



# CT6 Benchmarking Status

## Plenary Meeting March, 2023

- In the first two years, many subjects and issues were discussed.
- Over the last year, INERIS, ISSeP and RIVM use the available data to (further) develop/test their **selection** and **calibration** methods and, later, for data fusion/assimilation.
- The first comparison of benchmark results became available this year ...



- Categories of sensor observations: clustering based on distance between sensors, their typology and season.
- Estimate local correction factor and interpolation by kriging.
- Later: Apply SESAM (data fusion with **SEnSors** for **Air quality Mapping**) tool: fusion of sensor data and official map considering data variability.



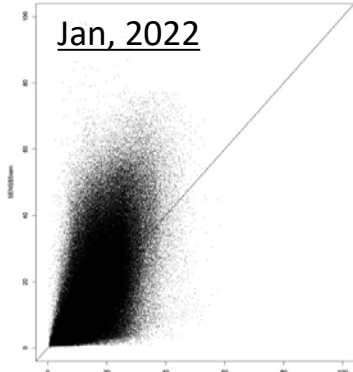
- Measurements from reference stations are used to produce interpolated  $[PM_{xx}]$  fields for the studied area. Interpolations are done using the DIVA tool.
- Selected sensor measurements are compared to co-located interpolated reference values
- Sensor values are corrected using linear parameters.



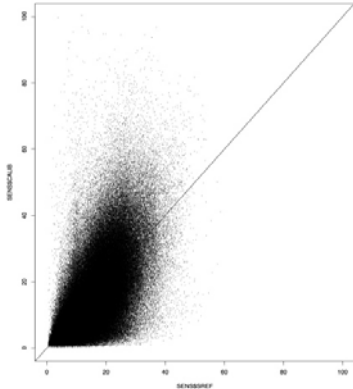
- Outliers detection methodology based on lowest/highest sensors.
- Look for sensors in the vicinity of the reference stations, then estimate local correction factor and interpolation correction field.
- Later: Apply data fusion by Bayesian weighing of sensor data and official map considering data uncertainties in both.

- So, we have many results from different analyses, what now?
- We do not know the actual “real” concentrations at the (majority of the) ~2500 locations of the sensors, so we cannot test the quality of different algorithm’s in a simple way.
- Knowing the “real” concentrations would make it possible to:
  - Compare results from different calibration methods to real values;
  - Objectively test the effects of variations in calibration strategies.
- Alternatively, we can generate **synthetic sensor data** to test different algorithm’s.
  - It is essential to take all the (seemingly) chaotic aspects of sensors into account.
  - We used behaviour of actual sensors to create synthetic sensor data.
- A **data set** with **synthetic data** was created for **January, 2022**, using 50% of the random uncertainty.

Raw sensor concs.

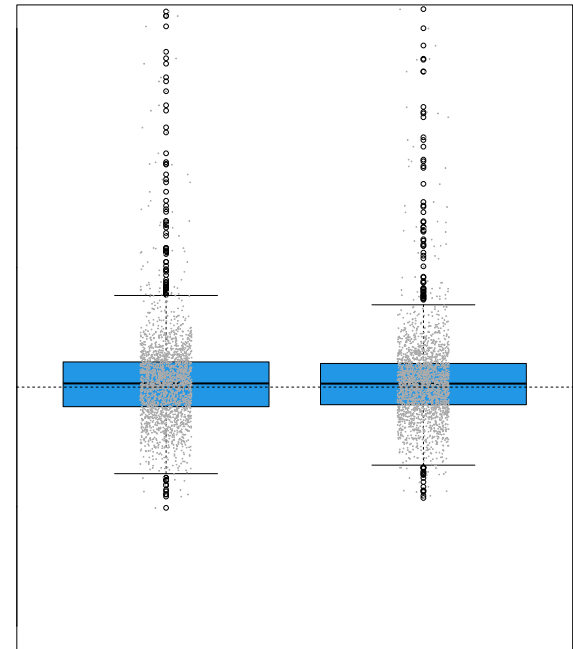
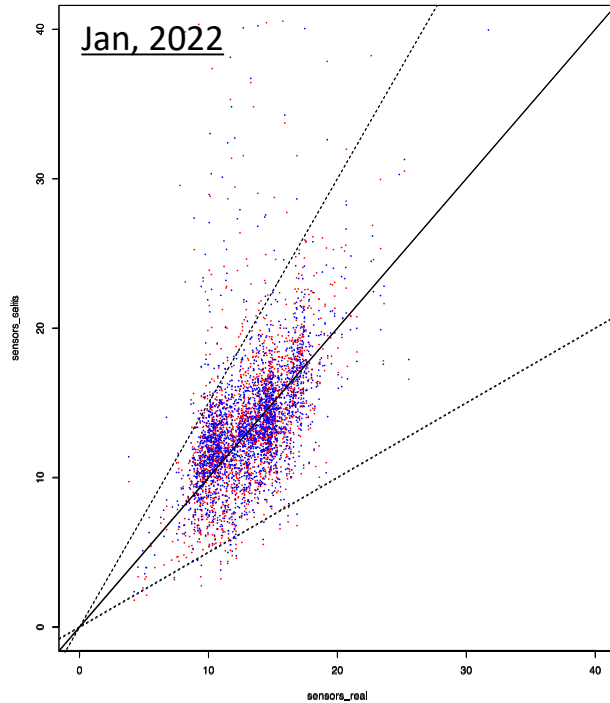


Calibrated sensor concs.

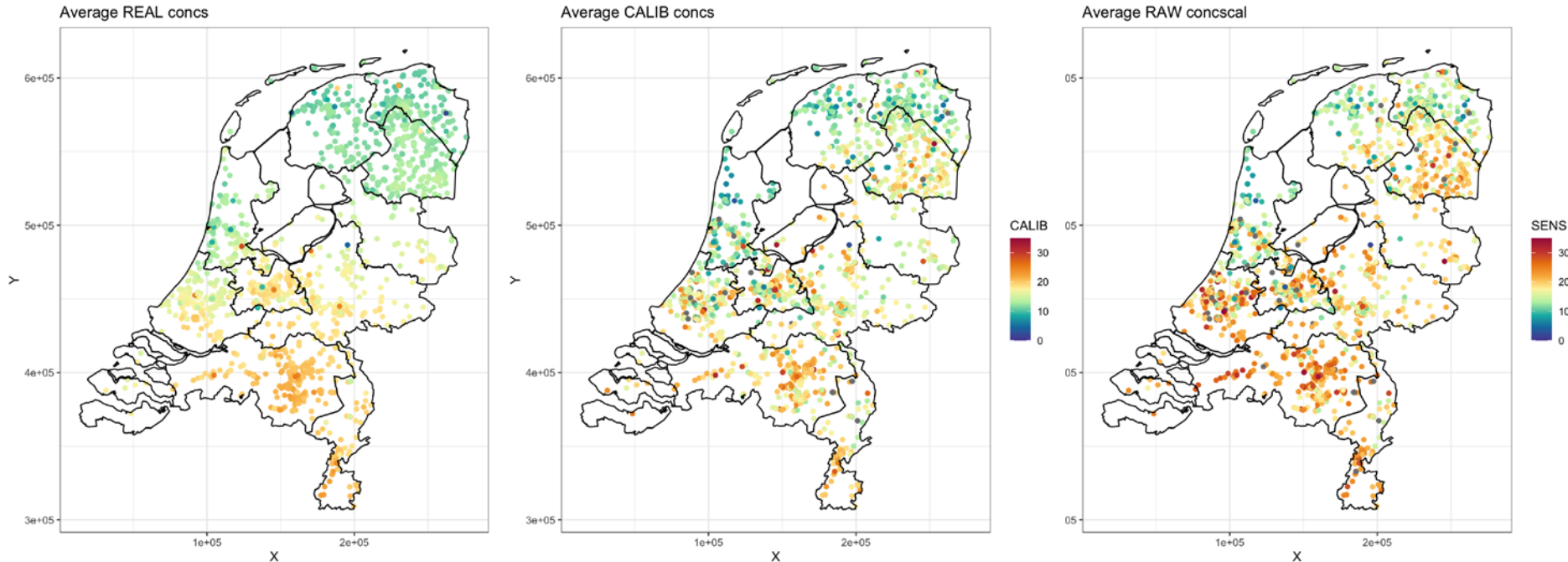


Synth real concs.

How to visualize/test/compare the results of the calibration of the sensors?  
Average values of sensors



- **Spatial effect of calibration in the sub-period 10-19 Jan, 2022**



# Analysis/visualization

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Period Jan 01-31, 2022

Biases of the **monthly averaged** raw PM2.5 data and the averaged calibrated data versus the averaged synthetic real data.

Over the full month, the raw and calibrated concentrations do not differ much.



# Analysis/visualization

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Period Jan 01-31, 2022

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Over the full month, the raw and calibrated concentrations do not differ much.



RAW



# Analysis/visualization

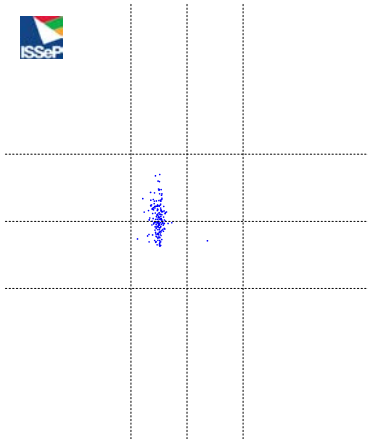
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Period Jan 01-31, 2022

**Target plots** of the monthly averaged raw data and the averaged calibrated data.

The raw and calibrated data differ in the CRMSE's.

The BIAS and CRMSE are not normalised using the uncertainty of reference PM2.5 measurements.



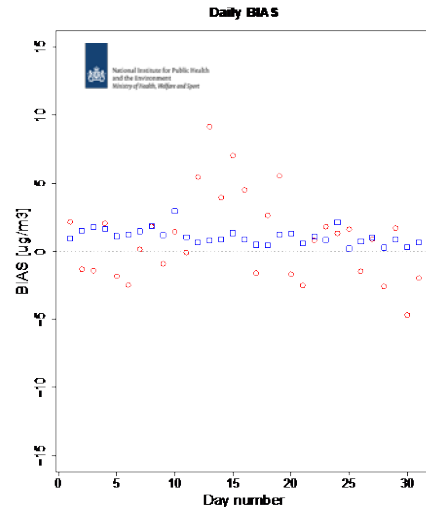
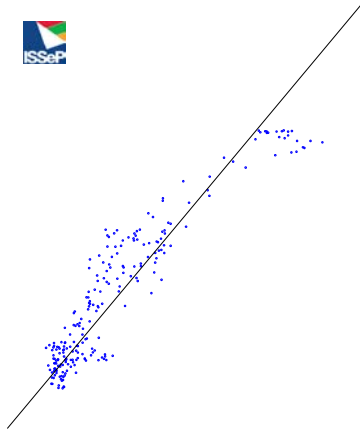


# Analysis/visualization

Period Jan 01-31, 2022

**Hourly** averaged raw data and the averaged calibrated data.

The **daily** average concentrations show that there were several days in the middle of the month with substantial over-estimation by the sensors.



- Benchmarking is an important process.



- The importance of data cleaning, handling of uncertainty, interpolation and calibration of low-cost sensors is demonstrated and investigated.
- Sufficiently realistic synthetic sensor data can be constructed and these are valuable for an objective test of sensor-processing algorithms.
- The algorithms applied in the benchmark for network-calibration can, to a large extent, correct for the influence of environmental conditions on the performance of the SDS011 PM2.5 sensors.
- The SDS011 sensor has a large random uncertainty that can not be corrected for by network calibration → limits individual use.





- Exchanging potential concepts and best practices about the integration of sensor network data in air quality mapping methods (Calibration vs DF).



- Exploring how air quality modelling can contribute to the exploitation and validation of an air quality sensor network.

## [Additional \(Not in previous ROADMAP...\)](#)



- Created real as well as synthetic data sets and benchmark data set.

# Questions ?

# CT6 Benchmarking Outlook

Plenary Meeting March, 2023

- Exchanging **best practices** about the calibration and subsequent integration of sensor network data in **air quality mapping methods** (data fusion) and demonstrating the use of sensors in **different areas/countries** with national models to fuse.
  - So, less focus on the generation of synthetic data and on the calibration.
  - More focus on data fusion and combination with existing maps.
  - Less focuss on the Dutch sensor data, more on the rest of the world.
- Providing **guidance and recommendations** on the use of sensors (e.g. citizen science projects), both in terms of **calibration, data fusion** or communication about related **uncertainties**.
  - What is the quality of both individual sensors in a network and what is the use of data derived from networks of sensors, before/after data fusion.

- Exploring how exploitation and validation of an air quality sensor network can contribute to **improved air quality modelling**, with a focus on city applications.
  - Project running in the EU would like to apply low-cost sensors on the scale of (part of) a city.
  - Is the same calibration possible?
  - What is the lowest amount of sensors to be usefull in a network approach?
- At the start of WG6 - Sjoerd van Ratingen (RIVM) primary contact.

**Time scale in practice:**

- Finish/submit article (Before summer 2023)
- Data fusion, assimilation, sensitivities (All of 2023)
- Smaller region/city (Antwerp, Paris, Berlin, Milano, ...) (2023)
  
- Other sensors/networks (Sensirion, Purple Air ...) (2023/2024)
- Other substances (NO<sub>2</sub>, ...) (2024?)

**Interest in sensors and/or data fusion? Join us !**



# Questions ?

**Interest in sensors and/or data fusion? Join us !**