

10th International Aerosol Conference - Tutorial

Low-Cost Sensors:
The “How” of Performance Evaluation, Network Design, and Data Handling

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St. Louis, MI – September 2, 2018

Outline

- Background
- Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center (AQ-SPEC)
- Field Testing
- Laboratory Testing
- Network Design & Data Management Platforms

Disclaimer

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Air Quality Sensing

- Rapidly proliferating
- Tremendous potential
 - Low-cost?
 - Ease of use
- Multiple potential applications
 - Spatial/Temporal air quality info
 - Fence-line applications
 - Community monitoring
- Need to systematically evaluate their performance
 - Accuracy, precision, durability and overall reliability
 - Calibration and drift
 - Other performance issues



...and more!

Air Quality Sensing – Low-Cost/Consumer-grade?

- Raw sensor, raw sensing head
 - \$15 to \$400



- Sensing unit: ≥ 1 raw sensing head + housing + user interface + external communication + power capabilities
 - \$150 to \$400 to \$7,000

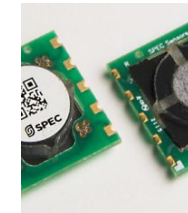




AQ-SPEC

Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

- Established in July 2014
- Over \$600,000 initial investment (funded by AQMD Board)
- Main Goals & Objectives
 - Provide guidance & clarity
 - Promote successful evolution and use of sensor technology
 - Minimize confusion
- Sensor Selection Criteria
 - Commercially available
 - Criteria pollutants & air toxics
 - Real- or near-real time, time resolution ≤ 5 -min
 - High sensitivity at ambient level and low concentrations
 - Continuous operation for two months, using AC/DC power
 - Retrievable data
 - Low-cost...?





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Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

2014 – 2018: Over 30 PM sensors evaluated

➤ How do sensors reach AQ-SPEC for an evaluation:

- Internet search by AQ-SPEC team
- Contacted by:
 - Manufacturers
 - Vendors
 - Developers
 - Integrators
 - Citizen Scientists
 - Air Quality Experts/Researchers
 - Other AQMD/APCD Agencies

The screenshot shows the AQ-SPEC website interface. At the top, it features the South Coast AQMD logo and the title "AQ-SPEC Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center". A navigation menu on the left lists various sections like Home, Conference 2017, Sensors, Evaluations, Research Projects, Resources, Workshops, Sensor News, About Us, Contact AQ-SPEC, FAQs, Advisory Board, and About SCAQMD. The main content area includes a video player with the AQ-SPEC logo and a "Recently added/updated:" section listing several articles with their authors and dates. At the bottom, there is a "Background" section and a "Main Goals & Objectives" section.



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Field Testing

- Sensor tested in triplicates
- Two month deployment (various time intervals, random)
- Location:
 - SCAQMD Riverside-Rubidoux Air Monitoring Station
 - Inland site
 - Fully instrumented
- Land use: Apartment complexes, single-family residences, school grounds, retail outlets, vacant lots
- Potential PM sources:
 - California State Route 60 (1 km away)
 - Small private airport (1.5 km away)



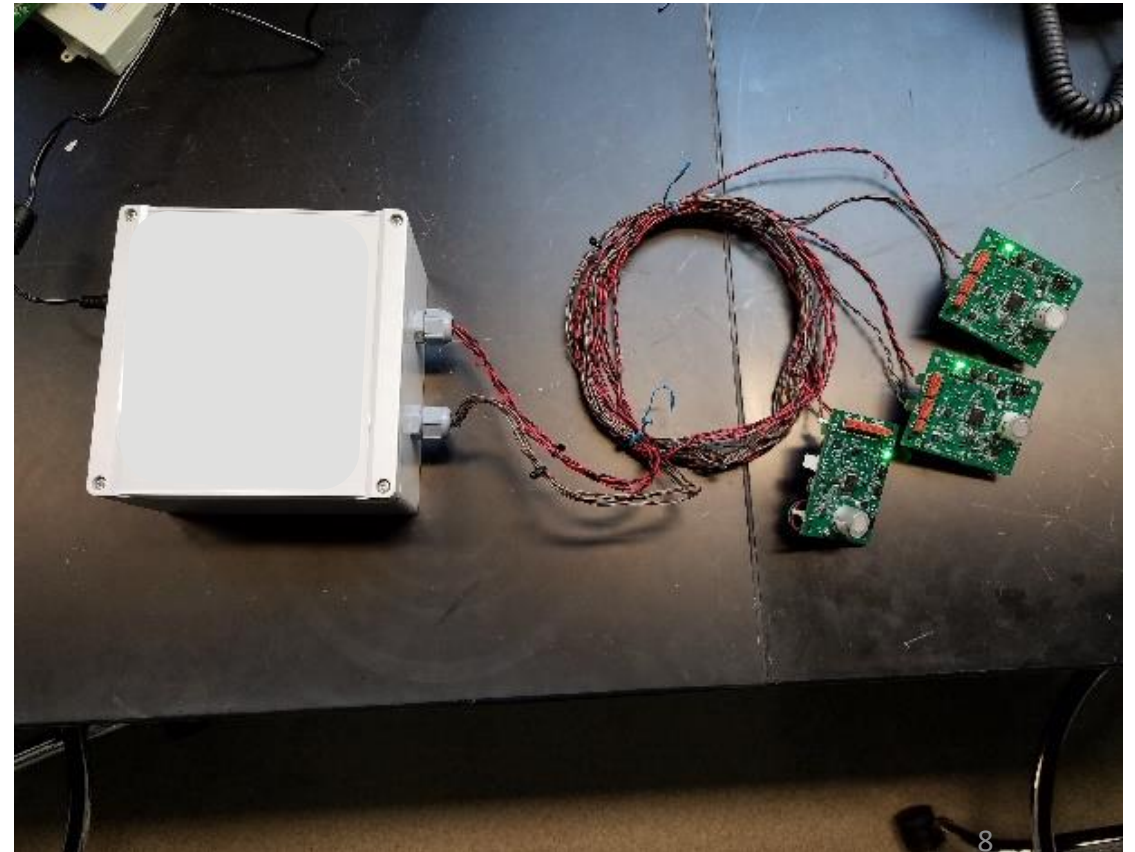


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Prior to an evaluation, a bench test in the SCAQMD Lab is performed:

- Review sensor documentation including manual, operating procedures
- Evaluate power options: cable, battery, solar
- Evaluate data acquisition options: local storage, laptop data logging, cloud-based
- Evaluate raw data output format
- Evaluate functionality of On/Off switch





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PM Sensors

Sensor Image	Manufacturer (Model)	Type	Pollutant(s)	Approx. Cost (USD)	*Field R ²	*Lab R ²	Summary Report
	Aeroqual (AQY v0.5)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$3,000 (multi-sensor)	R ² ~ 0.84 to 0.87		
	AethLabs (microAeth)	Optical	BC (Black Carbon)	~\$6,500	R ² ~ 0.79 to 0.94		
	Air Quality Egg (Version 1)	Optical	PM	~\$200	R ² ~ 0.0		
	Air Quality Egg (Version 2)	Optical	PM	~\$240	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.79 to 0.85 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.31 to 0.40		
	Alphasense (OPC-N2)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀	~\$450	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.63 to 0.82 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.38 to 0.80 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.41 to 0.60	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,291 KB)
	Cair	Optical	PM(1-2um), PM(3-10um)	~\$200	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.43 to 0.51 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.39 to 0.51		
	Clarity (Node)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1300	R ² ~ 0.73 to 0.76		
	Dylos (DC1100)	Optical	PM _(0.5-2.5)	~\$300	R ² ~ 0.65 to 0.85	R ² ~ 0.89	PDF (1,384 KB)
	Foobot	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$200	R ² ~ 0.55		
	HabitatMap (AirBeam)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$200	R ² ~ 0.65 to 0.70	R ² ~ 0.87	PDF (1,144 KB)
	Hanvon (Hanvon N1)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$200	R ² ~ 0.52 to 0.79		
	IQAir (AirVisual Pro)	Optical	PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀	~\$270	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.69 to 0.73 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.24 to 0.41	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,461 KB)
	Met One (E-Sampler)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀ , TSP	~\$5,500	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.55 to 0.62		
	Met One (Neighborhood Monitor)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1,900	R ² ~ 0.53 to 0.67		

Results

www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec/evaluations/summary

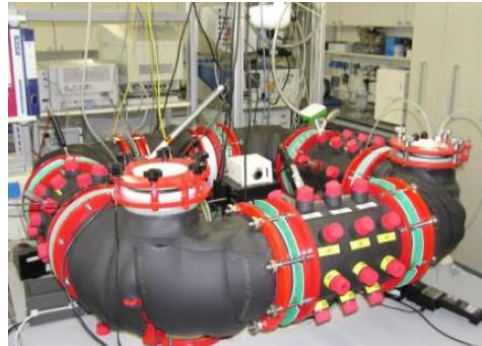
PM Sensors

Sensor Image	Manufacturer (Model)	Type	Pollutant(s)	Approx. Cost (USD)	*Field R ²	*Lab R ²	Summary Report
	Moji China (Airtut)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$150	R ² ~ 0.81 to 0.88		
	Naneos (Partector)	Electrical	PM (LDSA: Lung-Deposited Surface Area)	~\$7,000	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.1 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.2		
	Origins (Laser Egg)	Optical	PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$200	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.58 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.0		
	Perkin Elmer (ELM)	Optical	PM	~\$5,200	R ² ~ 0.0		
	PurpleAir (PA-I)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$150	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.93 to 0.95 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.77 to 0.92 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.32 to 0.44	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.95 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.97	PDF (1,072 KB)
	PurpleAir (PA-I-Indoor)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$180	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.75 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.36 to 0.46		
	PurpleAir (PA-II)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$200	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.96 to 0.98 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.93 to 0.97 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.66 to 0.70	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.95	PDF (1,328 KB)
	RTI (MicroPEM)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$2,000	R ² ~ 0.65 to 0.90	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,087 KB)
	SainSmart (Pure Morning P3)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$170	R ² ~ 0.73	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,186 KB)
	Shinyei (PM Evaluation Kit)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1,000	R ² ~ 0.80 to 0.90	R ² ~ 0.93	PDF (1,156 KB)
	Speck	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$150	R ² ~ 0.32		
	TSI (AirAssure)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1,500	R ² ~ 0.82	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (5,647 KB)
	uHoo	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$300	R ² ~ 0.0		

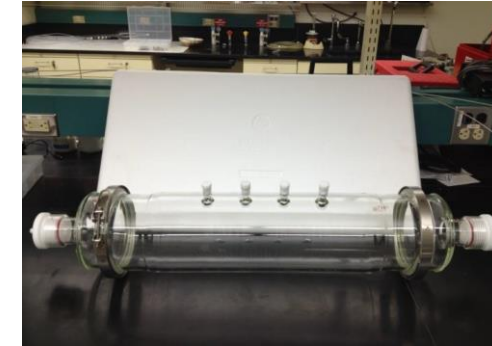
Previous Chamber Work



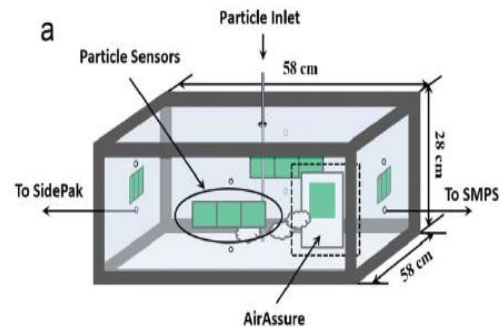
Spinelle et al., 2013
Institute for Environment and Sustainability
Joint Research Centre, European Commission



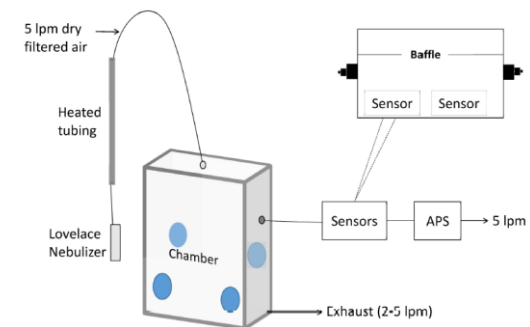
Williams et al., 2014
Office of Research and Development National
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Wang et al., 2015, Aerosol Sci Tech



Austin et al., 2015, PLOS One
University of Washington





South Coast AQMD – Laboratory

25,000 ft²

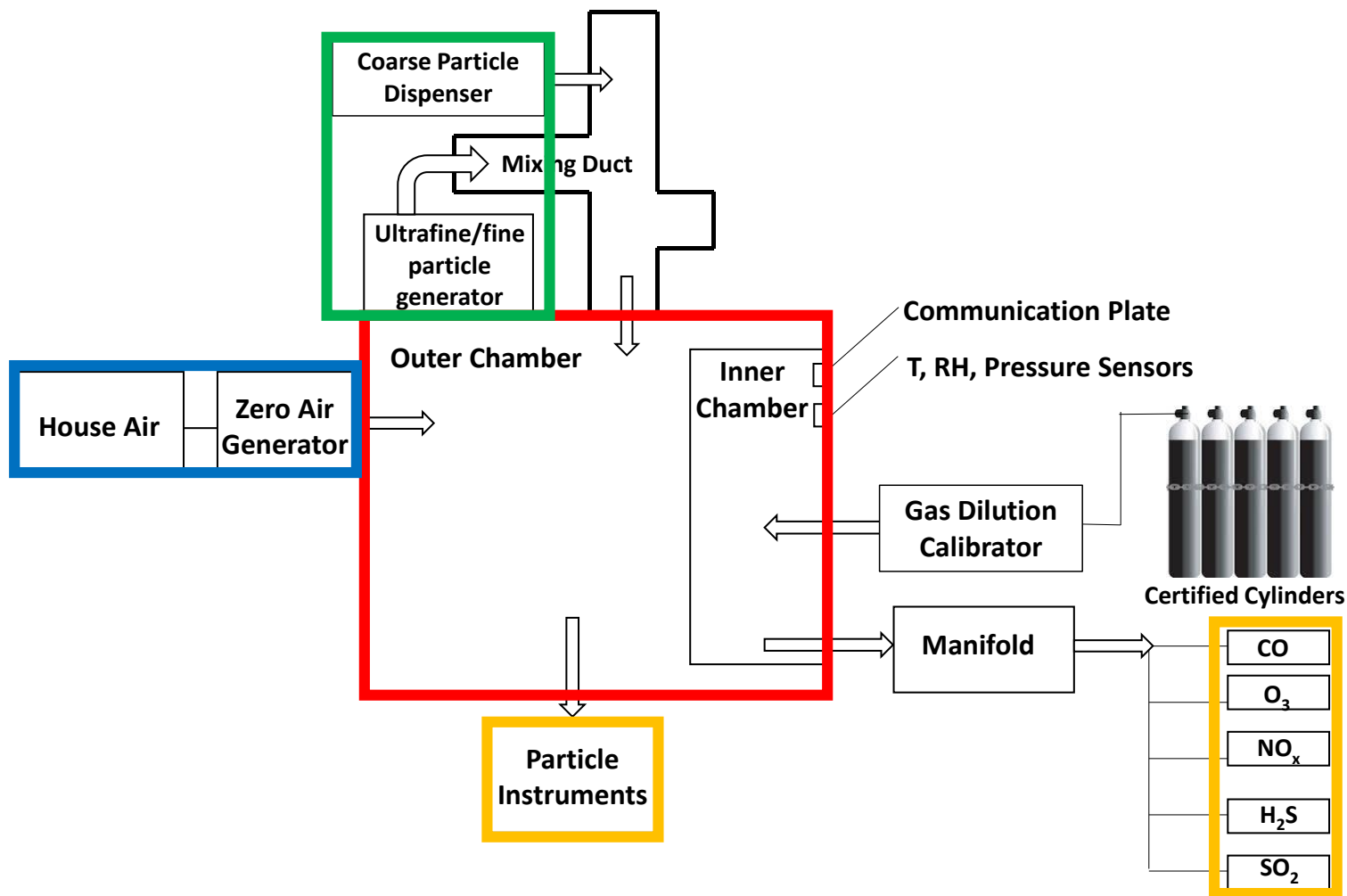


- **Particulates** on integrated filter samples:
 - Mass by gravimetric analysis
 - PM components by IC, ICP-MS, XRF, TOM, GC-MS (levoglucosan)
- **Gas-VOC** by GC, GC-MS, HPLC, and UHPLC
- **Asbestos** by polarized light microscopy, X-Ray Diffraction
- **PM deposition** by microscopy, XRF, and SEM-EDS
- **Cr⁶⁺** by ICP-MS
- **TGA, pH and vapor pressure**
- **TCA, CO, CH₄, CO₂**
- **Compliance:**
Paints, coatings, petroleum products, adhesives, lubricants and stack samples for VOC, inorganic components (e.g., metals, acids, SO_x and NO_x)



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Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center



1. Chamber system (sophisticated HVAC)
2. “Zero air” generation system
3. Two Particle systems
4. FEM/FRM/BAT reference instruments
5. Integrated software



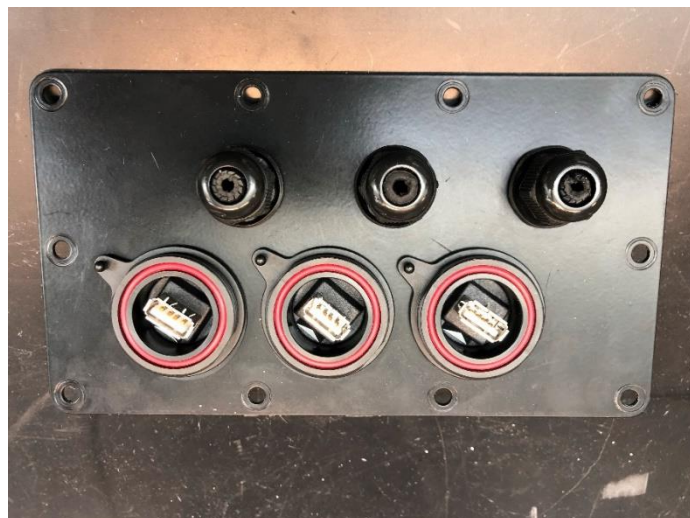


- ✓ Outer chamber
- ✓ Made of stainless steel
- ✓ Shape: Rectangular
- ✓ Volume: 1.3 m³
- ✓ HVAC system
- ✓ Louvered ceiling surface
- ✓ Set of two fans

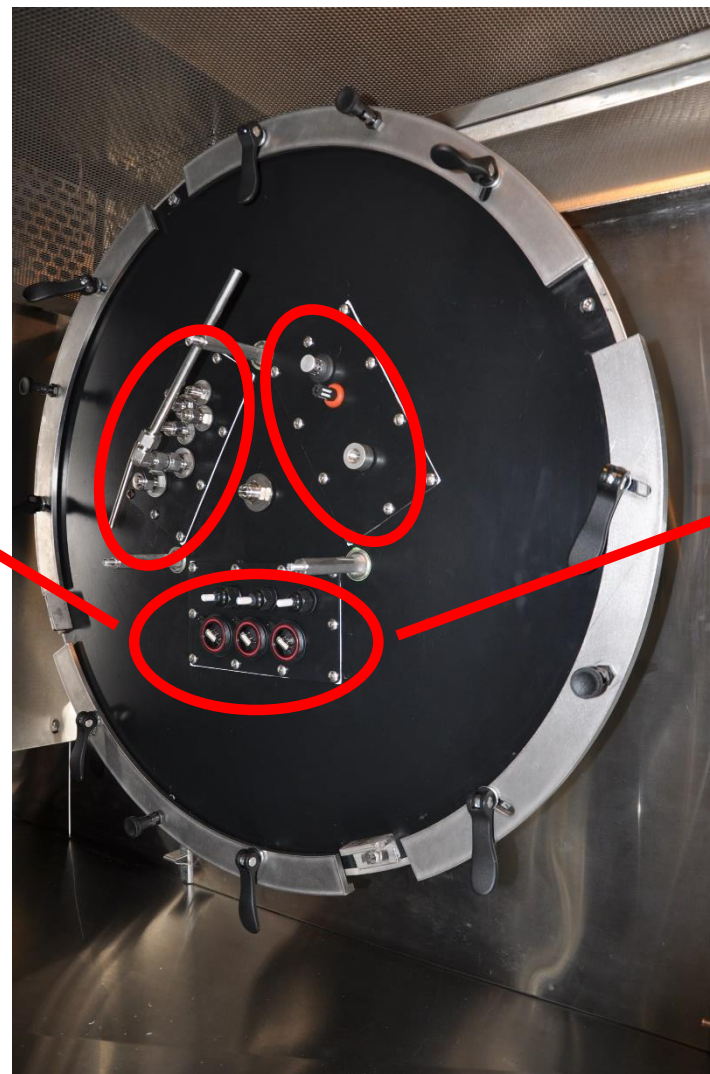


- ✓ Inner chamber
- ✓ Teflon-coated Stainless Steel
- ✓ Shape: Cylindrical
- ✓ Volume: 0.11 m³

Ethernet & power ports



USB & power ports

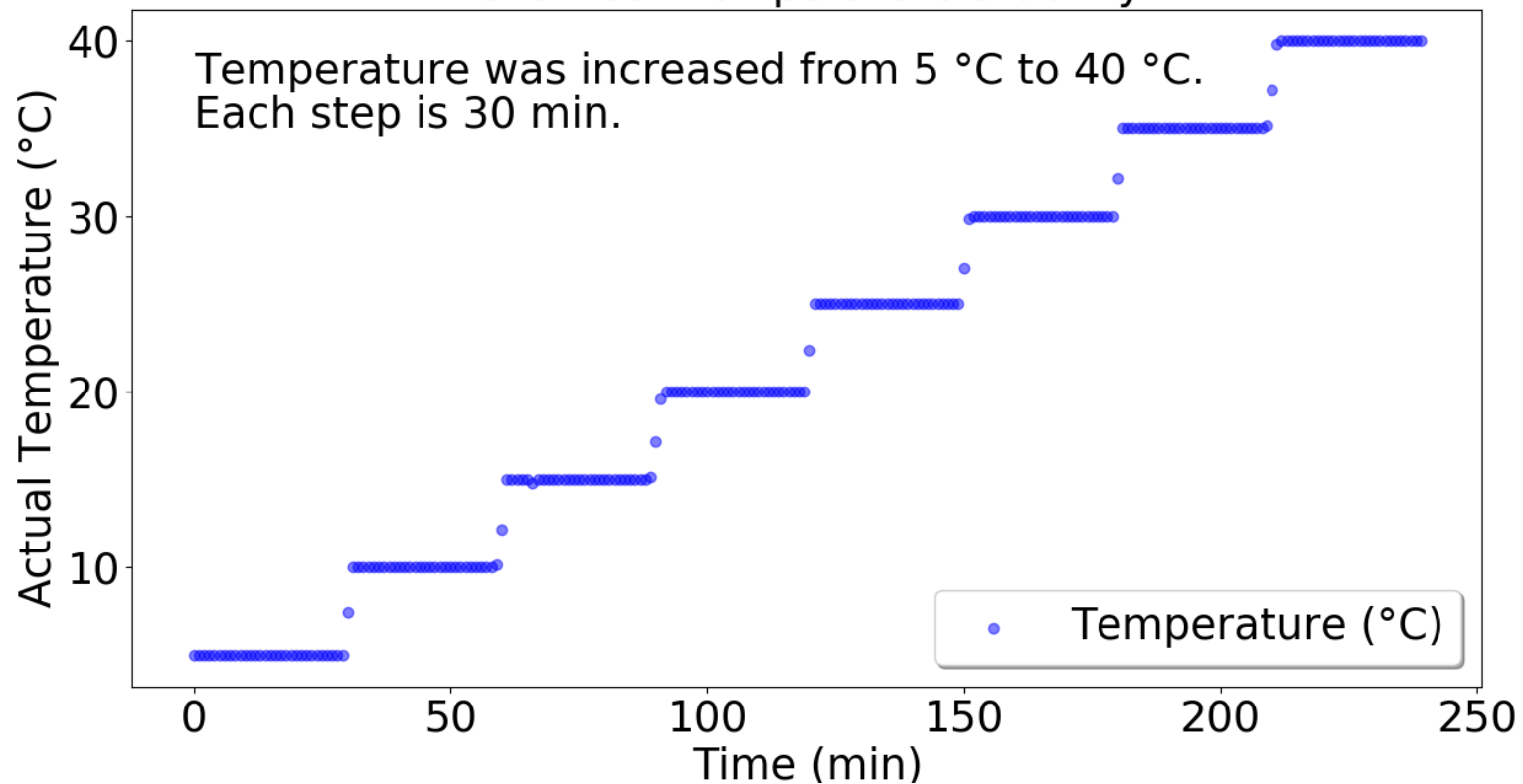




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Chamber Temperature Stability



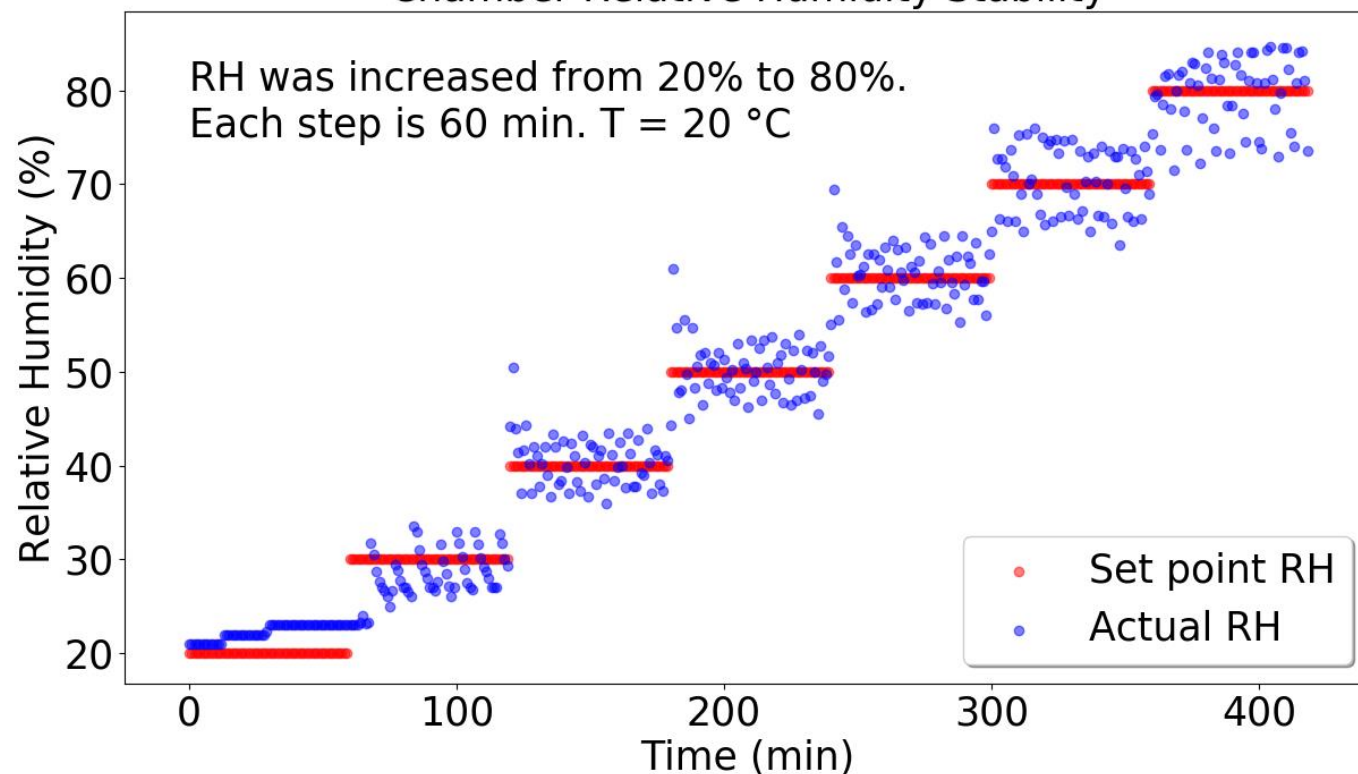
- Highly precise temperature control
- Temperature range: - **32** to + **177** °C



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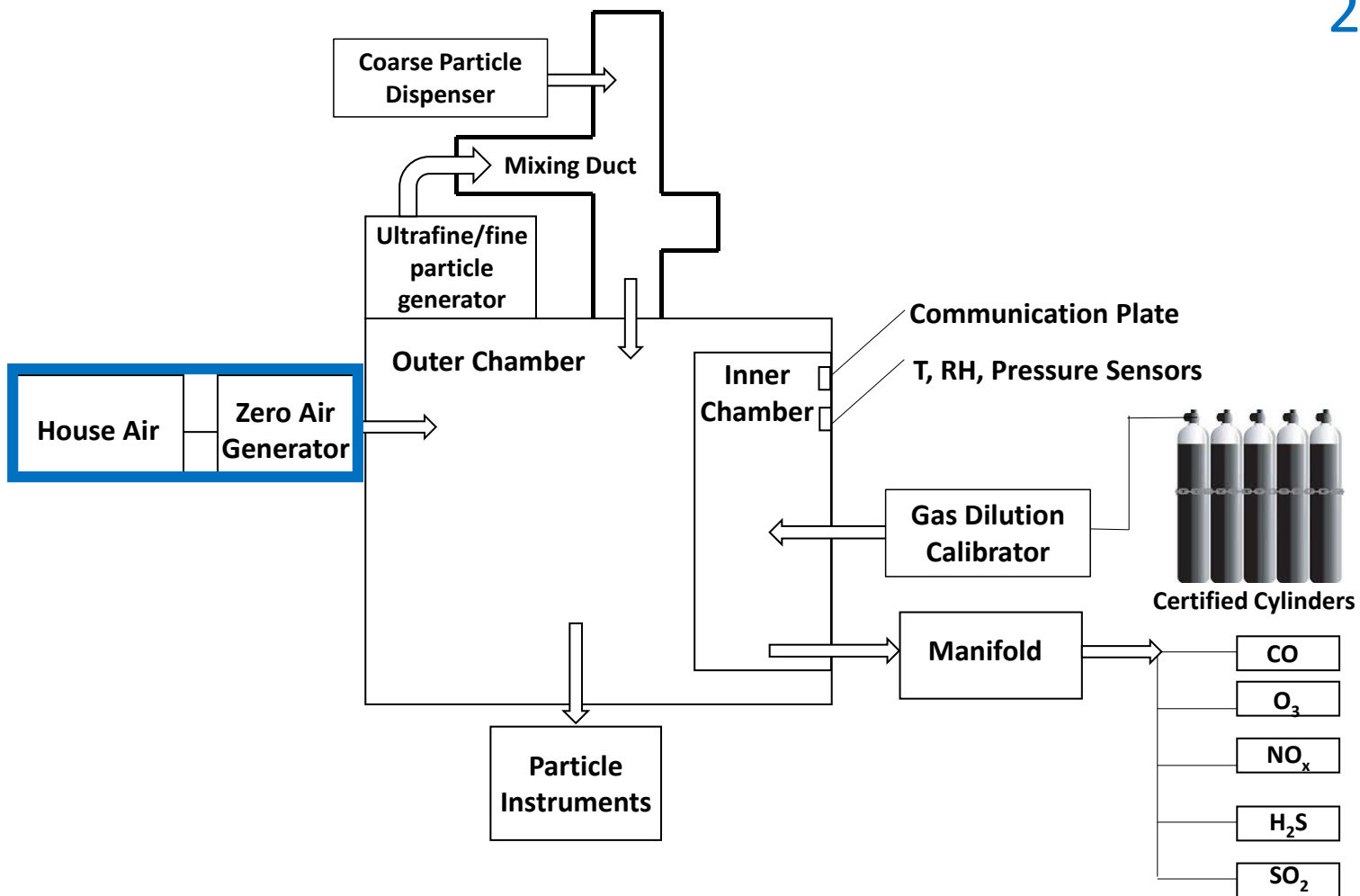
Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

Chamber Relative Humidity Stability

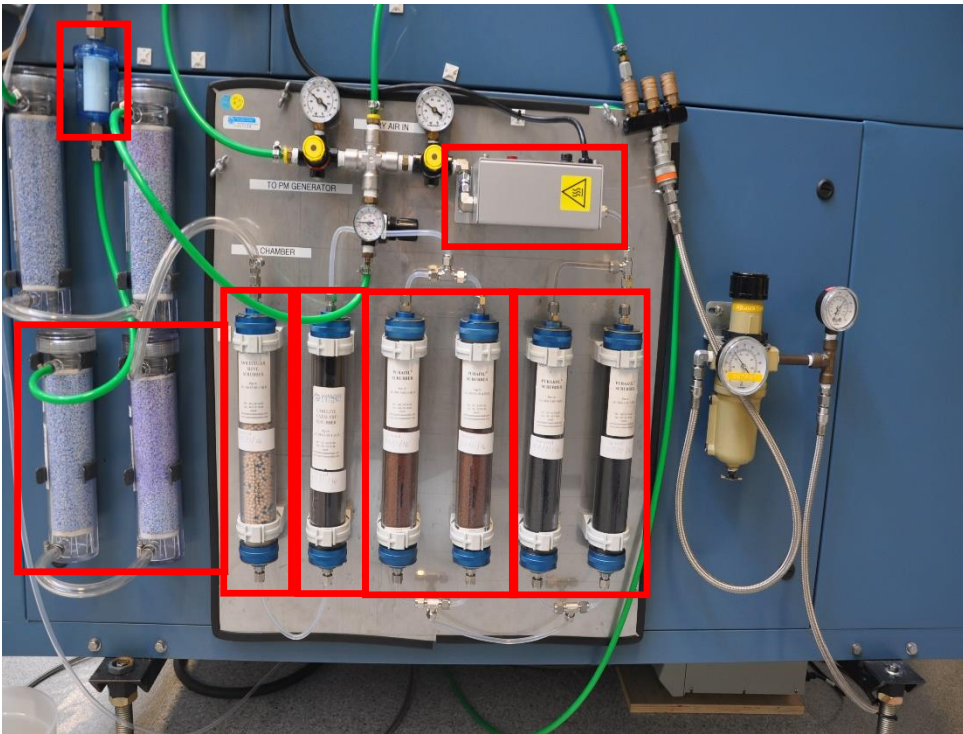


- More precise RH control at higher temp
- At 20 °C, SD range: $\pm 0.8\%$ to $\pm 3.5\%$
- At low temp and high RH, RH oscillates near set points, due to humidifying and dehumidifying cycle
- Relative Humidity range: **5 to 95 %**

2. "Zero air" generation system

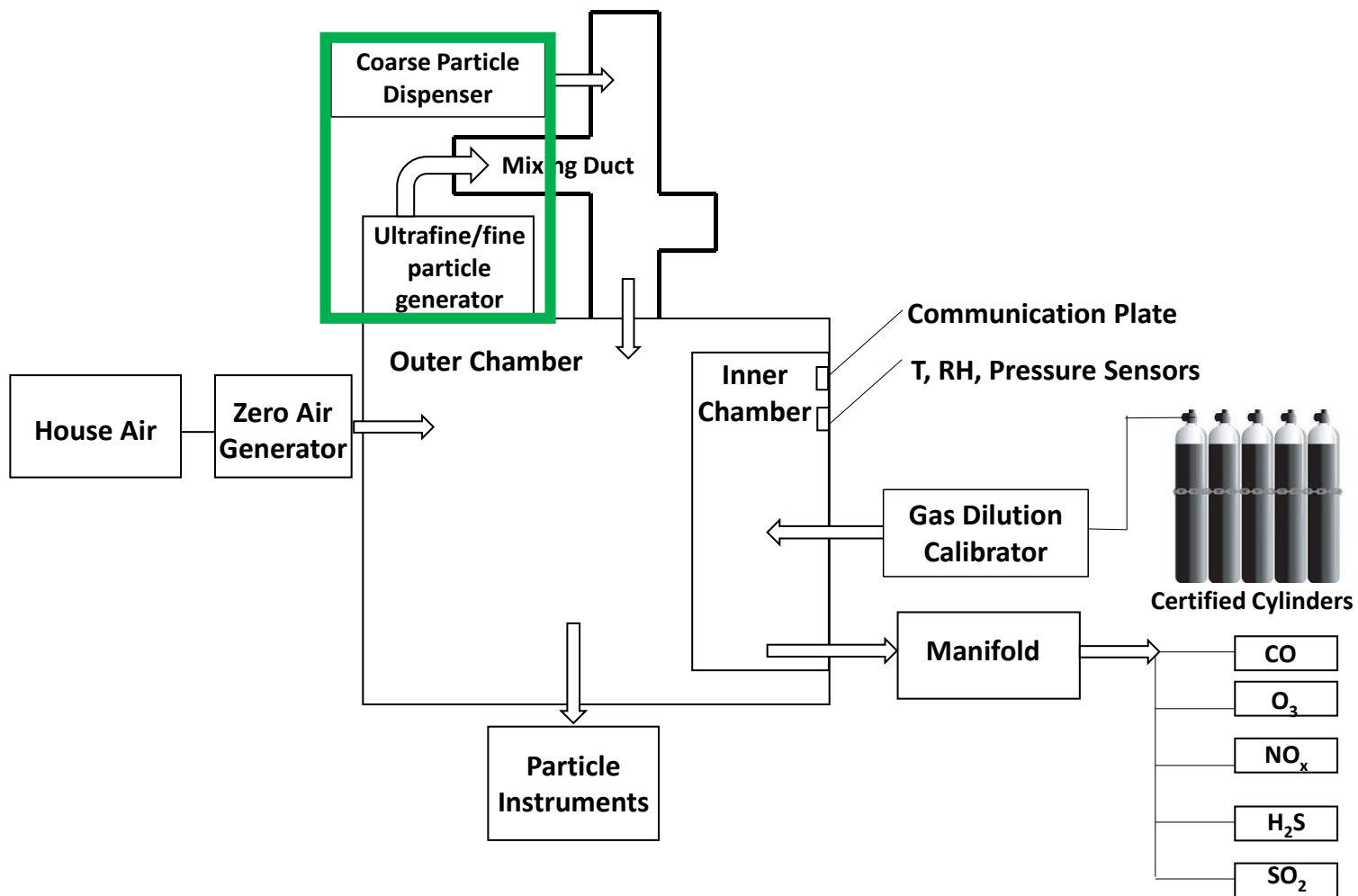


“Zero-Air” system: Dry, gas- and particle-free dilution air system



- One heated catalyst scrubber for the removal of CO
- Two scrubbers of activated carbon for the removal of VOC and NO₂
- Two scrubbers of NaMNO₄ impregnated on porous alumina (Purafil) for the removal of H₂S, SO₂, NO_x, and HCHO
- One cylinder of MnO₂/CuO catalyst for the removal of ozone O₃
- One cylinder of 13X molecular sieve
- Two cylinders of CaSO₄ to further dry the previously compressed and dried outside air
- One in-line HEPA filter for the removal of particulate impurities

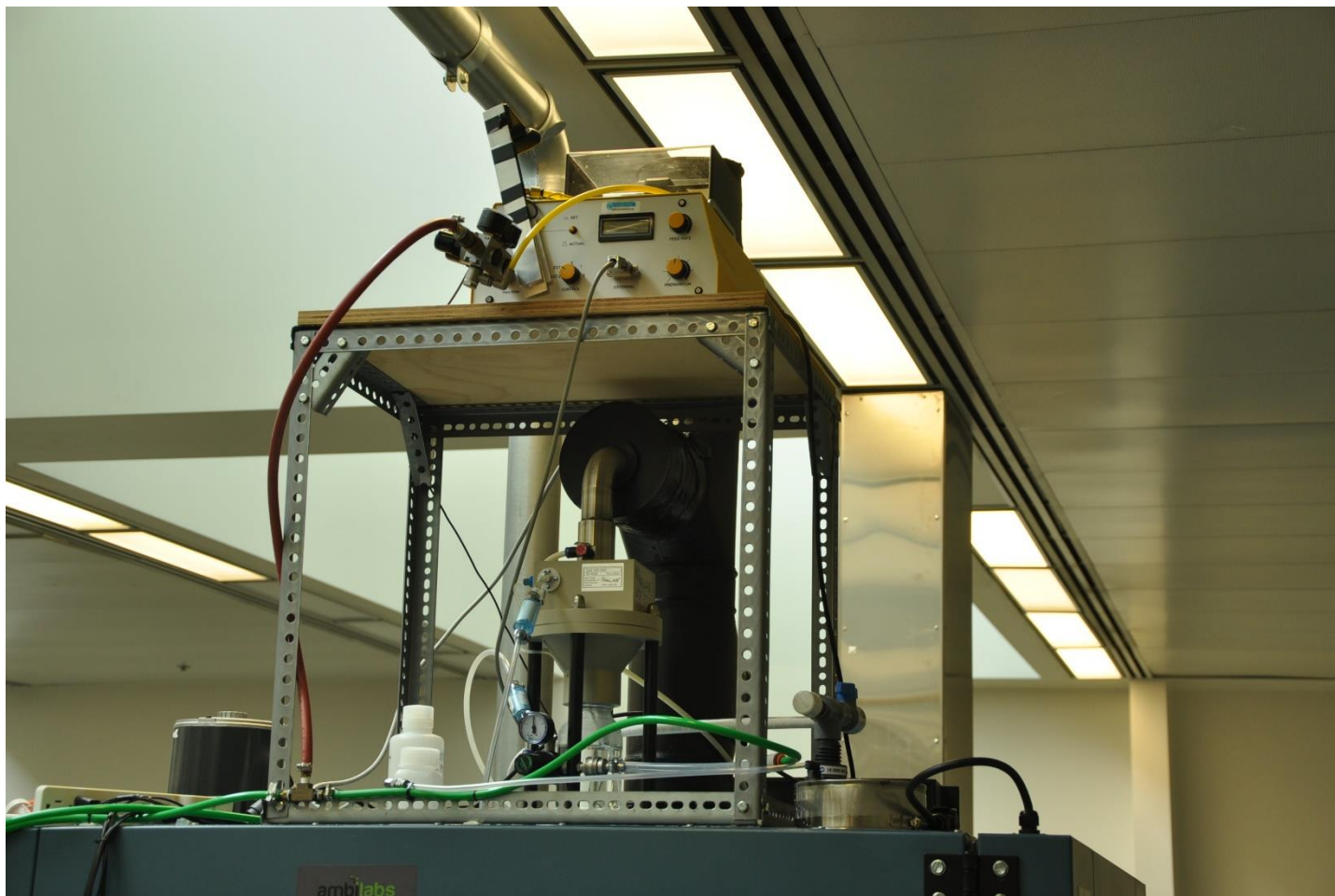
3. Two Particle systems



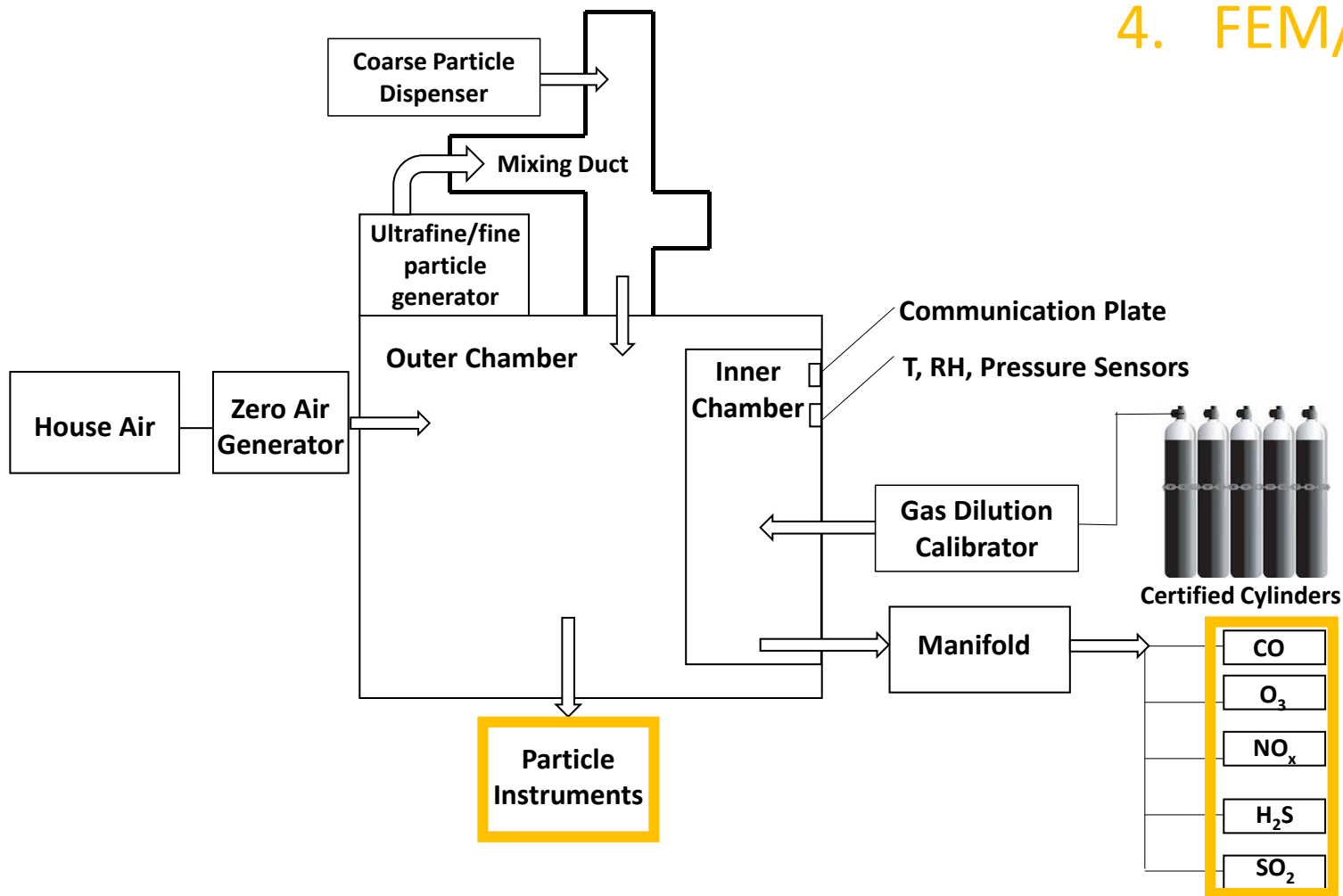


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4. FEM/FRM/BAT reference instruments





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Manufacturer	Model	Measures	Conc. Range	LDL	Measurement Technique
GRIMM	EDM180	PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , and PM ₁	0.1-1,500 µg/m ³	0.1 µg/m ³	light scattering
TSI	3321	0.5 to 20 µm	0-10,000 particles/m ³	0.001 particle/m ³	double-crest optical
TSI	3091	5.6 to 560 nm	N/A	N/A	electrical mobility
Teledyne	M651	ultrafine particle conc, > 7 nm	0.001 to 10 ⁶ particles/cm ³	N/A	Water-based CPC



EDM 180



APS 3321



M651

FMPS 3091



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Particle systems control software

Gas analyzers and chamber Temp/RH sensors control software

Sequence Runner

System Time: 08:37

Actual Temp: 5, Delay (Min): 62

Temp (Deg C), RH (%), PM Small, PM Large, Actual Temp, PM Small, PM Large, Seq Start Time, Seq Time Remaining

Setpoints Sequence, Run (Min), Delay (Min)

Chamber, PM Small, PM Large, Actual Temp, PM Small, PM Large, Seq Start Time, Seq Time Remaining

Temp (Deg C), Pre Sec, Feed Sec, Actual Temp, PM Small, PM Large, Seq Start Time, Seq Time Remaining

RH (%), Injection Sec, Cyc Sec, PM Small, PM Large, Seq Start Time, Seq Time Remaining

Purge OFF, Post Sec, Off Sec, Cycles

PM MODE, Com Status, Stop, Run

Communications Setup: Connect, Disconnect

Comm Responses: Idle

Load Checked Sequences, Add Point, Save Test

Seq #	Seq Time (Min)	Temp (DegC)	RH %	Prelnj (s)	Inj (s)	PostInj...	OffTim...	Cpl(s)	TFT (s)	TCT(s)	CalSeq	Purge

Event Viewer / Selector

WINAQMS

Instantaneous Data, Instantaneous Graph, Wind Rose, Historical Data, Historical Graph, Analyser Parameters, Calculated Channels

Instantaneous Data Graph: 10 Minutes

Historical Data: Start Date/Time: 2002/05/22, Period: 1 Hour, Report Name: RPT1

Rt	Date/Time	C1: Temp	C2: RH	C3: RTemp	C4: RoomTP	C5	C6: Max TP	C13: WS	C14: W/D	C30: CO
1	2002/05/22	15.4	103.1	29	22.4	47	22.4	1.6	214	0.0132
1	2002/05/22 00:05:00	15.3	103.1	29	22.4	47	22.4	1.8	207	0.0129
1	2002/05/22 00:10:00	15.4	103.1	29	22.3	47	22.4	1.9	211	0.0129
1	2002/05/22 00:15:00	15.4	103.1	29	22.3	47	22.4	1.8	203	0.0151
1	2002/05/22 00:20:00	15.4	103.2	29	22.3	47	22.4	2	209	0.0198
1	2002/05/22 00:25:00	15.4	103.2	29	22.3	47	22.3	2.6	204	0.0195
1	2002/05/22 00:30:00	15.4	103.2	29	22.3	47	22.3	2.6	200	0.0119
1	2002/05/22 00:35:00	15.4	103.2	29	22.3	47	22.3	2.9	198	0.0107
1	2002/05/22 00:40:00	15.3	103.3	28.9	22.2	47	22.3	3.2	198	0.0102
1	2002/05/22 00:45:00	15.3	103.3	28.9	22.2	47	22.3	2.4	200	0.021
1	2002/05/22 00:50:00	15.3	103.4	28.9	22.2	47	22.3	2.8	200	0.013
1	2002/05/22 00:55:00	15.4	103.4	29	22.2	47	22.3	2.3	203	0.0111

Wind Speed and Direction: Wind Speed 13 WS: 2.7, Wind Direction 14 WD: 196

Data Good - all OK, Data Bad - Not Enough Samples, Data Bad - Out of Service, Data Good - High Alarm, Data Bad - No Samples, Data Bad - Power Failure, Data Good - Low Alarm, Data Bad - Data in Calibration, Data Bad - Instrument Fault

Blackburn Client Count: 1 13:08 2002/5/23



T/RH combinations for sensor testing

	Temperature (°C)		
Relative Humidity (%)	5 °C / 15% (Low / Low)	20 °C / 15%	35 °C / 15%
	5 °C / 40%	20 °C / 40%	35 °C / 40%
	5 °C / 65%	20 °C / 65%	35 °C / 65% (High / High)

	PM _{2.5} /PM ₁₀
Level	(µg/m ³)
Very low	10
Low	15
Medium	50
High	150
Very High	300

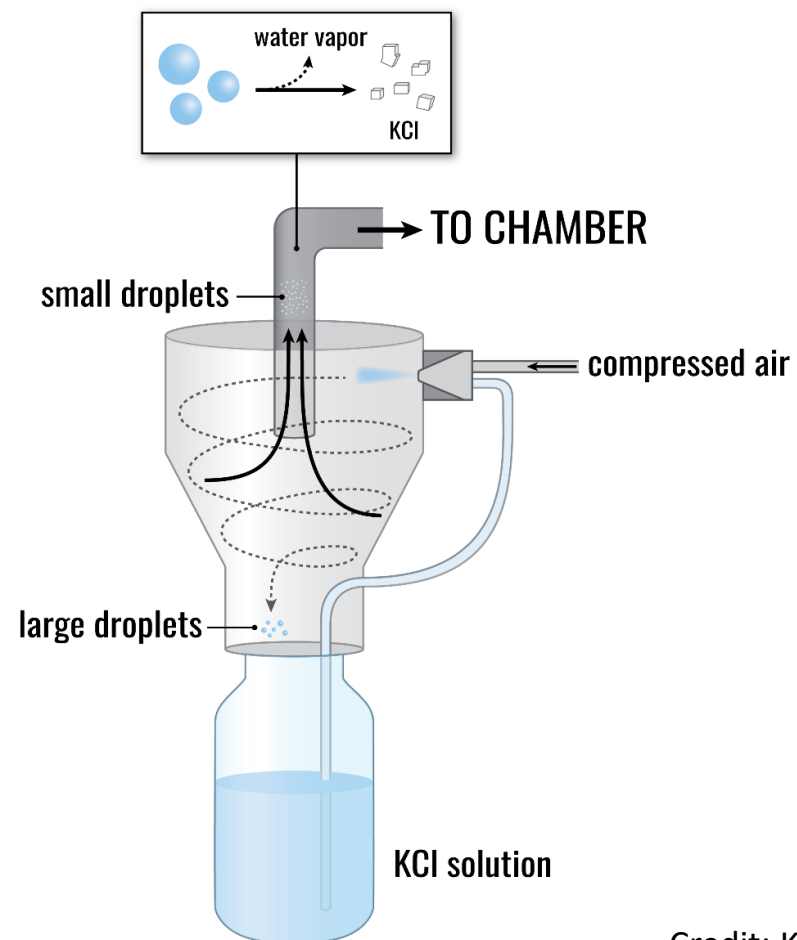


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- Particle systems (i.e., PALAS and TOPAS)
 - Theory of operation
 - Factors in determining aerosol concentrations (i.e., recipes)
 - Aerosol atmospheres
 - Stability
 - Reproducibility
 - Decay experiment
 - Particle size distribution
- Sensor evaluation experiments - Examples

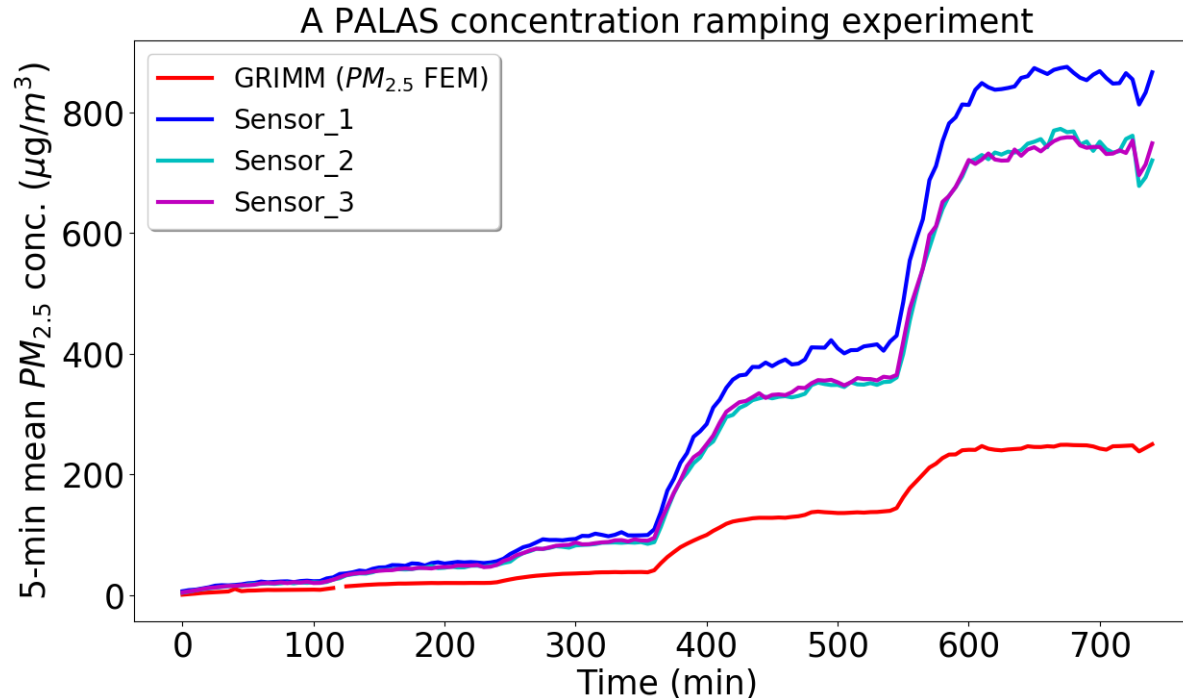
Aerosol Generation System





Factors in determining aerosol conc.:

- Salt type and concentration (e.g., 17% KCl in DI water)
- Pre-/Injection/post-/pause/no. of cycles
- Compressed air pressure
- Fans speed

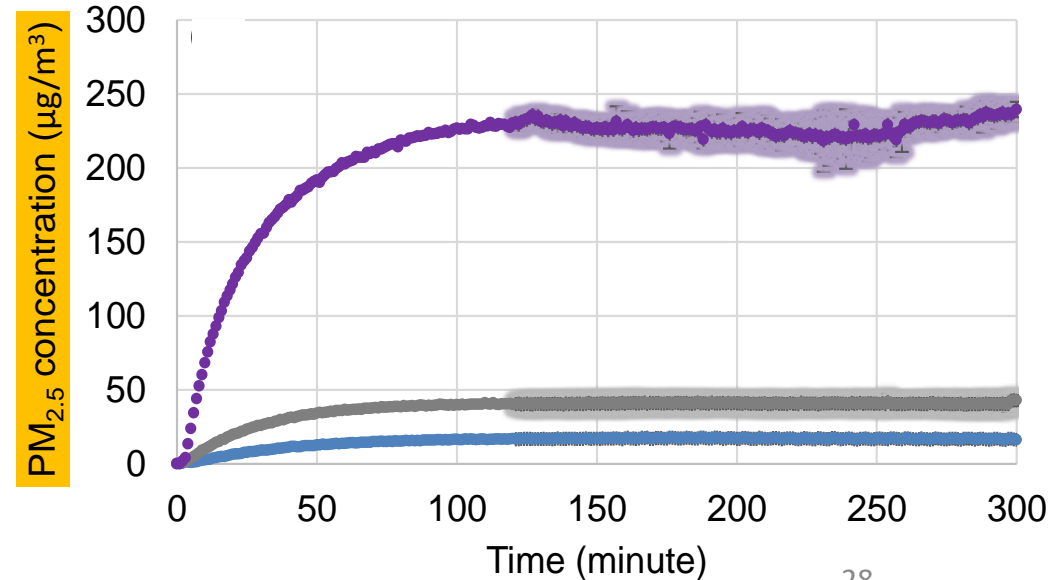
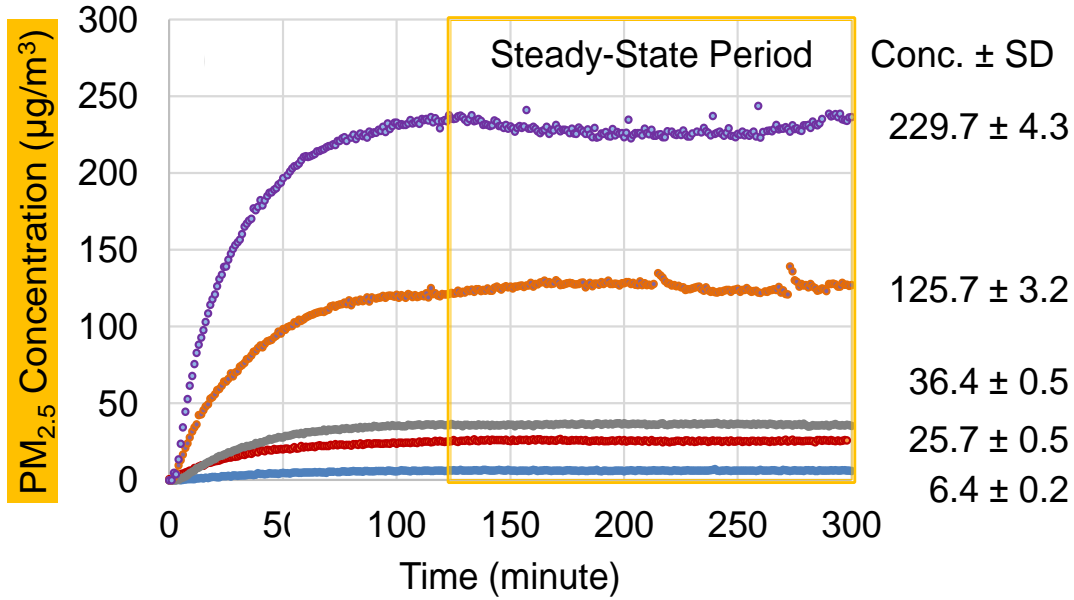


	pre-inj	inj	post-inj	off	cycle
step 1	1	1	1	32	4
step 2	1	1	1	32	2
step 3	1	1	1	32	0
step 4	1	2	1	32	0
step 5	1	4	1	32	0



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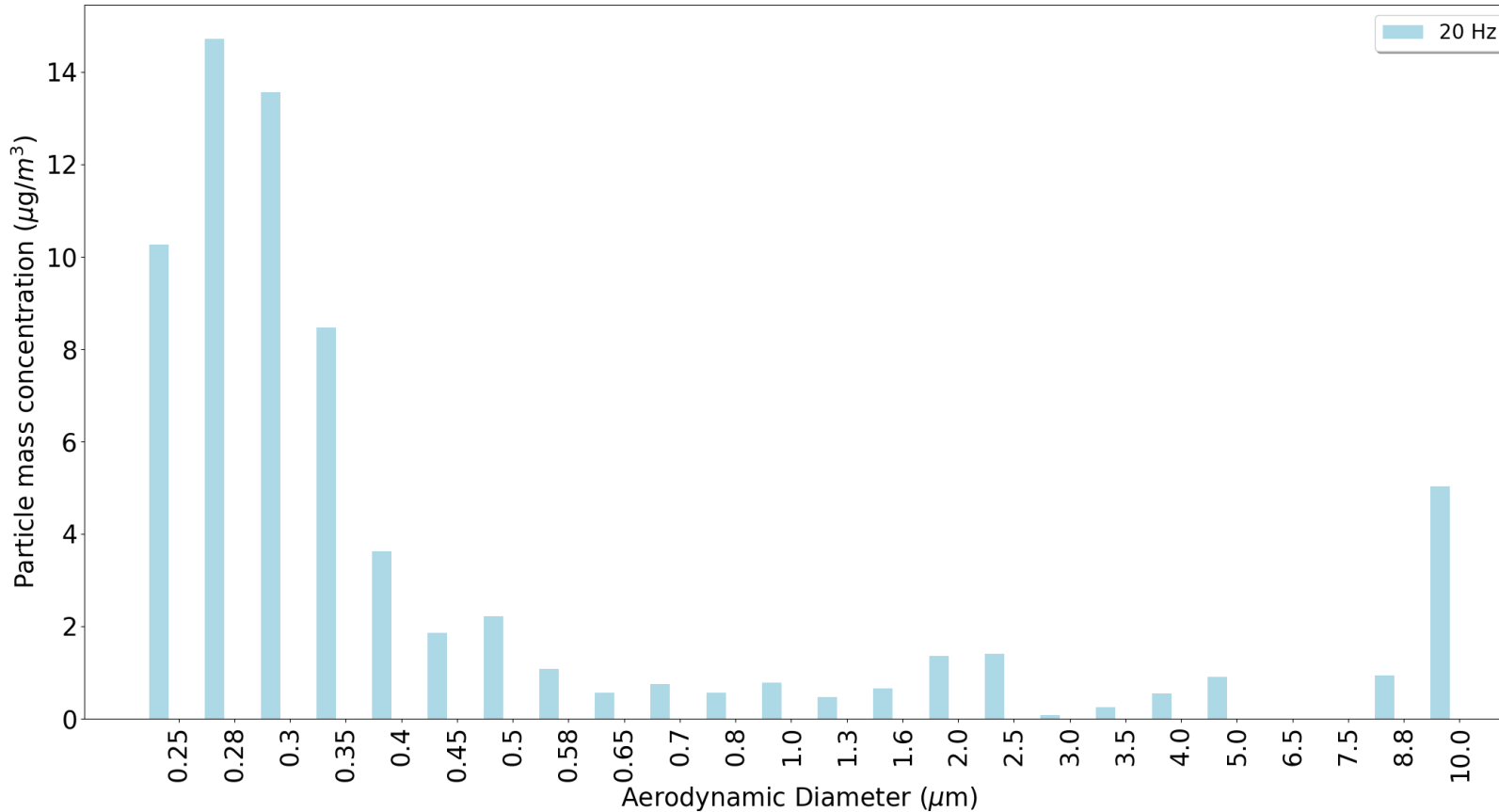


- Wide range of concentrations: 6 – 230 µg/m³
- Stability (5 different experiments, 300 min each)
- Reproducibility (3 repeated experiments, shaded area is std error)

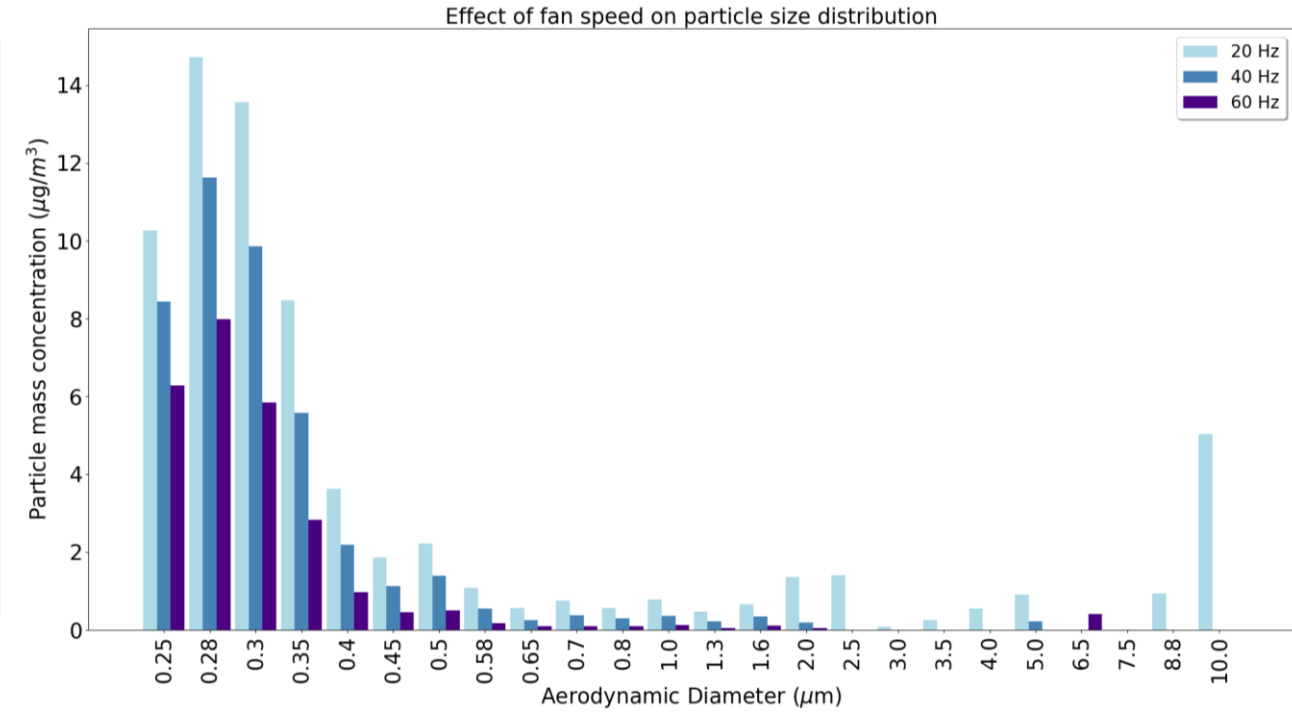
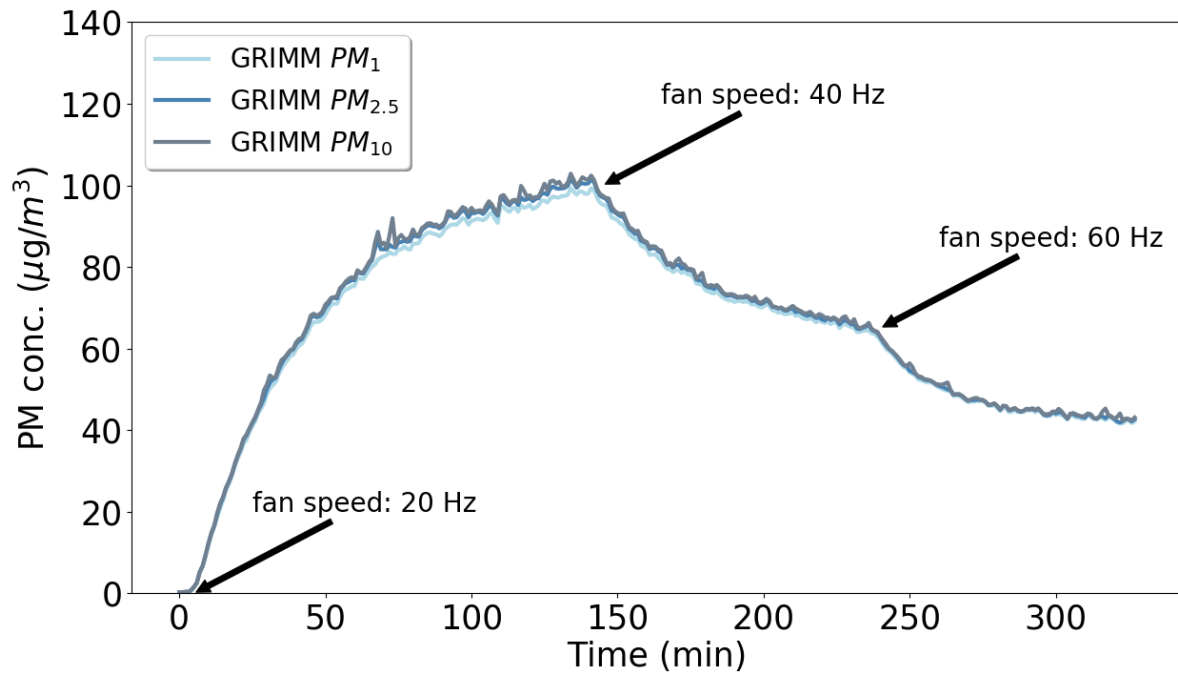


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- 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- GRIMM EDM180
- 0.25-32 μm in aerodynamic particle diameters
- 31 in total size channels

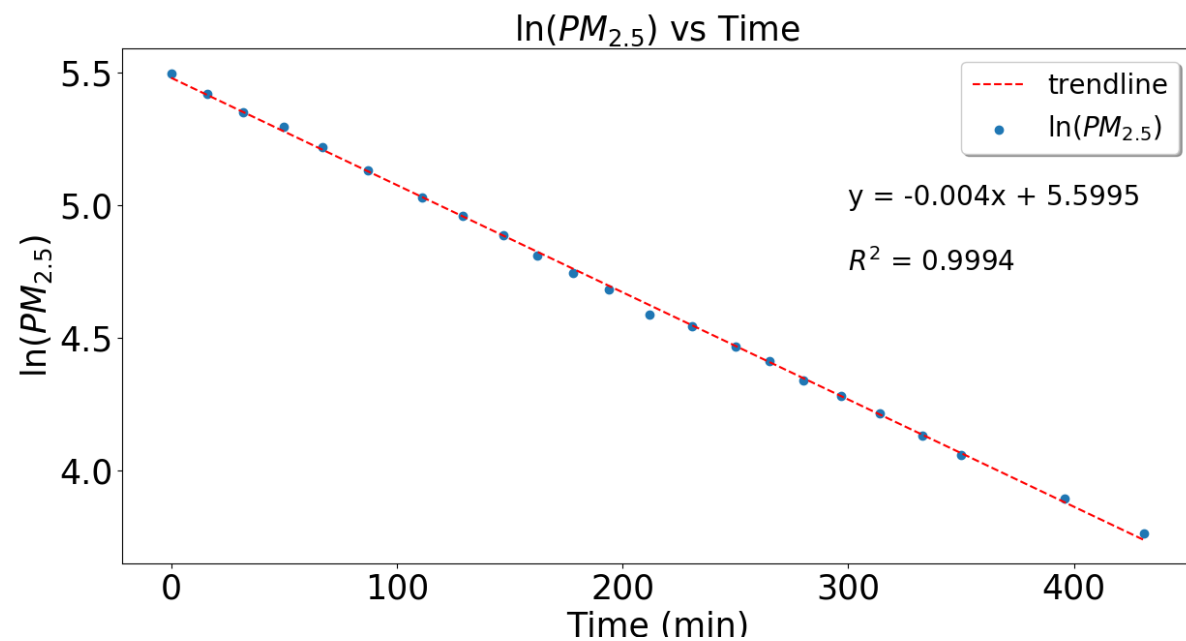
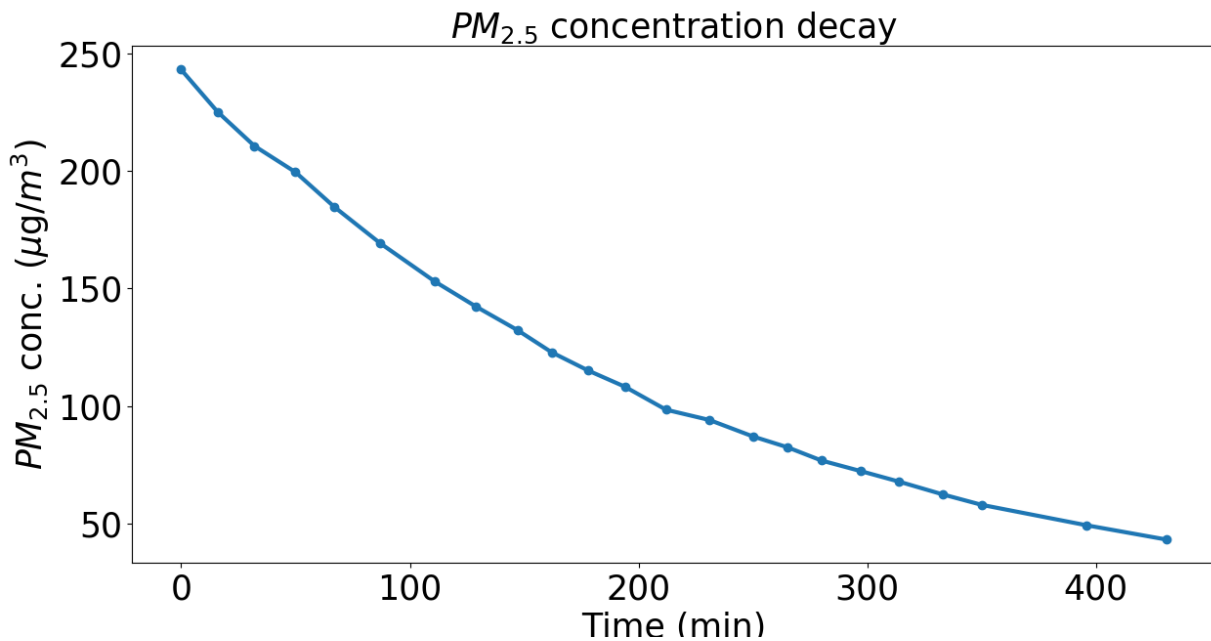


- T = 0 min, started experiment, fans frequency at 20 Hz
- T = 150 min, adjusted to 40 Hz
- T = 210 min, adjusted to 60 Hz

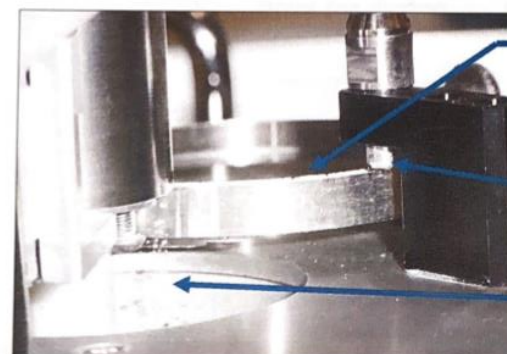
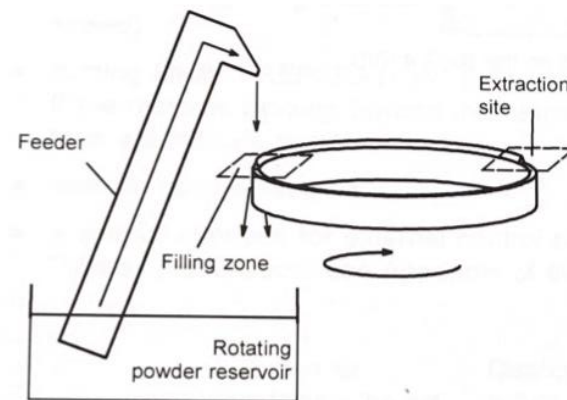


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Dust dispenser



Shaped body of powder
on dosing ring

Intake (sucking in) of the
powder

Dropping of excess
powder

Figure 4: Principle of the SAG 410/U



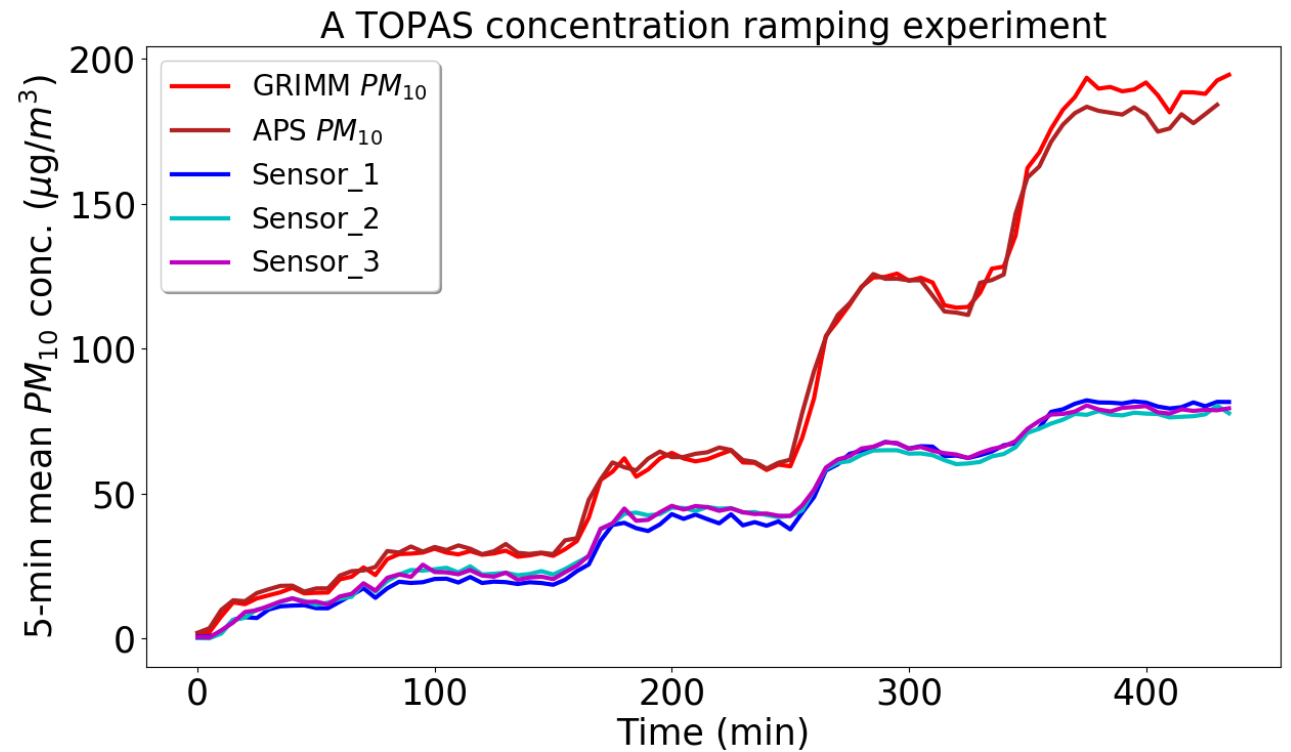
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- ISO 12103-A4 (Coarse) Arizona Test Dust
- Dryness (Hygroscopicity) of the standard dust
 - Dust is vacuum dried prior to use
 - Dust box is purged with dry air continuously
- Feeding belt speed (%)
- Chamber fans speed

APS conc. is corrected for ATD density (2.6 g/cm^3)

	Feed (s)	Cycle (s)
step 1	1	30
step 2	1	20
step 3	2	20
step 4	4	20
step 5	6	20

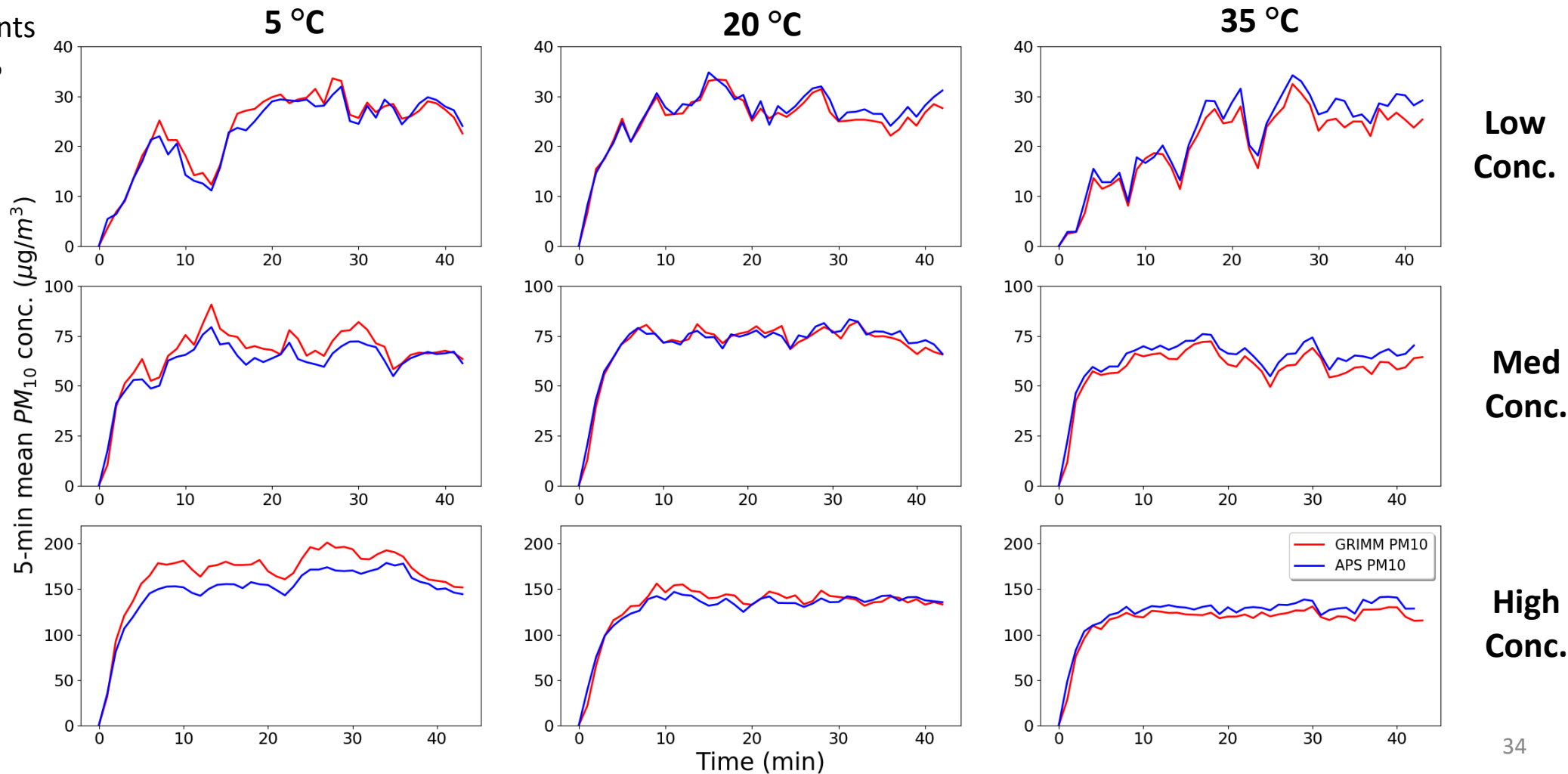




AQ-SPEC

Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

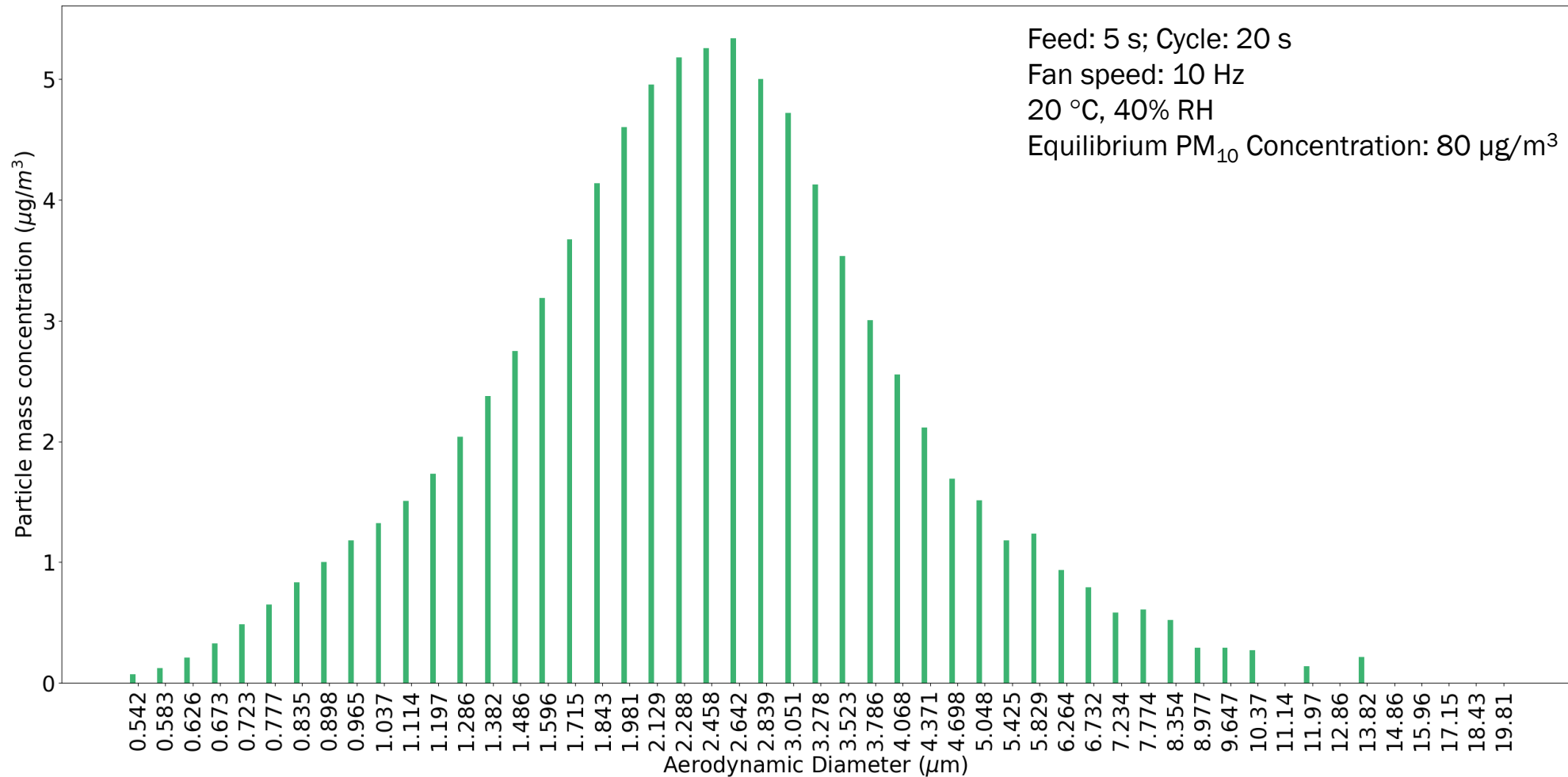
Relative Humidity
Ramping Experiments
15% to 40% to 65%

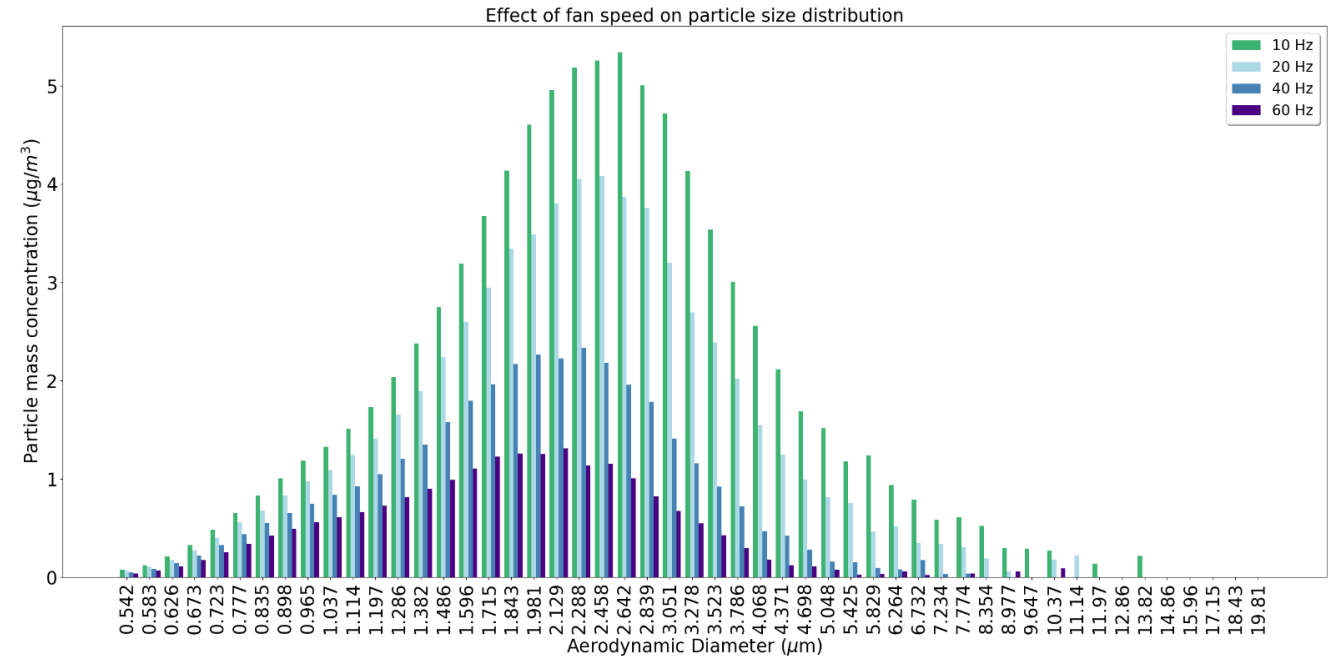
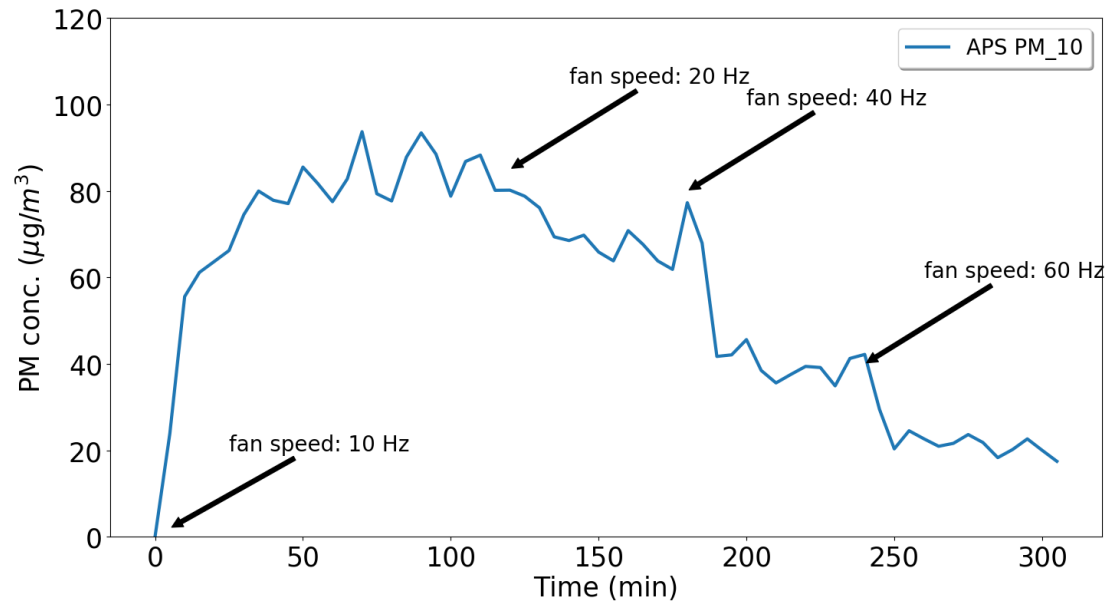




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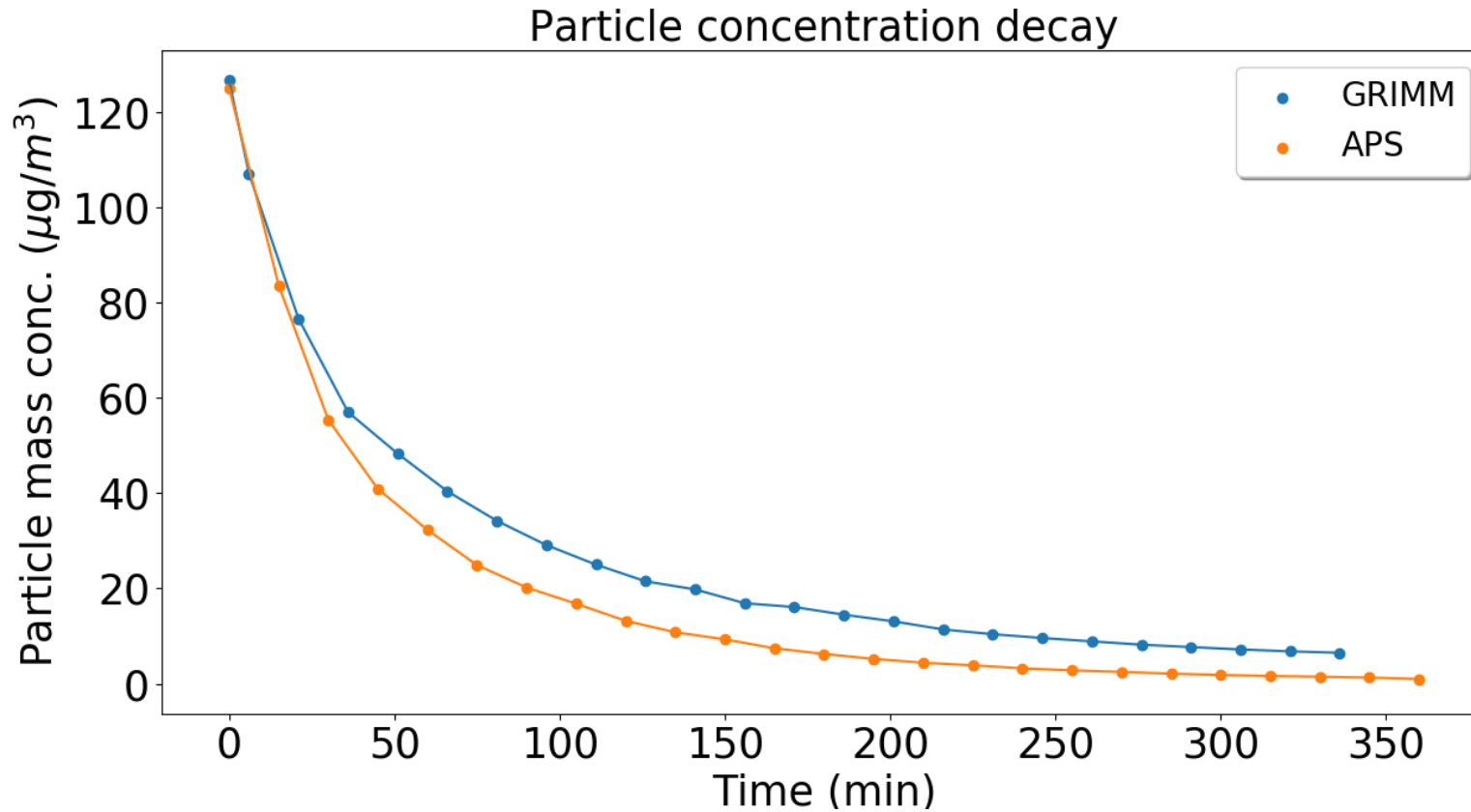


- T = 0 min started experiment at 10Hz (Feed 5s; Cycle 20s), $80 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- T = 120 min, adjusted frequency at 20 Hz, $62 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- T = 180 min, adjusted frequency at 40 Hz, $41 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- T = 240 min, adjusted frequency at 60 Hz, $23 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



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T/RH combinations for sensor testing

	Temperature (°C)		
Relative Humidity (%)	5 °C / 15% (Low / Low)	20 °C / 15%	35 °C / 15%
	5 °C / 40%	20 °C / 40%	35 °C / 40%
	5 °C / 65%	20 °C / 65%	35 °C / 65% (High / High)

Pollutant	PM
Level/units	(µg/m ³)
Very low	10
Low	15
Medium	50
High	150
Very High	300



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Evaluation Parameters:

- ✓ Intra-model variability
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Precision
- ✓ Coefficient of Determination (R^2)
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ Climate Susceptibility
- ✓ Interferents (e.g., monodisperse aerosols)



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$$\text{Intra-model variability (\%)} = \frac{\text{Mean}_{\text{highest}} - \text{Mean}_{\text{lowest}}}{\text{Mean}_{\text{average}}} * 100$$

where,

$\text{Mean}_{\text{highest}}$ is the highest of the three sensors' average concentrations

$\text{Mean}_{\text{lowest}}$ is the lowest of the three sensors' average concentrations

$\text{Mean}_{\text{average}}$ is the average of the three sensors' average concentrations

Accuracy

$$A (\%) = 100 - \frac{|\bar{X} - \bar{R}|}{\bar{R}} * 100$$

where,

\bar{X} is the average concentration measured by the three sensors throughout the steady-state period considered

\bar{R} is the reference instrument average concentration during the same steady-state period



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Precision

$$P (\%) = 100 - \frac{\overline{SE}_{\text{sensor}}}{\bar{X}} * 100$$

where,

$\overline{SE}_{\text{sensor}}$ is the standard error of the averaged concentrations of the three sensors during the steady-state period considered

\bar{X} is the average concentration measured by the three sensors throughout the same steady-state period

$$SE_{\text{sensor}} = \frac{\sqrt{\sum (X - \bar{X})^2}}{n}$$

where,

X is the average value of the three sensors concentrations at different times during the steady-state period considered

\bar{X} is the average concentration measured by the three sensors throughout the same steady-state period



Coefficient of Determination (R^2)

- Measures the linear relationship between the sensor and the Federal Reference Method (FRM), or Federal Equivalent Method (FEM), or Best Available Technology (BAT) reference instrument
- Lab R^2 values in these reports are based either on 5-min or 1-hr average data in chamber experiments, under average ambient conditions (20 °C and 40% RH)

$$\text{Data recovery (\%)} = \frac{N_{\text{valid data}}}{N_{\text{test period}}} * 100$$

where,

$N_{\text{valid data}}$ is the number of valid sensor data points during the testing period

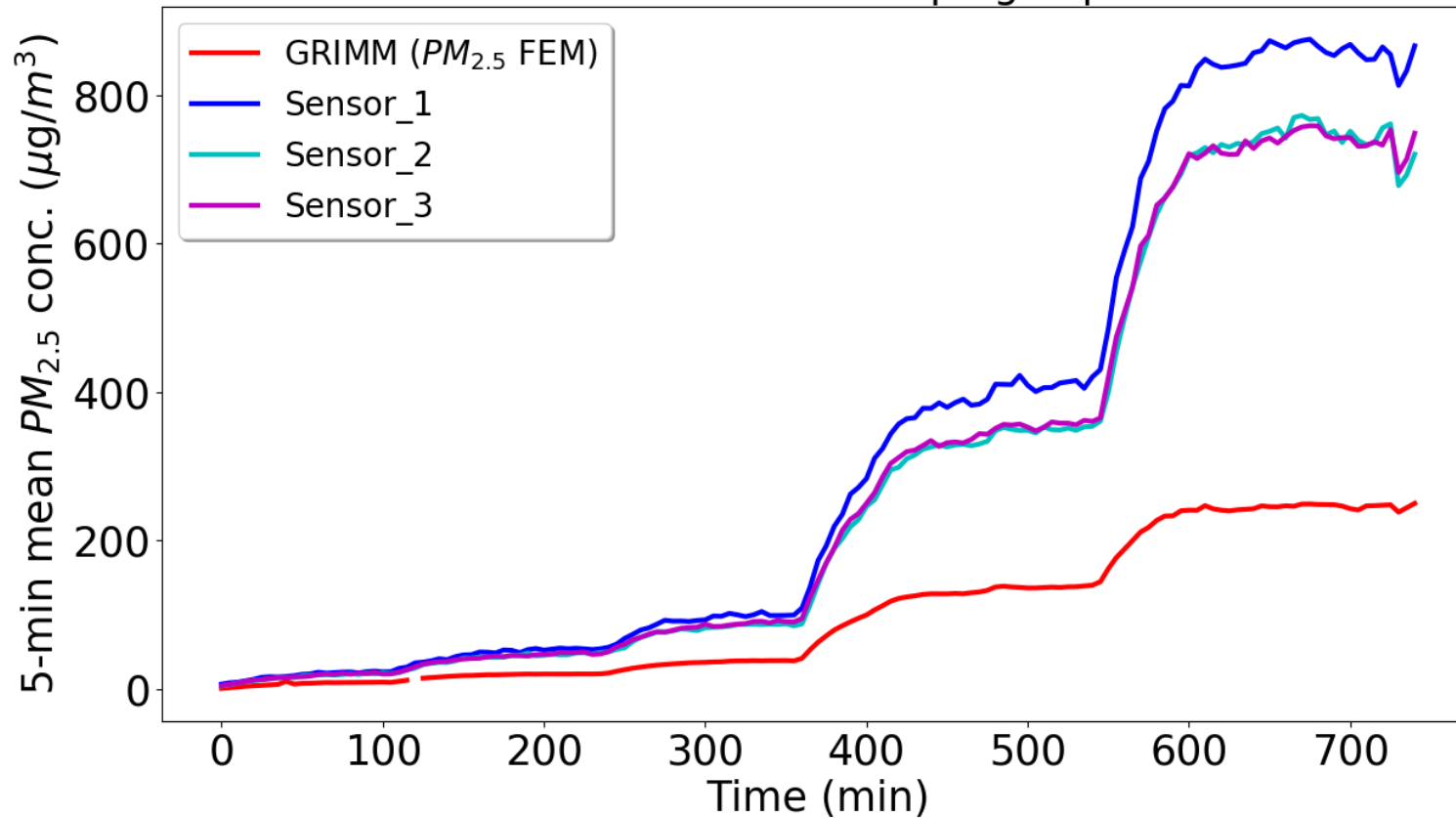
$N_{\text{test period}}$ is the total number of data points for the testing period (from start to end)



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A PALAS concentration ramping experiment





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Advantages:

- ✓ State-of-the-art system designed to systematically evaluate the performance of low-cost sensors
- ✓ Stable and reproducible $PM_{2.5}$ aerosol atmospheres
- ✓ Wide range of known target/interferent pollutant concentrations, temperature and relative humidity conditions
- ✓ Ability for sensor calibration
- ✓ Sensor data communication options (e.g., external laptop/computer, Ethernet, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth)

Challenges:

- Due to nature of test particles, PM_{10} atmospheres may be less stable
- Sensor performance degradation experiments
- Temperature and RH cycling tests for long periods of time



What's next for AQ-SPEC?

- Develop methods to test VOC and CH₄ sensors (CA state rule AB 617, South Coast R1180)
- Develop ASTM D22.05 test standard for performance verification of IAQ sensors measuring PM_{2.5} and CO₂
- Collaborate in the development of ASTM D22.03 test method for performance evaluation of ambient air quality sensors and other sensor-based instruments
- Calibrate sensors for the various AQMD/AQ-SPEC sensor deployments (e.g., EPA STAR Grant)
- Continue the conversation about a sensor certification/performance verification program

Sensor Performance Verification/Certification Program?

➤ Which pollutant(s) / sensor type(s)?

- Are PM (e.g., particle counters) and Ozone (e.g., electrochemical) sensors good candidates?



➤ “Certified” for which use/application?

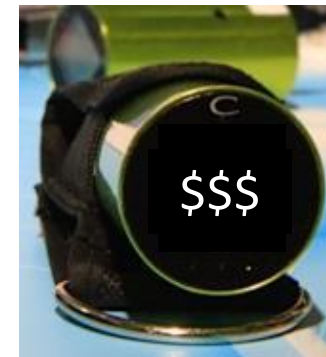
- Regulatory?
- Permitting?
- Fenceline?
- Citizen science?
- Community monitoring?
- Other?



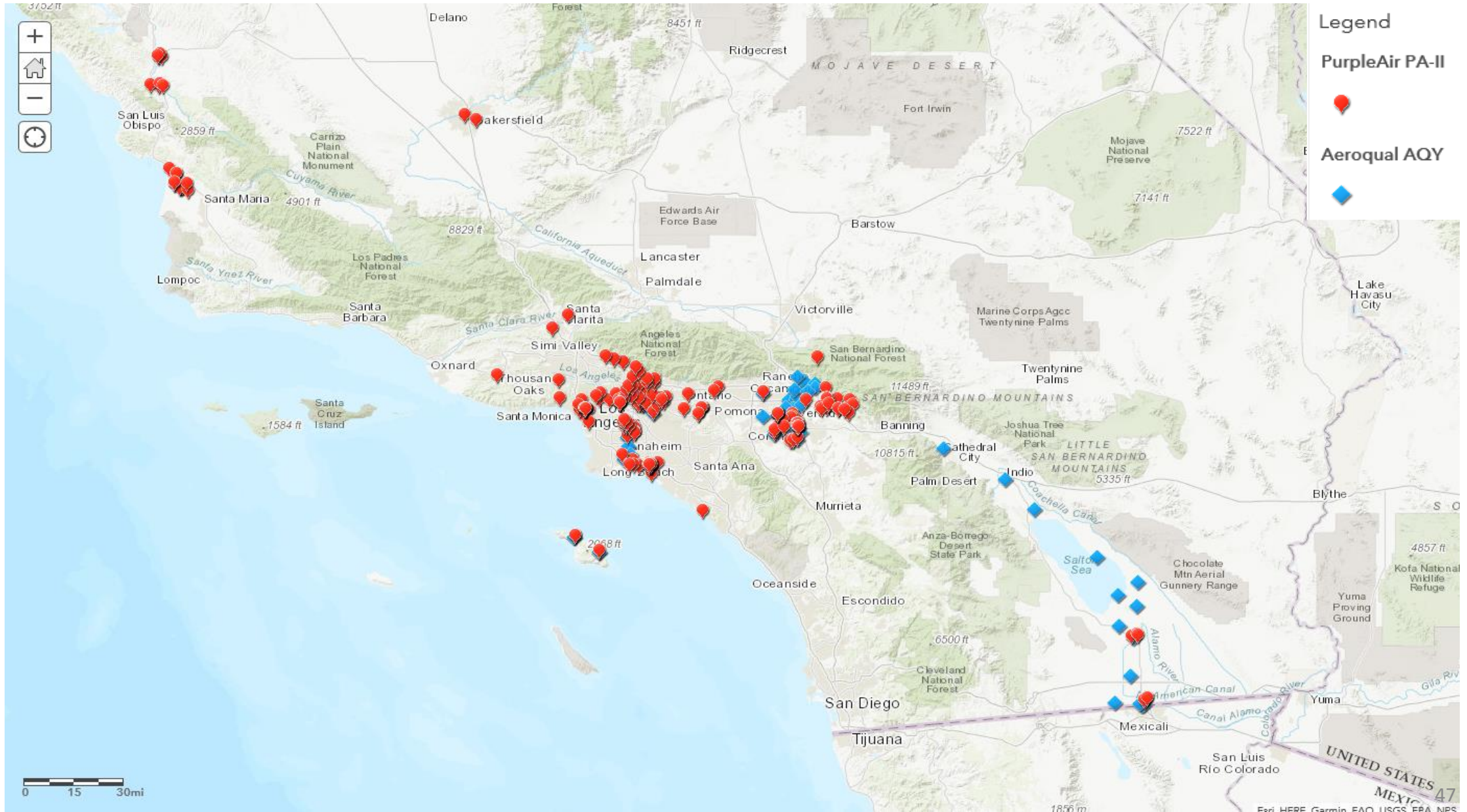
.....for what?

➤ Very expensive to implement correctly

- Multiple field testing locations across the Nation
- Multiple laboratory testing facilities
- Extended testing time



Sensor Deployment Across California



Sensor Data and/or “Sensor” Data

1. Calibration – Factory:

- Slope/Offset calculations

2. Calibration – Field:

FEM U.S. EPA/TÜV: Zero-ing and adjustment at start of test

3. Test criteria – Field:

- Field pre-calibration:
 - Data completeness
 - Long-term drift
 - Between instrument uncertainty
 - Expanded uncertainty
- No field pre-calibration:
 - Coefficient of determination (R^2)

4. Algorithms:

- Correct interferences (e.g., RH), part of field calibration?
- AI function:
 - Pre-set and applied during field calibration?
 - Developed, selected, modified during field calibration or evaluation period?

5. Cloud-based systems:

- Scrape online pollutant or meteorological data from monitoring stations nearby

6. Software upgrades, “over-the-air”:

- Bug fixes
- Sensor algorithm changes
- Sensor level firmware upgrades
- New functionality
- New features
- New calibration

7. ...???



Outline

- Networks of Air Quality Sensors
- Sensor Network Design (3 projects)
 - Identify project goals and air monitoring application
 - Connectivity requirements
 - Hardware selection
 - Data storage, analytics, and visualizations options
- Development of a cloud data management application



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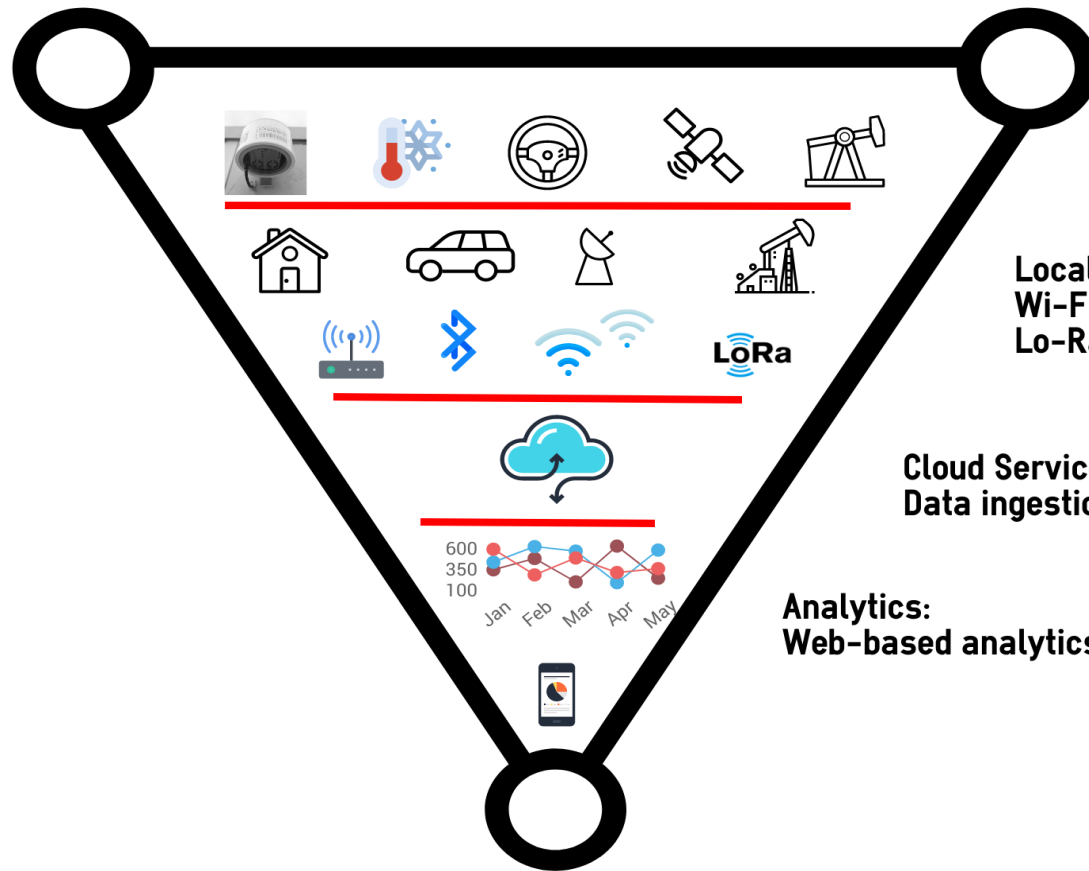
Acronyms and Terms

- IoT – Internet of Things
- SaaS – Software as a Service
- PaaS – Platform as a Service
- API – Application Programming Interface

Disclaimer

The South Coast Air Quality Management District does not endorse individual vendors, products or services. Therefore, any reference herein to any vendor, product or services by trade name, trademark, or manufacturer or otherwise does not constitute or imply the endorsement, recommendation or approval of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Model for Internet of Things (Air Quality)



Things that Sense:
Air Quality Sensors (Stationary and mobile)
Weather stations, Satellite Remote Sensing

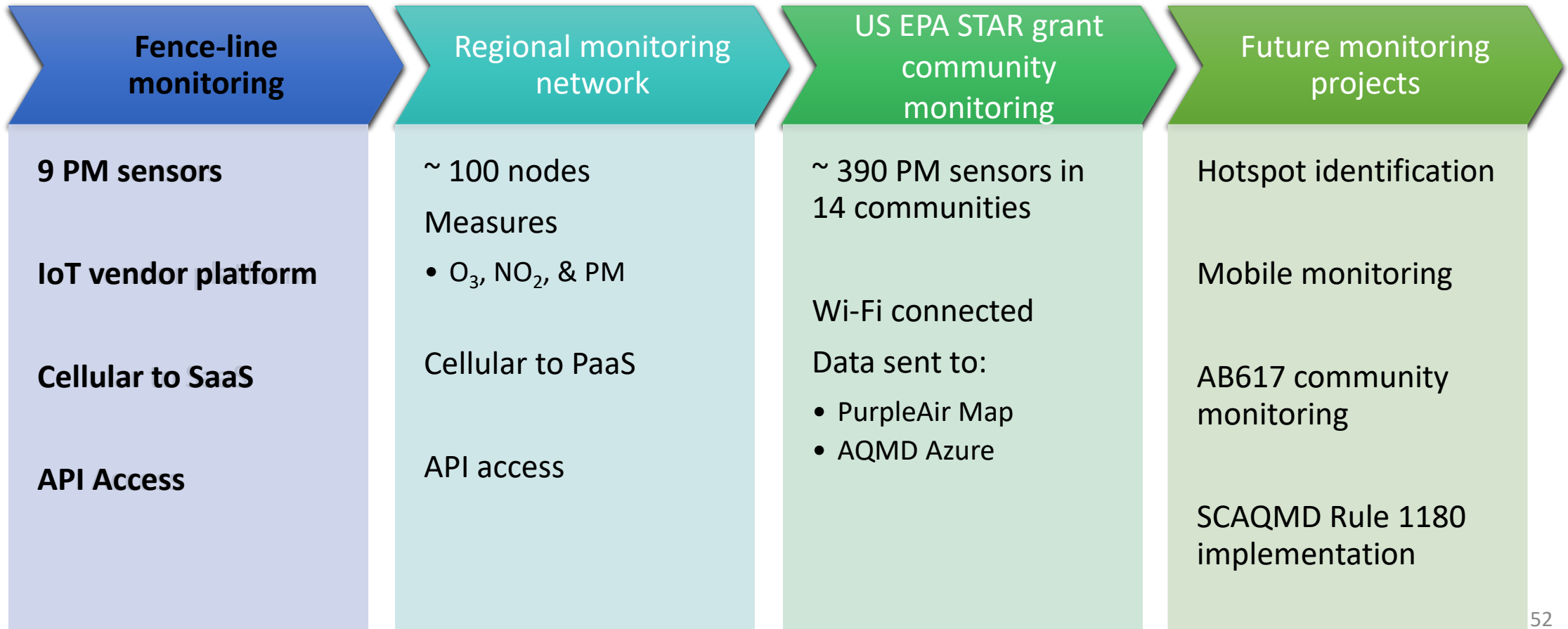
Local Network:
Wi-Fi (Home / Facility), Connected Cars, Bluetooth,
Lo-Ra, Cellular, Zigbee radio network, satellite receiver

Cloud Services:
Data ingestion, transformation, and storage

Analytics:
Web-based analytics, dashboards, and applications



SCAQMD Sensor projects





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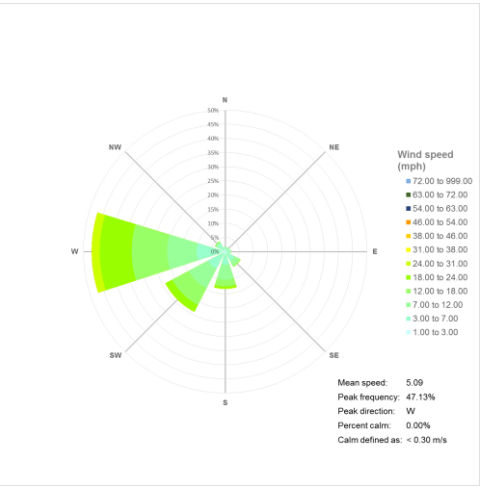
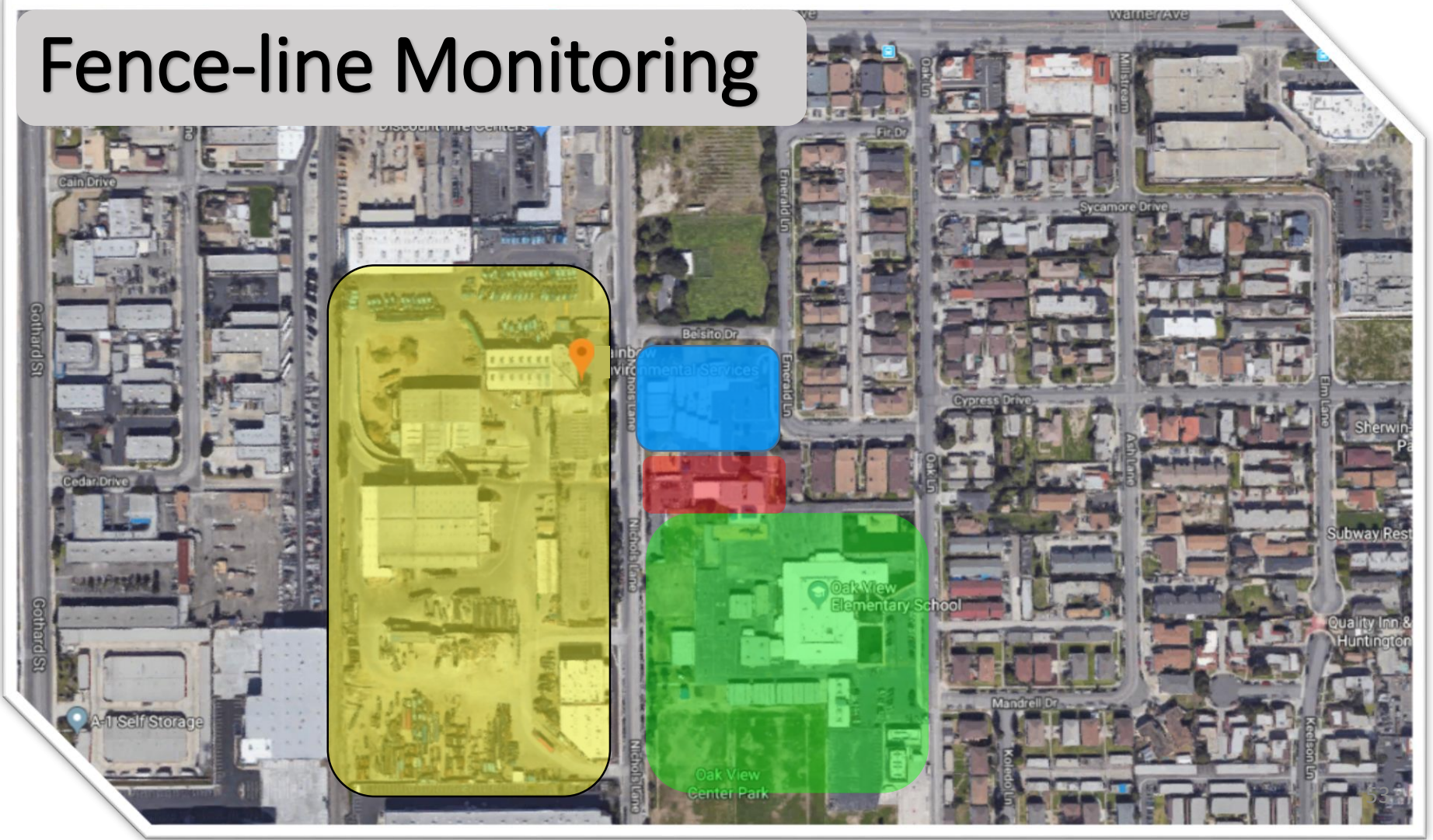
14 Acre Waste Transfer Facility

Pre School Campus

Head start Academy

Elementary School

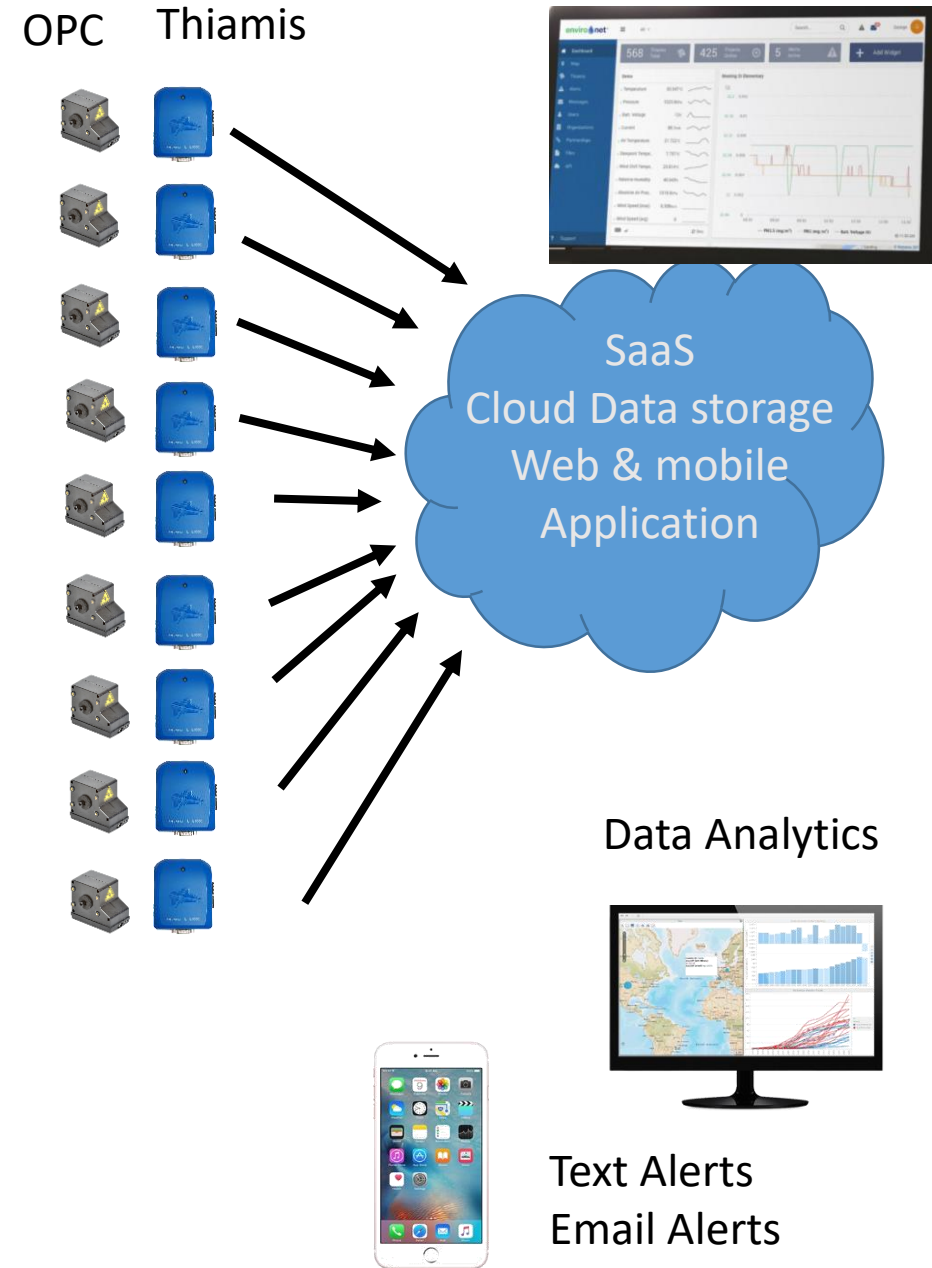
Fence-line Monitoring





Fence-line Monitoring

- 9 sensors measuring PM
- Wireless connectivity
- Power independence
- Remote Access to data / device

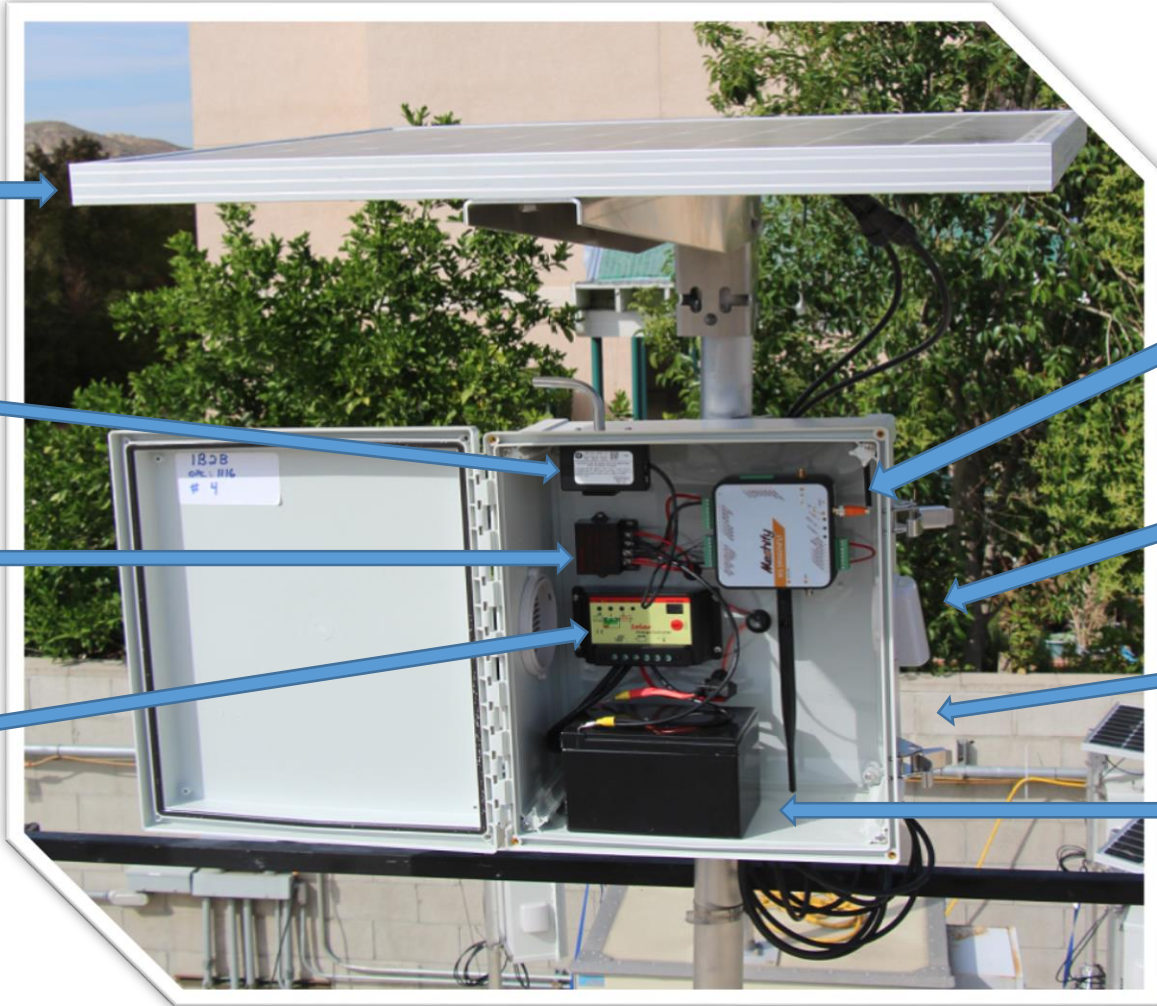




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\$1500 / device



Solar Panel & pole mount
~ \$120

Alphasense OPC
~ \$400

Power Converter
~ \$10

Charge Controller
~ \$20

IOT Connectivity Hardware
~ \$750

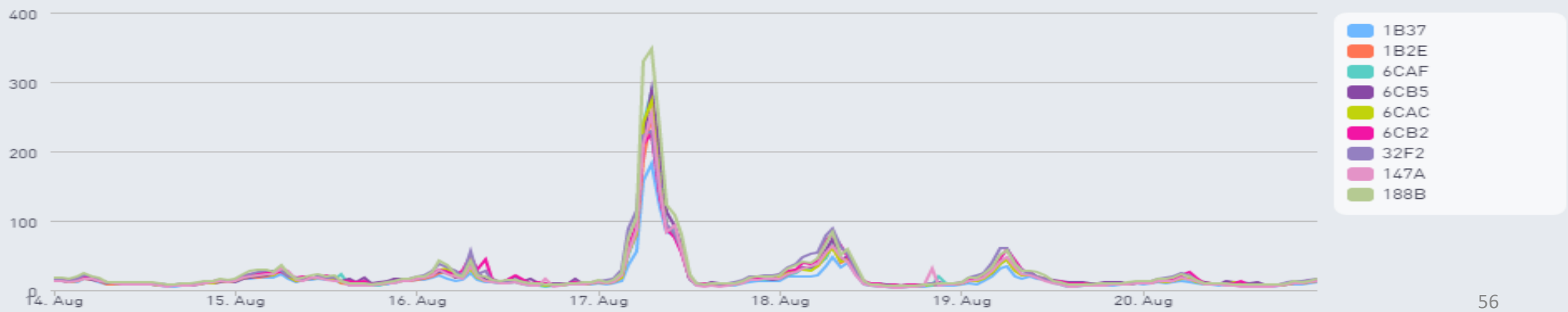
Box Vents
~ \$10

Enclosure with mounting kit
~ \$70

12V Battery
~ \$30 \$130



PM2.5 Average Chart [2016-08-14 to 2016-08-20, hourly]





AQ-SPEC

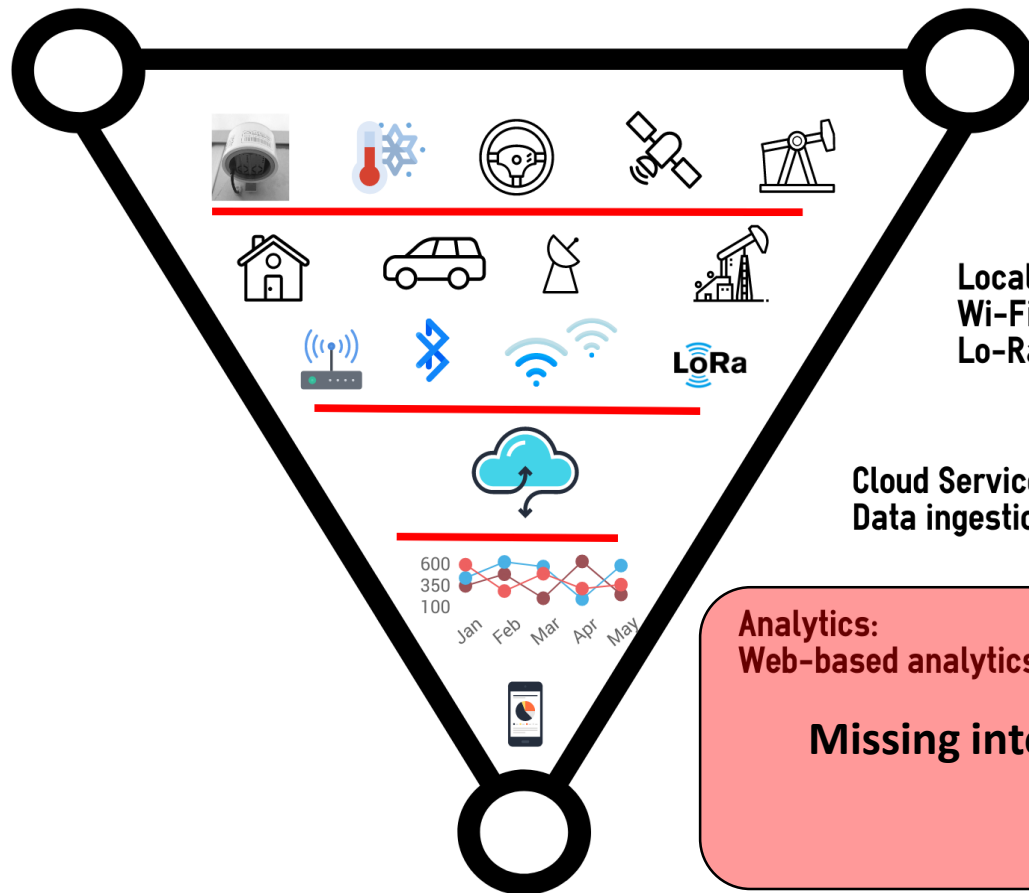
Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

Software as a Service (SaaS): [Environet](#)

The screenshot shows the Environet dashboard interface. At the top left is the 'enviro net' logo. To its right is a hamburger menu icon and the text 'AQ-SPEC'. On the far right of the top bar are a warning icon, an email icon, the name 'Brandon', and a profile icon 'BF'. Below the top bar is a summary row with three cards: '14 Devices Total', '9 Devices Online', and '0 Alerts Active'. To the right of these cards is a '+ Add Widget' button. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with items: Dashboard, Map, Devices, Alerts, Messages, Users, Organizations, Partnerships, Files, and API. The main content area is a grid of 16 widget cards, each representing a different location and its sensor data. Each card has a title, a 2x2 grid of sensor readings, and a refresh icon at the bottom right.

Location	PM2.5	Pressure	Temperature	Batt. Voltage	Refresh
MRF (1)	3.53 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1012.8 hPa	26.1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.2V	<1 min
MRF (2)	3.53 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1012.8 hPa	26.1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.2V	<1 min
NW	4.955 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1011.5 hPa	28.2 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.3V	<1 min
Transfer	5.304 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	25.2 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.2V		<1 min
CNG	6.969 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1014.7 hPa	29.1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.2V	<1 min
Gate 6	11.135 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1009.6 hPa	29.3 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.5V	<1 min
Gate 7	8.784 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1012.1 hPa	27.4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	12.8V	2 min
Gate 4	2.752 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1025.5 hPa	29.3 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	13.4V	<1 min

Model for Internet of Things (Air Quality)



Things that Sense:
Air Quality Sensors (Stationary and mobile)
Weather stations, Satellite Remote Sensing

Local Network:
Wi-Fi (Home / Facility), Connected Cars, Bluetooth,
Lo-Ra, Cellular, Zigbee radio network, satellite receiver

Cloud Services:
Data ingestion, transformation, and storage

Analytics:
Web-based analytics, dashboards, and applications

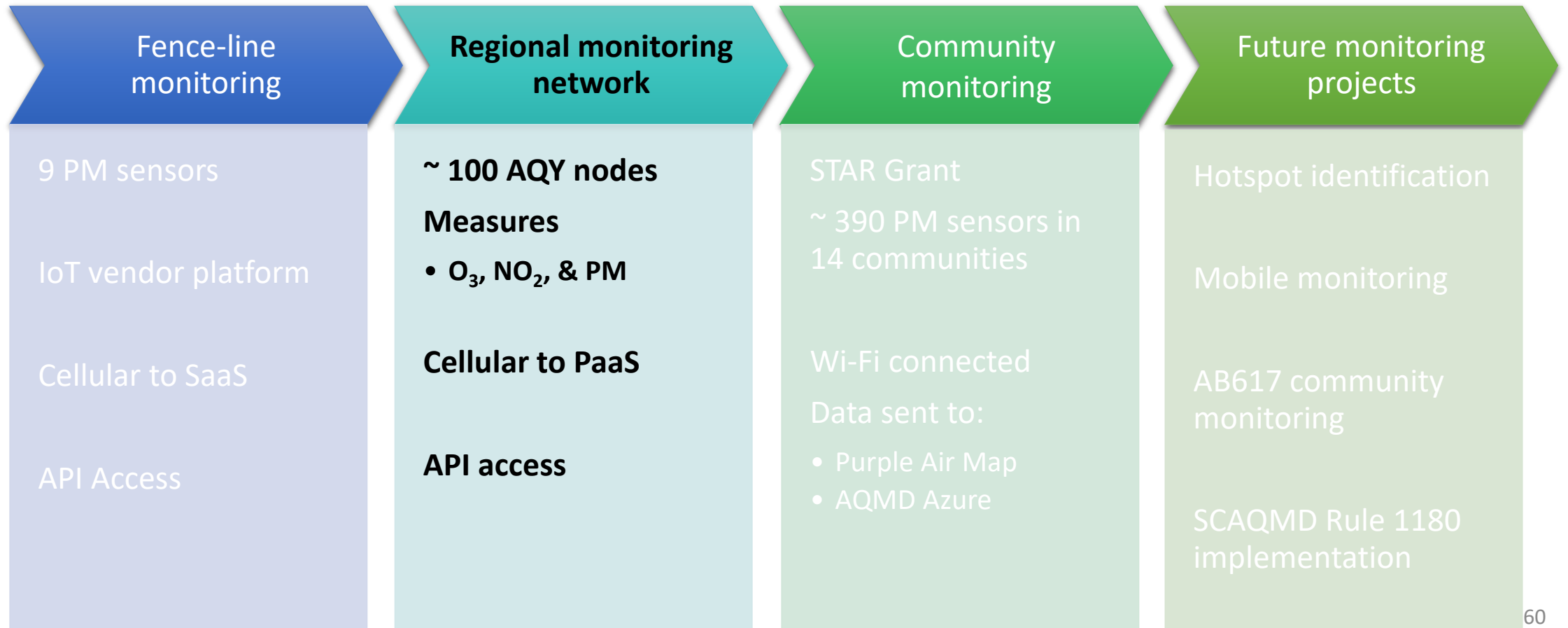
Missing interface and analytics for external Stakeholders

Fence-line Network Review

Decision	Pros	Cons	Outcomes
900 MHz Radio network	Reduced cellular cost	Low Data Recovery	Convert to cellular
Independent power and connectivity	Not reliant on regulated facility	Initial battery purchase 12V sealed lead acid (SLA)	Convert to Li-ion batteries
SaaS solution	Fast development with integrating raw sensor to cloud data store Customer support for IoT hardware and platform Device Management	High initial cost for hardware Ongoing monthly subscription cost Limited analytics on SaaS platform	Use API to access data on an alternative platform



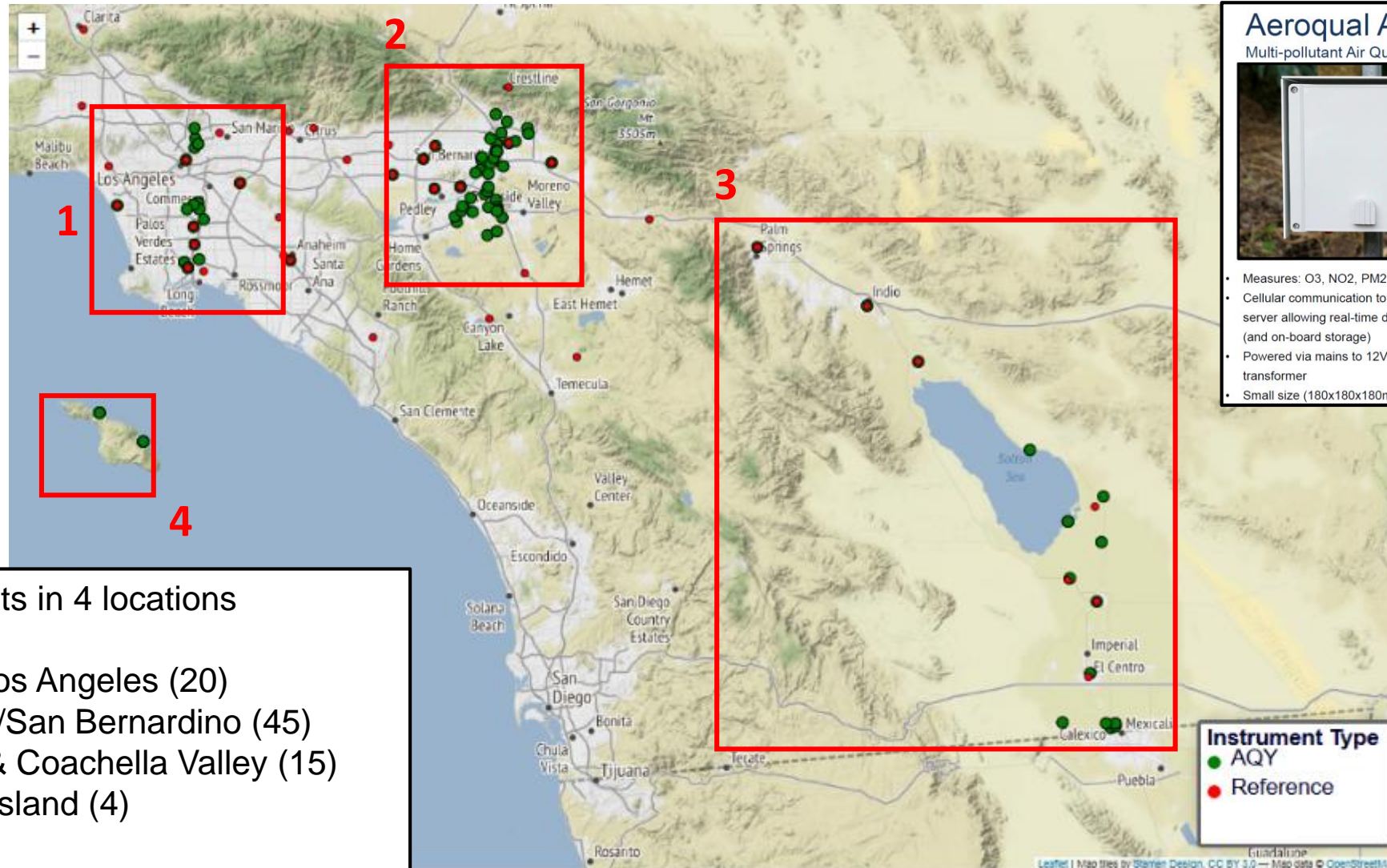
SCAQMD Sensor projects






Regional Monitoring Network Aims

- Wide-spread deployment across the South Coast Air Basin
 - Connectivity that works in a variety of locations
 - Collaborate with entities that can provide multiple sensor locations
 - School Districts, Cities, Counties, & Libraries
- Wide-spread collocation at reference air monitoring stations
 - Build models for improving sensor performance
 - Understand sensor performance degradation over time
- Good performance in AQ-SPEC evaluation
- Platform as a Service
 - Device management
 - Data management



Aeroqual AQY
Multi-pollutant Air Quality Monitor



- Measures: O3, NO2, PM2.5, PM10, T/RH/DP
- Cellular communication to Aeroqual Cloud server allowing real-time data acquisition (and on-board storage)
- Powered via mains to 12V step down transformer
- Small size (180x180x180mm)

92 instruments in 4 locations

- 1 - Central Los Angeles (20)
- 2 - Riverside/San Bernardino (45)
- 3 - Imperial & Coachella Valley (15)
- 4 - Catalina Island (4)



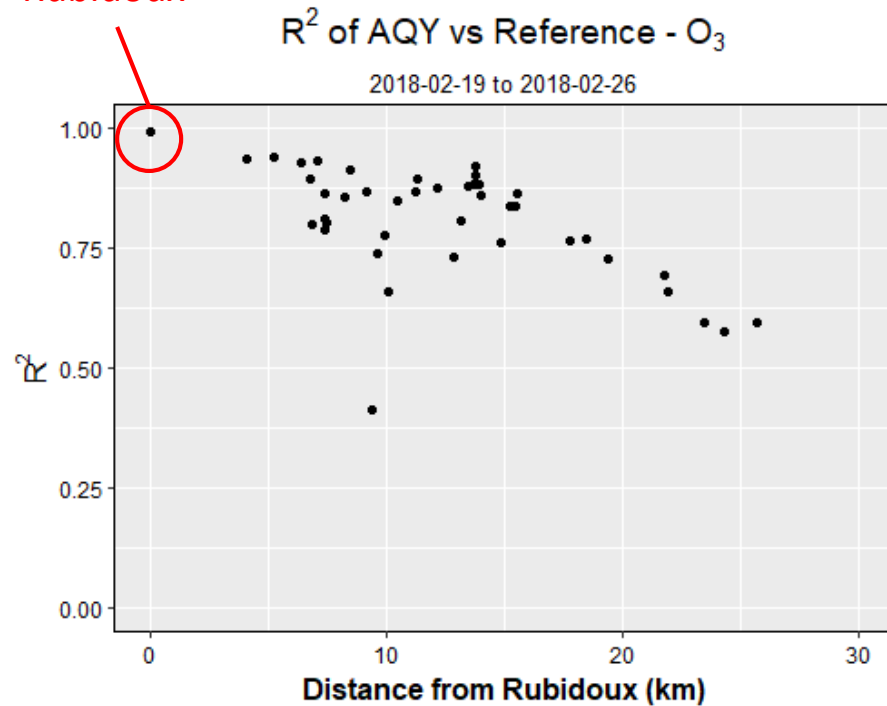
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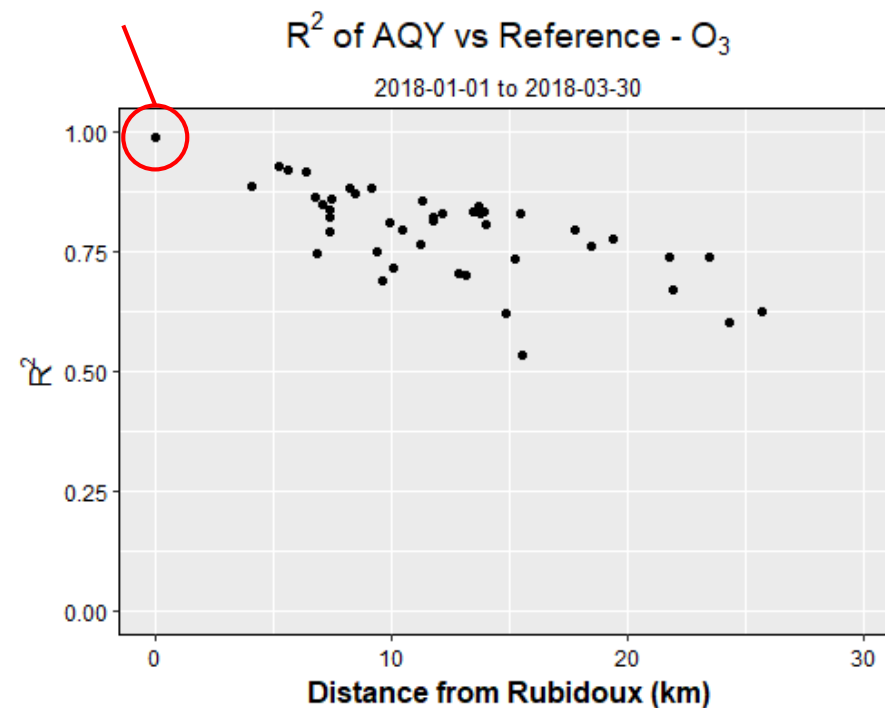


R^2 (AQY vs Reference) vs Distance: Ozone

Rubidoux

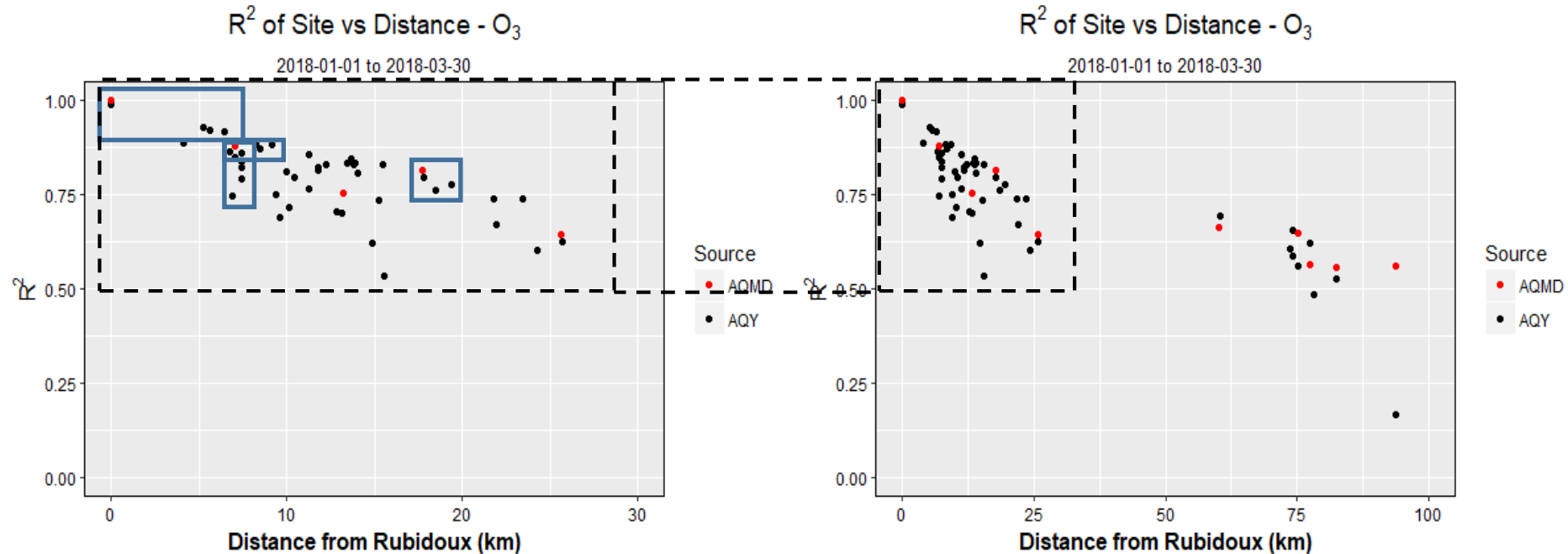


Rubidoux



- A one week 'snapshot' is similar to the 3 month period

R² (AQY vs Reference) vs Distance: Ozone

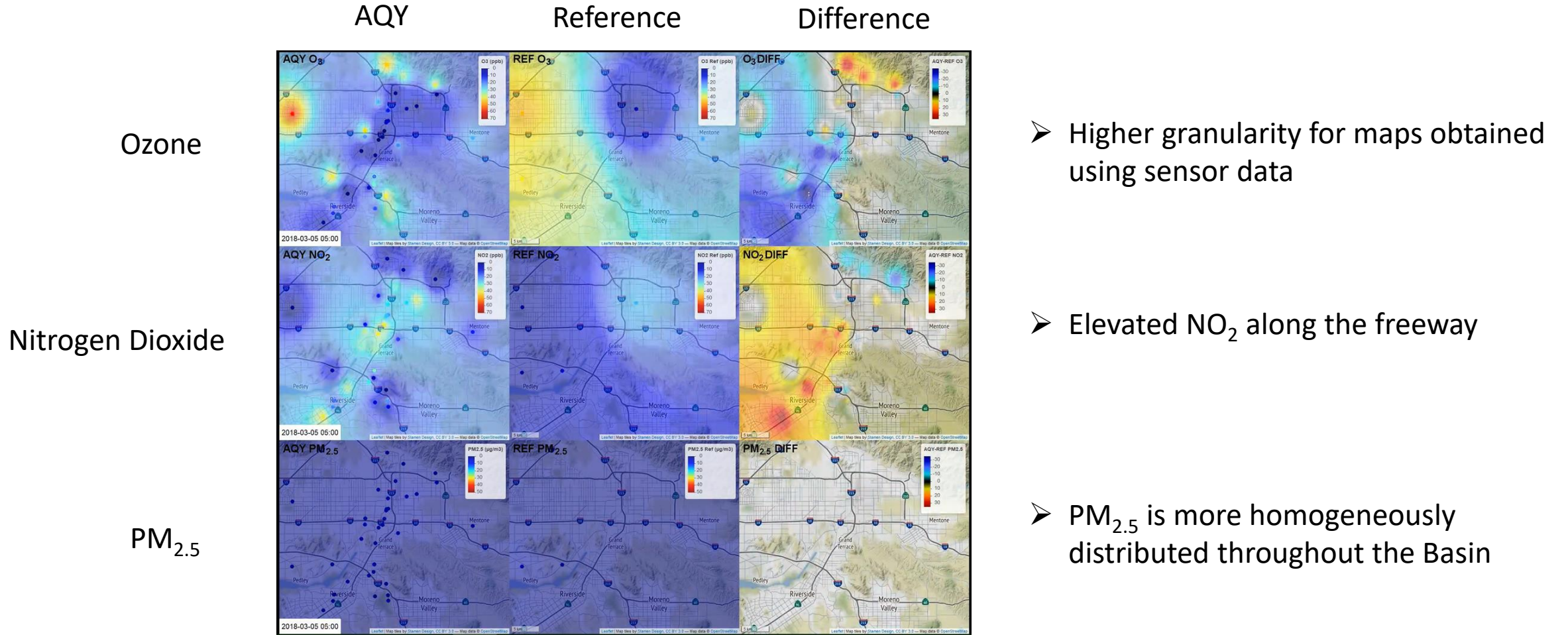


- Data Quality Objectives = 90% (R²)
- Correlation not always linear with distance; site location and characteristics also a factor
- How often should the sensor data be corrected using this procedure? Quarterly so far



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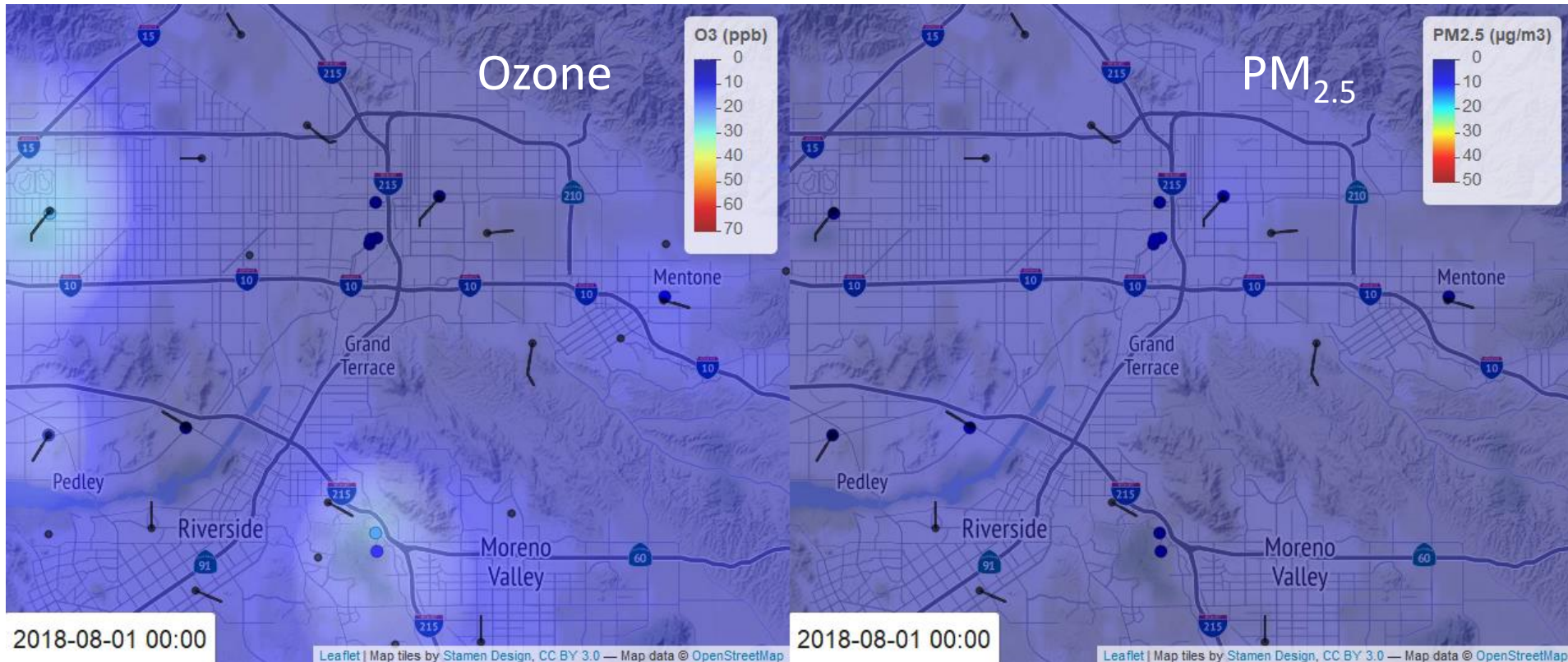
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- Higher granularity for maps obtained using sensor data
- Elevated NO₂ along the freeway
- PM_{2.5} is more homogeneously distributed throughout the Basin

*Inverse distance weighted interpolation

Aeroqual AQY - Heat map animations





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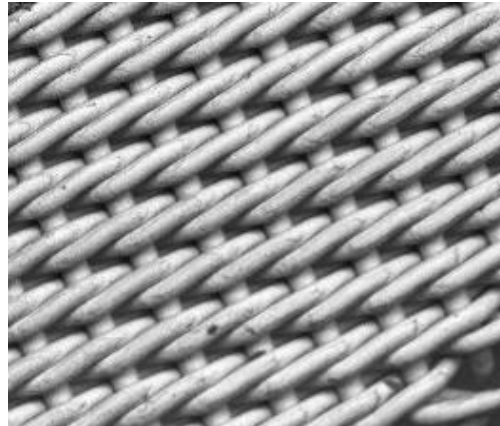
Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

Performance over time: The project has shown PM accumulates on the O₃ sensor inlet mesh over time reducing flow and sensitivity

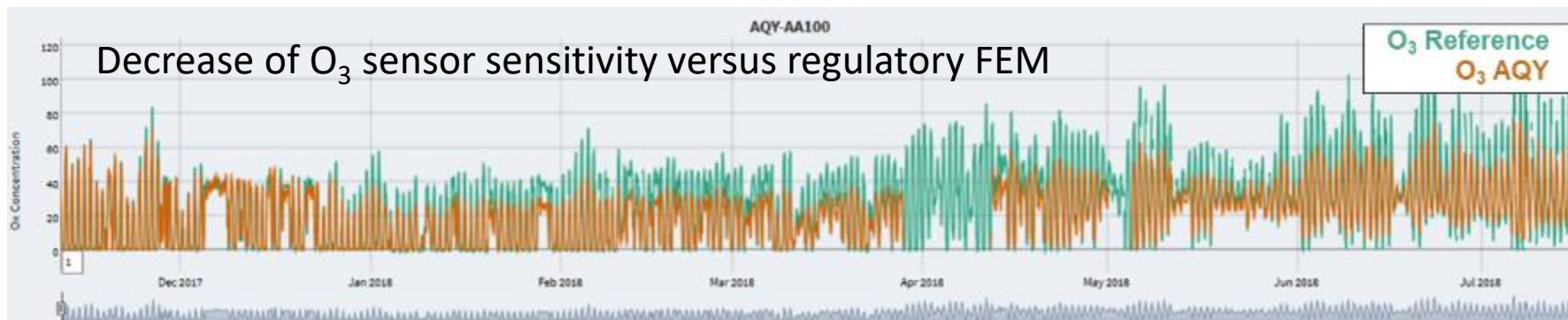
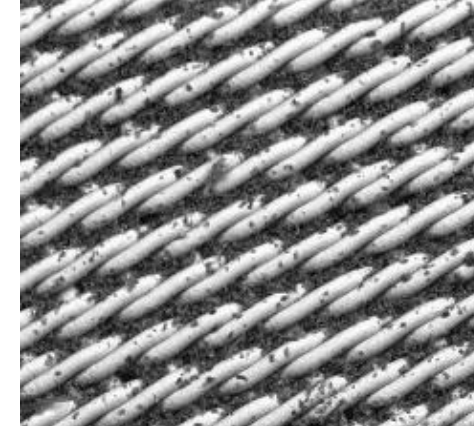
O₃ sensor inlet



mesh at start



mesh after 6 months

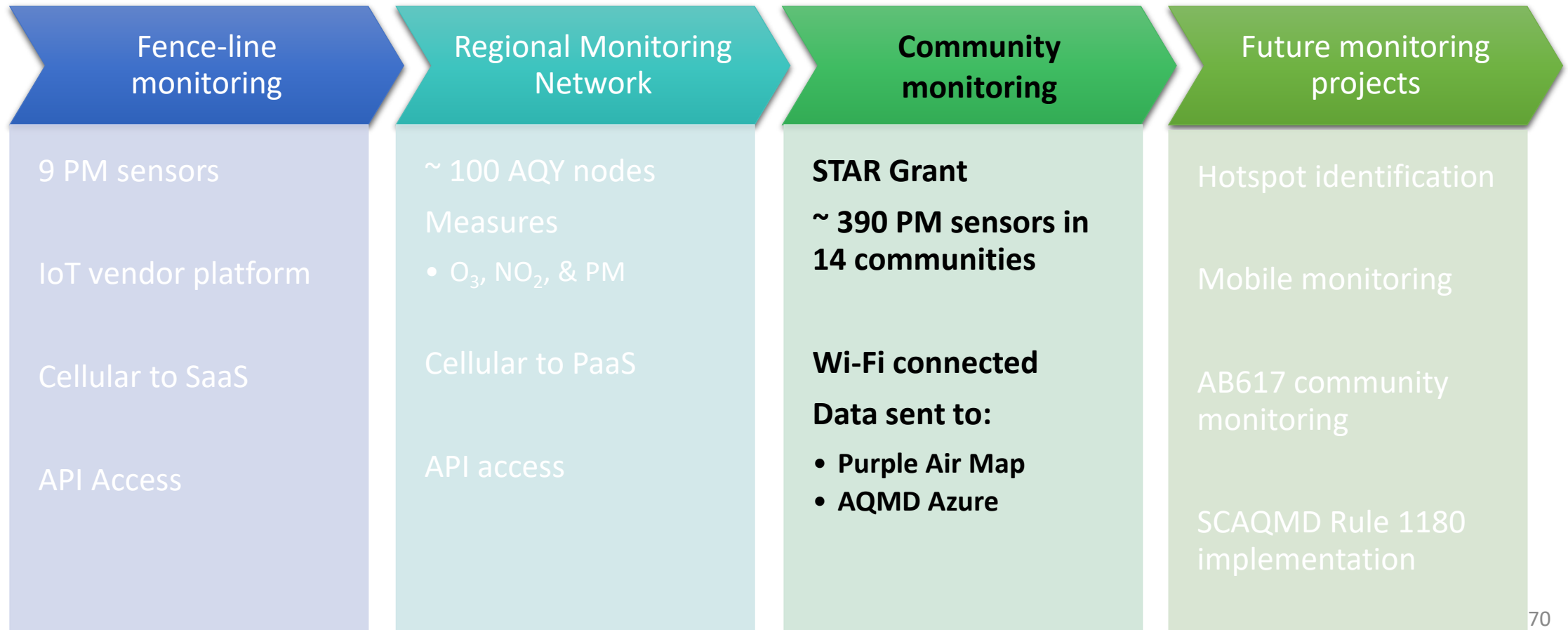


Regional Network Review

Decision	Pros	Cons	Outcomes
Cellular w/ Wi-Fi option	Strong & ubiquitous connectivity	Increase cost	If cellular unavailable, can program for Wi-Fi
Platform as a Service (PaaS)	<p>Able to create user accounts</p> <p>Plug-in and sense (No development)</p> <p>Device and data management</p> <p>Customer support for IoT hardware and platform</p>	<p>Not open source for hardware or data</p> <p>Limited external access</p> <p>Limited front-end website visualization</p>	Stream data to Microsoft Azure and build an alternative platform for front-end web analytics
Collocation	Ability to correct sensor performance drift	# of units not providing additional information to network	Worth the cost to provide quality control for sensor measurements



SCAQMD Sensor projects





AQ-SPEC

Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center

Community Monitoring (US EPA STAR grant)

Engage, Educate, and Empower California Communities on the Use and Applications of “Low-cost” Air Monitoring Sensors

Network Monitoring Aims

- Wide-spread deployment across many communities
 - Connectivity that works at a home
 - Low-Cost: Affordable in the 100s of sensors
 - Ability to be installed, Wi-Fi configured, and registered online by a non-expert
 - Open Source hardware and open data access
- Visualization tool available at start
 - End to End solution (Sensor to Map to Data)
 - Good performance in AQ-SPEC evaluation

PM Sensors

Sensor Image	Manufacturer (Model)	Type	Pollutant(s)	Approx. Cost (USD)	'Field R ²	'Lab R ²	Summary Report
	Mojito China (Airmot)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$150	R ² ~ 0.81 to 0.88		
	Naneos (Partector)	Electrical	PM (LDSA: Lung-Deposited Surface Area)	~\$7,000	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.1 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.2		
	Origins (Laser Egg)	Optical	PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$200	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.58 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.0		
	Perkin Elmer (ELM)	Optical	PM	~\$5,200	R ² ~ 0.0		
	PurpleAir (PA-I)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$150	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.93 to 0.95 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.77 to 0.92 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.32 to 0.44	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.95 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.97	PDF (1,072 KB)
	PurpleAir (PA-I-Indoor)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$180	PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.75 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.36 to 0.46		
	PurpleAir (PA-II)	Optical	PM _{1.0} , PM _{2.5} & PM ₁₀	~\$200	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.96 to 0.98 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.93 to 0.97 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.66 to 0.70	PM _{1.0} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM _{2.5} : R ² ~ 0.99 PM ₁₀ : R ² ~ 0.95	PDF (1,328 KB)
	RTI (MicroPEM)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$2,000	R ² ~ 0.65 to 0.90	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,087 KB)
	SainSmart (Pure Morning P3)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$170	R ² ~ 0.73	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (1,186 KB)
	Shinyei (PM Evaluation Kit)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1,000	R ² ~ 0.80 to 0.90	R ² ~ 0.93	PDF (1,156 KB)
	Speck	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$150	R ² ~ 0.32		
	TSI (AirAssure)	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$1,500	R ² ~ 0.82	R ² ~ 0.99	PDF (5,647 KB)
	uHoo	Optical	PM _{2.5}	~\$300	R ² ~ 0.0		

AQ-SPEC

Air Quality Sensor Performance Evaluation Center


Sensor Description

Manufacturer/Model: PurpleAir PA-II

Pollutants: PM₁, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀

Measurement Range: 0 - 500 µg/m³

Type: Optical



Additional Information

Field evaluation report: <http://www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec/evaluations/field>

Lab evaluation report: <http://www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec/evaluations/labreport>


AQ-SPEC website: <http://www.aqmd.gov/aq-spec>

Evaluation Summary

- Overall, the three PurpleAir PA-II sensors showed moderate to good accuracy, compared to the reference instrument for PM₁, PM_{2.5}, and PM₁₀, for a concentration range between 0 to 250 µg/m³.
- The three PA-II sensors exhibited high precision for most of the tested T/RH combinations.
- PA-II sensors showed low intra-model variability as well as good sensor a and b correlation in each node.
- PA-II sensors had good data recovery (95%).
- For PM₁ and PM_{2.5}, the PA-II sensors had high correlation with the reference instrument from both the field (PM₁: R² > 0.96, PM_{2.5}: R² > 0.93) and laboratory studies (linear correlation PM₁: R² > 0.99, PM_{2.5}: R² > 0.99). For PM₁₀, the PA-II sensors did not always follow the concentration change recorded by FEM instrument in the field (PM₁₀: R² > 0.66), however in the laboratory, the PA-II sensors followed the concentration change (increasing) change, reporting (PM₁₀: R² > 0.95).

Field Evaluation Highlights

- Deployment period 12/18/2016- 01/26/2017: the three PA-II nodes correlated well the PM₁, PM_{2.5} concentration change as monitored by GRIMM and BAM. PA-II nodes did not always follow the PM₁₀ concentration change.
- The units showed 95-99% data recovery as well as low intra-model variability.



PM₁₀ R² ~ 0.66 to 0.70

PM_{2.5} R² ~ 0.93 to 0.97

PM₁ R² ~ 0.96 to 0.98

Correlation coefficient (R²) quantifies how the three sensors followed the PM concentration change by GRIMM.

An R² approaching the value of 1 reflects a near perfect agreement, whereas a value of 0 indicates a complete lack of correlation.

Laboratory Evaluation Highlights

Accuracy

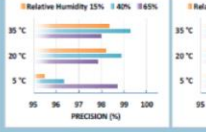
$$A(\%) = 100 - \frac{|R - 1|}{R} \times 100$$

Steady State (#)	Sensor mean (µg/m ³)	GRIMM (µg/m ³)	Accuracy (%)
1	19.7	13.5	54.3
2	44.3	35.7	75.7
3	80.8	84.1	96.1
4	134.7	155.1	86.8
5	186.3	233.5	79.8

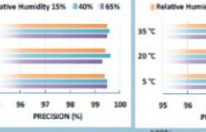
Accuracy was evaluated by a concentration ramping experiment at 20 °C and 40% RH. The sensor's readings at each ramping steady state are compared to the reference instrument.

Precision (PM_{2.5})


Low conc.



Medium conc.



High conc.

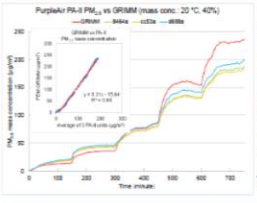


100% represents high precision.

Sensor's ability of generating precise measurements of PM concentration at low, medium, and high pollutant levels were evaluated under 9 combinations of T and RH, including extreme weather conditions like cold and dry (3).

Linear Correlation Coefficient

PurpleAir PA-II PM_{2.5} vs GRIMM (mass conc: 20 °C, 40% RH)



The three PA-II sensors showed excellent correlation with the corresponding FEM PM_{2.5} data (R² = 0.99) at 20 °C and 40% RH.

For conc. ramping experiments of PM₁ and PM₁₀, please see full length lab reports.

Climate Susceptibility

From the laboratory studies, temperature and relative humidity had minimal effect on the PA-II sensors' precision. At the set-points of RH changes, PA-II reported spiked changes in concentration.

Observed Interferents

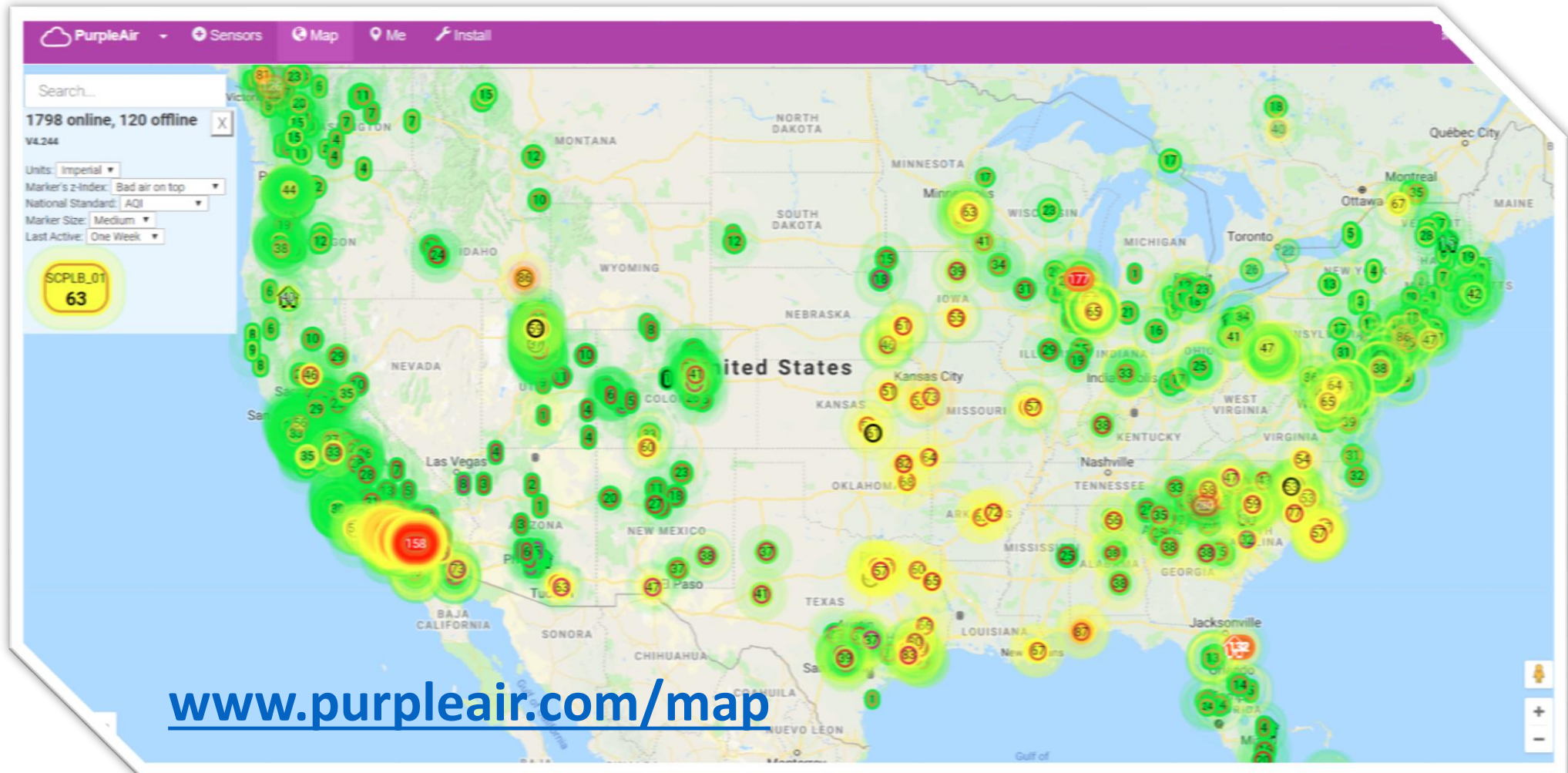
N/A





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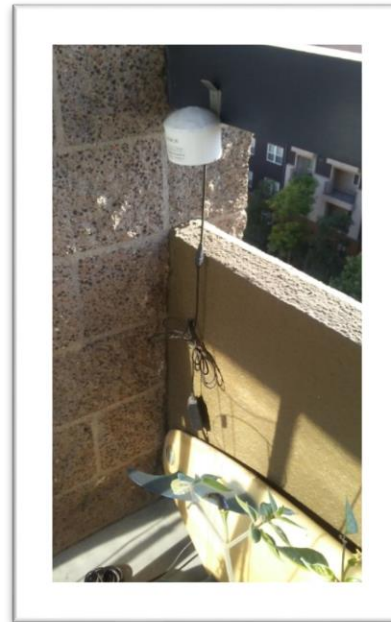
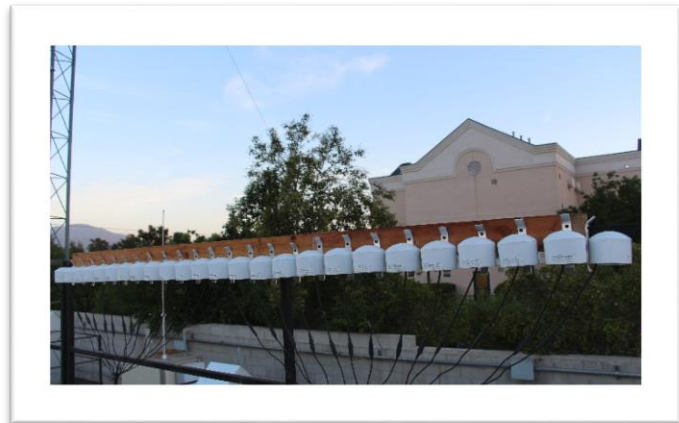
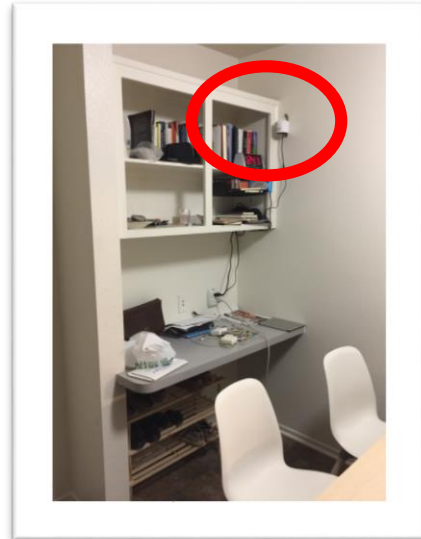
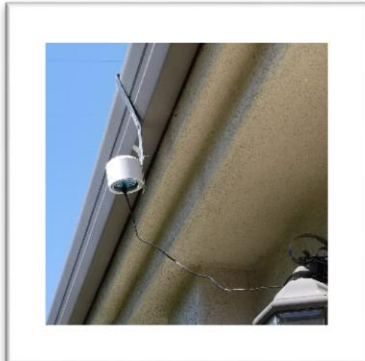




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Community Siting



End User Interface

PurpleAir Shop Map Me Install

On Fri Jan 19 2018 14:55:14 GMT-0800 (Pacific Standard Time)
Short-term PM2.5 is LOW at 2µg/m3
 Enjoy your activities.

Short-term AQI Yucaipa_5 P1

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Good

0-50: Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk

Trends Particles Sensor Current Weather

↓ Channel A Running Averages

Real Time	Short-term	30 minute	1 hour	6 hour	24 hour	One week
153	125	120	114	83	68	65
60µg/m3	45µg/m3	43µg/m3	41µg/m3	27µg/m3	20µg/m3	19µg/m3

⚠ Channel B Running Averages

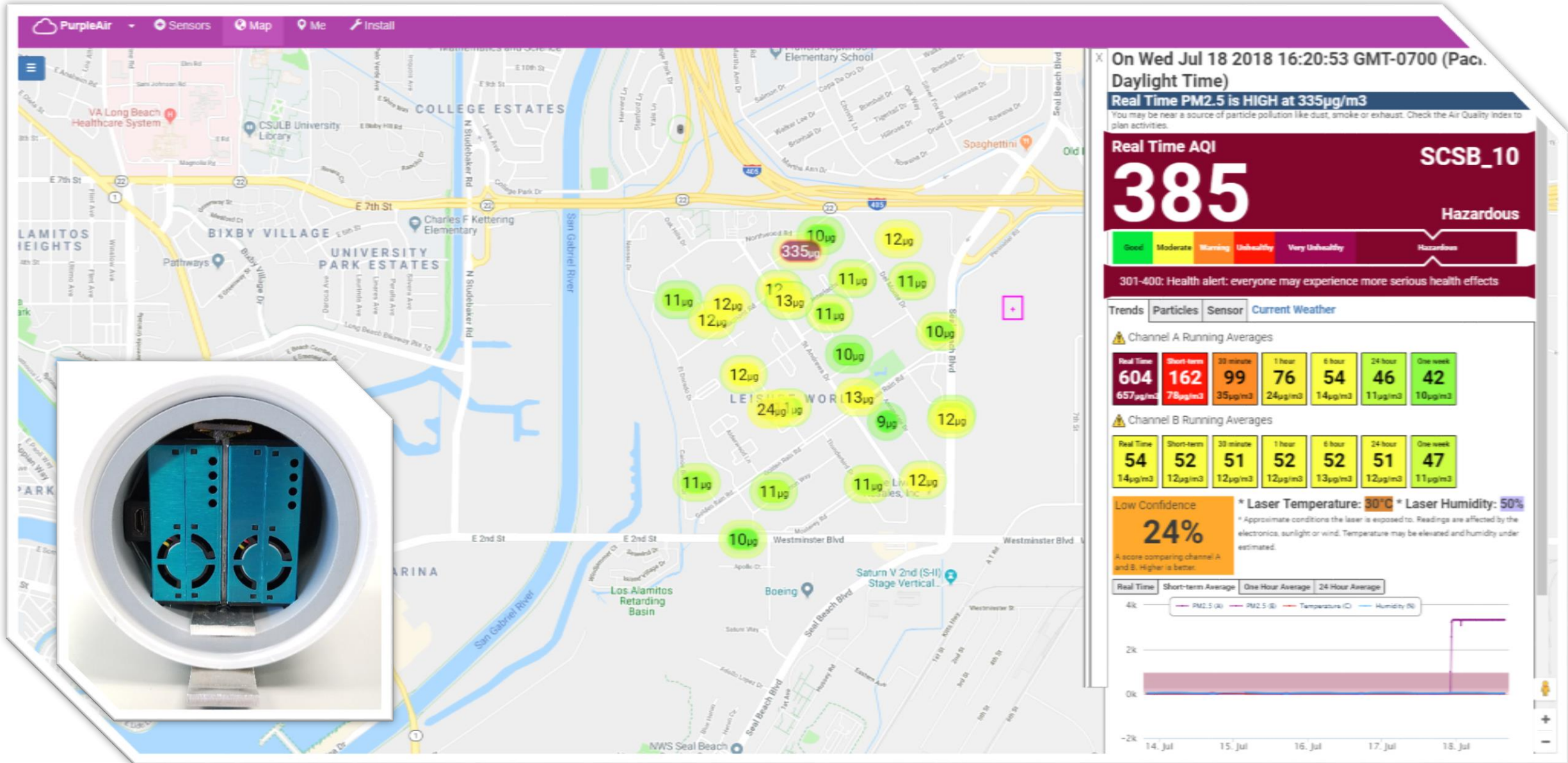
Real Time	Short-term	30 minute	1 hour	6 hour	24 hour	One week
6	6	20	46	48	35	31
1µg/m3	2µg/m3	5µg/m3	11µg/m3	11µg/m3	8µg/m3	7µg/m3

* Laser Temperature: 67°F * Laser Humidity: 43%

* Approximate conditions the laser is exposed to. Readings are affected by the electronics, sunlight or wind. Temperature may be elevated and humidity under estimated.

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End User Interface

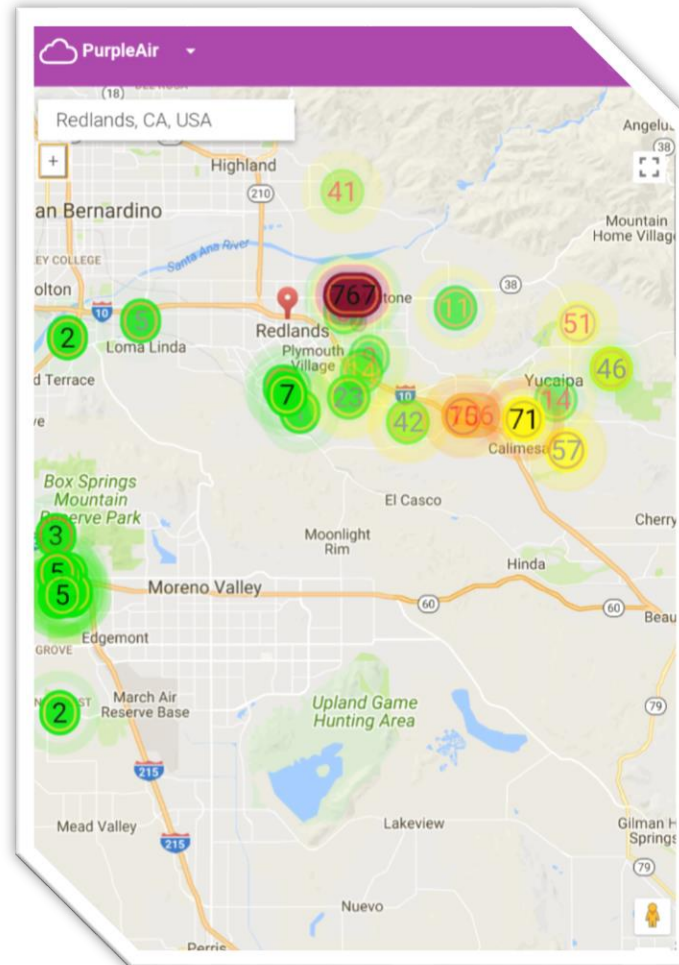
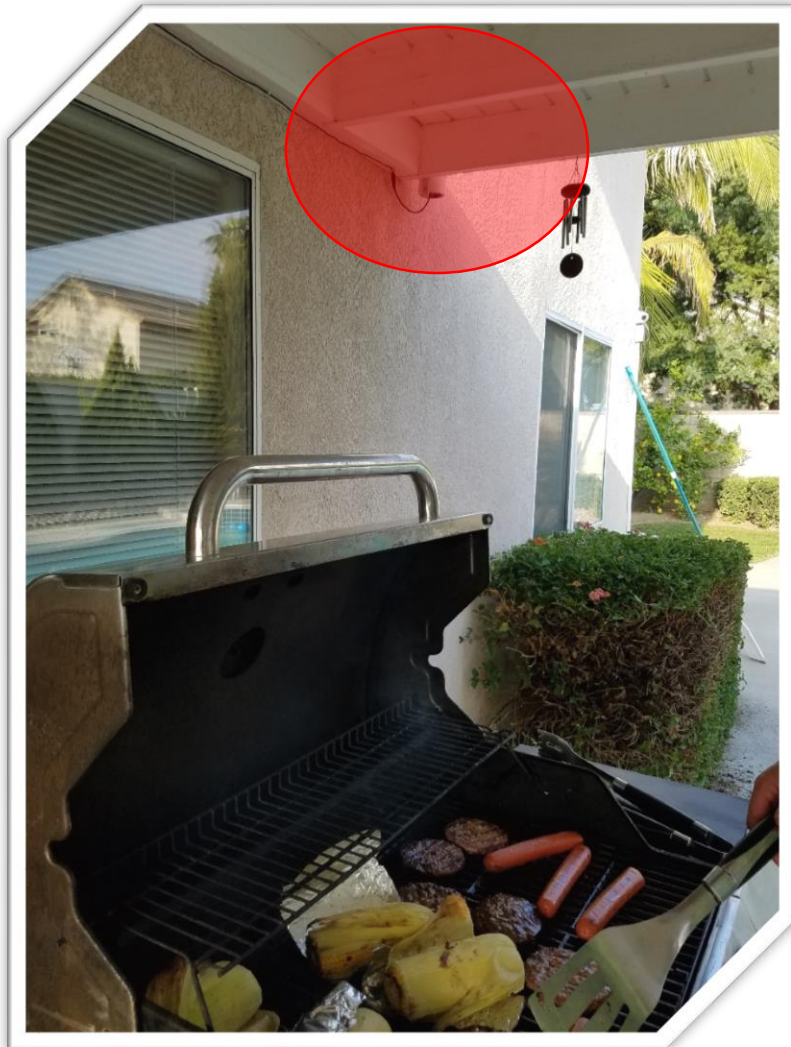




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Hyper-local effects



PurpleAir

Sun Feb 25 2018 12:23:56 GMT-0800 (PST)

Short-term PM2.5 is HIGH at 435µg/m³

Short-term AQI **457** Redlands_4 P1 Hazardous

Health alert: everyone may experience more serious health effects

Time	Short-term	30 minute	1 hour	6 hour	24 hour	One week
9	457	241	176	75	40	23
µg/m ³	435µg/m ³	191µg/m ³	104µg/m ³	23µg/m ³	10µg/m ³	6µg/m ³

Time	Short-term	30 minute	1 hour	6 hour	24 hour	One week
26	473	266	189	152	124	102
µg/m ³	458µg/m ³	216µg/m ³	129µg/m ³	57µg/m ³	45µg/m ³	36µg/m ³

Excellent Confidence **98%**

* Laser Temperature: 90°F * Laser Humidity: 11%

* Approximate conditions the laser is exposed to. Readings are affected by the electronics, sunlight or wind. Temperature may be elevated and humidity under estimated.

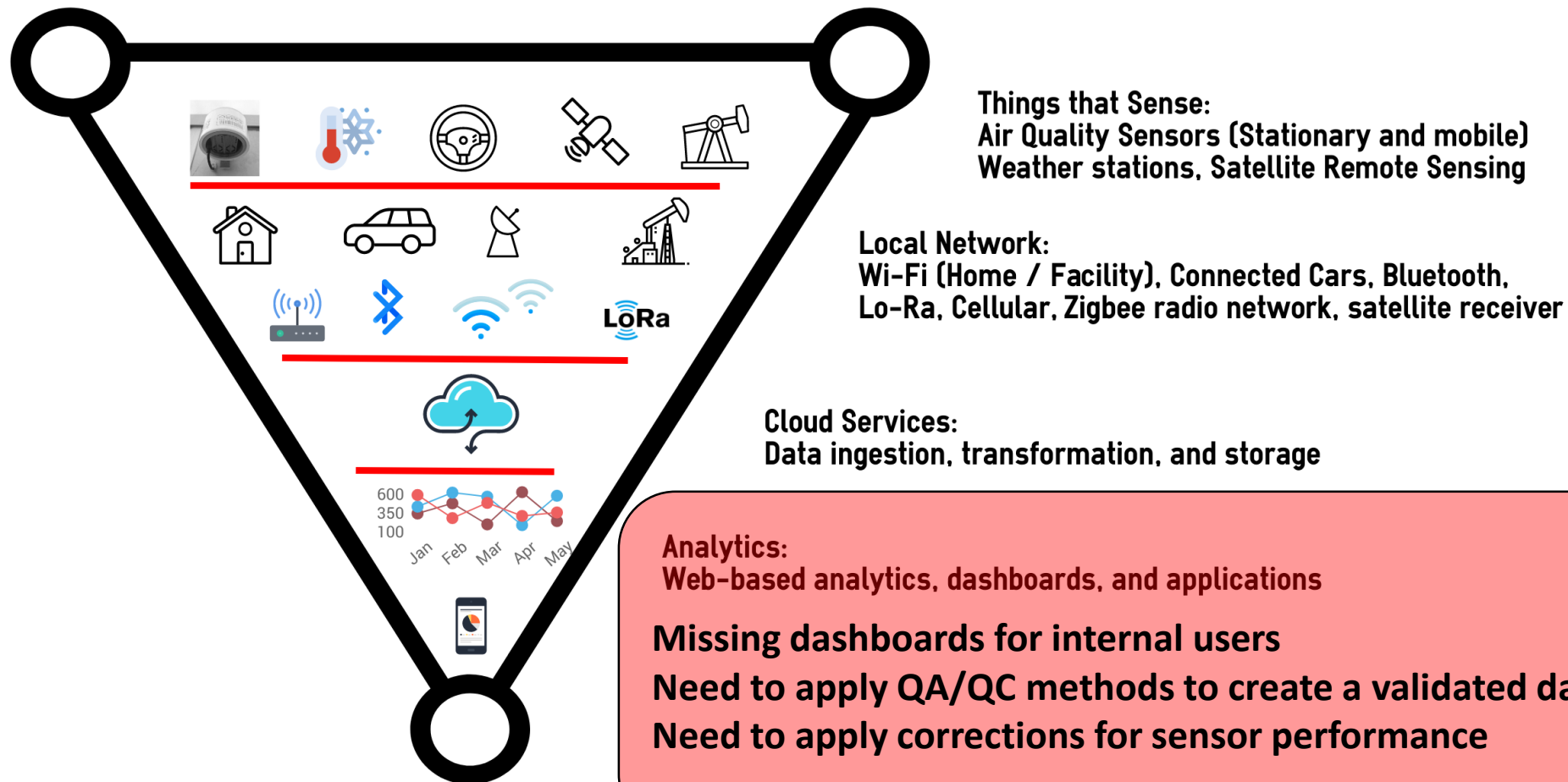
Time Short-term Average One Hour Average 24 Hour Average

0 PM2.5 (A) PM2.5 (B)

Satellite

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Model for Internet of Things (Air Quality)



Community Network Review

Decision	Pros	Cons	Outcomes
Wi-Fi	Free, but local access	New Wi-Fi provider = offline	Keep track and follow up with sensor owners
Low-cost	Affordability in the 100s	Inexpensive components	Replace power supplies
End-to-end solution for public	<p>Open source hardware & open data access</p> <p>Development from sensor to data platform is complete</p> <p>Customer support for IoT hardware and platform</p> <p>No Device Management</p>	<p>Limited internal users. Internal access = same as external OS solution</p> <p>Limited analytics</p> <p>Not able to customize for individual communities</p> <p>Data Management</p>	<p>Work with developer to improve analytics</p> <p>Stream data to Microsoft Azure and build an alternative platform</p>

Data Management Platform

Needs Assessment

Multiple sensor and data platforms used for various projects with data in different formats

Data analysis workloads larger than typical tools can handle

~ 50 million rows of PurpleAir data and growing

~ 44 million rows of Aeroqual data will be generated in 12 months

~ 14 million rows of fence-line monitoring data

Limited data analytics available on individual IoT platforms

Limited external user experience with potential confusing user experiences

Need for QA/QC to validate data

Need to apply correction algorithms for sensor performance limitations

Need to quickly visualize and provide results to public in a clear and meaningful manner



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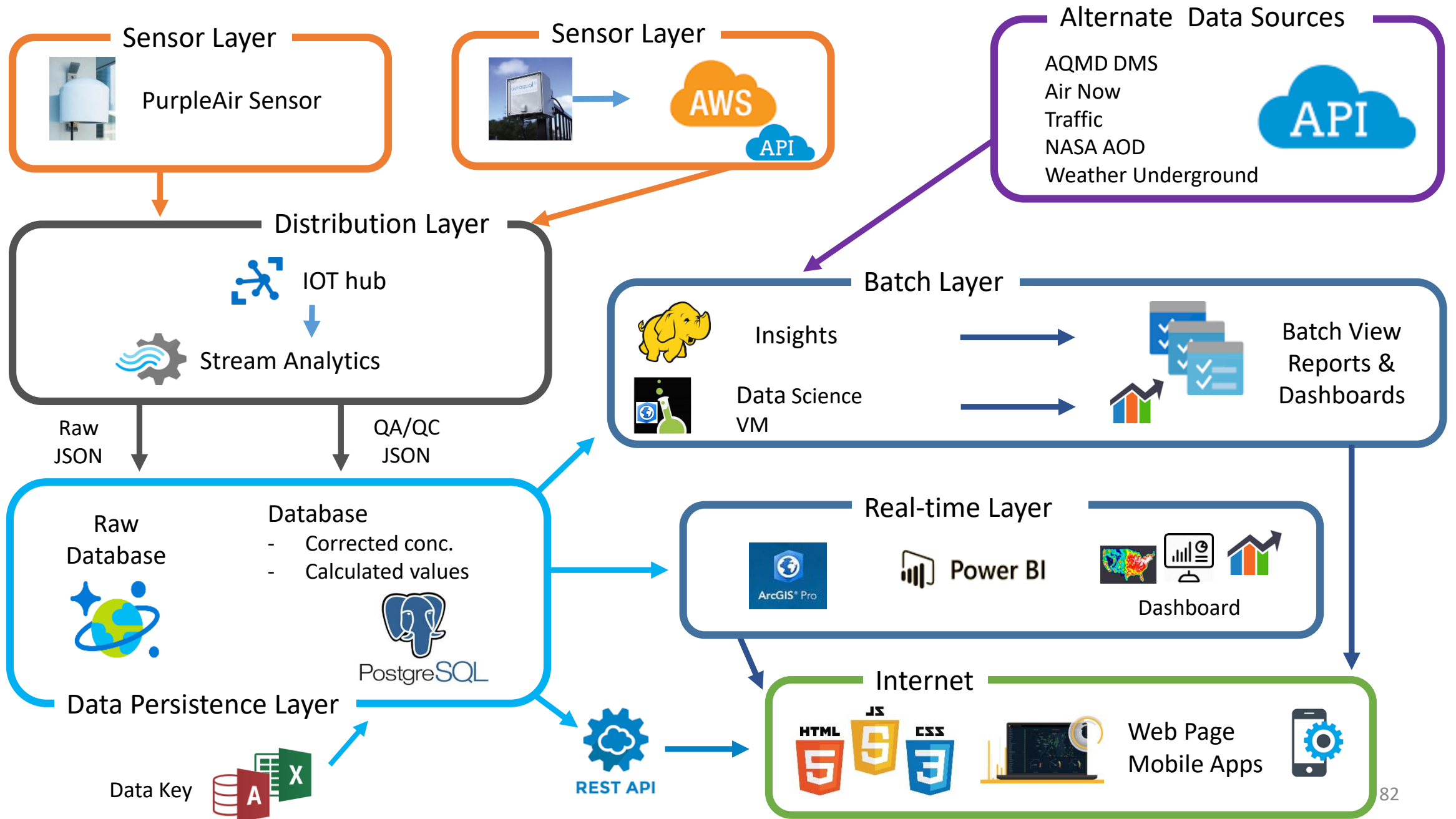
Cloud Platform requirements:

- ❑ Cloud-based computing platform to ingest, store, analyze, and display data
 - Platform & device agnostic
 - Scalable, secure, and compliant with established data standards

- ❑ Back End Requirements:
 - Manage IoT devices and ingest data
 - Perform simple stream analytics
 - Process and store geo-spatial time series data
 - Store data long-term and scale
 - Interface with other platforms (APIs)

- ❑ Front End Requirements:
 - Create and publish web-based interactive dashboards
 - Generate positive end-user experiences

Draft Cloud Architecture





Thank you - Questions?

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