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Mapping Particulate Matters <2.5 µm in Malaysia using Himawari-8 and Sentinel 5P satellite products

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INTRODUCTION

- Air pollution is a serious environmental issue in Malaysia
- The main sources of air pollutants:
- PM2.5 and NO2 are main pollutants
- Average PM2.5 is 20 µg m⁻³ in 2019 (>WHO limit of 5 µg m⁻³)
- Inhalable and cause lung and eye diseases, birth defects, premature deaths, allergic and degradation of visibility
- In Malaysia, premature mortality and respiratory problem increase tremendously during the severe haze events.





- PM2.5 data is measured by the Department of Environment, Malaysia since 2017 covering 65 stations across Malaysia
- Main indicator to determine air quality in Malaysia

RESEARCH GAP

- PM2.5 data are not available in a spatially explicit manner
- Only few researches on PM2.5 in Malaysia- focus on a small spatial scale (Khan et al., 2015; Amil et al., 2016; Dahari et al., 2020).
- Remote sensing is a valuable tool for investigating the concentration and variability of PM2.5 at regional scale
- Modelling PM 2.5 with gases pollutants can improve estimation

OBJECTIVE

To develop empirical models for estimating PM2.5 concentrations in Malaysia using AOD and gases pollutants

PM2.5 MONITORING STATIONS



WORK FLOW



EMPIRICAL MODELS

Model	Spatial/Temporal details			
Model 1	Overall model			
Model 2	Urban/industry			
Model 3	Suburban/rural			
Model 4	Dry season			
Model 5	Wet season			
Model 6	Inter-monsoon (April–May) season			
Model 7	Inter-monsoon (October) season			

VALIDATION OF HIMAWARI-8 AOD PRODUCT



Kanniah et al (2020)

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS OF MEASURED VARIABLES

	PM2.5	AOD	SO ₂	NO ₂	O ₃	CO	WS	RH	TEMP
	(µg m⁻³)		(ppb)	(ppb)	(ppb)	(ppm)	(ms ⁻¹)	(%)	(°C)
Mean	21.86	0.69	1.2	5.23	25.2	0.60	1.73	66.58	30.70
Median	17.07	0.46	1.0	3.81	27.3	0.56	1.60	66.85	30.88
Stdev	19.15	0.68	0.9	6.1	15.1	0.28	1.02	10.35	2.31

• The columnar AOD500 during 2018–2019 exhibits a mean of 0.69, which is above the median value 0.46 due to many episodic aerosol events with AODs above 2,

- The measured PM2.5 concentrations have higher mean (21.9 µg m-3) than median (17.1 µg m-3) and a maximum value of 230 µg m-3
- These PM2.5 levels are similar to those reported at several sites in Southeast Asia (Dahari et al., 2020; Nguyen et al., 2021)
- NO2 and CO exhibit means of 5.2 ppb and 0.6 ppm
- Tropospheric O3 levels (25.2 ppb) are considered rather high with deleterious effects on human health

MODELS FOR $PM_{2.5}$ ESTIMATION

Models	Calibration dataset						
	R ²	RMSE	MBE	NSE	No of samples (N)		
1	0.69	10.62	-1.392	0.679	9365		
2	0.79	10.23	-1.191	0.777	2352		
3	0.69	10.67	-1.416	0.668	6859		
4	0.81	11.18	-1.187	0.794	2960		
5	0.62	9.96	-1.437	0.599	4060		
6	0.58	8.62	-0.994	0.555	1709		
7	0.74	11.17	-2.323	0.687	643		

PREDICTED VERSUS MEASURED PM2.5





Time series hourly measured and predicted PM2.5



seq(1, length(predicted_PM2.5))

Time series (hourly) of measured (black) and predicted (red) PM2.5 concentrations from the SVR model across Malaysia

Variable Importance Analysis

Variable importance statistic was used to analyse the contribution of each variable in PM2.5 estimations



VIA- Meteorological data show importance values <10% and 0% for wind speed

Variable Importance Analysis





INCORPORATING GASES DATA FROM SENTINEL 5-P

- Variable Importance Analysis shows AOD (31-60%) and gases (CO-100%, O₃-20-40%, NO₂- 9-21% and SO₂- 3-11%) are significant for estimating PM2.5
- Meteorological data had less importance (<10%)
- In Beijing–Tianjin–Hebei, China CO, NO₂, SO₂ and AOD were important variables in predicting PM_{2.5} concentrations (Wang and Sun (2019)
- In Xi'an, China, Song et al. (2015) found CO was the most important variable that explained 21% of the variation in estimated PM_{2.5} concentrations
- In the Klang Valley, Malaysia- CO, NO₂, NO and SO₂ are mostly affected the $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations (Amil *et al.*, 2016).

MODELS FOR $PM_{2.5}$ ESTIMATION

	Calibration dataset							
Model	R²	RMSE	MBE	NSE	No of sample (N)			
1	0.67	13.36	-2.016	0.645	365			
2	0.67	17.28	4.435	0.608	118			
3	0.61	10.17	-1.268	0.583	246			
4	0.76	16.08	-3.072	0.71	147			
5	0.59	5.01	-0.477	0.571	129			
6	0.56	5.56	-0.507	0.506	72			
7	0.86	11.39	-3.406	0.791	21			

PREDICTED AND MEASURED PM2.5





RESIDUAL ANALYSIS









•The frequency of residuals is normally distributed peaking around zero.

•The predictions are quite accurate, indicating that the used machine learning techniques is satisfactory for $PM_{2.5}$ estimations in Malaysia.

CONCLUSION

- New machine-learning model was developed to estimate PM2.5 concentrations across Malaysia for the first time covering the years 2018 and 2019.
- CO was the most influential predictor variable for PM2.5 estimations followed by AOD, and other gases
- In future, with more matching data (PM2.5, AOD, NO2, SO2, CO and O3) more complex machine learning such as Deep Learning can be used to produce better estimation