



From Colorado, For Colorado: The Homegrown Tech Ready to Tackle Landfill Methane

July 31, 2025



What to Expect Today

Why Methane and Why Now

Colorado's Opportunity for Landfill Methane Leadership

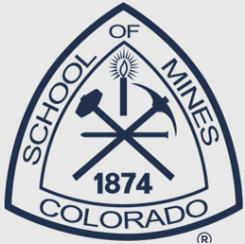
Meet the Home-Grown Tech Changing the Game

- ChampionX
- LongPath Technologies
- Grand Valley Instrumentation
- TrelliSense
- Project Canary

Q&A

What Comes Next

Introductory Remarks



**COLORADO SCHOOL OF
MINES**

The Payne Institute
for Public Policy



SIMON LOMAX

Director, Accelerated Methane
Reduction Initiative

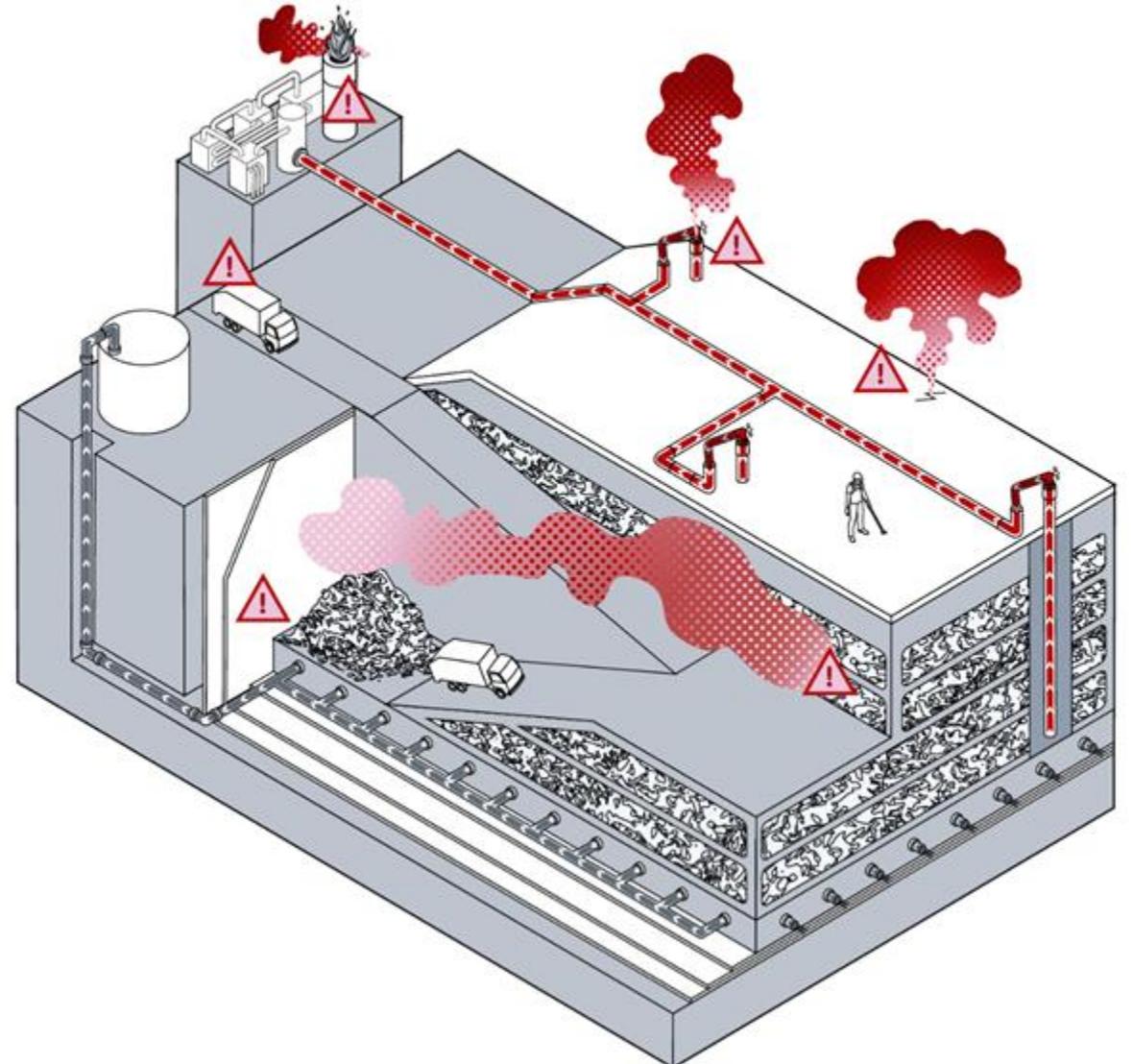
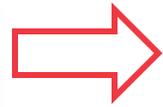


Colorado's Opportunity for Landfill Leadership

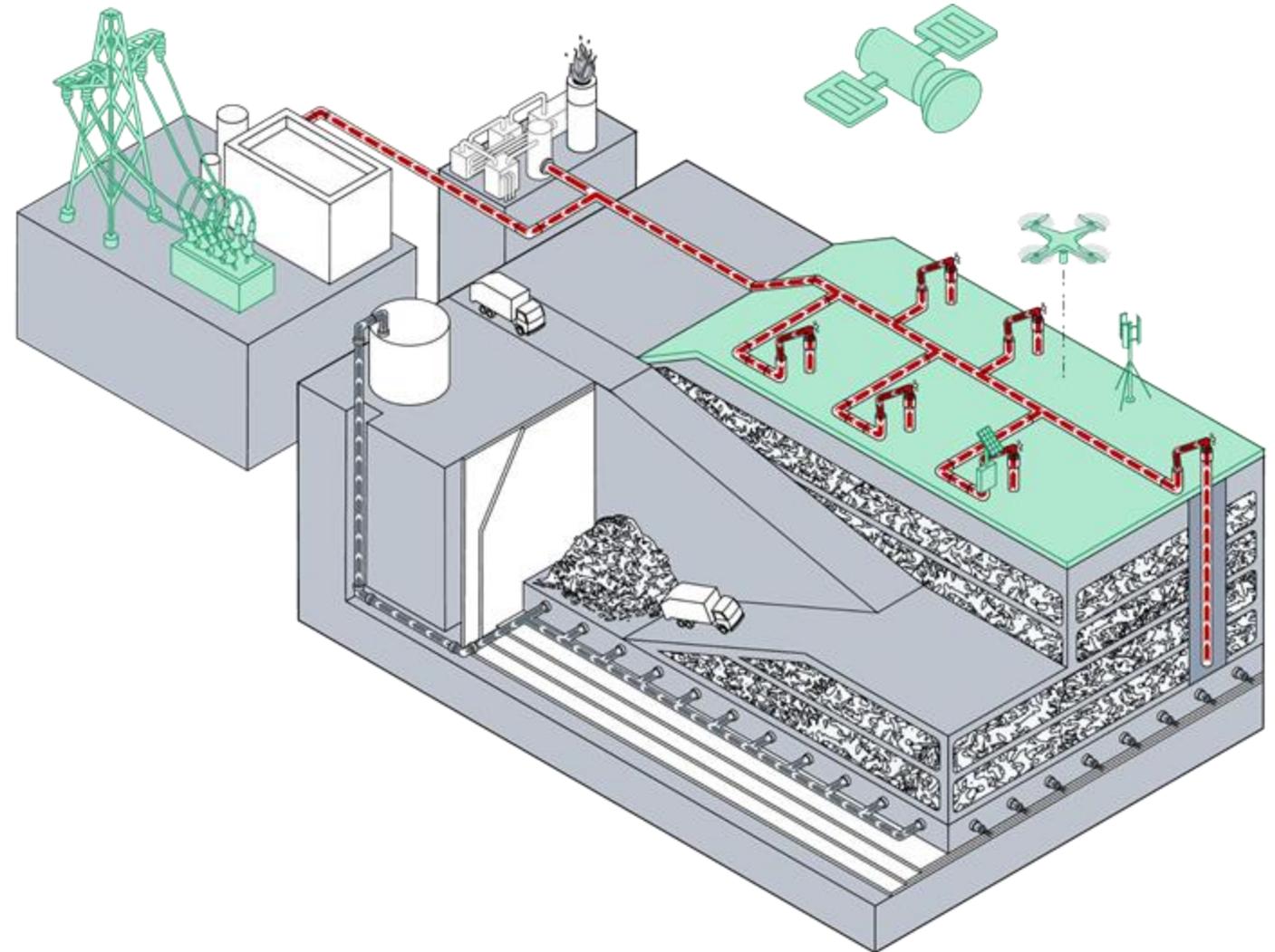
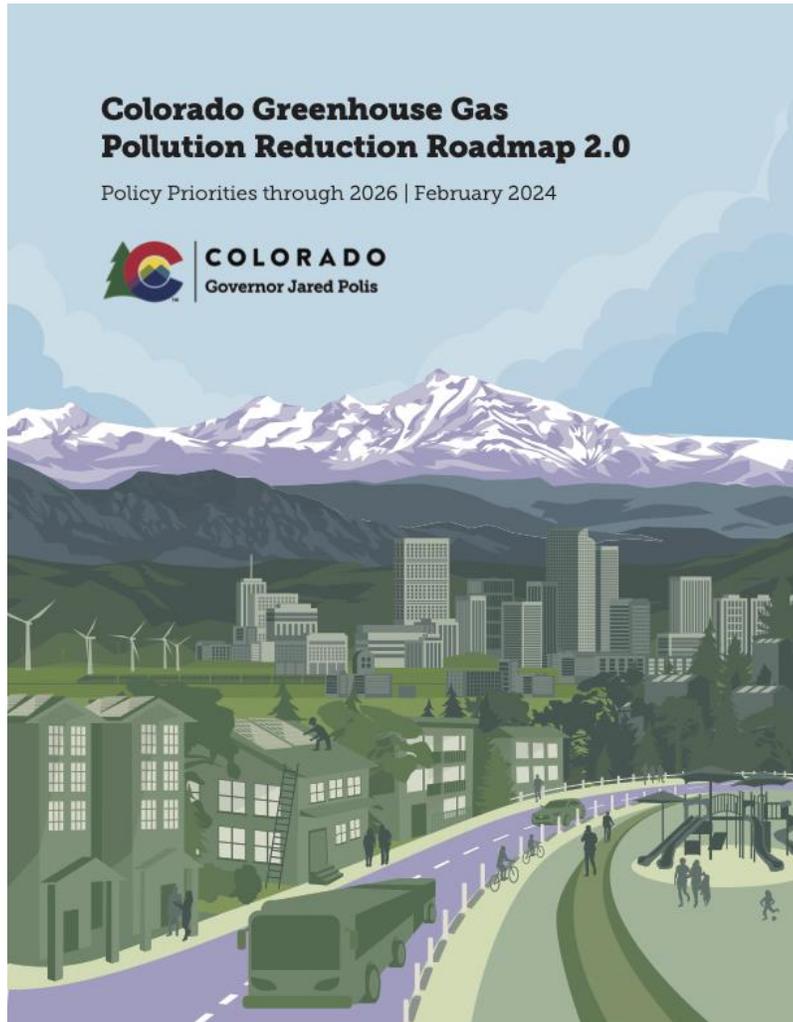
Ellie Garland, RMI



How do landfills impact the climate and communities?



Colorado has a plan to address landfill pollution



Proposed landfill standards leverage homegrown technology & innovation to deliver local benefits



Deploying advanced landfill monitoring & controls will:

- **Improve local air quality**
- **Protect public health**
- **Support local businesses**
- **Sustain 1,700+ jobs**
- **Slow near-term warming**
- **Advance Colorado's climate goals**

Projected benefits are **6X** the estimated compliance costs

Non-Endorsement. RMI is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization that is independent in its policies, vision and activities. RMI is hosting this forum to further RMI's mission of transforming the global energy system to secure a clean, prosperous, zero-carbon future for all and to raise awareness of the emerging technologies that can achieve our mission. **RMI does not directly or indirectly endorse today's speakers or the companies they represent, or any product, service or data published or provided thereby.**

Today's Panelists



**MACKENZIE
SMITH**
Director of Airborne
Operations
ChampionX



GREG RIEKER
Co-founder &
Chief Technology Officer
LongPath Technologies



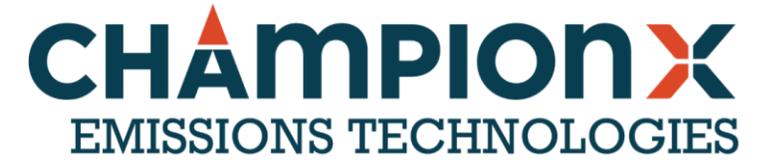
RIKKI COOK
Co-Founder
**Grand Valley
Instrumentation**



BEN SILTON
Chief Executive Officer
TrelliSense



ALI LASHGARI
Senior Scientist
Project Canary

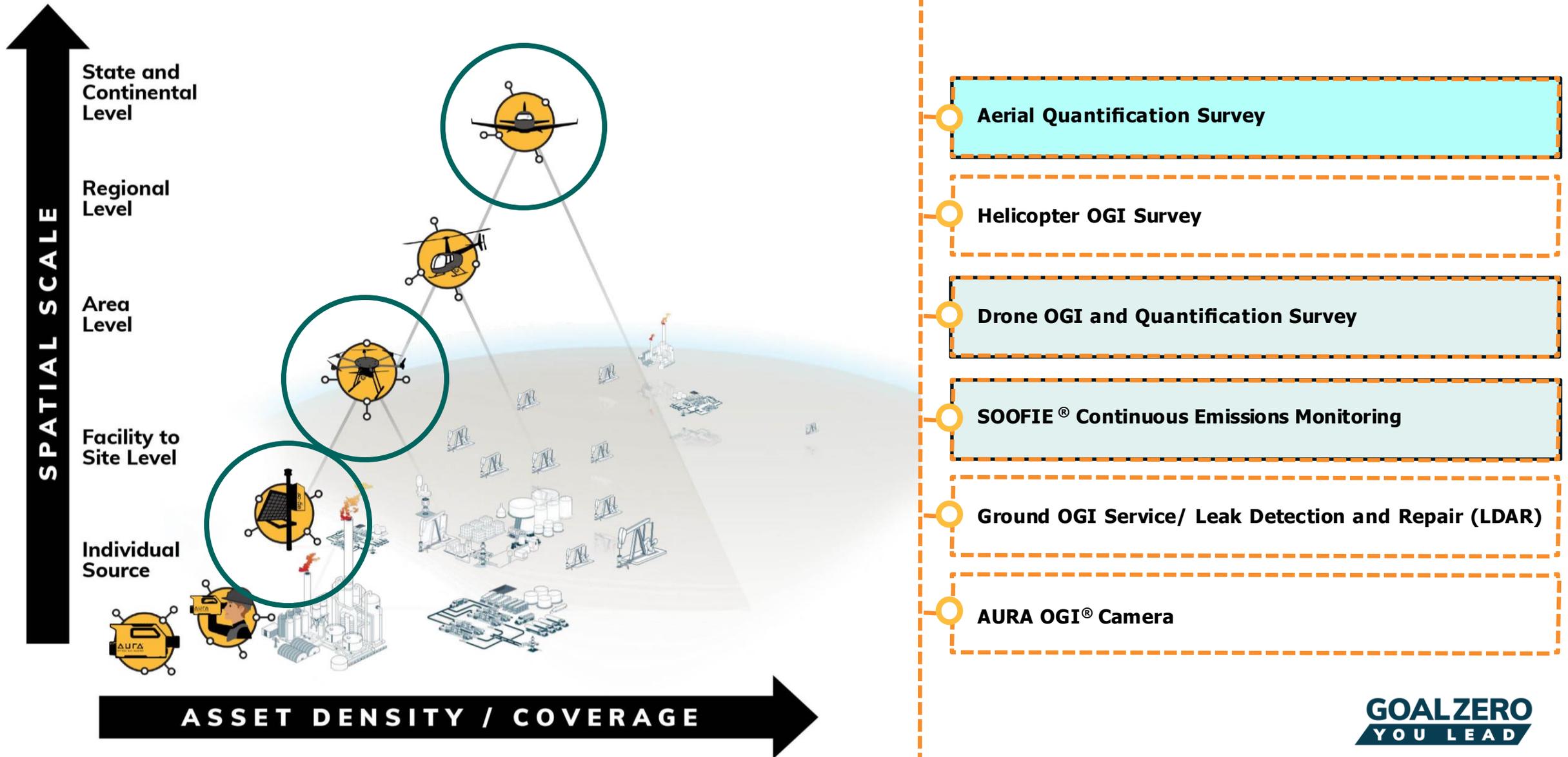


Landfill Measurements Overview

Dr. Mackenzie Smith, Director of Airborne
Operations/Field Science

July 31, 2025

Emissions Solutions



Airborne Quantification of CH₄ Emissions



- Airborne quantification of methane emissions using fixed-wing aircraft and drones
- Airborne platforms fly through emissions plumes and measure CH₄ concentration
- Methane concentration combined with wind speed and direction and vertical plume mixing → Mass emission rate

Methodology established in the peer-reviewed literature:

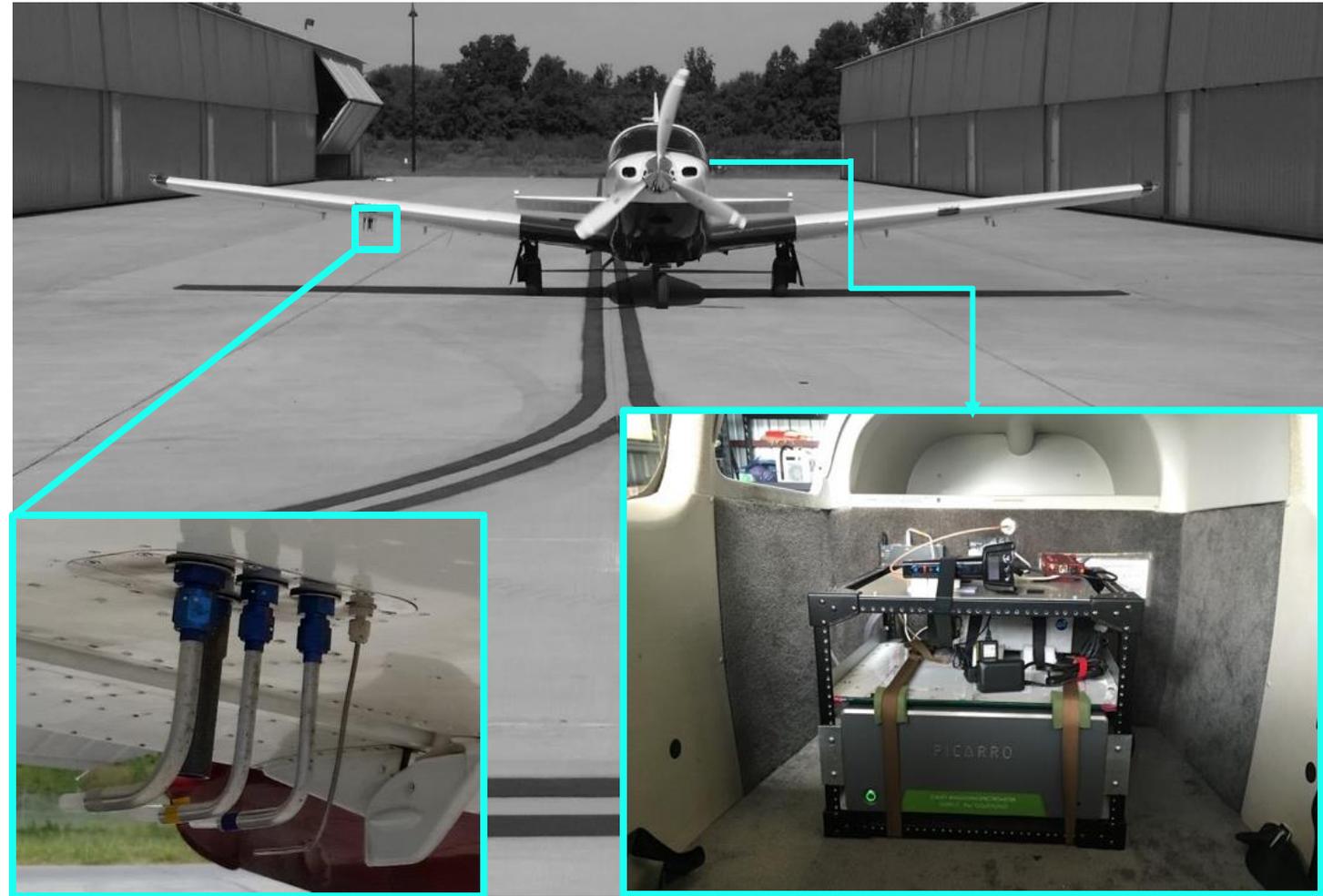
Conley, S. A., et al. "A Low-Cost System for Measuring Horizontal Winds from Single-Engine Aircraft", *J. Atmos. Ocean. Technol.*, 2014.

Conlet, S., et al. "Methane emissions from the 2015 Aliso Canyon blowout in Los Angeles, CA", *Science*, 2016.

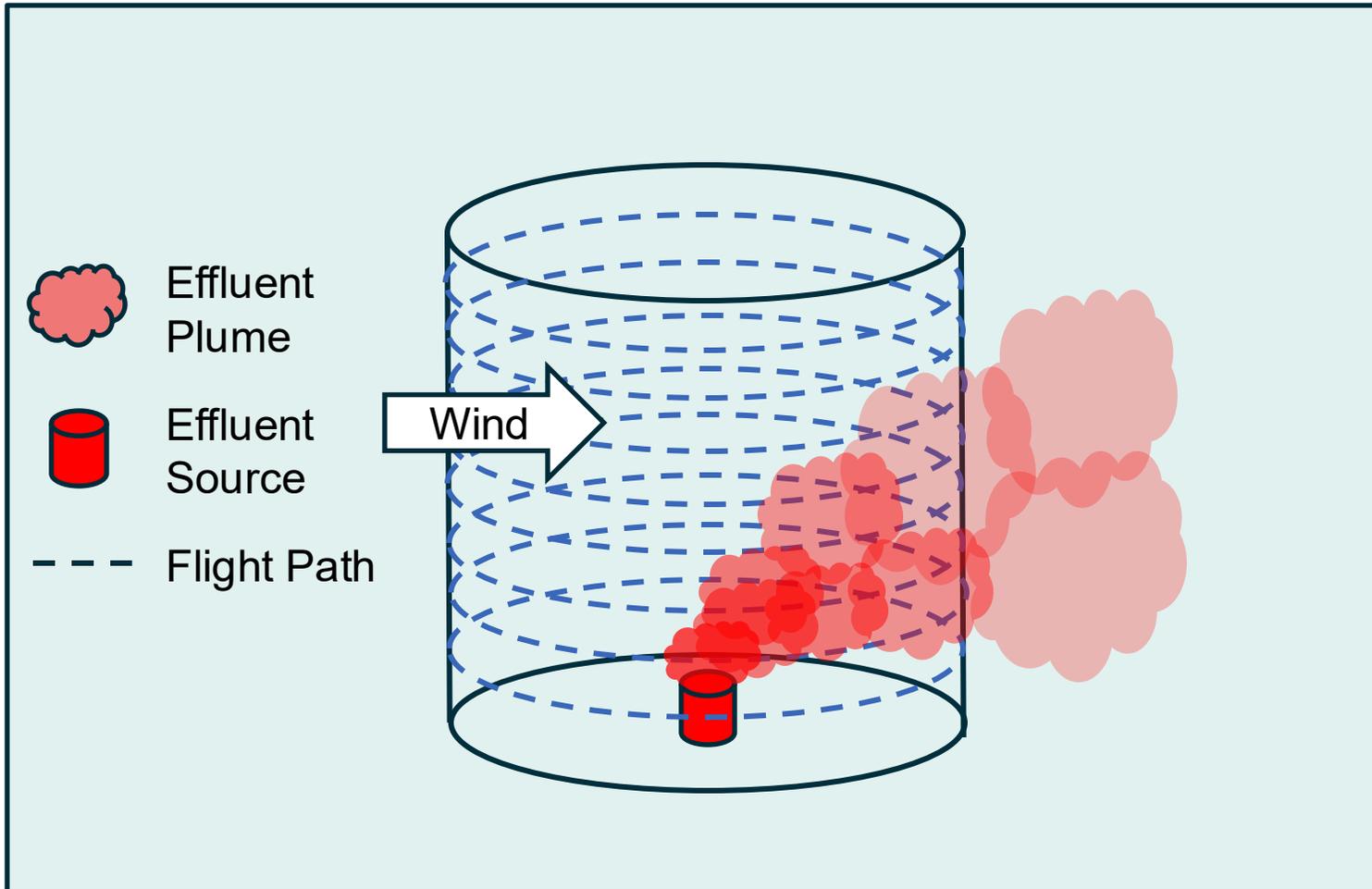
Conley, S., et al. "Application of Gauss's theorem to quantify localized surface emissions from airborne measurements of wind and trace gases", *Atmos. Meas. Tech.*, 2017.

Aircraft Modified for Science Operations

- FAA approved modifications to add air sample inlet on the outboard section of the wing.
- All aircraft capable of measuring 1-second winds, along with temperature, humidity and pressure.
- Available trace-gas analyzers for CH₄, CO₂, CO, ethane, O₃, and NO₂, and whole air samples for VOC analysis
- FAA approval for low-altitude flight



Quantification Principles

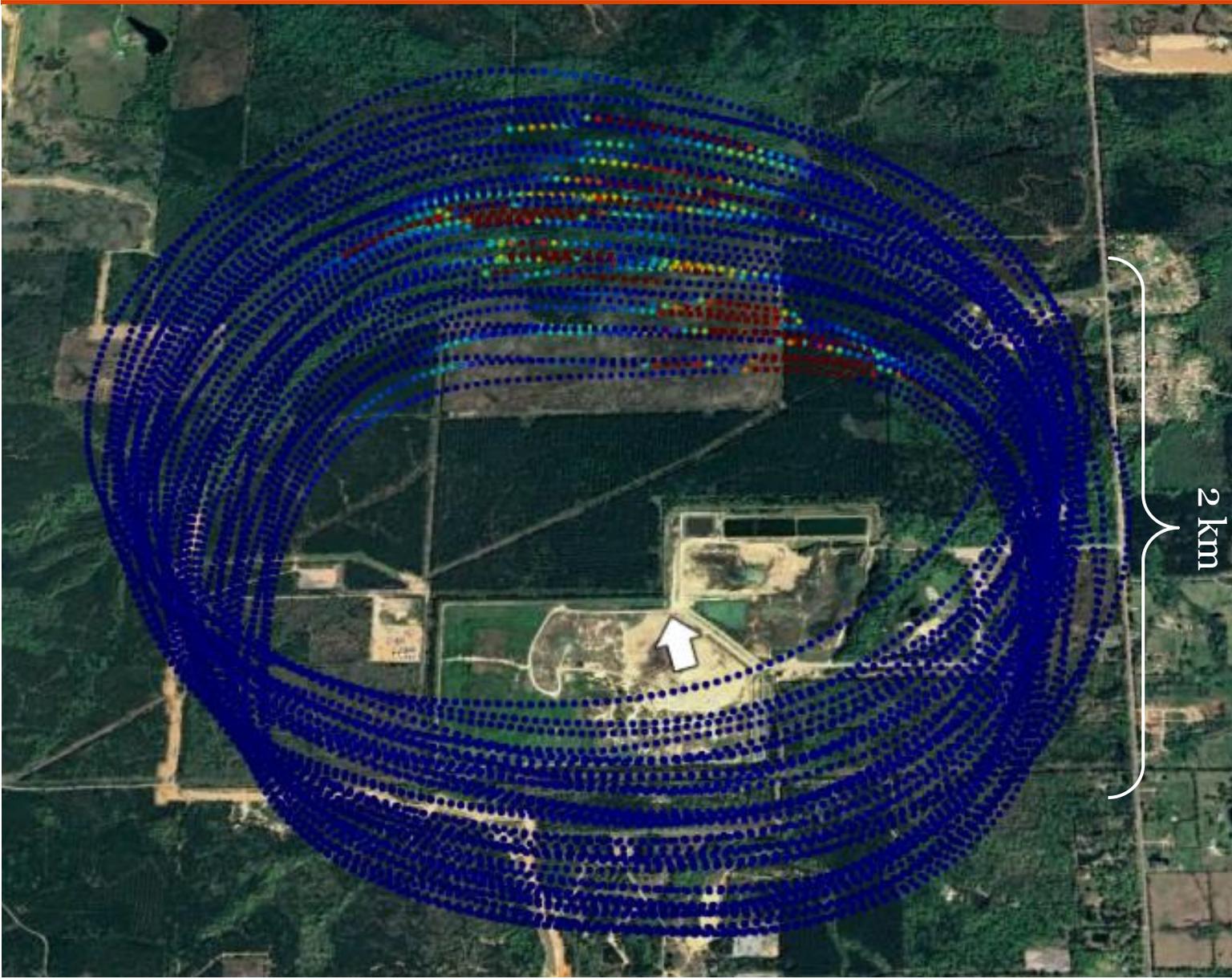


Mass Balance
Principle of mass conservation:
 $\text{Emission} = \text{Out} - \text{In}$



Needs: Horizontal wind & species concentration

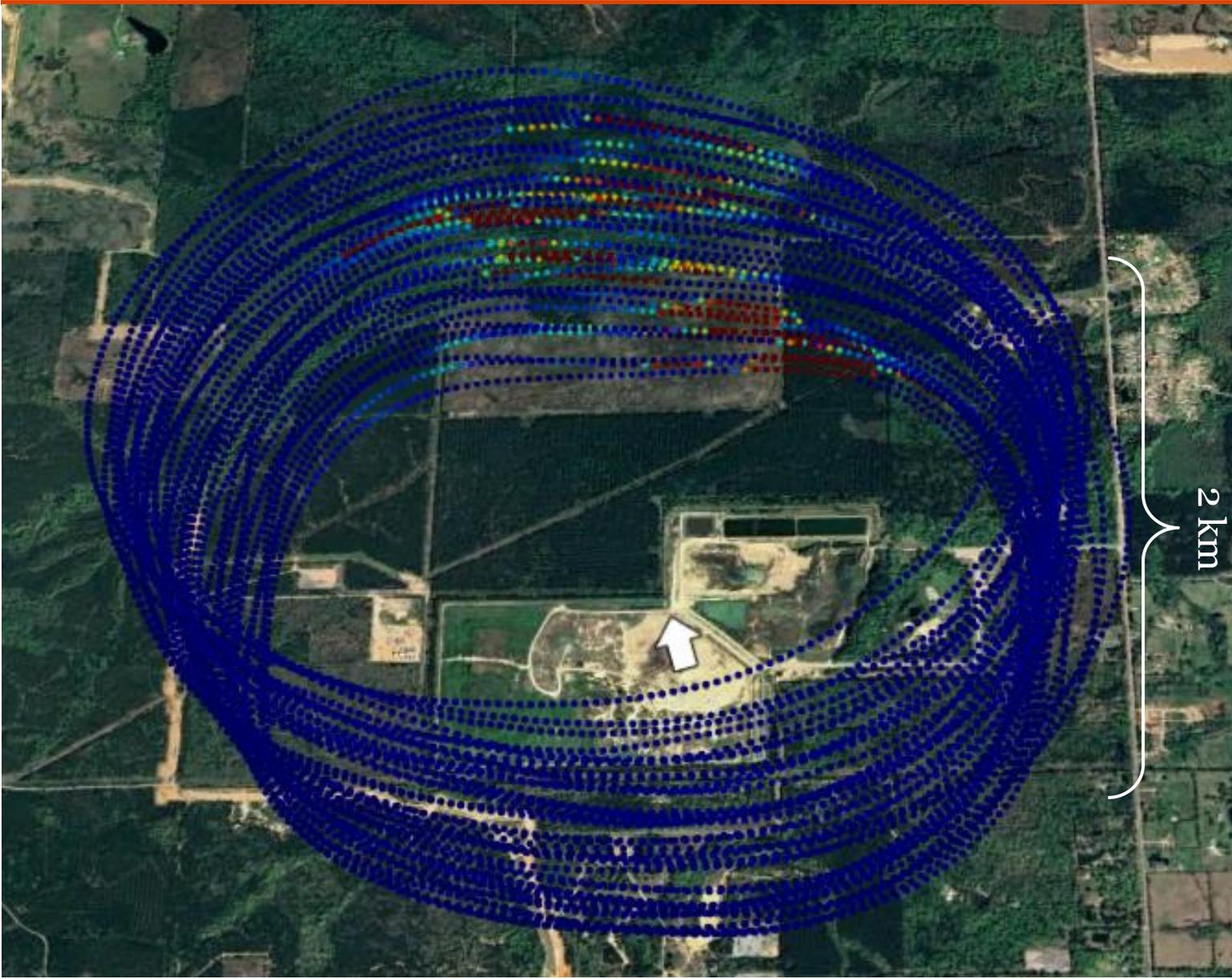
Quantification Principles



Map out the plume

- Circles as low as possible up to the top of the plume
- Enhancements are downwind
- Methodology can be scaled up to larger regions

Case Study: Emissions Reduction Validation



- CH₄ emissions measured **before** and **after** a methane mitigation strategy implemented at a Louisiana landfill.
- 50% emissions reduction confirmed by aircraft measurements.
- 100s of kg/hr of methane avoided

Years of Landfill Measurement Experience

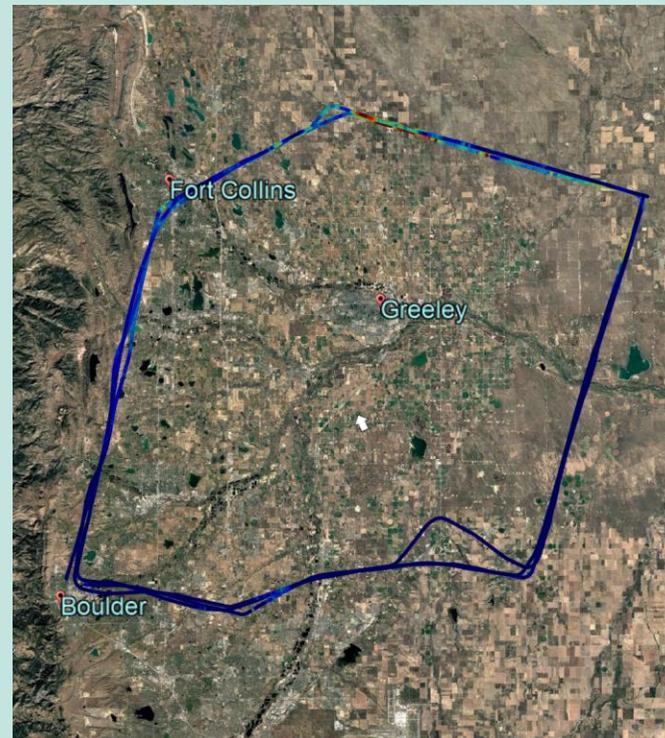
California Air Resources Board (CARB)

50+ landfills measured over 2 years as part of larger state-wide methane study



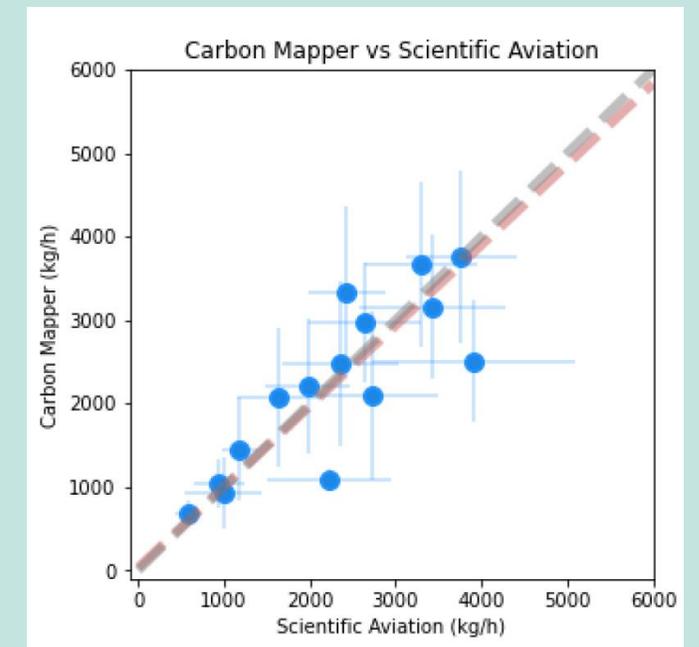
Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

Assess contribution of different source sectors to Denver Julesberg basin methane



Method Intercomparisons for US Landfills

Collaboration with Carbon Mapper and US EPA to quantify landfills across the United States



Cusworth et al., 2024, *Science*.

Three Relevant Technologies

Most Frequent Usage at Landfills

Least Frequent

Fixed-Wing Aircraft

- Ideal for large areas, including landfills
- Captures all emissions from within the flight path
- Useful for inaccessible areas
- No ground access required

Drones

- Range of uses:
- Small areas and small emissions (10s of m; < 1 kg/h)
 - Medium sites and large emissions (100s of m; > 100s of kg/h)
 - Can provide some spatial localization
 - Ground access usually helpful

Continuous Monitors

- Useful for identifying unexpected or large emissions
 - Rough emissions localization
- Research opportunities:*
- Not widely used on landfills, but low cost and high time resolution are appealing
 - Comparison studies using fixed-wing, drones



Large Area Laser Emissions Monitoring Networks

SAFETY FIRST :



0
EMR



0
TRIR



0
Incidents

21,139

Total Q2 2025 Hours

43

Average EE Count

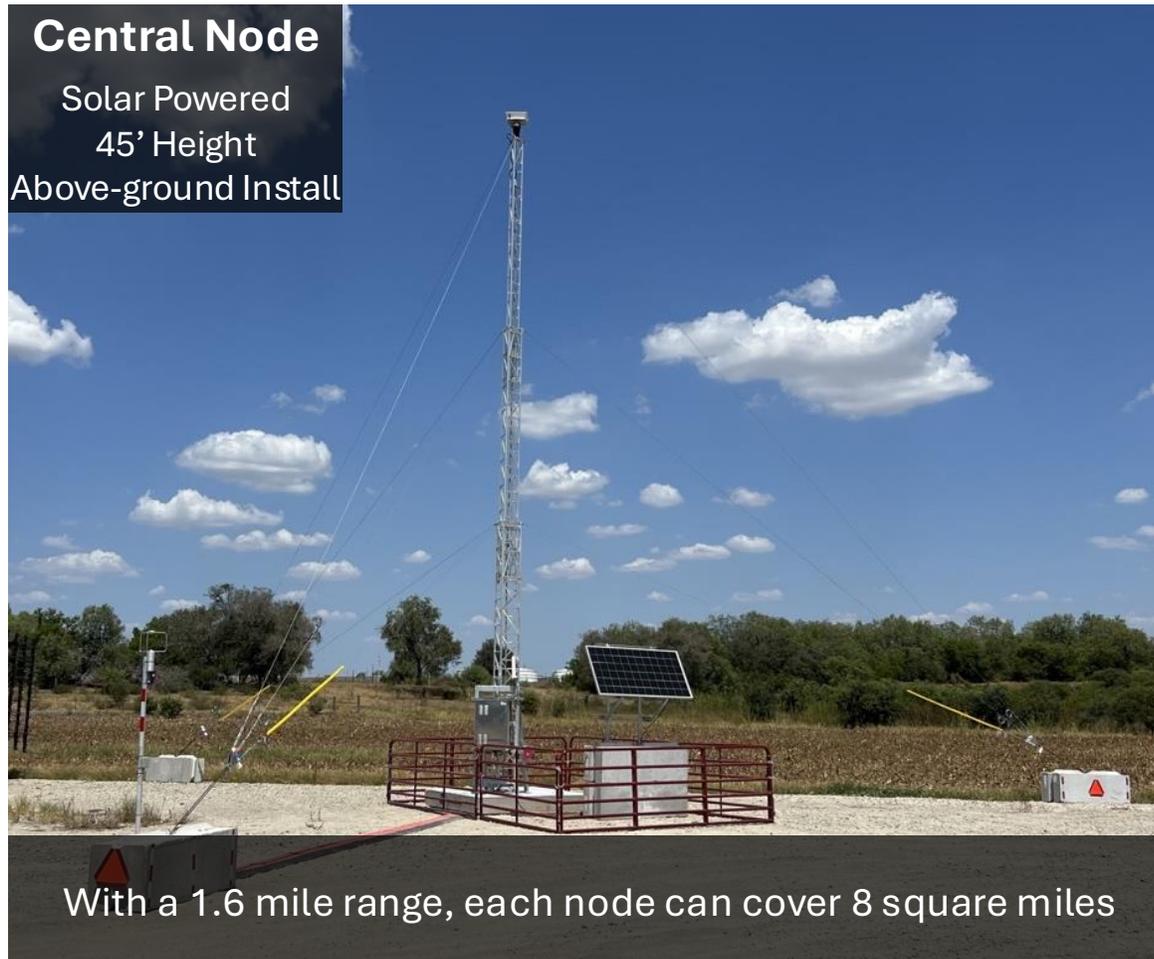
LONGPATH'S DNA: Rigor in Everything We Do

- Colorado Nobel Prize Winning Roots
- Rigorous Vetting at Every Stage of Growth
- Quality & Accuracy as the Basis for Trust
- 40+ team delivering Customer Success at Scale
- 900+ square mile monitoring network
- Backing from DOE, Conoco Phillips, Williams



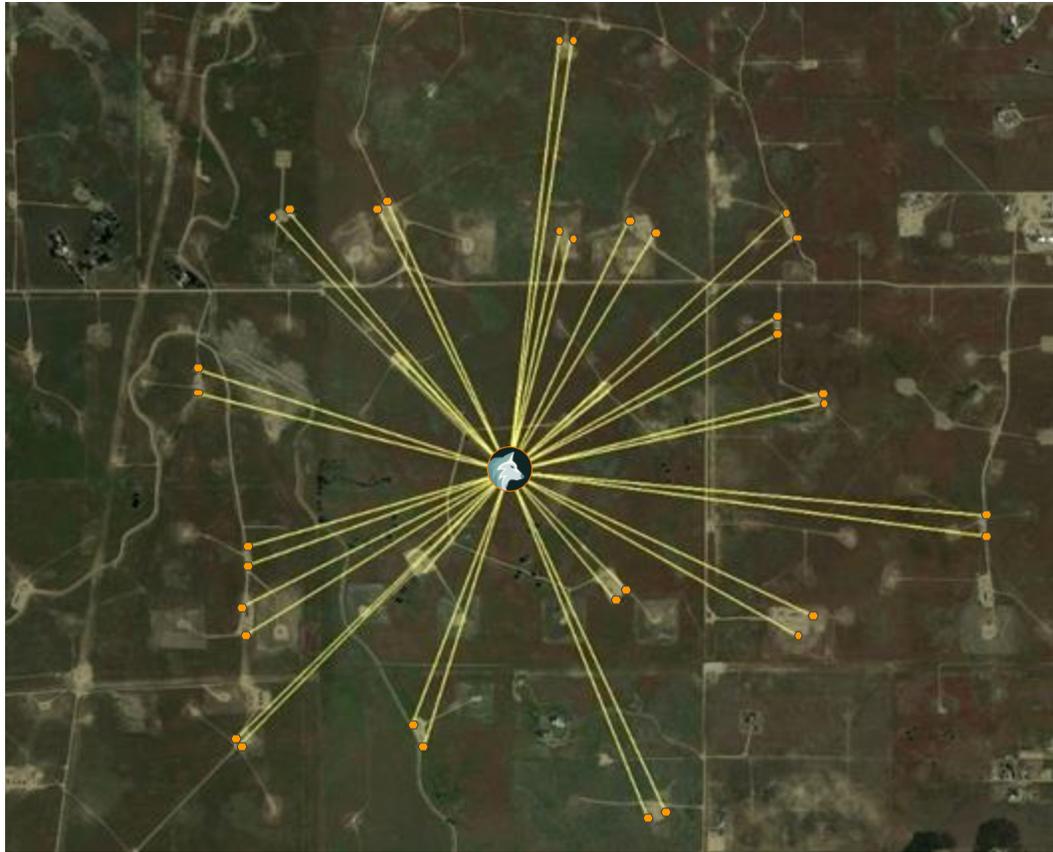
LONGPATH OIL & GAS METHANE MONITORING: Overview

Standard deployment: on-site hardware



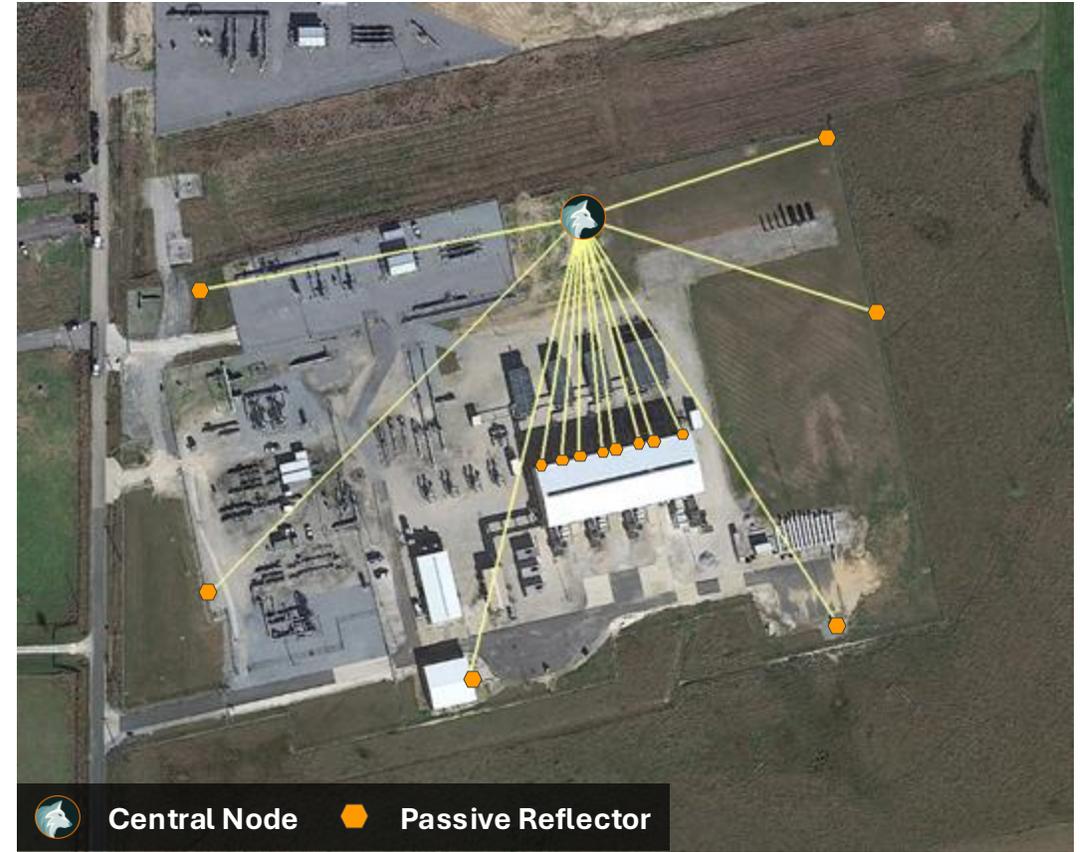
LONGPATH OIL & GAS METHANE MONITORING: Overview

Upstream



Networked monitoring from a single tower

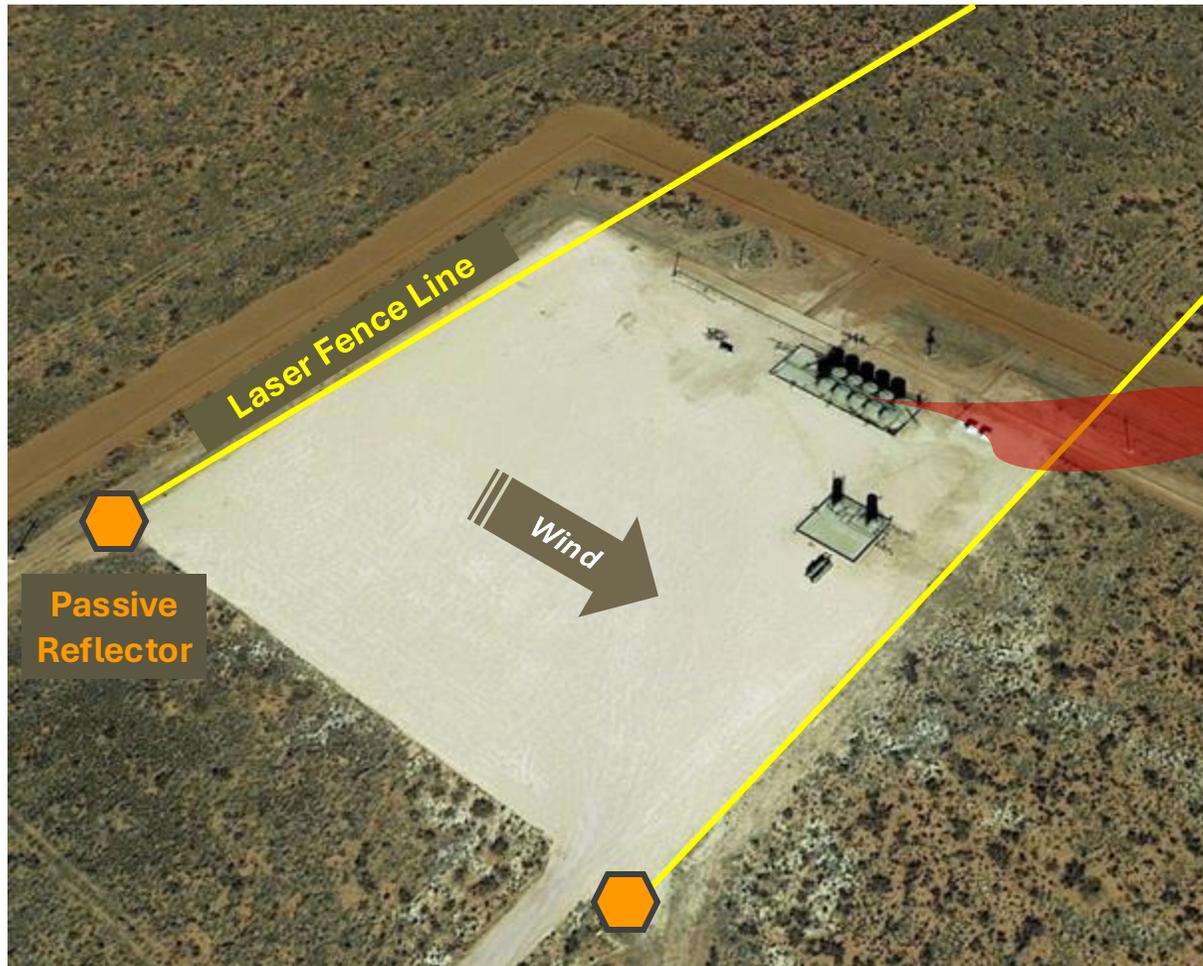
Midstream



Accurate equipment group & full site quantification

LONGPATH OIL & GAS METHANE MONITORING: Overview

Operational framework



- 1 Bracket facility or sector with laser beams from central node.
- 2 Record methane entering facility upwind and exiting facility downwind.
- 3 Quantify emissions rate (MCFD or kg/hr) based on methane differential.
- 4 Alert if persistent emission readings exceed alert threshold over a period

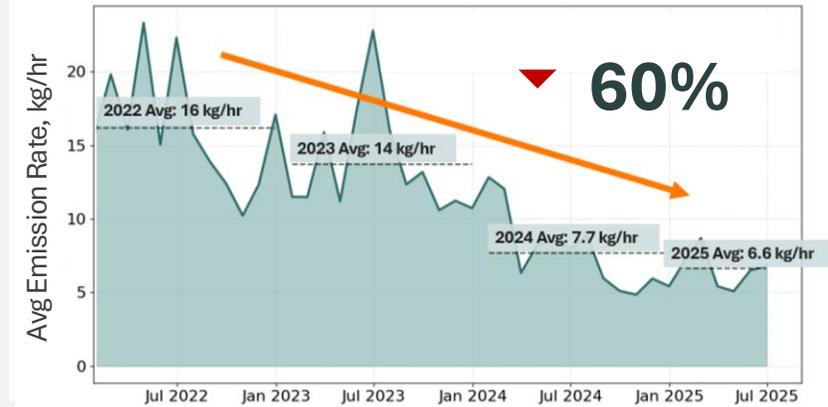
LONGPATH IS TRUSTED BY FIELD OPERATIONS

Low false positive rate → quantified emissions reductions

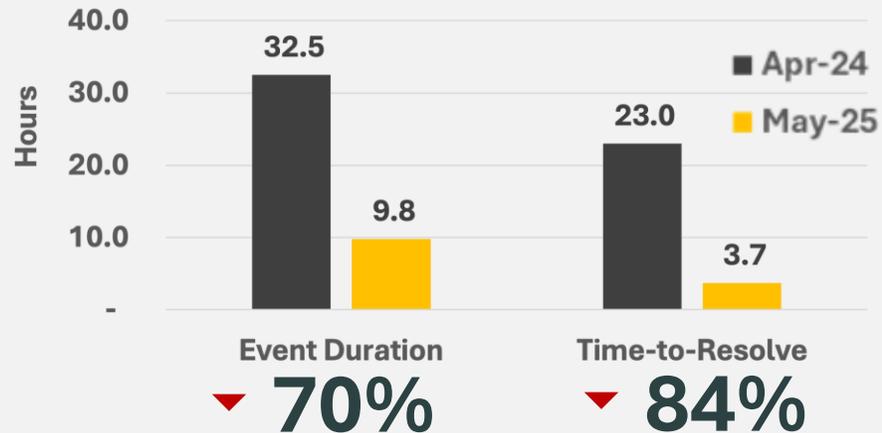
2-month In-Field Blind Testing vs Daily Inspection

TRUE POSITIVE	100%
TRUE NEGATIVE	94%
FALSE POSITIVE	0%
FALSE NEGATIVE	6%

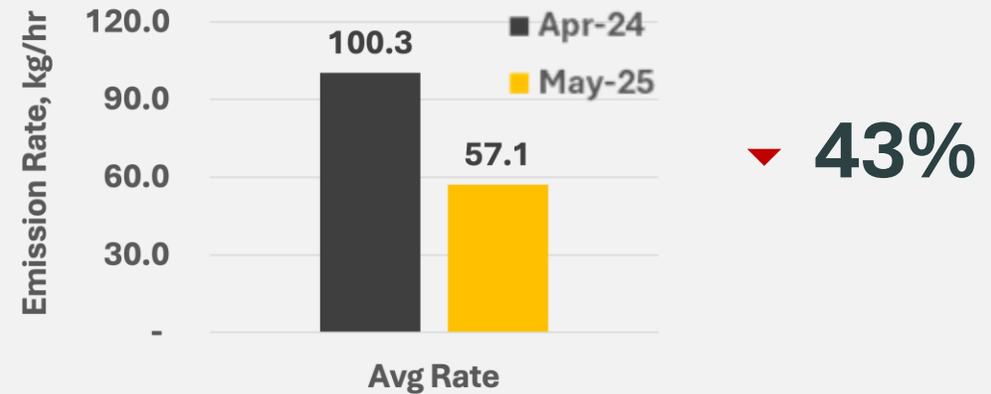
Year-on-year baseline emissions reductions



Methane Emission Event Operational Response



Methane Emission Event Severity



TRUST AND CONFIDENCE THROUGH REGULATORY LEADERSHIP

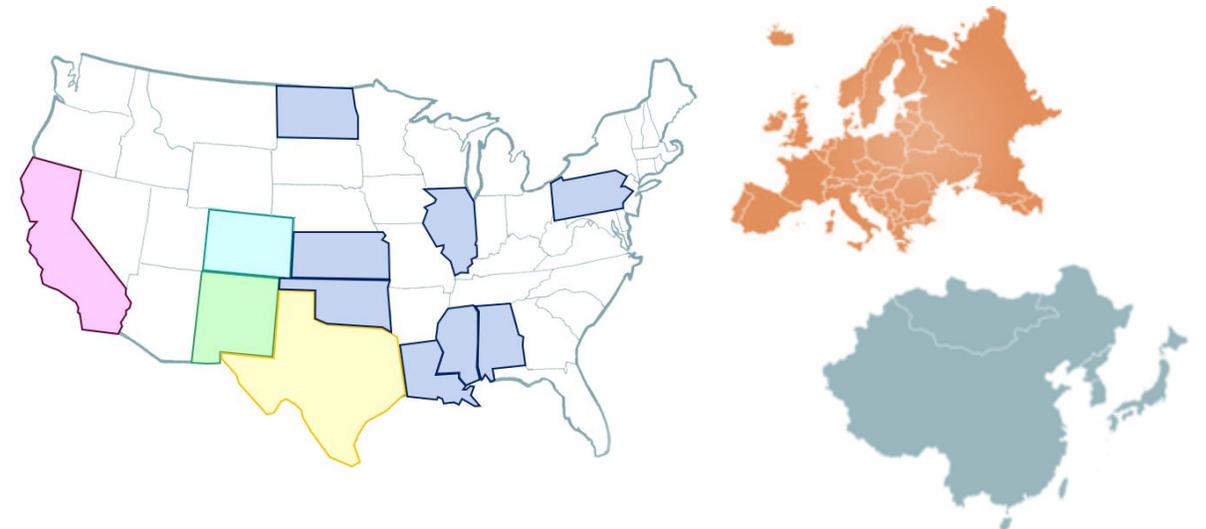
Longpath leads the industry in approvals

Current Approvals

- ✓ EPA OOOOa/b/c
- ✓ New Mexico Part 27, Part 50, and ALARM
- ✓ Colorado Alt. AIMM
- ✓ Colorado Pre-Production Monitoring
- ✓ Colorado Methane Intensity Verification
- ✓ Wyoming Ozone Non-Attainment
- ✓ BLM Waste Prevention Rule

Coming Soon

- ✓ Replacement of TCEQ AVO & OGI Inspections
- ✓ European Union MMRV Requirements
- ✓ California SB 1137 CM Requirements

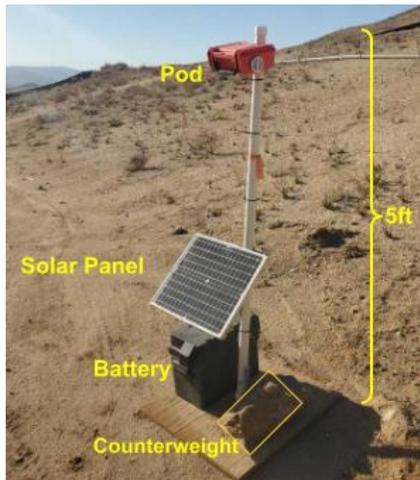


LONGPATH EXPANDS INTO LANDFILL MONITORING

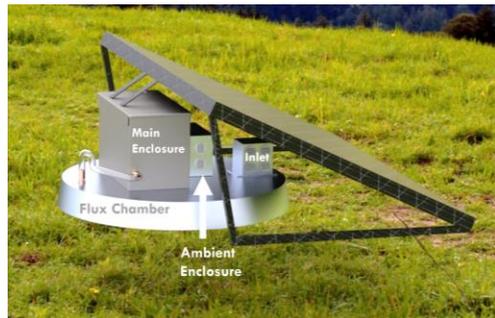
EPA STAR Program: Understand and control municipal solid waste landfill air emissions

Multi-platform assessment of methane/VOC emissions and uncertainty through evolving landfill morphology

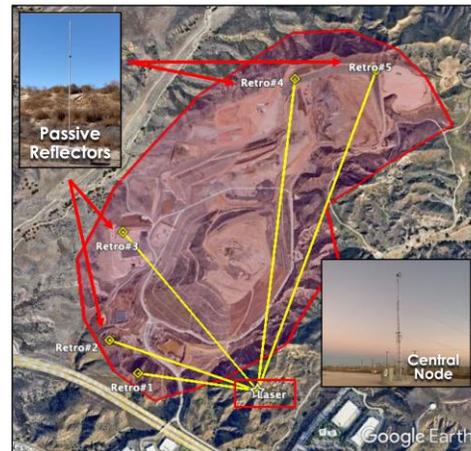
Point sensor network



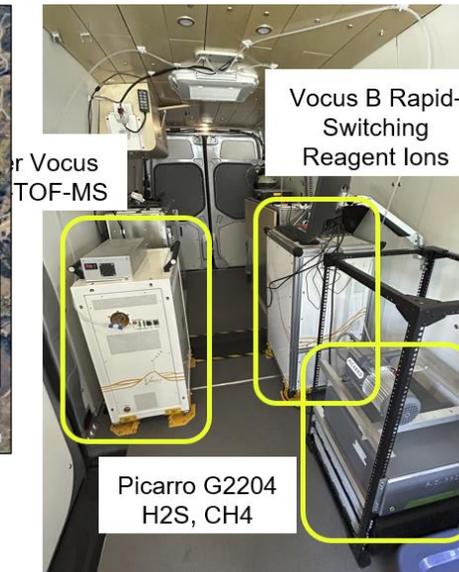
Flux chamber network



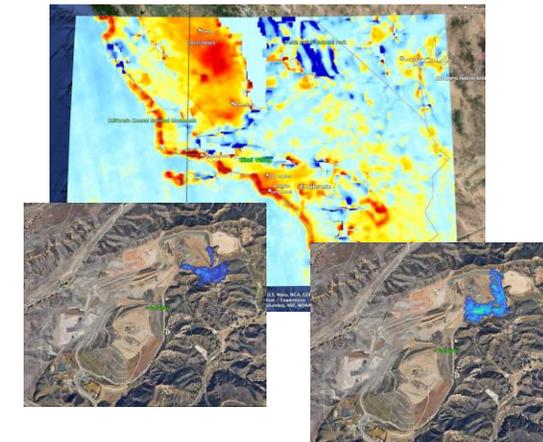
LongPath laser network



Mobile VOC measurements



Satellite/aerial data products



LONGPATH LANDFILL LASER SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT

Two systems deployed monitoring:

- Active face
- Maintenance area
- Gas handling infrastructure



LONGPATH LANDFILL LASER SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT



North system

- Active area of the landfill
- 13 beam paths

Measurements stats

- Started March 2025
- >150k measurements

LONGPATH LANDFILL LASER SYSTEM DEPLOYMENT



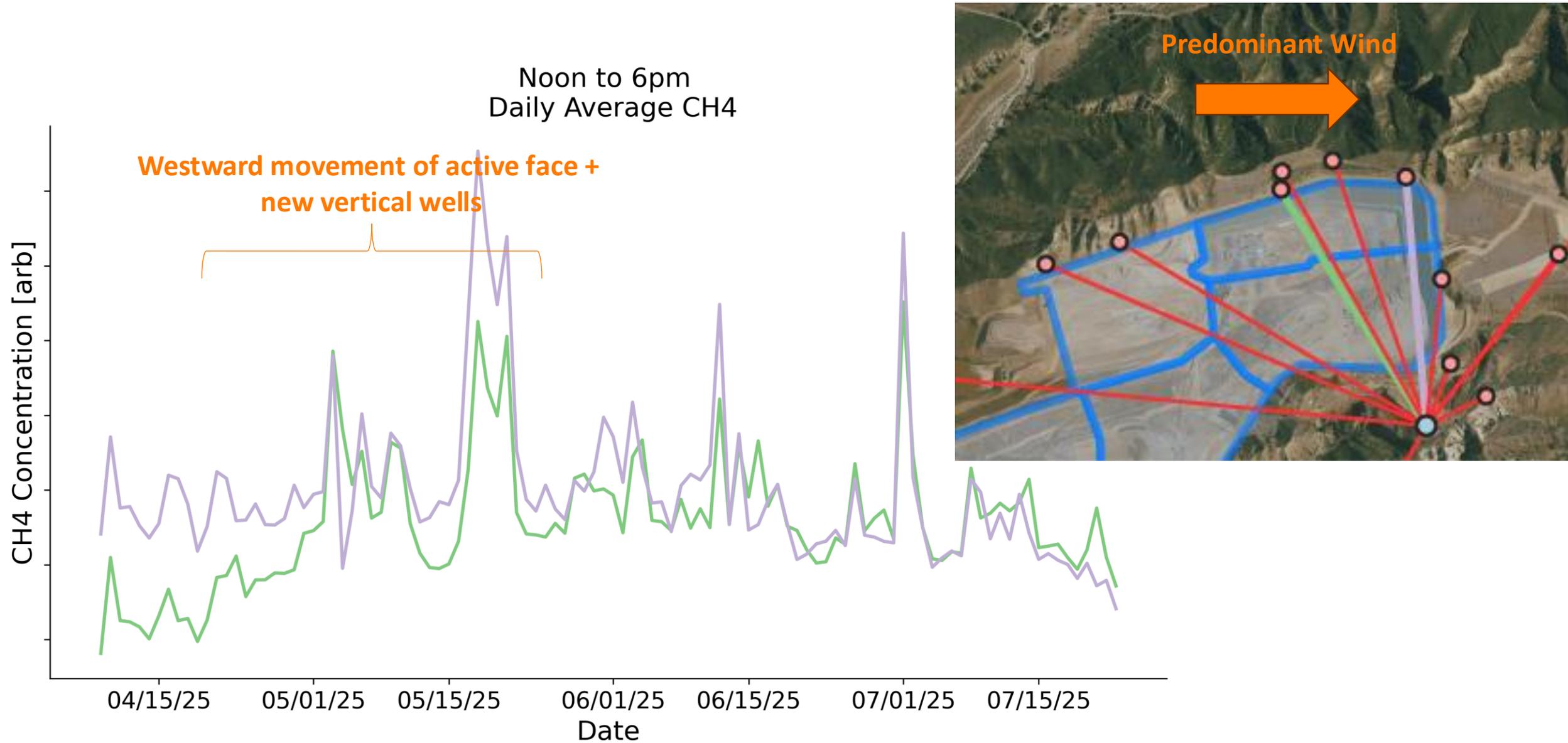
South system

- Gas handling infrastructure
- 8 beam paths

Measurements stats

- Started March 2025
- >150k measurements

EXAMPLE LONGPATH LANDFILL LASER SYSTEM PRELIM RESULTS



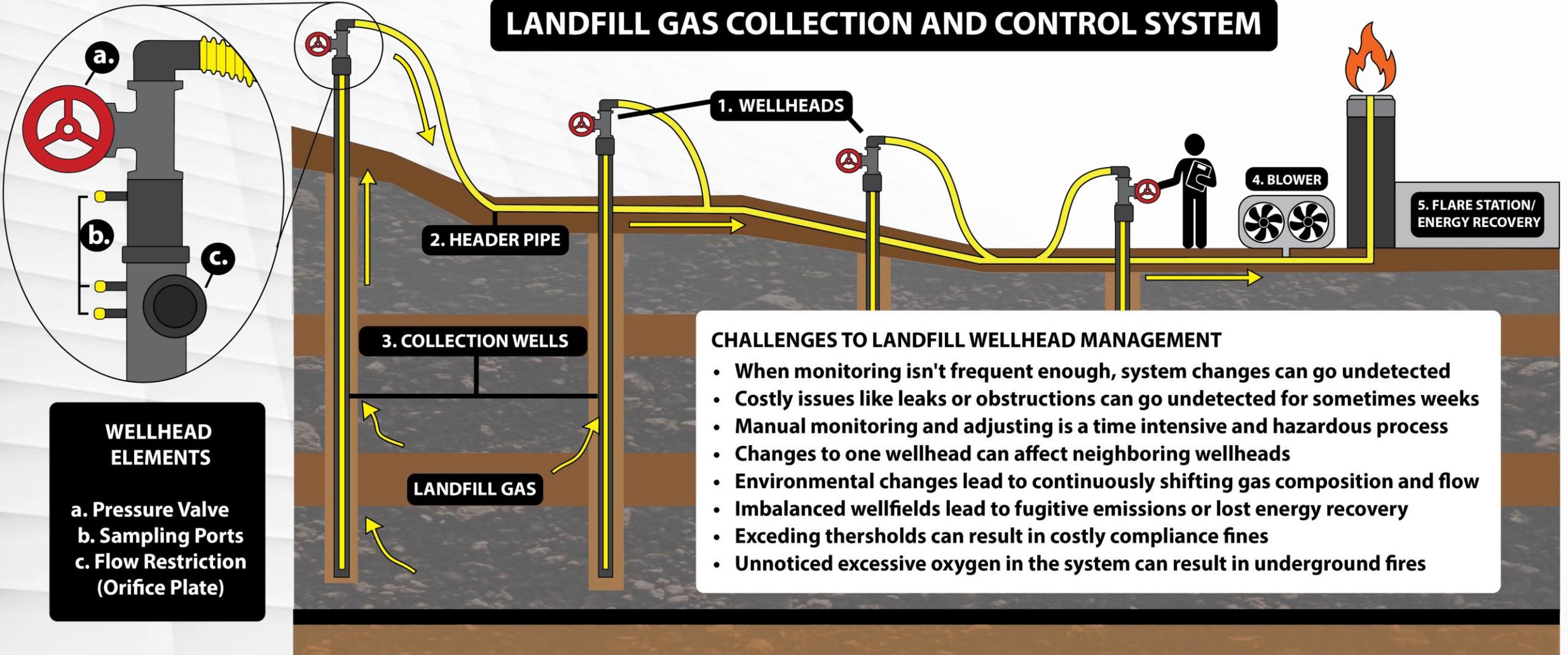


GRAND VALLEY

INSTRUMENTATION

Grand Junction, Colorado

LANDFILL GAS COLLECTION AND CONTROL SYSTEM

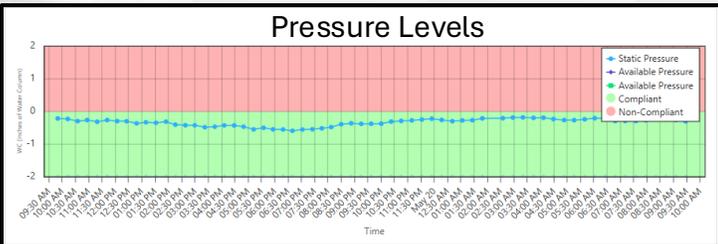
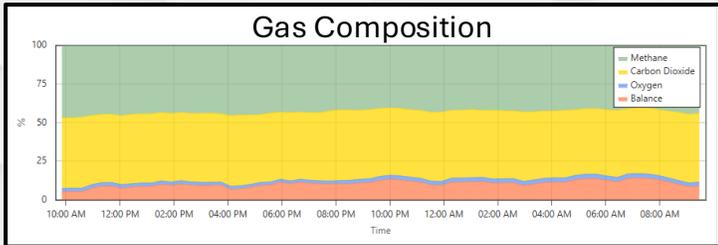


CHALLENGES TO LANDFILL WELLHEAD MANAGEMENT

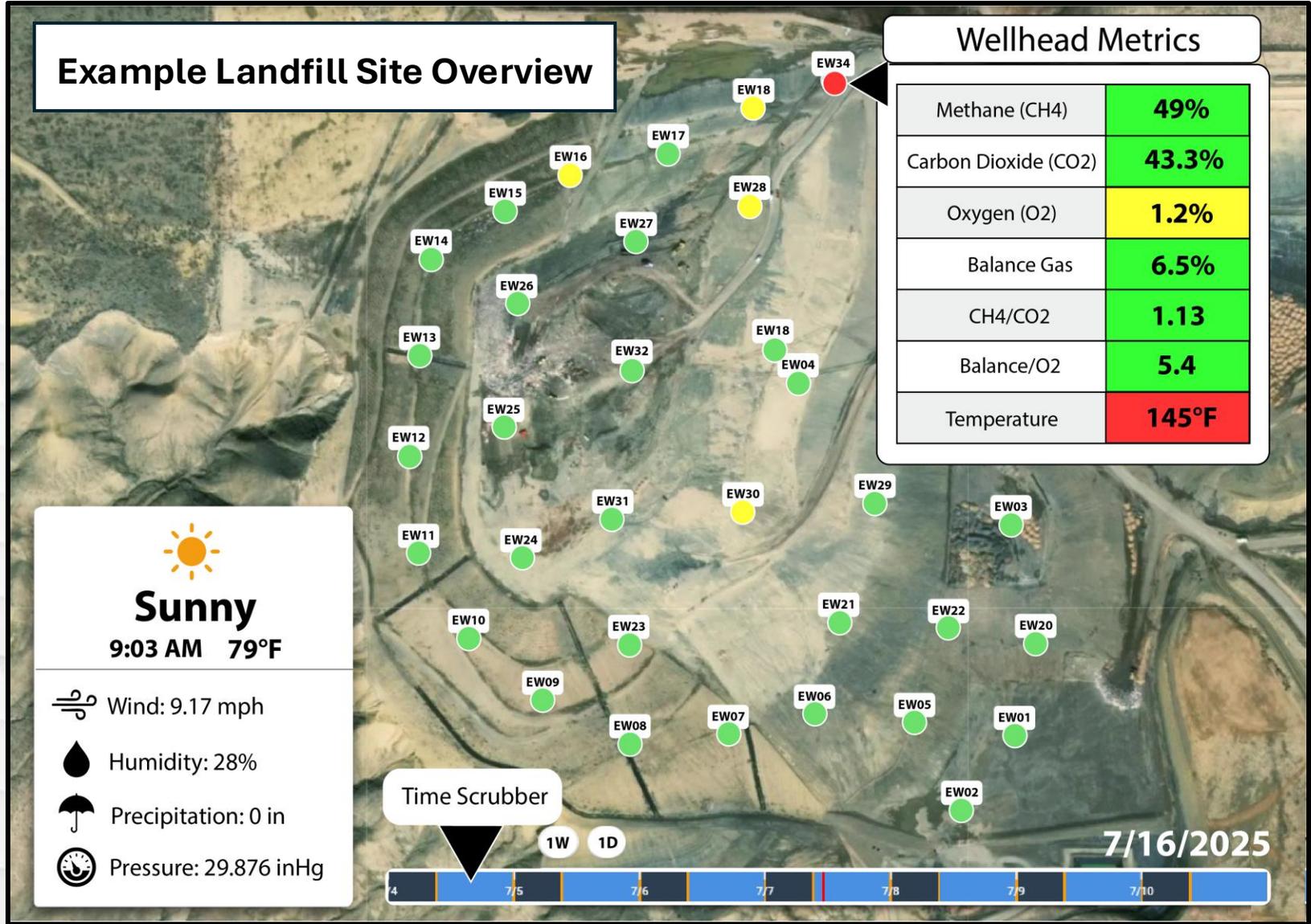
- When monitoring isn't frequent enough, system changes can go undetected
- Costly issues like leaks or obstructions can go undetected for sometimes weeks
- Manual monitoring and adjusting is a time intensive and hazardous process
- Changes to one wellhead can affect neighboring wellheads
- Environmental changes lead to continuously shifting gas composition and flow
- Imbalanced wellfields lead to fugitive emissions or lost energy recovery
- Exceeding thresholds can result in costly compliance fines
- Unnoticed excessive oxygen in the system can result in underground fires



MEERKAT MONITORING SYSTEM



Example Landfill Site Overview



Pilot Phase Underway



GRAND VALLEY
INSTRUMENTATION

Proudly, in Partnership with:



MESA
COUNTY



COLORADO MESA
UNIVERSITY



Next Steps Toward Commercial Deployment

- Conduct field study for Alternative Testing Method Certification through Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Submit to EPA for approval as an alternative compliance method
- Apply for Carbon Credit Certification through ACR



Autonomous Landfill Wellhead Sampling and Adjusting



Increase
Gas
Revenue



Installation
takes
Minutes



Automate
Compliance
Reporting



Reduce
Labor
Costs



Receive
Hazard
Alerts



Reduce
Fugitive
Emissions

No Guesswork. Just Gas Work.

(970) 462-9192



TRELLISENSE

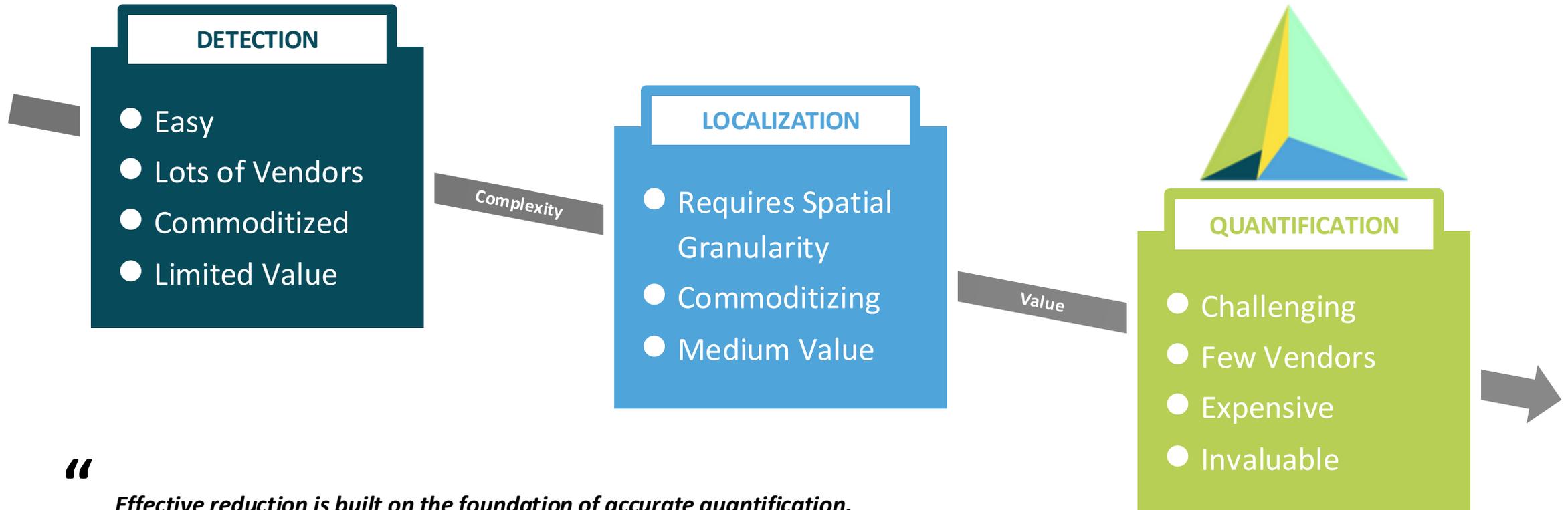
Continuous Methane Measurement

A **THIRD Δ^3 DERIVATIVE** Company

Boulder, CO
Summer 2025



To Reduce GHGs, Quantification is Gold...



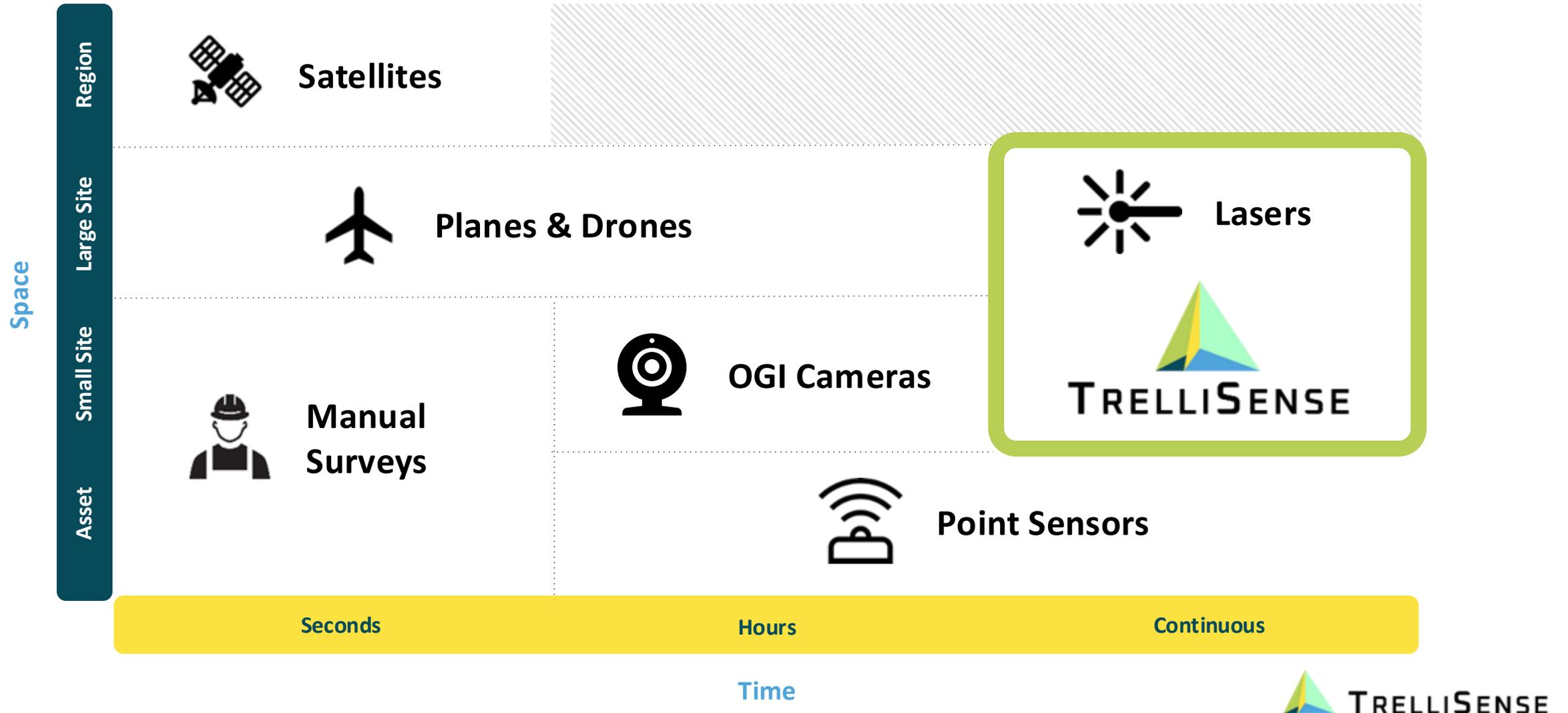
“

Effective reduction is built on the foundation of accurate quantification. Without precise data, efforts to reduce methane emissions can be misguided or ineffective... Additionally, the assumption that “I already know where my emissions are coming from” is **tempting but usually proven wrong.**

”

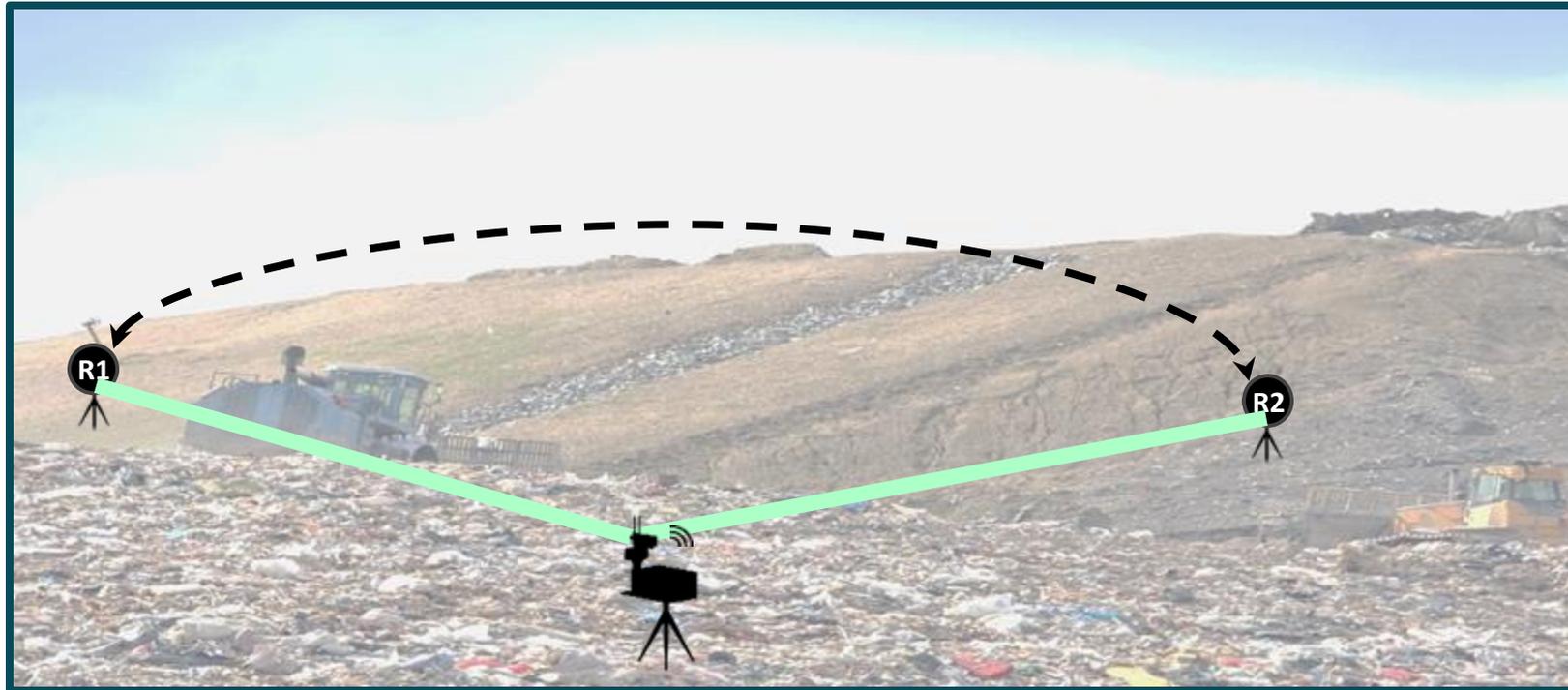
- Highwood Emissions Management ([Source](#))

Quantification = Spatial + Temporal Coverage



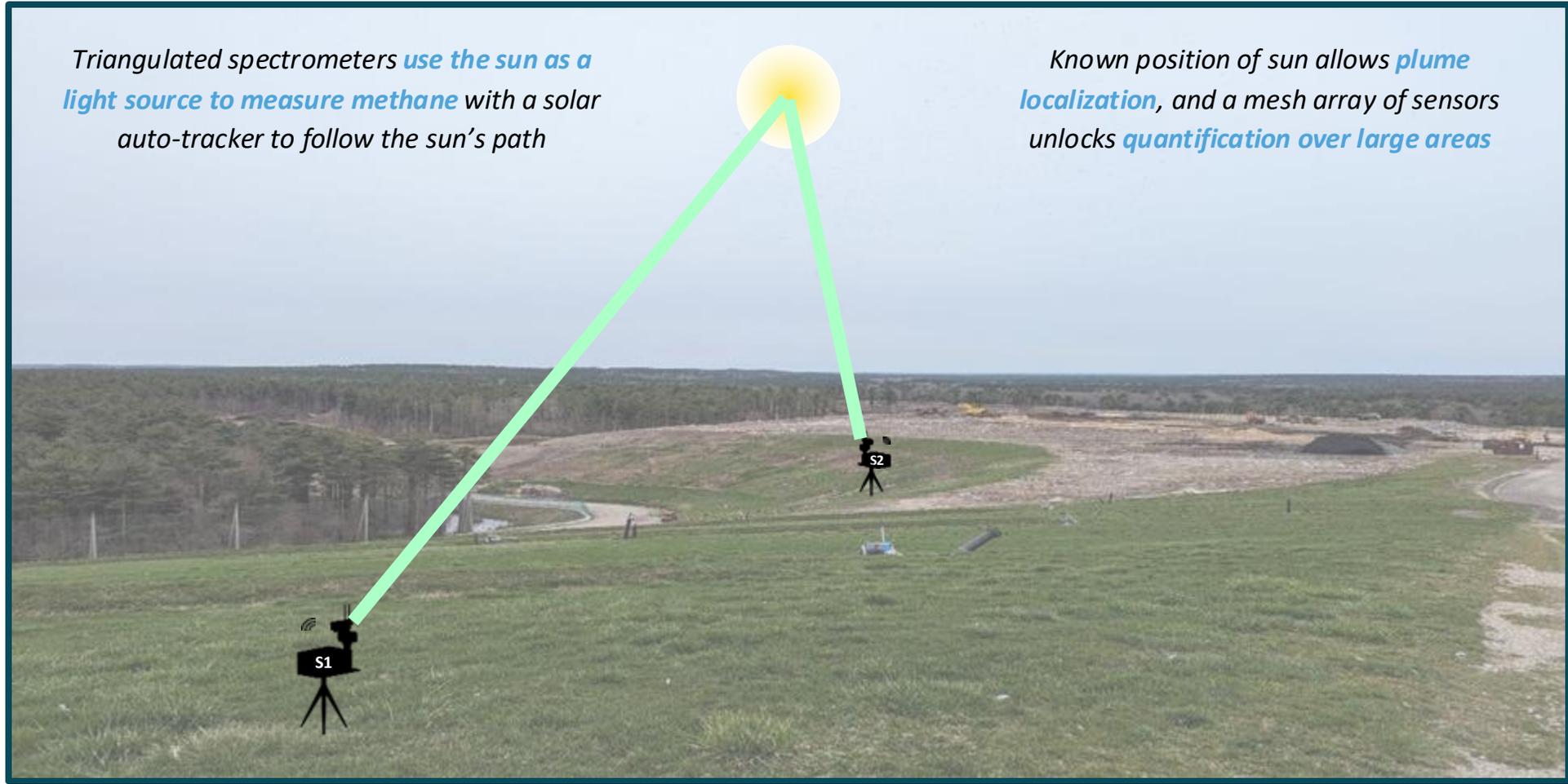
“TrelliBeam” || 24/7 Leak Monitoring

Non-visible light source is beamed at retroreflectors placed up to 300 meters away to create multiple lines of sight through areas of concern



The sensor rotates, beaming non-visible light off of the retroreflectors back to the sensor, capturing path-integrated GHG concentration data

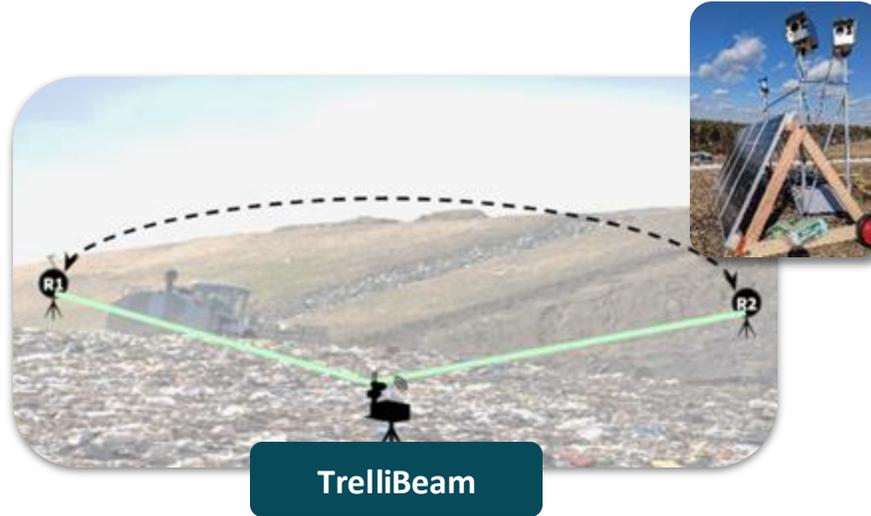
“TrelliSun” || Methane Radar



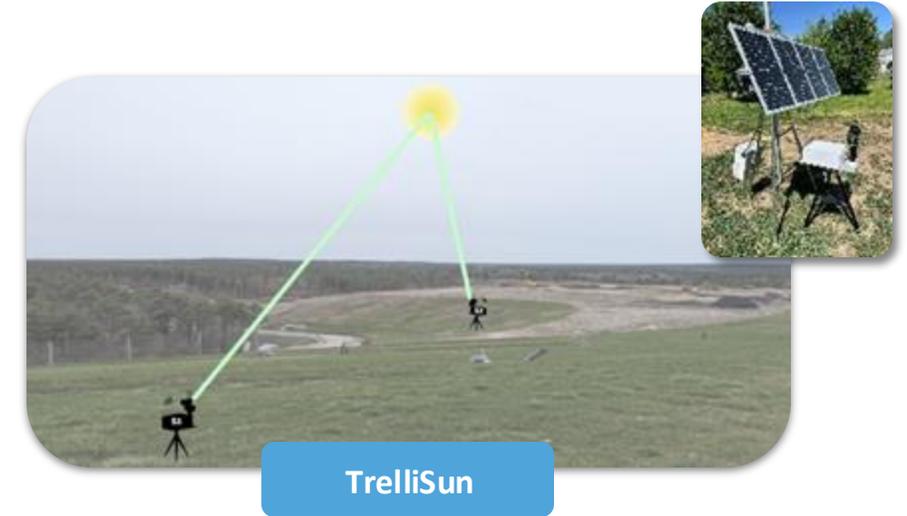
Proprietary and Cost-Effective

Methane Intelligence as a Service

- Proprietary quantum spectroscopy technology
- Continuous
- Modular & portable
- Sensitive (<0.4 kg/hr)
- Low maintenance
- Zero calibration needed
- Weather sensors onboard
- Real-time alerts
- Direct-to-cloud upload
- Zero-CapEx contracts
- CH₄ today; CO₂, NH₃, and more tomorrow



TrelliBeam



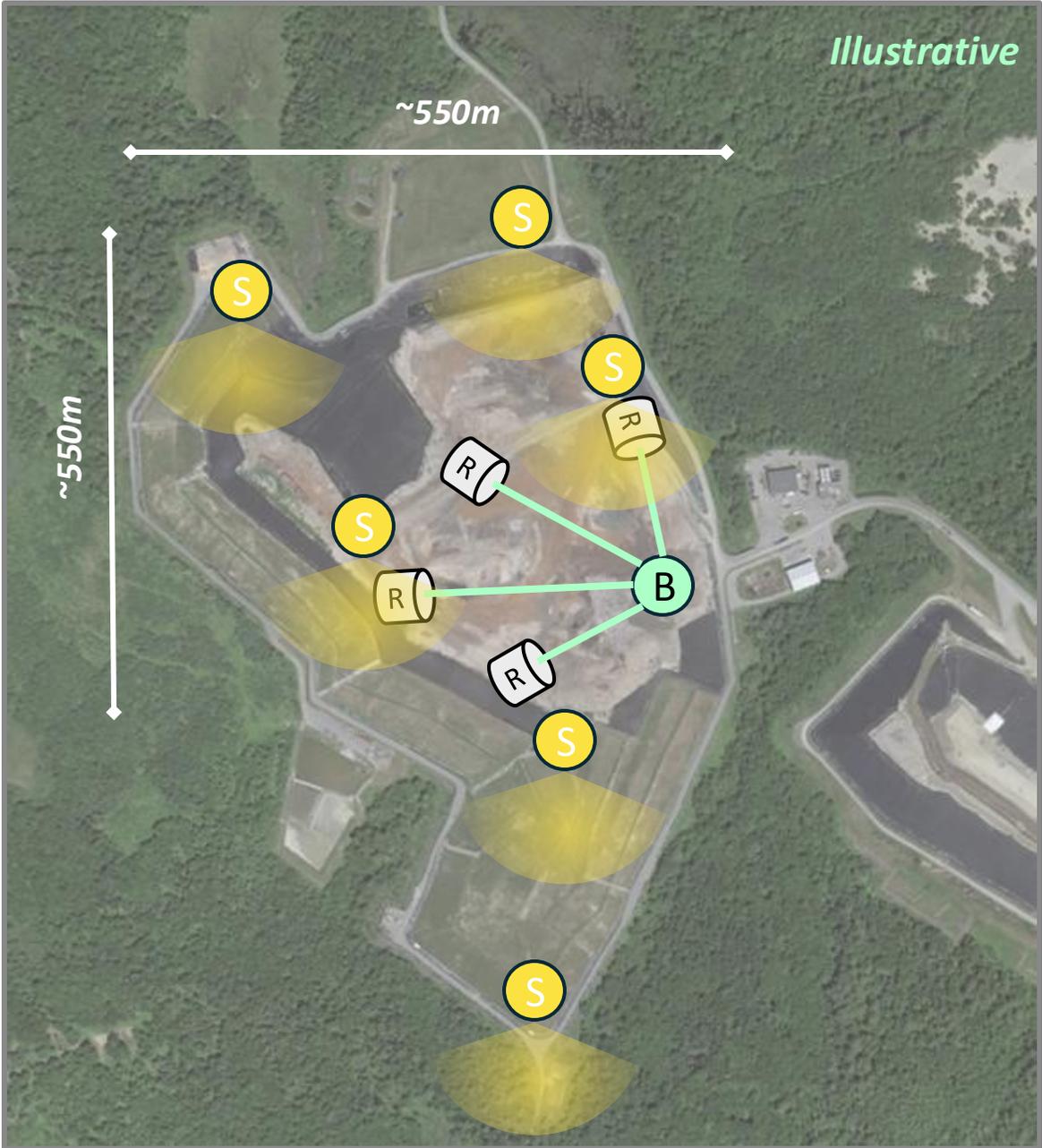
TrelliSun

Invisible Laser	Light Source
24/7/365	Operation
300 meters	Range
<30 meters	Localization
Active Face	Primary Target
	Sunlight
	Daytime Only
	1+ sqkm
	<10 meters
	Permanent & Intermediate Cover

Custom Fit for Landfills

KEY

- TrelliSun sensor
- TrelliBeam sensor
- Retroreflector of laser
- Fixed measurement path



Scrappy (and Nerdy) Veteran Team

Small team combines **science, engineering and operations** with experience in **waste, power and oil & gas**



Ben Silton
CEO

- First business hire at food waste RNG startup Divert (exit 2021)
- Venture & innovation consulting for utilities & energy companies
- MBA
- A.B. Math & Economics



Dr. Andrew Sappey
CTO

- 2x founder & 1x exit (2020)
- 30+ years of scientific product development
- Former national lab researcher
- Ph.D. Physical Chemistry
- A.B. Chemistry



Dr. Pat Masterson
Chief Scientist

- 30+ years as Electro-Optics engineer, leading sensor engineering and product development
- Ph.D. Physics
- A.B. Physics



Lee Sutherland
Optomechanical Engineer

- 30+ years of hardware engineering and product development leadership
- Former CEO, CTO, Founder & Inventor
- B.S. Mech Engineering





Thank You



ben@trellisense.com

Landfill Methane Emissions Management

Ali Lashgari Ph.D.

**Project Canary
Denver, Colorado**

Complexities – compared to upstream oil and gas

- Large areas
- Complex terrain
- A combination of point and diffuse sources
- Higher background emissions
- Weather dependency of emissions

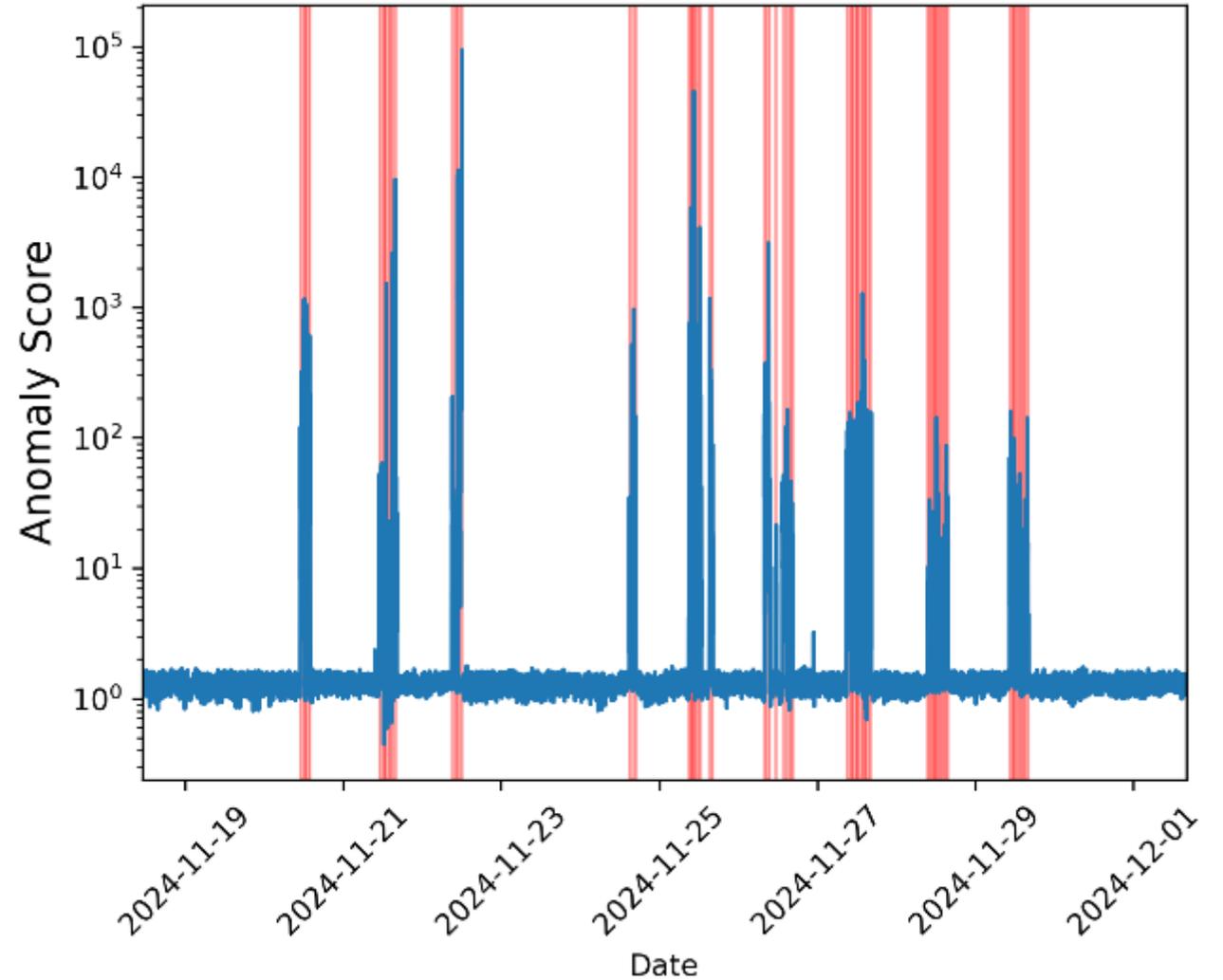
Application of Continuous Monitoring Systems (CMS)

- **Working face and total site emissions** measurement and quantification
- Comprehensive understanding of **temporal variability** of emissions (including nighttime emissions)
- Continuous stream of data to help **anomaly detection**
- Differentiate **allowable emissions from leaks**
- Determine **beyond-fenceline impact** of the landfill operation with high temporal resolution
- Complement and **inform other measurement modalities** (early detection, duration and frequency)
- Informs **frequency of additional surveys** using other methods
- Provides **site-specific atmospheric measurements**

ANOMALOUS EMISSION DETECTION

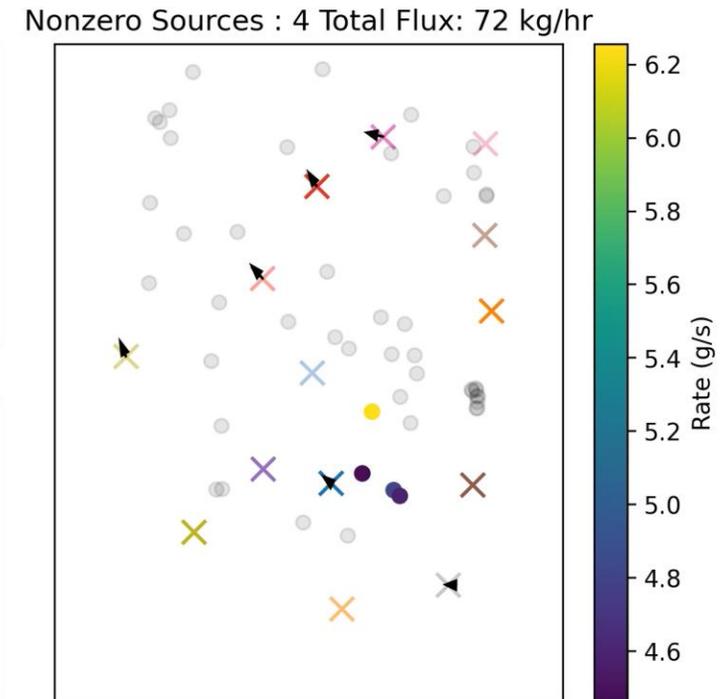
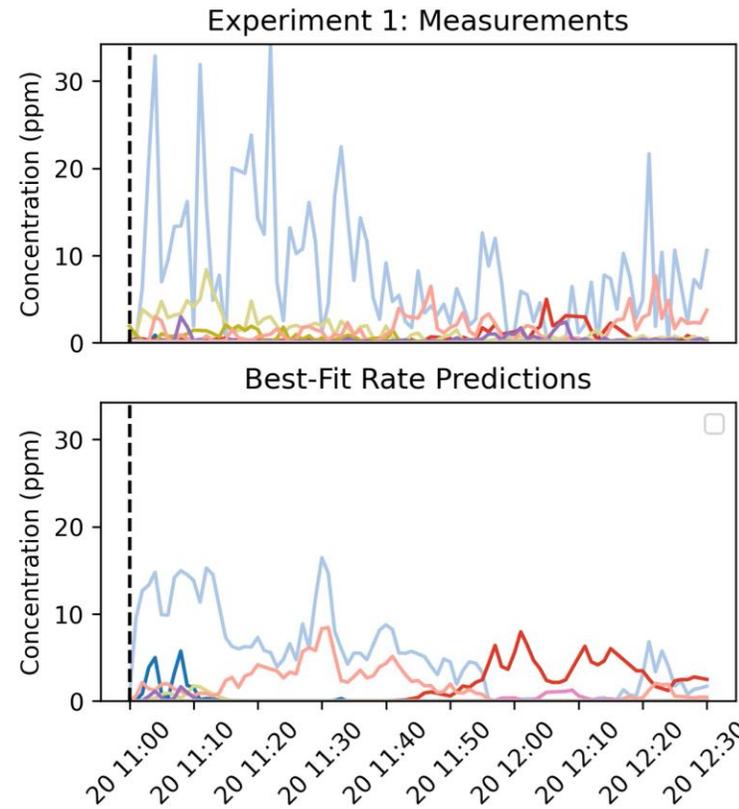
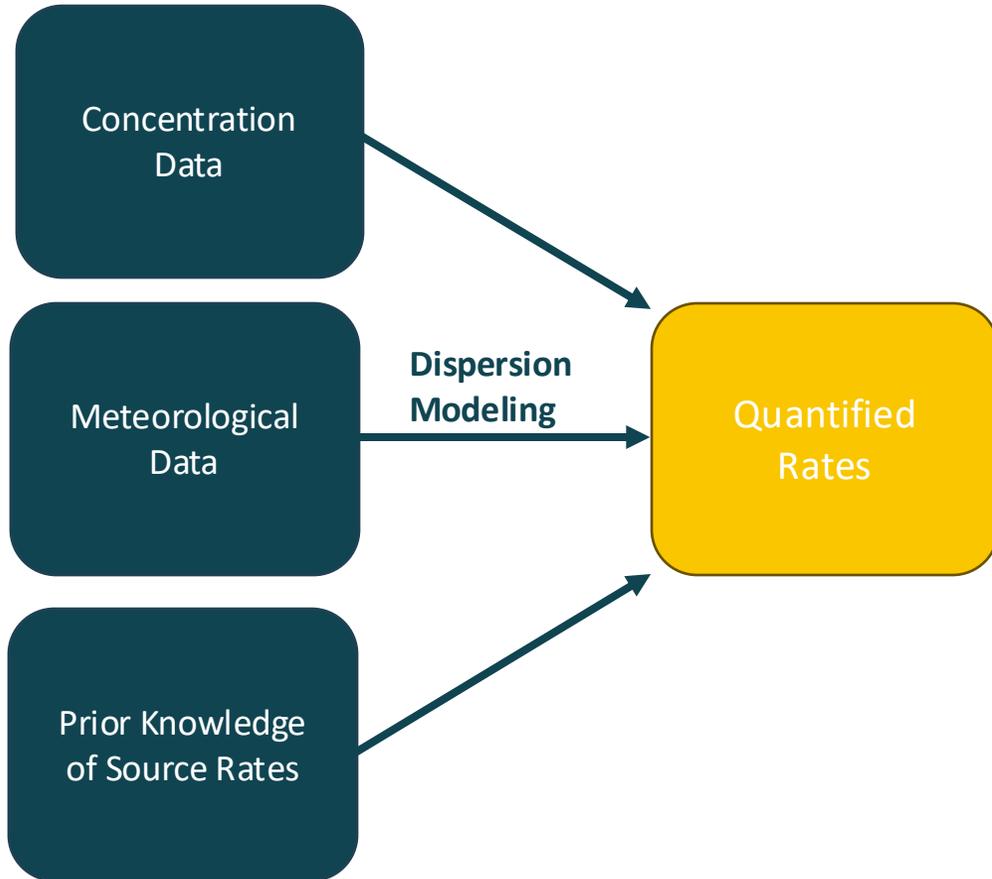
Alerting algorithms capable of detecting periods of time when there is evidence of unusual emissions.

Red Shaded Regions: Controlled Release Times



Quantification Model in Action

Project Canary's quantification employs a probabilistic model to iteratively update source rate estimates

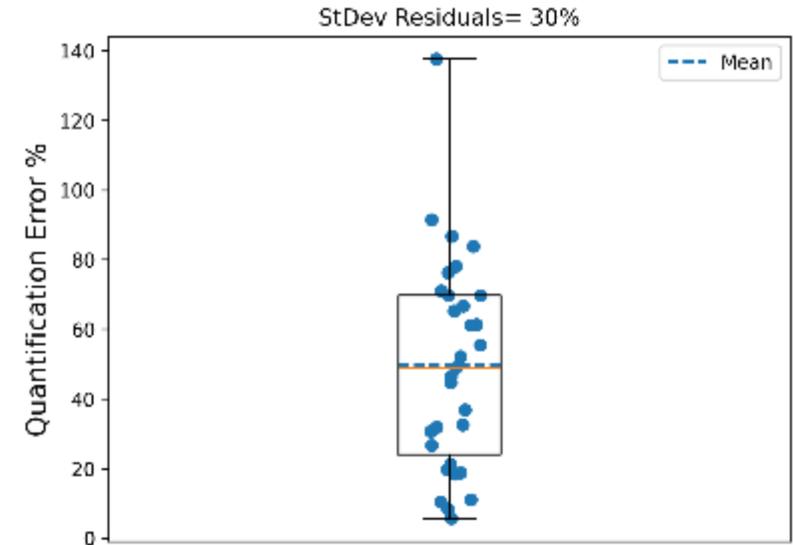
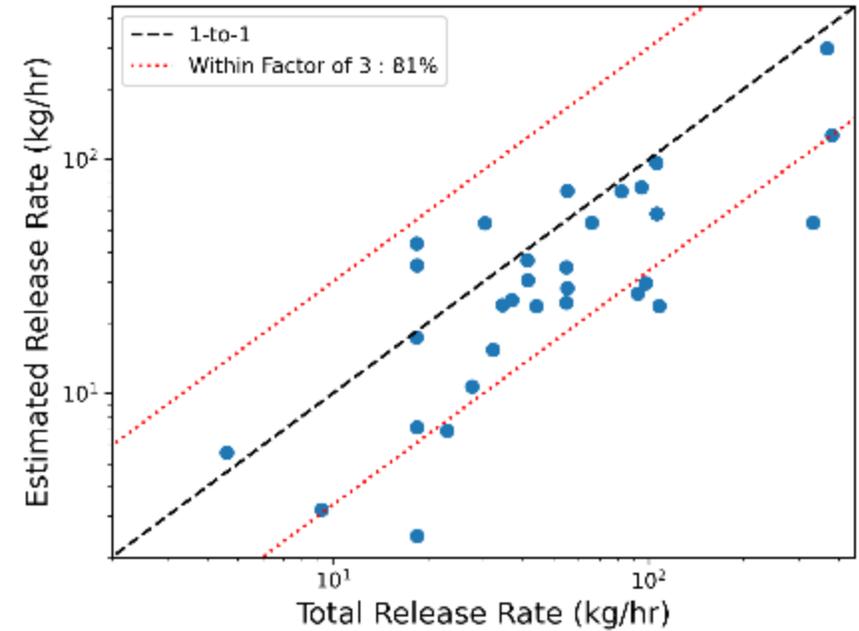


BLIND RESULTS: QUANTIFICATION

Key Metrics:

- 81% of estimates were within a factor of 3 of actual release rate
- Mean absolute percent error: 45%
- Standard Deviation of Residual: 30%

Plenty of room for improvement, especially regarding the bias of the system, but showing a lot of promise for providing reasonably consistent estimates regarding order of magnitude of cumulative emissions (i.e., the system can fairly reliably distinguish between small, medium, and large leaks)



Universal Compatibility with Other Measurement Technologies

Currently taking in data collected by:



WE WORK WITH THE DATA
YOU ALREADY HAVE

SATELLITE



AERIAL



OGI CAMERA

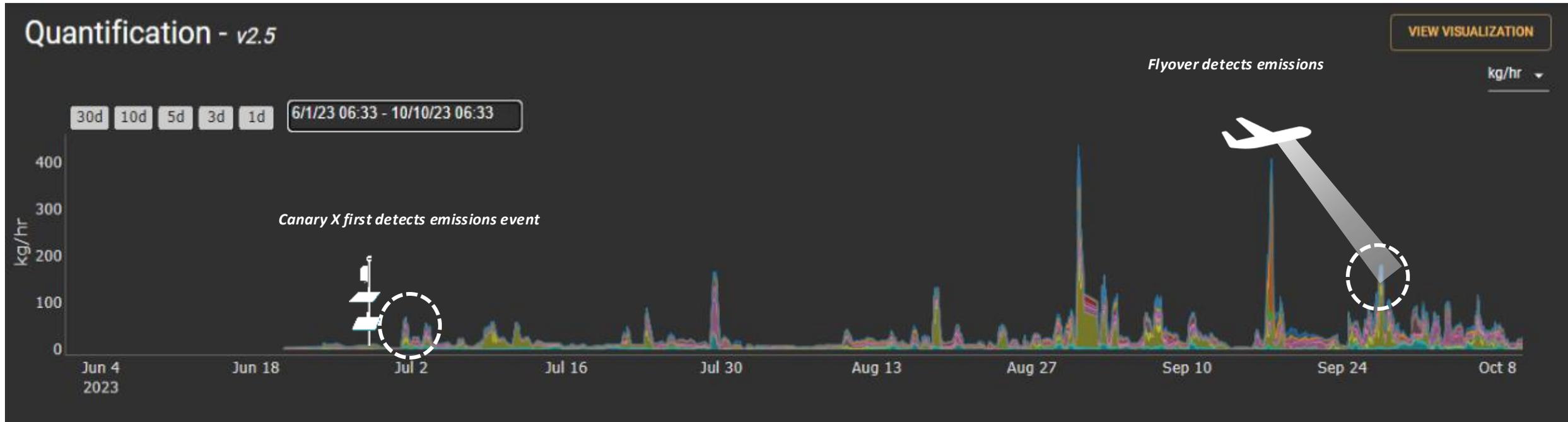


POINT
SENSORS



Multiscale Measurement in Practice – data-driven approaches vs employing statistical methods

CMS provides temporal resolution for emission events



Duration of Event Estimated by Approach

- Flyover emissions rate applied since last detection – 599,280 kg
- Canary X quantified emissions over same time period – 66,757 kg

At Time of Flyover – 09/27/2023

- Flyover quantified emissions estimate – 227 kg/hr
- Canary X quantified emissions estimate – 181 kg/hr

Operational Tools

All Companies ▾

All Business Unit ▾

🔍 search for a site... ▾

- 🏠 Corporate Overview
- 📊 Analytics
- Σ Quantification
- 📍 Map
- 🔔 Emission Events
- 📅 LDAR Scheduling
- 👁️ Monitoring ▾
- 📁 Data ▾

- 🏢 Asset Directory
- 👤 User Management
- 📖 Resource Center

SURVEY ANALYSIS

Status: Open Detections

Open Detections: 1 of 2

Resolution Date: mm/dd/yyyy ✎

DETECTIONS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Equipment	Component	Source	Action
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tanks	Supply Regulator	Resolved	📄
<input type="checkbox"/>	Separator	Valve	Needs Repair	📄

OGI SURVEY

Created By: Admin Method: OGI

Date Created: 8/1/2024 Type: 0000b

Tags
Enter Tags

TIMELINE

Date	Status
8/1/2024	To-do
8/1/2024	In Progress
8/2/2024	Open Dete
8/2/2024	Open Dete
8/2/2024	Open Dete

Site A

Due: 8/8/2024 In Progress

OGI Area Bridger Flyover

! Detection Well Pending Review

! Detection Compressor Pending Review

Q&A



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Project Canary

What's Next for Landfill Methane in Colorado



August 5: Written Public Comment Deadline for Landfill Methane Regulation 31

Written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. MT on August 5th at cdphe.aqcc@state.co.us.



August 8: Clean Air Program (CAP) Grant Funding Opportunity Closes

Grants are available now to help landfills cover the cost of critical upgrades, but the clock is ticking. Counties and landfill operators can apply by August 8th for CAP funding to modernize monitoring and methane capture.



August 20-22: AQCC Hearing for Regulation 31

Members of the public can register on Zoom to provide public comment at <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/aqcc>.



August–September: Story Window

Colorado could become a national leader in managing one of the most overlooked sources of climate and health-harming pollution. Behind the data are real communities, real stakes and a rulemaking process unfolding in real time.

Thank You!

Further Questions?

Please reach out to:

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