

## Case studies on IoT and Big Data

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## Agenda

Introduction

IoT, Big Data and watermanagement in EU

- Case studies
  - 1. RainBrain
  - 2. hAidro
  - 3. Groundwater indicator
  - 4. Internet of Thing
  - 5. iFLUX

Conclusion

key insights, take away messages, bottlenecks and challenges



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key insights, take away messages, bottlenecks, challenges, ...







## Water challenges?

### Floods

Rising precipitation amounts lead to more frequent and more extensive flooding from rivers and sewers.

#### Poor water quality

Reduction in water quality due to an increase in the number of overflows, higher temperatures and longer residence times.

### Sea level rise

Due to sea level rise more coastal floods will occur. Sea level rise will also influence the tides along tidal rivers.



#### Lower wateravailability

Decreased precipitation and increased evaporation lead to lower flow rates and volumes in groundwater and surface water.

## 60

#### Drought

More frequent and extreme droughts with negative impacts on agriculture and nature.



### Biodiversity loss

Rising temperatures are causing changing living conditions and an advance of exotics.

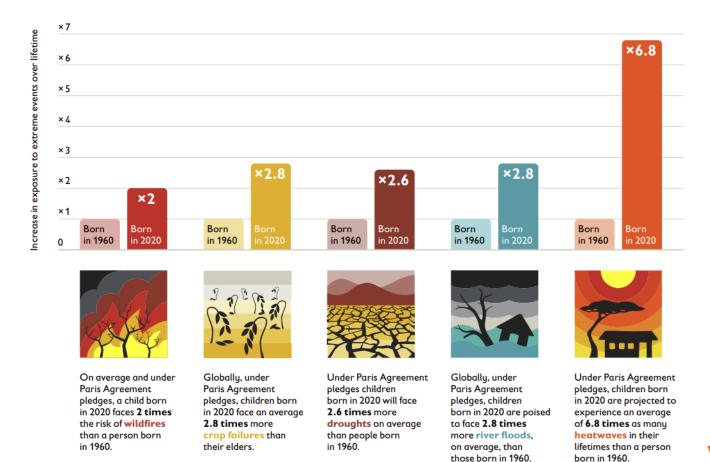


#### Increasing heat waves

Increase in the number of heat waves and heat wave days with negative impacts on public health and productivity.



### Increase in exposure to extreme events







## Use of IoT and Big Data

Internet of Things (IoT): IoT connects sensors, cameras, drones, radars, satellites, ... (=IoT devices)

→ IoT devices are transmitting enormous amount of data

**Big Data** helps enterprises utilize data that is available around them

 $\rightarrow$  Big data is the fuel of IoT





## Use of IoT and Big Data

TOEKOMSTVERKENNINGEN IN DE DRINKWATERSECTOR (5)

## Sensoren steeds belangrijker, ook in watersector

De samenleving raakt in snel tempo 'gesensoriseerd'. In de meeste industriële productieprocessen doen robots en sensoren gezamenlijk het werk dat vroeger door kundige vaklui werd verricht. Sensorisering en robotisering leiden tot een grotere uniformiteit van het product en bieden daardoor de mogelijkheid van verhoging van de standaard. Ook in de watersector zullen sensoren uit een oogpunt van veiligheid, gezondheid en procesoptimalisatie een steeds belangrijker rol gaan spelen, maar dan moeten we ze wel eerst ontwikkelen.



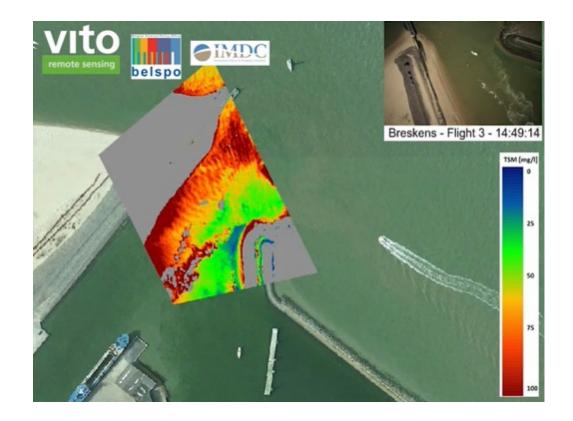


Some examples of digital solutions to water management

- 1. DroneSED: drones to monitor water quality
- 2. TerraFlood: mapping and monitoring floods using Sentinel-1 data
- 3. 'Curieuzeneuzen' in the garden
- 4. ...



## DroneSED: drones to monitor water quality



Project: 3 year R&D project funded by BELSPO,VITO Remote sensing and IMDCWhere? Belgian coast and Scheldt River

**Goal?** Gain insights in water quality during dredging works

**How?** Drone based system to monitor water quality instead of traditional water sampling techniques

**Benefit?** Possibility to monitor larger areas and measure sediment concentration directly from the drone



# TerraFlood: mapping and monitoring floods using Sentinel-1 data

Project: TerraFlood, an initiative by VMM, University of Ghent and Vito Where?

Goal? Gain insights into spatial and temporal flood occurrence and dynamics
How? Virtual machine application (based on data from the Sentinel-1-satellites)
Benefit? TerraFlood allows to monitor flooding and flood occurrence more accurately.





# Environmental Risk Management and Information Service – Floods

**Project:** ERMIS-F, project done by The Cyprus Institute, Sewerage Board of Limassol-Amathus, University of Aegean, North Aegean Water Directorate, Technical University of Crete and Municipality of Chania

#### Where? Cyprus

**Goal?** To inform the public about the flood risk hazard in their area **How?** GIS web-portal

**Benefit?** ERMIS-F aims to inform the public in regards to flood risk which can be incorporated into the decision-making tools by each interested target group (government, society, etc) **Source:** ERMIS-F



Flood risk map for Cyprus - 20 year return time Flood risk map for Cyprus - 100 year return time Flood risk map for Cyprus - 500 year return time



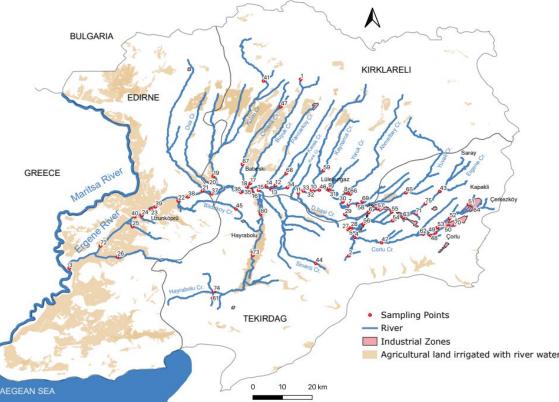
## Sustainable Environmental Monitoring via Energy and Information Efficient Multi-Node Placement

**Project** Sustainable Environmental Monitoring via Energy and Information Efficient Multi-Node Placement, project done by Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria -Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkiye - University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Where? Ergene River, Turkiye (TR)

**Goal?** A case study for monitoring the water quality of the Ergene River in Turkey. Detailed experiments subject to real-world data show that the proposed method is both accurate and efficient in monitoring a large environment and catching up with dynamic changes.

Source: IEEE Xplore Full-Text PDF:





# KI-basiertes Warnsystem vor Starkregen und urbanen Sturzfluten (KIWaSuS)

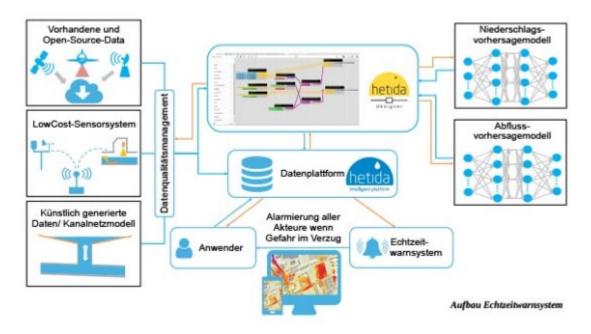
**Project:** KIWaSuS, project by Hochschule Ruhr West, Institut für Mess- und Sensortechnik, Gelsenwasser, Abwassergesellschaft Gelsenkirchen mbH, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Neustadt analytics & insights GmbH

#### Where? Gelsenkirchen

**Goal?** Increase the advance warning times for flash floods in urban areas, to localise them better and at the same time to provide important information for municipal crisis management in order to better protect affected citizens. **How?** Machine learning methods resulting in an intuitive, digital map

**Benefit?** Prepared alarm and deployment plans for the fire brigade, disaster control and on-call teams of the sewer network operators. In this way, citizens can be warned in time and initiate their own protective measures.





## 'Curieuzeneuzen' in the garden



"The largest citizen-science study of heat and drought ever" "Measure the heat and drought in your garden with a smart soil sensor" "Receive daily updates via a personal dashboard"

NEUZEN

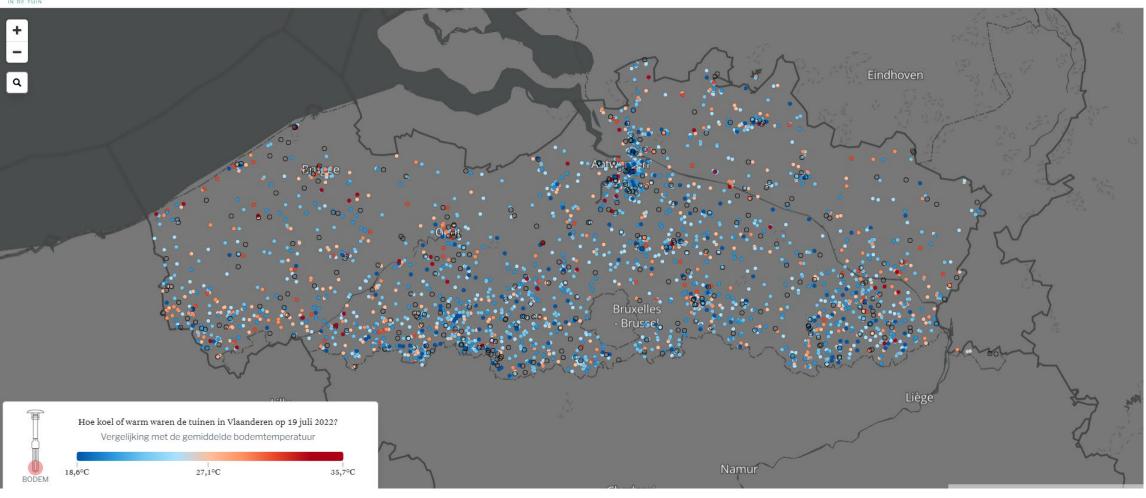




## 'Curieuzeneuzen' in the garden

Temperatuurverschillen

Over deze kaart Het project Artikels Partners 🛉 🖤

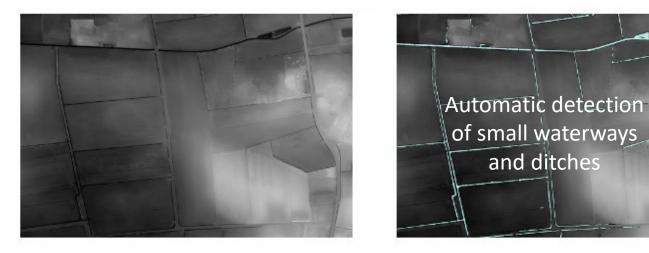




## Others









"A huge amount of remote sensing data is freely and easily available. Copernicus' (Europe's Earth Observation programme) satellites deliver free and open data every day"

Neural net input = digital elevation model (DEM) – neural net output = waterway/ditch detections on top of the DEM



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RainBrain

Intelligent real time control using sensor Low flow pred data and simulation models advanced made

### hAIdro

Low flow predictions in rivers using advanced machine learning models

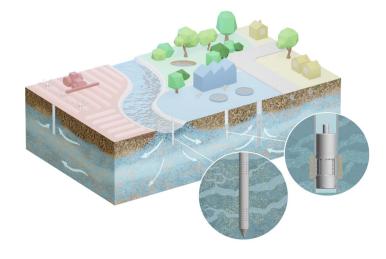


#### **Groundwater indicator**

Groundwater monitoring and forecasts using data-driven models







Internet of Water Netwerk of sensors measuring the water quality in Flanders

**iFLUX** How does pollution move in the groundwater?





#### RainBrain

Intelligent real time control using sensor data and simulation models



#### hAldro

Low flow predictions in rivers using advanced machine learning models



#### **Groundwater indicator** Groundwater monitoring and forecasts using data-driven models



## Pluvial floods and droughts happen more often



Drone images show the extent of the flooding in Landen

The clean-up operation is underway in the Flemish Brabant town of Landen following the worst flooding in 20 years. The footage above shows the extent of the flooding.

Mon 06 Jun (9 13:15



### Flanders eyes private wells as solution for droughts and heavy rainfall

Monday, 2 September 2019

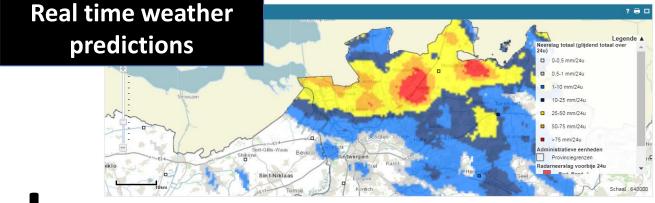


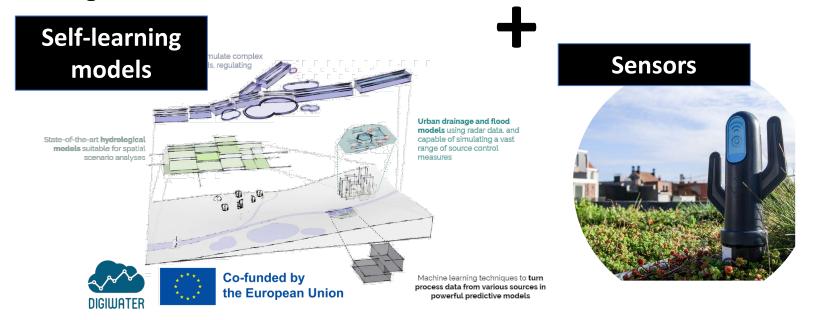
More heavy rain expected in Belgium as code yellow is issued. Credit: Pixabay



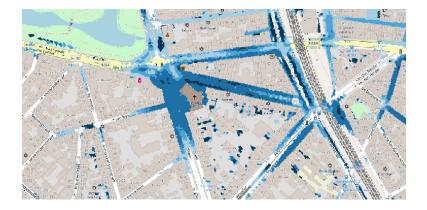


## RainBrain: real time forecasting & intelligent control





Real time flood predictions & intelligent control



## RainBrain

### The smart blue-green roof



#### Healthier green roofs

- RainBrain monitors and predicts the vegetation's health
- Waters vegetation automatically when needed



#### The best of IoT and analytics combined

- Vegetation sensors, solar panel and LoRaWAN
- Weather data, machine learning and modeling
- RainBrain insights and controls through a mobile app



#### Optimized water availability

- RainBrain analyses the current and future water availability
- Anticipates on extreme weather: stores water to survive droughts, empties buffers to prevent floods





Antwerp (Belgium) Eindhoven (Netherlands)

### 



synchronicity-iot.eu/



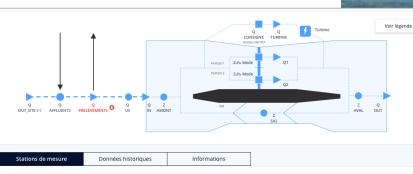






## Intelligent control of river systems

service public SPW	Perex					Permanencier	
Tableau de bord	Réseau	Scénarios	Manoeuvres	5		2 4	
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✓ Environneme	ent	>	90% 2% ^	90' 2%		90% 2% *	
✓ Energie - con	sommation	>	1245kWh 2% /		1245kWh 124		
Energie - production		>	1245kWh 2% >	1245kW 2%		1245kWh	
✓ Variations de hauteur		>	90% 2% *	90 2%		90% 2% ^	
✓ Variations de	e débit	>	90% 2% /	90' 2%		90%	
Statut du système Scenarios		Calcul 24/11/19 Calcul 24/11/19 Calcul 24/11/19	17:56	Score 73% Score 73% Score 		>	
Stations de mesur	res						
✓ 212/250 c	opérationnelles					>	
Connectivité						~	



Rivière	Site	Type de mesure	Nom de la mesure	Code de la mesure	Début des mesures	Unités	Statut
Sambre	Salzinnes	Organes	Pos Hausse 1	732H1121	29/05/15	m (DNG)	
Sambre	Salzinnes	Organes	Pos Hausse 2	732H2121	29/05/15	m (DNG)	~
Sambre	Salzinnes	Organes	Pos Vanne 1	732V1121	29/05/15	m	<
Sambre	Salzinnes	Organes	Pos Vanne 2	732V2121	29/05/15	m	~
Sambre	Salzinnes	Niveaux	Niv amont 1 flotteur	73260101	29/05/15	m (DNG)	
Sambre	Salzinnes	Niveaux	Niv amont 2 hydro	73260201	29/05/15	m (DNG)	~
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TATALAN CONTRACTOR OF TAXABLE PARTY



# Challenges faced during the development stage

- Selection and installation of hardware: to steer the water system, hydraulic infrastructure is needed (e.g. valve, pumps, ...). It was a challenge to select hardware that is reliable, fits in the available space and can be controlled from a remote location.
- **Meteo uncertainties**: the intelligent control system relies on meteo forecasts. Inherently, such forecasts are uncertain and the control algorithm has to take such uncertainties into account to determine the best action.
- **Providing sufficient insight into decision of the intelligent control system**: the intelligent control system makes us of an MPC-RGA algorithm (model predictive control based on a reduced genetic algorithm). Hence, thousands of simulations are constantly performed to determine the best action. It is vital that the user is provided insight into why a decision is made. Thus, it is needed to visualize all objective functions and boundary conditions in a concise yet clear manner to the end user.









**RainBrain** Intelligent real time control using sensor data and simulation models

Low flow predictions in rivers using advanced machine learning models



**Groundwater indicator** Groundwater monitoring and forecasts using data-driven models



## Low flows occur more often, causing major economic and ecological impact



The Albertkanaal (archive picture) is an important link in Belgium's economy.

Drought Commission asks to prepare "a cascade of measures" to be taken if water levels drop further

No extra measures are needed for the moment, but a go-ahead has been given to prepare a string of measures for Belgium's main waterways. That's the conclusion after the latest meeting of the so-called Drought Commission that looks into the impact of the present drought in Belgium and decides on possible drinking water restrictions.

Michaël Torfs Thu 01 Sep (9) 15:14



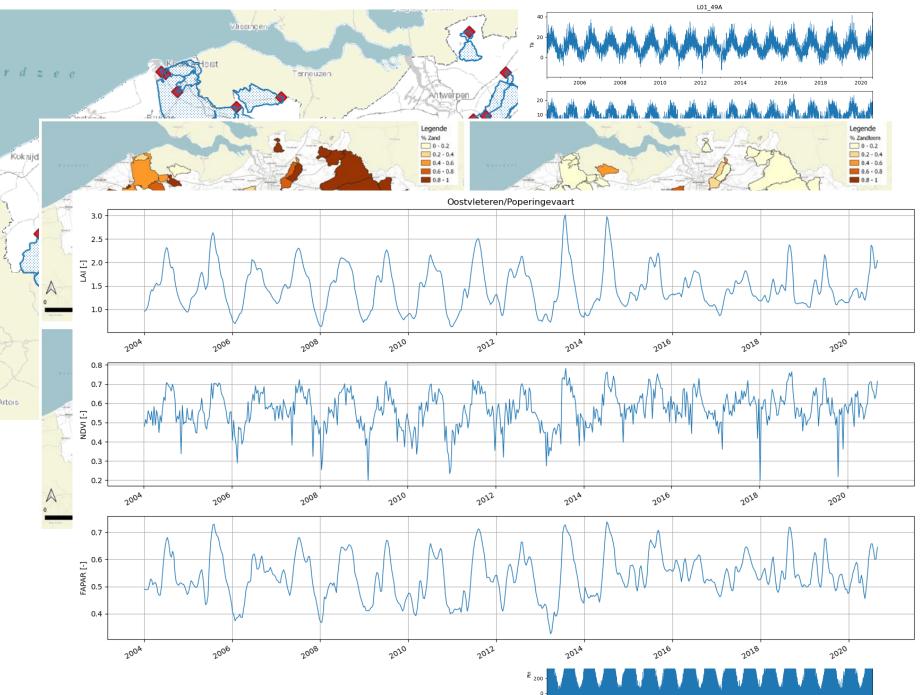
## Data

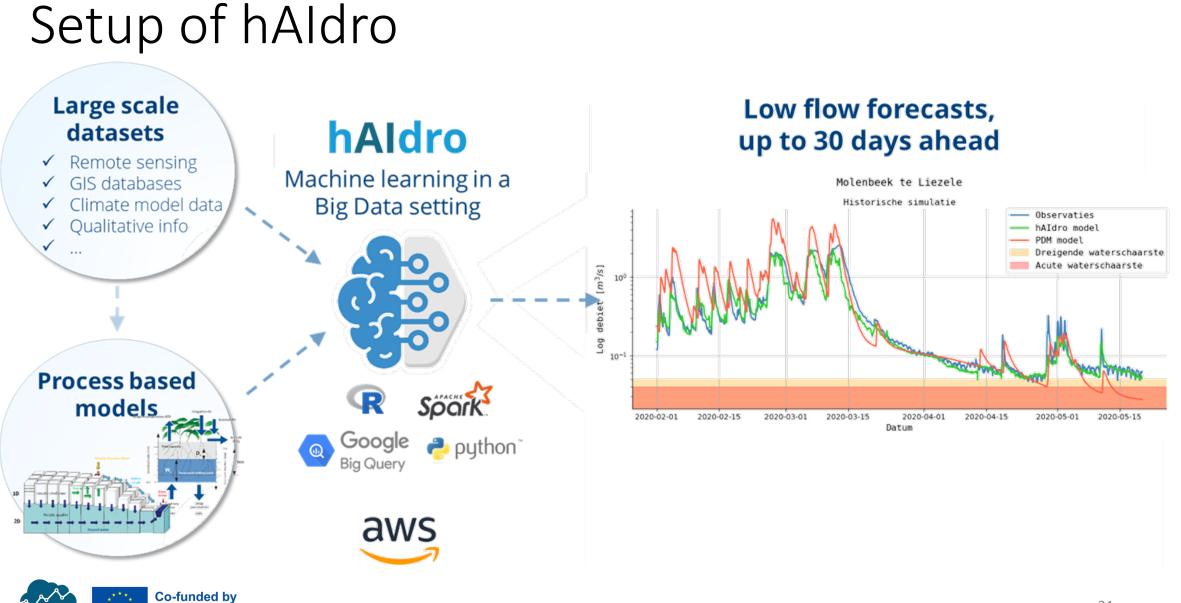
<u>Target variable</u>: Discharge measurements of 100 locations distributed across Flanders

### Predictors:

- Meteorological measurements
- Static properties of each catchment
- Effluent from water treatment plants
- Remote sensing data (LAI, NDVI, FAPAR)







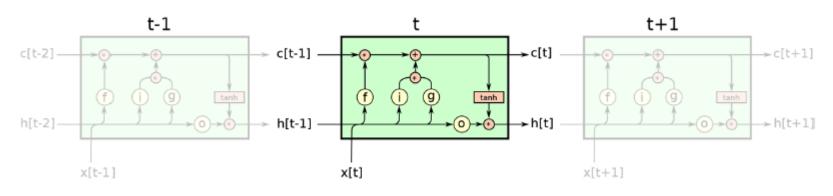
the European Union

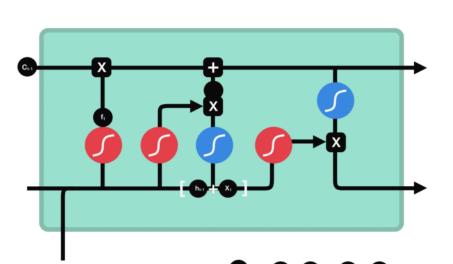
DIGIWATER

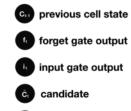
#### 31

## Model structure: LSTM

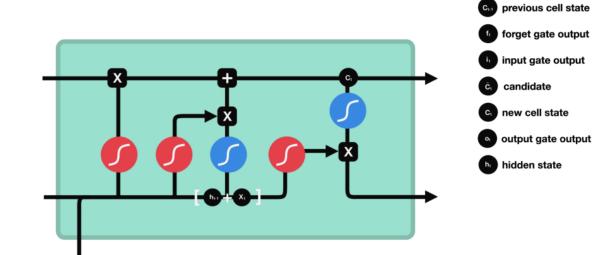
## 8 million datapoints used for training







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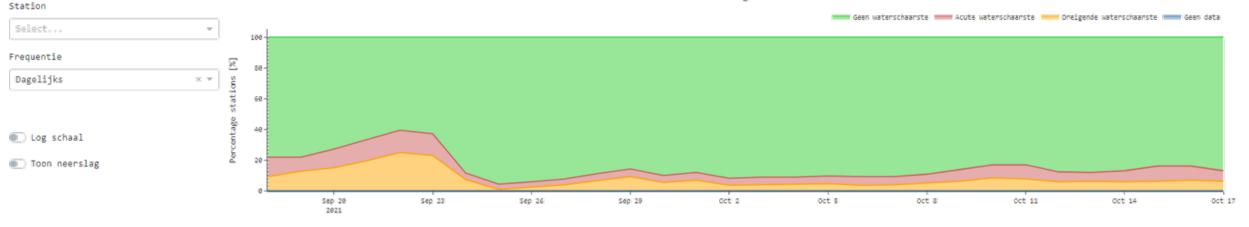
#### hAIdro

#### Contact





Categorie





- Cloud based forecasting system to put models in production
- Low flows are forecasted 2x/day in 266 stations up to 30 days ahead
- Ensemble forecasts from ECMWF (50 members)
- API to request all results Airflow ETL Pipeline [System] Backup model [Python] Use Backup model to ru forecast Get data Else if no data run f succes run Measurements Model Check Thiessen rainfall Status Q model [Pvthon] [Pvthon] [Python] List [Pvthon] If Q. run If succes, run If succes, run If succes, run If succes, run [Python] Save data [S3 Extract data [S3 API] Update list with all available Download and process Download rainfall data and Check if latest Q data is Get Status and Probability of forecasts1 Use Q model to run forecast neasurement data for each calculate Thiessen weights available to run forecast run catchment (Q. H. Td ...) Save data [S3 API] Save data [S3 API] Save data [\$3 API Save data (S3 API) Extract data [S3 API] \Save data [S3 \Extract data [S3 API] Data Lake Apache Airflow **G** FastAPI **DigitalOcean**



# Challenges faced during the development stage

- This is a novel machine learning approach based on a LSTM model. While applications of LSTM models are being found increasingly in (very) recent scientific literature, its application is still novel and encounters several challenges. The overall main challenge was to provide sufficiently accurate results with this LSTM model. Hereto, different model structures were tested, for which each a calibration was performed. To assess the extrapolation behaviour, a k-fold cross validation was performed.
- Another major challenge was the selection of appropriate input variables. Different input selection methods were tested to identify the most relevant input variables.





RainBrain

Intelligent real time control using sensor

data and simulation models



hAldro

Low flow predictions in rivers using advanced machine learning models



Groundwater indicator

Groundwater monitoring and forecasts using data-driven models



# Groundwater levels drop, causing limited water availability and huge ecological impacts



rab voss fato

#### Groundwater levels down dramatically, rivers and

#### streams gradually dying up.

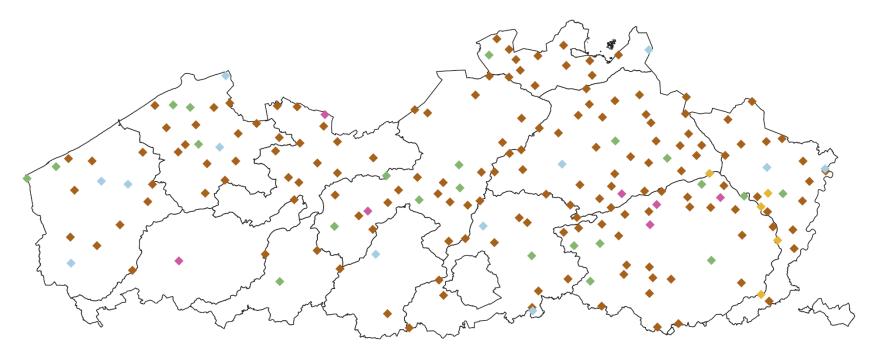
The ongoing drought has seen groundwater levels in Flanders fall dramatically. Groundwater levels in our region are already "low to very low" at 79% of the measuring points used. Meanwhile, water levels in rivers and streams have also fallen noticeably. Historically low average flow rates are being recorded at 18% measuring points along our waterways. That's according to new figures from the Flemish Environment Agency (VMM). While nature and agriculture (and now also shipping) are encountering ever greater difficulties as a result of the drought, there is no threat to drinking water supplies for the time being.

Fri 05 Aug (9 14:49



Co-funded by the European Union

#### Inventorizing datapoints ground water



Reden voor toevoeging:

- In huidige GWI
- Receptor natuur
- Receptor Veen
- Cluster dieper grondwater
- Betere ruimtelijke spreiding



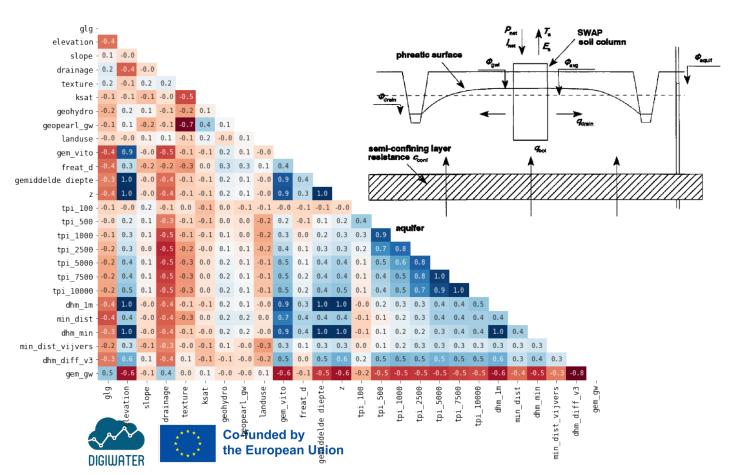


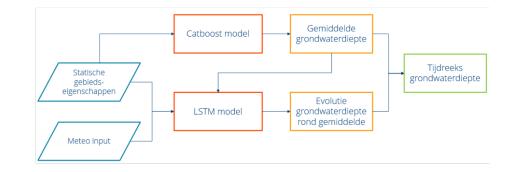
# Which model is best to simulate groundwater levels?

SWAP

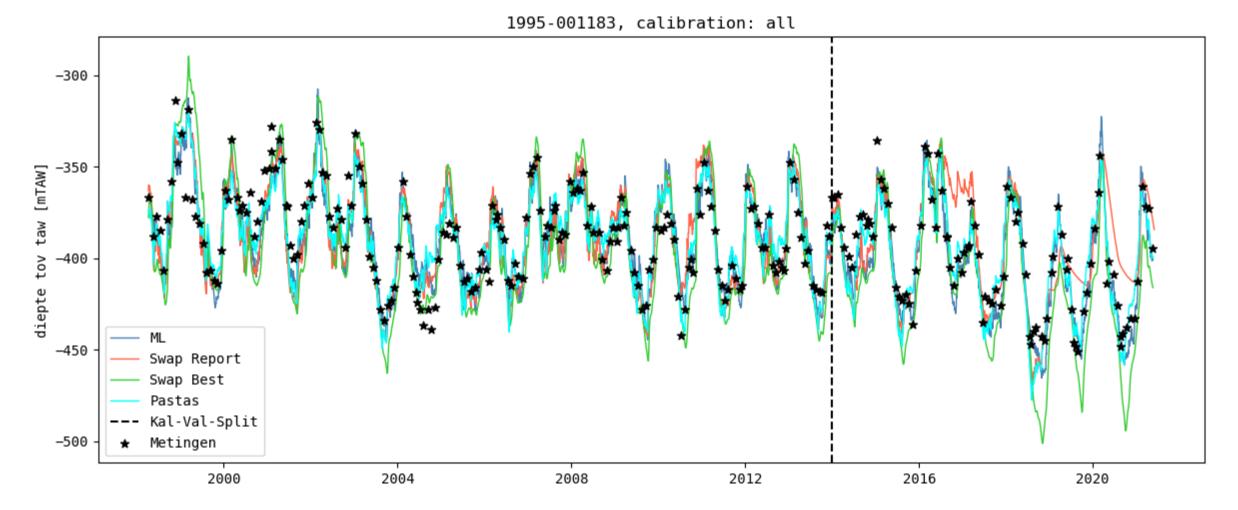
(= detailed soil moisture and groundwater model)





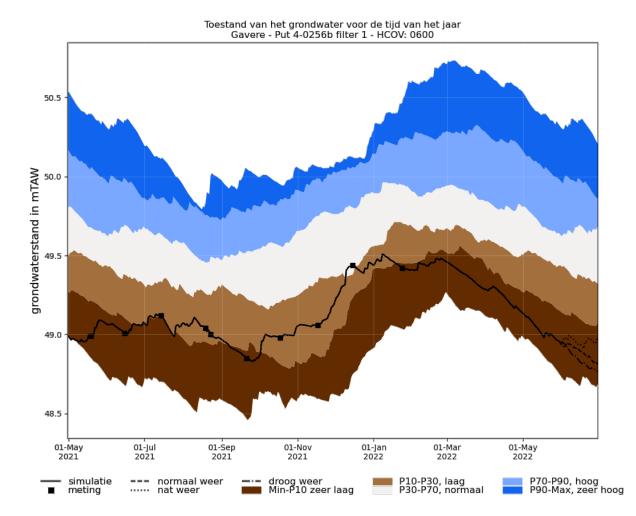


#### Groundwater simulation results





### Example result: groundwater status

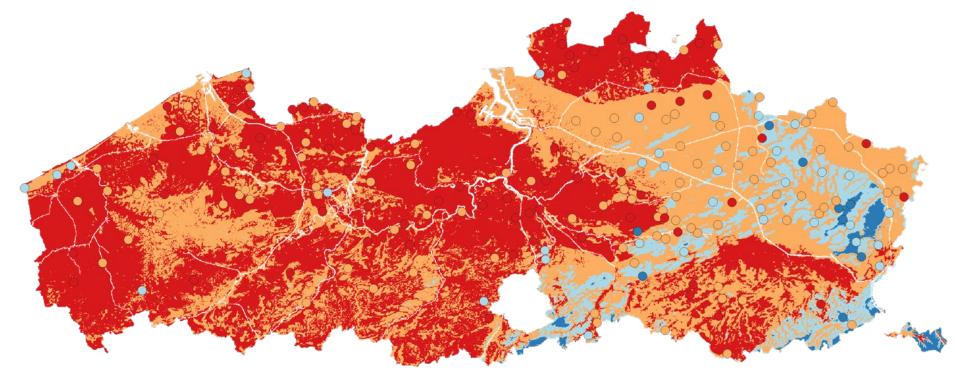




Co-funded by Referentie periode: 01/09/1991-31/08/2021

the European Union

# Changes in groundwater levels under future climate (2050)





DIGIWATER



42

# Challenges faced during the development stage

- As with the hAldro model, it was a challenge to select the correct input variables. For instance, rainfall series with different time lags (and moving average windows) can be selected. Hereto, we tested different input selection methods.
- Another challenge was to visualize the results of the groundwater indicator in a manner that is easily interpretable by a wide audience of both expert and non-expert users. The results of the groundwater model are published in popular press (e.g. newspapers), and hence had to be very clear and easily interpretable.



#### Case studies



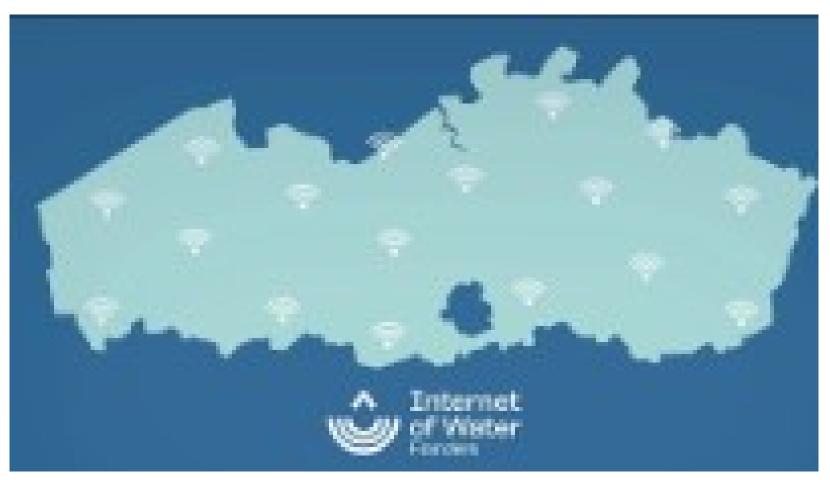


Internet of Water Netwerk of sensors measuring the water quality in Flanders

**iFLUX** How does pollution move in the groundwater?









Co-funded by the European Union

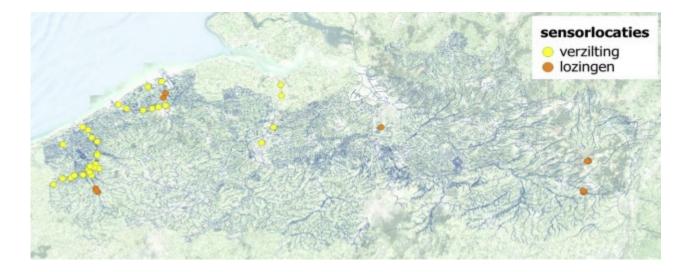




#### 1) Real-time monitoring of discharges into the surface water

- Impact of domestic and industrial wastewater
- Overflows and incidents





- 2) Mapping real-time salinization
- On the coast and in the polders
- In port areas and canals





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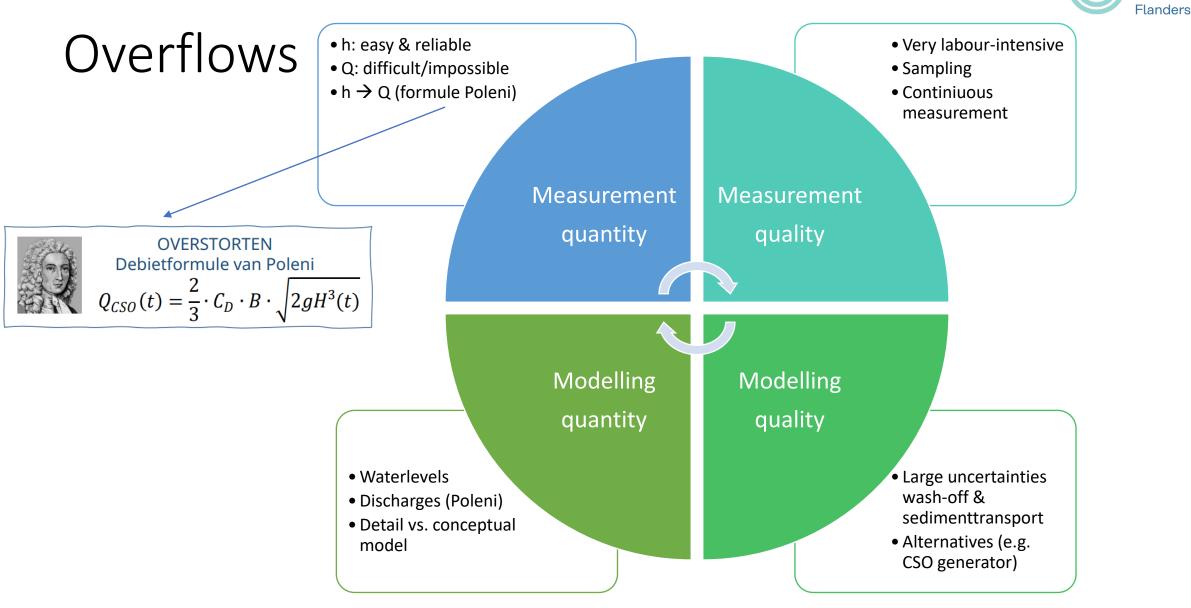




#### Overflows









Internet of Water

# Water quantity

 $\rightarrow$  waterlevels

 $\rightarrow$  discharges

#### Measurement

- 1) Distance: time reflected wave
- 2) Distance: pressure on membrane
- 3) Velocity: frequency shift (Doppler)

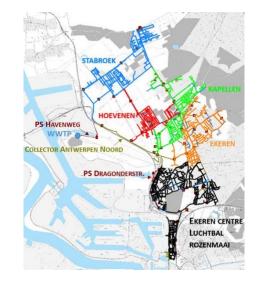


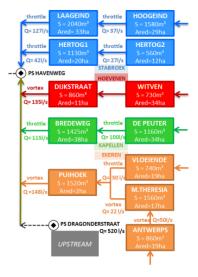


Co-funded by the European Union

#### Modelling

- 1) Hydrodynamic
- 2) Conceptual model









# Water quality

#### Measurement

- Continuous measurement pollutants: expensive and labour intensive
- 2) Continuous measurement proxy's: cheaper, but no unambiguously conversion
- 3) Discontinuous measurement pollutants: cheaper but labour intensive

#### Modelling

- 1) Dissolved fraction (NH4, TP, ...): conservative mass transport
- 2) Attached fraction (BZV, CZV, ...): much uncertainty in wash-off and sediment transport

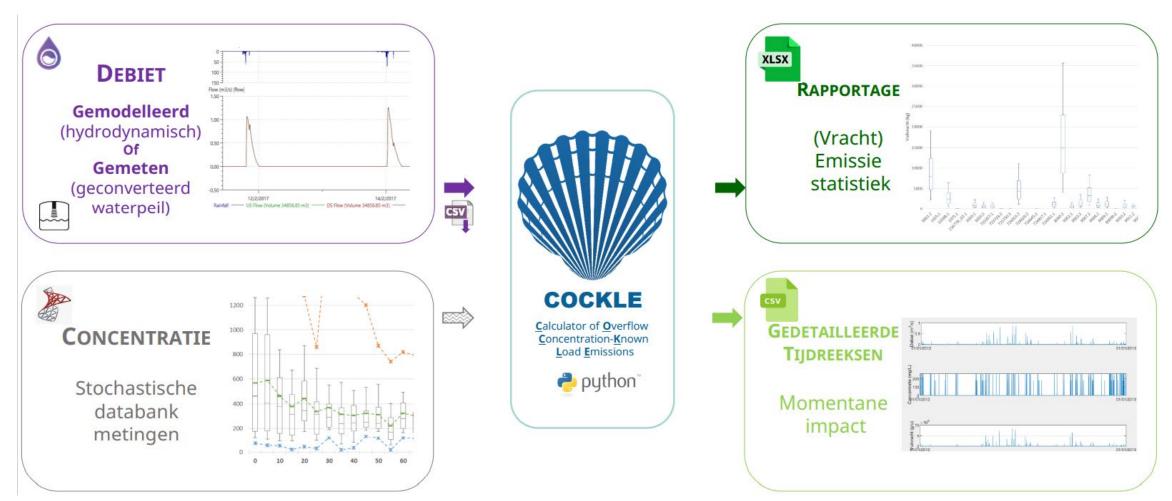








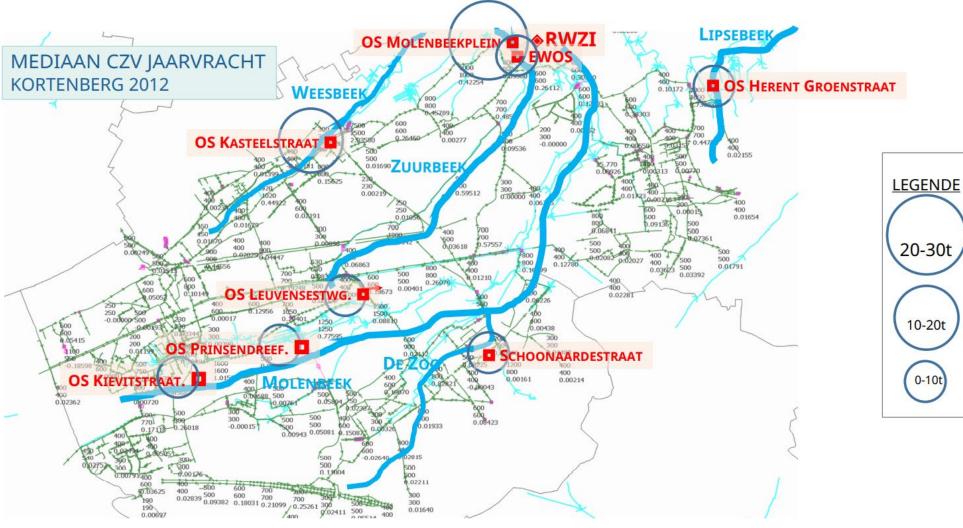
#### COCKLE







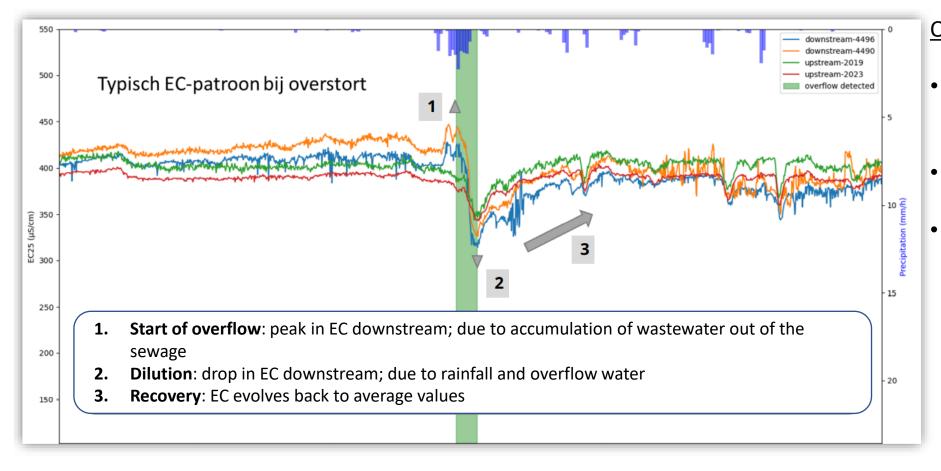
#### COCKLE







## Typical EC-pattern overflow



#### Overflow detection based on:

- CUSUM algorithm (cumulative control chart): detection of 'change'
- Detection 'lift' and 'drop' in EC measurements
- Rainfall threshold



#### Detection overflowevents

#### **Applications:**

- Frequency of overflowevents with impact
- Duration of impact of overflow
- Size of impact of overflows

#### Importance:

- Many overflows are not measured
- Overflows become more important with increasing degree of purification
- Measurement impact in the waterway vs. Registration overflow
- Prioritisement based on impact on waterway



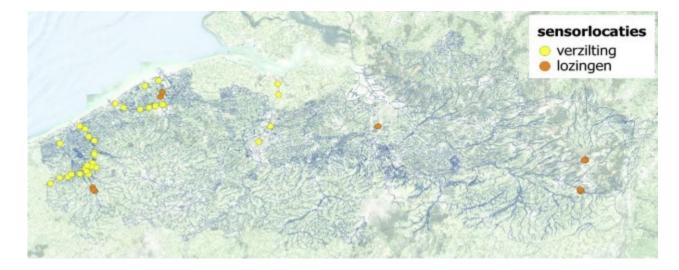




1) Real-time monitoring of discharges into the surface water

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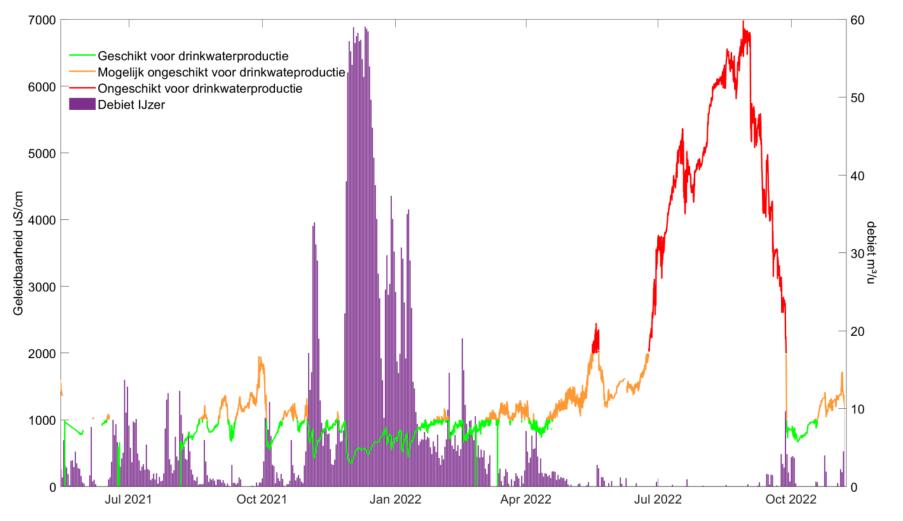




- 2) Mapping real-time salinization
- On the coast and in the polders
- In port areas and canals



#### Salinization







# Salinity as a dryness indicator

- Insufficient flow to wash away penetrating 'salt tongues'
- Low water levels can lead to upward seepage of saline groundwater
- Low rainfall results in less dilution of industrial effluents
- Salinization affects capture by industry, agriculture and drinking water production

 $\rightarrow$  Salinization is a good proxy indicator for the cumulative effect of drought

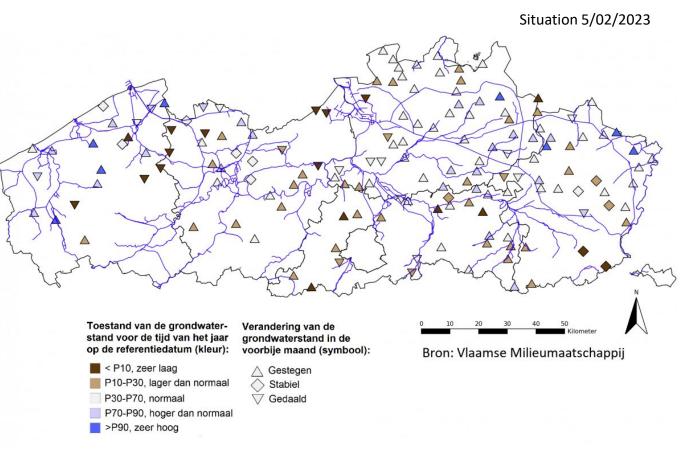


How do we convert sensory conductivity data to easily interpret information and indicators for salinization?



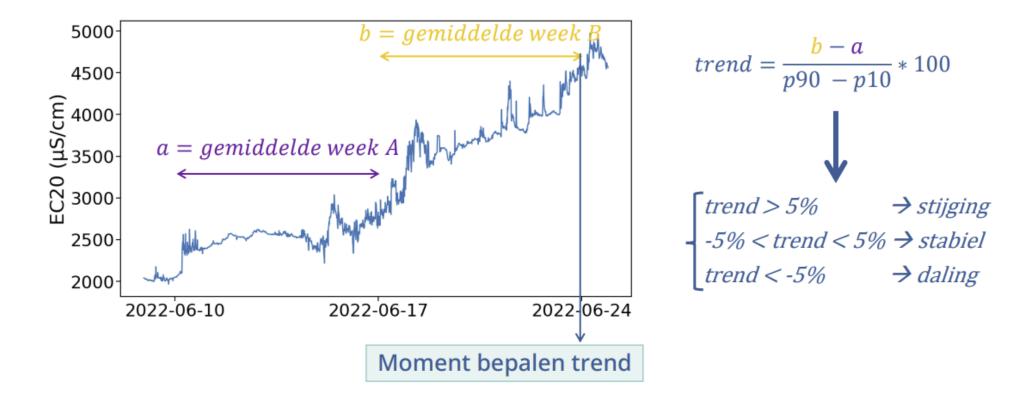
#### cfr. groundwater level indicator

- $\frac{GW_{t-1\,maand}-GW_t}{p90-p10} * 100 < -5$  %: stijging
- $\frac{GW_{t-1\,maand} GW_t}{p90 p10} * 100 > 5$  %: daling
- Ander geval: stabiel





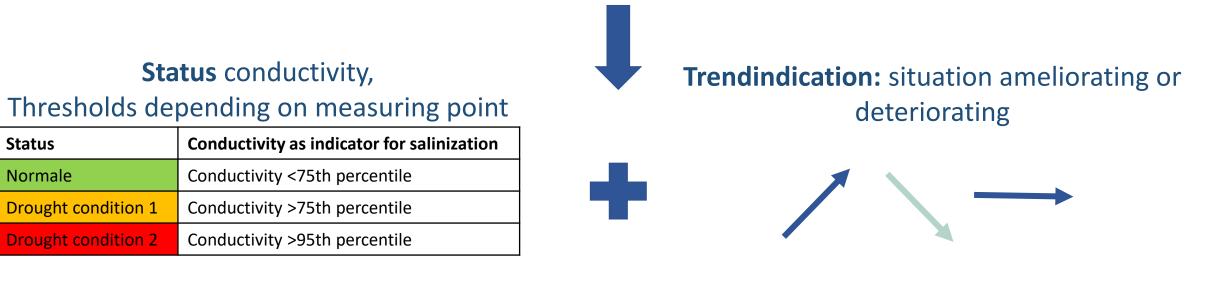
Surface water 'faster' system than groundwater  $\rightarrow$  measuring with weeks instead of months





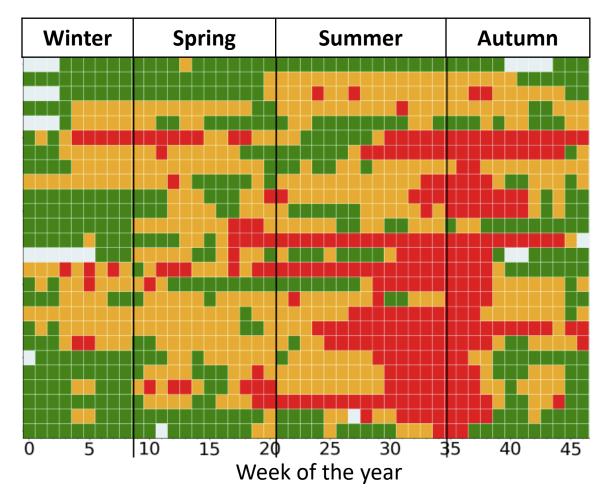
#### Status conductivity, general thresholds

Status	Conductivity as indicator for salinization
Normale	Median measuring points conductivity < 2.000µS/cm
Waking phase: dry	Median measuring points conductivity > 2.000µS/cm
Alarm phase: very dry	Median measuring points conductivity > 4.000µS/cm
Crisis: extremely dry	Median measuring points conductivity > 8.000µS/cm





# Visualisation of salinization indicator

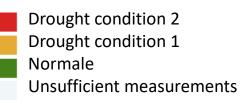


#### Ijzerbekken 2022 (measuring points)

Nieuwe Gracht Kanaal Nieuwpoort-Duinkerke Lokanaal WN.3.1.17.17 Sliikvaart Venepevaart Oostkerkevaart Grote beverdijkvaart WN.2. Sint-Jorissluis Kanaal Plassendale leperleed Vladsovaart Revgaertsvliet Parallel aan Rattevallestraat Nieuw Dwarsgeleed Grauwloze Kreek Moerdijkvaart Reigaartsvliet Lokanaal-bis Kanaal leper-lizer ljzer-Uniebrug Ijzer-Tervatebrug ljzer-DWG lizer-Fintele Ijzer-Roesbrugge

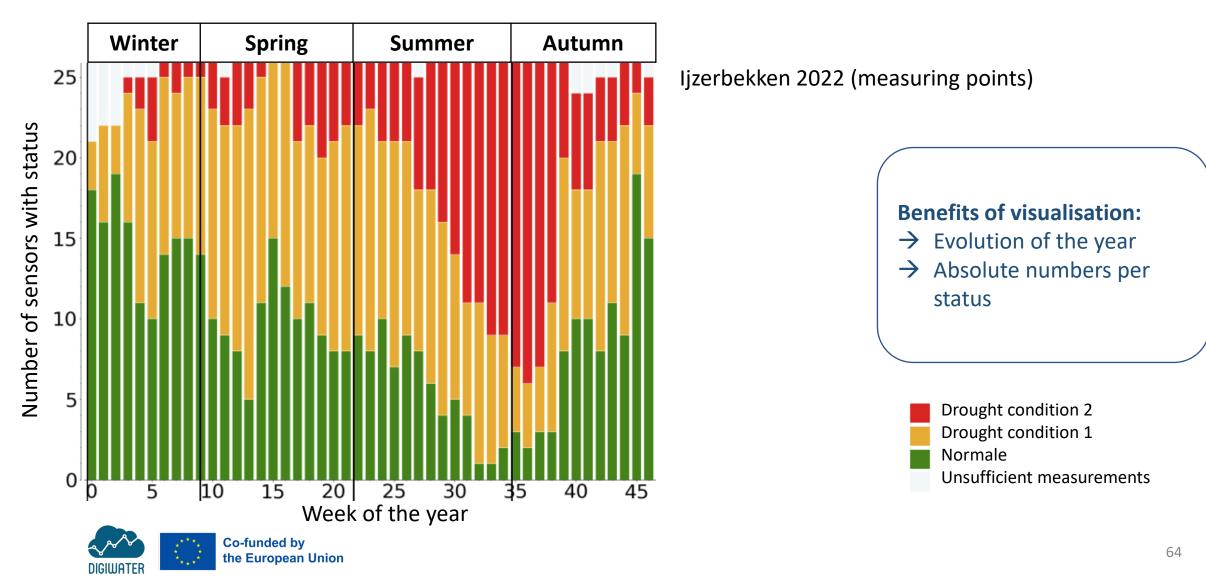
#### **Benefits of visualisation:**

- → which locations are more/less prone for salinization
- → overview of the evolution of each measuring point

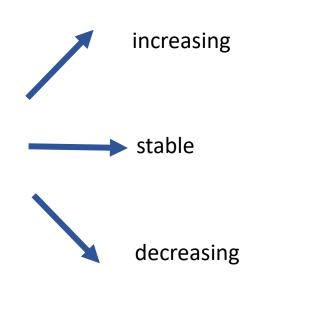




## Visualisation of salinization indicator



## Visualisation of salinization indicator



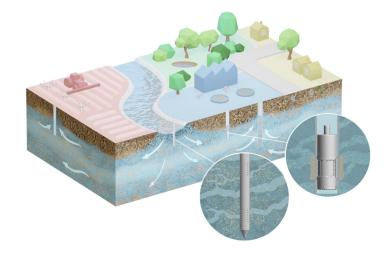


Drought condition 2 Drought condition 1 Normale Unsufficient measurements



#### Case studies





Internet of Water Netwerk of sensors measuring the water quality in Flanders **iFLUX** How does pollution move in the groundwater?







# Challenges?

SITE REMEDIATION

#### AGRICULTURE

#### LAND RESTORATION

#### WATER INFRASTRUCTURE









✓ Determine spreading risk
✓ Optimize remedial design
✓ Shorten after-care monitoring

- ✓ Ensure water supply
  ✓ Monitor nitrate run-off
  ✓ Manage water drainage
  and irrigation
- ✓ Guide nature conservation
   ✓ Manage drought risks
   ✓ Screen diffuse pollution
   ✓ Control salt water intrusion
- ✓ Circular groundwater use
   ✓ Determine infiltration capacity
   ✓ Monitor environmental impact
   ✓ Smart dewatering systems



#### Some case studies





LYON (FRANCE) - MUL DETERMINE THE MIC CONTA





Co-funded by the European Union

FINLAND COMPARING DIFFERENT SAMPLING TECHNIQUES TO ENSURE COST EFFICIENCY Finland: 2018 - 2018



RE



UK (UNITED KINGDOM) - DESIGN OF REMEDIATION AT FIRE BRIGADE TRAINING GROUND CONTAMINATED WITH PFAS UK: 2020 - 2021

# Agenda

Introduction

IoT, Big Data and watermanagement in EU

- Case studies
  - 1. RainBrain
  - 2. hAidro
  - 3. Groundwater indicator
  - 4. Internet of Thing
  - 5. iFLUX
  - 6. ...
- Conclusion

key insights, take away messages, bottlenecks, challenges, ...



## Conclusion

- Key insights
- Take away messages
- Bottlenecks
- Challenges



# Key insights

- 1. Technology is improving  $\rightarrow$  more and more opportunities
  - New sensors (e.g. nitrate sensors, flow/flux sensors, low-power gauges, ...)
  - Advanced data analytics (AI, machine learning, deep learning, ...)
- 2. Many projects are running  $\rightarrow$  lessons learned



## Take away messages

Upscale projects to larger area, different areas, different sectors, ...
 Open data: make results and measurements accessible
 Visualisation of results for better understanding
 Participation: involve the relevant partners and actors from the field
 Reduction of costs on the longterm (by avoiding damage)

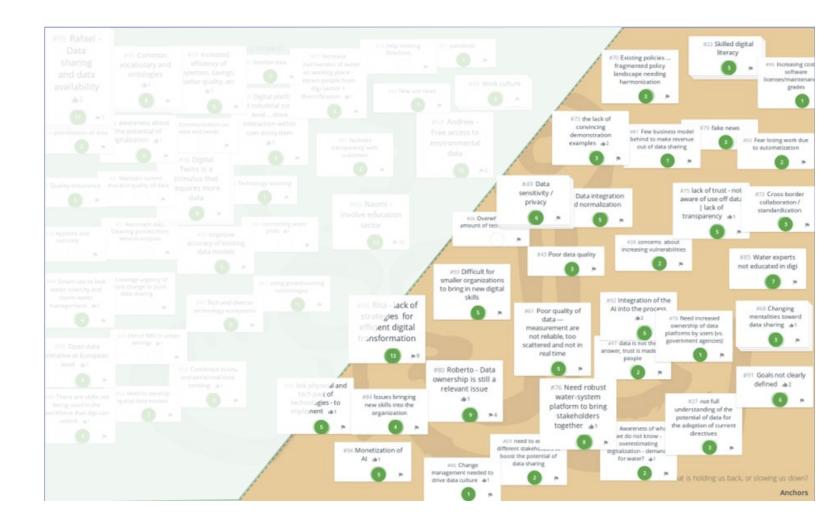
#### **Determine a well-defined strategy:**

- $\rightarrow$  start from an existing problem, what is your goal?
- $\rightarrow$ no 'ad hoc' solutions, think bigger



# Bottlenecks

- Data sharing and data availability
- Lack of strategies for efficient digital transformation
- Data ownership





# Challenges



Cybersecurity



Climate change → more extreme events Impossible to 'manage' all natural or man-made disruptions/disasters



Resources: funding, time, people, ...



Holistic approach (environmental, social, cultural, health, economic, ...)

