

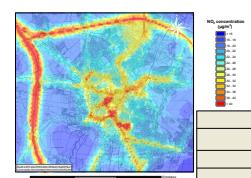
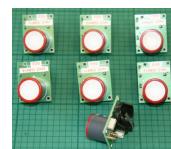
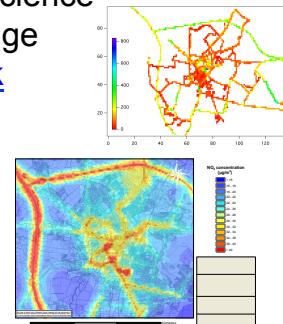


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## Monitoring air quality: small sensors start to show their capabilities



Rod Jones (and many others!)  
Centre for Atmospheric Science  
University of Cambridge  
[rlj1001@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rlj1001@cam.ac.uk)



### Philosophy of Approach:

information content vs instrument precision



vs



High precision measurement in the *wrong place*  
has less value than a poor/indicative measurement  
in the *correct place*.....

(But actually they're not that bad.....)

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### Origins

Mobile Environmental Sensing  
System Across Grid Environments

EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council



John Polak (IC), Peter Landshoff (Cambridge) and many others - incl. UCAM/RLJ!

High density Sensor Network  
for monitoring Air Quality at  
Heathrow Airport



SNAQ | Heathrow

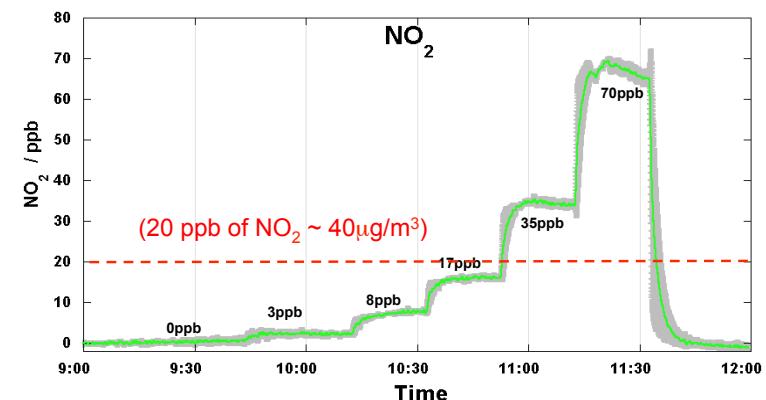
details later.....

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Challenges: enhance performance of e.g.  
electrochemical sensors (e.g. NO<sub>2</sub>,  
laboratory)

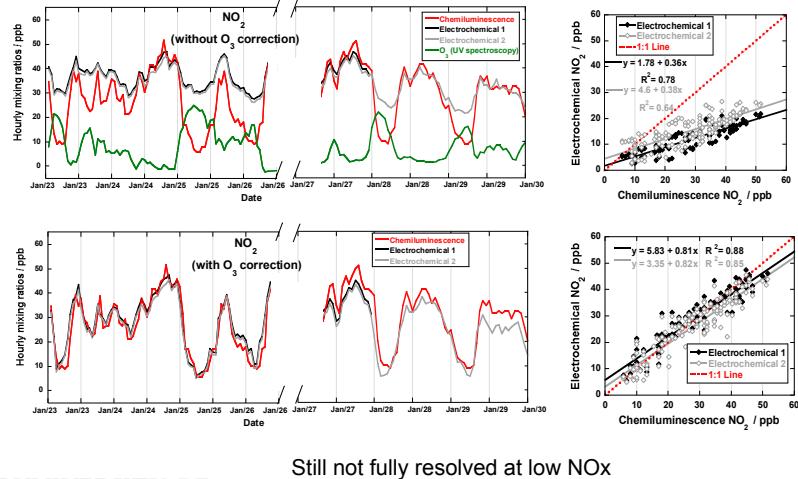
**ppm → ppb level response**



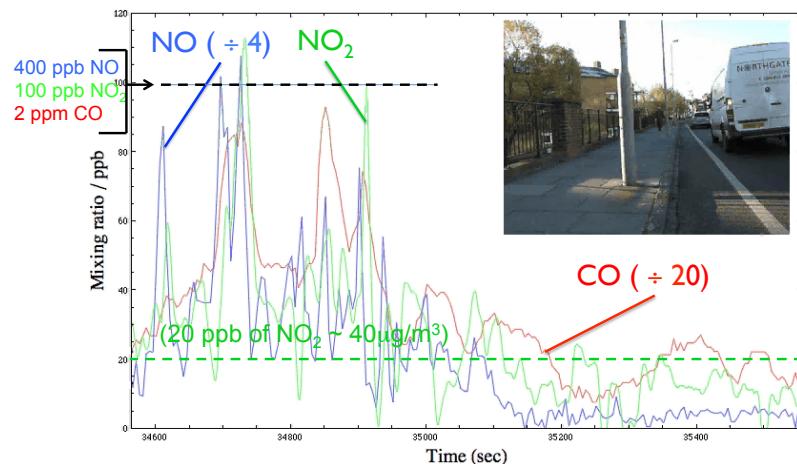
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## Example of issues: characterisation of NO<sub>2</sub> cross sensitivity to O<sub>3</sub>



## Multi-species real time mobile measurements of air quality in complex environments



## Three-species mobile sensor node



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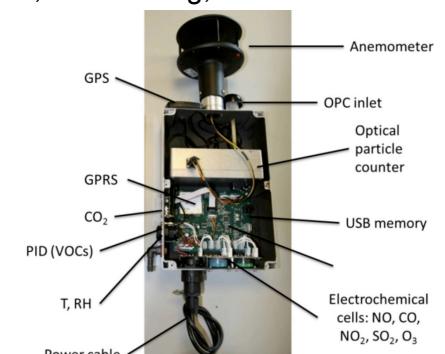
## State of the art sensor network system at UK Heathrow airport

- 50 sensor nodes, real time data transfer
- NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, VOCs and size-specified PM.
- Source attribution/model validation for area.
- Novel software tools for calibration, data-mining, visualisation/interpretation.
- Emissions inventory for LHR
- Network design optimisation.

### Information content.....



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## High density sensor network system for air quality studies at Heathrow airport

### Participants:

#### Institution

University of Cambridge (PI)  
 Imperial College London  
 University of Hertfordshire  
 University of Manchester  
 CERC Ltd  
 National Physical Lab.

Heathrow Airport Ltd  
 British Airways  
 Alphasense Ltd



Imperial College  
London

#### Input

sensors, a/q models  
 traffic models, data visualisation  
 aerosol measurements  
 aerosol measurements  
 a/q modelling – ADMS  
 metrology, calibration



MANCHESTER  
1824



National Physical Laboratory

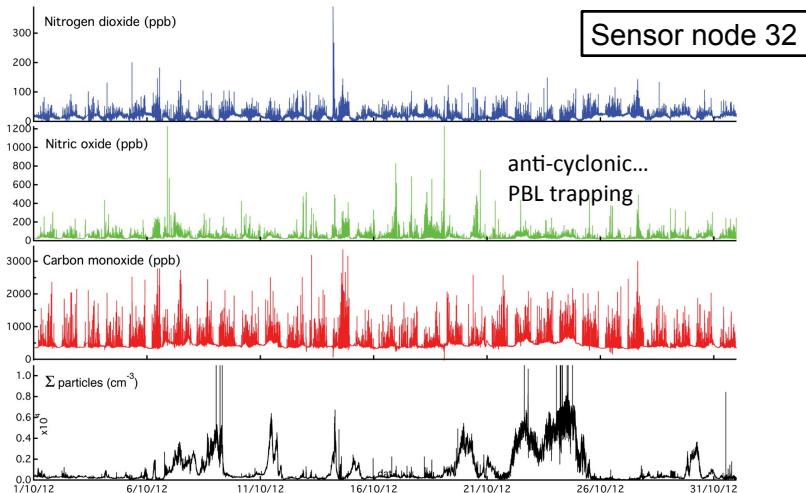
Cambridge Environmental Research Consultants  
Environmental Software and Services



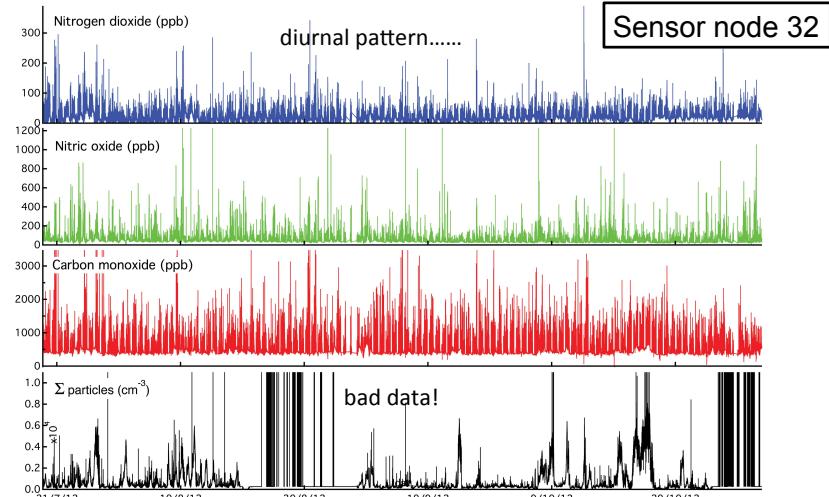
logistic, flight movements  
 flight movements, throttle settings  
 sensors, support



### Preliminary LHR results .....1 month

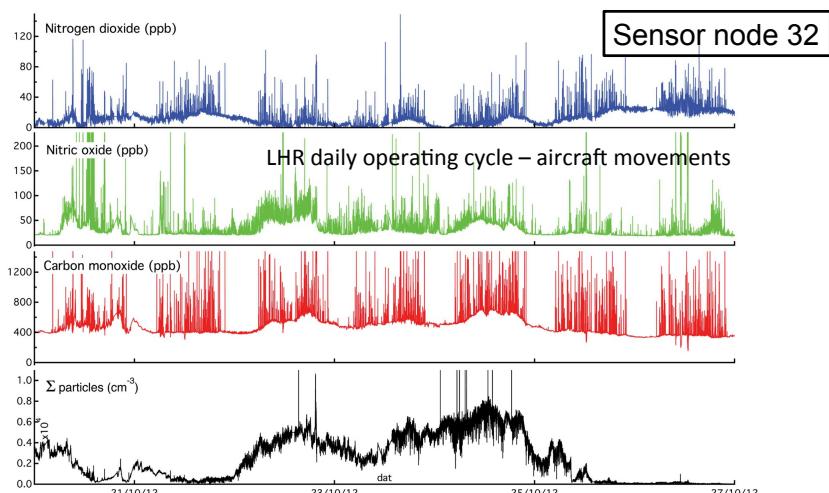


### Preliminary LHR results .....3 months



### Preliminary LHR results .....1 month

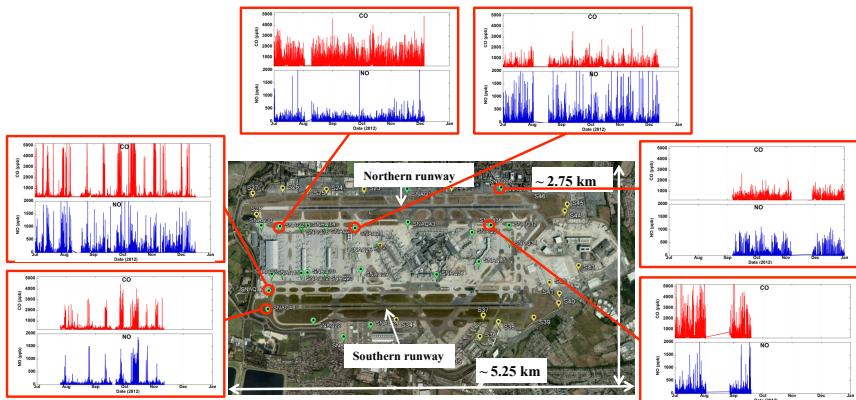
### Preliminary LHR results .....1 week



Clear evidence of airport operations (expected)



## Preliminary Results SNAQ Heathrow Deployment

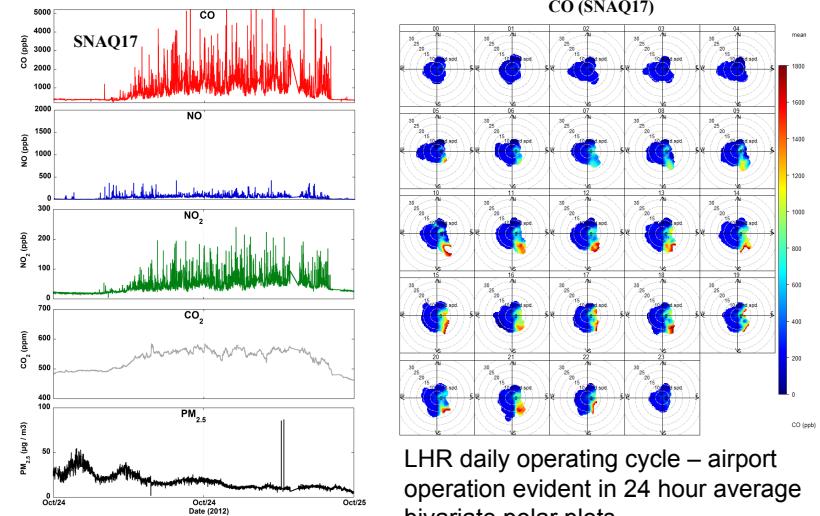


Snapshot of CO and NO measurements across the network



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## Preliminary LHR results .....24 hours



LHR daily operating cycle – airport operation evident in 24 hour average bivariate polar plots



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## Sensor Network Calibration?

Fixed (AURN) sites: gas standards, intensive calibration methods.

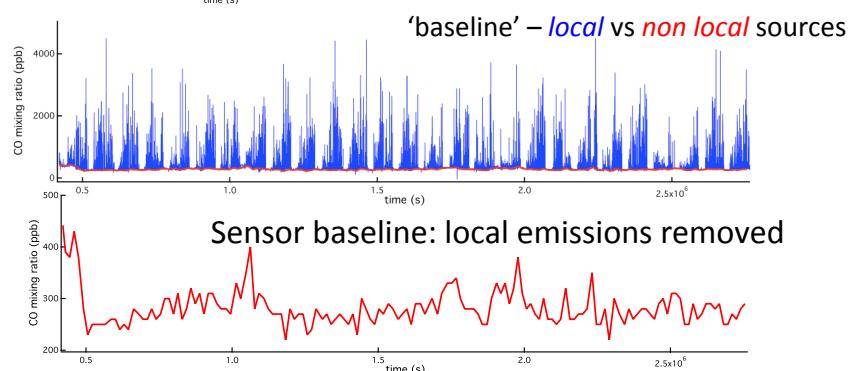
Not feasible for low cost sensor networks....

Alternative methodologies.....?



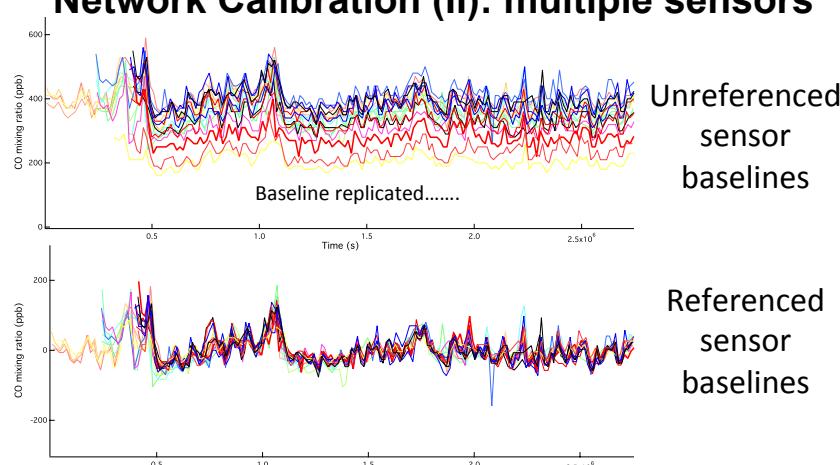
## Network Calibration (I) (one sensor)

Intermittency of emissions, if measured at high time resolution, allows determination of sensor



Information content in baseline?

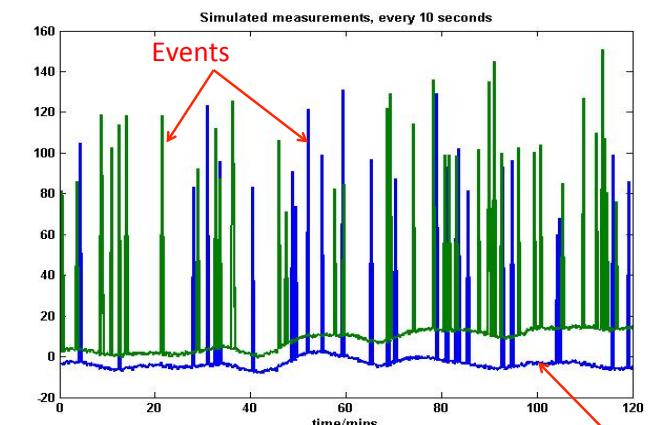
## Network Calibration (II): multiple sensors



Method for intra-calibrating (and error checking)  
sensor networks: a single referenced network

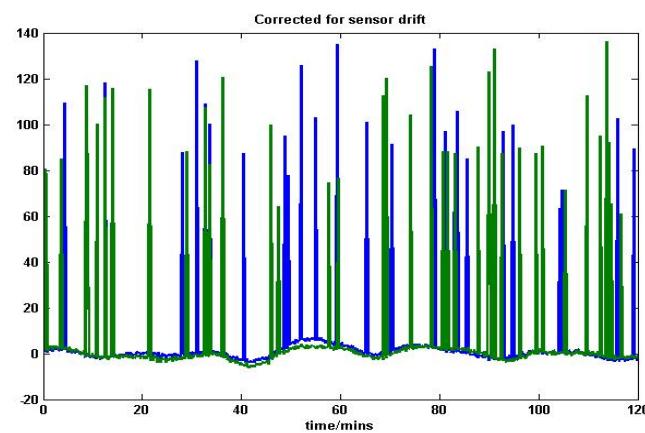


## Simulated data, sensor drift



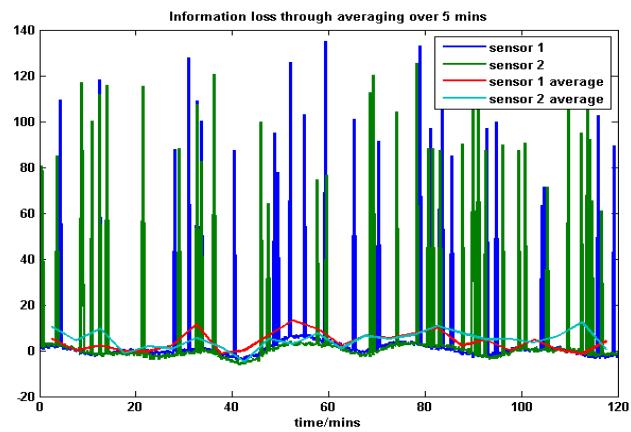
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## Corrected for sensor drift



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## Information loss through averaging



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## Information loss through time averaging

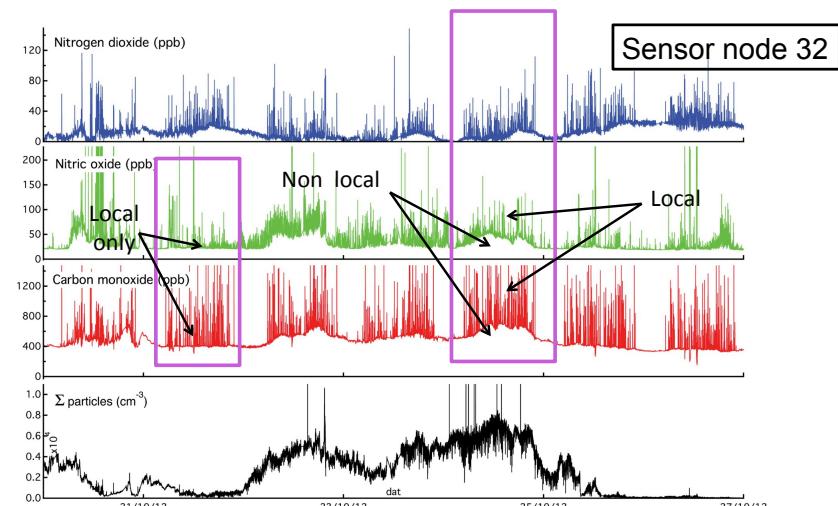
- Kriging interpolation/calibration methods can work well, but require appropriate spatial scales...
- High frequency sampling/filtering allows method to be extended to near source environments....

Statistical + Kriging based algorithms for network calibration (i.e. not requiring invasive methods) achievable for cross-network calibration/quality control.....



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## Source attribution: local vs non-local



Network calibration and extra information



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## Static Sensor Deployment, Cambridge (UK)

>2 month deployment (May-July 2010)

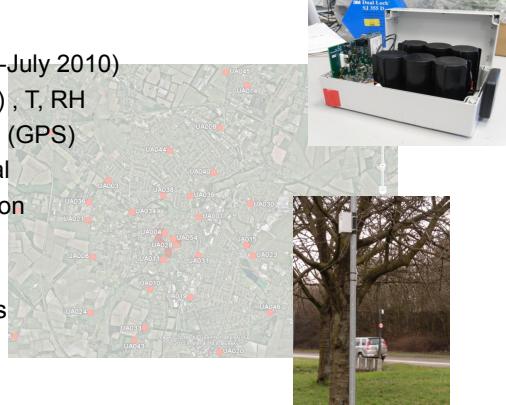
>40 sensors (CO, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>), T, RH

Lamp post mounted, GPRS (GPS)

Inner city, mixed urban, rural

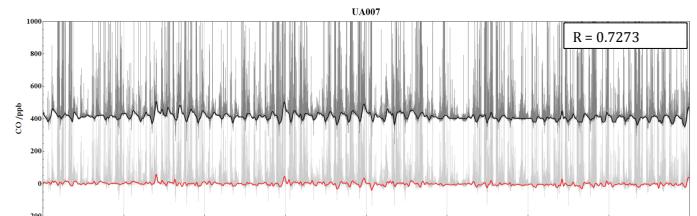
Real time GPRS transmission

>25,000,000 measurements

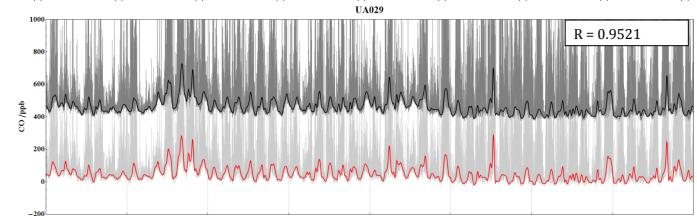


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## Source attribution: regional and local signals:



Rural site – with/without regional background



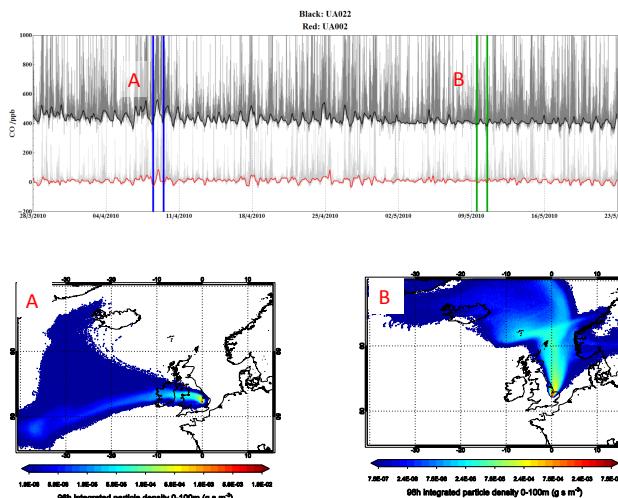
Urban site – with/without regional background

Data based source attribution – exploiting time resolution!



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## Source attribution: back trajectories

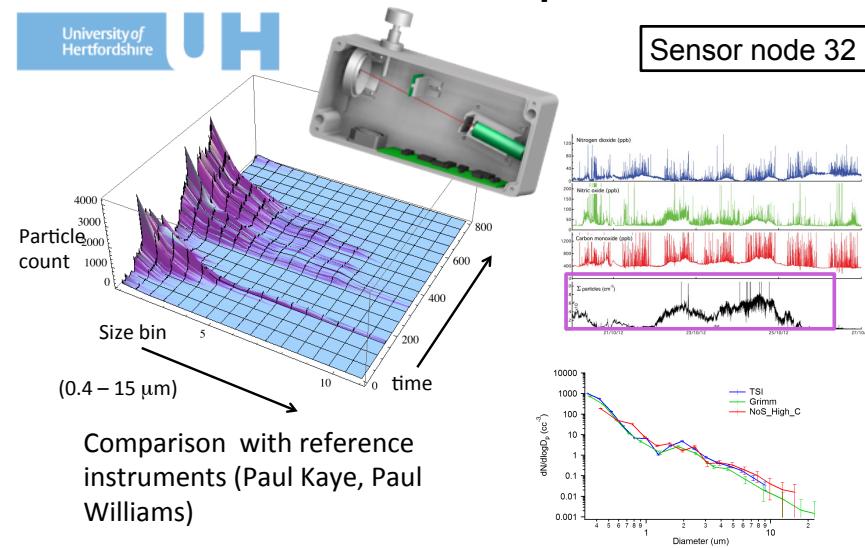


Data based source attribution contd.

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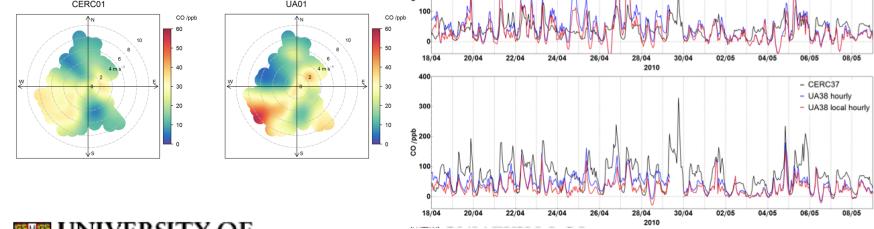
## Other measurements: size speciated PM



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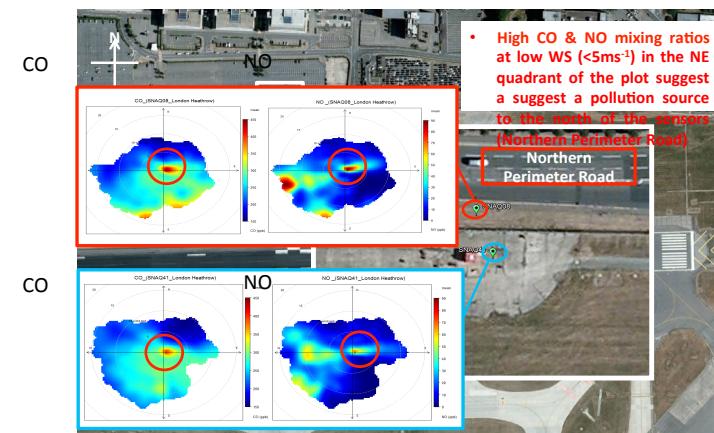
## Local emissions comparison: ADMS (local dispersion model) calculations with hourly average and hourly average local measurements

### Quantification of local emissions

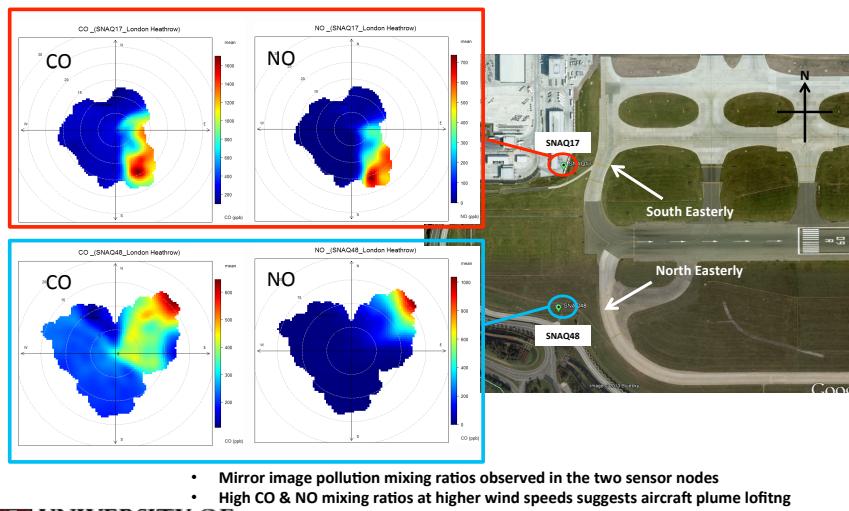


## Data-based disaggregation methods

### LHR: airside/roadside discrimination

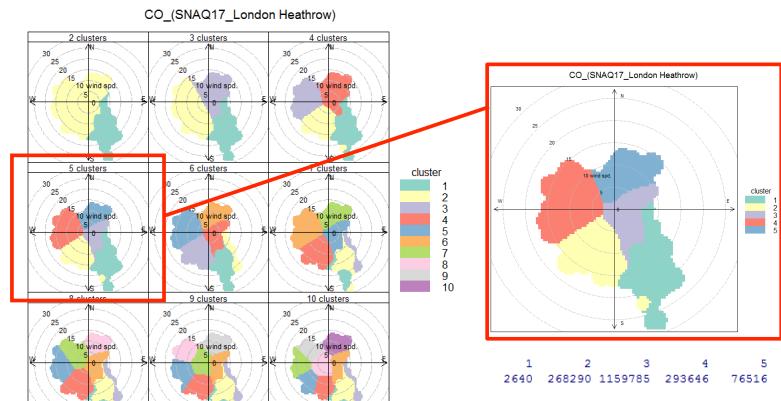


## Detection of jet exhaust plume (lofting)



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## Source attribution: Sensors at the west-end of southern runway (09R)



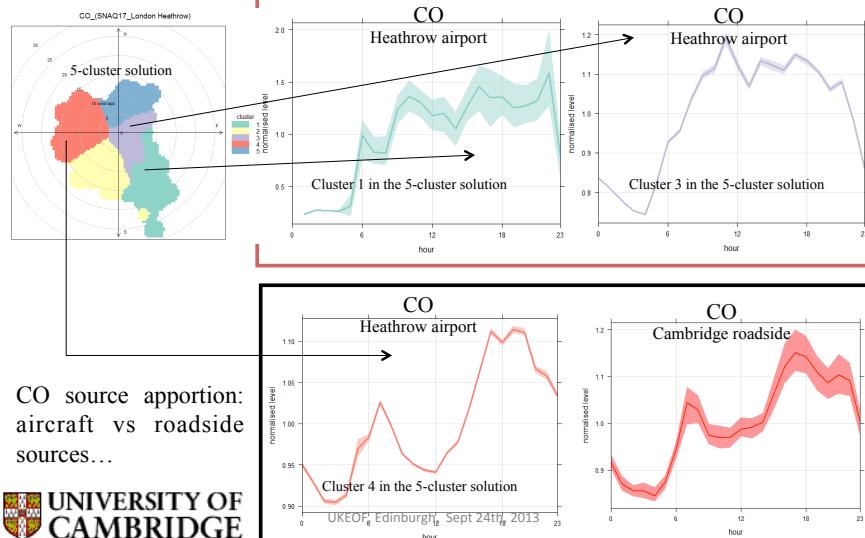
Using the 5-cluster solution

David Carslaw and Karl Ropkins (2012). openair: Open-source tools for the analysis of air pollution data. R package version 0.7-0.



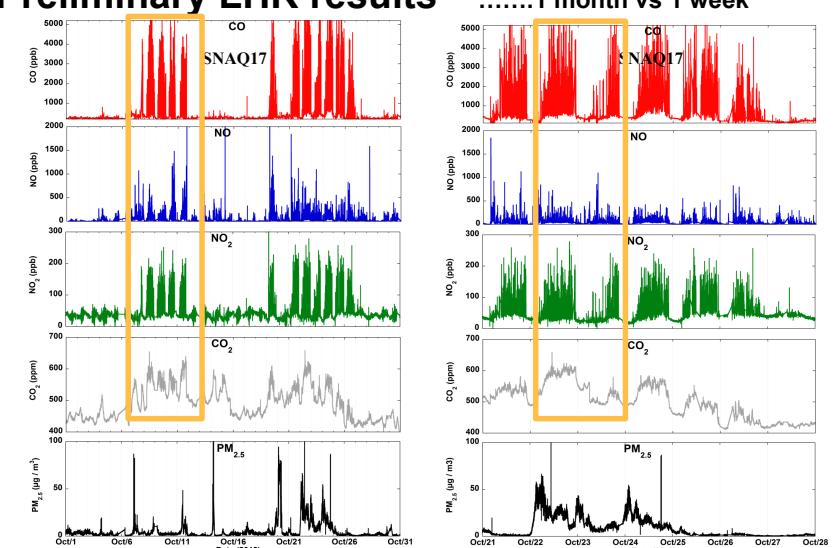
UKEOF, Edinburgh, Sept 24th, 2013

## Source attribution: Sensors at the west-end of southern runway (09R)



UKEOF, Edinburgh, Sept 24th, 2013

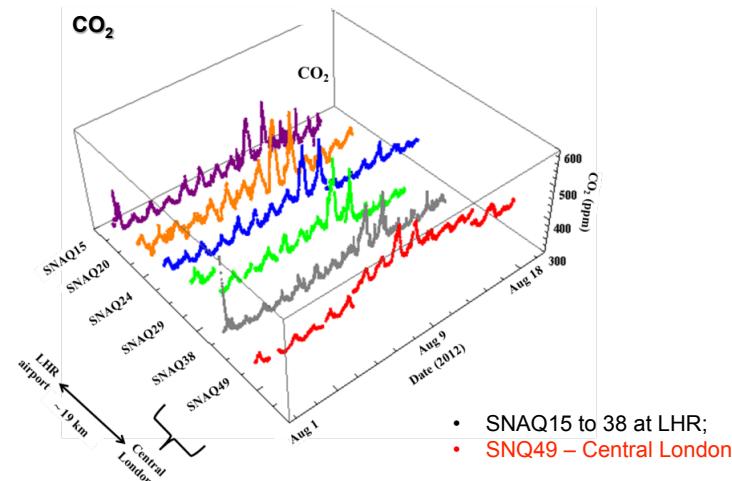
## Preliminary LHR results



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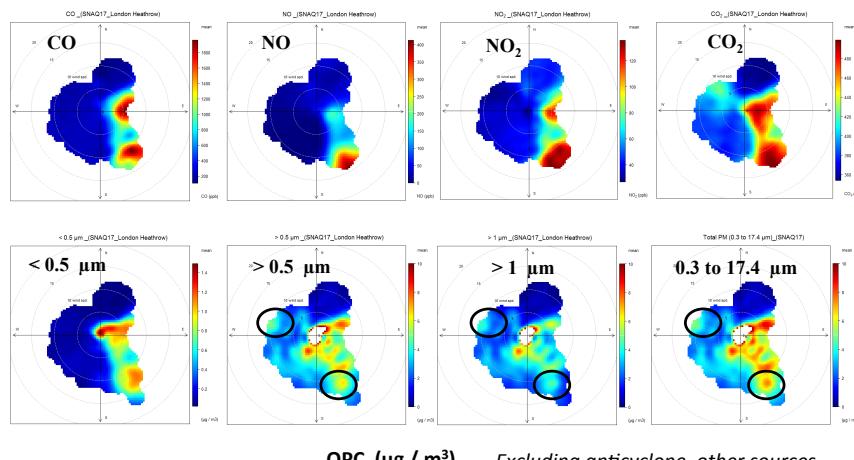
Emissions indices...

## Regional pollution events observed across SNAQ network



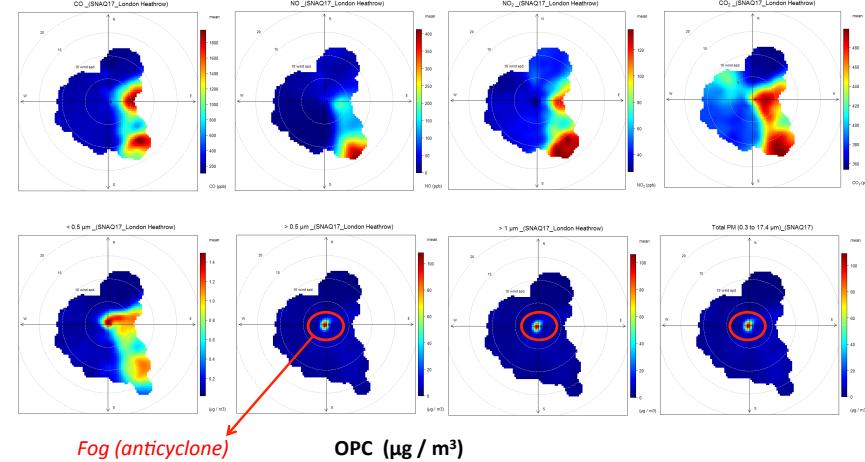
vb323@cam.ac.uk

## Source attribution: SNAQ17 at the west-end of southern runway (09R), 1 month data



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## Source attribution: SNAQ17 at the west-end of southern runway (09R), 1 month data



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## Heathrow Operational Modes

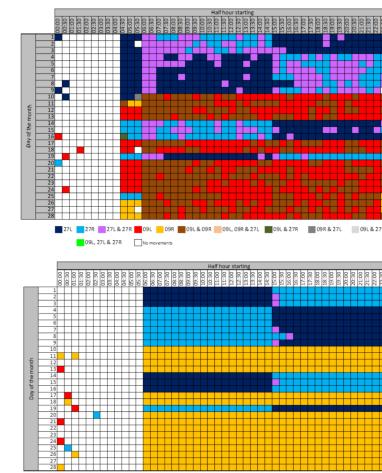
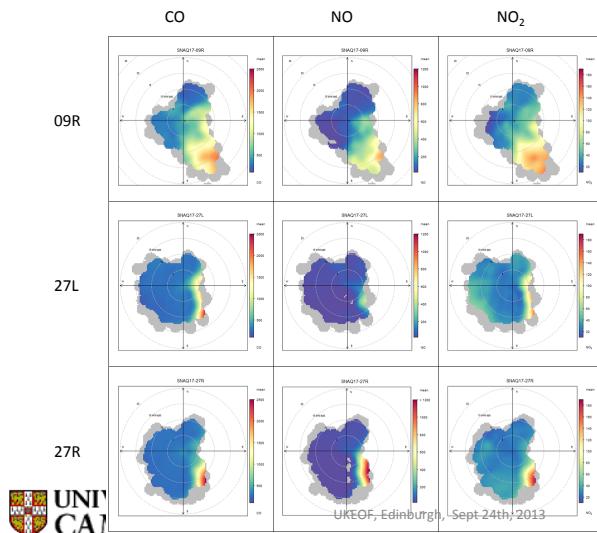


Figure 22: Actual departure runway usage during February 2013  
CAMBRIDGE

- A trial which ran between July 2012 and February 2013.
- "It explored whether new procedures could be used to bring benefits to passengers, by providing a more punctual service; the local community through less late-running flights; and to the environment, by reducing aircraft stacking times and reducing emissions."
- As part of the trial data was made available online as to which runways were active at any one time.
- Data is given for every half hour period.

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Allows division of data according to airport activity... (here done by take-off)

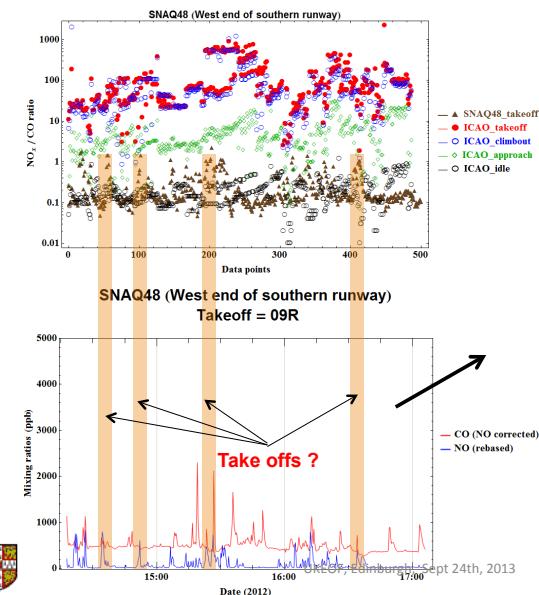


09R – southern runway in an easterly direction

27L – southern runway in an westerly direction

27R – northern runway in a westerly direction

## NO<sub>x</sub> / CO ratios: ICAO vs. SNAQ data



Chemical detection of aircraft thrust through ICAO NO<sub>x</sub>/CO ratios

Time series of the SNAQ data (brown) shown above – individual aircraft movements.

## Low cost sensors/sensor networks?

- + Performance at the ppb level
- + Stability/reproducibility (not really discussed here)
- + Low cost gas and PM
- + Network calibration methodologies
- + Intrinsic value of high time resolution data...
- + Source attribution/data disaggregation
- + First major deployment of true low cost high density sensor network – still early days!

### Caveats:

- PM only above 400nm, no chemical speciation (!)
- Cross interferences still an issue in some cases (e.g. NO<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>3</sub> at low NOx)

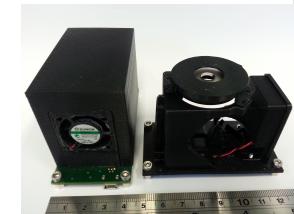
## Future directions? indoor air quality, personal monitoring....



Screen (miniaturised)  
printed amperometric  
cells



Miniaturised  
size speciated  
PM



## Acknowledgements

Iq Mead

Lekan Popoolan, Shaun Hurst, Gregor Stewart,  
Vivien Bright, Ines Heimann (All UCAM)

John Saffell (Alphasense)

.....

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Jo Dicks, Anita Harris (Cambridge City Council)

Mark Hayes, Mark Calleja

Robin North/John Polak

Jeremy Cohen

Paul Kaye and UH team

Alastair Forbes/Martin Milton (NPL)

Paul Williams (UMAN)

David Carruthers (CERC)

.....

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