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RASEM – ROBOT-ASSISTED ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FOR AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT

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Major risk for the
worker's health

Dust and Gases



Airborne by-
products



Robot-assisted Environmental Monitoring for Air Quality Assessment



- **Runtime** April 2019 – March 2022, extended until 31.12.2022
- **Funding**
 - » SAF€RA
 - » Finnish Work Environment Fund
- **Partners**



Finnish Institute of
Occupational Health



Question 1

- How could a modern method to air quality monitoring look like?

Question 2

- What insights can we get from an industrial steel factory?

Question 3

- How can RASEM complement traditional measurement campaigns to capture the air quality situation?

Question 1

How could a modern method to air quality monitoring look like?

Dense Measurements

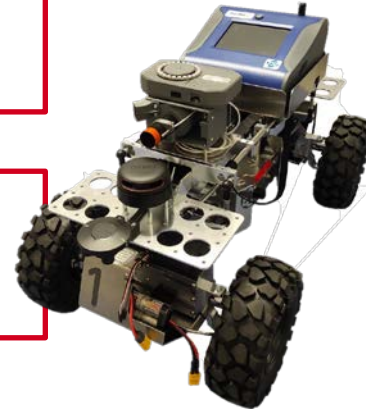
- Spatial and temporal dense measurements of dust, gases, temperature, humidity
- Measurements with mobile and stationary platforms

Enhancement of Traditional Measurements

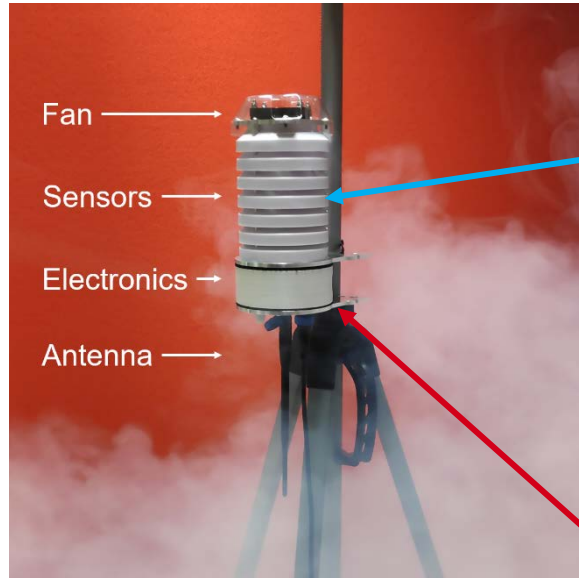
- Continuous, long-term measurements on weekends, holidays...

New Exposure Models

- Combination of occupational health expertise with robotics research



Sensing Node Design



Environmental Sensors

Dust (WaveShare / Sharp GP2Y1010AU0F)



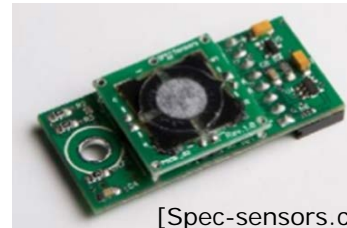
[Waveshare.com]

Temperature & humidity (DHT22)



[Adafruit.com]

Gas: CO, NO2, indoor air quality (IAQ) (SPEC DGS)



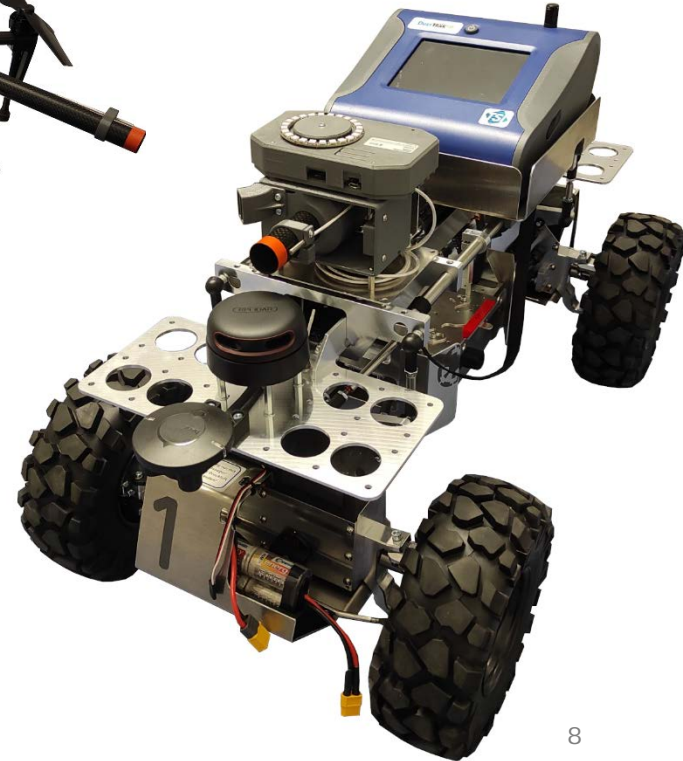
[Spec-sensors.com]

Electronics

- Microcontroller (Espressif ESP32)
- Real-time clock (DS3231)
- Storage on microSD (Adafruit MicroSD)

[WINKLER ET AL., SMSI 2021]

- **High quality sensors**
 - **TSI DustTrak II**
 - » 0.1 to 10 μm
 - » High weight, high cost
 - **OPC-R1 Particle Monitor**
 - » PM1, PM2.5, PM10
 - » Low weight, mid cost
 - **Temperature sensor**
 - » Pt100
- **Additional sensors:**
 - » RASEM sensing node sensors
 - » Lidar (light detection and ranging)
 - Precise altitude (of the drone)

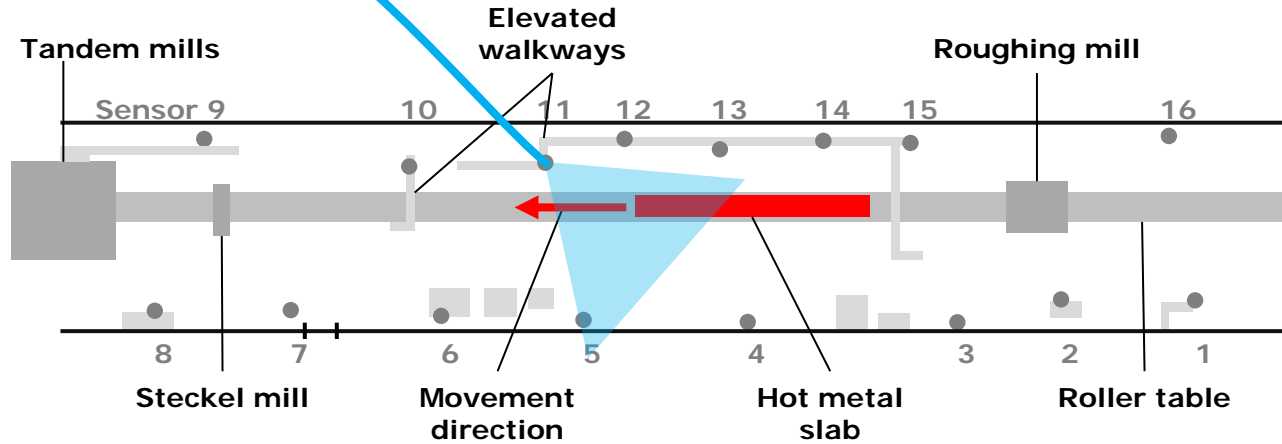


Indoor localization using
geo-referenced tags

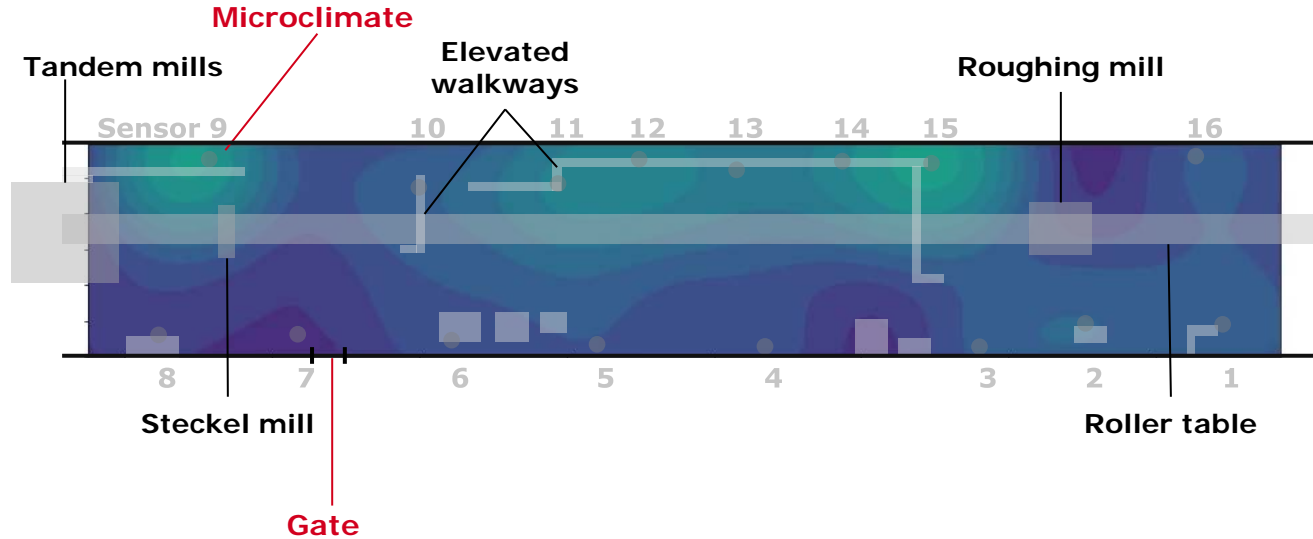
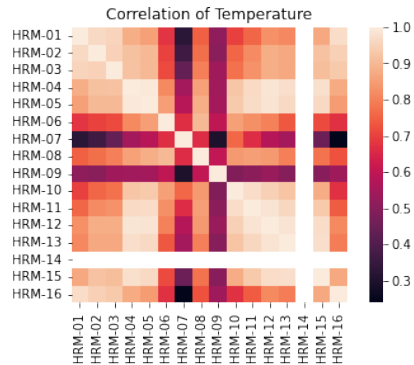
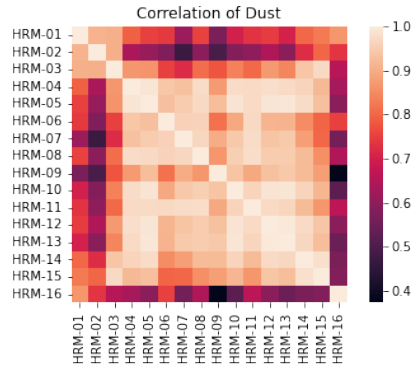
Question 2

What insights can we get from an industrial steel factory?

Air Quality in Steel Factory: Factory Layout



Air Quality in Steel Factory: Correlation and Dust Mapping



Question 3

How can RASEM complement traditional measurement campaigns to capture the air quality situation?

How to define *air quality situation*?

Here, we distinct between:

1. Hazard mapping of the working area
2. Individual exposure during a working day

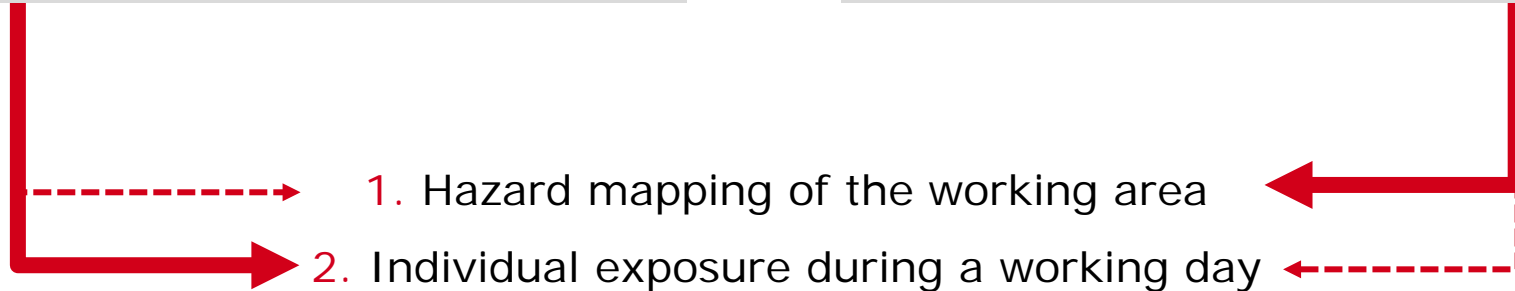
RASEM & Traditional Methods: They are complementary!

Traditional methods

- 7 measurement days (usually less)
- ~40 measurements (short-term)
- Time averaged concentrations
- Specific information of chemical substances from laboratory analysis

RASEM

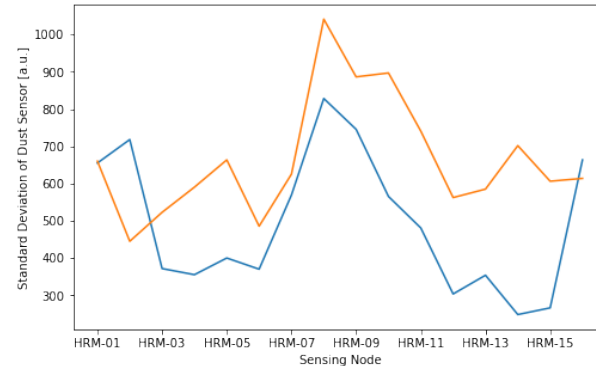
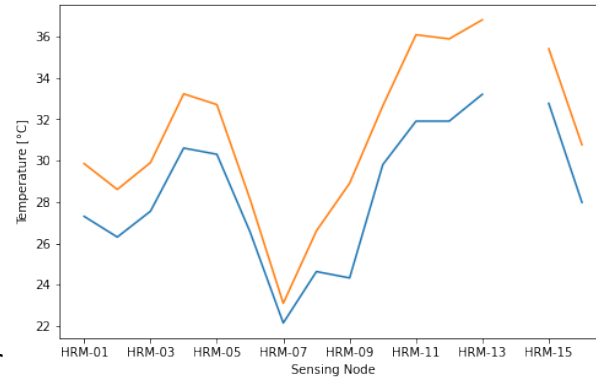
- 365+ measurement days
- 16 locations (long-term)
- Time specific concentration levels
- Measurements by mobile robots



RASEM & Traditional Methods: Direct Comparison

- How is the air quality during the measurement campaign compared to the every day variation?
 - Temperature is lower
 - Variance in dust measurements is smaller
 - Unexpected breaks in the production during measurement campaign
- **RASEM helps to evaluate representativeness of a traditional measurement campaign**

Measurement campaign
Everyday situation



Take Home Message

www.bam.de

Conclusion

1. RASEM is a new approach for air quality monitoring using
 - » Low-cost and high-quality sensors
 - » Stationary and mobile platforms
2. Sensor networks can enhance traditional exposure assessment methods
3. RASEM helps to evaluate representativeness of a traditional measurement campaign
 - » Potentially special conditions during a single measurement day

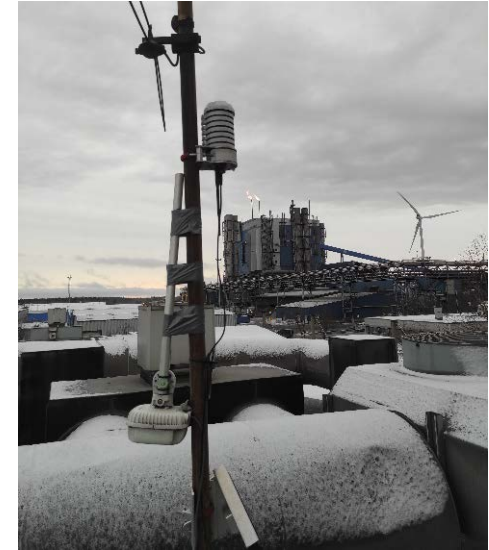




June '22: Measurement with **mobile robots**



NO₂ on **Tallink-Silja car deck** (20 nodes)



CO emission on **Outokumpu factory site** (8 nodes)

Thank you for your attention.

Contact:

Patrick P. Neumann
8.1 Sensors, Measurement and Testing Methods

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Appendix

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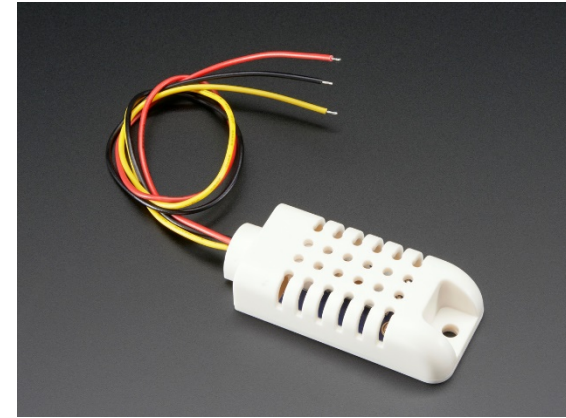
Dust measurement devices

- ELPI+ 10 nm – 10 μm (Dekati Oy)
- Respirable dust <4 μm
 - Gravimetric analysis
 - Cyclone sampler
- Inhalable dust <100 μm
 - gravimetric analysis
 - IOM sampler
- Grimm optical particle counter
 - 0.3-34 μm
- TSI sidepak <10 μm



DHT22

- 3 to 5V power and I/O
- 2.5mA max current use during conversion (while requesting data)
- Good for 0-100% humidity readings with 2-5% accuracy
- Good for -40 to 80°C temperature readings $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ accuracy
- No more than 0.5 Hz sampling rate (once every 2 seconds)
- Body size 27mm x 59mm x 13.5mm (1.05" x 2.32" x 0.53")
- 3 wires 23cm long (9")
- 27mm wide x 58.75mm tall x 13.30mm deep



[Adafruit.com]

Dust Sensor

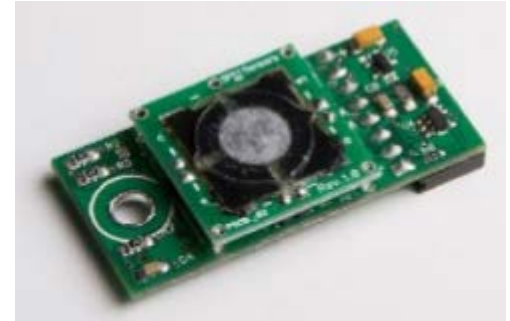
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- Sensitivity : $0.5V/(100\mu g/m^3)$
 - Measurement range : $500\mu g/m^3$
 - Power : $2.5V \sim 5.5V$
 - Operating current : $20mA(max)$
 - Operating temperature : $-10^{\circ}C \sim 65^{\circ}C$
 - Storage temperature : $-20^{\circ}C \sim 80^{\circ}C$
 - Life time : 5 years
 - Dimension : $63.2mm \times 41.3mm \times 21.1mm$



[Waveshare.com]

MEASUREMENT PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Based on Standard Conditions 25 °C, 50% RH and 1 atm	
Measurement Range	0 to 1000 ppm
Resolution	0.1 ppm (1)
Zero Accuracy	± 1 ppm (2)
Measurement Accuracy	15% of reading
Measurement Repeatability (2)	< ± 3% of reading or 2 ppm, whichever is greater
T90 Response Time (100 ppm step)	< 30 seconds (15 seconds typical)
Power Consumption	1 mW for 1 minute triggered samples 12 mW for continuous sampling 5, 10 30, 60 second intervals
Expected Operating Life	> 5 years (10 years @ 25± 10C; 60 ± 30% RH)
Operating Temperature Range	-20 to 40 °C (-30 to 55 °C intermittent)
Operating Humidity Range	15 to 95% (0 to 100% non-condensing intermittent)
Mechanical Dimensions	1.75 x 0.82 x 0.35 in. (44.5 x 20.8 x 8.9 mm)
Weight	< 2 Ounces



[Spec-Sensors.com]

Alphasense OPC-R1

-
- Particle range (μm spherical equivalent size)
0.35 to 12.4
 - Size categorisation (Number of software bins)
16
 - Sampling interval (Histogram period (seconds))
1 to 30
 - Total flow rate (L/min (typical))
0.24
 - Max particle count rate (particles/second)
10,000
 - Max coincidence probability
(%concentration at 10^6 particles/L)
0.7



[alphasense.com]

TSI DustTrak II

Sensor Type

90° light scattering

Particle Size Range

0.1 to 10 µm

Aerosol Concentration Range

8530 Desktop	0.001 to 400 mg/m ³
8530EP Desktop with External Pump	0.001 to 400 mg/m ³
8532 Handheld	0.001 to 150 mg/m ³

Resolution

±0.1% of reading or 0.001 mg/m³, whichever is greater

Zero Stability

±0.002 mg/m³ per 24 hours at 10 sec time constant

Flow Rate

3.0 L/min set at factory, 1.40 to 3.0 L/min, user adjustable

Flow Accuracy

±5% of factory set point, internal flow controlled

Temperature Coefficient

+0.001 mg/m³ per °C

Operational Temp

32 to 120°F (0 to 50°C)

Storage Temp

-4 to 140°F (-20 to 60°C)

Operational Humidity

0 to 95% RH, non-condensing

Time Constant

User adjustable, 1 to 60 seconds

Data Logging

5 MB of on-board memory (>60,000 data points)
45 days at 1 minute logging interval



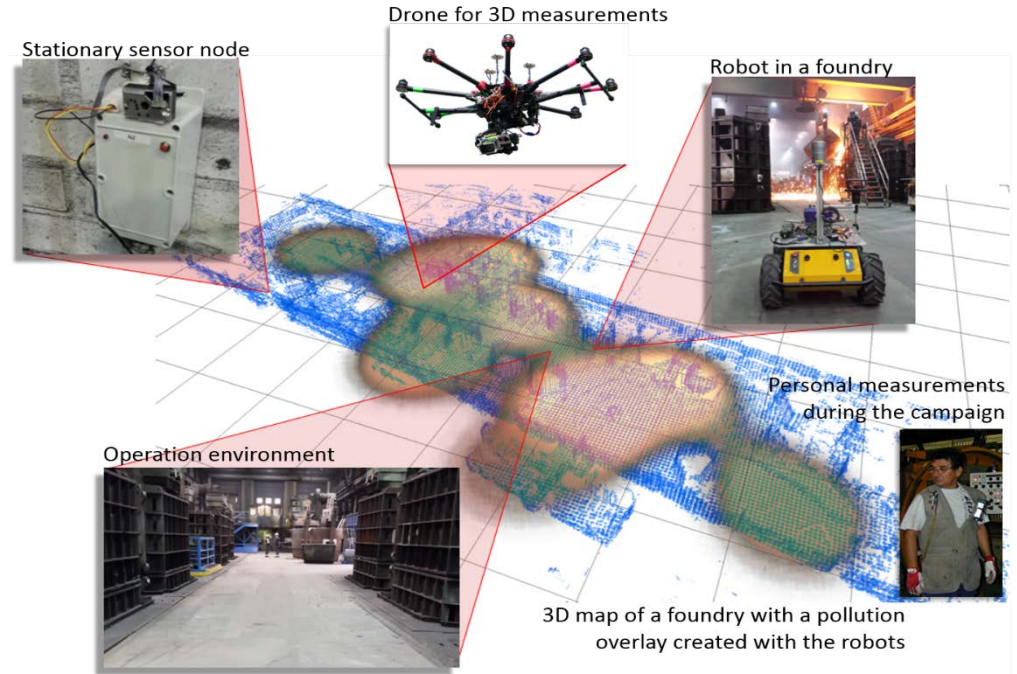
[TSI.com]

Key Idea of RASEM

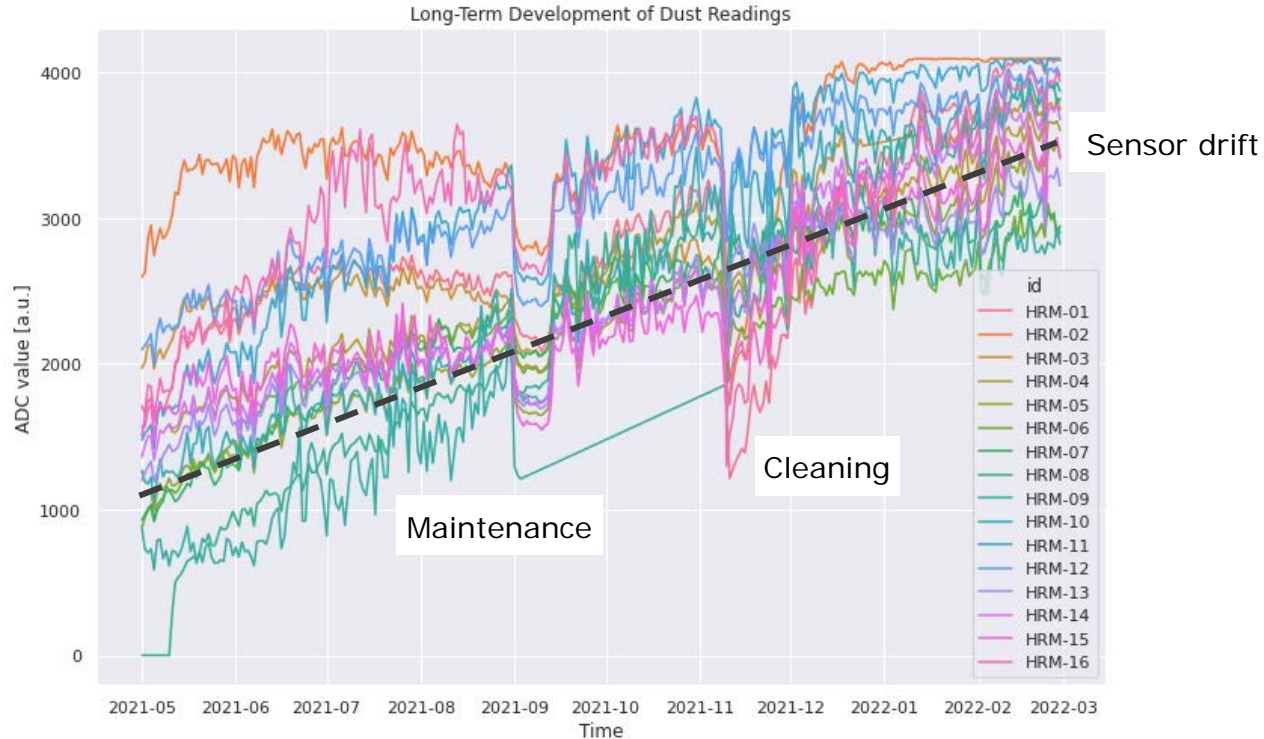
A Heterogenous Sensor Network

RASEM

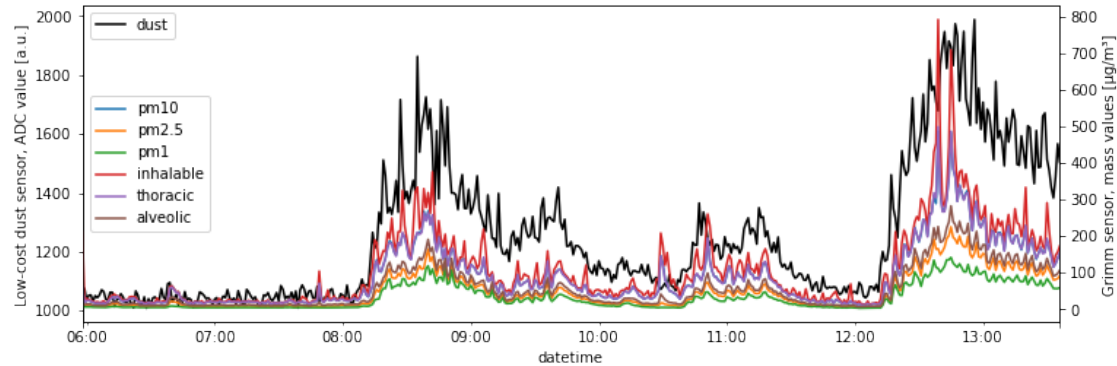
- ...augments sensor networks with robots, drones, and other mobile units
- ...combines dust and gas measurements with varying quality and spatial resolution
- ...creates 3D dust and gas exposure maps (time- and event-dependency)
- ...provides sensor planning methods to find optimal sampling locations
- ...provides sophisticated models for worker exposure estimation exploiting its dense sampling capabilities



Air Quality in Steel Factory: Long-Term Dust Measurements



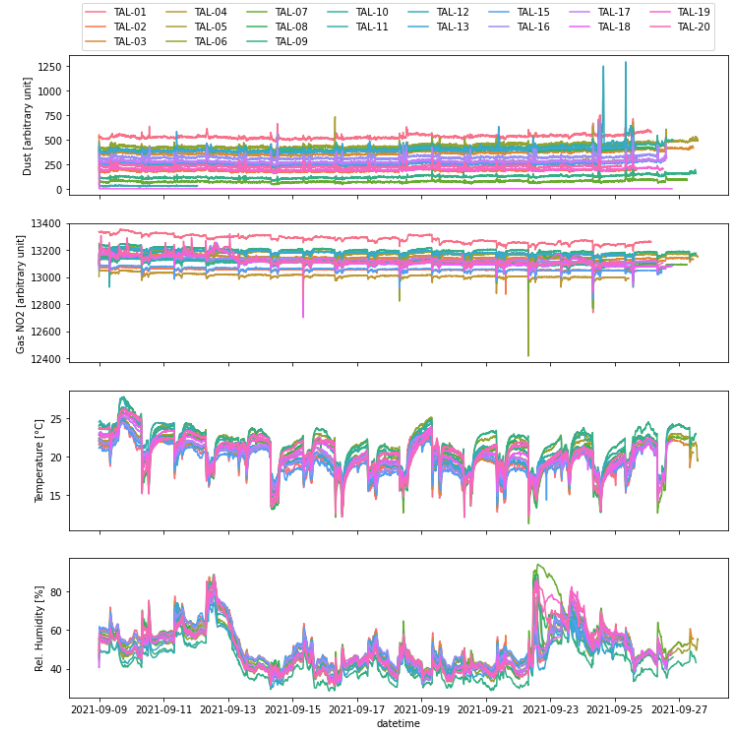
RASEM & Traditional Methods: Direct Comparison



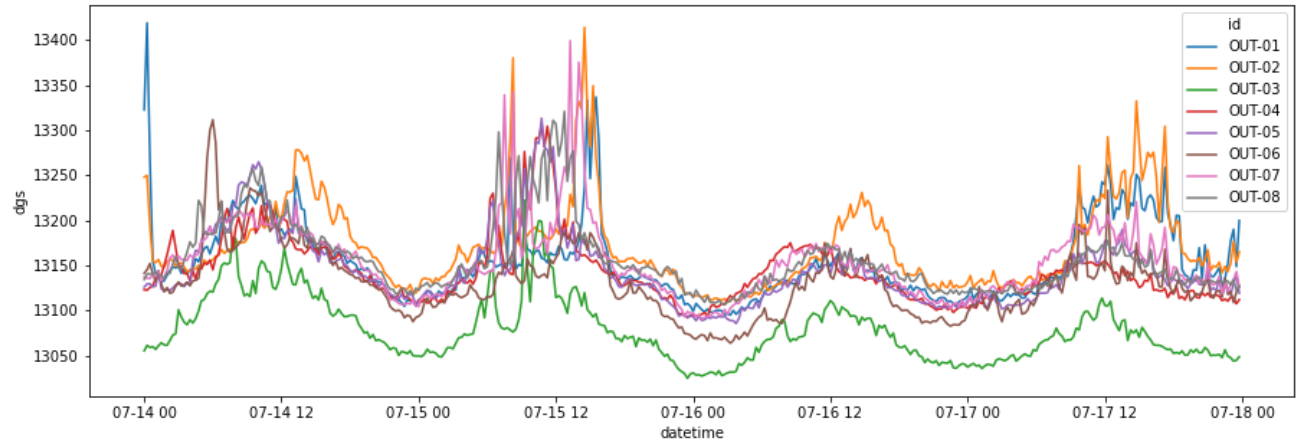
FIOH Grimm Sensor

	PM 10	PM 2.5	PM 1	Inhalable	Thoracic	Alveolic
Sensing Node	0.92	0.94	0.94	0.87	0.92	0.94

Scenario 1: NO2 Monitoring on a Cruise Ship's Car Deck



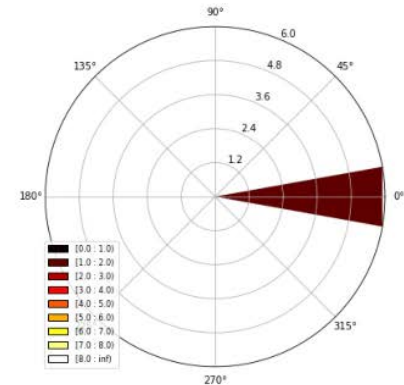
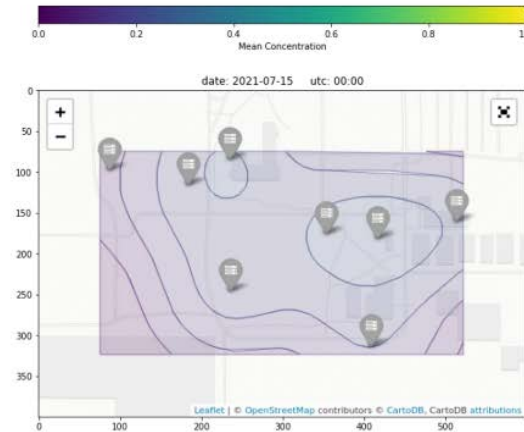
Scenario 2: Outdoor – CO



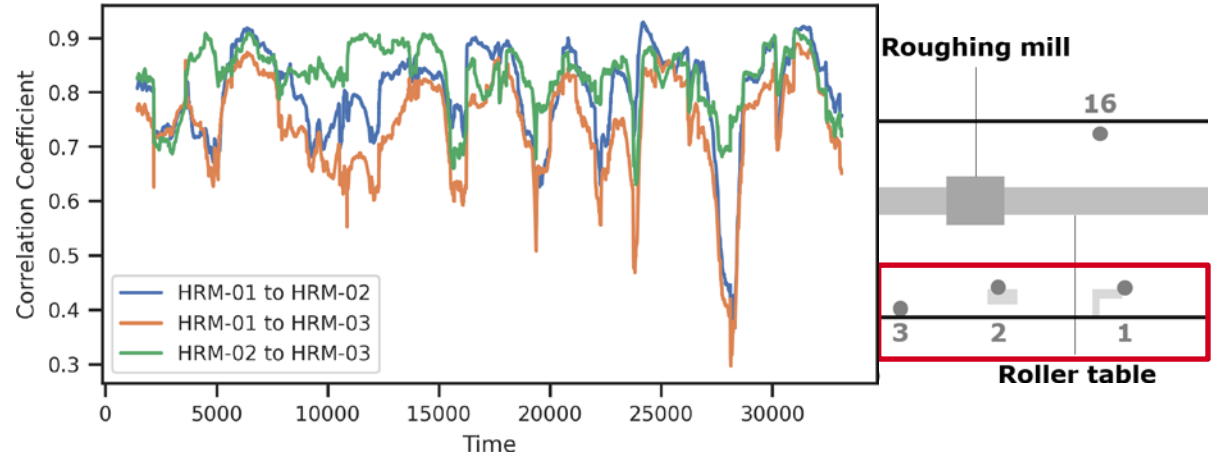
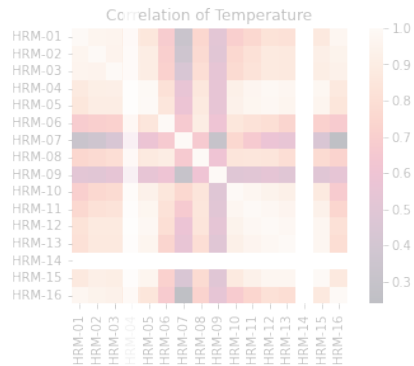
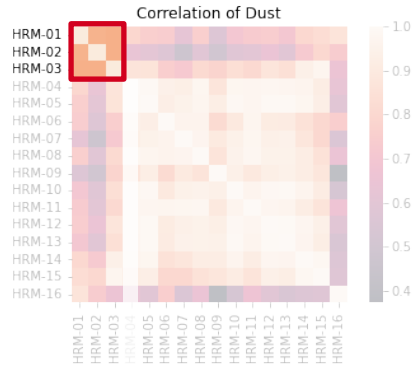
Scenario 2: Outdoor – CO



Influence of wind on the distribution of CO on the factory site (Kernel DM+V) [LILIENTHAL ET AL., IROS 2009]



Air quality of Steel Factory: Correlations Fluctuate Over Time!



[WINKLER ET AL., IEEE SENSORS 2021]