

**COST**

European Network on New Sensing Technologies for Air Pollution Control and Environmental Sustainability  
- *EuNetAir*

COST Action TD1105

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop *EuNetAir* on**

***New Sensing Technologies for Indoor and Outdoor Air Quality Control***

**ENEA - Brindisi Research Center, Brindisi, Italy, 25 - 26 March 2014**

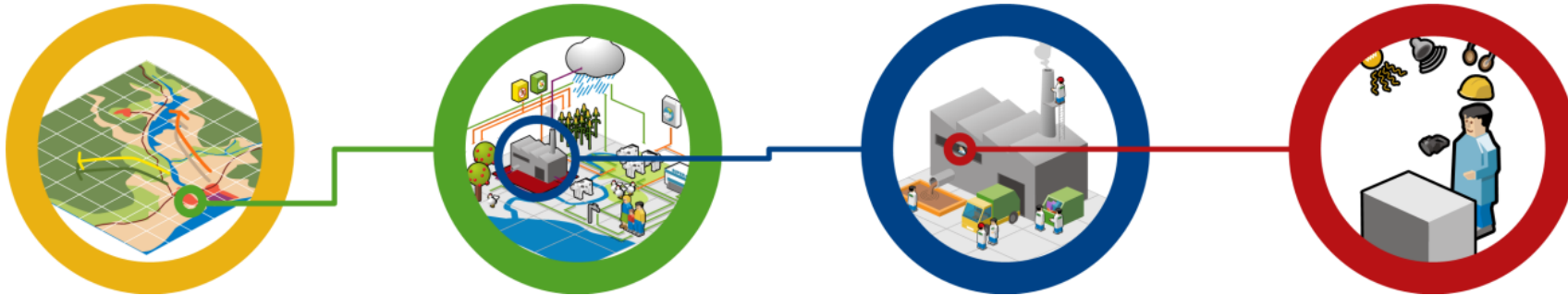
# INDOOR AIR QUALITY ASSESSMENT: TOWARDS A BETTER PROTECTION OF PEOPLE



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MC Member/ WG Member

**IDAD - Institute of Environment and Development / Portugal**



Integrated approach!

## Consultancy services

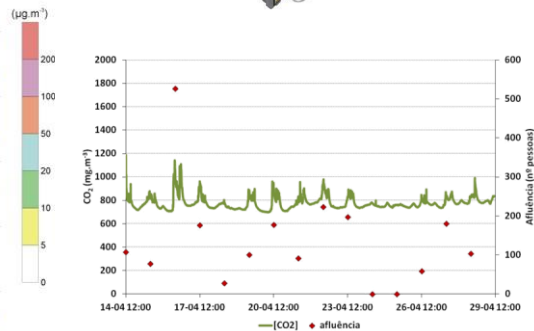
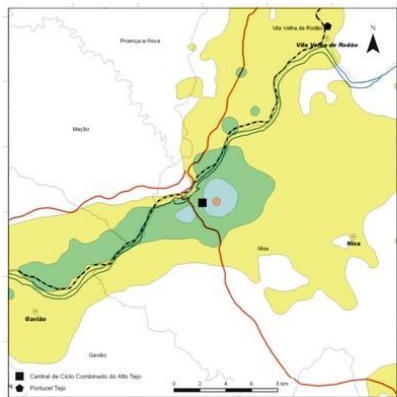
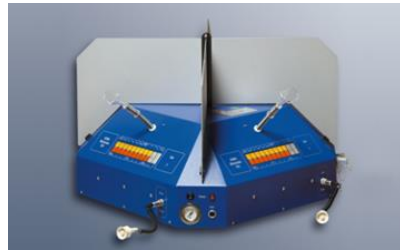
- Impact and Environmental Monitoring
- Air pollution
- Sustainability

## Accredited Laboratory

ISO 17025:2005



# Air Pollution - IDAD activities



- Stack emissions
- Ambient air quality
- Indoor air quality
- Odours assessment
- Inventories of air pollutants emissions
- Air quality modelling
- Air quality management

Examples of equipment and measurement outputs

# Impacts of Air Pollution – different scales



## Global scale

- Climate change,...



## Meso & Local scale

- Exposure to traffic emissions,...



## Micro-scale

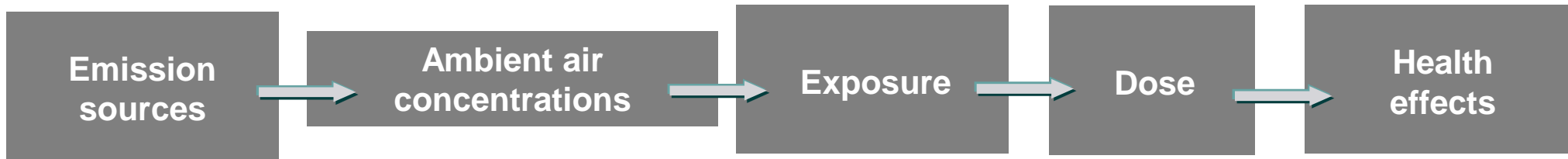
- Impacts on indoor air quality!

# Indoor air quality importance



**We spend 80-90% of our time  
indoors!**

# Air Pollution - from sources to health effects



## Emission

Quantity of a pollutant released to the atmosphere

## Concentration

Physical characteristic of the environment in a given place and time

## Exposure

Describes the interaction and contact with the pollutant

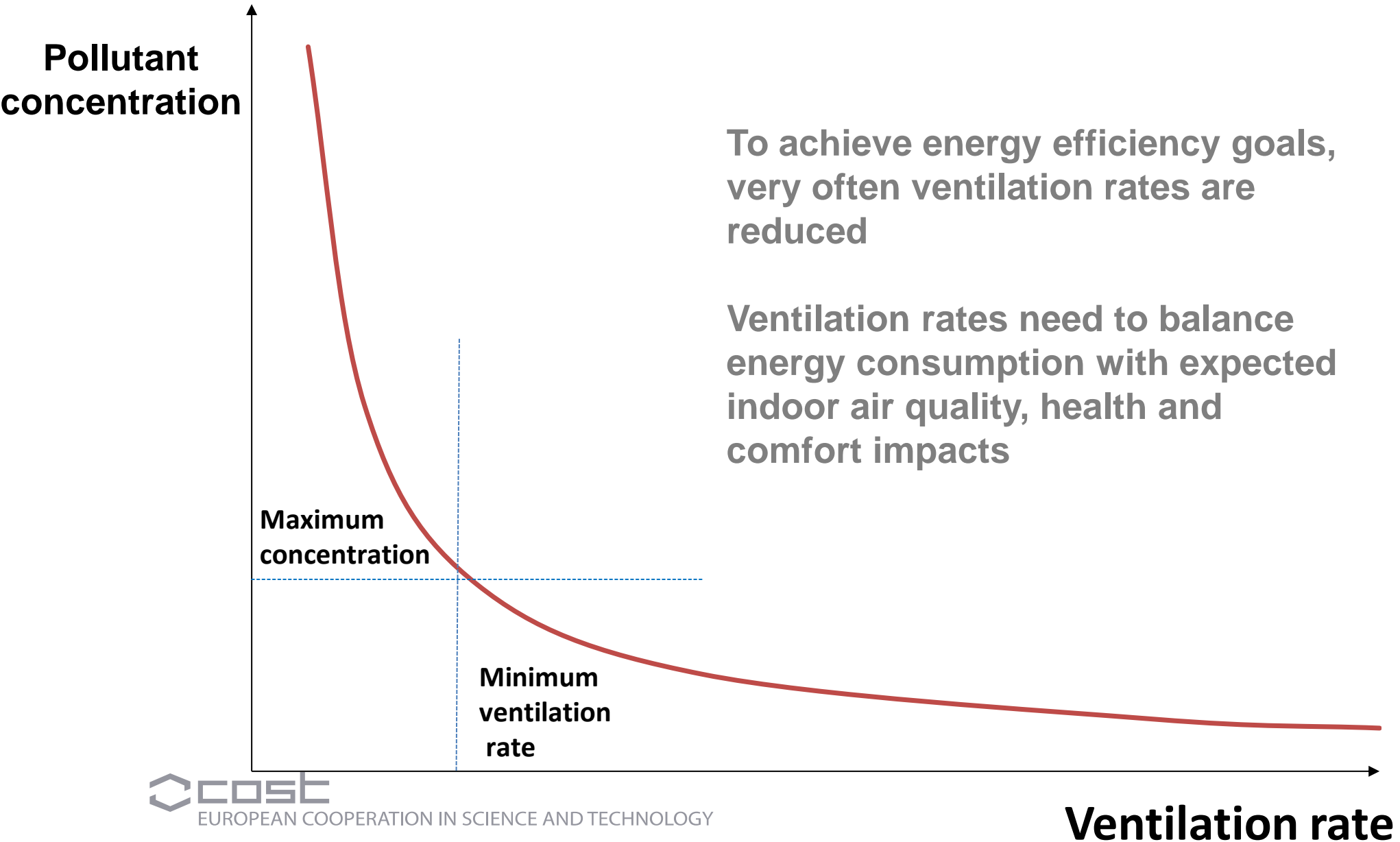
## Dose

The amount of pollutant that crosses a specific barrier (skin, lung, digestive tract), usually expressed as the quantity of pollutant absorbed or deposited into the body per unit of time

# Sustainable building



# Indoor air quality and ventilation





# IAQ - Study case

## HabitAr project



**Measurements performed by  
IDAD in cooperation with  
SPAIC (Society of Allergology and  
Clinical Immunology)**

## Methodology

**557** homes distributed  
throughout mainland Portugal

Indoor air measurements from  
the master bedroom and  
kitchen;

Questionnaires to evaluate the  
inhabitants' state of health and  
characteristics of the houses

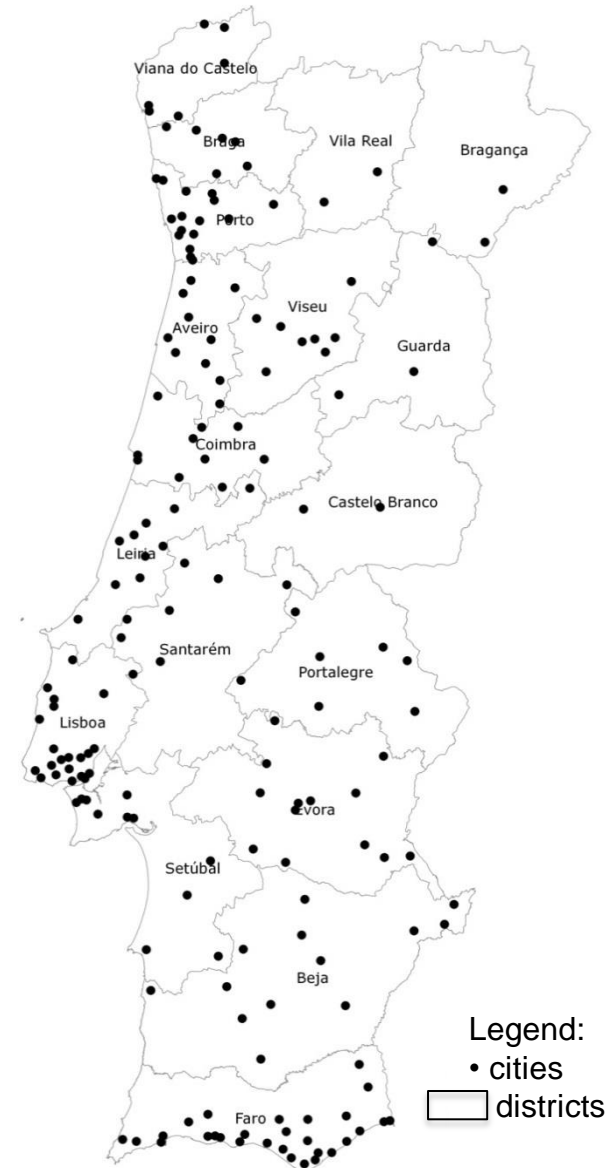
Statistical evaluation of the  
data, correlations...

# IAQ - Study case

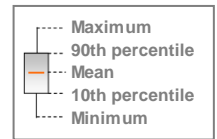
## HabitAr project



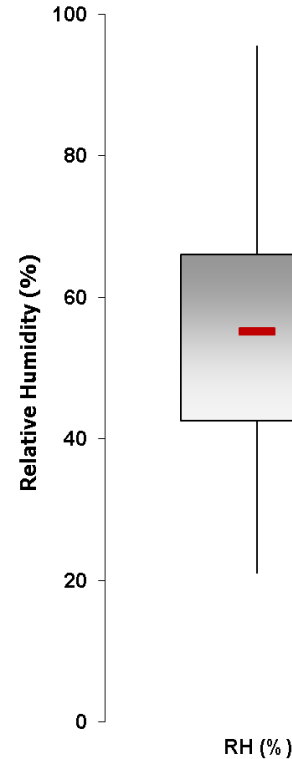
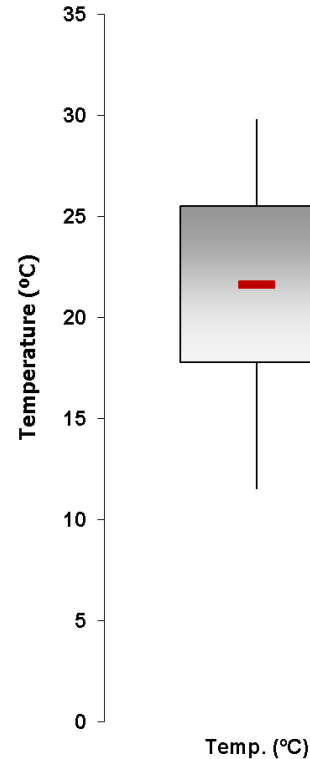
- 557 homes
- Bedroom and kitchen ( $\approx$  1100 measurements)
- December 2007 to July 2008
- Short-term measurements ( $\approx$ 15 min)
- Temp., HR, CO<sub>2</sub>, PM10, VOC, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, HCHO, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>



# IAQ - Study case



## Results



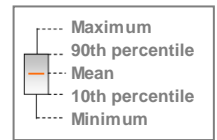
Thermal comfort parameters (Temperature, Relative humidity)

Around **60%** of the houses visited had at least one measured value above the reference values.

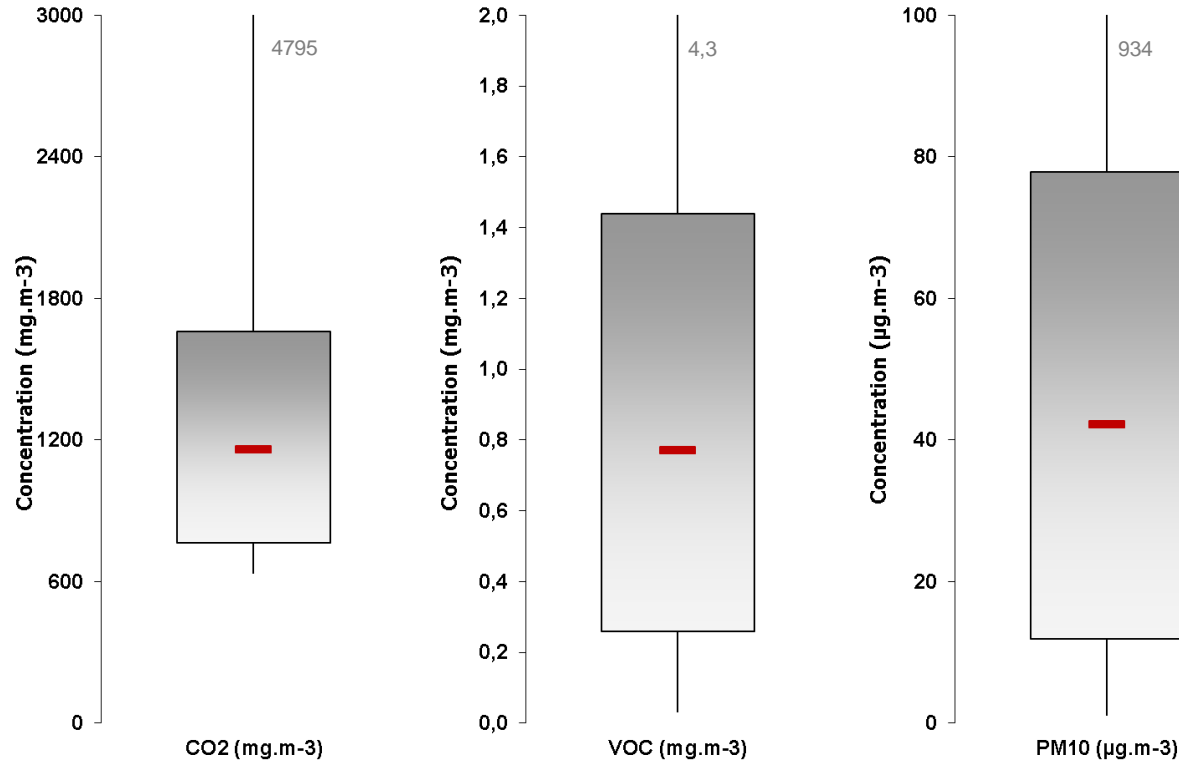
Temperature: -mean 21.6°C -min 11.5 -max 29.8 -10<sup>th</sup>p 17.8 -90<sup>th</sup>p 25.5°C

HR: -mean 55.1% -min 21.0 -max 95.5 -10<sup>th</sup>p 42.6 -90<sup>th</sup>p 66.0%

# IAQ - Study case



## Results



Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)  
lim > 1800 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>  
(7.6%)

Particulate matter  
(PM10) annual lim >  
50 µg.m<sup>-3</sup> (23%)

Volatile Organic  
Compounds (VOC)  
lim > 0.6 mg.m<sup>-3</sup> (50%)  
comfort > 0.2 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>  
(94%)

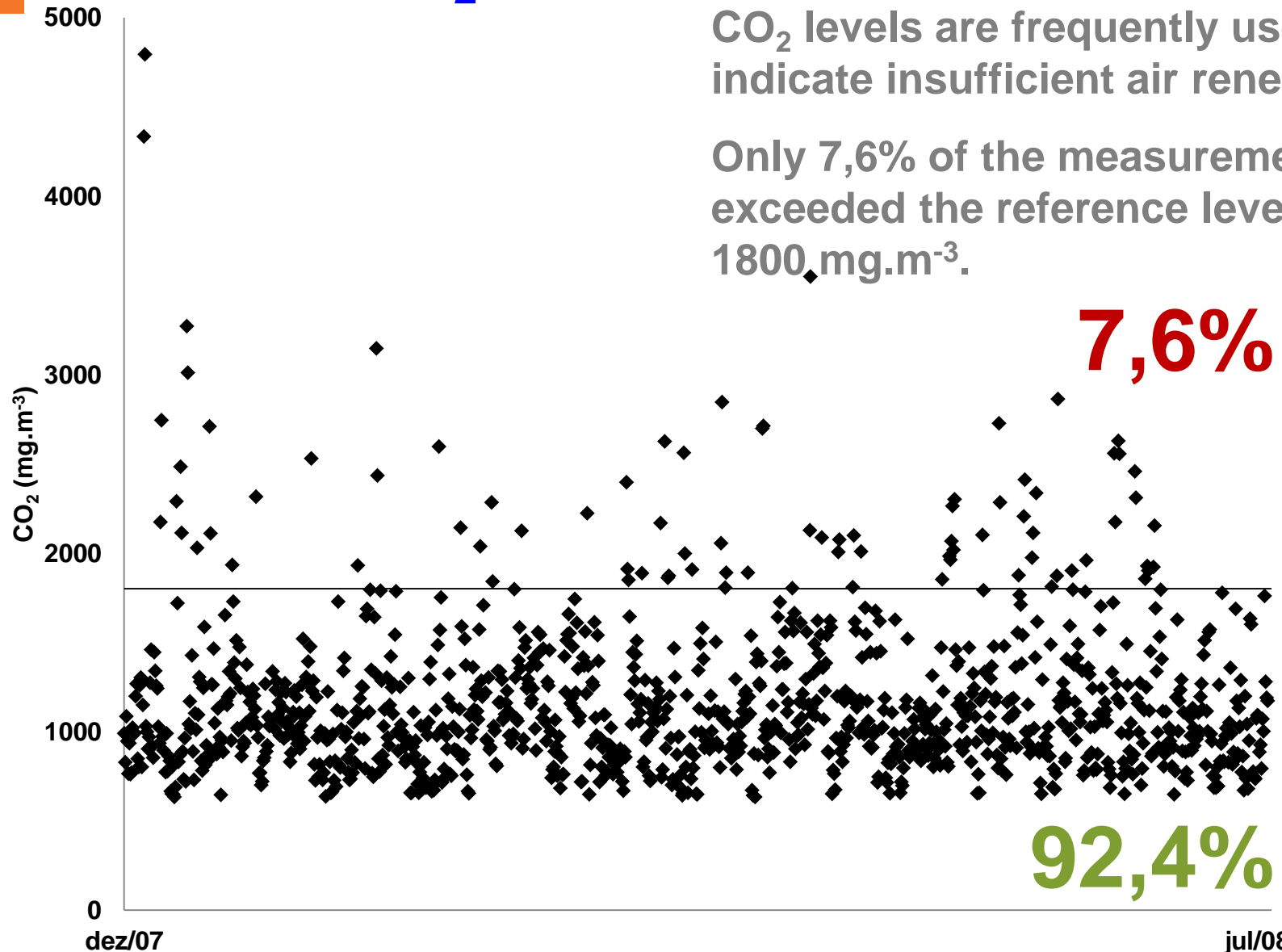
Around **60% of the houses** visited had at least one measured value above the reference values.

The majority of the exceedances were **VOC, CO<sub>2</sub>** and **PM10**

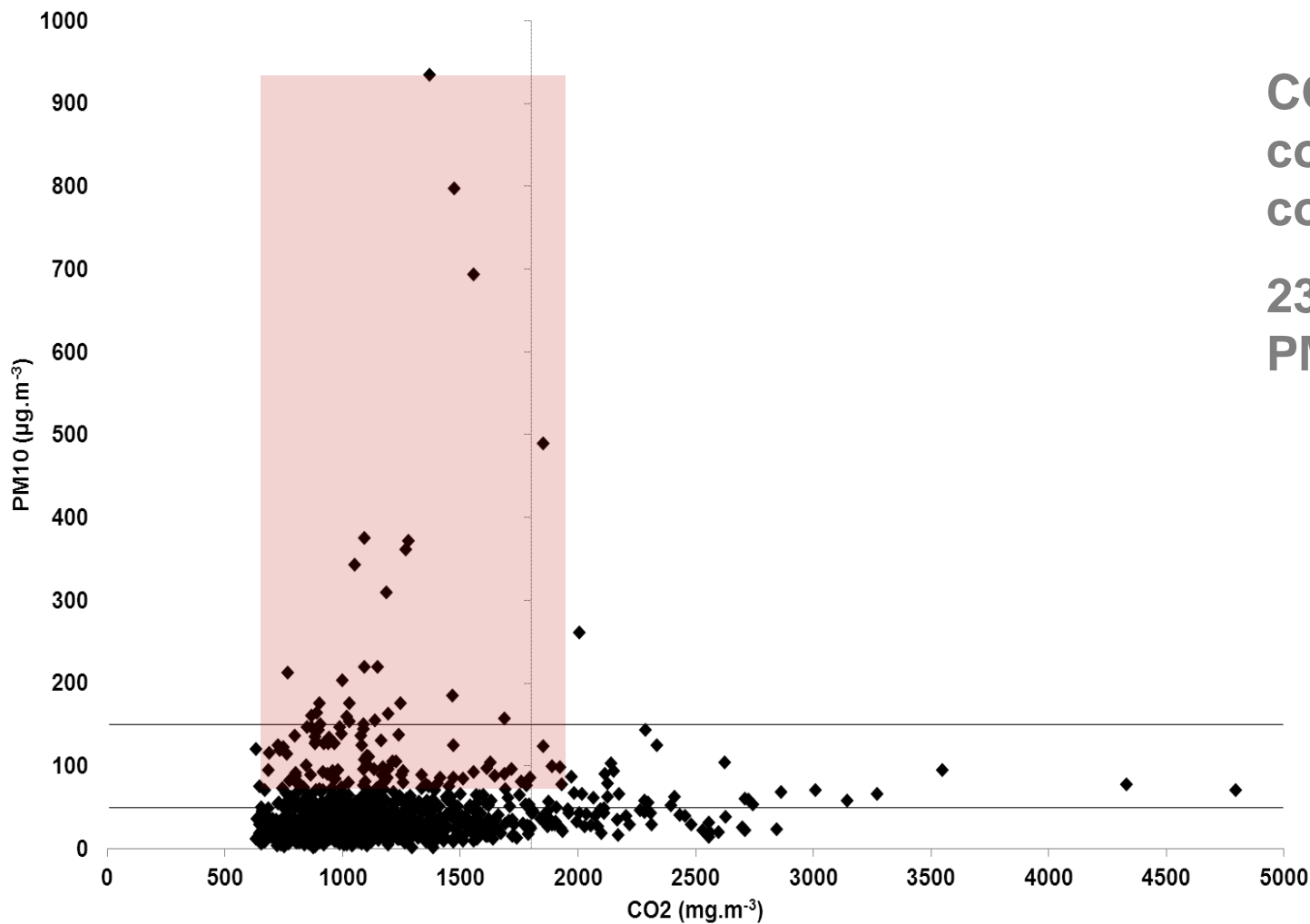
# CO<sub>2</sub> concentration

CO<sub>2</sub> levels are frequently used to indicate insufficient air renewal

Only 7,6% of the measurements exceeded the reference level of 1800 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>.

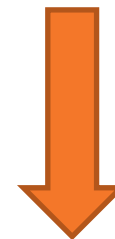


# CO<sub>2</sub> vs PM10



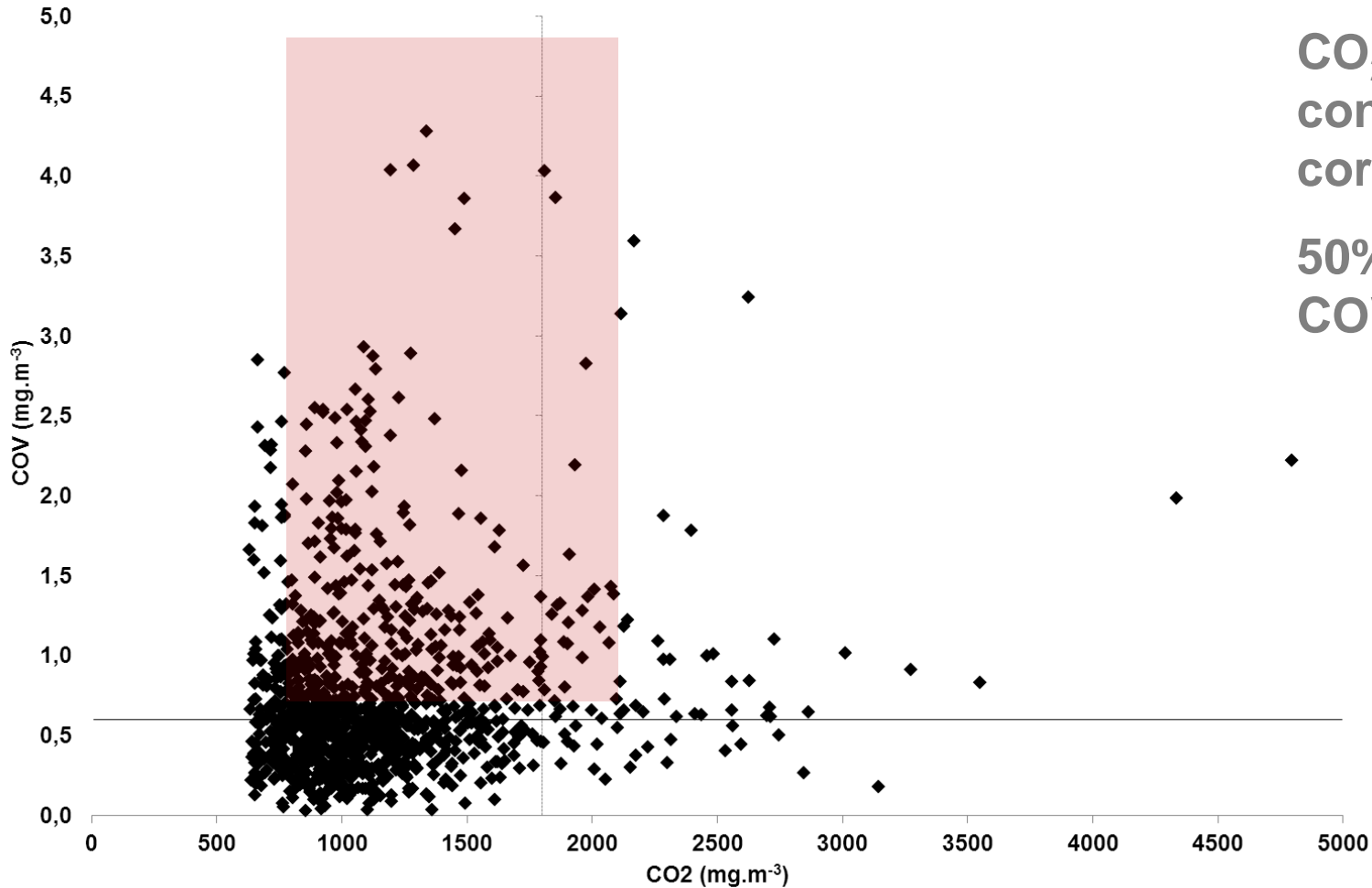
CO<sub>2</sub> and PM10  
concentration without  
correlation ( $r^2=0,019$ )

23% exceedances for  
PM10 (> 50 µg.m<sup>-3</sup>)



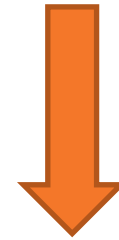
**87%** exceedances  
were recorded with  
CO<sub>2</sub> < 1800 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>

# CO<sub>2</sub> vs VOC



CO<sub>2</sub> and VOC  
concentration without  
correlation ( $r^2=0,013$ )

50% exceedances for  
COV ( $> 0,6 \text{ mg.m}^{-3}$ )



**88%** exceedances  
were recorded with  
CO<sub>2</sub> < 1800 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>

# CONCLUSIONS

- Confirmation of the importance of some sources with relevant contribution to indoor air quality such as:
  - **tobacco smoke** or **fireplaces**;
  - individual strategies of **ventilation**;
  - and **ambient air quality**.
- Around **60%** of the houses visited had at least one measured value above the reference values (CO<sub>2</sub>, VOC, PM10, comfort parameters).



# CONCLUSIONS

- About 90% of the exceedances were recorded with CO<sub>2</sub> levels below 1800 mg.m<sup>-3</sup>, this being the level usually used to indicate insufficient air renewal;
- Result: CO<sub>2</sub> levels should be considered with precaution as an indicator of indoor air quality;
- An intervention in indoor air quality based on the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> disregard possible exceedance for PM10 and VOC.

# CONCLUSIONS

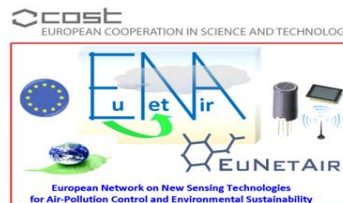
- When there was at least one smoker, there was a positive correlation with higher VOC ( $p = 0,009$ ) and PM10 ( $p < 0,001$ ) concentrations;
- Cumulative diagnosis of asthma and/or rhinitis without correlation with evaluation of the pollutants ( $p > 0,216$ );
- Positive association between asthma and rhinitis symptoms over the past year and exposure in homes with higher concentrations of pollutants ( $p < 0,01$ );

# Other developments...

- Identification of opportunities for intervention and improvement of indoor air, especially in housing conditions, control of emission sources of pollutants or adoption of new ventilation strategies in dwellings;
- **Need for raising awareness** about the impact of individual behaviour in indoor air quality;
- The use of **new sensing technologies** for indoor air quality assessment could be seen as a valuable contribution to modify individual attitudes!



# Evaluation of micro-sensors against standard methods for air quality control during field campaigns



# Evaluation of micro-sensors against standard methods for air quality control during field campaigns



## Monitoring points

2 Porto  
4 Lisbon

## Data measured

T, RH, WD, WV, R, PP  
PM10  
CO  
O3  
NOx  
SO<sub>2</sub>  
BTEX

## Sampling time

October 2013 - January  
2014  
(≈7 days each location)

Parallel  
measurements  
with SGX micro  
sensors

3 - CO/VOC

3 - O<sub>3</sub>

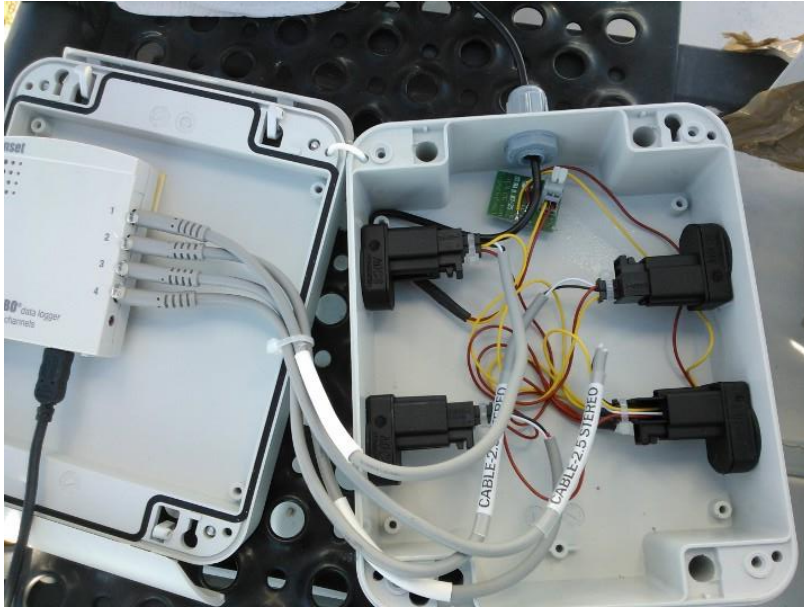
2 - NO<sub>2</sub>

# IDAD mobile laboratory



PM10	Environnement MP101M	ISO 10473:2000: Measurement of the mass of particulate matter on a filter medium – <b>Beta-ray absorption method</b>
Carbon Monoxide	Environnement CO11M	EN 14626:2005: Ambient air quality – Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of carbon monoxide by <b>nondispersive infrared spectroscopy</b>
NOx	Environnement AC31M	EN 14611:2005: Ambient Air Quality – Standard method for the measurement of concentration of nitrogen dioxide and nitrogem monoxide by <b>chemiluminescence</b>
Benzene	Environnement VOC71M	EN 14662:2005: Standard method for measurement of benzene concentrations ( <b>gas chromatography</b> )
Ozone	Environnement O341M	EN14625:2005: Ambient air quality – Standard method for the measurement of the concentration of ozone by <b>ultraviolet photometry</b>
SO <sub>2</sub>	Environnement AF21M	EN 14212:2005: Ambient Air Quality – Standard method for the measurement of concentration of sulphur dioxide by <b>ultraviolet fluorescence</b>

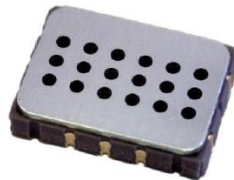
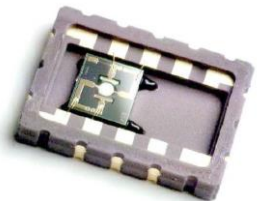
# SGX sensors



**Ozone** – MiCS-2614

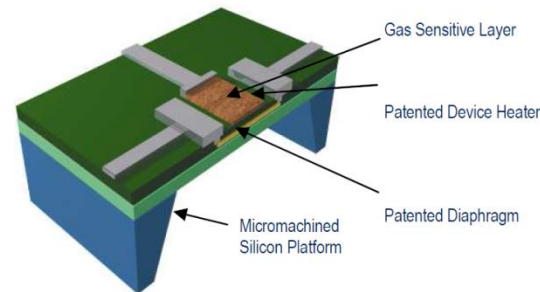
**CO/VOC** – MiCS-5524

**NO<sub>2</sub>** – MiCS-2714



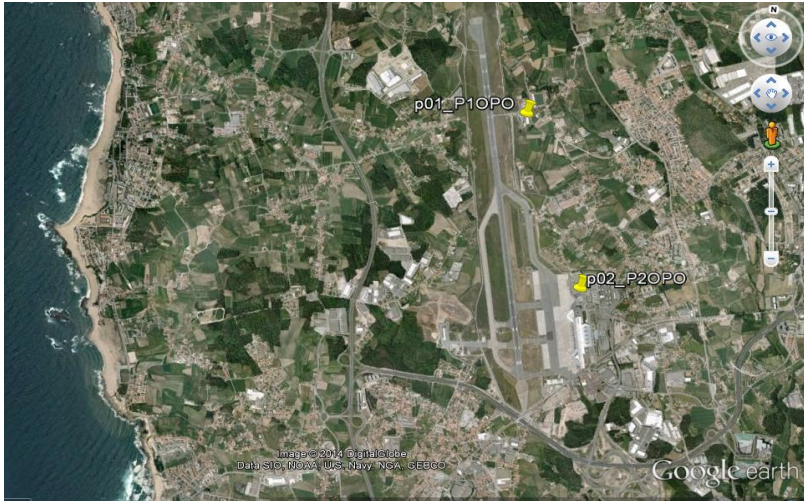
## MOS sensors Metal Oxide Semiconductor

- The gas sensor is a micro-machined structure equipped with a sensitive resistance ( $R_S$ ) placed on top of a heating resistance ( $R_H$ ).
- The resistance of a semi-conductor changes with the concentration of the pollutant being monitored.
- The concentration is calculated as the measured resistance ( $R_S$ ) adjusted by the calibration and temperature compensation parameters.

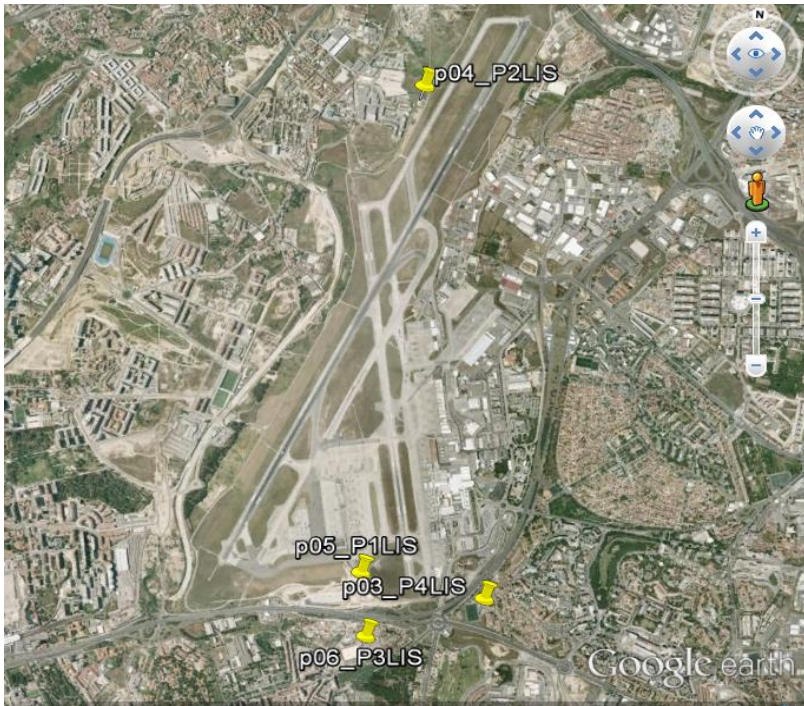


Ozone sensor chip in ceramic package  
Chip size 1.7 x 1.9 mm  
Package size 5 x 5 mm

# Porto

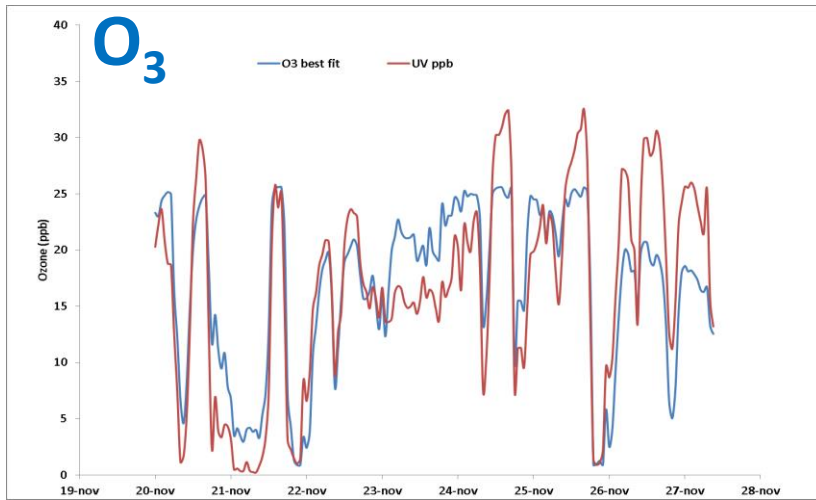


# Lisboa

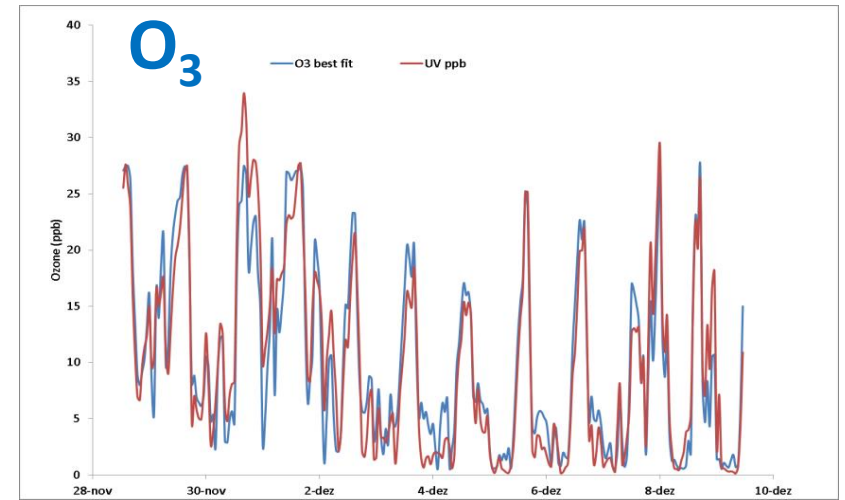




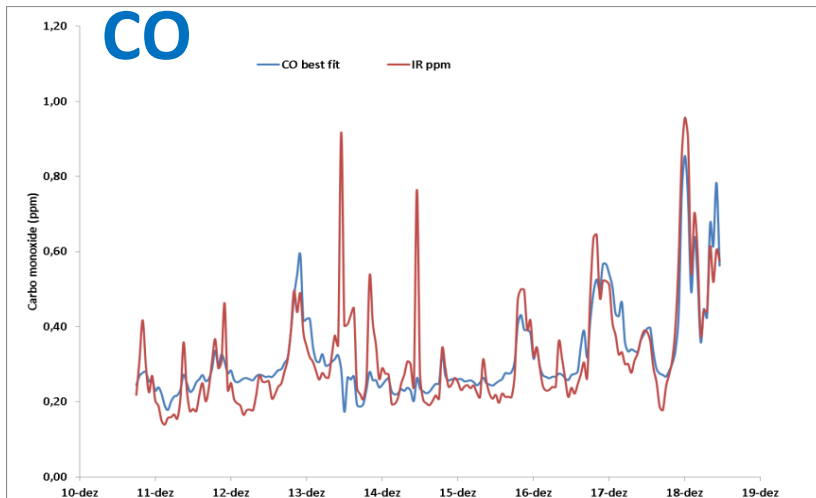
# Examples of preliminary correlations



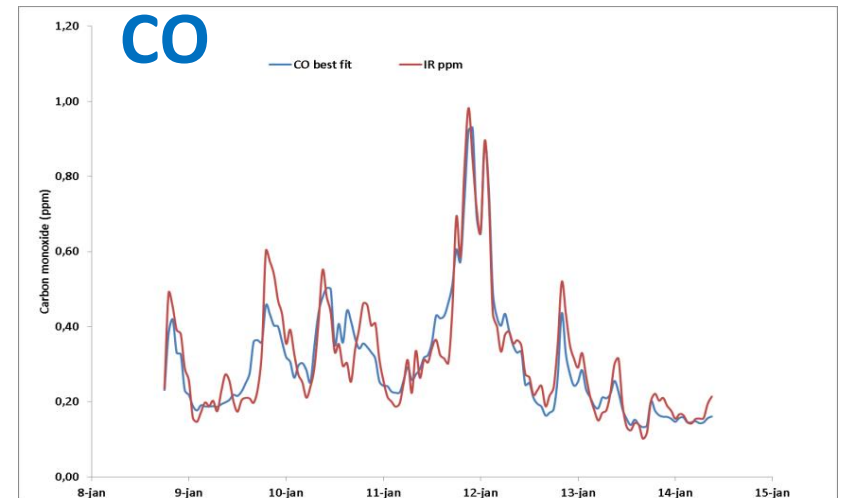
• $R^2=0,70$



• $R^2=0,88$



• $R^2=0,64$



• $R^2=0,87$

# Comments (preliminary evaluation)

- Strong correlation in a significant part of the measurements, between micro-sensors and standard methods ( $\approx 0,7$  to  $0,9$ );
- Some cases with saturation, erratic behaviour.

## Next steps

- More detailed analysis of the data;
- Evaluation of influences in the error/uncertainty (RH, other pollutants,..);
- Identification of protocols/guidelines for procedures;
- Additional field campaigns / different concentrations / different weather conditions;

# EuNetAir Air Quality Joint-Exercise Intercomparison 2014

Air quality campaign at Aveiro city centre  
postpone from April to October 1-3? 2014



- Continuous measurements PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, VOC (BTEX)
- Temperature, humidity, wind velocity, wind direction, solar radiation, precipitation
- Traffic flow measurements with traffic cameras

# **EuNetAir Air Quality Joint-Exercise Intercomparison 2014**

Air quality campaign at Aveiro city centre  
**postpone from April to October 1-3? 2014**

## **Objectives**

- **To evaluate AQ micro-sensors measurements against standardised AQ methods**
- **To study and assess protocols and methods devoted to low-cost gas sensors for AQC with definitions of guidelines for standards**
- **To develop guidelines for AQ micro-sensors comparison against standardised AQ methods**
- **To establish joint publications and networking activities (e.g. meeting on results, others)**

All COST partners are invited to install their micro-sensors side by side with our air quality standardised equipment

**If necessary you can send us your equipment by mail**

# Aveiro

