

Atmospheric Aerosols

1. Introduction
2. Sources and Measurement
3. Concentrations and Residence times
4. Emission controls and abatement technology





Beijing, Jan., 2013

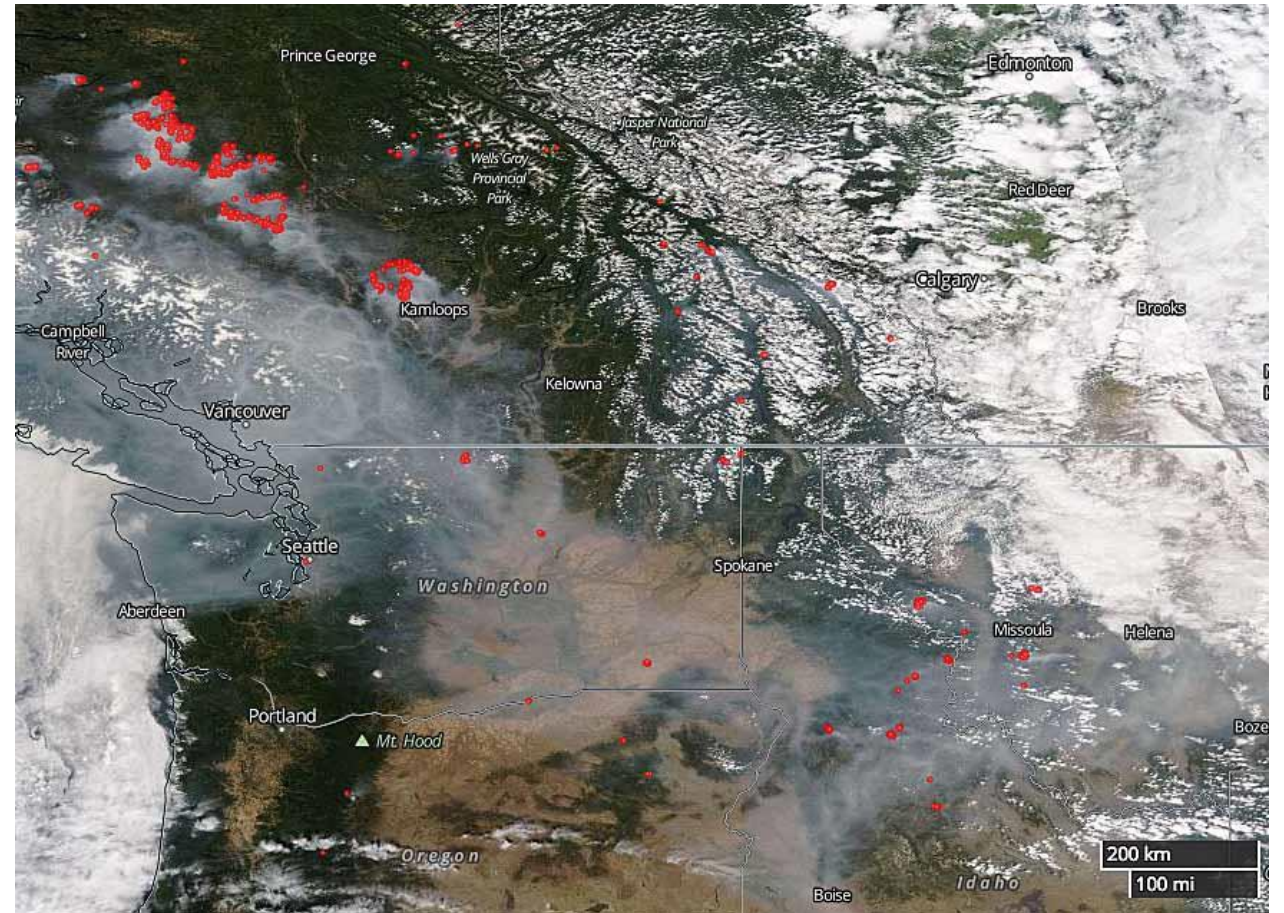
$PM_{2.5} = 122 \text{ ug/m}^3$





Tiananmen Square, Jan. 23rd, 2013

BC Forest Fires: July – August 2017



Smoke relief in the forecast comes too late for marathon runners



Vancouver, August 11, 2017

B.C. wildfire smoke triggers air quality statement for southwestern Manitoba

Smoke could cause issue for people living with asthma, irritate eyes

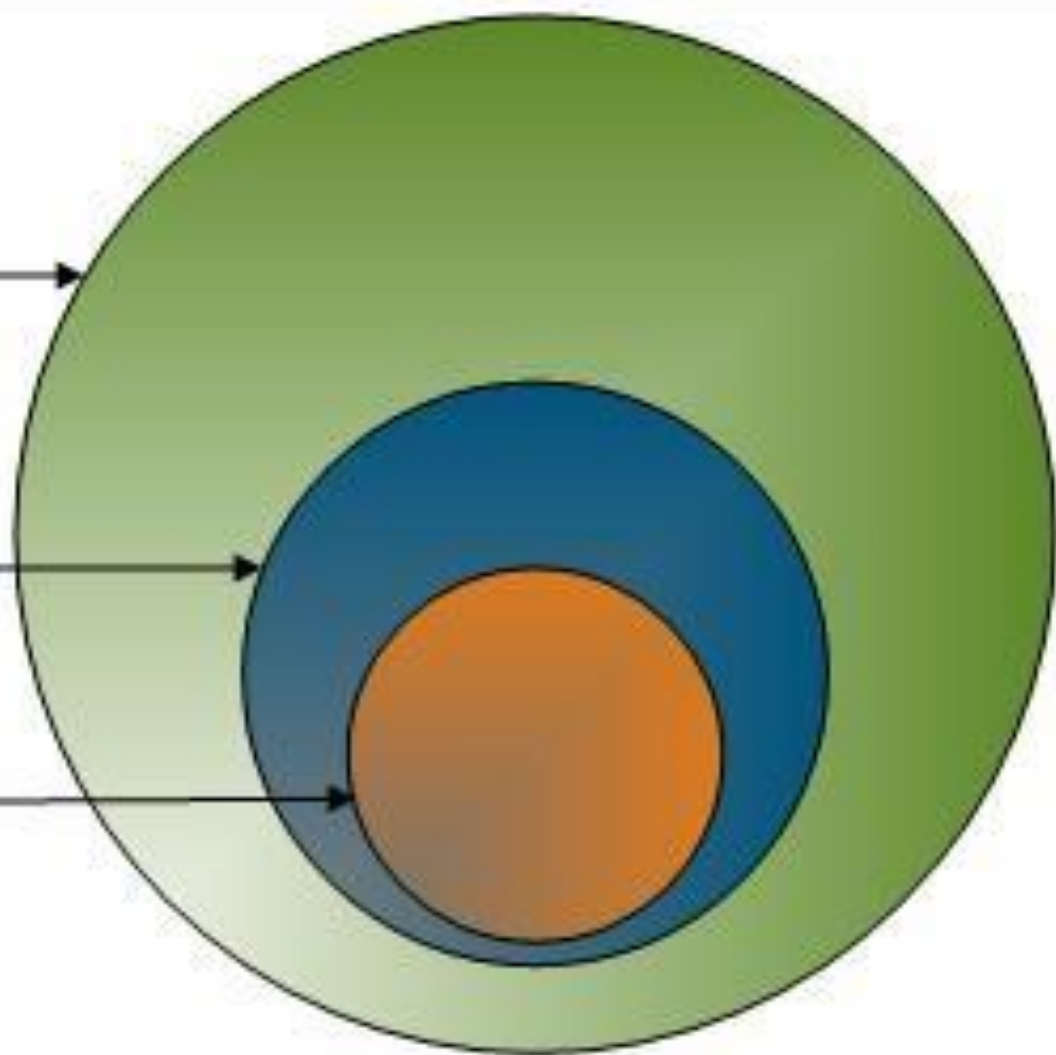


Downtown Calgary, July, 2017

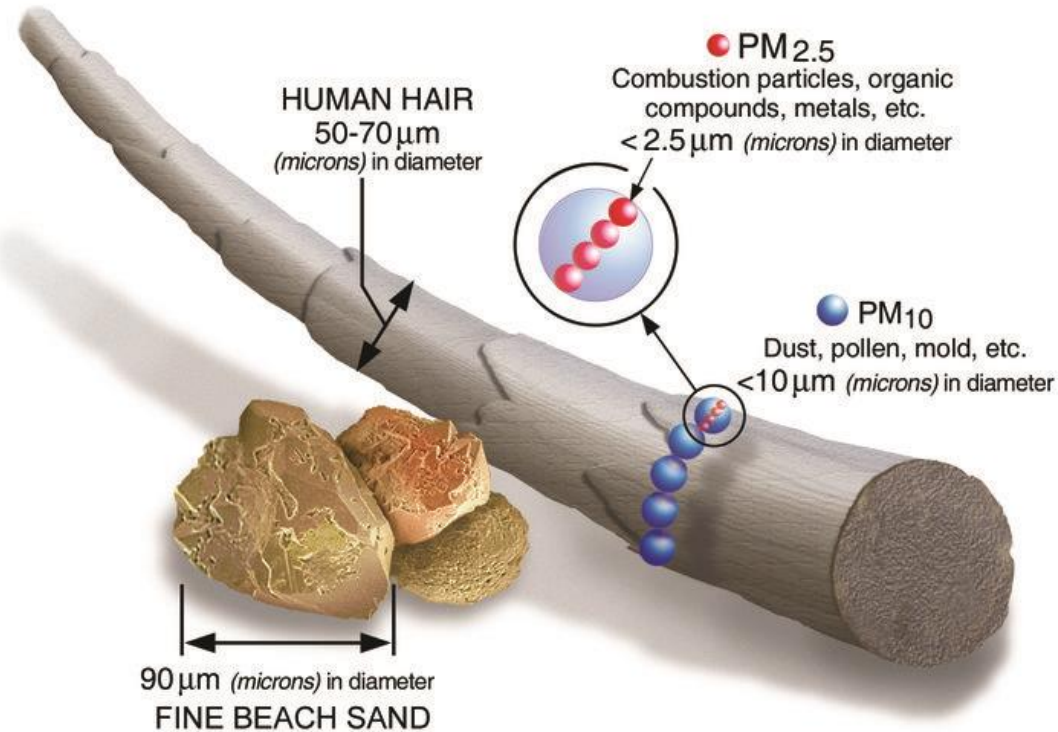
Total particulate matter (TPM)
(diameter < 100 micrometres)

PM₁₀
(diameter ≤ 10 micrometres)

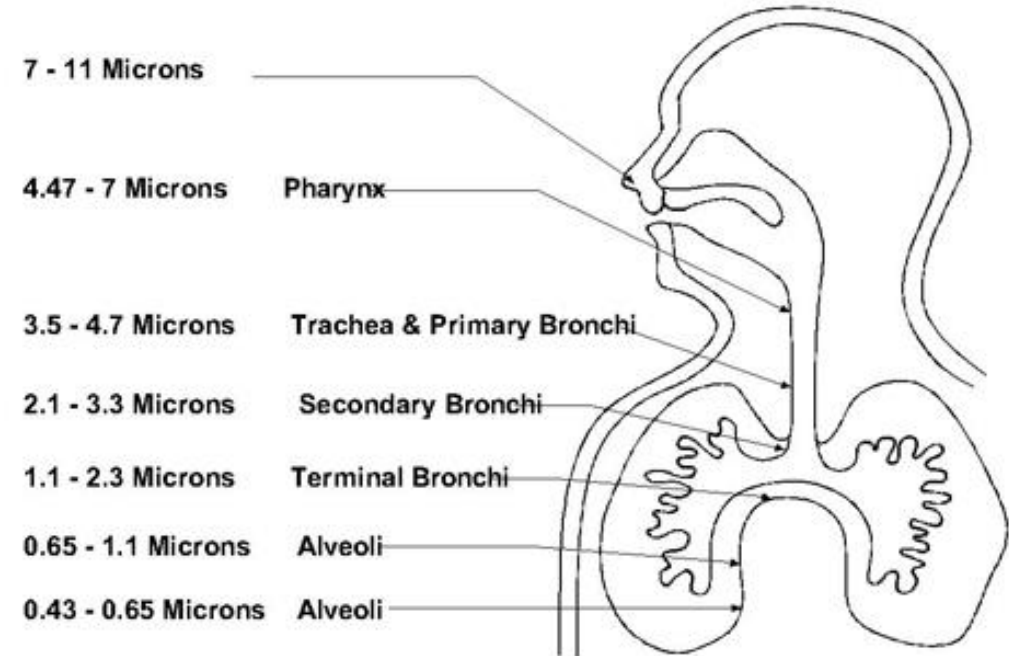
PM_{2.5}
(diameter ≤ 2.5 micrometres)



Size matters



Deposition potential for particles of varying sizes



Classification and properties of atmospheric particulates

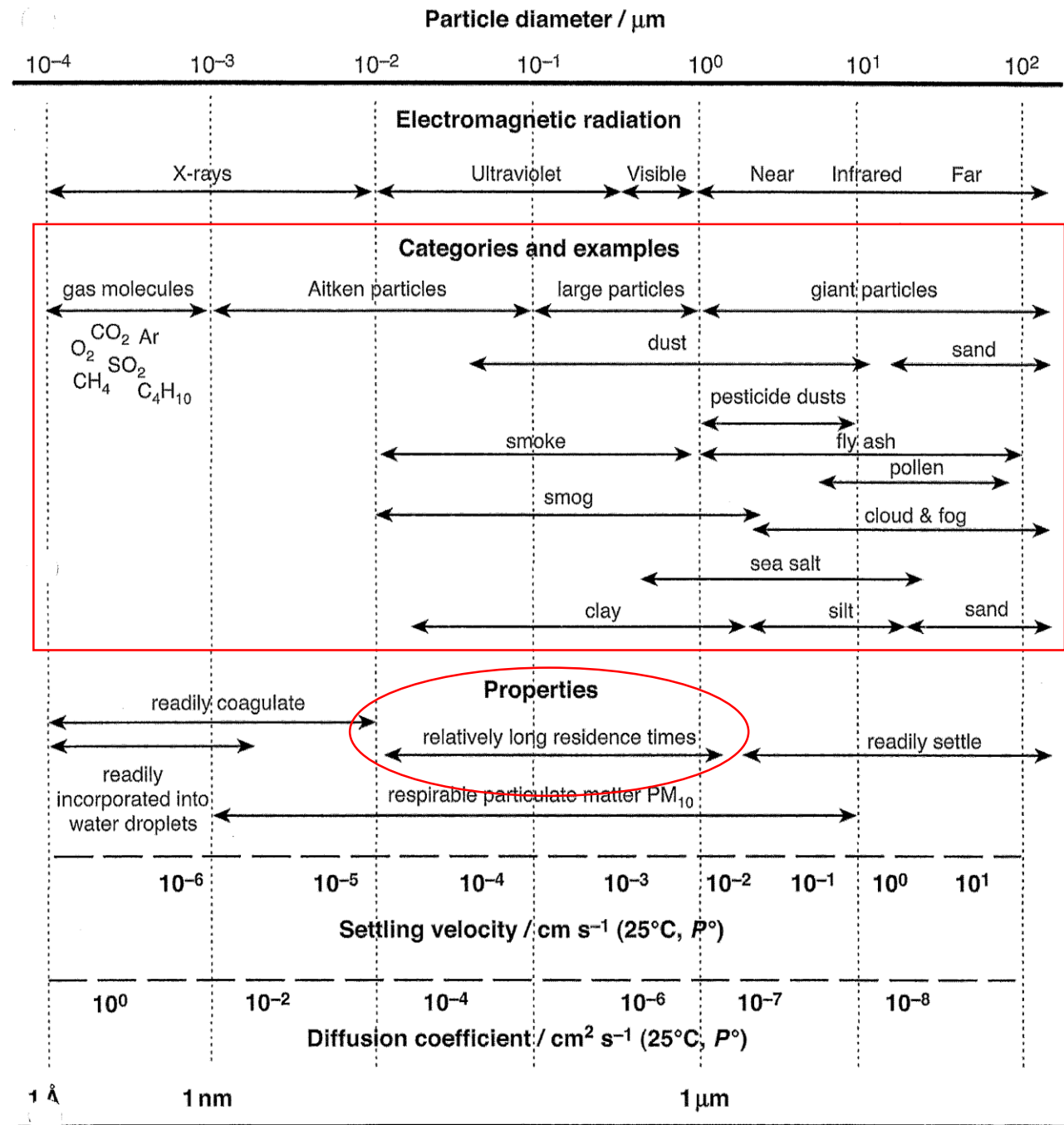
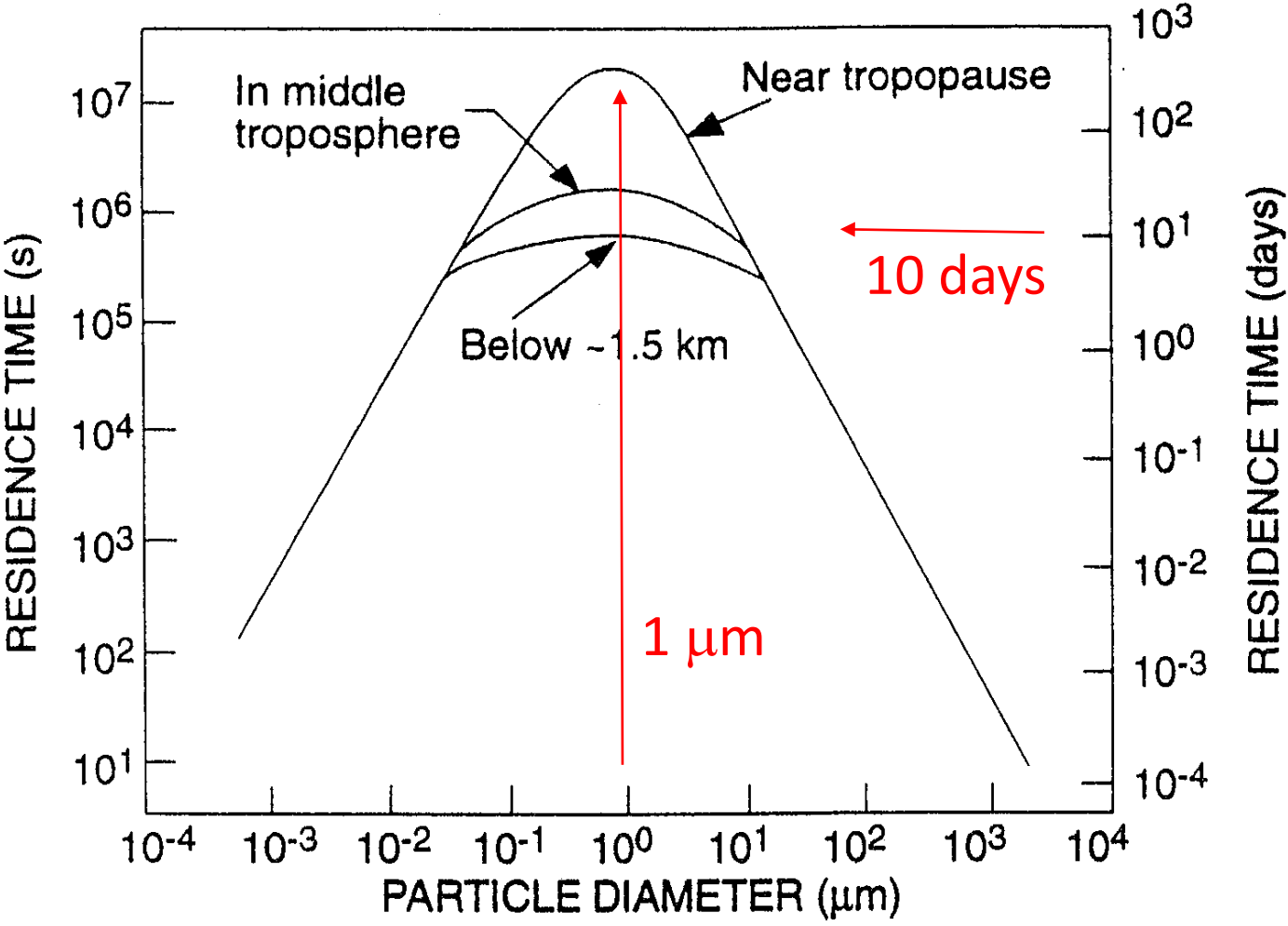


Fig. 6.1 Van Loon

Residence time of atmospheric aerosols



(a)

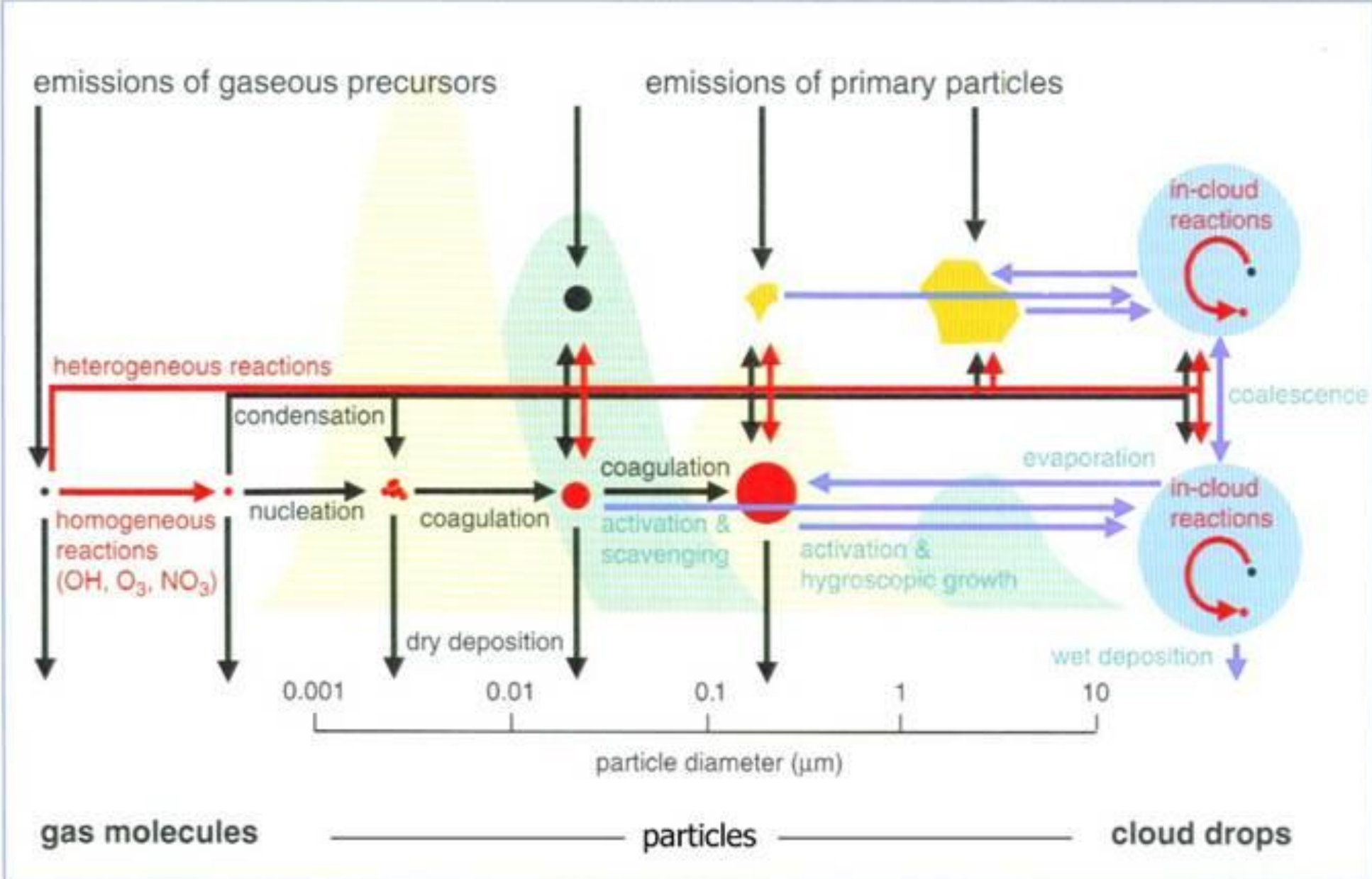
Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards: Current and Proposed

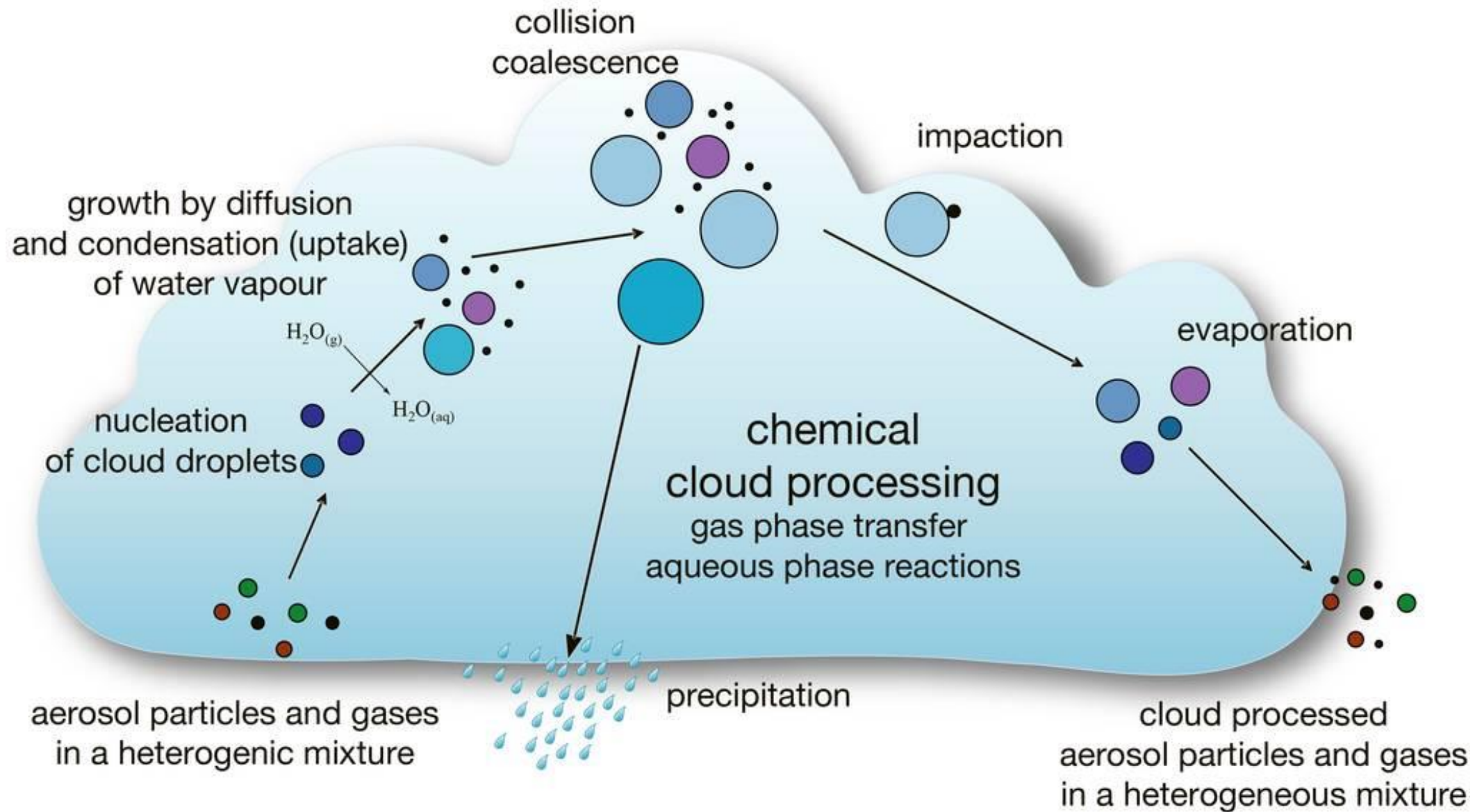
Management Level	Management Actions	Proposed Air Management Threshold Values					
		Ozone (ppb)		PM _{2.5} Annual (µg/m ³)		PM _{2.5} 24h (µg/m ³)	
		2015	2020	2015	2020	2015	2020
RED	Actions for Achieving Air Zone CAAQS						
Threshold	63 ppb	62 ppb	10.0 µg/m ³	8.8 µg/m ³	28 µg/m ³	27 µg/m ³	
ORANGE	Actions for Preventing CAAQS Exceedance						
Threshold	56 ppb		6.4 µg/m ³		19 µg/m ³		
YELLOW	Actions for Preventing AQ Deterioration						
Threshold	50 ppb		4.0 µg/m ³		10 µg/m ³		
GREEN	Actions for Keeping Clean Areas Clean						

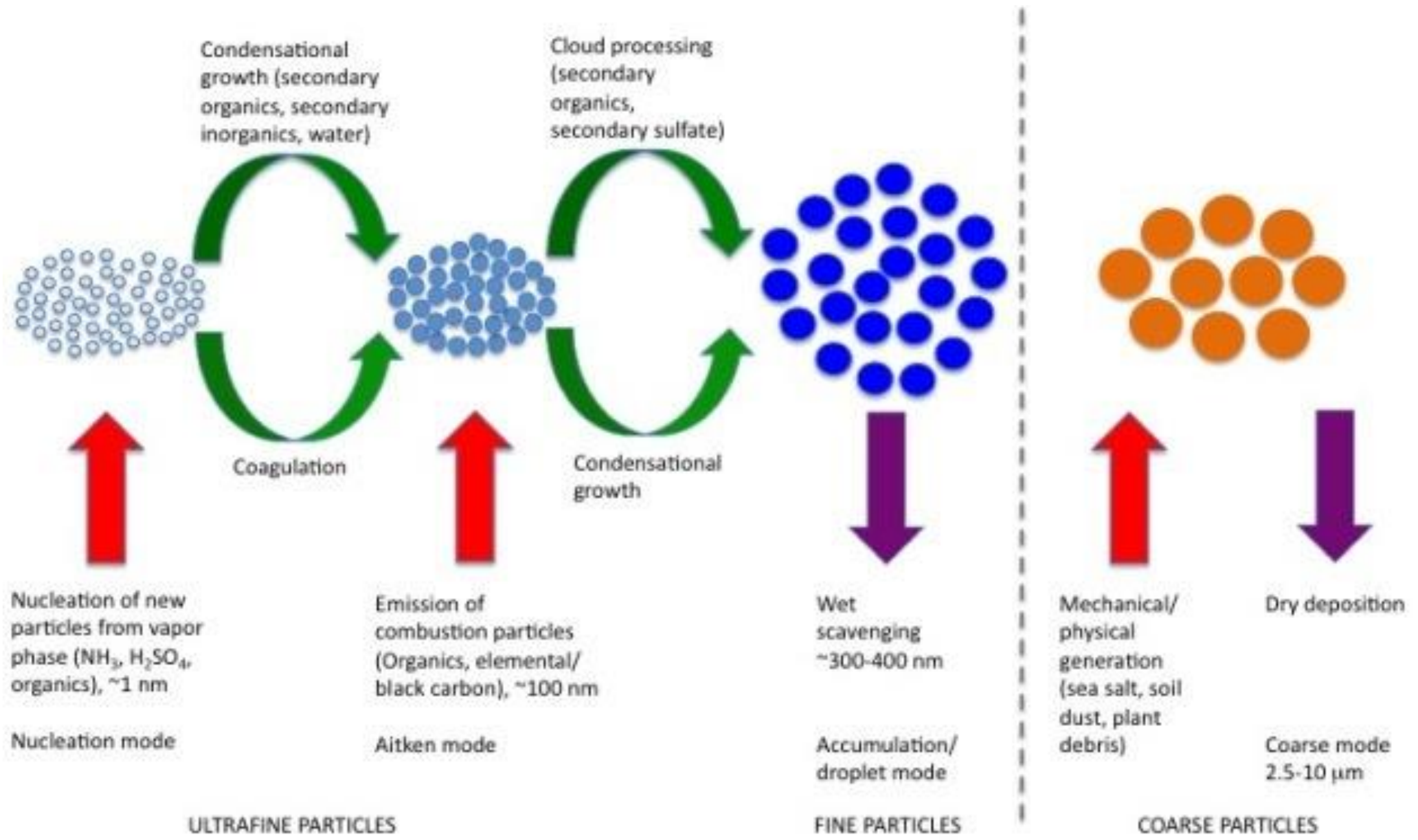
Aerosol Processes

- Diffusion
- Coagulation
- Condensation
- Chemical reactions
- Sedimentation

Physical and chemical processes influencing size distribution of aerosols







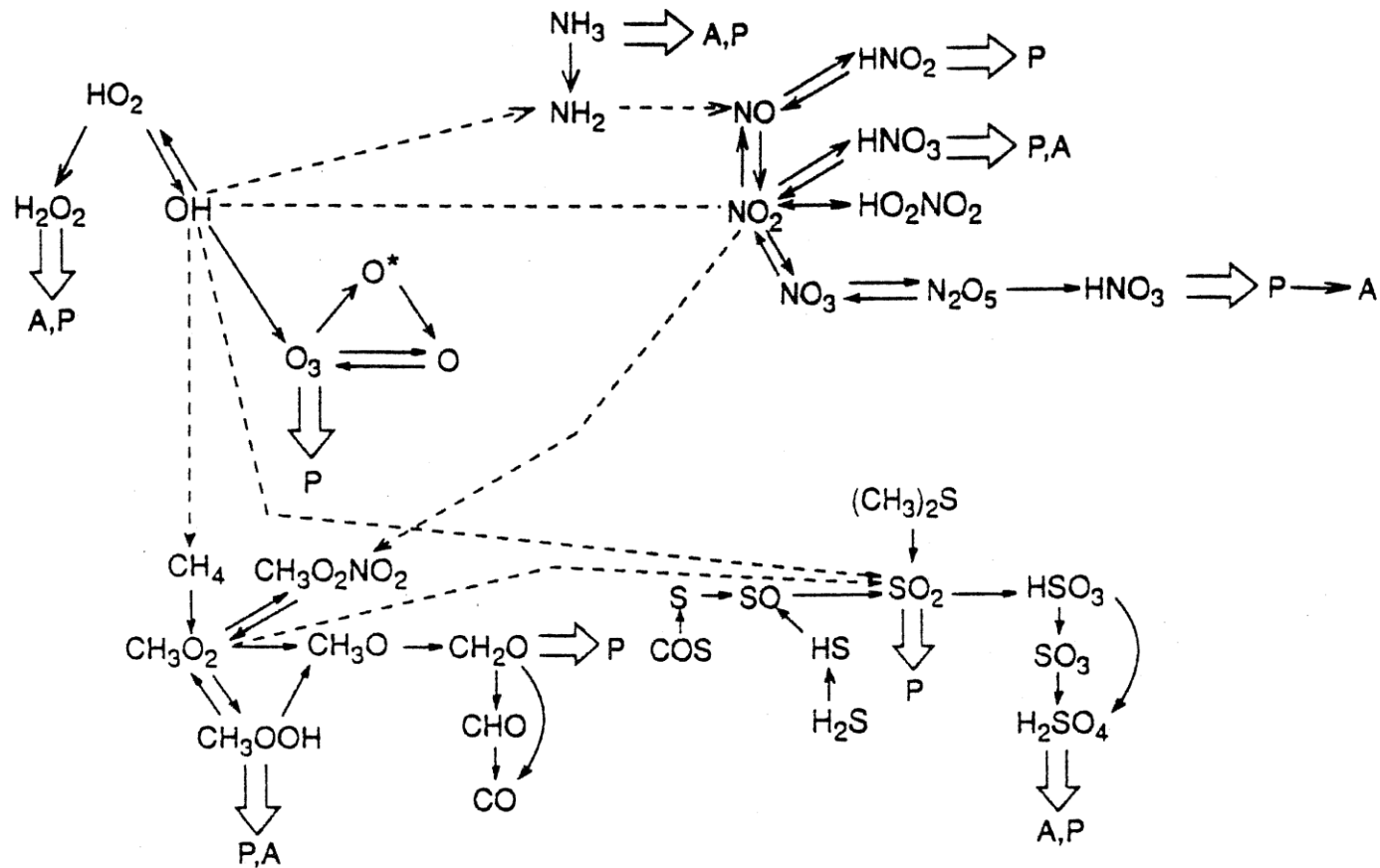


Figure 6.8. Schematic diagram of some of the primary pathways for trace gases to be converted to aerosols (A) in the troposphere. The major reactions involving gas-phase constituents are indicated by the solid lines. Interactions between chemical families are indicated by the dashed lines. Pathways leading to incorporation into precipitation (P) are also shown. [Adapted from R. P. Turco et al. in *Heterogeneous Atmospheric Chemistry*, ed. D. R. Schryer, American Geophysical Union, p. 234 (1982). Copyright © 1982 by the American Geophysical Union.]

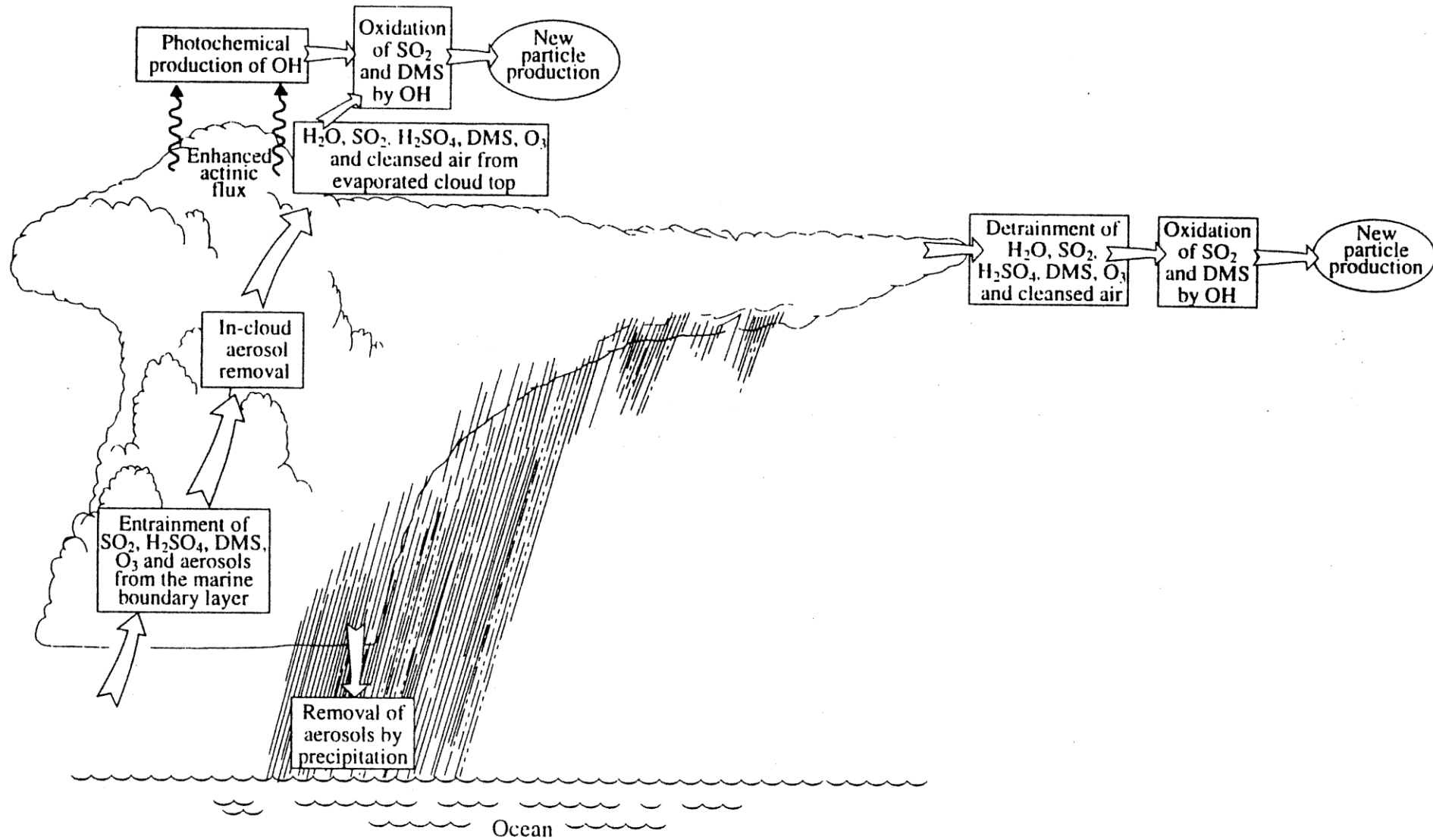


Figure 7.11. Schematic diagram illustrating a conceptual model for new particle production near marine convective clouds. [From K. Perry and P. V. Hobbs, *J. Geophys. Res.*, **99**, 22813 (1994). Copyright © by the American Geophysical Union.]

2. Sources and measurement

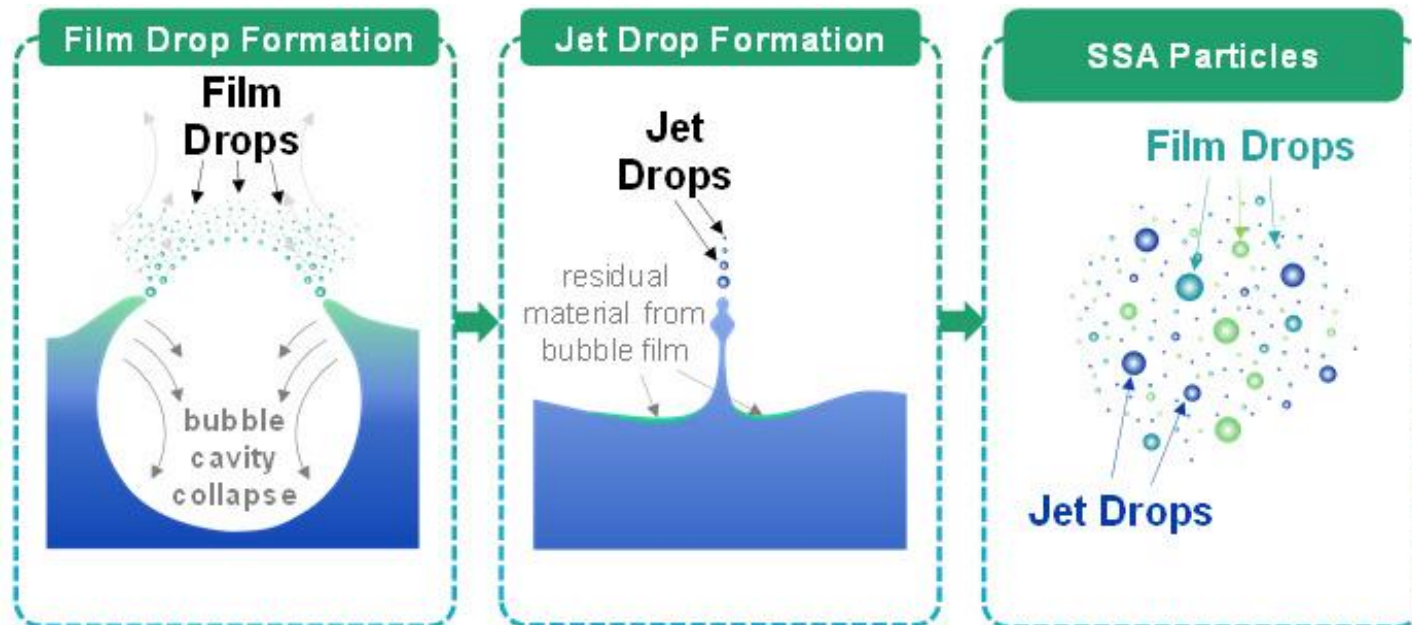
- Sea spray
- Dust
- Combustion
- Condensation –inorganic and organic
- Arctic haze
- Volcanoes

Sea spray

Chemical Concentration Factors (CCF)

$$CCF = \frac{(C_x / C_{Na})_{aerosol}}{(C_x / C_{Na})_{seawater}}$$

CCF > 100 for some heavy metals
(e.g., Hg, Cd, Pb)
&
organics



After water evaporation
fine salt aerosol remains
(i.e., 5 – 300 pg of NaCl(s))

Dust

Chemical composition reflects source

- Natural → soil and rock types
- Anthropogenic → brake lining, tire components, cement, construction materials



Combustion aerosols

- Forest fires
- Volcanoes
- Internal combustion engines
- Coal burning power plants
- Industry, roasting and smelting

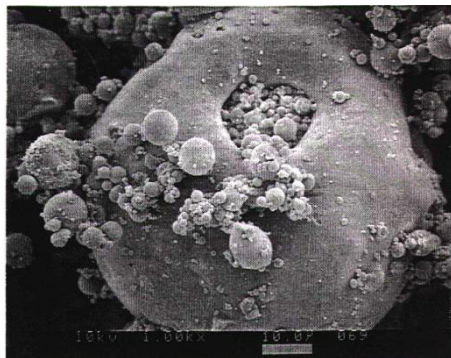


Figure 2.3.2. Fly ash showing large plerospheres containing smaller cenospheres (courtesy of Hills, 1995).

Fly Ash & Bottom Ash

Inorganic minerals (Ca, Mg, SO₄ etc)

Trace metals (Hg, Pb, Cd, Se, As)

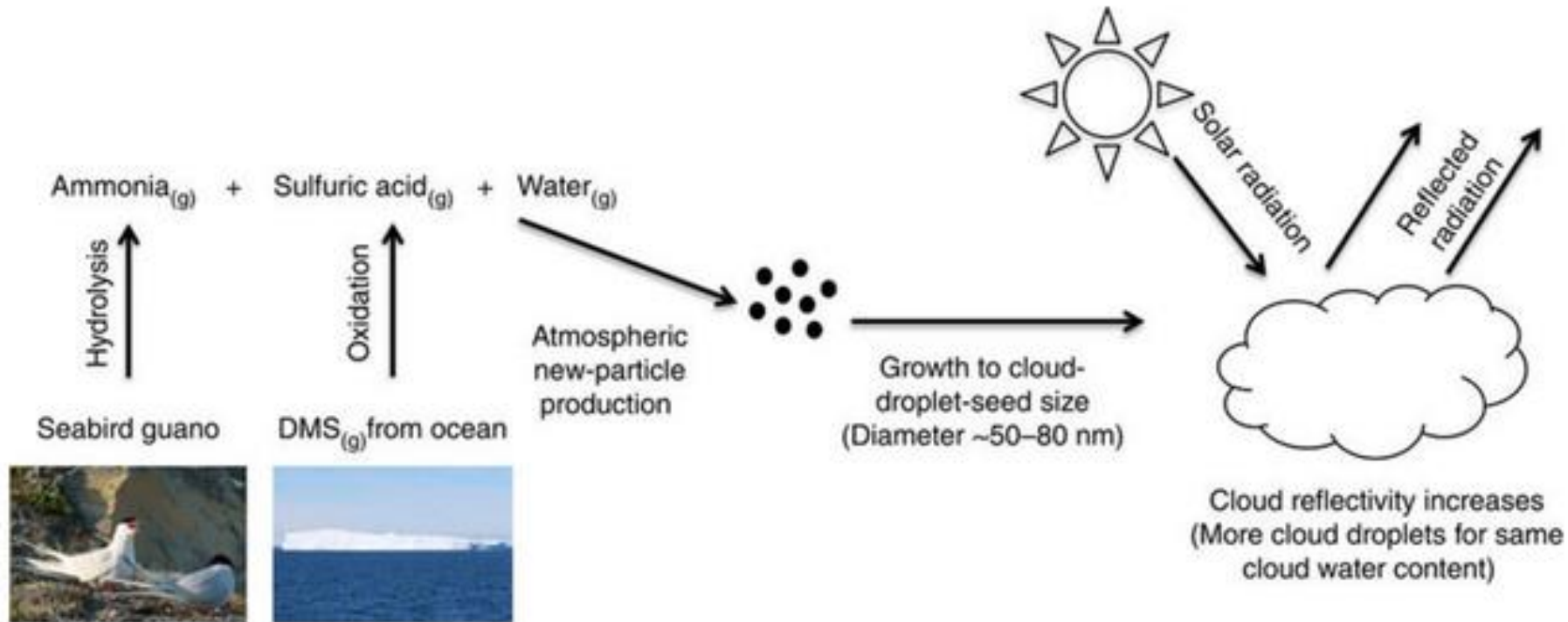
Soot – elemental carbon

Trace organics (PAHs, PCBs etc)

Condensation aerosols

Inorganics: Ammonium Sulfate and Ammonium Hydrogen Sulfate

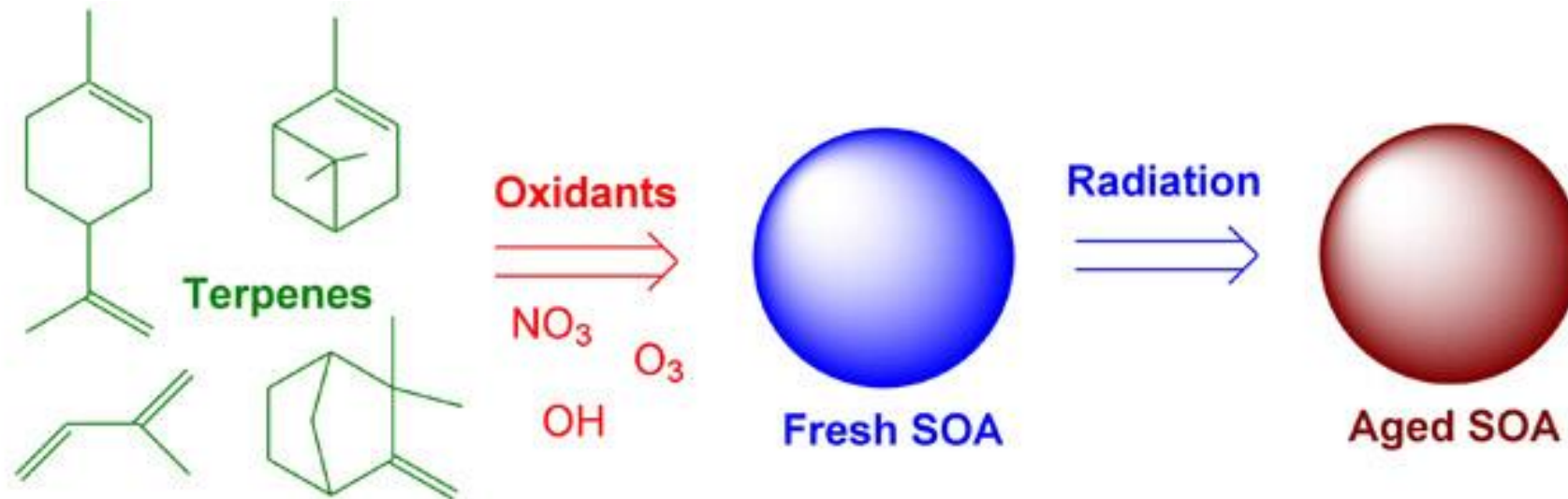
From: [Contribution of Arctic seabird-colony ammonia to atmospheric particles and cloud-albedo radiative effect](#)



Schematic summary of processes that couple Arctic seabird-colony ammonia emissions with climate.

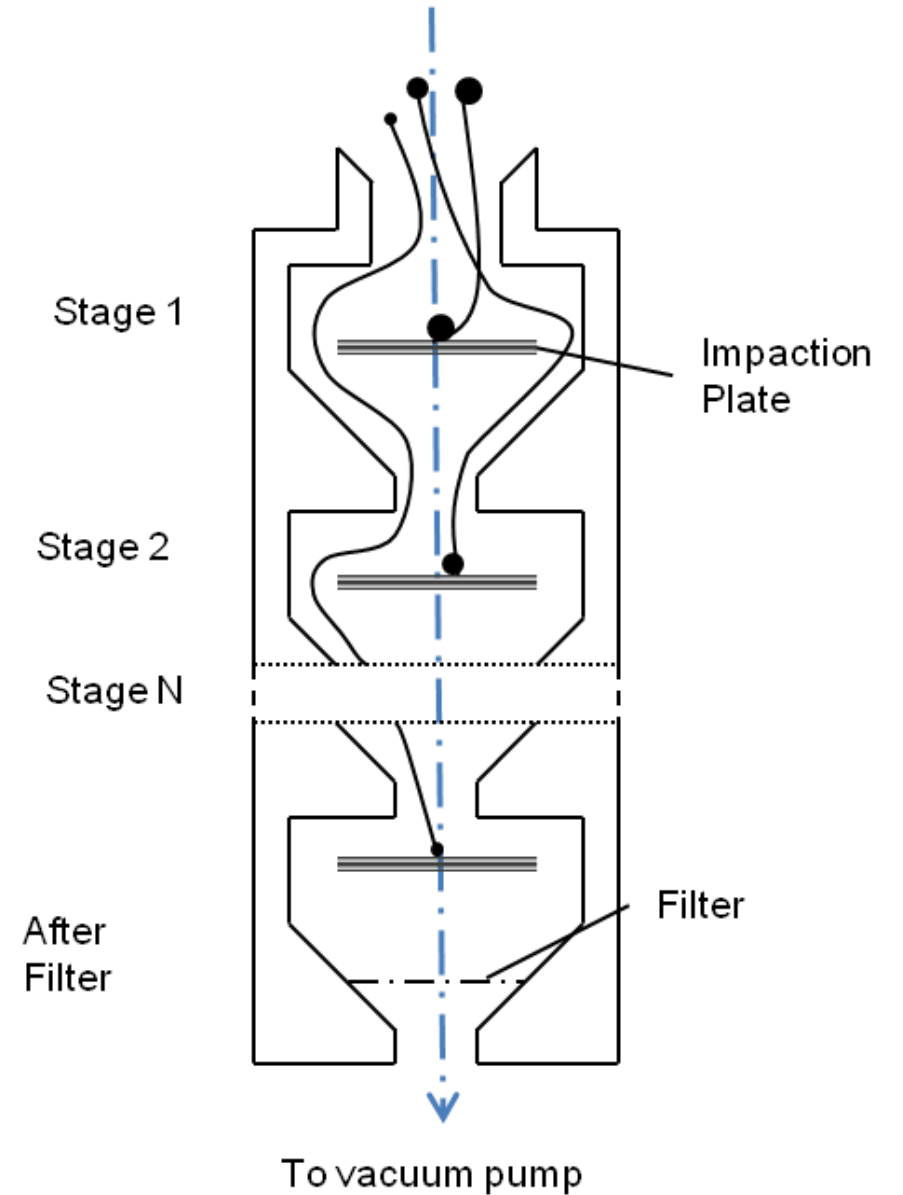
Condensation aerosols

Organics: secondary organic aerosols



Measurement Particle Size Fractionation

aerodynamic impactors



Measurement Optical Particle Sizer & Counter

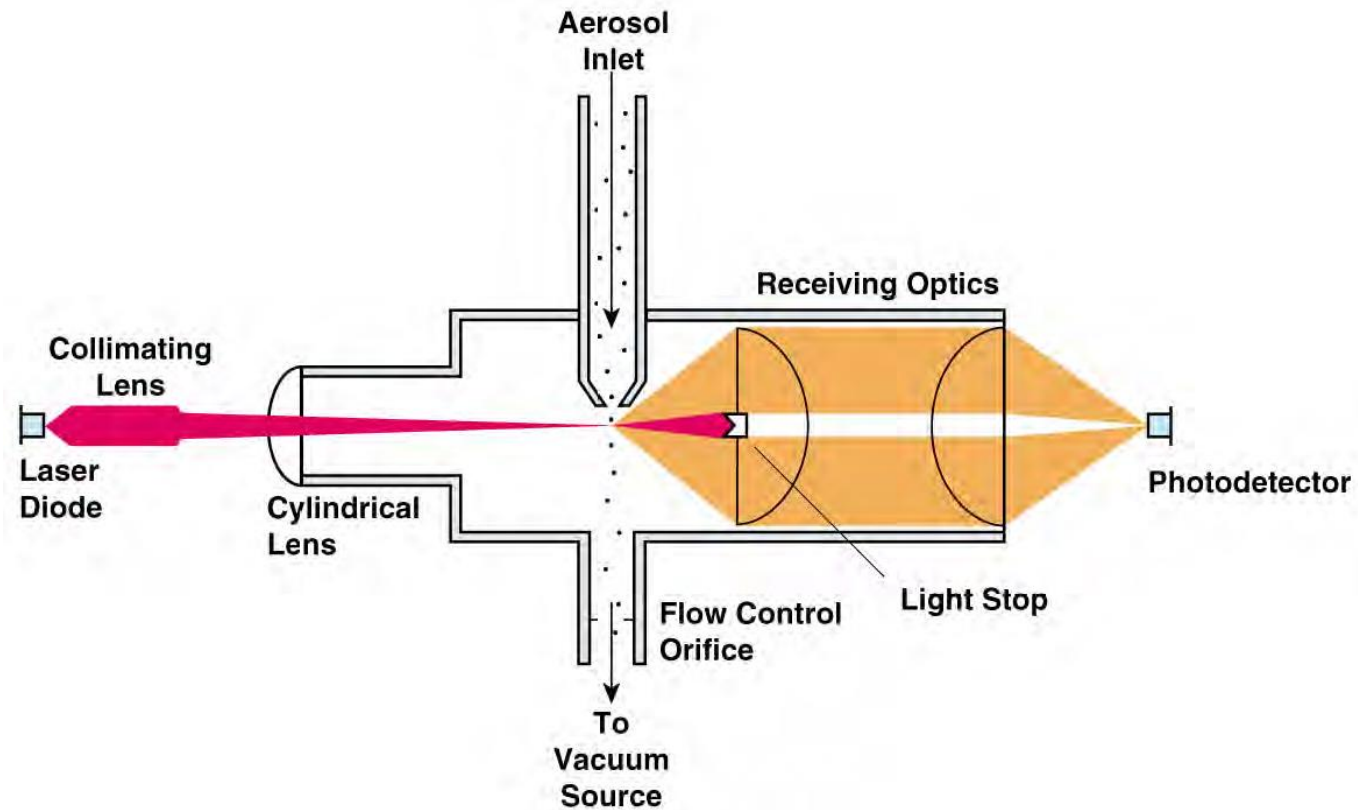


Figure 2
Flow Through an Optical Particle Counter

3. Concentrations and Residence times

Concentrations reported as either
Number density (# particles/m³)

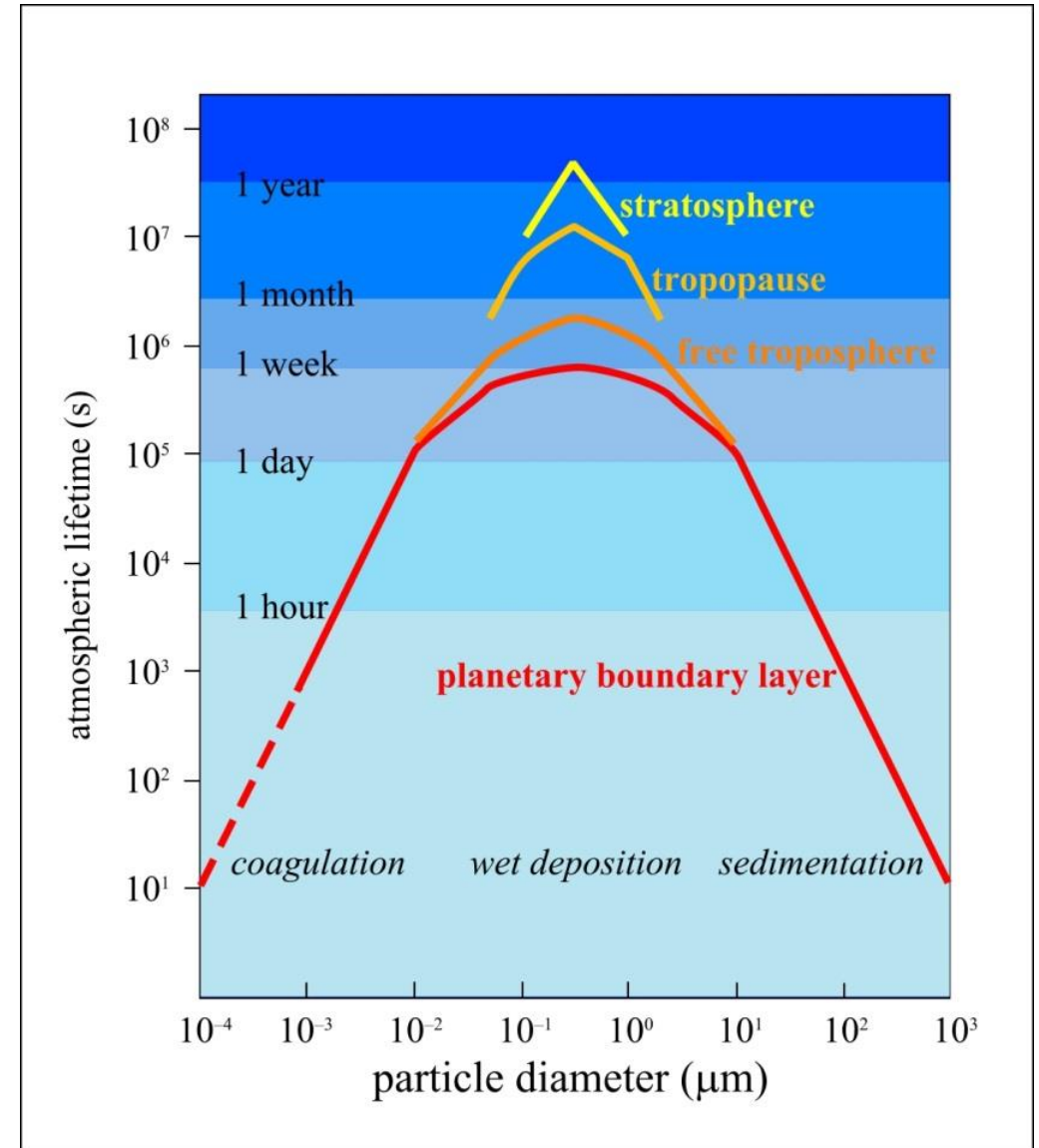
Mass density (μg/m³)

Typical range: 10 – 500 μg/m³

Rural forested 10 – 50 μg/m³

Open ocean 10 – 150 μg/m³

Urban 10 - 300+ μg/m³



Settling velocity

$$V_t = \frac{(\rho_p - \rho_{air}) C g d_p^2}{18\eta}$$

meters per second

ρ_p = density of particle (g m^{-3})

ρ_{air} = density of air (g m^{-3})

C = correction factor (see Table 6.4 Textbook)

$g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$

d_p = diameter of particle (m)

$\eta = 1.9 \times 10^{-2} \text{ g m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ at $T=298\text{K}$, $P= 1\text{atm}$

Coagulation kinetics

$$\frac{-dN}{dt} = 4\pi DCd_p N^2$$

$N =$

$D =$

$$\frac{-dN}{dt} = k_2 N^2$$

$C =$

$d_p =$

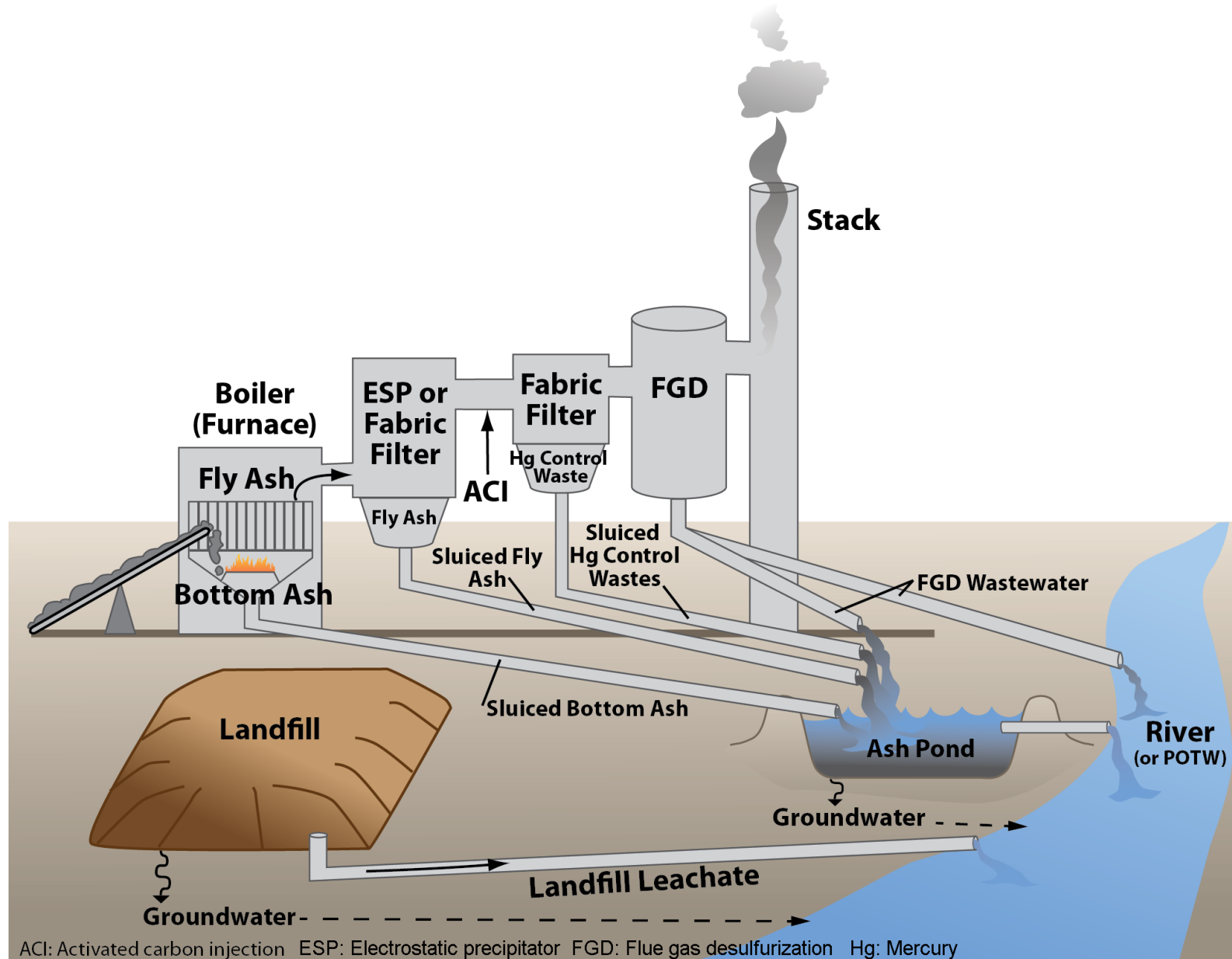
where $k_2 = 4 \pi D C d_p$

Table 6.4 Aerosol transport properties assuming spherical particles, density 2.0 g cm^{-3} , in air at P^0 and 25°C

$d_p/\mu\text{m}$	C	$v_t/\text{cm s}^{-1}$	$D/\text{m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$	$t_{1/2}$
0.001	216		5.14×10^{-6}	1 min
0.005	43.6		2.07×10^{-7}	0.5 h
0.01	22.2		5.24×10^{-8}	2 h
0.05	4.95		2.35×10^{-9}	38 h
0.1	2.85	1.7×10^{-4}	6.75×10^{-10}	110 h
0.5	1.326	2.0×10^{-3}	6.32×10^{-11}	520 h
1.0	1.164	6.8×10^{-3}	2.77×10^{-11}	690 h
5.0	1.032	1.5×10^{-1}		
10.0	1.016	6.0×10^{-1}		
50.0	1.003	15		
100.0	1.0016	58		

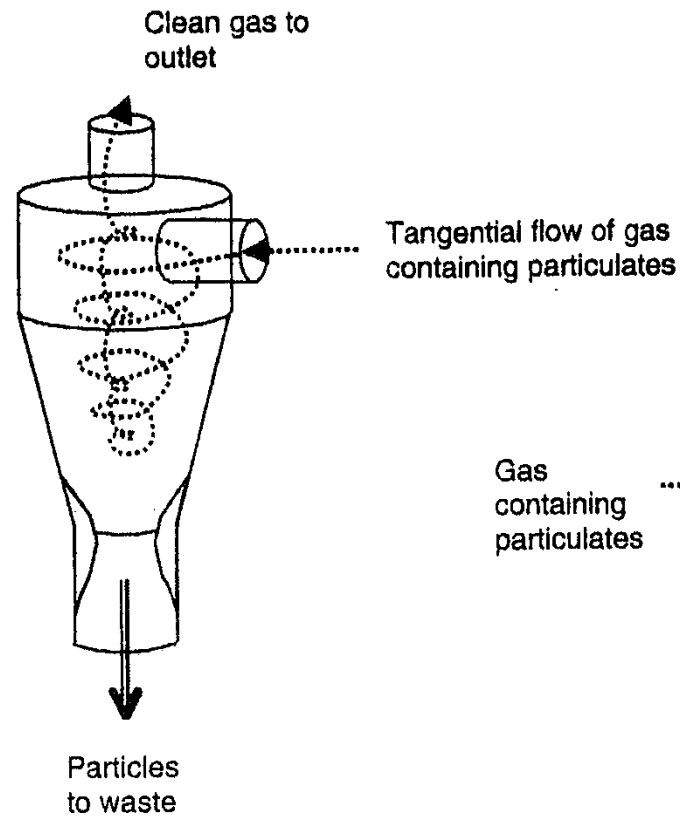
For half-life calculations, particle number density in the atmosphere is taken as 10^9 m^{-3} .

4. Emission controls and abatement technology

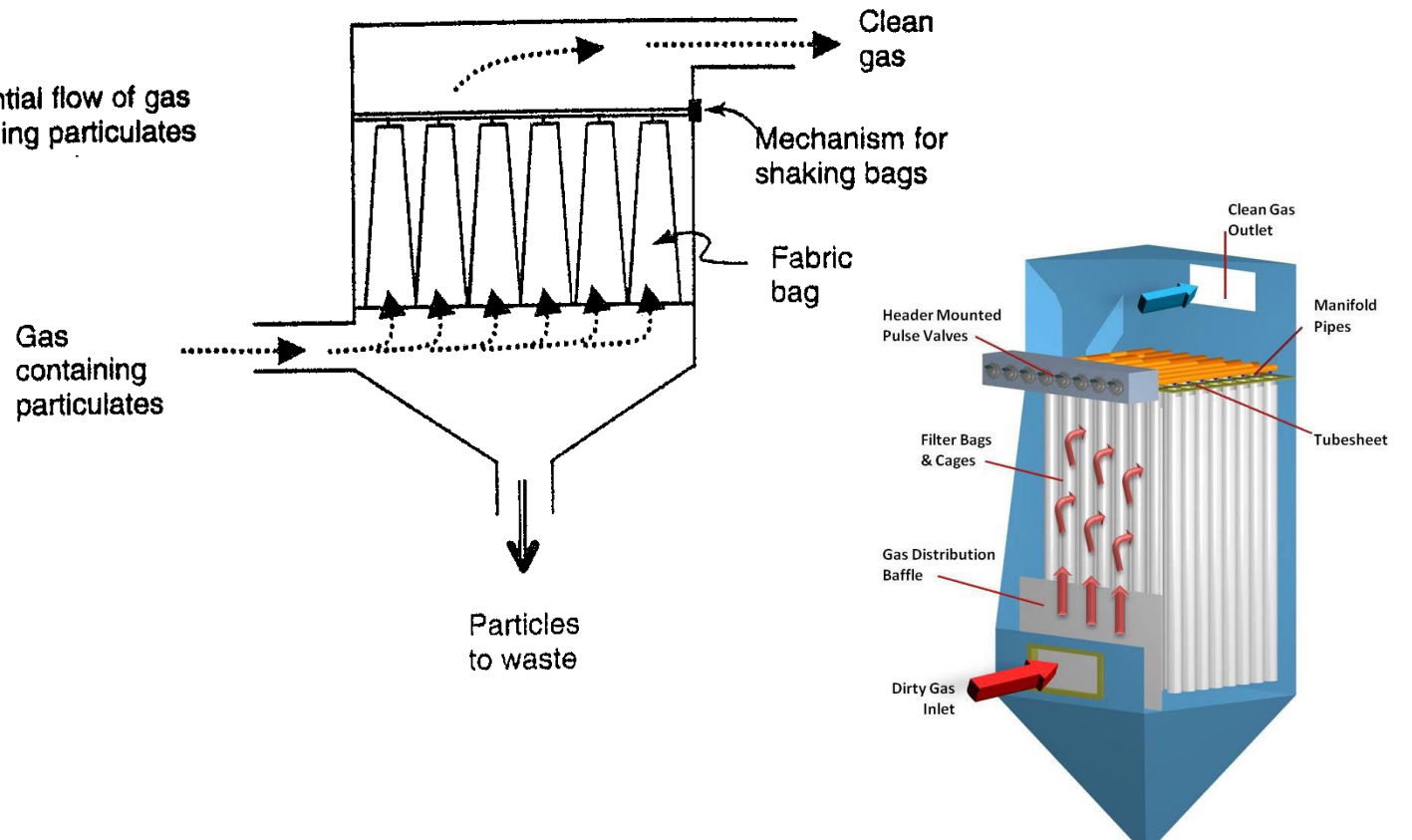


Aerosol control for larger particles

Cyclone precipitator

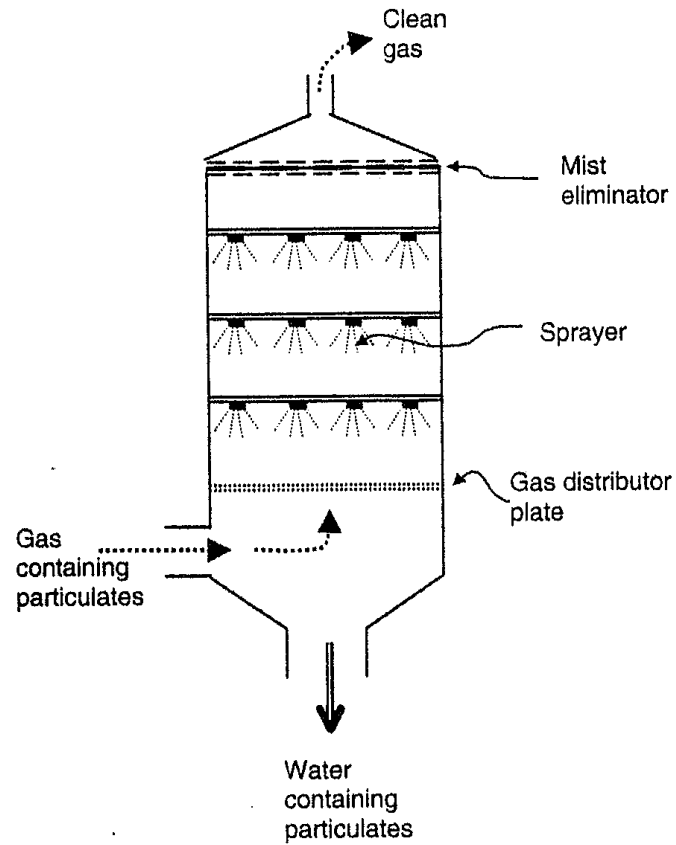


Fabric filtration

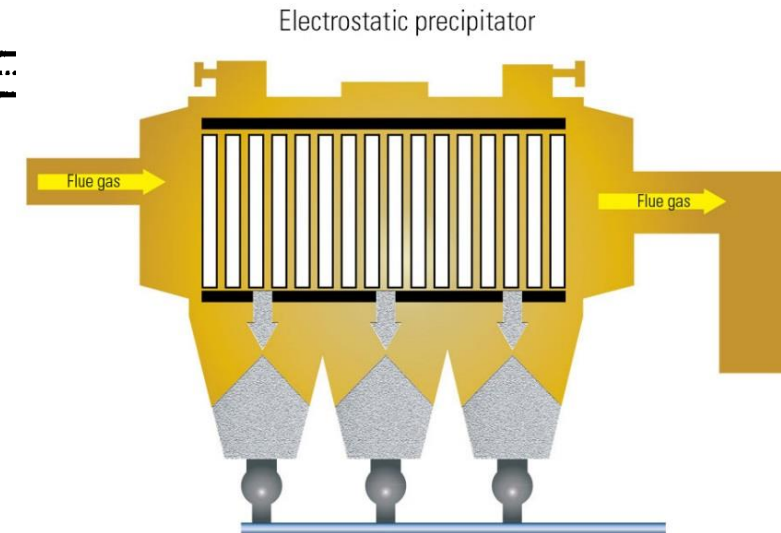
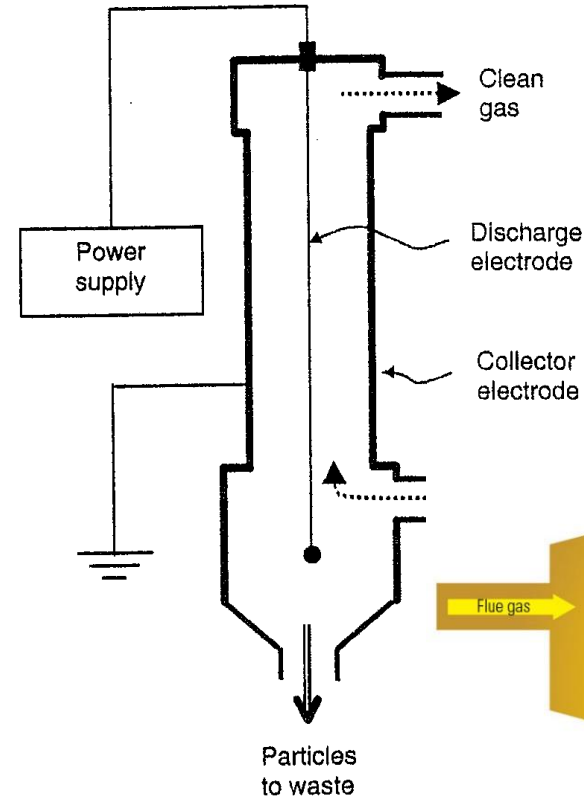


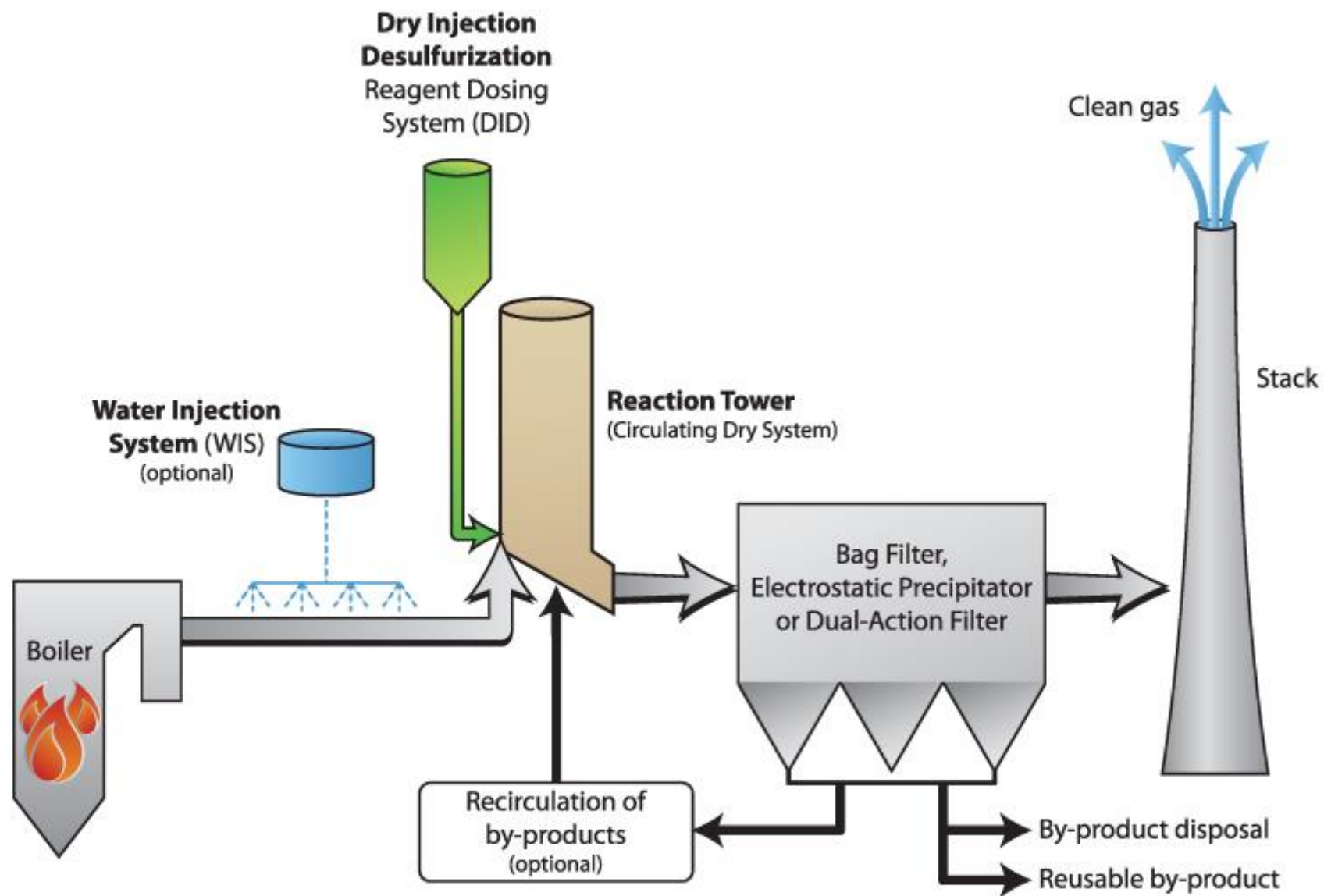
Aerosol control for smaller particles

Wet Scrubber



Electrostatic Precipitator





Cyclone Collection (Particle Removal)
Efficiency Formula

$$\eta = \frac{1}{1 + (d_{pc}/d_p)^2}$$

η – fractional particle collection efficiency

d_{pc} – diameter of particle collected

with 50% efficiency in m

d_p – diameter of particle of interest in m



Size distribution of aerosols in engine exhaust

