

Atmospheric particulate matter in Tarnów City (Southern Poland) – short time investigation of a space-time variability in the winter of 2019

Marek Chyc^{a,*}, Mariusz Klich^a, Sabina Klich^b, Patrycja Żelazo^a, Agnieszka Ciężadło^a, Paweł Żeleźnik^a, Paweł Partyński^a

^a State Higher Vocational School in Tarnów, Mickiewicza 8, 33-100 Tarnów, Poland

^b Institute of Botany, Jagiellonian University, Gronostajowa 3, 30-387 Kraków, Poland

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Abstract

Tarnów is a city where air pollution is a major problem during the wintertime. An acceptable level of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentrations are exceeded very often. The main reason of this situation is individual housing and their heat system based on ineffective old units based on hard coal and sometimes even people use waste as a fuel. The city has two air quality monitoring stations and a private network for measurements of particulate matter. However, there is still a lack of information on air quality in some areas of the city. For obtaining full information on the air quality in Tarnów, readings from the monitoring station and field measurements were carried out. The obtained information allowed to determine which areas of the city are most exposed to the occurrence of smog in the heating season. So far, air quality measurements in Tarnów have not been conducted at the same time for so many collections. The most polluted air occurs in Krzyż District but air quality should be improved in all city. The best air quality has been observed for locations where heat is available from municipal heating plant e.g. Słoneczna Str. Presented research work shows that air quality in Tarnów City is very unhealthy because of particulate matter pollution. In the winter time the main problem is too high concentration of PM_{2.5}, but also PM₁₀ concentration. Those parameters are very frequently exceeded. The worst air quality occurs in the evenings (8 p.m.), but in the mornings (8 a. m.) air quality is highly polluted too. When air quality in Tarnów City is bad situation concerns all localisations. The similar situation is observed when air quality is good or acceptable. The main conclusion is that for locations where heat is available from heat plant is not generated individually by domestic sources, the situation is the most comfortable. Our investigation covered short period, but it is preliminary study and this important issue will be continued in the future.

Keywords: Airborne pollution, particulate matter, heating season, smog

Introduction

Nowadays, the improvement of air quality in Poland is a key point of both local authority and the central government. Air quality improvement programs are focused mainly on particulate matter pollution and result from the fact that air quality in our country is considered one of the worse in Europe [1]. Airborne pollutants have a significant impact on the morbidity of people for many diseases referred to as civilization diseases such as cancer, respiratory and circulatory system diseases and allergies [2]. Particulate matter (PM) with a size <20 µm contained in the air are not only physical impurities but also a carrier of chemical contaminants such as: heavy metals (mainly lead and mercury), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) [3], polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and furans (PCDDs, PCDFs - dioxins) [4]. In the past in Poland, the quality of air in relation

to dust was initially measured by the amount of annual dust fall. The change in the measurement methodology consisting in the measurement of PM₁₀ dust fraction was caused by the need to implement Polish legislation to the requirements of the European Union [5]. Detailed guidelines are specified in the Regulation of the Minister of Environment of June 6, 2002 on acceptable levels of certain substances in the air, alarm levels of certain substances in the air and margins of tolerance for acceptable levels of certain substances [6]. In 2015, the requirements regarding the level of fine dust in air were introduced in Poland (PM_{2.5}) and a limit value of 25 µg/m³ was temporarily set. According to the Regulation of the Polish Minister of the Environment a new requirement will apply from 1st January 2020, the PM_{2.5} content in atmospheric air should not exceed 20 µg/m³ [7]. At present, the basic air quality problems in Poland are frequent exceedances of PM_{2.5} dust concentration standards. According to the same regulation PM₁₀ concentration should not exceed 50 µg/m³ (it is allowed by law when average day concentration

*Corresponding author: mrsch@tlen.pl

of PM₁₀ is higher than 50 µg/m³, but 35 times per year only). Average concentration in a year should not exceed 40 µg/m³. Air quality depends on the kind and intensity of emissions in a given area, meteorological and topographic conditions of the area. Tarnów City has similar problem like many Polish cities, the problem is winter smog. There are still many low-efficient coal boilers in Tarnów City (Fig. 1) and they cause frequent exceedances of air quality standards.



Figure 1. Residential emission – the main source of smog in Poland (fot. M.Chyc)

The basic monitoring data were collected from automated air quality stations. There are two air monitoring stations in Tarnów City as part of the State Environmental Monitoring (WIOŚ). The rules for conducting measurements as well as the criteria for the location of measurement points are regulated by the Regulation of the Minister of the on the assessment of levels in the air [8]. The growing interest in the issues of air quality in society and the feeling that due to the large distance from the monitoring station from the place of residence caused the development of private air monitoring networks. This initiative, although it is a manifestation of the increased environmental awareness of society, in the opinion of specialists cannot be treated equally with the data obtained from official source. Objections concern the quality of measurements carried out by private users, usually using “low-cost” equipment, which do not have calibration certificates and metrological supervision, as is the case for accredited measurements. Our investigation based on few types of data sources and this issue can cause a significant error, too. It cannot be ruled out that some of these measurements may be burdened with even a gross error. Despite these reservations, and taking into account the imperfection of the adopted measurement methodology, comparative studies on air pollution at various locations in Tarnów City on 18–24 February 2019 have been conducted. The presented work is a preliminary study into the variability of spatiotemporal dust pollution in Tarnów City, their causes and trends. Nowadays in Poland is huge effort

focused on air improvement and Polish society is aware of the need for changes in this issue [9].

Tarnów City is located in the Southern Poland, in the Tarnów County, in the Małopolska Voivodship. Based on various data, over 20 Polish cities are among the first 50 cities characterized by the most heavy black smog in the EU. Despite the fact that Tarnów City it is not a large city it all, but it is characterized as one of the most polluted city in Poland during winter time. Therefore, Tarnów City is a suitable area for investigation of the daily dynamics and spatial variability of PM changes for an average-sized city. According to Matuszkiewicz “Geo-regionalization of Poland” [10], the area is located in the section of the south-Polish highlands, the land of the Sandomierz gorge, the Niepołomice-Tarnów region, the Tarnów sub-district. Tarnów City covers an area of 72.38 km². Officially the city is inhabited by 110 644 peoples [11], and municipal rights were earned very early, it took place in 1330 [12]. The city has an irregular shape, there maximum length is 11 km in the W-E axis and maximum width 8 km in the N-S axis. Tarnów City in the 19th and 20th centuries developed as one of the most important industrial centre in Poland. Western part of city is industrialized area, mainly covers by large chemical company – Azoty Group. In addition, the city consists of detached houses, there are few block of flats, other industrial and suburban areas, as well as woody and ruderal areas. The northern border of the city is one of the busiest national highways number A4.

Physiographically Tarnów is diverse and valuable in aspects of nature. Its southern region belongs to the Carpathians chain with their last hill – St. Martin Mount, the northern region is located in the part of Sandomierz Basin.

The western border of Tarnów is the Dunajec River. There is a valuable area of the Natura 2000 Network Dolny Dunajec (PLH120085). The Biała Tarnowska River divides city center, which, within few kilometers to the southern part of the city, constitutes the Natura 2000 Network of Biała Tarnowska (PLH120090) [13], [14]. The Dunajec River and its Valley is a national rank ecological corridor. The Biała Tarnowska River and its valley is a local ecological corridor [15].

Materials and Methods

Dust measurements were made with LINECOMP dust meters model WP 6300 and Dienmern model WP 6910. The measurements were carried out in the normal range of use, each time collected ten results, after that calculated mean value. Data from the State Environmental Monitoring System [16] were obtained and data from commercial stations through the Internet [12], international stations code PL0502A and PL0647A. The scope of investigation covers period 18.02–24.02.2019 and contains manual measurements of dust concentration in 7 representative locations, additional data from 8 measurement points downloaded

from the Internet (Table 1). In the same time meteorological data (temperature, pressure, wind force, wind direction, relative humidity) were collected. The meteorological data has been averaged and presented in Table 2.

Results and Discussion

Manual measurement points localization

Table 1 shows the location of the PM concentration measurement points, and then each position is shortly described, there are given the location names and GPS coordinates. Positions are located on symmetrical layout, however, some modification were used to cover various field factors that may impact on air quality.

P2 – located on the edge of the largest residential area, where exist a lot of buildings blocks. There are mainly four-storey and eleven-storey blocks built between 1980 and 2005. These buildings are heated by a municipal heating system (Miejskie Przedsiębiorstwo Energetyki Ciepłej), which supplies hot water heated by natural gas to buildings. The municipal heat system generates energy from hard coal, but power plant is far away from city center. There are few detached houses with a diverse heating system (coal and natural gas). Directly at the station is located a busy four-lane street.

P3 - located in the centre of a large housing area consisting of several hundred detached- houses. Some of the buildings were built over 60 years ago. Most of them are heated with hard coal, wood, and even with the addition of municipal waste. There are still many people who are characterized by low ecological

Table 1. Localization of own measurements points

Measurement localization	Localization in Tarnów City	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude (m a.s.l)
P1	City Market Sq.	50°00'46.15"N	20°59'19.33"E	225
P2	Słoneczna Str.	50°01'02.77"N	21°00'20.69"E	222
P3	Krzyż Qr.	50°02'44.35"N	20°59'42.08"E	246
P4	Krakowska Str.	50°00'36.12"N	20°58'42.62"E	203
P5	Mościckiego Str.	50°00'45.64"N	20°58'13.62"E	200
P6	Kwiatkowskiego Str.	50°00'58.85"N	20°55'47.79"E	195
P7	St. Marcin Mt.	49°59'40.17"N	20°59'58.13"E	220
A1	Głowackiego Str.	50°00'30.69"N	20°57'55.22"E	198
A2	Grottgera Str.	50°00'58.33"N	20°58'45.88"E	201
A3	Lema Str.	50°01'39.74"N	20°58'57.75"E	201
A4	Lwowska Str.	50°00'45.66"N	21°01'24.69"E	218
A5	Krakowska Str., nr 5	50°00'41.49"N	20°59'01.70"E	215
A6	Dąbrowskiego Str.	50°00'34.72"N	20°59'37.08"E	205
W1	Sitki Str.	50°01'05.75"N	20°59'33.29"E	216
W2	Bitwy pod Studziankami Str.	50°01'12.61"N	21°00'15.00"E	243

Short description of manual measurement points:

P1 – located in the historical “heart” of Tarnów – on the market. The market is surrounded by a lot of old tenement buildings, mostly heated with coal stoves. This area is partly inhabited by retirees and the poor who use low-quality coal and even municipal waste (prohibited by law).

awareness. On this area the buildings are serried, and there is heavy car traffic only along the main street leading to the downtown.

P4 – located in the city centre, at Krakowska Street leading from the main railway station to the market square. The street is surrounded by a number of old tenement houses mostly heated

with low effective coal stoves, there is heavy car traffic.

P5 – located near the city centre, at Szujskiego Street. It is one of the main communication routes in the W-E axis in Tarnów. The point is surrounded by old tenements and detached houses. Detached housing of a similar type as described in position 3, however, less numerous. On this area the buildings are serried and there occurs heavy car traffic.

P6 – located in the western part of the city in an industrial area near large chemical plants of Azoty Group. Sampling point is located near Kwiatkowskiego Street and it is a busy road, but it is far away from individual coal powered houses. Quite near this position is dolomite milling plant and it may be source of mineral dust in the air. Position P6 represents both, industrial and road traffic pollutions.

P7 – located in the southern part of the city on the edge of a large housing area where are a lot of detached houses. The buildings are not as serried as in positions P3 and P5, and they are modern and some of them are heated with natural gas. Near the P7 position there are the slopes of the St. Marcin Mountain and the four-lane city bypass.

The localization of all measurement points illustrate Figure 2 where they are pointed on the map of Tarnów City.

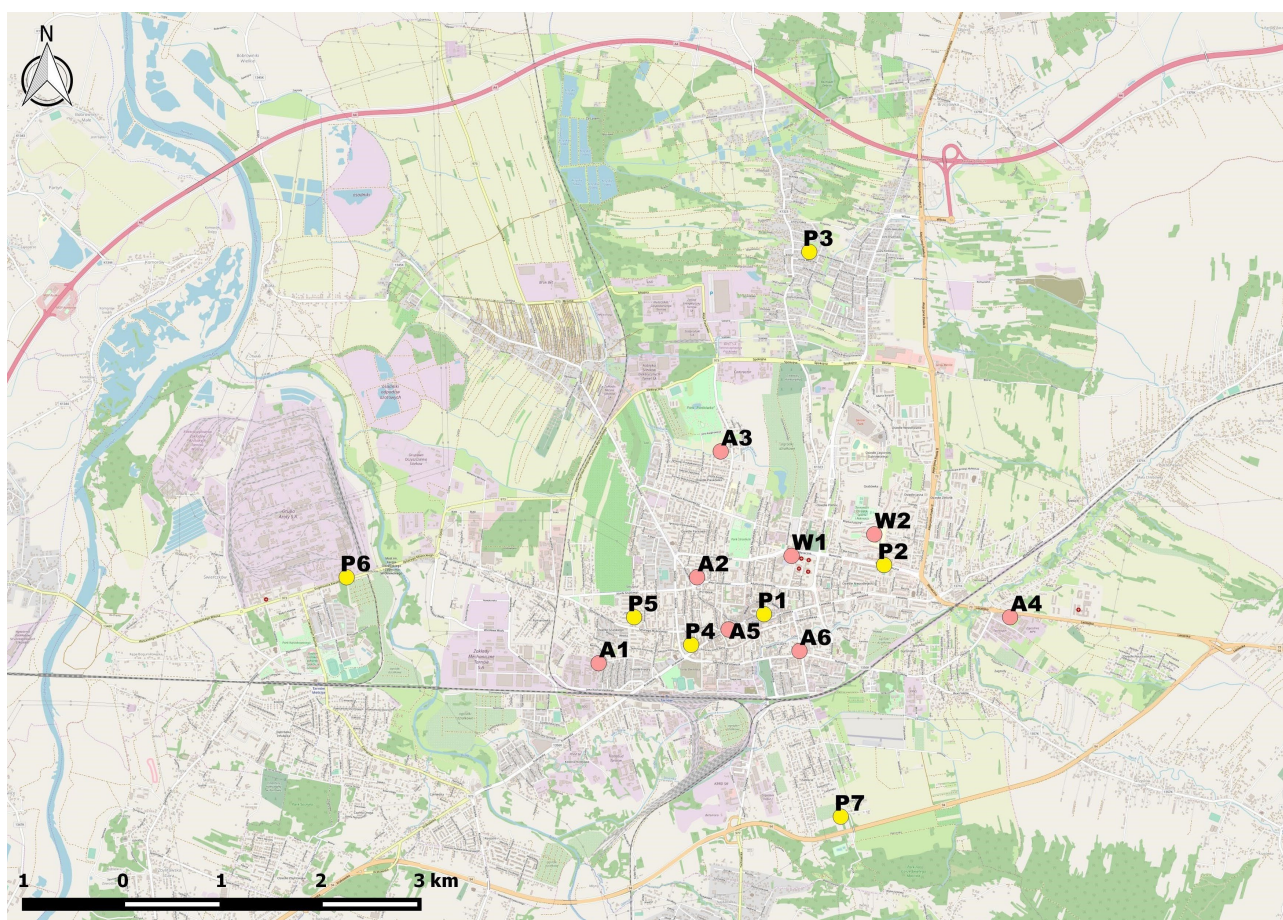


Figure 2. Map of Tarnów City and measurement points localization (the basic map was downloaded from <http://geoserwis.gdos.gov.pl>)

The average meteorological data during investigated period

In Tarnów City the typical wind rose is like this showed on Figure 3, mainly wind comes from west and it brings air pollution from Kraków agglomeration and even from Silesia region – inflow pollution, mainly particulate matter (Fig. 3).

Experimental data

Networks measurement points localization

The localization of detectors in Tarnów City as a part of Airly network (A1–A6), stations belonging to State Environmental Monitoring System network and manual measurement points illustrates Figure 4. The names and GPS coordinates for all measurement points are given in the Table 1.

Table 2. Average meteorological data for Tarnów City noted during measurements

Data	Temperature [°C]	Pressure [hPa]	Relative humidity [%]	Wind force [km/h]	Wind direction [°]
18.02.2019					
8 a.m.	0	1024	88	0.2	233
12 a.m.	9	1024	58	2.6	238
4 p.m.	13	1021	48	4.4	120
8 p.m.	6	1020	74	2.4	134
20.02.2019					
8 a.m.	4	1018	87	1.9	241
12 a.m.	6	1019	74	1.9	293
4 p.m.	7	1020	60	6.5	276
8 p.m.	5	1022	66	3.7	278
22.02.2019					
8 a.m.	-1	1024	88	4.4	278
12 a.m.	-2	1031	76	6.1	230
4 p.m.	-3	1034	54	3.5	266
8 p.m.	-4	1038	54	0.7	270
24.02.2019					
8 a.m.	-4	1038	54	8.1	274
12 a.m.	0	1037	42	6.7	242
4 p.m.	2	1035	45	7.4	212
8 p.m.	-1	1035	57	5.6	260

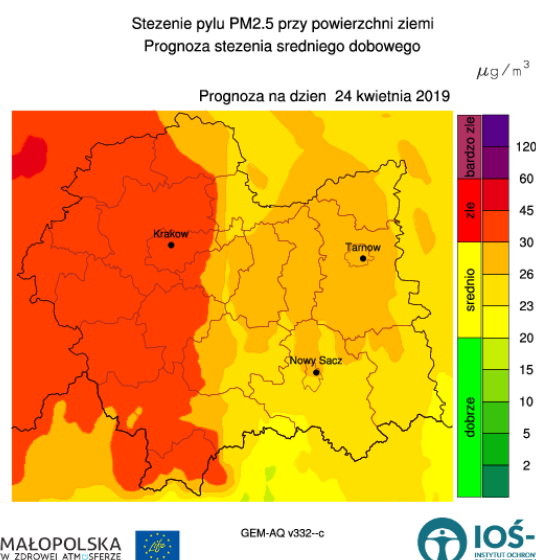
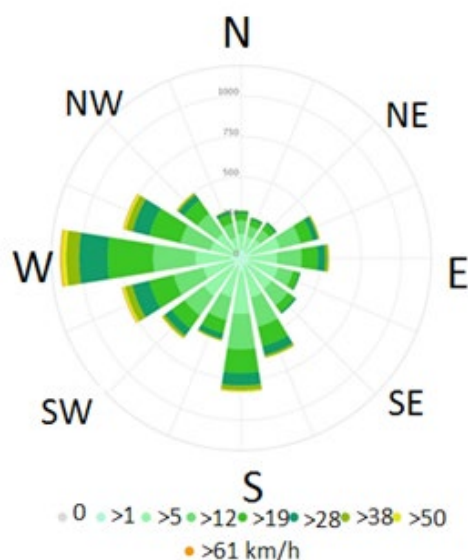


Figure 3. The wind rose for Tarnów City (source: www.meteoblue.com, access 23.04.2019) and prediction map for PM2.5 pollution (source: <https://powietrze.malopolska.pl/jakosc-powietrza/>, access 23.04.2019)

Table 3. Data for PM_{2.5} concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) measured in Tarnów City (average of 10 measurements \pm standard deviation, P1-P7)

Data, location	City Market Square (P1)	Stoneczna Street (P2)	Krzyż District (P3)	Krakowska Street (P4)	Mosćckiego Street (P5)	Kwiatkowskiego Street (P6)	St. Marcin Mountain (P7)	Głowiackiego Street (A1)	Grotgera Street (A2)	Lema Av. (A3)	Lwowska Street (A4)	Krakowska Street, nr 5 (A5)	Dąbrowskiego Street (A6)
18.02.2019													
8 a.m.	82 \pm 5	70 \pm 5	91 \pm 5	91 \pm 7	66 \pm 3	53 \pm 2	82 \pm 3	92	84	74	46	83	98
12 a.m.	42 \pm 5	36 \pm 1	51 \pm 5	36 \pm 3	36 \pm 4	37 \pm 1	36 \pm 1	36	33	36	34	41	33
4 p.m.	47 \pm 7	30 \pm 2	68 \pm 11	42 \pm 3	74 \pm 19	47 \pm 1	40 \pm 3	27	27	25	25	28	25
8 p.m.	86 \pm 7	81 \pm 3	232 \pm 37	84 \pm 5	79 \pm 4	51 \pm 1	67 \pm 4	76	59	78	51	54	66
20.02.2019													
8 a.m.	55 \pm 2	41 \pm 2	69 \pm 6	65 \pm 3	64 \pm 3	68 \pm 3	48 \pm 2	64	43	43	42	-	45
12 a.m.	33 \pm 3	20 \pm 1	40 \pm 8	35 \pm 3	29 \pm 4	58 \pm 2	25 \pm 3	36	31	30	30	-	32
4 p.m.	16 \pm 2	9 \pm 1	55 \pm 24	27 \pm 3	28 \pm 3	20 \pm 2	16 \pm 1	27	18	23	21	21	20
8 p.m.	31 \pm 3	21 \pm 2	23 \pm 3	31 \pm 2	58 \pm 26	23 \pm 2	24 \pm 2	21	26	17	28	33	21
22.02.2019													
8 a.m.	5 \pm 1	11 \pm 1	11 \pm 1	19 \pm 9	8 \pm 3	9 \pm 1	18 \pm 1	15	14	14	17	12	17
12 a.m.	6 \pm 1	3 \pm 1	11 \pm 1	8 \pm 3	10 \pm 4	9 \pm 1	3 \pm 1	9	19	7	8	7	6
4 p.m.	7 \pm 2	4 \pm 1	12 \pm 3	18 \pm 5	13 \pm 2	11 \pm 1	4 \pm 1	12	15	6	7	5	13
8 p.m.	27 \pm 2	17 \pm 2	64 \pm 7	27 \pm 1	22 \pm 3	17 \pm 1	23 \pm 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.02.2019													
8 a.m.	58 \pm 4	46 \pm 5	74 \pm 4	55 \pm 4	51 \pm 2	35 \pm 2	45 \pm 5	45	46	48	46	50	42
12 a.m.	60 \pm 4	50 \pm 4	71 \pm 4	58 \pm 3	64 \pm 3	41 \pm 2	51 \pm 4	40	43	45	46	47	39
4 p.m.	67 \pm 1	51 \pm 4	83 \pm 9	68 \pm 4	63 \pm 3	39 \pm 1	55 \pm 4	45	43	44	44	49	40
8 p.m.	83 \pm 3	67 \pm 3	97 \pm 3	89 \pm 5	90 \pm 6	53 \pm 2	91 \pm 3	62	60	56	65	62	51

*The red color values represent data above mandatory requirements.

Table 4. Data for PM10 concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) measured in Tarnów City (average of 10 measurements \pm standard deviation, P1-P7)

Data, location	City Market Square (P1)	Stoneczna Street (P2)	Krzyż District (P3)	Krakowska Street (P4)	Mościńskiego Street (P5)	Kwiatkowskiego Street (P6)	St. Marcin (P7)	Głowackiego Street (A1)	Grotgera Street (A2)	Lema Av. (A3)	Lwowska Street (A4)	Krakowska Street, nr 5 (A5)	Dąbrowskiego Street (A6)
18.02.2019													
8 a.m.	91 \pm 5	81 \pm 6	101 \pm 6	101 \pm 11	77 \pm 8	84 \pm 2	91 \pm 3	168	139	115	79	129	146
12 a.m.	47 \pm 5	42 \pm 1	57 \pm 5	39 \pm 3	41 \pm 4	58 \pm 1	40 \pm 1	61	56	58	55	67	54
4 p.m.	53 \pm 8	33 \pm 2	76 \pm 14	47 \pm 4	81 \pm 21	60 \pm 2	44 \pm 3	44	44	39	40	45	38
8 p.m.	97 \pm 7	90 \pm 3	260 \pm 40	94 \pm 6	88 \pm 5	68 \pm 2	67 \pm 4	130	95	112	84	83	96
20.02.2019													
8 a.m.	61 \pm 2	46 \pm 3	76 \pm 7	73 \pm 3	72 \pm 3	75 \pm 4	53 \pm 3	116	76	73	72	-	72
12 a.m.	36 \pm 4	22 \pm 1	45 \pm 9	39 \pm 3	32 \pm 4	75 \pm 2	27 \pm 3	44	53	50	50	-	51
4 p.m.	17 \pm 3	10 \pm 1	61 \pm 27	30 \pm 2	31 \pm 3	30 \pm 2	17 \pm 1	65	28	34	30	34	28
8 p.m.	34 \pm 3	23 \pm 2	25 \pm 4	35 \pm 2	67 \pm 30	40 \pm 2	26 \pm 3	35	43	26	48	58	31
22.02.2019													
8 a.m.	5 \pm 1	12 \pm 1	12 \pm 2	20 \pm 10	8 \pm 4	11 \pm 1	21 \pm 2	23	20	20	24	17	24
12 a.m.	6 \pm 1	3 \pm 1	12 \pm 2	9 \pm 3	11 \pm 5	12 \pm 1	3 \pm 1	15	28	11	12	12	9
4 p.m.	7 \pm 2	4 \pm 1	13 \pm 3	20 \pm 5	14 \pm 3	15 \pm 1	4 \pm 1	20	23	9	12	8	18
8 p.m.	30 \pm 2	19 \pm 2	71 \pm 8	30 \pm 1	25 \pm 3	24 \pm 1	25 \pm 3	39	53	37	32	61	52
24.02.2019													
8 a.m.	65 \pm 6	53 \pm 6	82 \pm 5	61 \pm 5	57 \pm 3	46 \pm 2	49 \pm 5	84	81	81	79	90	69
12 a.m.	67 \pm 5	57 \pm 2	80 \pm 5	60 \pm 19	71 \pm 4	52 \pm 2	57 \pm 5	74	76	76	77	84	63
4 p.m.	74 \pm 2	56 \pm 4	92 \pm 11	76 \pm 4	70 \pm 4	53 \pm 2	60 \pm 4	81	76	74	76	87	66
8 p.m.	93 \pm 4	74 \pm 3	108 \pm 3	100 \pm 5	100 \pm 7	62 \pm 2	103 \pm 3	115	102	92	106	108	81

*The red color values represent data above mandatory requirements.

In the same time when group of researchers measured PM10 and PM2.5, data from State Environmental Monitoring System and private sensors network (Airly) were collected.

Data obtained from State Environmental Monitoring System [16] are shown as Figure 4 and 5, both covers data between 18.02.2019 to 24.19.2019. The measurements frequency was 1 hour and data cover daytime and nighttime.

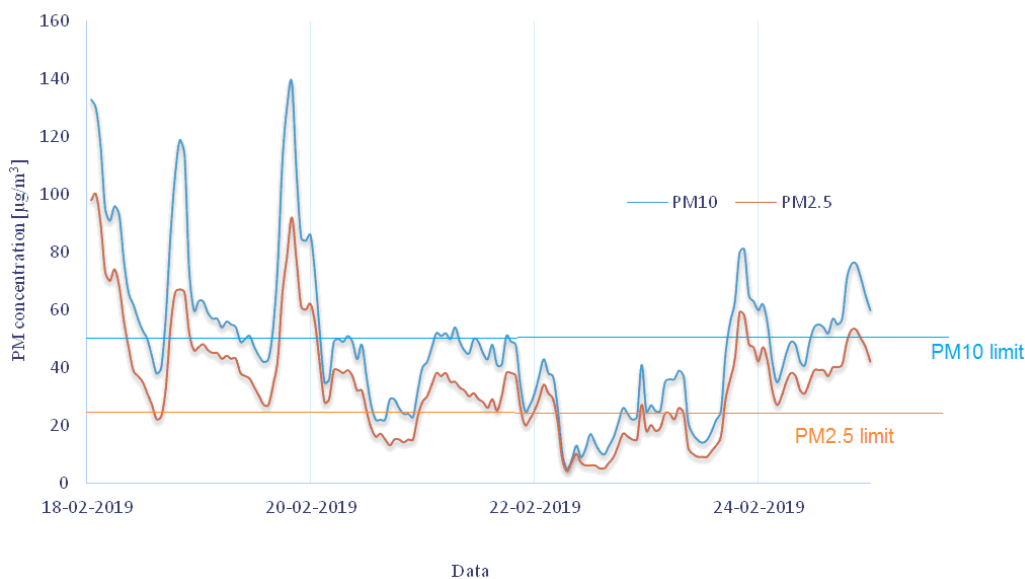


Figure 4. PM2.5 data downloaded from [16] – Tarnów, ks. R. Sitki Str. (W1)

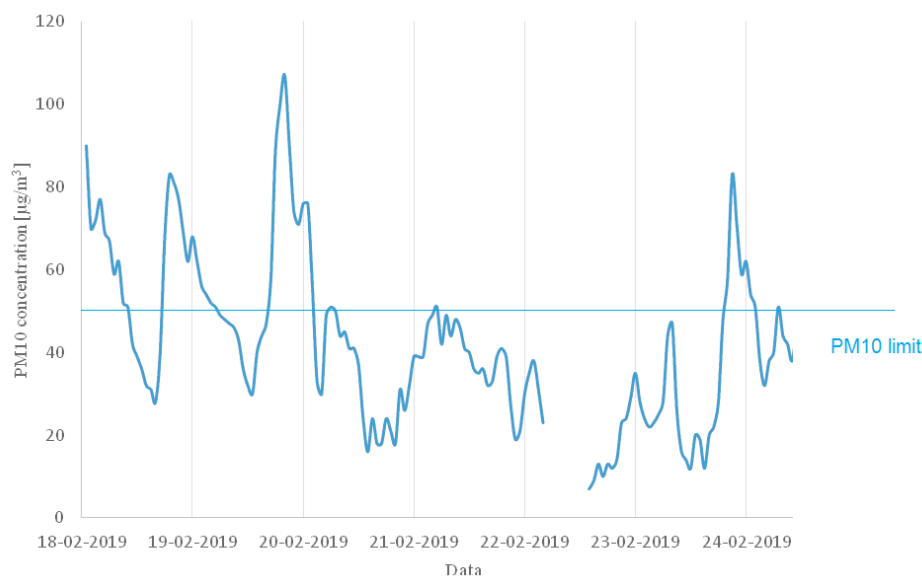


Figure 5. PM10 data downloaded from [16] – Tarnów, Bitwy pod Studziankami Str. (W2)
 *Fig. 4 and 5 elaborated based on source: <http://monitoring.krakow.pios.gov.pl>, access: 26.02.2019

Final results of investigation presented in Table 5, where collected summarized data for each day of measurements. The investigation delivered information suitable to deduction where air in Tarnów City is the most polluted.

Table 5. Summarized data obtained in conducted experiment ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Data Point	Point description	18.02.19	20.02.19	22.02.19	24.02.19	Average 18–24.02.19
		PM2.5	PM2.5	PM2.5	PM2.5	PM2.5
		PM10	PM10	PM10	PM10	PM10
P1	City Market Sq.	64±23	34±16	11±11	67±11	44±28
		72±26	37±18	12±12	75±13	49±31
P2	Słoneczna Str.	54±25	23±13	9±7	54±9	35±25
		62±28	25±15	10±8	60±9	39±28
P3	Krzyż Qr.	111±83	47±20	25±25	81±12	66±53
		124±93	53±22	27±27	91±13	73±59
P4	Krakowska Str.	63±28	40±17	18±8	68±15	47±26
		70±32	44±20	20±9	74±19	52±30
P5	Mościckiego Str.	64±19	45±19	13±6	67±16	47±25
		72±21	51±22	15±7	75±18	53±30
P6	Kwiatkowskiego Str.	47±7	42±24	12±4	42±8	36±19
		68±12	55±23	16±6	53±7	48±24
P7	St. Marcin Mt.	56±22	28±14	12±10	61±21	39±26
		61±24	31±16	13±11	67±24	43±29
A1	Głowackiego Str.	58±31	37±19	12±3	48±10	40±24
		101±58	65±36	24±10	89±19	70±44
A2	Grottgera Str.	51±26	30±10	16±3	48±8	37±20
		84±43	50±20	31±15	84±12	63±33
A3	Lema Av.	53±27	28±11	9±4	48±5	36±22
		81±38	46±21	19±13	81±8	57±34
A4	Lwowska Str.	39±12	30±9	11±6	50±10	34±17
		65±21	50±17	20±10	85±14	55±28
A5	Krakowska Str., nr 5	52±24	27±8	8±4	52±7	38±23
		81±36	46	25±25	92±11	63±37
A6	Dąbrowskiego Str.	56±33	30±12	12±6	43±5	37±23
		84±48	46±20	26±19	70±8	56±34
W1	Sitki Str.	-	-	-	-	-
		72±35	34±13	16±7	59±12	45±29
W2	Bitwy pod Studziankami Str.	45±20	23±12	9±5	42±7	30±19
		53±24	29±13	14±1	55±11	41±21

Conclusions

The black smog is a situation when a lot of fumes, chemical and physical pollution are emitted to the atmosphere from many emitters. This condition is not enough to occur smog, the another one is atmospheric conditions conducive to this phenomenon. The location of Tarnów City and its geographical specification is not conducive to its high ventilation index during the winter time. Presented research work shows that air quality in Tarnów City is very unhealthy because of particulate matter pollution. In the winter time the main problem is too high concentration of PM_{2.5}, but also PM₁₀ concentration. Those parameters are very frequently exceeded. The worst air quality occurs in the evenings (8 p.m.), but in the mornings (8 a.m.) air quality is highly polluted too. When air quality in Tarnów City is bad situation concerns all localisations. The similar situation is observed when air quality is good or acceptable. The measurements were conducted during one week only, but it was very special week for air quality measurements. During this week the weather was very unstable. There were days with strong wind when air was clean but 18.02.2019 on the first day and 24.02.2019 the last one day of measurements air quality was very poor. The day 18.02.2019 was relatively warm, but air quality in this time was the worst during measurements period. The worst air quality according to our investigation were observed for Krzyż District and Głowackiego Str. The reason of this situation is a large number of old and inefficient heating systems on those areas. Relatively good air quality was observed in Mościce District (Kwiatkowskiego Str., P6) and near St. Martin Mt. In the past very bad air quality was in location P1 due to very old heating infrastructure there, but after great effort and support from the local magistrate situation is much better now and even better than in many others localizations in the city. This fact shows, that there is possibility to improve situation in Tarnów City and reduce smog nuisance. The main conclusion is that for locations where heat is available from heat plant (is not generated individually by domestic sources), the situation is the most comfortable. Despite this, days when PM₁₀ concentration is higher than 50 µg/m³ and PM_{2.5} concentration is higher than 25 µg/m³ are still very frequent.

Our investigation covered short period, one week only, but it is preliminary study and this important issue will be continued in the future. Nowadays Poland starts very important governmental programme “Clean air” due to which necessity of air improvement and necessity of air monitoring covers many localizations in the city. Another important issue is question about chemistry of particulate matter and its size distribution involving total suspended particulate (TSP), PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and PM₁ (full fractional analysis).

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