

# Diffusive Methods for Sampling No, No2 and Ozone

## Diffusive Methods for Sampling NO, NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>

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- Principles
- Standards
- Field validations
- Uncertainty
- Application

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### Principles of diffusion

$$\text{concentration } c = \frac{l \cdot Q_1}{D \cdot A \cdot t} = \frac{Q_1}{SR \cdot t}$$

C:	concentration	[ug/m <sup>3</sup> ]	D:	diffusion coefficient	[cm <sup>2</sup> /sec]
Q <sub>1</sub> :	amount of analyte	[ug]	t:	exposure time	[sec]
l:	diffusion path	[cm]	SR:	sampling rate	[ml/min]
A:	cross section	[cm <sup>2</sup> ]			

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### Diffusive samplers

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### I: Harmonization of measurement: Standards

**Ambient Air Quality - Diffusive samplers for the determination of gases and vapours - requirements and test methods**  
[EN 13528: 2002]

- Part 1: General requirements
- Part 2: Specific requirements and test methods
- Part 3: Guide for selection, use and maintenance
- Part 4: Indoor application

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### Performance characteristics of diffusion tubes Part 2

- Sampling rate
- Working range
- Precision
- Linearity
- Humidity, Temperature
- Wind influence
- Storage time

➔ Instructions for a detailed uncertainty estimation

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### II: Standards for analytical technique

**ISO/IEC 17025**  
General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories. 2000

- management system for laboratories
- Traceability
- Uncertainty calculation  
GUM: Guide for the expression for uncertainty

favours: **indirect approach** of uncertainty estimation:  
variation and bias are evaluated separately

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# Diffusive Methods for Sampling No, No2 and Ozone

## Uncertainty calculation according GUM

Mathematical function

Input quantities

Uncertainty catalogue

Determination of uncertainties

Combined uncertainty

Expanded uncertainty

$$C_u = \frac{m_a - m_b}{SR \cdot t}$$

$U_m$   $U_{SR}$   $U_t$

$U_{SR}$  testatmospheres  
 $U_m$  analytical function  
 $U_B$  blancs  
 $U_P$  multiple samples  
 $U_{ext}$  wind, temperature, humidity

Type A: measured  
 Type B: estimated

$$U_c = \sqrt{U_m^2 + U_{SR}^2 + U_t^2 + (U_P^2 + U_B^2) + U_{ext}^2}$$

$$U_e = 2 \cdot \sqrt{U_c^2 + U_{Co}^2 + \dots}$$

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## Error catalogue

	error size
Sampling rate	
permeation tube	X
flow measurement	X
absorption	X
experimental SR	XXX
Sampling	
length of tube	neglectable
area of tube	neglectable
precision of triplicates low conc	XXX
precision of triplicates high conc	XX
Laboratory analysis	
calibration function	XX
calibration standards	X
analytical equipment	X
operator	X
Sampler integrity	
blanks	corrected
transportation	X
stability	X
humidity	X
External influences	
temperature	
humidity	
windspeed	XXX
interferences	

CR 14377 [2002]  
 Air Quality - Approach to uncertainty for ambient air reference measurement methods

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## III: Consistency of air quality monitoring network

EN ISO 20988: 2007  
 Air Quality – Guidelines for estimating measurement uncertainty

- Evaluation of measurement uncertainty based on comparisons with reference method
- favors: direct approach of uncertainty estimation: variation and bias are investigated in a pooled way

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## NO<sub>2</sub>: Comparison with reference method: France

$y = 1.0135x - 0.8484$   
 $R^2 = 0.9763$

Expanded uncertainty 14.4 % at 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

p, T corrected according Ademe 4414

Source: ASPA France 2005

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## Site specific disagreement at kirbsites of highways

**Hypothesis**

- presence of excess NO and Ozone
- turbulences

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## NO<sub>2</sub>: Comparison with reference method: Germany

6 to 40 days passive sampling NO<sub>2</sub>  
 (All sites: 04-08-17 to 05-09-14)  
 $U_{95}(x) = 23\% = \text{const.}$

$x' = 1.007 x_0$   
 $R^2 = 0.873$

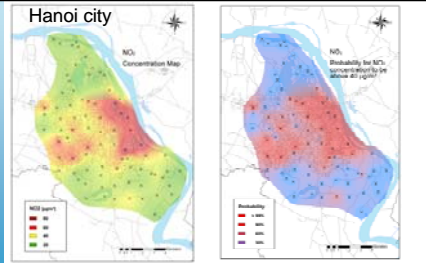
expanded uncertainty 23 % at 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

Source: Gefahrstoffe 66(2006)

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# Diffusive Methods for Sampling No, No2 and Ozone

## Application: Identification of hot spots:



screening campaign: 100 sites in a grid, one month duration

## Diffusive sampler for ozone

Principle: chemisorption of Ozone

- Cleavage of doublebonding and transforming into aldehyde
- Transforming nitrite into nitrate

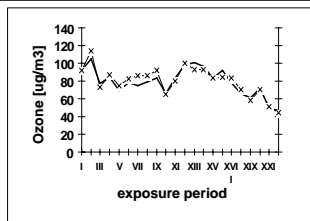
Peculiarity

- Acute effect related
- Limit values defined as short term values

Approach

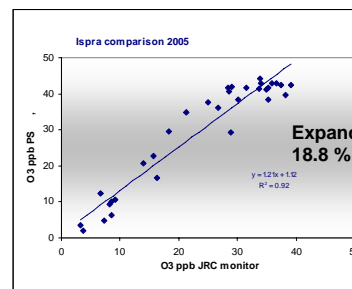
- Relation of peak values to average values
- trade-off between labour costs and peak estimation
- one week measurement period best compromise

## Field Evaluation in the European Alps



expanded uncertainty  
31.7 % at 80 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

## Comparison with Reference Method



Expanded uncertainty  
18.8 % at 80 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

## AOT40 modelling in Lombardia, Italy

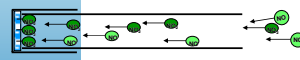
Ozone accumulated over threshold 40 ppb



daily ozone profile adjusted with weekly ozone measurements with respect to relative elevation and time of the day.

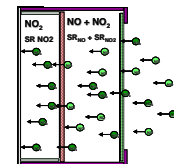
## Principle of NO<sub>x</sub> sampler

Oxidation of NO into NO<sub>2</sub>  
trapping with TEA



PTIO Method

2-Phenyl-4,4,5,5-tetramethylimidazoline-3-oxide-1-oxyl



CrO<sub>3</sub>-Method

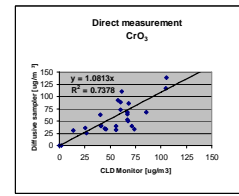
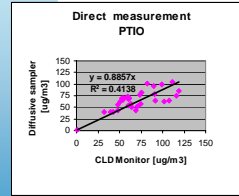
# Diffusive Methods for Sampling No, No2 and Ozone

## Direct: measurement as NO<sub>2</sub> equivalents

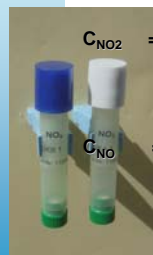


$$C_{NOx} = \frac{Q_{NOx} [ug]}{SR_{NO2} [ml/min] * time [min]} \quad ug/m^3$$

## Coincidence NO<sub>x</sub> diffusion tube with monitor direct measurement



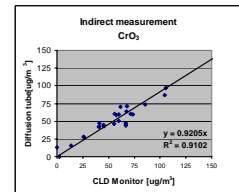
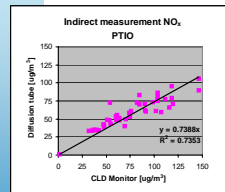
## Indirect: measurement via difference NO<sub>x</sub> - NO<sub>2</sub>



$$C_{NOx} = \frac{Q_{NO2} [ug]}{SR_{NO2} [ml/min] * time [min]} + \frac{Q_{NOx} - Q_{NO2} [ug] * (30/46)}{SR_{NO} [ml/min] * time [min]} \quad ug/m^3$$

$$C_{NOx} = C_{NO2} + C_{NO} \quad ug/m^3$$

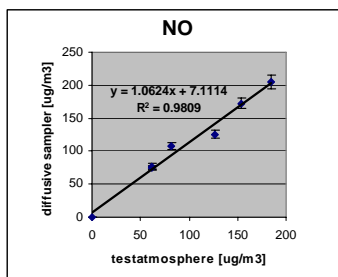
## Coincidence NO<sub>x</sub> diffusion tube with monitor indirect measurement



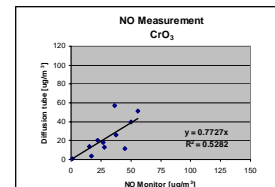
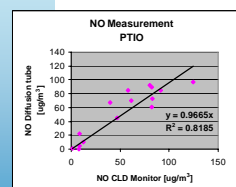
Expanded uncertainty  
77.1 % at 30 ug/m<sup>3</sup>  
28.9 % at 80 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

Expanded uncertainty  
89.0 % at 30 ug/m<sup>3</sup>  
43.2 % at 80 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

## NO under laboratory conditions in known atmospheres



## Results NO comparison



# Diffusive Methods for Sampling No, No2 and Ozone

## Summary

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- Consistent framework of standards: EN 13528 - ISO/IEC – 17025 - ISO 20988 available
- Expanded uncertainty of NO<sub>2</sub> tubes tends to reach quality objective for mandatory measurements
- 1-week ozone measurements useful input parameter for AOT<sub>40</sub> mapping
- Due to high uncertainty of NO<sub>x</sub> measurement as NO<sub>2</sub> equivalents in remote areas (where NO<sub>x</sub> limit value applies) is sufficient
- NO measurement by difference with reservation