Manual tutorial for the cleaning of continuous biological parameters from the Flemish Hydrological Information Center (HIC) databases

Funded by De Vlaamse Waterweg (Flemish Waterways)

For the Hydrological Information Center (HIC) of Flanders Hydraulics Research

Written and developed by Pali Felice Gelsomini with support from Tom Maris
Ecosystem Management Research Group (ECOBE) University of Antwerp

Contact palifelice.gelsomini@uantwerpen.be

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Data cleaning, validation and calibration methodology

The cleaning and validation methodology was adapted from the methodology utilized by the Hydrological Information Center (HIC) for processing continuous hydrological data. The one major difference is we used median and median absolute deviations (MAD), instead of mean and standard deviation, as per recommendation of the HIC. The chlorophyll-a florescence measurements additionally must be post-calibrated using lab-tested point samples and is done following the protocol given by the sensor manufacturer YSI.

There are two steps to the data cleaning and validation process: first an automated spike removal and second a manual check. Following these two steps, the data is post calibrated if need be (e.g. the chlorophyll-a florescence must be post calibrated).

The R package "HICbioclean" was developed to automate this process. See that section for a tutorial and more details.

Continuous monitoring stations, reference site and sensor maintenance data

For the validation and calibration, the closest available point-sampled water-quality monitoring stations from OMES were selected as reference sites (see figure 1 and table 1 to see which point sampled site is reference to with which continuous site, for the location of these sites and the distances between the reference and continuous sites). The OMES monitoring campaign is funded by the Flemish Waterways. The water-quality monitoring stations used as references are sampled biweekly during the growing season April to September and monthly the rest of the year. Sensor maintenance data on cleaning and sensor changes was provided by the HIC and was used during the manual validation procedure to asses miscalibrations and sensor drifts (see table 1 for the file names and to which continuous monitored sites they belong).

Figure 1: Map of continuous monitoring sites and their respective point sampled reference sites which were used for validation and calibration of the continuous data. The point sampled site Grens was evaluated as a possible reference site for Lillo, but was not chosen. The other available point sampled sites which were not used as reference sites are displayed but are not labeled.

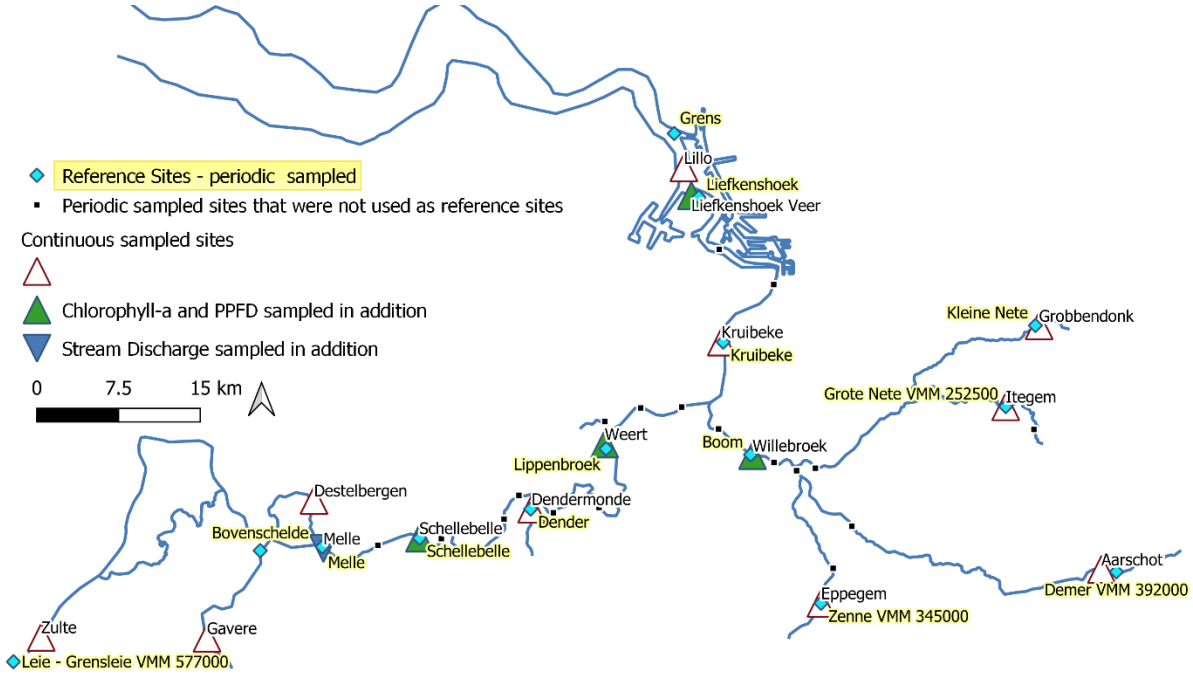


Table 1: Metadata for continuously measured biological data cleaning, calibration and validation. Continuous monitoring site names, location information, site number, the continuously measured biological parameters at each site that were cleaned and validated, the respective file for sensor maintenance information on cleanings and sensor changes, the point sampled site from the OMES campaign which was used for validating and calibrating the continuous data, the distance between the continuous measurement site and the point sampled reference site.

Continuous data site name	Site number	river	km from mouth	2018 data	2019 data	2020 data	Sensor maintenance file	Point sampled reference site from OMES	Distance from reference site (m)
Gavere SF/Bovenschelde	bos02a-SF-CM	Schelde	167			DO, pH		Bovenschelde	11440
Aarschot Afwaarts SF/Demer	dem02a-SF-CM	Demer	142	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Aarschot_	VMM 392000	1400
Dendermonde SF/Dender	den02a-SF-CM	Dender	125	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Appels_	Dender	0
Itegem Hullebrug SF/Grote Nete	gnt03a-SF-CM	Grote Nete	118	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Itegem Hullebrug_		
Grobbendonk Troon SF/Kleine Nete	knt03a-SF-CM	Kleine Nete	119	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Grobbendonk_	Kleine Nete	345
Zulte SF/Leie	lei05a-SF-CM	Leie	194			DO, pH		VMM 577000	3448
Klein Willebroek SF/Rupel	rup02e-SF-CM	Rupel	99	DO, pH, chl-a	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	WISKI_MPS_Boom_	Boom	193
Eppegem SF/Zenne	zen03a-SF-CM	Zenne	116	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Eppegem_	VMM 345000	0
Lillo Meetpaal-Onder SF/Zeeschelde	zes07g-SF-CMO	Zeeschelde	60	DO	DO	DO	WISKI_MPS_Gavere_	Liefkenshoek	3032
Liefkenshoek Veer SF/zeeschelde	zes09x-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	63		DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	WISKI_MPS_Liefkenshoek_	Liefkenshoek	698
Kruibeke SF/Zeeschelde	zes24a-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	85	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Kruibekeveer_	Kruibeke	163
Weert SF/Zeeschelde	zes39c-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	103	DO, pH, chl-a	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	WISKI_MPS_Weert_	Lippenbroek	462
Lippenbroek UIT SF/Zeeschelde	zes40a-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	104	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO	WISKI_MPS_LippenbroekUIT_		
Schellebelle SF/Zeeschelde	zes54m-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	140	DO, pH, chl-a	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	DO, pH, chl-a, PPFD	WISKI_MPS_Schellebelle_	Schellebelle	0
Melle SF/Zeeschelde	zes57a-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	150	DO, pH	DO, pH	DO, pH	WISKI_MPS_Melle_	Melle	185
Destelbergen SF/Zeeschelde	zes57n-SF-CM	Zeeschelde	153	DO, pH	DO, pH		WISKI_MPS_Zulte_		

Automated spike removal

1. **Min/max filter:** Data was first passed through a min/max filter to remove unreasonably large and small values. 0 was the minimum value for all parameters. Dissolved oxygen and pH had a maximum of 15, chlorophyll a 1000 and PPFD 2000.

2. **Spike removal:** All sample points that were more than 3 MAD (the scale factor 1.4826 was used assuming normal distribution; this is the default in R) from the median of the 10 surrounding data points (5 before and 5 after) are automatically deleted. Median was used because it is a robust statistic, being more resilient to outliers. There needed to be a minimum of 5 surrounding data points, otherwise the point was not evaluated. Given the 5-minute sampling interval of the continuous data, 5 data points before and after was interpreted as 25 minutes before and 25 minutes after; this means that the algorithm would look no farther than 25 minutes, even if data was missing. All evaluated data points that passed the test were flagged as "automatic good". A spike must also be at least 4 times the data precision (for example if there is one decimal place then the spike must be at least 0.4).

3. **Gap linear interpolation**: All data less than or equal to 15 minutes were interpolated linearly. All interpolated data points were flagged as "automatic good"

The PPFD data has a different auto validation workflow. PPFD data was from paired sensors at a fixed distance from each other for calculating the light attenuation coefficient kd. This means that the two sensors needed to be auto-validated in tandem with each other.

1. **Min/max filter on the PPFD data** for the upper and lower sensors.
2. **Spike removal on the PPFD data** for the upper and lower sensors.
3. Generally both the upper and lower sensors show the same trends with spikes occurring at the same times. If a spike was deleted and then interpolated from one sensor but not the other sensor, then that will lead to an artificially large or small difference between sensors, thus creating an artificially large or kd value. Therefor **if a point was deleted from one sensor, it must be deleted in the other sensor as well.**
4. Many spikes were registered both in the upper and lower sensors. These spikes were most likely not sensor errors, but may have been passing clouds or debris and this information is very important for understanding the total light climate**. All spikes that are registered in both the upper and lower sensors will not be deleted.**
5. **PPFD data is linear interpolated for data gaps of max 15 minutes.**
6. **Light attenuation coefficient kd is calculated.** $kd = 1/\Delta z * \ln(E1/E2)$ where Δz is the distance between sensors in meters (0.4m) and E1 is the upper sensor PPFD and E2 is the lower sensor PPFD.
7. **Delete all PPFD values where kd is negative.** Light cannot be greater when deeper in the water column.
8. **Remove all kd values where PPFD is below the detection limits** (1 µmol/s/m² for the upper sensor and 0.25 µmol/s/m² for the lower sensor). When the light levels approach zero, it becomes too difficult to accurately measure the difference between the upper and lower sensors.
9. **Spike removal on kd. Remove those spikes also from the PPFD data.**
10. **Interpolate PPFD data again for data gaps of max 15 minutes.**
11. **Recalculate kd and remove kd values that are outside the detection limit again.**

Manual validation and calibration

1. **The time series is plotted** along with the reference site values and the sensor maintenance data on cleaning and sensor changes.

2. **The data is then visually evaluated for the following issues:**
   Sudden jumps relating to sensor replacements: There can be sudden shifts in the data following a sensor change due to miscalibrations or sensor drift or jumps relating to sensor start up (particularly an issue with pH where the value right after the sensor is placed out in the field is extremely low and then slowly rises back up over the course of the next day). Sensor miscalibration can be recalibrated linearly either two sided or one sided. The data may be sifted (+ -) and/or scaled (* /), with an attempt to match both the values and the signal amplitude to the previous and following data sections. The reference site values were used for the recalibration. When no reference site is available, then trends seen in the other measured parameters and the surrounding sites can be used as a guide. Recalibrated data is quality flagged as “estimate”. If the recalibration is very untrustworthy, as in the data section still doesn’t match up with the previous and following data or the amplitude of the data section does not match the surrounding data, it is flagged as “suspect”. Issues related to sensor start up (e.g. pH) are simply deleted and quality flagged as “missing”.
   Data noise and sensor error: Some sections of data are simply signal noise and are clearly sensor error, they are deleted and quality flagged as “missing”. Some sections are sensor error (e.g. flatlines), they are deleted and flagged as “missing”. Some sections seem to have an error in the sensor, but useful information may still be derived from the data, they are quality flagged as “suspect”.
   Spikes in very irregular timeseries and prolonged spikes: The automated spike removal is not effective for timeseries with very high variance. Also, the automated spike removal will not remove spikes that are cause by prolonged disturbances such as debris trapped on the sensors. A visual evaluation must be made of the remaining data spikes. If the spikes are cyclical and follow the general data trends then they are left as is. If the spikes severally deviate from the general data trend or are associated with a sensor failure then they are deleted and flagged as “missing”. If it is unclear, then they are flagged as “suspect”.
3. **Gaps created by deleting data during the manual cleaning may be linear-interpolated.** Gaps of up to one hour large may be filled automatically and are quality flagged as “estimate”. If the data gap is in a very simple signal shape and a linear-interpolation of greater than hone hour will not alter the signal shape, then a linear interpolation of greater than one hour may be done, and the points are quality flagged as “estimate”

4. **The chlorophyll-a data is then post-calibrated** after the manual cleaning and validation. Only non-suspect data is used for calculating the calibration. The calibration is calculated using linear regression between the lab-tested reference-site-data and the nearest, continuous-measured florescence-data. A y-intercept of 0 is used for the linear-regression as recommended by YSI, the sensor manufacturer. After the calibration has been applied to the data, no special quality flags are given to the data.

Data quality flagging rule summary:

- Data that is clearly sensor error is deleted and flagged as “missing” and then gaps of up to one hour are interpolated and flagged as “estimate”. If the resulting data gap is in a very simple signal shape and a linear interpolation of greater than hone hour will not alter the signal shape, then a linear interpolation of greater than one hour may be done, and the points are flagged as “estimate”
- Data that looks to be sensor error but may still provide information is flagged as “suspect”
- Data that where the sensor is mis-calibrated and the data must be recalibrated is flagged as “estimate”
- Data that was recalibrated, but the recalibration is very untrustworthy, as in the data section still doesn’t match up with the previous and following data or the amplitude of the data section does not match the surrounding data, is flagged as “suspect”
- When data is post-calibrates such as (such as the chlorophyll-a) then no data flag is applied. Post-calibration is defined as calibration needed for the sensor sampling protocol and it is not used for fixing an incorrectly calibrated sensor.
- At the end of the manual validation and calibration, all data points that are not already flagged as either “estimate” or “suspect” will be flagged as “good”

Final file formatting

As per request of the HIC, the data will be given the state of value codes 11 good measurements, 21 good calculation, 31 estimate measurements, 41 estimate calculations, 61 suspect measurements, 71 suspect calculations. Generally only the values 11, 31 and 61 will be used.

All data that was originally missing will receive their original NA value of -777 and the state of value flag of 255. All data that was deleted during this data cleaning process will receive the NA value of -88888 and the state of value flag 61. The file format will be a .zrx file with the below syntax. The highlight text is the sample location and parameter code.

```
#REXCHANGE1013plu15a-1066VAL|*|RINVAL-777.0|*|
#TZUTC+1|*| CUNITmm|*|
#LAYOUT(timestamp,value,primary_status)|*|
201708231515          0.8  <kwaliteitscode>
201708231520          0.7  <kwaliteitscode>
201708231525          -777.0     <kwaliteitscode>
201708231530          1.6  <kwaliteitscode>
201708231535          0.2  <kwaliteitscode>
201708231540          0.4  <kwaliteitscode>
201708231545          0.6  <kwaliteitscode>
```

R package HICbioclean

An R package specifically designed for automating the process of cleaning, calibrating and validating continuous biological water quality data from the Flemish HIC (Hydrological Information Centre) database.

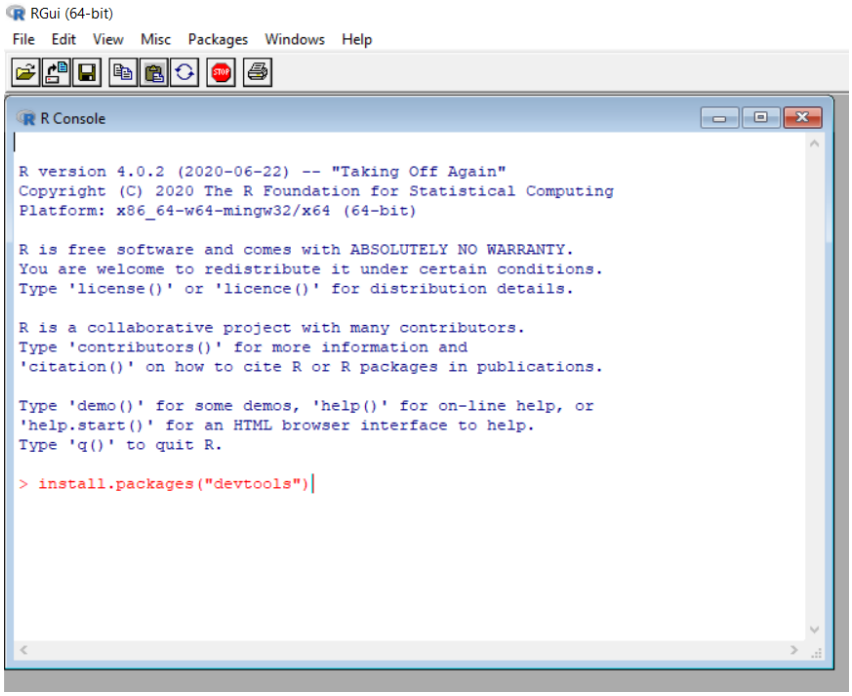
It provides both R functions for integration into R scripts and easy to use R Shiny graphical apps for intuitive data cleaning, validation and calibration without the need for coding.

Installation

Download the latest version of R from https://cran.r-project.org/ if not already installed.

Open the program R.

To download the HICbioclean package from github, you will first have to install the package devtools if you don't already have it. Copy the following code into the R console and press enter and follow the onscreen instructions:
install.packages("devtools")



Install the HICbioclean package into R. Copy the following code into the R console and press enter:
devtools::install_github("pgelsomini/HICbioclean", build_vignettes = TRUE)

Open the package library for HICbioclean. Copy the following code into the R console and press enter:
library(HICbioclean)

Tutorial

The work flow for cleaning the continuous biological water quality data is split into three main steps:

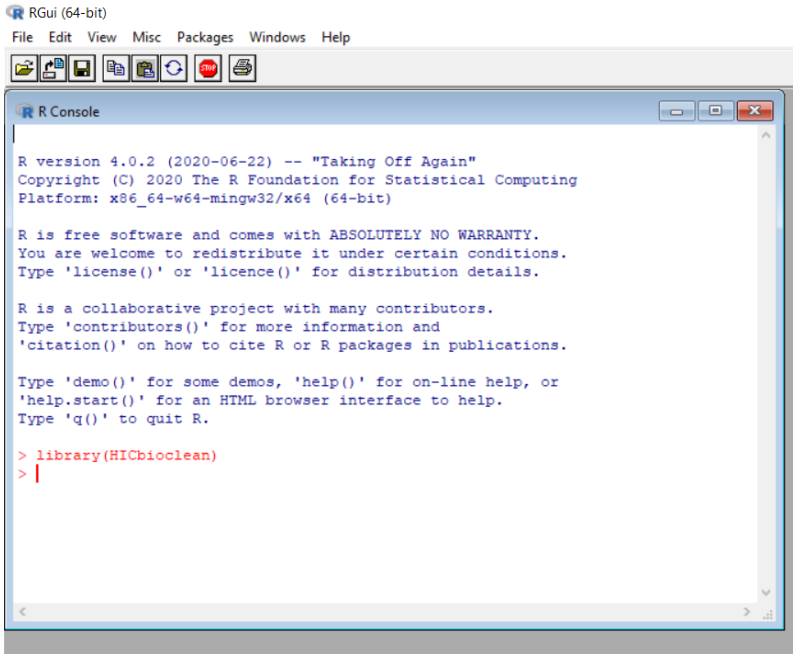
1. Data download and formatting
2. Auto-validation
3. Manual-validation and final export

Data download and formatting

Data download:

The continuous biological data (oxygen, pH, chlorophyll, and PPFD) can be downloaded from the HIC database using the function **HICwebservicesBioDownload**. This is a wrapper function for functions found within the **HICwebservices package**. The HICwebservices package allows data on the HIC database to be downloaded via an internet connection into the R environment on your computer. The HICwebservices package needs to be installed and configured on your computer before you can download the data. Contact the HIC for details on how to do this. Once you have the HICwebservices package installed and configured on your computer you can use the following code in R to download the data for a given year.

1. Open R and enter **library(HICbioclean)** into the R Console and press enter. This loads this package into R.



2. Check where your working directory is. This is the folder where all your data will be saved into. Type the function **getwd()** and press enter.

```
> library(HICbioclean)
> getwd()
[1] "C:/Users/PGelsomini/Documents"
>
```

3. If you want to change the working directory, you can use the function **setwd('PathName').** Always type paths with forward-slashes (/) and not back-slashes (\). Windows uses back-

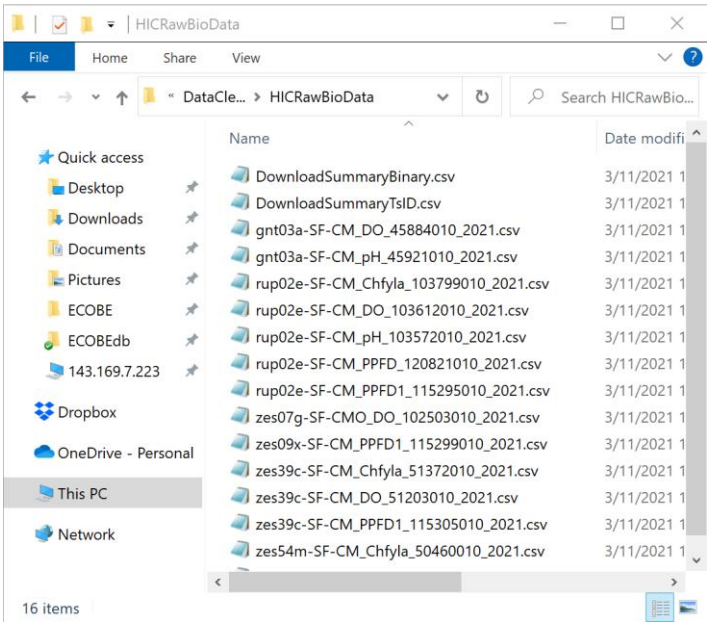
slashes so be careful when copying and pasting a path.

```
> library(HICbioclean)
> getwd()
[1] "C:/Users/PGelsomini/Documents"
> setwd("C:/Users/PGelsomini/Documents/DataCleaning")
>
```

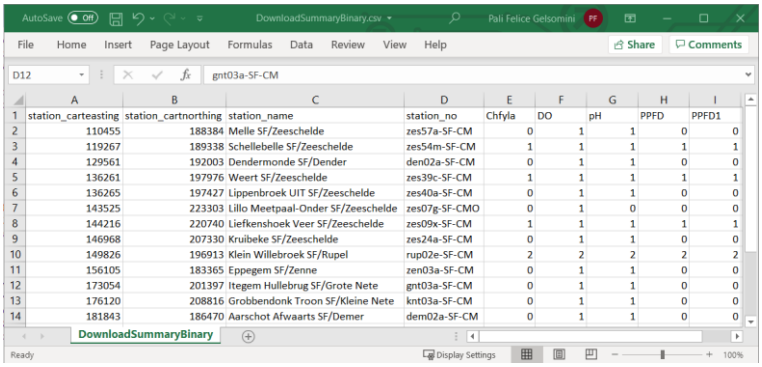
4. Use the function **HICwebservicesBioDownload(year = '2021', output.dir = 'FolderName')** to download the biological data from the HIC database. Enter the year you wish to download and the output directory folder name where you wish to save the data into. This folder will be created inside your working directory. Then press enter. The download can take some time so be patient.

```
> library(HICbioclean)
> getwd()
[1] "C:/Users/PGelsomini/Documents"
> setwd("C:/Users/PGelsomini/Documents/DataCleaning")
> HICwebservicesBioDownload(year = '2021', output.dir = 'HICRawBioData')
```

5. The data will be saved as CSV files inside the specified output directory folder. The first part of the CSV file name is the site number, the second part is the time series ID number (from the HIC database) and the third part is the year.



6. Two CSV files were also made called DownloadSummaryBinary.csv and DownloadSummaryTsID.csv which provide a summary of the data that was downloaded and the coordinates of the locations (coordinate system: Belgian Lambert 72). These should be taken out of this folder before you move to the auto-despiking step.



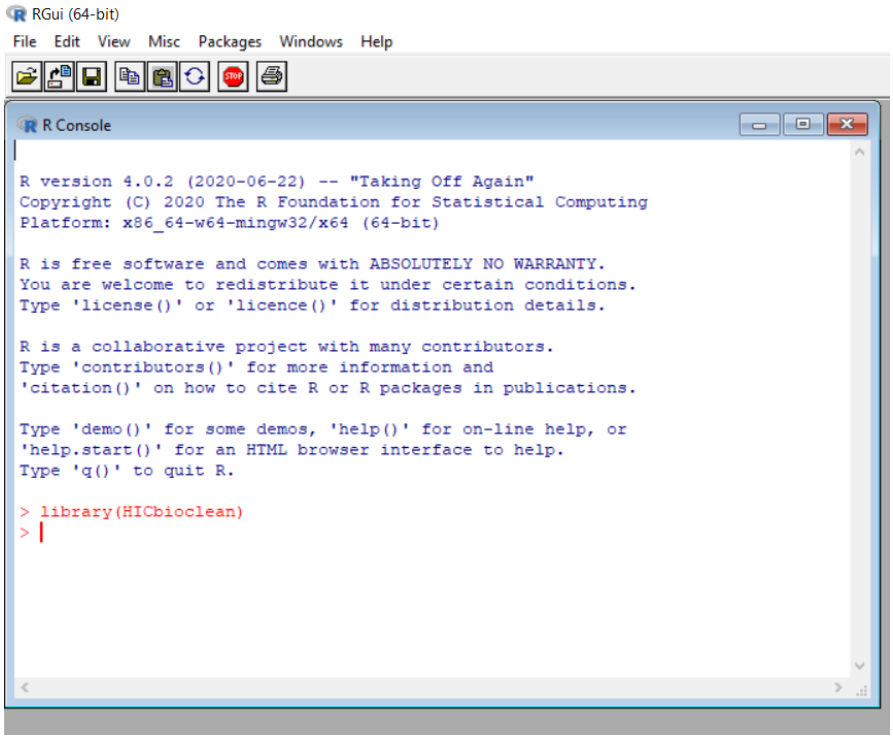
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	station_carteasting	station_cartnorthing	station_name	station_no	Chfyla	DO	pH	PPFD	PPFD1
2	110455	188384	Melle SF/Zeeschelde	zes57a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
3	119267	189338	Schellebelle SF/Zeeschelde	zes54m-SF-CM	1	1	1	1	1
4	129561	192003	Dendermonde SF/Dender	den02a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
5	136261	197976	Weert SF/Zeeschelde	zes39c-SF-CM	1	1	1	1	1
6	136265	197427	Lippenbroek UIT SF/Zeeschelde	zes40a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
7	143525	223303	Lillo Meetpaal-Onder SF/Zeeschelde	zes07g-SF-CMO	0	1	0	0	0
8	144216	220740	Liefkenshoek Veer SF/Zeeschelde	zes09x-SF-CM	1	1	1	1	1
9	146968	207330	Kruibeke SF/Zeeschelde	zes24a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
10	149826	196913	Klein Willebroek SF/Rupel	rup02e-SF-CM	2	2	2	2	2
11	156105	183365	Eppegem SF/Zenne	zen03a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
12	173054	201397	Itegem Hullebrug SF/Grote Nete	gnt03a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
13	176120	208816	Grobbendonk Troon SF/Kleine Nete	knt03a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0
14	181843	186470	Aarschot Afwaarts SF/Demer	dem02a-SF-CM	0	1	1	0	0

Formatting site maintenance data:

You need to ask the HIC directly for the records of the sensor changes and the cleanings. They will give the files to you as excel files. These need to be formatted before they can be used in R.

The data must first be formatted because the raw text files exported from the HIC database cannot be loaded into R and used as is. In this step the date and time is also formatted into a datetime column and a numeric datetime column for easier processing in R. The metadata in the header of the text files are placed in columns next to the data. The value column name is renamed “Value”.

7. Open R and enter **library(HICbioclean)** into the R Console and press enter. This loads this package into R.



8. Place all the excel files into one folder. Use the function **HIC.maint()** to format these excel files. Enter into the function first the path to the folder where the excels are saved (if this folder is inside your working directory then the folder name is needed) and the name of the folder where you would like to have the formatted files saved to. Then press enter.

```
> library(HICbioclean)
> HIC.maint('MaintExcels','MaintCSVs')
```

9. The files should now all be formatted and saved as CSV files in the new specified folder.

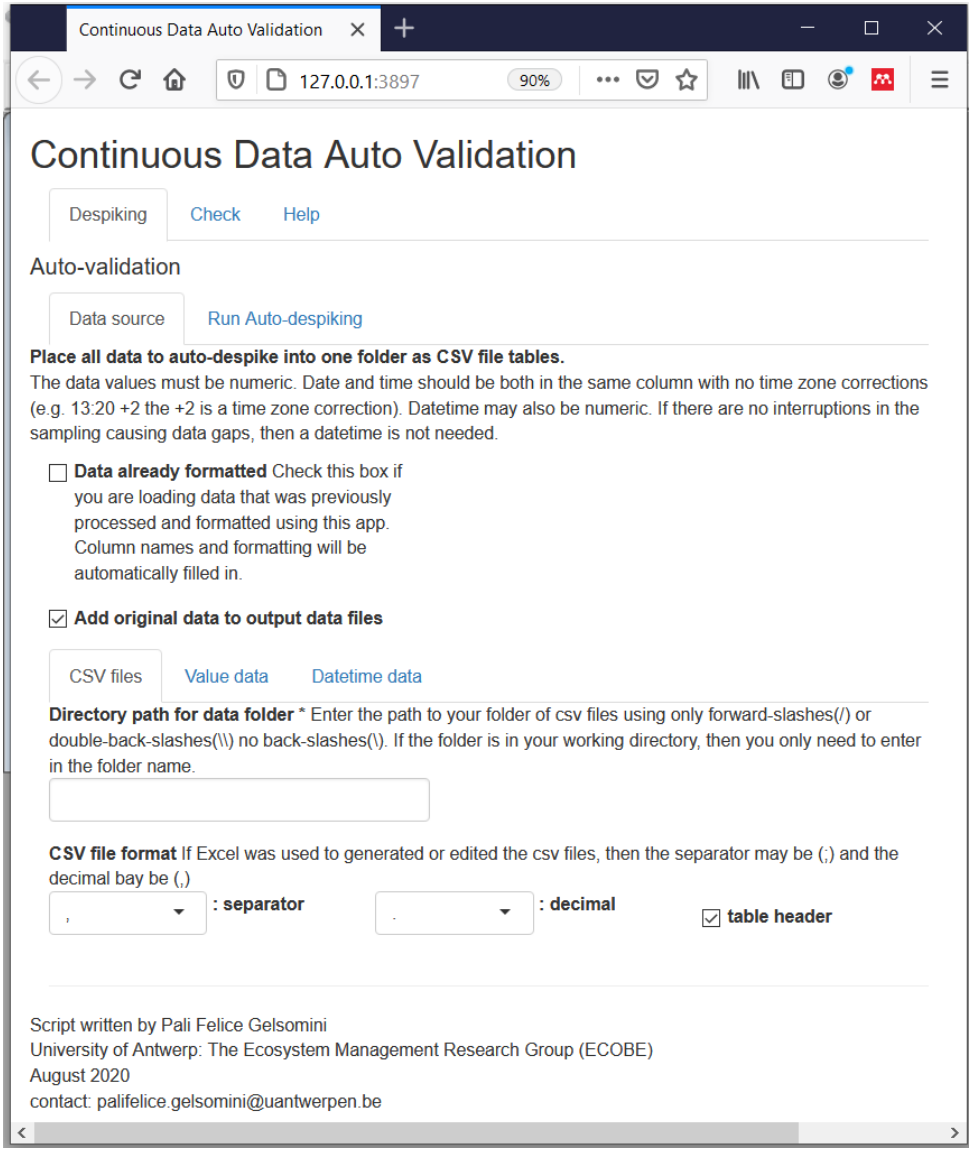
Auto-validation

In this step the data runs through a series of automated processes to clean and despike the data.

10. Put your PPFD data all in one folder and place all the other data into another folder. PPFD has a special protocol and can't be batch processed with the rest of the data. Do the below steps 11 through 34 to batch process the folder containing the rest of the data (no PPFD data).
11. If this is a new R session (you've closed the program and restarted it) you will have to enter **library(HICbioclean)** into the R console and press enter again first. Otherwise move onto the next step.
12. Enter **HIC.App.auto()** into the R console and press enter to open the auto-validation app.

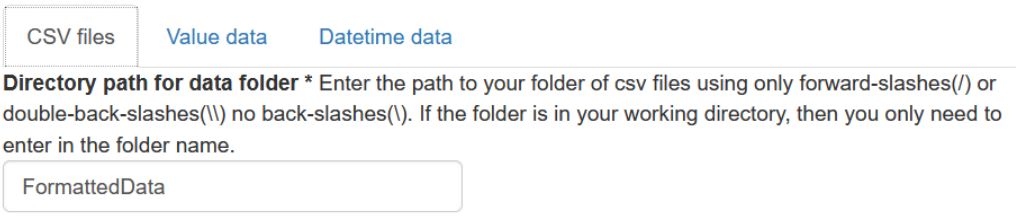
```
exporting data tabl
> HIC.App.auto()
```

13. The R Shiny app should now be open in your web browser.



14. All the default settings in the app are selected so that you should be able to process the HIC data without making any changes to them. If need be you can always change the settings in the app. See the in app descriptions of each setting.

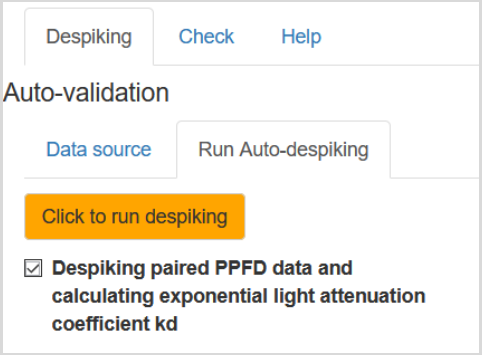
15. Enter folder where you saved your formatted data from the previous step into the field “Directory path for data folder”. For me that is “FormattedData” and because I saved that folder in my working directory I don’t need a full path.



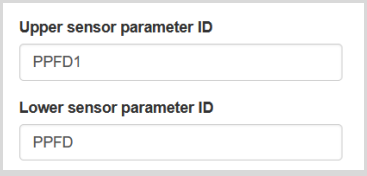
16. The other tabs “value data” and “datetime data” contain the column names and data format of the values and datetime. If you are working with downloaded HIC database CSV files then the settings are already filled in for you correctly by default. There is no need to make any changes to these tabs.
17. Open the “Run Auto-despiking” tab.

PPFD data specific instructions

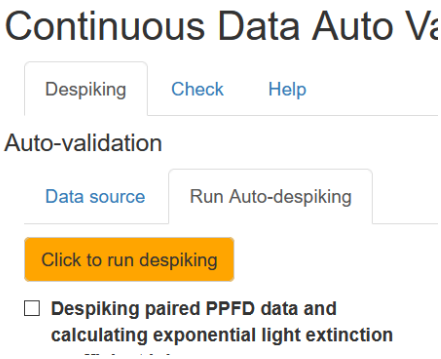
a. If you are auto validating paired PPFD data for calculating light attenuation coefficient kd, the steps are all generally identical. But you have to tell the app that you are auto validating PPFD data. Under the tap “Despiking”>>”Run Auto-despiking” check the box “Despiking paired PPFD data…”.



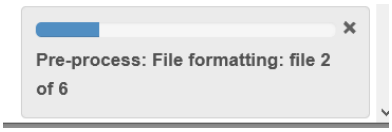
b. Make sure that in your data in your data the upper sensor is labeled PPFD1 and the lower sensor is labeled PPFD. You can change these options if need be.



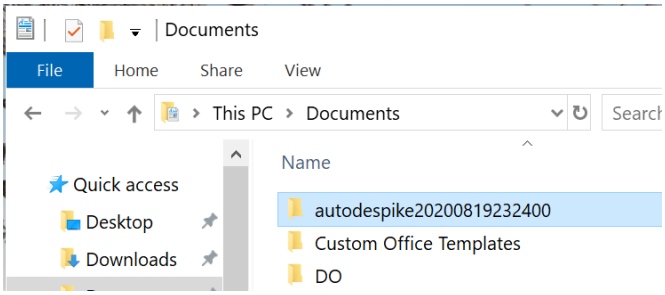
18. and click the orange “Click to run despiking” button. This will run the full work flow with the the default settings.



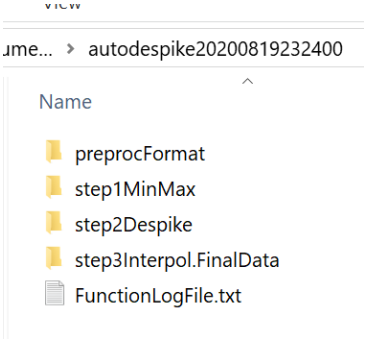
19. A progress bar will appear in the corner of the screen wile the process is running



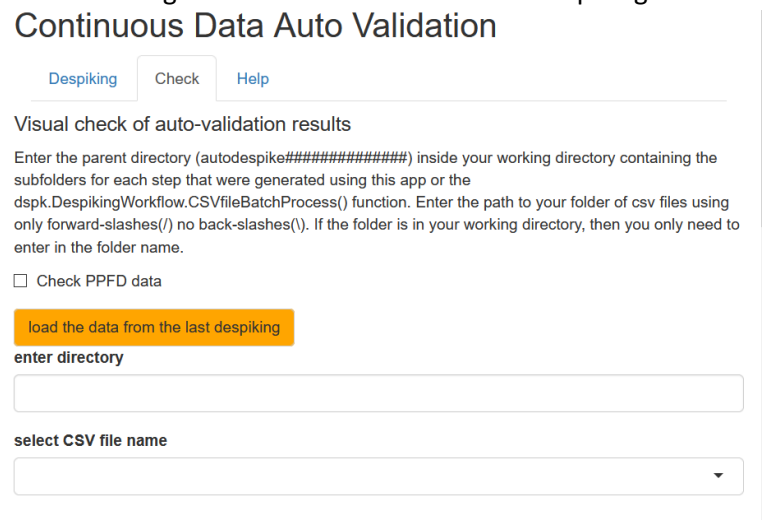
20. The auto validated data is saved in your working directory in the autogenerated folder "autodespikeYYYYMMDDHHMMSS". If it is PPFD data you are processing it will be saved in "autoPPFDdespikeYYYYMMDDHHMMSS".



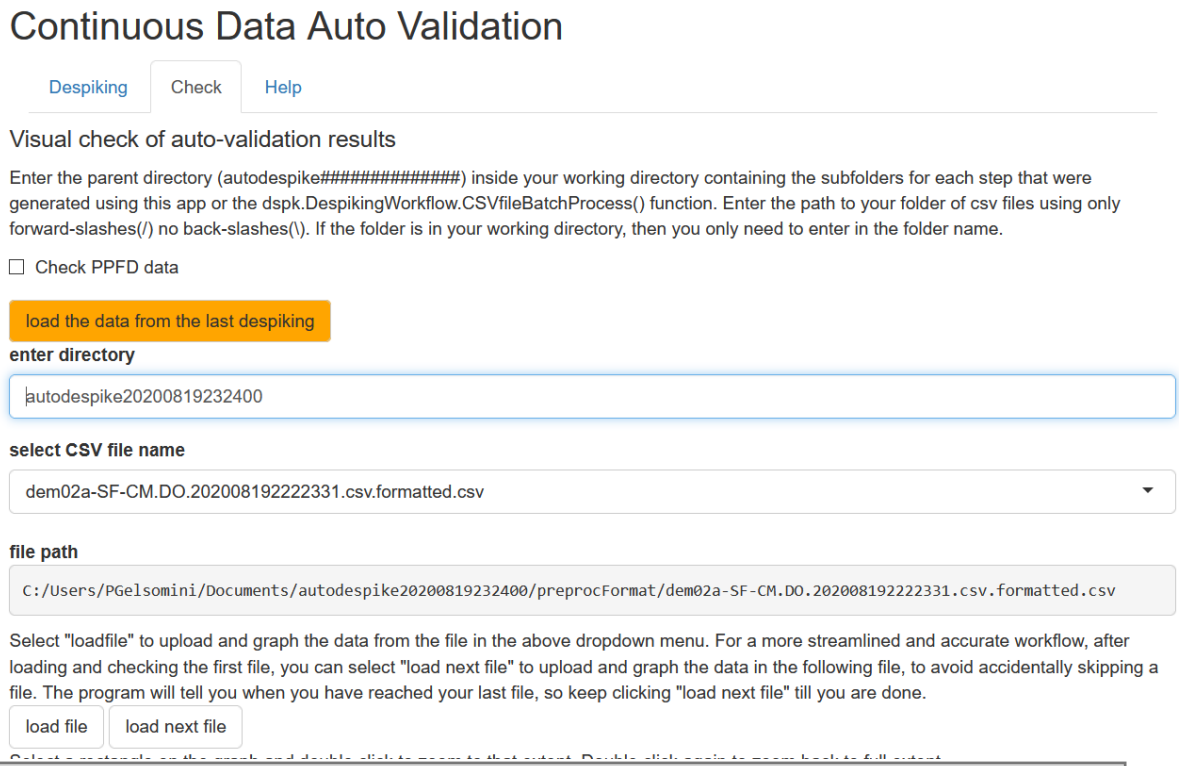
21. Inside that folder you have 4 subfolders with the data generated at each step. The last folder labeled "FinalData" that the fully auto-validated data. There is a text file "FunctionLogFile.txt" that stores the function arguments for later reference and reproducibility, any calculated function arguments such as sampling interval and any error messages for each file.



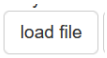
22. After the process is complete you can move from the "Despiking" tab to the "Check" tab and click the orange "load the data from the last despiking" button.



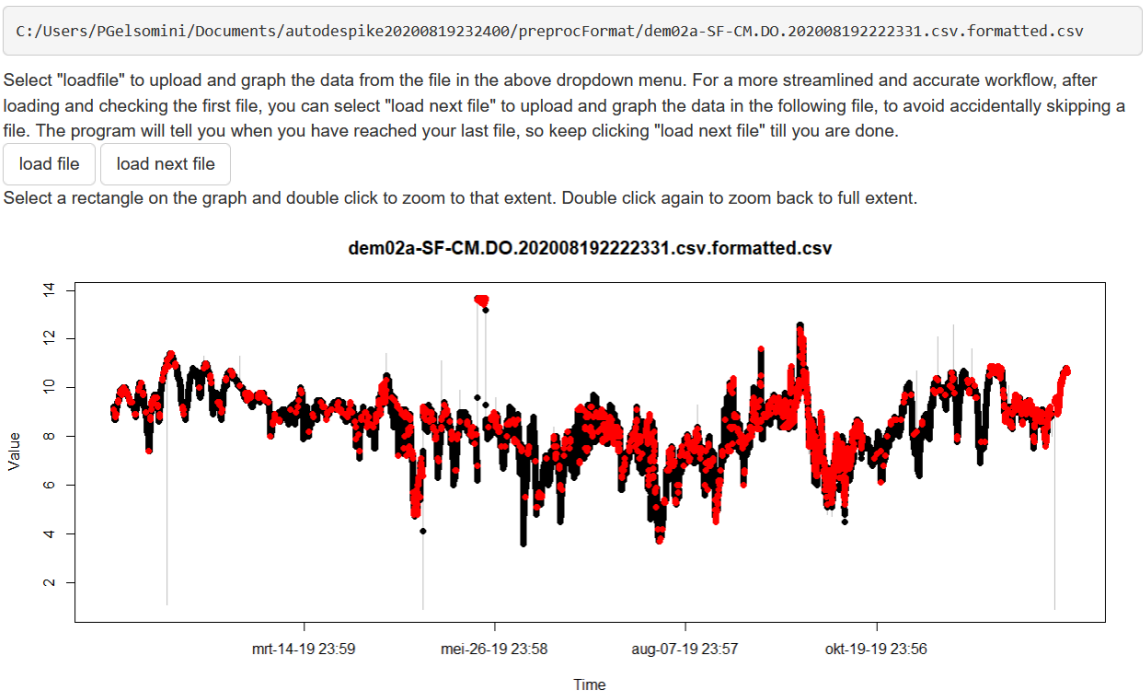
23. This will populate the “enter directory” field with the folder that was just auto generated during the last auto-validation process. In the drop down menu you can select the different files, but don’t do this just yet. You can enter a folder name into the “enter directory” field but this folder must be in your working directory.



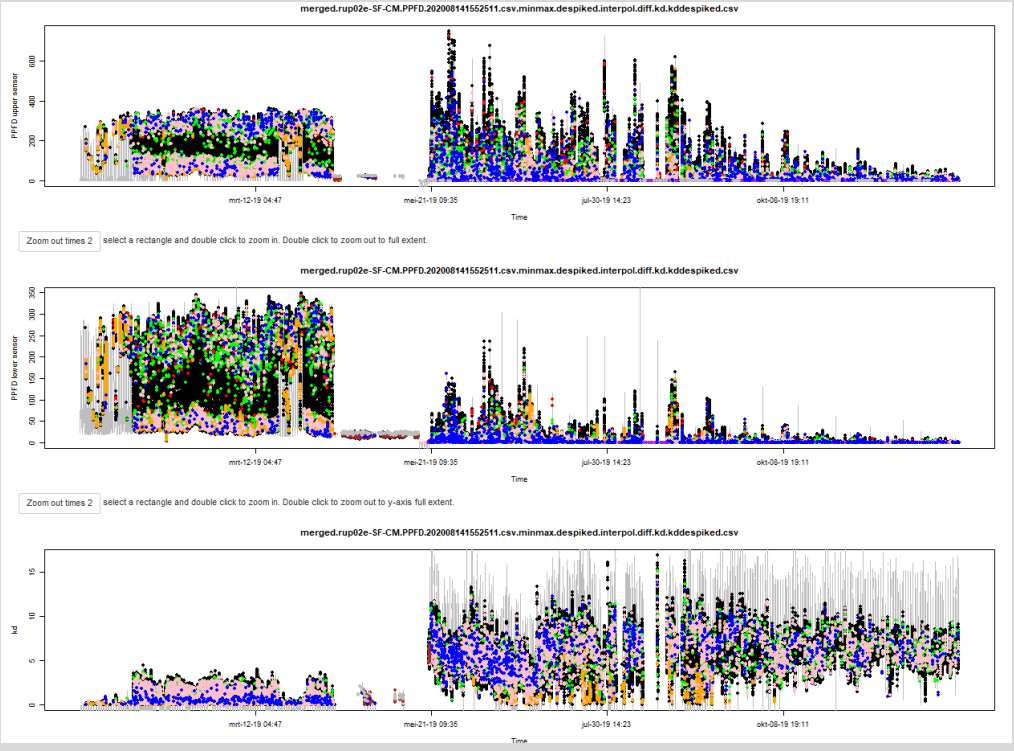
24. **If you are checking PPFD data** you must tell the app that it will be graphing paired PPFD data and light attenuation coefficient kd data. Check the box next to “Check PPFD data”.

25. Click the load file button  to load the data from the first file.

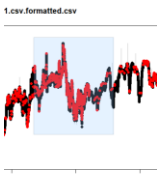
26. The graph of the first dataset will appear just below.



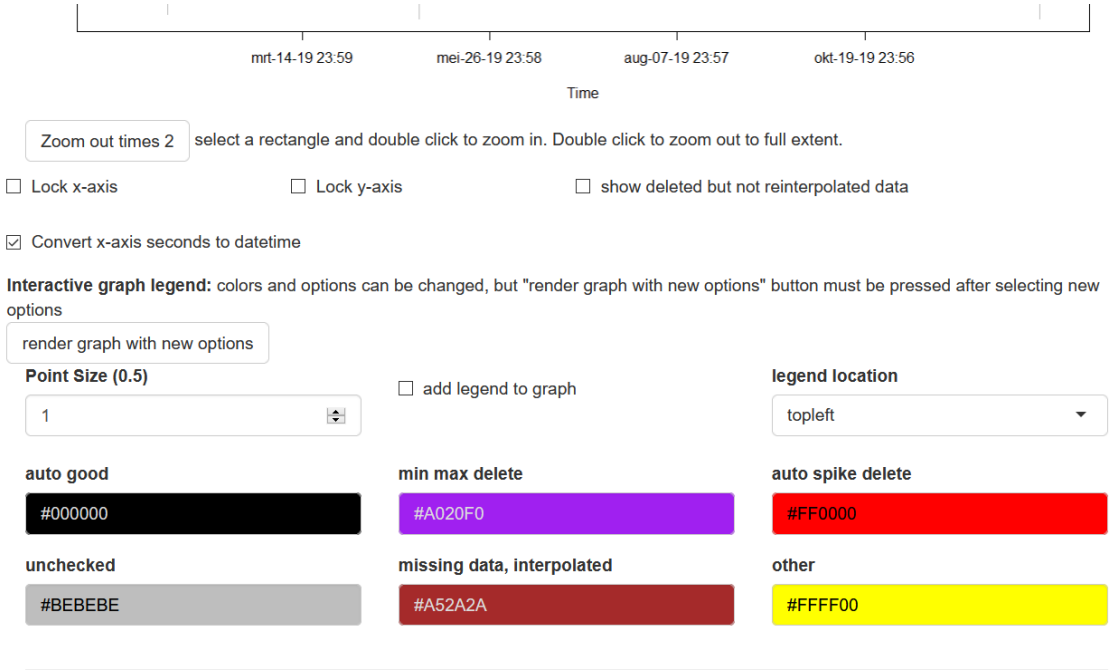
27. **If you are checking PPFD data** there will be three graphs. (upper sensor PPFD, lower sensor PPFD, and kd) and some extra state of value codes specific to PPFD validation procedures. The x-axis of all three graphs are linked to each other so the data will always be displayed perfectly aligned.



28. The origin data is graphed in a thin gray line. The Validated and interpolated data is graphed as points. The points are color coded according to their state of value

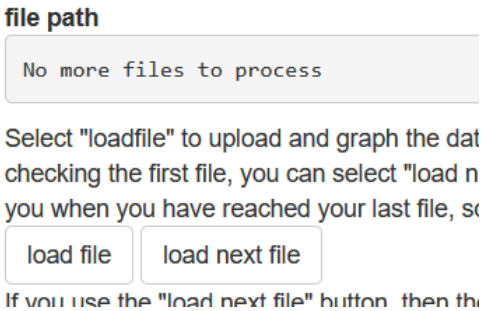


29. Pull a box on the graph and double click the graph to zoom to that area. Double click again on the graph to zoom back out the full extent. Click the zoom out times 2 bottom Zoom out times 2 to increase your extent by 2. Use these methods to move around the graph to explore the data and see if the auto-despiking worked sufficiently.
30. Below the graphs there are more options and tools for exploring the data. You can lock the x and y axises while zooming. Show data that was deleted but didn't get reinterpolated. Convert x-axis from seconds to datetime. Point size. Legend colors. And you can add the legend to the graph. After you make changes to the interactive graph legend, you must click the button "render graph with new options". With large yearly datasets graph rendering is quite slow so it is best if this is done once you are done making changes to the legend.



31. Click the "load next file" button load next file which is found next to the "load file" to move on to the next data file. This way you won't accidentally forget one. You may have to double click the graph to reset it to full extent to see all the data. Using the "load next file" button locks the dropdown menu, so you must first click the "reset file dropdown menu" button if you want to manually select a file, for example if you want to go back to a previous file.

32. Once you've reached your last file, the app will tell you "No more files to process".



33. If you are not happy with the results you can change the settings of the auto-validation under the tab "Despiking">>"Run Auto-despiking". See the in app instructions on their use and for additional help and details on the algorithms see the "Help" tab.
34. Now either return to step 22 and enter a new parent directory in the "enter directory" field, return to step 14 to auto-validate a new set of data or close your app browser window and move onto the next step which is the manual-validation and final export.
35. Repeat steps 11 through 34 to batch process the folder containing the PPFD data. Pay special attention to the PPFD specific instructions.

To find your working directory and for more details into the algorithms see the 'Help' tab.

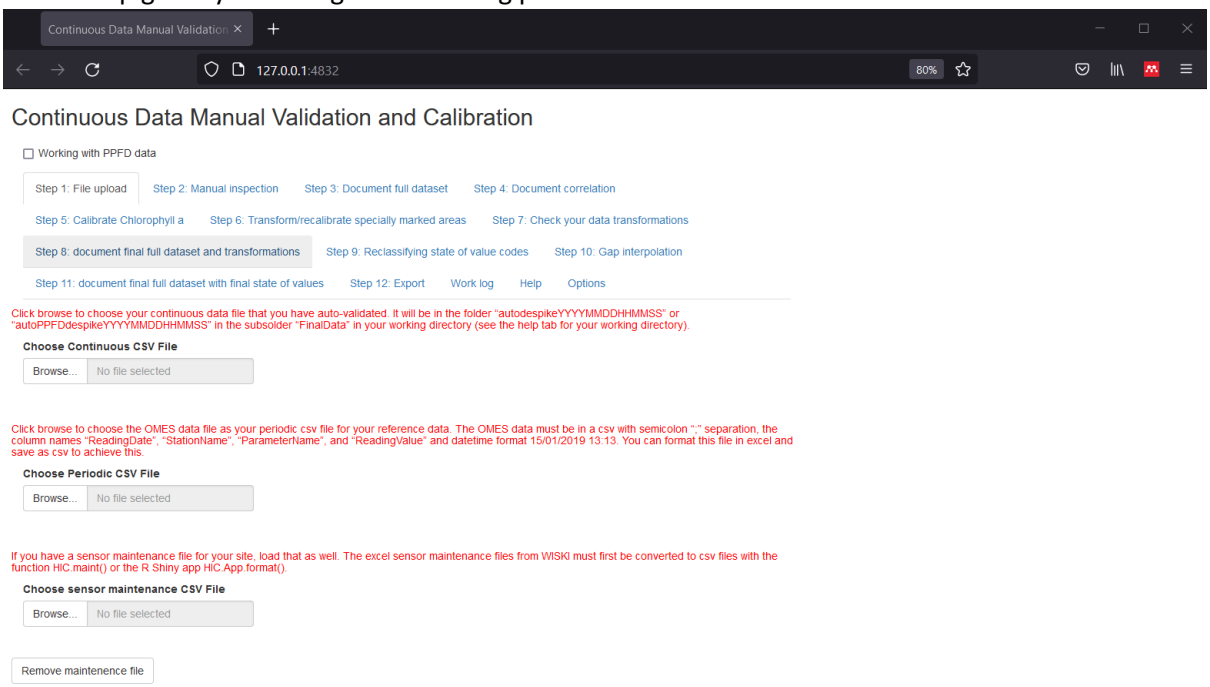
Manual-validation and final export

The last step after the formatting and the auto-validation. The other steps can be done in R code without the use of the Shiny apps, however this step must be done in the Shiny app because this is a manual check so it must be done visually.

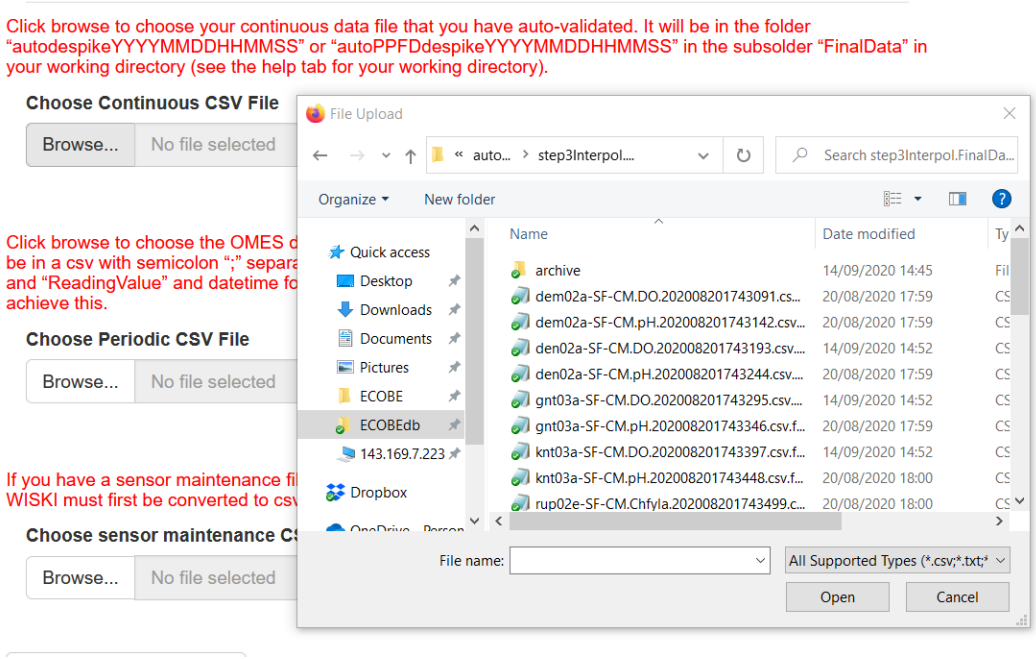
36. If this is a new R session (you've closed the program and restarted it) you will have to enter **library(HICbioclean)** into the R console and press enter again first. Otherwise move onto the next step.
37. Type **HIC.App.manual.StepByStep()** into the R console and press enter. This will open an R Shiny app which will guide you through the manual cleaning process step by step. All these instructions are also provided inside the app.

```
> library(HICbioclean)
> HIC.App.manual.StepByStep()
```

38. The app should open in your web browser. The instructions are always written in the app in red to help guide you through the cleaning process.

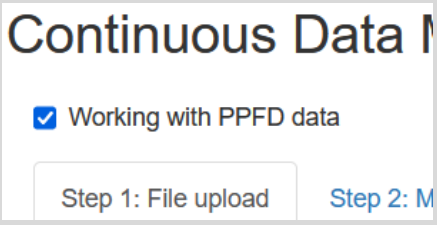


39. Click browse to choose your continuous data file that you have auto-validated. It will be in the folder “autodespikeYYYYMMDDHHMMSS” or “autoPPFDdespikeYYYYMMDDHHMMSS” in the subsolder “FinalData” in your working directory (see the help tab for your working directory).

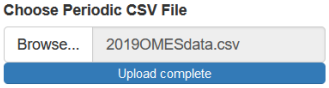


40. Click browse to choose the OMES data file as your periodic csv file for your reference data. The OMES data must be in a csv with semicolon “;” separation, the column names “ReadingDate”, “StationName”, “ParameterName”, and “ReadingValue” and datetime format 15/01/2019 13:13. You can format this file in excel and save as csv to achieve this.

41. Just as before, here you must also say **if you are working with PPFD data** because it is graphed in three graphs instead of one and all three parameters (upper PPFD, lower PPFD and kd) are dealt with simultaneously.



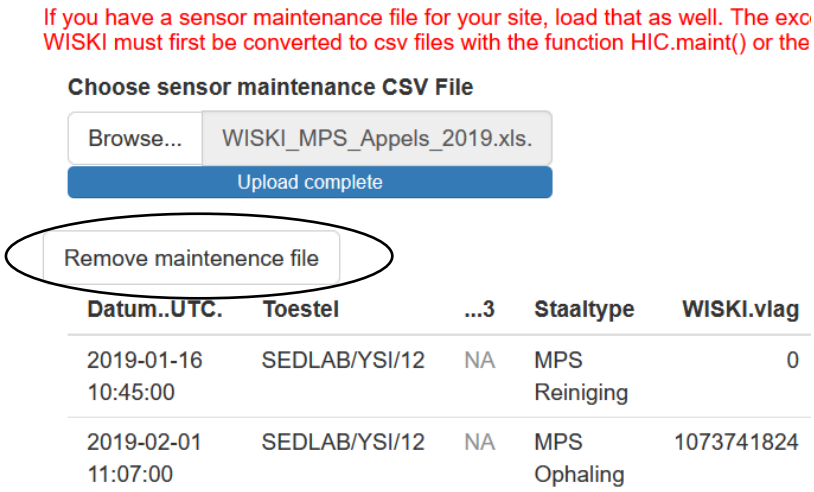
42. Once the data is uploaded into the app, you will be able to see the first few lines of the files. The periodic OMES file gets subsetted based on the parameter and the location, so if you don’t see the periodic OMES file, then there is either no reference site for the continuous data that you have open, or there is no data on that parameter.



StationRiver	StationName	StationDistanceFromMouth	ReadingDate	InstituteShortName	ParameterName	ReadingValue	LODSign	Insitu_Lab
Zeeschelde	Schellebelle	140.00	16/01/2019 10:57	Onderzoeksgroep Ecosysteembeheer, UA	Chlorophyll a	4.20		
Zeeschelde	Schellebelle	140.00	13/02/2019 12:49	Onderzoeksgroep Ecosysteembeheer, UA	Chlorophyll a	6.20		

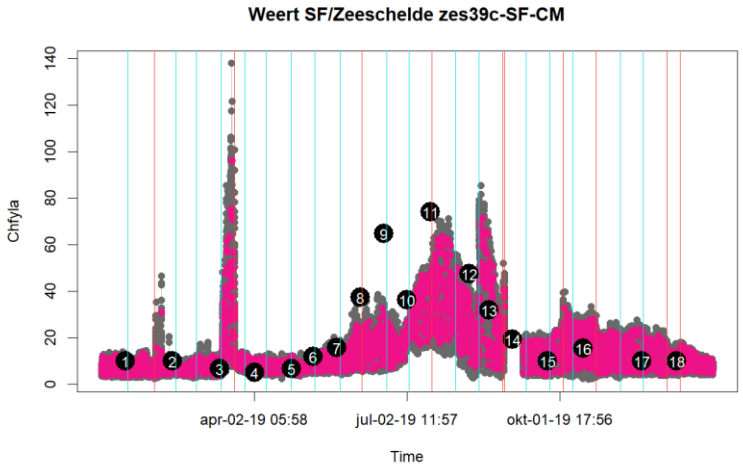
43. If you have a sensor maintenance file for your site, load that as well. The excel sensor maintenance files from WISKI must first be converted to csv files with the function HIC.maint() or the R Shiny app HIC.App.format(). See the earlier section on formatting.

44. If you don't have a maintenance file for the current site that you are cleaning, you can remove the currently uploaded file with the remove maintenance file button.



6. Once the data is uploaded you can move to “Step 2: Manual inspection” tab. Here the data will be graphed. The continuous data is graphed colored by state of value. The reference site data is graphed over it. The sensor maintenance times are graphed as horizontal lines. You have tools for formatting the graph, exploring the graph and marking sections of data.

a



Draw box on graph and double click to zoom in to drawn box. Double click on graph to zoom out to full extent

a ☐ Lock x-axis ☐ Lock y-axis zoom out 2x

b ☐ add legend to graph **legend location** topleft

tag points with box pulled on plot

c as suspect | to be deleted | as good

d marked for recalibration **marked grouping number** 2

save undo

e reset original data | save progress | undo till last save

reclassify tags

'Marked Grouping' --->>> 'Marked Grouping'

f Reclassify **from Group** 2 **to tag** to delete

g Reclass points within brush **from tag** auto good **to tag** to delete

Graphing preferences

h ☑ Convert x-axis seconds to datetime

i **Point Size** 1 ☑ Periodic Data ☑ Maintenance Data ☑ Sensor ID Data

See "File upload" >> "Options" >> "Graph" for legend entry names and colors options

List of tools on the tab:

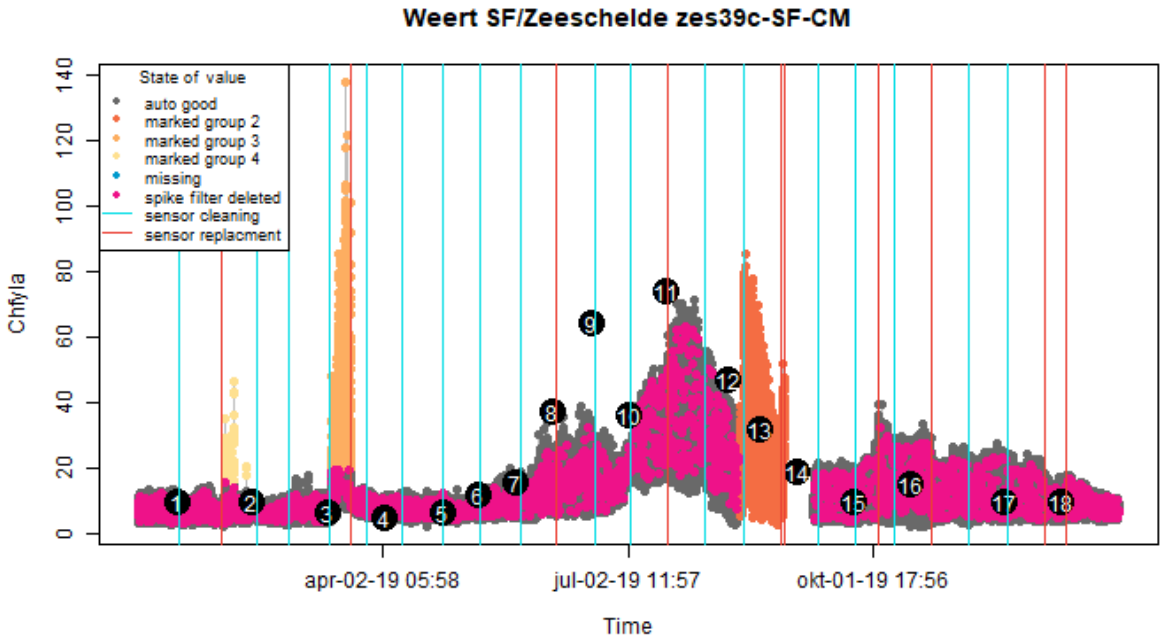
a. The graph can be zoomed in on by drawing a box on the graph and double clicking. Double click on the graph again to zoom out to full extent. Use the “Zoom out 2x” button to increase your extent by 2 times. You can lock the x and y axis while zooming.
b. You can add a legend and select it’s location so that it doesn’t overlap data points.
c. You can pull a box around sections of your data on the plot and mark them as “suspect”, “good” or “to be deleted”.
d. You can pull a box around a section of data on the graph and mark that section as a “marked for recalibration”. These marked groups can be mathematically transformed later, or have their state of value set to a non-work-class state of value such as “good”, “suspect”, or “estimate”. Upon export, only non-work-class state of values will be kept, all others will be set to state of value “good”. Mathematical transformations get applied to marked groups and you have 8 groups to works with numbered 2 through 9.
e. Your work can be saved, reverted back to the previous save or reset to the original data.
f. You can reclassify a specific marked group to another marked group, “to be deleted” or “good”, “suspect”, or “estimate”.
g. You can reclassify state of values of data within the box that you pulled on the plot form one state of value to a marked group, “to be deleted”, “good”, “suspect”, or “estimate”.
h. This is the preference to convert the UNIX numeric time x axis to date time format.
i. This is the option for point size and to turn layers on and off.

47. The recommended workflow is:
    1. At full extent (seeing all the years data) mark in different groups with the “mark for recalibration” button (d) all the sections of data that you want to delete, recalibrate and/or mark as suspect. You don’t have to mark anything as “good” since the data will be automatically marked as “good” upon export.
    2. Zoom in on each section of your data to inspect it. Polish up the boarders of those marked groups you just made. To unmark a point it is easiest to just highlight it and use the “as good” button (c). Data noise and spikes can be immediately marked “to be deleted” by highlighting it and using the respective button (c). Suspect data that doesn’t need to be recalibrated or transformed can be immediately marked “as suspect” by highlighting it and using the respective button (c). Data that needs to be transformed or recalibrated needs to be part of a marked group (d).
       Upon close inspection of the marked groups that you made, decide if you need to transform or recalibrate those data. For marked groups that don’t need to be transformed or recalibrated, you should use the “reclassify” button (f) to change your marked groups into “to be deleted”, “suspect” or “good” before you move on. For the next step you only want the marked groups for the data you want to transform or recalibrate. Make a note of each of the transformations you wish to perform on each remaining marked group.
    3. Make sure you zoom in on each month to inspect the data to make sure you didn’t miss anything.
    4. Save your work (e) before moving on to the data transformations so that you can always go back to “step 2” and undo your changes and then try and redo your data transformations if you mess up too badly.

48. **Make sure you record everything you did with copies of the plot in a word document for records and quality control!!**

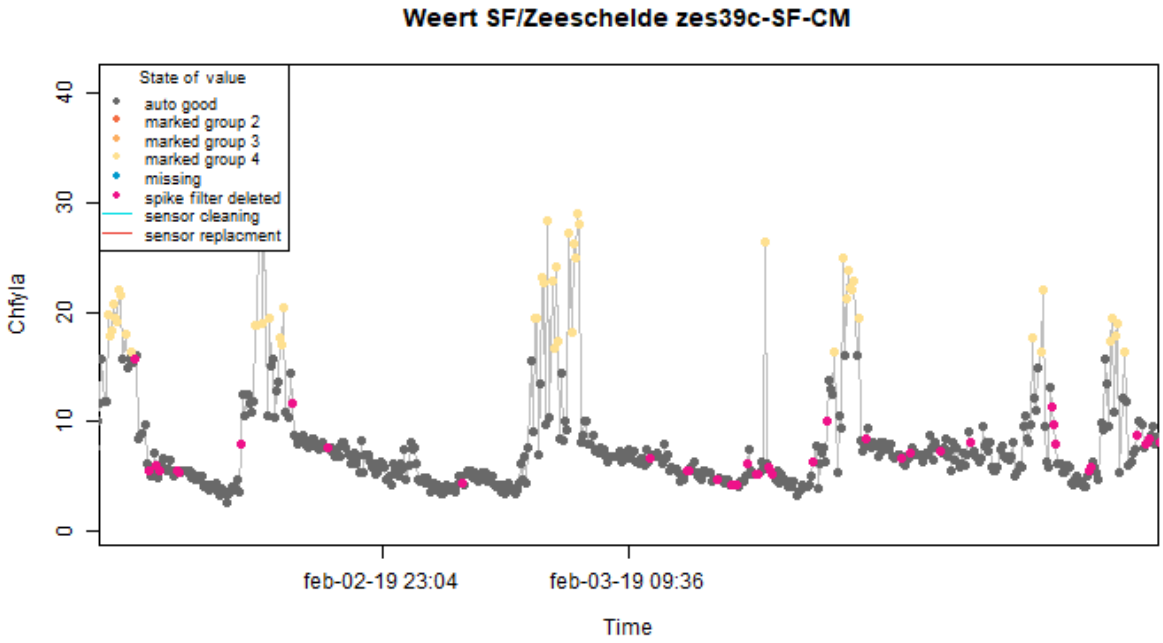
Workflow example:

Step 1:

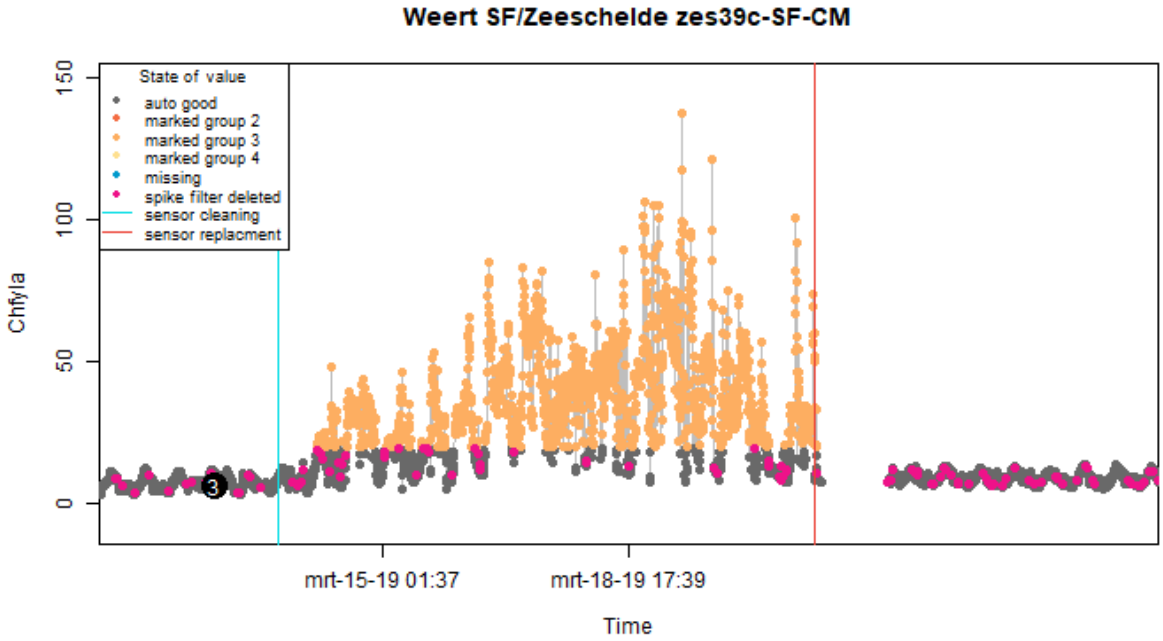


At full extent I marked **(d)** three areas that seem out of the ordinary compared to the yearly trends. Two periods of high chlorophyl in the early season and a period in summer that doesn't follow the reference data trend.

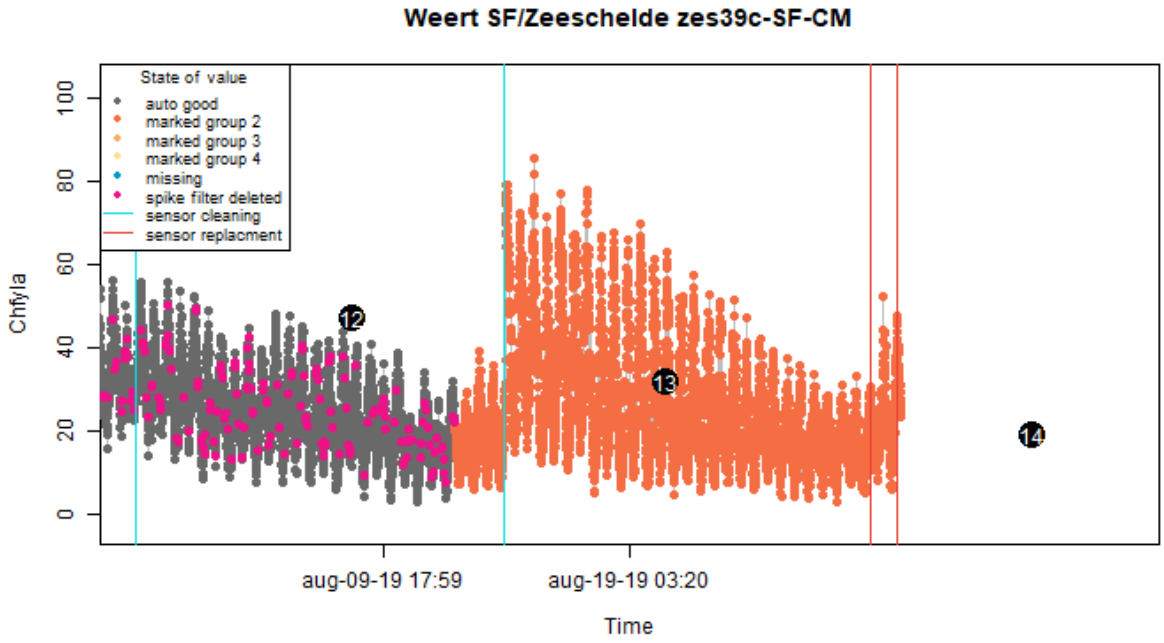
Step 2:



Zooming in on the early season peaks it seems as if these are simply spikes in the data possibly due to sensor interference. The chlorophyl spikes follow a day night cycle which isn't unusual however the shape of the curve is not normally seen and the values are much too high compared to the surrounding data and especially for that season. The marked group 4 will be set as "to delete" with the "reclassify" button **(f)** and the remaining points that weren't marked before will be highlighted and marked "to be deleted" **(c)**.

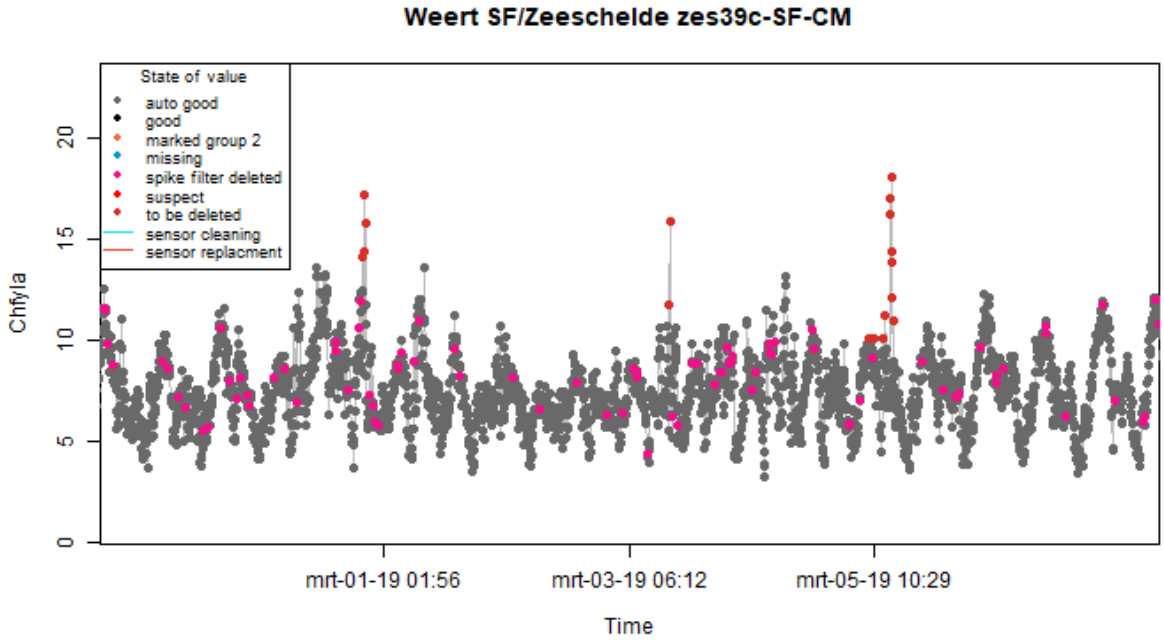


Zooming in on the next suspicious area you can see that these high levels of chlorophyl stop exactly at the sensor change. The likely hood of this being naturally occurring is rather slim and this could easily be explained by biofouling. The marked group 3 will be set as "suspect" with the "reclassify" button **(f)** and the remaining points that weren't marked before will be highlighted and marked "as suspect" **(c)**.



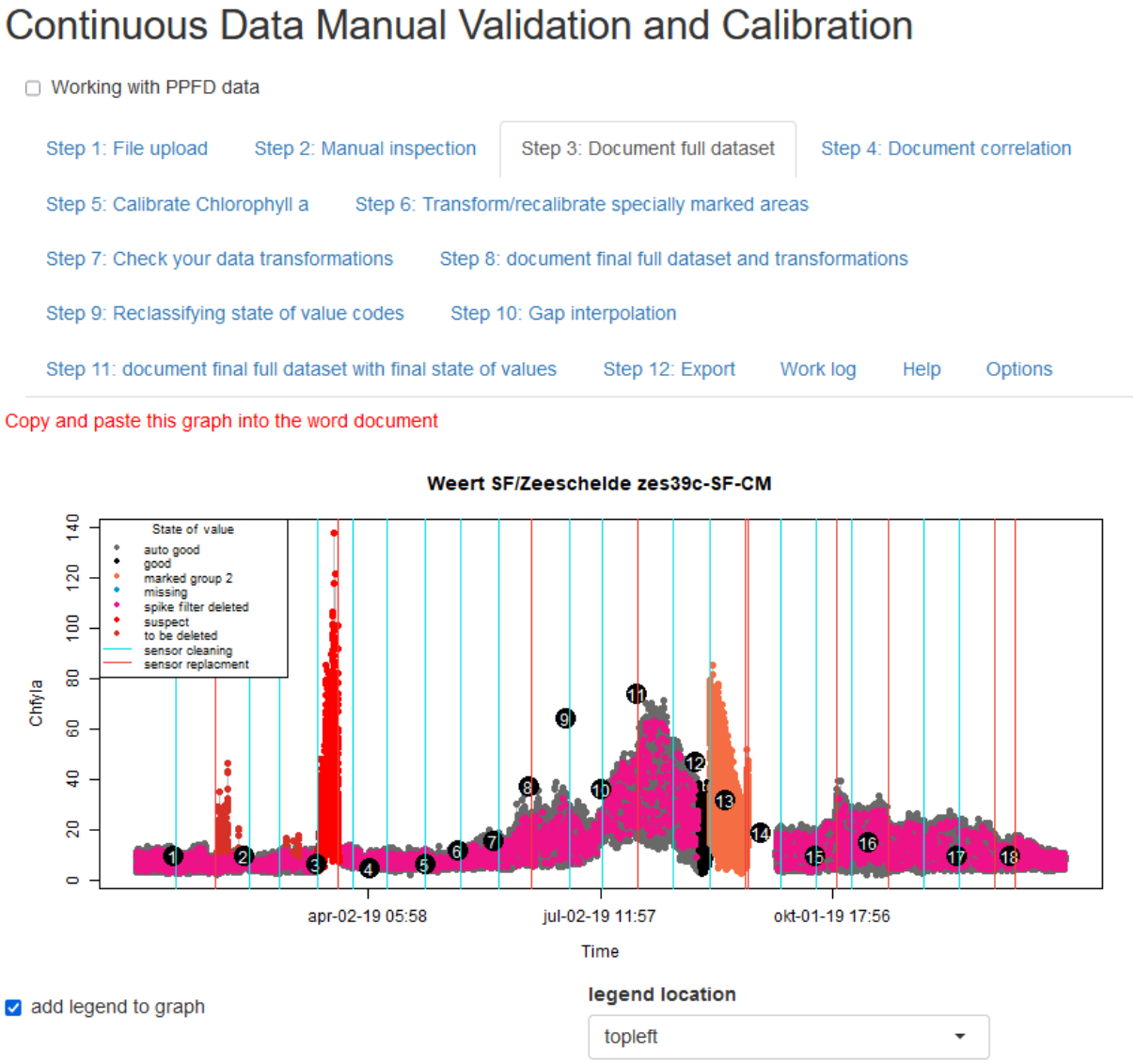
Zooming in on the last suspicious area of data we can see that exactly at the sensor cleaning there is a shift in the magnitude of the data. This is also highly unlikely to be natural and the reference data doesn't agree with it. Probably they made a mistake with the sensor settings and this data simply can be recalibrated. It will be left as "Marked group 2" so that that group can be recalibrated later. I accidentally marked some of the points before the sensor change as well and these can be highlighted and marked "as good" **(c).**

Step 3:

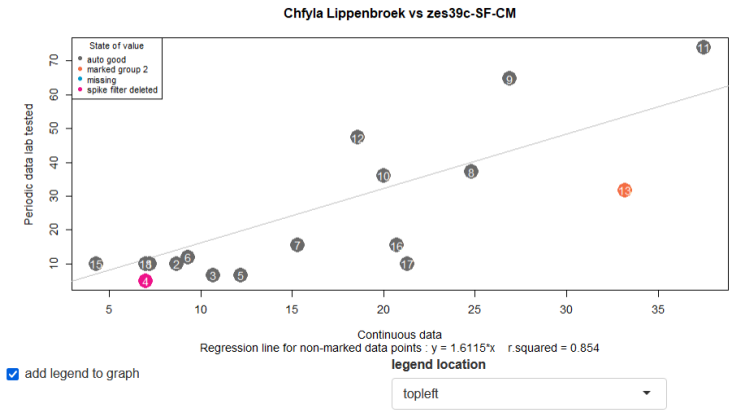


You should still look at each month up close to see if there are any spikes you have missed. Here in March there were a few more spikes which I marked "to be deleted" **(c)**.

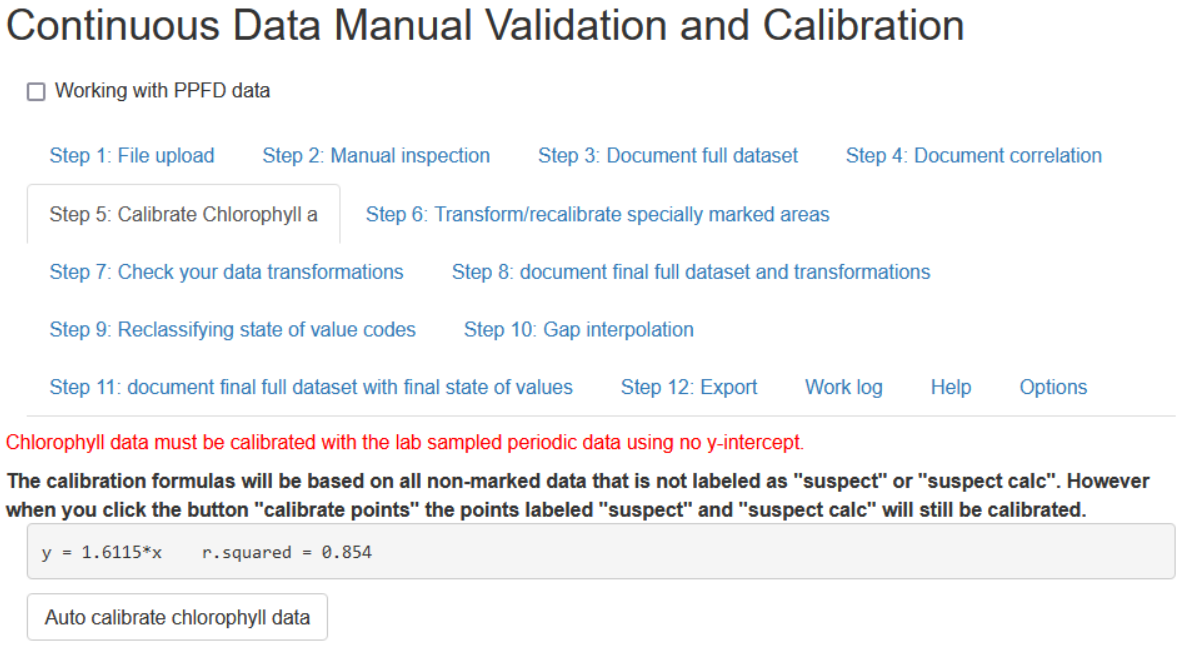
49. Move on to the “Step 3: Document full dataset” tab and document the full dataset. You can copy this graph into a word document. Adjust the legend location to better see the data.



50. Move to the “Step 4: Document correlation” tab and copy the correlation plot into the word document for records. Adjust the legend location to better see the data. If there is no reference data then there will be no plot. Note the regression equation below the graph; this is your calibration curve for your chlorophyl data.



51. The next tab “Step 5: Calibrate Chlorophyll a” will automaticaly calculate the calibration curve for the chlorophyll a data for that year based on the non marked and non suspect data and your reference data. Click the “Auto calibrate chlorophyll data” button to calibrate the data. If the data isn’t chlorophyll then this tab will be empty.

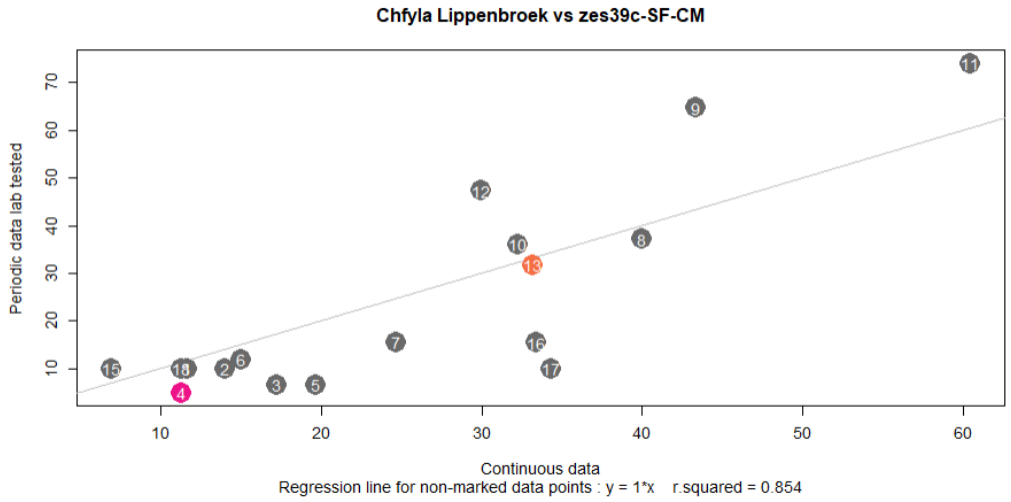


52. Now go to the “Step 6: Transform/recalibrate specially marked areas” tab. Here you can perform mathematical transformations on your data.

If you have any data that needs to be specially transformed/recalibrated, then it should have been marked in step 2. You can select the marked group you wish to transform and use the below tools to do so.

Switch back and forth between this step and step 7 to see your data which you are transforming

Draw box on graph and double click to zoom in to drawn box. Double click on graph to zoom out to full extent



a ☐ add legend to graph

legend location

topleft

b **The marked group do you wish to calibrate (0 means not marked)**

0

Calibration formulas based on the selected group. If no marked group is selected (you selected 0 above) then the calibration formulas will be based on all non-marked data that is not labeled as "suspect" or "suspect calc". However when you click the button "calibrate points" the points labeled "suspect" and "suspect calc" will still be calibrated.

c `y = -9.03 + 1.271*x  r.squared = 0.723`

d `y = 1*x  r.squared = 0.854`

e ☑ use formula with no y-intercept

f Auto calibrate points

Enter calibration formula here manually as a function of x with base R operators. If this is blank then the above automatic calibration formulas will be used.

g example: (5 + 6*log(x)^3)/2

h Manual calibrate points

i

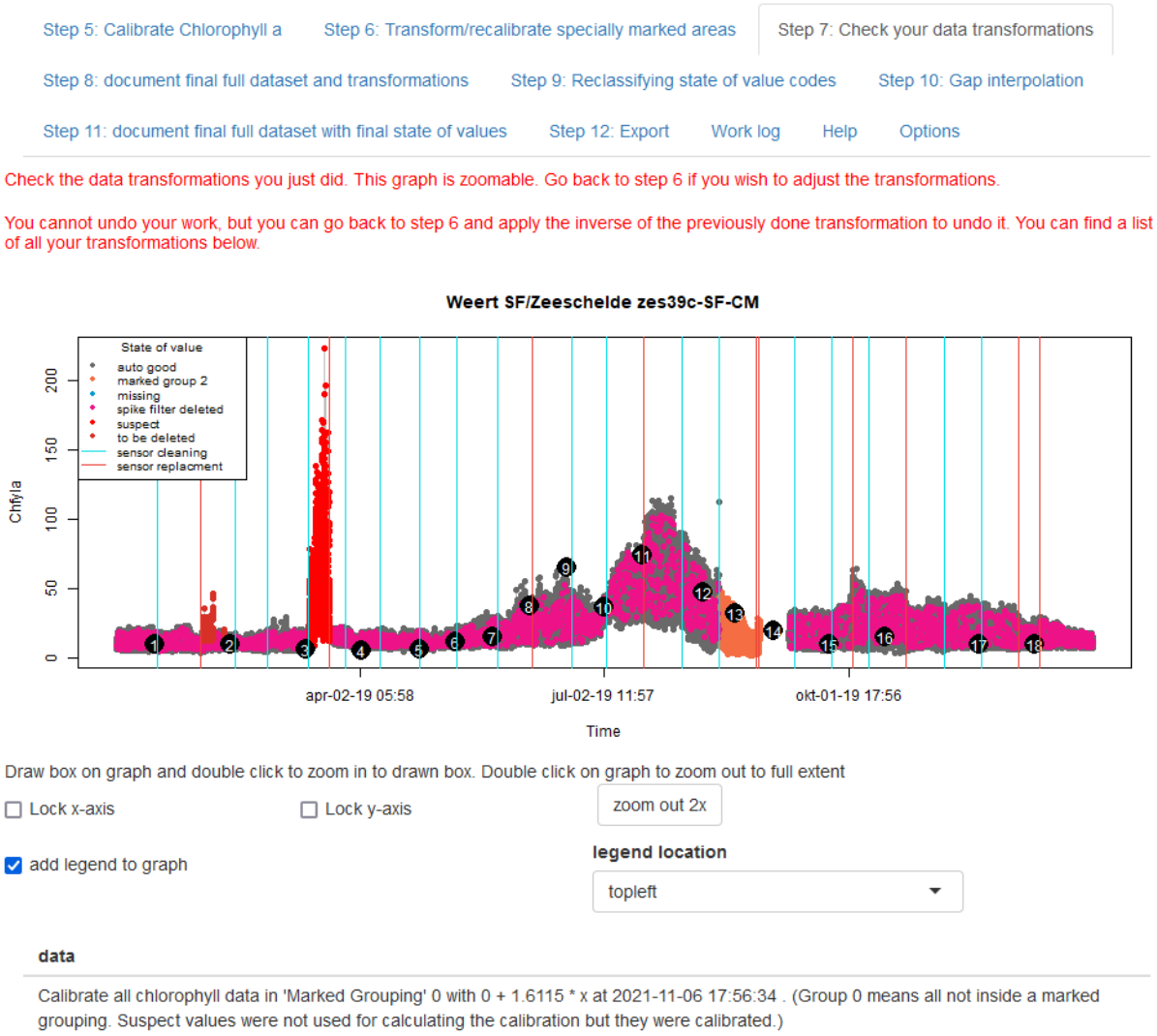
tPeri	valPeri	valCont	state	tCont	corID
1547553240.00	10.00	11.60	80.00	1547553300.00	1
1549974120.00	10.00	14.02	80.00	1549974300.00	2
1552392000.00	6.67	17.24	80.00	1552392300.00	3
1554206580.00	5.00	11.28	92.00	1554206700.00	4
1556109060.00	6.67	19.66	80.00	1556109300.00	5
1557230760.00	11.93	14.99	80.00	1557231000.00	6

List of tools on the tab:

a. If you have reference data, then a correlation graph and linear regression equations will be displayed. The linear regression equations and the trend line on the graph are based on the marked grouping that you have selected in the “The marked group do you wish to calibrate” dropdown menu **(b)** and with or without a y intercept based on your selection of checkbox **e**.
b. The marked grouping that you have selected in the “The marked group do you wish to calibrate” dropdown menu is also the grouping that the mathematical transformations will be done on. So even if you have no reference data, it is still important to select the correct grouping. If you have group 0 selected (which stands for not marked), then any data point that is marked will not be transformed, but all other data will be. You will have to do each group separately if you want to do the same transformation on all your data.
c. This is the linear regression line with y intercept for the selected marked grouping as compared to the reference data. If you selected marked grouping 0 then the regression is based on all data that is not marked and not suspect.
d. This is the linear regression line without y intercept for the selected marked grouping as compared to the reference data. If you selected marked grouping 0 then the regression is based on all data that is not marked and not suspect.
e. Check this box if you don’t want a y intercept for the auto calibration or on the formula displayed on the plot.
f. The “Auto calibrate points” button will use the linear regression equation to calibrate the points. With the check box “use formula with no y-intercept” **(e)** you can chose which linear regression you want to use.
g. Type your custom formula in here. Enter the formula with base R arguments and as a function of x. e.g. (5+6*log(x)^3)/2
h. Use this button to transform your data in the selected marked group using your custom formula. With functionality works even when there is no reference data.
i. If you have reference data, the reference-data-point next to the nearest in time continuous-data-point is shown in a table at the bottom of the page.

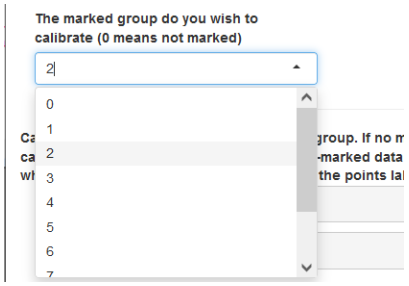
53. You have two tools to calibrate with. An automatic tool which uses linear regression based on your reference data and a manual tool. You need to select the correct marked group on which to perform the transformation **(b).** You can use the correlation plot to see you’re your data compares to the reference data **(a)**. If you want to use an automatic calibration then select if you want to use a y intercept **(e)** and click the button “auto calibrate points” **(f)**. If you want to use a manual transformation then write your formula into the field **(g)** as a function of x in base R code e.g. (5+6*log(x)^3)/2 and then click the button **(h)**.
54. To check your data after the transformation (or before if you need to estimate a transformation) you can move to tab “Step 7: Check your data transformations”. You also have a table of your reference data next to the nearest in time continuous data point at the bottom of the page **(i)** to check and estimate transformations.
55. If you need to undo a transformation then you should use the inverse of that transformation. If you don’t remember the transformation you did, then you can find all transformations in a little table at the bottom of tab “Step 7”.

56. In the next tab “Step 7: Check your data transformation” you have a zoomable plot that you can use to verify that your transformation was ok before moving on. At the bottom of the page you have a list of all the transformations you did to the data.

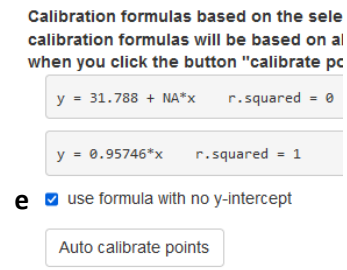


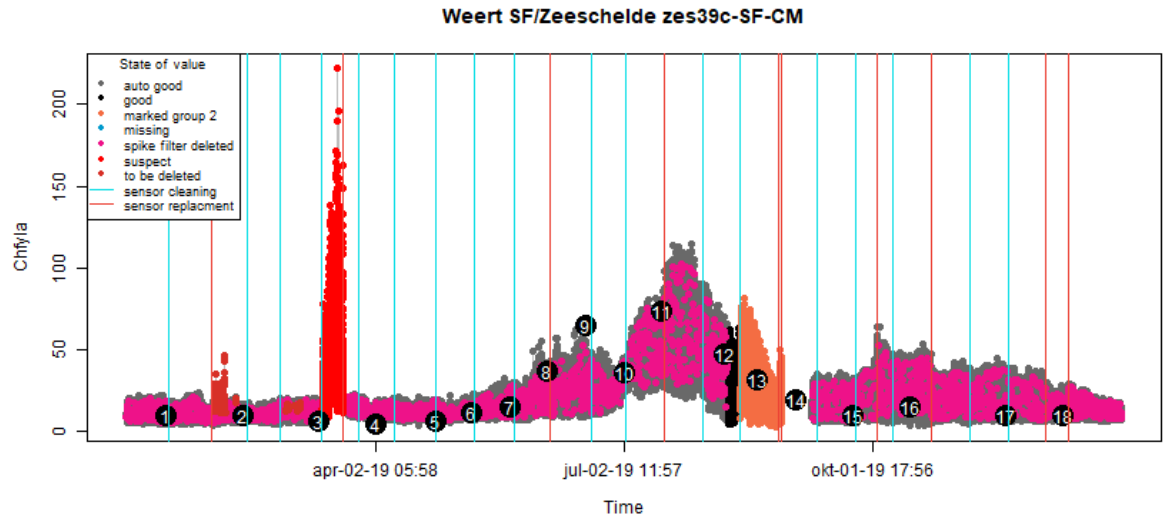
Example of recalibrating data:

I have the data in marked group 2 which I want to recalibrate to make it fit with the rest of the data. In the “Step 6: Transform/recalibrate specially marked areas” tab I will select group 2 **(b)** from the drop down menu.

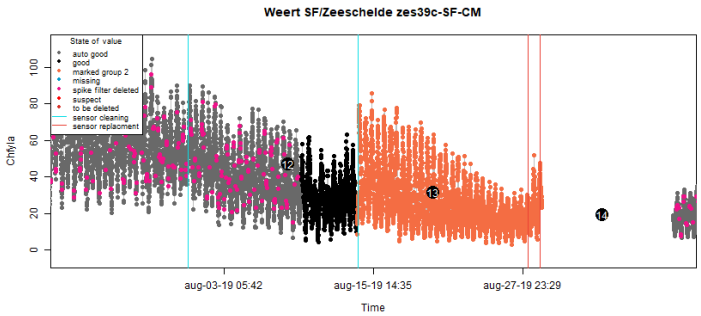


I will first try to do an auto calibrate on the data. Looking at the regression formulas you can see that only the formula with no y intercept is valid because we only had one reference point during this period thus make sure check box **e** is checked. I will click “auto calibrate points”. And then move to tab ”Step 7” to check the transformation.



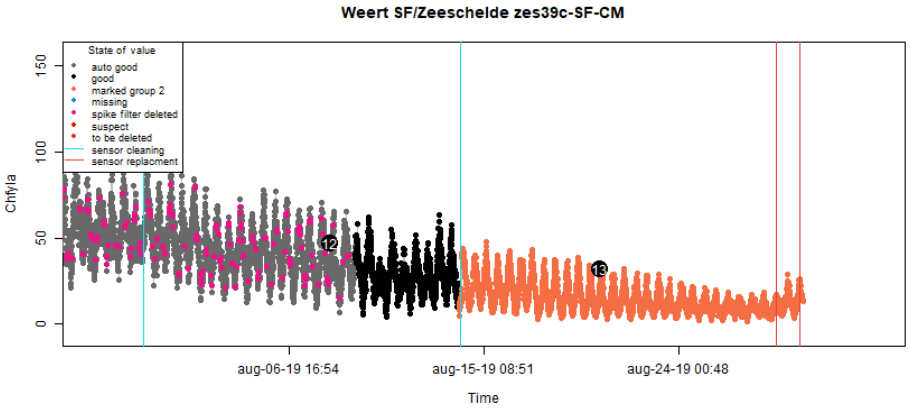


On the tab ”Step 7: check your data transformations” you can see that the auto transformation wasn’t successful. We will go back to tab “Step 6” and in the manual calibrate points field **(g)** enter in inverse of the regression formula that was just applied to the data. You can find all the transformations applied to the data at the bottom of tab “step 7”. Thus on tab “step 6” we will enter into field **g** the equation x/0.95746 to go back to the original data and press the “manual calibrate points” button **(h)**.

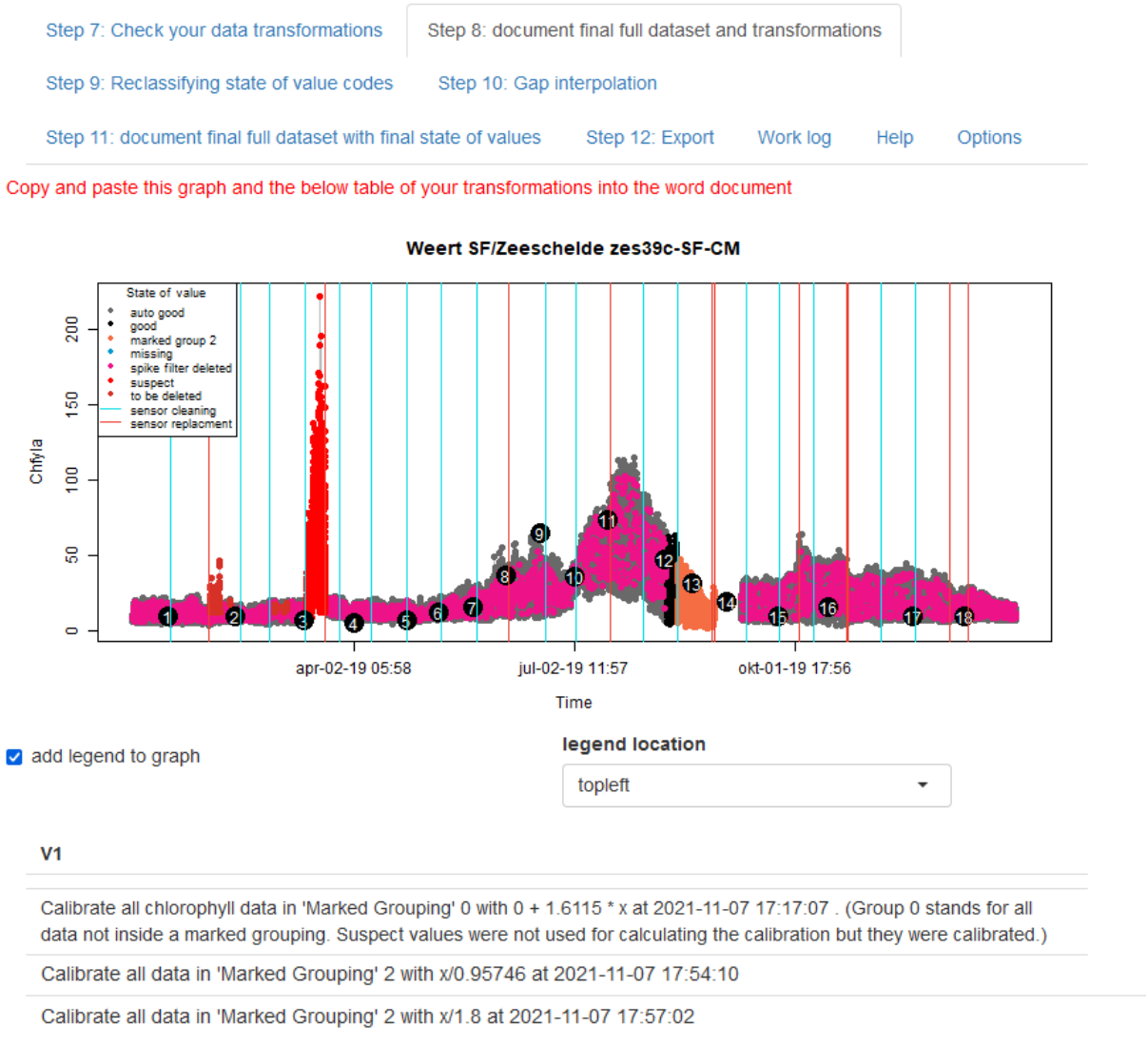


Now on the “step 7” tab again I can zoom in on the data in question and estimate what the transformation should be. I think it is x/1.8. Now I will go back to tab “step 6” and will enter into field **g** the equation x/1.8 and press the “manual calibrate points” button **(h)**.

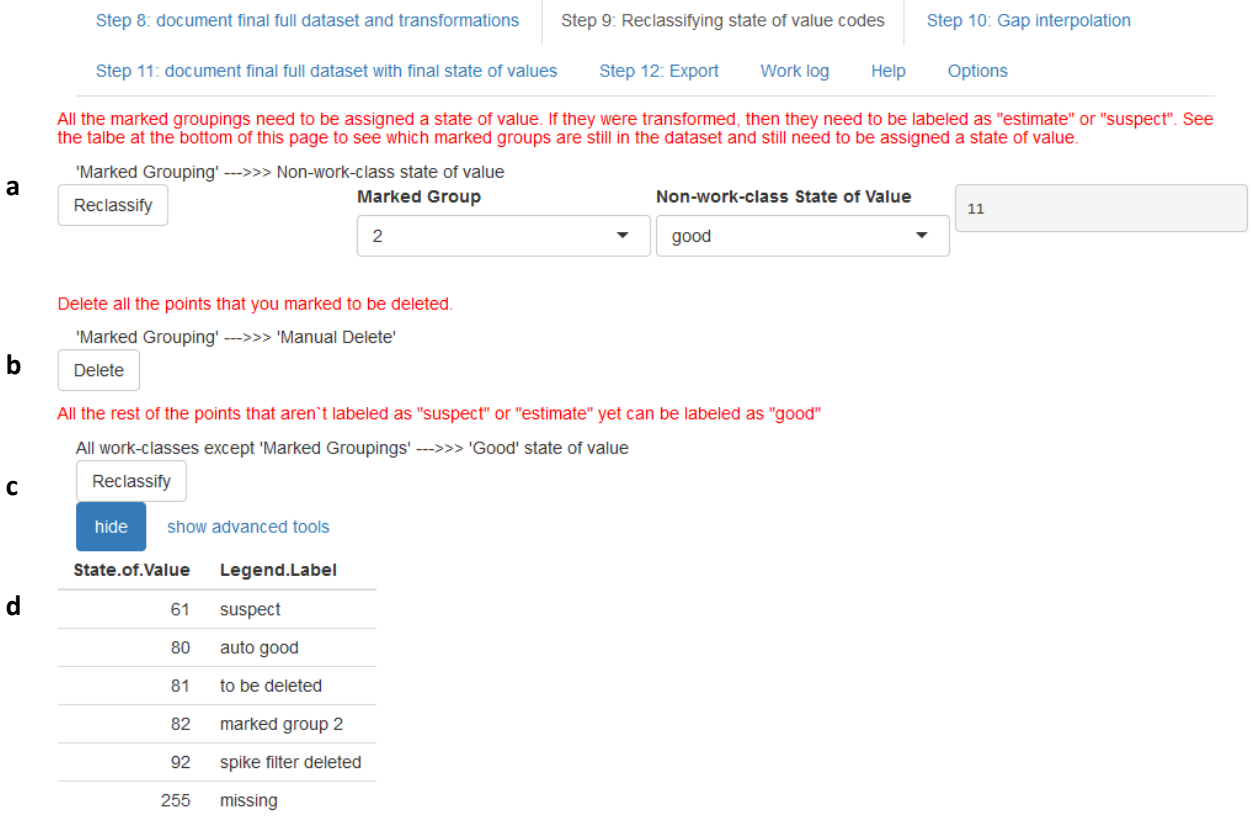
Looking at the data on tab “step 7” the data transformation seems quite good. You will have to play around probably before you get a good estimate of what the data should look like. This points will get the state of value code “estimate”.



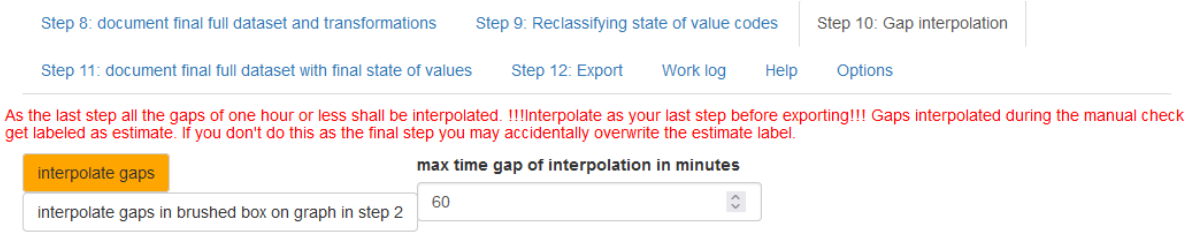
57. In the next tab “Step 8: document final full dataset and transformations”, copy the plot of the full dataset and the list of transformations at the bottom of the page into the word document for your records. Adjust the legend location to better see the data.



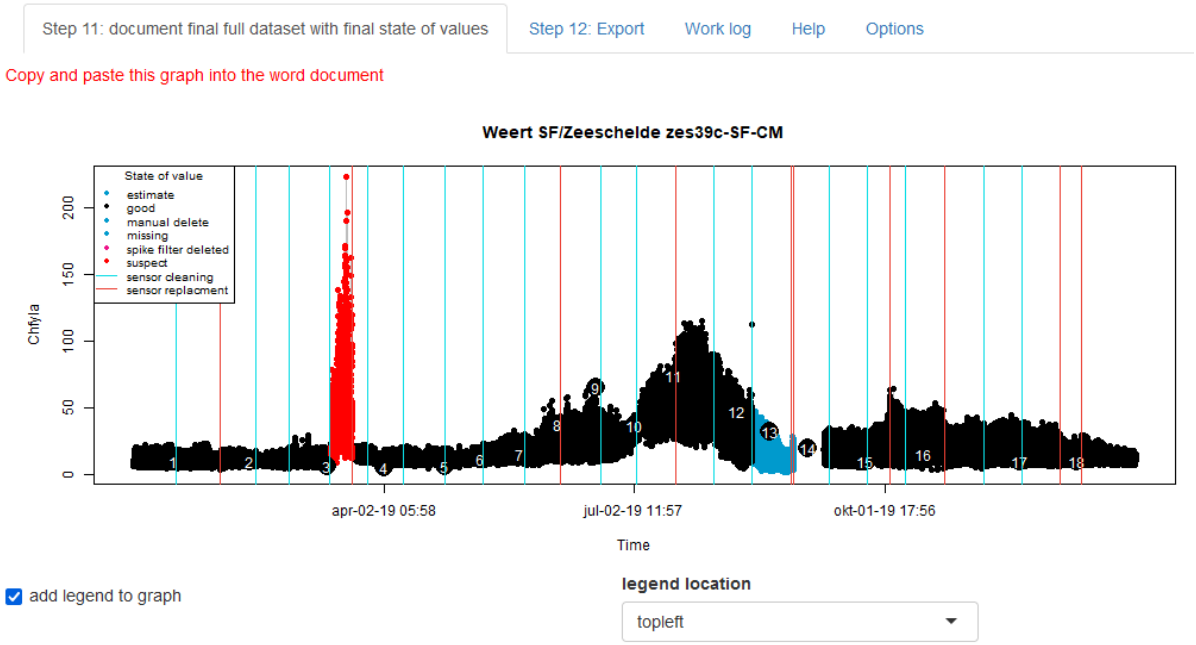
58. Go to the next tab “Step 9: Reclassifying state of value codes”. In this step you will first define which state of value your marked groupings will get with the first ”reclassify” button **(a)** and the drop down menus. If you transformed them then you need to mark them as “estimate” or “suspect”. You cannot mark a transformed datapoint as “good”.
59. Next you will delete the points that you marked to be deleted with the “Delete” button **(b).**
60. All remaining data points will be marked as “good” with the last “Reclassify” button **(c).**
61. At the bottom of the page you can see I little table **(d)** of the state of value codes that you have in your data right now. Check that there are no “marked group” state of values left in the list before you move on.



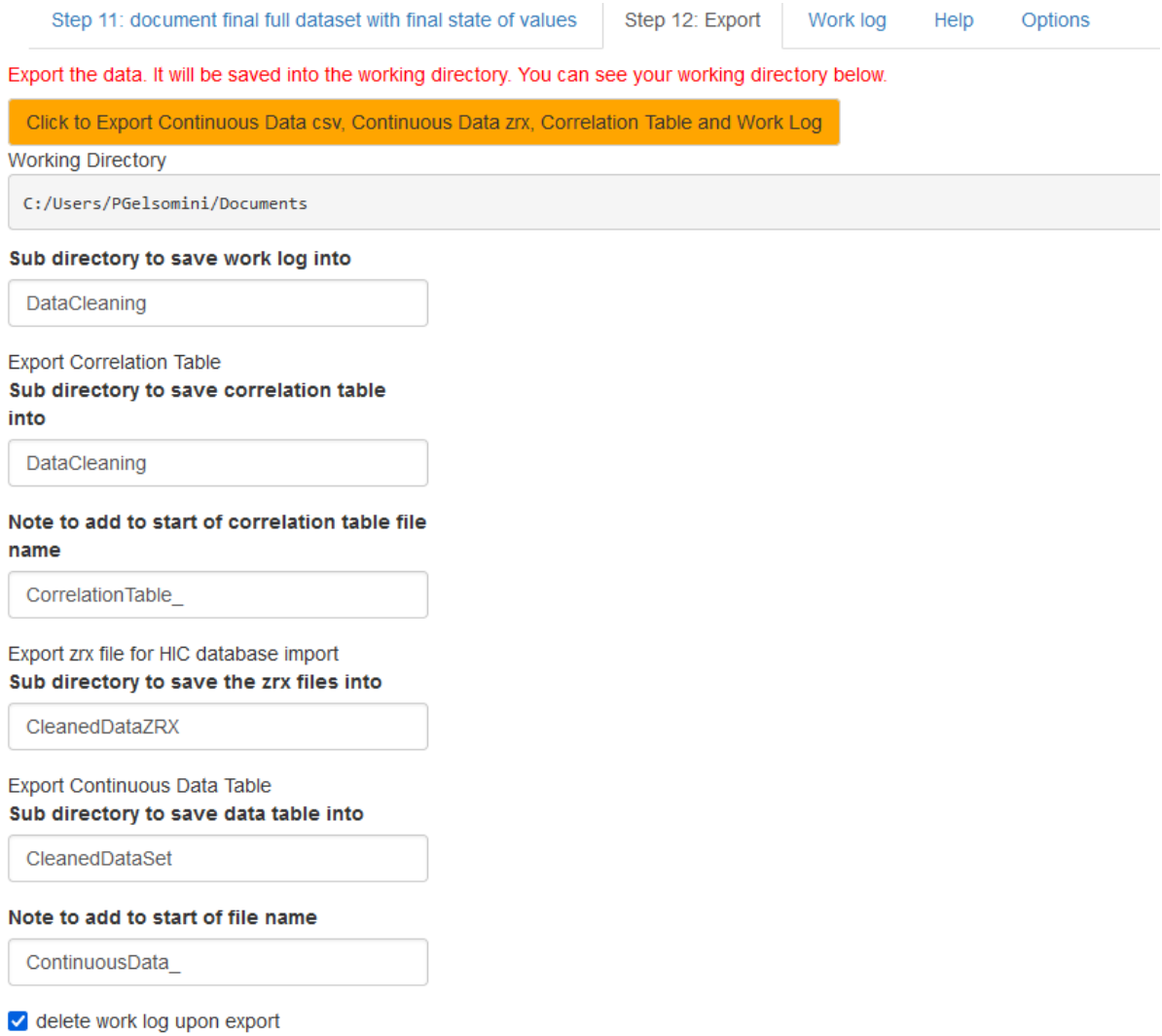
62. In the next step “Step 10: Gap interpolation” you will interpolate all the gaps in the data that are no more than 1 hour which you created during the manual cleaning. Just click the button “interpolate gaps”. These values will automatically get the state of value “estimate”. This needs to be the last transformation you do to the data to not accidentally overwrite these automatic state of value assignments.



63. In the next tab “Step 11: Document final full dataset with final state of values” you will be presented with the final cleaned dataset. Copy this plot into your word document for your records. Adjust the legend location to better see the data.



64. The last step “Step 11: Export”. When you click the orange button at the bottom of the page, the current version of the continuous data will be exported to a csv file, a zrx file will be exported for import back into the HIC database with the state of value codes all formatted to the requirements of the HIC, the correlation table from the “correlation and calibration” tab will be exported and the work log where you will find a detailed account of every change you made to the file for later reference and reproducibility will be exported as well. The final data will all be saved into your working directory in the subdirectory folders that you gave on this page. You can see you working directory at the top of this page.



NOTE:The station parameter codes that are needed for import back into the HIC database which are used in the zrx files are stored inside this package. Type ***zrxFileStationCodes*** *into the R console and press enter to see the list of codes. Please contact us if you need to make changes to this file.*

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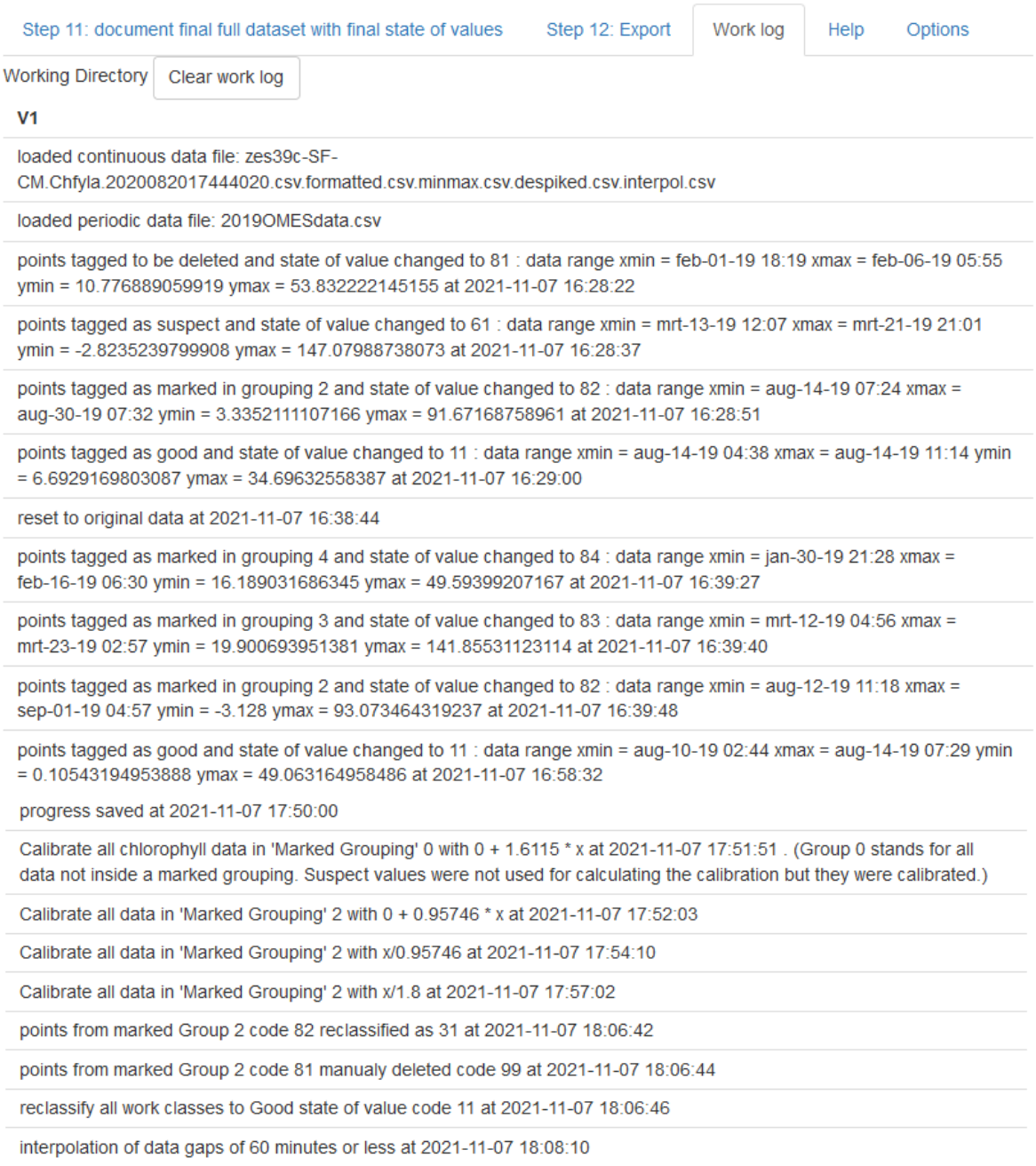
65. Now go back to the tab “Step 1: File upload” (step 38 in this document) and load the next dataset and repeat the process.

66. In the tab “Work log” you can see an account of everything you did to your data. This can be very useful especially when you need to know what calibration you used on your data. This work log will be deleted from the app once you export the data, but it will be saved as a text file.



67. When you are done, you must close the app window before continuing work in R or opening another R Shiny app.