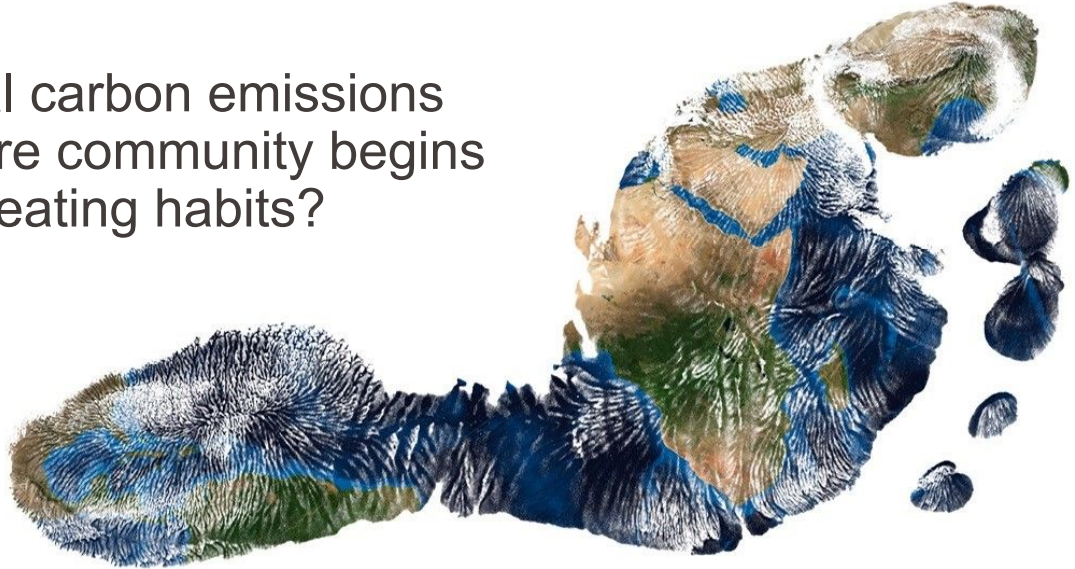


# The Food Dilemma

Zineb Agnaou  
Francesca Paola  
Nicoletti

- How does the carbon footprint emitted by our food vary according to our nutrition choices?
- How do global carbon emissions vary if an entire community begins to change its eating habits?



# The Food Dilemma Menu

***Appetizer*** : Salad with side

***Main plate*** : Rice and vegetables with side

***Dessert*** : Fruits milkshake

***Drink*** : Alcohol

# Time to make choices ...

- **Menu type** : Omnivore, Vegetarian or Vegan



- **Production type** : Conventional or Organic



- **Origin of ingredients** : Local or From the largest producing country



- **Transport mean of ingredients** : More or Less polluting



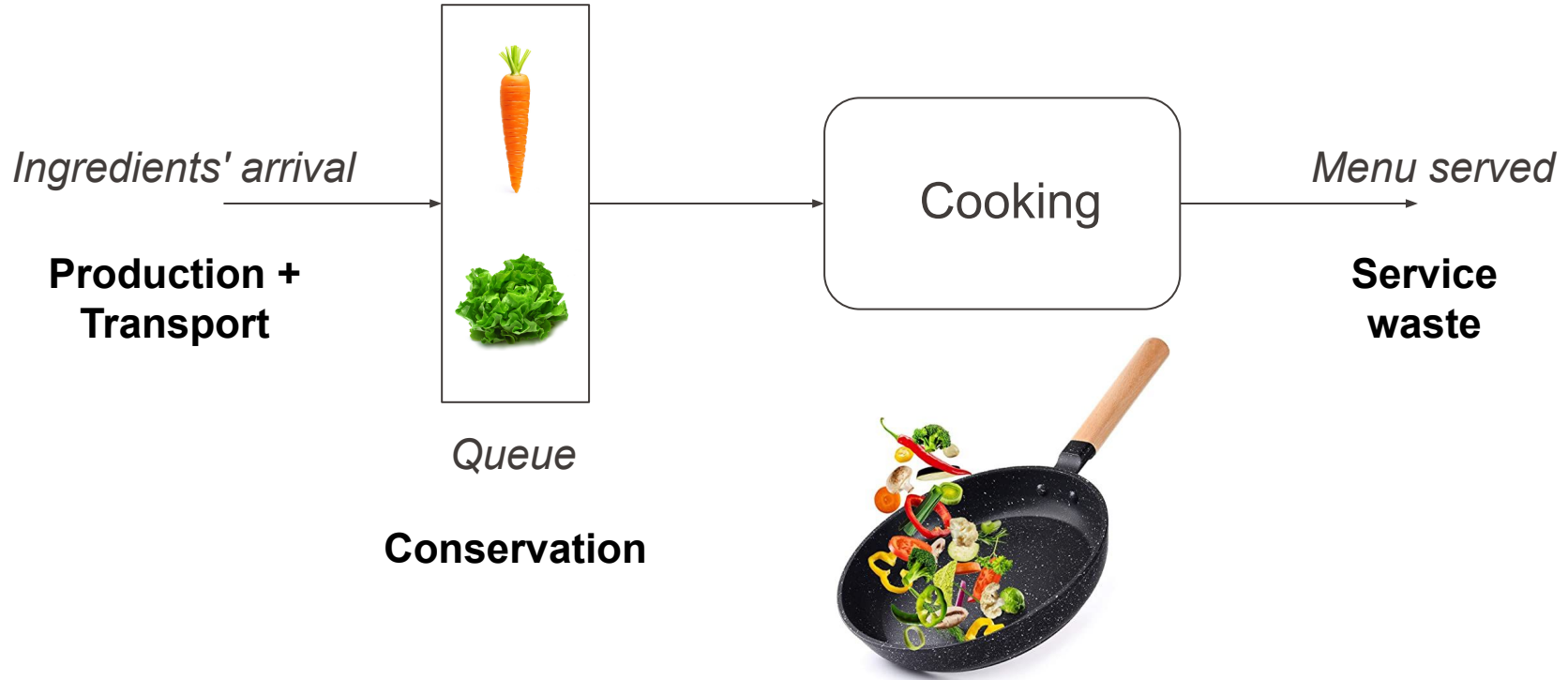
- **Service Waste** : Take away or In restaurant

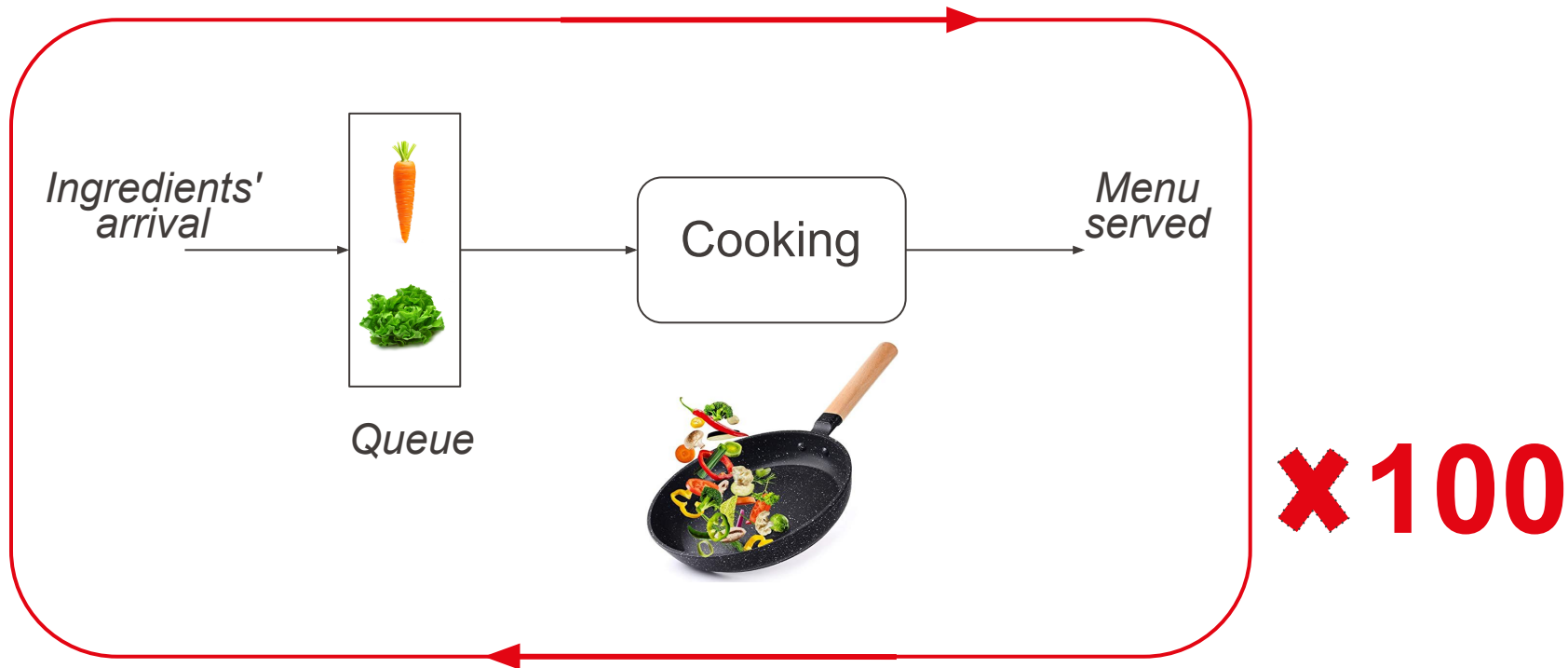


# Data Collection for carbon footprint



# Queuing simulation

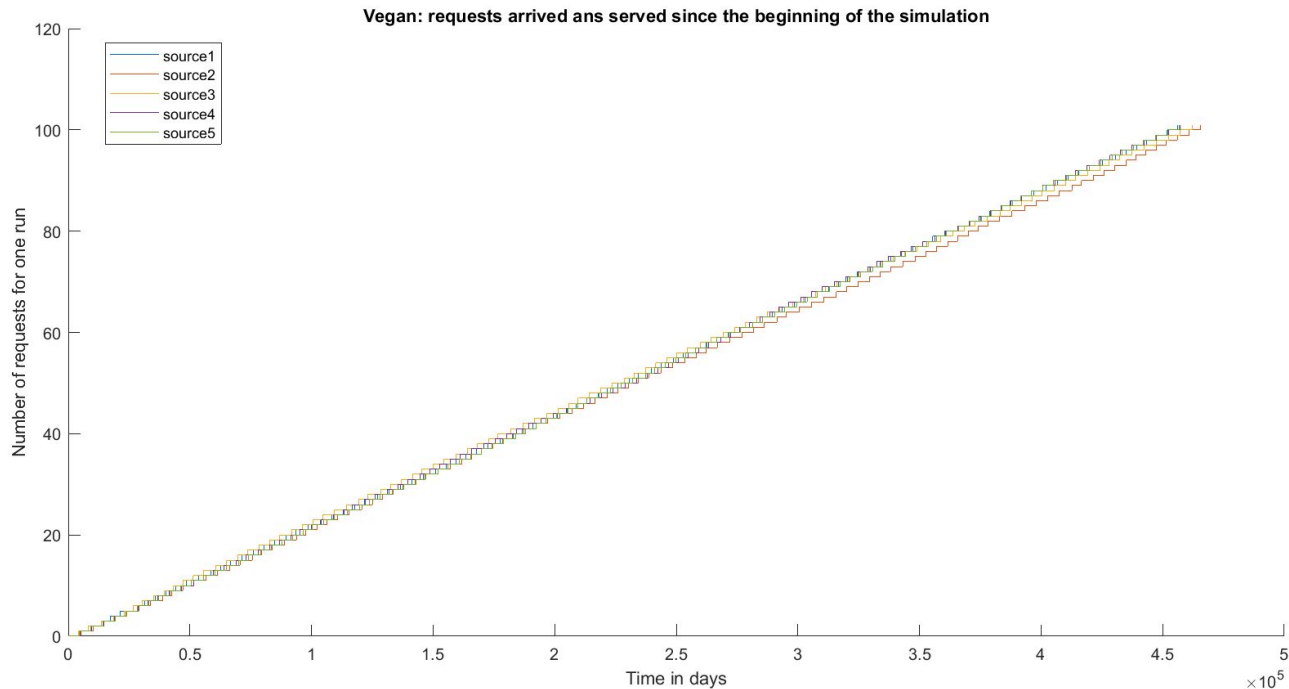
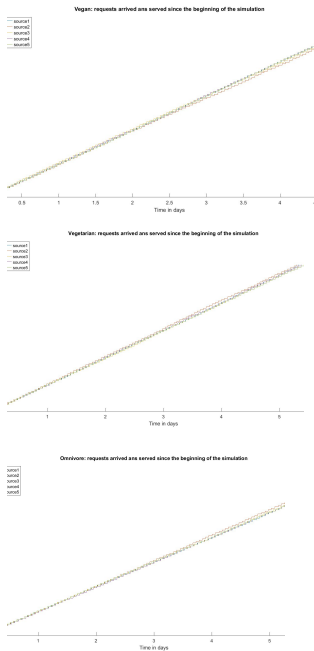




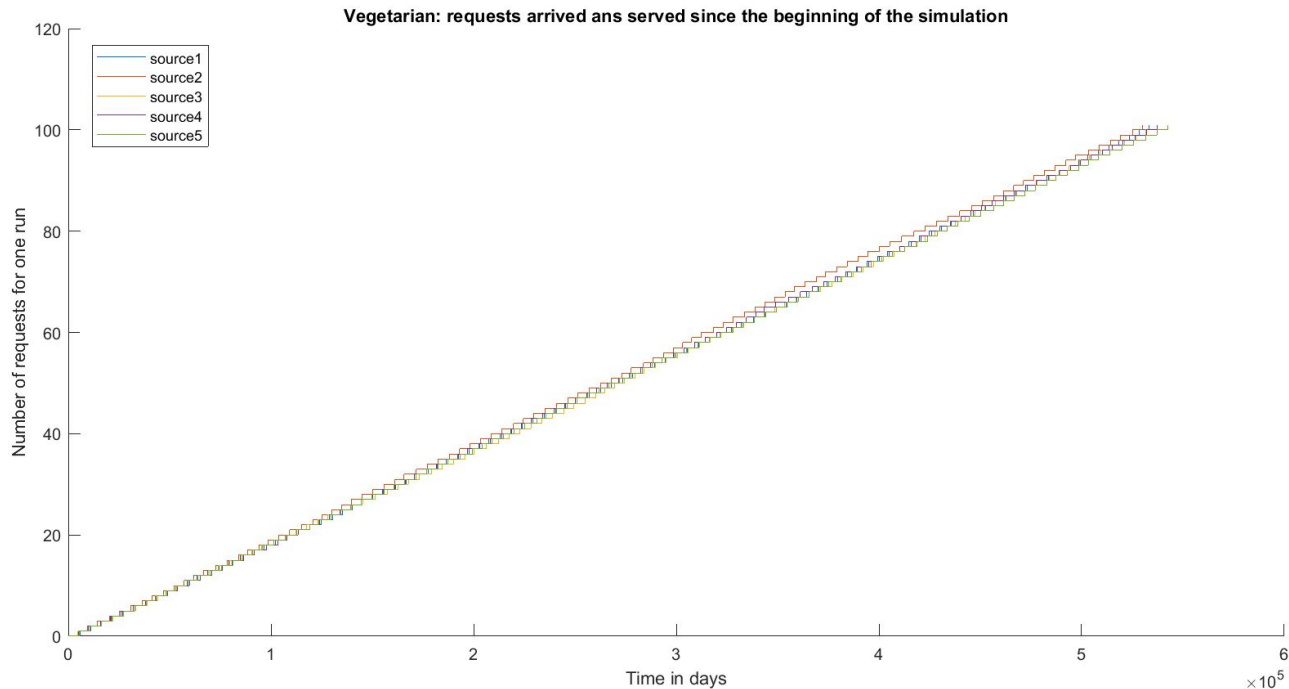
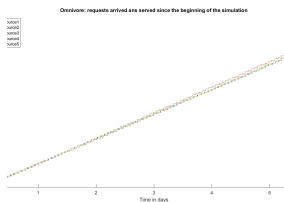
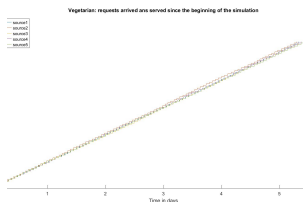
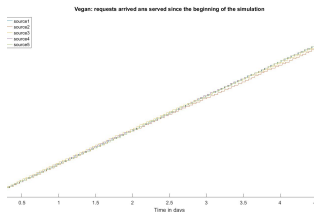
**After the theory, we now work with  
our data !**



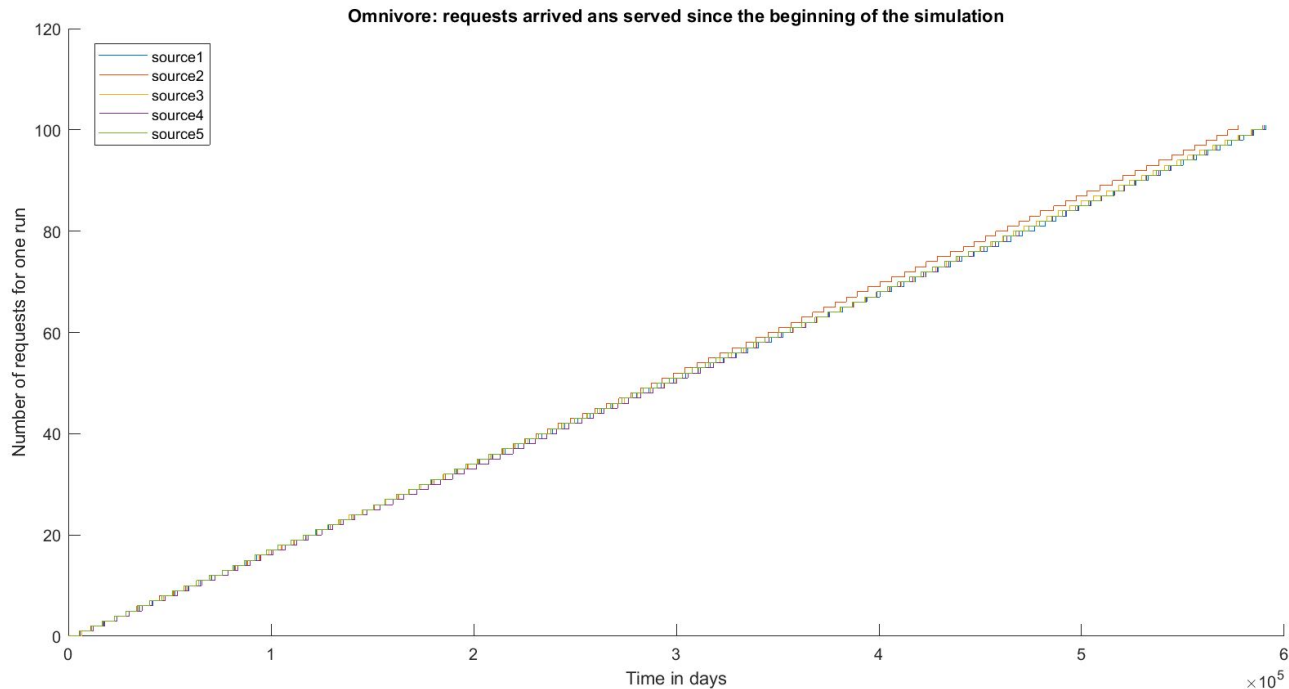
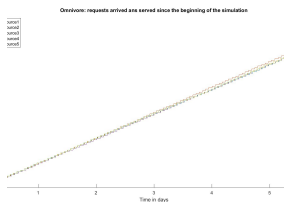
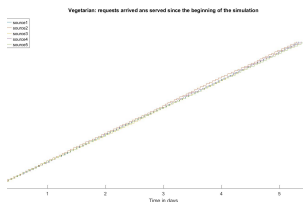
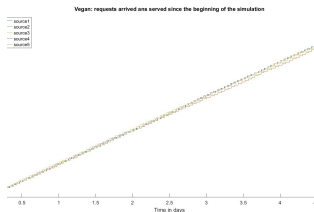
With one run:



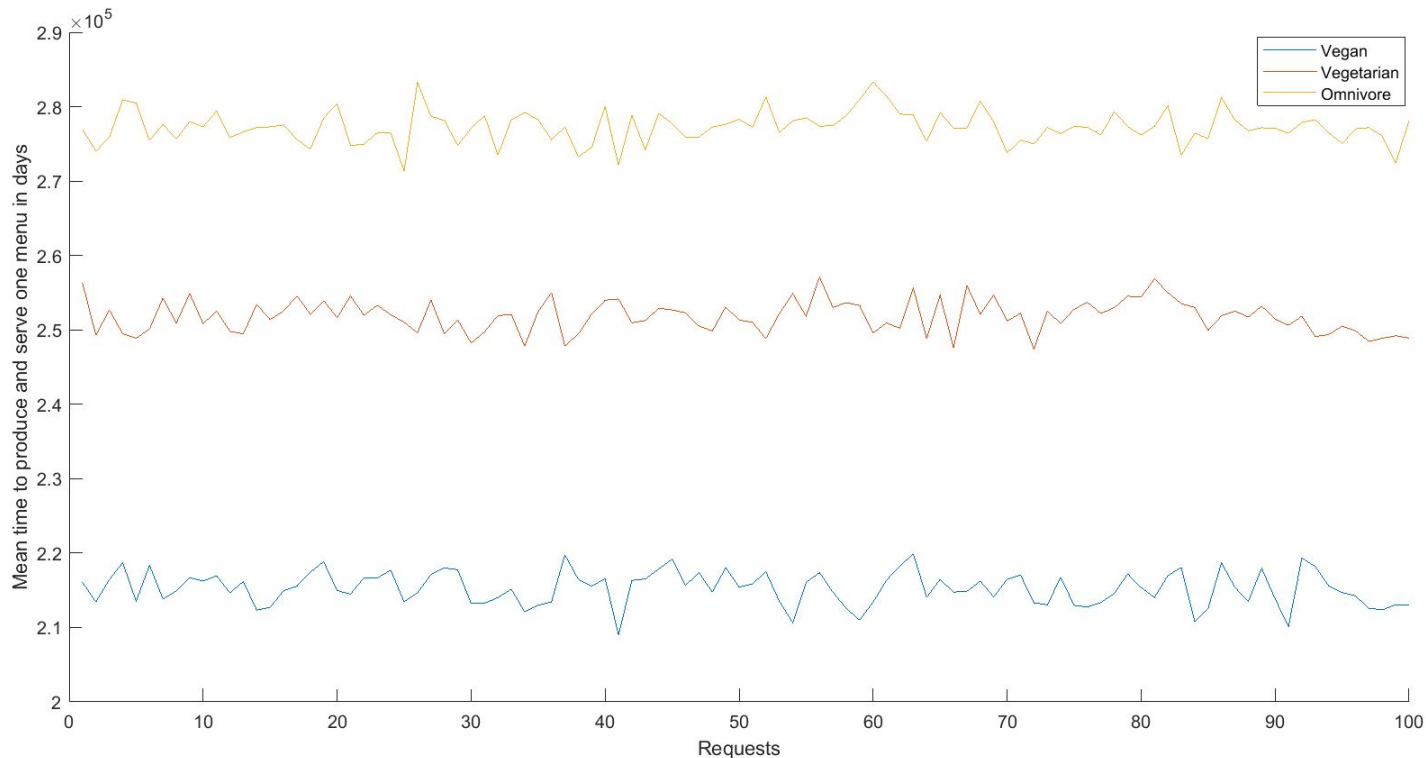
With one run:



With one run:



# Mean time to Produce and Serve one menu



THEOREM 2.2. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  iid random variables, the common distribution of which is assumed to have well defined mean  $\mu$  and a variance  $\sigma^2$ . Let  $\hat{\mu}_n$  and  $s_n^2$  by

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \quad (2.19)$$

$$s_n^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{\mu}_n)^2 \quad (2.20)$$

The distribution of  $\sqrt{n} \frac{\hat{\mu}_n - \mu}{s_n}$  converges to the normal distribution  $N_{0,1}$  when  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ . An approximate confidence interval for the mean at level  $\gamma$  is

$$\hat{\mu}_n \pm \eta \frac{s_n}{\sqrt{n}} \quad (2.21)$$

where  $\eta$  is the  $\frac{1+\gamma}{2}$  quantile of the normal distribution  $N_{0,1}$ , i.e  $N_{0,1}(\eta) = \frac{1+\gamma}{2}$ . For example,  $\eta = 1.96$  for  $\gamma = 0.95$  and  $\eta = 2.58$  for  $\gamma = 0.99$ .

**THEOREM 2.1** (Confidence Interval for Median and Other Quantiles). *Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be  $n$  iid random variables, with a common CDF  $F(\cdot)$ . Assume that  $F(\cdot)$  has a density, and for  $0 < p < 1$  let  $m_p$  be a  $p$ -quantile of  $F(\cdot)$ , i.e.  $F(m_p) = p$ .*

*Let  $X_{(1)} \leq X_{(2)} \leq \dots \leq X_{(n)}$  be the **order statistic**, i.e. the set of values of  $X_i$  sorted in increasing order. Let  $B_{n,p}$  be the CDF of the binomial distribution with  $n$  repetitions and probability of success  $p$ . A confidence interval for  $m_p$  at level  $\gamma$  is*

$$[X_{(j)}, X_{(k)}]$$

where  $j$  and  $k$  satisfy

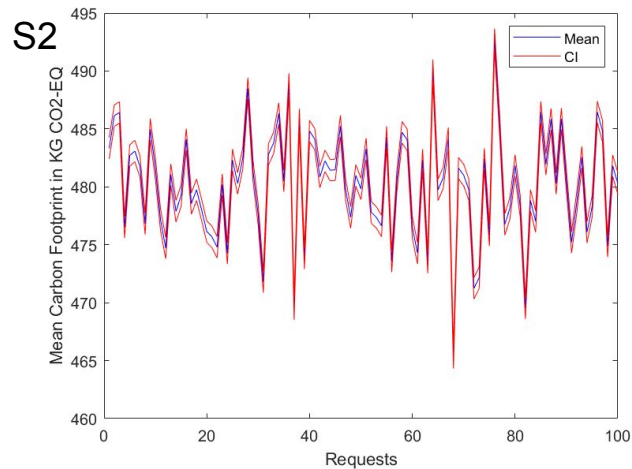
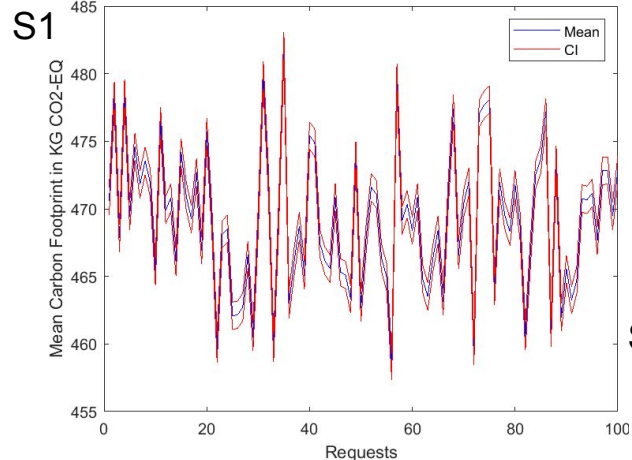
$$B_{n,p}(k-1) - B_{n,p}(j-1) \geq \gamma$$

See the tables in Appendix A on Page 311 for practical values. For large  $n$ , we can use the approximation

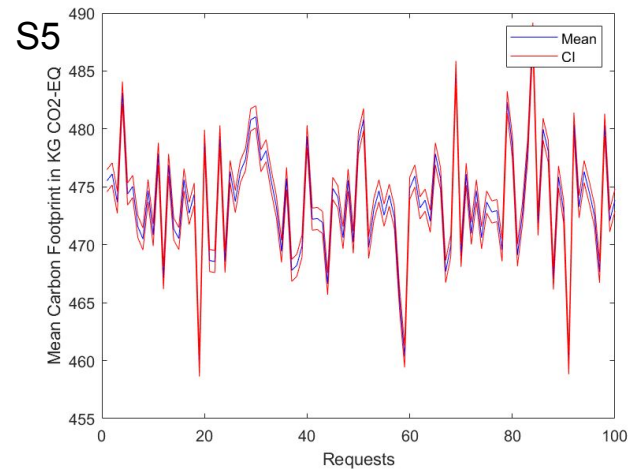
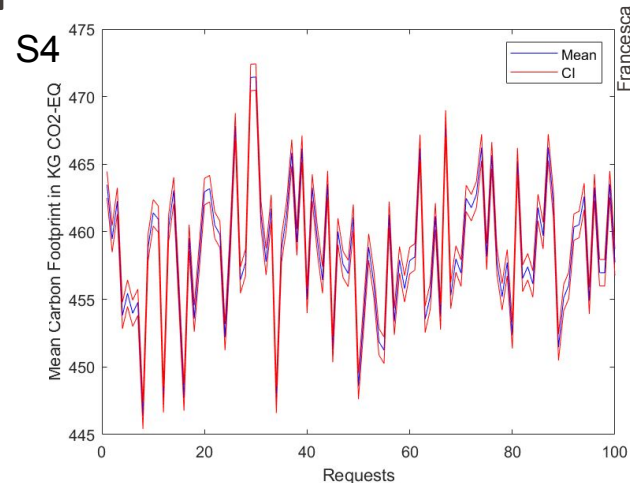
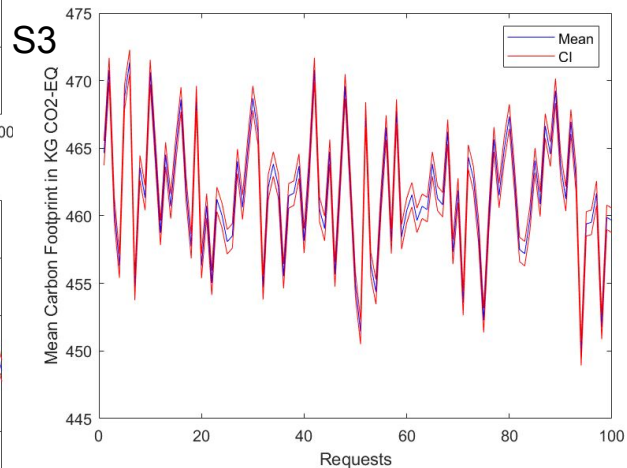
$$\begin{aligned} j &\approx \lfloor np - \eta \sqrt{np(1-p)} \rfloor \\ k &\approx \lceil np + \eta \sqrt{np(1-p)} \rceil + 1 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta$  is defined by  $N_{0,1}(\eta) = \frac{1+\gamma}{2}$  (e.g.  $\eta = 1.96$  for  $\gamma = 0.95$ ).

# Mean carbon footprint CI



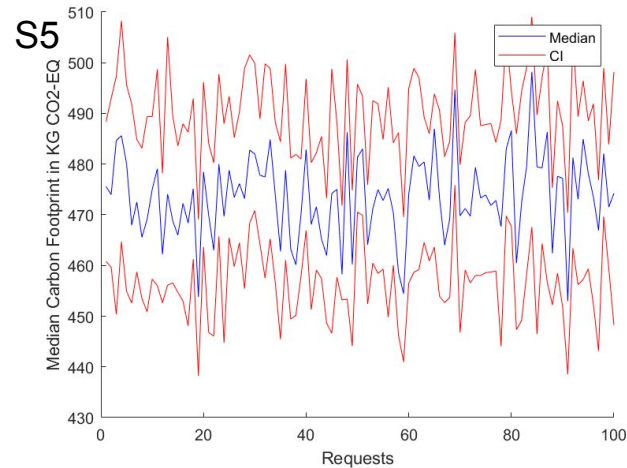
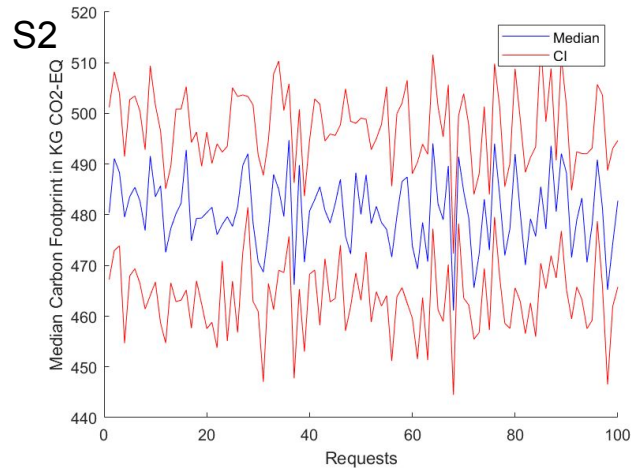
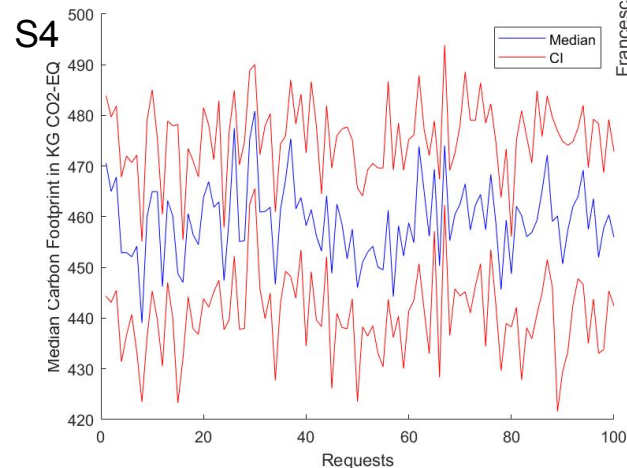
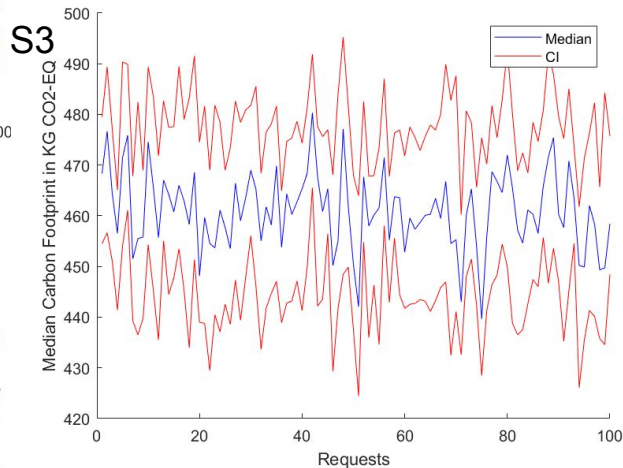
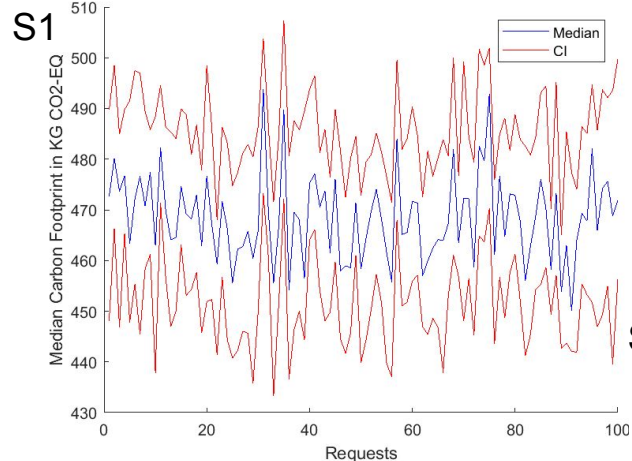
**Vegan, local,  
in restaurant**





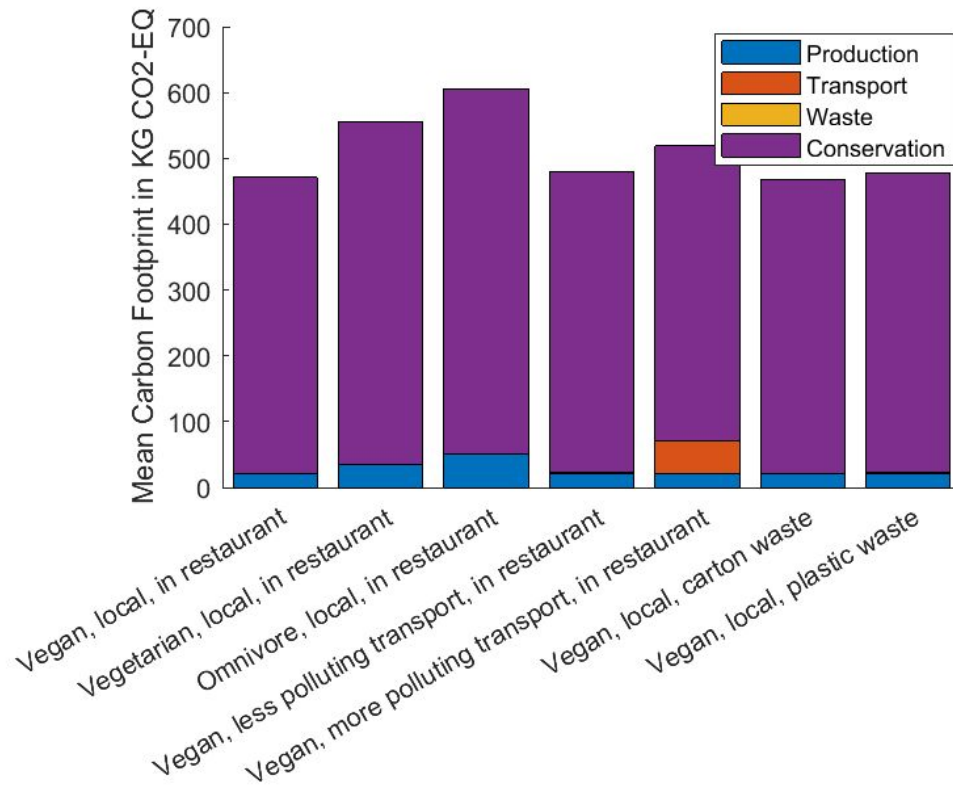
# Median carbon footprint CI

**Vegan, local,  
in restaurant**

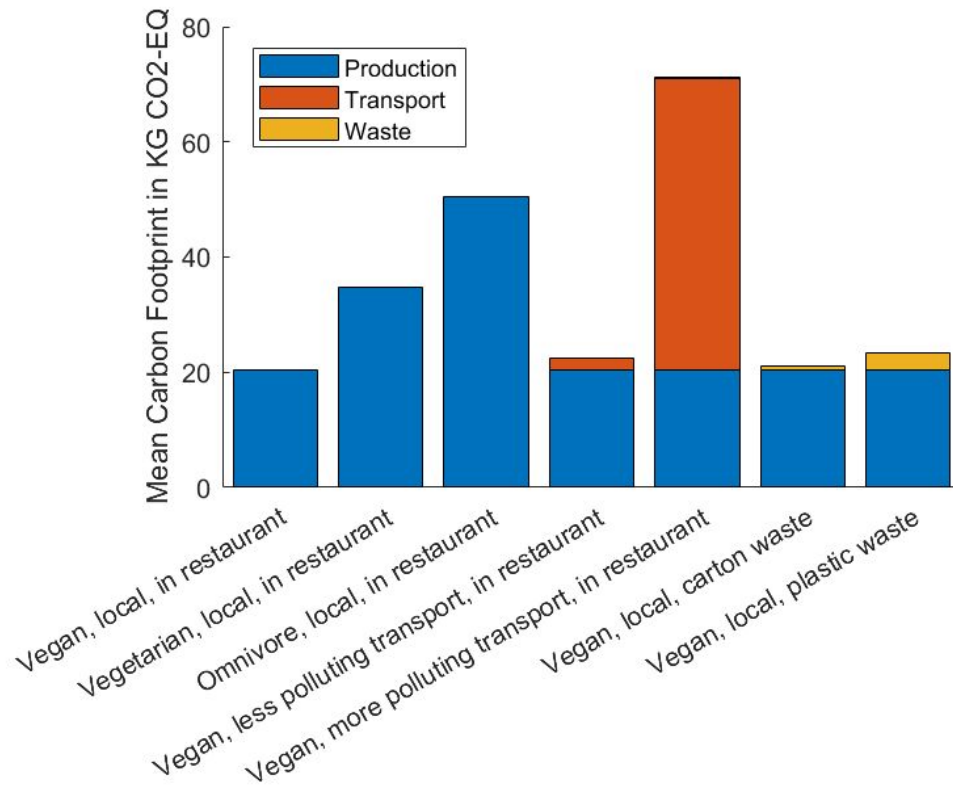




# Climate Change Results Overview



# Climate Change Results Overview



# Simulation of effect of students' meal choices over one semester

**Can the epfl community and more specifically the students make an impact by changing their eating habits in order to improve the carbon footprint of the campus ?**

# Simulation of effect of students' meal choices over one semester

## Week 1:

Vegan: 3%  
Vegetarian: 11%  
Omnivore: 86%

Undefined production: 45%  
Conventional production: 50%  
Organic production: 5%

Local/no transport: 56%  
Less polluting transport: 36%  
More polluting transport: 8%

Eating in the cafeteria: 50%  
Carton and reusable takeaway: 4%  
Takeaway with plastic: 46%

## Week 14:

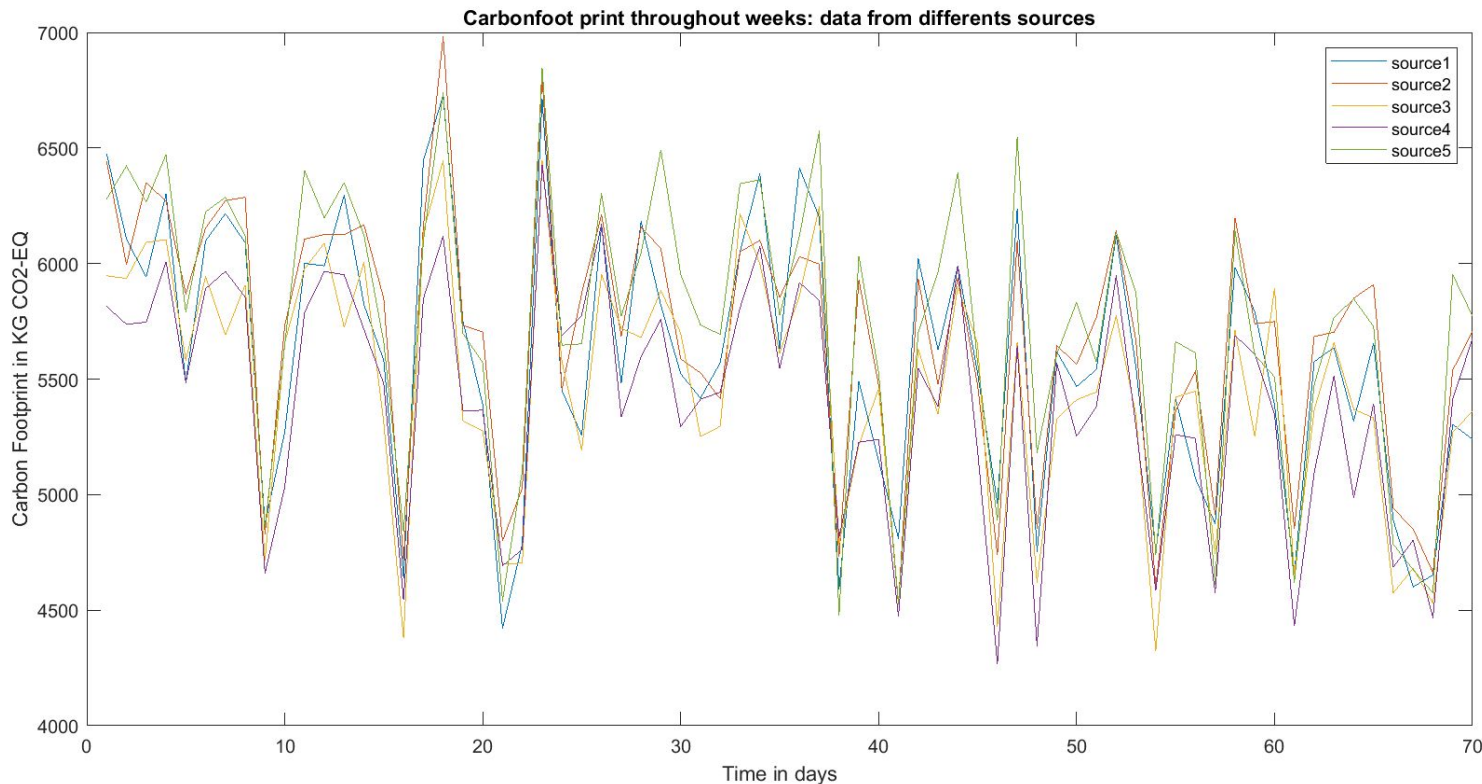
Vegan: 68%  
Vegetarian: 26%  
Omnivore: 6%

Undefined production: 5%  
Conventional production: 10%  
Organic production: 85%

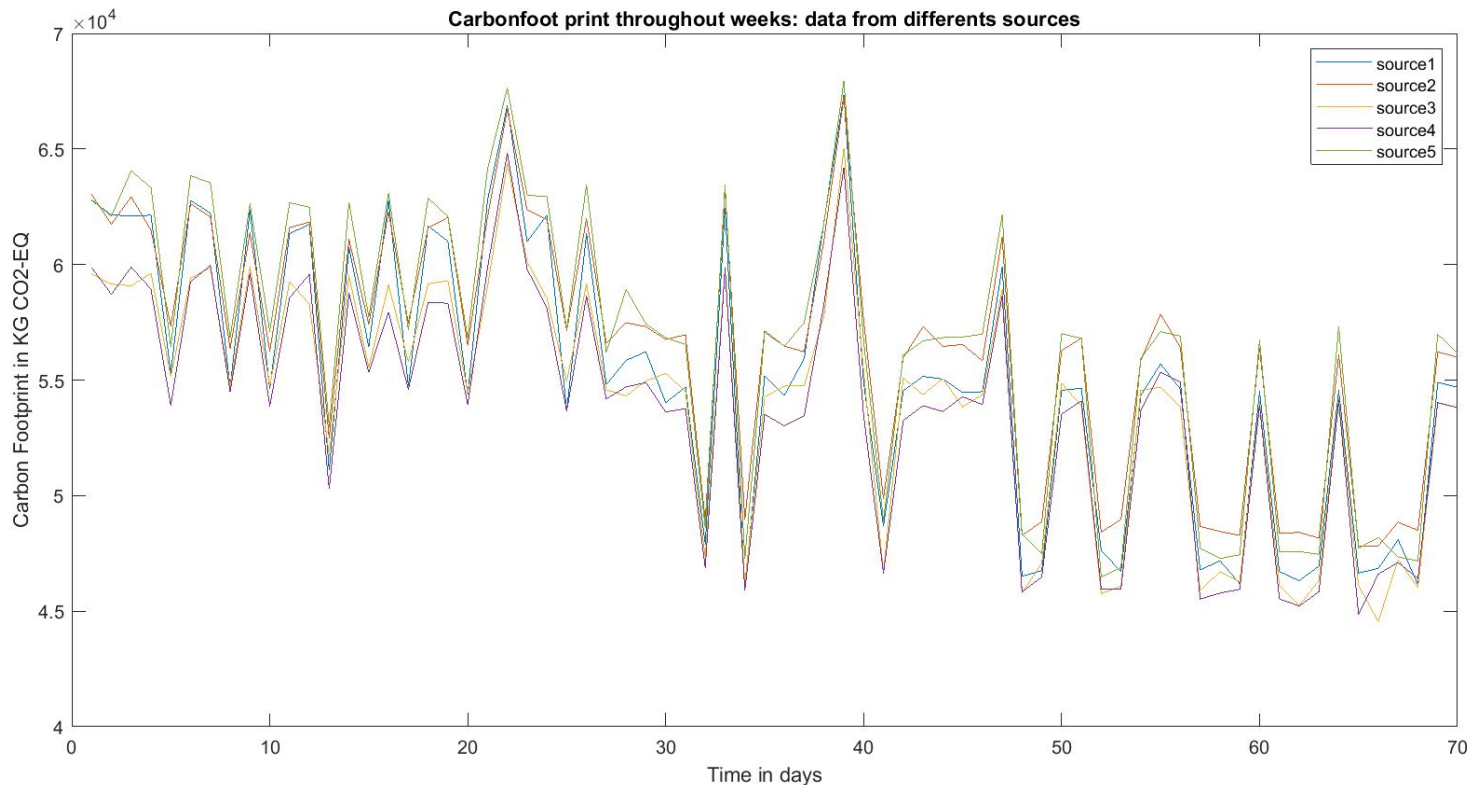
Local/no transport: 95%  
Less polluting transport: 5%  
More polluting transport: 0%

Eating in the cafeteria: 50%  
Carton and reusable takeaway: 50%  
Takeaway with plastic: 0%

# Simulation of effect of students' meal choices over one semester: 10 students.



# Simulation of effect of students' meal choices over one semester: 100 students.



# Simulation : results



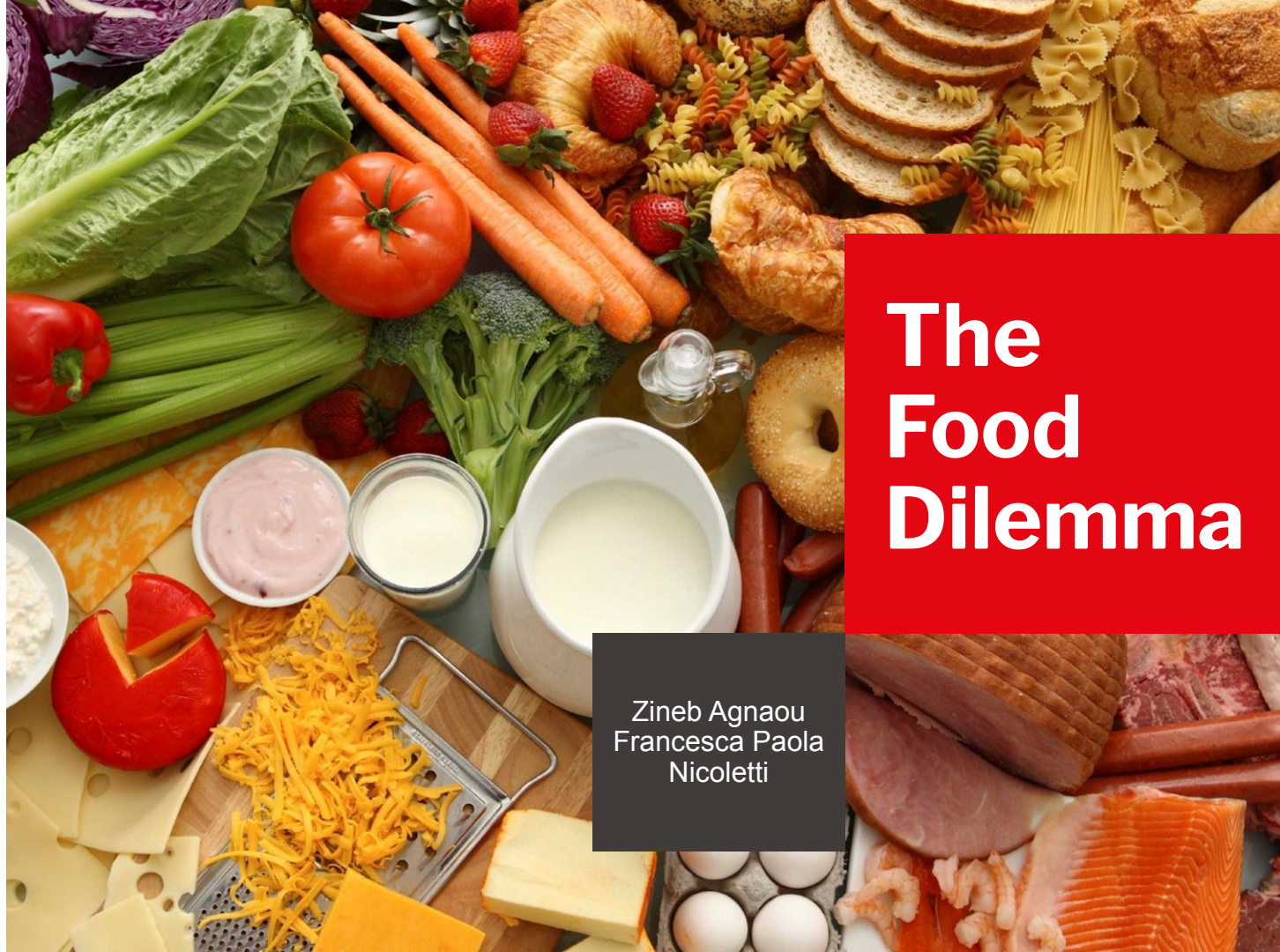
- All the students combined : drop of the carbon footprint of the campus by **1000 tons**.
- 10 students make a **significant** difference.
- **10'000 imperfect actions are better than 1 perfect action.**





**Thank you  
for your  
attention !**

**Any  
questions ?**



# The Food Dilemma

Zineb Agnaou  
Francesca Paola  
Nicoletti