

LISTEN TO AIR POLLUTION

by Carla Terboven

Why does air pollution matter?

Air pollution is generated by emissions from road traffic, power plants, heaters, and many other sources. It brings critical health and climate problems even though it is invisible.

The project "Listen To Air Pollution" makes people more aware of the air quality in their daily life by sonifying air pollution data in real-time with a portable device.

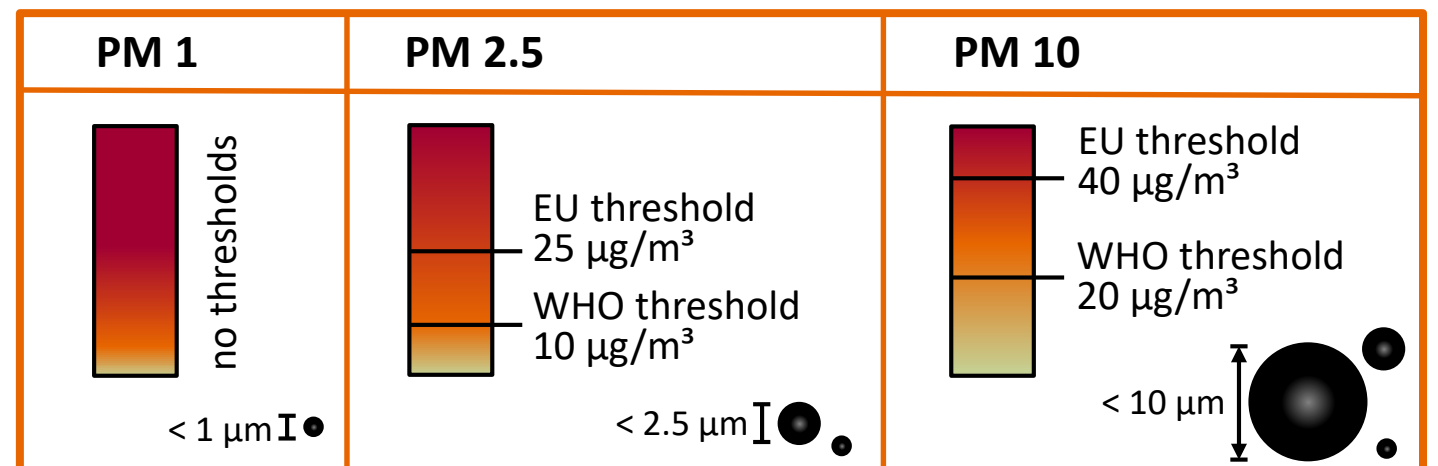


Fig. 1: Categorization of particulate matter (PM, "Feinstaub").
Comparison: The diameter of human hair is 50 - 70 µm.

I want to enable people to hear what is already around them.
I want people to hear the air pollution they are exposed to.

Live data, collected by a sensor, is directly sonified and presented to the user via headphones. This gives the user the possibility to perceive an invisible phenomenon.

But what is the sound of air pollution?

- Audio based on samples with connection to air.
- Each degree of pollution has its specific sound.
- 4 sonification concepts for individual experience.

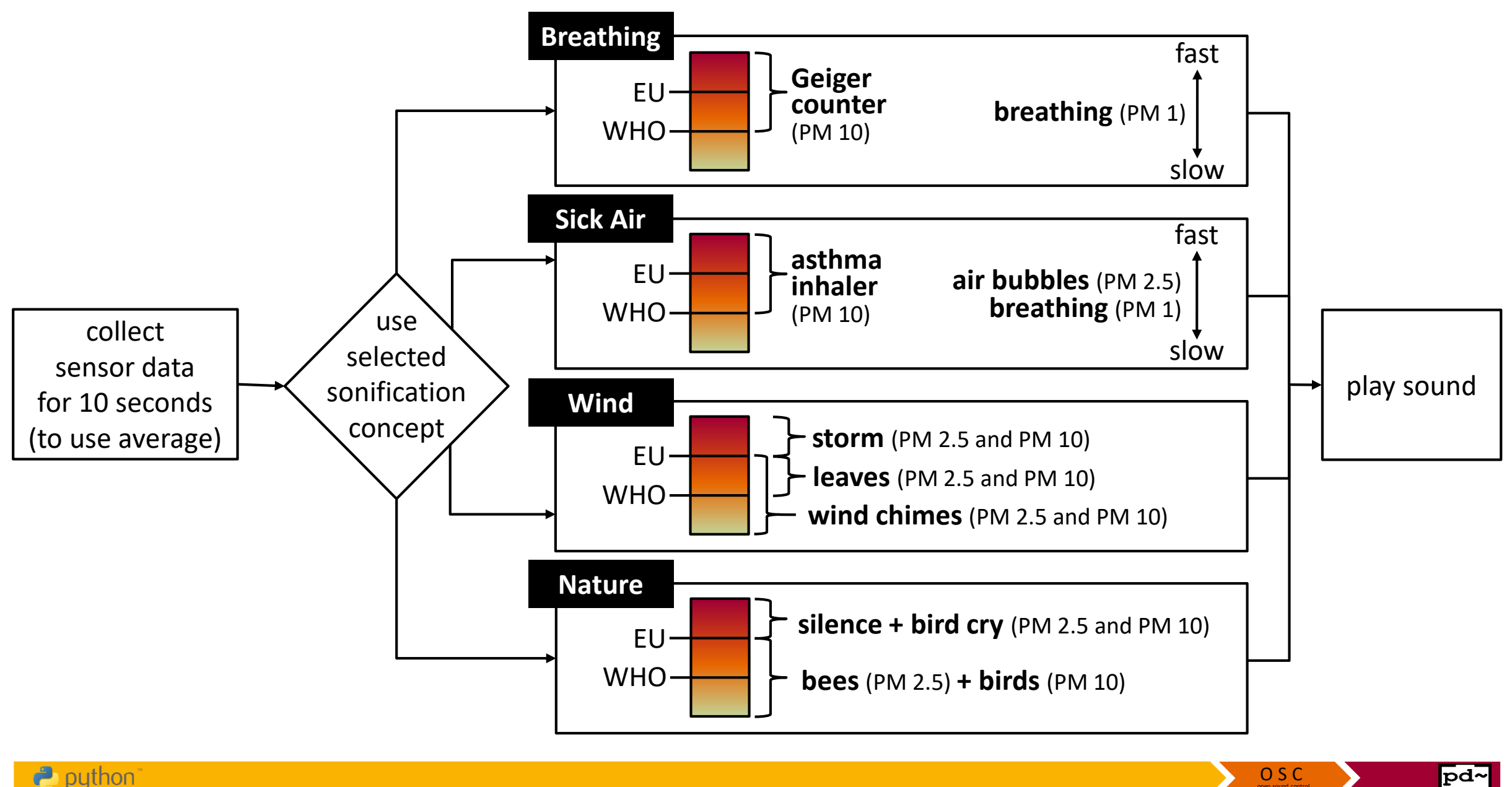


Fig. 2: Workflow from PM data to sound. All logical processing steps are done with python.

Please provide feedback here



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Web/Code: https://github.com/carlaterboven/listen_to_air_pollution

Source Code

