

Pioneering sensor and detector technology

Automotive Air Quality Sensors: industrial innovations to protect people's health COST Action TD1105 3rd Management Committee Meeting Barcelona, Spain, 21st June 2013

Outline

- Company Introduction
- Automotive Air Quality Sensors

• Automotive Air Quality Sensors

- Microchemical Systems: Founded in 1998
- SGX Sensortech: Established in 2012



















- Company Introduction
- ➔ Automotive Air Quality Sensors



protecting people's health with smart gas sensors

Some numbers...

Some numbers...

It is estimated that over $1\ billion$ passenger cars travel the streets and roads of the world today.



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Some numbers...

In 2012 more than **60 milions** of cars produced in the world 1 out of 4 cars is produced in China





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Some numbers...

Research has shown that pollen and harmful substances inside a vehicle can be up to 6 times more concentrated than outside.



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Some numbers...

Research has shown that pollen and harmful substances inside a vehicle can be up to 6 times more concentrated than outside of car cabin.

Typical Ratios of Average Concentrations to Background Levels by Mode

| Pollutant | Pedestrians/Cyclists | Bus Users | Car Users |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| VOCs | 2 | 3-4 | 4-6 |
| Carbon Monoxide | 2-2.5 | 3-4 | 4-5 |
| Nitrogen Dioxide | 1.5-2 | 2 | 3 |
| Particulates | Some elevation - figures uncertain | | |

Pollutants present on the road (exhaust fumes) are mainly:

- Benzene
- •1,3 butadiene
- •Carbon monoxide
- •Lead
- •NO2
- •PM10
- •SO2
- •Ozone (O3)
- •NOx
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.





Car evolution and R&D to increase comfort feeling explain why around 10% of produced cars are now equipped with Air Quality Sensors (AQS).



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Customers and development partners...



Key characteristics

- •Sensitivity (low detection level)
- Selectivity
- Stability



- Response time
- Reproducibility
- Lifetime
- •IP6K6K









| Pollutants | ATMO level 2 | ATMO level 5 | ATMO level 9 |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| NO2 | g/m3 | 110 µg/m3 | 275 µg/m3 |
| SO2 | 4 m3 | 160 µg/m3 | 300 µg/m3 |
| O3 | 30 µ. 3 | 105 µg/m3 | 180 µg/m3 |
| Particles | 10 µg/ | 40 µg/m3 | 100 µg/m3 |

ATMO level 1-2: very and ATMO level 3-4: cl ATMO level 5: ar 5 ge ATMO level 6: dediocre ATMO level 6: polluted ATMO level 6: very polluted

- Dispersion of base resistance
- Dispersion of base sensitivity
- •Variation of resistance with T&RH
- Variation of resistance over time

Need for initial and periodic calibration > difficult, costly

Need for fast detection of pollution peak, not absolute measurement









Pollution level calculation

Pollution levels are calculated by using relative changes of sensor signal compared to a moving average reference.

AQS algorithms take part of manufacturer know-how and have been optimized based on a large amount or field tests.

These algorithm parameters are adapted during final road test with car manufacturer to fit with HVAC control unit and comfort definition level.



Key characteristics

- Sensitivity OK with use of relative change
 Selectivity OK maximum of events to be detected
 Stability OK with use of relative change
- Response time OK with use of relative change
- •Reproducibility OK with use of relative change
- Lifetime
- •IP6K6K

OK, 6000 hours over 10 years OK by design

Single Gas Sensor





















NEXT....

SGX Sensortech has developed a very small MEMS sensor (5 x 5 mm) that can be integrated into compact electronics (roof or HVAC control panel) to sense cigarette smoke and other odours and activate cabin filtration (interior plasma filter) or fresh air flow.







NEXT....

New version of triple sensor AQS (CO, NO2, NH3) combined with T&RH sensor.

- 1. Use of dew point information to optimize HVAC compressor control and therefore reduce fuel consumption.
- 2. Combined sensor (less components).



 AQS allows reducing car users exposure to harmful gases (road test done by car manufacturers with analyzers in/out car cabin showed > 80% reduction of pollution peaks entering in the cabin.

Automotive Air Quality Sensors SUMMARY

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- 2. Low cost metal-oxide gas sensors are well adapted to pollution peak detection automotive application (high sensitivity, low response time)

Automotive Air Quality Sensors SUMMARY

- AQS allows reducing car users exposure to harmful gases (road test done by car manufacturers with analyzers in/out car cabin showed > 80% reduction of pollution peaks entering in the cabin.
- 2. Low cost metal-oxide gas sensors are well adapted to pollution peak detection automotive application (high sensitivity, low response time)
- 3. Use of multichip with independent heaters and specific sensing layer and operating temperature allows to increase the type of pollution events detected (comfort enhancement).



Thank you for your attention

