



# Application of near infrared spectroscopy

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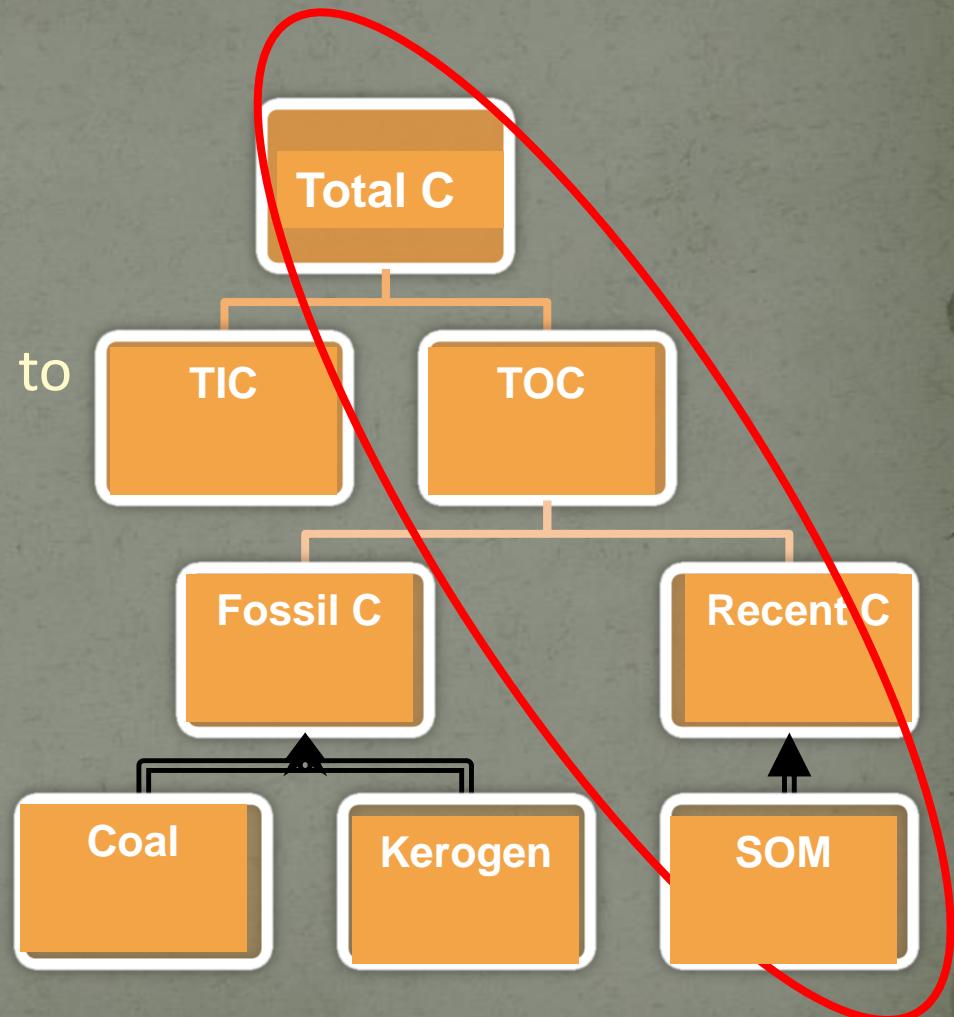
Distinguishing fossil and recent carbon in  
post mining soils

Bc. Olga Vindušková

Supervisor: prof. Ing. Mgr. Jan Frouz, CSc.

# Why do we need to distinguish them?

- Soil organic matter
  - indicator of soil quality
  - global carbon pool
  - in **most** soils proportional to organic carbon content
    - Corg ~ 58% SOM  
 $\Rightarrow \text{SOM} = 1.724 * \text{Corg}$



# Aims

- assess, what is the error connected with regularly used methods to quantify SOM
- optimize current methods and test new alternative approaches
- identify the most suitable method

# Methods

- 14 soil samples

E	IV	II	V	EMA	A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>
0-5 cm	0-5 cm					
40-50 cm	40-50 cm					

- „basic“ components:
  - claystone (2 types)
  - coal
  - fermentation layer
- 125 artificial mixtures

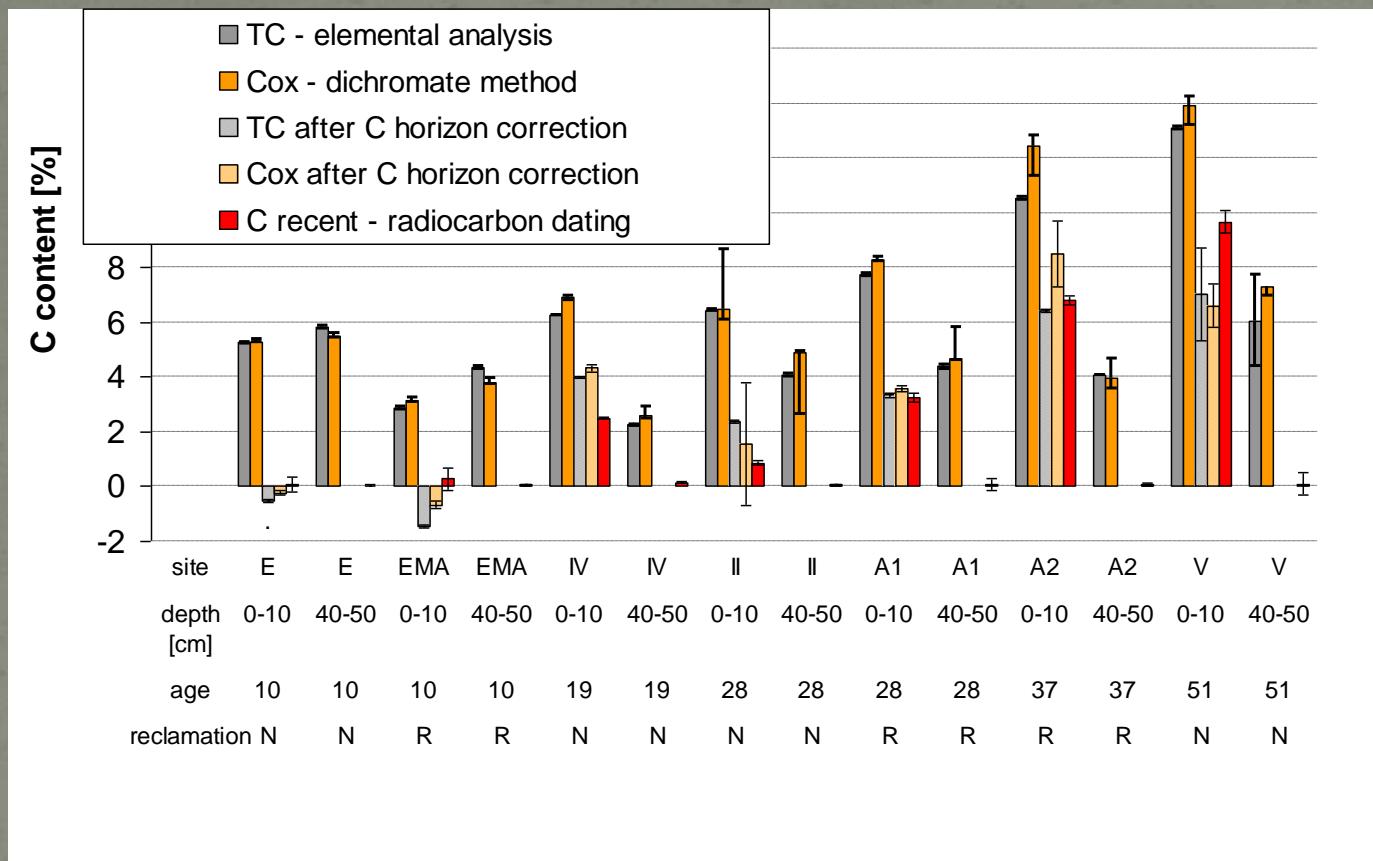
»  $^{14}\text{C}$  AMS,  $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$   
» CN  
» Cox (dichromate)  
» LOI ( $150\text{-}850^\circ\text{C}$ )  
» NIR spectroscopy

# Results

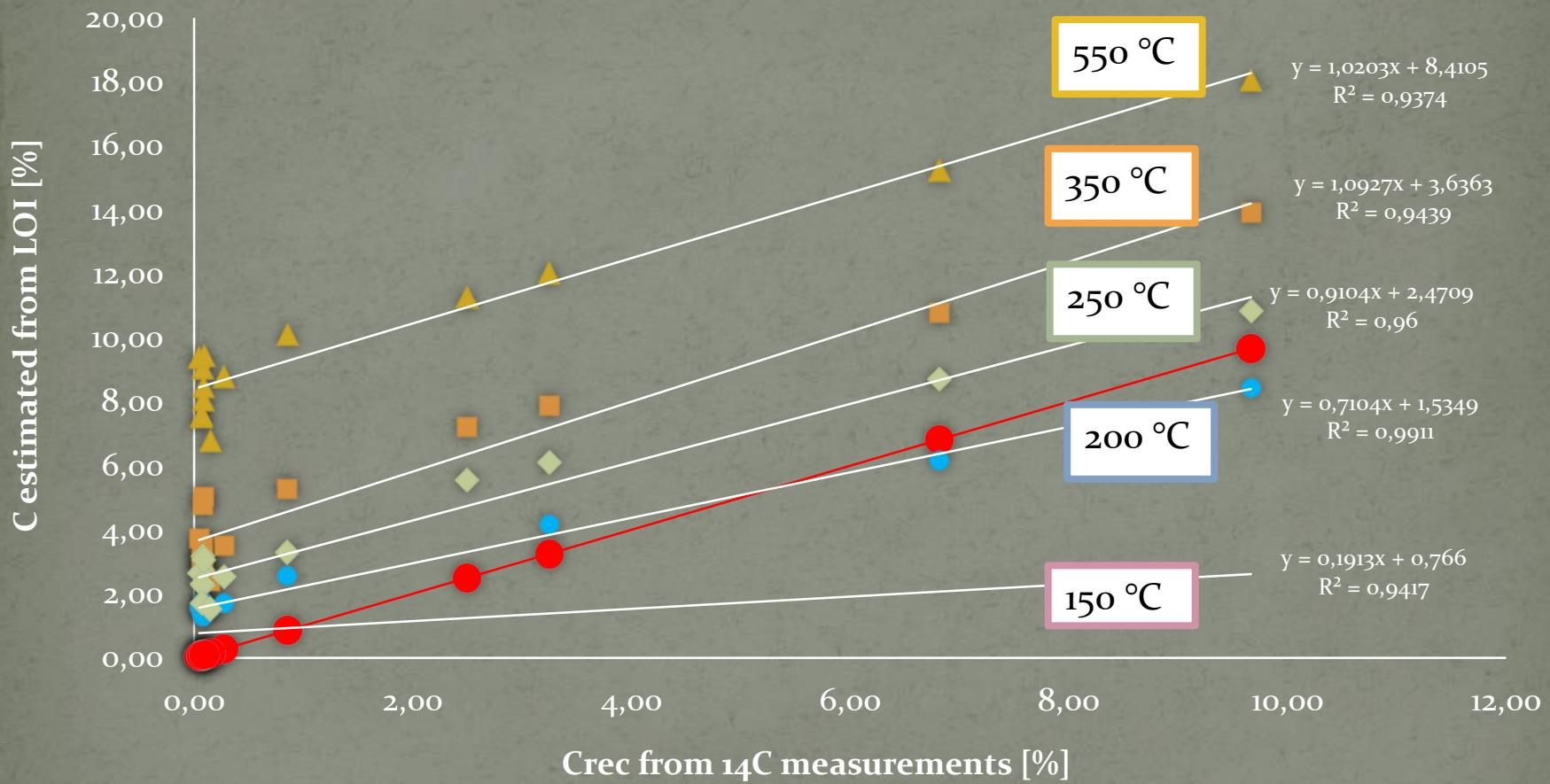
	TC [%]	Cox [%]	LOI/1,724 [%]						
			250°C	350°C	450°C	550°C	650°C	750°C	850°C
„gray“ clay	4,31 ± 0,02	3,61 ± 0,06	1,06	2,26	5,00	7,49	8,75	8,96	9,28
„brown“ clay	13,70 ± 0,12	12,76 ± 6,47	3,35	8,70	11,56	12,79	13,27	13,61	14,83
ferm. layer	38,04 ± 0,30	43,57 ± 4,95	32,16	41,82	45,78	46,47	47,03	47,13	47,14
coal	51,56 ± 1,80	78,27 ± 12,62	22,20	50,88	53,88	54,27	53,88	54,01	54,30



# Results



## Carbon content estimated from loss-on-ignition at different temperatures



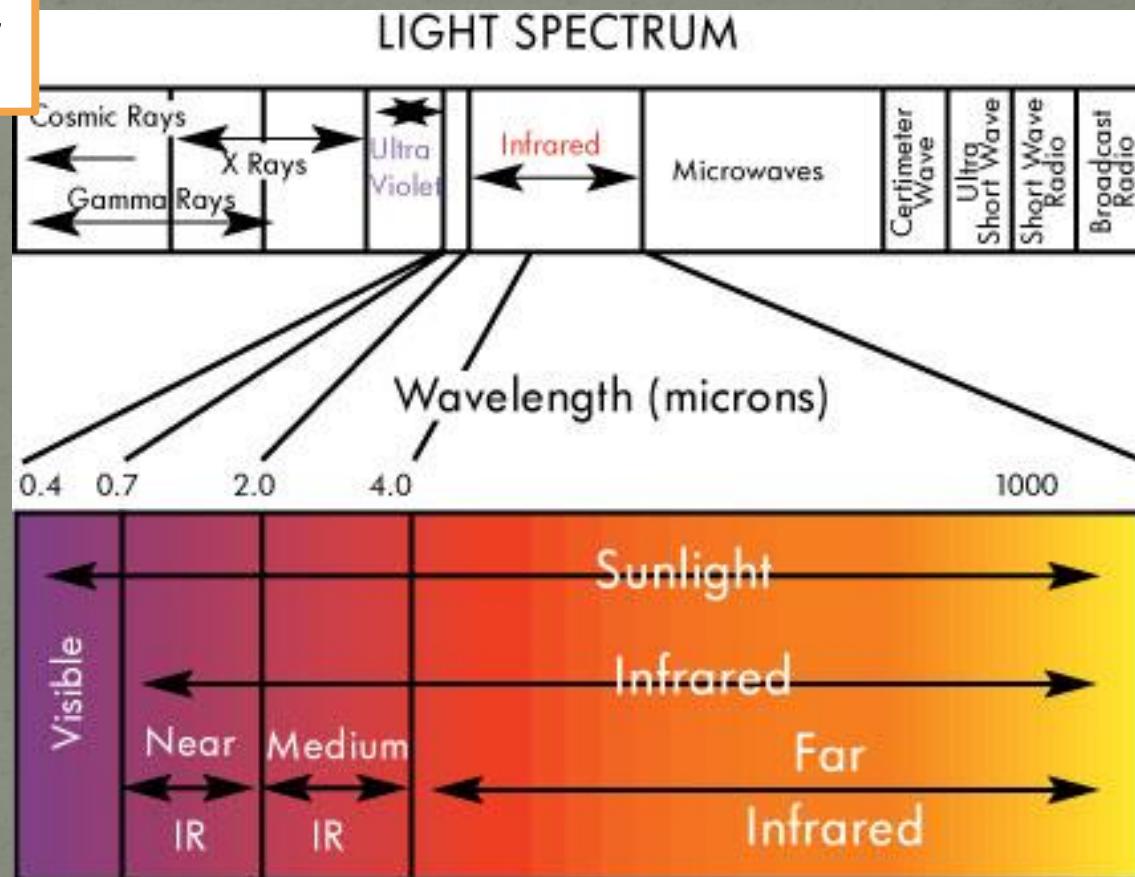
# Near infrared (diffuse reflectance) spectroscopy

750 nm – 2500 nm

12 500 – 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>

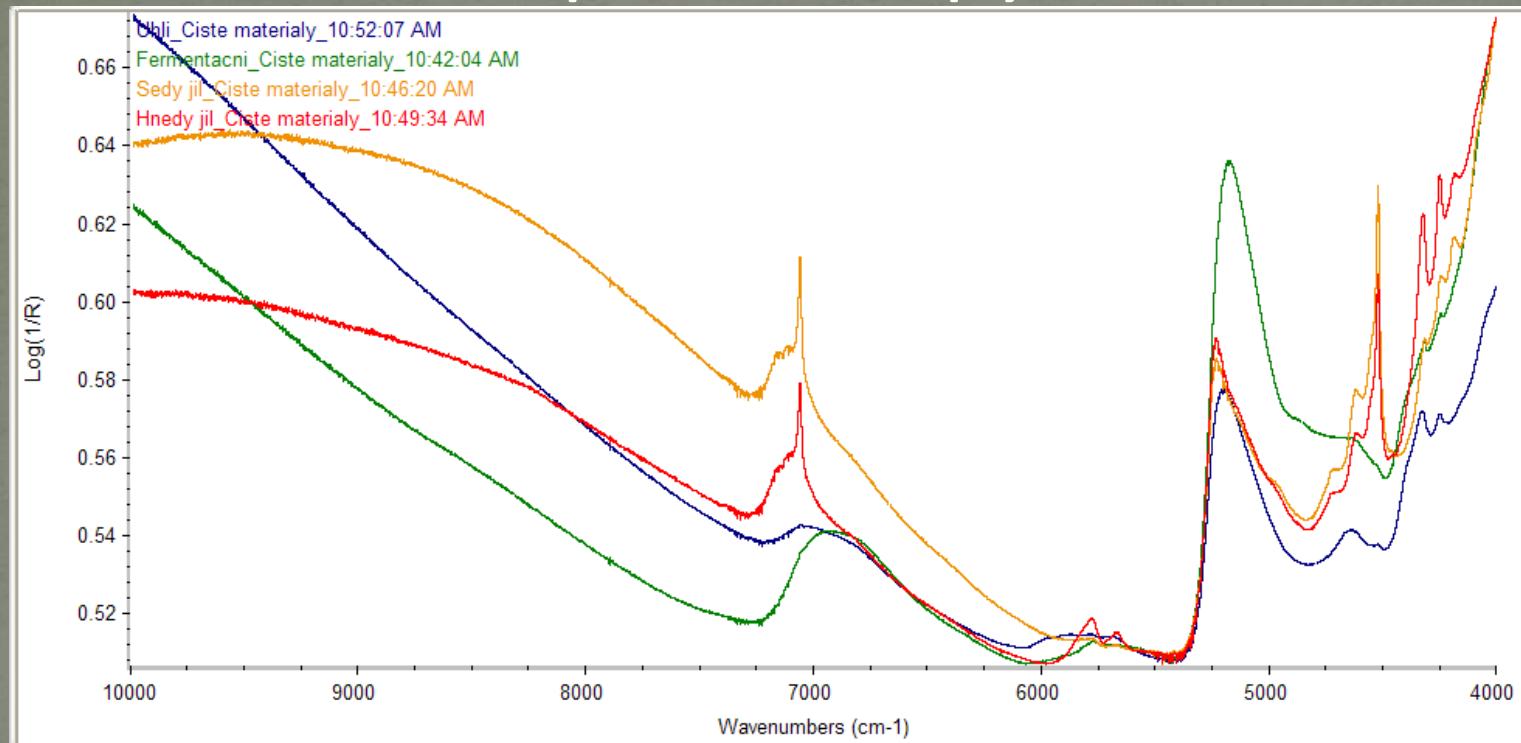
- (A = log [1/reflectance])

(DRIFTS) (FT-IR)



- Stretching and bending of functional groups
- -NH, -CH, -OH, -COOH,
- Combinations and overtones from mid-IR

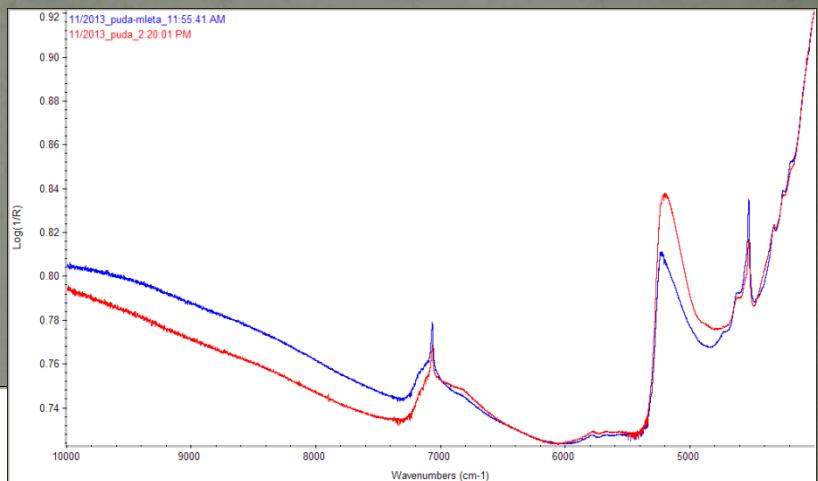
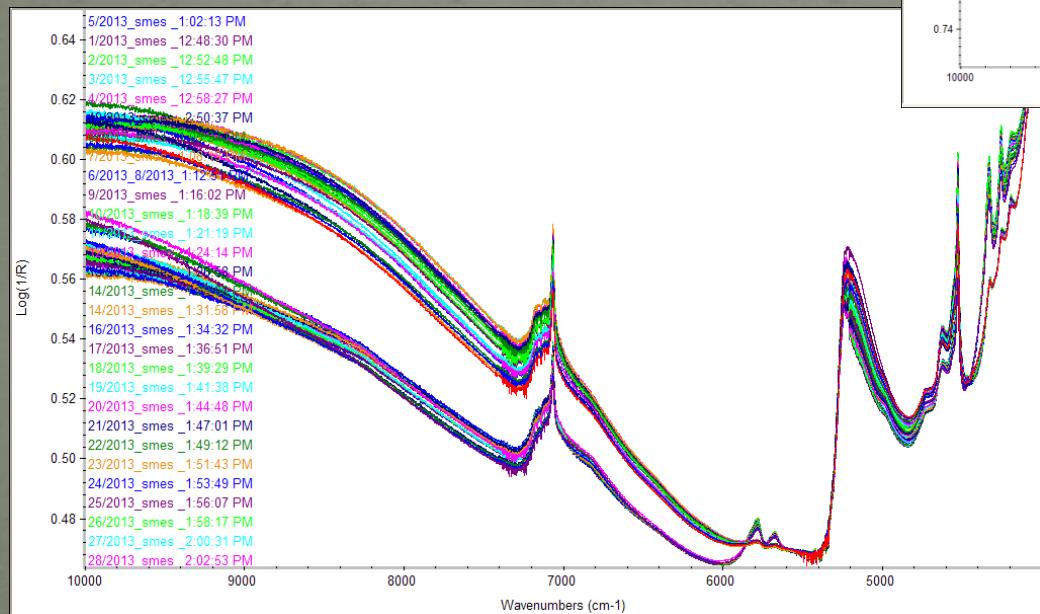
# Near infrared spectroscopy



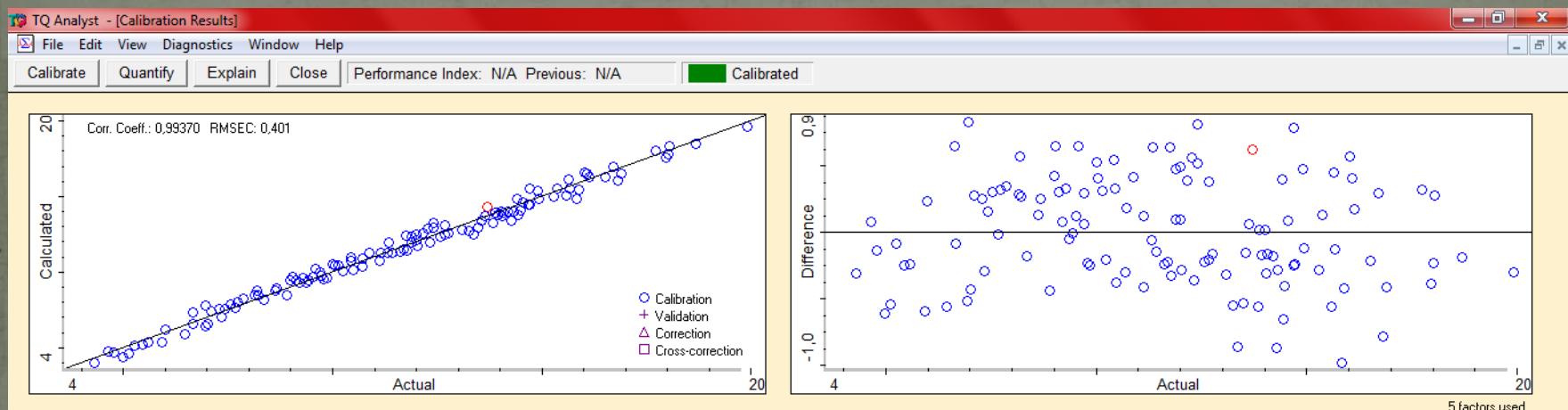
- 14 soil samples
- 125 artificial mixtures

# Near infrared spectroscopy

- Sample scanning
- Fine vs normal grinding



# Near infrared spectroscopy



- Calibration – Partial least squares (PLS) regression
- Ctot, Crec, Cclay, Ccoal
- mixtures / mixtures + soils
- Fine vs normal grinding

# Calibration parameters

calibration model	component	n	calibration			cross-validation		
			R2	RMSEC %	ignored	R2 CV %	RMSECV %	factors
1A	$C_{tot}$	125	0,990	0,19	2	0,998	0,22	7
1A fine	$C_{tot}$	125	0,994	0,40	3	0,991	0,481	5
1B	$C_{tot}$	125 + 14	0,990	0,28	4	0,990	0,31	8
1B fine	$C_{tot}$	125 + 14	0,995	0,37	6	0,990	0,56	7
2A	$C_{rec}$	125	0,990	0,10	0	0,996	0,13	8
2A fine	$C_{rec}$	125	0,998	0,08	1	0,992	0,18	9
2B	$C_{rec}$	125 + 14	0,945	0,55	2	0,991	0,18	7
2B fine	$C_{rec}$	125 + 14	0,995	0,16	6	0,976	0,36	8
3A	$C_{jil}$	125	0,990	0,11	1	0,999	0,137	8
3A fine	$C_{jil}$	125	0,999	0,10	5	0,993	0,345	5
4A	$C_{uhli}$	125	0,994	0,20	1	0,990	0,26	8
4A fine	$C_{uhli}$	125	0,994	0,21	3	0,989	0,28	8

# Conclusions on NIRS

- Good potential for quantifying total, recent and both types of fossil C in post-mining sites, but calibration based more on soils rather than artificial mixtures recommended
- Advantages:
  - Easy sample preparation (drying, 2mm)
  - low cost (60 CZK/sample)
  - user-friendly, quick (5-10 mins per scan)
- Disadvantages:
  - site-specific calibration needed
  - high number of samples (calibration/validation)
  - calibration is spectrometer-specific



Thank you for your attention!

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