



# Hyperspectral techniques for air pollutant detection and quantification

16ENVo8 IMPRESS 2: Metrology for Air Pollutants Emissions

Presented by: Guillermo Guarnizo (UC3M)



11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Stakeholder workshop via MS Teams

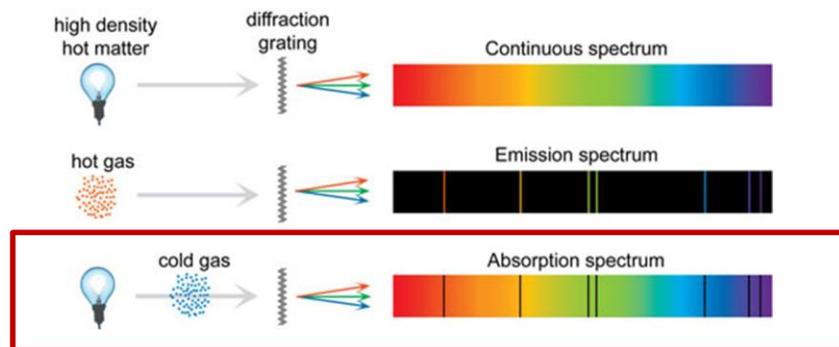
# Outline

- Introduction to hyperspectral techniques
- Survey of the latest technologies related to hyperspectral detection of pollutant emissions
- Development of calibration methods and set-ups:  
Intercomparison of calibration methods
- Preparation of reference gas mixtures for validation activities
- Validation of hyperspectral methods for identification and quantification
- Conclusions



# Hyperspectral techniques: Fundamentals

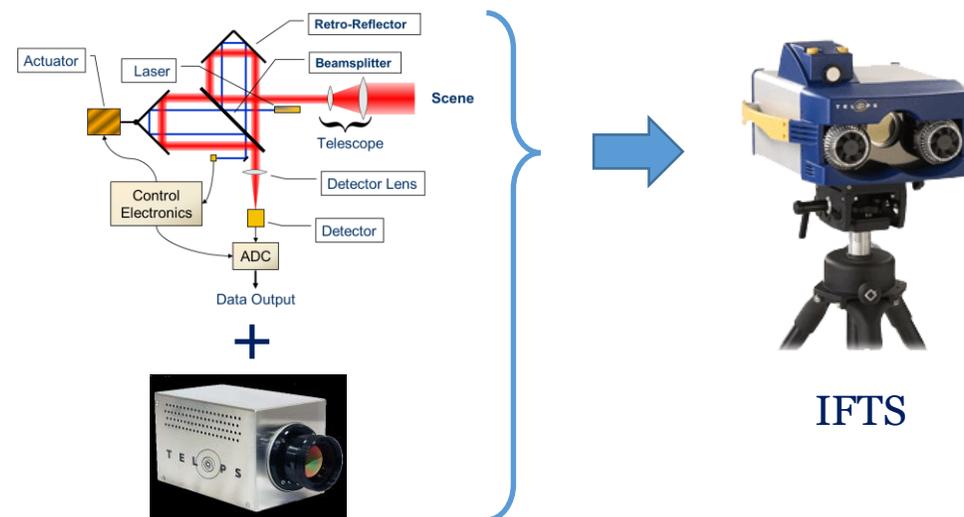
- Kirchoff law (1860): Emissivity equals absorptance  $\rightarrow \alpha(\lambda) = \varepsilon(\lambda)$
- Absorption in gases: It can be measured by the radiance through the pollutant  $\rightarrow \varepsilon = \alpha = 1 - \tau$



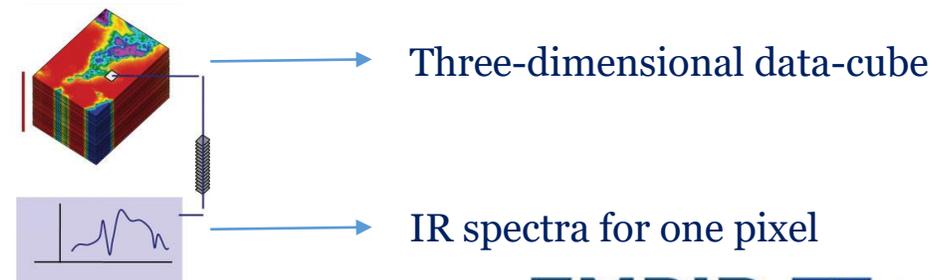
- Lambert-Beer law:  $\tau(\lambda) = e^{-a(\lambda)CL}$   
 where
  - $a$  = Absorptivity (gas feature)
  - $C$  = Concentration
  - $L$  = Optical path
  - $CL$  = Column density (ppm.m)



- Dispersive or interferometer systems  
 IFTS: FTIR based on Michelson interferometer + MIR InSb Camera

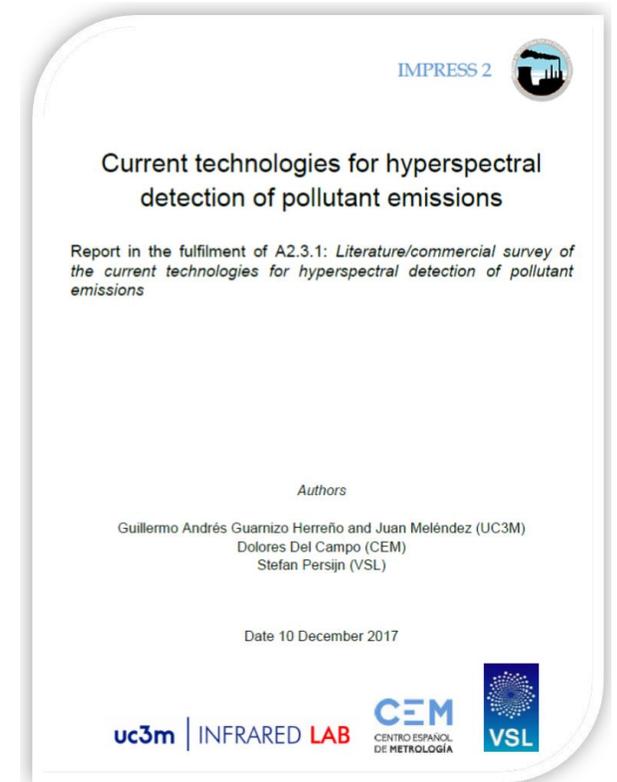


- Detection of continuous spectra



# Survey of the latest technologies related to hyperspectral detection of pollutant emissions

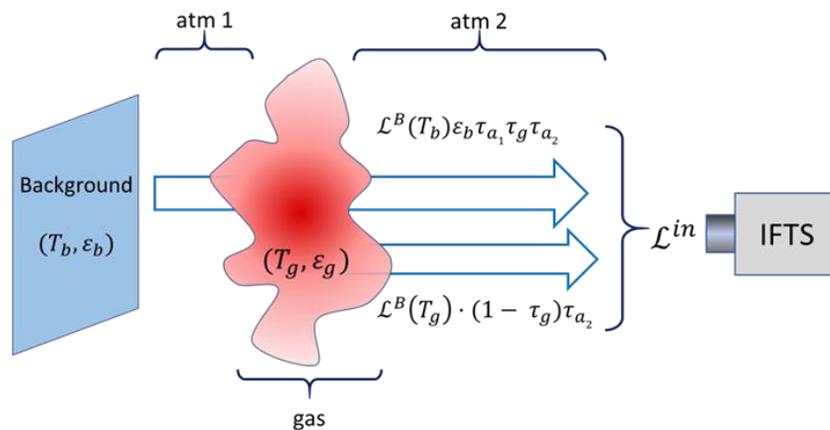
- Most pollutant gases are very selective absorbers and emitters of infrared (IR) radiation
- Their concentration in air can be quantified → High spectral resolution IR data (e.g. HITRAN or PNNL IR database)
- Overview of recent literature:
  - Books focused on principles of hyperspectral detection
  - Review and peer-reviewed papers
- Research groups working on hyperspectral techniques
- Available commercial systems



# Calibration methods for hyperspectral systems

## Procedure for passive systems (UC3M)

### Radiometric model



$$\text{Measurement: } \mathcal{L}^{in} = \mathcal{L}_m = \mathcal{L}^B(T_b) \cdot \epsilon_b \cdot \tau_{a_1} \tau_g \tau_{a_2} + \mathcal{L}^B(T_g) \cdot (1 - \tau_g) \tau_{a_2}$$

$$\text{Reference: } \mathcal{L}^{in} = \mathcal{L}_r = \mathcal{L}^B(T_b) \cdot \epsilon_b \cdot \tau_{a_1} \tau_{g_0} \tau_{a_2}$$

$$\tau_{nom} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{L}_m}{\mathcal{L}_r} = \tau_g + \frac{\mathcal{L}^B(T_g)}{\mathcal{L}^B(T_b)} \cdot (1 - \tau_g) \cdot \frac{1}{\epsilon_b \tau_{a_1}} \equiv \tau_g + \tau'$$

$$\Rightarrow \tau(\lambda) = e^{-a(\lambda)CL} \rightarrow \text{Lambert-Beer law provides } CL = \text{column density}$$

### Uncertainty estimation in gas column density due to:

- Measurement noise
- In absorption mode: Error due to gas emission  
Better for cold air pollutants
- In emission mode: Error due to radiometric calibration of IFTS →  
Better for hot air pollutants



CEM  
Calibration  
facilities



Better for hot air pollutants

# Preparation of reference gas mixtures

## Mixtures preparation

- ✓ Following CEM gravimetric method
- ✓ ISO 6142-1 – Preparation of calibration gas mixtures
- ✓ Analytical check – ISO 6143, to ensure prepared concentrations



Compounds	UC <sub>3</sub> M	NPL & VSL
CH <sub>4</sub>	(602,4 ± 1,4) μmol/mol	(200,0 ± 1,5) μmol/mol
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	(499,9 ± 1,2) μmol/mol	(200,0 ± 1,0) μmol/mol
N <sub>2</sub> O	(250,4 ± 2,5) μmol/mol	(200,5 ± 2,0) μmol/mol



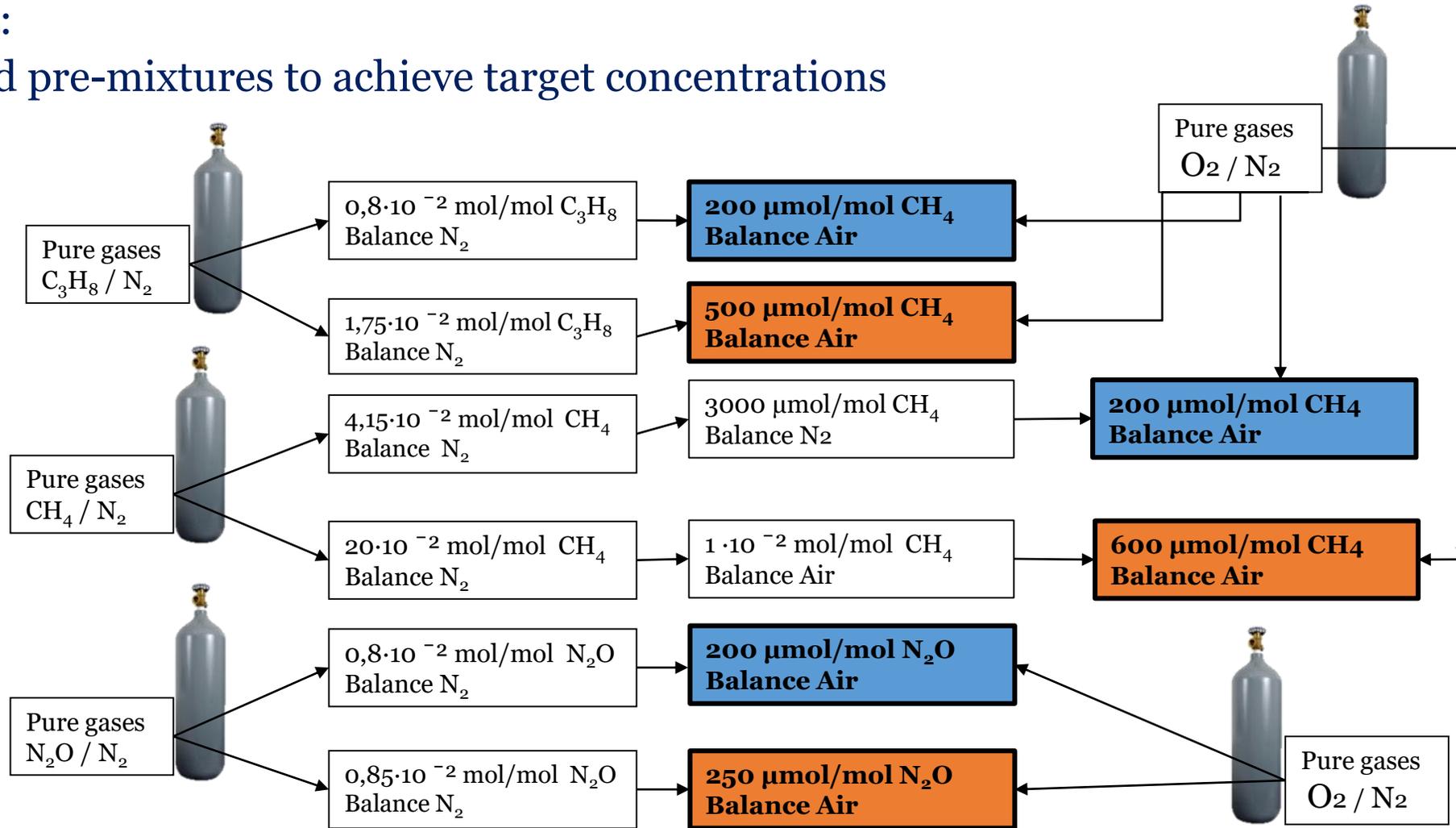
Matrix: synthetic air  
(20% O<sub>2</sub>, 80% N<sub>2</sub>)



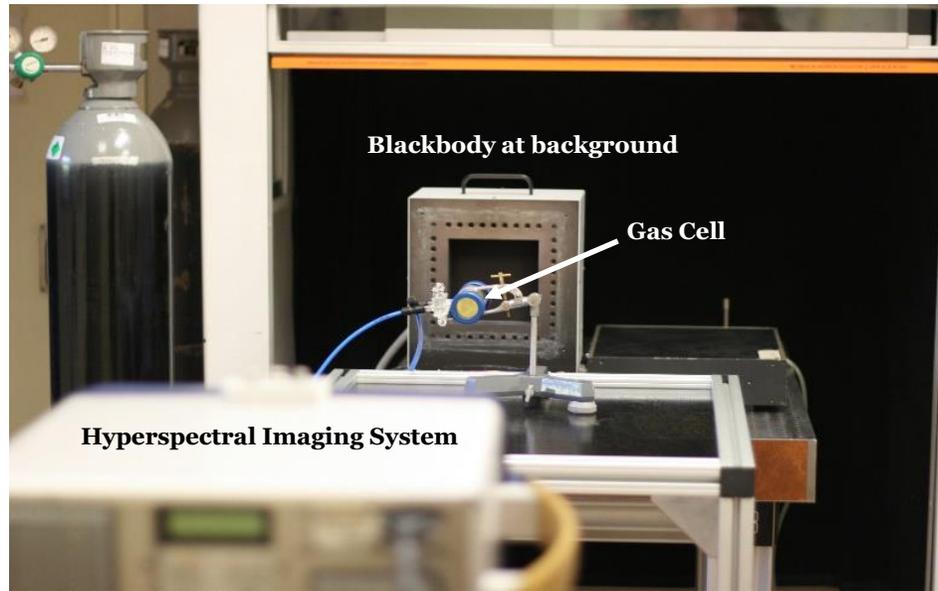
# Preparation of reference gas mixtures

Dilutions:

CEM used pre-mixtures to achieve target concentrations

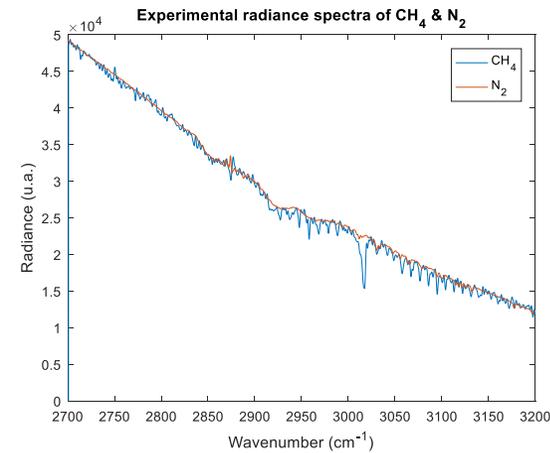


# Identification and quantification of air pollutants: UC3M

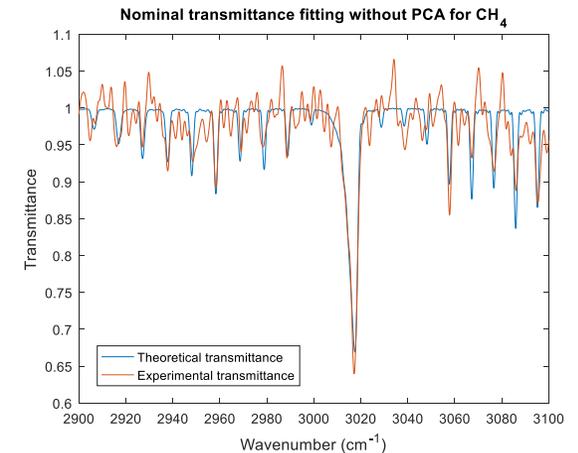


## Air pollutant stand-off measurements

- MIR region: 1,5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 5,5  $\mu\text{m}$
- Spectral resolution: 1  $\text{cm}^{-1}$
- 2 set of acquired data: air pollutant and reference gas
- 3 gases studied: Methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ), Nitrous Oxide ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ) and Propane ( $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$ )



Spectra of pollutant (blue) and reference (red)



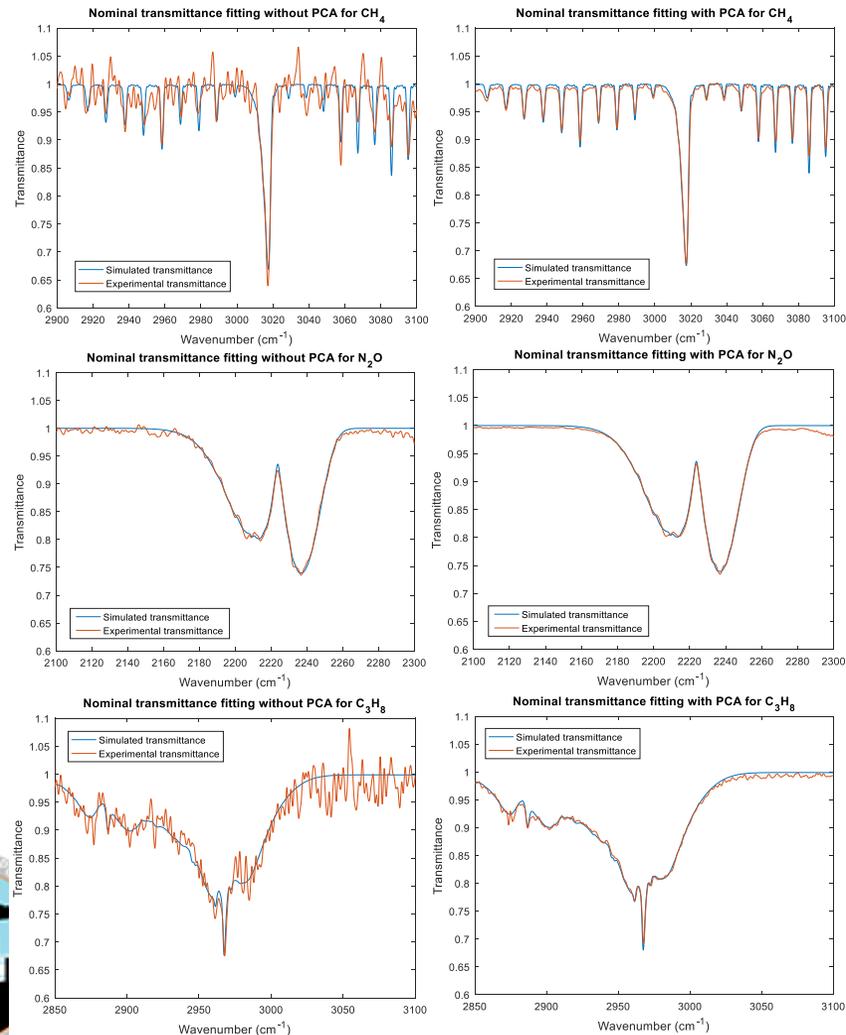
Transmittance spectra: experimental (red) and fitted (blue)

## Features of hyperspectral method:

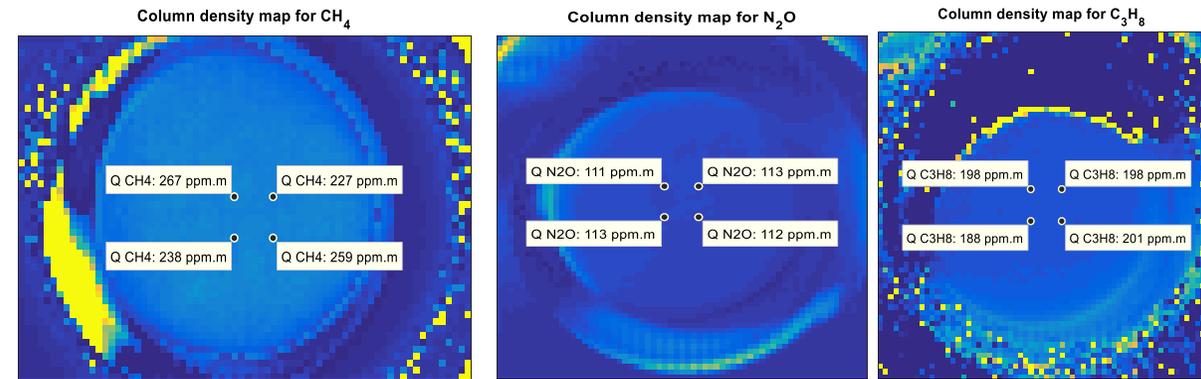
- ✓ A spectrum for each pixel of the image
- ✓ Transversal uniformity in gas cell verified
- ✓ Robust fitting algorithm to retrieve physical variables: Column density and temperature
- ✓ Possibility to establish a minimal concentration value for quantification

# Identification and quantification of air pollutants: UC3M

## PCA processing for noise reduction & enhanced fitting for one pixel



## Column density maps (ppm.m) for the three air pollutants agreed by the partners



Pollutant Gas	Concentration (ppm)	Column density (ppm.m)*	Retrieved column density (ppm.m)**
<b>Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)</b>	600	258	250 ± 9,8
<b>Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)</b>	250	107,5	112,3 ± 1,4
<b>Propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)</b>	500	215	199,7 ± 3,8

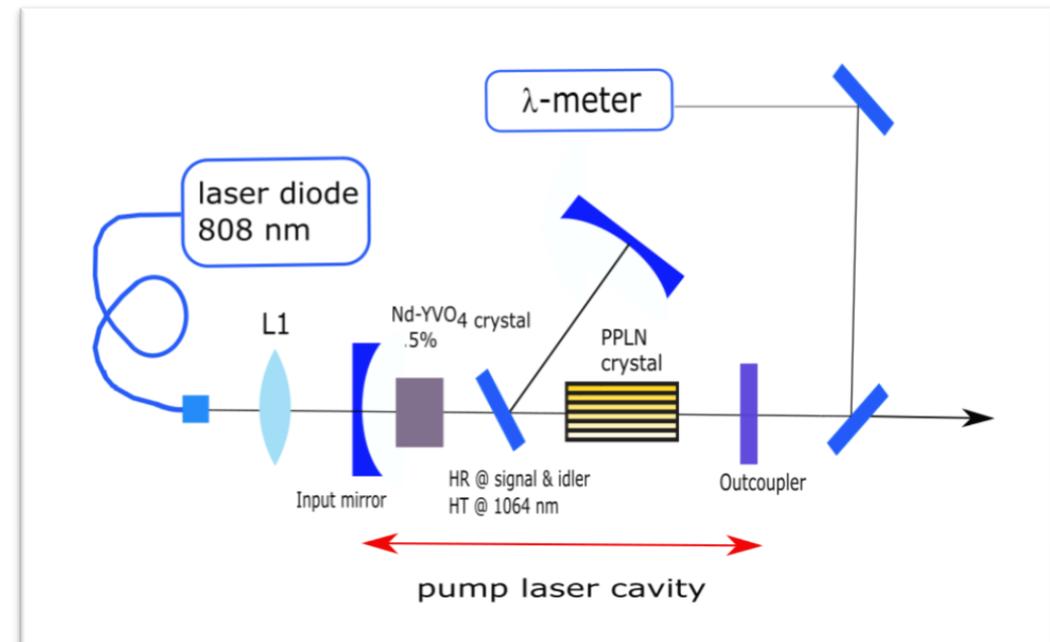
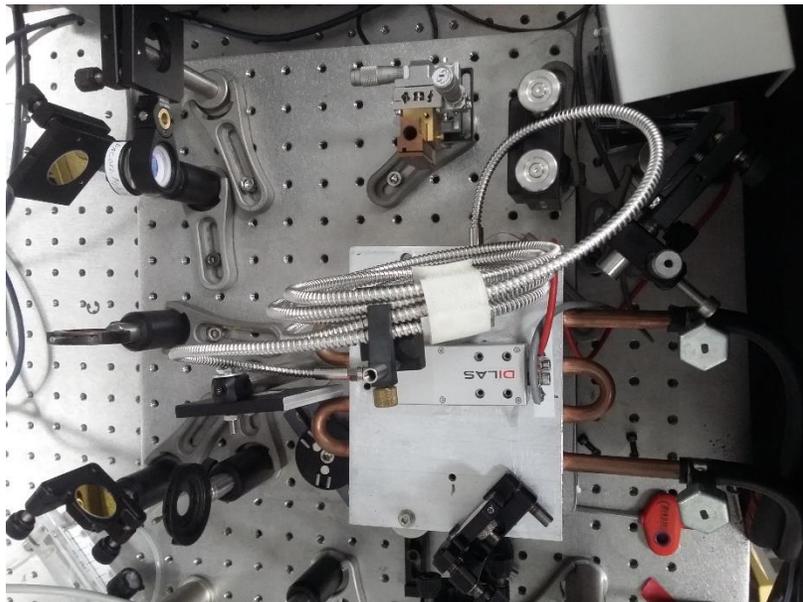
\* Calculated values based on the gas cell of 43 cm used on measurements.

\*\* Retrieved values from a 7 x 7 pixels central area of the hyperspectral image.



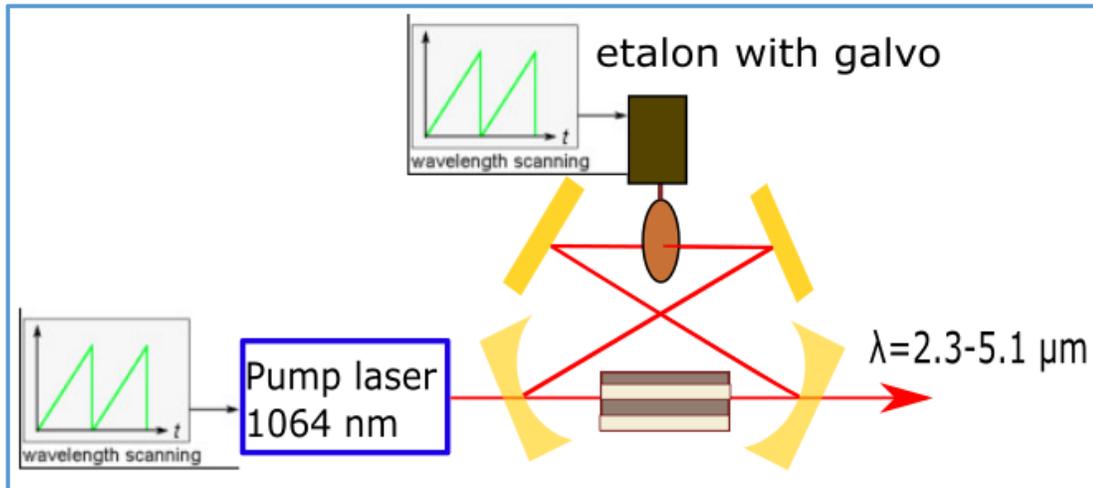
# Identification and quantification of air pollutants: VSL

- VSL designed compact OPO (tuneable IR source)
- Parts have been ordered and system assembled. Unfortunately system not working properly (Nd-YVO<sub>4</sub> laser unstable)



# Identification and quantification of air pollutants: VSL

- As designed OPO did not work, a different route was chosen using a Nd-YAG pumped OPO

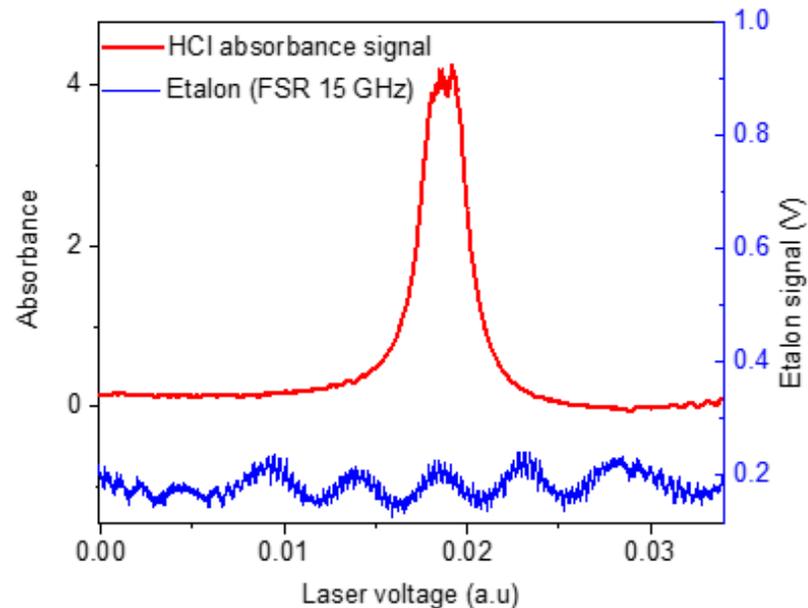


## Features OPO system

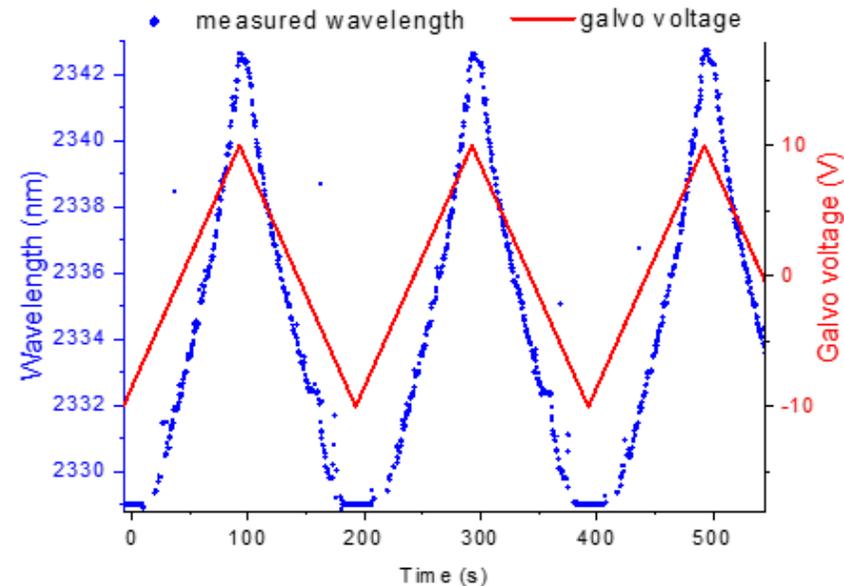
- Wavelength range 2.3-5.1  $\mu\text{m}$
- Output power up to 2.5 Watt
- Continuous wave operation
- Rapid tuning via etalon (up to 10's of Hz) or pump laser (up to 1 kHz)

# Identification and quantification of air pollutants: VSL

- OPO can enhance the thermal contrast in measurements using hyperspectral imagers and so improve quantification of gas concentrations



**Figure 2** Direct absorption measurement of the HCl line centred at  $2963.29 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The OPO was tuned at a rate of 20 Hz over the absorption line.



**Figure 3** Tuning of the OPO using only etalon tuning.



# Conclusions

- A rigorous survey on novel hyperspectral techniques has been drafted. Books, papers and commercial systems are included in the final document
- Traceable calibration methods for hyperspectral imagers have been established for passive systems
- A defined group of air pollutants for validation measurements has been prepared and certified by CEM
- Excellent results in quantification of pollutants have been achieved by UC3M with an improved hyperspectral method
- The OPO-based method proposed by VSL are good enough in spite of the problems they had with Nd-YVO<sub>4</sub> laser unstable





The EMPIR initiative is co-funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the EMPIR Participating States

# Thanks for your attention

16ENVo8 IMPRESS 2 Stakeholder Workshop

11<sup>th</sup> January 2021



uc3m

INFRARED  
LAB

CEM

CENTRO ESPAÑOL  
DE METROLOGÍA