



# Atmospheric Chemistry Chemical kinetics

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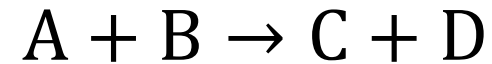
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# Reaction rates

Bimolecular reaction:

Reactants – A and B

Products – C and D



Reaction rate constant

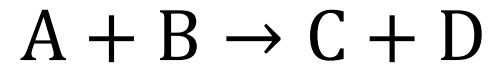
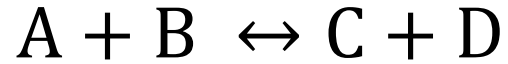
Rate constant –  $k$

Number density –  $[X]$  (unit: molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>)

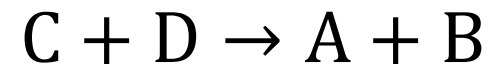
$[A][B]$  proportional to the collision frequency

# Chemical equilibrium

Reversible reactions



$$-\frac{d}{dt}[A] = -\frac{d}{dt}[B] = k_1[A][B]$$



$$-\frac{d}{dt}[C] = -\frac{d}{dt}[D] = k_2[C][D]$$

Equilibrium when both reactions proceed at same rates:

$$k_1[A][B] = k_2[C][D]$$

We define an equilibrium constant  $K$ :

$$K = \frac{k_1}{k_2} = \frac{[C][D]}{[A][B]}$$

# Three-Body reactions

- A three-body reaction involves reaction of two species A and B to yield one single product AB.
- This reaction requires a third body **M** to stabilize the excited product AB\* by collision:



The third body **M** is an inert molecule (generally N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>)

# Three-Body reactions



Common practice is to write the overall reaction as (heat is not counted):



The rate of the three-body reaction is defined as the formation rate of AB by reaction (3):

$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = k_3 [AB^*] [M]$$

# Three-Body reactions



Net:



$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = -\frac{d}{dt} [A] = -\frac{d}{dt} [B] = k_3 [AB^*] [M] \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

The excited complex  $AB^*$  has a very short lifetime and reacts as soon as it is produced. We may therefore assume that it is in steady state at all times.

$$\text{Steady state: Production} = \text{Loss} \quad \text{i.e. } \frac{d}{dt} [AB^*] = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB^*] = k_1 [A][B] - k_2 [AB^*] - k_3 [AB^*] [M] = 0$$

$$k_1 [A][B] = k_2 [AB^*] + k_3 [AB^*] [M] \quad \Rightarrow \quad [AB^*] = \frac{k_1 [A][B]}{k_2 + k_3 [M]} \quad \text{Replacing into Eq. 1 gives:}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = -\frac{d}{dt} [A] = -\frac{d}{dt} [B] = \frac{k_1 k_3 [A][B][M]}{k_2 + k_3 [M]} \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

# Three-Body reactions



$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = -\frac{d}{dt} [A] = -\frac{d}{dt} [B] = \frac{k_1 k_3 [A][B][M]}{k_2 + k_3 [M]} \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

Eq. 2 is the general rate expression for three-body reactions.

There are two interesting limits. In the low-pressure limit  $[M] \ll \frac{k_2}{k_3}$  Eq. 2 simplifies to:

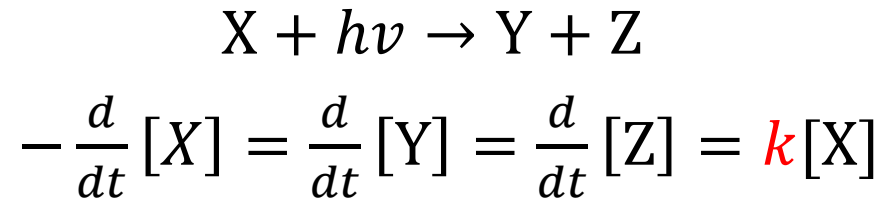
$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = -\frac{d}{dt} [A] = -\frac{d}{dt} [B] = \frac{k_1 k_3}{k_2} [A][B][M]$$

In the high-pressure limit  $[M] \gg \frac{k_2}{k_3}$  Eq. 2 simplifies to:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [AB] = -\frac{d}{dt} [A] = -\frac{d}{dt} [B] = k_1 [A][B]$$

# Photolysis -1

A **photolytic reaction** involves the breaking of a chemical bond by an incident photon ( $h\nu$ ).



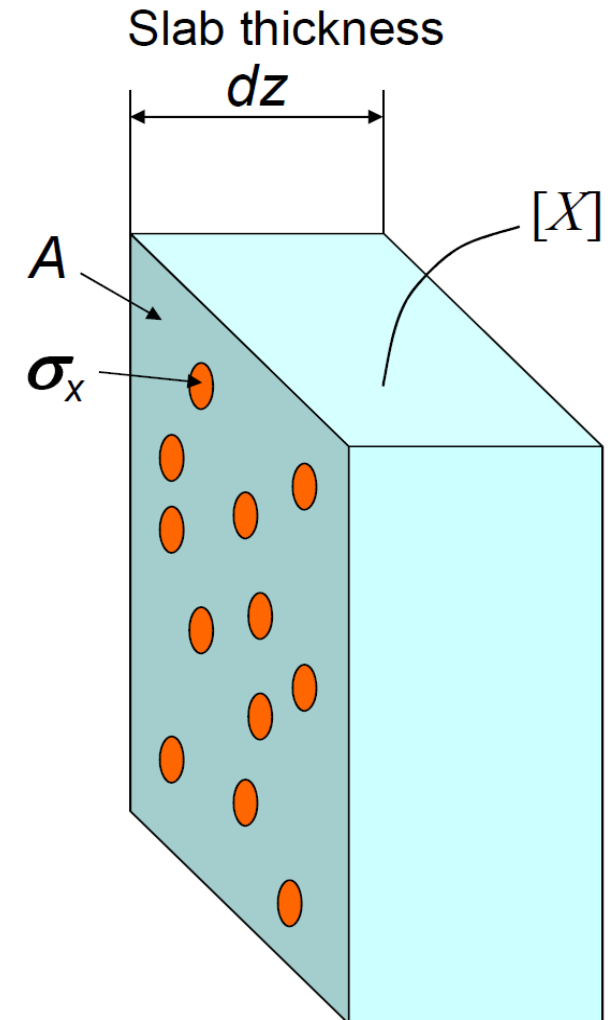
Photolysis rate constant  $k$  ( $s^{-1}$ )

**Absorption cross section:**  $\sigma_x$  ( $m^2 \text{ molecules}^{-1}$ )

“Target area” of molecule  $X$  within which the photon is absorbed ( $m^2 \text{ molecules}^{-1}$ )

Probability for a photon to hit molecule  $X$  in the slab volume ( $A \cdot dz$ ):

$$\frac{\sigma_x}{A} \cdot [X] \cdot A \cdot dz = \sigma_x \cdot [X] \cdot dz$$





# Photolysis -2

Absorption cross section:  $\sigma_x$  ( $\text{m}^2 \text{molecules}^{-1}$ )

Actinic Flux:  $I$

Number of photons crossing the unit horizontal area per unit time ( $\text{photons m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )

Quantum Yield:  $q_x$

Probability that absorption of a photon will cause photolysis of X ( $\text{molecules photon}^{-1}$ )

Nr. of molecules of X that are photolyzed per unit time in the slab  $dz$ :

$$I \cdot q_x \cdot \sigma_x \cdot [X] \cdot dz \cdot A$$

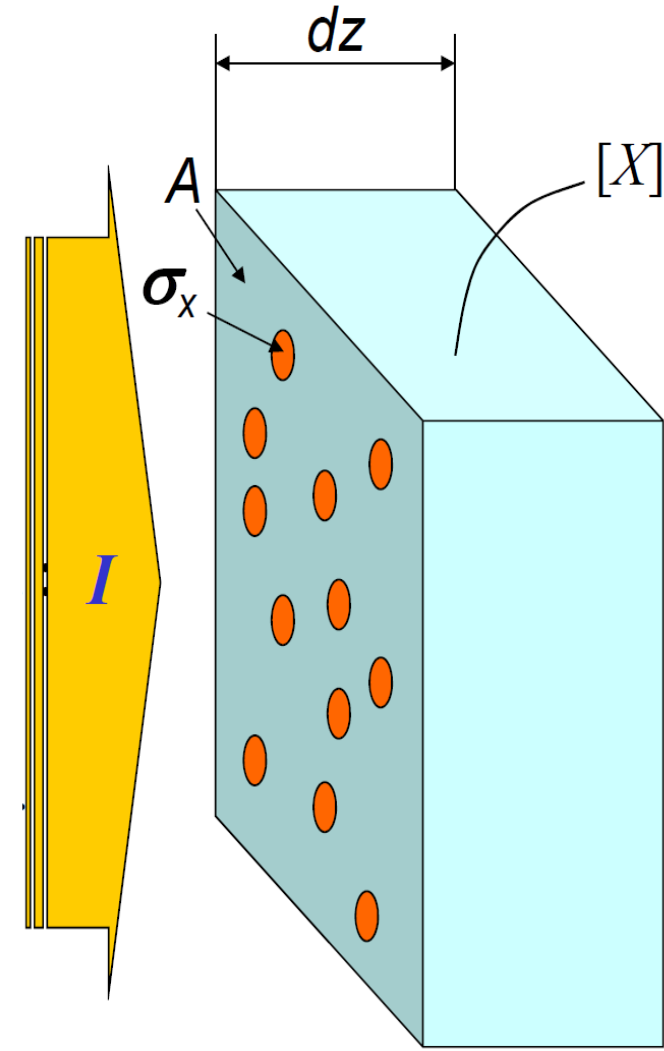
which divided by the nr. of molecules X in the slab  $dz$ :

$$([X] \cdot dz \cdot A)$$

gives:

Photolysis rate constant  $k$ :

$$k = I \cdot q_x \cdot \sigma_x \quad (\text{s}^{-1}, \text{wavelength dependent})$$



# Radical reactions

- Trace gases are found at very low concentrations in the atmosphere →
- Collisions between trace gas molecules are infrequent →
- Slow reaction rates unless the molecules are fairly reactive →
- Chemical reactions in the atmosphere proceed almost entirely with the involvement of radicals.
- **Radicals** – molecules or atoms with one or more unpaired electrons (odd number of electrons) →
- **Hence, very reactive!**
- Examples:
  - NO radical ( $7+8=15$  electrons)
  - HNO<sub>3</sub> non-radical ( $1+7+(3\cdot 8)=32$  electrons)

# Radical reactions

**Initiation** of the radical chain:

non-radical +  $h\nu$  → radical + radical' (in total two unpaired electrons)

**Propagation:**

radical + non-radical → radical' + non-radical'

**Termination** (breaking of the radical chain):

radical + radical' → non-radical + non-radical'

radical + radical' + M → non-radical + M

**Termination** is often slower than **propagation** since radicals are found at extremely low concentrations (collisions very infrequent).

**Initiation** requires energy (endothermic process).

This energy is often provided by solar radiation ( $h\nu$ ).

# Radical reactions

Make a habit of identifying which molecules that are radicals. Count electrons.

Rule: An odd number of electrons reveals that the molecule has an unpaired electron and therefore is a radical.

**Exceptions:** **O(3P)** has two unpaired electrons and is a biradical. **O(1D)** has no unpaired electrons but is in a highly excited state, and is therefore, like a radical, very reactive.

**Ozone is no radical** and is thus actually fairly stable.

Learn to see which reactions that are:

- **radical initiation (most often via photolysis),**
- **radical propagation,** and
- **termination.**

# Radical reactions

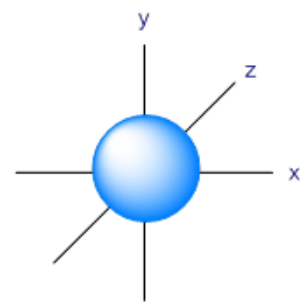
- In a photolysis reaction, electron pairs are split and radicals are formed (**radical initiation**).
- In a **propagation** step, the radicals on the left side in the reaction (LS) must have the same number of unpaired electrons as on the right side (RS).
- In a **termination** step, two radicals on the LS form two non-radicals on the RS.
- The exceptions in this course are O(<sup>3</sup>P) and O(<sup>1</sup>D).

Examples:

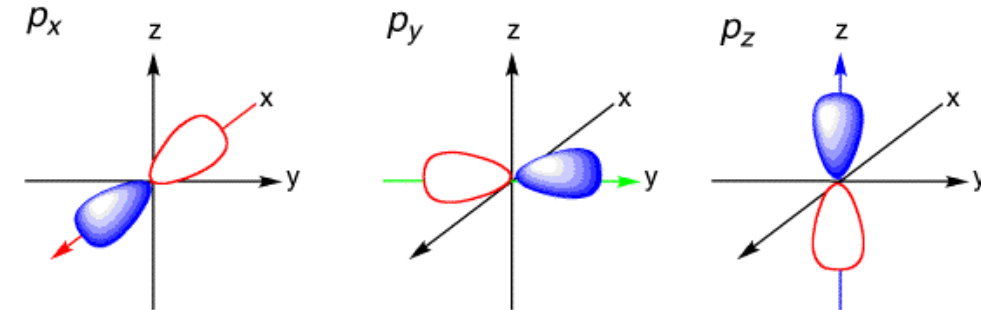


# Note on $O(^3P)$ and $O(^1D)$

- Orbitals: A theoretical volume where each electron will be located 95 % of the time.
- Each orbital contain 0, 1 or 2 electrons
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> electron shell can contain up to 8 electrons. In the case of the oxygen atom it contains 6.
- The electrons in the s orbital have lowest energy, hence this shell is filled first (Aufbau principle) , if the atoms is in its ground state (lowest energy state).
- Hund's rule: Orbitals with the same energy (e.g.  $p_x$   $p_y$   $p_z$  ) all receive one electron each, before any of them receives it's second electron. Also called the "bus seat rule". This is the case for atoms in the ground state e.g.  $O(^3P)$ :  $2s^2 2p_x^2 2p_y^1 2p_z^1$  , which is a bi-radical with 2 unpaired electrons, 1 in the  $p_y$  orbital and 1 in the  $p_z$  orbital.
- Explanation to Hund's rule: The electrons in singly occupied orbitals are less effectively screened (shielded) from the nucleus, so that such orbitals contract and electron–nucleus attraction energy becomes greater in magnitude.
- $O(^1D)$  with all electrons paired  $2s^2 2p_x^2 2p_y^2$  do not obey Hund's rule and is in a higher existed energy "singlet" state and more reactive than  $O(^3P)$ . **Singlet state** refers to a system in which all electrons are paired.

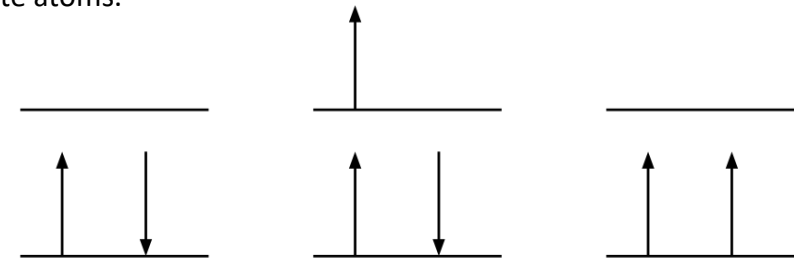


2s atomic orbital  
node not shown



The three p orbitals are aligned along perpendicular axes

Electrons (e-) have their own individual, continuous spin even as they move along their orbital of an atom. 2 paired electrons in an orbital always have opposite sign of their spin (1 upward and 1 downward), as indicated by the arrows for the singlet state atoms.



**Singlet**  
No unpaired e-

**Doublet**  
1 unpaired e-

**Triplet**  
2 unpaired e-

E

# Oxidation State

**Oxidation:** Loss of one or more electrons by a substance (element, ion)

**Reduction:** Gain of one or more electrons by a substance (element, ion)

The **oxidation state** (number) of atoms in covalent bonds are obtained by assigning the electrons to particular atoms.

Shared electrons are assigned completely to the atom that has the stronger attraction for electrons

## Some rules:

- Oxidation state of an atom in its elemental state is 0 (e.g.  $H_2$ ).
- Oxidation state of a monatomic ion is the same as its charge.
- Oxygen is assigned an oxidation state of -2 in covalent compounds like  $CO$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $SO_2$ ,  $SO_3$
- Exception O: peroxides like  $H_2O_2$  where the O oxidation state is -1.
- In covalent compounds with non-metals, H is assigned the oxidation state +1.
- The sum of the oxidation states must be zero for a neutral compound and for an ion it is equal to its charge.

# Oxidation State

## Example: Oxidation states of nitrogen

$\text{NH}_3, \text{RNH}_2$	-3
$\text{N}_2$	0
$\text{N}_2\text{O}$	+1
$\text{NO}$	+2
$\text{HNO}_2$	+3
$\text{NO}_2$	+4
$\text{HNO}_3$	+5
$\text{NO}_3$	+6

Oxidation

Reduction



Draw a circle around the chemical species that are radicals:

NO

CO<sub>2</sub>

O<sub>3</sub>

OH

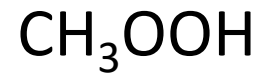
HNO<sub>3</sub>

NO<sub>3</sub>

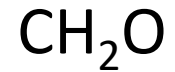
Write down the oxidation number of the carbon atom in the species formed from the reaction sequence where methane is oxidized by OH to carbon dioxide.



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# Introduction to Atmospheric Chemistry and Air Pollution

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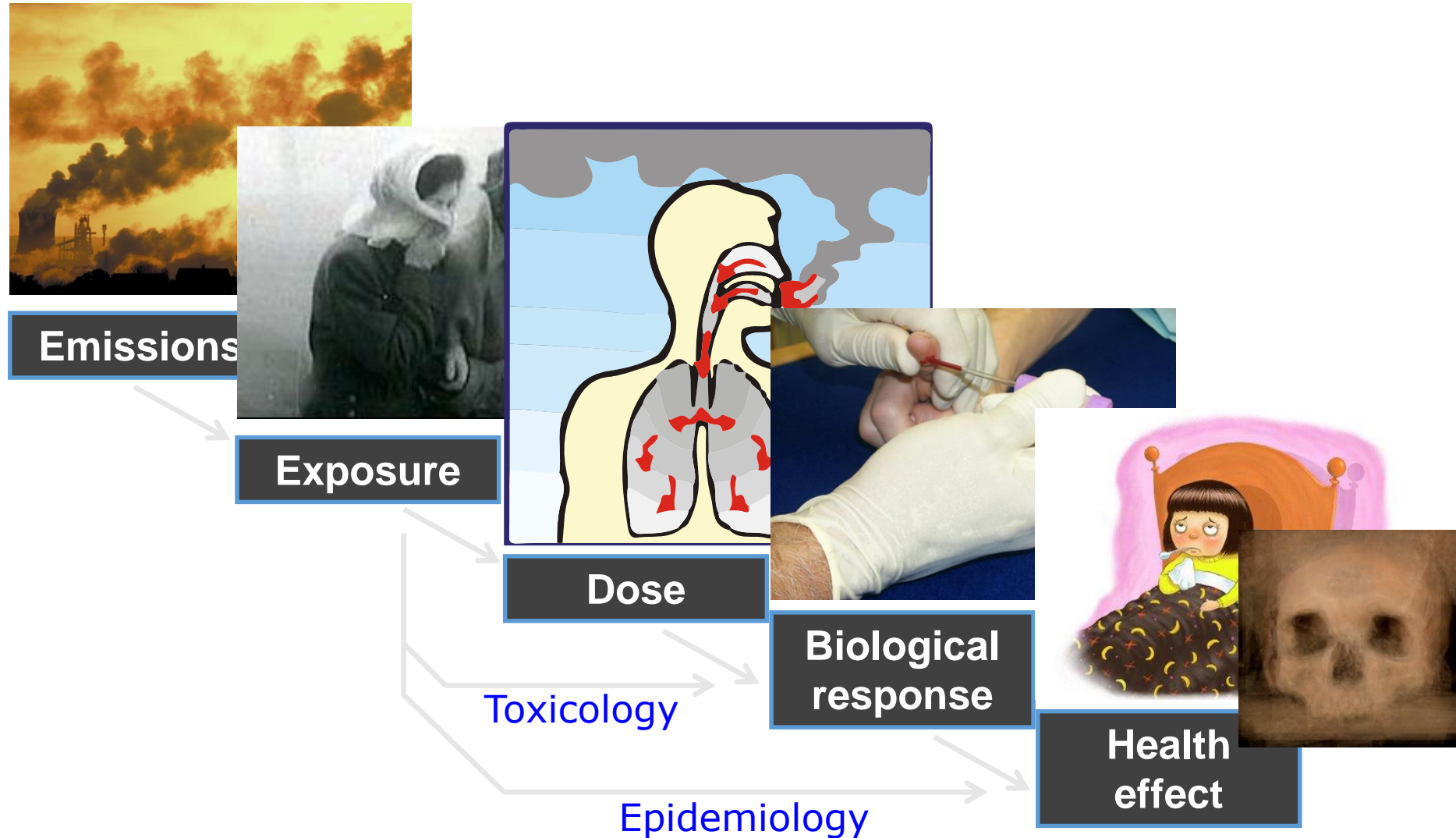
PO Box 118, S-21100 Lund  
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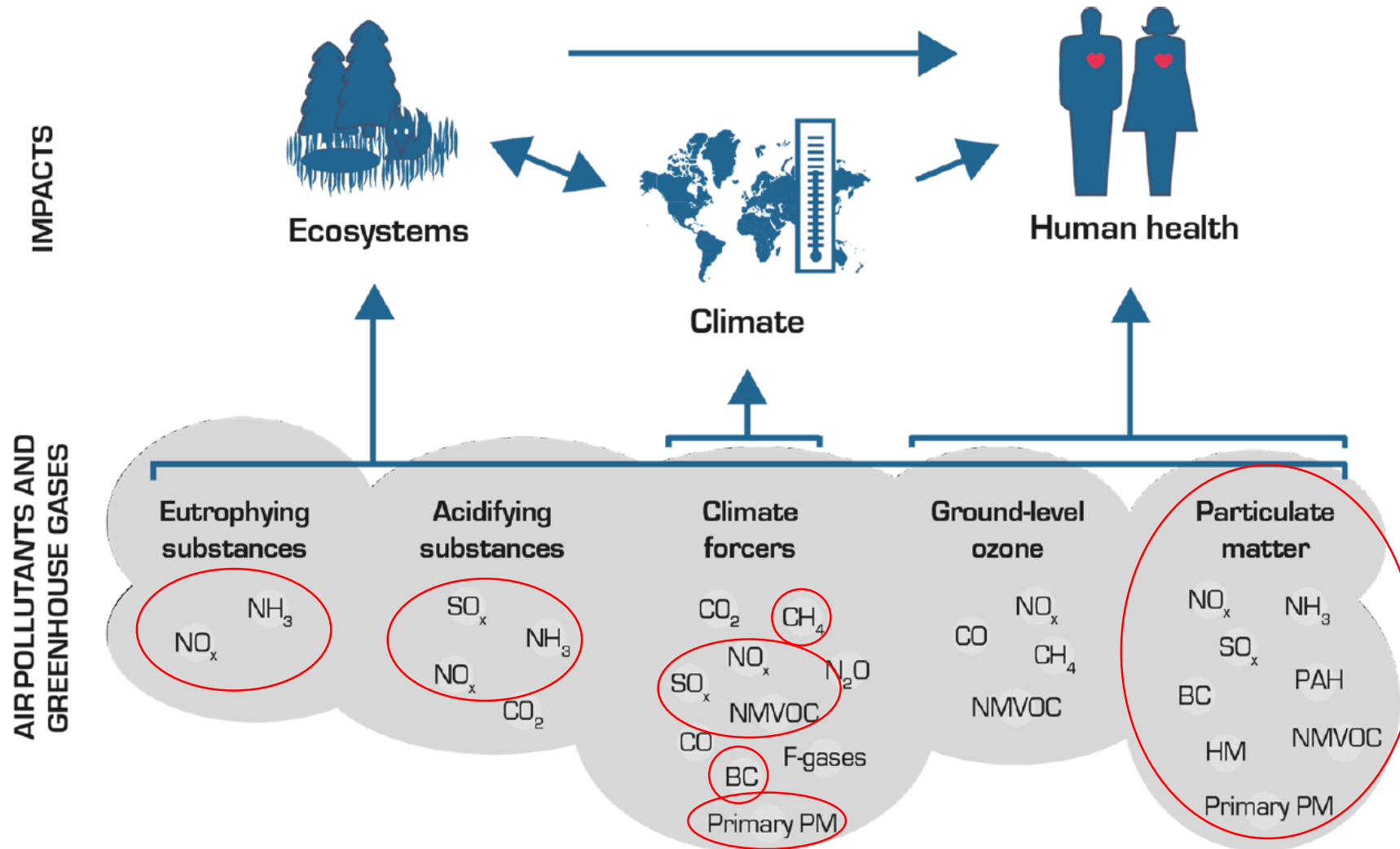
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# Health Effects of Air Pollution

**Air Pollutant** - A compound that is present at high enough concentrations in the atmosphere to cause a negative effect.

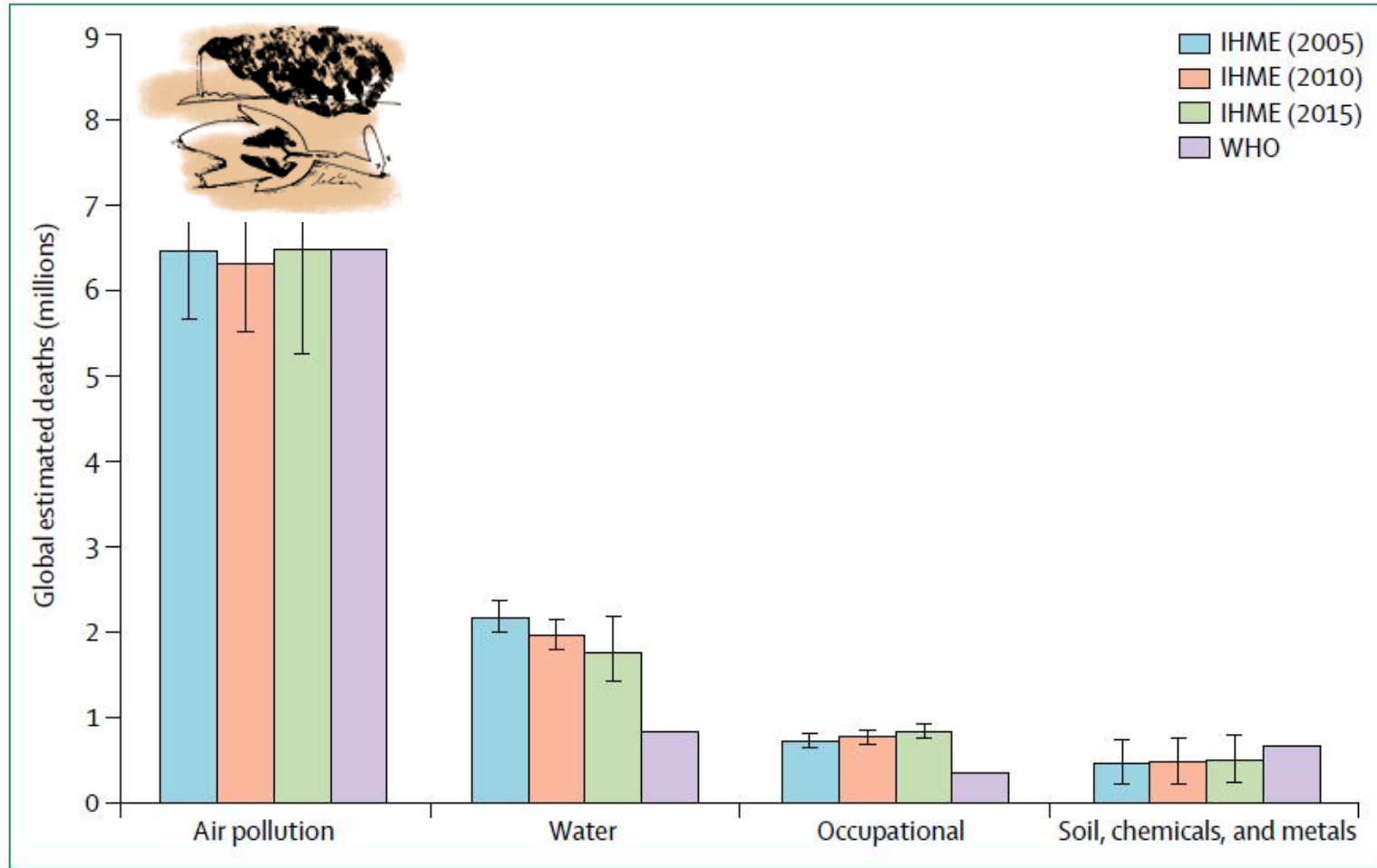


# Major air pollutants in Europe, clustered according to impacts on human health, ecosystems and the climate



Short-Lived Climate Forcers / Pollutants (SLCF / SLCP)

# Global estimated annual deaths (millions) by risk pollution factor – 2015



**Figure 4: Global estimated deaths (millions) by pollution risk factor, 2005–15**  
Using data from the GBD study<sup>42</sup> and WHO.<sup>99</sup> IHME=Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation.

# Global estimated annual deaths (millions) by risk factor and cause – 2015

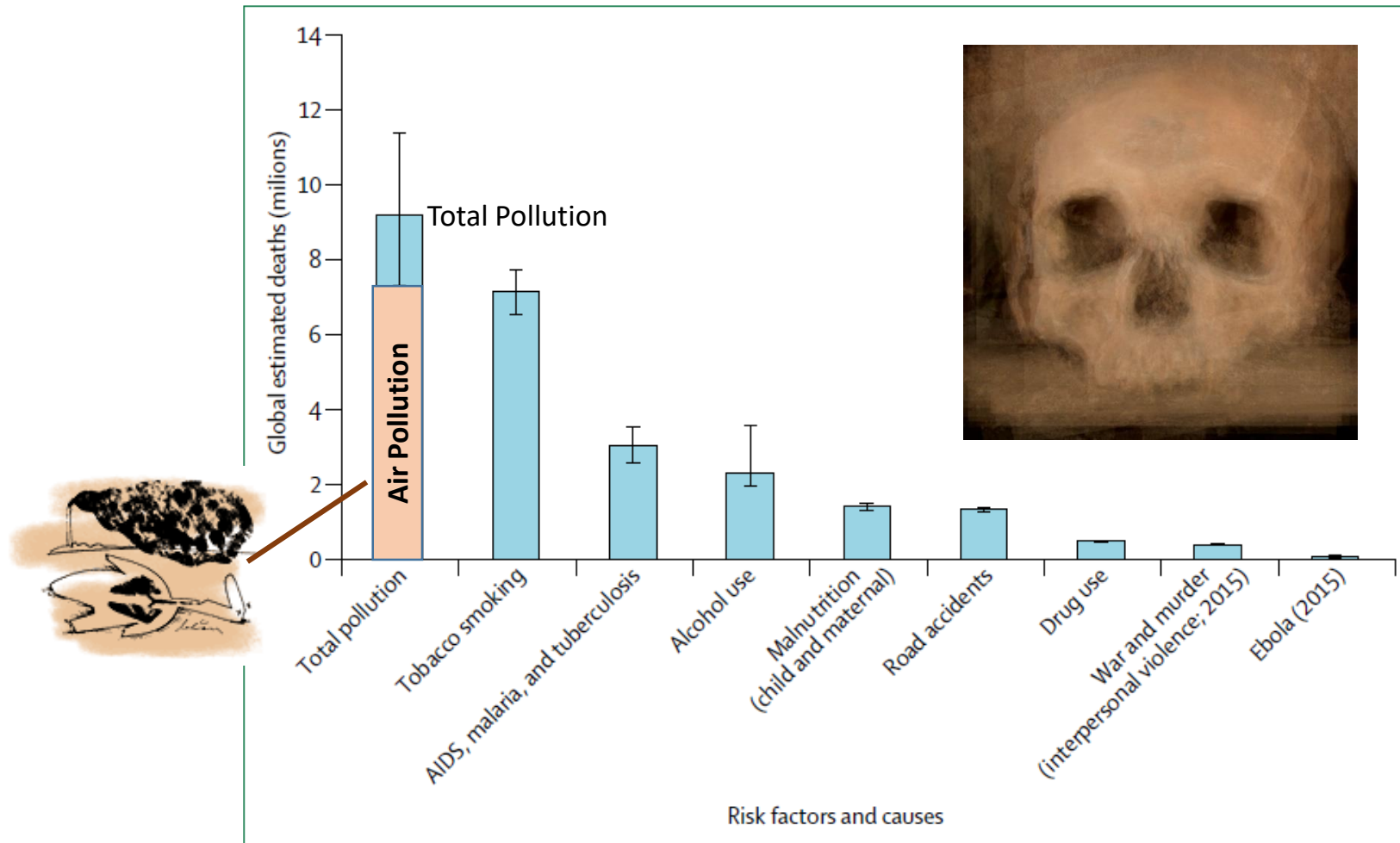


Figure 5: Global estimated deaths by major risk factor and cause, 2015  
Using data from the GBD Study, 2016.<sup>41</sup>

# Health Effects of Air Pollution in Europe (EU-28)

Source: EEA, "Air Quality in Europe - 2017 Report"



The EEA estimates (EEA, 2017) that

the health impacts attributable to exposure to fine particulate matter (**PM2.5**) in the EU-28 were responsible for around

**PM2.5** → **399 000 premature deaths annually**

Years of life lost (YLL) 4 278 800



the

The health impact of exposure to **NO<sub>2</sub>** and **O<sub>3</sub>** concentrations on EU-population was estimated to be about

**NO<sub>2</sub>** → **75 000 premature deaths per year** (YLL: 798 500)

**O<sub>3</sub>** → **13 600 premature deaths per year** (YLL: 145 200)

**Years of life lost** (YLL) is an estimate of the average number of years that a person would have lived if he or she had not died prematurely.

European Environment Agency



<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/air-quality-in-europe-2017>



# Health Effects of Air Pollution in Sweden



Sweden:

The total number of premature deaths can be estimated to approximately

**7600 per year**

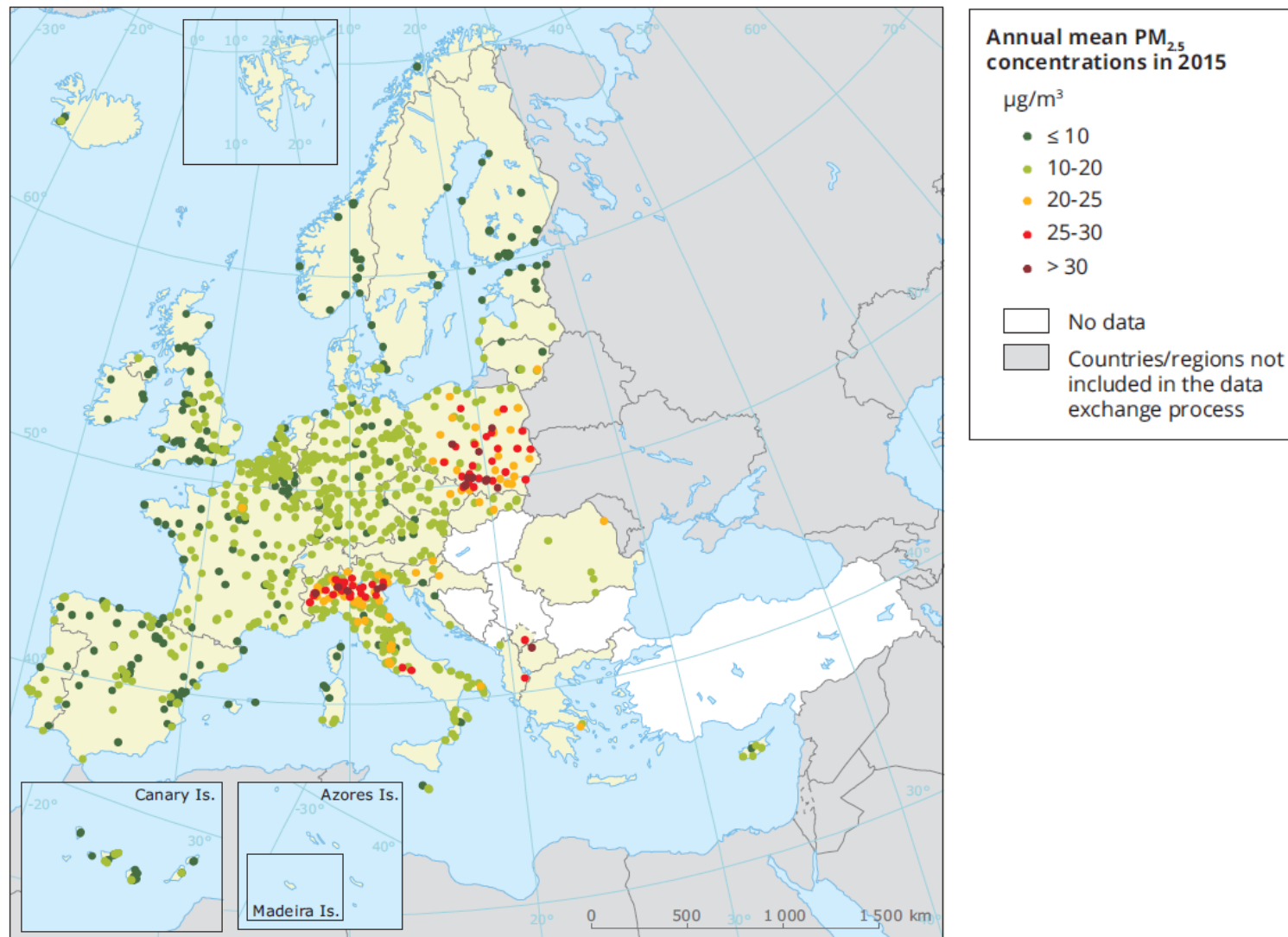
when taking into account differences in exposure-response for different PM sources.

Using the division between PM sources and NO<sub>2</sub> as an indicator of traffic combustion the total socio-economic cost (2015) would be

**approximately 56 billion SEK**

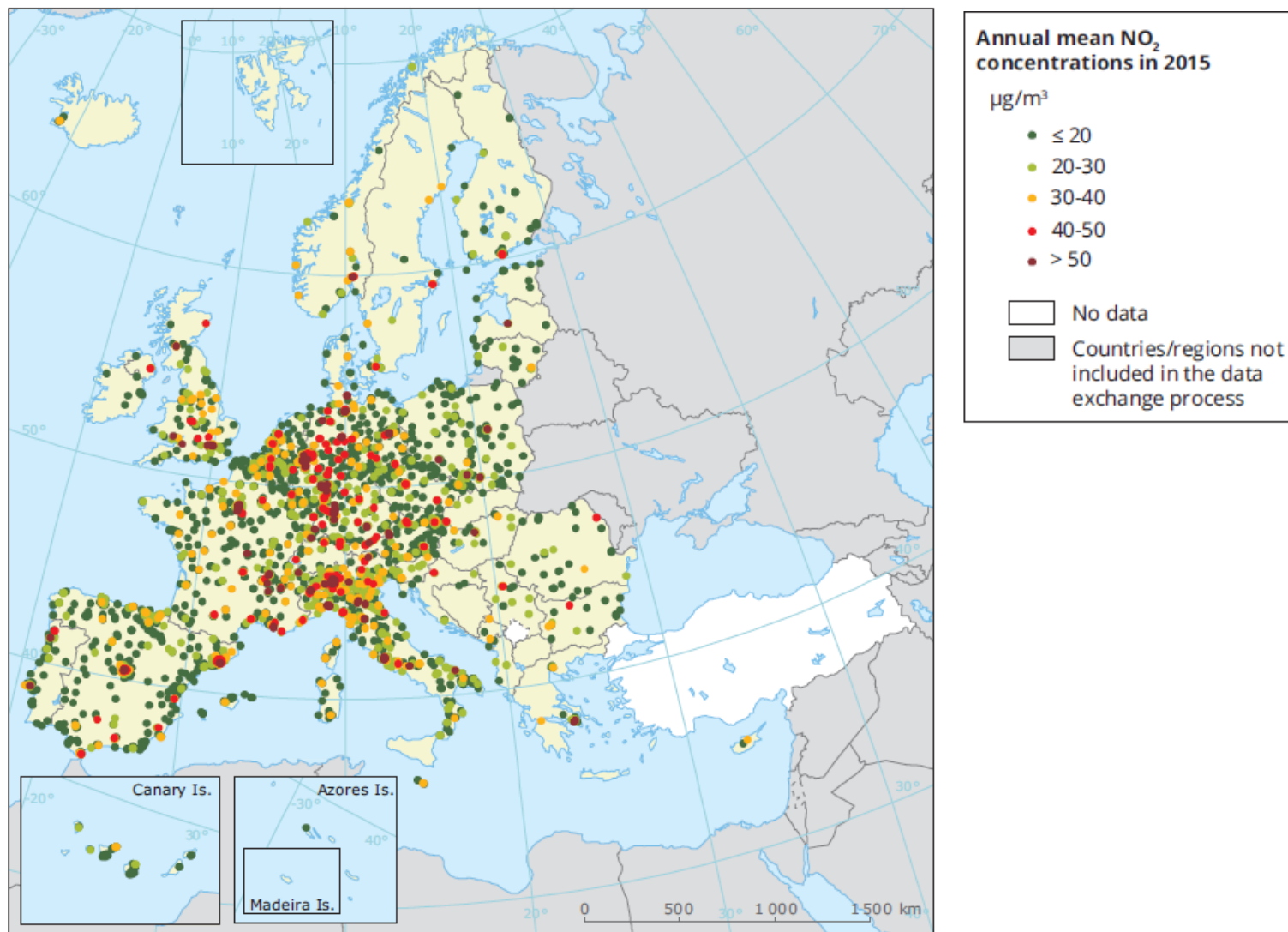


# PM2.5 concentrations in Europe 2015



The **dark red and red dots** indicate stations reporting concentrations above the EU annual limit value (25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).  
The **dark green dots** indicate stations reporting values below the WHO AQG for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

# NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in Europe 2015



Red and dark red dots correspond to values above the EU annual limit value and the WHO AQG (40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

# Share of urban population exposed to dangerous levels of particulate matter in Europe

**3 out of 10**

exposed to exceedances of the EU daily limit value



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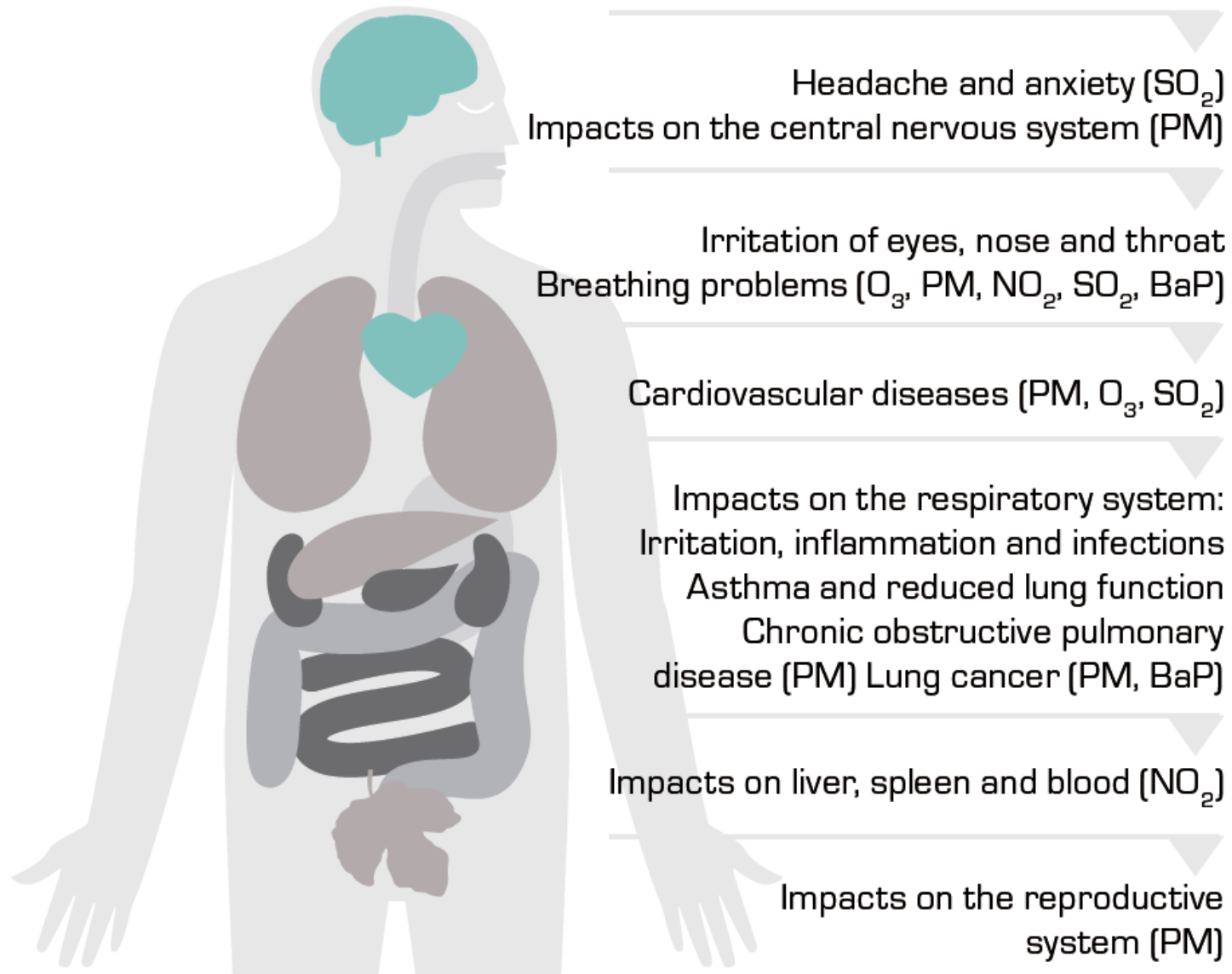
**9 out of 10**

exposed to exceedances of the WHO guideline value

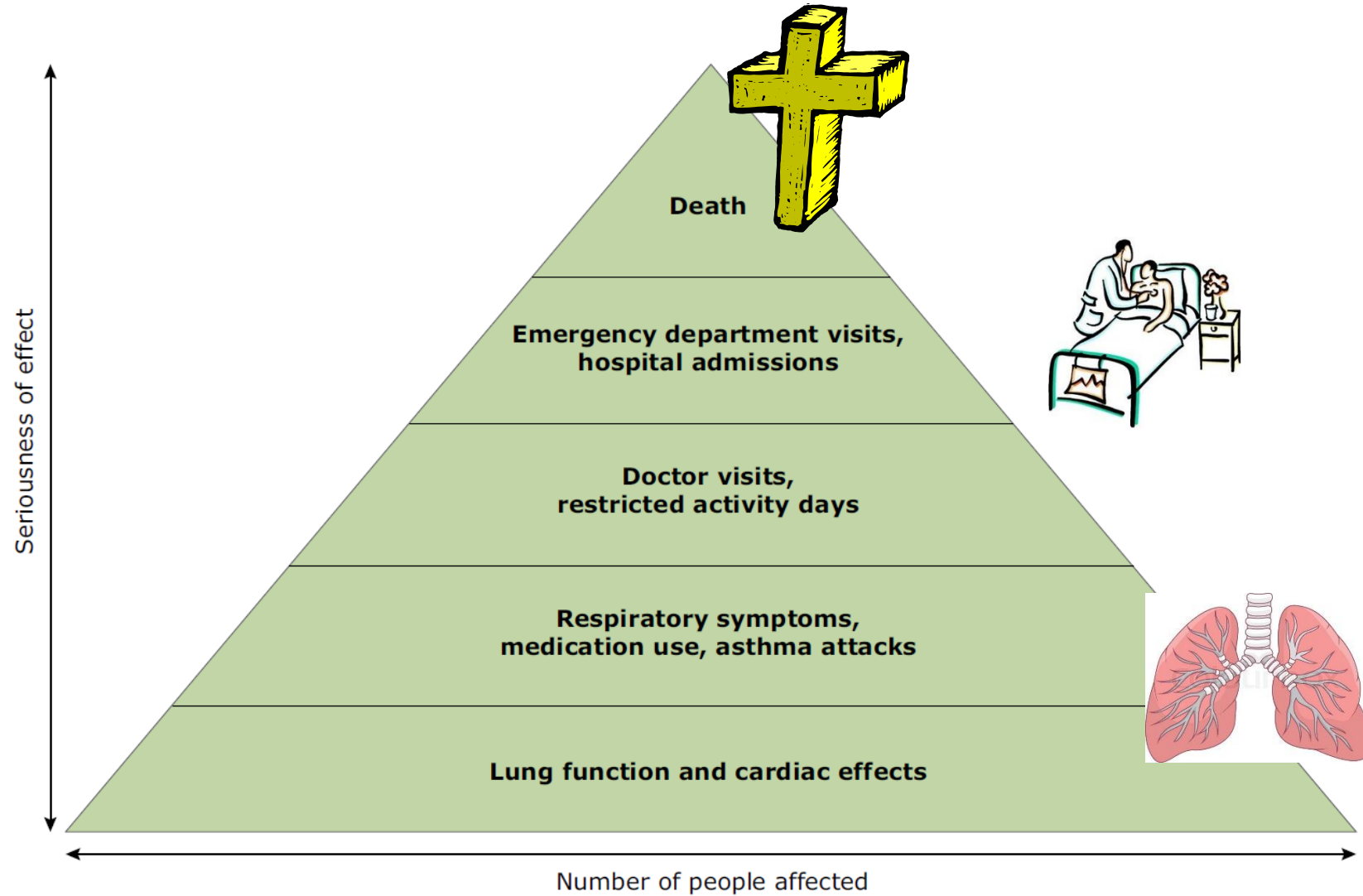


Despite reductions in particulate matter (PM) emissions, PM concentrations have not yet declined to safe levels.

# Air Pollution and Health Effects



# Air Pollution and Health Effects Pyramid

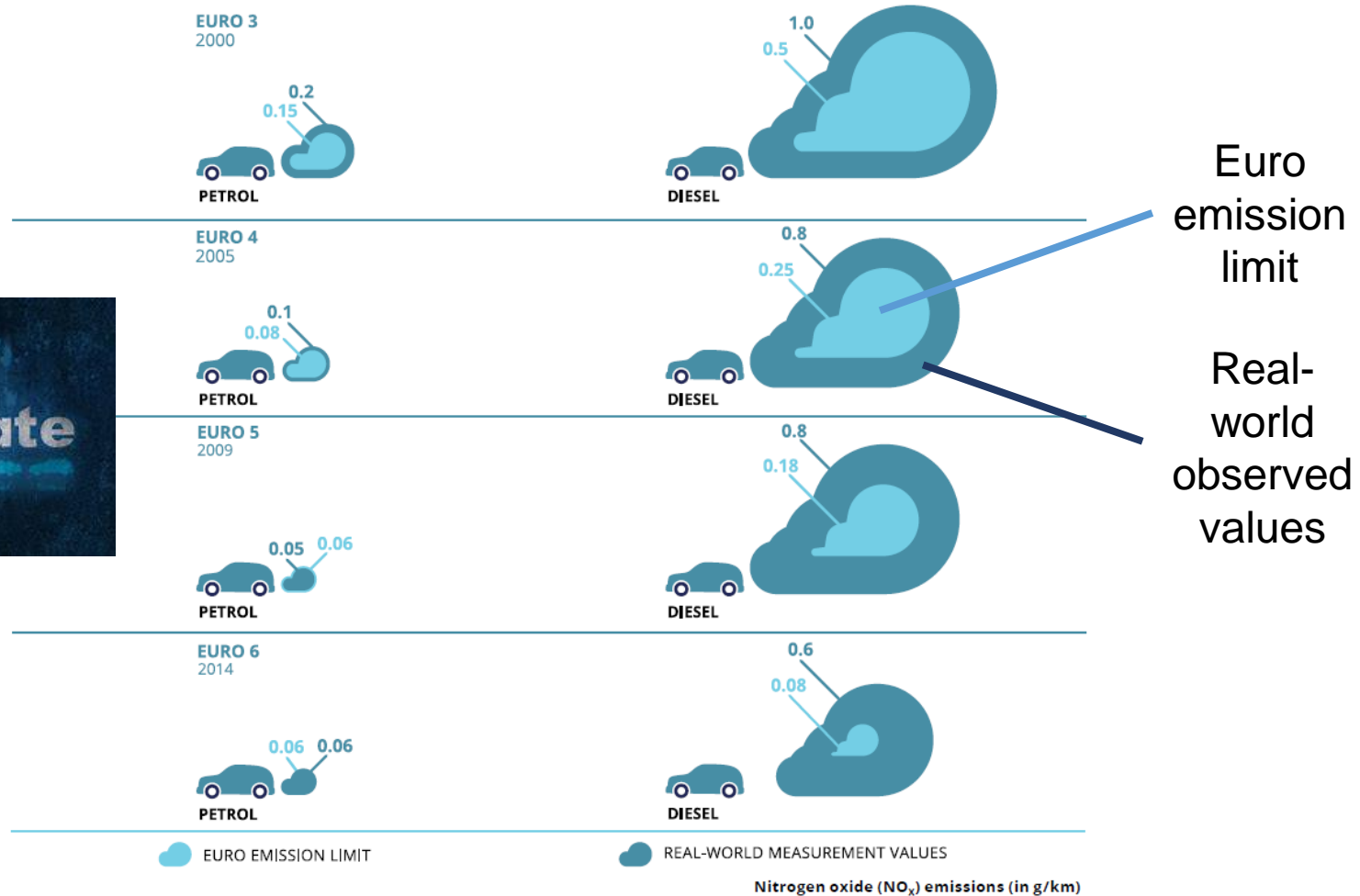


# Vehicle emissions and Euro emission standards



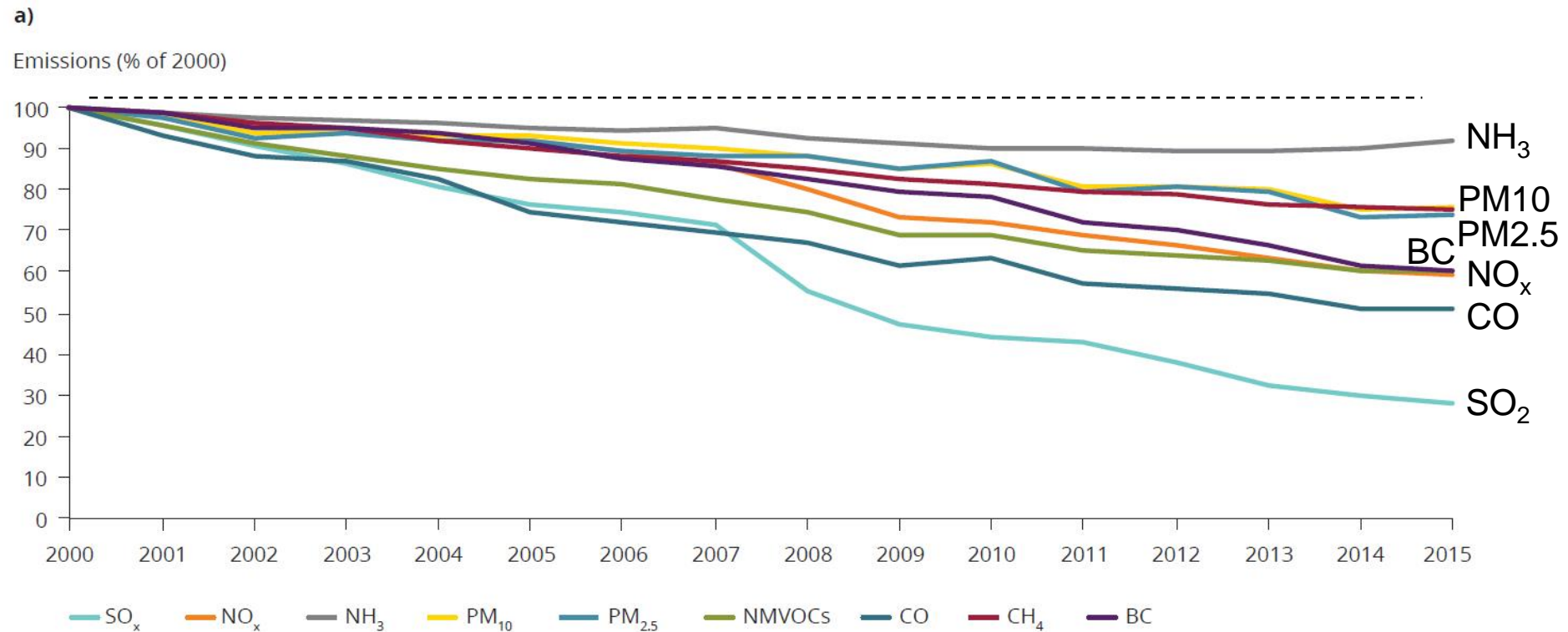
Source: EEA, "Air Quality in Europe - 2016 Report"

## Comparison of NO<sub>2</sub> standards and emissions for different Euro classes



# Development in EU-28 emissions (relative 2000)

Figure 2.1 Development in EU-28 emissions, 2000-2015 (% of 2000 levels): (a) SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NMVOCs, CO, CH<sub>4</sub> and BC;



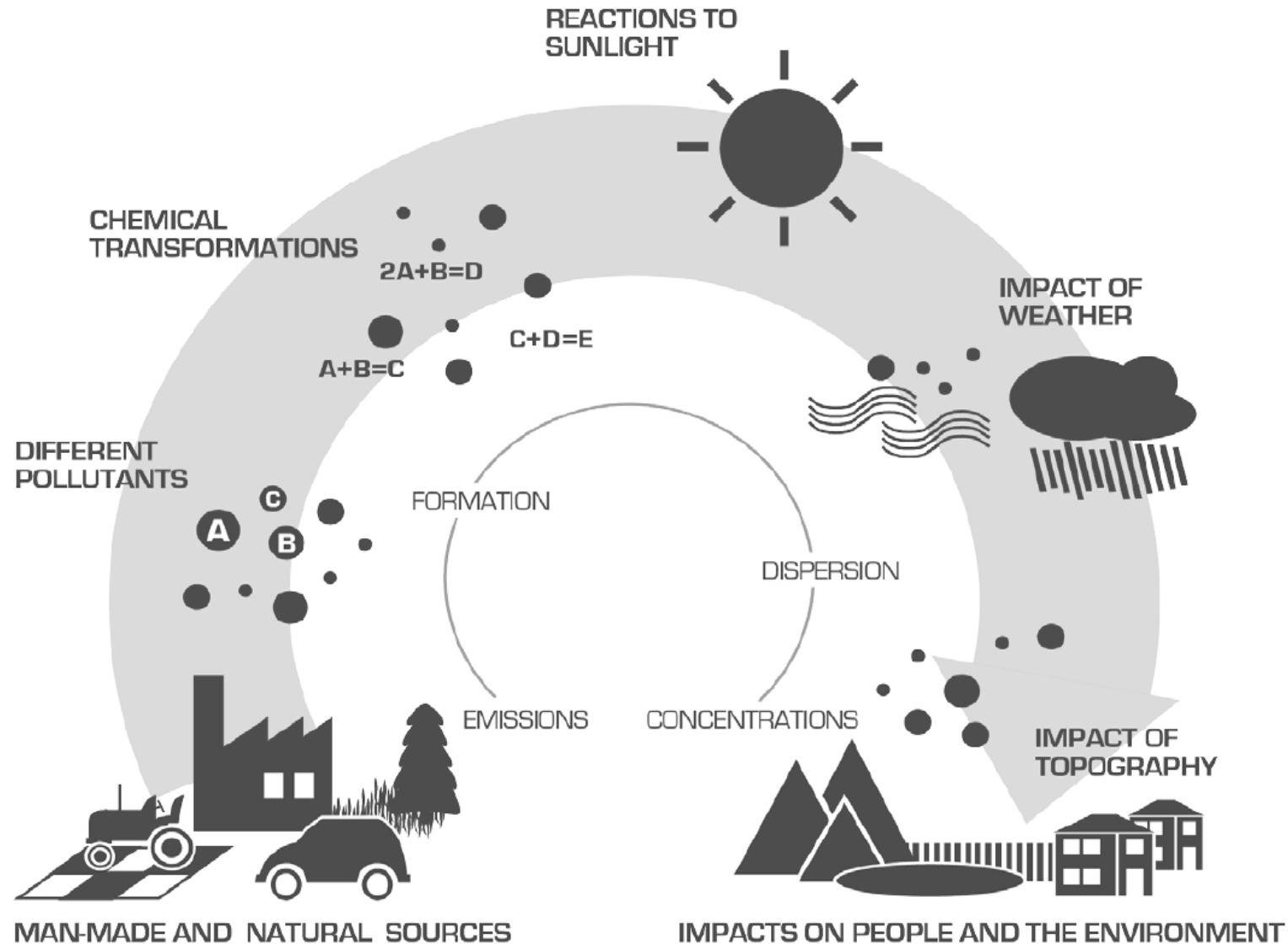
Reducing emissions -  
Reducing effects!

European Environment Agency





# Reductions in emissions are not linear to reductions in concentrations, exposure and health effects!



# Riverside, California (1985)



Photochemical

SMOG

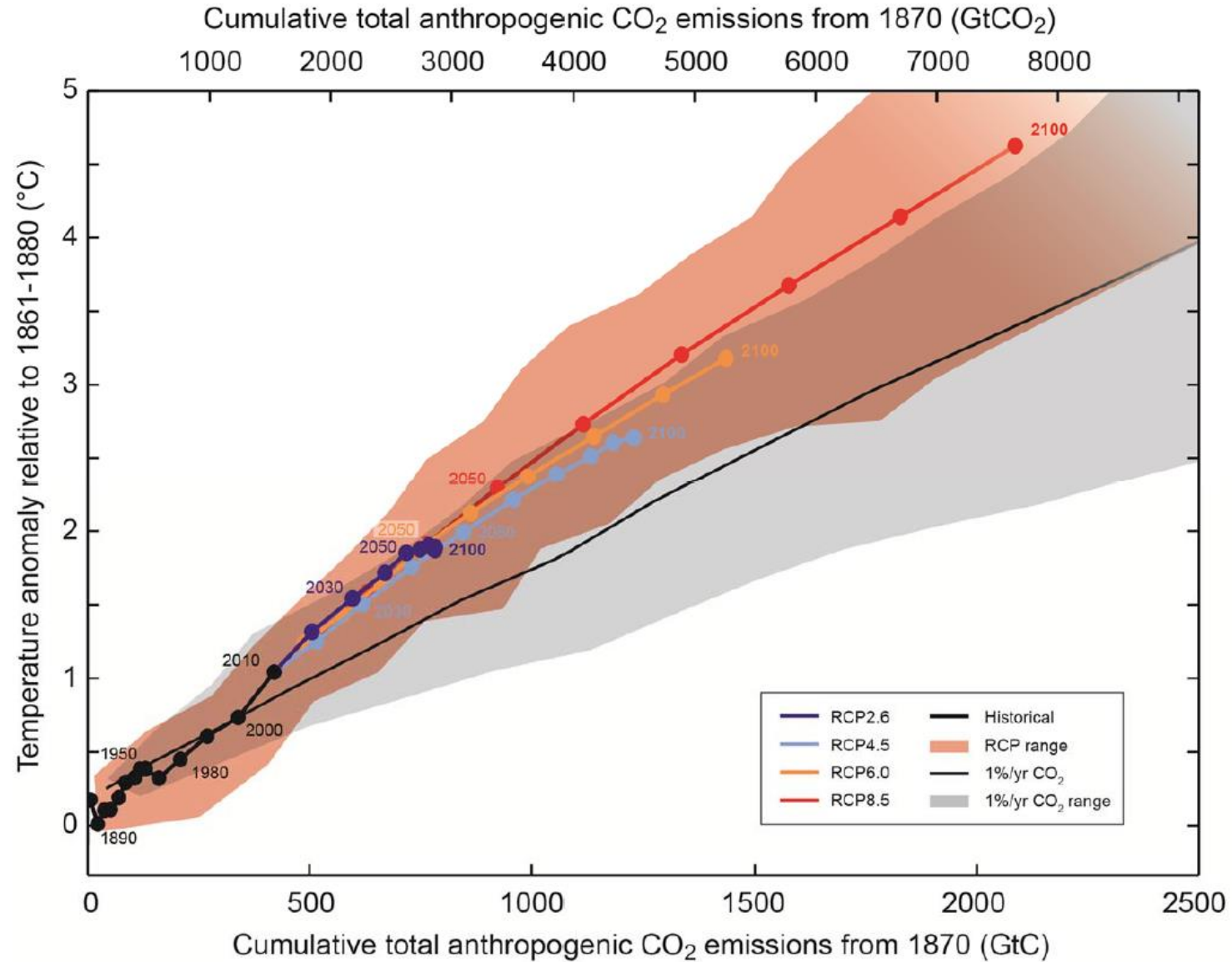


Ozone  
Particles  
Toxic substances e.g. PAH

# PHOTOCHEMICAL SMOG

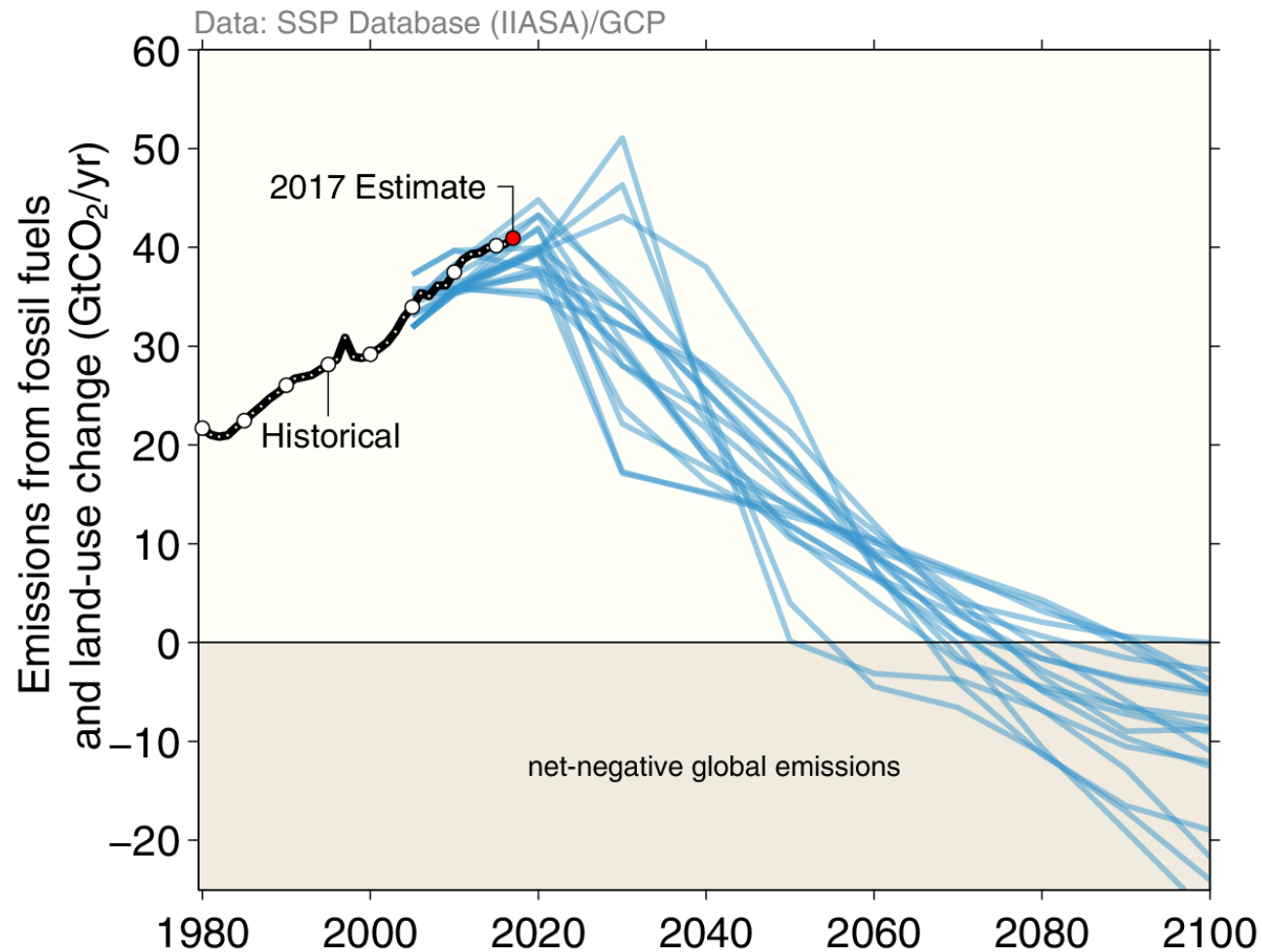
Nitrogen oxides  
Hydrocarbons/organics  
Sunlight

# Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions determine global temperature change



## Pathways that avoid 2°C of warming

According to the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP) that avoid 2°C of warming, global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions need to decline rapidly and cross zero emissions after 2050





# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

## THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



# The 16 environmental quality objectives

**Reduced Climate Impact**

**Clean Air**

**Natural Acidification Only**

**A Non-Toxic Environment**

**A Protective Ozone Layer**

**A Safe Radiation Environment**

**Zero Eutrophication**

**Flourishing Lakes and Streams**

**Good-Quality Groundwater**

**A Balanced Marine Environment...**

**Thriving Wetlands**

**Sustainable Forests**

**A Varied Agricultural Landscape**

































**A Magnificent Mountain Landscape**

**A Good Built Environment**

**A Rich Diversity of Plant and Animal  
Life**

# Will the environmental quality objectives be achieved?

<http://miljomal.nu/>

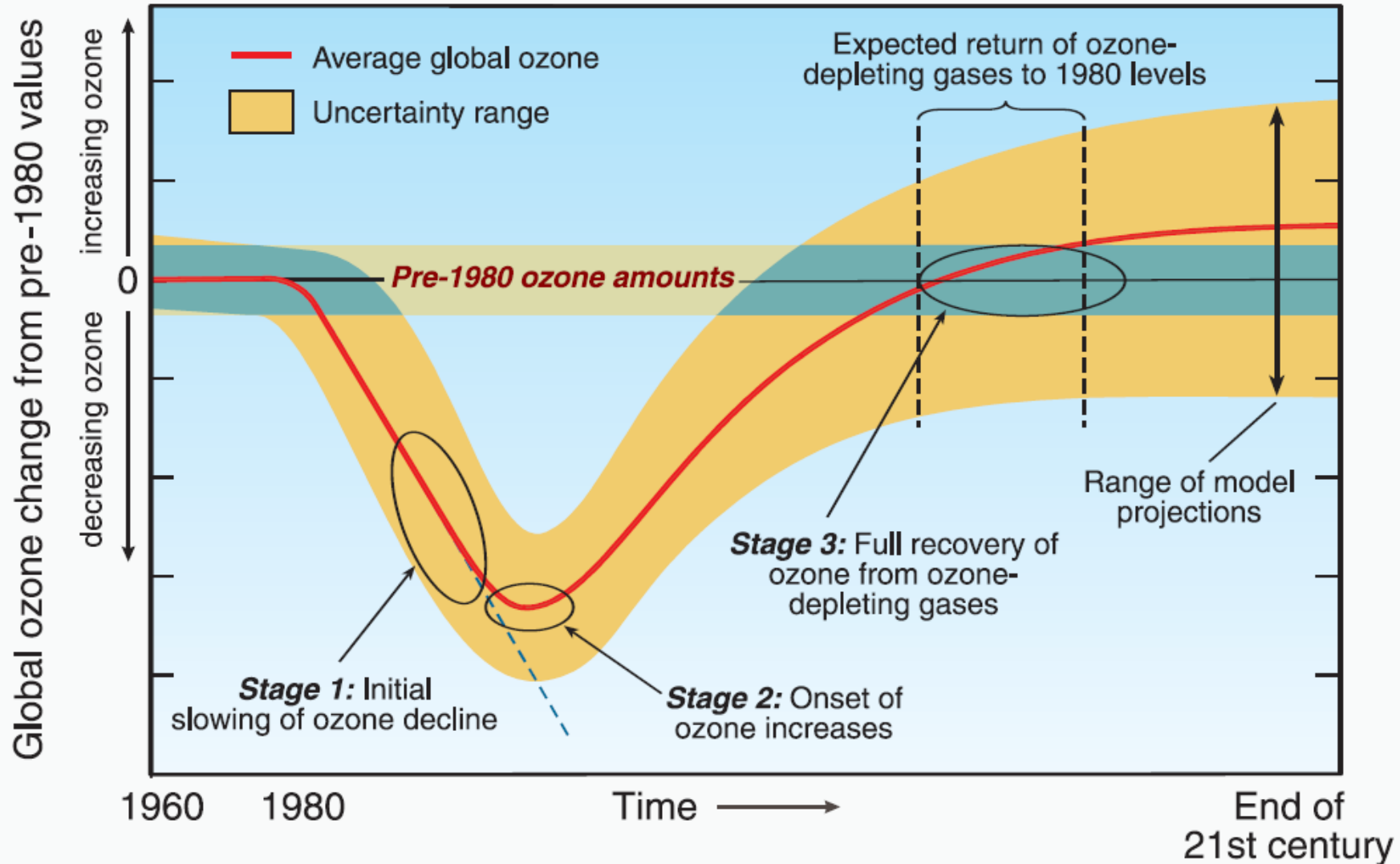
OBJECTIVE	Forecast for 2020	Trend	OBJECTIVE	Forecast for 2020	Trend
1. Reduced Climate Impact*			9. Good-Quality Groundwater		
2. Clean Air			10. A Balanced Marine Environment, Flourishing Coastal Areas and Archipelagos		
3. Natural Acidification Only			11. Thriving Wetlands		
4. A Non-Toxic Environment			12. Sustainable Forests		
5. A Protective Ozone Layer			13. A Varied Agricultural Landscape		
6. A Safe Radiation Environment			14. A Magnificent Mountain Landscape		
7. Zero Eutrophication			15. A Good Built Environment		
8. Flourishing Lakes and Streams			16. A Rich Diversity of Plant and Animal Life		

\* Target year 2050, as a first step



# Stratospheric ozone - Recovery

## Recovery Stages of Global Ozone



# Rådhuset Malmö

(urban background roof-top measurements in down-town Malmö)

- Gases: NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO
- PM2.5, PM10



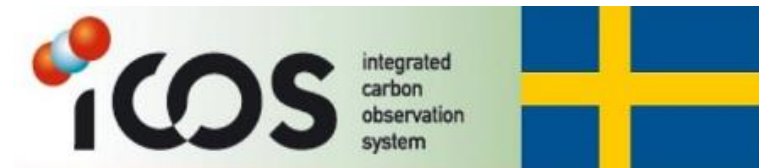
*Malmö miljöförvaltning*

# Monitoring Trailer, *Malmö Miljöförvaltning*



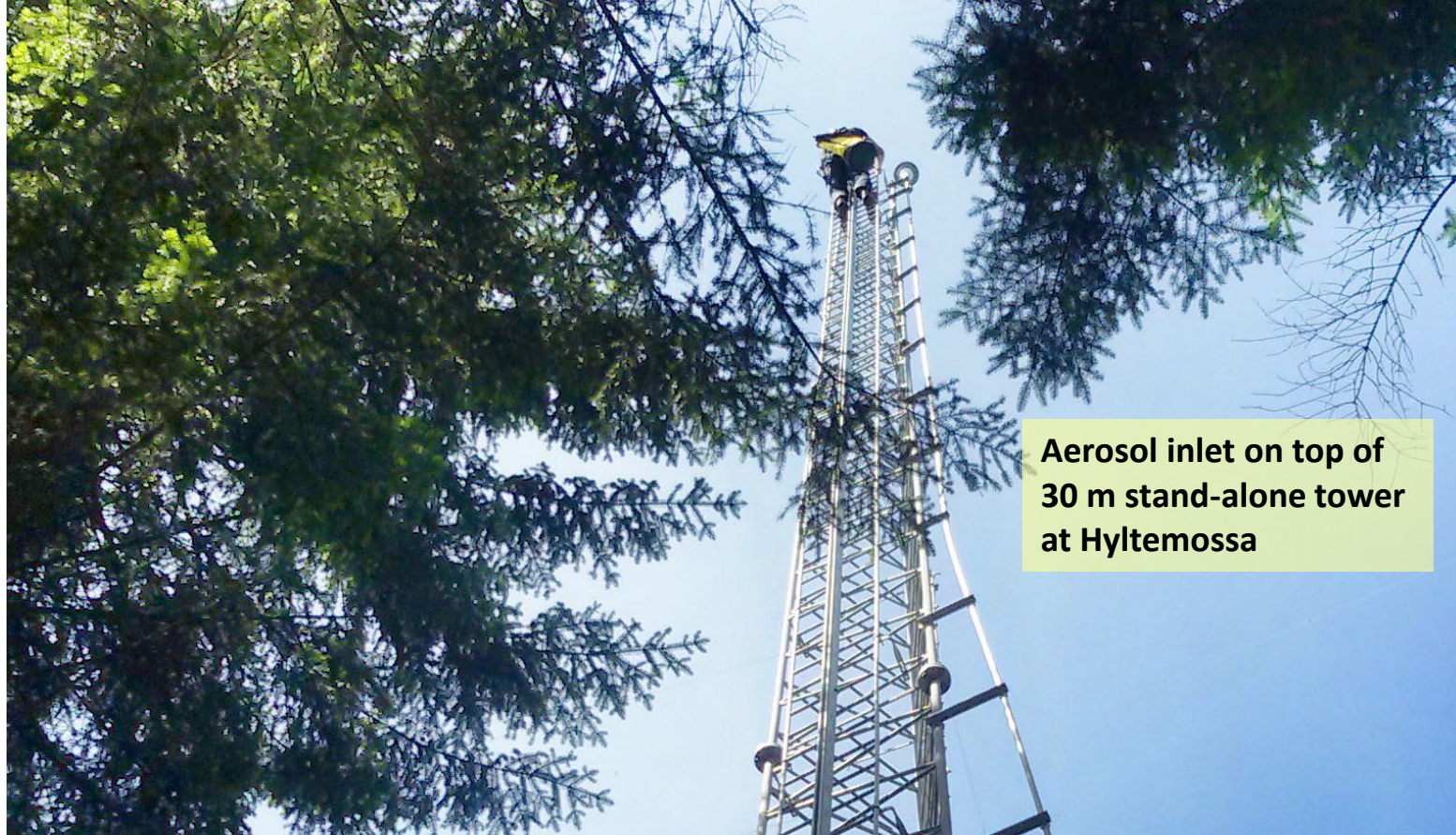
# ACTRIS – Sweden

Aerosols, Clouds, Trace gases  
Research Infrastructure



A European infrastructure dedicated to high precision monitoring of greenhouse gas fluxes

# ACTRIS Sweden – Hyltemossa site



**Aerosol inlet on top of 30 m stand-alone tower at Hyltemossa**



# Concentrations – Air Quality Standards

- **PM10** Big problem in many places - Unchanged
  - Long distance transport (regional pollution)
  - Locally generated wear particles from traffic (*slitagepartiklar*)
  - Local wood combustion (residential)
- **NO2** Exceedences in some locations – decreasing(?)
  - Local road traffic (exhaust)
- **Benzene** Probably no future problem(?) - decreasing
  - Road traffic
  - Local wood combustion (residential)
- **Benzo[a]pyrene** Limited problem(?) - decreasing
  - Road traffic (exhaust)
  - Wood combustion (residential)
  - Industry
- **Ozone** Potential worsening problem(?) – background increasing
  - NO<sub>x</sub> + VOC + sunshine
  - Regional problem, not local