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A man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a blue cap with 'SPECTRA' on it, a black t-shirt, and a large orange backpack, is hiking on a rocky trail. He is holding trekking poles. In the background, there are rugged mountains, a valley with green fields and trees, and a blue sky with wispy clouds. Another hiker with a backpack is visible further down the trail to the right.

Dylan Jones

- Applied Geospatial Engineer
- Maple Grove, MN
- djones@frontierprecision.com

- 8 years at Frontier Precision
- Technical Specialist Scanning & Survey

Unlocking the Future with LiDAR Technology

Agenda

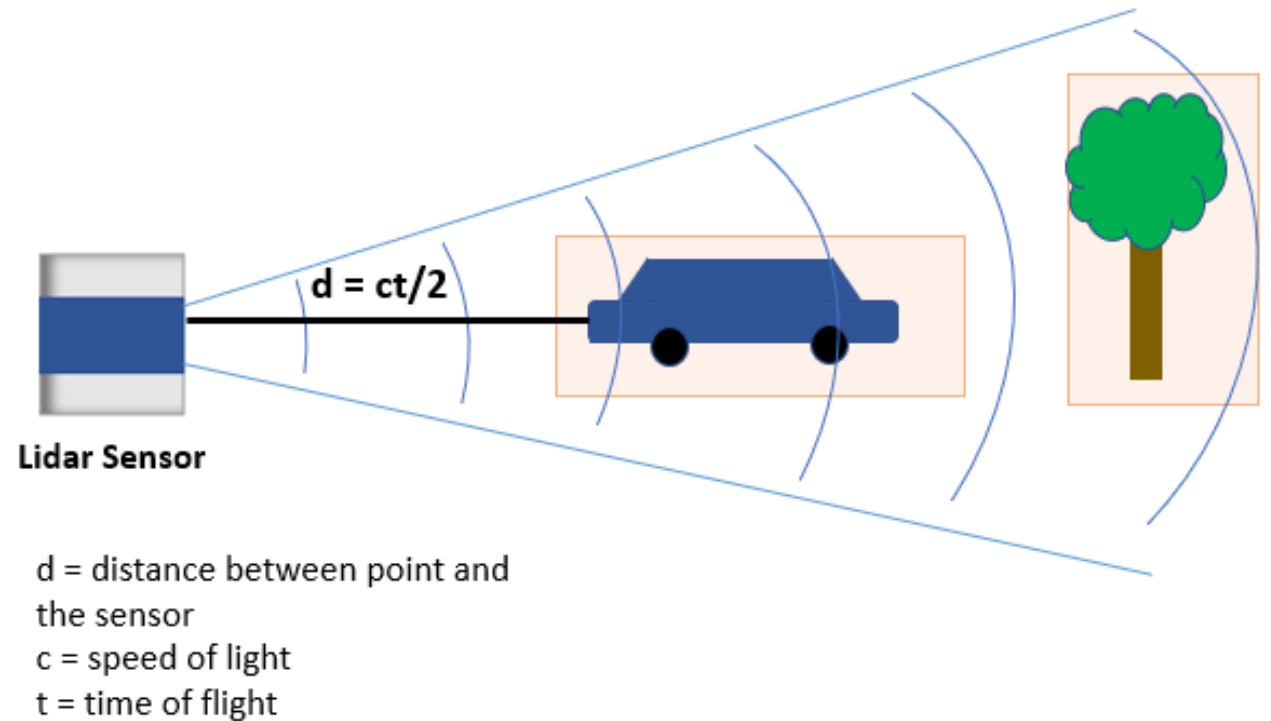
- **What is LiDAR Technology?**
- **Brief History of LiDAR**
- **Types of LiDAR Systems**
- **LiDAR Applications**
- **Deliverables**
- **Q&A**



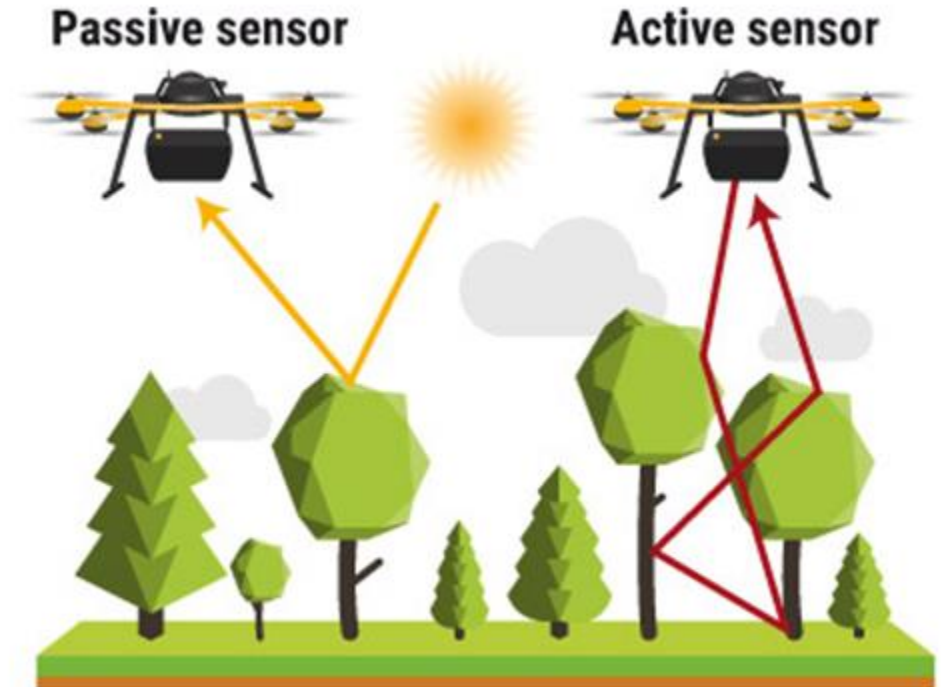
What is LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) Technology?

Put simply – when a laser is used to measure a distance to a surface or object.

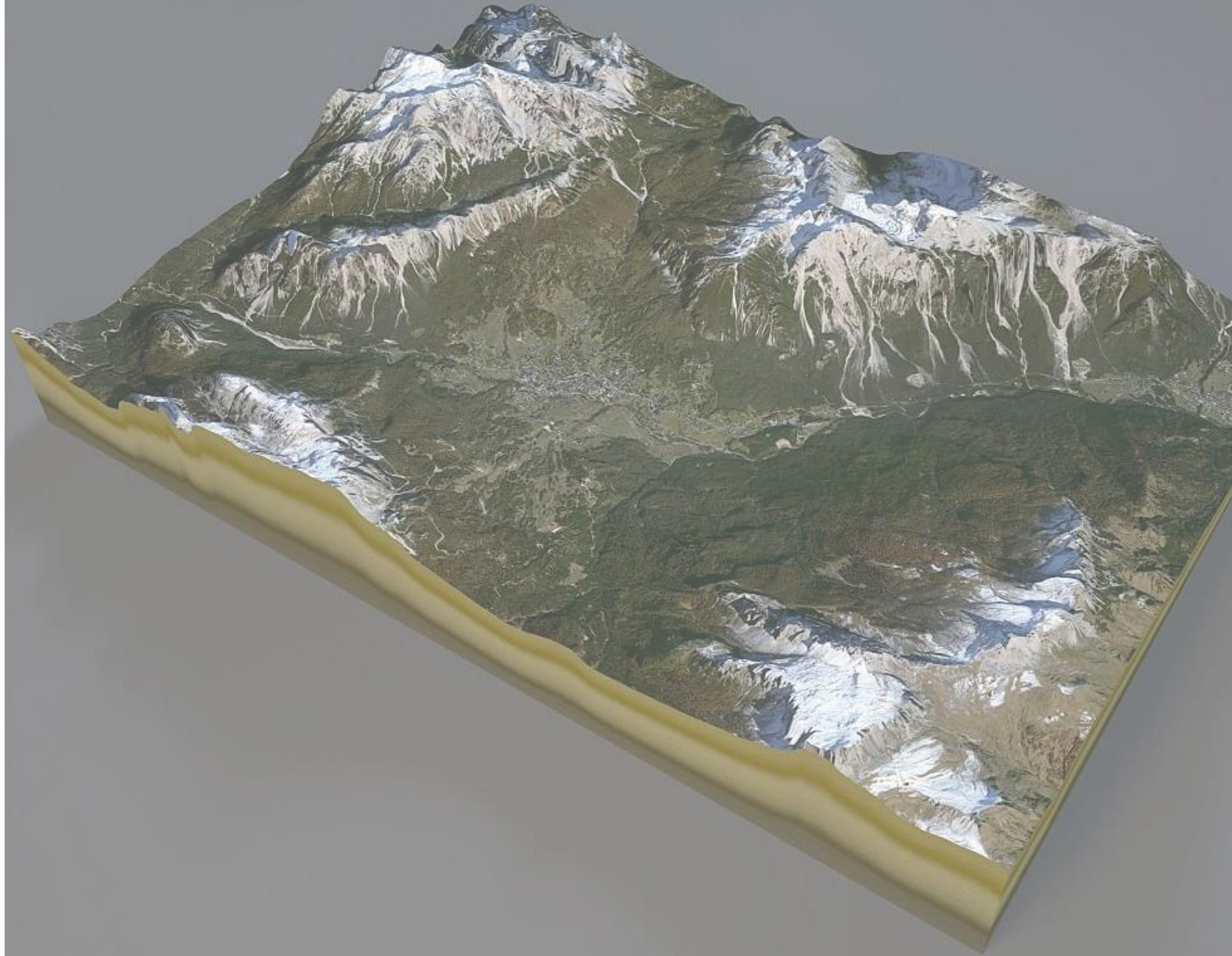
Using a combination of lasers and advanced sensors, LiDAR systems can measure the surrounding environment in 3D with high accuracy, allowing us to make informed decisions.



- LiDAR systems are **active sensors**
- Near-infrared or near-ultraviolet light
- Typically pulses between hundreds of thousands to millions of times per second
- $\text{Distance} = \text{Speed of Light} * \text{Time}$
- Computed coordinate is relative to the location and orientation of the LiDAR sensor
- Intensity of the reflected laser beam is measured, which can be used to determine the reflectivity or surface roughness of the target.



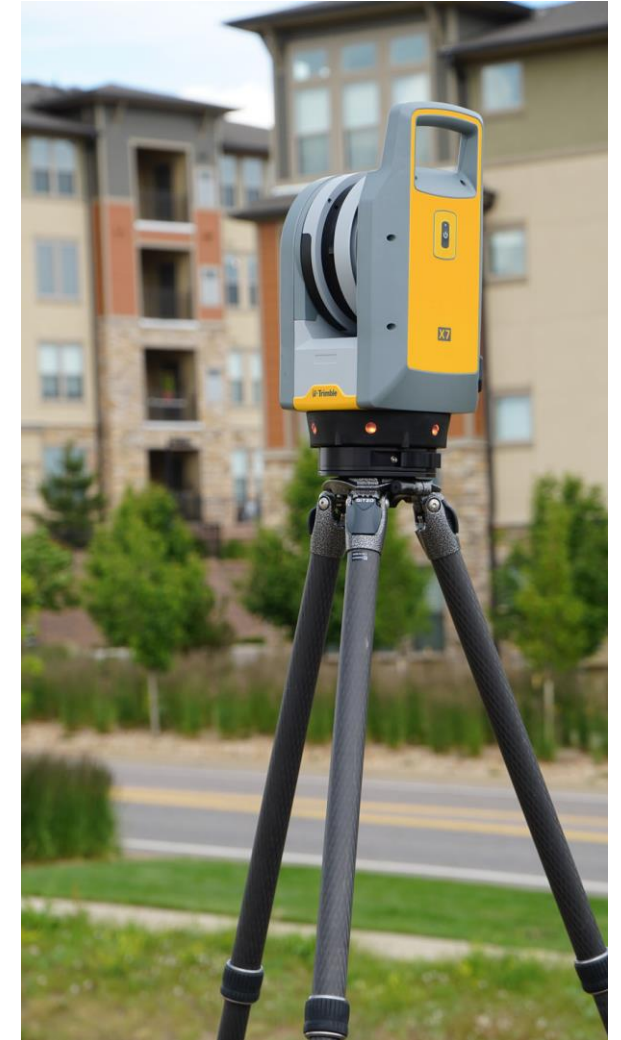
The concept of LiDAR dates to the early 20th century, when researchers first demonstrated the use of lasers for distance measurement. However, it wasn't until the 1960s that LiDAR technology began to be developed for practical applications.



Key Milestones in the History of LiDAR

- 1930s: Light pulses used to measure heights of clouds
- 1960s – 1970s: LiDAR R&D for Aerospace & Defense applications
- 1980s – 1990s: LiDAR used for scientific studies such as atmospheric gases, geological features, vegetation canopy heights, topographic mapping, and natural hazard studies. Integration with other sensors.
- 2000s: LiDAR technology becomes affordable for common uses in surveying, construction and engineering.
- 2010s: LiDAR sensors in consumer electronics, and a rise in use with sUAS (drones)
- Present: LiDAR for autonomous vehicle navigation, IoT, and other industrial uses

LiDAR Systems for Mapping and Surveying



Terrestrial LiDAR

- Station-Based LiDAR (tripod)
- Highest-resolution
- Accuracies of up to a few millimeters
- Registration process
- Georeferencing process



Terrestrial (Stationary) LiDAR

\$15k – \$125k

Benefits

- Highest quality 3D data
- Up to 2 million pps
- Minimal point cloud noise
- Highly accurate – within millimeters
- 360 scan in less than 1 minute
- High resolution imagery
- Range up to 1000m!
- Survey workflows for some

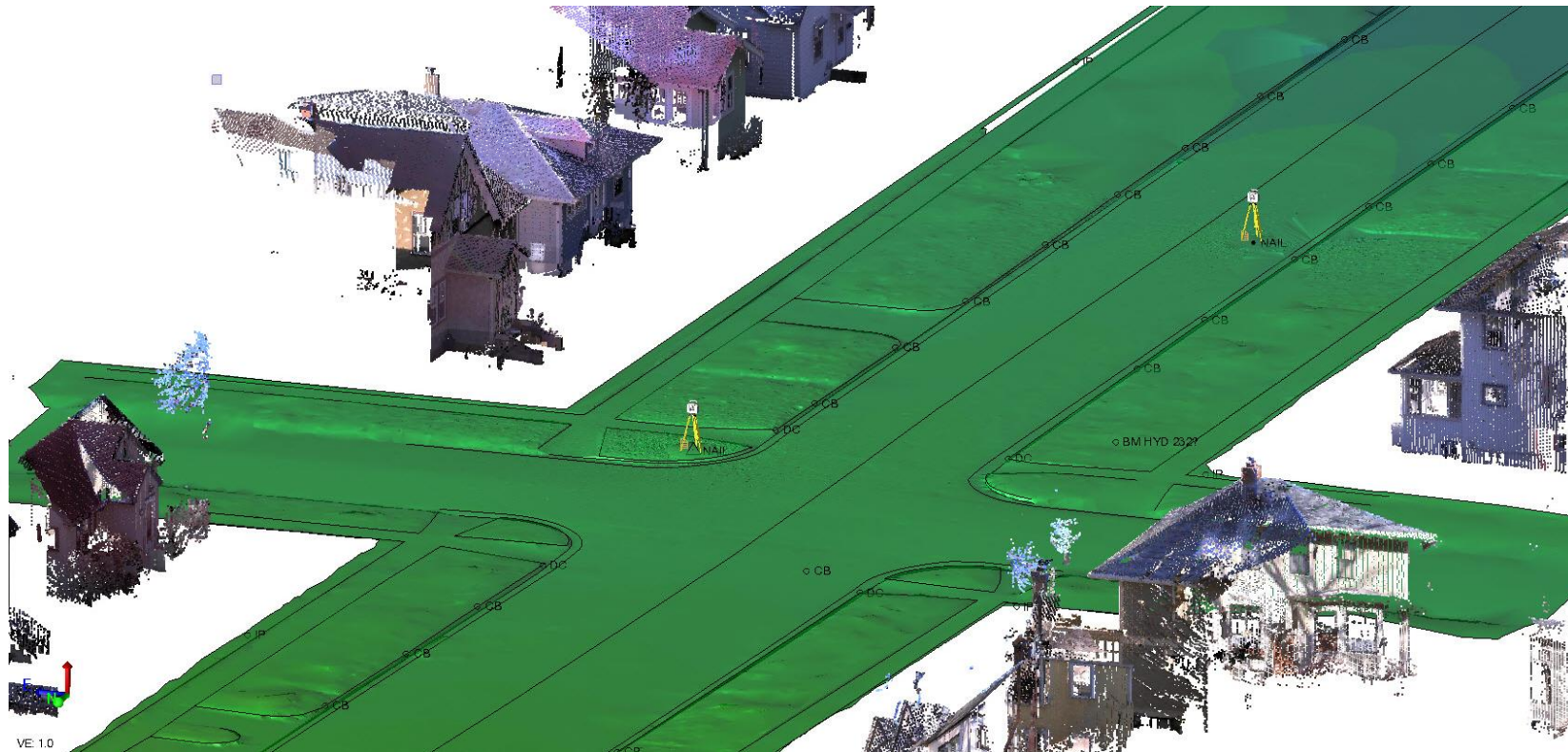
Applications

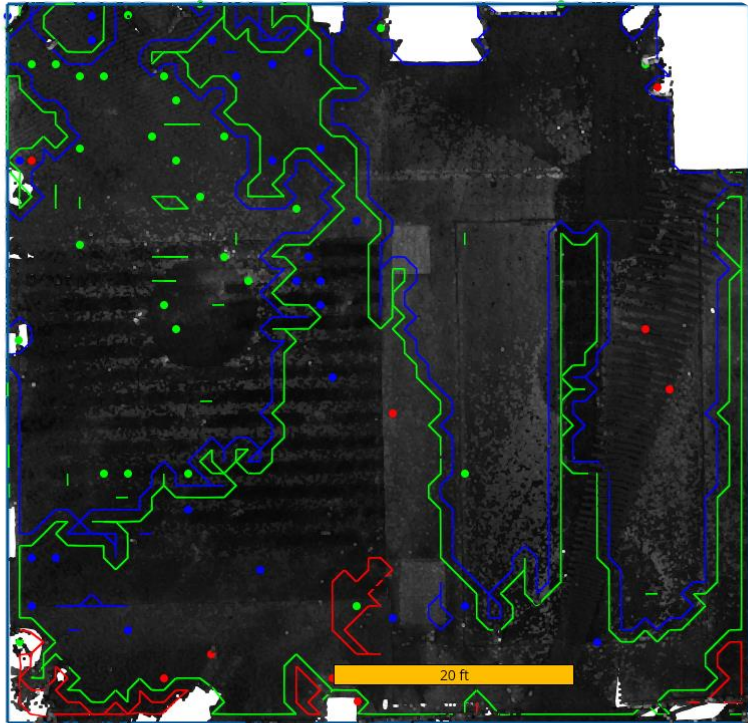
- Plant & industrial measurement
- Mining and quarries
- Infrastructure & Building as-builts
- Volumetric surveys
- Roadway corridor surveys
- Deformation monitoring
- Topographical & ALTA surveys
- Powerline and Utility surveys



Terrestrial LiDAR Workflow

- Preplanning of station locations
- GCP Targets
- Scan
- Post Process/Register/Data conversion
- QA/QC
- CAD Feature Extraction & Modelling





● High
● In Tolerance
● Low



Elevation: -5' 6 3/4"

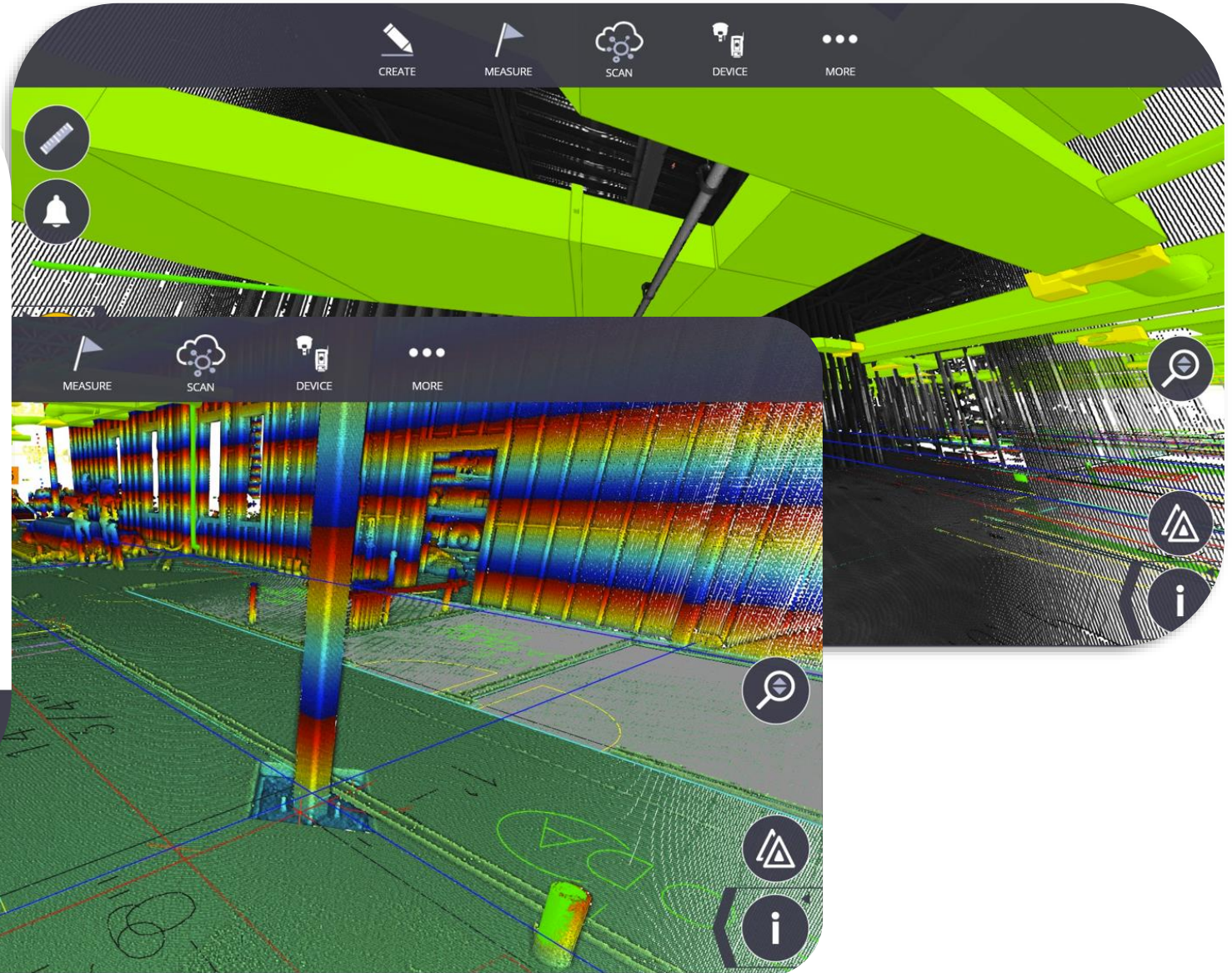


Resolution: 1 ft

Tolerance: 1/8"

GENERATE

AIM



The screenshot displays the Frontier Precision software interface. At the top, a toolbar contains various tool categories: Segmentation, Measure, Annotation, Scan Explorer, SketchUp, Creation, SteelWorks, Piping, Access, and Edit. The left sidebar shows a workspace tree with a 'Plant' folder containing 'Auto Classification', 'Extracted Cylinders', and 'Pipes'. The central 3D view shows a point cloud of a pipe structure with a green cylinder overlaid. A 'Cloud Transparency over Geometries Settings' dialog is open, showing a slider from 'Transparent' to 'Opaque'. Below it, a 'Limit Box Mode' dialog is also visible. The right sidebar features a 'CREATE PIPE' tool panel with sections for 'Start New Pipe Run', 'Add New Element to Pipe Run', 'Edit / Connect', 'Explore', and 'Creation Options'. The 'Creation Options' section includes checkboxes for 'Extract All Points When Creating Pipes' and 'Snap to Common Elbow Angles'. An 'Information' tooltip is also present, providing tips on using CTRL-Z and CTRL-Pick.

Information

- Tip: Use CTRL-Z to undo your previous action(s).
- Tip: Use CTRL-Pick to keep the current mode active (e.g. multiple deletions).
- Tip: To edit an existing pipe group, select that group and then open the create pipe tool.

Many shortcuts are available for this tool, please read the tooltips.

CREATE PIPE

Start New Pipe Run

Create or Select Initial Cylinder: [Icons]

Add New Element to Pipe Run

Change Active Extremity (E) [Button]

Next Object: [Icons]

Current Diameter: 0.09 m [Input]

Edit / Connect [Icons]

Explore

Magnifier Mode [Icon]

Display Geometry

Display Pipe Manipulators

Creation Options

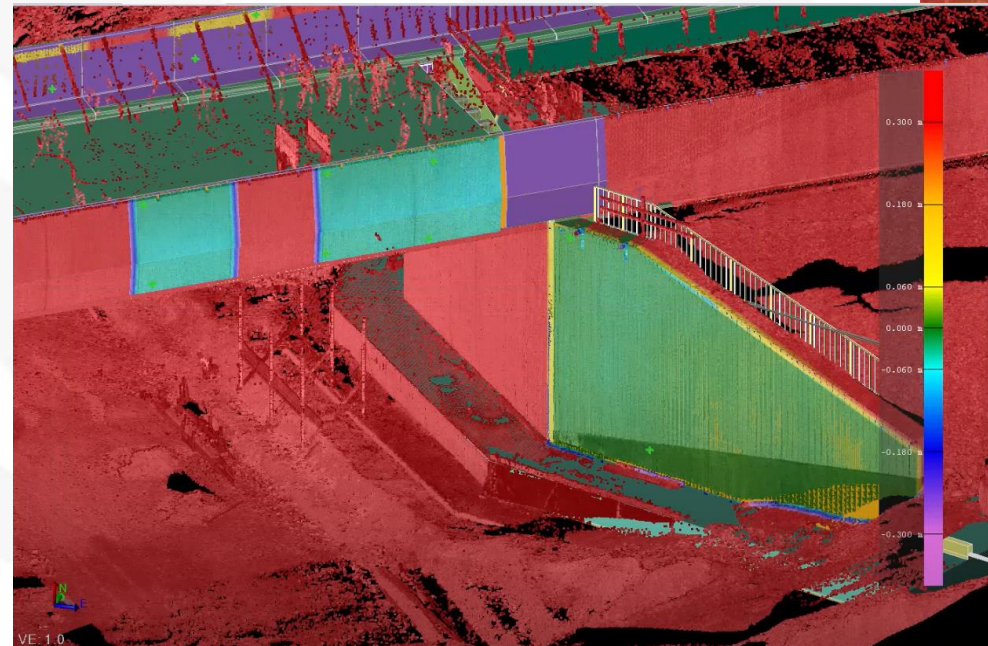
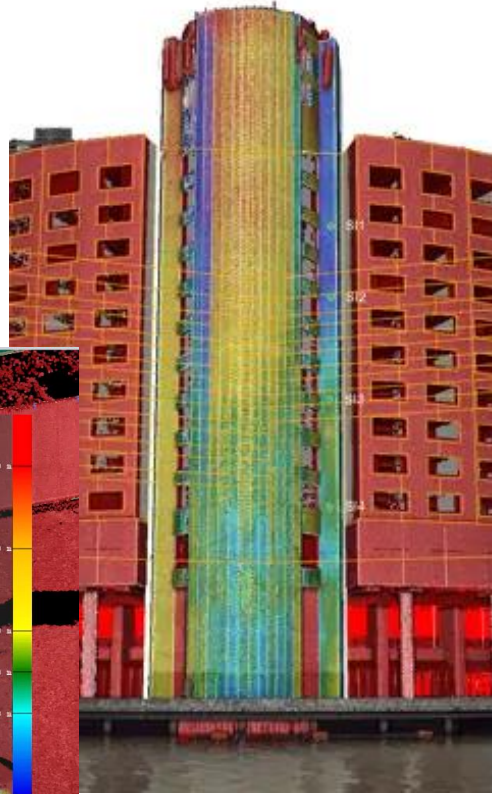
Extract All Points When Creating Pipes

Snap to Common Elbow Angles

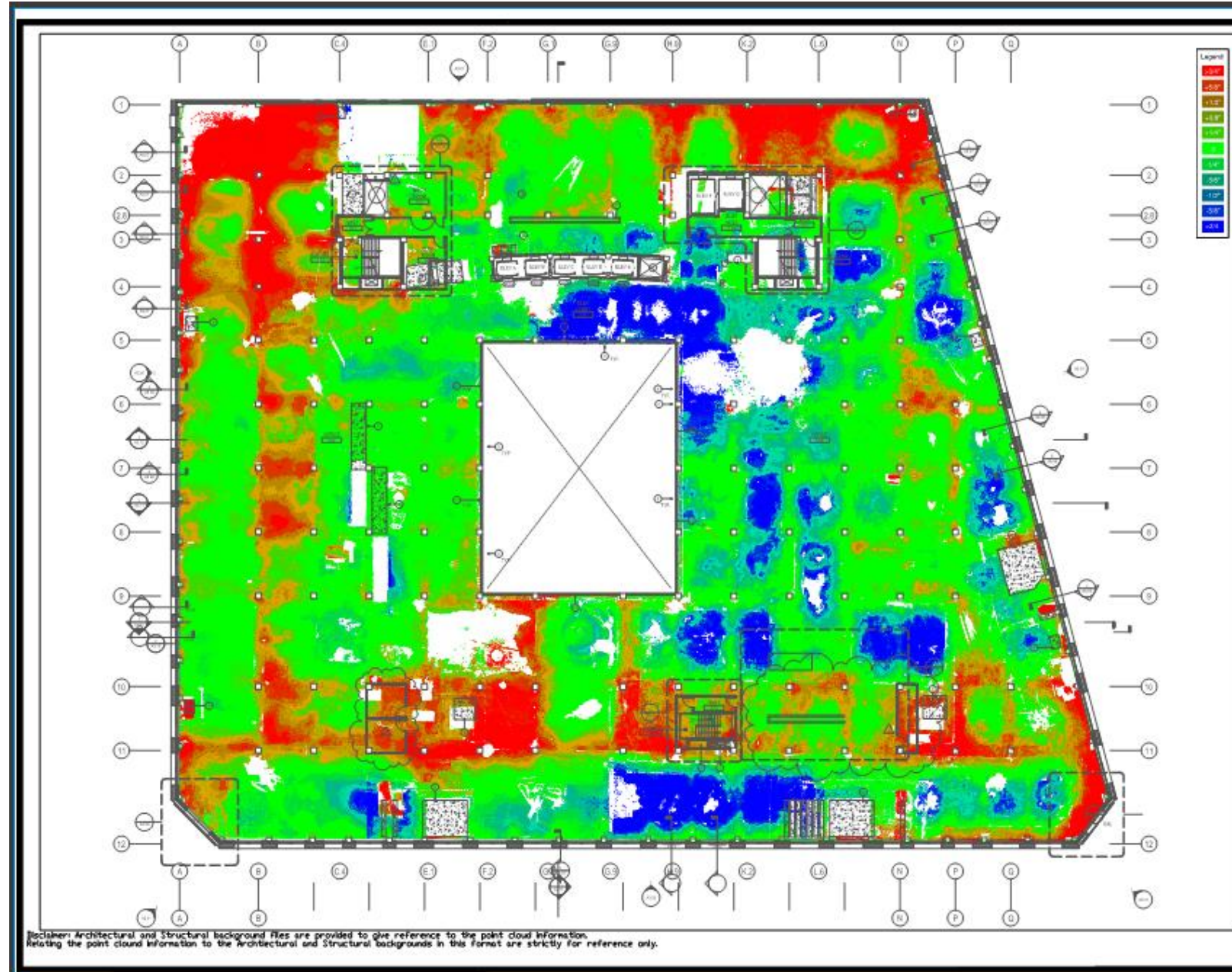
[Create] [Close] [Help]

Scan Inspections

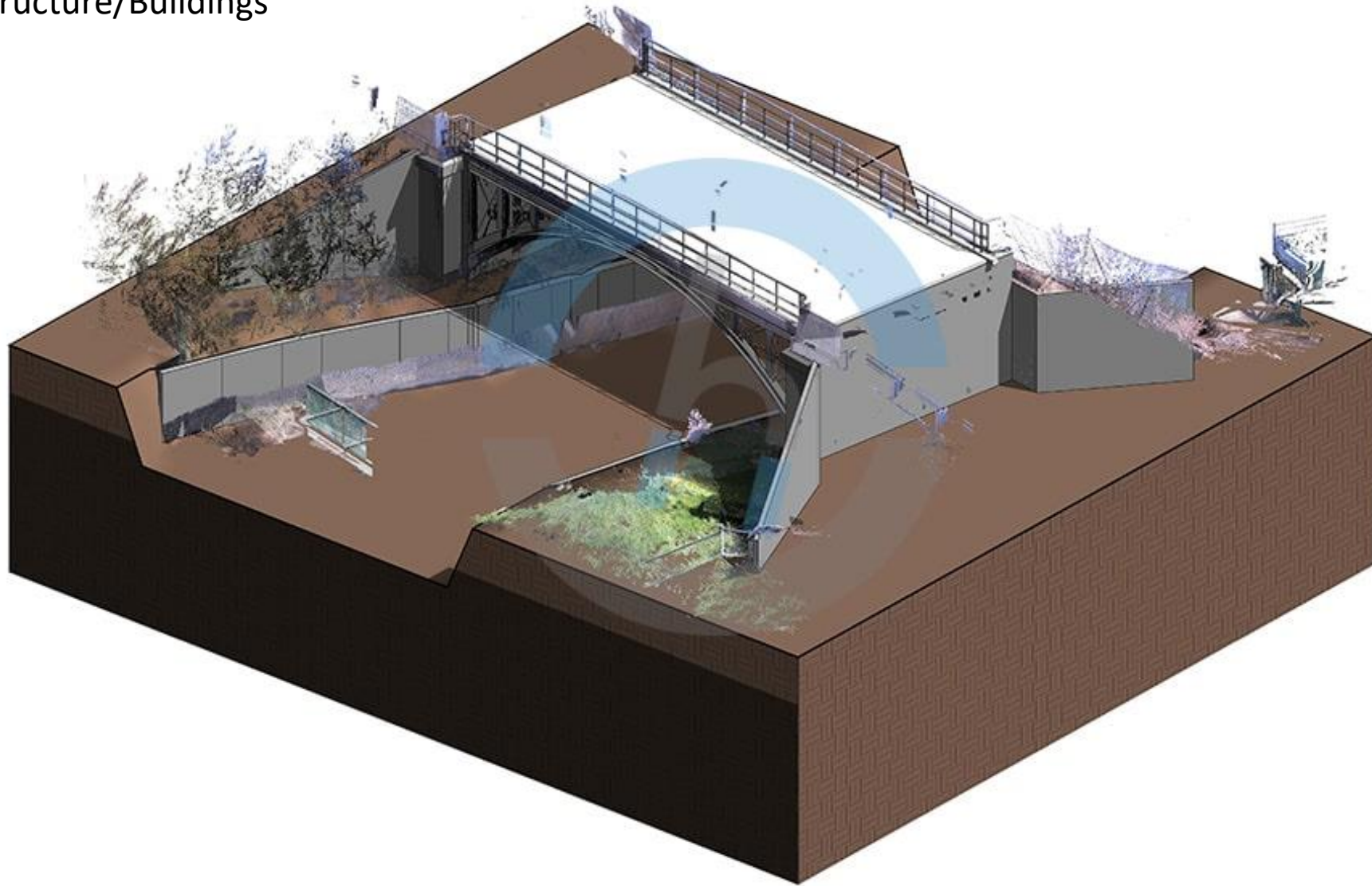
- Scan to Scan
- Scan to BIM
- Scan to Surface



Floor Flatness and Floor Levelness



Modeling Infrastructure/Buildings



Mobile LiDAR

Mounted to moving ground-based vehicle

GNSS + IMU positioning

Accuracies range from a few centimeters to millimeters

Targets for position adjustment

Usually equipped with cameras





Mobile Lidar & Imaging

\$100k - \$1M+

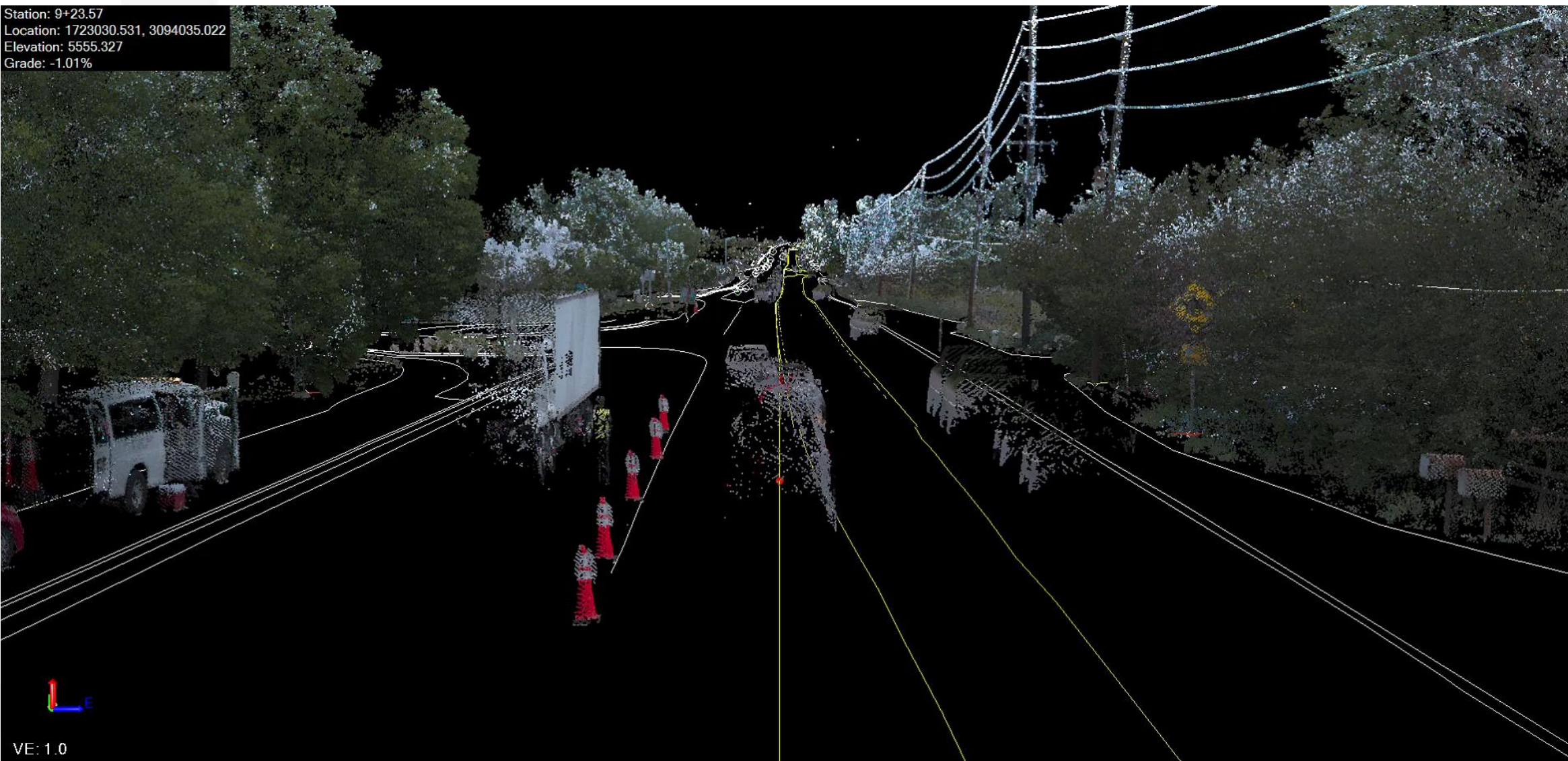
Benefits

- Safest option for corridor surveys
- Up to 2 million pps
- Survey accuracy
- High resolution imagery
- Drive highway speeds
- No special DOT clearances or road closures
- No “forgotten” features



Mobile Lidar & Imaging

Station: 9+23.57
Location: 1723030.531, 3094035.022
Elevation: 5555.327
Grade: -1.01%



Mobile Mapping Applications

DOT's & Highway

- Street assets and road surfaces
- Guard Rails
- Slope Monitoring
- Oversize Load and Vegetation Clearances
- Pre vs. Post Construction
- Preliminary Topographic Surveys
- As-Built Surveys
- Bridges
- Sight Line Analysis
- Tunnelling
- Milling & Paving

Utilities, Mining & Energy

- Asset extraction and inspection
- Haul Road planning & quantities
- Volumes

Cities and Municipalities

- Asset Extraction and Modelling
- Vegetation inventory
- Digital Twin
- Pavement Condition Analysis
- Surface Generation (storm/sewer)
- Updated private 'streetview'

Rail Corridors

- Track Alignment & Profile
- Asset Inventory
- Collision Avoidance
- Final As-Built

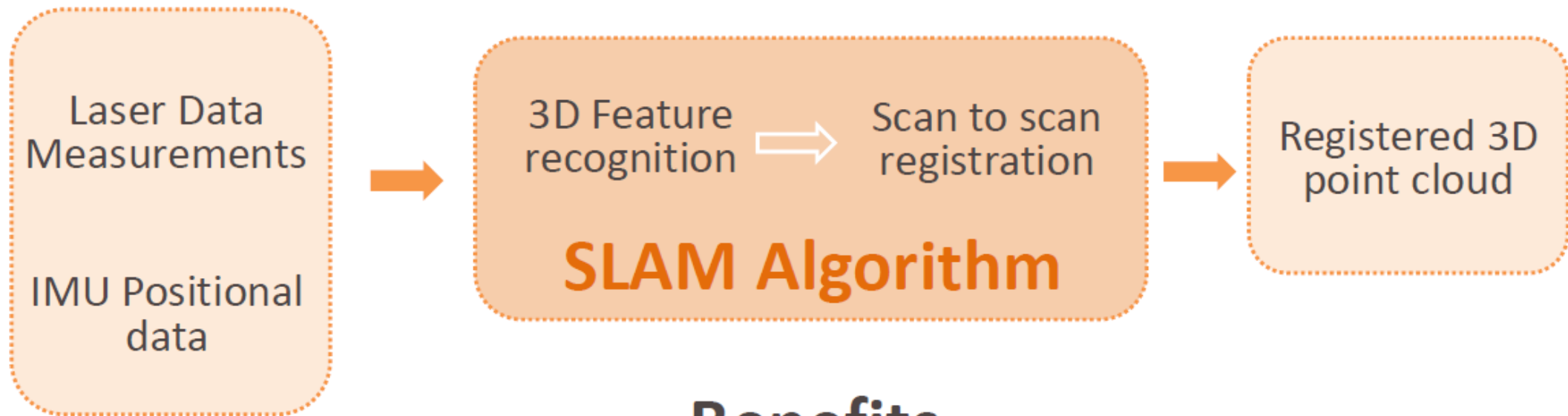
Mobile LiDAR Workflow

- Preplanning of driving route
- Targets
- Drive
- Post processing
- QA/QC
- CAD Feature Extraction & Modelling



SLAM Technology

Simultaneous **L**ocalisation **A**nd **M**apping (**SLAM**)



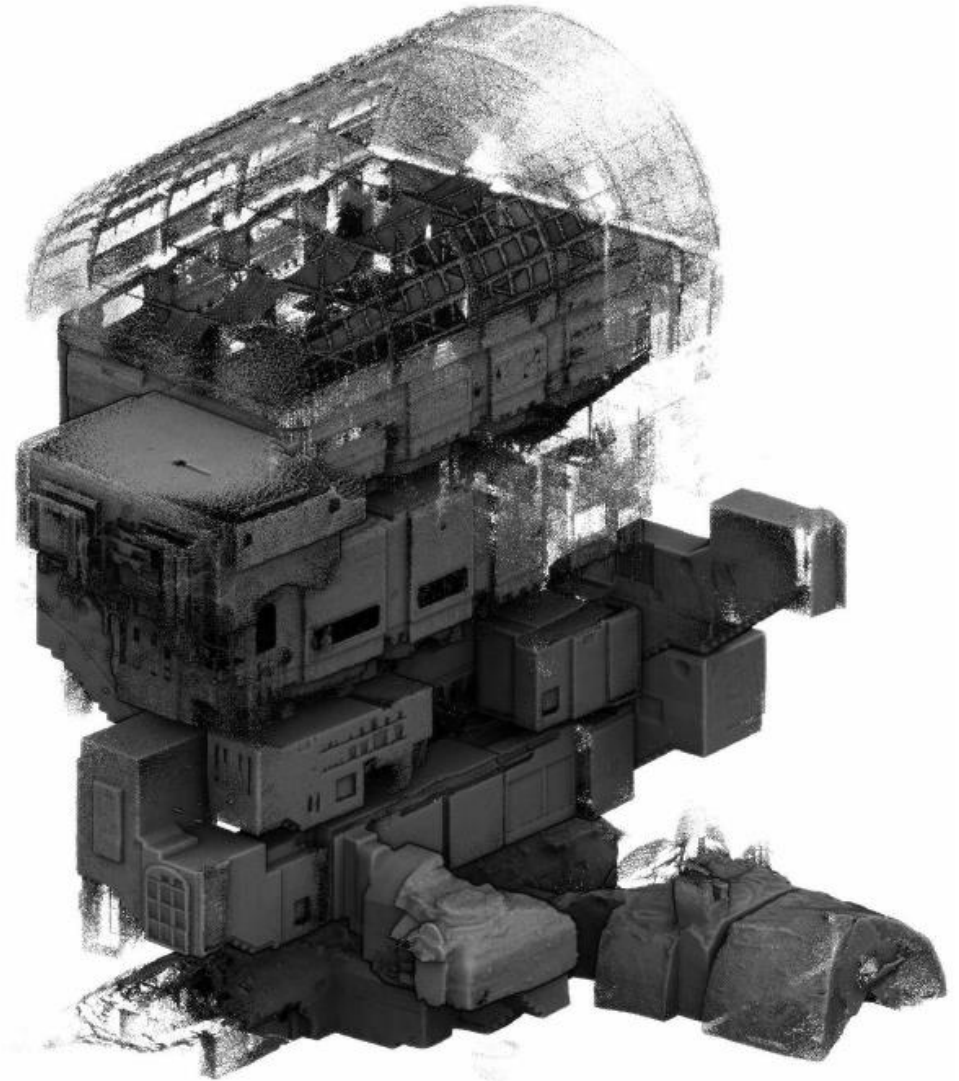
Benefits

- No need to remain static while scanning
 - No need for GPS

Mobile Scanning + SLAM Technology

Applications

- Complex & restricted access spaces
- Multi-level environments
- Tunnels & Mines
- Underground infrastructure (ex. manholes, sewers)
- Power Stations
- Bridge Inspections
- Forestry management
- Building & facility management
- Stockpile surveys

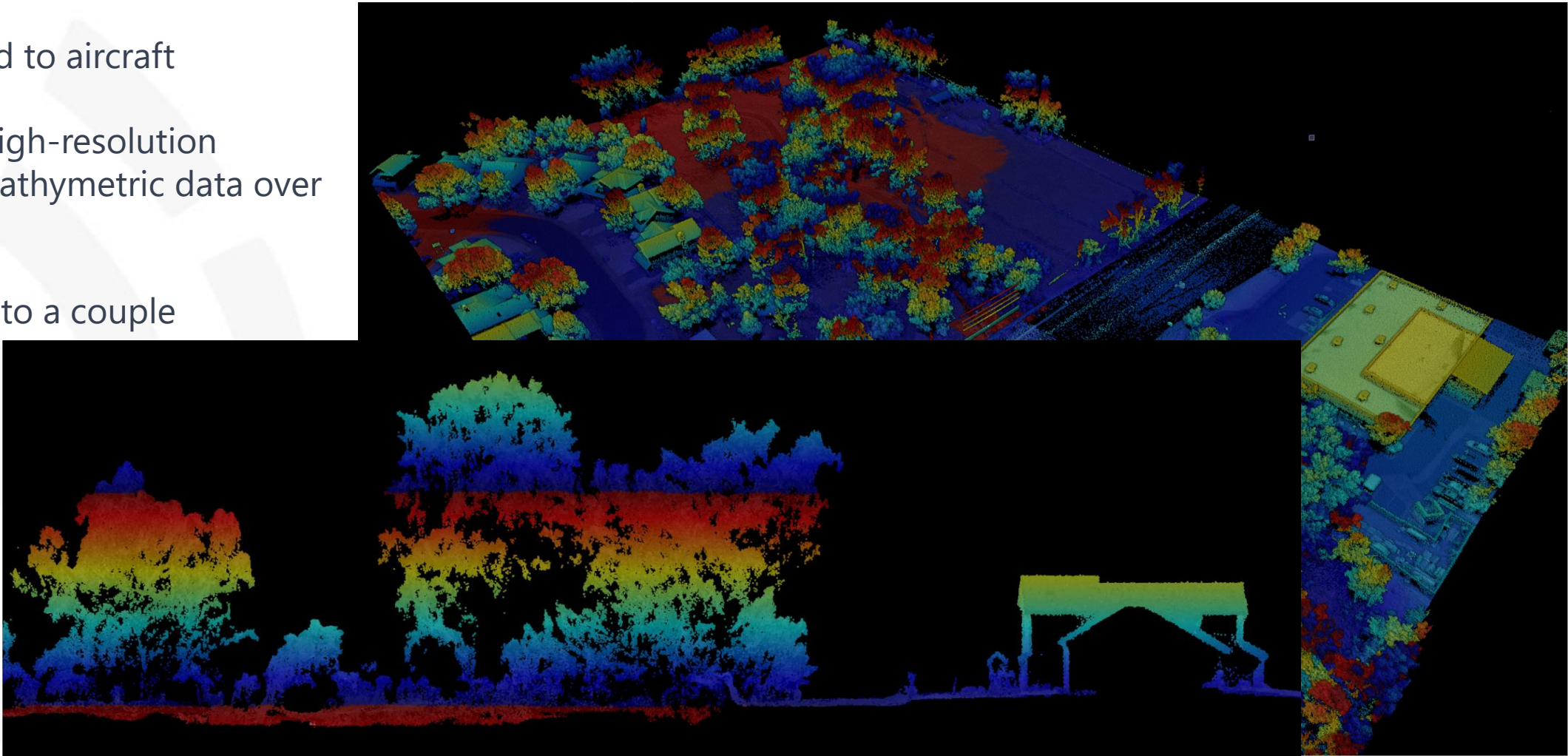


Aerial LiDAR

LiDAR is mounted to aircraft

Used to collect high-resolution topographic or bathymetric data over large areas

Accuracies of up to a couple centimeters



UAS Aerial LiDAR

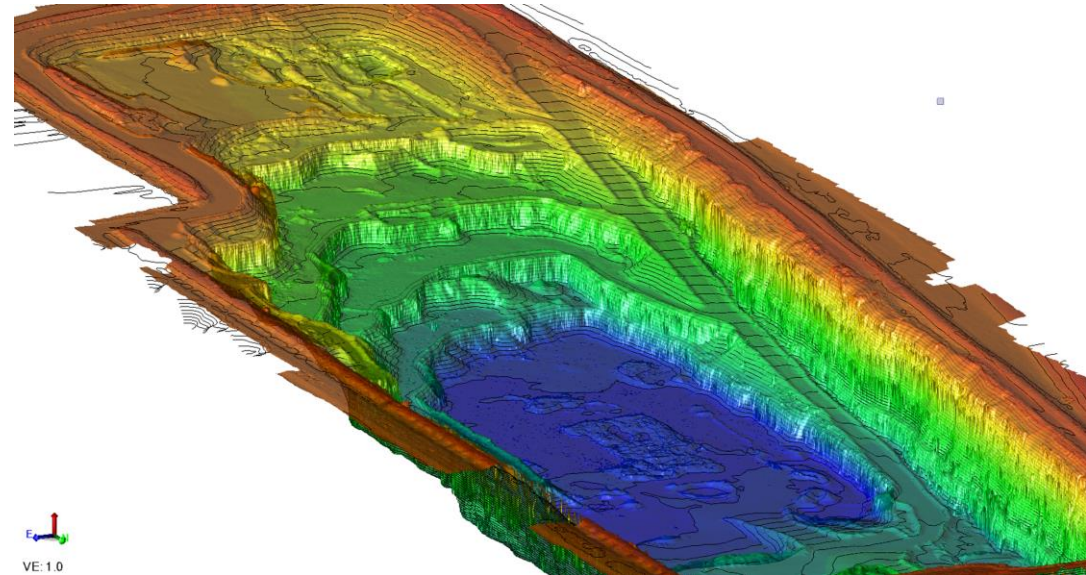
\$30k - \$250k

Benefits

- Speed of data capture
- Collect tops of features
- Penetrate vegetation for true ground elevations
- Capture dangerous or difficult terrain
- Collect data in poor lighting conditions

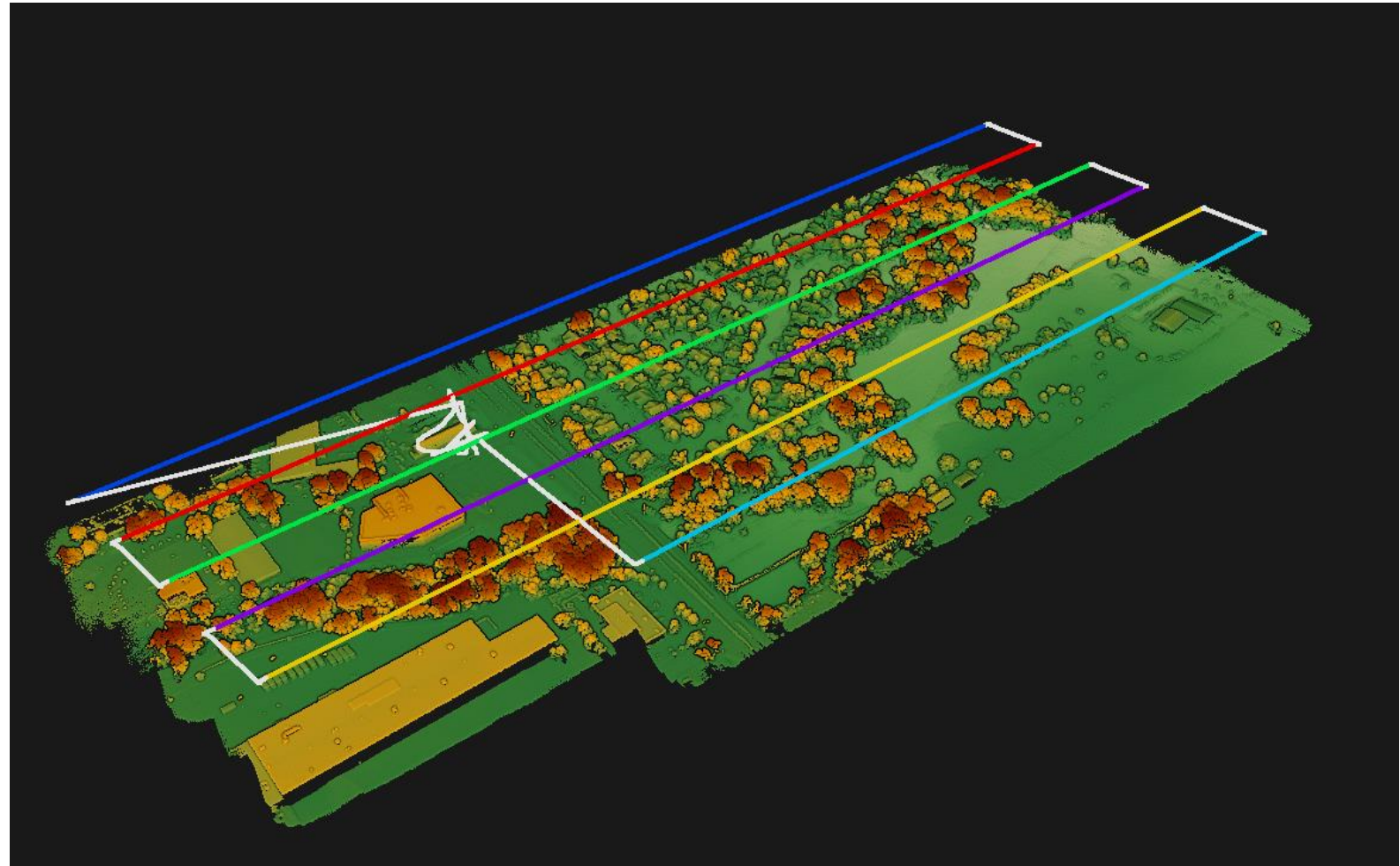
Applications

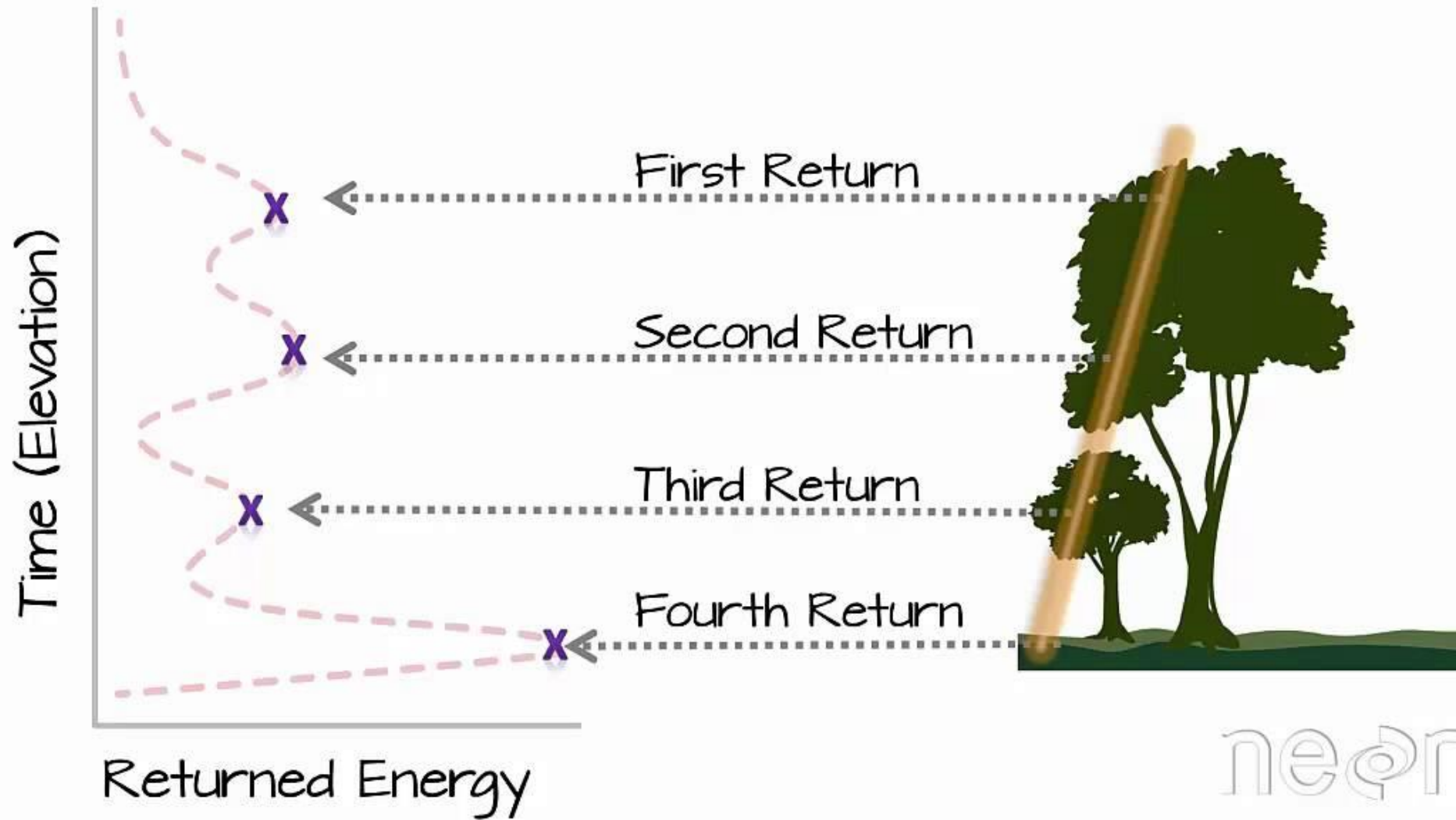
- Environmental changes
- Powerline & Utility surveys
- Pipeline surveys
- Construction site monitoring
- Mining (volume calculation)
- Road and Rail mapping
- Contour mapping



Aerial LiDAR Workflow

- Preplanning of flight routes
- GCP targets
- Part 107
- Flight Scan
- Post processing
- QA/QC
- CAD Feature Extraction & Modelling





Example Aerial Lidar Comparison

1000 acres

	Traditional Survey	Aerial Lidar
Field Time	10 days – 2 Crews	2 Days
Office Time	4 Days	2 Days
Total	14 Days	4 Days

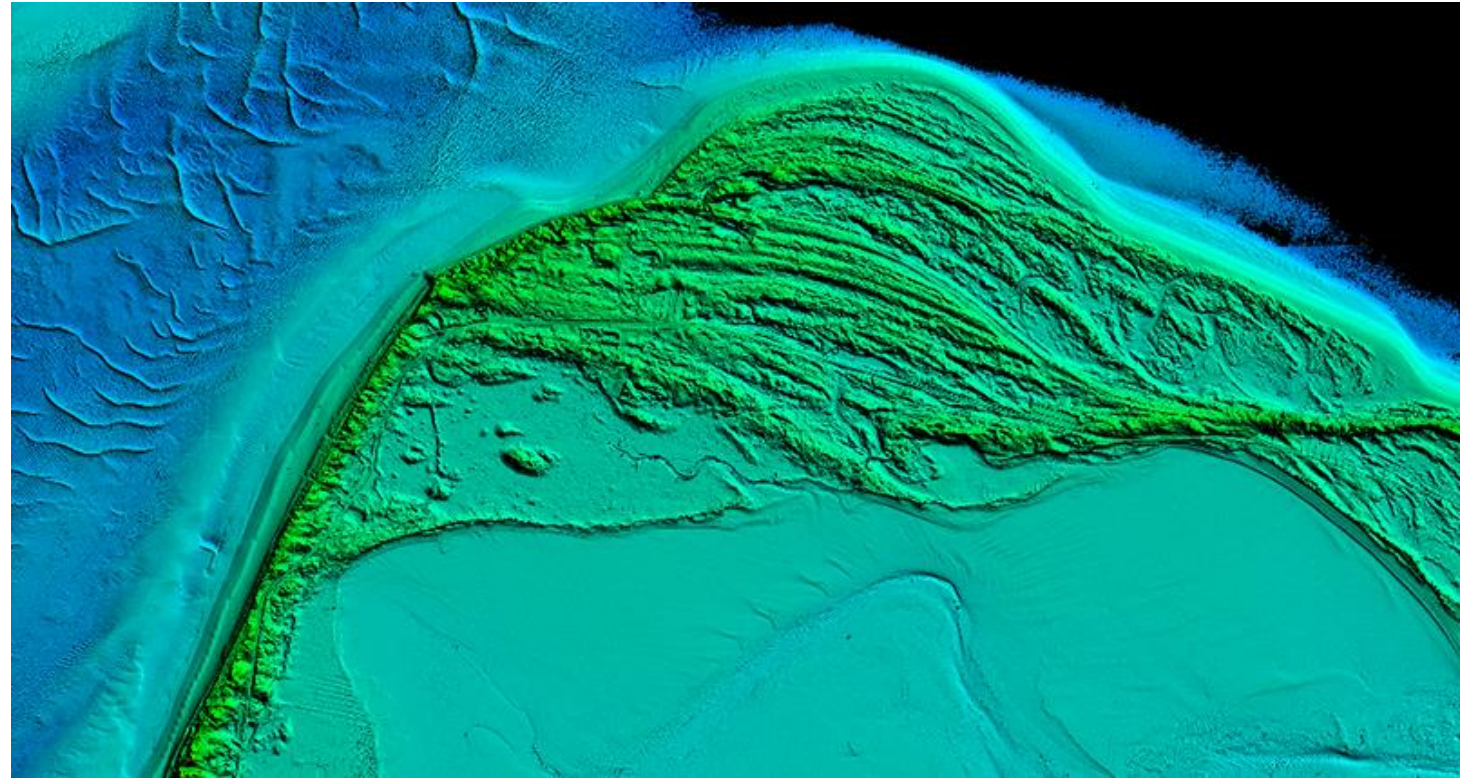
****71% Reduction in Time****

****Traditional Survey would have consisted of a mixture of continuous topo quads and boots on the ground where inaccessible - grid pattern would not be possible****

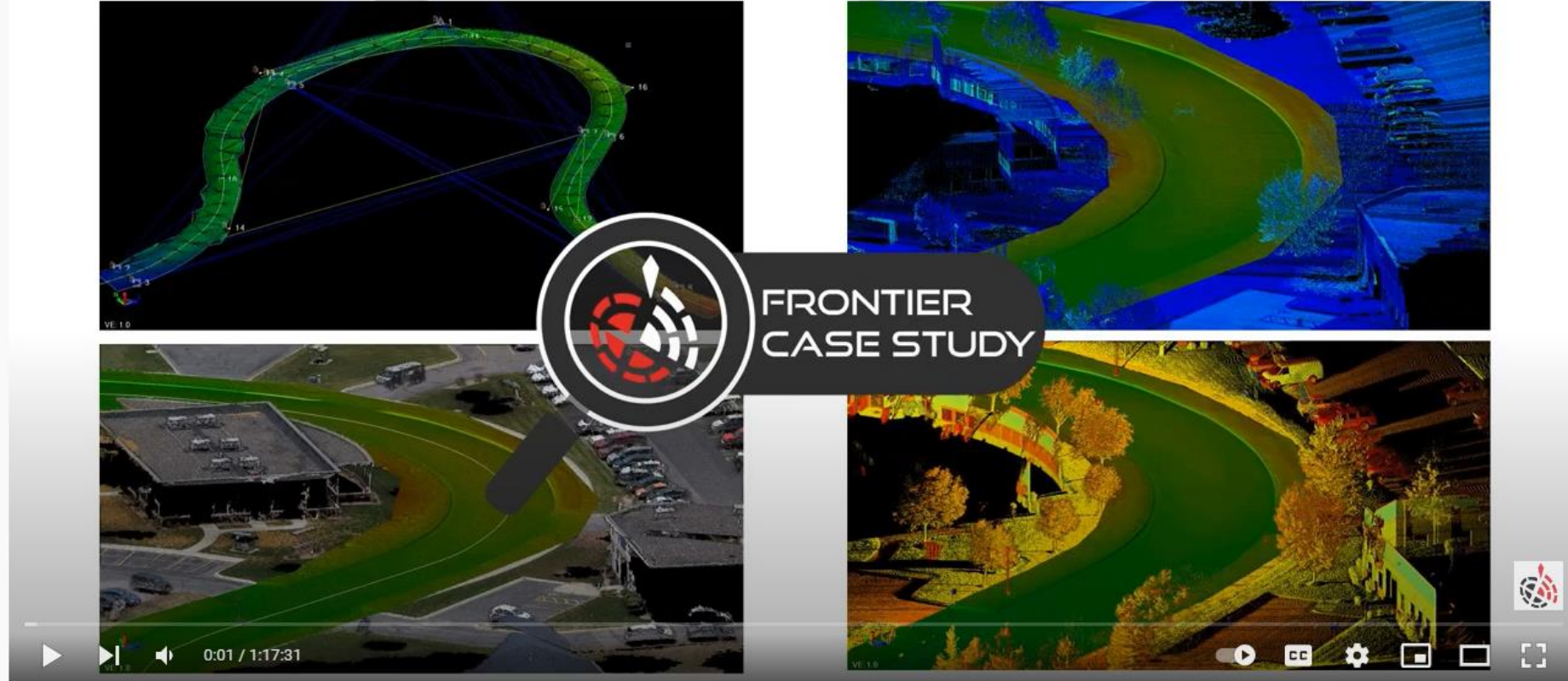


Bathymetric LiDAR

- Traditional Near-Infrared LiDAR gets absorbed by water, therefore no returns
- Blue-Green LiDAR used in Bathy systems
 - Can penetrate water
 - Signal weakens through water column



Case Study: Aerial, Mobile and Traditional Survey Workflows Tested



Case Study Aerial, Mobile and Traditional Survey Workflows Tested

472 views • Apr 8, 2020

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In this technology webinar we discuss the process and results of our case study that compares emerging technologies in survey data collection to the traditional methods that we are used to using. We compare GNSS, aerial photogrammetry, aerial LiDAR and mobile LiDAR to conventional

SHOW MORE

What do you need for a Data Processing Workstation?

Check your software minimum specs!

- CPU -> **Quad Core or better** (Hyperthreading = bonus)
 - Intel, AMD
- GPU -> Discrete graphics card! (8gb memory or higher)
 - NVIDIA, AMD
- RAM -> 32 GB or more
- Storage -> Solid State Drives (> 500gb)
 - NVMe
 - SATA

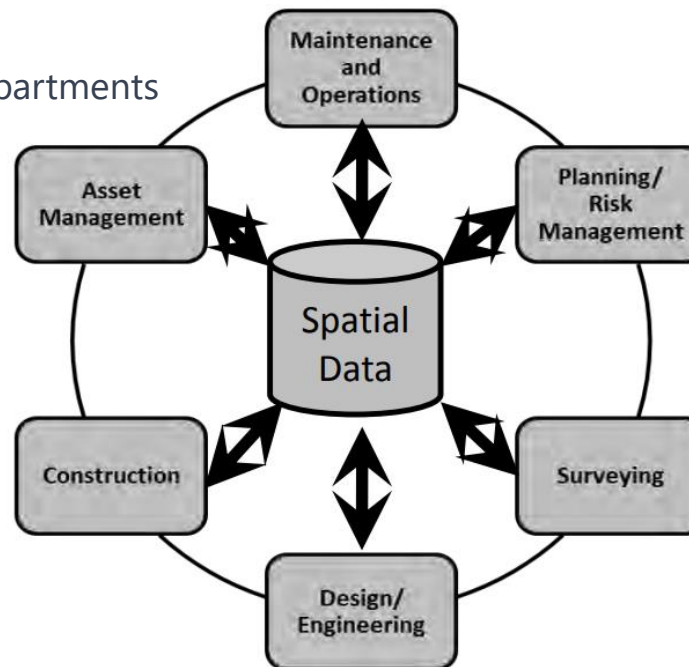


Advantages

- Ability to collect data in a variety of environments and conditions
 - GNSS disadvantaged areas
 - Indoors and outdoors
 - Day or Night
- Safe operations
- Detailed surfaces
- Fast/Efficient data collection
- Integration with other tools/sensors
- Capture beyond physical means
- Utilize same dataset for multiple disciplines/departments

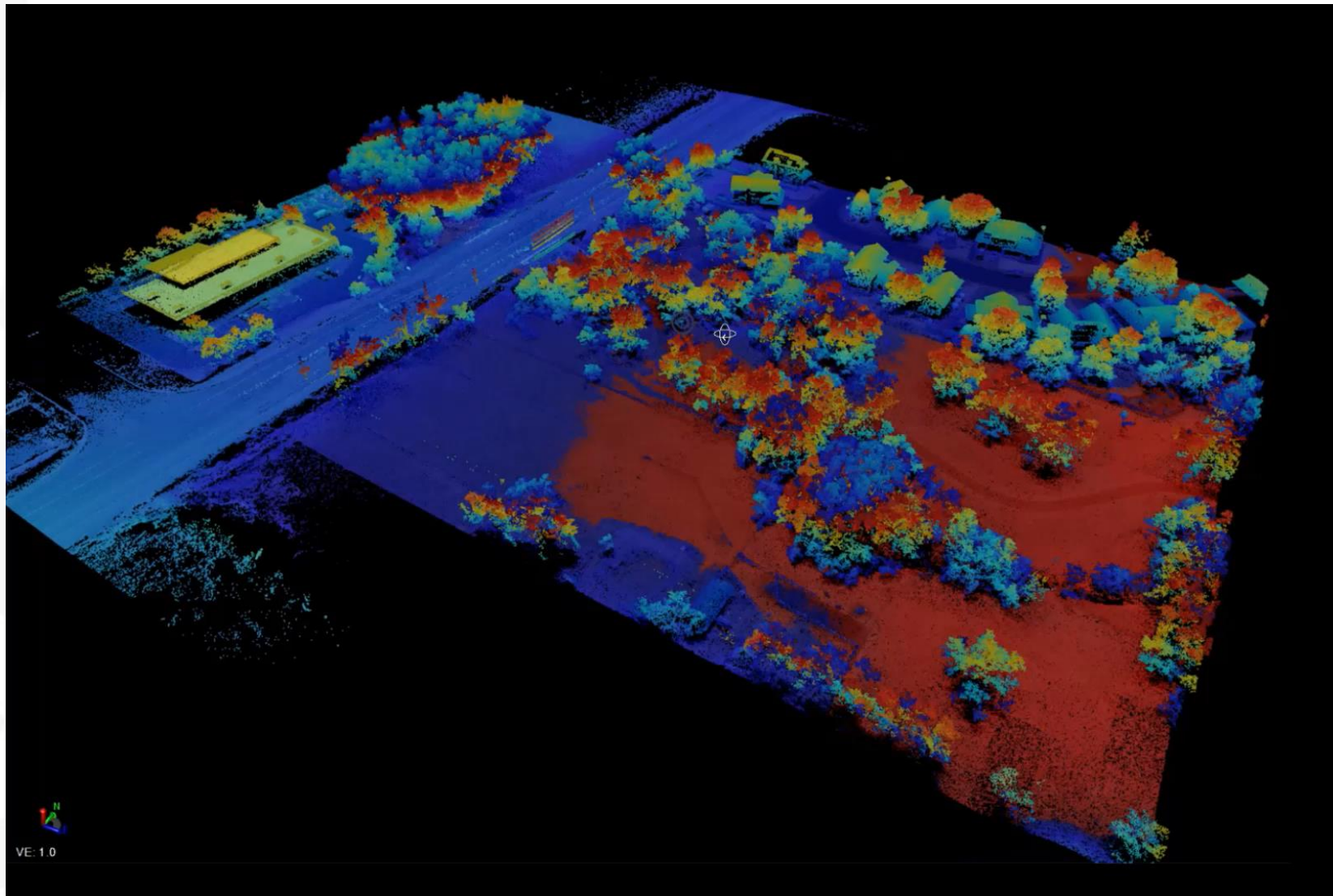
Limitations

- Weather permitting
- Limited penetration through certain materials (e.g., water, vegetation)
- Range
- Cost
- Complexity
- Non-realtime for now



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

Here's how we did it...



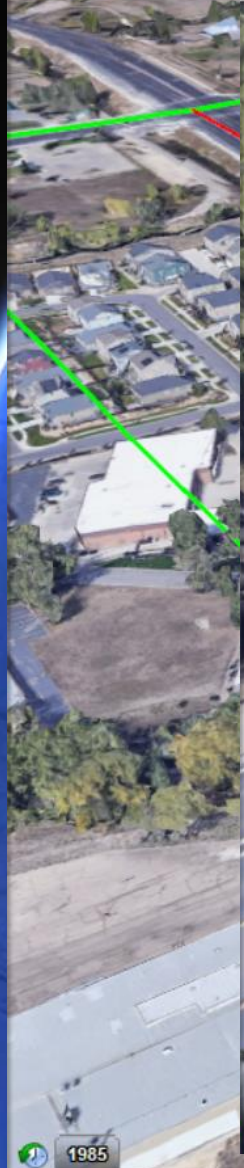


Image Landsat / Copernicus

Google Earth

1985

1985

39°49'14.98" N 105°09'54.25" W elev 5534 ft eye alt 5683 ft
39°49'11.42" N 105°09'58.34" W elev 5537 ft eye alt 5340 ft

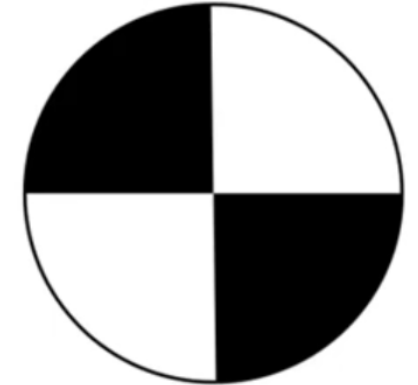
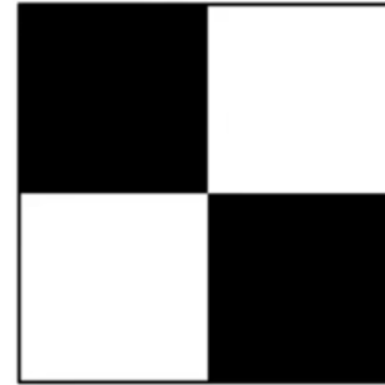
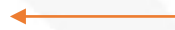
Imagery Date: 12/13/2015 41°09'30.64" N 95°30'39.86" W elev 1167 ft eye alt 3775.77 mi

Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

1. Start with Ground Control (GCPs)



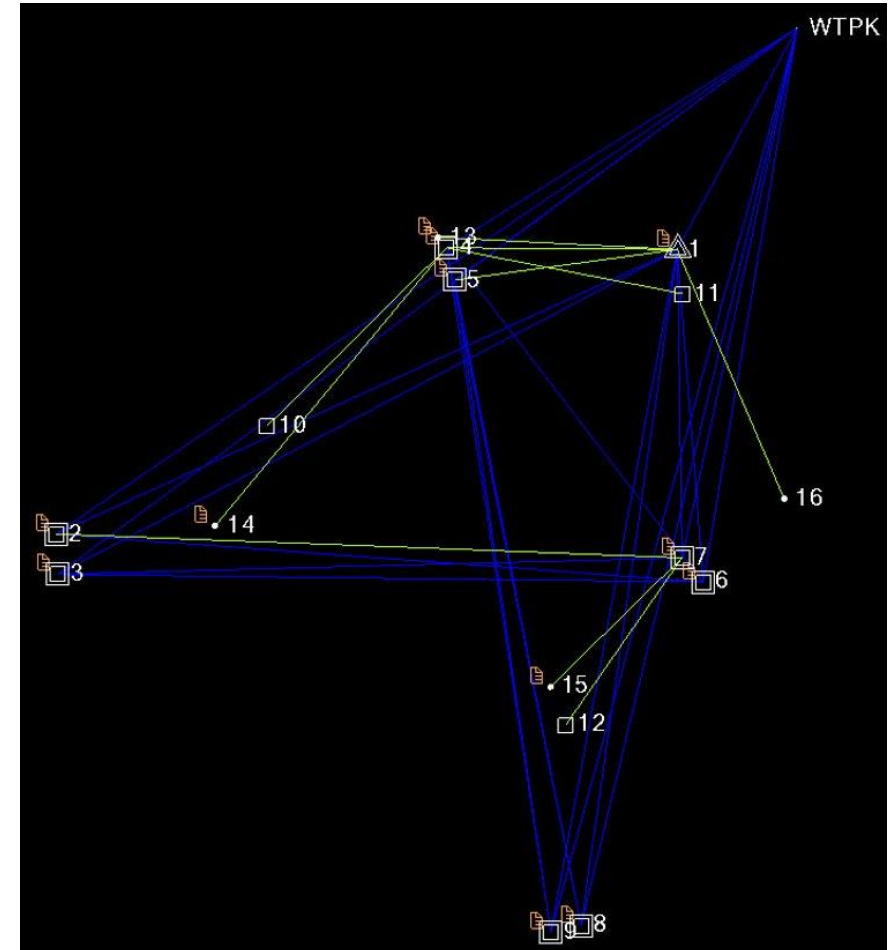
High contrast targets
are well suited for
recognition



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

- RTK
- Static GNSS
- Total Station
- Trig Levelling
- Least Squares Network Adj.

- What is acceptable for your project?



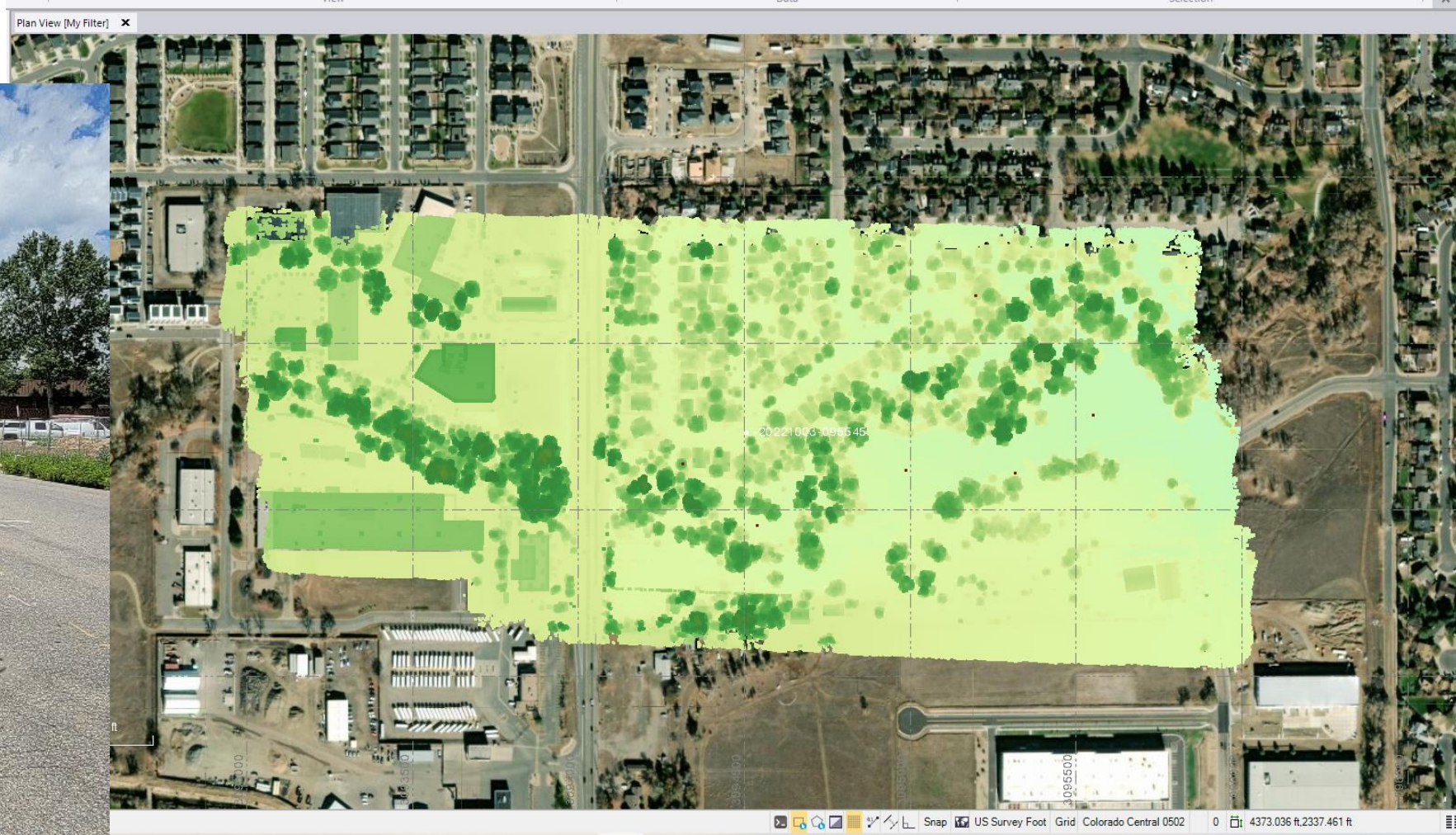
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

2. Drive Mobile LiDAR



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

3. Fly Aerial LiDAR



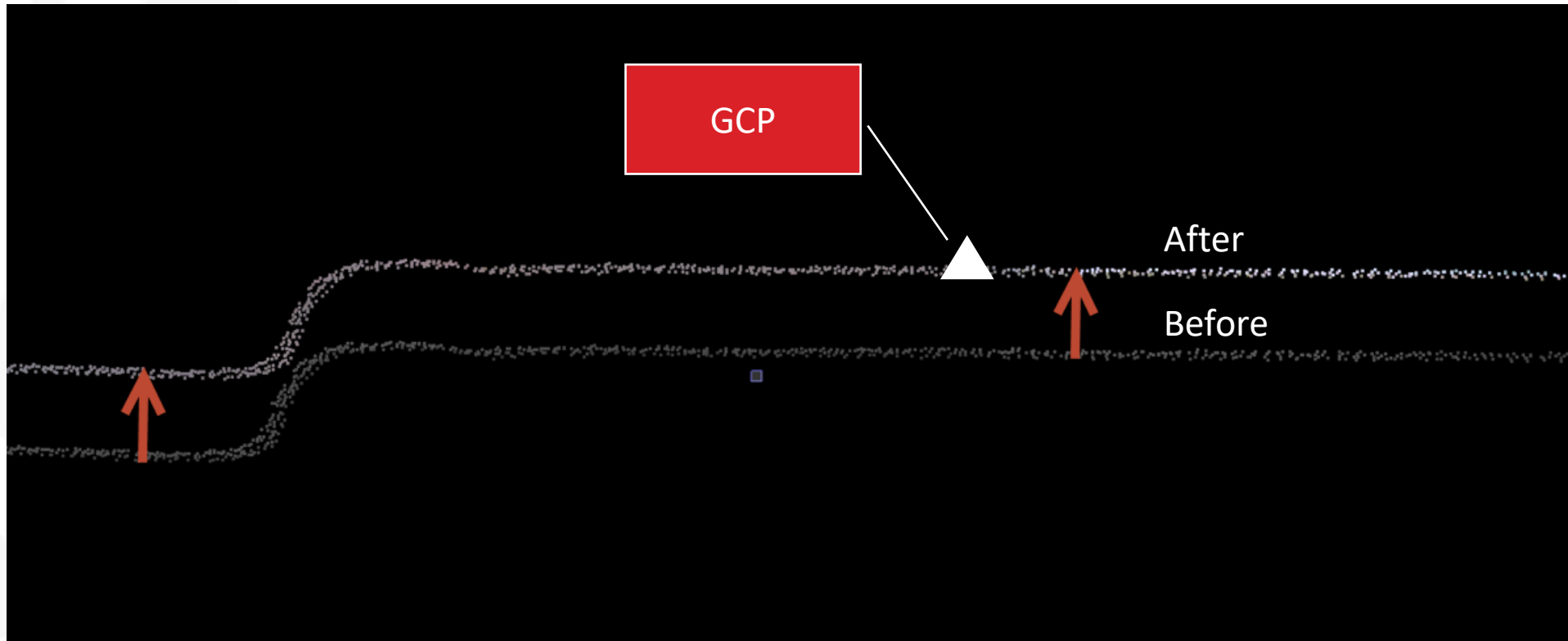
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

4. Terrestrial Scanning



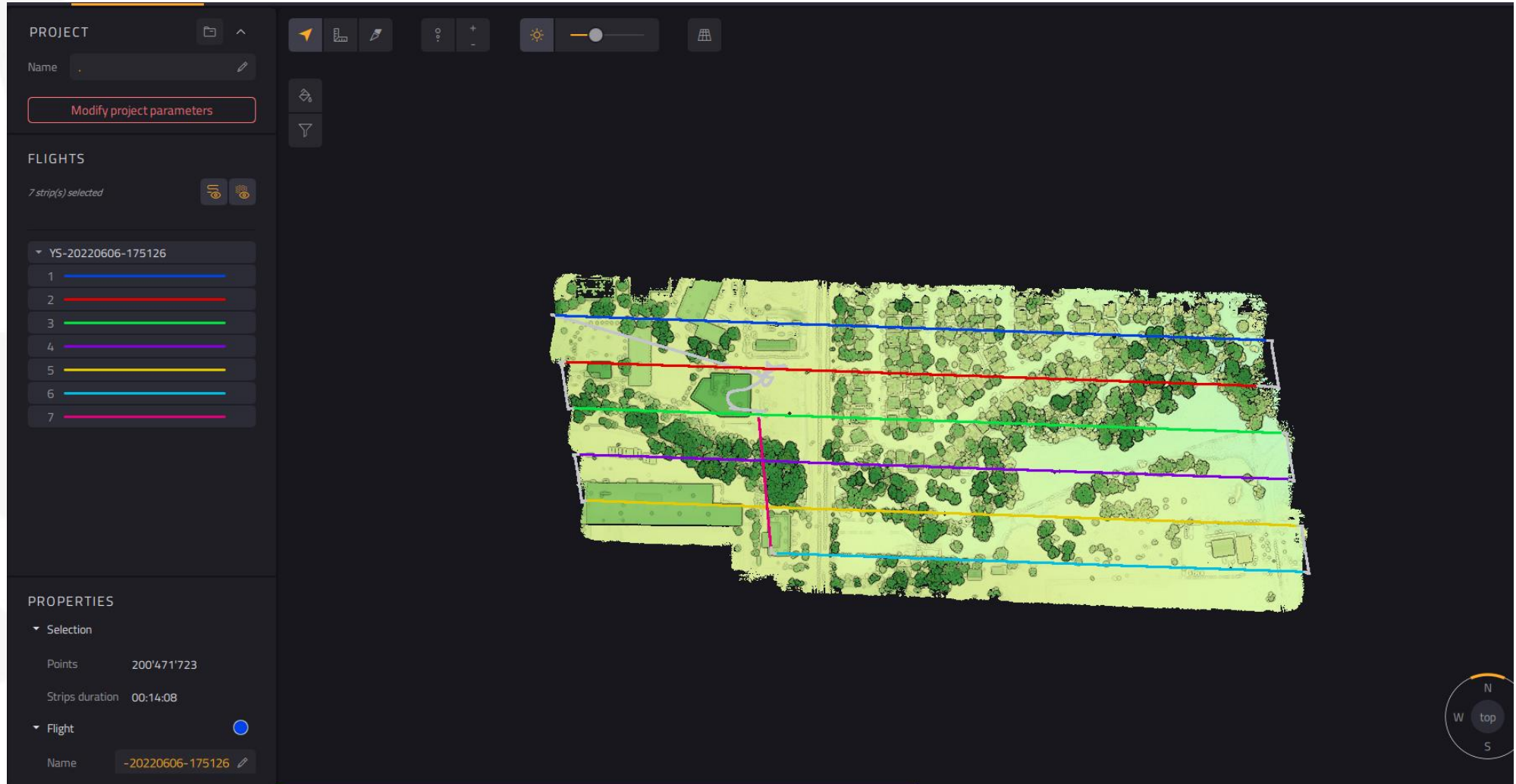
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

5. Post Process Mobile LiDAR to GCP



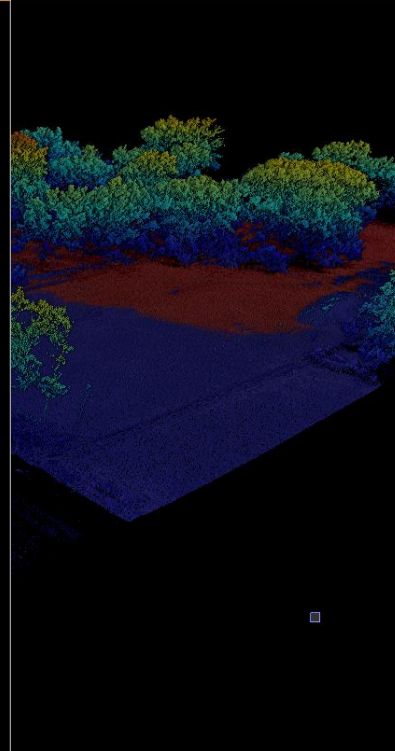
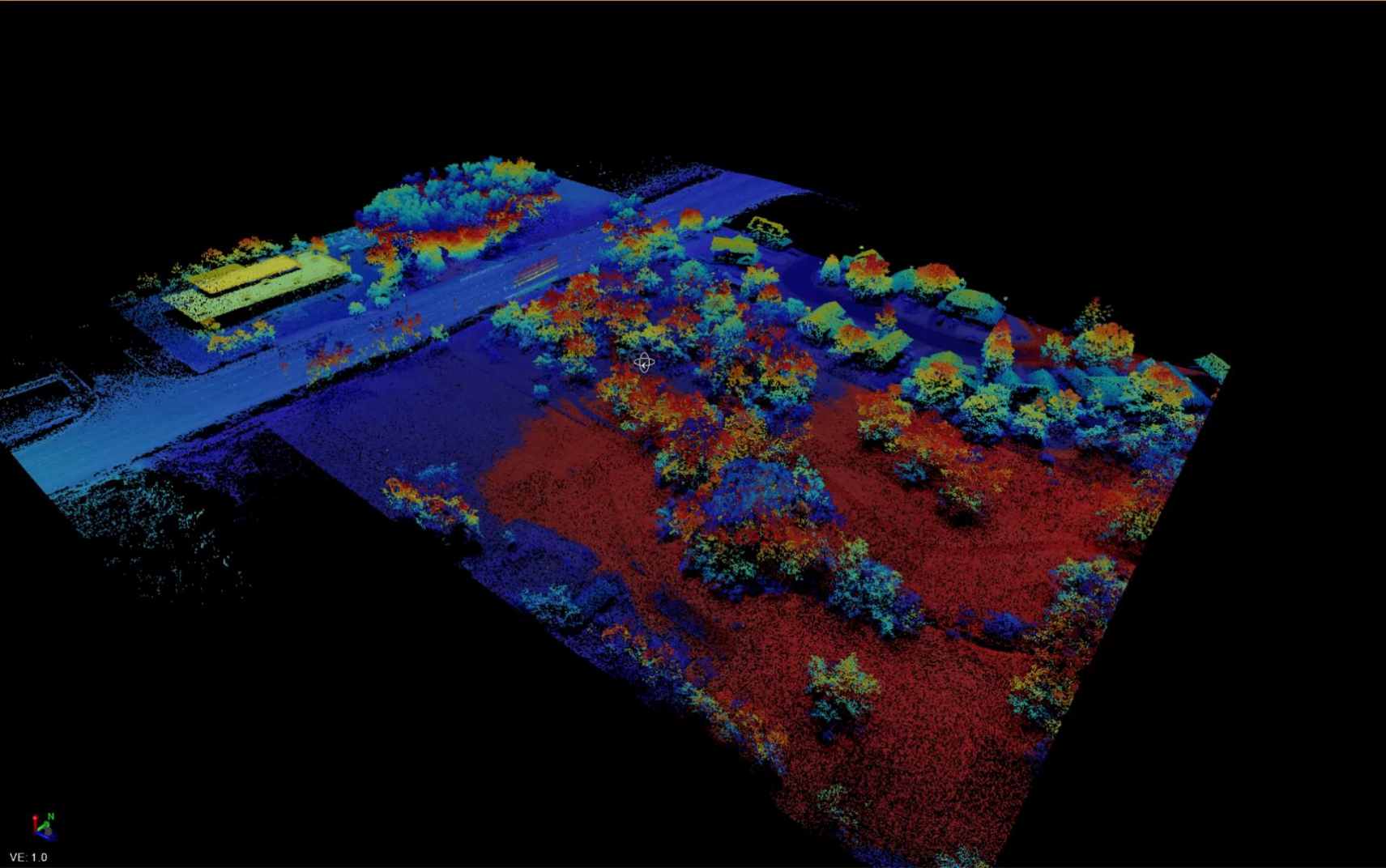
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

6. Post Process Aerial LiDAR w/ Strip adjustment



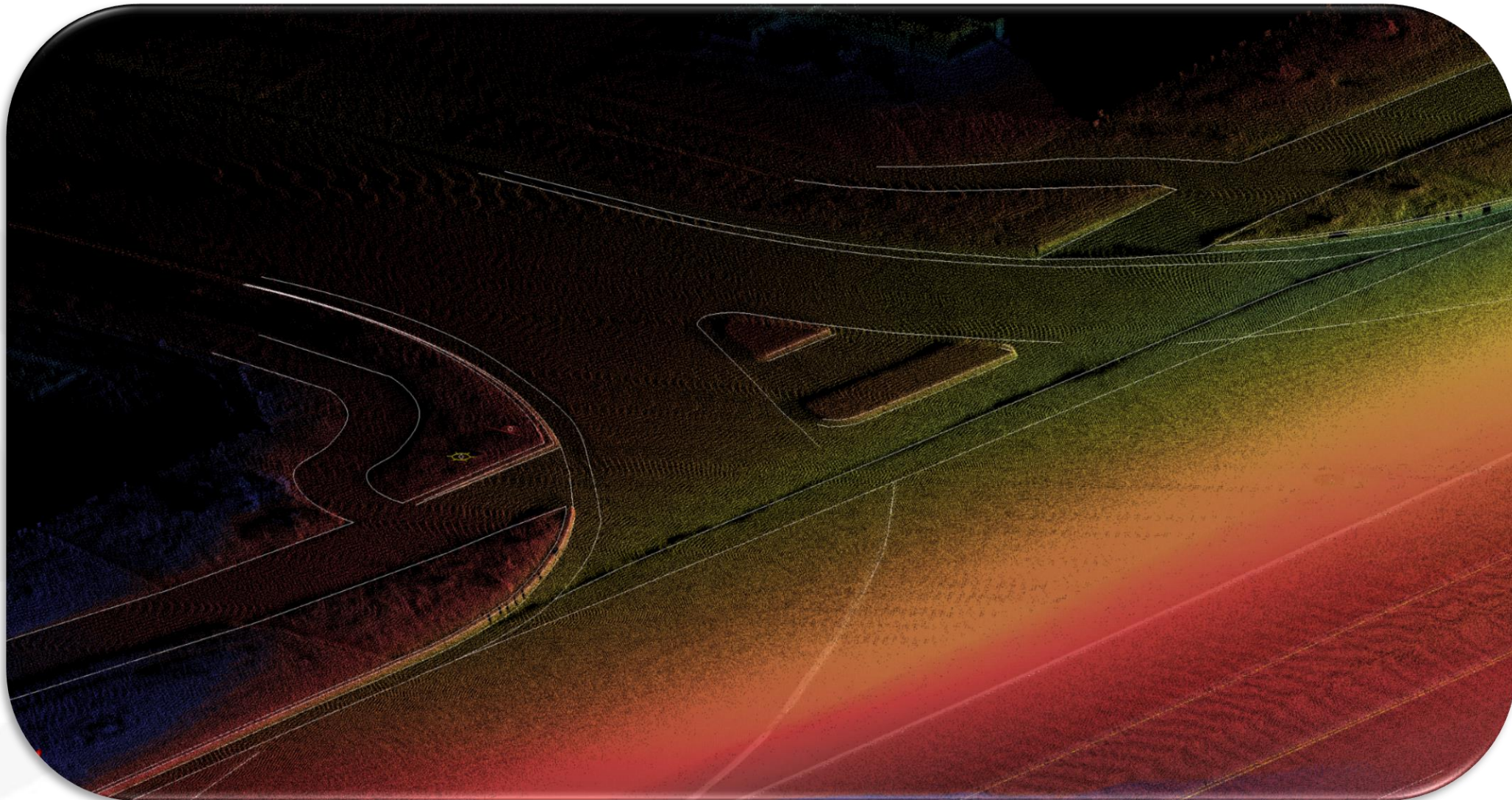
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

7. Combine All Data



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

8. Create Linework



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

8. Create Linework

The screenshot displays a software interface for processing LiDAR data. The main window shows a 3D perspective view of a road with a red curb and gutter highlighted. A white arrow points to the curb, and a pink double-headed arrow indicates the cutting plane. Below this is a 'Cutting Plane View' window showing a 2D profile of the curb and gutter. The profile is a dashed line with a green dot at the peak. The 'Cutting Plane View' window has a 'Plane' dropdown set to 'Curb and gutter profile view', a checked 'Apply cutting plane' box, a 'Cutting plane thickness' of 0.984, and an unchecked 'Show surface-plane intersection' box. To the right is an 'Extract Line Feature' panel with the following settings:

- Extract: Post QA/QC
- Extraction type: Curb and Gutter
- Line Settings: (dropdown)
- Template Definition: (dropdown)
- Define Cutting Plane: Point 1: 1726073.170, 3094074.00; Point 2: 1726073.147, 3094068.41; Switch Direction button
- Curb Pattern: Node 1, 2, 3, 4 (each with a 'Draw' checkbox checked); Add Node and Remove Node buttons
- Extraction: Interval: 10,000; Min. confidence (%): 90.00
- Additional Options: Template confidence %; Lift irregular nodes; Apply auto template; Select next node point; Select search points; Switch Direction and Undo buttons
- Buttons: Stop, Finish, Create Lines

The bottom status bar shows '0+00.00' on the left and '0 1726073.164 ft, 3094072.654 ft' on the right.

Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

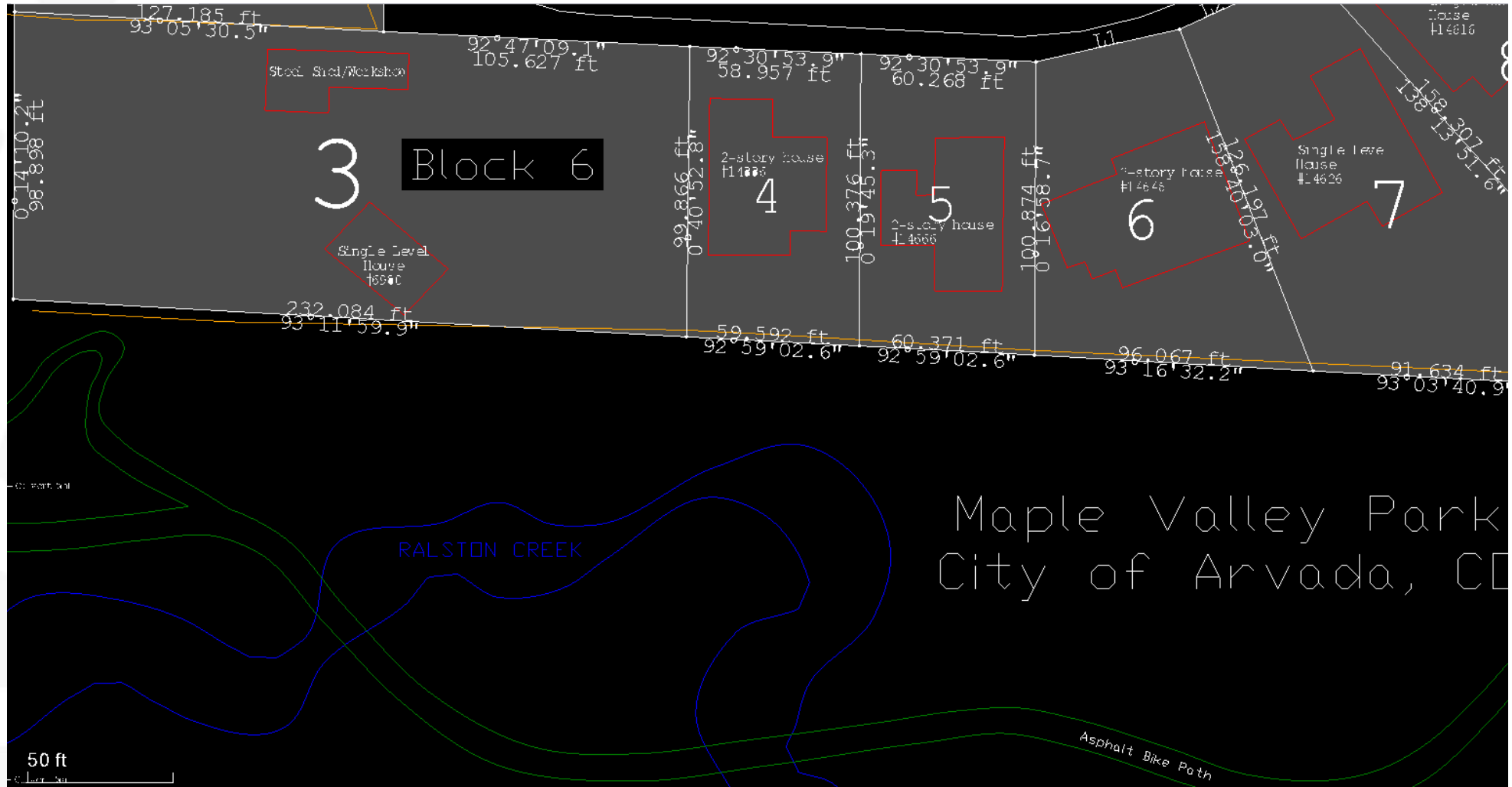
8. Create Linework

Finished Road Linework

- Road lanes
- Curb/gutter
- Sidewalk/paths
- Driveways
- Other Breaklines

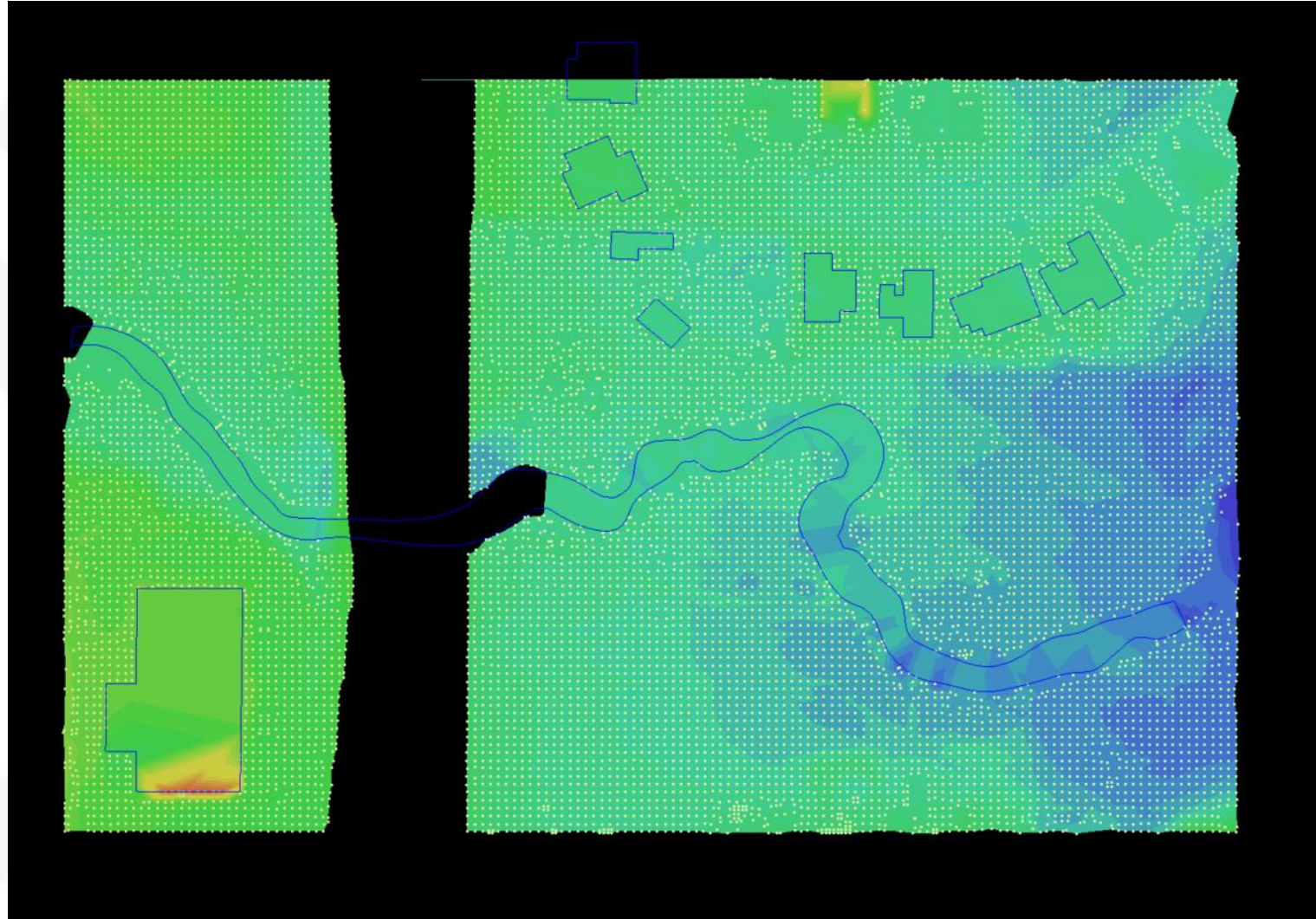
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

8. Create Linework



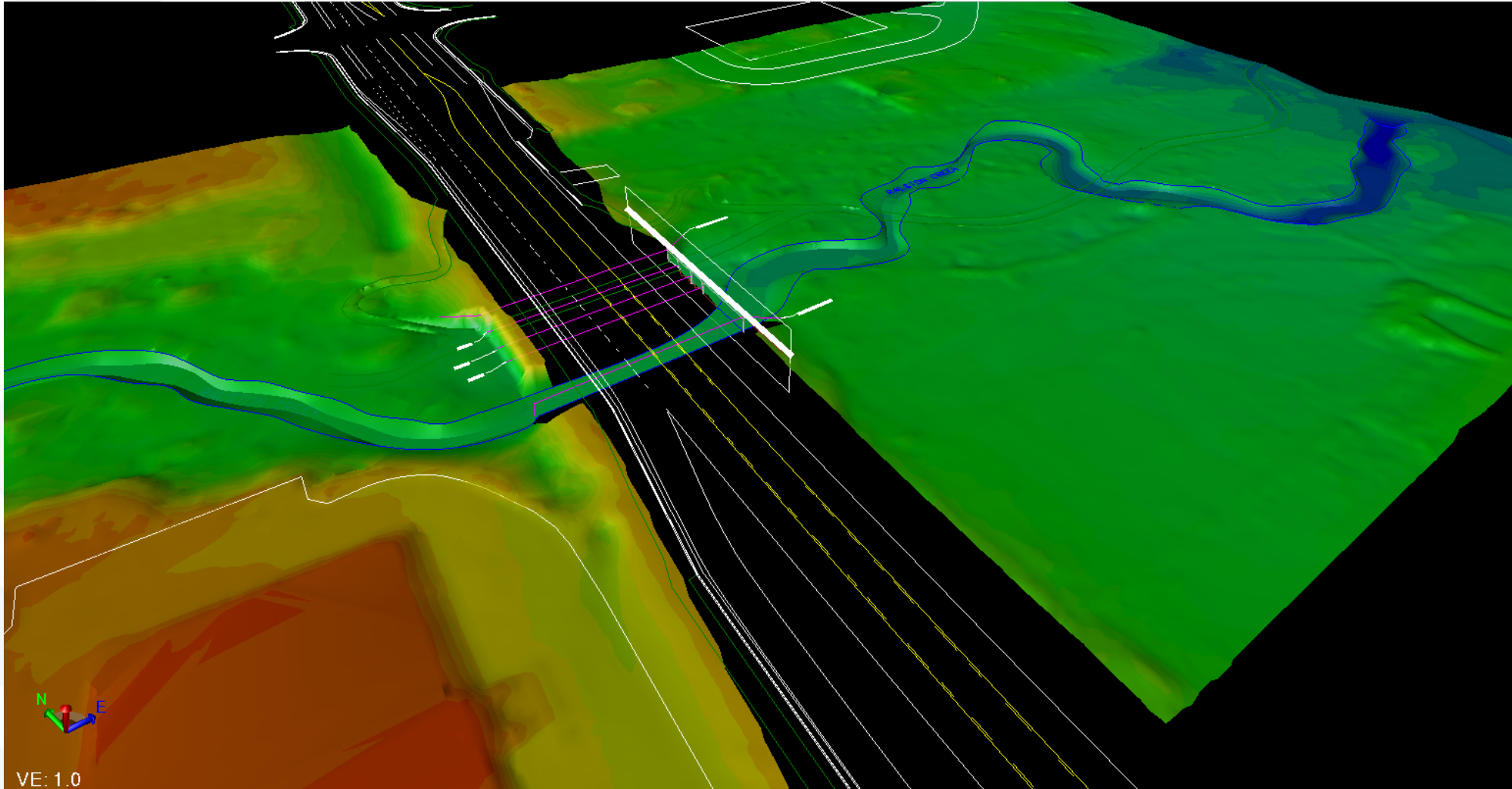
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

9. Sample Ground & Create Surfaces



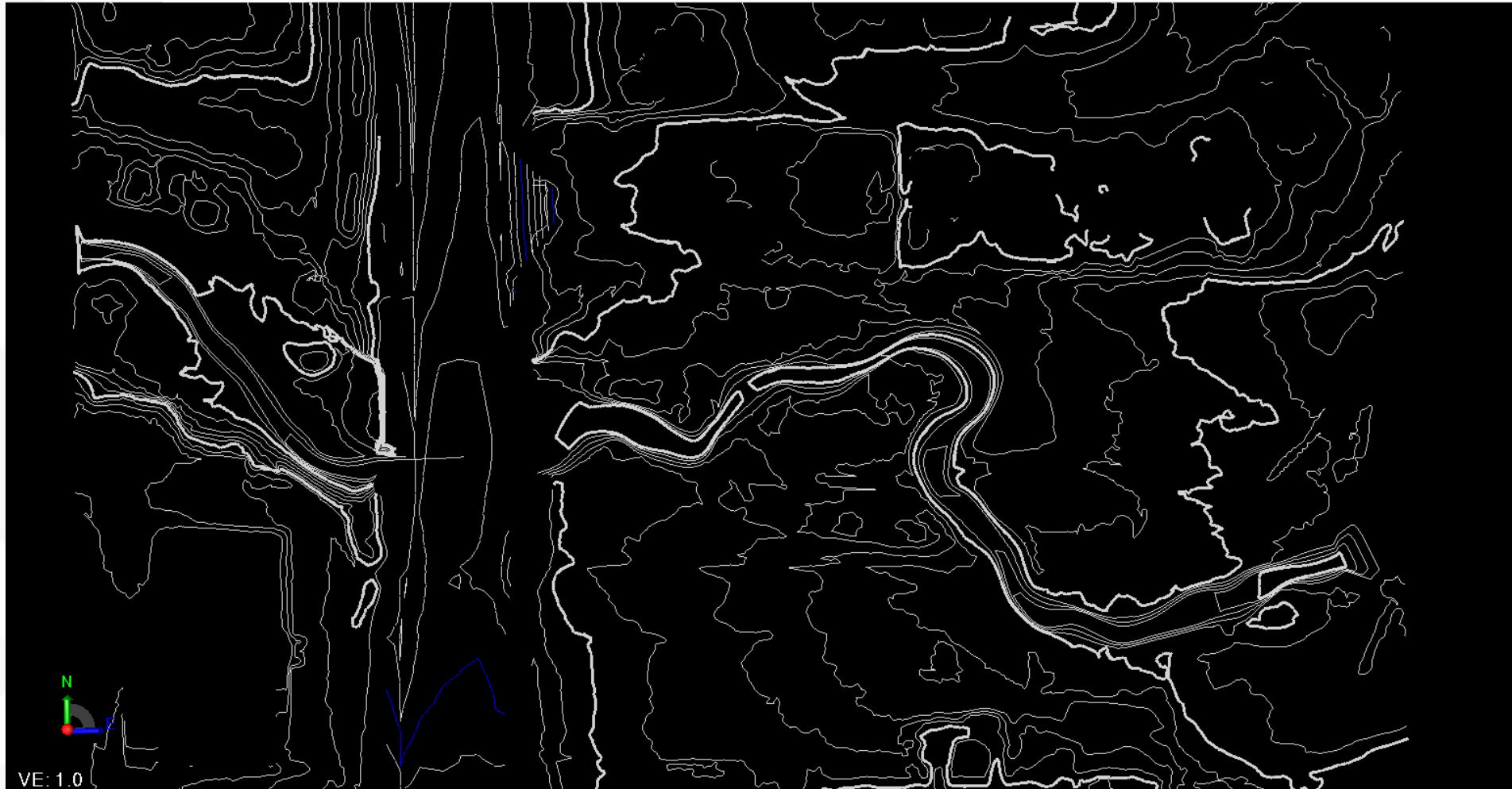
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

9. Sample Ground & Create Surfaces



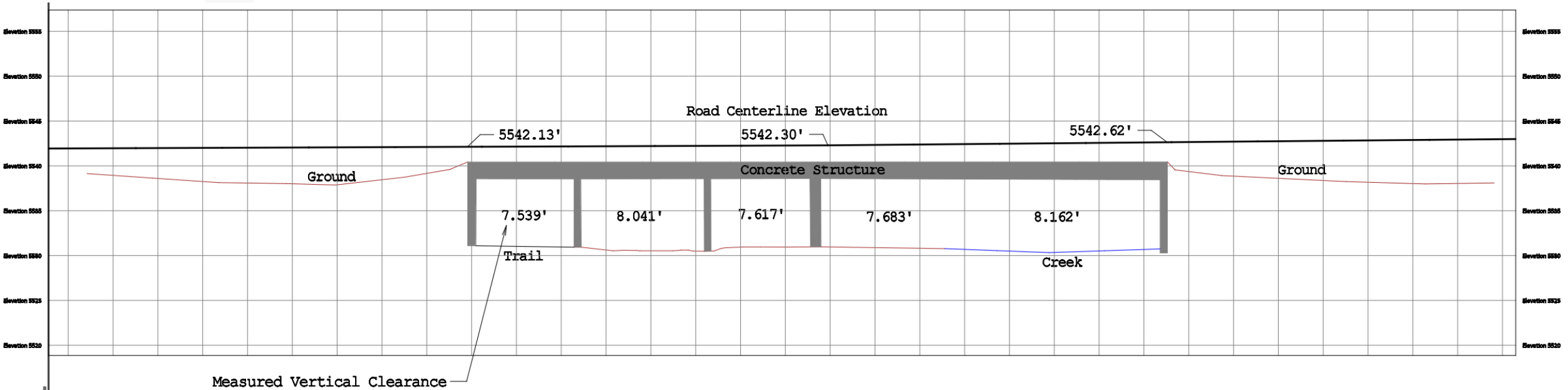
Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

10. Create Contours



Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

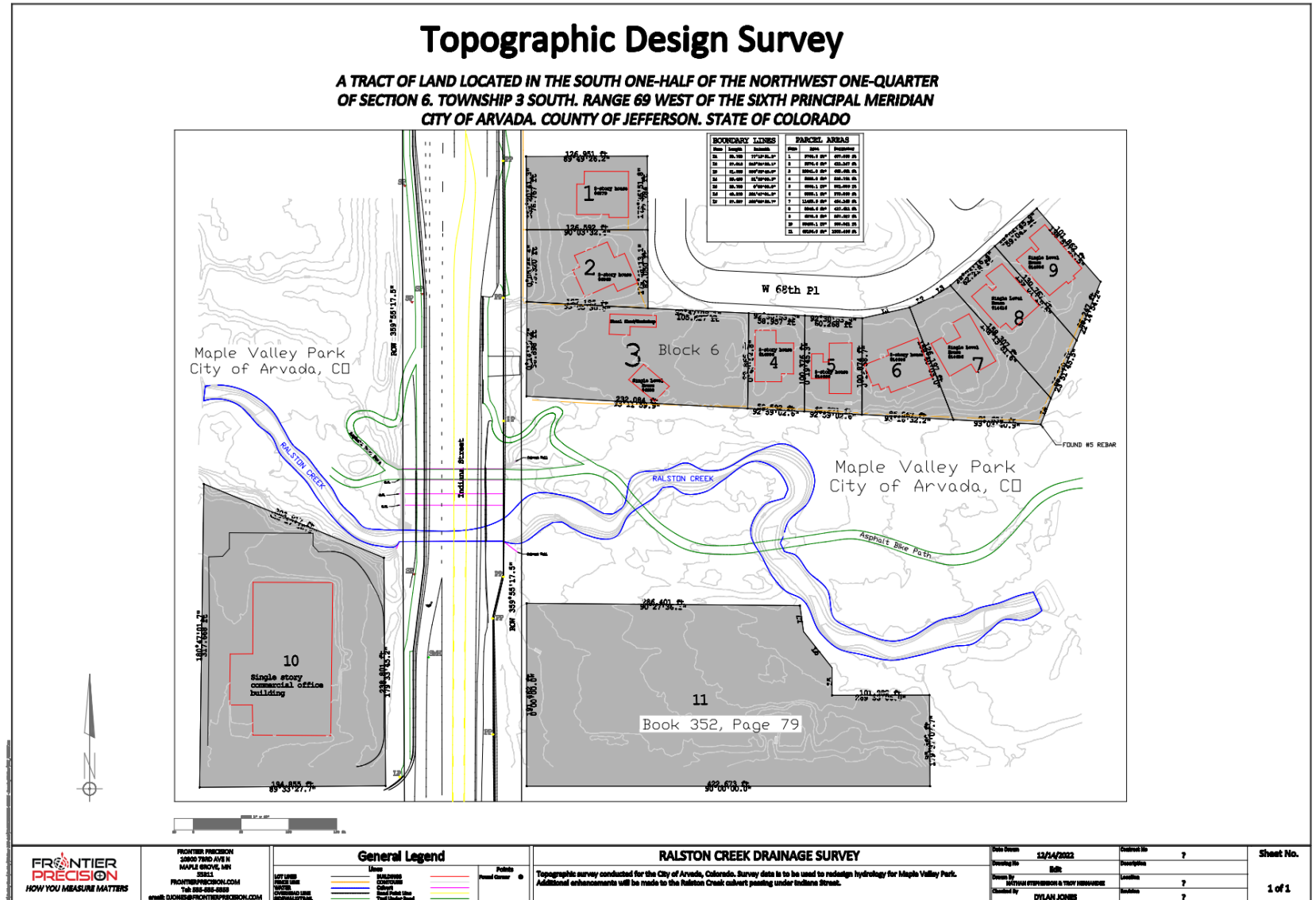
11. Create Printable Deliverable



<p>FRONTIER PRECISION HOW YOU MEASURE MATTERS</p>	<p>FRONTIER PRECISION 10900 73RD AVE N MAPLE GROVE, MN 55311 FRONTIERPRECISION.COM Tel: 335-535-5355 email: DJONES@FRONTIERPRECISION.COM</p>	<p>General Legend</p> <p>Water: Blue line Ground: Red line Road Centerline: Black line</p>		<p>Scale</p> <p>1 in. = 5'</p>	<p>Survey Description</p> <p>Topographic survey conducted for the City of Arvada, Colorado. Survey data is to be used to redesign hydrology for Maple Valley Park. Additional enhancements will be made to the Ralston Creek culvert passing under Indiana Street.</p>	<p>Date Drawn: 12/14/2022</p> <p>Drawing No: Edit</p> <p>Drawn by: NATHAN STEPHENSON & TROY HERNANDEZ</p> <p>Checked by: DYLAN JONES</p>	<p>Contract No: ?</p> <p>Description: ?</p> <p>Location: ?</p> <p>Revision: ?</p>	<p>Sheet No.</p> <p>1 of 1</p>
		<p>Data Collected: 9/13/2022</p>						

Mobile, Aerial & Terrestrial LiDAR in ONE Project!

11. Create Printable Deliverable





EVENT DETAILS

- **Date:** January 19, 2023 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- **Categories:** [Technology Webinars](#)
- **Tags:** [3D Laser Scanning](#), [Aerial LiDAR](#), [Laser Scanning](#), [LiDAR](#), [Mobile LiDAR](#), [Mobile Scanning](#), [Scanning](#), [Technology Webinar](#), [Terrestrial LiDAR](#), [Webinar](#)

Thursday | January 19, 2023 | 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM CST

This final session in our Conception to Completion Webinar Series will focus on a final deliverable incorporating all the LiDAR-based data discussed in the “Conception to Completion” series to this point (Mobile, Aerial, and Terrestrial). Additionally, we will focus on the survey interface and statistics involved. Our resultant product will be a traditional plat derived from non-traditional LiDAR data. As we wrap up this series focusing on the deliverables, this is the session you don't want to miss!



LiDAR Mapping Trends

Trend 1: New processing algorithms

Near-realtime processing of point clouds

Trend 2: Cloud-based processing

Centralization of data, collaboration, parallelization of tasks, storage

Trend 3: Feature extraction and data classification

Optimize extraction and classification efforts with AI-based tools

Trend 4: Mobile mapping and SLAM

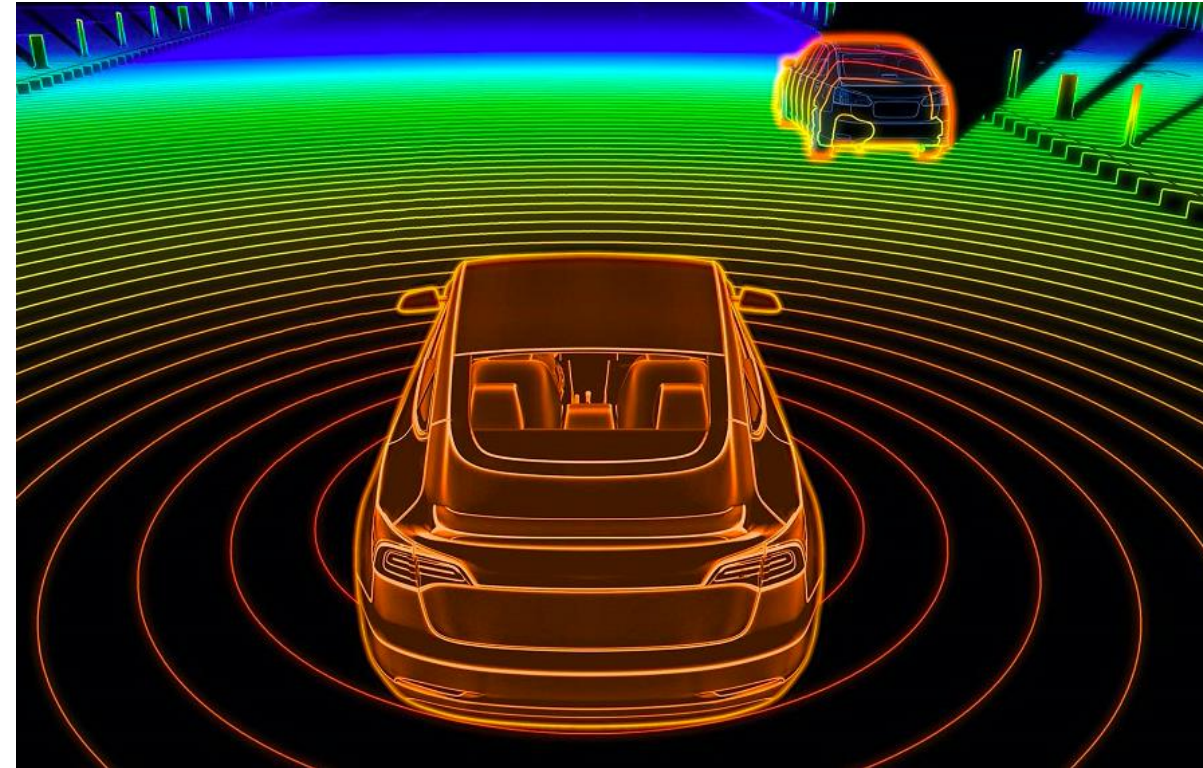
Need for more data, faster!

Trend 5: Hardware advancements

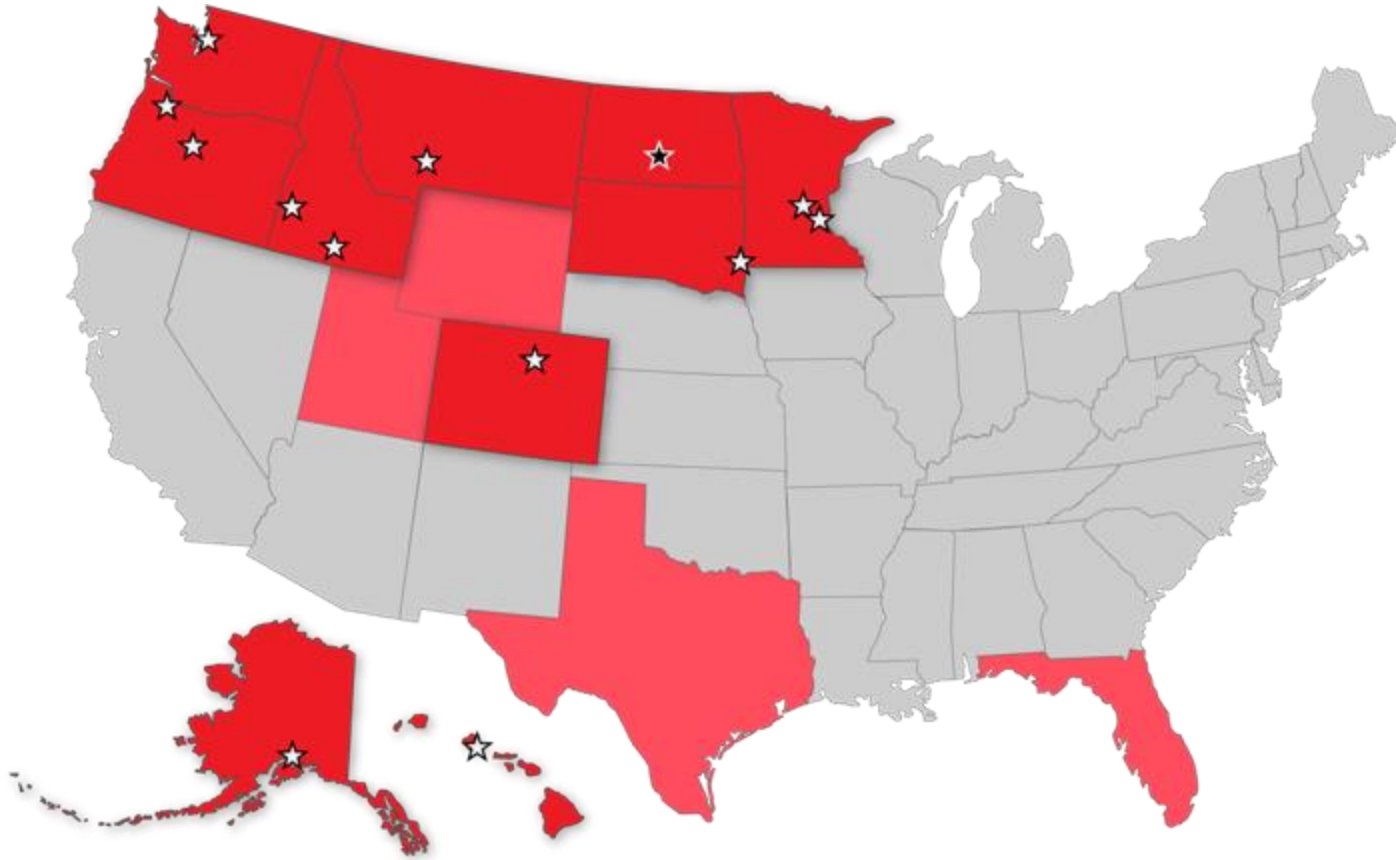
More data, sensor fusion, lighter, smaller, durable, more versatile equipment

Future Advancements of LiDAR

- Autonomous vehicles
- Consumer Electronics (phones & tablets)
- Virtual and Augmented Reality for immersive experiences
 - Education
 - Entertainment
 - Tourism
 - Business Collaboration
- Infrastructure inspection
- Environmental monitoring
 - Big Data analytics and machine learning (land use, permitting, deterioration)
- Digital Twins
 - Virtual model of a physical object or system
 - Test or simulate on the Digital Twin before implementing in physical world
 - Make smarter decisions
 - Need for up-to-date geospatial data



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