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INSTITUTE  
Colorado State University

# • Methane Emissions from T&S Sector •

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# Acknowledgements

## Study Team

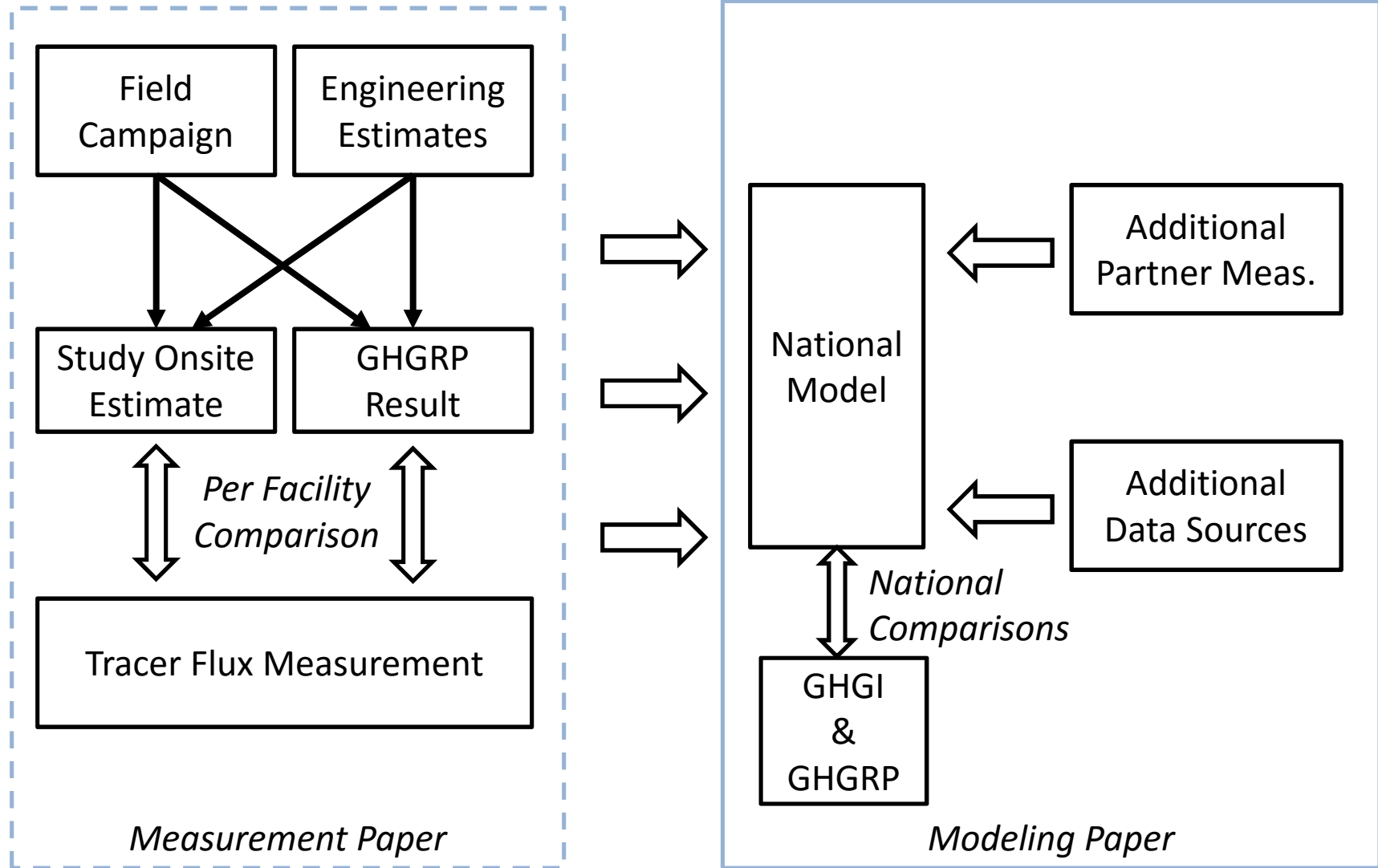


## Funding & Access Partners



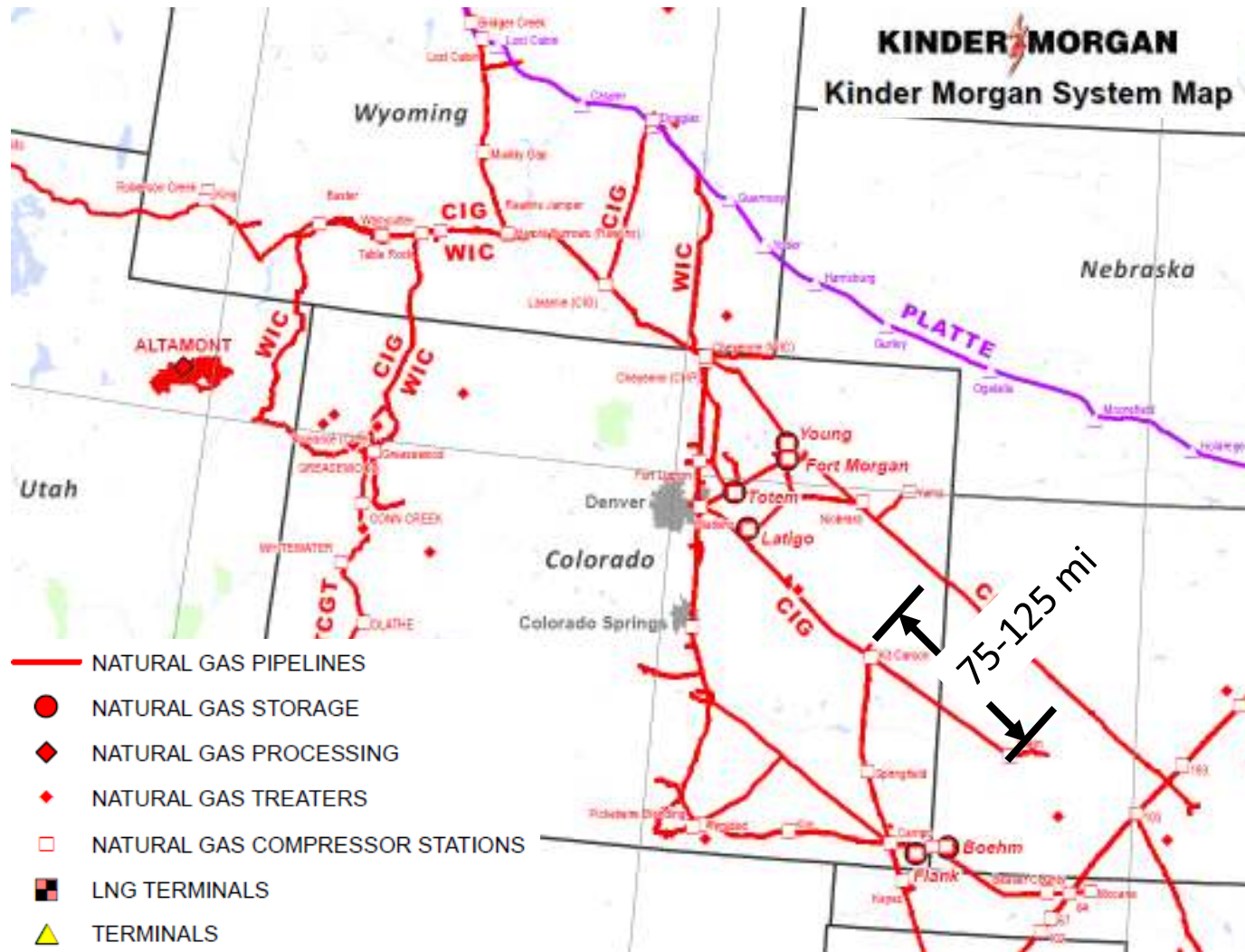


# Study Design





# Sample of System Layout



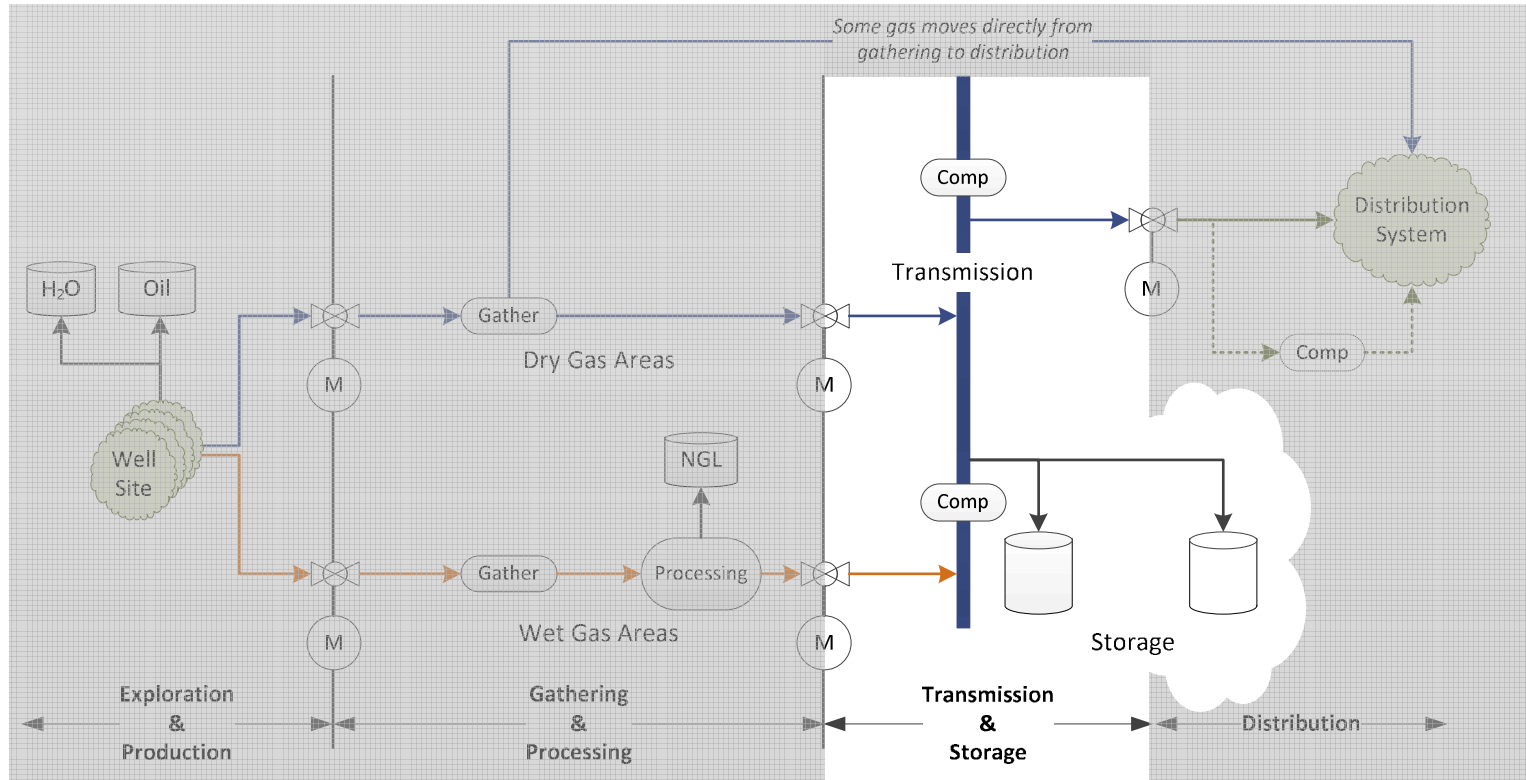
Extracted from Kinder Morgan system map, [www.kindermorgan.com](http://www.kindermorgan.com)



# MODELING NATIONAL EMISSIONS

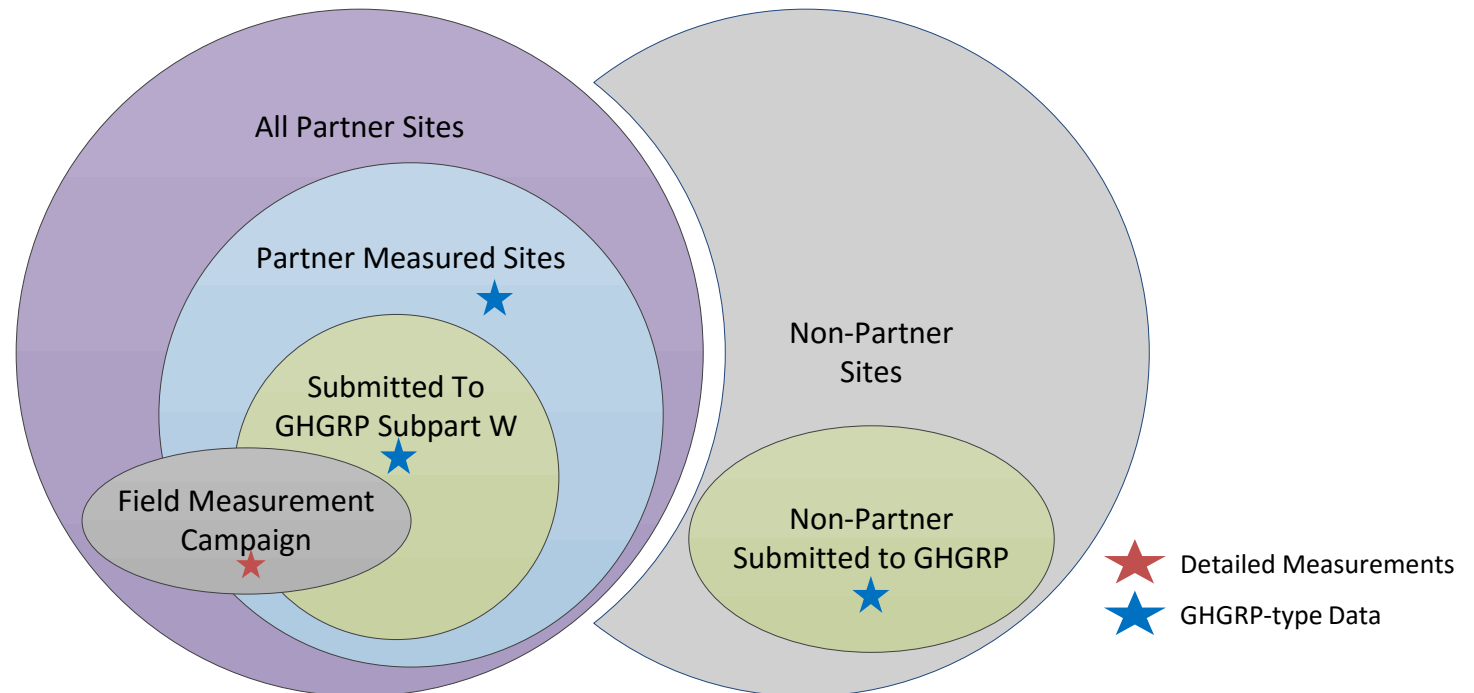


# Operational System Boundaries





# Model Inputs



Drawing is representational only and is not scaled to match site count

922 *known* facilities – 823 transmission & 99 underground storage

1,279 measurements from field campaign

1,013 measurements from other measurements

EIA data → underground storage facility count

FERC Form 2 data → 2<sup>nd</sup> transmission facility count



## Activity (Census) Data for Model

- Partner site details provided by partners
- Non-partner sites:
  - Site configuration from GHGRP data
  - EIA data for underground storage facility count
  - FERC Form 2 data for transmission facility count
- Omitted:
  - Pipelines
  - LNG
  - M&R
  - Add'l small categories





## Emissions Data for Model

- Field Data (1,279 measurements )
- Additional measurement data (1,013 measurements)
  - Measurements from three partner companies
  - Measurements used same protocol as field campaign
  - All or nothing from each partner in each emission category
- Blowdown data from partners
- Methane in combustion exhaust:
  - Emissions measurements underlying AP-42
  - Additional exhaust measurements from partners



# Facility-Specific Emissions Data

(in addition to field & partner measurements)

- Reported GHGRP data for 498 facilities
  - Partners provided data underlying submitted reports (262 facilities)
- Facilities which were measured by partners, but not required to report to GHGRP (179 facilities)



# KEY FINDINGS

<http://energyinstitute.colostate.edu/p/transmission-and-storage.html>



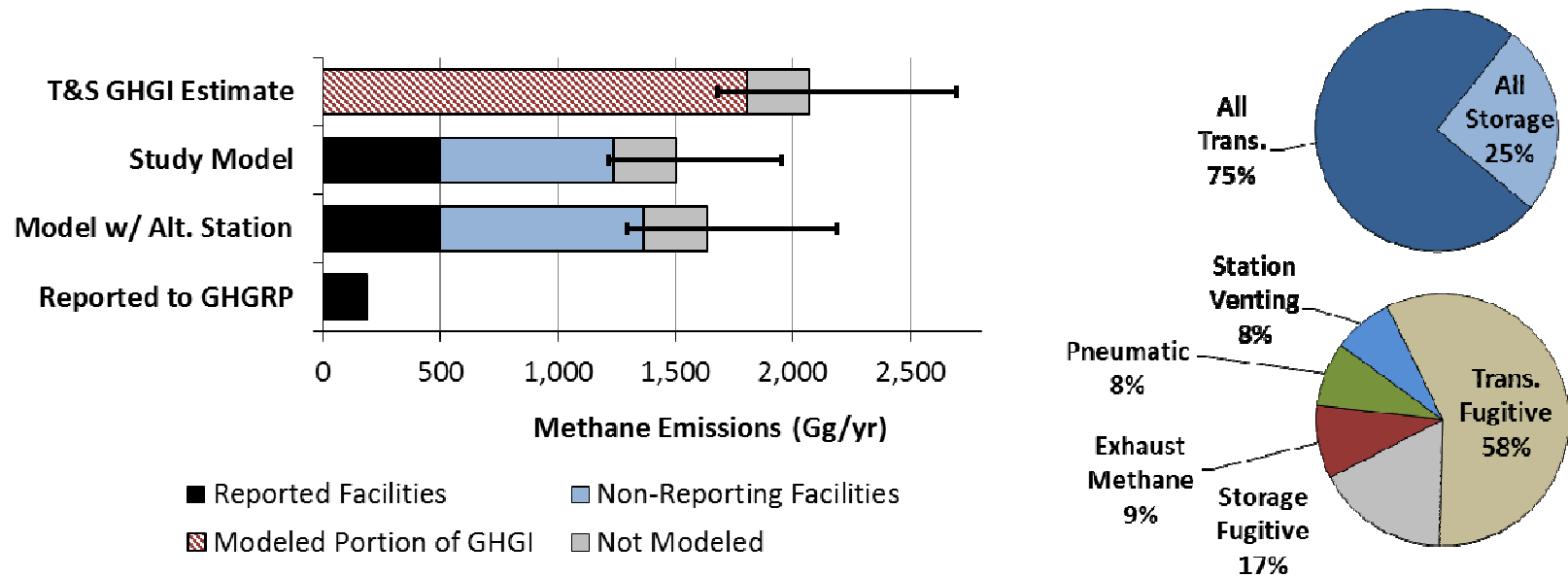


## Key Findings

- Statistically similar to GHGI → Due to significant offsetting factors in emission & activity categories
- “Activity” estimates have big impact on emissions estimates → Facility counts & equipment mix
- Super-emitters → Big impact but high uncertainty
- GHGRP under-reports significantly due to reporting requirements & some emissions factors



# Overall Study Results

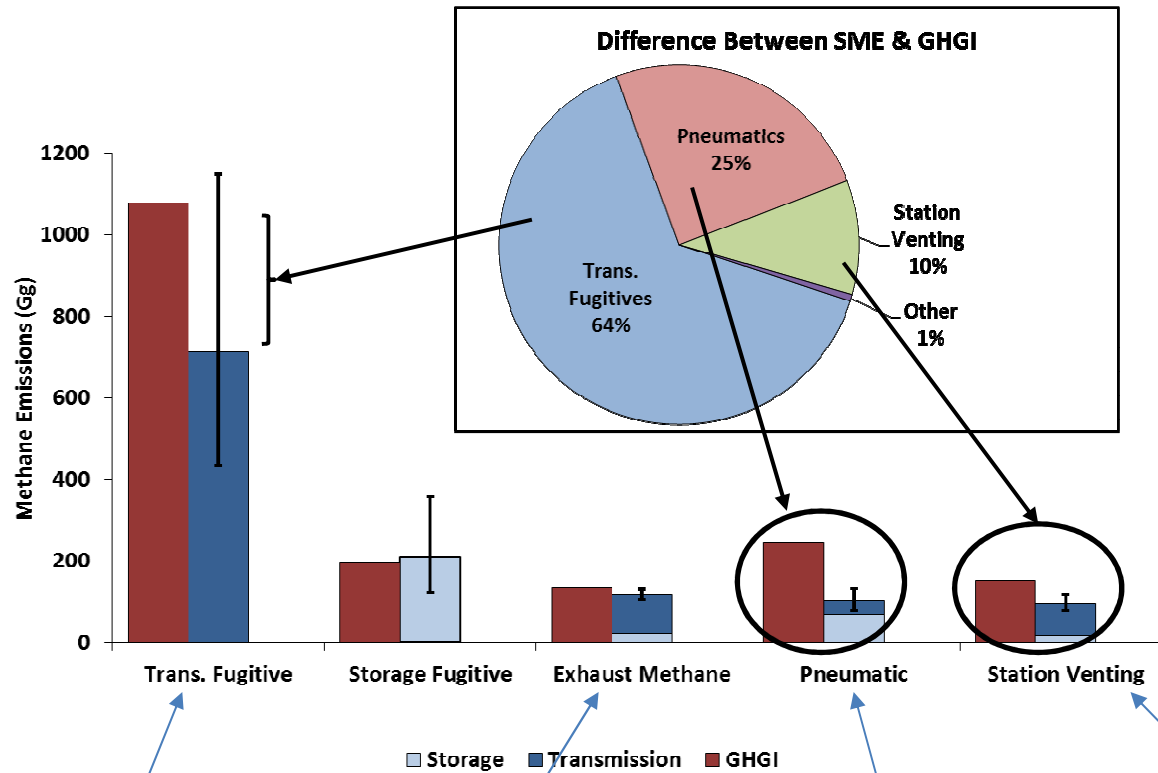


Notes:

- T&S GHGI → GHGI estimate net of “voluntary reductions”
- Model w/ Alt Station → Model with alternative method of estimating transmission station count
- Reported to GHGRP → ≈498 facilities in T&S that report to GHGRP



# Results Compared to GHGI



Why?  
(major reasons)

Emissions,  
Facility Count,  
Comp. Diff.

Offsetting Usage +  
Emissions Factors  
(esp transmission)

Usage  
Difference  
(esp transmission)

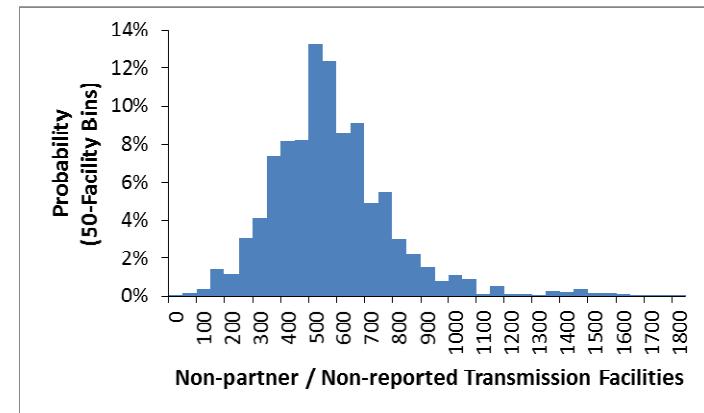
More Data  
Available  
(transmission GHGRP)





# Challenge of Activity Estimates

- Facility Types:
  - ✓ GHGRP reported
  - ✓ Partner facilities
  - ✗ Non-Partner / Non-GHGRP
- Study estimates:
  - Fewer transmission stations than GHGI
  - $\approx$ equal compressor power to GHGI
  - Slightly more underground storage stations



1,375 [+32%/-22%] vs 1799

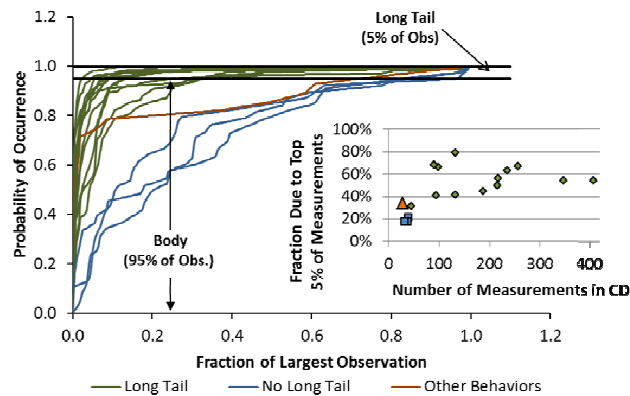
20.3 GW [+25%/-18%] vs  $\approx$ 19.5 GW

382 [+9%/-9%] vs 344



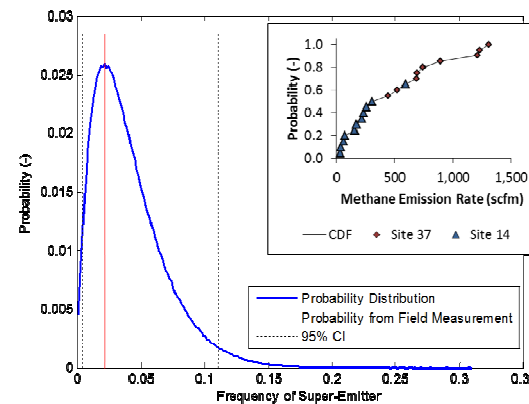
# Two Types of Skewed Emissions Models

## At device level



- “Long tail” present in most emissions distributions
- Included in emission model for each emission category

## At facility level



- “Super-emitters”- Exceptional emissions measured by tracer but not captured by on-site measurements
- Included for each *facility* as extra emission category

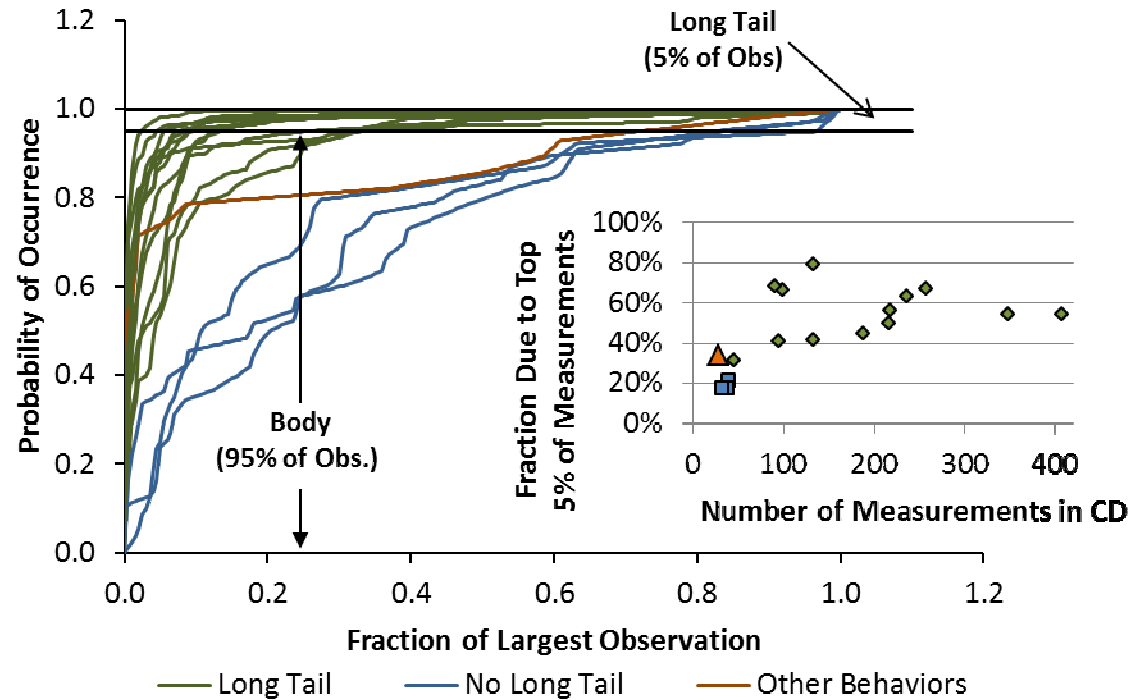




# Skewed Emissions Distributions

17 core emissions models from study

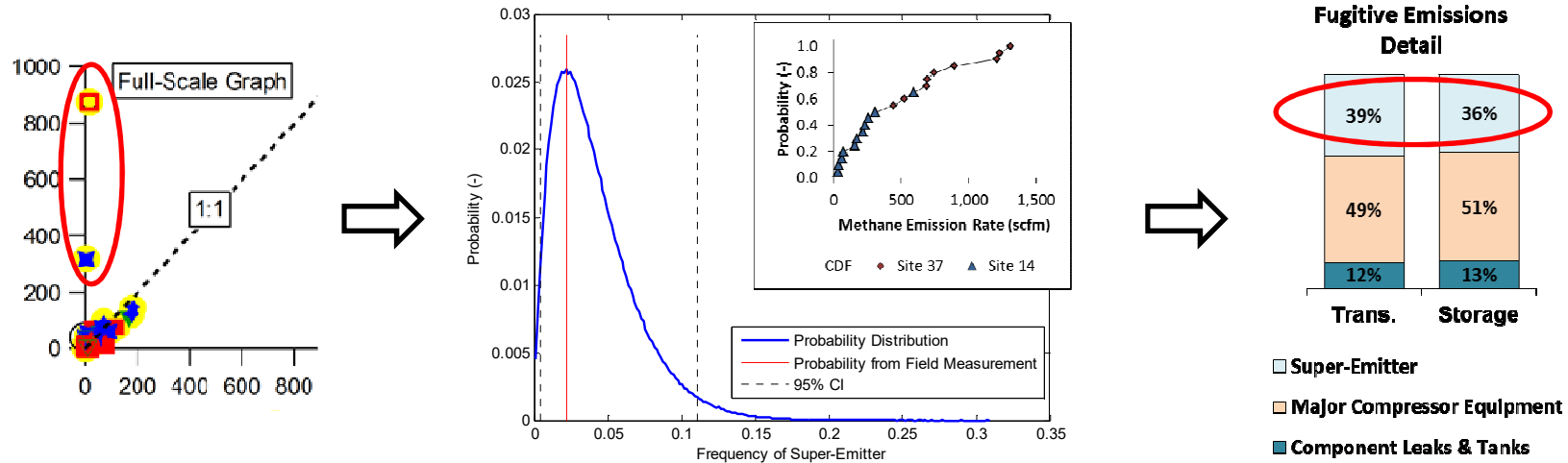
(excludes combustion methane & super-emitter models)



- “Skewed” defined as:  $\geq 30\%$  of emission from 5% of measurements
- All distributions  $> 90$  measurements *skewed*
- All distributions  $< 40$  measurements *not skewed*



# Modeling Super-Emitters



Field observation:  
2 of 45 facilities  
> 300 SCFM  
2 operating modes

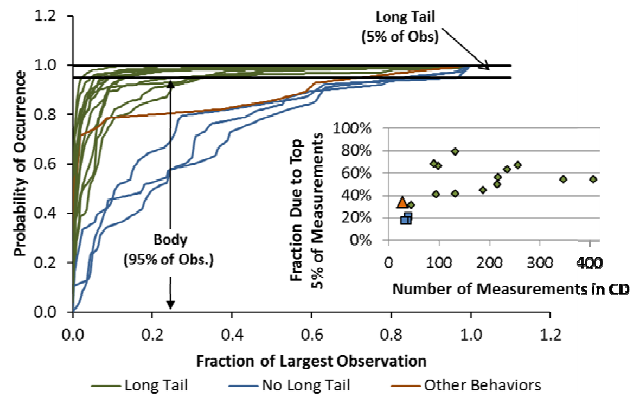
Model uncertainty of finding  
large emitters  
Mean  $\approx$  4% of facilities for  
each operating mode

*Big impact but high  
uncertainty:*  
+103%/-63% transmission  
+153%/-83% storage



# Impact of Skewed Emissions Models

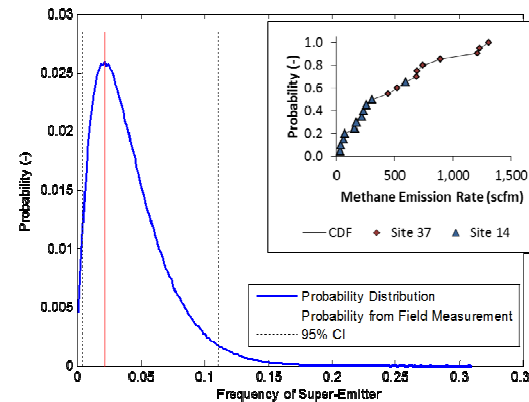
- At device level



- “Long tail” present in most emissions distributions

Long tail in 11 emission categories:  
≈14-15% of total emissions

- At facility level



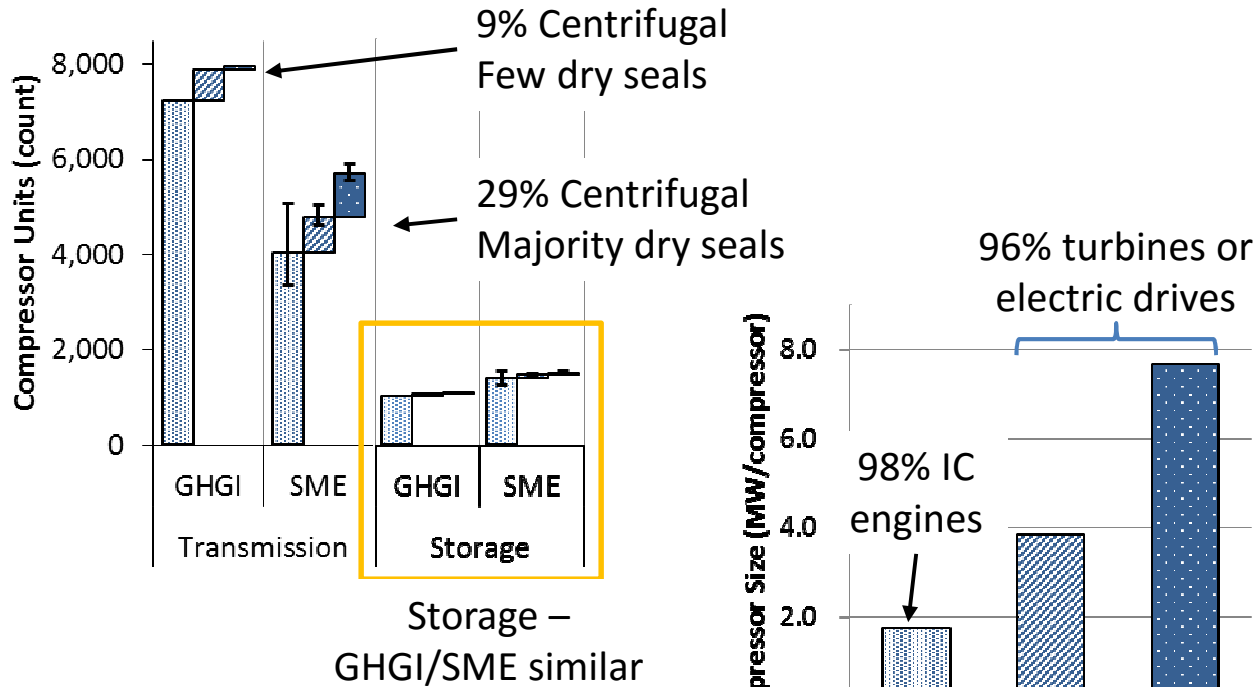
- “Super-emitters”- Exceptional emissions measured by tracer but not captured by on-site measurements

36-39% of fugitive emissions  
23% of total emissions

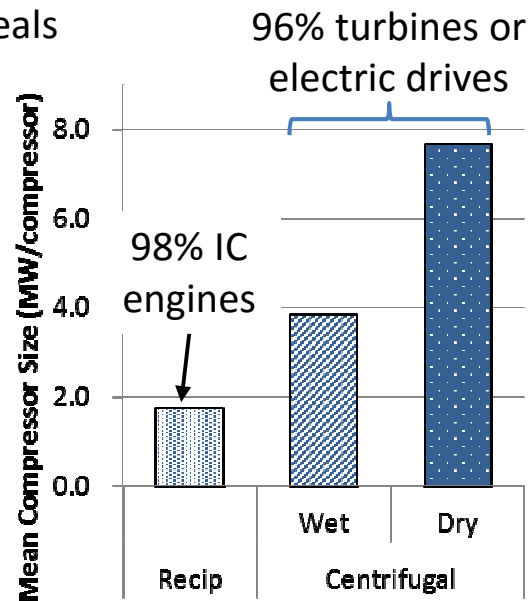
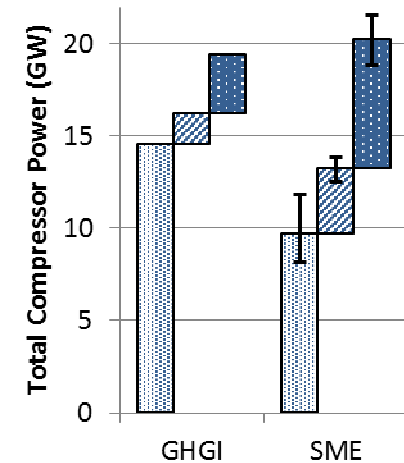
40% of total emissions



# Compressor Types: One Large Driver of Facility Emissions



≈ Same estimated total compressor power



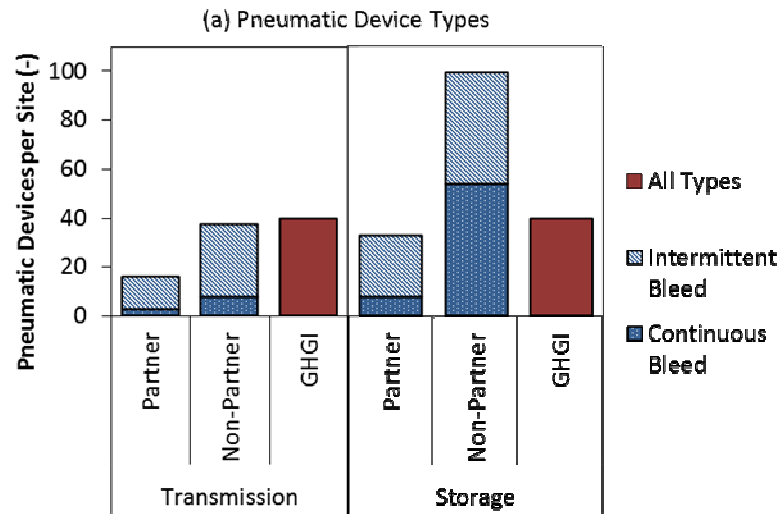
■ Recip ■ Centrifugal Wet ■ Centrifugal Dry

## Notes:

- Based on activity data from partner & non-partner facilities
- Uses baseline transmission facility count estimate

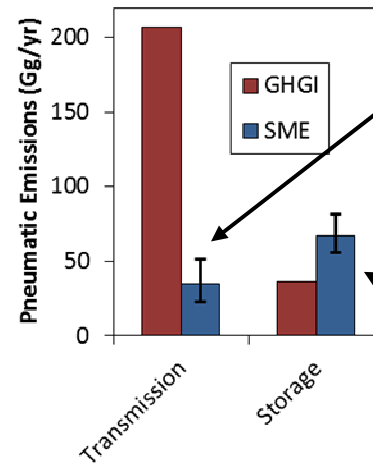


# Pneumatics



From GHGRP Data

(b) Pneumatic Device Emissions



17% of GHGI  
 Combo of device mix,  
 station count & usage  
 changes

239% of GHGI  
 Lower emission factor more  
 than offset by increase in  
 device usage

- Mix of intermittent and continuous drives emission factor
- May be seeing a shift from gas-driven to compressed air devices

Facility Type	Emission Rate (Mg/device/yr)	
	GHGI	Study
Transmission	2.9	1.0
Storage	2.7	2.1



# Seals

- Study data shows smaller difference between wet and dry seals for centrifugal compressors
  - GHGI: Factor of 8 difference
  - Study: Factor of 3 difference
- Impact on centrifugal compressor fugitives
  - GHGI: Wet = 1.6 X dry
  - Study: Wet = 1.7 X dry ... but for dry seal compressors much larger portion is due to dry seal vents (22%) than estimated in GHGI (8%)



# Station Venting

- Transmission:
  - GHGRP blowdowns (>50 scf)
  - From 617 facilities
- Storage:
  - No GHGRP data
  - Transmission data weighted by compressor count

Station Type	Venting (Mg/station/yr)	
	GHGI	Study
Transmission Stations	72	57
Storage Stations	72	43

- Significantly more data than used for the GHGI



# Engine Exhaust

	Emissions Factor	Voluntary Reductions	Net Emissions Factor
GHGI	4.6 g/hp-hr	124 Gg	2.4 g/hp-hr
GHGRP			0.09 g/hp-hr
Study			3.7 g/hp-hr

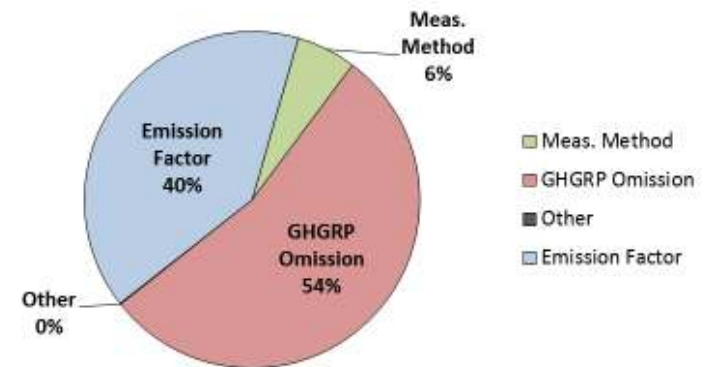
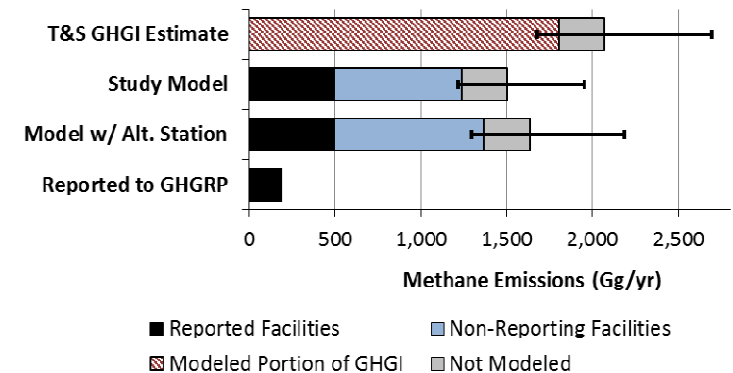
- Emission model developed from AP-42 data + partner data → Not measured in study
- Study:
  - 3.7 g/hr-hr based upon AP-42 + new data
  - 1.6X higher than GHGI
  - Study >550X higher than GHGRP for lean-burn engines





# Comparison to GHGRP

- Study:
  - 260% [215% to 330%] of reported emissions
- Why?
  - Omitted emission sources (including super-emitters)
  - Combustion exhaust & other emission factors
  - Measurement methods





## Additional Observations

- Survey teams had a hard time distinguishing between “compressor component” and “non-compressor component” categories
- Hi/low bleed pneumatic categories are ambiguous at best – we use “continuous bleed”
- We saw a difference in *reported* emissions between partner & non-partner facilities



## Conclusions

- Statistical similarity to GHGI hides significant offsetting differences embedded in:
  - Emissions factors
  - Facility & equipment utilization
- Super-emitters must be modeled carefully → More data on large emitters needed
- Significant challenges estimating “easy to get” data → counts of facilities & major equipment
- GHGRP under-reports significantly due to reporting requirements & some emissions factors



# References

- **Modeling paper**

Zimmerle, D.J., et. al., *Methane emissions from the natural gas transmission and storage system in the United States*, Environmental Science and Technology, 2015, DOI: 10.1021/acs.est.5b01669.

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.est.5b01669>

- **Web site**

<http://energyinstitute.colostate.edu/p/transmission-and-storage.html>

- **Prior Papers:**

Field study:

Subramanian, R., et. al., *Methane Emissions from Natural Gas Compressor Stations in the Transmission and Storage Sector: Measurements and Comparisons with the EPA Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program Protocol*. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2015, 49 (5), 3252–3261.

Tracer methods paper:

Roscioli, J. R., et. al, *Measurements of methane emissions from natural gas gathering facilities and processing plants: measurement methods*, *Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss.*, 7, 12357-12406, 2014.

# Thank You

## Contact

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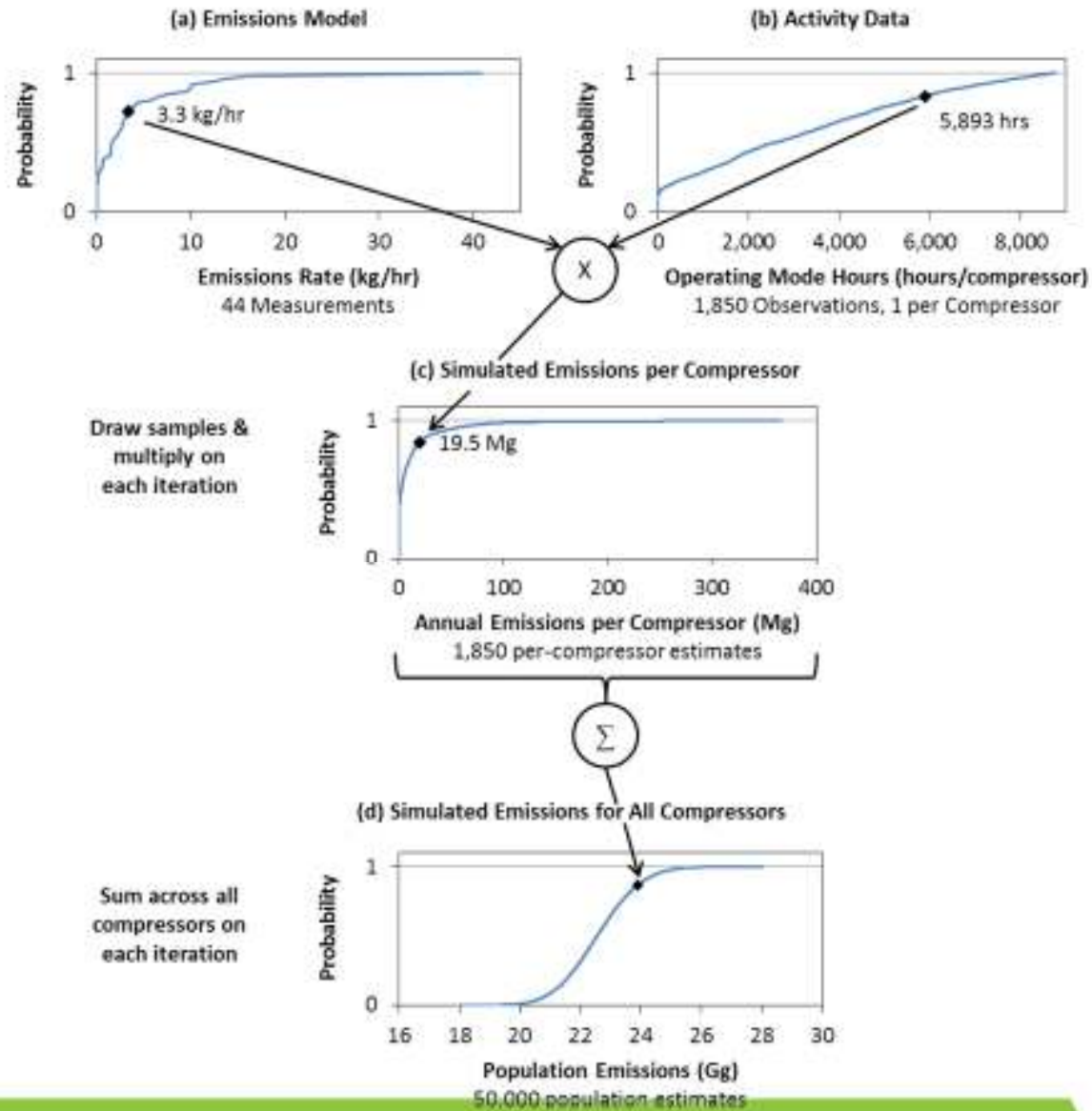
**Colorado State University**



<http://energyinstitute.colostate.edu/p/transmission-and-storage.html>



# Monte Carlo Model Example





# GHGRP Details

Comparison of Study Model Estimate to GHGRP for Sites With Measured Emissions (Lane 1 Reported & Lane 2)									
Emission Source	GHGRP (Mg)	SME (Mg)	SME Confidence Interval	Category Ratio	Difference (SME - MRR) (Mg)	Fraction of Total Difference	Primary Origin of Difference in Emissions	Notes	
Component Leaks, All GHGRP Categories	17,780	43,961	[+81%/-31%]	2.5	26,181	8.6%	Emission Factor		
Pneumatics	High & Low Continuous Bleed	7,387	13,152	[+7%/-7%]	1.8	5,765	1.9%	Emission Factor	
	Intermittent Bleed	4,312	4,312	[+0%/0%]	1.0	0	0.0%	Not modeled	1
Wellhead Components		762	762	[+0%/0%]	1.0	0	0.0%	Not modeled	1
Transmission Tanks	Flares	0	0	[+0%/0%]	1.0	0	0.0%	Not modeled	3
	Vent stack or dump valve	4,062	5,832	[+18%/-18%]	1.4	1,770	0.6%	Meas. Method	
Reciprocating Compressor Venting	Blowdown vent - NOP	11,730	18,281	[+12%/-10%]	1.6	6,551	2.2%	Meas. Method	
	Blowdown vent - OP	9,480	17,077	[+15%/-13%]	1.8	7,597	2.5%	Meas. Method	
	Isolation Valve - NOD	16,105	28,284	[+22%/-19%]	1.8	12,179	4.0%	Meas. Method	
	Rod Packing - NOP	0	44,407	[+7%/-7%]	-	44,407	14.6%	GHGRP Omission	
	Rod Packing - OP	42,994	35,701	[+9%/-9%]	0.8	-7,293	-2.4%	Other	
Centrifugal Compressor Venting	Blowdown vent - NOP	0	1,385	[+74%/-45%]	-	1,385	0.5%	Meas. Method	
	Blowdown vent - OP	3,393	6,131	[+25%/-19%]	1.8	2,738	0.9%	Meas. Method	
	Dry Seal Vent - OP	0	4,814	[+13%/-12%]	-	4,814	1.6%	GHGRP Omission	
	Isolation Valve - NOD	16,055	20,602	[+7%/-7%]	1.3	4,547	1.5%	Meas. Method	
	Wet Seal Vent - OP	4,580	11,651	[+20%/-18%]	2.5	7,071	2.3%	Other	
Combustion Methane	Lean 2 Stroke	115	64,137	[+4%/-4%]	558	64,022	21.1%	Emission Factor	
	Lean 4 Stroke	29	16,499	[+13%/-12%]	577	16,470	5.4%	Emission Factor	
	Rich 4 Stroke	6	535	[+19%/-17%]	91	529	0.2%	Emission Factor	
	Combustion Turbine	221	889	[+23%/-20%]	4.0	667	0.2%	Emission Factor	
Station Venting (Blowdowns)		51,250	55,744	[+9%/-5%]	1.1	4,494	1.5%	GHGRP Omission	2
Super-Emitter		0	100,074	[+128%/-80%]	-	100,074	32.9%	GHGRP Omission	
<b>Total for Available Emissions Data</b>		<b>190,524</b>	<b>494,539</b>	<b>[+26%/-17%]</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>303,970</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		
Notes									
1 Intermittent bleed pneumatics and wellhead components were modeled using GHGRP emission factors.									
2 SME estimate for blowdowns reflects a pass through of transmission blowdowns and a per-facility estimate of storage blowdowns. The storage blowdowns are an omission from the GHGRP requirements.									
3 Tank flare emissions (both GHGRP and SME) are smaller than the precision of the model and display as zero									