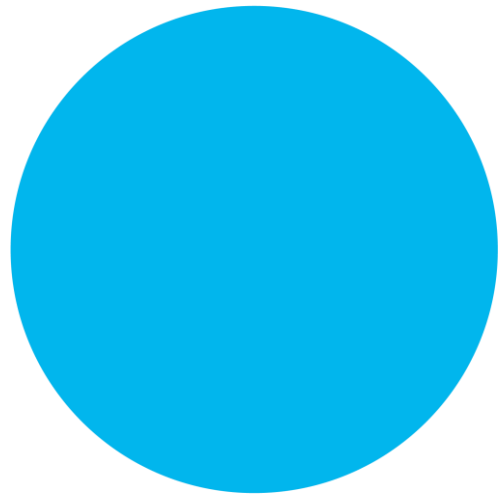




**iXblue**

The logo for iXblue, featuring a small blue dot above the 'i' and the word "Xblue" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.



# **Seapix : A Multi-Usage Multibeam Sonar for Hydrography and Robotics Applications**

# Table of contents

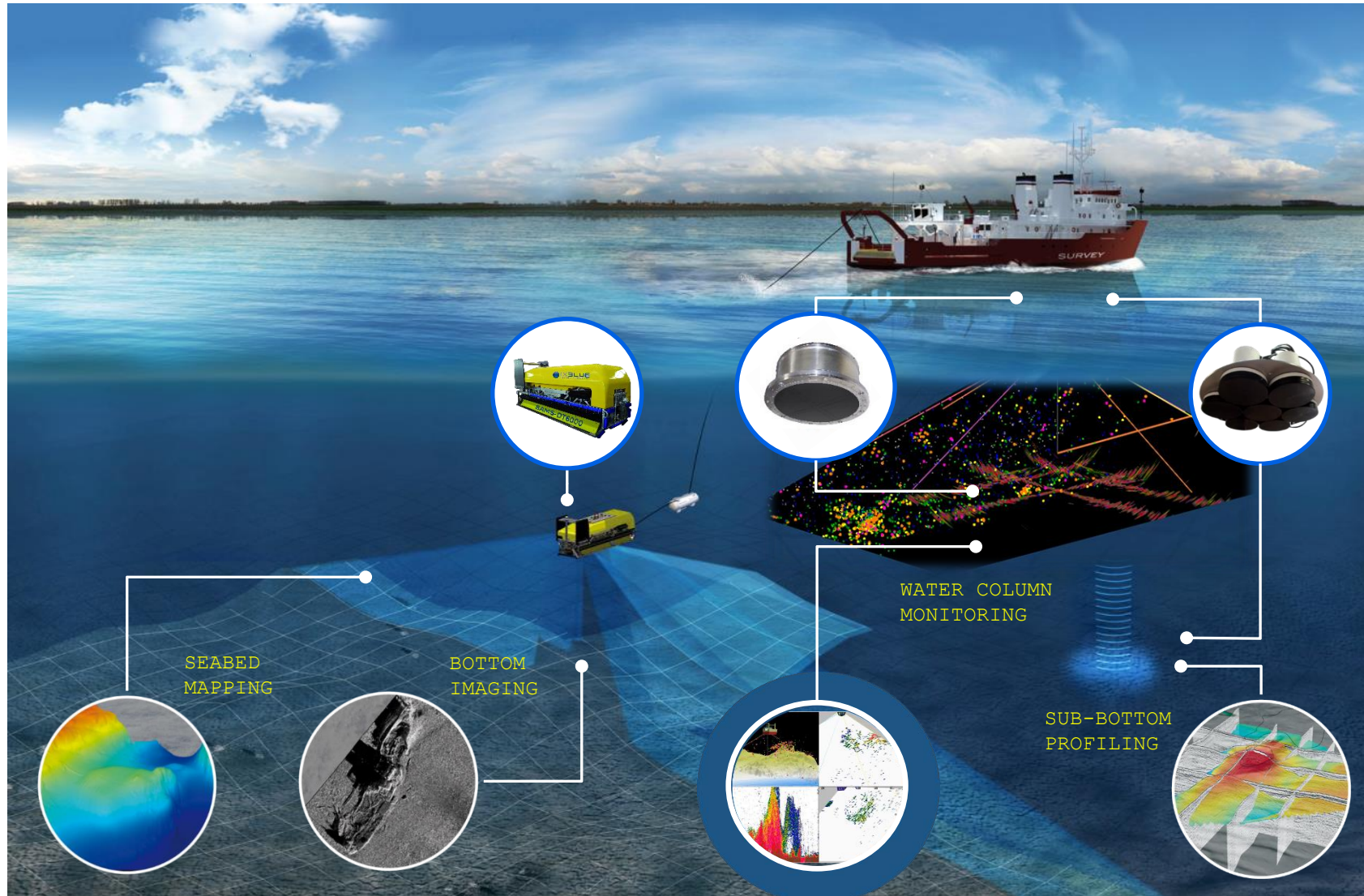
1. Sonar Imaging at iXblue
2. Seapix
3. Biomass Analysis
4. Obstacle Avoidance
5. Station Based Imaging
6. Backscatter Imaging
7. Navigation
8. Autocalibration
9. Sound Velocity Profile Estimation
10. Perspectives



1

# **Sonar Imaging at iXblue**

# Sonar Imaging at iXblue : from near surface to subbottom





2

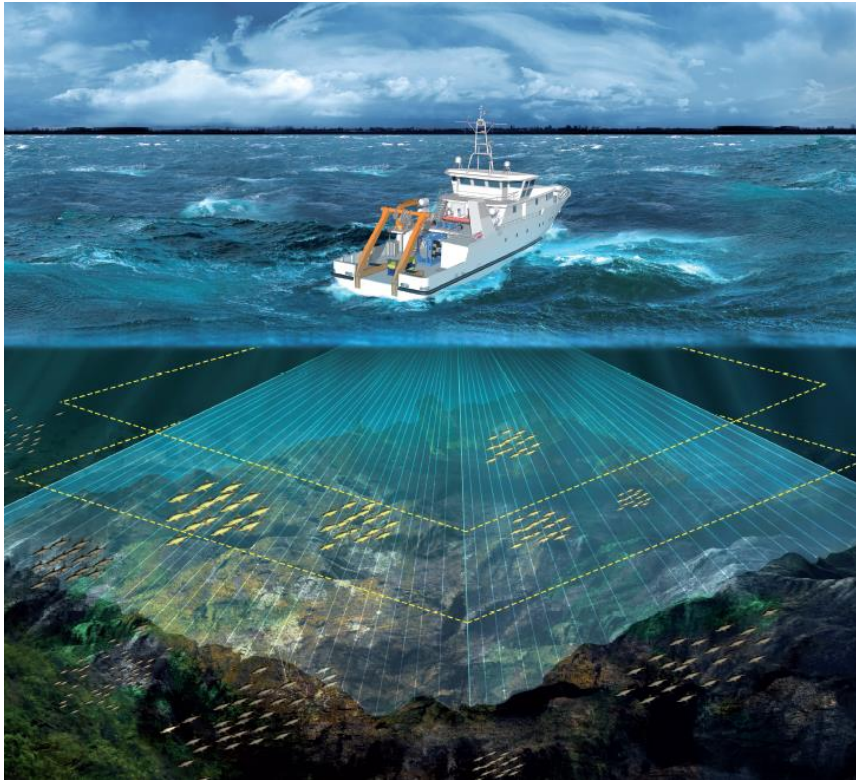
**Seapix**

Multibeam/Multiswath  
Echosounder



# Seapix

## Project Specifications, Development



### SEAPIX Research&Development

- start in 2007, First prototype 2010
- 2 FUI (Optipêche/Tactipêche)
- 1 RAPID

### Context&Market

- Fisheries
- Security/Economic
- Selectivity and Sustainable Policy
- Fisheries resources evaluation in collaboration with scientific (vessel of opportunity)

### Requirement Specifications

- Volumetric scanning of the water column
- Bathymetry up to 400m
- Target detection -35dB up to 200m
- Limited size ( $\Phi < 50\text{cm}$ )
- Bathymetry IHO 1a

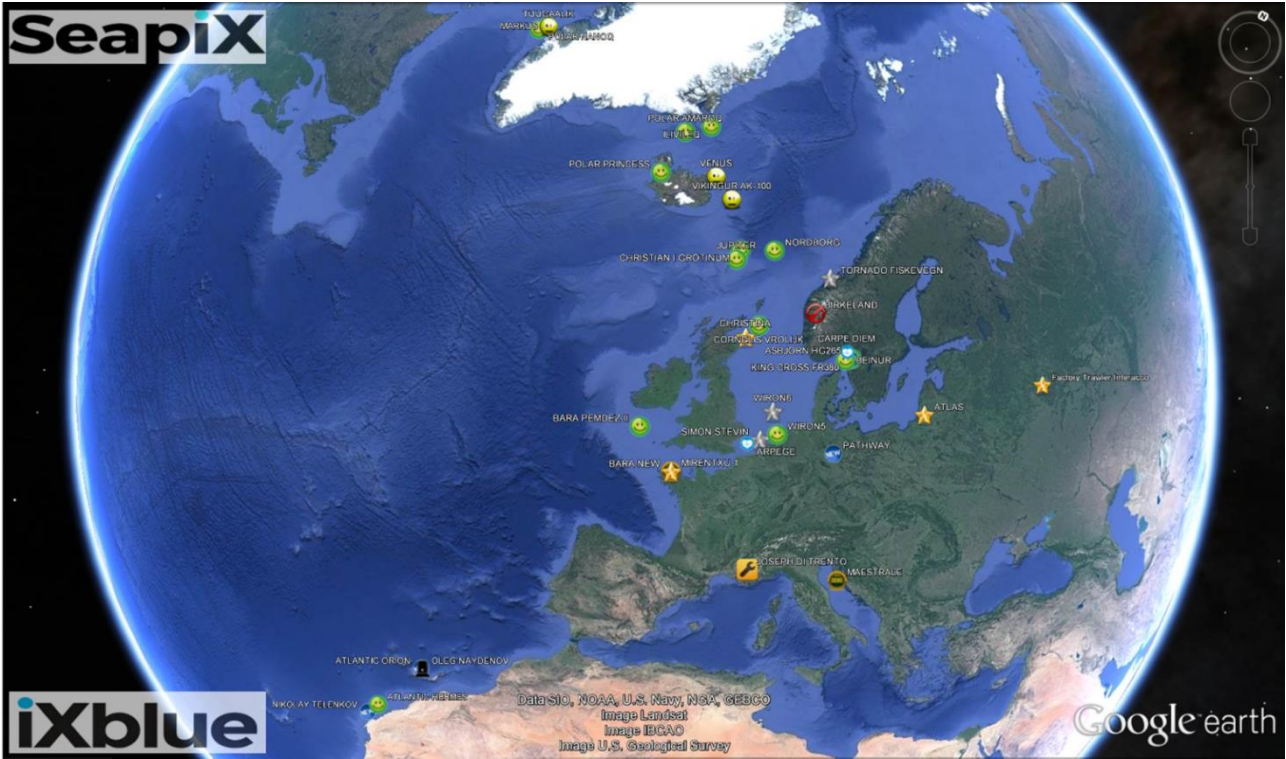
### Challenges

- Tradeoff hardware cost / level of performances
- from single beam to multibeam interpretation

# Seapix

## Market

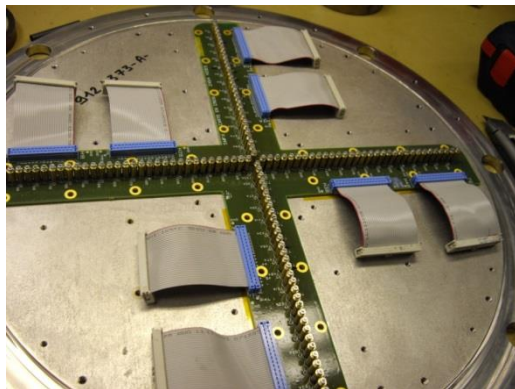
Fisheries,Pelagic : 40 systems since 2014





# Seapix

## System Specifications

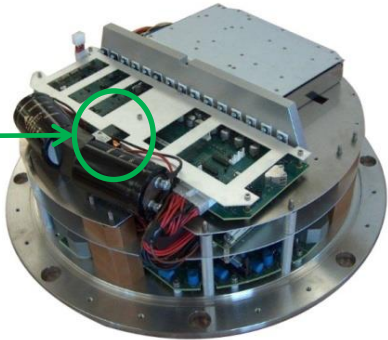


| Specifications        |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Size                  | 480mmx180mm                   |
| Weight                | 60/40 kg                      |
| Power consumption     | 200W (500W Peak)              |
| Number of transducers | 2x 64 Rx and Tx               |
| Max Depth             | 20m                           |
| Beam Stabilization    | On transmit and receive       |
| Frequency             | 150khz                        |
| Bandwith              | 10khz (7.5cm res.)            |
| Modulation            | CW or FM                      |
| Beam number           | 64 beams                      |
| Transmit Power        | 1kW                           |
| Beam Steering         | +/-60° for/aft port/starboard |
| Transmit Swath width  | 120 °x 1.6°                   |

# Seapix

## Sonar Head

MEMS



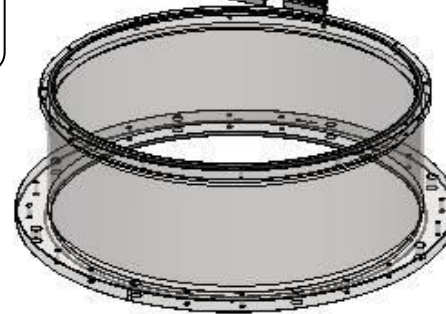
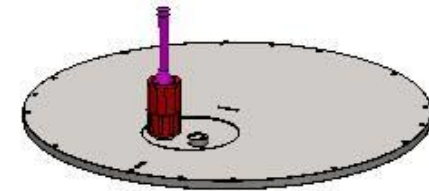
Communication, configuration and  
Power Supply management,  
Gyrostabilization

Emission and reception  
Digital signal processing

Receiver Analog Filters  
Emission Power

Impedance Matching

Transducers



Ethernet

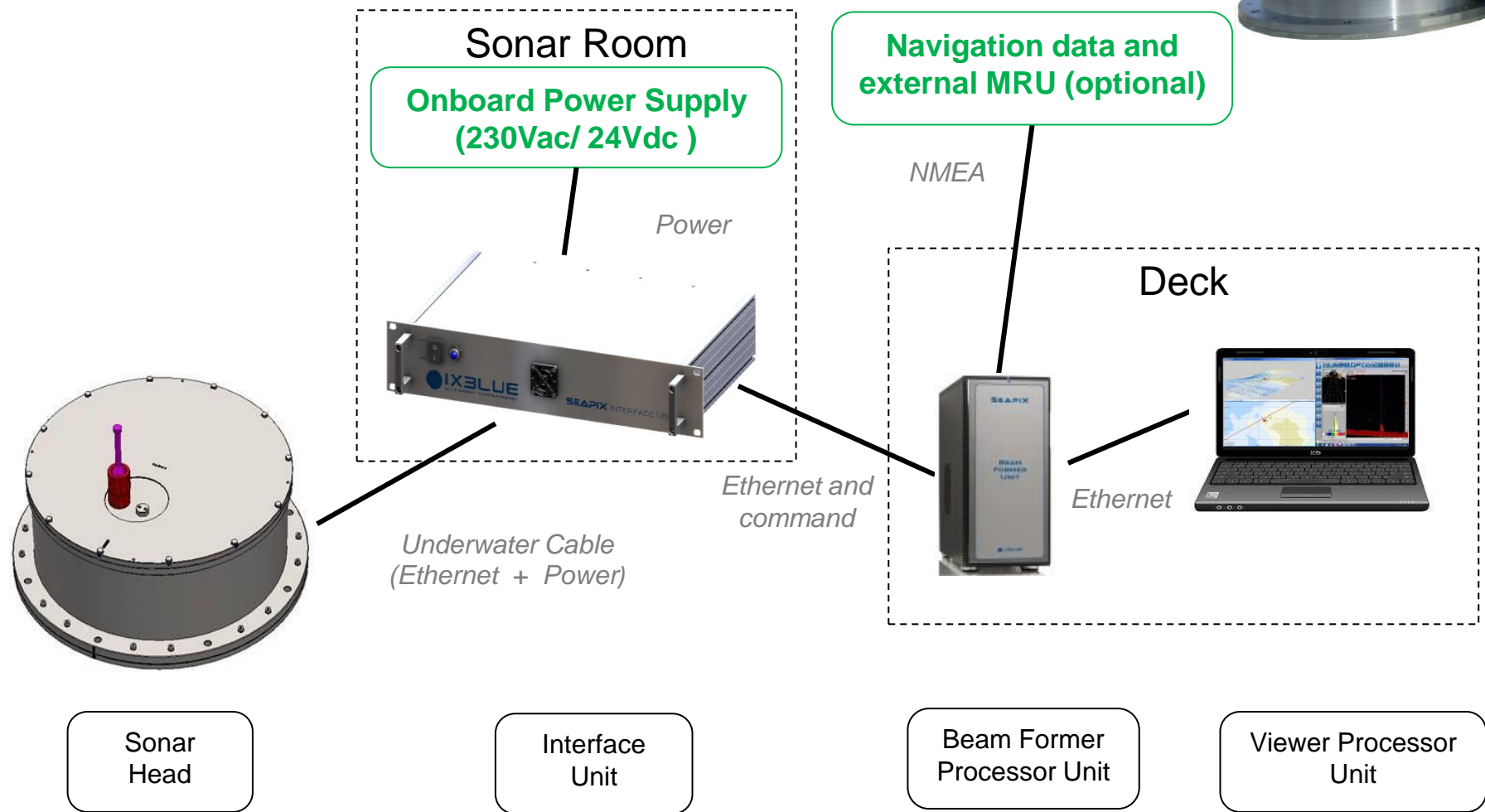
Digital

Analogic

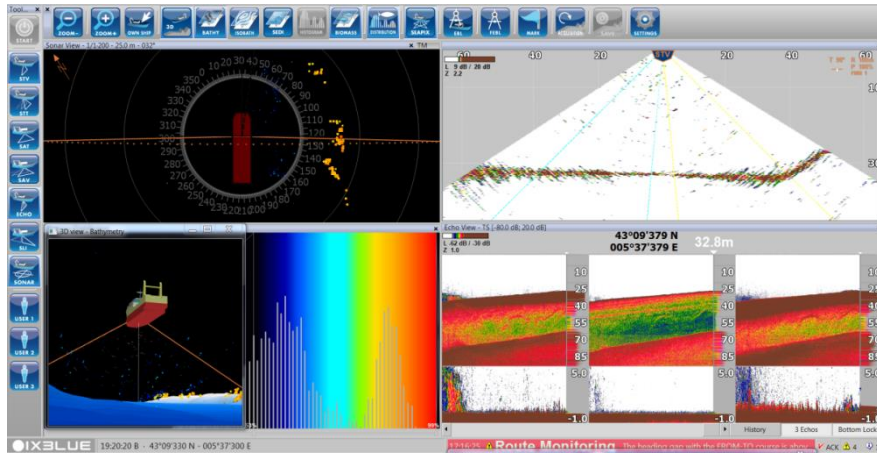
Acoustic

# Seapix

## System Architecture

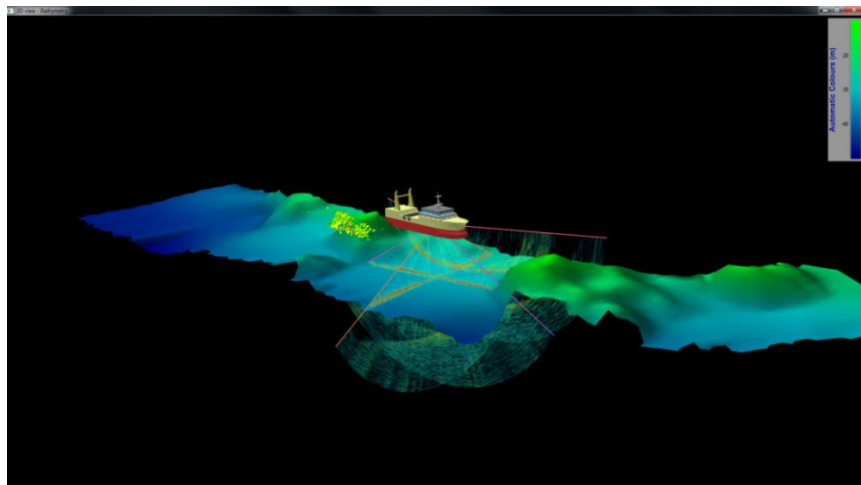


# Seapix Software



## Key features

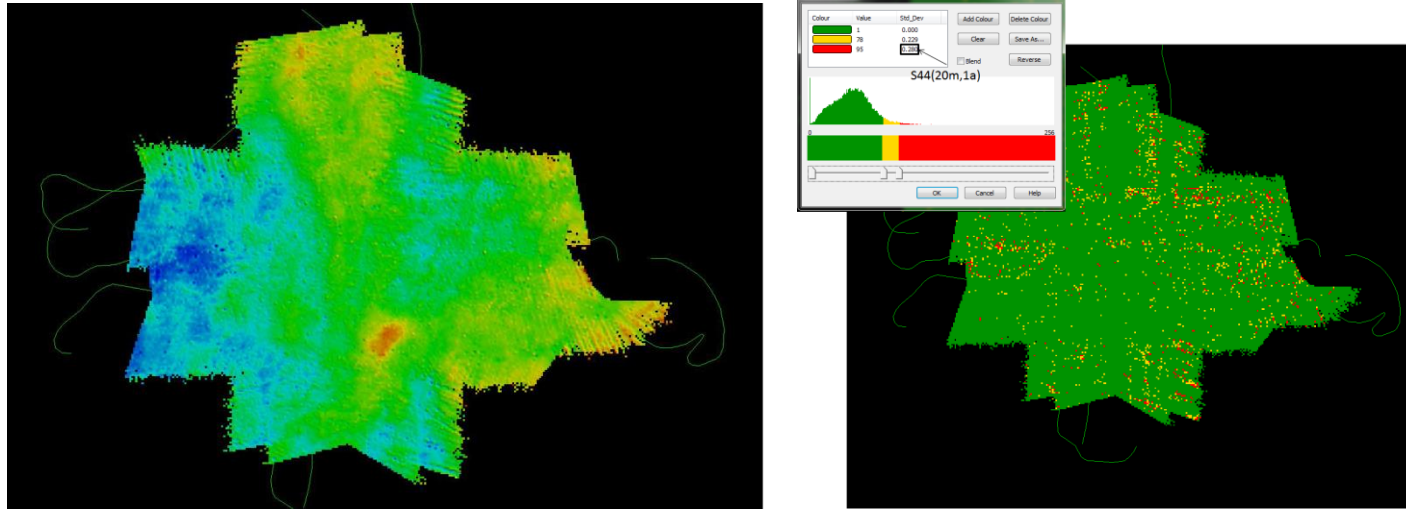
- 2D/3D Bathy
- 2D/3D Backscatter
- 2D/3D Echograms
- Multiple Echogram
- TS/SV Analysis
- HAC format (EchoView, Movies3D)





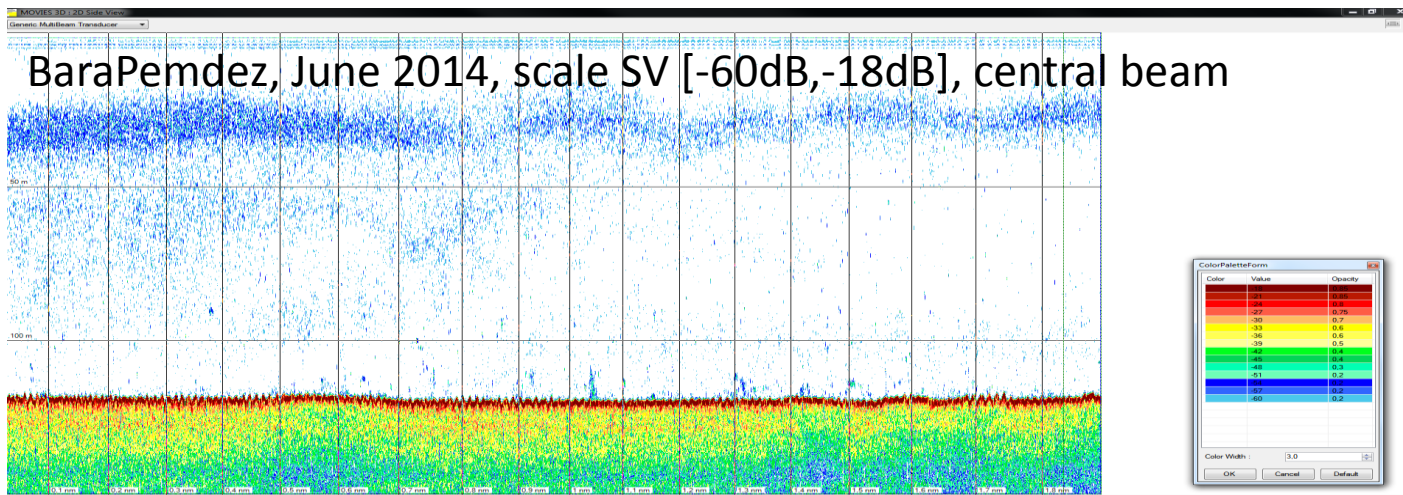
# Seapix

## Performances



**Bathymetry , ENSTA (2015) :**

- IHO order 1a with MEMS

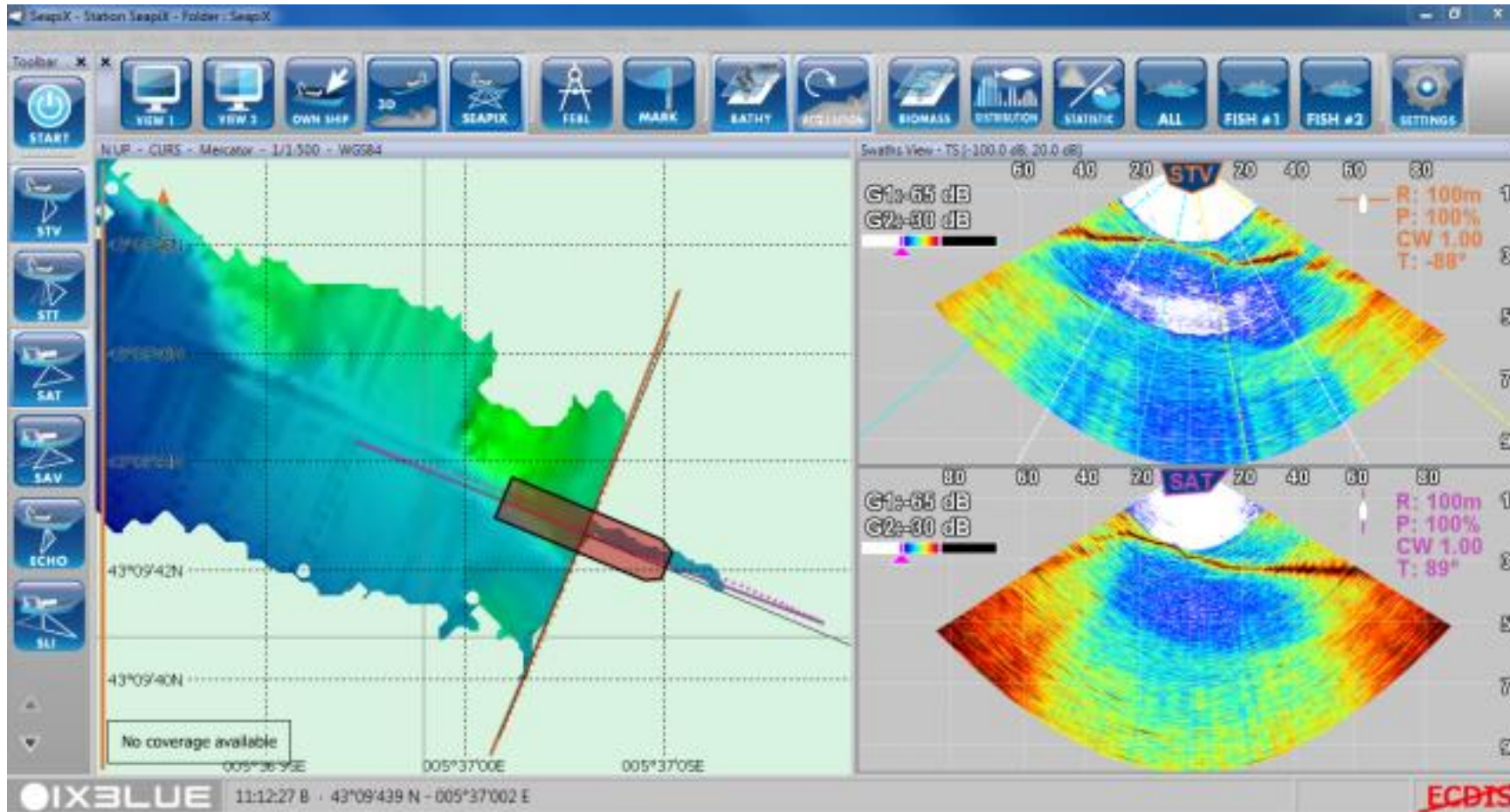


**Detection Level**

- Noise Level , 24 dB re 1 $\mu$ Pa/Hz
- SV -60dB , 200m

# Seapix

## Multiple Swath Imaging

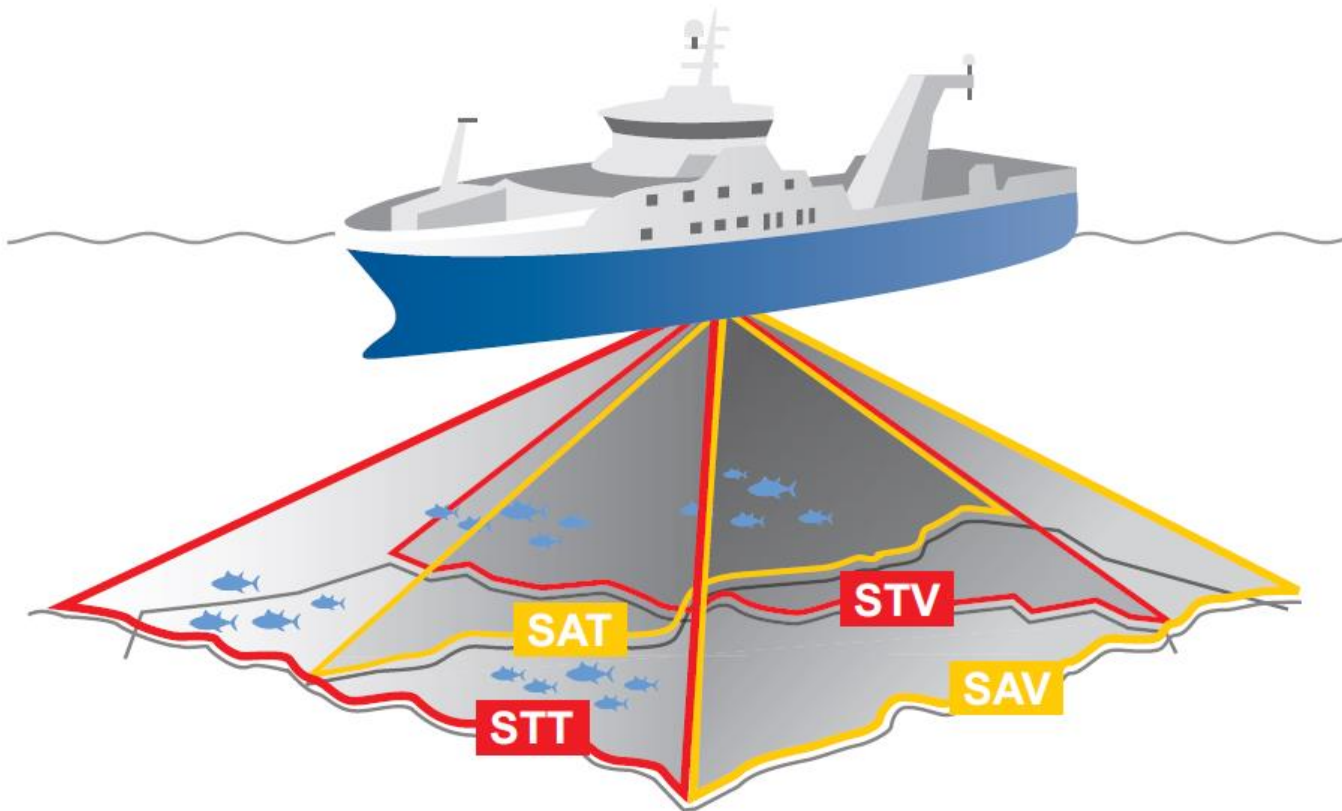


### Versatile Configuration

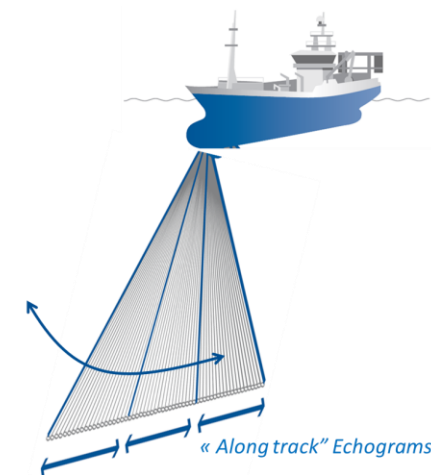
- User defined insonification scenario
- CW/FM
- Switch Rx/Tx antenna
- Steering angle interval and increment

# Seapix

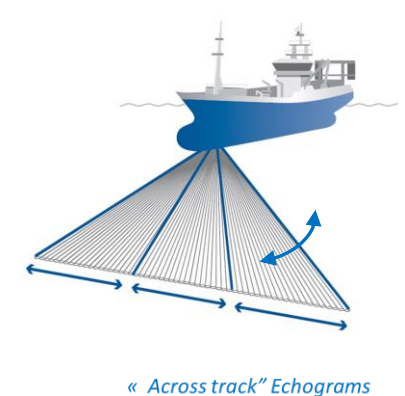
## Downward Looking Configuration



Port/Starboard  
scanning



Fore/Aft  
scanning

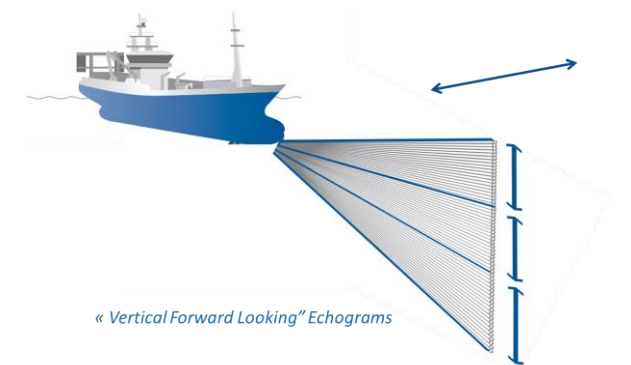
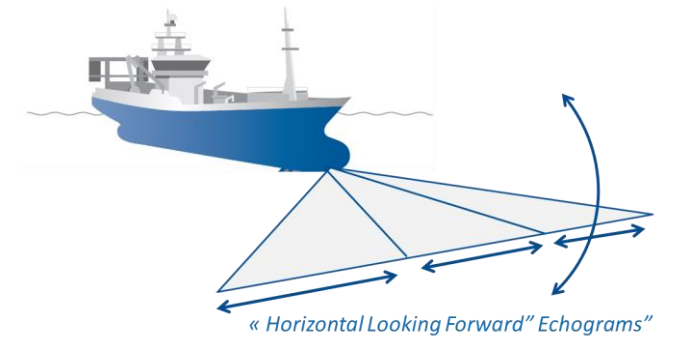
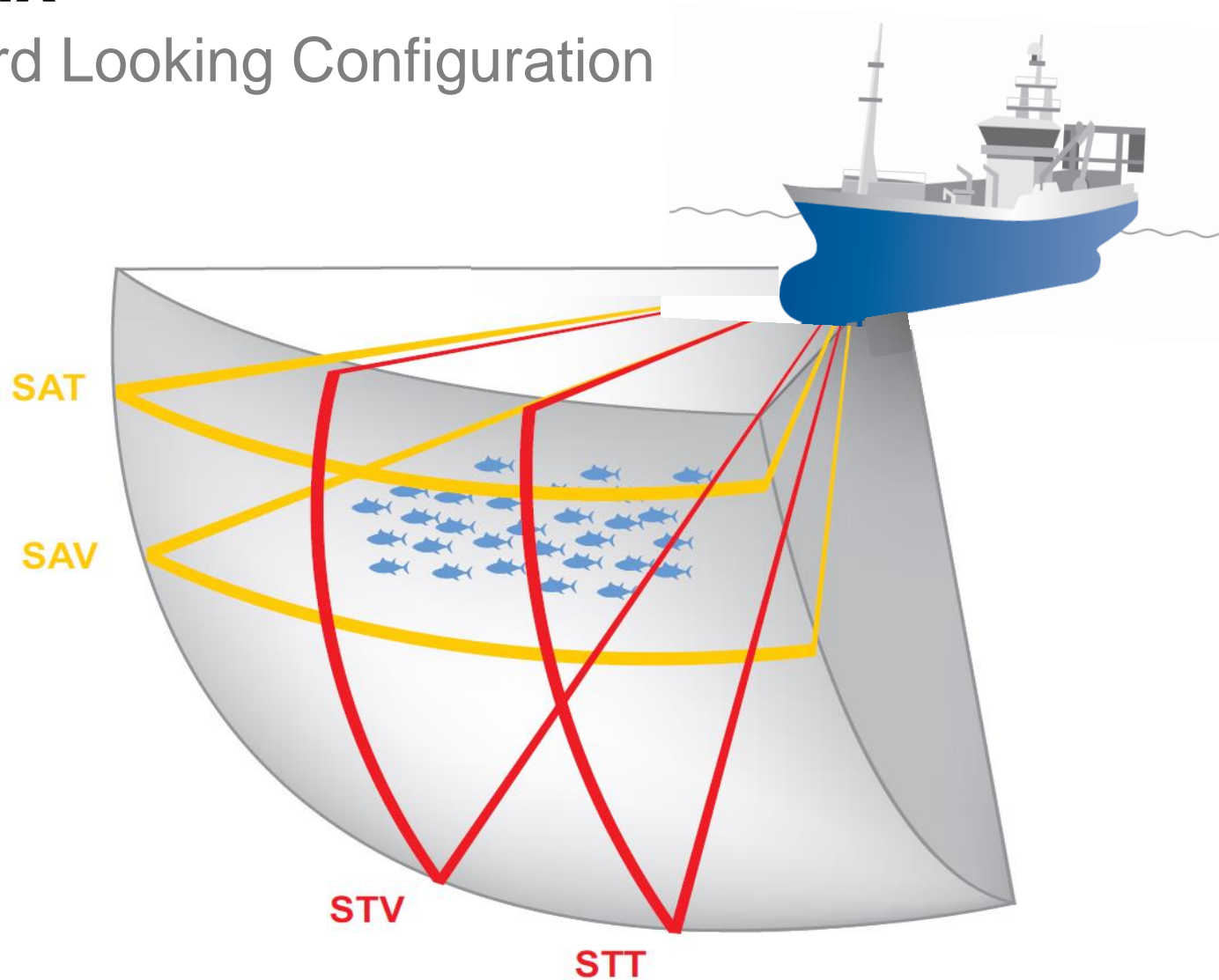


Volume  $120^{\circ} \times 120^{\circ}$   
7cm radial resolution  
 $1.6^{\circ} \times 1.6^{\circ}$  up to  $1.6^{\circ} \times 3.2^{\circ}$  angle resolution



# Seapix

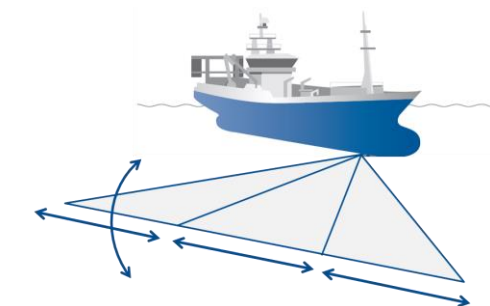
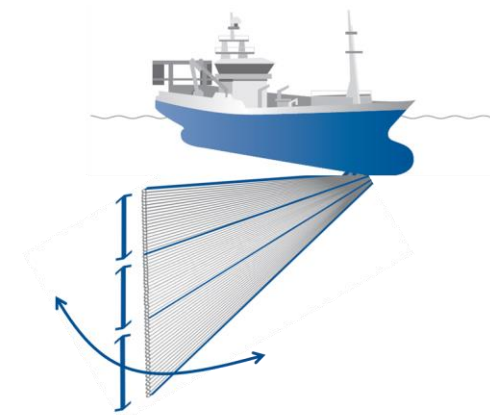
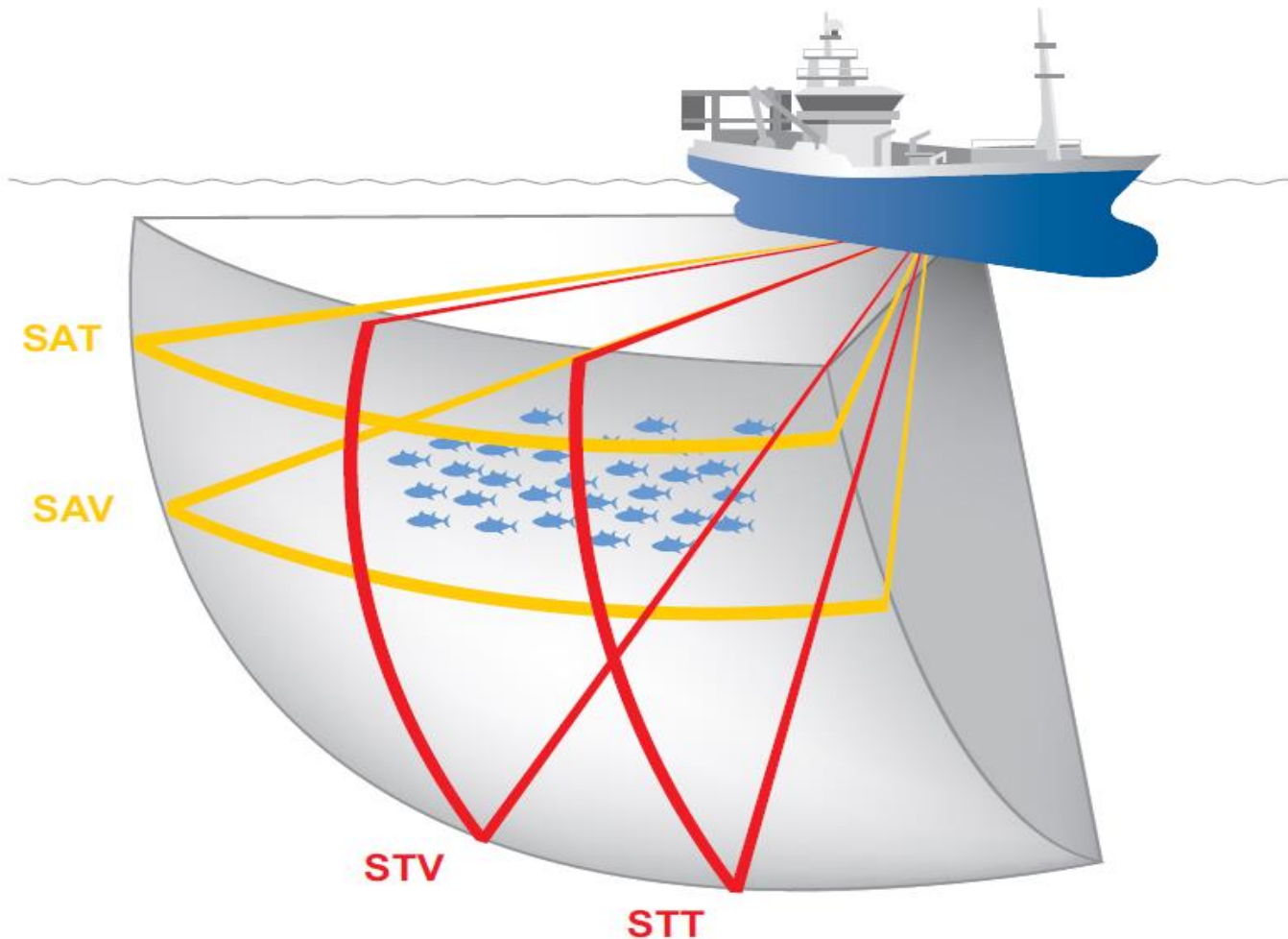
## Forward Looking Configuration





# Seapix

## Side Looking Configuration



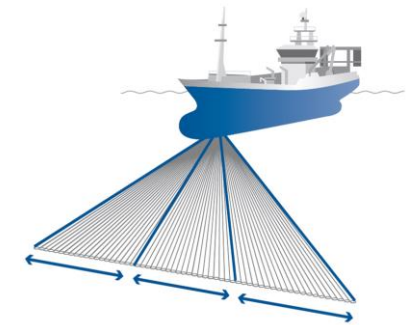
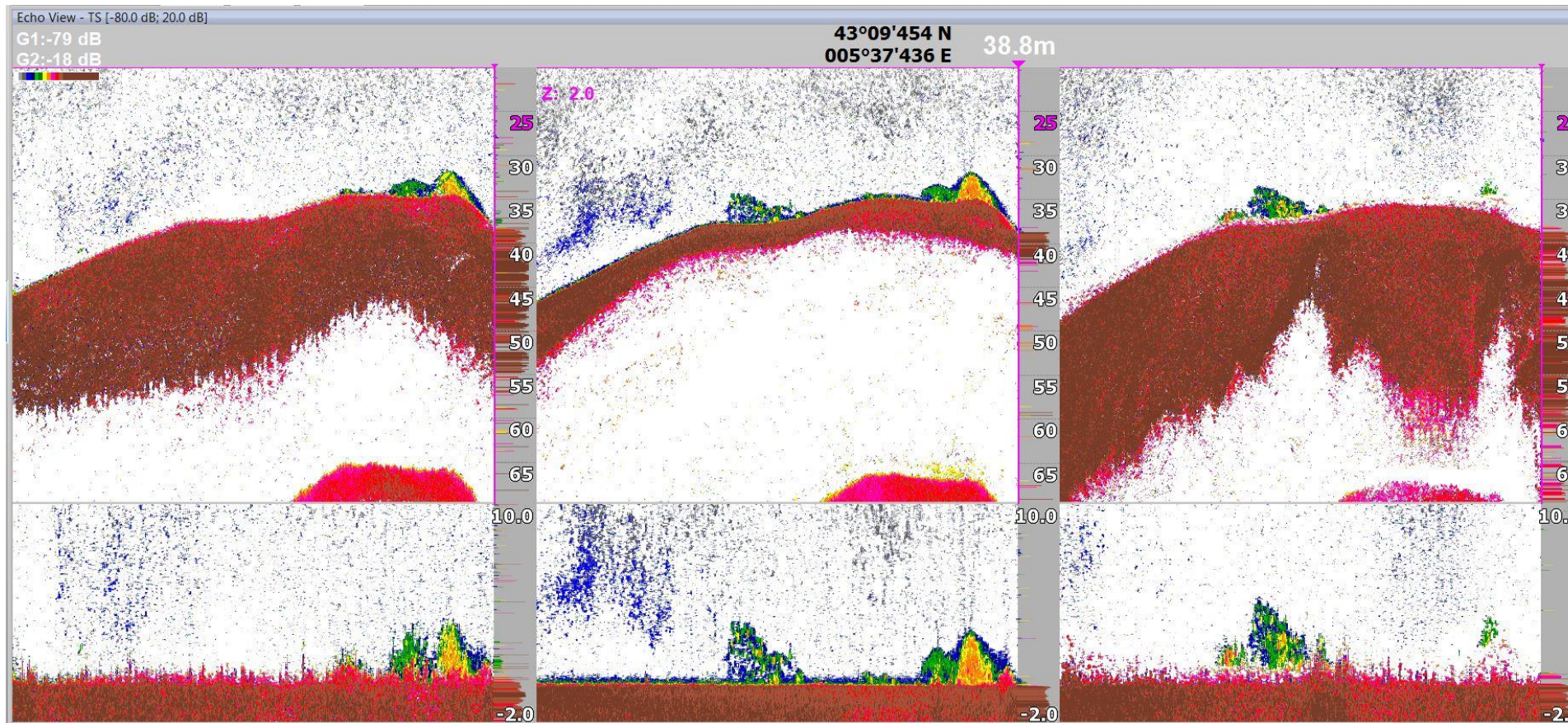


3

# Biomass Analysis

# Biomass Analysis

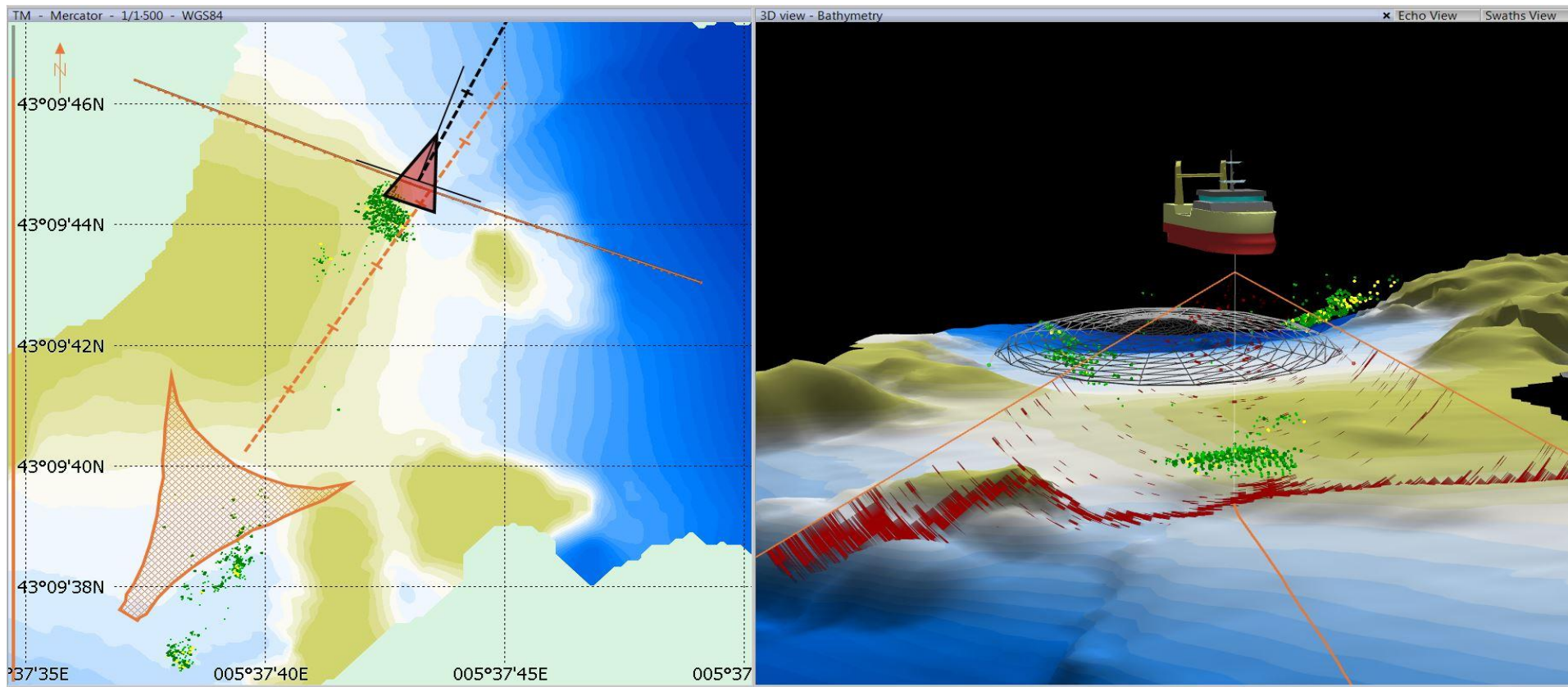
## Multiple Echograms Visualization





# Biomass Analysis

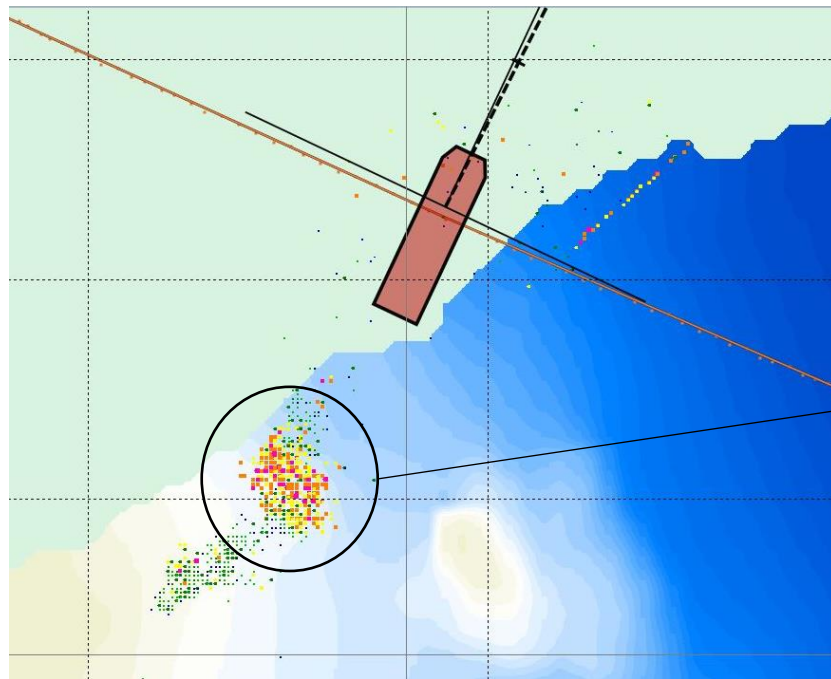
## Detection with 2D/3D Mapping and Bathymetry





# Biomass Analysis

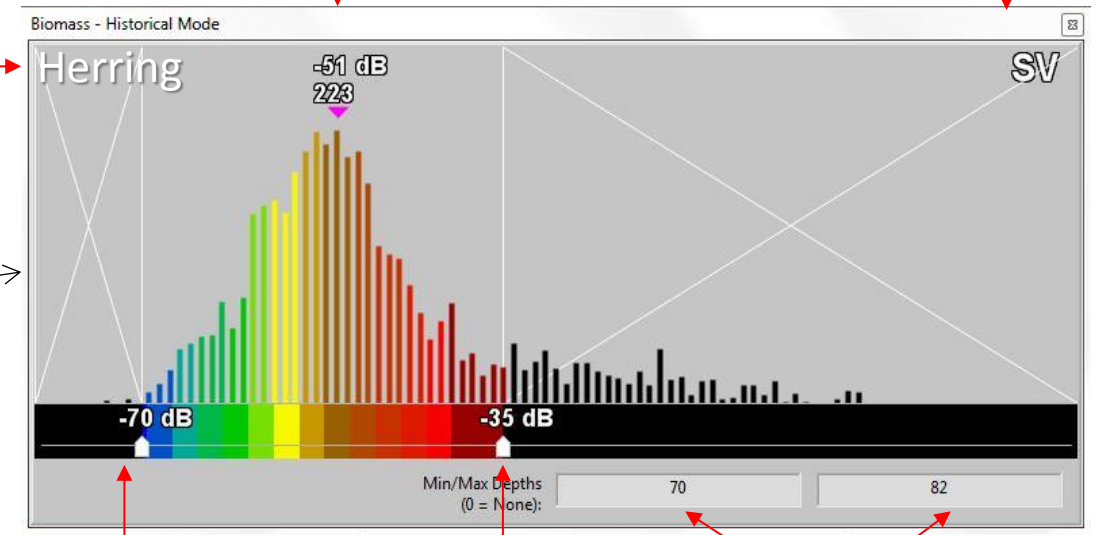
## Geographical Biomass Analyzer



Class  
Name

Main Acoustic Response  
Nb of individus

TS or SV



Min level Filter

Max level Filter

Water Layer depth

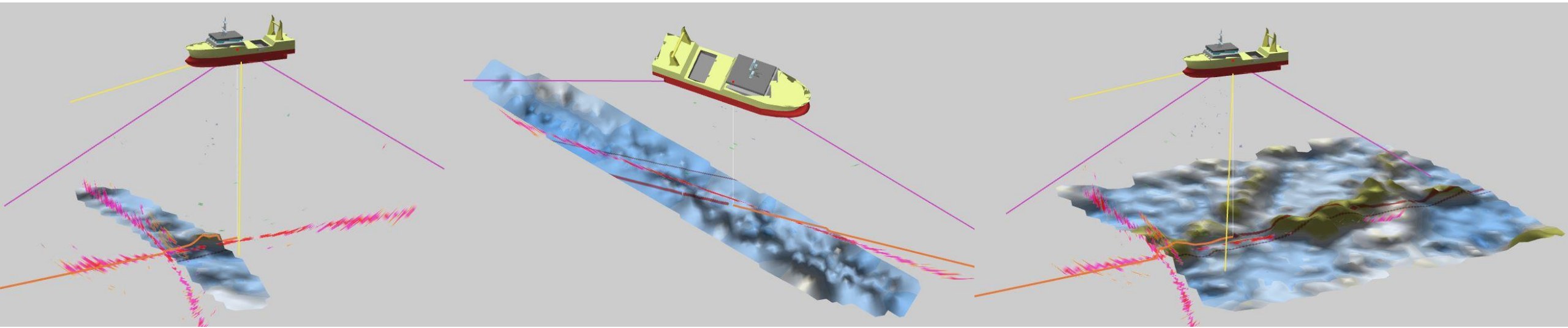


4

# Obstacle Avoidance

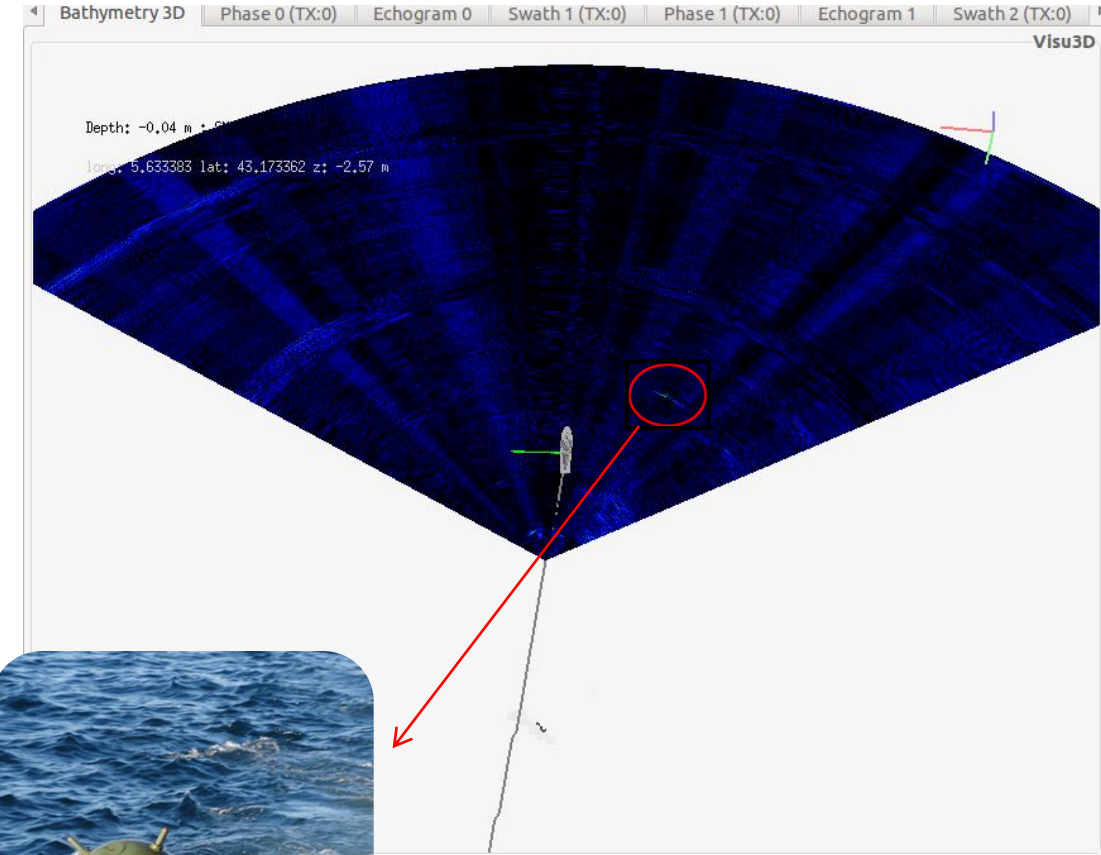
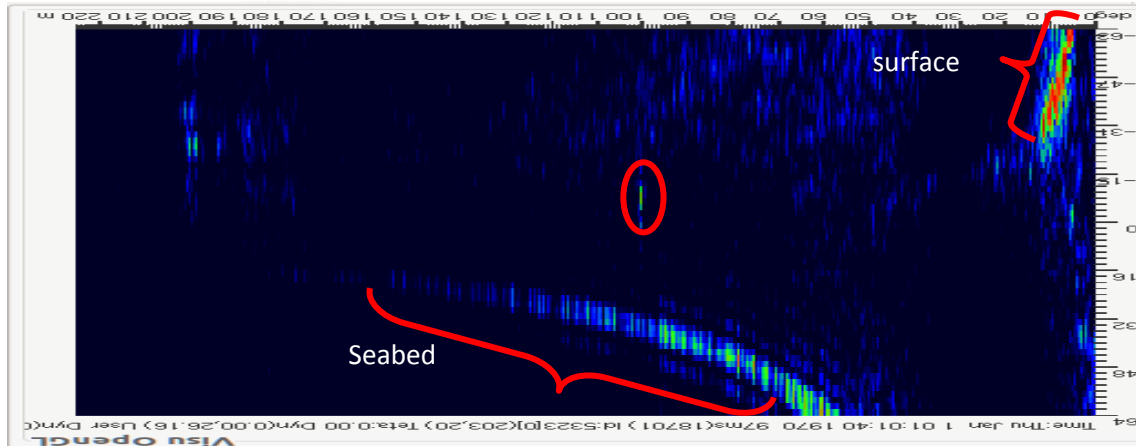
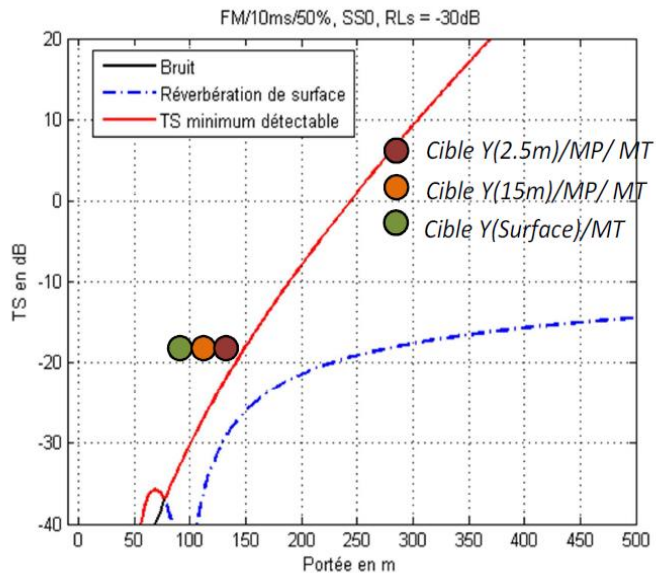
# Obstacle Avoidance

## Forward Looking Bathymetry



# Obstacle Avoidance

## Detection in the Water Column







5

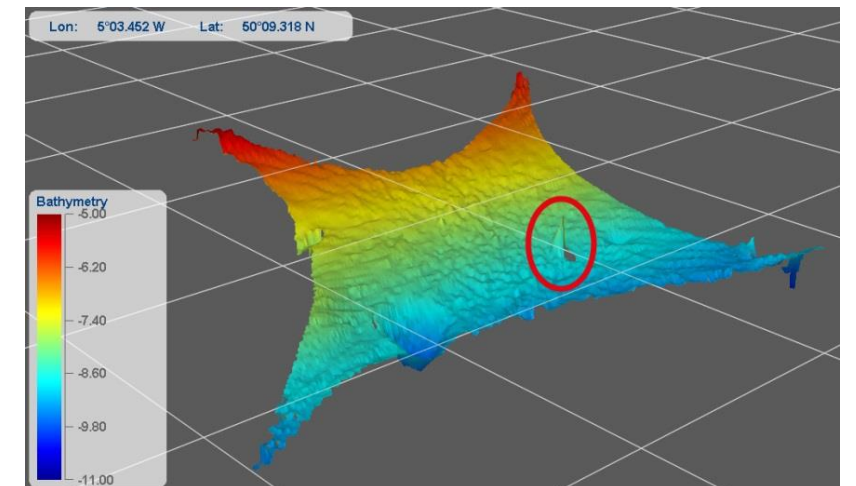
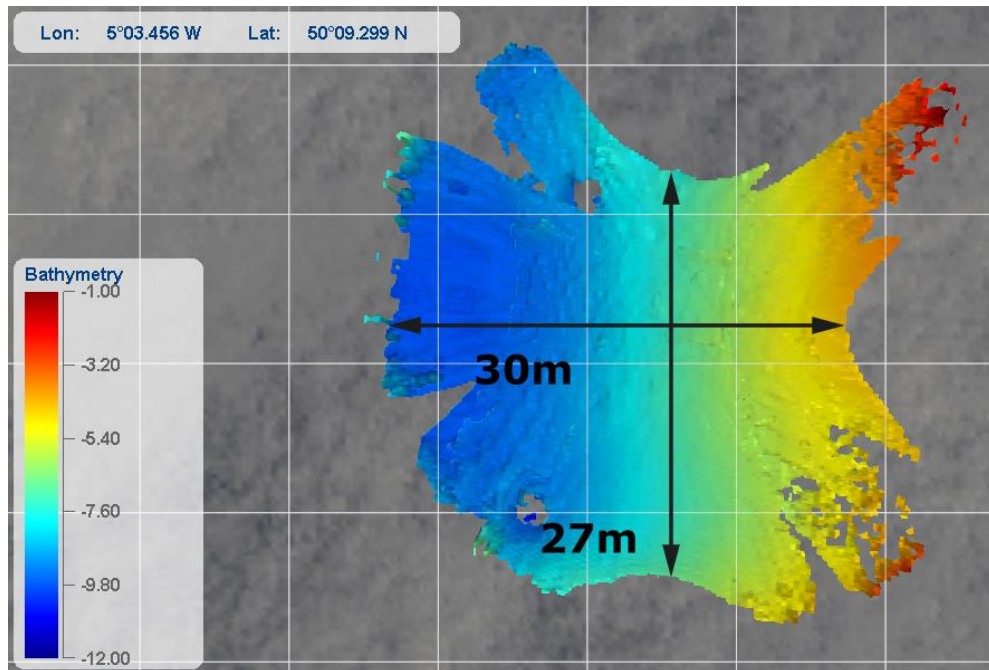
# Station Based Imaging

# Station Based Imaging

## Bathymetry

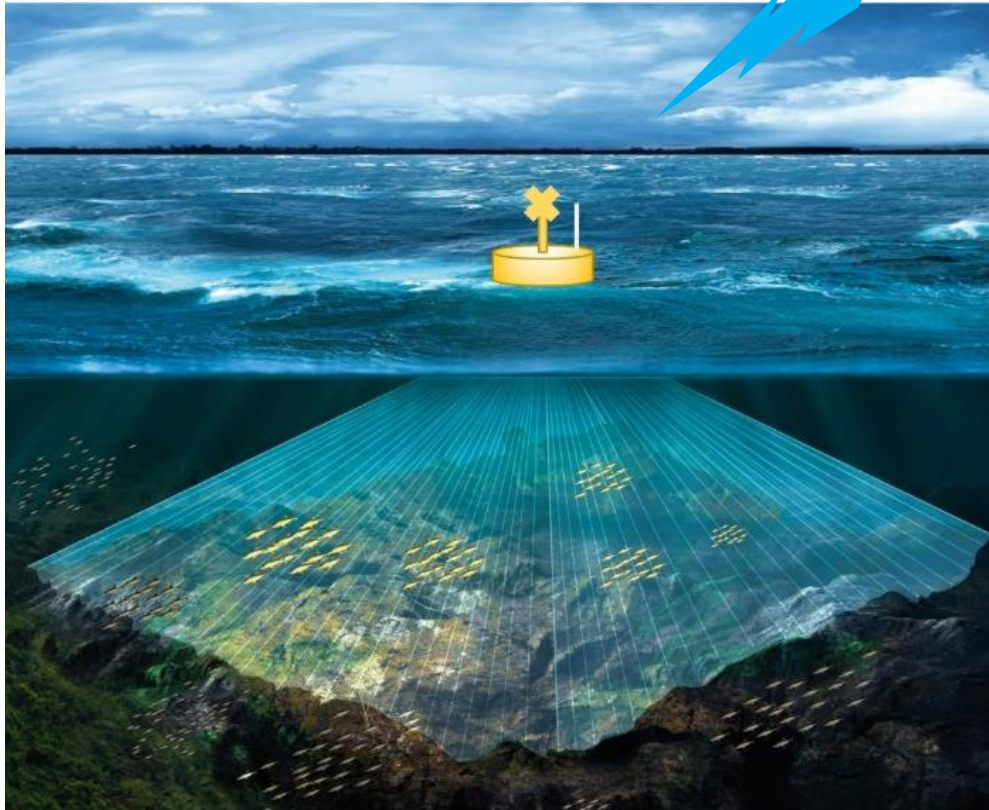
Seapix is fixed on barge

Bathymetry area ~ 1200m<sup>2</sup> at 10m depth



# Station Based Imaging

## Biomass Analysis







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# Backscatter Imaging

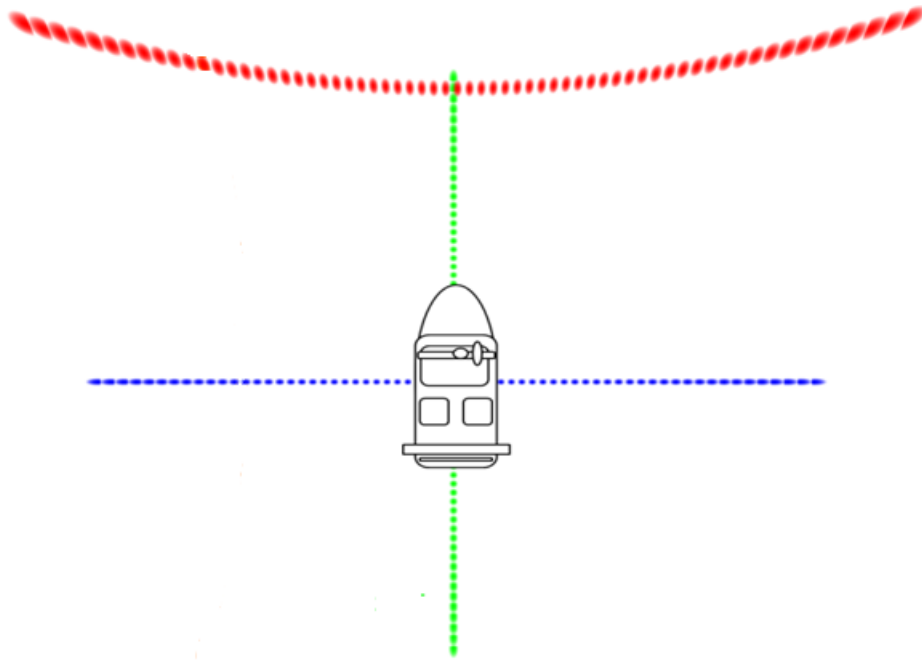
# Backscatter Imaging

Multiple Imaging Modes

**Horizontal Forward Looking**

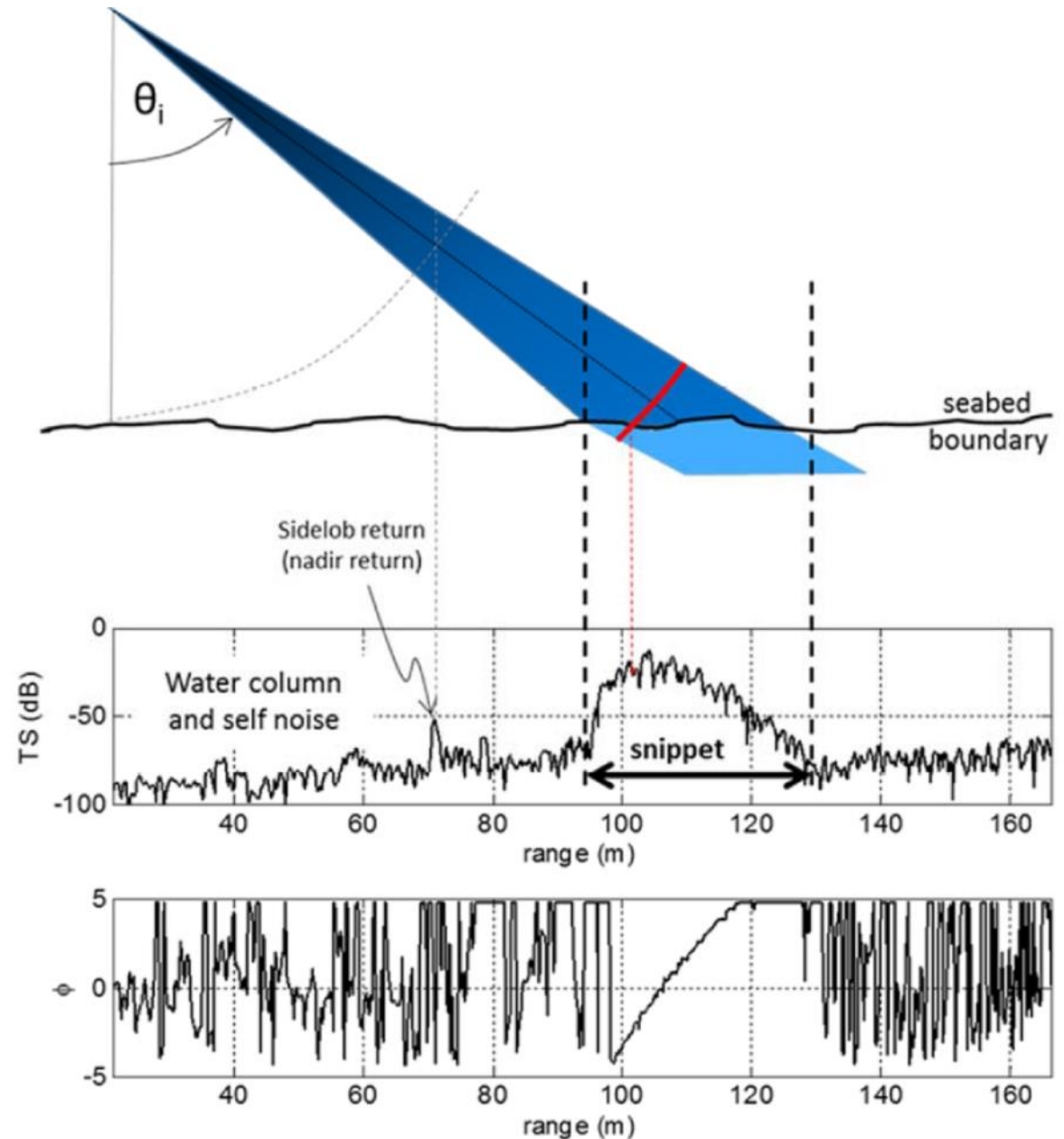
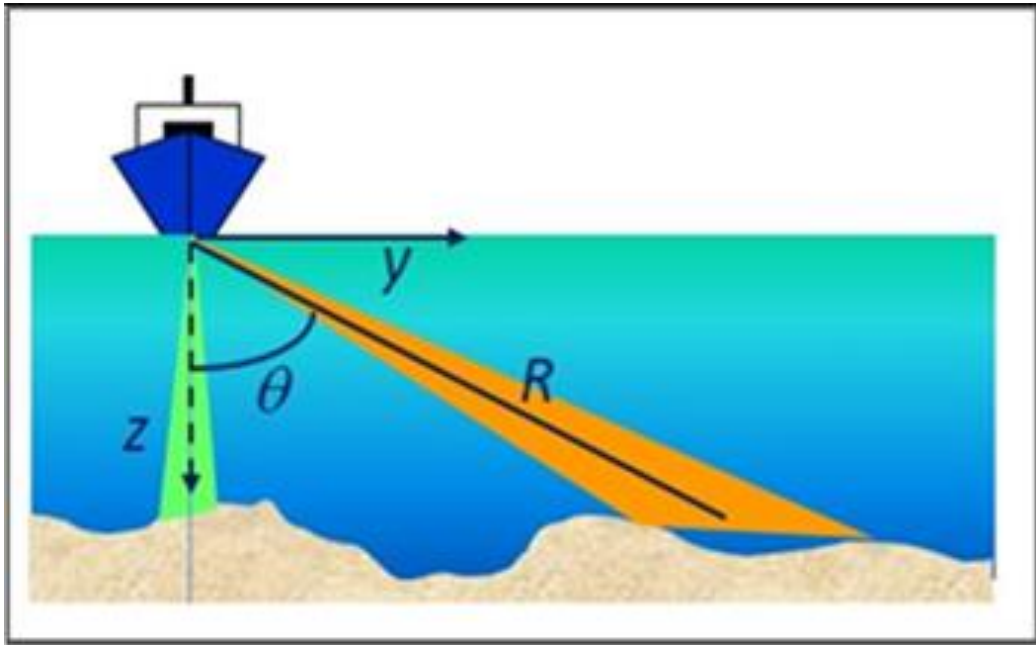
**Conventional Bathymetry & Imagery**

**Longitudinal**



# Backscatter Imaging

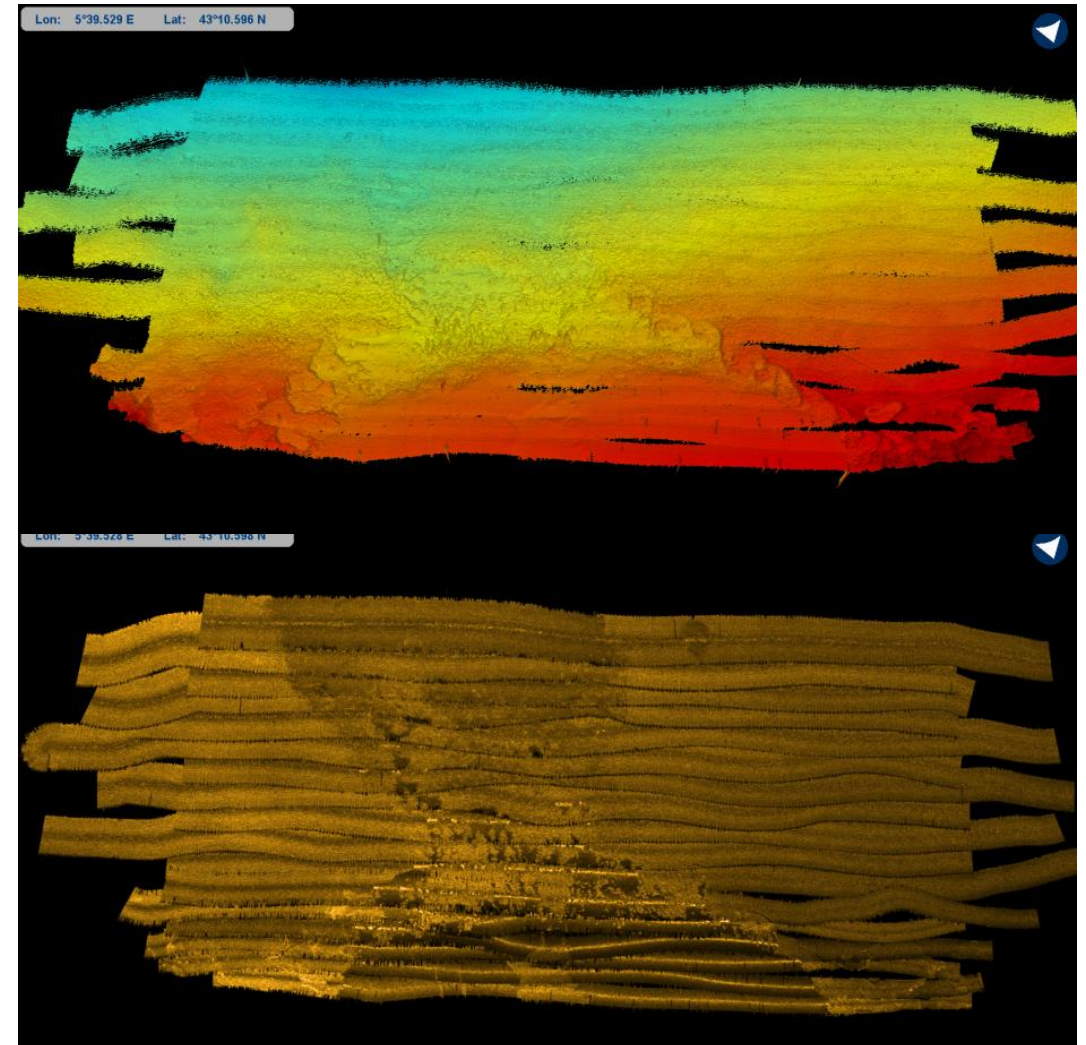
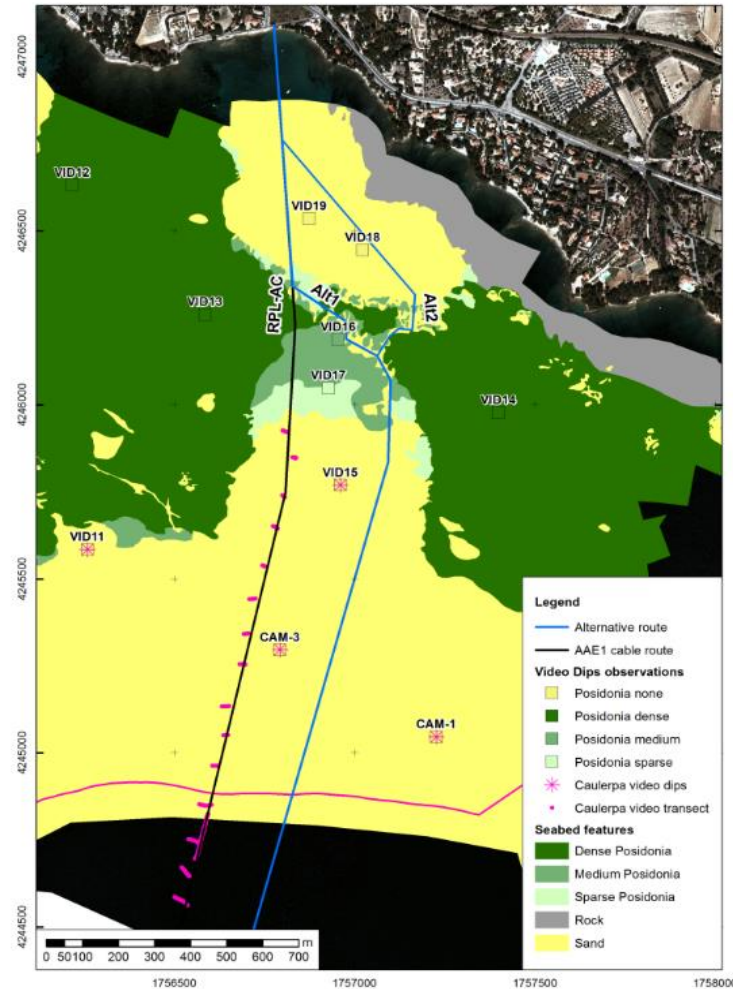
## Conventional Imagery Mode





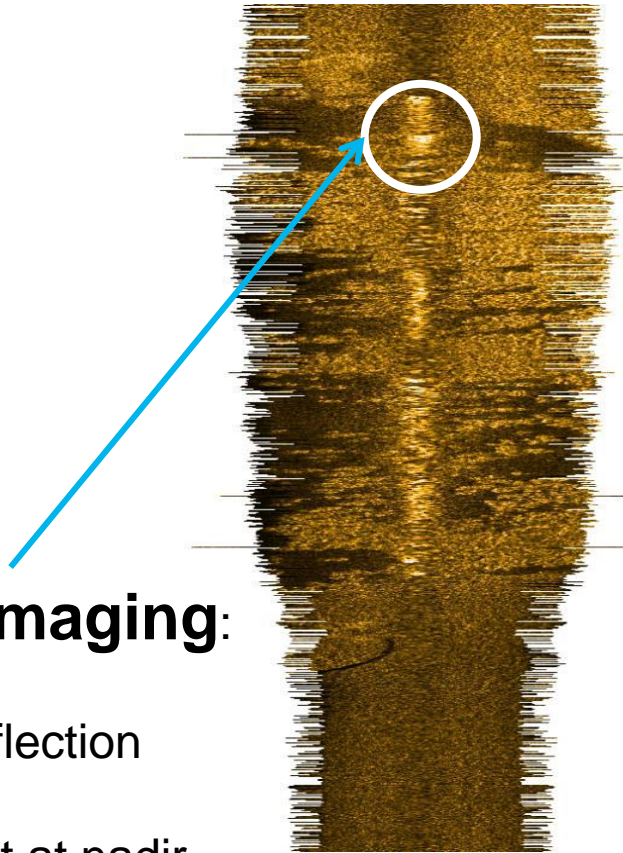
# Backscatter Imaging

## Conventional Imagery Mode with Seapix



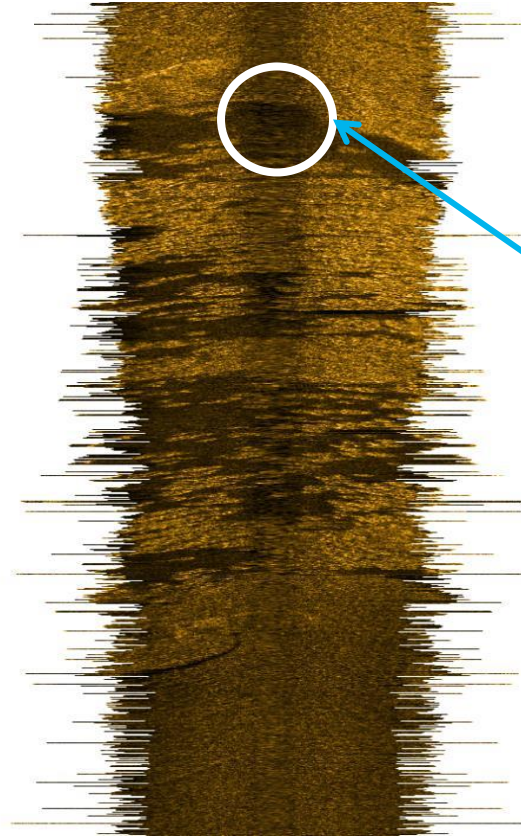
# Backscatter Imaging

## Forward Looking Imaging



### Vertical Imaging:

- Specular reflection
- Bad contrast at nadir

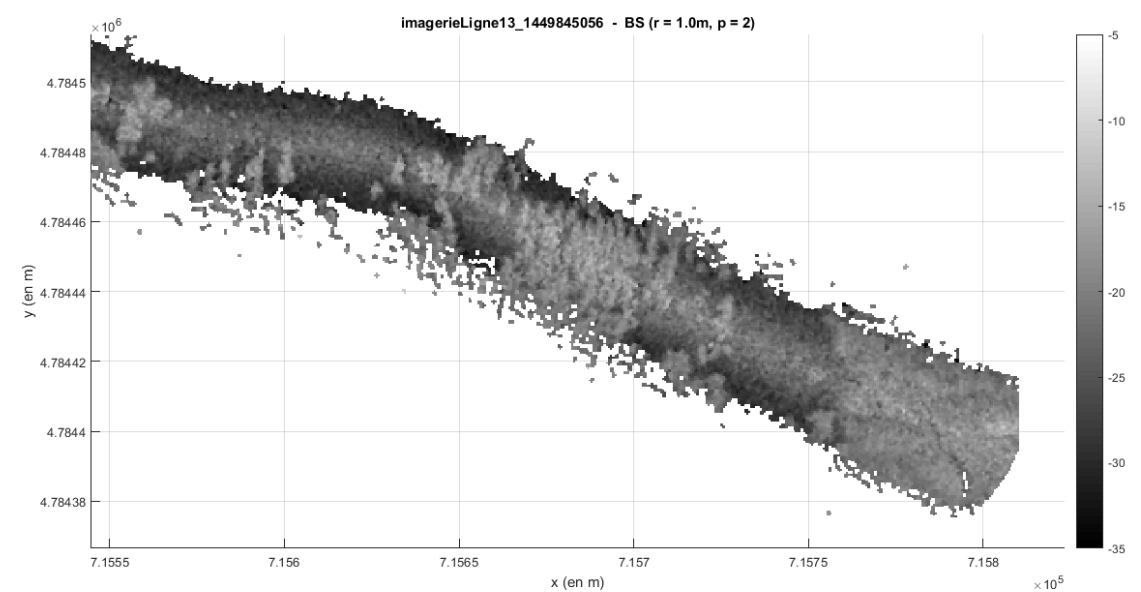
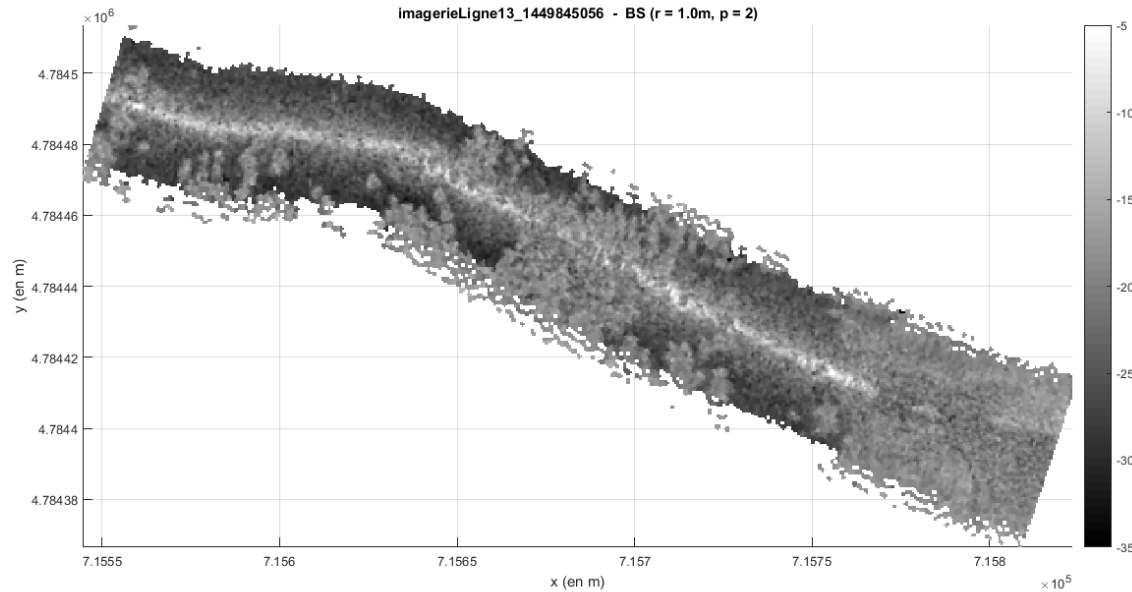


### Forward Looking Imaging:

- Specular reflection suppressed
- Higher shadows contrast

# Backscatter Imaging

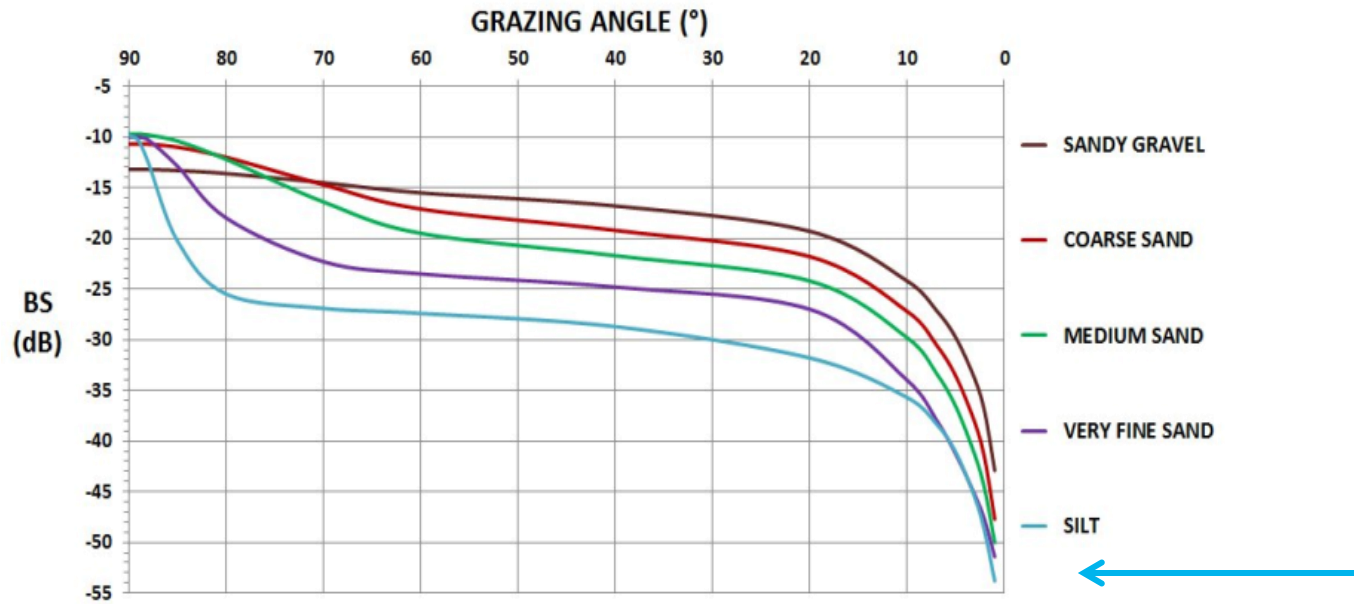
## Forward Looking Backscatter Imaging





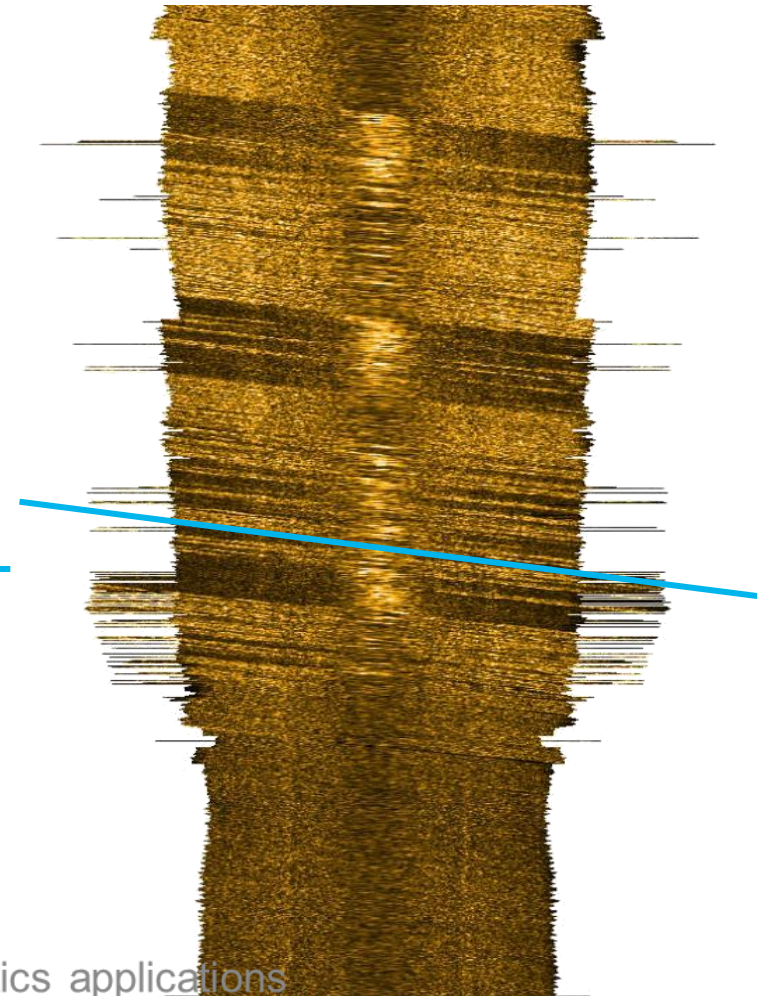
# Backscatter Imaging

## Longitudinal Mode



## Longitudinal Imaging Mode:

→ Full BS profil vs Incidence Angle

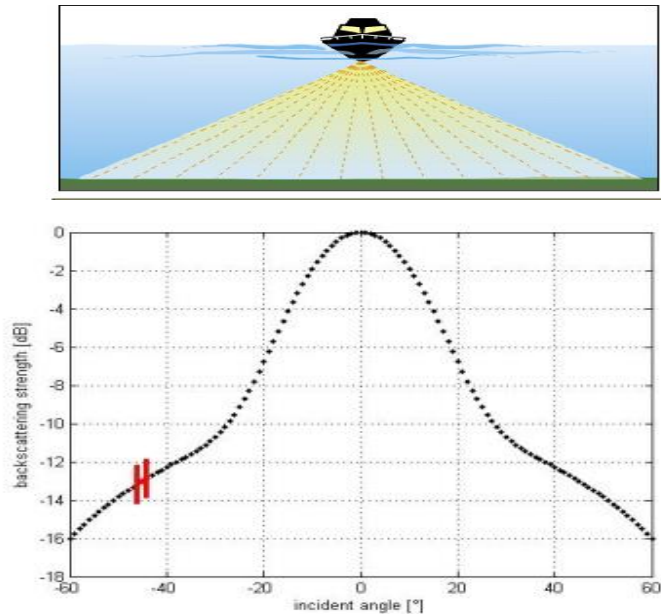




# Backscatter Imaging

Seabed Classification : data

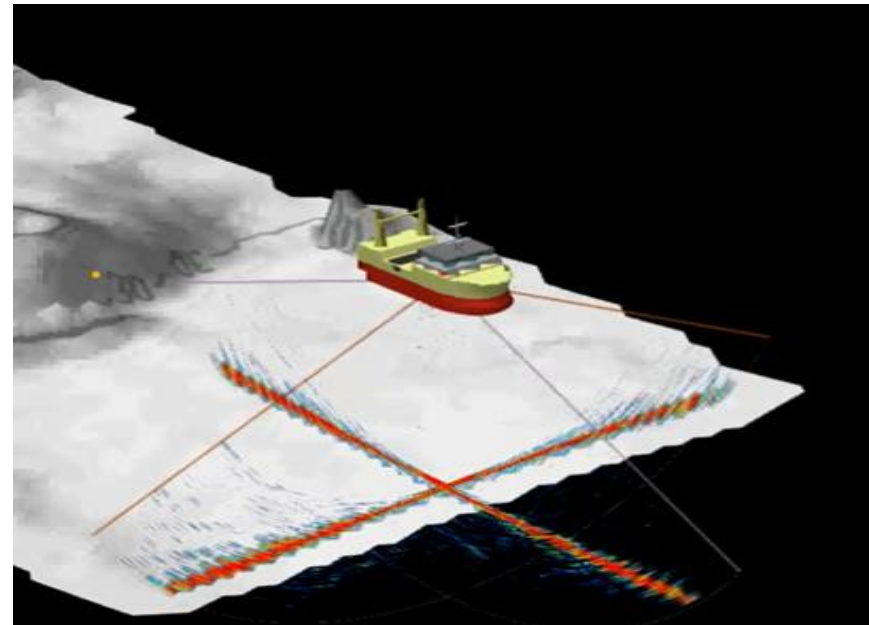
## Bathymetry Mode



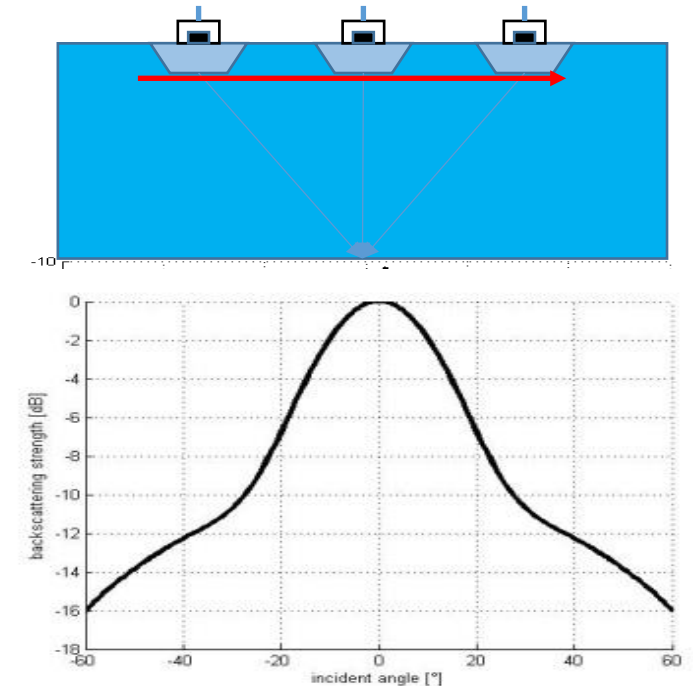
## Level Based Classifier

Input data:

$\{\theta_x, BS_x\}$  for pixel  $x$



## Longitudinal Mode



## Profile Based Classifier

Input data:

profile  $BS_x(\theta)$  for pixel  $x$

# Backscatter Imaging

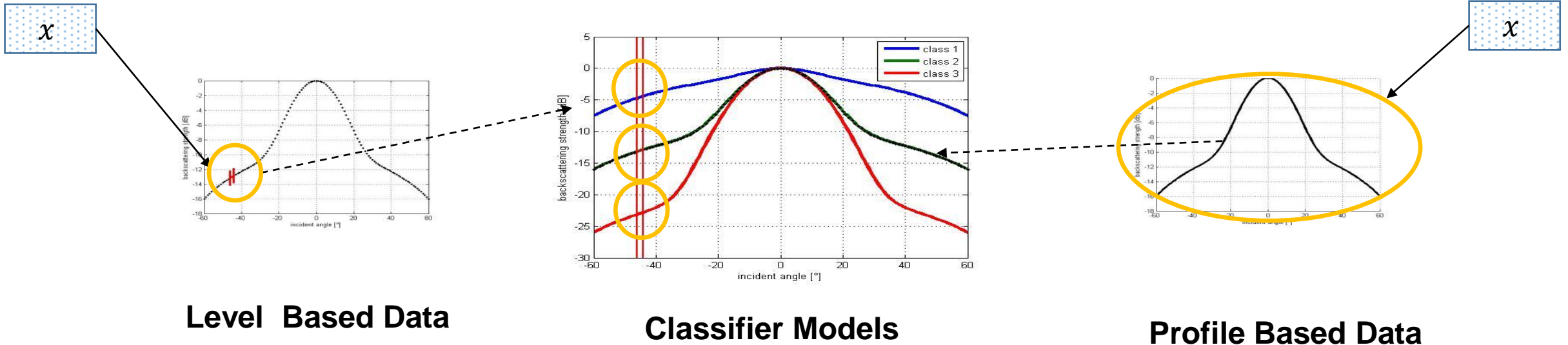
## Seabed Classifier

- **Level-based classifier**

- Input data:  $\{\theta_x, BS_x\}$  for pixel  $x$
- For each class, estimating gaussian model of BS level for each angular sector  $\theta$ :  $P_\theta(BS)$
- $C_x = \underset{C}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\theta_x}(BS_x|C)$

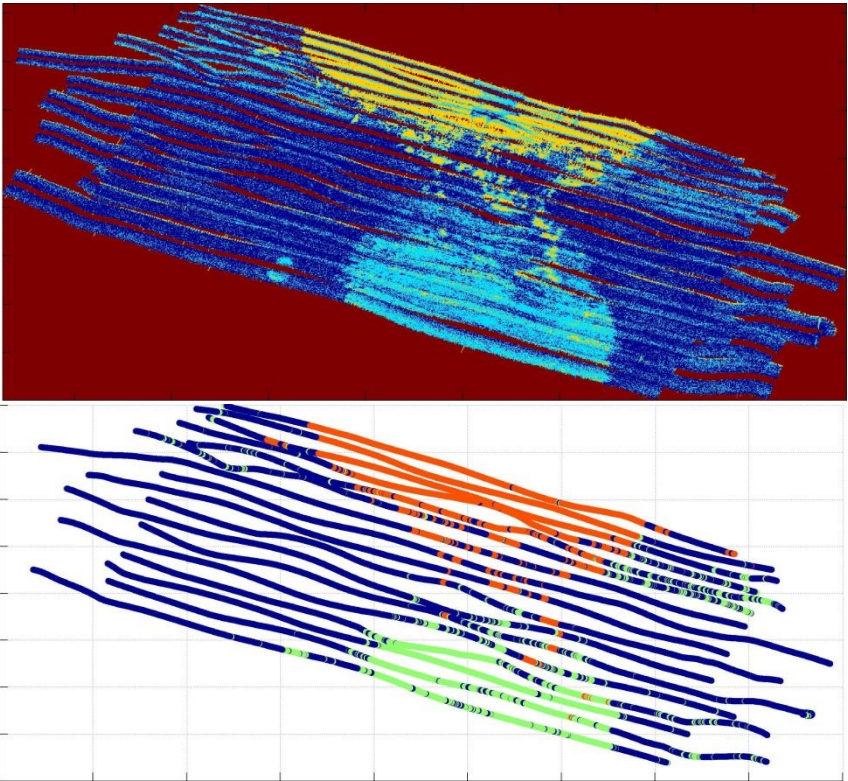
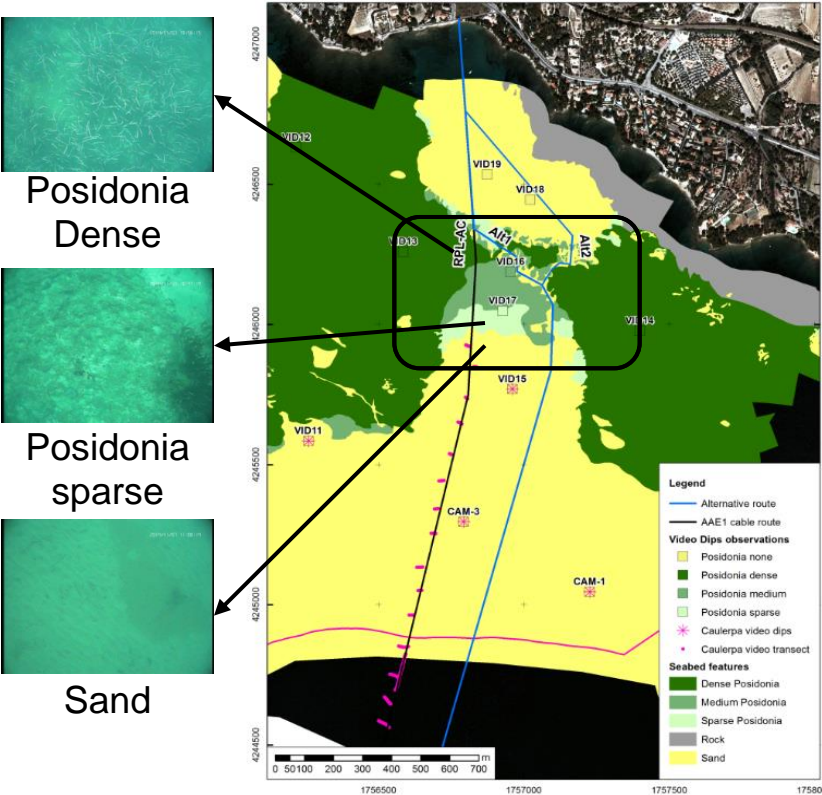
- **Profile-based classifier**

- Input data: profile  $BS_x(\theta)$  for pixel  $x$
- Estimating multi-dimensionnall Gaussian model  $P(BS(\theta)) = \text{Gaussian}(BS(\theta)|\mu(\theta), \Sigma(\theta))$
- $C_x = \underset{C}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(BS_x(\theta)|C)$



# Backscatter Imaging

## Seafloor Classification : Results



### Mode Transversal

| %    | P.D | P.E. | S. |
|------|-----|------|----|
| P.D. | 87  | 13   | 0  |
| P.E  | 10  | 85   | 5  |
| S.   | 1   | 2    | 97 |

### Mode Longitudinal

| %    | P.D | P.E. | S.  |
|------|-----|------|-----|
| P.D. | 100 | 0    | 0   |
| P.E  | 3   | 97   | 0   |
| S.   | 0   | 0    | 100 |



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# Navigation

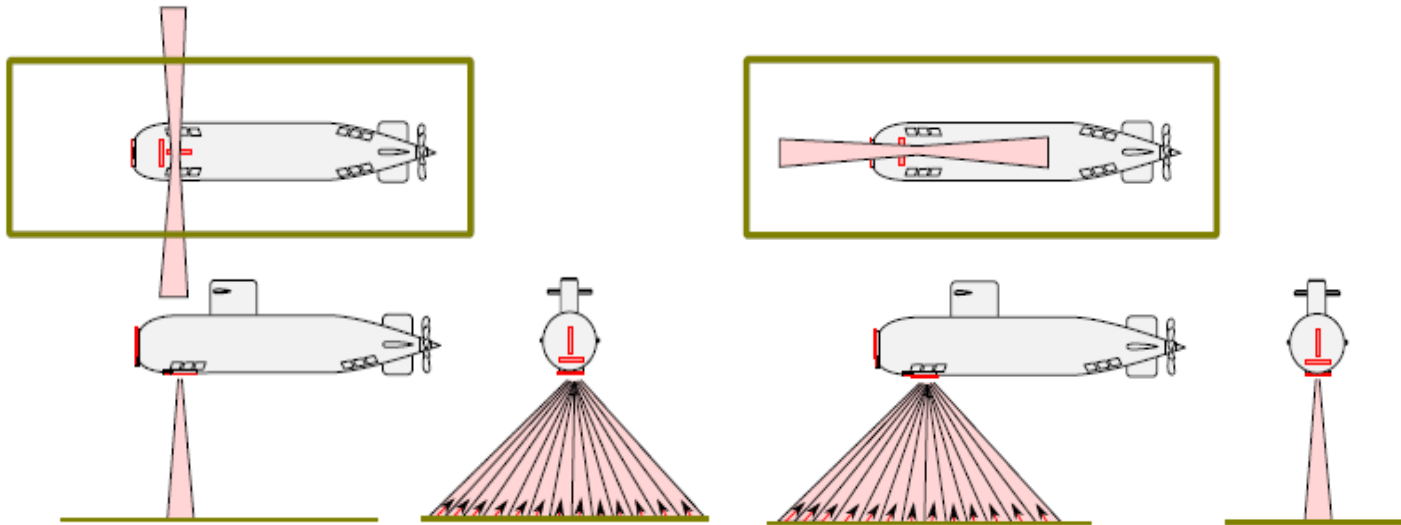


# Navigation

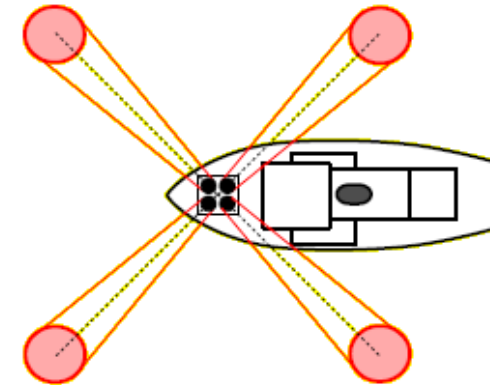
## Doppler Velocity Log

### Multibeam Doppler Velocity Log

- Alternate Longitudinal/Transversal Mode
- 64x64 Beams,  $1.6^{\circ} \times 1.6^{\circ}$



### Conventional Doppler Velocity Log





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# **Auto Calibration**

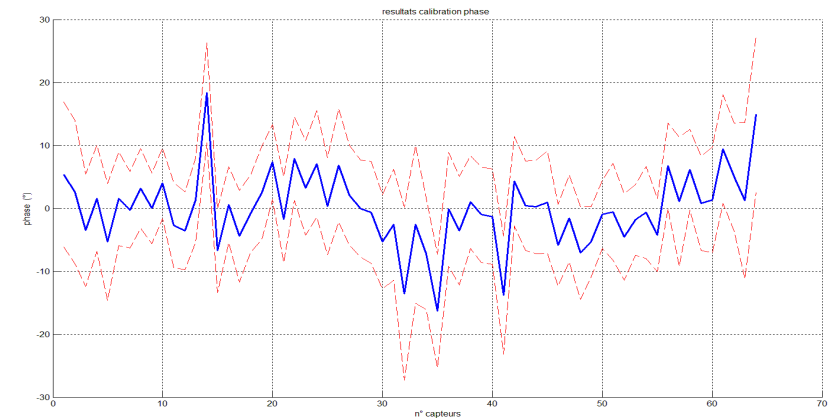
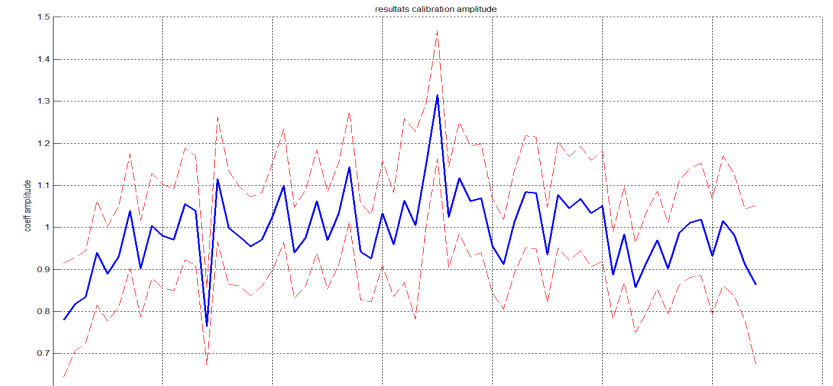
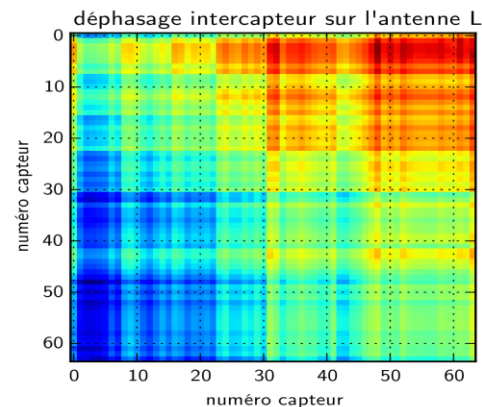
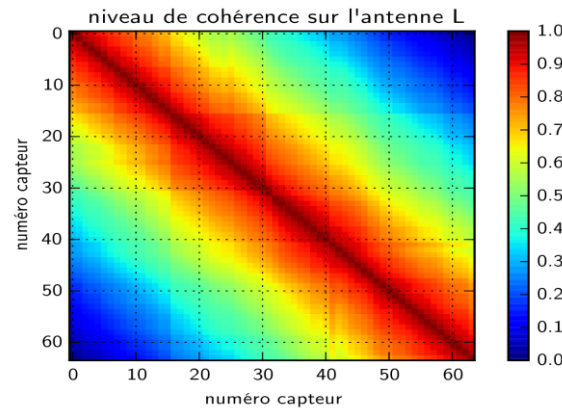
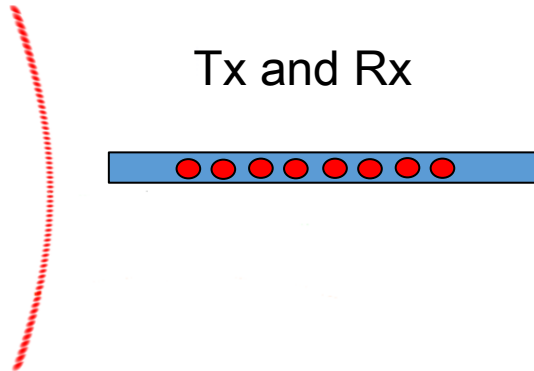
# Auto calibration

## Sensors Amplitude/Phase Estimation

### Using Emission and Reception on the same antenna

→ Spatial Coherence on  $L/2$

- Compute relative amplitude
- Compute phase difference





3

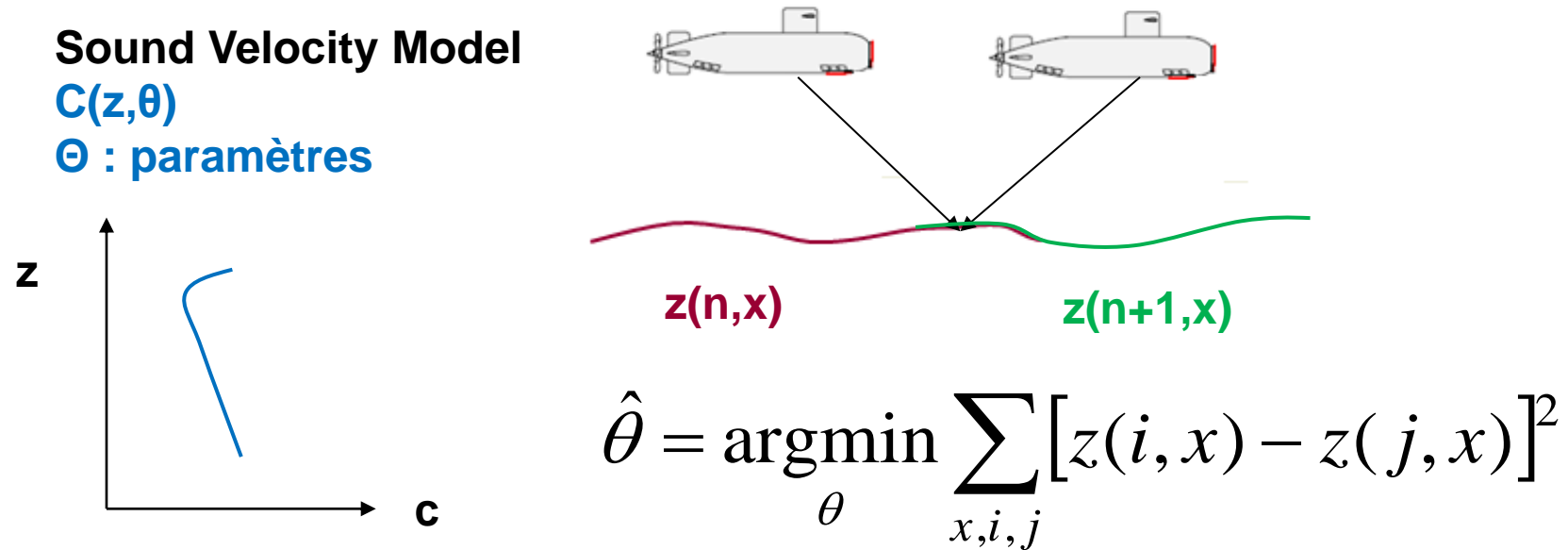
# Sound Velocity Profile Estimation



# Sound Velocity Profile Estimation

## Principle

Using overlapped Bathymetry Profiles on successive pings, longitudinal/transversal





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# Perspectives

# Perspectives

## MultiBeam/MultiSwath System on AUV/ROV/ASV



### One system for multiple functions

#### Navigation Security

- Forward Looking Detection

#### Hydrography

- Sound Velocity Profile Estimation

#### Imagery

- GapFiller

#### Environment Assessment and Monitoring

- Robust Seafloor classification
- Biomass analysis

#### Navigation

- Navigation + MBES (DVL, Bathymetry)

