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Develop a random forest model to calibrate low-cost sensor measurements in an operational context

Why?

- ✓ Affordable continuous monitoring of pollutants
- ✗ Data accuracy and reliability



Data collection

Sensirion : PM2.5 & PM10 concentration

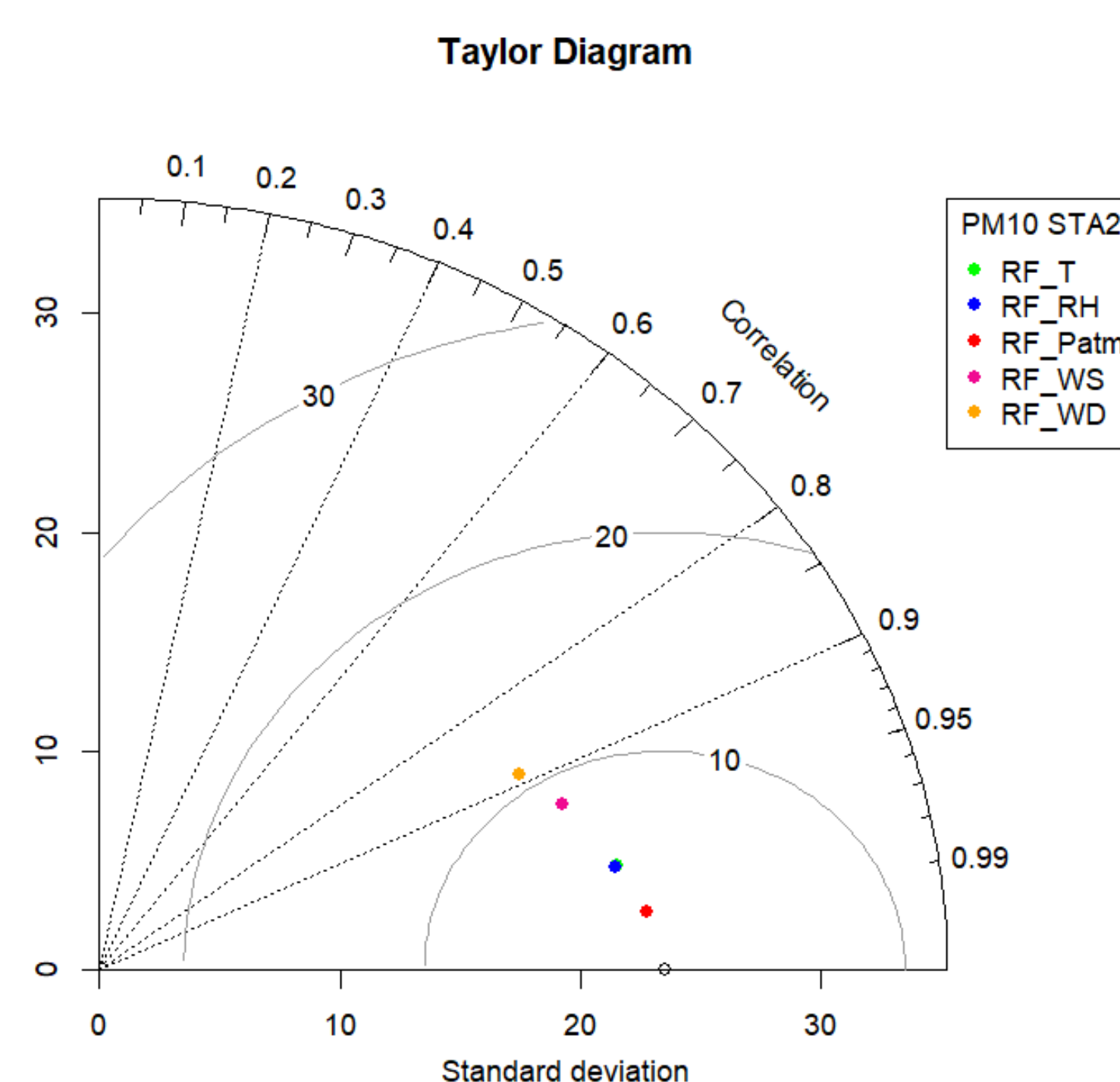
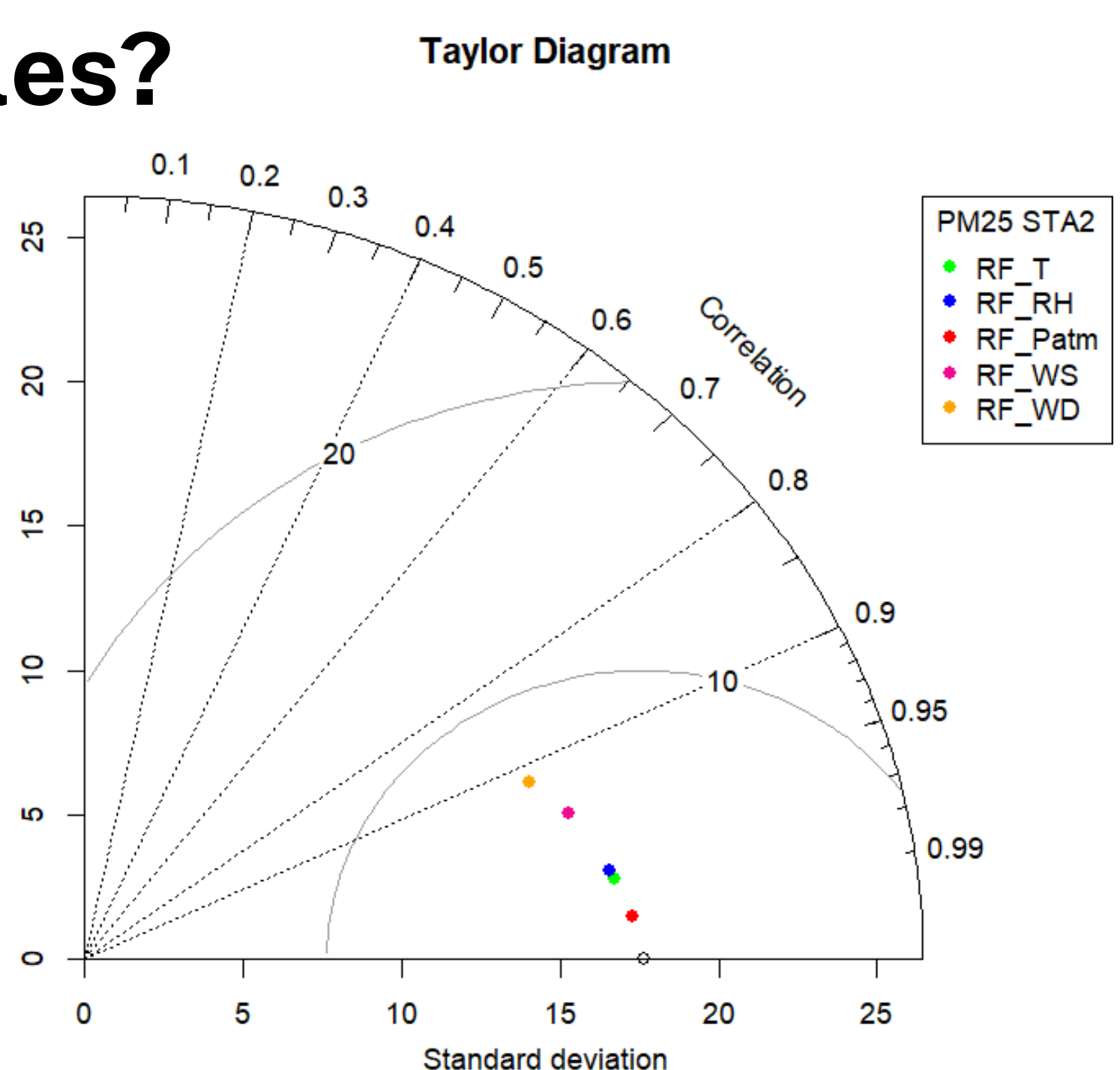
1-min frequency

2 weeks in February 2024

2 weeks in March 2024

Which predictive variables?

- **Low-cost PM concentration**
- **Temperature** : response time
- **Atmospheric pressure** : current peak
- **Relative humidity** : bias from water adsorption by particles [1]
- **Wind features** : pollutant dispersion
- **Cross-sensitivity gases**



Taylor Diagram for random forest models using one of the predictive variables

$$PM(RF) \sim PM(LC) + T(LC) + RH(LC) + Patm(LC)$$

Calibration period? Cross validation

Dataset	k-fold used for validation	PM2.5		PM10	
		RMSE ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	R ²	RMSE ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	R ²
Merged	1	19.20	0.63	27.88	0.50
	2	2.61	0.59	3.16	0.54
	3	3.17	0.74	3.49	0.73
	4	4.12	0.70	5.23	0.75
	5	6.12	0.61	8.34	0.53
February 2024	1	3.41	0.65	7.23	0.67
	2	35.37	-0.14	48.34	0.18
	3	2.01	0.42	2.92	0.30
	4	3.95	0.38	4.93	0.27
	5	7.19	0.28	8.93	0.12

February

Unique combination

- Drop in atmospheric pressure
- Increase of relative humidity
- PM concentration peak
- PM concentration variations

Future works



Extend calibration period span [1,2]

Field calibration [3]



Include **NO2** concentration (data source reliability)

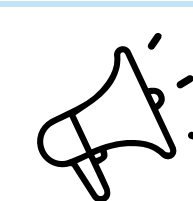


Continuous calibration & generalised model (inter-device variability)



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Take-home insight

- Calibration period duration and its span
 - Including environmental variables
- Robust calibration models

References

- [1] Ko, K. Cho, S. Rao, R. R. (2024) Evaluation of calibration performance of a low-cost particulate matter sensor using collocated and distant NO2. Atmos. Meas. Tech. Vol 17, pp. 3303-3322. <https://doi.org/10.5194/amt-17-3303-2024>
- [2] Liang, L. (2021) Calibrating low-cost sensors for ambient air monitoring: Techniques, trends, and challenges. Environmental Research, Vol. 197 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2021.111163>
- [3] Castell, N. Douge, F. R. Schneider, P. Vogt, M. Lerner, U. Fishbain, B. Broday, D. Bartonova, A. (2017) Can commercial low-cost sensor platforms contribute to air quality monitoring and exposure estimates? Environment International, Vol 99, pp 293-302 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2016.12.007>