



European Network on New Sensing Technologies for Air Pollution Control and  
Environmental Sustainability - *EuNetAir*

COST Action TD1105

# Metrics for the evaluation of AQ sensor performance

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# Environmental time series analysis

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- Error identification
- Comparison with reference data

# Error identification

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- Systematic (like time drift)
  - Correct with the aid of reference events
  - Aggregate
- Random
- Semantic

# The goal

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- Comparison of two time series in order to estimate their resemblance
  - TS1: sensor data
  - TS2: reference method data
  - Resemblance: distance from being identical
    - Distance=quantifiable criteria

Valid for the comparison of any time series (sensor data, model results, other)

# The metrics

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- Descriptive (basic) statistics
  - Min, Max, Median, Mean, Std, Skewness, Kurtosis

# Comparison statistics

$$MBE = \bar{M} - \overline{RM}$$

**Mean systematic difference**; magnitude of differences between sensors estimation and reference values averaged over the whole sampling period

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |M_i - RM_i|$$

indicates the average of the magnitude of the errors; is sensitive to outlier errors.

**Can be normalized with the standard deviation of the observations from the reference instrument.**

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - RM_i)^2}$$

indicates the magnitude of the error and retains the variable's unit; **varies with the std of RM**; is sensitive to extreme values and to outliers; tends to vary as a function of the standard deviation of the RM

$$Corr.Coef = r = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - \bar{M})(M_i - \overline{RM})}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - \bar{M})^2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (RM_i - \overline{RM})^2}}$$

measures the strength and the direction of a linear relationship between two variables

# Comparison statistics

$$NMSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - RM_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_i - \bar{M})^2} = \frac{\mu_{M-RM}^2}{\mu_M^2}$$

an estimator of the overall deviations between reference and sensor measurements; is sensitive to extreme values

$$FB = \frac{\mu_M^2 - \mu_{RM}^2}{\frac{1}{2}(\mu_M^2 + \mu_{RM}^2)}$$

a measure of the agreement between the mean measured concentrations against the reference measurements; perfect agreement:  $FB=NMSE=0$

$$FOEX = 100 \times \left| \frac{N(M_i > RM_i)}{N_{total}} - \frac{1}{2} \right|$$

a measure of the over or under estimation of studied measurements against reference data. The best condition would be that  $FOEX = 0$ , unless, ideally, all measurements are equal to reference measurements, thus  $FOEX$  would be equal to -50.

$$CRMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [(M_i - \bar{M}) - (RM_i - \overline{RM})]^2}$$

used for the quadratic decomposition of RMSE as the sum of Mean Bias Error and Centered Root Mean Error; is an indicator of the sensor random error. **Can be normalised with the standard deviation of RM.**

# And there are more candidates...

$$d = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |M_i - RM_i|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left( |M_i - \overline{RM}| + |RM_i - \overline{RM}| \right)^2}$$

$$d1 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |M_i - RM_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left( |M_i - \overline{RM}| + |RM_i - \overline{RM}| \right)}$$

Willmott's index of agreement

$$M = (2/\pi) \sin^{-1} \left\{ 1 - \frac{MSE}{Var_M + Var_{RM} + (\overline{M} - \overline{RM})^2} \right\}$$

Watterson's (1996) measure of agreement (M

$$\mathfrak{R} = 1 - \frac{\delta}{\mu}$$

$$\delta = MAE$$

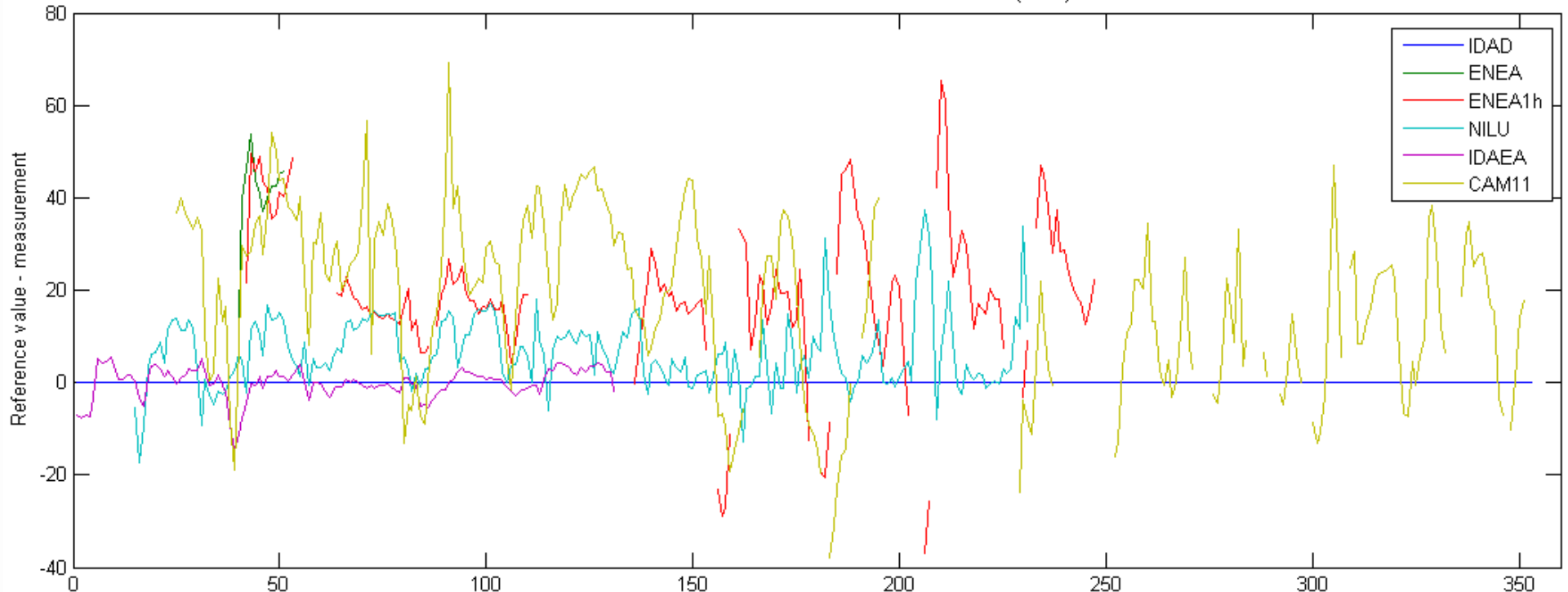
$$\mu = n^{-2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n |M_j - RM_i|$$

Mielke & Berry (2007)



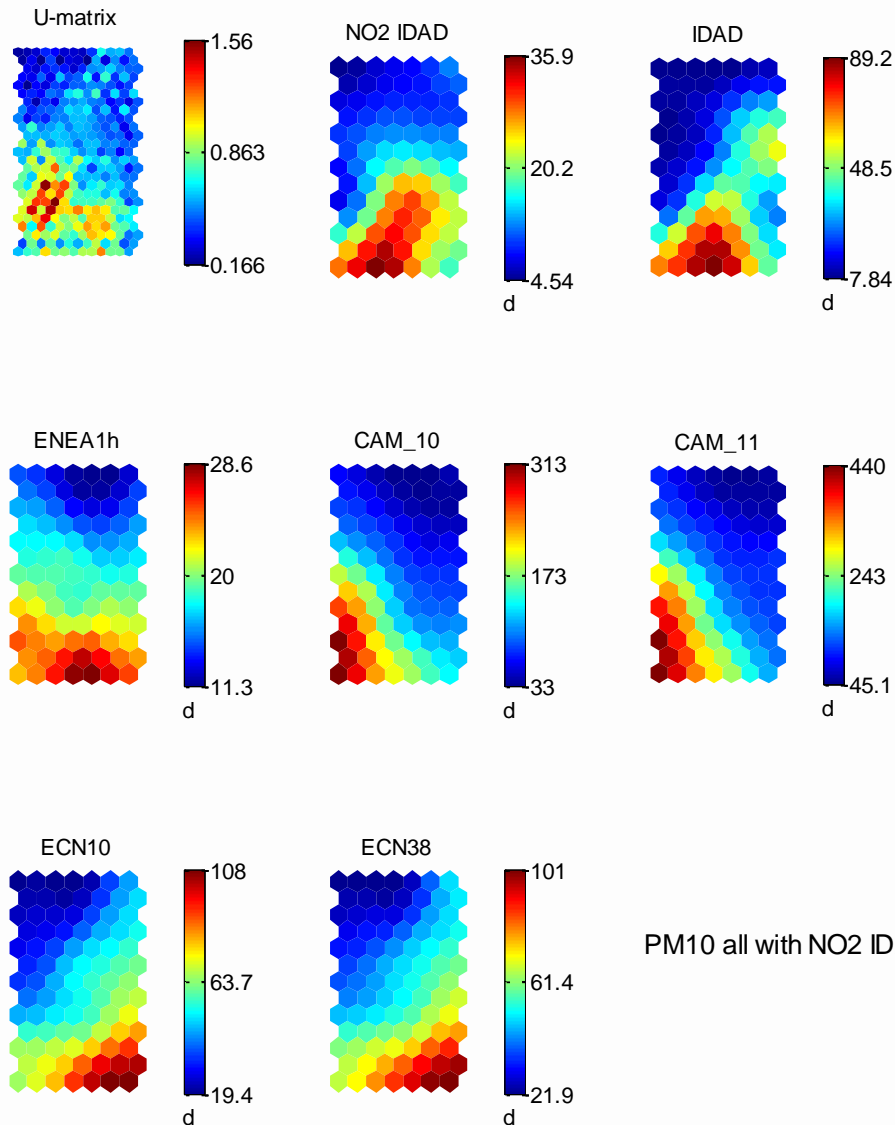
# So how can we use them?

Deviation of O3 values from reference measurements (IDAD)



Sensor node	MBE	$r^2$	CRMSE/ $\sigma_0$	MBE/ $\sigma_0$	NMSE	FB	FOEX	MAE
ENEA	19.2	0.13	1.60	1.90	2.52	0.67	41.61	22.12
NILU	6.5	0.77	0.84	0.72	3.86	0.33	32.95	7.66
CAM_11	15.7	0.14	1.95	1.68	2.74	0.71	30.23	21.50
IDAEA/AQMesh	0.0	0.70	-0.55	-0.01	4.25	0.19	7.25	2.40
ISAG	356.1	0.12	17.49	33.24	1.37	1.82	50	360.12

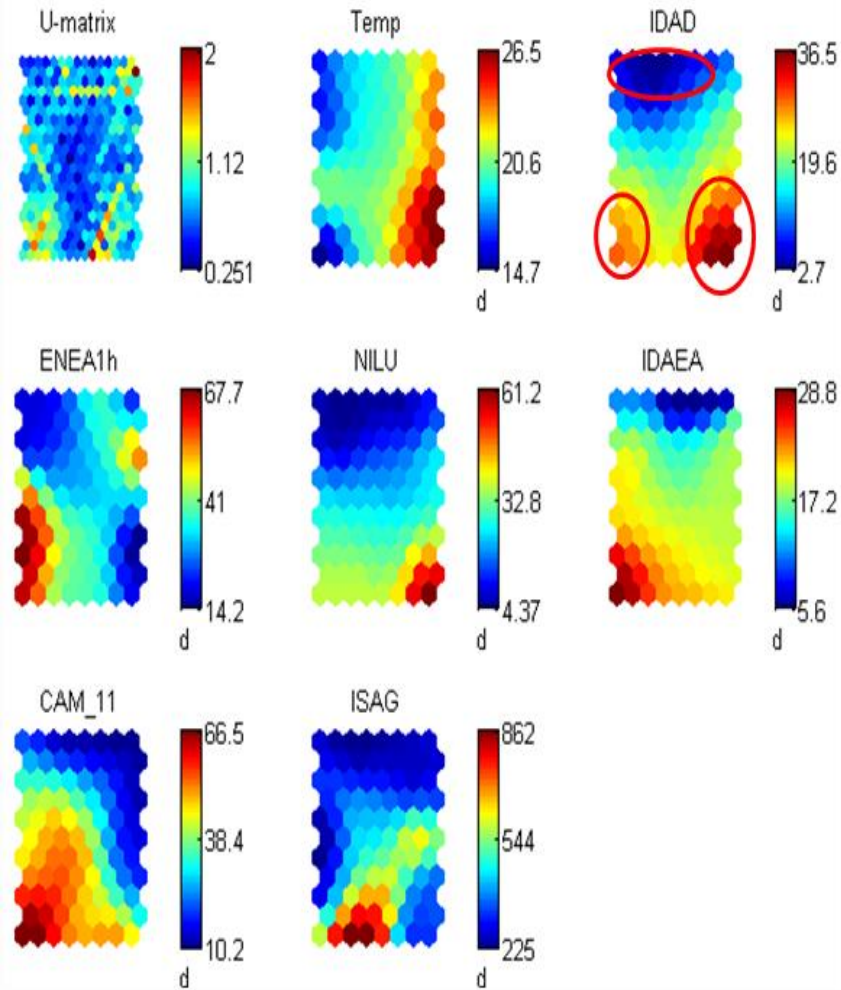
# Data analytics: data insights with CI



PM10:  
-relationship with NO2  
-pattern resemblance  
with ENEA

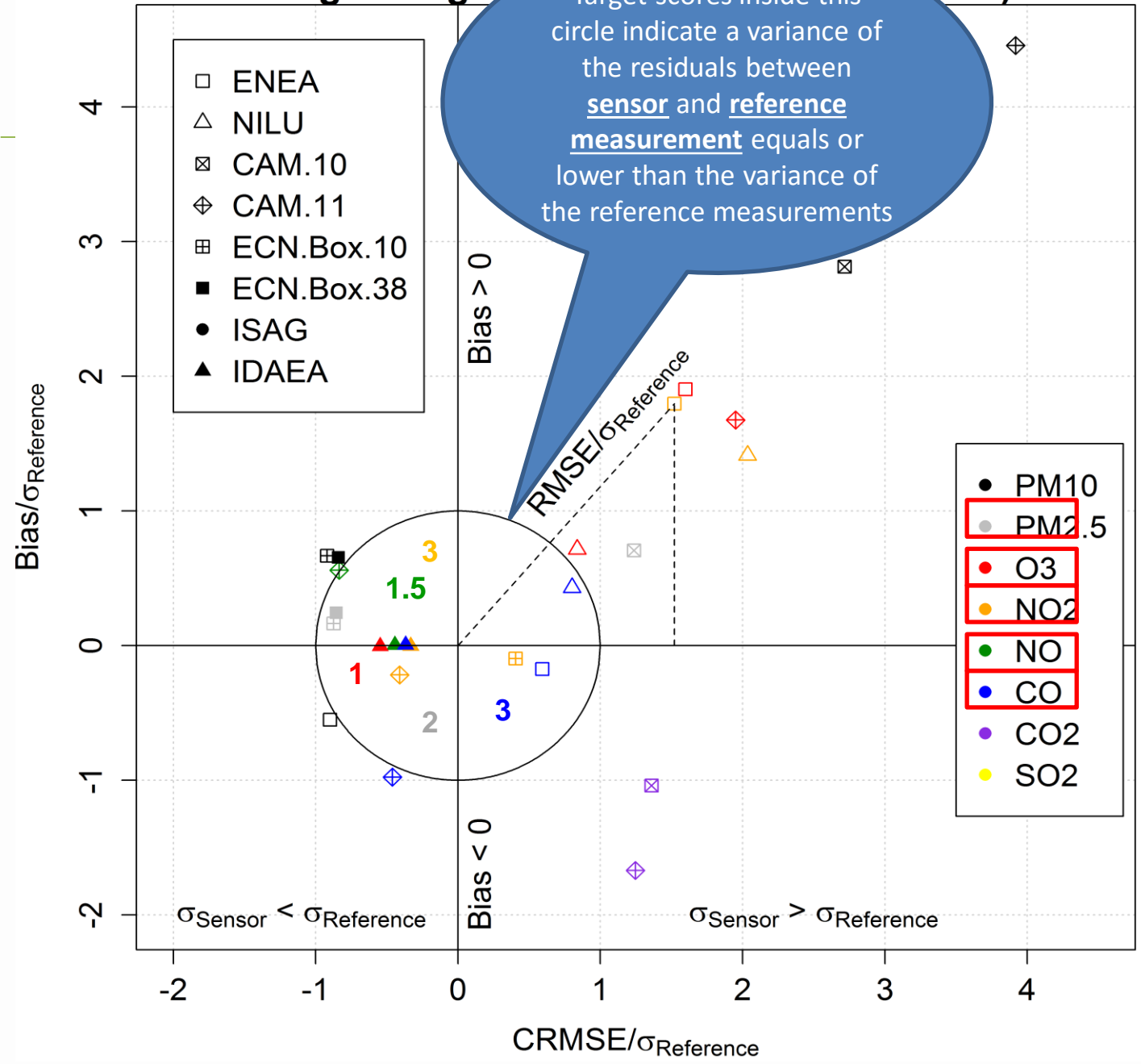
PM10 all with NO2 ID,

# Data analytics: data insights with CI



- low Ozone conditions (medium to low temp)
- High Ozone, high temp
- Med. to high Ozone, low temp (O<sub>3</sub> transportation??)

# Target Diagram (2014)



# Conclusion

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- A variety of metrics for data description should be tested
  - Descriptive statistics tell part of the story
- Advanced data analytics based on CI to be also used
  - Unsupervised learning methods are advantageous
- A comparison method applied for all?
  - Yes, if carefully selected and thoroughly evaluated

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thank you!