



# Classification of blue whale D calls and fin whale 40-Hz calls using deep learning

Jeremy Karnowski<sup>1</sup> & Yair Movshovitz-Attias<sup>2</sup>

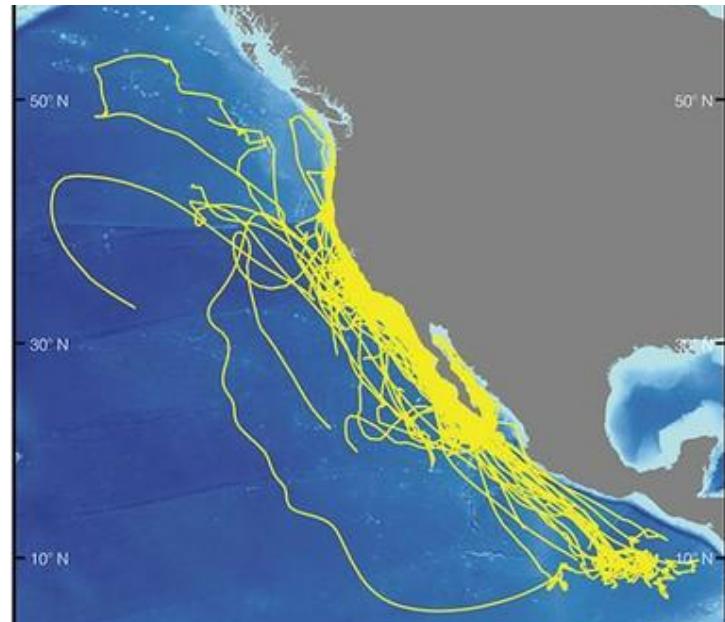
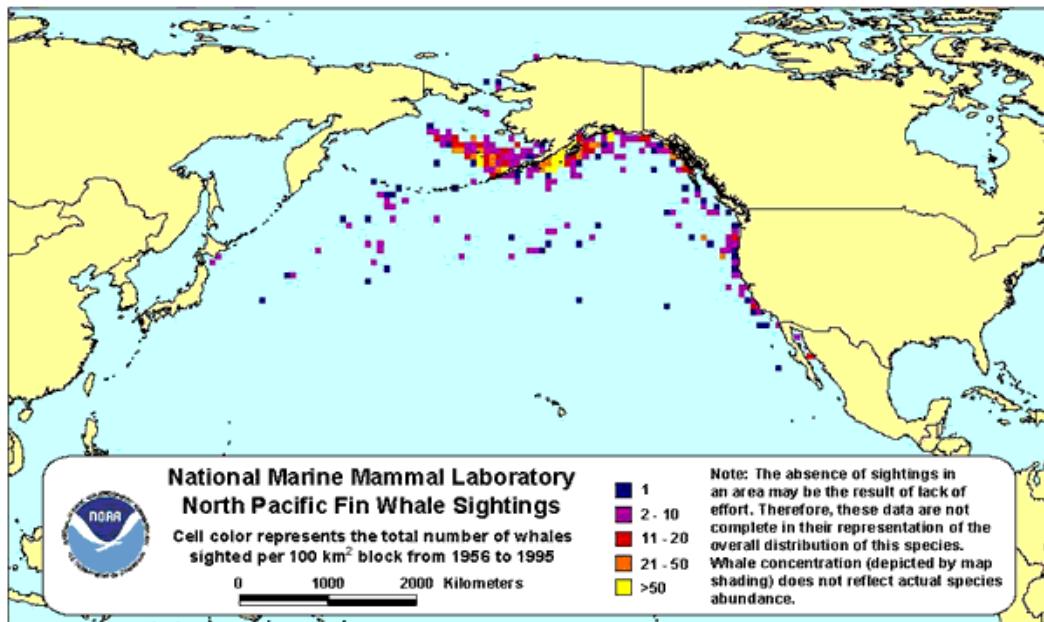
<sup>1</sup>University of California, San Diego, USA

<sup>2</sup>Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

[jkarnows@cogsci.ucsd.edu](mailto:jkarnows@cogsci.ucsd.edu) [@mwakanosya](https://twitter.com/mwakanosya)



# Passive Acoustic Monitoring



- Blue whale and fin whale population sizes are declining.
- Vocalizations found from passive acoustic monitoring can provide massive amounts of data on population sizes and migratory patterns.

# A Problem

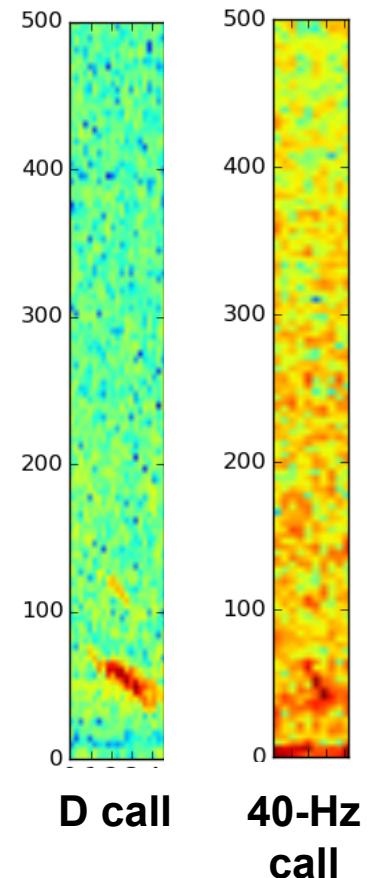
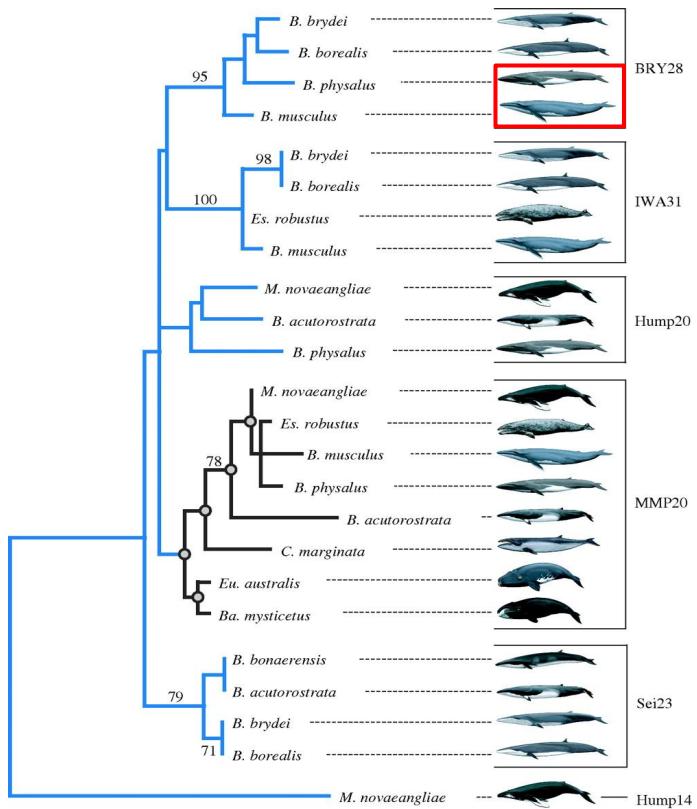
“Since the fin whale detectors can be triggered by blue whale calls, a separate detection algorithm for blue whales is being developed to allow for differentiation between the two.“

Weirathmueller , Wilcock , Soule (DCLDE 2011)

“Finally, ambiguity could arise in distinguishing blue whale D calls from fin whale 40-Hz calls in an LTSA even though D calls have a distinctly broader bandwidth (Oleson et al. 2007)”

Širović, Williams, Kerosky, Wiggins, and Hildebrand (2013)

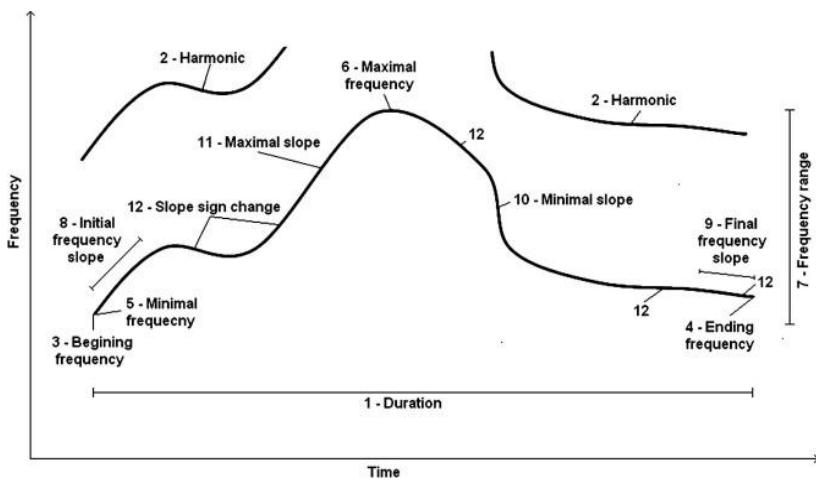
# Fin Whales and Blue Whales



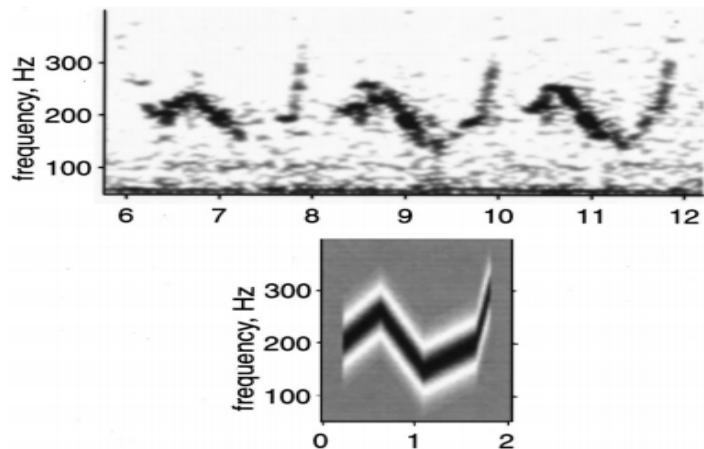
- Closely related species, so call production may be similar
- Evidence suggests that the fin whale 40-Hz call may be feeding call, similar to the blue whale D call

(Watkins (1981); Sirovic, Williams, Kerosky, Wiggins, and Hildebrand (2013))

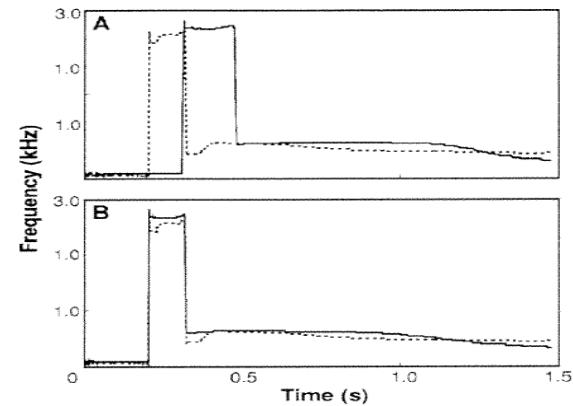
# Whistle Classification



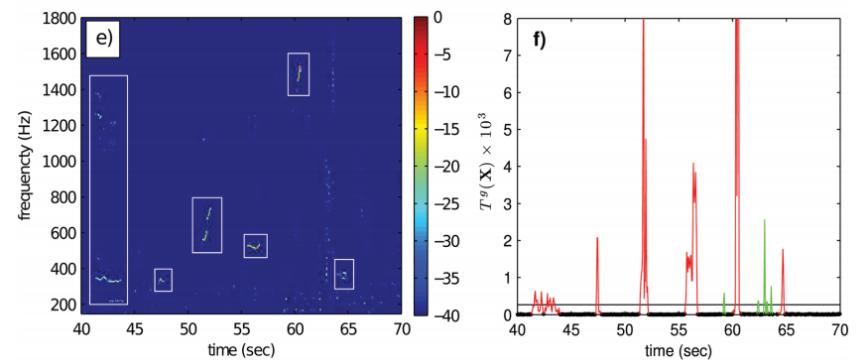
Feature Selection  
(Gannier et al., 2000)



Spectrogram Correlation  
(Mellinger & Clark, 2000)



Dynamic Time Warping  
(Deecke & Janik, 2006)



Generalized Power-Law  
(Helble, Lerley, D'Spain, Roch, Hildebrand, 2012)

# GPU and Deep Learning Packages

- Shallow Network:
  - Recognizing transient low-frequency whale sounds by spectrogram correlation (Mellinger, Clark 2000)
- Deep Network:
  - Practical deep neural nets for detecting marine mammals (Nouri, DCLDE 2013)

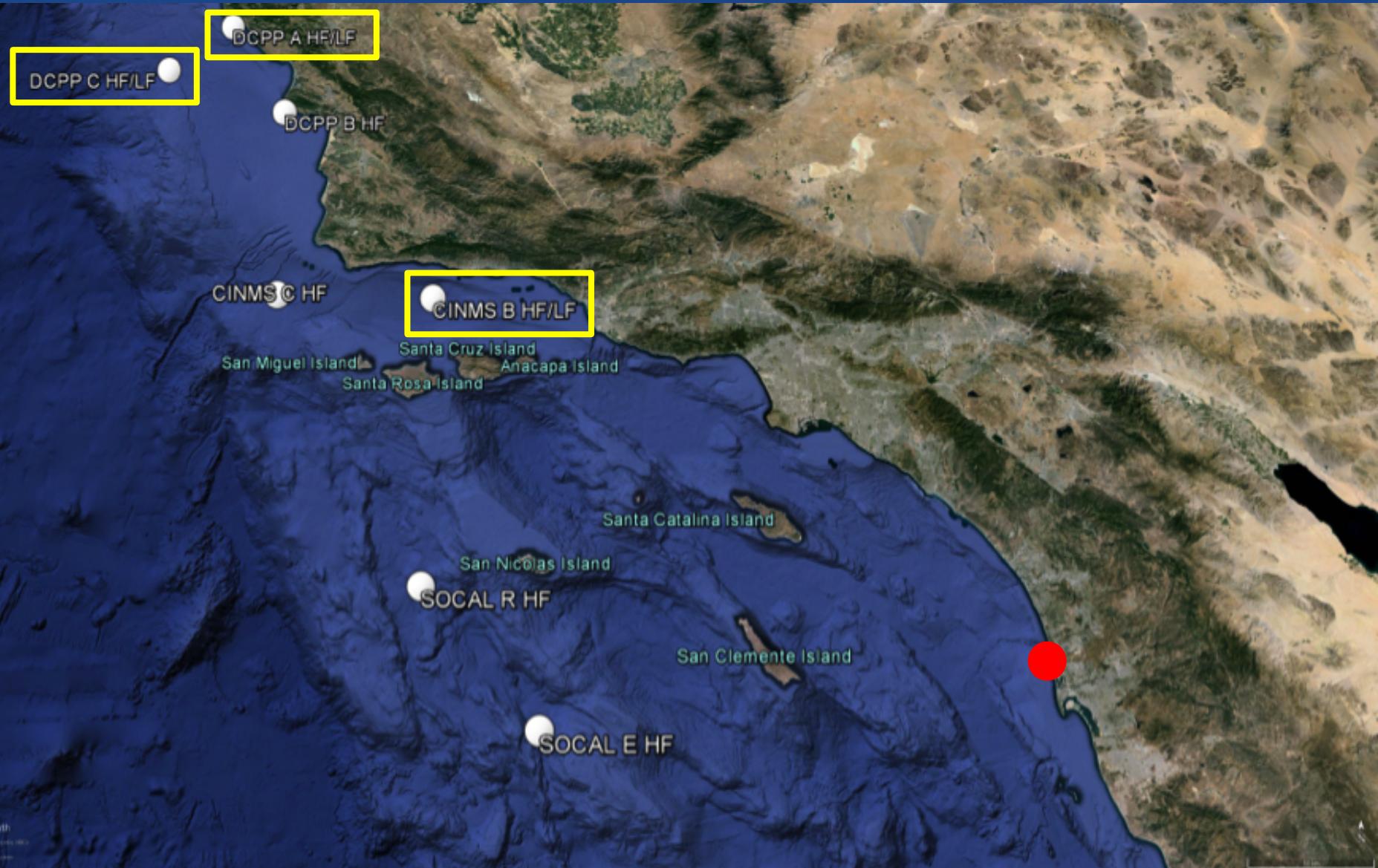


The screenshot shows the NVIDIA website with a search bar and a dropdown menu for "USA - United States". Below the header is a green navigation bar with the text "Academic Hardware Grant Request Form". The main content area contains instructions for professors, researchers, and advisors to request a GPU for research purposes. It lists requirements such as contact information, research project descriptions, usage plans, and publication lists. A note at the bottom states that requests are reviewed bi-weekly and grants are limited to one per person per year per project.

[Academic Hardware Grant Request Form](#)



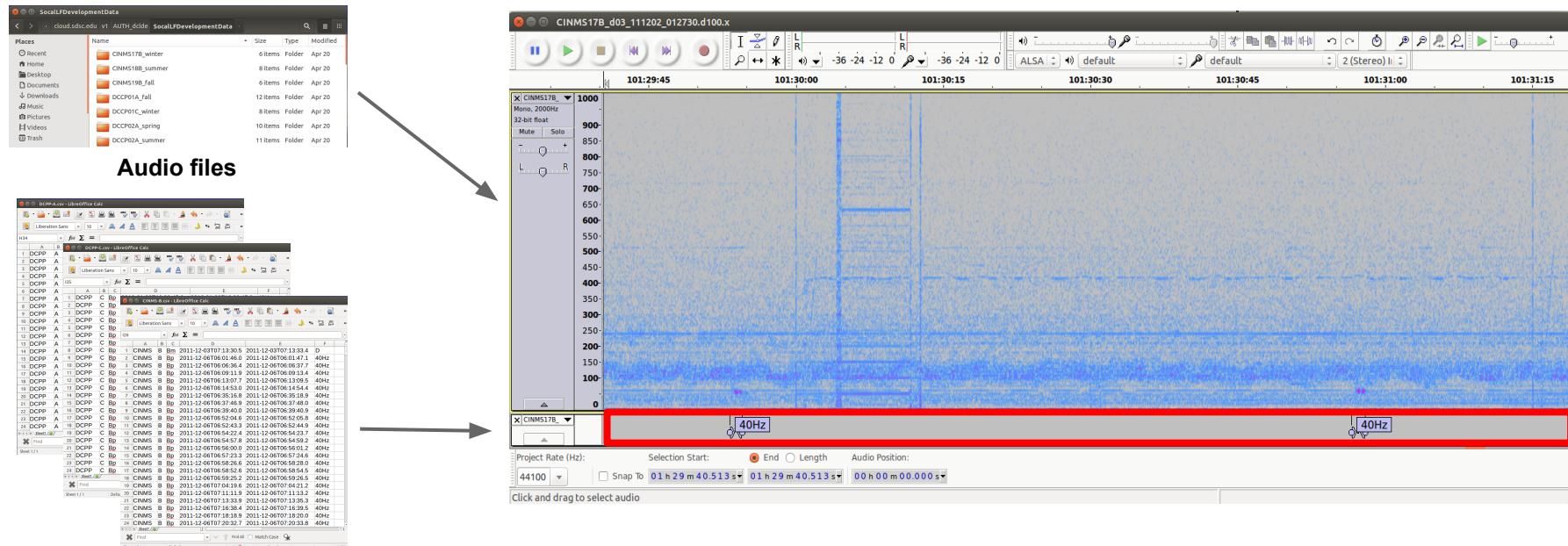
# Data Collection



Over 1387 hours of audio recorded between 2009-2013 off the coast of Southern California

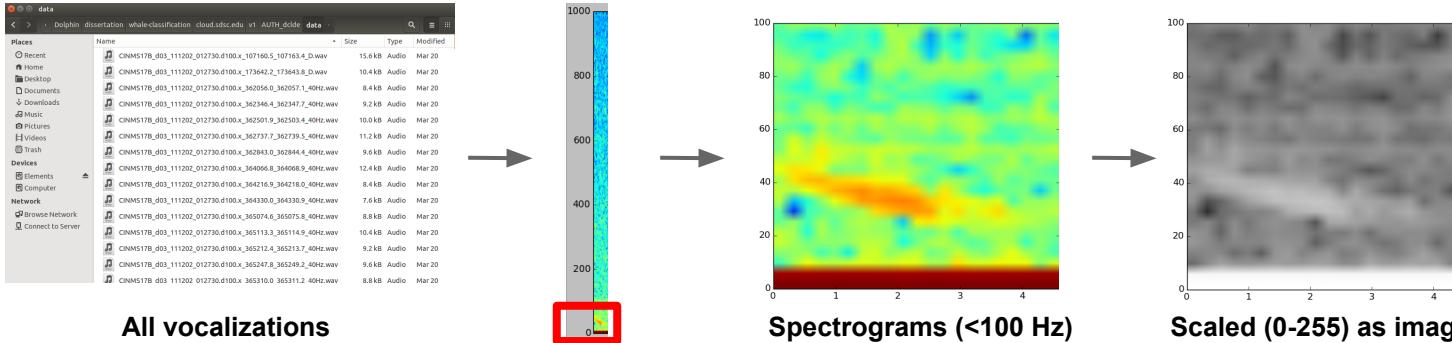
# Dataset Creation

## **Creating annotation files for each audio file for visual inspection**



## Annotations

# Creating audio dataset and spectrogram dataset



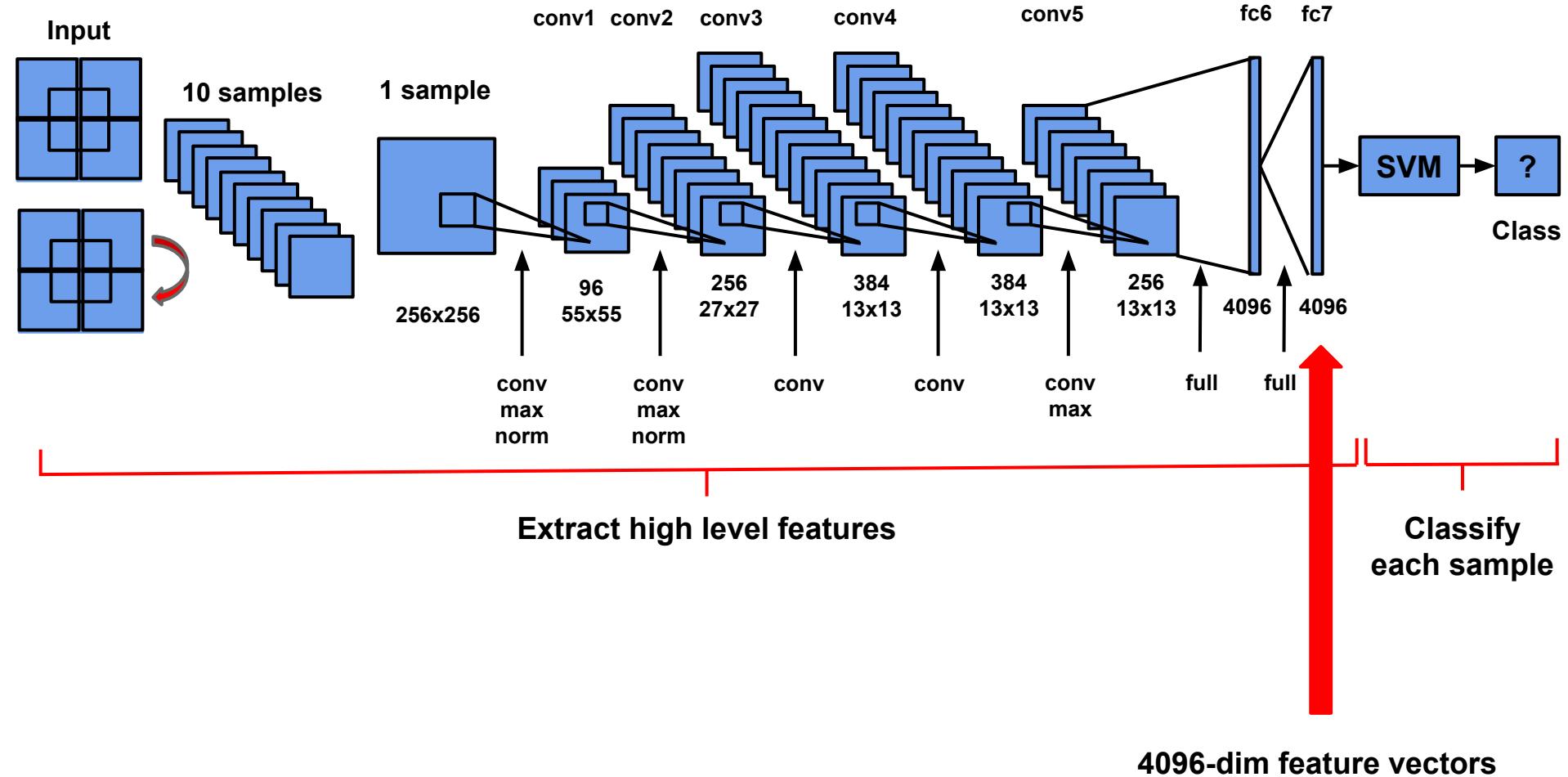
4796 D calls

## 415 40-Hz calls

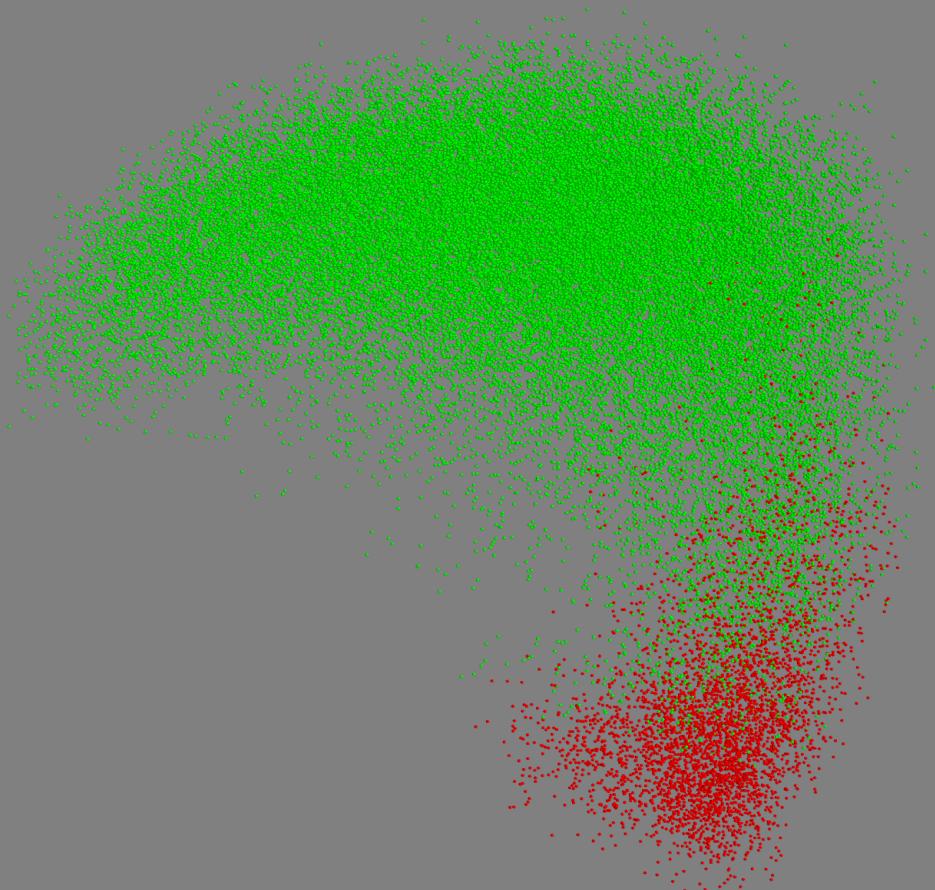
# AlexNet + SVM

BV  
LC

Caffe

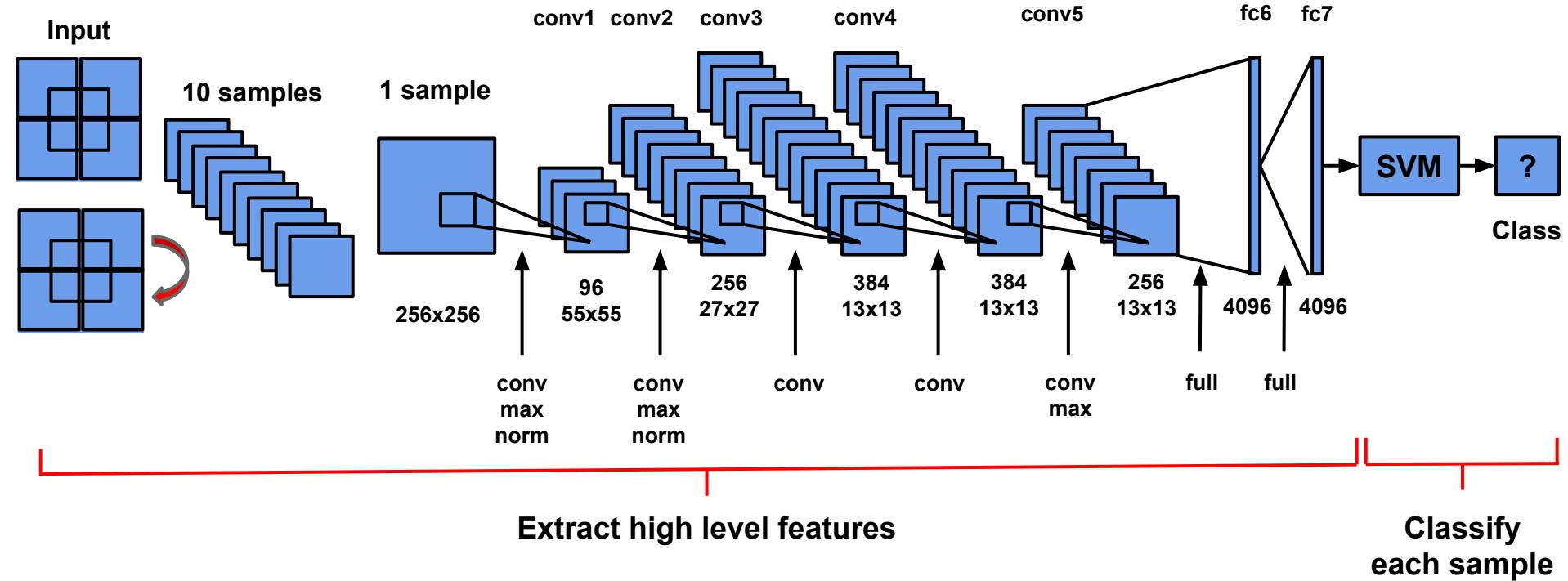


# fc7 Feature Vectors in 2D (PCA)



**blue whale  
D calls**

**fin whale  
40-Hz calls**



- Linear SVM ( $C=0.0625$ )
- 10-fold cross-validation
- For each image, classify each sample as 0 (fin) or 1 (blue)
  - Take average of 10 samples and label call blue if  $> 0.5$

# Results

## Confusion Matrix

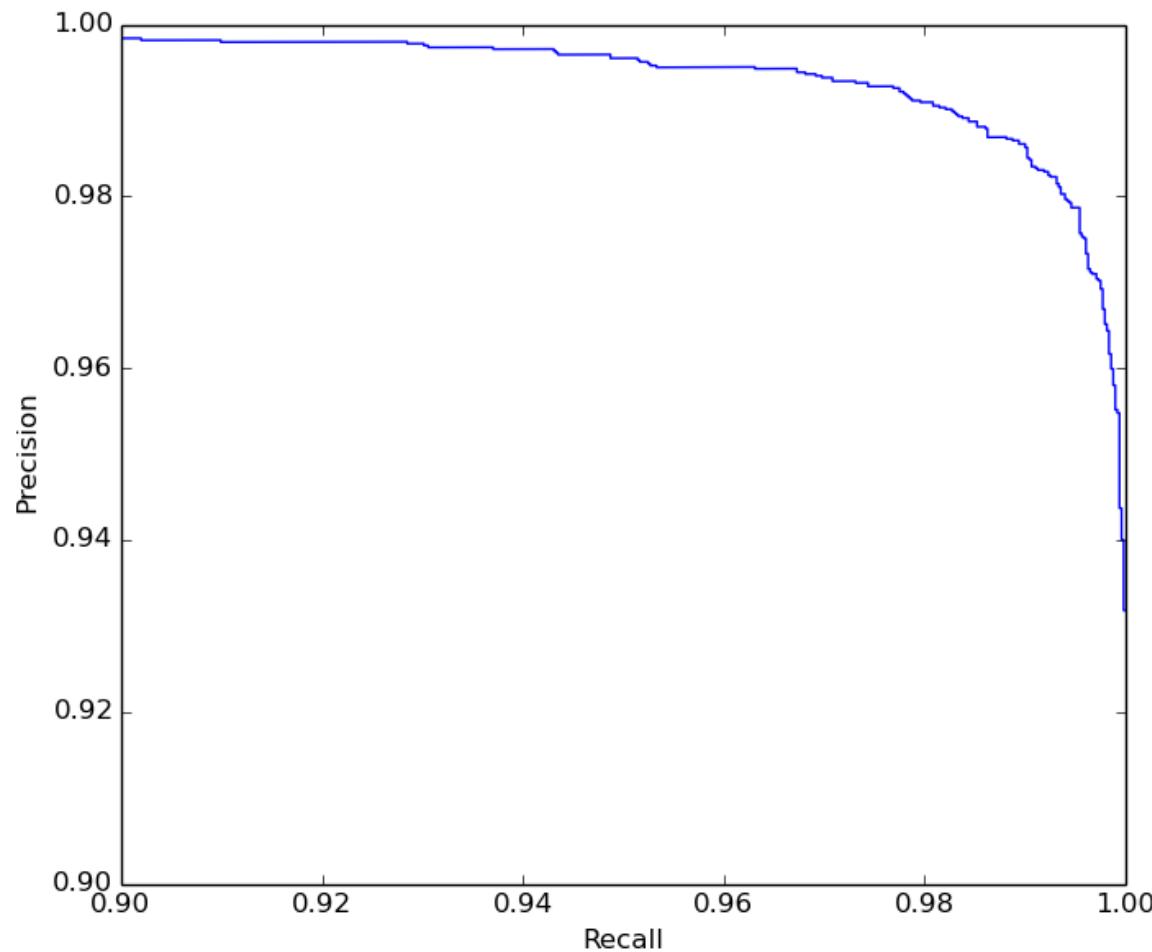
True \ Predicted	Blue whale	Fin whale
Blue whale	4738	58
Fin whale	66	349

97.62% Accuracy

For blue whales: 98.63% Precision  
98.79% Recall

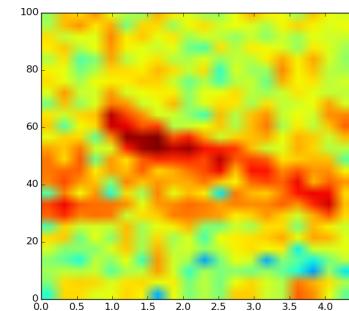
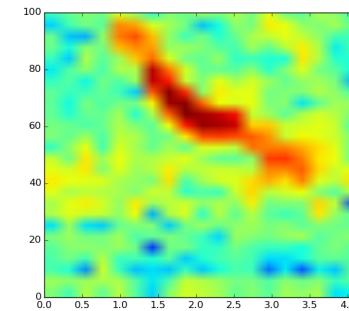
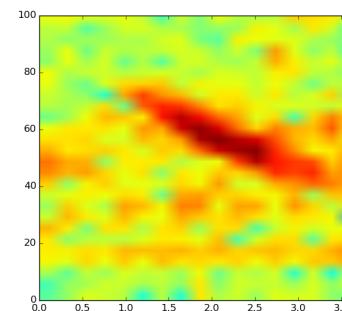
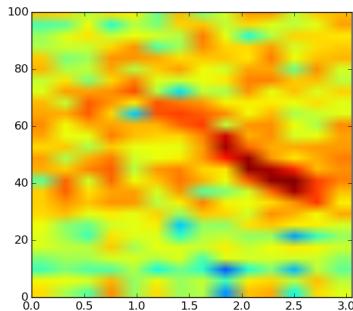
# Results

## Precision Recall Curve

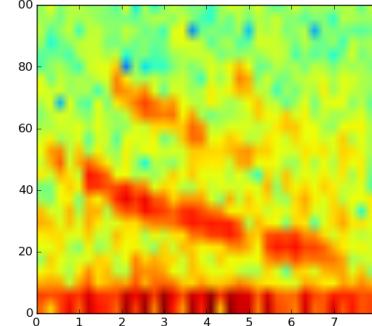
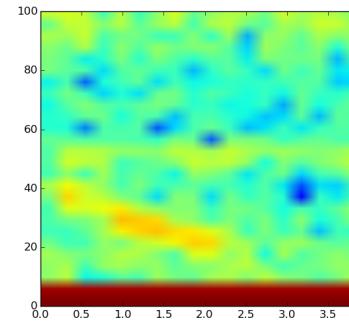
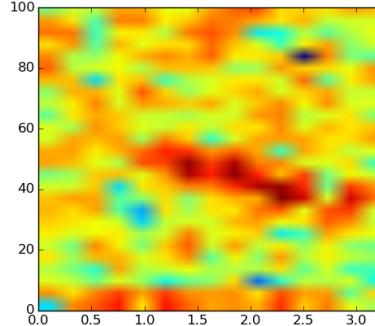
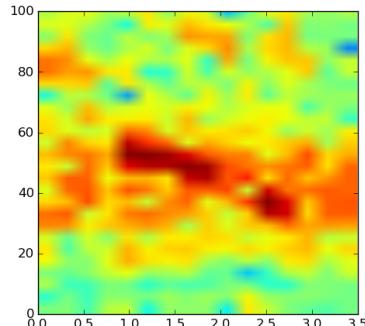


# Results

## Correctly classified blue whale D calls



## Misclassified blue whale D calls



Lower frequency range? Different slope?

Harmonics?  
Different call?

# Future Directions

- Compare this method with other classification methods
- Clean up noise in spectrogram before classification
- Obtain more data from noisier environments to make the detectors more robust
- Add in detection: Use GPL detector (Helble et al. 2012) and then classification on the found calls.
  - Determine the time savings for users

# Contributions

- Created more targeted classification datasets
- Used deep learning methods for a novel whistle classification task
- Very good performance in accuracy, precision, and recall
- Easy to modify - researchers can add in additional categories: 50-Hz calls and other false tonal detections



## Support

Elizabeth Vu  
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Edwin Hutchins  
Christine Johnson

## Funding

