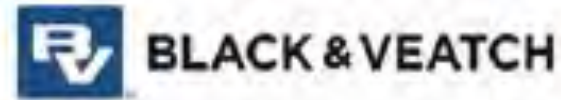


# Thank you to our Patrons



We will begin our presentation in a few minutes...



# What exactly is a PechaKucha?

A PechaKucha celebrates people, passion and creative thoughts.

# PechaKucha

20  
images

X

20  
seconds



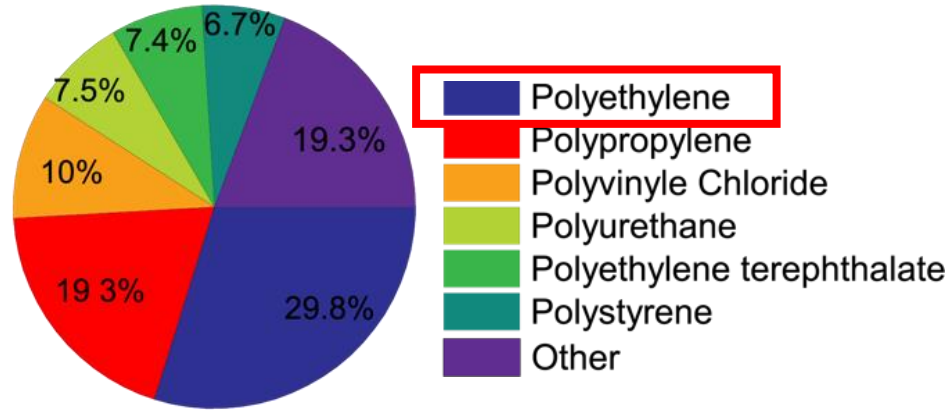
# NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO NANOPLASTIC RELEASE IN NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



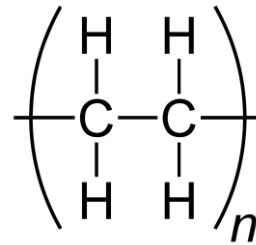
**Prof. Boya Xiong**  
*Assistant professor*  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
AAEES member



# We use a lot of plastics in modern life

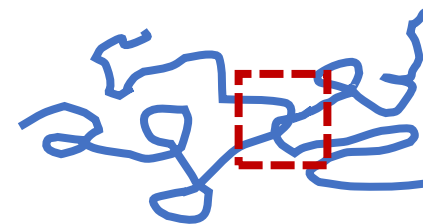
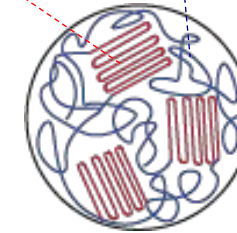


- Polyethylene
- Polypropylene
- Polyvinyl Chloride
- Polyurethane
- Polyethylene terephthalate
- Polystyrene
- Other

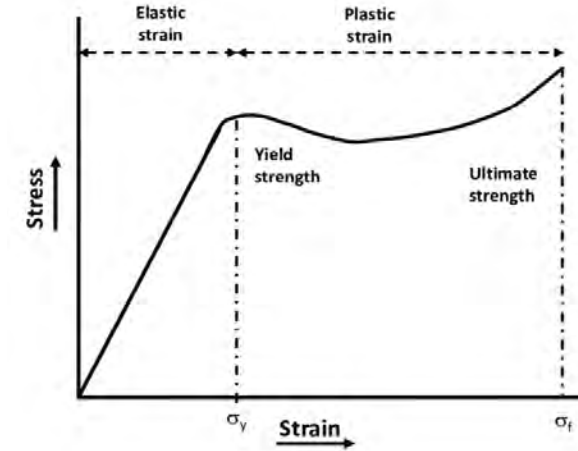


10-1000  
kg/mol

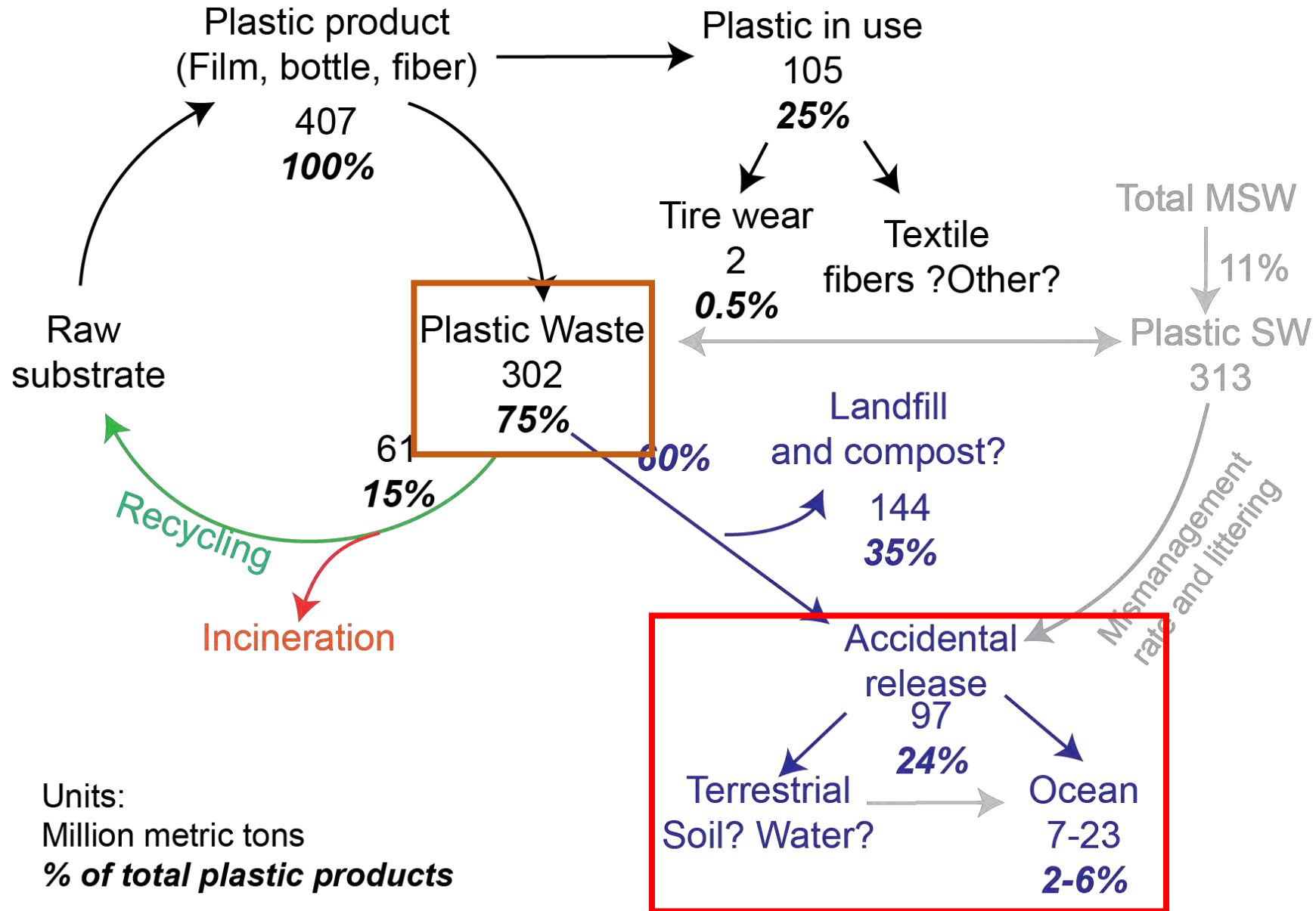
Crystallization  
*Amorphous*  
*Crystalline*



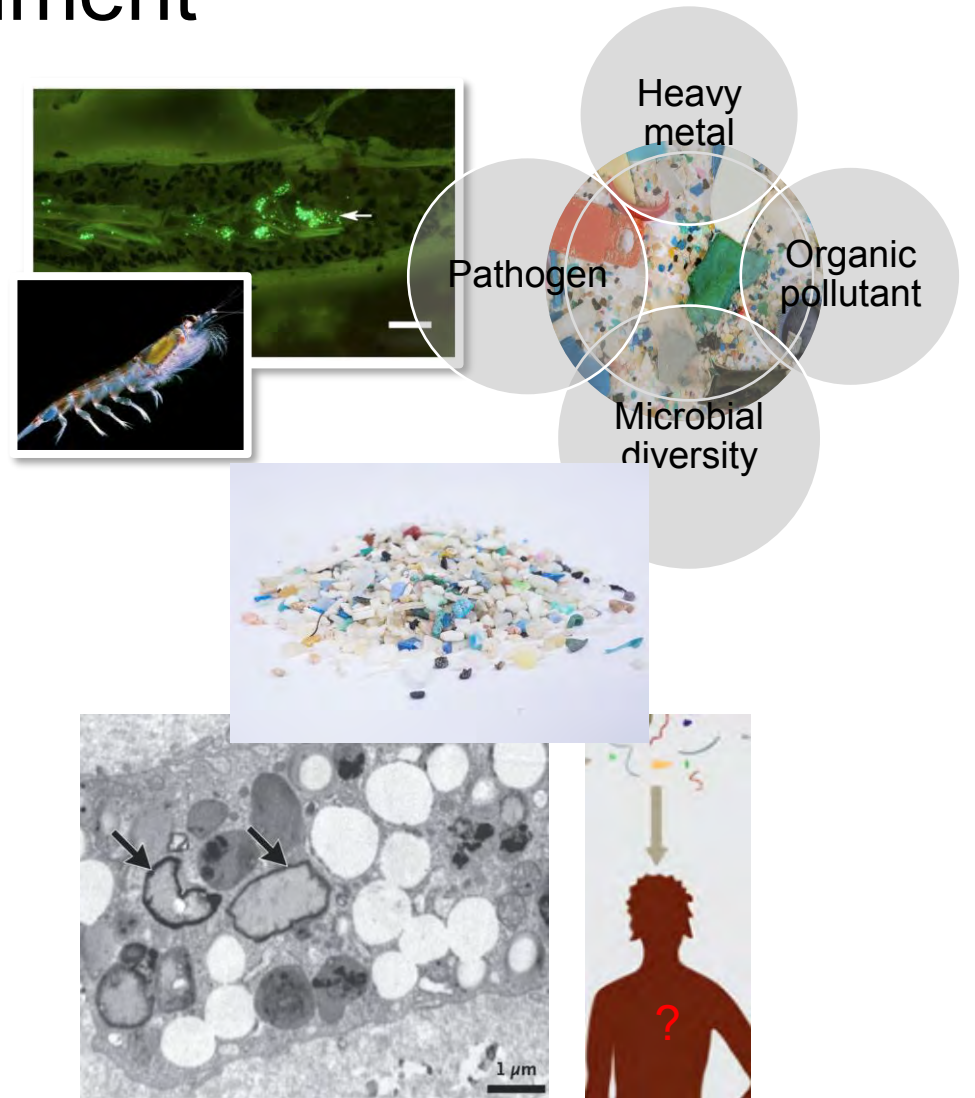
Chain  
entanglement



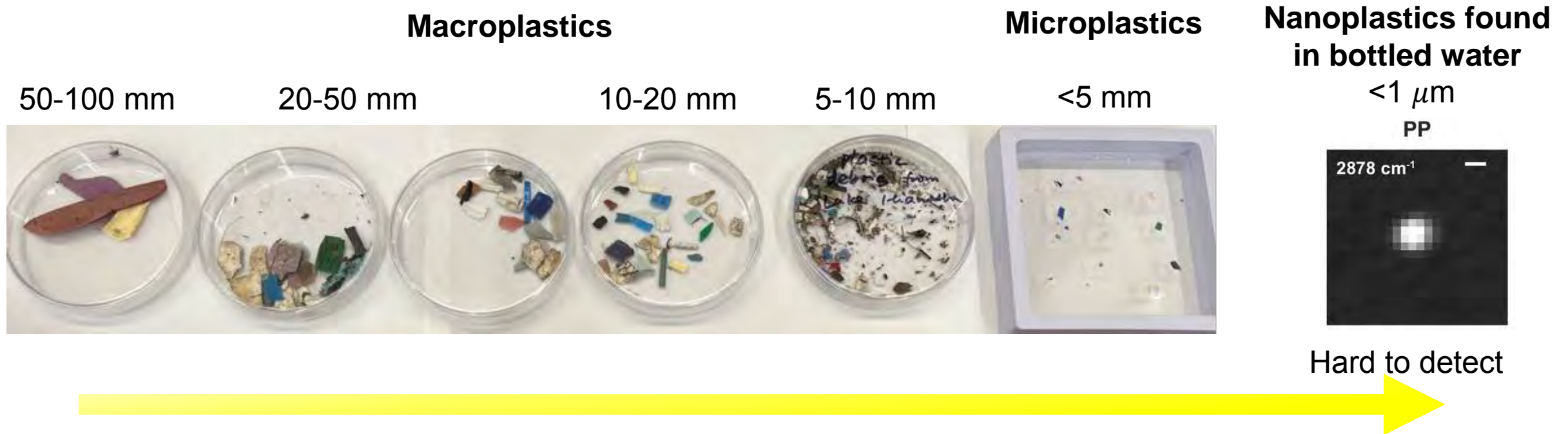
# THE LINEAR AND LEAKY PLASTIC CYCLE



# Source and impact of plastic debris in natural environment



# Microplastic and nanoplastics are break down products of large plastic debris

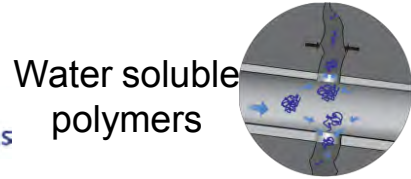


?

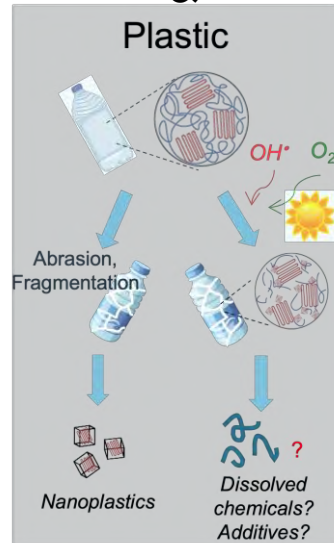
# Mission of Xiong lab: expand method and knowledge of polymer degradation in the environment



MN water research fund

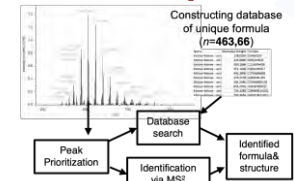


Water soluble polymers  
 Xiong *et al.*, ES&T 2018  
 Xiong *et al.*, npj Clean water 2018  
 Xiong *et al.*, ES:WRT 2020

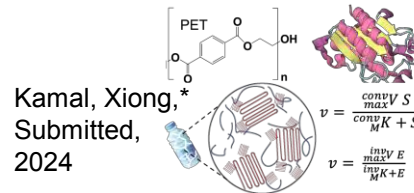


Shieh, ... Xiong *et al.*, Nature 2020  
 Xiong *et al.*, Chem 2021  
 Ghafari, ... Xiong\* *et al.*, ES:WRT 2021

## High-resolution mass spec



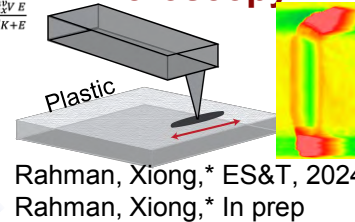
Keys, Xiong, \* ESPI 2024



Molecular scale

Nano/microscale

## Lateral force microscopy

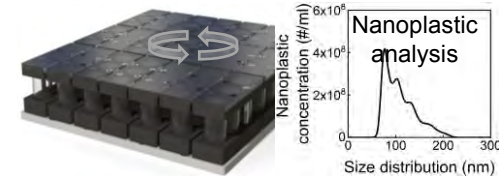


Macroscale

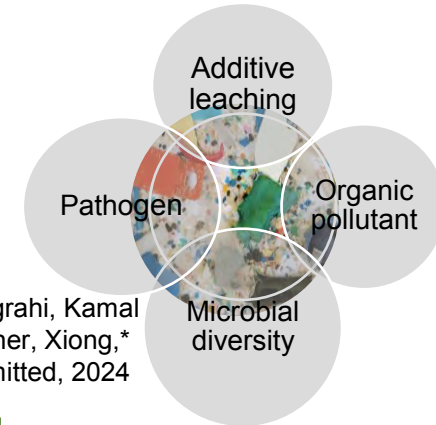
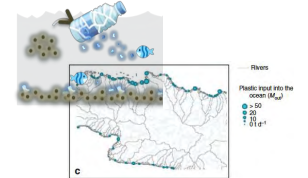
## Lifetime prediction & Chemistry/property -degradability

$$SSDR = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d_0}{t} \left( 1 - a \sqrt{1 - \frac{\Delta m}{m_0}} \right)$$

## High throughput abrasion device



Water column/  
 Watershed scale





# Source and impact of plastic debris in natural environment

Transport by wind



Agricultural



Inland runoff and stormwater



Urban, industrial

Treated wastewater



River flow

Beach and shoreline wastes

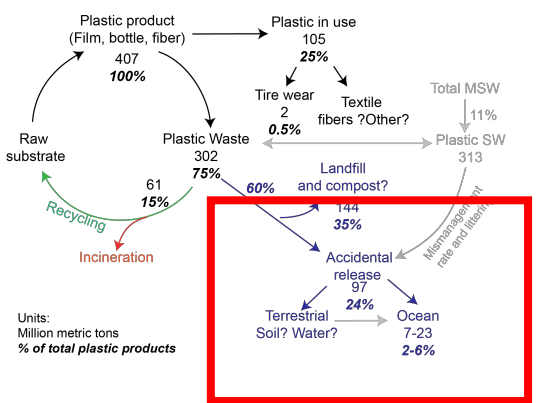
Transport by water



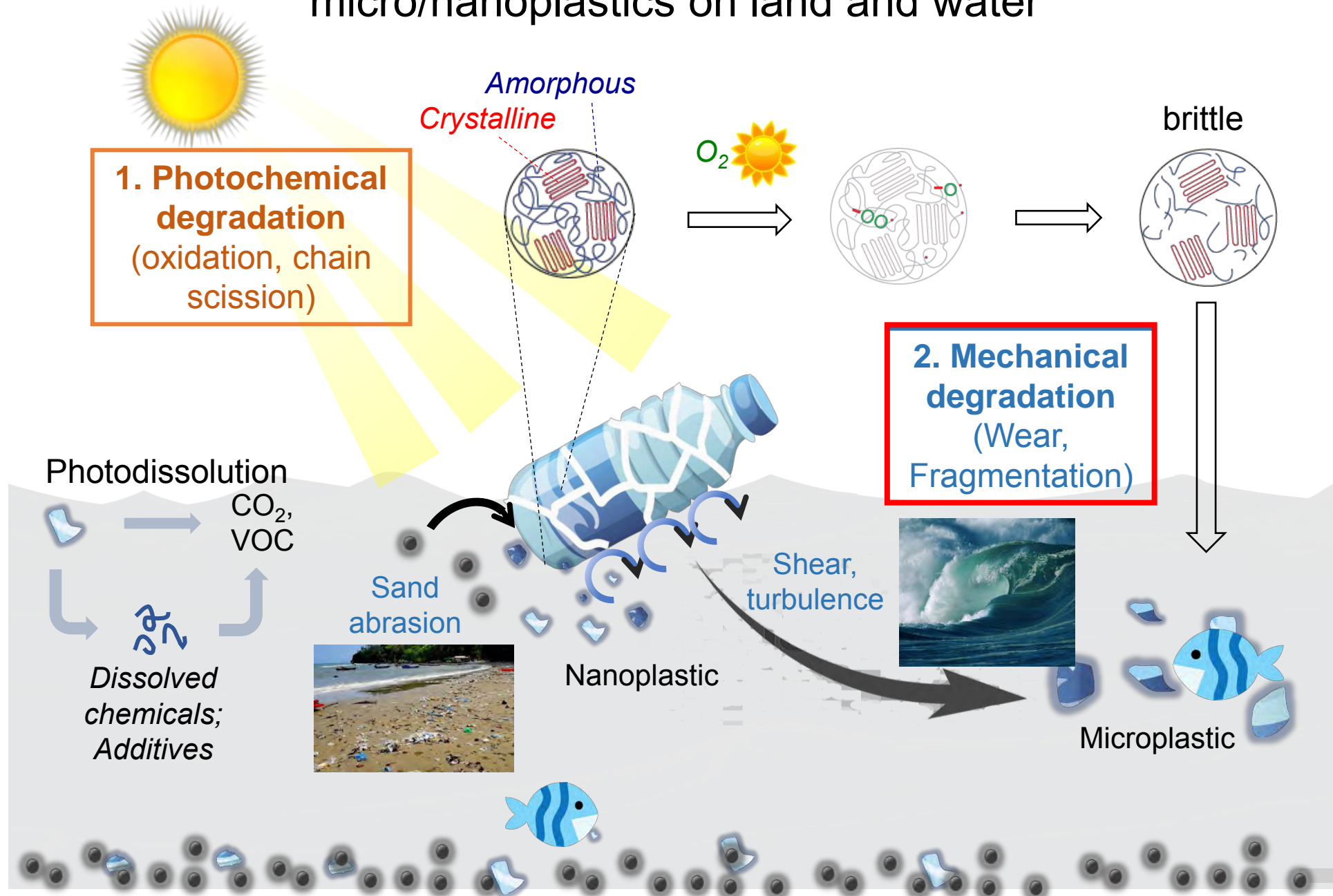
Biological transport



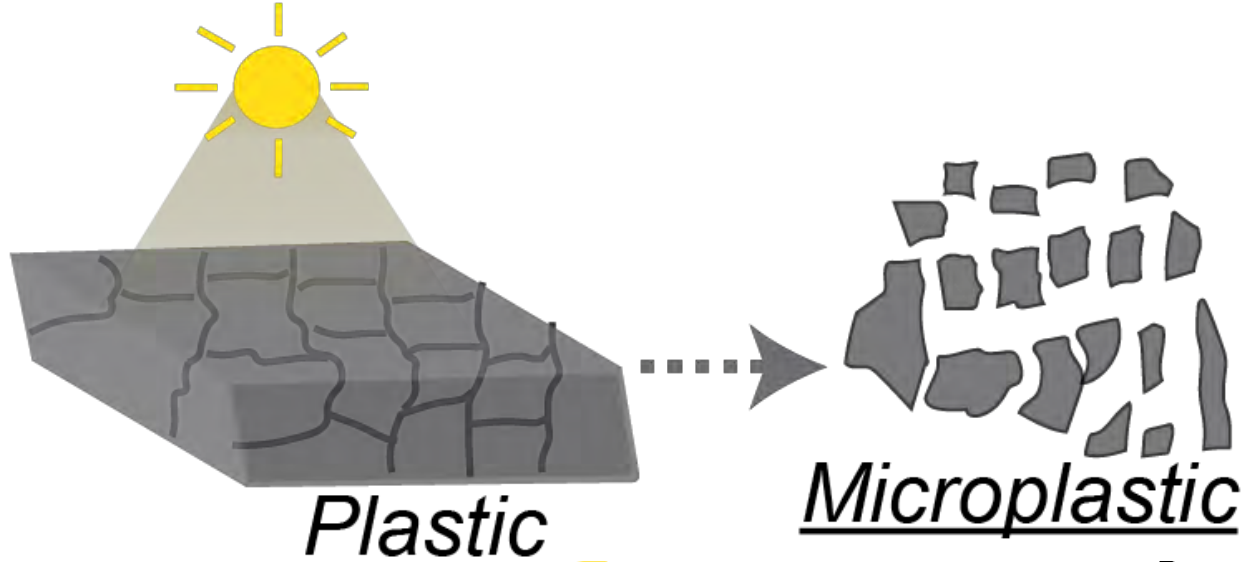
Direct input from maritime activities



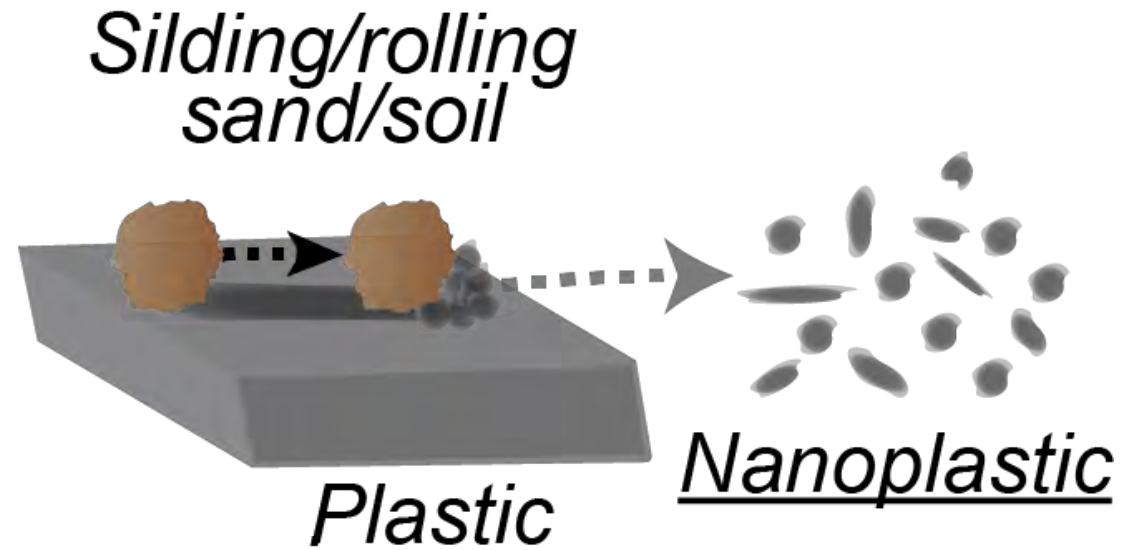
# Proposed abiotic degradation pathways that generate micro/nanoplastics on land and water



**Prior work:** bulk fragmentation  
due to UV-induced embrittlement

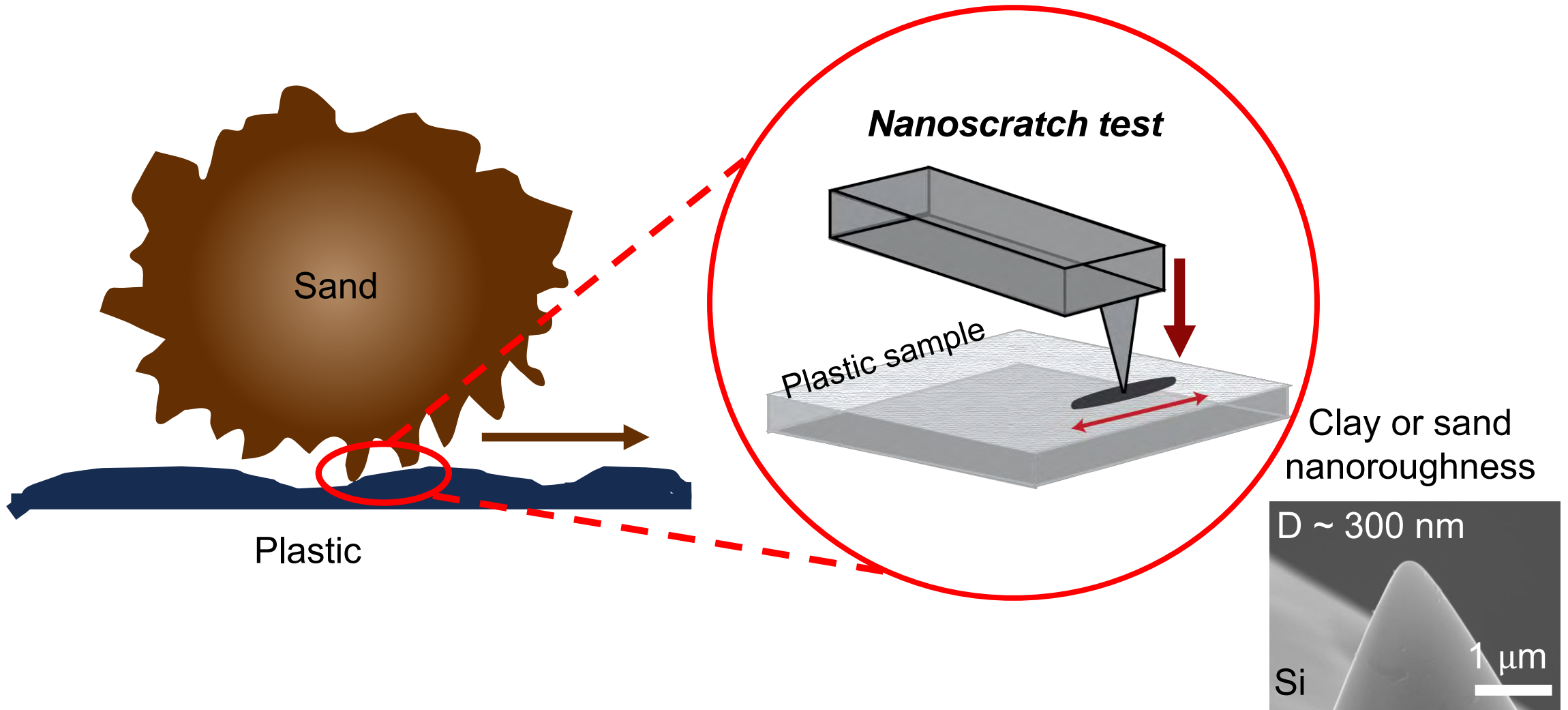


**This work:** nanoscale abrasive wear at surface



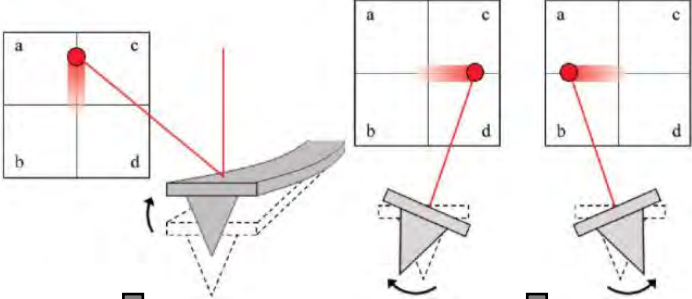
← Increasing photooxidation

# Abrasive wear at the initial contact is at nanoscale



# Nanoscale control and measurement of abrasive wear to quantify nanoplastic release *per input force*

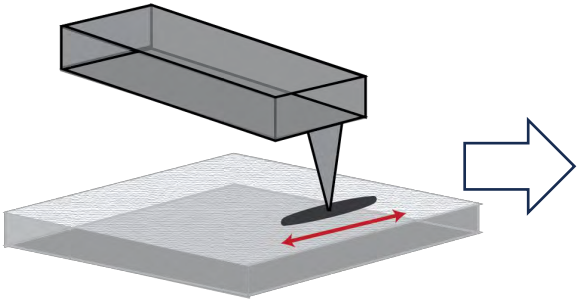
## Lateral force microscopy



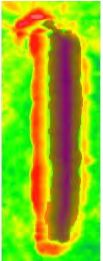
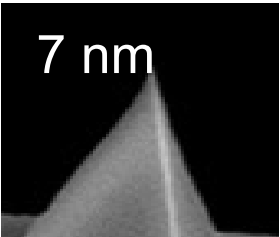
**Controlled normal force**

**Measuring friction force**

## Nanoscratch test



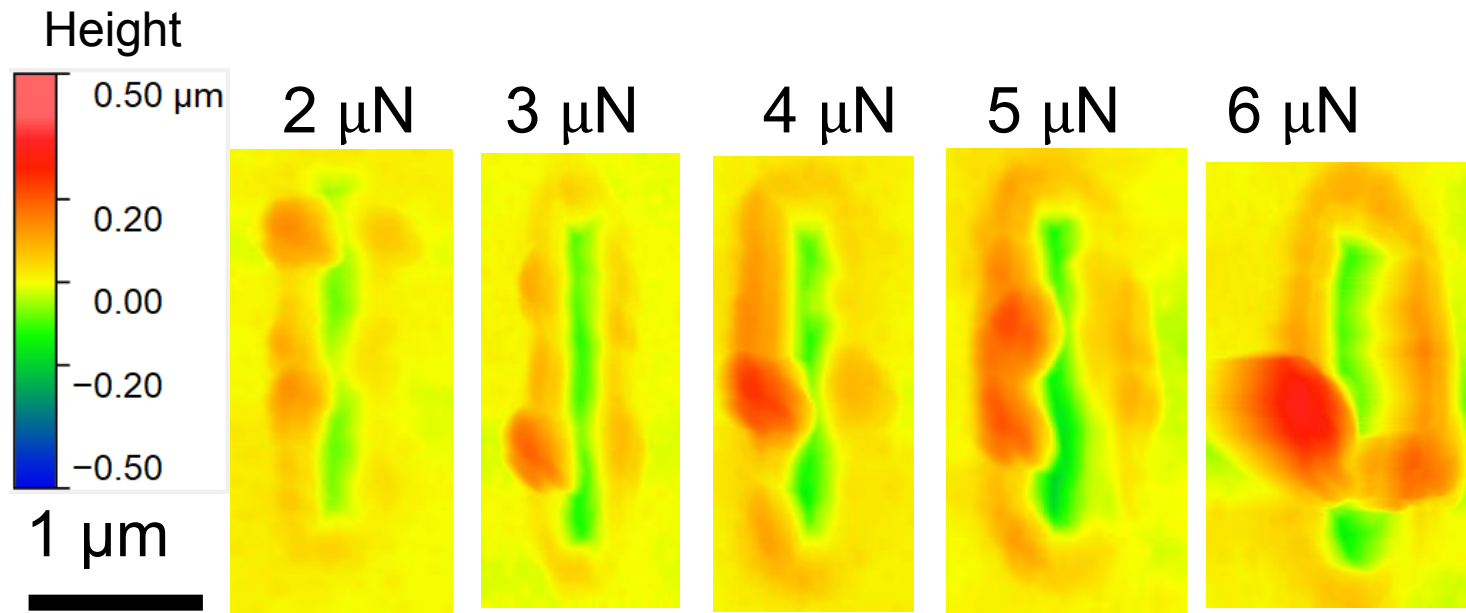
## 3D high-res topography imaging



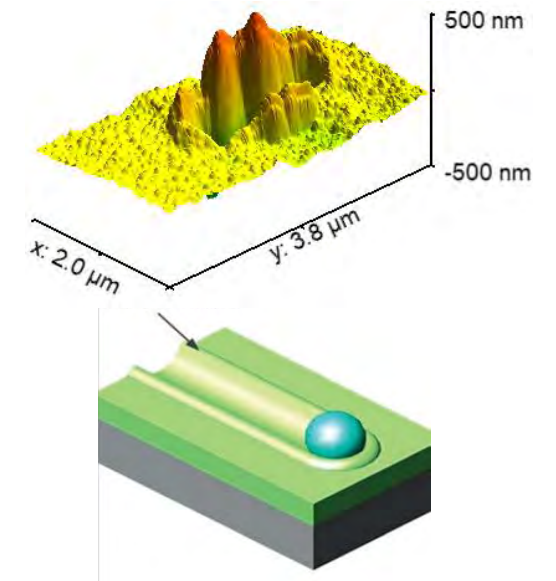
7.7 nm/pixel

**Analyze wear volume**  
 **$\mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}/\mu\text{N}$**

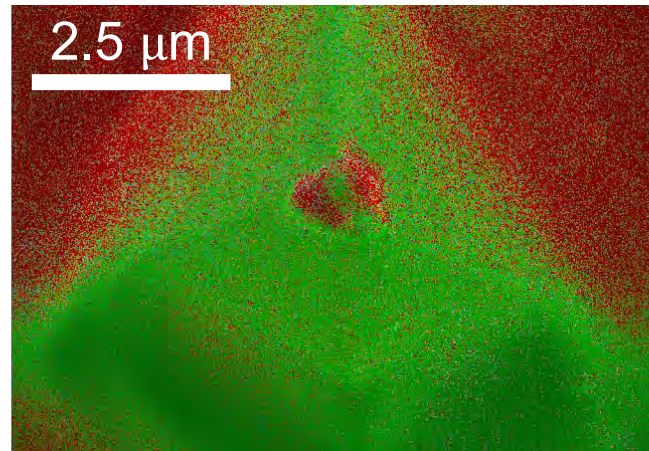
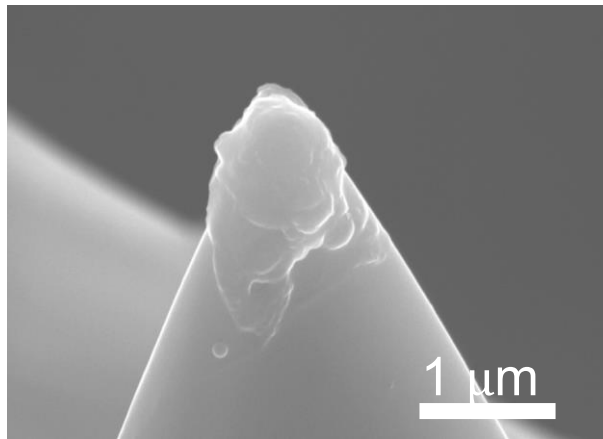
Nanoscale wear of virgin LDPE is primarily **abrasive ploughing wear**, release little debris



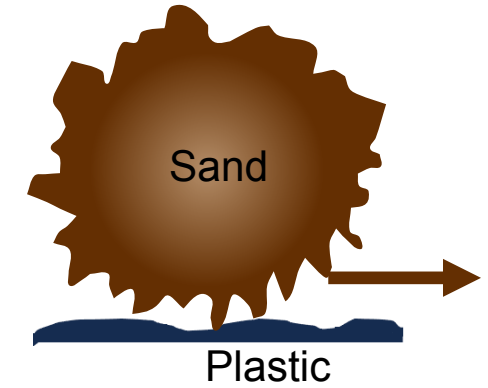
*“Ploughing wear”*



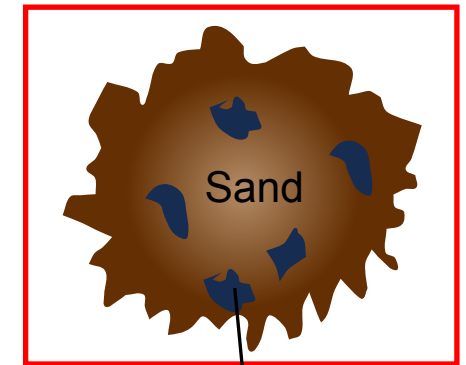
# Polymer transfer to tip during nanoscratching: novel release profile of nanoplastic release



C  
Si  
O

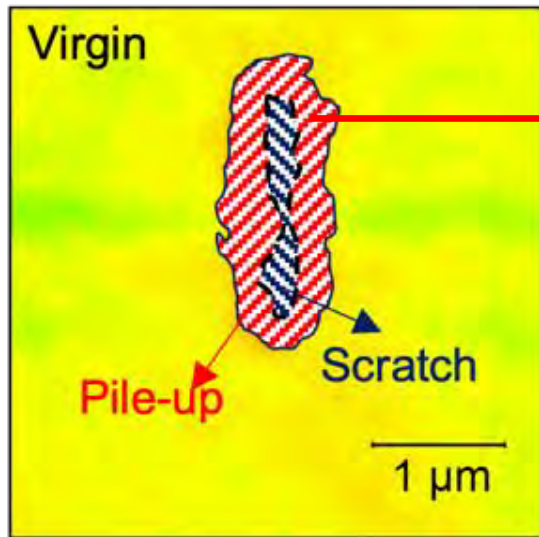
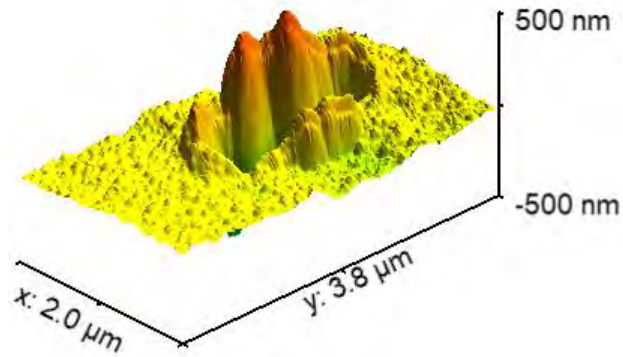


Abrasive wear



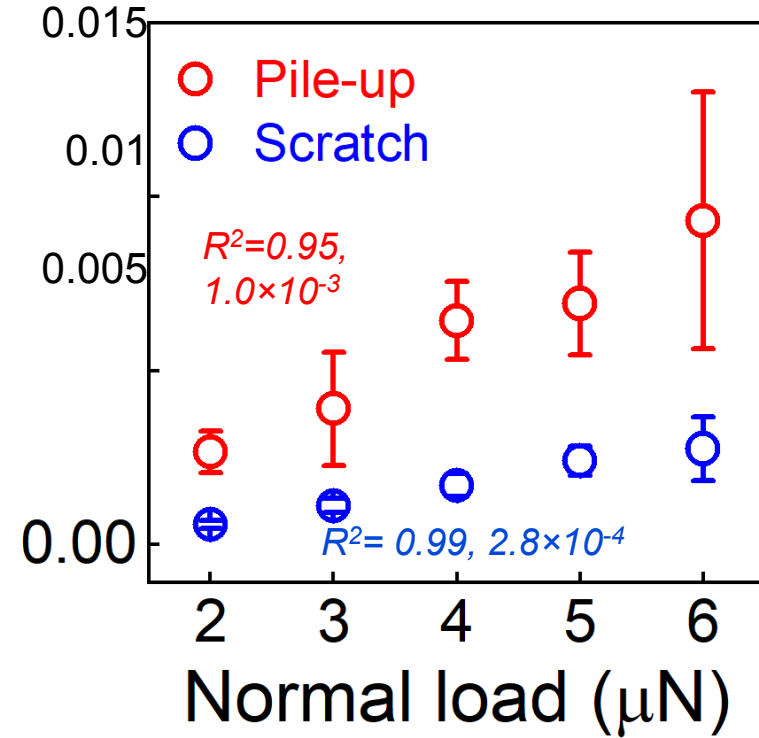
Micro/nanoplastics release by attaching to sand

# Quantifying nanoscale wear rate at single asperity level ( $\mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}\cdot\mu\text{N}$ )



Calculate volume

Wear/length ( $\mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}$ )

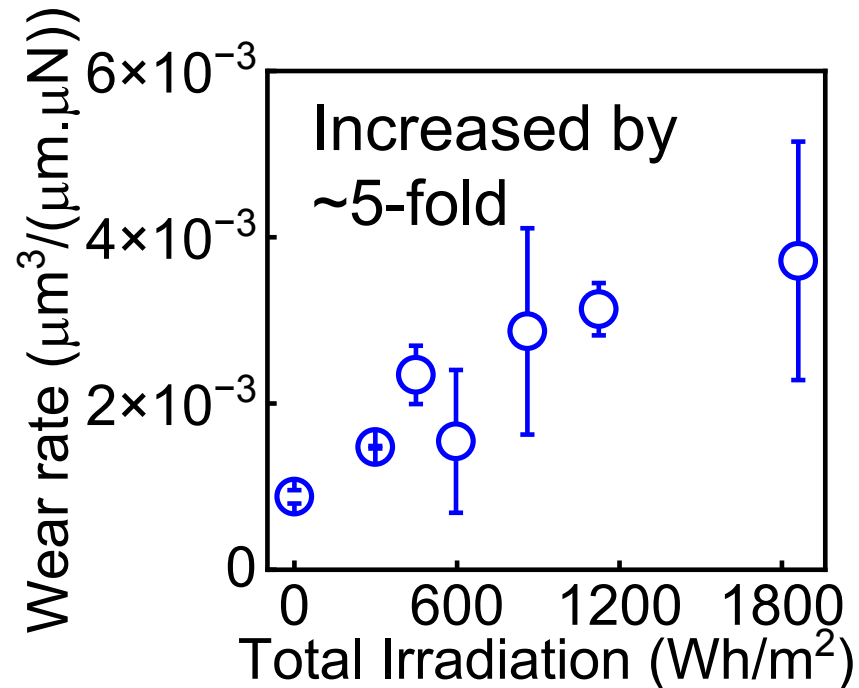
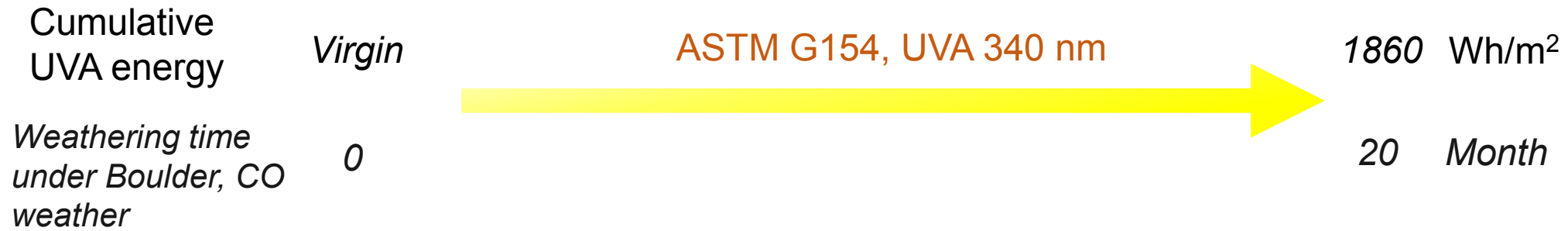


From pile-up:  $1.0\times 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}\cdot\mu\text{N}$

3D topography image



# Impact of photo-oxidation: increase in *wear rate* and shift of *wear mechanism*



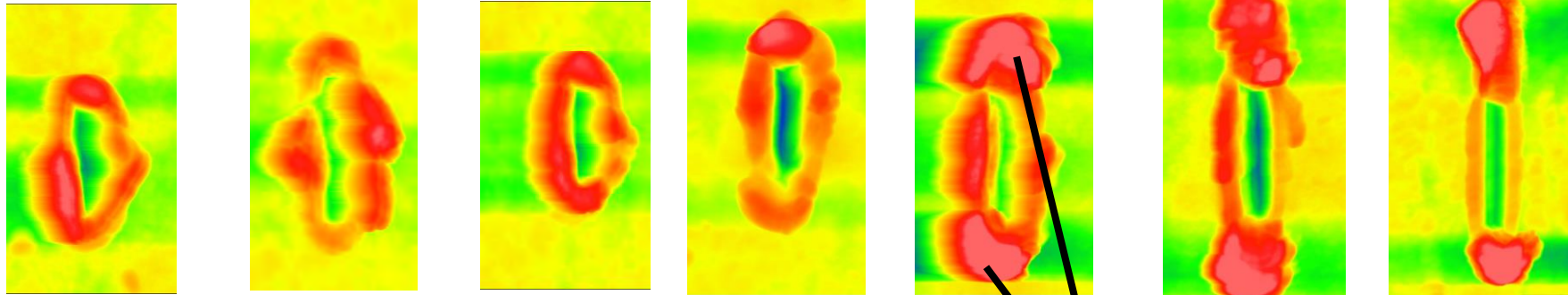
⇒ Will all release as nanoplastics?

# Impact of photo-oxidation: increase in *wear rate* and shift of *wear mechanism*

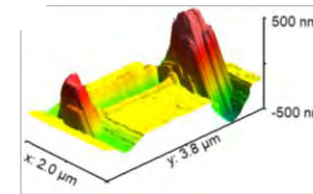
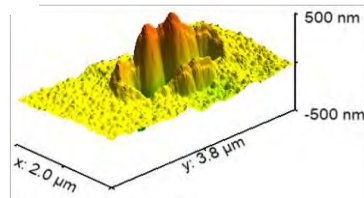
Virgin  Photo-oxidation  20 month Boulder CO weather

Ploughing  Wedge formation  Cutting

4  $\mu\text{N}$

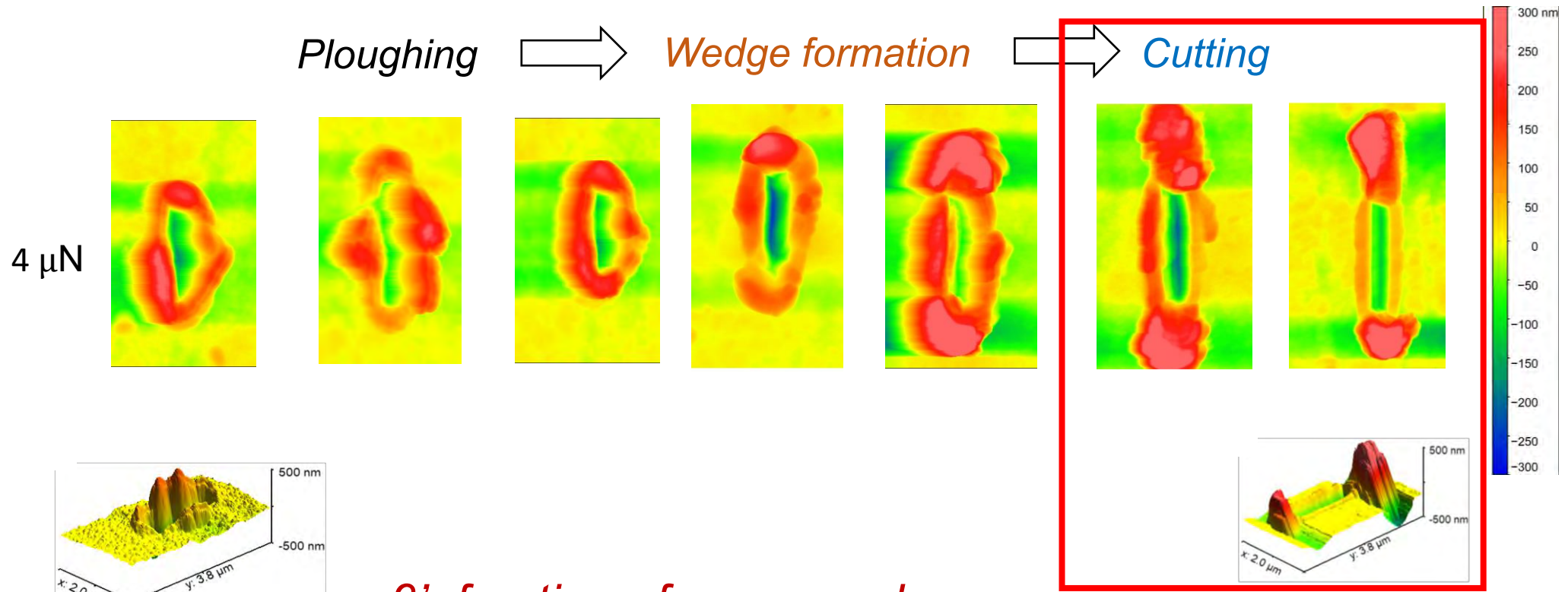


Accumulate at scratch end



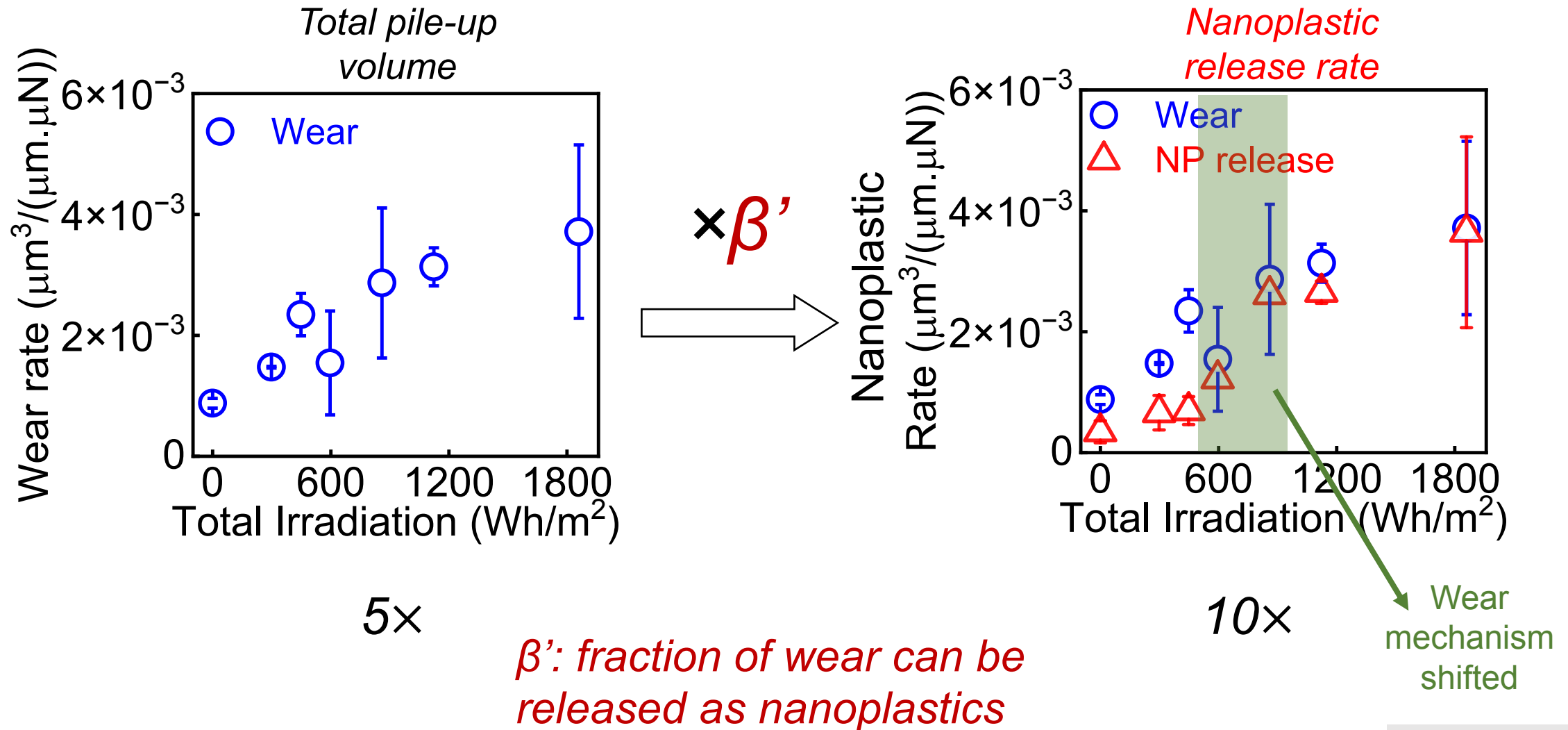
# Photo-oxidation increase in *wear rate* and increase the likelihood of wear release as nanoplastics

Virgin  Photo-oxidation  20 month Boulder CO weather

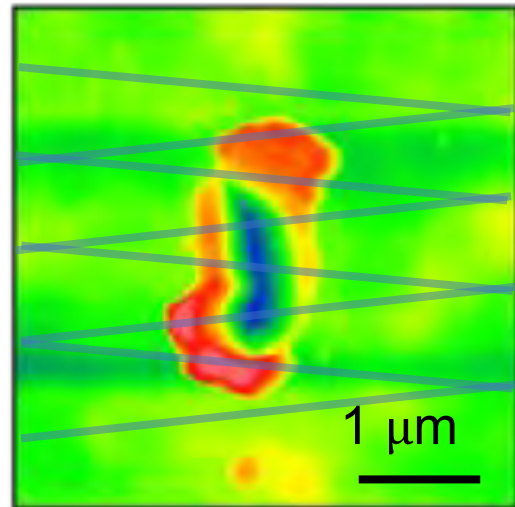


$\beta'$ : fraction of wear can be released as nanoplastics

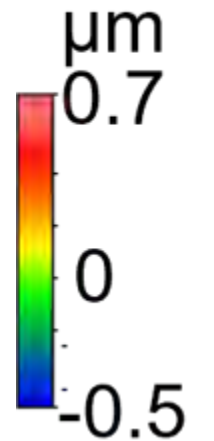
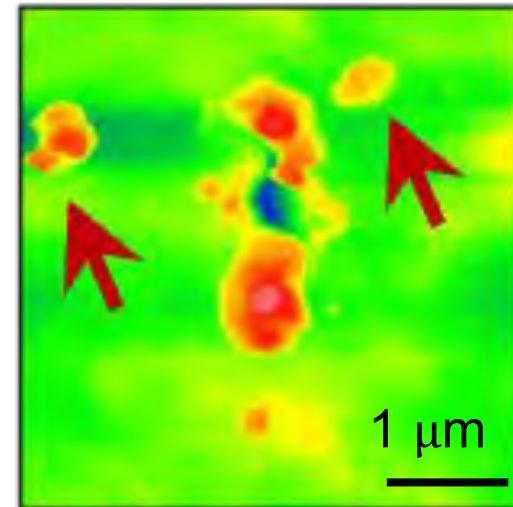
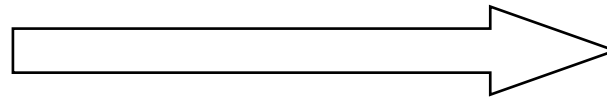
For the first time, we estimate *nanoplastic release* at single asperity level



# Measuring actual release of nanoplastics



Sliding using gentle force ( $\sim 300$  nN)



*Unpublished  
results*

# Macroplastics

# Microplastics

# Nanoplastics

<1 μm

PP

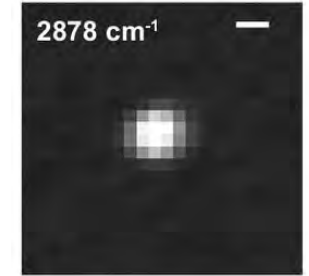
50-100 mm

20-50 mm

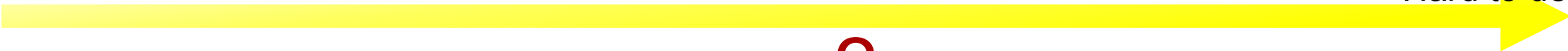
10-20 mm

5-10 mm

<5 mm



Hard to detect

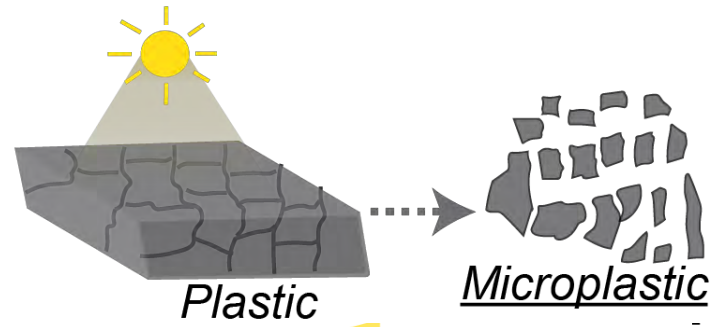


?

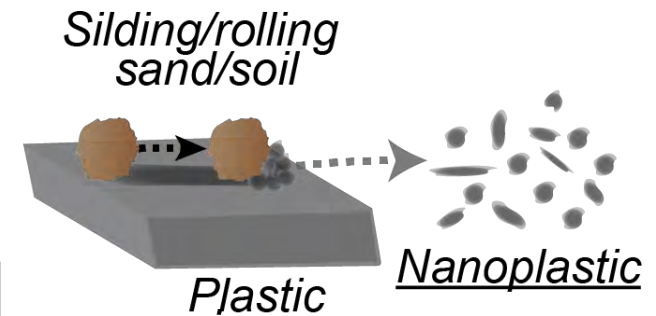
## Beach, soil erosion



**Prior work:** bulk fragmentation due to UV-induced embrittlement



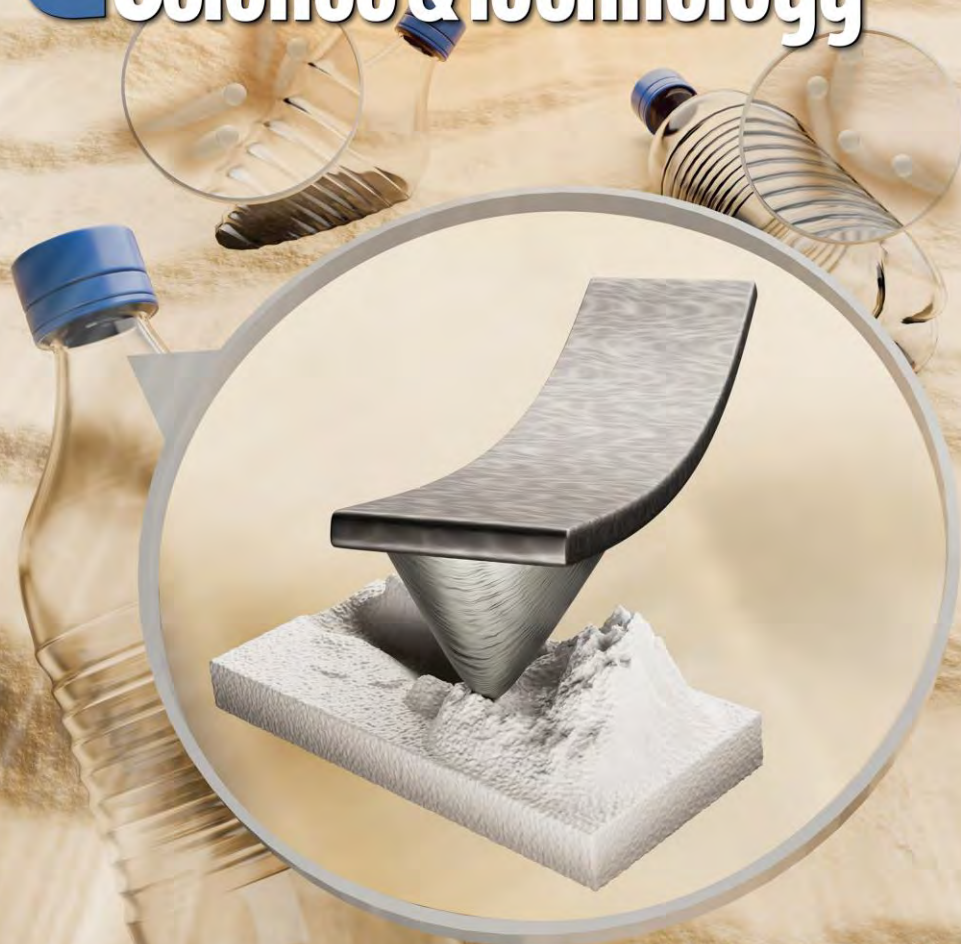
**This work:** nanoscale abrasive wear at surface



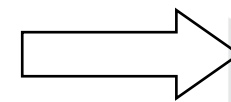
← Increasing photooxidation

# ENVIRONMENTAL Science & Technology

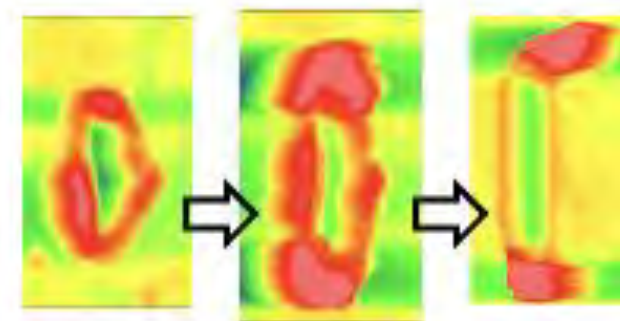
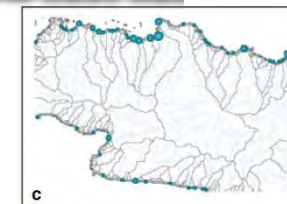
August 6, 2024  
Volume 58  
Number 31  
pubs.acs.org/est



$0.4-4 \times 10^{-3}$   
 $\mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}\cdot\mu\text{N}$



Water column/  
Watershed  
scale



Ploughing

Wedge  
formation

Cutting

# Q and A

If you have a question, just click on the Q and A icon on the bottom of the screen and type it in there.







**Nicole Fahrenfeld, PhD**

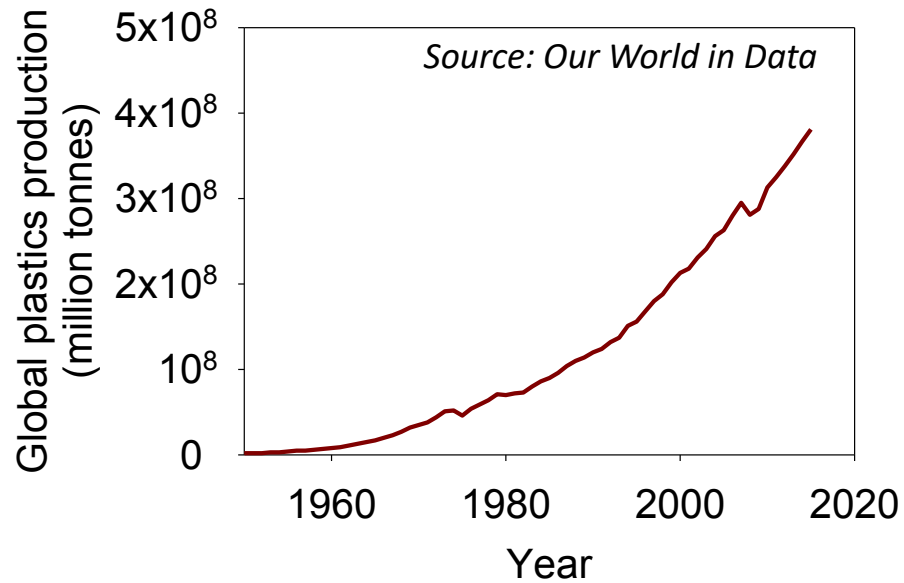
*Associate Professor*

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

AAEES member



# Plastics production continues to increase



# ...and is harder to ignore

TECHNOLOGY

## Is This the End of Recycling?

Americans are consuming more and more stuff. Now that other countries won't take our papers and plastics, they're ending up in the trash.

By Alana Semuels



*The Atlantic*

## Fish mistaking plastic debris in ocean for food, study finds

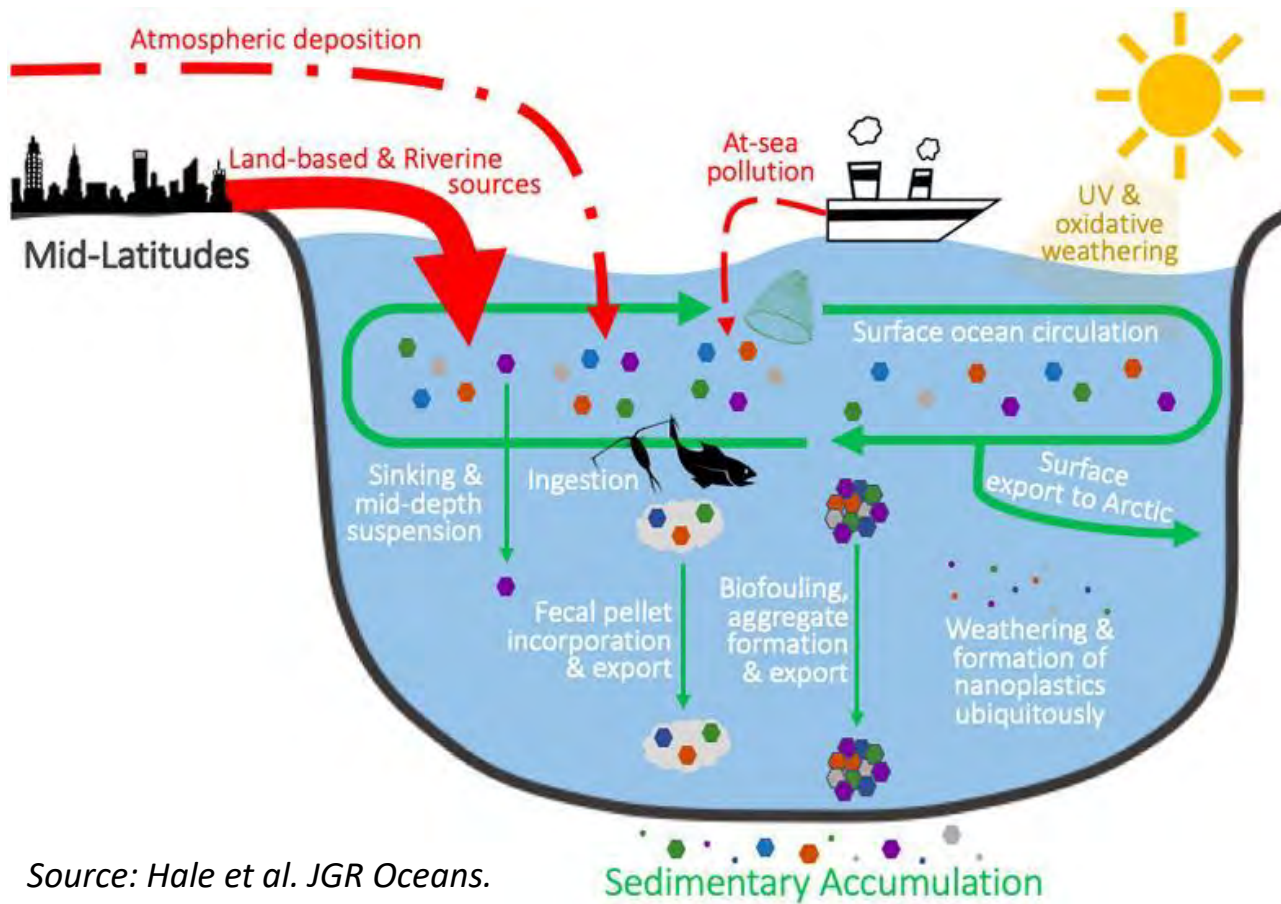
Behavioural evidence suggests marine organisms are not just ingesting microplastics by accident but actively seeking them out as food



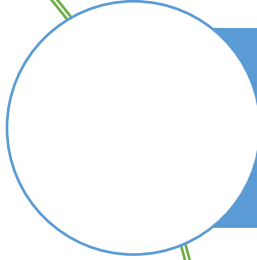
▲ Fish eat microplastics driven by their odour. Above, debris found in the stomach of a fish in Portugal. Photograph: Paulo Oliveira/Alamy

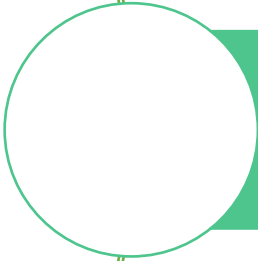
Fish may be actively seeking out plastic debris in the oceans as the tiny pieces appear to smell similar to their natural prey, new research suggests.


**The  
Guardian  
Weekly**



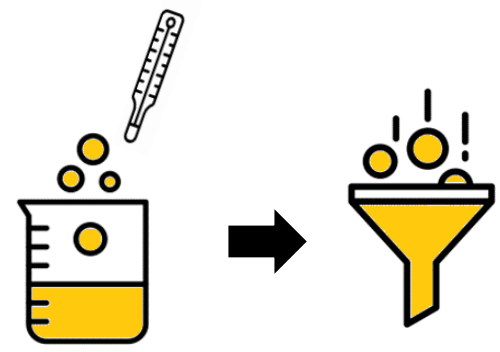
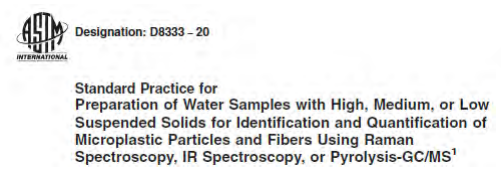
Source: Hale et al. JGR Oceans.

- 

Improve our ability to measure environmental microplastics
- 

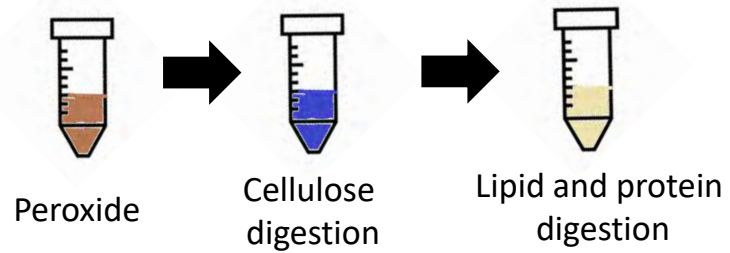
Characterize MP in stormwater
- 

Understand estuarine distribution and entry into food web



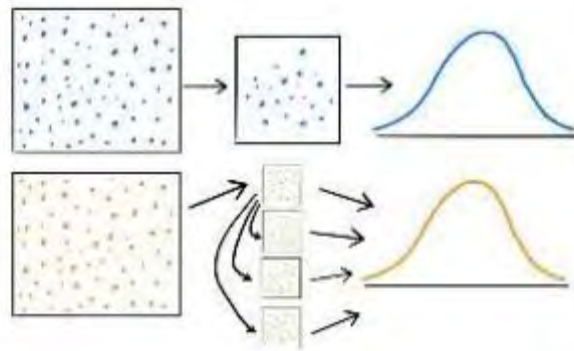
Density separation

- Losses due to heating?
- Losses of dense polymers?



- Limited adoption in the literature to date

# Impact of subsampling on polymer diversity and MP concentrations ?

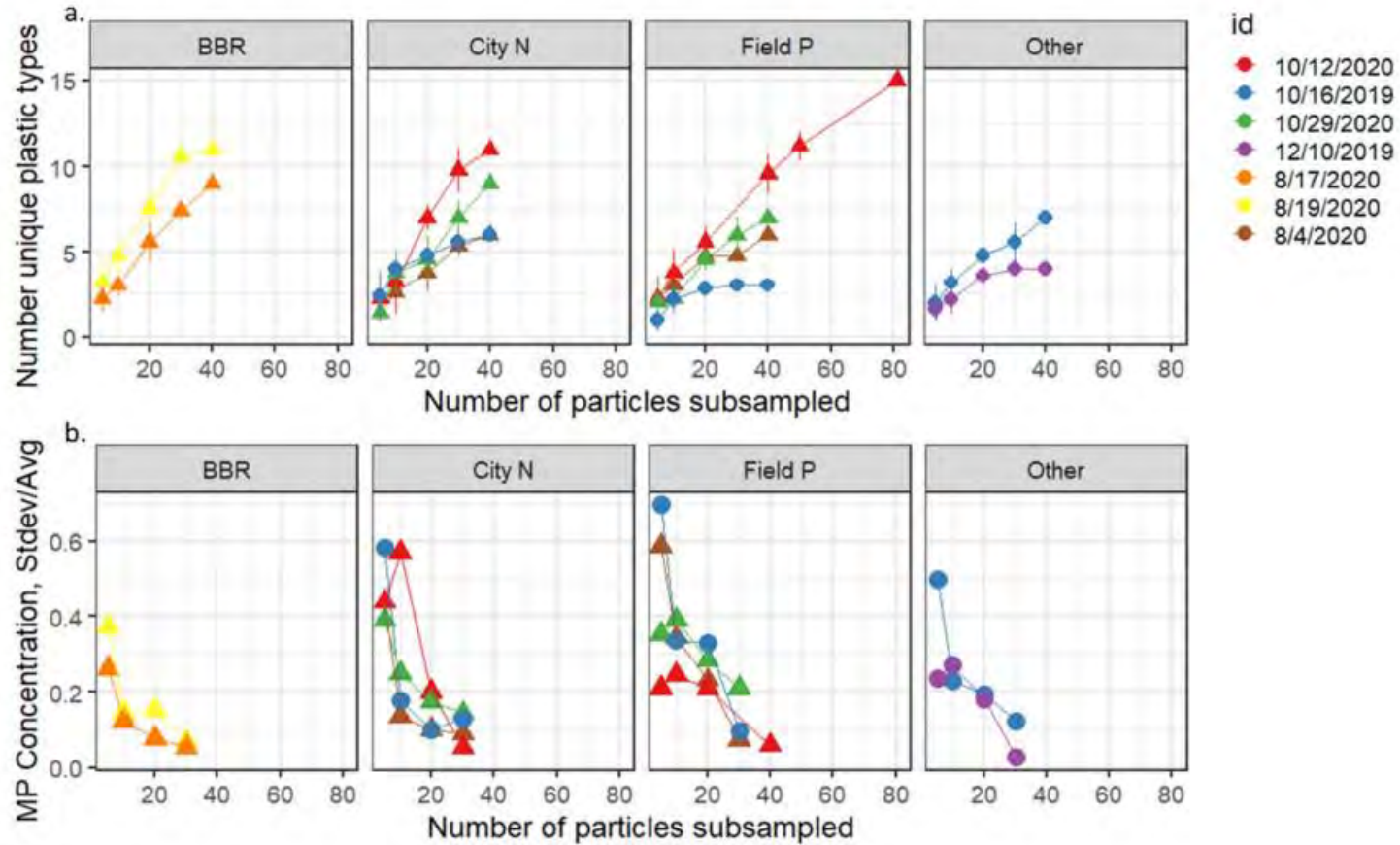


## Subsampling strategies

**...beware of those based on visual ID only!**

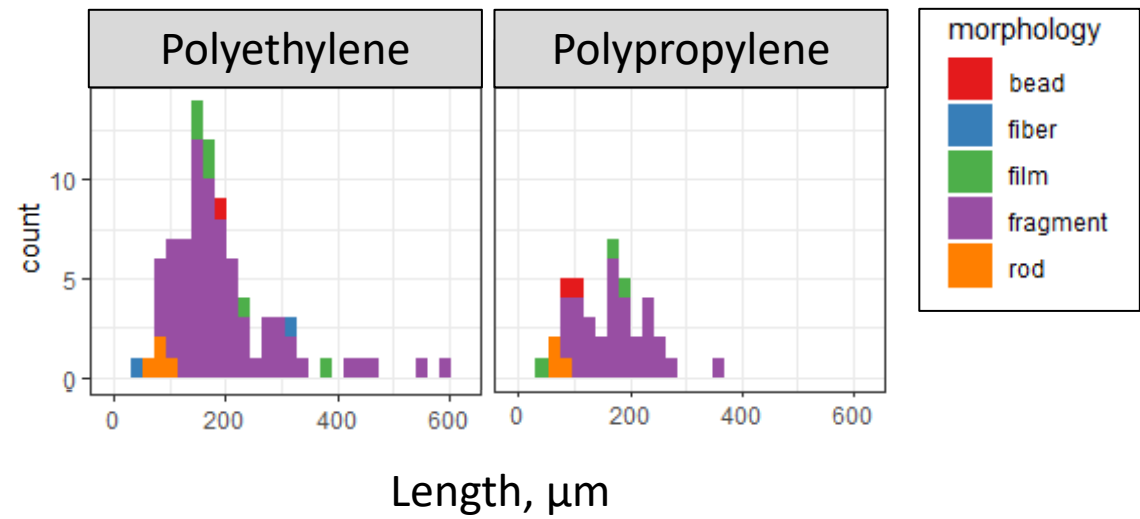
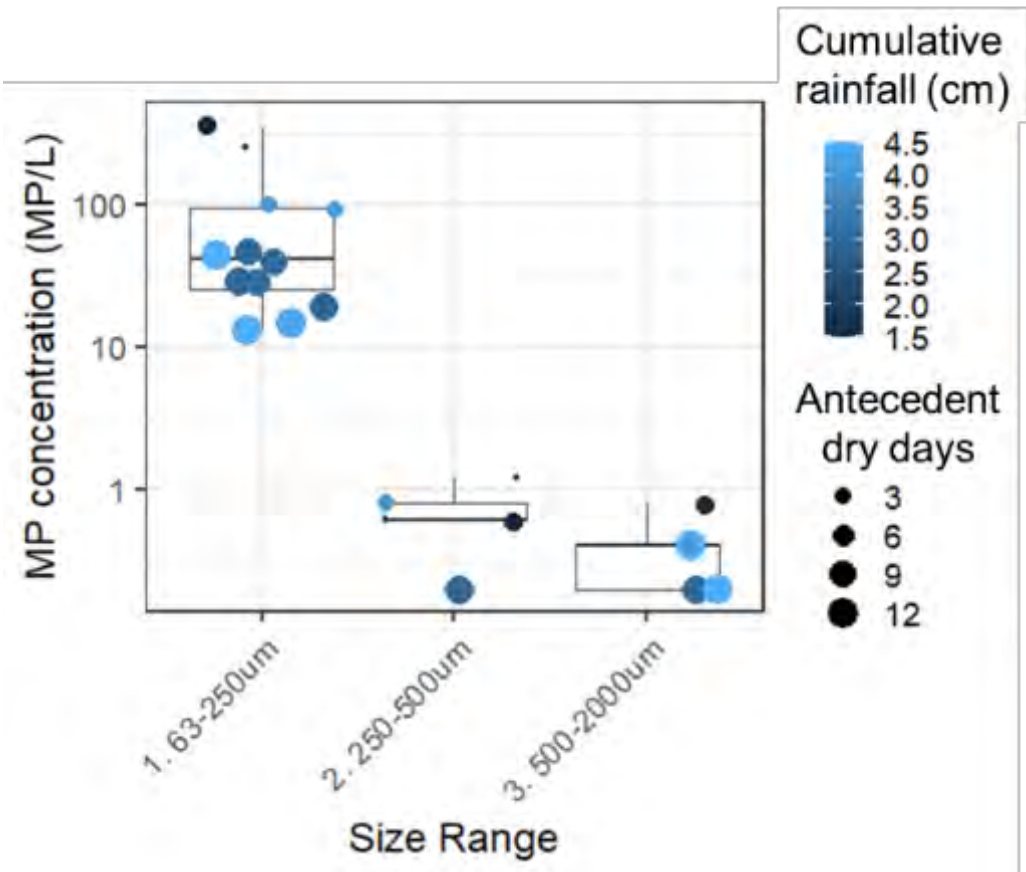


# Subsampling impacts on polymer diversity and concentration



## Urban stormwater microplastic size distribution and impact of subsampling on polymer diversity†

# Characterize MP in stormwater



## Urban stormwater microplastic size distribution and impact of subsampling on polymer diversity†

Swaraj Parmar,<sup>a</sup> Georgia Arbuckle-Keil,<sup>id</sup><sup>a</sup> G. Kumi<sup>a</sup> and N. L. Fahrenfeld<sup>id</sup><sup>\*b</sup>

Characterize MP in stormwater

Urban stormwater microplastic size distribution and impact of subsampling on polymer diversity†

Swaraj Parmar,<sup>a</sup> Georgia Arbuckle-Keil,<sup>a</sup> G. Kumi<sup>a</sup> and N. L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a,\*b</sup>

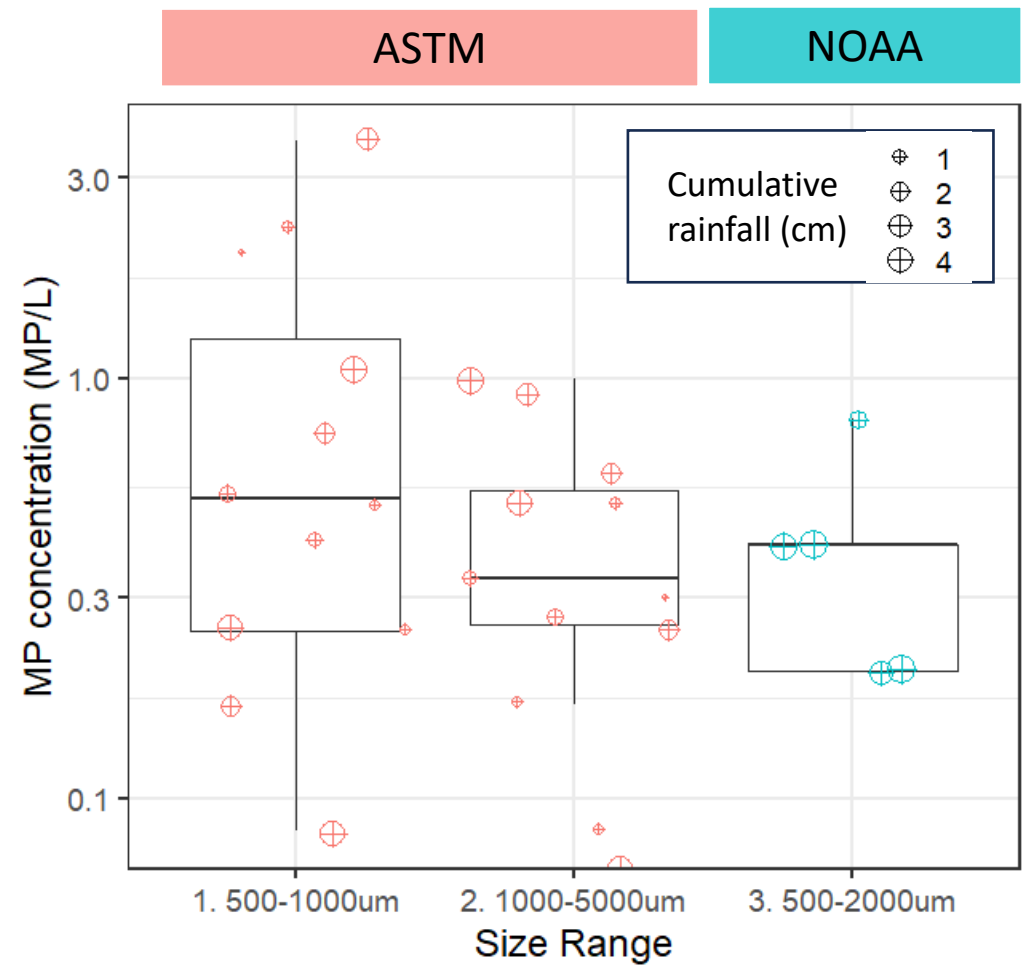


Science of The Total Environment  
Volume 929, 15 June 2024, 172485



Stormwater runoff microplastics: Polymer types, particle size, and factors controlling loading rates

Lilia Ochoa<sup>a</sup>, Julianne Chan<sup>a</sup>, Caitlyn Auguste<sup>b</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>





## Characterize MP in stormwater

## Urban stormwater microplastic size distribution and impact of subsampling on polymer diversity†

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### Buoyant

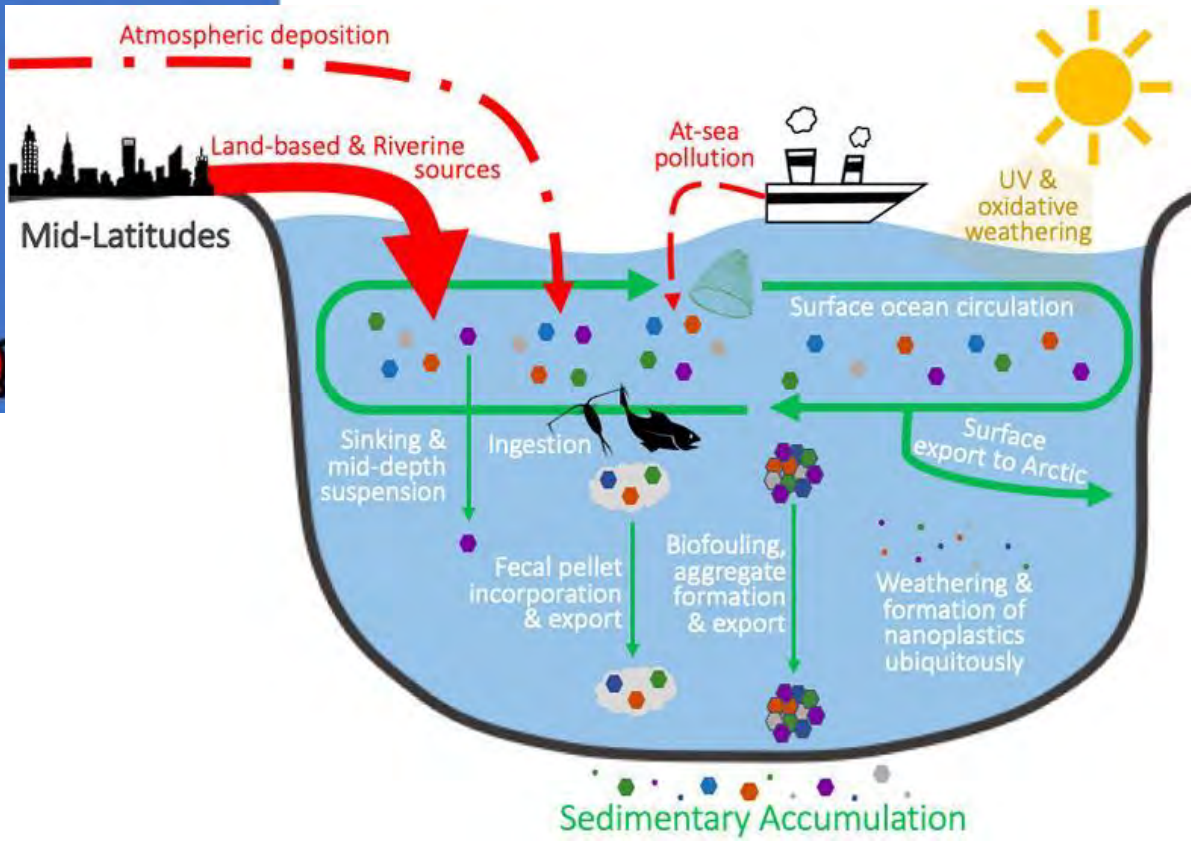
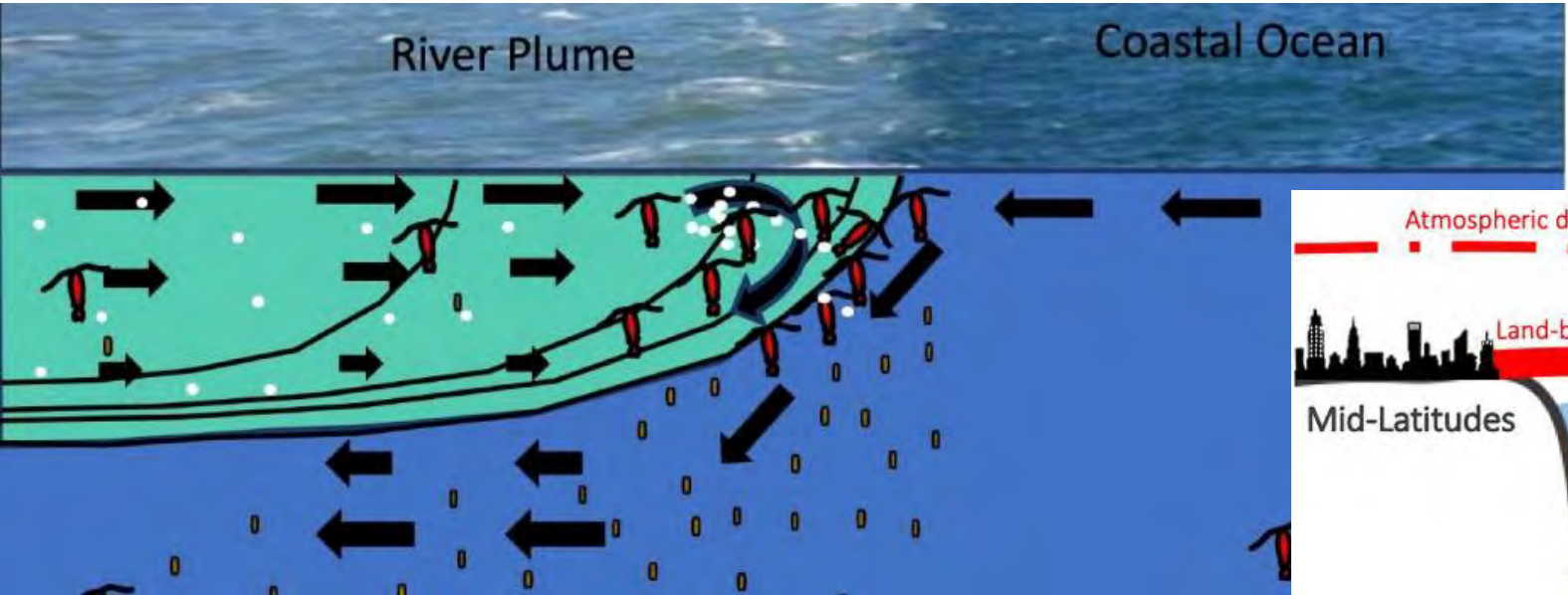
- Polyethylene (N=75 PE)
- Polypropylene (N=20 PP)
- Polystyrene (N=20 PS)
- Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS)
- Resin dispersión
- Ethylene propylene rubber (EPM)

### Non-buoyant

- Polyurethane (N=14 PU)
- Polyvinyl chloride (N= 12 PVC)
- Polyacrylamide (N=11 PAM)
- Aramid
- Polyamide (PA)
- Polychloroprene (CR)
- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)
- Alkyd varnish
- Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA)
- Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA)
- Polysulfone (PSU)

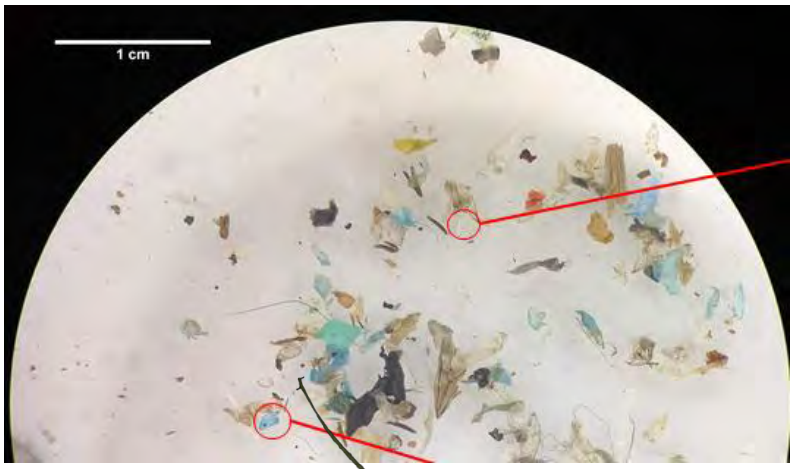


Understand estuarine distribution and entry into food web





Understand estuarine distribution and entry into food web



Understand estuarine distribution and entry into food web

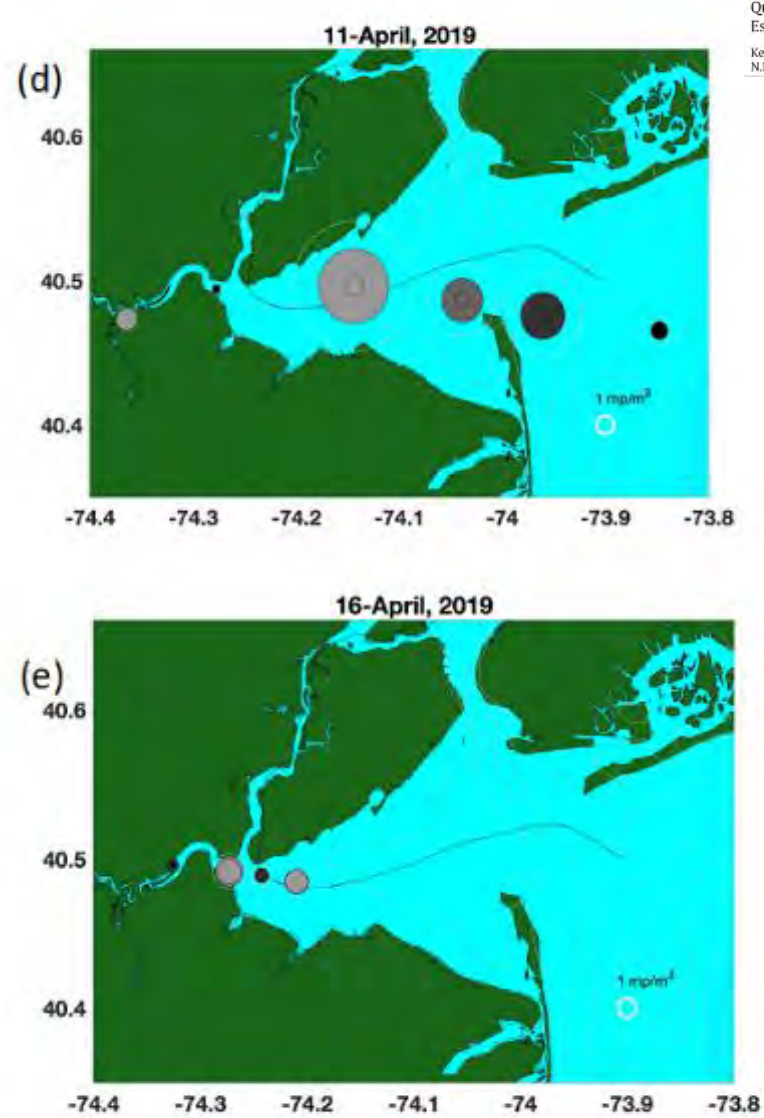
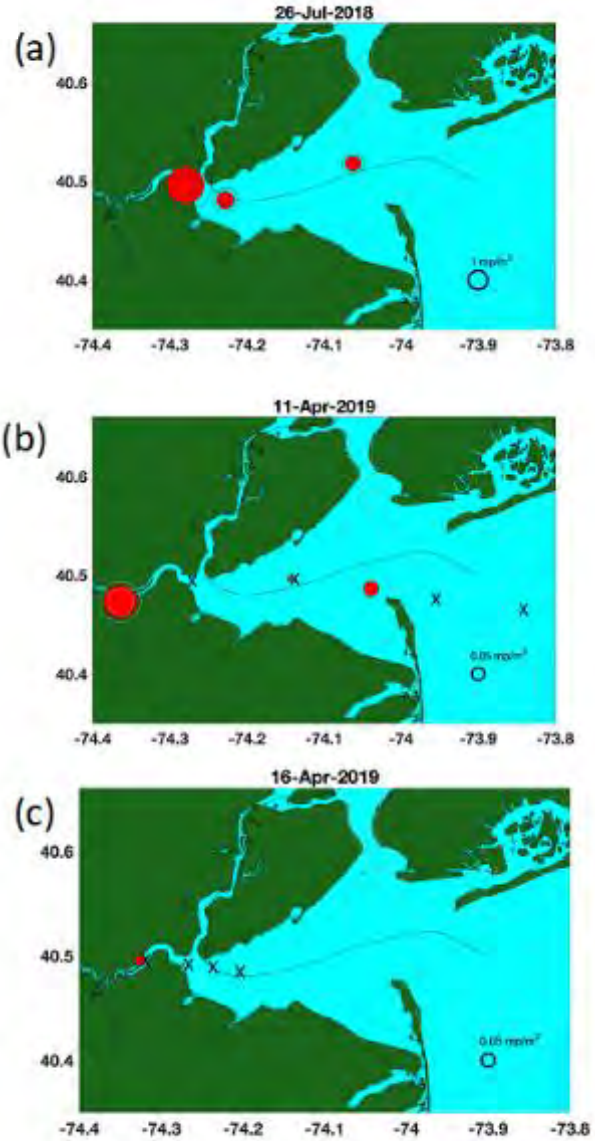
### 500-2000 $\mu\text{m}$

### 250-500 $\mu\text{m}$

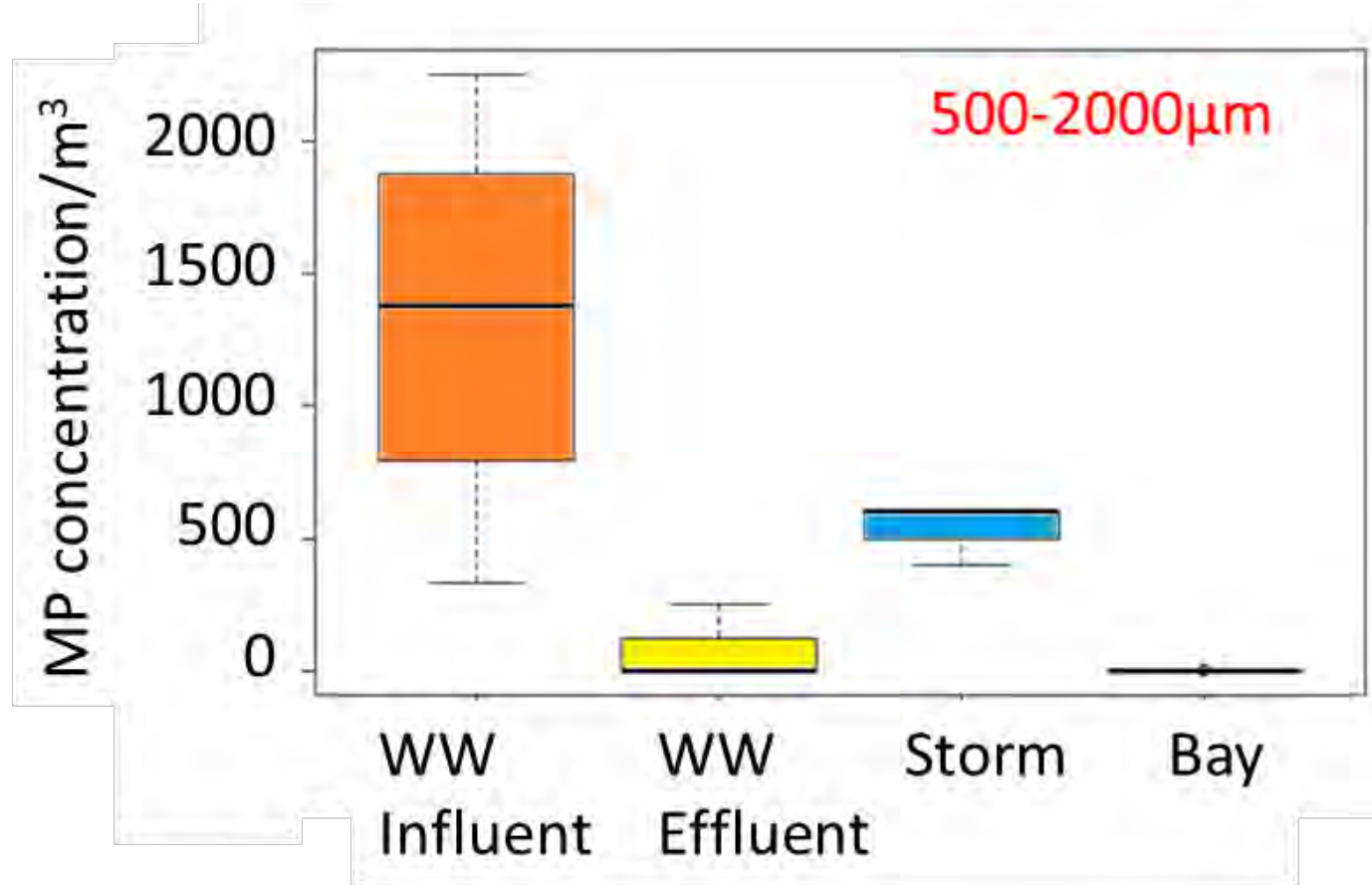
Low Flow

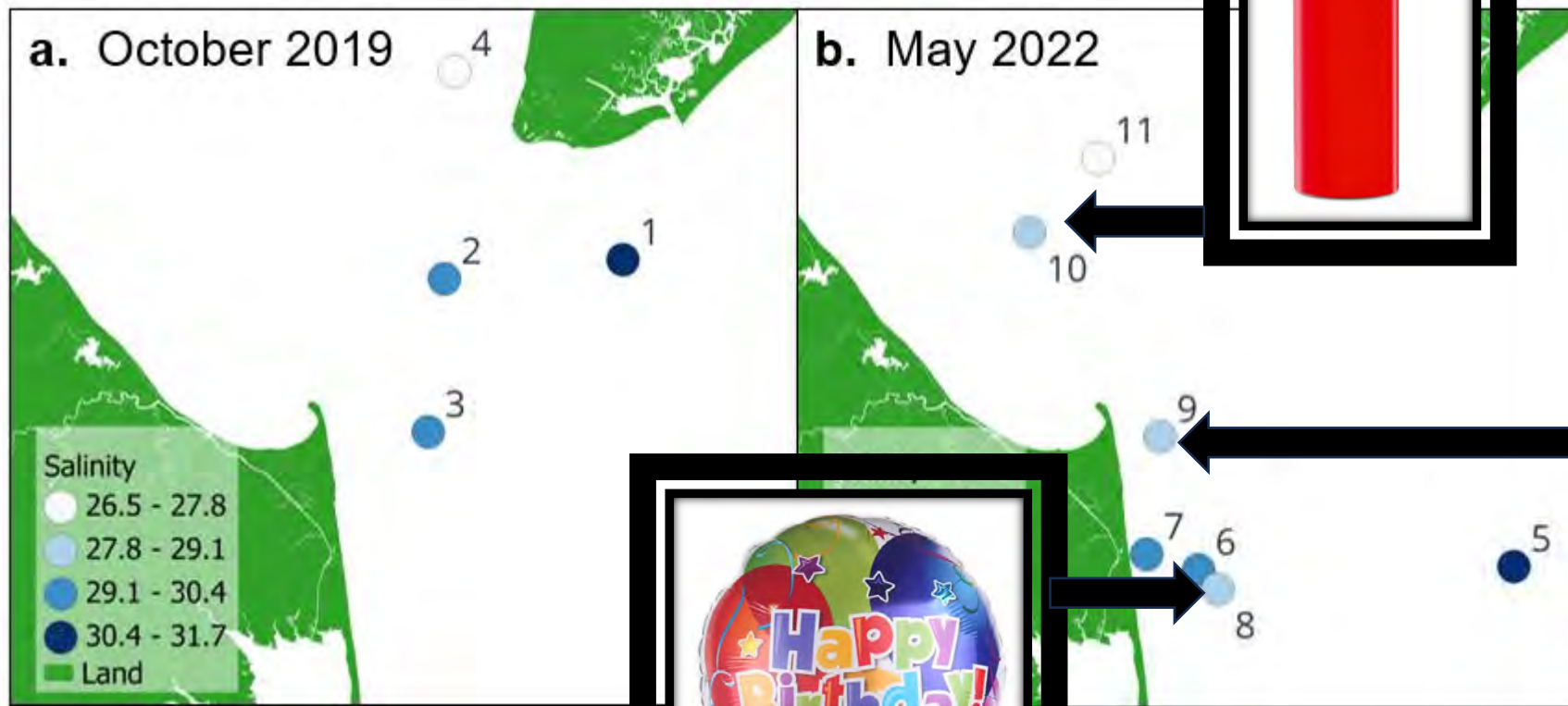
Low Flow

High Flow



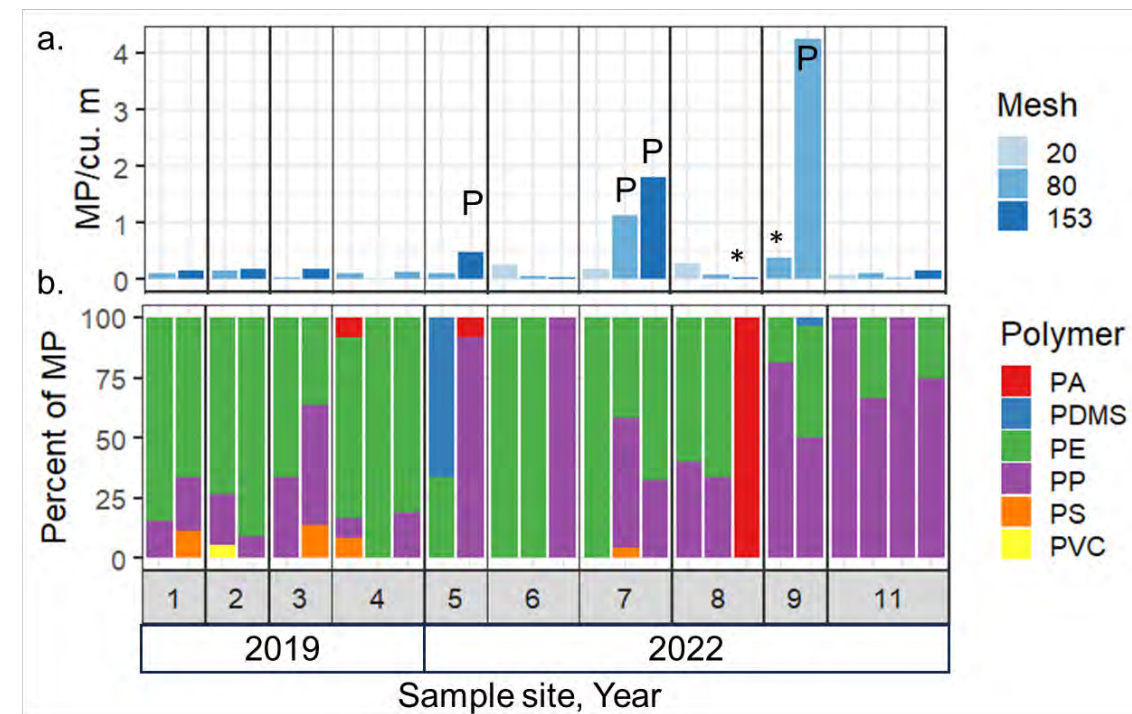
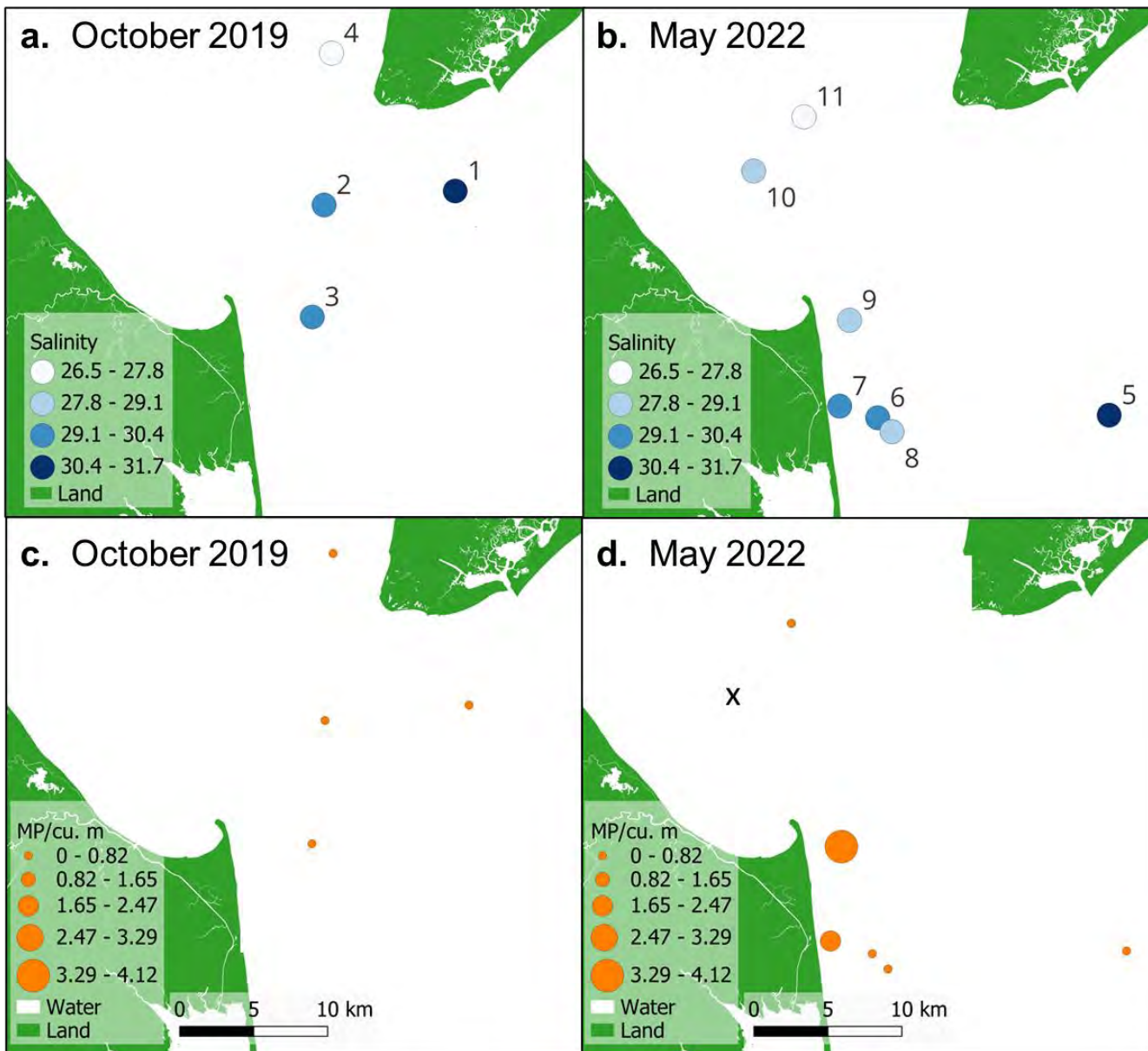
Quantification and composition of microplastics in the Raritan-Hudson Estuary: Comparison to pathways of entry and implications for fate  
Kendi Bailey<sup>a</sup>, Karli Sipps<sup>b</sup>, Grace K. Saba<sup>c</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, Robert J. Chant<sup>a</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a,\*</sup>



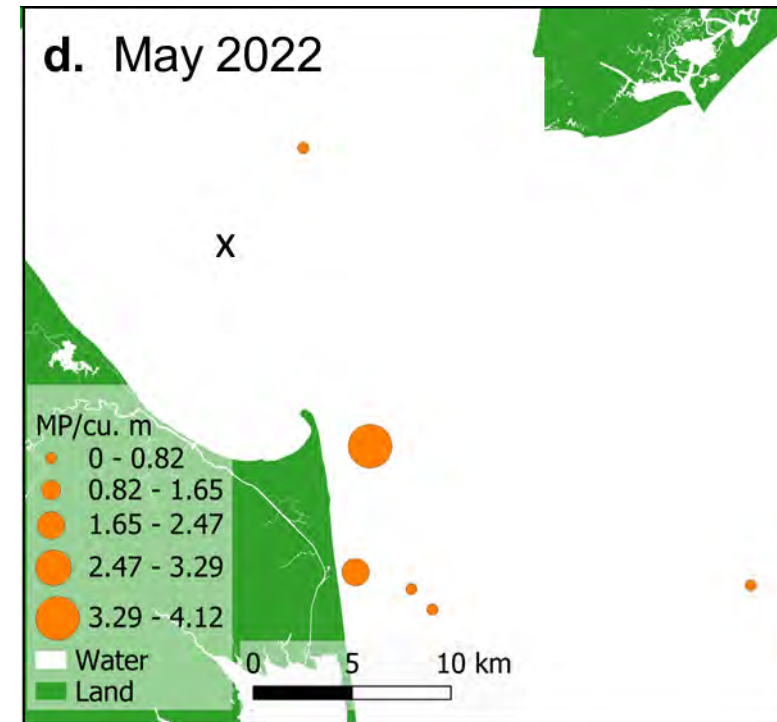
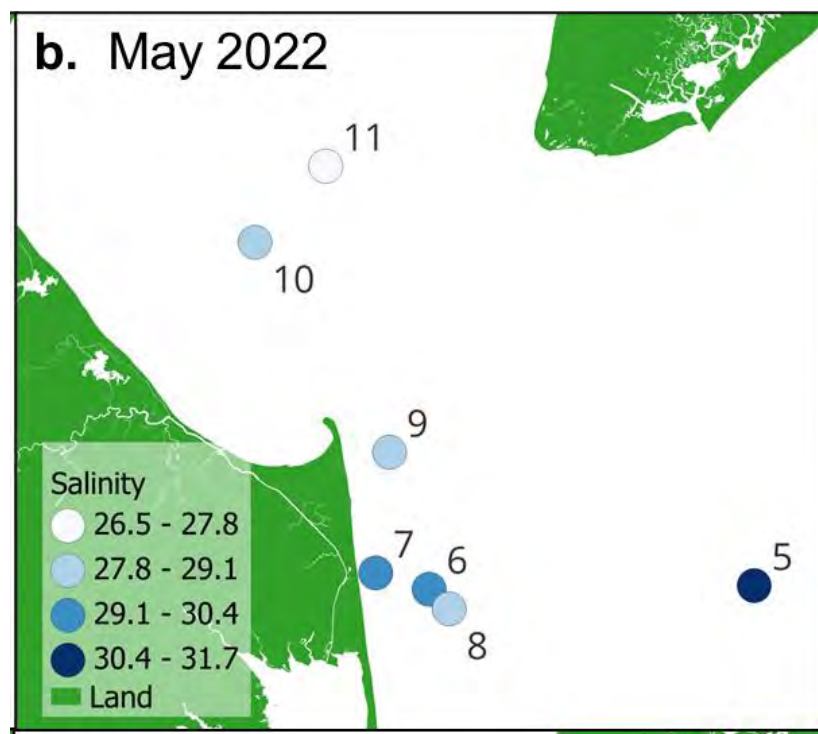
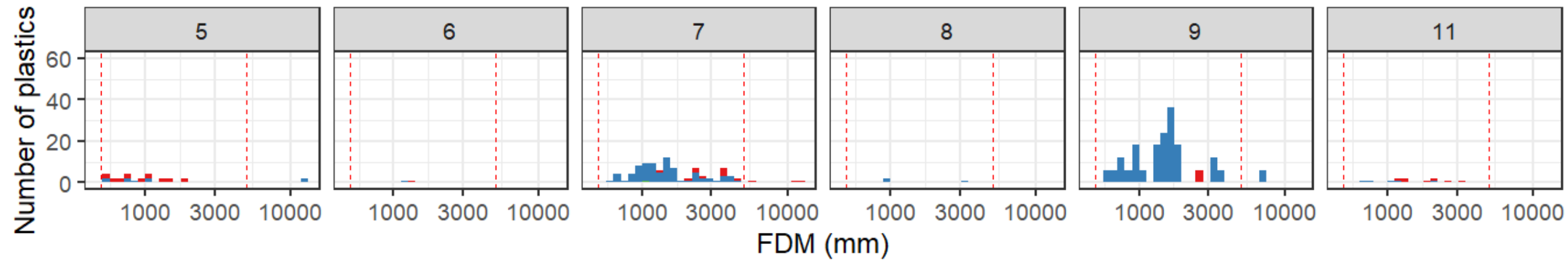


# Microplastic concentration, characterization, and size distribution in the Delaware Bay estuary

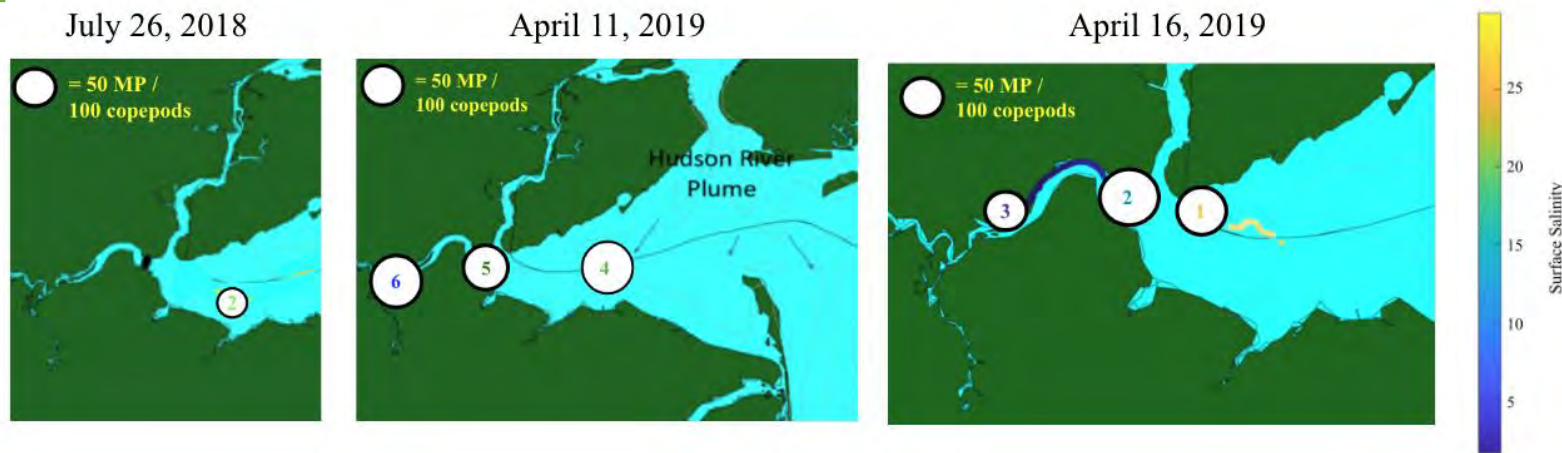
Erik J. Nitzberg<sup>a</sup>, Swaraj Parmar<sup>b</sup>, Georgia Ar buckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, Grace K. Soba<sup>c</sup>, Robert J. Chant<sup>c</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>



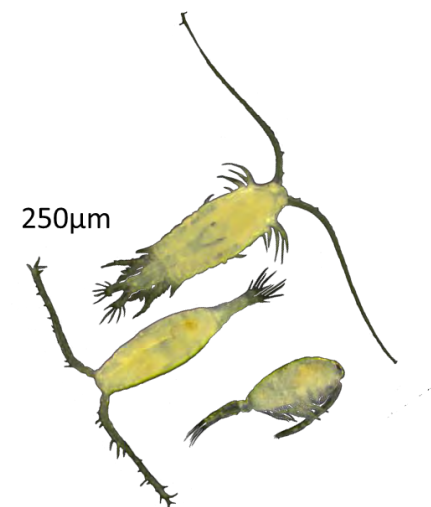
M ■ Fiber ■ Fragment ■ Sphere







Sampling Date and Site	Zooplankton Species	Ingestion Incidence (MP individual <sup>-1</sup> ) Average ± SD
7/26/2018 Site 2	<i>A. tonsa</i>	0.30 ± 0.07
4/11/2019 Site 4	<i>A. tonsa</i>	0.73 ± 0.09
Site 5	<i>P. crassirostris</i>	0.60 ± 0.08
Site 6	<i>P. crassirostris</i>	0.74 ± 0.14
4/16/2019 Site 1	<i>A. tonsa</i>	0.69 ± 0.13
Site 2	<i>C. typicus</i>	0.82 ± 0.48
Site 3	<i>A. tonsa</i>	0.51 ± 0.14



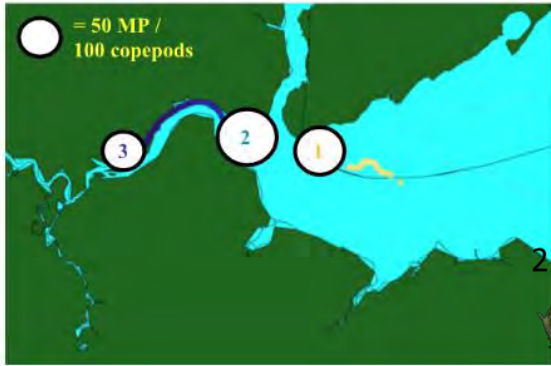
Pervasive occurrence of microplastics in Hudson-Raritan estuary zooplankton

Karli Sippes<sup>a</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>a</sup>, Robert Chant<sup>b</sup>, Nicole Fahrenfeld<sup>c</sup>, Lori Garzio<sup>b</sup>, Kasey Walsh<sup>b</sup>, Grace Saba<sup>b,\*</sup>

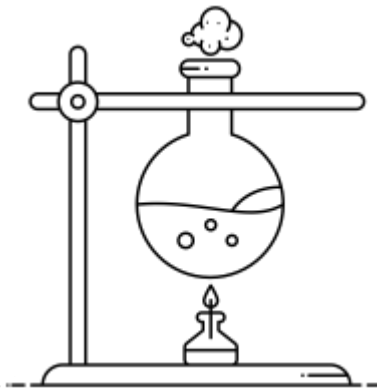
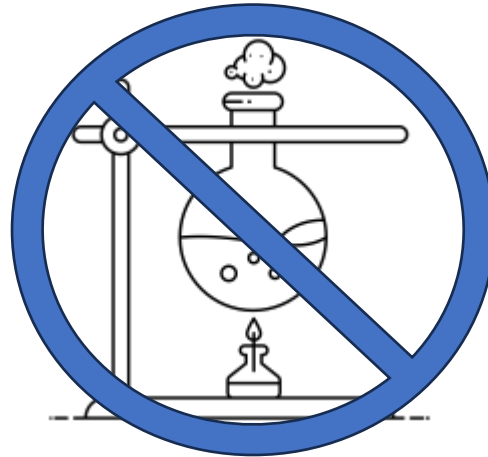


# Impact of nitric acid digestion on ability to accurately ID polymers extracted from biota?

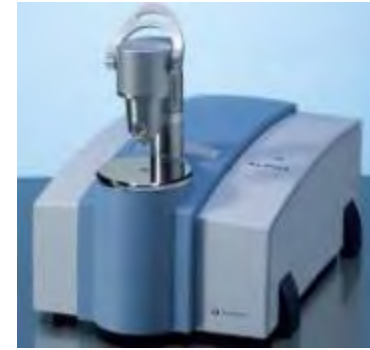
April 16, 2019



## Treatment



## Analysis



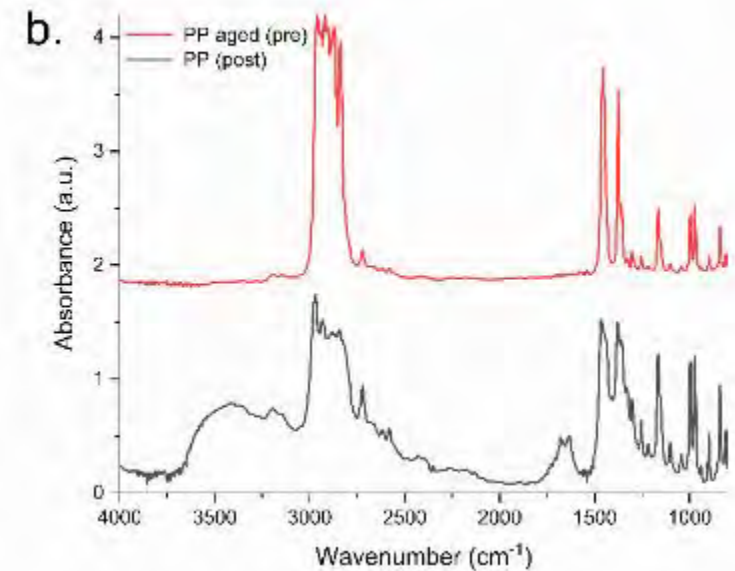
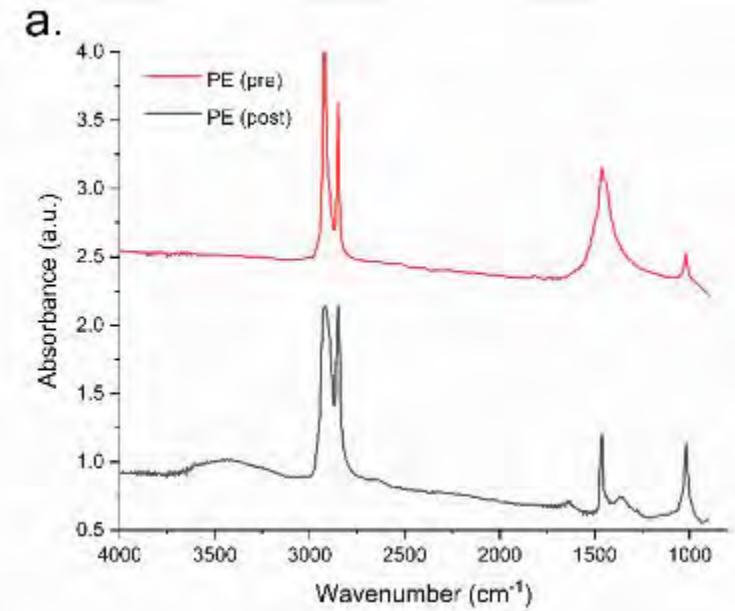
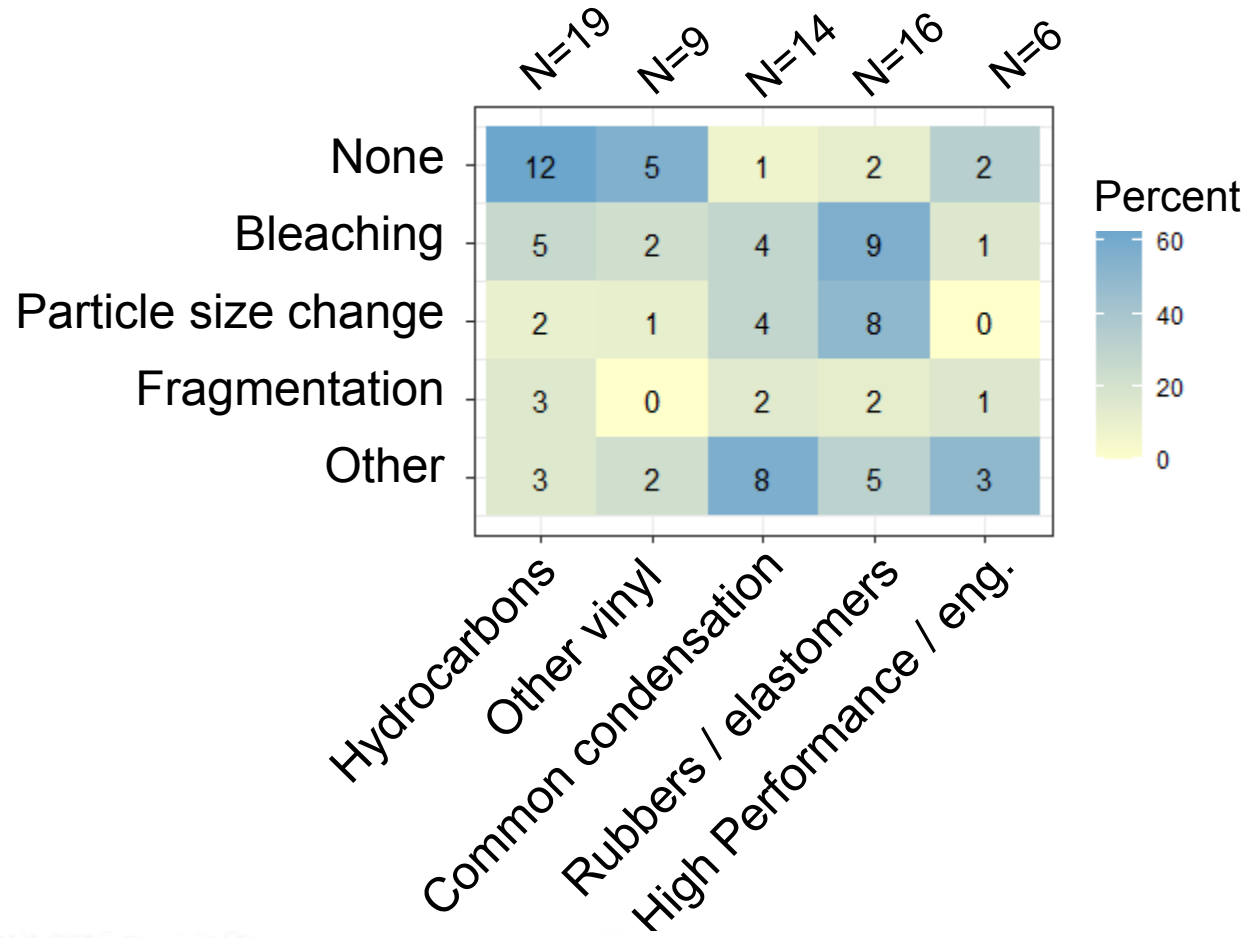
## Interpretation

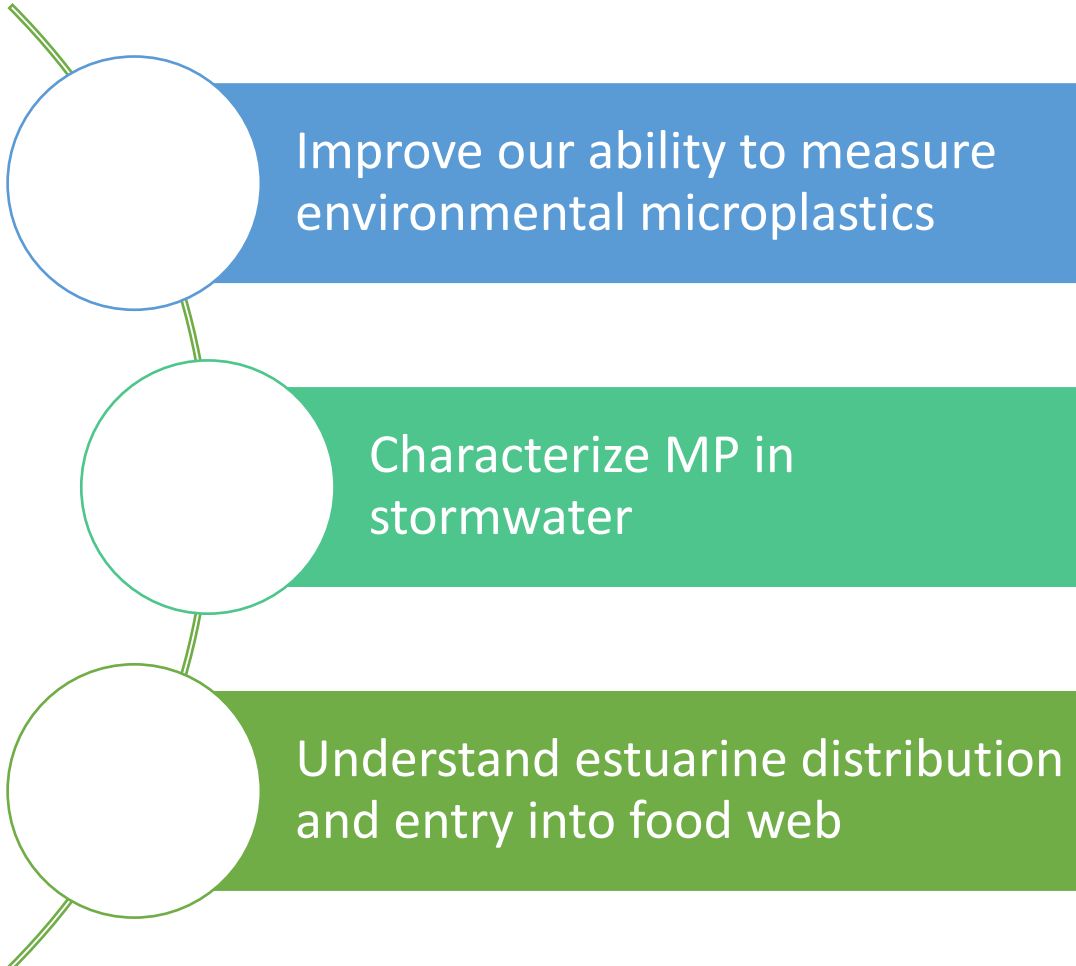
**s i M P l e**

Systematic Identification of MicroPLastics in the Environment

Developed by Aalborg University, Denmark and Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany







Improve our ability to measure environmental microplastics

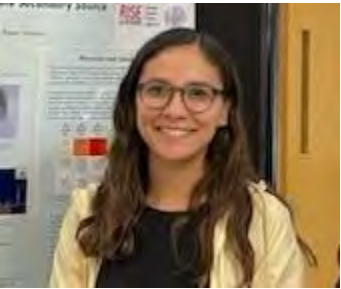
Characterize MP in stormwater

Understand estuarine distribution and entry into food web

Consider subsampling strategy to capture MP concentration and polymer diversity, biases introduced by acid digestions

Stormwater is an important pathway of entry with a diverse range of polymer types, buoyant and non-buoyant

Frontal zones can concentration microplastics, particle size distribution varies spatially



Science of The Total Environment  
Volume 929, 15 June 2024, 172485



### Stormwater runoff microplastics: Polymer types, particle size, and factors controlling loading rates

Lilia Ochoa<sup>a</sup>, Julianne Chan<sup>a</sup>, Caitlyn Auguste<sup>b</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>

**Aresty Research Center**  
Division of Undergraduate Academic Affairs



1917676



### Pervasive occurrence of microplastics in Hudson-Raritan estuary zooplankton

Karli Sippis<sup>a</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>a</sup>, Robert Chant<sup>b</sup>, Nicole Fahrenfeld<sup>c</sup>, Lori Garzio<sup>b</sup>, Kasey Walsh<sup>b</sup>, Grace Saba<sup>b, d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Camden, NJ 08102, USA  
<sup>b</sup> Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, USA



### Urban stormwater microplastic size distribution and impact of subsampling on polymer diversity†

Swaraj Parmar<sup>a</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, G. Kumi<sup>a</sup> and N. L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>



Science of The Total Environment  
Volume 809, 25 February 2022, 151104



### Inter-storm variation in microplastic concentration and polymer type at stormwater outfalls and a bioretention basin

William Boni<sup>a</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>



### Microplastic concentration, characterization, and size distribution in the Delaware Bay estuary

Erik J. Nitzberg<sup>a</sup>, Swaraj Parmar<sup>b</sup>, Georgia Arbuckle-Keil<sup>b</sup>, Grace K. Saba<sup>c</sup>, Robert J. Chant<sup>c</sup>, N.L. Fahrenfeld<sup>a</sup>



Quantification and composition of microplastics in the Raritan Hudson Estuary: Comparison to pathways of entry and implications for fate  
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# Q and A

If you have a question, just click on the Q and A icon on the bottom of the screen and type it in there.



# Using Low Dissolved Oxygen for Energy-Efficient Biological Nitrogen Removal



**Fabrizio Sabba, PhD, ENV SP**

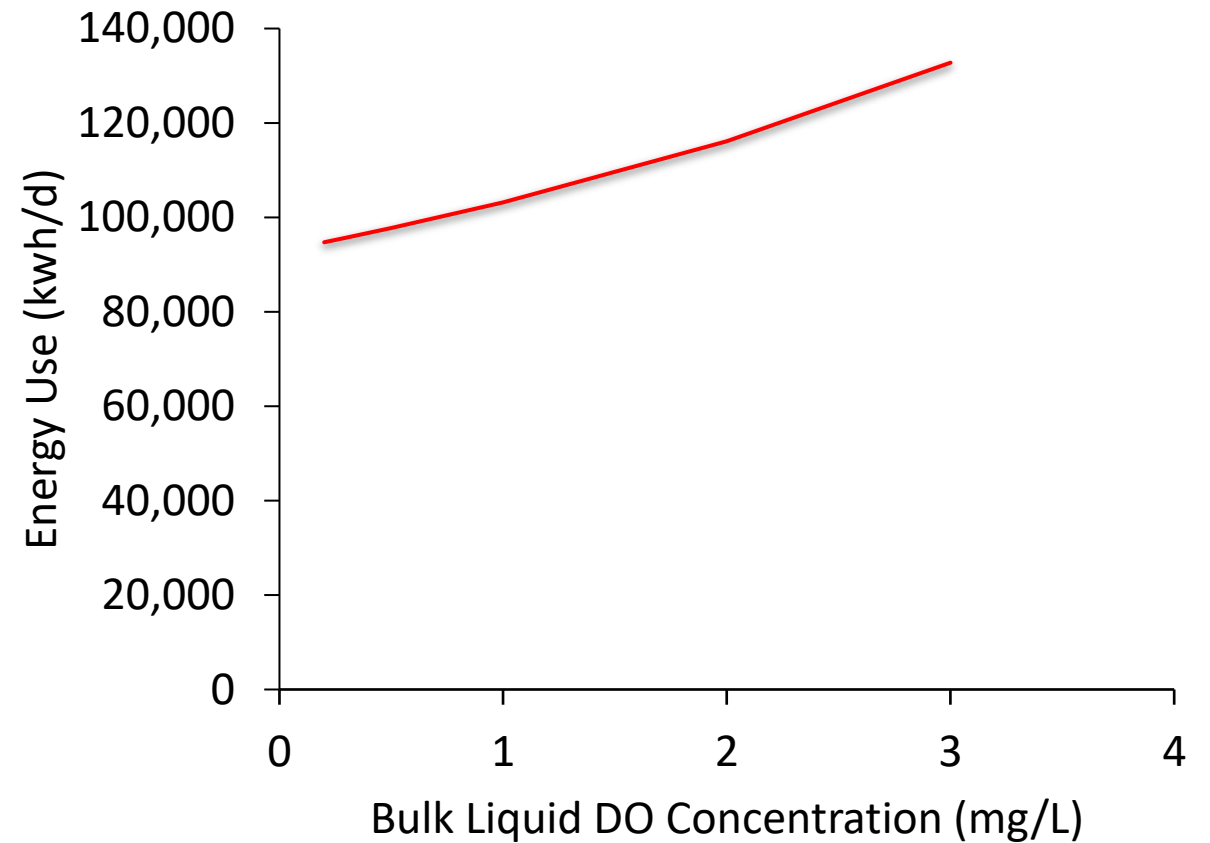
*Process Engineering Associate*  
Black & Veatch



# Why are we concerned with oxygen concentrations in wastewater?

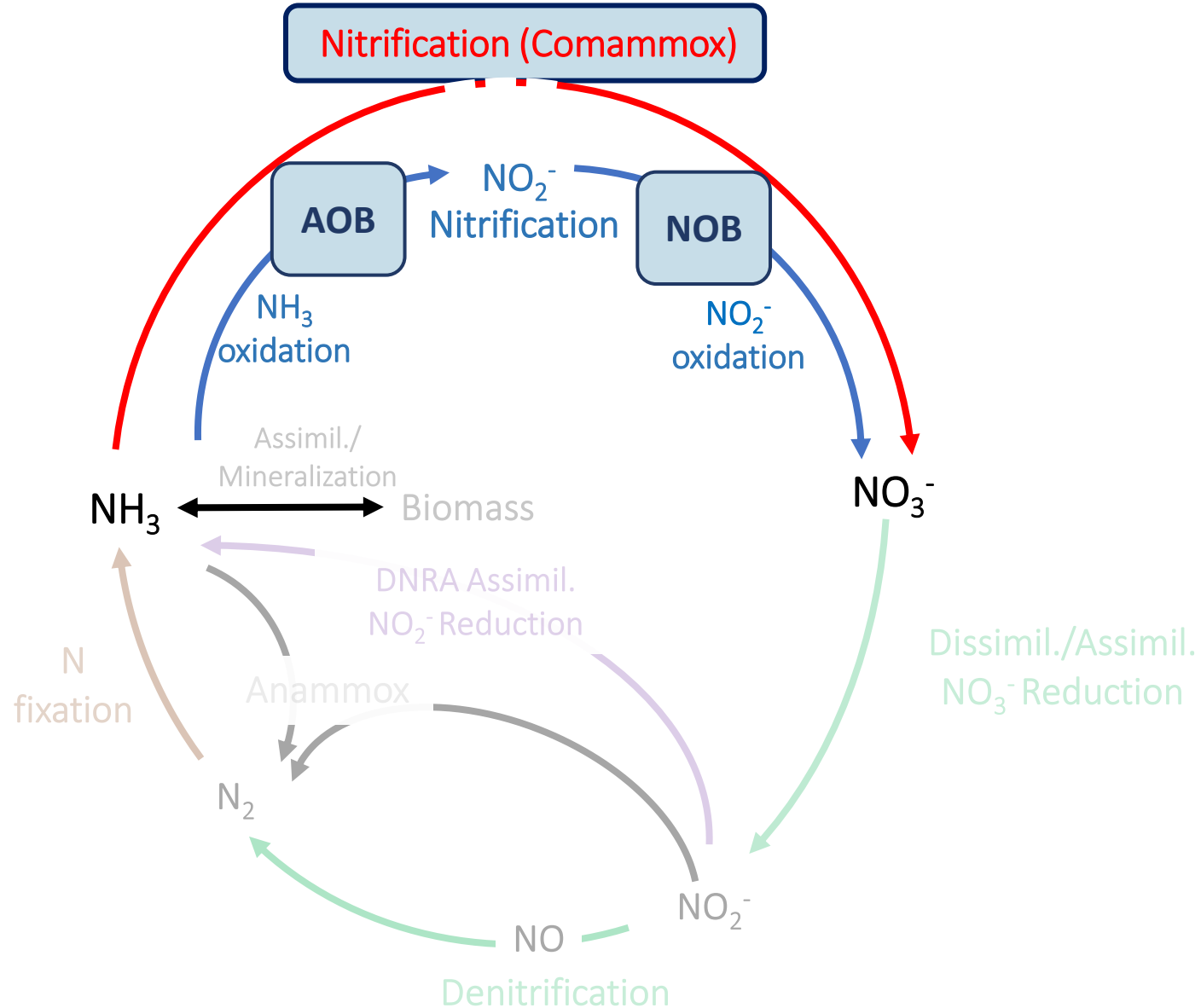


Typically 50% of energy costs!



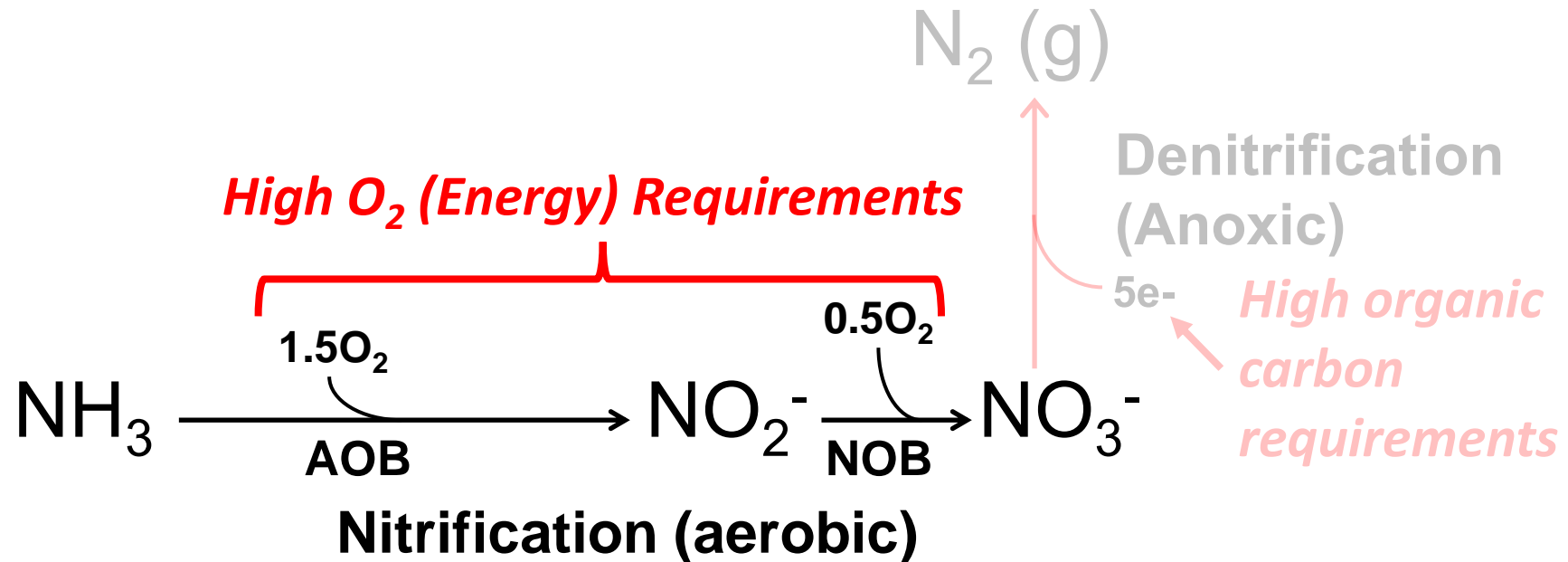


# The solution is in the nitrogen cycle



# Leveraging Metabolic Versatility in the Microbial N Cycle for Sustainable Nutrient Removal

## Conventional Biological N Removal: Nitrification/ Denitrification



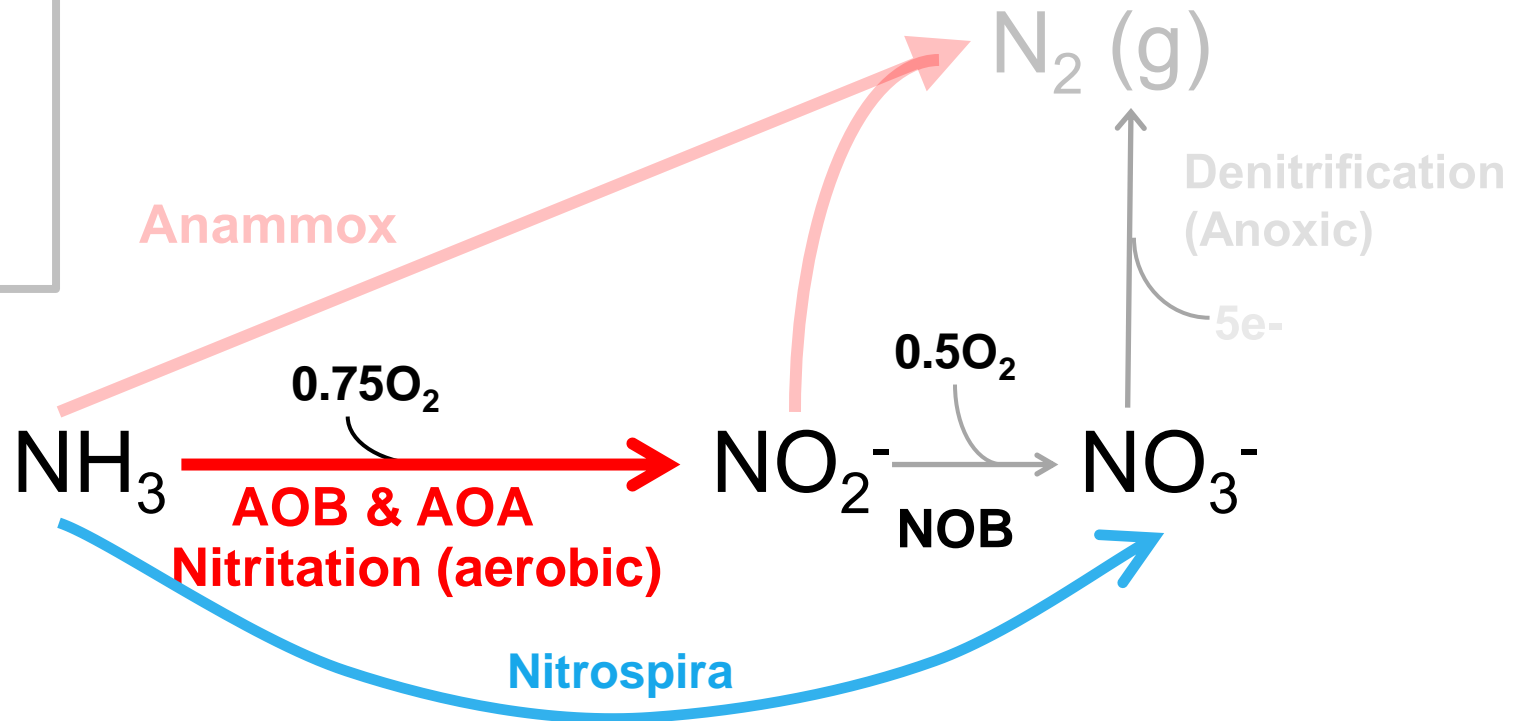
Highly energy intensive due to high dissolved oxygen concentrations (>3 mg/L), and required high levels of organic carbon

# Leveraging Metabolic Versatility in the Microbial N Cycle for Sustainable Nutrient Removal

## Shortcut N removal: Deammonification

(or Partial Nitritation/Anammox [PNA])

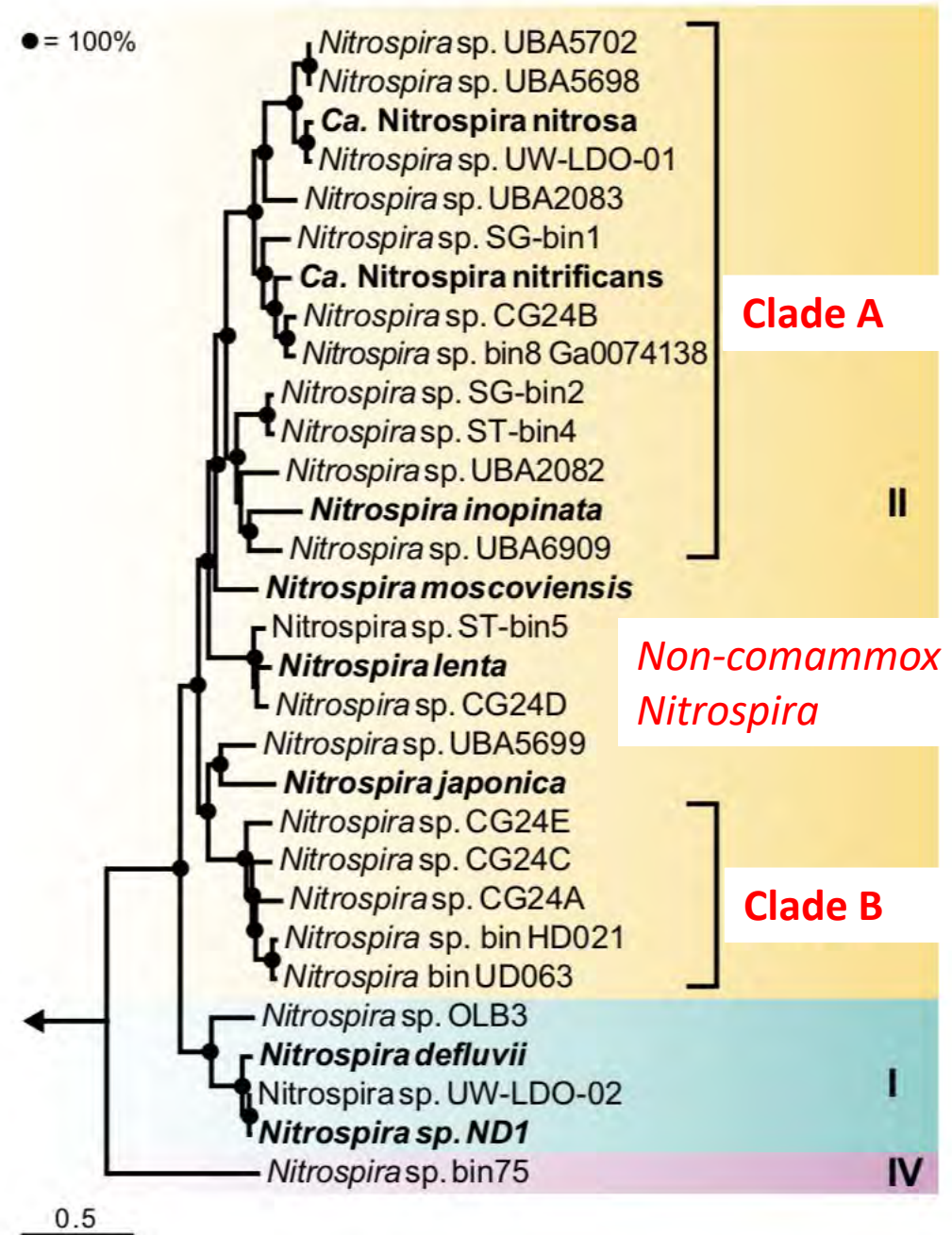
Deammonification processes decrease  $O_2$  requirement for N removal by ~60%



**Comammox**  
**COMplete AMMonia OXidation**

# Comammox Diversity, Putative Niche, and Relevance to Practice

- Comammox form two distinct clades within the genus *Nitrospira*<sup>1</sup>
- Comammox *Nitrospira* appear to be adapted to an oligotrophic lifestyle with low  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , and possibly also low dissolved oxygen<sup>2</sup>



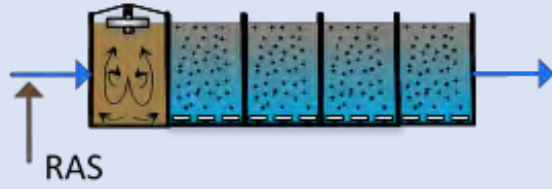
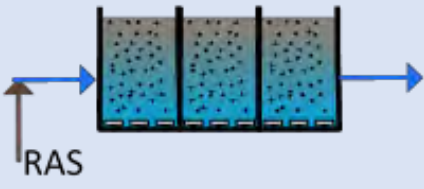
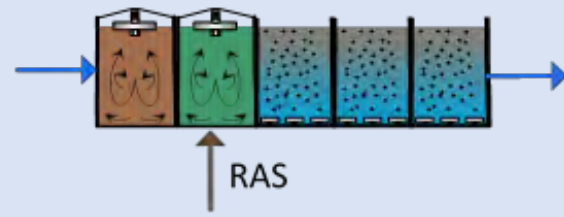
1. Daims et al. 2015 *Nature* 428: 504-509

2. Kits et al. 2017 *Nature* 549: 269-272.

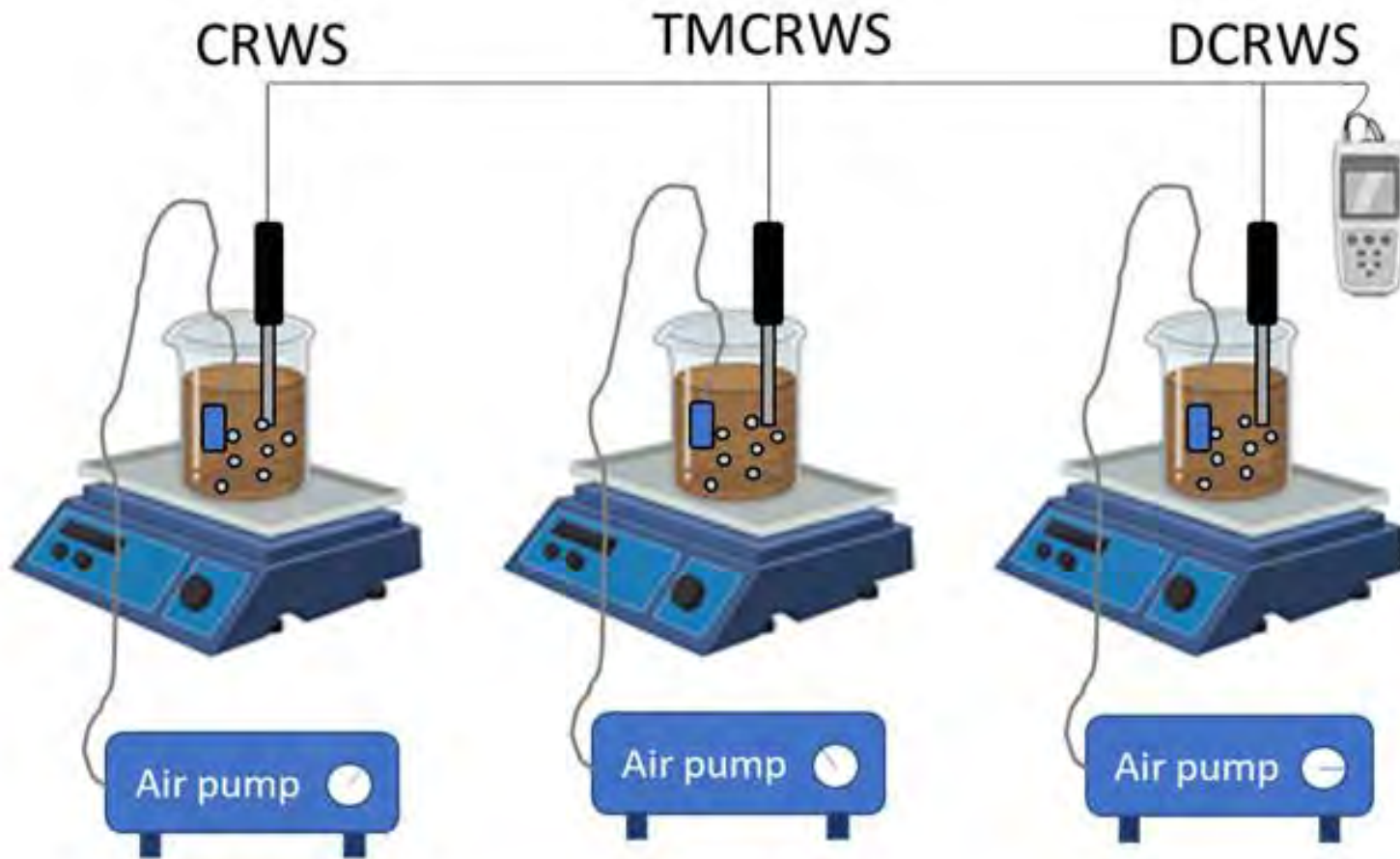
# Research Objectives

1. Elucidate the impacts of DO on different nitrifying communities
2. Use bench scale data to estimate kinetic rates via model data fitting across the facilities
3. Determine key microbial players via 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing and qPCR

# Tested Facilities

Parameter	CRWS plant	TMCRRS plant	DCRWS plant
Total SRT	10-12 d	12-14 d	8.5 d
MLSS (average)	6,000 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	5,800 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	3,800 mg L <sup>-1</sup>
DO (average)	Based on DO setpoints	5.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	2.33 mg L <sup>-1</sup>
Aeration strategy	ABAC System	N/A	N/A
Bio-P	Yes	No	Yes
Settleability	Avg SVI= 55 mL g <sup>-1</sup>	Avg SVI= 85 mL g <sup>-1</sup>	Avg SVI= 85 mL g <sup>-1</sup>
BNR configuration	<p>A/O Process</p> <p>ABs 1-12</p> <p>Anaerobic A1 A2 B C</p> 	<p>CAS</p> <p>ABs 1-11</p> <p>Aerobic</p> 	<p>A2/O Process</p> <p>ABs 1-3</p> <p>Anaerobic Anoxic Aerobic</p> 

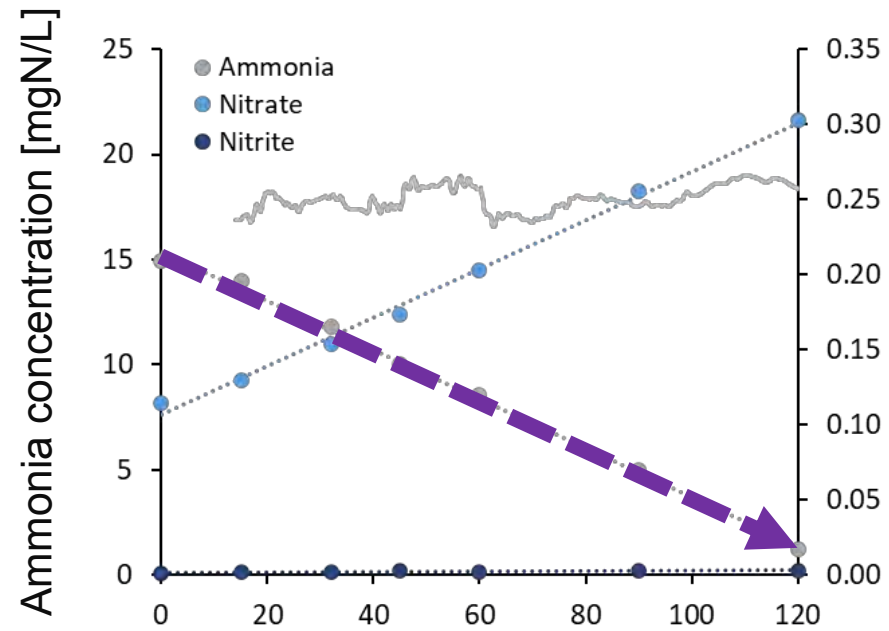
# Experimental Setup



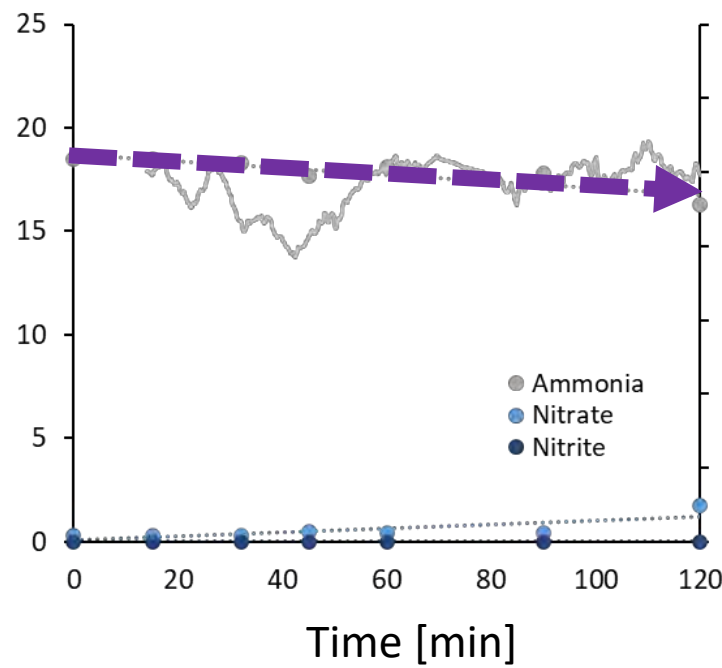
Plant	DO tested ( $\text{mgDO L}^{-1}$ )
CRWS	0.25, 0.75, 1.5 and $8.0 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$
TMCrWS	0.25, 0.75, 1.5 and $8.0 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$
DCRWS	0.25, 0.75, 1.5 and $8.0 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$

# Ammonia Removal at low DO

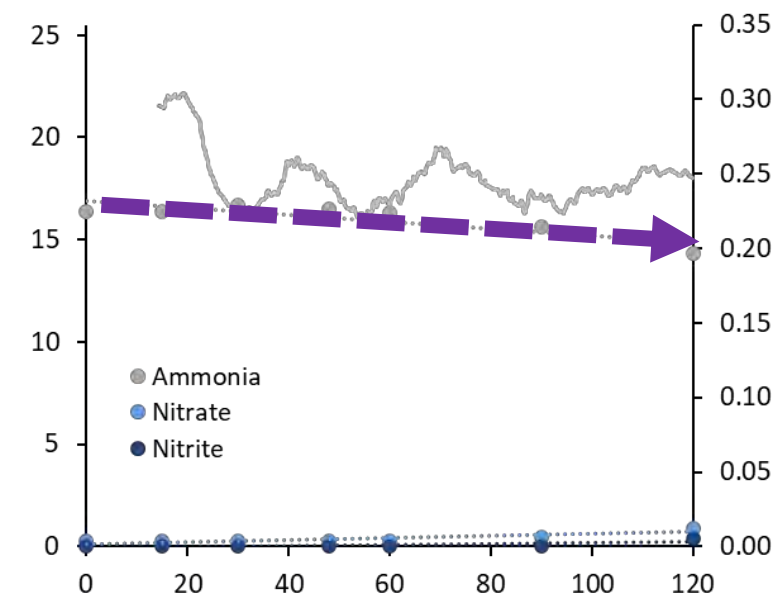
CRWS



TMCRWS

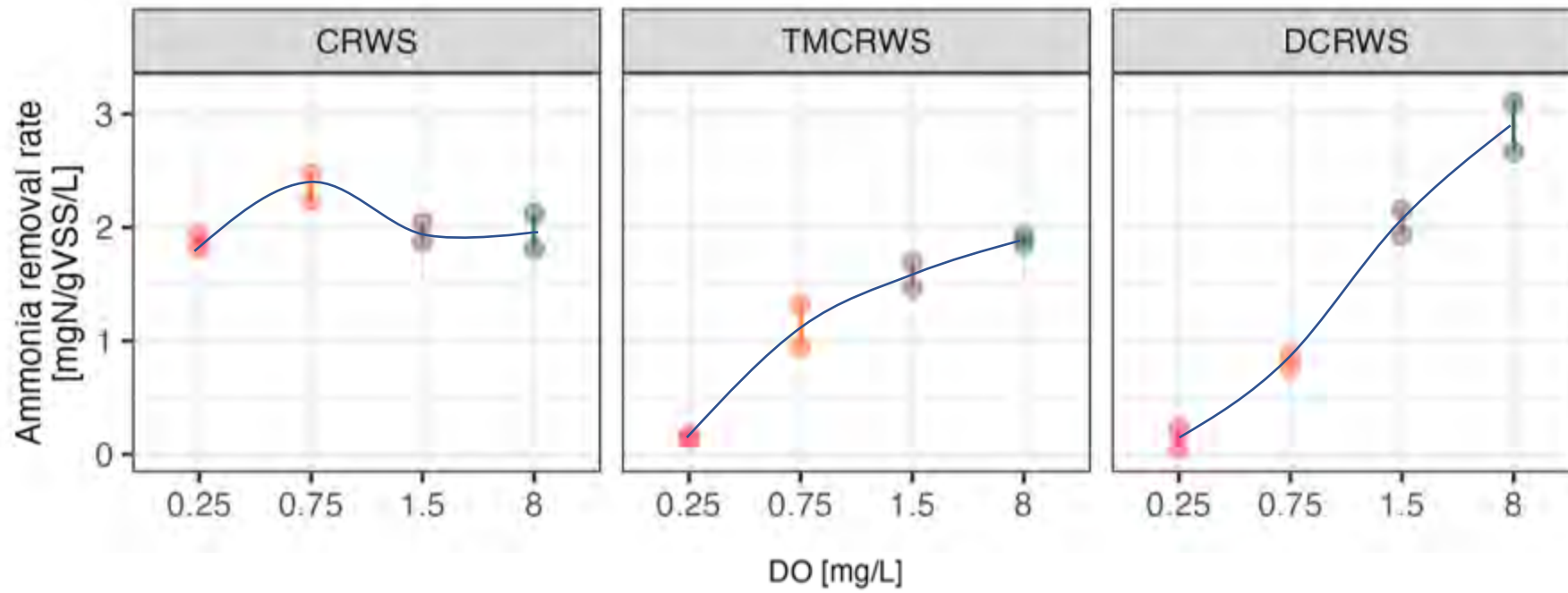


DCRWS

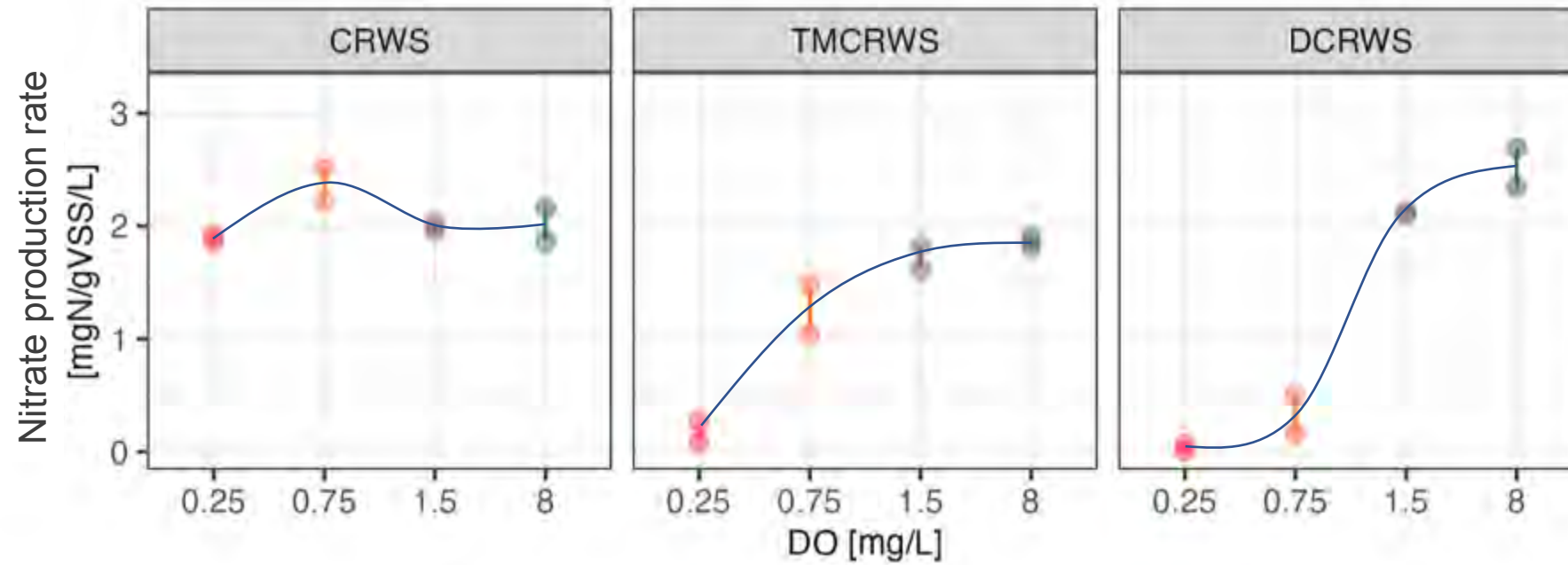




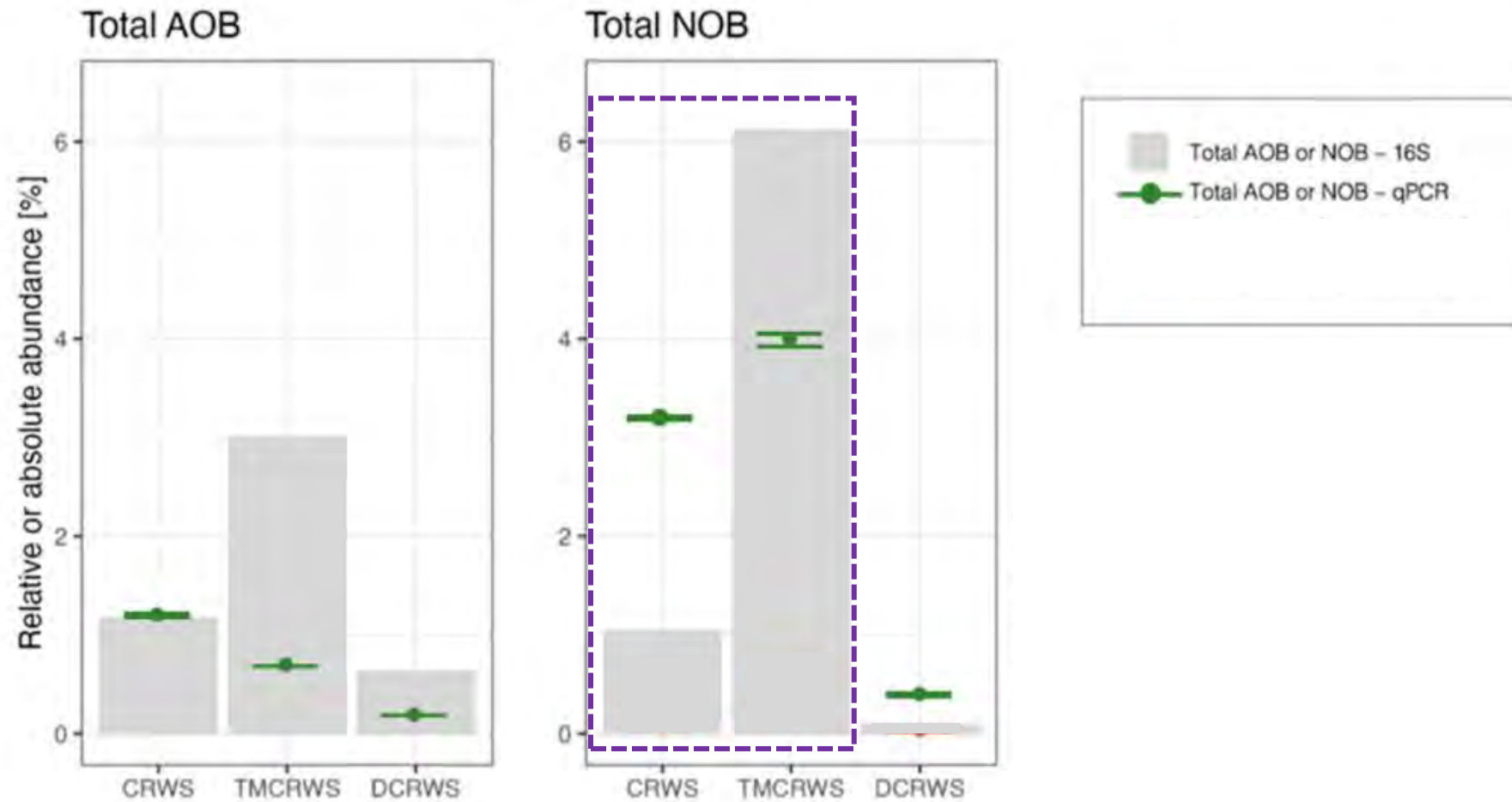
# Ammonia Removal Rates



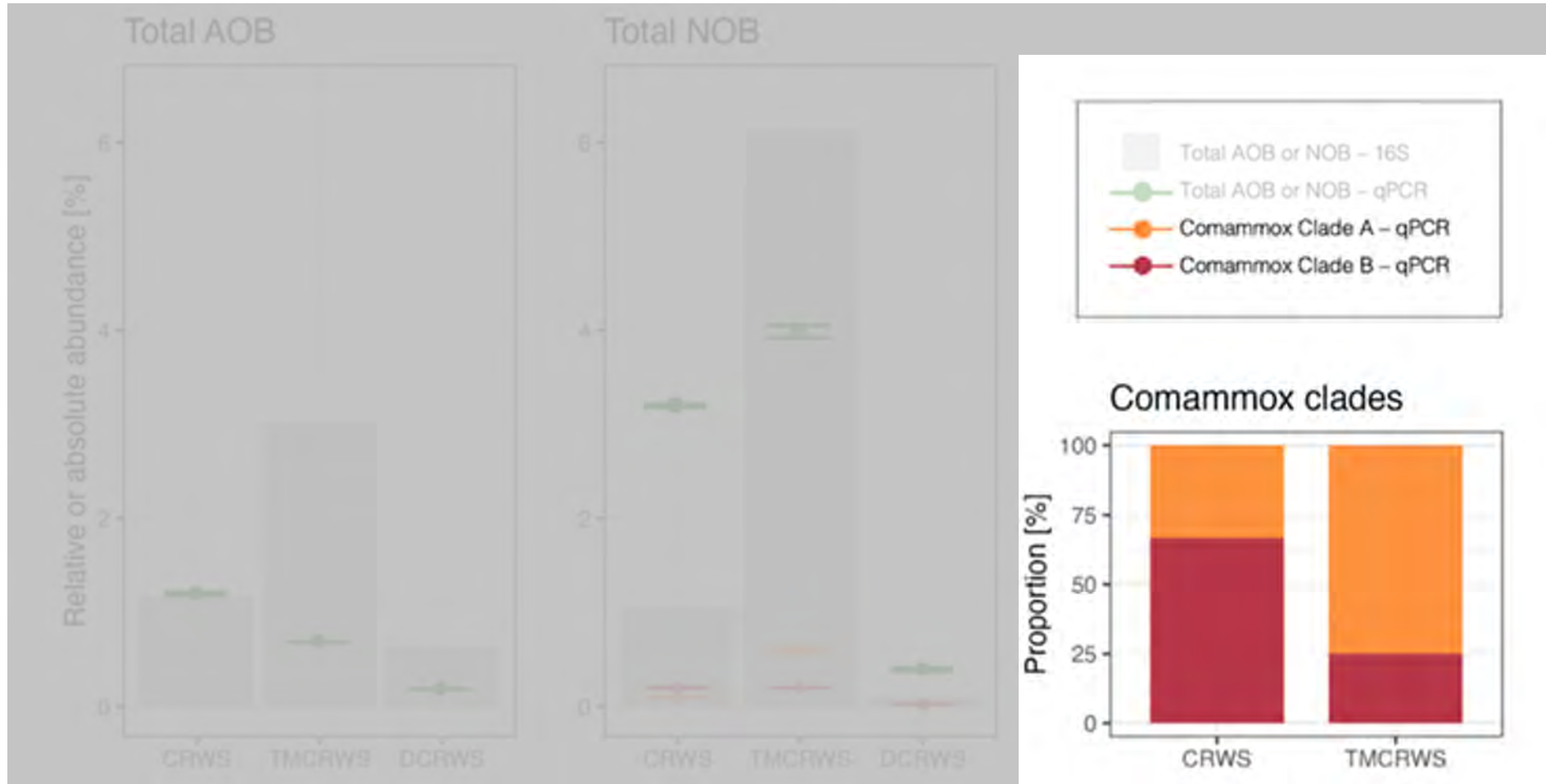
# Nitrate Production Rates



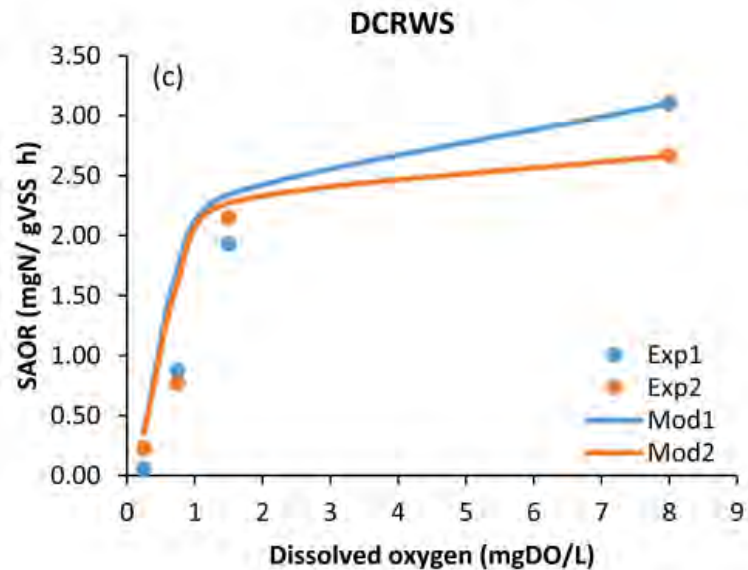
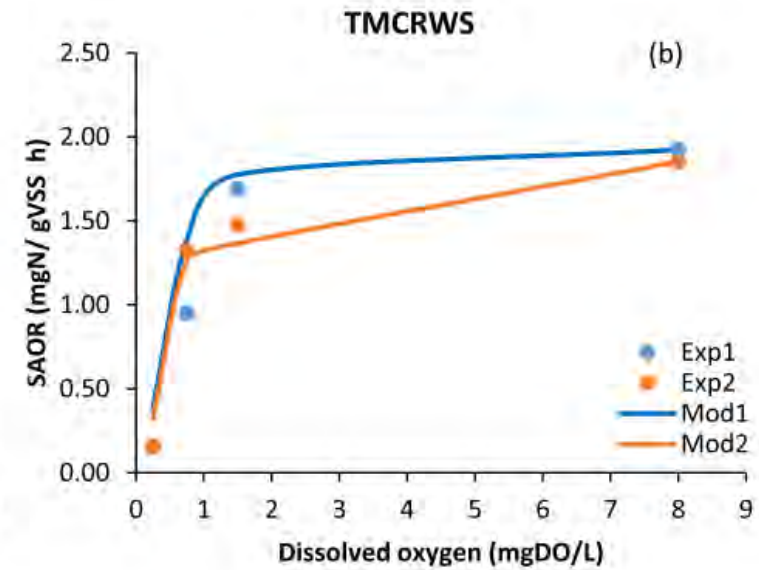
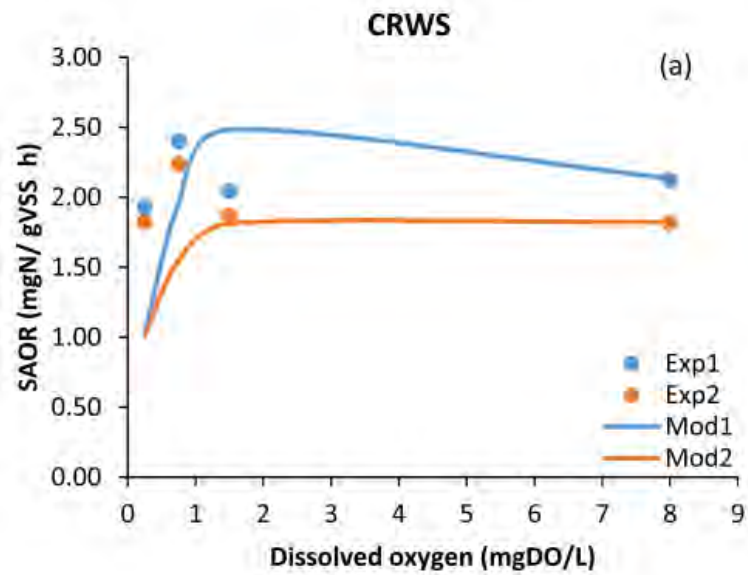
# 16 and qPCR analysis shows significant presence of NOB



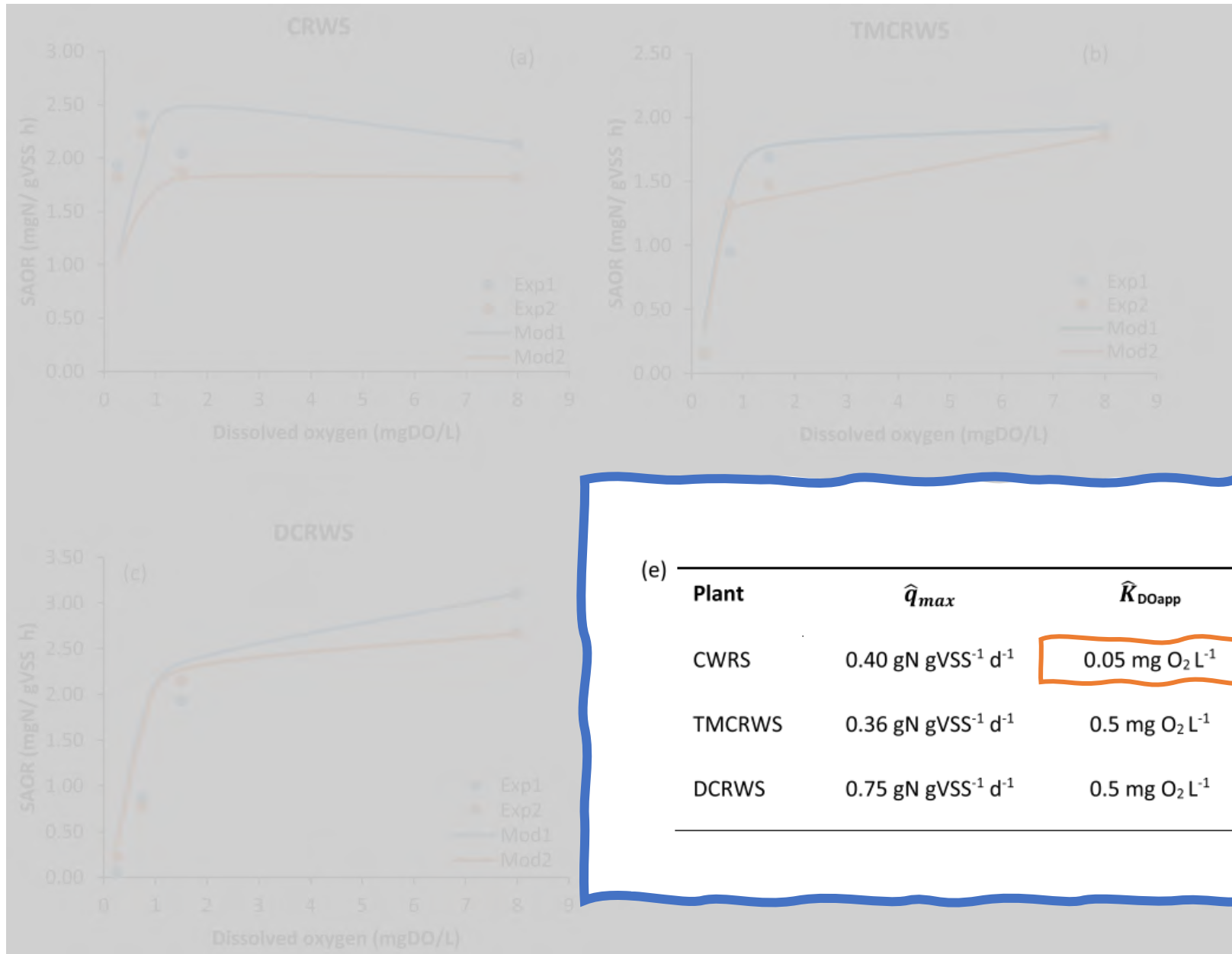
# Targeted qPCR shows presence of comammox



# Kinetics Parameters Estimation

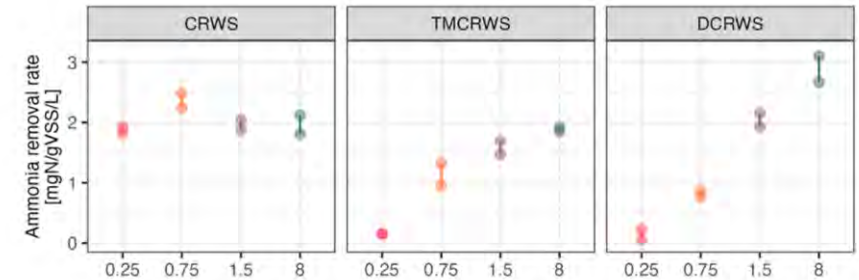


# Kinetics Parameters Estimation

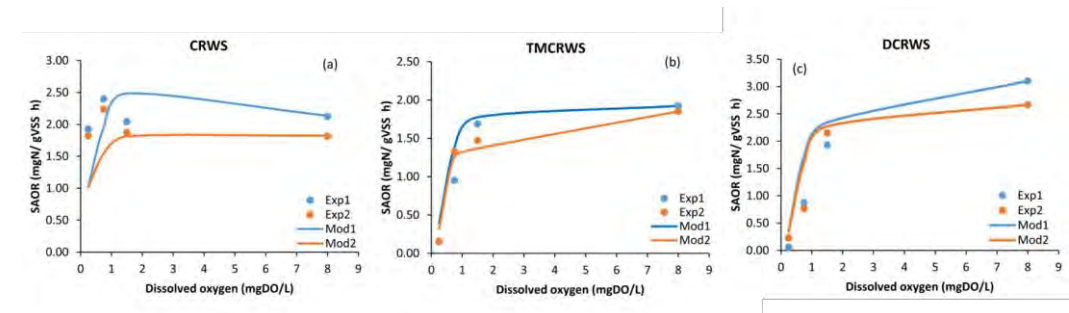


# Key Takeaways – Strategies for energy and resource efficient N removal

1) Low DO-adapted biomass achieve **highest removal rate** and maxes out at lowest DO → higher DO would be a waste of energy



2) Comammox Nitrospira was found in both plants with **longer SRT** → **crucial parameter for selection**



3) Two strains with **different affinity** for oxygen were found in comammox Nitrospira was found in both plants with long SRT

# From (near) Zero to Hero

## How Microbes Thrive in Low Dissolved Oxygen Water Resource Recovery Facilities

### BREAKING NEWS



Apparent resiliency of microbial populations adapted to low DO



High nitrification rates at different DO concentrations



**Exploring Community and Kinetic Shifts in Nitrifying Microbial Communities in Low Dissolved Oxygen Activated Sludge Facilities for Energy-Efficient Biological Nitrogen Removal**

Fabrizio Sabba,\* Eric Redmond, Caitlin Ruff, Monica Ramirez, Mike Young, Min Joon Song, Sukhwan Yoon, and Leon Downing

Cite This: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsestwater.3c00715>

**ABSTRACT:** The discovery of the complete ammonia oxidation process (comammox) has challenged conventional nitrification theory, showing microbial adaption to very low dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations. This study aimed at investigating the effects of different DO concentrations using a series of bioreactors inoculated with biomass from three operationally diverse water resource recovery facilities. Results show that microbial populations adapted to low DO concentrations, indicating their ability to function well even at high DO concentrations. Additionally, long solids retention times (>10 days) can encourage the persistence of comammox populations that adapted to different DO concentrations. Molecular analyses revealed that the low DO-facility had a nitrifying population with similar ratios of comammox clades A and B, while the high DO facility was dominated by clade A. Modeling results suggest that the nitrifying population including comammox bacteria from the low DO facility has a different half-saturation coefficient for DO (e.g., 0.05 mg L<sup>-1</sup>) and possible intrapopulation diversity within clades A and B. This study highlights that a changing nitrification community can enable the activated sludge process to operate effectively at low DO concentrations, leading to low-energy biological nitrogen removal.

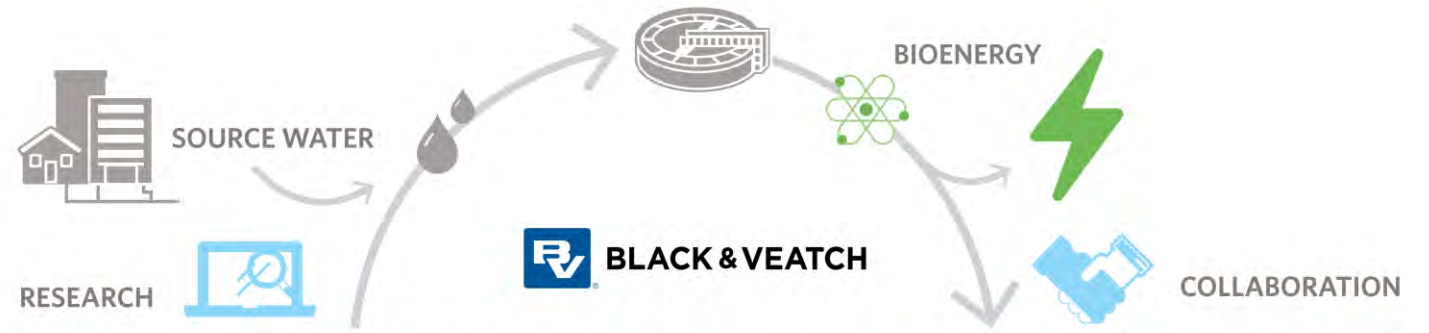
**Full-scale data** | **Bench-scale reactor testing** | **Microbial community analysis**

**Kinetic parameters estimation**



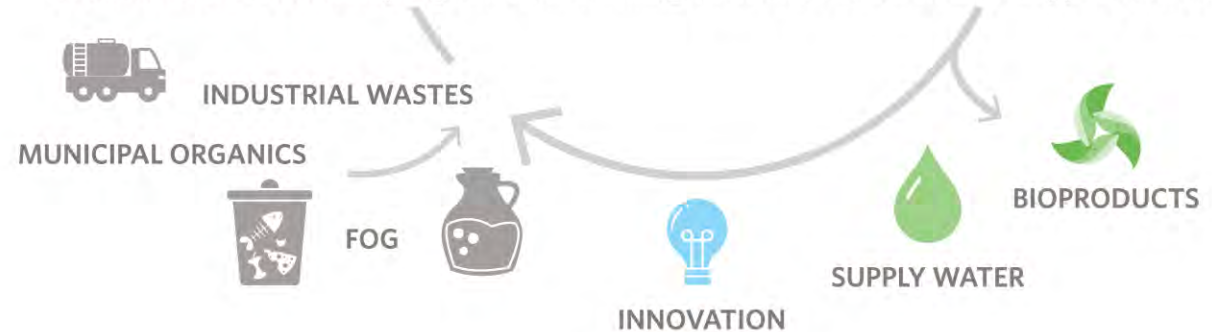


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## INNOVATION PLATFORM

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# Q and A

If you have a question, just click on the Q and A icon on the bottom of the screen and type it in there.

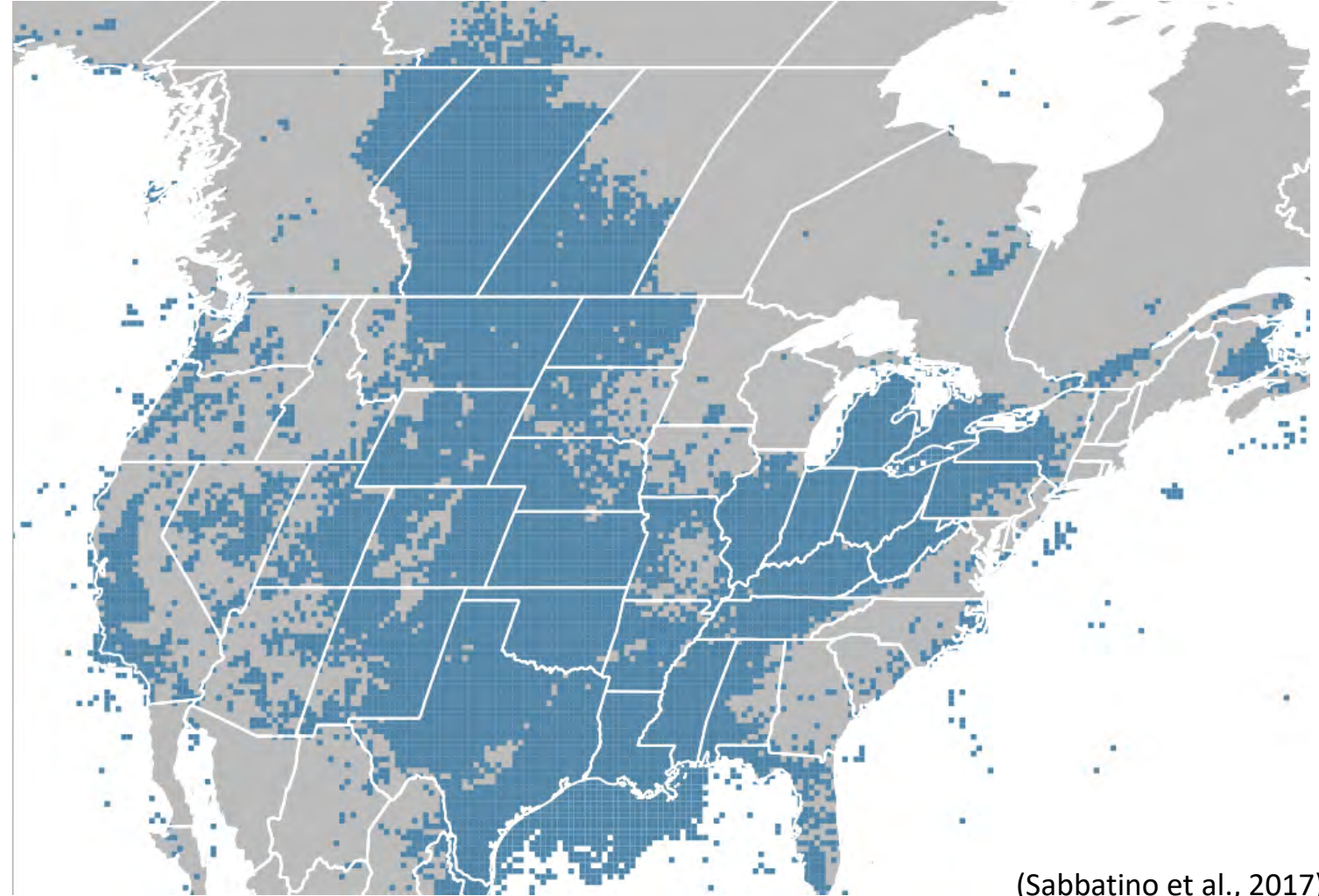
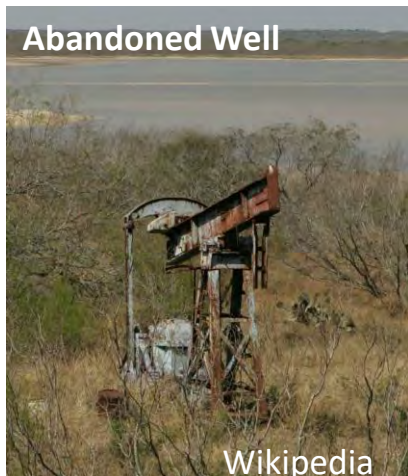




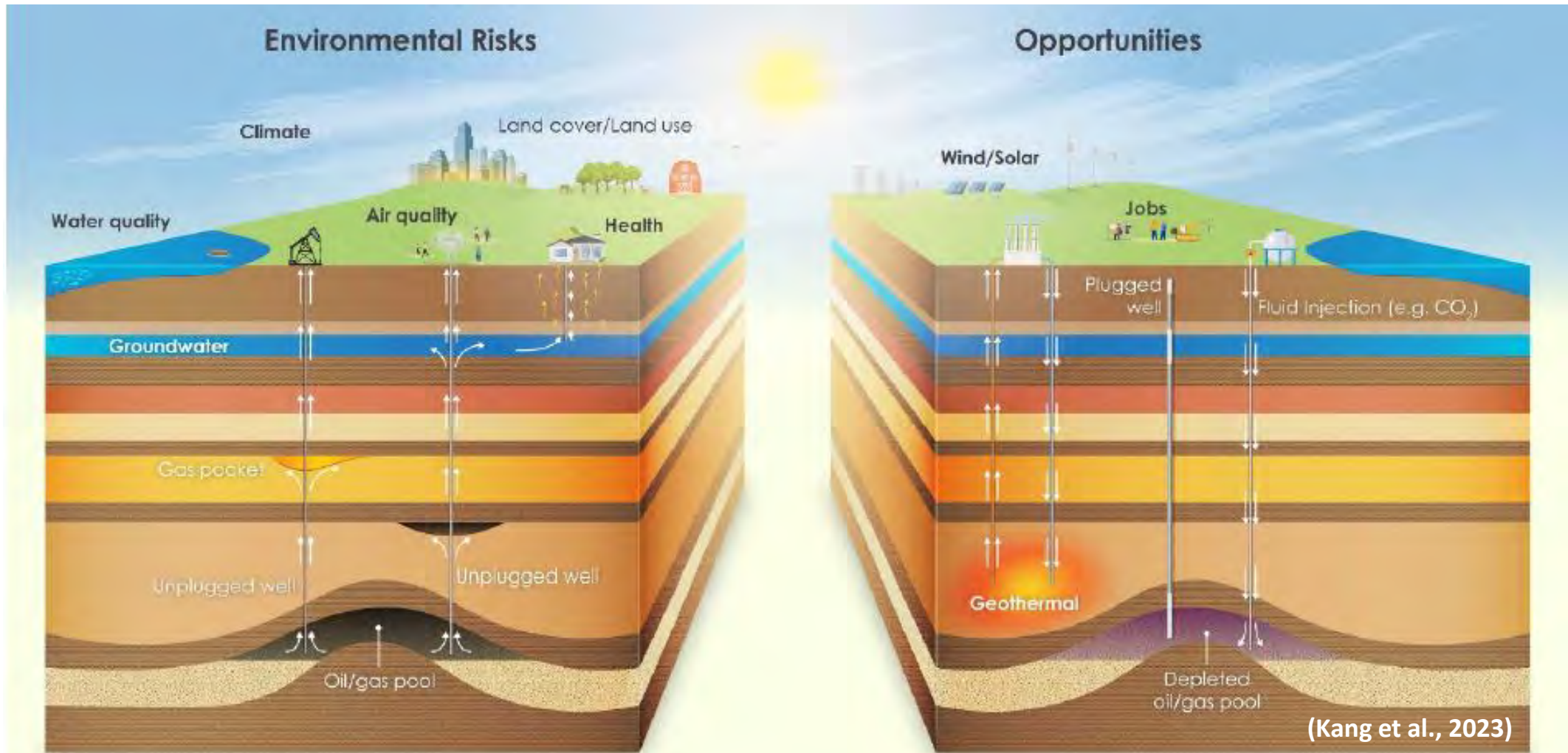
**Greg Lackey, Ph.D.**  
*Research Engineer*  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
AAEES Member



# There are millions of oil and gas wells in the United States



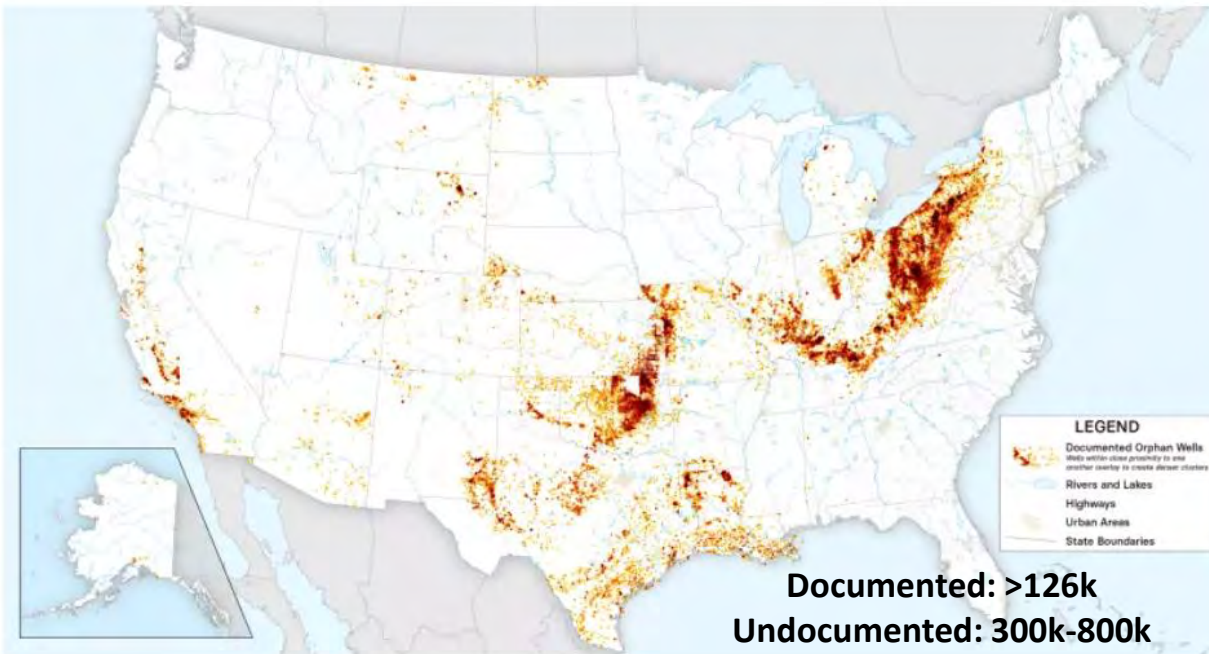
# Wells that leak pose an environmental risk



However, intact wells present opportunities as well

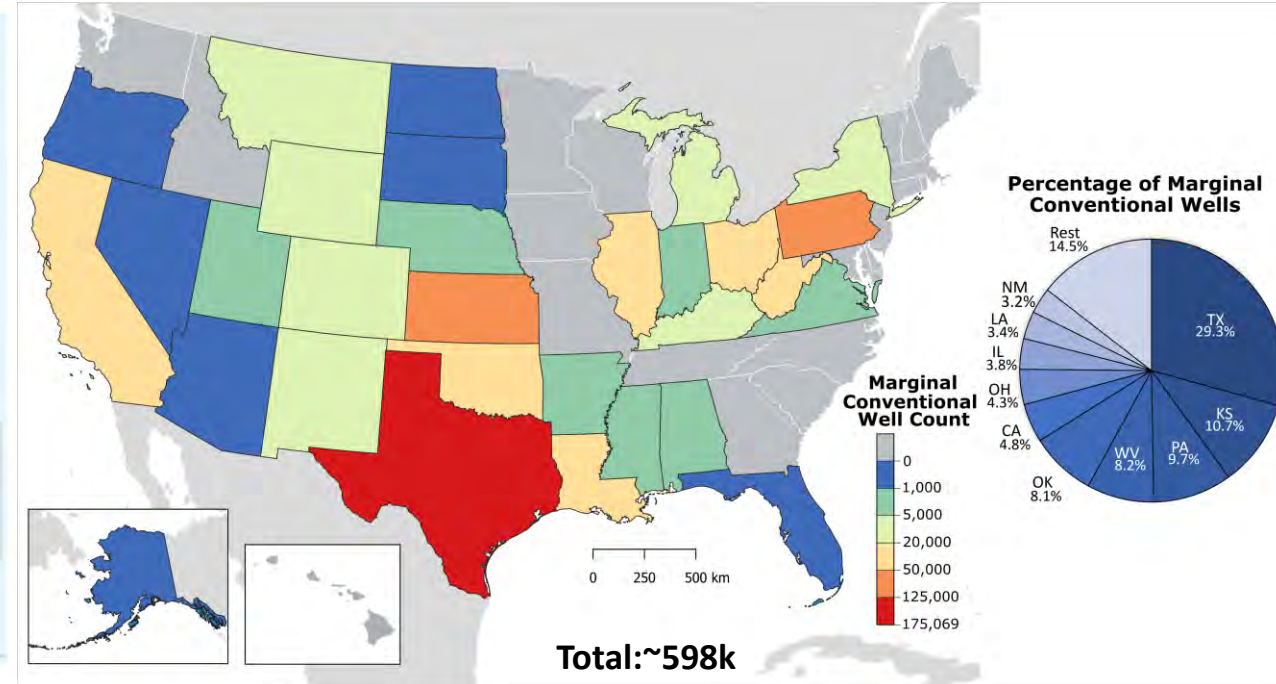
# Historic levels of funding are currently available for plugging orphaned and marginally productive wells

## Orphaned Wells



(Boutot et al., 2022)

## Marginal Wells



(Pekney et al., 2024)

*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: \$4.7 billion*  
*Inflation Reduction Act: \$350 million*

# Most states prioritize leaking wells for plugging

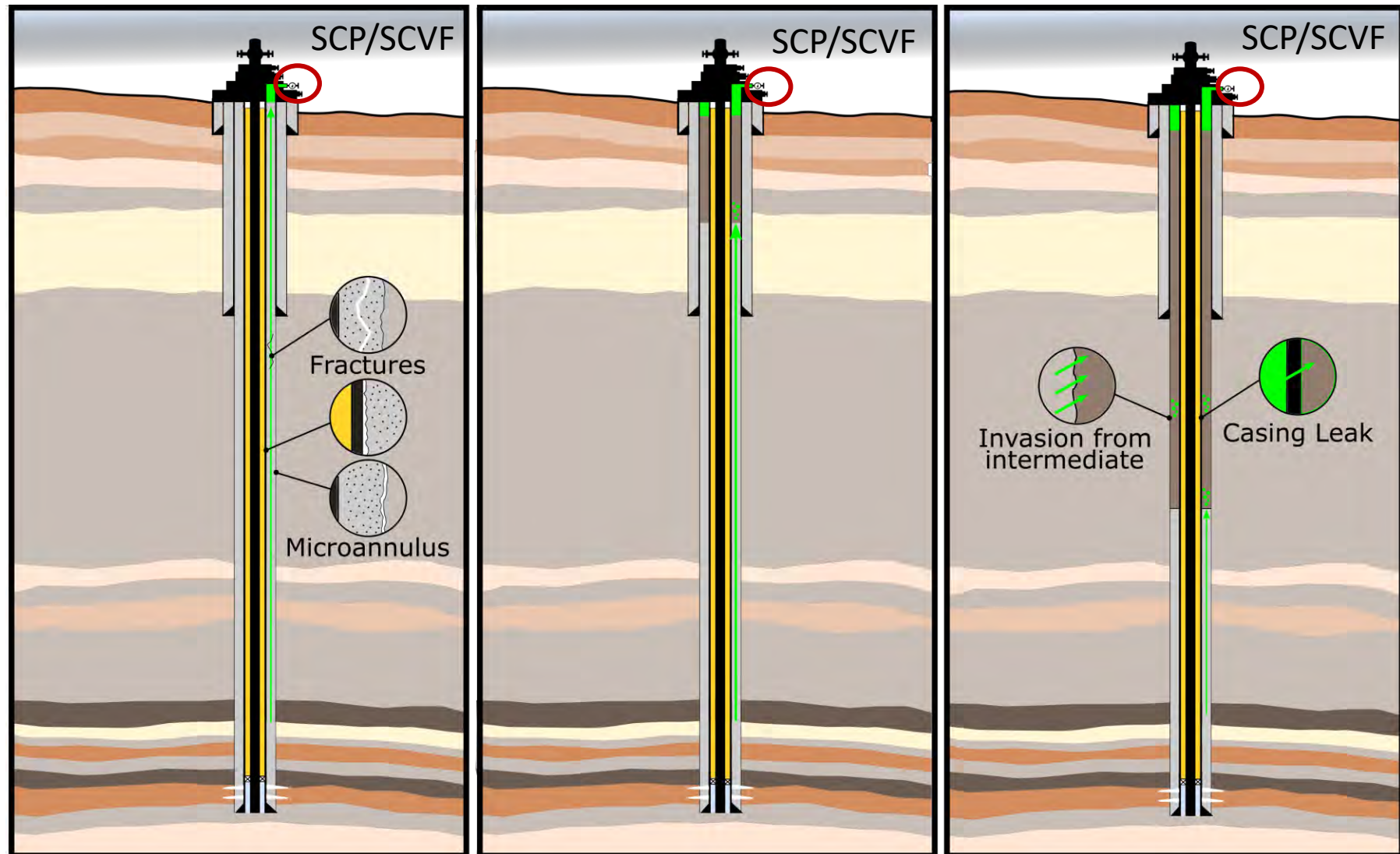
1

	DSR	Leak	Safety	Well	Log.	Geo.	Surf.	Econ.	EJ
California	1	4		2	5	6	7		3
Federal	1	2	2		4				4
Indiana	2	1	5	3		6	4	7	
Louisiana	3	1	2	6	4	4	7	8	
Michigan	2	1	6	3	7	4	8		5
Montana	1	3	5	2			4	6	
Nebraska	2			1				3	
New Mexico	3	1	4	2	5	5		7	
New York	1	3	2	4	5	6	7	8	
Ohio	1	2	3	6	4	5	7	8	
Pennsylvania	2	1	3	5	5	4	7		
Texas	3	1	1	4	6	5		7	

Iyer et al., In Review

*Leaking wells also a priority for other subsurface energy operations*

# Well leaks require both a source and a pathway



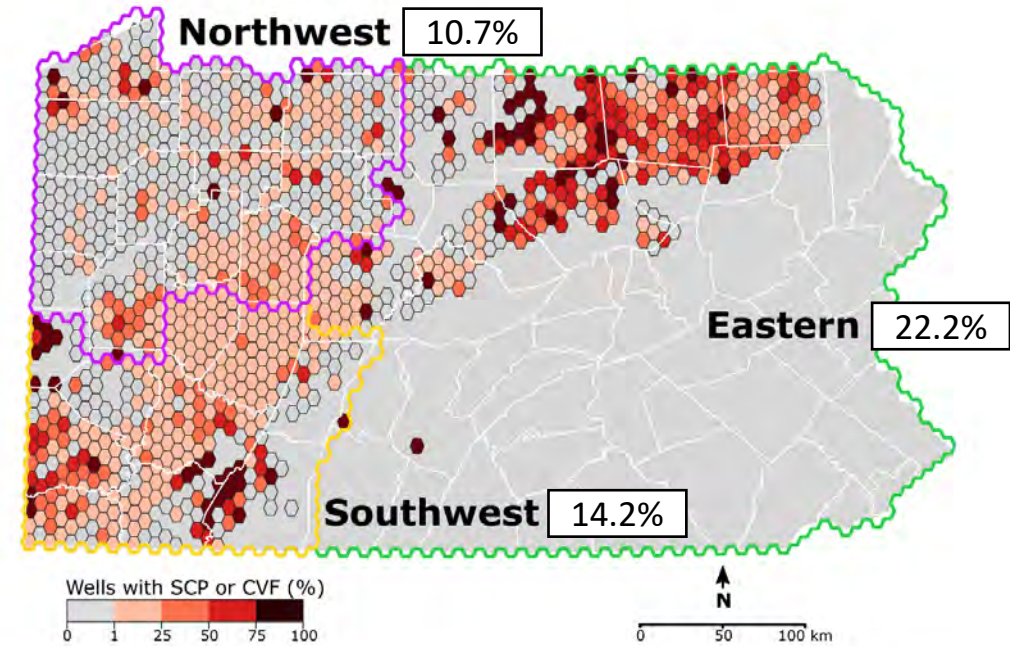
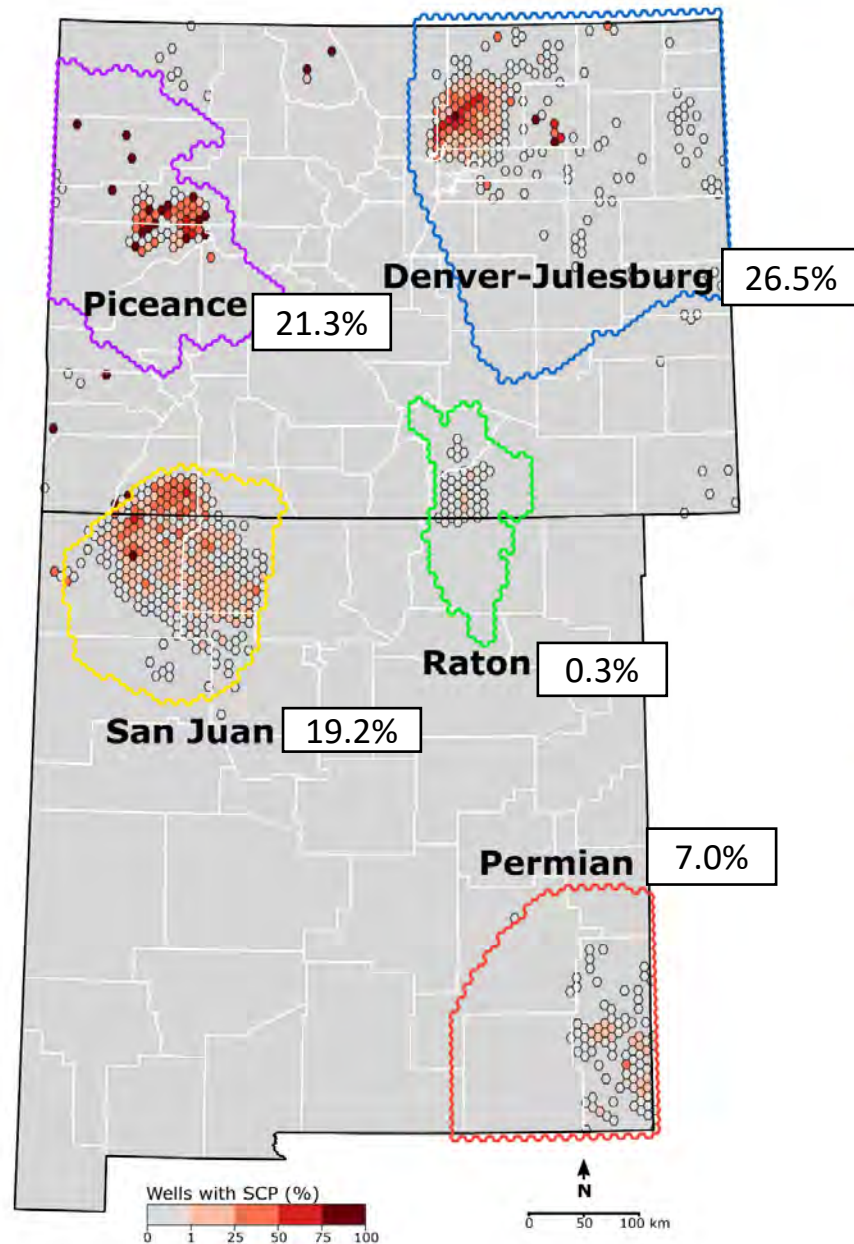
(Modified from Lackey & Rajaram, 2019)

*Sources: producing/intermediate zones; Pathways: annuli, barrier flaws*



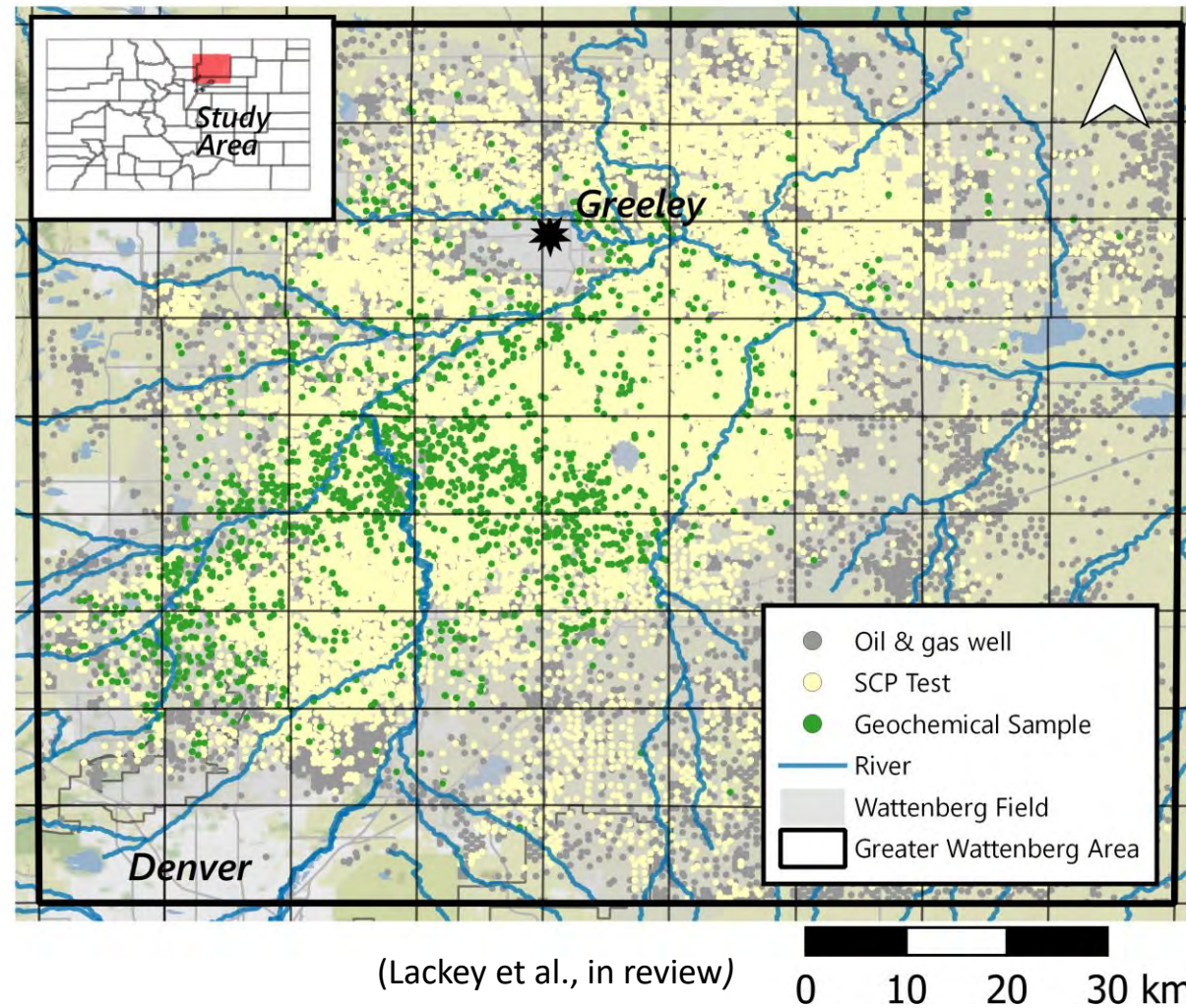


# The frequency of integrity issues varies widely across regions



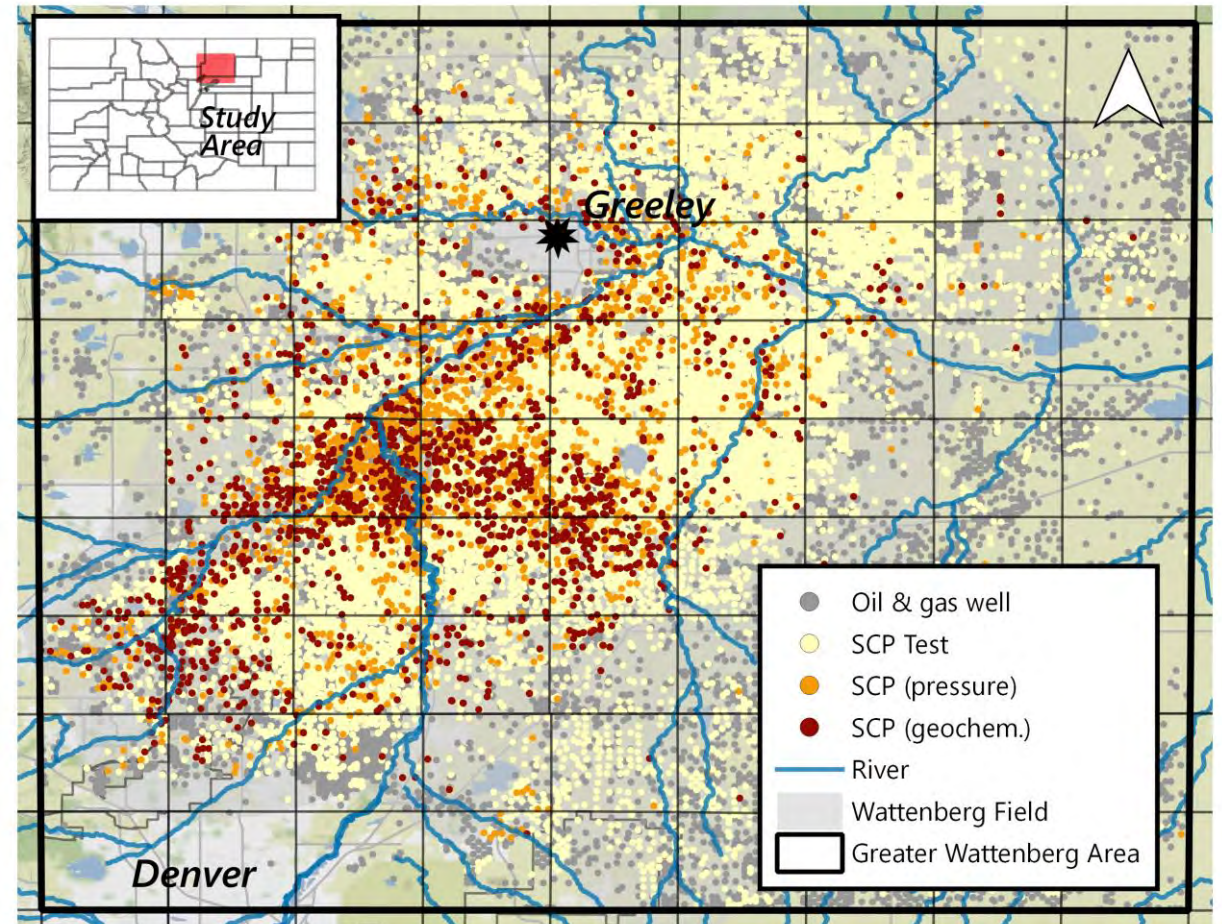
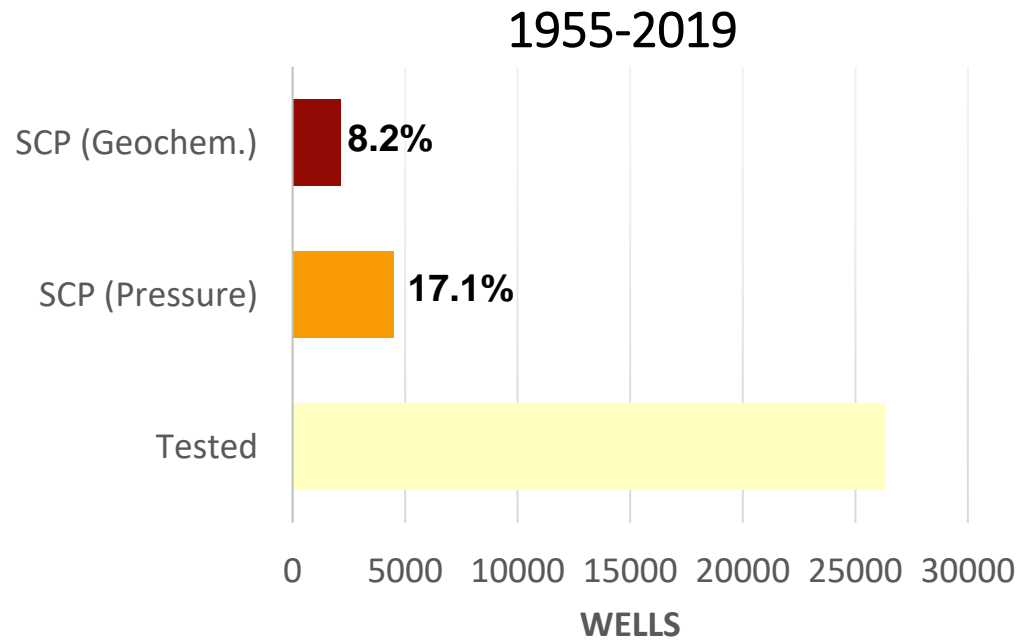
(Lackey et al., 2021)

# The Greater Wattenberg Area is an excellent case study



*What drives well integrity issues?*

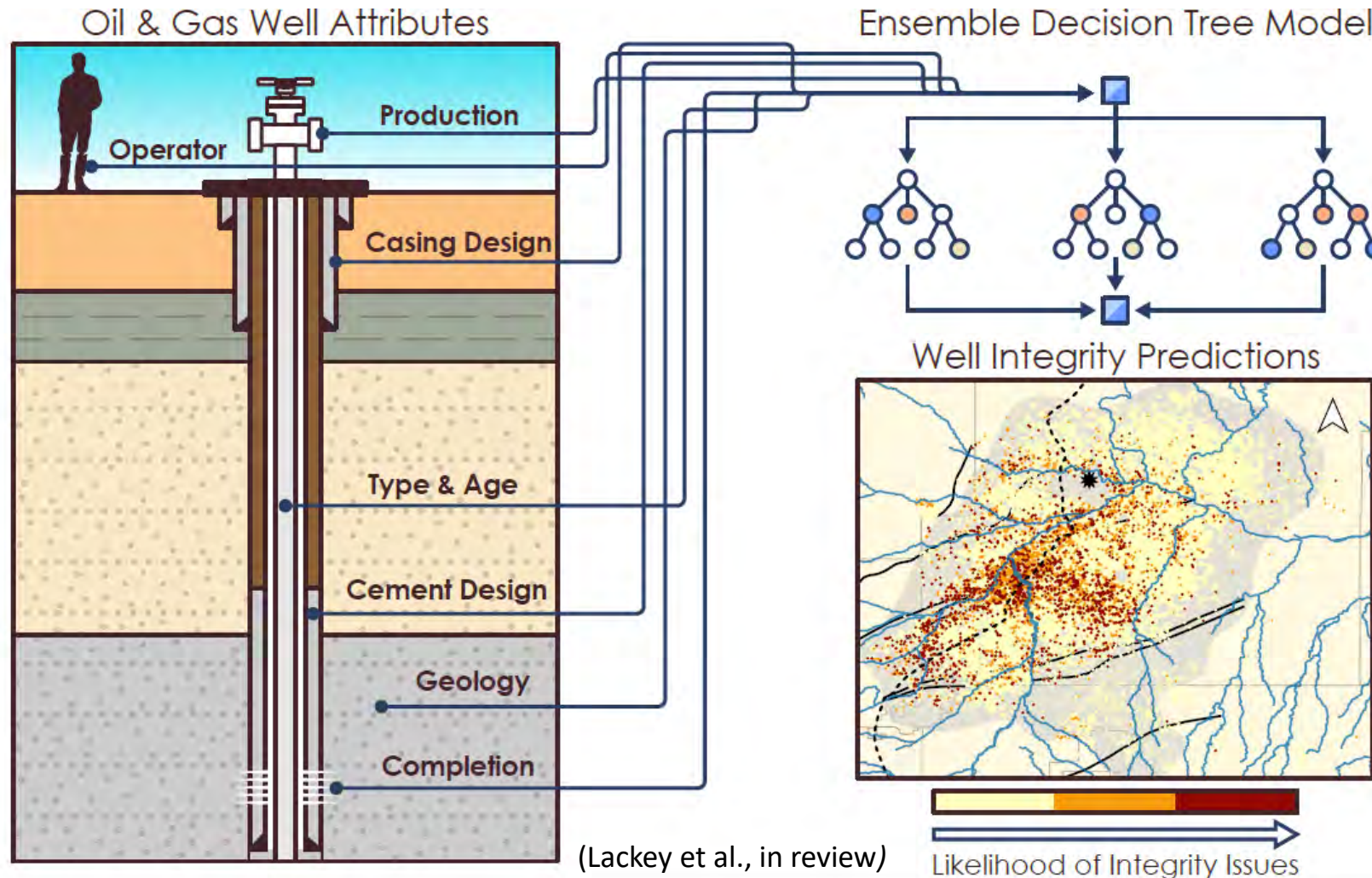
# A relatively high percentage of GWA wells have experienced integrity issues



(Lackey et al., in review)

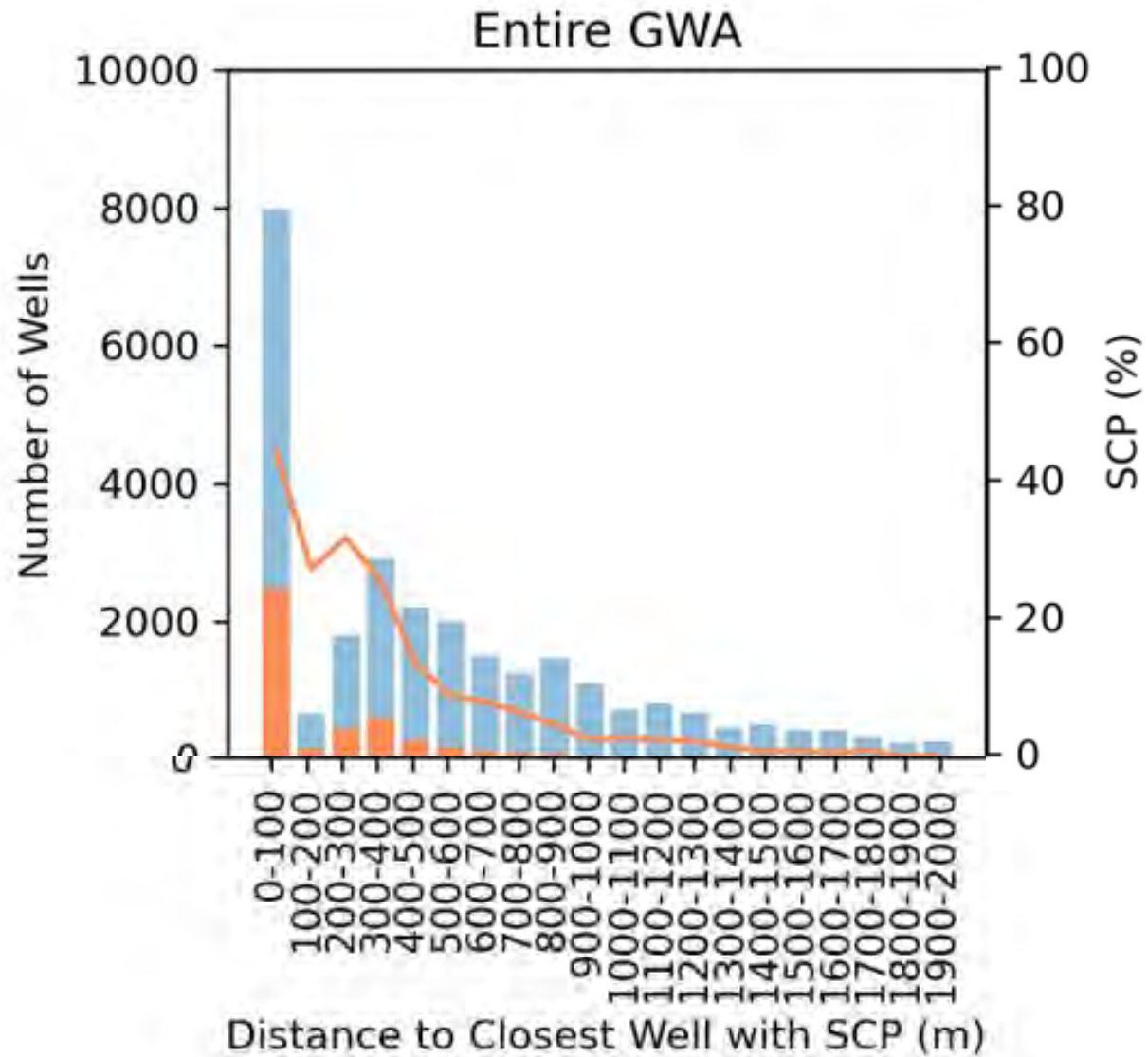


# Machine learning models make useful predictions about integrity issues and provide insight into drivers



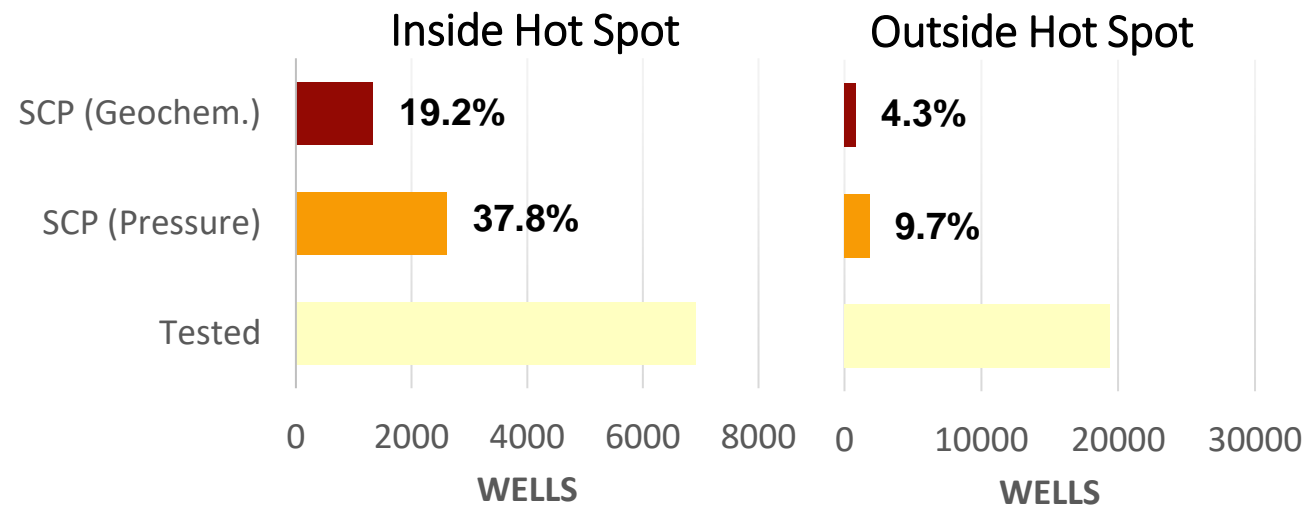
*Models predict probability (not magnitude) of integrity issue*

# Integrity issues are spatially clustered

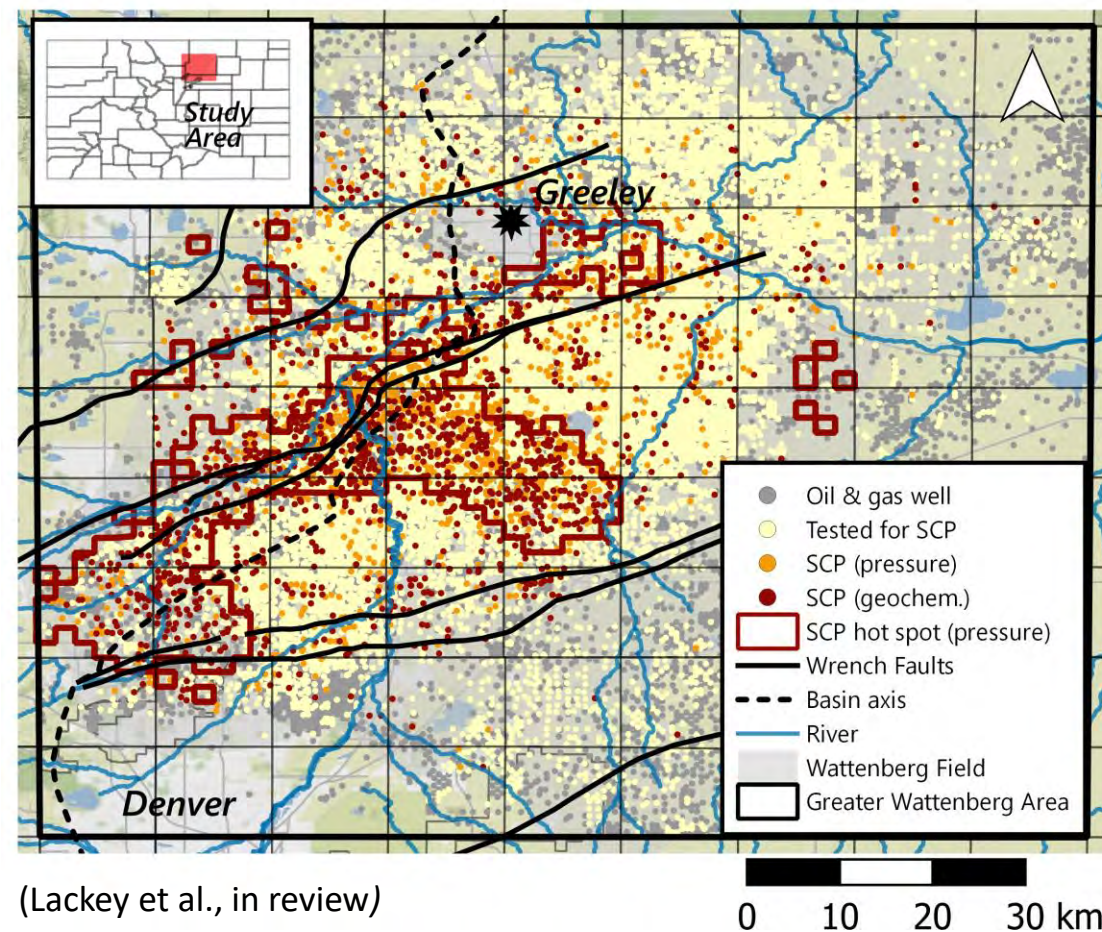


(Lackey et al., in review)

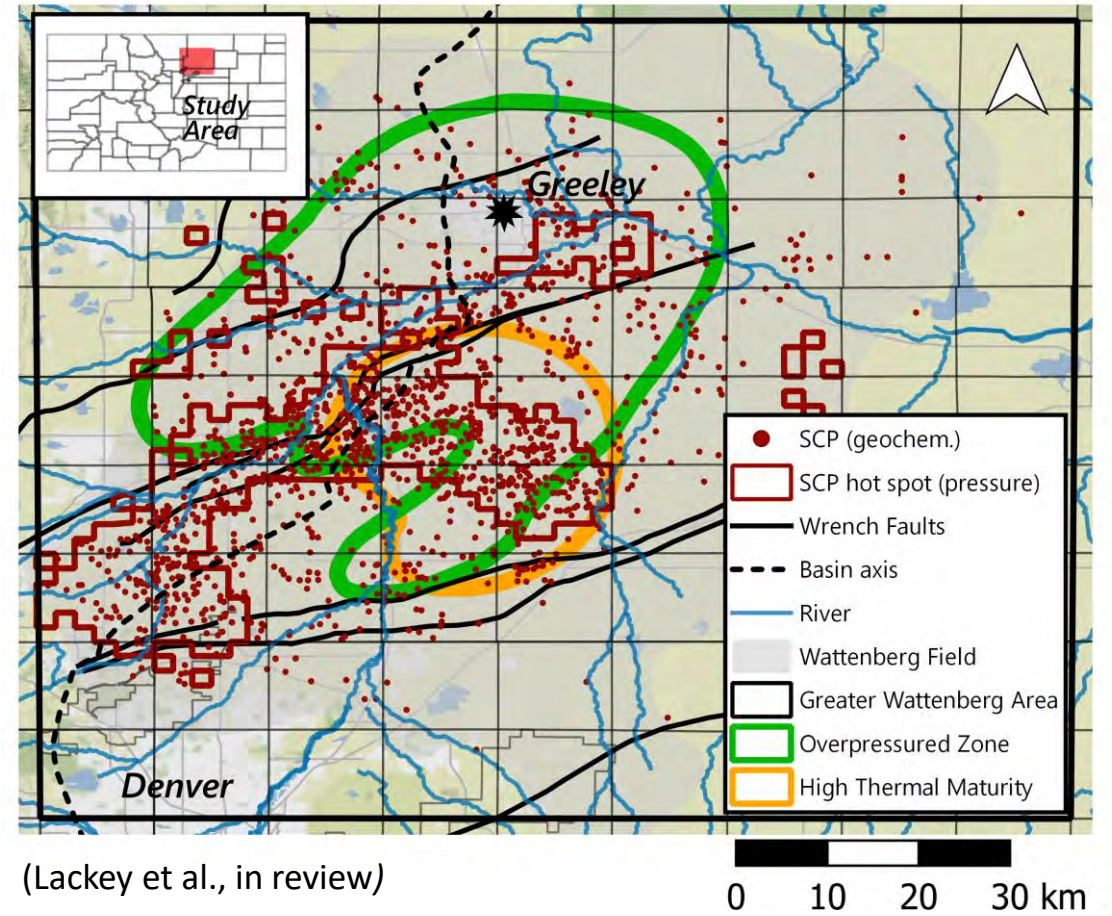
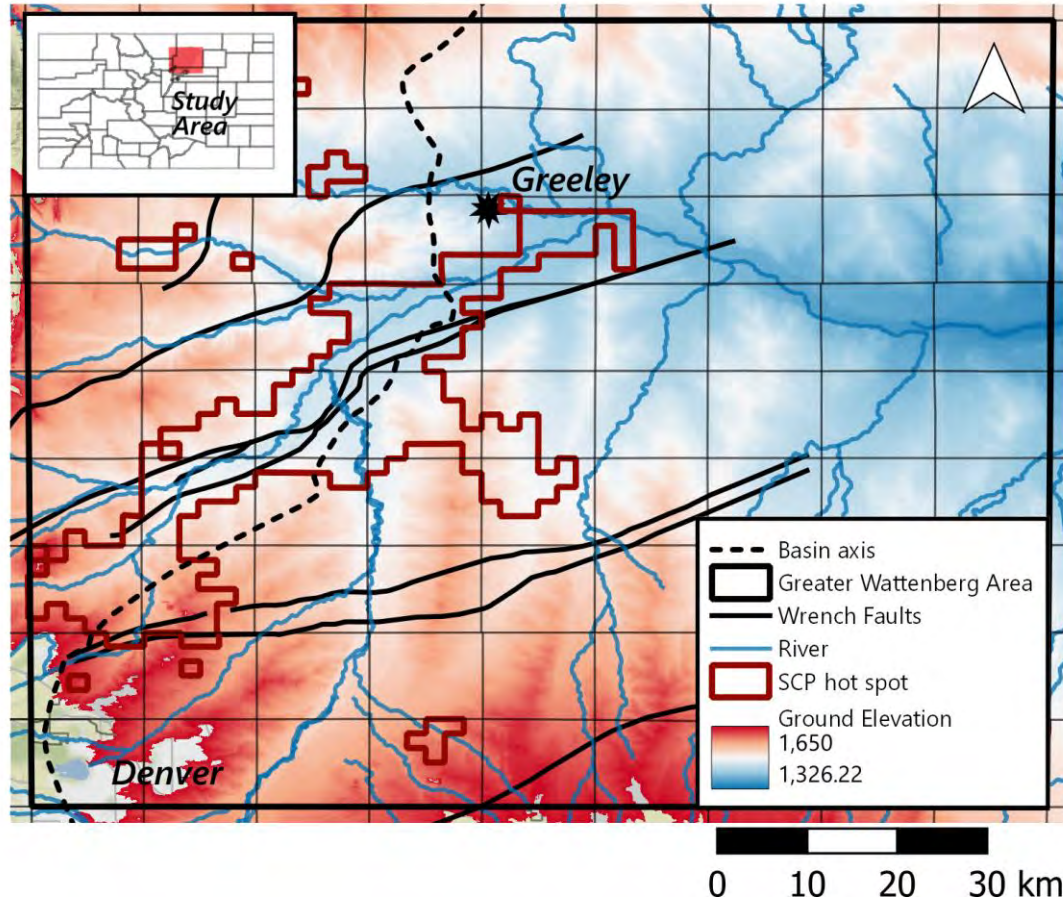
# Well location impacted likelihood of leakage



*Percentage of wells with integrity issues was ~4x greater inside hot spot*

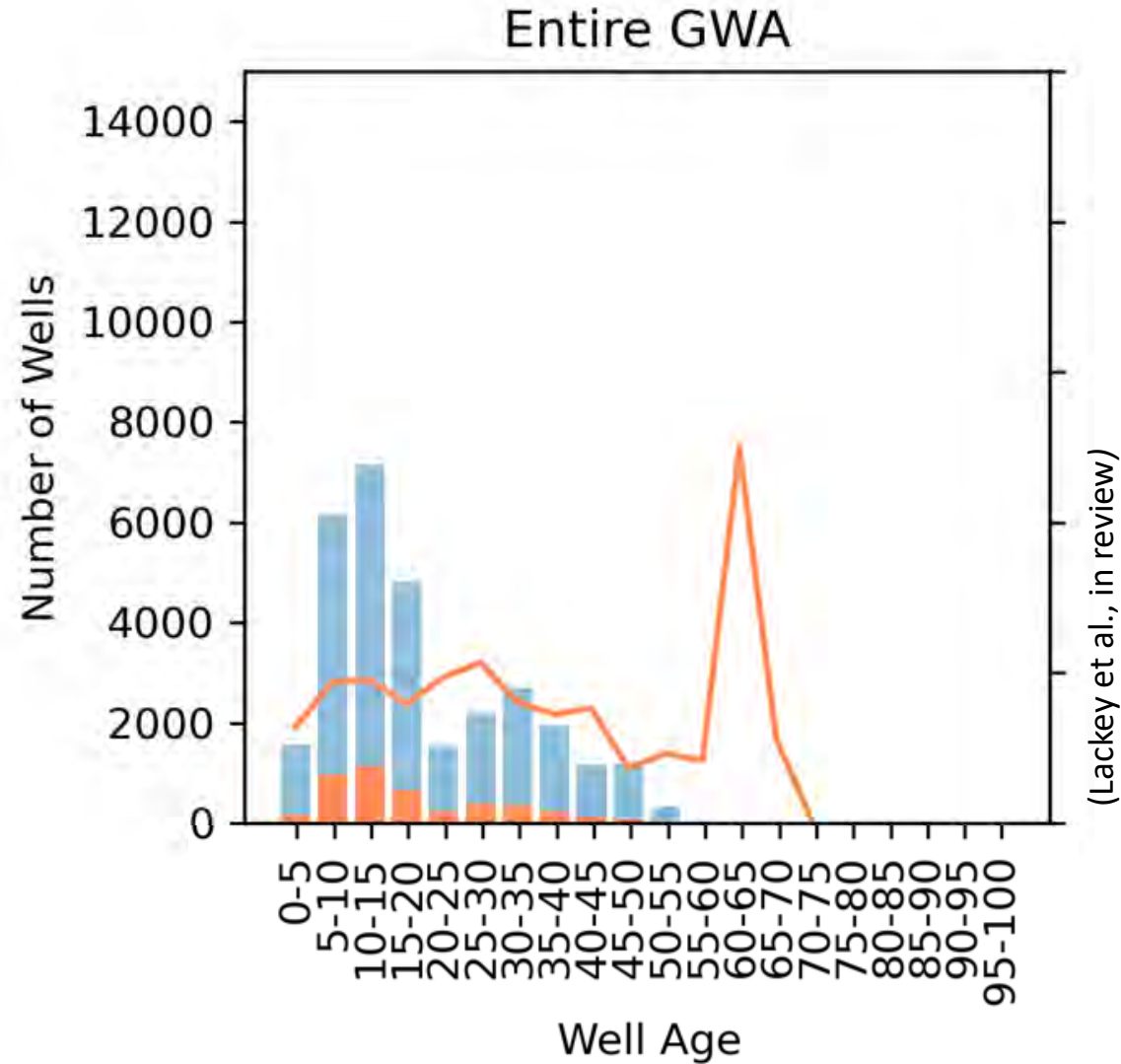


# Integrity issues spatially align with geologic features

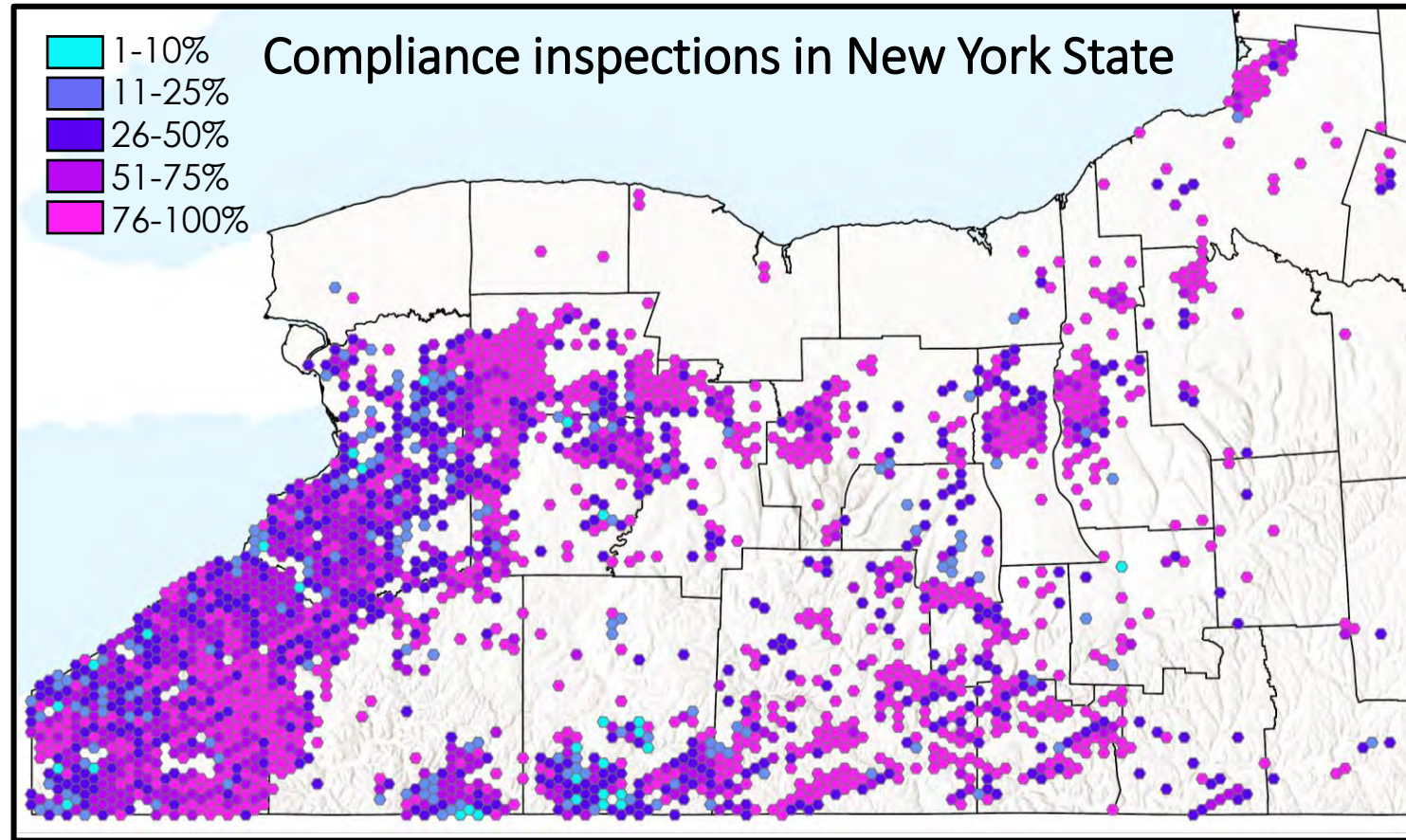




# Older wells were not more likely to experience integrity issues

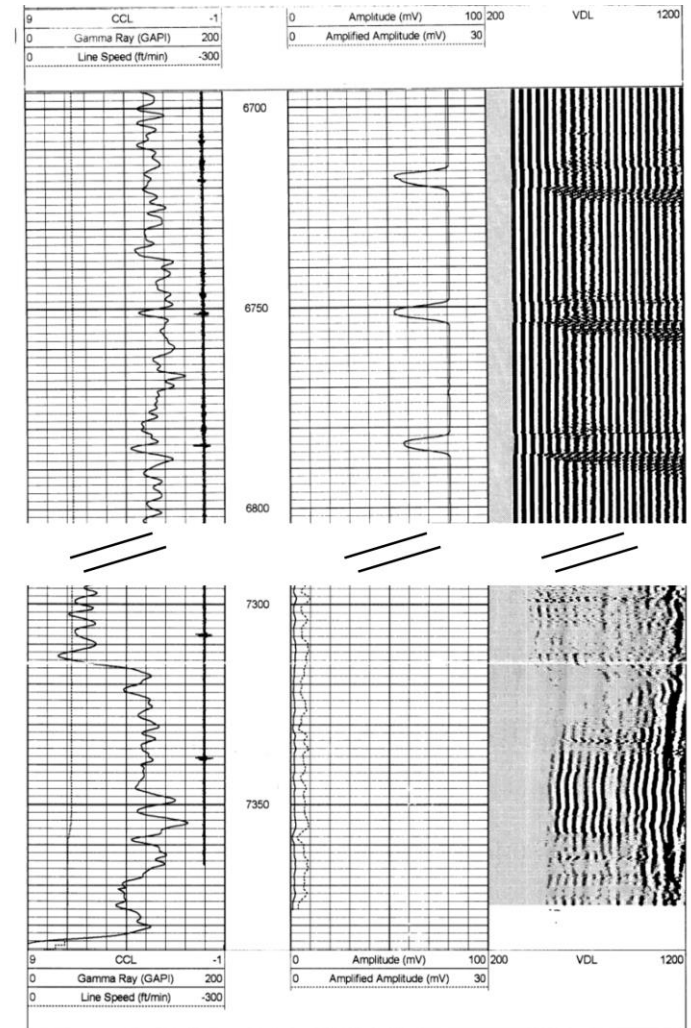
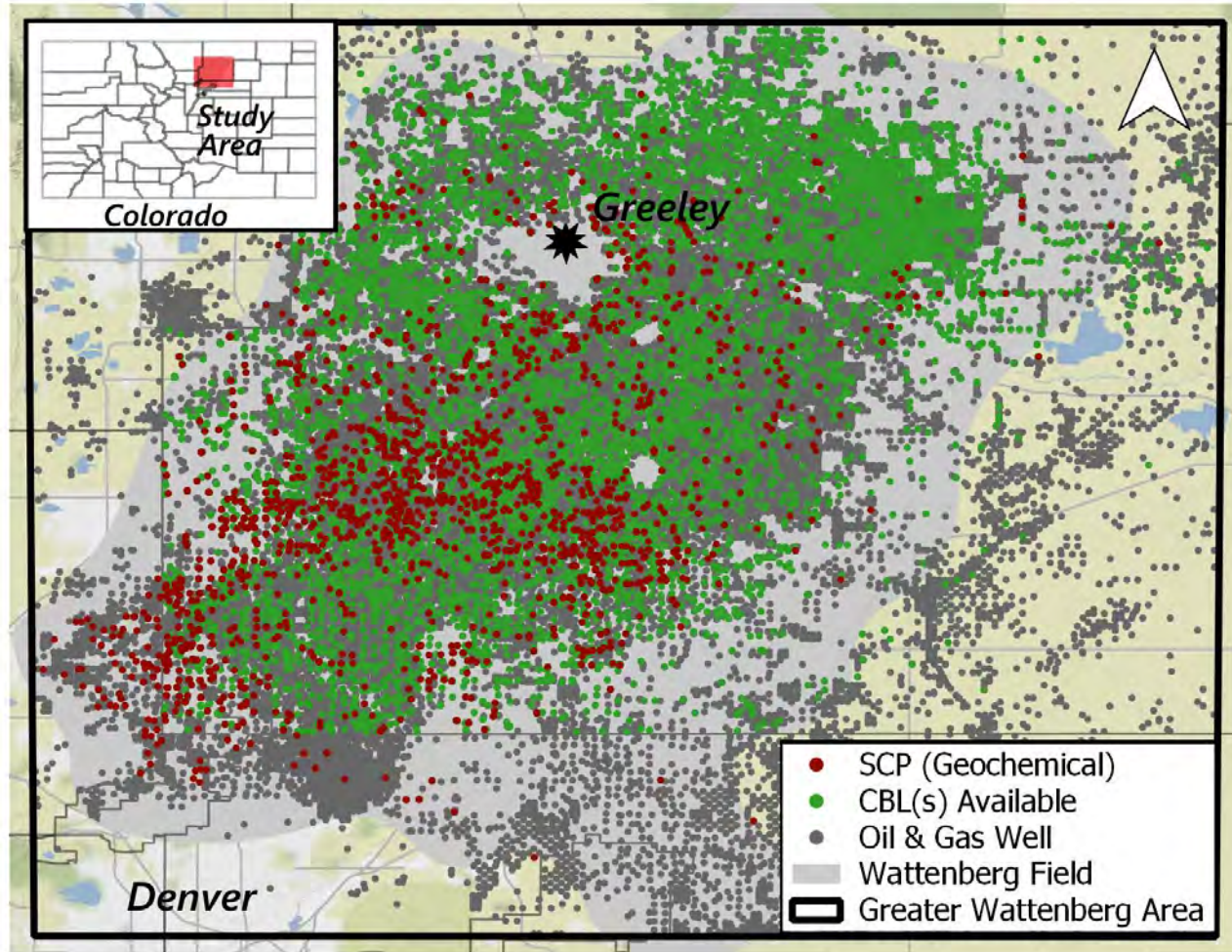


# Identifying clusters of integrity issues is practicable



*Most states have compliance inspection programs that could be extended with similar models*

# Working to incorporate other valuable information into models



API 512308297 CBL Example

# Data availability is a challenge

**OGRE** PROJECTS RECORDS G

🏠 / PROJECTS / ILLINOIS TEST PROJECT / 1. 120190129000\_WELL\_COMPLETION\_REPORT\_1

1. 120190129000\_WELL\_COMPLETION\_REPORT\_1 Reviewed

Field	Value	Confidenc
COUNTY	Champaign	100
DATE_DRILLING_BEGAN	1971-07-30	100
DATE_ISSUED	1971-07-01	100
GROUND	753.6	100
MINE_INTERMEDIATE_CSG_PULLED	No	100
MINE_INTERMEDIATE_SKS_CEMENT	400	100
PERMIT_NO	528	100
ROTARY_TOOLS_FROM	Surface	100
SECTION	19	100
SURFACE_CSG_PULLED	No	100

ROOM 112 STATE OFFICE BUILDING      DIVISION OF OIL AND GAS      SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

**Injection-Withdrawal ILLINOIS WELL COMPLETION REPORT**      COUNTY # 0.4290

INSTRUCTIONS: Within thirty (30) days after the completion of any well, the owner or operator shall transmit to the Oil and Gas Division the Original and one Copy of this form. Upon request, geological information will be kept confidential for one year from the date that permit is issued. A copy of an electric log (if run) and other pertinent information is to be sent to Illinois State Geological Survey, Natural Resources Building, Urbana, Illinois.

Oil  Gas  Dry Hole  SWD  Water Input  Gas Input  Conv.  Str. Test   
Water Supply  Observation

Operator Peoples Gas Light & Coke Well Name and No. G. C. Ruckman #1

Permit No. 528 Date Issued 7/1/71 Location 200'N 60'W Sec NW NE

County Champaign Section 19 Township 21N Range 7E

Elevation: DF \_\_\_\_\_ KB 767.6 Ground 753.6 Total Depth 4376' P.B.T.D. 4318'

Date Drilling Began 7/30/71 Date Drilling Completed 8/24/71

Rotary Tools from Surface To T.D. Cable Tools from \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Hole Size 1 7/8" - 362' Electric or Other Logs Run: Yes  No  Date 8/24/71  
1 1/2" - 3036'  
8 3/4" - 4376'

New Well  Deepened  Drilled Out  Plugged Hole  Lease Sign Posted: Yes  No

Was Well Cored: Yes  No  Drill Stem Test Run: Yes  No

**TUBULAR RECORD**

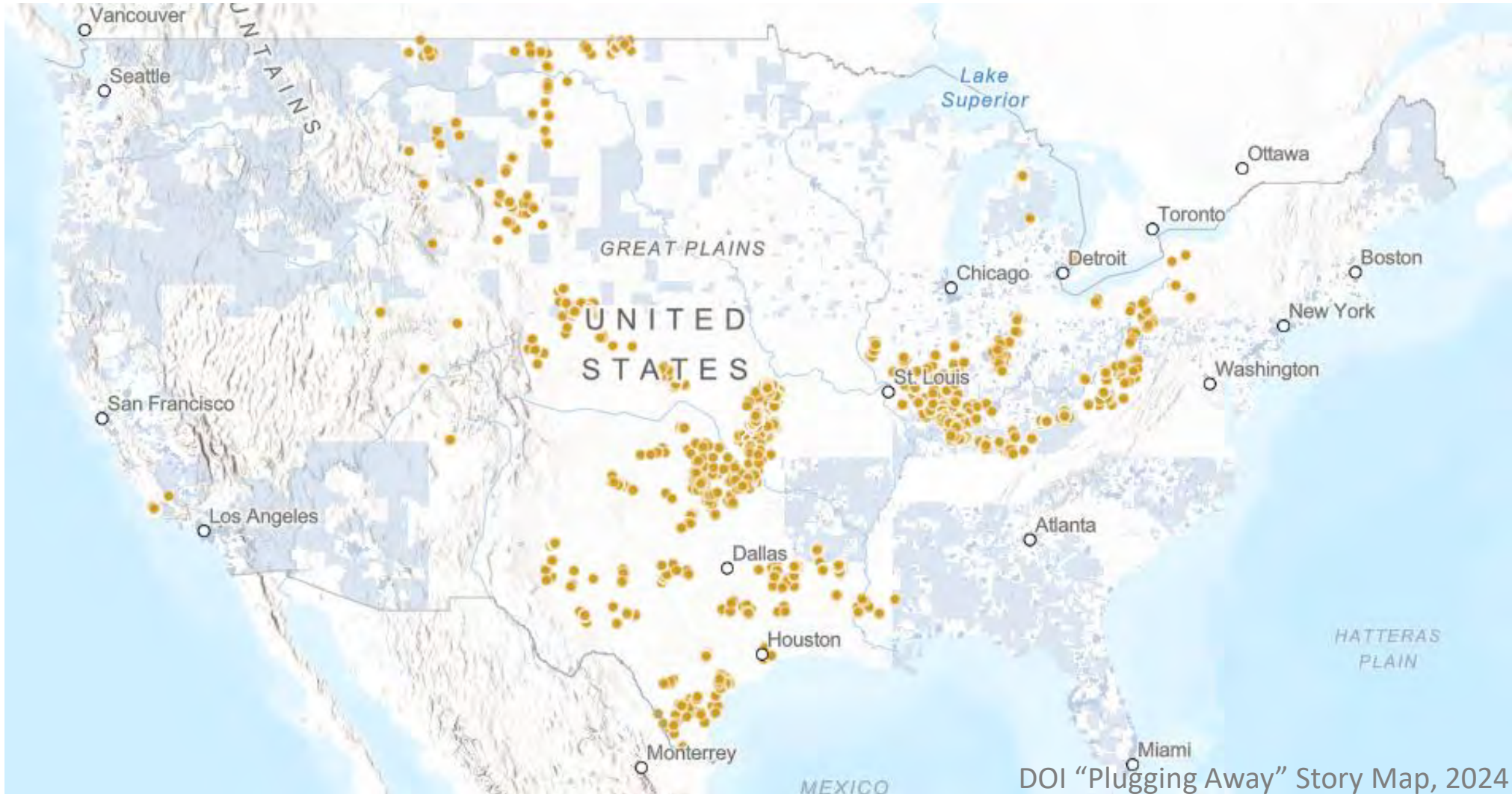
	Size	Depth	Sks. Cement	Csg. Pulled
Surface	<u>13 3/8" (488/ft)</u>	<u>369'</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>No</u>

NOTES    MARK AS UNREVIEWED    NEXT >

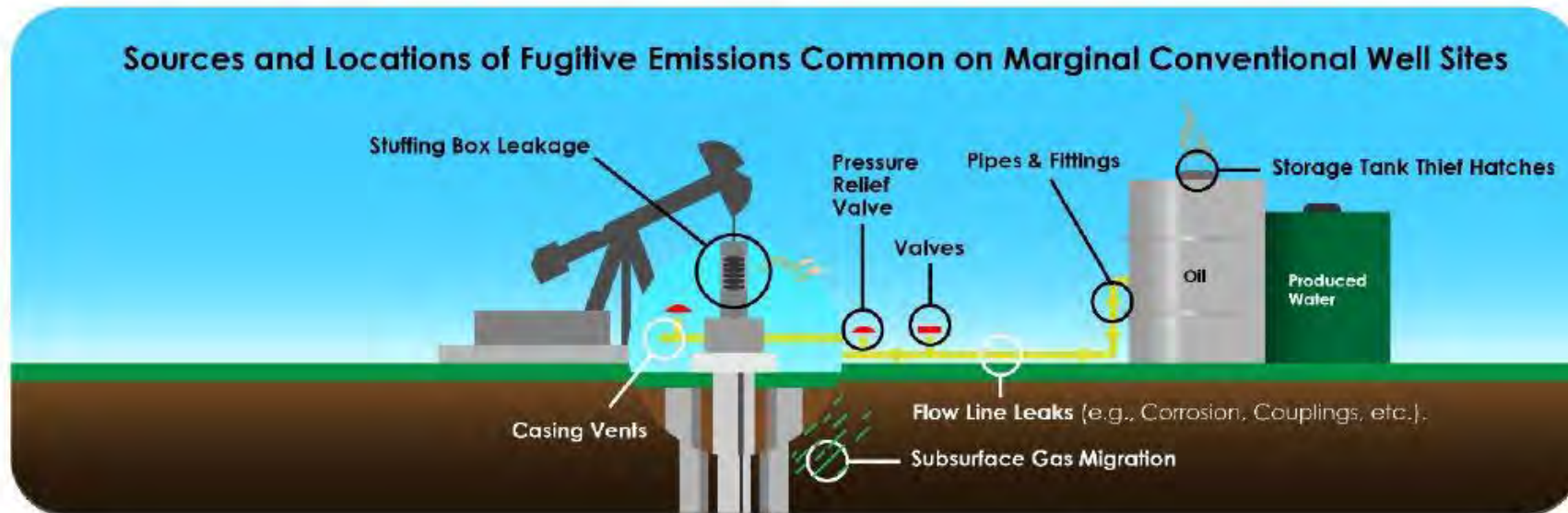
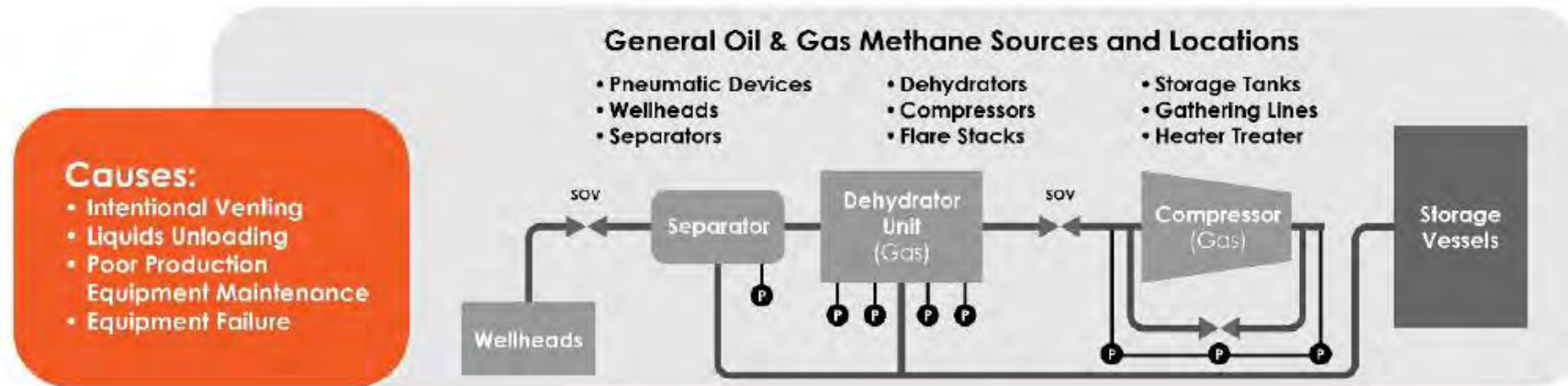


*Building tools to help states digitize their data*

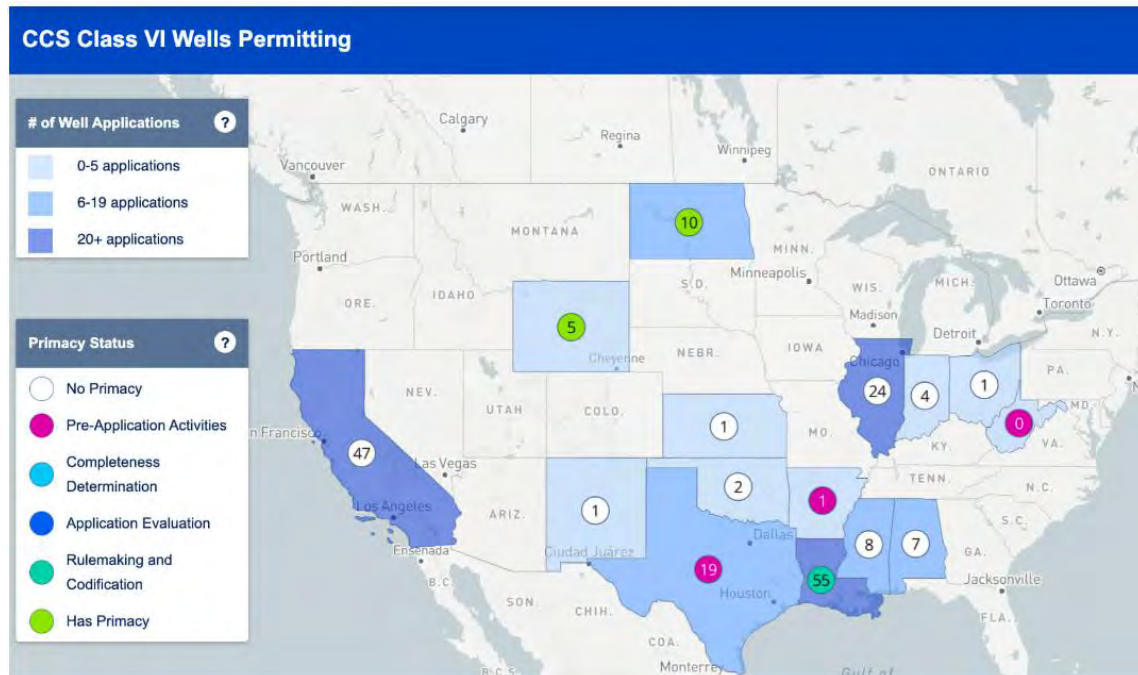
# Tremendous opportunities to gather information on older wells



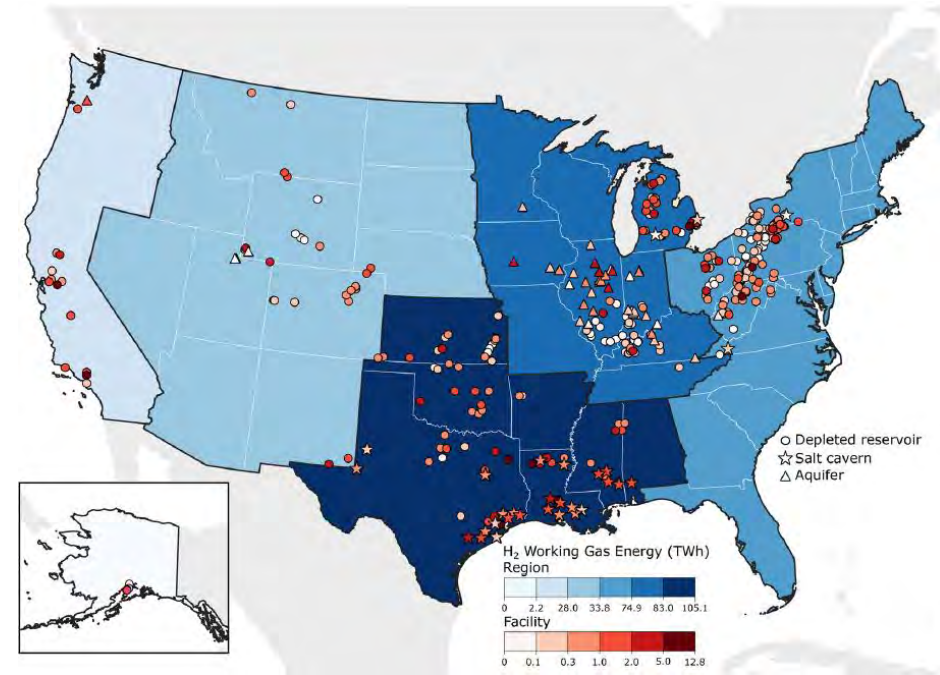
# New EPA GHG reporting rules will fundamentally alter availability of well leakage data



# Well integrity is important to monitor and maintain to preserve the subsurface as a resource



Clean Air Task Force, Class VI Map



Lackey et al., 2023

# Q and A

If you have a question, just click on the Q and A icon on the bottom of the screen and type it in there.





# Thank you for attending our webinar today.

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## Need a PDH Certificate?

You will be emailed a PDH Certificate for attending this webinar within the next week.

## Questions?

Email Marisa Waterman at [mwaterman@aaees.org](mailto:mwaterman@aaees.org) with any questions you may have.

