

# INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN YANGON CITY

Collaborative Research conducted by NIES and UM-1

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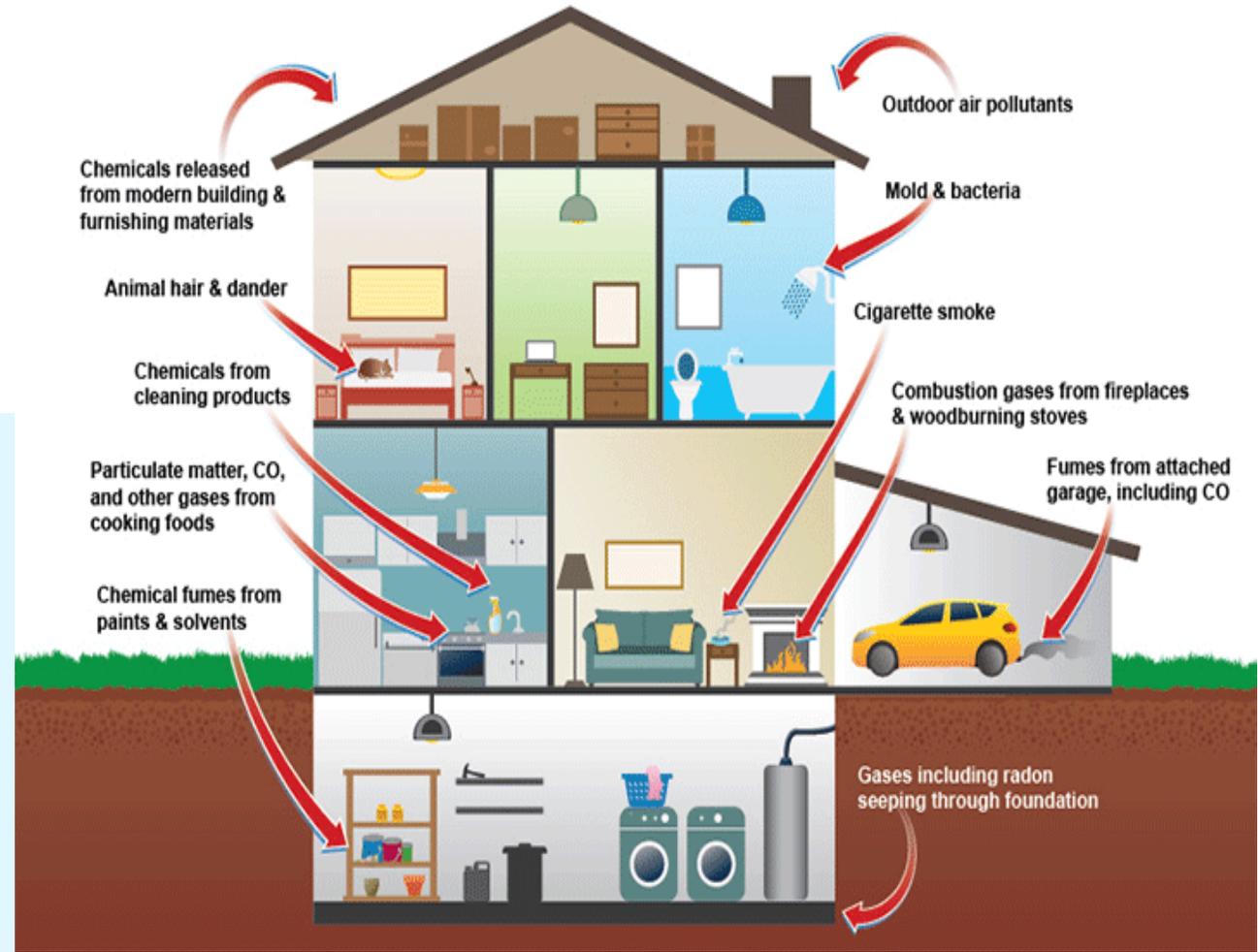
# Indoor air

Indoor environments represent a mix of

- outdoor pollutants
  - prevalently associated with **vehicular traffic and industrial activities**, which can enter by infiltrations and/or through natural and mechanical ventilation systems,
- indoor contaminants: originate inside the building
  - from combustion sources (such as burning fuels, coal, and wood; tobacco products; and candles),
  - from emissions from building materials and furnishings, central heating and cooling systems, humidification devices, moisture processes, electronic equipment, products for household cleaning, pets,
  - from the behavior of building occupants (i.e., smoking, painting, etc.).

**Indoor air pollution** is usually caused by home utensils and human activities.

# Indoor and Indoor pollutants



## Indoor Air Quality

**90%** of our lives spent indoors

**2-5x**

More pollution indoors than outdoors

### Common Indoor Air Pollutants

#### Airborne Particles

from diesel, exhaust, dust, smoke and other sources

#### Indoor Formaldehyde

from building materials, furniture, cooking, and smoking

#### Household Odors & Gases

from activities such as painting, cooking, and smoking

#### Ozone

from outdoor air (ground level ozone is harmful to breathe)

#### Carbon Dioxide

from people exhaling and cooking

DRJOCKERS.COM  
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Moisture



VOCs and Chemicals



Smoking



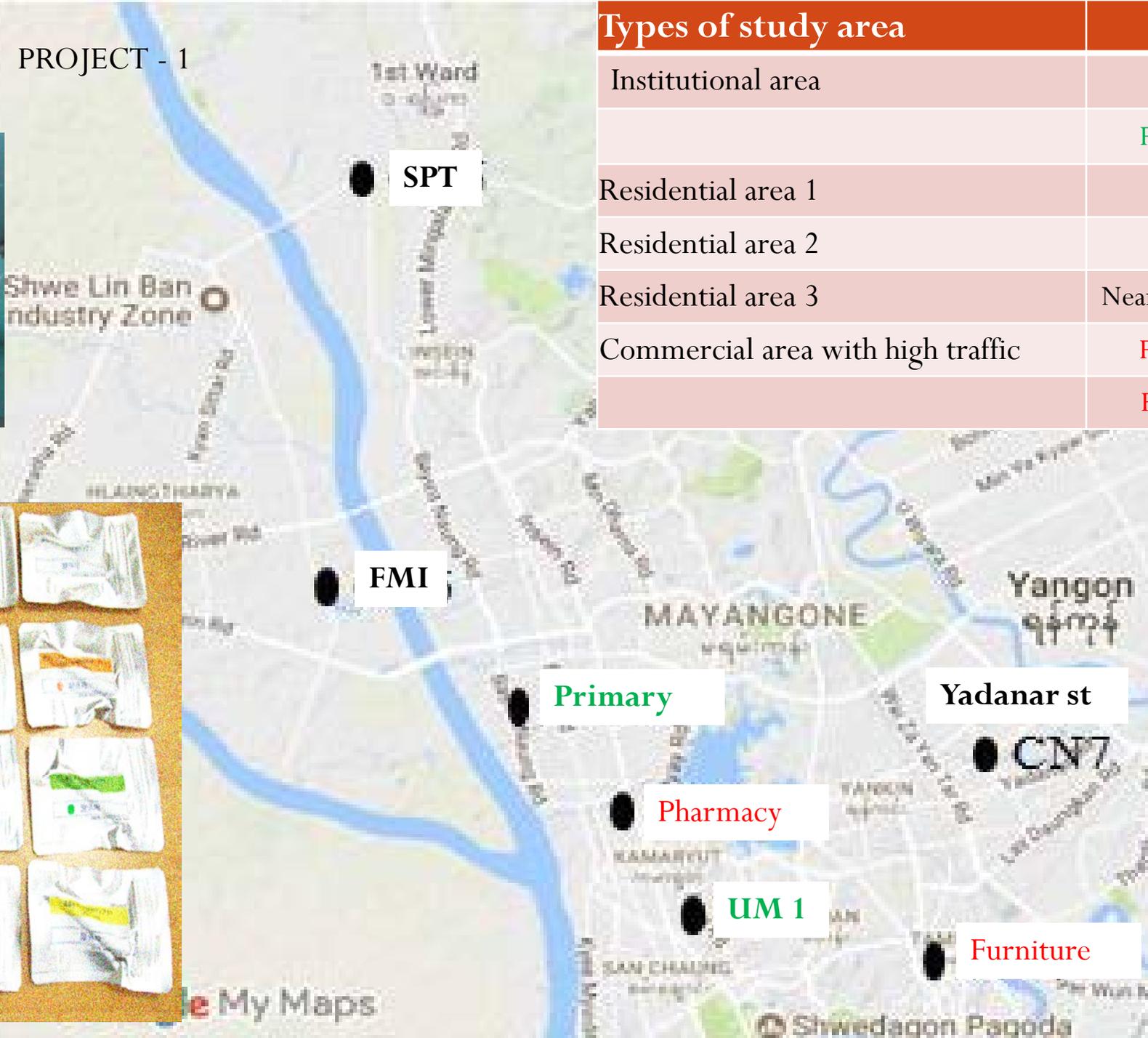
Dust



Pet Dander

Preliminary projects for indoor air quality in Yangon city

PROJECT - 1



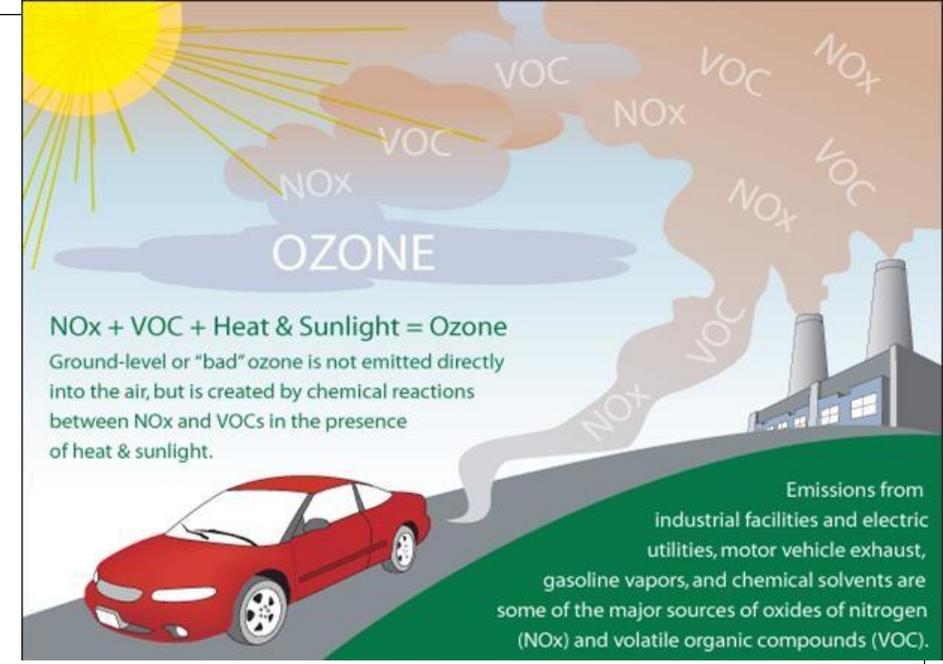
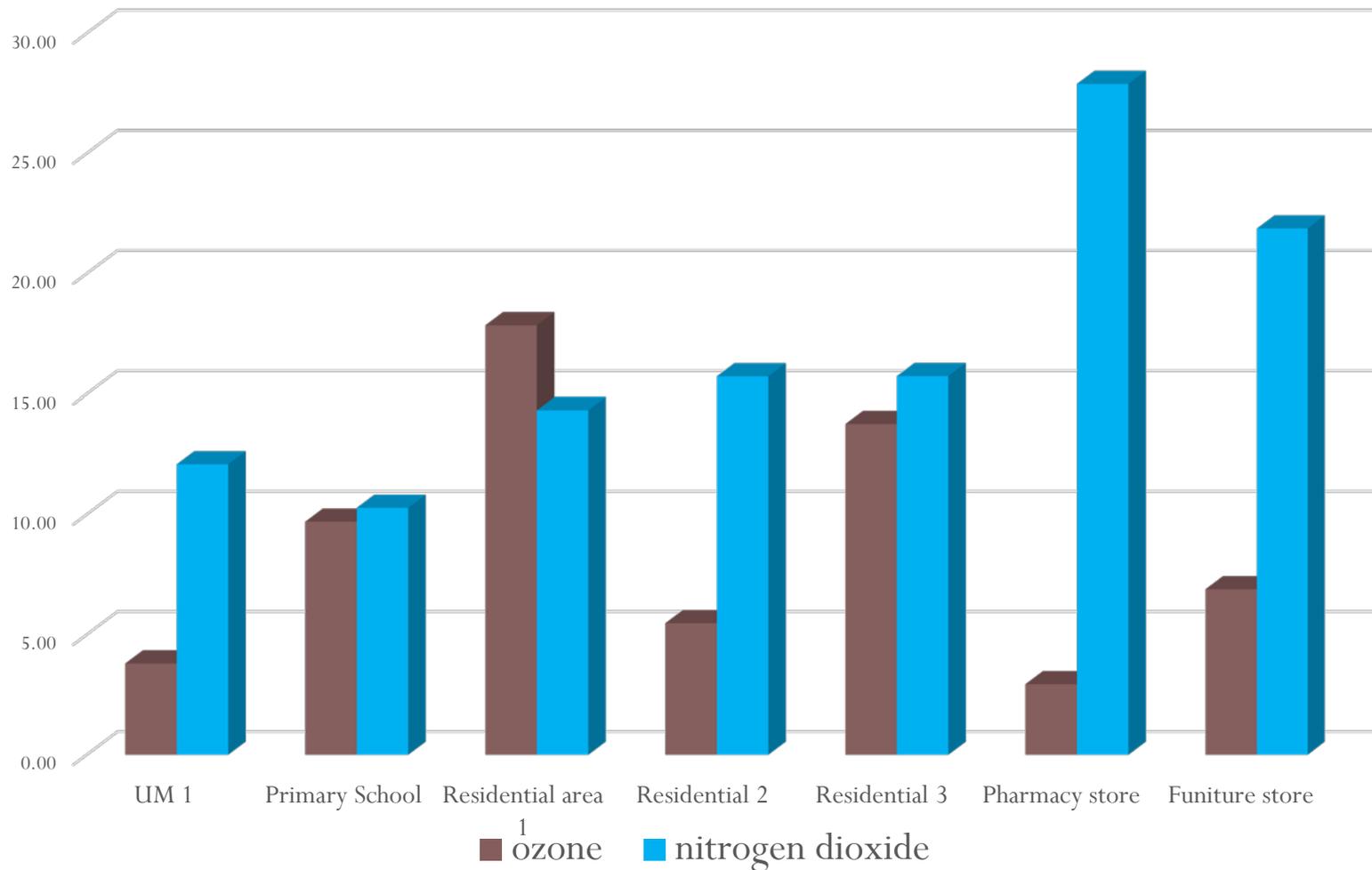
Types of study area	Locations	Townships
Institutional area	UM1	Kamayut
	Primary School	Hlaing
Residential area 1	FMI city	Hlaingthayar
Residential area 2	Yadanar St	South okkalapa
Residential area 3	Near Thanding market	Shwepyithar
Commercial area with high traffic	Pharmacy store	Hlaing
	Furniture store	Tamwe

Four different kinds of diffusive air sampling devices

- VOC-CX for **34 VOCs**: GC/MS
- DSD-BEP/DNPH for **ozone and 19 carbonyl compounds**: HPLC
- DSD-TEA for **acid gases such as NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>**: Ion Chromatography
- DSD-NH<sub>3</sub> for **basic gases, i.e. ammonia**: Ion Chromatography



# Indoor air ozone and nitrogen dioxide: infiltration from outside

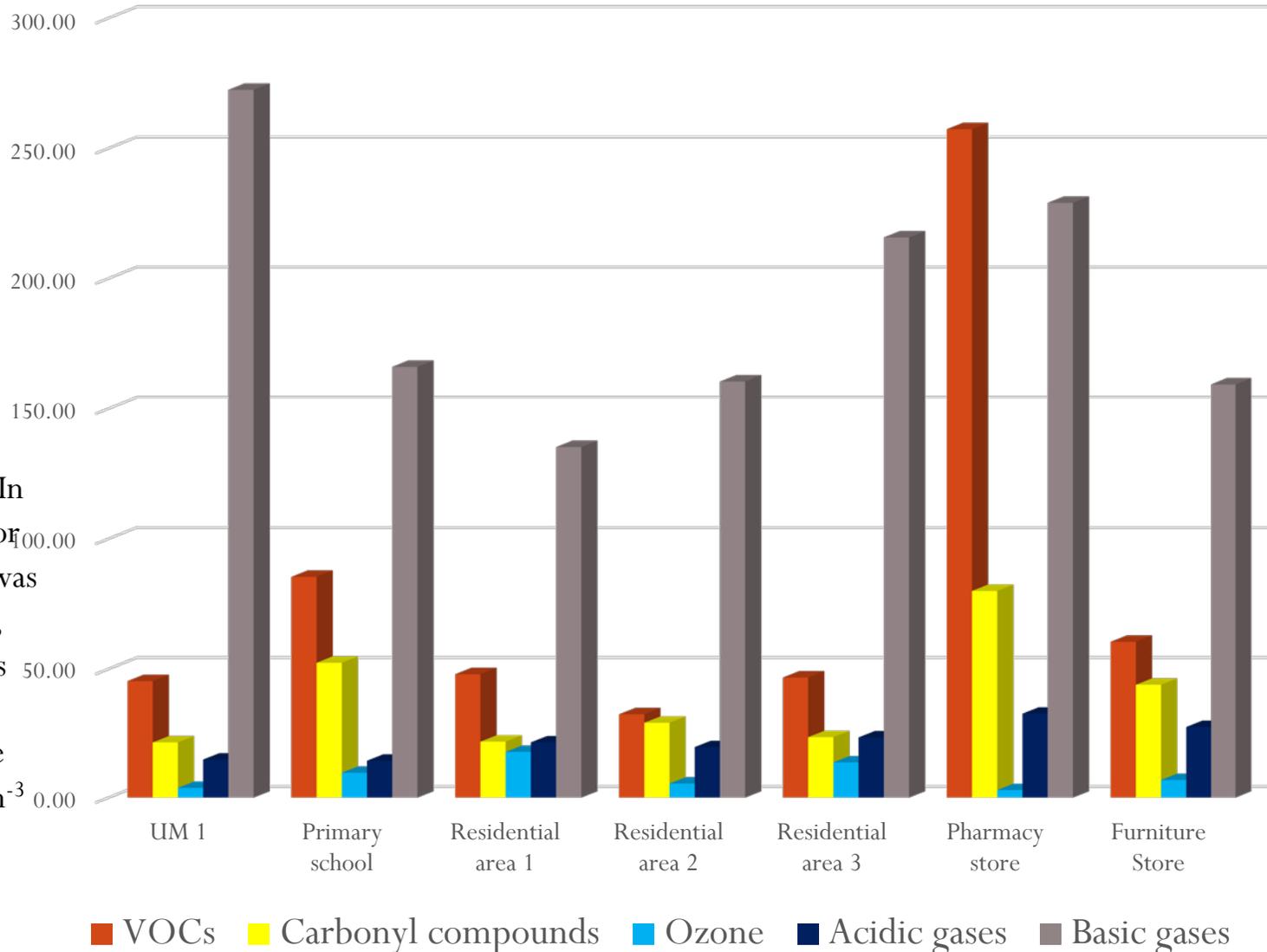


# Indoor gases

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

## Basic gases (i.e., ammonia)

- Sources of ammonia: Animals, residents and household goods such as bathroom cleaner, floor cleaner and glass cleaner release ammonia into the indoor air (Fedoruk et al., 2005; Suh et al., 1994).
- Indoor concentration can vary widely ranging from In this study, minimum indoor ammonia concentrations was  $130 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and maximum,  $270 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , concentrations were closed to or higher than the upper limit of the usual range (i.e.  $0.09 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $166 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Leaderer et al., 1999).

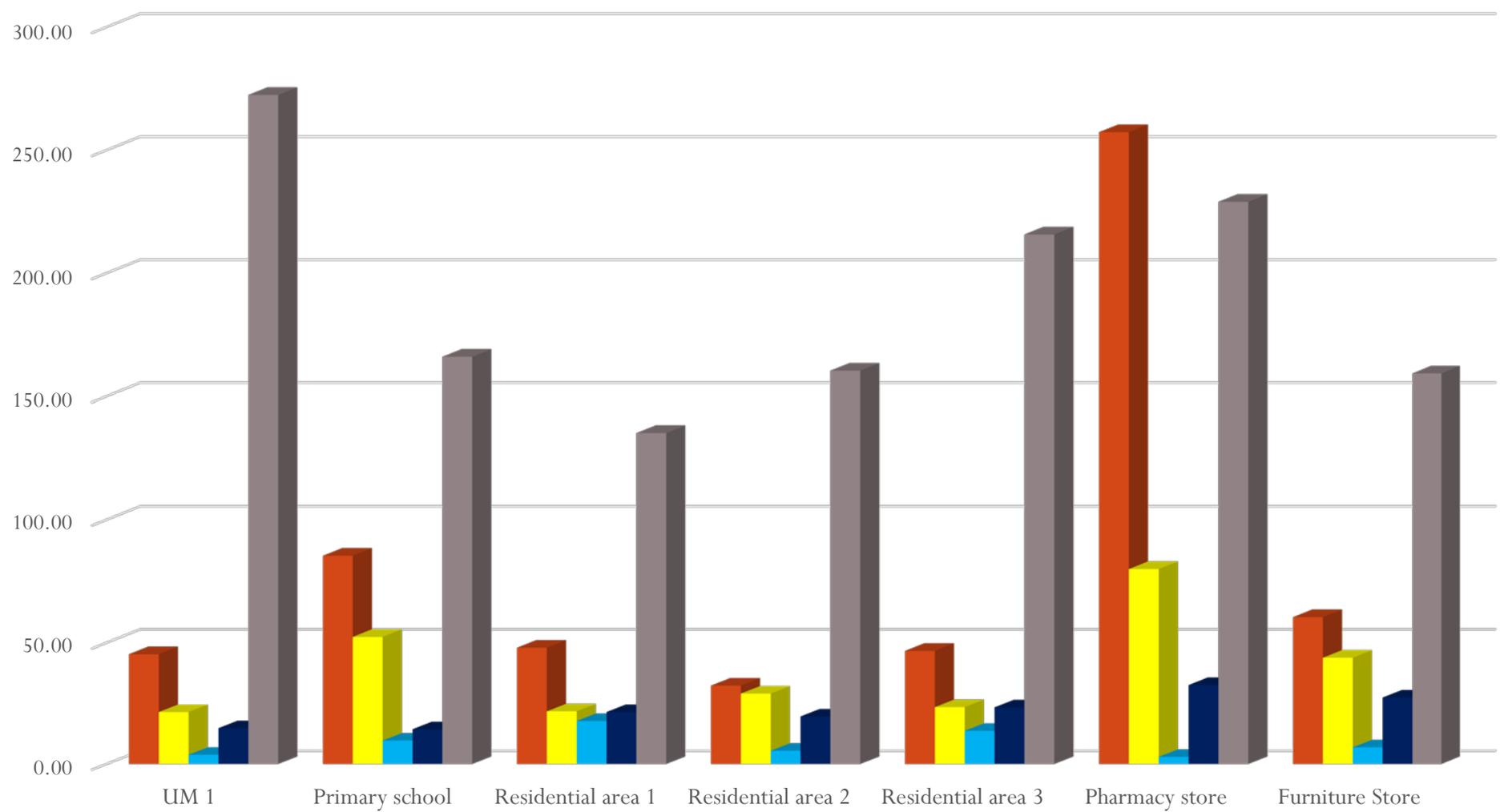


## Acidic gases ( $\text{NO}_2$ and $\text{SO}_2$ )

- Maximum concentration of indoor  $\text{NO}_2$  was  $28 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and minimum,  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
- Common sources of indoor  $\text{NO}_2$  : use of gas-stove and smoking.
- Indoor  $\text{SO}_2$  concentrations ranged between  $1.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and  $6.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
- No location use charcoal regularly for cooking that is a frequent indoor  $\text{SO}_2$  source.

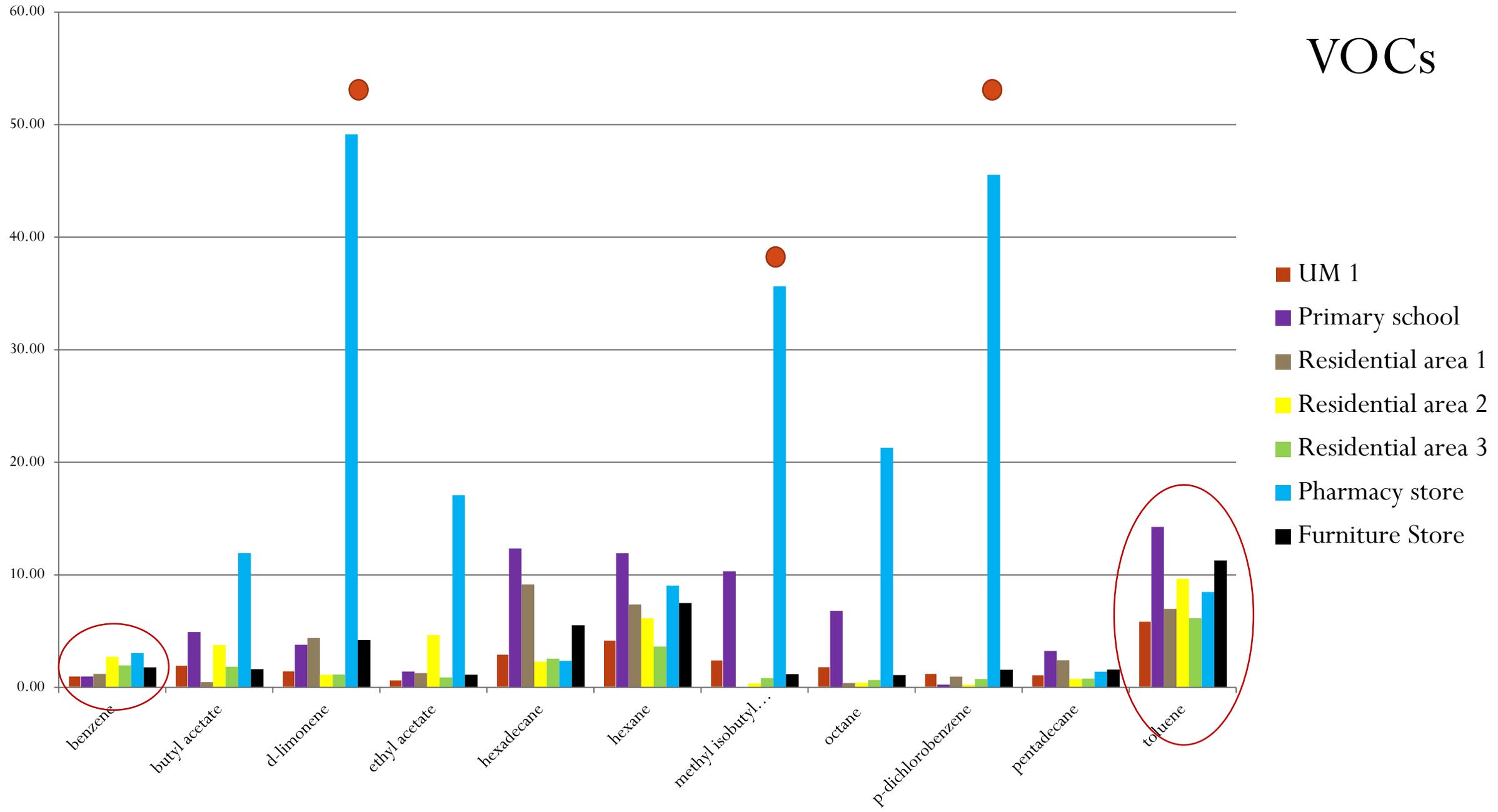
# Indoor gases: VOCs and Carbonyl compounds

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

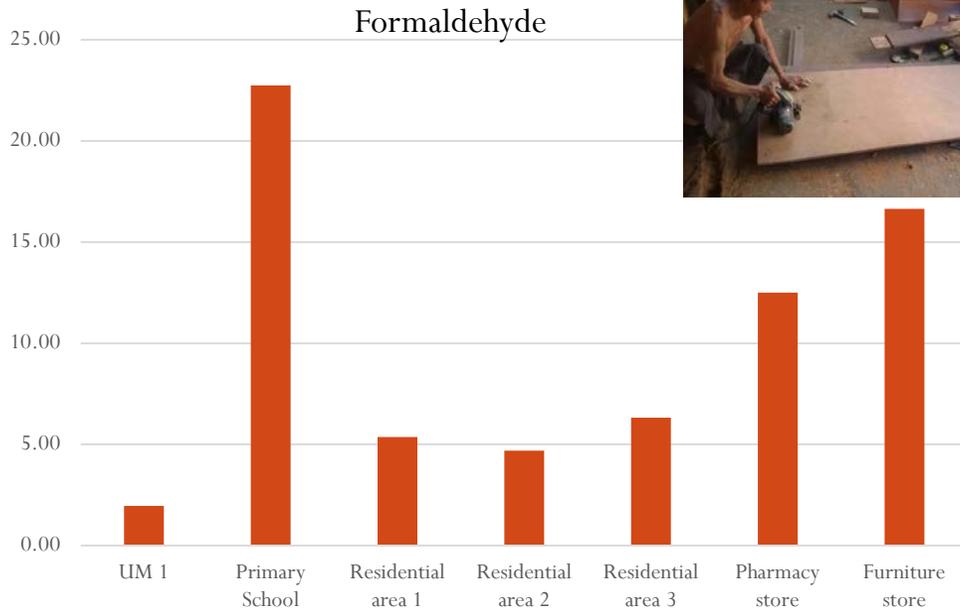


■ VOCs ■ Carbonyl compounds ■ Ozone ■ Acidic gases ■ Basic gases

# VOCs



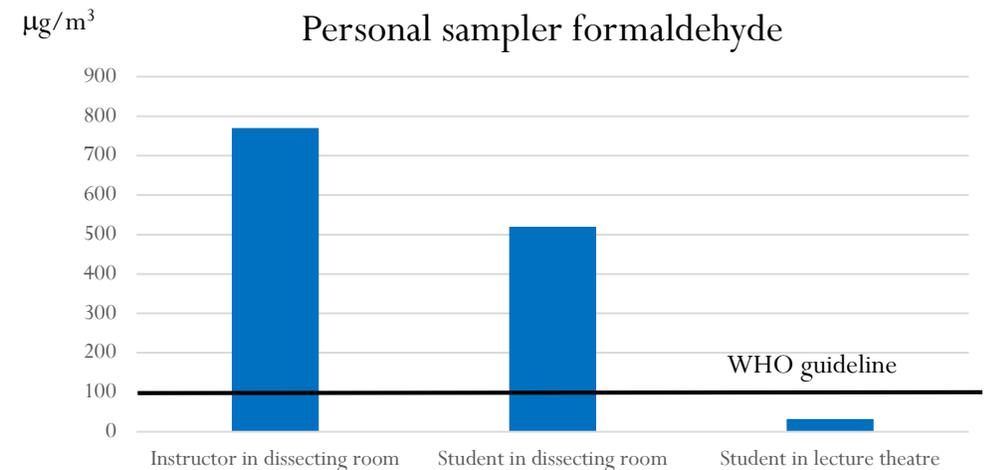
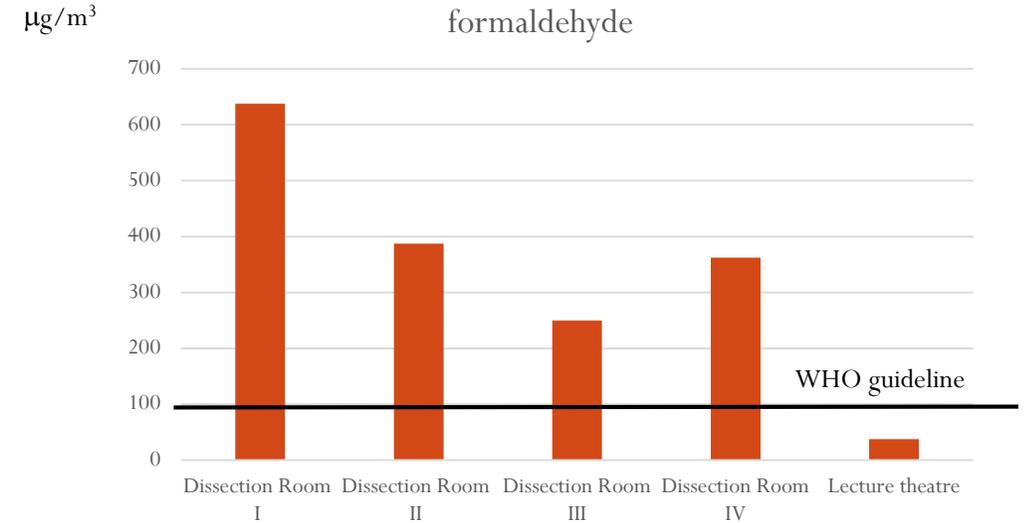
$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



- Indoor sources: combustion processes such as smoking, heating, cooking, or candle or incense burning
- Formaldehyde sources in indoor environments include:
  - furniture and wooden products containing formaldehyde-based resins such as particle board, plywood and medium-density fibreboard;
  - insulating materials; textiles;
  - products such as paints, wallpapers, glues, adhesives, varnishes and lacquers;
  - household cleaning products such as detergents, disinfectants, softeners, carpet cleaners and shoe products; cosmetics such as liquid soaps, shampoos, nail varnishes and nail hardeners;
  - electronic equipment, including computers and photocopiers; and other consumer items such as **insecticides** and paper products.

## Formaldehyde & Formalin

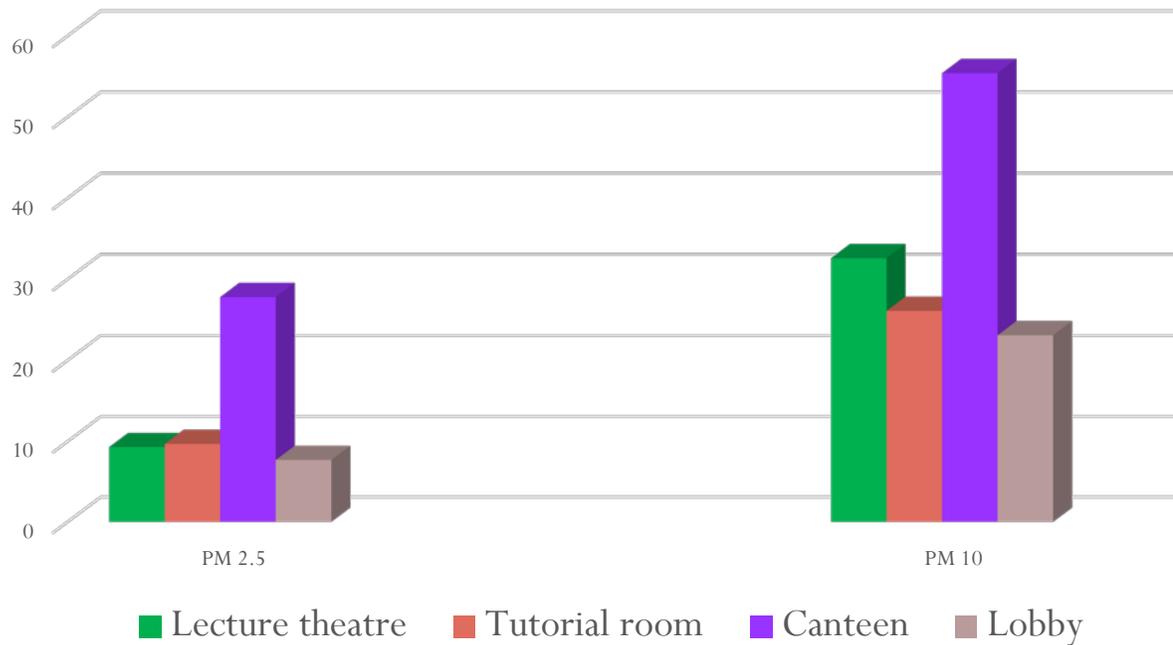
Assessment of indoor formaldehyde level in anatomy dissection rooms in UM 1 (2-h dissecting period)



# Indoor air quality (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) in Institutional Areas: UM 1, Primary schools

UM 1 (3-h recording)

- lecture theatre,
- tutorial rooms,
- canteen
- lobby

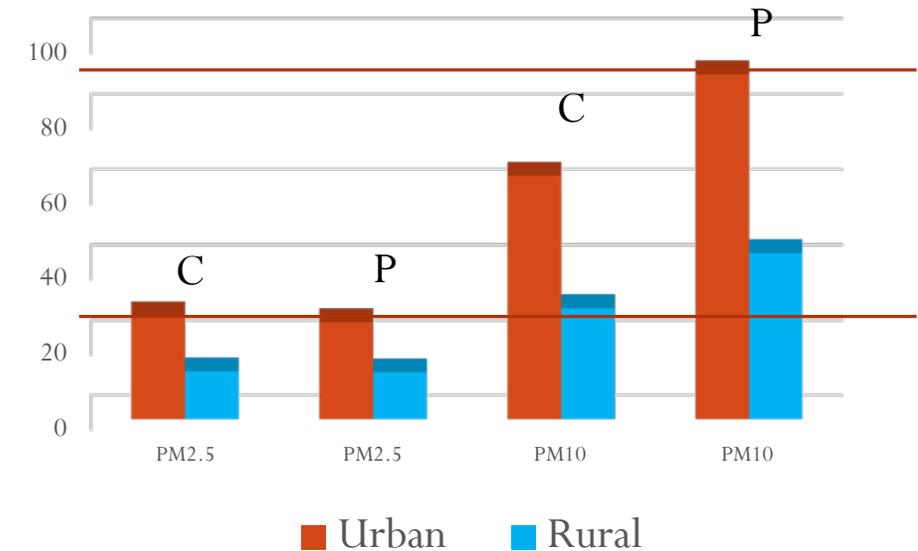


Primary schools

Urban: BEPS 1, Kamayut

Rural: BEPS, Yemon

- Class rooms (C),
- Play ground (P)



# Cooking-generated indoor pollutants: fuels



Gas  
clean  
easily available



Solid fuel e.g. charcoal  
expensive and less available  
dirty and messy



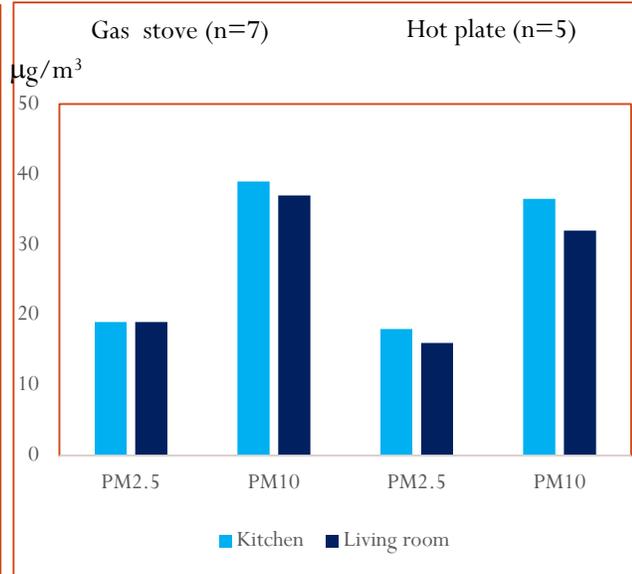
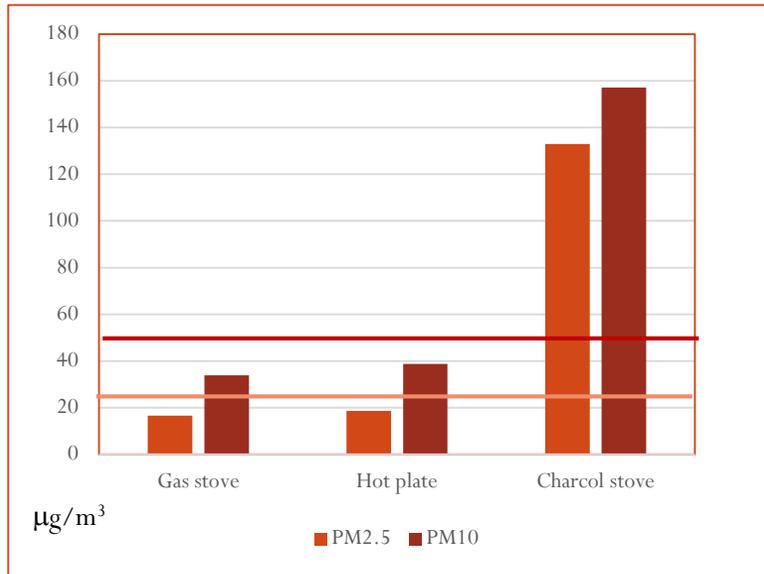
Electricity  
- cheaper  
- user friendly  
- easily available

# Cooking-generated indoor pollutants

- Pocket PM<sub>2.5</sub> Sensors (Yaguchi Electric Co., Ltd., Miyagi, Japan) were utilized for measurement of concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>.



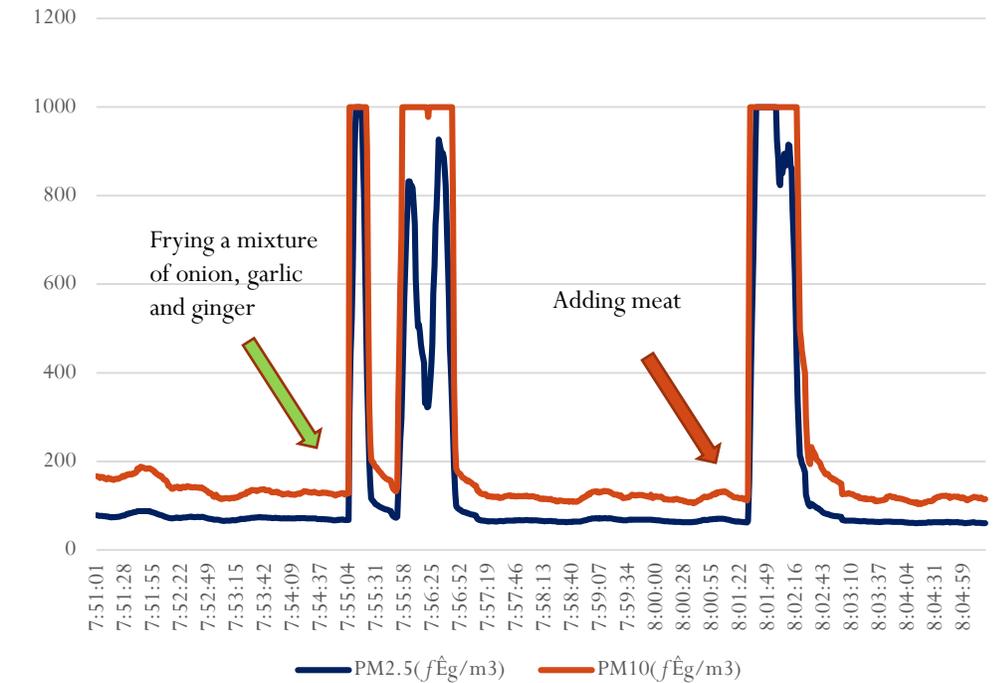
- Assess PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> level in kitchen and living room during boiling water for one hour



Cherry Maung et al.

Zarli Thant et al.

- Assess PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> level in kitchen during Myanmar-style cooking meat (15 minutes)



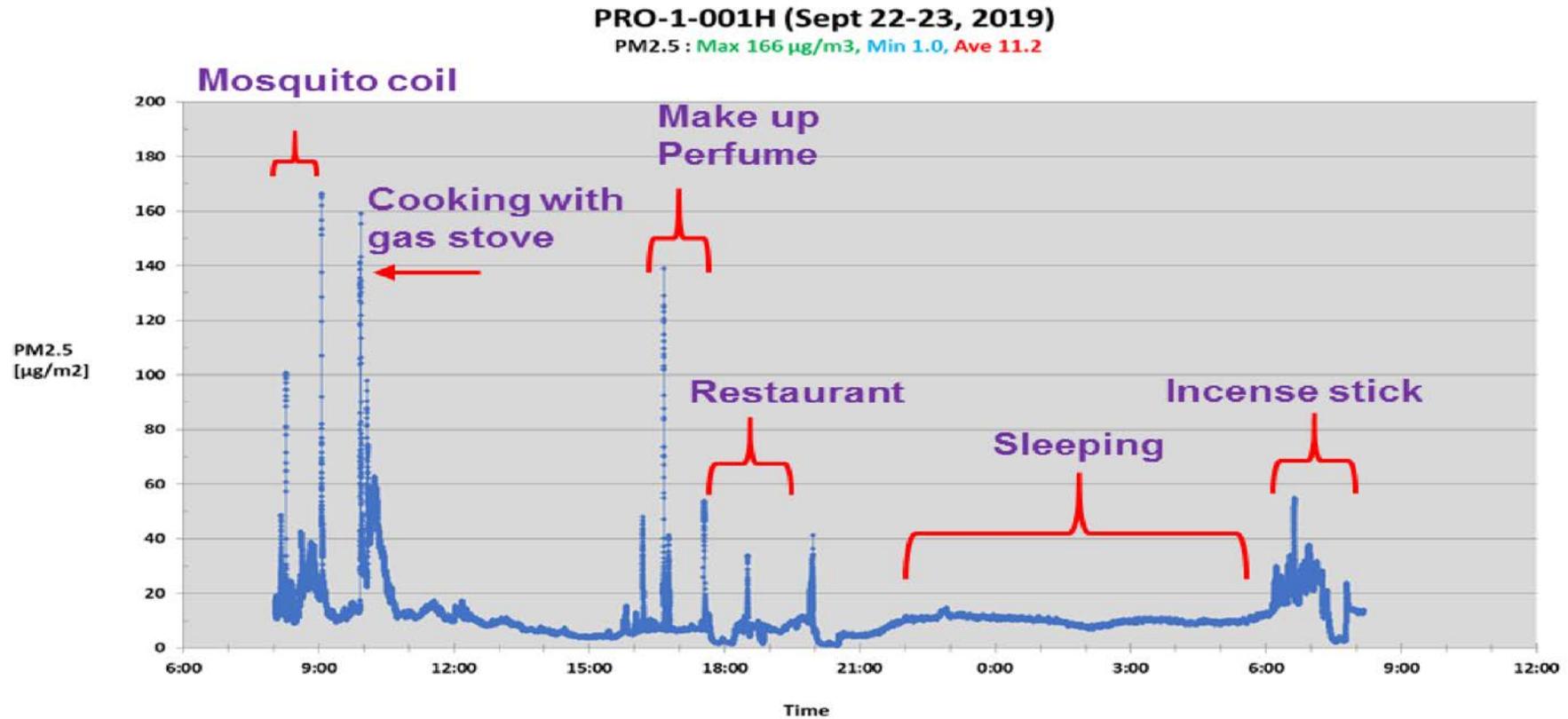
— PM<sub>2.5</sub> (fĒg/m3) — PM<sub>10</sub> (fĒg/m3)

# Personal exposure to PMs

- Housewives and career women
- GPS-attached pocket PM 2.5 sensor (Pro)
- both indoor and outdoor
- 24-h assessment

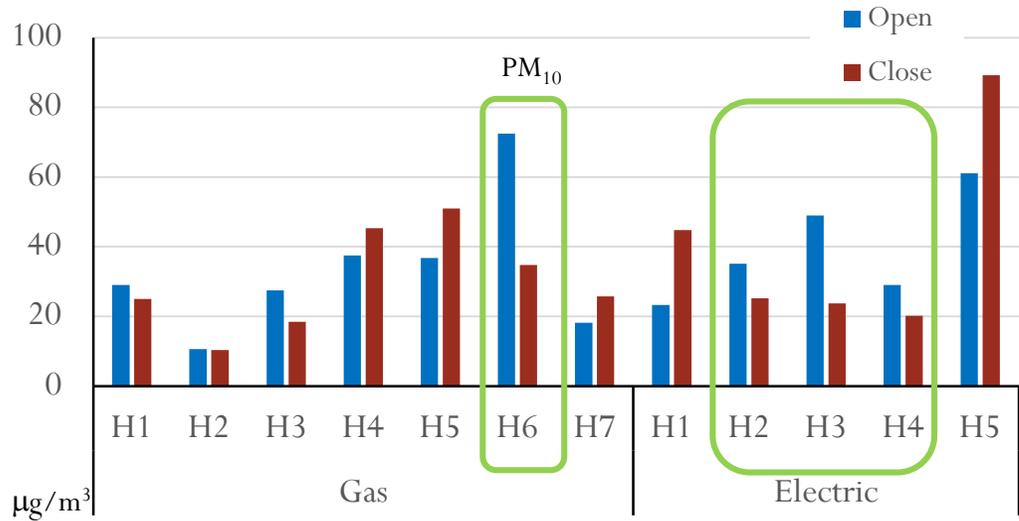


Average exposure level PM<sub>2.5</sub> level for 24 h  
Housewives:  $16.1 \pm 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
Career women:  $15.8 \pm 4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



# Although ventilation is good for IAQ

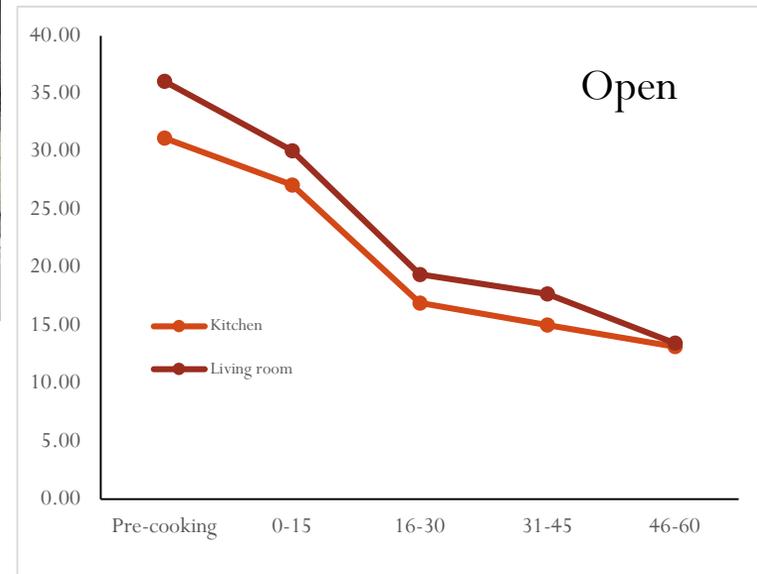
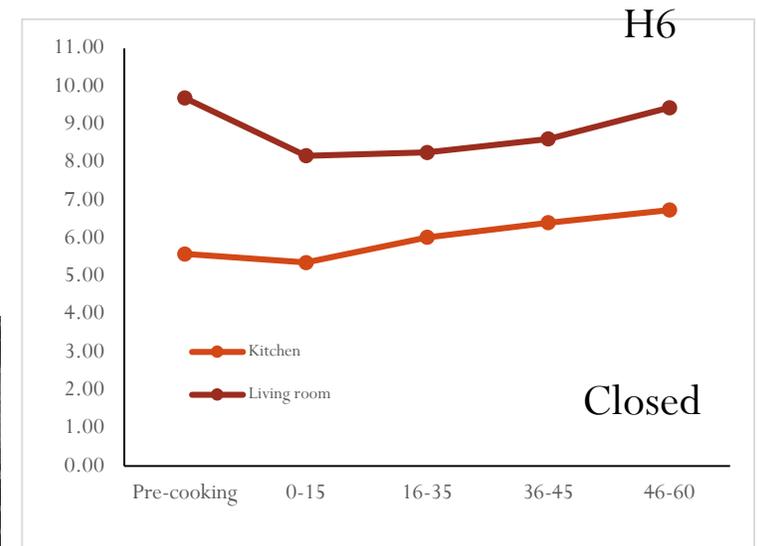
Natural ventilation



Zarli Thant et al.



Due to invasion of outdoor air inside



Exhaust fan for air ventilation

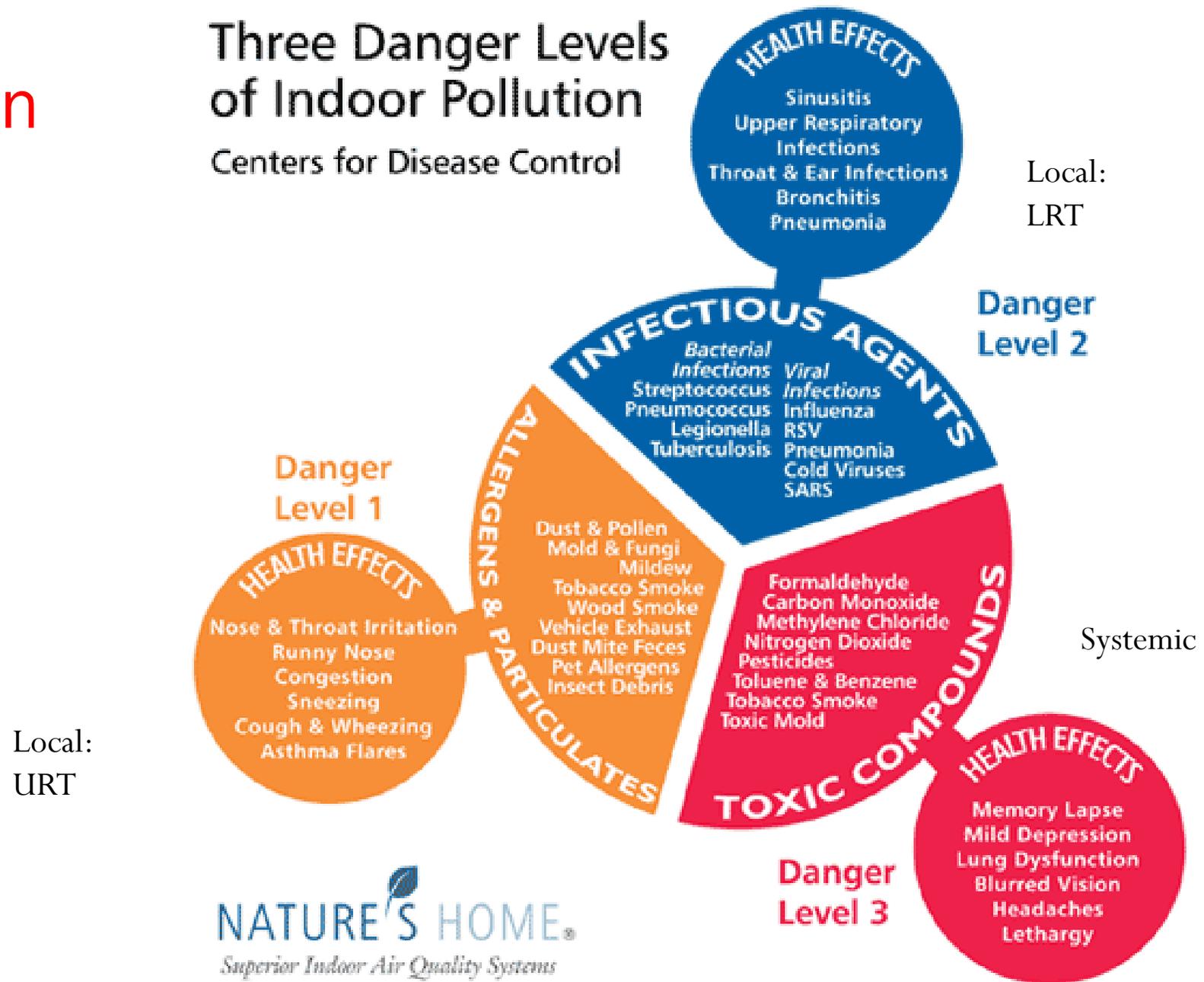
# Conclusion

- Regarding indoor air quality, it depends on indoor characteristics of the building.
- Some gases with important health impacts such as formaldehyde and toluene were recognized in indoor air of the selected locations.
- Occupation-related air pollutants are also detected in indoor air of the residence attached with shops.
- Cooking generated PMs production should be aware for indoor air quality.
- Ventilation and infiltration from outdoor sources are found having influence on indoor air concentrations.

# Conclusion

## Three Danger Levels of Indoor Pollution

Centers for Disease Control



# Acknowledgements



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**