

2017 DISC lab | Mexico City

Electromagnetics for the Investigation of Landfills: Three (Short) Case Studies from the Valley of Mexico

Matthias Bücker

University of Bonn (Germany) and
TU-Wien (Austria)



Study sites in the Valley of Mexico

1. Tepexpan

- DC resistivity and TDEM
- Conductive waste in resistive volcanic rock

2. New International Airport

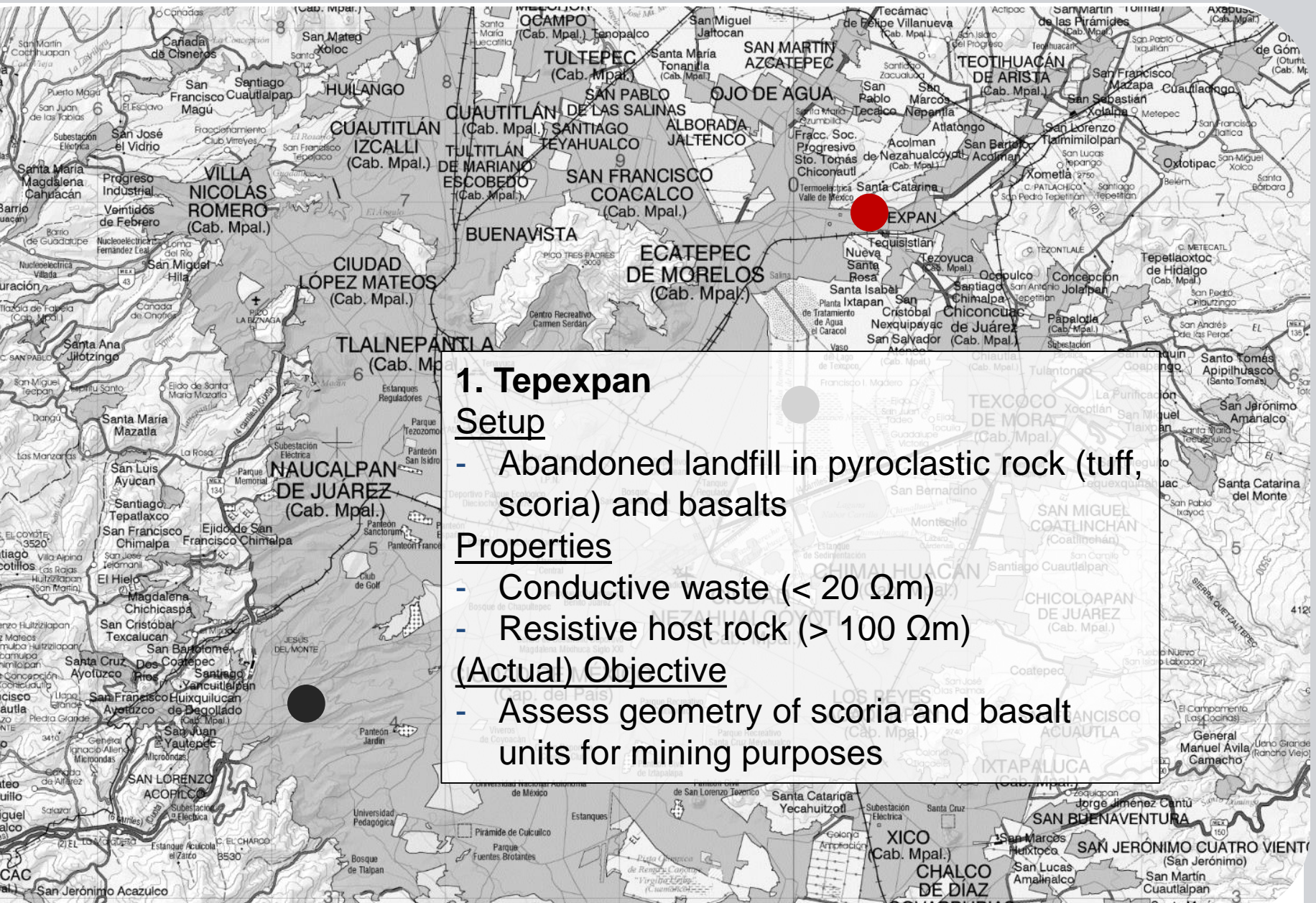
- DC resistivity and TDEM
- Conductive waste over saline clay

3. Prados de la Montaña

- Spectral induced polarization
- Conductive, chargeable waste

Background map: INEGI

1. Tepexpan (State of Mexico)



1. Tepexpan Setup

- Abandoned landfill in pyroclastic rock (tuff, scoria) and basalts

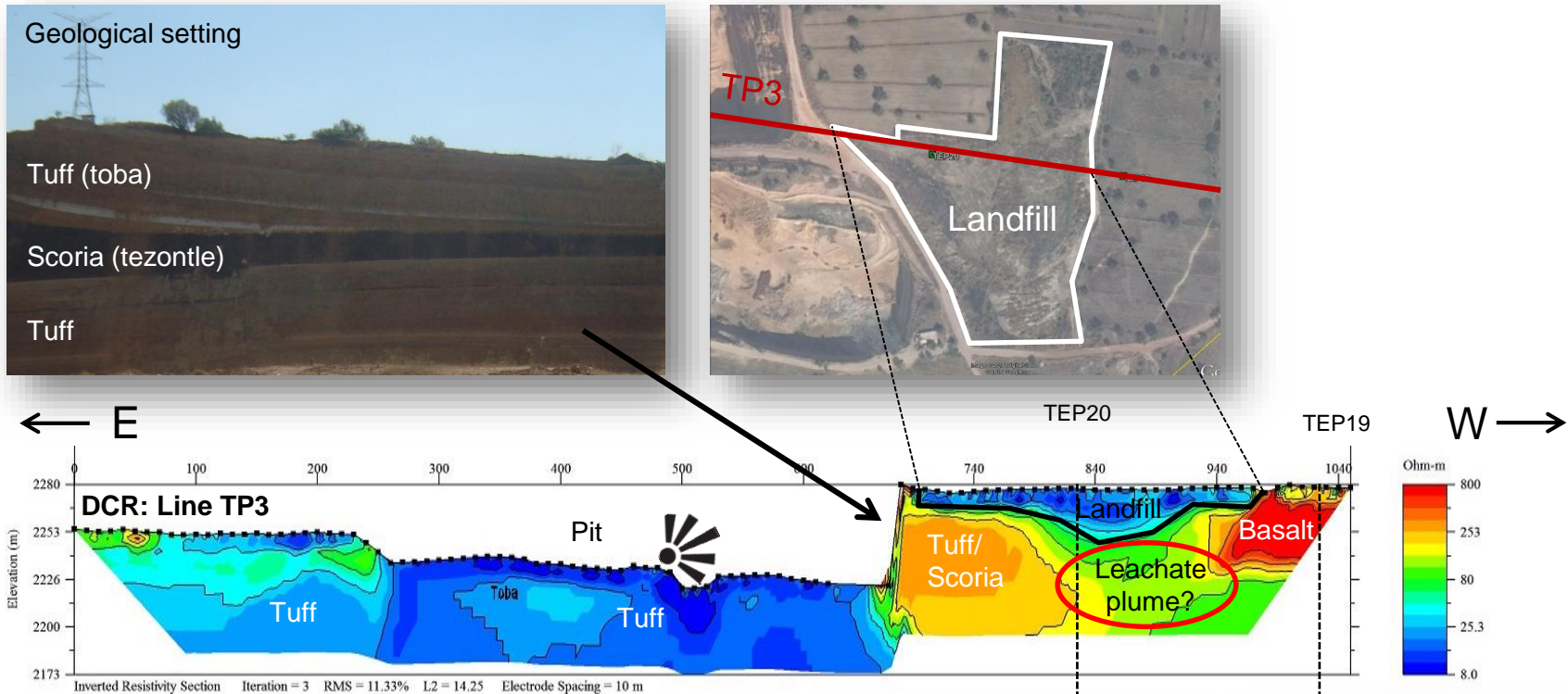
Properties

- Conductive waste ($< 20 \Omega\text{m}$)
- Resistive host rock ($> 100 \Omega\text{m}$)

(Actual) Objective

- Assess geometry of scoria and basalt units for mining purposes

1. Tepexpan (State of Mexico)



Survey

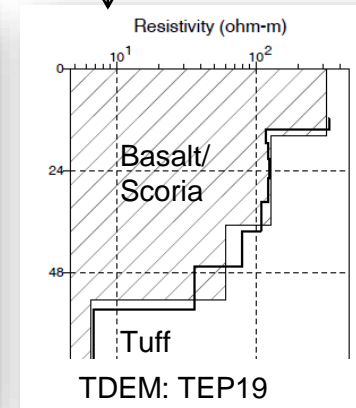
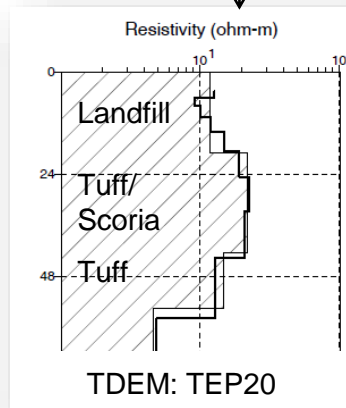
- DCR (10 m spacing, ~ 1 km line length)
- TDEM (50 m x 50 m loop)

Processing

- DCR: 2D inversion (EarthImager)
- TDEM: 1D inversion (WinGLink)

Summary

- Identified abandoned landfill and possible leachate plume by low resistivity values from DCR and TDEM.



2. New International Airport (State of Mexico)



2. New International Airport Setup

- Abandoned landfill on top saline clay (former lake Texcoco)

Properties

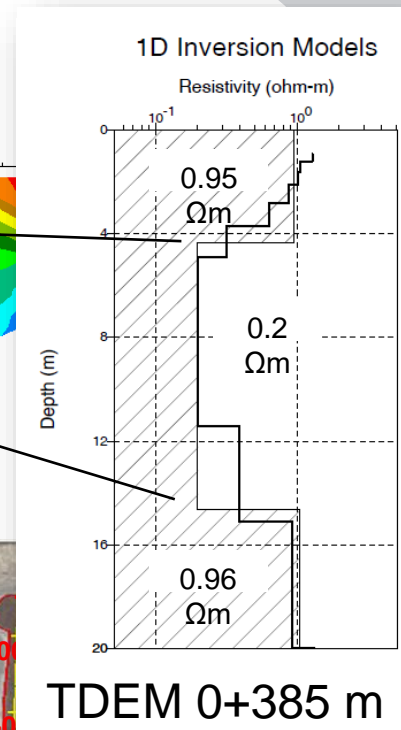
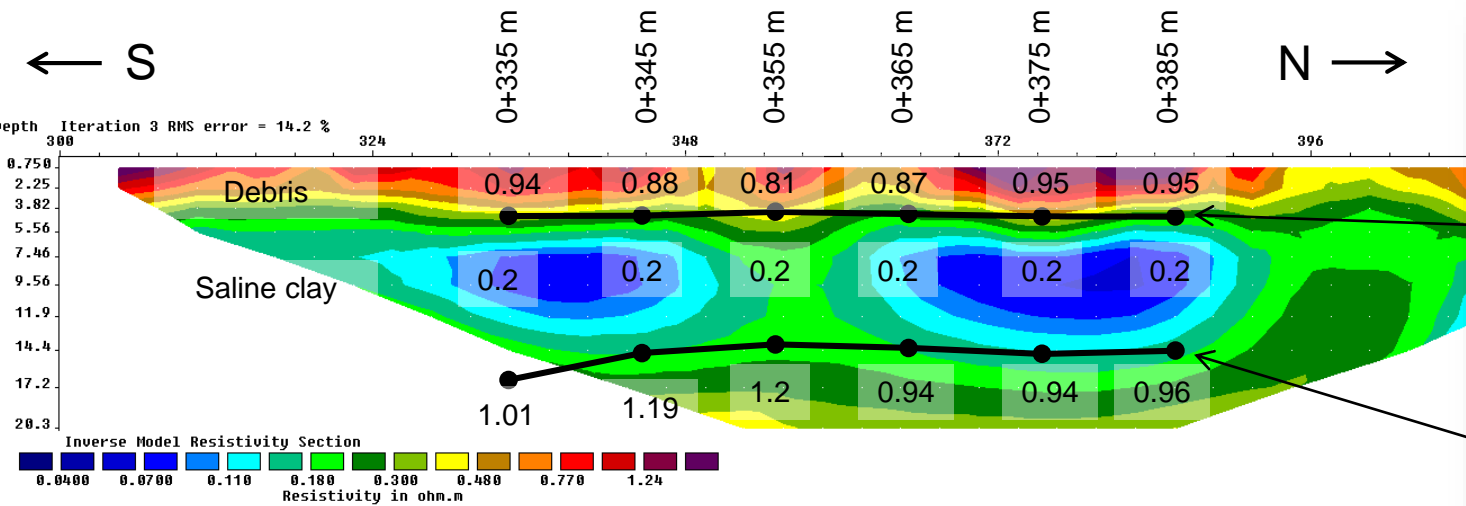
- Conductive waste (~ 1 Ω m)

- Even more conductive clay (<< 1 Ω m)

Objective

- Estimate thickness (and volume) of waste deposits

NAICM landfill | Profile 6



Survey

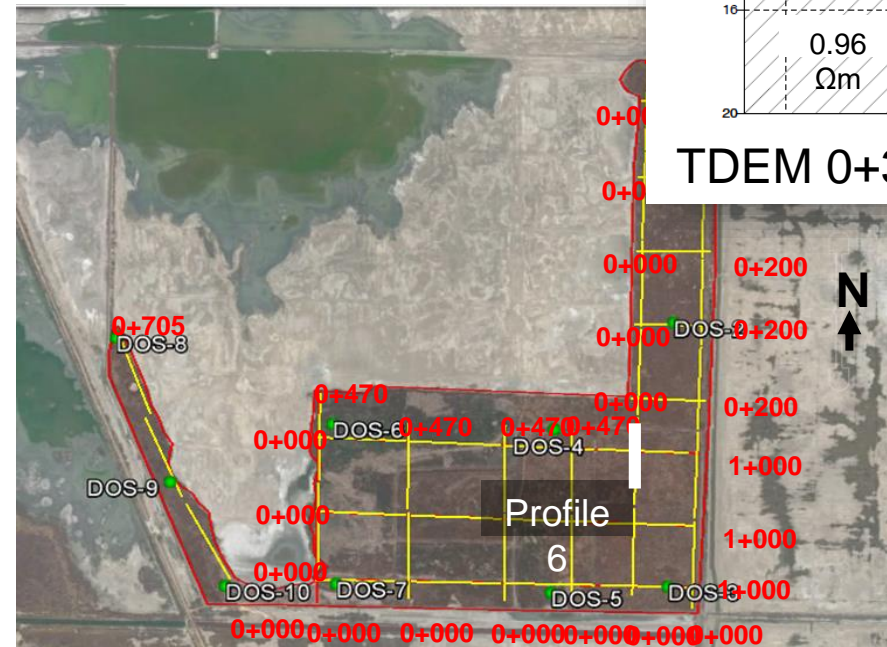
- DCR (Ares, 3 m spacing)
- TDEM (TerraTEM, single loop, 10 m x 10 m loop)

Processing

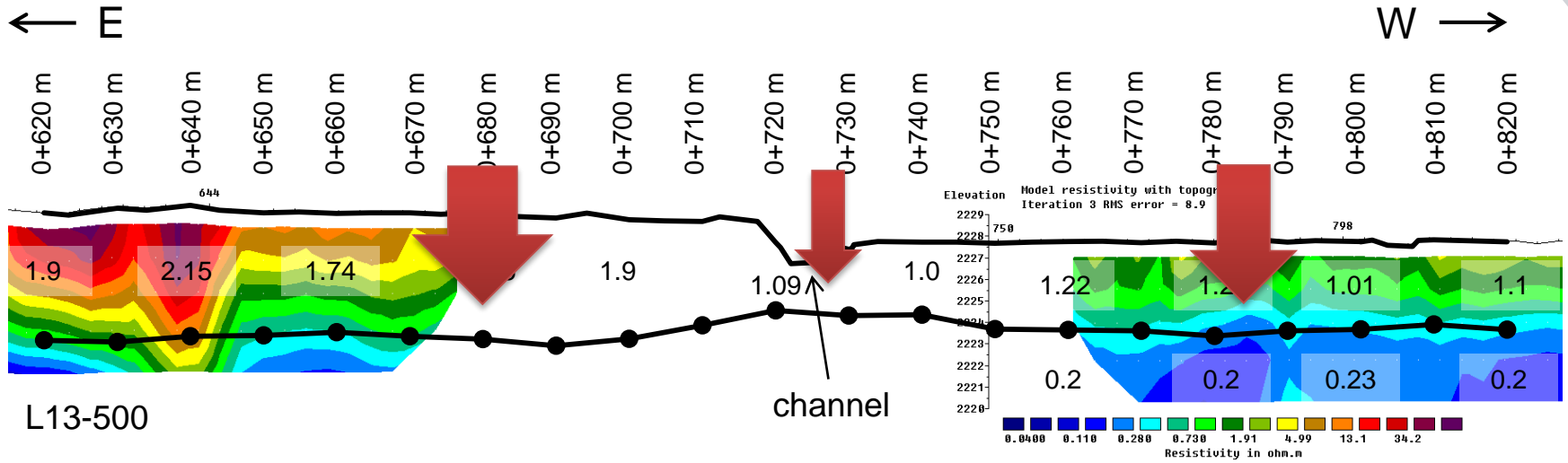
- DCR: 2D inversion (Res2DInv)
- TDEM: 1D (WinGLink)

Summary

- Identified waste/debris layer by (relatively high resistivity)
- Excellent agreement of DCR and TDEM (three-layer inversion) results



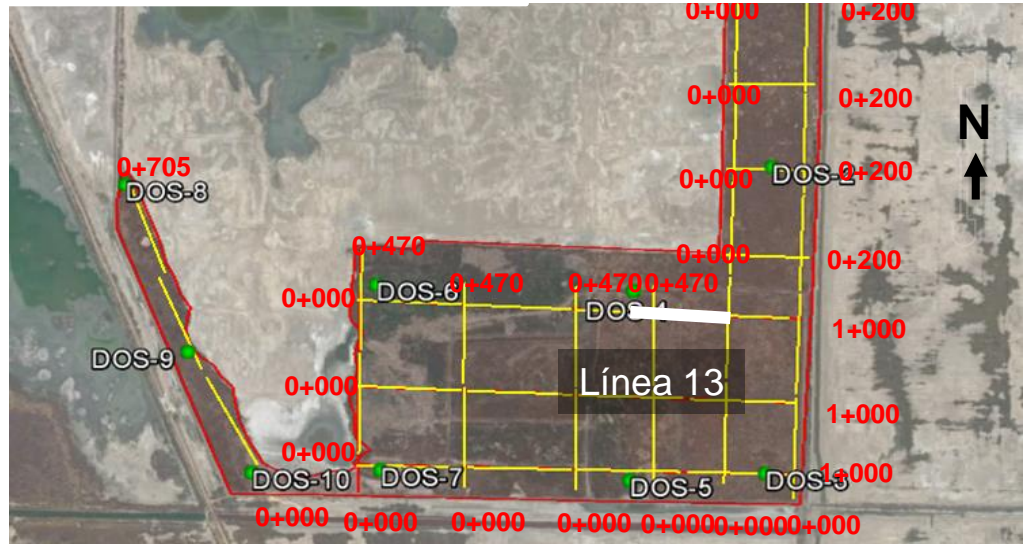
NAICM landfill | Profil 13



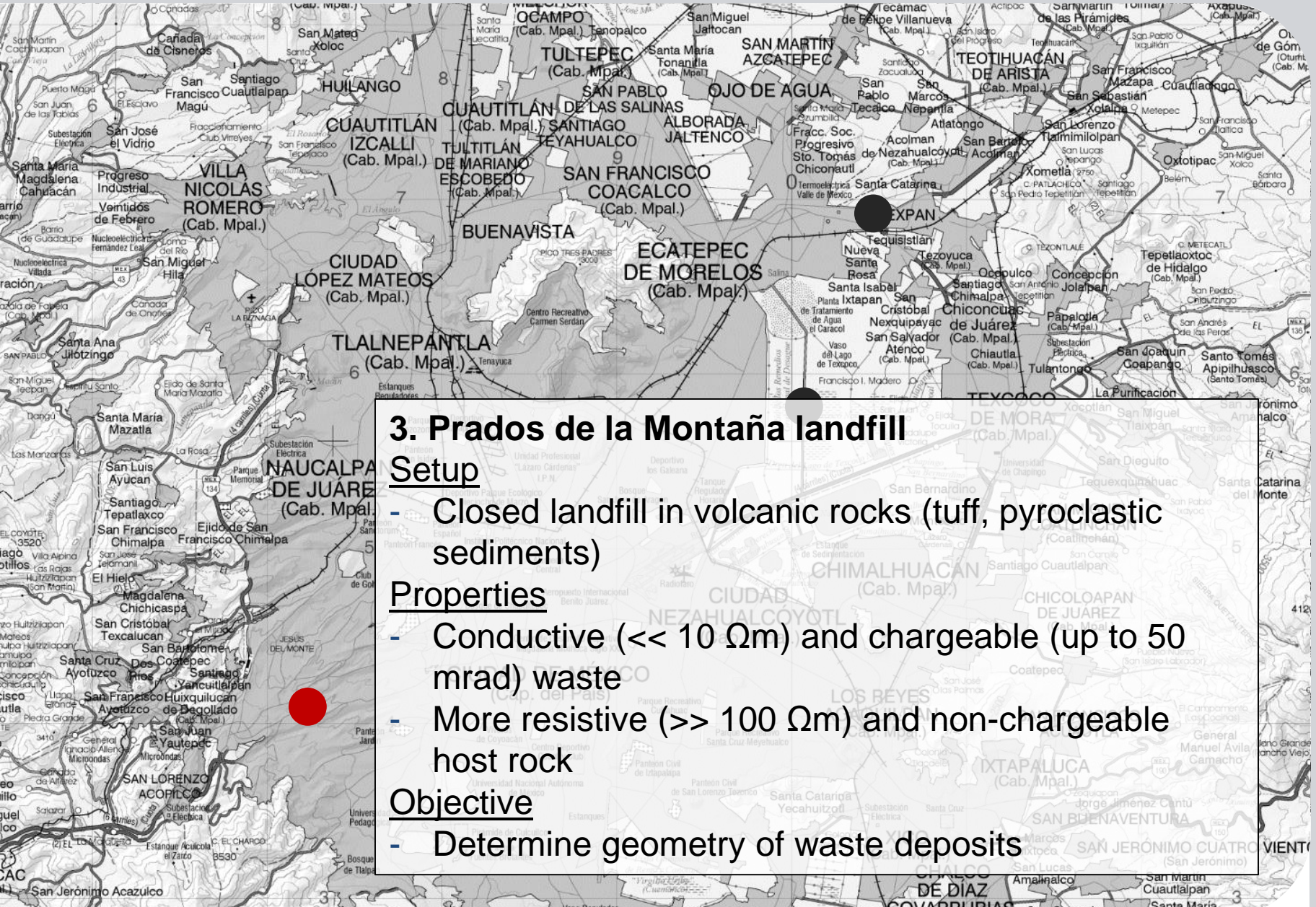
L13-500

L13-750

Horizontal scale is 25.21 pixels per unit spacing
Vertical exaggeration in model section display = 3.00
First electrode is located at 750.0 m.
Last electrode is located at 939.0 m.



3. Prados de la Montaña, Mexico City



3. Prados de la Montaña landfill

Setup

- Closed landfill in volcanic rocks (tuff, pyroclastic sediments)

Properties

- Conductive ($\ll 10 \Omega\text{m}$) and chargeable (up to 50 mrad) waste
- More resistive ($\gg 100 \Omega\text{m}$) and non-chargeable host rock

Objective

- Determine geometry of waste deposits

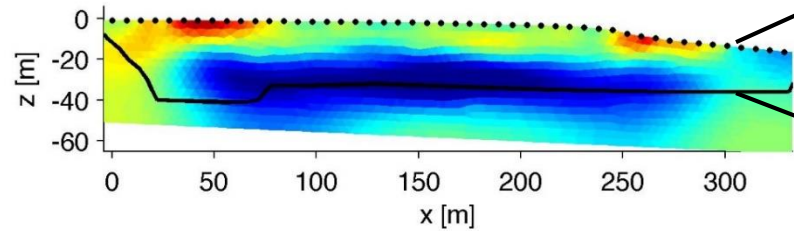
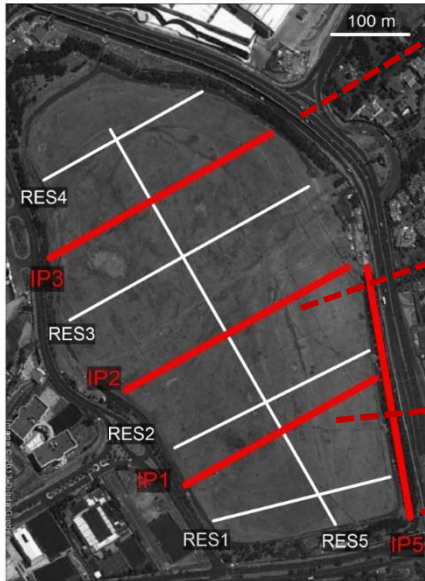
3. Prados de la Montaña

Survey

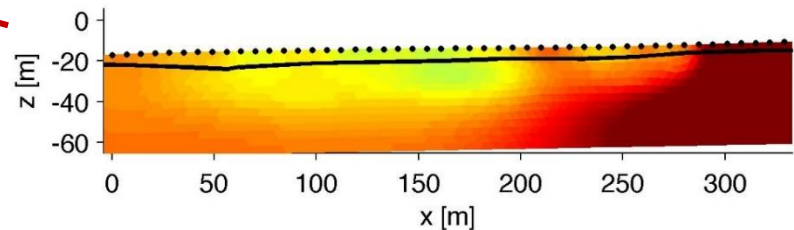
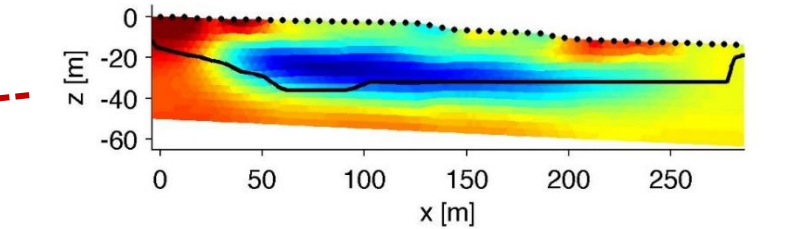
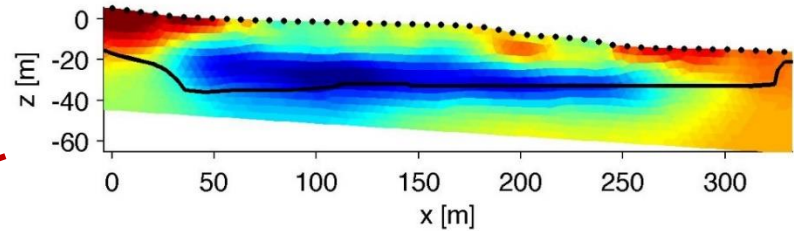
- DCR (Sycsal Pro Switch, Dipole-dipole, 6-7 m spacing, 48 electrodes)

Processing

- DCR: 2D inversion (CRTomo)



Electrodes
Lower limit
of the
landfill



IP5 outside
of landfill

Summary DCR

- Waste only conductive, where saturated with leachate?
- Leachate plume beneath actual landfill?

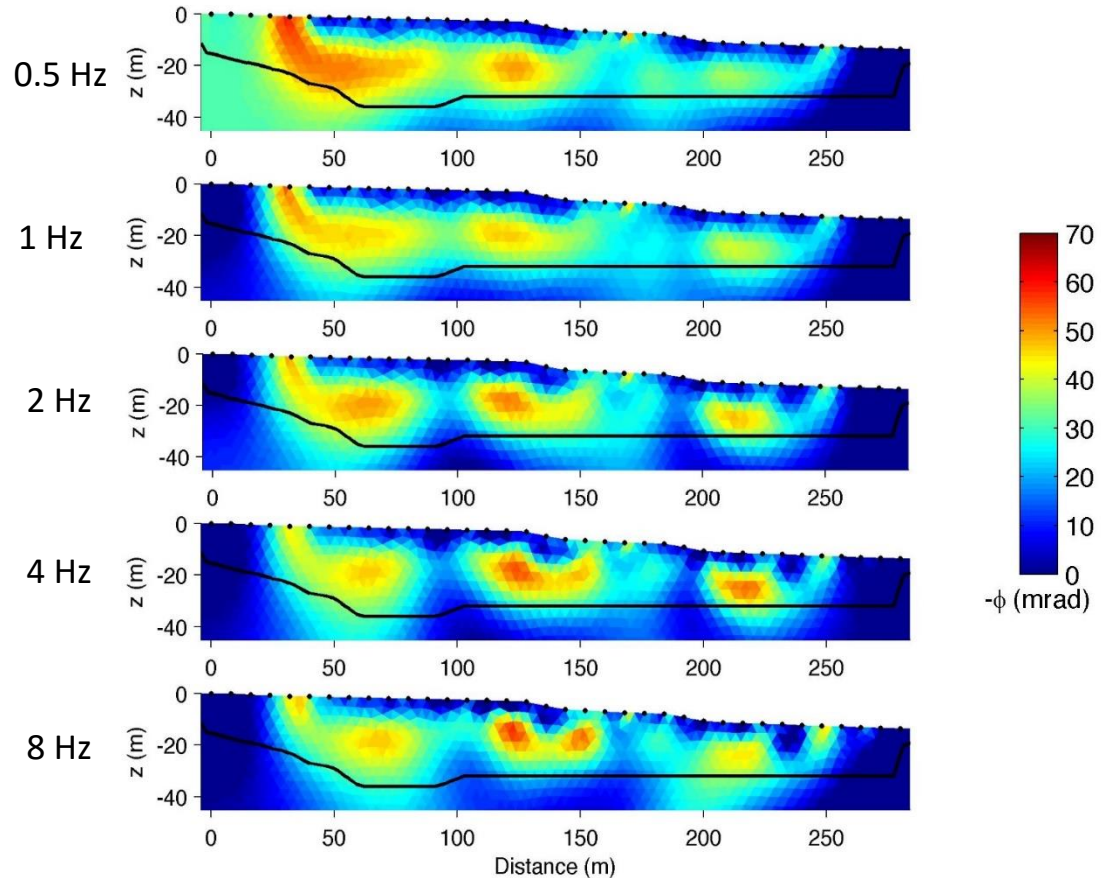
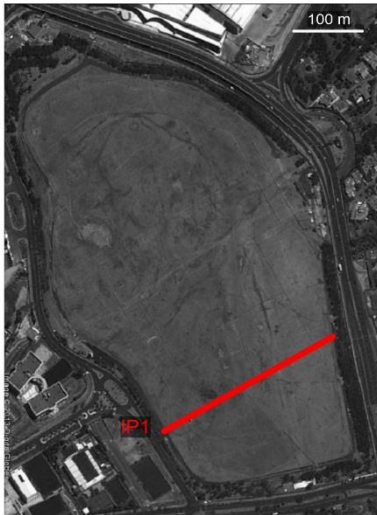
3. Prados de la Montaña

Survey

- SIP (GDP32ii, Dipole-dipole, 8 m spacing, 30 electrodes)

Processing

- SIP: 2D inversion (CRTomo by Andreas Kemna, Bonn)



Summary SIP

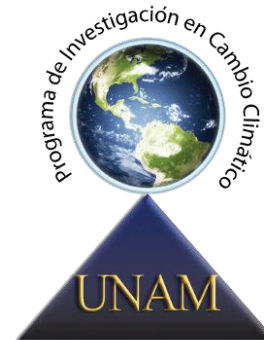
- Phase correlates better with known geometrical limits of landfill
- Lateral heterogeneities might give a hint to waste composition
- Open question: What information does the spectral variation contain? (-> composition, saturation, fluid chemistry, particle sizes)?

Thanks to...



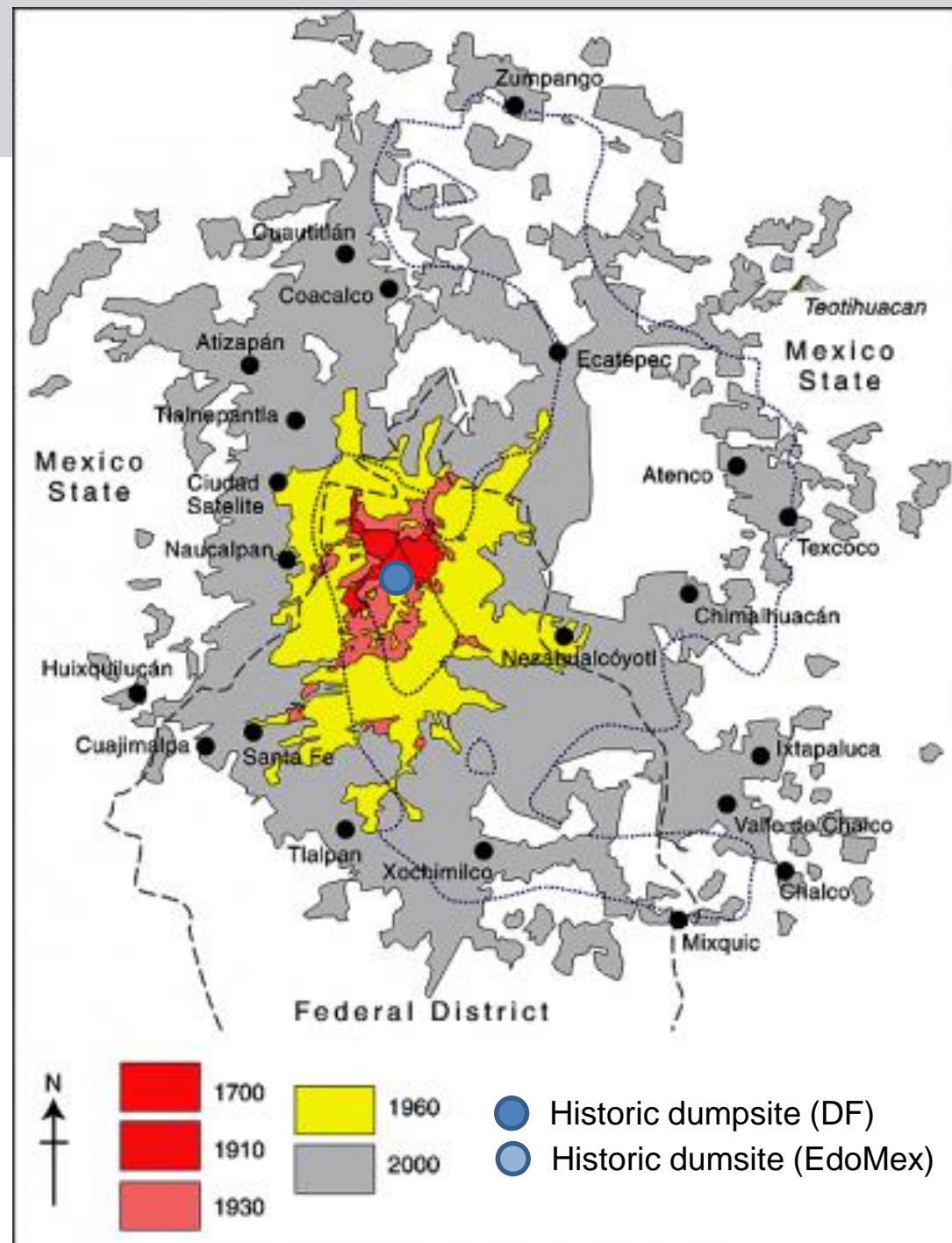
DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



19th century

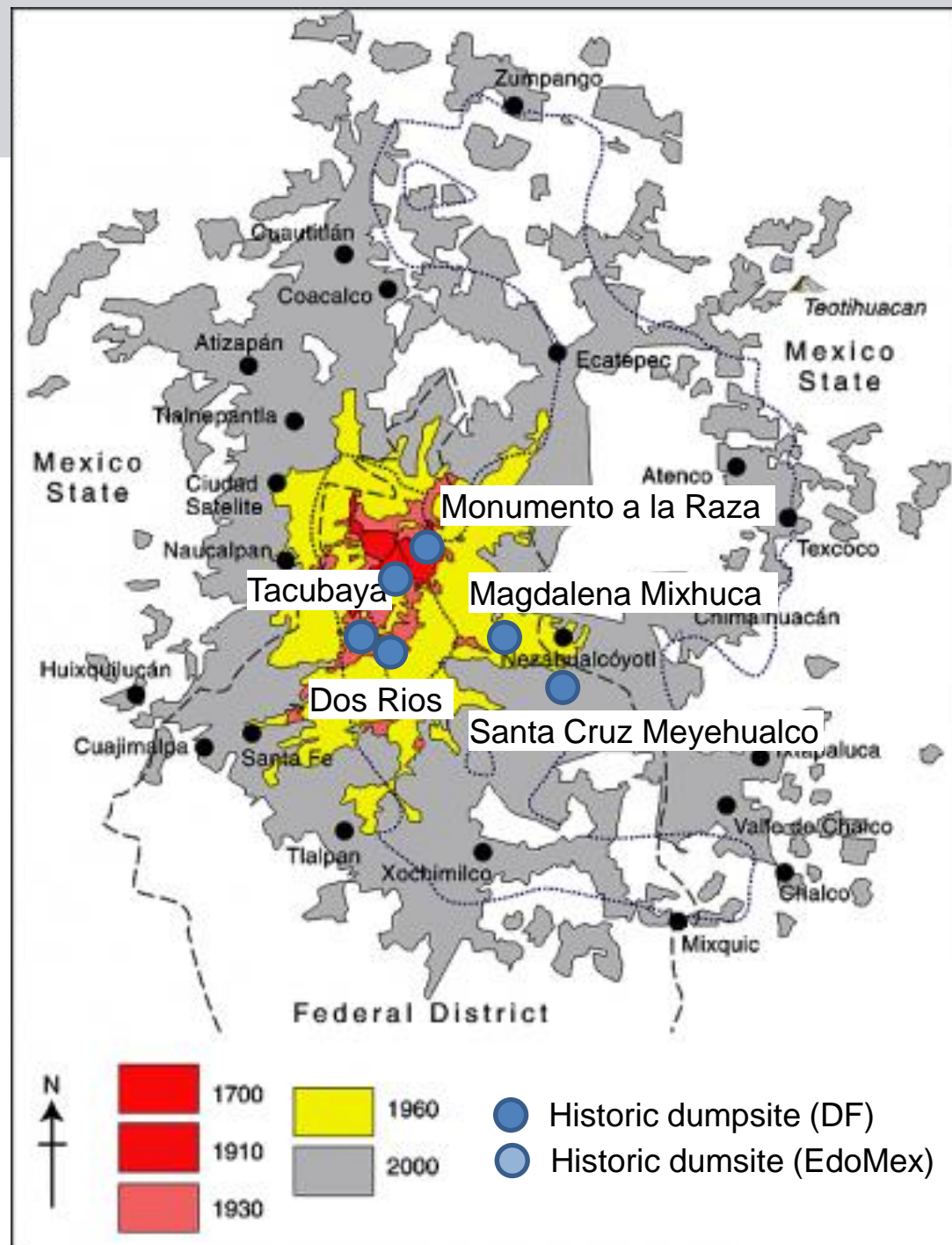
~ 1750 Dumpsites located in
Santa María la Ribera



20th century (1st half)

1924 *Santa Cruz Meyehualco*

1938 Dumpsites at the *Monumento a la Raza* and in *Tacubaya*, *Dos Ríos*, *Magdalena Mixhuca*



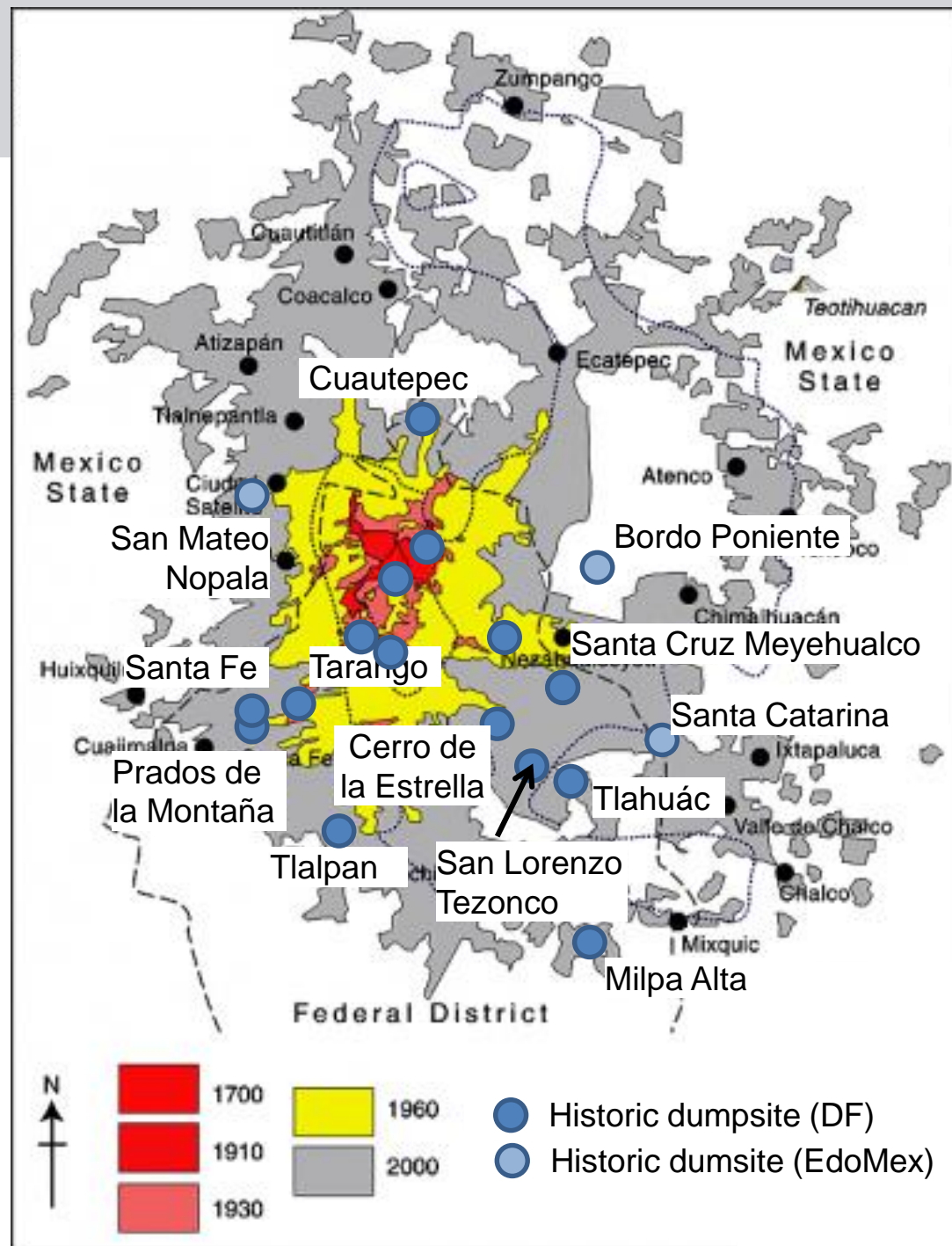
20th century (2nd half)

1958 *Santa Fe*

1983 Closure of *Santa Cruz Meyehualco* causes the opening of dumpsites *San Lorenzo Tezonco, Tlalpan, Milpa Alta, Cerro de la Estrella, Tarango,, Santa Catarina, Bordo de Xochiaca, Tlahuác, San Mateo Nopala, Cuautepec.*

1985 *Bordo Poniente*

1985-87 *Santa Catarina, Prados de la Montaña*



References

- Historic development of dumsites in Mexico City

Deffis Caso, Armando, 1994. La basura es la solución. 1ra Edición, México D.F., Editorial Árbol

Jiménez, Blanca Elena, 2001. La contaminación ambiental en México: Causas, efectos y tecnología apropiada. Colegio de ingenieros ambientales de México, A.C. Instituto de Ingeniería de la UNAM y FEMISCA, México, Editorial Limusa

Mora Reyes, J. A., 2004. El problema de la basura en la Ciudad de México. Fundación de estudios urbanos y metropolitanos.