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Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz

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Materials Science & Technology

ETH Zürich

Modelling Ultrafine Particle Number Concentration in Zurich with High Spatio-Temporal Resolution

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Ultrafine particle (UFP) number concentration in Zurich





City of Zurich

Bern-Bollwerk

Basel-Binningen

(NABEL)



Ultrafine particles (UFP) concentration maps



Ultrafine particles (UFP)

- Diameter < 0.1 µm
- Main emission source: road traffic (urban environments, Switzerland)
- UFP in ambient air are a potential risk to human health

Application fields of highly resolved pollutant concentration maps

- Investigation of health effects related to air pollutants
 - Improvement of the accuracy of personal exposure estimates
- Urban management and health protection
 - Impact assessment of traffic management on air quality
 - Settlement development, land-use planning

Statistical Modelling





OpenSense Mobile Sensor Network







Sensor boxes on top of 10 trams

- Particles number concentration
- Ozone
- Temperature
- Humidity
- Position (GPS)



Representation of traffic





Representation of the built environment





UFP Maps



(Temporal resolution: 30 min)



Cross-validation («Leave-one-out»)





Leave-One-Out Cross-Validation



PNC: Mean PNC in a 15 min interval with at least 120 observations.



Comparison with measurements of permanent sites

Modelled PNC [particles/cm³]





Opensense network characteristics

EMPA



UFP exposure measurements







- 17 tours on 11 days in January 2014
- Duration (39 172 min)
- 113384 measurements (~1.3 days)

Exposure modelling and UFP map validation



PNC observations and modelling results



Exposure modelling and UFP map validation



Model



SCH



Summary and conclusions



Opensense UFP data set of good quality

- MiniDiSCs require periodical maintainance for 24/7 operation.
- Only few QA/QC routines implemented in the network operation so far.
- Statistical modelling of UFP concentrations
 - Methodology of generating UFP maps developed
 - Further development of predictors ongoing
 - > Traffic (e.g. time varying traffic patterns)
 - Improvement of three-dimensional building representation
- Opensense mobile sensor network
 - Uneven distribution of measurements w.r.t. location characteristics
 - Extension of the network by static sensors at distinct locations recommended (e.g. urban background, heavily congested environments)



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