



CO₂ monitoring to enhance digital and green competences in VET



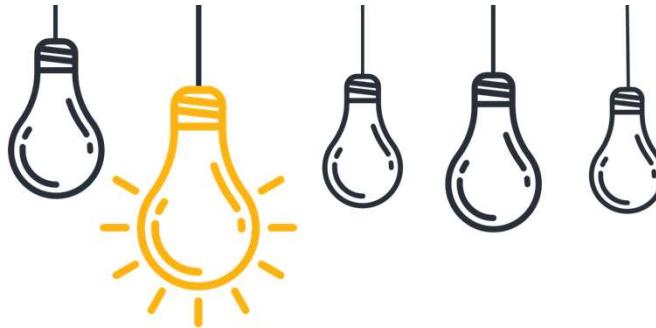
F.Suriano, F.Marucci, E.Cozzani



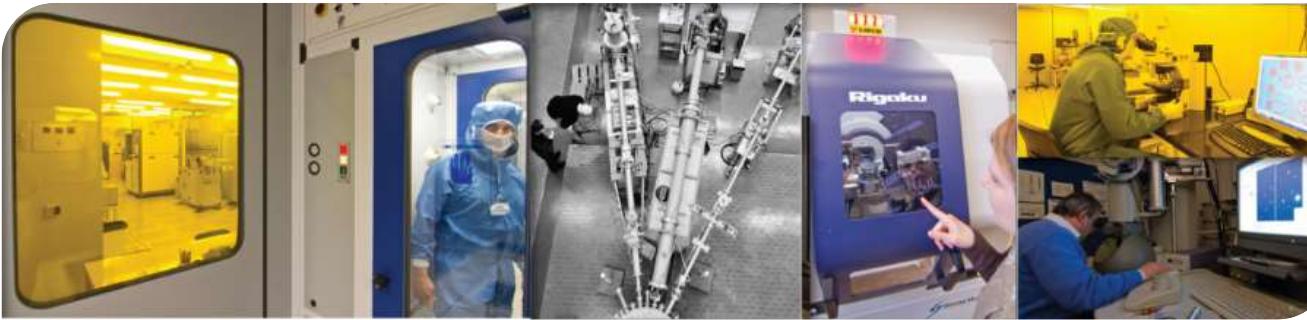
Carrara, S. Marzocchi, S.Zampolli, M.Canino

CNR IMM Bologna

Proambiente Scrl



Idea
End of 2020



 **IMM**
BOLOGNA UNIT

SENSOR FABRICATION + TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



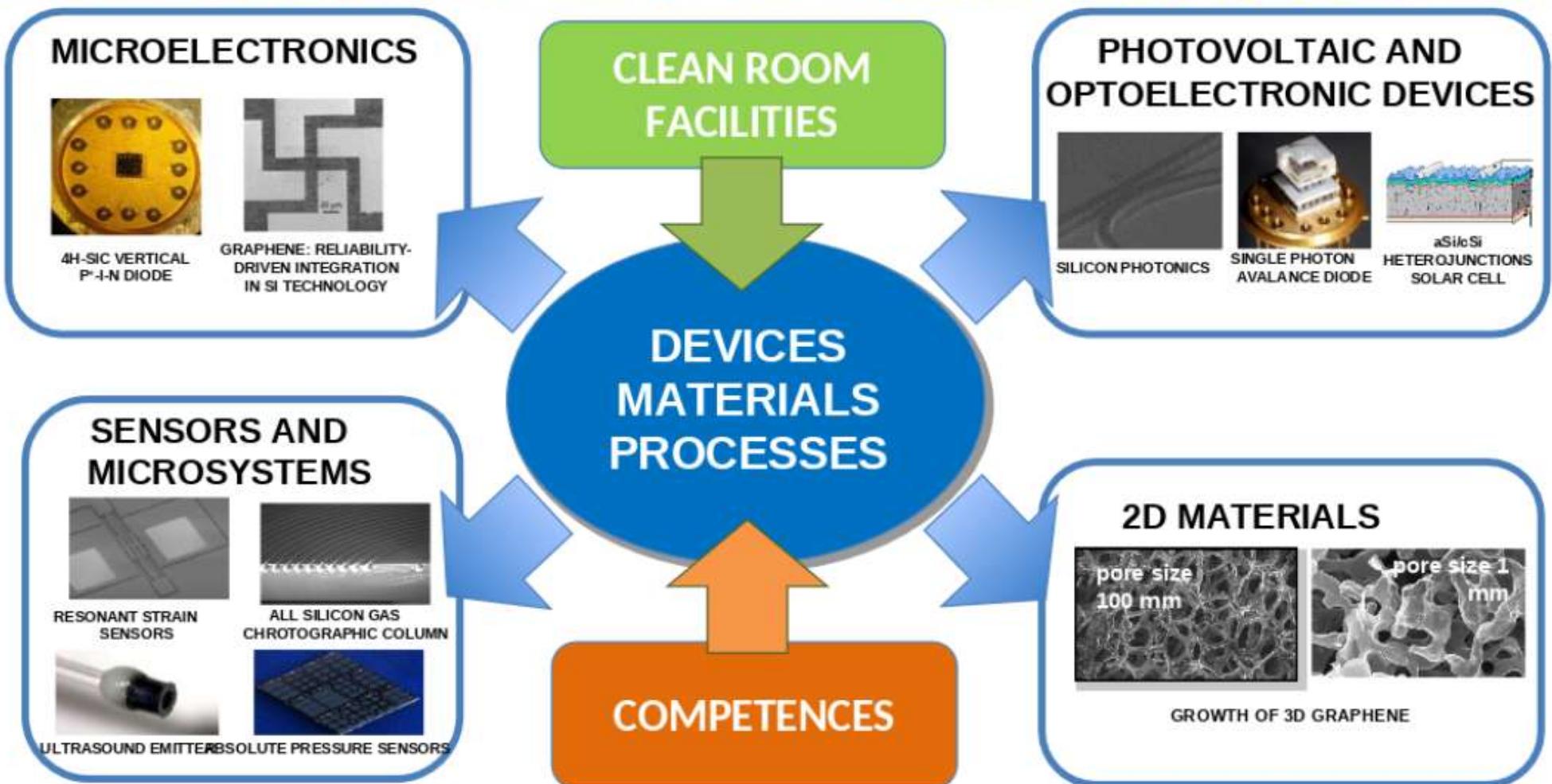
 **PROAMBIENTE**
innovation & environment



Research activities @ IMM Bologna - Devices, materials and processes



500 m² (250 m² class 100) MEMS and CMOS Clean-Room



Proambiente Scrl – missione aziendale



Mission of Proambiente is **connecting Research and Industry** through **technology transfer**, industrial research, and advanced services in the frame of **environmental control and remediation**.

IAQ monitoring

System integration of commercial components

CNR-IMM: know-how on gas sensors

Proambiente: system integration, software,
WebApp, Technology Transfer



ENGAGEMENT

We spend 90 % of our time in indoor environments



**Why
Indoor Air Quality**



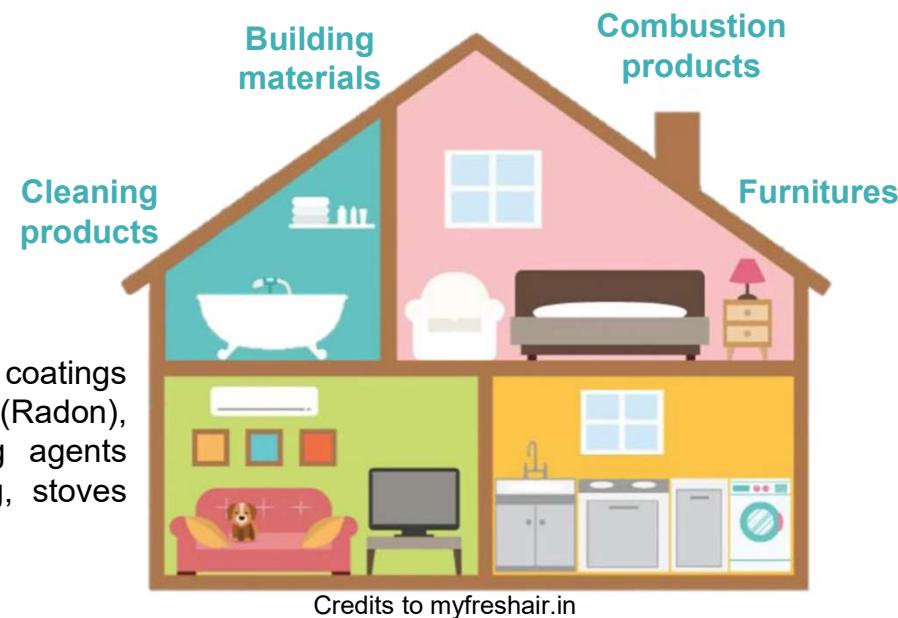
● CHANG_E
 CO₂Lab

PA IMM
 BOLOGNA UNIT

NOVELTY European legislation under construction
 Research carried out to identify tolerated vs harmful human exposure to pollutants
 Development of low cost sensors for widespread indoor measurements

SYNTERGY Connection to school curricula

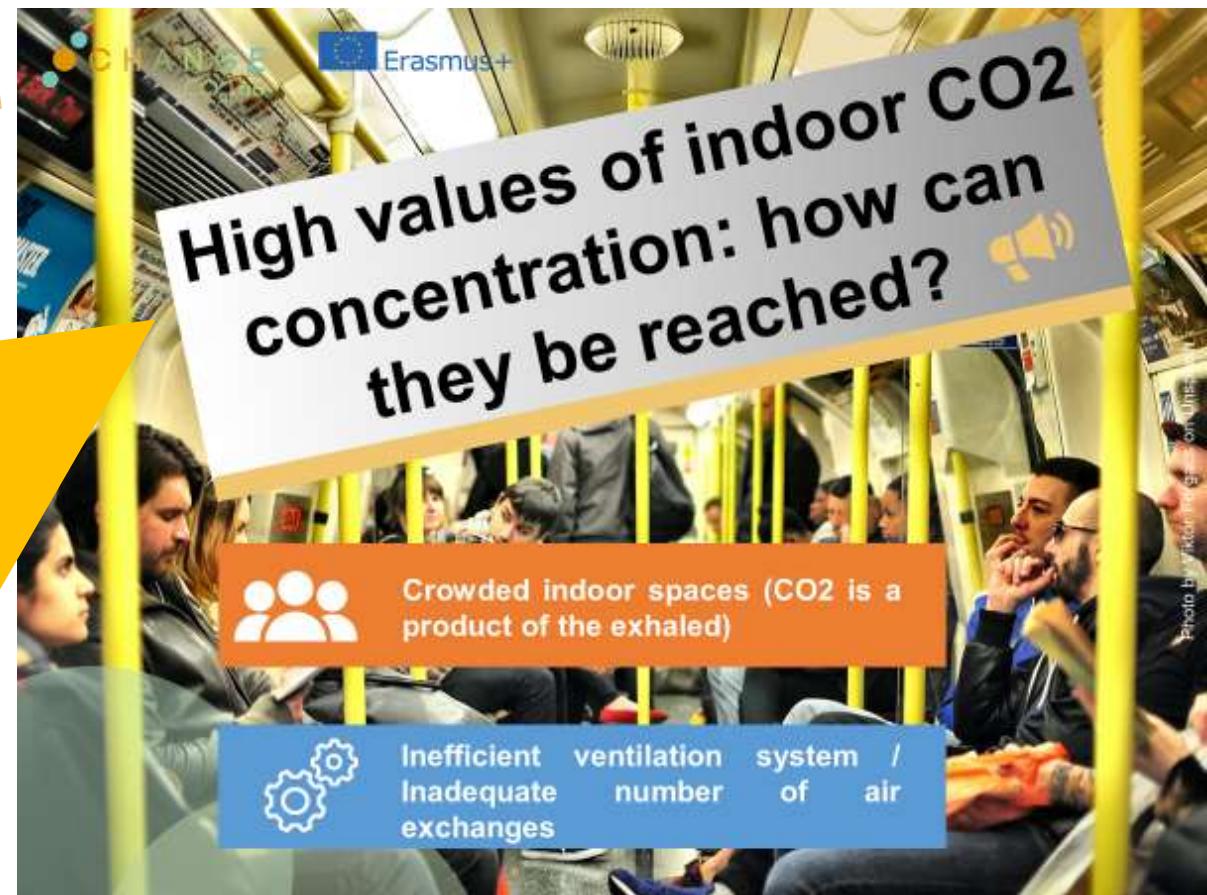
Floor tiles (PM, Lead), paintings & coatings (VOCs, Formaldehyde), basements (Radon), sealing materials (VOCs), Cleaning agents (VOCs, Benzene,...), Food cooking, stoves (CO, SO₂, PM, PAHs)

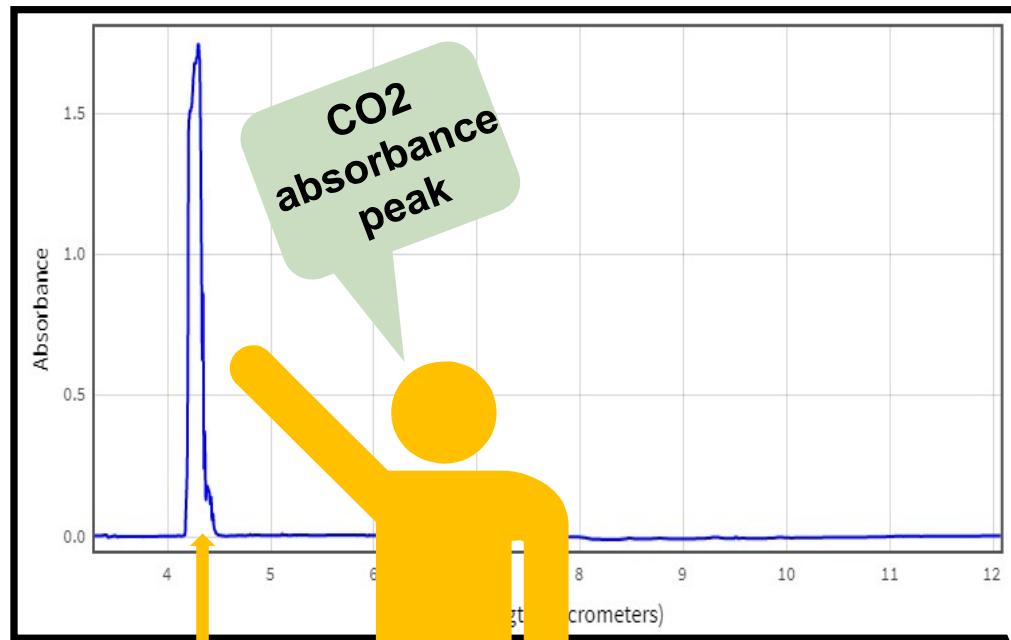


AND....WHAT ABOUT CO₂ ?

Strictly speaking, carbon dioxide (both indoor and outdoor) cannot be considered as a pollutant. In fact:

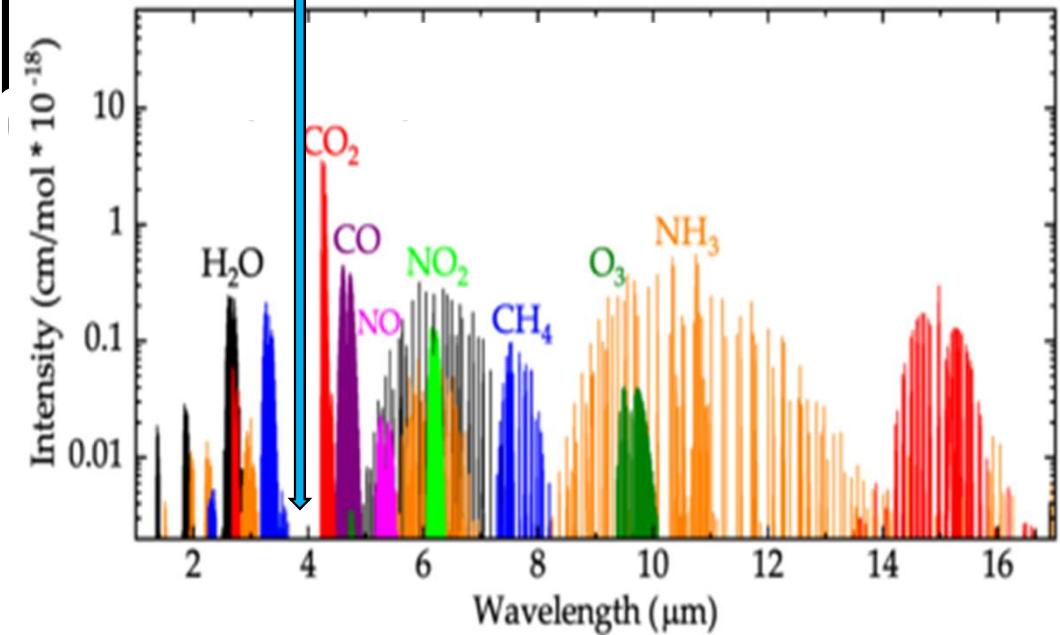
- It is not a carcinogenic compound
- It is not a toxic compound
- It MAY cause headache, sense of fatigue, decrease of attention
(2000 ppm < CO₂ conc. < 5000ppm)

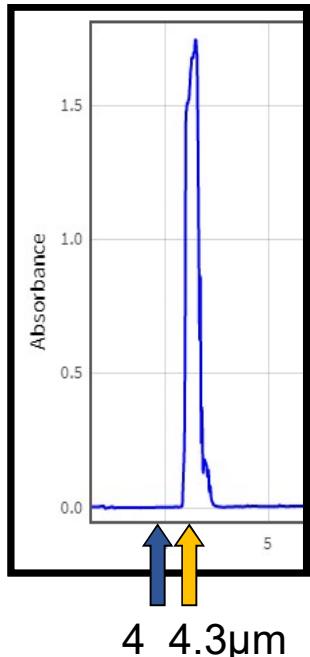
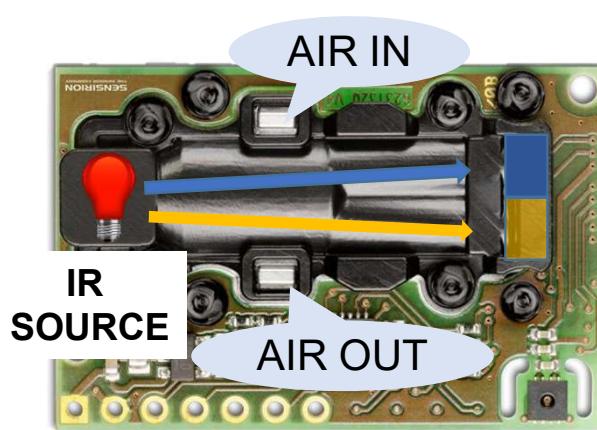




CO₂ IR ABSORPTION

CO₂ absorbance peak @ 4.3 μm is “isolated” (no gaseous compound has an absorbance line on the left)



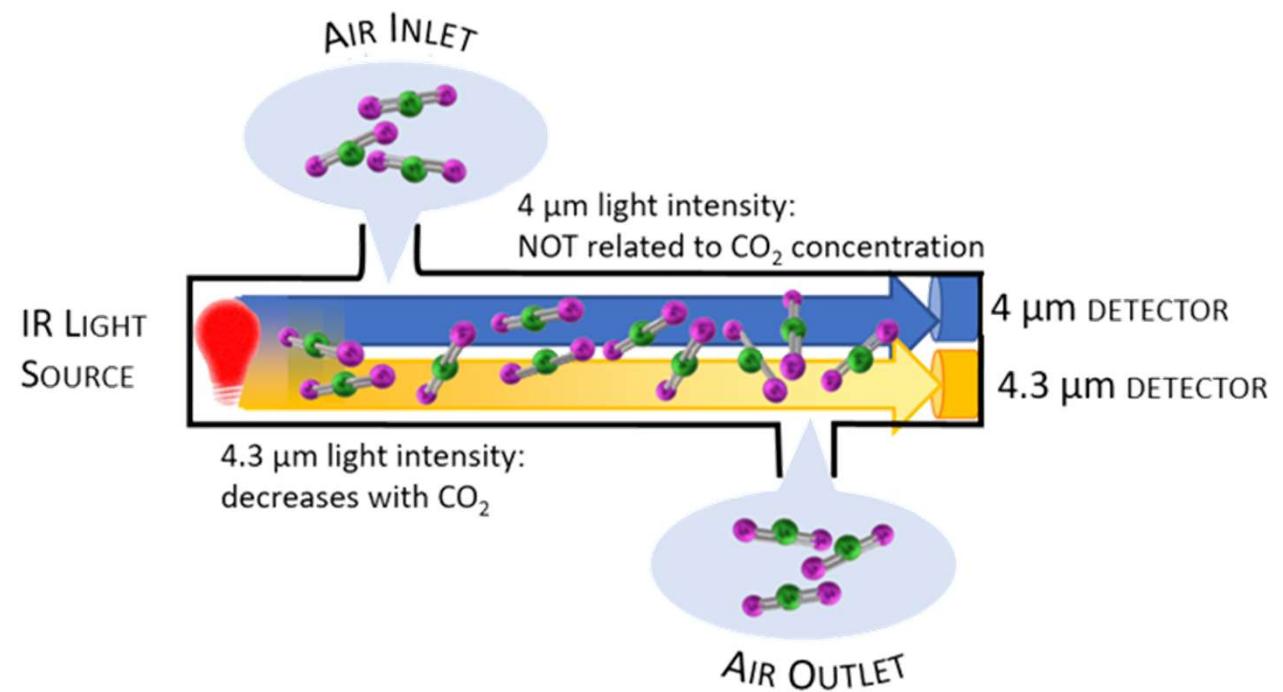


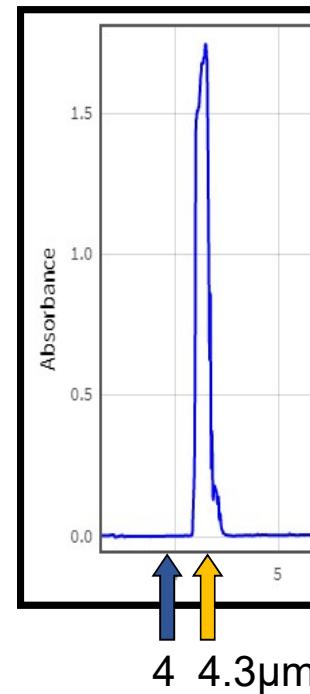
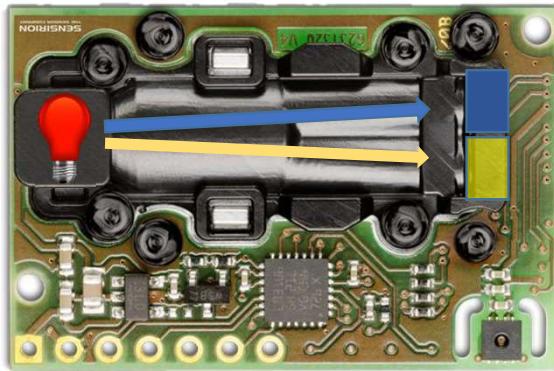
DETECTOR 1 (4 μm)

DETECTOR 2 (4.3 μm)

SENSIRION SCD30:
WORKING
PRINCIPLE

The IR light covers the distance between source and detectors, eventually hitting CO₂ molecules





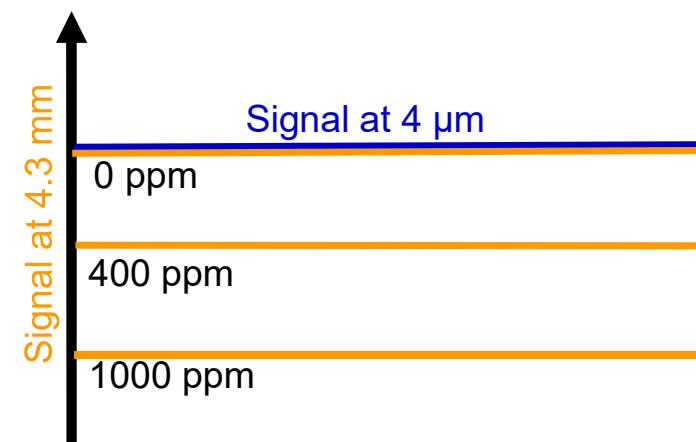
The light intensity read by the detector at 4 μm is not affected by the CO₂ presence in the chamber

This signal difference provides the CO₂ concentration value

WORKING PRINCIPLE

CO₂ molecules absorb 4.3 μm light.

The light intensity read by the detector at 4.3 μm decreases as the amount of CO₂ molecules in the chamber increases





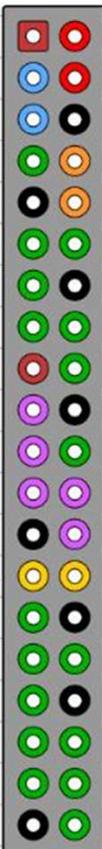
| Pin# | NAME | | NAME | |
|------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|----|
| 01 | 3.3v DC Power | | DC Power 5v | |
| 03 | GPIO02 (SDA1 , I ² C) | | DC Power 5v | |
| 05 | GPIO03 (SCL1 , I ² C) | | Ground | |
| 07 | GPIO04 (GPIO_GCLK) | | | |
| 09 | Ground | | (TXD0) GPIO14 | 08 |
| 11 | GPIO17 (GPIO_GEN0) | | (RXD0) GPIO15 | 10 |
| 13 | GPIO27 (GPIO_GEN2) | | (GPIO_GEN1) GPIO18 | 12 |
| 15 | GPIO22 (GPIO_GEN3) | | Ground | 14 |
| 17 | 3.3v DC Power | | (GPIO_GEN4) GPIO23 | 16 |
| 19 | GPIO10 (SPI_MOSI) | | (GPIO_GEN5) GPIO24 | 18 |
| 21 | GPIO09 (SPI_MISO) | | Ground | 20 |
| 23 | GPIO11 (SPI_CLK) | | (GPIO_GEN6) GPIO25 | 22 |
| 25 | Ground | | (SPI_CE0_N) GPIO08 | 24 |
| 27 | ID_SD (I ² C ID EEPROM) | | (SPI_CE1_N) GPIO07 | 26 |
| 29 | GPIO05 | | (I ² C ID EEPROM) ID_SC | 28 |
| 31 | GPIO06 | | Ground | 30 |
| 33 | GPIO13 | | GPIO12 | 32 |
| 35 | GPIO19 | | Ground | 34 |
| 37 | GPIO26 | | GPIO16 | 36 |
| 39 | Ground | | GPIO20 | 38 |
| | | | GPIO21 | 40 |

rev. 2 www.element14.com/RaspberryPi

CONTROL SBC

Communication

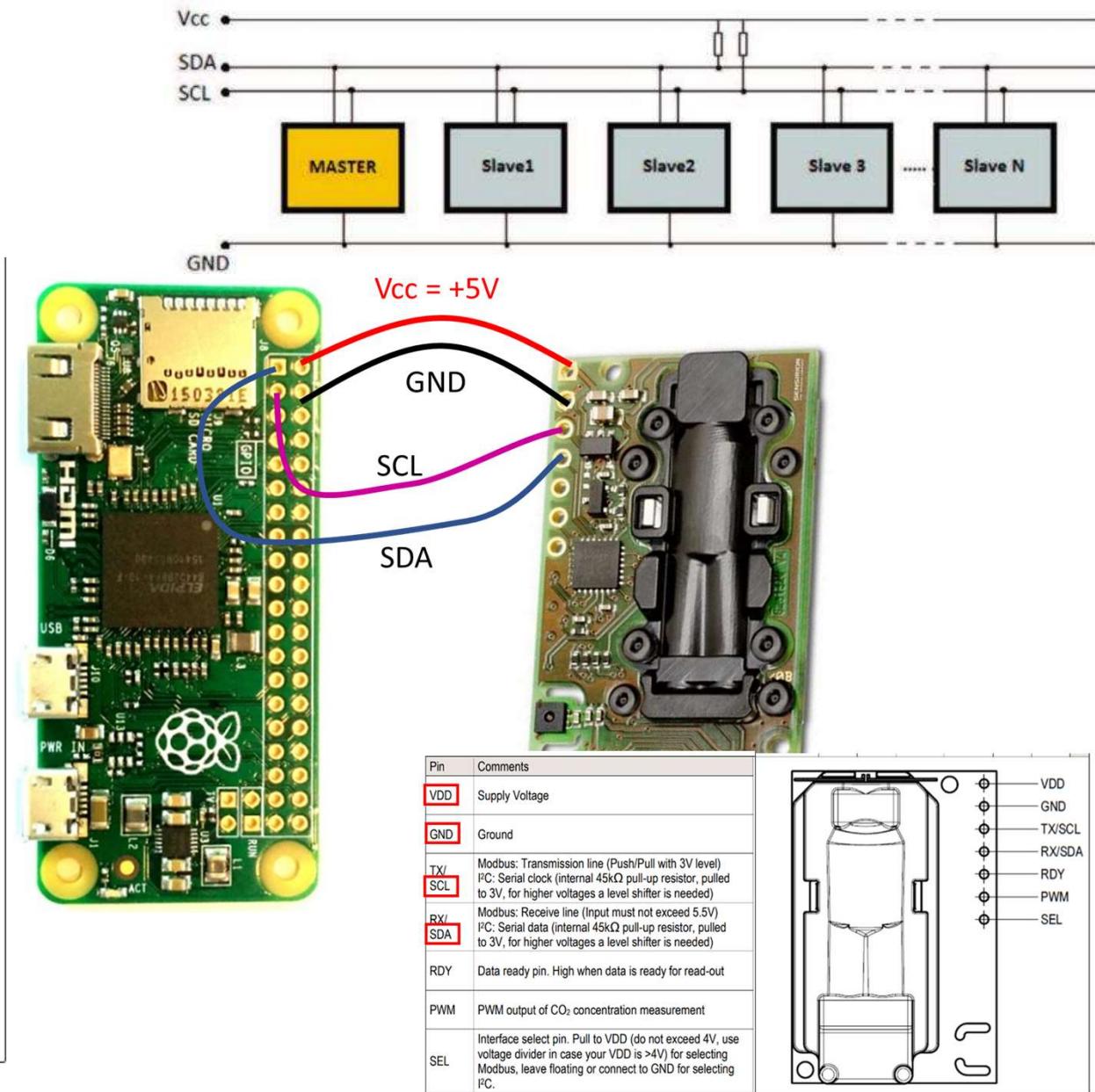
| Pin# | NAME |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 01 | 3.3v DC Power |
| 03 | GPIO02 (SDA1 , I ² C) |
| 05 | GPIO03 (SCL1 , I ² C) |
| 07 | GPIO04 (GPIO_GCLK) |
| 09 | Ground |
| 11 | GPIO17 (GPIO_GEN0) |
| 13 | GPIO27 (GPIO_GEN2) |
| 15 | GPIO22 (GPIO_GEN3) |
| 17 | 3.3v DC Power |
| 19 | GPIO10 (SPI_MOSI) |
| 21 | GPIO09 (SPI_MISO) |
| 23 | GPIO11 (SPI_CLK) |
| 25 | Ground |
| 27 | ID_SD (I ² C ID EEPROM) |
| 29 | GPIO05 |
| 31 | GPIO06 |
| 33 | GPIO13 |
| 35 | GPIO19 |
| 37 | GPIO26 |
| 39 | Ground |



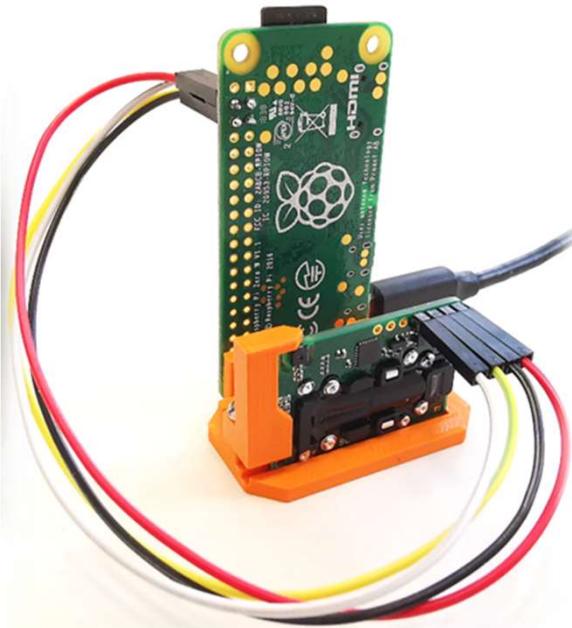
| NAME | Pin# |
|------------------------------------|------|
| DC Power 5v | 02 |
| DC Power 5v | 04 |
| Ground | 06 |
| (TXD0) GPIO14 | 08 |
| (RXD0) GPIO15 | 10 |
| (GPIO_GEN1) GPIO18 | 12 |
| Ground | 14 |
| (GPIO_GEN4) GPIO23 | 16 |
| (GPIO_GEN5) GPIO24 | 18 |
| Ground | 20 |
| (GPIO_GEN6) GPIO25 | 22 |
| (SPI_CE0_N) GPIO08 | 24 |
| (SPI_CE1_N) GPIO07 | 26 |
| (I ² C ID EEPROM) ID_SC | 28 |
| Ground | 30 |
| GPIO12 | 32 |
| Ground | 34 |
| GPIO16 | 36 |
| GPIO20 | 38 |
| GPIO21 | 40 |

Rev. 2
29/02/2016

www.element14.com/RaspberryPi



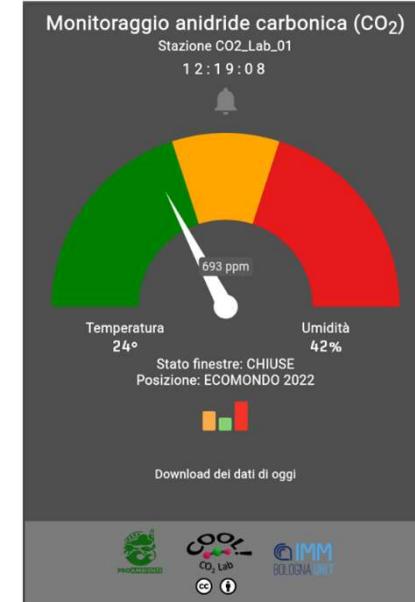
1. Data acquisition and local storage



Operation



2. Data sent to a server via wifi



3. WebApp for data visualization, alert threshold, data plot, data download, acquisition settings

OPEN SOURCE software
Commercial components
Can be customized



Use as a **didactic tool**



CO₂ concentration as an indicator of ventilation (2h)

Station assembly and CO₂ measurement experiments inducing variations (2h)

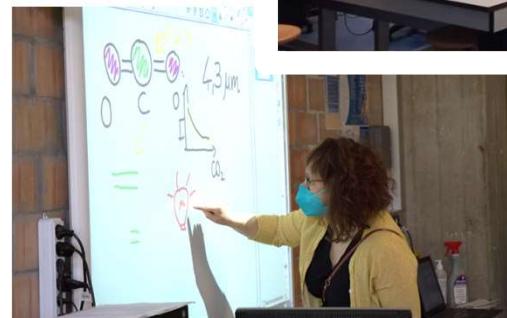
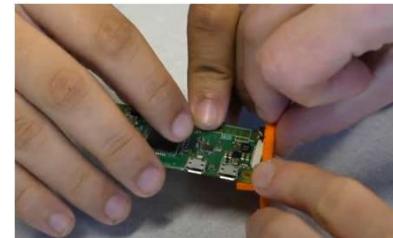
CO₂ monitoring in classroom, data elaboration, report

Theory

Guided practical activity

Autonomous activity

2021-2024 CO₂ Lab in Italy



11
Schools

>20
Teachers

>20
Reports

>18 Stations installed
in schools

>1000
h monitoring



CHANGE CO₂Lab

Co₂ monitoring in schools for
digitAI aNd Green compEtences



Erasmus+



IMM
BOLOGNA UNIT



Training courses for high school
teachers (2 on Italian SOFIA platform)

Modular and multilingual
didactic material

Open platform for CO₂ monitoring data
sharing according to FAIR principles

Dissemination for citizen
made by steudents

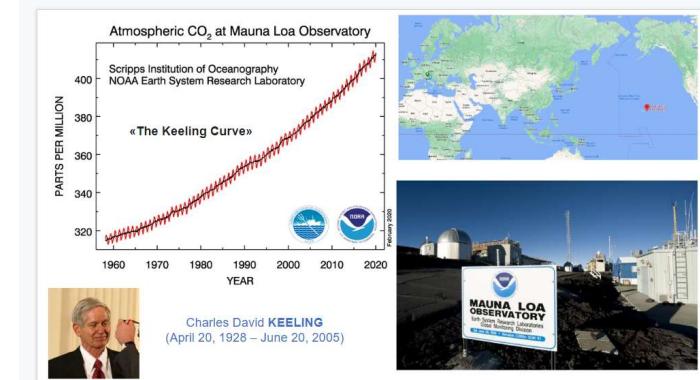
Topics

**SCIENCE
CITIZENSHIP**

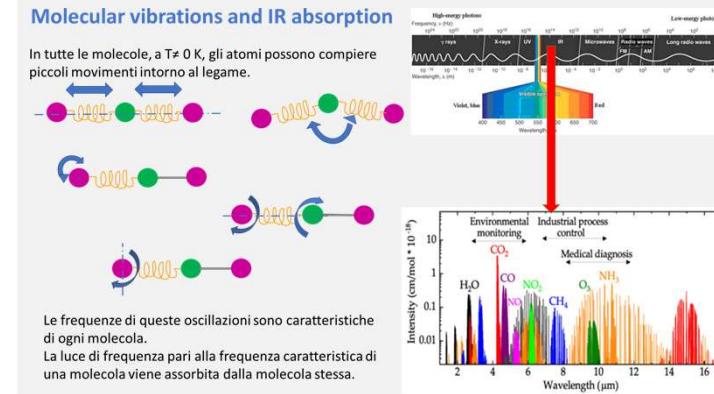
**CHEMISTRY
PHYSICS**

**ELECTRONICS
INFORMATICS**

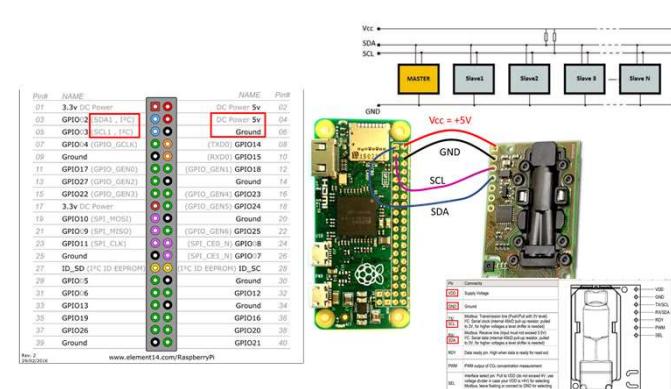
Meaning of CO₂ concentration in air
 pollutants in air, CO₂ concentration along the last decades,
 greenhouse effect
Open Source
FAIR Data (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)



CO₂ concentration measurement technique
 Measurement units (ppm, ppb), molecular vibration modes in the IR, absorption lines, CO₂ sensing technique, low-cost approach
Materials in electronic devices; planned obsolescence



Sensor-electronics interface
Python
Data management
3D- printing

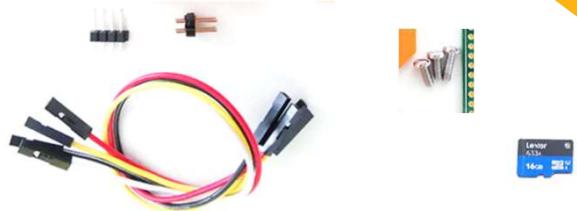




'MINI-PC'

Raspberry Pi Zero
Python language and libraries
40 GPIO pin

ACCESSORIES



Assembly



Sensirion SCD 30

NDIR 400 – 1000 ppm range

±30 ppm accuracy

Integrated CO₂, T and RT% sensors

Open libraries for interface

Possibility to force a baseline

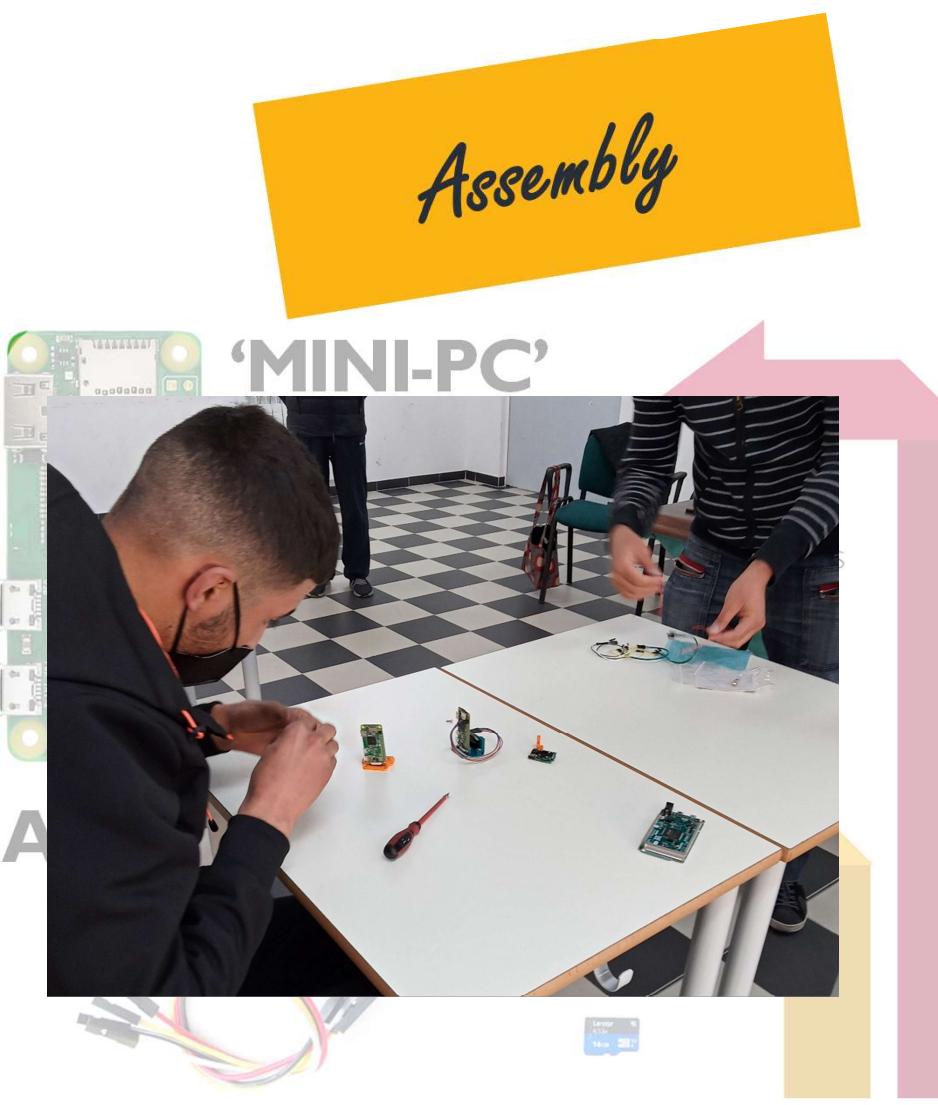


SENSOR

3D-PRINTED BASE

Recycled plastics
PLA & PET
8g material consumption
Open and customizable design





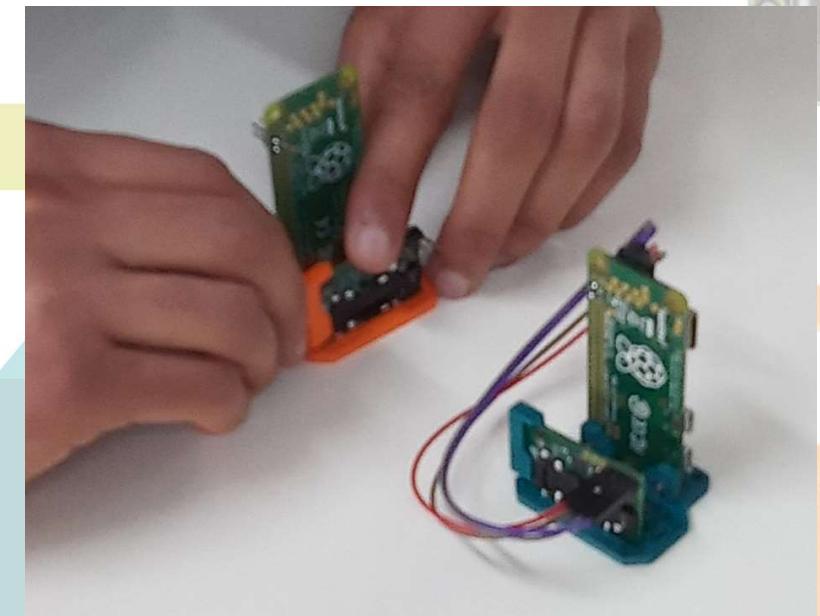
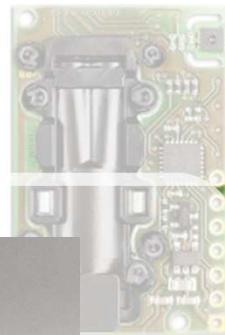
Sensirion SCD 30

NDIR 400 – 1000 ppm range

±30 ppm accuracy

Integrated CO₂, T and RT%
sensors

Open libraries for interface



Open and customizable
design

Guided Experiments

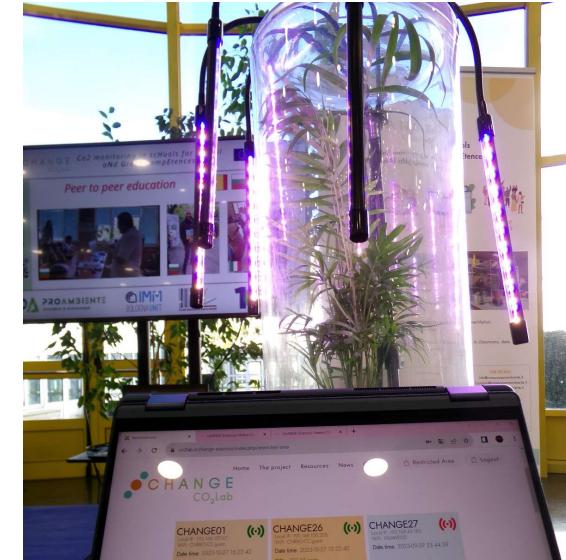


CO₂ production
through bicarbonate-vinegar reaction

Aim

Familiarize with :

- the WebApp for station management,
- data management and analysis



CO₂ capture
by plant photosynthesis

Monitoring in class

Event annotation

- Paper
- WebApp

Guidelines



Guidelines for CO₂ monitoring report

Date: May 2023

The purpose of this document is to propose a scheme for the reports on the CO₂ monitoring experiments carried out in school environment, such as classroom, gym, canteen, library to mention some possibilities.

The CO₂ monitoring report is a written document. It must be made by the students and can be made either as a document or as a presentation. The function of the monitoring report is dual: it's a learning evaluation tool and a data source. The report must be divided into sections: Introduction, Data, Comments and Conclusions.

The Introduction explains the background and the scope of the work. This section can include description and CO₂ data of the preliminary experiments (e.g. photosynthesis).

Much attention has to be dedicated to the data presentation and elaboration.

The CO₂ monitoring report must contain one plot of the CO₂ concentration as a function of time for each day of continuous monitoring in classroom. The plot can be drawn with a program (e.g. Excel, OpenOffice Calc) or can be a screenshot of the webapp. The suitable XY scale must be chosen in order to highlight the reported phenomena. An example is provided in Figure 1.

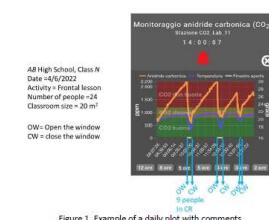
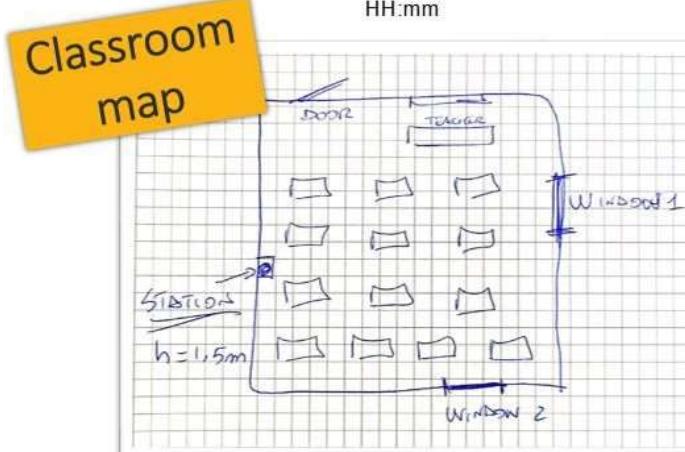
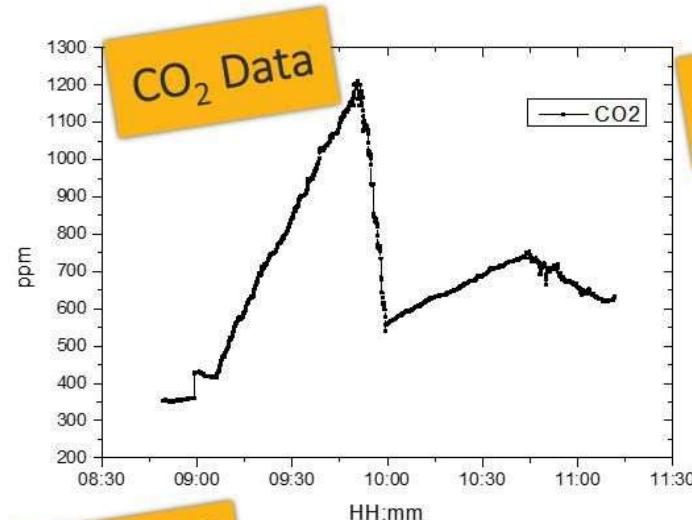


Figure 1. Example of a daily plot with comments.



Event Annotations

Event log to be used in CO₂ monitoring experiments

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Type of activity: | Classroom activity |
| Info about workspace | |
| School and Class: | TEACHING ACTIVITIES |
| Room destination: | 50 m ² |
| Room surface: | 50 m ² |
| Room volume: | ~150 m ³ |
| Number of windows: | 2 |
| Window opening surface: | 0,7 m ² PER WINDOW |
| Position of monitoring stations: | SEE MAP |
| Position of HVAC: | NO HVAC |
| Average number of occupants: | 20 |
| Average occupation time (school hours): | 5h/day |

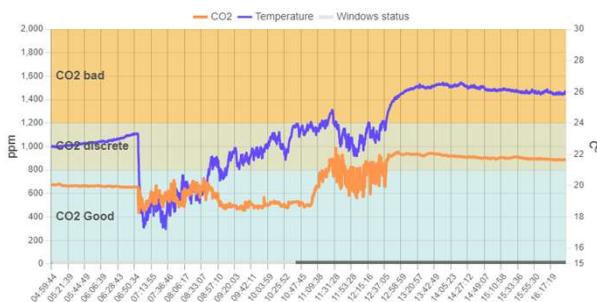
Room map attached to this document

Event Log

| Start time | End time | Event | Notes |
|------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 08:50 | | | LESSON NOT CALIBRATED BY 100 LOW RPM |
| 08:55 | | | → SCREEN CALIBRATION OK |
| 09:05 | | LESSON START 20 STUDENTS | |
| 09:50 | | PAUSE AND STUDENTS LEAVE | |
| 10:00 | | STUDENTS OUT | |
| 10:45 | | LESSON END, DOOR OPENED, STUDENTS IN | |
| 11:15 | | DOOR TOTALLY STUCK | |

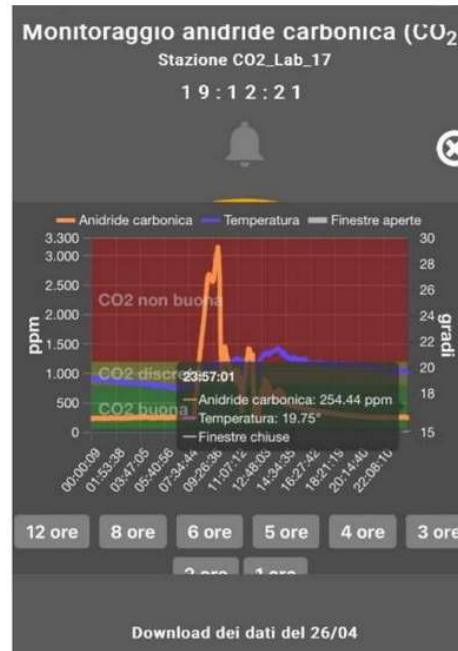
Examples of event log

On-line window
opening log



Paper log

EVENT LOG



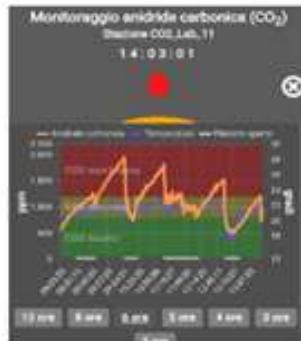
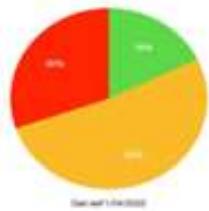
Event Log

| Start time Начален час | End time Краен час | Event събитие | Notes Бележки |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 8:00 | 12:00 | Window is open | 10:35 – 11:00 no students |
| 12:00 | 14:30 | Window is closed | |

TEST!

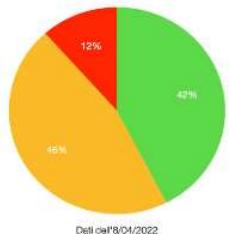
Irregular window opening vs 10 min opening every hour

IRREGULAR WINDOW OPENING



VS

10 MIN OPENING EVERY HOUR



Figures 1B and 2B show how by changing the air irregularly, low or discrete CO₂ levels are recorded during most of the time of the day.

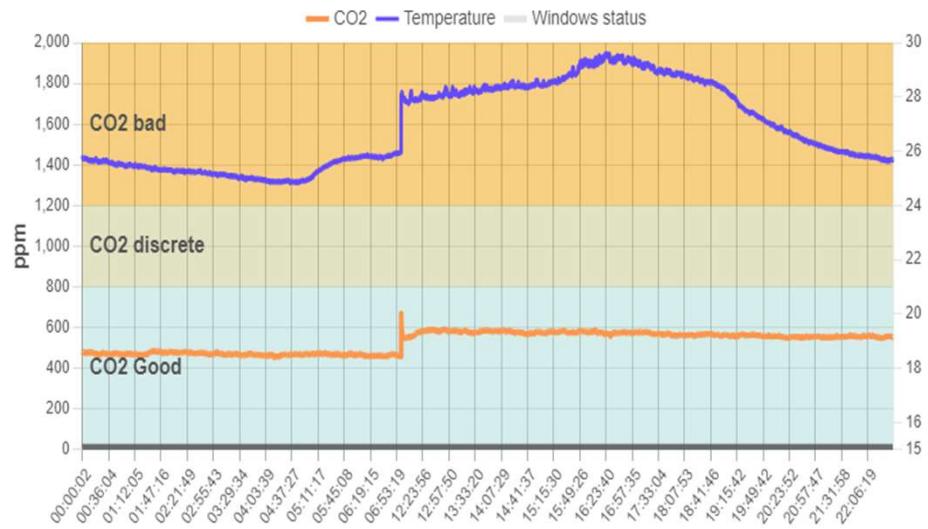
On the 8th of April, both windows were kept open completely for 10 minutes each hour and for 15 minutes during the two breaks and, as it can be seen from the graph, the level almost never exceeded 1200 ppm of CO₂. The temperature did not show significant variations as it was a particularly mild day.

The data were also analyzed from a mathematical point of view, calculating the average slope in the lines that describe the increase in CO₂ values with the windows completely closed on different days (table 1).

| DATA | people present in the room | surface (m ²) | m ² /person | volume (m ³) | m ³ /person | line with average gradient (y=final ppm; b=initial ppm) |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 Apr | 22 | 63,2 | 2,9 | 345 | 15,7 | y=3,97 x + b |
| 4 Apr | 22 | 63,2 | 2,9 | 345 | 15,7 | y=3,79 x + b |
| 8 Apr | 20 | 63,2 | 3,2 | 345 | 17,2 | y=3,48 x + b |

The time spent in good CO₂ conditions halves upon regular window opening

Big room low student density



Room surface (площ на стаята) - 63 m²

Room volume (обем на стаята) - 190 m³

Number of windows (брой прозорци) - 4

Window opening surface (площ отваряеми прозорци) – (0,8 x 4) m²

Position of monitoring stations (разположение на устройството) – on a ledge next to an opening window

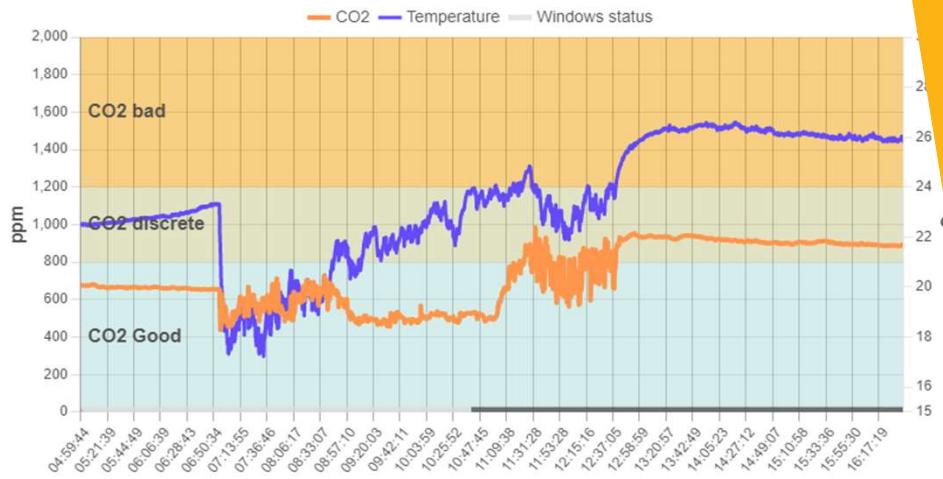
Position of HVAC - three radiators 1.5m² away

Average number of occupants (среден брой на хората) - 15

Average occupation time (school hours?)(учебни часове: начален час-краен час) - 08:00 – 14:30

- **Коментари (Comments):** There is construction work outside so the windows remain closed all day. The CO2 concentration is in the good zone due to ventilation through the door and the size of the room.

Window opening with pollution outside



Room surface (площ на стаята) - 30 m²

Room volume (обем на стаята) - 90 m³

Number of windows (брой прозорци) - 2

Window opening surface (площ отваряеми прозорци) - (0,8 x 2) m²

Position of monitoring stations (разположение на устройството) – On the teacher's desk, adjacent of an openable window

Position of HVAC (Отопителни , вентилационни системи) - Radiator 3m² away

Average number of occupants (среден брой на хората) - 13

Average occupation time (school hours?)(учебни часове: начален час-краен час)- - 8:00 – 14:30

4. Заключения (Conclusions):

Concentration of CO₂ is high most of the day and the reason for this is the intensive flow of students through the room and the polluted air coming from outside due to construction activities. In this case the mechanical ventilation opening the window is not effective

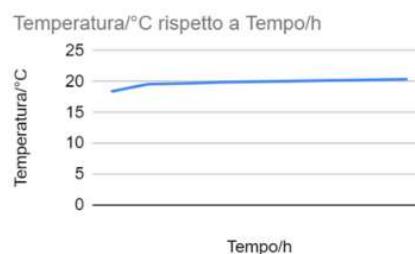
Elevator lubrication



/Microsistemi

ANALISI DATI DEL 02/04/2023

| Tempo/h | CO2/ppm | Temperatura/°C |
|---------|---------|----------------|
| 7 | 2053 | 18,4 |
| 8 | 1978 | 19,6 |
| 9 | 2012 | 19,7 |
| 10 | 2040 | 19,9 |
| 11 | 2001 | 20,0 |
| 12 | 1936 | 20,1 |
| 13 | 1907 | 20,2 |
| 14 | 1830 | 20,1 |
| 15 | 1850 | 20,3 |



Il 02/04/2023 il livello di CO₂ è notevolmente alto in quanto i cavi dell'ascensore del piano erano stati lubrificati ed hanno inciso sui livelli di CO₂. Nonostante la classe tenesse le finestre aperte , il livello di anidride carbonica non scendeva.

TEST IV

On 04/02/2023 the CO₂ concentration was significantly high as the elevator cables on the floor were been lubricated and affected CO₂ levels. Although the classroom kept the windows open, the carbon dioxide level did not decrease.

Output

What we don't know

La quantità di CO₂ nell'aria delle aule aumenta in base al numero di persone presenti, numero che è stato stabilito negli ultimi due anni in modo da rispettare le regole per il distanziamento

Non conoscevamo tuttavia la situazione di partenza nella nostra scuola e quanto rapidamente crescono i valori di CO₂ misurati in ppm a finestre chiuse, in funzione ad esempio della superficie a disposizione per ciascuna persona presente nell'aula



La valutazione dell'impatto di questi fattori è importante per la salute della popolazione scolastica e per le possibili scelte future

Assemblaggio centralina

1

Inserimento degli inserti filettati nelle sedi presenti nella base

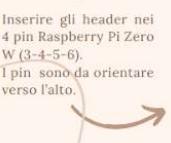


Inserire due viti nei 2 fori ed inserire gli inserti filettati avvitandoli sulle viti. Poi avvitare con cacciavite fino a che gli inserti non saranno inseriti totalmente nei fori.



2

Posizionare l'header Raspberry Pi



Inserire gli header nei 4 pin Raspberry Pi Zero W (3-4-5-6). I pin sono da orientare verso l'alto.



Discussione e Conclusioni (1)



Il nostro esperimento pone le basi per una scuola più sostenibile. Trascorrere un quarto delle proprie giornate esposti a livelli di CO₂ scarsì o ai limiti discreti non agevola la vita studentesca. Il nostro intento era innanzitutto quello di raccogliere i dati, fondamentali per i seguenti motivi: per valutare la qualità dell'aria durante le ore scolastiche, per verificare l'efficacia delle indicazioni di sicurezza messe in atto durante la pandemia, per rafforzare le scelte future.

Dai risultati dei nostri esperimenti è emerso che l'apertura delle finestre è sufficiente a garantire un buon ricambio di aria solo se effettuata in modo regolare, ogni ora, spalancando entrambe le finestre per almeno 10 minuti.

Tuttavia, soprattutto in inverno questo determina un importante calo della temperatura interna, esponendo i presenti al rischio di raffreddamento e comportando un notevole spreco in termini energetici.

Sommario

In questo progetto ci siamo proposti di misurare i livelli di anidride carbonica (CO₂) in alcune classi della sede centrale del Liceo Galvani. Gli obiettivi erano di monitorare mediante una centralina la qualità dell'aria in luoghi chiusi e affollati come gli ambienti scolastici, e di valutare se le indicazioni fornite durante la pandemia, rispetto ai tempi necessari per un adeguato ricambio dell'aria, fossero coerenti con i risultati sperimentali.

I dati raccolti mostrano che, quando il ricambio dell'aria non è svolto in modo regolare e per tempi prolungati, la maggior parte del tempo in classe trascorre in condizioni di scarsa qualità dell'aria, mentre se si rispettano le indicazioni fornite in emergenza pandemica, si mantengono livelli discreti. Tuttavia non sempre è possibile rispettare le tempistiche e le modalità previste dall'emergenza per un ricambio di aria efficace, soprattutto durante la stagione invernale.



I nostri risultati mostrano quindi come sia necessaria una riflessione più ampia per garantire la salubrità degli ambienti scolastici

Output

What we don't know

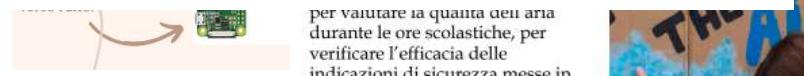
La quantità di base al numero stato stabilito i rispettare le re. Non conosceva nella nostra scuola i valori di CO₂ in funzione ad es per ciascuna p



La valutazione dell'impatto di questi fattori è importante per la salute della popolazione scolastica e per le possibili scelte future



Non conosciamo tuttavia la situazione di partenza nella nostra scuola e quanto rapidamente crescono i valori di CO₂ misurati in ppm a finestre chiuse, in funzione ad esempio della superficie a disposizione per ciascuna persona presente nell'aula



per valutare la quantità di aria durante le ore scolastiche, per verificare l'efficacia delle indicazioni di sicurezza messe in

Tuttavia, soprattutto in inverno questo determina un importante calo della temperatura interna, esponendo i presenti al rischio di raffreddamento e comportando un notevole spreco in termini energetici.

un notevole spreco in termini energetici.

I nostri risultati mostrano quindi come sia necessaria una riflessione più ampia per garantire la salubrità degli ambienti scolastici

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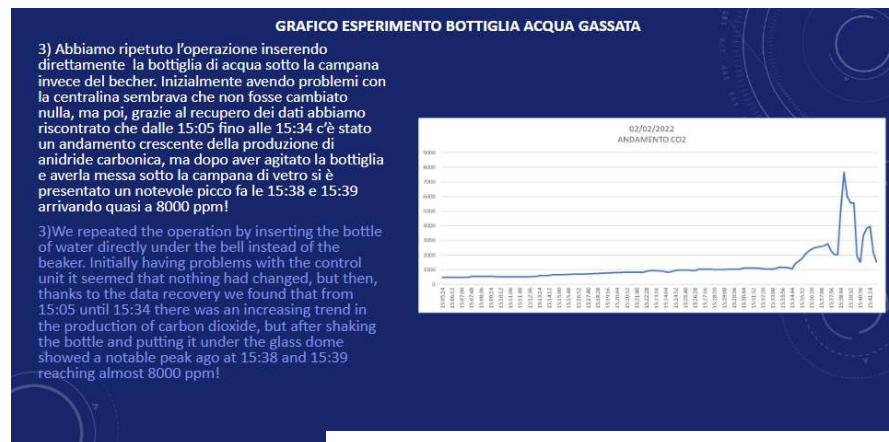
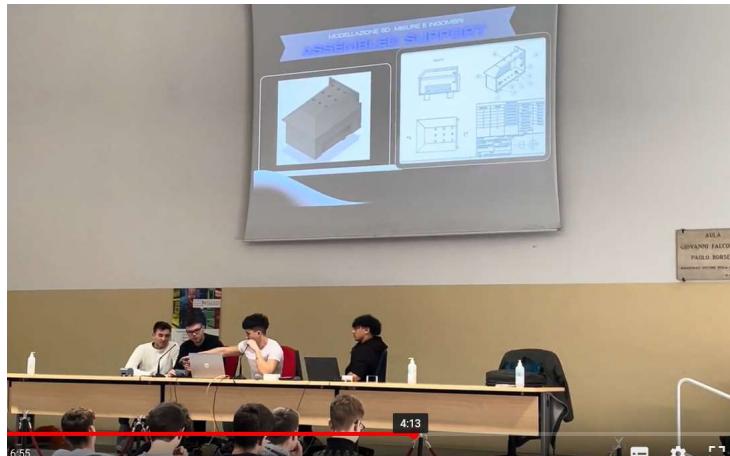
quindi
riflessione
a salubrità

Output

Report on the experiments →
TEACHERS ☺

Survey on the level of knowledge
about IAQ and health among parents
and peers → OUTREACH ☺

Custom 3D-printed base



Scientific activity

SCARICA LA DOCUMENTAZIONE



CLUST-ER GREENTECH CLUST-ER BUILD
ENERGIA E SOSTENIBILITÀ EDILIZIA E COSTRUZIONI

La qualità dell'aria nelle scuole.

Linee guida di indirizzo strategico per un approccio integrato verso il benessere indoor.



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Optimization & perspectives

Pathway delivery mode



Direct from researchers →

Teacher training for independent delivery → Researcher intervention at monitoring stage

Monitoring report

Teacher engagement

Explain the importance of annotations

Guidelines for monitoring



Room for improvement

Open to collaborations in the analysis of the impact of the project on students learning





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Prof. Roberto Lelli

Liceo Scientifico «G. Bruno» – Medicina IT



**Thank you
for your attention**

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CO₂ LAB:

**un percorso didattico STEM per il
monitoraggio della CO₂ in ambienti scolastici**



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