

# Classifying California Truck Activity Using Loop Sensors



**UCIrvine**  
University of California, Irvine

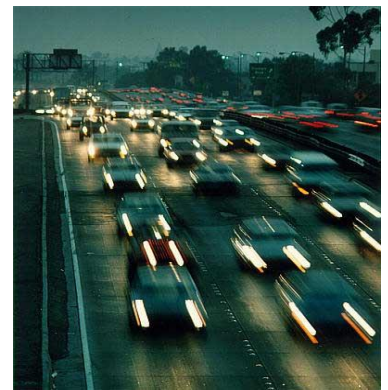
Innovations in Freight Data Workshop:  
Technologies for Monitoring, Tracking, and Data Collection



**ITS**  
University of California  
Irvine

Andre Tok

May 17th, 2017



# Trailer Configurations



# Trivia #1

Which of the following corridors has seen the highest volume of double belly dump trailer trucks in 2017?



I-5 at Stockton

SR-99 at Fresno

US-101 at Paso Robles

SR-14 at Santa Clarita

I-5 at South OC /  
San Clemente



# Trivia #1

Which of the following corridors has seen the highest volume of double belly dump trailer trucks in 2017?



SR-14 @ Newhall Ave (ILD), ILD site  
Summary Data for Tuesday, Apr 25 2017

Click on individual summary volume counts to obtain detailed hourly breakdown by body class

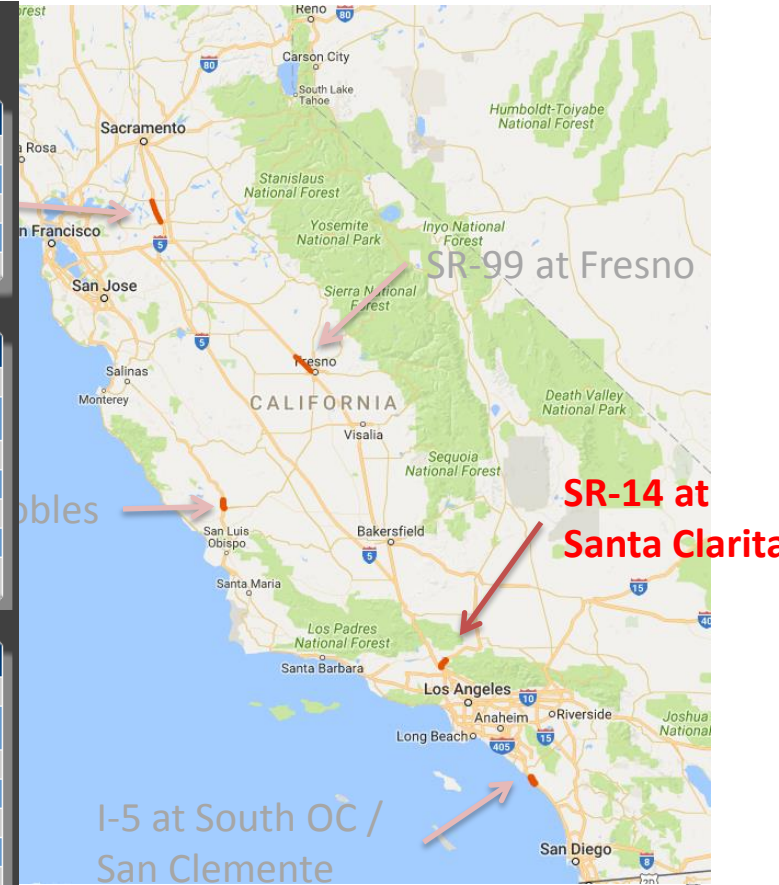
Vehicle Category	NB (Truck Lanes Only)	SB (Truck Lanes Only)
Passenger Vehicle	21173	15512
Single Unit Truck	3619	2495
Truck with Single Trailer	585	534
Tractor with Semi-Trailer	1815	1583
Tractor with Multiple Trailers	673	660

SR-14 @ Newhall Ave (ILD): NB (Truck Lanes Only), Tier 2 Class Multi: Breakdown by Hour of Day

Body Class	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Total
Agricultural Van				1																					1
Bottom Belly Dump	2	12	13	15	5	7	14	13	29	32	33	35	35	39	38	13	9	6	6	10	2	8	6	5	385
Enclosed Van	5	2	1	2	4	1					1	2	2					2	2			3	9	5	41
End Dump																	1								1
Hopper			1		1				2	3	1	2	1	2	3	1	1								18
Platform/Tank	6	8	7	7	4	16	10	9	12	13	10	10	17	11	10	17	5	7	8	2	7	7	10	4	217
Van/Platform (Low Chassis)	1						1	1			1			2	2		1	1							10

SR-14 @ Newhall Ave (ILD): SB (Truck Lanes Only), Tier 2 Class Multi: Breakdown by Hour of Day

Body Class	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Total
Agricultural Van								1																	1
Bottom Belly Dump	11	1	4	8	11	35	25	23	26	22	29	23	34	23	18	5	7	14	19	10	13	5	3	12	379
Enclosed Van		1		3	3	7	3	5	2	3	1	1	1	2			2		1	1	1				37
End Dump				1																					1
Hopper	1				1	1	3	5	2	3	1	3	1	3						1	2			1	28
Platform/Tank	8	4	4	9	20	13	11	12	12	10	10	12	12	6	6	3	4	5	8	7	8	11	6	3	204
Van/Platform (Low Chassis)				1			1	1	1			1			2	1	1					1			10

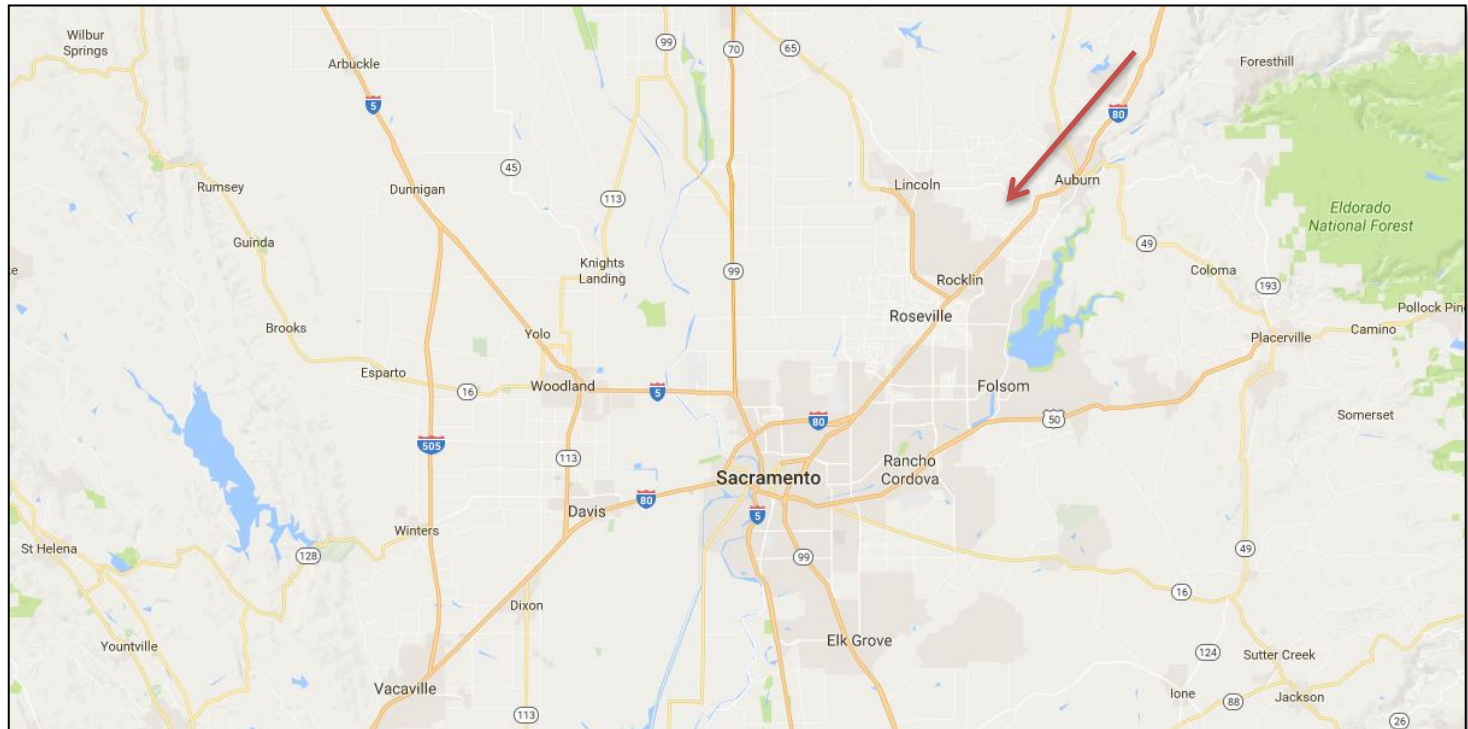


# Trivia #2

What is the approximate daily weekday volume of logging trucks on I-80 heading from the Sierra Nevada east bound towards Sacramento in November 2016?



- a. 30
- b. 50
- c. 100
- d. 200

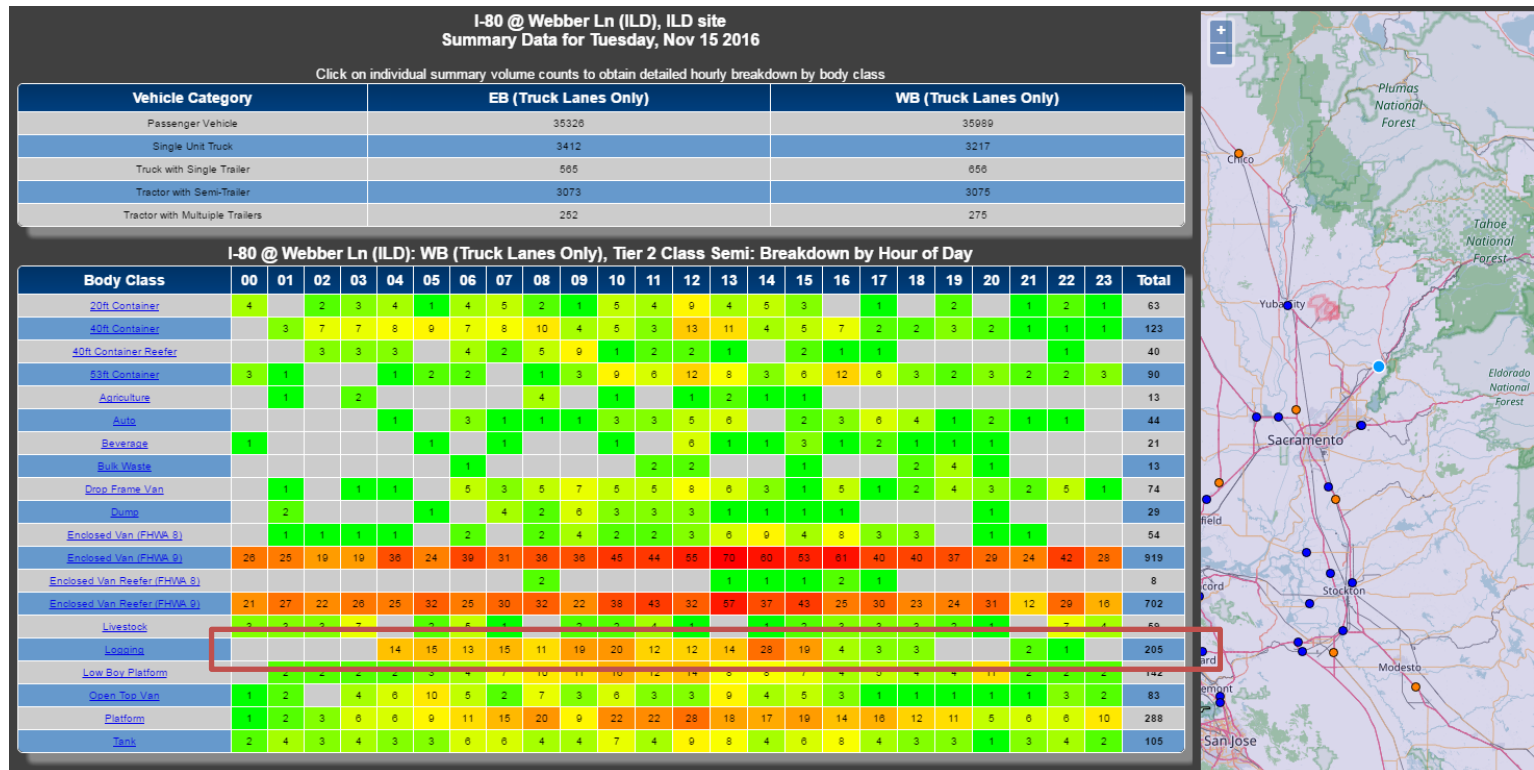


# Trivia #2

What is the approximate daily weekday volume of logging trucks on I-80 heading from the Sierra Nevada east bound towards Sacramento in November 2016?



- a. 30
- b. 50
- c. 100
- d. 200**



# Existing Truck Activity Data Sources

## Mobile



- GPS
- Telematics

## Static / Count Data



- Weigh-In-Motion (WIM)
- Automatic Vehicle Classifier (AVC) System

## Surveys



- 2002 National Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey (VIUS)
- 2016/17 California VIUS
- Regional Intercept Surveys



# The Research Question

Can we leverage **existing infrastructure**  
to provide **detailed truck activity data**  
at the **statewide level**  
to meet **freight modeling and analysis needs?**

## Our Solution

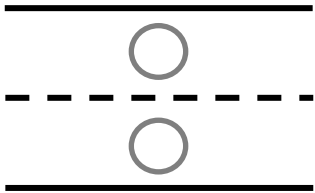
Develop comprehensive cutting-edge classification models that

- can be implemented at existing traffic detector sites
- to provide truck activity data by industry-affiliated configuration
- using advanced inductive signature technology

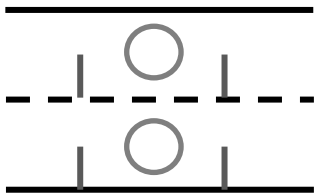


# Loops are out there!

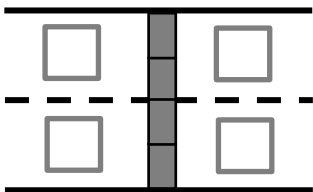
## Common In-Pavement Detection Systems:



**Standalone Inductive Loop  
Detector System**



**Automatic Vehicle  
Classifier (AVC) System  
with Piezo Sensors**



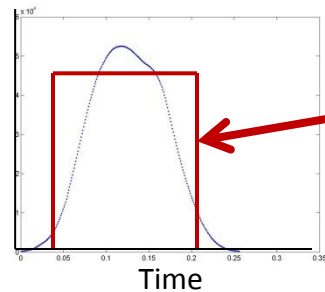
**Weigh-In-Motion (WIM)  
System**



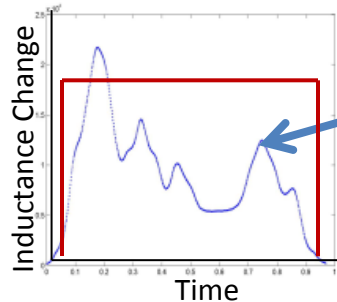
**Bending Plate  
WIM Sensors**

# Inductive Signature Technology

- Conventional ILD measure bivalent outputs
  - Produce traffic counts, not truck counts
- Advanced ILD measure inductance changes → ‘Inductive Signature’
  - Inductive signatures are indicative of body configuration



Conventional Measurement  
*[0,1] Binary output*



Inductive Signature  
*Inductive magnitude changes at up to 1200 samples/sec*

# How Distinctive Are Inductive Signatures?

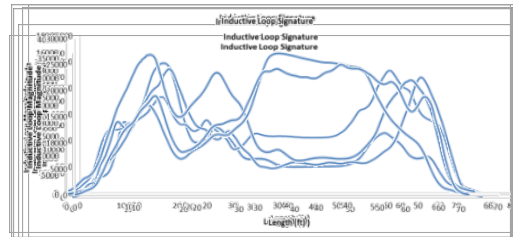
**Enclosed Van**



**Livestock**



**Low Boy Platform**



**Drop Frame Van**



**Basic Platform**



**Tanks**

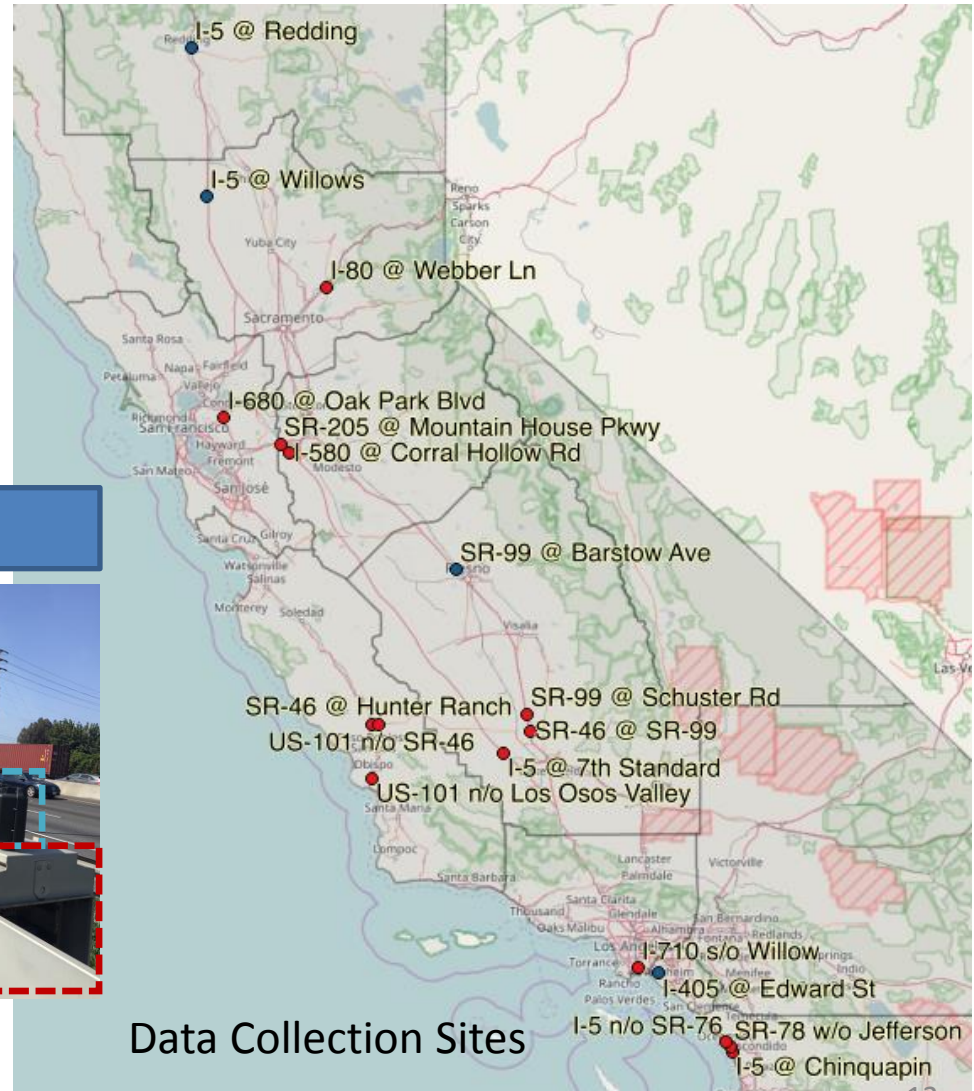
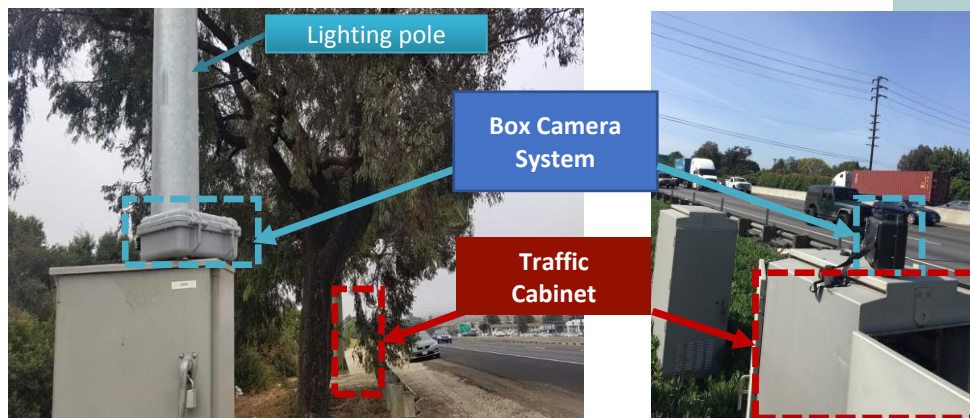


Sample FHWA Class 9 (5- Axle Semi-Trailer) signatures by trailer configuration

# Data Collection Effort for Model Development and Validation

- 18 sites across California
- Over 140 hours of data with more than 40,000 truck records captured and processed

Data collection setup



Data Collection Sites

# Data Groundtruth Process

Vehicle axle and body configuration entries, and inductive signature and WIM data are manually linked in a database through a custom groundtruth interface

Vehicle axle and body configuration data entry form

Still Images

Inductive Signature and WIM Data (where applicable)

The screenshot displays the 'Groundtruthing Form' interface. At the top, it shows 'Station 11003', 'Lane 4', and 'Date 7/7/2016'. The 'Groundtruth Selection' section includes dropdown menus for 'Truck Axle' (Single - Tandem), 'Truck Body' (Conventional Sleeper Cab), 'Trailer Axle' (Tandem on Semi-Trailer), and 'Trailer Body' (53ft Box Container). A 'Notes' field contains 'WP78562'. Below this is an 'Add Vehicle Data' button.

The 'Still Images' section shows a photo of a red truck with a blue trailer, labeled '07-07-2016 Thu 11:35:52' and 'Camera 32'. Navigation buttons 'Previous' and 'Next' are visible.

The 'VDS Signature Data' section features a line graph with 'Time Window (sec): 3' and 'Time Offset (sec): 0'. The duration is '1.023'. There are 'Remove' and 'Append' buttons.

The 'WIM Weight and Axle Data' section shows 'No WIM data within time window' with 'Remove' and 'Append' buttons.

The 'WIM Signature Data' section has 'Time Window (sec): 3' and 'Time Offset (sec): 0', with 'Remove' and 'Append' buttons.

At the bottom, there are three data tables:

SigID	VehID	Adjusted Time	Time
141467916553549	141467916553549	7/7/2016 11:35:...	7/7/2016 11:35:...
141467916555882	141467916555882	7/7/2016 11:35:...	7/7/2016 11:35:...

WIMID	VehID	Adjusted Time	Time
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SigID	VehID	Adjusted Time
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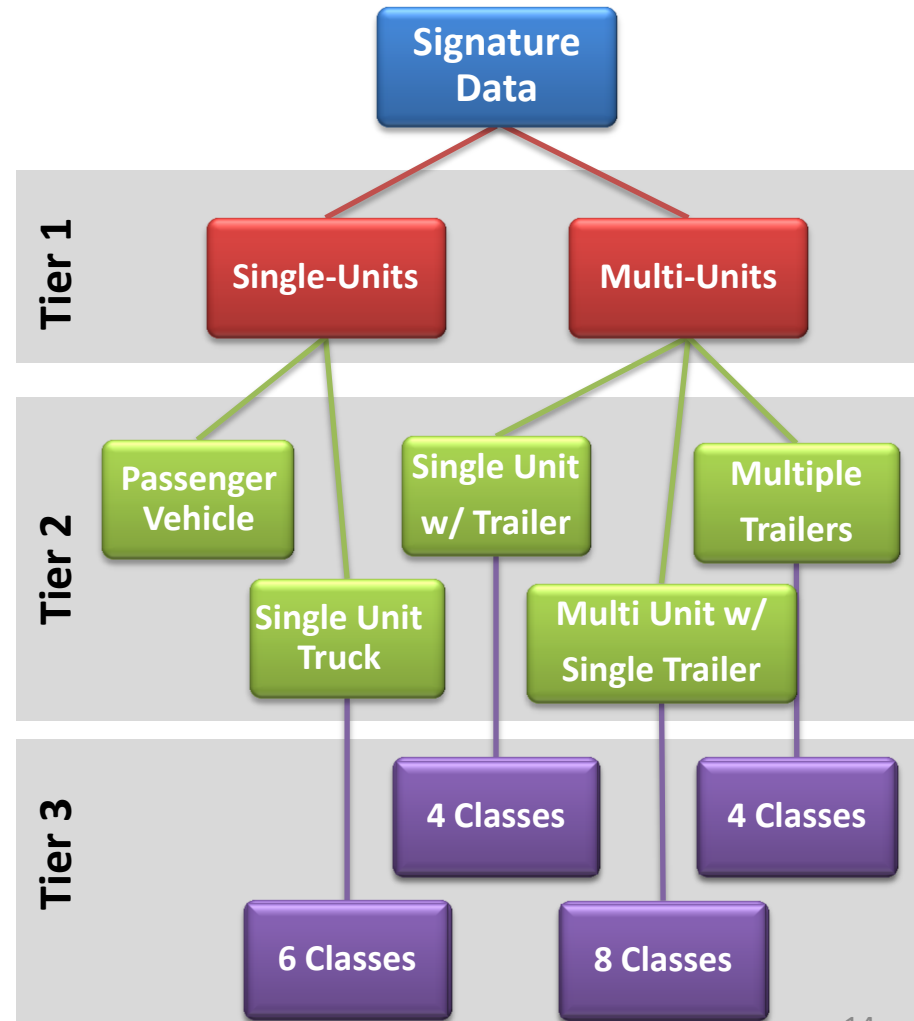
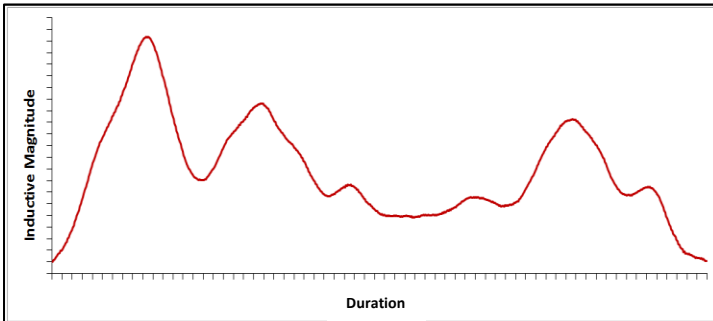
A green 'Append ALL' button is located at the bottom left. At the bottom right, it shows 'Total No. Records: 579' and 'Records Completed: 511', along with 'Change Time Period' and 'Close' buttons.

# Body Classification Model Architecture

*Inductive Signature* Model



Inductive Signature Data



# Selected Body Classification Model Results

## Tier 3 Multi-Unit Single Trailer Results by Body Type

Body Type	Training		Common Site Validation		Independent Site Validation	
	CCR	Samples	CCR	Samples	CCR	Samples
<b>Enclosed Van Group</b>	97%	8762	95%	3548	92%	950
Tank/Dump	78%	780	64%	340	77%	130
<b>Platform Group</b>	84%	2071	77%	835	75%	197
40ft Container	79%	536	80%	247	84%	123
20ft Container	77%	124	68%	50	44%	43
Auto	94%	93	75%	40	54%	13
Livestock	97%	74	83%	30	80%	5
Logging	91%	81	100%	12	-	-
<b>Overall CCR</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>12521</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>5102</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>1468</b>

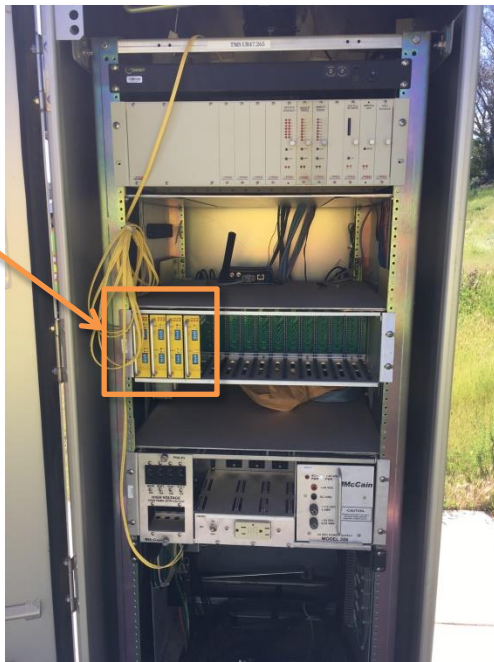
- Enclosed van
- Open top van
- Agriculture
- 53ft Container

- Platform
- Container Chassis
- Low boy platform
- Drop frame van

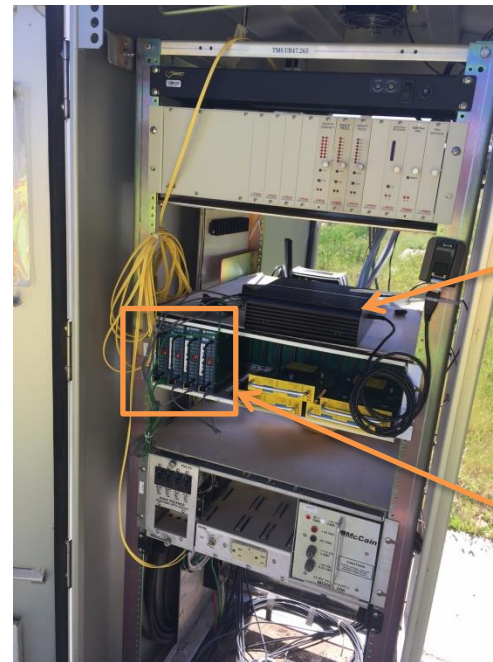
# Signature Implementation at ILD Sites

- Upgrading hardware at ILD sites is straightforward
  - Simple swapping of advanced detector cards in roadside traffic cabinet
  - Installation of field processing unit
  - Setup configuration of advanced detector cards
  - No need for in-pavement installation requiring traffic closures
  - Existing traffic operations are not compromised

Conventional  
Detector Cards



Before



After

Solid-State Field  
Processing Unit

- Independent wireless communications
- Receives and processes signature data from detector cards via USB

Advanced Signature  
Detector Cards

Hardware setup at I-15 freeway in Fallbrook



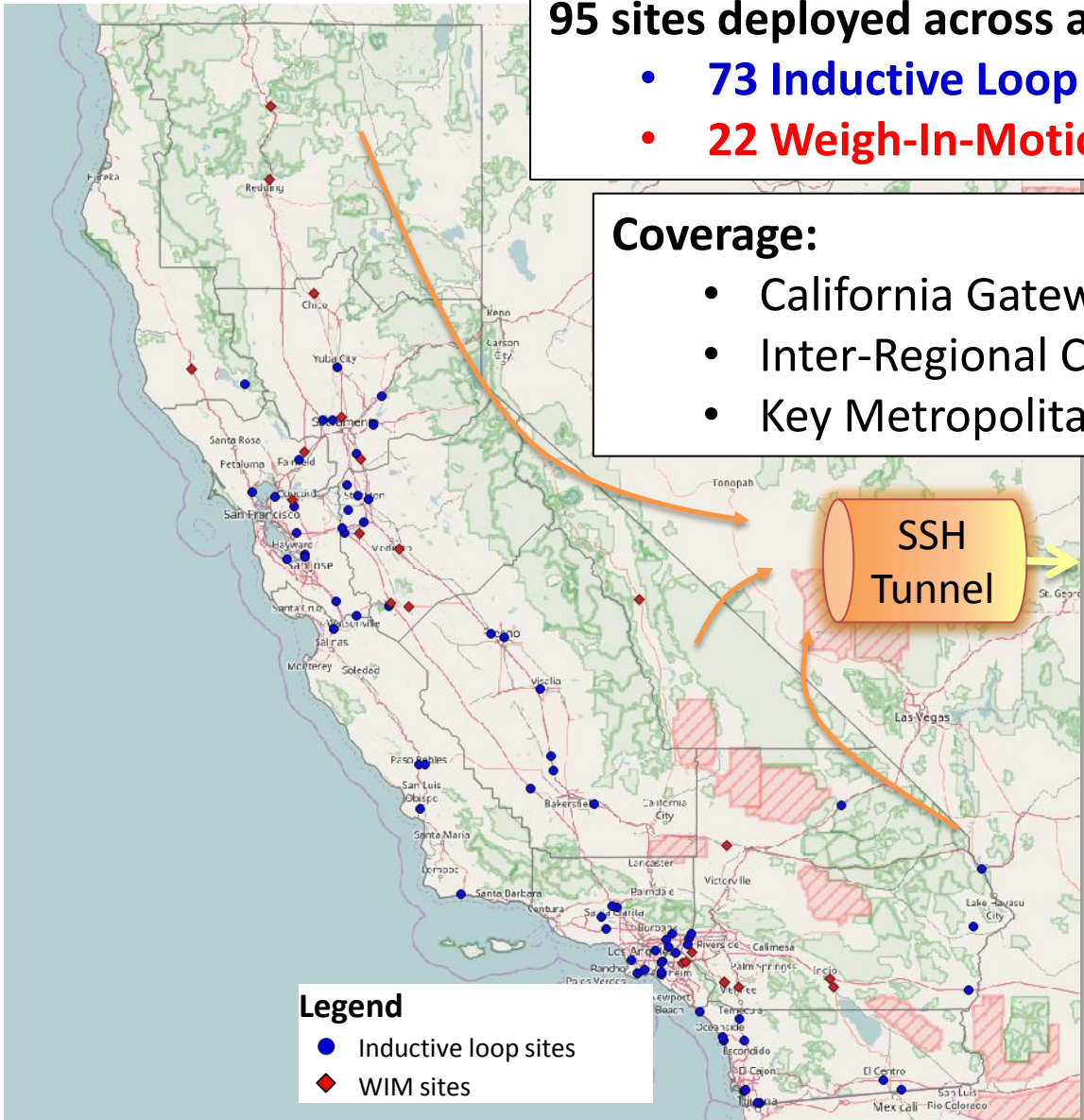
# Total Currently Deployed Sites

95 sites deployed across all 12 Caltrans districts

- 73 Inductive Loop Sites
- 22 Weigh-In-Motion sites

## Coverage:

- California Gateways
- Inter-Regional Cordons
- Key Metropolitan Corridors



### Legend

- Inductive loop sites
- ◆ WIM sites

SSH Tunnel

UCI ITS

REDIS Middleware

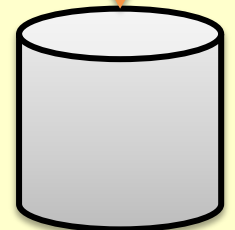
Channel 1

Channel 2

Channel 3

Channel n

Database Bridge



PostgreSQL Database

# The Outcome: *Truck Activity Monitoring System (TAMS)*

*A truck counting system that is...*

## Temporally Continuous

– Vehicle data collected and transmitted real-time 24/7

## Sustainable

– Leverages existing Inductive Loop and Weigh-In-Motion Detector infrastructure

## Spatially Representative

– Deployed at over 90 major truck corridors across the State of California

## Advanced

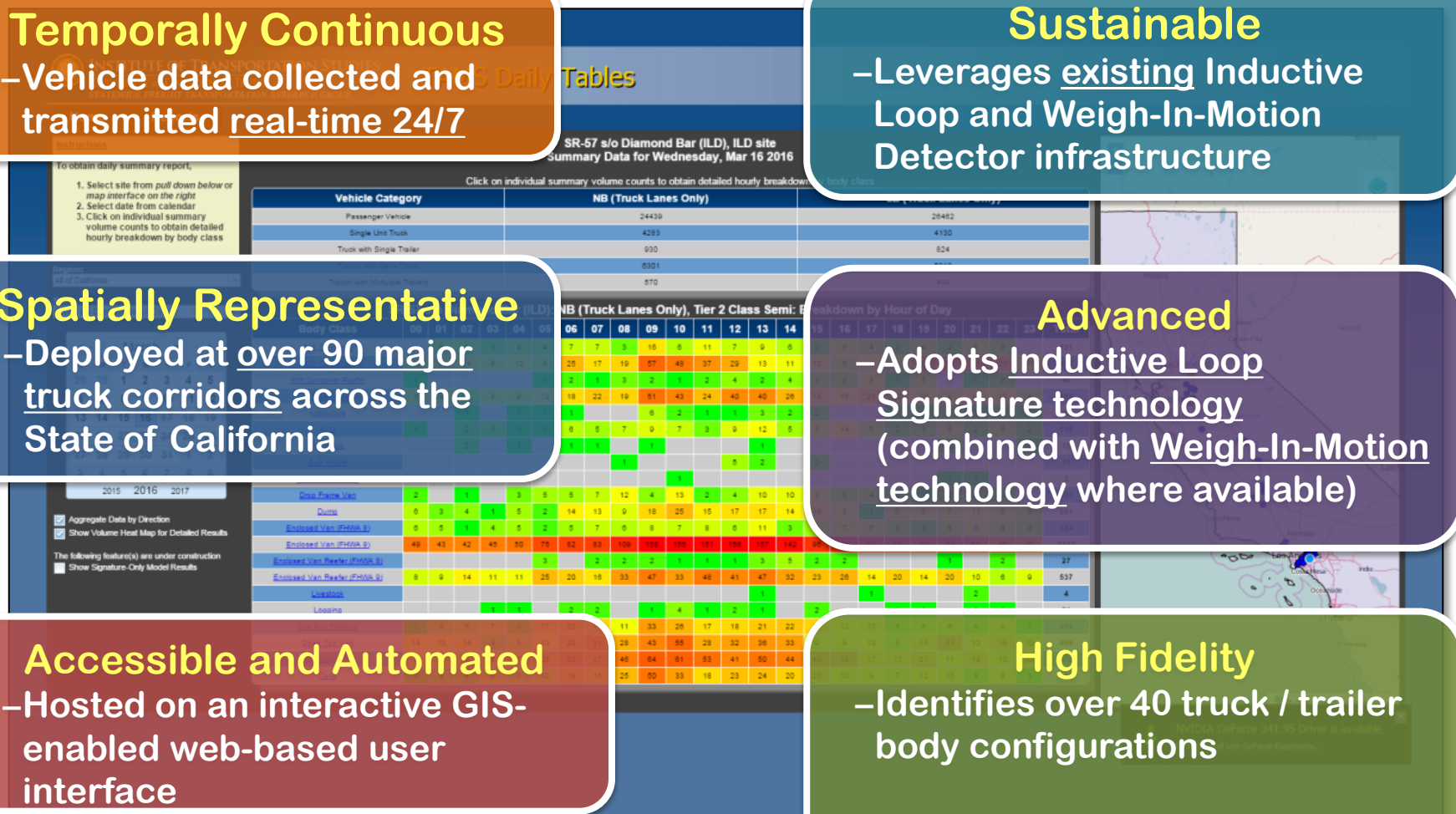
– Adopts Inductive Loop Signature technology (combined with Weigh-In-Motion technology where available)

## Accessible and Automated

– Hosted on an interactive GIS-enabled web-based user interface

## High Fidelity

– Identifies over 40 truck / trailer body configurations



# LIVE DEMO

1. Walk Through TAMS Web Interface
2. Live Classification Demo

Estimate proportions of freight and non-freight truck movements



Analysis of empty movements in freight trucks



## Applications



Determine temporal and spatial travel patterns of trucks by industry



Estimate proportions of long and short haul trips along major and restricted truck corridors

# Just Getting Started: *A platform for future research and applications*

- Analysis of archived raw signature data
- Identify alternative energy trucks?
- Profile overloaded trucks?
- Improved models for traffic census
- State-wide self-learning truck classification system
- Improved tracking through integration with other data sources such as Bluetooth / GPS

