

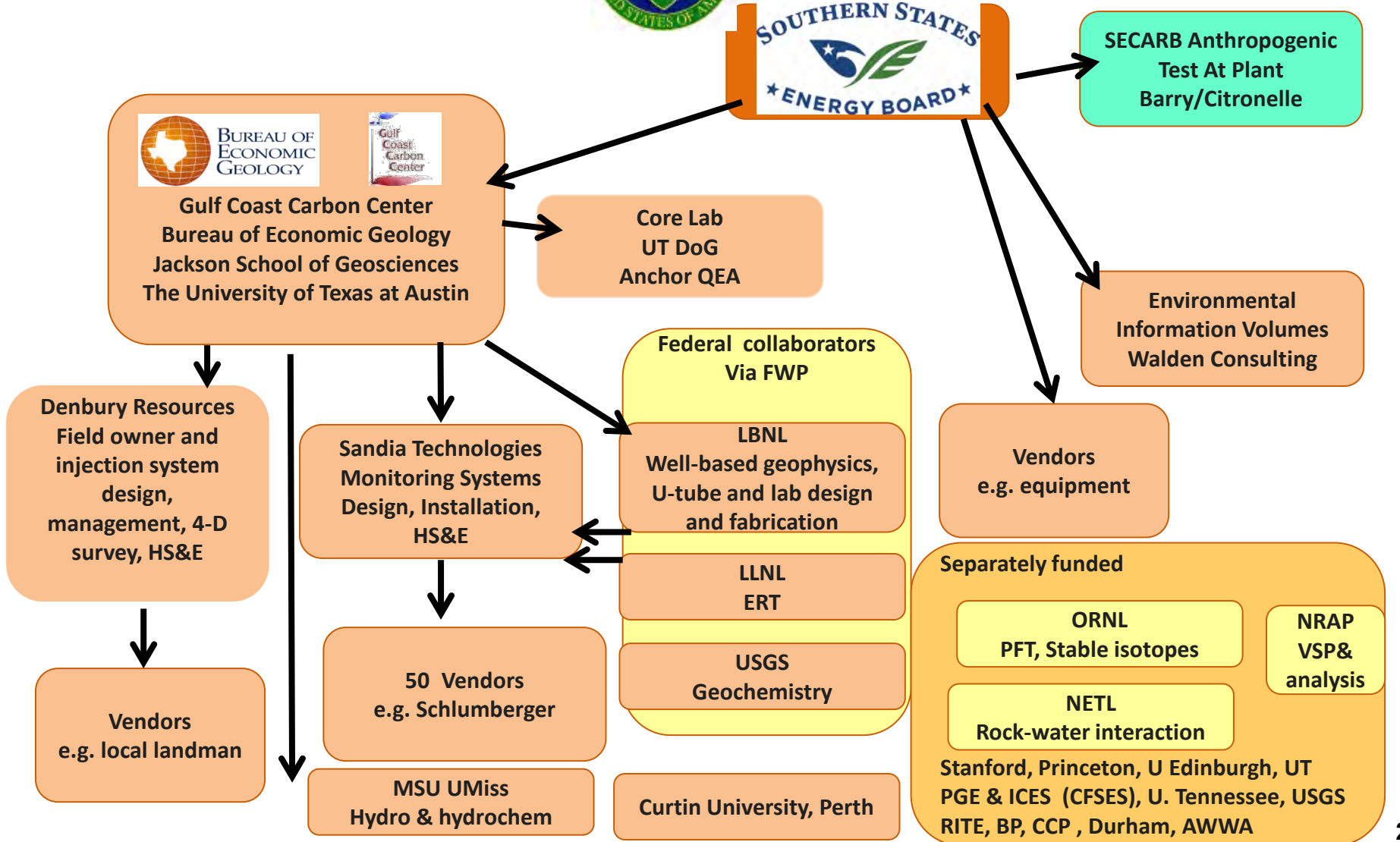


# SECARB Early Test at Cranfield Monitoring 4 Million Tons

**Susan Hovorka, PI**  
**Ramón Treviño, project manager**  
**Tip Meckel, geologist**  
**Bureau of Economic Geology**  
**Jackson School of Geosciences**  
**The University of Texas at Austin**

**CSLF CO2 Monitoring workshop, April 18, 2013**

# Organization





# Research-based Cranfield Monitoring Plan

- Research-based: not regulatory- or risk-based
  - Scoped, designed, and budgeted 2006, prior to regulation
  - Operator holds risk
- Designed to respond to DOE programmatic questions
  - Lessons learned are derived products not processes to be duplicated

# Cranfield Geologic Setting

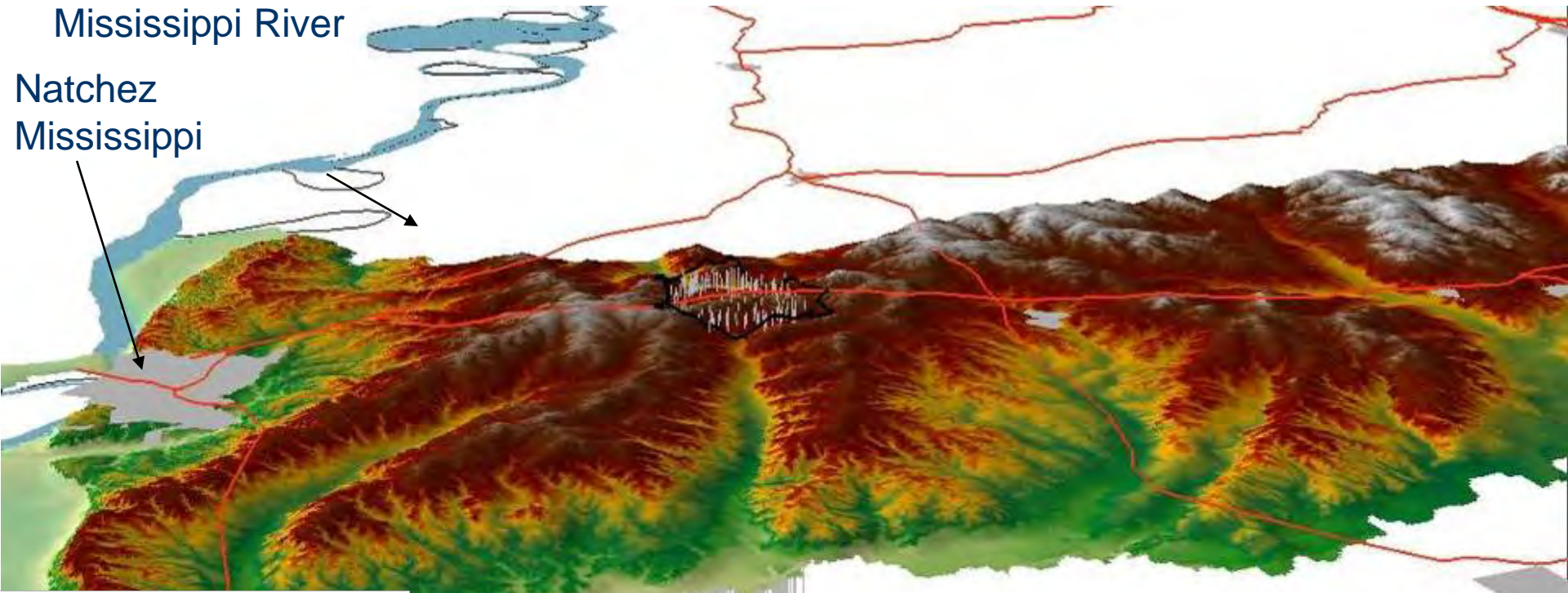
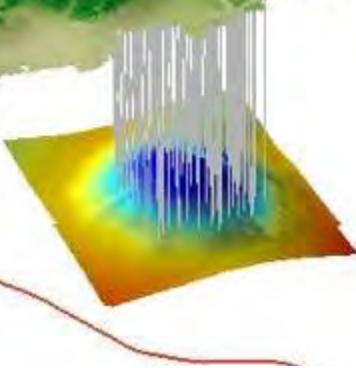


Illustration by Tip Meckel



**Oil and gas field**

**Discovery 1943**

**Depth 3000 m**

**15 m thick lower Tuscaloosa Fm.  
Heterogeneous fluvial sandstones**

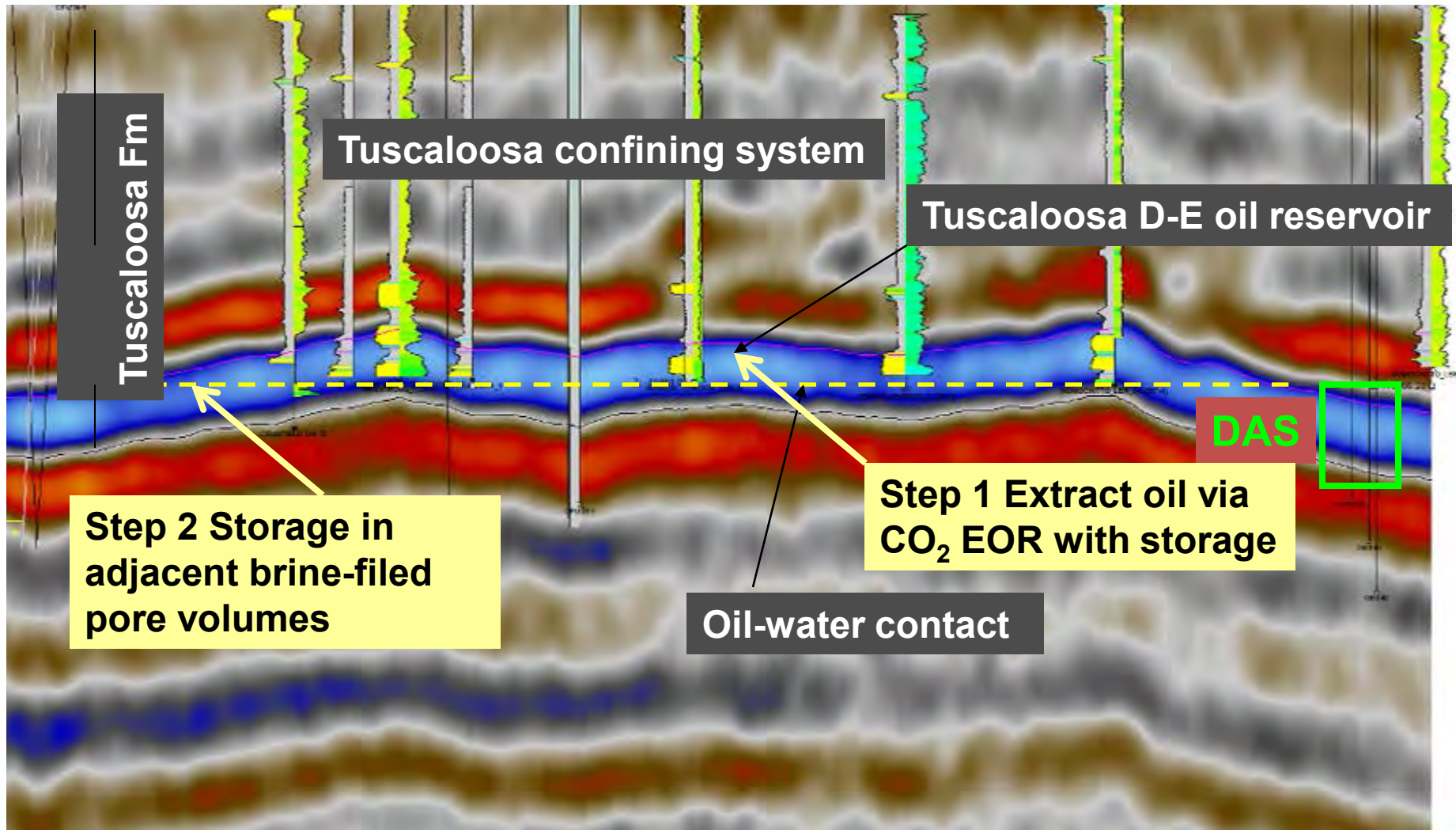
**Pipeline CO<sub>2</sub> from Jackson Dome**

**@ 1 Million metric tonnes/year**

# Stacked Storage: Use in early stages (Now!) provides access to long term storage

W

E



Seismic line from 3-D survey, Cranfield reservoir, Mississippi interpretation Tip Meckel BEG

# Regional Carbon Sequestration Program

## goal: Improve prediction of **storage capacities**

Existing data  
on reservoir  
volumetrics

Production history  
37,590,000 Stock tank  
barrels oil  
672,472,000 MSCU  
gas  
(Chevron, 1966)

7,754 acres x 90 ft net  
pay x 25.5% porosity  
(Chevron, 1966)

$X E$  [pore volume occupancy (storage efficiency)] = Storage capacity  
injection rate – limited by pressure response?

Measure saturation  
during multiphase  
plume evolution

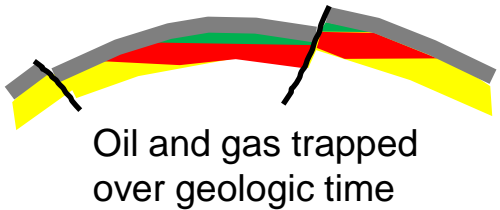
Increase predictive  
capabilities by  
validating numerical  
models

Observation: pore  
volume occupancy  
was rate and  
dependent: not a  
single number

# Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership program

goal: **Evaluate protocols** to demonstrate that CO<sub>2</sub> is retained

High confidence in storage permanence through characterization



**Material Risk of failing to retain**

Uncertainty and risk assessment



Semi-quantitative assessment via Certification Framework

**Research Questions**

P&A well performance in retention?

Limited analogy between injected and natural fluid retention

Off structure migration?

Response to pressure elevation?

**Selected assessment approach**

Well-pad vadose gas

Ground water chem.

AZMI pressure

4-D Seismic

4-D VSP

IZ pressure

Microseismic

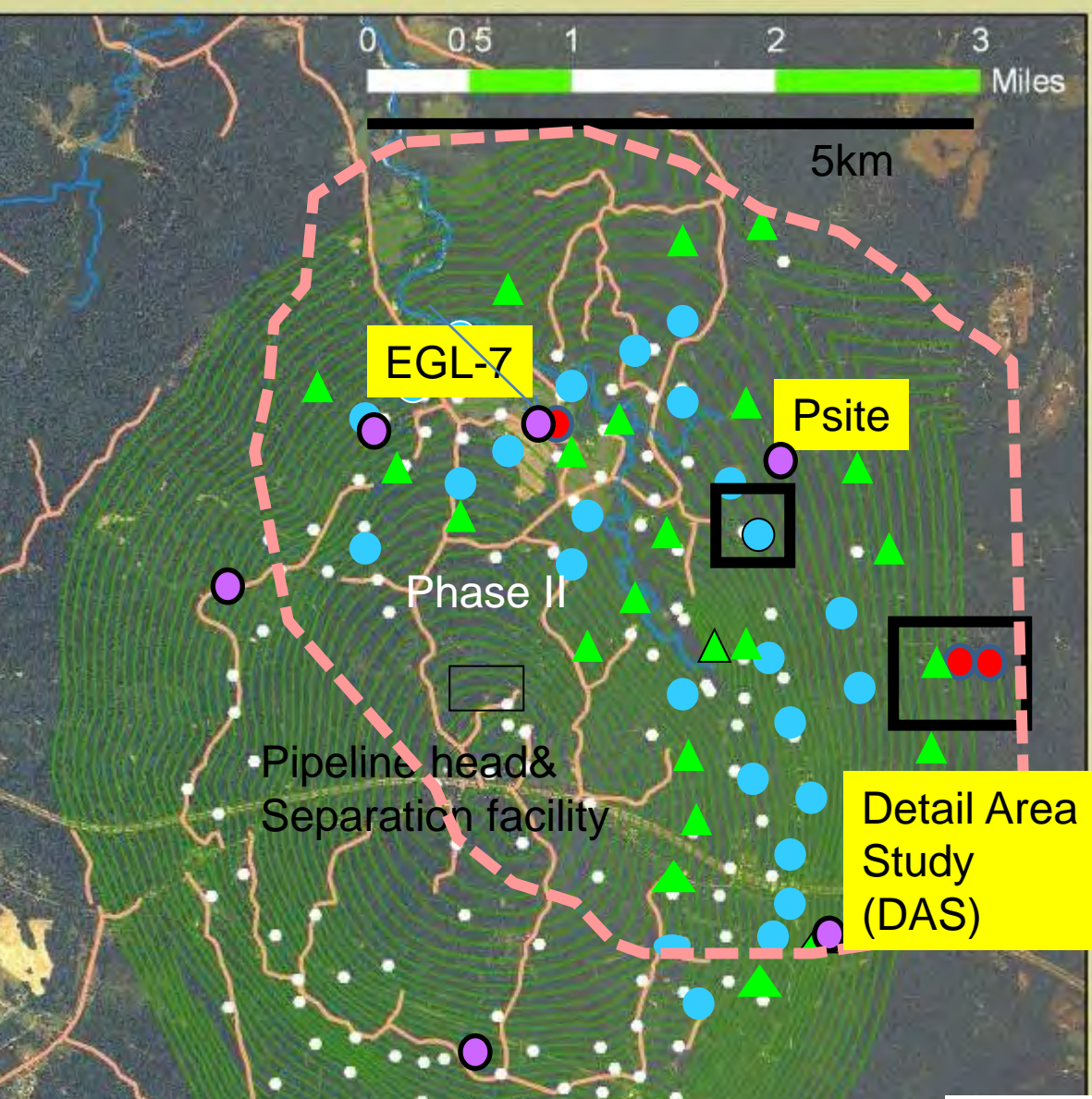
shallow

deep

**Protocol Sensitivity & reliability**



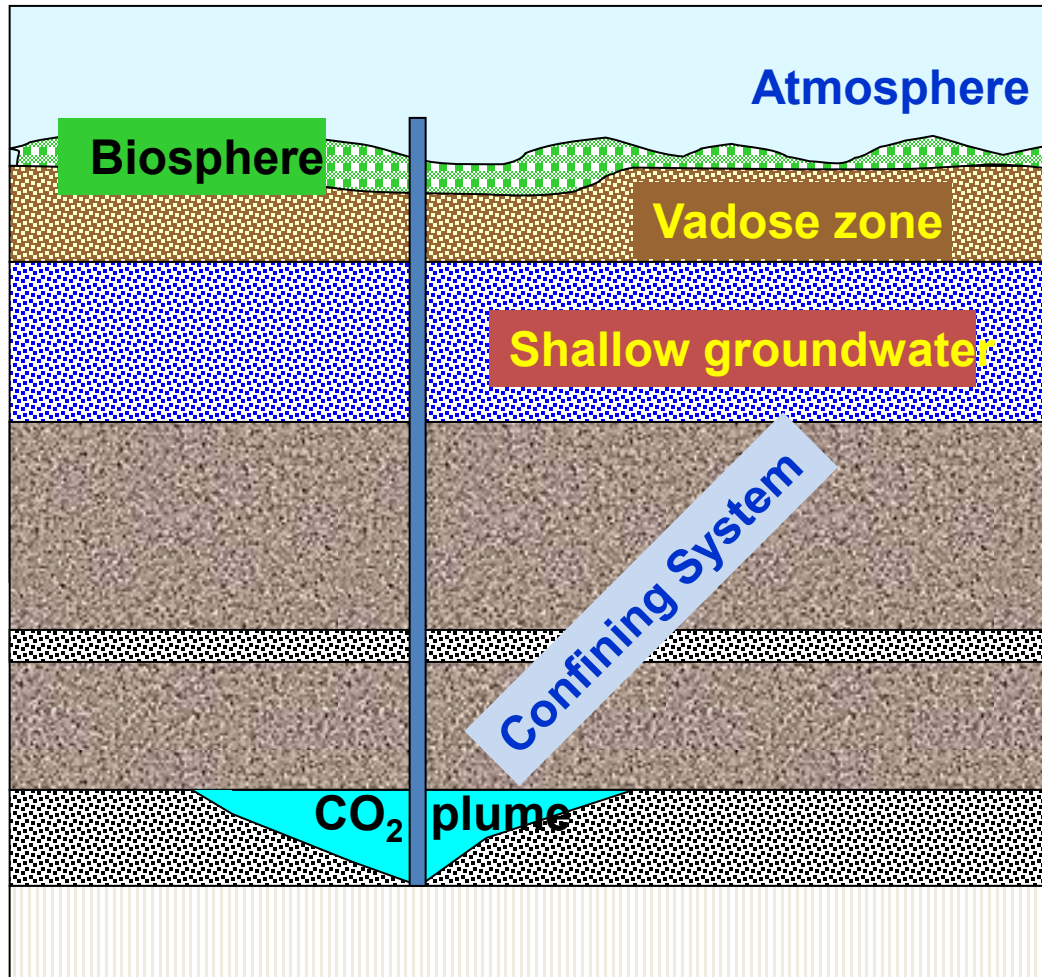
# Monitoring layout



- ▲ Injector
- Producer (monitoring point)
- Observation Well
- RITE Microseismic
- 4-D seismic

Detail Area Study (DAS)

# Monitoring Innovations

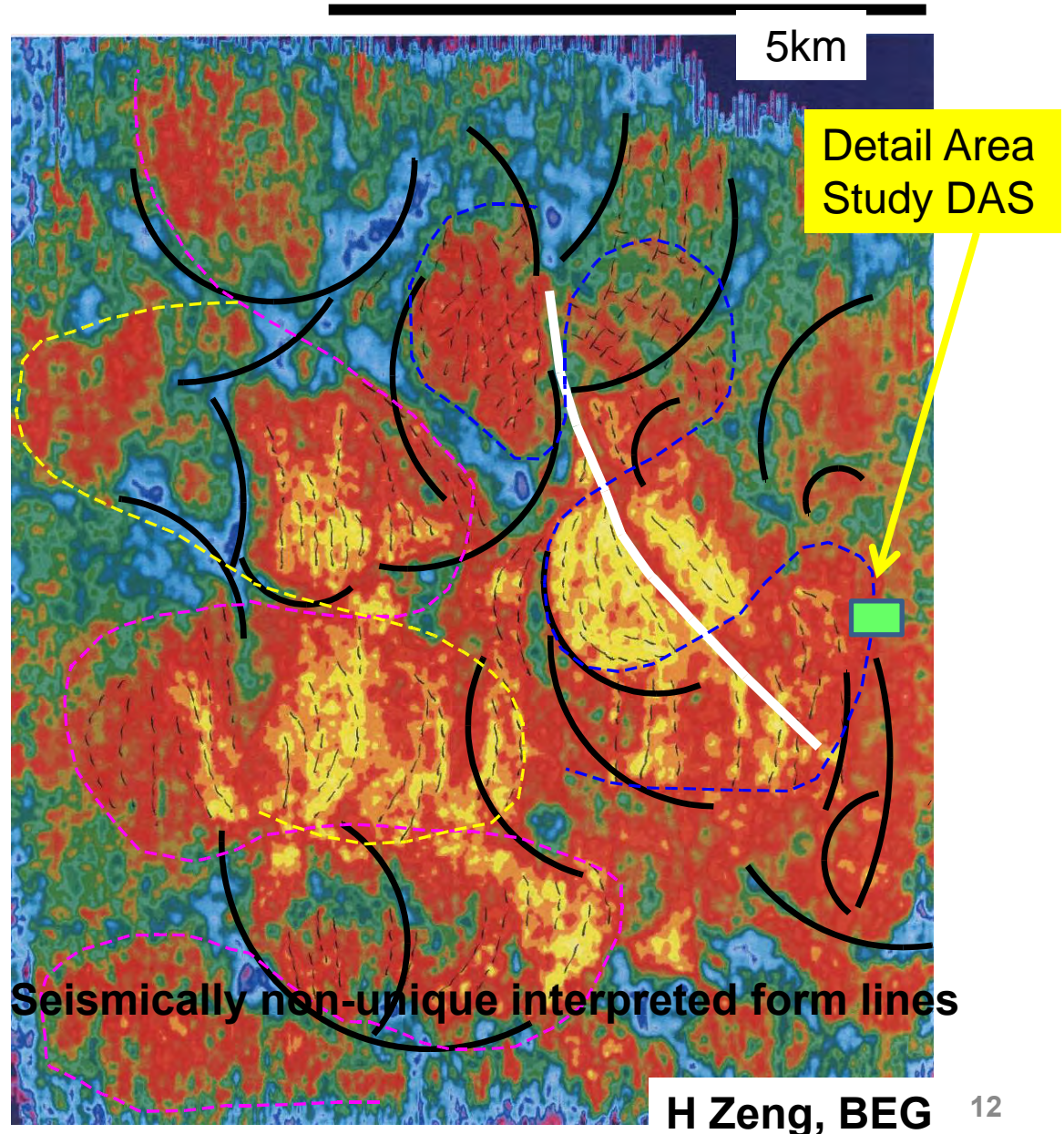


- Process-based vadose zone-gas method
- *In situ* rock-water-CO<sub>2</sub> interaction test.
- Contaminated site approaches
  
- Pressure in above-zone monitoring interval
  
- Stacked storage demonstration
- Cross-well ERT at depth
- Bore hole gravity
- Methane exsolution
- RITE microseismic

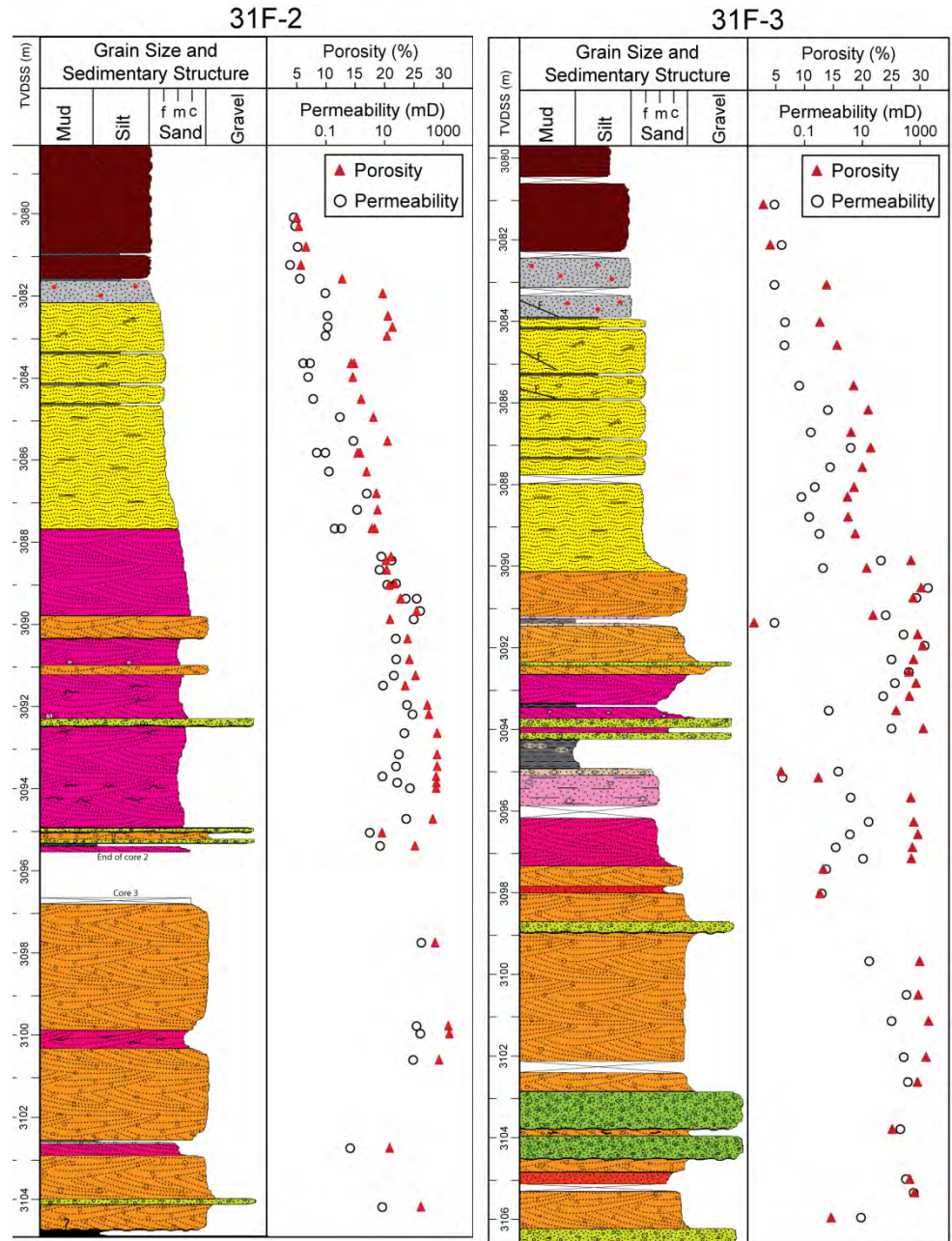
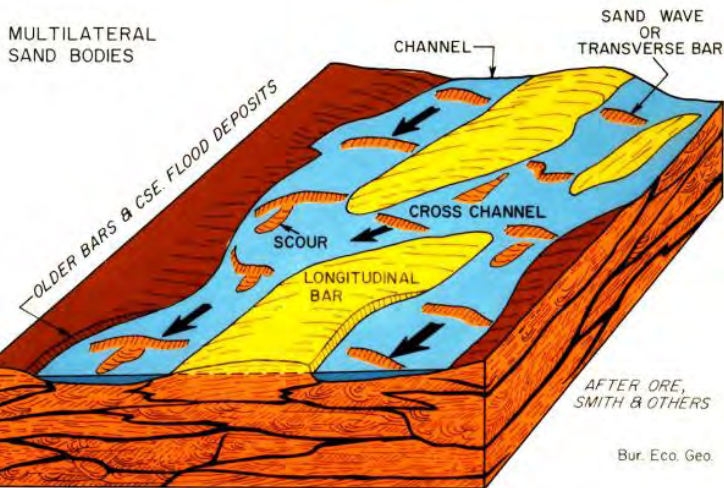
# Monitoring Design

Area tested	Whole plume	Focus study
Atmosphere	Not tested	Not tested
Soil gas	Active and P&A well pads	"P site" methodology assessment
Groundwater	Monitoring well at each injector	EGL-7 UM test well, Push-pull test
Shallow production	Not tested	Not tested
AZMI	Not tested	DAS pressure and EGL 7 pressure + fluids
Geo-mechanics	RITE micro seismic study	GMT(failed)
Injection zone	Geochemistry breakthrough	DAS multi-well multi tool array

# Lower Tuscaloosa sand and conglomerate fluvial depositional environment



# Fluvial Facies concept

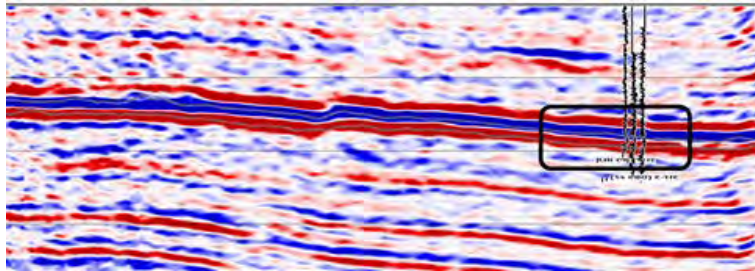


30-m apart

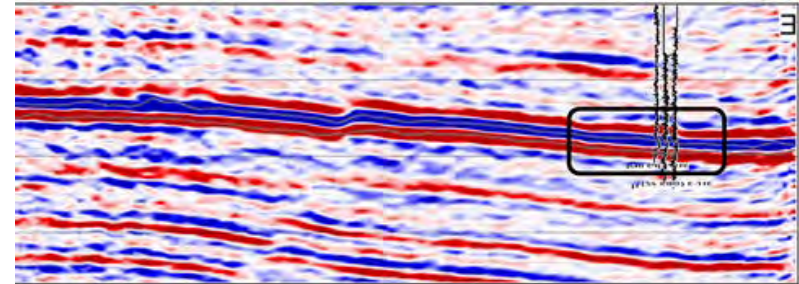
M. Kordi, BEG

# Time lapse seismic analysis

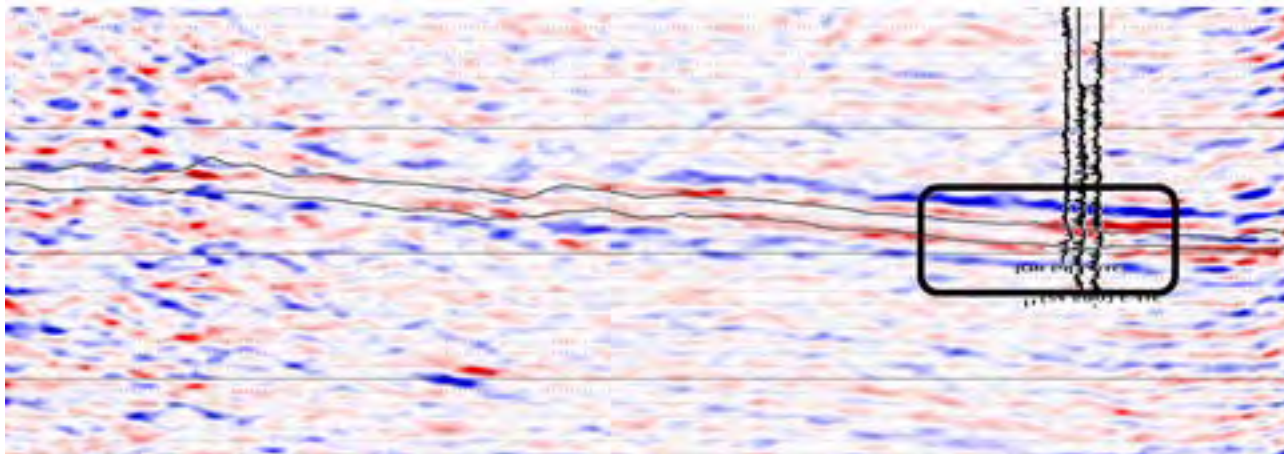
2007 Pre-injection **DAS**



2010 1 year of injection about 1/4 million metric tons this area **DAS**



**Difference**



**DAS**

# Detailed Area Study (DAS)

Injector  
CFU 31F1

Obs  
CFU 31 F2

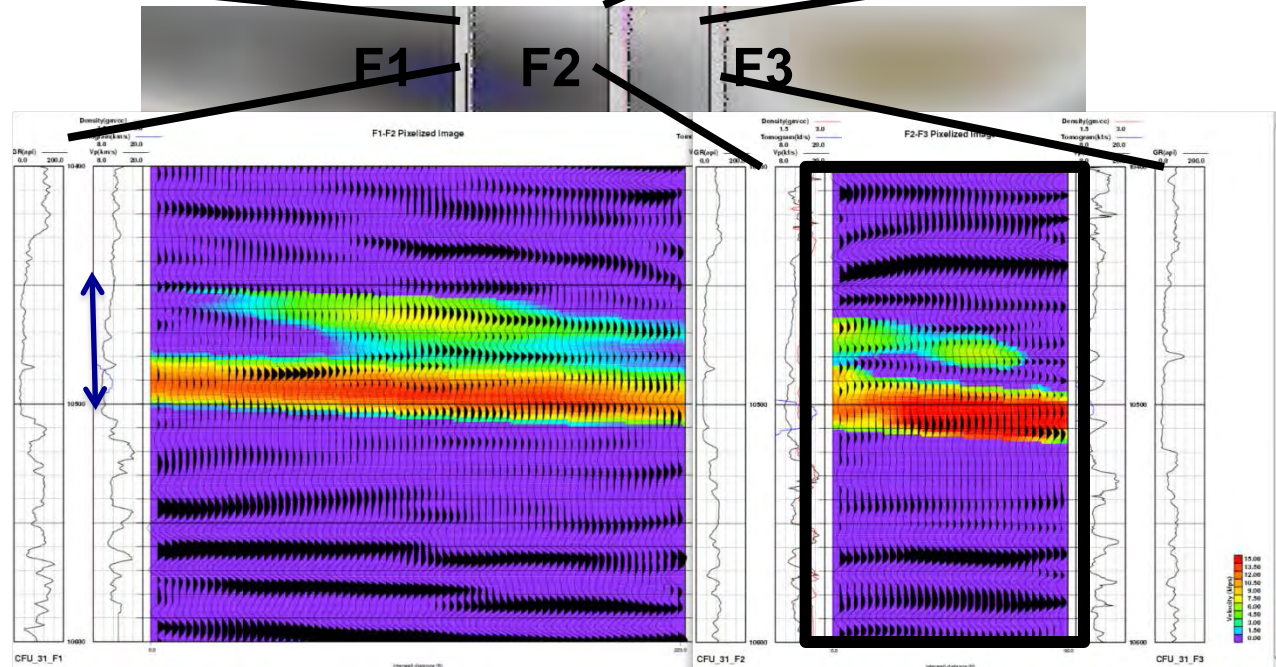
Obs  
CFU 31 F3



Closely spaced  
well array to  
examine flow in  
complex reservoir

Tuscaloosa D-E  
reservoir

Petrel model Tip Meckel



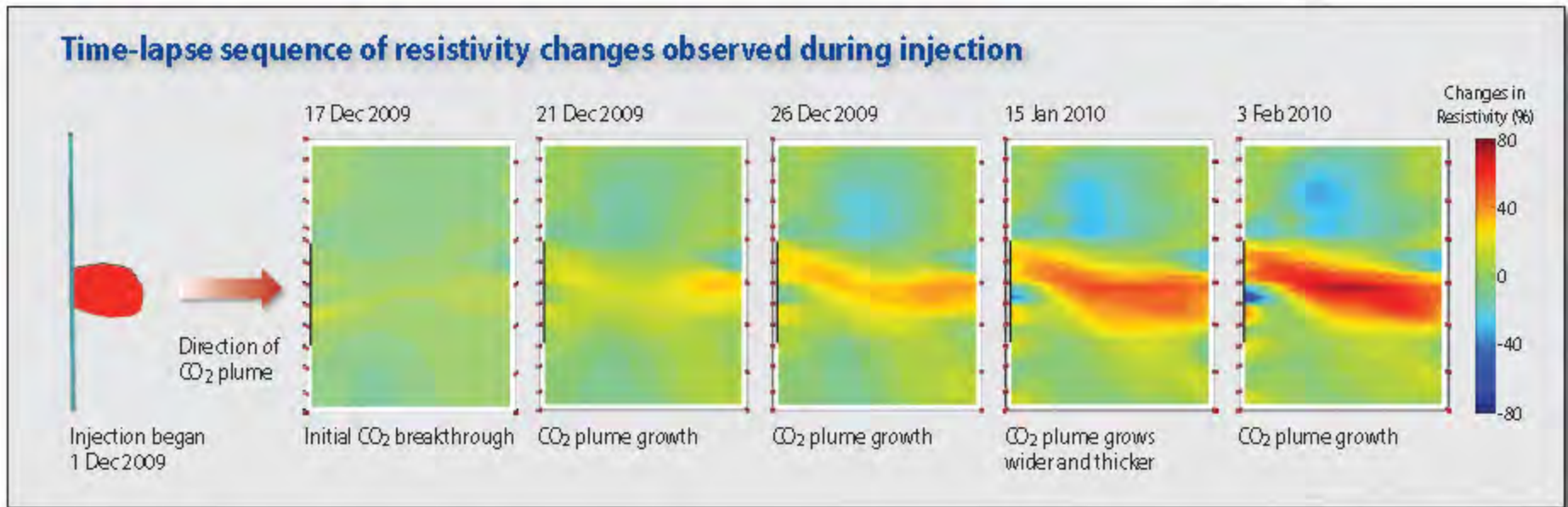
112 m

# LLNL Electrical Resistance Tomography- changes in response with saturation

F1

F2

F3



Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



© 1993 LLNL

C. Carrigan, X Yang, LLNL  
D. LaBrecque Multi-Phase Technologies

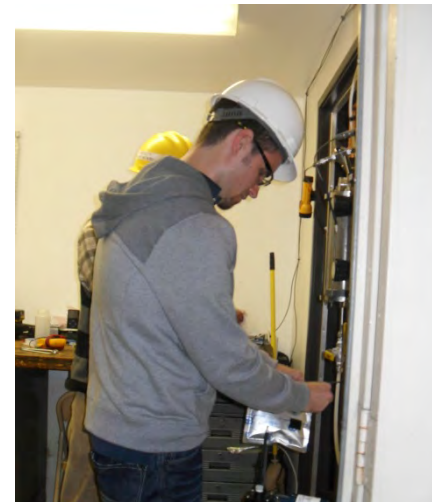


# Fluid sampling via U-tube yields data on flow processes



- Small diameter sampler with  $N_2$  drive brings fluids quickly and high frequency to surface with tracers intact
- High labor effort
- Unique data on fluid flow

Adding tracer



BUREAU OF  
ECONOMIC  
GEOLOGY

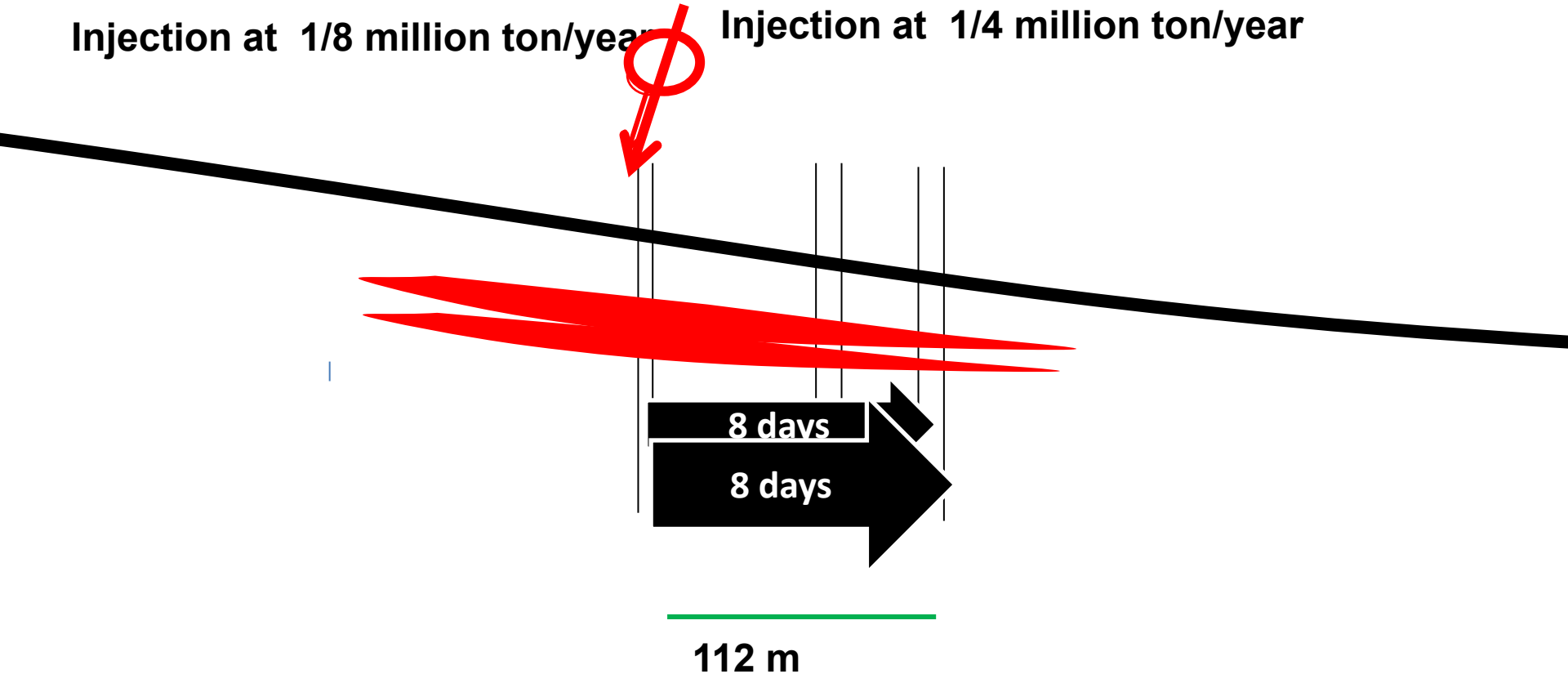


UTDoG,



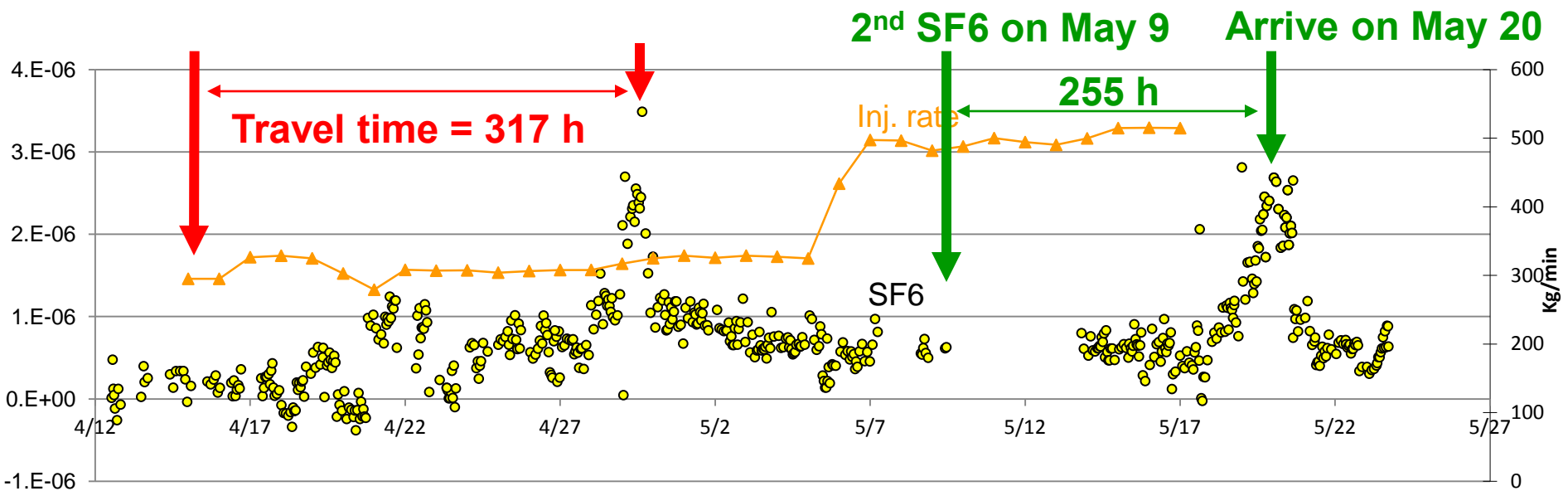
# As injection rate increased, plume thickness increased

Injection at 1/8 million ton/year      Injection at 1/4 million ton/year

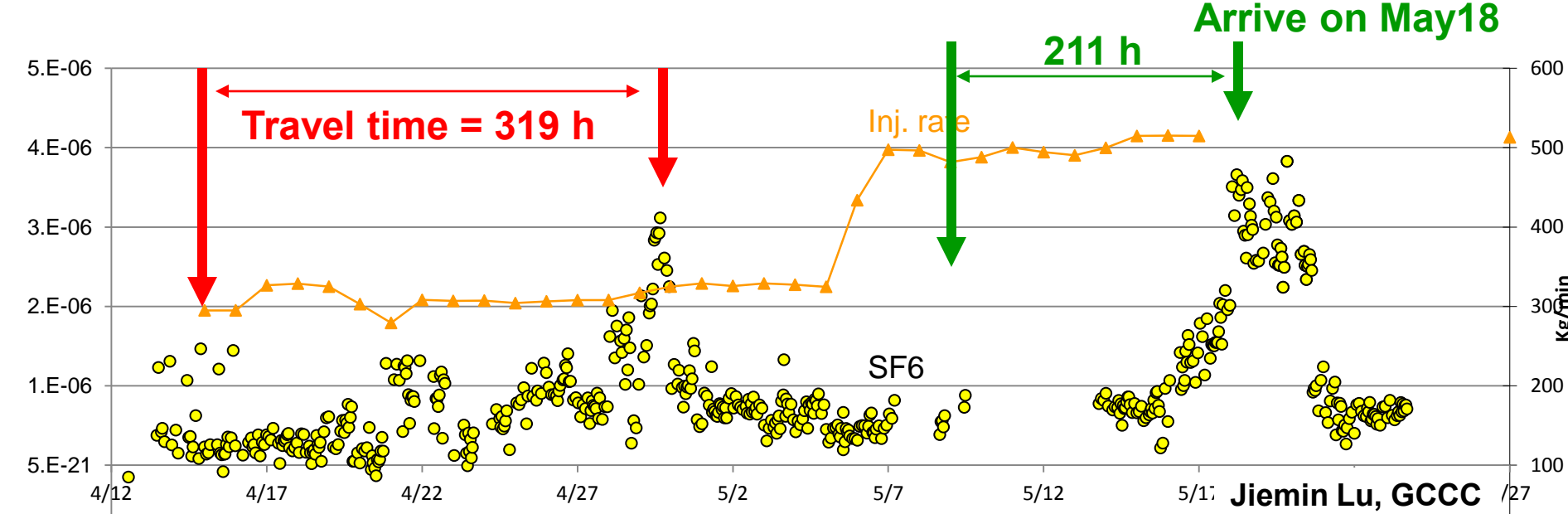


March-April 2010 tracer studies:  
Jiemin Lu, Changbing Yang, GCCC  
Tommy Phelps ORNL

### CFU31F-2, 68 m away from injector SF6



### CFU31F-3, 112 m away from injector SF6

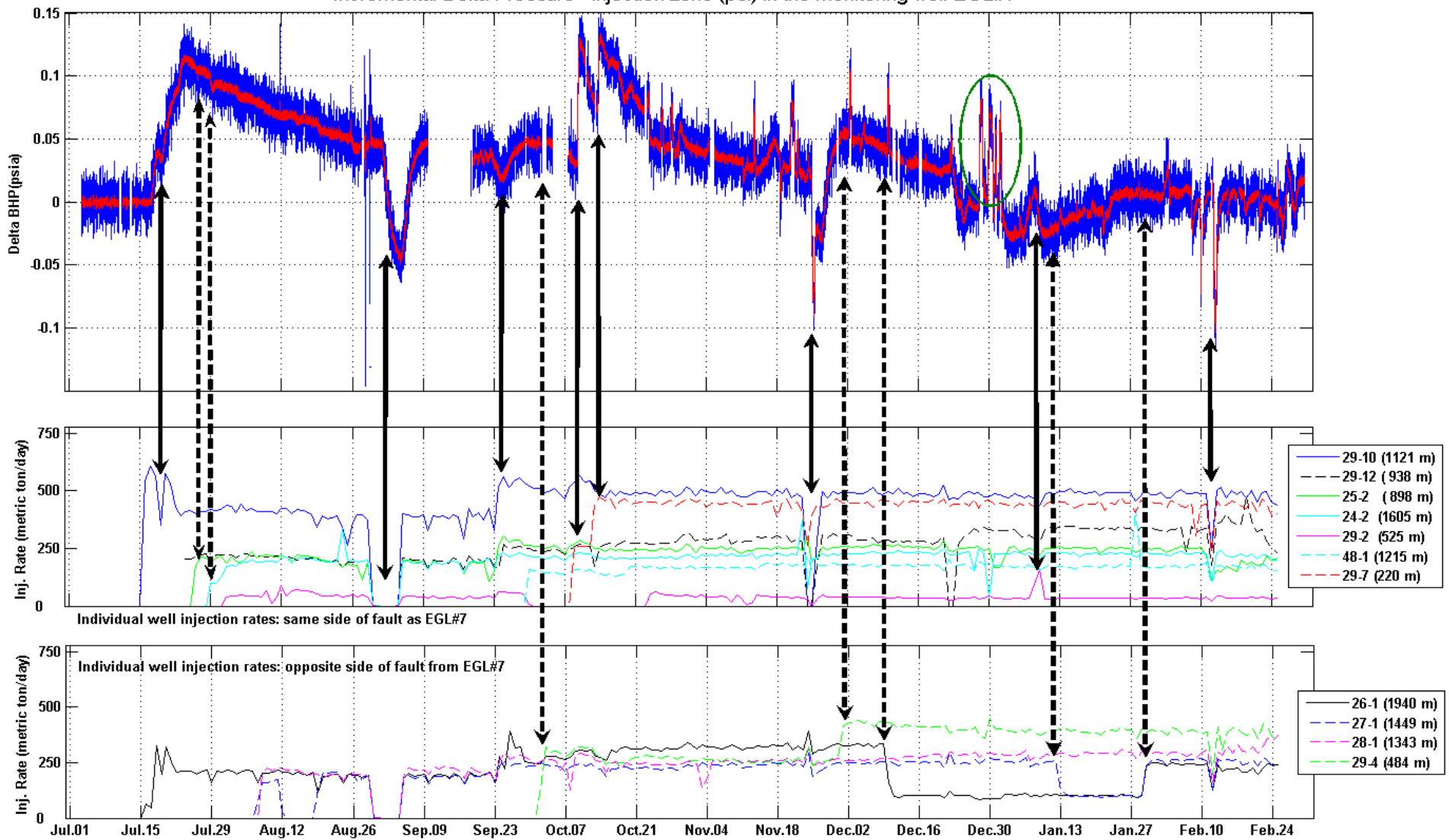


# Continuous field data from dedicated monitoring well

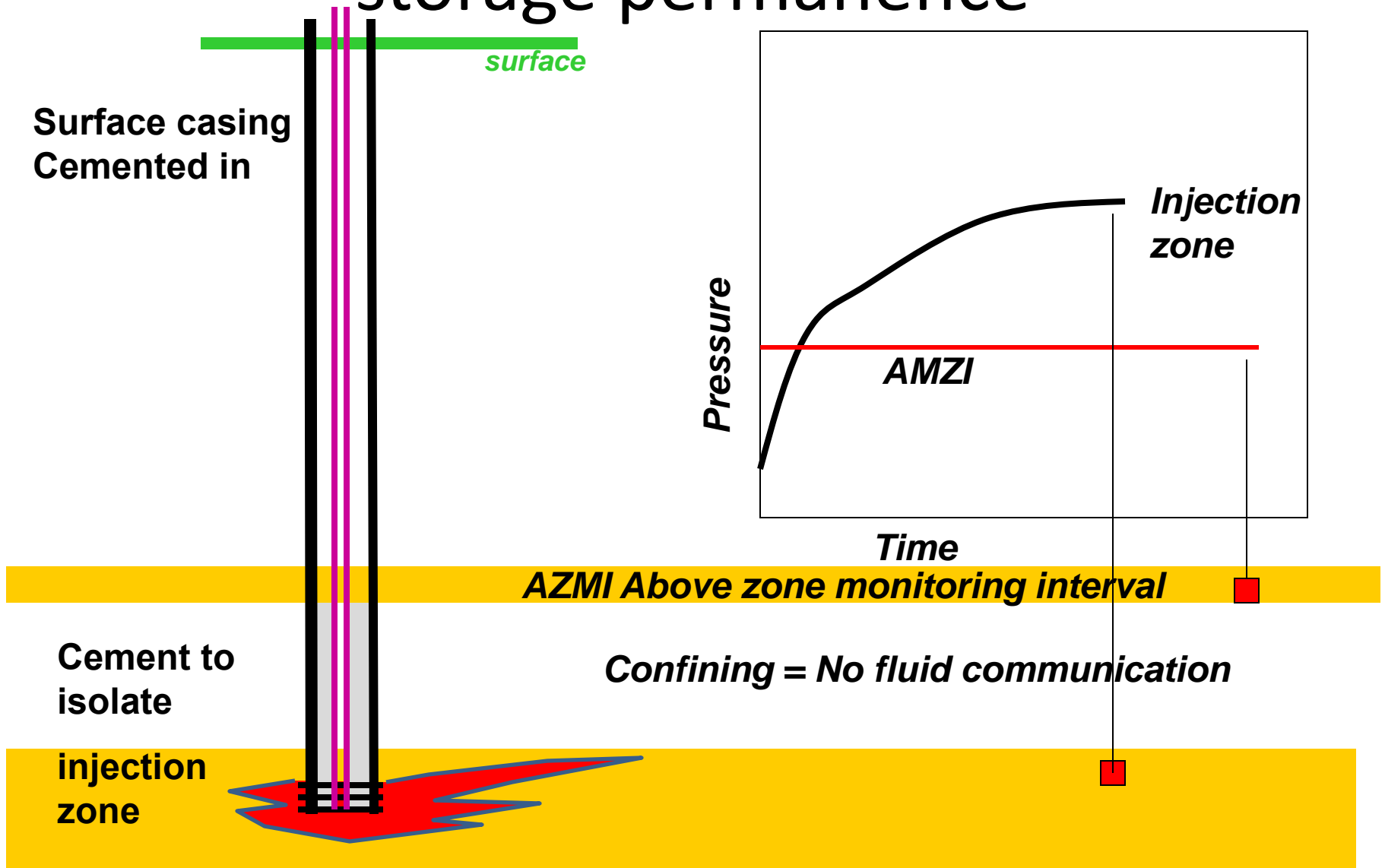
- Large perturbations obvious
- Even small perturbations observable (100's tons/day flux from 1 km)
- Fault observed to be sealing

Incremental Delta Pressure - injection zone (psi) in the monitoring well EGL#7

Meckel et al., in review

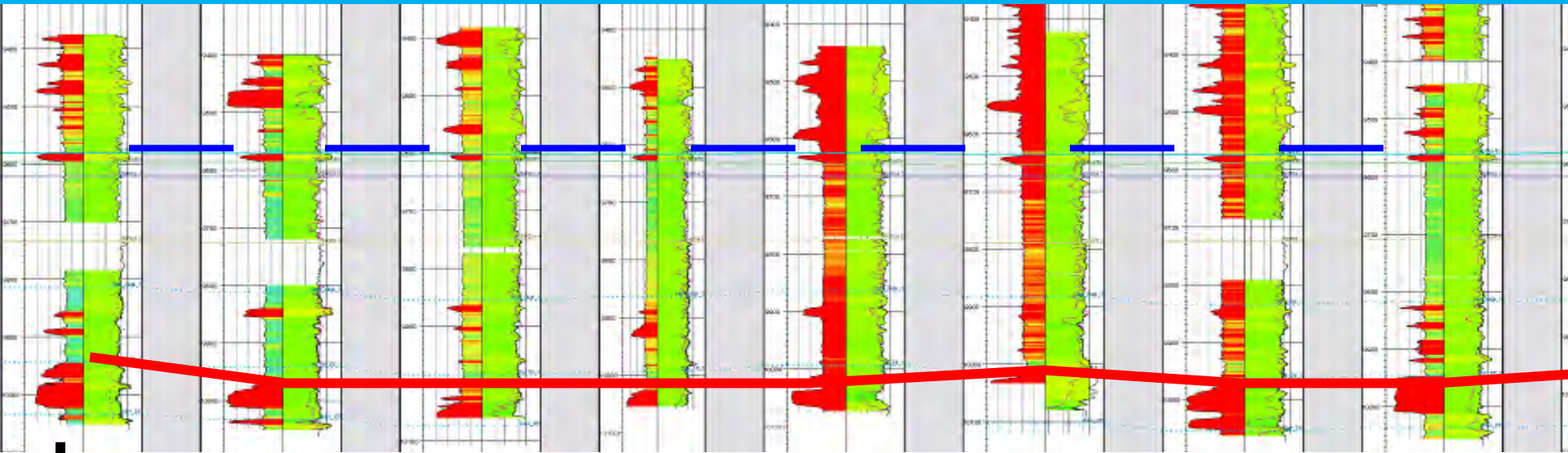


# Using above AZMI pressure to assess storage permanence



# Pressure Monitoring

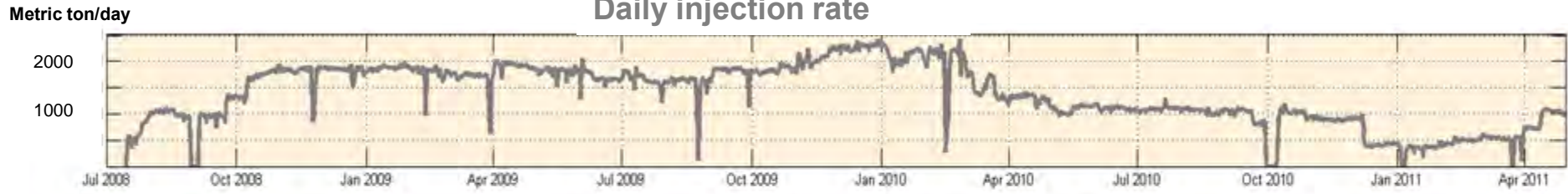
## Above-Zone Monitoring Interval (AZMI) – leakage detection



30 m

**Within Injection Zone (IZ) reservoir management**

Daily injection rate



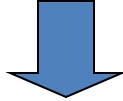
Downhole pressure in injection and overlying monitoring interval



**T. Meckel BEG**

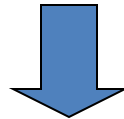
# Groundwater monitoring strategy

**Characterize shallow groundwater geochemistry**



**Identify a set of geochemical parameters for detecting CO<sub>2</sub> leakage**

**Test and validation**



**Numerical modeling**

**Lab experiments**

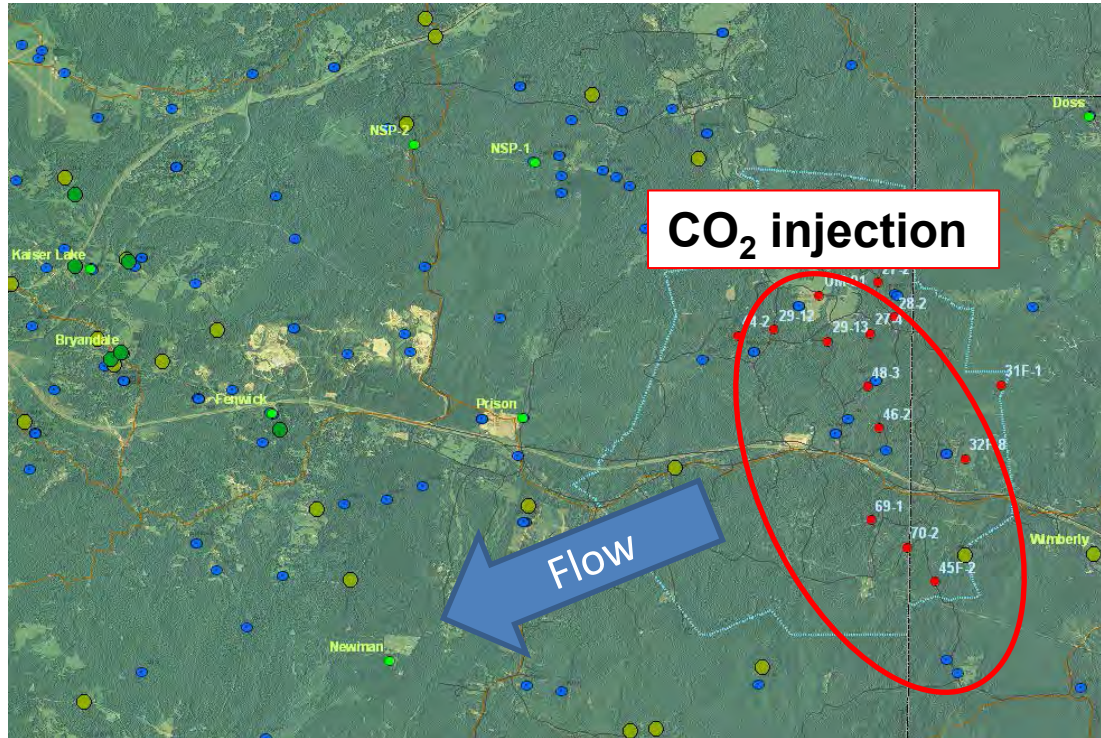
**Field experiments  
(Push-pull tests)**

**Application**



**Groundwater  
chemistry  
monitoring for  
detecting CO<sub>2</sub>  
leakage**

# Groundwater Monitoring



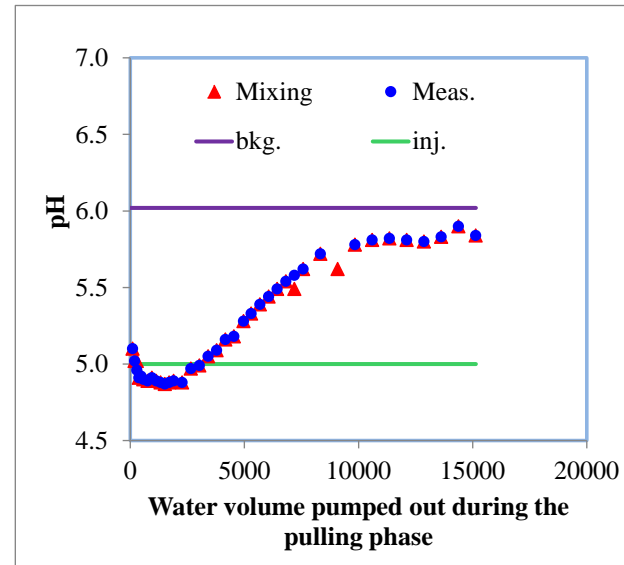
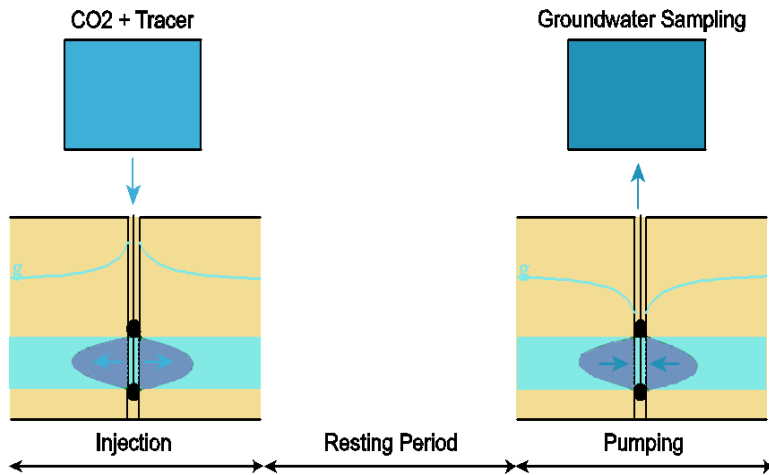
- Each injection well has a 200-300 ft deep groundwater well
- Quarterly geochemical monitoring by University of Mississippi, & Mississippi State
- Sensitivity studies: lab to field



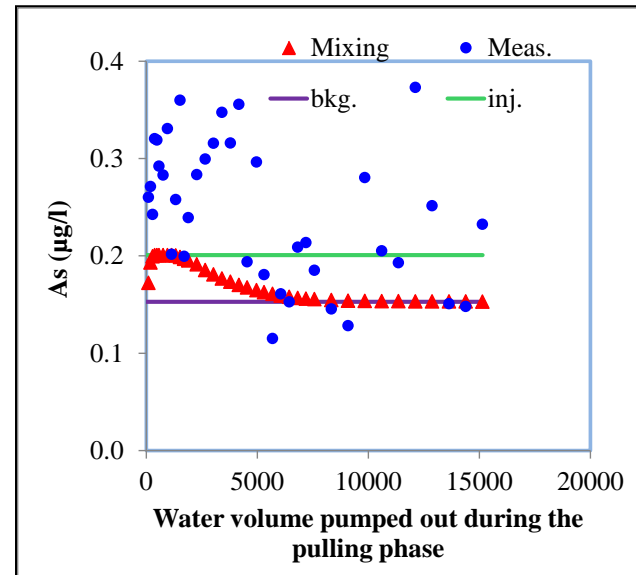
Changbing Yang,  
BEG



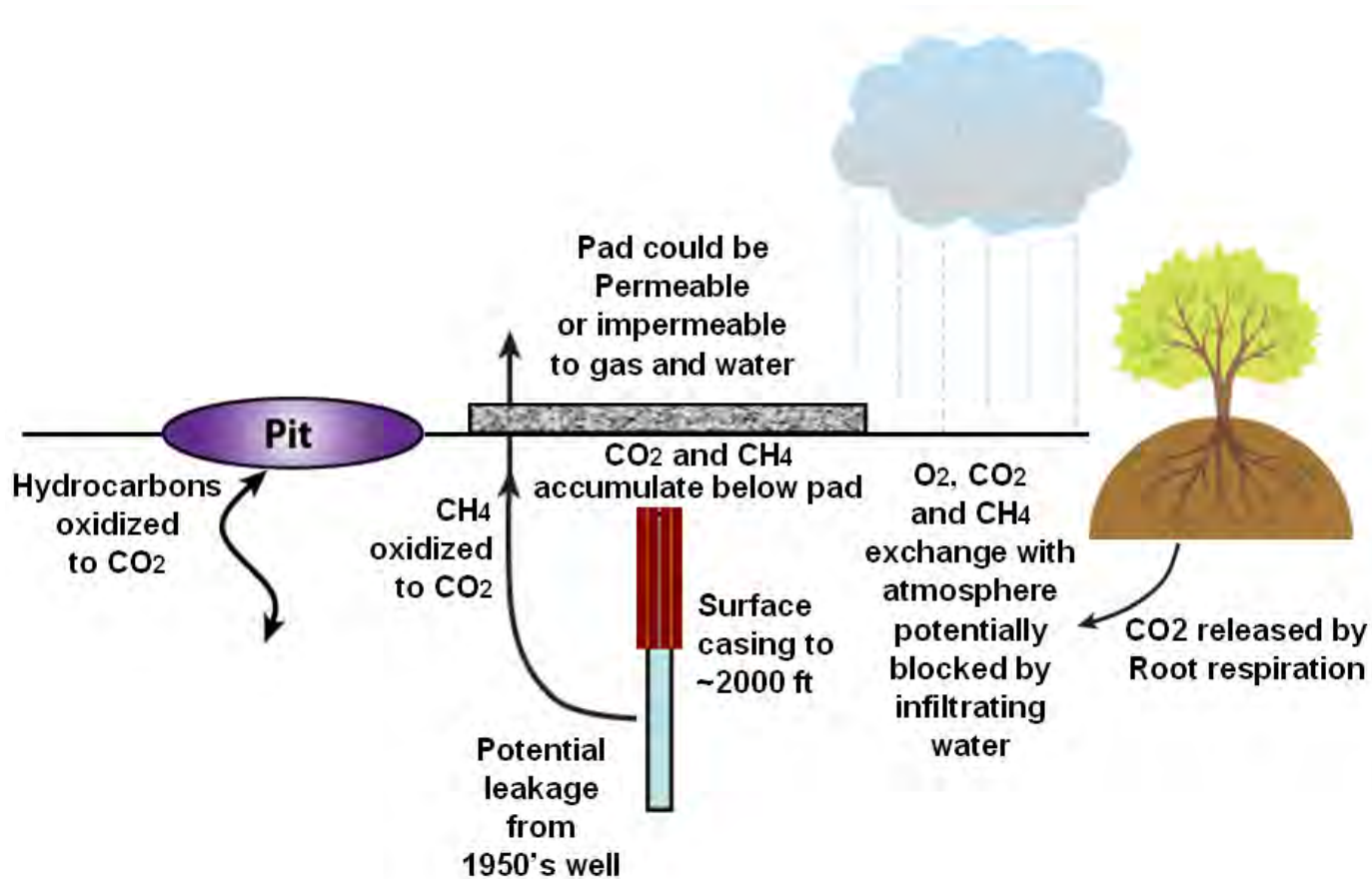
# Using a push-pull field test to validate models under *insitu* redox conditions



Changbing Yang, BEG (AWWA)



# Vadose Zone Monitoring via Process Accounting



# Challenges to Near-Surface Monitoring



Background "noise"

Vadose zone

Produce CO<sub>2</sub>  
Concentrate CO<sub>2</sub>



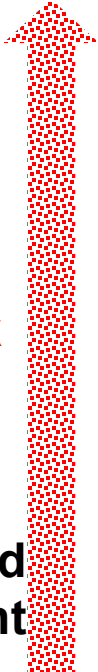
*False positives*  
Mask signal

Consume CO<sub>2</sub>  
Disperse CO<sub>2</sub>



*False negatives*  
Dampen signal

Leak



Failed containment

Plant activity  
Organics → CO<sub>2</sub>

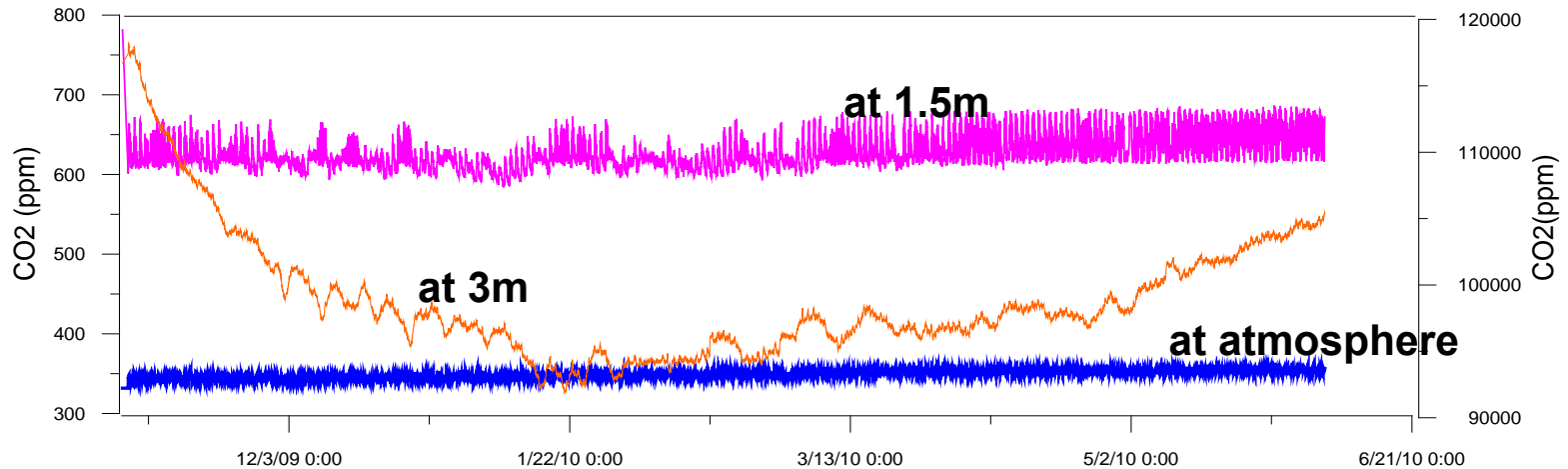
Soil carbonate  
Soil moisture  
Weather fronts

Produce,  
consume,  
redistribute  
CO<sub>2</sub>

Stored CO<sub>2</sub>

# CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at different depths

CO<sub>2</sub> concentration alone may not be a reliable indicator for leakage detection



- **CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations show variations in depth, average CO<sub>2</sub> conc. ~350 ppm in the atmosphere, ~630 ppm at depth of 1.5 m below surface show, and ~99000 ppm at depth of 3 m over the observation time period**

Katherine Romanak Changbing Yang

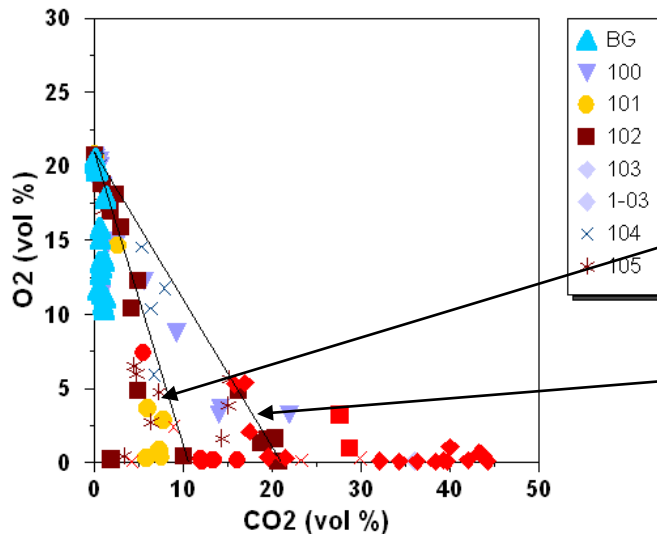
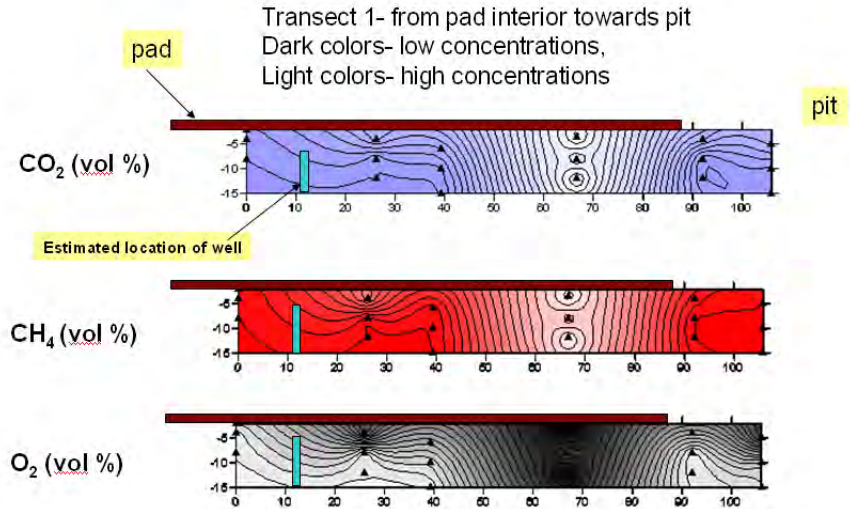
# Soil gas composition - Unique leakage signal

**CH<sub>4</sub> ≤ 34 vol. %**

**N<sub>2</sub> 42-85%**

**O<sub>2</sub> 2- 21%**

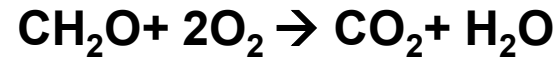
**CO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 45 vol. %**



**Methane oxidation**



**Org. oxidation**



**Katherine Romanak BEG**

# Remaining Activities

- Knowledge sharing
  - Technical and public and policy
- Analysis of data collected
  - Joint/comparative inversions
  - NRAP
  - SIM-SEQ
  - Basic Energy Sciences – EFRC's
- Continued data collection
  - Report volumes injected and pressure response
  - Continue groundwater and soil gas observation
  - EGL7 deconstruction (DOE-Schlumberger Carbon Services)
- RITE microseismic array – collect microseismic data
- Use of DAS obs. well for DOE-LBNL CO<sub>2</sub> geothermal test
- Support for CCUS concept

# Conclusions

- Stacked Storage Demonstrated
- Project objectives attained
  - Long term monitoring continues
- Innovative techniques for permanence assessment:
  - AZMI pressure
  - Groundwater testing to determine sensitivity
  - Fixed gas soil gas method
- Capacity is rate dependent



# Bibliography

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Please see [www.gulfcoastcarbon.org](http://www.gulfcoastcarbon.org)  
“bookshelf”

Special volume of International Journal of  
Greenhouse Gas Control on Cranfield.



# Gulf Coast Carbon Center



**LBNL**  
**LLNL**  
**ORNL**  
**NETL**  
**SNL**  
**Mississippi State U**  
**U of Mississippi**  
**SECARB**  
**UT-PGE**  
**UT Chem-E**  
**CFSES- BES**

**UT- CIEEP**  
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