

# Online Determination of “Aircraft Engine Nanoparticle Emission Indices” at Zurich Airport, Switzerland

C. Wahl<sup>\*</sup>, Th. Rindlisbacher<sup>#</sup>, M. Kapernaum<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> Institute of Combustion Technology, (German Aerospace Center, DLR – Stuttgart)

<sup>#</sup> Federal Office for Civil Aviation, (FOCA-Bern, Switzerland)

In a cooperation of German Aerospace Center (DLR - Stuttgart), Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA – Bern, Switzerland) and Unique Flughafen Zürich AG, we did nanoparticle measurements at Zurich airport. The test equipment was positioned close to the taxiway of runway 16. If winds are from west (which is often the case), the exhaust gases of passing aircrafts are transported by wind drift to our equipment. Because of high dilution of the exhaust gases with ambient air and the transient events we used fast and sensitive devices like Engine Exhaust Particle Sizer (EEPS) and a NDIR CO<sub>2</sub> photometer. The size range of the EEPS is 5.6 nm to 560 nm and time resolution is 10 Hz. Time resolution of the NDIR CO<sub>2</sub> photometer is 1 Hz.

The so called particle Emission Index (EI<sub>PM</sub>) gives the mass of nanoparticles formed during combustion of 1 kg fuel.  $EI_{PM\ mass} = mg_{particles} / kg_{fuel}$ . The Emission Index is a clear indicator for the quality of a combustion process! To determine an Emission Index by CO<sub>2</sub> concentration measurement, it is necessary to know the carbon mass content of the fuel. The fuel normally used in civil passenger aircrafts is kerosene called JET-A1. Due to the strict specifications, the mass ratio of carbon to hydrogen is nearly constant. Therefore, burning of 1 kg of Jet-A1 forms always 3.16 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> (+- 3%). To determine an EI<sub>PM</sub>, it is necessary to measure the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration and particle concentration in parallel. Under stationary conditions this is normally no problem. In our case of highly transient events, both instruments must be fast enough to detect the maximum of the peaks. The Emission Indices can be calculated independent from exhaust gas dilution. It is assumed that CO<sub>2</sub> and particles are diluted always by the same factor.

The aerosol background at Zurich airport is very low. Therefore for nearly all passing aircrafts the corresponding particle cloud could be identified. (The nose is also a good detector. Whenever we smelled exhaust gas, we also had clear signals in CO<sub>2</sub> and particles.)

We calculated Emission Indices for particle mass as well as for particle number. The measured range of values is

$$EI_{particle\ mass} = 53 - 214\ mg_{PM} / kg_{fuel} \quad EI_{particle\ \#} = 1.5 - 4.7\ E16\ \# / kg_{fuel}$$

The geometric mean diameter measured is in the range of 9.4 to 13.5 nm, which is less than normally found at engine test rig measurements. The reason here may be the direct exhaust dilution with bypass- and fan air at engine exit.

(At rig tests, dilution is normally done at the end of the sampling line. Agglomeration takes place in the sampling line, due to high particle concentration.)

Within the “International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)” there is a working group called “Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP)”. This CAEP committee developed a “First Order Approximation (FOA3)” for particle mass

estimation (volatile + nonvolatile). For this PM Estimation method, values from the ICAO engine database are used (Smoke Number, UHC, Sulfur Conversion Factor, AFR, ....). Using the FOA3 method, the calculated range of values is

$$EI_{PM\ FOA3} = 54 \text{ to } 248 \text{ mg}_{PM} / \text{kg}_{fuel}$$

It should be mentioned that the engine power setting at "ICAO Taxi" is 7% of the maximum engine thrust. The real "Taxi" power setting in our measurements at Zurich is about 4% of maximum thrust.

Assignment of engine types to measured aircraft can be done on the basis of publicly available data. Our method is a simple technique to determine EI's for the actual aircraft engine fleet.

The method should also work on streets with low "car frequency" to get EI's for the actual car fleet.

The authors want to thank Peter Frei and Emanuel Fleuti of UNIQUE Flughafen Zürich AG for making this measurements possible.

**Please do not use this results out of the context of this presentation**, due to the big error bars in CO<sub>2</sub> measurements (+- 20%) and the mentioned limitations.



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C. Wahl\*, Th. Rindlisbacher#, M. Kapernaum\*


13th ETH Conference on Combustion Generated Nanoparticles



## Why Emission Index?

$$EI = \text{mg pollutant} / \text{kg burned fuel}$$

- clear indicator for combustion quality
- to compare combustion concepts
- to calculate total emissions into the atmosphere



# Particle Measurement in Aircraft Engine Exhaust Plumes close to the Taxiway

- wind drift from engine exit to detector
- exhaust gas plumes of aircrafts are clearly identified (not too many aircrafts)
- engine type is known
- **low background concentration!**



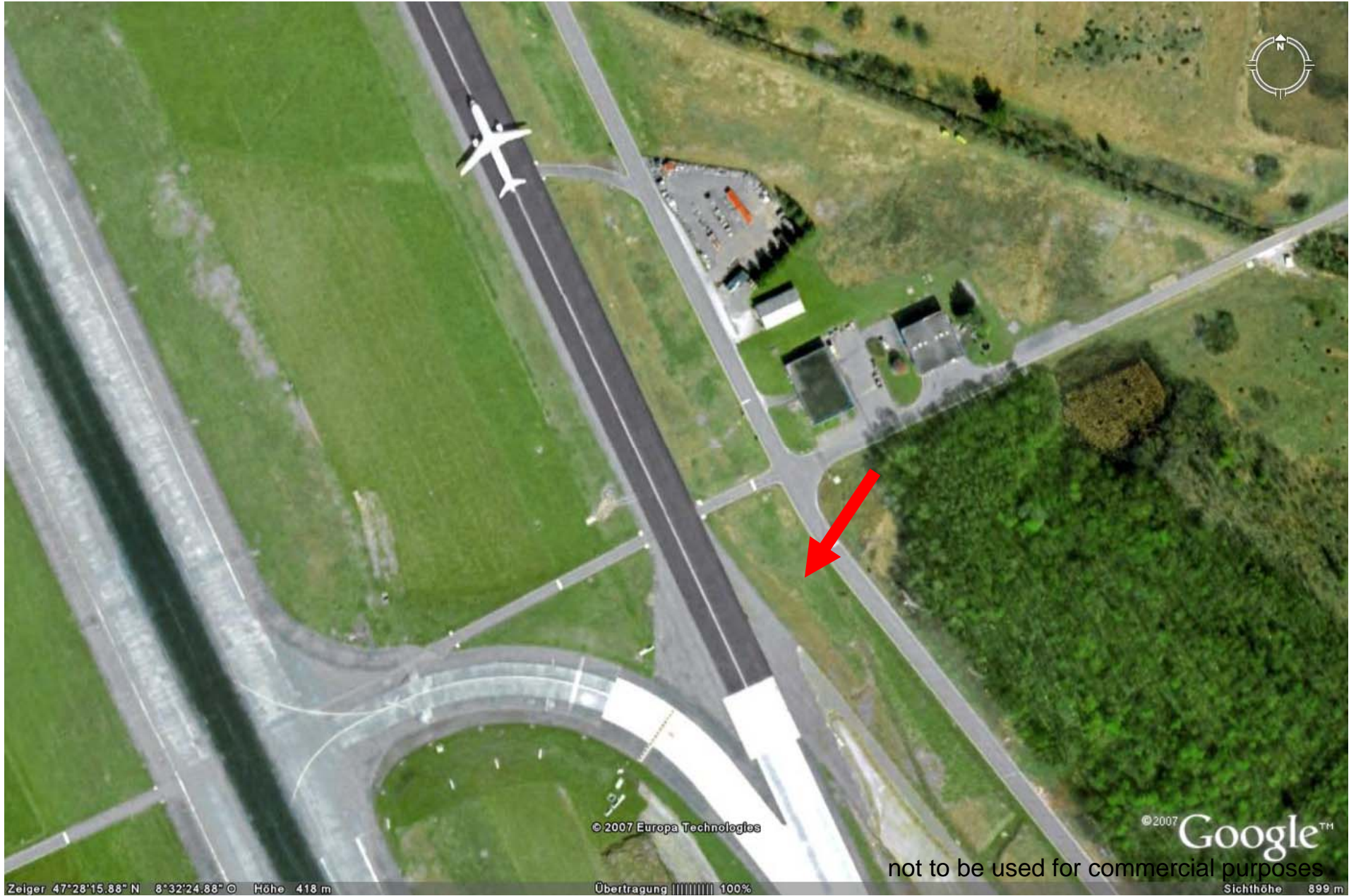
west



east

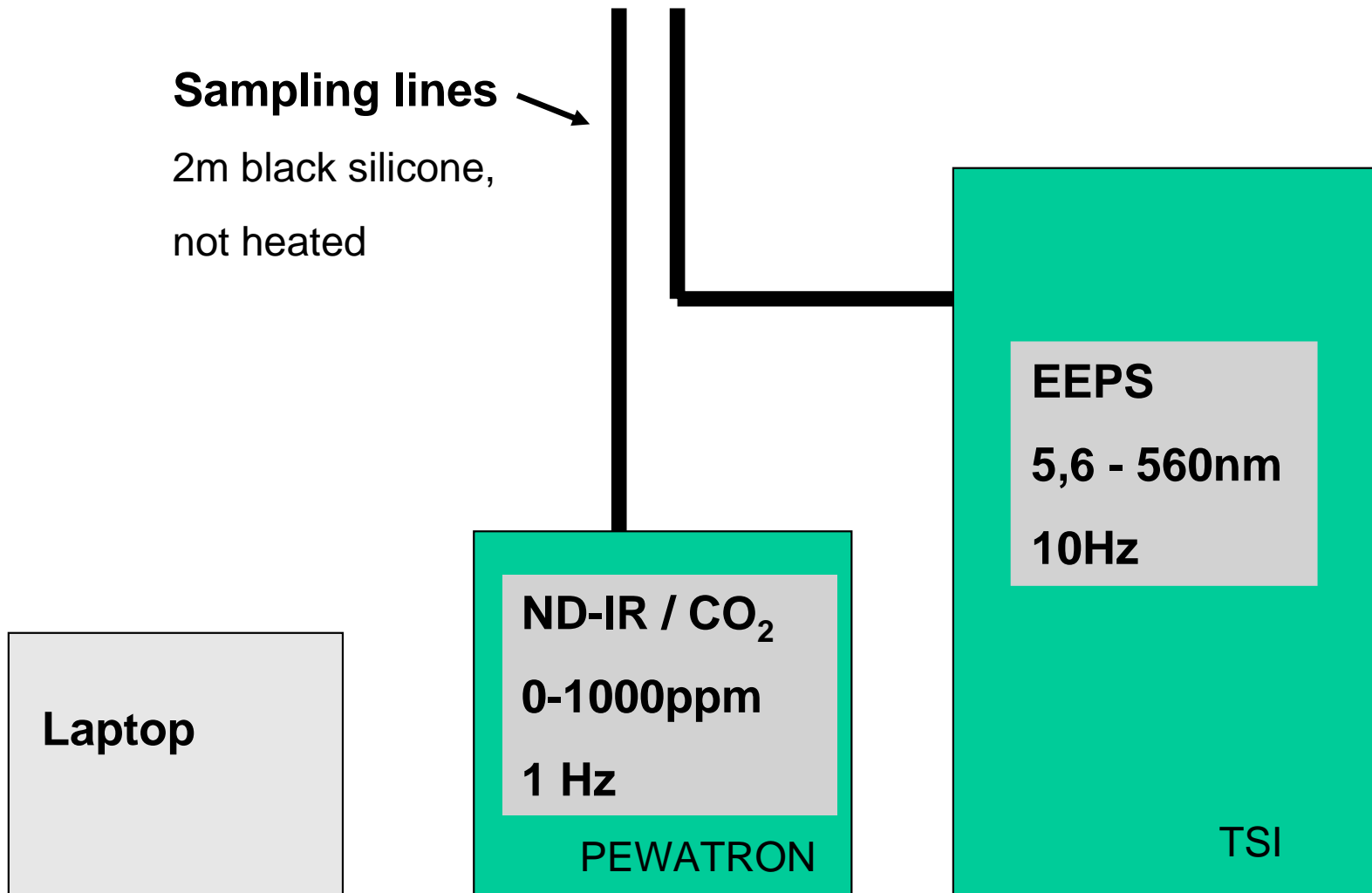
**at Zürich Airport landing fees are emission depending**

not to be used for commercial purposes









## Emission Index

$$EI = \text{mg}_{\text{particles}} / \text{kg}_{\text{burned fuel}}$$

**1 kg Kerosene JET-A1 → 862,2 g Carbon → 3,16 kg CO<sub>2</sub> +- 3%**

**1 kg JET-A1 → 1609440 m<sup>3</sup> exhaust gas with 1 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>**

Example:

Exhaust gas volume of 1kg burned Jet-A1 containing **120 ppm CO<sub>2</sub>** :

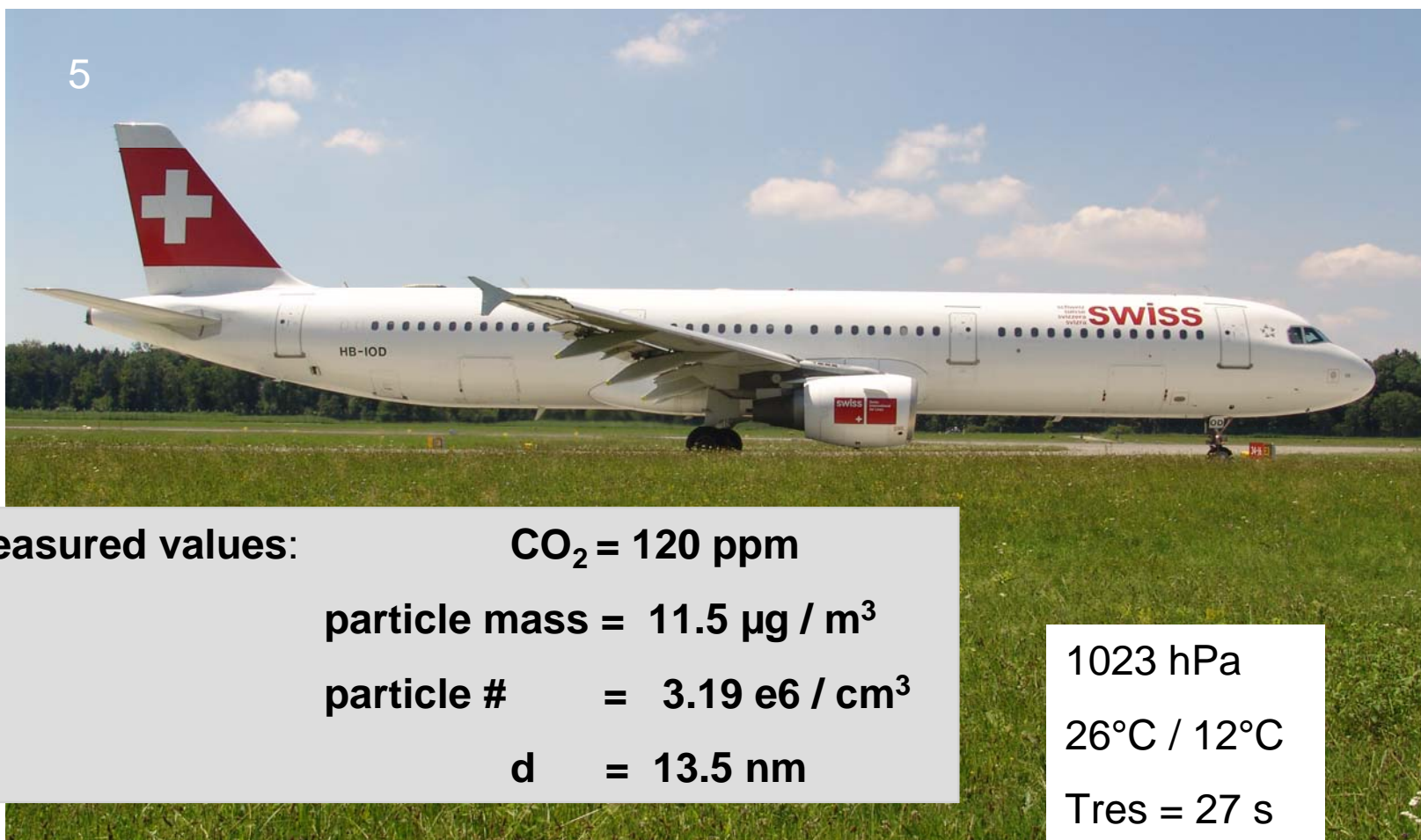
$$V_{\text{EX } 120\text{ppm}} = 1609440 / 120 = \mathbf{13412 \text{ m}^3}$$

**→ EI can be calculated by measuring pollutant and CO<sub>2</sub> in parallel**

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>23</sub> "substitute formula" → 86,22 % carbon mass

# Swiss Airbus - A321 fitted with CFM56-5B1/2P engines

DAC



measured values:

$\text{CO}_2 = 120 \text{ ppm}$

particle mass =  $11.5 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$

particle # =  $3.19 \text{ e}6 / \text{cm}^3$

d =  $13.5 \text{ nm}$

1023 hPa

26°C / 12°C

Tres = 27 s

## Example: Swiss Airbus - A321 fitted with CFM56-5B1/2P engines

measured values:  $\text{CO}_2 = 120 \text{ ppm}$   
particle mass =  $11,5 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$   
particle # =  $3,18 \text{ e}6 / \text{cm}^3$

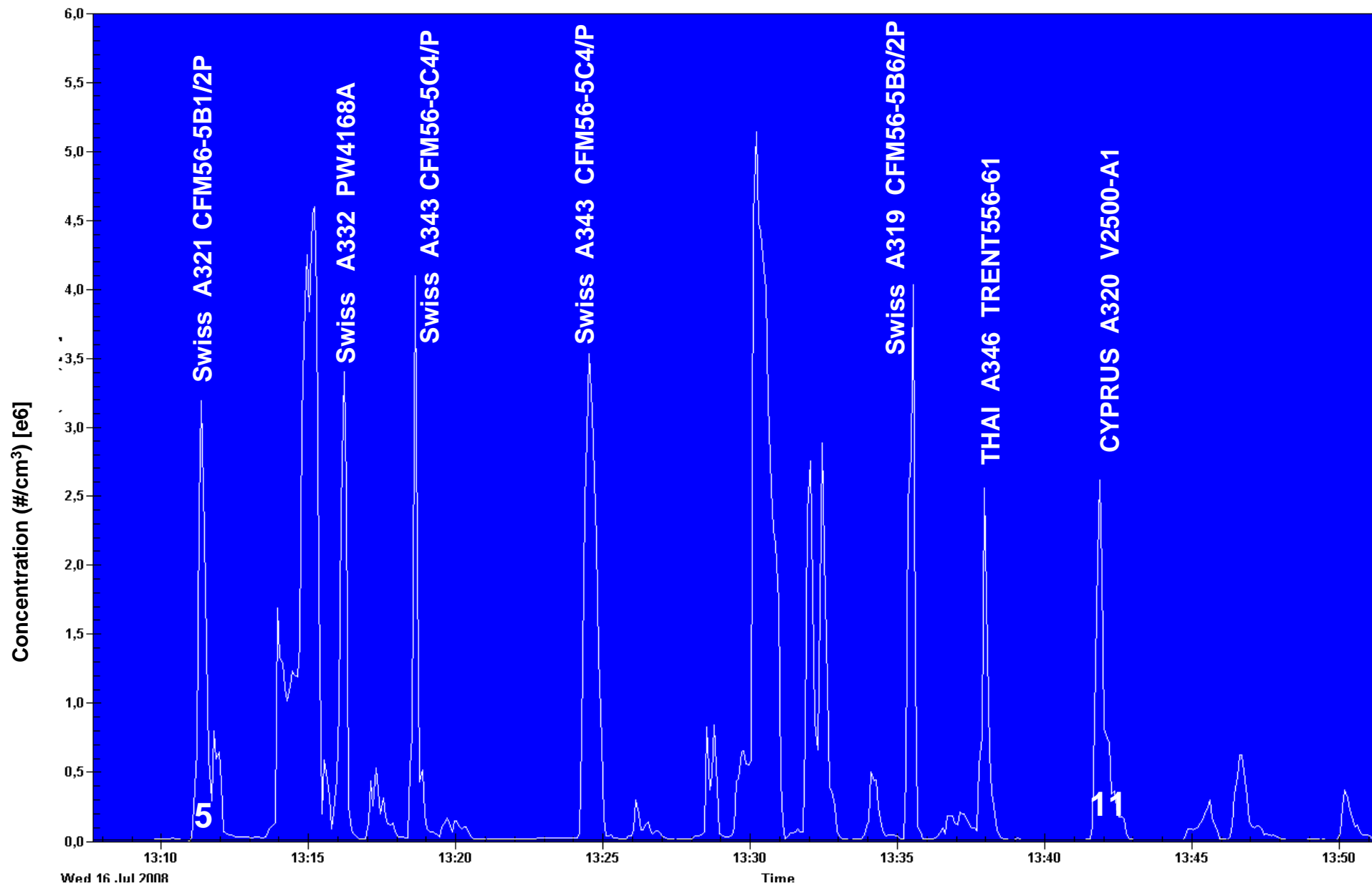
Exhaust gas volume of 1kg burned Jet-A1 containing **120 ppm  $\text{CO}_2$**  :

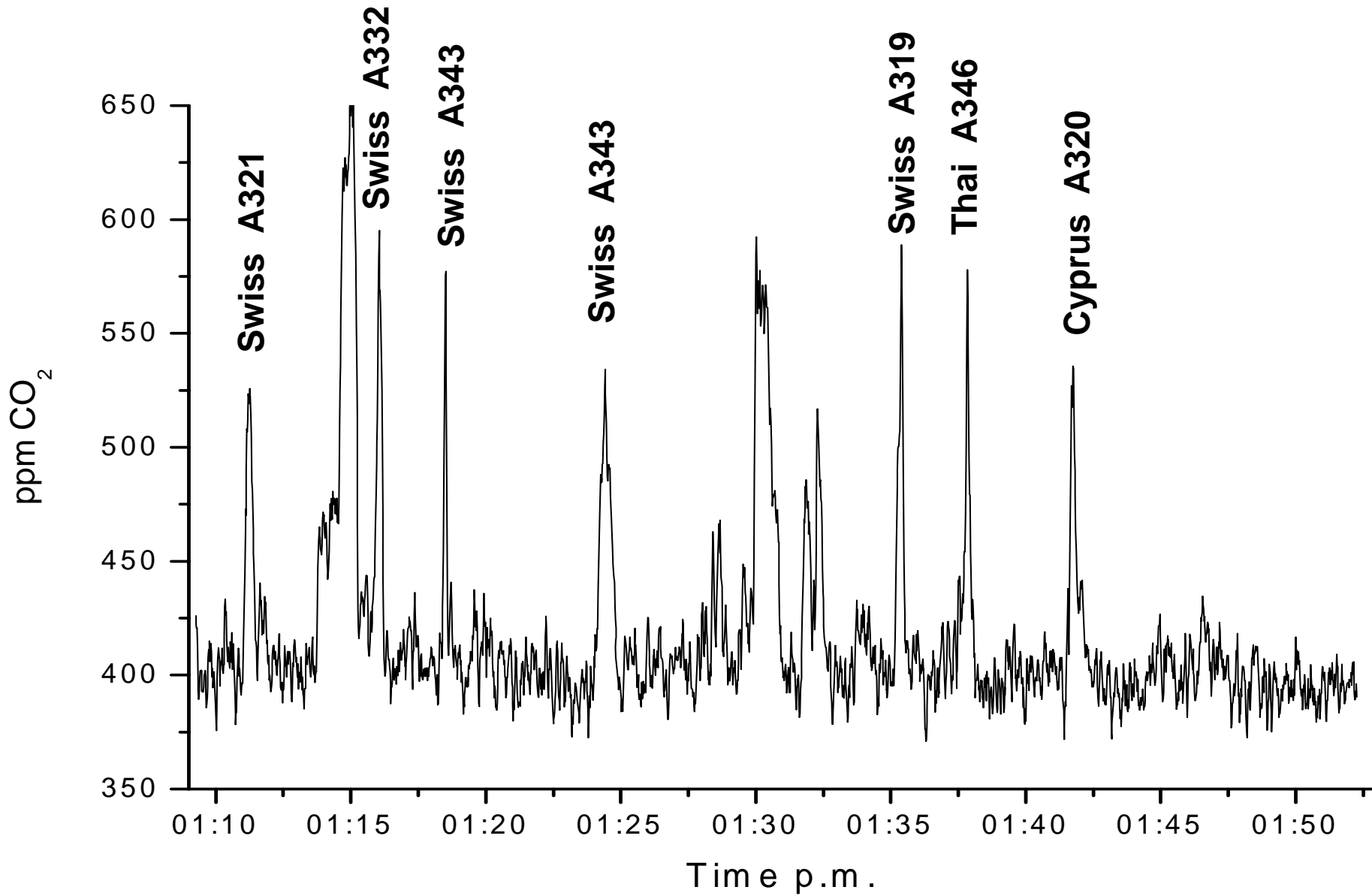
$$V_{\text{EX } 120\text{ppm}} = 1609440 / 120 = \mathbf{13412 \text{ m}^3}$$

$$EI_{\text{particle mass}} = 11,5 \mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3 * 13412 \text{ m}^3 = \mathbf{152 \text{ mg} / \text{kg}}_{\text{burned Jet-A1}}$$

$$EI_{\text{particle \#}} = 3,19\text{e}6 / \text{cm}^3 * 13412 \text{ m}^3 = \mathbf{4,3 \text{ e}16 / \text{kg}}_{\text{burned Jet-A1}}$$

**method is independent from plume dilution !!**





# Swiss Airbus A332 fitted with PW4168A

El\_PM\_mass = 53mg / kg fuel

El\_#\_number = 2.84 e16 / kg fuel

**CO<sub>2</sub> = 193 ppm**

**mass = 6.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

**# = 3.41 e6/cm<sup>3</sup>**

**d = 9.8 nm**

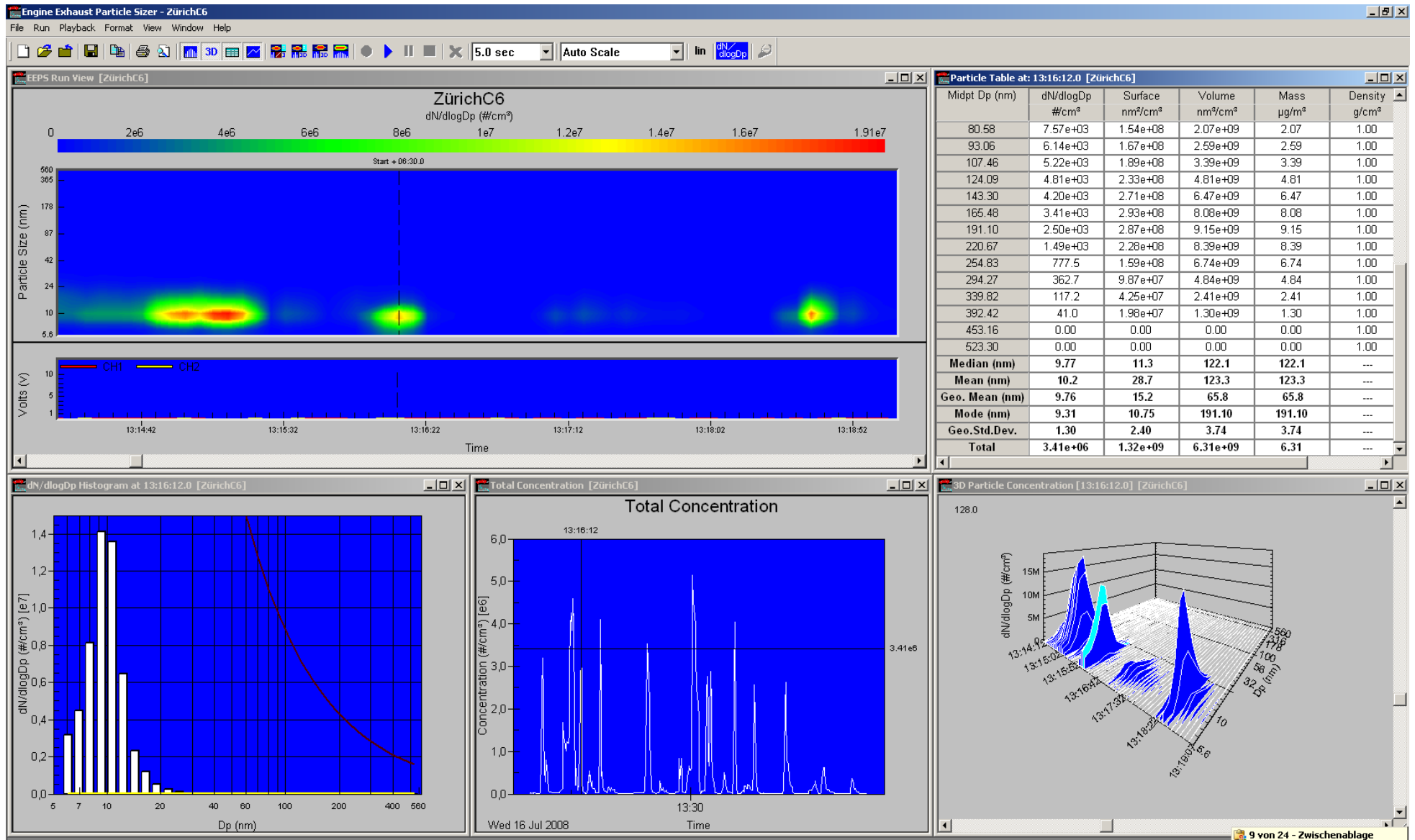
1023 hPa

26°C / 12°C

Tres = 20 s



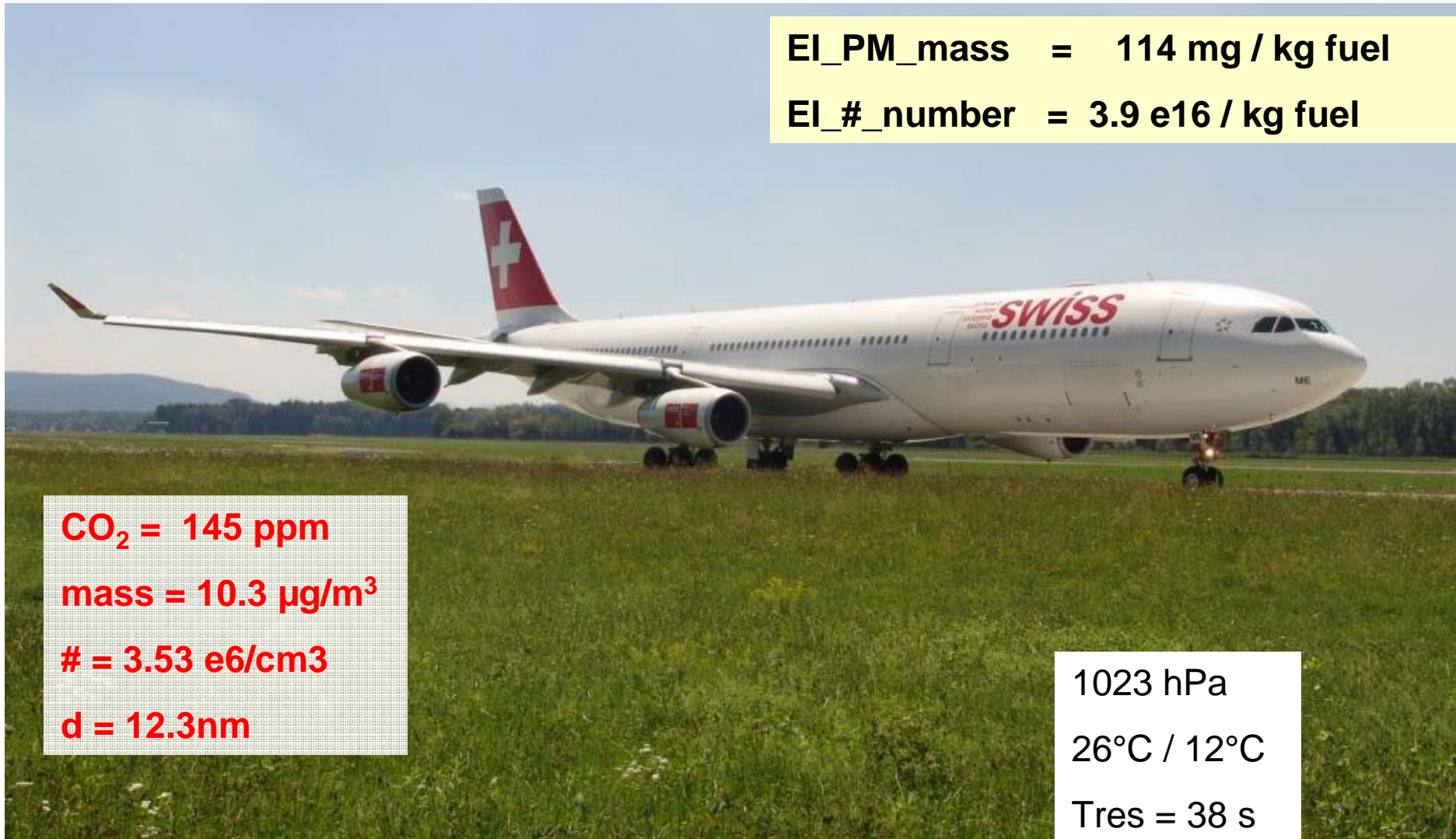
# Swiss Airbus A332 fitted with PW4168A



# Swiss Airbus A343 fitted with CFM56-5C4/P

El\_PM\_mass = 114 mg / kg fuel

El\_#\_number = 3.9 e16 / kg fuel



$\text{CO}_2 = 145 \text{ ppm}$

mass =  $10.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

# =  $3.53 \text{ e}6/\text{cm}^3$

d = 12.3nm

1023 hPa

26°C / 12°C

Tres = 38 s

# THAI Airbus A346 fitted with TRENT 556-61

**El\_PM\_mass = 85 mg / kg fuel**

**El\_#\_number = 2.3 e16 / kg fuel**



**CO<sub>2</sub> = 182 ppm**

**mass = 9.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

**# = 2.56 e6/cm<sup>3</sup>**

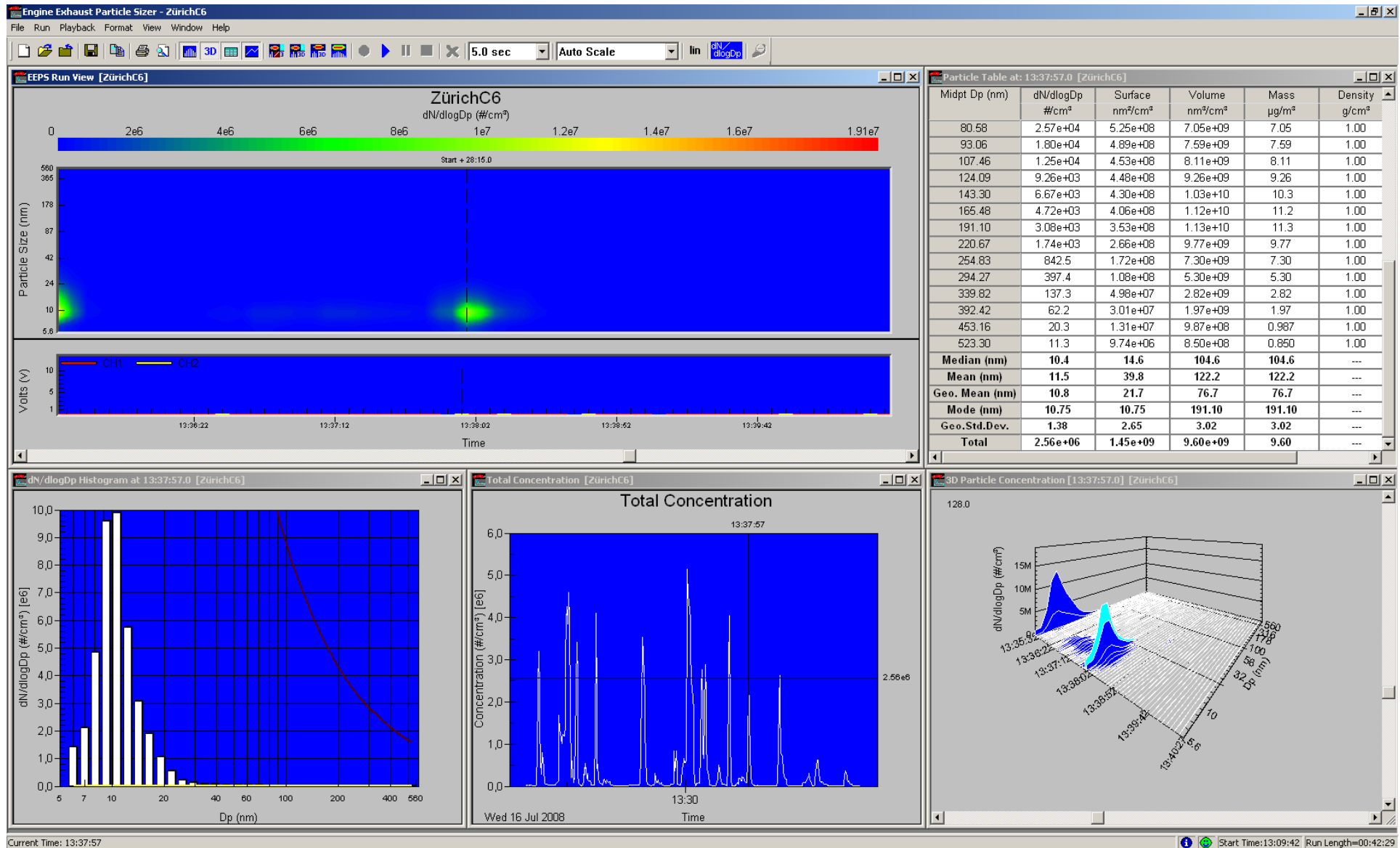
**d = 10.8 nm**

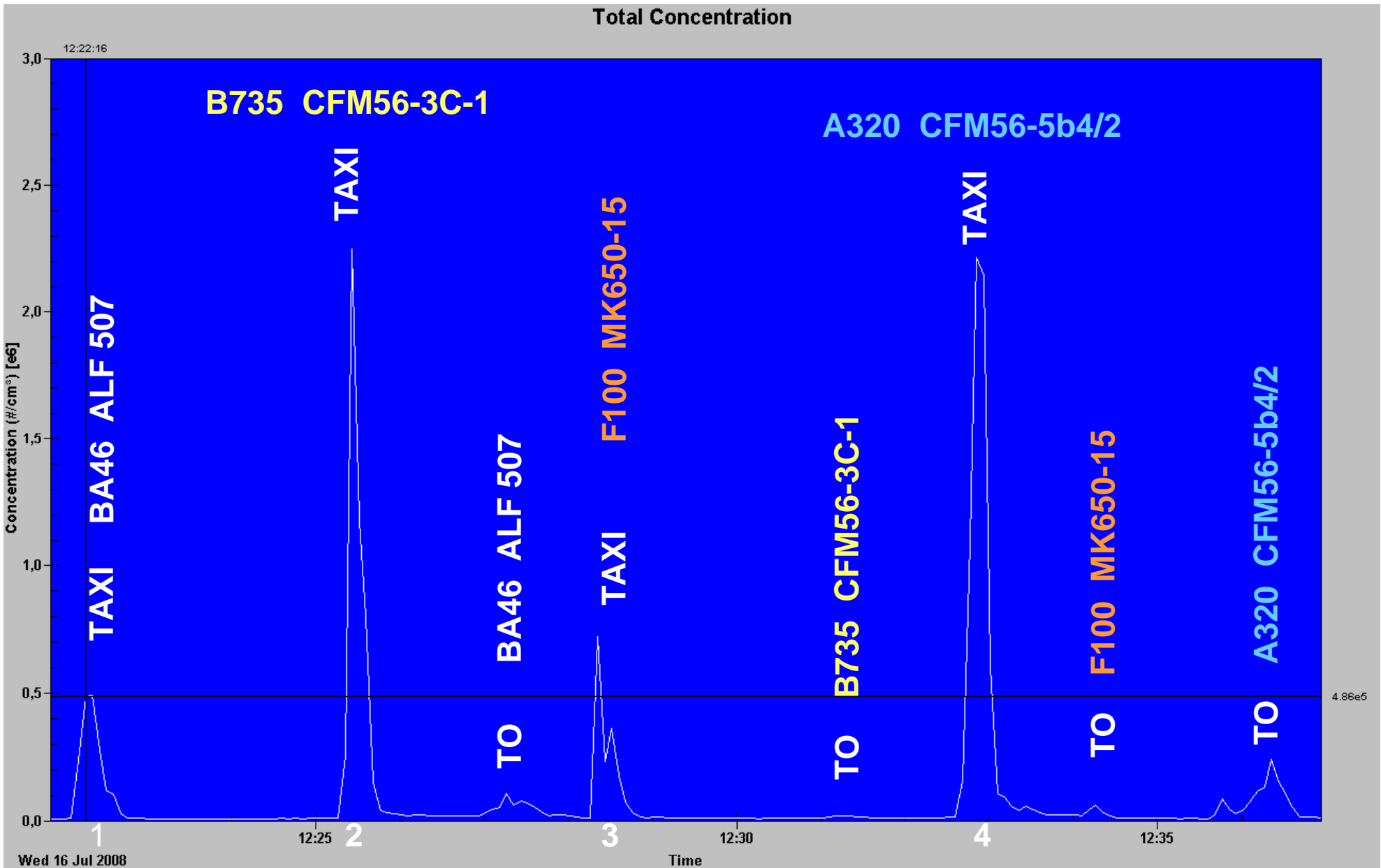
1022 hPa

27°C / 13°C

Tres = 38 s

# THAI Airbus A346 fitted with TRENT 556-61





# BA46 SWISS Honeywell ALF507

1

El\_PM\_mass = 161mg / kg fuel

El\_#\_number = 1,48 e16 / kg fuel

**CO<sub>2</sub> = 53 ppm**

**mass = 5.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

**# = 4.86 e5/cm<sup>3</sup>**

**d = 9.4 nm**

1023 hPa

25°C / 12°C

Tres. = 50 s

## B737 – 500 Ukraine International CFM56-3C-1

2

El\_PM\_mass = 165mg / kg fuel

El\_#\_number = 4,7 e16 / kg fuel

**CO<sub>2</sub> = 77 ppm**

**mass = 7.89 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

**# = 2.25 e6/cm<sup>3</sup>**

**d = 11.6 nm**

1023 hPa

25°C / 13°C

Tres = 18 s

# Fokker 100 STAR ALLIANCE TAY MK650-15

3

El\_PM\_mass = 214mg / kg fuel

El\_#\_number = 3,06 e16 / kg fuel



**CO<sub>2</sub> = 38 ppm**

**mass = 5.05 µg/m<sup>3</sup>**

**# = 7.23 e5/cm<sup>3</sup>**

**d = 11.5 nm**

1023 hPa

25°C / 13°C

Tres = 24 s



## Results for particle mass and particle number EI's determined from exhaust plume during aircraft taxi (~ 4% power setting)

Number	Reg	Type	Engine	Measured Taxi EI_PM_mass (mg/kg)	Measured Taxi EI_PM_number (#/kg)	Geometric mean diameter (nm)
1	-	BA46	ALF 507	161	$1.48 * 10^{16}$	9.4
2	-	B735	CFM56-3C-1	165	$4.70 * 10^{16}$	11.6
3	-	F100	MK650-15	214	$3.06 * 10^{16}$	11.5
4	-	A320	CFM56-5B4/2	146	$3.11 * 10^{16}$	13
5	-	A321	CFM56-5B1/2P	154	$4.30 * 10^{16}$	13.5
6	-	A332	PW4168A	53	$2.84 * 10^{16}$	9.8
7	-	A343	CFM56-5C4/P	79	$3.70 * 10^{16}$	11
8	-	A343	CFM56-5C4/P	114	$3.90 * 10^{16}$	12.3
9	-	A319	CFM56-5B6/2P	105	$3.40 * 10^{16}$	12.4
10	-	A346	TRENT 556-61	85	$2.30 * 10^{16}$	10.8
11	-	A320	V2500-A1	115	$3.00 * 10^{16}$	11



# ICAO = International Civil Aviation Organization

**CAEP** = Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection

**FOA3** = First Order Approximation for **total particle mass (volatile + nonvolatile)**

**PM Estimation:** Smoke Number + UHC + Sulfur Conversion Factor + AFR +  
.....

# Comparison of measured and calculated EI's

**ICAO CAEP\***  
**Approximation**      ~ 4% TAXI  
 Zürich /online

Number	Rated Max. Thrust (kN)	Type	Engine	7% Taxi FOA3 EI_PM_total (mg/kg)	Measured Taxi EI_PM_total (mg/kg)
6	302,5	A332	PW4168A	69	53
10	261,5	A346	TRENT 556-61	54	85
7	149,9	A343	CFM56-5C4/P	108	79
8	149,9	A343	CFM56-5C4/P	108	114
5	133,5	A321	CFM56-5B1/2P	81	154
4	117,9	A320	CFM56-5B4/2	103	146
11	111,2	A320	V2500-A1	89	115
9	104,5	A319	CFM56-5B6/2P	89	105
2	104,6	B735	CFM56-3C-1	74	165
3	67,2	F100	MK650-15	248	214
1	31,0	BA46	ALF 507	140	161

\*CAEP = Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection

# Results

- Emission indices can be calculated independent from plume dilution
- EI\_PM\_mass = 53 to 214 mg/ kg fuel (including volatiles)
- EI\_PM\_# =  $1,48 \cdot 10^{16}$  to  $4.7 \cdot 10^{16}$  #/kg fuel (including volatiles)
- geo.mean d = 9.4 to 13.5 nm (smaller than measured at engine test beds)
- statistical errors are estimated +/-20%, mainly due to limitations of the CO<sub>2</sub> measurement.



## Limitations

- fuel composition not exactly known, (+- 3% carbon content)
- accuracy of CO<sub>2</sub> measurement !! (10 cm ND-IR)
- accuracy of EEPS measurement
- assumption that CO<sub>2</sub> and particles are diluted by the same factor with ambient air
- assumed particle density of 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- volatile and non-volatile particles are not separated (fuel sulfur, UHC)
- measured EI's are the mean of all engines of the aircraft
- different transfer time from engine exit to measuring point because of wind speed and direction
- ambient temperature



# Conclusion

- the “online method” is working, **independent from the plume dilution**
- **it is possible to screen the current aircraft fleet in a few days**
- Results for EI\_total\_particle mass correlate well with ICAO CAEP First Order Approximation FOA3
- **Please do not use this results out of the context of this presentation (only a few first measurements with big error bars)**



# Outlook

- next campaign at Zürich airport is already planned
- CO<sub>2</sub> measurement will be improved ( 5,11m FT-IR instead of 10 cm ND-IR)
- EI's for NO, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, HC and formaldehyde should be possible (FT-IR)
- it is planned to measure TAKE OFF EI's
- identification of volatile and non-volatile particles ( two EEPS, thermodenuder or hot dilution....)
- use the method for trucks and passenger cars.....



## Acknowledgment:

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for making this measurements possible





**Thank you for your attention**