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# Using the Aerodyne Mobile Laboratory to characterize industrial emissions in Southern California

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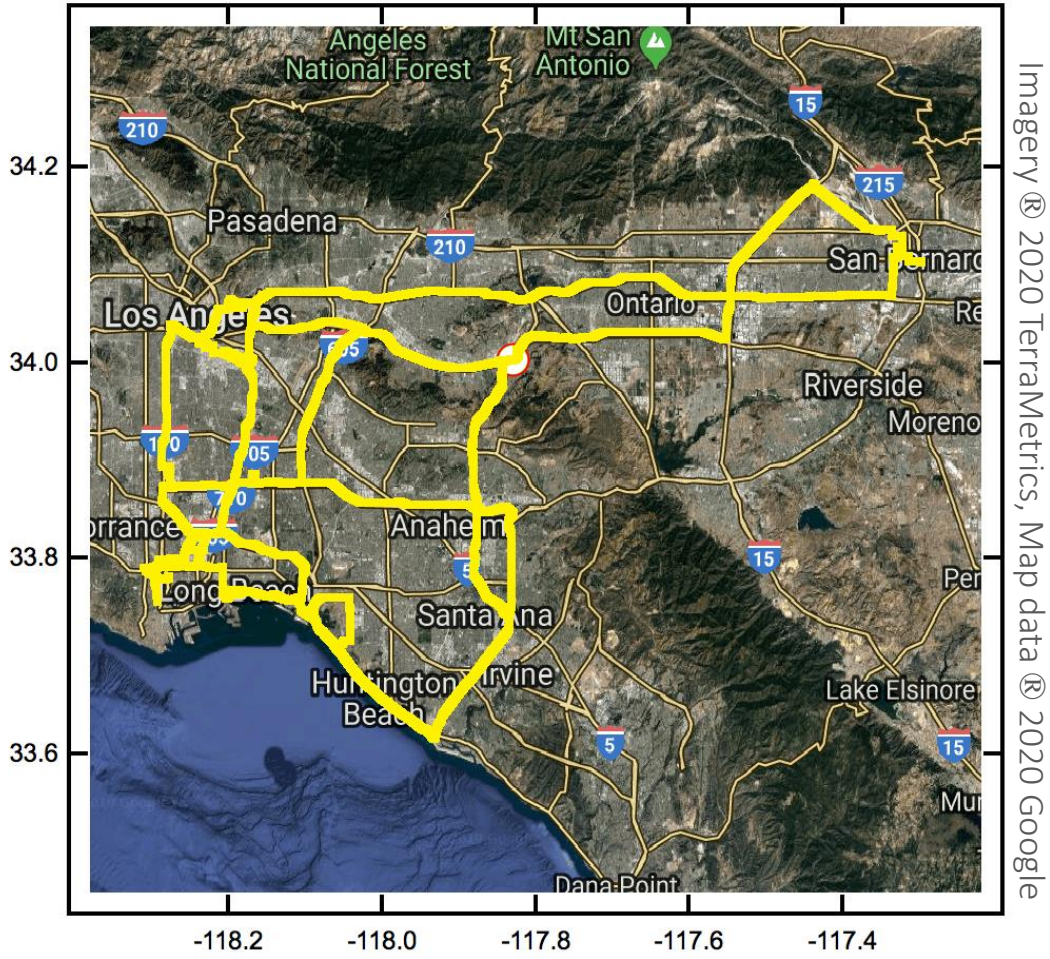
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Under direction and sponsorship of **South Coast Air Quality Management District** (Diamond Bar, CA) we sampled a wide variety of industries during November 2019

Los Angeles County  
Orange County  
San Bernardino County



-  **Refineries**
-  **Ports**
-  **Metal recycling**
-  **Agriculture**
-  **Bus depots**
-  **Animal rendering**
-  **Metal plating**
-  **Rail yards**



**Driven coverage by the mobile laboratory (yellow trace)**

# Selected instrument manifest



## Infrared Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (TILDAS)



**Combustion** Stable photo-oxidants **Biomass burning** **Oil & Gas** **Biological**  
 $\text{CO}_2$   $\text{CO}$   $\text{NO}_2$   $\text{O}_3$   $\text{HCHO}$   $\text{HCN}$   $\text{CH}_4$   $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$   $\text{N}_2\text{O}$   
 $\text{NO}$   $\text{SO}_2$

## Vocus PTR-TOF 2R



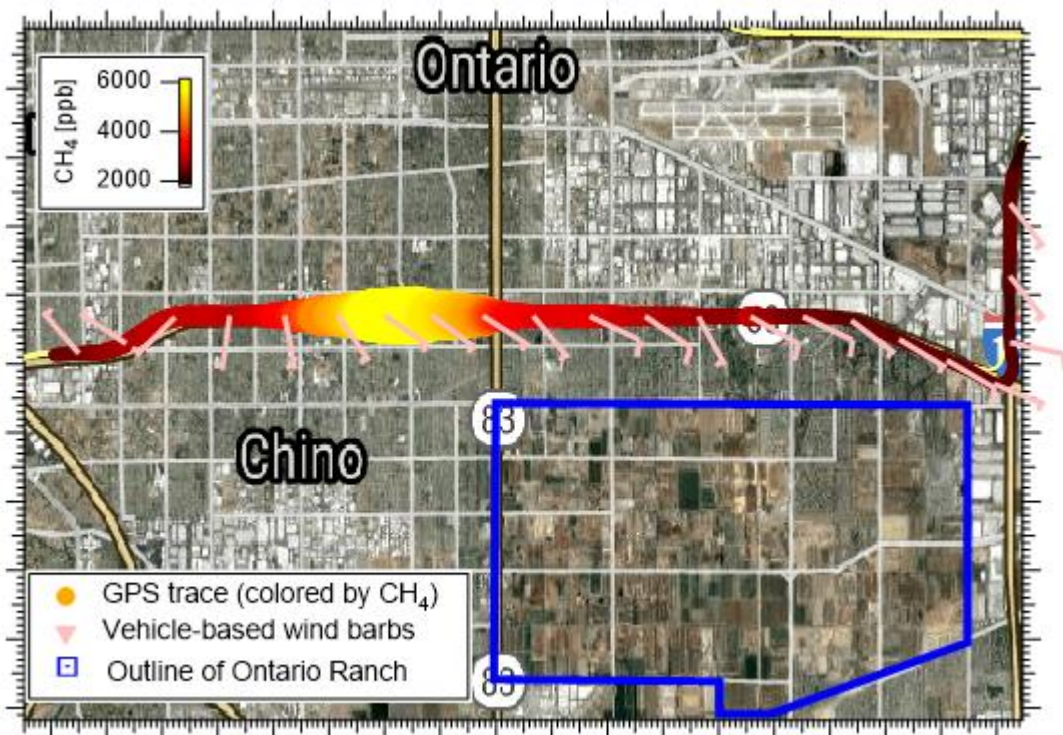
**Odors**  
 $\text{H}_2\text{S}$   $\text{CH}_3\text{SH}$   
**Oxygenates**  
methanol, acetone  
**Aromatics**  
benzene, toluene, xylene  
**Alkenes**  
propene, butene, isoprene



## Soot Particle – Aerosol Mass Spectrometer (SP-AMS)

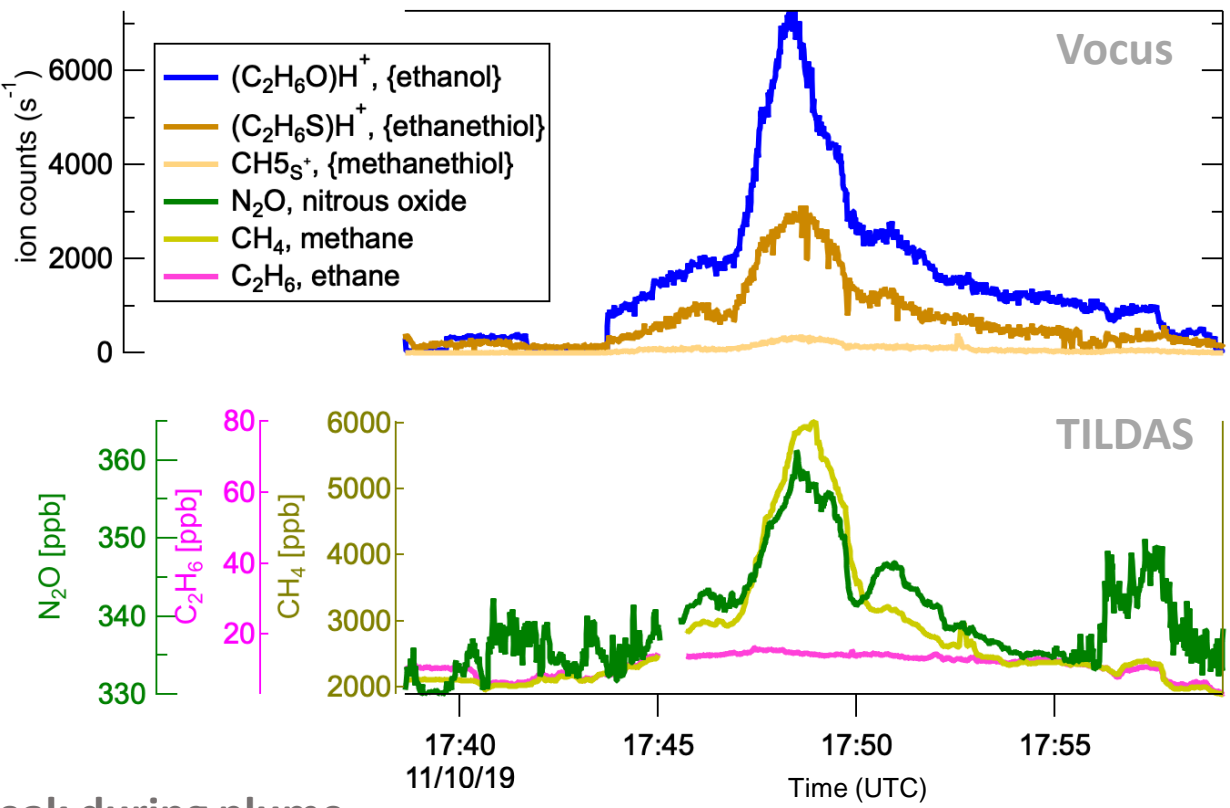
Mass **Organics**  
Diameter **Sulfates**  
Composition **Nitrates**  
**Ammonium**  
**Chloride**  
**Black Carbon**





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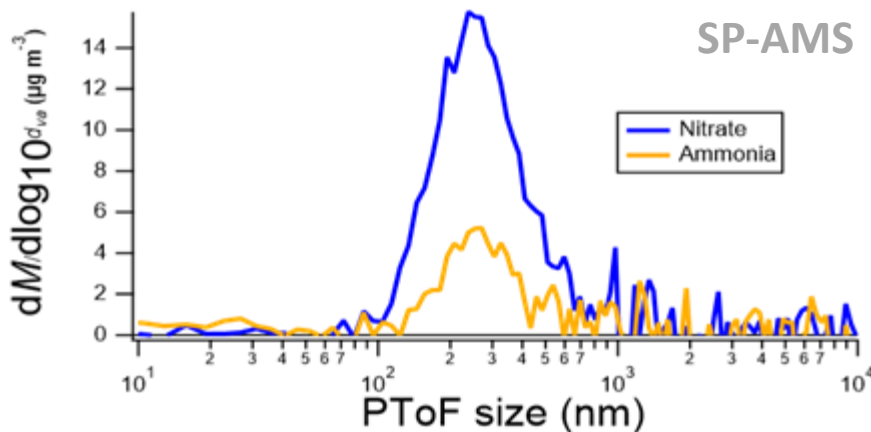
Even at highway speeds, the plume from this large agricultural area is clear, broad, and well-defined by known tracers



Peak during plume

~10  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$   
**Nitrate**

~3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$   
**Ammonia**





# Metal plating

Hard chromium electroplating processes  
can generate **hexavalent chromium (CrVI) mists** [2]



## Instrument

**SJAC-LPAS** [3]

Desert Research Institute  
(Reno, NV, USA)

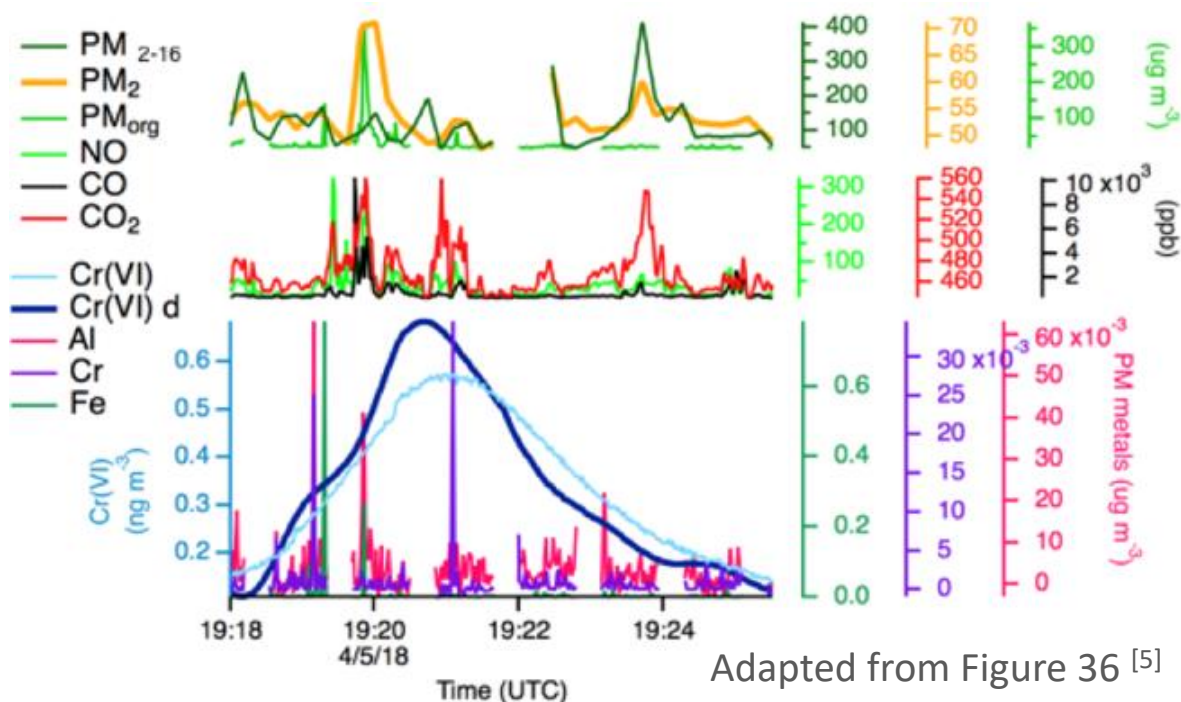
**2018**

Major observation:

**$\sim 1 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ Cr(VI)}$**

$\sim 150\text{m}$  away, multiple shops

Cr(VI) specific instrument with longer response time



## Instrument

**Xact® 625i** [4]

Cooper Environmental Services  
(Beaverton, OR, USA)

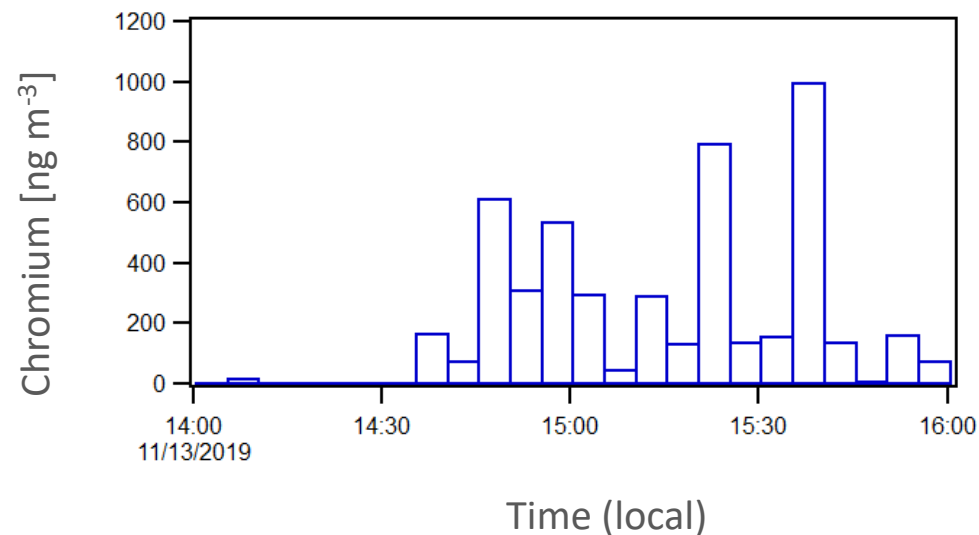
**2019**

Major observation:

**$\sim 1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{ Cr}$**

$\sim 50 \text{ m}$  away, single shop

Chromium measured in custom 5 min. sampling mode



**SP-AMS** measured corresponding  $\text{Cr}^+$  spikes at 1 Hz

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**U.S. OSHA**

**29 CFR 1910.1026** [6]

“[...] activity involving chromium **cannot release dusts, fumes, or mists of chromium (VI)**  
in concentrations at or above  **$0.5 \mu\text{g/m}^3$**  as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) [...]”





# Animal rendering

Rendering plants **process animal parts** to manufacture fats, bone meal, and other products [7]



Methanethiol (**CH<sub>3</sub>SH**) is associated with the decomposition of **spoiled meat** has a **pungent odor** [8]



Image capture: April 2019 ©2020 Google

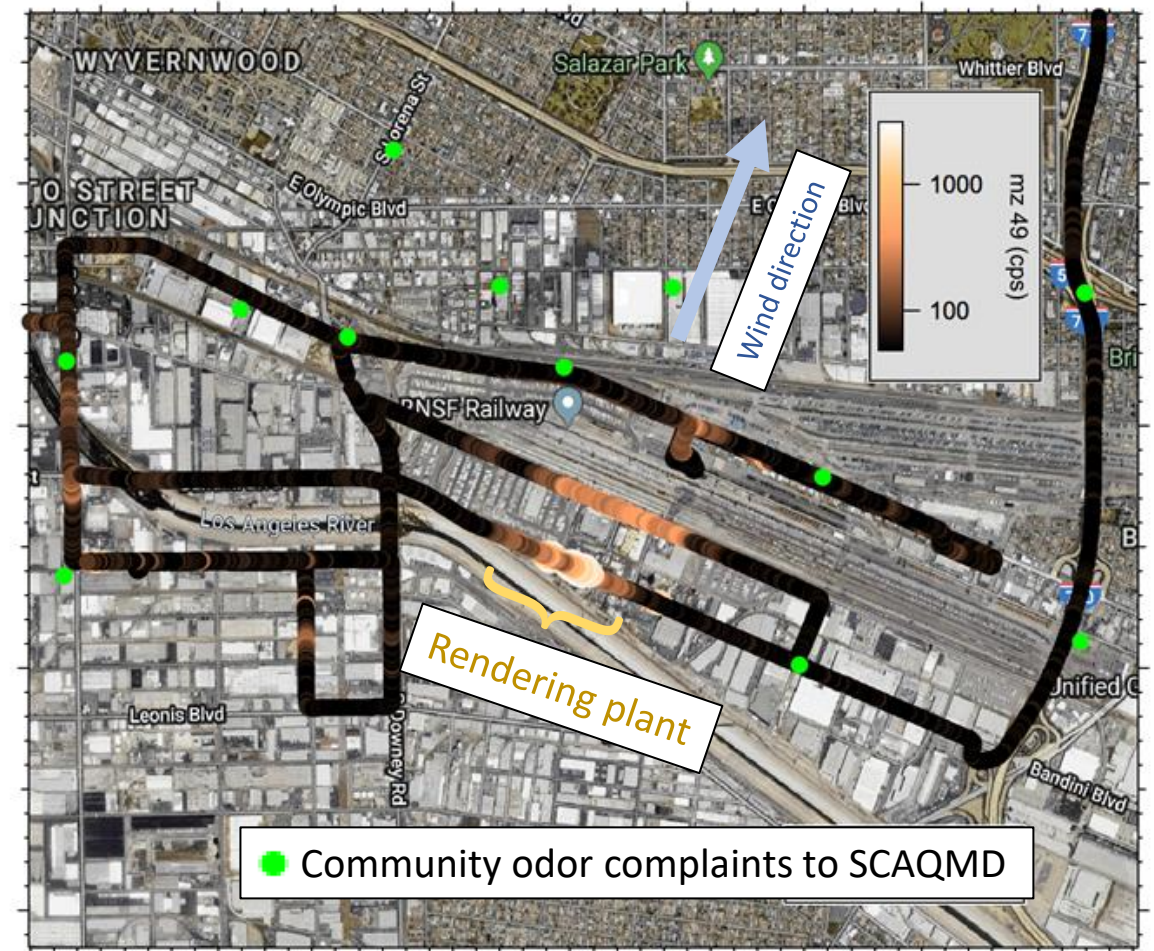


A rendering plant in Vernon, CA

Image data ©2020 Google

Vocus

(m/z 49: CH<sub>3</sub>SH + H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> → CH<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup>)



## Downwind transects from a rendering plant

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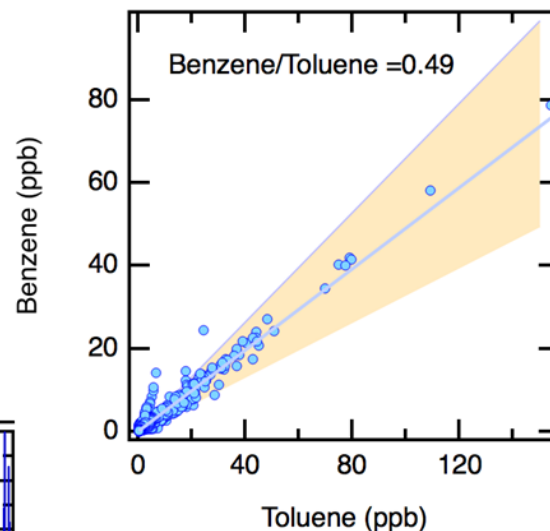


# Hotspot identification

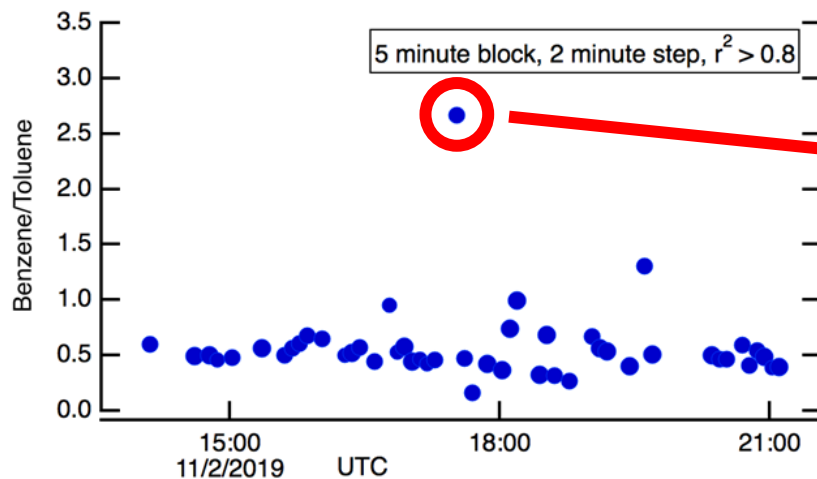
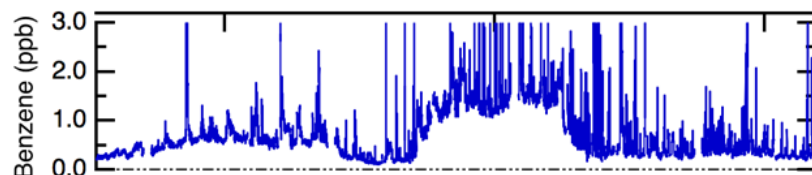
Time series analysis can be used to **isolate unique enhancements** of compounds from interfering noise



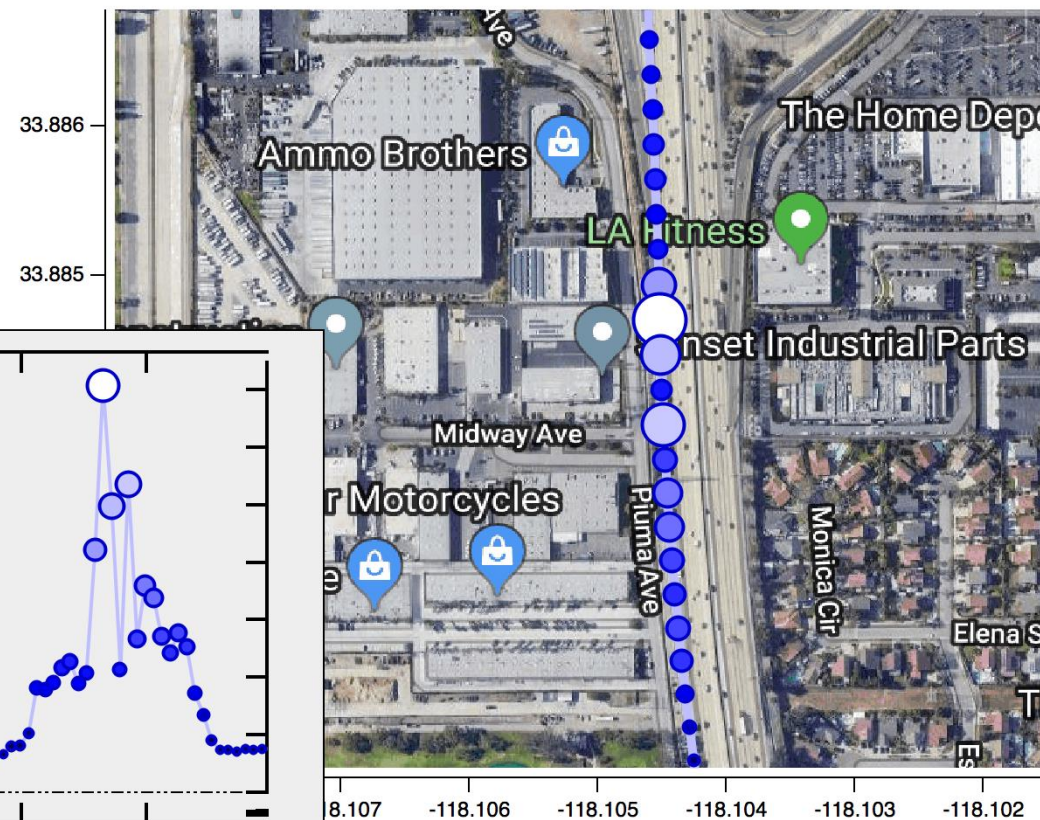
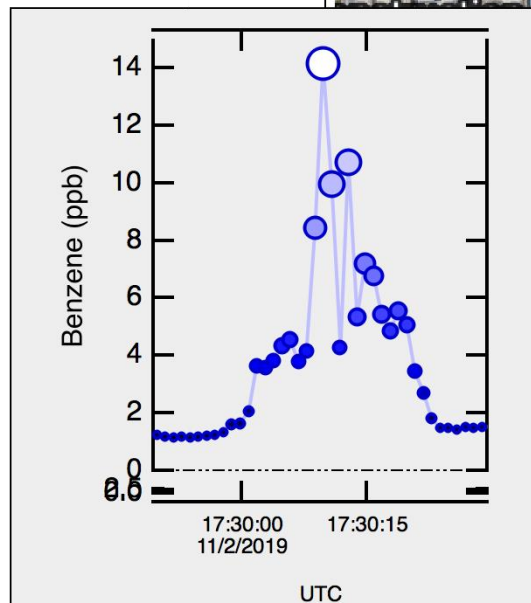
Expected relationship  
of emissions from  
**fuel vapors**  
based on previous data



Potential industrial source of **benzene**  
identified amongst highway traffic



Higher benzene/toluene ratio



Imagery ©2020 Data Maxar Technologies,  
U.S. Geological Survey, USDA Farm Service agency,  
Map data © 2020 Google



# References

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