

Cooperative Marine Robotic Systems for Environmental Monitoring and Surveillance

Technology and Operational Challenges

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EMS2014 Porto Calém, Gaia, Portugal



Sea: the Ultimate Frontier

**Make room for
multiple vehicles!**

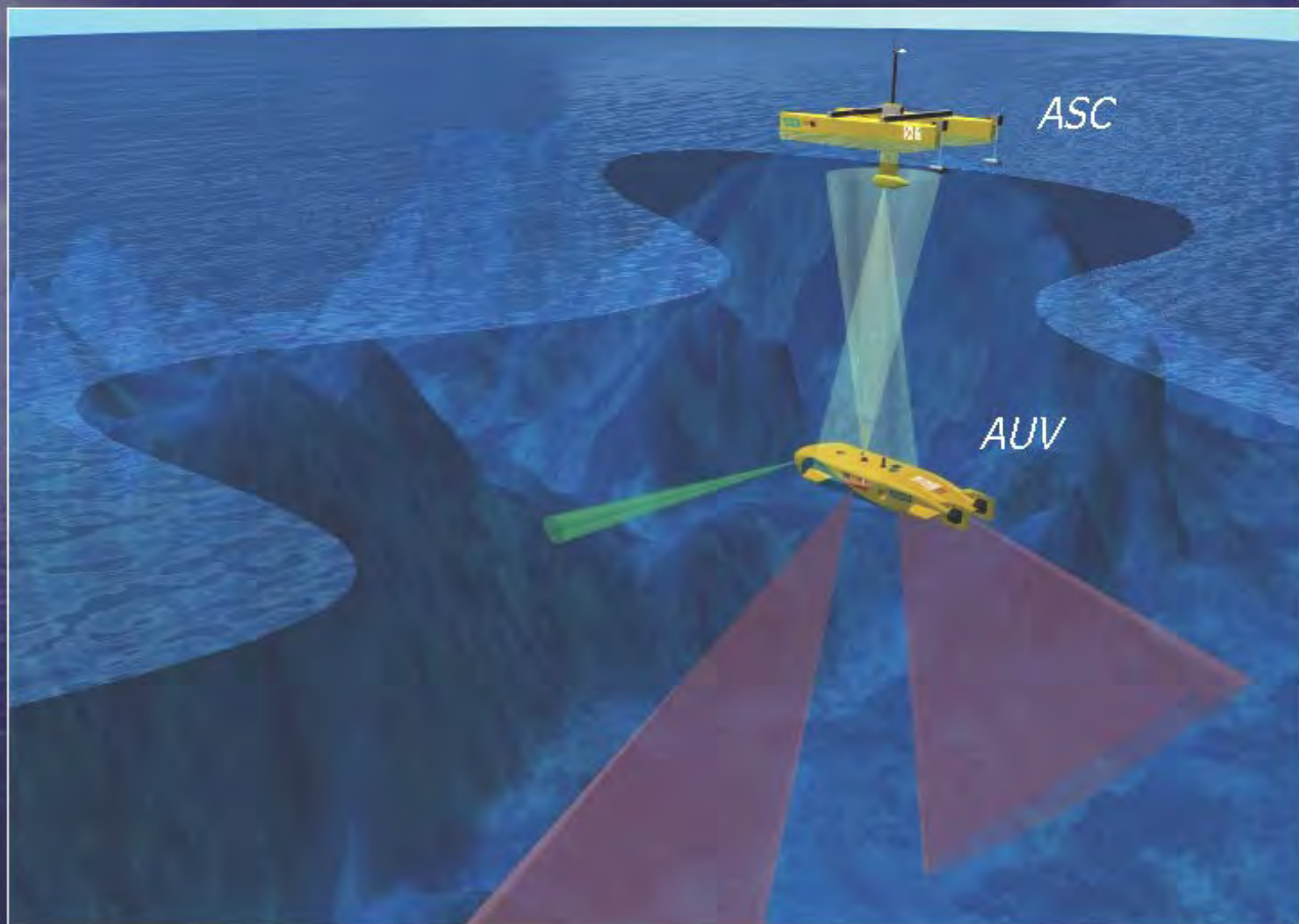


Explore the Ocean

Advanced technology is mandatory

**Future: Networked Mobile/Fixed
Sensors (Moored systems, AUVs, ASCs,
Gliders, Submersibles, Vessels, etc)**

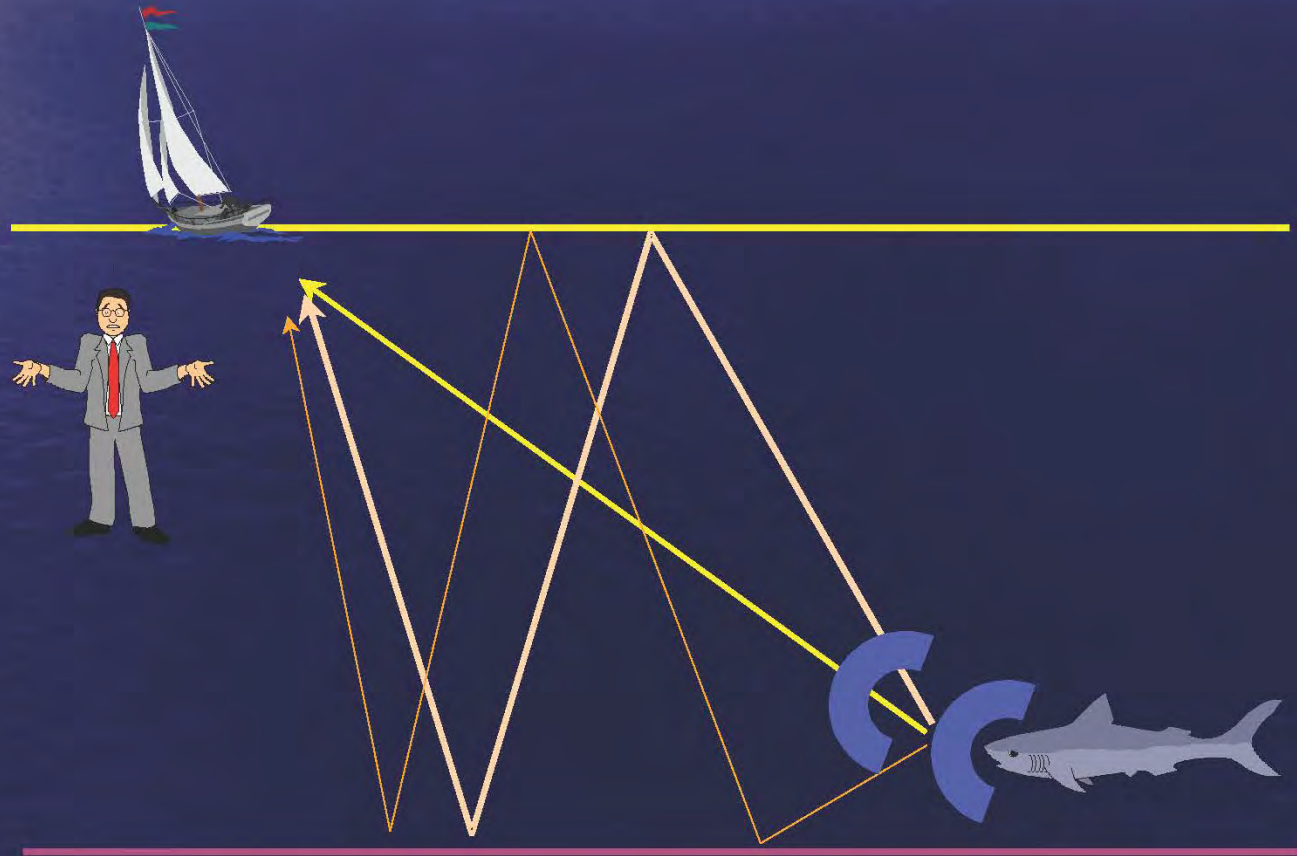
Cooperative Missions at Sea: the ASIMOV project



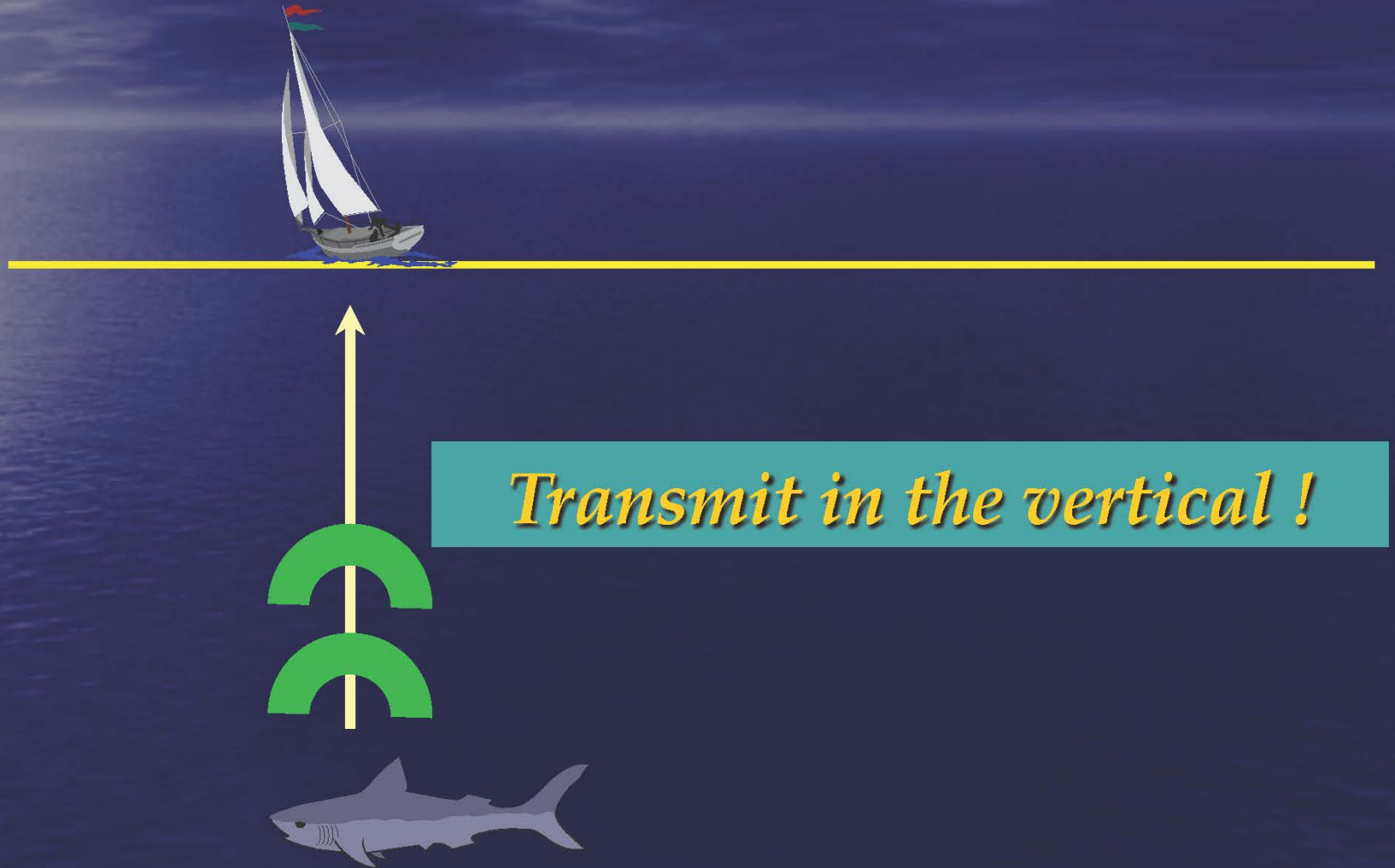
*Surface and underwater vehicle operating in
master / slave configuration (ASIMOV, 2000)*

Problem to be solved: Communications

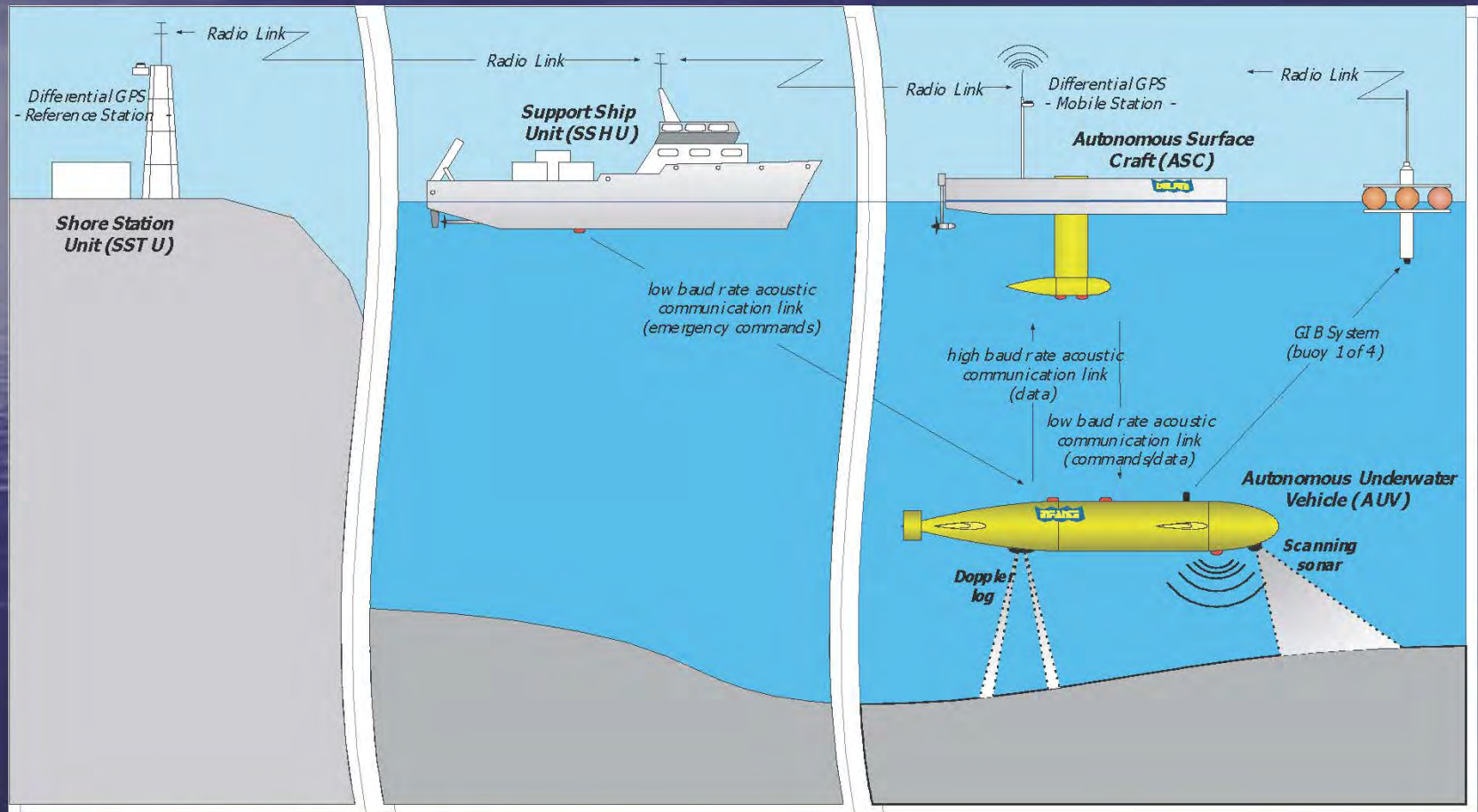
Underwater Communications – *very hard!*



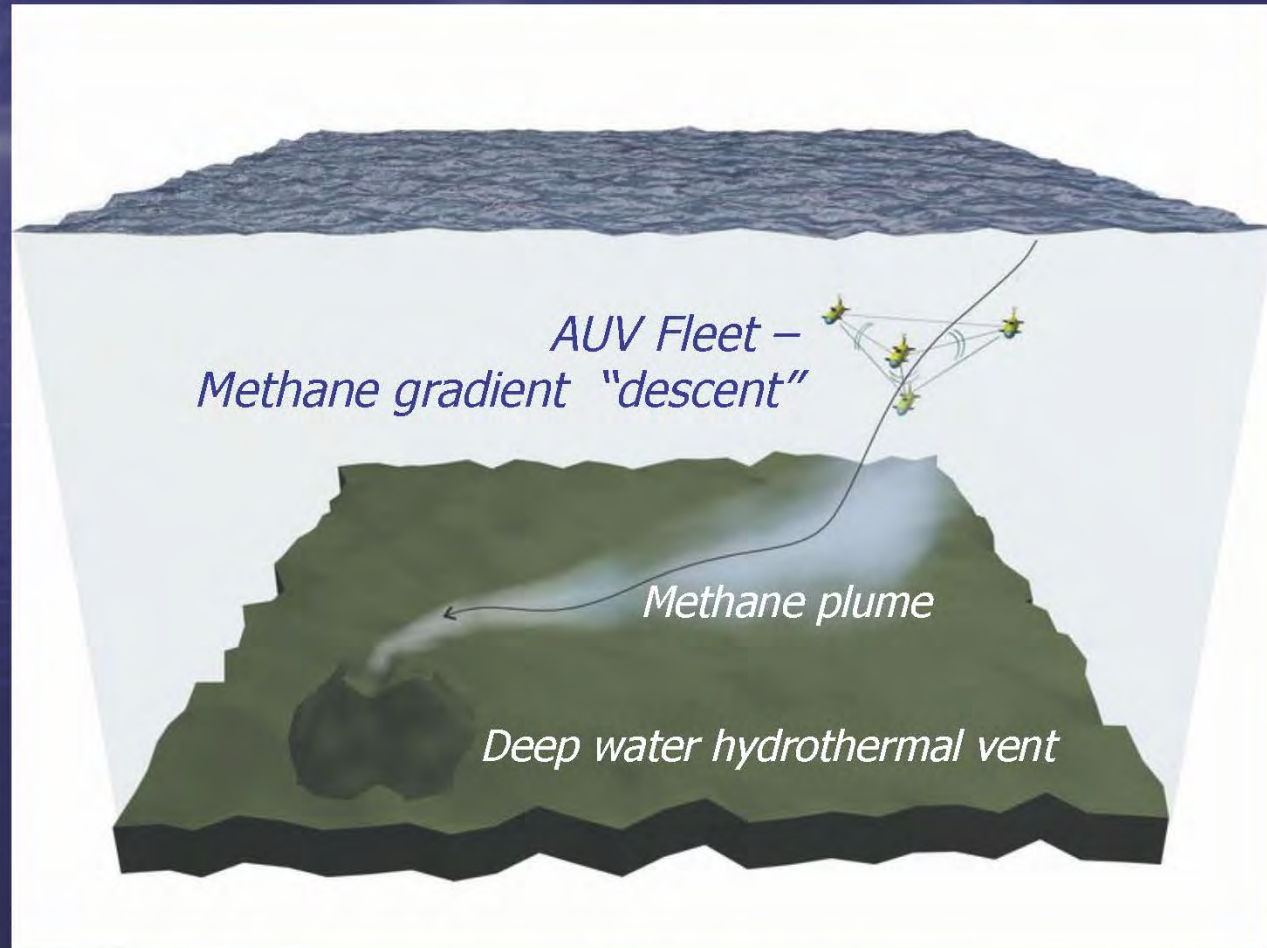
Underwater Communications



Cooperative Motion Control



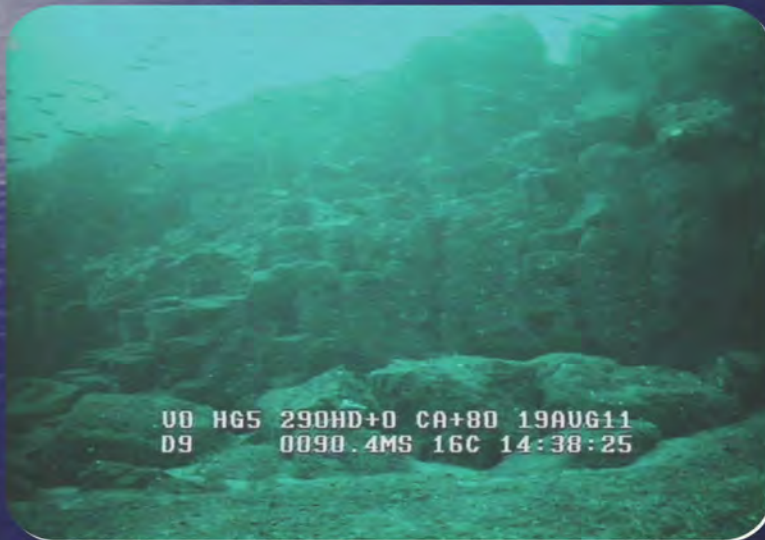
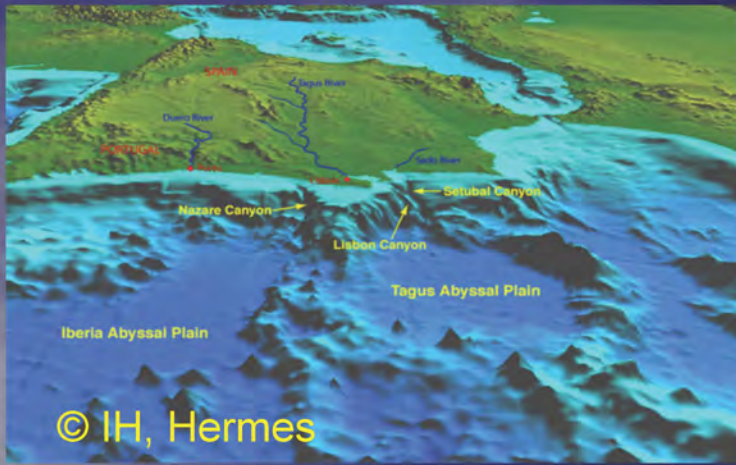
*The ASIMOV concept
(ASIMOV project, EC - 2000)*



The quest for mid-water column
hydrothermal vents, Azores, PT

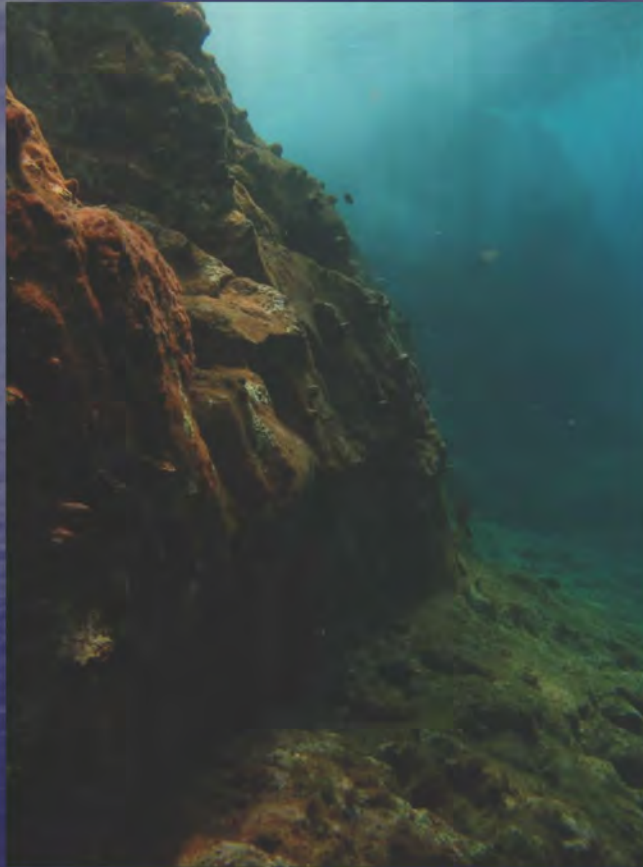
New Challenges

Deep Sea Habitat Mapping near hydrothermal vents and in complex 3D environments



Underwater cliffs, canyon walls, mass wasting walls, mid-ocean ridges, fracture zones, seamount flanks, continental margins, hydrothermal vent edifices

The cliff scenario



Key challenge: i) obtain *marine habitat maps* of complex underwater structures including steep cliffs and “overhangs” with a negative slope



Proposed technological solution: from single to *supra-vehicles with spatially self-organizing capability*

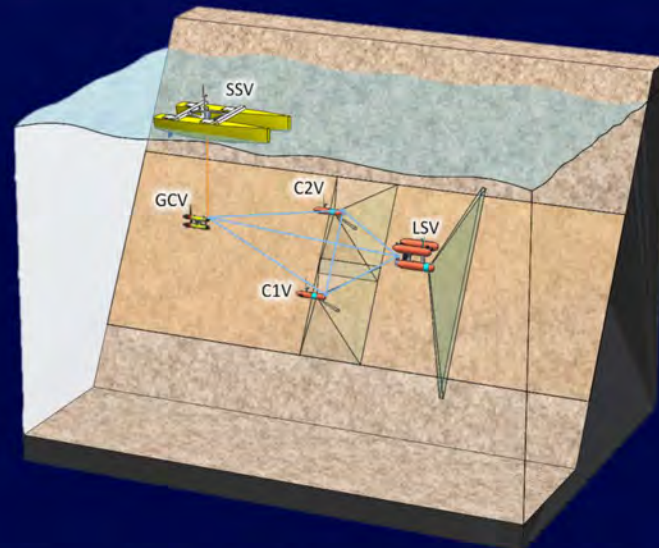


FP7-ICT-2887704 MORPH PROJECT

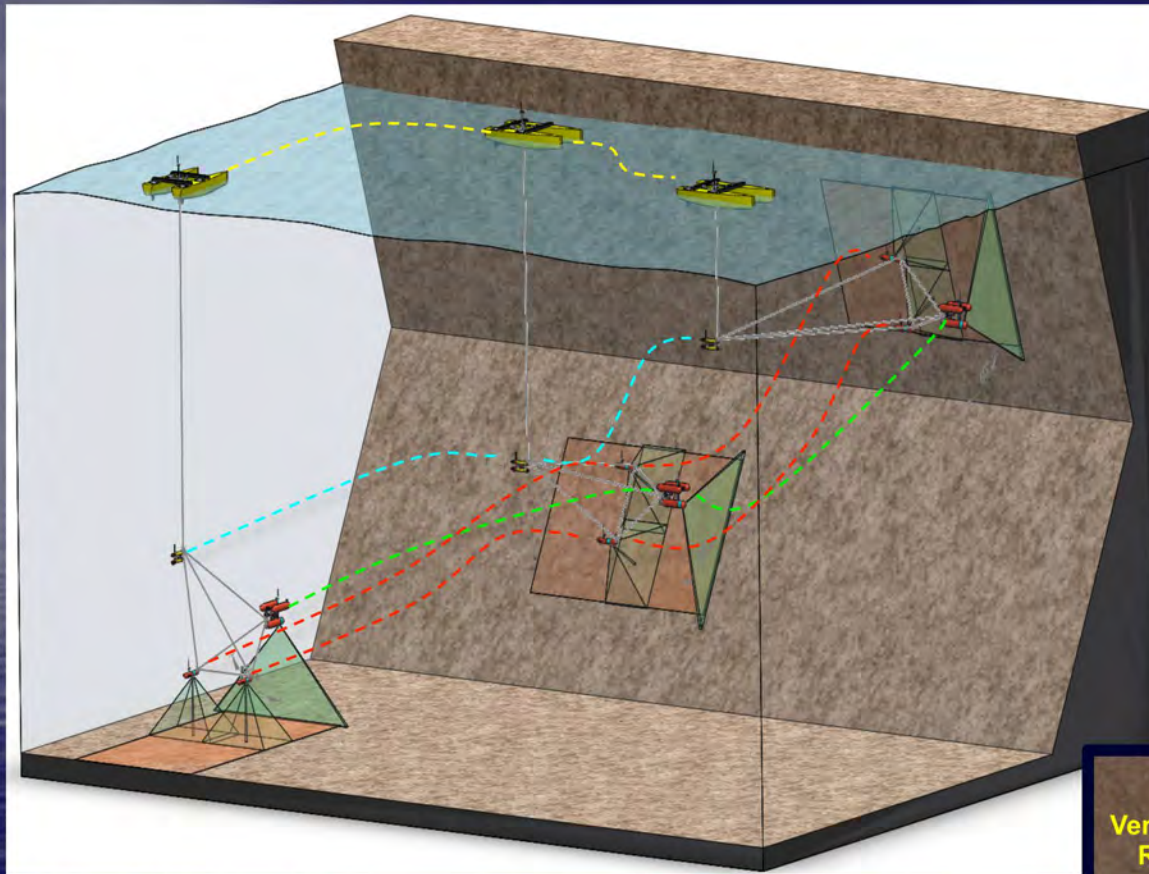


Marine robotic system
of self-organizing,
logically linked physical
nodes

MORPH
Consortium

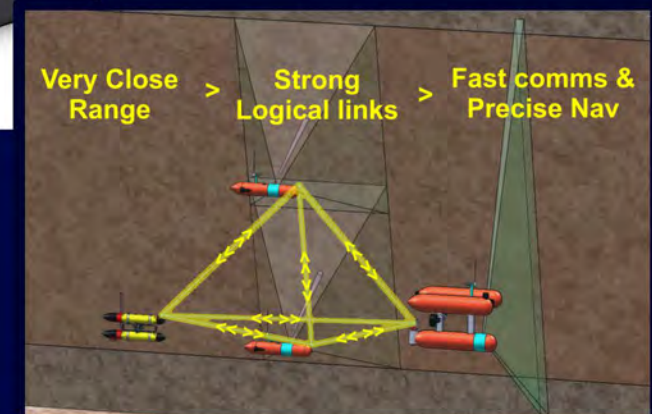


A new Paradigm is needed for Adaptive Mapping



A cluster
of modules
operating as a
virtual
marine vehicle

Key MORPH concept:
*a self-reconfiguring robot for operations in
complex 3D marine environments*





Mission
specification



Cooperative motion planning

Nominal trajectories &
desired vehicle formation



Cooperative motion control

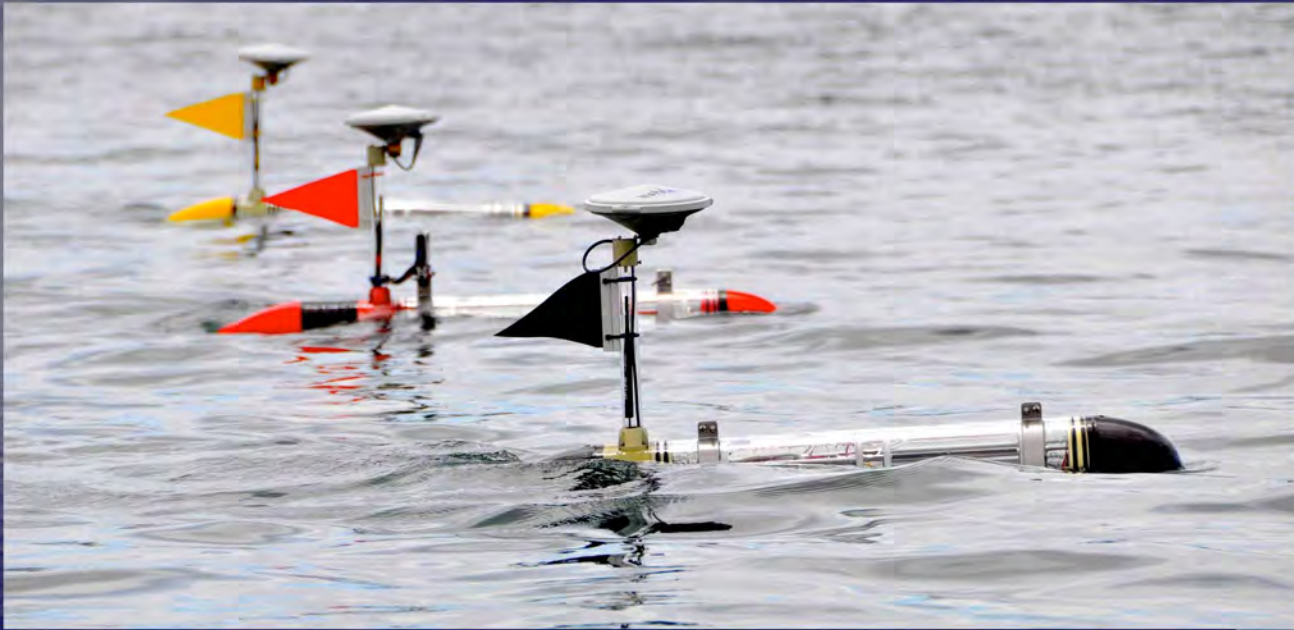
Global and local, relative vehicle positions



Cooperative navigation

Cooperative systems: key blocks required

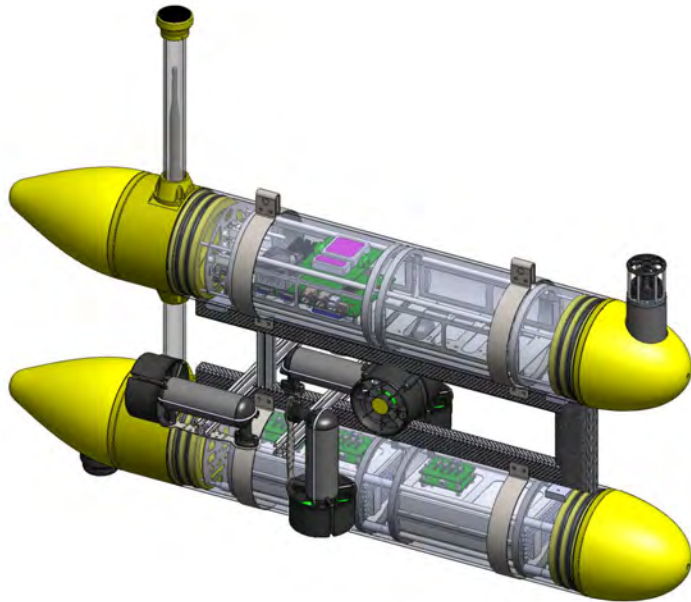
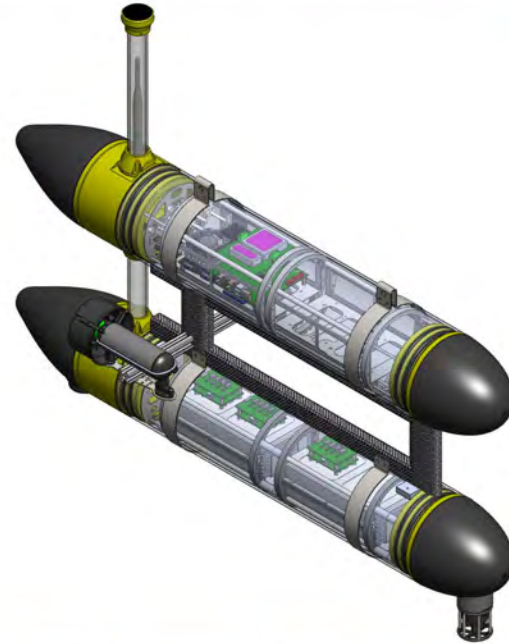
From theory to practice: the MEDUSA ASVs/AUVs



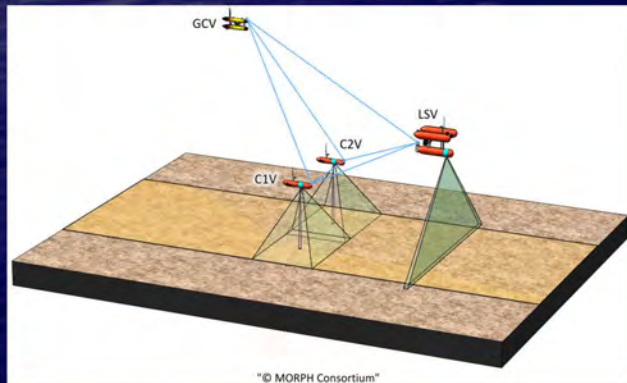
- . *3 autonomous vehicles (cooperative motion control capability)*
- . *Acoustic network (Tritech / Evologic modems)*



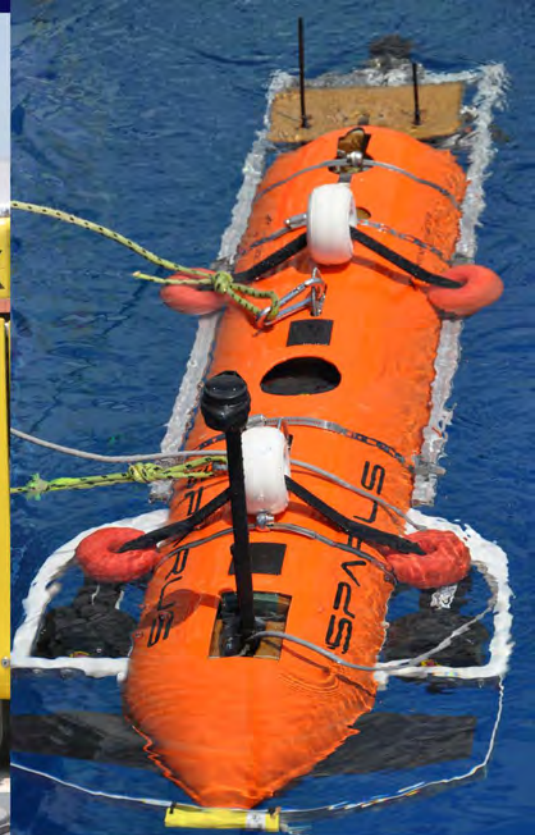
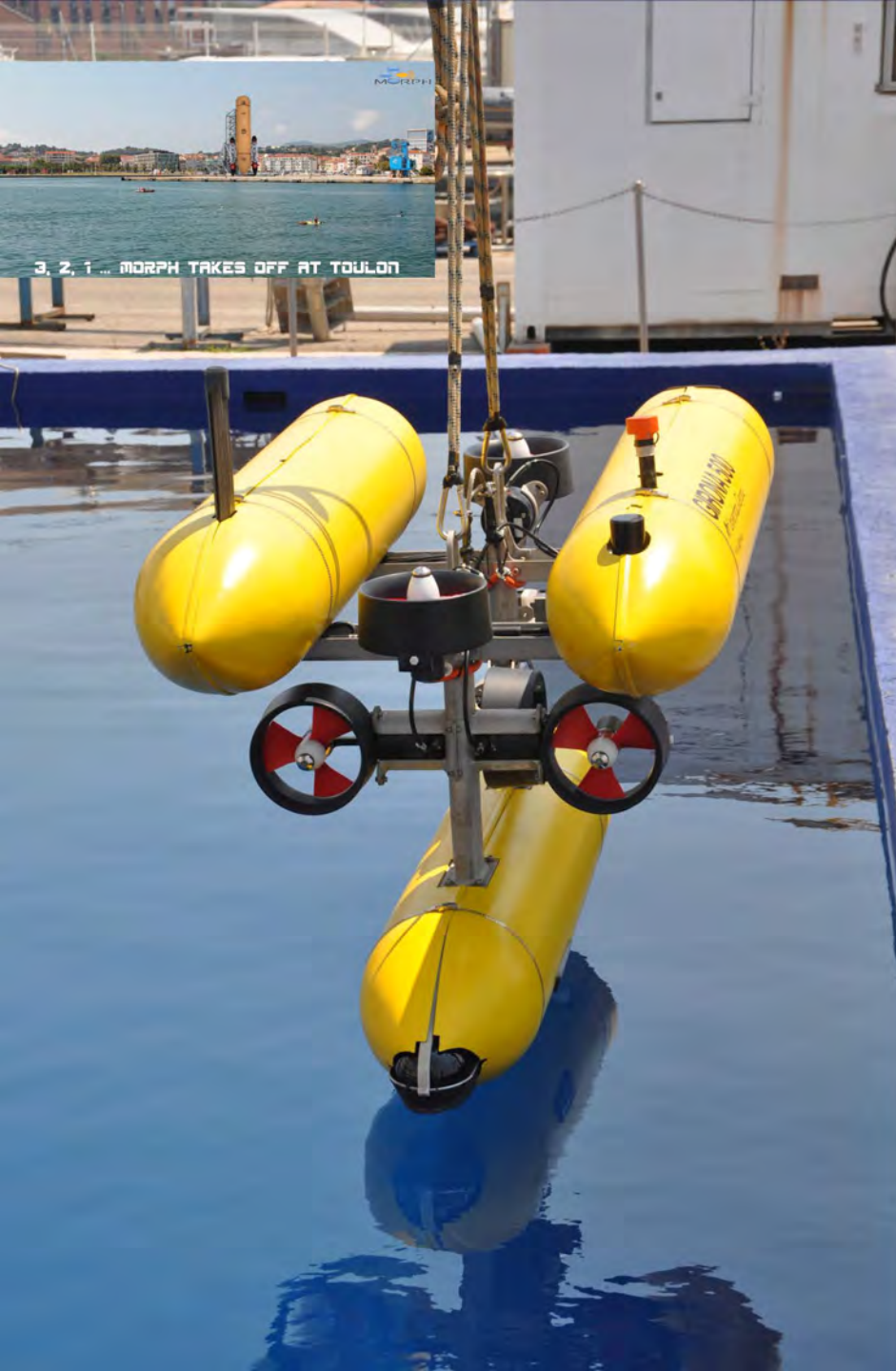
The MEDUSA ASVs/AUVs

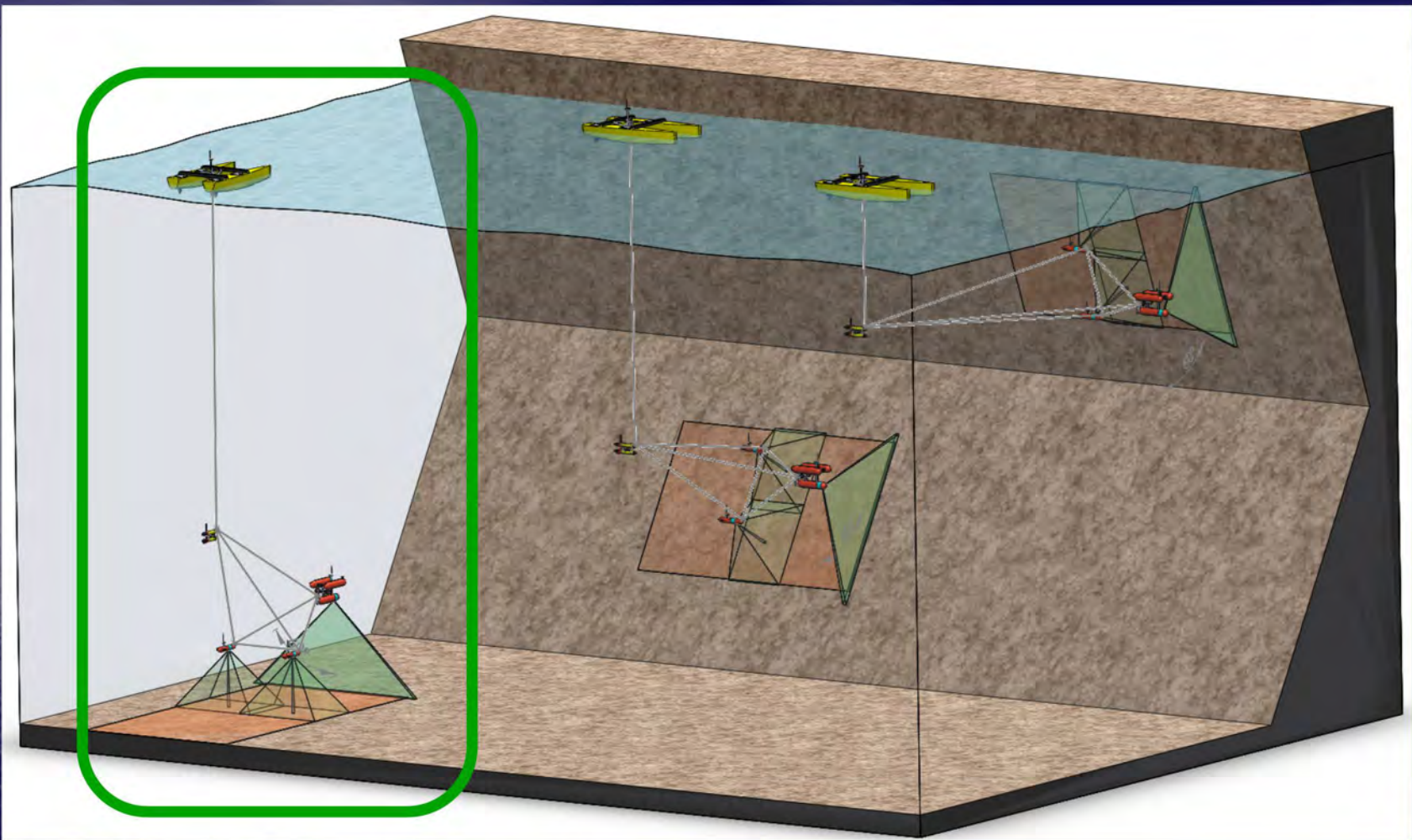


MORPH PROJECT

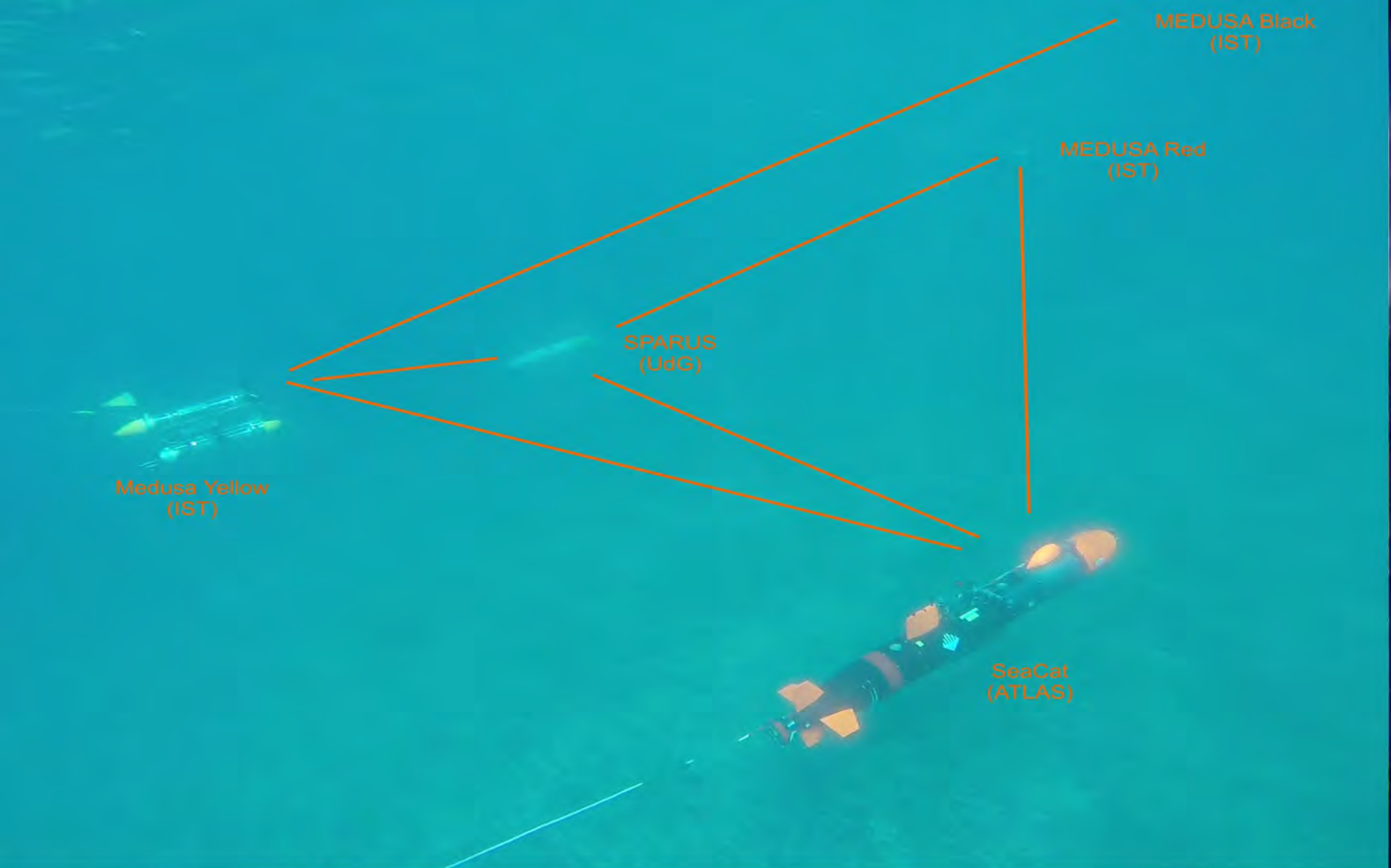


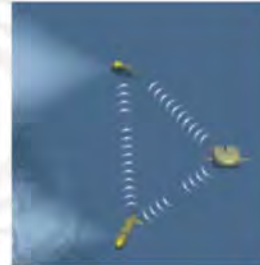
Toulon, France
July 2013





The FULL MORPH SEGMENT





Marine robotics system of self-organizing logically linked physical nodes

Azores trials 2014



Universitat de Girona



TÉCNICO
LISBOA



JACOBS
UNIVERSITY



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT
ILMENAU



organization
CMRE



ATLAS ELEKTRONIK
A joint company of ThyssenKrupp and EADS



Ifremer



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche



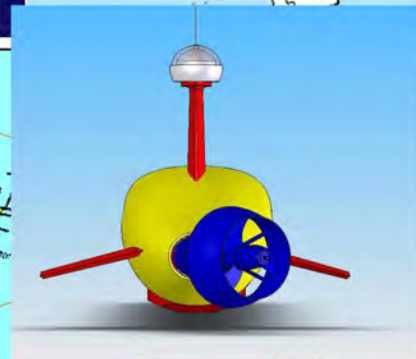
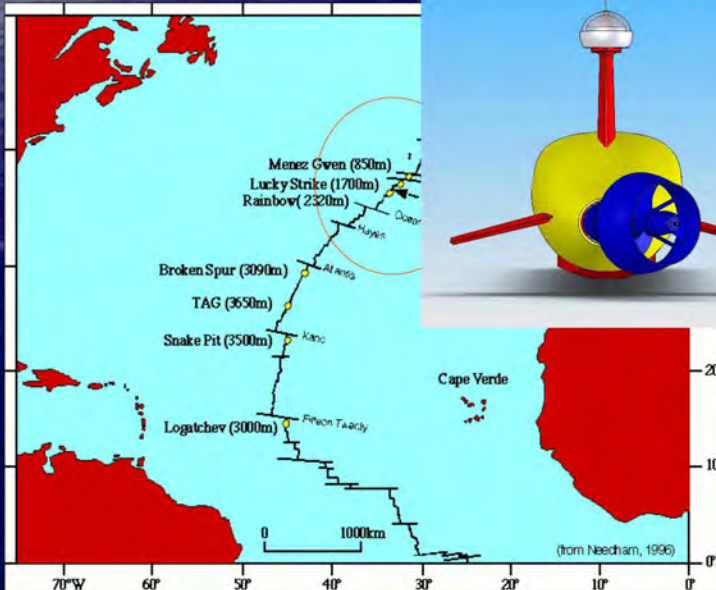
September 2014



Universitat de Girona

Work Package 5

Meeting with Índia (1999-)



Autonomous Vertical Profiler (AVP)

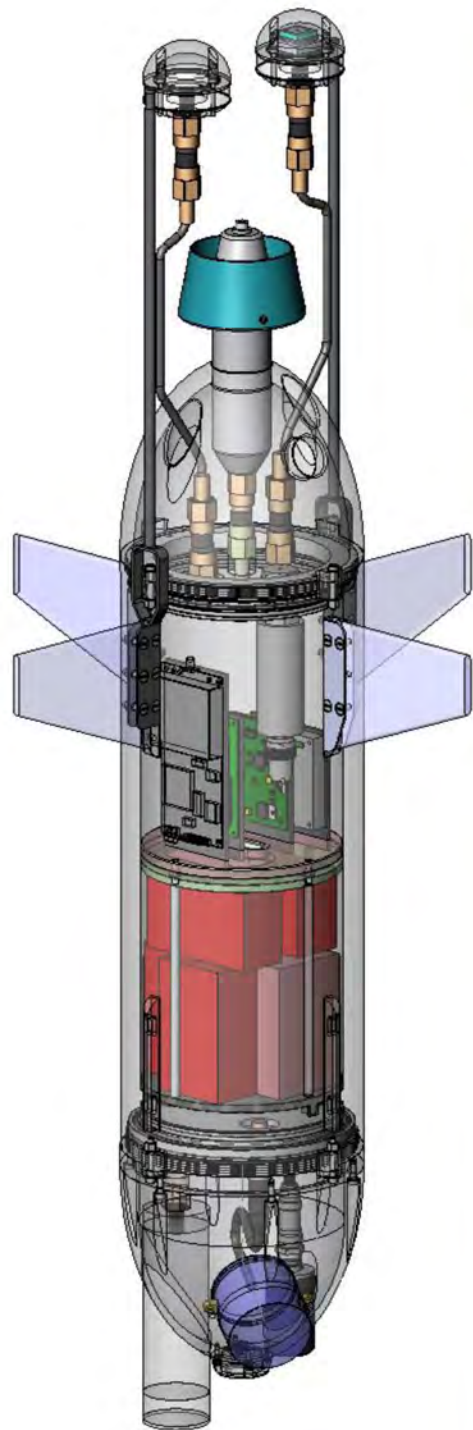
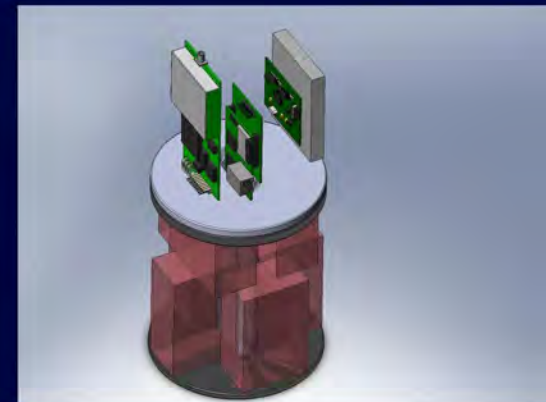
Features:

- Delrin hull
- Weight: ~20 kg
- Length: 880 mm
- Dia: 180 mm
- Propulsion: 24V thruster
- Energy: Li Poly batteries
- sensor loaded nose
- +vely buoyant

sensor loaded nose



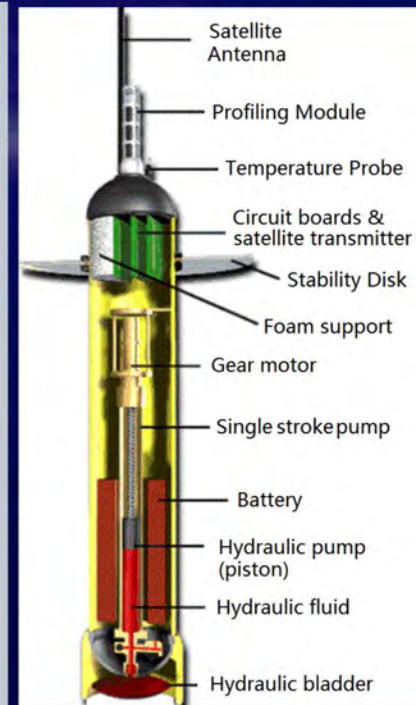
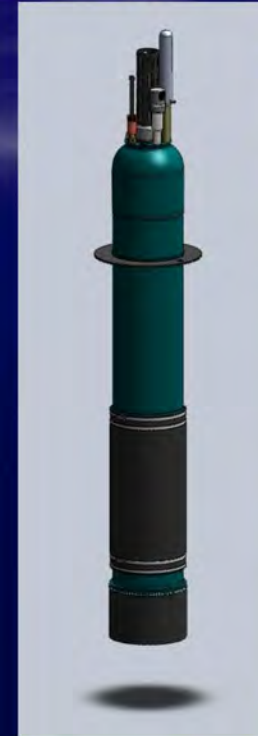
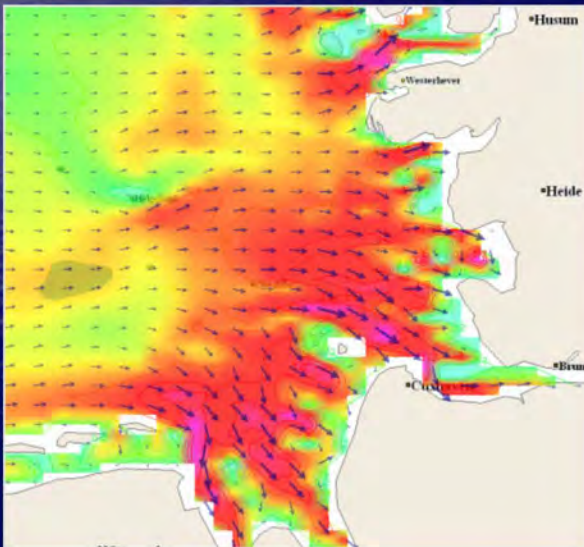
electronics,
batteries



Selective Tidal-Stream Transport for Lagrangian profilers

Lagrangian profiler/profiling float:

- Horizontally passive: follow ocean currents
- Used mostly in a deep water environment



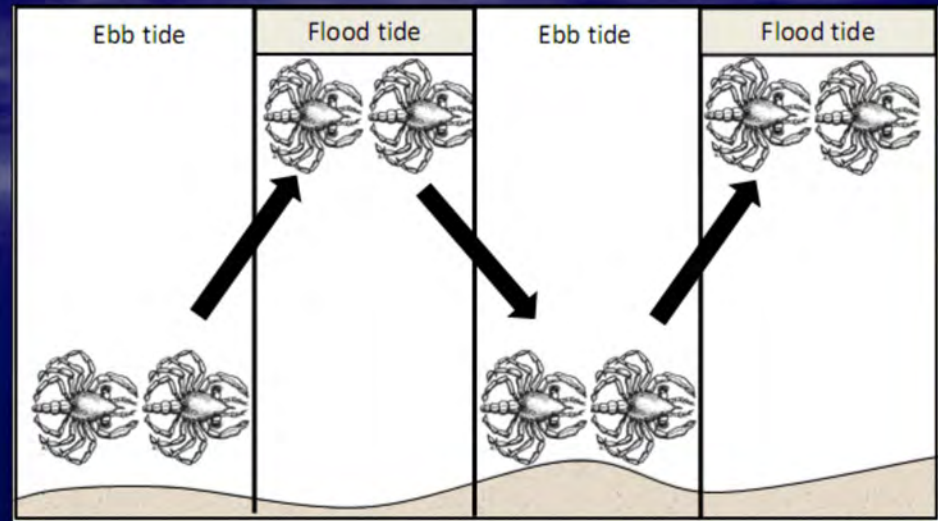
Can a profiler use
tidal currents actively?
(for recovery, re-deployment, ...)



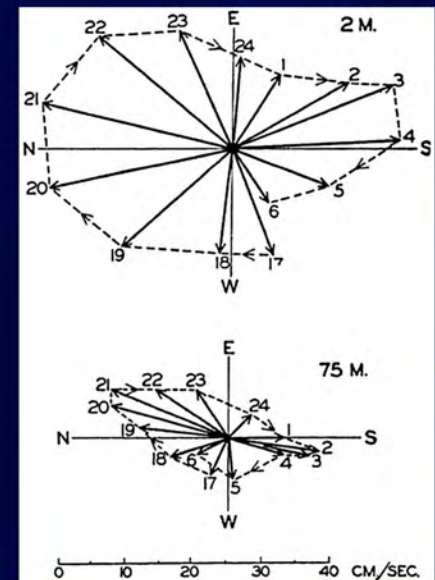
STST in the animal world



Blue crab megalopa

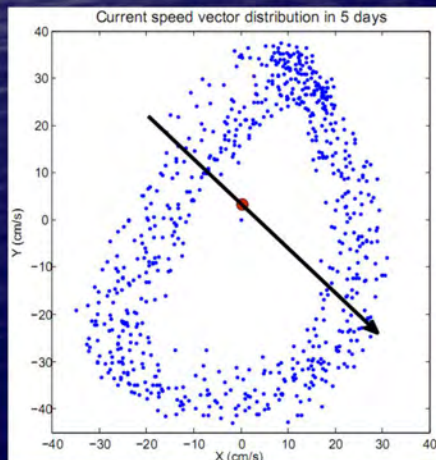
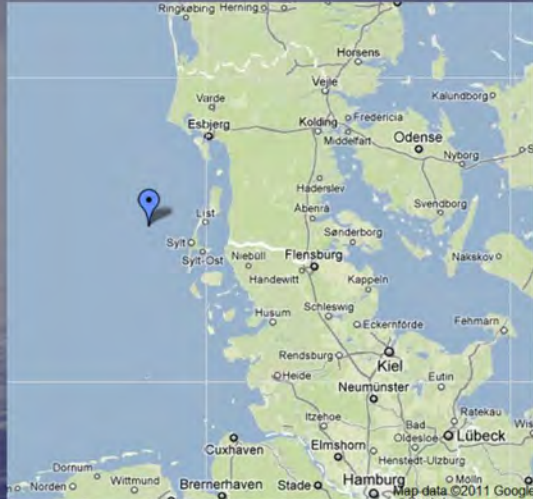


Adult Plaice

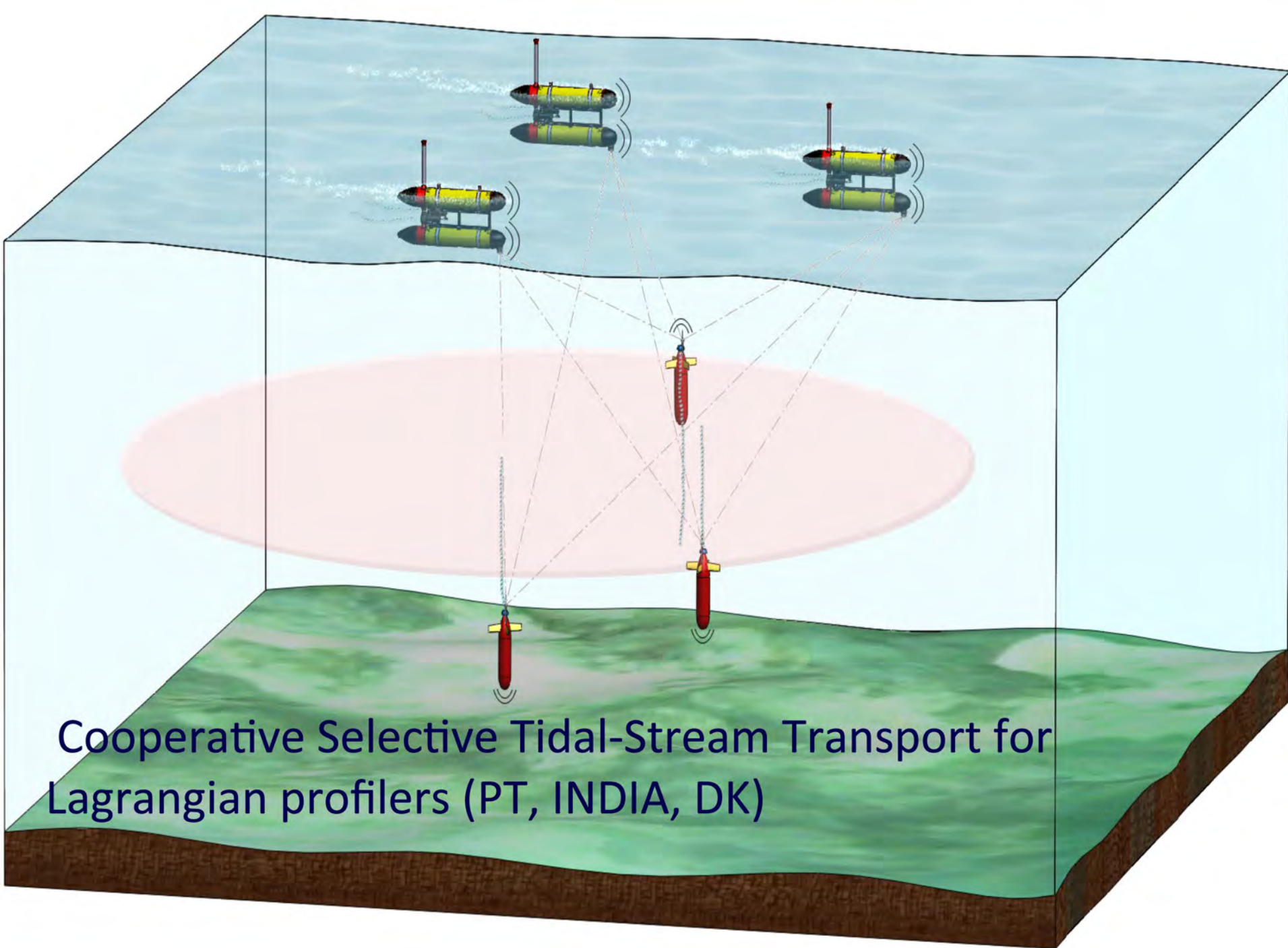


Test results in a re-deployment scenario

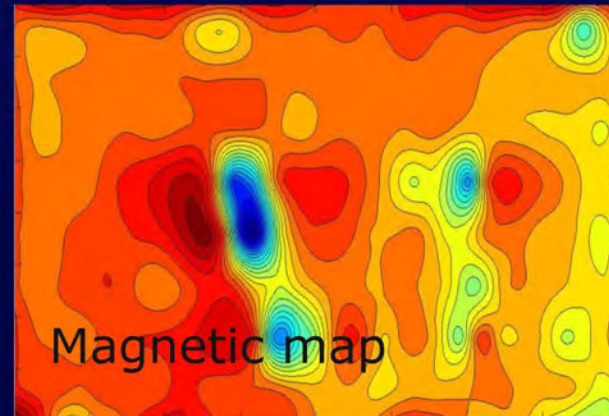
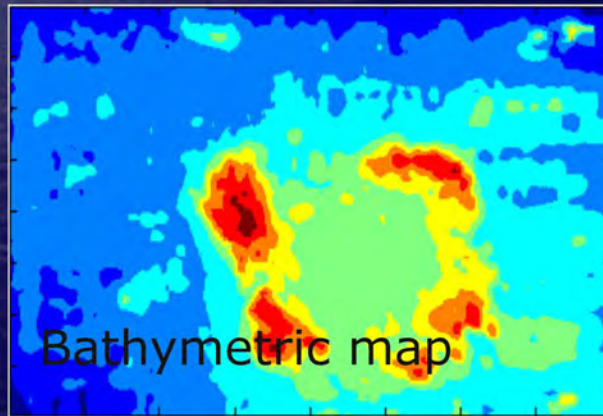
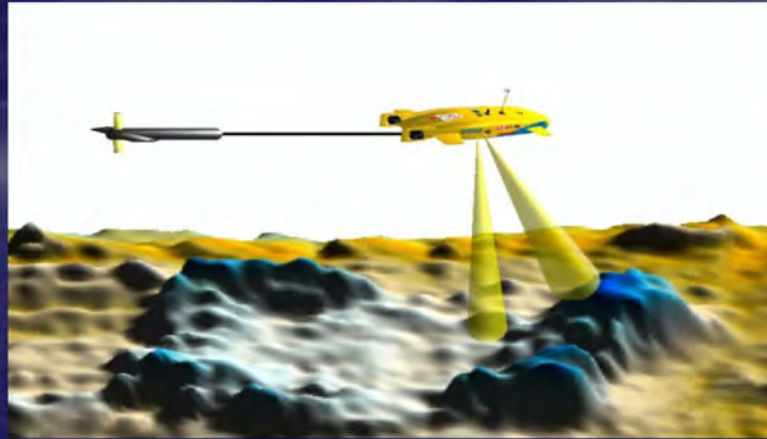
Current data profiles from the North Sea



Mean current: 3.2cm/s



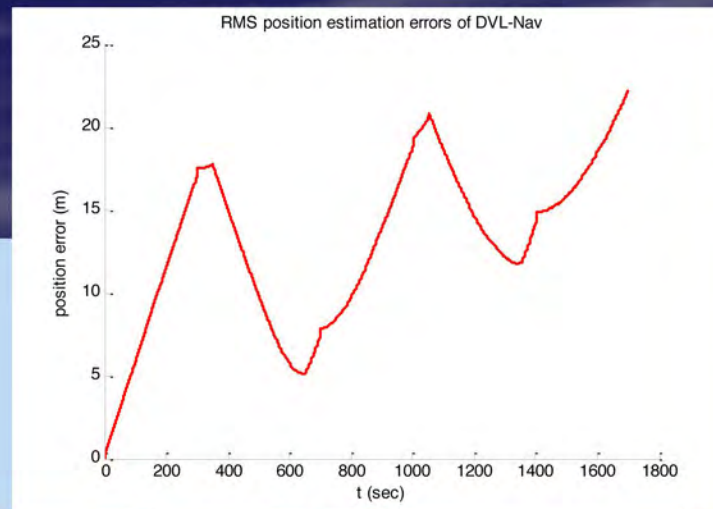
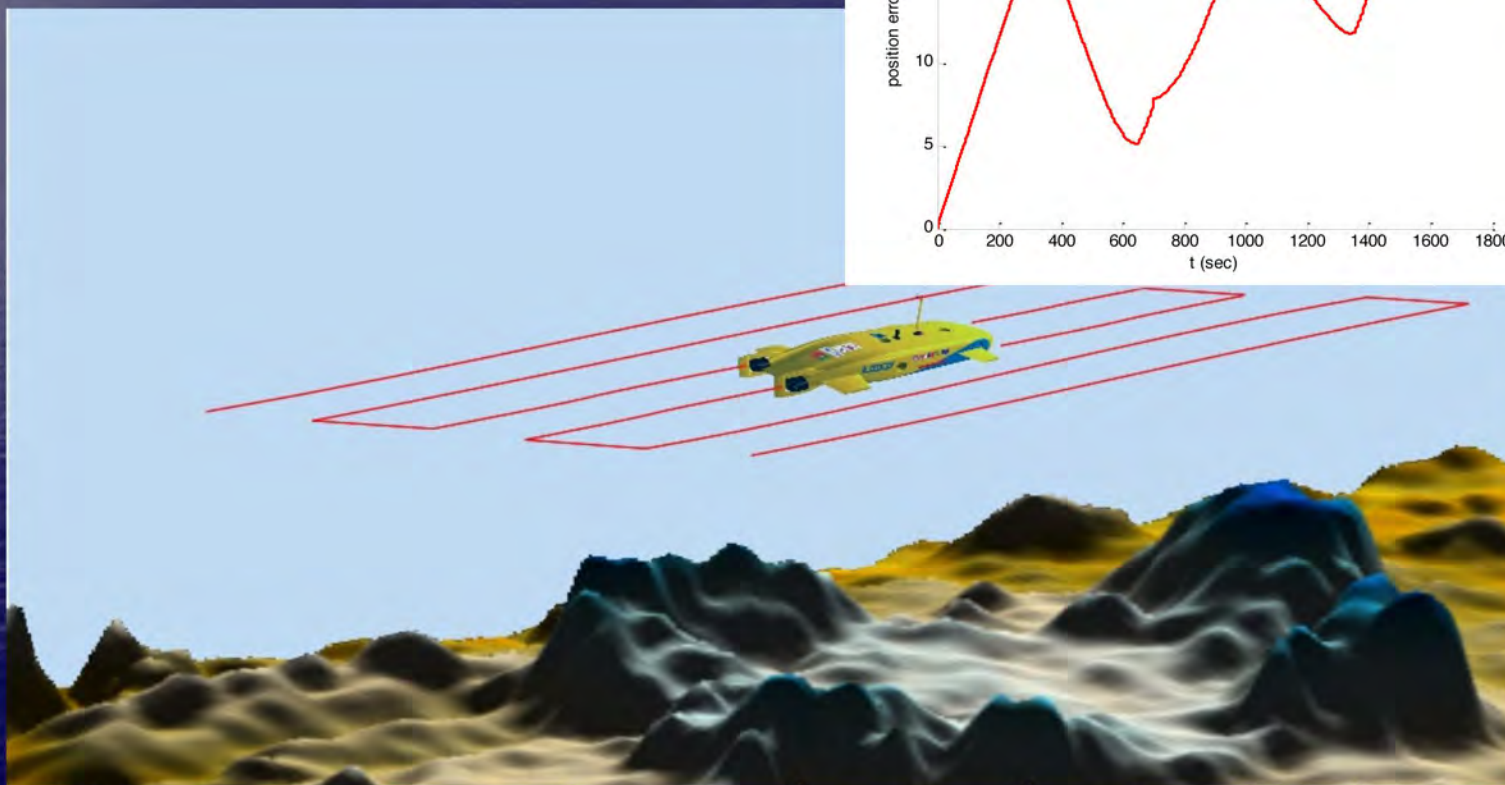
Geophysical-Based Navigation



(IST-PT, UAveiro-PT, NIO-Goa, India; KAIST. Korea)

Conventional Navigation Solutions

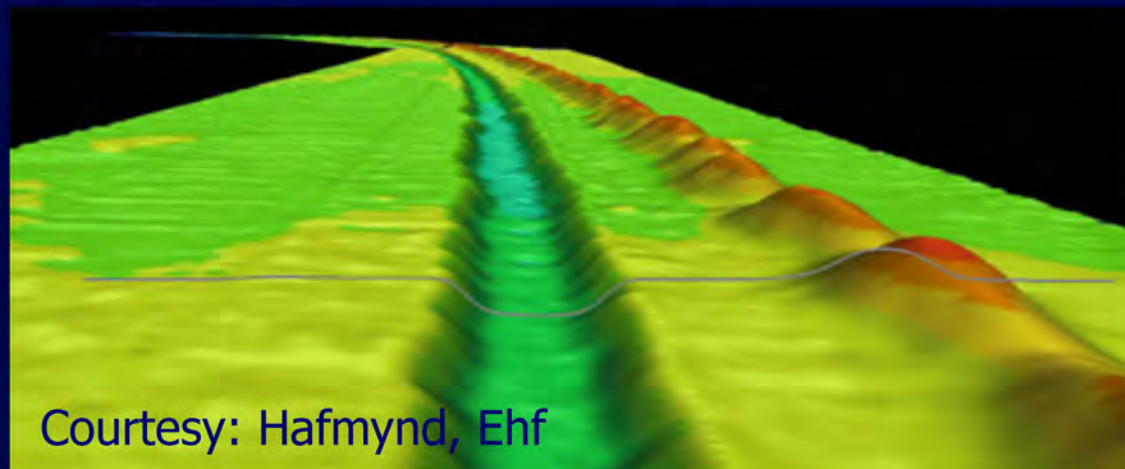
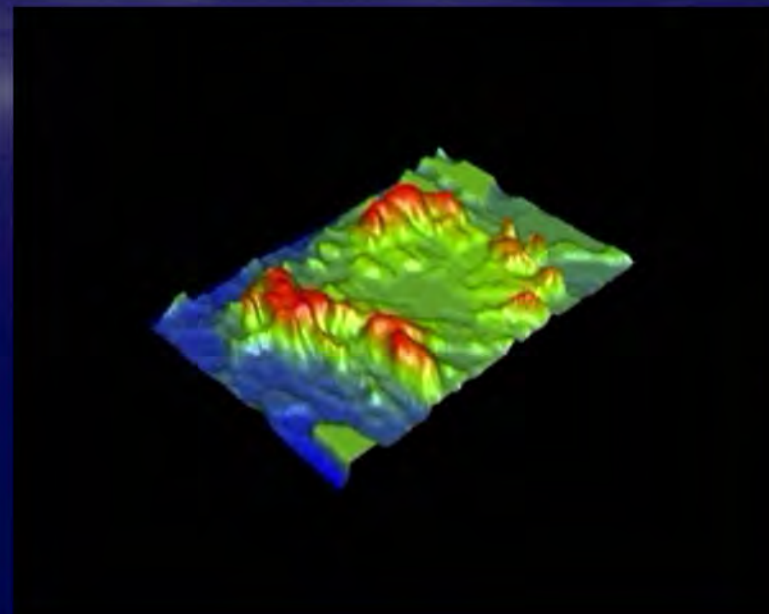
- AHRs/DVL limitations



- LBLs are expensive and complex to deploy

Non-conventional Navigation Solutions

- **Exploit information from the environment for self-localization**
 - Natural features: elevation; reflective properties...
 - Artificial features: submarine cables or trenches; moorings; ship wrecks...
- **TAN**
- **SLAM**



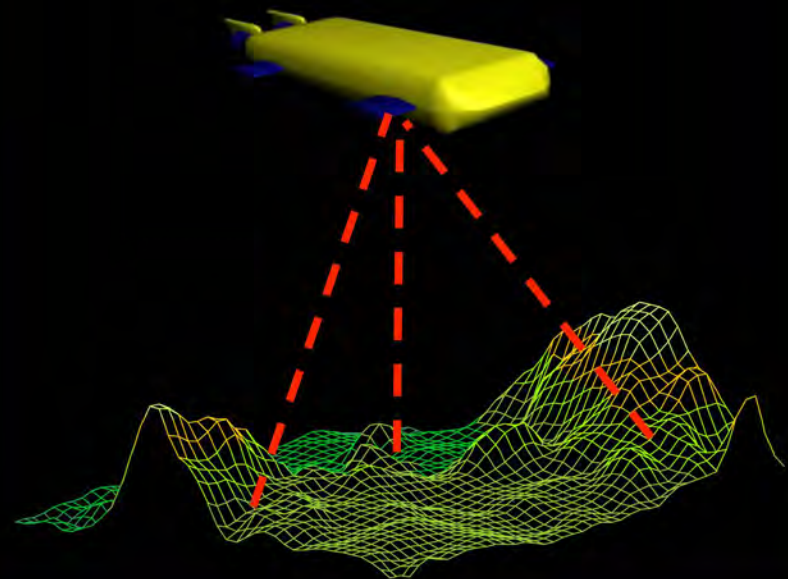
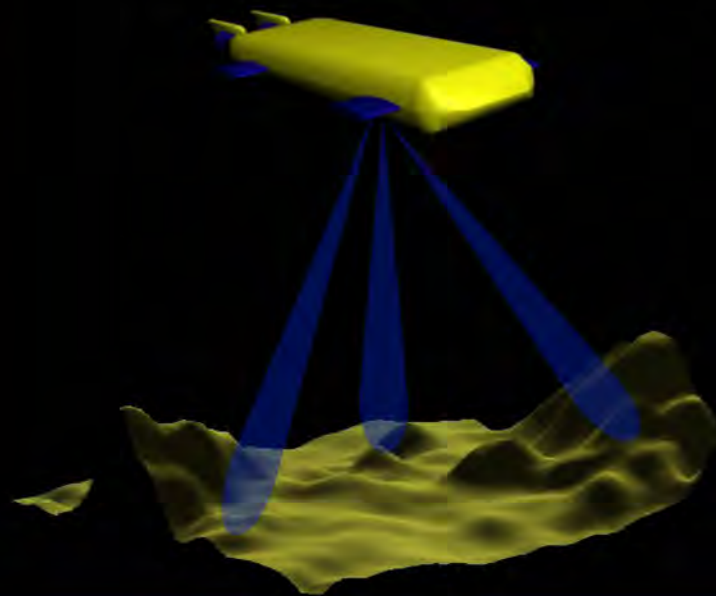
Courtesy: Hafmynd, Ehf

Non-conventional Navigation Solutions

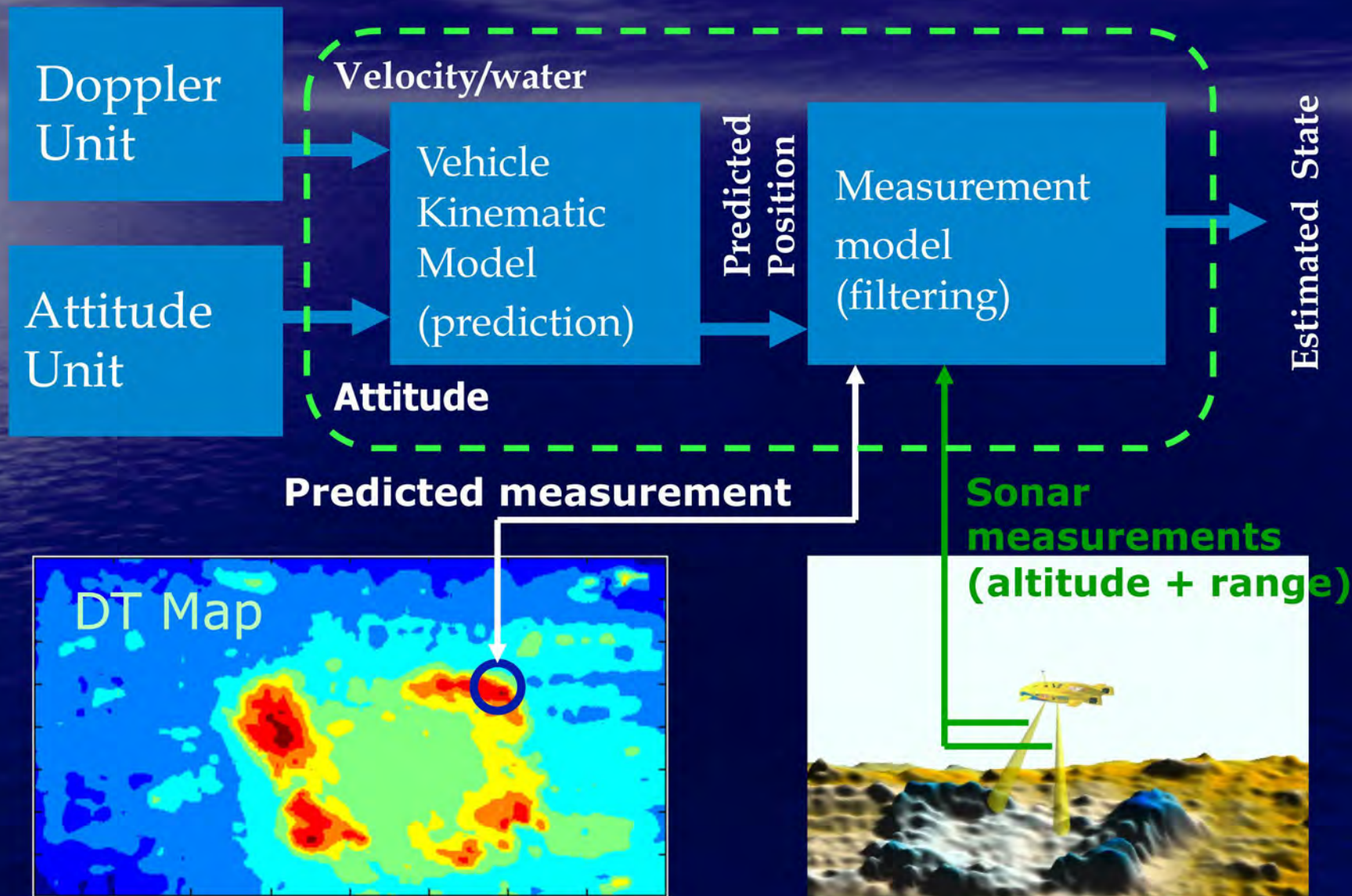
▪ Terrain-Aided Navigation (TAN a.k.a. TRN,TBN)

- Use a prior map of the environment.
- Make observations of the terrain

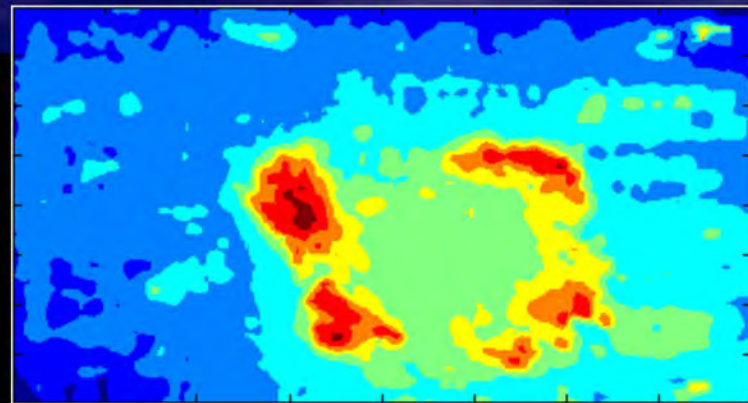
- Match observations against the map to estimate position.



TAN Filters

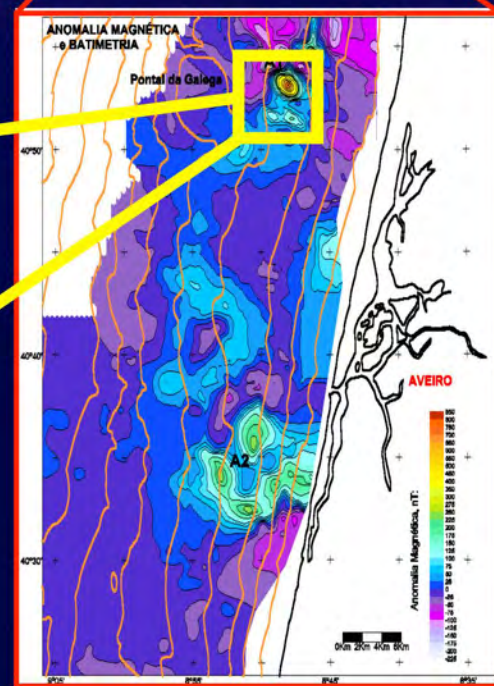
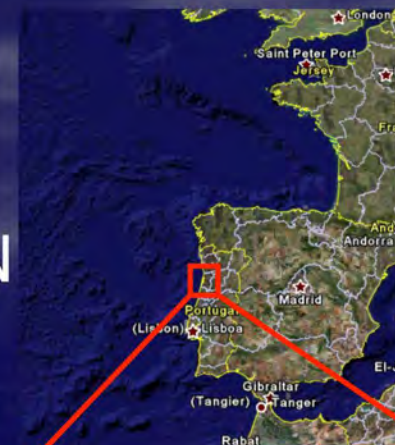
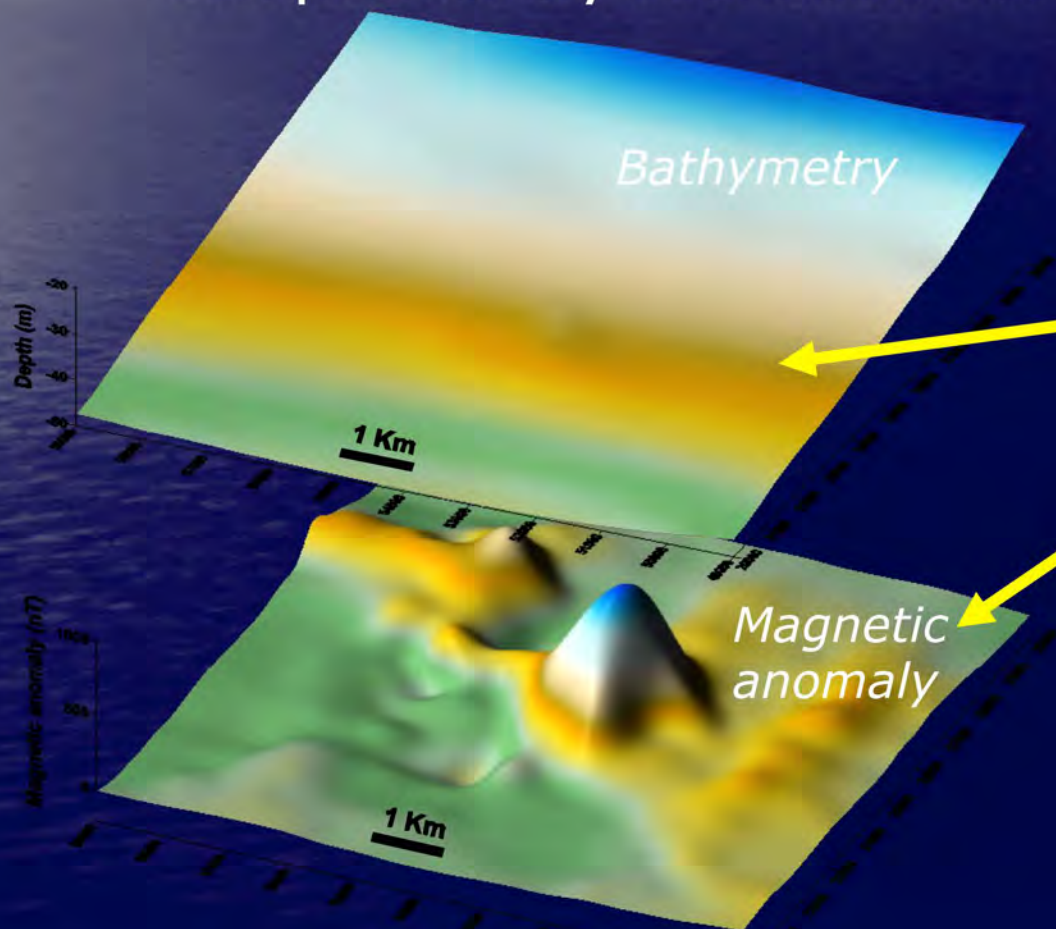


TAN Filters (Monte Carlo Methods – Particle Filters)



Magnetic Navigation (MN)

- **Main motivation**
 - Complementary information for TAN



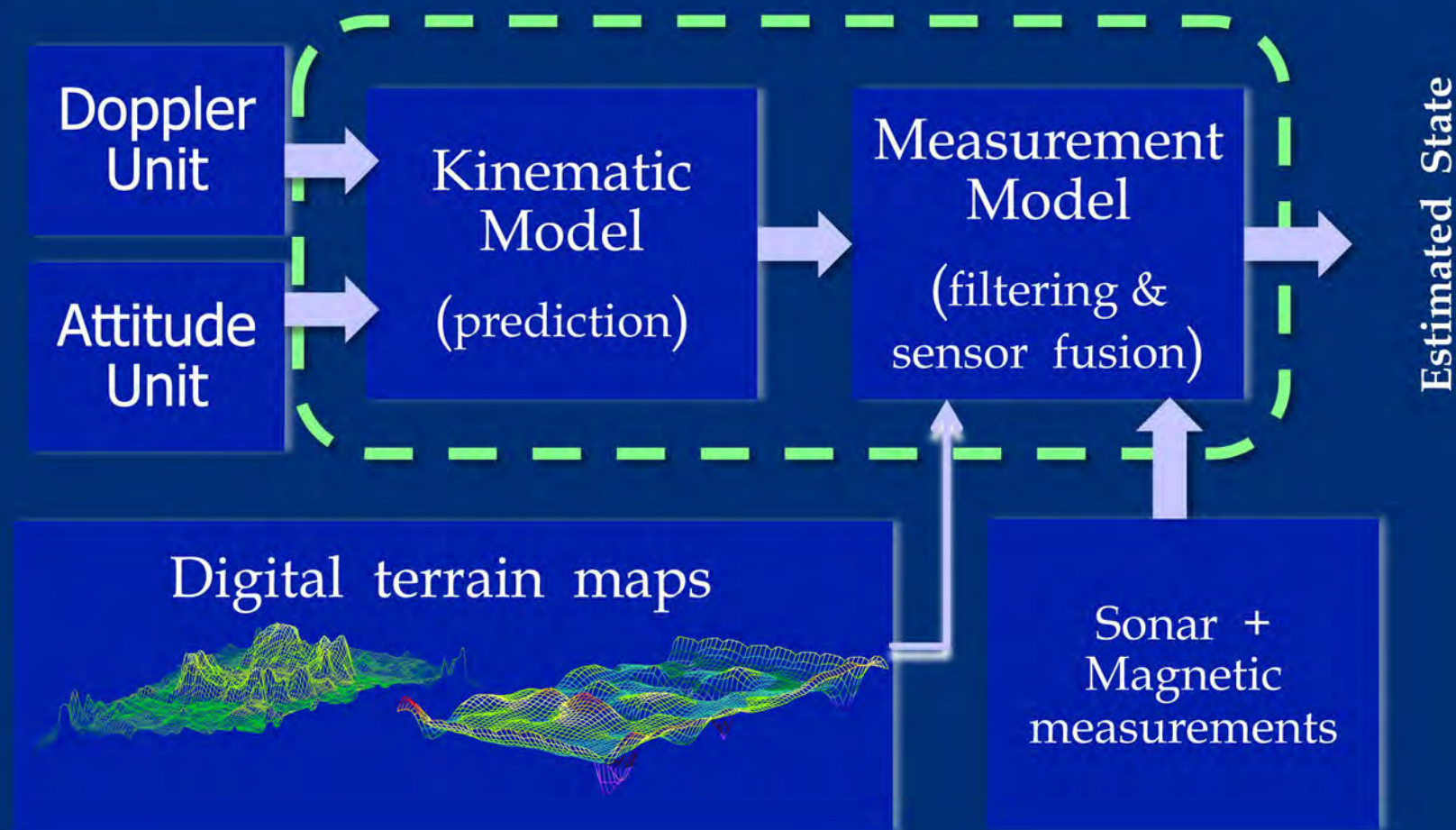
Magnetic Navigation (MN)

- **“Proof of concept”**
 - Used by animals for long-range navigation

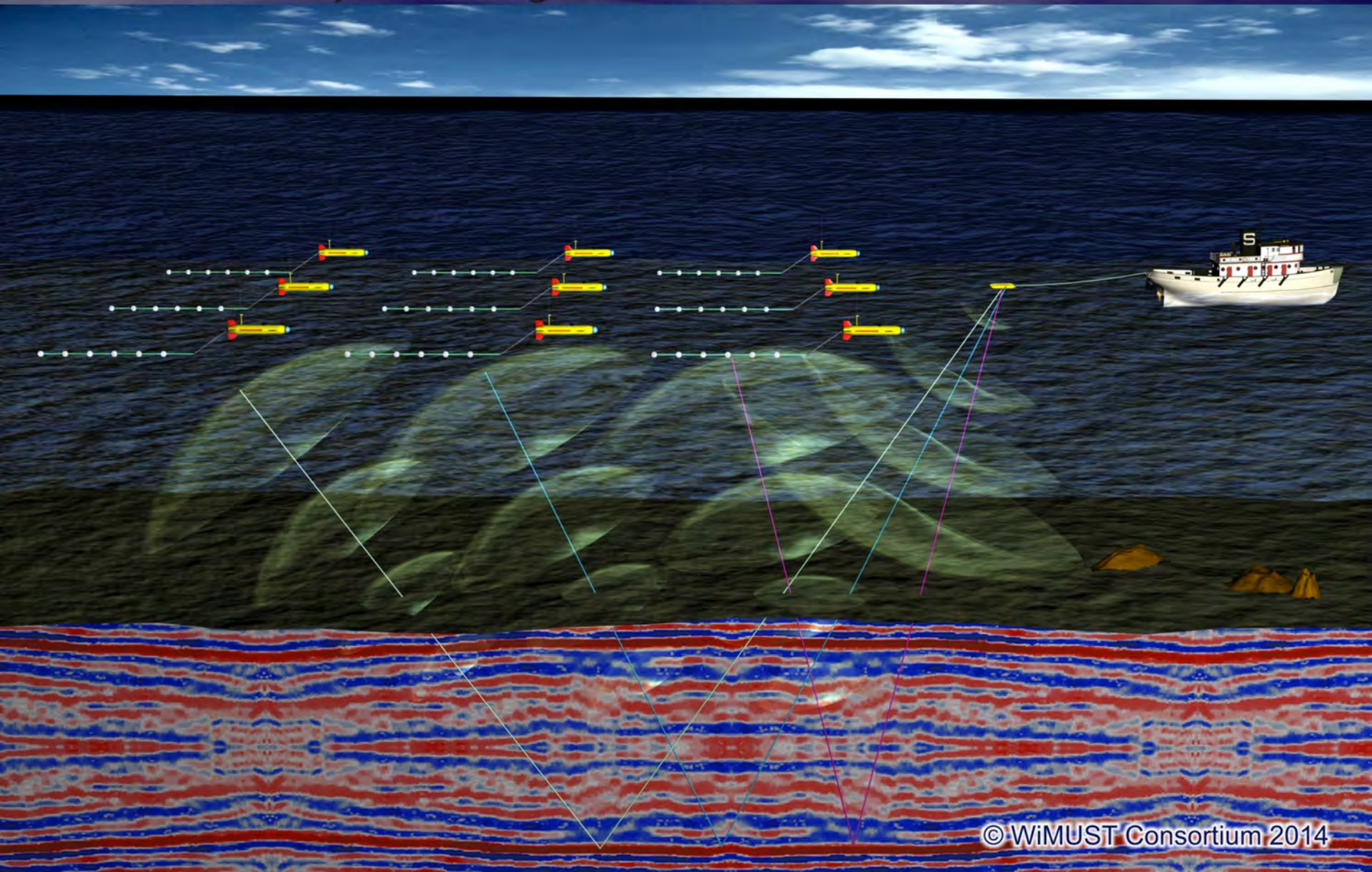


Magnetic Navigation (MN)

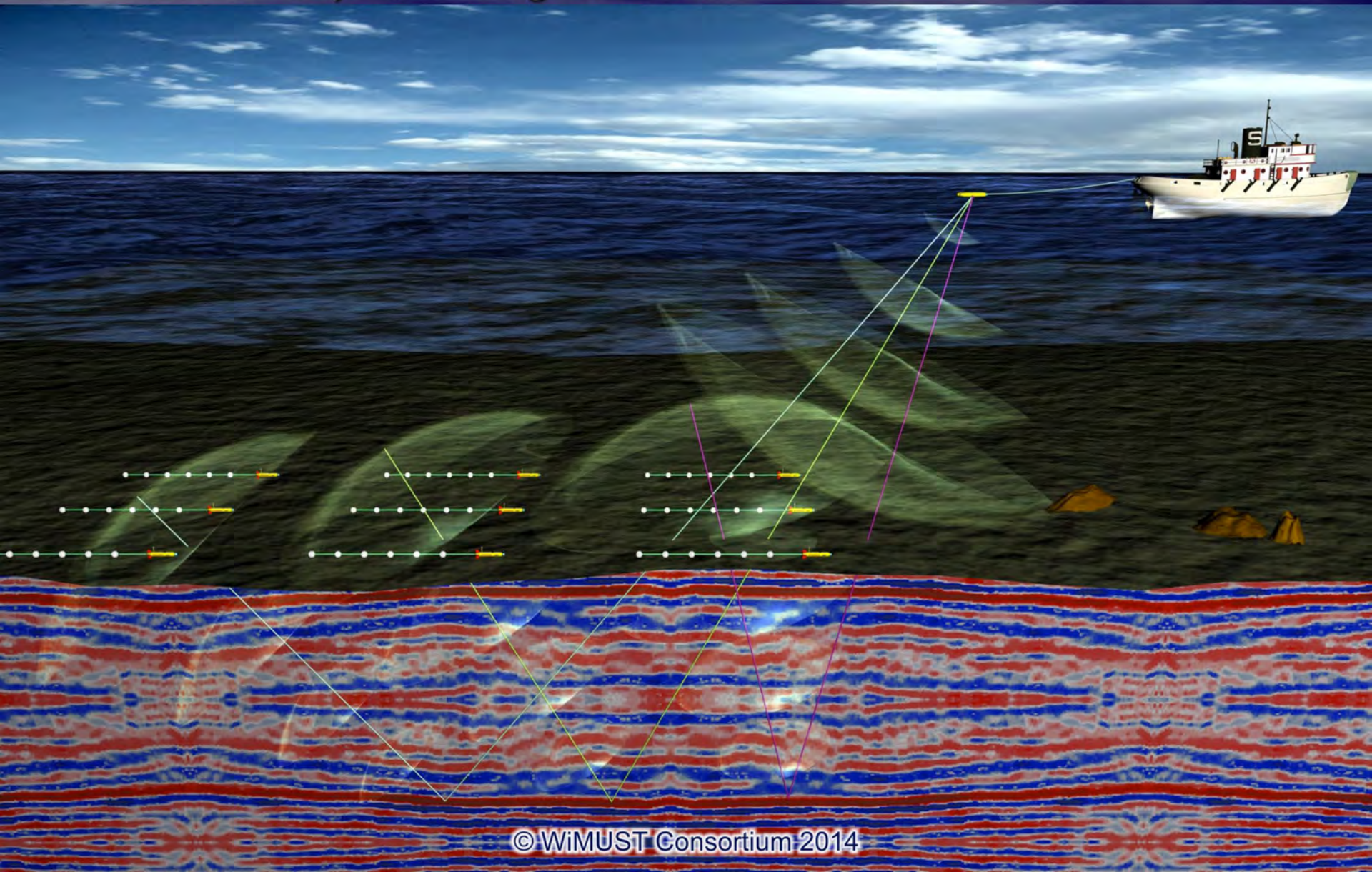
Integrating bathymetry and geomagnetics



A Vision of the Future (cooperative vehicles for geophysical exploration) EC WiMUST Project, starting Feb. 2015

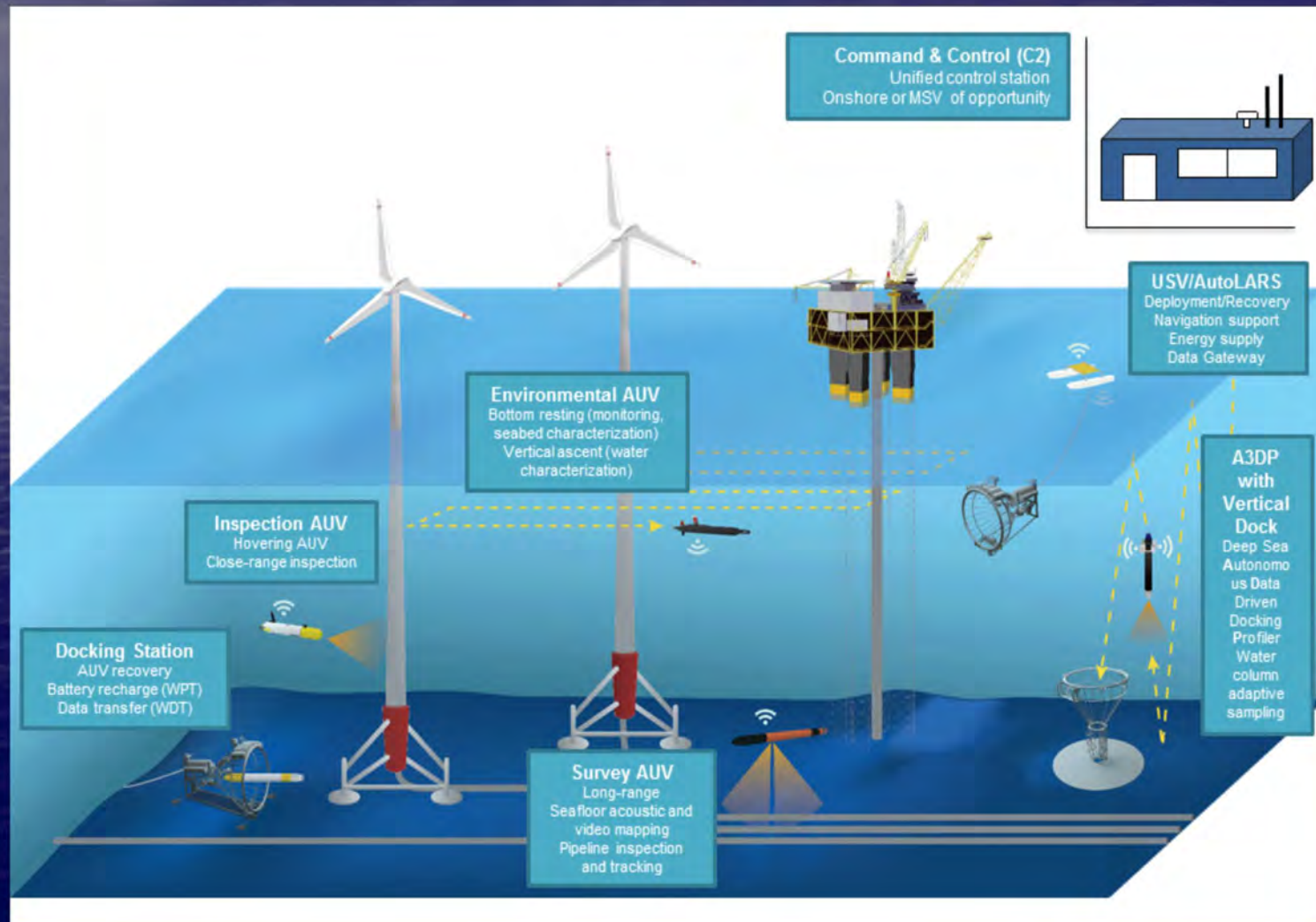


A Vision of the Future
(cooperative vehicles for geophysical exploration)
EC WiMUST Project, starting Feb. 2015



A vision of the future

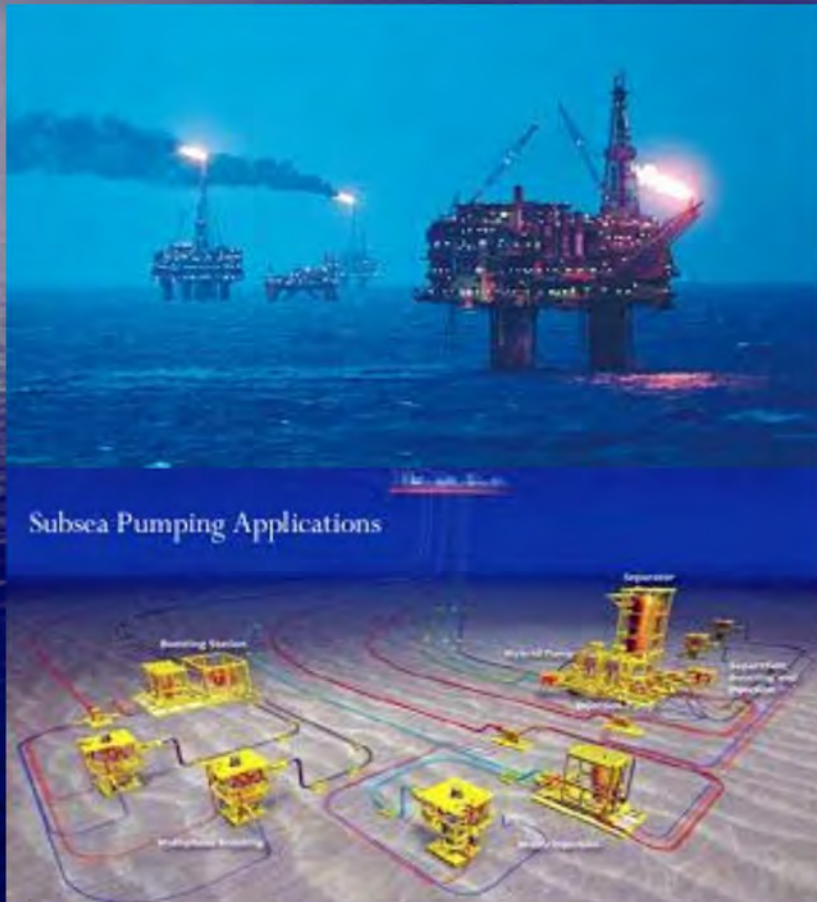
Sustained presence in the Ocean (an European collaborative effort – Horizon 2020 proposal, 2014)



*The future: Robots and humans in the loop &
Cooperative robots for ocean resources E&E
(e.g, oil exploration and deep sea mining)*



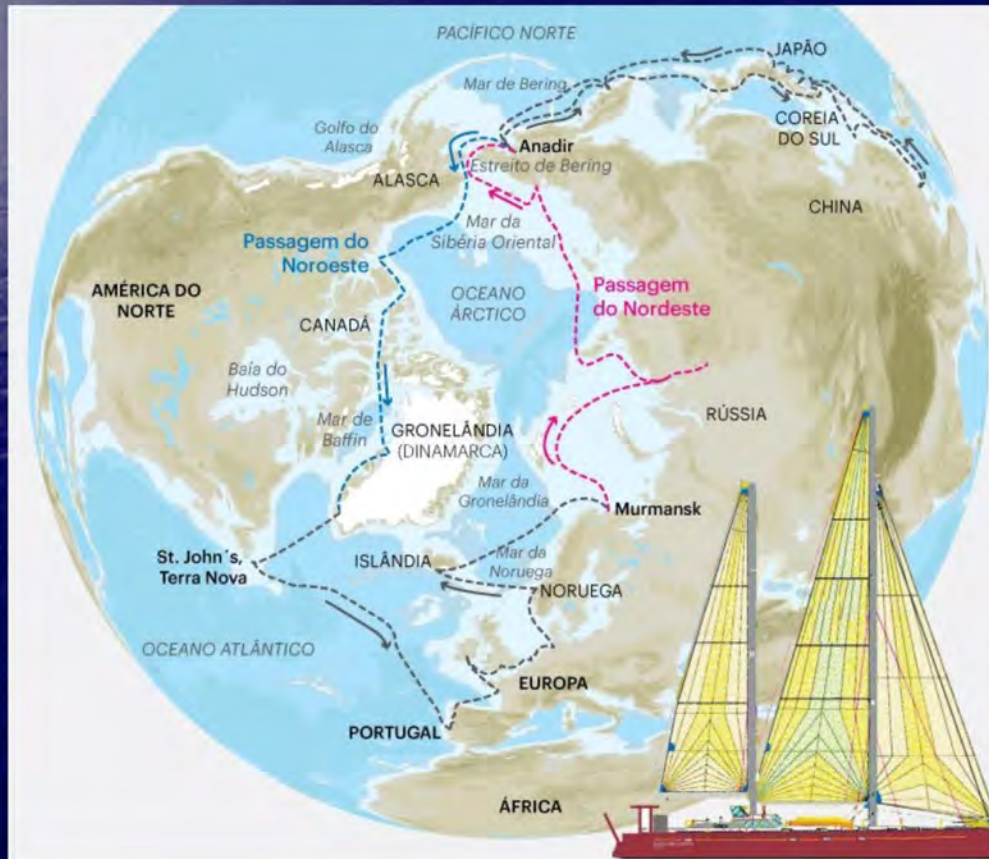
The future: Robots and humans in the loop & Cooperative robots for ocean resources E&E (e.g, oil exploration and deep sea mining)



A vision of the future

THE SAILING RESEARCH VESSEL DAVID MELGUEIRO

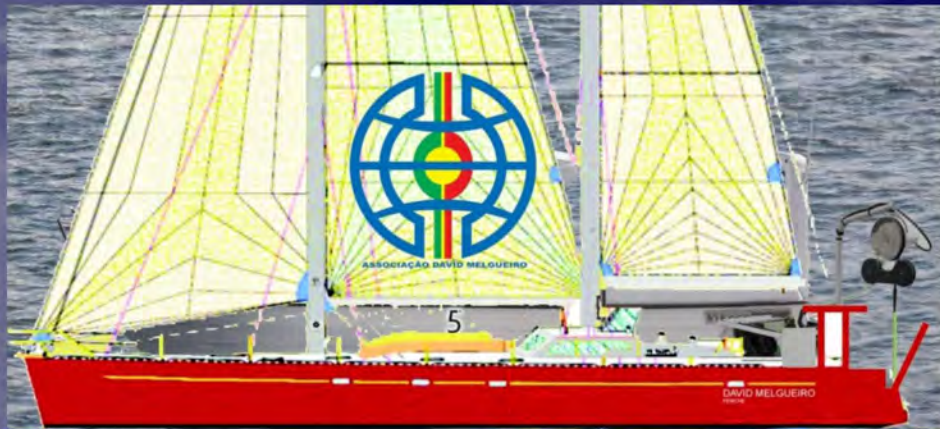
An innovative research vessel capable of navigating in the **polar regions** for research in fields such as: Oceanography, Climate Change, Permafrost, Biology, Archeology.



The “MARBOREALIS” expedition from PORTUGAL to MACAU through the iced seas of the Arctic.

Will replicate the journey of the Portuguese navigator David Melgueiro (XVII century) performing a polar circumnavigation crossing the Northeast and the Northwest Passages.

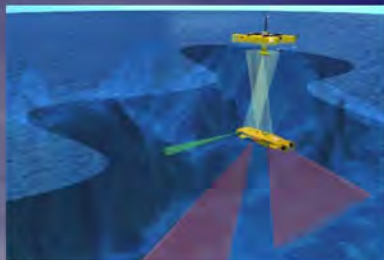
A vision of the future



DAVID MELGUEIRO & Robotics?

Marine robots as extensions of a research vessel.

- Stable platform
- Dynamic Positioning System
- ROV, AUV and ASV operations in automatic cooperation.
- The vessel will also execute an automatic missions in cooperation with the robots when required.



Strong cooperation links

NATIONAL (Portugal)

- Instituto do Mar/ Departamento de Oceanografia e Pescas da Universidade dos Açores (IMAR/DOP/UAç)
- Estrutura de Missão para a Extensão da plataforma Continental (EMEPC)
- Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto (FEUP)
- Universidade de Aveiro
- Associação David Melgueiro
- Universidade do Algarve
- CEiiA



DSOR Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/dsor.lab.isr.ist>

DSOR Lab Projects: <http://welcome.isr.ist.utl.pt/labs/dsor/project>

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dynamical systems and
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