

# Detecting and Classifying Abandoned and Orphaned Oil and Gas Wells

A special thanks to Binghamton Professors Tim DeSmet and Alex Nikulin, and DEC Field Researcher Nathan Graber

References

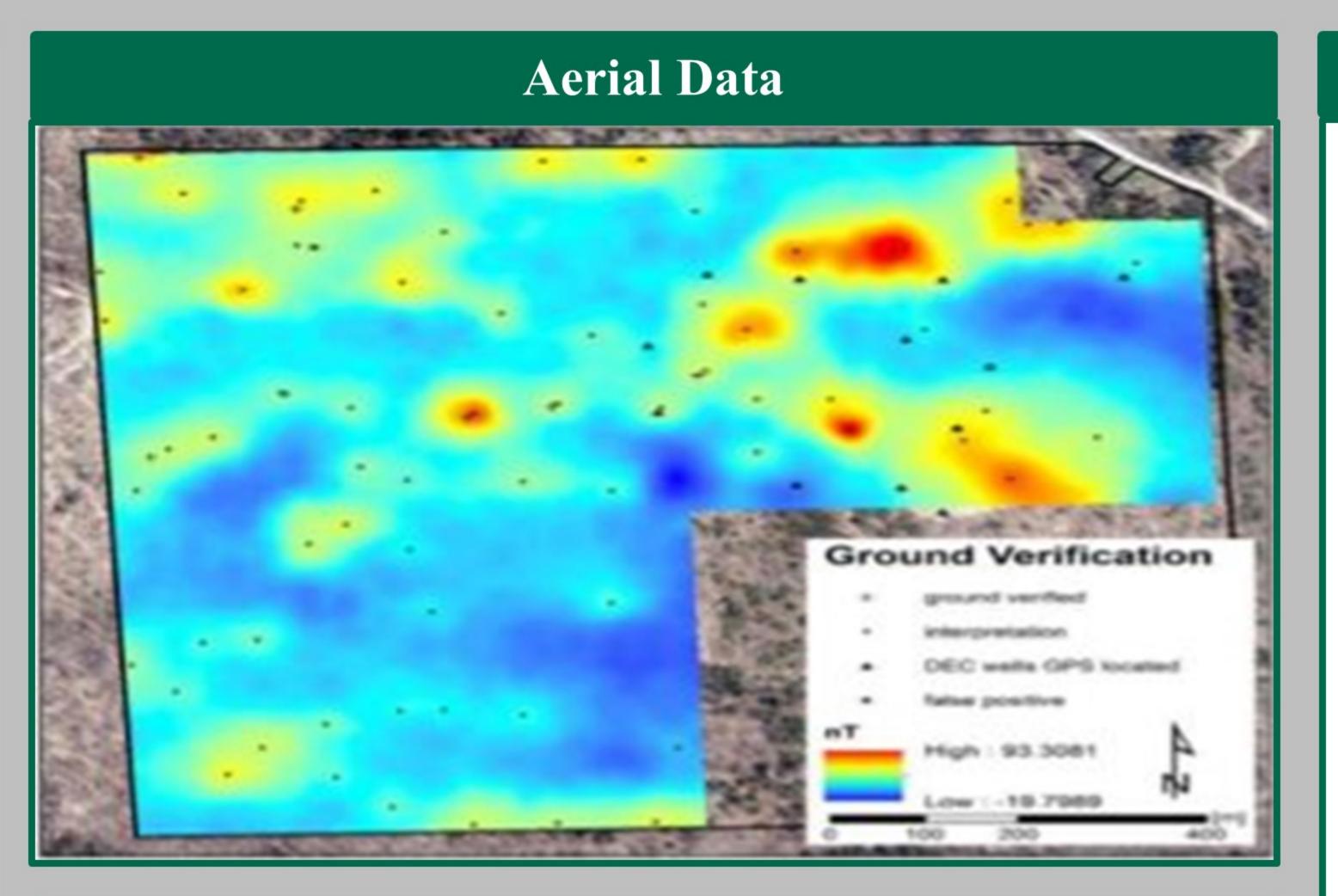
Allison Howard, Dianna Nielsen, Sean Notley, Chris Obie, and Mia Wallak GIS Day, Binghamton University, 2022

## Our Project

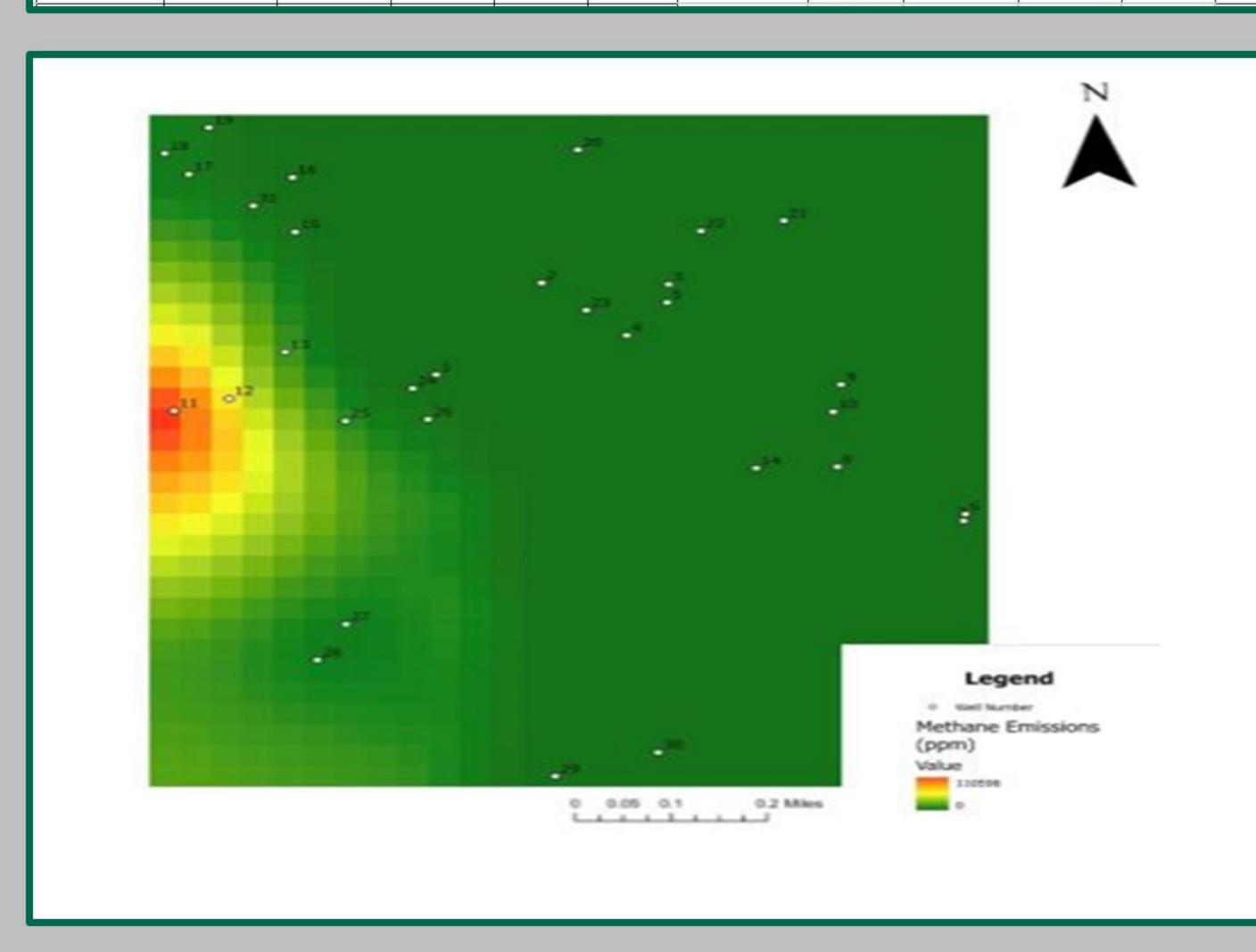
- As fracking died out in New York the remnants of the industry was left behind and forgotten about
- The old infrastructure of this industry is a leading point-source for natural gas emissions
- Using an aerial magnetometry set up our group has effectively detected the location of the wells
- We have verified the accuracy of the survey with ground based GPS units
- Separately we have collected methane emissions data for 31 of the wells that have been located
- Using GIS applications we are looking to find a correlation between the size/magnitude of the anomaly and the amount of natural gas emitted
- The two separate figures show that there is a strong relationship between the magnitude of anomaly and quantity of emissions

# Image Set

Image Set: Contains examples of both cased and uncased wells, as well as two pump jacks



Name/Number	Date/Time	GNSS_Height	Northing	Easting	Peak PPM	Name/Number	Date/Time	GNSS_Height	Northing	Easting	Peak PPN
UL Hall Well #1	1-Oct 09:44:57	603.999	4653708.215	713231.1		UL Hall Well #16	2-Oct	585.415	4654084.101	713045.9	
					0		08:07:15am				
UL Hall Well #2	1-Oct 10:32:13	578.544	4653883.053	713366.43		UL Hall Well #17	2-Oct	594.276	4654089.986	712912.18	
					0		08:29:32am				120
UL Hall Well #3	1-Oct	568.833	4653880.254	713529.5		UL Hall Well #18	2-Oct	582.814	4654129.651	712881.51	
	11:08:47am				2		08:41:44am				
UL Hall Well #5	1-Oct	572.721	4653845.857	713527.65		UL Hall Well #19	2-Oct	567.815	4654179.218	712938.23	
	11:29:08am				1		08:59:48am				
UL Hall Well #4	1-Oct	584.185	4653783.027	713475.45		UL Hall Well #20	2-Oct	543.803	4654136.278	713412.87	
	11:37:25am				2		09:41:36am				
UL Hall Well #6	1-Oct	532.046	4653442.633	713911.36		UL Hall Well #21	2-Oct	537.103	4654001.718	713677.95	
	12:27:53pm				0		10:56:57am				20
UL Hall Well #7	1-Oct	529.2	4653429.385	713909.78		UL Hall Well #22	2-Oct	547.15	4653982.252	713571.43	
	12:29:35pm	523.2	1033 123.303	713303.70	1	OETIGII Weiting	11:12:08am	517.15	1033302.232	713371.13	
UL Hall Well #8	1-Oct	560.085	4653533.018	713746 78	_	UL Hall Well #23	2-Oct	589.482	4653830.864	713423 47	
	12:53:21pm	500.005	4033333.010	713740.76	1	OL Hall Well #25	11:43:23am	303.402	4033030.004	713423.47	
UL Hall Well #9	1-Oct	550.832	4653689.497	712751 99		UL Hall Well #24	2-Oct	606.599	4653681.728	712200 25	
	01:34:39pm	330.632	4033069.497	/13/31.00	1	OL Hall Well #24		000.399	4033001.720	/13200.33	
UL Hall Well #10		562.22	4653637.347	712741 01	-	LIL Hall Wall #25	01:00:53pm	E72 174	4653630.044	712112 02	
		562.32	4653637.347	/13/41.81	,	UL Hall Well #25	2-Oct	573.174	4653620.044	/13113.83	
	01:51:10pm	567.005	4650600 407	74 2002 02			01:23:24pm	507.740	4653633 454	74 22 22 45	
		567.235	4653639.427	/12893.82	110500	UL Hall Well #26	2-Oct	597.718	4653623.154	/13220.15	
	03:48:54pm				110598		01:45:52pm				10
UL Hall Well #12		557.59	4653662.608	712964.34	0.5	UL Hall Well #27	2-Oct	505.406	4653232.854	713114.73	
	04:08:02pm				86		02:38:01pm				
UL Hall Well #13		559.387	4653751.293	713036.51	1000	UL Hall Well #28	2-Oct	521.275	4653164.35	713077.56	
	04:17:36pm				21		02:49:38pm				
UL Hall Well #14	2-Oct	549.259	4653529.962	713642.14		UL Hall Well #29	3-Oct	551.132	4652943.137	713384.03	
	07:22:02am				0		08:10:18am				
UL Hall Well #15	2-Oct	612.744	4653980.165	713049.38		UL Hall Well #30	3-Oct	510.754	4652988.607	713516.29	
	07:51:58am				0		09:06:58am				1
						UL Hall Well #31	3-Oct	607.213	4654029.743	712995.52	
							10:15:36am				



### Discussion

- Aerial-based sensor took approximately 1 hour to survey ½ mile²
- After 3 flights, 72 anomalies were detected
- •32 of the well locations have been verified
- •Emissions from 31 wells have been collected and quantified
- •Only two wells had a significant level of methane emissions
- The western side of the surveyed area had high methane emissions
- •In verification we discovered remnants of the fracking industry, busted pipes, pump jacks, all which contribute to the variance in our aerial data

# GIS Advantages and Disadvantages

- •Using ARCGIS we are able to map out the emitting wells
- •Quick analysis of data is possible, comparing aerial magnetometry and methane emissions
- •GIS allows us to splice together 3 separate flights in one dataset
- Emissions Raster assigns emissions data for all locations, not just wells
- The processing of large aerial sensing data can take days
- •Difficulty in creating comparable figures: Magnetometry data must be processed in additional program

**Aerial Data:** 3 separate drone flights with a magnetometer spliced together, covers \(^{3}\)4 mile<sup>2</sup>

Methane Emission Data: This table shows the methane emissions of the 31 verified wells

Methane Emission Figure: Made in ARCGIS, a raster of the distribution of methane emissions