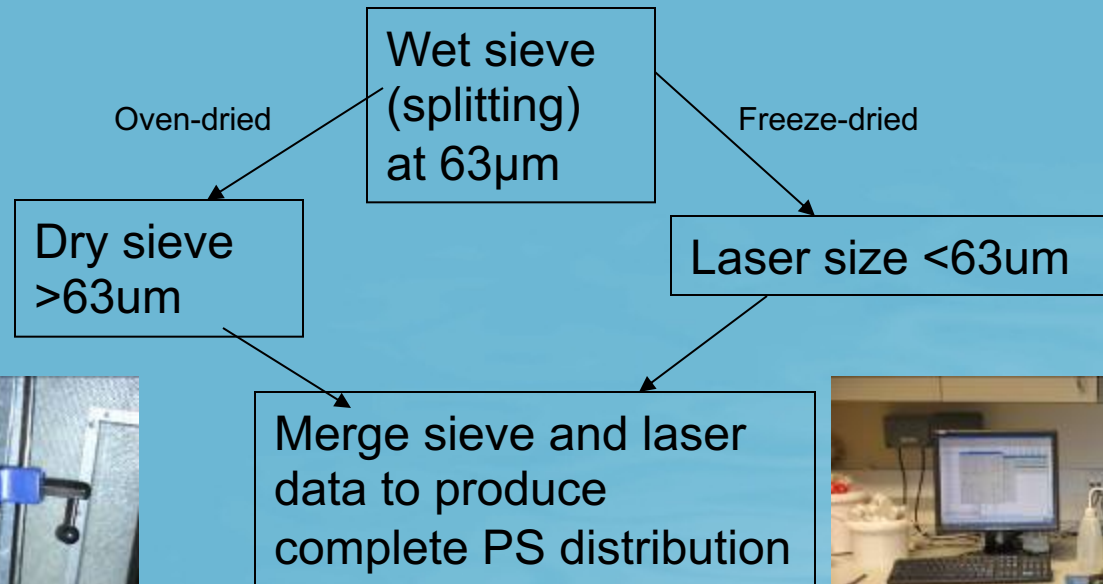


Sample Analysis (sieve and laser analysis)

Claire Mason

Summary of current method



Advantages

- temporally comparable with historic data
- trace metal/ organic carbon and nitrogen sediment prepared within this process
- break between sieve and laser at 63um (silt/clay boundary) so can look at sieve data separately to laser size data

Disadvantages

- more labour intensive than 1mm method ie. More sieving.
- laser sizer gives higher resolution data
- currently in this method analyse freeze-dried <63um using autosampler attached to laser sizer – and has to be re-disaggregated after drying – takes time and element of uncertainty as to how far to go with disaggregation

(Currently trialling taking a subsample from <63um wet sediment and running this in the laser sizer without drying – obtaining repeatable results and will shortly have some freeze-dried v wet sediment comparisons).