



**EoFLUX**

*Easy set-up. Expert results.*

, MONITORING THE DYNAMICS OF  
LNAPL DISTRIBUTION IN SOILS  
USING NON-DESTRUCTIVE  
FLUORESCENCE-BASED TESTING

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BALTIMORE, MD

# Outline

- Brief review of UV based characterization methods
- Motivation
- Methodology
- Results
- Summary

# Review: UV-based HRSC

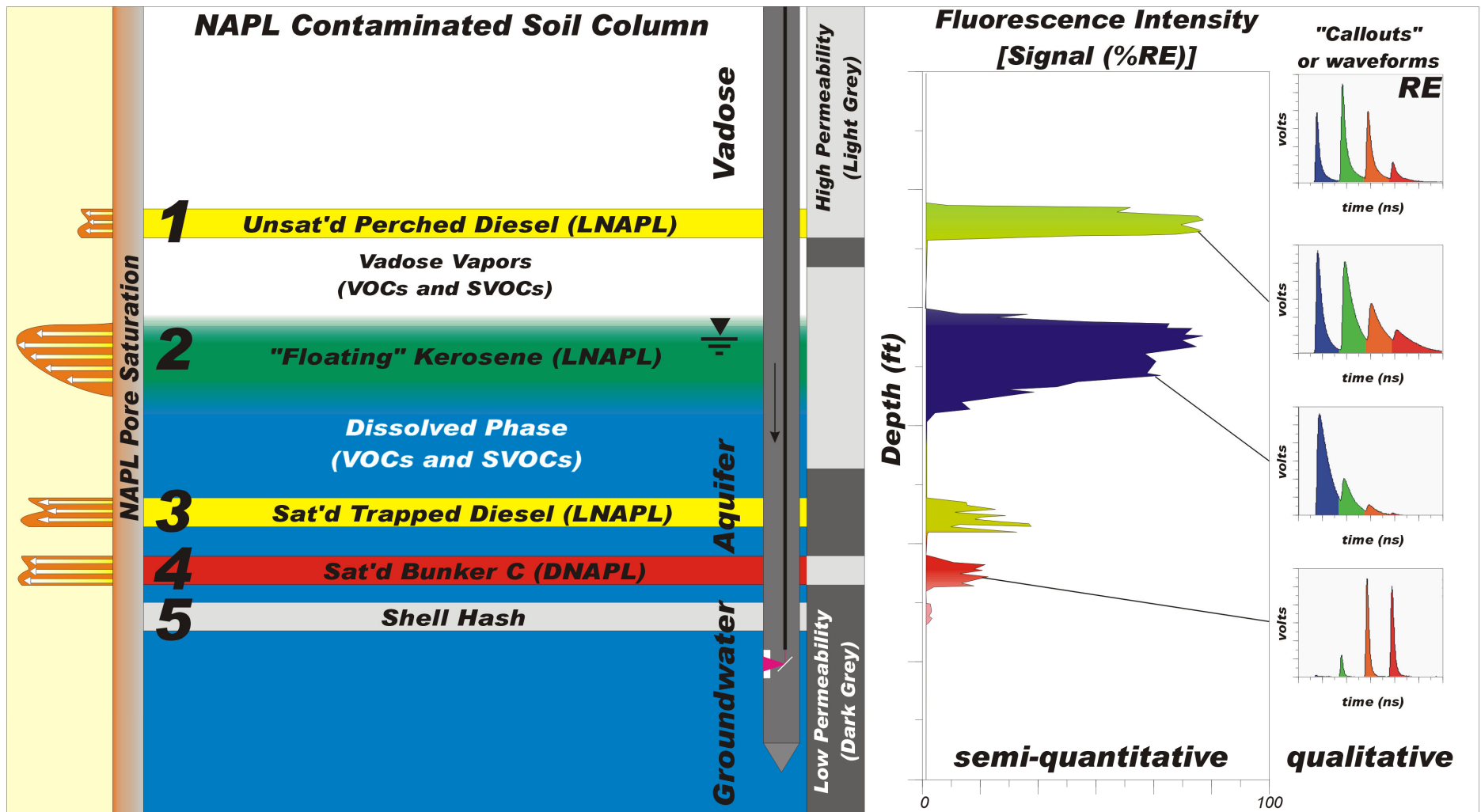
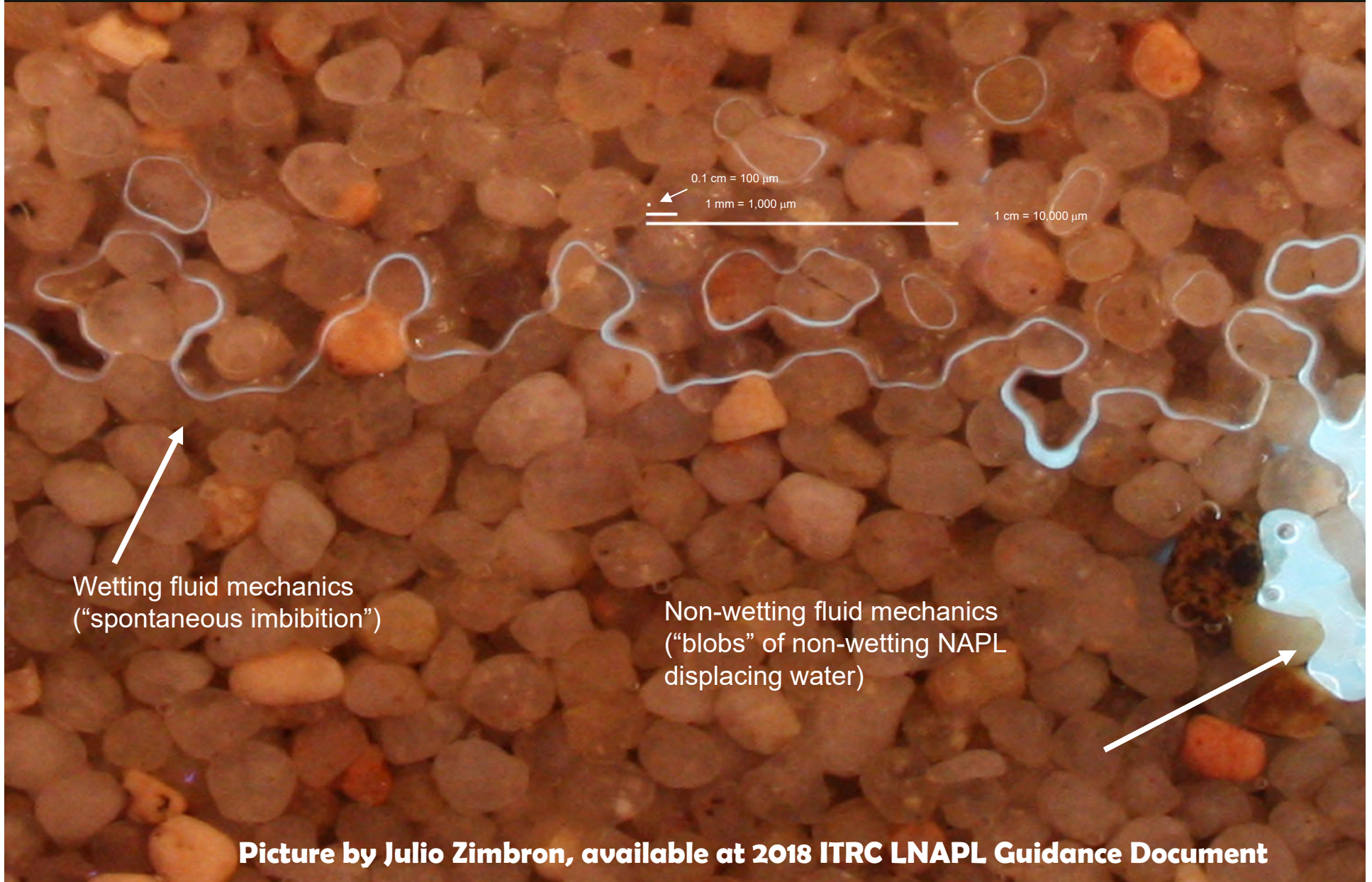


Image from Dakota Technologies (used with permission)

# Sand Tank Experiments Lessons



# Sand Tank Experiments Lessons

## 3-Phase Behavior: Mobile LNAPL

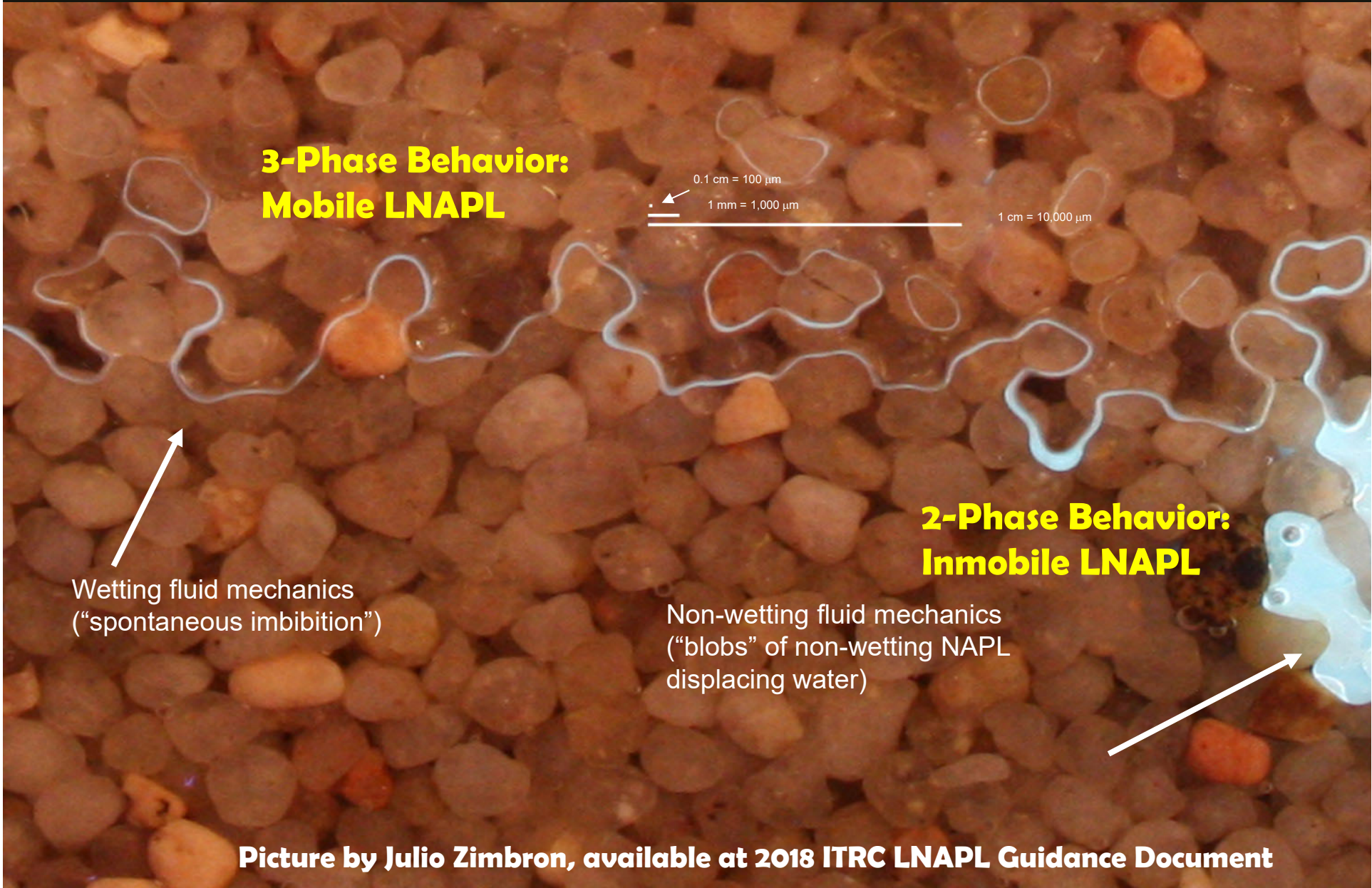
0.1 cm = 100  $\mu\text{m}$   
1 mm = 1,000  $\mu\text{m}$   
1 cm = 10,000  $\mu\text{m}$

Wetting fluid mechanics  
("spontaneous imbibition")

## 2-Phase Behavior: Immobile LNAPL

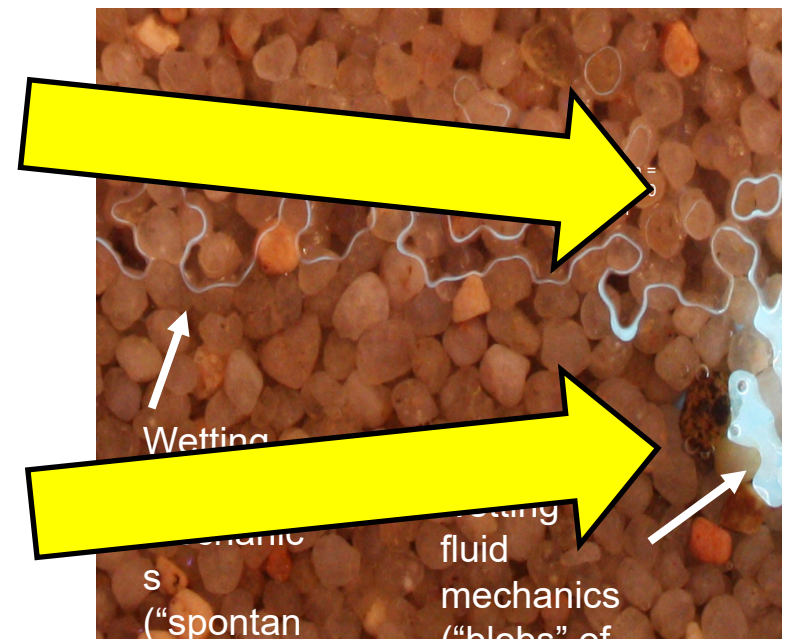
Non-wetting fluid mechanics  
("blobs" of non-wetting LNAPL  
displacing water)

Picture by Julio Zimbron, available at 2018 ITRC LNAPL Guidance Document



# Outline

Fluid Phases	Oil Displacement Mechanics	Oil Behavior	Oil Mobility
3: Water Oil Air	Surface tension based	Oil is wetting on water-coated surfaces	High
2: Water Oil	Hydraulic (head > oil displacement pressure)	Oils is non wetting, fills full pores	Very Low



# Sand Tank Experiments Lessons



Picture by Julio Zimbron, available at 2018 API LNAPL FAQs Document

# Motivation

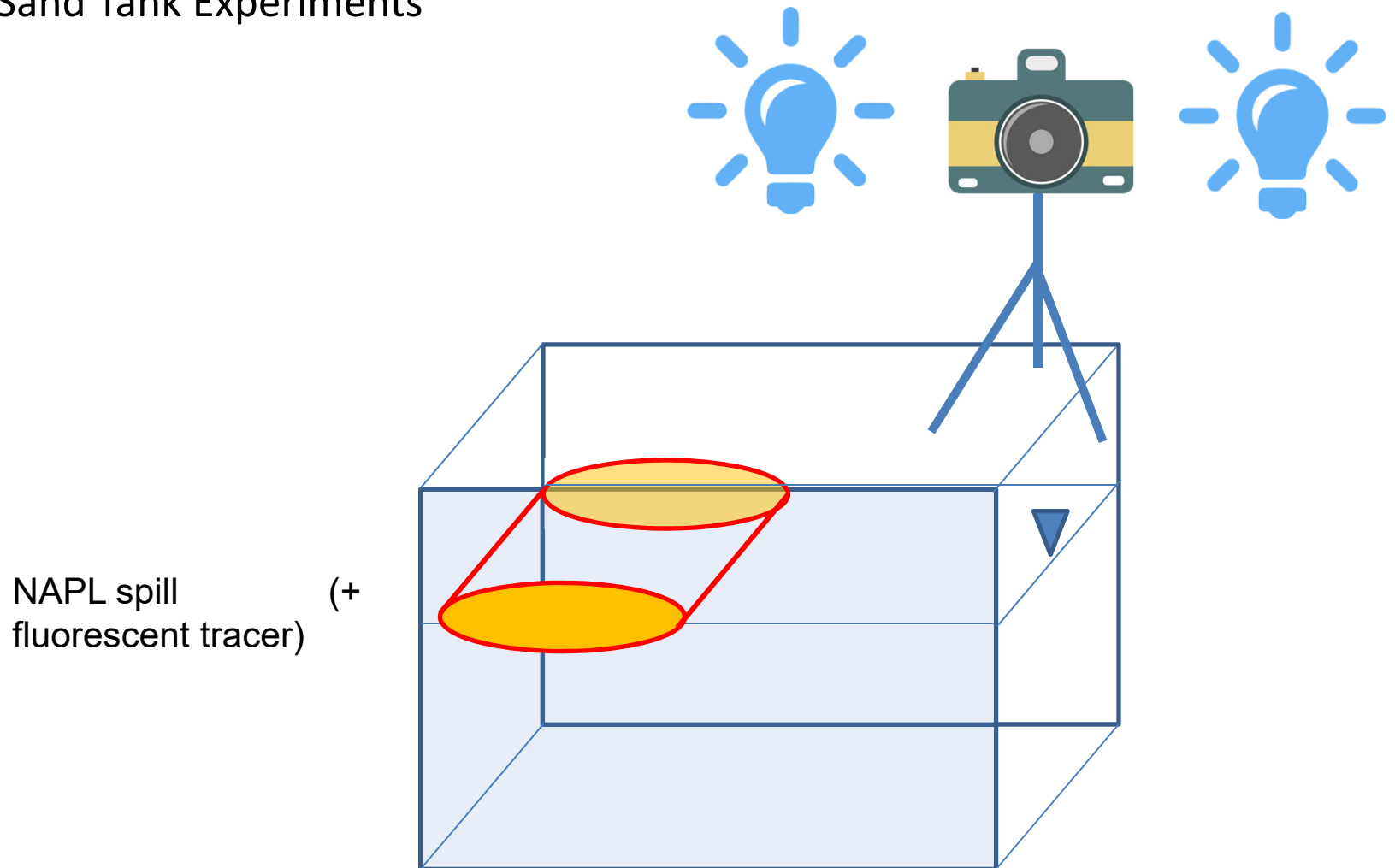
- Sand tank experiments: great by not field applicable
- Optically-based HRSC: great and field applicable but mostly used as a single time (snapshot) characterization tool
- LNAPL distribution is not static- needs tools that can adapt to dynamic monitoring

Can optical-HRSC tools be adapted to a dynamic LCSM as non-destructive versions?



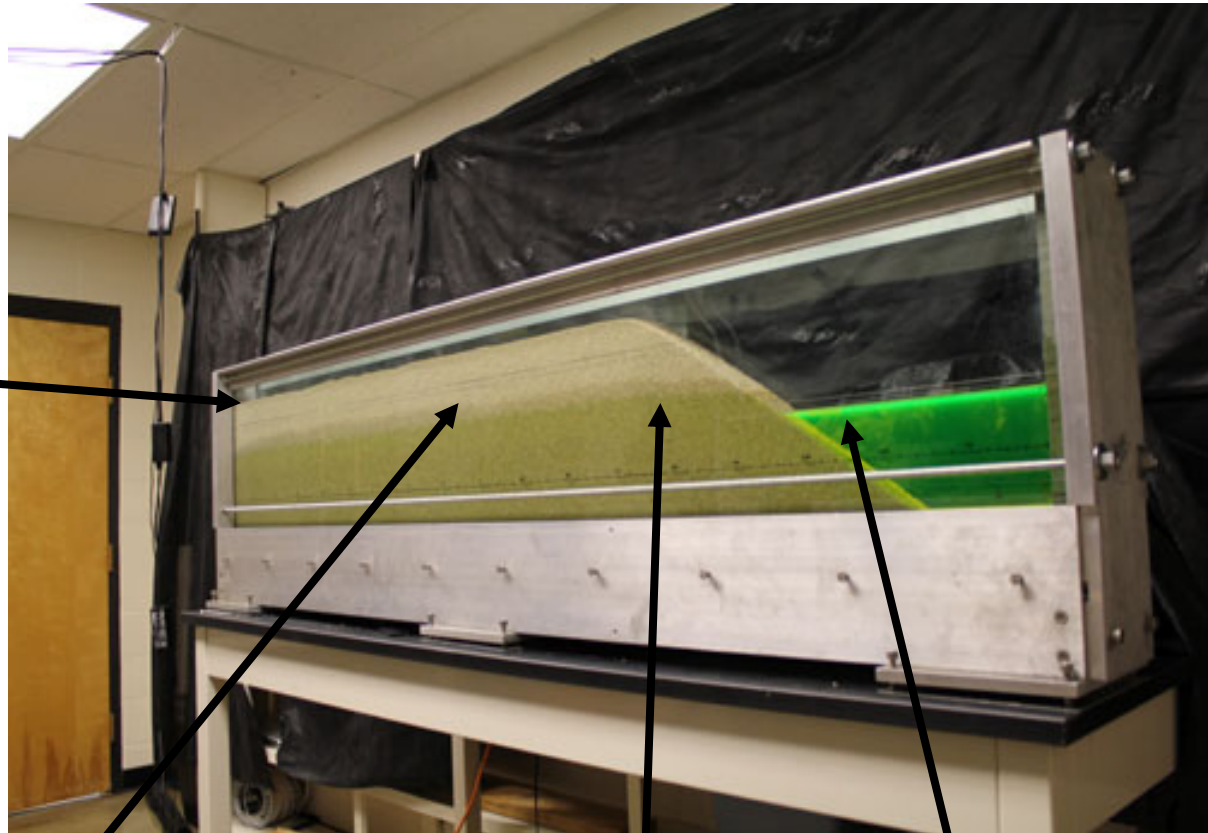
# Methods

- Sand Tank Experiments



# Review: Sand Tank Experiments

NAPL spill  
(+ fluorescent  
tracer)



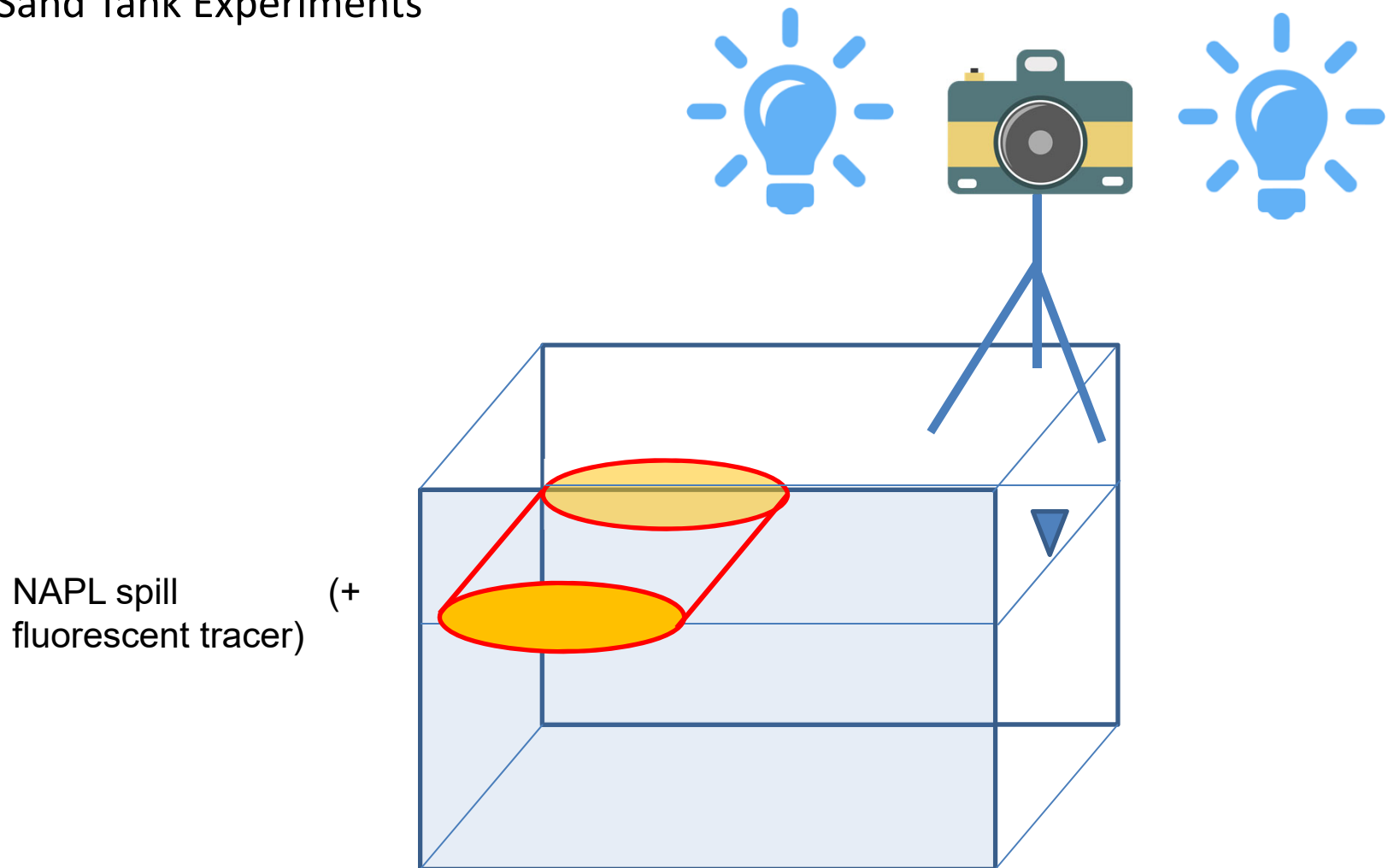
soil

capillary rise

surface water  
(+  
fluorescein)

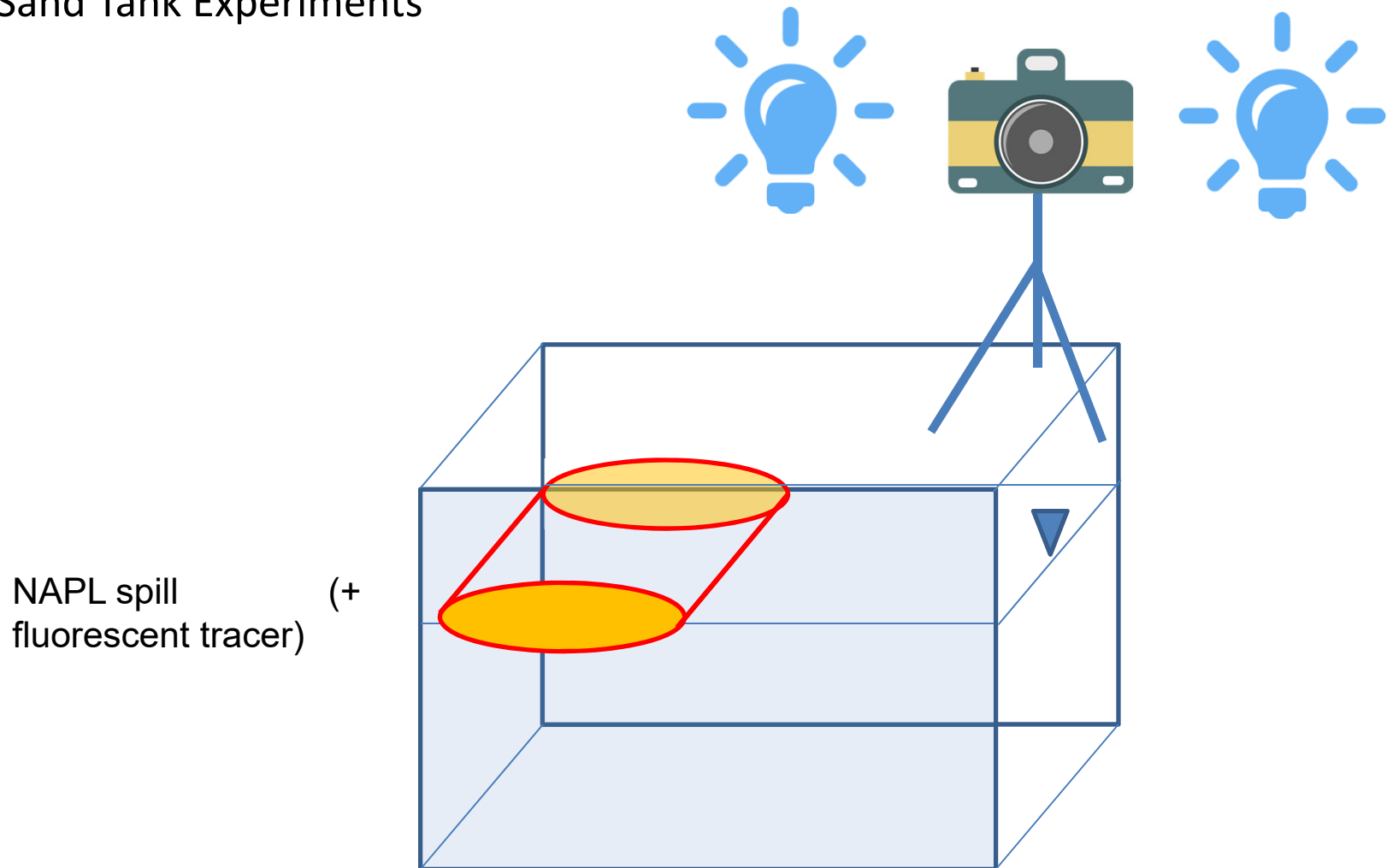
# Methods

- Sand Tank Experiments



# Methods

- Sand Tank Experiments

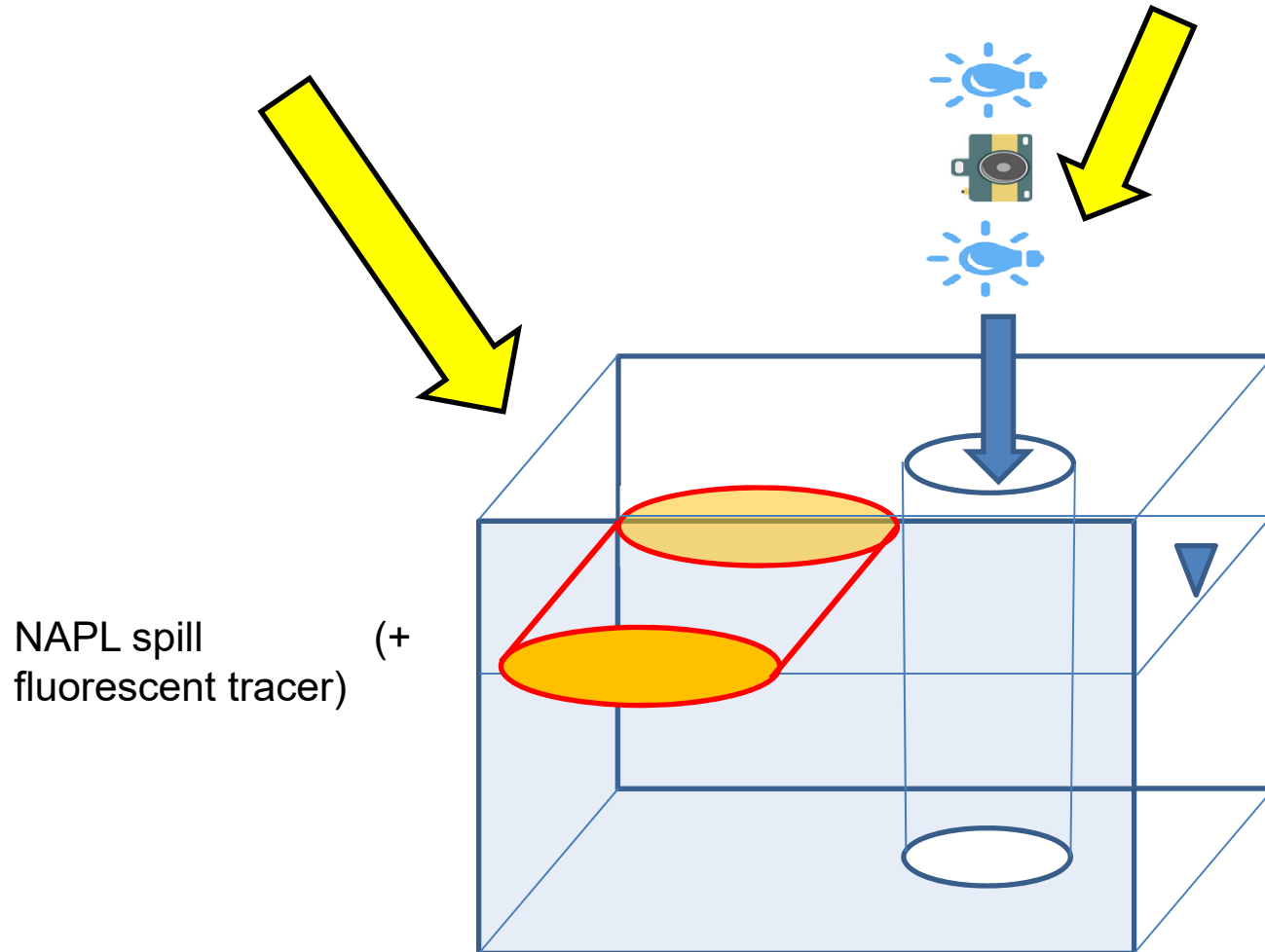


Can the principles of Sand Tank Experiments be scaled so they could be implemented in the field?

# Methods

- Sand Tank Experiments

- In Well Experiments



Can the principles of Sand Tank Experiments be scaled so they could be implemented in the field?

# Methods: In-Well UV Camera

UV LED  
lights

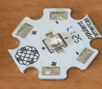
12.5x  
macro lens

camera

board

2 in PVC  
housing

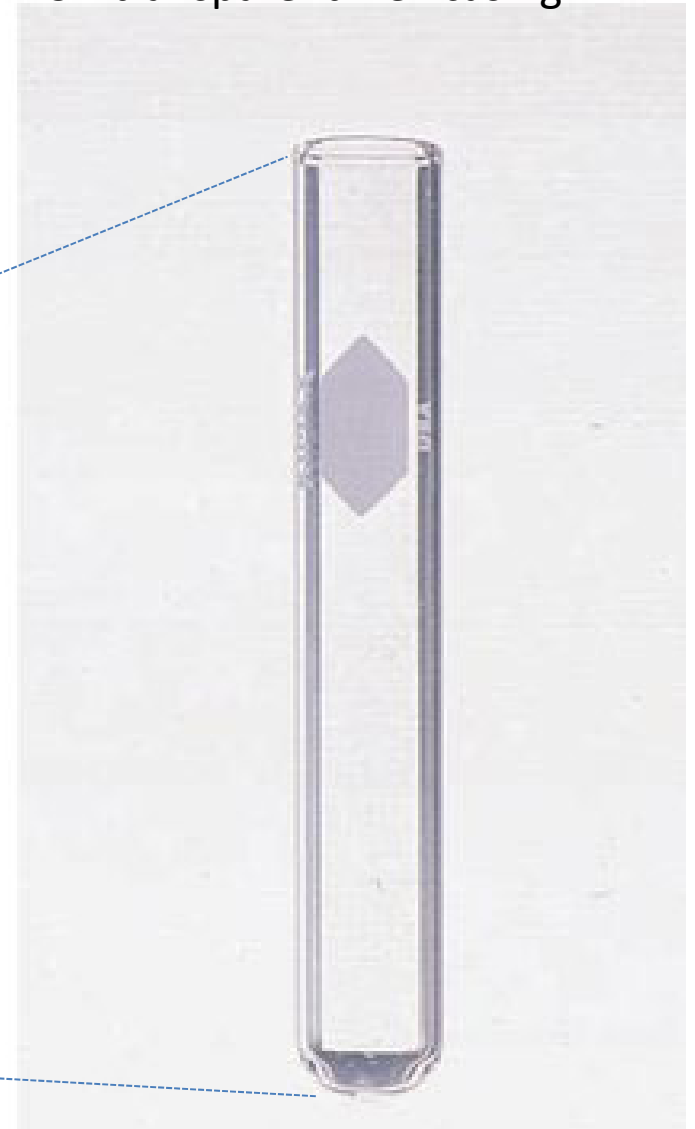
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WTO 2019 0233573 A1



# Methods: In-Well UV Camera



UV transparent well casing



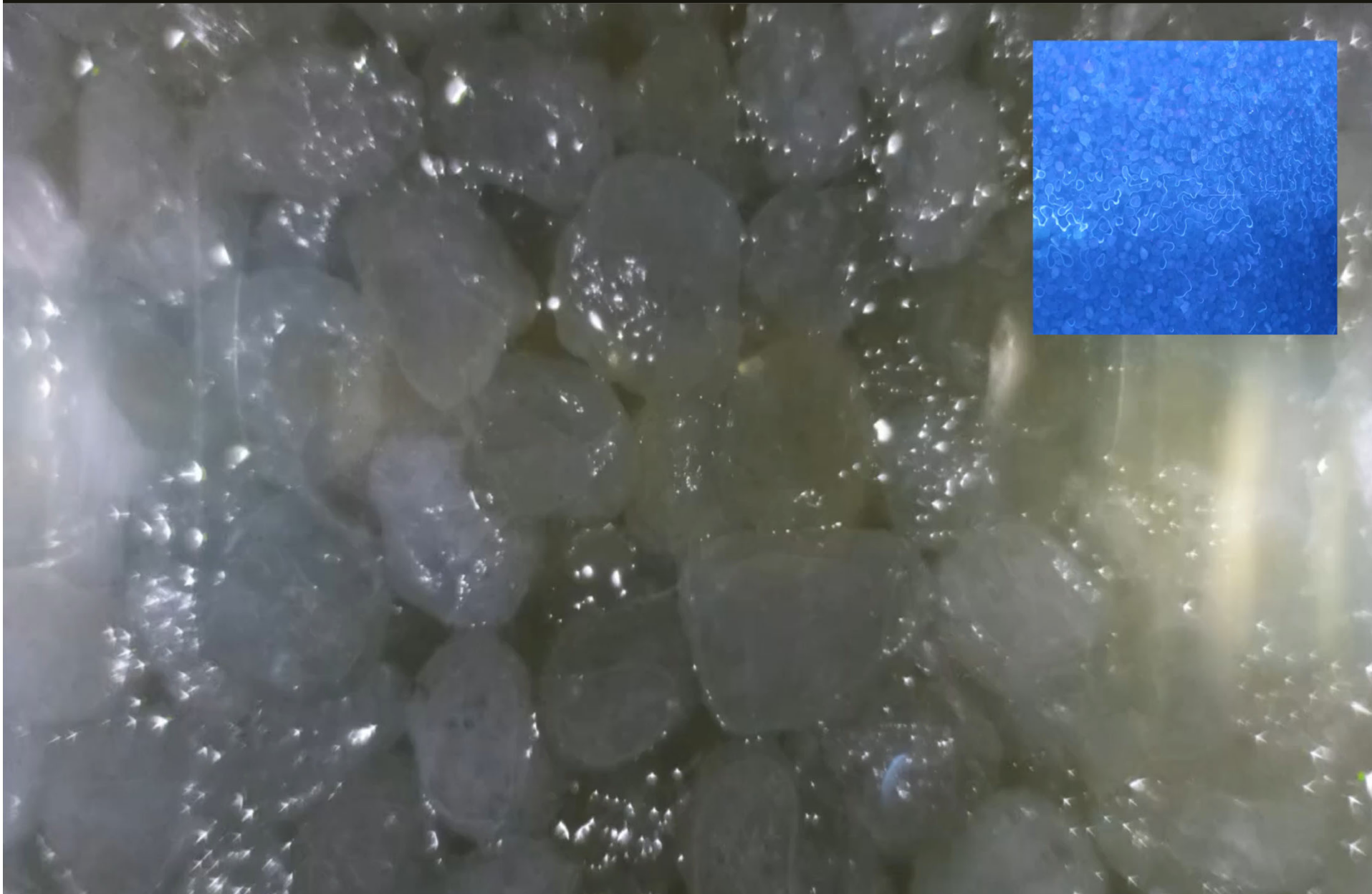
# Small tank experiments: diesel



# Results: Outer View of Sand Tank w/Diesel



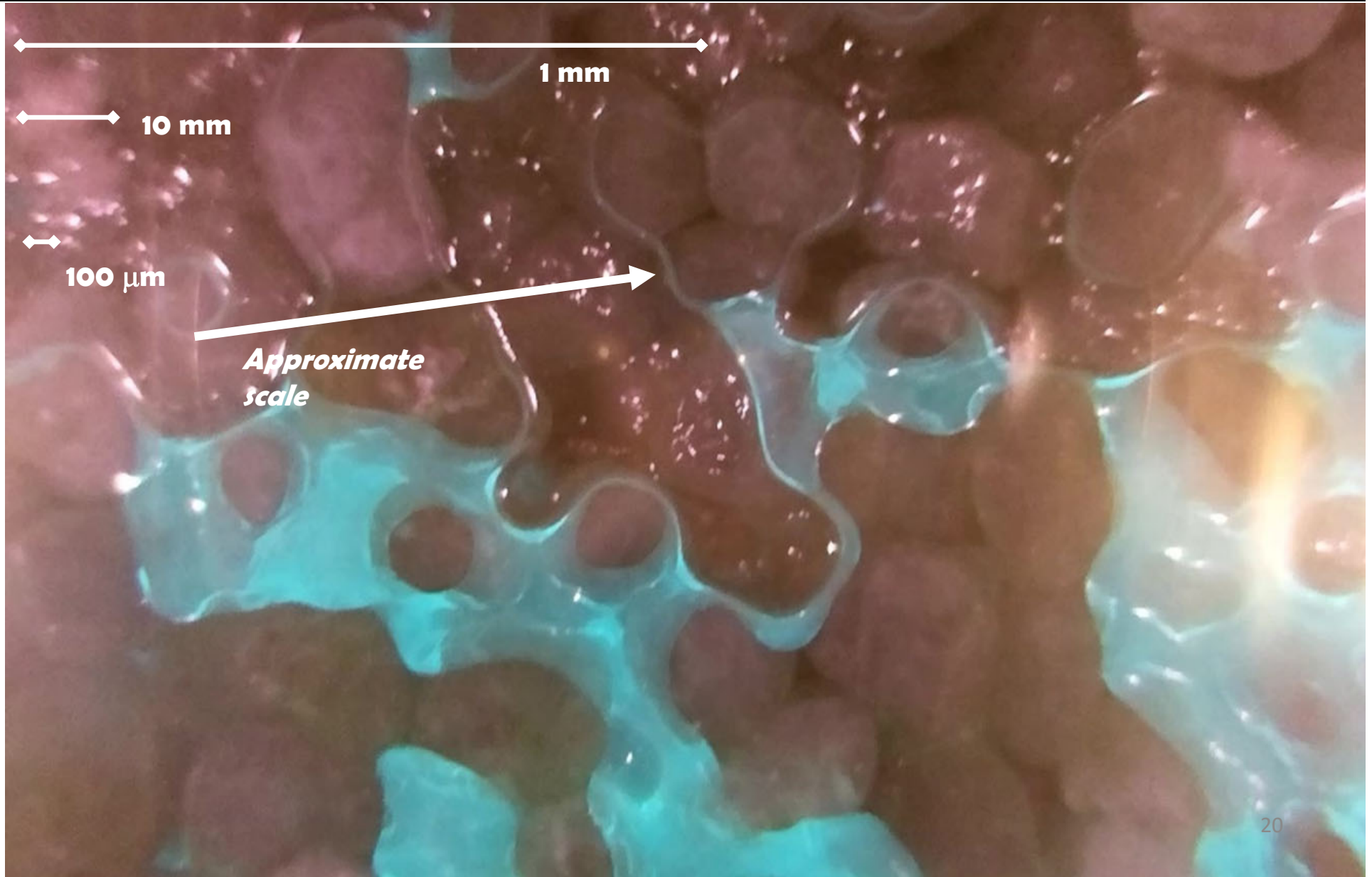
# Results: Diesel (stationary In Well Camera)



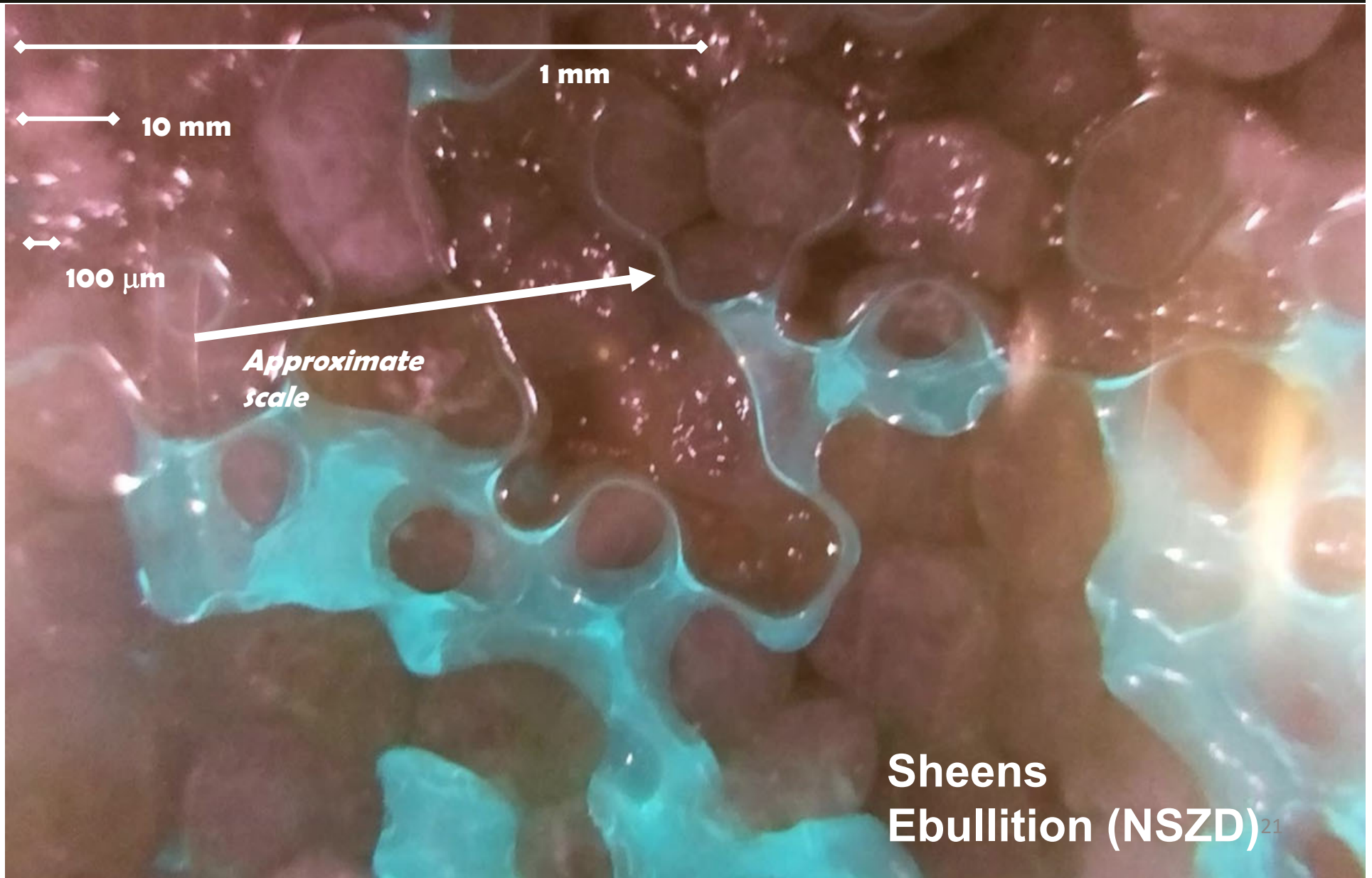
# In Well, Diesel: Dropping the In Well Camera



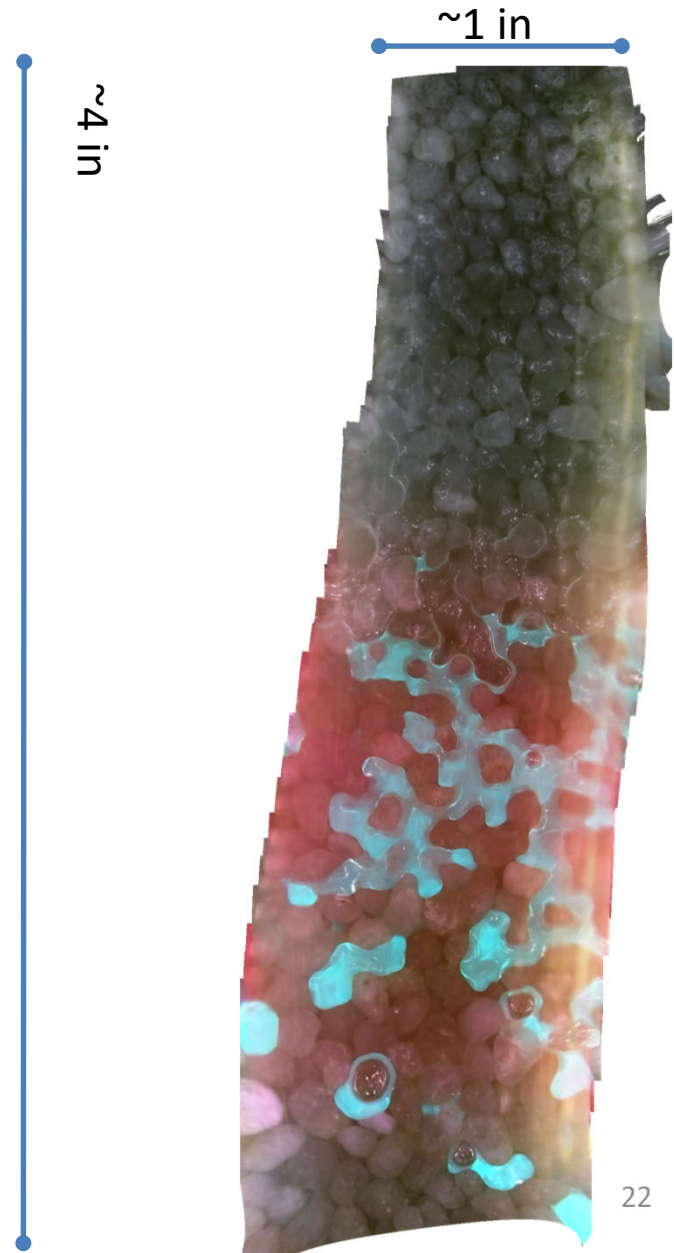
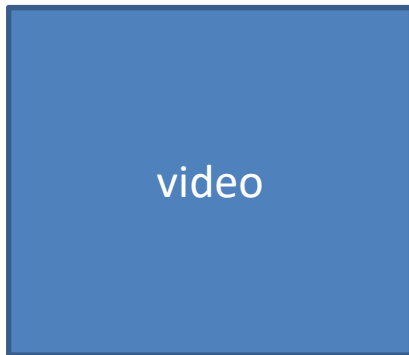
# In Well: Diesel Zoom-In Highlights



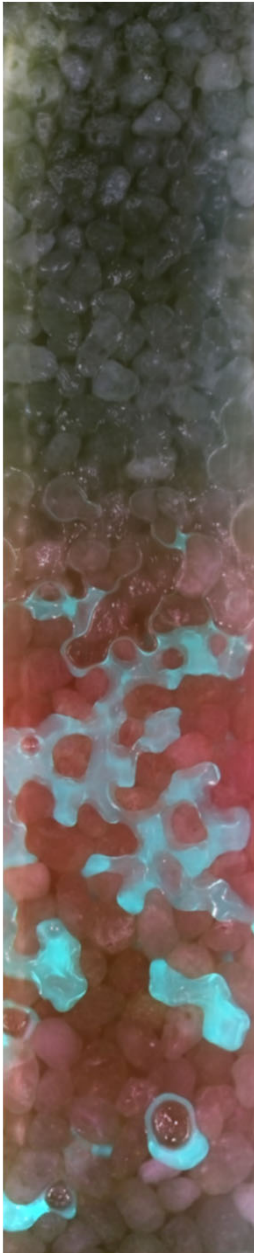
# In Well: Diesel Zoom-In Highlights



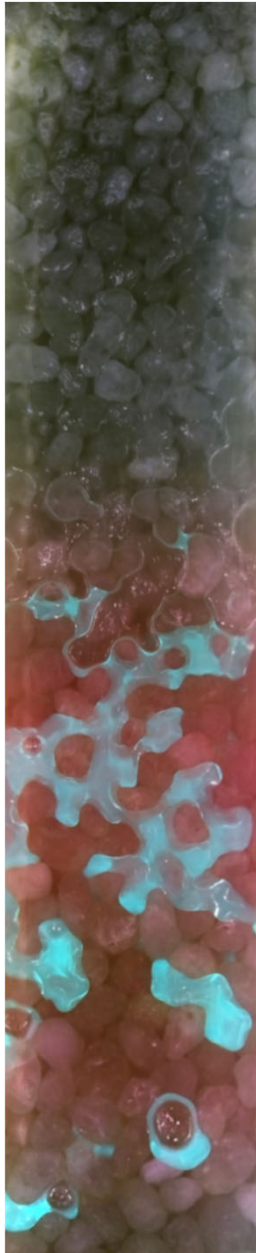
# In Well: Dropping the iWUC



# In Well: From digital images to saturation estimates

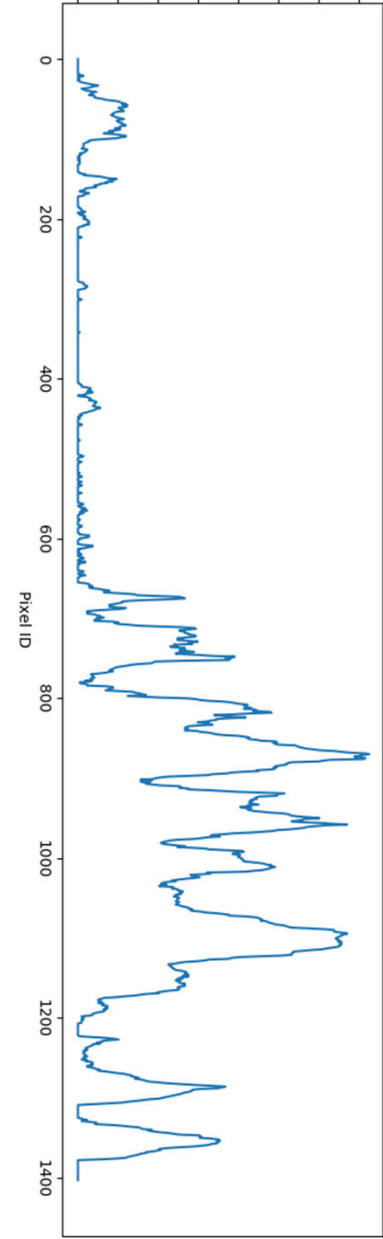
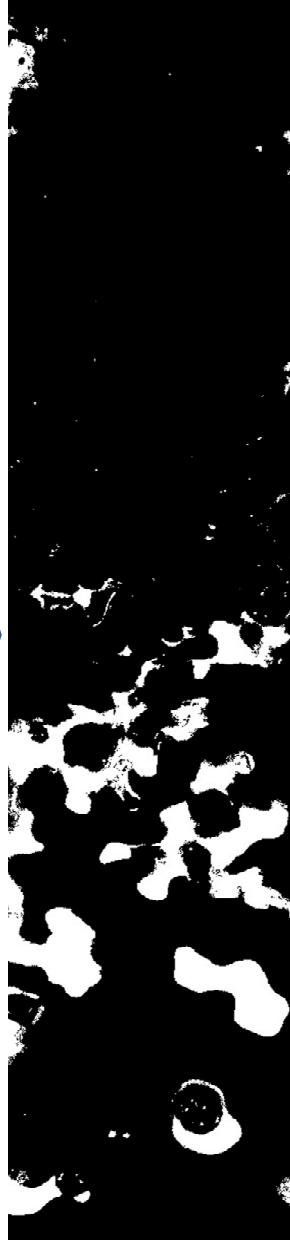
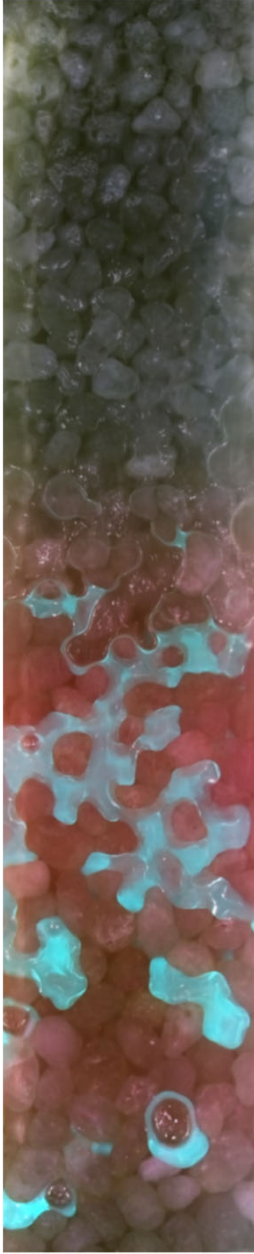


# In Well: From digital images to saturation estimates



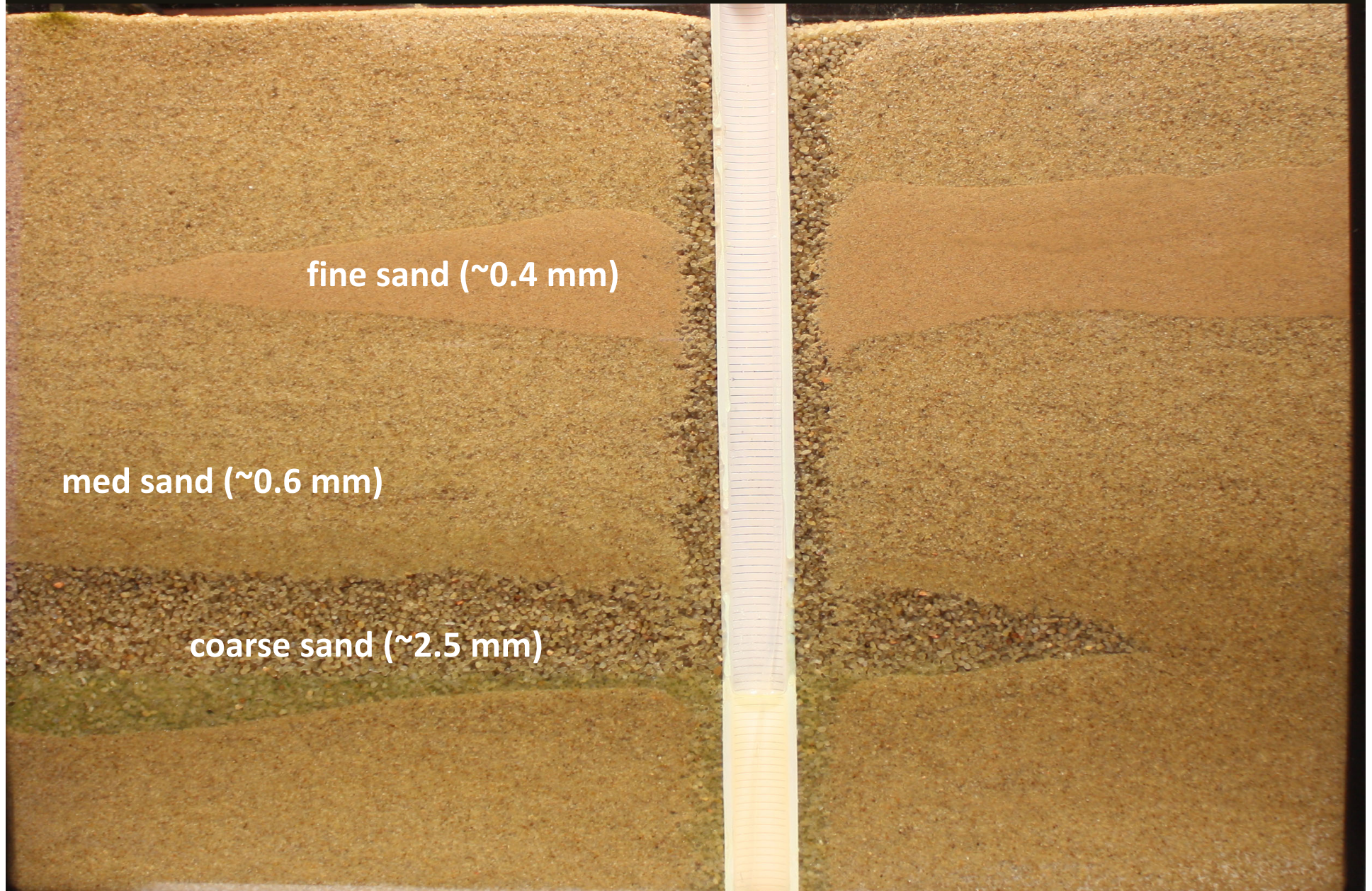


# In Well: From digital images to saturation estimates

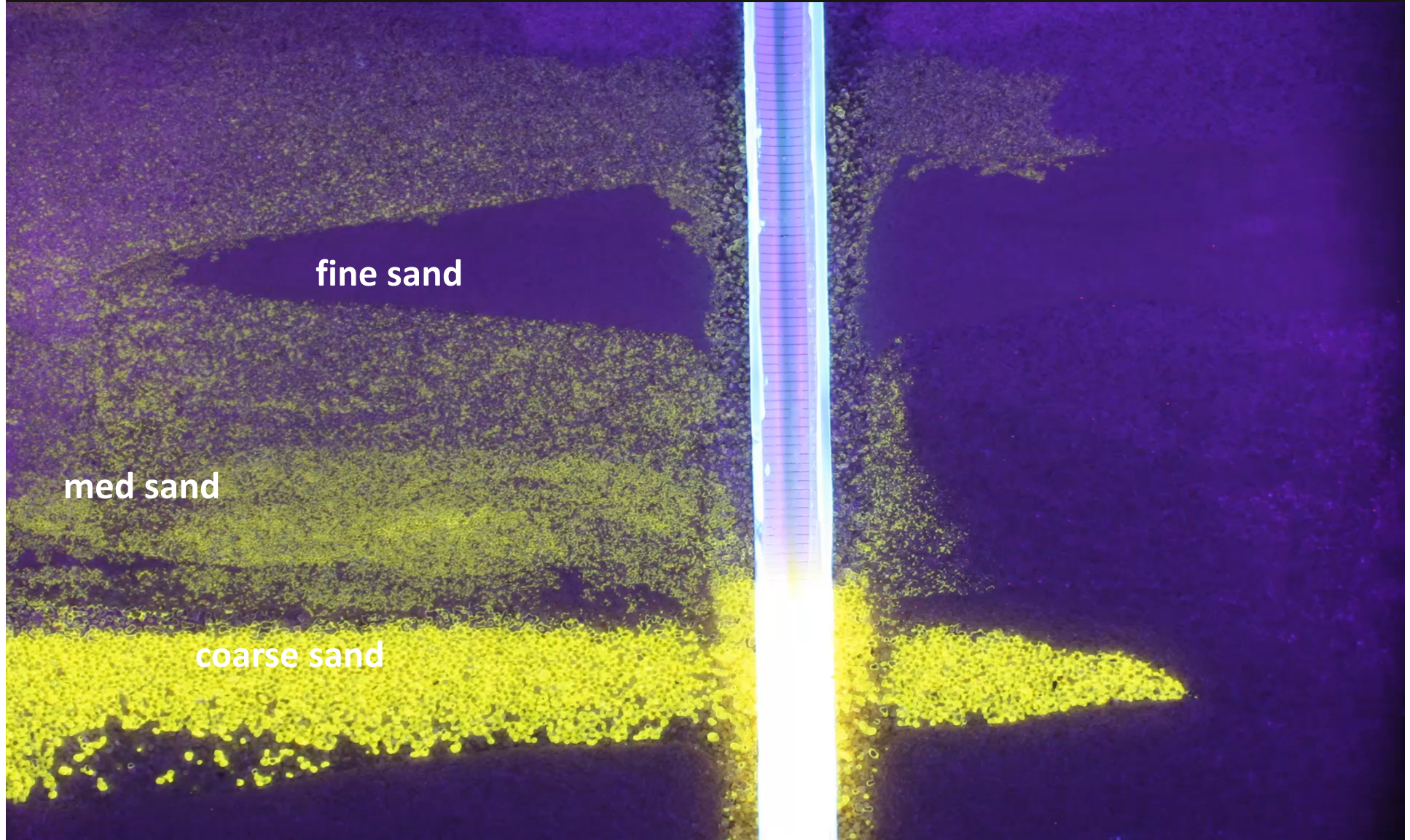


# Medium tank experiments: dyed baby oil

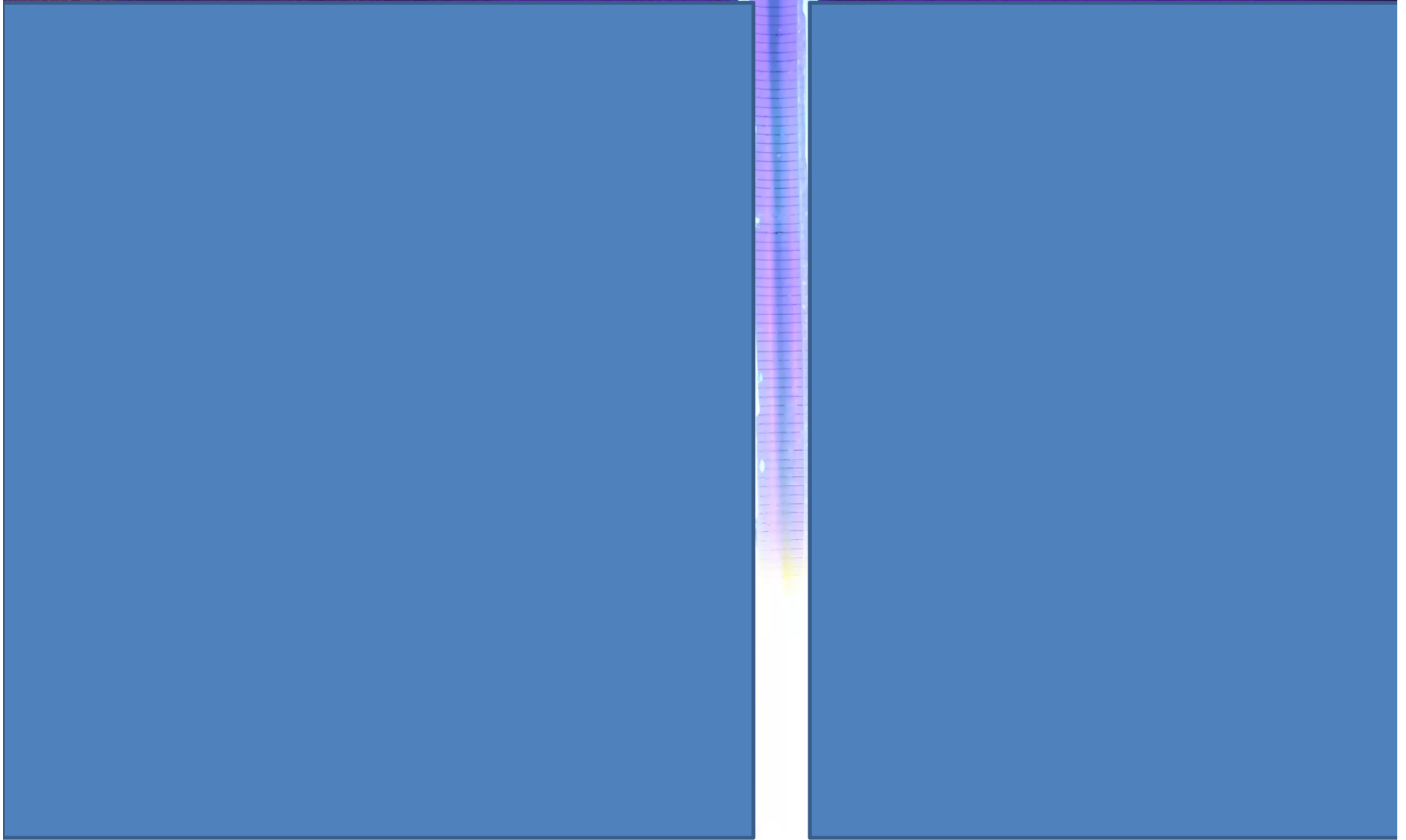
# Large Tank, Layered Soil, Baby Oil, Outside



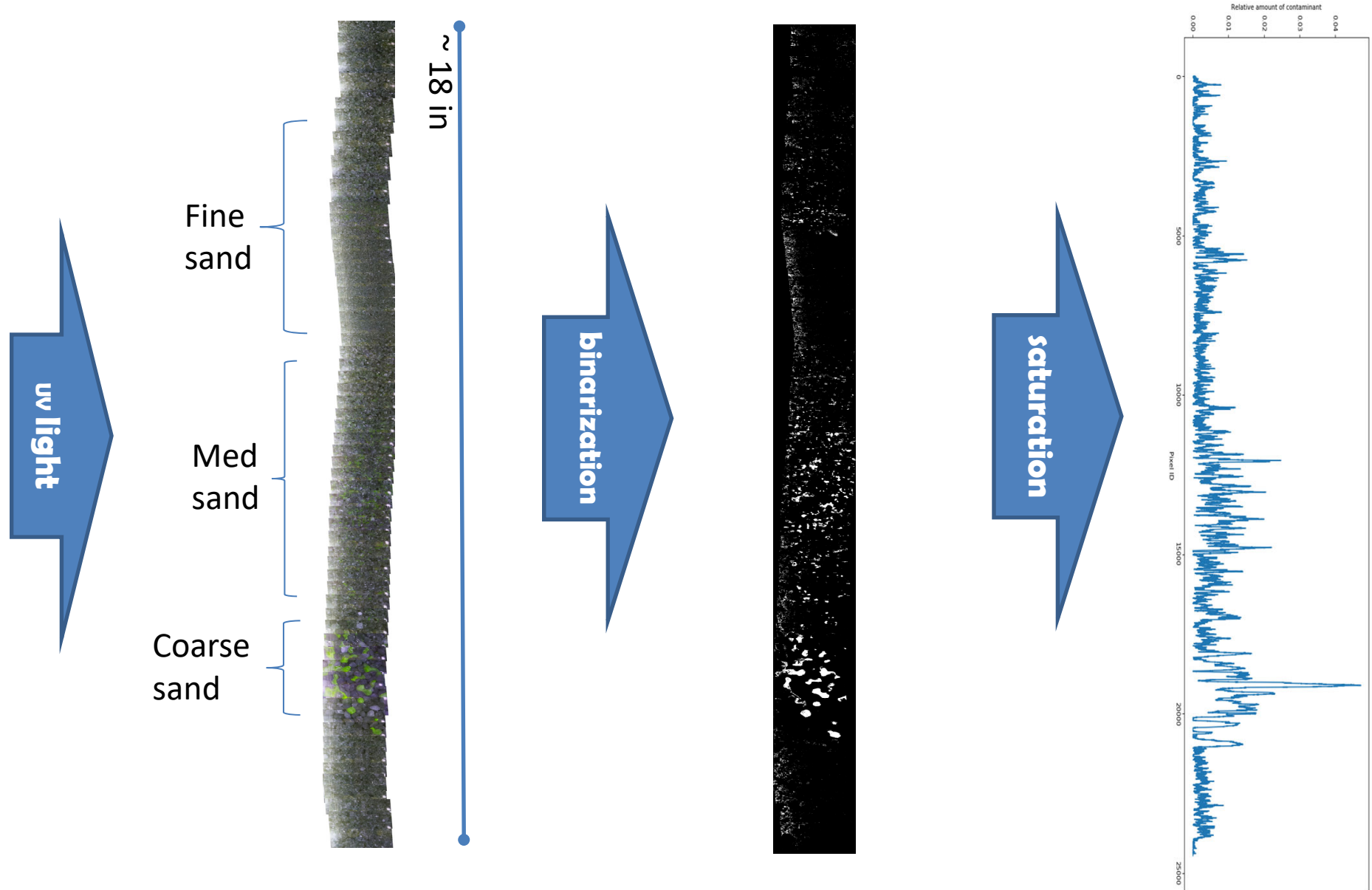
# Results: Outer View of Sand Tank, Layered



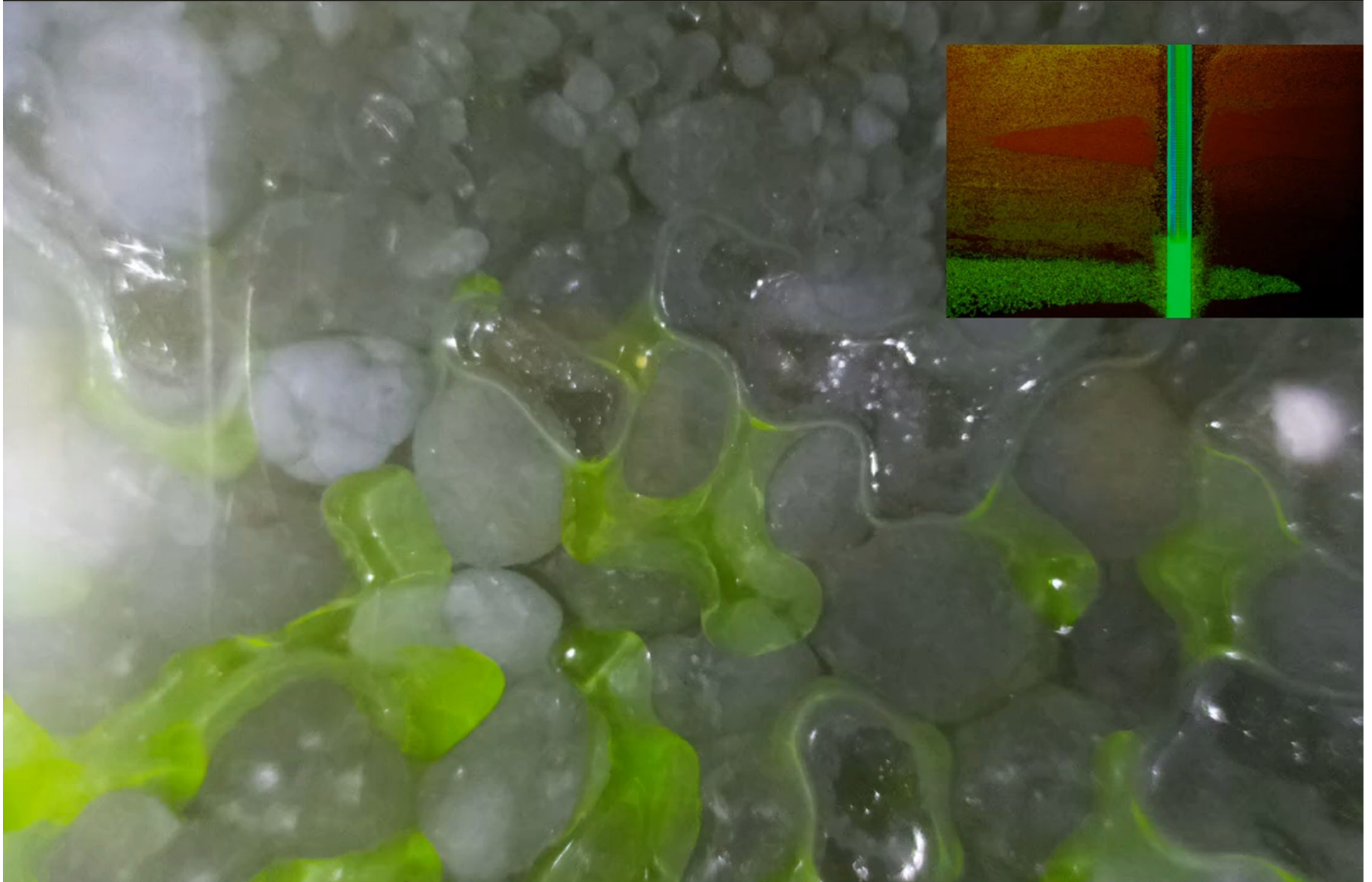
# Results: Outer View of Sand Tank, Layered



# In Well Camera: Vertical Survey



# In Well Camera: Water Table Fluctuations

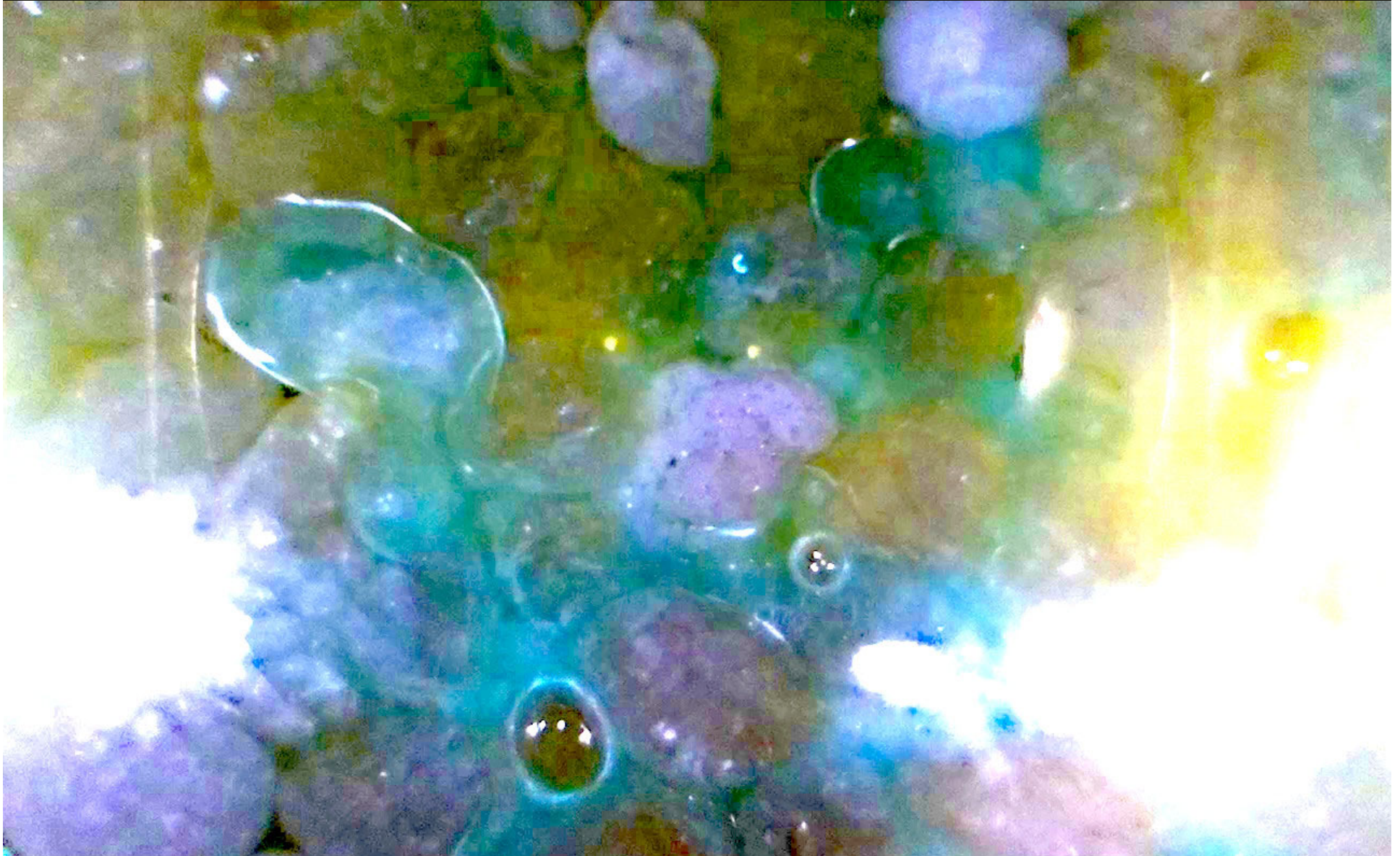


# Contaminants

- Baby oil with fluorescent dye
- Diesel
- Gasoline
- Others?



# Other Contaminants (Gasoline) In Well Camera



# Limitations

- Inherent contaminant fluorescence
- Well casing materials
- Well casing installation
- Well packing Vs. formation collapse

# Final Thoughts

- Very early prototype in order to improve time resolution of HRSC UV based technologies
- Pics shown, but other techniques may have higher sensitivity
- Lots of work ahead...

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- Very early prototype in order to improve time resolution of HRSC UV based technologies
- Pics shown, but other techniques may have higher sensitivity
- Lots of work to be done



# Credits

- Photos within tank: Jenna DiMarzio and Justin Walton
- Photos on outside of tank wall: Jenna DiMarzio
- Photo editing: Gabriel Rodriguez
- Hardware design: Justin Walton, Wes Taylor
- Video editing: Justin Walton, Gabriel Rodriguez