

Air quality is expressed by two parameters per pollutant:

Maximum permissible concentration of the pollutant in the atmosphere,

Number of occasions over a given period of time on which it is permissible to exceed this concentration (maximum permissible probability that the concentration in the area will exceed the absolute limit).

Using the classic method of diffusion models, it is possible to simulate short-period atmospheric pollutant concentrations by zones, situating the destruction alternative model on the various space-time co-ordinates. This shows whether some problem area will occur which exceeds the established limits.

Other models are used for the treatment of solid residues.

This type of model can also be used to determine the most probable location of the pollution focus by means of the data collected from the environment (7).

Some models developed by the research centre of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid have been successfully tested in the industrial zone of Bilbao (8).