

# Sensor Development

ACHIEVEMENTS AND FORWARD LOOK

MATT MOWLEM

HEAD OCEAN TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING GROUP



**National  
Oceanography Centre**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

[noc.ac.uk](http://noc.ac.uk)

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ENVIRONMENT

Ocean Technology and Engineering Group (OTEG)

**Mission (“*To develop novel technology and engineering resulting in the greatest impact for environmental and marine science*”)**



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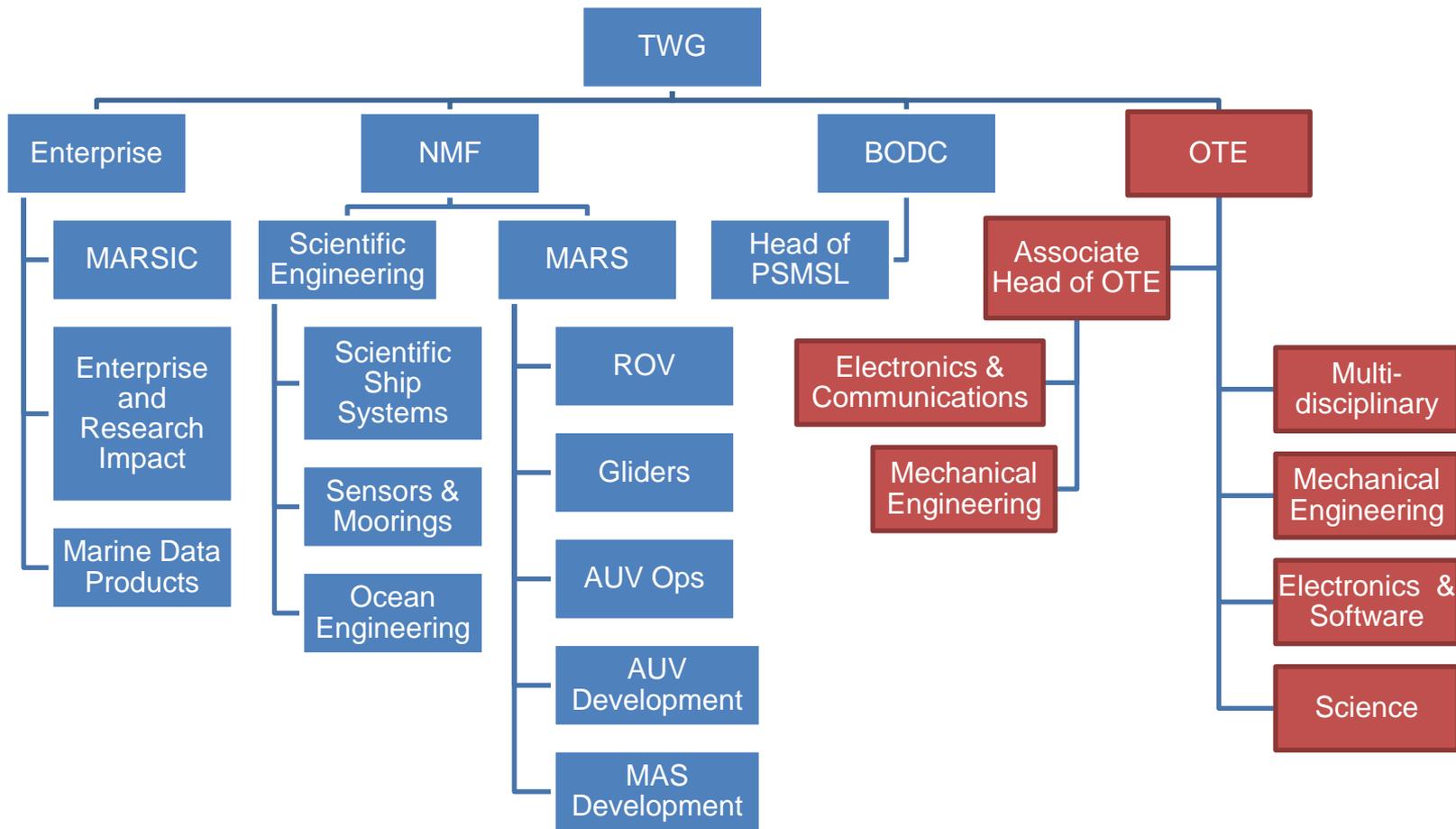
[noc.ac.uk](http://noc.ac.uk)

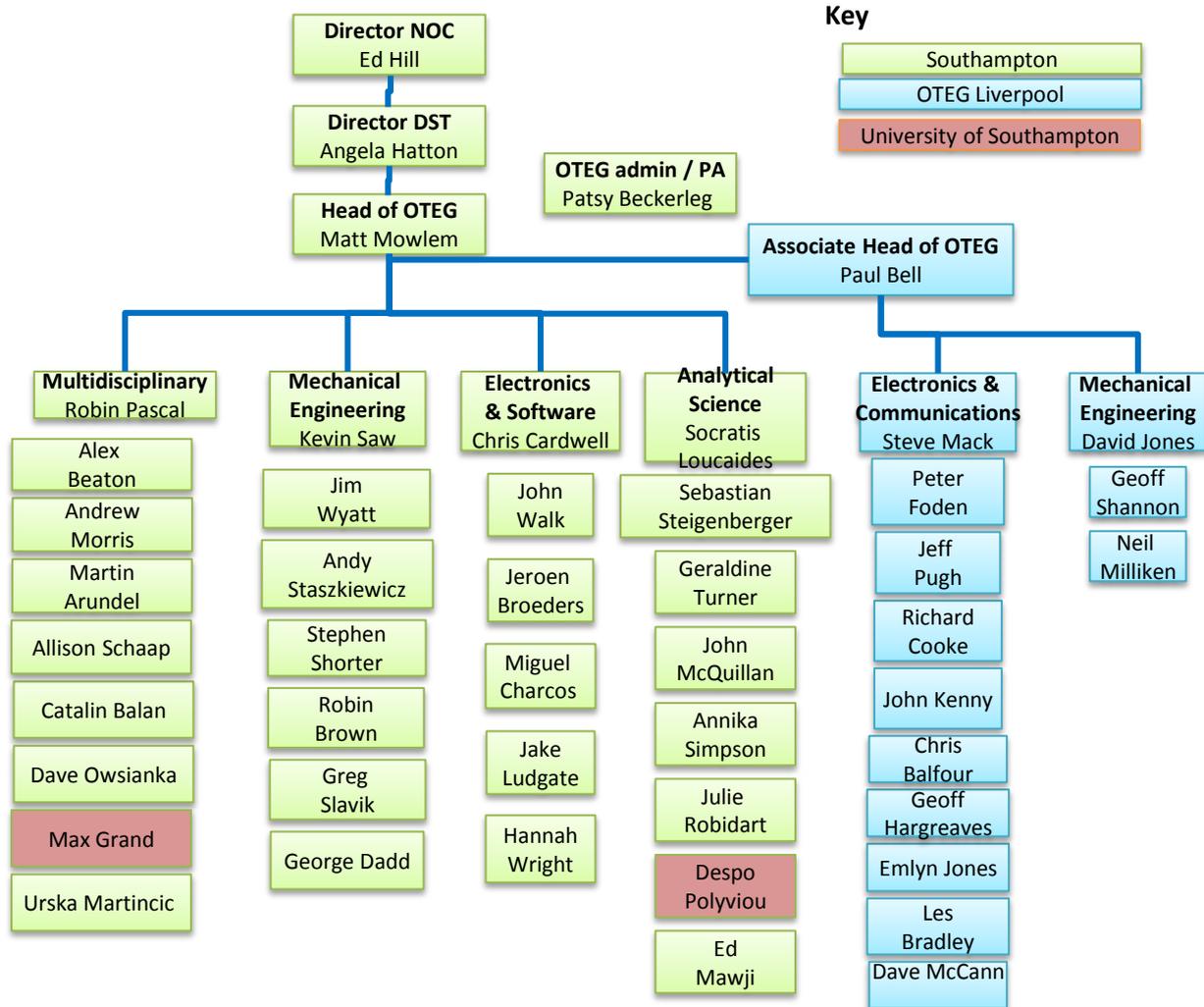
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**Key**

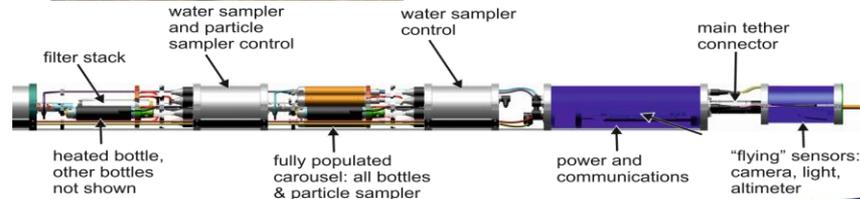
- Southampton
- OTEG Liverpool
- University of Southampton

# Ocean Technology and Engineering Group

## Post MARS

### Sensors

- Water physics (CTD)
- Water chemistry
- Water biology
- Sediment flow and properties
- Wave height / breaking
- Sea level
- Sea surface fluxes
- Enabling systems
- Metrology standards
- Interoperability and metadata
- Comms & Data flow
- Sensors on platforms
- Autonomous sea level



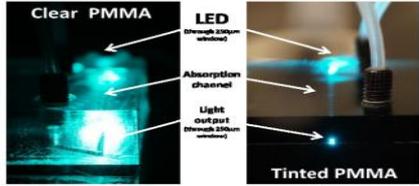
### Samplers

- Continuous water
- Gas tight water
- Particles
- Genomics
- Landers and benthic systems
- Communication systems
- Sterile probes / vehicles
- Vehicles: Gliders

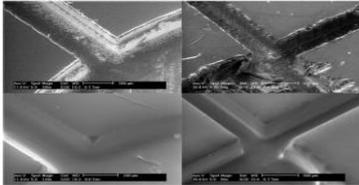
# OTEG expertise



electronics



optics



manufacturing

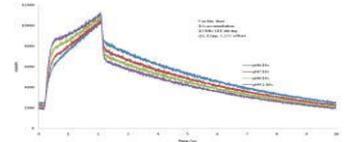


Integrated systems

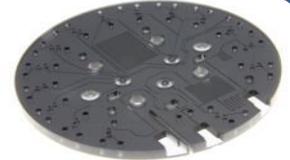
## Platforms & comms



Microfluidics



Assay optimisation



Lab on a chip



Biofouling mitigation

# GOOS EOVS

Readiness level: **CONCEPT** | **PILOT** | **MATURE** [Click on each EOVS for their respective spec sheets]

PHYSICS	BIOGEOCHEMISTRY	BIOLOGY AND ECOSYSTEMS
Sea state	Dissolved Oxygen	Phytoplankton biomass and productivity
Ocean surface vector stress	Inorganic macro nutrients	Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) incidence
Sea ice	Carbonate System	Zooplankton diversity
Sea surface height	Transient tracers	Fish abundance and distribution
Sea surface temperature	Suspended particulates	Apex predator abundance and distribution
Subsurface temperature	Nitrous oxide	Live coral cover
Surface currents	Carbon isotope ( $^{13}\text{C}$ )	Sea grass cover
Subsurface currents	Dissolved organic carbon	Mangrove cover
Sea surface salinity		Macroalgal canopy cover
Subsurface salinity		
Heat flux / radiation		



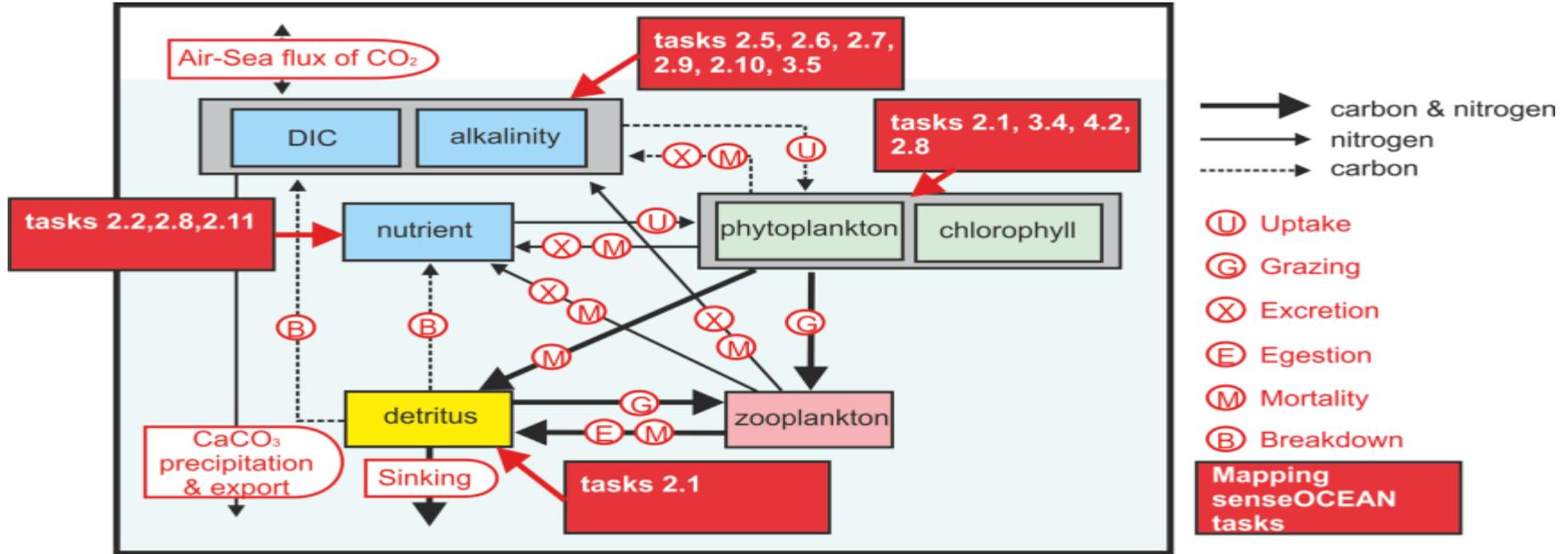
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Subsurface salinity		
Heat flux / radiation		



# biogeochemical model of the ocean system



Summary of the Tasks outlined in SenseOCEAN mapped onto the current state of the art

# Marine Sensors Technologies and TRL

## Microfabricated Solid State / Electrochemistry:

- Salinity 7
- Dissolved oxygen 7

## Optodes / optical sensors

- Gases inc. methane 6
- pH, pCO<sub>2</sub> 7
- Radionuclide 3

## Lab on Chip Cytometer

- Whole cells (label free) 5
- Labelled cells 5
- Microplastics 4
- Bead assays 3

## Lab on Chip Chemistry

- Inorganic Nutrients 8
- Organic Nutrients 5
- Trace metals 7
- pH 7, TA 4, DIC 3, pCO<sub>2</sub> 4
- Small organics, e.g. PAH, PCBs (f-pM) 5
- Proteins and large organics (copies / L) 4
- Nucleic Acids (copies / L) 6
- Radionuclide 3



# 2016 Highlights

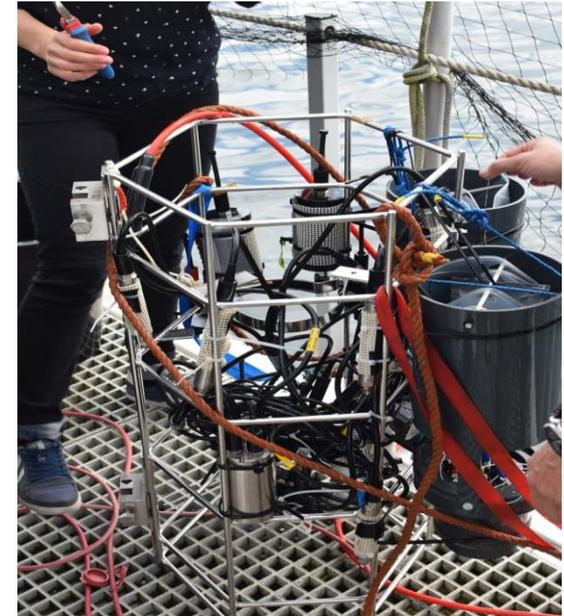
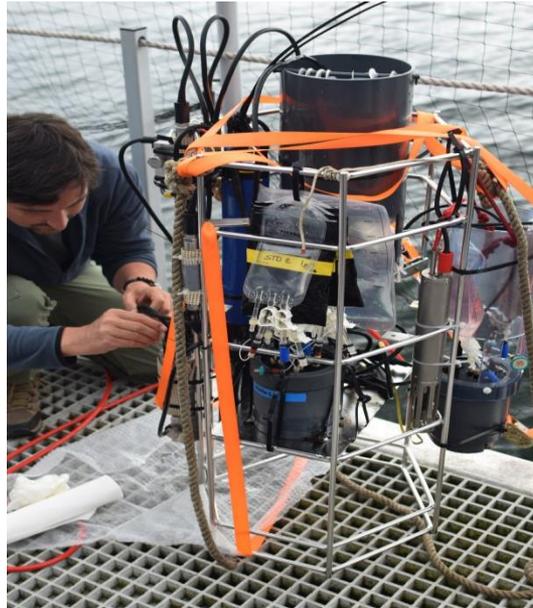


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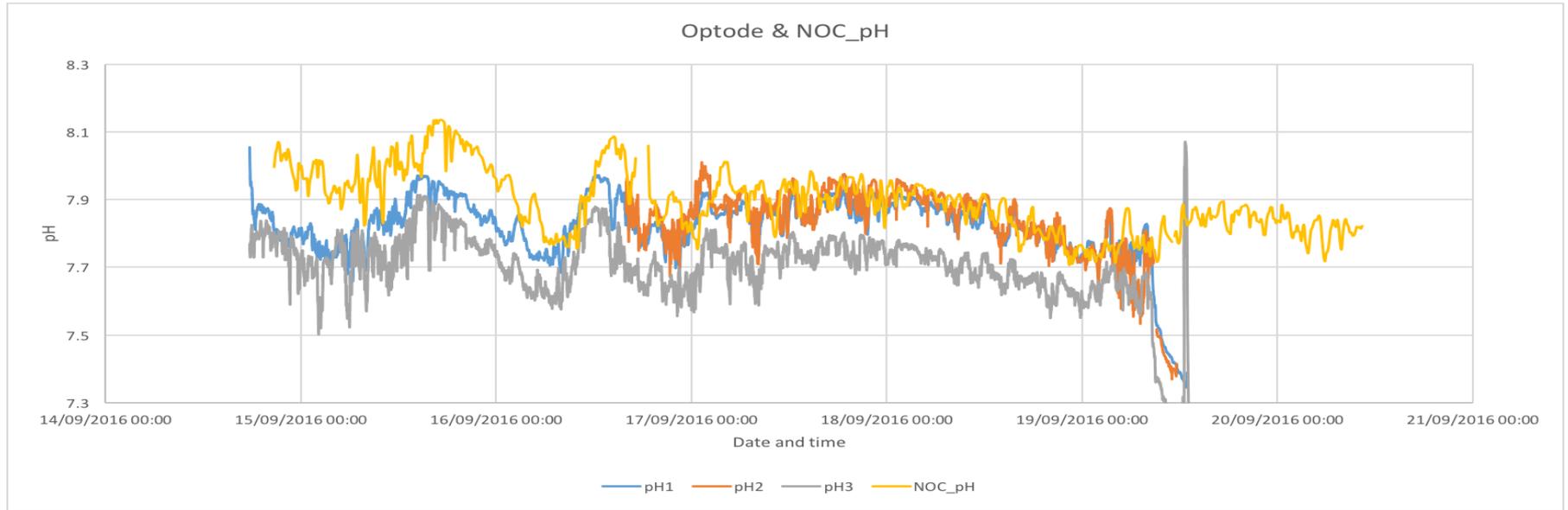
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# Demo / test Kiel Fjord Sept. 2016



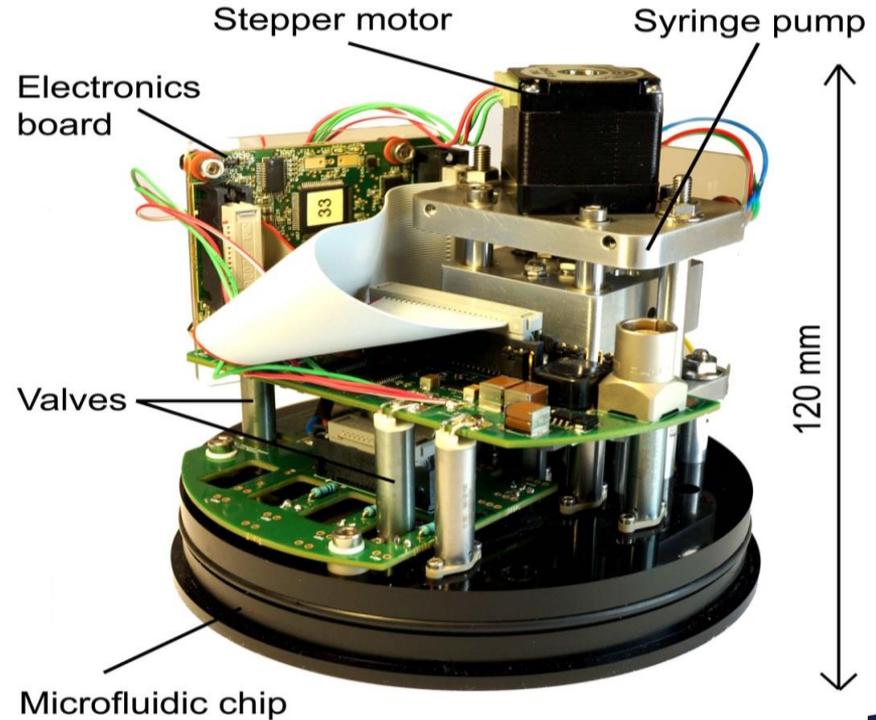
# Kiel Preliminary Results: pH



Preliminary LOC data from T. Yin (NOC) and TU Graz team  
(Optodes)

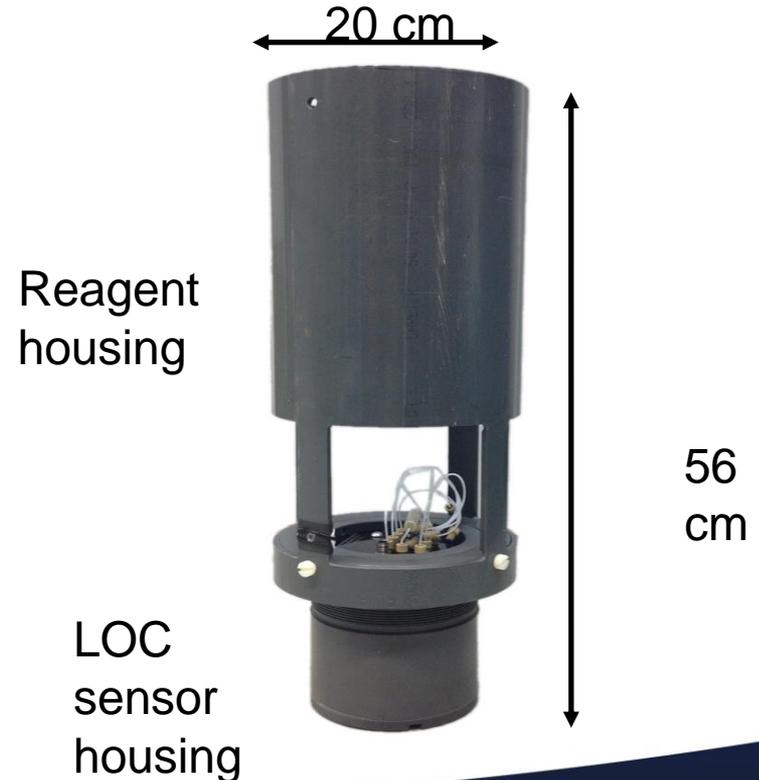
# NOC chemical sensor platform

- Now operational for several parameters
- Platform technology - easy to adapt to other absorbance-based assays
- Works at pressure (deepest deployment to date 4800 m)
- Small enough for glider/AUV deployment
- Low power (year long deployment on batteries achieved)



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LOC Sensor	Analytical method	Measurement type	LOD/precision*
<b>Nitrate + nitrite</b>	Griess assay (with Cd reduction)	Colourimetry (absorbance)	20 nM
<b>pH</b>	Thymol blue	Dual wavelength absorbance	0.001 pH units*
<b>Phosphate</b>	Molybdenum blue (modified)	Colourimetry (absorbance)	30 nM
<b>Iron (II), Iron (III)</b>	Ferrozine (with ascorbic acid reduction for Fe (III))	Colourimetry (absorbance)	20 nM
<b>Silicate</b>	Silicomolybdic acid	Colourimetry (absorbance)	20 nM
<b>Ammonium</b>	OPA + membrane	Fluorescence	1 nM
<b>Total alkalinity</b>	BCG with TMT or single step	Dual wavelength absorbance	(2 µM)*
<b>DIC</b>	Membrane+ C of NaOH	Conductivity	(2 µM)*
<b>Organic N and P</b>	UV digester + inorganic system	Colourimetry (absorbance)	(20 nM)

# NERC Macronutrient Cycles: Nitrate in a river



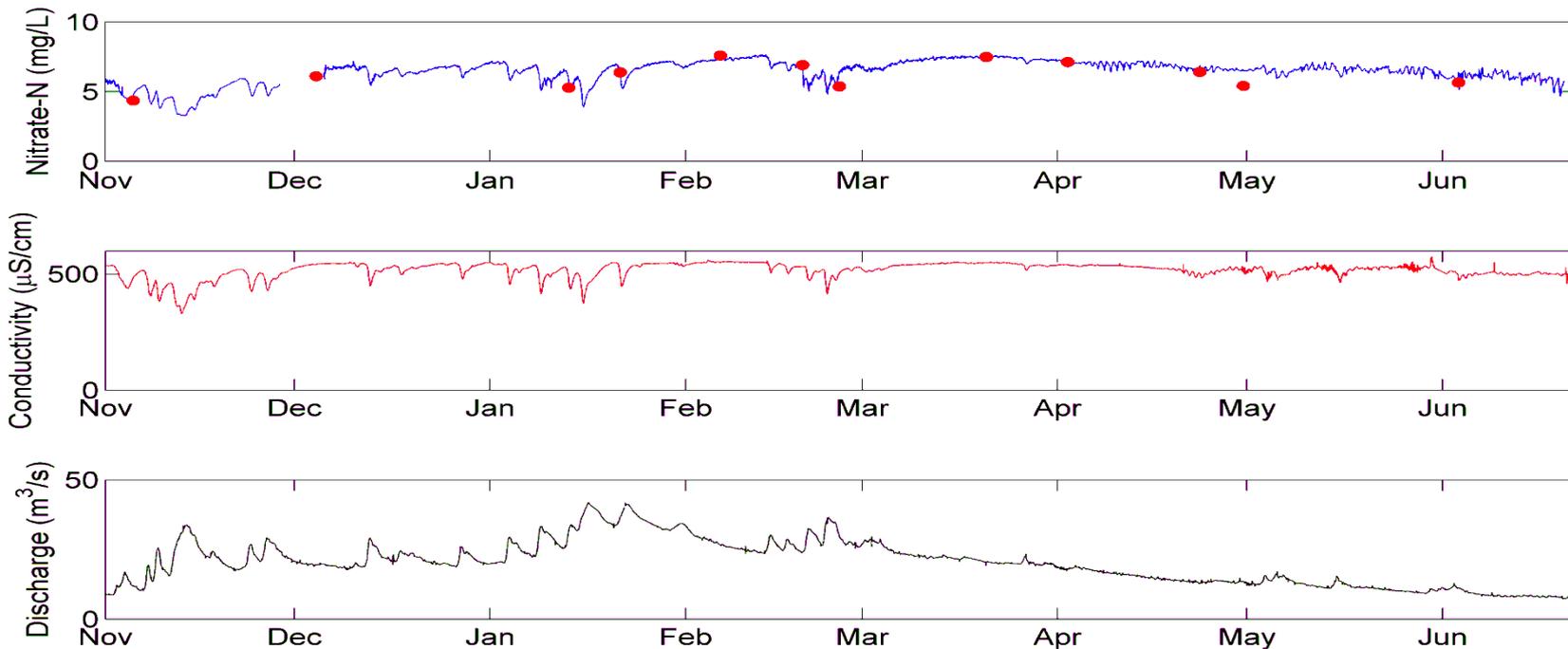
Hampshire Avon deployment site



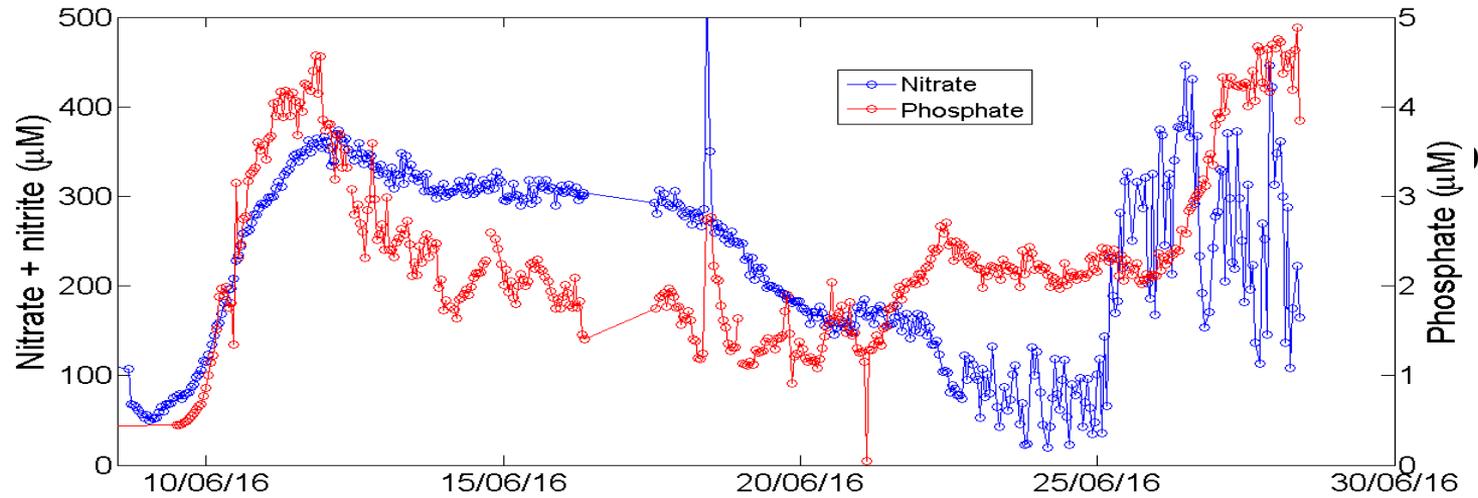
Sensor after deployment in River



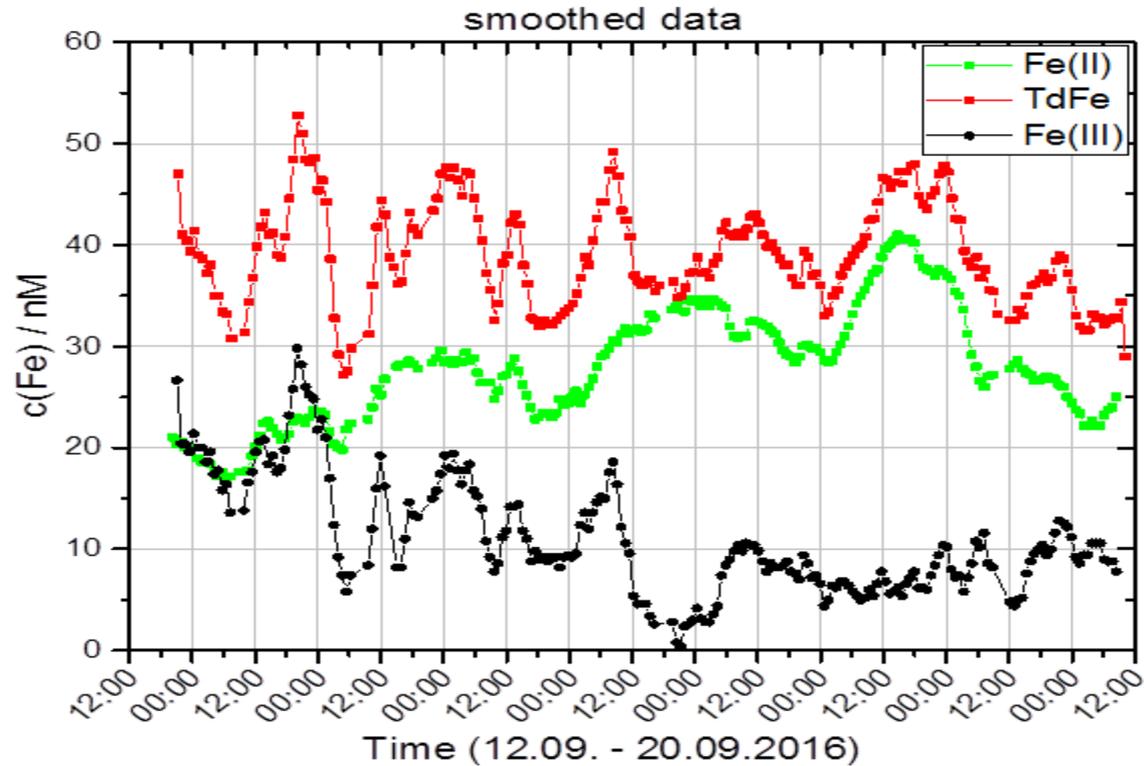
# NERC Macronutrient Cycles: Nitrate in a river



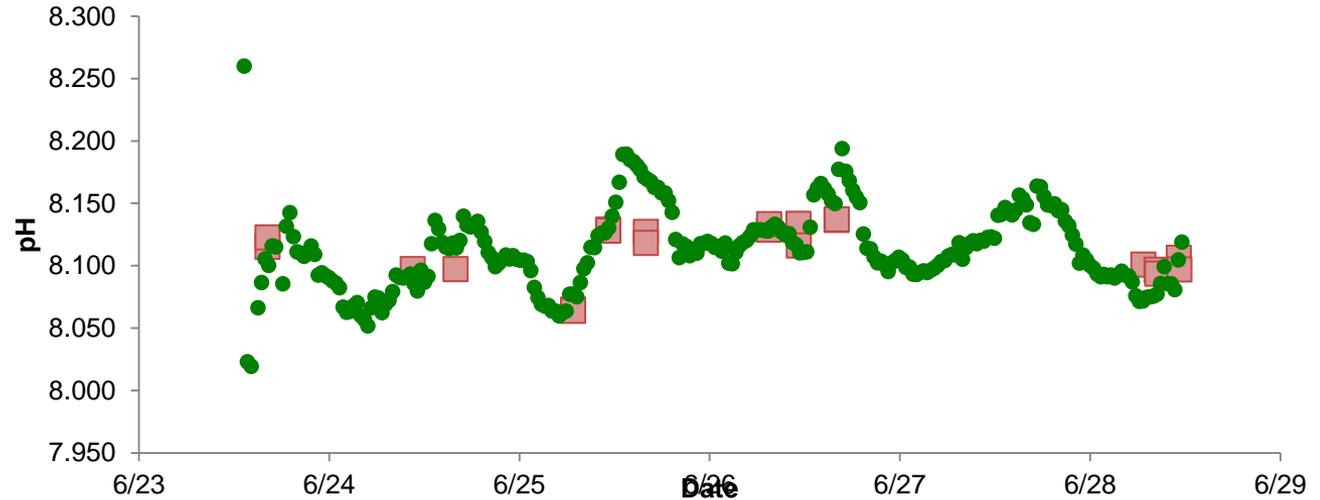
# Nutrient Challenge: Nitrate and phosphate in a Maumee River, Ohio



# SenseOCEAN: Dissolved iron in Kiel Fjord



# NOC pH sensor field tests



Gullmar fjord, Sweden June 2015

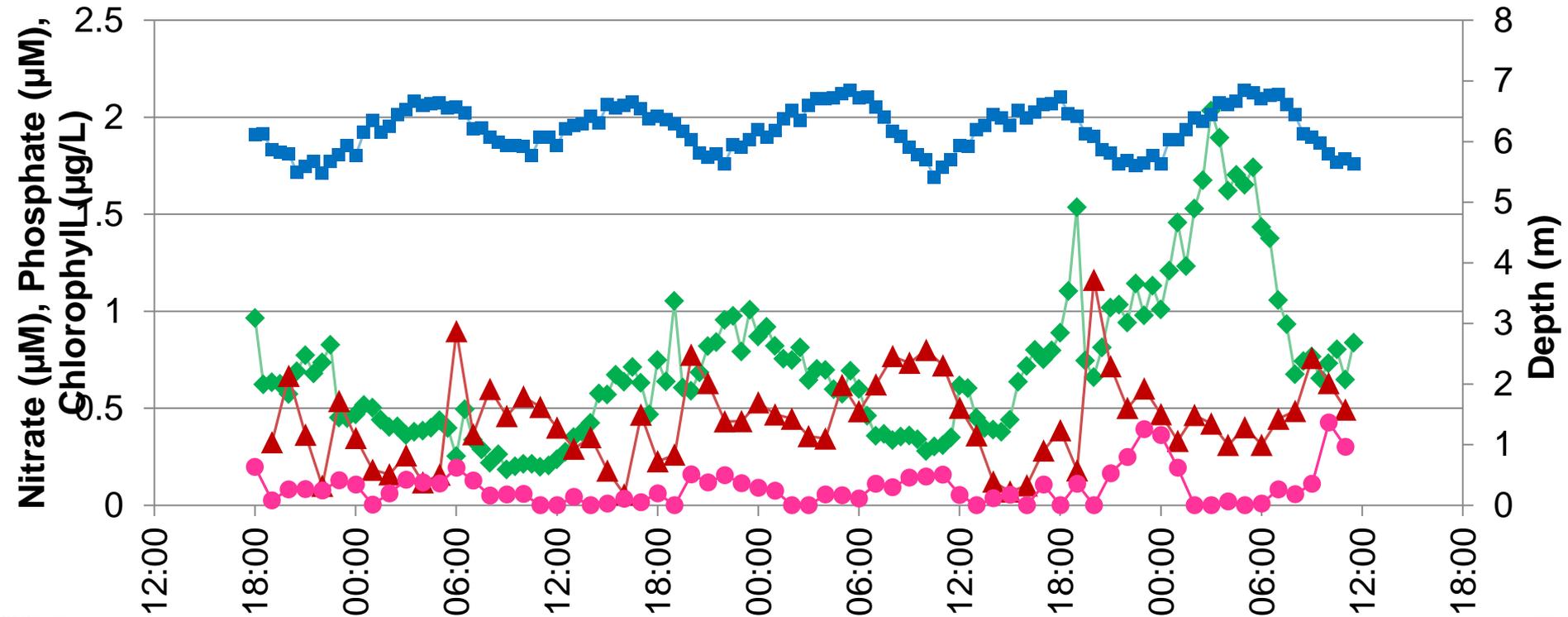
# CMEP: Tropical coastal waters



Allison Schaap

# CMEP: Tropical coastal waters

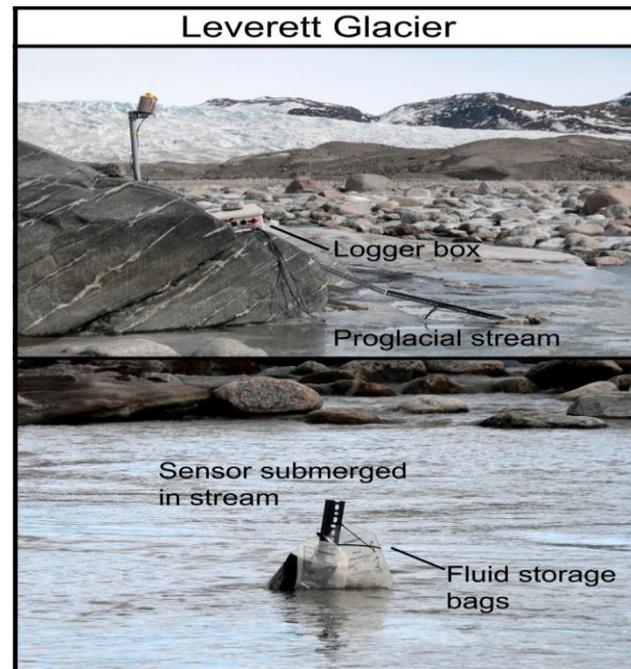
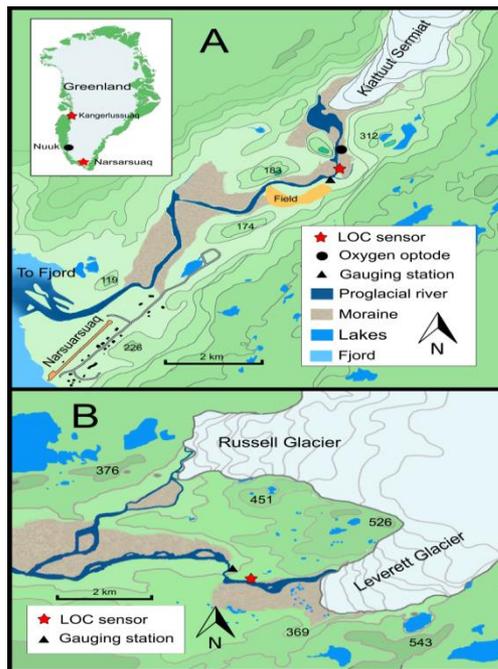
◆ Chlorophyll      ▲ Nitrate      ● Phosphate      ■ Depth



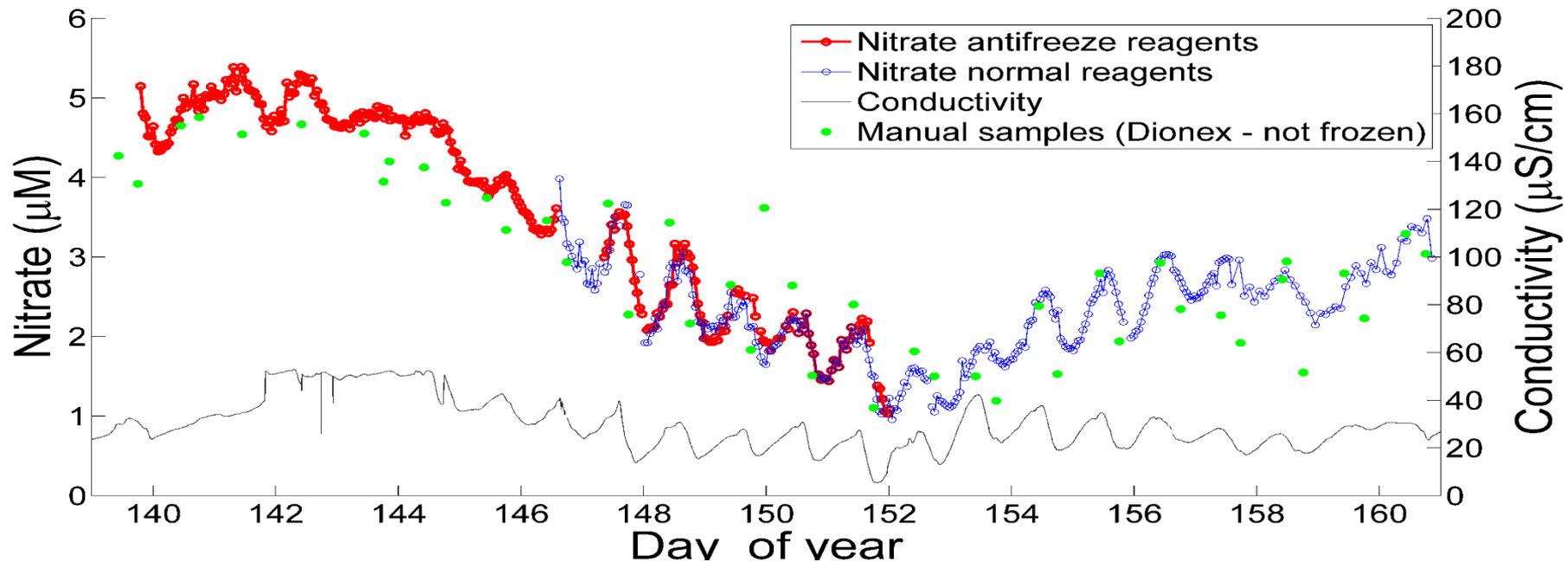
# DELVE: Nitrate in glacial meltwater

Nitrate sensor  
deployed in glacial  
streams draining  
Greenland Ice Sheet

Sub-zero  
temperatures and  
highly turbid waters

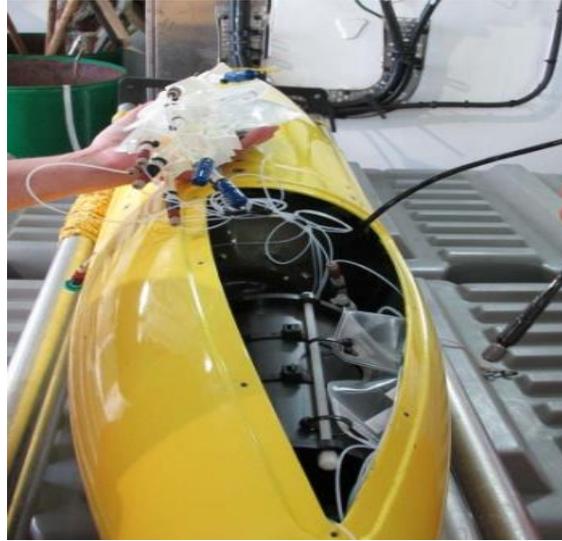


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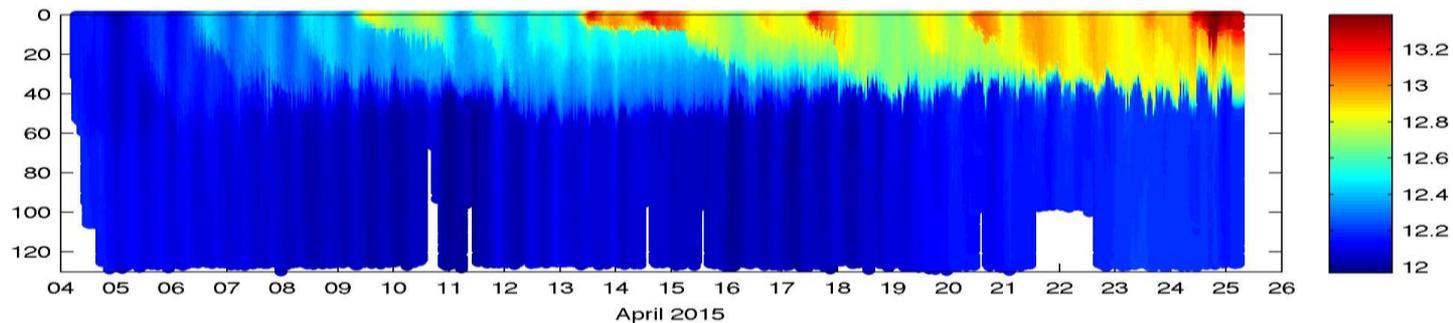
# Nitrate deployment on gliders

Celtic Sea, April 2015

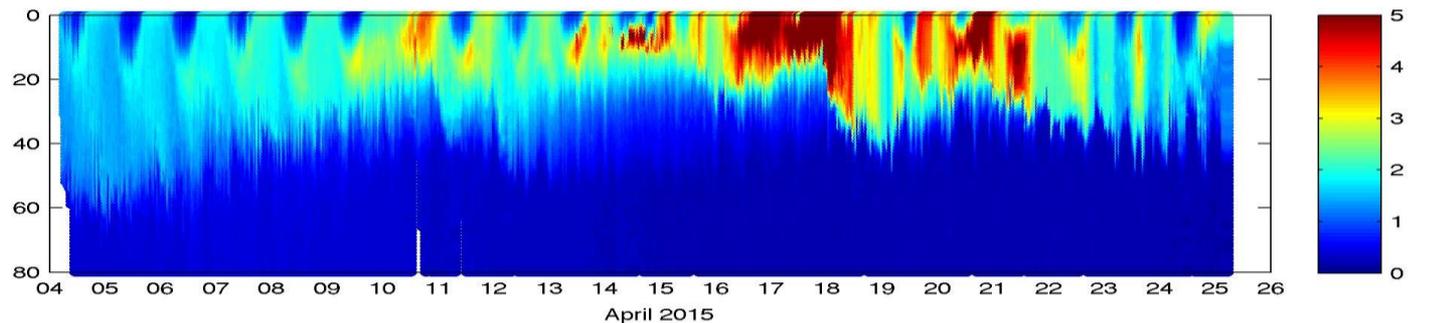


Alex Vincent & Maeve Lohan, NOC / SOES (U. Soton)

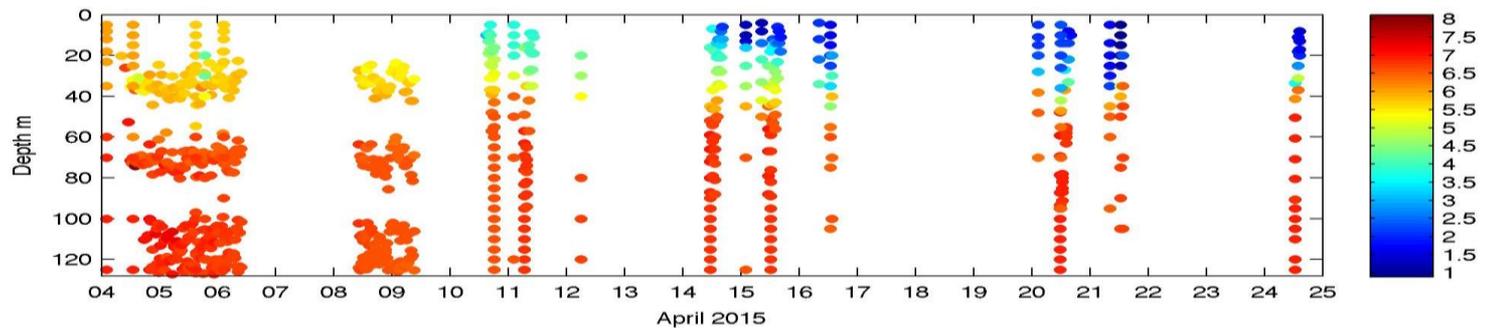
Temperature  
(°C)



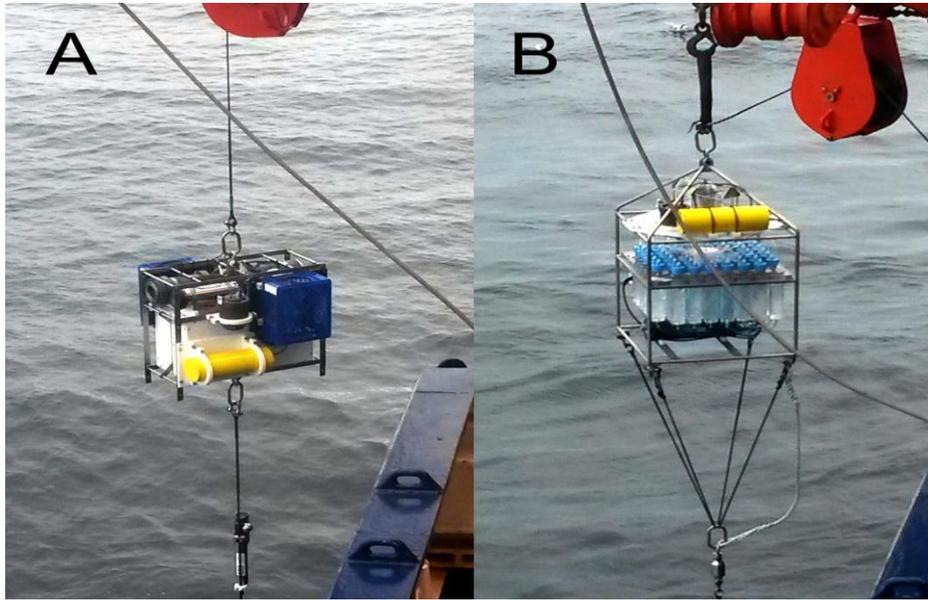
Chlorophyll  
(mg/m<sup>3</sup>)



Nitrate  
(μM)



# FixO3 TNA: Year-long unattended in the Arctic

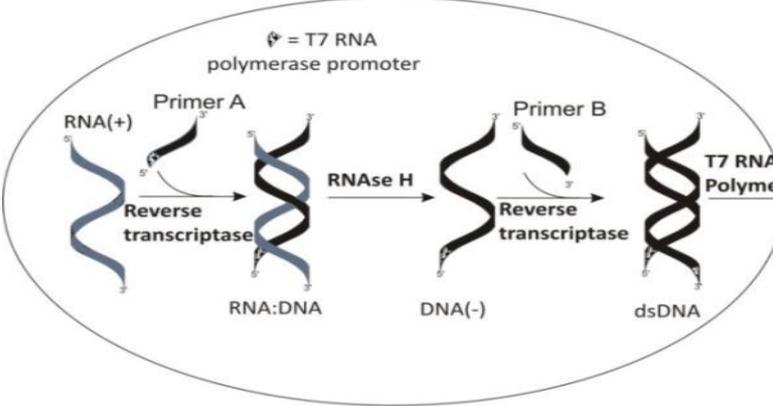


LOC nitrate sensors deployed  
in two moorings on Fram  
Straight for one year (50 – 80 m  
deep, two measurements per  
day)

Funded by FixO3

# Biosensing

non-cyclic phase



cyclic phase

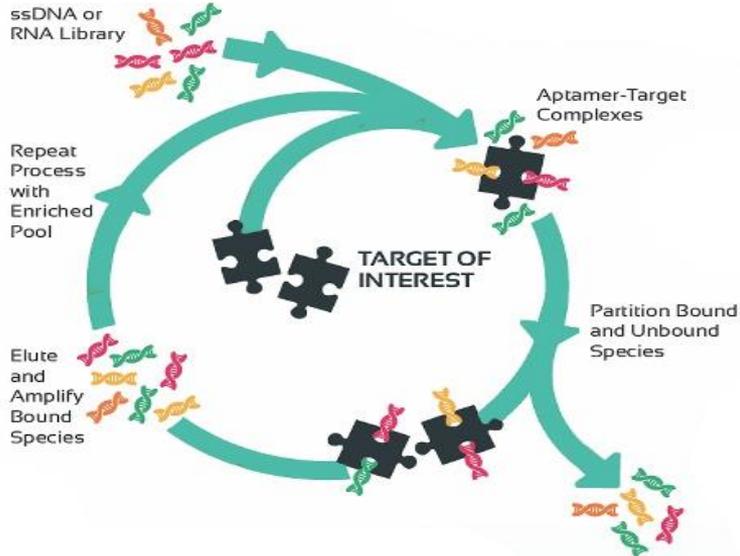
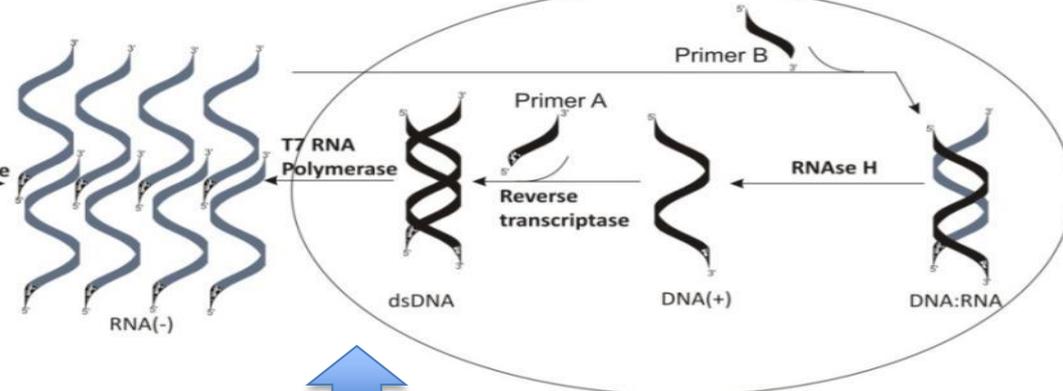
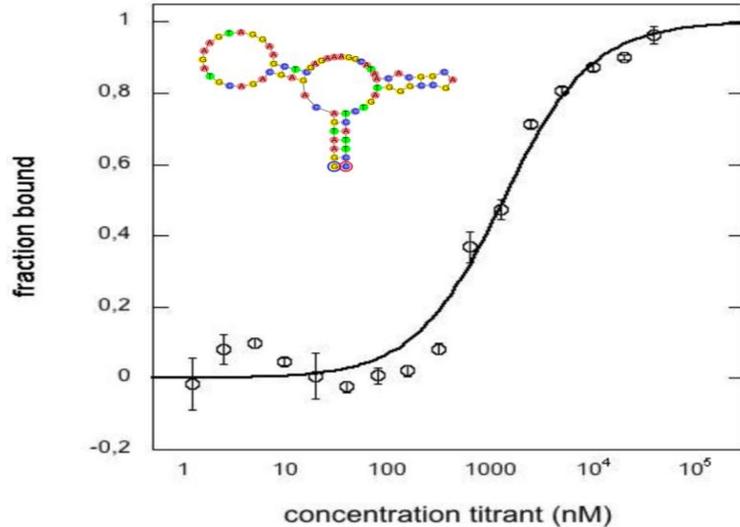


Figure and work by M.N. Tsaloglou

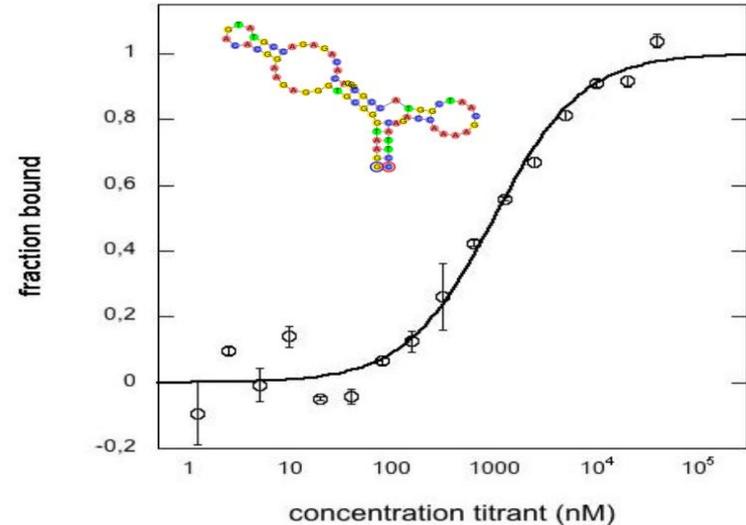
Image courtesy of our partners Aptamer solutions

<http://www.aptamersolutions.co.uk/>

# Contract Research Aptamer / Antibody PAH sensor proof of concept

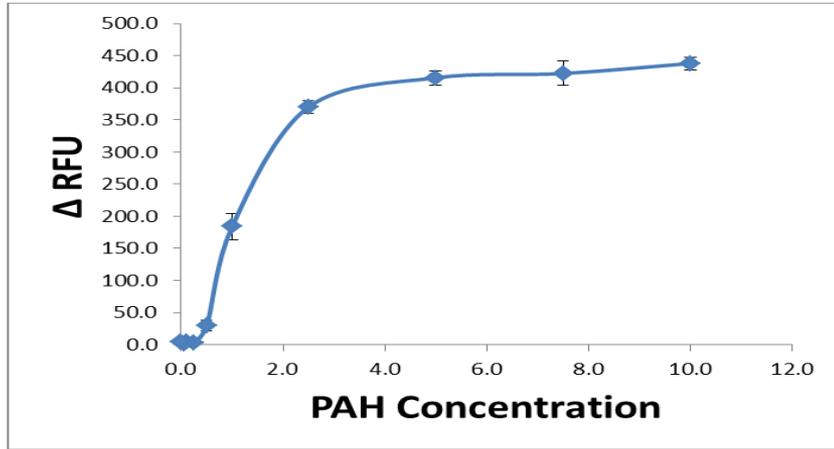


Naphthalene aptamer sensor  
( $K_d = 1.3 \pm 0.3$  nM)

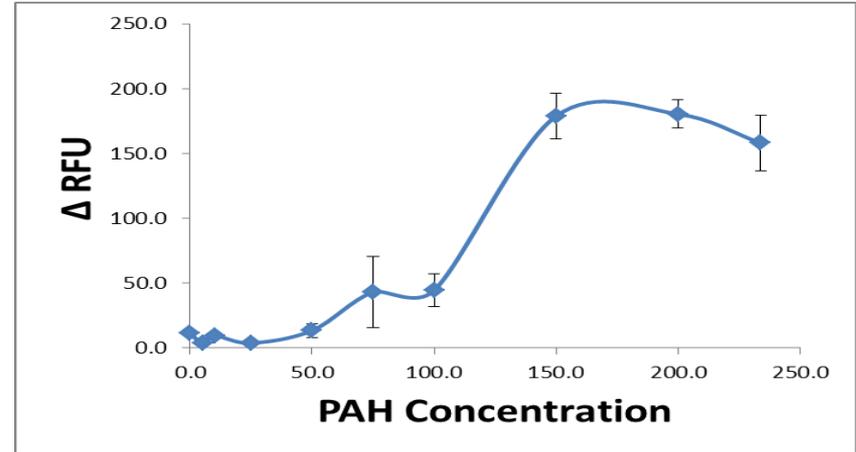


Phenanthrene aptamer sensor  
( $K_d = 995 \pm 208$  nM)

# Fluorescence Curves for Aptamer Beacons in Seawater

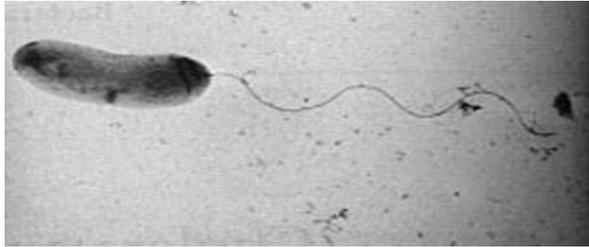


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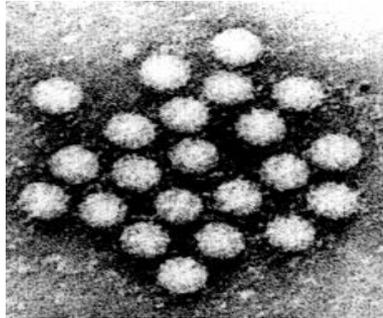


Phenanthrene aptamer sensor  
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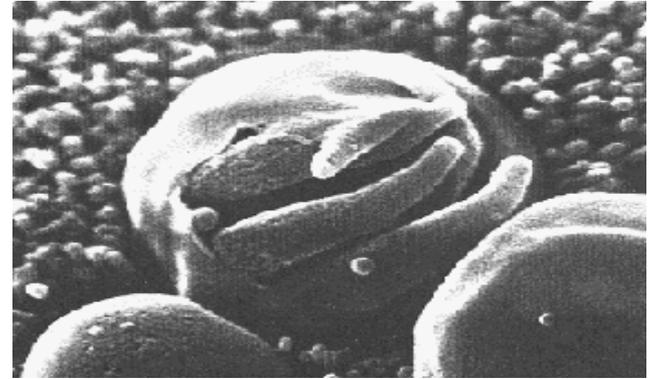
# BBSRC sustainable aquaculture: Pathogens in Shellfisheries Water



*Salmonella* spp.



Norovirus

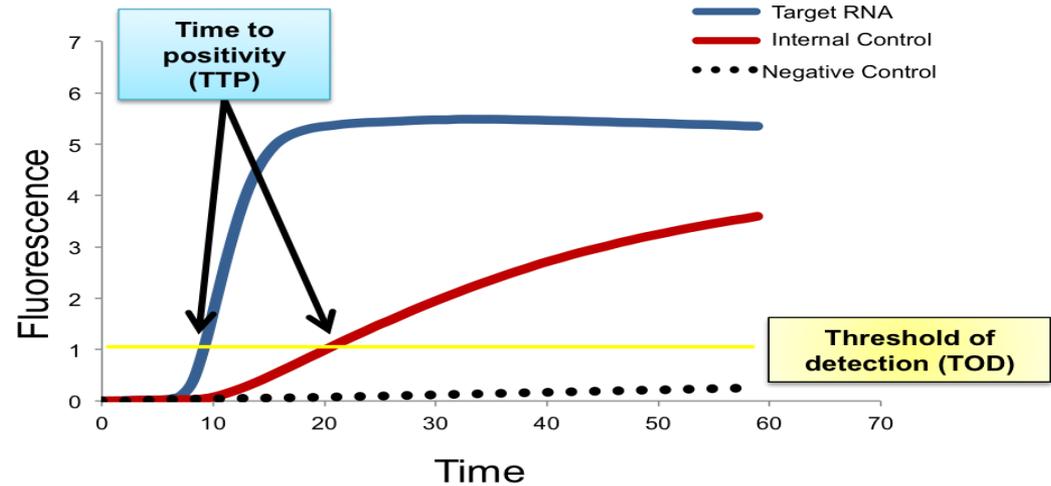
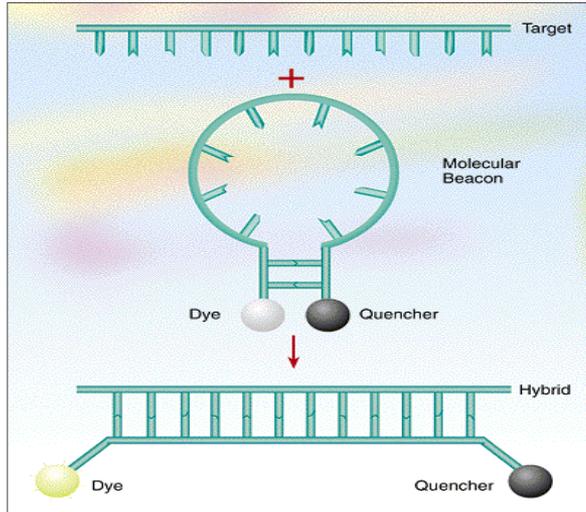


*Cryptosporidium*

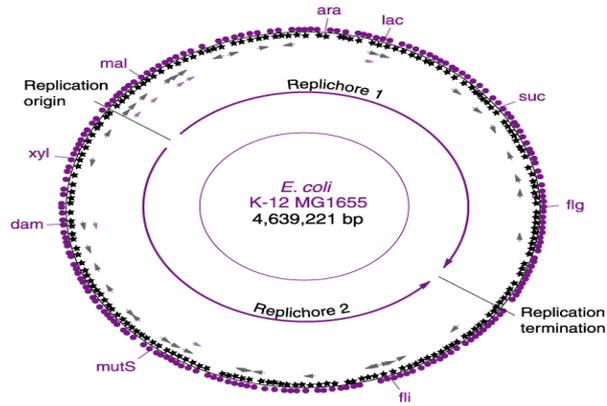
## Water-borne pathogens are (typically) difficult to measure

- Very diverse (bacteria, viruses, parasites, virulent and non-virulent strains)
- Low concentration / low infectious dose (e.g. Norovirus;  $\geq 18$  viral particles)
- Lack of good bio-analytical methods (many can't be cultured)
- Diseases of unknown origin

# Quantitation of Microorganisms in Natural Waters using the LabCard NASBA



# New NASBA Assays for *E. coli* DNA



## Challenges:

- High genomic diversity In the environment.
- Genome size is approx. 4,000-5,000 unique genes.
- >2,000 sequenced genomes
- Approx. 300 core genes\*
- Target sequences are not always unique

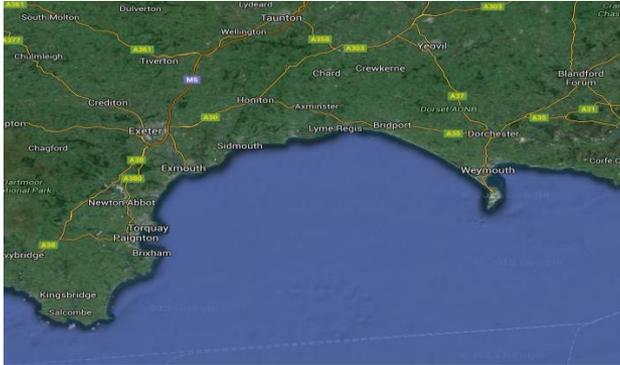
\*Miriam Land *et al* (2015) *Funct. Integr. Genomics* 15, 141-161

Bioinformatics methods were employed to find *E. coli* sequences that were...

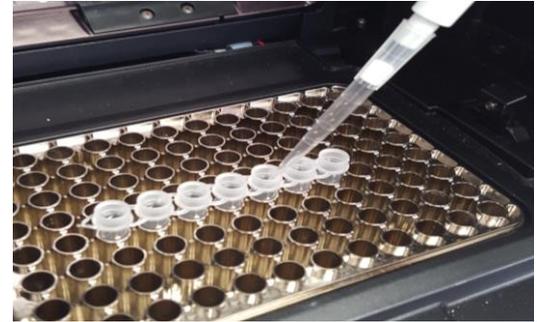
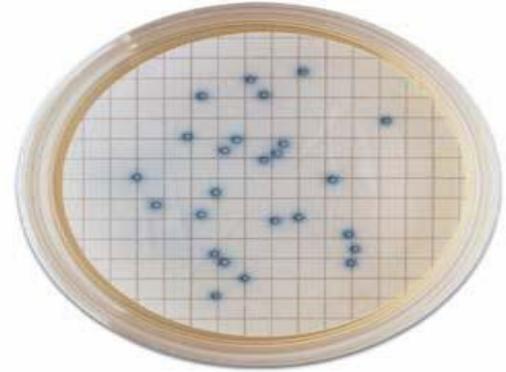
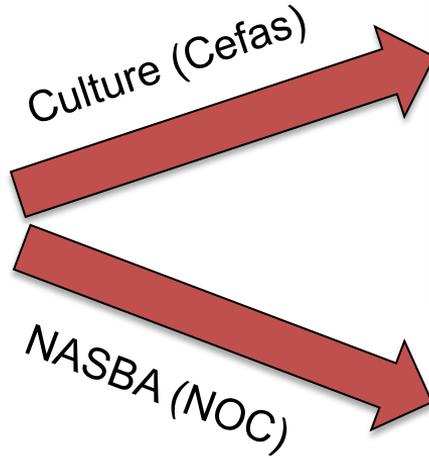
- Unique to *E. coli*
- Ubiquitous in *E. coli* strains

Confirmed experimentally using library of *E. coli* (ECOR) and non-*E. coli* bacteria from different hosts and geographical locations

# Monthly evaluation of the existing and new assays using “real” water samples



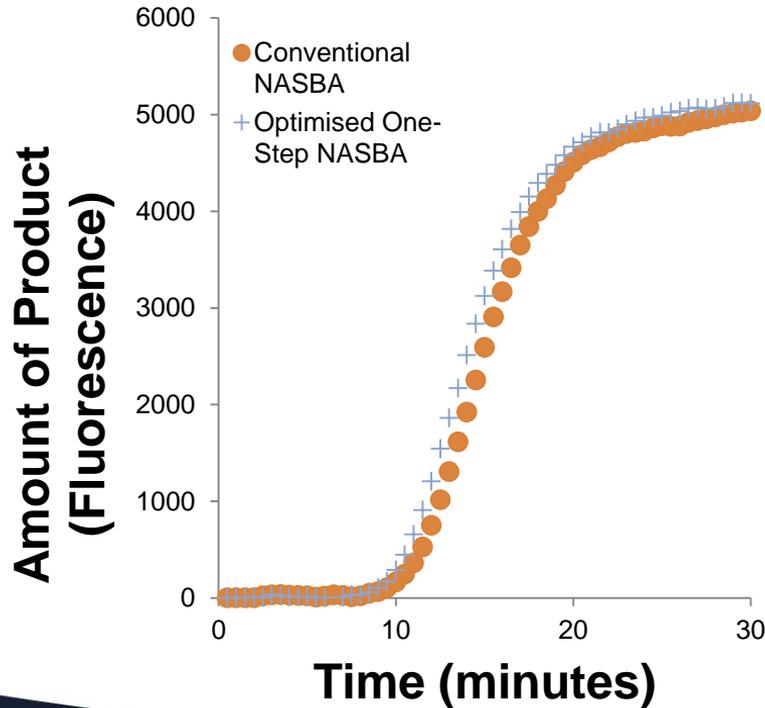
Samples Collected in Southwest England



# Preliminary Results from Month One

Sample	Plate Assay Mean (n=3) (CFU / 100 mL)	RNA Assay after thermal induction (Cell Equivalents / 100 mL)	DNA assay (Genome Copy / 100 mL)	Comment
Saline, inshore (bathing water)	21	Not Detected	Not Detected	Possible to detect $\geq 10$ cells in pure culture. Negative result due to inhibitors?
Spiked saline ( <i>E. coli</i> type)	6533	3,100	8,500	RNA underestimation; DNA overestimation
Estuarine	1933	900	3,200	RNA underestimation; DNA overestimation
Spiked estuarine ( <i>E. coli</i> type)	6600	400	8,700	RNA underestimation; DNA overestimation
Tertiary sewage treatment works (post UV)	121,500	Not Detected	Not Detected	Sample inhibition
Tertiary sewage treatment works (pre-UV)	274,667	Not Detected	Not Detected	Sample inhibition
Secondary sewage treatment works	149,000	Not Detected	Not Detected	Sample inhibition
Positive control ( <i>E. coli</i> type)	274,667	211,500	430,200	RNA underestimation; DNA overestimation
Negative control	0	Not Detected	Not Detected	

# Other developments: A New One-step NASBA

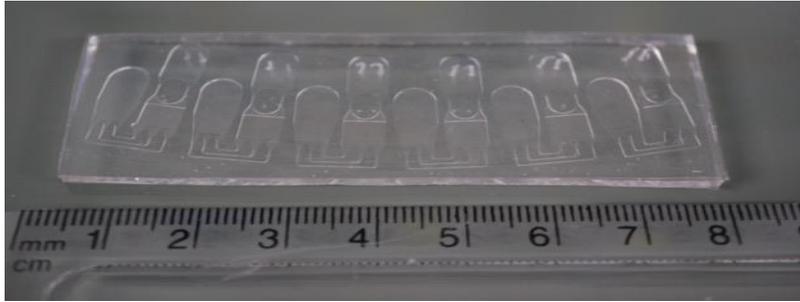


Development of new reagent preservation methods

Optimisation of primer annealing zymes

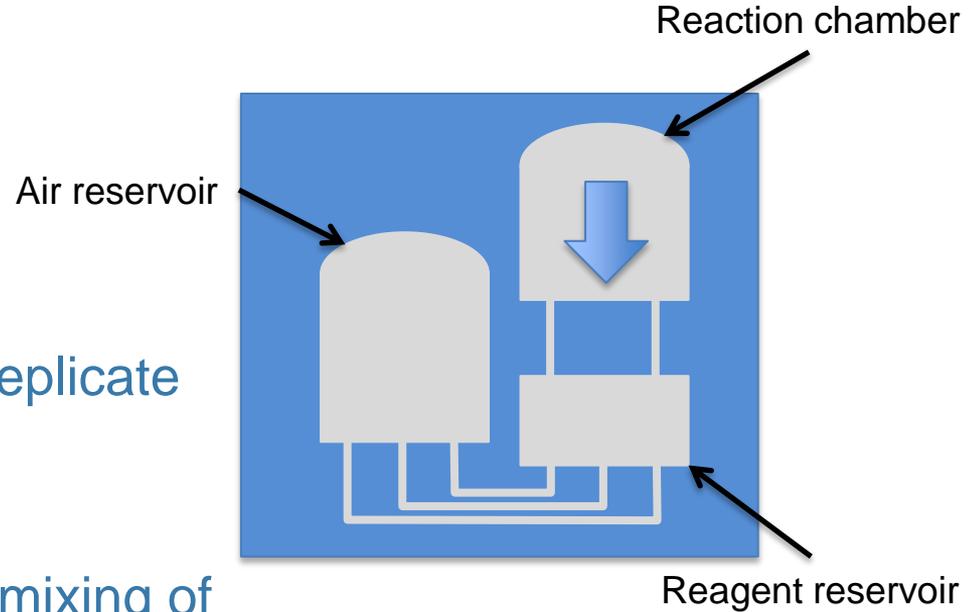


# A New LOC for Spacial Multiplexing on Chip

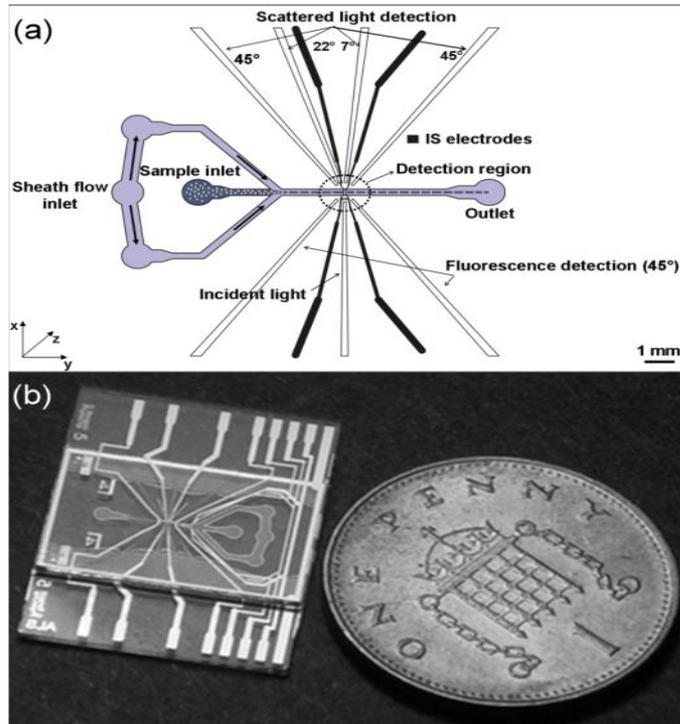


Six chamber chip supporting six replicate One-step NASBA reactions.

Uses centrifugal force to achieve mixing of sample with dehydrated reagents



# BBSRC sustainable aquaculture: Cytometer for HAB detection and quantification



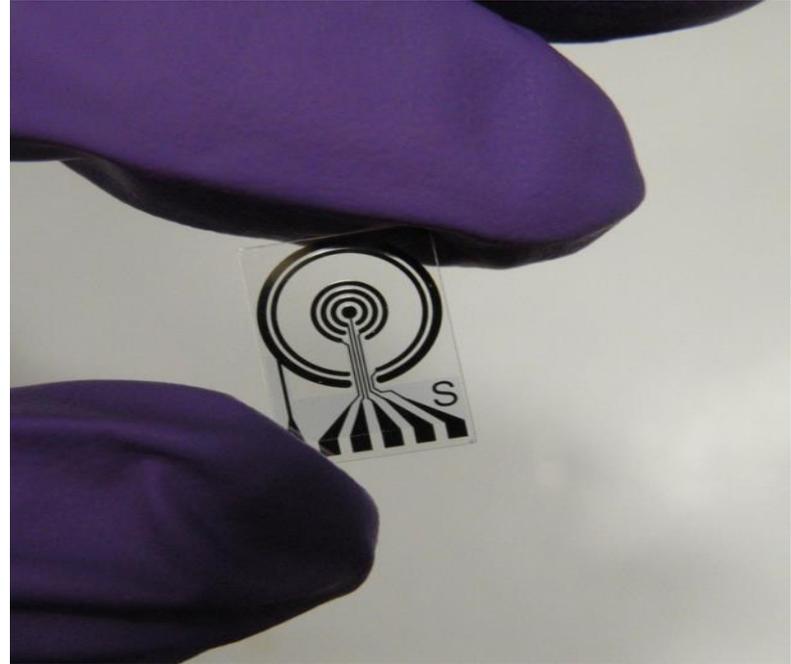
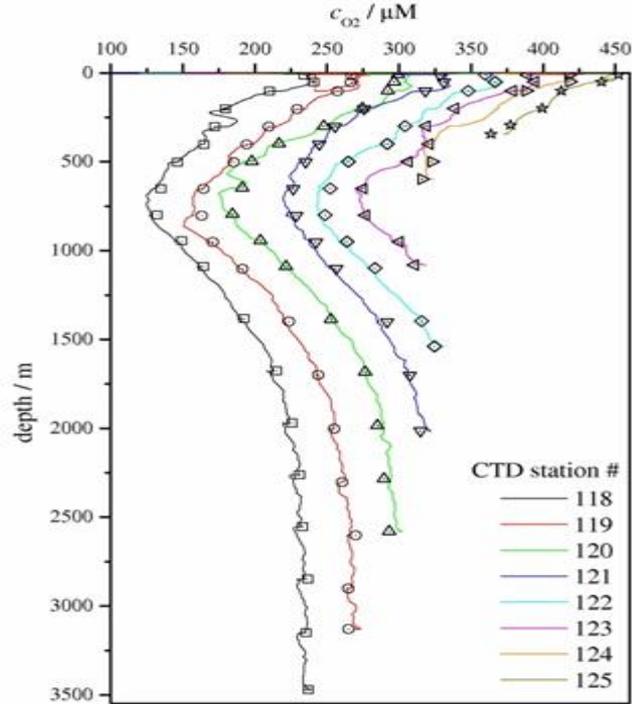
Simultaneous measurement of electrical (impedance) and optical properties of individual cells

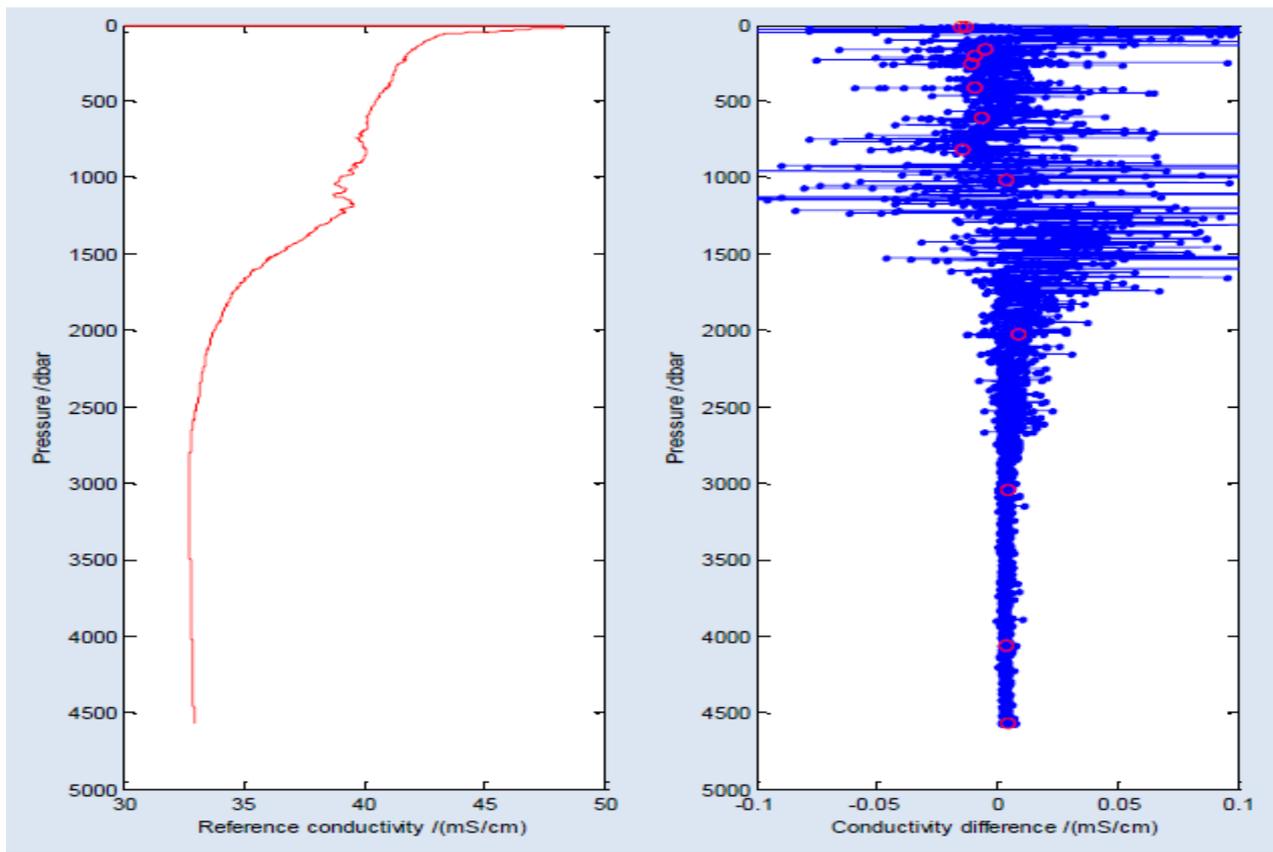
In-lab prototype

No air required for optics or operation (suitable for deep sea)

Challenges include sample concentration, and optical detection limits (power in chip)

# CT-DO Sensor: Commercialisation





# Data Flow

- Easily discover sensors and their metadata
- Sensors and sensor observations discoverable, accessible and useable via the web
- Seamlessly integrate sensors from Sense Ocean Network with sensors from other networks



# netCDF

## The standards

# Turtle

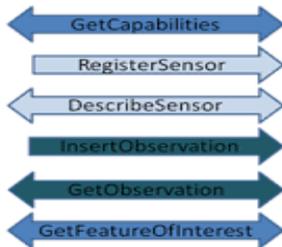
# GeoSPARQL

# OGC<sup>®</sup>

Making location count.



# O&M



# W3C<sup>®</sup>

# M2M



# N-triples



# w3id

# Controlled Vocabularies

# SKOS



# Proposed approach



Sensor passes  
UUID through to  
base station



Platform



Satellite

Base station/  
Data centre



UUID

SensorML  
SSN (OWL)  
JSON LD

netCDF EGO 1.1, CF1.6, LD

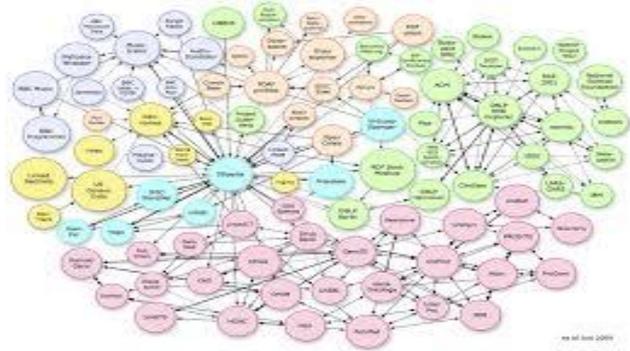
Data delivery by SOS  
server and linked ocean  
data server

NERC  
Linked data  
(RDF, SPARQL)  
server

Reference for netCDF  
Link Data conventions:  
Yu J. et al. Towards Linked  
Data Conventions for  
Delivery of Environmental  
Data Using netCDF: pages  
102-112; Springer., ISBN:  
978-3-319-15993-5

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  xmlns:gml="http://www.opengis.net/gml/3.2" xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.opengis.net/om/2.0 http://schemas.opengis.net/om/2.0/observation.xsd">
  <gml:description>Observation instance with remote result</gml:description>
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  </om:phenomenonTime>
  </om:OM_Observation>
```

# Publication & Discovery



## Linked data

Mainly for machine to machine access!!!



# 2017 Forward look



**National  
Oceanography Centre**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

[noc.ac.uk](http://noc.ac.uk)

**NERC** SCIENCE OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT

# Marine Sensors Technologies and TRL

## 2011, 2016, 2021, 2026

### Microfabricated Solid State / Electrochemistry:

- Salinity 5-8-9-9
- Dissolved oxygen 4-7-9-9

### Optodes / optical sensors

- Gases inc. methane 6-6-8-9
- pH, pCO<sub>2</sub> 4-6-8-9
- Radionuclide 1-3-5-8

### Lab on Chip Cytometer

- Whole cells (label free) 4-5-7-9
- Labelled cells 3-5-6-8
- Microplastics 2-4-7-9
- Bead assays 2-3-6-8

### Lab on Chip Chemistry

- Inorganic Nutrients 6-8-9-9
- Organic Nutrients 2-5-7-9
- Trace metals 4-7-8-9
- pH 5-7-9-9, TA 2-4-7-9, DIC 2-4-9-9, pCO<sub>2</sub> 2-4-6-8
- Small organics, e.g. PAH, PCBs (f-pM) 2-5-6-8
- Proteins and large organics (copies / L) 2-4-6-7
- Nucleic Acids (copies / L) 5-6-7-9
- Radionuclide 1-3-5-7



# OTEG LOC sensors development status

LOC Sensor	Subsystems developed	Benchtop system	Shipboard measurements	In situ deployment
Nitrate	✓	✓	✓	✓
pH	✓	✓	✓	✓
Phosphate	✓	✓	✓	✓
Iron	✓	✓	-	✓
Silicate	✓	✓	2017	2016
Ammonium	✓	✓	✓	Late 2017
Total alkalinity	✓	✓	2017	2017
DIC	✓	very close	2017	Late 2017
Organic N and P	✓	✓	2017	2017

# OTEG LOC sensors – *in situ* deployments projected

LOC Sensor	River/ estuary	Coastal	At depth	Glacial melt	Year- long (unattended)	Glider or AUV	Argo float
Nitrate	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2017
pH	✓	✓	✓			2017	
Phosphate	✓	✓	✓	2017	2018?	2017	2017
Iron	✓	✓	✓	2017			
Silicate	2016	2017	2017	2018		2017	



# 2017 Forward look highlights

SenseOCEAN final year / deployments / demonstrations

- Demonstration on Apex (PROVOR) (Nitrate, Phosphate, pH)



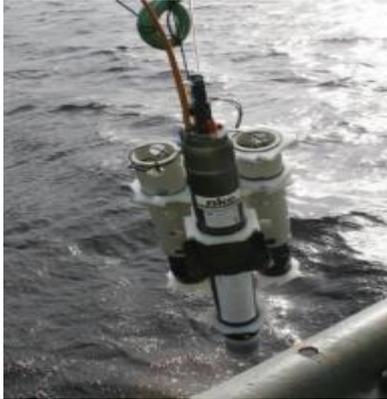


# Platforms targeted for demonstration



Floats  
(LEGOS-CNRS)

Shallow cabled and  
deep sea observatory  
(AWI)



Bouys  
(ILEGOS-  
CNRS)



AUV  
(AWI)



# 2017 Forward look highlights

SenseOCEAN final year / deployments / demonstrations

- Demonstration on Apex (PROVOR) (Nitrate, Phosphate, pH)

Integration into SLOCUM glider



# 2017 Forward look highlights

SenseOCEAN final year / deployments / demonstrations

- Demonstration on Apex (PROVOR) (Nitrate, Phosphate, pH)

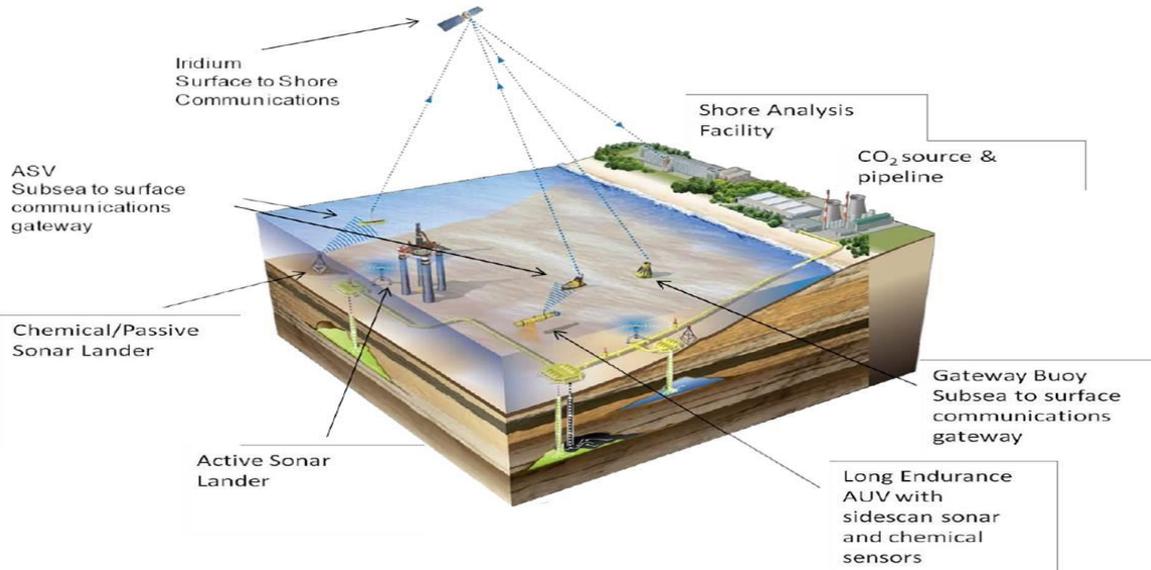
Integration into SLOCUM glider

Integration into ALR and trials for ETI

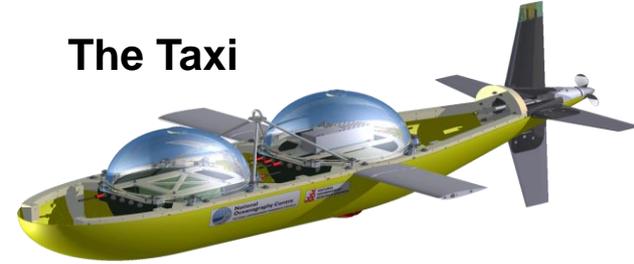


# ETI CCSMV - Project

## The Concept



## The Taxi



## The sensors



# CCS Sensors package: commercial



SeapHOx



SBE52 CTD

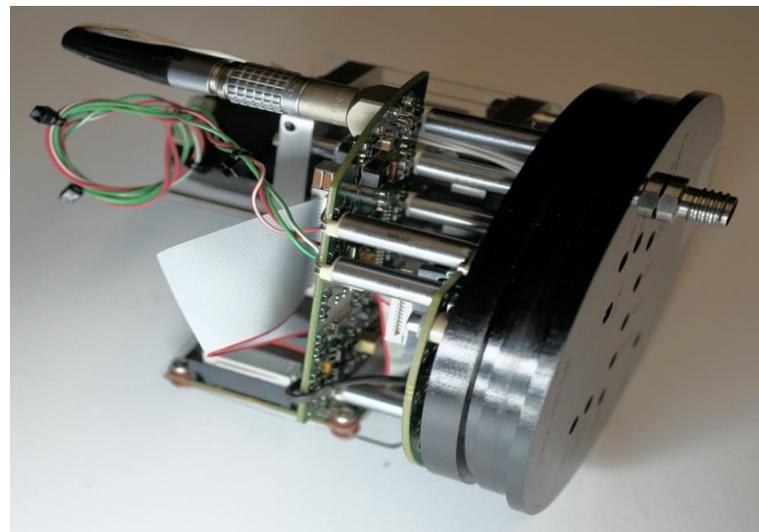
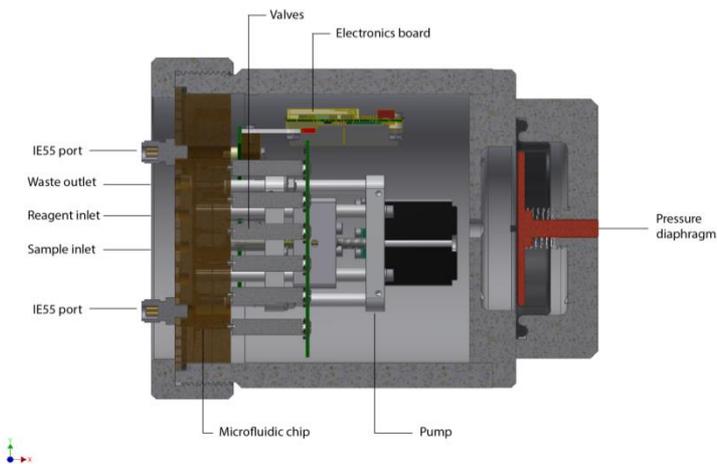


SEAFET



SBE43F DO

# CCS Sensors package: NOC



lab on a chip

TRL 7: pH, Phosphate, Nitrate

TRL 4-7: TA, DIC

# 2017 Forward look highlights

SenseOCEAN final year / deployments / demonstrations

- Demonstration on Apex (PROVOR) (Nitrate, Phosphate, pH)

Integration into SLOCUM glider

Integration into ALR and trials for ETI

Pathogen detection in the field

CTDO product launch

LOC license agreement / commercialisation



# Acknowledgements

Work by current and past members of OTEG



**Group head: Matt Mowlem**

**Subgroup heads:**

Robin Pascal (Multidisciplinary)

Socratis Loucaides (Analytical science)

Chris Cardwell (Electronics & Software)

Kevin Saw (Mechanical)



Collaborators at:  
University of Southampton  
NOC  
Plymouth Marine Laboratory  
Scottish Marine Institute  
GEOMAR and others

Photos from Dave Owsianka,  
Alex Beaton, Martin Arundell  
and others