

Norbert Heeb  
Empa, Überlandstrasse 129  
Lab Advanced Analytical Technologies  
CH-8600 Dübendorf  
Phone +41-58-765 42 57  
Fax +41-58-765 40 41  
e-mail norbert.heeb@empa.ch  
Internet <http://www.empa.ch>

# Will diesel technology survive?



21<sup>st</sup> ETH Conference on Combustion Generated Nanoparticles  
Zürich, June 19-22, 2017

# Will diesel technology survive?

As an executive summary

only with

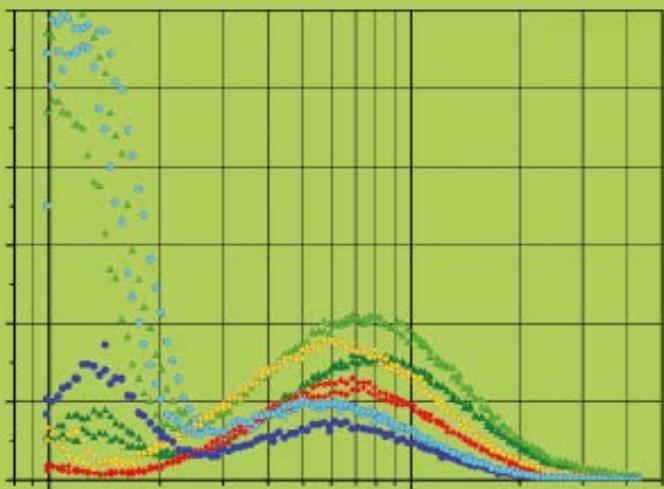
efficient particle filter and deNOx technologies!

# Will diesel technology survive?

Invitation and call for papers to the

21<sup>st</sup> ETH-Conference on  
Combustion Generated  
Nanoparticles

Focus Event:  
Will Diesel Technology Survive?



June 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017  
ETH Zurich, Switzerland  
[www.nanoparticles.ethz.ch](http://www.nanoparticles.ethz.ch)

1<sup>st</sup> part: 13:50-15:10

Impact of current diesel  
technologies

Coffee break 15:10-15:40

2<sup>nd</sup> part: 15:40-16:40

The future of diesel  
technologies

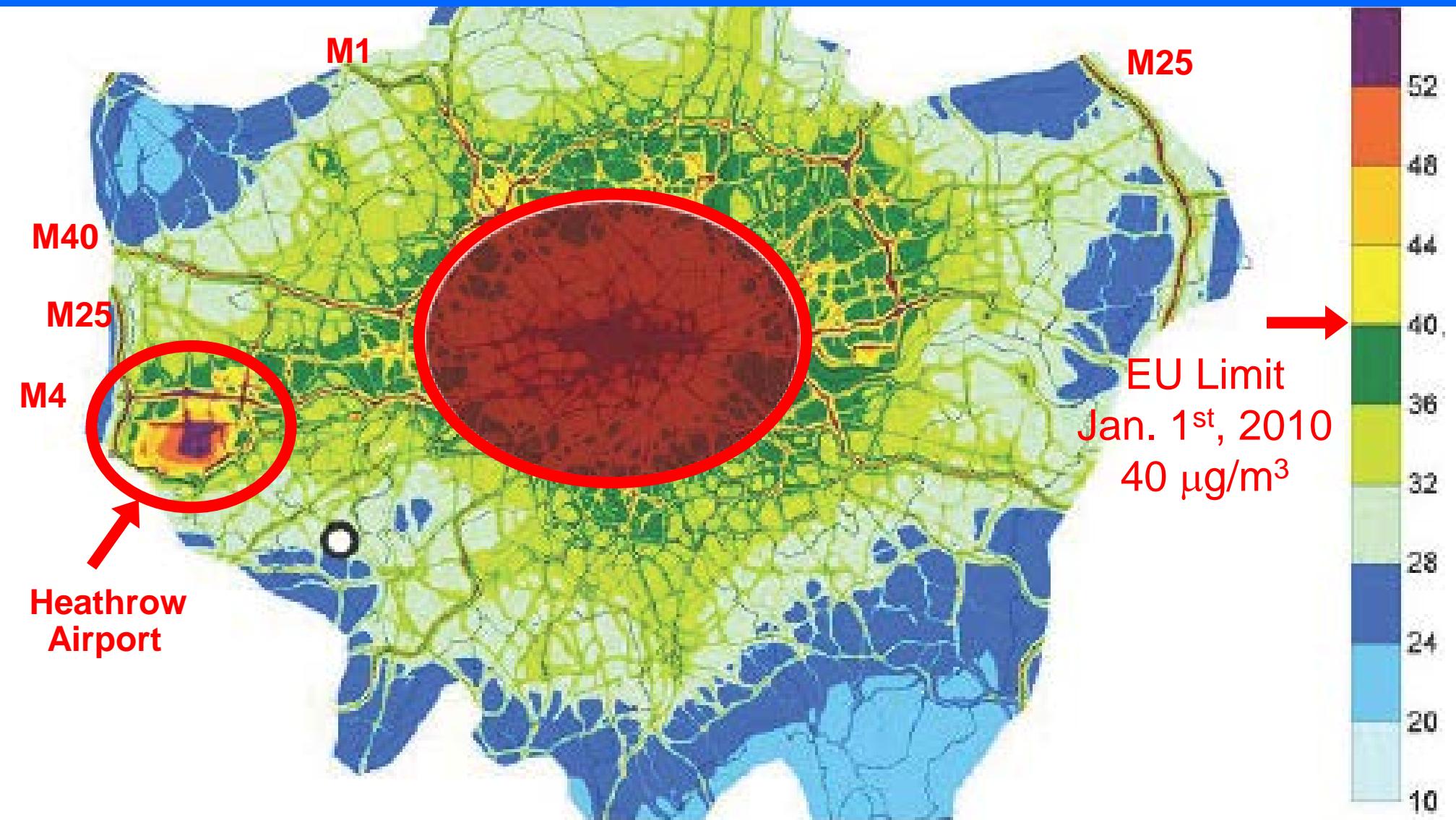
Goodbye: 16:50

# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet



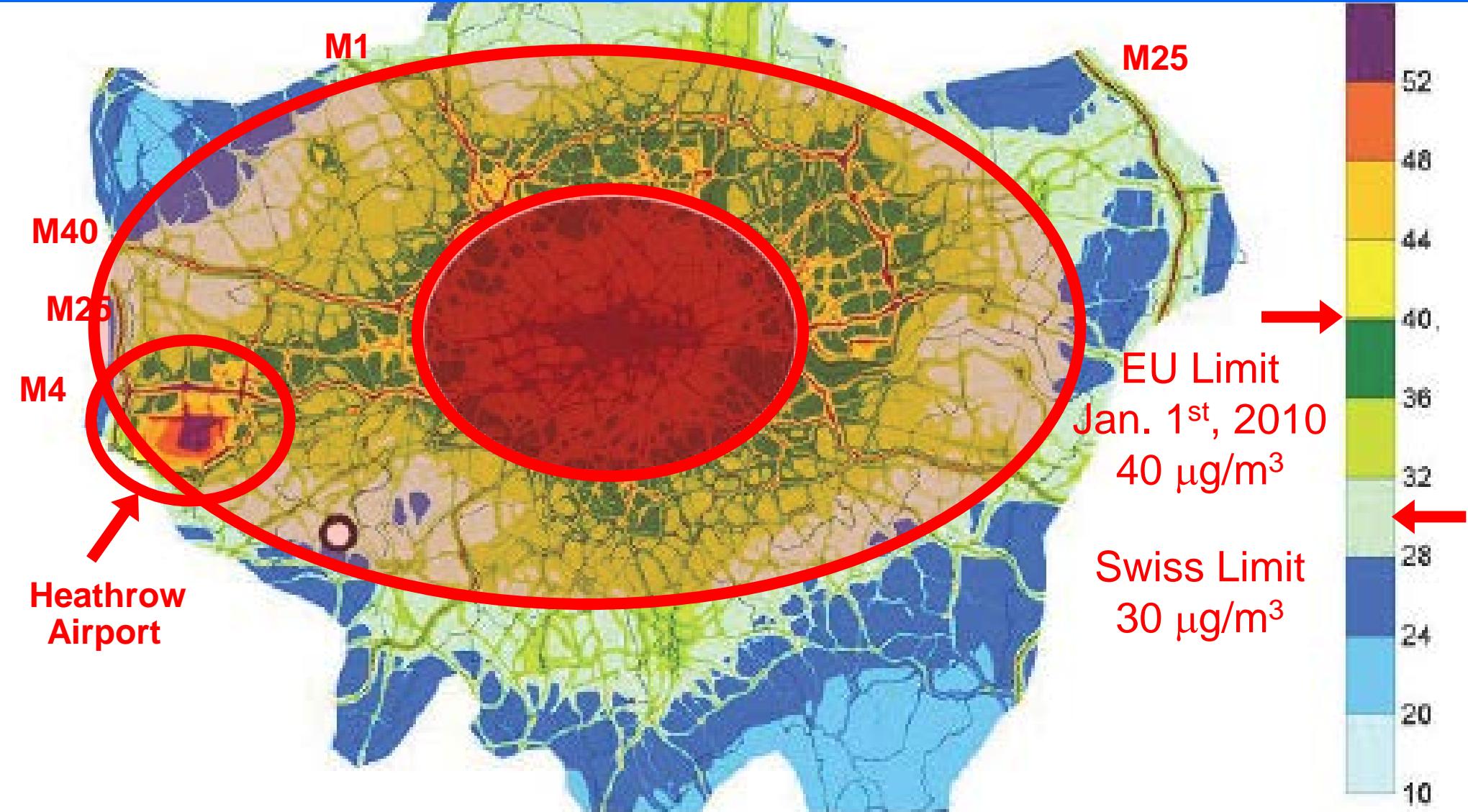
Year two after the VW scandal

# Mean annual NO<sub>2</sub> levels: City of London



The NO<sub>2</sub> problem in central London is severe as in many European cities!

# Mean annual NO<sub>2</sub> levels: City of London



From a Swiss perspective, the Brexit will not solve the NO<sub>2</sub> problem!

# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet

Nitrogen chemistry of current on-road deNOx technologies

Best deNOx system on European roads

(Honor to whom honor is due!)

NOx-trap technology

(Not very efficient yet)

Urea-based SCR technology

(Substantial cold start problems)

# Who knows John J. Mooney?



# Who knows John J. Mooney?

- **How to meet the president?**

2002 National Medal of Technology Award from National Science & Technology Foundation.

Co-inventor of TWC (1 of the 10 most important inventions in car industry).

In 1976-2001 TWC avoided 3, 3 & 30 billion tons of HC, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO emissions.

- **Good catalyst design:  
results in money, honor & fame**

Fig. 1: John J. Mooney & Carl D. Keith, Engelhard

Fig. 2: Haren S. Gahndi, Ford Motor Company



# The best deNO<sub>x</sub>-system on European roads

Honor to whom honor is due

# DeNO<sub>x</sub> on a Pd/Rh-TWC

Dynamometer set-up for time-resolved NO and NH<sub>3</sub> measurements

**Vehicle:**

- BMW 318 (1.8 l, 1995, Euro-1, mileage 70'000 km)

**Fuel:**

- 95 RON gasoline (specification CEF RF-08-A-85)

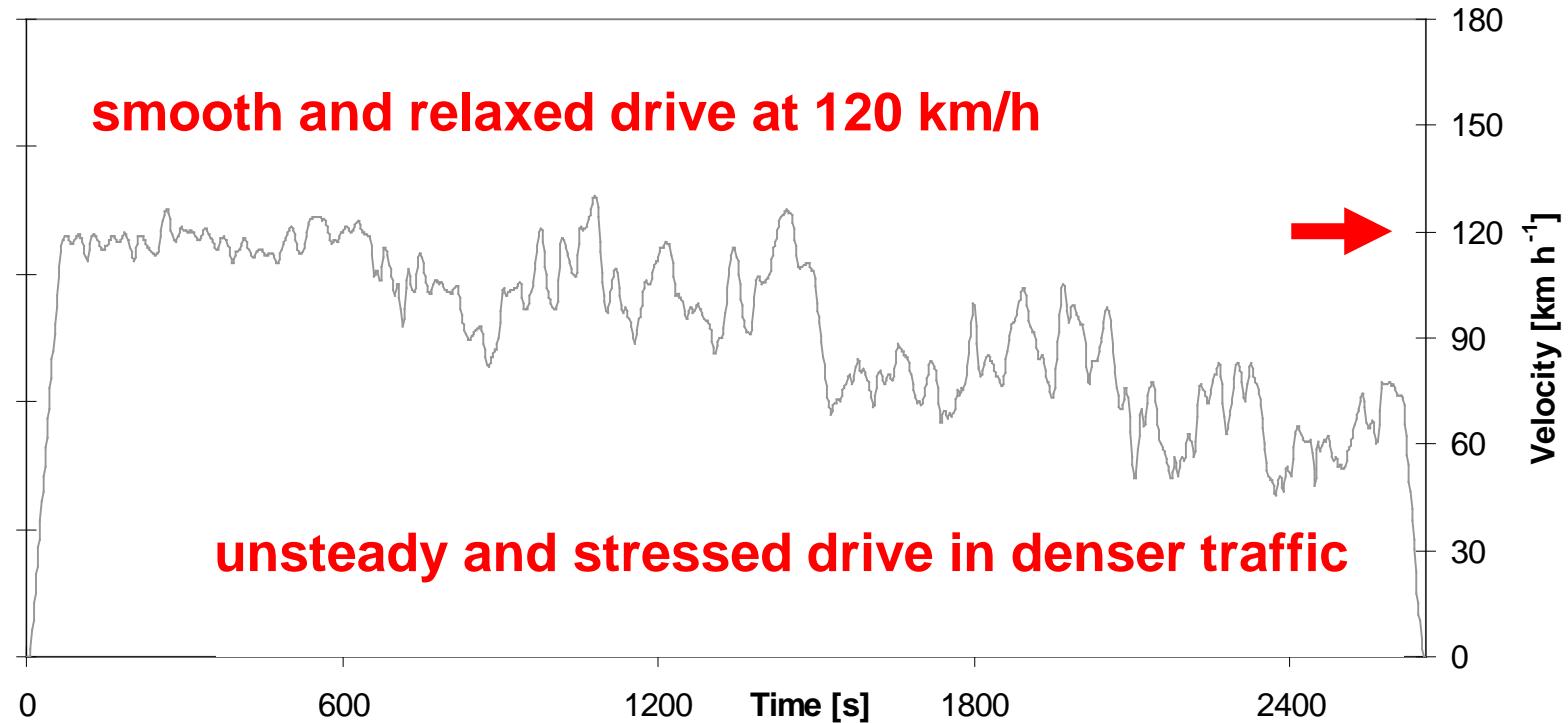
**Catalyst:**

- New, original spare part TWC
- Two-layered Pd-CeO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/Rh-ZrO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> structure

# DeNO<sub>x</sub> on a Pd/Rh-TWC

Swiss made driving cycle to mimic highway driving

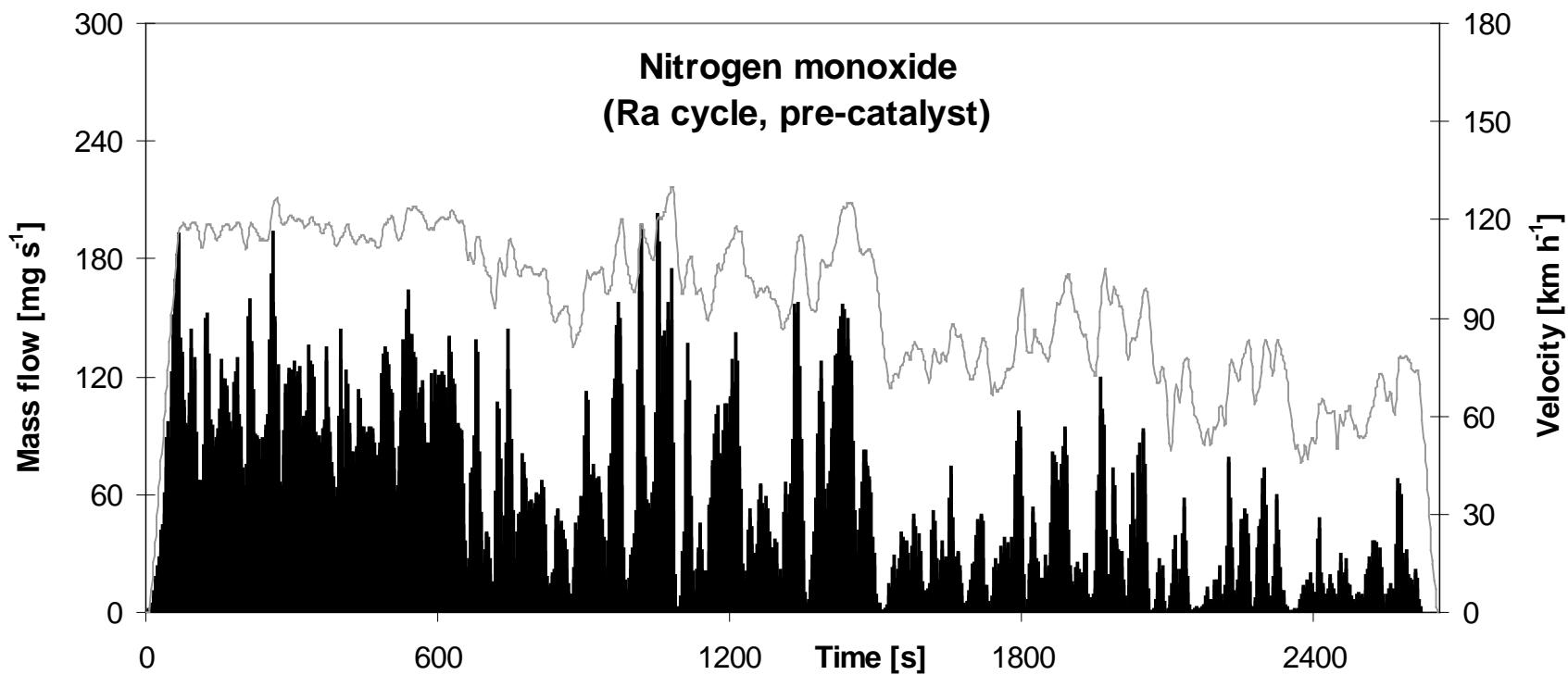
The Swiss highway cycle



# DeNO<sub>x</sub> on Pd/Rh-TWC

Pre-catalyst NO up to 200 mg s<sup>-1</sup> at transient highway driving

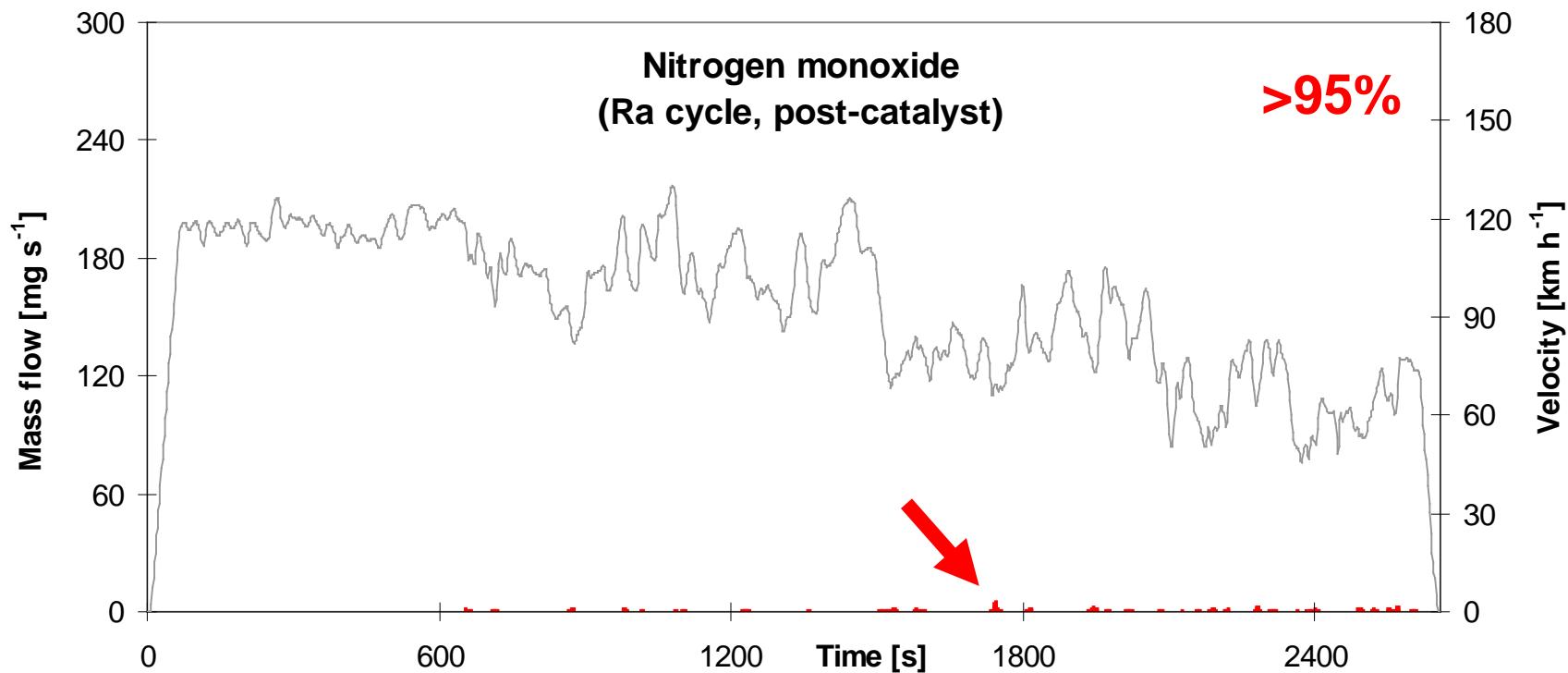
NO emission (BMW, 1.8 l, 1995, EURO-1)



# DeNO<sub>x</sub> on a Pd/Rh-TWC

Post catalyst less than 6 mg s<sup>-1</sup>

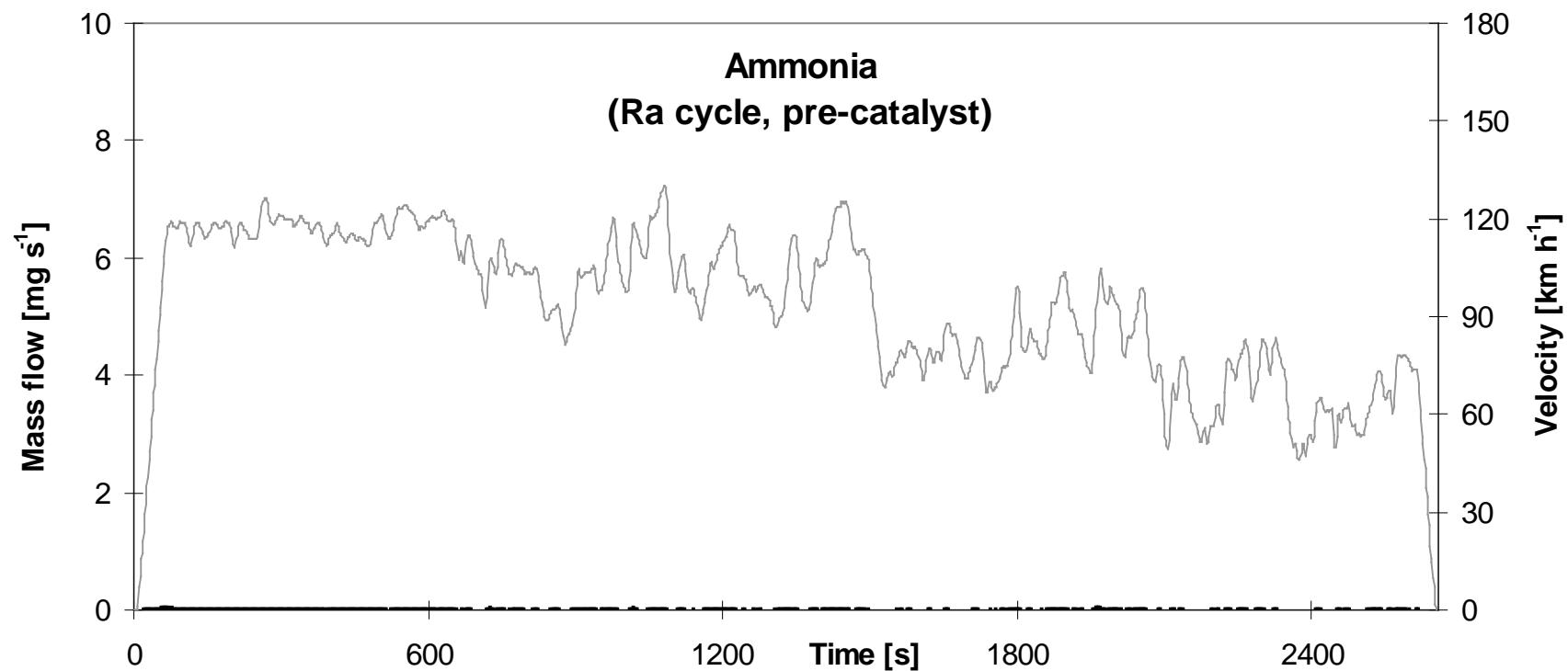
NO emission (BMW, 1.8 l, 1995, EURO-1)



# TWC-induced formation of ammonia

No ammonia before catalyst

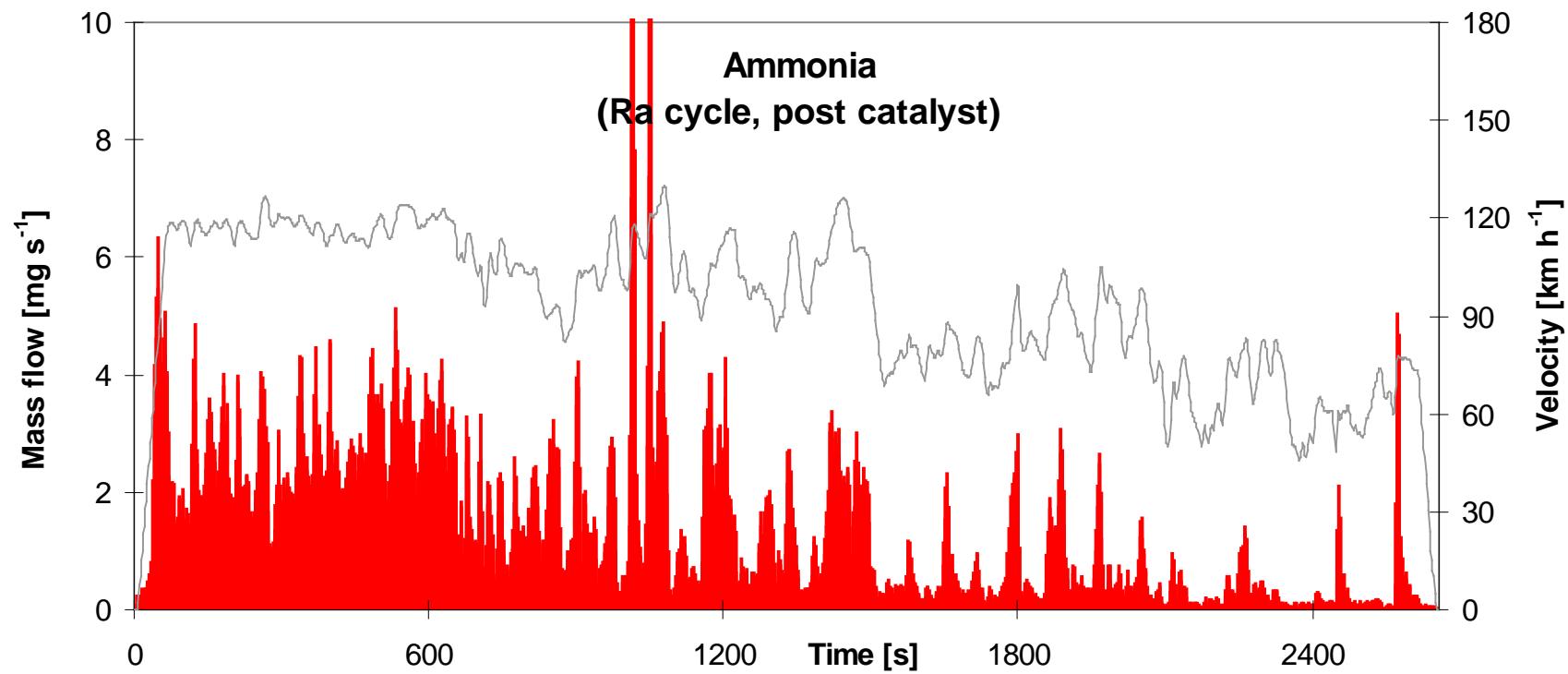
Ammonia emissions (BMW, 1.8 l, 1995, EURO-1)



# TWC-induced formation of ammonia

Relevant ammonia emissions post catalyst

Ammonia emissions (BMW, 1.8 l, 1995, EURO-1)



# The best deNO<sub>x</sub>-system on European roads

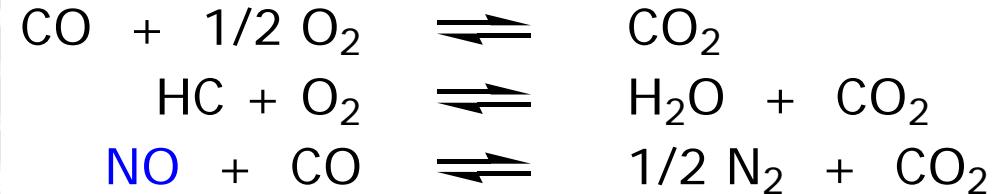
What's going on the catalytic surface?



# The TWC in theory

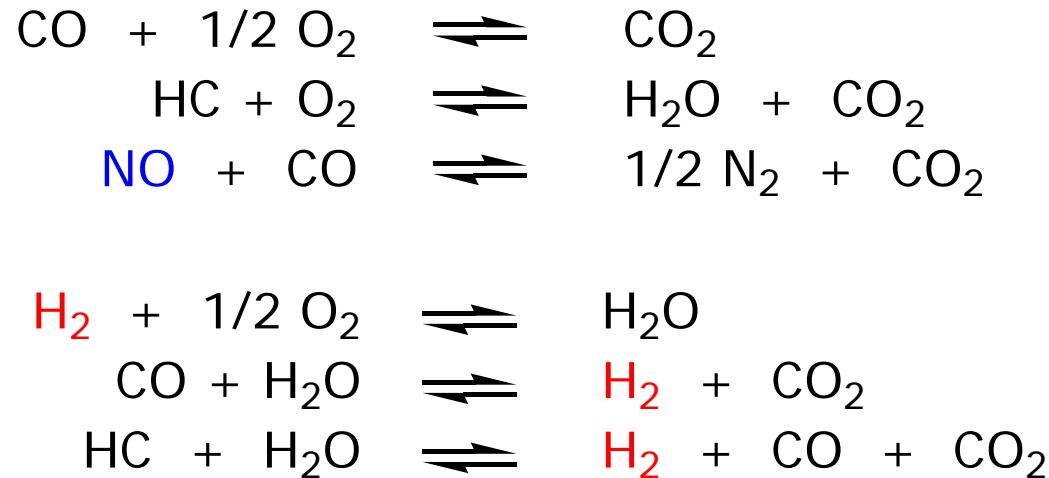
- **TWC**

- Which three ways to go?



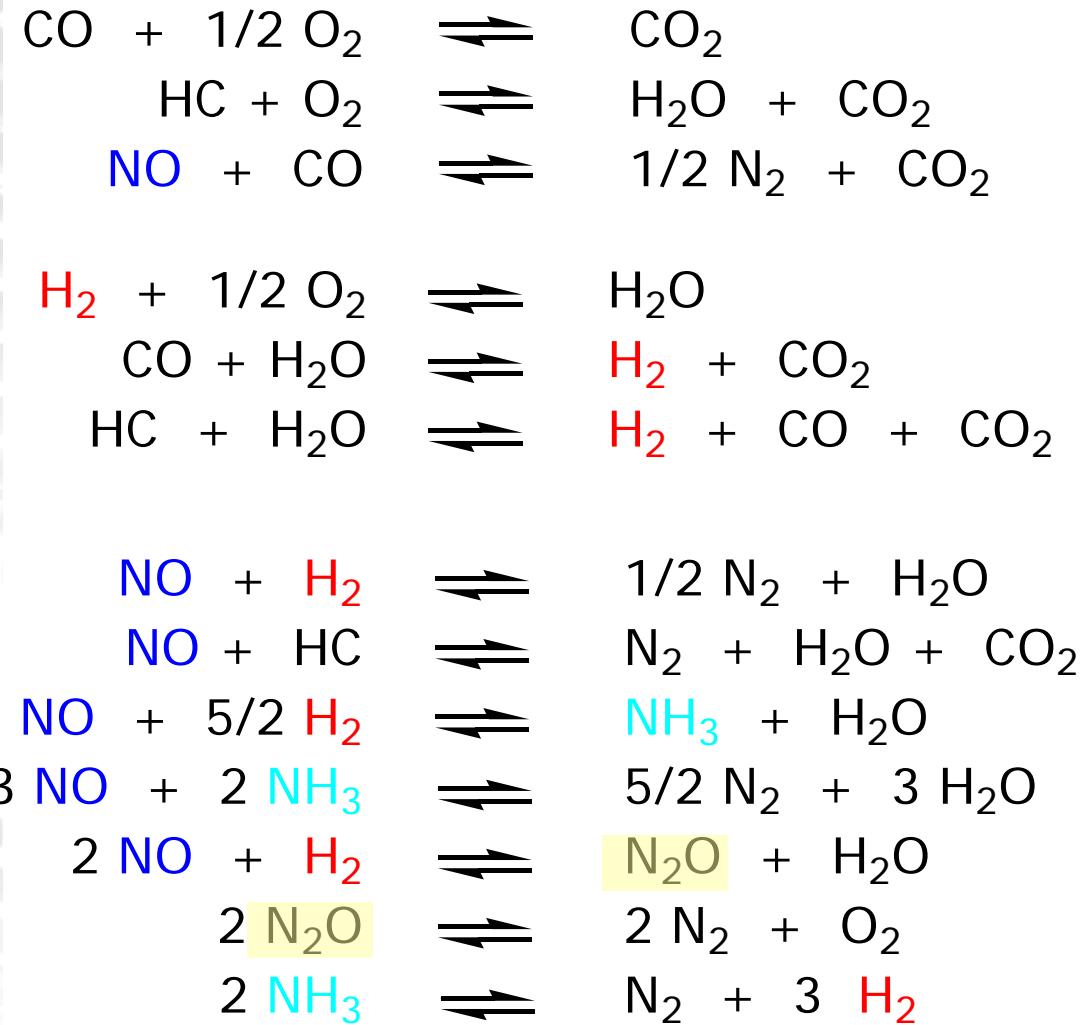
# The TWC in real world application

- **The important role of H<sub>2</sub>!**
  - Which three ways to go?
  - A new try with H<sub>2</sub>, water gas-shift-reactions and steam reforming



# The TWC in real world application

- Why NH<sub>3</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O?
  - Which three ways to go?
  - A new try incl. H<sub>2</sub>, water gas-shift-reactions and steam reforming
  - Another try with H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O and NH<sub>3</sub>



# NOx-trap technology

The first GDI vehicle (Mitsubishi Carisma, 1.8L, Euro-3) with NOx trap technology

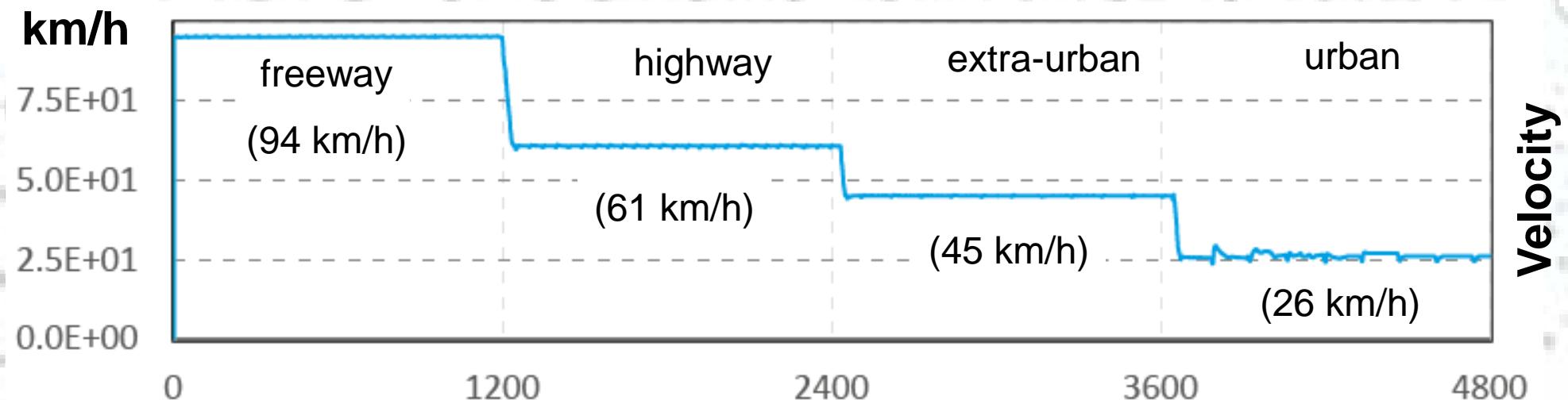
Vehicle	Mitsubishi Carisma 1.8 GDI
Engine code	4G93
Number and arrangement of cylinder	4 / in line
Displacement cm <sup>3</sup>	1834
Power kW	90 @ 5500 rpm
Torque Nm	174 @ 3750 rpm
Injection type	DI
Curb weight kg	1315
Gross vehicle weight kg	1750
Drive wheel	Front-wheel drive
Gearbox	M5
First registration	05.2001
Exhaust	EURO 3



# NOx-trap chemistry

An ideal cycle to study converter chemistry at best conditions!

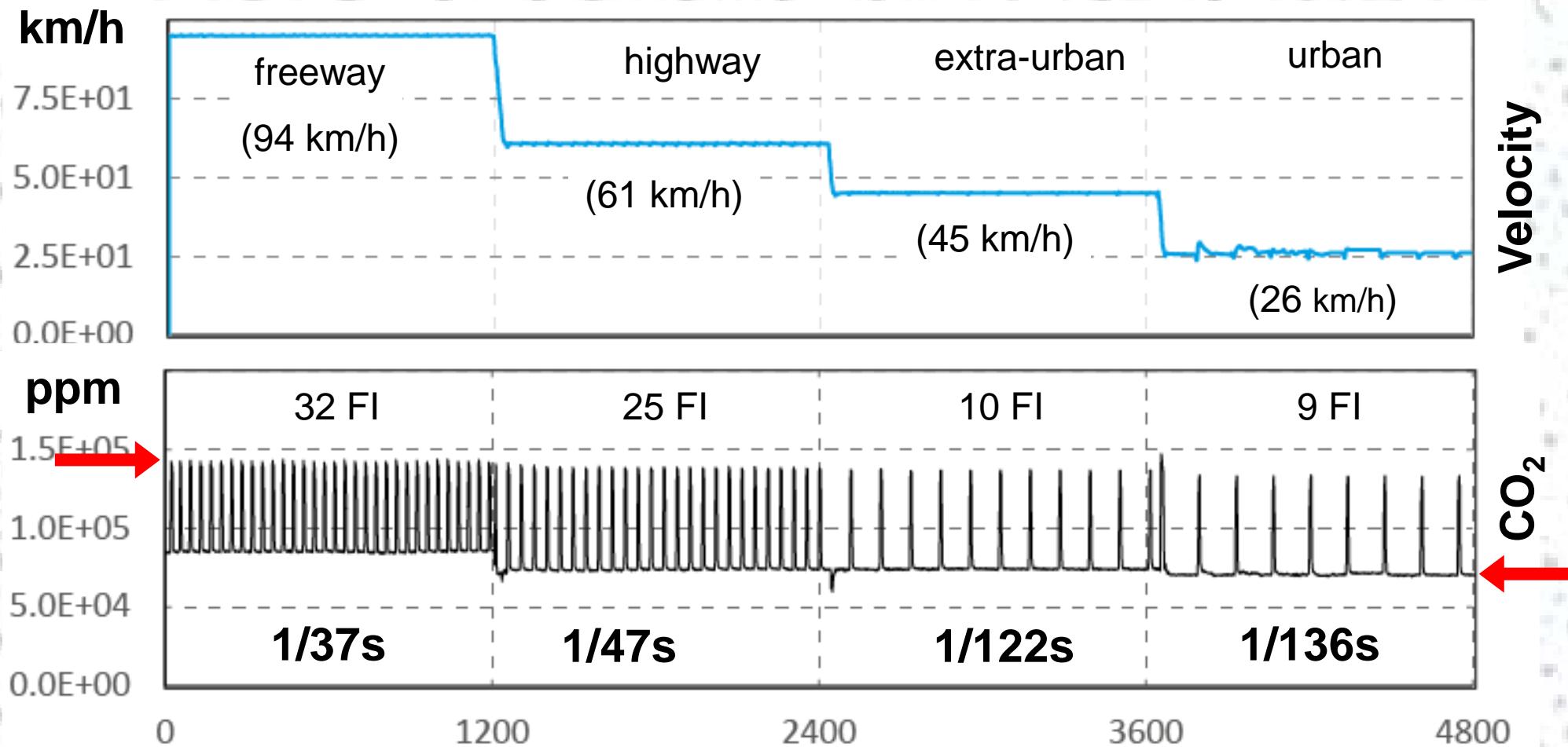
## NOx-trap activity at steady driving



# NOx-trap chemistry

Extra fuel injections (FI) nearly every minute!

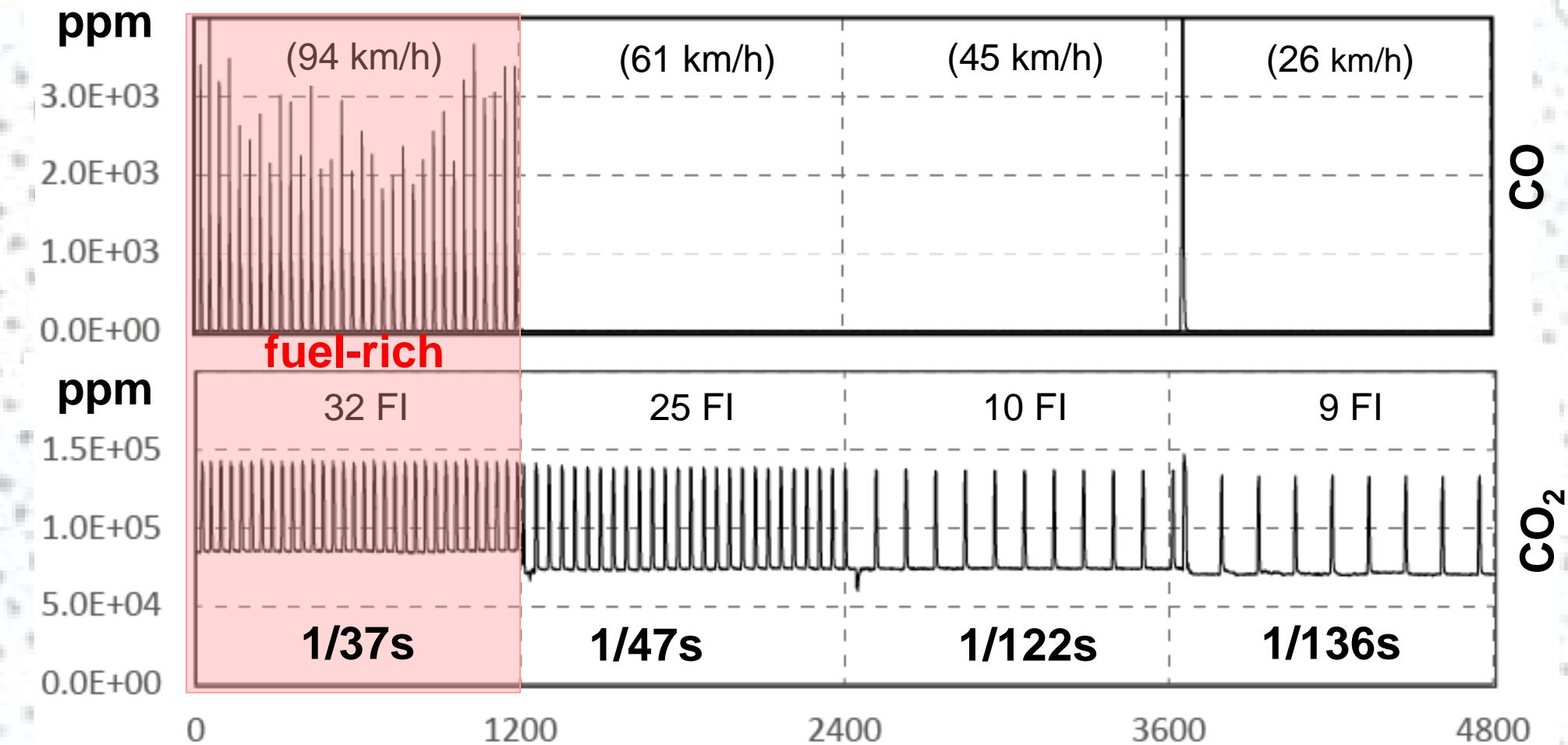
## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at steady driving



# NOx-trap chemistry

Extra fuel injections result in extra CO emissions, but only in phase 1!

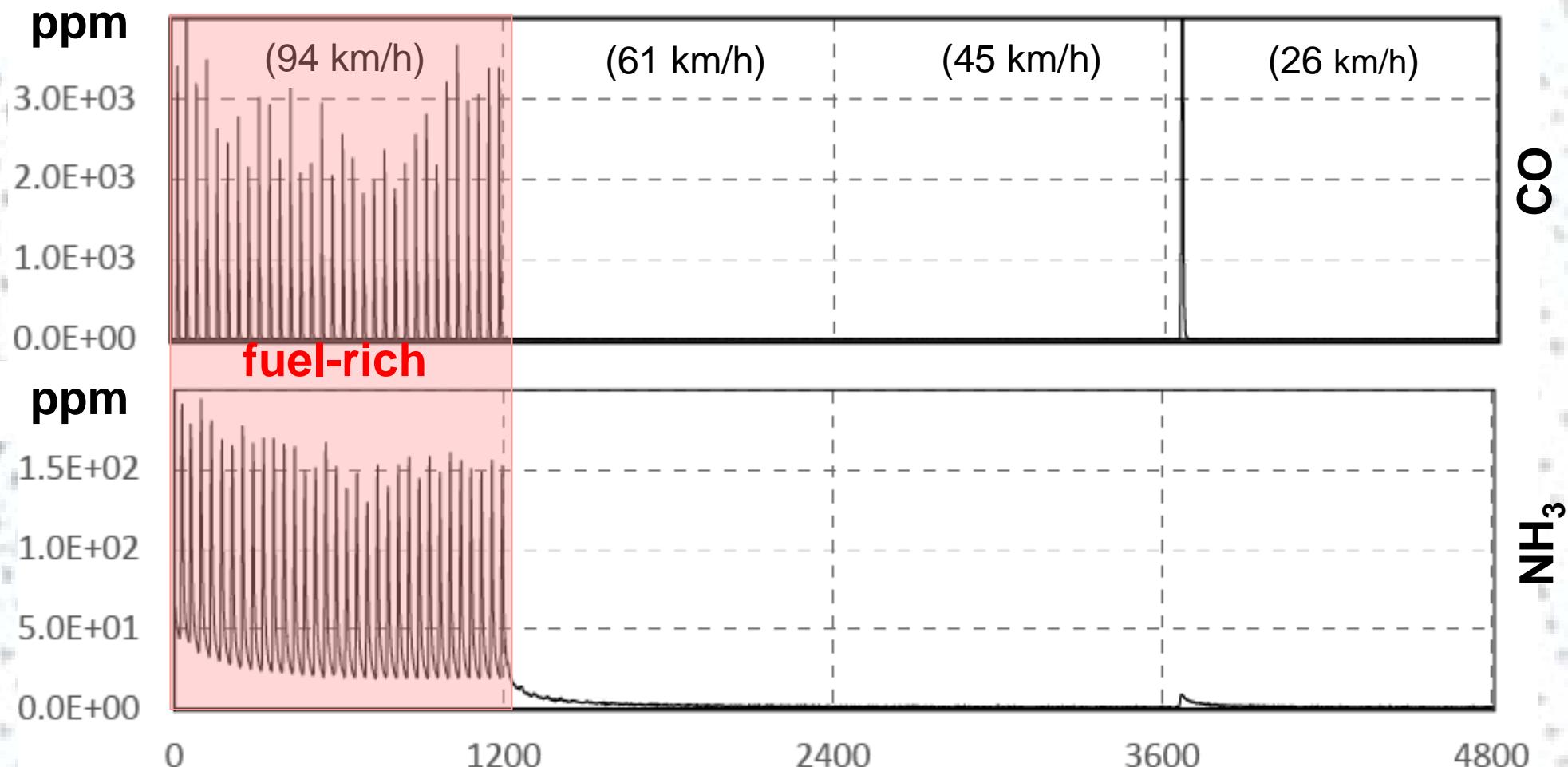
## CO and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# NOx-trap chemistry

Extra fuel injections result in extra CO and NH<sub>3</sub> emissions but only in phase 1!

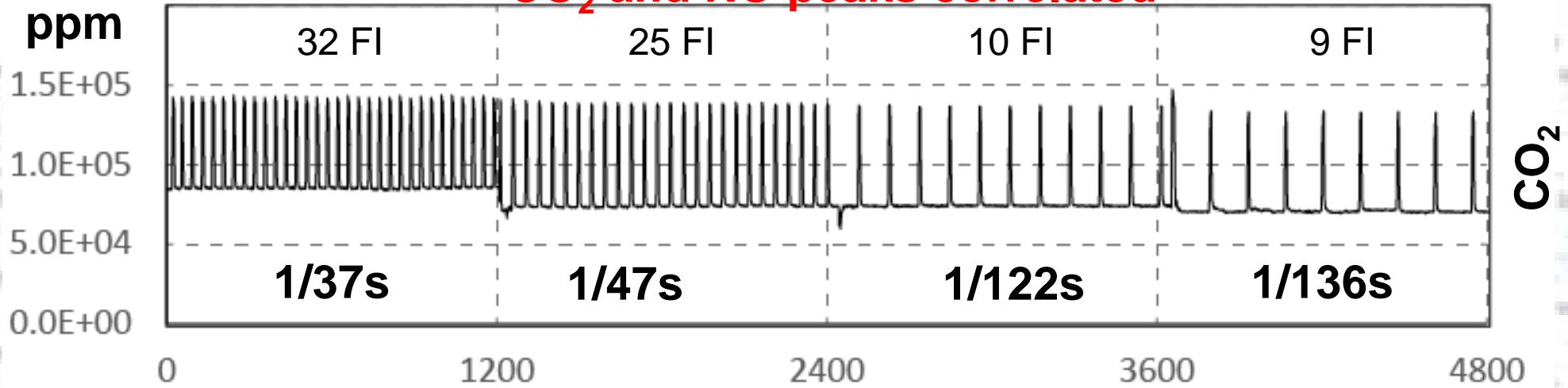
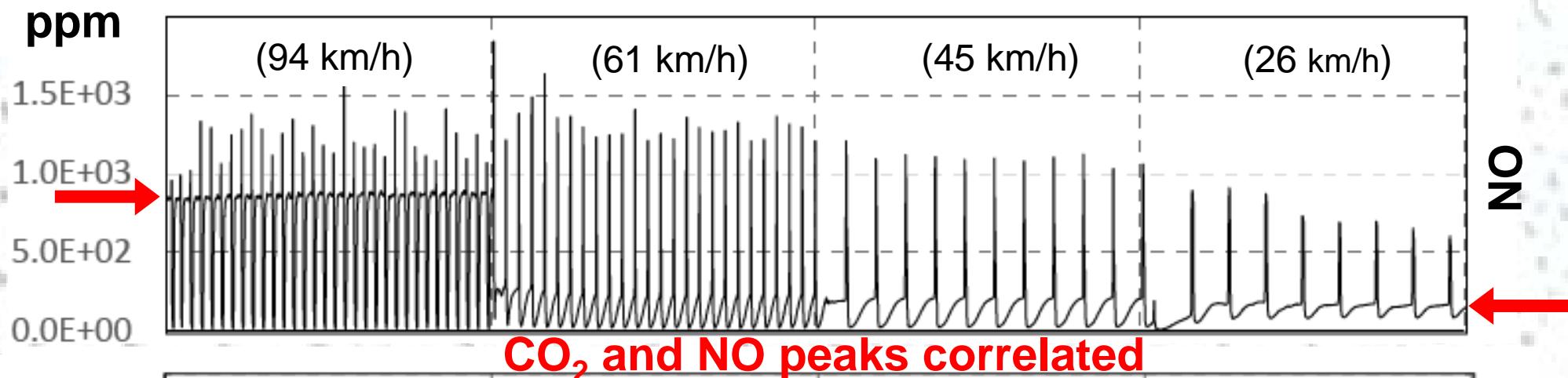
## NH<sub>3</sub> & CO emissions



# NOx-trap chemistry

NOx trap at work: extra fuel injections result in extra NO emissions

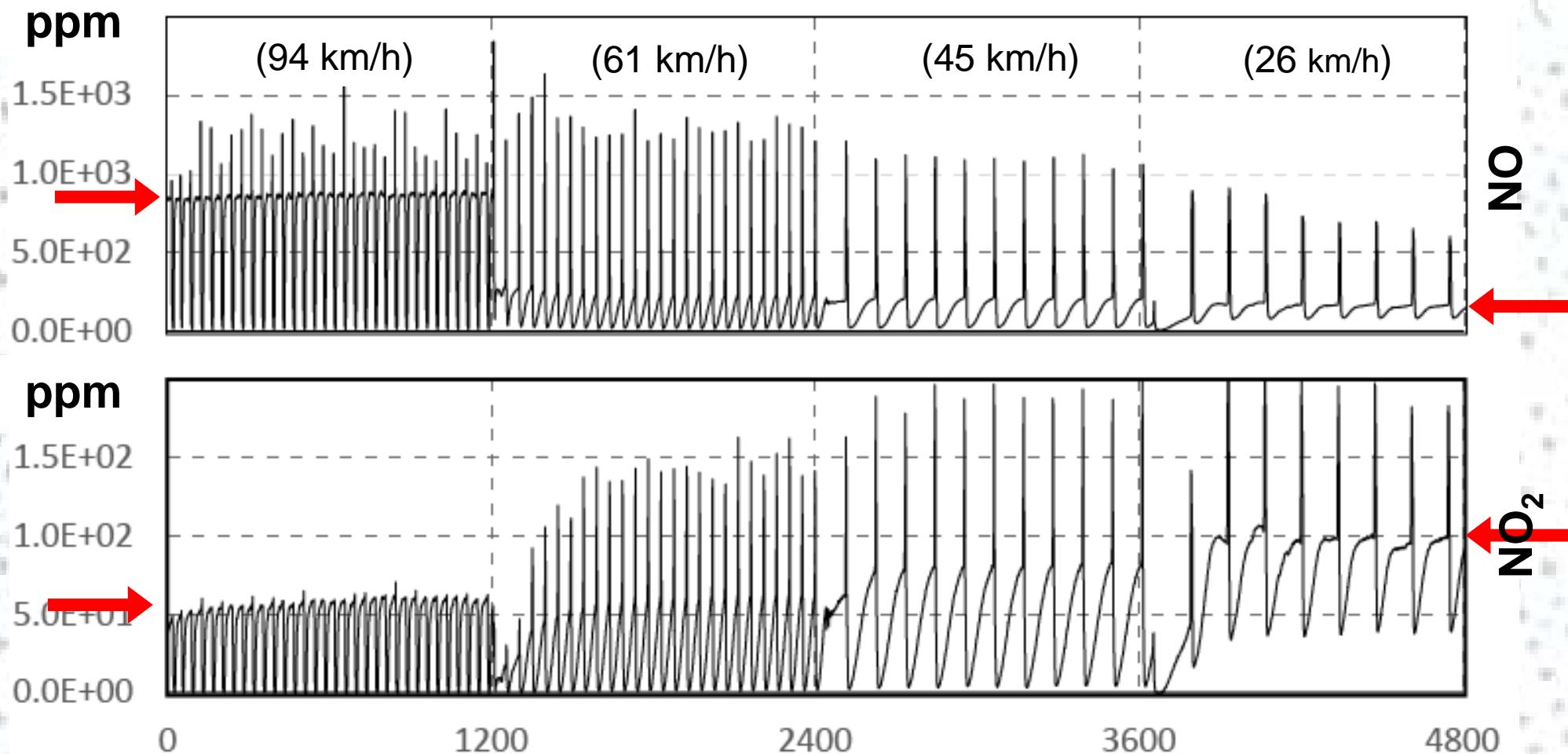
## NO and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# NOx-trap chemistry

NOx trap at work: extra fuel injections result in extra NO and NO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## NO and NO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# NO<sub>x</sub>-trap chemistry

NO<sub>2</sub> proportions lowest during extra fuel injections and high temperatures

## NO<sub>2</sub> proportion in NO<sub>x</sub>

(94 km/h)

6 mol%

(61 km/h)

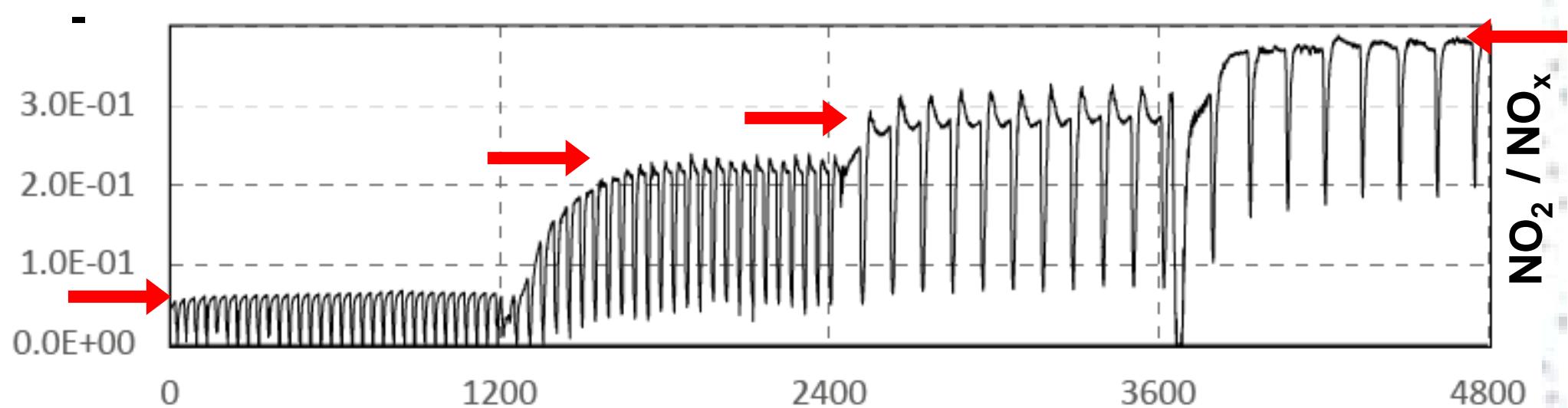
22 mol%

(45 km/h)

30 mol%

(26 km/h)

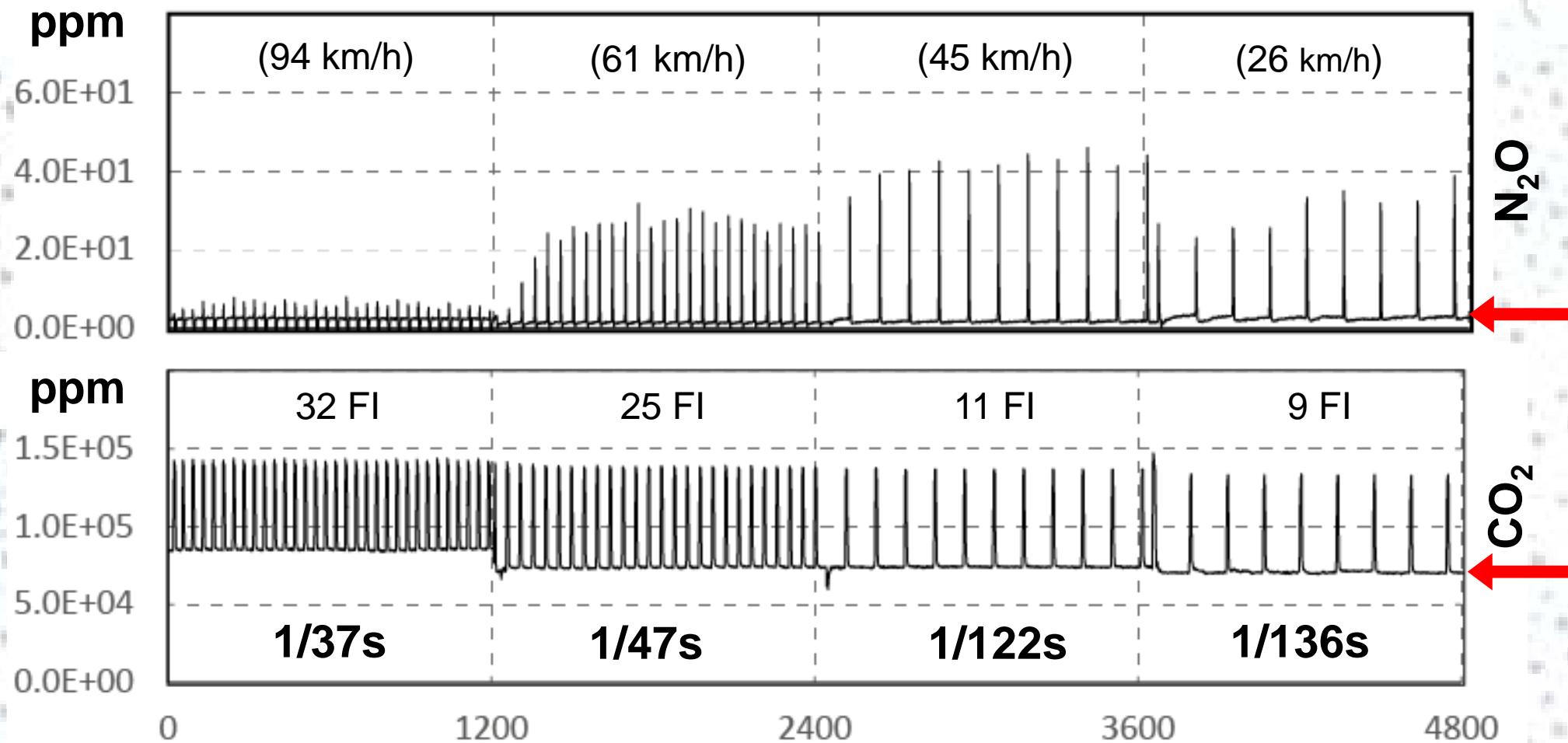
38 mol%



# NOx-trap chemistry

Not funny, extra fuel injections also result in extra N<sub>2</sub>O emissions

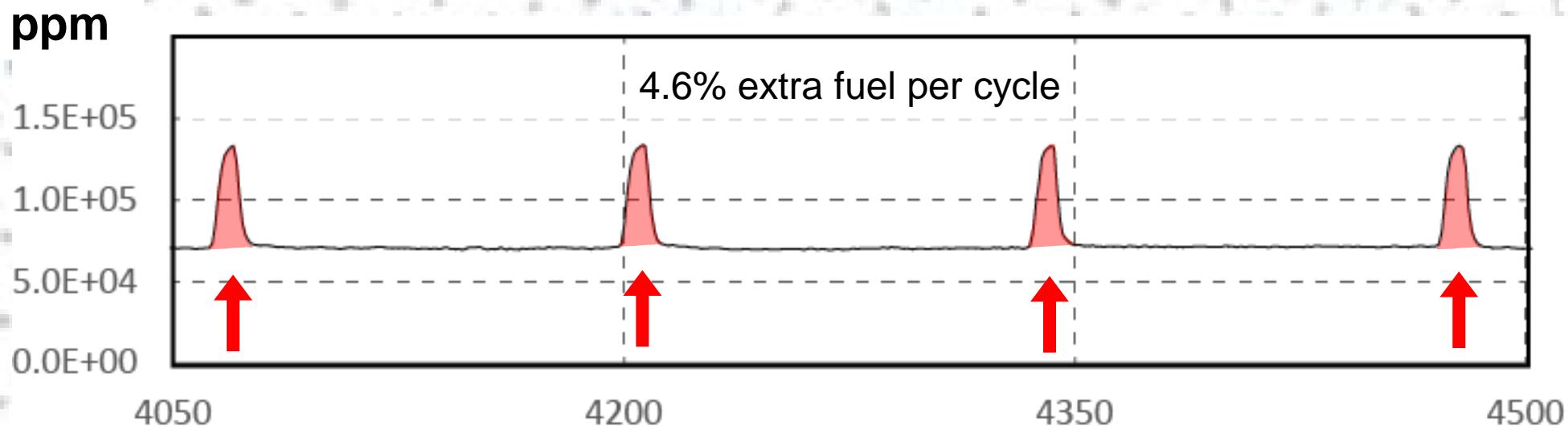
## N<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much fuel penalty per injection

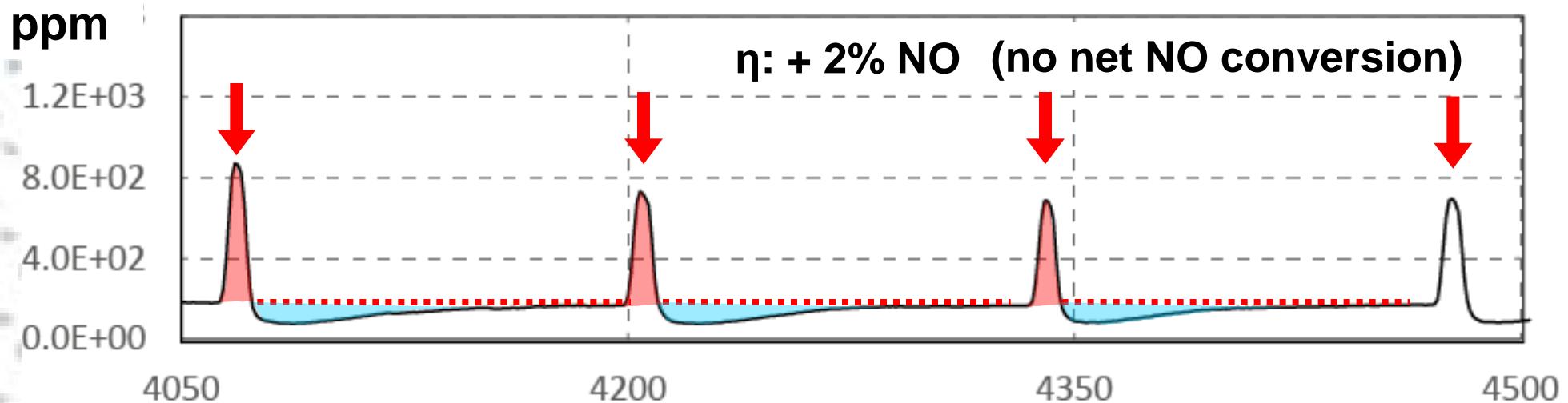
Extra CO<sub>2</sub> at 26 km/h (urban driving)



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much deNOx activity per injection

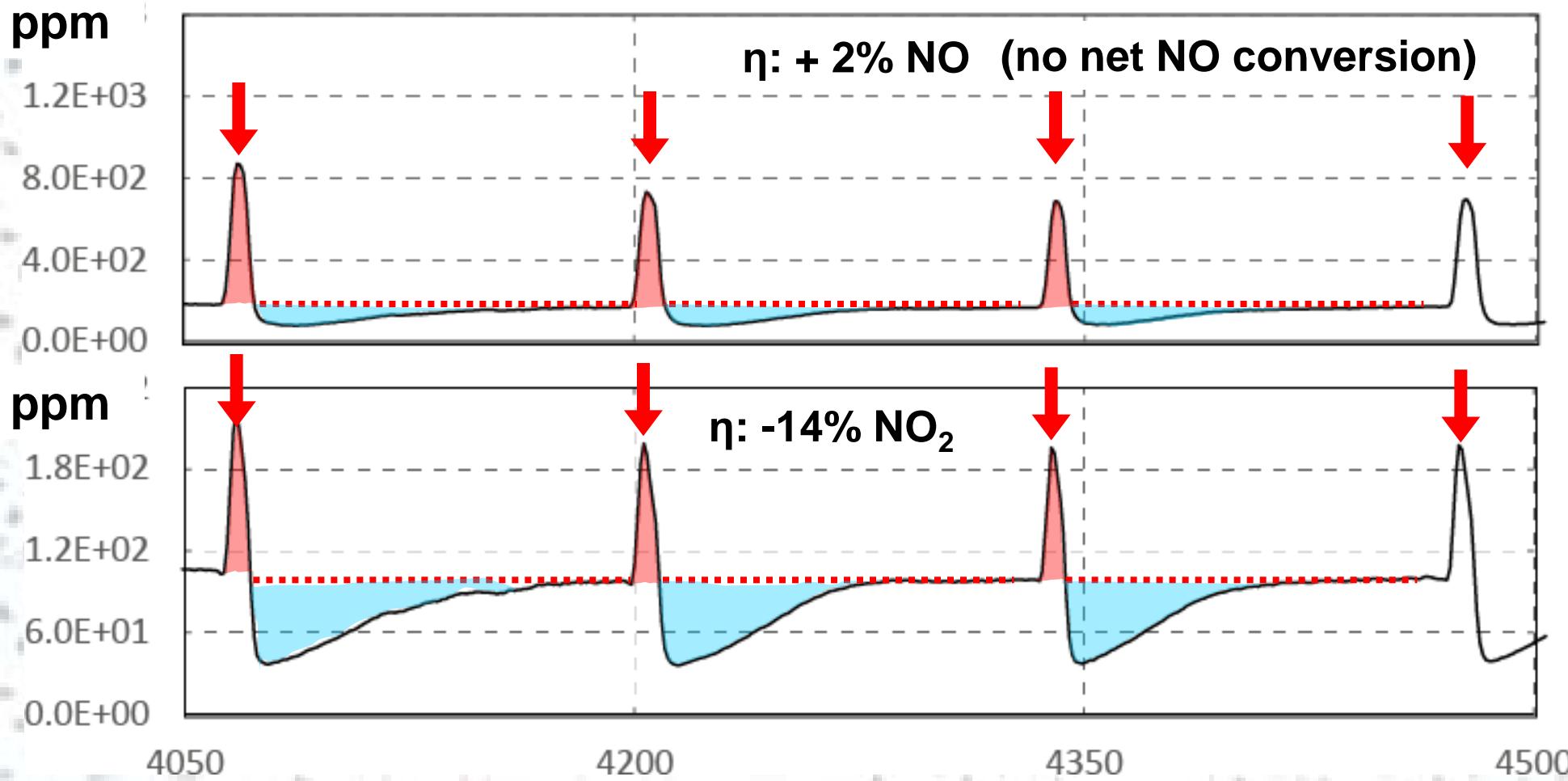
deNO activity at 26 km/h



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much deNOx activity per injection

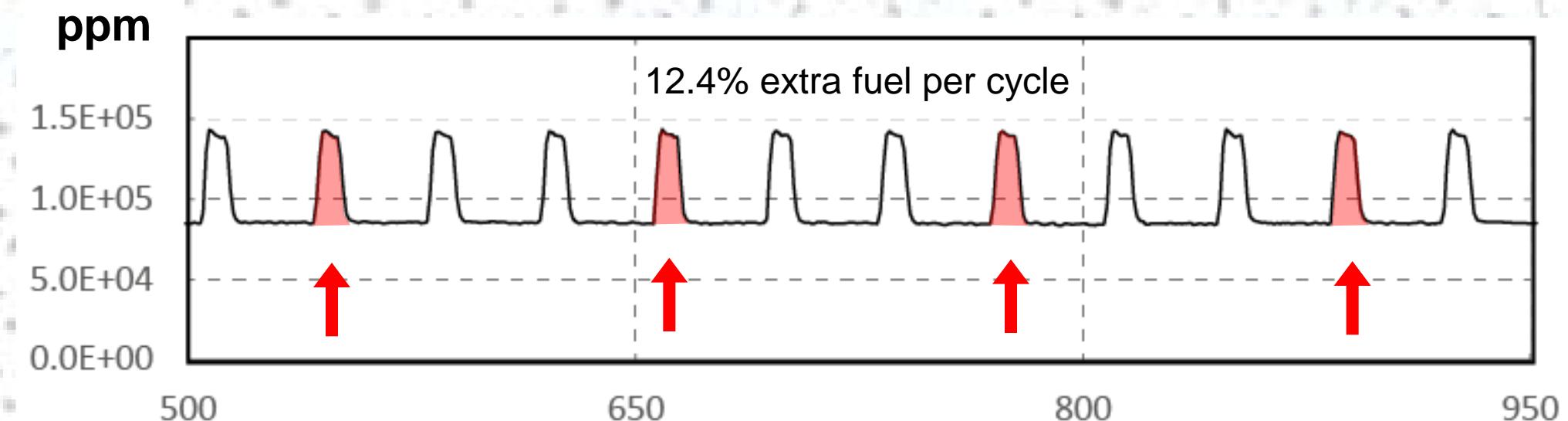
deNO and deNO<sub>2</sub> activity at 26 km/h



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much fuel penalty per injection

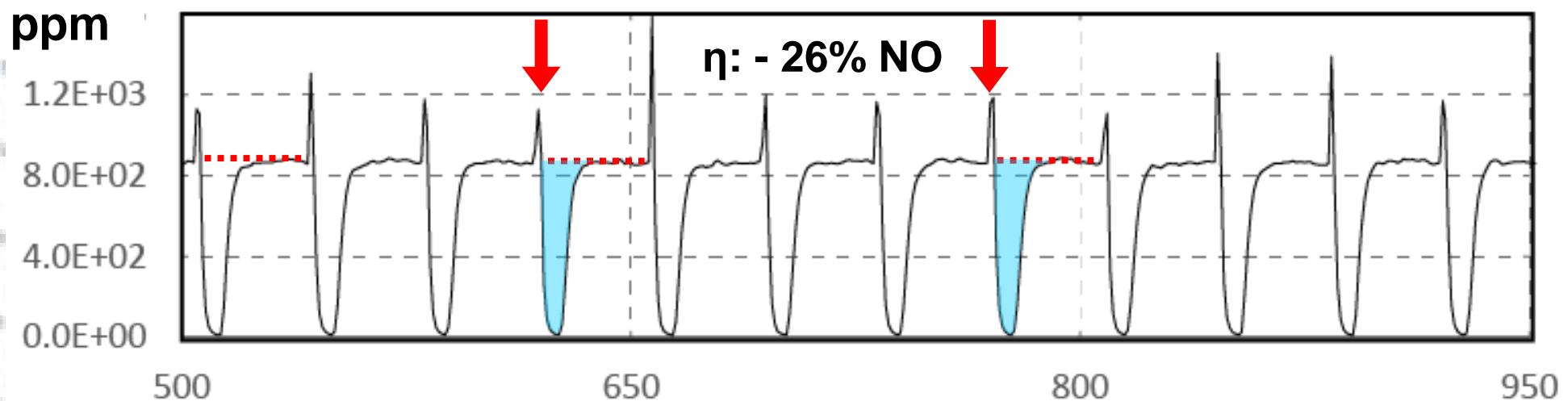
CO<sub>2</sub> at 94 km/h (motorway)



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much deNOx activity per injection

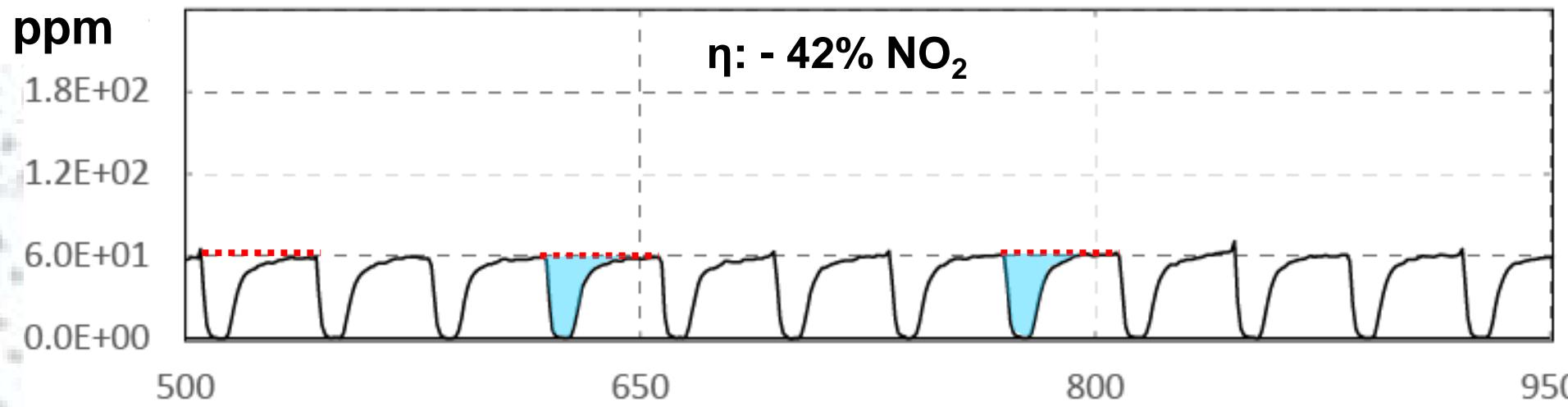
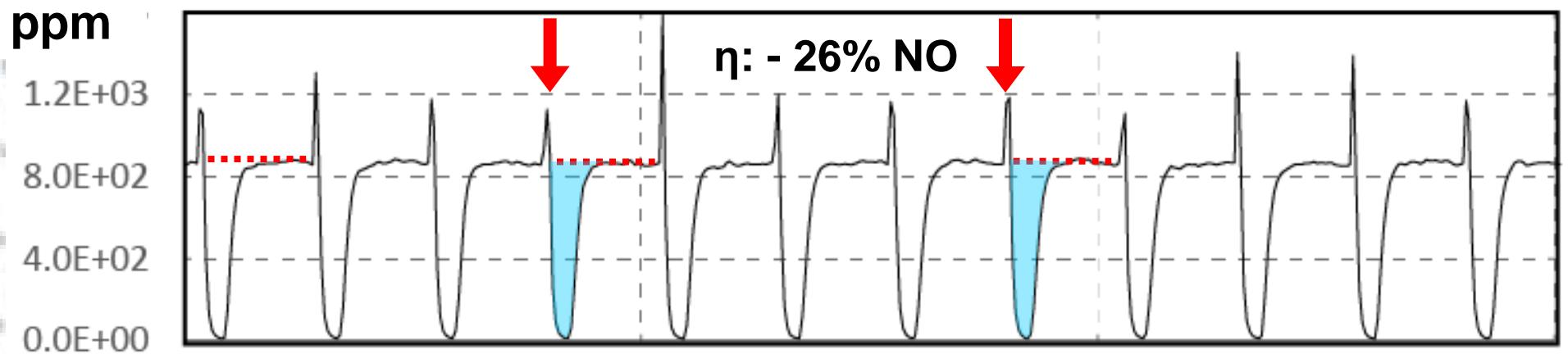
deNO activity at 94 km/h



# NOx-trap chemistry

How much deNOx activity per injection

deNO and deNO<sub>2</sub> activity at 94 km/h



# NO<sub>x</sub>-trap technology

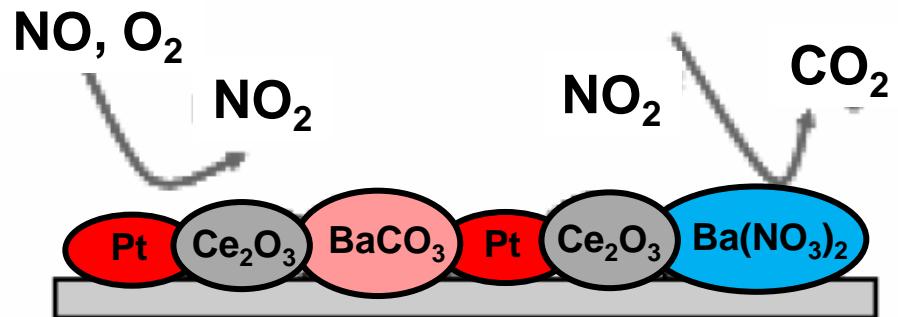
Low NO<sub>x</sub> storage capacity, not very sulfur tolerant, its more a SO<sub>x</sub> than a NO<sub>x</sub> trap

## NO<sub>x</sub>-trap cycle

$\lambda > 1$  (*lean*)

T: 150-450 °C

1. NO- & NO<sub>2</sub>-oxidation to NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
2. Store as Ba(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



# NO<sub>x</sub>-trap technology

Low NO<sub>x</sub> storage capacity, not very sulfur tolerant, its more a SO<sub>x</sub> than a NO<sub>x</sub> trap

## NO<sub>x</sub>-trap cycle

$\lambda > 1$  (*lean*)

T: 150-450 °C

1. NO- & NO<sub>2</sub>-oxidation to NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>

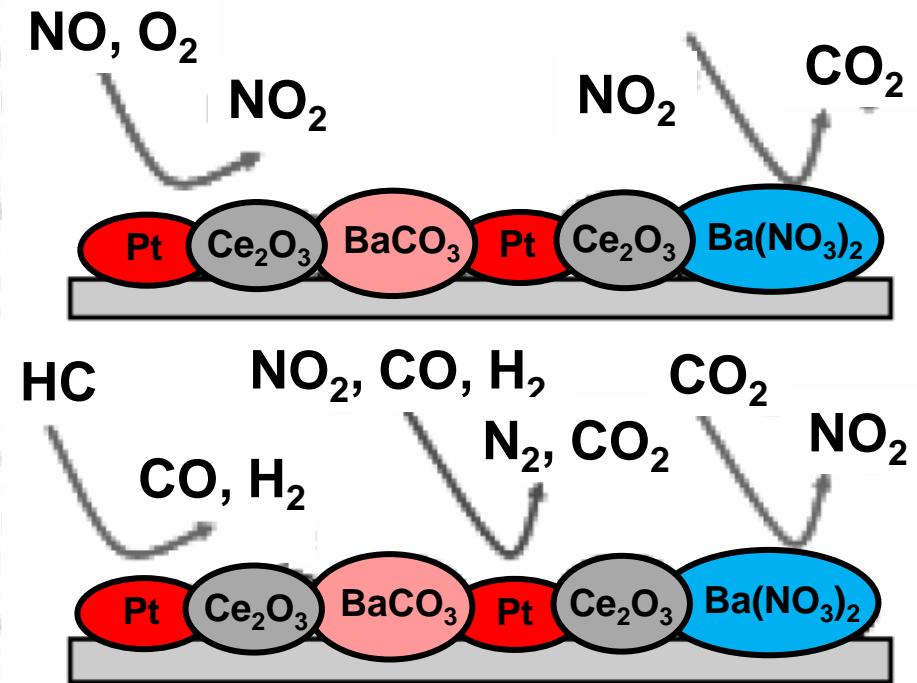
2. Store as Ba(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

$\lambda < 1$  (*rich*)

T: 200-500 °C

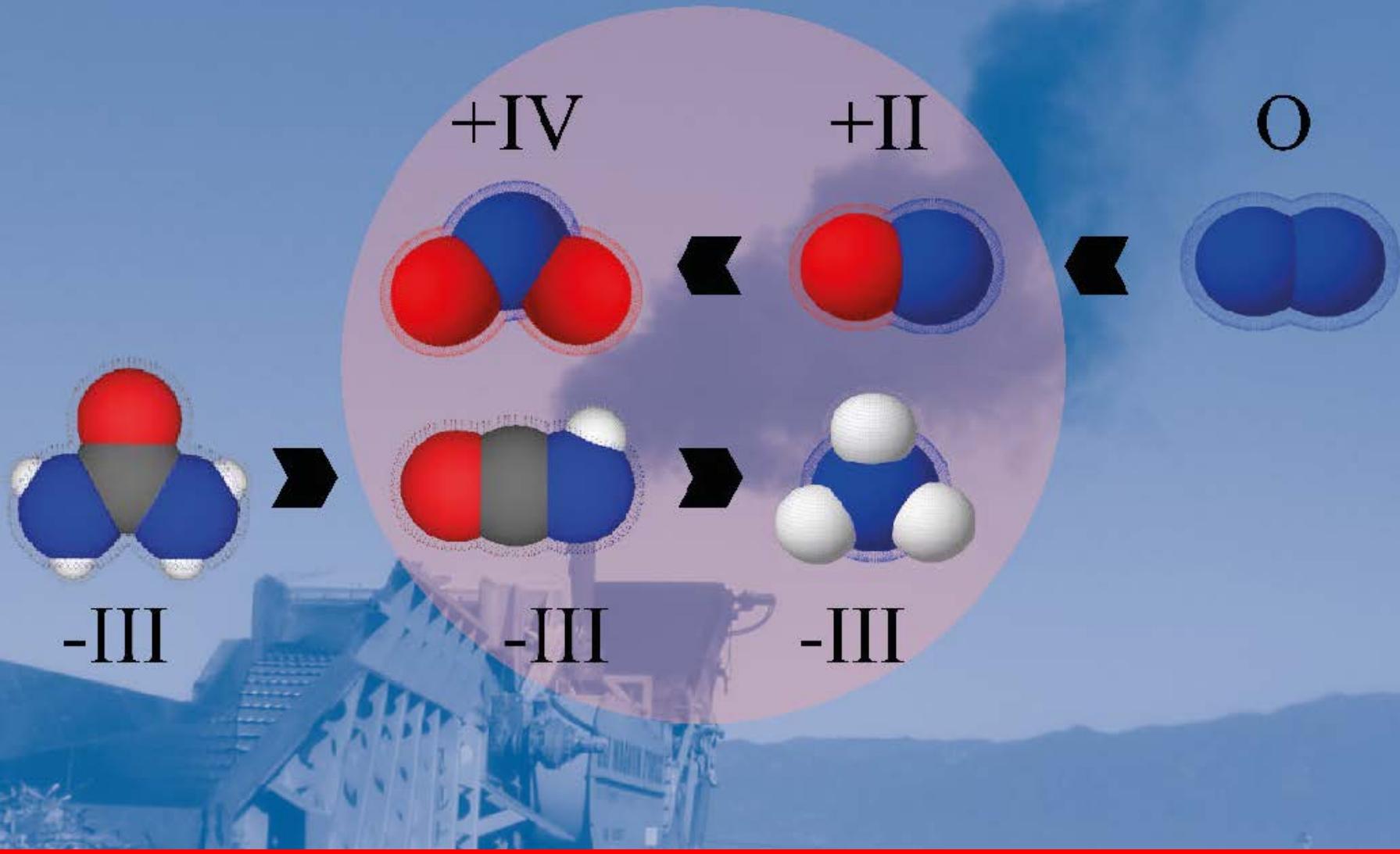
3. Post injections of fuel

4. NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> reduction with H<sub>2</sub>, HC etc.



Similar chemistry in the NO<sub>x</sub> trap with secondary formation of N<sub>2</sub>O and NH<sub>3</sub>

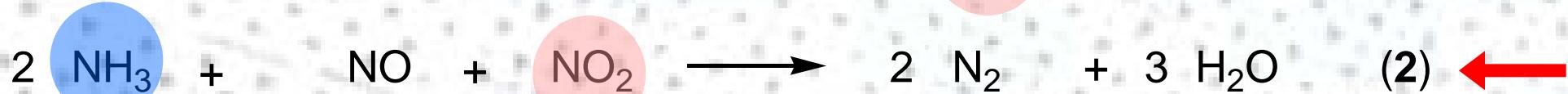
# Urea-based SCR



Currently the most efficient deNOx system for diesel engines

# Urea-based SCR

At least two steps to decompose and hydrolyze urea

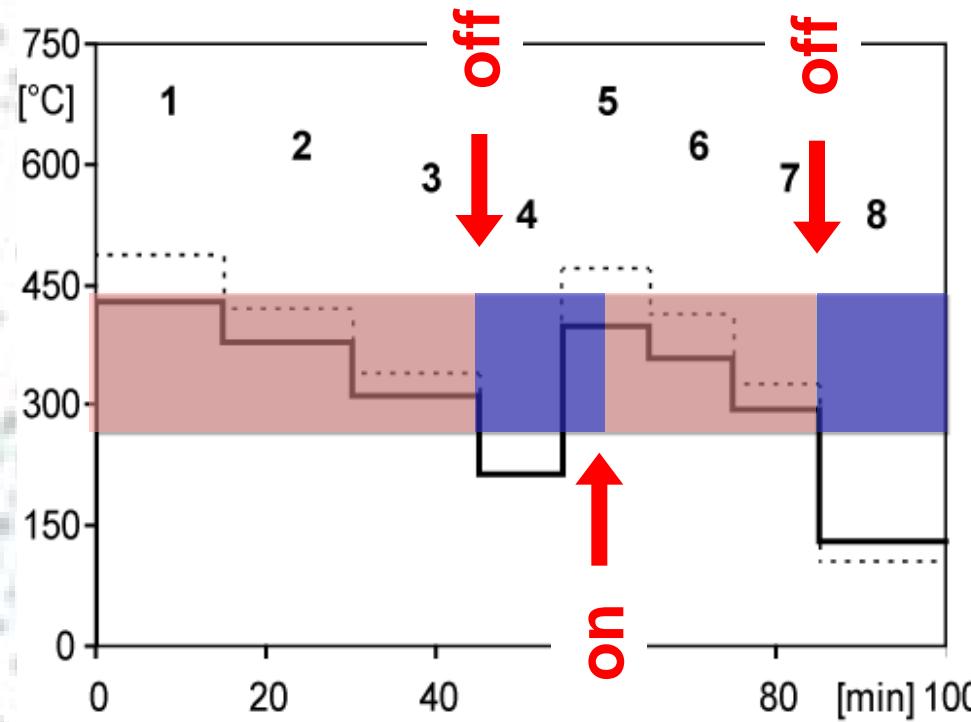


Per ton of NO to be reduced, one needs at least 1 ton of urea!

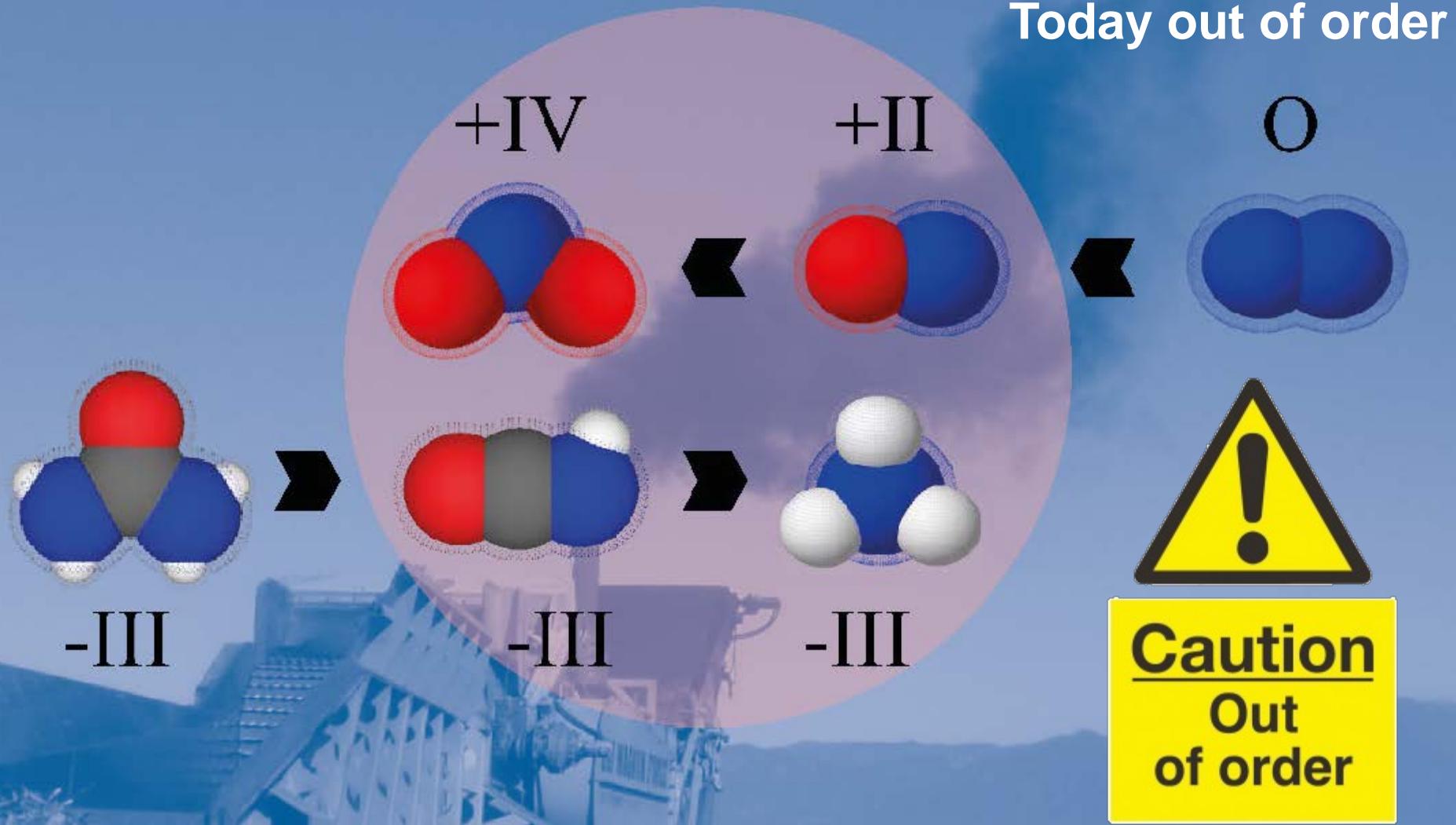
# Exhaust temperatures in the ISO 8178/4 C1 cycle

Urea-based deNO<sub>x</sub>-systems are active only for about 60-80% of the operating time

DeNO<sub>x</sub>-system active >200°C



# Urea-based SCR

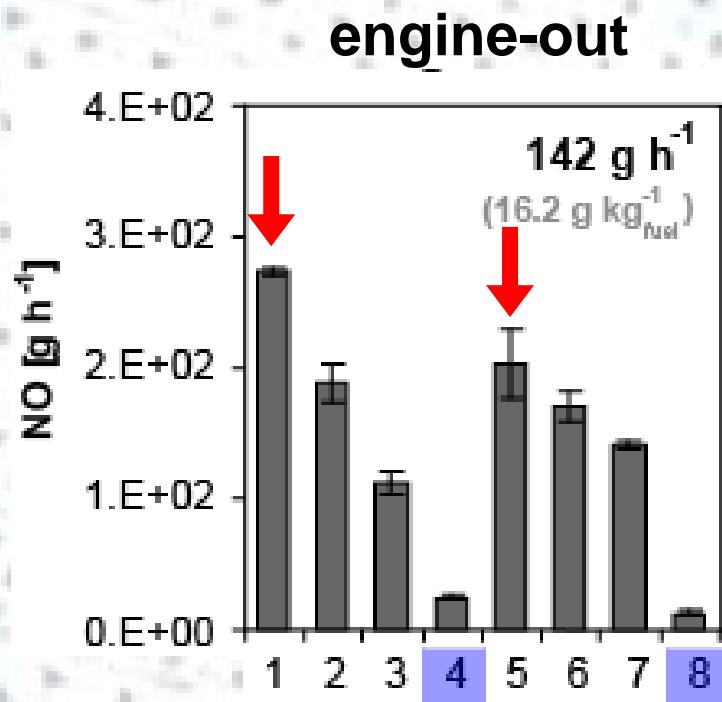


Currently the most efficient deNOx system for diesel engines

# DeNO<sub>x</sub> Efficiencies: A best case scenario

Highest NO emissions at highest loads and temperatures (IVECO, 3.0 L, 100 kW, V-SCR)

## Nitric oxide (NO)

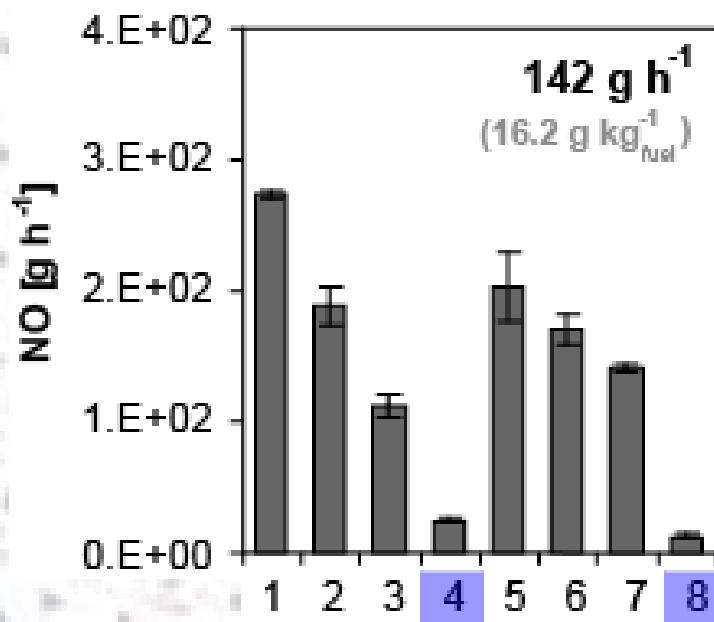


# DeNO<sub>x</sub> Efficiencies: A best case scenario

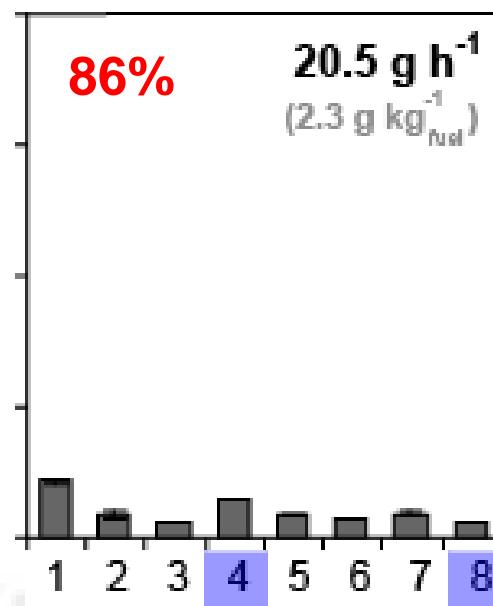
High NO conversion efficiencies can be achieved at alpha = 1.0!

## Nitric oxide (NO)

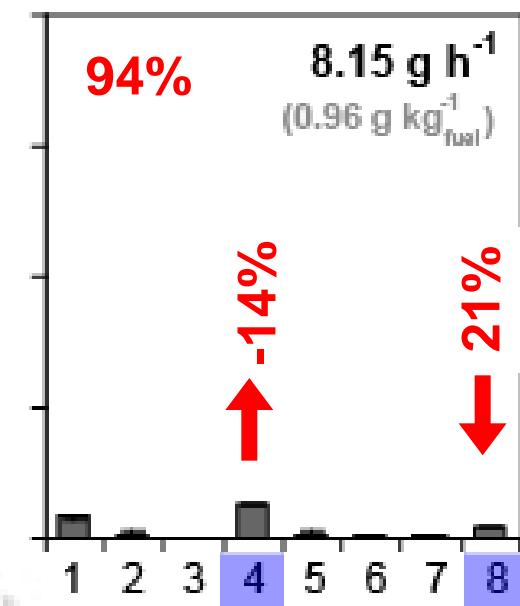
engine-out



$\alpha = 1.0$   
SCR only



$\alpha = 1.0$   
DPF/SCR

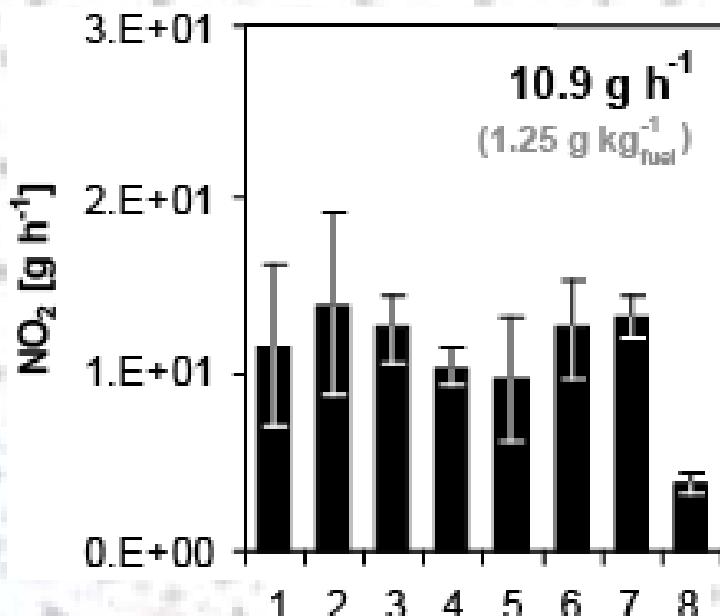


# DeNO<sub>x</sub> Efficiencies: A best case scenario

Low engine-out NO<sub>2</sub> emissions, only 3% on average

## Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

engine-out

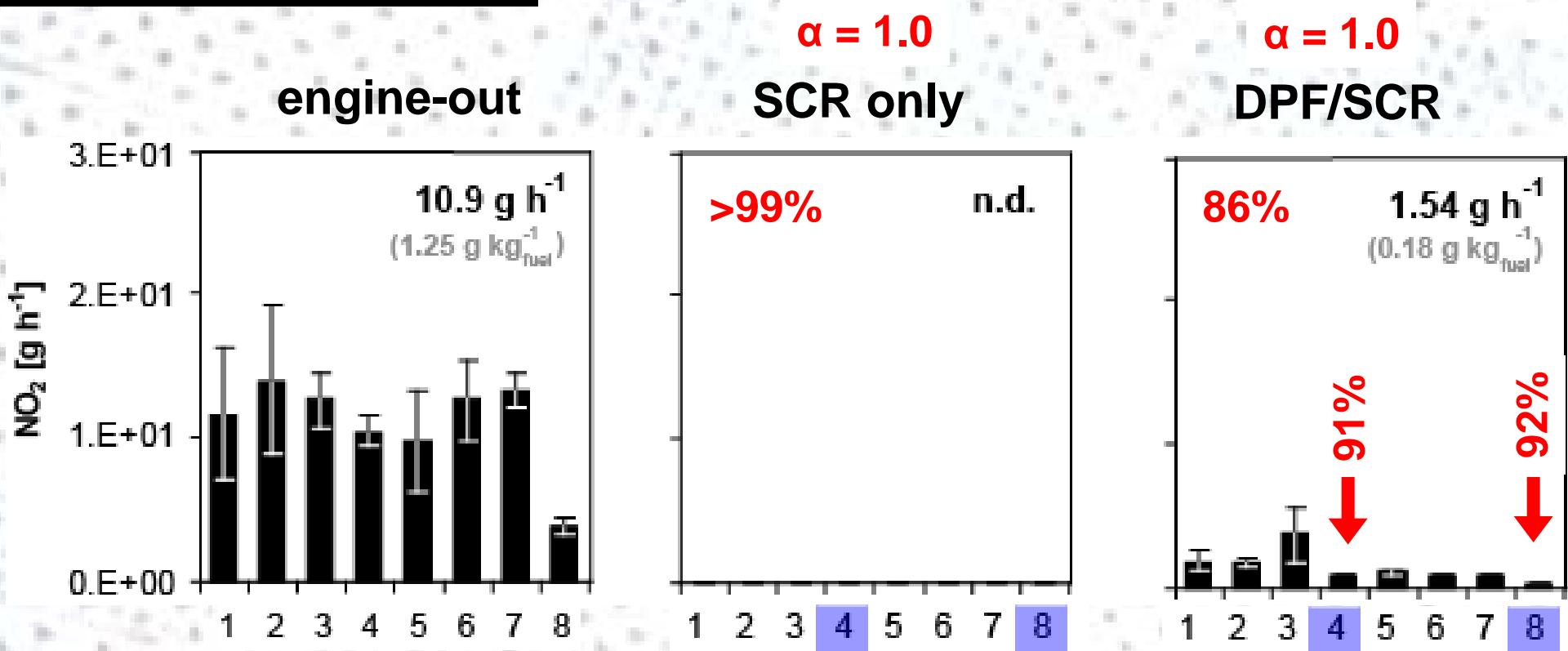


~3% NO<sub>2</sub> und 97% NO Anteile

# DeNO<sub>x</sub> Efficiencies: A best case scenario

High deNO<sub>2</sub> efficiencies can be achieved at alpha = 1.0!

## Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

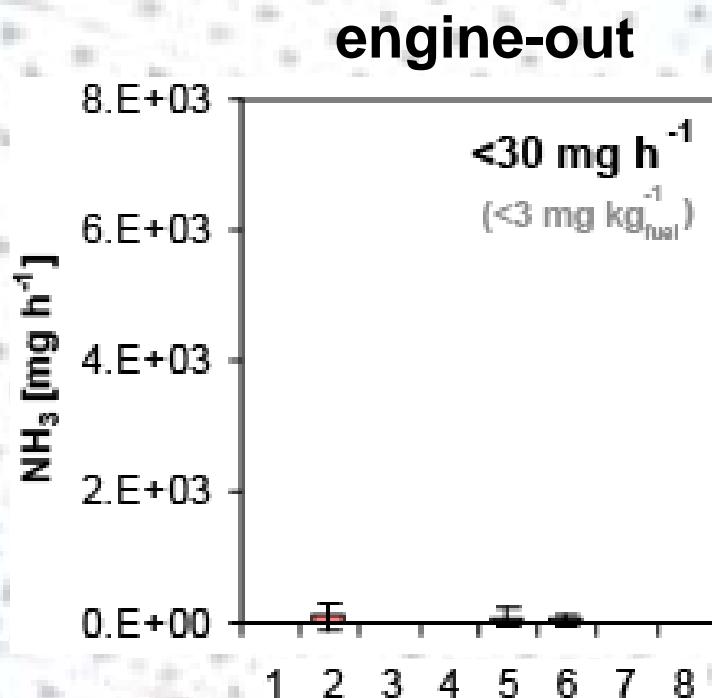


~3% NO<sub>2</sub> und 97% NO Anteile

# Secondary pollutants of DeNO<sub>x</sub>-technologies

Not much engine-out ammonia!

## Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)

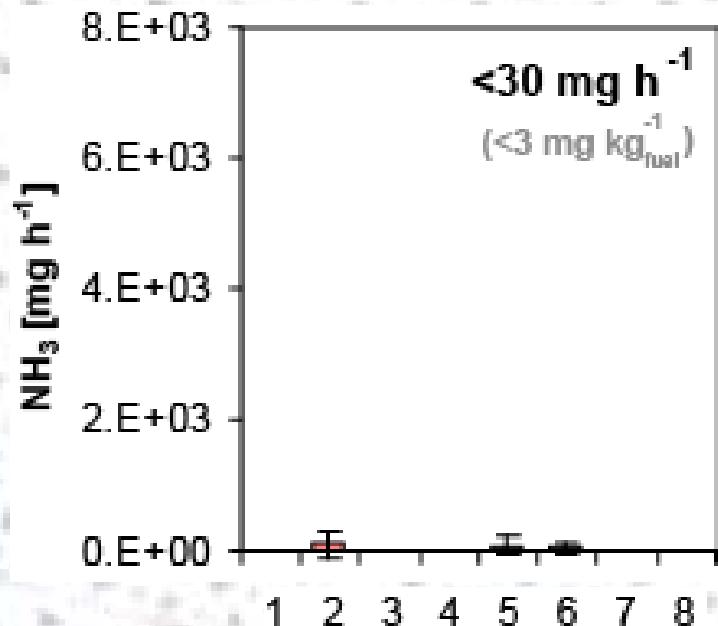


# Secondary pollutants of DeNO<sub>x</sub>-technologies

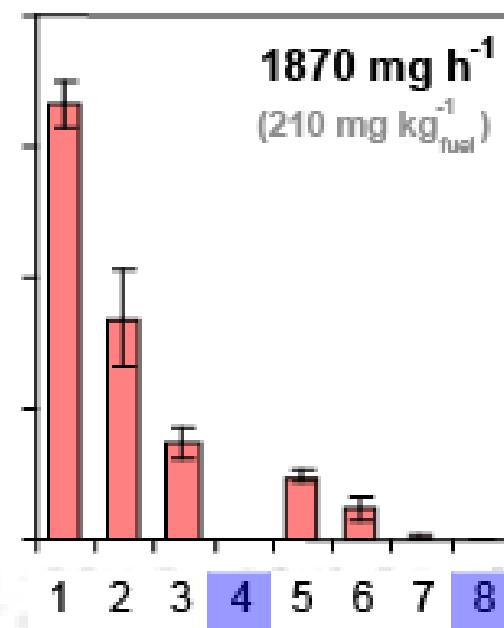
Substantial ammonia emissions with active SCR at alpha = 1.0!

## Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)

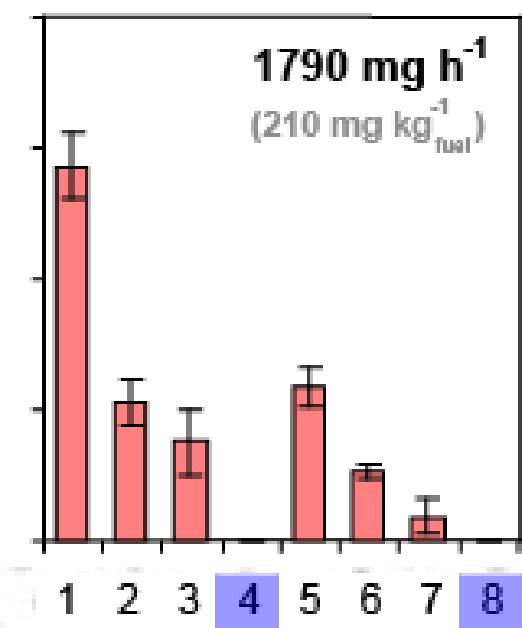
engine-out



$\alpha = 1.0$   
SCR only



$\alpha = 1.0$   
DPF/SCR

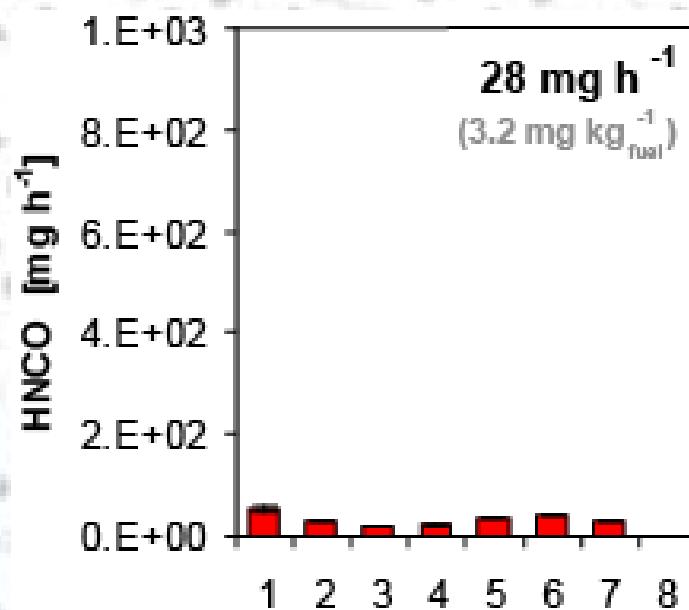


# Secondary pollutants of DeNO<sub>x</sub>-technologies

Some isocyanic acid in engine-out exhaust!

## Isocyanic acid (HNCO)

engine-out

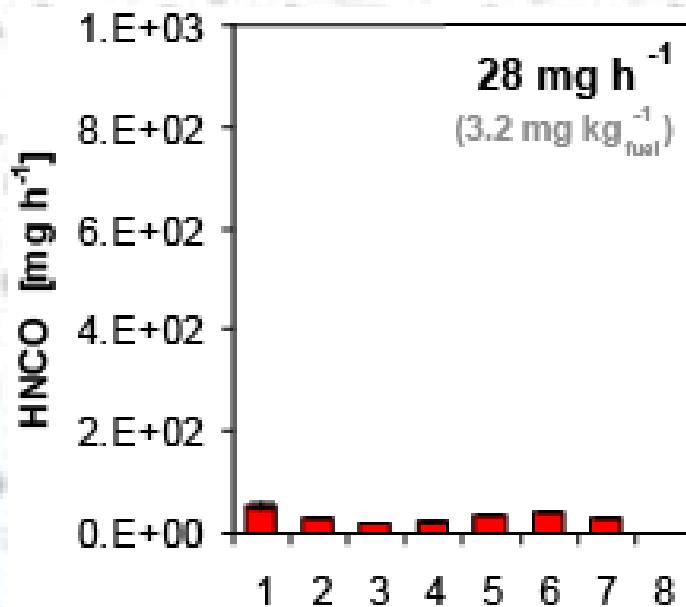


# Secondary pollutants of DeNO<sub>x</sub>-technologies

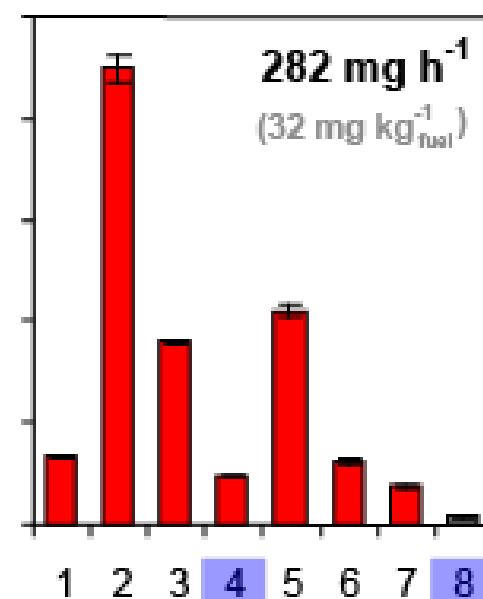
Considerable amounts of isocyanic acid emissions with active SCR!

## Isocyanic acid (HNCO)

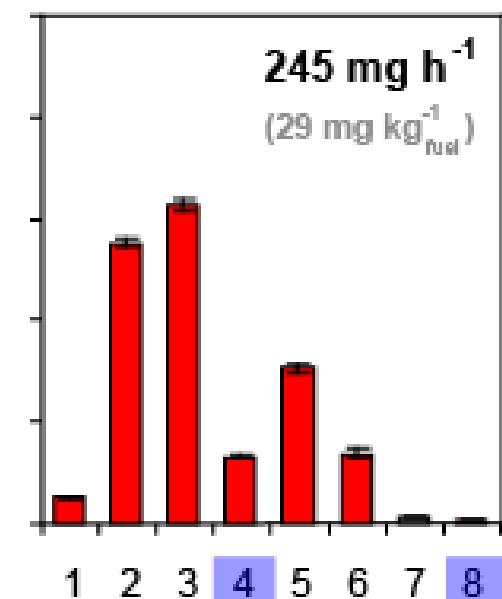
engine-out



$\alpha = 1.0$   
SCR only

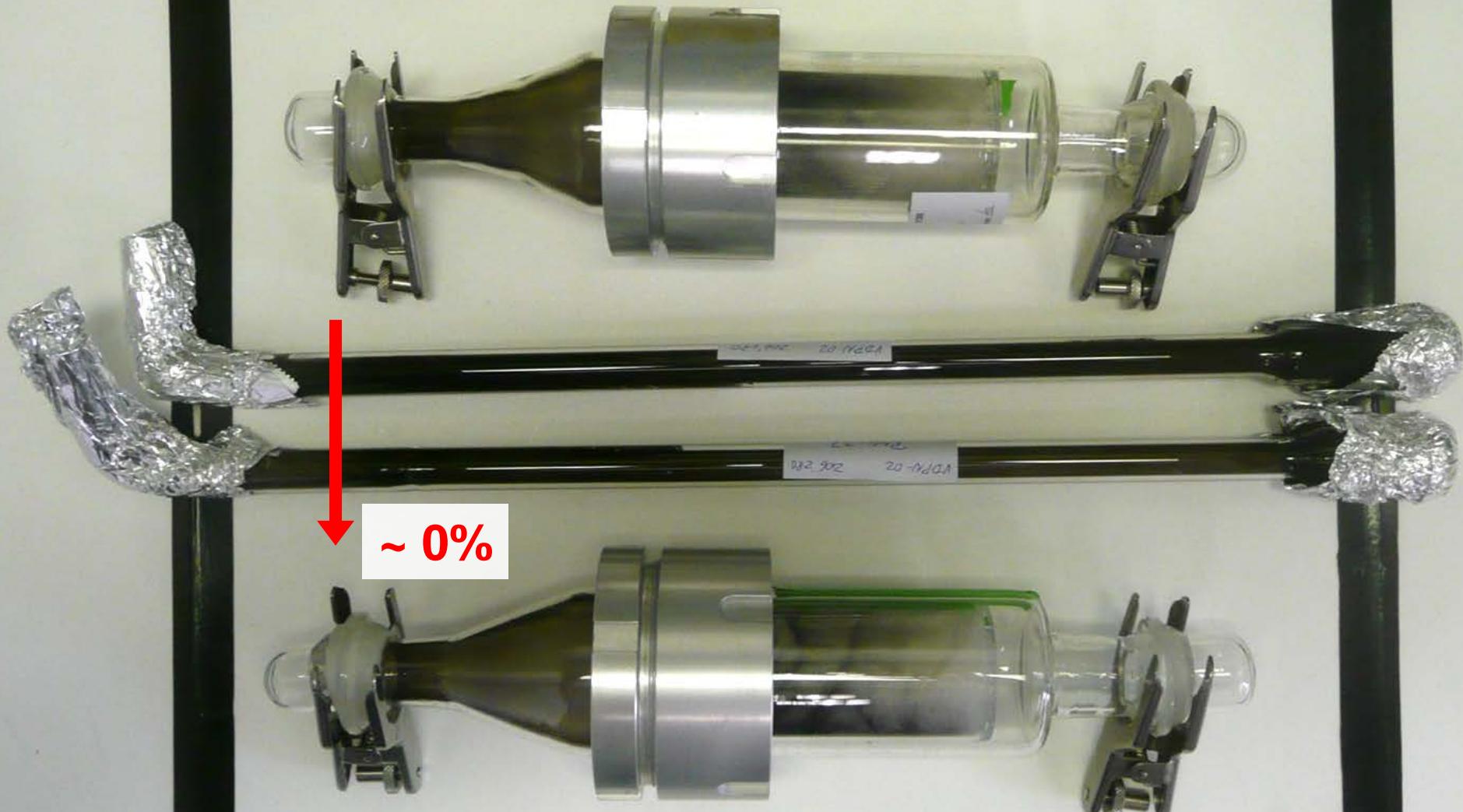


$\alpha = 1.0$   
DPF/SCR



# The visible effect of an SCR-system

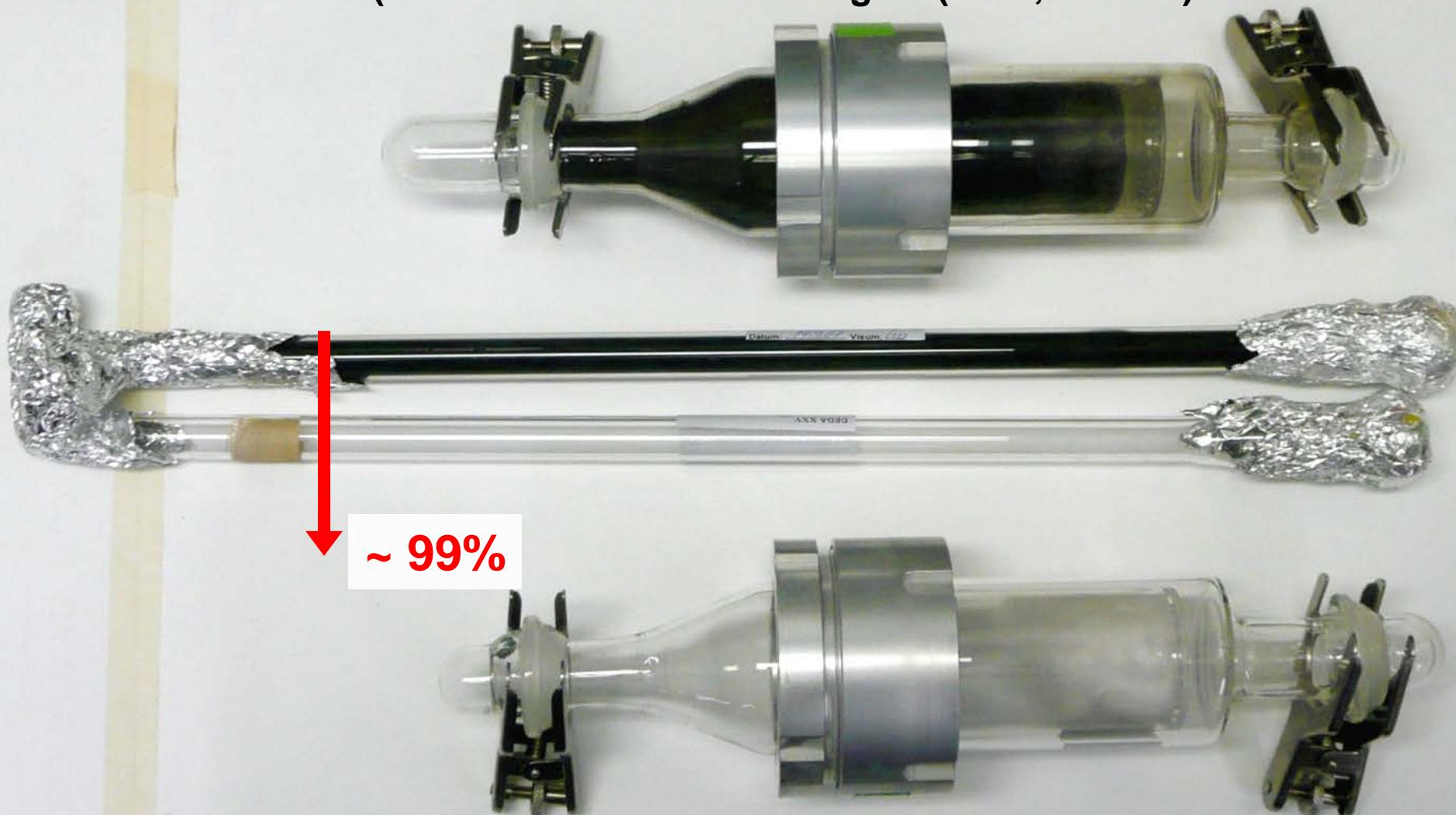
7 m<sup>3</sup> exhaust (only 3 minutes of a Euro-III engine (6.1 L, 105 kW))



For years thousands of Euro-III, -IV, -V HDVs without filters!

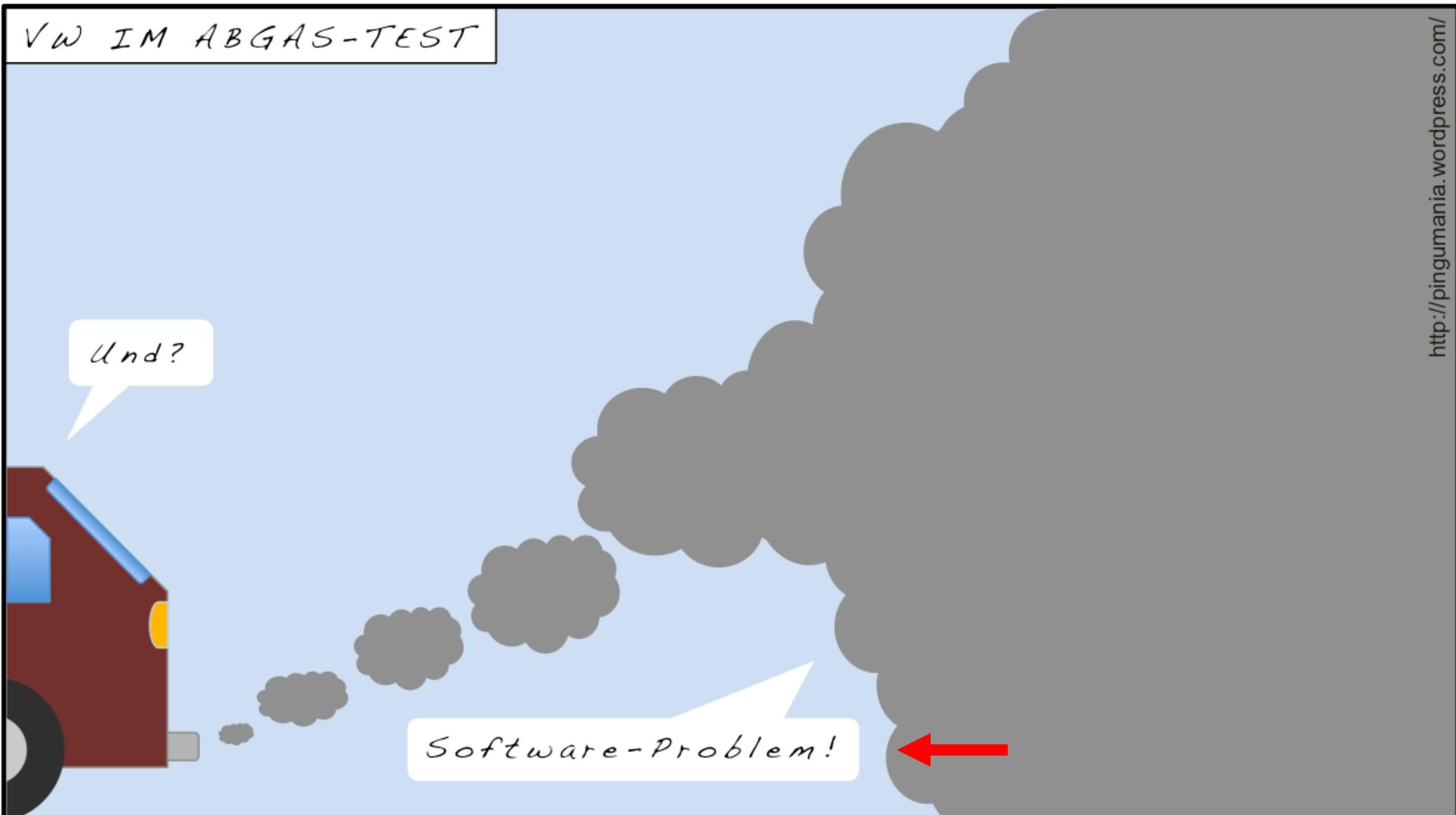
# The visible effect of a particle filter

7 m<sup>3</sup> exhaust (3 minutes of an Euro-III engine (6.1 L, 105 kW))

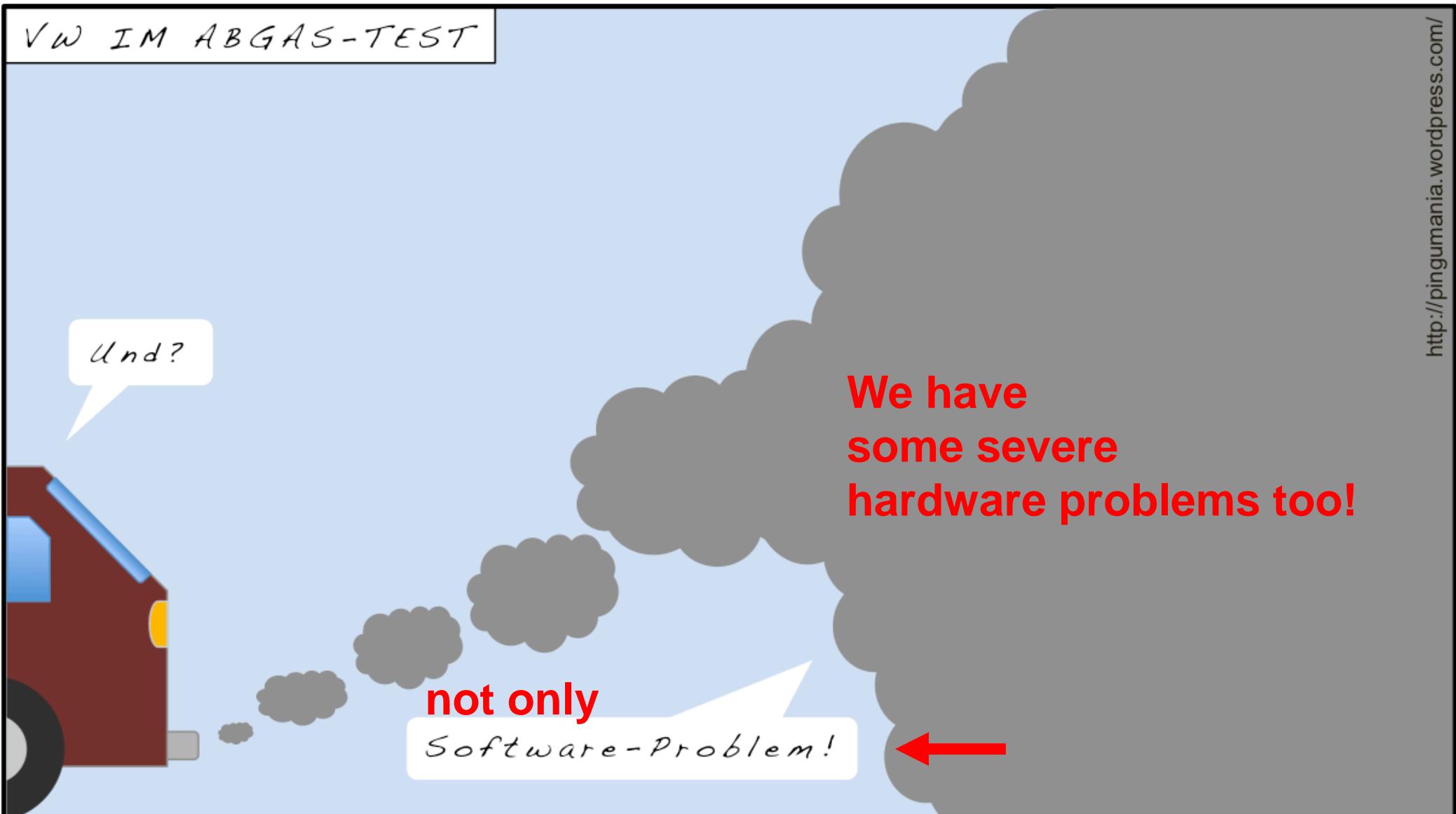


At least Euro-VI HDVs now have both filters and deNOx!

# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet



# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet



# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet



Year two after the VW scandal!

“Will blue technology be  
green enough in the future?”

There's quite some work  
ahead of us, especially at  
urban driving conditions!

# Blue Technology: Not green enough yet

A combined effort with many important contributions

## Thanks:

- **VERT team:** Andreas Mayer, TTM, Niederrohrdorf  
Jan Czerwinski, Sandro Napoli, Tobias Neubert, Thomas Hilfiker, Samuel Bürki, Pierre Comte,  
Jean-Luc Petermann, Yan Zimmerli, Hervé Nauroy Uni. Appl. Sci., Biel.  
Markus Kasper, Adrian Hess, Thomas Mosimann, Matter Aerosols, Wohlen  
Hans Jaeckle, Urs Debrunner, Oliver Schumm, Intertek Caleb Brett, Schlieren.
- **Empa colleagues:** Brigitte Buchmann, Thomas Bührer, Lukas Emmenegger, Anna-Maria Forss,  
Urs Gfeller, Maria Guecheva, Peter Graf, Roland Graf, Erika Guyer, Regula Haag, Peter  
Honnegger, Judith Kobler, Martin Kohler, Peter Lienemann, Alfred Mack, Peter Mattrel,  
Martin Mohr, Joachim Mohn, Christof Moor, Andreas Paul, Peter Schmid, Cornelia Seiler,  
Andrea Ulrich, Heinz Vomont, Thomas Walter, Max Wolfensberger, Daniela Wenger,  
Adrian Wichser, Simon Wyss, Markus Zennegg, Kerstin Zeyer,
- **Governement:** Peter Bonsak, Philipp Hallauer, Giovanni D'Urbano, Felix Reutimann, Max Wyser,  
Gerhard Leutert, Martin Schiess, Swiss Fed. Office for Environment, Bern  
Thomas Gasser, Heinz Berger, Gerhard Stucki, Swiss Federal Road Office
- **Filter- & catalyst manufacturers:** >50 diesel particle filters, 4 deNOx-systems