

# Indoor corrosivity in museums and archives assessment: standards and recommendations

Mandana Saheb and Michel Dubus,  
Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Musées de France  
Palais du Louvre, Porte des Lions,  
14, quai François Mitterrand, 75001 Paris

# Problematics

- Why this compilation of standards and recommendations data?
  - Tool to estimate the indoor air quality in museums and archives
- Classification of corrosivity of indoor atmosphere
  - identification of the corrosion attack on standard specimens
  - or based on the knowledge of humidity, temperature and pollution conditions

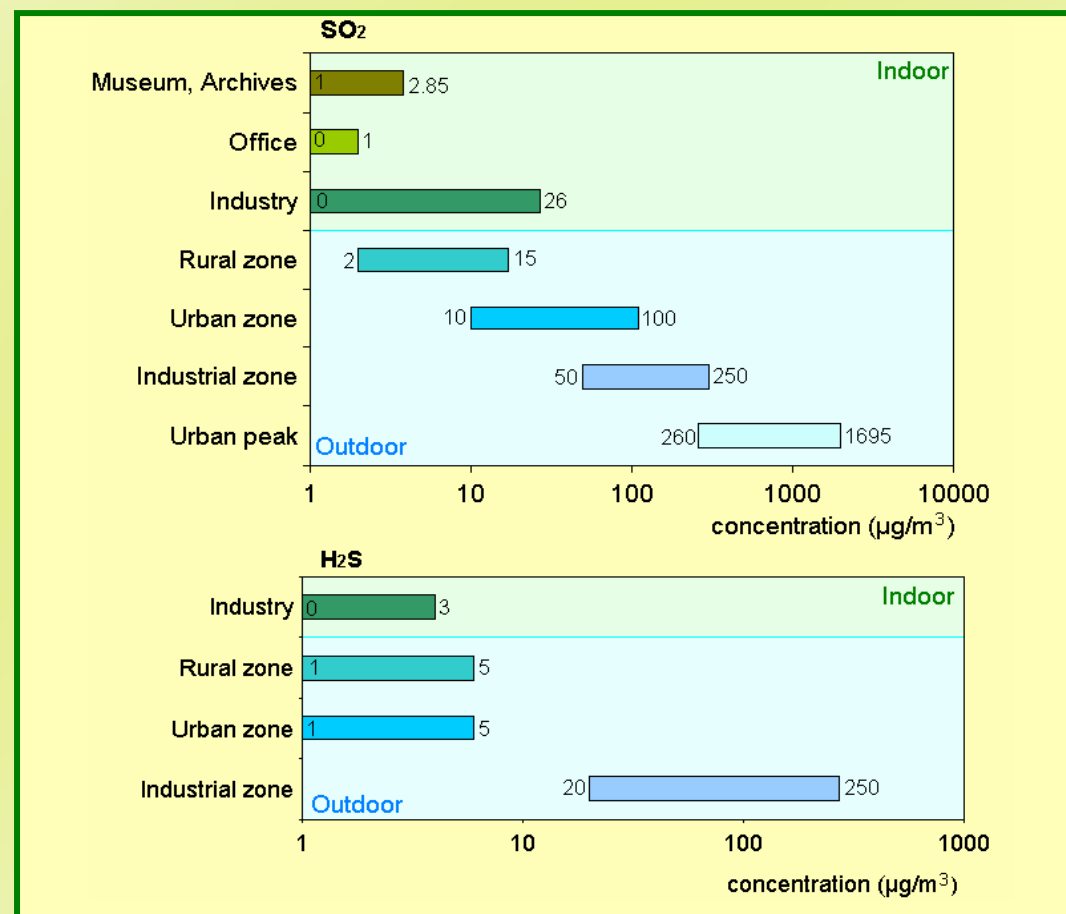
# Standards and recommendations references

- ISO 9223
  - Mass loss on several metals after one year exposure
- ISA-S71.04-1985
  - Copper corrosion film thickness after 30 days exposure in industrial zones
- ISO/DIS 11844-1
  - Corrosion rate by mass change (loss and gain) on copper and silver
  - Spans of pollutant concentrations in rural, urban and industrial zones
- Livio de Santoli, Evandro Sacchi, Antonio Prina, Chris Muller\*
  - Corrosion film thickness after 30 days exposure
  - Levels and peaks of gaseous pollutants in urban areas

\* Control strategies for gaseous contamination in museums: a new method for assessing environmental risk, INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP - ROMA 7 MAGGIO 2005, INDOOR ENVIRONMENT QUALITY IN MUSEUMS - LA QUALITA' DELL'AMBIENTE NEI MUSEI 7 mai 2005

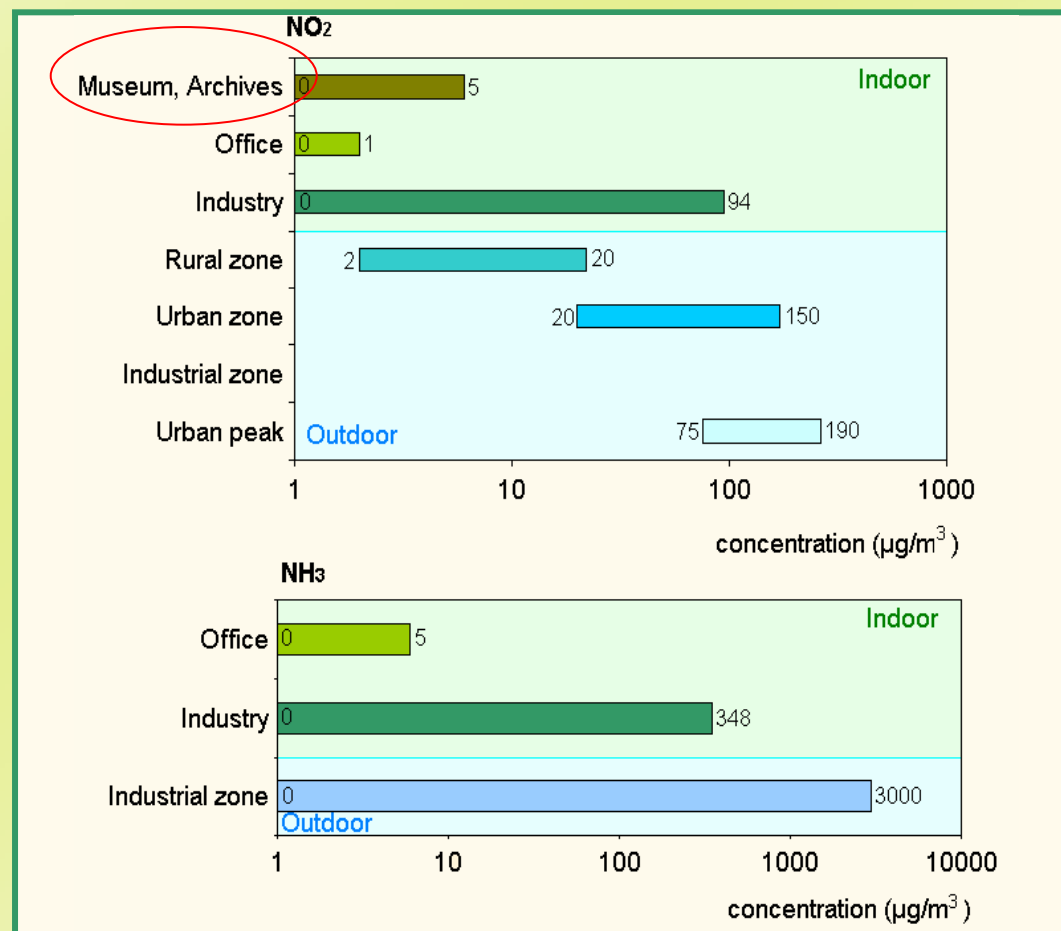
# Sulfur compounds

- $\text{SO}_2$ 
  - Combustion products of sulfur-bearing fossil fuels
  
- $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ 
  - One of the predominant causes of atmospheric corrosion in the process industries



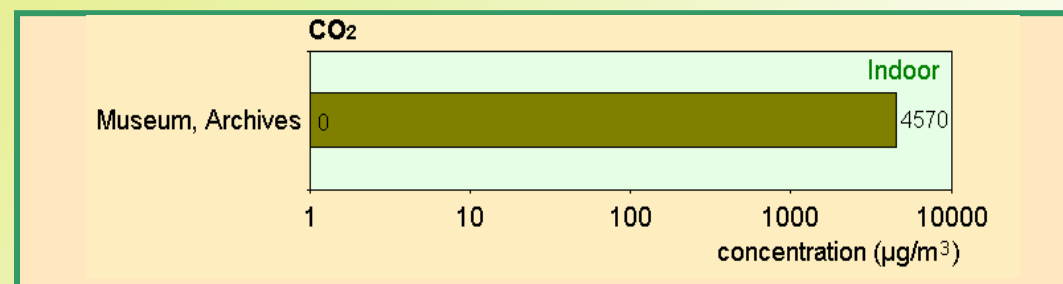
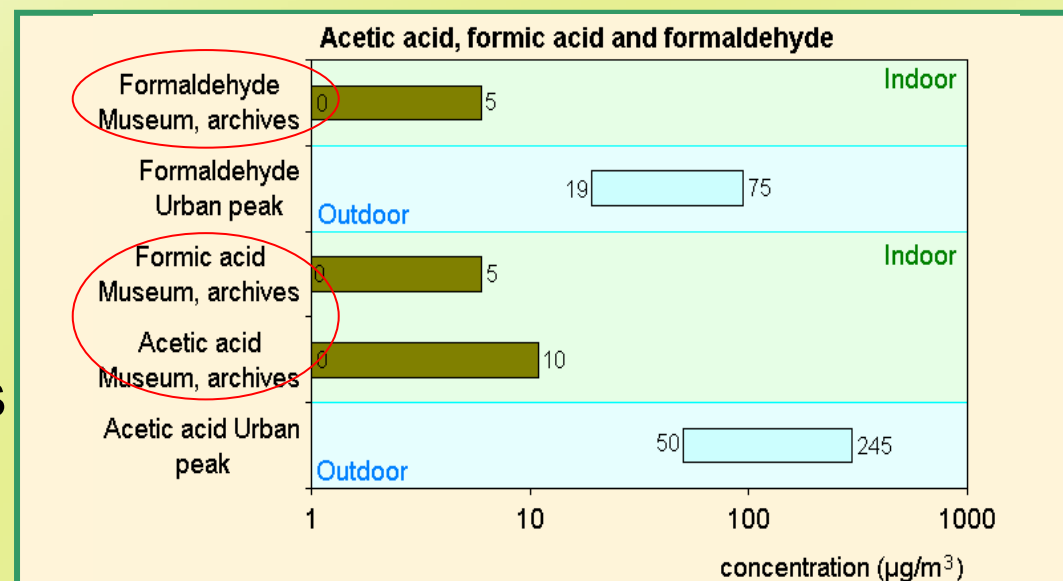
# Nitrogen compounds

- $\text{NO}_x$ 
  - Combustion products of fossil fuels
  - Catalytic effect on corrosion
  
- $\text{NH}_3$ 
  - Fertilizer plants, agricultural applications and chemical plants



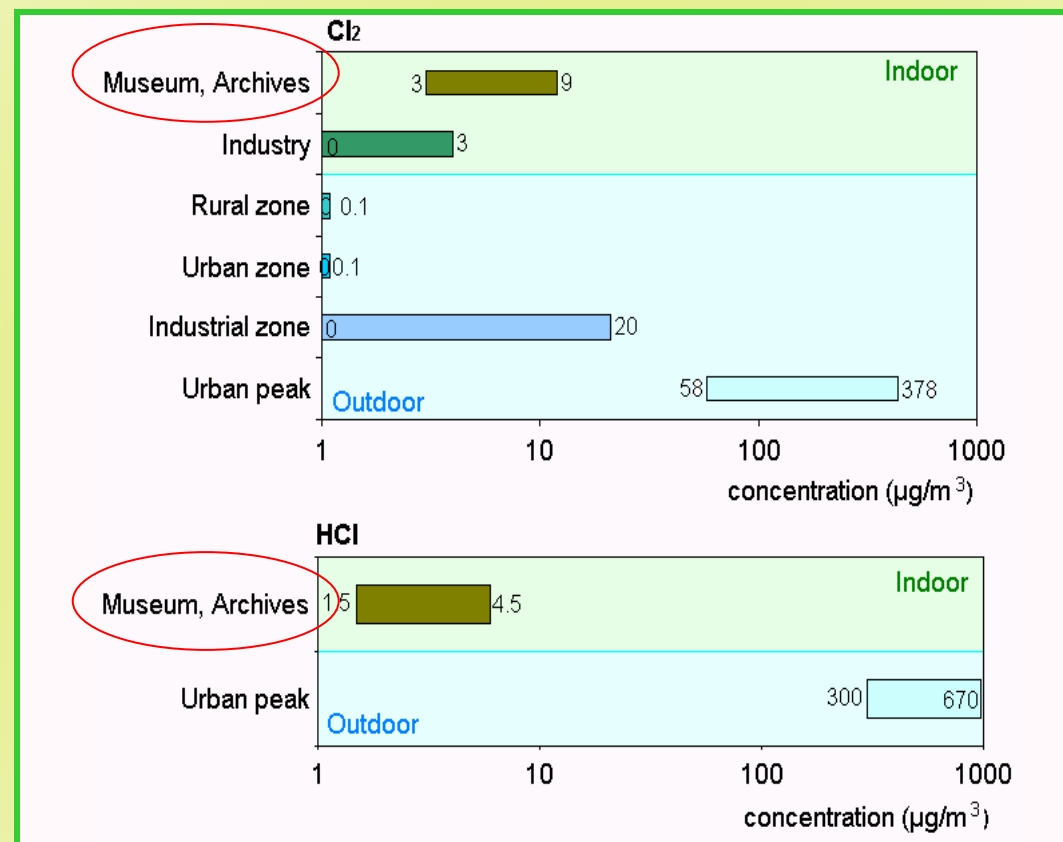
# Volatil organic compounds and carbon dioxide

- Volatil organic compounds
  - Paints and lacquers
  - Wood and mediums
  
- CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Human presence
  - Incomplete combustion



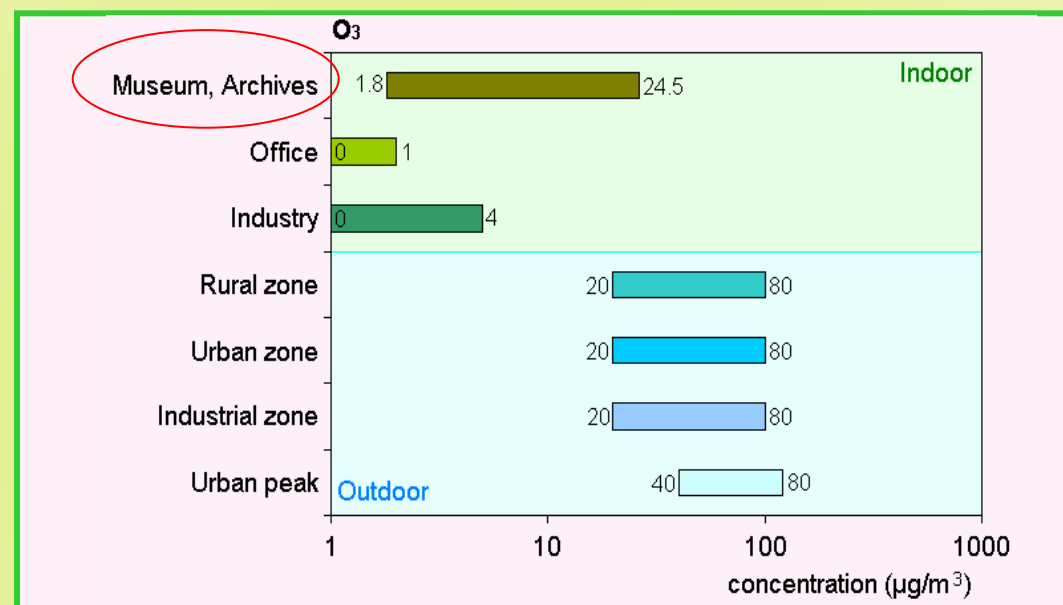
# Chlorine containing compounds

- Sources
  - Cleaning compounds
  - Cooling tower vapors
  
- Severe cause of corrosion



# Ozone

- Strong oxidant
- Probably catalytic effect in sulfide and chloride corrosion of metals



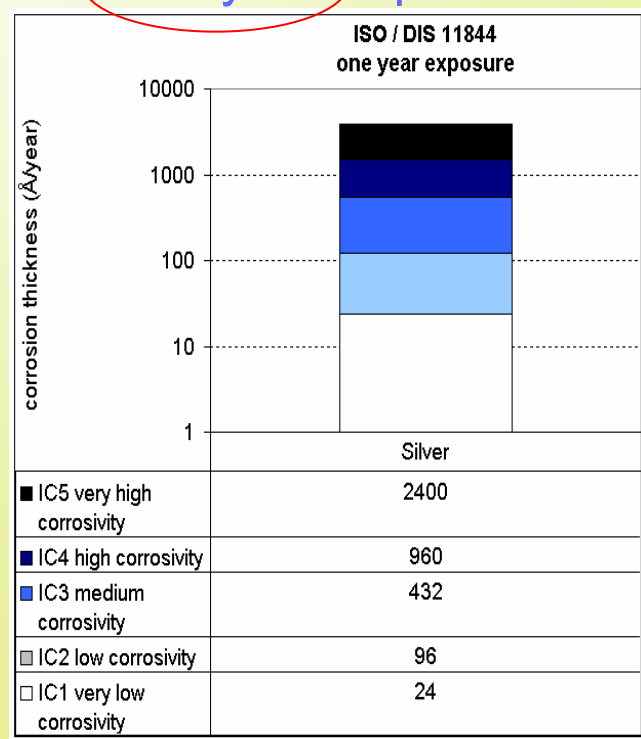


# Precautions

- Influence of synergistic effects of different pollutants on corrosion
  - Comparison between results and measurements of corrosion attack on standard specimens
    - Estimation after one month or one year metal specimens exposure using different measurement methods
    - Comparison of results with standards and recommendations:  
**USE SAME EXPOSURE TIME AND METHOD**

# Silver corrosion

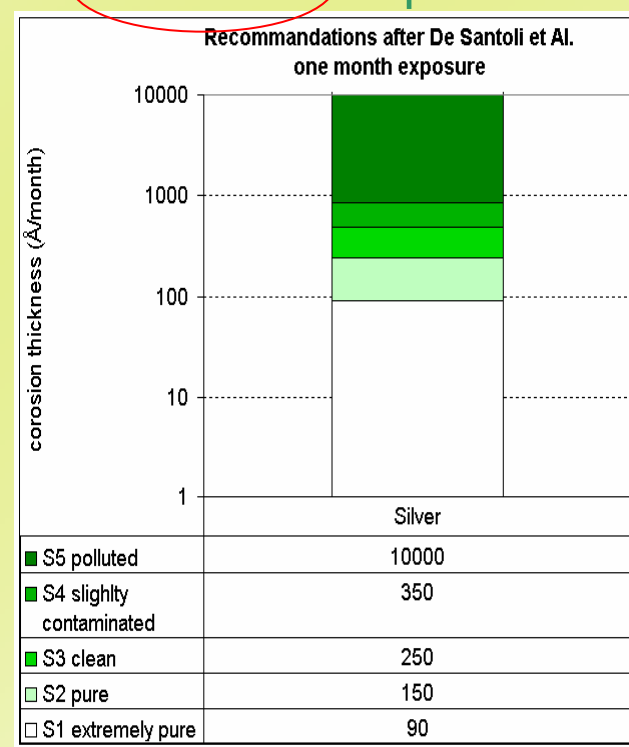
## One year exposure



Environment: indoor

Measurement: mass gain

## One month exposure

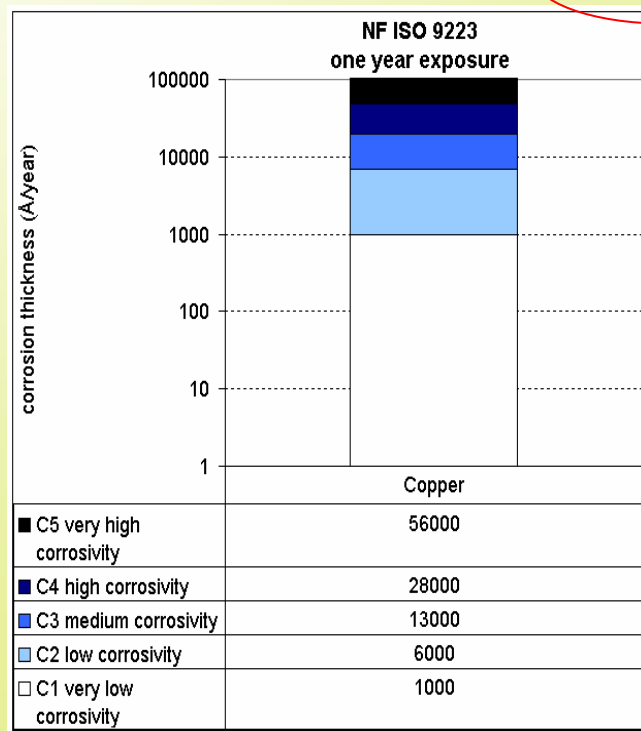


Environment: museum, archives

Measurement: quartz crystal microbalance

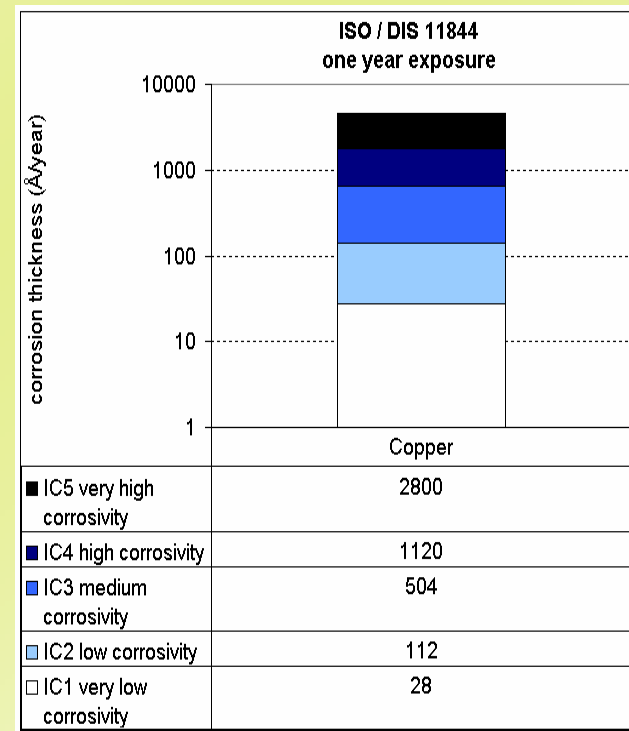
# Copper corrosion

One year exposure



Environment: indoor

Measurement: mass loss



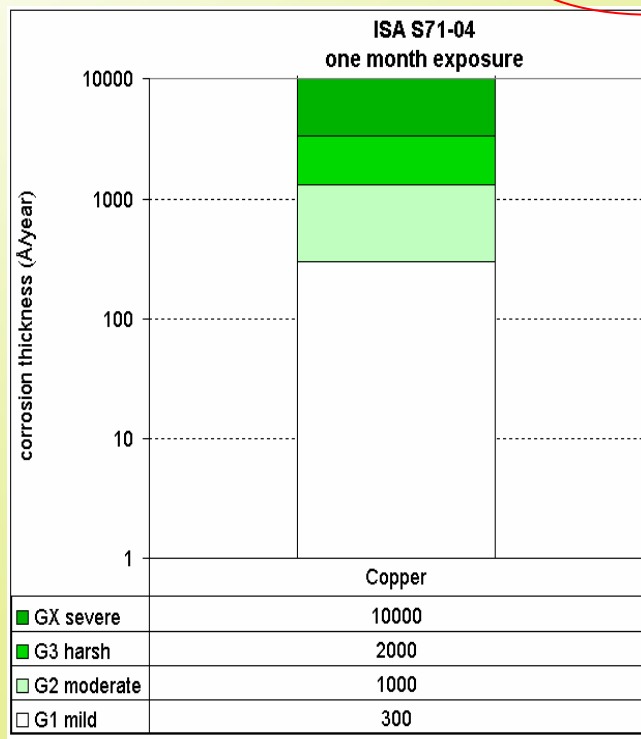
Environment: indoor, office

Measurement: mass gain

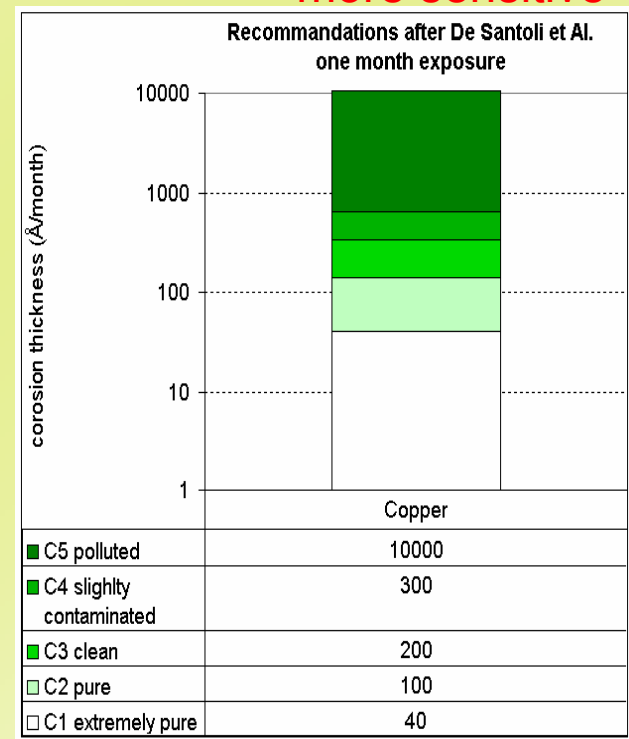
# Copper corrosion

One month exposure

more sensitive



Environment: indoor



Environment: museum, archives

Measurement: electrolytic cathodic reduction

Measurement: quartz crystal microbalance

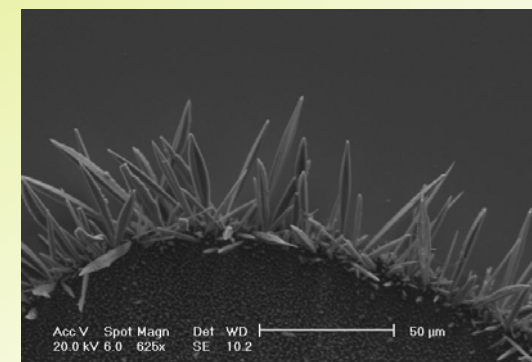
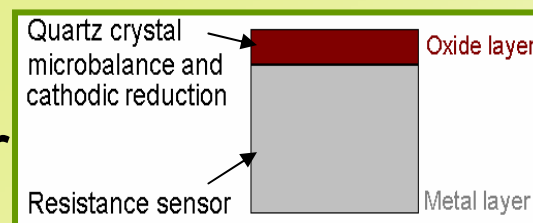
# Measurements

- 3 methods of measurements to estimate corrosivity categories
  - Mass changes (mass loss, mass gain)
  - Electrolytic cathodic reduction
  - Resistance measurement
- Methods complete each other and can not be compared because they don not provide the same informations

# Measurements

- Cathodic reduction and quartz crystal microbalance
  - Mass gain
  - Influence of adsorbed water
  - dust deposit
  - need to know the porosity of corrosion products→ the nature of corrosion products

- Resistance sensor
  - Metal loss
  - Locally attacks due to edge effects



# Conclusions

- Dependence of corrosion profiles from corrosion mechanisms
  - Impossible to convert the corrosion rate obtained from a year exposure into a mean corrosion rate based on a monthly exposure
  - no coherence between industrial standards based on one month exposure with museums and archives requirements
  - more useful information with the cumulated thickness of the corrosion layer to assess the overall corrosivity of environments in museums and archives

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# Thank you for your attention