

# Marine Systems & Robotics

## Cooperative Marine Robotic Systems: Theory and Practice – Part 2

Prof. Dr. Antonio Pascoal

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<http://impact.uni-bremen.de/>



JACOBS  
UNIVERSITY



National  
Technical  
University of  
Athens



University of  
Zagreb



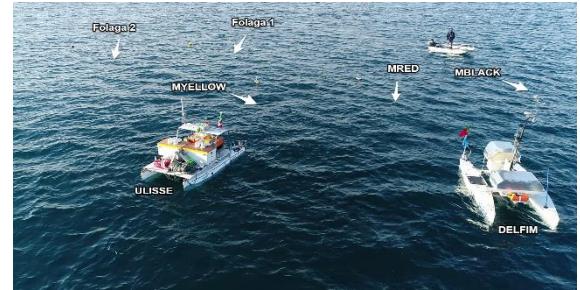
# The WiMUST Coop. NC Architecture

## Objectives

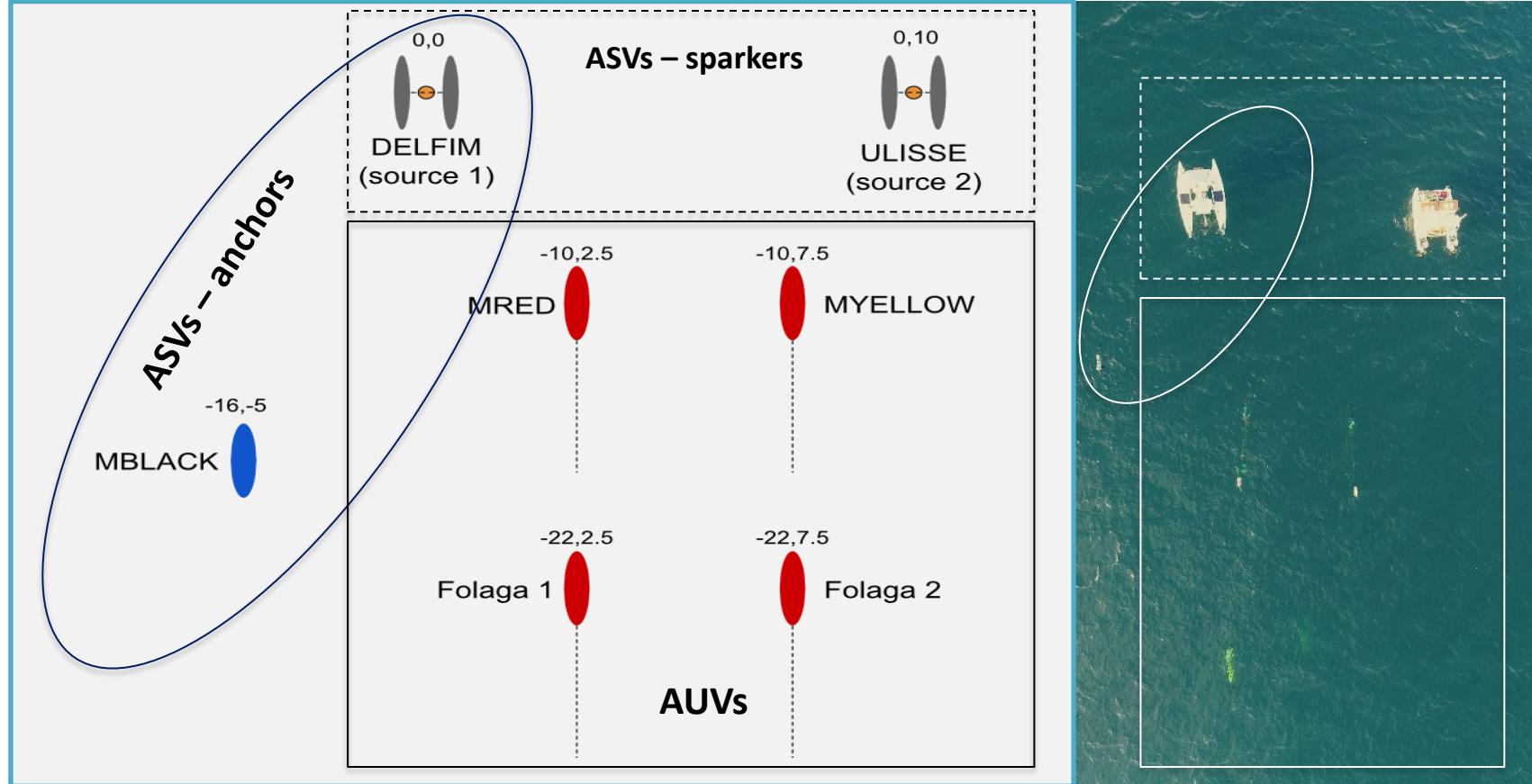
*Design and performance analysis of the systems required to afford the WiMUST fleet the capability to execute cooperative missions for seismic data acquisition.*

## Tasks

- Cooperative Navigation
- Cooperative Motion Control
- Cooperative Motion Planning

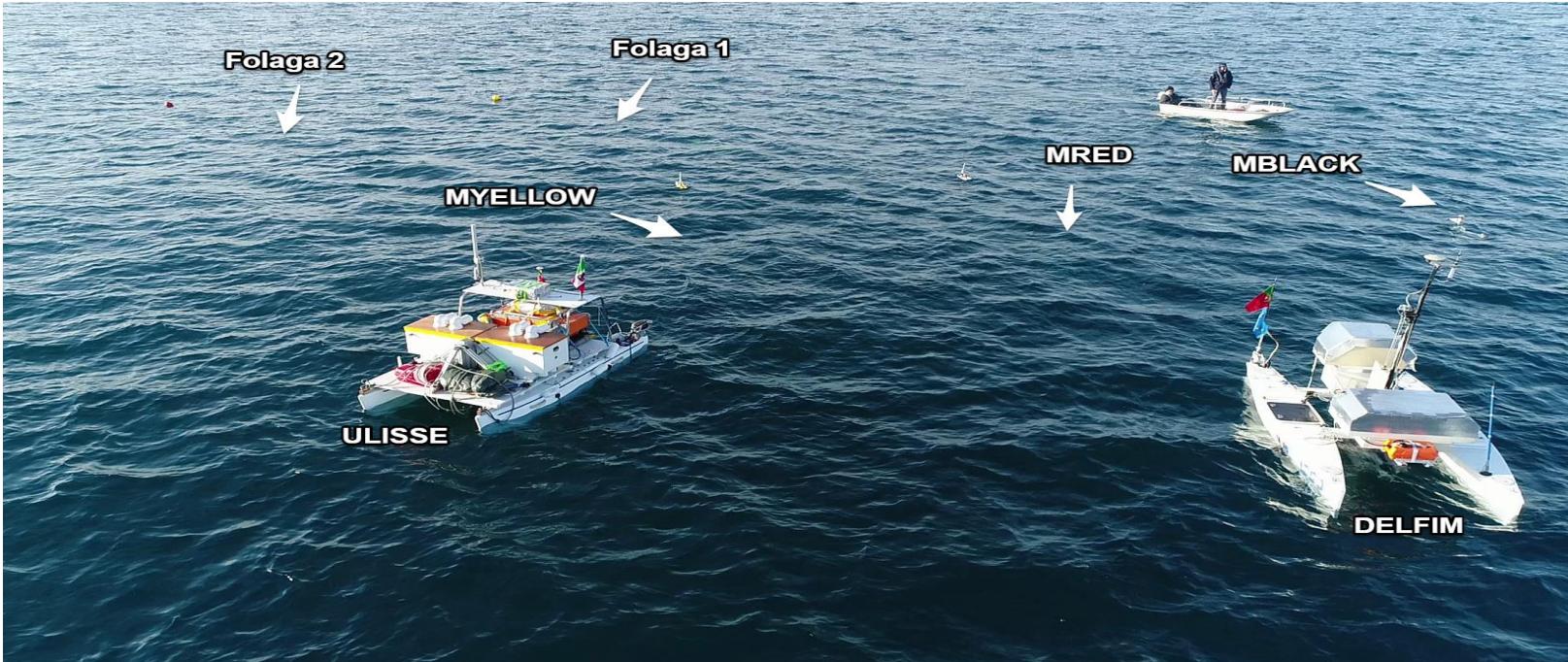


# Multiple Vehicle Formation Control



**Key practical objective: multiple vehicle formation for automated seismic surveys**

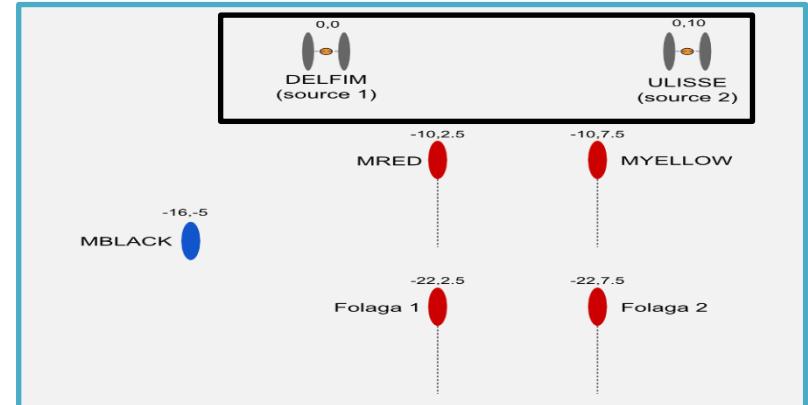
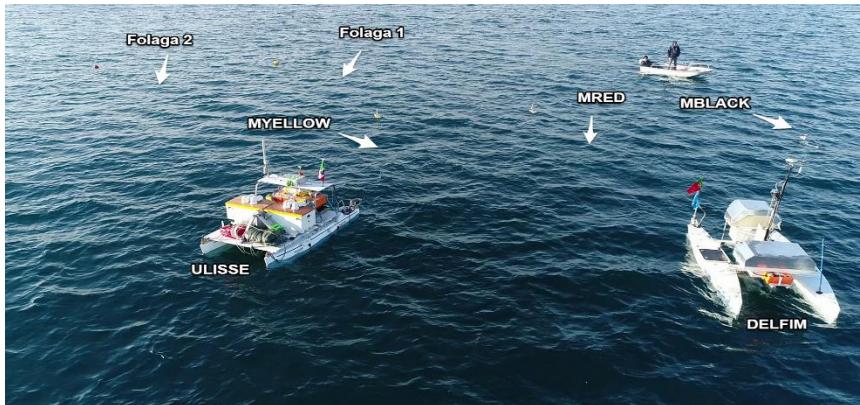
# Basic Building Blocks



## Basic building blocks

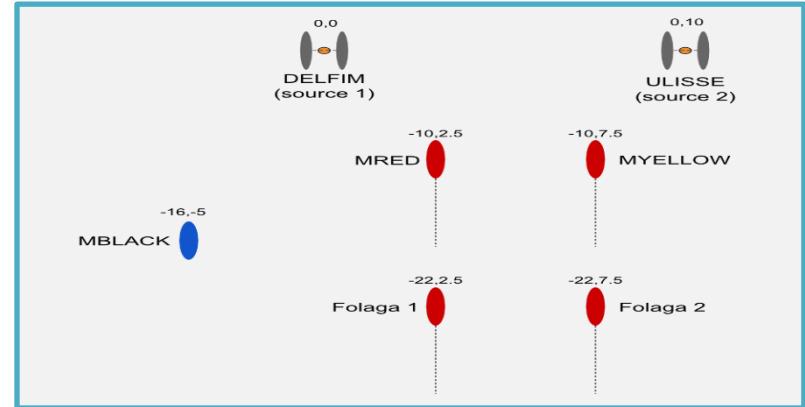
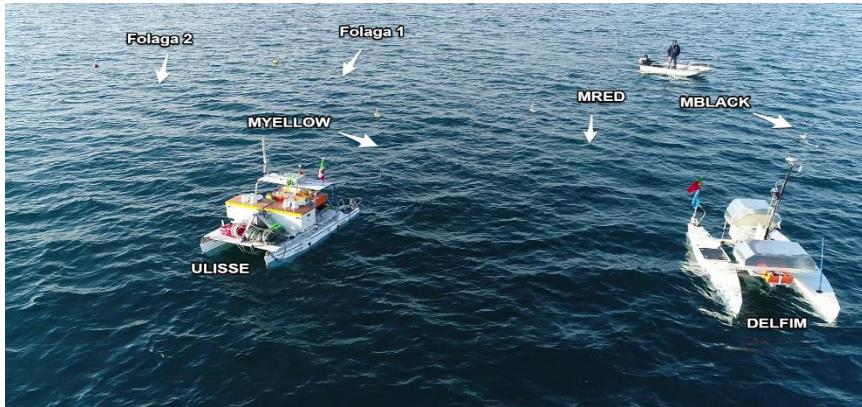
- 2 Acoustic sources: Delfim and Ulisse ASVs
- 2 Anchors and Distributed acoustic receiver array: Delfim and Medusa Black ASVs, Folaga 1 and Folaga 2 + Medusa Red and Medusa Yellow AUVs

# Enabling Multiple Vehicle Primitives



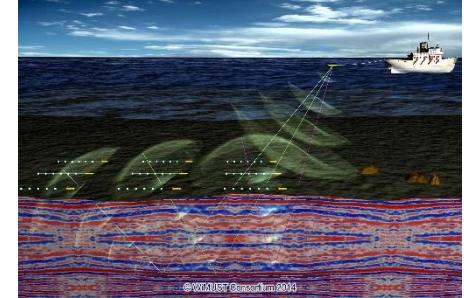
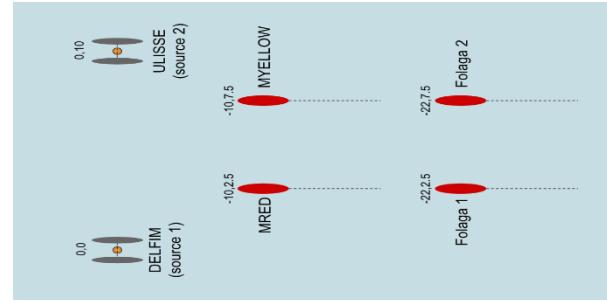
- DEFIM and ULISSSE “set the pace” for the group of ASVs and follow pre-specified paths alongside, executing a **Cooperative Path Following (CPF)** maneuver.
- **Delfim is the reference vehicle:** it transmits its successive positions to the AUVs and to the Medusa Black ASV.

# Enabling Multiple Vehicle Primitives



- The AUVs and Medusa Black track spatially “shifted replicas” of the DELFIM trajectory by executing a **Coordinate Trajectory Tracking (CTT)** maneuver.

# Cooperative Navigation



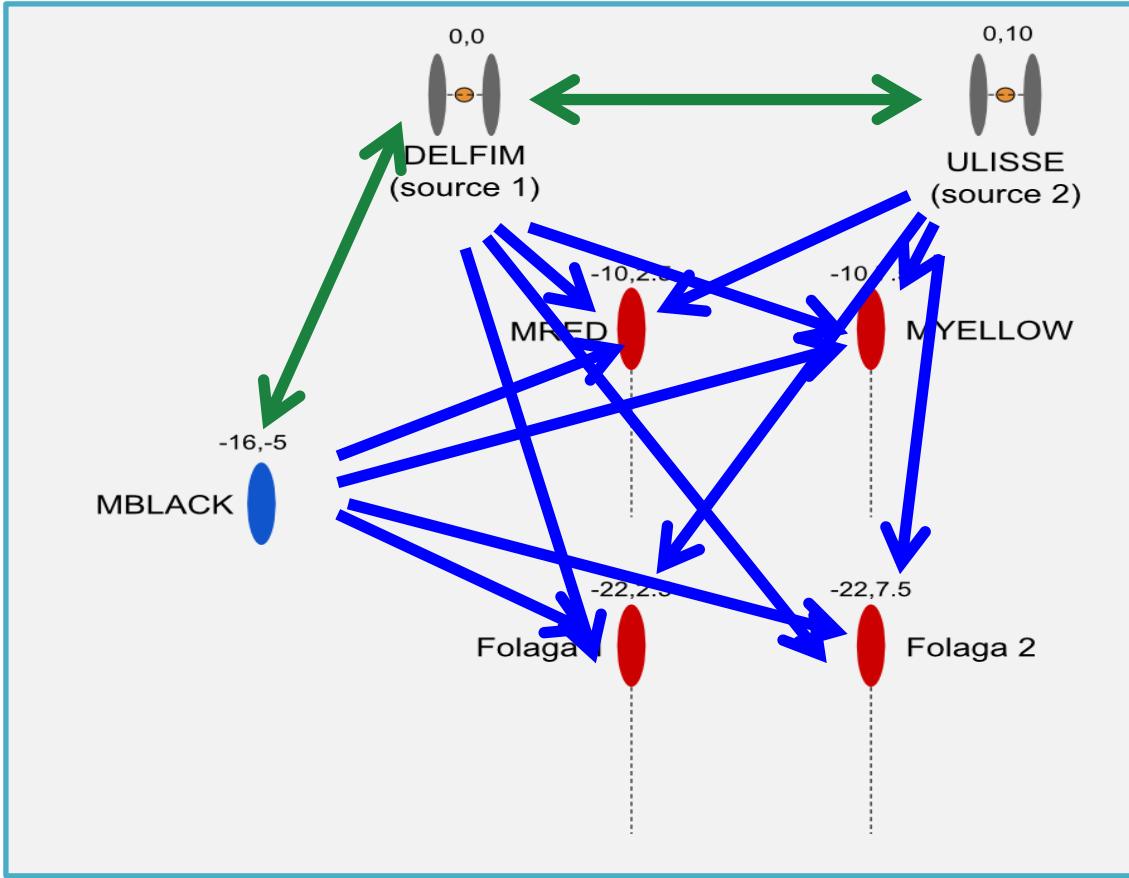
## Objective

Geo-reference the vehicle fleet and the streamer hydrophones  
*Where are the vehicles? Where are the hydrophones?*

## Practical constraints

- Rely strongly on acoustic inter-vehicle ranging devices and internal motion sensors
- Avoid expensive inertial-like navigation units

# Communications and Positioning Network



Acoustic Comms and  
Range measurements

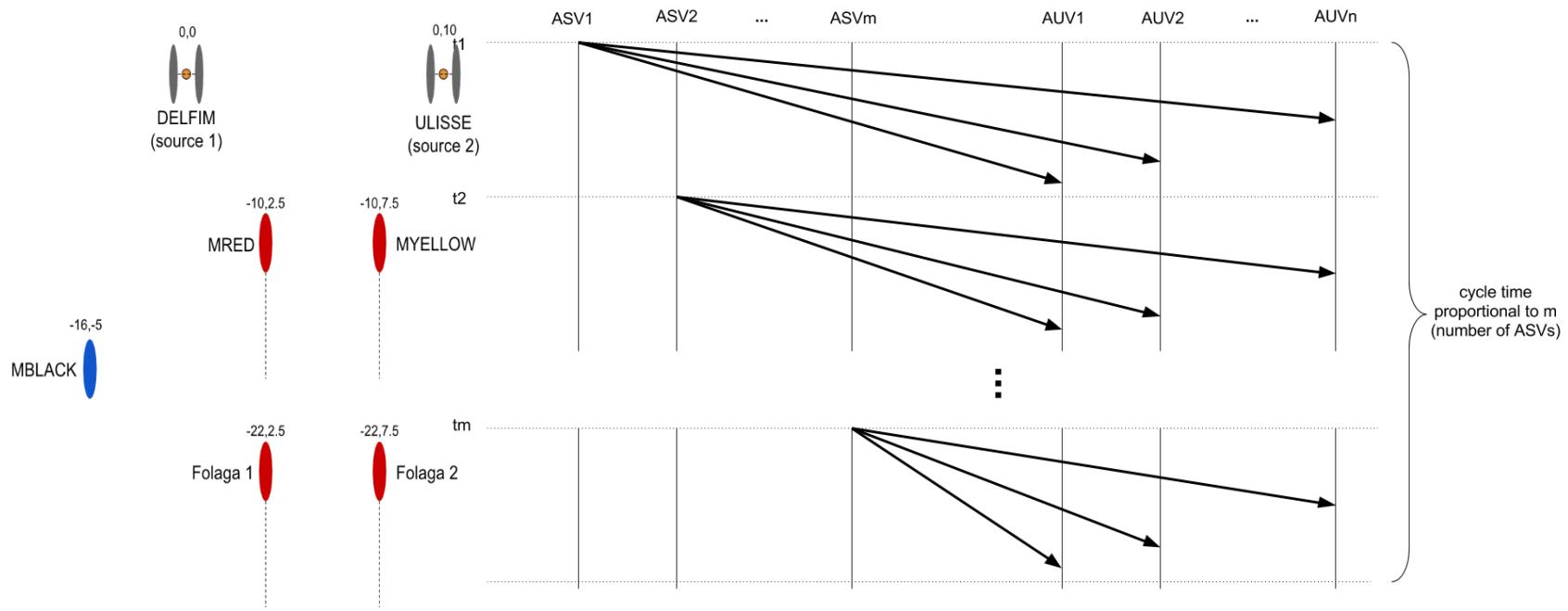


Aerial Comms

**Units with synchronized atomic clock: hardware of  
EvoLogics (GER)**

# Cooperative Navigation

## Vehicle positioning: Acoustic Navigation Architecture

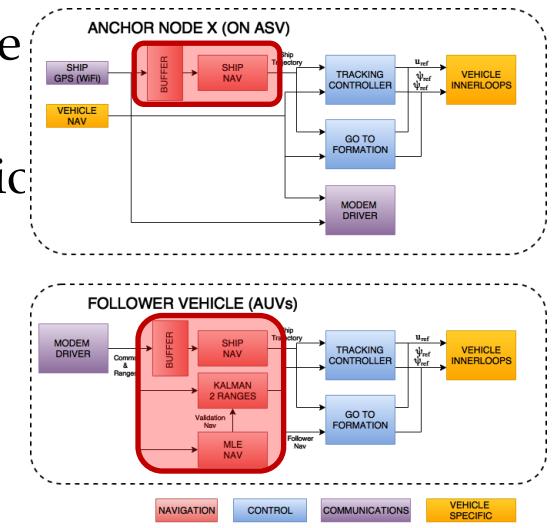
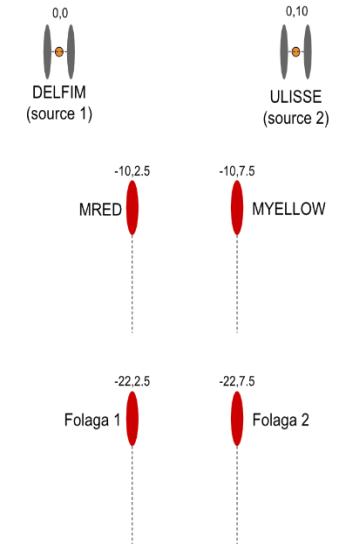


*Anchors: agents capable of transmitting their global position via acoustic modems. Their placement should be favorable for localization purposes.*

# Cooperative Navigation

## Vehicle positioning: Acoustic Navigation Architecture

- Each AUV obtains **ranges to the anchors and their global positions**
- **Scalable navigation:**
  - Acoustic cycle depends only on the number of anchors
  - For navigation, a minimum of two anchors are required
  - Navigation performance increases with the number of anchors
- Less dependence on high-end inertial navigation units
- Extendable to **large numbers of AUVs**

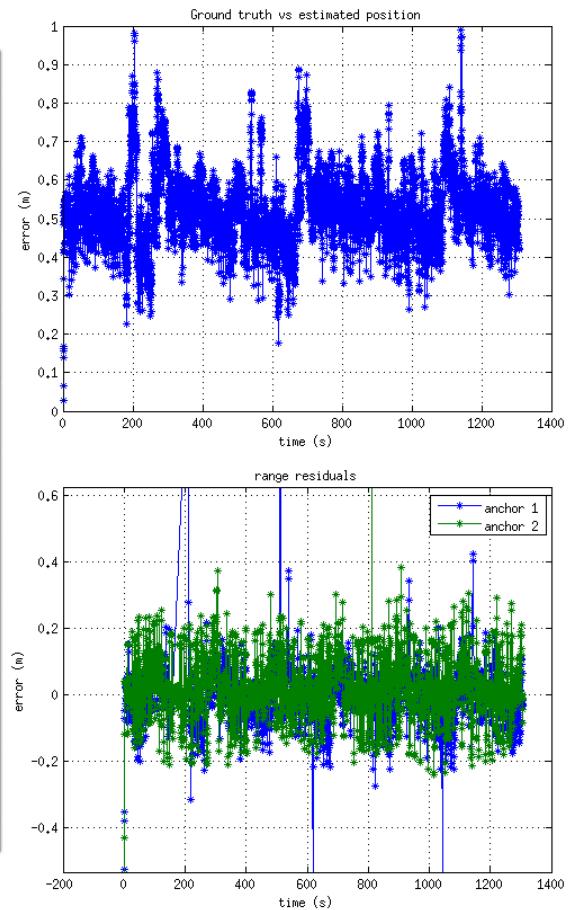
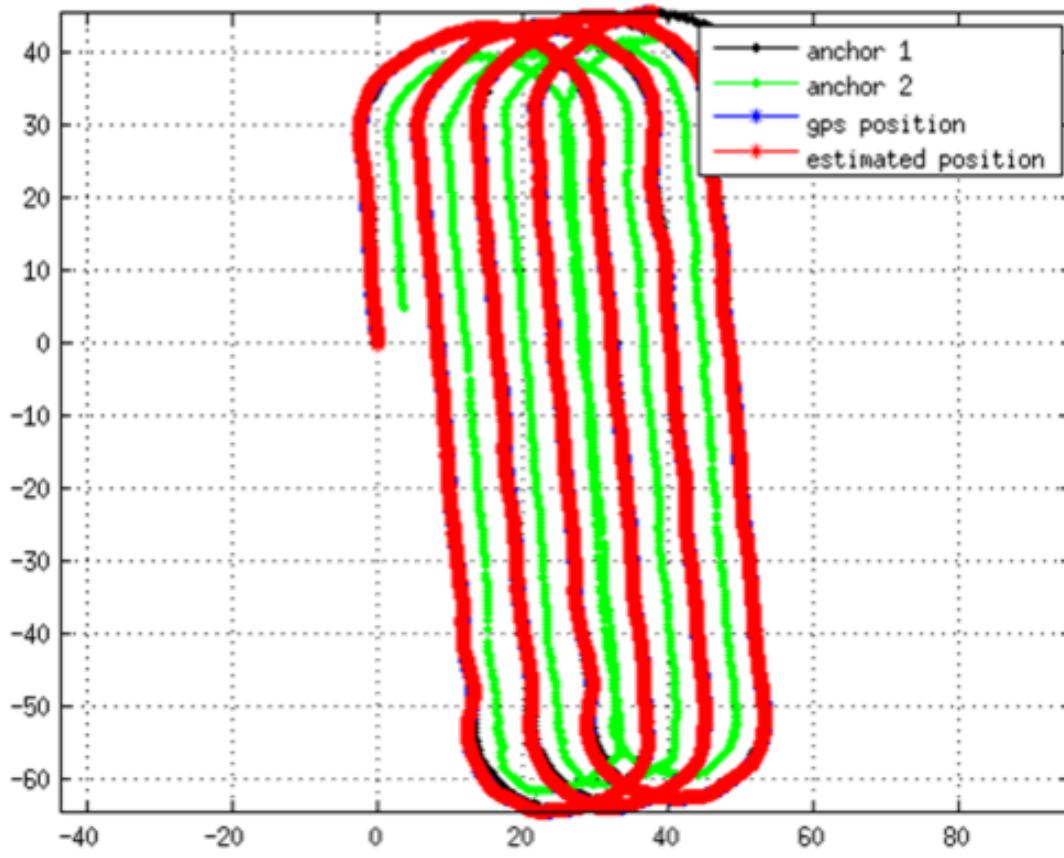


**Theoretical Set-up:**  
**Maximum Likelihood Estimation**

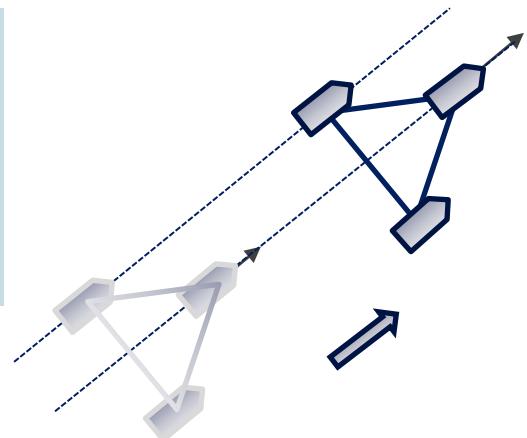
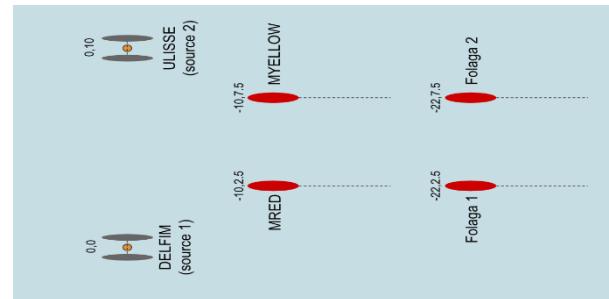
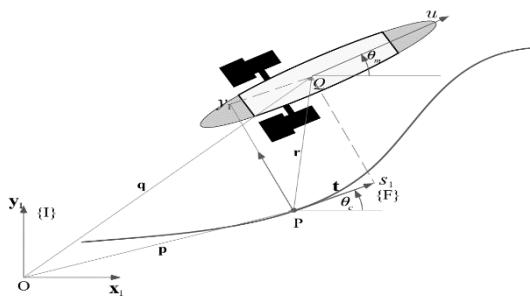
# Cooperative Navigation

## Extended Kalman filter for multiple anchor nodes

### Sines Port Trials (2016/11/24) - Results



# Cooperative Motion Control



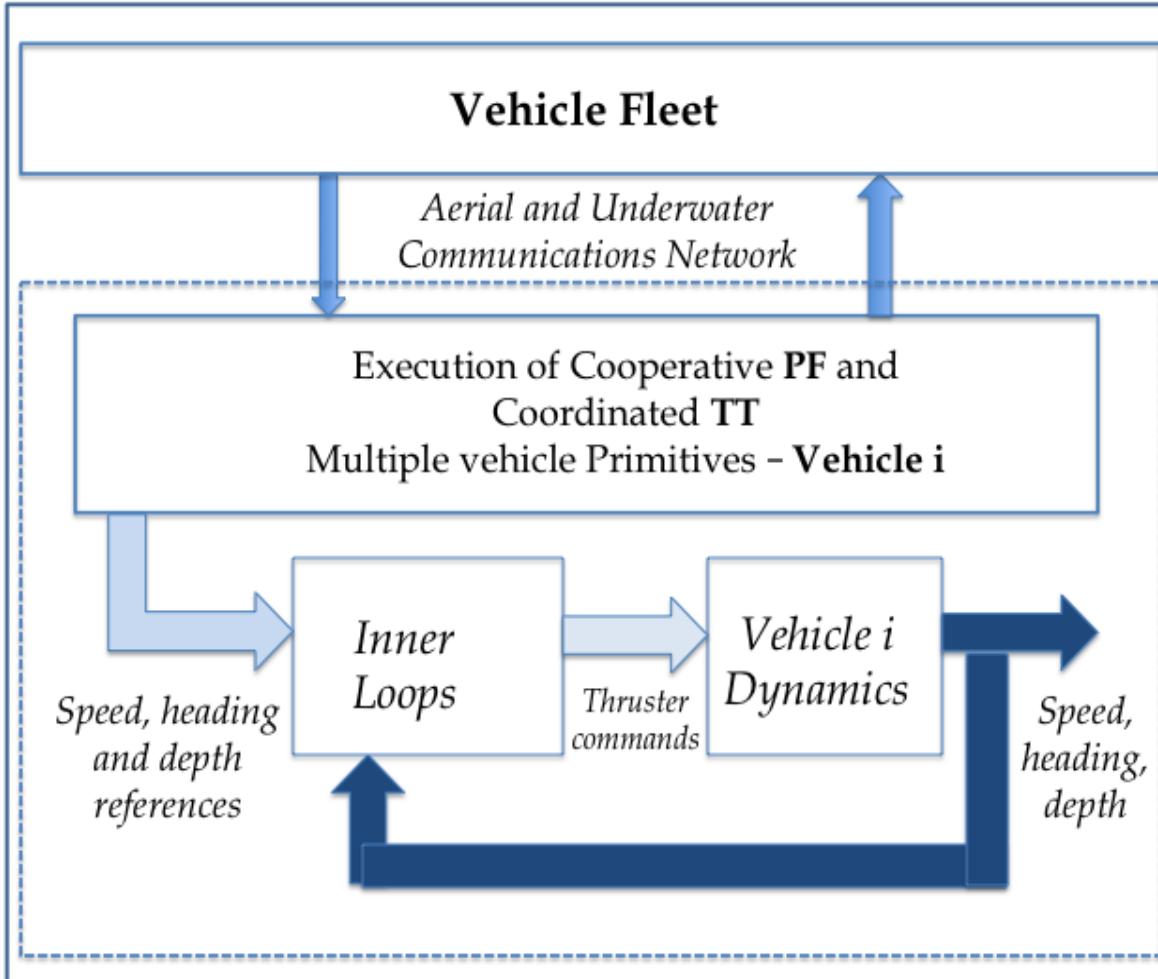
## Objective

Lead the fleet to a desired geometric formation and change the geometry according to external commands

## Practical constraints

- Heterogeneous vehicle fleet
- No fast communications among the underwater fleet

# Cooperative Motion Control

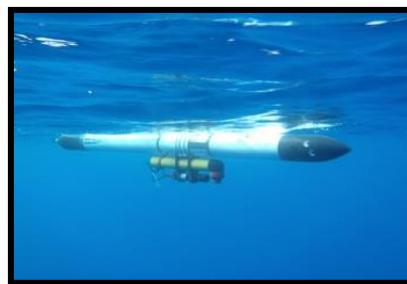


Multiple  
Vehicle  
Primitives

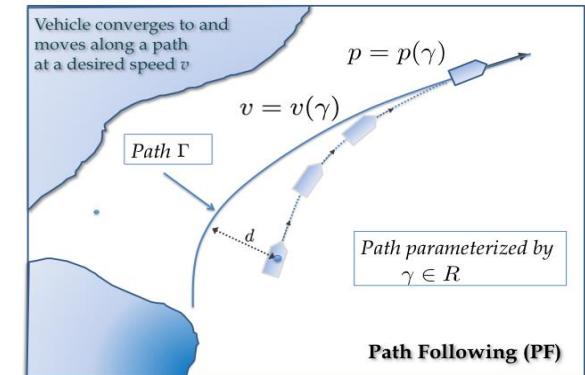
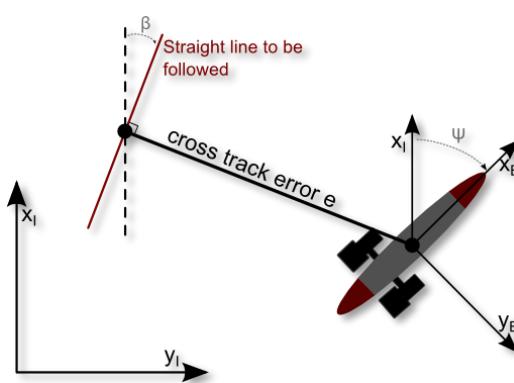
Single  
Vehicle  
Primitives

# Single Vehicle Primitives

- **Inner-loop controllers:** track surge speed, heading and depth references
- **Waypoint:** go to point with specified coordinates, then hold position
- **Path Following:** converge to and follow a spatial path at a given speed profile
- **Trajectory tracking:** track a desired spatial curve parameterized by time

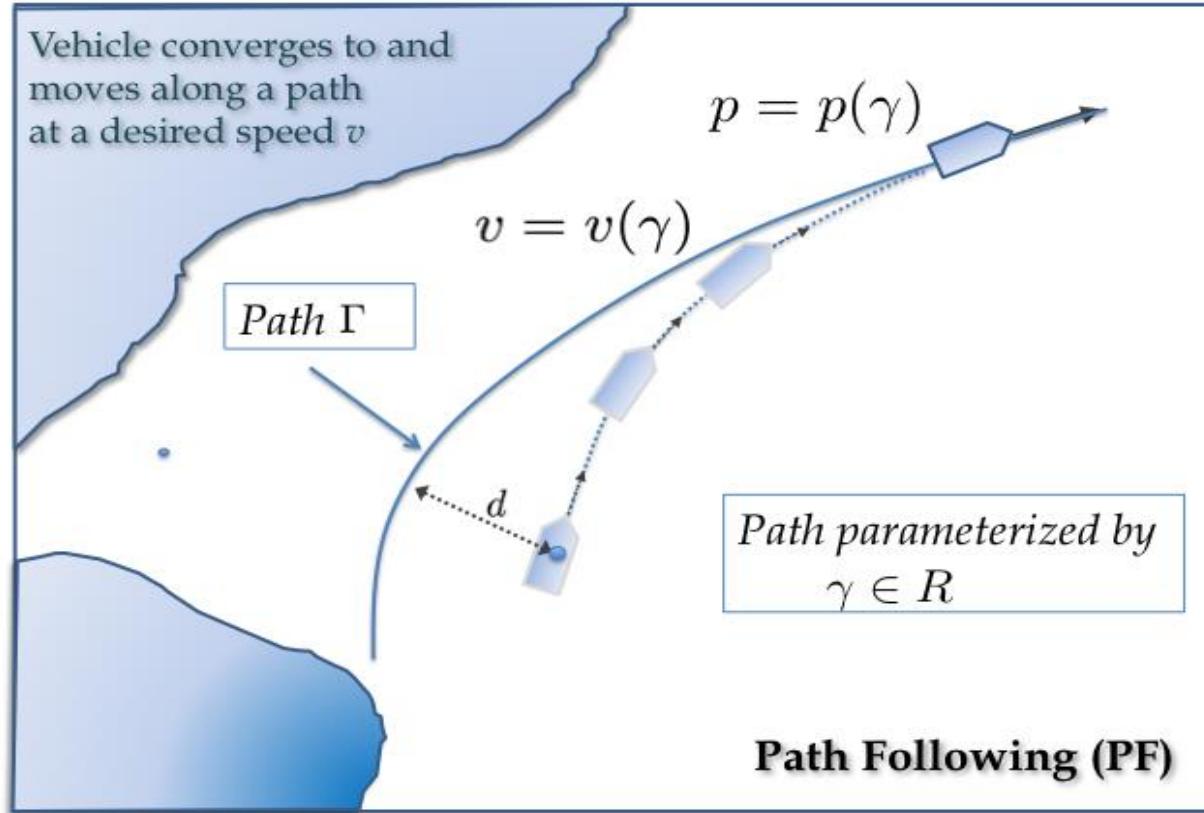


# Path Following



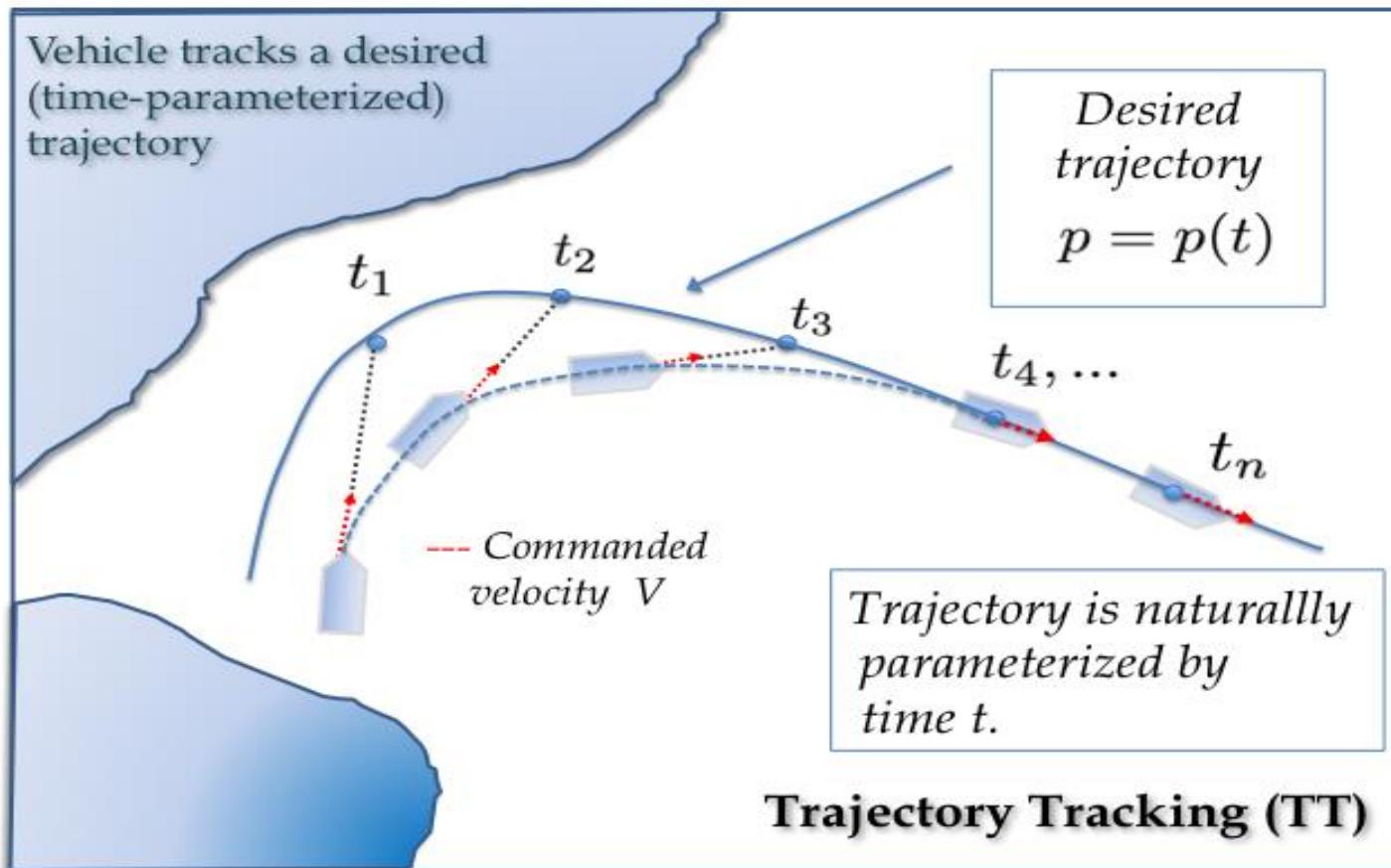
- Vehicle follows a path at a speed that may be path dependent (no explicit timing law)
- **Control strategy**
  - set longitudinal speed to prescribed value
  - set heading command to the direction of the path + correction for cross-track error

# Path Following



Vehicle moves along a path at a desired speed. Path following algorithm issues speed and heading commands to the vehicle's inner loops.

# Trajectory Tracking



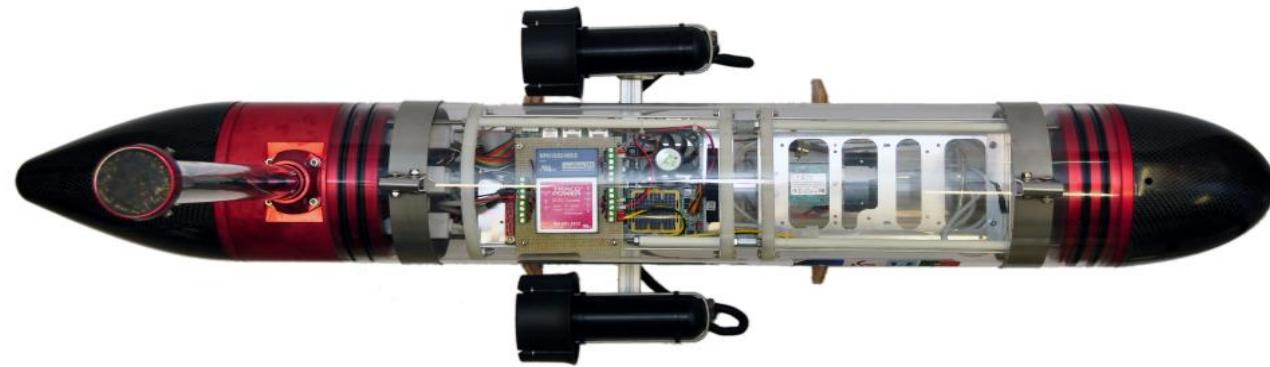
Vehicle tracks a desired trajectory

# Single Vehicle Primitives

The DELFIM AUV -  
Azores and Lisbon, PT



## The MEDUSA class of AMVs



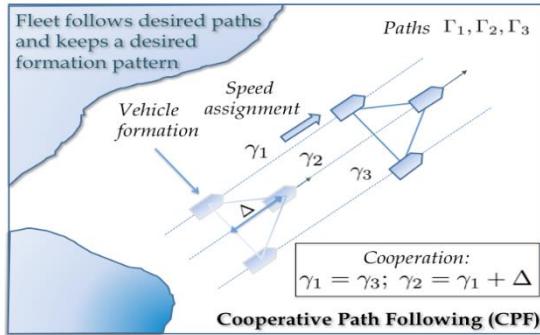
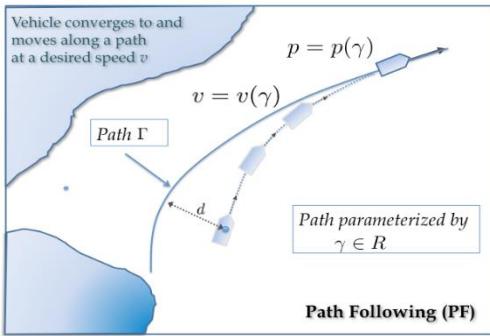
# The MEDUSA HYBRID ASV/AUV – LISBON, PT



# Path Following

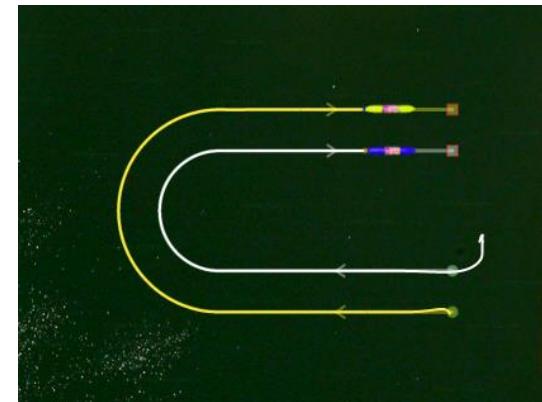
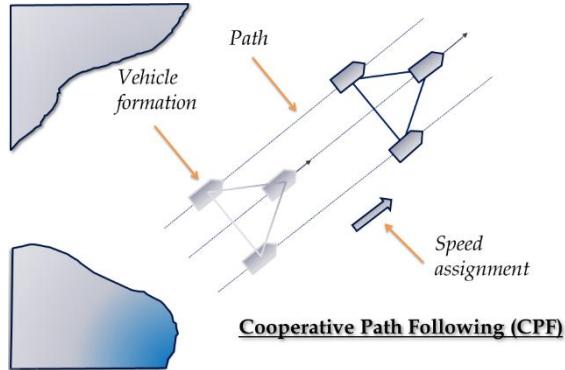


# Multiple Vehicle Primitives



- Cooperative Path Following
- Coordinated Trajectory Tracking
- Cooperative Formation Control

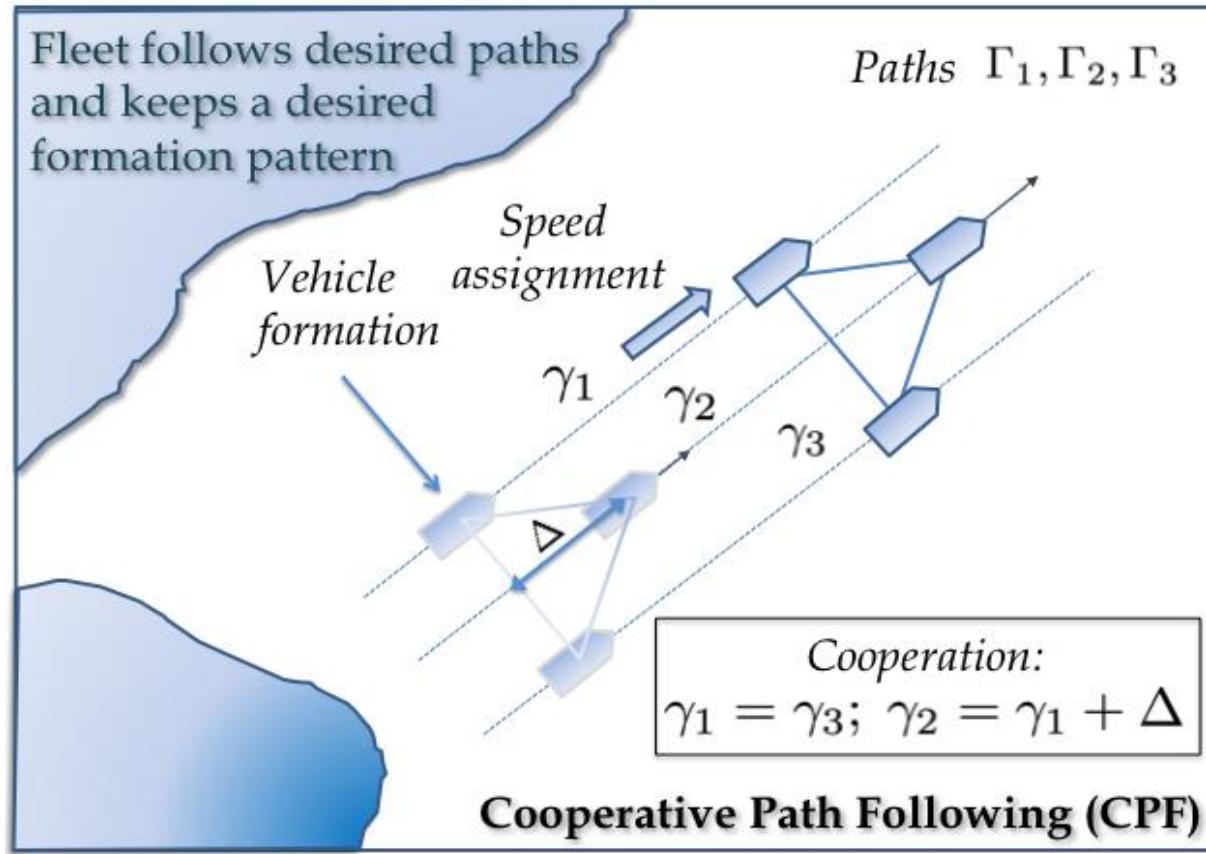
# Cooperative Path Following



- Multiple vehicles following different paths
- Define normalized along-path coordinate  $\gamma$  for each path/segment (i.e. starting point  $\gamma = 0$ , end point  $\gamma = 1$ )
- At each cycle, each vehicle:
  - Broadcasts its current  $\gamma$ , receives  $\gamma$ 's from other vehicles
  - Computes average of all  $\gamma$ 's received, denoted  $\gamma_{av}$
  - Adjust speed based on its  $\gamma_{error} = \gamma - \gamma_{av}$

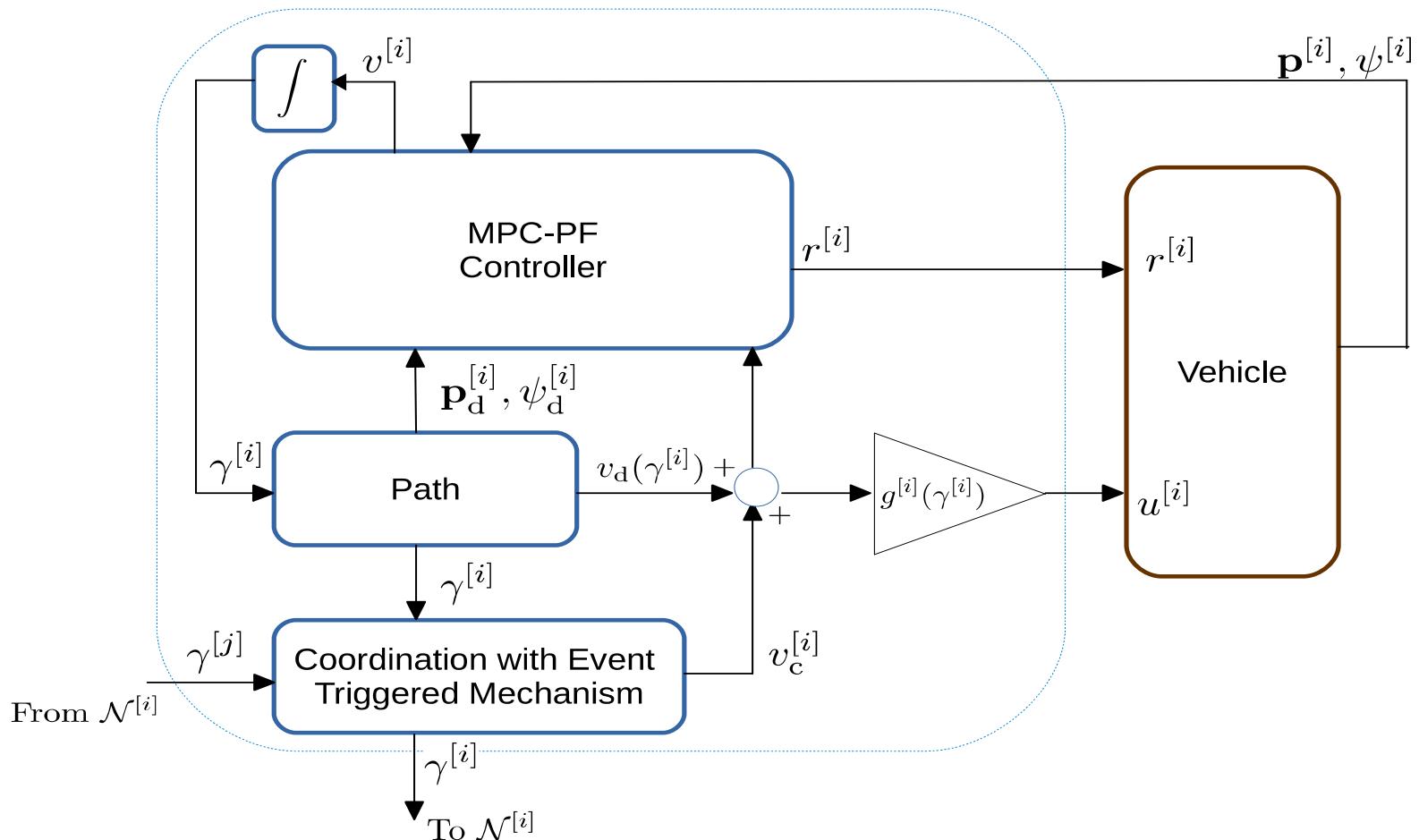
Vehicles reach consensus on path parameter  $\gamma$ !

# Cooperative Path Following



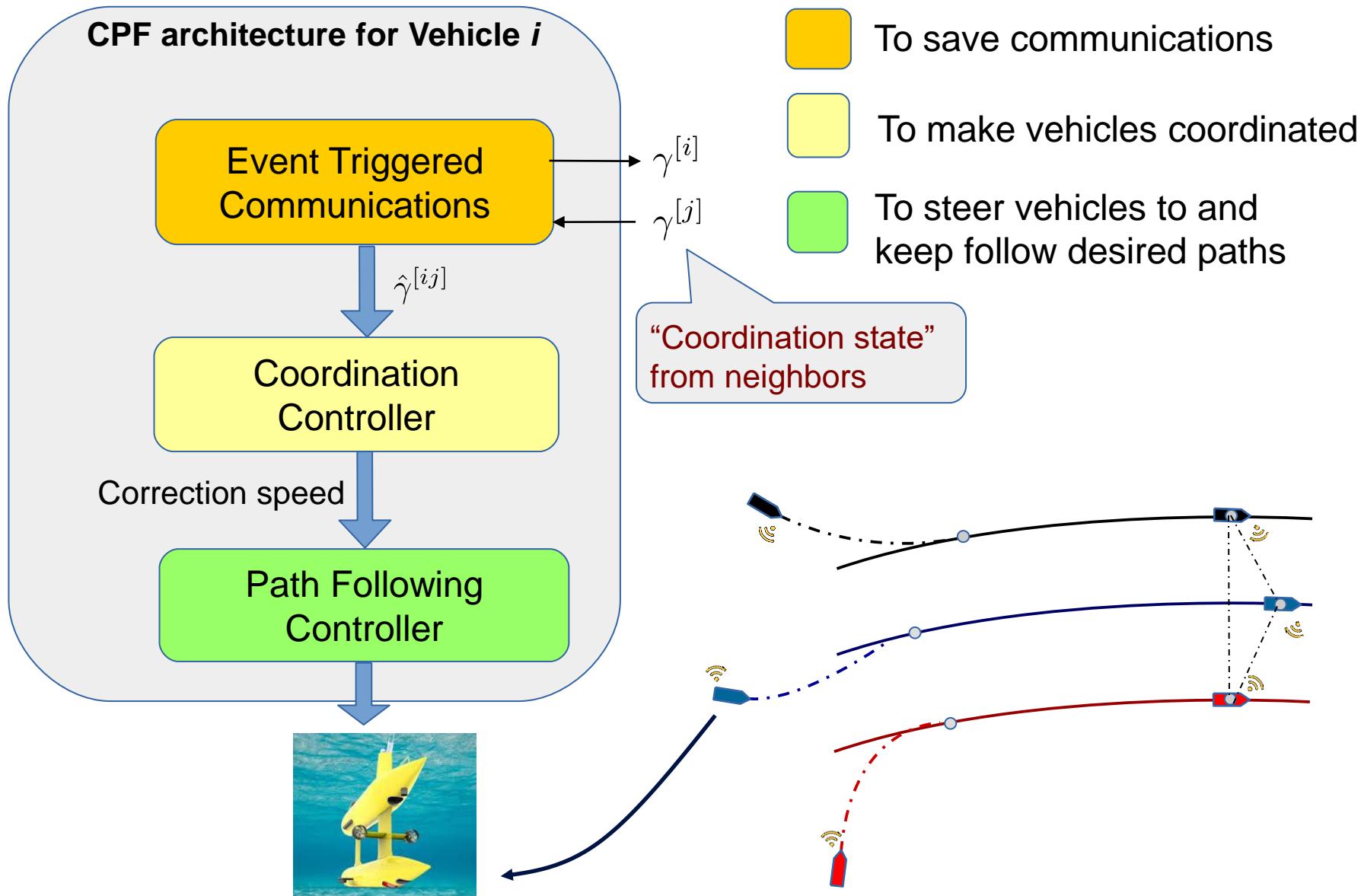
N vehicles converge to and follow N assigned at a common, desired normalized speed, while adopting a given geometric pattern

# Cooperative Path Following



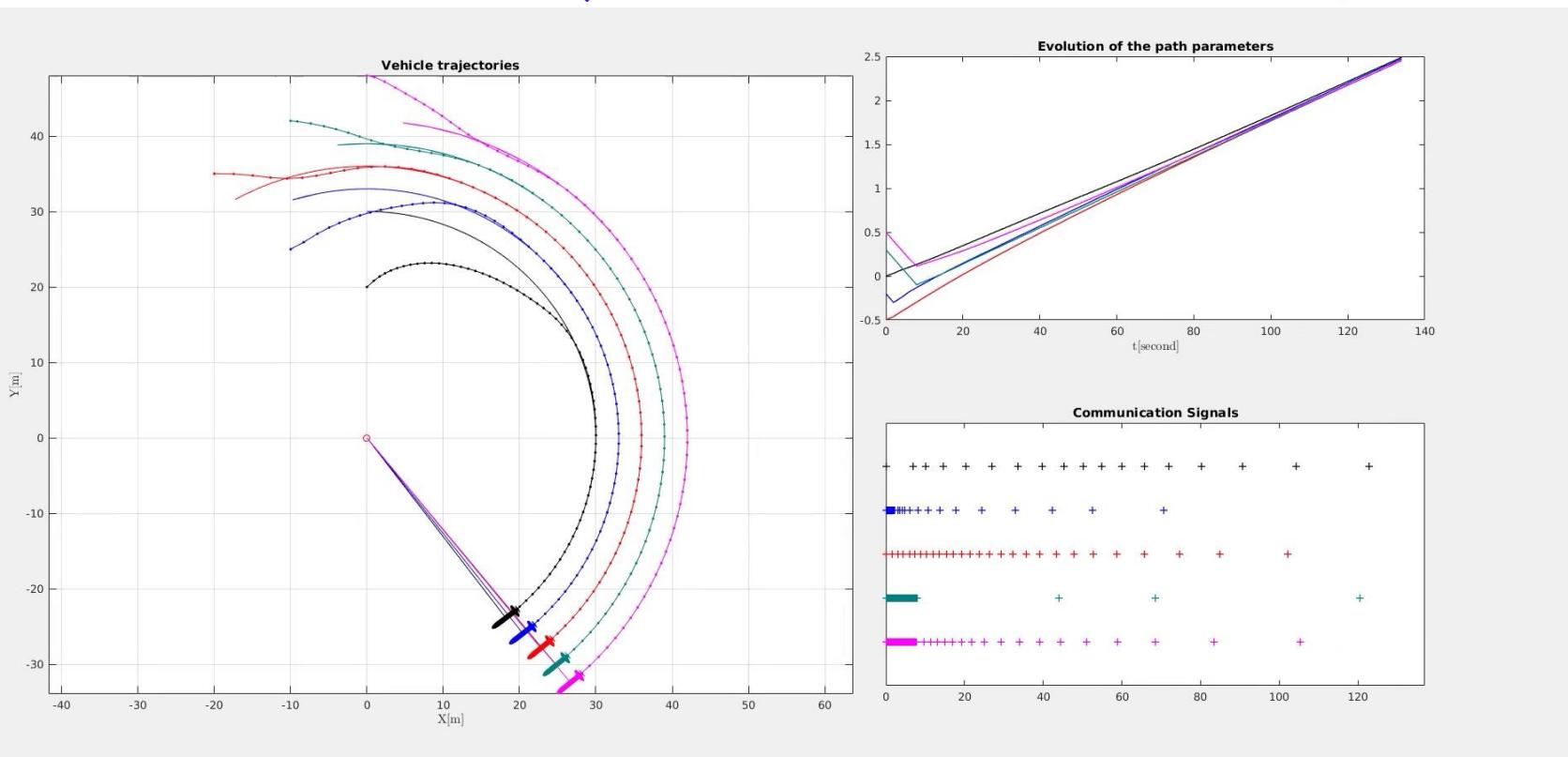
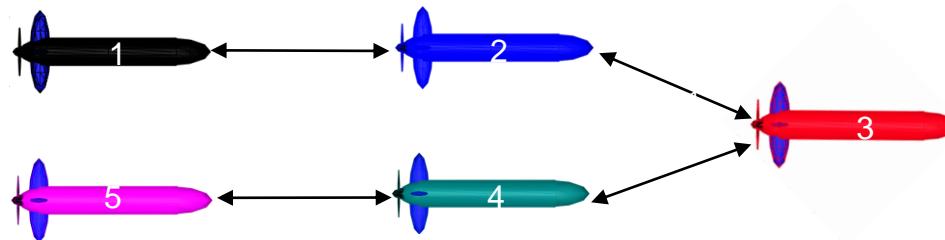
Rooted in: MPC-PF (Model Predictive Control), Cooperative Control, and Event-Triggered Communications (Hung and A. Pascoal, 2018)

# Cooperative Path Following

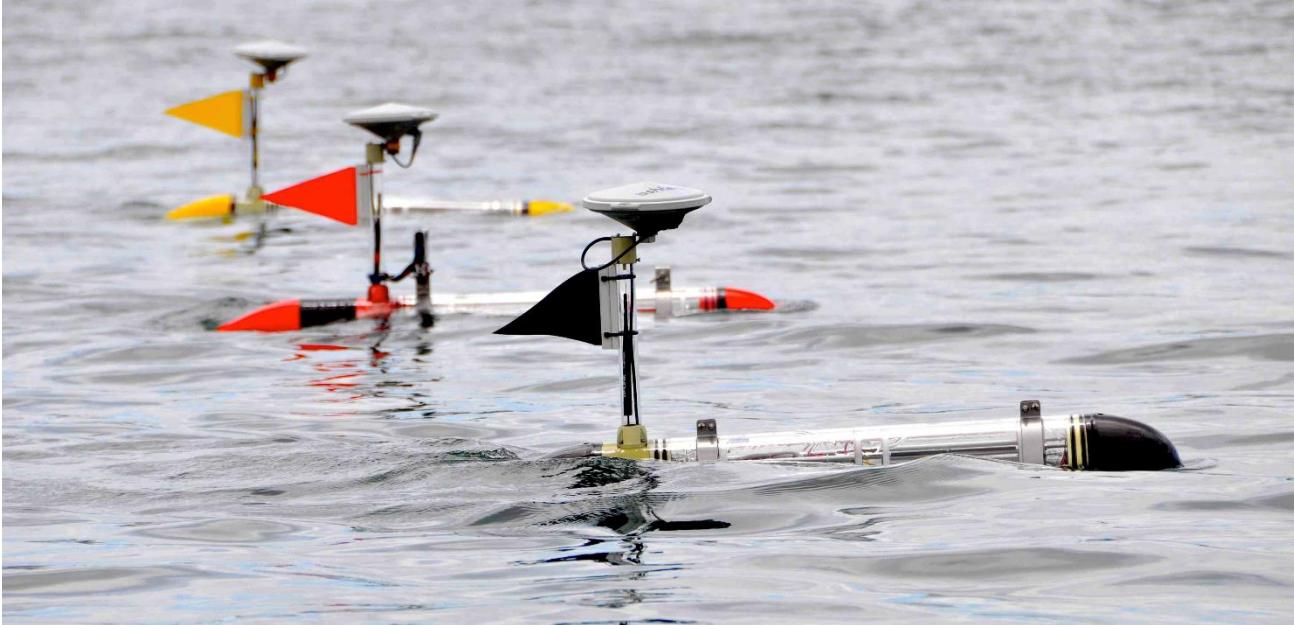


# Coperative Path Following

## Circular formation



# Key components: the MEDUSA ASVs



- . 3 autonomous vehicles (cooperative motion control capability)
- . Acoustic network (Tritech micromodems)



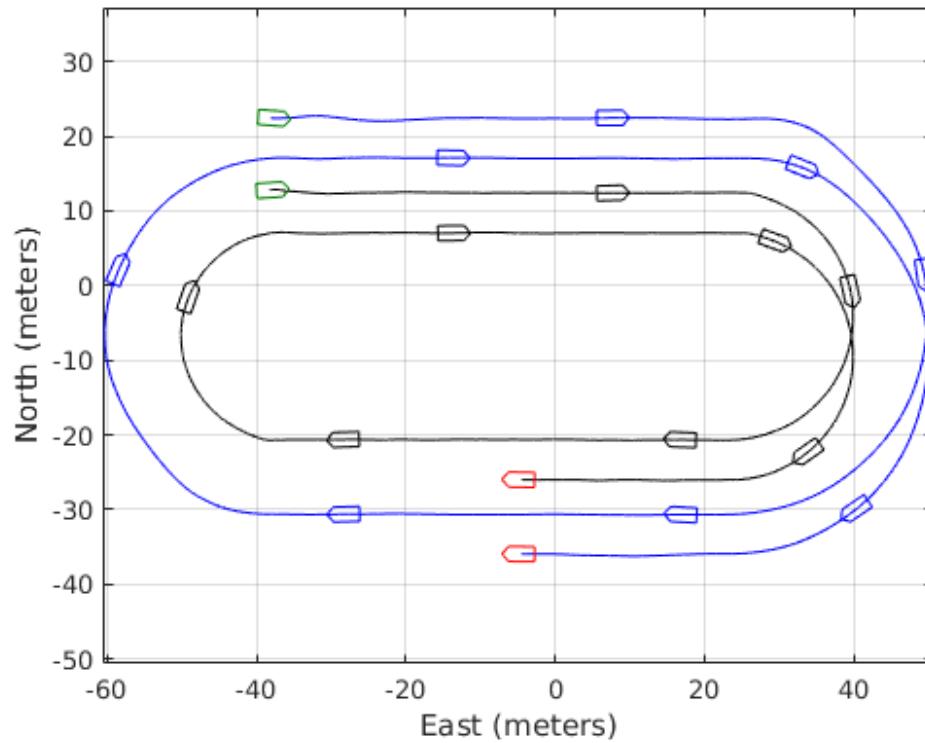


Cooperative Cognitive Control for  
Autonomous Underwater Vehicles

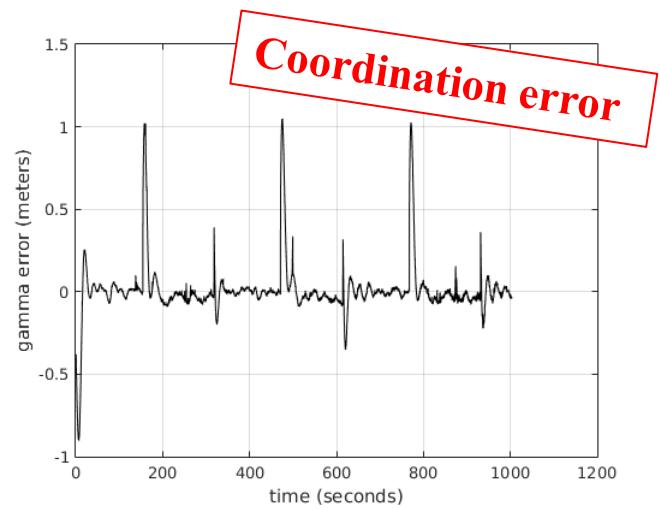
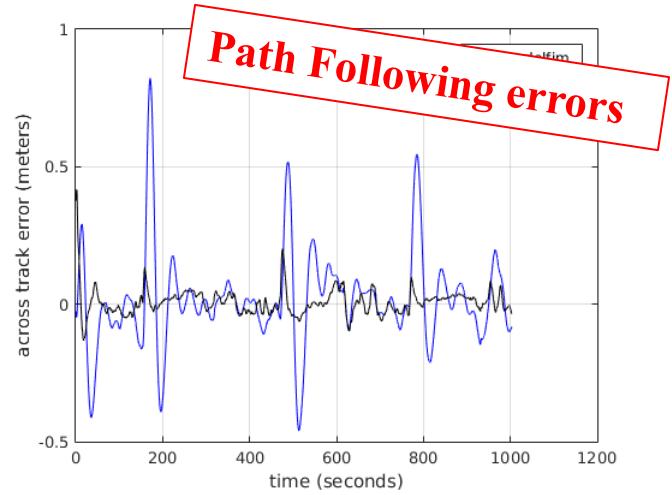
[www.Co3-AUVs.eu](http://www.Co3-AUVs.eu)



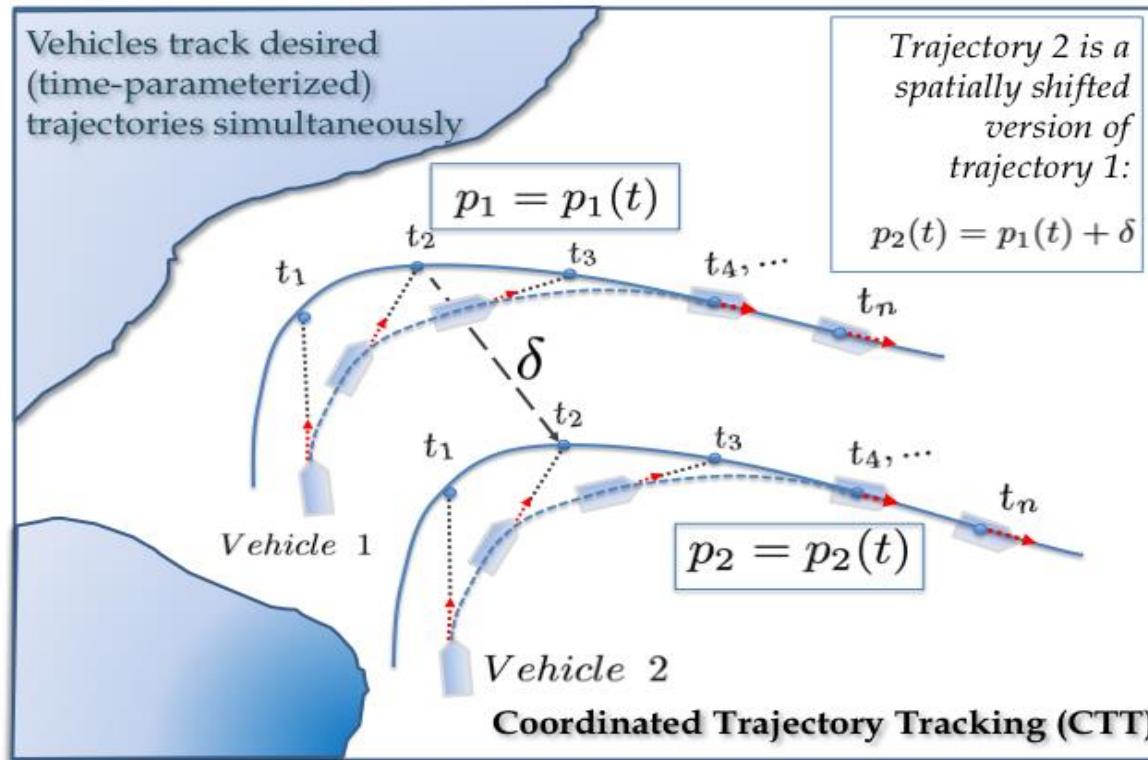
# Coperative Path Following- Experiments



Lisbon Trials (2017/11/29) - Results



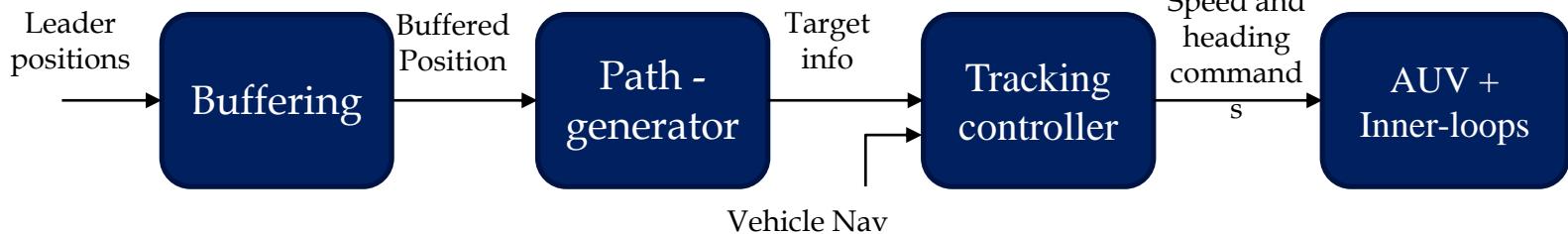
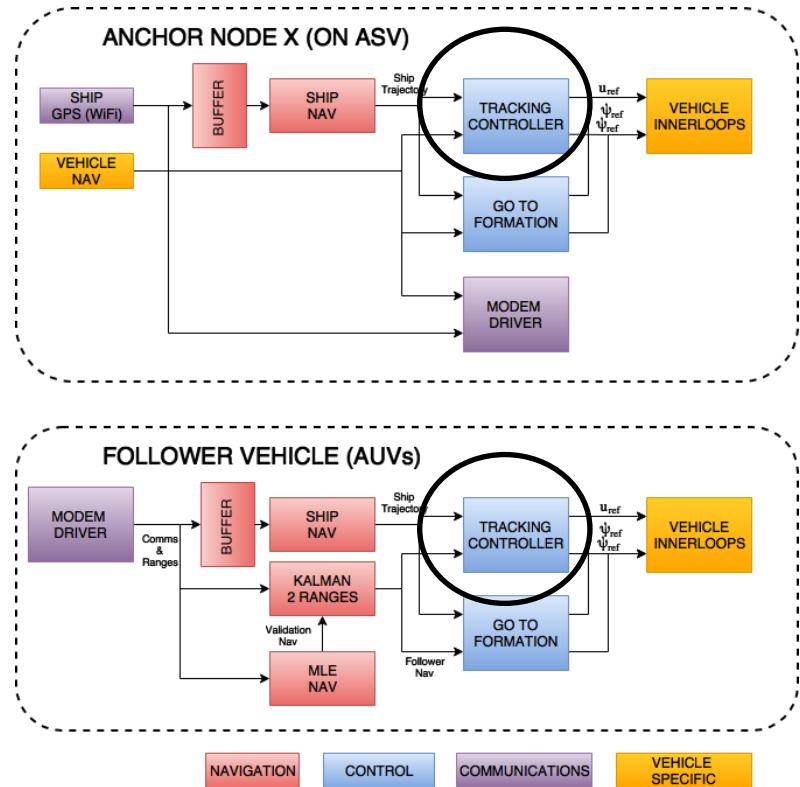
# Coordinated Trajectory Tracking



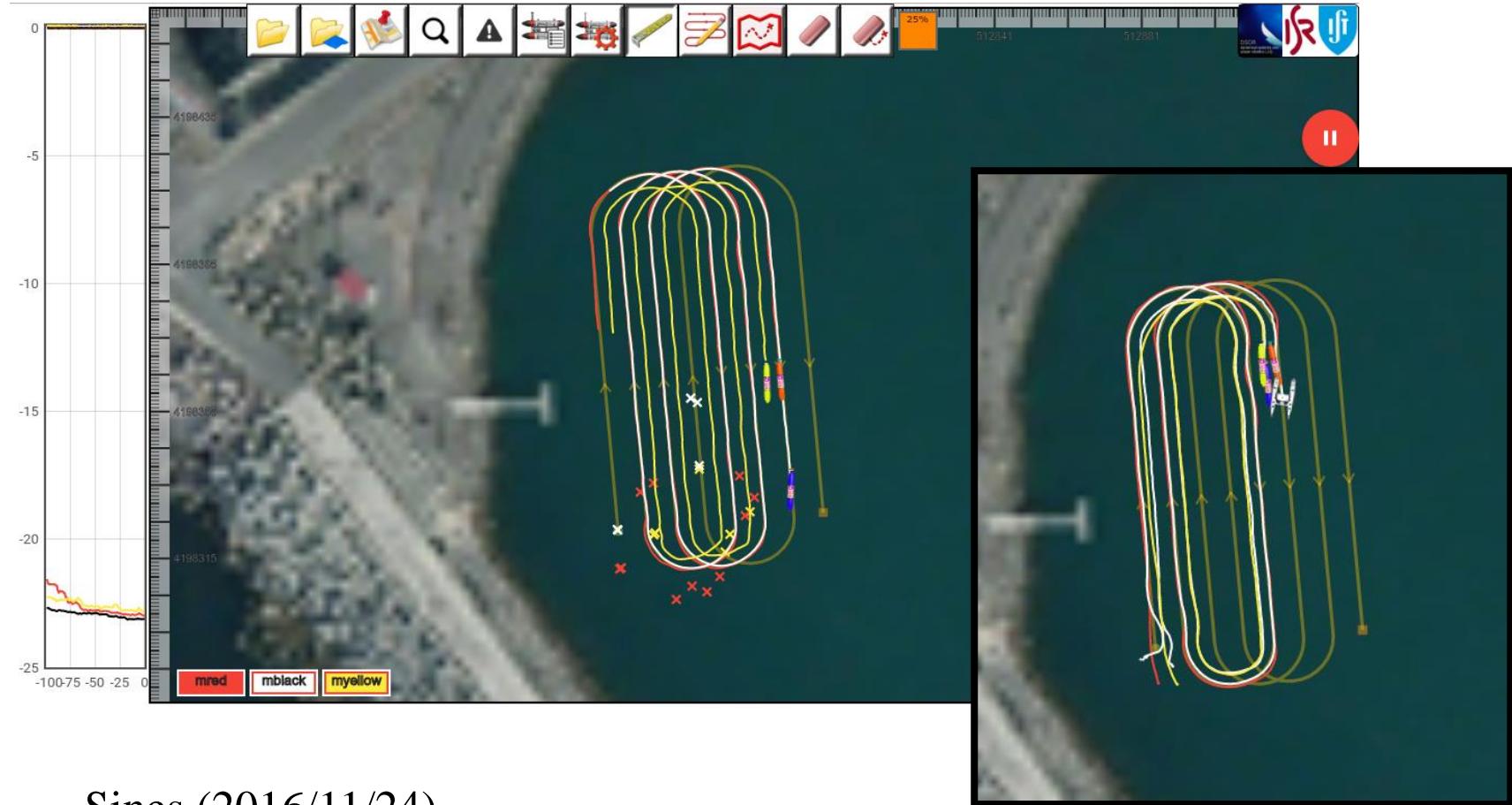
The Delfim ASV transmits periodically its position to all the AUVs. The AUVs build a sliding buffer of constant size with the positions received (using a last-in, first-out procedure), fit smooth trajectories to them, and track the resulting trajectories

# Coordinated Trajectory Tracking - Implementation

- Leader-follower strategy, *no a-priori knowledge of the path traversed by the leader*
- Advantages: simple, requires little information exchange through the acoustic network
- Limitation: over-reliance on a single vehicle

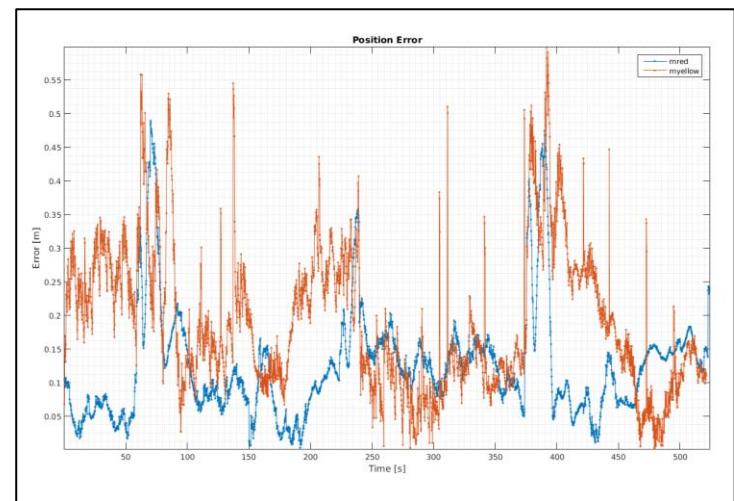
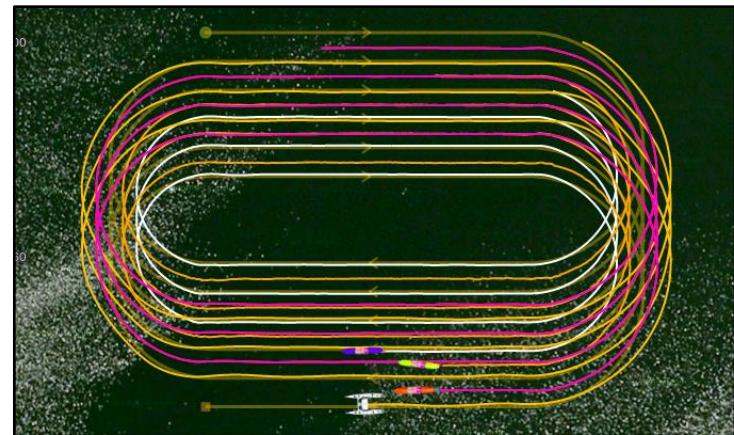
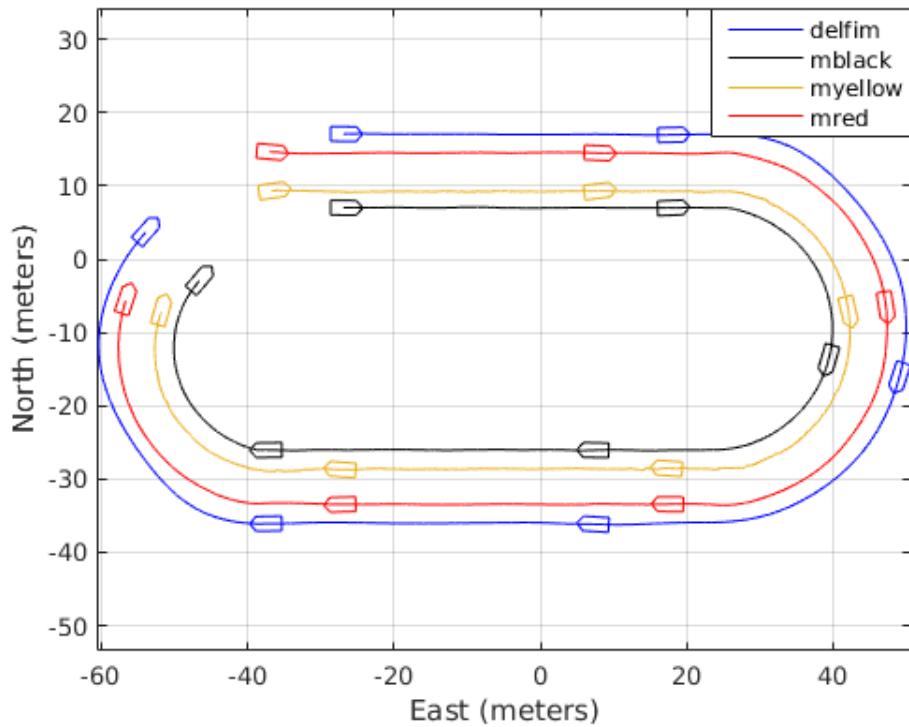


# Coordinated Trajectory Tracking (CTT) - Experiments



Sines (2016/11/24)  
Medusa Black or Delfim Catamaran  
as Leaders

# Coordinated Trajectory Tracking (CTT) - Experiments

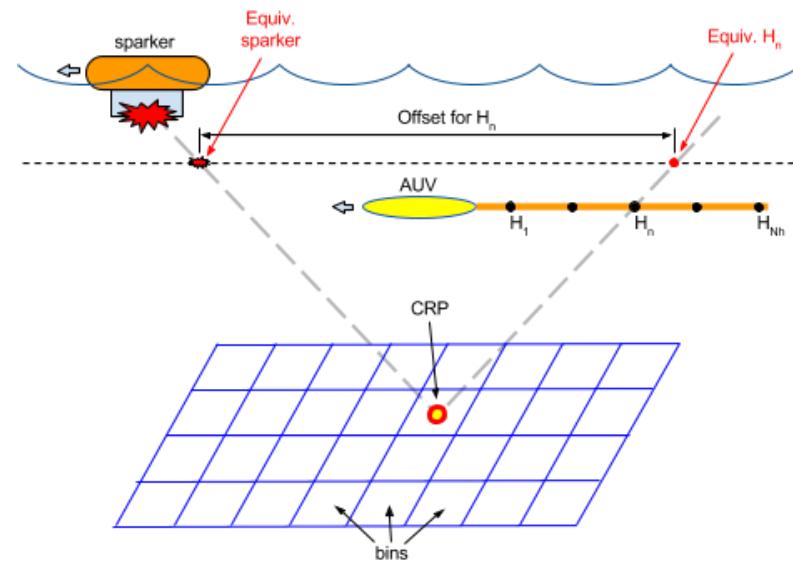


Lisbon Trials  
(2017/11/27)  
2 followers

# Cooperative Trajectory Tracking

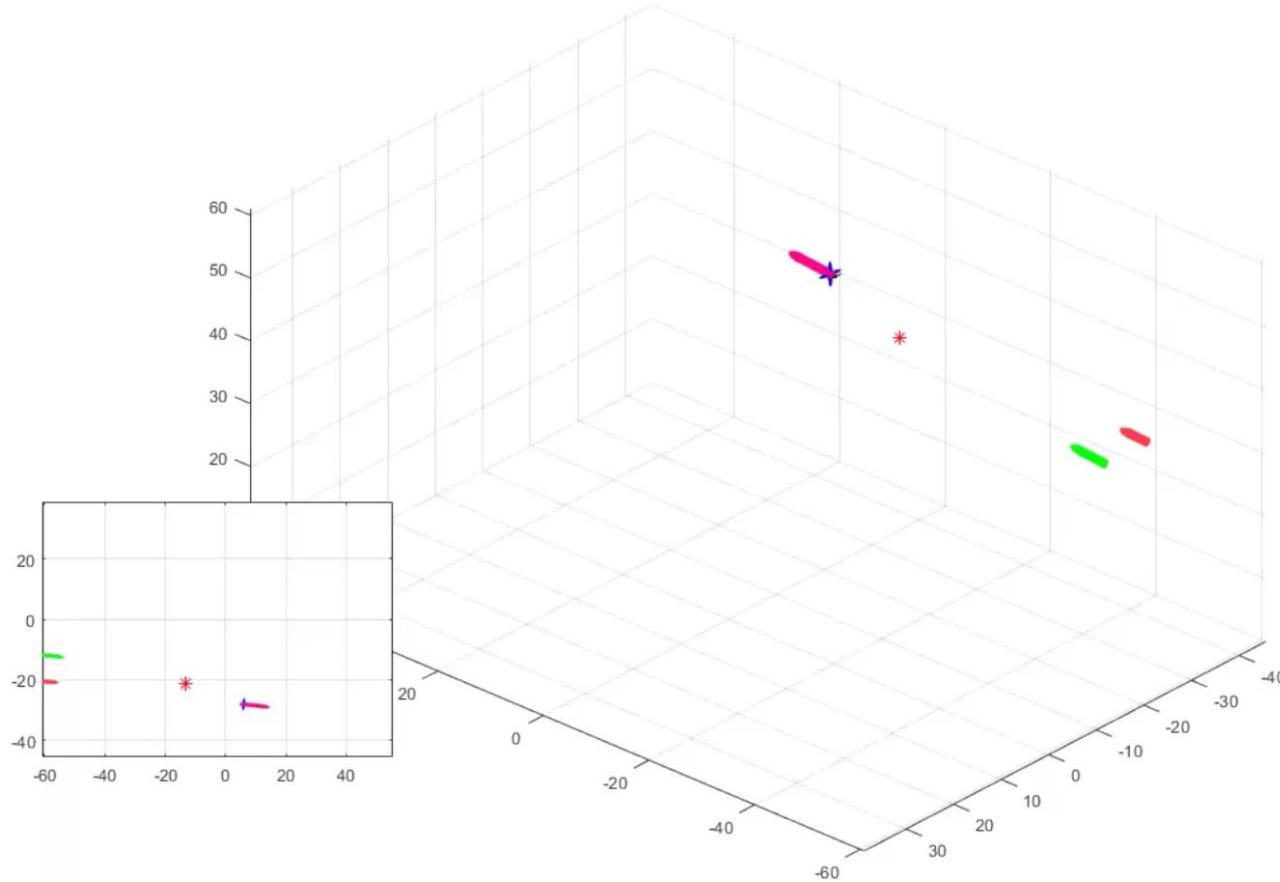
Fold preview using real navigation data – Sines Port

- 1 sparker on a moving platform and another stationary;
- 2 Medusa vehicles carrying streamers;
- Streamer with 8m length and 8 elements;
- Bin(cell) size of 4m ;
- Assumption: streamer motion is “similar” to that of the towing vehicle



# Coordinated Trajectory Tracking

## Fold preview using real navigation data - Sines Port



# Full system implementation and final mission at sea

0:29



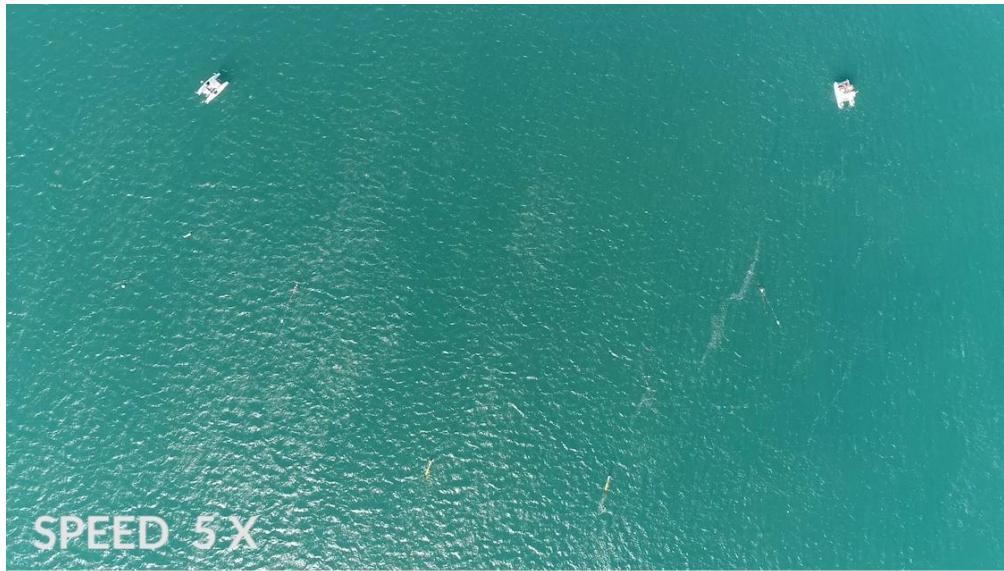
Technical Highlights & Seismic Data Acquired

# Full system implementation and final mission at sea

1:07 and 2:00



# Cooperative Motion Planning and CTT in WiMUST

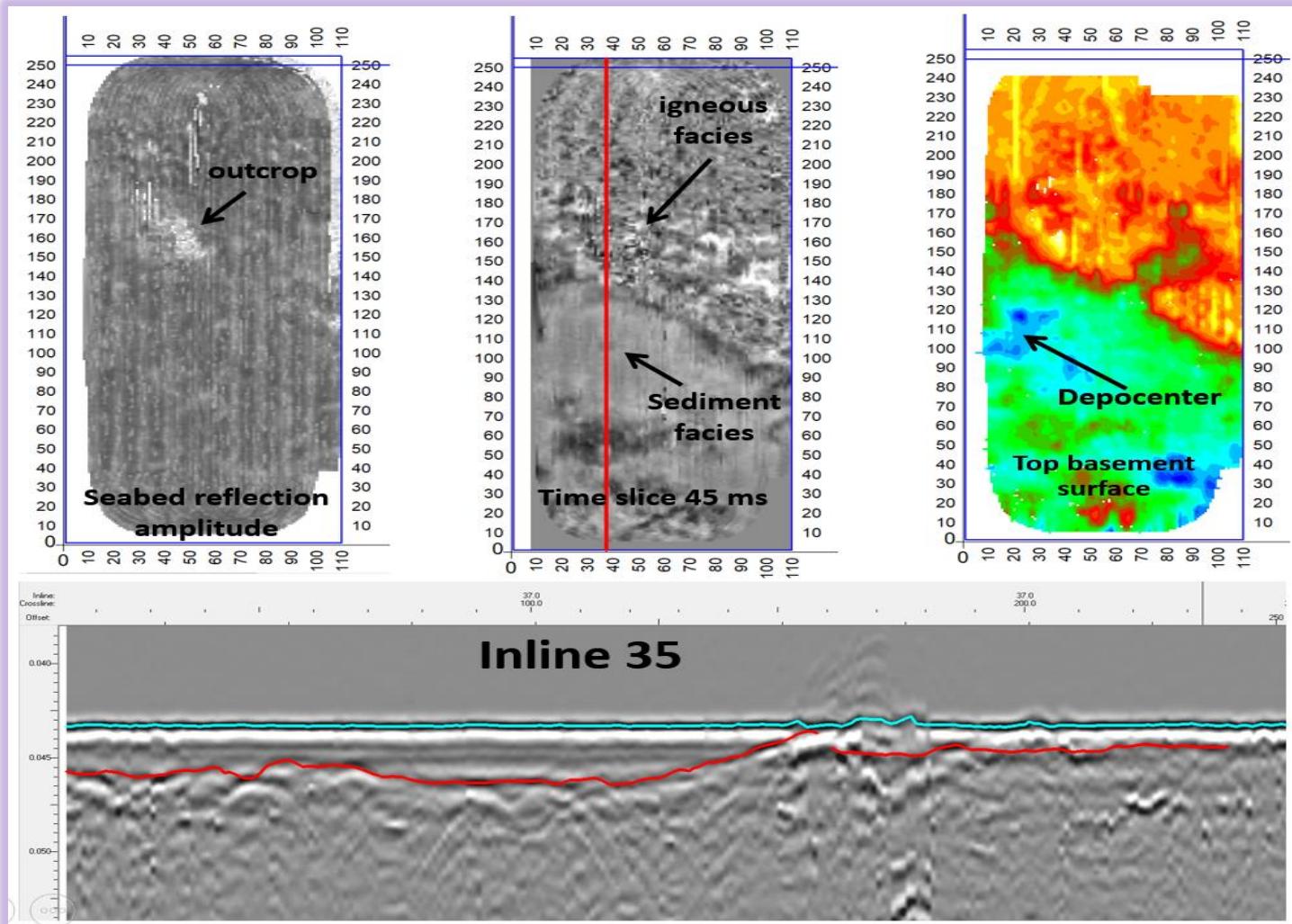


**WiMUST**  
Widely scalable Mobile  
Underwater Sonar Technology



Go-To-Formation Maneuver – U. Hertfordshire, UK

# Full system implementation and final mission at sea



Technical Highlights & Seismic Data Acquired

# Towards Cooperative Geotechnical Surveying in Shallow Water



MARINE SURVEY SYSTEMS (NL) Aveiro (PT)



PÓLO DO I.S.T.



LARSyS

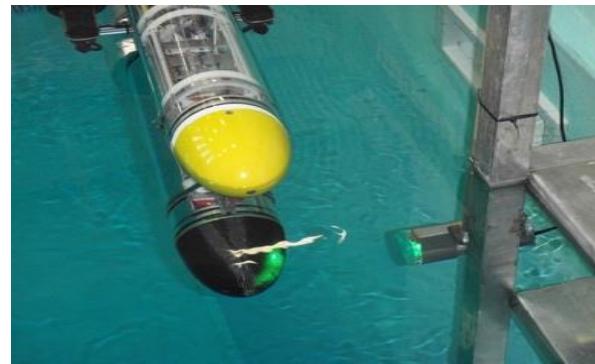


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# Hybrid Acoustic-Optical Communication Networks

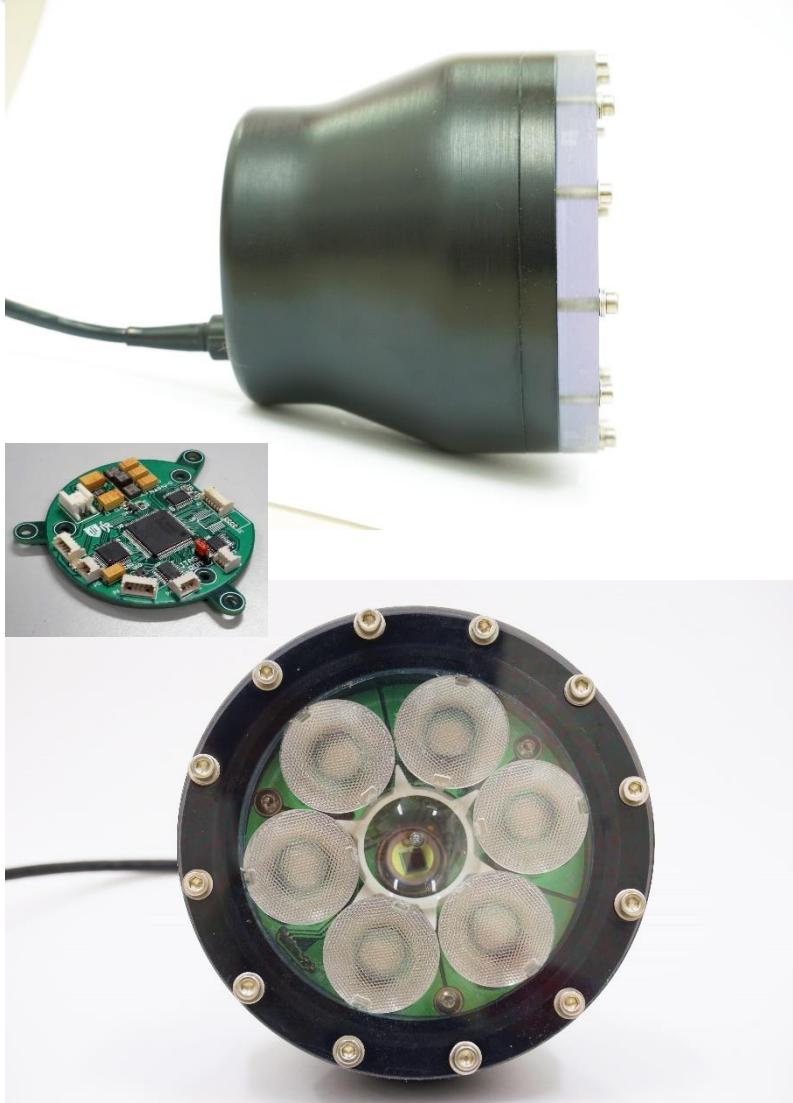


Acoustic Networking. **High frequency 42-65 kHz modem and USBL units:**  
data transfer rates up to 31.2 kbit/s over a 2000 m range



The BlueRay optical modem developed at IST

# The BlueRay Optical Modem (IST)

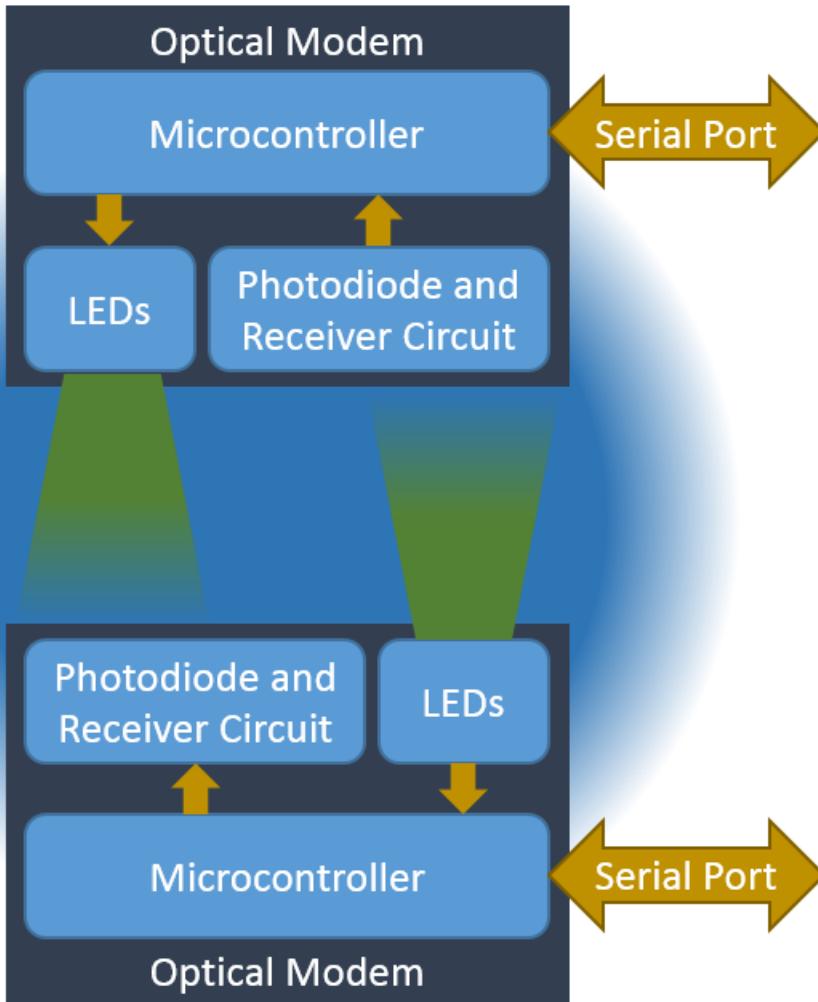


## Specifications

Range sea water	12m
Range harbour water (visibility 1m)	3,5m
TX Power	12W
Beam divergence	12°
Receiver Aperture	45°
Data rate	20kbit/s
Modulation	OOK
Encoding	Manchester
Price	~150€
Dimensions	D = 105mm L = 100 mm
Obs.	Robust to high background light

New units capable of transmission rates in the range from **200kbit/s** up to **1Mbit/s** will become available soon.

# The BlueRay Optical Modem (IST)



## Receiver

- Photodiode
- Transimpedance amplifier scheme
- Hardware filters

## Transmitter

- High power LEDs
- Direct drive with MOSFETs

## Other features

- Clock synchronisation between modems jitter < 50us

# Cooperative Control using Optical Comms



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Institute for Systems  
and Robotics | LISBOA



# Recent exciting results: Range-Based Target localization

## Set-up

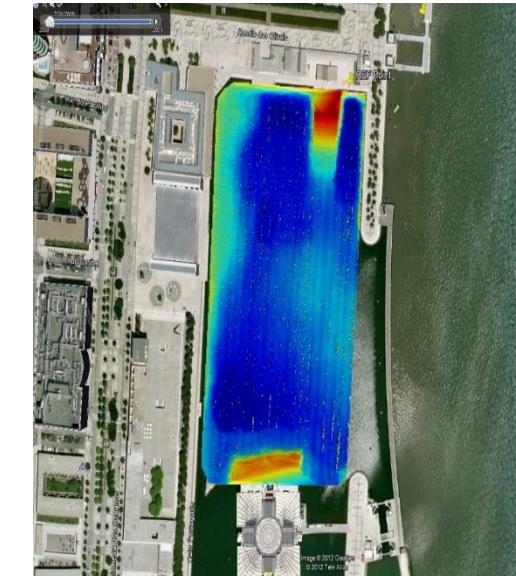
- A tracker with a GPS
- A target at a depth of 1[m]
- Target moving at a constant speed of 0.2[m/s]
- Range measurements every 1.5[s]
- “Open water” experiments

## Key assumptions

- Target position was unknown
- No currents
- Transmit velocity vector information

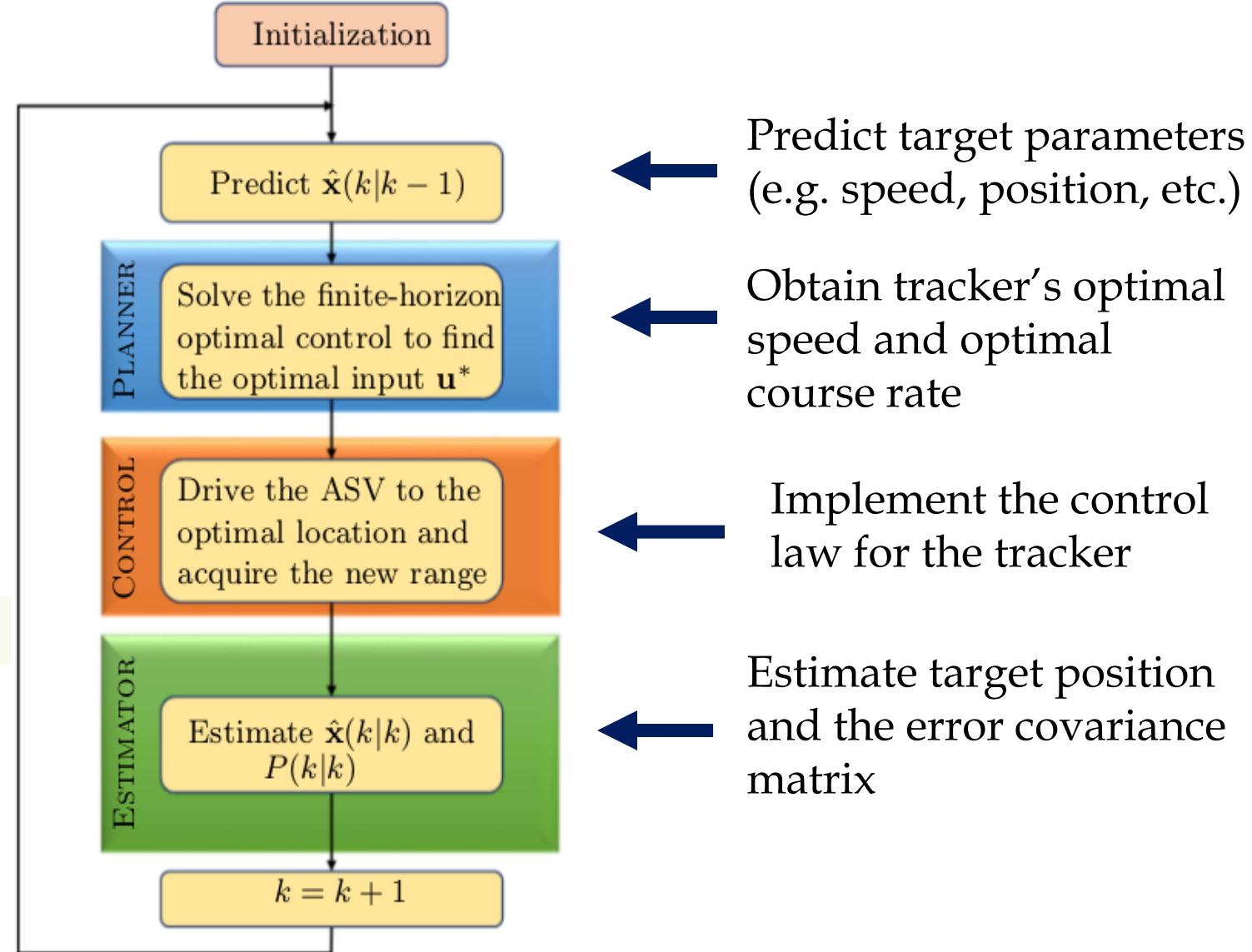


MEDUSA  
vehicles

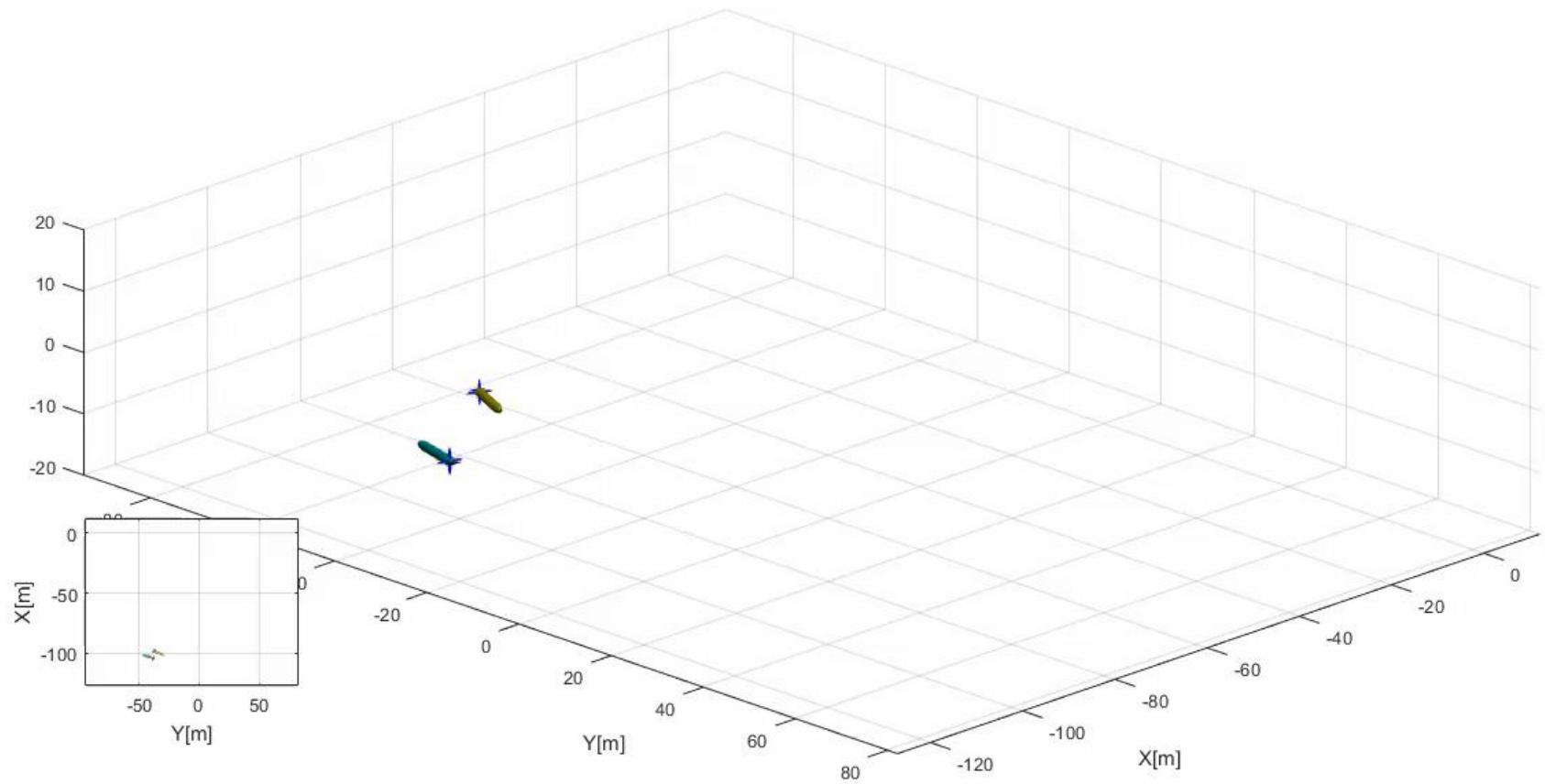


EXPO'98 Site, Lisbon, PT

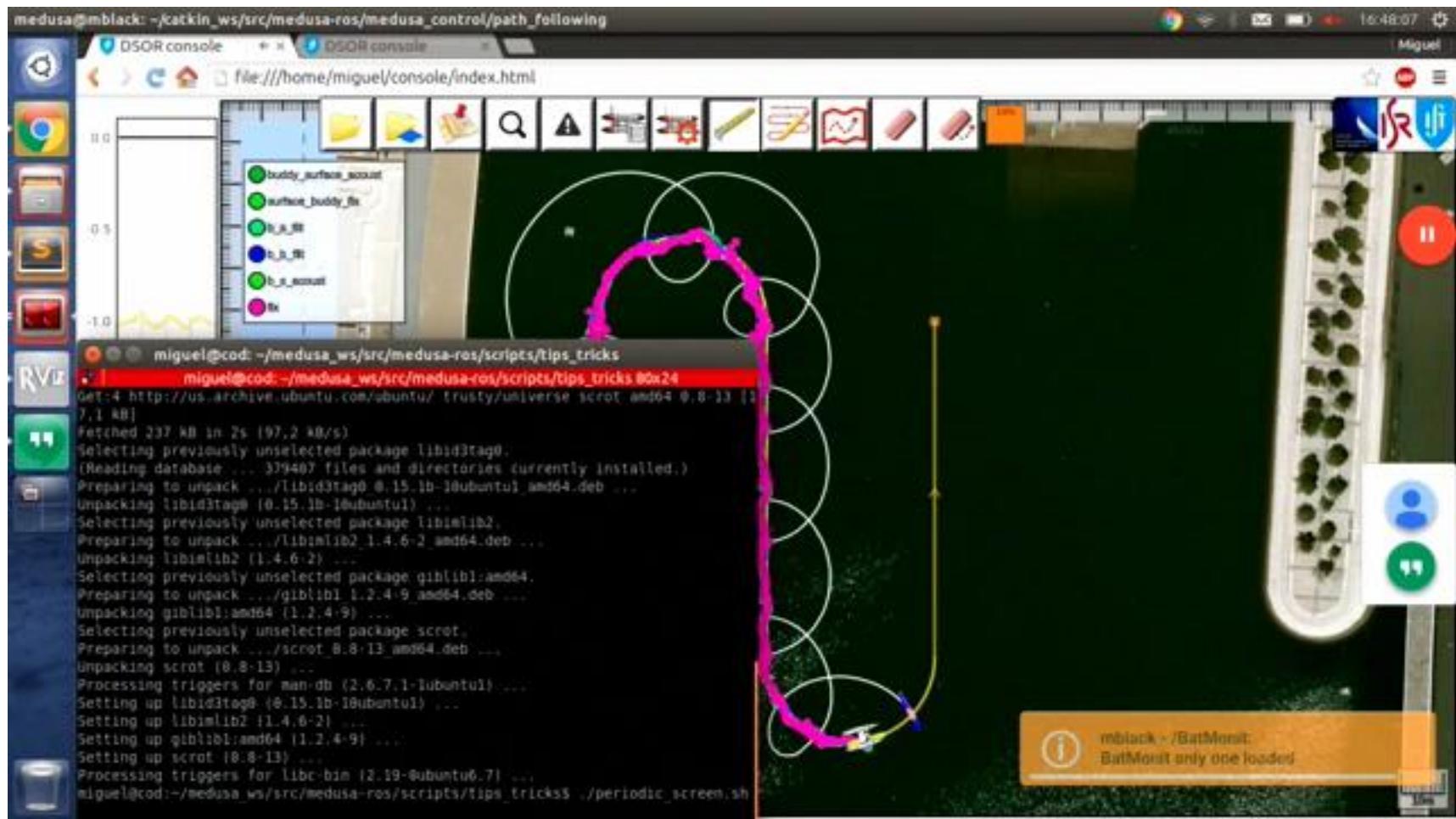
# Integrated Motion Planning, Control, and Estimation



# Recent exciting results: Range-Based Target localization



# Recent exciting results: Range-BasedTarget localization



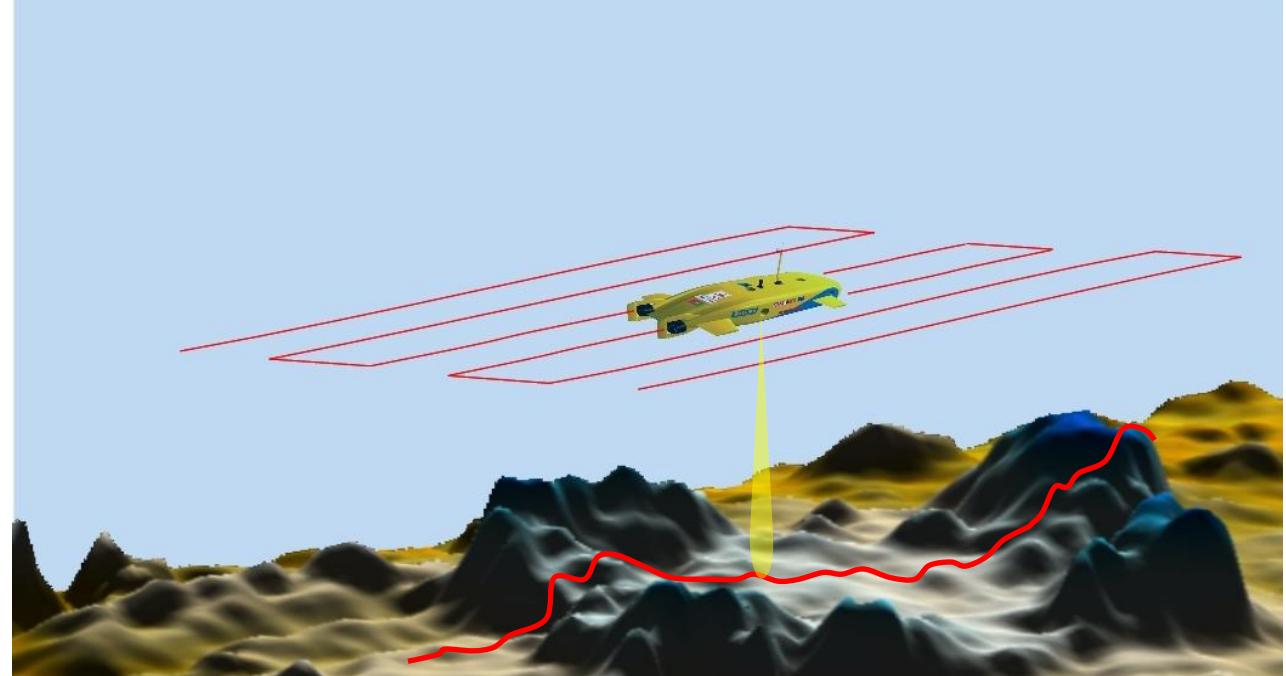
Mission Control Console on shore

# Challenges: Navigation, Energy, Hybrid Vehicles



Long-range Geophysical Navigation  
*(using terrain and  
Geomagnetic maps of the seabed)*

*Nonlinear Filtering  
Monte Carlo Methods*



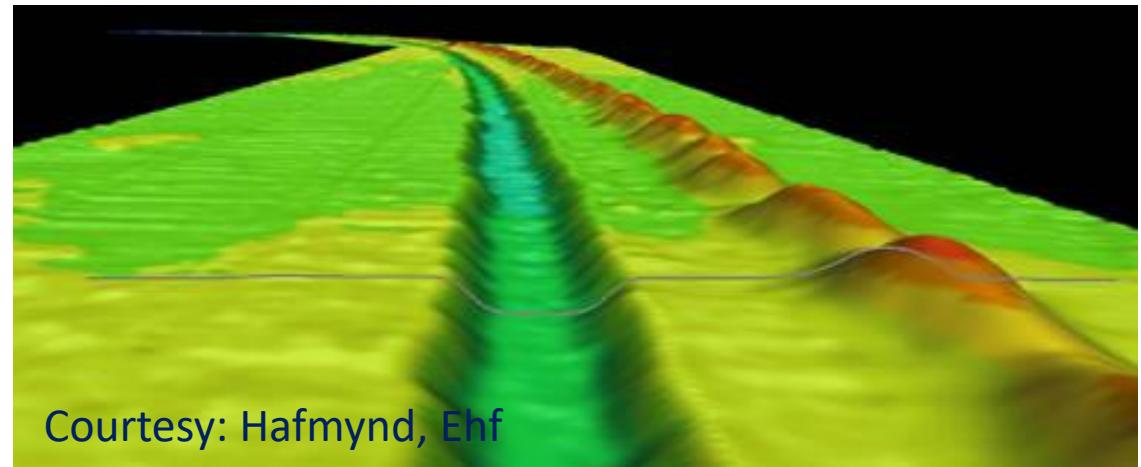
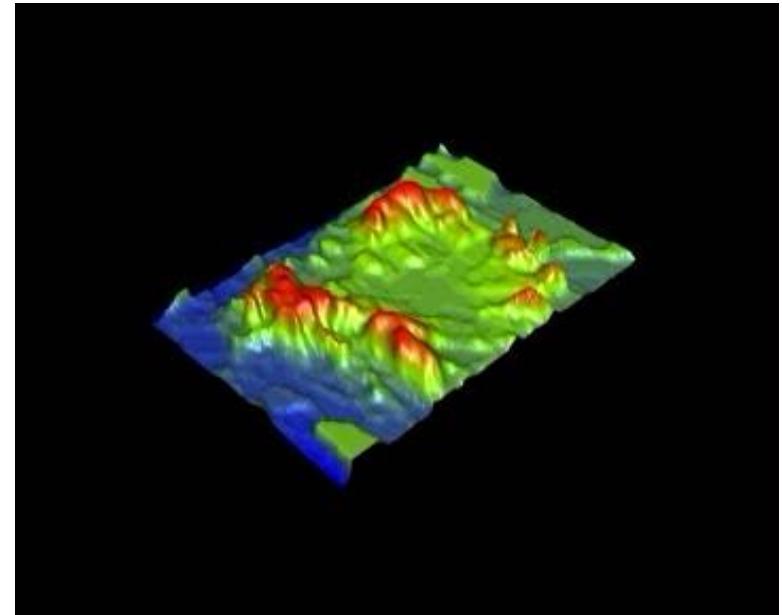
# Geophysical Navigation

- Exploit information from the environment for self-localization

- Natural features: elevation; reflective properties...
- Artificial features: submarine cables or trenches; moorings; ship wrecks...

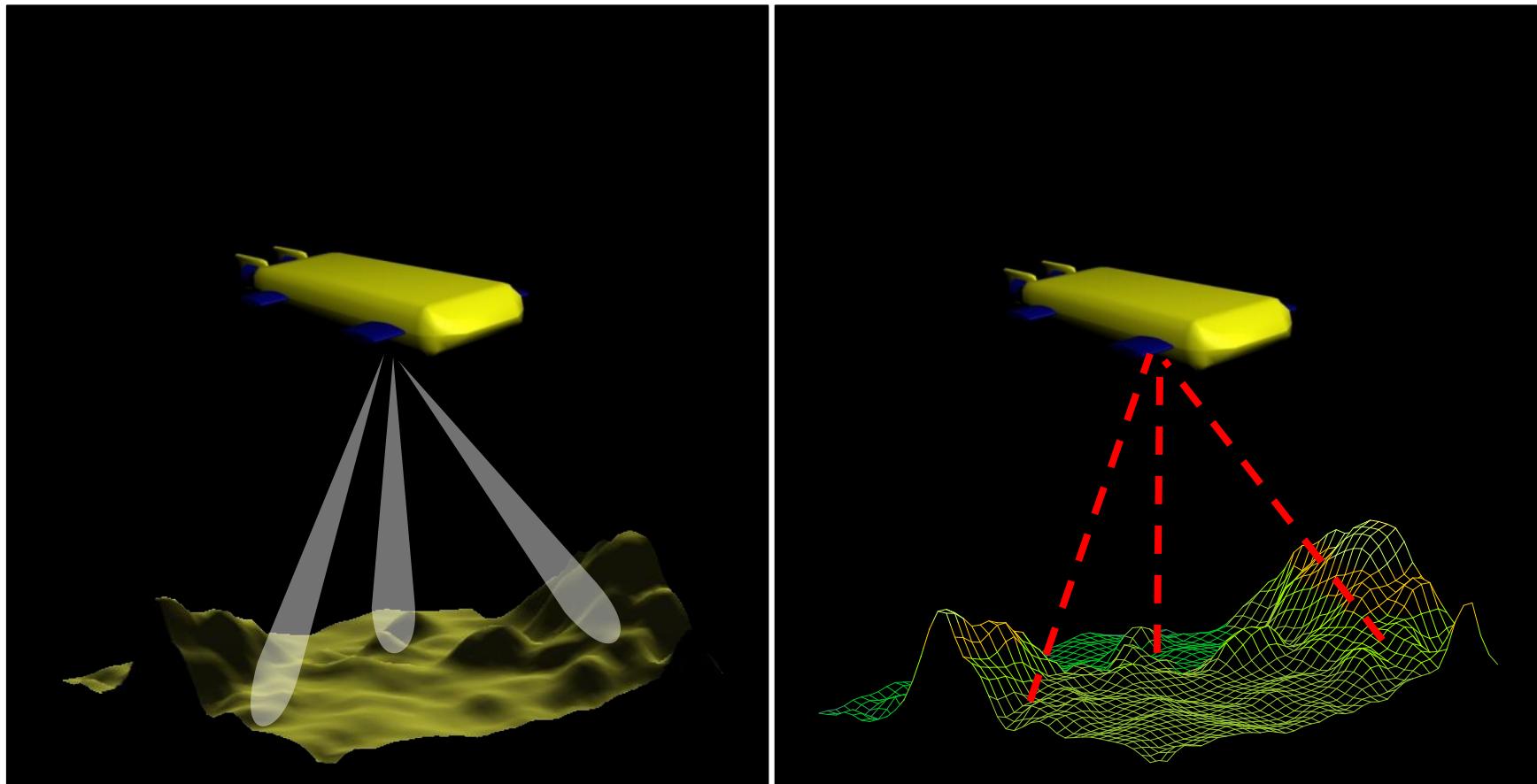
- TAN

- SLAM



# Geophysical Navigation

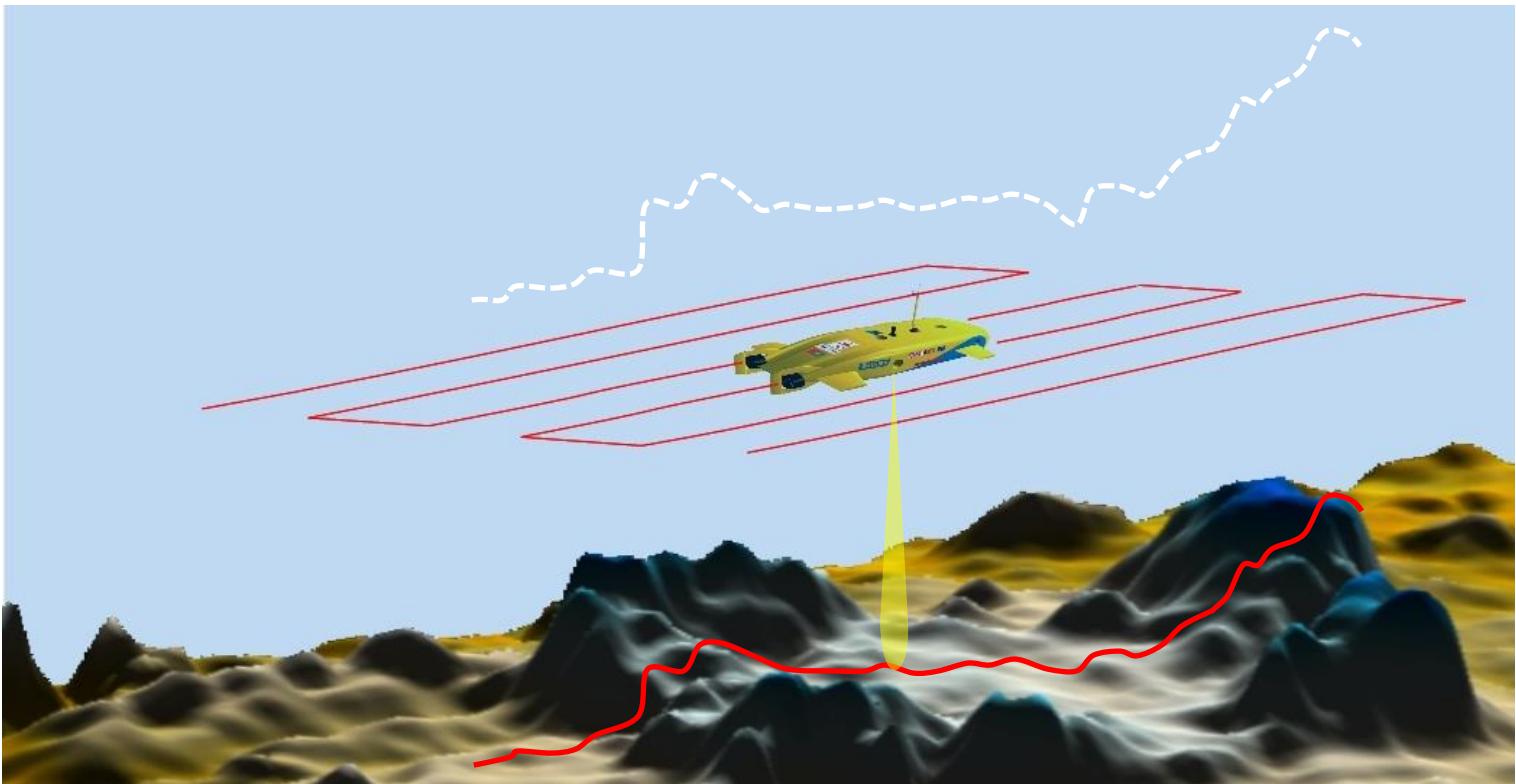
- **Terrain-Aided Navigation (TAN a.k.a. TRN,TBN)**
  - Use a **prior map** of the environment.
  - Make **observations** of the terrain
  - Match **observations** against the map to estimate position.



# Geophysical Navigation

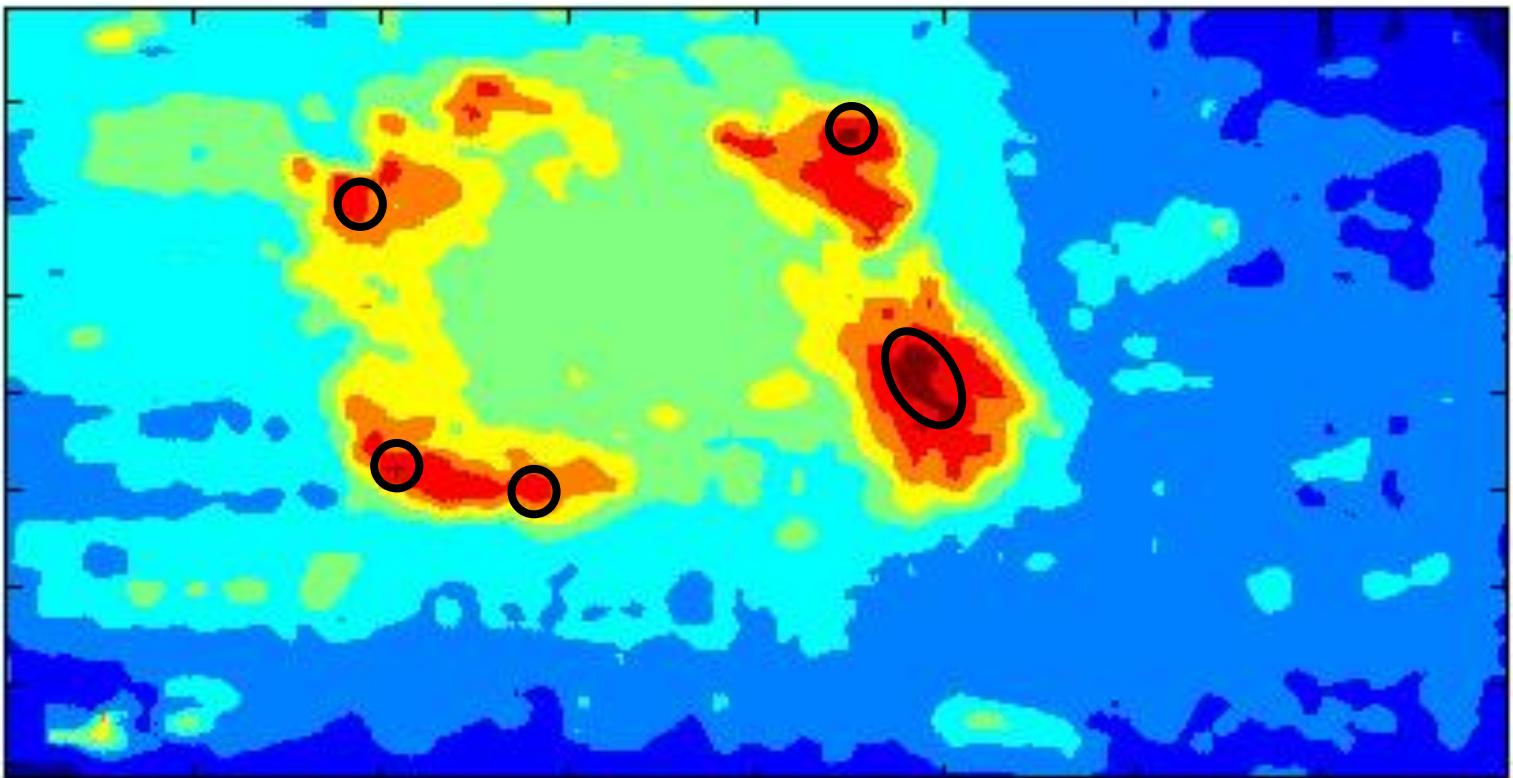
## ▪ Map matching

Can be done sequentially or in batch without explicit feature extraction and data association/registration.

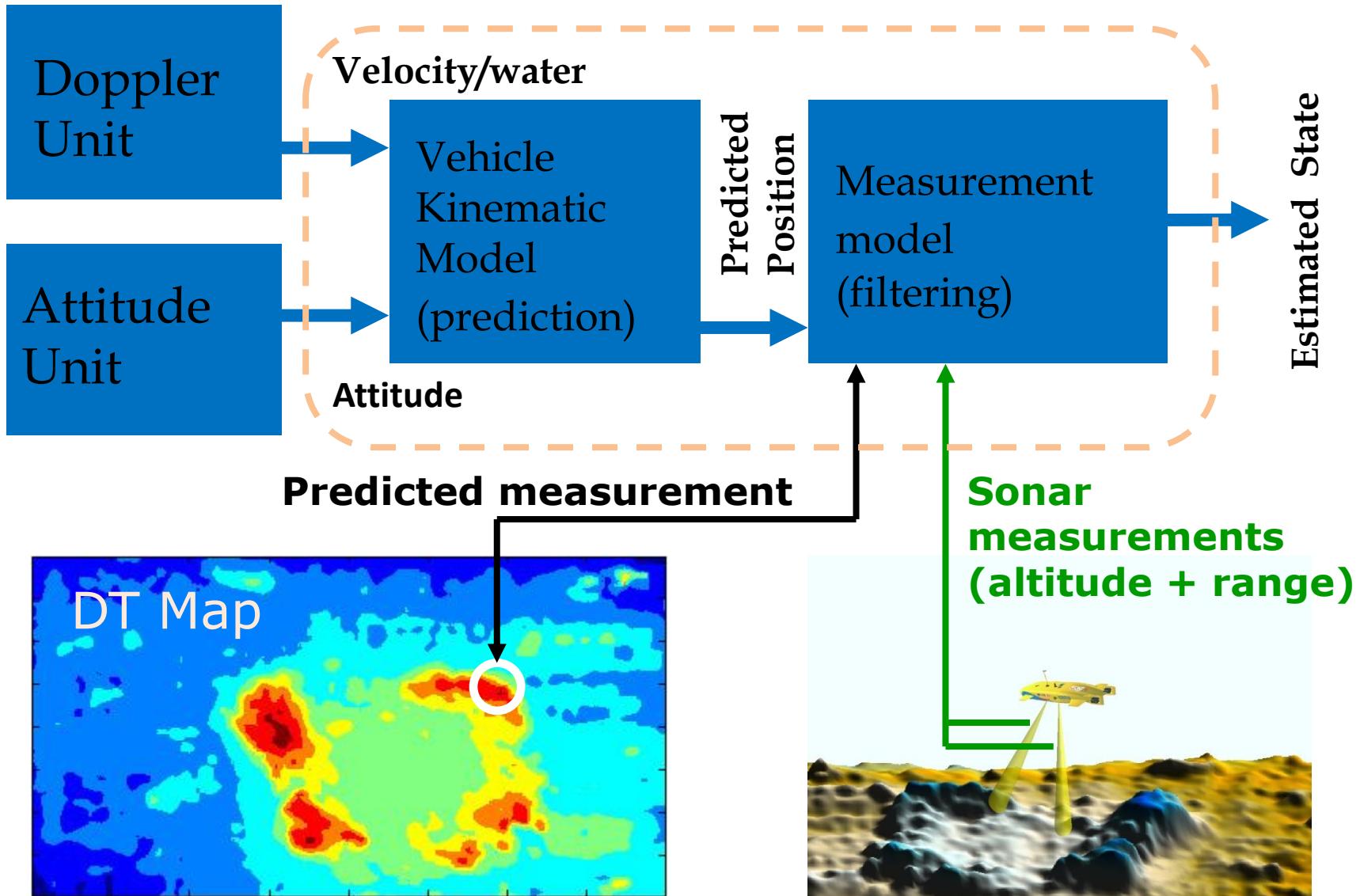


# Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)

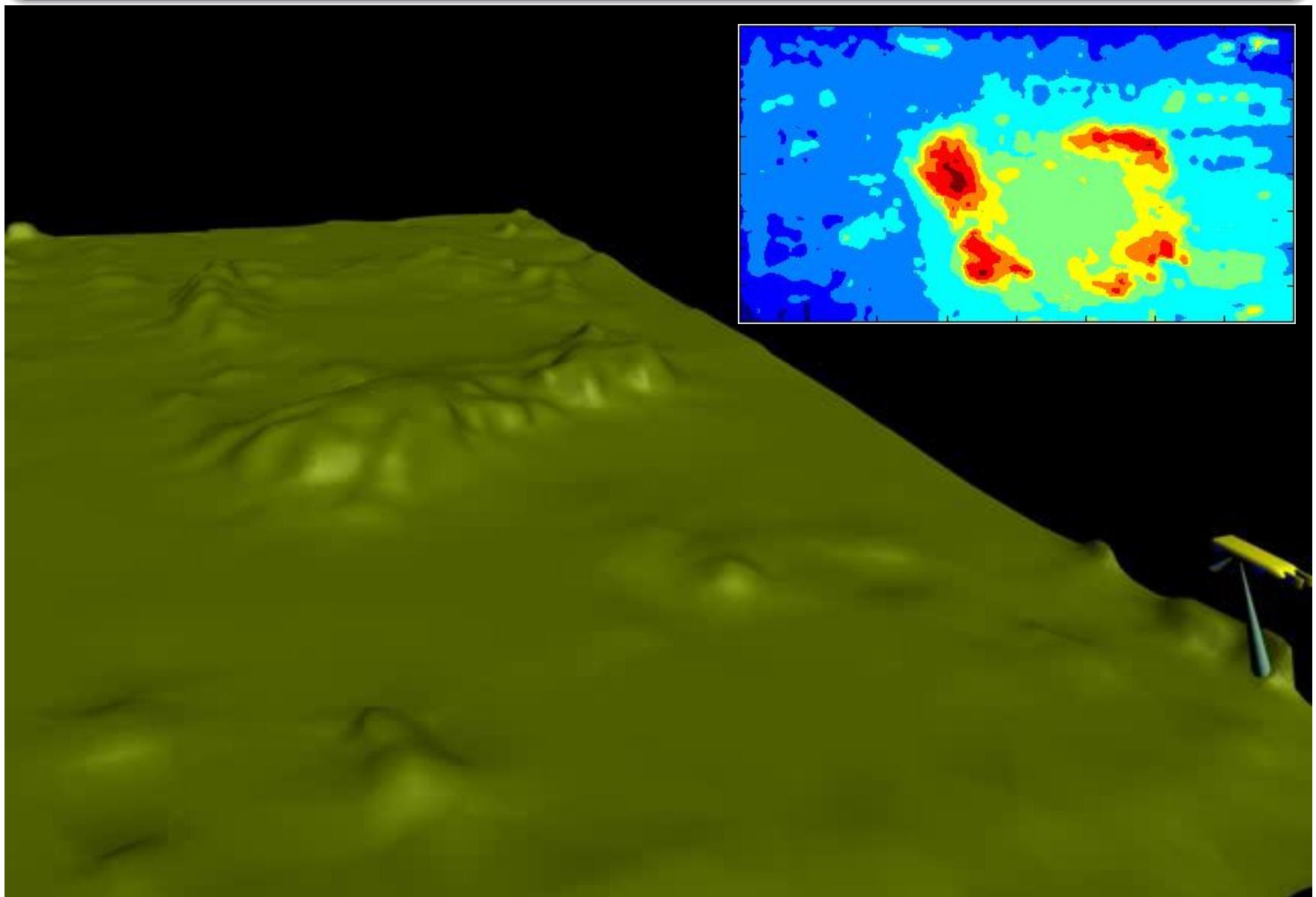
- Sequentially acquire/refine a map of the terrain & simultaneously use this map for self-localization.
  - Use sparse, metric or topological maps of the terrain.
  - Apply explicit feature extraction and data association.



# Terrain Aided Navigation (TAN) Filters



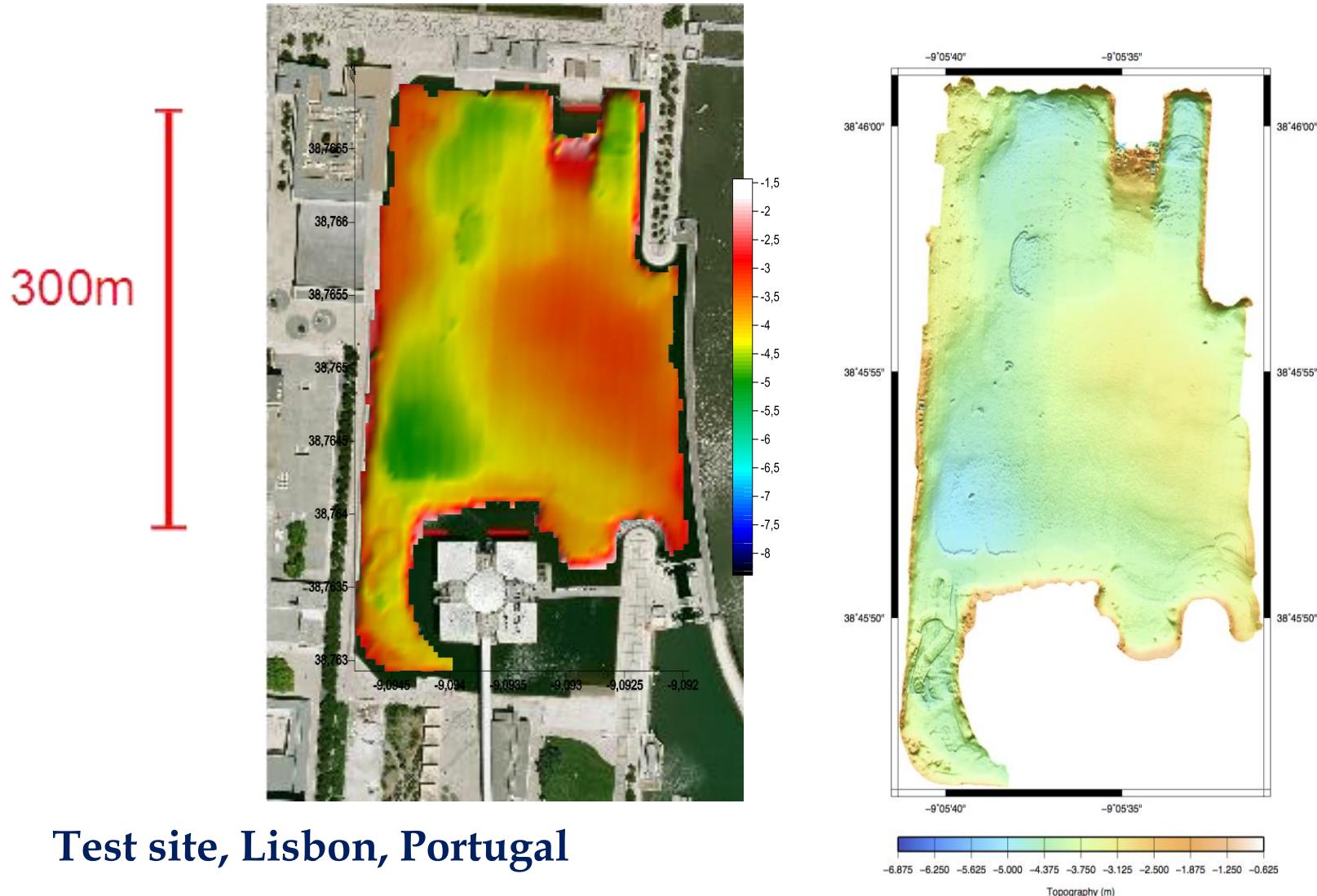
# TAN - Monte Carlo Methods (Particle Filters)



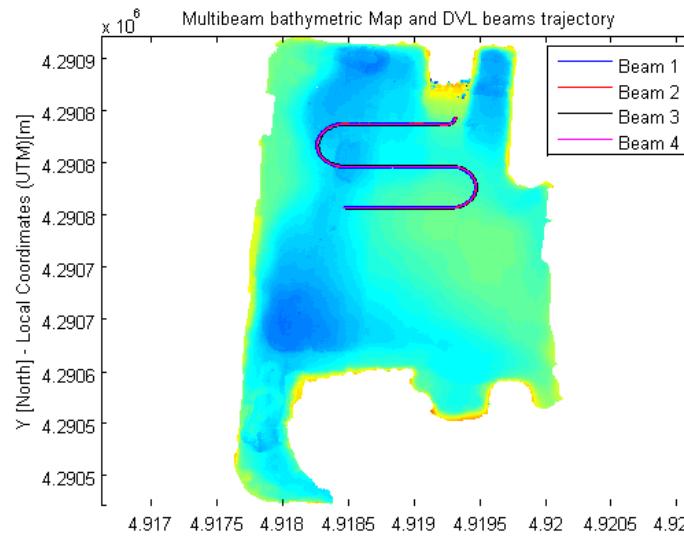
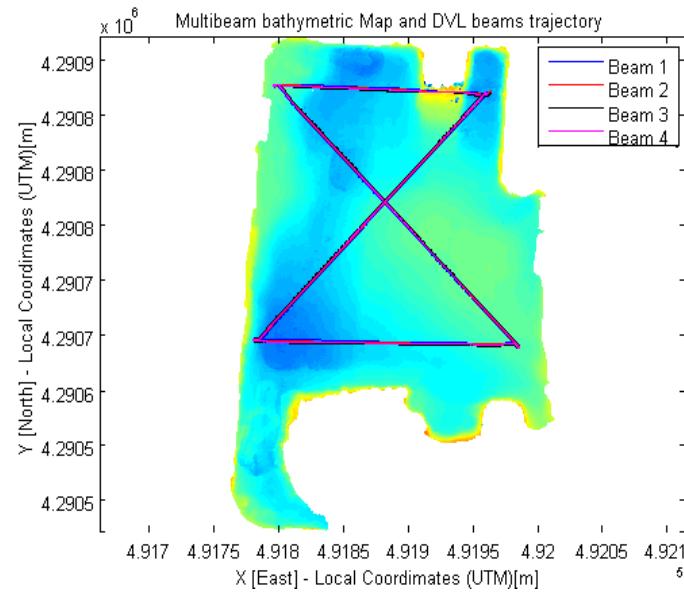
# TAN - DVL Implementation



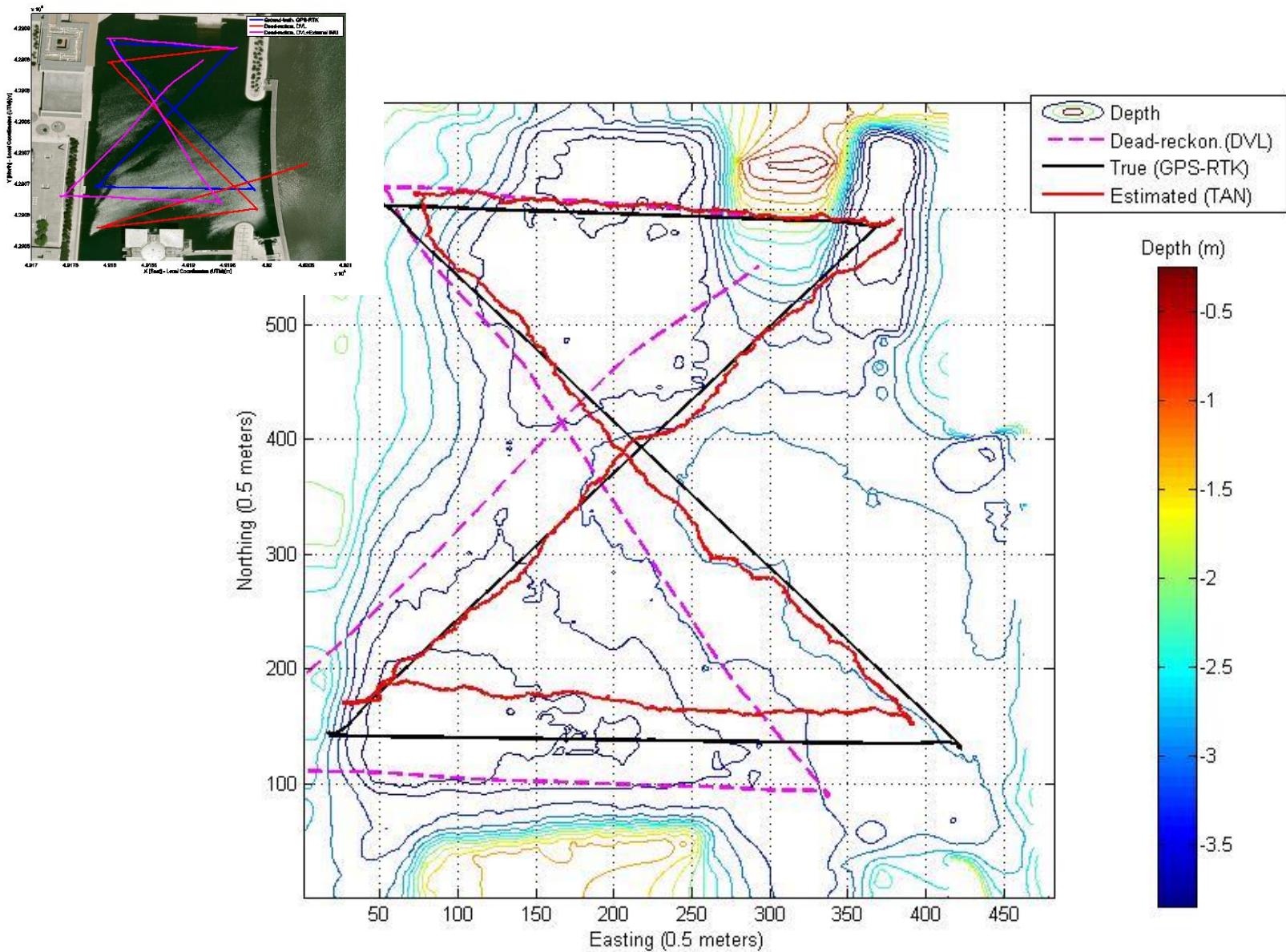
# TAN - DVL Implementation



# TAN - DVL Implementation



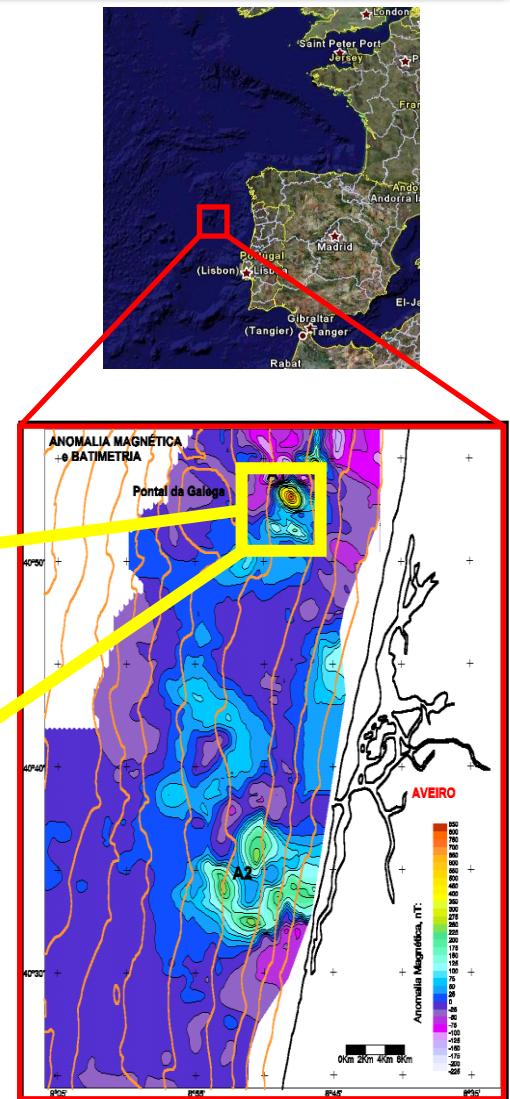
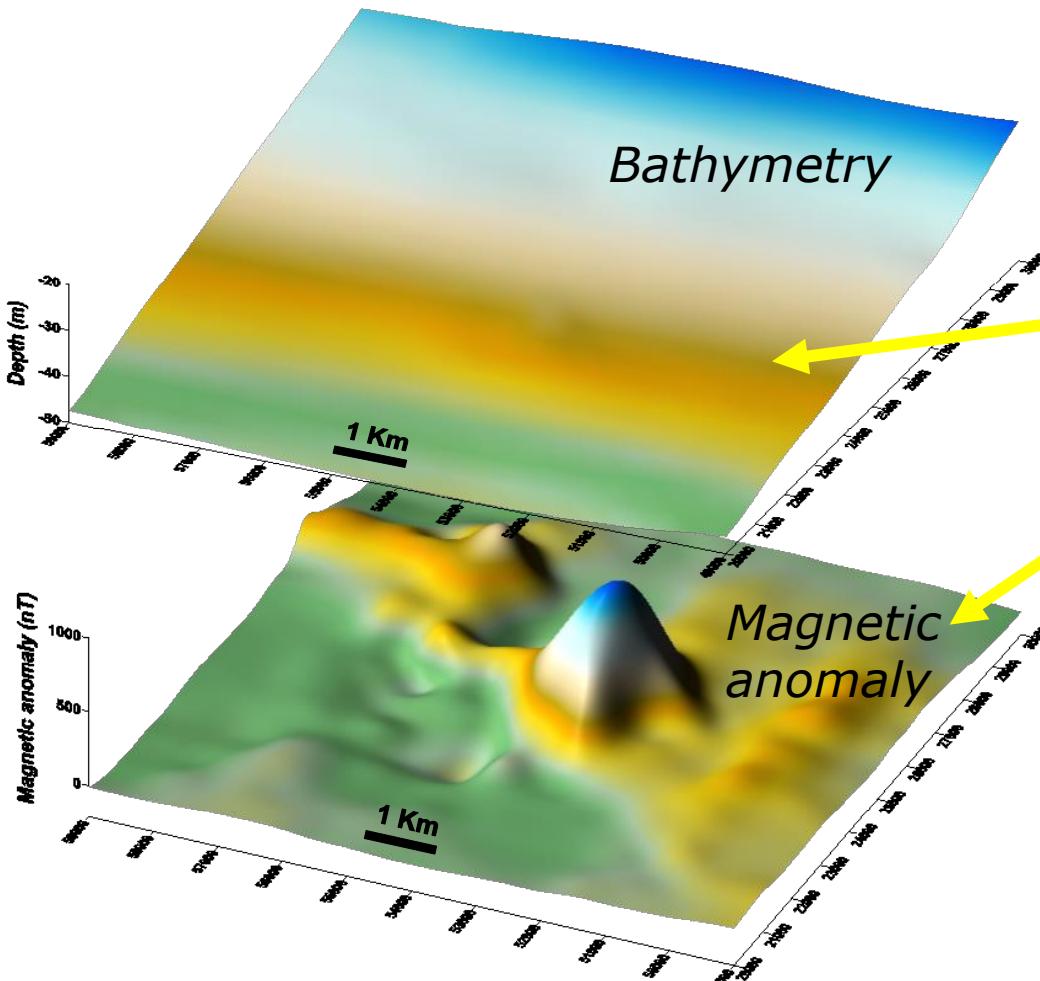
# TAN - DVL Implementation



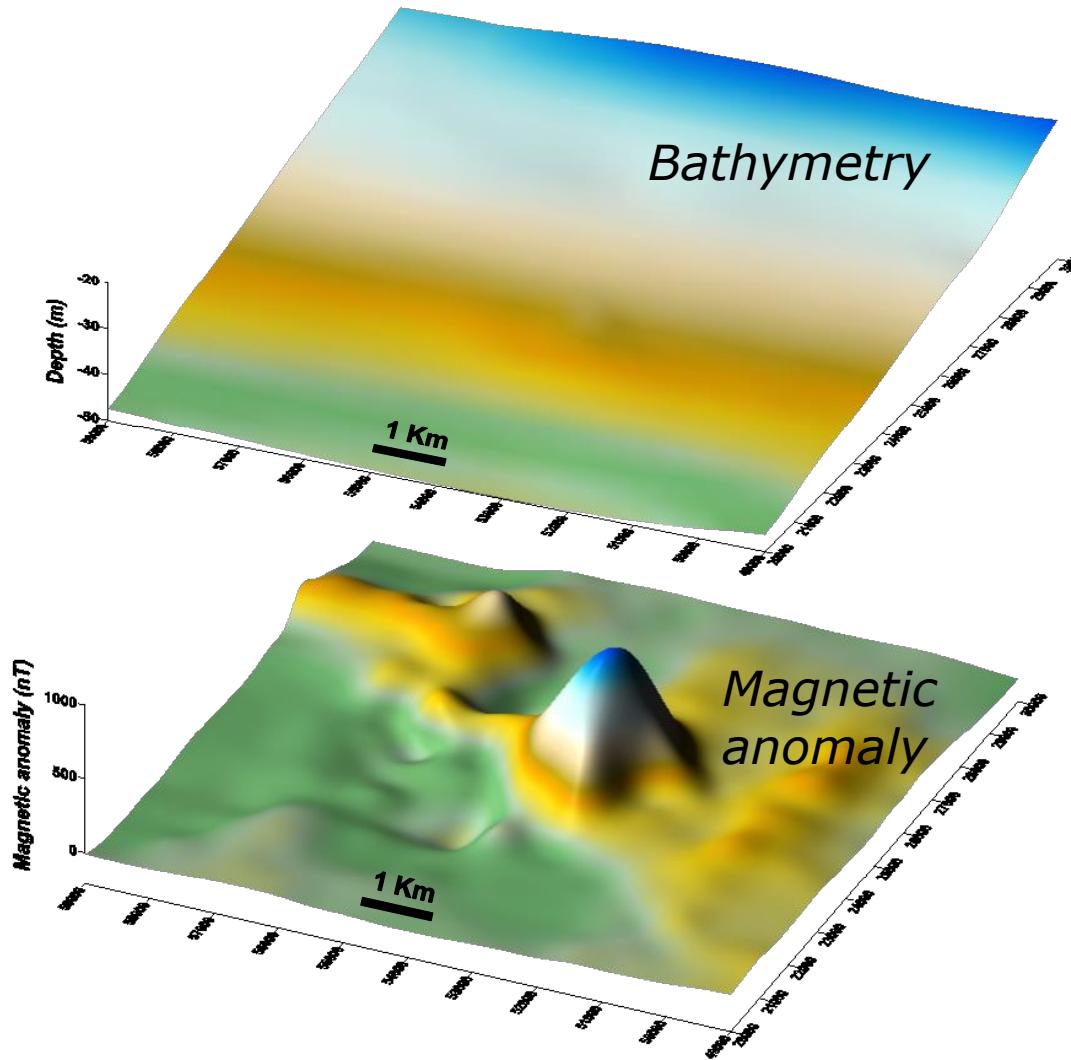
# Geomagnetic Navigation

## Main motivation

- Complementary information for TAN



# Geophysical Navigation

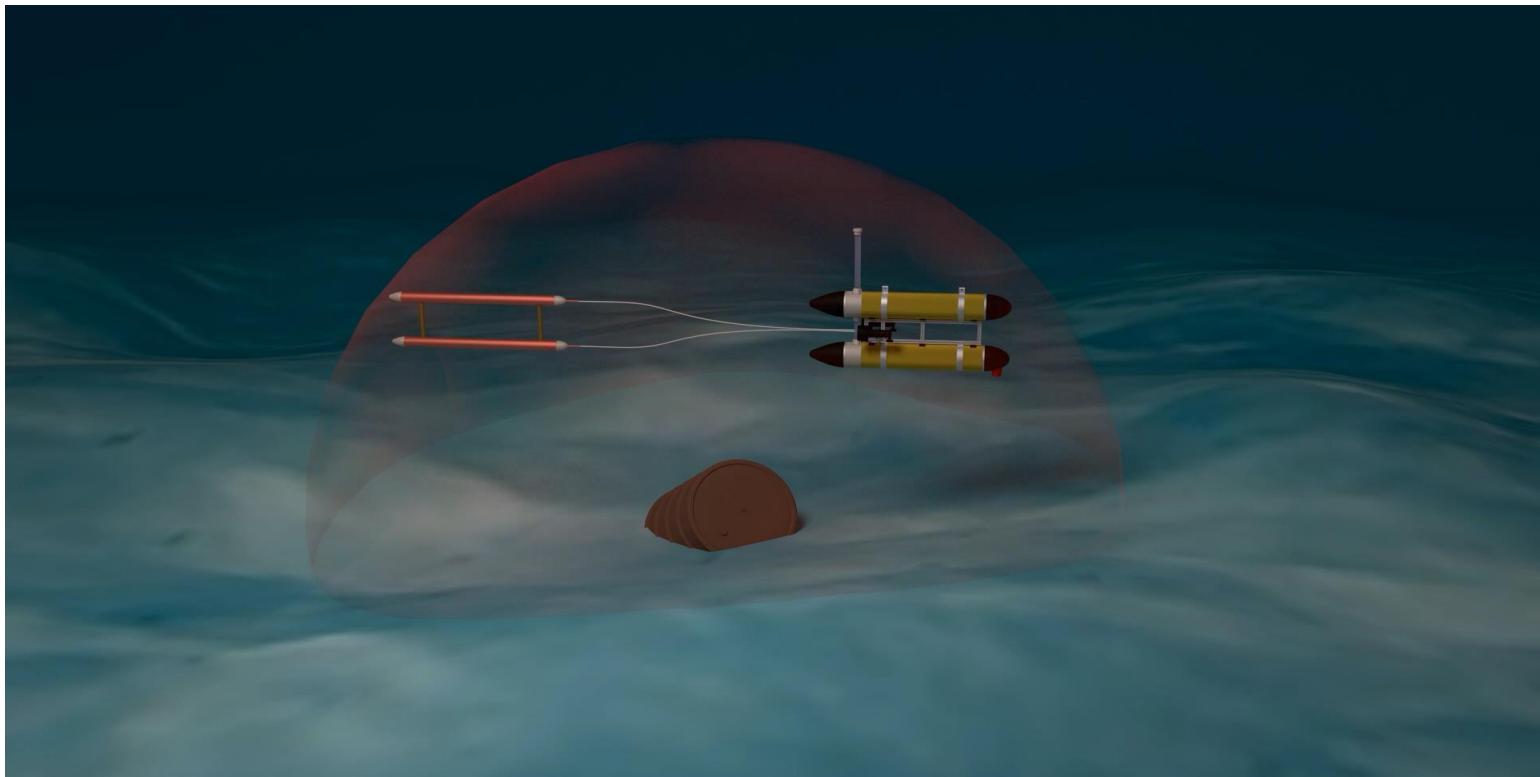


Terrain and Geomagnetic-Based Methods

# Geomagnetic Navigation

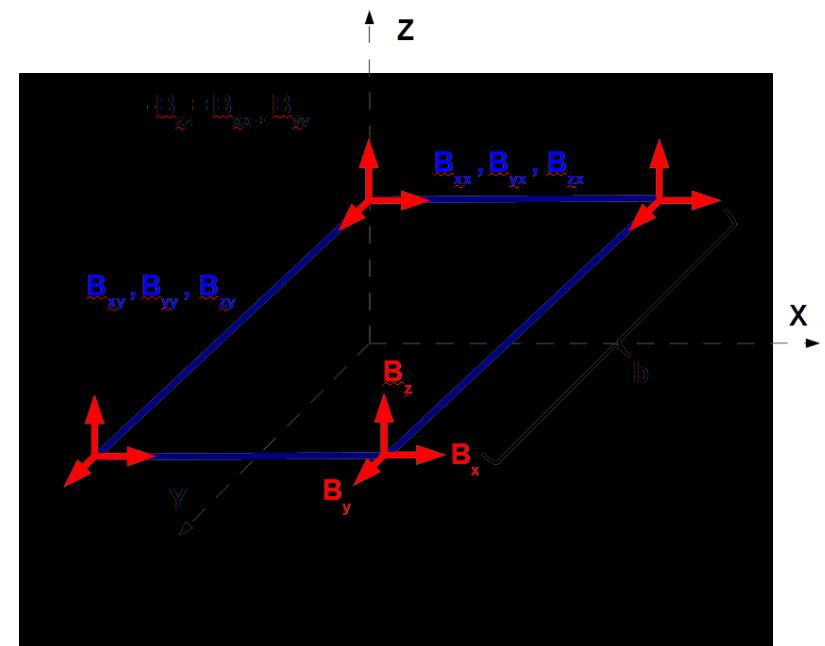
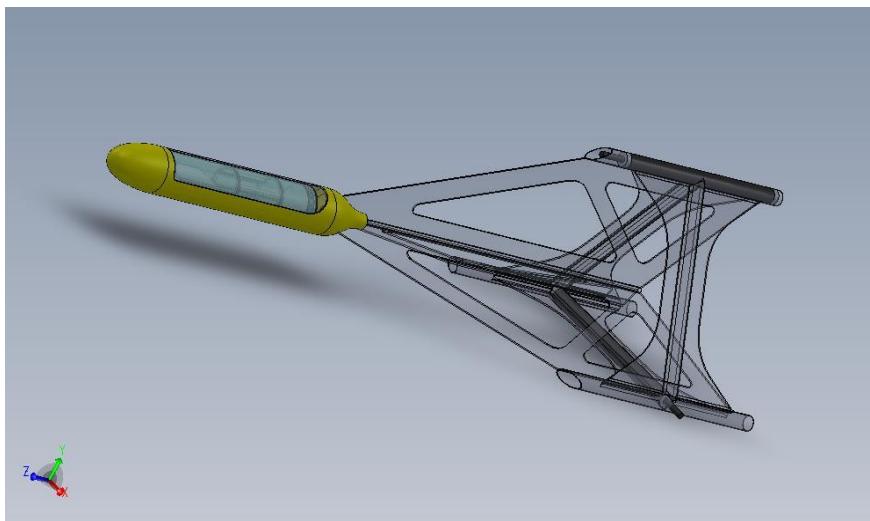
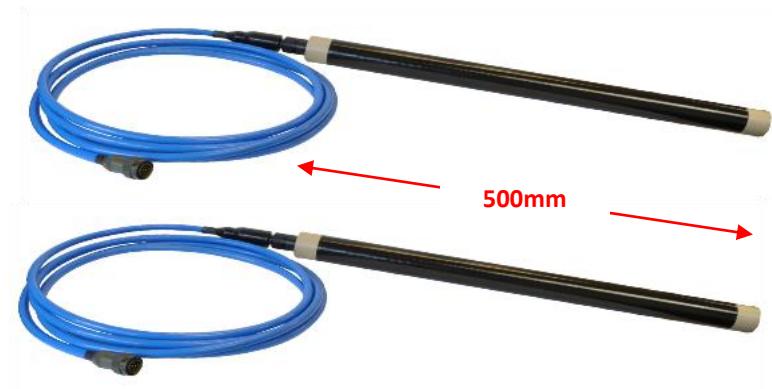
The problem of ambient and vehicle noise suppression

- *Tow the magnetometer*
- *Use a mag. gradiometer*



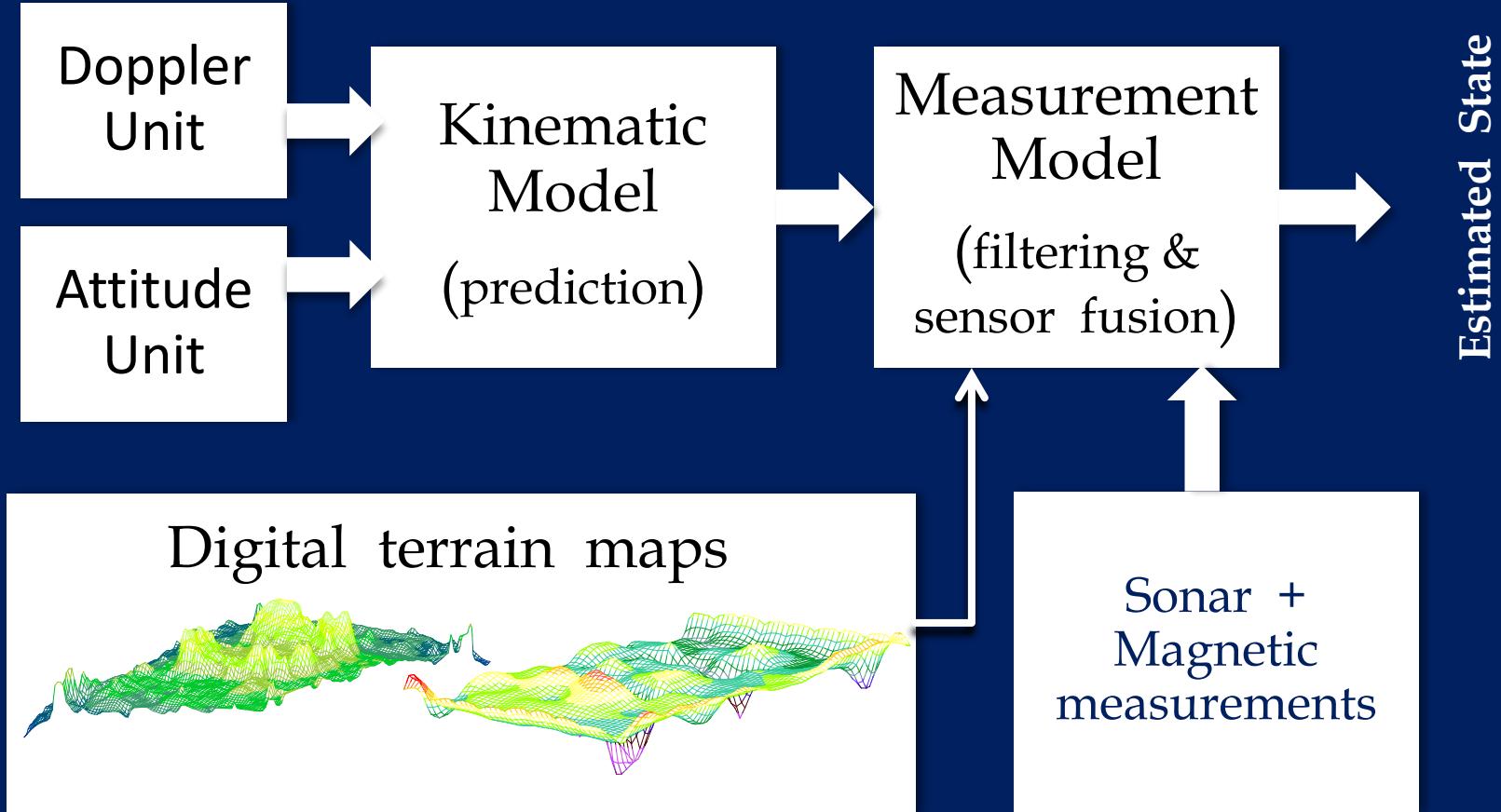
# Geomagnetic Navigation

- Sensors used (mags, gradiometers)

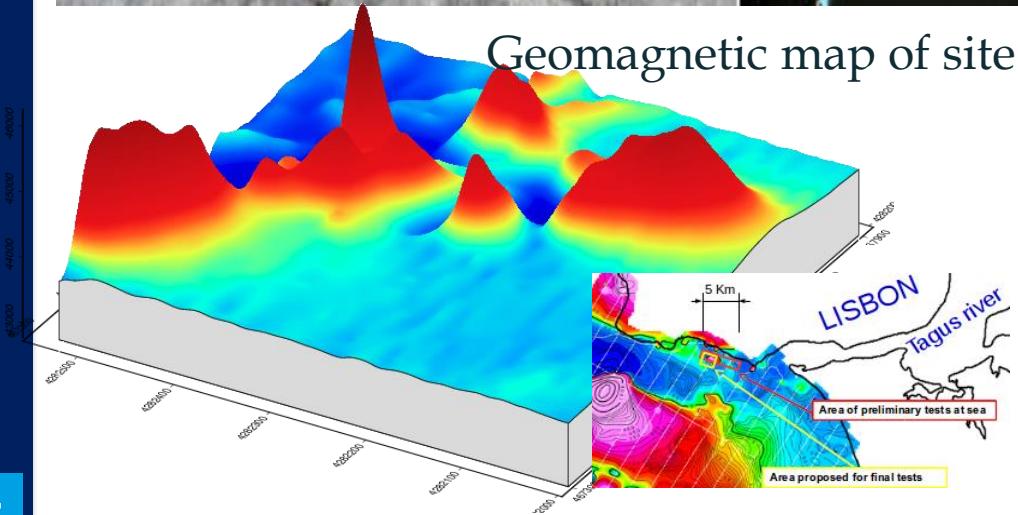


# Geophysical Navigation

*Integrating bathymetry and geomagnetics*



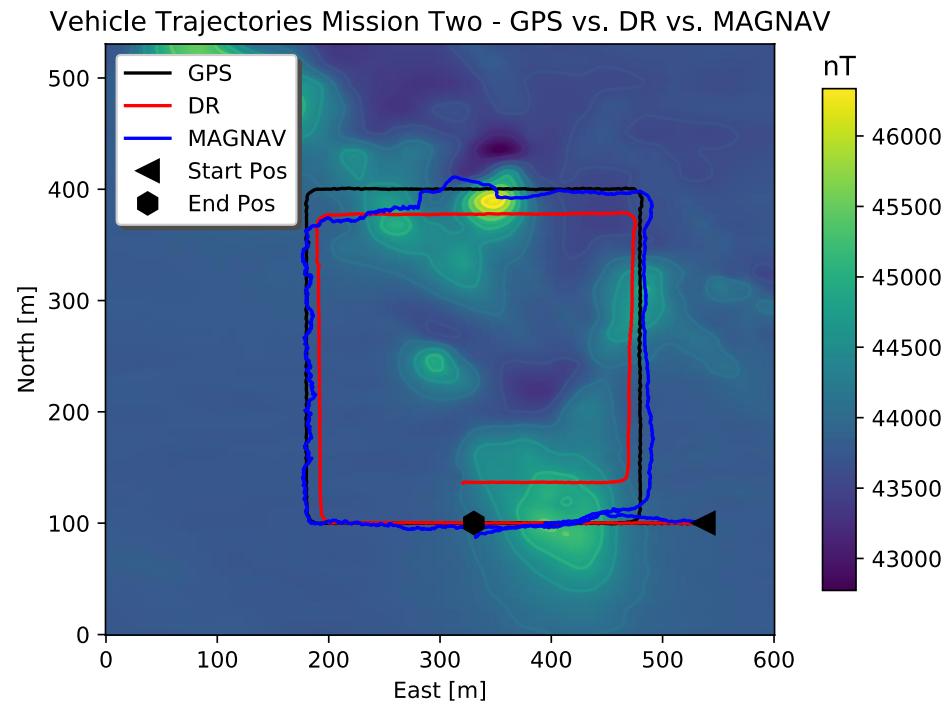
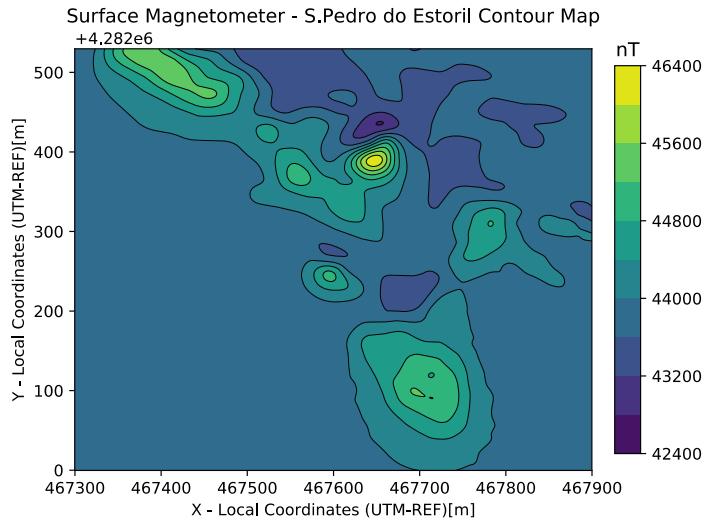
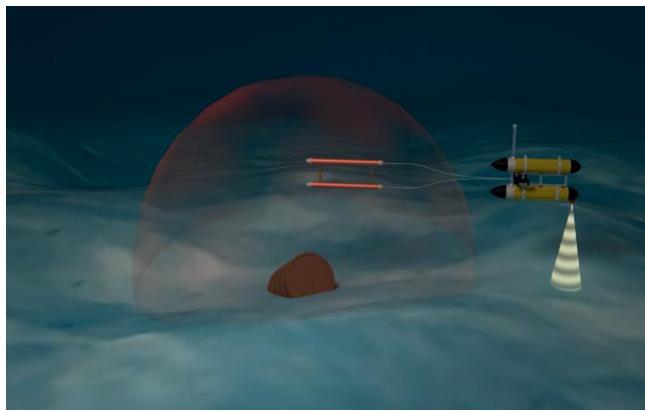
# Geophysical Navigation Using Magnetic Data (MEDUSA GN System)



MEDUSA with magnetometer

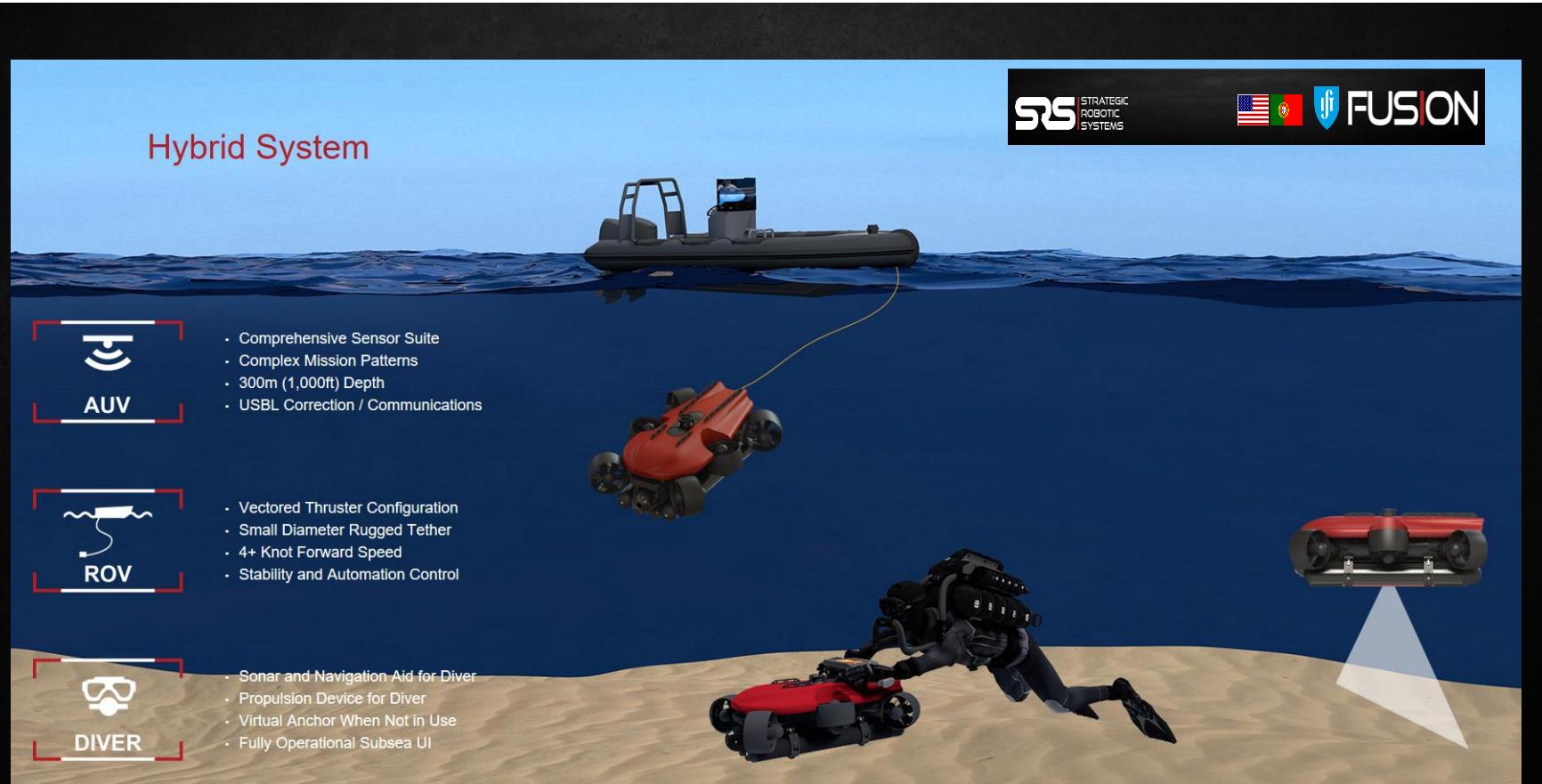
# Geomagnetic Navigation

## Geophysical Navigation Using Magnetic Data (MEDUSA GN System)



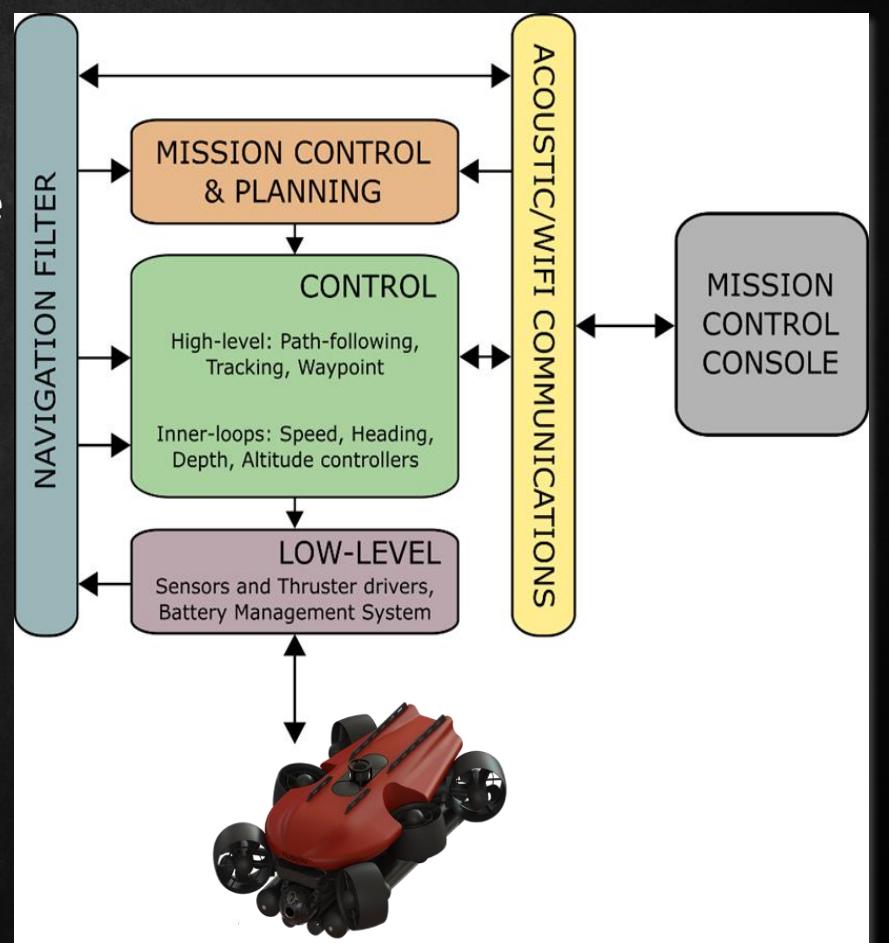
Real trajectory followed by the vehicle, compared with the trajectory estimated by dead-reckoning and the MAGNAV filter.

# Hybrid Vehicles

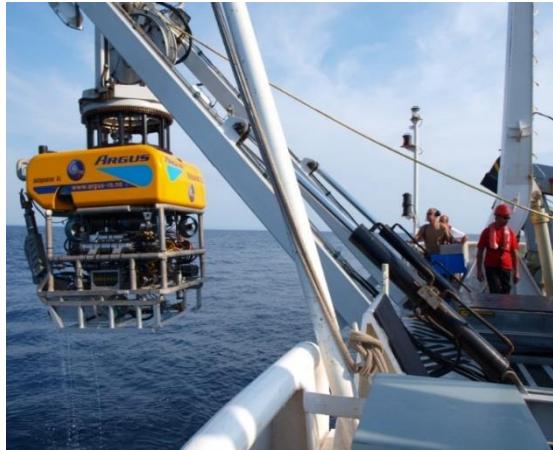
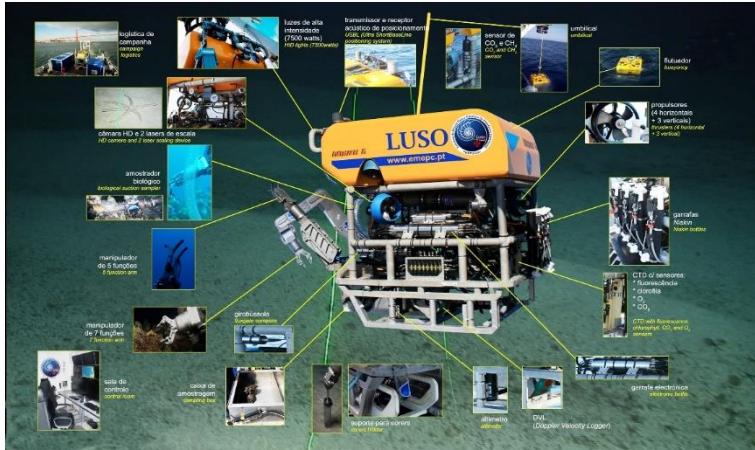


# Hybrid Vehicles

- Capitalizing on the know-how obtained from years of developing the MEDUSA Class AUVs
- IST main contributions:
  - Navigation and Control Systems
    - Development
    - Implementation
    - Optimization



# The Call of the ABYSS



TÉCNICO  
LISBOA

## The LUSO ROV - 6000 m depth

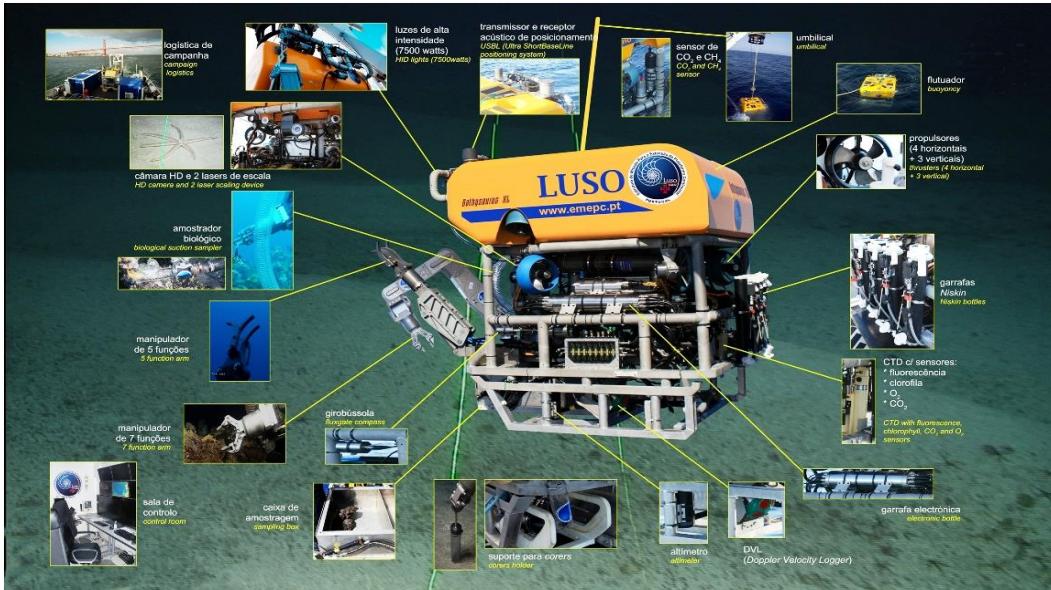
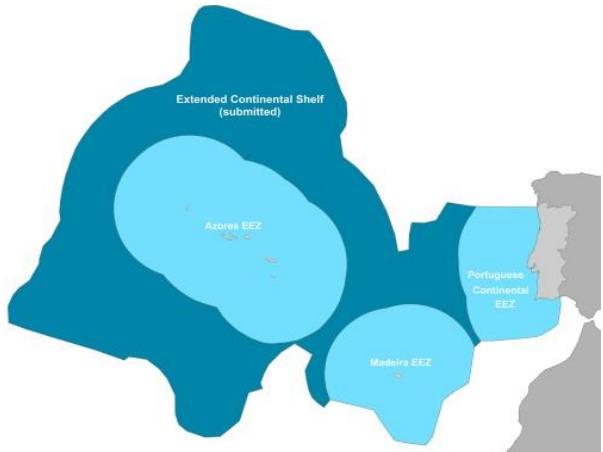


## The MEDUSA Deep Sea AUV - 3000 depth



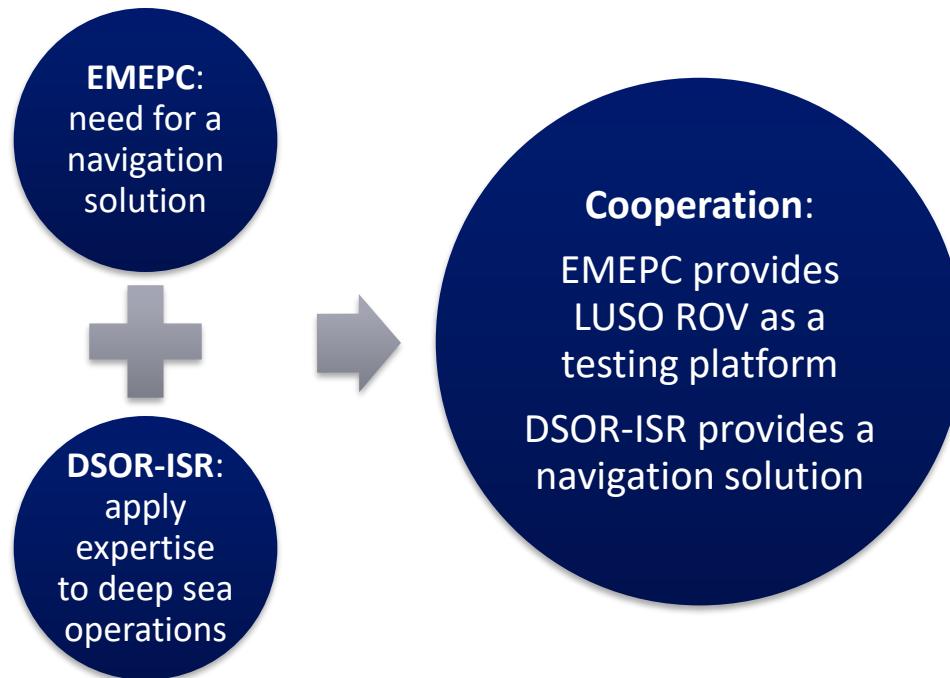


# The LUSO ROV

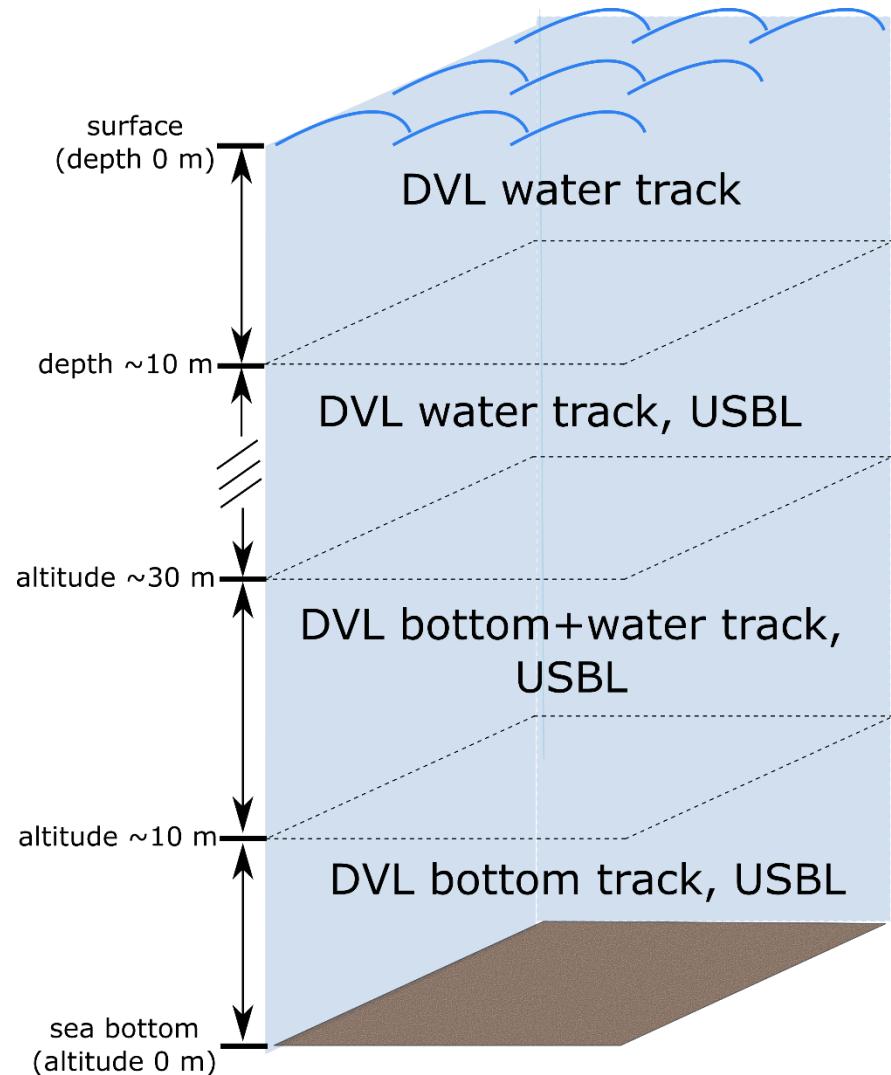


# LUSO ROV Navigation

- Pilots depended on noisy, unreliable, infrequent **Ultra-Short Baseline (USBL) position fixes**
- A reliable, continuous-time estimate of the ROV position would allow for precise georeferencing and assist pilots
- Navigation should take advantage of other sensors, e.g. the **Doppler Velocity Log**



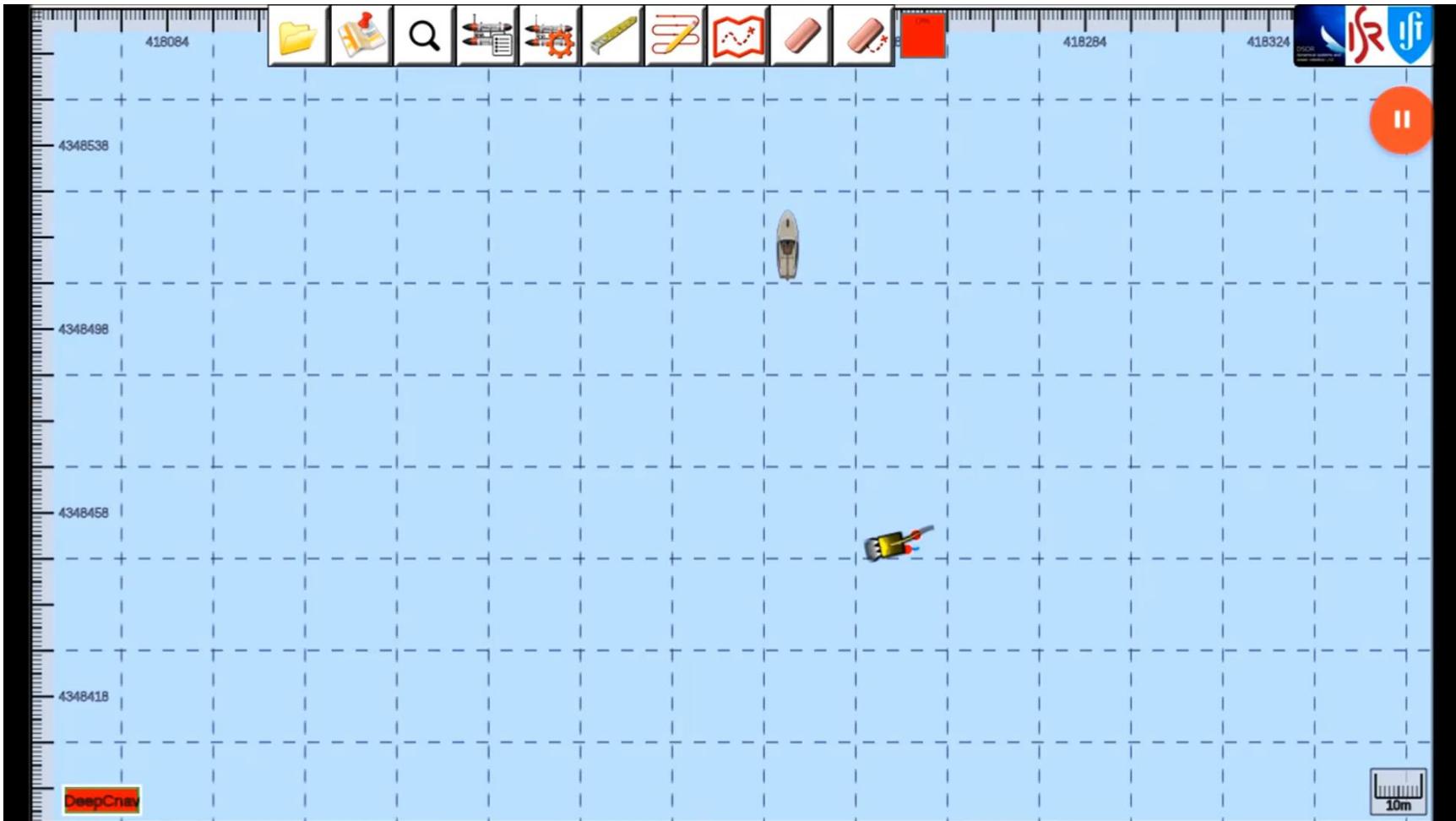
# Measurements available



# Test at Sea



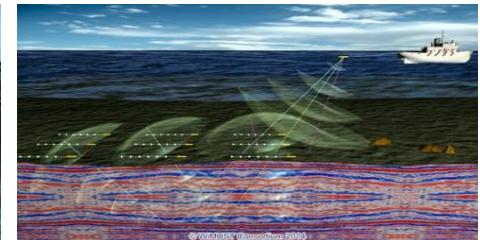
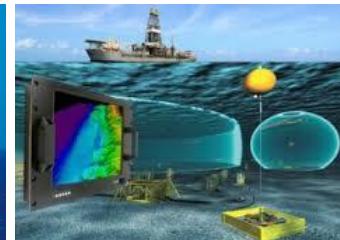
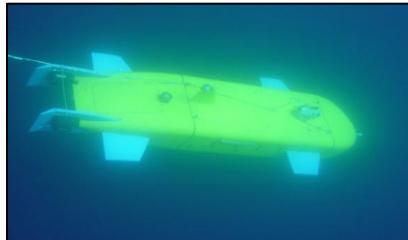
# Final setup & testing at sea



# The big push forward

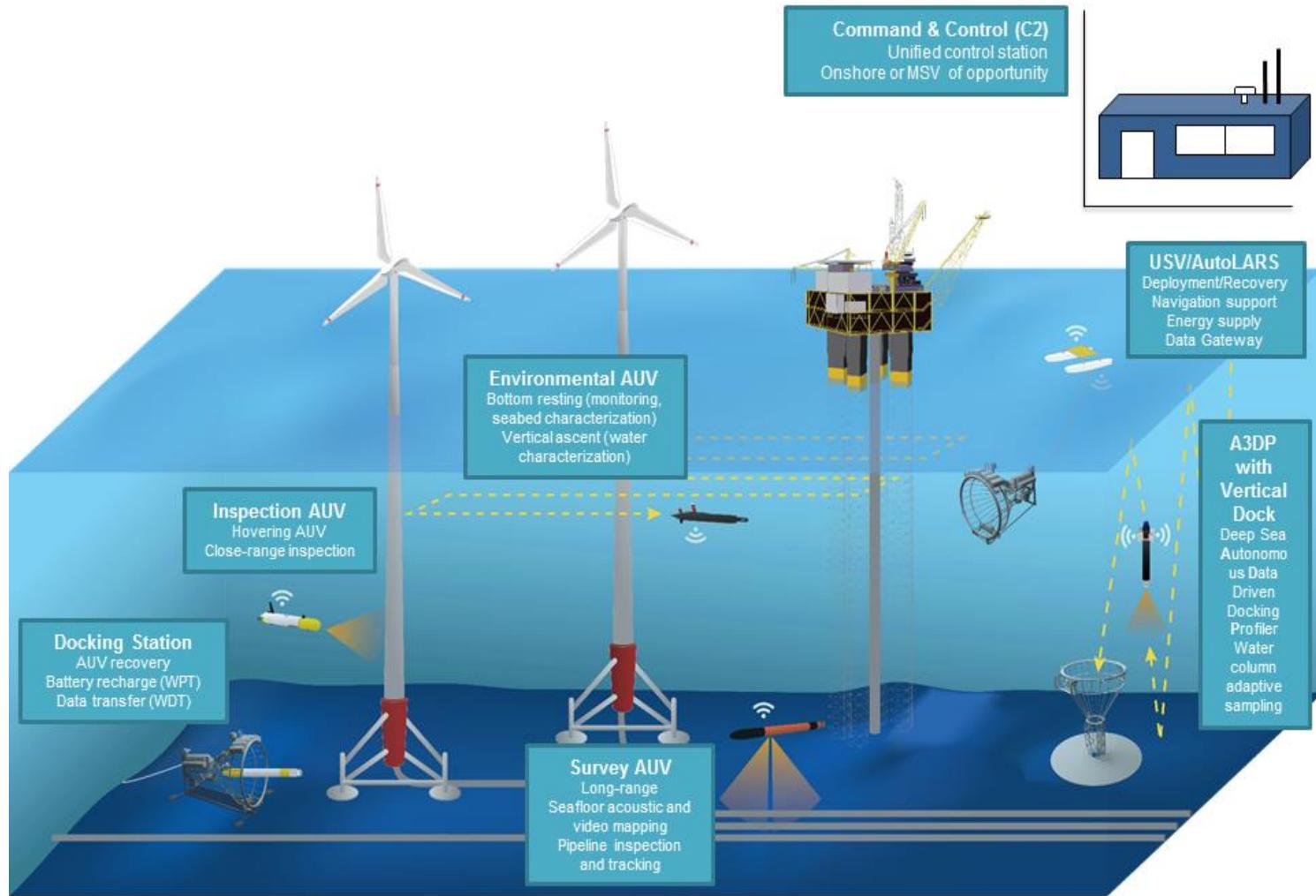
Bring about a true revolution in the marine technology area by:

- Focusing on challenging **flagship initiatives** driven by end-users (including aquaculture, renewable energies, fisheries, and ocean modeling)
- Merging innovation with core technologies for seamless access to the water column, critical infrastructures, and the **deep sea**.



# A Vision of the Future: the EC PASS initiative

Sustained presence at sea: offshore wave and wind energy harvesting, deep sea lab maintenance



# SOS4ATLANTIC: A NEW MIT-PT INITIATIVE

## A Multi-Domain Atlantic Ocean-Space Observation System: Science, Technology, and Society



tekever  
SPACE

**TEKEVER**



**MIT**  
Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology



Empowering the future

**U.PORTO**  
**FEUP** FACULDADE DE ENGENHARIA  
UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO



**U.PORTO**  
**FC** FACULDADE DE CIÊNCIAS  
UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO



CERENA  
Centro de Recursos  
Naturais e Ambiente

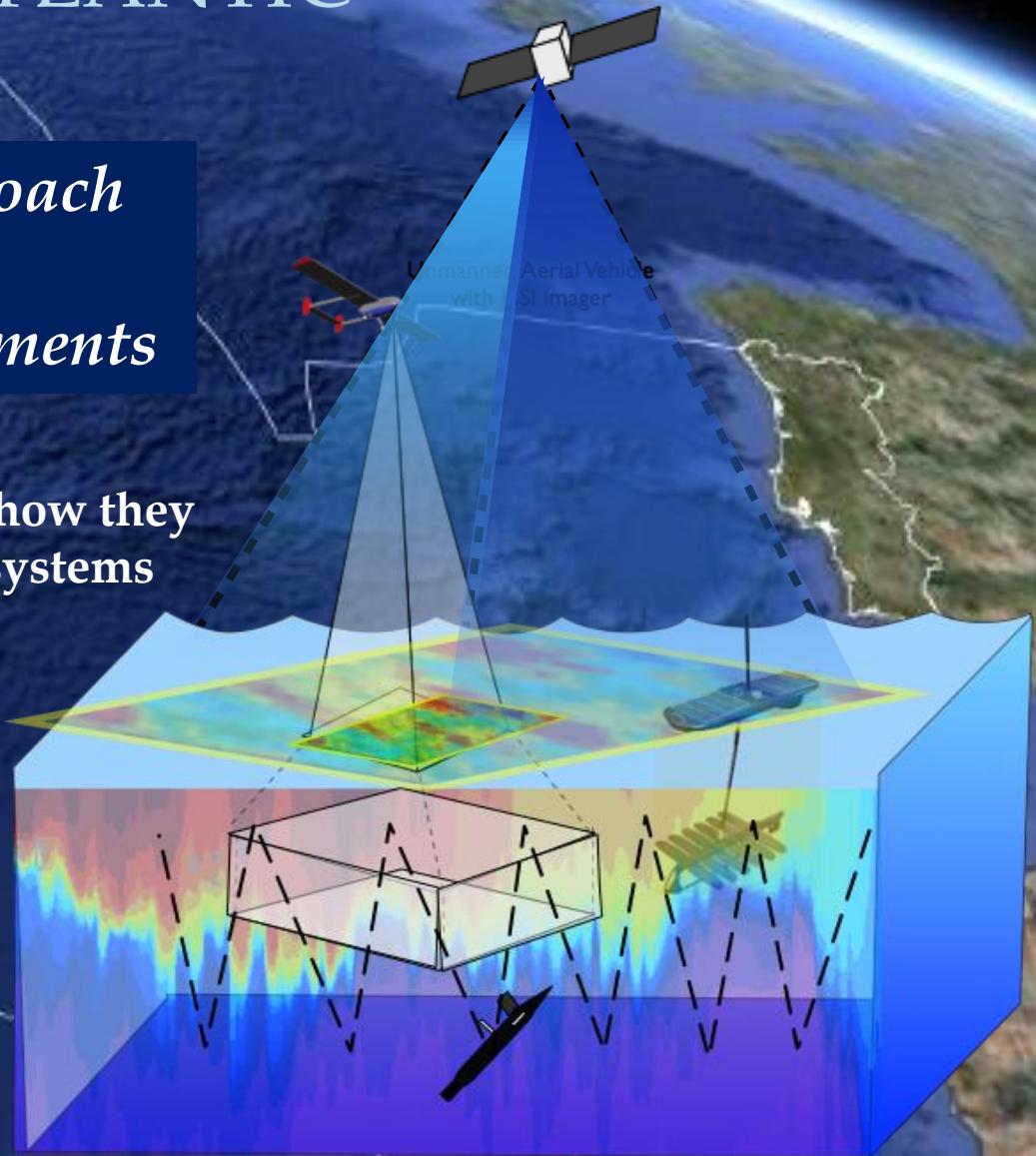


# SOS4ATLANTIC

*A System of Systems approach  
integrating  
Space, Air, and Marine segments*

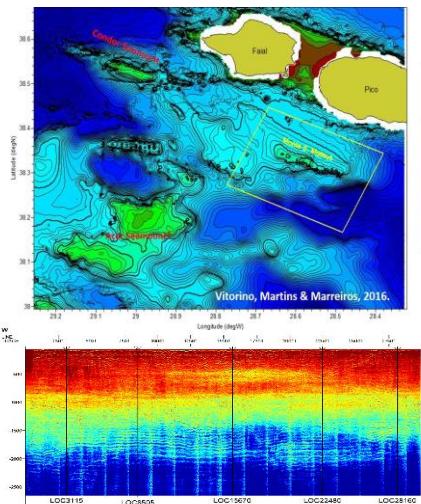
Target use-case:  
Study of ocean front dynamics and how they  
impact on pelagic and deep sea ecosystems

Vision:  
lay the foundations for an  
**Atlantic Ocean Observation Platform**  
with far reaching  
scientific, commercial, and  
societal impact.

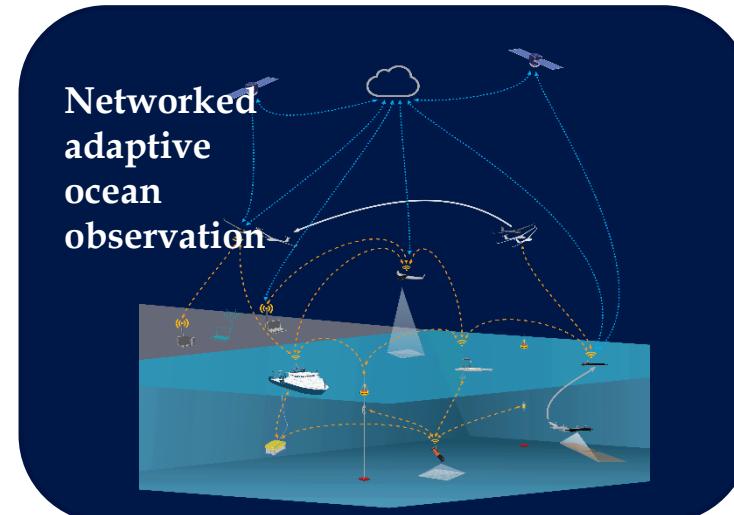


# SOS4ATLANTIC

## A System of Systems approach integrating Space, Air, and Marine segments for Ocean Science



Modeling and Forecasting



Multi-vehicle SOSystems



Ocean front and ecosystem studies

# SOS4ATLANTIC

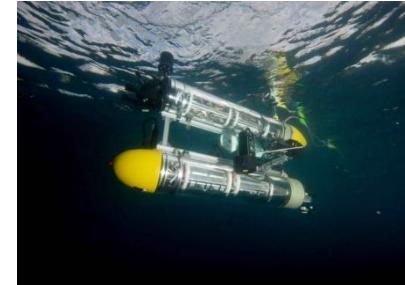
## A showcase of technological assets for science and the industry



**NRP D. Carlos class  
Oceanographic  
Vessel**



**RV Águas Vivas**

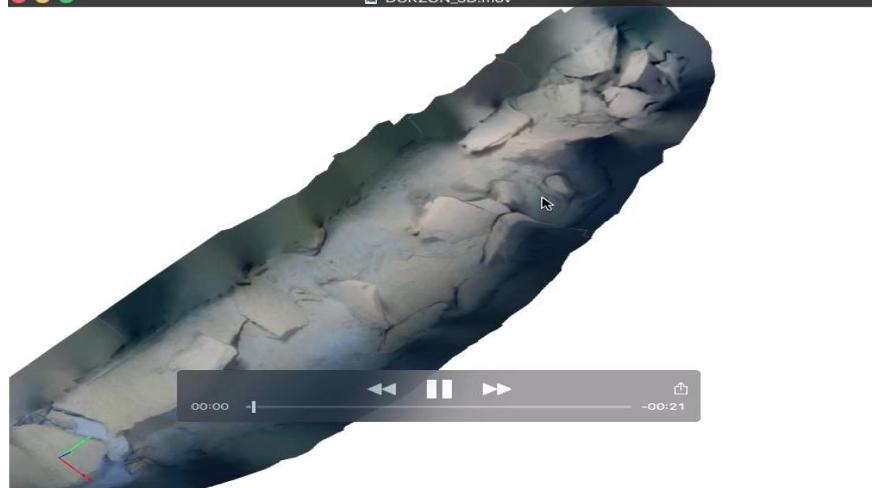
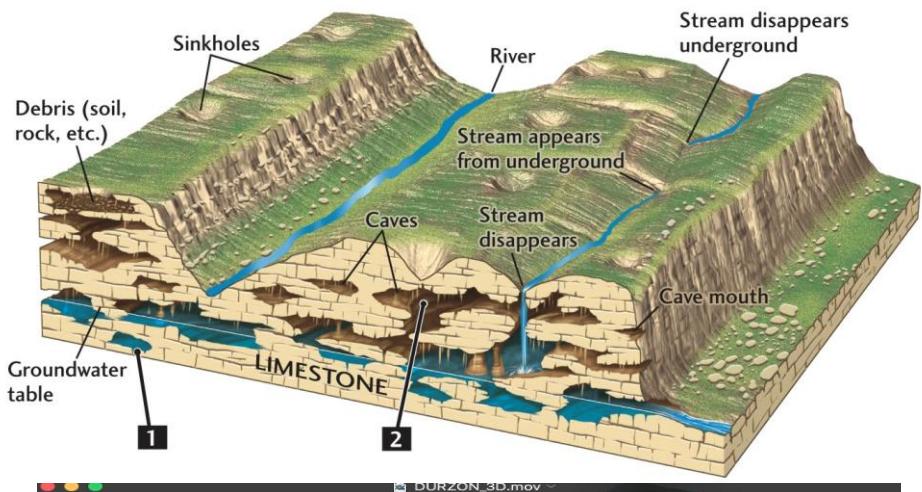


**Fleet of 20 surface and underwater  
autonomous marine robots - FEUP, IST,  
MIT**

**10 unmanned air  
vehicles -  
FEUP & TEKEVER**

# EU - ANZAR

## Karstic exploration using autonomous robots (water reservoir management)



# NEAR FUTURE : THE ANZAR EUROPEAN EXTENSION



LEM  
LILLE ECONOMICS MANAGEMENT

MRM  
Montpellier Research in Management

Business



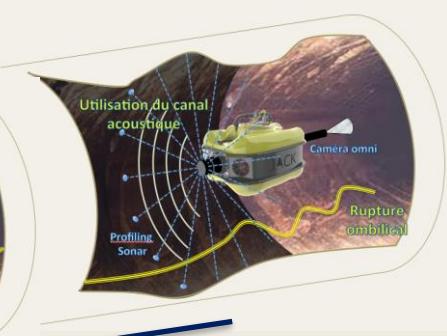
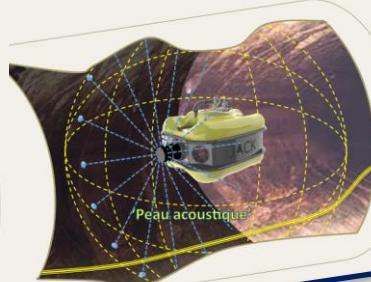
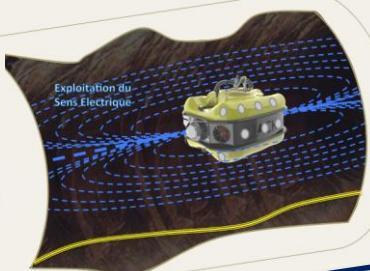
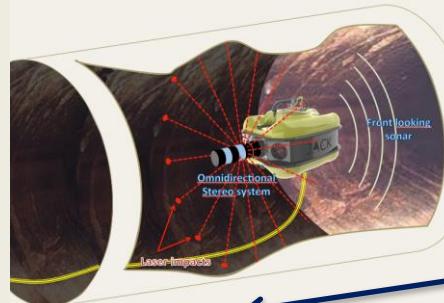
USJ  
1875

brgm  
Géosciences pour une Terre durable



Vector

Raw data acquisition and model construction



Env. Models, SLAM

On-line model exploitation

End-Users

New sensors



VICROB  
COMPUTER VISION AND ROBOTICS



Montpellier  
Métropole



Hydrokarsl  
GROUPE



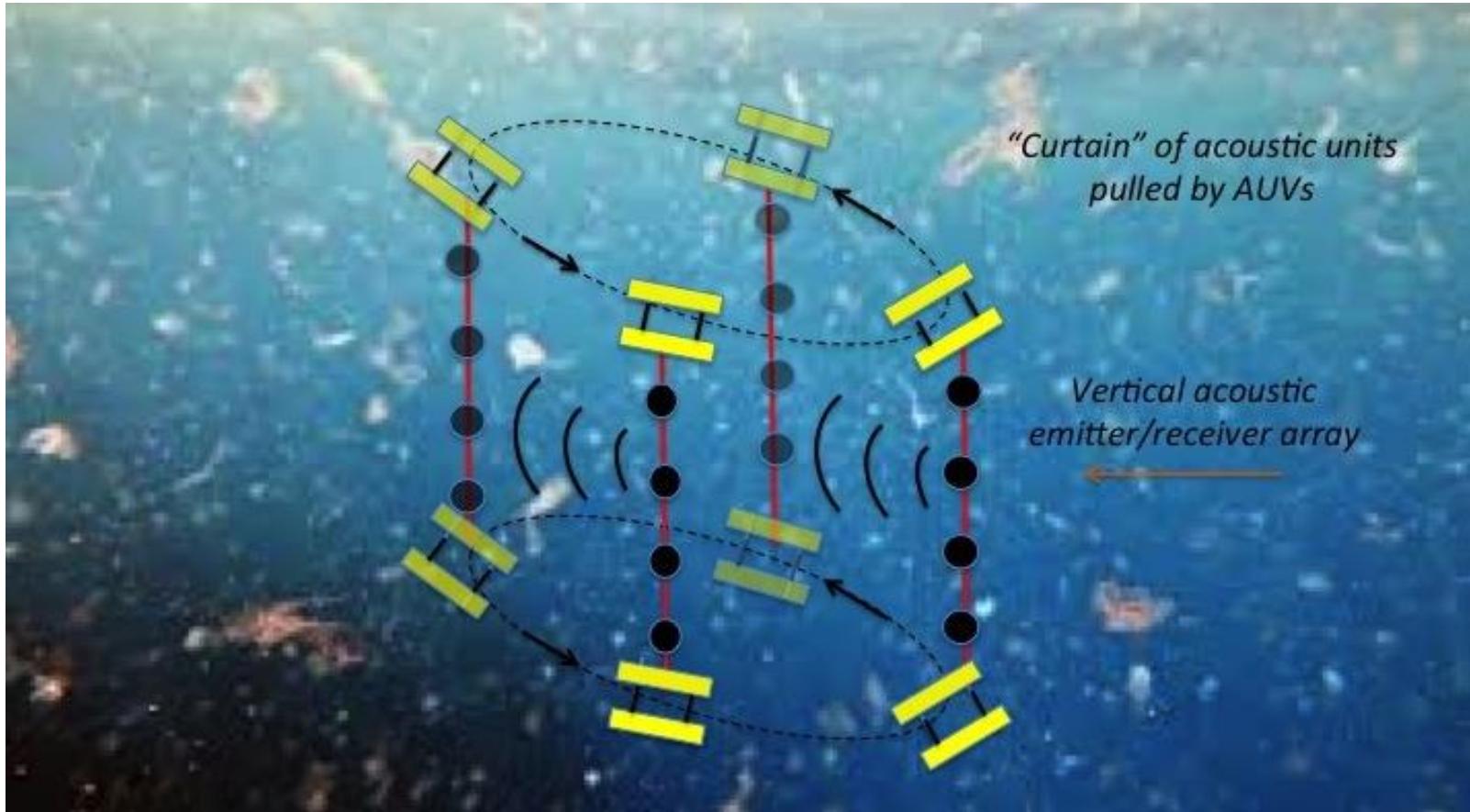
SyERA



IQUA  
ROBOTICS

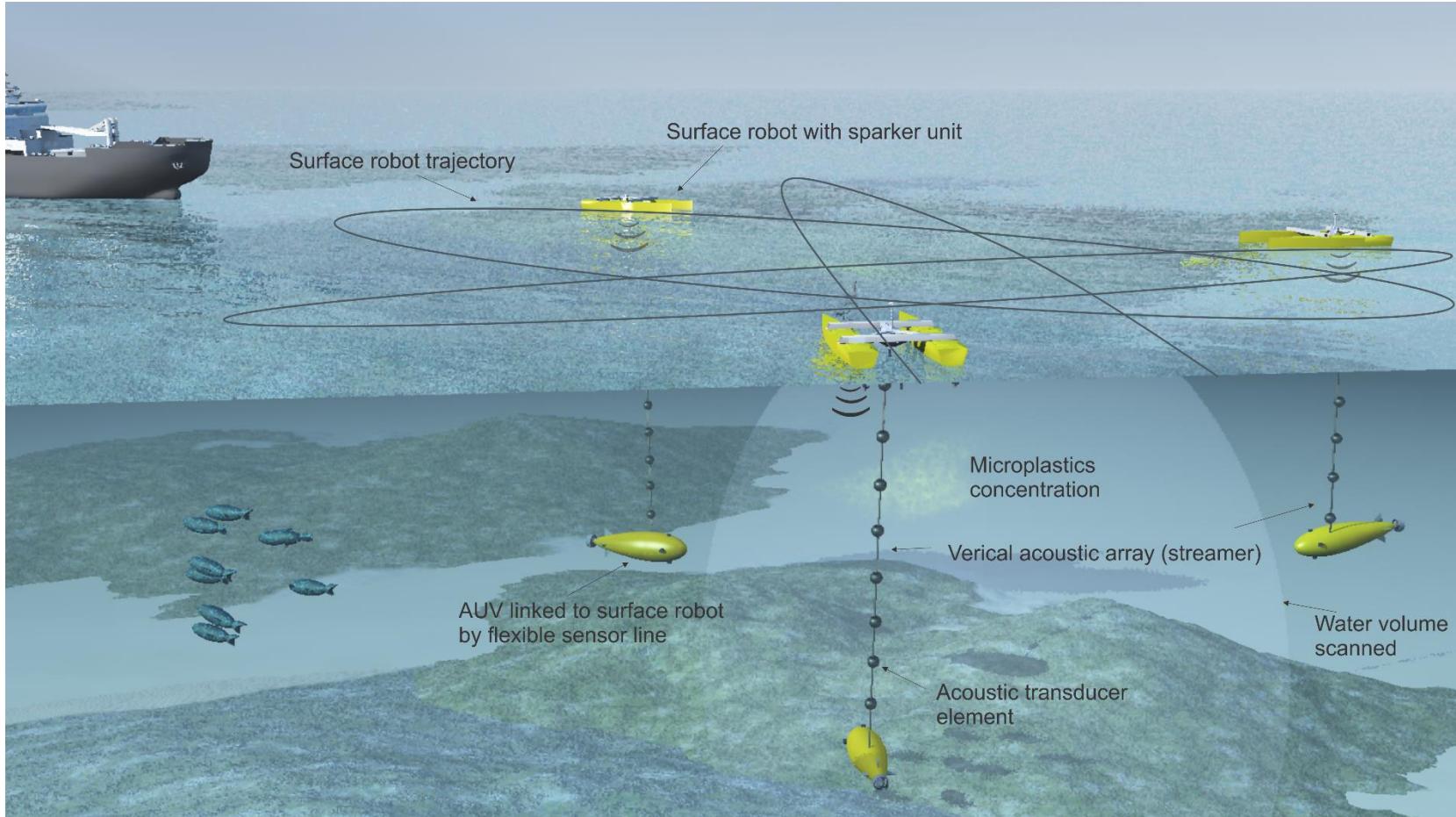
# EU - SARDINES

## *Detection, Tracing, and Mapping of Microplastics in the Ocean*



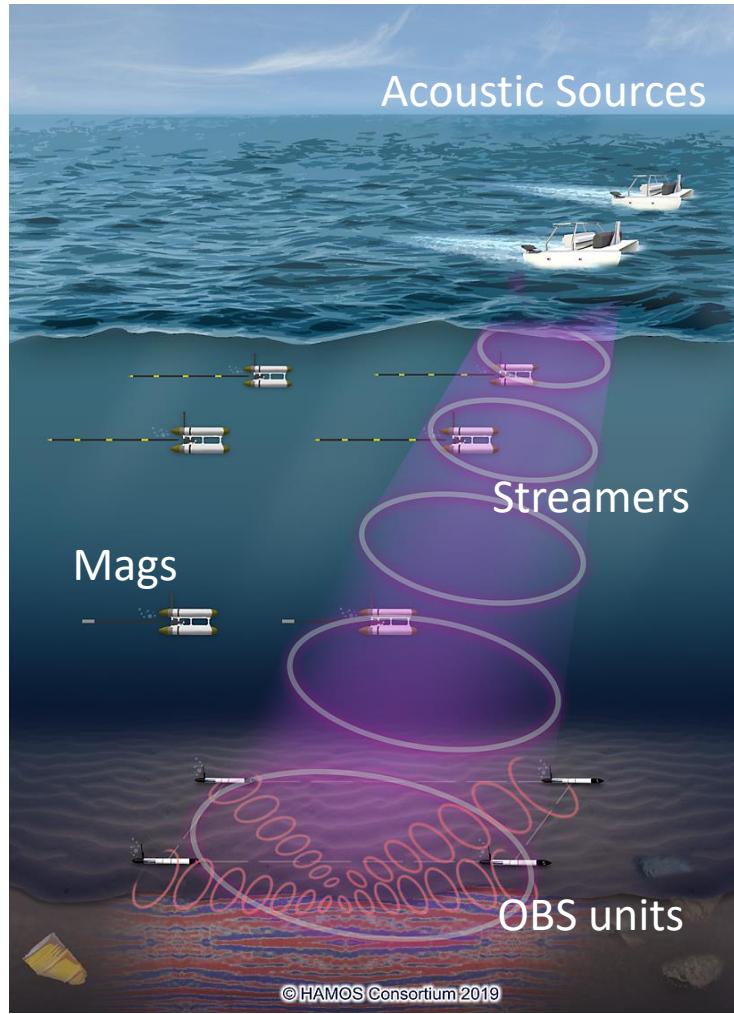
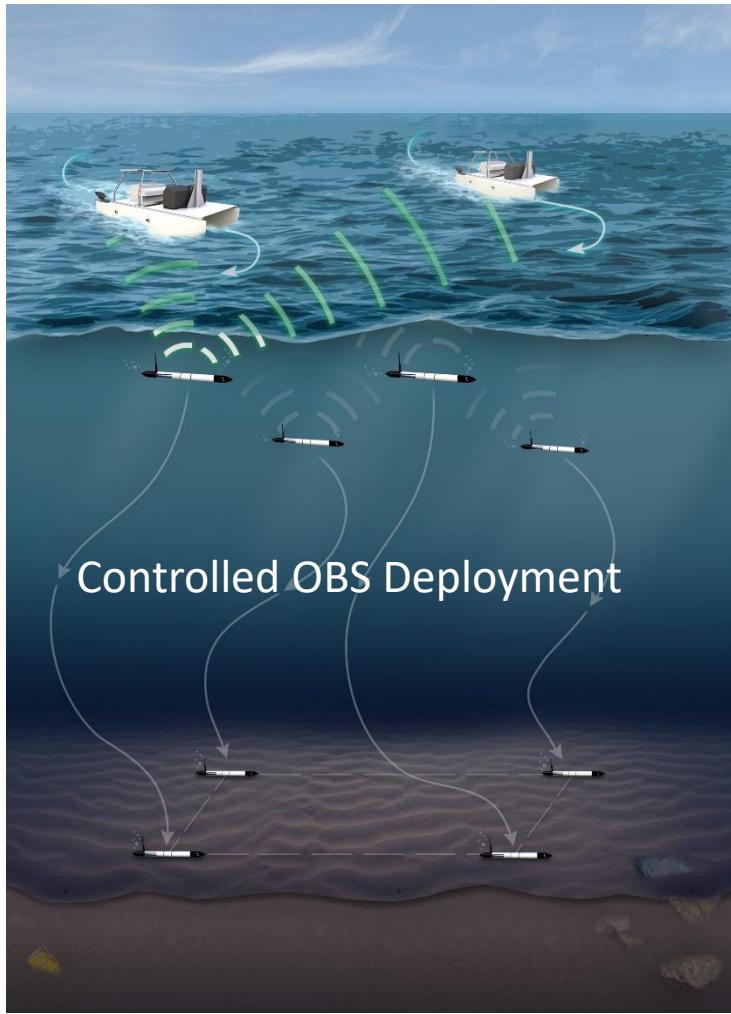
# EU - SARDINES

## *Detection, Tracing, and Mapping of Microplastics in the Ocean*



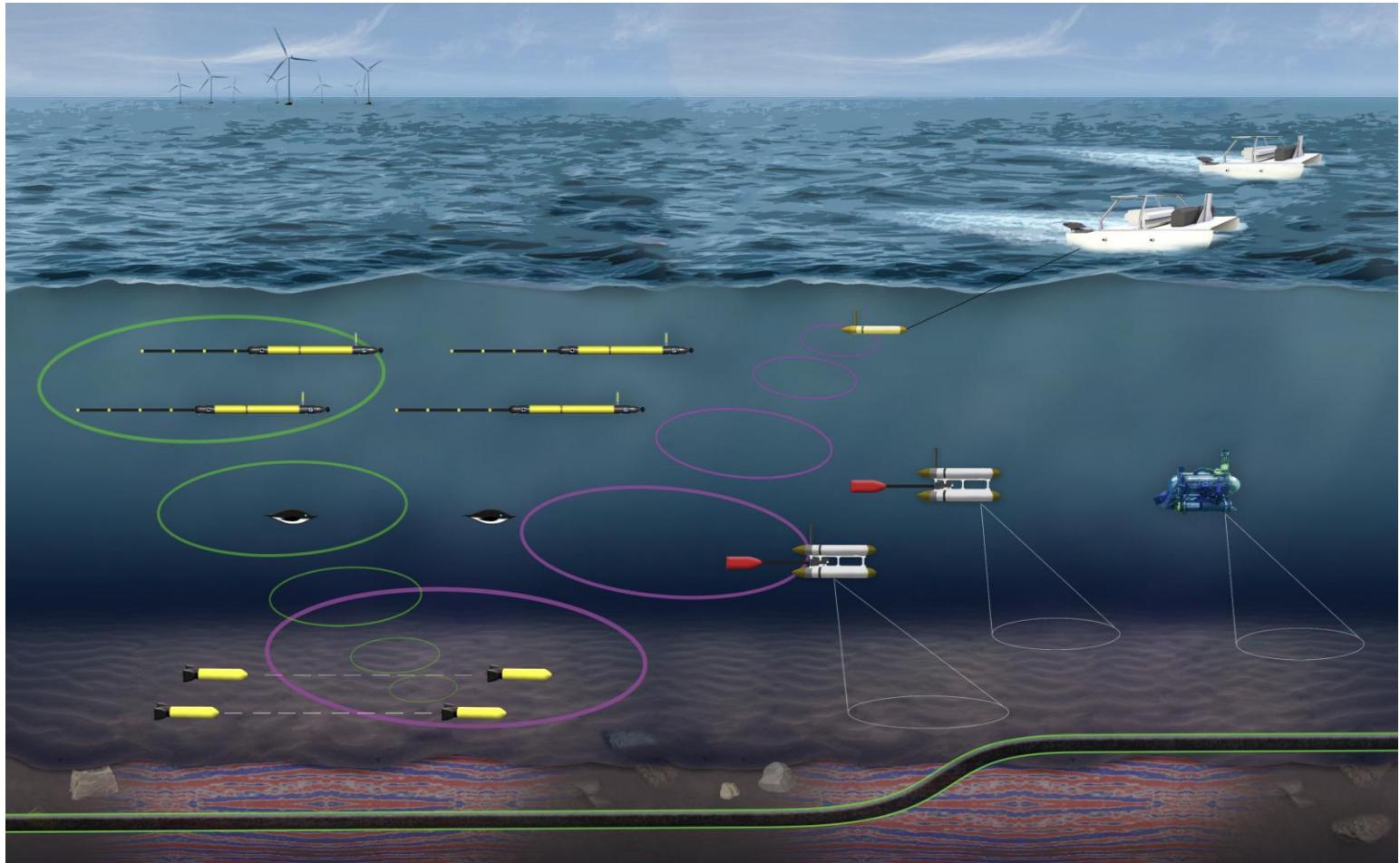
# The Future: Advanced Geotechnical Suveys

EC-WiMUST Consortium, 2019

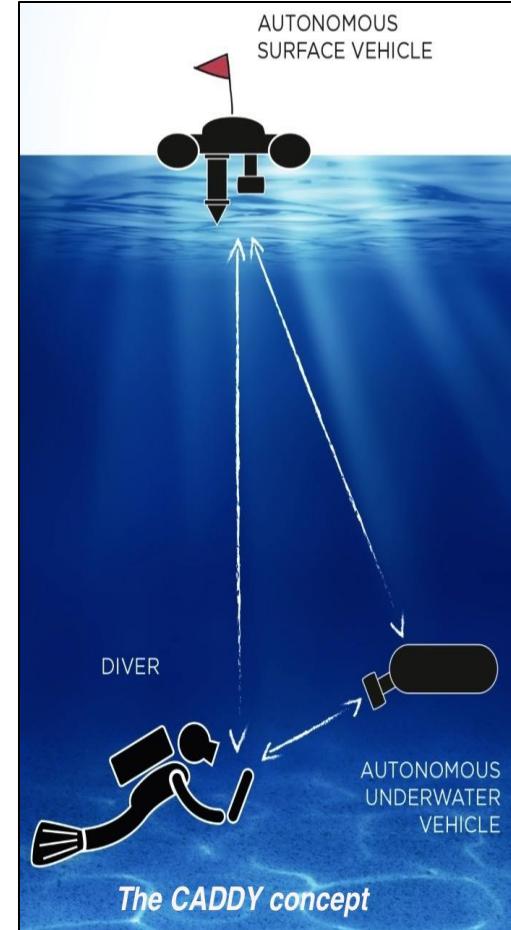


**Streamers, Mags, and OBS (Ocean Bottom Surveying units)**

# A Distributed Robotic-Based System for Underwater Infrastructures Inspection



# The future: Cooperative Robots and Humans in the Loop



Ocean Literacy  
Cultural Heritage (underwater archaeology)

# National and International Cooperation

- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI, USA)
- L’Institut Français de Recherche pour l’Exploitation de La Mer (FR)
- Zentrum fur Marine Umweltvissenschaften at Bremen (MARUM, DE)
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU / AMOS, NO)
- National Institute of Oceanography (NIO, Goa, INDIA)
- National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT, Chennai, INDIA)
- Center for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE, La Spezia, IT)
- Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST, Korea)
- Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh (USA)
- Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA (USA)
- École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL, Lausanne, CH)
- Universidade de S. Paulo (BR)
- IMAR/DOP/Uaçores (PT)
- Faculdade de Engenharia da Univ. Porto (FEUP, PT)
- EMEPC, PT

# Questions ?

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University of  
Zagreb

