

# SNIFFDRONE

**Drone-based Environmental Odour Monitoring**



**9<sup>th</sup> IWA ODOURS  
& VOC/AIR EMISSIONS  
CONFERENCE**



## INTRODUCTION



# SNIFF DRONE

**Project period**

May 2019 – October 2020

**Project Partners**



Depuración de Aguas  
del Mediterráneo



This project has received funding from  
the European Union's Horizon 2020  
research and innovation programme  
under grant agreement No 777222.





## INTRODUCTION

**To provide spatially dense odour measurements and localize emission hotspots, in complex industrial environments with several emission foci**

A custom e-nose for odour concentration measurements at WWTPs was designed, constructed and tested in pilot field campaigns

The prototype integrates the developed e-nose and a sample collection system into a drone

The prototype has been tested and calibrated in a real WWTP with satisfactory preliminary results for instantaneous odour mapping of the facilities





## E-NOSE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION



### SNIFFDRONE custom made e-nose specifications

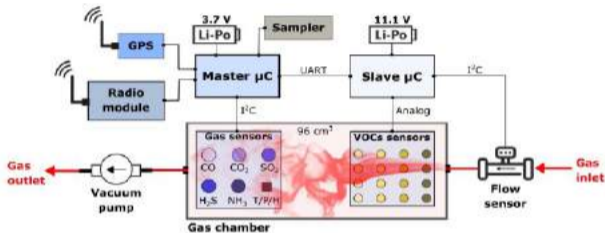
Specifications of electrochemical, NDIR and environmental sensors.

	Technology	Range	Accuracy	Response time (T <sub>90</sub> )
Temperature	Integrated	-40 to +85 °C	± 1 °C	< 2 s
Humidity	Integrated	0 to 100% RH	± 3% RH	< 2 s
Pressure	Integrated	30 to 110 kPa	± 0.1 kPa	< 2 s
Flow rate	Ultrasonic	-33 to +33 L/min	± 3% m.v.	< 1 s
CO <sub>2</sub>	NDIR	0 to 5000 ppm	± 100 ppm	< 60 s
CO	Electrochemical	0 to 100 ppm	± 0.5 ppm	< 20 s
H <sub>2</sub> S	Electrochemical	0 to 20 ppm	± 0.1 ppm	< 20 s
NH <sub>3</sub>	Electrochemical	0 to 100 ppm	± 0.5 ppm	< 90 s
SO <sub>2</sub>	Electrochemical	0 to 20 ppm	± 0.1 ppm	< 45 s

Parameter	Value
Gas sensors	4 x Electrochemical cells (EC) for NH <sub>3</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> S, SO <sub>2</sub> , CO 1 x Nondispersive infrared (NDIR) for CO <sub>2</sub> 16 x Metal oxide semiconductor (MOX)
Other sensors	Temperature, humidity, pressure, flow rate
Output signals	Raw data + calibrated output (ou <sub>g</sub> · m <sup>-2</sup> )
Odour range	50 – 10 <sup>5</sup> ou <sub>g</sub> · m <sup>-2</sup>
Prediction accuracy <sup>1</sup>	50% - 200% of reference value
Sampling frequency	1 Hz (GPS disabled); 0.2 Hz (GPS enabled)
Flow rate	1.8 L/min
GPS accuracy	±3 m
Radio link	ZigBee 868 MHz (point-to-point)
Radio range	2 km
Power consumption	1 W
Main (external) battery	LiPo 3S 11.1V 5100 mAh
Internal battery	LiPo 2S 3.7V 500 mAh
Autonomy	5 h of continuous measurements
Dimensions	15 x 25 x 10 cm <sup>3</sup>
Weight	1325 g (incl. battery)



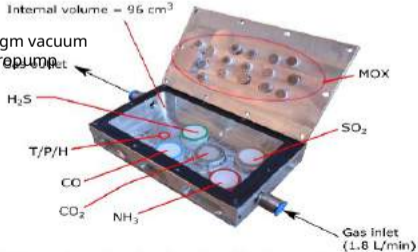
## E-NOSE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION



Internal volume = 96 cm<sup>3</sup>

Diaphragm vacuum  
micropump

*Less than 200 g  
sensing chamber*



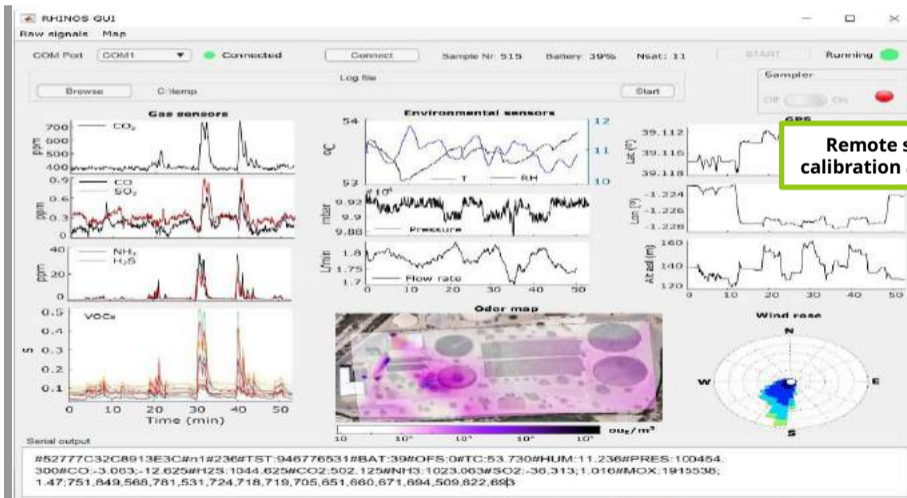
### SNIFFDRONE custom made e-nose specifications

Detail of the 16 MOX sensors included

Sensor	Model	Target gases	Heater voltage
M1	TGS 2600	H <sub>2</sub> , CO, Ethanol	1.6 V
M2	TGS 2600	H <sub>2</sub> , CO, Ethanol	3.2 V
M3	TGS 2600	H <sub>2</sub> , CO, Ethanol	4.0 V
M4	TGS 2600	H <sub>2</sub> , CO, Ethanol	4.9 V
M5	TGS 2602	H <sub>2</sub> S, NH <sub>3</sub> , Toluene	1.6 V
M6	TGS 2602	H <sub>2</sub> S, NH <sub>3</sub> , Toluene	3.2 V
M7	TGS 2602	H <sub>2</sub> S, NH <sub>3</sub> , Toluene	4.0 V
M8	TGS 2602	H <sub>2</sub> S, NH <sub>3</sub> , Toluene	4.9 V
M9	TGS 2611	CH <sub>4</sub> , Hydrocarbons	1.6 V
M10	TGS 2611	CH <sub>4</sub> , Hydrocarbons	3.2 V
M11	TGS 2611	CH <sub>4</sub> , Hydrocarbons	4.0 V
M12	TGS 2611	CH <sub>4</sub> , Hydrocarbons	4.9 V
M13	TGS 2620	Alcohols, ketones	1.6 V
M14	TGS 2620	Alcohols, ketones	3.2 V
M15	TGS 2620	Alcohols, ketones	4.0 V
M16	TGS 2620	Alcohols, ketones	4.9 V



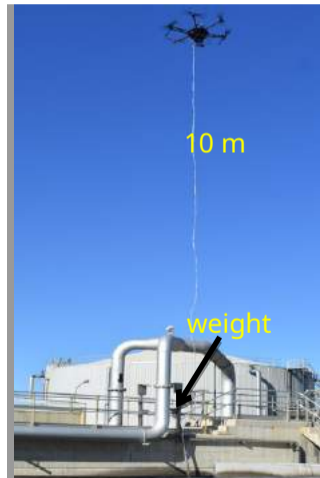
## GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE





## DRONE COUPLING

Integration in a DJI Matrice 600 drone





## TEST SITE AND SAMPLING

Date	Sources						
	BLK	MHL	PRE	BIO	SET	SLT	CHI
28/01/20	2	1	0	1	1	1	0
25/06/20	2	0	3	3	3	0	3
15/07/20	2	0	3	3	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

**Sampling campaigns** for enose calibration and validation in Molina del Segura WWTP, Murcia (Spain)

**Olfasense sampler** mounted in the drone + parallel field e-nose measurements







## E-NOSE CALIBRATION

Olfatometric Analysis of samples according **EN13725:2003**

**Dilution** of remaining samples to 1/10; 1/100 and 1/1000

Measurement of original samples and the diluted ones **with the e-nose** in duplicate

**Calibration model** construction



Set of bags used for calibration.

Bag ID	Date	Source	Distance	Odour concentration ( $\text{ou}_g \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ )			
				Original	1/10	1/100	1/1000
1-1	28/01/20	Bioreactor	0.5m	76,111	7,611	761	76
1-2	28/01/20	Sludge thickener	0.5m	6,222	622	62	6
1-3	28/01/20	Settler	0.5m	2,165	216	21	2
1-4	28/01/20	Influent manhole	0.5m	477	47	4.7	0.47
2-1	25/06/20	Settler	0.5m	9,742	974	97	-
2-2	25/06/20	Settler	2m	3,069	-	-	-
2-3	25/06/20	Settler	5m	301	-	-	-
2-4	25/06/20	Bioreactor	0.5m	96,653	9,665	966	-
2-5	25/06/20	Bioreactor	2m	2,890	289	-	-
2-6	25/06/20	Bioreactor	5m	483	-	-	-
2-7	25/06/20	Pretreat	0.5m	3,444	344	-	-
2-8	25/06/20	Pretreat	2m	323	-	-	-
2-9	25/06/20	Pretreat	5m	256	-	-	-
2-10	25/06/20	Chimney	0.5m	91,952	9,195	919	91
2-11	25/06/20	Chimney	2m	3,649	365	-	-
2-12	25/06/20	Chimney	5m	40	-	-	-
3-1	15/07/20	Settler	0.5m	809	61	-	-
3-2	15/07/20	Settler	2m	76	-	-	-
3-3	15/07/20	Settler	5m	91*	-	-	-
3-4	15/07/20	Bioreactor	0.5m	1,722	172	-	-
3-5	15/07/20	Bioreactor	2m	72*	-	-	-
3-6	15/07/20	Bioreactor	5m	912	-	-	-
3-7	15/07/20	Chimney	0.5m	1,290	-	-	-
3-8	15/07/20	Chimney	2m	32,254	3,225	322	-
3-9	15/07/20	Chimney	5m	3,069*	-	-	-
3-10	15/07/20	Pretreat	0.5m	362	-	-	-
3-11	15/07/20	Pretreat	2m	2,048	205	-	-
3-12	15/07/20	Pretreat	5m	1,085	108	-	-

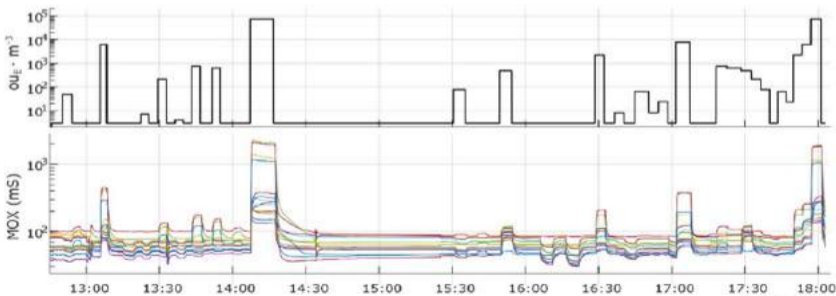


## E-NOSE CALIBRATION

Calibration Model: **Partial Least Squares regression**

Two campaigns for model construction and third for model validation

The performance of the models during optimization was evaluated through the Root Mean Squared Error in cross-validation



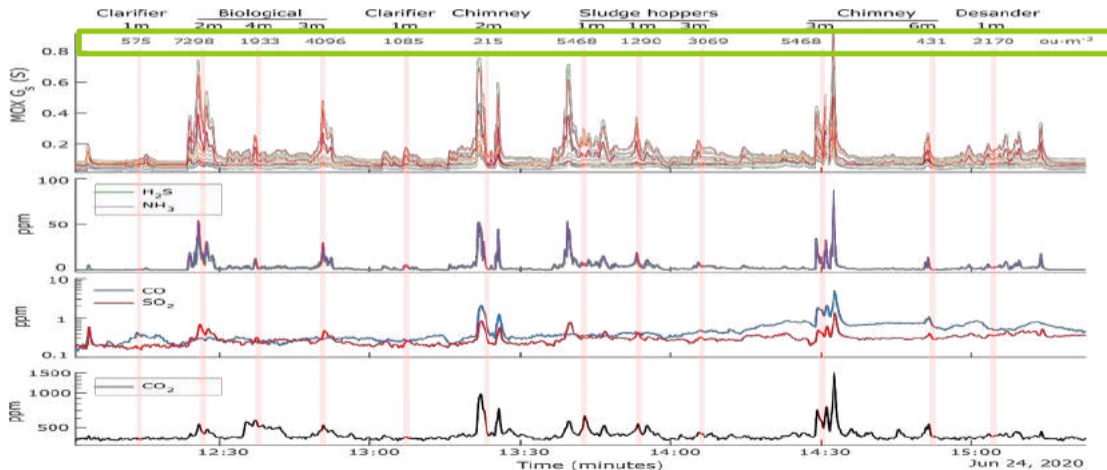
**Example of MOX sensors signals during 1st campaign calibration session**  
(laboratory conditions, real WWTP samples)

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}$$

A detailed description and discussion of the models used can be found at:  
*Burgués, J.; Esclapez, M.D; Doñate, S.; Marco, S. RHINOS: A lightweight portable electronic nose for real-time odour quantification in wastewater treatment plants, iSCIENCE, 2021, in press*



## E NOSE CALIBRATION



Example of sensor's signals during 1<sup>st</sup> measuring campaign *in flight conditions* over the WWTP



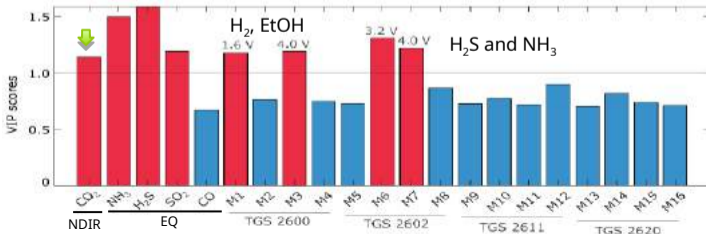
## VARIABLE IMPORTANCE PROJECTION

A **VIP score** is a measure of variable's importance in the PLS model; a threshold of **VIP=1.0** can help us to identify the most relevant sensors

It is feasible to give more weight to the **MOX sensors at low concentrations** and rely more on the **electrochemical cells at higher concentrations**

Relevant contribution of **CO<sub>2</sub>** sensor to the predictive model

Allows **reduce the size, weight, and power consumption** (e.g. by removing 12 MOX sensors can save 75% of the power consumption, leading to an overall consumption of ~250 mW)

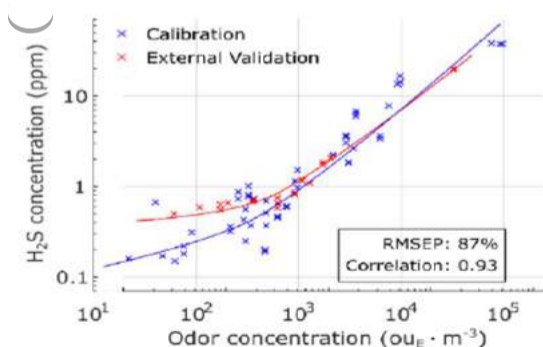
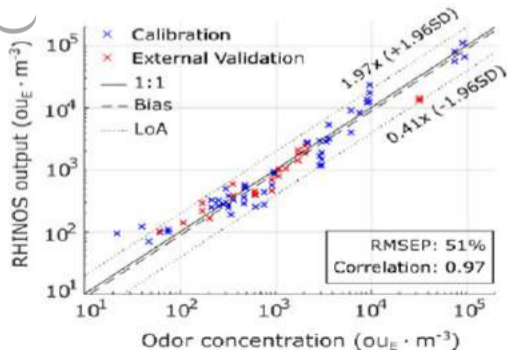




## E-NOSE MODEL VALIDATION (DO vs E-NOSE LABORATORY SIGNALS)

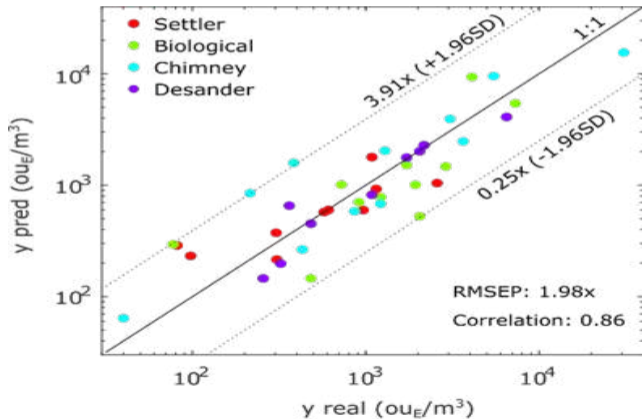
Third measurement campaign for model validation by **Bland-Altman methodology**

**Linear sensitivity** in the range 50-10<sup>5</sup> ou<sub>E</sub>·m<sup>-3</sup>, correlation of 97%, and RMSEP of 51%





## E-NOSE MODEL VALIDATION (DO vs SNIFFDRONE SIGNALS WHILE FLYING)



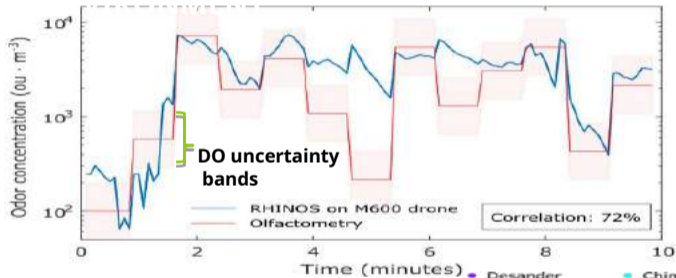
Drone based odour estimation compared with DO in external validation samples based on sensors signals (4) **performed at the WWTP during the drone flight (dynamic signals)**

LoA factor of two wider than those of dynamic olfactometry ([0.5x, 2x])

Cost reduction, temporal and spacial resolution improved

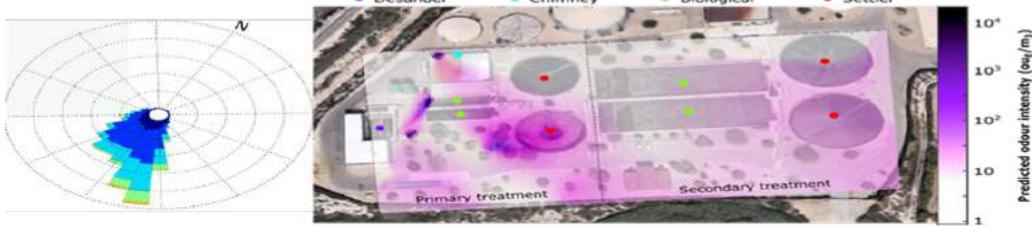


## PROTOTYPE VALIDATION IN REAL WWTP ENVIRONMENT



Real-time odour prediction from Sniffdrone prototype in **flying conditions** compared to parallel dynamic olfactometry measurements

**Interpolated odour concentration map** at 1m/s and an odour concentration result every 5s (Natural neighbour interpolator)





## CONCLUDING REMARKS

**Drone based mapping of real time odor concentration in WWTPs with slightly worse accuracy than the reference method is feasible**

### Odour monitoring benefits

- Safety of plant workers
- Evaluate the effectiveness of odour abatement
- Reduce nuisance complaints
- Comply with permit requirements
- Cost of facilities maintenance

### SNIFFDRONE applications

- Wastewater treatment plants
- Landfills
- Composting plants
- Agriculture
- Many others

1. *Burgués, J.; Esclapez, M.D.; Doñate, S.; Pastor, L.; Marco, S. Aerial Mapping of Odorous Gases in a Wastewater Treatment Plant Using a Small Drone. Remote Sens. 2021, 13, 1757*
2. *Burgués, J.; Esclapez, M.D.; Doñate, S.; Marco, S. RHINOS: A lightweight portable electronic nose for real-time odour quantification in wastewater treatment plants, iSCIENCE, 2021, in press*
3. *Burgués, J.; Esclapez, M.D.; Doñate, S.; Marco. SNIFFDRONE: Drone-based environmental odor monitoring, under review process*
4. *European Patent Presented: EP21282280.1*





**SNIFF DRONE**

Drone-based Environmental Odour Monitoring