

SAFECAST:

Tool for public information and engagement during and after nuclear emergencies

Azby Brown

RICOMET 2015
BRDO Castle, Slovenia
June 15, 2015



March 11, 2011

From the point of view of average citizens:

After March 11, 2011:

- Fear, need to decide soon whether to flee
- Information vacuum
- Official sources deemed untrustworthy
- Social media paints more dire picture
- Even knowledgeable people can't find enough reliable and useful data

In Response:

- We developed devices
- We made a mapping system
- We built a community of motivated citizen-scientists who want to measure radiation.



Evolving according to needs:

Early Phase: “Reality Check”

Transitional Phase: “Enablement”

Long-term: “Alternatives”

SAFECAST today:

- International, ad-hoc volunteer network
- Non-hierarchical (but with “centers of gravity”)
- Includes radiation experts, hardware designers, software designers, academics, tinkerers, hackers, entrepreneurs, housewives, drivers, students, etc.
- “Brain Trust” : Leaders in their fields
- We are neither pro- nor anti-nuclear.
We are Pro-Data !

Funding:

- Individual donations
- Crowdfunding: Global Giving
- Kickstarter campaigns
- Support from private foundations
- In-kind support from manufacturers, etc.
- Most importantly, people donate their time

- Topic 1: The technical side
- Topic 2: The human side



Our first systems were bulky, but worked.



Current workhorse:

bGeigie Nano

- 7th-generation mobile detector
- Rugged
- Arduino-based
- GPS and data-logging
- LND 7317 2" pancake sensor
- OLED display
- Bluetooth and WiFi capable
- Open-source, open hardware, open data
- Designed to be sold as a kit, anyone can build it and upload data

Devices:

- Primarily mobile to maximize coverage
- New fixed sensor network to log changes over time
- Iterative design, “agile and lean” development
- Open-source, open hardware, open data
- 7+ generations of devices in 2 1/2 years
- GPS, data-logging, tied to our API
- Emphasize ease of use, consistency, ruggedness, speed of deployment, cost-effectiveness
- Industry-standard 2” pancake GM tube (LND 7317) in most devices

Deployment:



Automobile

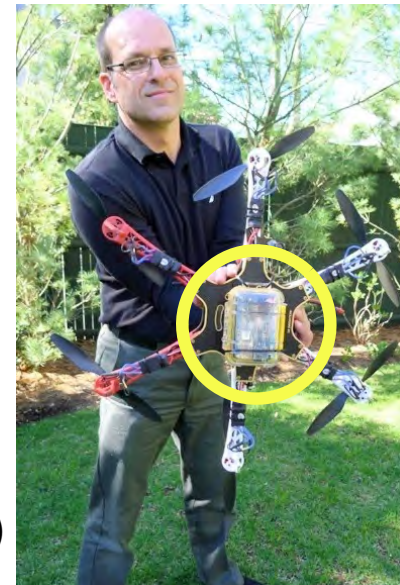


Bicycle

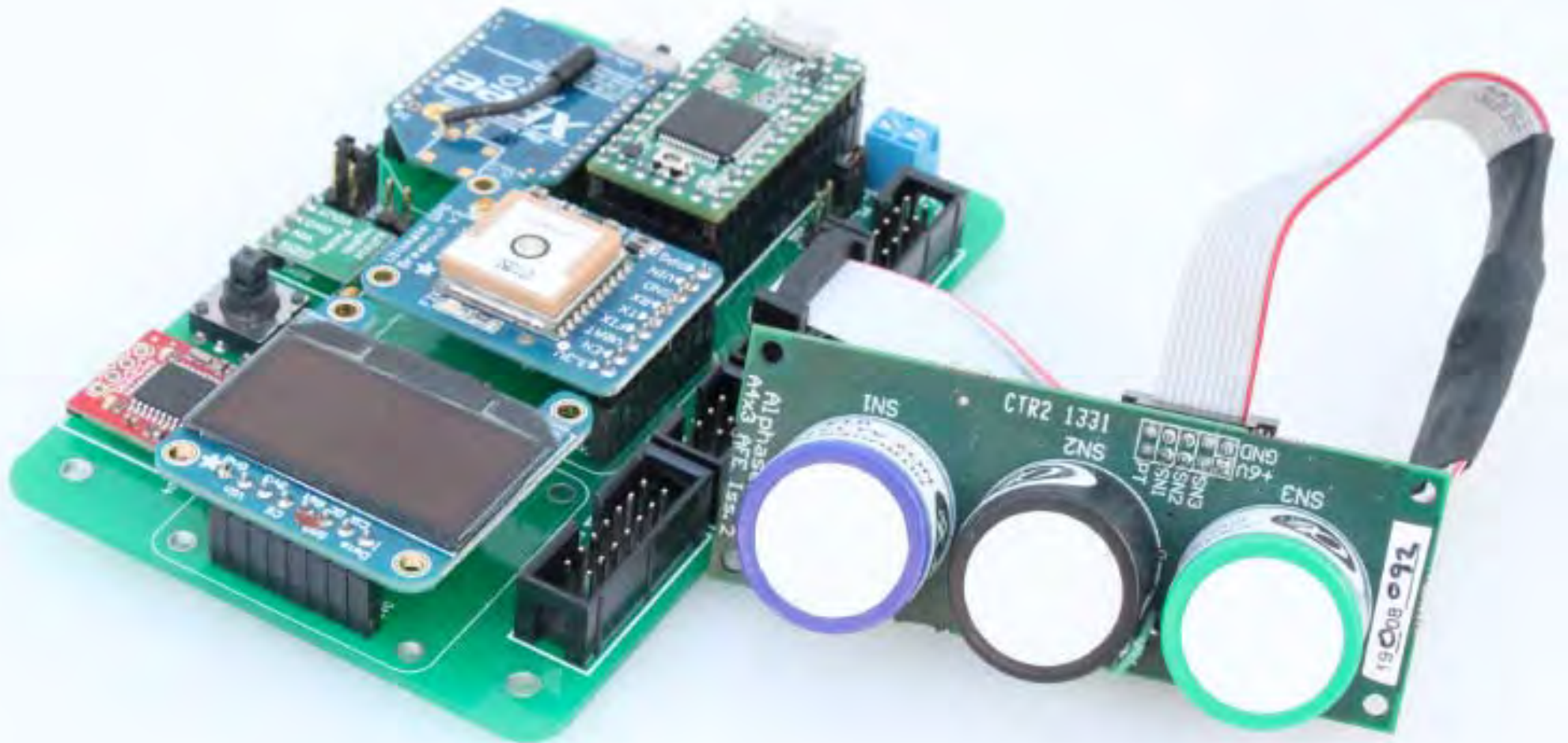


Hand-carry

Aerial drone
(under development)



SAFECAST Air



Prototype, 2015

iOS

OS X

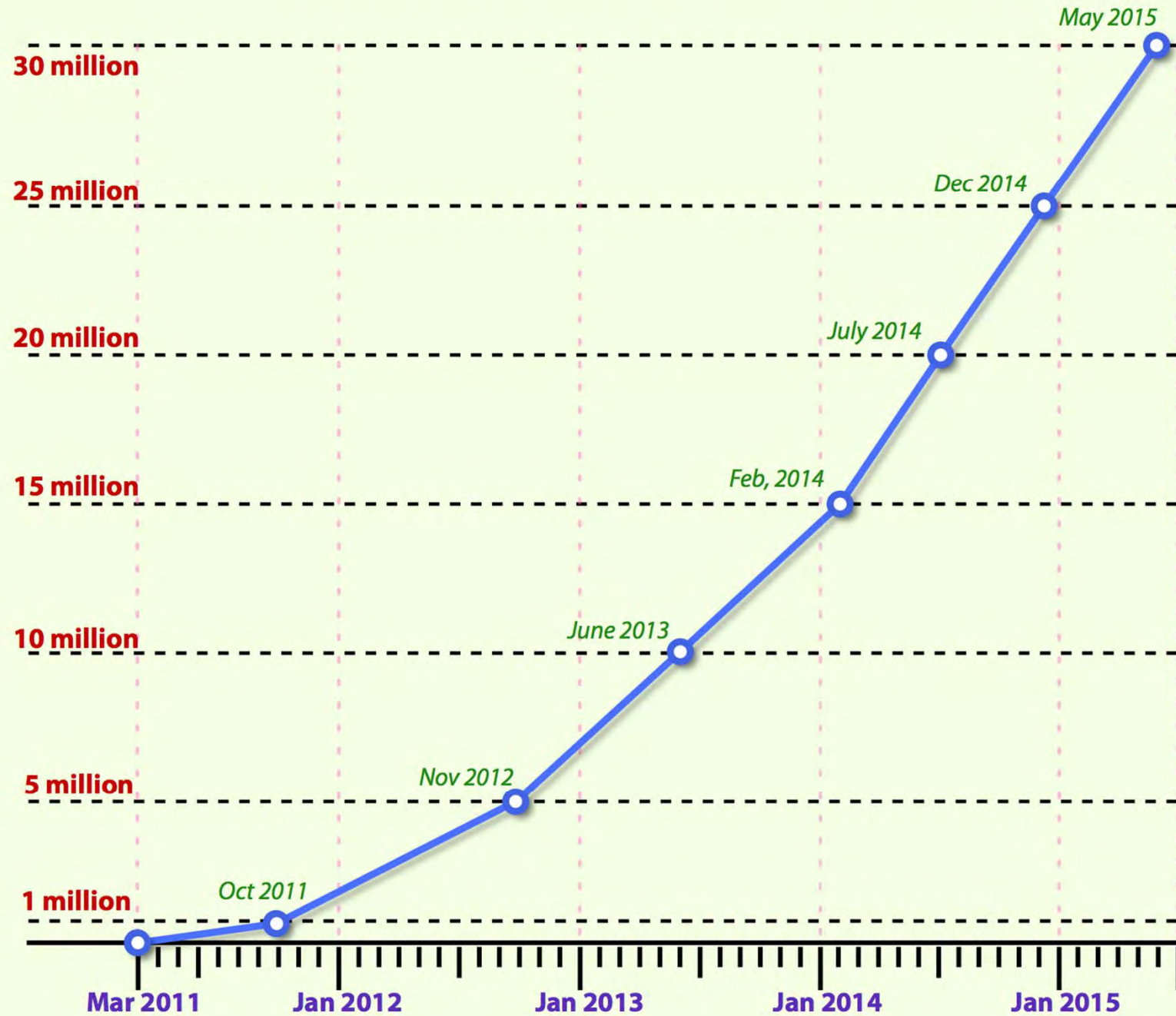
Web

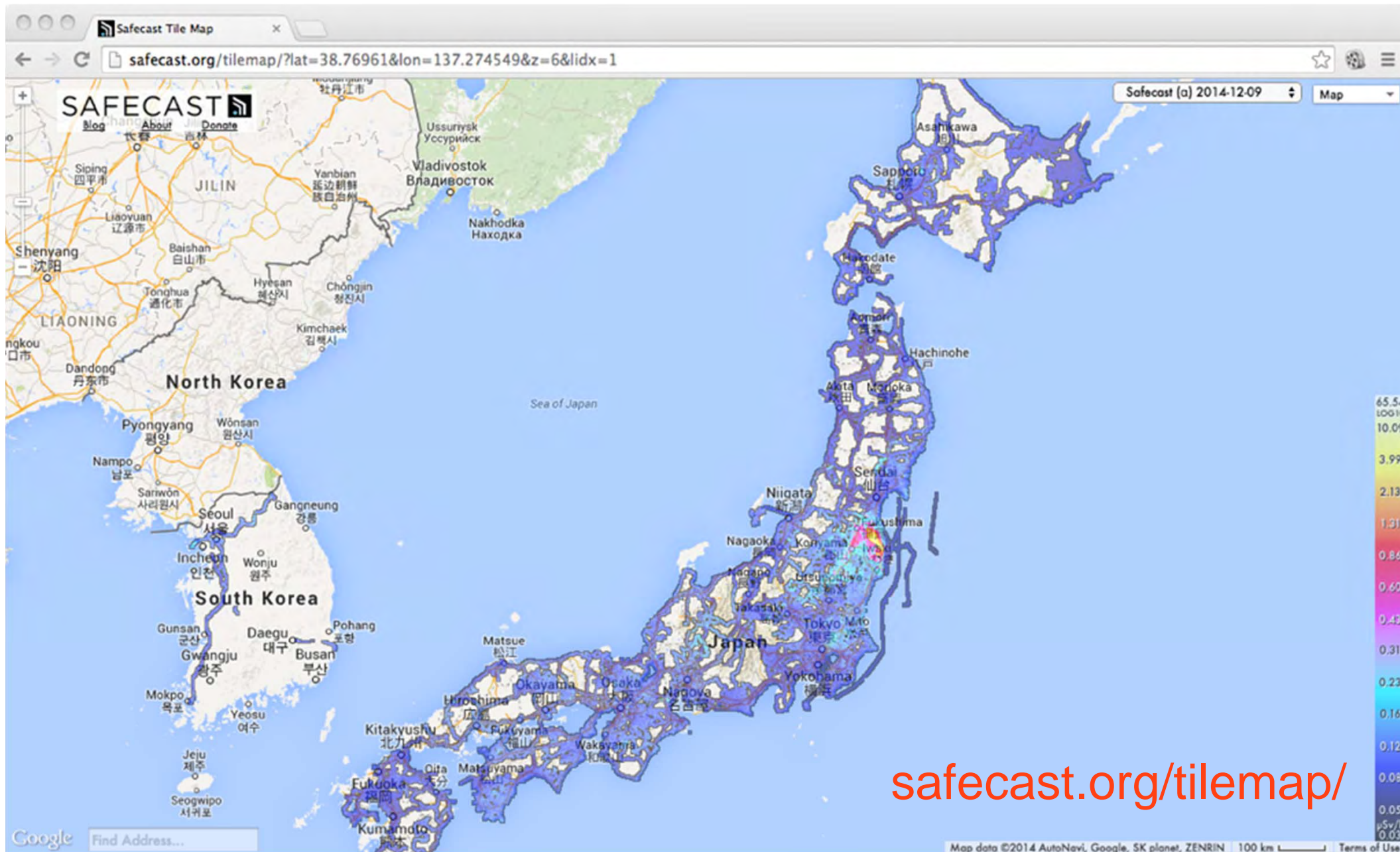


Map system:

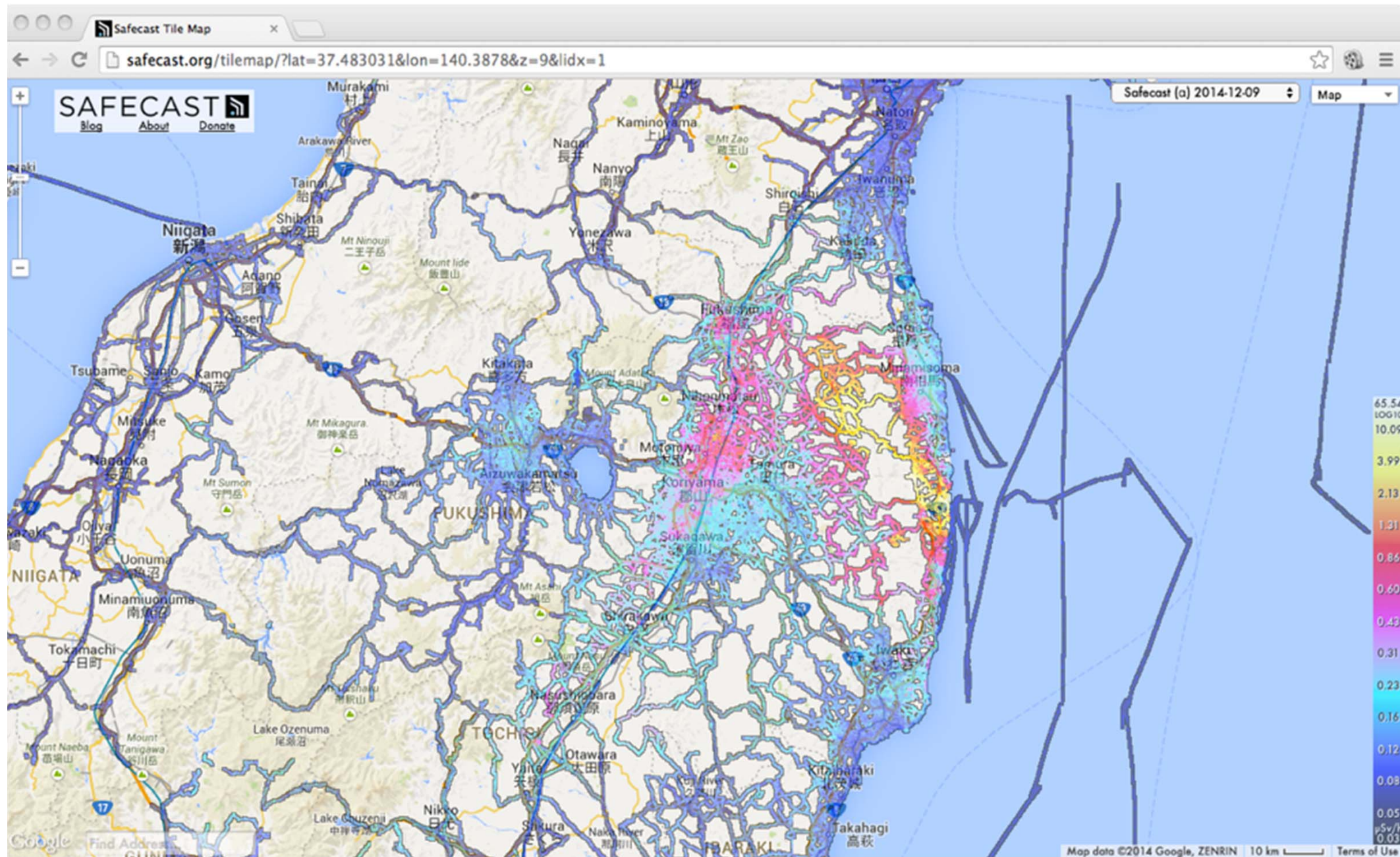
- Database updated daily, now approx 10GB
- Both server-fed webmaps and smart-client iOS and OSX apps
- API with query/filtering by time, location, device, etc.
- Approx 360 volunteers have uploaded data. But 90% is contributed by the most active 10%.
- Data and system are open-source (Creative Commons CC0 license). Anyone can download the data, and we encourage independent efforts based on our dataset.

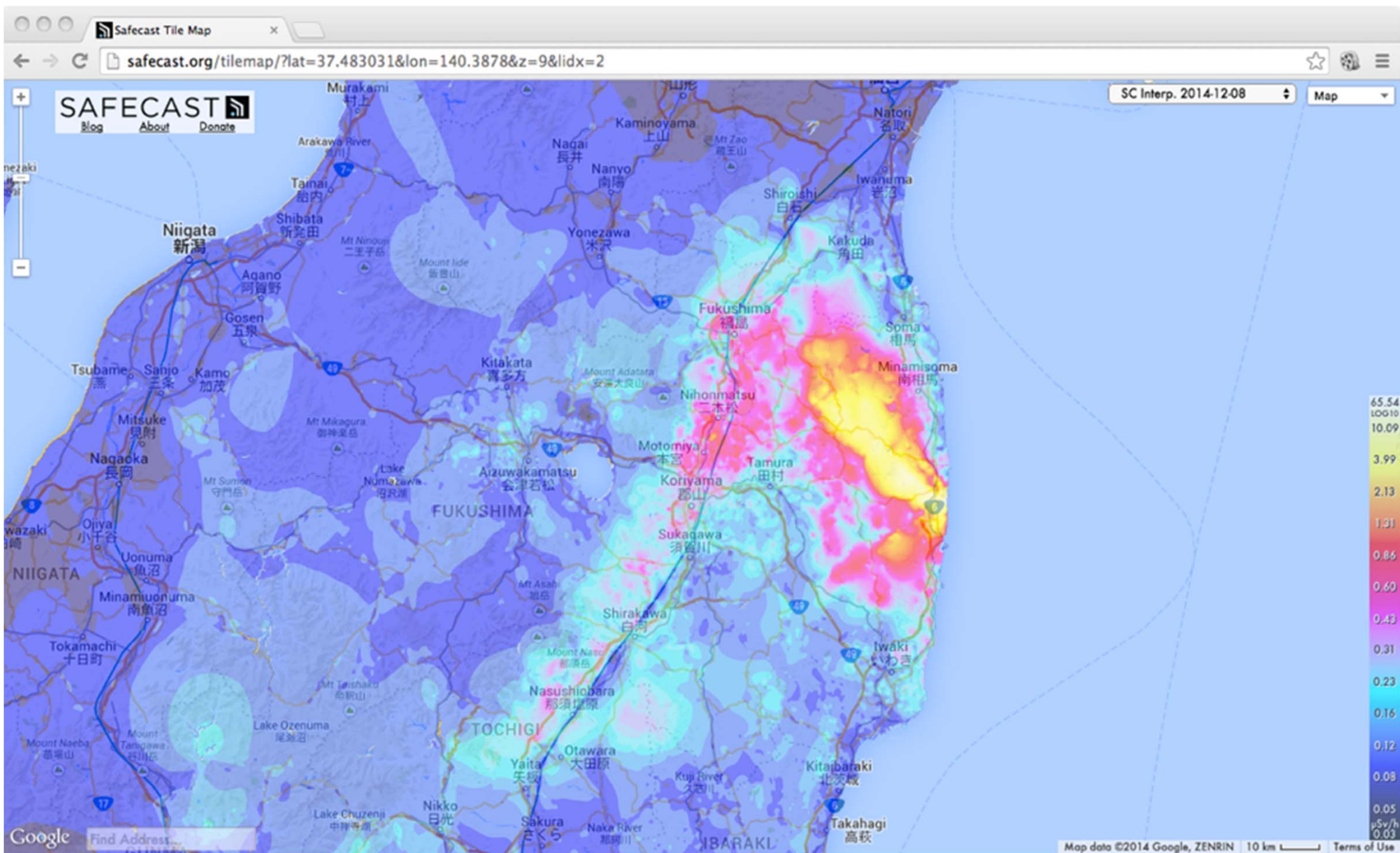
Growth of SAFECAST dataset

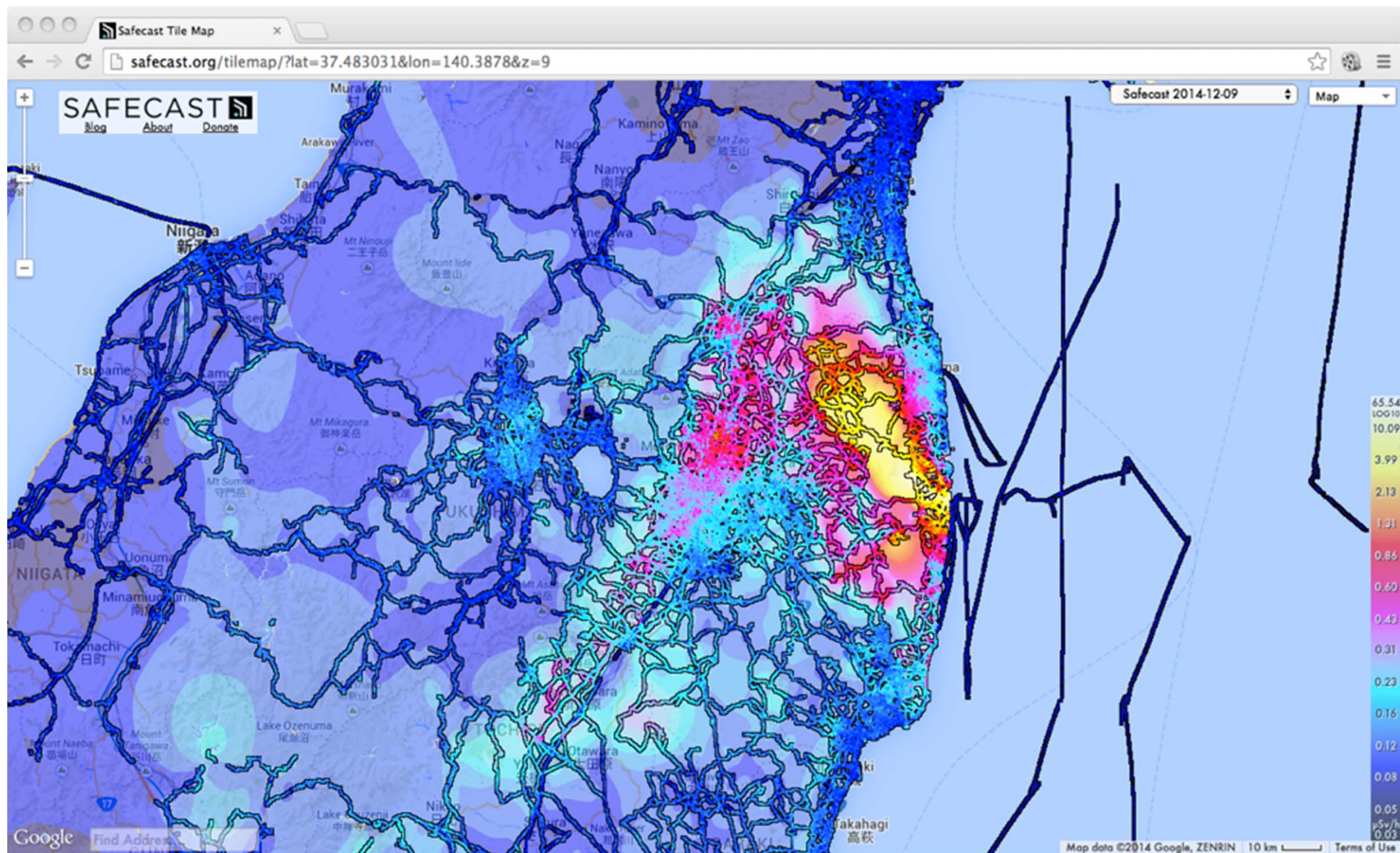


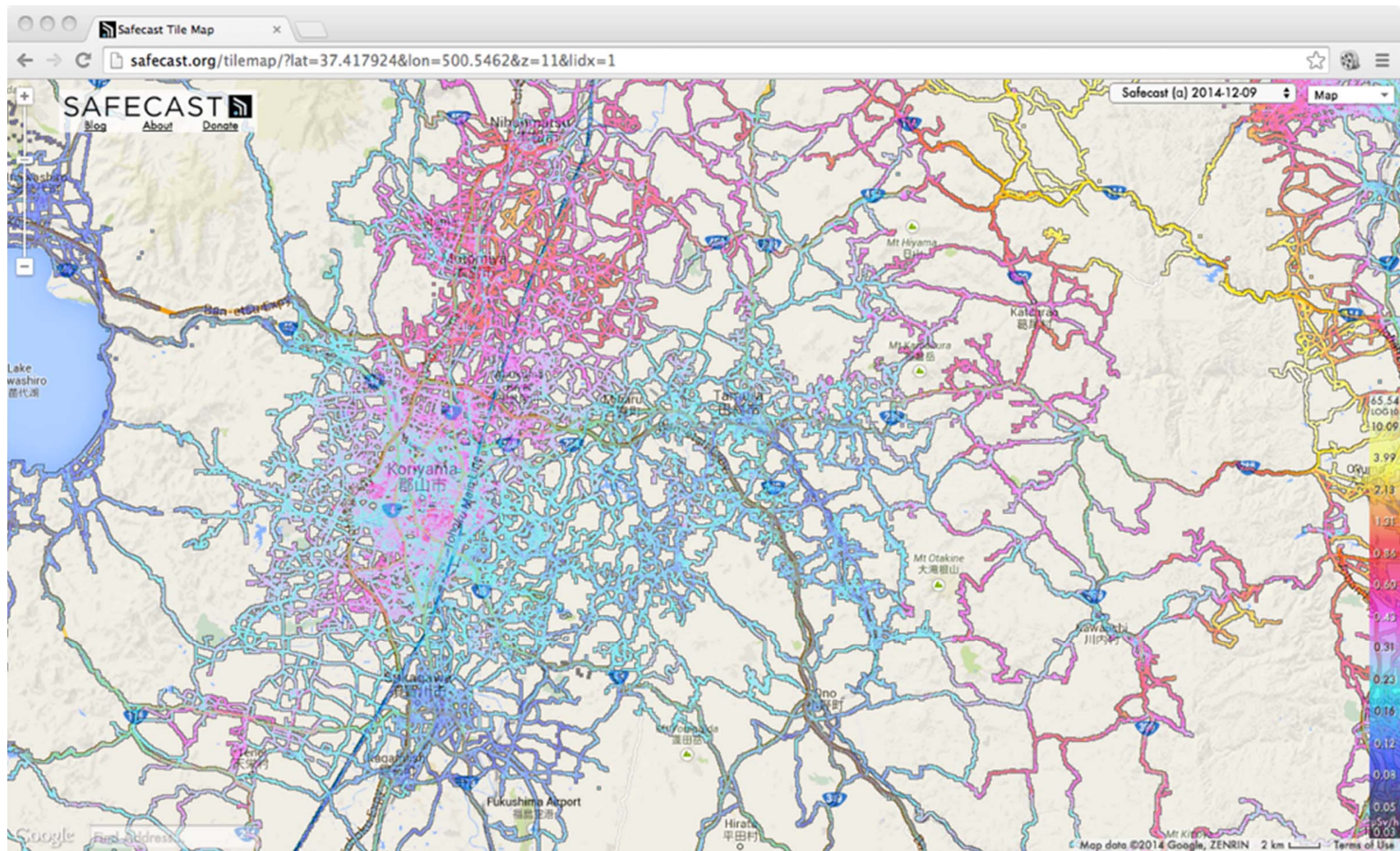


safecast.org/tilemap/



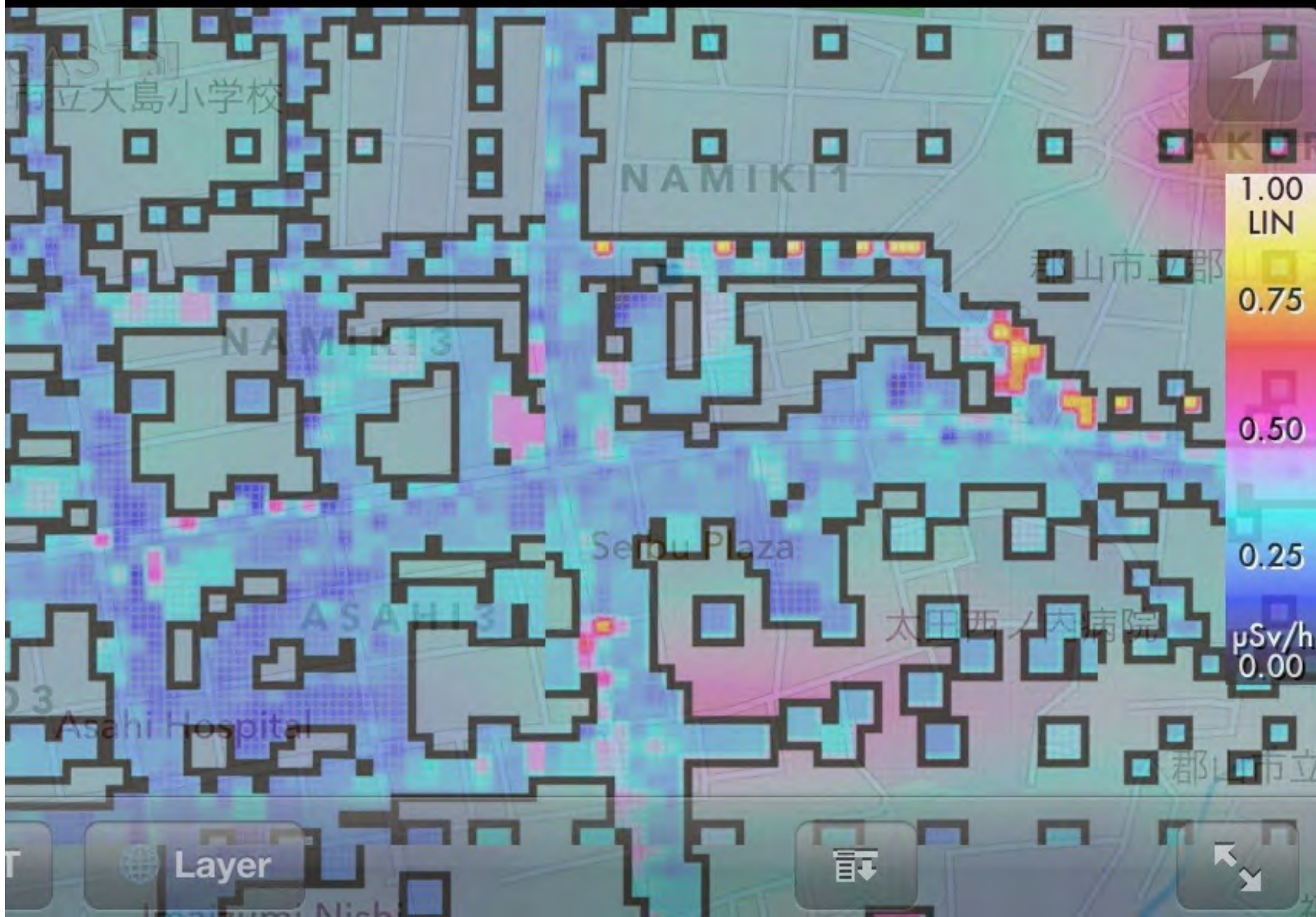
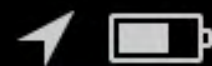




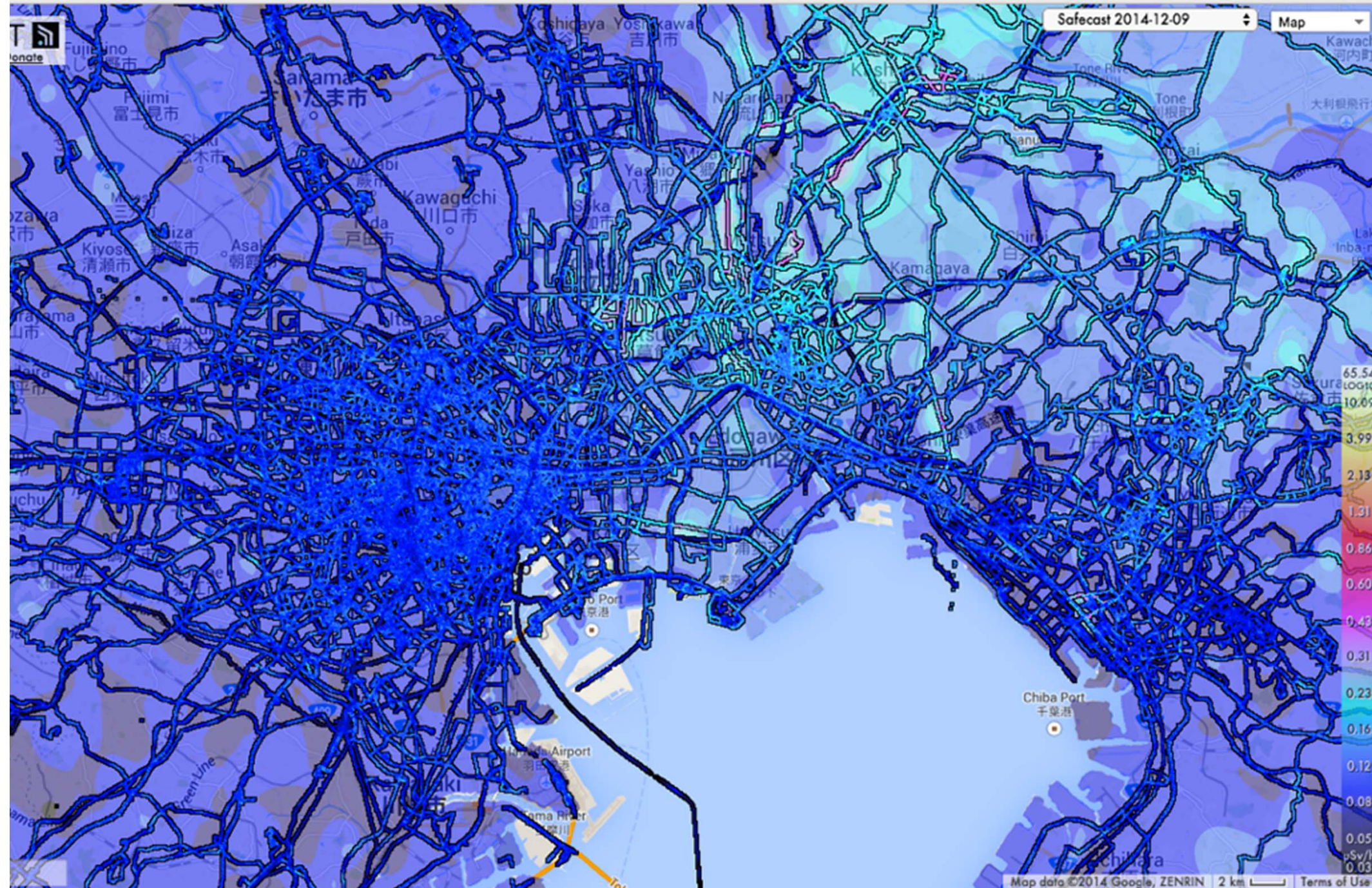


3G

17:00



g/tilemap/?lat=35.70669&lon=499.797757&z=11

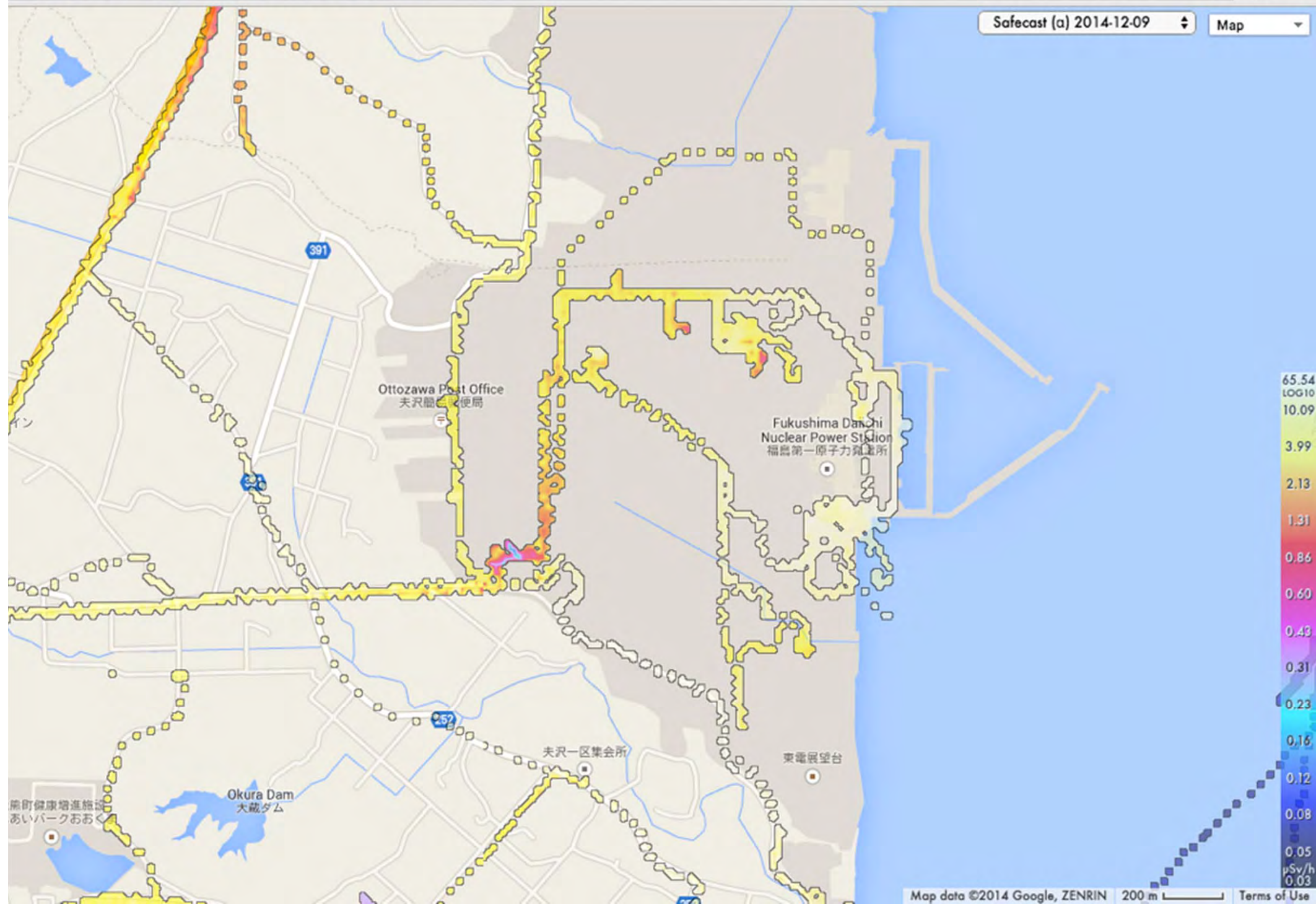


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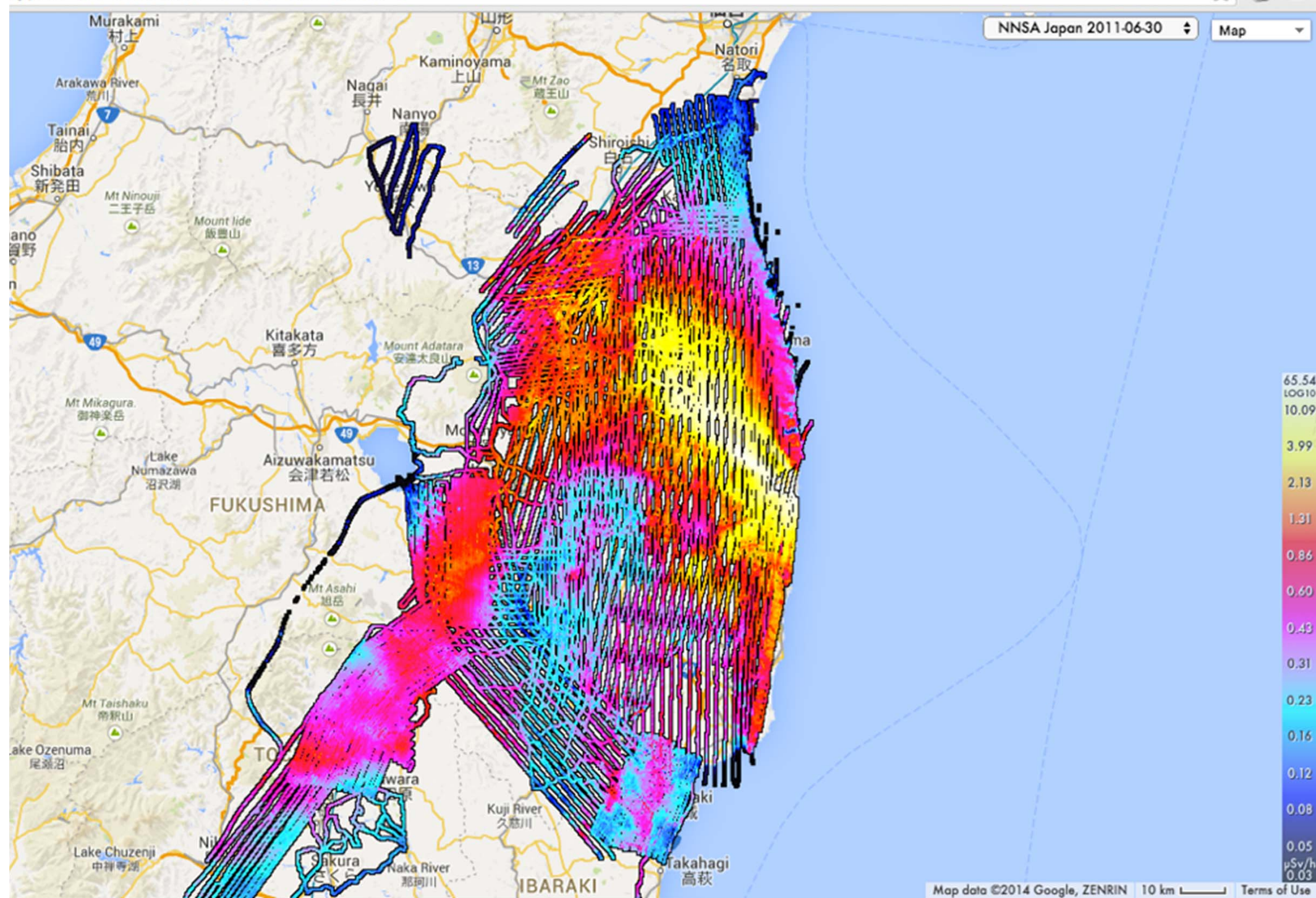


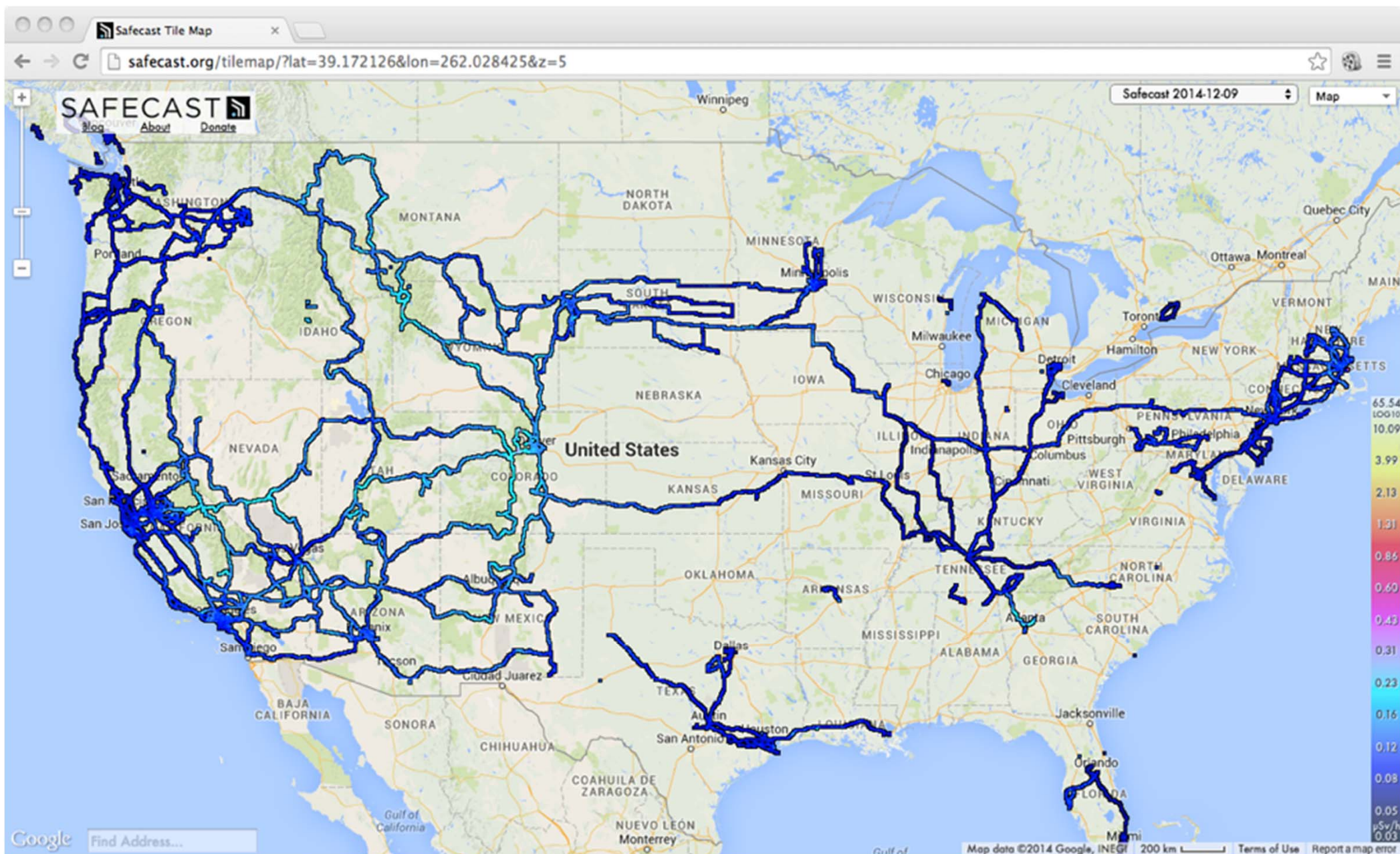
Safecast (a) 2014-12-09

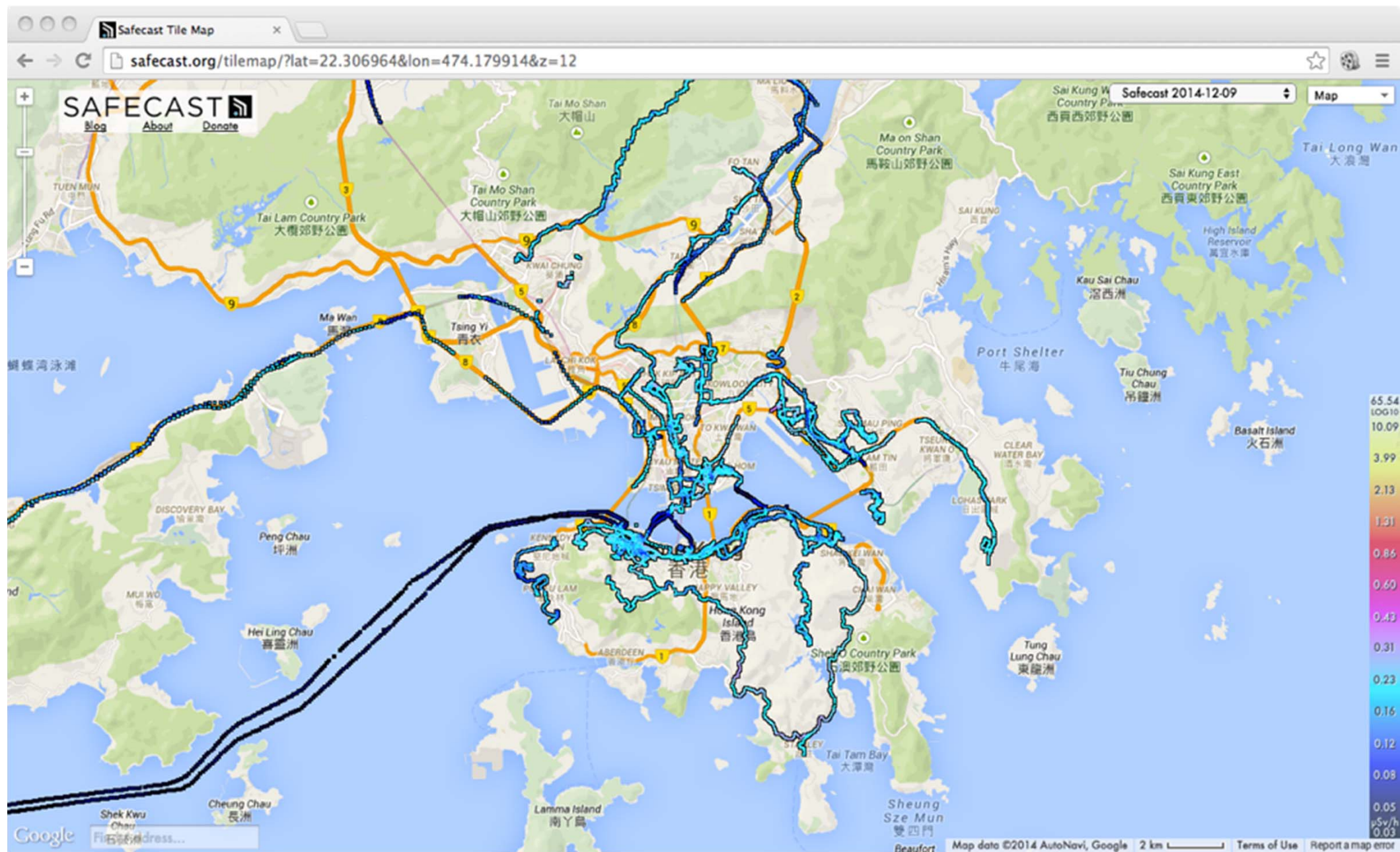
Map

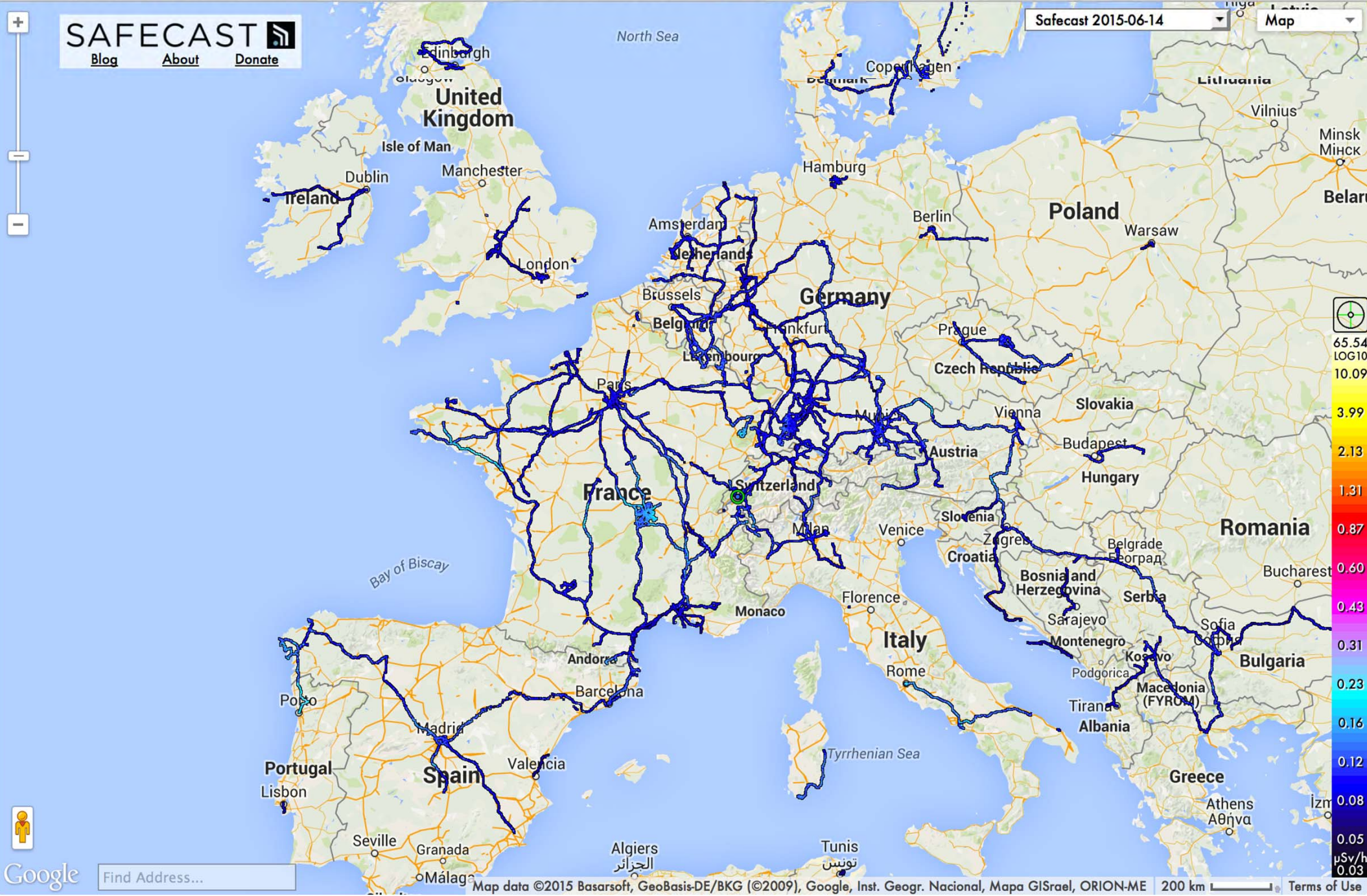


ap/?lat=37.483031&lon=140.3878&z=9&lidx=3









[Dashboard](#)[Safecast Api](#)[Users](#)[Measurements](#)[bGeigle Imports](#)[Devices](#)

The Safecast API

Query and add to the Safecast dataset with your own application.

API Endpoint

<https://api.safecast.org/en-US>

GET <https://api.safecast.org/.json>

JSON

HTML

Available Resources

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Users | Add and view user accounts |
| Measurements | Add and view measurements |
| bGeigle Imports | Add and view bGeigle Imports |
| Devices | Add and view Devices |

Users

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Get a list of Safecast users | GET /users.json |
| Add a new user | POST /users.json |
| View a user | GET /users/334.json |

Measurements

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Get a list of Measurements | GET /measurements.json |
| Add a new measurement | POST /measurements.json |
| View a measurement | GET /measurements/22684490.json |

api.safecast.org

[Dashboard](#)[Safecast Api](#)[Users](#)[Measurements](#)[bGeigie Imports](#)[Devices](#)Bgeigie Import #019-1112.LOG Processed[Download Original File](#)

If you don't see the map, please manually reload the page.

[1. Uploaded](#)[2. Processed](#)[3. Metadata Added](#)[4. Submitted](#)[5. Approved](#)[6. Live](#)[Metadata](#)[Process Log](#)[Edit Details](#)

Uploaded By

KM.AIZU

Filename

019-1112.LOG

Number Of Lines

6079

Number Of

Measurements

6079

Metadata

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Title | Route6 2014/11/12 |
| Description | Route 6 Return difficult district |
| Credits | Aizu radioactivity information center |
| Height | 1.3m |
| Orientation | Facing Left |
| Cities | Koriyama,Hirata,Ono,Iwaki,Hirono, Naraha,Tomioka,Okuma,Futaba,Namie Minamisoma,Iitate,Kawamata,Fukushimaa, Nihonmatsu,Motomiya,Inawashiro,Aizuwakamatsu |

[Delete this Import](#)

MEASUREMENT

Captured At

2014-11-12T10:27:28Z

Latitude 37.4701

Longitude 140.3621

CPM 72



MEASUREMENT

Captured At
2014-11-12T10:27:28Z

Latitude 37.4701

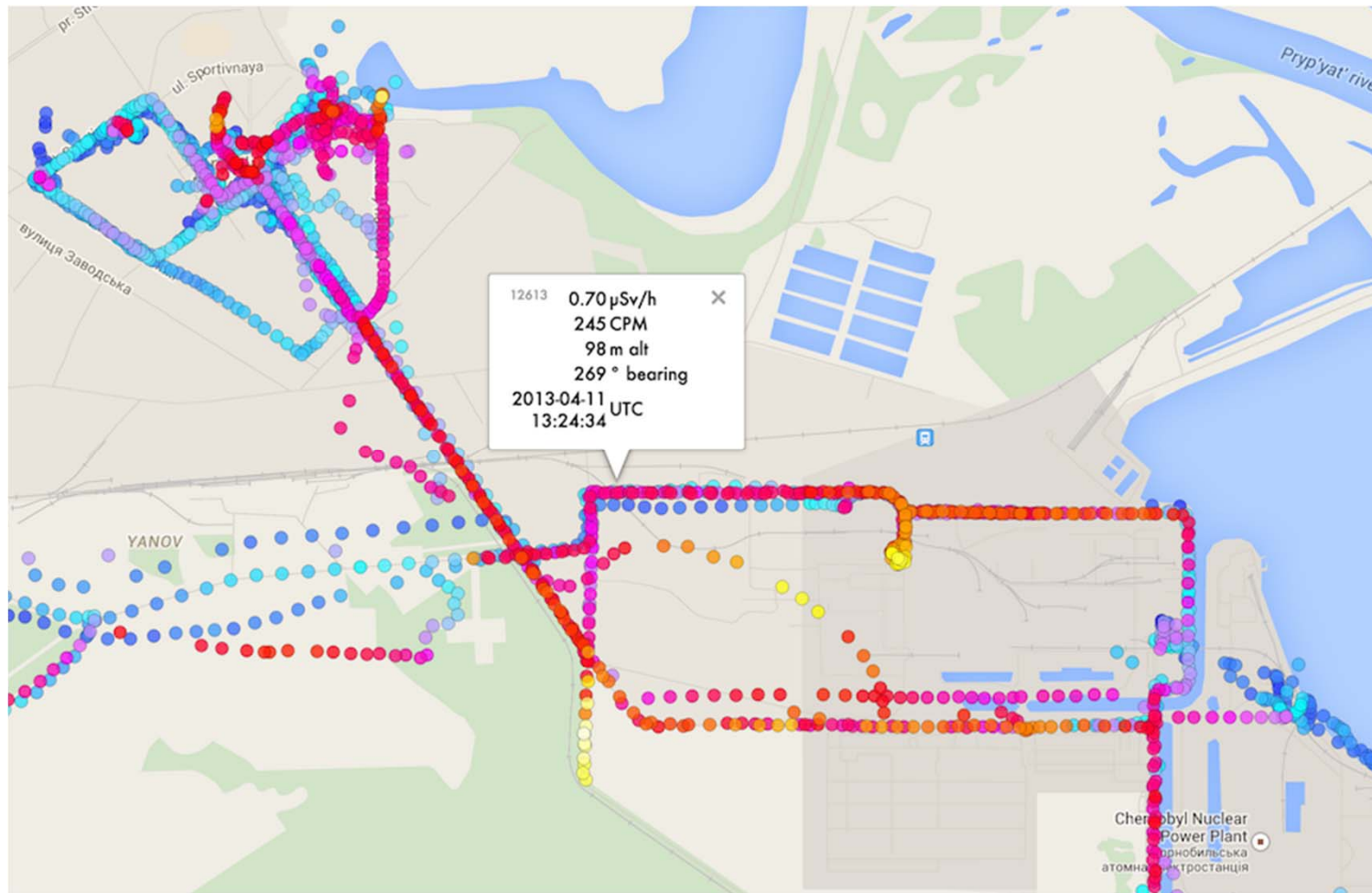
Longitude 140.3621

CPM 72

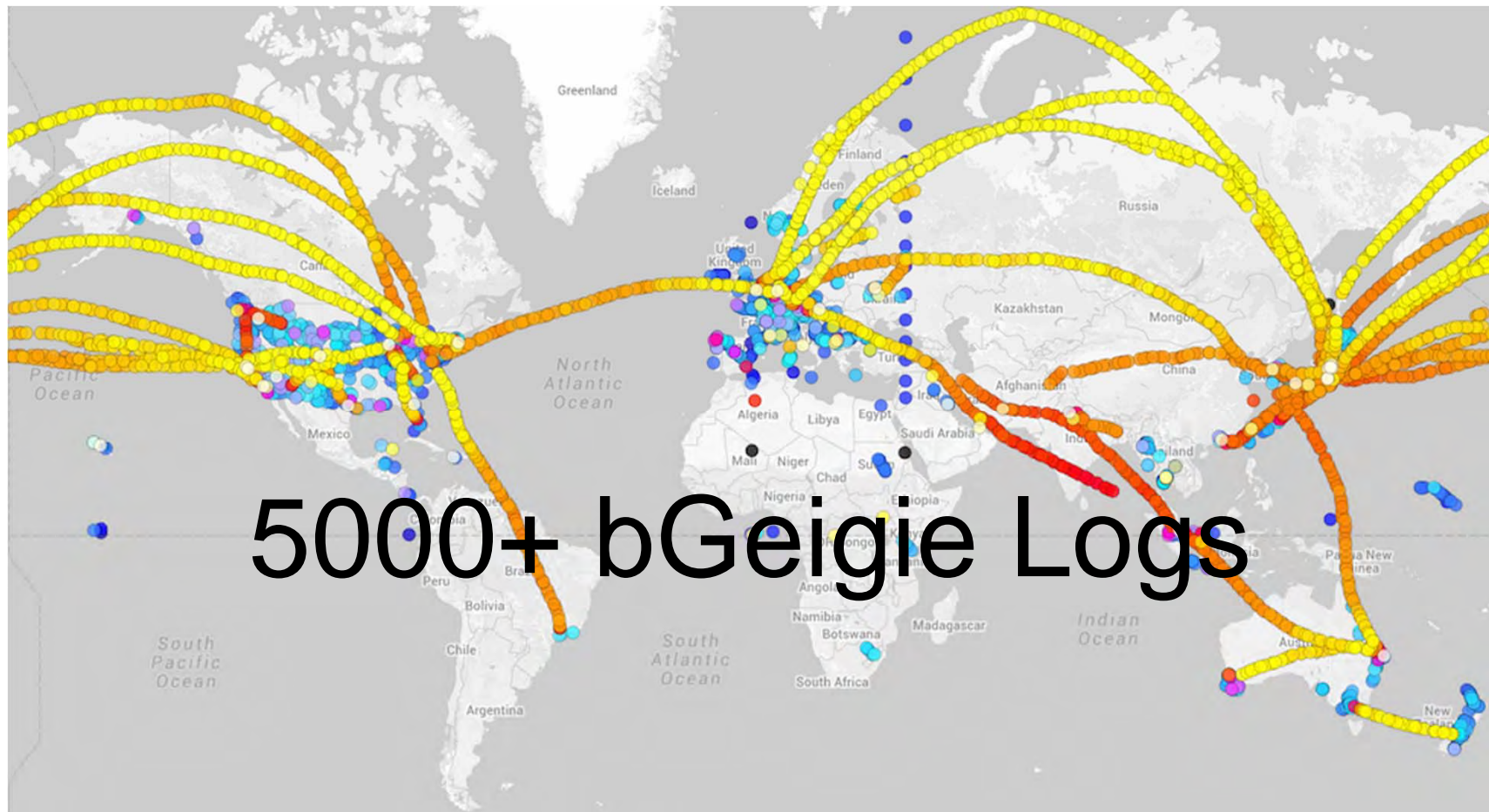
μ Sv 0.22



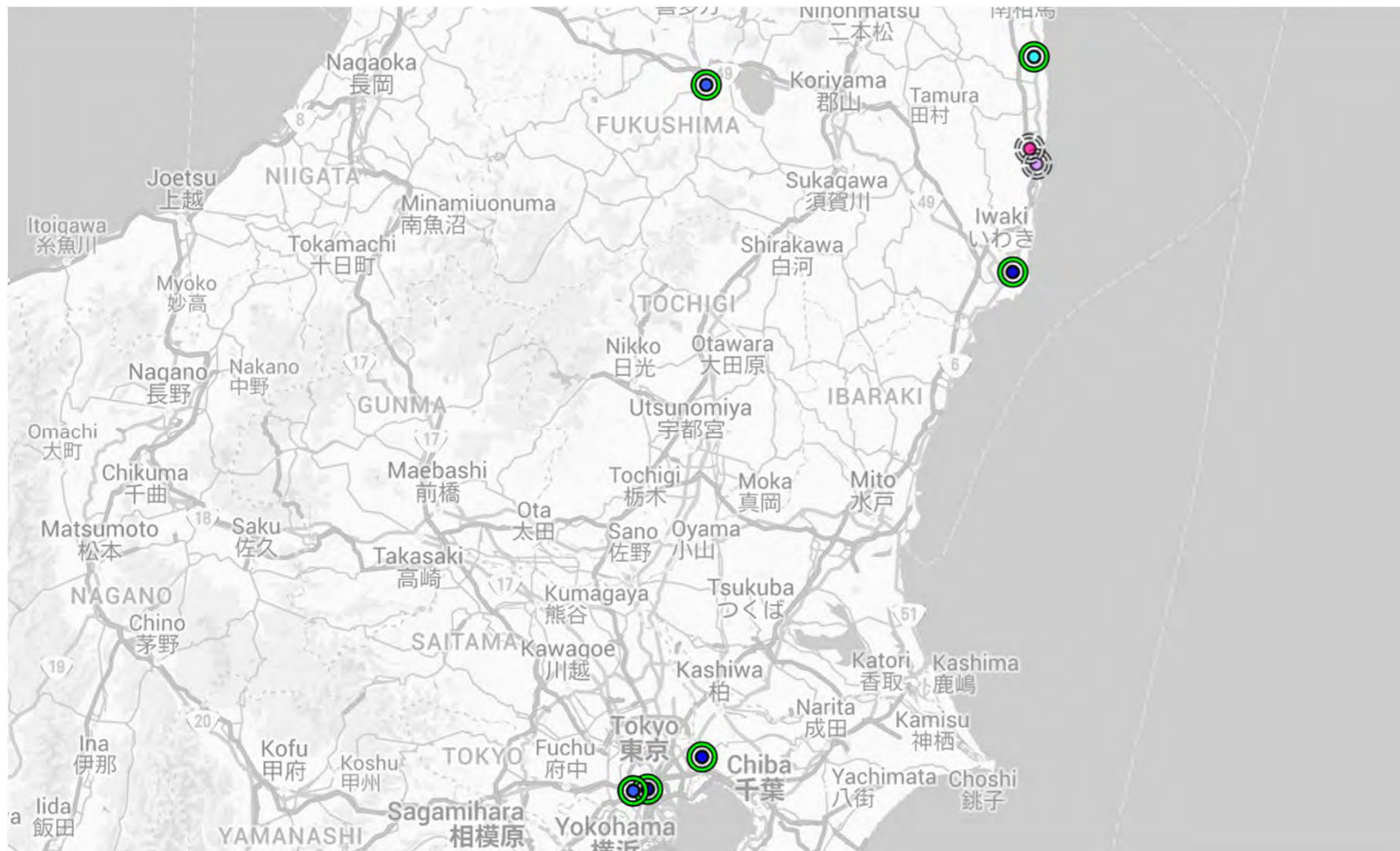
We think it's very important
to keep humans in the loop!



bGeigie Log Viewer



(In-flight radiation data can be uploaded, but is not included on our main maps)



Realtime Sensors



expanding network, new hardware deployment.

Japan, Fukushima, Iwaki (sensor 41)

Online

6 mins ago

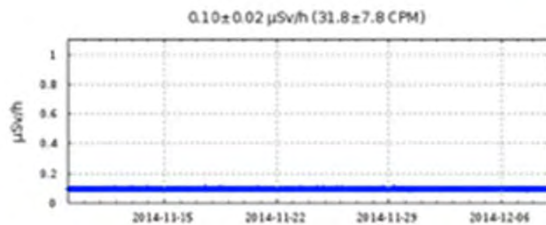
12 months ago

31
cpm

60
cpm

0.093
 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$

$\mu\text{Sv/h}$



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Name (required)

Email (will not be published) (required)

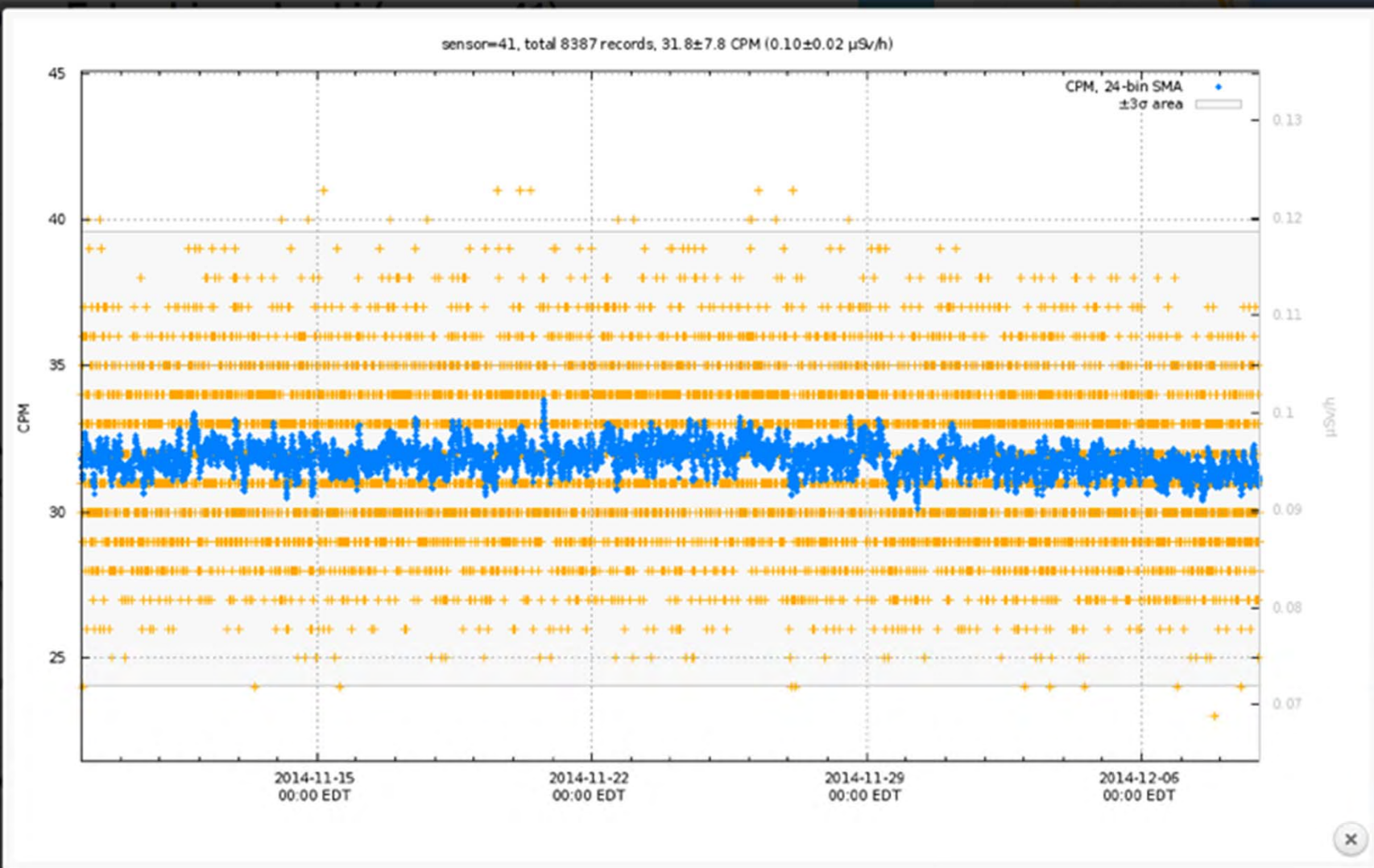
Website

Comment

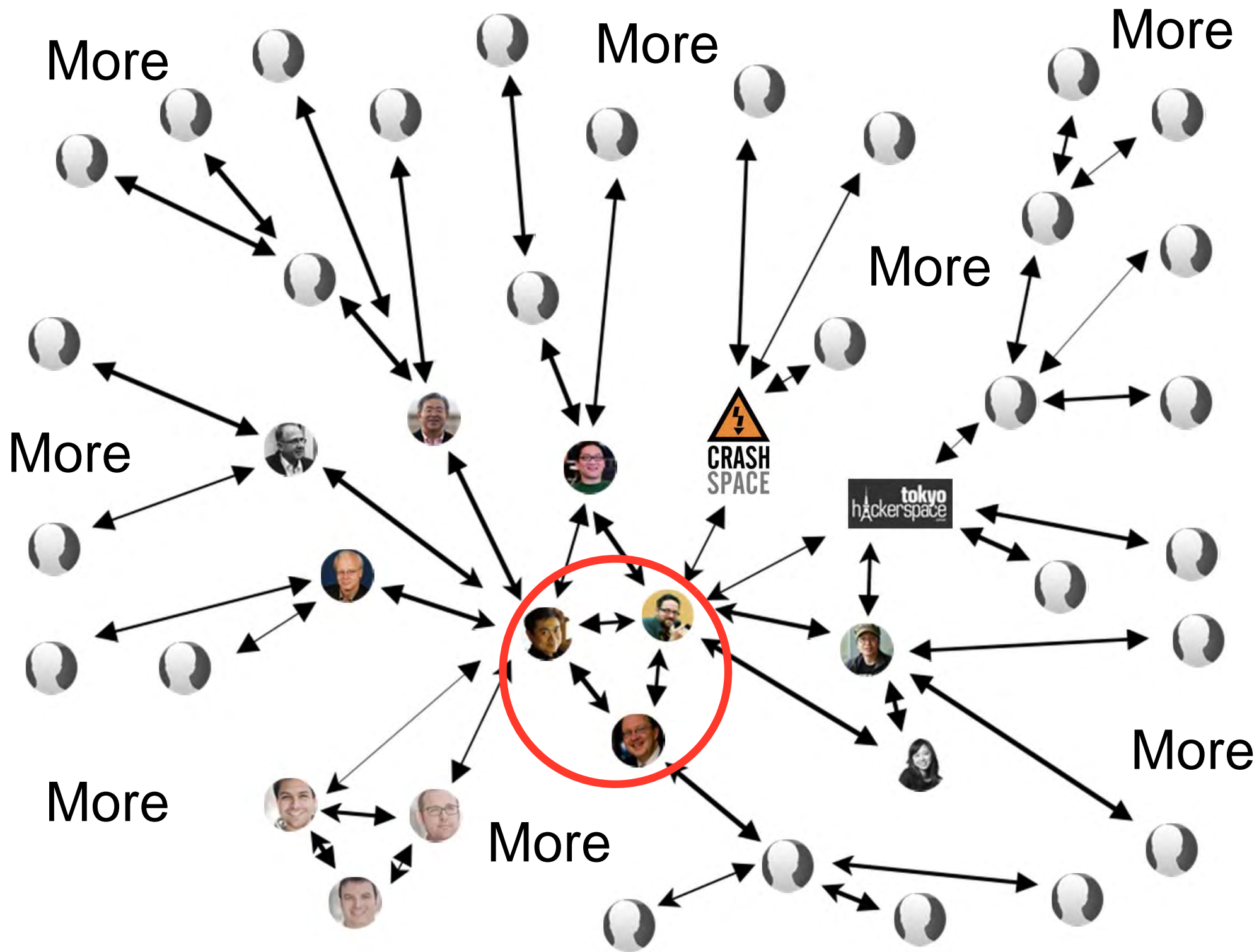


Comments

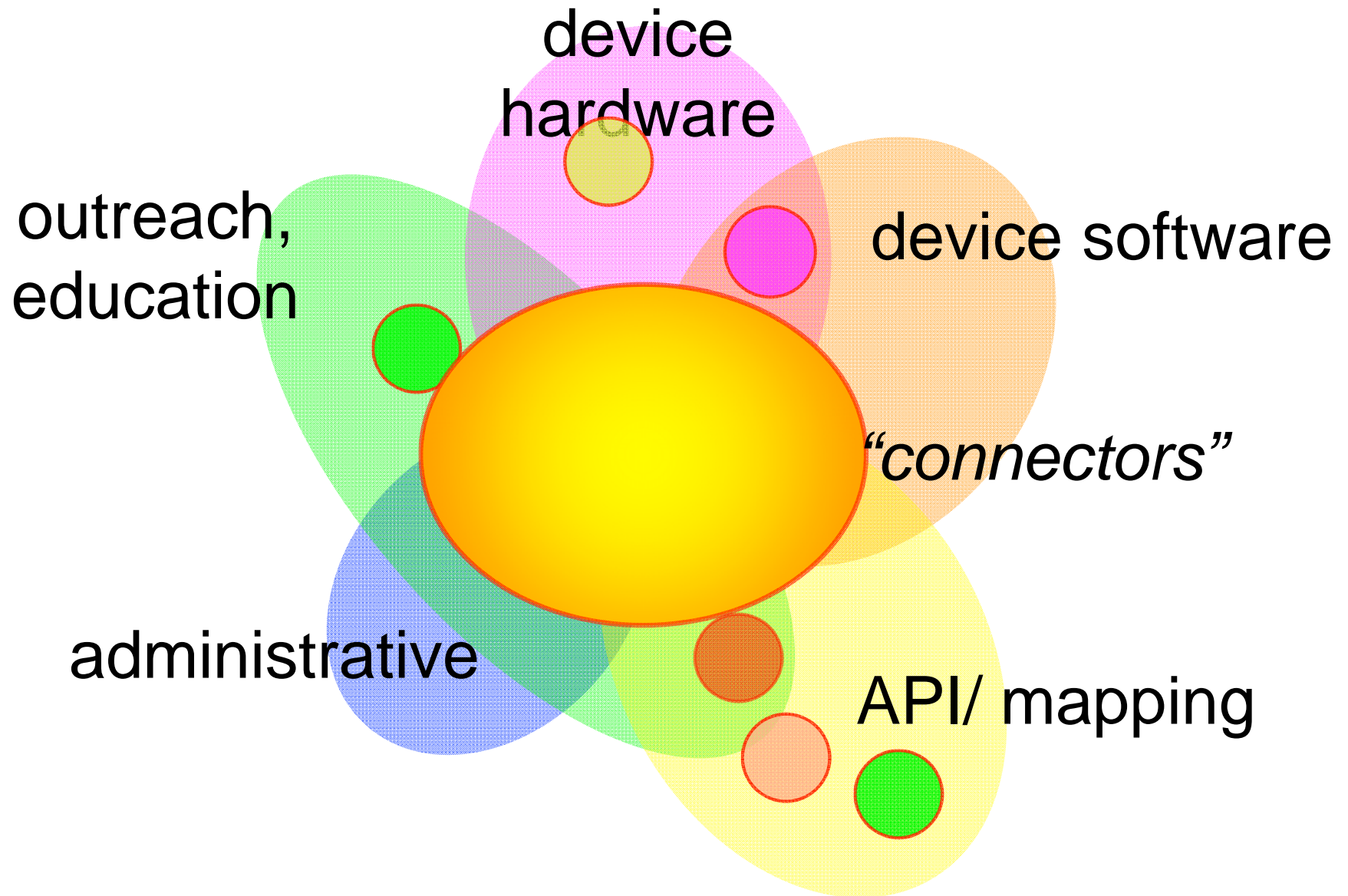
- Rob Oudendijk on [Japan, Tokyo, Embassy of the Netherlands](#)
- ray ozzie on [USA, MA, Manchester](#)
- ray ozzie on [USA, MA, Manchester](#)
- Safecast on [USA, Massachusetts, Cambridge](#)
- Safecast on [USA, Massachusetts, Cambridge](#)



People



Our Teams



*Lots of multitasking, multi-
competence*



Building Community

We want to encourage people to get involved.
This requires skills in education and media.

- Safecast blog, discussion, Facebook, Twitter, etc
- Geiger-counter building workshops
- Talks and presentations
- Media interviews

[Development: Real-Time Interpolation](#) [Safecast OS X](#) [Updated Safecast Webmap!](#) [Safecasting DC](#) [Safecasting Iraq: Open](#)

ABOUT SAFECAST

Safecast is a global project to empower people with data, primarily by mapping radiation levels and building a sensor network, enabling

[Learn More](#)

OUR PROJECTS

Safecast is a global sensor network for collecting and sharing radiation measurements to empower people with data about their environments.

[Learn More](#)

DONATE

Safecast is made possible entirely thanks to tax deductible donations from people like you. We are a registered US 501(c) 3 non profit

[Learn More](#)

(日本語) BGEIGIE NANOの使用説明-YOUTUBE動画

Sorry, this entry is only available in 日本語.

Posted on Saturday January 24th, 2015 07:16 PM

[Comment](#)

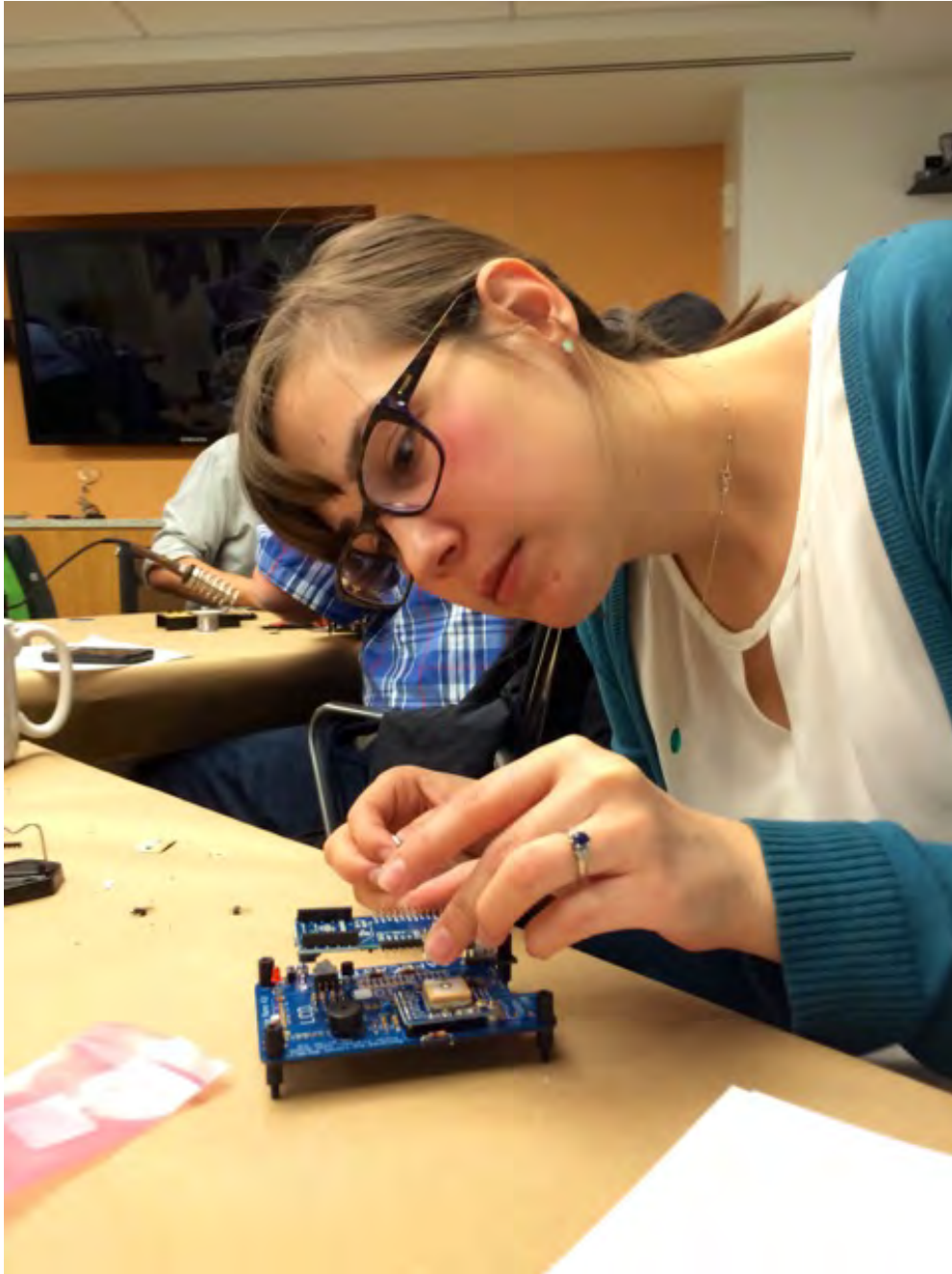
HELLO BIKINI !

Above: Dr. Buesseler on the beach at Bikini. We recently got some unique uploads from Bikini and Eniwetok Atolls, courtesy of Dr. Ken Buesseler, of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI). Dr.

[Go](#)

Build your own
bGeigie Nano





Recent workshops in:

Tokyo
Fukushima
Kobe
Washington, DC
Strasbourg
Taipei

Upcoming workshops:

Los Angeles
Berlin

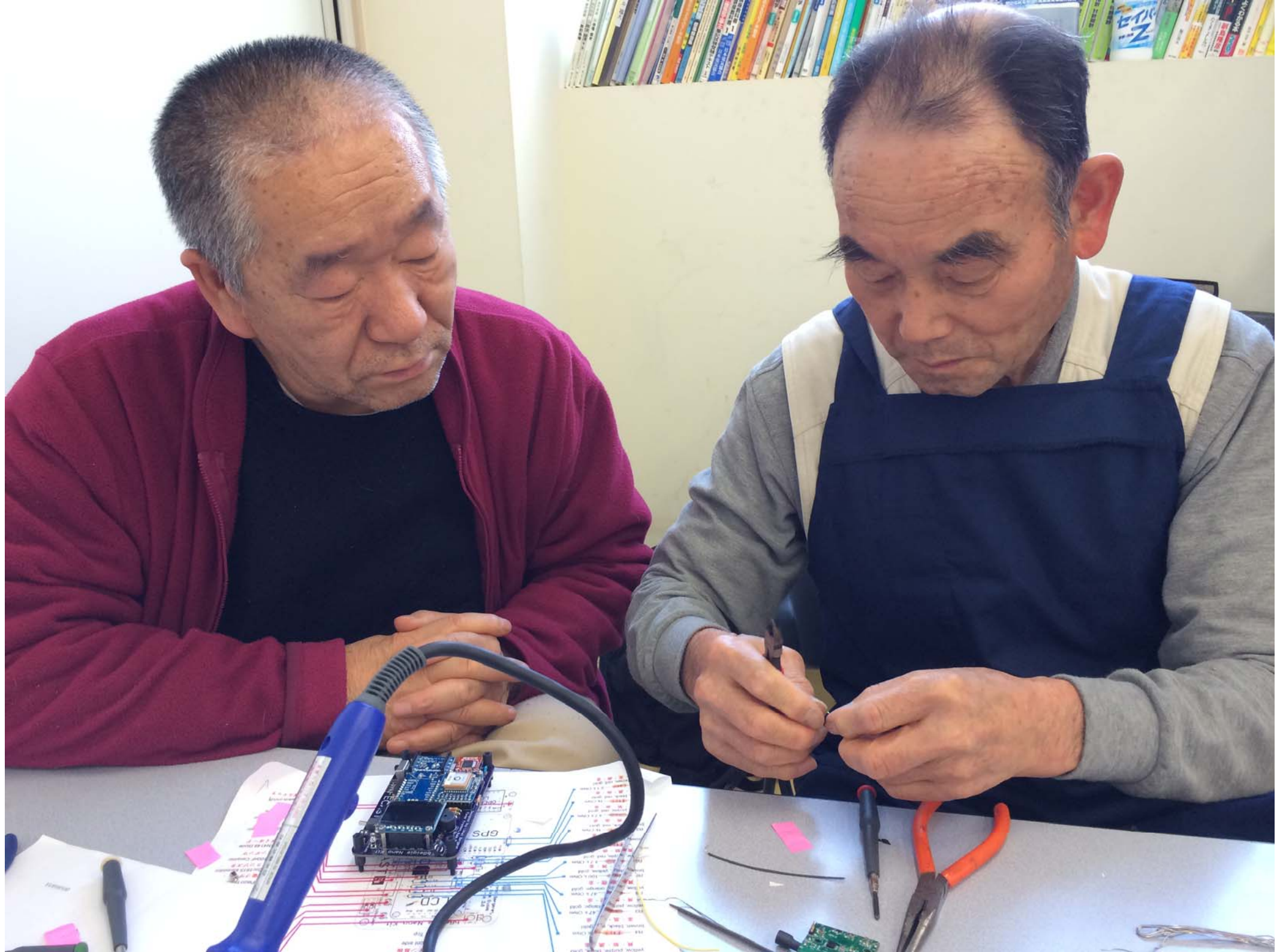


Geiger-counter building workshop with students in Koriyama (They then become volunteers, contribute radiation readings, and teach others)





Testing 12 newly-built bGeigie Nanos in a nearby park.





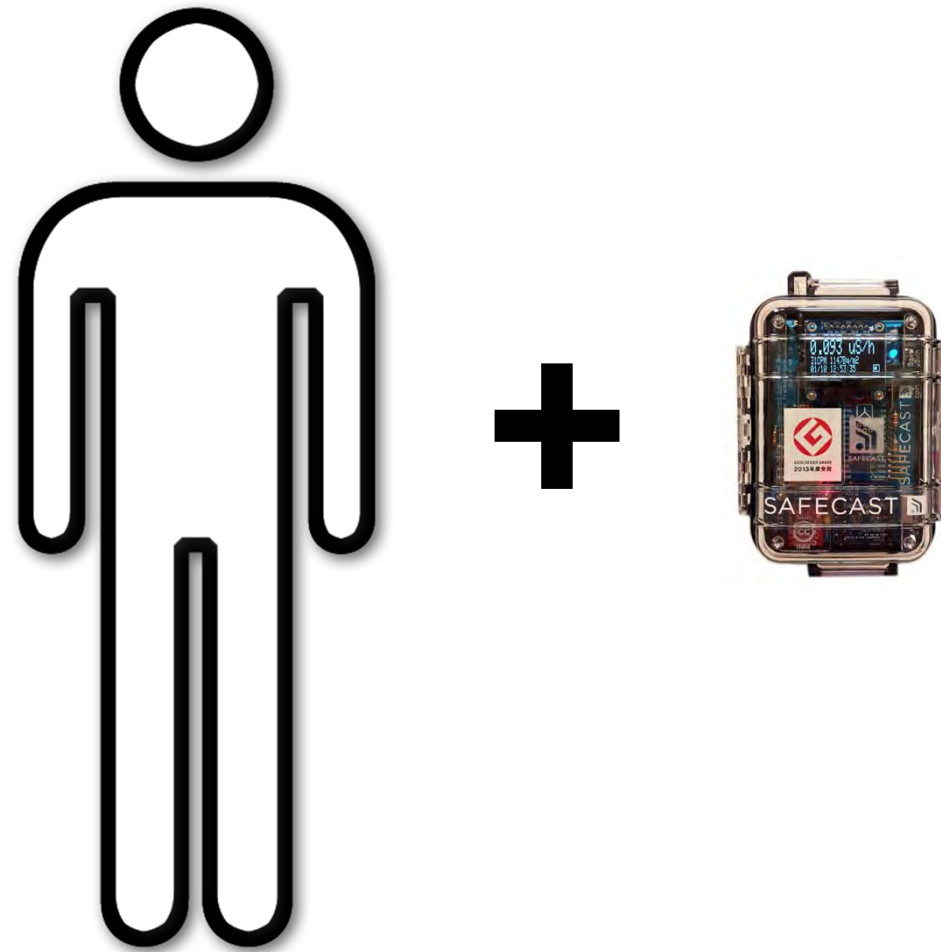
Safecast volunteers and Koriyama City officials



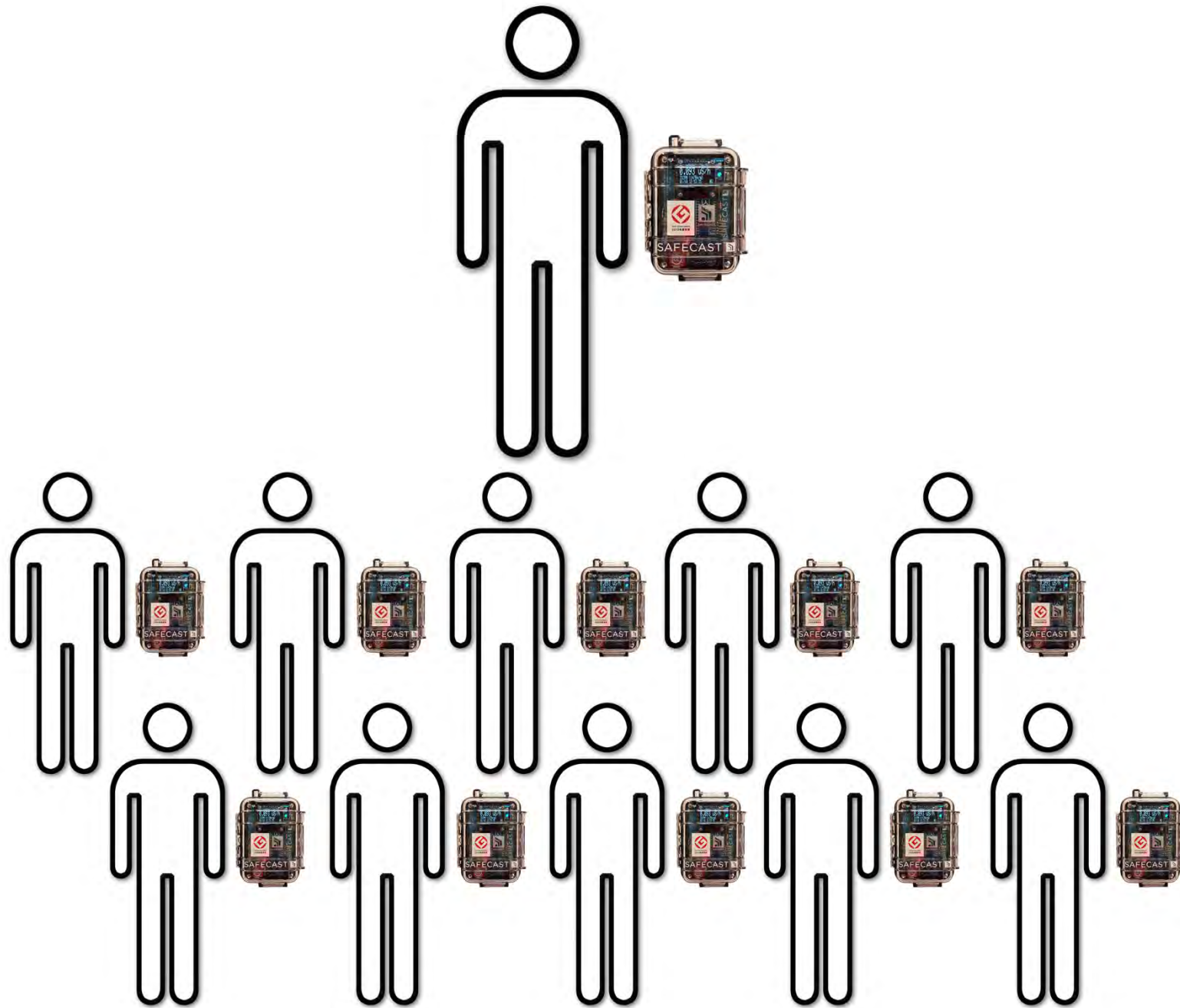
Ten bGeigies were delivered to Koriyama City



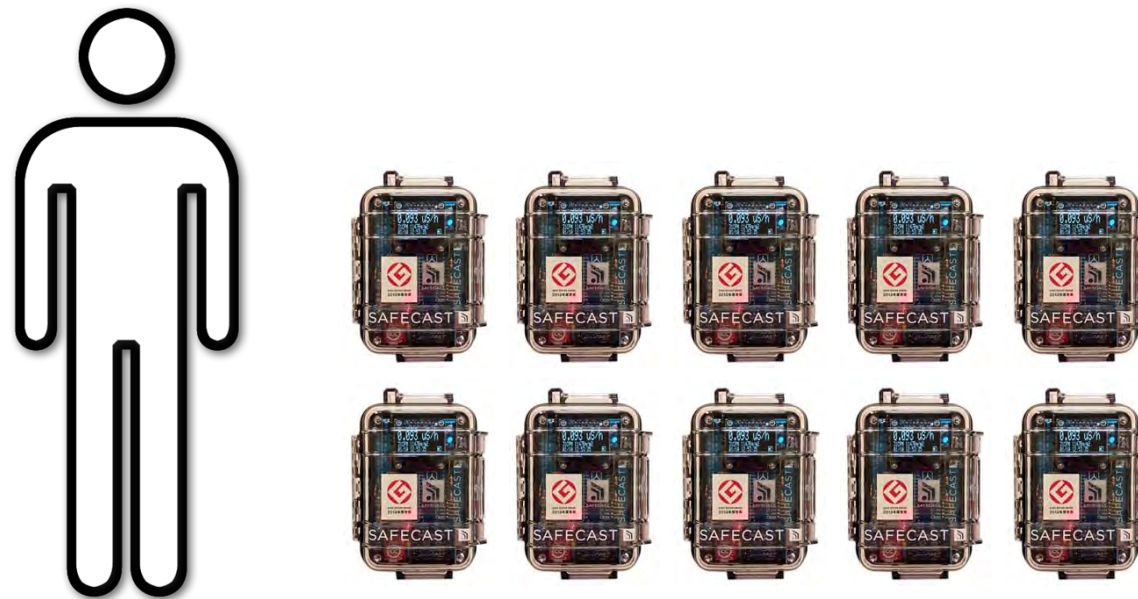
They were mounted on postal delivery vehicles, which cover every street in town over the course of normal daily activity.



Our experience after Fukushima suggests that in the event of another large radiation emergency additional manpower will be needed.



One person can quickly teach ten others.



We have prepared “airlift crates” of devices that can be quickly sent emergency areas anywhere in the world.



We've found it's necessary to educate media as well.

THE SAFECAST REPORT

VOLUME 1 - MARCH, 2015



www.safecast.org

SUMMARY:

Everything we do has been enabled by open hardware and software, new DIY fab tools, and social media.

It required putting into practice agile development and iterative design - “Deploy or Die”

Managing human networks is harder than managing technical systems.

Our credibility depends on our openness.

Govt agencies are accountable for people's lives and well-being. We aren't, and that makes our work easier than theirs.





www.safecast.org