

**High Resolution Site Characterization and the Triad Approach**

Seth Pitkin  
 Triad Investigations: New Approaches and Innovative Strategies  
 June 2008

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A Fact-Based Fresh Look:	2" horizontal, 1.02" vertical
Needs Analysis Study:	2" horizontal, 1.97" vertical
Lesley Allen:	1.91" horizontal, 4.72" vertical
Date:	1.99"
horizontal, 5.17" vertical	
Images (grouped):	0.5" horizontal, 0.5" vertical
Top blue rule:	0" horizontal, 1.6" vertical
Bottom blue rule:	0" horizontal, 5.08"
vertical	
Logo:	6.38"
horizontal, 7.42" vertical	



# Contents

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**1 Spatial Variability in Porous Media**



**2 Contaminants in Fractured Rock**



**3 High Resolution Site Investigations**

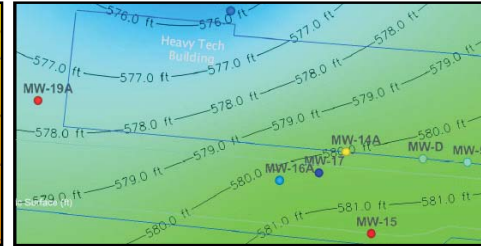




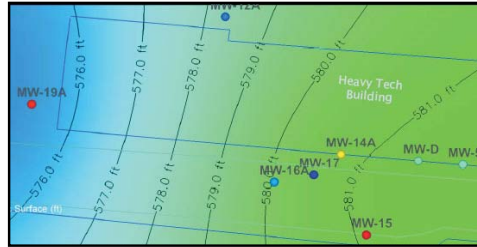
# Gasoline Plume Site in Vermont Variability of Hyd. Gradient w/ Depth



Shallow – 585 ft amsl



Intermediate – 574 ft amsl



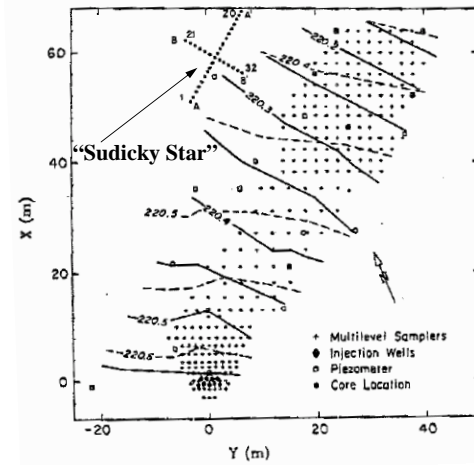
Deep – 557 ft amsl

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## Hydrodynamic Dispersion

- Natural Gradient Tracer Tests
  - Stanford/Waterloo – 1982
  - USGS Cape Cod – 1990(?)
  - Rivett et al 1991
- Dispersion is scale (time/distance) dependent
- **Transverse horizontal dispersion is weak**
- **Transverse vertical dispersion is even weaker**
- Longitudinal dispersion is significant



Stanford-Waterloo Natural Gradient Tracer Test Layout

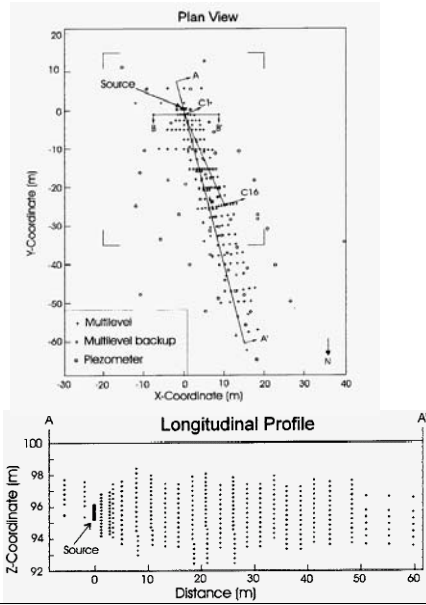
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# Rivett's Experiment: The Emplaced Source Site



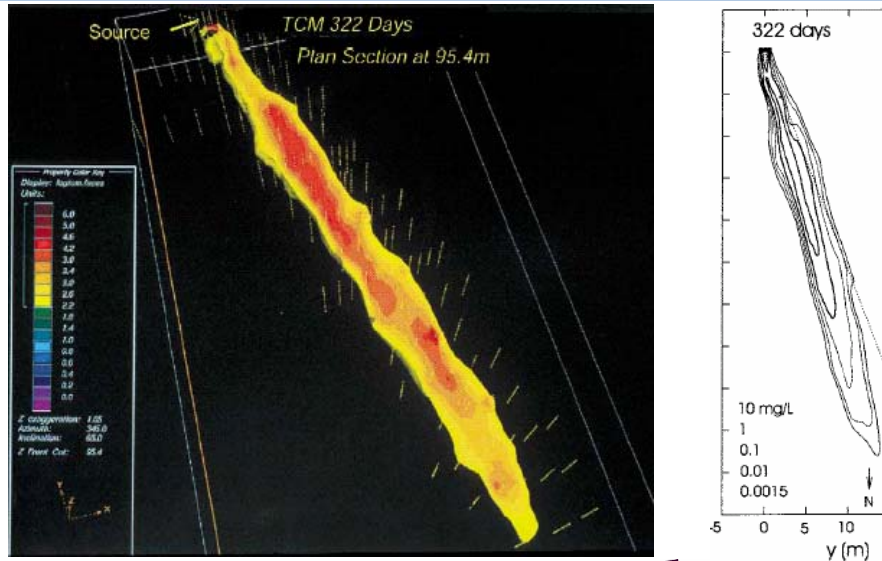
Rivett et al, 2000



5



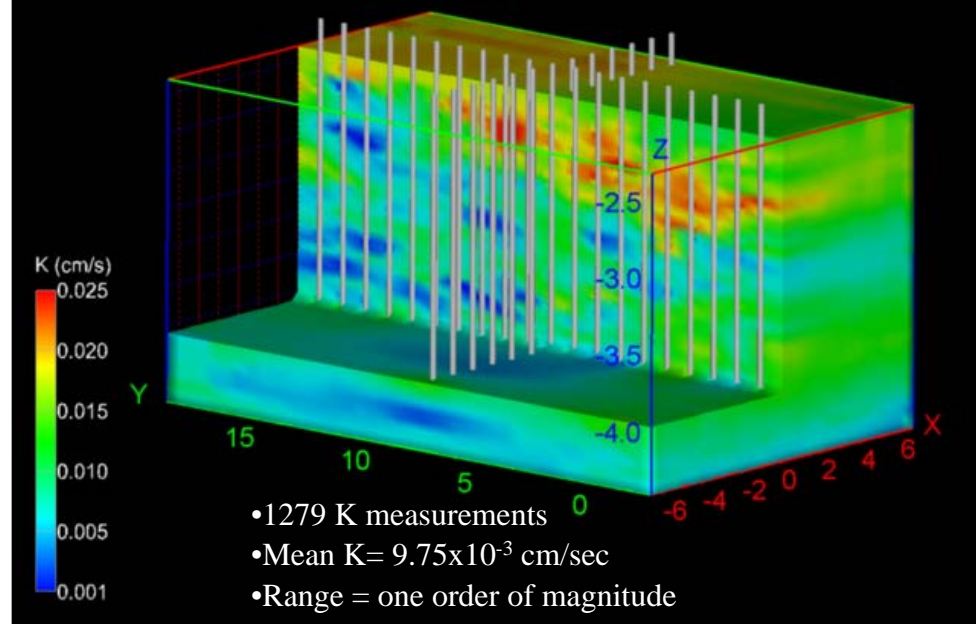
# TCM Plume at 322 Days *Weak Transverse Dispersion*



Rivett et al, 2000

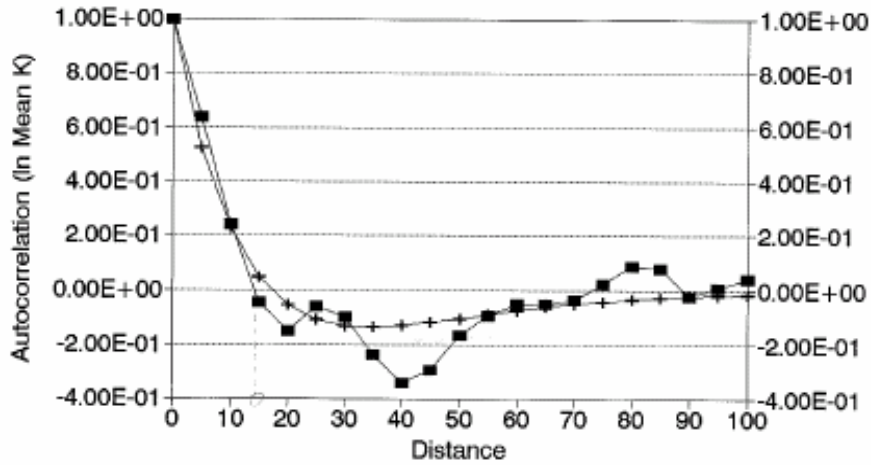
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### Distribution of K at CFB Borden - Beach Sand (adapted from Sudicky, 1986)





### Autocorrelation of K 3 Cores in "Sudicky Star" CFB Borden



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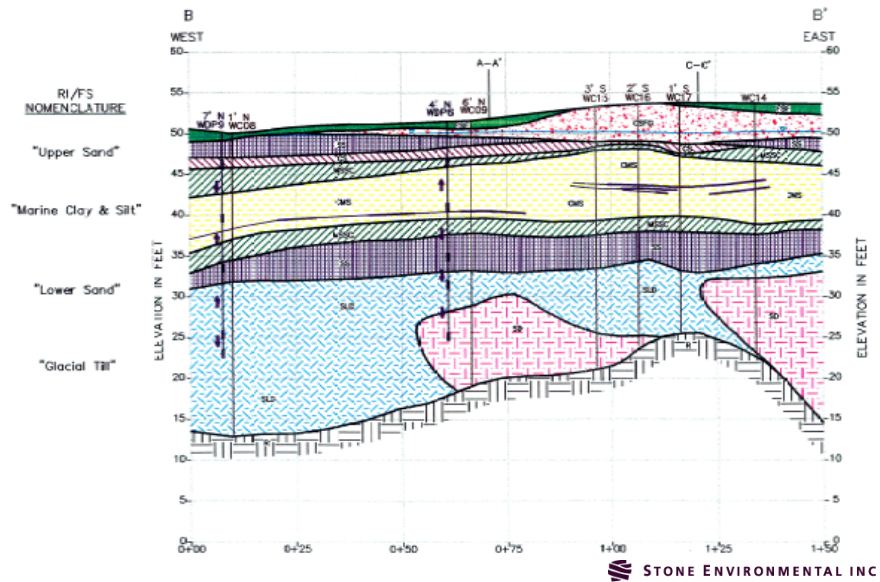
## Hydraulic Conductivity Correlation Lengths

Location	Horizontal K Correlation Length (m)	Vertical K Correlation Length (m)	Investigator
Borden, Ontario	2.8	0.12	Sudicky (1986)
Otis, ANGB	2.9 – 8	0.18 – 0.38	Hess et al (1992)
Columbus AFB	12.7	1.6	Rehfeldt et al
Aefligan	15 – 20	0.05	Hess et al (1992)
Chalk River, Ontario	1.5	0.47	Indelman et al (1999)

Other investigators have since performed similar studies and have found similar results. With the exception of Columbus AFB, all of the investigators have found vertical correlation lengths of less than 50 cm. in a given hydrostratigraphic unit. This is not a good sign for those using five foot long well screens.



# Pease AFB, NH - Site 32 Section B – B'





# Hydraulic Conductivity Distribution on B – B'

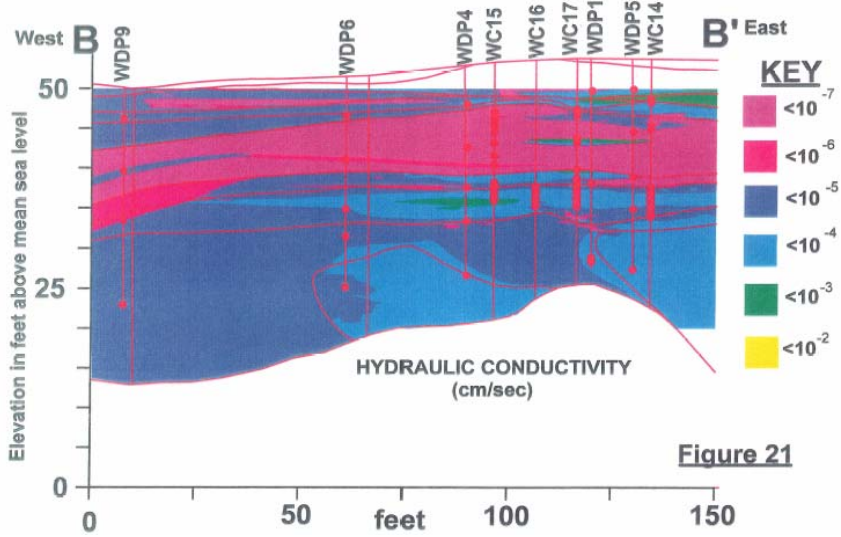
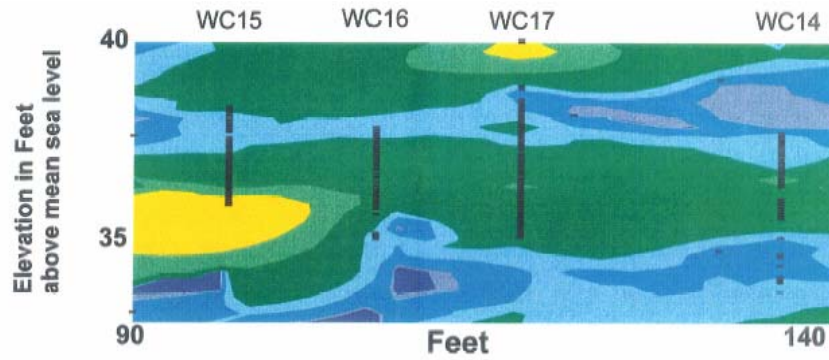


Figure 21

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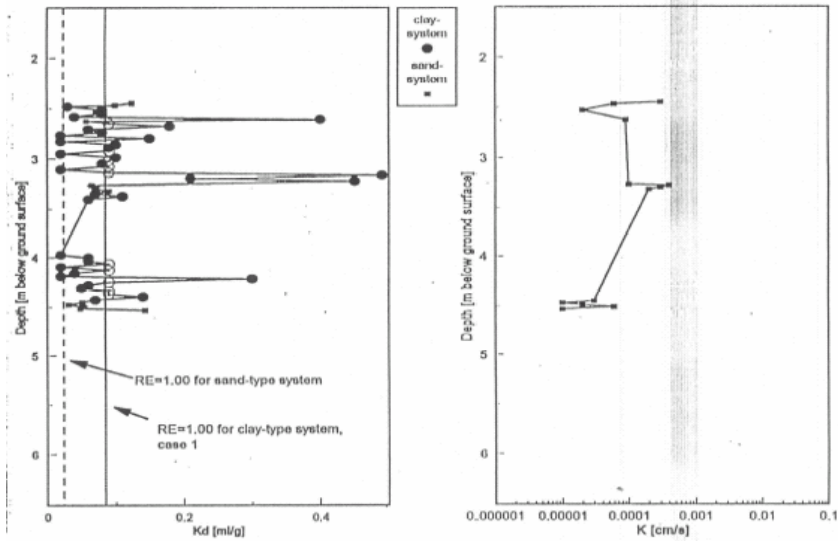
### K (cm/sec) Distribution in Lower Sand on B – B''



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# Pease AFB Site 32 $K_d$ and $K$ variability with Depth



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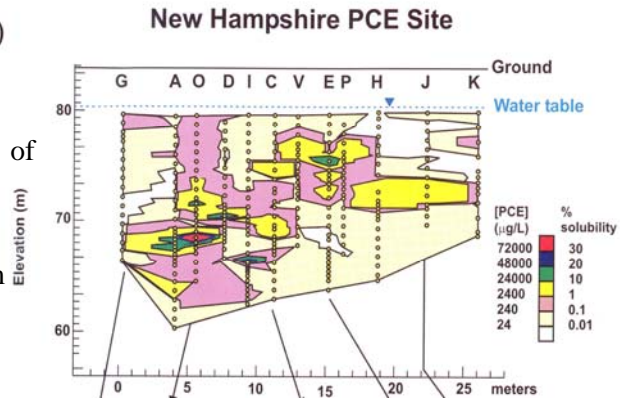
# Mass Flux Distribution

Guilbeault et. al. 2005

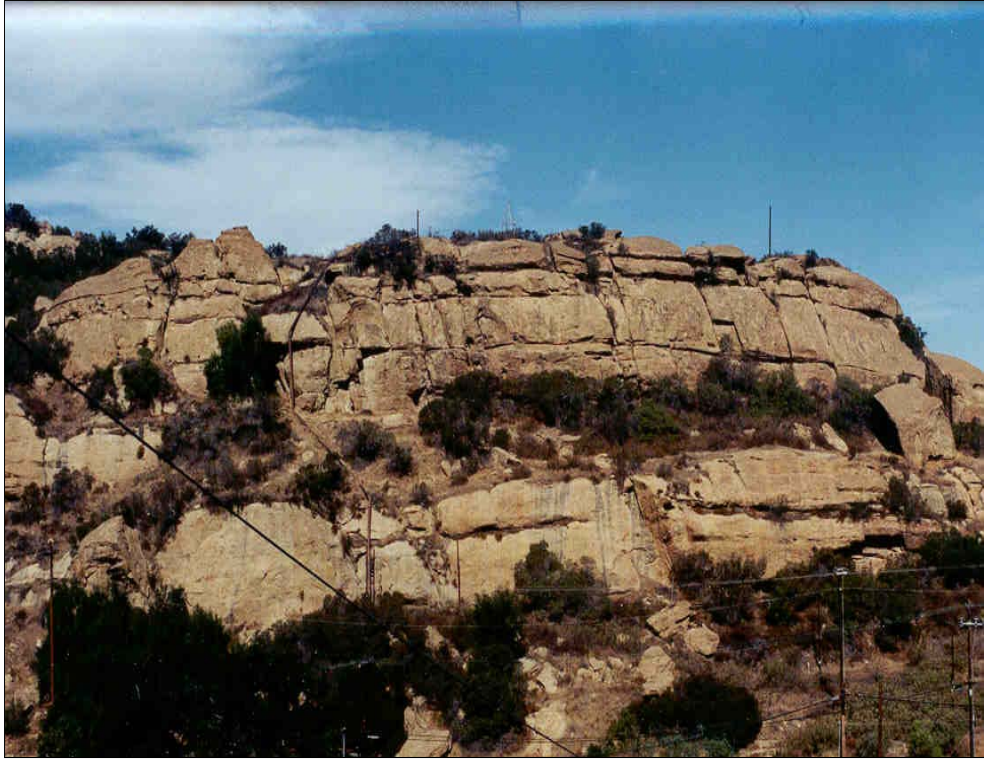
75% of mass discharge occurs through 5% to 10% of the plume cross sectional area.

Optimal Spacing is ~0.5 m

(a)



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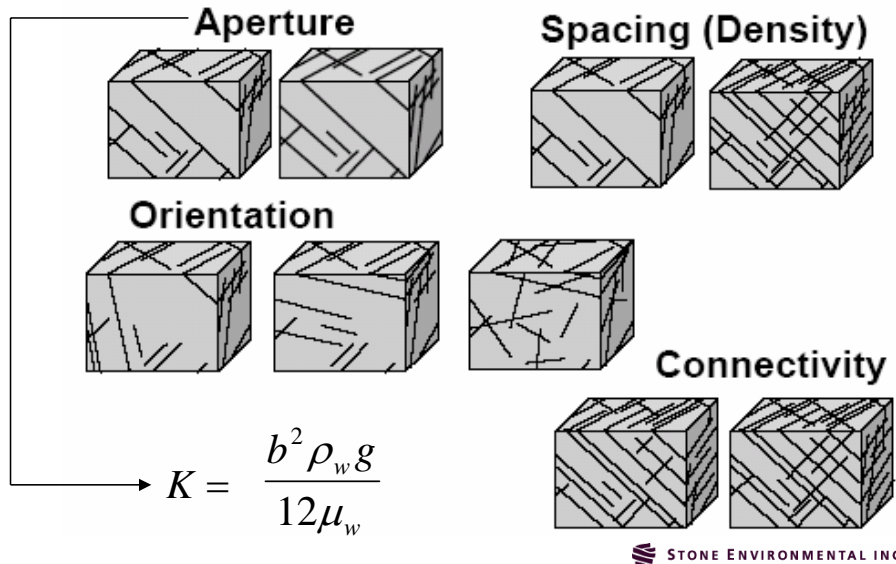




- Example of fractures exposed at outcrop.
- Fractures are orthogonal, interconnected, widely spaced, large matrix blocks.

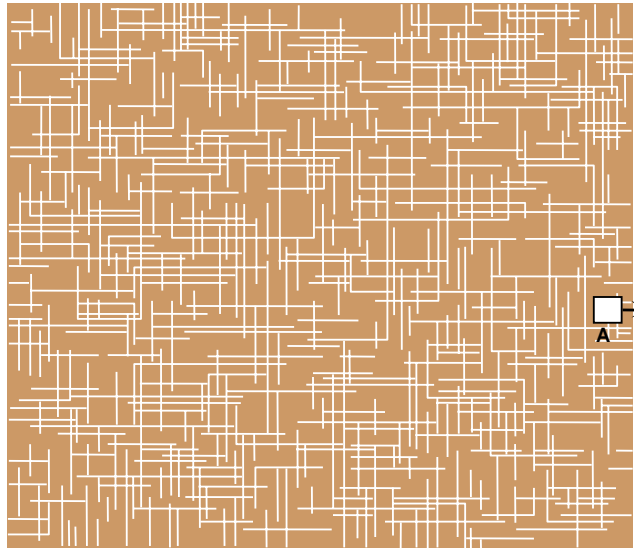


## Factors Governing Flow in Fractured Media



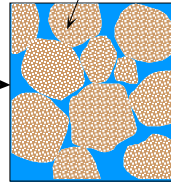


## Dual Porosity Media



**Primary Porosity in the Matrix**  
2% - 25%

mineral particle



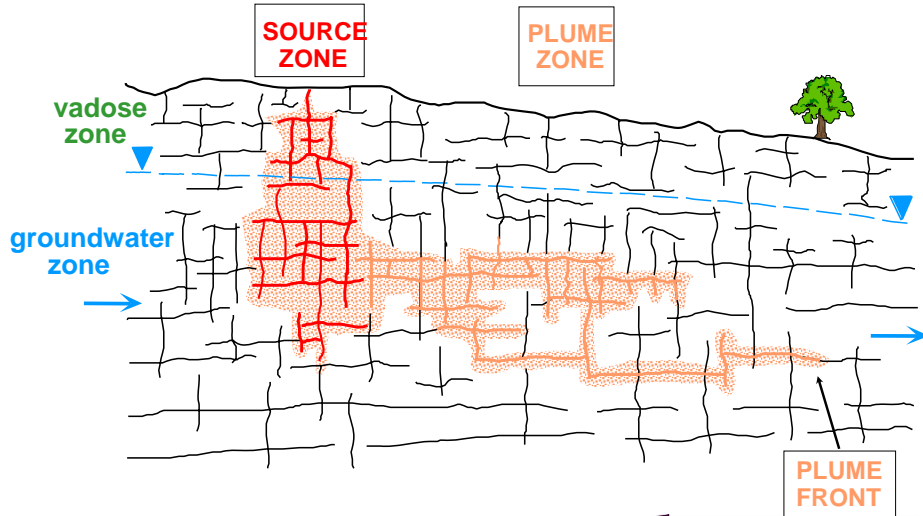
**Secondary Porosity in the Fractures**  
0.1% - 0.001%

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## Nature of Contamination in Fractured Porous Media





## Contents

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**1 Spatial Variability in Porous Media**



**2 Contaminants in Fractured Rock**



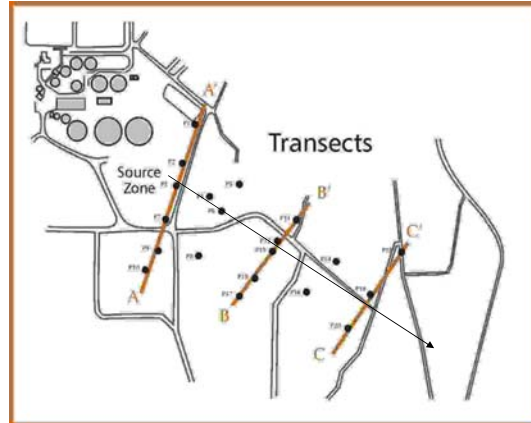
**3 High Resolution Site Investigations**





## High Resolution Approach

- **Transect:** Line of vertical profiles oriented normal to the direction of the hydraulic gradient (Horizontal spacing)
- **Short Sample Interval:** Vertical dimension of the sampled portion of the aquifer
- **Close Sample Spacing:** Vertical distance between samples
- Real-time/Near Real-time Tools
- Dynamic/ Adaptive Approach



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## High Resolution Tools

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- Cone Penetrometer
- Laser Induced Fluorescence (LIF, aka UVOST, TarGOST)
- Membrane Interface Probe (MIP)
- NAPL Ribbon Sampler
- Waterloo<sup>APS</sup>
- Soil Coring and Subsampling
- On Site Analytical
- Bedrock Toolbox
  - CORE<sup>DFN</sup>
  - Borehole Geophysics
  - FLUTe K Profiler
  - Multilevels (Westbay, Solinst, FLUTe)





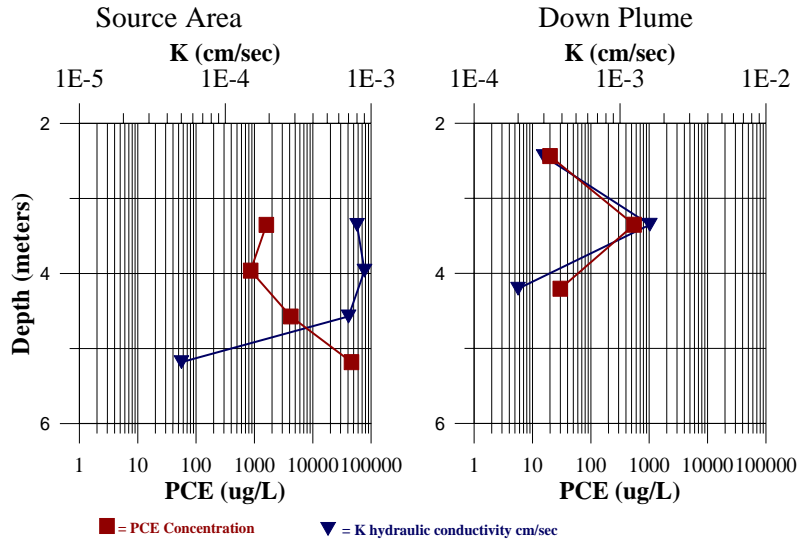
## Collaborative Data in Porous Media: MIP, Waterloo<sup>APS</sup>, Soil Subcore Profiling and Onsite Analytical

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- MIP: Rapid screening tool
  - Use to rapidly screen site and select sample locations for detailed definitive sampling
- Waterloo<sup>APS</sup>: Detailed definitive data in aquifers
- Soil Subcore Profiling: Detailed definitive data in aquitards
- On site analytical: Near real-time defensible data



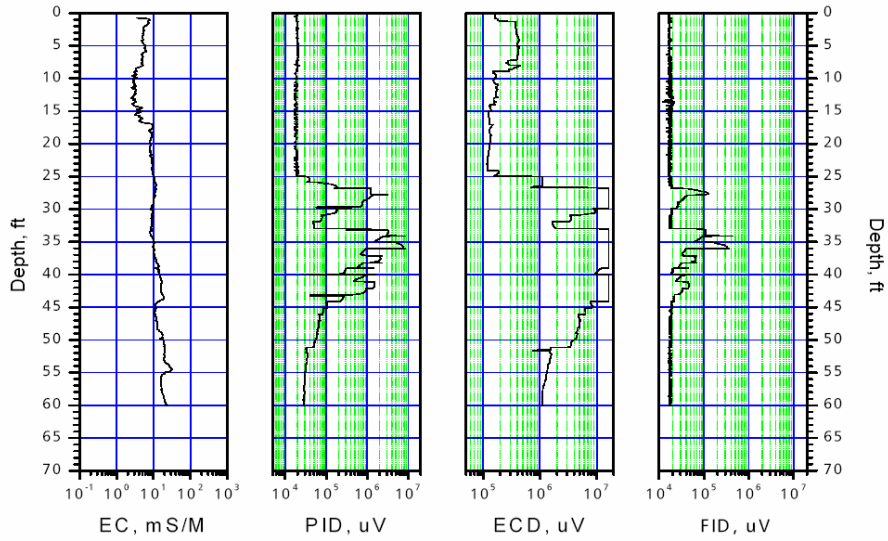
## Spatial Relationships of K and C



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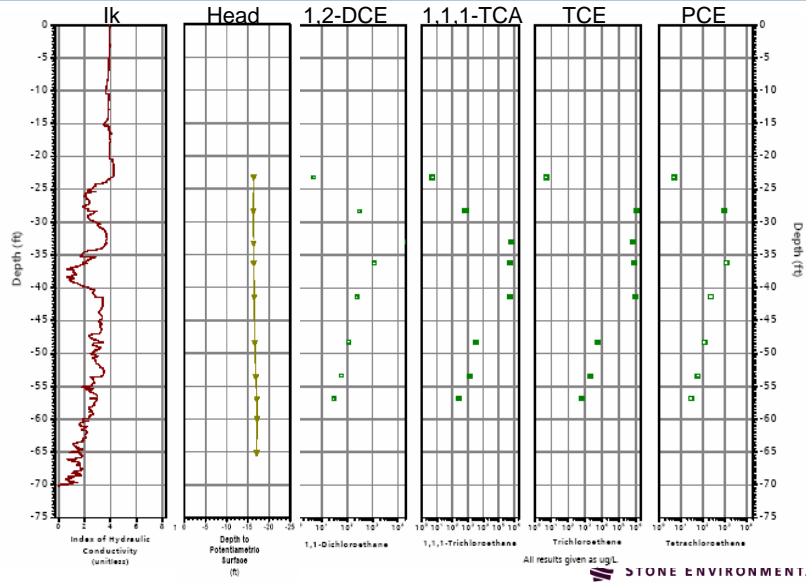
# MIP: Continuous, Real-Time Profile



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# Waterloo Profiler: Near Real-Time Closely Spaced Profile



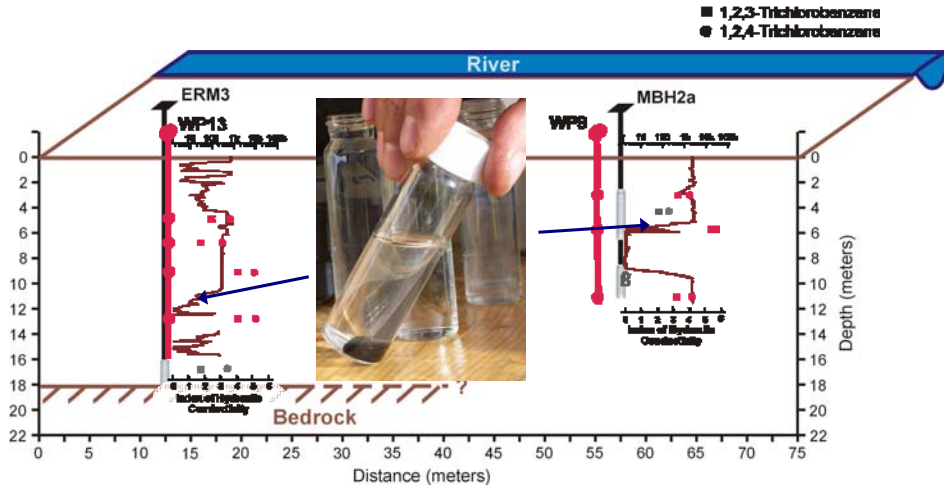
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# Waterloo APS™

ADVANCED PROFILING SYSTEM

## Finding What Others Missed



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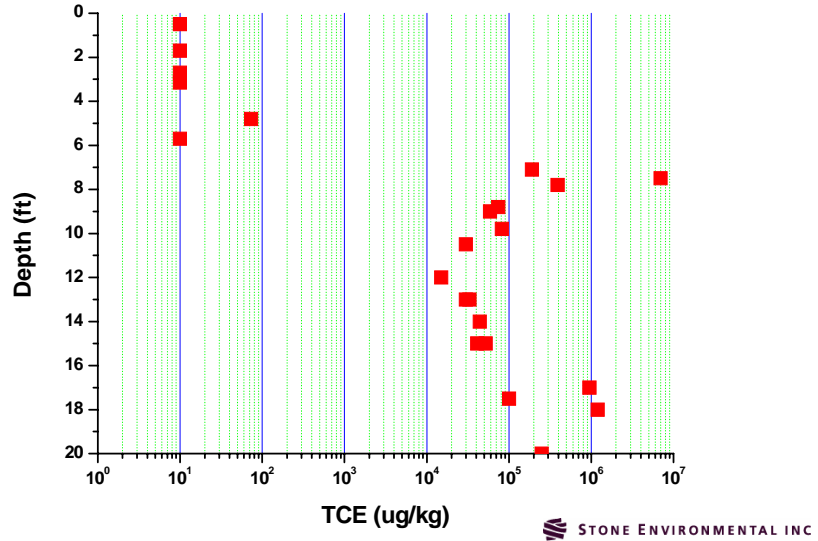


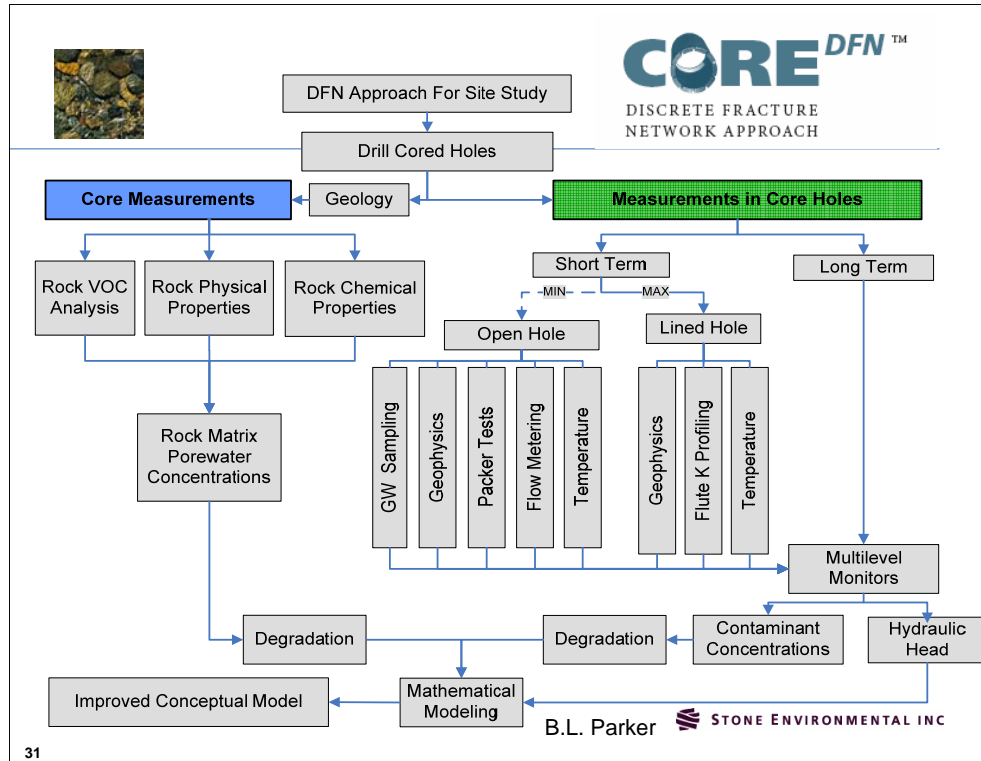
## Soil Subcore Profiling: What's in the Aquitard?





### Soil Sub-Core Sampling: Near-Real Time, Closely Spaced Profile





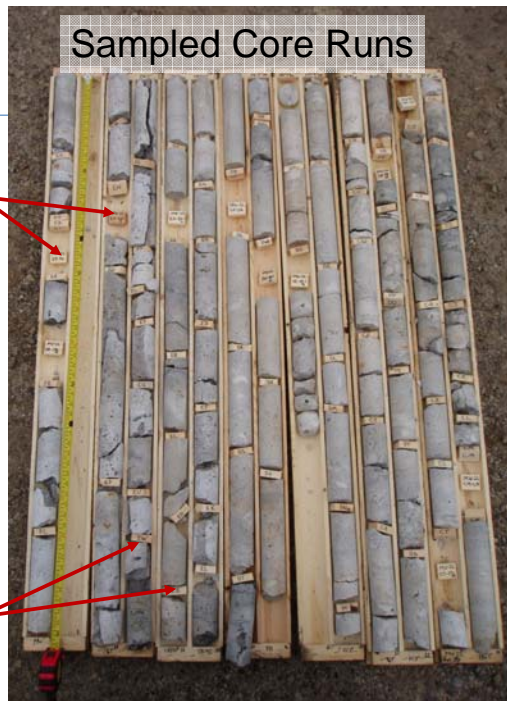


## Rock Core Sampling

- High resolution VOC sampling
- Physical property sampling

Physical Property Sample

VOC Sample

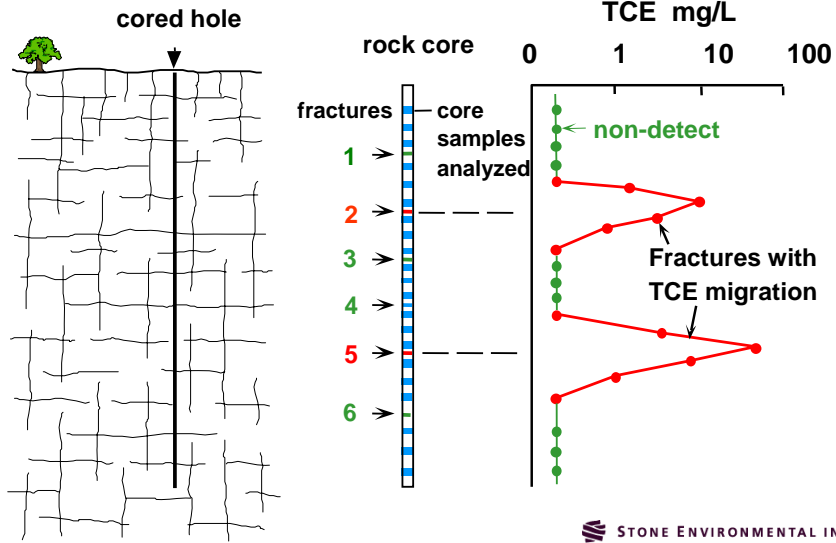


32

2000 voc and 250 phys prop



# Core Sampling for Mass Distribution & Migration Pathway Identification



33

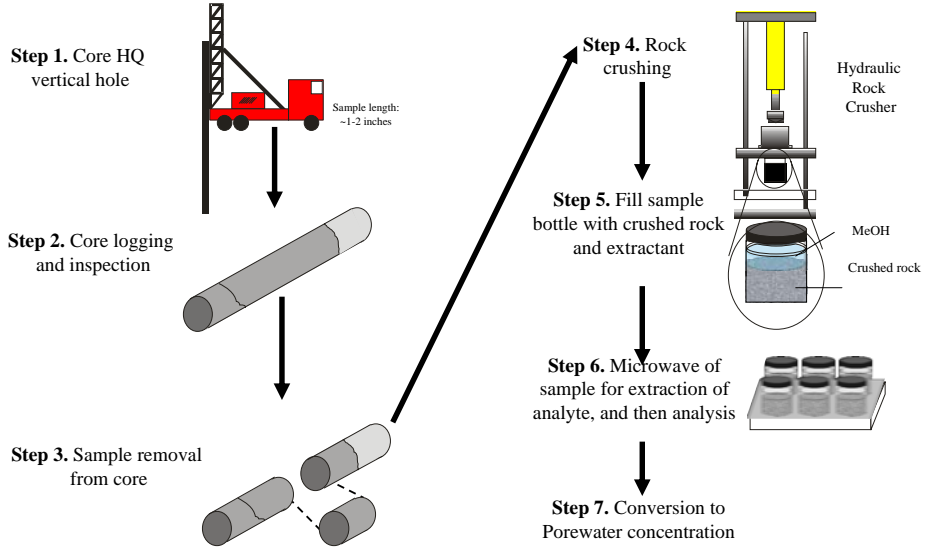
B.L. Parker

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# CORE<sup>DFN</sup><sup>TM</sup>

DISCRETE FRACTURE NETWORK APPROACH



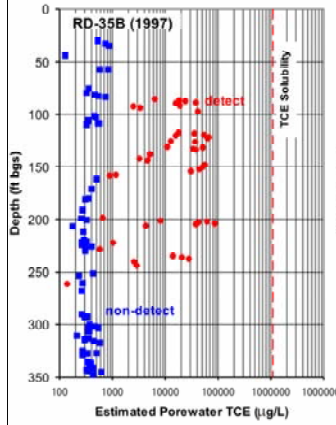
B.L. Parker (Modified from Hurley, 2002)



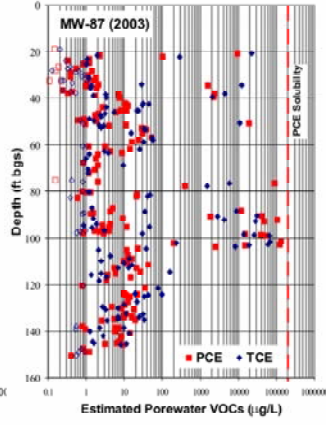


# Example Rock Core VOC Concentration Profiles

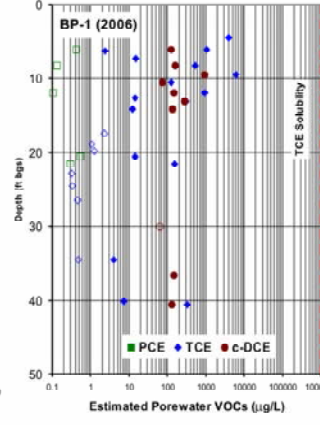
**Sandstone  
(California)**



**Shale  
(Watervliet, NY)**



**Siltstone  
(Union, NY)**

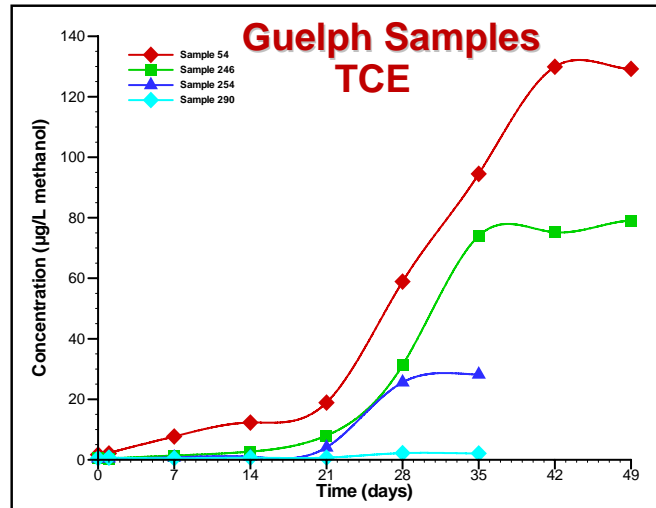


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## Long extraction time for shake-flask method – Not Very Real-Time



Data from Yongdong Liu (2005)

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36

Here you can see the amount of time for TCE to reach equilibrium between the rock sample and extractant which is the flat portion of these plots



## Microwave Assisted Extraction (MAE)

- Fast - 40 min
- Extraction at higher temperature and pressure
  - Increases diffusion rate and analyte desorption rate
  - Elevated boiling point (temperatures ~ 120°C)
  - Increased solvent penetration



B.L. Parker

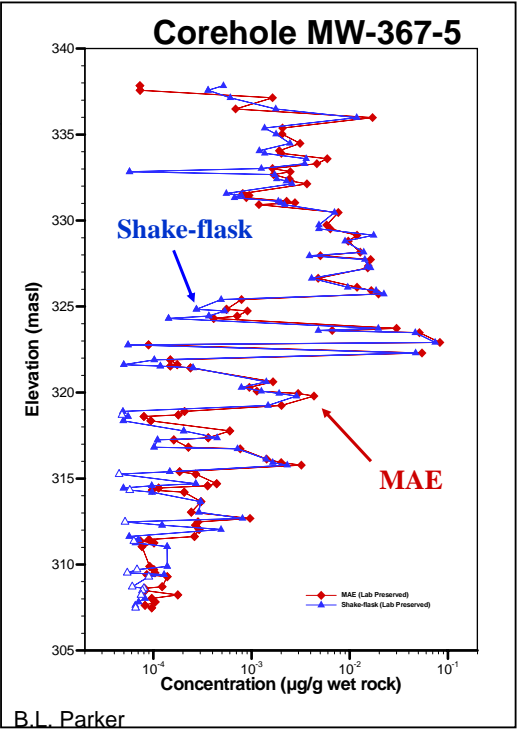
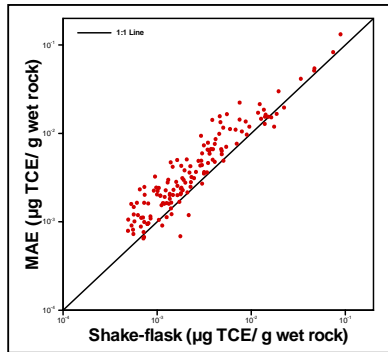
Photos courtesy of Dr. Tadeusz Górecki

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### Shake Flask vs MAE (TCE)

- Good correlation
- More complete extraction with MAE



B.L. Parker



## Distillation

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- Contaminant hydrogeology is all about spatial variability
- High resolution site characterization is essential
- Apply Triad Approach Principles:
  - Real-time/ near real time data collection tools
  - Dynamic Work Strategy
  - Employ collaborative data using integrated tool sets
- Triad Approach in Bedrock Plumes: Coming Soon to a Fractured Rock Aquifer Near you

THE END



## **Hydraulic Parameter and Mass Flux Distribution Using the High-Resolution Piezocone and GMS**

**Dr. Mark Kram, Groundswell  
Dr. Norm Jones, BYU  
Jessica Chau, UConn  
Dr. Gary Robbins, UConn  
Dr. Amvrossios Bagtzoglou, UConn  
Thomas D. Dalzell, AMS  
Per Ljunggren, ENVI**

EPA Clu-In Internet Seminar  
13 August 2009

## TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate Use of High-Resolution Piezocone to Determine Direction and Rate of GW Flow in 3-D
  - Compare with Traditional Methods
  - Develop Models and Predict Plume Behavior
- Integrate High-Resolution Piezocone and Concentration Data into 3-D Flux Distributions via GMS Upgrades
- Introduce New Remediation Performance Monitoring Concept

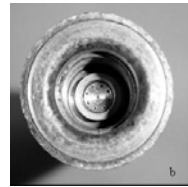
## TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

### High-Resolution Piezocone:

- Direct-Push (DP) Sensor Probe that Converts Pore Pressure to Water Level or Hydraulic Head
- Head Values to  $\pm 0.08\text{ft}$  (to  $>60'$  below w.t.)
- Can Measure Vertical Gradients
- Simultaneously Collect Soil Type and K
- K from Pressure Dissipation, Soil Type
- Minimal Worker Exposure to Contaminants
- System Installed on PWC San Diego SCAPS
- Licensed to AMS



Custom Transducer



## SEEPAGE VELOCITY AND FLUX

### Seepage velocity (v):

$$v = \frac{K i}{\rho} \quad (\text{length/time})$$

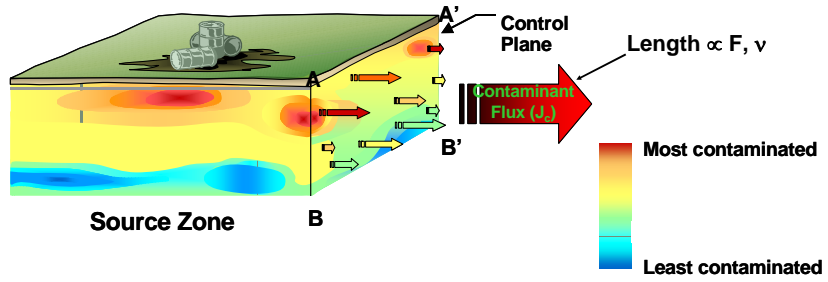
where:  $K$  = hydraulic conductivity (*Piezocone*)  
 $i$  = hydraulic gradient (*Piezocone*)  
 $\rho$  = effective porosity (*Piezocone/Soil*)

### Contaminant flux (F):

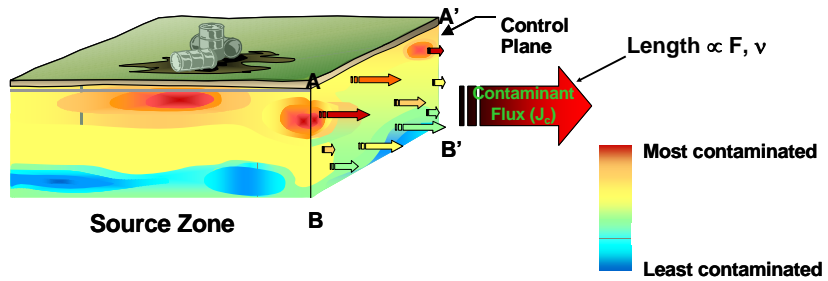
$$F = v [X]$$

(mass/length<sup>2</sup>-time; mg/m<sup>2</sup>-s)      where:  $v$  = seepage velocity  
 (length/time; m/s)  
 $[X]$  = concentration of solute (*MIP, etc.*)  
 (mass/volume; mg/m<sup>3</sup>)

### CONCENTRATION VS. FLUX



## CONCENTRATION VS. FLUX



High Concentration  $\neq$  High Risk!!  
 Hydraulic Component - Piezocone

## GMS MODIFICATIONS

### Gradient, Velocity and Flux Calculations

- Convert Scalar Head to Gradient [Key Step!]



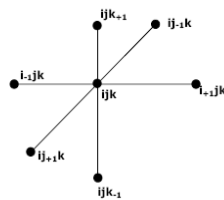
## GMS MODIFICATIONS

### Gradient, Velocity and Flux Calculations

- Convert Scalar Head to Gradient [Key Step!]

### Calculating Hydraulic Gradient

For an interior node:



$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \frac{h_{i-1jk} - h_{ijk}}{x_{i-1jk} - x_{ijk}} + \frac{h_{ijk} - h_{i+1jk}}{x_{ijk} - x_{i+1jk}}$$

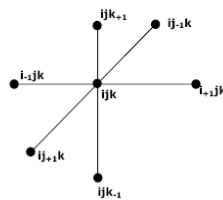
## GMS MODIFICATIONS

### Gradient, Velocity and Flux Calculations

- Convert Scalar Head to Gradient [Key Step!]
  - Merging of 3-D Distributions to Solve for Velocity
  - Merging of Velocity and Concentration (MIP or Samples) Distributions to Solve for Contaminant Flux

### Calculating Hydraulic Gradient

For an interior node:



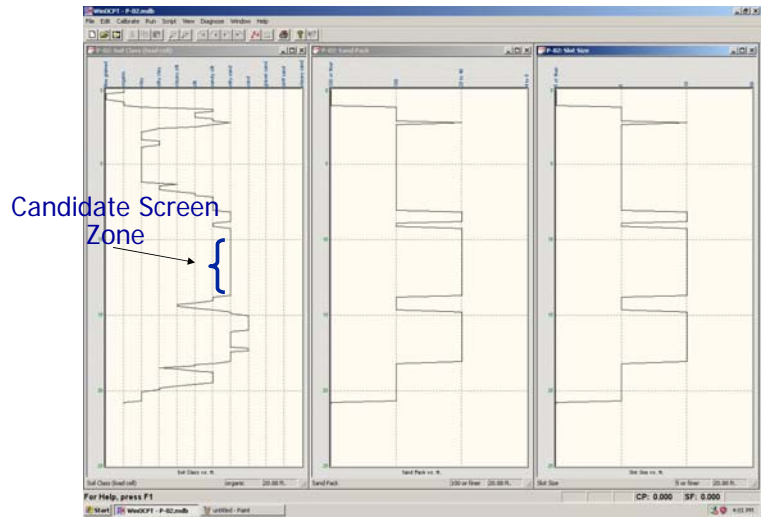
$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \frac{h_{i,jk} - h_{ij,k} + h_{ij,k} - h_{i,jk}}{x_{i,jk} - x_{ij,k} + x_{ij,k} - x_{i,jk}}$$

## APPROACH

- Test Cell Orientation
  - Initial pushes for well design;
  - Well design and prelim. installations, gradient determination;
  - Initial  $\text{CaCl}_2$  tracer tests with geophysics (time-lapse resistivity) to determine general flow direction
- Field Installations (Clustered Wells)
- Survey (Lat/Long/Elevation)
- Pneumatic and Conventional Slug Tests (“K – Field”)
  - Modified Geoprobe test system
- Water Levels (“Conventional” 3-D Head and Gradient)
- HR Piezocone Pushes (K, head, eff. porosity)
- GMS Interpolations (v, F), Modeling and Comparisons

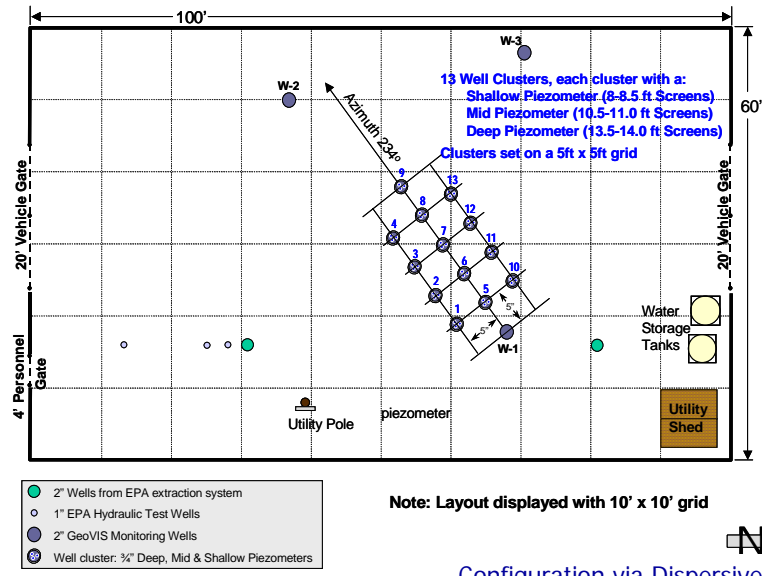


# CPT-BASED WELL DESIGN



Kram and Farrar Well Design Method

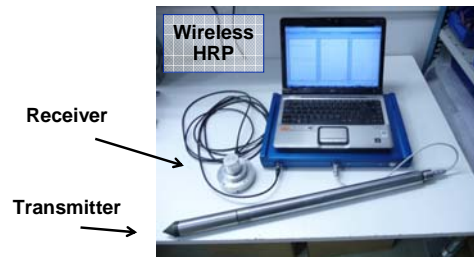
### DEMONSTRATION CONFIGURATION



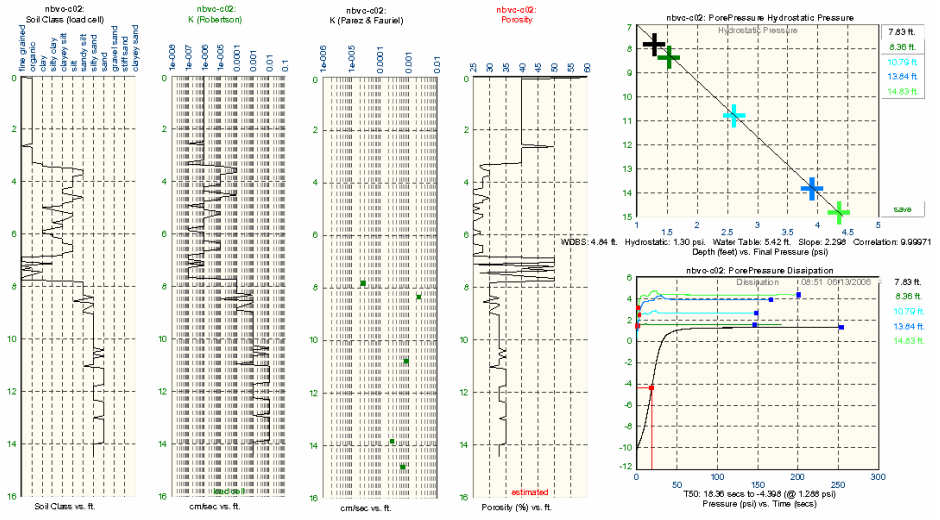
## FIELD EFFORTS



## FIELD EFFORTS

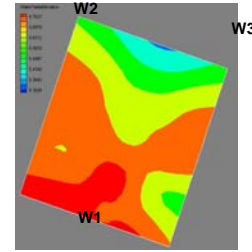
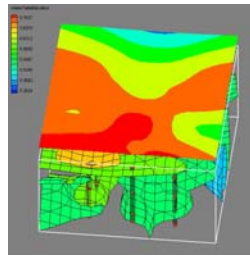
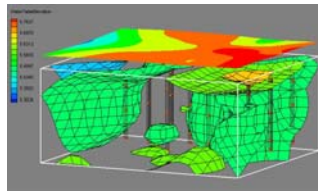
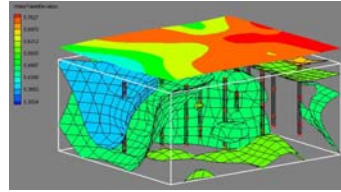
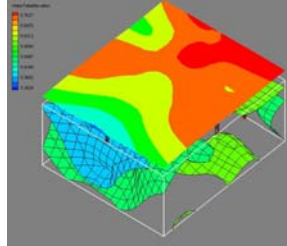


# PIEZOCONE OUTPUT



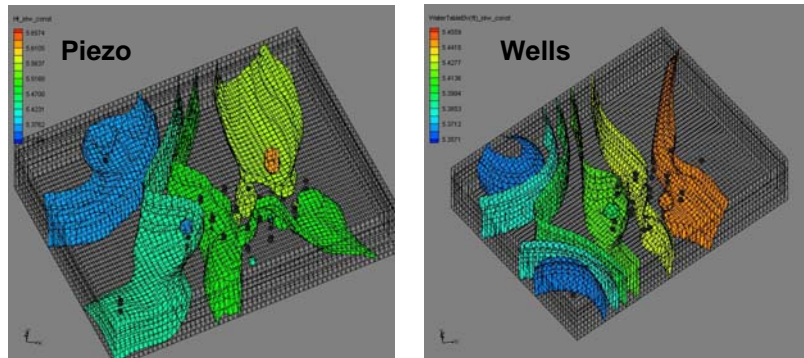
# HIGH RESOLUTION PIEZOCONE TESTS (6/13/06)

Head Values for Piezocone



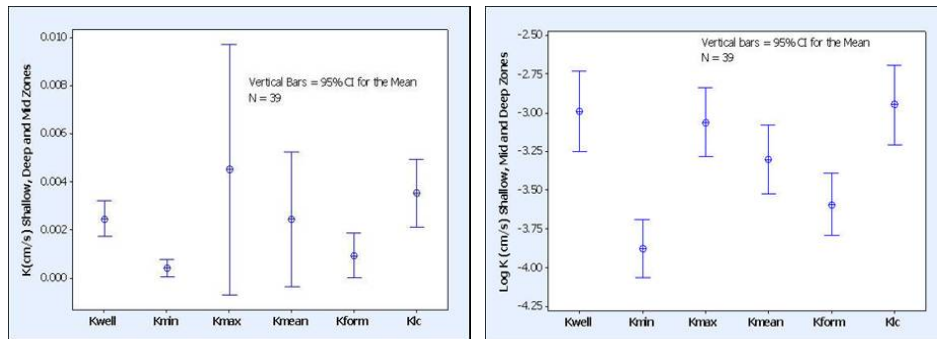
Displays shallow gradient

## HEAD DETERMINATION (3-D Interpolations)



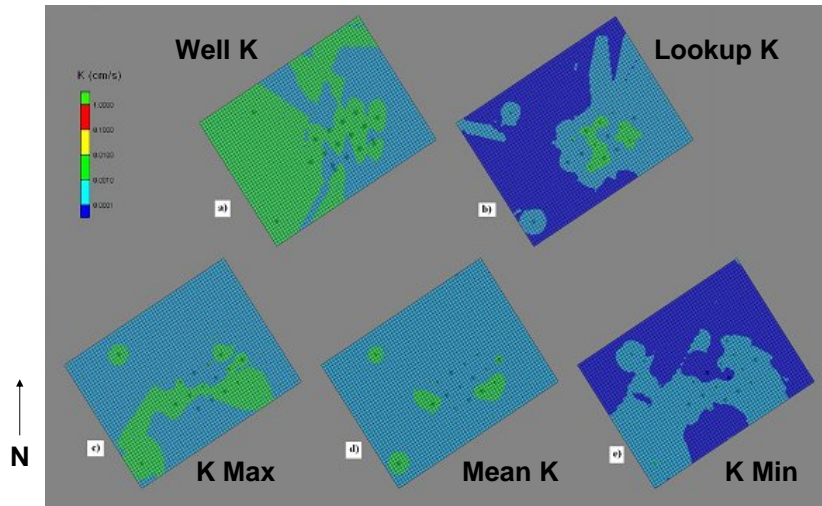
- Shallow gradient (5.49-5.41'; 5.45-5.38' range in clusters over 25')
- In practice, resolution exceptional (larger push spacing)

## COMPARISON OF ALL K VALUES



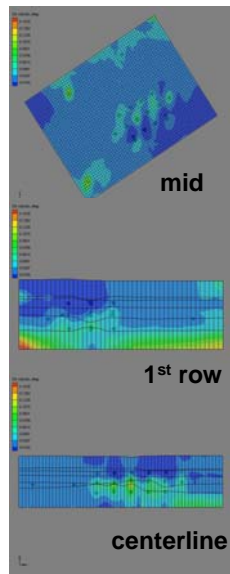
- $K_{mean}$  and  $K_c$  values within about a factor of 2 of  $K_{well}$  values;
- $K_{min}$ ,  $K_{max}$  and  $K_{form}$  values typically fall within factor of 5 or better of the  $K_{well}$  values;
- K values derived from piezocone pushes ranged much more widely than those derived from slug tests conducted in adjacent monitoring wells;
- Differences may be attributed to averaging of hydraulic conductivity values over the well screen versus more depth discrete determinations from the piezocone (e.g., more sensitive to vertical heterogeneities).

### K BASED ON WELLS AND PROBE (Mid Zone Interpolations)

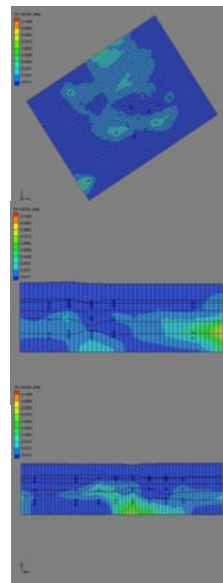


### VELOCITY DETERMINATION (cm/s)

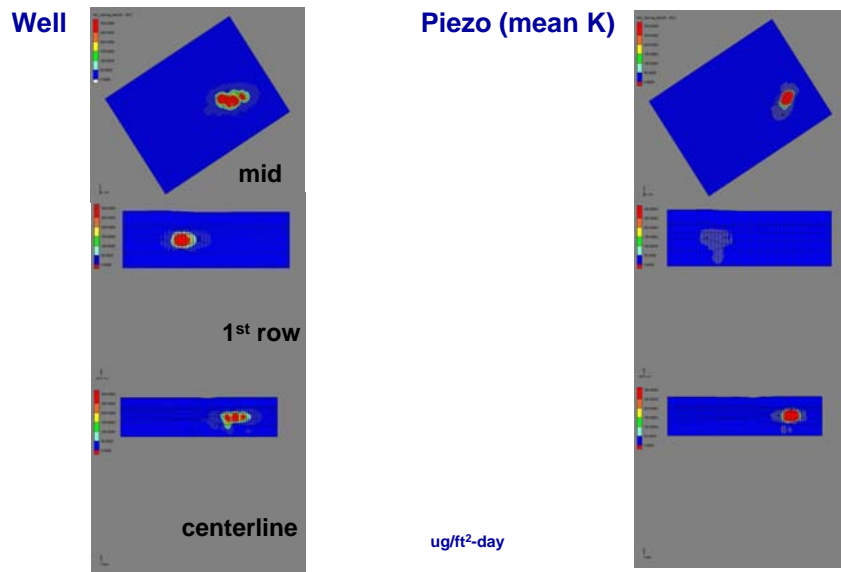
Well



Piezo (mean K)



### FLUX DETERMINATION (Day 49 Projection)

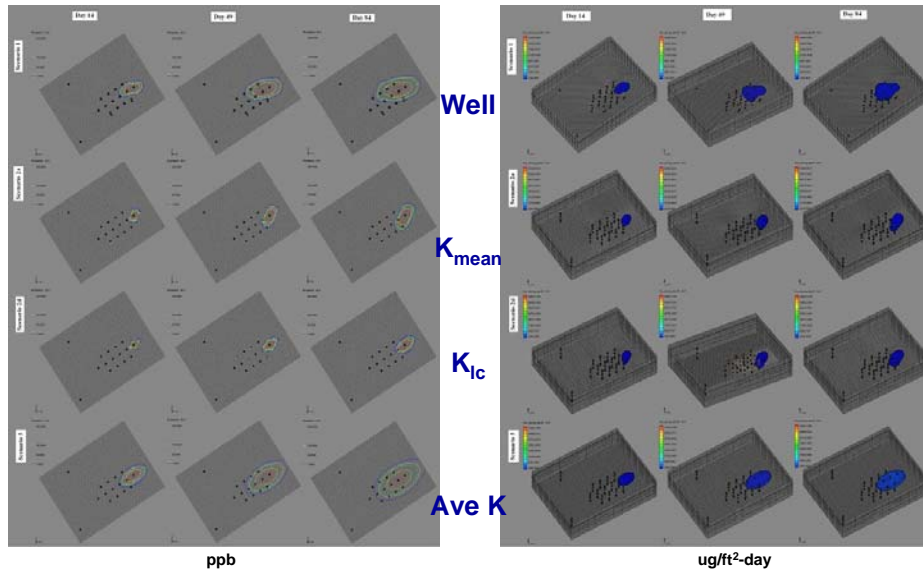


## MODELING

### Concentration and Flux

Scenario	Head	K	Porosity
1	Well	Well	Average
2a	SCAPS	SCAPS $K_{\text{mean}}$	SCAPS
2b	SCAPS	SCAPS $K_{\text{min}}$	SCAPS
2c	SCAPS	SCAPS $K_{\text{max}}$	SCAPS
2d	SCAPS	SCAPS $K_{\text{lookup}}$	SCAPS
3	Well	Well	SCAPS
4a	Well	SCAPS $K_{\text{mean}}$	SCAPS
4b	Well	SCAPS $K_{\text{min}}$	SCAPS
4c	Well	SCAPS $K_{\text{max}}$	SCAPS
4d	Well	SCAPS $K_{\text{lookup}}$	SCAPS
5	Unif. grad.	Average	Average

# MODELING Concentration and Flux

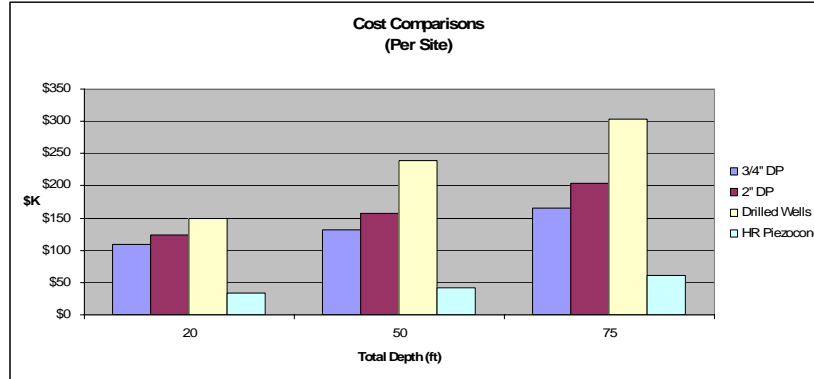


## PERFORMANCE

### Performance Summary.

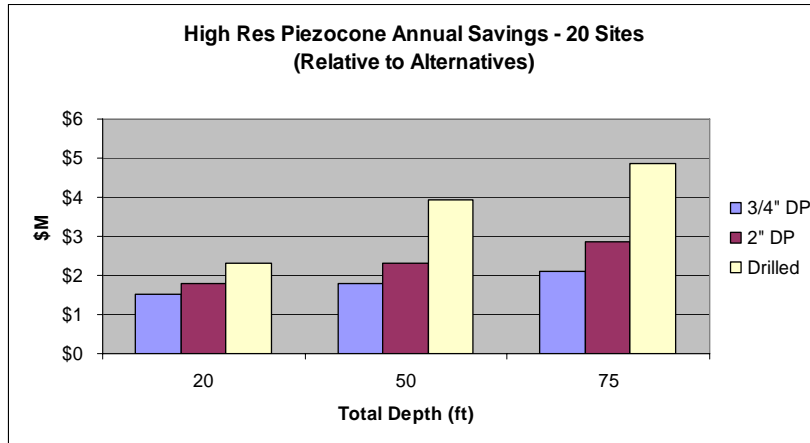
<i>Performance Criteria</i>	<b>Expected Performance Metric</b>	<b>Results</b>
Accuracy of high-resolution piezocone for determining head values, flow direction and gradients	± 0.08 ft head values	Met Criteria
Hydraulic conductivity (dissipation or soil type correlation)	± 0.5 to 1 order of magnitude	Met Criteria
Transport model based on probes	Predicted breakthrough times and concentrations within one order of magnitude; probe based model efficiency accounts for more than 15% of the variance associated with well based models	Met Criteria
Time required for generation of 3-D conceptual and transport models	At least 50% reduction in time	Met Criteria

## FLUX CHARACTERIZATION Cost Comparisons



“Apples to Apples” – HR Piez. with MIP vs. Wells, Aq. Tests, Samples  
10 Locations/30 Wells

## FLUX CHARACTERIZATION Cost Comparisons



Early Savings of ~\$1.5M to \$4.8M

## FLUX CHARACTERIZATION Time Comparisons

Depth (ft)	Days to Complete		
	Direct-Push Wells	Drilled Wells	HR Piezocone
20	90	104	13
50	99	137	15
75	111	151	19

"Apples to Apples" – HR Piez. with MIP vs. Wells, Aq. Tests, Samples  
10 Locations/30 Wells

## FUTURE PLANS

### Tech Transfer

- Industry Licensing (AMS/ENVI - Market Ready by September '09)
- ITRC Guidance (Flux Methods – First Draft by September '09)
- ASTM D6067

### Final Reports

- Final:  
(<http://www.clu-in.org/s.focus/c/pub/i/1558/>)
- Cost and Performance:  
([http://costperformance.org/monitoring/pdf/Char\\_Hyd\\_Assess\\_Piezocone\\_ESTCP.pdf](http://costperformance.org/monitoring/pdf/Char_Hyd_Assess_Piezocone_ESTCP.pdf))

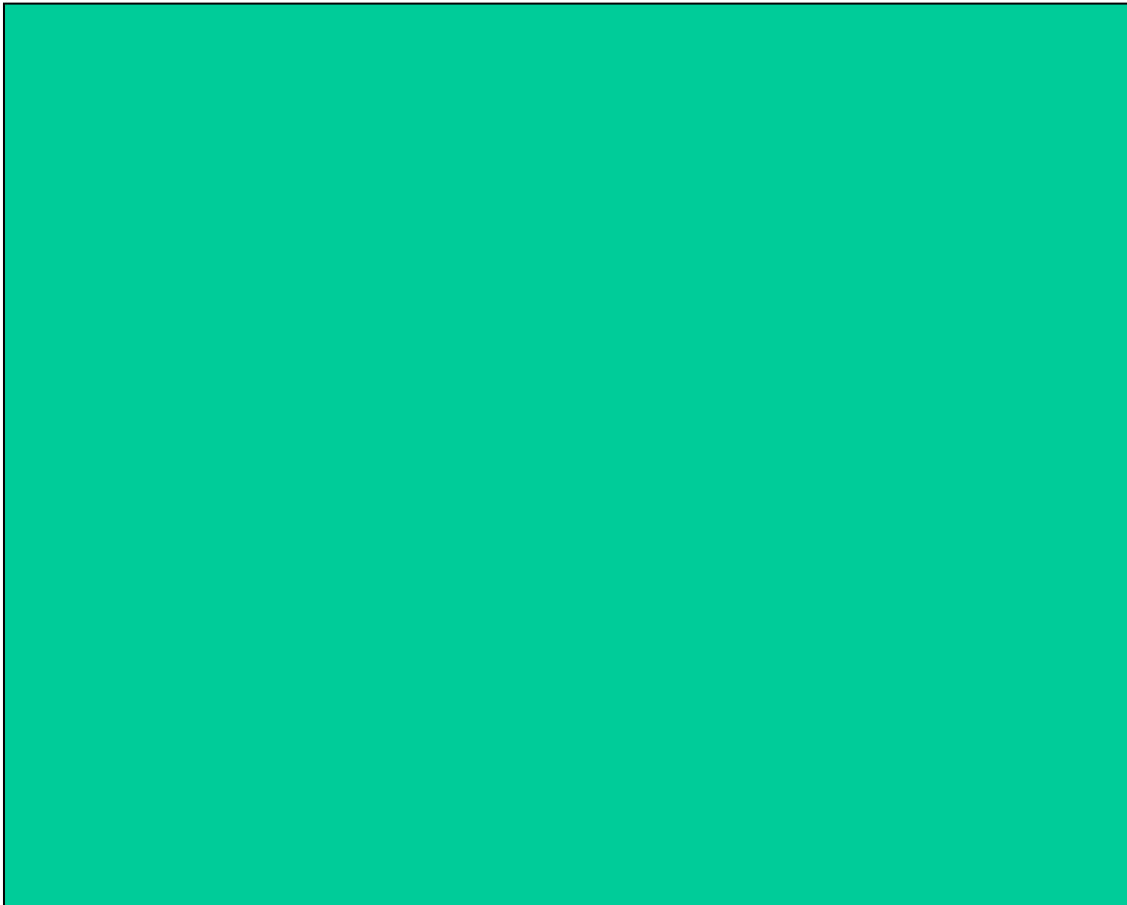
### “Single Mobilization Solution” Integration

- Expedited Chem/Hydro Characterization/Modeling
- Expedited LTM Network Design
- Sensor Deployment
- Automated Remediation Performance via Flux

## CONTAMINANT FLUX MONITORING STEPS

(Remediation Design/Effectiveness)

- Generate Initial Model (Seepage Velocity, Concentration Distributions)
  - Conventional Approaches
  - High-Resolution Piezocone/MIP
- Install Customized 3D Monitoring Well Network
  - ASTM
  - Kram and Farrar Method
- Monitor Water Level and Concentrations (Dynamic/Automate?)
- Track Flux Distributions (3D, Transects)
- Evaluate Remediation Effectiveness
  - Plume Status (Stable, Contraction, etc.)
  - Remediation Metric
  - Regulatory Metric?



## EXPEDITED FLUX APPROACH

### "Single Mobilization Solution"

#### Plume Delineation

- MIP, LIF, ConeSipper, Waterloo<sup>4PS</sup>, Field Lab, etc.
- 2D/3D Concentration Representations

#### Hydro Assessment

- High-Res Piezocone (2D/3D Flow Field, K, head, eff. por.)

#### LTM Network Design

- Well Design based on CPT Data
- Field Installations (Clustered Short Screened Wells)

#### Surveys (Lat/Long/Elevation)

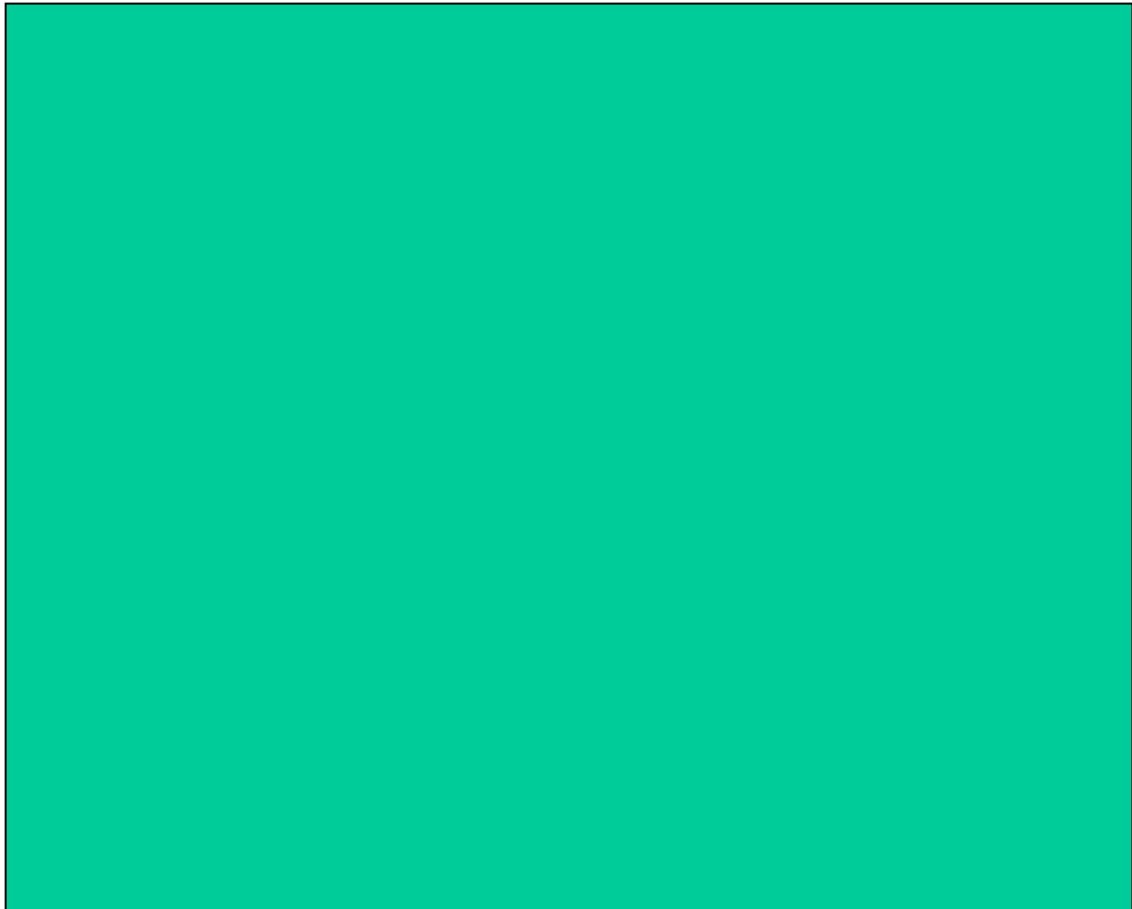
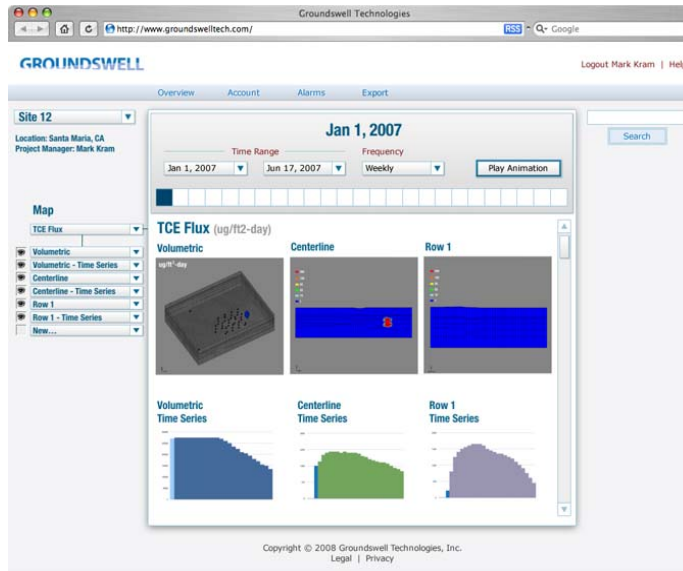
#### GMS Interpolations (v, F), Conceptual/Analytical Models

#### LTM Flux Updates via Head/Concentration

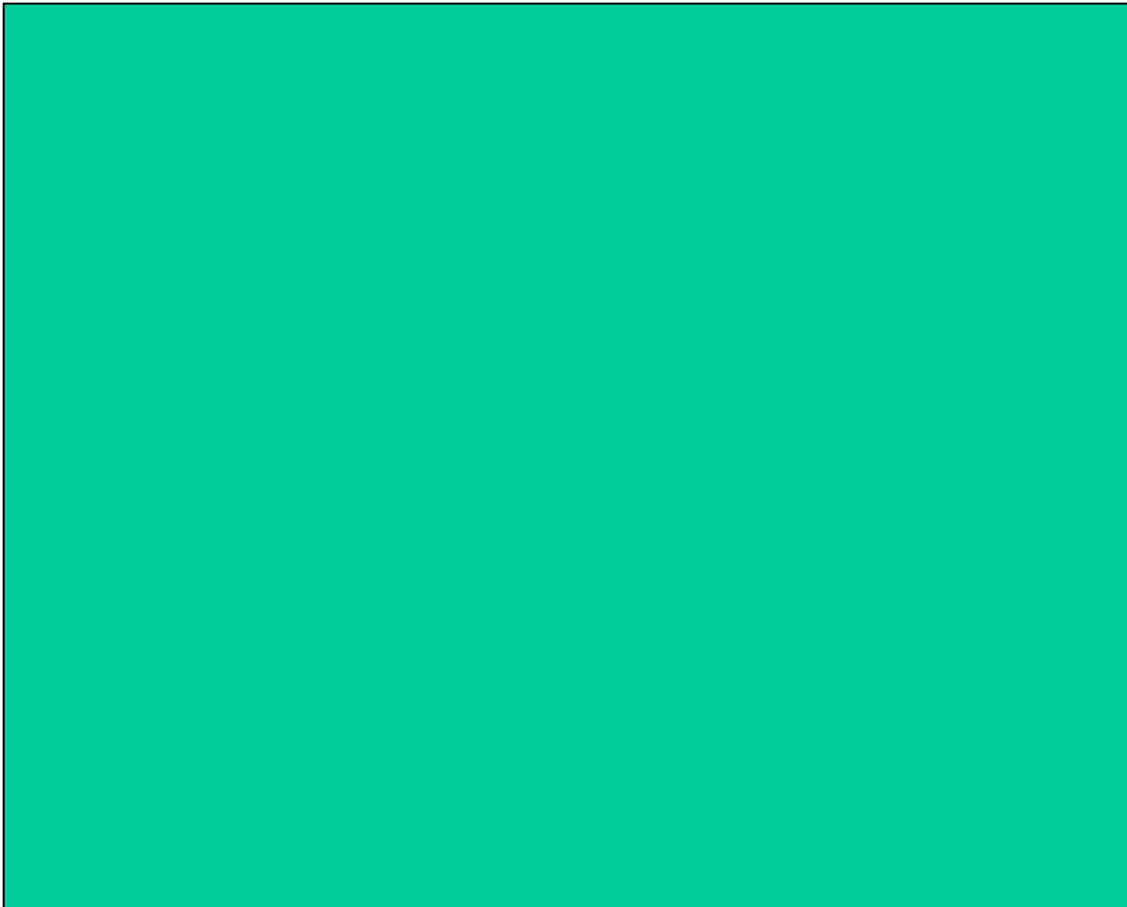
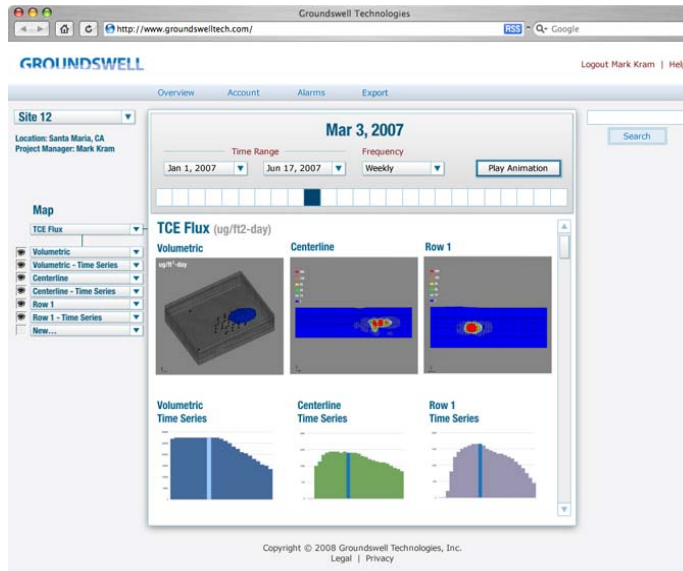
- Conventional Data
- Automated Modeling



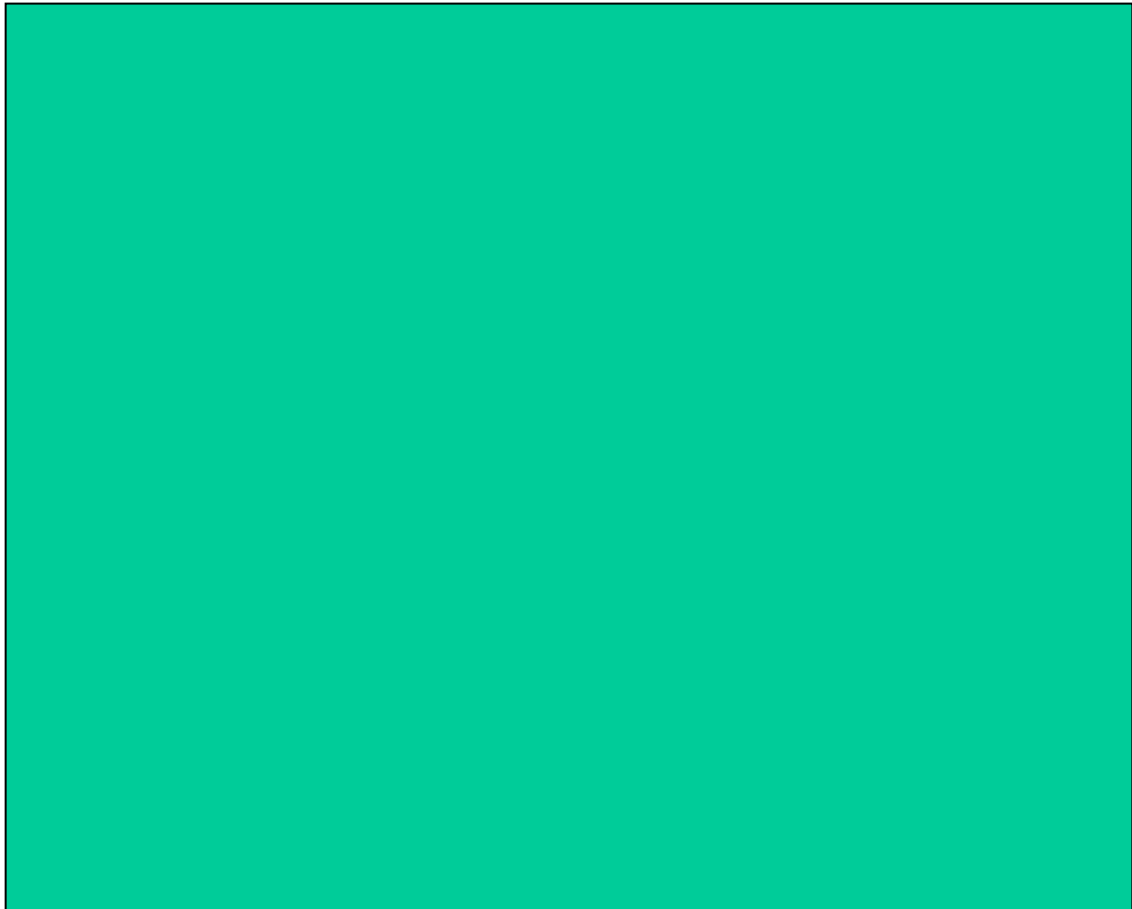
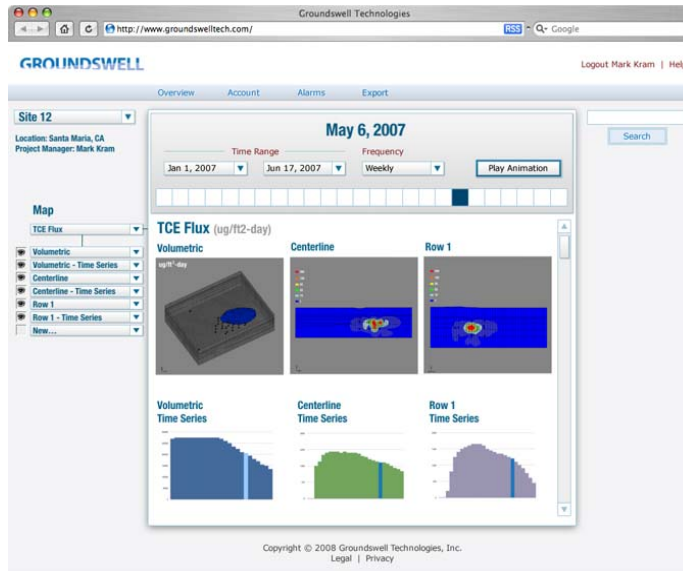
# Conceptual/Analytical Model



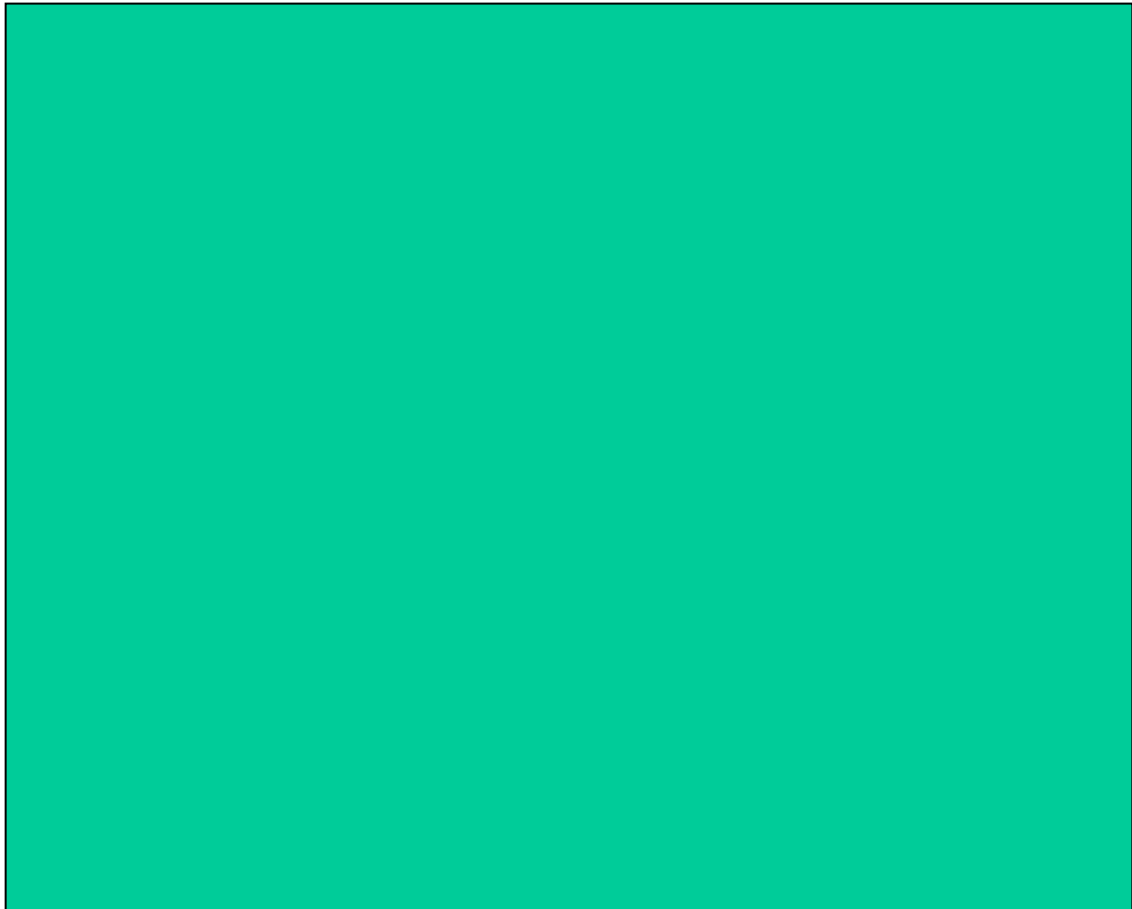
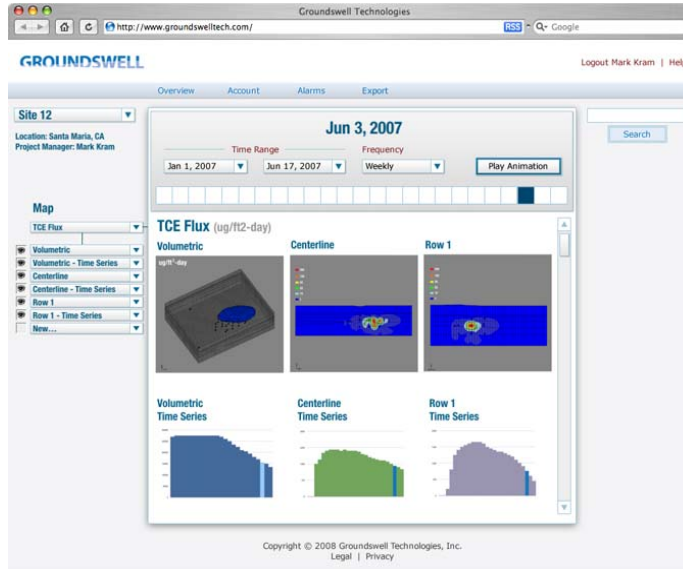
# Conceptual/Analytical Model



# Conceptual/Analytical Model



# Conceptual/Analytical Model



## CONCLUSIONS

- High-Res Piezocone Preliminary Results Demonstrate Good Agreement with Short-Screened Well Data
- Highly Resolved 2D and 3D Distributions of Head, Gradient, K, Effective Porosity, and Seepage Velocity Now Possible Using HRP and GMS
- When Know Concentration Distribution, 3D Distributions of Contaminant Flux Possible Using DP and GMS
- Single Deployment Solutions Now Possible
- Exceptional Capabilities for Plume "Architecture" and Monitoring Network Design
- Significant Cost Saving Potential
- New Paradigm - LTM and Remediation Performance Monitoring via Sensors and Automation (4D)

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**THANK YOU!**

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please complete our online feedback form.

An illustration of two hands holding two orange rectangular signs. The top sign contains the text 'Links to Additional Resources' and the bottom sign contains 'Feedback Form'. The hands are drawn in a simple, cartoonish style with yellow skin and brown outlines.

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