

# Ozone in Denver

Don Stedman

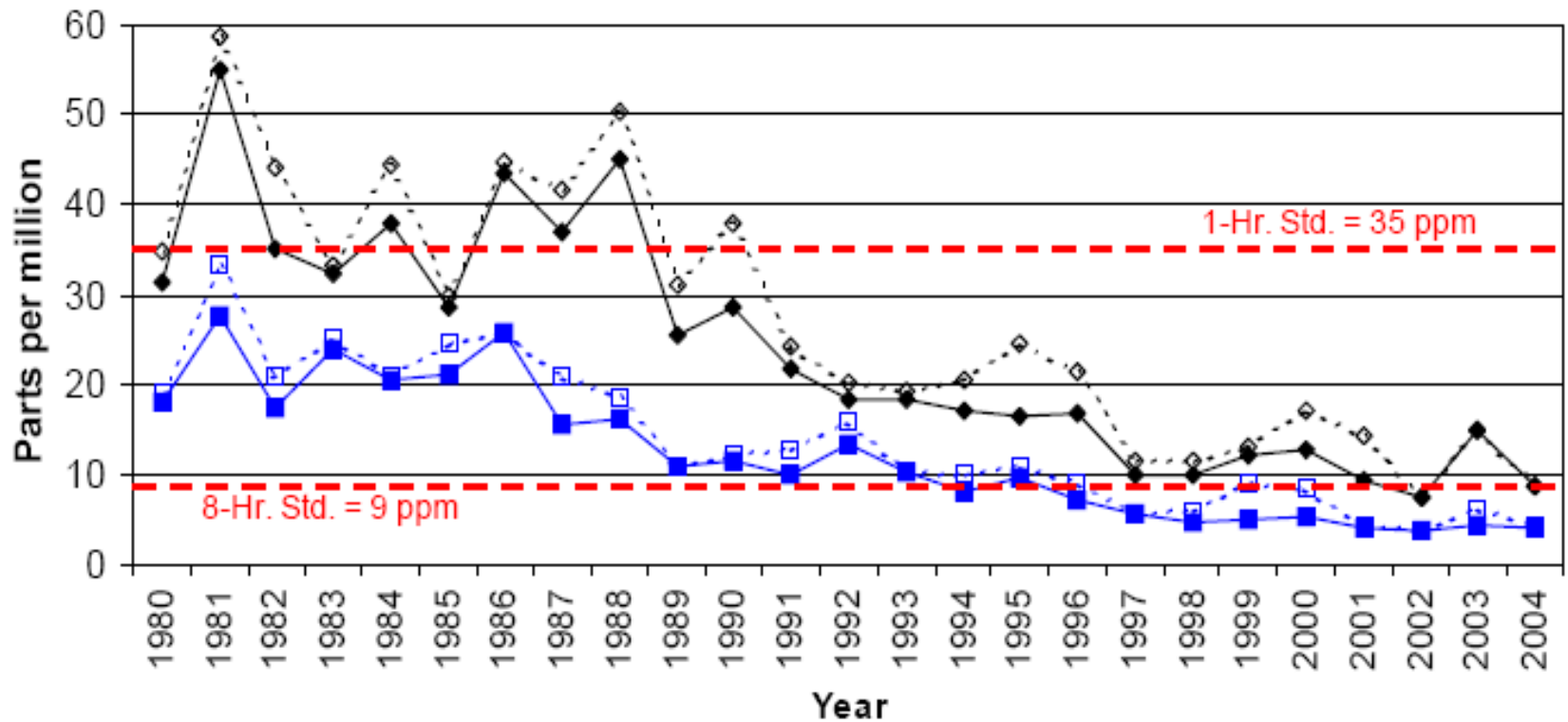
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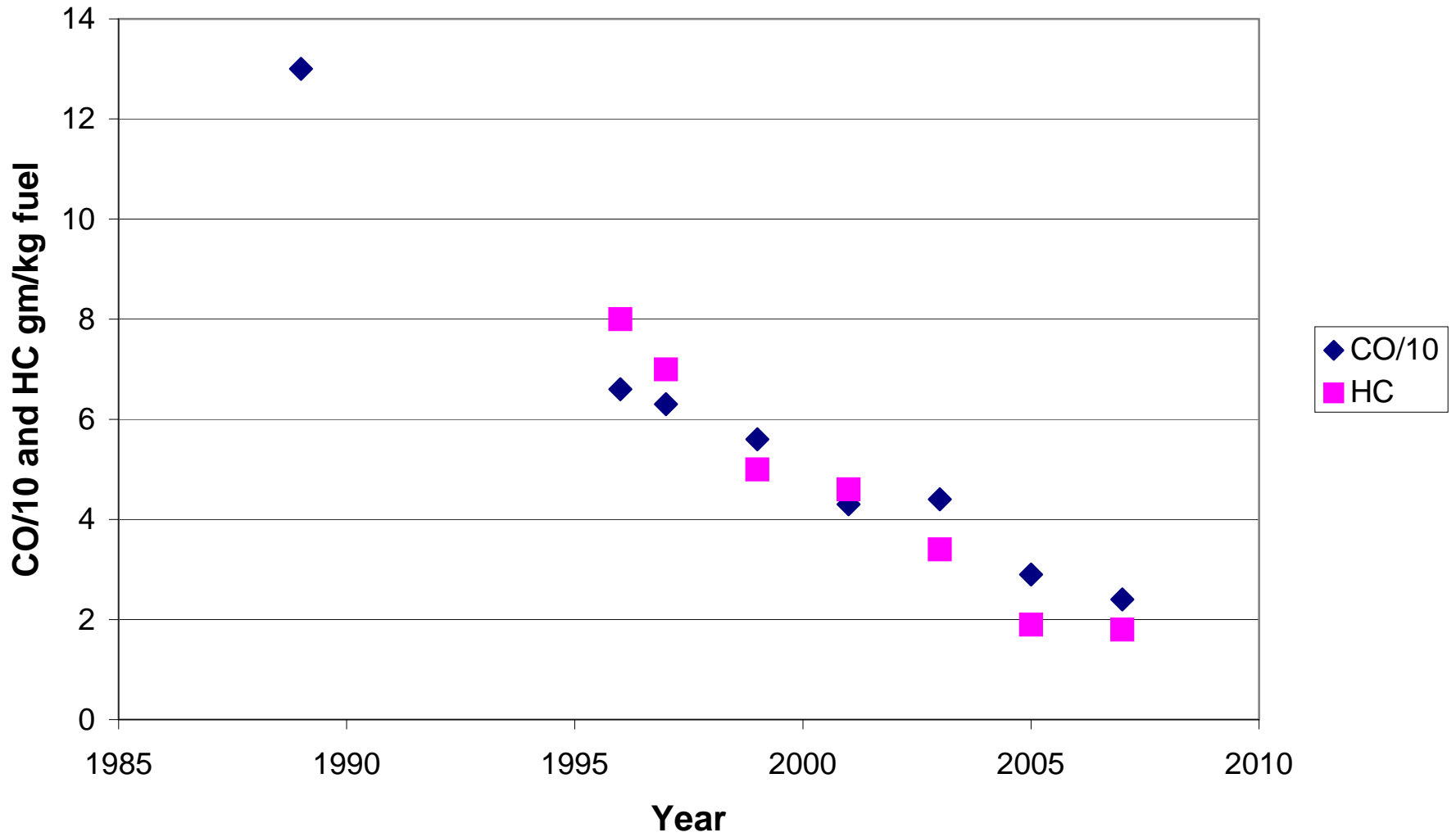
RMAWMA Nov. 17 2009

## Denver CAMP, 2105 Broadway --- Carbon Monoxide 1-Hour and 8-Hour Maximum Values



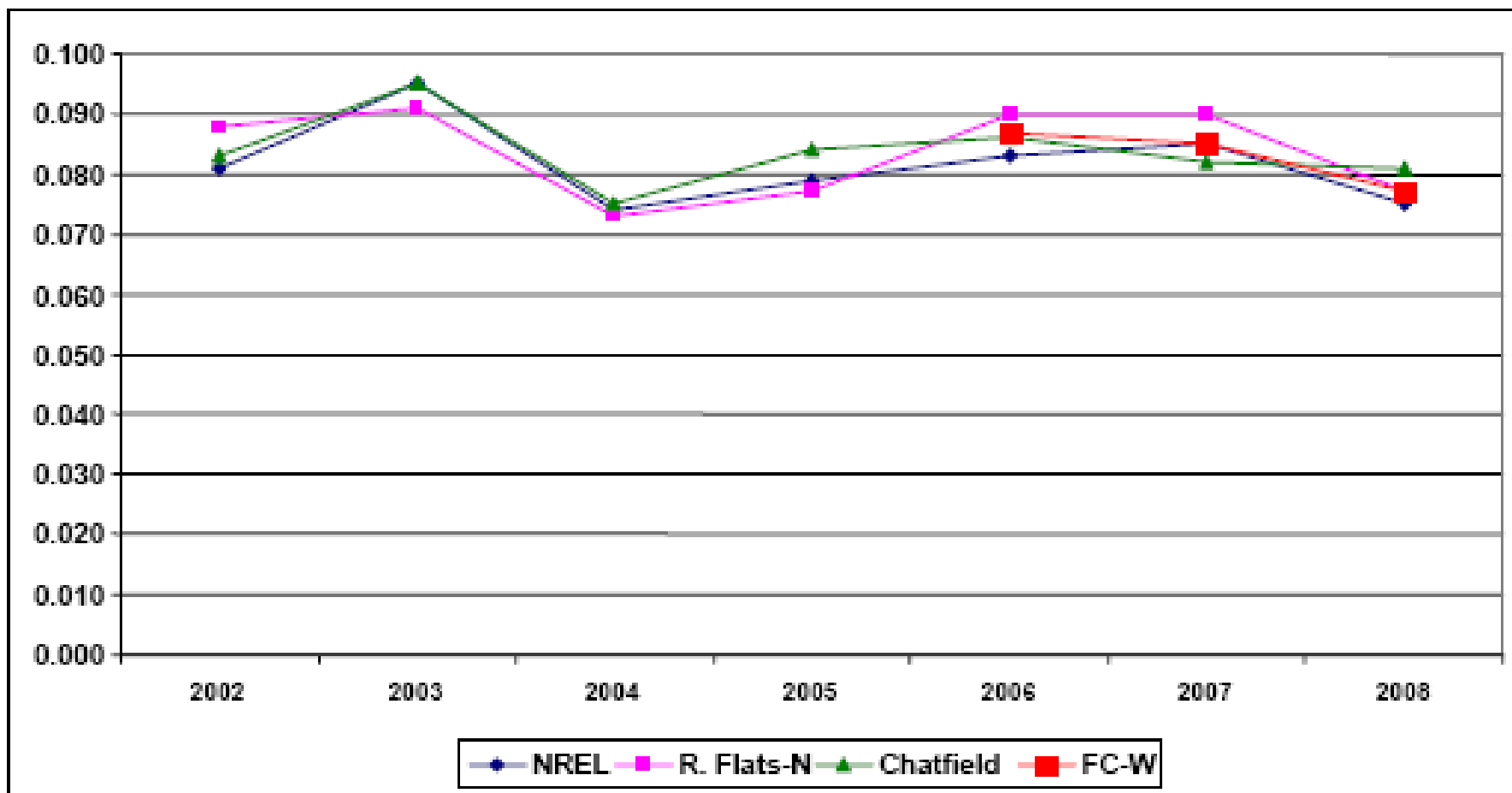
- ◇··· 1-Hour First Maximum
- 8-Hour First Maximum
- ◆— 1-Hour Second Maximum
- 8-Hour Second Maximum

# Denver Mobile Source CO and HC RSD Emissions



We are doing one thing **RIGHT!**

Chart 1: Time Series of Monitored 4<sup>th</sup> Maximum 8-Hour Ozone Values (ppm)



We are doing some things  
**WRONG!**

# NO<sub>x</sub> or VOC limited

- Ozone photochemistry is complicated.
- The ingredients are NO<sub>x</sub> VOC and sunlight.
- I have published a simplified model showing why VOC control is always beneficial; NO<sub>x</sub> control most often is not.
- If VOC limited, NO<sub>x</sub> reduction makes things worse not better.

# Assessment of the ozone-nitrogen oxide-VOC sensitivity of Mexico City...

- R. Torres-Jardon et al. JAWMA **59**, 1155-1172, October 2009.
- “We conclude that future ozone control plans with particular emphasis on NO<sub>x</sub> reductions may not be the optimum strategy for the MCMA.”

Broken cars, fuels and inventories  
OZONE EAC Presentation  
[www.feat.biochem.du.edu](http://www.feat.biochem.du.edu)

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# I told them

- If you leave summer ethanol in with a 1 lb waiver you will violate the 85 ppb standard.
- If you do not fix the I/M program you will violate the 85 ppb standard.
- Do not believe the computer model results which predict that you will not.

# Should we trust the model output or the ambient data?

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- EAC used the same model that we are now using to predict that we would not violate. 2007 AND 2008 data proved it WRONG.
- D. McNally noted Aug. 11 2008 that model outputs are only as good as the inputs - meteorology and inventory. He showed 11 comparisons to real past data for two chosen days.
- The model underpredicted the range of the data by 275% (expected)\*
- The model underpredicted the observed peaks by an average of 7 ppb.
- The model underpredicted day1-day 2 variation by 200%. The RMNP comparison was not shown. In that case the model prediction was a +4 ppb ozone increase. The observation was a -17 ppb DECREASE.
- Suggested improvement. Triple the on-road HC emissions and divide the off-road CO emissions by the same factor.

\*Maryland 2007 SIP Chapter 10 p 30. "CMAQ underpredicts daily ozone variability..."

# Broken cars

- Each day of on-road readings at Speer and I-25 we find about three cars emitting an average of 50 gm/mile HC.
- The new car standard is 0.04 gm/mile.
- The vehicle owners are unlikely to be recruited into voluntary government run programs.

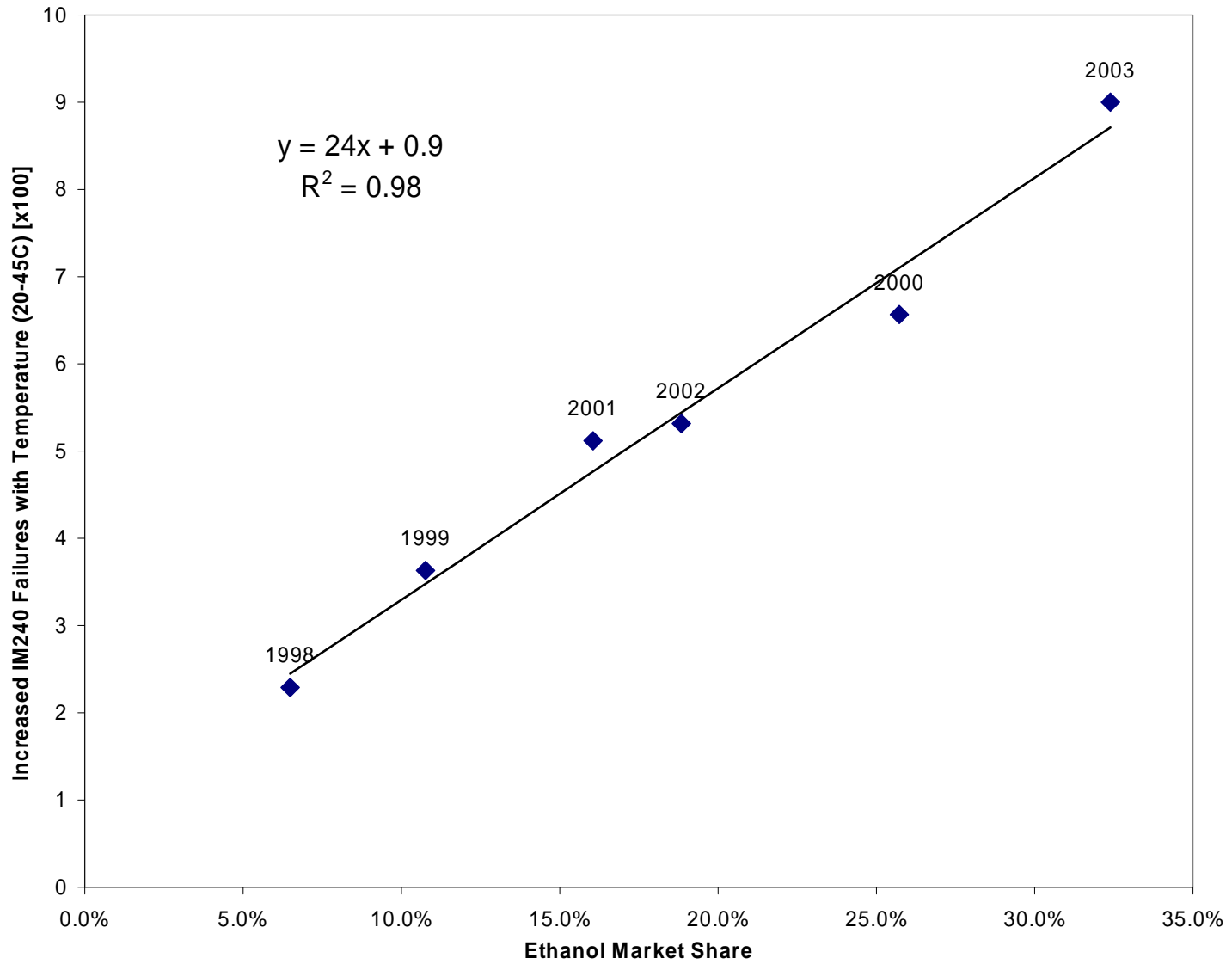
# Broken Cars

- Scofflaws
  - Tighten I/M enforcement
  - Cut points won't help, they only find more marginal emitters
  - OBDII won't help either
  - They are easy to find with remote sensing

# Broken Fuels

- High temperature effects are not in any model and are critically important to Denver's ozone problem.
- They can be studied by looking at available data.

# Ethanol Causes High HC Emissions on Hot Days Under IM240 Conditions



# Thanks to

- ESP, NSF, CRC, RAQC, CARB, BAR, NREL, API, Shell, USAID, EPA, RAC, Air Care Colorado, SCAQMD, Unocal, Colorado Office of Energy Conservation, Ken Barr, U. of Denver, Illinois DNR, others that I may have missed.
- Gary and Annette Bishop and countless Graduate Students and research assistants.