



# Know your Researcher @ Asian Institute of Technology



**Edition January 2011 : Prof Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh**

# **Air pollution and climate co-benefit research at EEM/SERD**



**Prof Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh**

# Highlights

1. Regional networks to establish a comprehensive air toxics database and climate forcers in Asian cities
2. Source emission characterization
3. Emission inventory of air pollution and climate forcers
4. Modeling air quality: receptor modeling, urban/regional dispersion modeling
5. Exposure assessment: biomass burning smoke, traffic emission, pesticides applied indoor
6. Development of air pollution control technologies
7. Air quality and climate interaction: air quality and climate modeling for quantification of co-benefits

# I. Regional research networking

- AIRPET (Asian Air Pollution Research Network) is a component of Asian Regional Research Program on Environmental Technology (ARRPET)
- Sponsored by Sida, coordinated by AIT  
<http://www.arpet.ait.ac.th/>
- Project duration:
  - Phase I (2001-2004)
  - Phase 2 (2005-2010)
- AIRPET is a regional network involving 6 countries  
<http://www.serd.ait.ac.th/airpet>



**ARRPET network**

# AIRPET (2001-2010)



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## AIT AIRPET

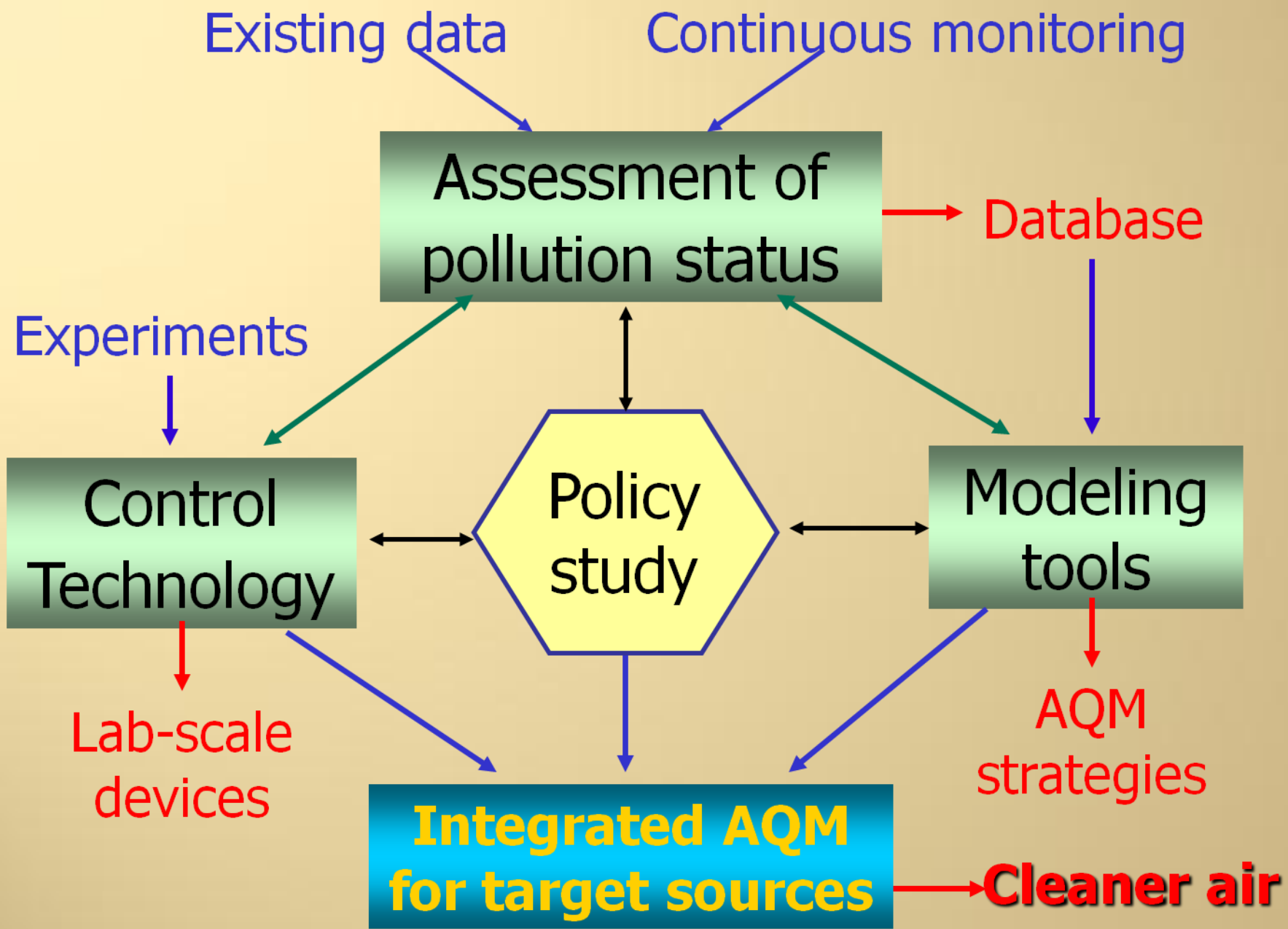
Prof. Kim Oanh N T (PI)  
Prof. Chongrak P. (Co-PI)  
Asian Institute of Technology  
Pathumthani 12120, Thailand

Maldives

Singapore

Indonesia

# Regional activities within AIRPET



# AIRPET ambient air quality monitoring

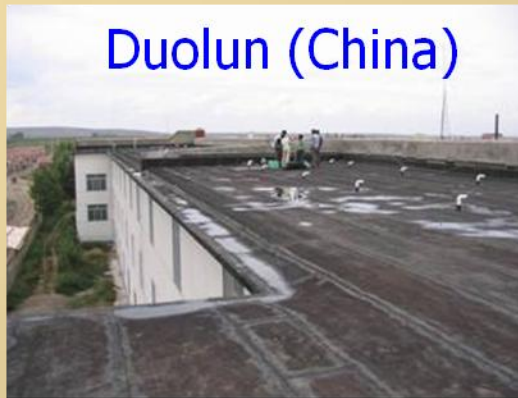
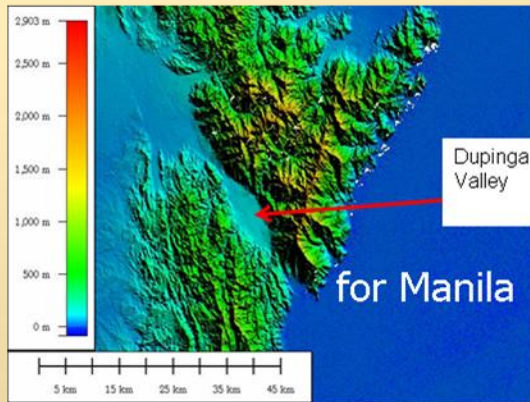


- AIRPET activities: Ambient Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>) mass and composition (black carbon, organic carbon, ions, elements), air toxics including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes and semi-volatile organic compounds (PCB, Pesticides, PAHs) at urban areas, remote sites
- Over 8000 PM samples collected in 6 countries → database of detail mass and composition with adequate QA/QC

# AIRPET monitoring sites



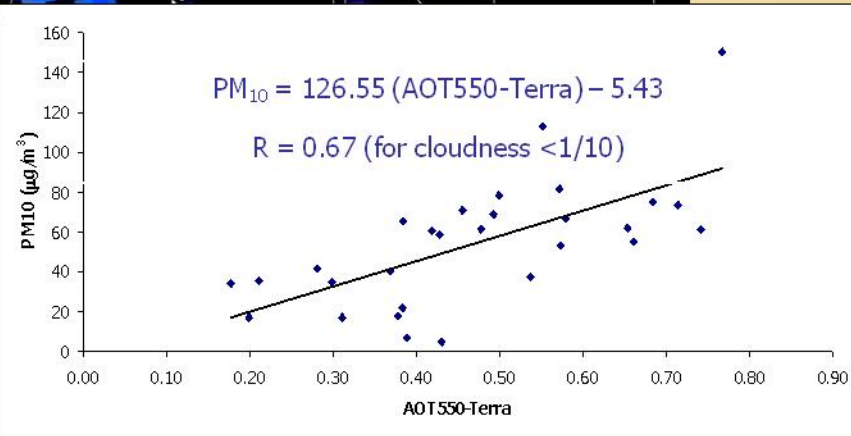
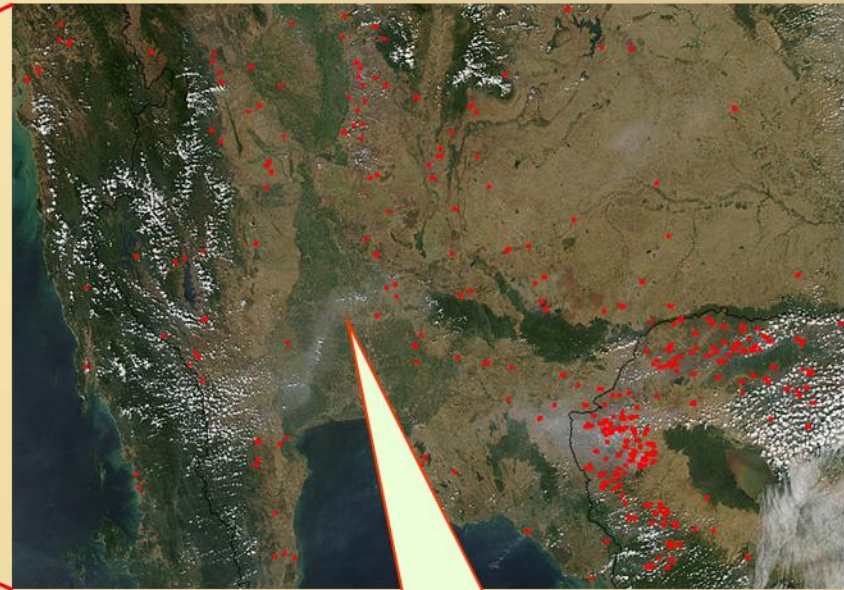
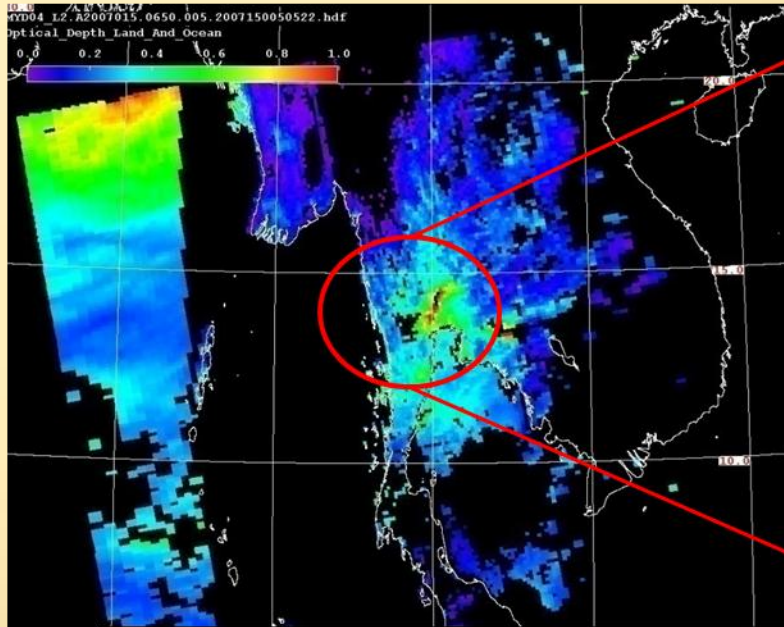
Remote sites



- Urban sites to capture different characteristics: traffic, commercial, suburban, residential, etc.
- Remote sites: far away from major man-made sources → provide information on long-range and regional transport of air pollution



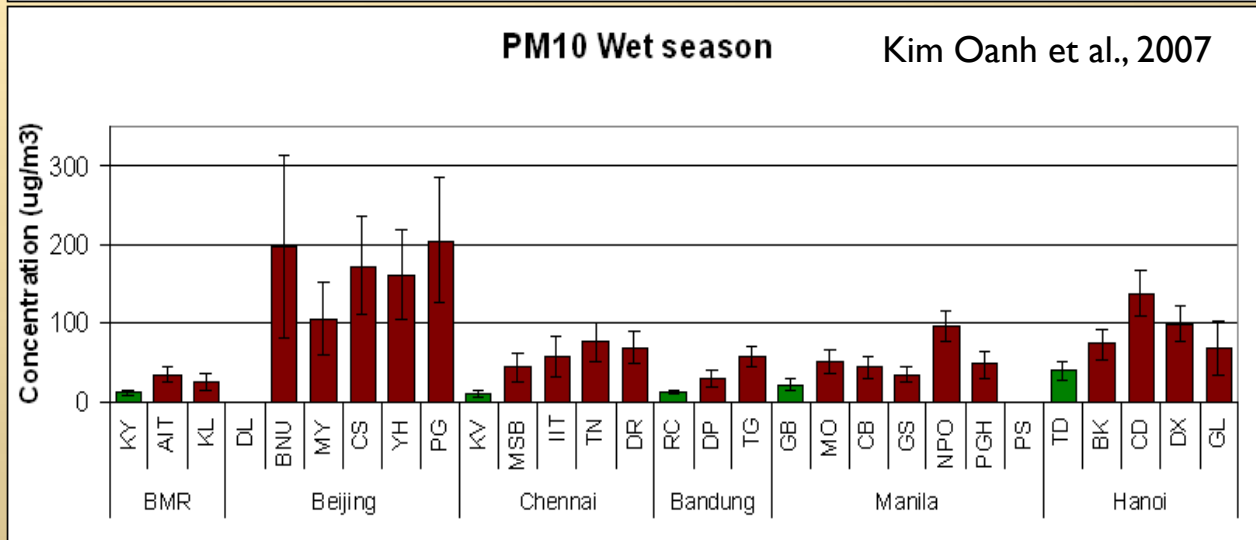
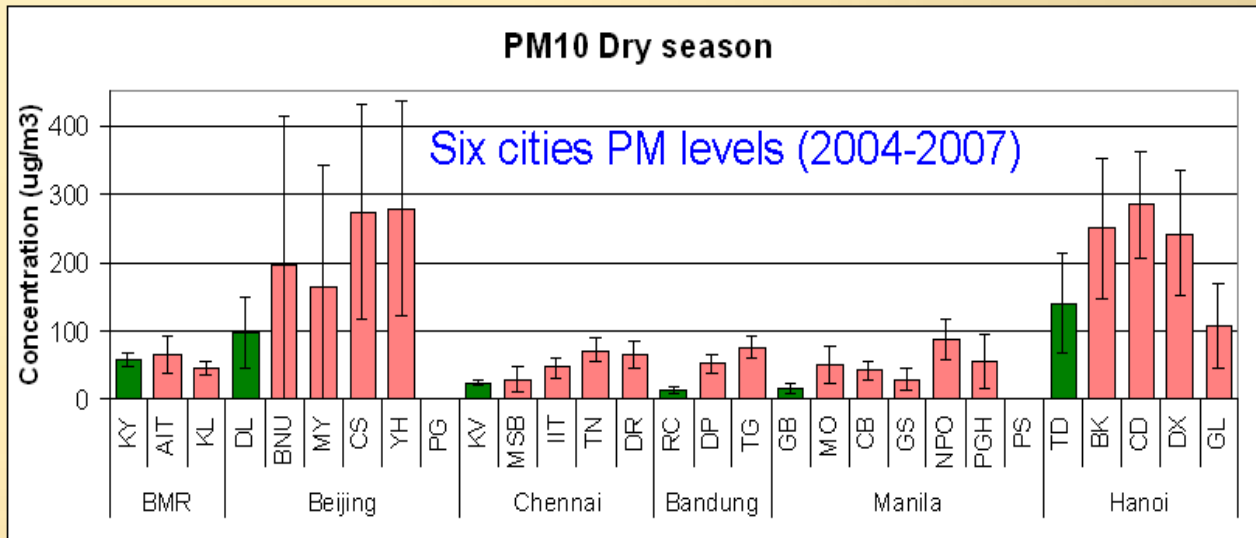
# Large scale monitoring of air quality using satellite data



Jan 15, 2007  
 $PM_{2.5} = 71 \mu g/m^3$   
 $PM_{10} = 111 \mu g/m^3$

MODIS-Aqua True Color showing hotspots (fires) and Aerosol optical thickness (AOT) over Bangkok Metropolitan Region (BMR), Jan 15, 2007

# Particulate Matter PM10 levels in 6 countries



- Levels of PM10 were frequently exceeding the WHO 24-h guidelines of 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

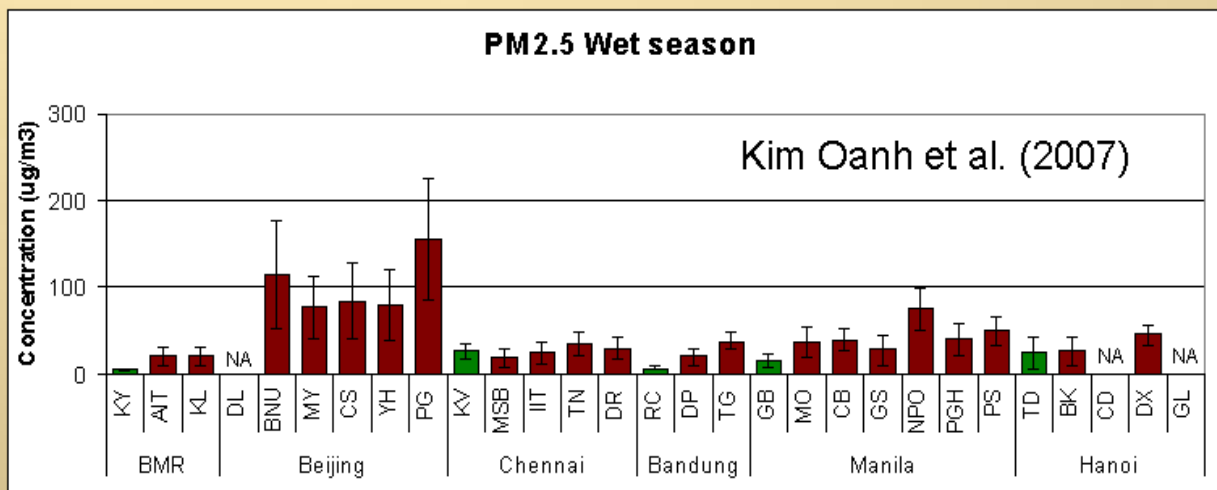
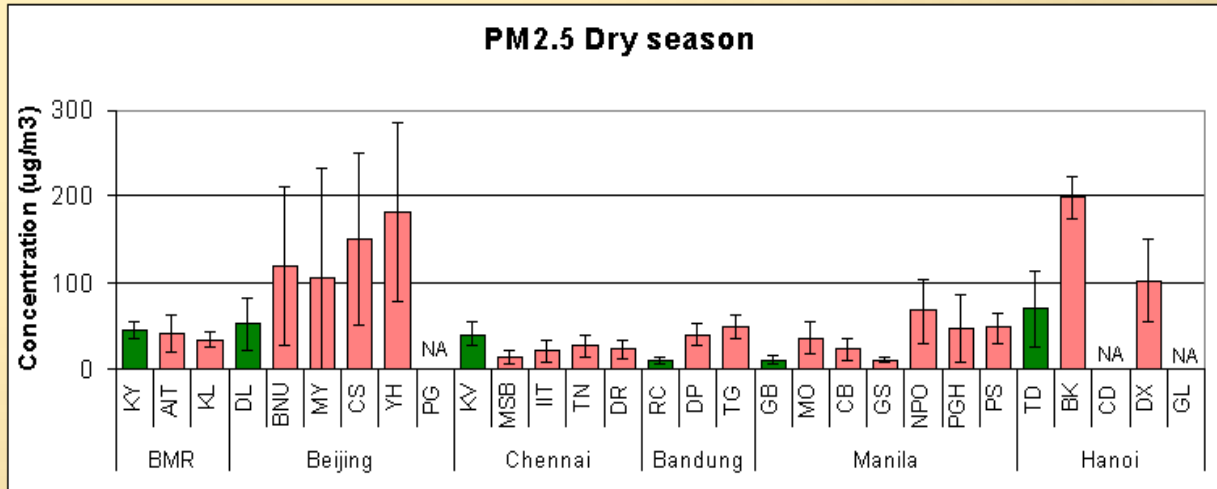
- Annual average levels were well above WHO guideline of 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

- High levels were also observed at remote sites

*PM10: particles with size  $\leq 10 \mu\text{m}$  and are respirable*

# Particulate Matter PM2.5 levels in 6 countries

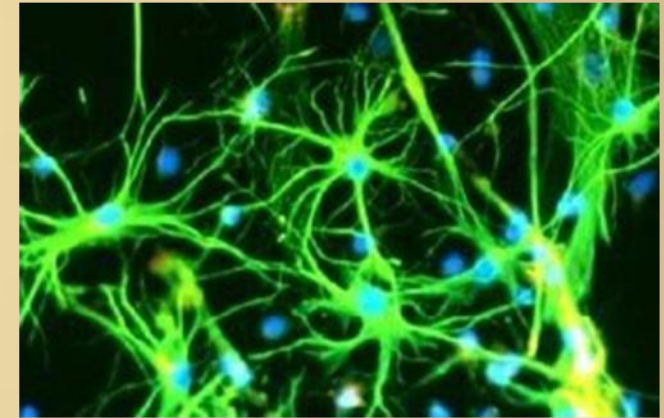
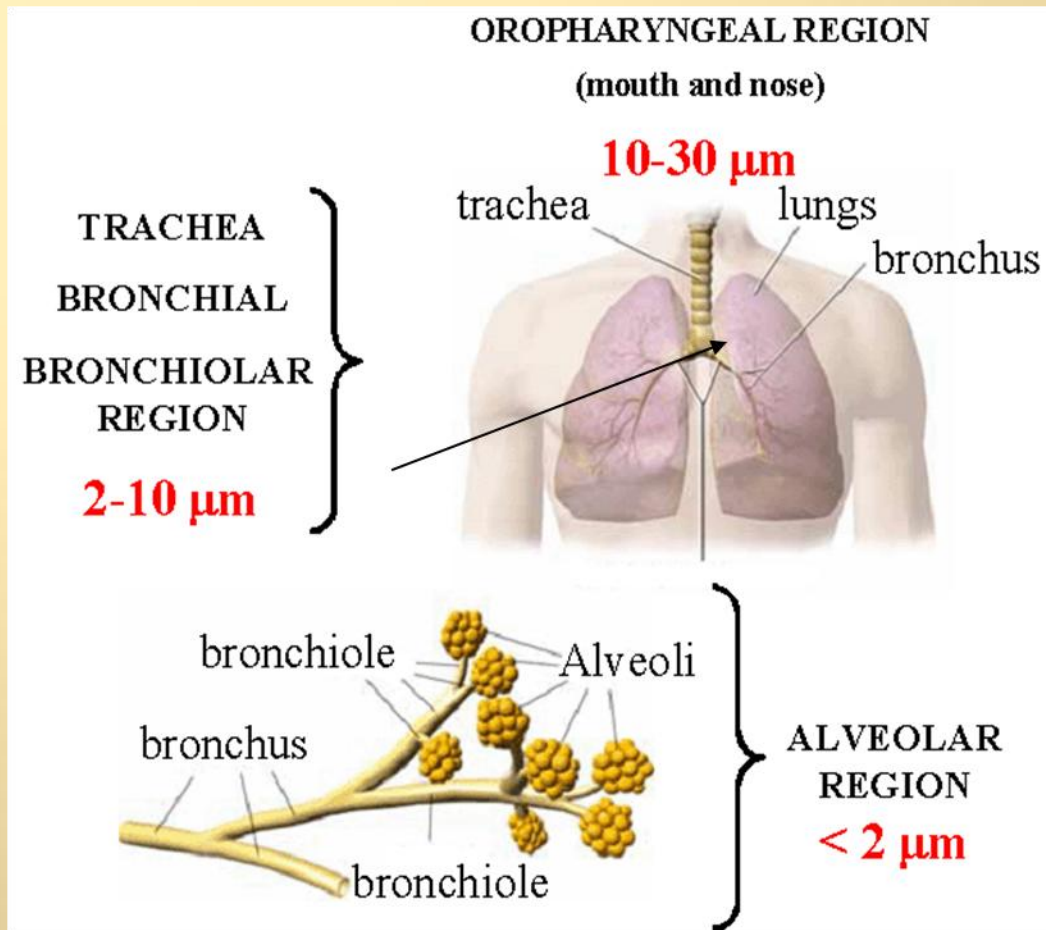
AIRPET phase 2 data with remote sites  
WHO guideline annual average  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



- Levels of PM2.5 were frequently above the WHO 24-h guidelines of  $25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Annual average levels were well above WHO guideline of  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- High levels were also observed at remote sites


*PM2.5: particles with size  $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$  can penetrate deep and deposit in alveoli*

# Effects of Airborne Particles: smaller particles are more toxic!



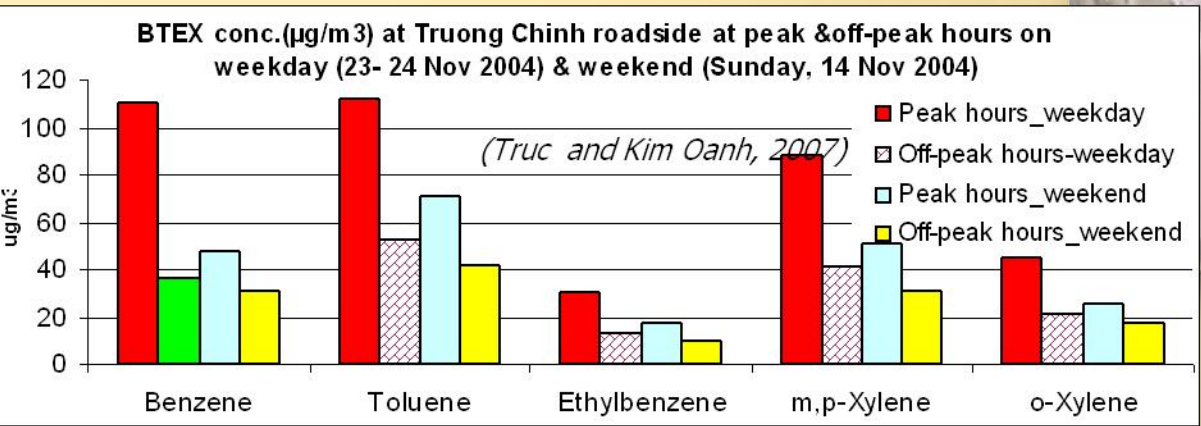
Nanoparticles are also found in the brain!



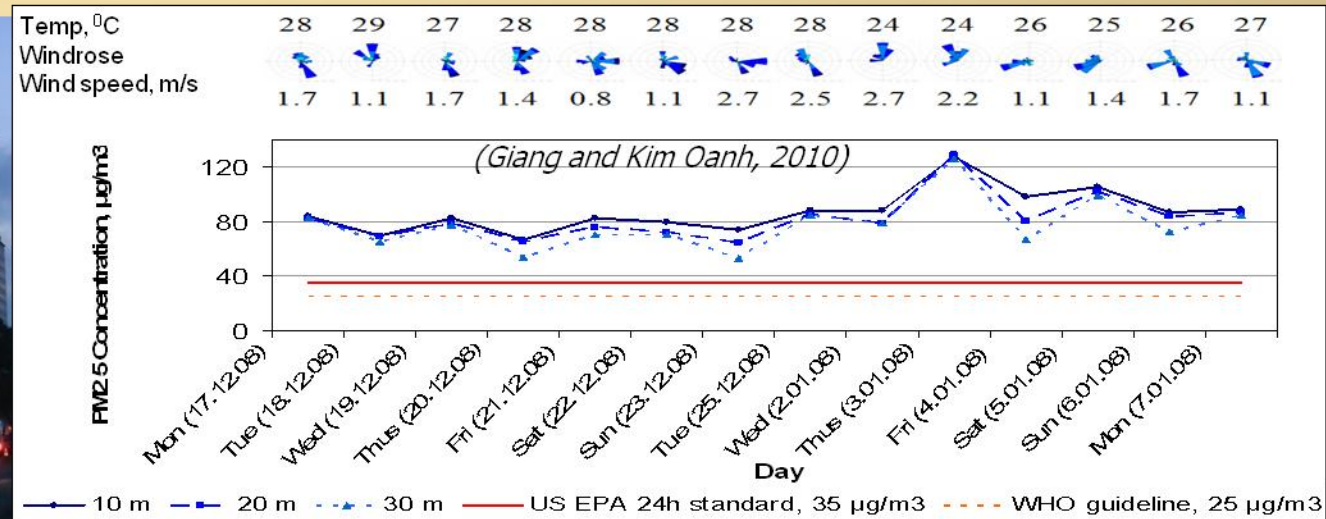
 Nanoparticles

# Air toxics levels at roadside

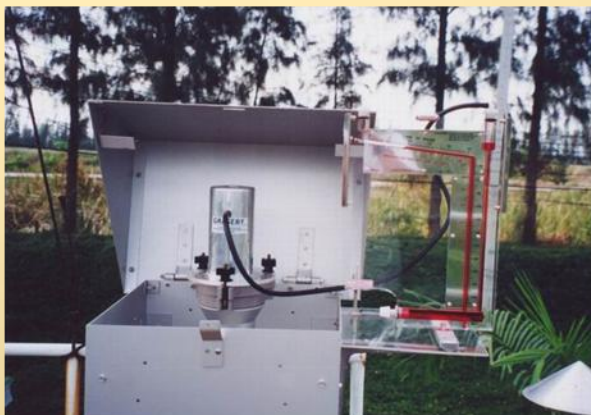
## BTEX in Hanoi, Vietnam



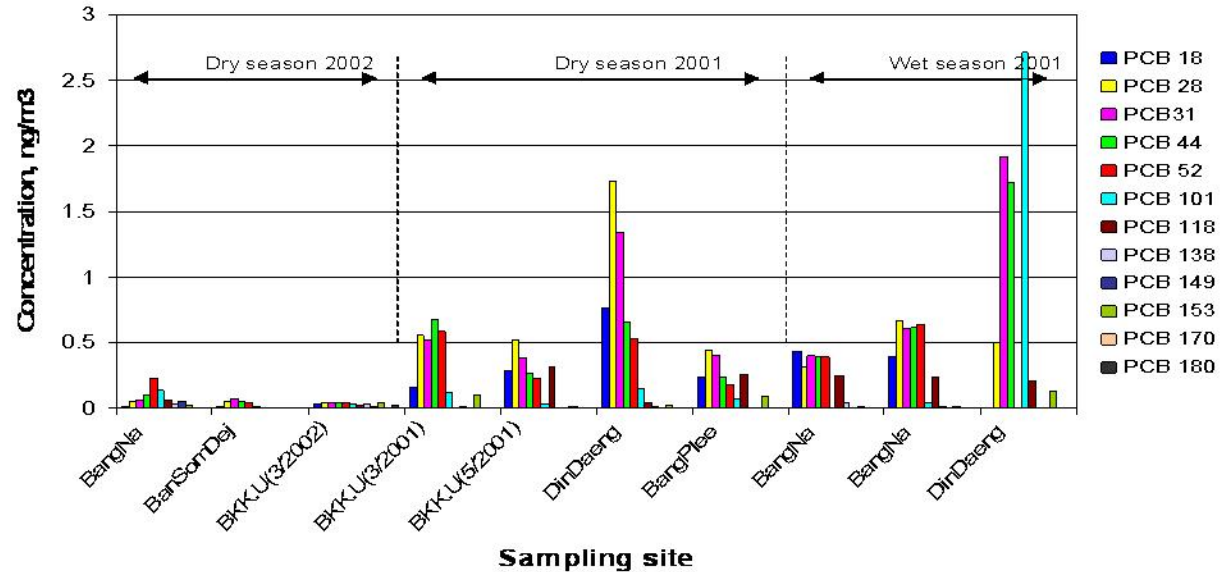
## 24h PM2.5 at roadside in Hochiminh City, Vietnam



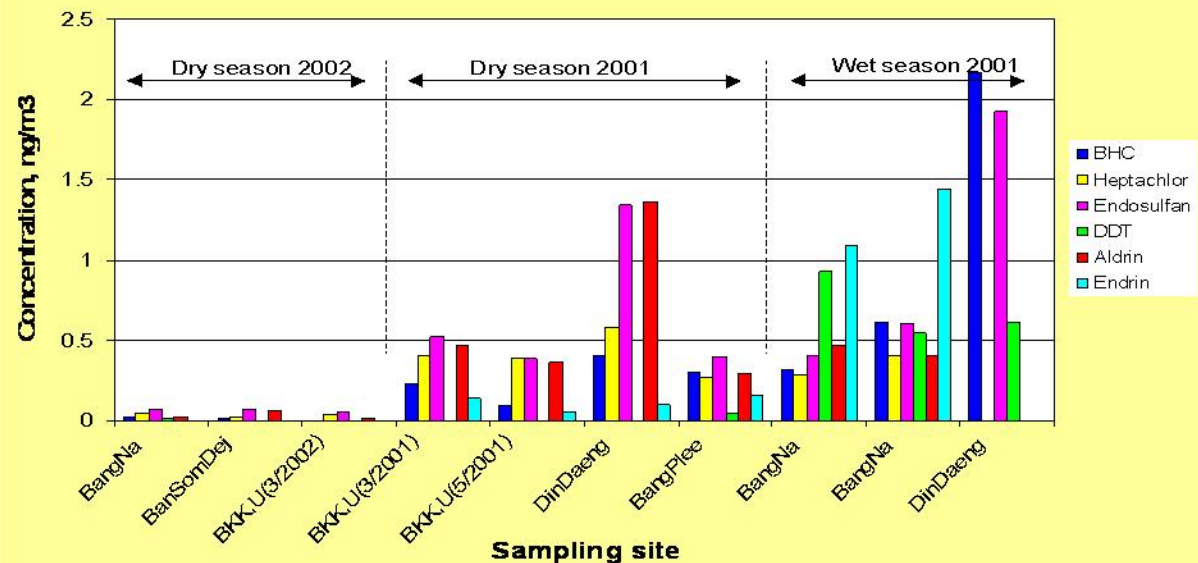
# PCB and pesticides in air at different locations in Bangkok



## LEVEL of PCBs from sites, 2001-2002



## LEVEL of OCPs from sites, 2001-2002



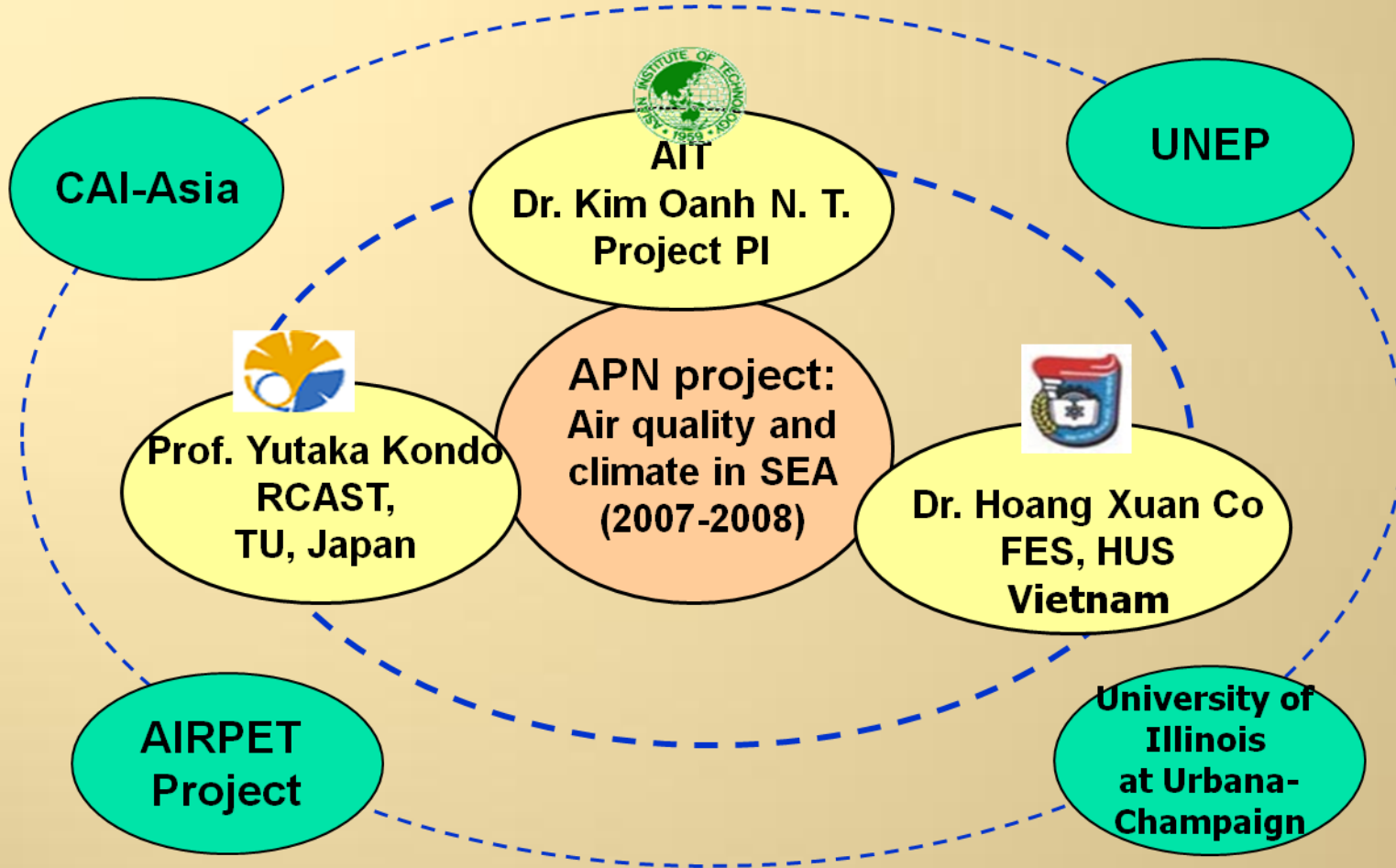
# Dry deposition study using Noll plates in Pathumthani



Deposition fluxes of PM, ions and persistent organic pollutants at rural, urban and near water reservoir

# AIT-TU-HUS APN project:

“Investigation on the impacts of urban-rural air pollution on air quality and climate in Southeast Asia”

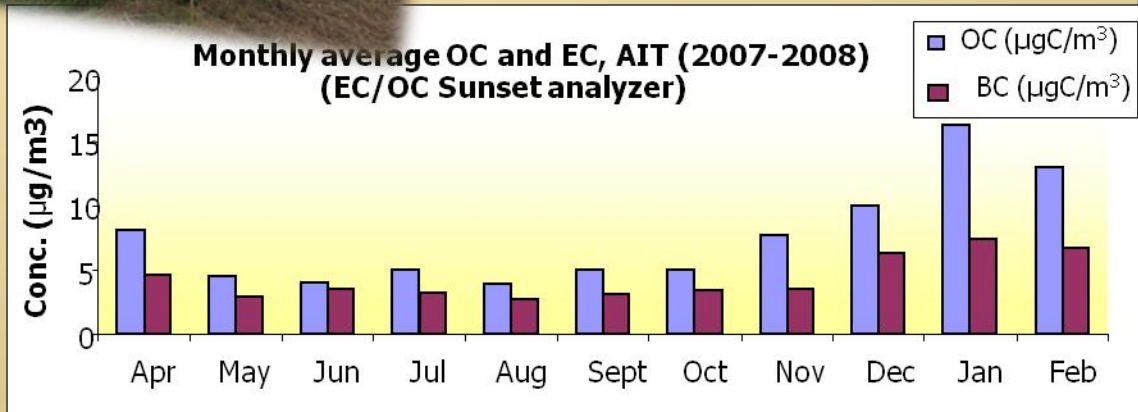




# APN project: Black Carbon (BC) levels in air, AIT



BC is toxic air pollutant and climate warming agent



## **2. Monitoring for exposure assessment**

- School children exposure to rice straw field burning smoke
- Near-road and on-road exposure to traffic pollution
- Exposure to pesticides applied indoor

# Personal exposure monitoring for school children in Pathumthani and Khaoyai



PM2.5, Semi-  
VOC, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>,  
VOCs



Lung function test

24h monitoring of  
personal exposure

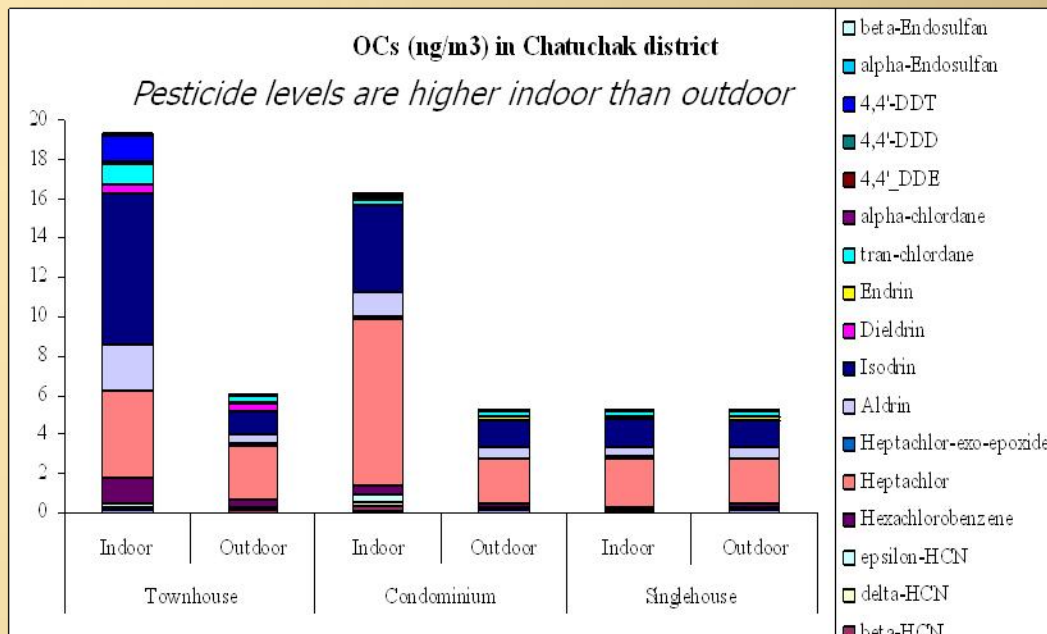
Comparative analysis of exposure during burning and non-burning season  
in burning and non-burning areas

*Aungsiri K. (2008)*

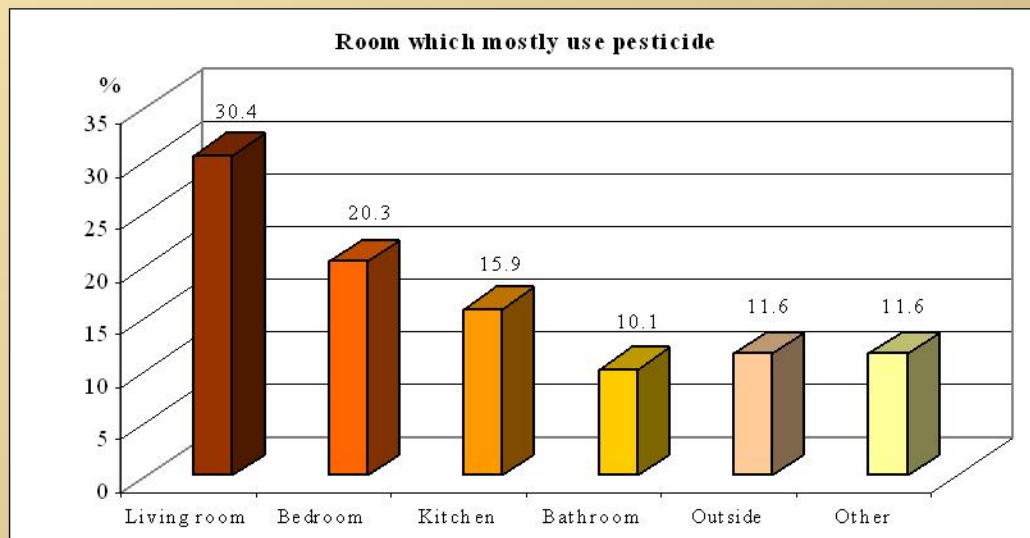
# Indoor pesticides use and exposure in Bangkok



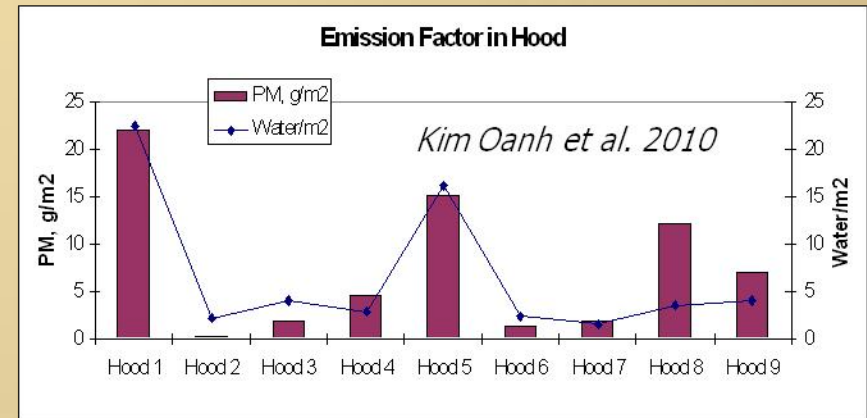
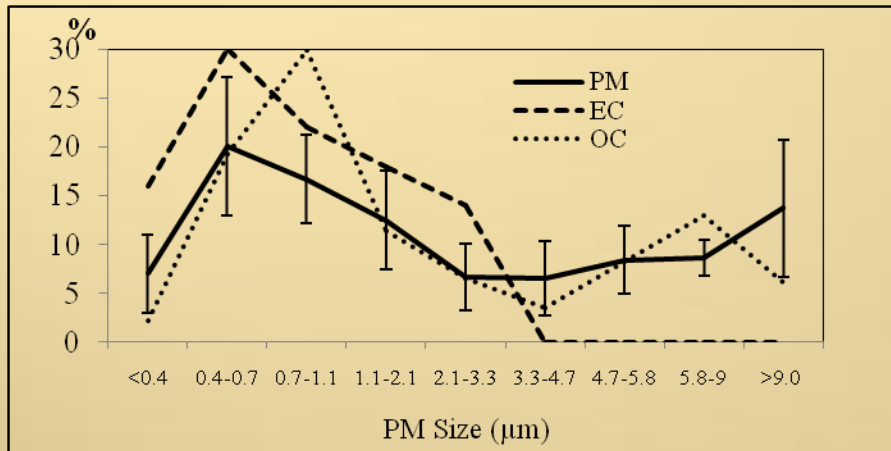
Common pesticides used indoor



Sampling of pesticide deposit on floor

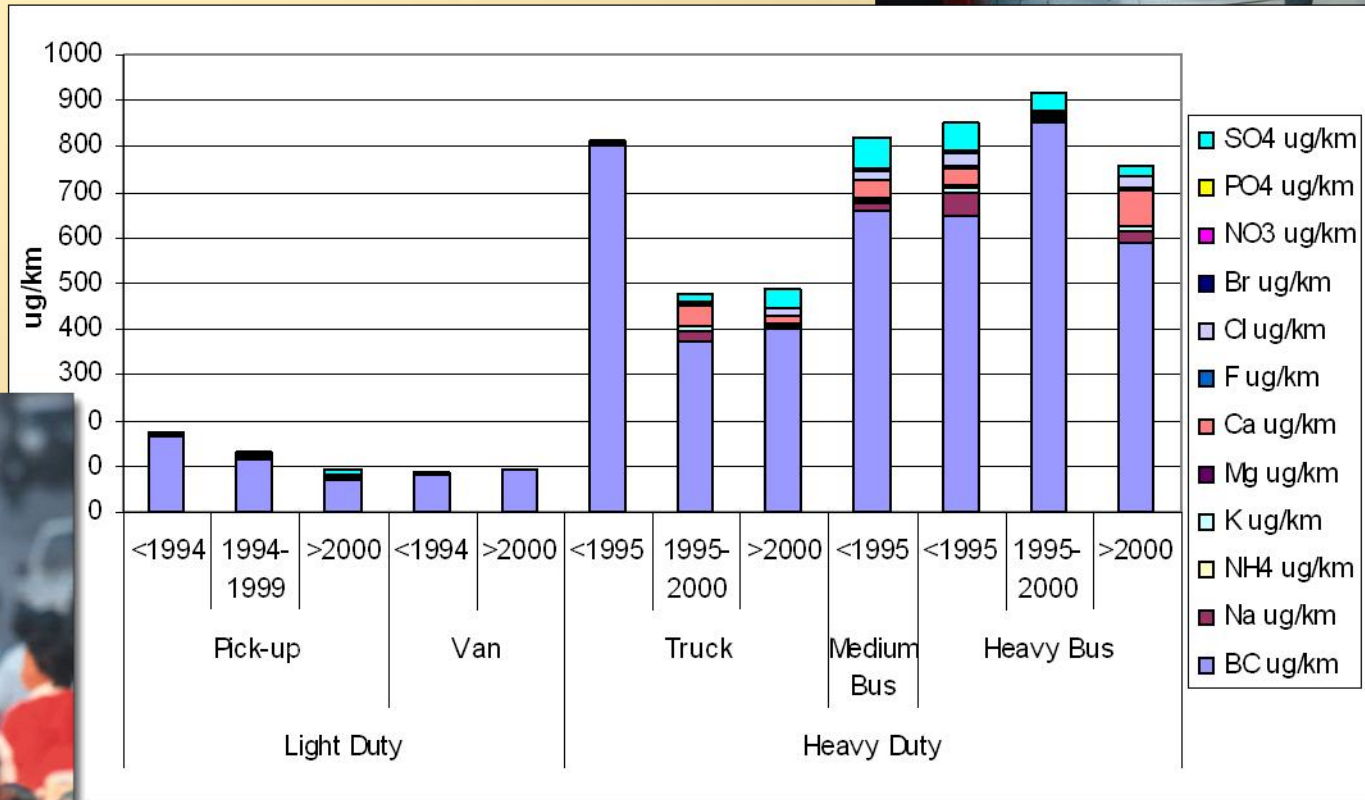


# 3. Source characterization: field burning



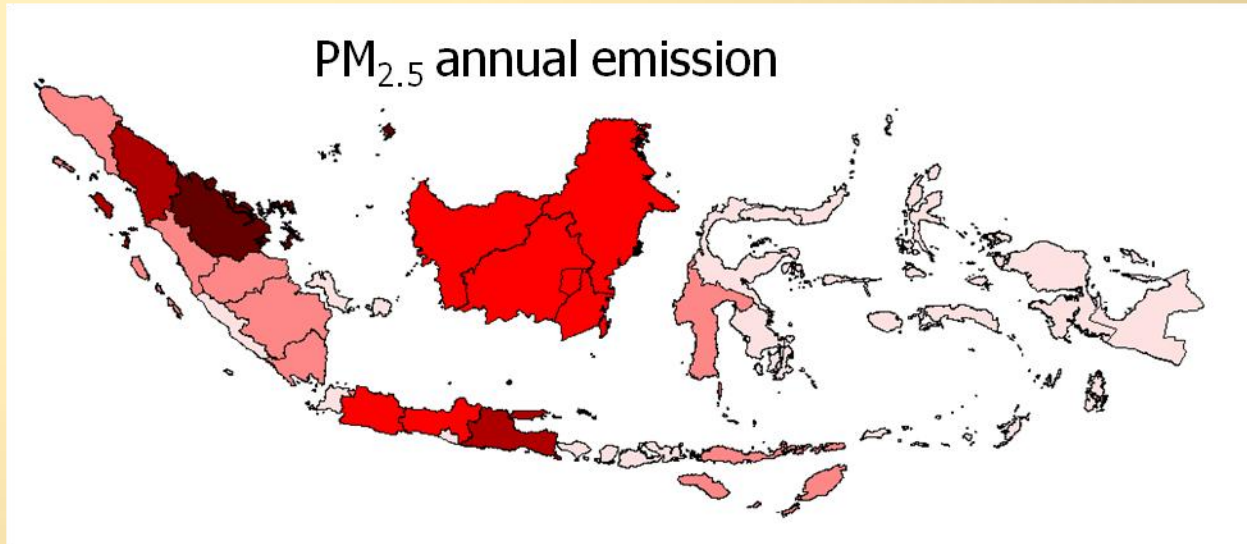
Sampling for agroresidue field burning: emission levels and profiles of particulate matter and air toxics

# Source characterization: PM emission from diesel vehicles

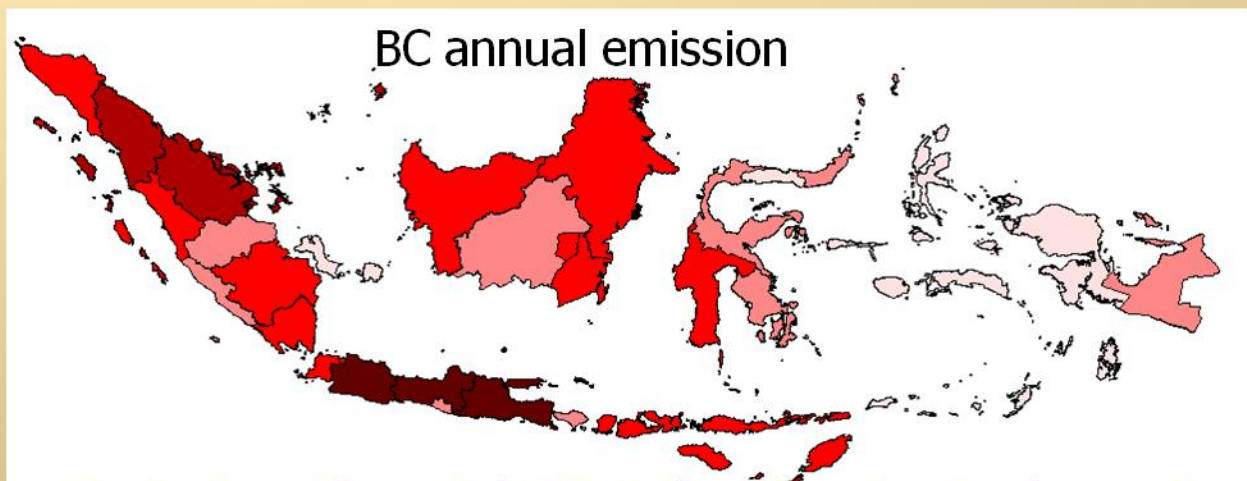


# 4. Emission inventory: what pollutants, where and when

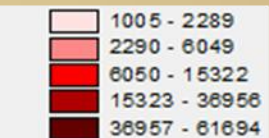
(AIT-UNEP ABC project, in collaboration with Prof. Shrestha of Energy, Dr. Shrestha of NRM, Dr. Rupakheti of UNEP)



Emission  
(tonnes/year)



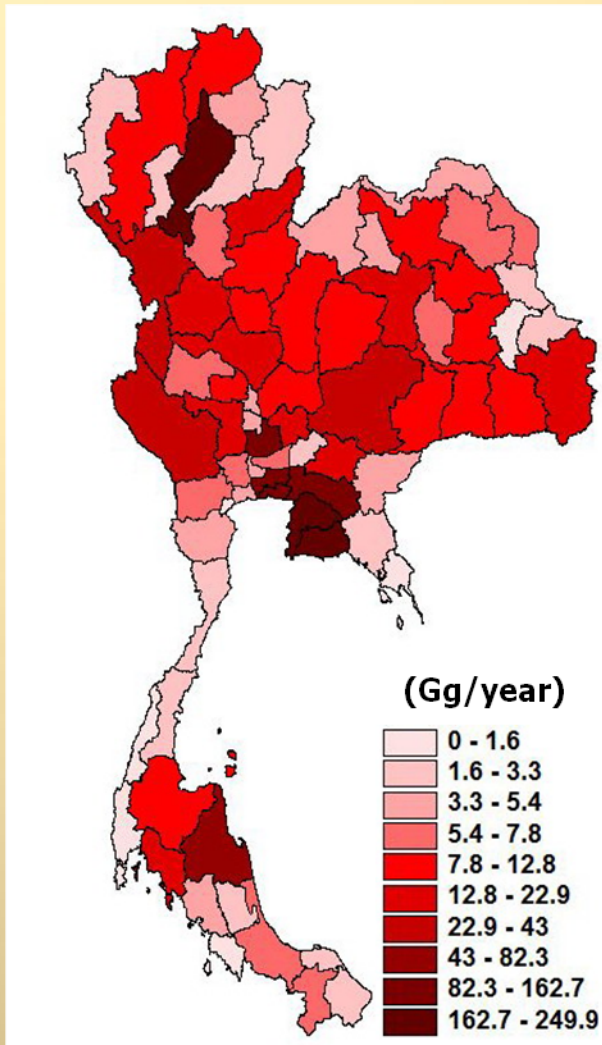
Emission  
(tonnes/year)



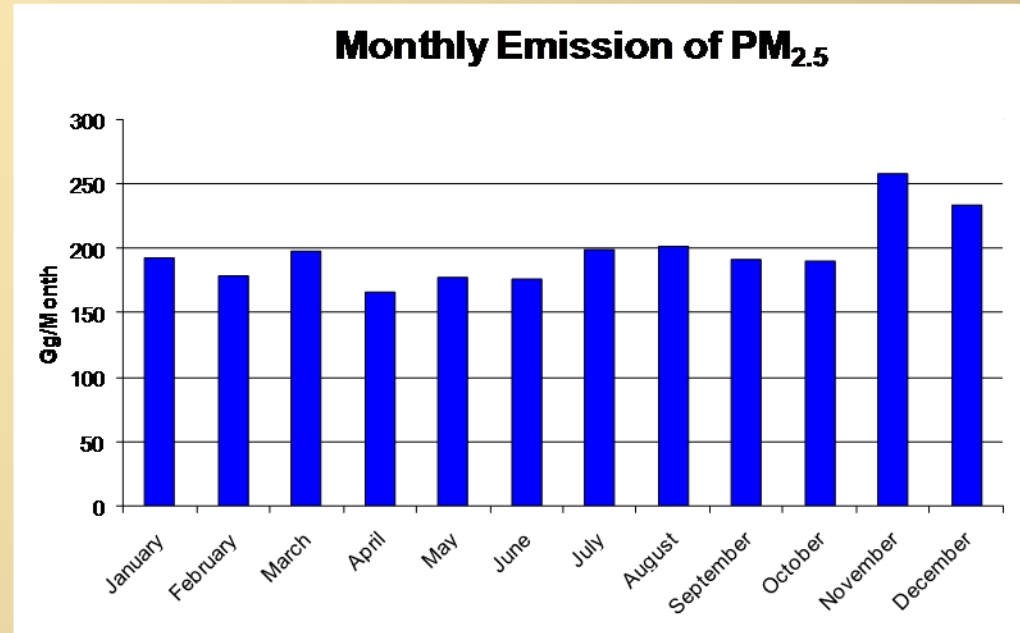
Emission Spatial Distribution in Indonesia, 2005

*Agustian et al. (2010)*

# Spatial and temporal distribution of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions in Thailand, 2005



PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual emission

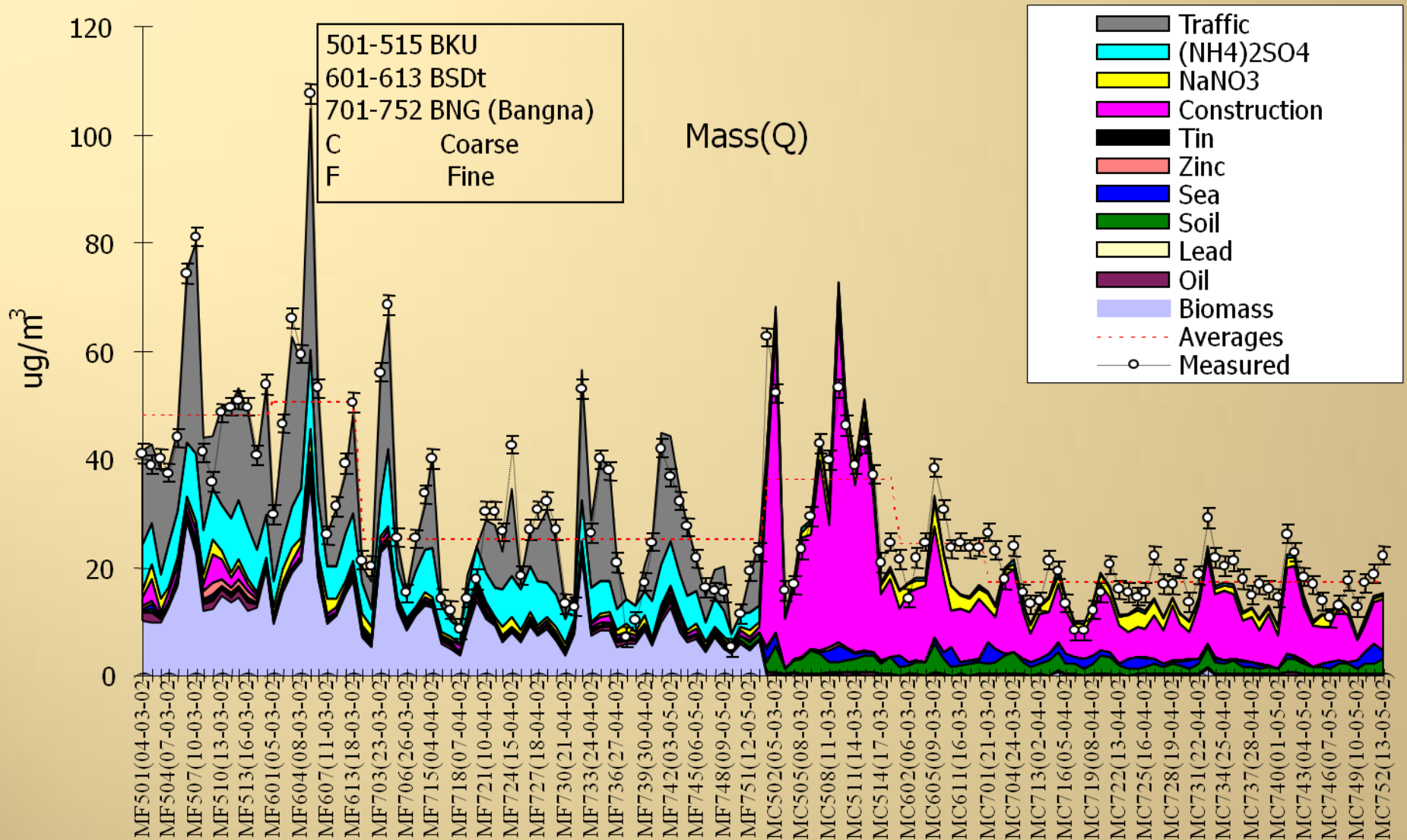




# 5. Modeling air quality at AIT

- Receptor modeling for source apportionment of PM
- Dispersion modeling:
  - Modeling for urban air quality in BMR, Hanoi, Jakarta (ozone) and Phnom Penh (CO)
  - Southeast Asia ozone air quality modeling for assessment of effects on crops
- Synoptic climatological modeling for episode warning

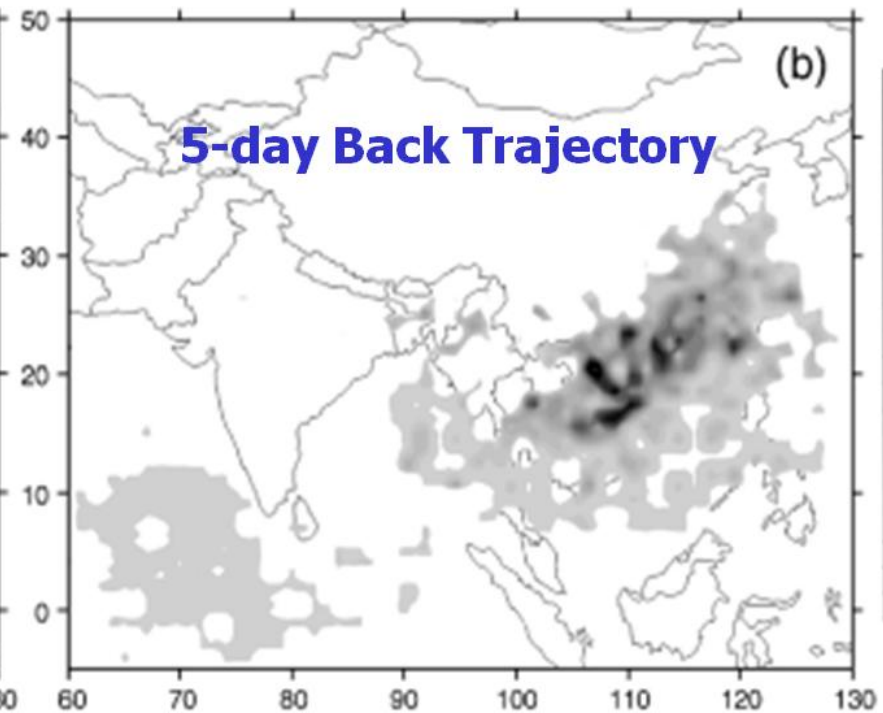
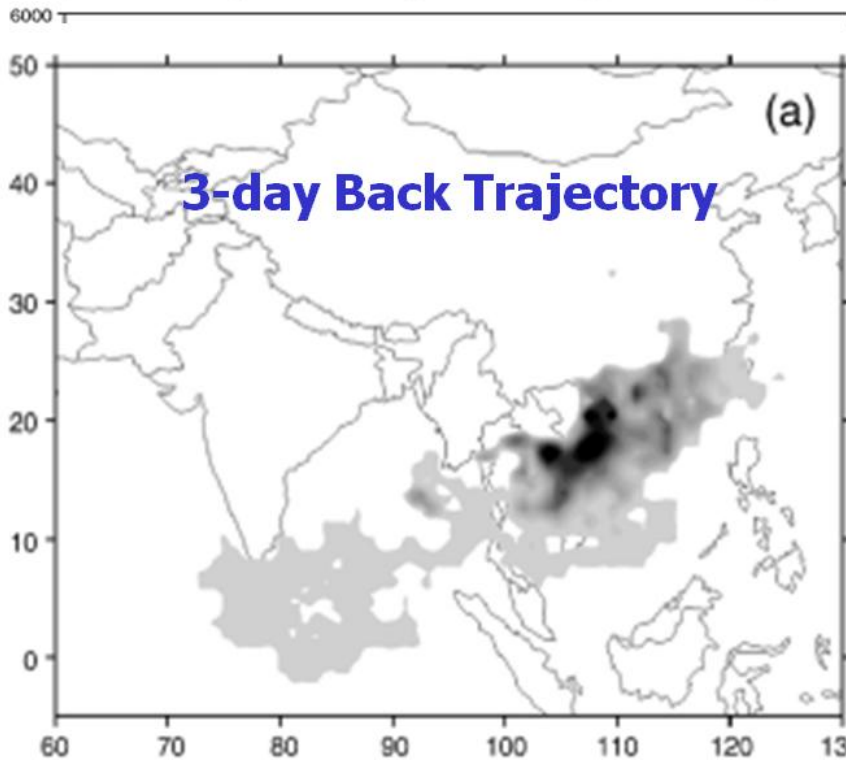
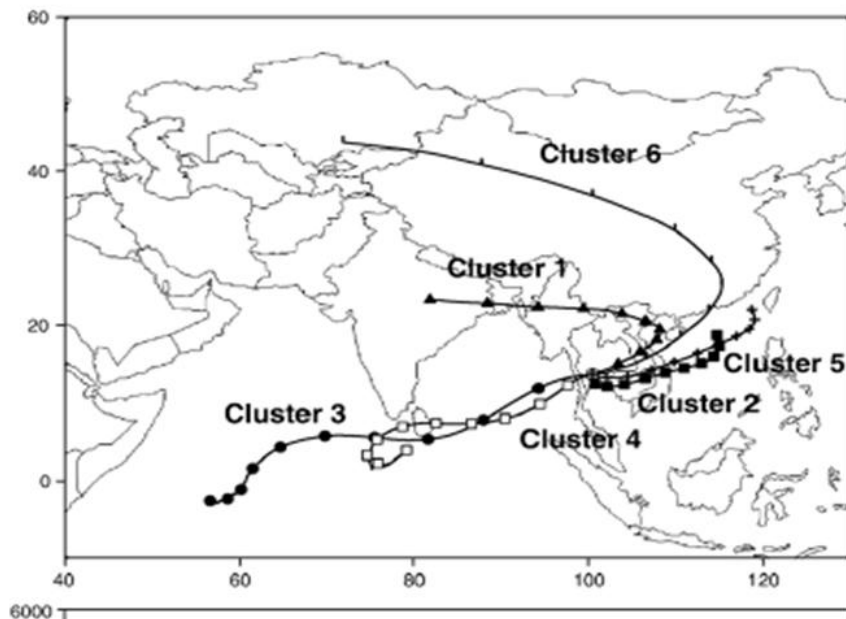
# Source Apportionment by COPREM model for PM in dry season at different sites in Bangkok

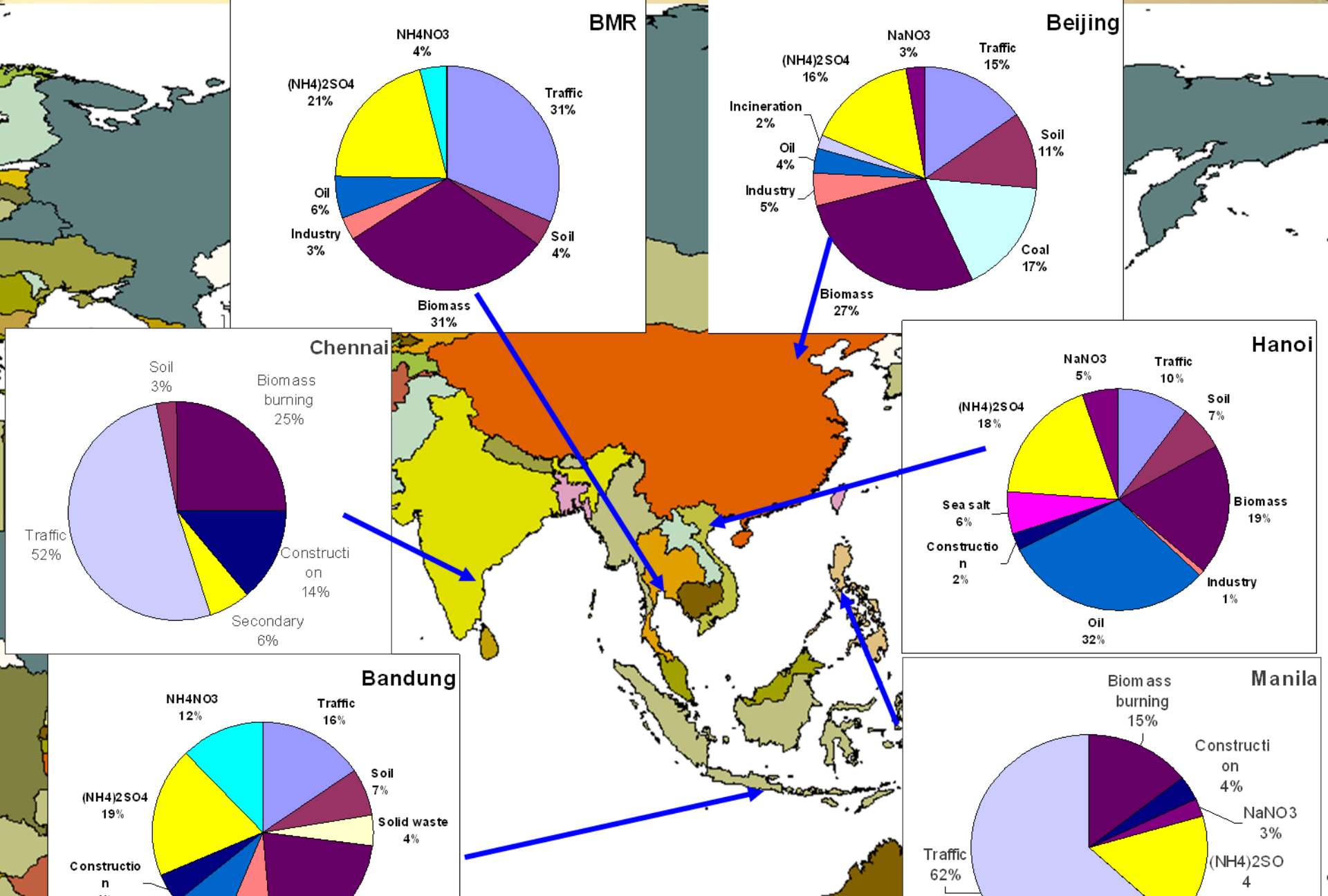


Source: Nabin U. (2003)

# Potential regional transport of air pollution in BMR

*Prapat and Kim Oanh (2007)*





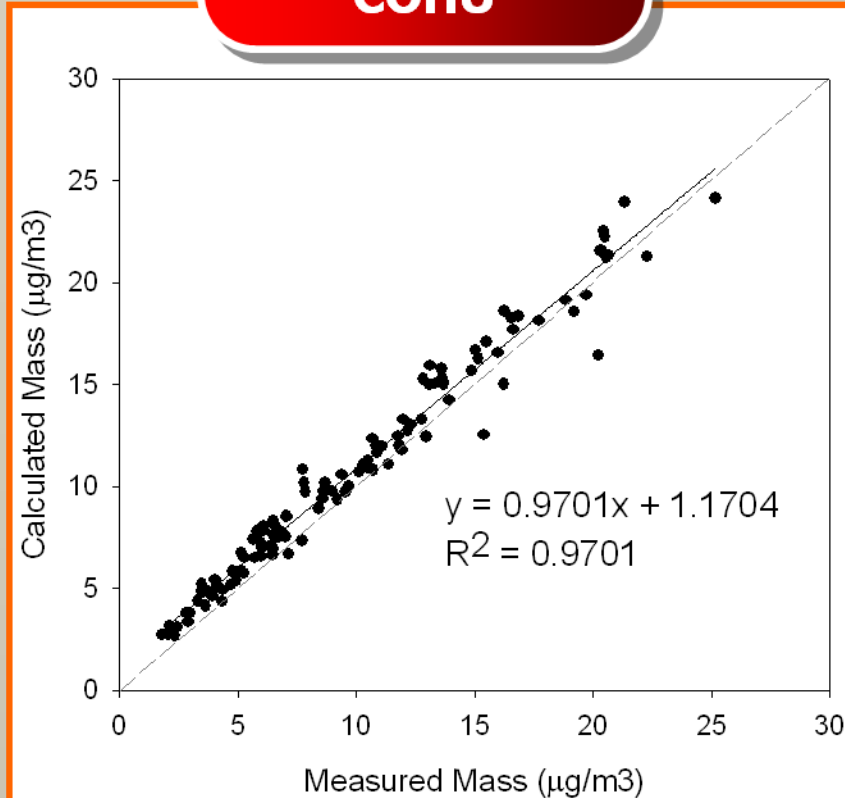
**Annual average of source contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> (mixed site) in Asian cities**

# New model developed and tested: DUALM

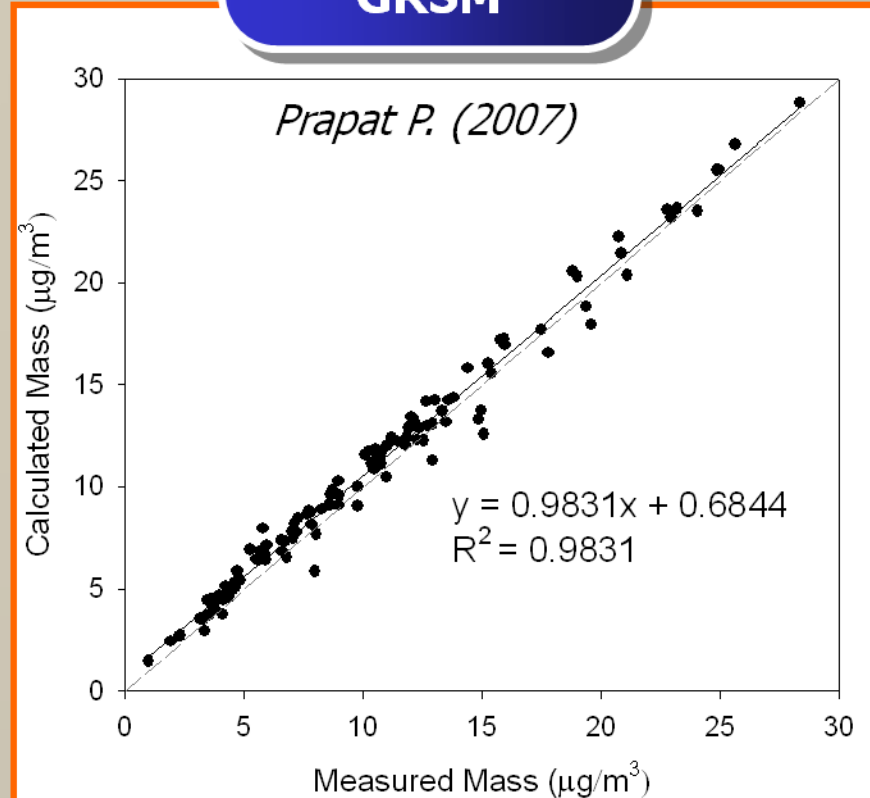
Developed using expanded Multilinear Engine (ME-2)

Applied to PM data collected at 2 sites simultaneously

**COHU**

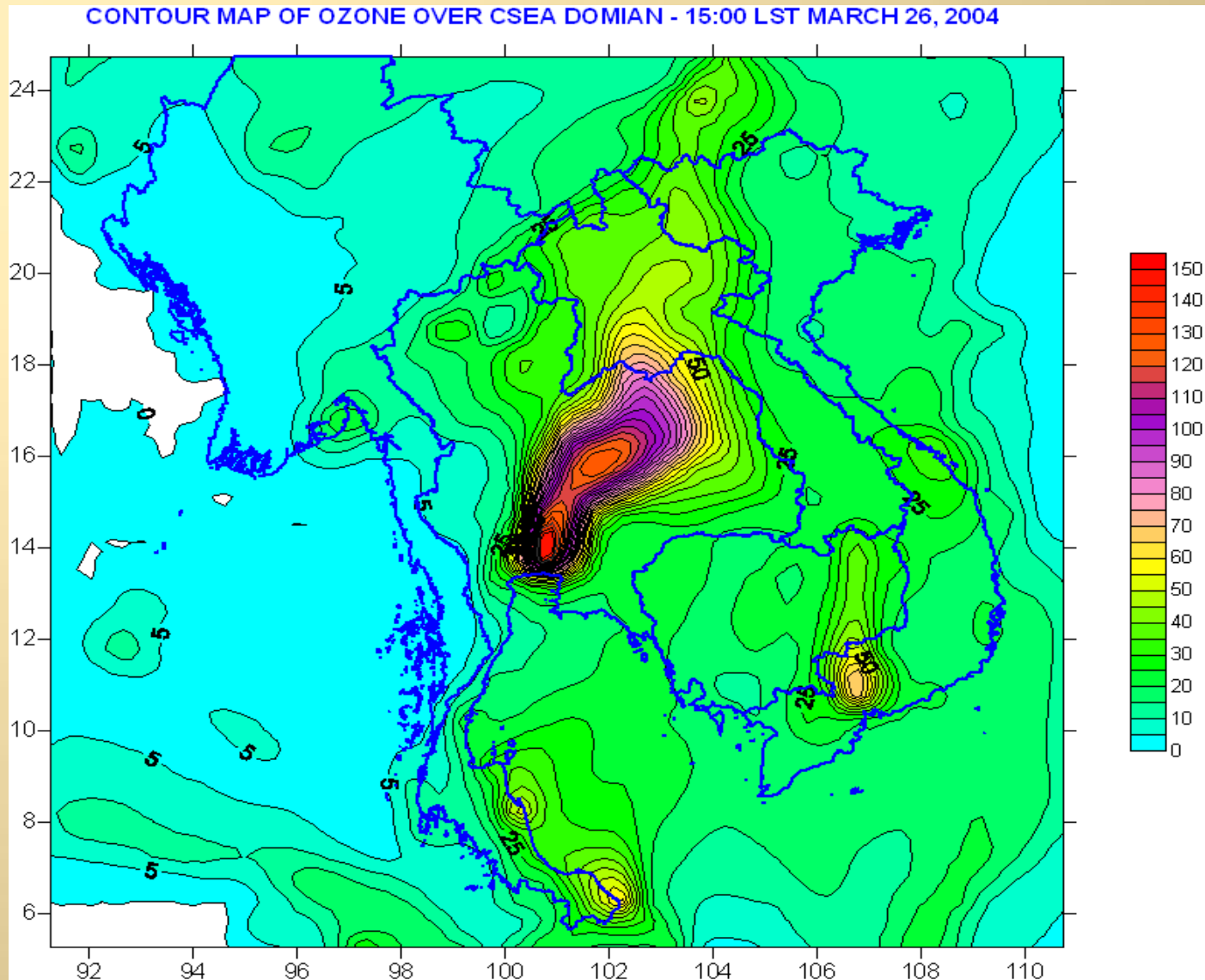


**GRSM**

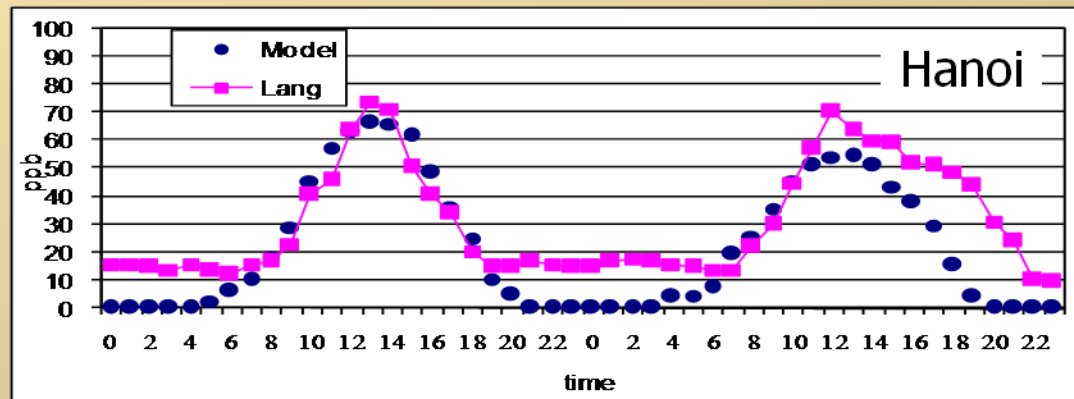
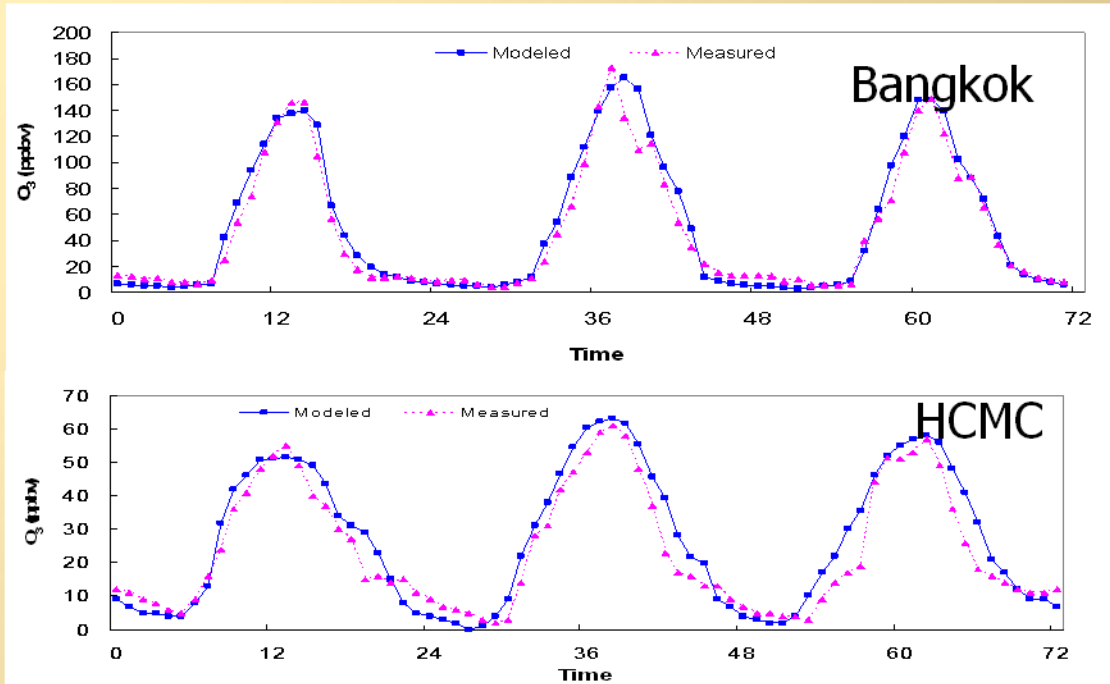


Comparison between measured and calculated masses by DUALM at 2 monitoring sites (US IMPROVE data)

# Dispersion models: CMAQ-MM5 modeling for O<sub>3</sub> air quality over South East Asia,



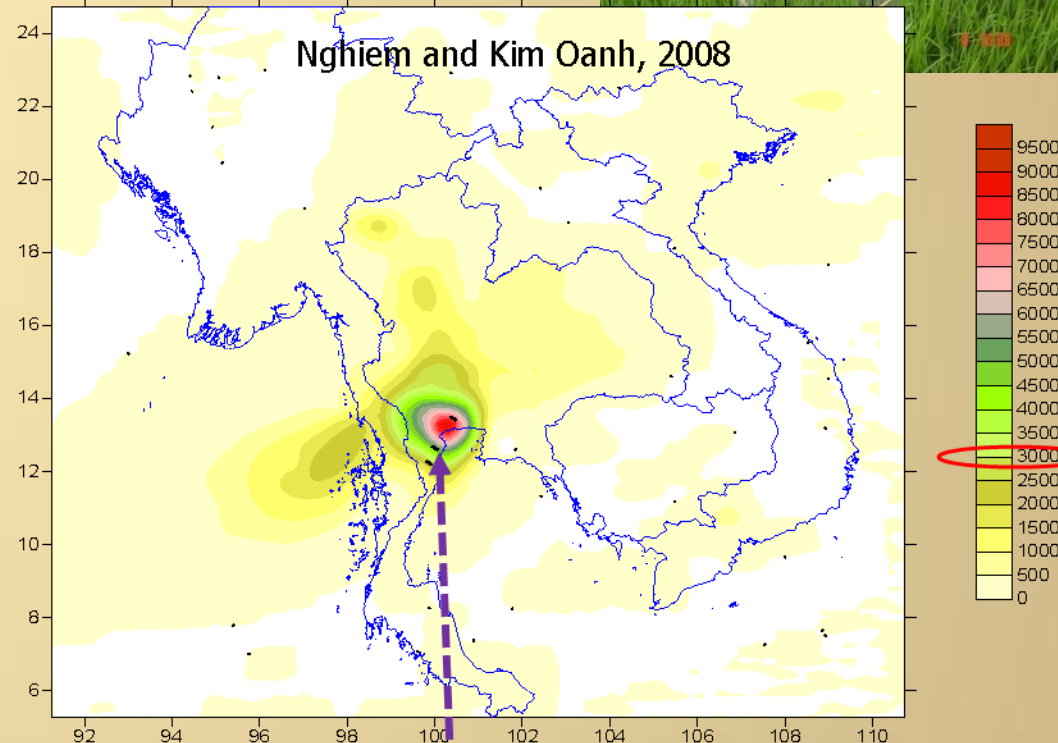
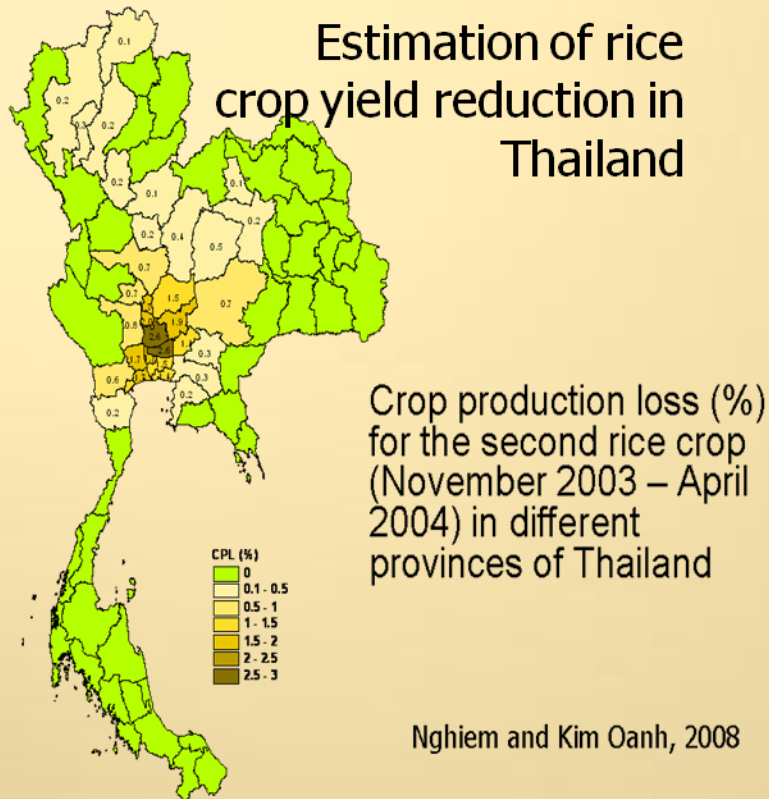
# Simulated vs. measured ground level ozone in Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh city and Hanoi



# Modeling approach to assess potential ozone effects on crops

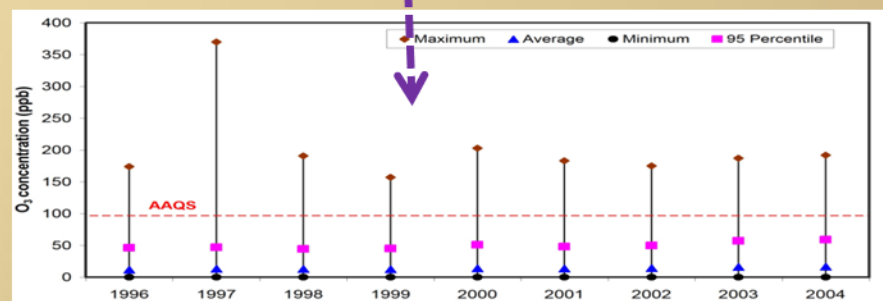


AOT40 Map over CSEA Domain for December 2003



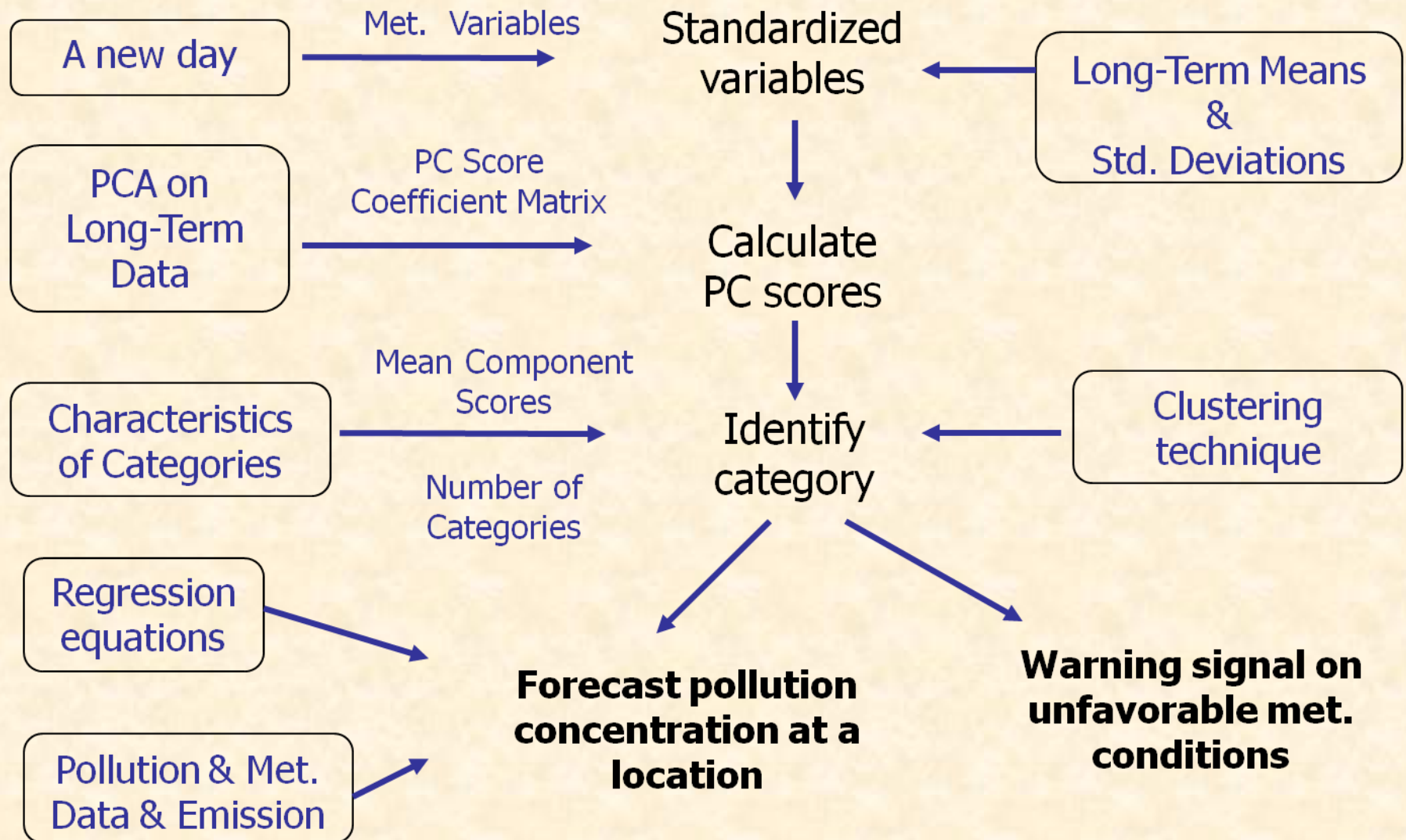
AOT for one month of Dec. 2003

AOT values for one month were above WHO guideline for crop growth season of 3000ppb.h suggesting substantial yield reduction

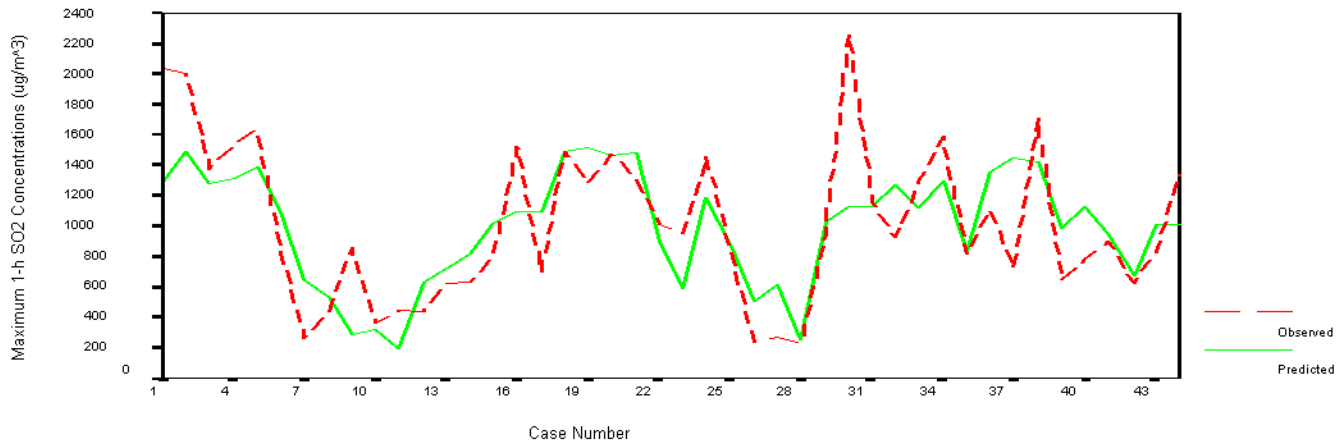
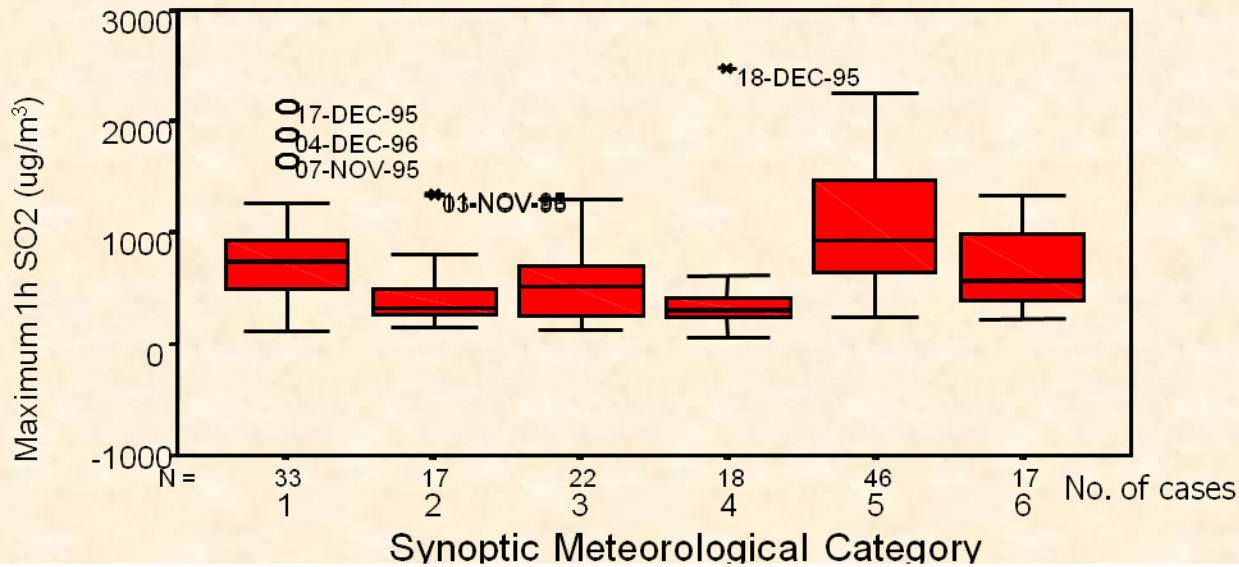




# Synoptic climatological modeling: development of warning signals for air pollution episode



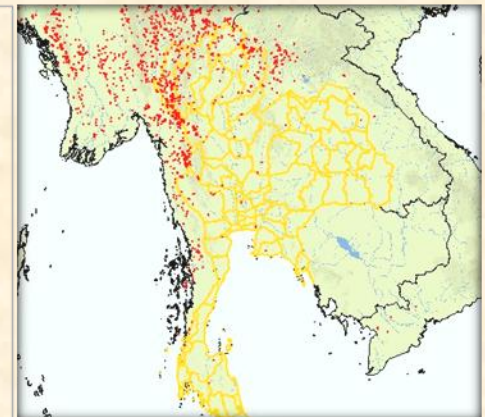
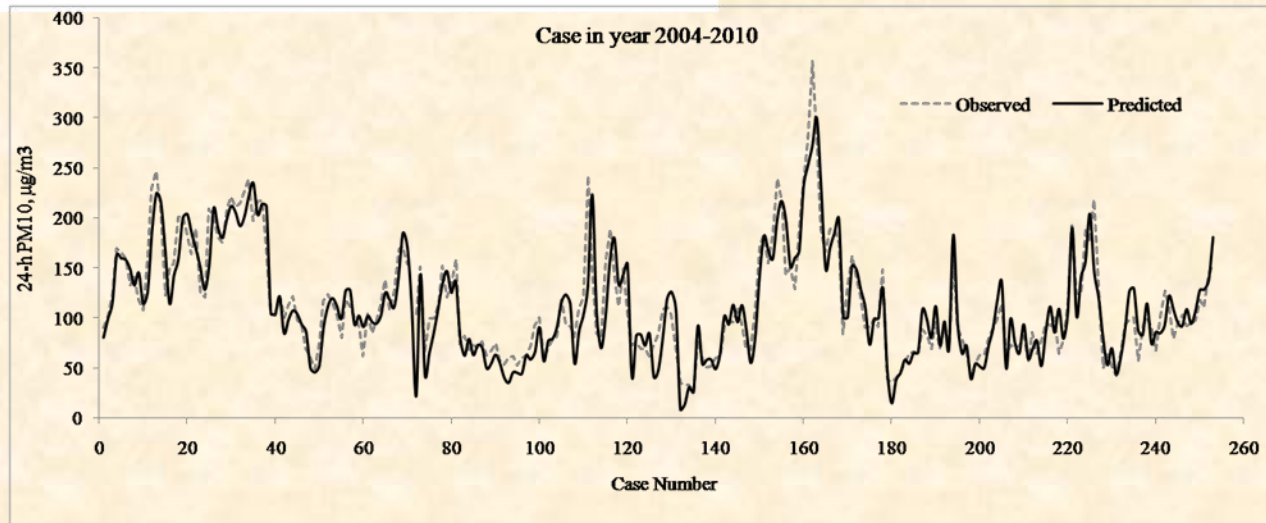
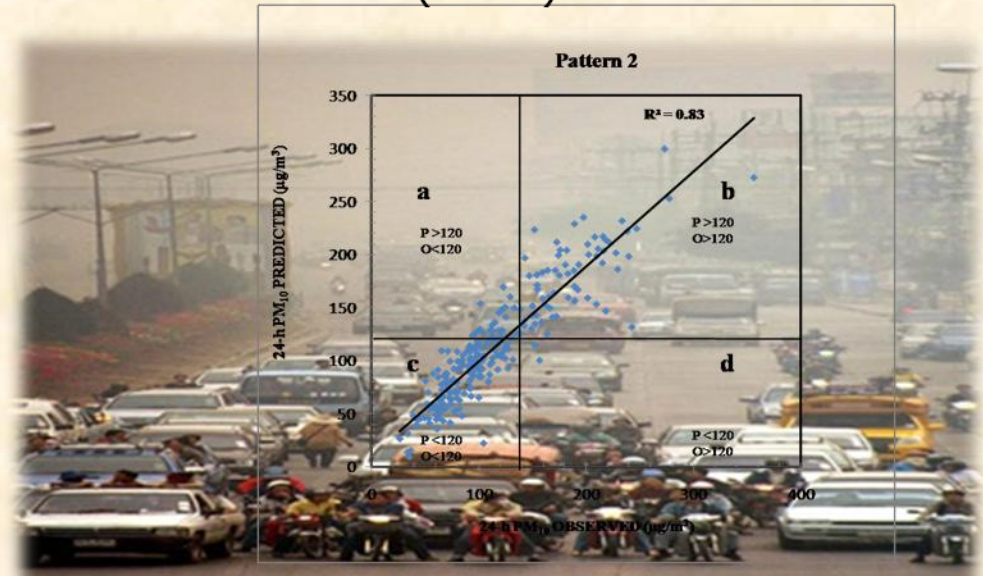
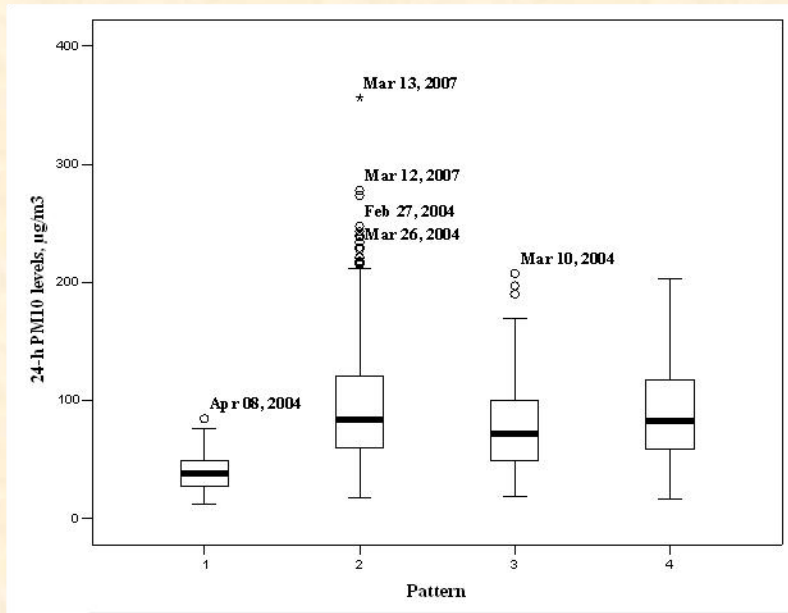
# Synoptic climatological model application for SO<sub>2</sub> concentration in Mahmoh valey, Chiangmai (1995-1997)



Model prediction of SO<sub>2</sub> concentration for met. pattern 5  
 (R<sup>2</sup> = 61%, RMSE = 340 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, Mean error = 33%)

# Modeling PM10 for haze prediction in Chiangmai

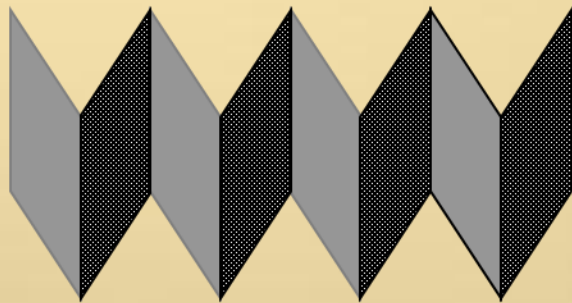
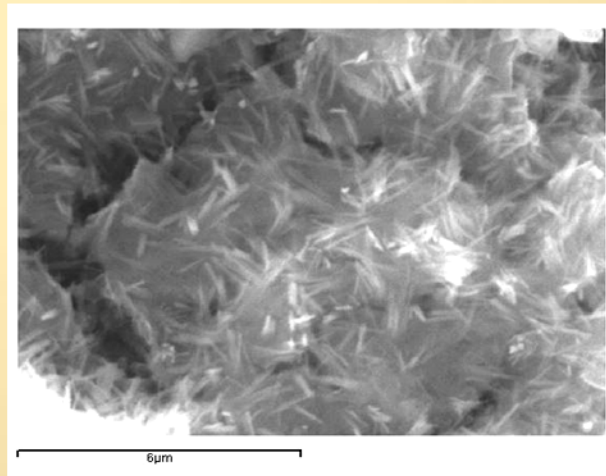
Leelasakultum & Kim Oanh (2010)



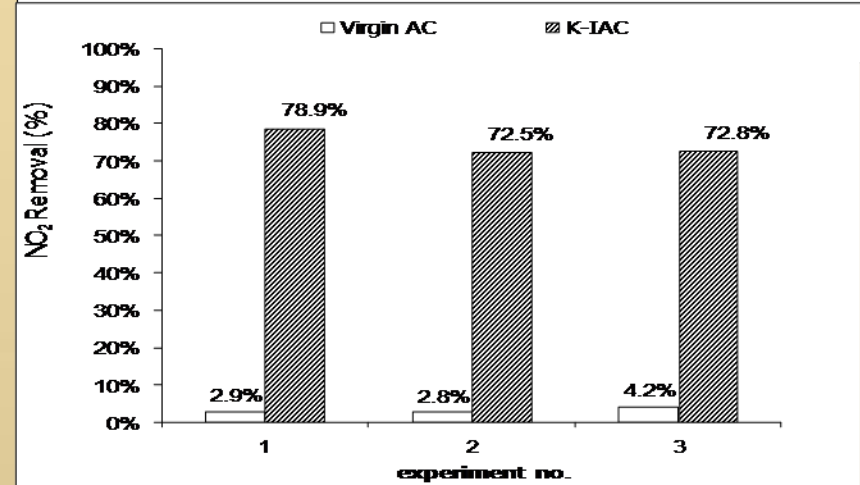
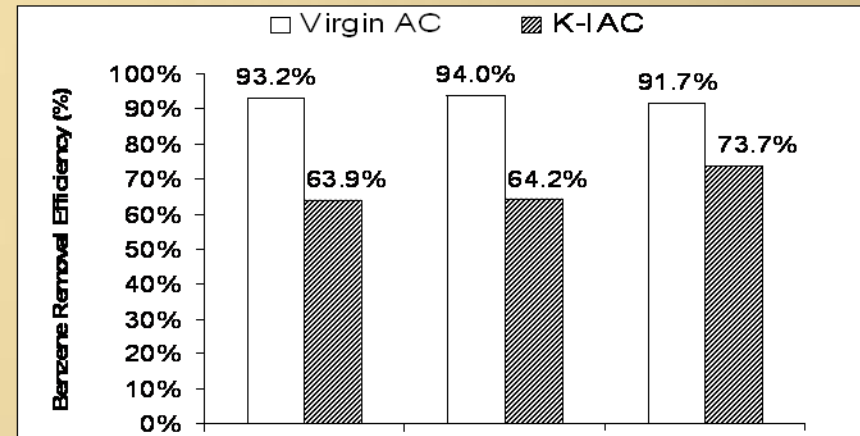
$$[\text{PM}_{10}] = -4044 + 0.568 P_{\text{PM}_{10}} - 0.008 \text{Vis} - 1.948 \text{Hum} + 4.258 \text{SLP}$$

# 6. Emission control technologies (I)

## VOC & NO<sub>x</sub> control using KOH impregnated activated carbon

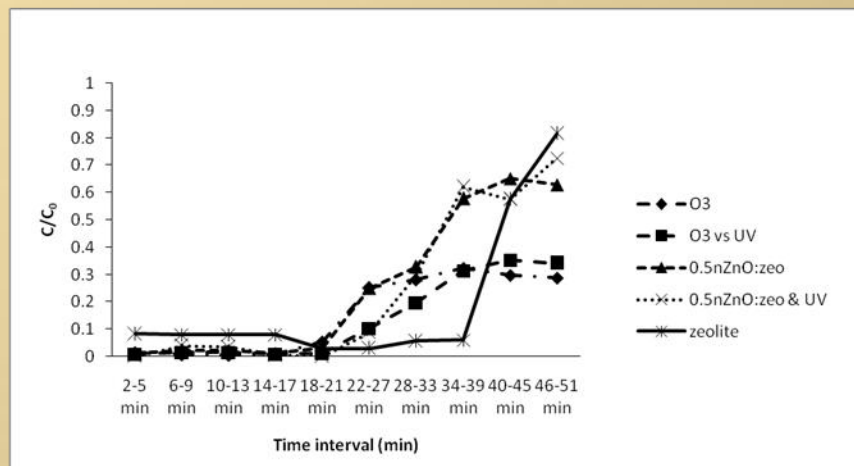
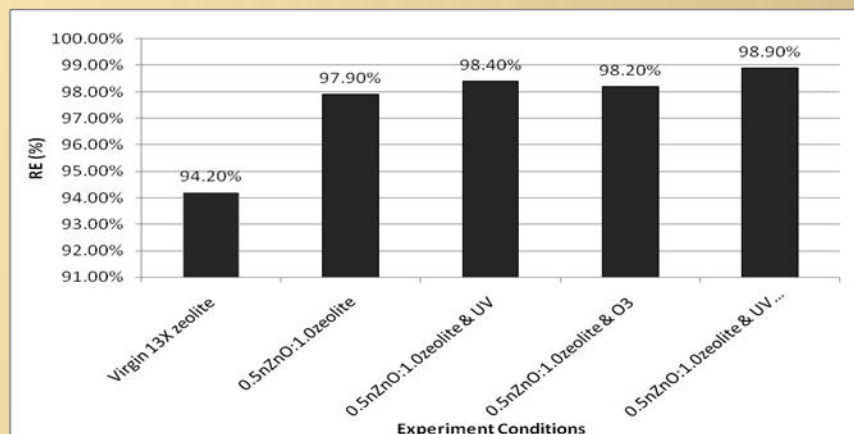
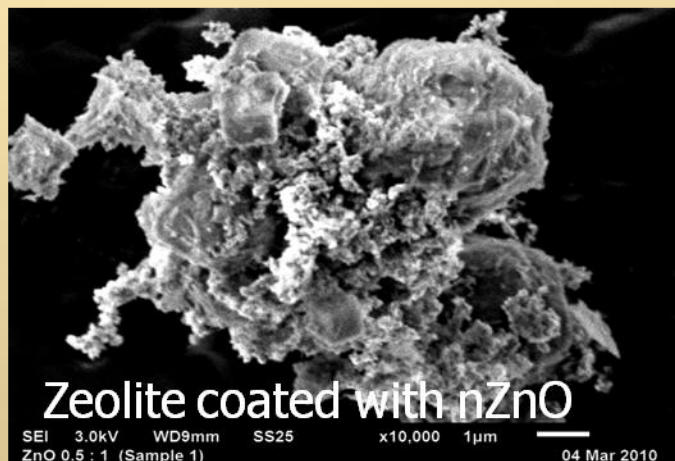


*Alternate AC and K-IAC beds for simultaneous removal of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC for indoor in car use*



# VOC control using nano-particles

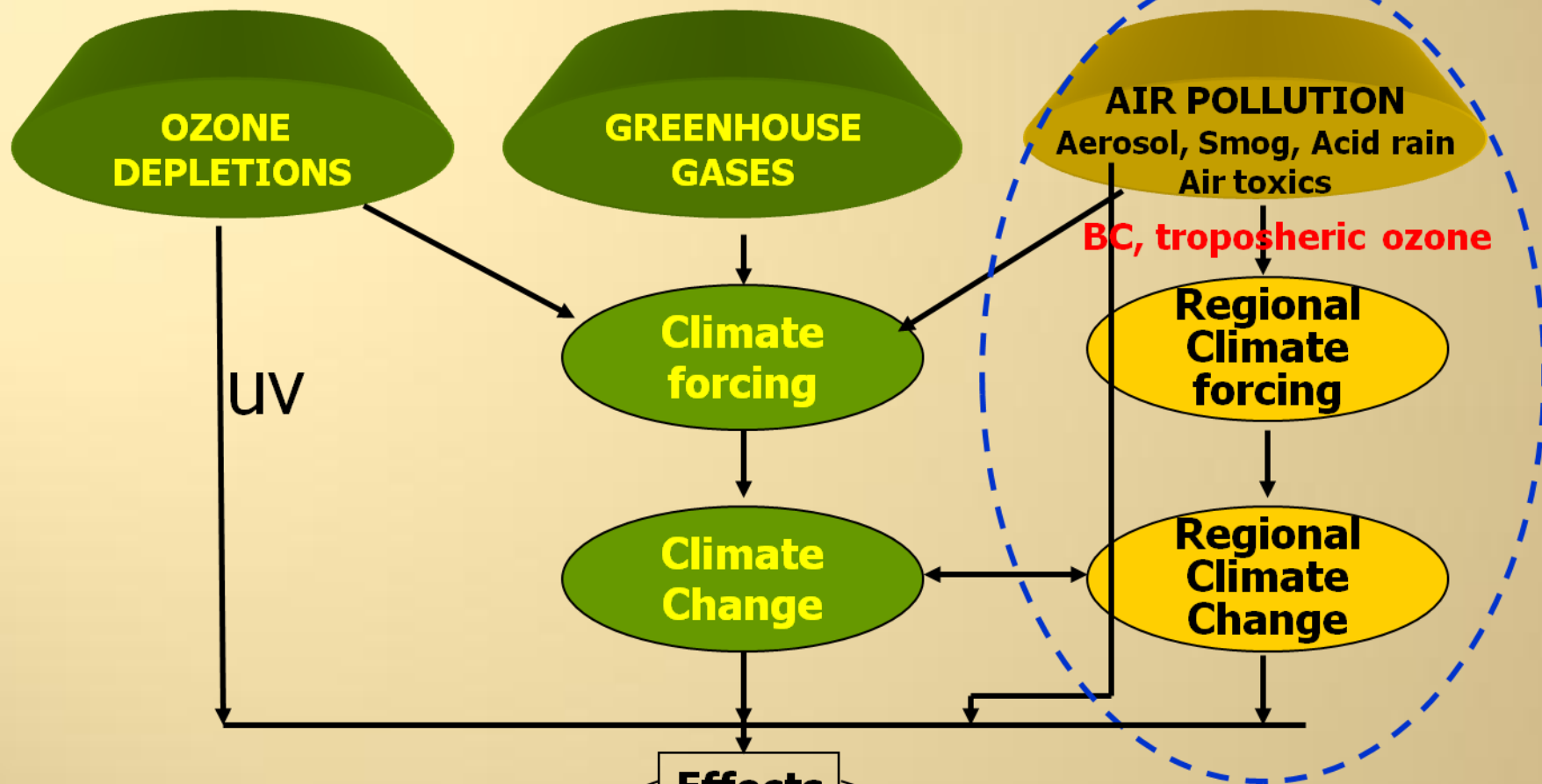
Adsorbents coated with nano-particles improve VOC removal efficiency



## 7. Air quality and climate interaction research

- Integrated assessment of air quality and climate co-benefits
- Quantification of co-benefits of emission control strategies using integrated air quality – climate modeling approach

# Emerging Atmospheric Environmental Issues: urban-regional and global



Health



Ecosystem



Water resource

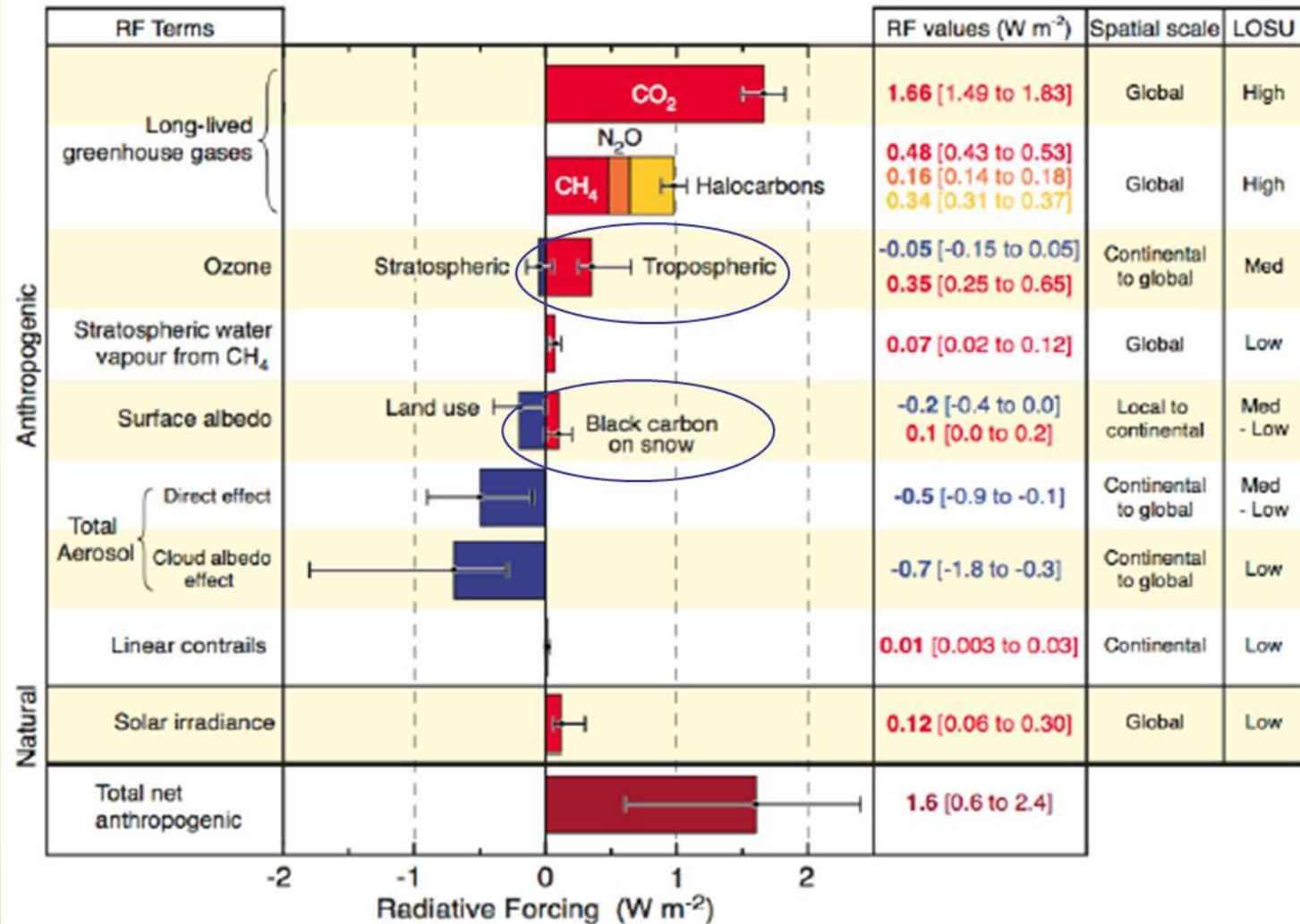
# Air pollution and climate change interaction

- Some traditional air pollutants (tropospheric ozone and particles) are short-lived forcers → important role in climate system
- Common sources: main air pollutants and CO<sub>2</sub> are emitted from the same sources (combustion) → air pollution abatement affects climate change
- Atmospheric chemistry: some air pollutants affect the lifetimes of GHGs



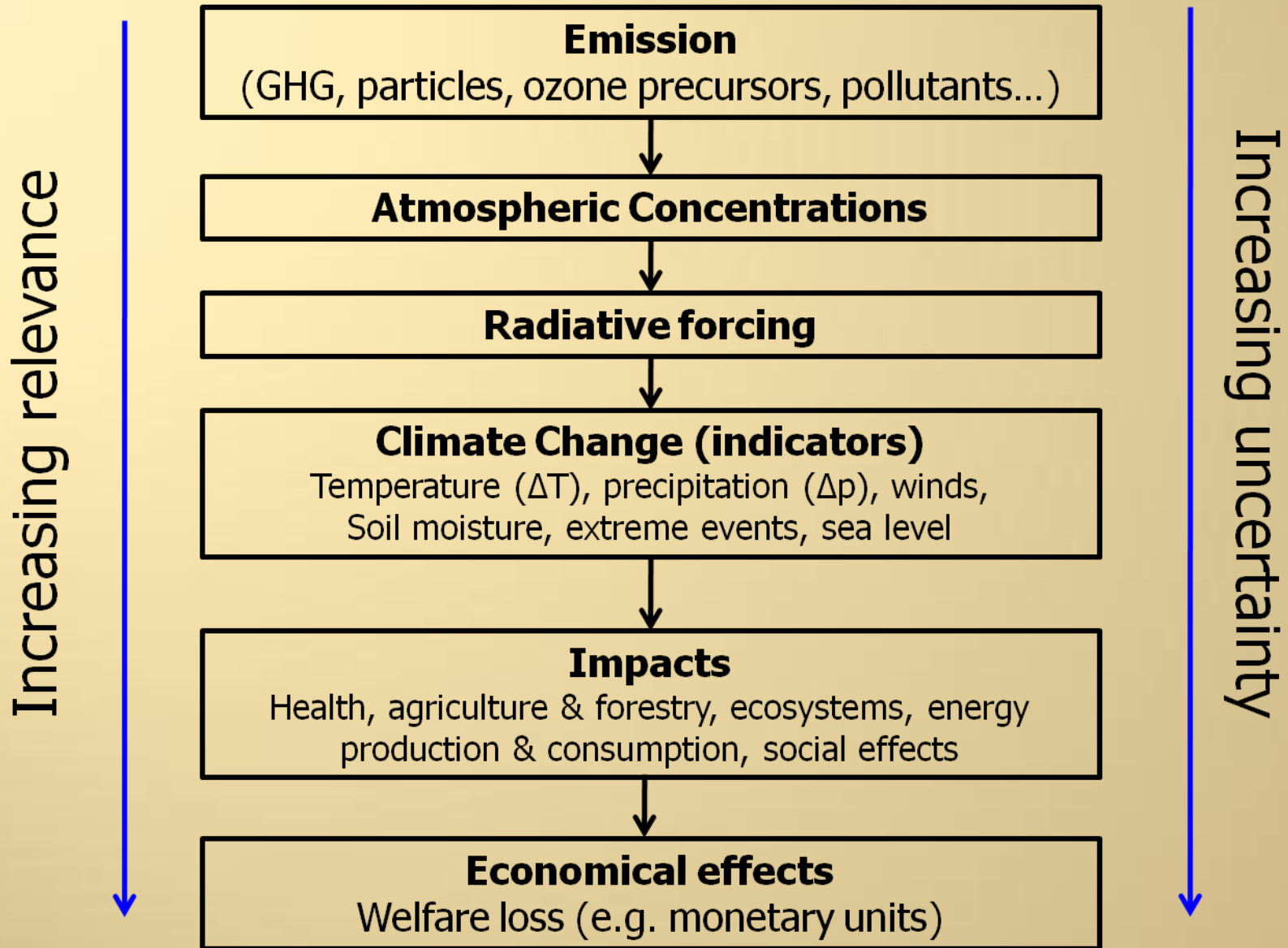
# BC and tropospheric ozone are toxic and also strong short-lived climate forcers

## Radiative Forcing Components



# Cause – effect chain of potential climate change effects

Ref. Fuglestedt et al. 2009

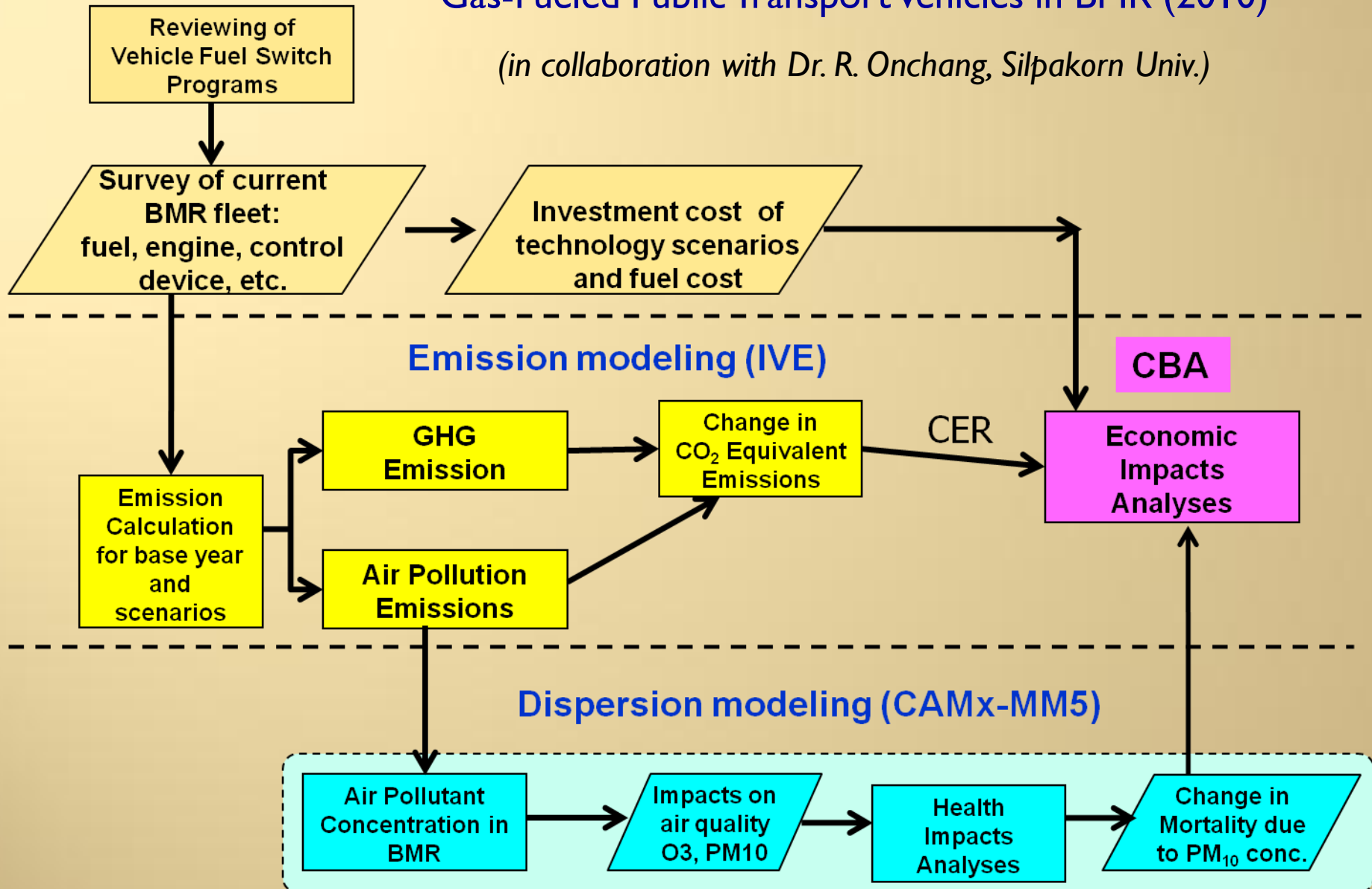


# AIT-RTG Joint Research Project:

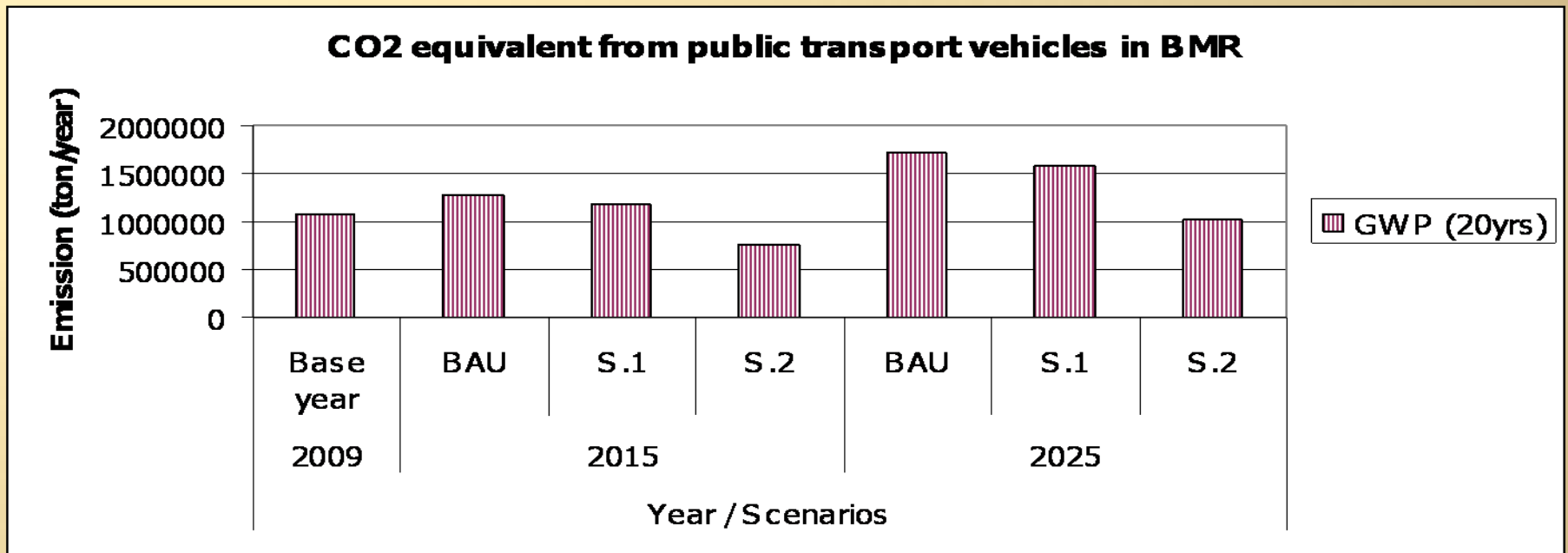
## Air Quality and Climate Impacts of Switching to Natural Gas-Fueled Public Transport Vehicles in BMR (2010)

*(in collaboration with Dr. R. Onchang, Silpakorn Univ.)*

### Survey



# Co-benefit of CNG use in public transport in BMR

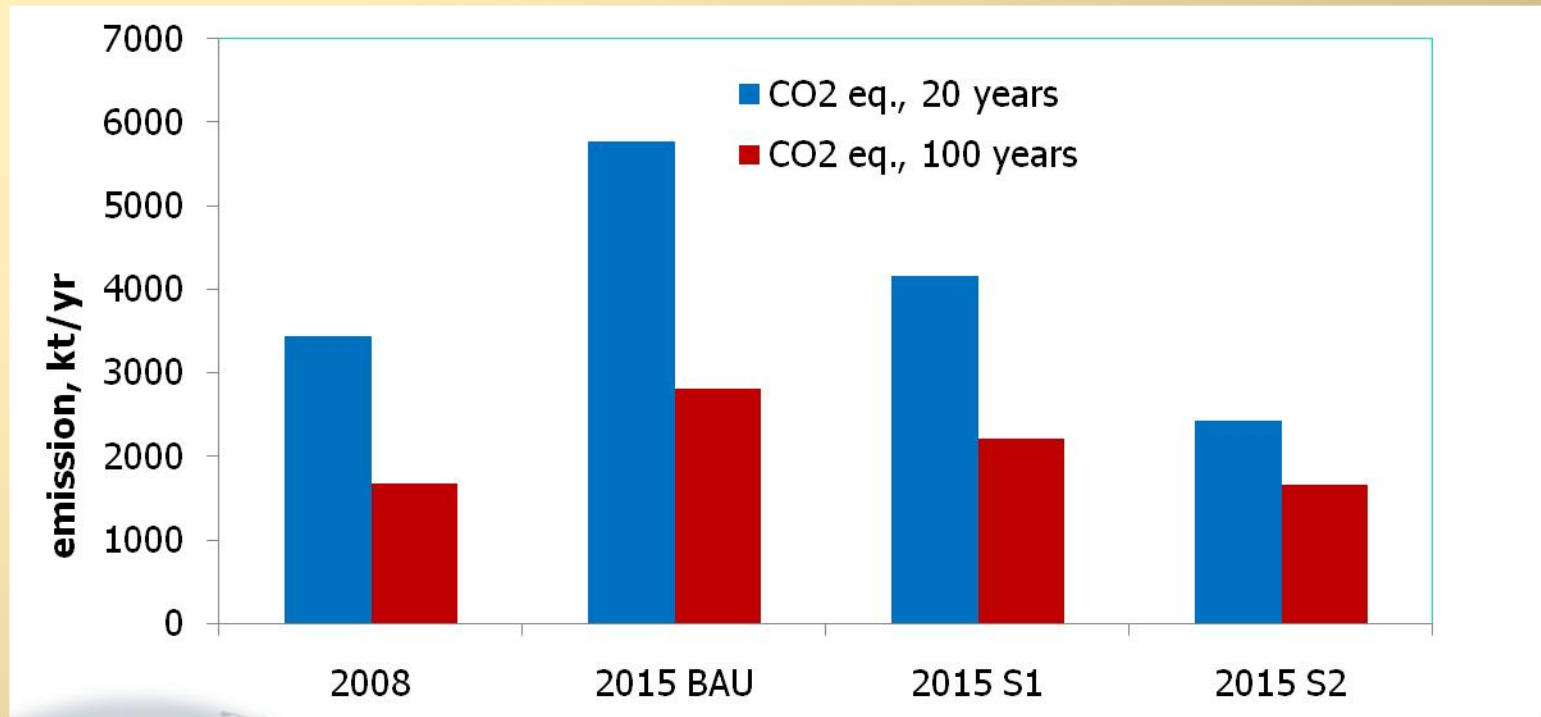


For 20 year horizon:

Emission reduction in 2015: S1: 7.3% S2: 41%

Emission reduction in 2025: S1: 8.2% S2: 41%

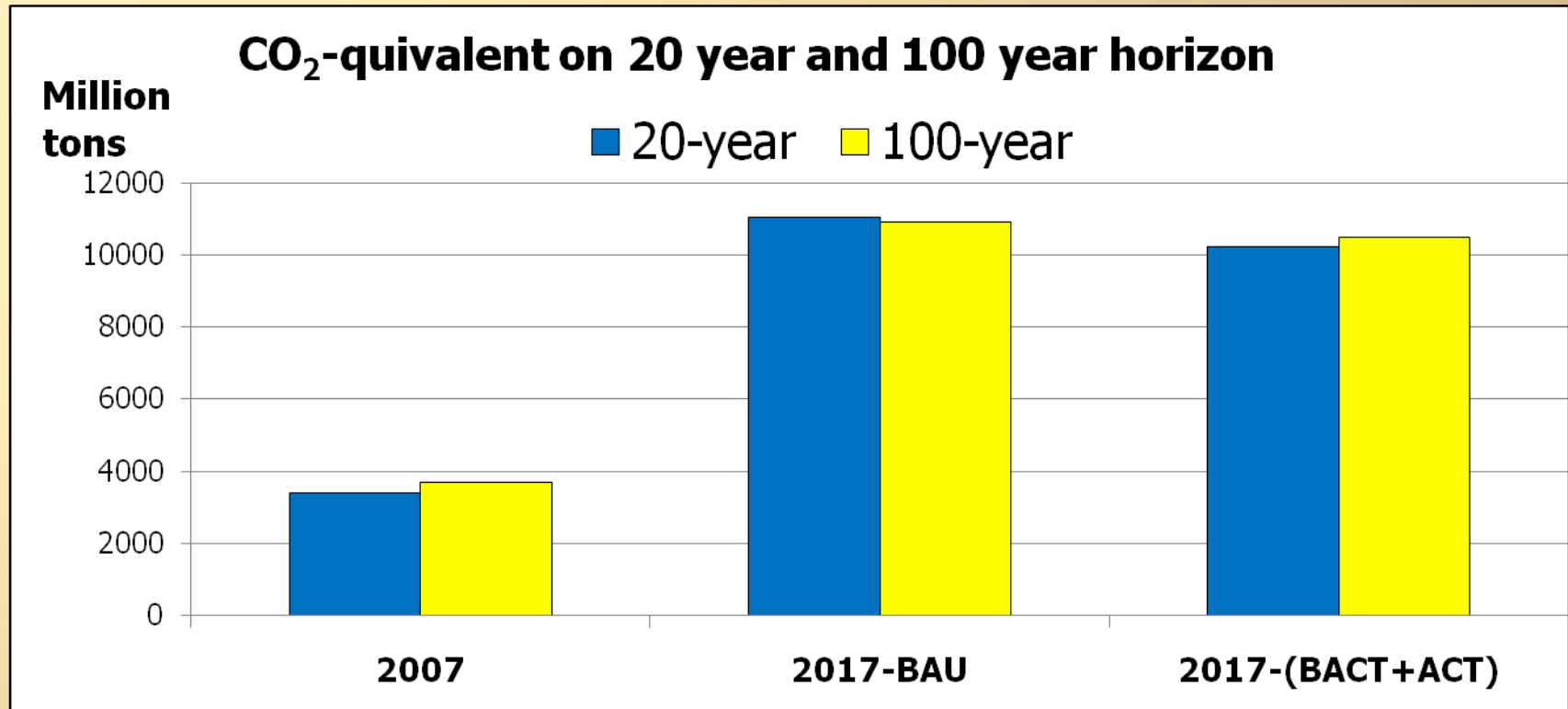
# Co-benefit of motorcycle technology improvement in Hanoi



S1: gradual intrusion of Euro3 technology  
S2: rapid intrusion of Euro3 technology



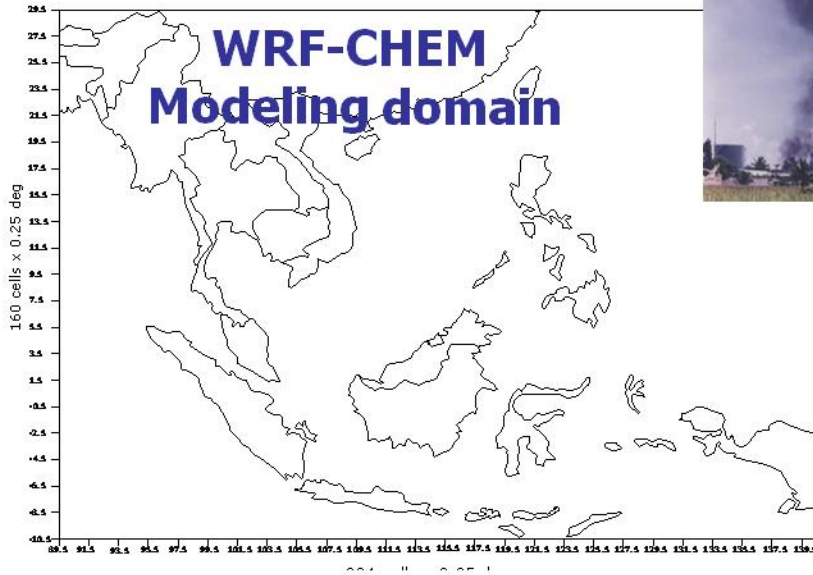
# Co-benefit of Coal fired power plants, China



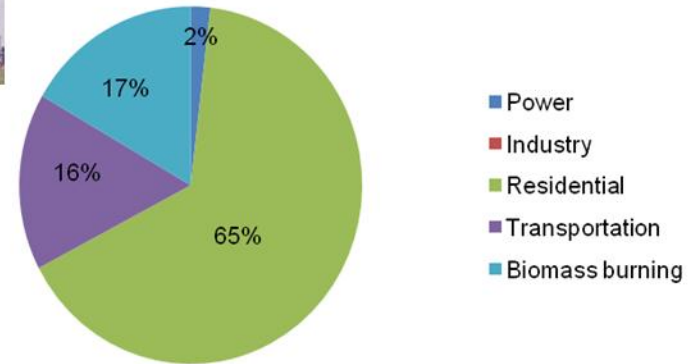
BACT: best available control technology  
ACT: advanced combustion technology

CO<sub>2</sub> eq reduction compared to 2017-BAU:  
7% for 20-year, 4% for 100 year

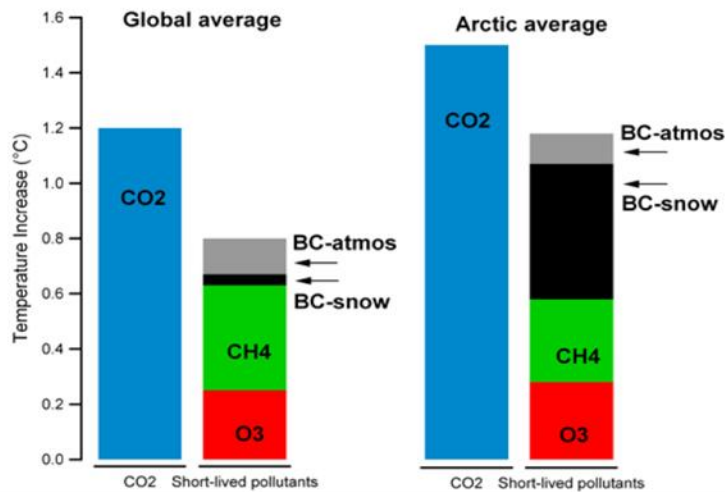
# French-SDCC project: Assessment of BC emission reduction strategies on air quality and climate in SEA



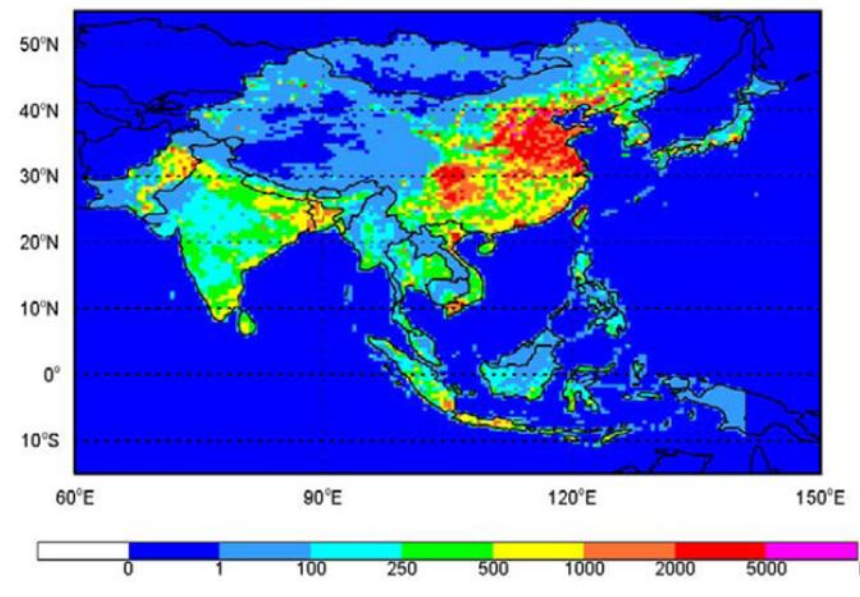
BC ASIA 2006 (%)



BC emission in Asia



Temperature increase due to forcers



# Climate change impact assessment: downscaling climate modeling to assess effects on air quality in Thailand

**Simulation of Regional Climate Change**



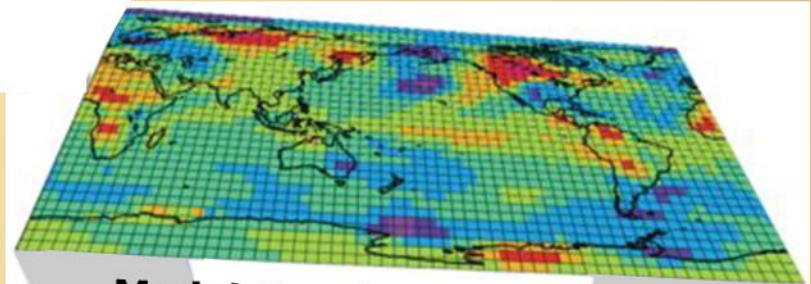
**Supercomputer**



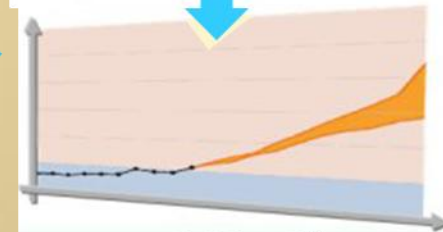
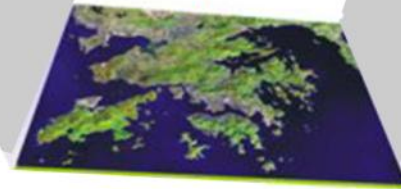
**Global Climate Models**



**Emission Scenarios**



**Model Results Downscaled to Interested Region**



**Impact (e.g. Air Quality in Local Area)**



# Ongoing projects



- Near road and on-road exposure assessment, sponsored by KIST (Korea), started in June 2010
- Hazardous chemical management, 2006-2010 (phase 1); 2011-2013 (phase 2); sponsored by Norwegian MFA
  - Involving Vietnam and Thailand
  - High temperature incinerator of PCB and OCPs
  - Bio-nano technologies for treatment of VOC, POP (including dioxin)-contaminated soil

# Air Quality Hero



Prof Kim Oanh has been awarded the plaque “Air Quality Hero” at the Better Air Quality (BAQ) Conference held at Singapore recently.

She was felicitated by the organizers for “consistent best presentation, most presentations and most number of abstracts submitted for BAQ over the years.”



## **Thank You**

If you would like to highlight your research activities do send in your inputs to

**[scpo@ait.ac.th](mailto:scpo@ait.ac.th)**