

# CSN Data Validation Quick Reference Guide

## ITEMS TO CHECK

- Consistency with Field Logs
- Comments from Labs and UCD
- Invalid Samples
- Sampling Anomalies
- Operational Parameter Values
- Null, Qualifier, A1, B1, and C1 Flags
- Recurring Issues
- Field Blanks
- Consistency with Other Measurements
- Historical Measurements

## WHEN TO INVALIDATE

Only invalidate data when measurements are not acquired correctly.

Examples include: ◇ No sample air flow ◇ Filter Damage ◇ Contamination

## List of Calculated Parameters Available in DART

Parameter		Calculation	Notes
Code	Name		
00001	Elements	Na + Mg + Al + Si + P + S + Cl + K + Ca + Ti + V + Cr + Mn + Fe + Co + Ni + Cu + Zn + As + Se + Br + Rb + Sr + Zr + Ag + Cd + In + Sn + Sb + Cs + Ba + Ce + Pb	Sum of elements measured by XRF. Calculated in DART.
00002	Ions	chloride + ammonium + sodium ion + potassium ion + nitrate + sulfate	Sum of ions measured by IC. Calculated in DART.
00010	PM <sub>2.5</sub> Mass Difference	PM <sub>2.5</sub> Raw Data—Reconstructed Mass	Difference between measured and calculated mass.
88339	Ammonium sulfate	4.125 * sulfur	This is a historical estimation of ammonium sulfate using XRF sulfur rather than measured sulfate.
88344	Ammonium nitrate	1.29 * nitrate	-
88348	Soil	2.2*aluminum + 2.49*silicon + 1.63*calcium + 2.42*iron + 1.94*titanium	These are estimated from stoichiometric relationships of crustal soil oxides.
88350	Organic Carbon Mass (OMC)	1.4 * organic carbon	Organic carbon by TOA.
88401	Reconstructed Mass	ammonium sulfate + ammonium nitrate + soil + 1.8*chloride + elemental carbon + OMC	Elemental carbon by TOA.

## PLEASE DO

- Respond to questions in the comments section
- Write clear and detailed comments
- Check all invalid filters
- Change the “AM” null flag to a more detailed flag
- Add qualifier flags (there is space for 10)
- Invalidate samples with a serious sampling problem
- Check flow rates and operational parameters carefully
- Be careful when applying flags to multiple parameters
- Review data flagged with the “A1”, “B1”, and/or “C1” flags
- Get in touch using the contacts below

## PLEASE DON'T

- Invalidate samples with the “FX” or “MX” qualifier flags unless data results support invalidation
- Remove the “TT” and “MD” flags

## :: RESOURCES AND CONTACTS ::

### DART Training

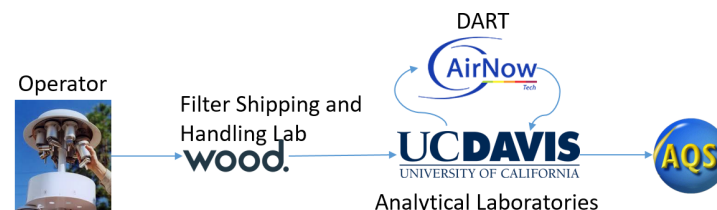
- <https://youtu.be/bNsJMGVSdj0>
- <https://www.airnowtech.org> -> Resources Page
- [https://projects.erg.com/conferences/ambientair/conf18/Young\\_Chemical%20Speciation%20Network.pdf](https://projects.erg.com/conferences/ambientair/conf18/Young_Chemical%20Speciation%20Network.pdf)

### EPA Resources

- AQS Codes List — <https://www.epa.gov/aqs/aqs-code-list>
- Ambient Monitoring Technology Information Center — <https://www.epa.gov/amtic>

### Email Support

- CSN Email Support — [CSNsupport@sonomatech.com](mailto:CSNsupport@sonomatech.com)

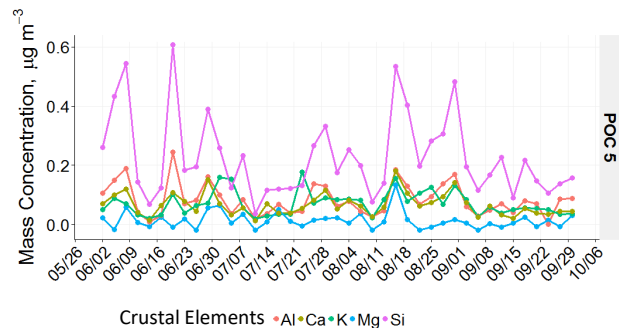


# POSSIBLE ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES\*

## Time Series

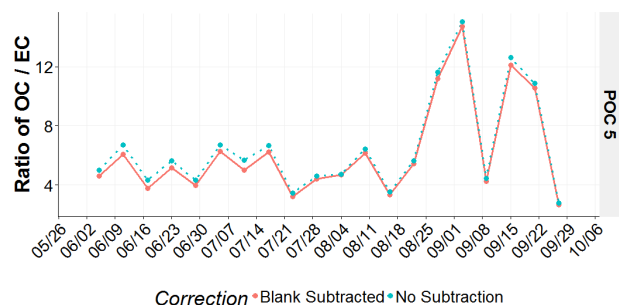
### Related Parameters

Use to find potential contamination



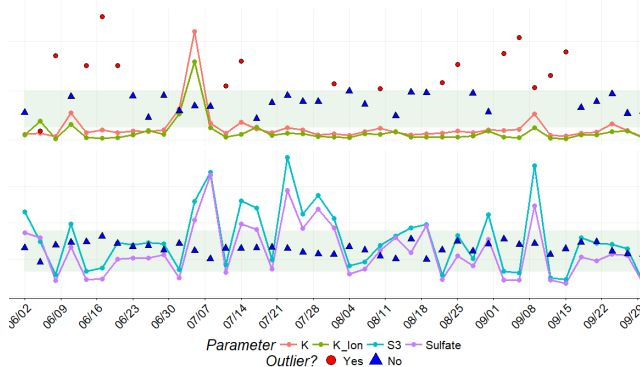
### Ratios

Use to find abnormal events or potential swaps



### Comparison Between Elements and Ions

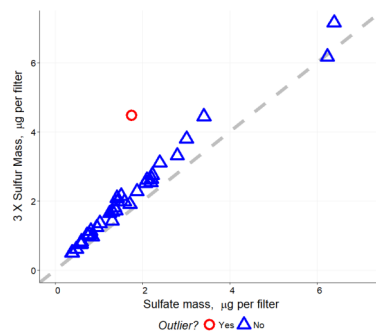
Use to find potential swaps and sampling issues



## Regression

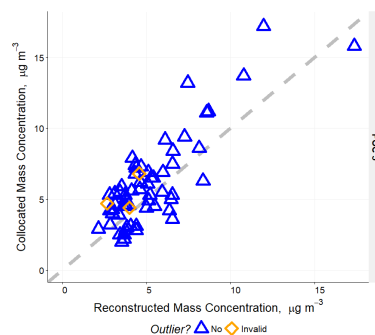
### Related Parameters

Comparing 3 \* Sulfur to Sulfate can help identify outliers



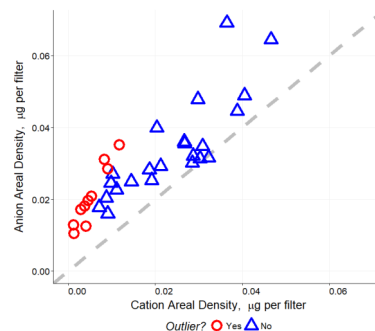
### Mass Balance Comparison

Calculated mass versus reconstructed mass



### Ion Balance Comparison

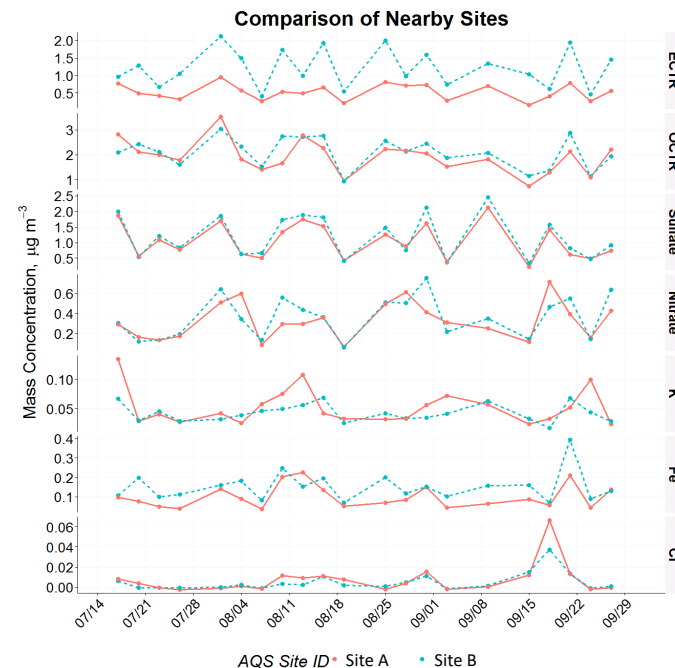
Use to find inconsistencies between ion species



## Geospatial

### Buddy Sites

Use to compare pollutants between two nearby sites



### \*Note for SLT Data Validators

Not all of these examples can be performed within the DART interface. However, DART enables exporting the data for offline analysis using your own software.

**UC DAVIS**  
**AIR QUALITY RESEARCH CENTER**

For more information about the examples shown here, please see the CSN Data Validation Guide. UC Davis validation protocols are available in the documents section on the UCD AQRC website:

<https://airquality.ucdavis.edu/documentation>