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CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND  
NUCLEAR (CBRN) DETECTION AND ANALYSIS  
STRATEGIC SECURITY SCIENCES DIVISION  
POSTDOCTORAL APPOINTEE**

# EMERGENCY PHASE, MECHANICALLY INDUCED, PARTICLE RESUSPENSION AND RESUSPENSION STABILIZATION

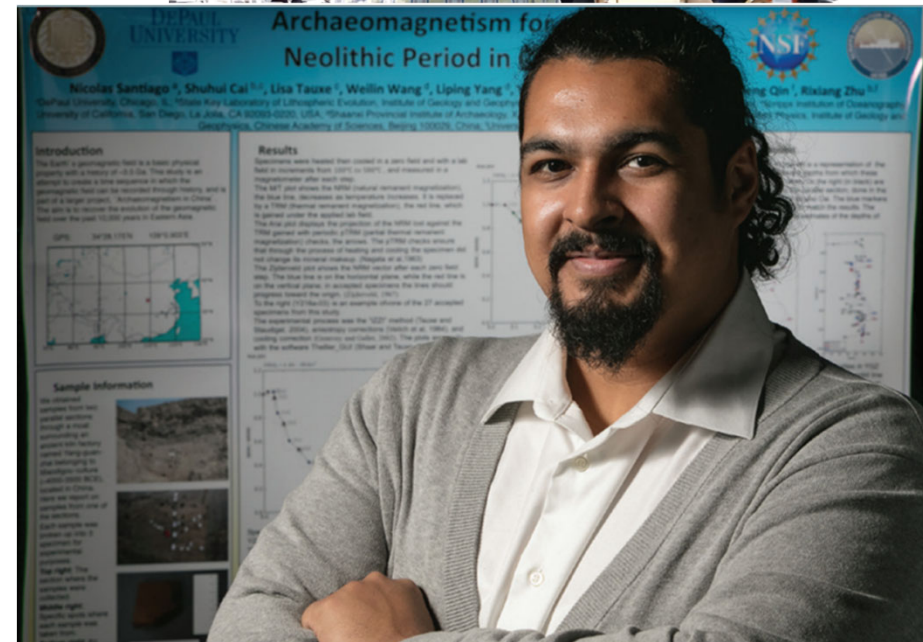
UIUC Physics - Careers Seminar

Nico Daiyega PhD

April 4, 2024

## PAST RESEARCH

- Moraine Valley Community College
- DePaul University
  - Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations
- University of California San Diego
  - “Archaeomagnetism for the Middle Neolithic Period in Central China”
    - 2016 SACNAS National Conference – Outstanding Research Presentation Award
    - 2016 DePaul Student Showcase – Poster Presentation Award
    - 2017 ILSAMP Conference – Outstanding Oral Presentation Award



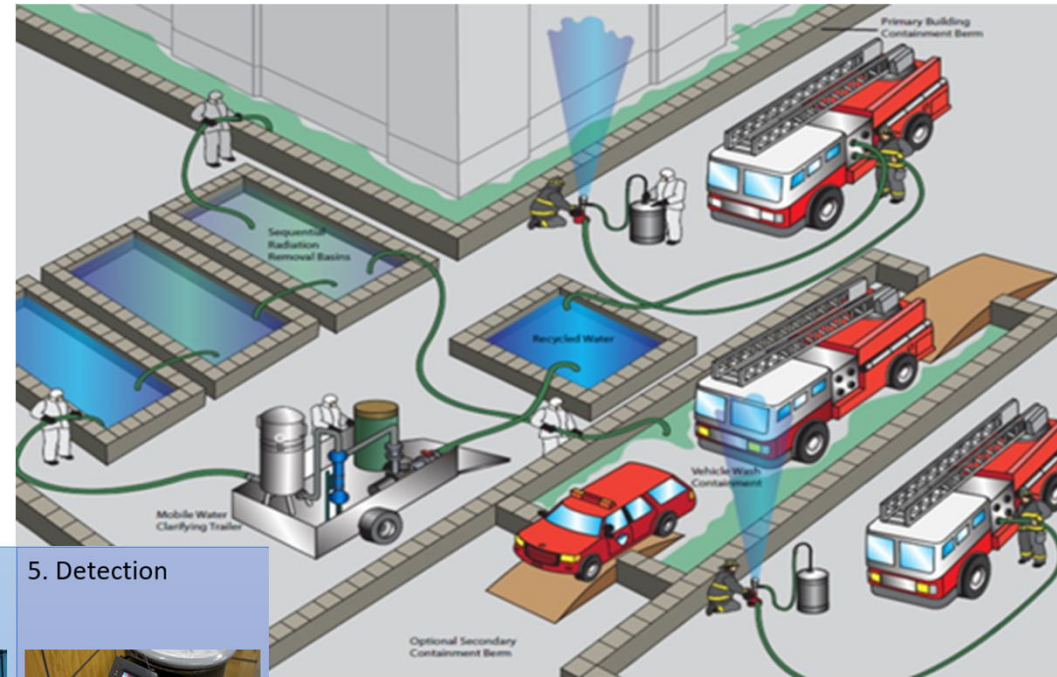
# PAST RESEARCH

- DePaul University Study Abroad
  - Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki



# PAST RESEARCH

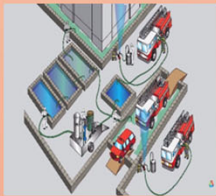
- Integrated Wash Aid Treatment Emergency Reuse System (IWATERS)
- Small scale decontamination



1. Large scale Decontamination



2. Small Scale Decontamination



3. Solid Waste



4. Liquid Waste



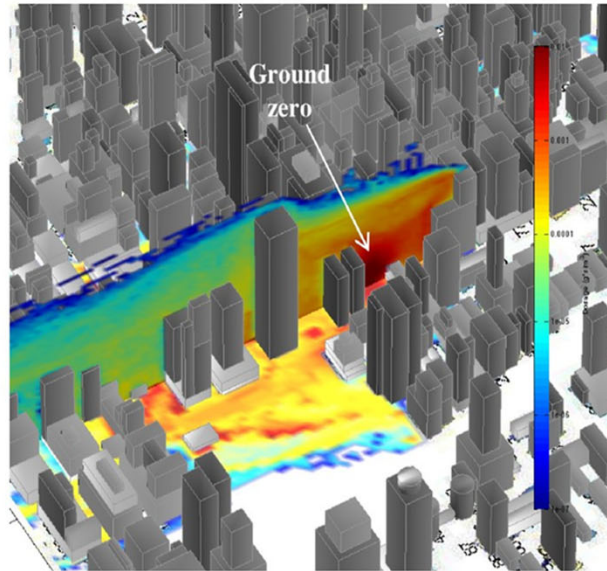
5. Detection



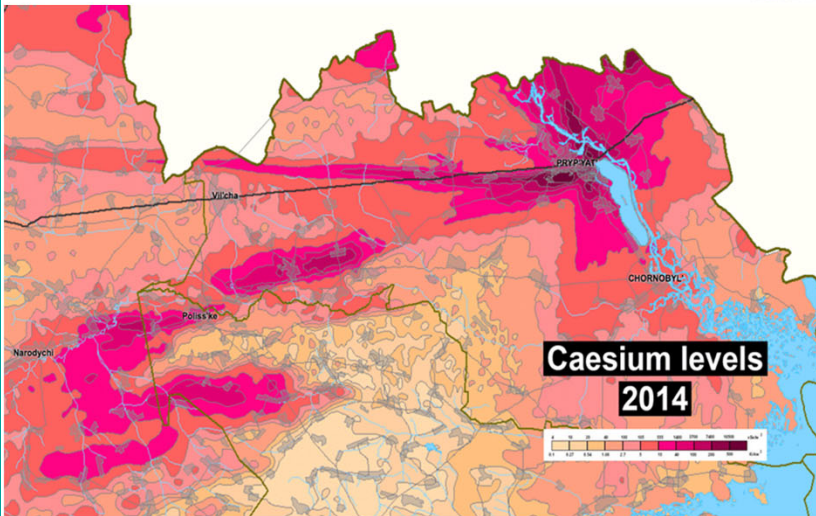
# Emergency Phase Events



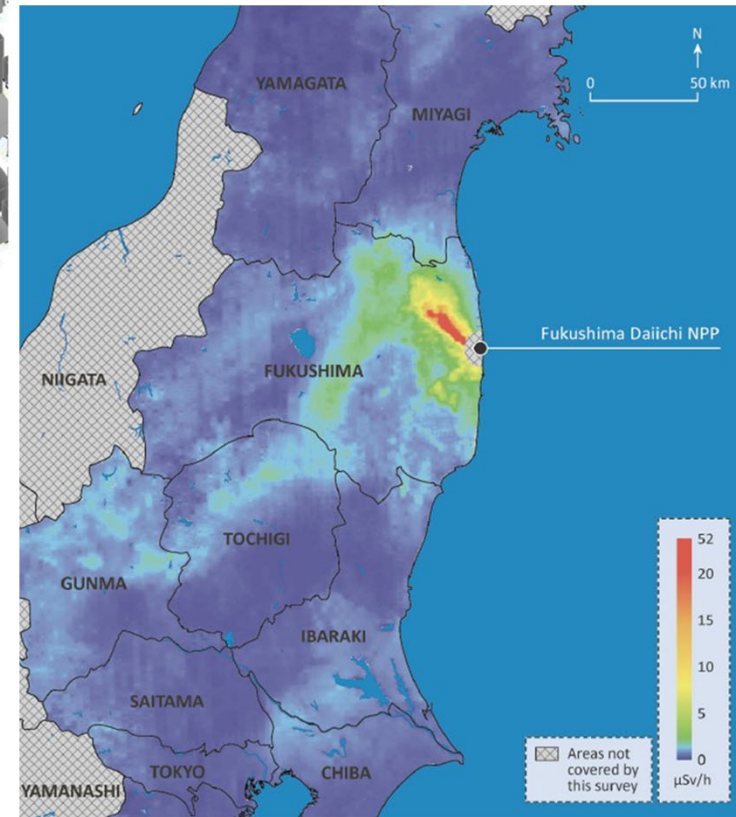
Atomic Bomb



(Simulated) Radiation Dispersal Device (RDD)



(Left) Radiation resuspension event



(Right) Nuclear Power Plant Meltdown

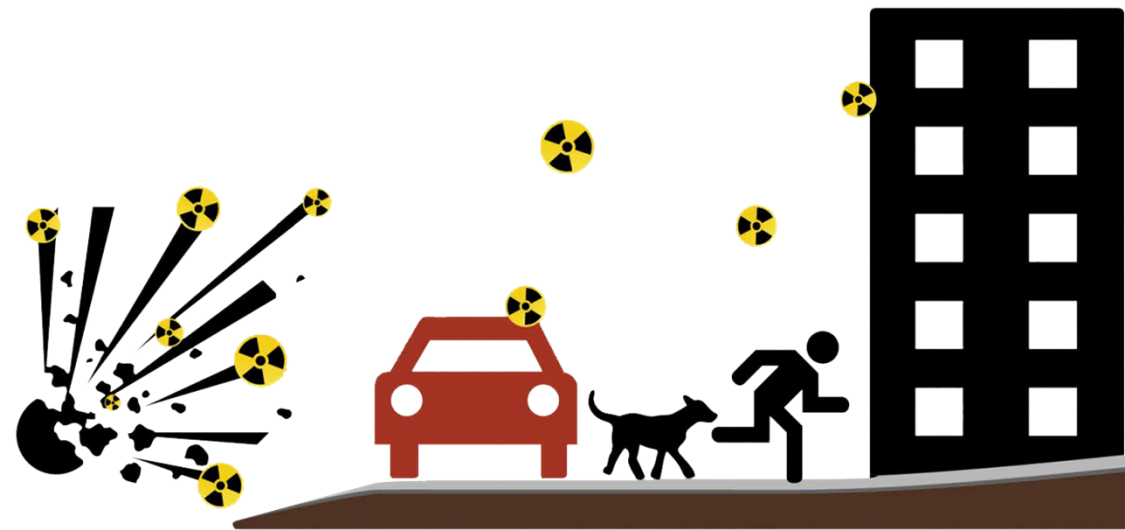
# CURRENT RESEARCH

- Current concerns
  - Fukushima
  - Chernobyl
    - After Russian deployment in Ukraine
    - Very few experts exist in this field
    - RDD response
- EPA
  - Currently working under projects for the EPA that will help advise on emergency evacuation and remediation procedures
    - Project for the EPA and National Homeland Security Research Center
- Possible RDD situation
  - An RDD would most likely be deployed in an urban environment
  - Current models use resuspension surface to specifically be soil
- Very few studies exist at all to explain **mechanically-induced** resuspension



# RESUSPENSION

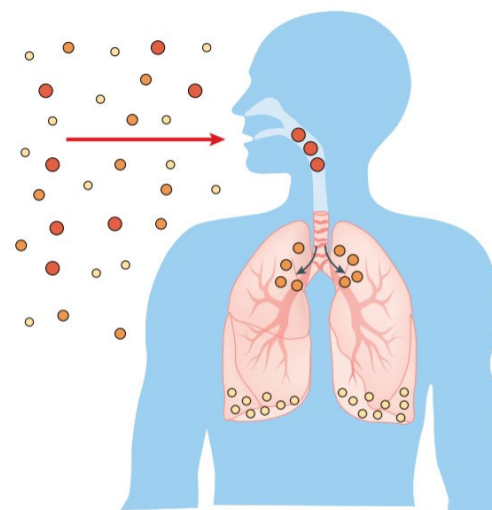
- **Emergency phase** nuclear events
  - Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD)
  - Improvised Nuclear Device (IND)
  - Nuclear reactor accident
  - Resuspension from closed areas (Chernobyl & Fukushima)
- Evacuations and personnel remediation efforts will be affected by **resuspension**
- Inhalation of resuspended radioactive particles
  - Radioactive particles can adhere to larger particles that are smaller than  $50\mu\text{m}$
  - Particles can resuspend and be inhaled





# PARTICLE SIZE DEPENDENCE

- Respirable particles
  - $>50\mu\text{m}$  particles
    - These particles will not reach respirable height through resuspension
  - 10 -  $50\mu\text{m}$  particles
    - These particles can be caught in the nasal and oral passageways.
  - 3.5 -  $10\mu\text{m}$  particles
    - These are able to be inhaled and do damage to the lungs and be deposited into the tracheal-bronchial tree
    - Including above effects from larger sizes
  - $< 3.5\mu\text{m}$  particles
    - These can deposit into the alveoli and lungs, which could cause major damage to the respiratory system
    - Including above effects from larger sizes

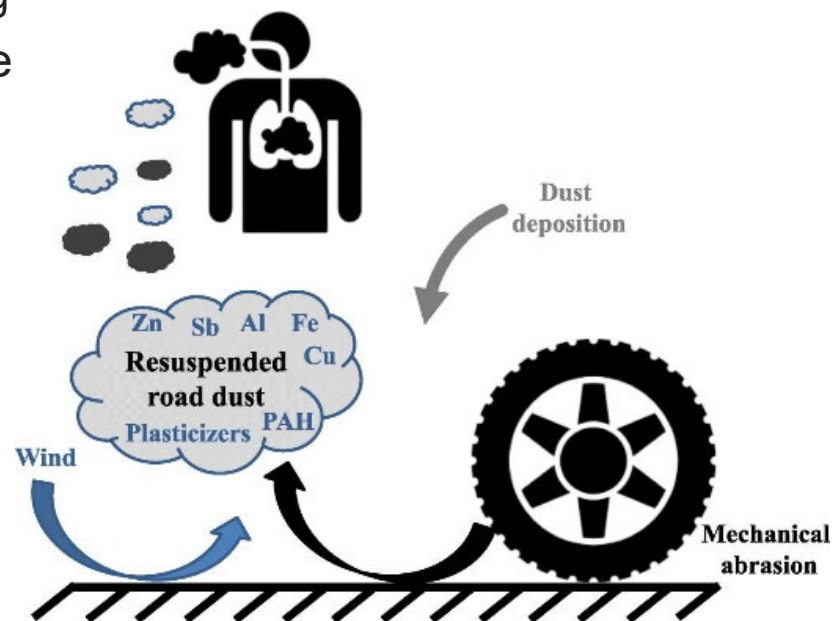


- 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  particle deposited in the alveolar region
- 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  particle deposited in the lung
- 10  $\mu\text{m}$  particle deposited in the mouth

**Examples of particle deposition into airways**

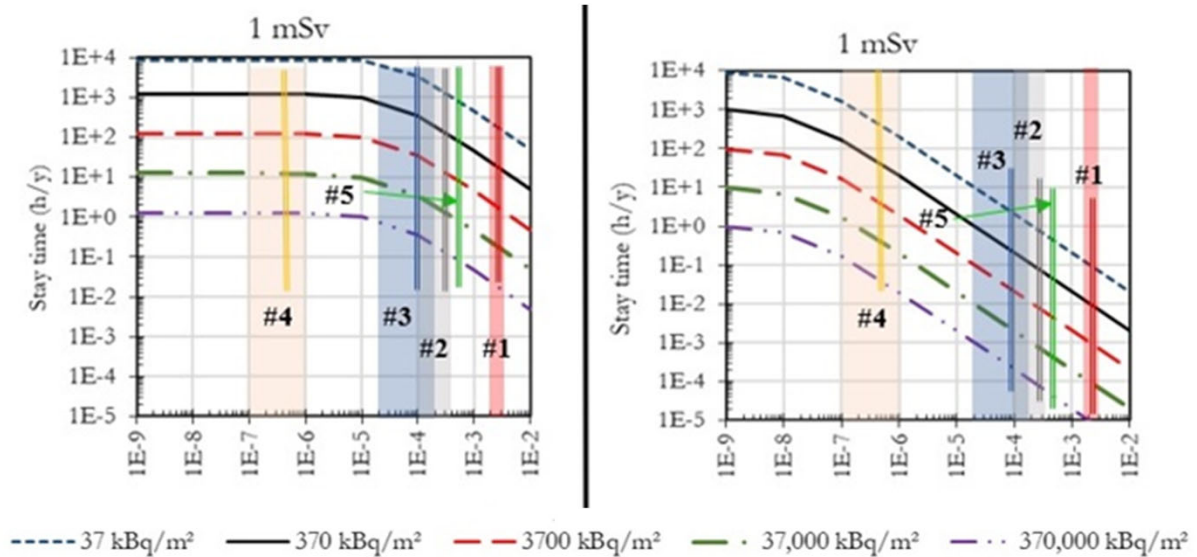
# MECHANICALLY-INDUCED RESUSPENSION

- Refers to a resuspension of particles due to a physical process and not by environmental factors
  - Does not include resuspension due to wind, rain, or other weather-based events
  - Largely dominated in urban areas by vehicle traffic, then pedestrian traffic, saltation, and surface creeping
- Radioactive particles (usually  $< 3.5\mu\text{m}$ ) will adhere to common roadway materials (1 - 1000 $\mu\text{m}$ )
  - These include:
    - abraded tire
    - dislodged pavement
    - recycling pollutant particles
  - These materials can be:
    - Resuspended and inhaled ( $< 50\mu\text{m}$  particles)
      - Particles that are  $50\mu\text{m}$  or smaller are not moved when effected solely by wind.
    - Saltation (100-500 $\mu\text{m}$  particles)
      - Could resuspend smaller particles
    - Surface Creep (500-1000 $\mu\text{m}$  particles)
      - Could resuspend smaller particles



# STAY-TIME ANALYSIS

- Graph shows Stay-times in hours vs. Resuspension factors
  - This graph shows the importance of having accurate data for resuspension factor.
  - Having incorrect resuspension factors can lead to drastically different stay times for evacuation and clean up efforts.



- Stay times calculated by RESRAD-RDD for
  - <sup>137</sup>Cs (left panel)
  - <sup>241</sup>Am (right panel)
    - 1 mSv/yr is the dose limit for the public

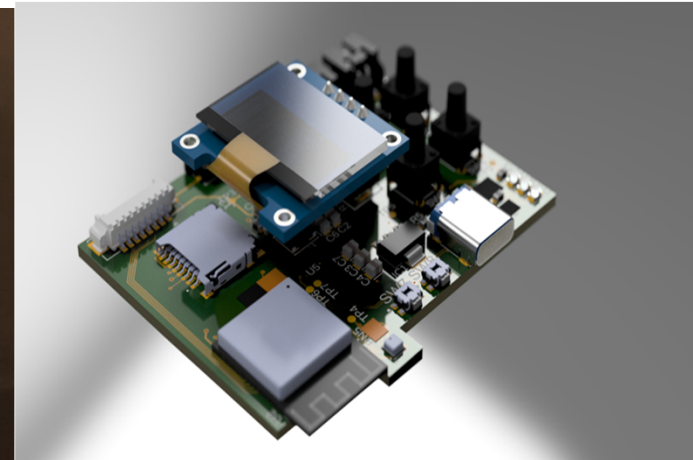
Condition #	Disturbance type	Condition for Use	Recommended Resuspension Factor (m <sup>-1</sup> )	Mean value (m <sup>-1</sup> )
1	Vehicle	Fresh contamination from 0-4 days	2.7x10 <sup>-3</sup> -4.5x10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.2x10 <sup>-3</sup>
2	Vehicle	After many vehicle passes*	1x10 <sup>-4</sup> -4x10 <sup>-4</sup>	3.2x10 <sup>-4</sup>
3	Vehicle	Fresh contamination 4-30 days†	2x10 <sup>-5</sup> -2x10 <sup>-4</sup>	9.8x10 <sup>-5</sup>
4	Vehicle	Fresh contamination >30 days	1x10 <sup>-7</sup> -1x10 <sup>-6</sup>	5x10 <sup>-7</sup>
5	Pedestrian	Fresh contamination (no time limit) with continuous human activity	5x10 <sup>-4</sup>	NA

# PARTICLE SENSORS

- Particle sensors
  - Display live readouts
  - Quick assessment of data
- Particle sensors used:
  - TSI DustTrak DRX 8533-EP
    - PM 1.0, 2.5, 4.0, 10, >10
    - \$10,000-\$15,000
    - **Flaws:**
      - Very expensive
      - Proprietary counting algorithm
  - Purple Air PA-II
    - PM 1.0, 2.5, 10
    - ~\$300
    - **Flaws:**
      - Many
  - Self-made custom particle counter
    - PM 1.0, 2.5, 10
    - ~\$100 in components



TSI DustTrak DRX 8533-EP, Field adapted unit.



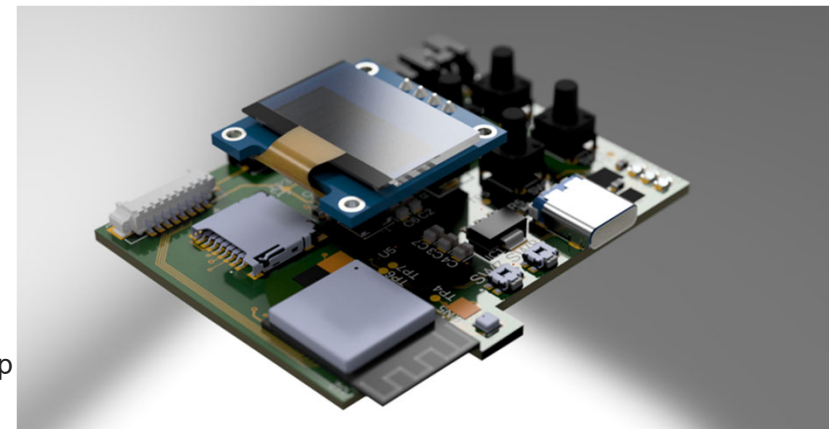
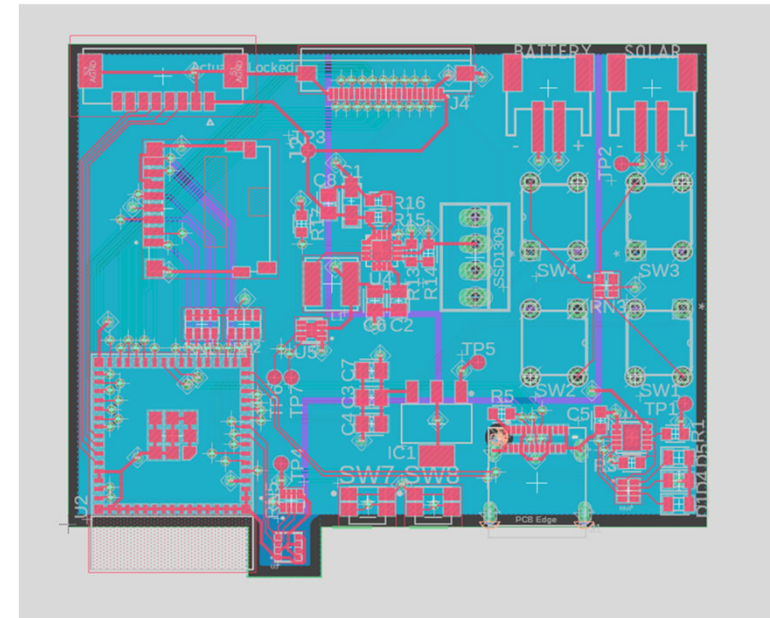
(Left) Purple Air PA-II; (Right) Custom particle counter

# CUSTOM PARTICLE COUNTER (CPC)

**CPC was used in-lab to test the efficiency with mono sized particles.**

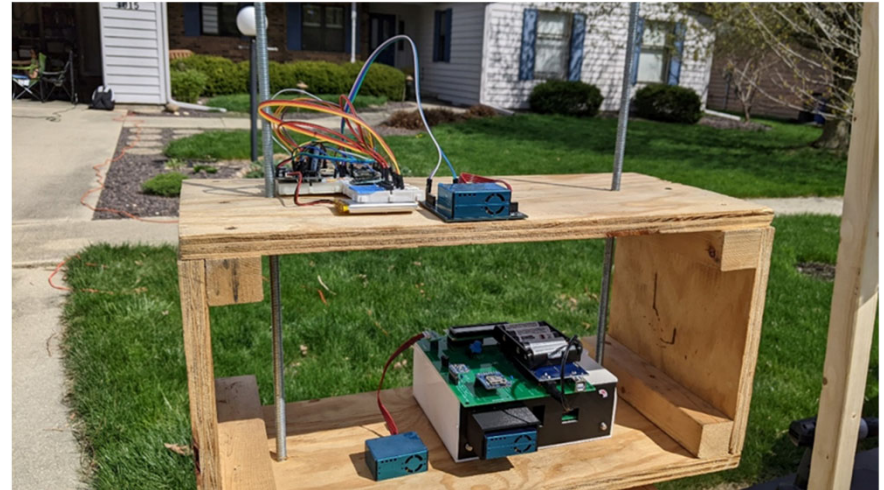
## Components

- Printed Circuit Board (PCB)
  - All circuitry and board was designed in Fusion 360
- ESP-32-S3-MINI-1
  - WIFI enabled controller chip
    - Used to store programming that controls all components
    - Programmed in Arduino IDE
- Plantower PMS5003
  - Particle counts
  - Intake of 0.1L/min
  - PM 1.0, 2.5, 10
  - Measures in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- BME 280
  - Temperature, pressure, and humidity
- Micro SD card reader
- USB-C connector
  - Charging/Power
- USB MCP738873 Battery operation manager
  - Allows for charging battery through USB-C or through solar panel port
- Display and buttons
  - Displays current readings, can be controlled through buttons to start/stop running, connect to WIFI, display battery life, and display temperature, pressure, and humidity.

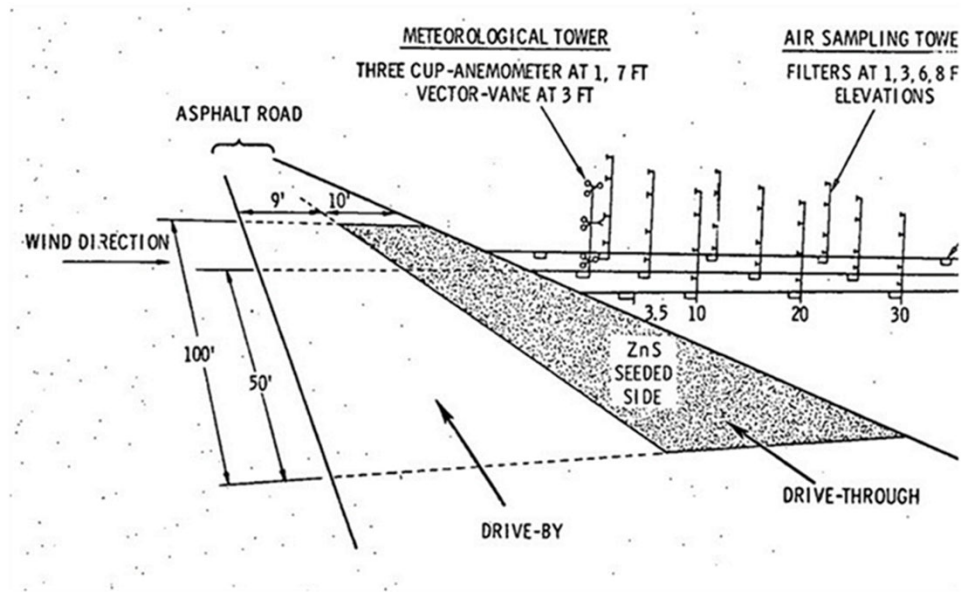


# VEHICLE FIELD EXPERIMENTS

- These experiments were the first of their kind in over 30 years
  - since Nicholson in 1989, Sehmel 1973
- The purpose of these studies was to:
  - Evaluate experimental methods and design a template for future experiments
  - Evaluate the DRX and CPC in the field
  - Instructional use for Phys 371 Laboratory at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
    - Students were guided with creation of their own simplified custom particle counters
    - Helped with the setup and data acquisition during this field study



# FIELD STUDY RESULTS



Trial	Loading Weight [mg]	Surface Area Concentration [mg/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Maximum Air Concentration measured [mg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Maximum Resuspension factor ( $S_f$ )	Average Air Concentration measured [mg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Average Resuspension factor ( $S_f$ )
DRX Seeded road #1	662446	356526	0.016	4.49E-08	0.004	1.12E-08
DRX Seeded road #2	662446	356526	0.038	1.07E-07	0.004	1.12E-08
CPC Seeded road #1	662446	356526	0.020	5.61E-08	0.012	3.37E-08
CPC Seeded road #2	662446	356526	0.020	5.61E-08	0.015	4.21E-08

# INVOLVEMENT & ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

- Nuclear Technologies and National Security (NTNS)  
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility (DEIA) Council Member
- Hispanic/ Latino Club (HLC) Employee Resource Group (ERG)  
Vice President
- Lab Manager (x2)
- Radioactive Training Exercises
- Inspection Device Research & Exercises
- Tampering Device Research
- Remediation, Evacuation, and **Stabilization** Research



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END...

QUESTIONS?