Field calibration and performance evaluation of low-cost sensors *

Sinan Yatkin¹, Michel Gerboles¹, Annette Borowiak¹, Silvije Davila², Alena Bartonova³, Franck Dauge³, Philipp Schneider³, Martine Van Poppel⁴, Jan Peters⁴, Christina Matheeussen⁵, and Marco Signorini⁶

¹ European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Via E. Fermi, 21027 Ispra, Italy

- ² Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health, Ksaverska cesta 2, Zagreb, Croatia
- ³ Norwegian Institute for Air Research, PO Box 100, 2027 Kjeller, Norway
- ⁴ Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO), Boeretang 200, 2400 Mol, Belgium
- ⁵ Flanders Environment Agency, Dokter De Moorstraat 24-26, 9300 Aalst, Belgium
- ⁶ Liberaintentio Srl, Malnate 21046, Italy

Joint Research Centre

:

3

The European Commission's science and knowledge service



Low-cost sensors system (AirSensEUR by JRC)









Integrating smart sensors and modelling for air quality monitoring in cities (Antwerp (BE), Oslo (NO) and Zagreb (HR))

- 1. Developing a traceable field calibration methodology;
- 2. Performance evaluation of sensors to measure air pollution (prediction);
 - Uncertainty meeting data quality objectives in EU directive,
 - Linear reg btw modelled and reference data,
- 3. Evaluating the effects of site characteristics and season on calibration;
- 4. Evaluating sensor relocation and season on prediction.



Scope and timeline







- Y : the raw sensor response in raw units;
- X : the reference data;
- a_0 , a_1 and a_{j-1} : the coefficients;
- Z_j: the variables having an effect on sensor response at specific degree of m_i (so-called covariates);
- n : the number of coefficients
- $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$: the error component (residual)
- **VIF**: Variance Inflation Factor for collinearity of independent covariates

AIC: Akaike Information Criterion to check whether the last added covariate improves calibration model



Calibration methodology

Exponential calibration model for NO sensors: based on Faraday law

 $Y_{NO} = a_0 + a_1 NO_{ref} + a_2 e^{kT} + \epsilon = a_0 + a_1 NO_{ref} + e^{kT + ln(a_2)} + \epsilon$

T: Ambient or internal temperature, in ⁰C k is fitted by Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm

Kohler correction for PM sensors

$$Y_{PMsen} = C PM_{ref}$$

$$C = 1 + \frac{K/\rho}{-1 + 1/a_w}$$

ρ: particle density (1.65 g cm⁻³)
a_w: water activity, RH/100
K is fitted by Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm

 $Y_{PMsens} = a_0 + a_1 C PM_{ref}$



PM_{2.5} by PMS5003: Calibration and prediction

Antwerp ref from Fidas

between LVS vs Fidas

decrease with size:

 $U_{PM10} > U_{PM2.5} > U_{PM1}$

(similar to PMS)







Calibration of NO2_B43F_P1 in min. data,

NO₂: Calibration and prediction, hourly data

model



O₃: Calibration and prediction

Calibration of OX_A431_P1 in min. data, O_{3,Sensor_nA} = a₀ + a₁ O_{3,Ref} + a₂ NO_{2,Sensor}





Antwerp

Oslo

Zagreb

Ispra



• Low city & seasonality effects

- Strong seasonality effect
- Or, drifted over a year: Requires frequent calibration, e.g., every 6 months
- Mostly U < DQO</p>



20

n=21

Summer Deploy Winter Summer Deploy Winter Summer Deploy Winter

40

60 0

n=21

40

n=30 n=3 n=30

60

0

20

0

-0

-1.00

-0.75

-0.25

-0.50 7

60

20

40

n=11 n=6 n=10 -0.00

Conclusions

- > PMS PM_{2.5} Kohler models predicted well, even in another city
- \triangleright NO₂ models predicted well when conditions were similar to calibration time
- ML O₃ models with NO₂ predicted well with important seasonality effect: requires seasonal calibration
- Gas sensors except for O₃ were affected from extreme ambient T: NO and NO₂ the most, CO much less
- Relocation within a city did not significantly affect sensor performances
- > All sensors except for O_3 did not significantly drift over a year
- \succ Tests are required for O₃ drifting: due to aging or mis-calibration



Thank you!!!



Evaluation of prediction : expanded uncertainty

k : coverage factor, 2

Averaging

time

8 h

8 h

1 h

24 h/1 h

24 h/1 h

O₃

NO

 PM_{10}

PM_{2.5}

 $NO_2 \&$

LV

µg/m³

10

 (mg/m^3)

120

200

50

25

DQO of

indicative

meas.

%

25

30

25

50

50

Y_i: LCS final (modelled) data for period of i $Y_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i$ X_i : reference data

$$J(Y_i) = k \left(\frac{\text{RSS}}{N-2} - u^2(bs, RM) + u^2(bs, s) + [b_0 + (b_1 - 1)X_i]^2\right)^{1/2} \text{Random error} \qquad \text{Bias} \qquad \text{N: number of data pairs} \\ \frac{(bs,s): btw LCS unc. (optional)}{(bs,RM): btw reference method std. unc. (from validation testing in literature)} \\ \text{RSS} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [Y_i - (b_0 + b_1 X_i)]^2 \qquad \qquad \text{Averaging} \quad LV \quad \text{indicative meas.} \\ \frac{\mu g/m^3}{(mg/m^3)} \approx U(Y_i) \leq Data \ Ouality \ Objective (DOO) at limit value (LV) \\ \text{CO} \qquad 8 \text{ h} \quad \frac{10}{(mg/m^3)} \quad 25 \\ \end{array}$$

NO: Calibration and prediction Prediction, hourly data



Antwerp

Ispra



Low city/seasonality effects

- ➢ Mostly U < DQO</p>
- Prediction highly dependent on T and NO
- Poor prediction when high T together with low NO
- Calibration at high T & low NO did not improve



CO: Calibration and prediction

