

Explanation of Air Pollution Using External Data Sources

Mahdi Esmailoghli, Sergey Redyuk, Ricardo Martinez, Ariane Ziehn,
Ziawasch Abedjan, Tilmann Rabl, Volker Markl (DIMA and BIGDAMA groups)



BTW Data Science Challenge

LuftDaten (pollution sensor data)

Challenges:

- Limited feature set
- Different schemas/sensors
- Malfunctioning sensors
- Stream nature of data

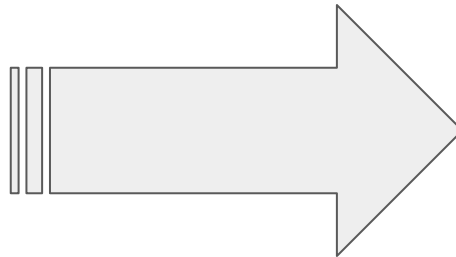
BTW Data Science Challenge - Our Goal

- Goal:
 - Explaining air pollution
 - Detecting the reasons of low air quality
- Problem:
 - Lack of information in provided data
 - Current ML algorithms cannot explain pollution based on provided data

BTW Data Science Challenge - Our Proposal

- Decision tree and Macrobases [Bailis'2017]*

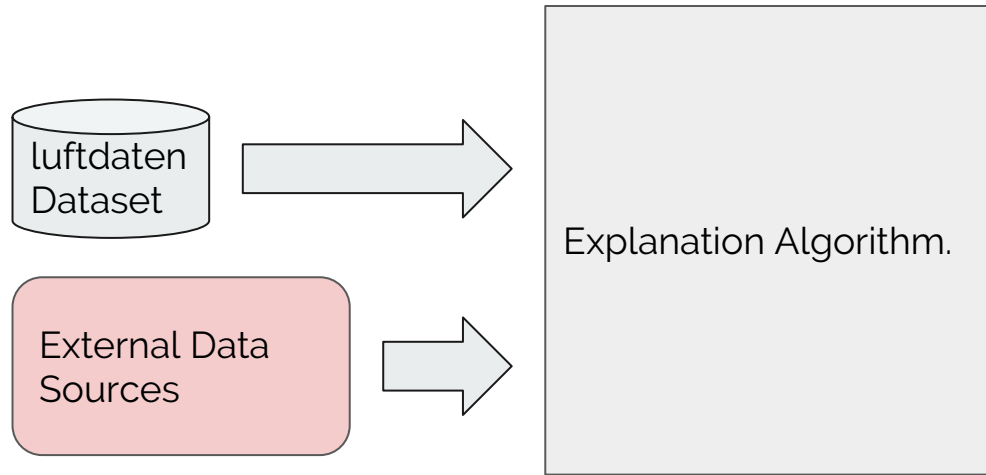
Sensor_type	Pollution
SDS011	35.07
SDS011	38.10
SDS011	1420.42



Sensor_type	Location	Pollution
SDS011	Tiergarten	35.07
SDS011	Tiergarten	38.10
SDS011	Tv Tower	1420.42

BTW Data Science Challenge - Our Proposal

- Enriching the main dataset (Luftdaten) with extra information
- Adding features that correlate with air pollution



External Data Sources



- Air traffic data
 - Airplanes' route



- Event data

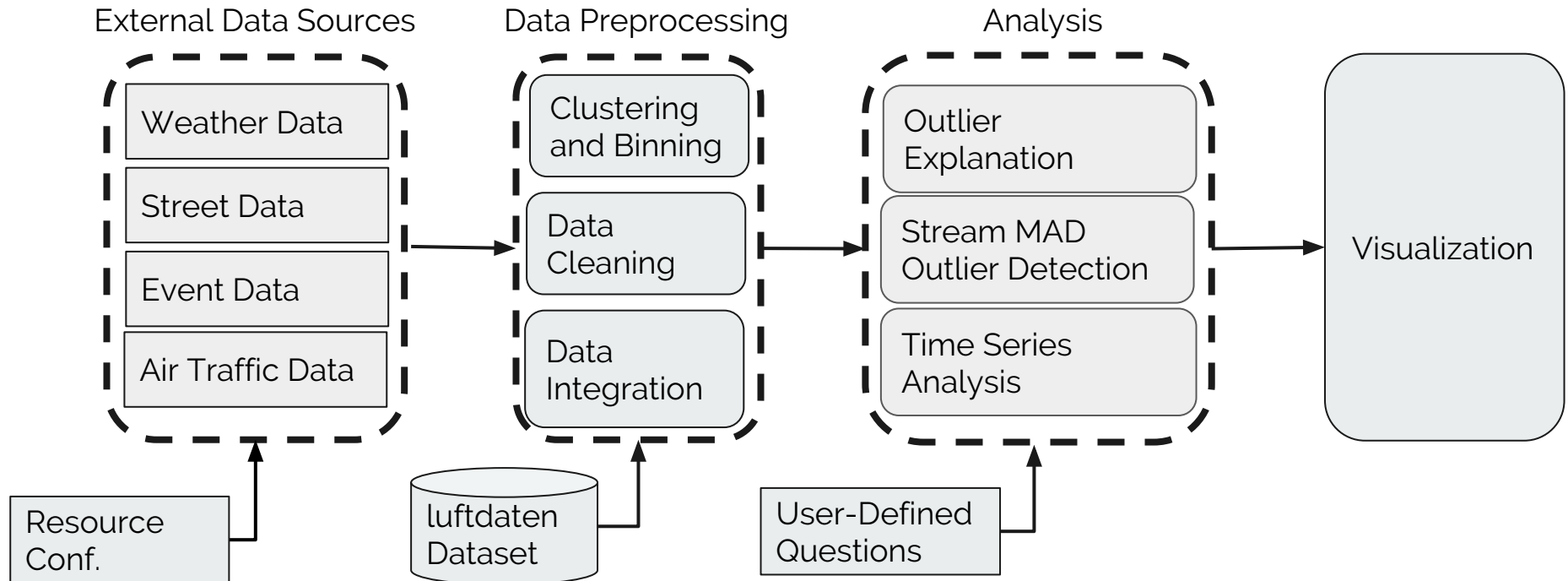


- Weather data
 - Wind (speed and direction)/Temperature/Precipitation



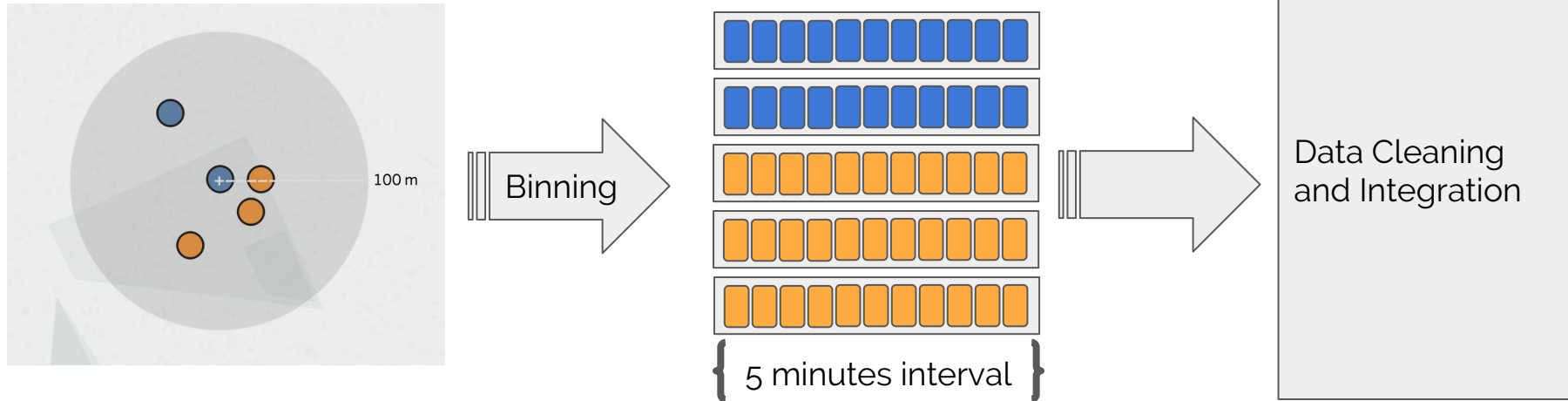
- Openstreetmap data
 - Number of crossroads and streets/Train stations

System Architecture



Clustering and Binning

- Spatial: clustering, 100-meter radius
- Temporal: binning, 5 minute-interval



Data Cleaning

- Wrong readings - malfunctioning sensors / network
- Deviating readings - outliers within the cluster / time slot

TimeStamp	P1
11:17:31	3.5
11:17:59	1.9
11:18:26	100012.7
11:20:44	3.2
11:21:58	2.4

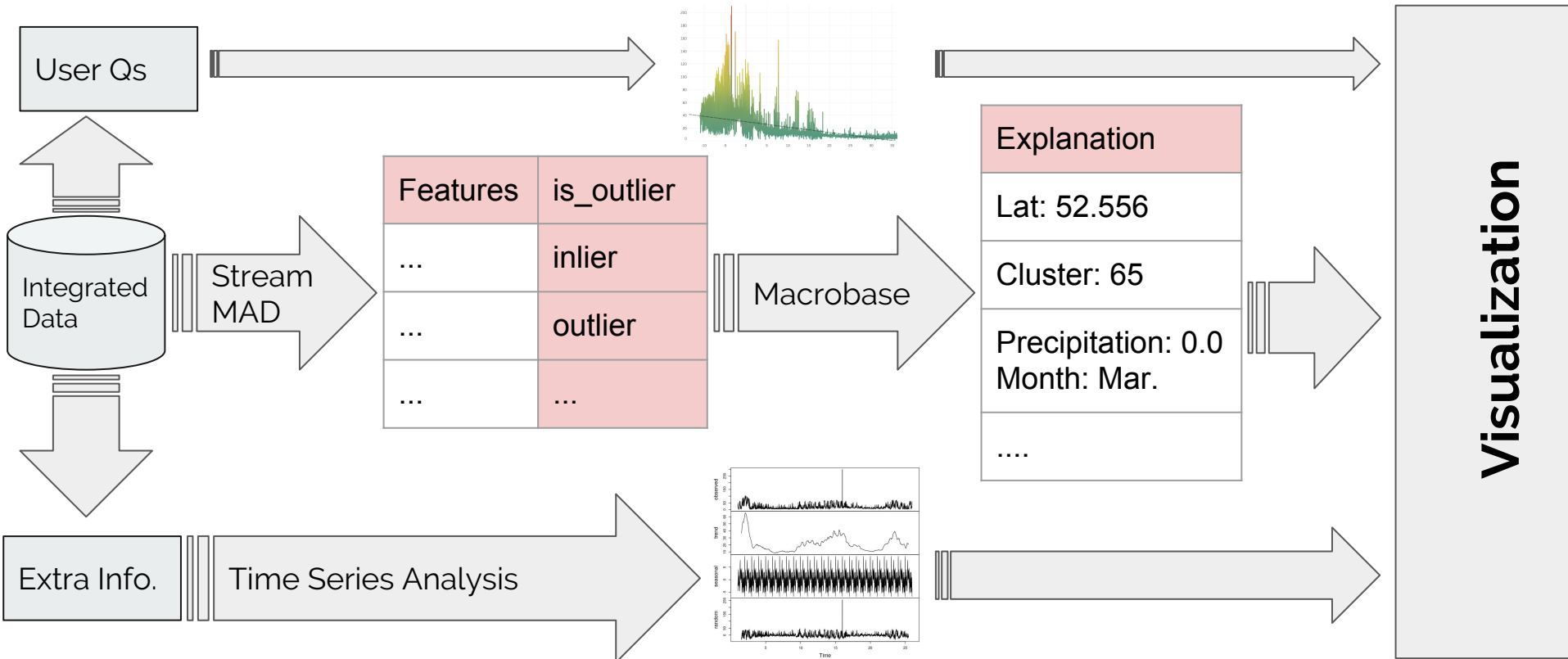
Observation error

Data Integration

Time	P1	Time	Temp.	Time	Prec.	Time	Humid.	Time	Wind	Degree
11:15:31	3.5	11:16:06	18.1	11:15:18	0.2	11:19:01	60%	11:15:09	1.2	240
11:16:59	2.5	11:18:44	18.2	11:17:55	0.1			11:15:19	1.2	240
11:17:26	3.0			11:19:26	0.1			11:19:22	1.3	250
11:18:12	3.1									
11:19:00	2.9									

Time	P1	Temp.	Prec.	Humid.	Wind	Degree
11: [15 - 20]	3.0	18.15	0.1	60%	1.2	240

Analysis and Visualization



Results Based on External Data Sources



- Air traffic data
 - How does air traffic affect particulate matter pollution?



- Event data
 - Are there events that lead to short-term particulate matter pollution?




- Weather data
 - What is the correlation between weather data and air quality?



- Openstreetmap data
 - Do crossroads/roads/stations/diesel bans affect air pollution?



Berlin

A black silhouette of an airplane in flight, angled upwards and to the right.

Results (Air Traffic)

How Air Traffic Affects air quality?

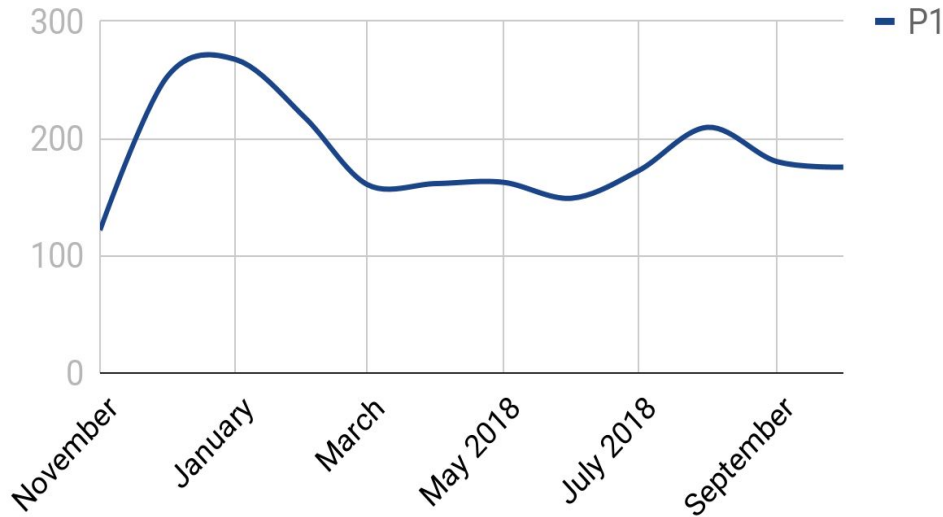
Explanation: Latitude: 52.556 (TXL Airport)



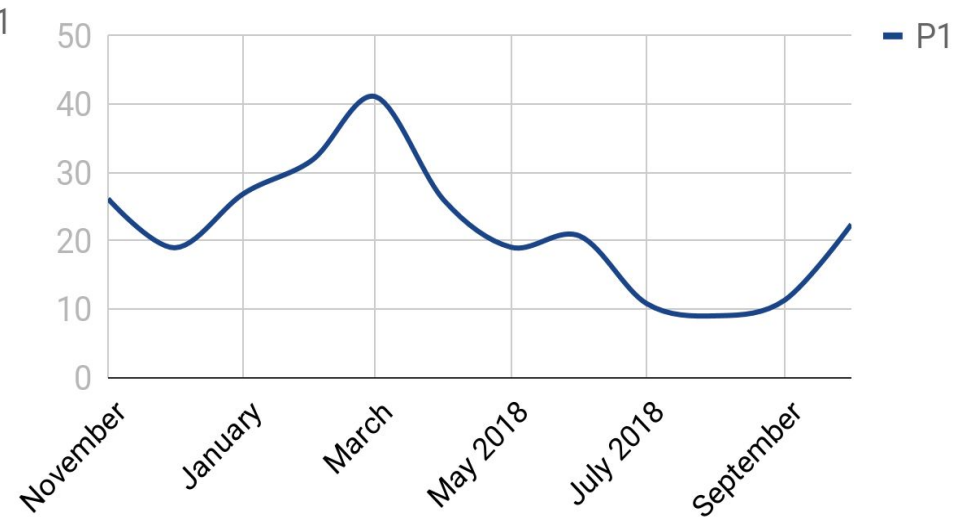
How Air Traffic Affects air quality?

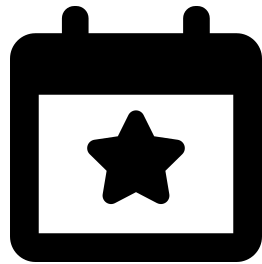
Explanation: Latitude: 52.556 (TXL Airport)

Sensors with lat = 52.556



Other sensors





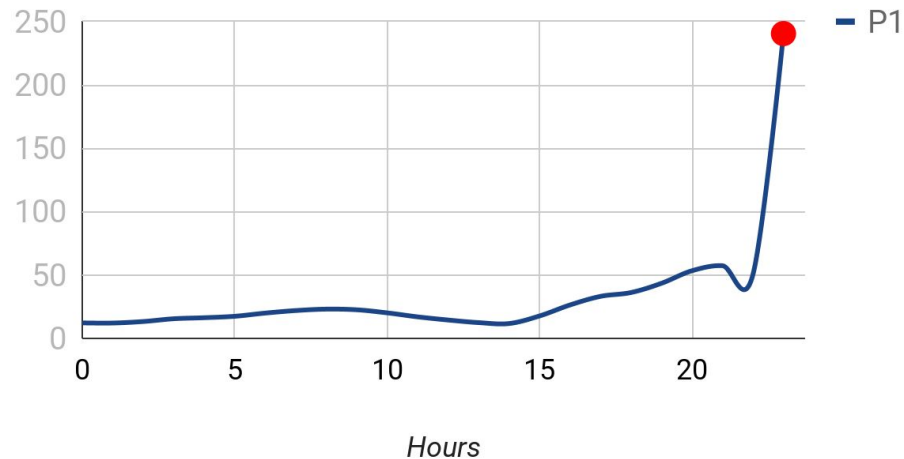
Results (Events)

How Events Play a Role in Pollution?

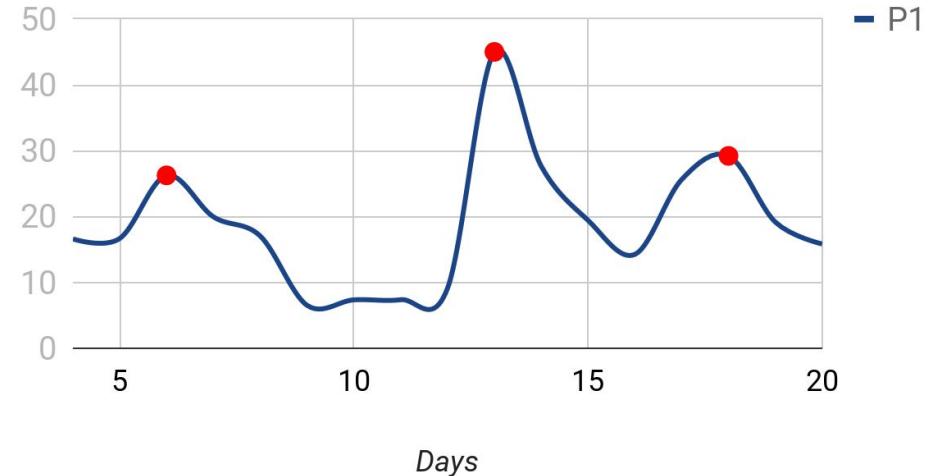
New Year's Eve

Berlin International Film Festival

Pollution in 31st of Dec.



Berlin - February 2019



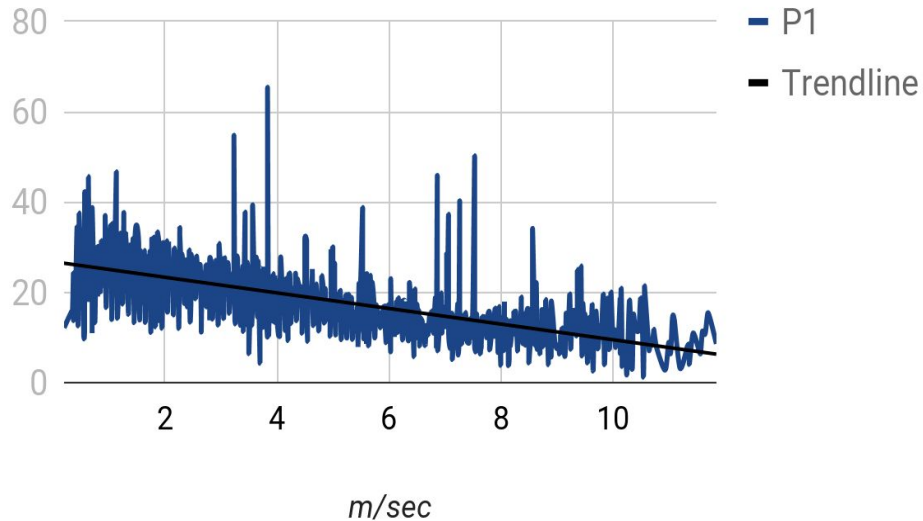


Results (Weather)

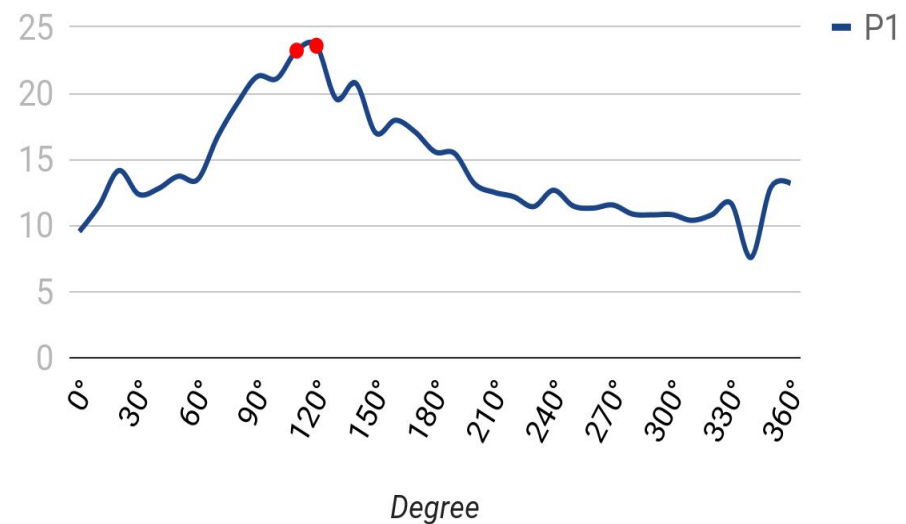
How Does The Weather Affect Air Pollution?

Explanation: Wind degree (cluster 104): 110 - 120

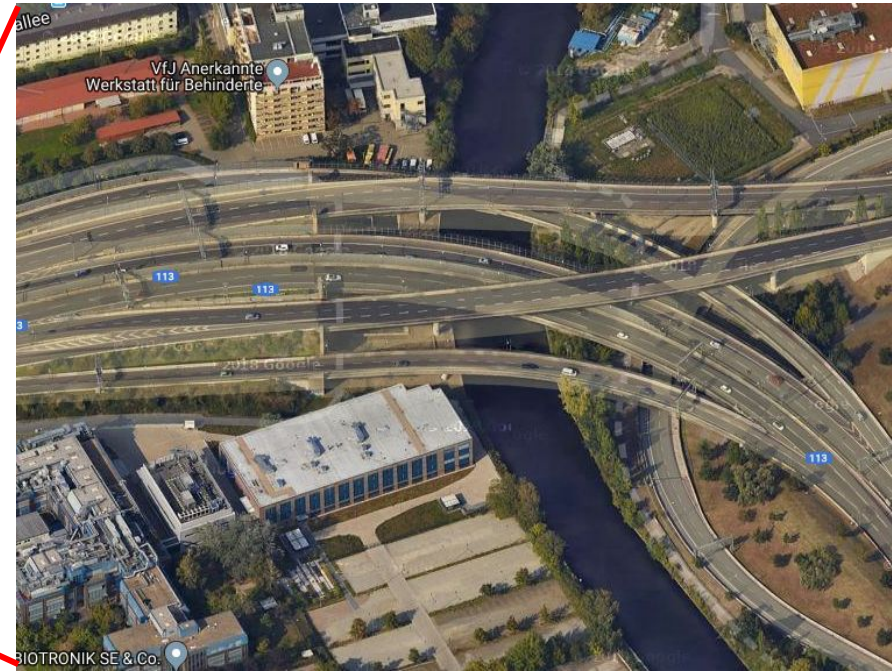
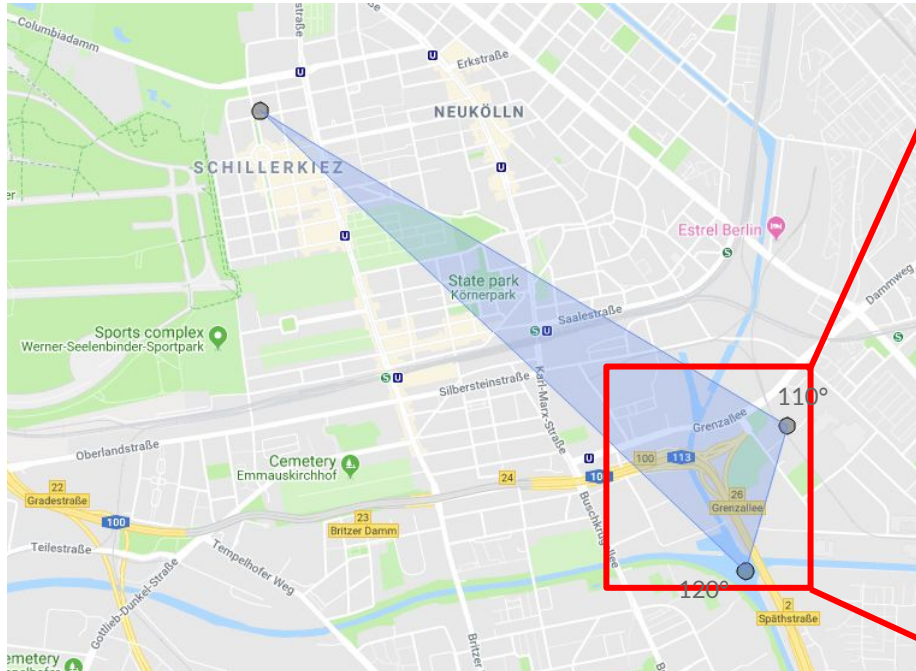
Wind speed effect on air quality

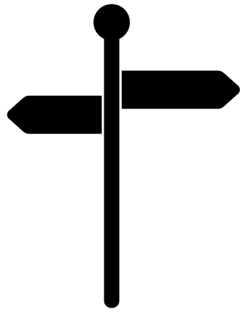


Wind direction



How Weather Data Affect Air Pollution?

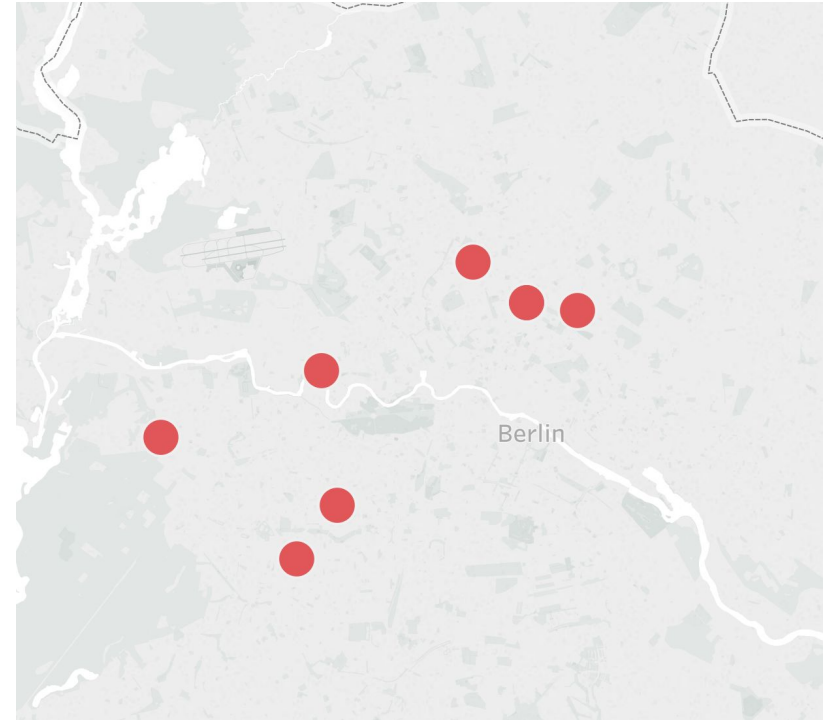


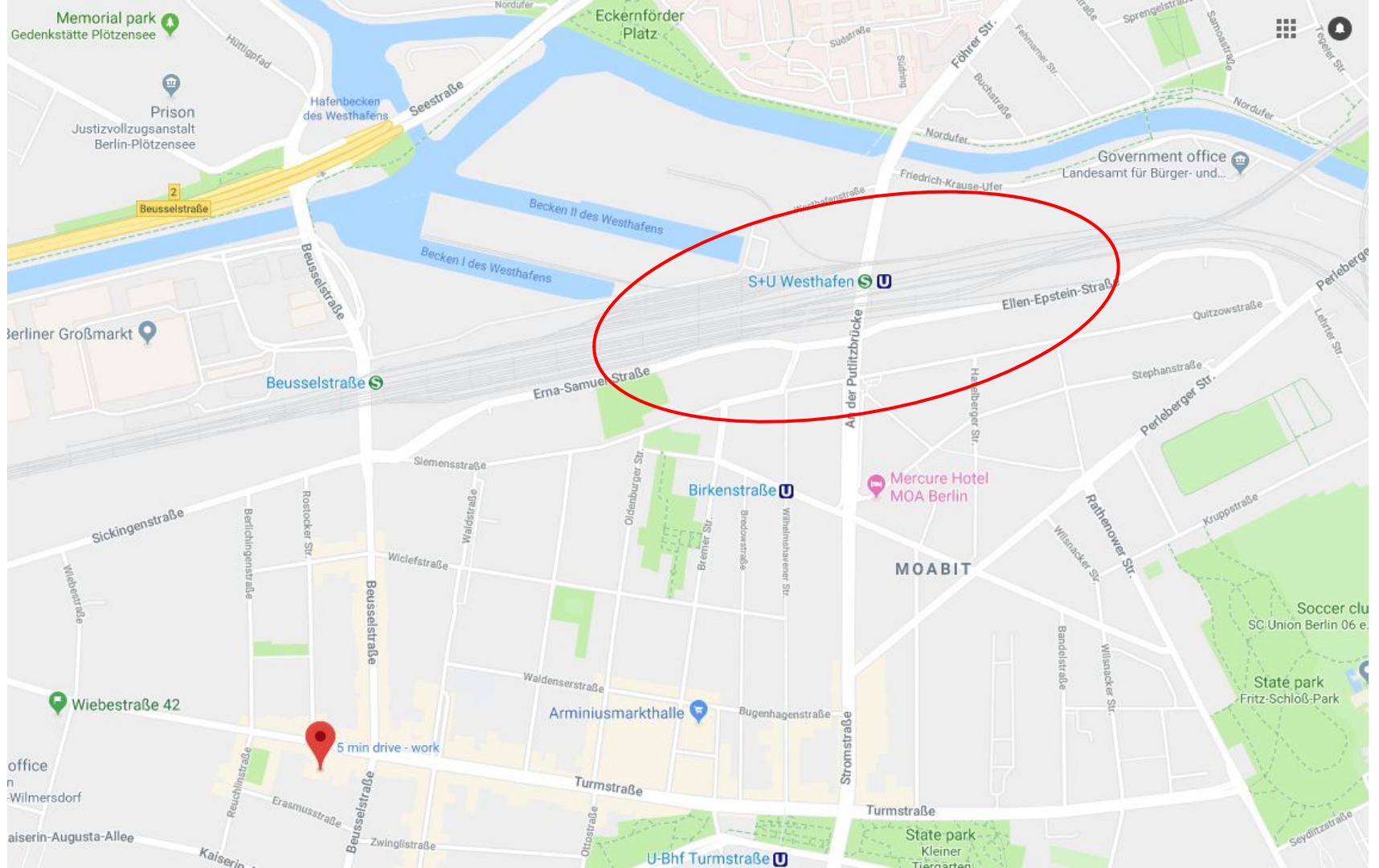


Results (OpenStreetMap)

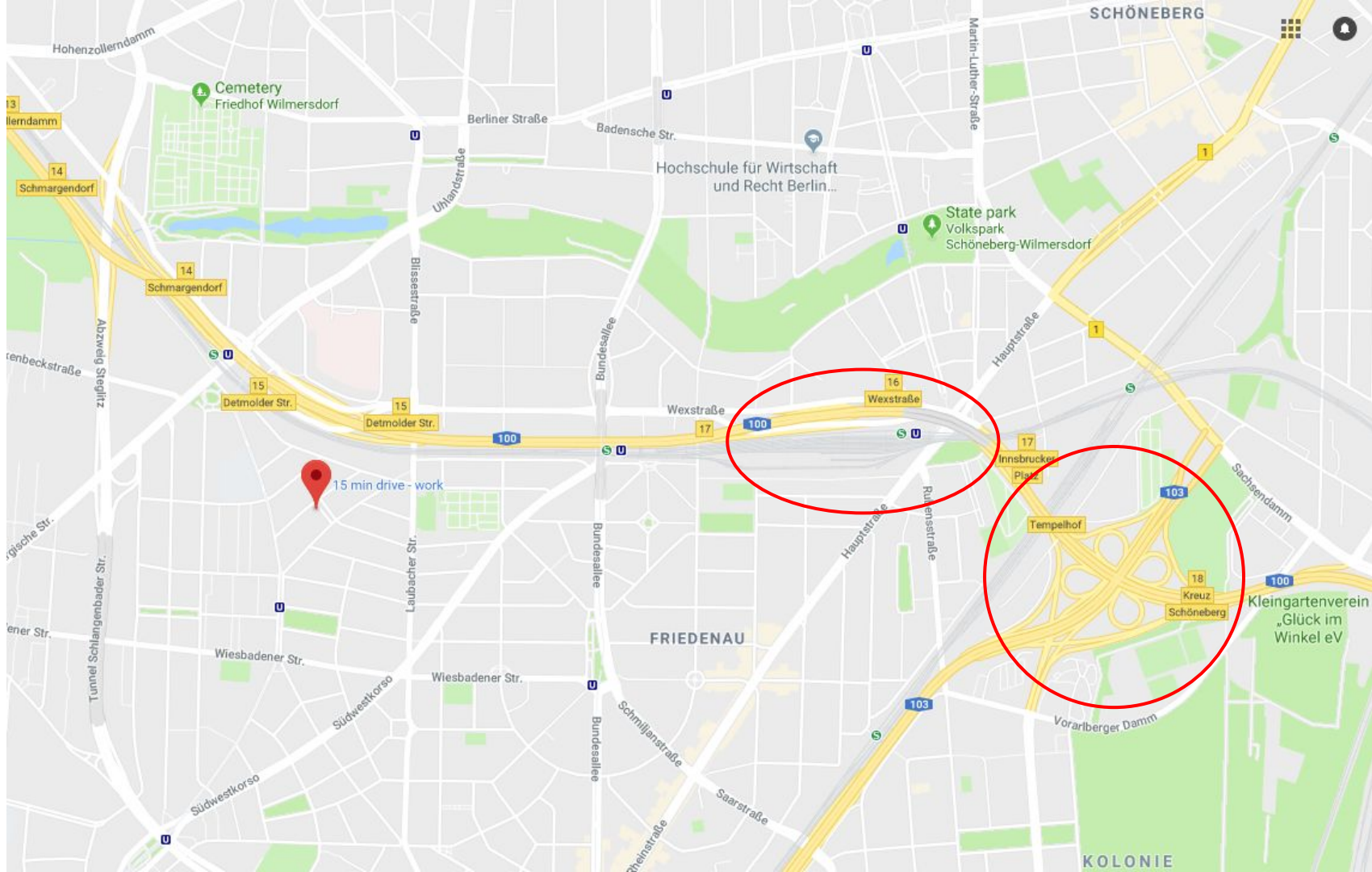
How Roads and Stations Affect Air Quality?

- The most polluted points are close to Ring or main S-Bahn stations in Berlin



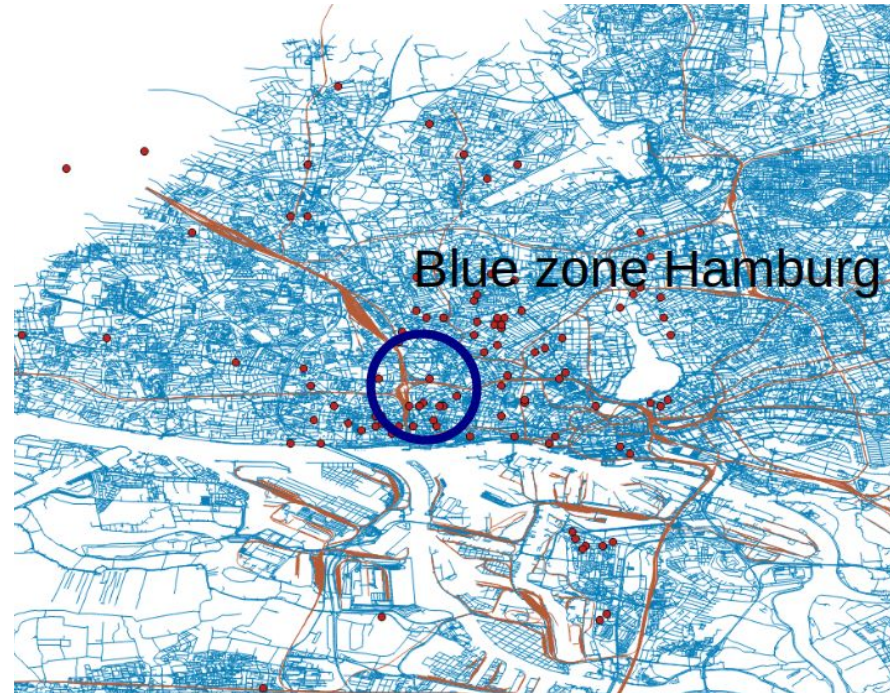






How Do Diesel Bans Affect Pollution?

- 10% local decrease in pollution
- No global impact
- Berlin diesel ban (1st of April 2019)
- Affected streets: e.g. Friedrichstraße
- Due to the locality, diesel bans should address the most polluted roads



Conclusion

- Luftdaten is limited by its own
- Current solutions are not effective due to the dearth of information
- Idea of enriching main dataset with external data sources
- Detected causes of pollution: e.g. public events, weather, air traffic, and etc.
- We built a general pollution explanation system that can be applied on every city

Potential Future Directions

- Exploration of pollution causes
 - a. Explore more dimensions, e.g., more cities, more influencing factors,
 - b. Use other ML or statistical methods
- Research direction: automated selection additional sources
 - a. What are effective heuristics to choose datasets that improve explanation experience?
 - b. What types of indexing mechanisms are necessary to make this process efficient?