

& R Q W L Q X ~~RO~~LVQ ~~Ø~~IQ  
7 D U 0 R Q L W R U L Q J D Q G 7 D  
Z L W K ) ~~Ø~~9X R U H V F H Q F H

**YorkNeubauer**

TCKON Engineering Services Dr.-Ing. York Neubauer

Berlin, Germany

IEA Bioenergy, Task 33: Thermal Gasification of Biomass and Waste  
WORKSHOP "GAS CLEANING, EXPERIENCES, NEW DEVELOPMENTS, ANALYTICS AND DIAGNOSTICS"  
June 6th 2019, KIT, Karlsruhe, Germany

# outline

- (on-line) ,tar'-monitoring and ,tar'-analysis – what is needed?
- The dream of on-line tools for perfect results at neglectible operating and maintenance efforts
- Approaching the needs and wishes with UV-fluorescence
- outlook



# overall gas composition as quality measure

## permanent gases

desired

**CO**  
**H<sub>2</sub>**  
**CO<sub>2</sub>**  
N<sub>2</sub>

contaminants

H<sub>2</sub>S  
COS  
NH<sub>3</sub>  
HCN  
HCl  
...

## condensables

hydrocarbon gases  
C1-C5

**methane**  
ethane  
**ethene**  
propane  
propene  
...



steam/water

*benzene*  
*1-ring aromatics*  
*polycyclic aromatic compounds (PAC)*

**particles**  
**aerosols**  
**metals**

## Which ones are the troublemakers?

„tar“ – when condensed and in each other dissolved

# Needs and wishes

## Sciencerequests

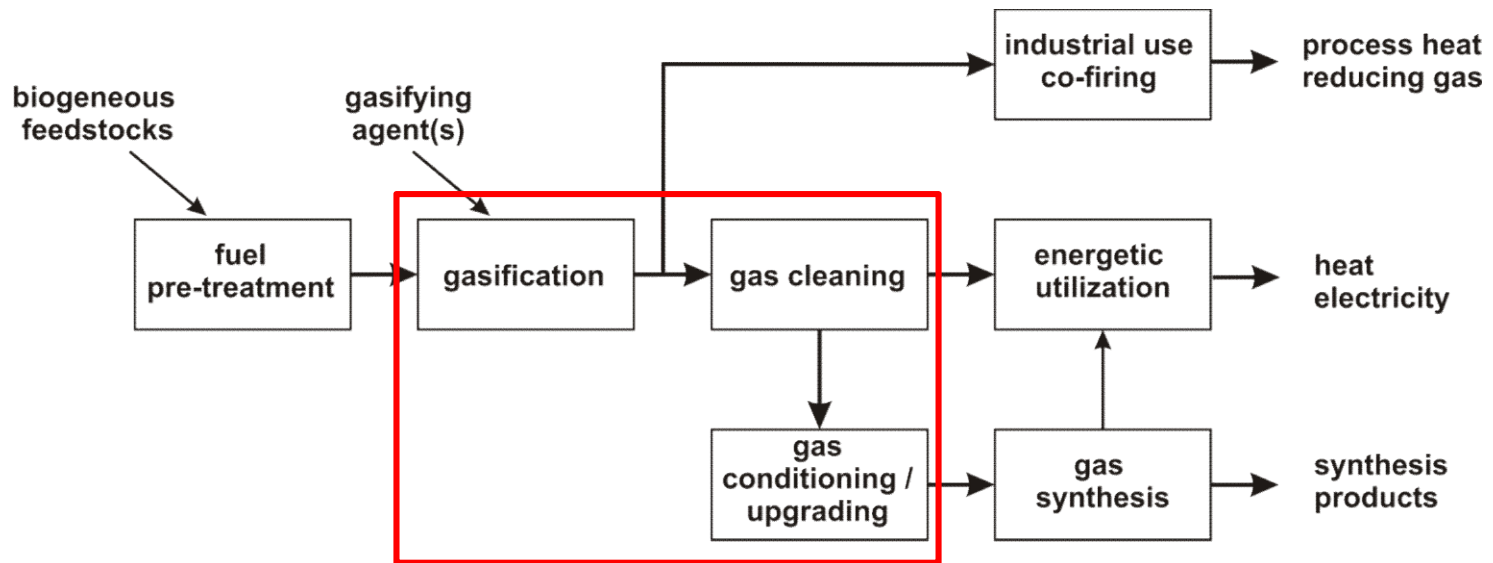
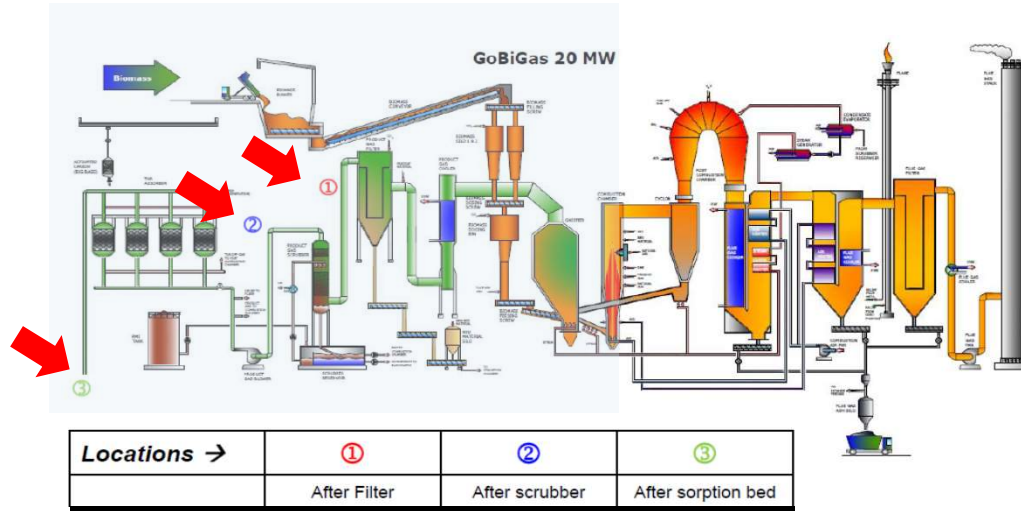
- Fast and detailed results
- Preferred L Q O L Q H P H D V X U H P H Q W V revealing reactor insights on time
- continuous monitoring
- validated, spatial resolved data for modelling and simulation

## Industryneeds

- A reliable, robust, easy to operate and to maintain measurement or monitoring instrument.
- A 'translation' of the physical tar species properties and amounts into a useful value, characterizing the current status of the respective plant section.
- A device that can be taken care of by a technician - rather than a scientist !
- A tool that handles tar loaded gas which stays longer in operation than the monitored part of the plant itself!
- Such a device needs to be applicable in the industrial environment (temperature, vibrations, dust, ex proof zones). To assure a long operating and life time, the direct contact of the measuring unit with the tar species especially in 'raw' gases needs to be avoided.

- 2 S W L F D O W H S F K @ L U V - X U H P H Q W V Fluorescence spectroscopy offer a number of benefits for this purpose.

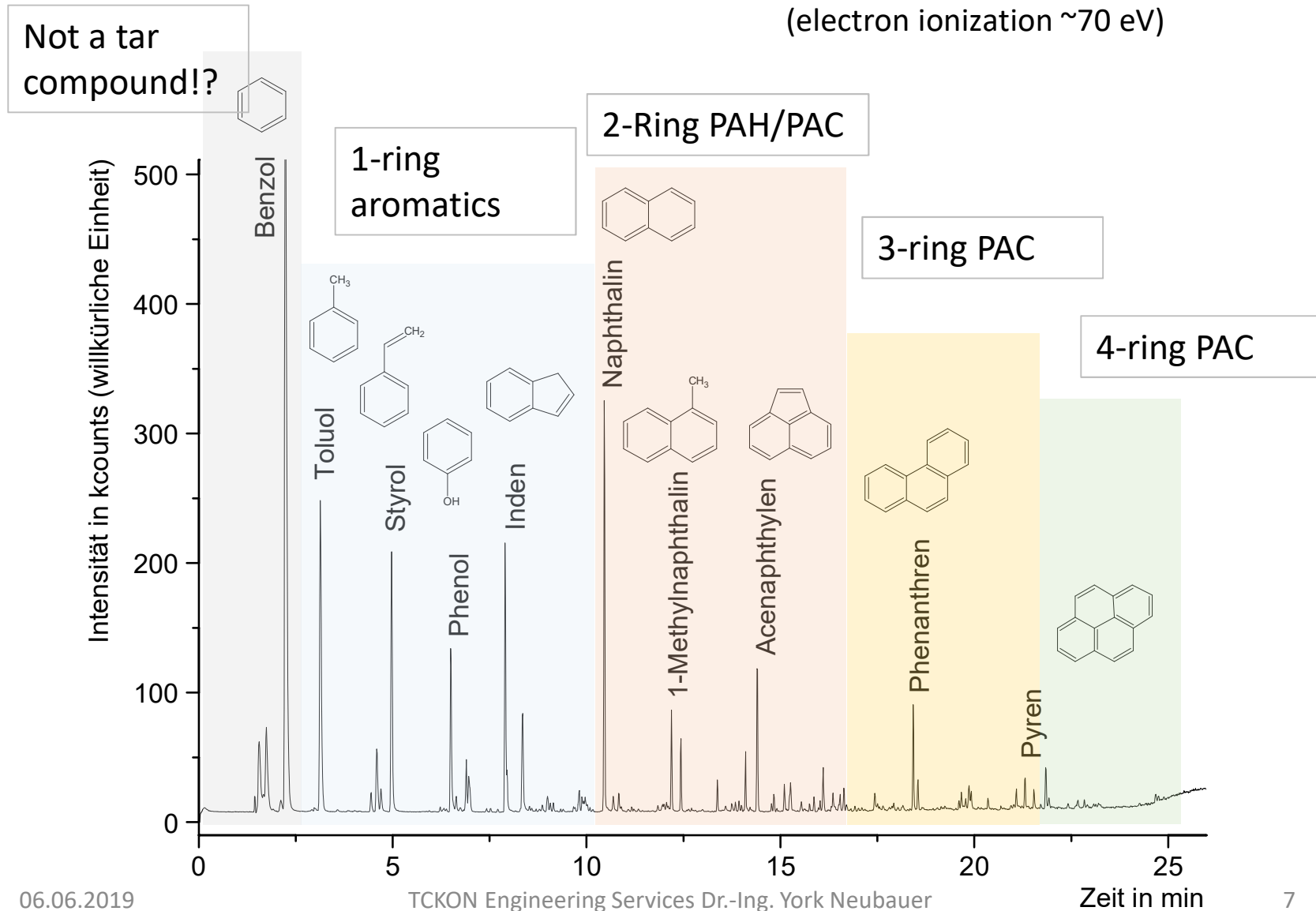
# J D V I D P E ~~On~~ Depending on process, fuel and location within the plant




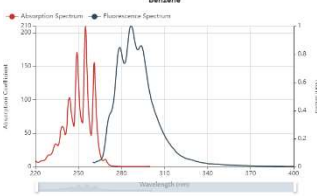

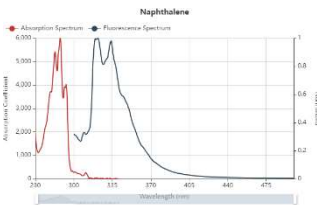
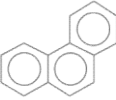
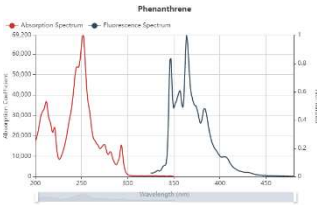

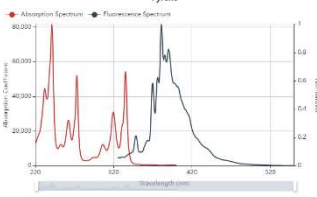
# tar composition

## Online tar analysis with GC/MS

gasification of woody biomass with air  
(electron ionization ~70 eV)



# Properties of selected tar ,representatives‘

1DPH	&\$6	1R 0ROH0V0RLO	2QWLFDO 3URS	HUWLHV	\$EVRUSWLRQ DQG (P	
		ZHLJKWSRLQW	f &	f &		
<b>Benzene</b> 	71-43-2	78,11	6	80	Absorption coefficient: 210 at 254.75 nm Fluorescence quantum yield: 0.053	
<b>Naphthalene</b> 	91-20-3	128,17	80	218	Absorption coefficient: 6000 at 275 nm Fluorescence quantum yield: 0.23	
<b>Phenanthrene</b> 	85-01-8	178,23	99	336	Absorption coefficient: 69200 at 252 nm Fluorescence quantum yield: 0.125	
<b>Pyrene</b> 	129-00-0	202,25	156	340	Absorption coefficient: 81700 at 241 nm Fluorescence quantum yield: 0.32	

Taniguchi, M.; Du, H.; Lindsey, J. S. , PhotochemCAD 3: Diverse Modules for Photophysical Calculations with Access to Multiple Spectral Databases, Photochem. Photobiol. 2018, 94, 277–289.

Taniguchi, M.; Lindsey, J. S. , Database of Absorption and Fluorescence Spectra of >300 Common Compounds for Use in PhotochemCAD, Photochem. Photobiol. 2018, 94, 290–327.



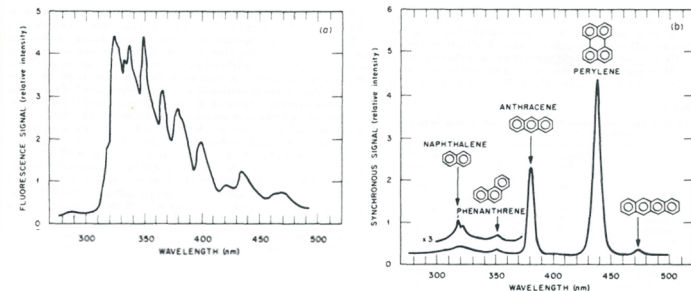
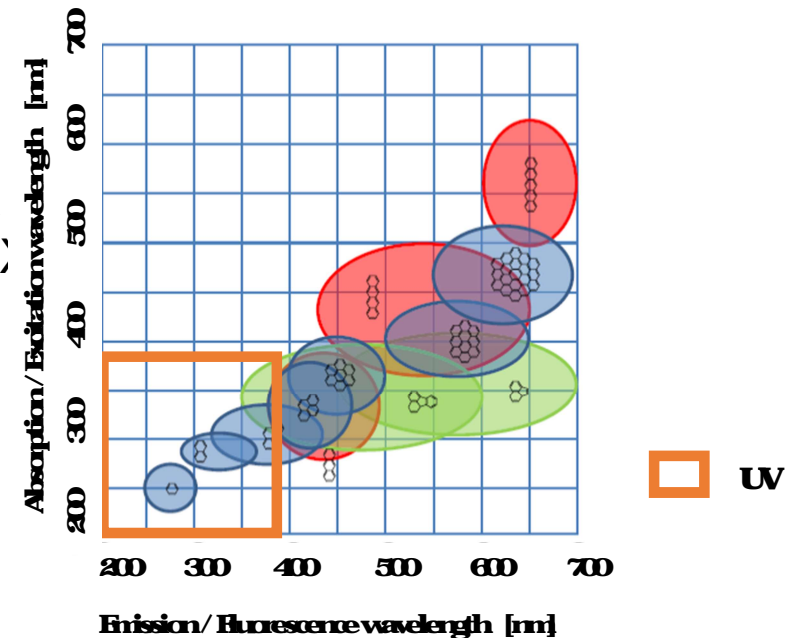
# Attempting to access aromatics contents in the process gases continuously on-line

## Goal of fundamental research work:

2EWDLQLQJ LQIRUPDWLRQ  
FRPSRXQGVRU RQ FRPSR)  
ZLWK 89 IOXRUHVFHQFH V

examination of:

- Excitation-Emission matrices - EEM
  - Synchronous fluorescence
  - Fluorescence lifetime
- Comparisons between liquid solvent phase with tar species and high temperature gas phase

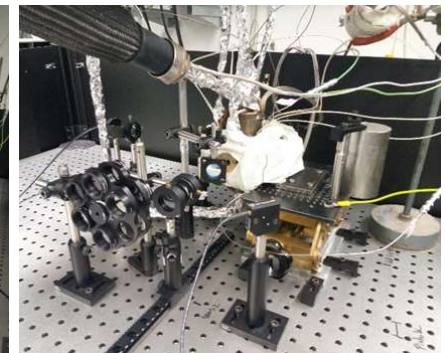
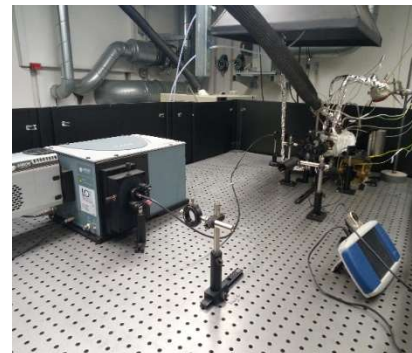
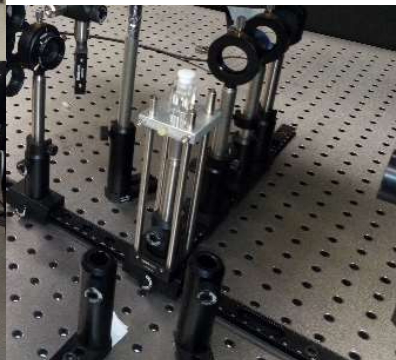
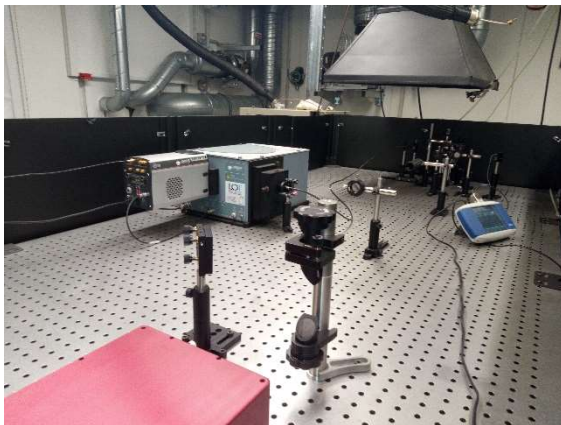
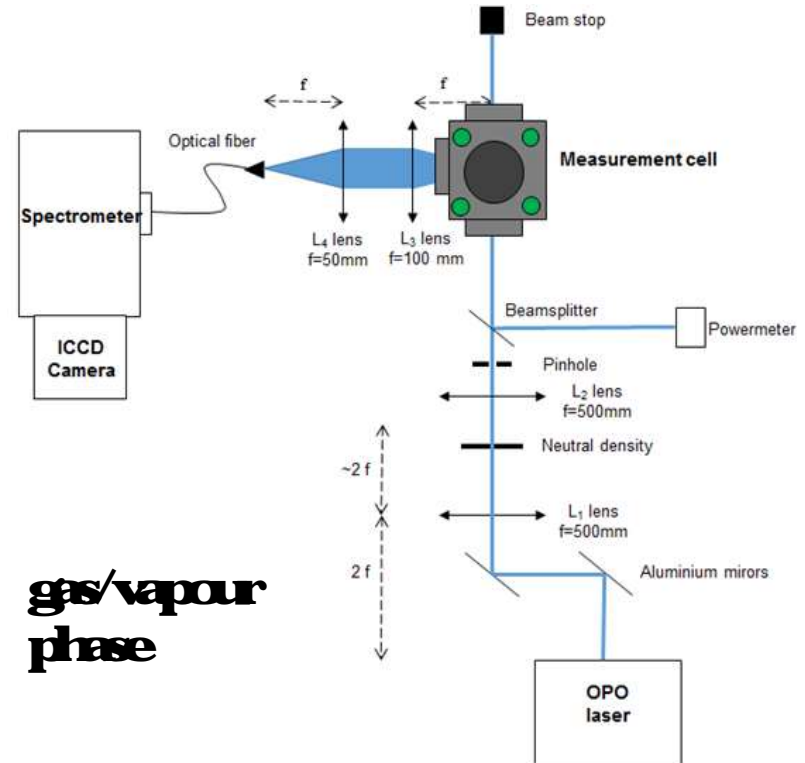
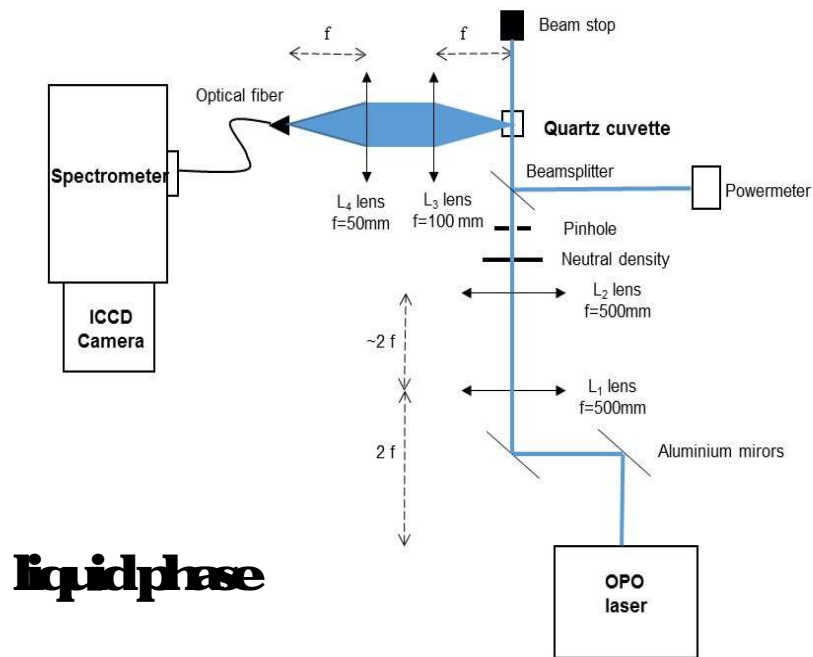


Picture on the upper right taken and adapted from:

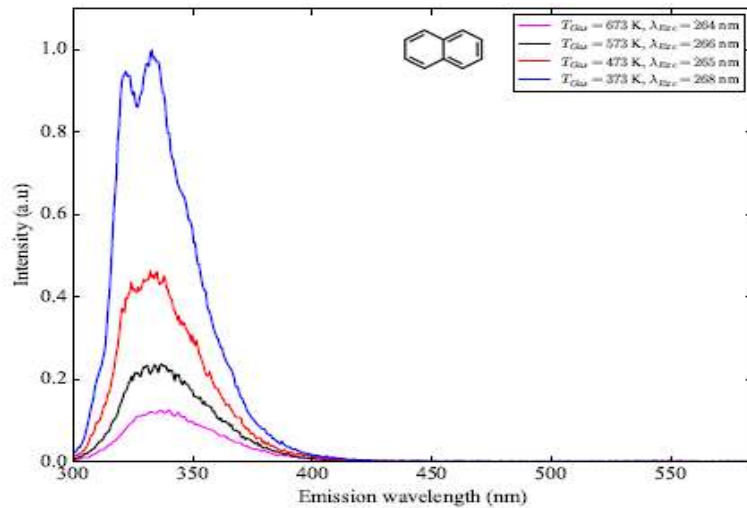
synchronous luminescence spectroscopy [Vo Dinh 1978]

S. Bejaoui, X. Mercier, P. Desgroux, E. Therssen: Laser induced fluorescence spectroscopy of aromatic species produced in atmospheric sooting flames using UV and visible excitation wavelengths. *Combustion and Flame* 161 (2014) 2479–2491

# Principal setups for fundamental examinations

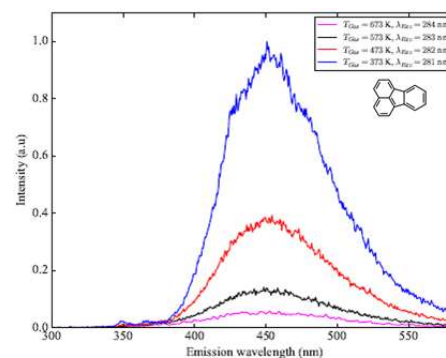
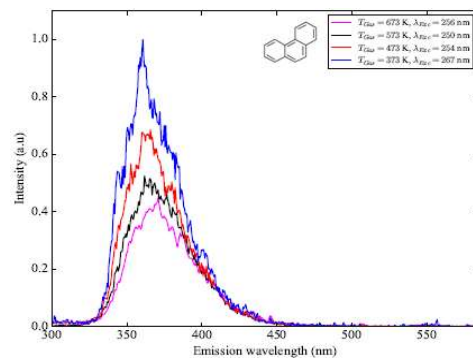


# Temperature dependence of the fluorescence signal



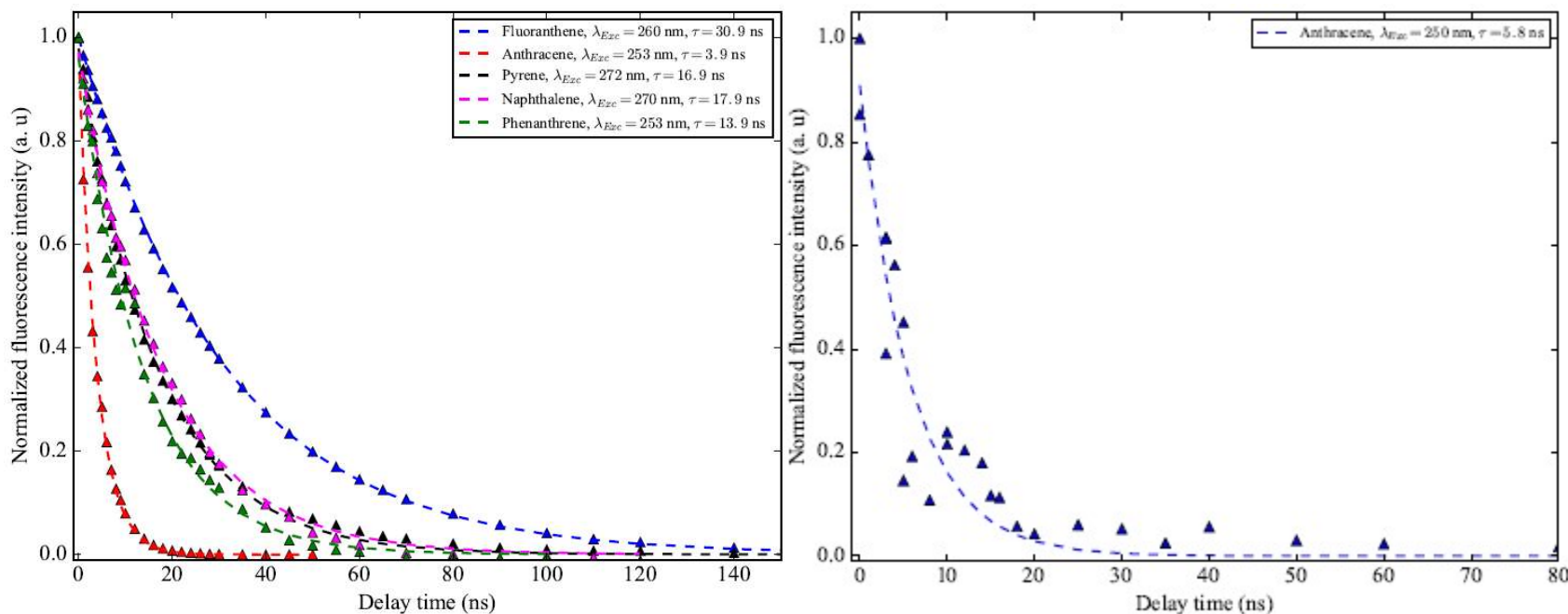
Fluorescence intensities drop with increasing temperature

**Consequence** high temperatures of 350 – 400°C for surely avoiding tar deposits are in contrast to spectral quality



Diluting could be a solution but represents a challenge on its own – see work of gti or VTT!

# Separation by fluorescence lifetime



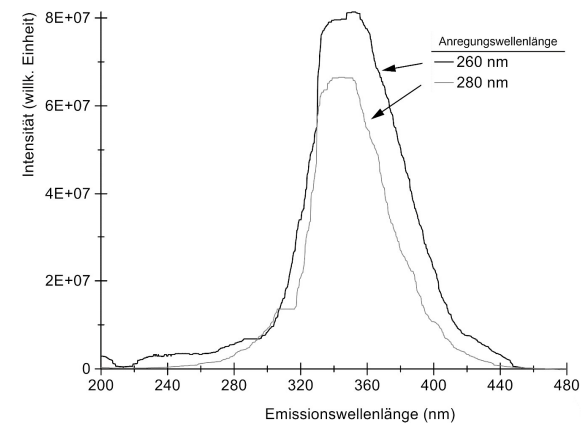
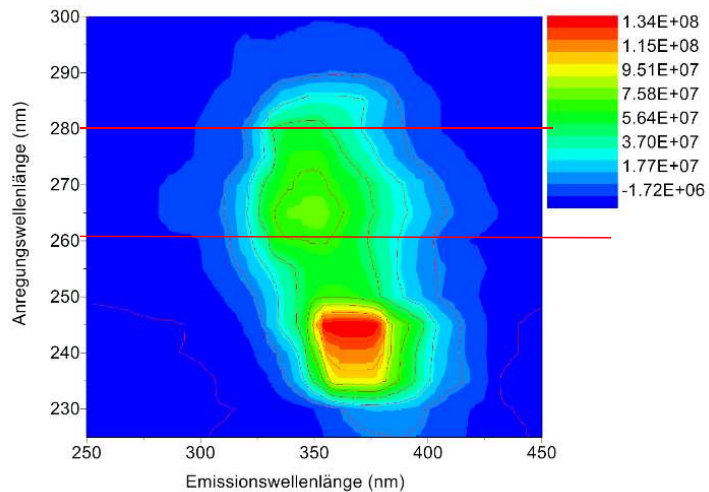
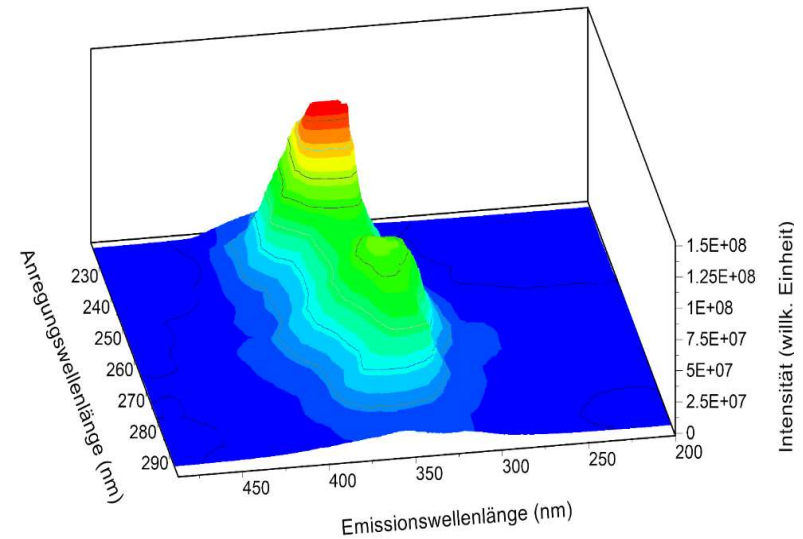
) OXRUVFHQFH GHFD\ FXUYHV RI 3\$ + 0 XLROU F\FORKH[DQHF D\ FXUYH RI DQWKUD  
 REWDLQHG DW . DIWHU H[FLWDWLRQ

PAH	Excitation wavelength (nm)	Lifetime in cycle (ns)
Naphthalene	270	17.9
Phenanthrene	253	13.9
Anthracene	253	3.9
Pyrene	272	16.9
Fluoranthene	260	30.9

([SHULPHQWDO IOXRUVFHQFH OLIHWLPHV RI 3\$+V LQ F\FORKH[DQH

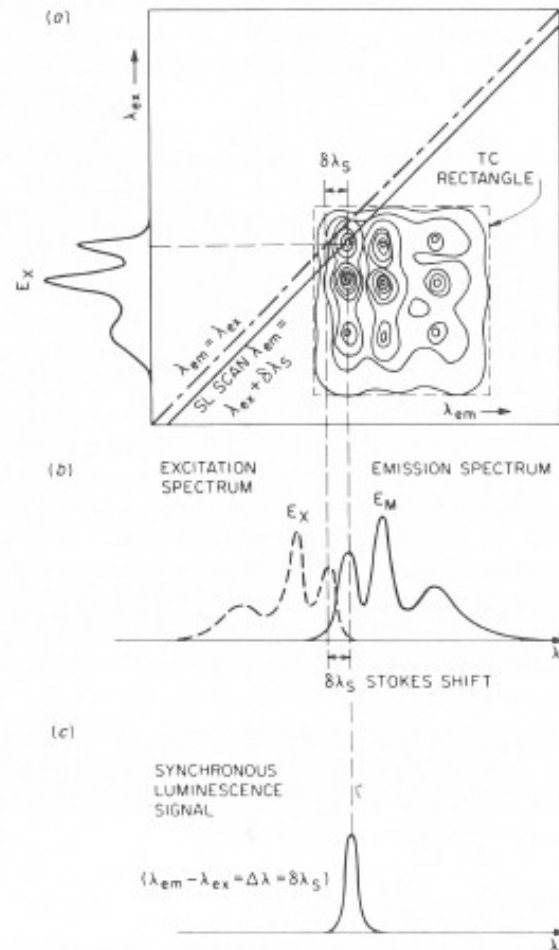
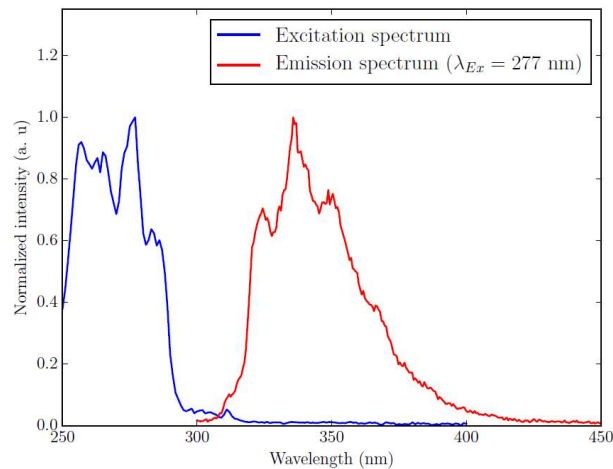
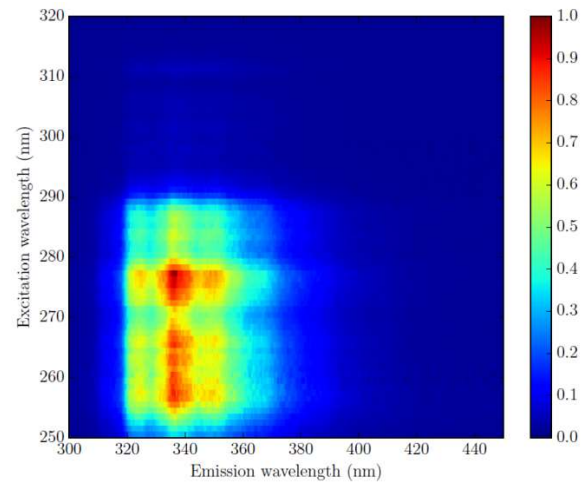
# Excitation-Emission matrices – EEM's

- EEM of phenanthrene
- Are EEM's a choice for mapping and fingerprinting?



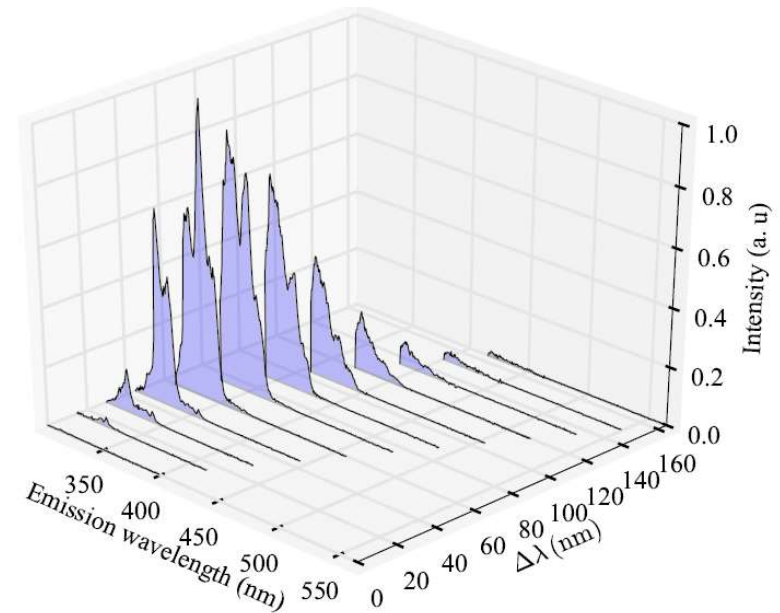
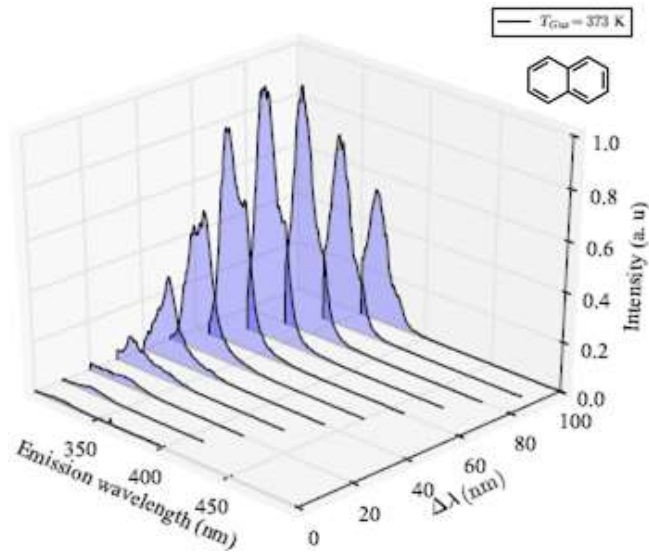


# Excitation- Emission matrices obtained with wavelength tunable OPO-laser

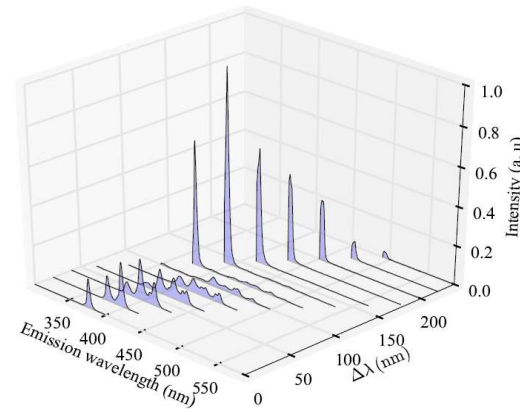
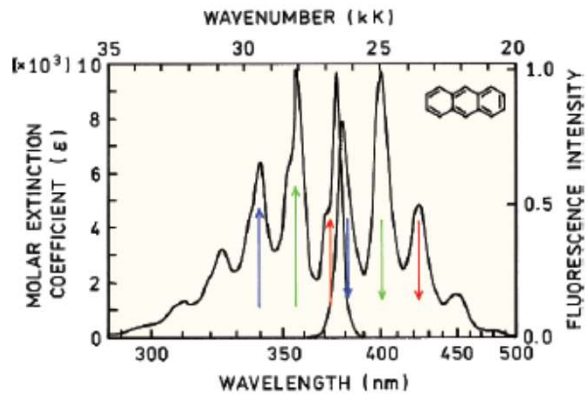


([FLWDWLRQ (PLVVLRQ PDWUL] X\$KHU\$DWLRQ\$UHODWLRQ\$VKLSV EHWZHHQ D ((O  
H[FLWDWLRQ DQG HPLVVLRQ VSHFWUD ORZHU\$DUW RI DQG F V\QFKURQRXV IOXR  
SKHQDQWKUHQH LQ F\FORKH[DQH IRU D FRQFHQWUDWLRQ  
\* E. Wehry, 'Modern fluorescence spectroscopy 4', Plenum Press, New York, 1981  
RI PRO /

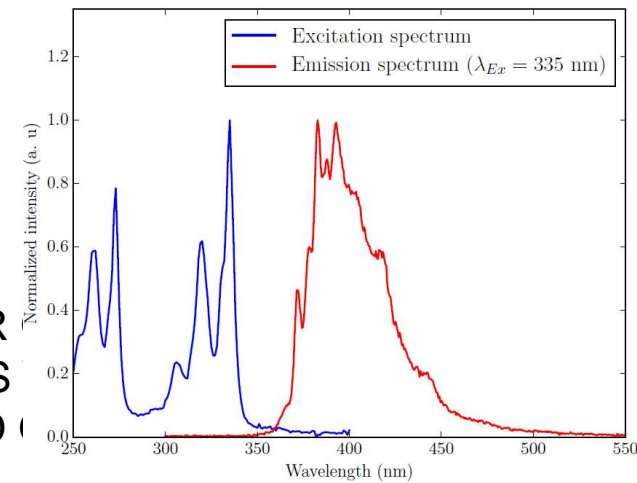
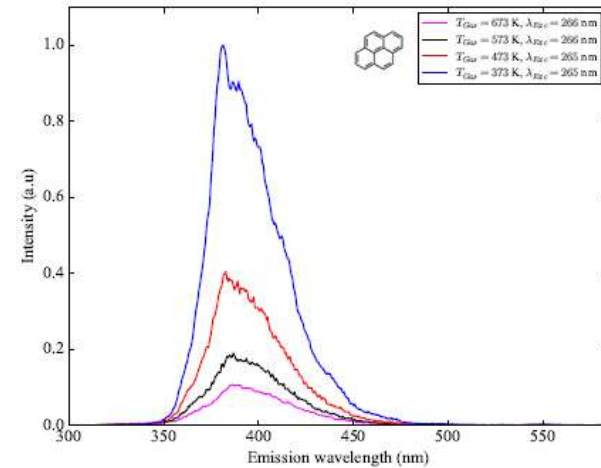
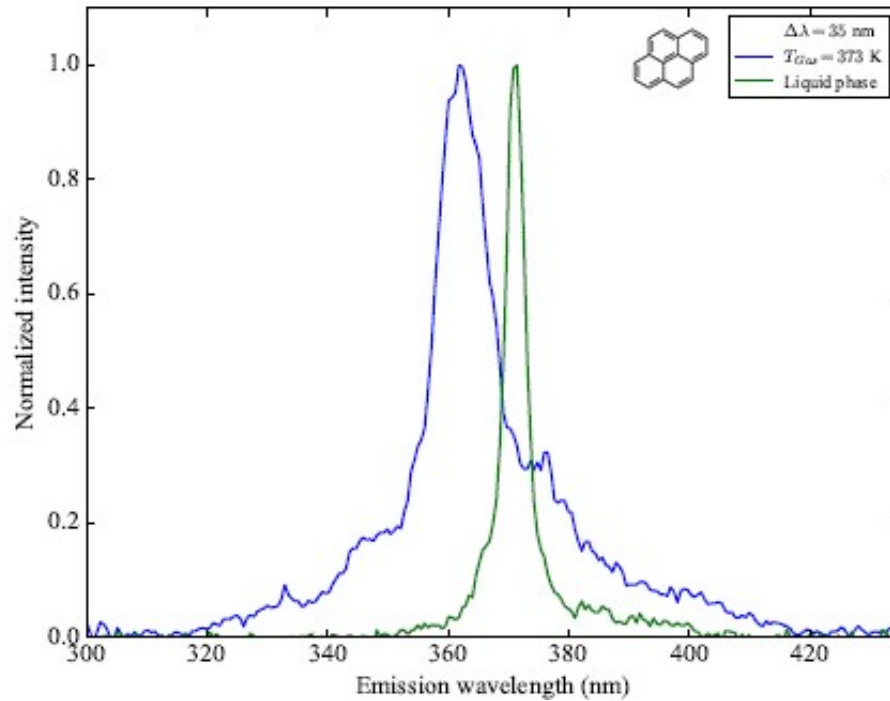
# Synchronous fluorescence



&RPSDULVRQ RI WKH V\QFKURQRXV IOXRUVFHFQFH VSHF  
 OHIW DQG OLTXLG SKDVH DW YDU\LQJ



# Synchronous fluorescence



&RPSDULVRQ RI WKH V\QFKUR  
IOXRUHVHFHQFH VSHFWUD RI S  
JDV SKDVH DW D VSHFWLF YD

Q G

JDV SKDVH DQG OLTXLG SKDVH HPLVVLR



# Towards industrial application for tar monitoring

5 R E X V W D Q G U H O L D E O H    Avoiding contact of windows with sample gas flow by windows flushing with inert gas in specially constructed measurement cell

\$ V P X F K D Q G D V O R Q J D W H eated cell and main gas paths within SR V V L E O H X Q P D Q Q H G R S a n d o v e r w i k e r c o n s t r u c t i o n

/ L W W O H P D L Q W H Q D Q F H    No moving parts; use of ejector pump; U H T X L U H P H Q W V E \ W H F K Q u e r f e r d o w    with combustion of the off Q R W D Q D O \ W L F H [ S H U W V g a s ( n o H 2 , n o C O , n o t a r l e f t o v e r – s a f e t y i s s u e ! )

/ H V V H [ S H Q V L Y H D Q G Z L W A p p l y i n g U V d i o d e s i n s t e a d o f l a s e r U R E X V W F R P S R Q H Q W V f o r e x c i t a t i o n

( O L P L Q D W L Q J I X U W K H U L T e m p e r e d ( c o o l e d ) o p t i c s I D F W R U V c o m p a r t m e n t f o r L E D a n d f o r s p e c t r o m e t e r ; p o s s i b l y a d d i t i o n o f d i l u t i o n u n i t f o r m e a s u r i n g a t l o w e r g a s t e m p e r a t u r e

# Field deployable set-ups



@CHALMERS University of Technology,  
Gothenburg, SE



@ GoBiGas plant, Gothenburg, SE



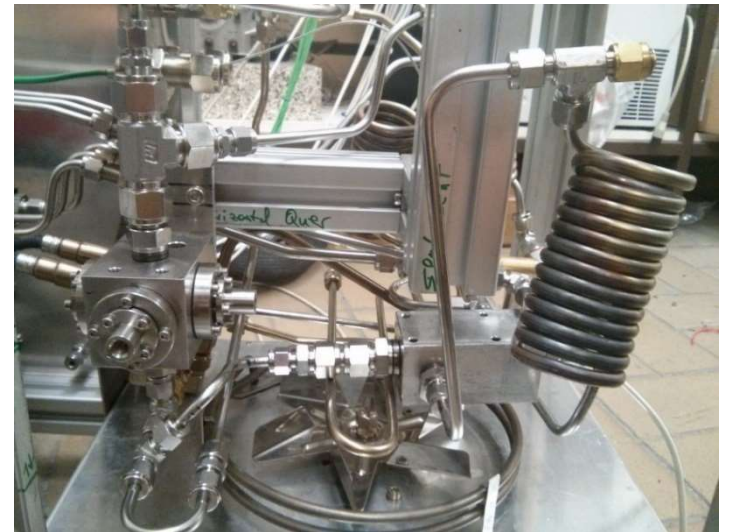
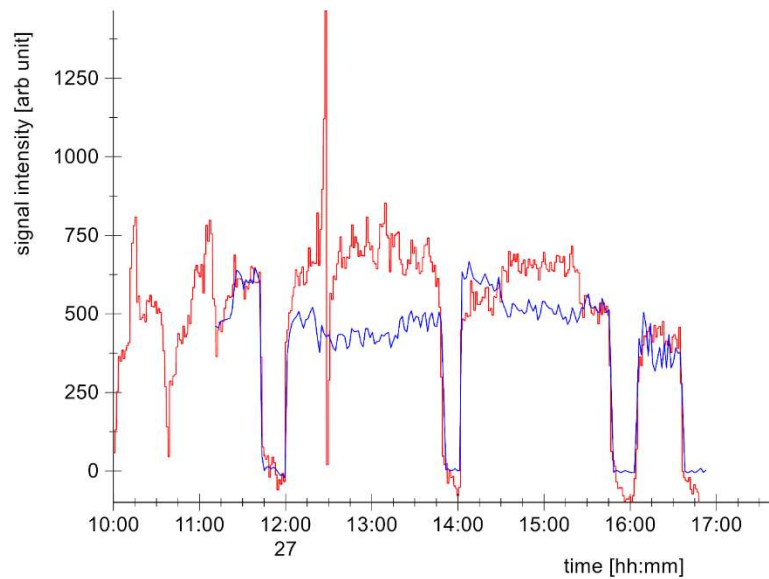
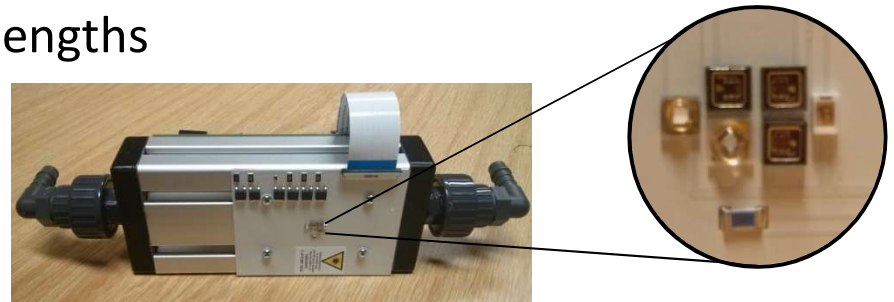
@PSI, Villigen, CH



Comparison with  
FID device from  
Ratfisch  
Analysensysteme  
and University  
Stuttgart

# Field deployable set-ups

UV LED diode array with different wavelengths  
265, 280, 300, 340, 380, 455 nm



Comparison with FID device (blue curve) from  
Ratfisch Analysensysteme and University Stuttgart

# Acknowledgement

Special thanks to my former team members at TU Berlin Dr. Thomas Mouton, Halgurd Taher, Sandra Walther, Dr. Shaimaa Mahdi and Dr. Eva M. Brüning for their work and their patience for working out several spectroscopic options of individual tar species detection in the hot process gas.

The fundamental work was part of my M X Q I U H V H D U F K J U R X S <sup>3 1</sup> : (2017 & 2018)



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research



Federal Ministry of Education and Research via PtJ:  
FKZ: 03SF0442

In the % L R 3 U R \* 5 H 6 V (2017-2017) demonstration units applying the main design principles were tested and further adapted in field measurements at CHALMERS University and the GoBiGas plant.



Federal Ministry  
of Food  
and Agriculture



Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture via FNR:  
FKZ: 22401814.



# The journey continues...

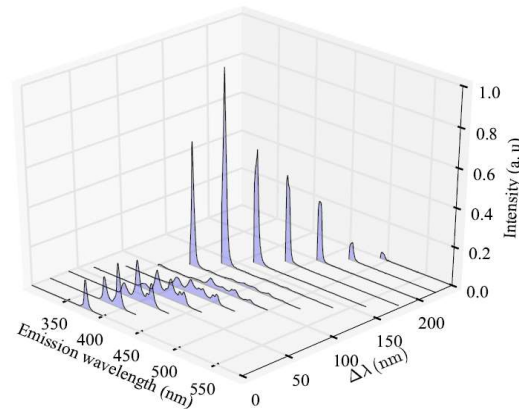
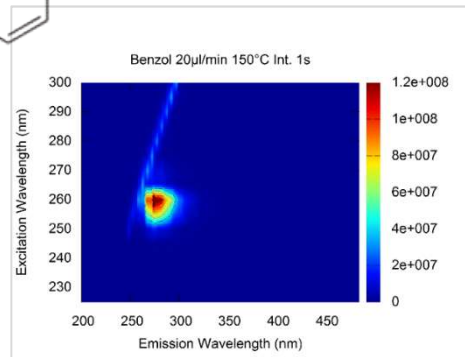
Our solution:

- An optical instrument based on UV-fluorescence that measures by avoiding the direct contact with the gas.
- Special heated and tempered sections for process gas, utility gases and for sensitive optical and electronic parts of the device.
- Generating under-pressure for gas transport from the sampling point and combustion of the effluents by non moving solid parts, strongly reducing maintenance requirements!
- Industry-standard instrument control for easy adaptability in process environments including sensing device and auxiliary sampling system.

- Contact and latest developments: [condensables.com](http://condensables.com)



# Thank you for your interest and for your attention!



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