

# AIR QUALITY- WHY WE SHOULD CARE OF IT

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# Why do we breath?

to avoid suffocation



not to quench "burning"

cell oxidation



secure enough input  $O_2$

	inhale	exhale	difference
• oxygen $O_2$	20.9 %	15.3%	$\sim \frac{1}{4}$ (27%)
• carbon dioxide $CO_2$	0.04%	4.2%	$\sim 100 \times$
• water vapor $H_2O$	0.75%	6.2%	$\sim 10 \times$
• nitrogen $N_2$	78.4 %	74.3%	$\sim \frac{1}{20}$ (5%)

# How much air do we breath?

adult  $\sim 10$  l /min  $\rightarrow$   $\sim 15\text{m}^3$  /day

$1\text{m}^3$  of air  
weights:

A: 1200 g

B: 120 g

C: 12 g

D: 1.2 g

$\sim 18\text{kg}$

AIR

compare to food mass!

**POLLUTANTS**

+

78 %  $\text{N}_2$

21 %  $\text{O}_2$

0.04%  $\text{CO}_2$

0.75%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$

# Frequent AIR POLLUTANTS ?

## OZONE O<sub>3</sub>

secondary pollutant

24h health limit:

120 μg m<sup>-3</sup>

## AEROSOL (PM)

- omnipresent atmospheric component
- colloid, suspension of solid x liquid particles

size range

1 nm – 100 μm

Single aerosol particle is invisible to naked eye  
but aerosol clusters are well-known macro-objects  
clouds, fog, mist, haze, dust, smoke, fog



**dust**

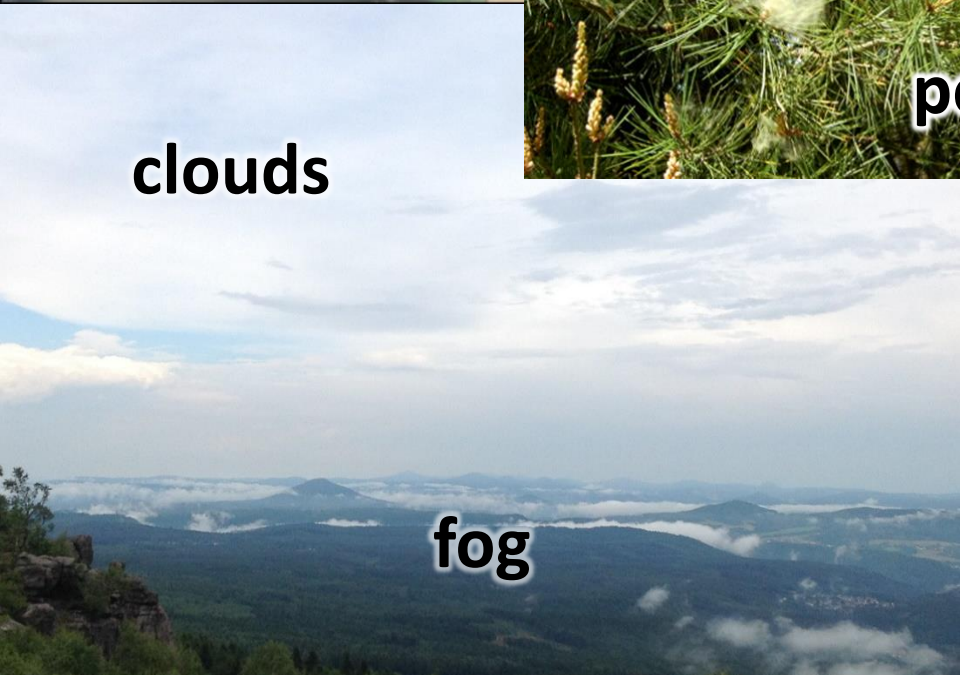


**volcano  
smoke**



**NATURAL  
AEROSOL**

**polen**



**clouds**

**fog**



**Sea mist/ fog/ droplets**



**industrial  
smoke**



**mist + air pollution  
smog**

**MAN MADE  
AEROSOL**



**biomass burning**

**smoke**

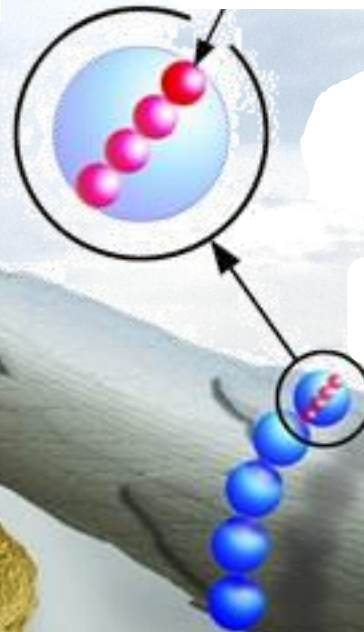


**smoke**

# Atmospheric aerosol - particle size

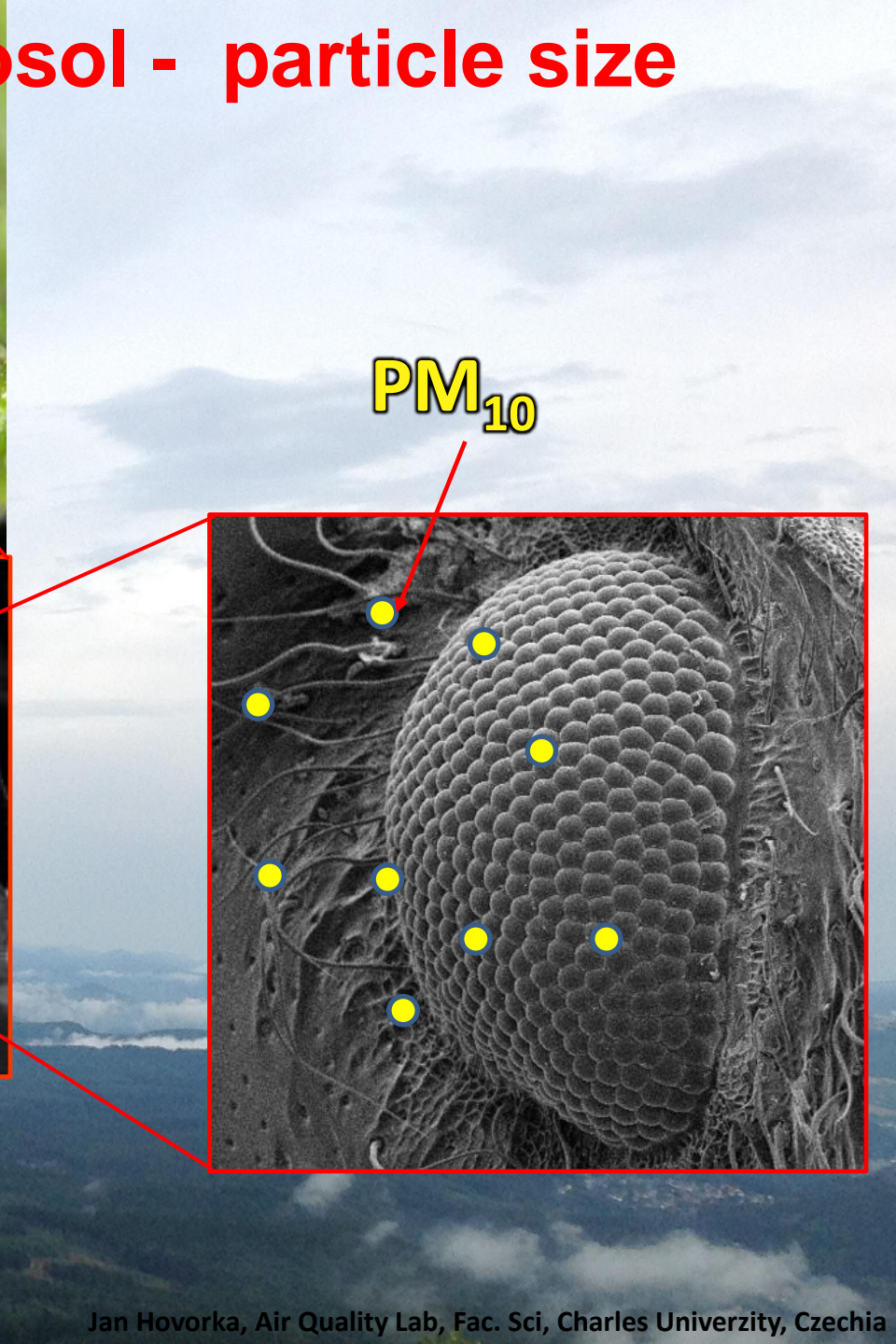
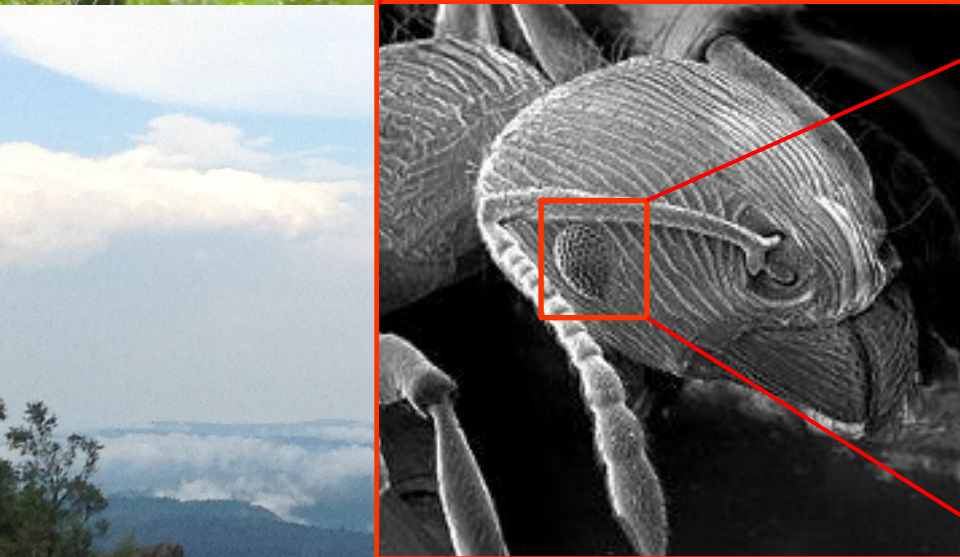
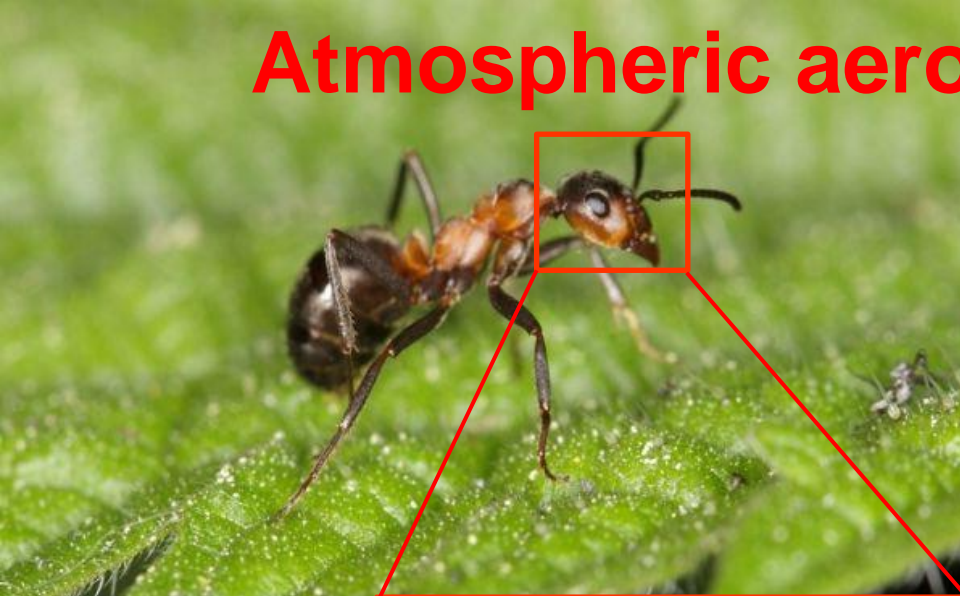
**HUMAN HAIR**  
50-70  $\mu\text{m}$   
in diameter

**90  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter**  
**FINE BEACH SAND**

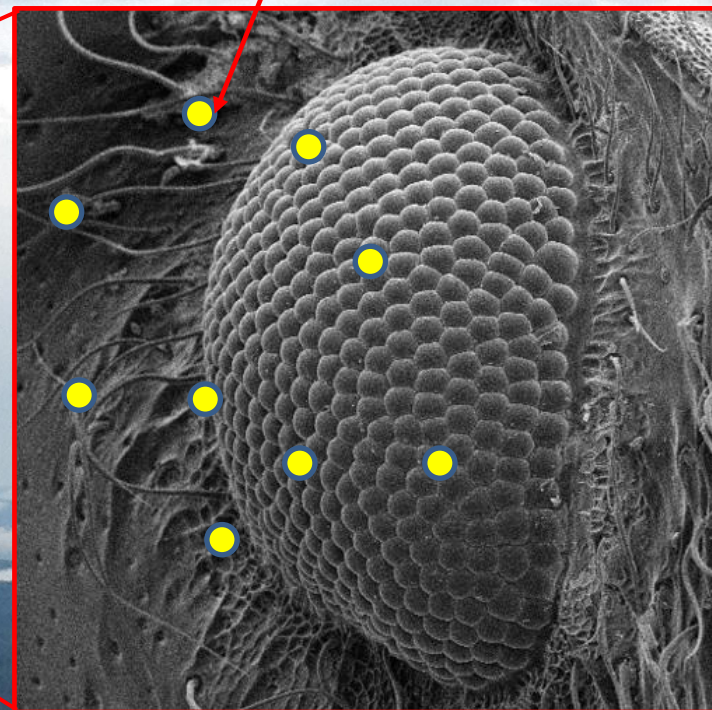


*Image courtesy of the U.S. EPA*

# Atmospheric aerosol - particle size

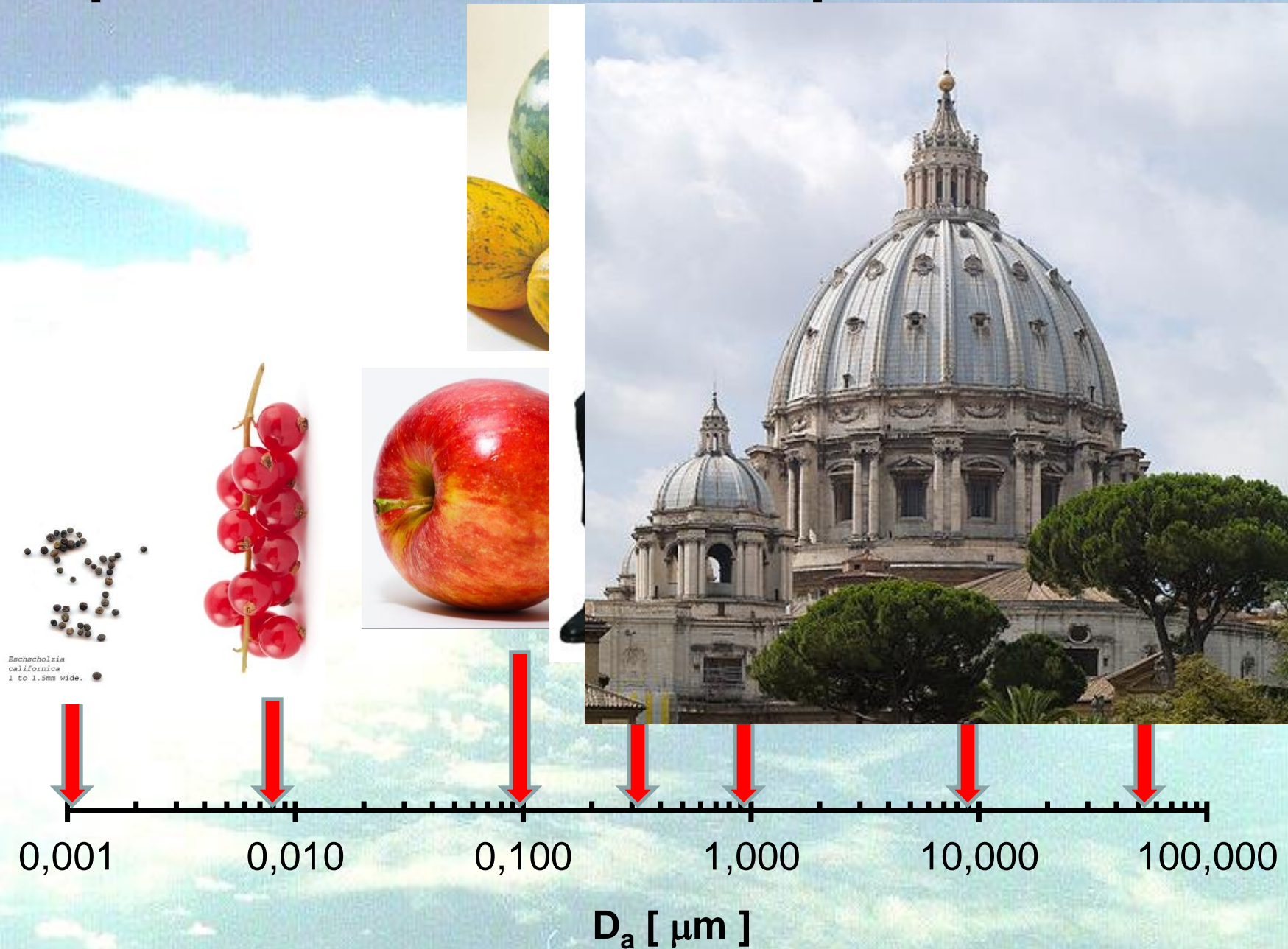


PM<sub>10</sub>

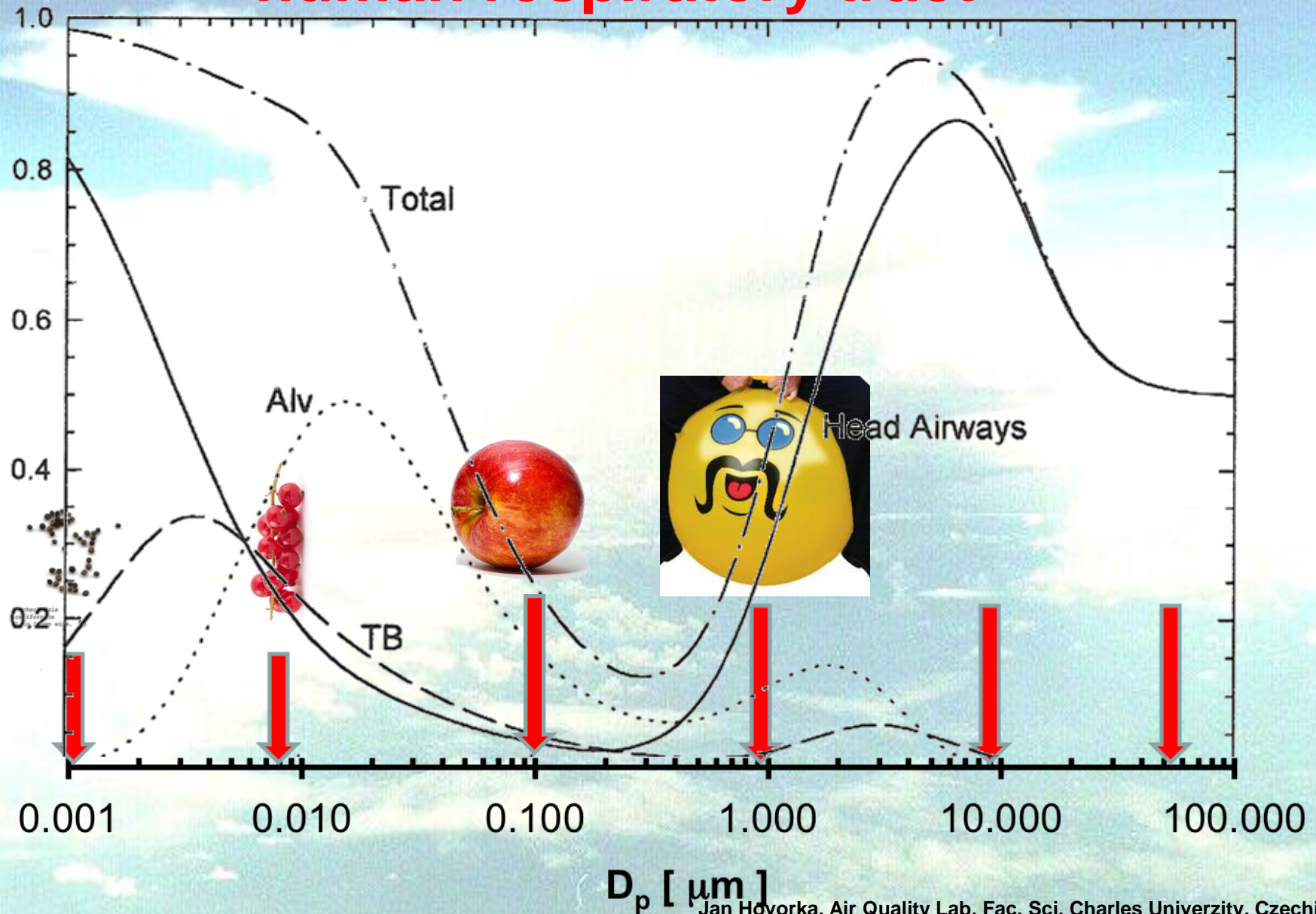




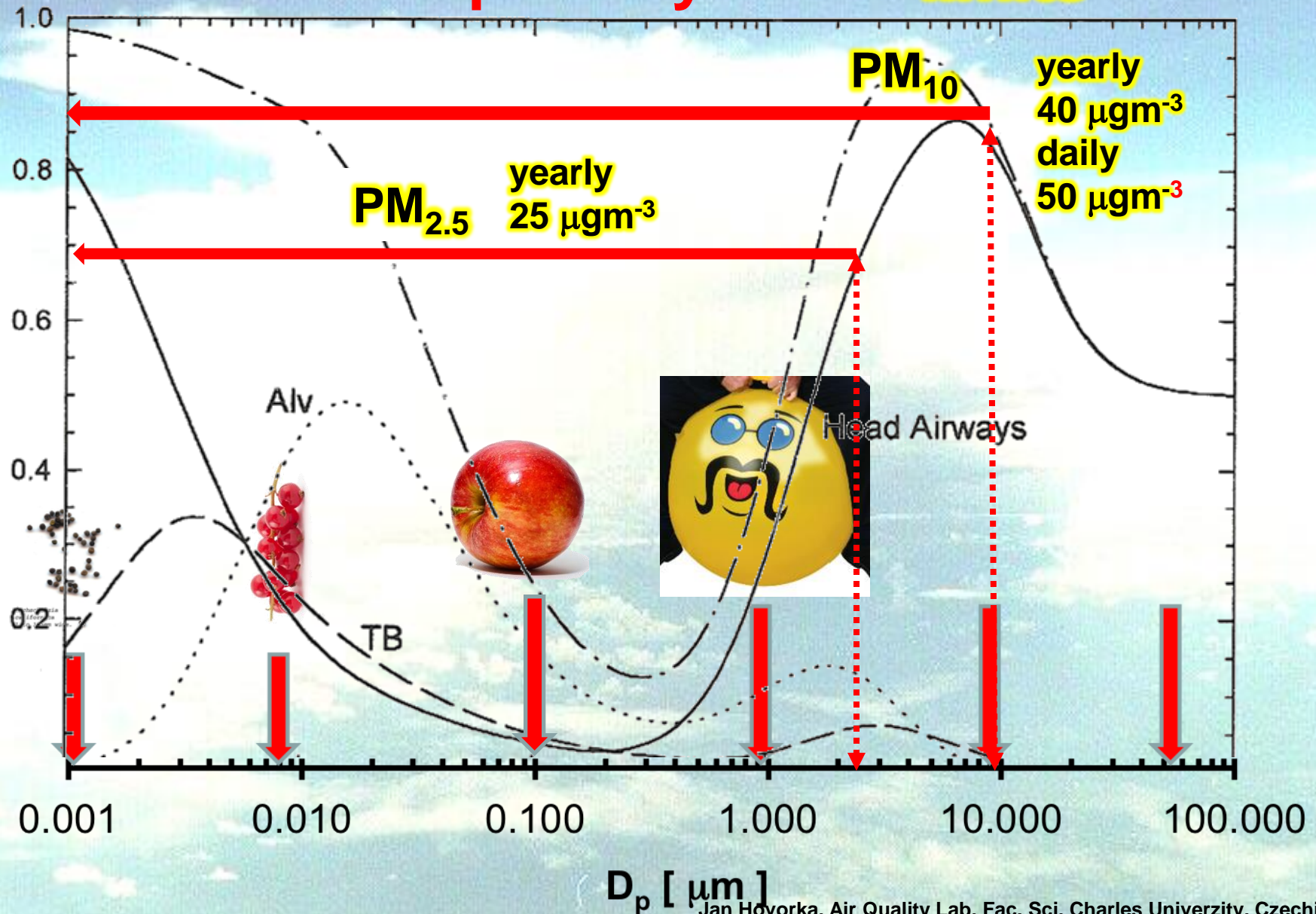
# Atmospheric aerosol - relative particle size



# Atmospheric aerosol - penetration into human respiratory tract



# Atmospheric aerosol - penetration into human respiratory tract - limits



# Air Quality Standards in the EU

European Commission > Environment > Air

Home About us Policies Funding Legal compliance News & outreach

Clean Air

- Clean Air Programme
- Air quality**
  - Introduction
  - AQD Fitness Check
  - Assessment
  - Standards**
  - Legislation
  - Time extensions
  - Air quality zones
  - Data & reporting
- Reduction of national emissions
- The EU and international air pollution policy
- Air Pollution from the main sources
- Publications
- Infographics
- Useful links

## Air Quality Standards

Humans can be adversely affected by exposure to air pollutants in ambient air. In response, the European Union has developed an extensive body of legislation which establishes health based standards and objectives for a number of pollutants present in the air. These standards and objectives are summarised in the table below. These apply over differing periods of time because the observed health impacts associated with the various pollutants occur over different exposure times.

Pollutant	Concentration	Averaging period	Legal nature	Permitted exceedances each year
Fine particles (PM2.5)	25 µg/m <sup>3</sup> ****	1 year	Target value to be met as of 1.1.2010 Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2015	n/a
Sulphur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	350 µg/m <sup>3</sup> 125 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 hour 24 hours	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005 Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005	24 3
Nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	200 µg/m <sup>3</sup> 40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 hour 1 year	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2010 Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2010 *	18 n/a
PM10	50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> 40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24 hours 1 year	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005 ** Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005 **	35 n/a
Lead (Pb)	0.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 year	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005 (or 1.1.2010 in the immediate vicinity of specific, notified industrial sources; and a 1.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup> limit value applied from 1.1.2005 to 31.12.2009)	n/a
Carbon monoxide (CO)	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Maximum daily 8 hour mean	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2005	n/a
Benzene	5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 year	Limit value to be met as of 1.1.2010**	n/a
Ozone	120 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Maximum daily 8 hour mean	Target value to be met as of 1.1.2010	25 days averaged over 3 years
Arsenic (As)	6 ng/m <sup>3</sup>	1 year	Target value to be met as of 31.12.2012	n/a
Cadmium (Cd)	5 ng/m <sup>3</sup>	1 year	Target value to be met as of 31.12.2012	n/a
Nickel (Ni)	20 ng/m <sup>3</sup>	1 year	Target value to be met as of 31.12.2012	n/a
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons	1 ng/m <sup>3</sup> (expressed as concentration of Benzo(a)pyrene)	1 year	Target value to be met as of 31.12.2012	n/a

\*Under Directive 2008/50/EU, the Member State could apply for an extension of up to five years (i.e. maximum up to 2015) in a specific zone. The request is subject to an assessment by the Commission. In such cases within the time extension period the limit value applies at the level of the limit value + maximum margin of tolerance ( 48 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for annual NO<sub>2</sub> limit

**pollutants  
always  
connected to  
aerosol  
particles**

# AIR QUALITY- RESPONSIBLE BODY IN THE CZECHIA



CZECH HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

- **conducts/maintains monitoring network**
- **on-line reports air quality**

[http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/web\\_generator/actual\\_hour\\_data\\_CZ.html](http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/web_generator/actual_hour_data_CZ.html)

- **produces air quality maps**

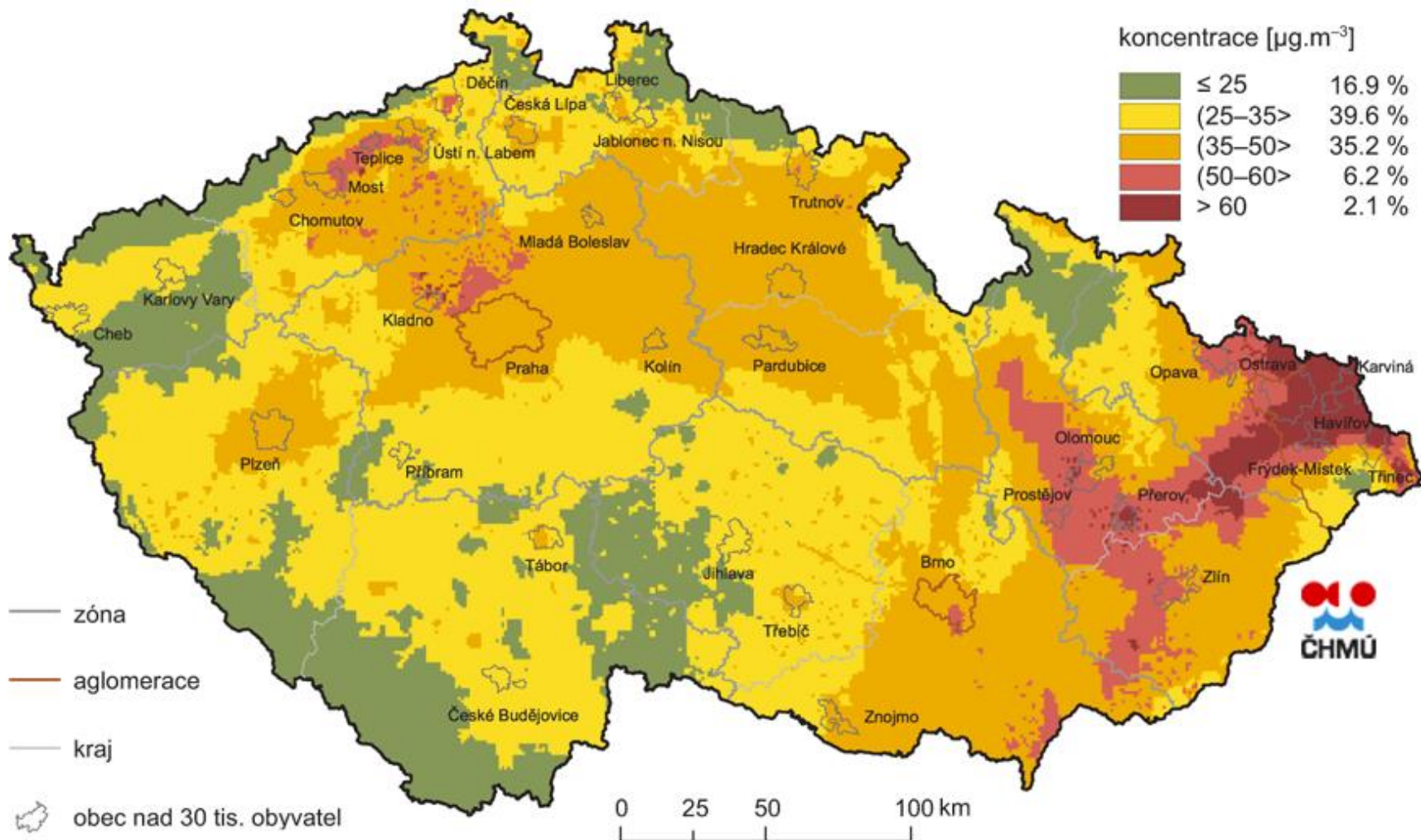
[http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/isko/grafroc/17groc/gr17cz/IV1\\_PM\\_CZ.html](http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/isko/grafroc/17groc/gr17cz/IV1_PM_CZ.html)

- **builds actualizes pollutant source databases**

[http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/isko/grafroc/17groc/gr17cz/II\\_ovzd\\_CZ.html](http://portal.chmi.cz/files/portal/docs/uoco/isko/grafroc/17groc/gr17cz/II_ovzd_CZ.html)

# 24h PM<sub>10</sub> exceedances in 2017

~ 8% area ~ 23 % population



# benzo(a)pyren

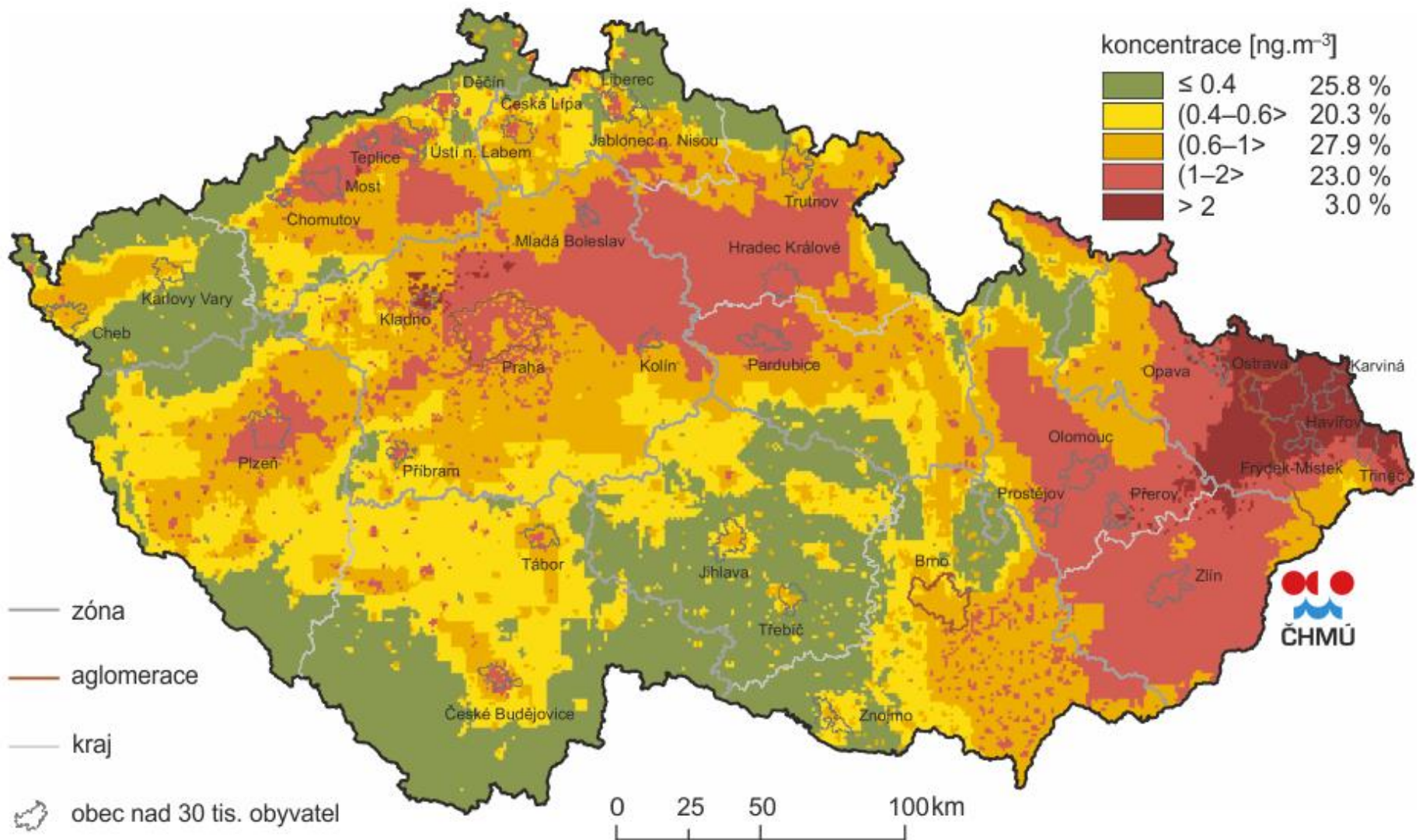
- hydrocarbon
- cause cancer

- forms during low temperature/oxygen combustion

bond to  
**aerosol particles**

# Benzo[a]pyrene exceedances in 2017

~26% area, ~62 % population





# Tool for air pollution source apportionment within EU?

- rapid exploration of air pollution sources down to medium-sized settlements

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JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE  
Air Quality Modeling

European Commission > EU Science Hub > SHERPA



SHERPA  
Screening for High Emission Reduction Potential on Air



## Background

[SHERPA](#) (*Screening for High Emission Reduction Potential on Air*) is a Java/Python tool, which allows for a rapid exploration of potential air quality improvements resulting from national/regional/local emission reduction measures. The tool has been developed with the aim of supporting national, regional and local authorities in the design and assessment of their air quality plans. The tool is based on the relationships between emissions and concentration levels, and can be used to answer the following type of questions:

- What is the potential for local action in my domain?
- What are the priority activity, sectors and pollutants on which to take action and,
- What is the optimal dimension that my policy action domain (city, region...) should have to be efficient?"

The [SHERPA](#) tool is distributed with EU-wide data on emissions and source-receptor models (spatial resolution of roughly 7x7 km<sup>2</sup>), so that it is very easy to start working on any region/local domain in Europe.

More specifically, [SHERPA](#) logical pathway is implemented through the following steps:

# Advanced methods of air pollution source apportionment?

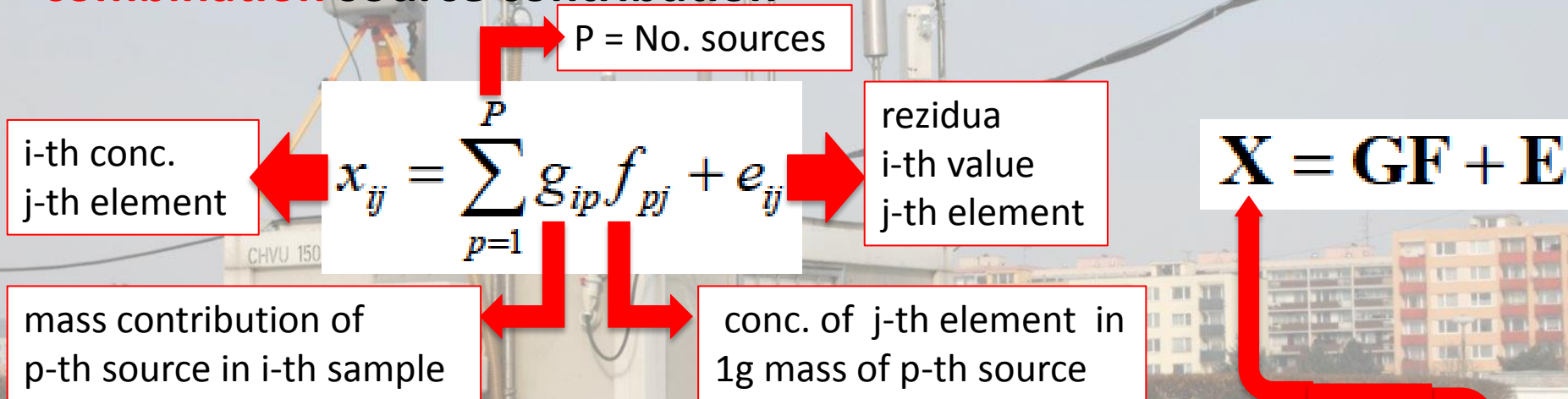
## Receptor modelling

- advanced analysis of comprehensive datasets recorded in receptor
- **US-EPA Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) 5.0 model**

<https://www.epa.gov/air-research/positive-matrix-factorization-model-environmental-data-analyses>

# PMF = Positive Matrix Factorization

- ◆ Factor analysis of datasets of chemical composition aerosol particles collected at selected site – **RECEPTOR**
- ◆ Chemical composition of aerosol particles is result of **linear combination** source contribution



PMF searches for a minimum value of  $Q$

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m (e_{ij} / s_{ij})^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m (x_{ij} - \sum_{h=1}^p g_{ih} f_{hj})^2 / s_{ij}^2$$

uncertainty of j-th element in i-th conc.

**KEY PARAMETR: DATAMATRIX SIZE  $X$**

# Central site

PM<sub>1</sub>: OC/EC  
Sunset

WS +WD

14 – 20000 nm  
size distribution  
SMPS+APS

PM<sub>10</sub>

T + RH

0.15-0.34µm  
0.34-1.15µm  
>1.15µm  
28 elements  
DRUM

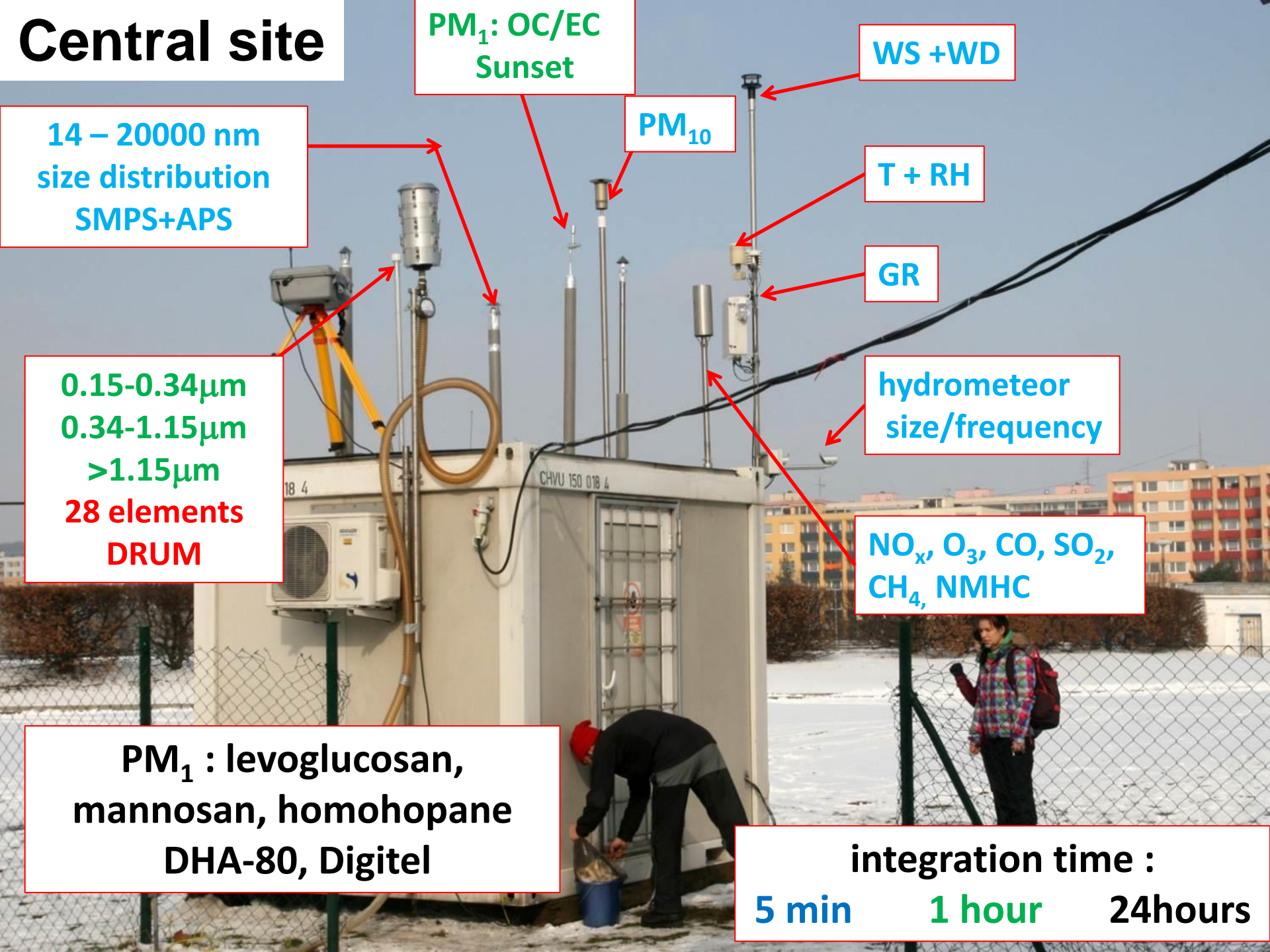
GR

hydrometeor  
size/frequency

NO<sub>x</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, CO, SO<sub>2</sub>,  
CH<sub>4</sub>, NMHC

PM<sub>1</sub> : levoglucosan,  
mannosan, homohopane  
DHA-80, Digital

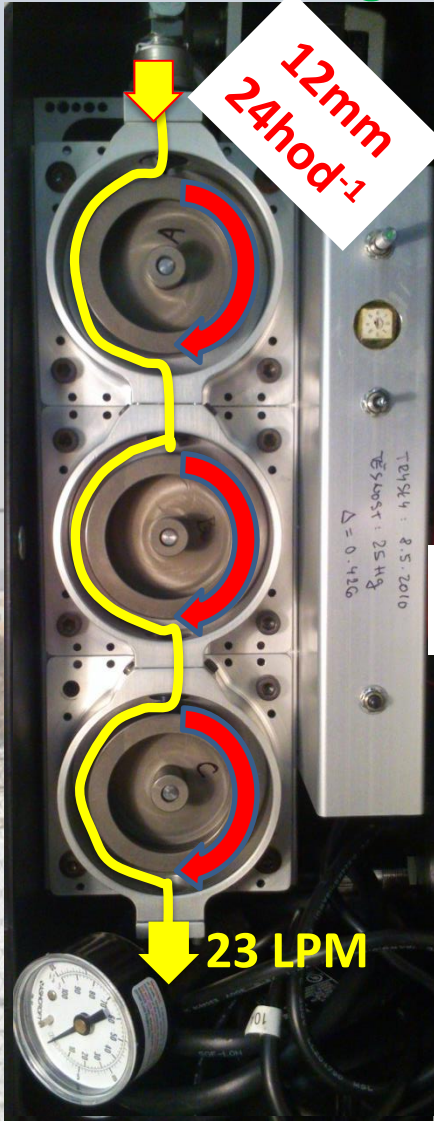
integration time :  
5 min      1 hour      24hours



# 3 DRUM

~17cm = 14 days ( 336 hours)

Davis Rotating Universal Monitor

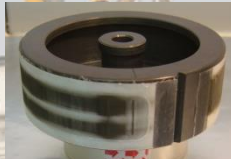


12mm  
24hod-1



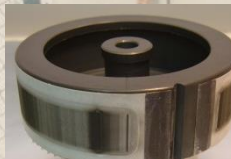
**COARSE**

1.15-10 $\mu$ m



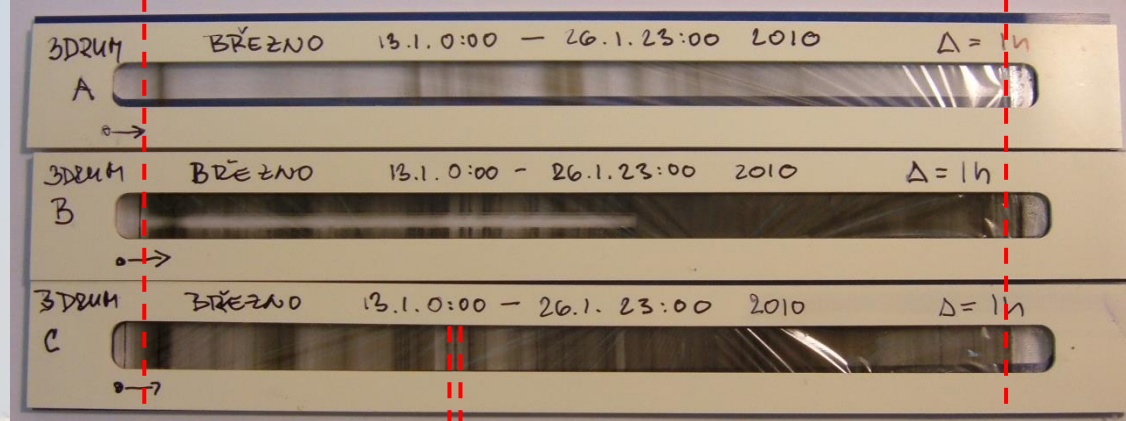
**FINE**

0.35-1.15 $\mu$ m



**FINE**

0.12-0.35 $\mu$ m



0.5mm = 1 hour

28 elements

Na, Mg, Al, Si, P, S, Cl, K, Ca, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni,  
Cu, Zn, Ga, As, Se, Br, Rb, Sr, Y, Zr, Mo, Pb

synchrotron X-ray fluorescence (S-XRF),  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

**14 DAYS = DATA MATRIX**

**300 X 28**

# Mladá Boleslav

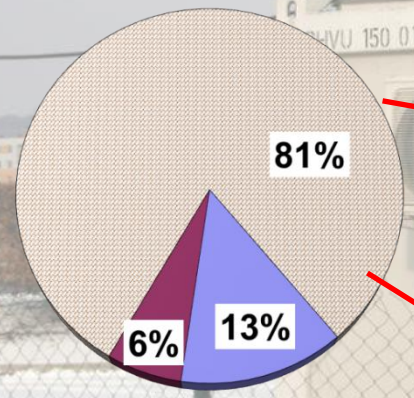
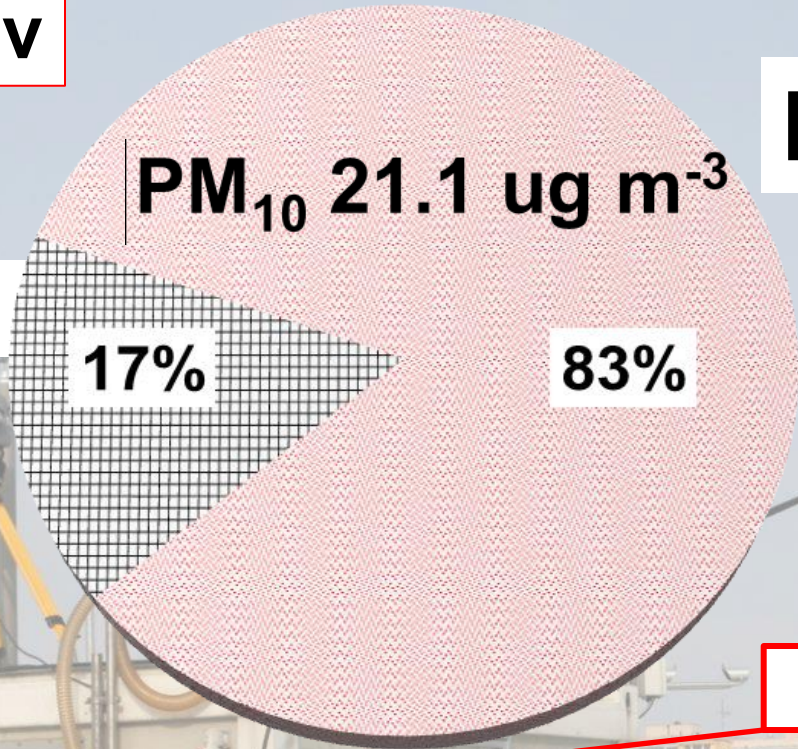
US-EPA, PMF 4.2.0.0.

## PM<sub>10</sub> sources

PM<sub>10</sub> 21.1 ug m<sup>-3</sup>

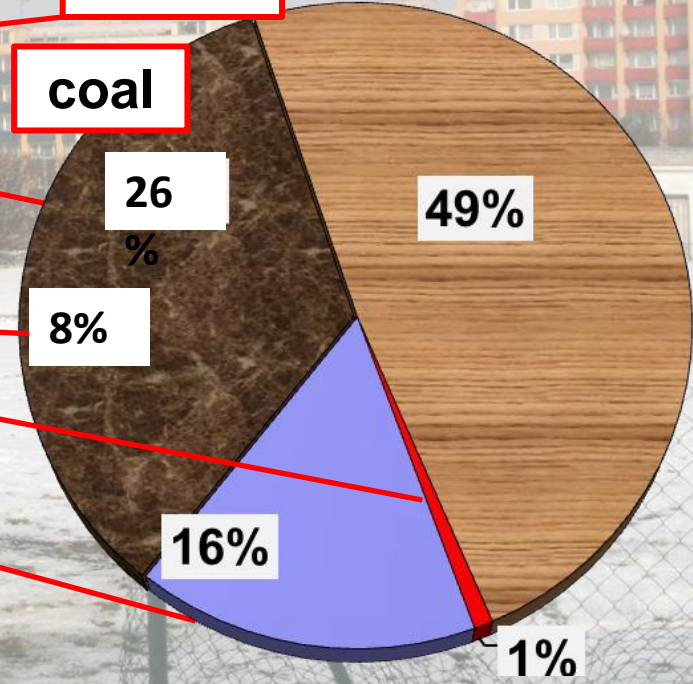
coarse aerosol

fine aerosol



wood

coal



combustion

76%

industry

7%

car brake abrasion

road dust

transportation

17%

car brake abrasion + road dust =