate visualization of the
433 correspondence with sociodemographic variables: gender, age, occupation and level of
434 education. Visually, the most important supplementary variables are close to the origin
435 of the graph.

436
437 Table 6 shows the results (frequency, coordinates and test value) for the correspondence
438 graph in Figure 3 by each response category of sociodemographic variables. For MRV, it
439 is possible to see that women reported being more annoyed than men, while in MRD this
440 same association was not significantly. Consequently, in MRV women felt more exposed
441 to industrial risk, assessed air quality as more important and perceived air pollution by
442 dust/odour/visibility more than men. According to Fisher et al. (1991), the gender
443 differences are noticeable especially in relation to environmental risks. Explanations are
444 linked to the roles of women in society, which -even in our evolving societies- are most
445 often oriented towards health and children. Gustafson (1998) also discusses this
446 difference between men and women in relation to their roles in society and the power
447 relations that exist between them. For example, women are more sensitive to
448 environmental risks because they take care of their homes and children and clean the
449 house normally more frequently than men, especially in more conservative societies.

450
451 Regarding Figure 4, in MRD there was no significant correspondence visible between the
452 age categories and the annoyance categories. However, in MRV it is possible to visualise
453 a progressive relation between age (AGE-V1, AGE-V2, AGE-V3, and AGE-V4) and
454 levels of annoyance. As age increased, the levels of annoyance, the importance of air
455 quality, the perceived exposure risk, the assessment of air quality, and the perceived air
456 pollution also increased. This association can be confirmed considering the test values in
457 Table 6. Respondents older than 34 years (AGE-V3, AGE-V4) are associated to being
458 very or extremely annoyed more than younger respondents (AGE-V1, AGE-V2).
459 Normally, older people are more sensitive to health problems since they belong to the
460 more sensitive population sub-groups (it should be noted that children do not participate
461 in the survey and the responses of women were discussed above). They also experience
462 the effects of air pollution more often, such as when removing dust (particles) for house
463 cleaning, so they report being more concerned with annoyance caused by air pollution.
464 Although this association is not so clear in Dunkirk compared to Vitoria, it should be
465 noted that the results of Lercher et al. (1995) and Klæboe et al. (2000) suggest that older
466 age is a determinant of perceived air pollution.

467
468 Regarding occupation, in MRD the unemployed (OCCUP-D2) and student (OCCUP-D4)
469 are on the right side of the F1 axis, so, they are associated to being slightly or not annoyed
470 by air pollution. In Vitoria, however, the categories associated to being very and
471 extremely annoyed by air pollution are the retired group (OCCUP-V3) and also the
472 unemployed (OCCUP-V2) on the left side of the F1 axis. This association is significant
473 for the retired group (test value = -3.44) in Vitoria and can be justified because generally

474 they are the group with older age that are also associate to being very and extremely
475 annoyed by air pollution (see Table 6).

476

477 Considering the corresponding graph (Figure 4) and the test values for the “level of
478 education” categories in MRV (Table 6), it is possible to see that the university group
479 (EDUC-V4) is on the high levels of annoyance side of the axis F1. This result
480 corroborates with Klæboe et al. (2000) that suggested that the education level was a
481 determinant of perceived air pollution.

482

483 Figure 5 is the correspondence graph between “Air pollution” and “Health” groups. The
484 supplementary variables selected were “health problems” and “health effects”. People
485 who report “no” (HEFE-1) occurrence of health problems caused by air pollution are also
486 the ones who are “less annoyed”. And people who answered “yes” (HEFE-2) to
487 occurrence of health problems are associated to “being very annoyed”. In table 7, the test
488 value = -5.113 for the variable health problems caused by air pollution, indicate the same
489 association, people who answered “no”(HEFE-1), as shown on the right part of the graph,
490 tend not to feel annoyed by air pollution, while those who responded “yes”(HEFE-2), as
491 shown on the left side of the graph, tend to report being extremely annoyed by air
492 pollution.

493 For the group of people that answered “yes” (HEFE-2), the main problems reported were
494 lung/respiratory (HPROB-1), allergies (HPROB-3), asthma attacks (HPROB-5) and
495 stress (HPROB-7). However, this correspondence are not significant for all, because only
496 the test value= -2.85 for health effects, indicate that people who reported being
497 very/extremely annoyed by air pollution were associated to the ones who reported
498 allergies (HPROB-3). Although previous epidemiological studies have shown that certain
499 levels of particulate matter concentrations can cause such health effects and increase the
500 number of hospitalizations for respiratory problems (Pope III, 1991; Schwartz, 1991;
501 Braga et al., 2001; Garçon et al., 2006; Llop et al., 2008), in this analysis no
502 correspondence was found with annoyance and health effects.

503 In order to further explore these survey data, the MCA between the groups of factors
504 “Cause” and “Local” was carried out and the active variables “source”, “METEO”,
505 “season” and “day/night” as well as the supplementary variables “Dunkirk” and “Vitoria”
506 were selected for analysis. Table 8 presents the summation of the coordinates,
507 contribution and squared cosine values for each response category. It can be observed that
508 the categories grouped under “METEO” and “SEASON” contribute significantly to the
509 F1 axis. And the categories under “SOURCE” contribute significantly to the F2 axis. The
510 summation of the contributions of the other response categories as well as the value of
511 the squared cosines for the F1 and F2 axes can confirm such affirmations.

512

513 Figure 6 presents the correspondence graph between the factor groups “Cause” and
514 “Local”. Analysing the active variable “METEO”, the respondents that answered “no” to
515 the question regarding the influence of meteorological conditions on the perception of air
516 pollution (METEO-2) are located on the right part of the F1 axis, while the left part of the
517 F1 axis indicates the respondents who answered “yes” (METEO-1). Analysing the active
518 variable “SEASON,” the left part of the F2 axis corresponds to the yes (METEO-1)
519 category. It is possible to see a progressive tendency from spring (SEASON-4), to

520 summer (SEASON-1), to autumn (SEASON-2), to winter (SEASON-3). That is, the
521 respondents that reported “yes” to the question about the influence of meteorological
522 conditions on the perception of air pollution also perceived a progressive effect of
523 seasonality from spring and summer to autumn and winter. As shown in other studies (for
524 example Castanho & Artaxo, 2001; Albuquerque et. al., 2012; Andreão et al., 2019)
525 meteorological conditions have a major influence on the suspended particle
526 concentrations, which can suggest that meteorology is another determinant that affects
527 the perception of air pollution.

528

529 Regarding the active variable “SOURCE”, it is possible to observe the response category
530 “source industry” (SOURCE-2) on the upper-right part of the graph and the categories
531 “building” (SOURCE-4), “suspension of soil” (SOURCE-3), and “vehicle” (SOURCE-
532 1) on the lower-middle of the graph with no association with the variable “METEO”. This
533 clearly shows the important role of industry in relation to air pollution in the two
534 examined industrial urban areas, especially as this is perceived by the population. The
535 response categories “yes” (DN-2) and “no” (DN-1) for perceived air pollution changes
536 between day and night are close to the origin and are non-significant.

537

538 For the “LOCAL” supplementary variable, the lower part of the graph and on the middle
539 and left of the F1 axis corresponds to the areas in Vitoria showing that the people
540 perceived an influence of weather changes on the quantity of particles/dust
541 (corresponding to METEO-1). The upper part of the graph on the middle and right part
542 of the F1 axis shows that in Dunkirk, there is no perceived association between the
543 meteorological conditions and air pollution (corresponding to METEO-2). This result
544 may be related to the fact that people who live close to industries are already accustomed
545 to pollution and they do not feel the influence of weather changes on the perceived air
546 pollution. Furthermore, as Figure 1 indicates, in Dunkirk industrial pollution sources are
547 more interspersed within the urban area, while in Vitoria they are more at the boundaries
548 of the city (especially northwest, but also partly southeast) and therefore the
549 meteorological conditions – such as wind direction and wind speed – may have a more
550 concrete influence on the perceived air pollution.

551

552 Regarding the categories “Source” associated with “Local”, the results in Figure 5 suggest
553 that, for Vitoria, the locations far from the main industrial areas, like Cariacica (LOCAL-
554 V7) and Vitoria-centre (LOCAL-V5), were more associated with the construction
555 work/building source (SOURCE-4) and slightly with the vehicular source (SOURCE-1)
556 of air pollution. It should be noted that in these areas, and especially Cariacica, high
557 levels of particulate pollution were measured by the air quality monitoring stations (Table
558 3) and according to Santos et al., (2017) the main source of particulate matter in Cariacica
559 is construction work. Currently, construction work in Vitoria is developing rapidly in
560 terms of housing construction and paving streets and roads, while the number of vehicles
561 is also increasing: these sources can contribute to increasing air pollution and
562 dust/particles that cause annoyance, especially since these locations are further away from
563 industrial sources. In Dunkirk, the locations close to the main industrial areas, St. Pol Sur
564 Mer (LOCAL-D6), Grande Synthe (LOCAL-D7) and Petite-Synthe (LOCAL-D8) were
565 found to be associated with the “industry” source (SOURCE-2), while the “construction
566 work/building” and “vehicular” sources are not significant, as are the “industrial” sources
567 which are located next to residential areas and visible from the main beaches. St. Pol Sur
568 Mer is also the location where the highest levels of particulate pollution were measured
569 (Table 2) and also very close to the industrial sources.

570

571 The above results may also partly be explained by the size of the population in Vitoria,
572 which is larger than in Dunkirk, and the fact that public transport in Dunkirk is well
573 developed; therefore, the number of vehicles circulating in Dunkirk is not as high as in
574 Vitoria. According to Rotko et al. (2002) and Amundsen et al. (2008) heavy traffic is
575 related to annoyance caused by air pollution, so this result can explain why people
576 exposed to heavy traffic in Vitoria perceived vehicular sources more significant than in
577 Dunkirk, especially in areas which are not as influenced by industrial sources. Also, as
578 noted above, currently the construction sector in Vitoria is developing rapidly both in
579 terms of housing construction and paving streets and roads, which can generate dust that
580 may cause annoyance. As suggested by Nikolopoulou et al. (2011), air quality is often
581 considered to be poor at construction sites, which are burdened by higher PM
582 concentrations.

583

584 Table 9 shows the coordinates and the test values for the “LOCAL” supplementary
585 categories. Regarding the test values, there is a strong association (not contribution) with
586 the variable that contributes to the F2 axis. The positive test values for the F2 axis are the
587 Dunkirk locations in the upper quadrants of Figure 6, indicating the respondents which
588 perceived urban air pollution from industries sources. The negative test values for the F2
589 axis are the Vitoria locations in the lower quadrants, which indicating respondents that
590 perceived urban air pollution from construction works and vehicular sources.

591

592 **5. Conclusions**

593

594 The purpose of this work was to apply the multiple correspondence analysis (MCA)
595 technique to explore relationships between variables that can influence peoples’
596 behaviour concerning annoyance caused by air pollution. Data were collected using a
597 survey on air pollution, environmental issues and quality of life. The MCA technique was
598 applied as a differential tooling to interpret factors by structural properties and significant,
599 graphical relationships of proximity and opposition between points.

600

601 The results showed a progressive correspondence between levels of annoyance and other
602 active variables in the “air pollution” factor group: as the levels of annoyance increased,
603 the levels of the other qualitative variables (importance of air quality, perceived exposure
604 to industrial risk, assessment of air quality, perceived air pollution) also increased. It is
605 possible to conclude that people who reported feeling annoyed by air pollution also
606 thought that air quality was very important, were very concerned about exposure to
607 industrial risks, assessed often air quality as horrible and frequently perceived air
608 pollution by dust/odour/visibility. It is important to emphasize that this result cannot be
609 considered as a “battery effect”, since these questions were not applied in the sequence in
610 which the results were analysed. In addition, the summary results of PM₁₀ concentration
611 measurements in the two regions showed values above the guidelines established by the
612 World Health Organization for long and short term exposure, which can be an indicator
613 of attention to the possibility of occurrence of health problems, quality of life problems,
614 and complaints about perceived annoyance caused by air pollution. According to the
615 correspondence graph, people who live in areas close to industries, for example in Petite-
616 Synthe and Grande Synthe in Dunkirk and Enseada do Suá and Jardim Camburi in
617 Vitoria, have reported being very annoyed by air pollution. As showed by Machado et al.
618 (2018), the location and the proximity to industrial sources of air pollution play an
619 important role to explain peoples’ behaviour.

620

621 This study has also explored the association between respondents' perceptions and
622 demographic characteristics. The gender and age variables were associated with
623 perceived annoyance in MRV, while in MRD there was a much lower correspondence.
624 In general, women were more annoyed than men, while people older than 55 years
625 reported feeling more annoyed than people in other age ranges. For MRV, the study
626 showed that women are more annoyed than men and that there is a positive relationship
627 between age and the parameters level of annoyance, importance of air quality, perceived
628 exposure to industrial risk, assessment of air quality and perceived air pollution by
629 dust/odour/visibility.

630

631 Kohlhuber et al. (2006) have shown that socio-economic variables are associated with the
632 perception of local air quality, suggesting that these variables may be important
633 determinants of perceived air quality. However, in our study, the relationship between
634 different forms of occupation remains controversial. It was found that retired and
635 unemployed people showed high levels of annoyance in MRV, while in MRD students
636 and unemployed showed low or no level of annoyance. It was observed that people
637 educated to the university level were more concerned about annoyance caused by air
638 pollution than those with lower educational levels in MRV. The importance of
639 socioeconomic factors in the context of air pollution research has been emphasized
640 because they represent underlying aspects that affect susceptibility, exposure, or disease
641 diagnosis and treatment (Bell et al., 2005). Therefore, there is a need for careful choice
642 and interpretation of socioeconomic factors depending on the location, as this can be
643 partly influenced by social/cultural differences or/and by different weather conditions.

644

645 Significant association was observed between perceived health risks related to high level
646 of annoyance caused by air pollution, importance of air quality, perceived exposure to
647 industrial risk, assessment of air quality and perceived air pollution by
648 dust/odour/visibility. Perceived occurrence of health problems related to annoyance
649 caused by air pollution was found to be associated with gender (female), age (older), level
650 of education (university level) and the type of occupation (retired), though it varied by
651 the study location. The difference between the two sites could be explained by the
652 difference in the age, occupation and education levels of the residents. There were more
653 people older, employed and with university level in MRD compared to MRV, while in
654 MRV there are more young people, students and with primary level of education as
655 compared to MRD. The main health effects related to air pollution reported by
656 respondents were lung/respiratory, allergies and eye irritation, which are common
657 symptoms for a number of urban air pollutants (WHO, 2005). There is also a confirmed
658 association between occurrence of allergies and high levels of annoyance.

659

660 The MCA results for the active variable "CAUSE" showed that people perceived that
661 weather conditions and seasonal changes could affect air pollution. This perception was
662 more evident in MRV, where heavy industries are at the boundaries of the city and their
663 effect is more influenced by the prevailing meteorological conditions, such as the wind
664 speed and especially wind direction. In MRD, people identified industrial sources as an
665 important cause of air pollution and did not perceive that air pollution annoyance changes
666 with changes in weather/meteorological conditions. Furthermore, in MRV, the influence
667 of construction works and vehicular sources on the perception of air pollution was
668 evident. Considering the geographic location of these two regions, the weather conditions

669 could influence the perceived annoyance caused by air pollution in different ways, and
670 therefore the geographic location can justify these differences.

671

672 In both regions, the results from PM₁₀ concentration measurements show that the
673 perceived annoyance does not only depend on this variable. This conclusion may help to
674 better understand if the answers of the respondents are linked to other variables, such as
675 the source of pollution and the meteorology. It is also important to note that there are
676 differences in air pollution perceptions in the two study areas, which indicates that
677 perceptions in general may depend on an area's overall setting and availability of
678 industries, pollution sources or daily activities.

679

680 The results of this study have shown that Multiple Correspondence Analysis is a very
681 useful tool in providing insight on environmental issues affecting the quality of life, such
682 as the factors affecting the levels of air pollution annoyance of populations living in urban
683 areas. This is a very useful tool to derive and synthesize important information from
684 citizen surveys which can, in turn, complement air quality measurements, in order to
685 define the best mix of actions to address air quality issues, for instance, national or
686 regional emission reduction policies in order to meet the air quality objectives in
687 background locations, as well as to decide on more site-specific and short-term measures
688 to address air pollution. Such combination of measures is often necessary for the
689 protection of the public health and the improvement of the quality of life of citizens.

690

691 **6. Declarations**

692

693 The ethics committee approved this study was from the University Federal of Espírito
694 Santo with the 142.581 committee's reference number. This manuscript does not contain
695 any individual /specific person's data.

696

697 The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the
698 corresponding author on reasonable request.

699

700 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

701

702 This study is part of the results from the research developed in the PhD thesis of the first
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706

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720

721 **7. References**

722

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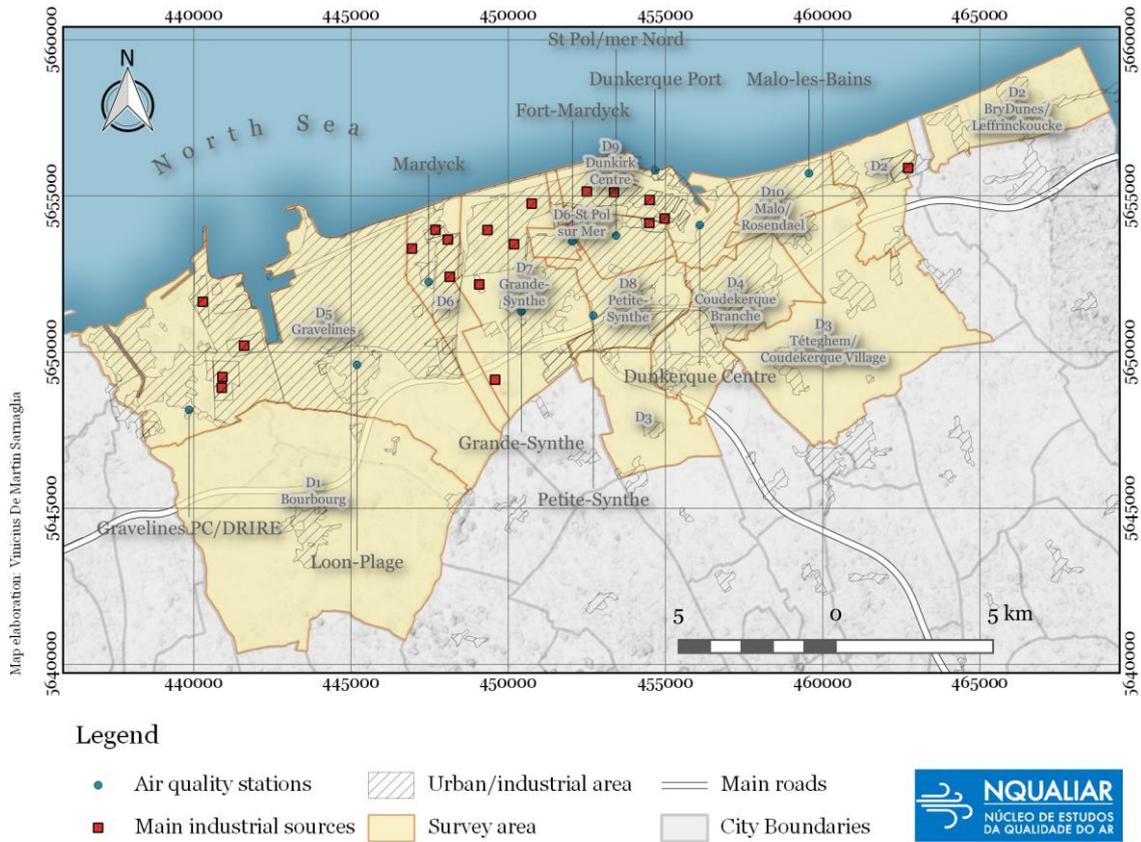
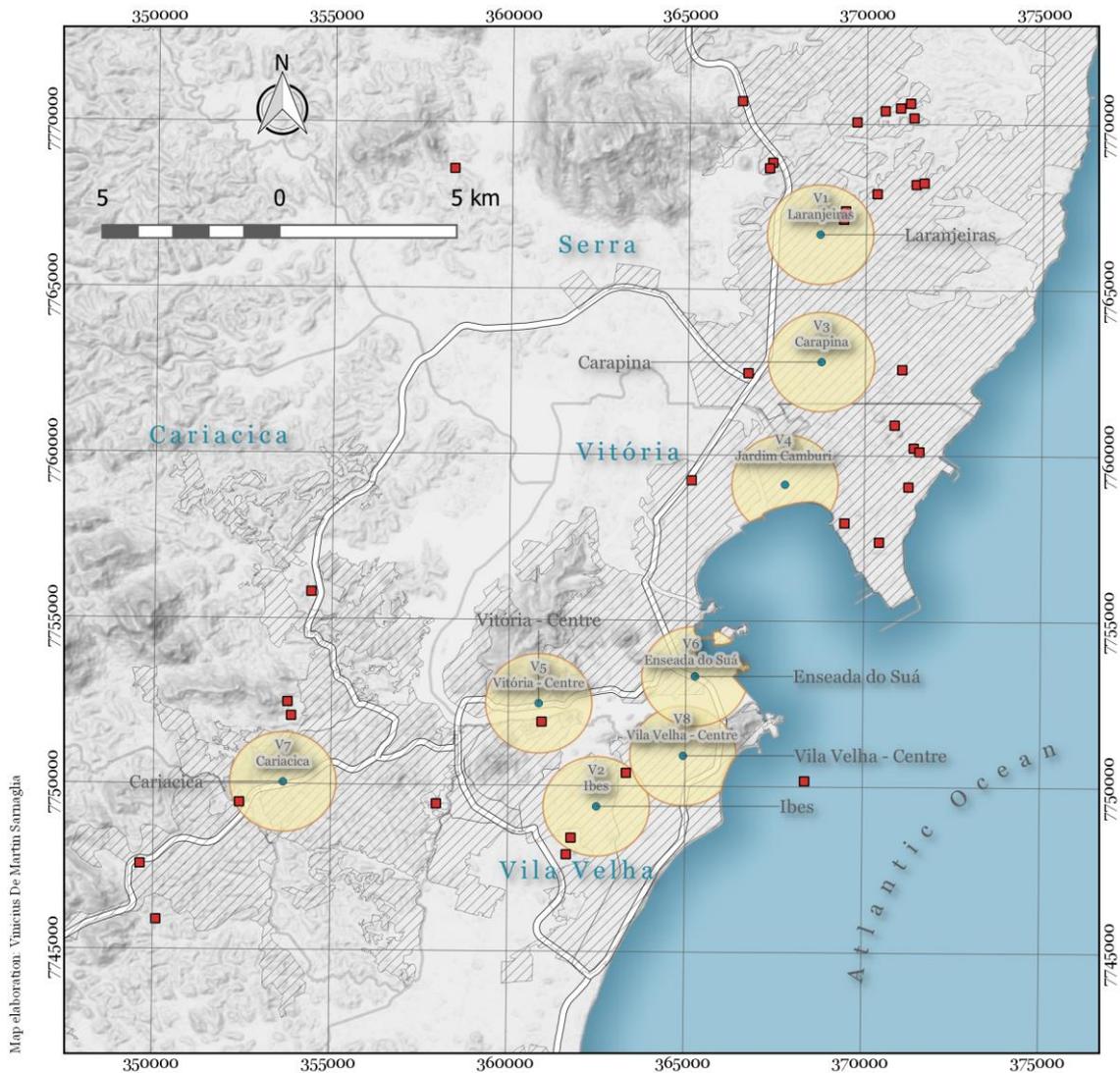


Figure 1. Sub-regions of interest and the main emission sources in Dunkirk.



Map elaboration: Vinícius De Martin Sarzaglia

Legend

- Air quality stations
- Survey area
- Main roads
- Main industrial sources
- Urban/industrial area
- City boundaries



WGS84 Datum - UTM Projection - Zone 24S

Data source: main roads (IJSN, 2012), city boundaries (IJSN, 2018), urban/industrial area (IJSN, 2010), relief basemap (Aster GDEM/SRTM apud MapSurfer.NET, 2020), main industrial sources (IEMA, 2019).

Figure 2. Sub-regions of interest (survey area) and the main emission sources in Vitória.

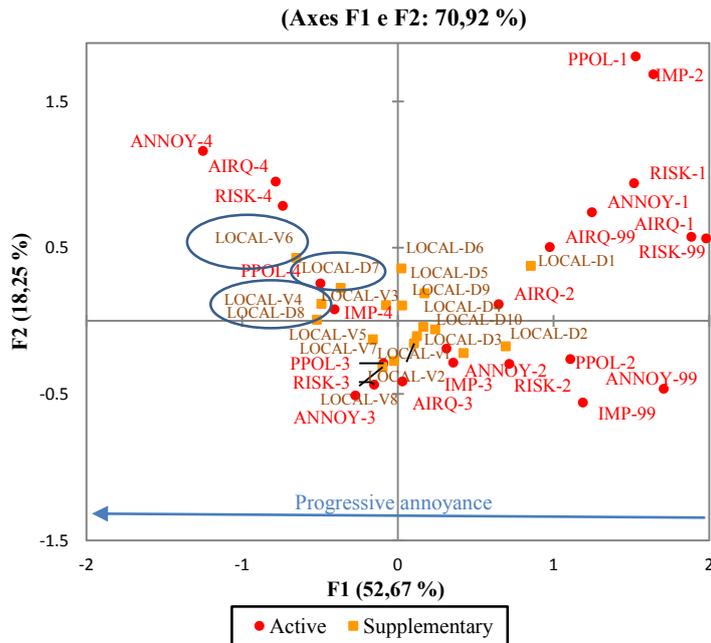


Figure 3. MCA results for the “air pollution” group of active variables and the “housing location” group of supplementary variables.

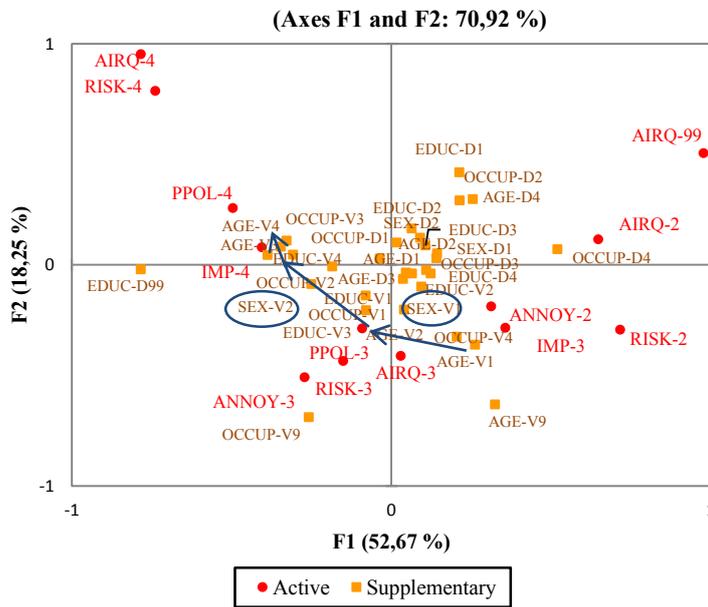


Figure 4. MCA results for the “air pollution” group of active variables and the “sociodemographic” group of supplementary variables.

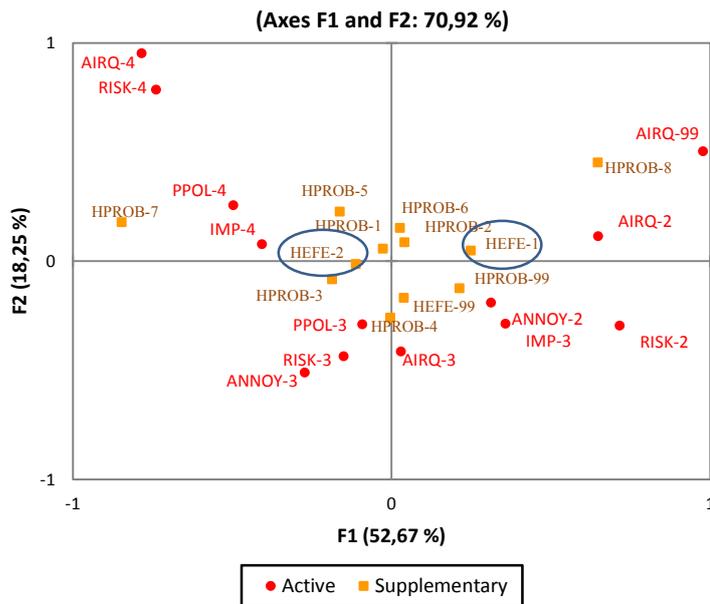


Figure 5. MCA results for the “air pollution” group of active variables and the “health problems” group of supplementary variables

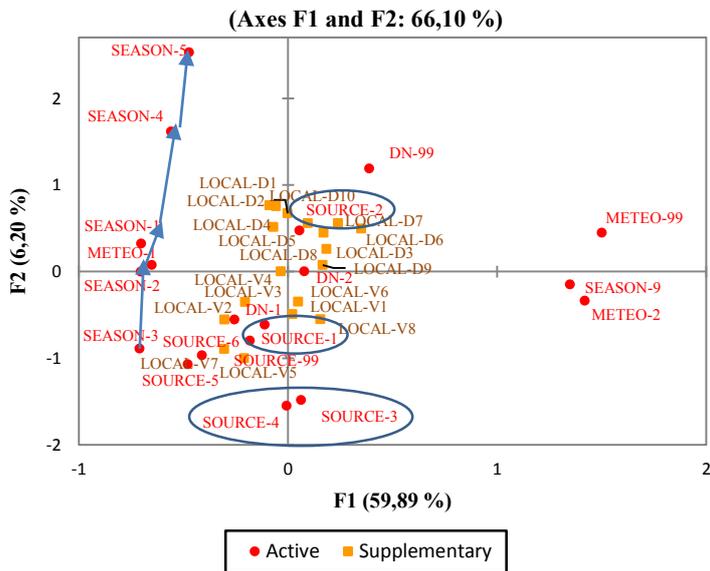


Figure 6. MCA results for the “cause” group of active variables and the “local” group of supplementary variables

Table 1. Descriptive statistics of PM₁₀ concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) at the Dunkirk monitoring stations in 2008

Stations	Minimum	Maximum	Percentile 90%	Percentile 95%	Mean	Std. deviation
Dunkerque Centre	6.47	84.87	31.76	34.98	21.51	8.95
Malo-les-Bains	6.04	63.20	27.66	31.44	19.10	8.03
Fort-Mardyck	6.62	158.81	50.68	56.56	31.59	16.89
StPol/merNord	5.65	143.08	54.32	64.40	34.19	17.02
Petite-Synthe	7.29	80.25	31.43	36.48	21.44	9.70
Grande-Synthe	8.17	114.25	46.60	57.49	27.69	16.71
Mardyck	5.87	101.14	47.41	61.16	25.39	16.99

Table 2. Descriptive statistics of PM₁₀ concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) at the Vitoria monitoring stations

Stations	Minimum	Maximum	Percentile 90%	Percentile 95%	Mean	Std. deviation
Laranjeiras	8.29	85.58	50.58	57.08	33.60	12.60
Carapina	2.88	84.76	31.01	35.41	21.51	7.86
Jardim Camburi	7.75	76.66	29.12	32.38	21.44	7.17
Enseada do Suá	9.70	71.28	41.14	46.13	29.44	8.77
Vitória Centro	11.13	83.12	41.45	47.45	29.26	9.31
Vila Velha-Ibes	6.41	76.75	46.87	52.29	31.22	12.09
Cariacica	11.16	115.20	73.04	85.01	46.67	19.4

Table 3. The questions from the two surveys and the factor groups for the variables represented by these questions

Questions	Variable	Factor groups
Do you feel annoyed by air pollution?	Annoyance	Air pollution
Is air quality important to you?	Importance or air quality	
How do you feel regarding industrial risk	Industrial risk perception	
How do you rate air quality in your	Assessment of air quality	
How often do you perceive air pollution due	Air pollution perception	
Where do you live?	Dunkirk-locals Vitoria- locals	Local
What is your gender?	Gender	Socio-demographic
Who old are you?	Age	
What is your occupation?	Occupation	
What is your level of education?	Level of education	
Do you or someone in your household have	Health problems	Health
What are the main health problems caused by	Health effects	Cause
What is the main source of settled dust in your	Source	
Do you think that air pollution/settled	Meteorological conditions	
If yes, in which season is air pollution/settled	Season	
Do you think air pollution is worst during the	Day/ Night	

Table 4. MCA results of the active variables grouped under the “Air pollution” factor group

Active variables	Categories	Code	Freq. (%)		Coordinates		Contributions		Squared cosines	
					Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Annoyance	Not annoyed	ANNOY 1	167	(16,16)	1.248	0.743	0.132	0.058	0.300	0.106
	Slightly ann.	ANNOY 2	265	(25,65)	0.313	-0.190	0.013	0.006	0.034	0.012
	Very Annoyed	ANNOY 3	458	(44,33)	-0.271	-0.510	0.017	0.075	0.059	0.207
	Extremely ann.	ANNOY 4	139	(13,45)	-1.251	1.162	0.111	0.119	0.243	0.210
	NK	ANNOY 9/99	4	(0,38)	1.709	-0.463	0.006	0.001	0.011	0.001
Importance of air quality	Not important	IMP 1	11	(1,06)	2.390	2.932	0.032	0.060	0.062	0.093
	Slightly imp.	IMP 2	28	(2,7)	1.643	1.684	0.038	0.050	0.075	0.079
	Very important	IMP 3	423	(40,94)	0.358	-0.286	0.028	0.022	0.089	0.057
	Extremely imp.	IMP 4	566	(54,79)	-0.406	0.078	0.047	0.002	0.199	0.007
	NK	IMP 9/99	5	(0,48)	1.189	-0.558	0.004	0.001	0.007	0.002
Industrial risk perception	Not exposed	RISK 1	76	(7,3)	1.518	0.941	0.089	0.042	0.183	0.070
	Slightly exp.	RISK 2	186	(18,0)	0.716	-0.295	0.049	0.010	0.113	0.019
	Very exposed	RISK 3	508	(49,17)	-0.150	-0.436	0.006	0.061	0.022	0.184
	Extremely exp.	RISK 4	255	(24,68)	-0.738	0.785	0.071	0.099	0.179	0.202
	NK	RISK 9/99	8	(0,77)	1.980	0.564	0.016	0.002	0.031	0.002
Assessment of air quality	Excellent	AIRQ 1	10	(0,96)	1.886	0.575	0.018	0.002	0.035	0.003
	Good	AIRQ 2	178	(17,23)	0.649	0.114	0.038	0.001	0.088	0.003
	Bad	AIRQ 3	601	(58,18)	0.030	-0.414	0.000	0.065	0.001	0.238
	Horrible	AIRQ 4	222	(21,49)	-0.783	0.952	0.069	0.127	0.168	0.248
	NK	AIRQ 9/99	22	(2,1)	0.978	0.504	0.011	0.004	0.021	0.006
Air pollution perception	Never	PPOL 1	20	(1,9)	1.529	1.808	0.024	0.041	0.046	0.065
	Sometimes	PPOL 2	146	(14,13)	1.110	-0.261	0.091	0.006	0.203	0.011
	Often	PPOL 3	474	(45,88)	-0.091	-0.289	0.002	0.025	0.007	0.071
	Always	PPOL 4	375	(36,3)	-0.495	0.256	0.047	0.016	0.140	0.037
	NR	PPOL 9	3	(0,29)	0.512	-1.801	0.000	0.006	0.001	0.009
	NK	PPOL99	15	(1,45)	2.324	3.219	0.041	0.098	0.080	0.153

Table 5. MCA results of the supplementary variables grouped under the “Local” factor group

Supplementary Variables	Category	Code	Freq. (%)	Coordinates		Test value	
				Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Dunkirk	Bourbourg	LOCAL-D1	24 (2,32)	0.856	0.376	4.240	1.864
	BrayDunes/Leffrinckoucke	LOCAL-D2	33 (3,19)	0.694	-0.175	4.048	-1.020
	Téteghem/Coudekerque/Village	LOCAL-D3	31 (3,00)	0.124	-0.105	0.702	-0.592
	Coudekerque Branche	LOCAL-D4	82 (7,93)	0.242	-0.058	2.280	-0.547
	Gravelines	LOCAL-D5	60 (5,80)	0.174	0.189	1.385	1.508
	St Pol sur Mer	LOCAL-D6	83 (8,03)	0.024	0.359	0.228	3.406
	Grande Synthe	LOCAL-D7	52 (5,03)	-0.365	0.224	-2.699	1.660
	Petite-Synthe	LOCAL-D8	35 (3,38)	-0.518	0.007	-3.114	0.044
	Dunkerque	LOCAL-D9	30 (2,90)	0.030	0.106	0.166	0.590
	Malo/Rosendael	LOCAL-D10	88 (8,51)	0.166	-0.041	1.629	-0.403
Vitoria	Laranjeiras	LOCAL-V1	51 (4,93)	0.424	-0.219	3.102	-1.606
	Ibes	LOCAL-V2	82 (7,93)	0.104	-0.154	0.986	-1.450
	Carapina	LOCAL-V3	37 (3,58)	-0.074	0.108	-0.456	0.669
	Jardim Camburi	LOCAL-V4	67 (6,48)	-0.489	0.116	-4.138	0.980
	Centro de Vitoria	LOCAL-V5	51 (4,93)	-0.160	-0.127	-1.171	-0.928
	Enseada do Sua’	LOCAL-V6	52 (5,34)	-0.651	0.430	-4.812	3.177
	Cariacica	LOCAL-V7	85 (8,22)	-0.023	-0.274	-0.220	-2.639
	Centro de Vila Velha	LOCAL-V8	90 (8,71)	-0.096	-0.315	-0.958	-3.130

Table 6. MCA results of the supplementary variables grouped under the “Sociodemographic” factor group

City	Supplementary variables	Category	Code	Freq. (%)	Coordinates		Test value	
					Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Dunkirk	Gender	Male	SEX- D1	211 (20.426)	0.232	0.090	2.337	0.818
		Female	SEX-D2	307 (29.719)	0.145	0.219	1.881	2.535
	Age	16-24	AGE-D1	77 (7.454)	0.066	-0.040	0.598	-0.368
		25-34	AGE-D2	83 (8.035)	0.017	0.100	0.162	0.947
		35-54	AGE-D3	191 (18.490)	0.046	-0.036	0.699	-0.547
		>55	AGE-D4	167 (16.167)	0.256	0.296	3.610	4.183
	Occupation	Employed	OCCUP-D1	247 (23.911)	-0.035	0.028	-0.635	0.502
		Unemployed	OCCUP-D2	107 (10.358)	0.215	0.290	2.344	3.164
		Retired	OCCUP-D3	108 (10.455)	0.142	0.029	1.558	0.322
		Student	OCCUP-D4	54 (5.227)	0.520	0.069	3.925	0.523
		NK	OCCUP-D99	2 (0.194)	0.128	1.531	0.181	2.167
	Education level	No formal educ.	EDUC-D1	48 (4.647)	0.213	0.417	1.510	2.957
		Primary school	EDUC-D2	92 (8.906)	0.064	0.164	0.641	1.643
		High school	EDUC-D3	213 (20.620)	0.107	0.087	1.759	1.431
		University	EDUC-D4	164(15.876)	0.123	-0.041	1.723	-0.568
		NK	EDUC-D99	2 (0.194)	-0.784	-0.021	-1.109	-0.030
Vitoria	Gender	Male	SEX-V1	205 (19.845)	0.153	-0.180	1.517	-1.597
		Female	SEX-V2	310 (30.010)	-0.404	-0.159	-5.251	-1.858
	Age	16-24	AGE-V1	140 (13.553)	0.263	-0.362	3.344	-4.608
		25-34	AGE-V2	71 (6.873)	0.040	-0.204	0.350	-1.782
		35-54	AGE-V3	145 (14.037)	-0.308	0.045	-3.996	0.583
		>55	AGE-V4	156 (15.102)	-0.346	0.082	-4.683	1.106
		NK	AGE-V9	3(0.290)	0.325	-0.632	0.563	-1.096
	Occupation	Employed	OCCUP-V1	226 (21.878)	-0.080	-0.140	-1.362	-2.378
		Unemployed	OCCUP-V2	113 (10.939)	-0.184	-0.008	-2.077	-0.089
		Retired	OCCUP-V3	100 (9.681)	-0.327	0.109	-3.440	1.147
		Student	OCCUP-V4	72 (6.970)	0.205	-0.326	1.804	-2.870
		NK	OCCUP-V9	4 (0.387)	-0.258	-0.690	-0.517	-1.382
	Education level	No formal education	EDUC-V1	7 (0.678)	0.037	-0.064	0.097	-0.171
		Primary school	EDUC-V2	131 (12.682)	0.109	-0.025	1.335	-0.307
		High school	EDUC-V3	238 (23.040)	-0.079	-0.207	-1.386	-3.633
		University	EDUC-V4	138 (13.359)	-0.387	0.043	-4.883	0.546

Table 7. MCA results of the supplementary variables grouped under the “Health” factor group

Supplementary Variables	Category	Cod.	Freq. %		coordinates		Test value	
					Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Health problem	No	HEFE-1	304	29.429	0.249	0.048	5.175	0.999
	Yes	HEFE-2	694	67.183	-0.111	-0.013	-5.113	-0.581
	NR/NK	HEFE-99	26	3.388	0.039	-0.167	0.234	-1.007
Health effects	Lung/respiratory	HPROB-1	454	43.950	-0.027	0.057	-0.759	1.630
	Cancer	HPROB-2	95	9.197	0.041	0.086	0.420	0.880
	Allergies	HPROB-3	192	18.587	-0.186	-0.082	-2.856	-1.262
	Bronchitis	HPROB-4	35	3.388	-0.003	-0.258	-0.017	-1.550
	Asthma attacks	HPROB-5	5	0.484	-0.162	0.228	-0.362	0.510
	Eye irritation	HPROB-6	46	4.453	0.027	0.152	0.188	1.057
	Stress	HPROB-7	5	0.484	-0.846	0.179	-1.895	0.402
	Others	HPROB-8	11	1.065	0.648	0.453	2.159	1.510
	NK	HPROB-99	190	18.393	0.214	-0.123	3.267	-1.880

Table 8. MCA results of the active variables grouped under the “Cause” factor group

Active variables	Categories	Cod.	Freq. (%)		Coordinates		Contributions		Squared cosines	
					AxisF1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Source	Vehicle	SOURCE-1	190	18.393	-0.111	-0.614	0.001	0.053	0.003	0.085
	Industry	SOURCE-2	688	66.602	0.054	0.474	0.001	0.115	0.006	0.448
	Soil suspension	SOURCE-3	22	2.130	0.062	-1.481	0.000	0.036	0.000	0.048
	Building	SOURCE-4	85	8.228	-0.006	-1.551	0.000	0.152	0.000	0.216
	Sea breeze /wind	SOURCE-5	21	2.033	-0.410	-0.968	0.002	0.015	0.003	0.019
	Others	SOURCE-6	12	1.162	-0.479	-1.071	0.001	0.010	0.003	0.013
	NK	SOURCE-99	15	1.452	-0.182	-0.798	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.009
Meteo	Yes	METEO-1	711	68.829	-0.651	0.074	0.150	0.003	0.935	0.012
	No	METEO-2	251	24.298	1.419	-0.336	0.252	0.021	0.646	0.036
	NK	METEO-99	71	6.873	1.501	0.449	0.080	0.011	0.166	0.015
Season	Summer	SEASON-1	392	37.948	-0.702	0.323	0.096	0.030	0.301	0.064
	Autumn	SEASON-2	47	4.550	-0.703	-0.001	0.012	0.000	0.024	0.000
	Winter	SEASON-3	189	18.296	-0.709	-0.888	0.047	0.111	0.112	0.177
	Spring	SEASON-4	49	4.743	-0.558	1.615	0.008	0.095	0.016	0.130
	Depend industries	SEASON-5	6	0.581	-0.472	2.529	0.001	0.029	0.001	0.037
	NK	SEASON-99	350	33.882	1.349	-0.151	0.318	0.006	0.933	0.012
Day/Night	Yes	DN-1	427	41.336	-0.255	-0.556	0.014	0.098	0.046	0.218
	No	DN-2	407	39.400	0.078	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.000
	NK	DN-99	199	19.264	0.388	1.187	0.015	0.209	0.036	0.336

Table 9. MCA results of the supplementary variables grouped under the “Local” factor group

Supplementary Variables	Category	Cod.	Freq. (%)	Coordinates		Test value	
				Axis F1	Axis F2	Axis F1	Axis F2
Dunkirk	Bourbourg	LOCAL-D1	24 (2.32)	-0.057	0.752	-0.284	3.723
	BrayDunes/Leffrinckoucke	LOCAL-D2	33 (3.19)	-0.001	0.673	-0.007	3.925
	Téteghem/ Coudekerque Village	LOCAL-D3	31 (3.00)	0.170	0.446	0.960	2.521
	Coudekerque Branche	LOCAL-D4	82 (7.93)	-0.087	0.763	-0.825	7.198
	Gravelines	LOCAL-D5	60 (5.80)	-0.069	0.513	-0.551	4.089
	St Pol sur Mer	LOCAL-D6	83 (8.03)	0.351	0.495	3.330	4.697
	Grande Synthe	LOCAL-D7	52 (5.03)	0.240	0.559	1.772	4.132
	Petite-Synthe	LOCAL-D8	35 (3.38)	0.184	0.259	1.106	1.560
	Dunkirk centre	LOCAL-D9	30 (2.90)	0.165	0.075	0.919	0.414
	Malo/Rosendael	LOCAL-D10	88 (8.51)	0.094	0.559	0.926	5.485
Vitoria	Laranjeiras	LOCAL-V1	51 (4.93)	0.021	-0.491	0.152	-3.596
	Ibes	LOCAL-V2	82 (7.93)	-0.303	-0.556	-2.860	-5.240
	Carapina	LOCAL-V3	37 (3.58)	-0.205	-0.352	-1.268	-2.177
	Jardim Camburi	LOCAL-V4	67 (6.48)	-0.035	0.003	-0.293	0.023
	Vitoria-centro	LOCAL-V5	51 (4.93)	-0.209	-1.001	-1.531	-7.330
	Enseada do Sua	LOCAL-V6	52 (5.34)	0.049	-0.347	0.360	-2.564
	Cariacica	LOCAL-V7	85 (8.22)	-0.305	-0.893	-2.933	-8.590
	Vila Velha-centro	LOCAL-V8	90 (8.71)	0.155	-0.551	1.537	-5.471