



PROGRESS TOWARDS COLLABORATIVE NGEM METHODS

A CASE STUDY USING SENSIT FMD

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*NGEM: Next Generation Emissions Monitoring
FMD: Fixed Methane Detector*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- BACKGROUND
- PROJECT GOALS
- EQUIPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT
- DATA AND VISUALIZATION
- MODELING AND QUANTIFICATION
- CONCLUSIONS

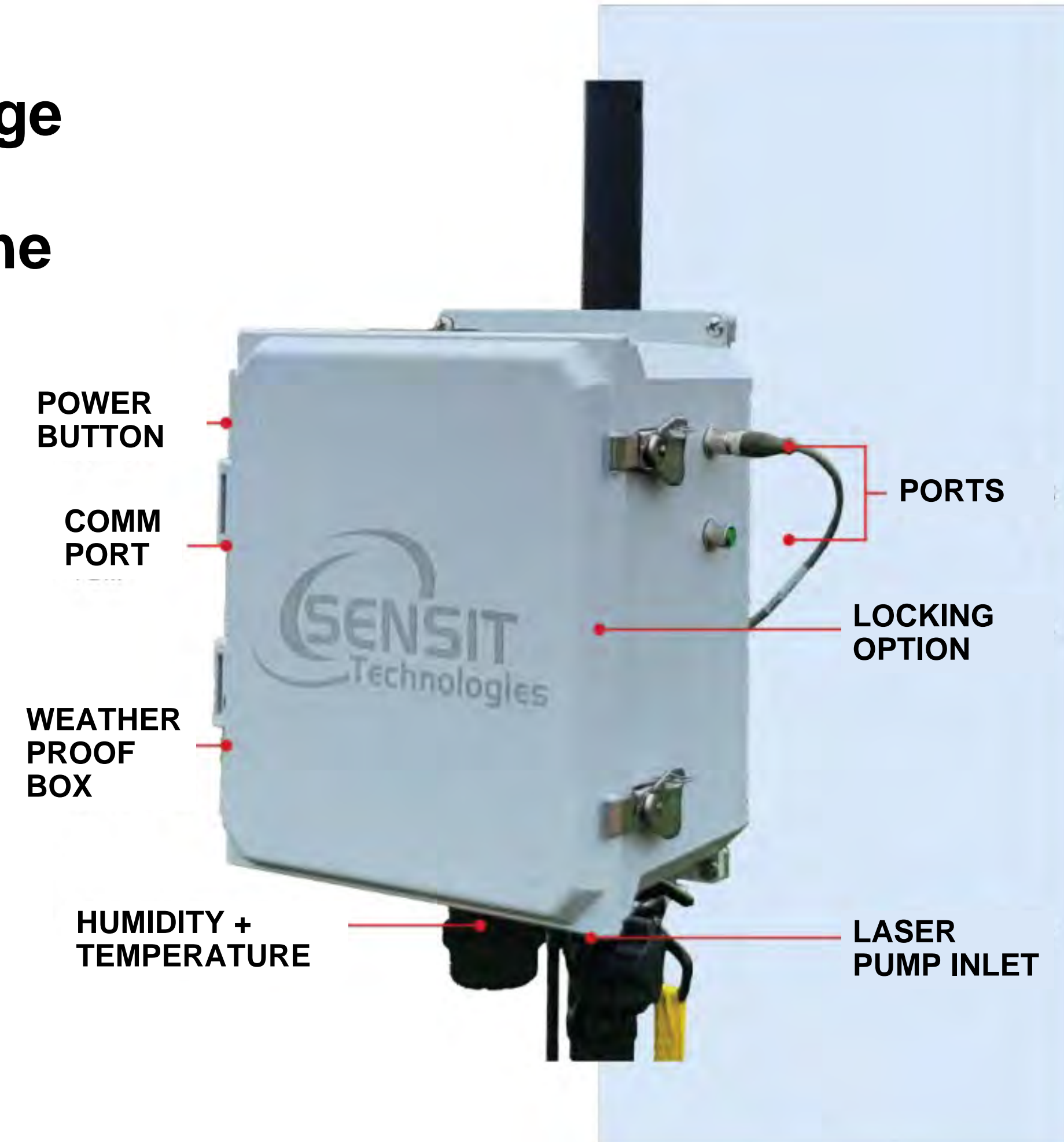


BACKGROUND

- Fixed Methane Detector (FMD) Tunable Diode Laser Spectroscopy (TDLAS) system tested at U.S. EPA Test Range
- Deployed 6 units at Colorado State University (CSU) Methane Emissions Technology Evaluation Center (METEC)



- Acquired dataset from 6 FMD units along with information regarding calibrated releases
- Approached U.S. EPA to help explore METEC data
Joint collaborative activity with open-source publishing goals.
No compensation provided by U.S. EPA ORD
- Others are welcomed!

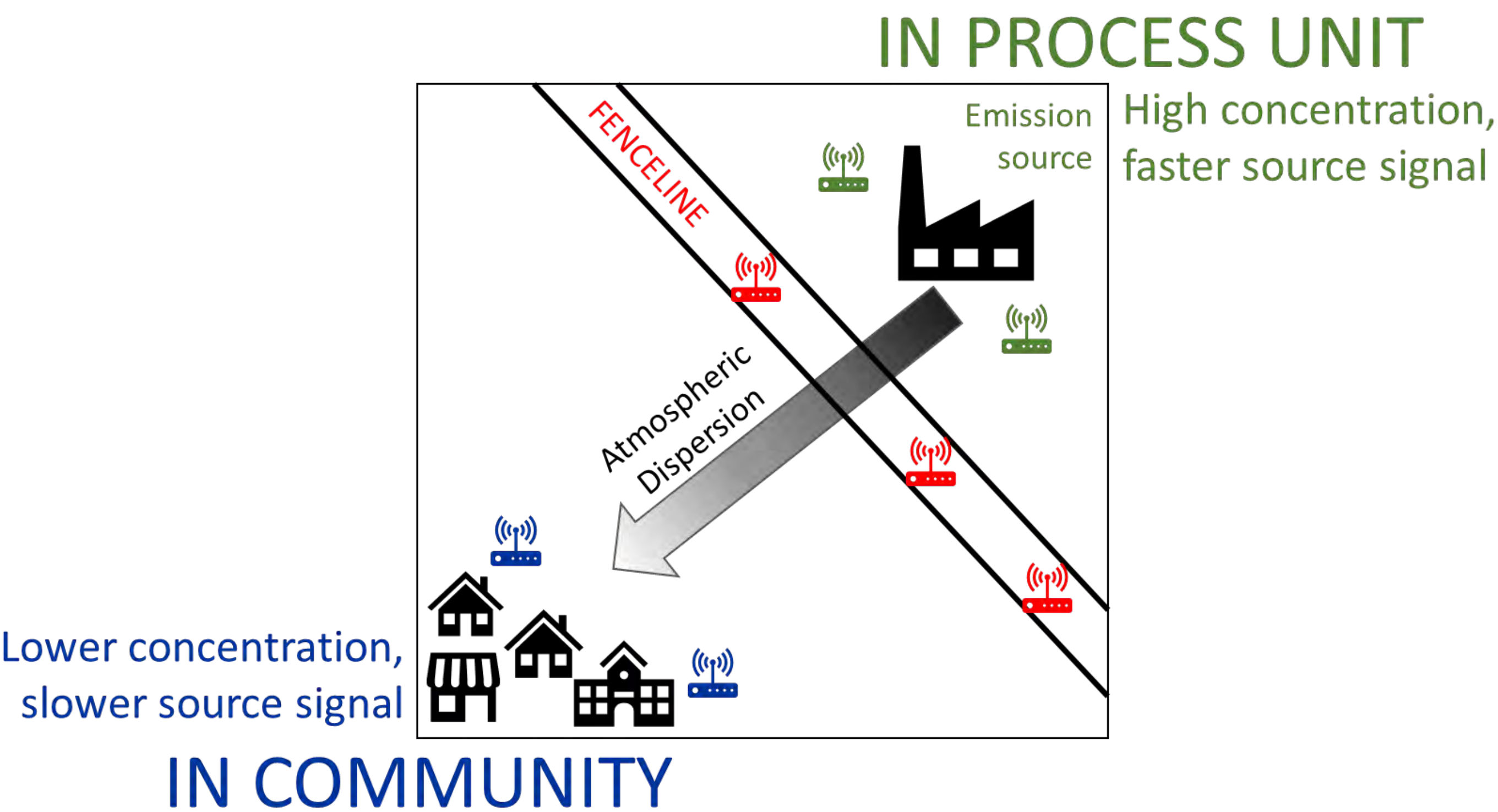


PROJECT GOALS

■ SENSOR CLASS DEVELOPMENT

Understand the core capabilities and limitations of the technology

Application	Purpose	Sensor/Instrument Needs
In-Process-Unit	Detect and characterize emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fast sensor response is important, however concentrations can be very highApplication-specific accuracy/ precision
In-Community	Quantify ambient levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fast sensor response not as importantPrecise and accurate measurements required
Fenceline	Detect and characterize emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Between in process unit and in-communityFast response can be important to capture “dilute plume” – probe overlap

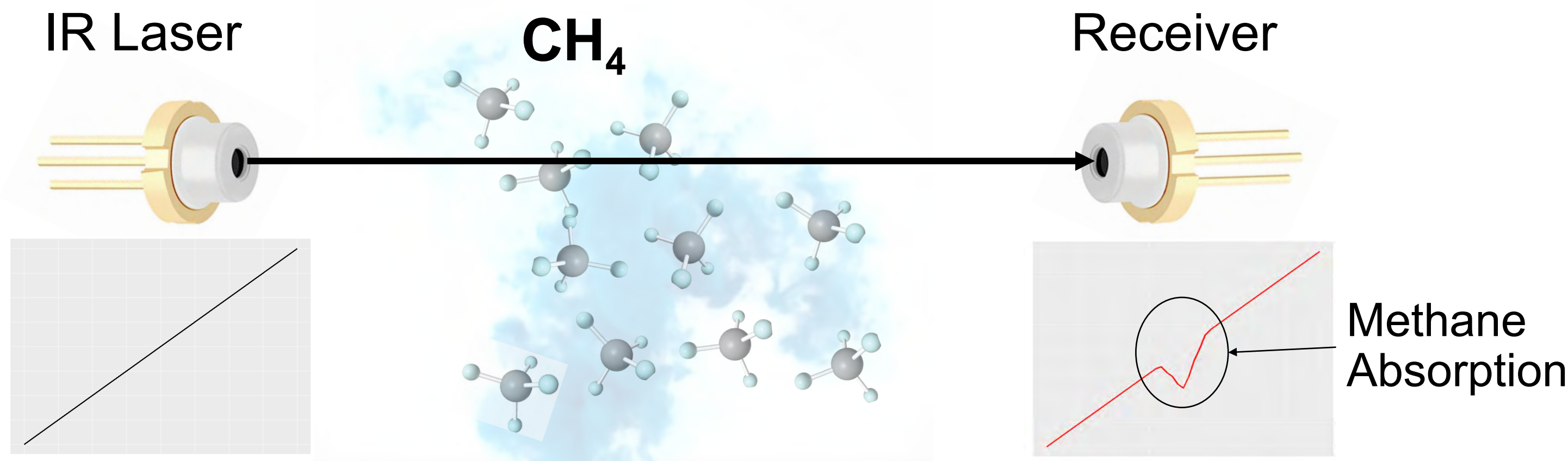


■ OPEN-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT OF METROLOGY AND ALGORITHMS

Provide model for data sharing and transparency

U.S. EPA TEST RANGE

TDLAS Operating Principal



Methane Detector Specifications

Technology	Near Infrared (IR) TDLAS with Multi-Pass Cell
Wavelength	1650 nm
Range	0-100 vol.%
Noise Floor	0.3 Part Per Million (PPM)
T90	10 seconds

- **SENSIT FMD TDLAS system co-located with other methane detectors and reference instruments (Picarro and LiCOR)**

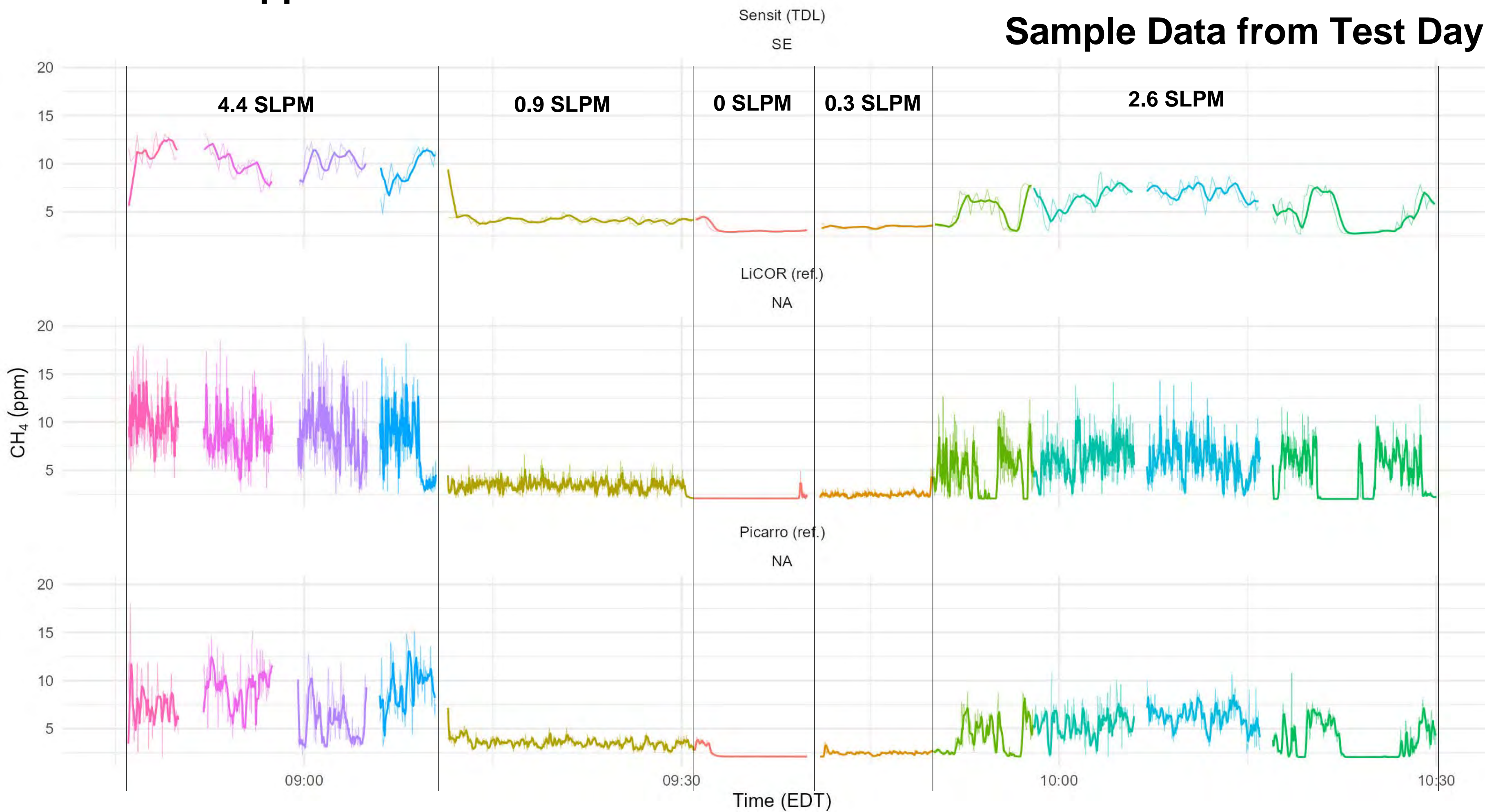


U.S. EPA TEST RANGE

$Minimum\ Detection\ Limit\ (MDL) = 3 \times \sigma(St.\ Dev.)$

Co-located with reference instruments (Picarro and LiCOR)

Calculations are 0.1 Hz Noise Based MDL (Excluding Drift Term). No baseline corrections applied



10-s FMD Pre-Test [PPM]

Day	\bar{x}	σ	MDL
1	2.96	0.021	0.063
2	3.02	0.030	0.089
3	3.43	0.014	0.044
4	3.14	0.028	0.083
Avg.	3.14	0.234	0.070

10-s Reference Grade [PPM]

Inst.	\bar{x}	σ	MDL
Picarro	2.20	0.003	0.010
LiCOR	2.17	0.010	0.030

10-s FMD Between Tests

Day	\bar{x}	σ	MDL
1	2.49	0.041	0.122
2	2.97	0.029	0.086
3	3.25	0.081	0.243
4	-	-	-
Avg.	2.90	0.050	0.150



Preliminary data - MDL measurements and calculations are ongoing and contain the noise term only.

Deployed FMD

Measuring wind speed,
wind direction, CH4
concentration



CSU METEC DEPLOYMENT

6 FMDs DEPLOYED AT A SIMULATED OIL AND GAS SITE.
CONTROLLED EMISSIONS INTRODUCED.



ADVANCED METHANE DETECTION SYSTEM CAPABLE OF IDENTIFYING AND
LOCATING INTRODUCED EMISSIONS.

Deployment	Start	2/8/2023	End	4/28/2023
Temperature	Minimum	-25.5°C	Maximum	29°C
Events	Experiments	279	Releases	565
	Avg. Release Size	1566 g/hr	Avg. Duration	3.11 hr

Grid # [default: 15]

Min Red [default: 5PPM]

Max

Generate Wind Rose

☐ Cluster Analysis

Cluster Limit [default is 5PPM]

Choose File

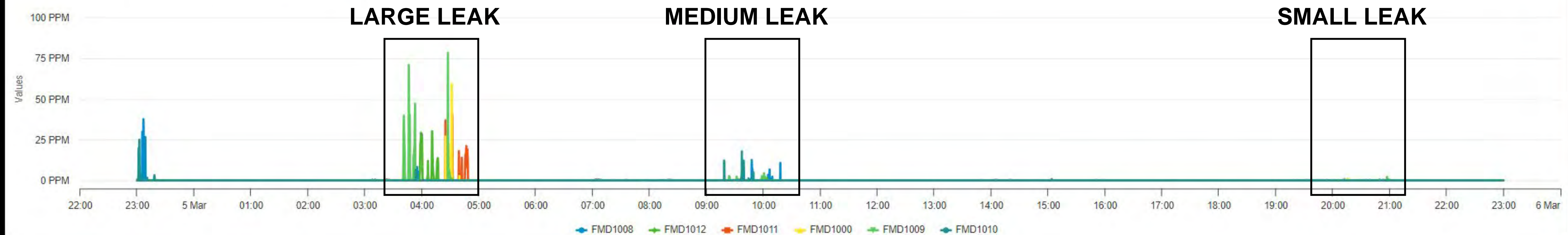
230305 aggregate_data.csv

Detection ID

EmissionID



Methane by Hour [Zoom past 3 hours to enable Map-Update Mode]



Grid # [default: 15]

Min Red [default: 5PPM]

Max

Generate Wind Rose

Cluster Analysis

Cluster Limit [default is 5PPM]

Choose File

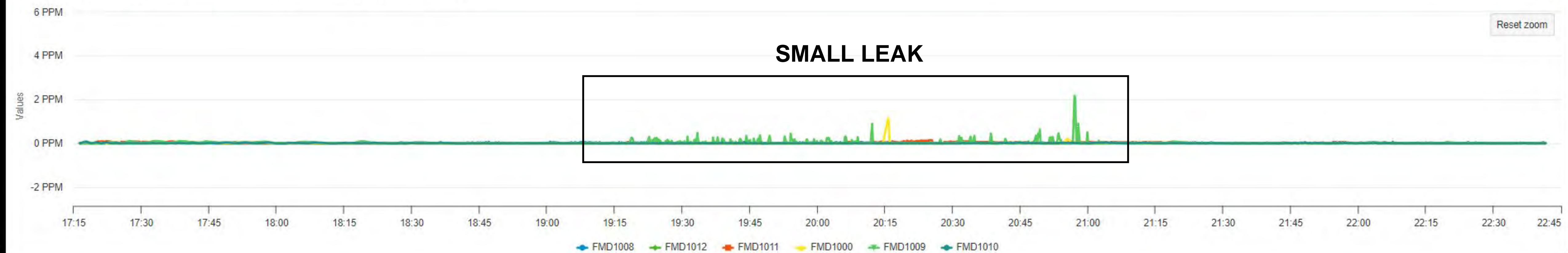
230305 aggregate_data.csv

Detection ID

EmissionID



Methane by Hour [Zoom past 3 hours to enable Map-Update Mode]



Grid # [default: 15]

1

Max

Remove Wind Rose

Cluster Analysis

Cluster Limit [default is 5PPM]

Choose File

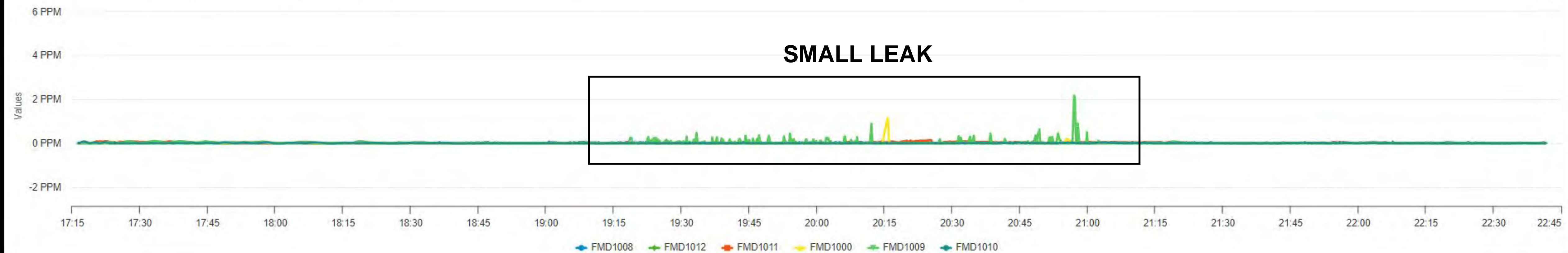
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EmissionID

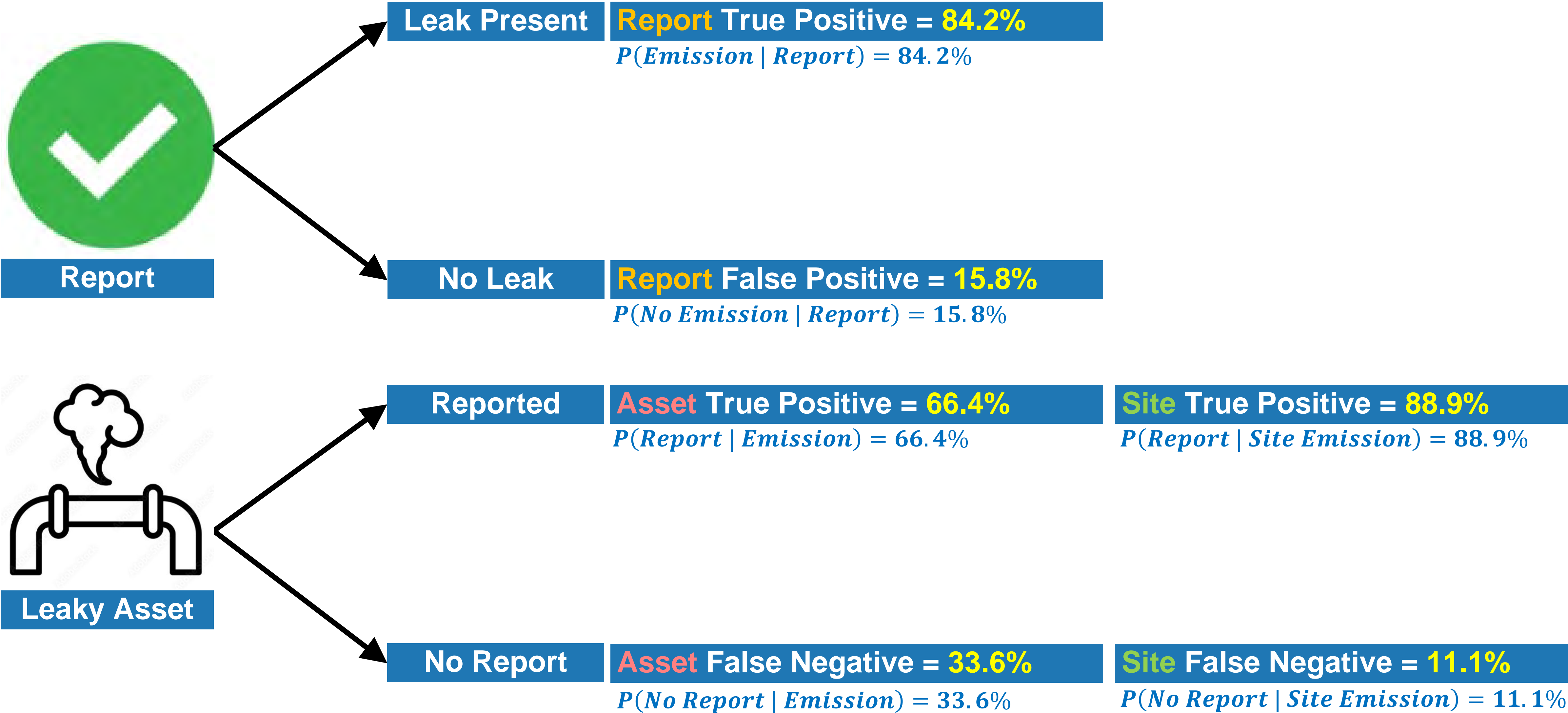


Methane by Hour [Wind Rose Active - Map Mode Disabled]



METEC RESULTS – Provider P

- Accomplished via manual visual inspection of the data*



*Sensit only analysis, no collaboration with EPA ORD at this point.

FMD 1100

FMD 1012

FMD 1008

Quantification using open-source methods

FMD 1000

FMD 1009

FMD 1010

FMD 1100

FMD 1012

5.24 kg/hr (4T-1)

FMD 1008

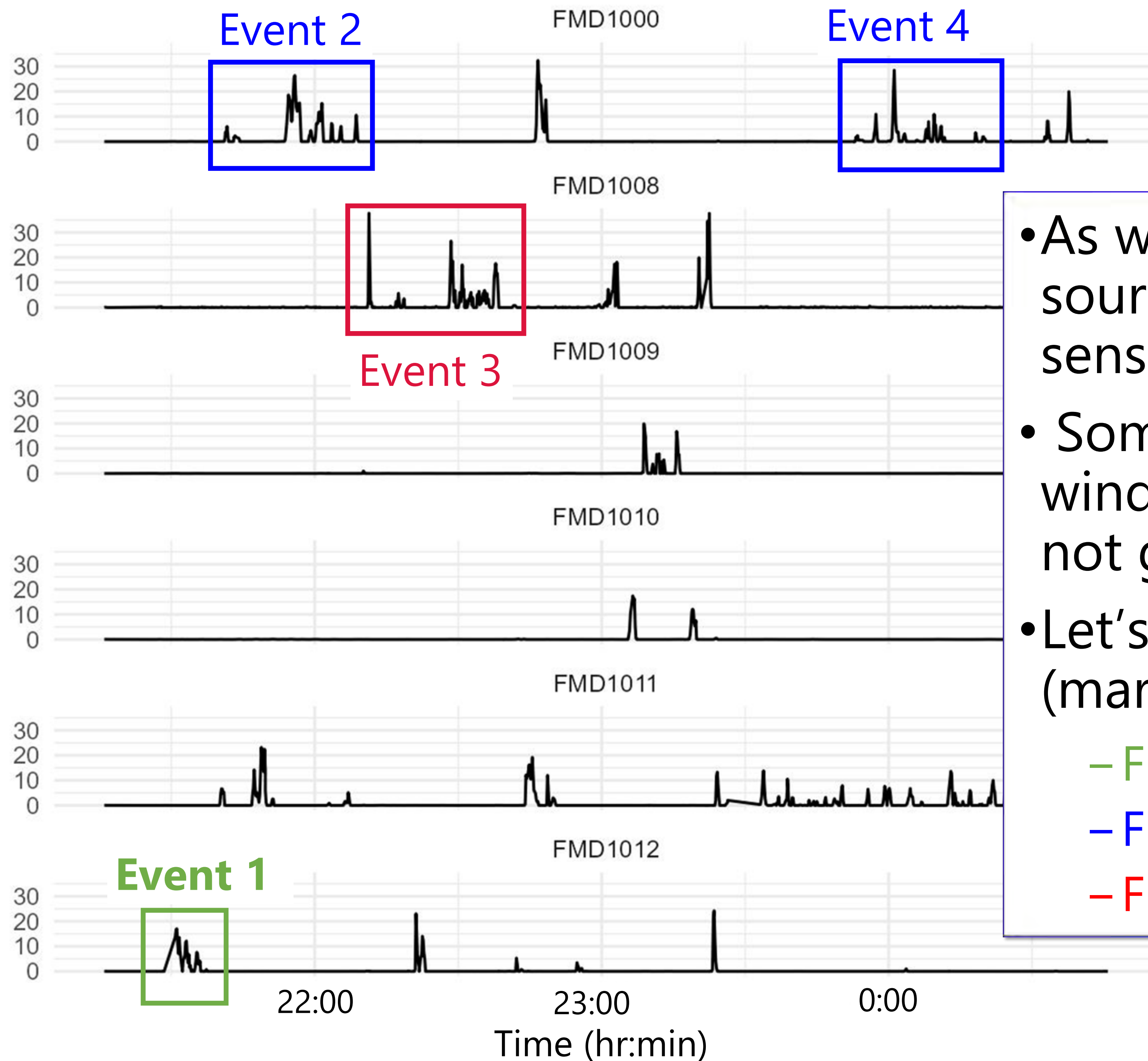
FMD 1000

FMD 1009

FMD 1010

Source at night observed by multiple sensors as wind shifts

Methane Concentration (ppm) - Background Corrected



- As wind direction changes, the source is observed by different sensor nodes
- Some detections at very low wind speed are off-axis and are not good for quantification
- Let's look at 4 sub-events (marked by colored squares)
 - FM1012 (North) – Event 1
 - FM1000 (West) – Events 2 and 4
 - FM 1008 (East) – Event 3

FMD 1100

FMD 1012

FMD 1008

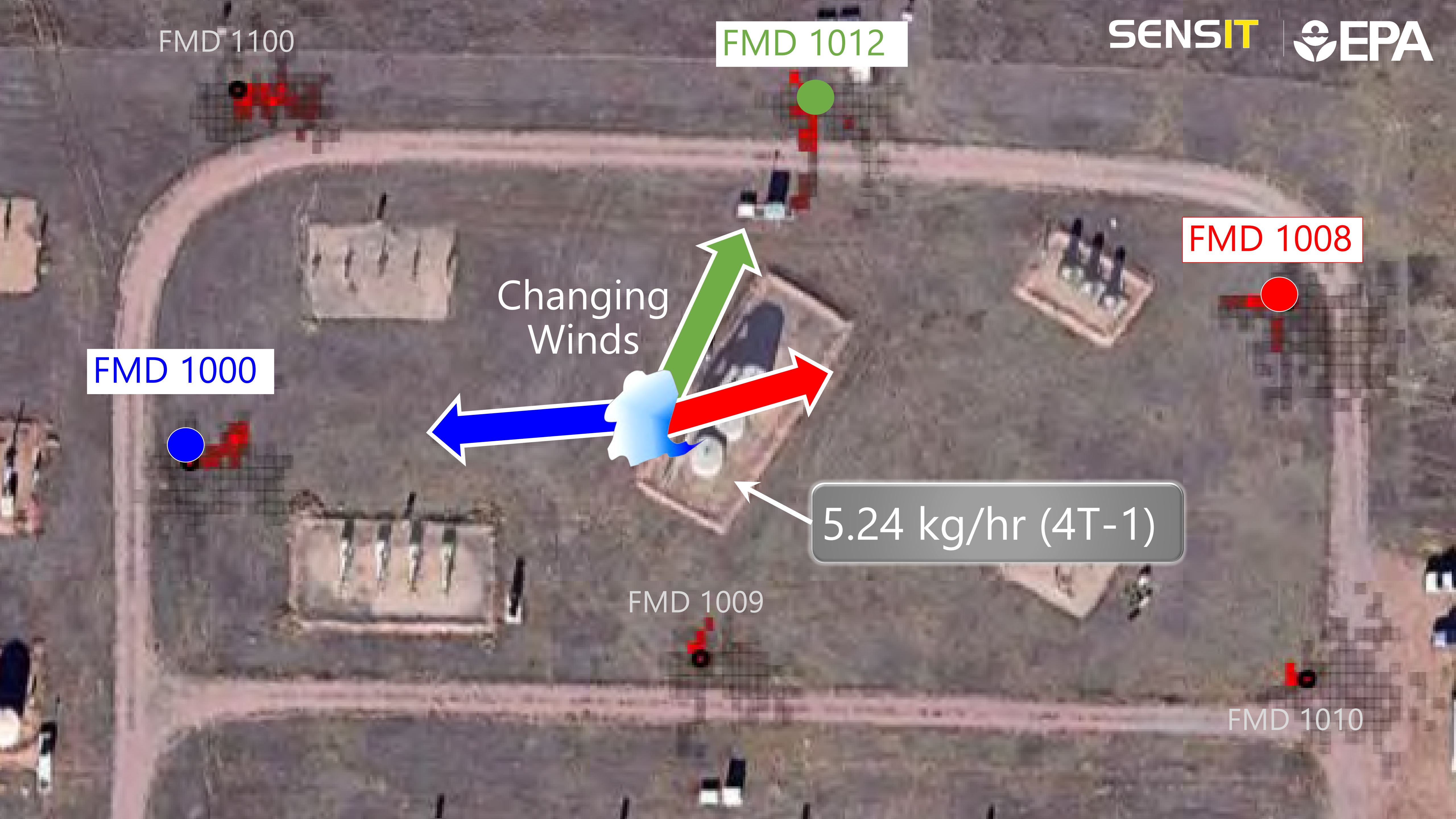
FMD 1000

Changing
Winds

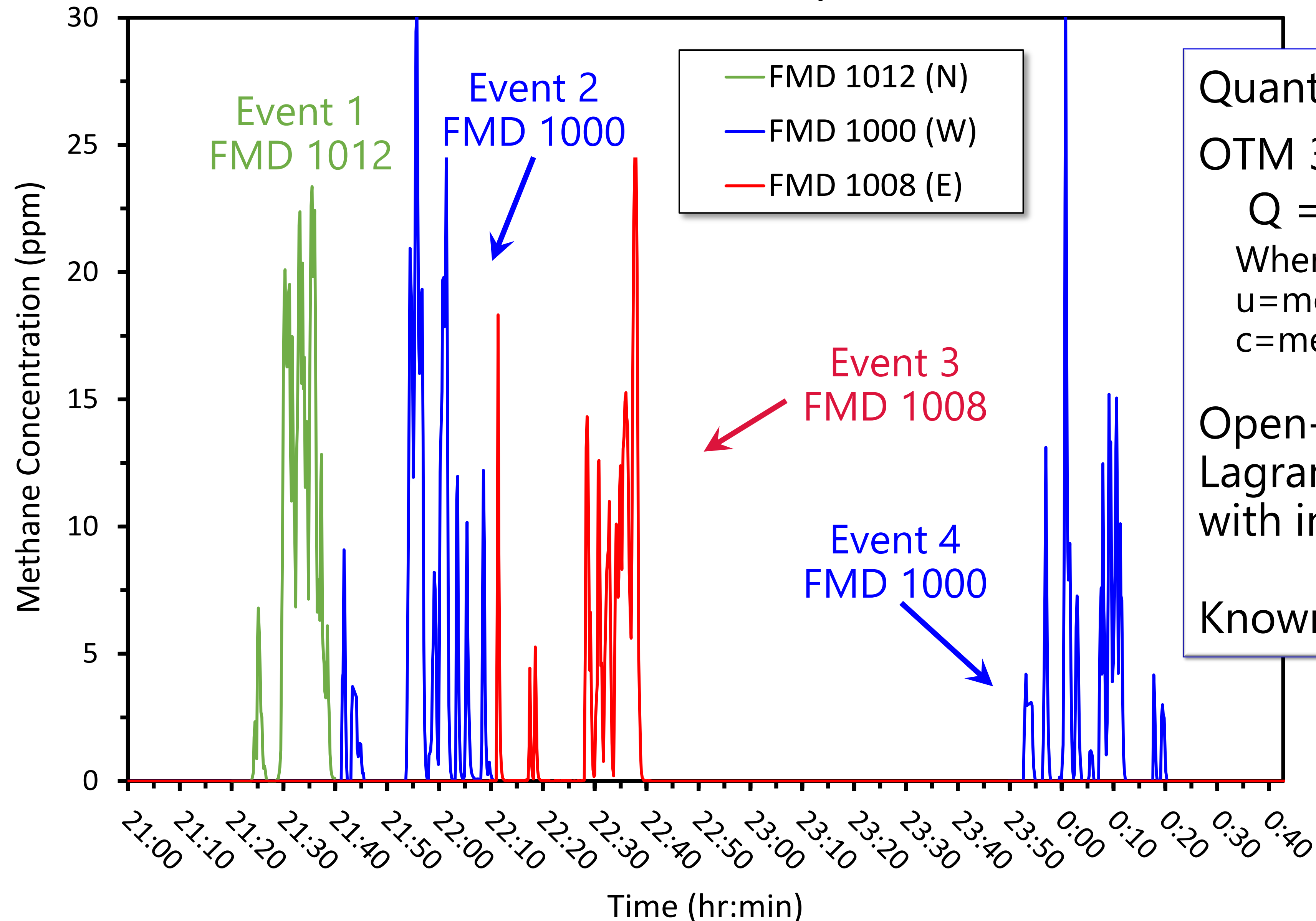
5.24 kg/hr (4T-1)

FMD 1009

FMD 1010



Measured Concentrations for quantification trials



Quantification by:
OTM 33A¹ simple emission estimate
$$Q = 2\pi * u * c * \sigma_y \sigma_z$$

Where:
u=mean wind speed (max bin)
c=mean max bin concentration (kg/m³)

Open-source WindTrax™ backwards
Lagrangian stochastic (bLs) model
with inputs from OTM 33A binning.

Known source location (4T-1)

¹<https://www.epa.gov/emc/emc-other-test-methods> – draft, results, nonstandard wind data, night observations (10° max bin mean for a1 and wind speed)

²<http://www.thunderbeachscientific.com/> - inputs for bLs determined by OTM 33A max fit. Used Pasquill-Giifford (PG) Class D OTM33A PGI index 6

FMD 1012

Obstruction lowers
measured concentration

FMD 1008

FMD 1000

Event 1
5.24 kg/hr

Event 1

OTM33A = 1.81 kg/hr (-65.5% error)
[1.03 kg/hr to 2.87 kg/hr]

WindTrax = 1.84 kg/hr (-65.1% error)
[0.83 kg/hr to 2.85 kg/hr]

FMD 1009

FMD 1010

Preliminary uncertainty estimates
OTM 33A at PGI 6 and 68 m [± 2 m, ± 1 PGI class]
WindTrax at PG Class D [± 2 m, ± 5 deg, ± 1 PG class]

Poor coupling for Event 4,
need to develop QA flag.
More measurements of the
source over time will help

FMD 1012

FMD 1008

Event 2 and Event 4
5.24 kg/hr

FMD 1000

Event 2

OTM33A = 6.37 kg/hr, 21.6% error
[3.70 kg/hr to 9.99 kg/hr]

WindTrax = 5.55 kg/hr, 6.1% error
[2.34 kg/hr to 8.77 kg/hr]

Event 4

OTM33A = 2.18 kg/hr, -58.4% error
[1.27 kg/hr to 3.42 kg/hr]

WindTrax = 1.82 kg/hr, 65.3% error
[0.80 kg/hr to 2.84 kg/hr]

FMD 1009

1010

Preliminary uncertainty estimates
OTM 33A at PGI 6 and 68 m [± 2 m, ± 1 PGI class]
WindTrax at PG Class D [± 2 m, ± 5 deg, ± 1 PG class]

FMD 1100

FMD 1012

FMD 1008

Event 3
5.24 kg/hr

FMD 1000



Event 3

OTM33A = 5.41 kg/hr, 3.6% error
[3.15 kg/hr to 8.42 kg/hr]
WindTrax = 4.31 kg/hr, -17.8% error
[1.76 kg/hr to 6.86 kg/hr]

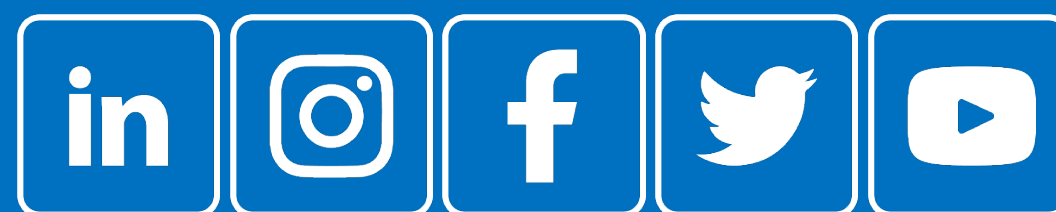
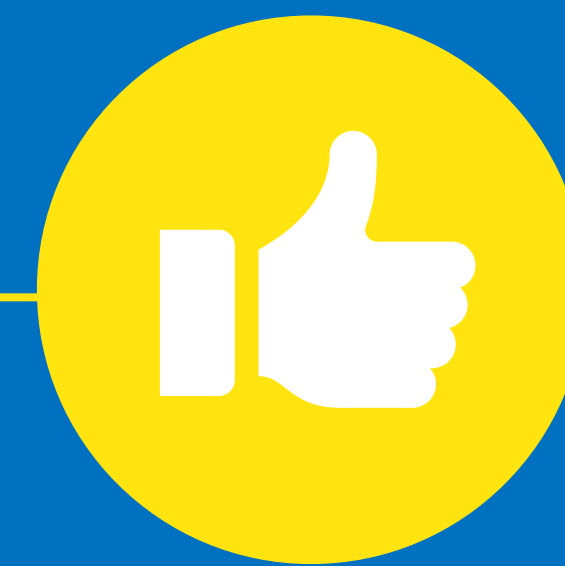
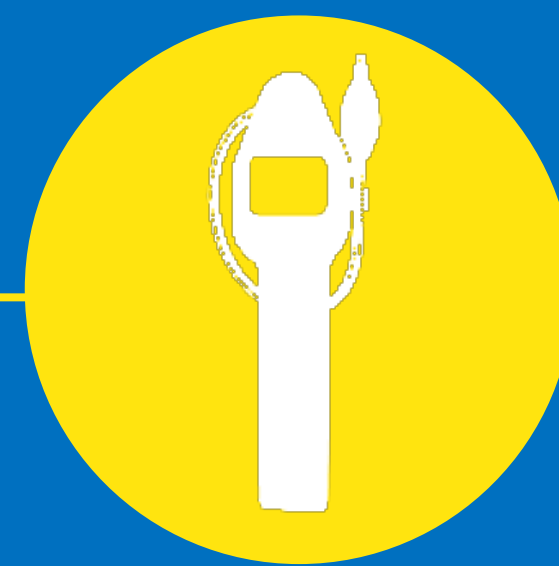
FMD 1009

FMD 1010

CONCLUSIONS

- Open collaboration leads to better understanding of the data and greater transparency
- SENSIT FMD is for capturing plume-probe overlap within process units and at the fence line.
- Deployment at METEC was able to identify and localize leaks.
- Freeware modeling packages capable of providing approximate estimates of leak rates.
- Be careful of model assumptions – know when they aren't applicable
- Work on this data set continues!





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