

NOC MARINE AUTONOMY & TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE







Prof Russ Wynn

Chief Scientist Marine Autonomous and Robotic Systems MARS NOC

Session Chair Marine Autonomous Systems (MAS) Update





Lunch





55 Minute Break







Alberto Naveiro-Garabato

University of Southampton

Introduction to the NERC-EPSRC NEXUSS Centre for Doctoral Training





NEXUSS

Next Generation Unmanned Systems Science

NERC / EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in the Smart and Autonomous Observation for the Environmental Sciences

Prof. Alberto Naveira Garabato (Director)

Ocean and Earth Science, University of Southampton

nexuss@southampton.ac.uk







NEXUSS – The Vision

To develop, deliver and disseminate the world's first environmental science doctoral training programme founded around highly experiential, industry-engaging *Grand Challenge* events.





NEXUSS – Aims

To transform UK environmental science by embedding the application of Smart and Autonomous Observation Systems (SAOS) across the research and business landscape. Specifically...

NEXUSS – Aims

To transform UK environmental science by embedding the application of Smart and Autonomous Observation Systems (SAOS) across the research and business landscape. Specifically...

- Developing and sharing an international best practice template for training future generations of environmental scientists
- Delivering a cohort of technology-aware leaders who will take forward
 SAOS approaches in science, industry and government
- Stimulating high-calibre SAOS technology transfer to environmental disciplines

An established alliance of 6 leading science and engineering universities and research organisations that:

 are in the vanguard of the UK research and training excellence in the development and environmental application of SAOS

















An established alliance of 6 leading science and engineering universities and research organisations that:

 undertake world-leading, multidisciplinary science across the NERC remit, underpinned by a sustained stream of SAOS experiments across all of Earth's environments that is unrivalled in the UK

















An established alliance of 6 leading science and engineering universities and research organisations that:

 include the UK's foremost SAOS engineers and physical scientists, with access to some of the world's best SAOS facilities















NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL



An established alliance of 6 leading science and engineering universities and research organisations that:

represent the UK focus of development and application of SAOS approaches in marine science

















The NEXUSS Training Mission

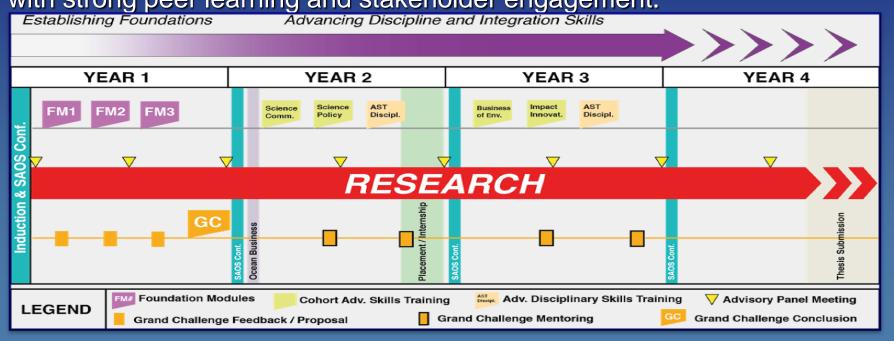
To develop a cohort of world-class environmental scientists with a wide multidisciplinary bandwidth and high-calibre SAOS technological skills by:

- Recruiting the best
- Designing a personalised training programme of research and professional skills that prioritises the student's development experience
- Engaging the stakeholder community
 fully in building the training programme
 to ensure that it is bespoke and aligned with the community's needs



The NEXUSS Student Experience

Training programme a combination of 16 weeks high-quality training (cohort-based foundation elements and personalised advanced activities), with strong peer learning and stakeholder engagement.





SPONSOR



The 1st NEXUSS Grand Challenge

Challenge

- Locate possible ruptured sub-sea pipeline
- Assess pollution risk to air, land and sea

Training

- All NEXUSS Year 1 modules
- Challenges facing Oil and Gas sector

Resources

Fixed budget for:

- Hydrodynamic model
- AUV / Glider
- **RPA**
- Student-designed and fabricated sensors
- Mission control vehicle
- Command and control base





NEXUSS Training Outputs

A new breed of environmental scientist

- more aware of the cutting-edge technologies that will transform the field;
- more versatile in applying and developing these technologies;
- more capable of communicating across disciplinary barriers and extracting value from science.
- A cultural change in environmental science

annyaaahaa

addressing environmental problems with bespoke SAOS

NEXUSS in numbers

- NEXUSS supported by NERC / EPSRC in October 2015
- NERC / EPSRC investment of £2.5M in >30 (3.75 year-long) PhD studentships
- Centre's initial lifetime of 6 years, with 3 starting cohorts
- First cohort started in October 2016
- Ambition to double number of studentships and extend Centre's lifetime by >2 years – by leveraging resources from Core, Associate and Stakeholder Partners





NEXUSS – Active Projects

- Lab-on-chip sensors for environment, fisheries and aquaculture science (NOC, UoS, Cefas)
- Animal-borne sensors for studying foraging and habitat use of marine predators in the Southern Ocean (St. Andrews, SAMS)
- Multi-vehicle swarm behaviours for monitoring of rapidly evolving ocean phenomena (NOC, UoS)
- Can underwater gliders quantify ocean mixing in the West Antarctic? (BAS, UoS, Teledyne)
- Autonomous carbon system observations from gliders (UEA, NOC, Cefas)
- Sounds in the sea: how can we listen from ocean gliders? (UEA, SAMS, Cefas)
- Real-time reporting of ecosystem metrics from acoustic sensors on gliders (BAS, UEA)
- Quantifying the spatio-temporal variability of phytoplankton productivity from mobile autonomous platforms (SAMS, UEA)
- Cold-water coral habitats in submarine canyons (NOC, UEA, Cefas)
- Developing AUV strategies and technologies for the monitoring of benthic impacts in Marine Protected Areas (SAMS, HWU, Edinburgh)
- Terrain-following UAVs for sampling of boundary layer turbulent fluxes (UoS, NOC, HWU)

NEXUSS – Call for Partners

We invite partners to participate in NEXUSS in a number of ways:

- Design of / involvement in student projects
- Hosting of flexible secondment of NEXUSS students
- Membership of NEXUSS Advisory Board to assist in steering proposed research
- Sponsorship of students, projects and Grand Challenge events
- Use of facilities or equipment
- Design and / or delivery of training events



Thomas Lowndes

NEXUSS NOC

NEXUSS Partner Presentations



STEATITE

Multivehicle swarm behaviours for monitoring rapidly evolving ocean phenomena

What is a swarm?

4 Parameters of a swarm [1]

- Scalable and not restricted to a maximum number of members
- Consists of mostly homogeneous members
- Significantly improve performance
- Each member has local and limited sensing and communication

Why now?

Advancements in technology mean AUVs can be made smaller and cheaper

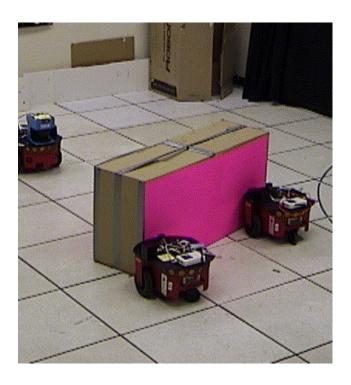
Robotic Swarms

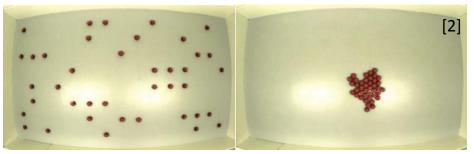
Craig Reynolds - Flocks, Herds and Schools: A Distributed Behavioural Model (1987)

- Separation Avoid crowding local members
- Alignment Align to the average heading of local members
- Cohesion Move toward the average position of local members



Robotic Swarms







Rapidly Evolving Ocean Phenomena





Why swarms?

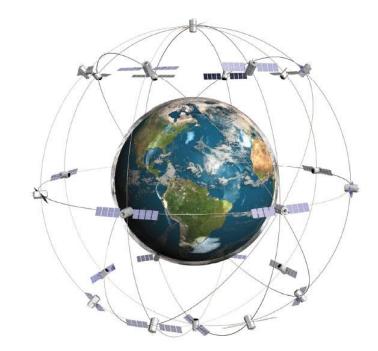


A rapidly evolving ocean feature requires:

- A large sampling area with a high sampling rate
- A rapid response

Constraints & Limitations

- Attenuation of electromagnetic signals e.g. GPS, WiFi
- Acoustic communication suffers from:
 - Low bandwidth
 - High latency
 - Severe packet loss
- Dynamic ocean environment
- Endurance order of days



Benefits

- Robust, distributed system
- Energy load distribution
 - 32% longer missions [4]
- 'Intelligent' approach
- Rapid response
 - UAV / USV Launch
- Low cost
 - Similar sensor suite





Bibliography

- [1] Osterloh, C., Meyer, B., Amory, A., Pionteck, T., & Maehle, E. (2012).
 MONSUN II Towards Autonomous Underwater Swarms for Environmental Monitoring.
 IROS2012 Workshop on Robotics for Environmental Monitoring.
- [2] Gauci, M., Chen, J., Li, W., Dodd, T. J., & Gross, R. (2014).

 Self-organized aggregation without computation.

 International Journal of Robotics Research, 33(8), 1145 1161.
- [3] Tuci, E., Gross, R., Trianni, V., Mondada, F., Bonani, M., Dorigo, M. (2005) Cooperation through self-assembling in multi-robot systems ACM Transactions on Autonomous and Adaptive Systems, 1(2), 115 – 150.
- [4] Ammory, A., Tosik, T., Maehle, E. (2014)
 A load balancing behaviour for underwater robot swarms to increase mission time and fault tolerance
 IEEE 28th International Parallel & Distributed Processing Symposium Workshops

Ryan Scott

NEXUSS BAS

NEXUSS Partner Presentations



STEATITE





Southampton





CAN UNDERWATER GLIDERS QUANTIFY HORIZONTAL MIXING IN THE WEST ANTARCTIC?

RYAN SCOTT (BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY)

WHAT AM I GOING TO COVER?

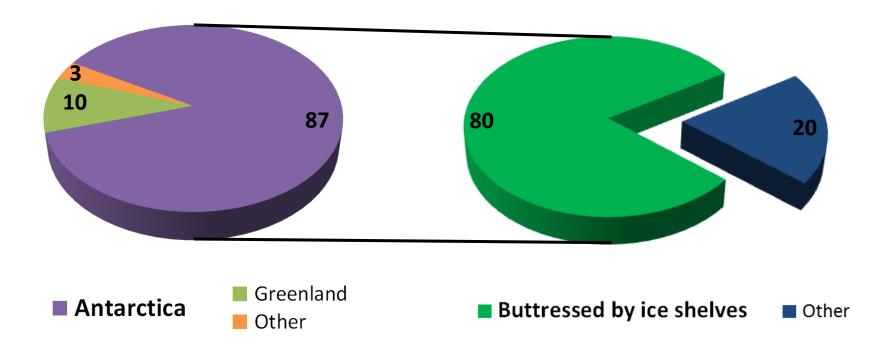
Importance of melting

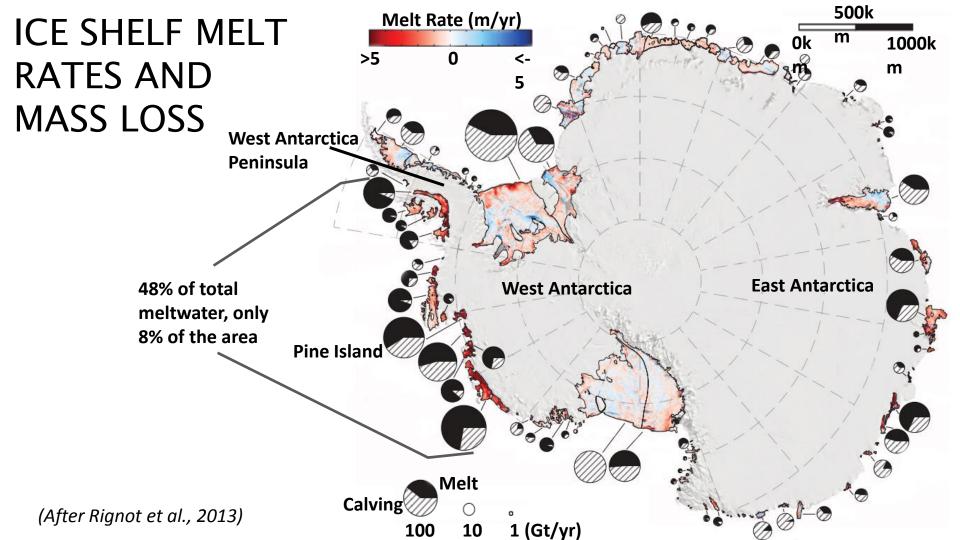
Melting mechanisms

Project aims

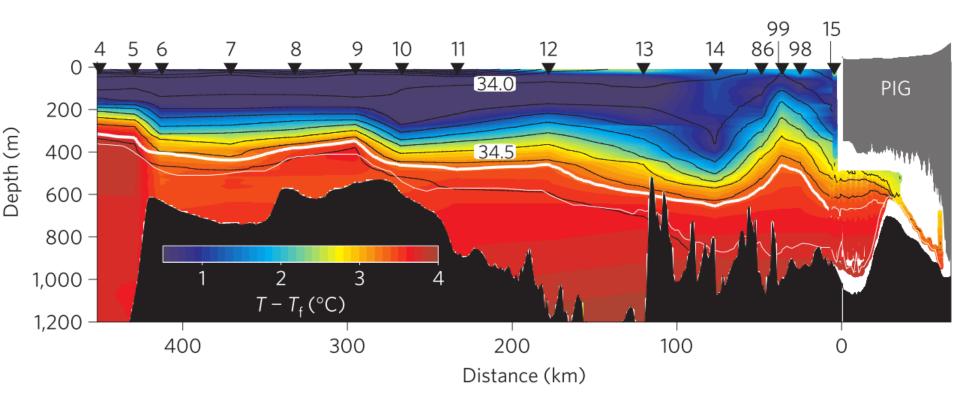
Example plot

WHY IS MELTING IN ANTARCTICA IMPORTANT?





PINE ISLAND MELTING MECHANISMS



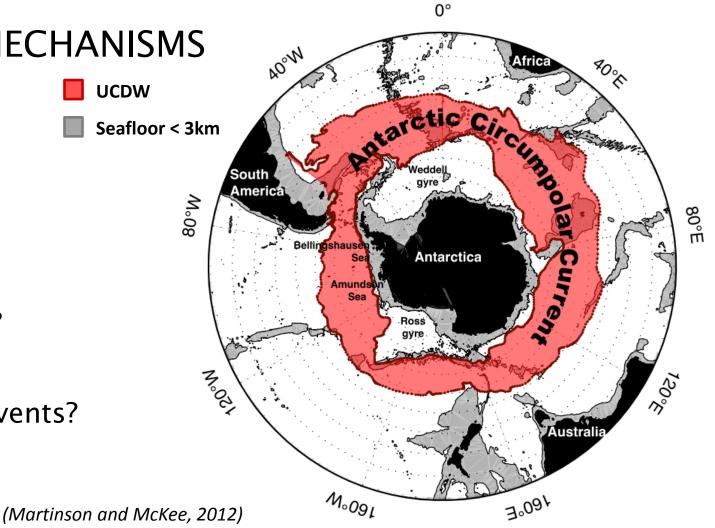
UCDW

Eddies?

Canyons?

Upwelling?

Episodic events?



MY PROJECT

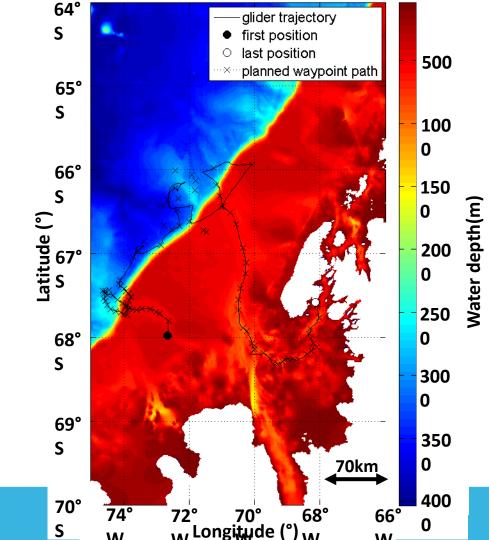
• Can underwater gliders quantify horizontal mixing in the west Antarctic?

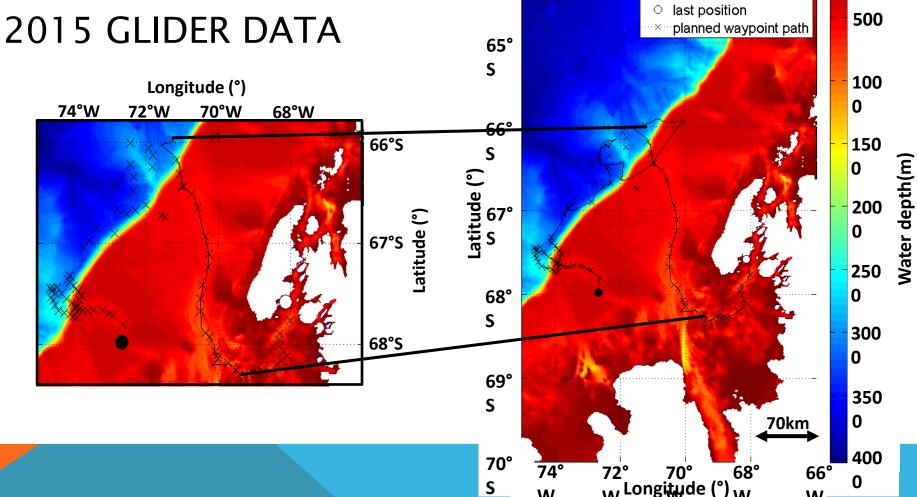
AIMS

- 1. How and where eddies generate temperaturesalinity variance
- 2. Analyse the dissipation of temperature variance

 Synthesize data to quantify horizontal mixing and heat fluxes

2015 GLIDER DATA





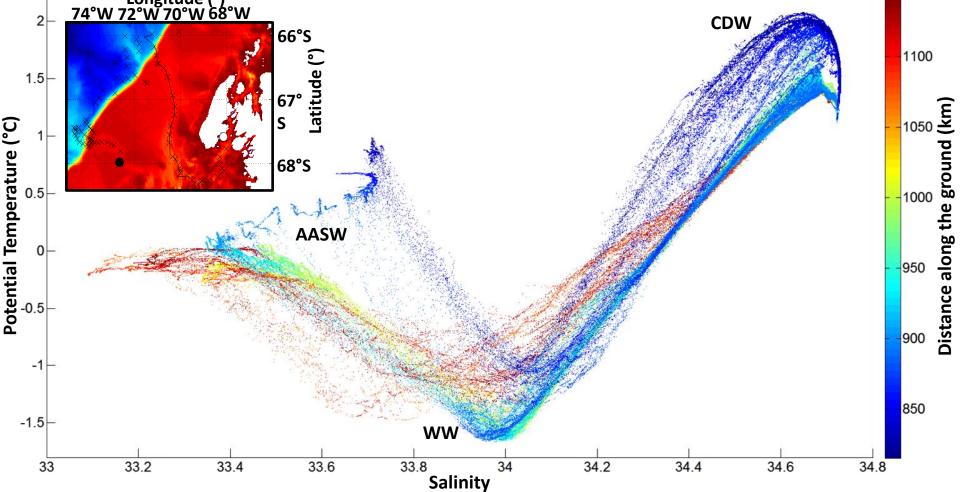
64°

S

glider trajectory

first position

POTENTIAL TEMPERATURE VS SALINITY PLOTS Longitude (°) 2 74°W 72°W 70°W 68°W









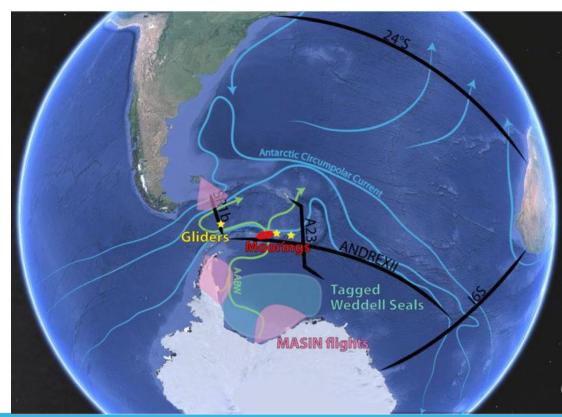


THANKS FOR LISTENING...

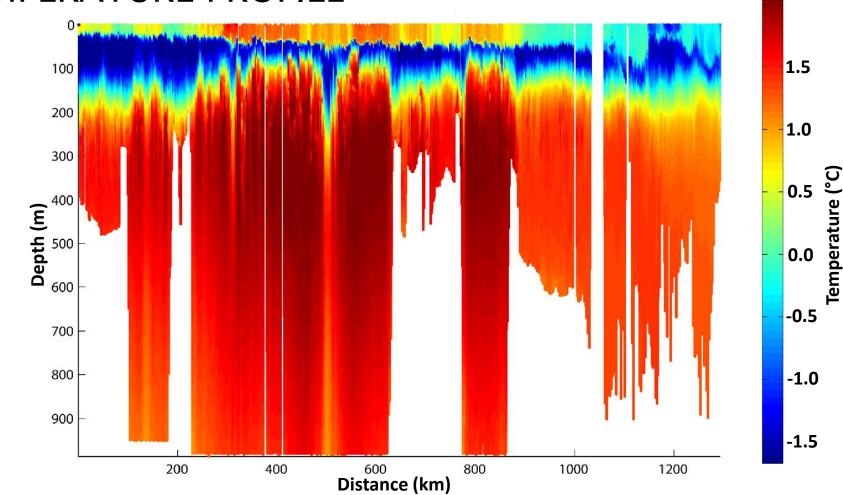
ANY QUESTIONS?

FIELDWORK





TEMPERATURE PROFILE



Pierre Cauchy

NEXUSS UEA

NEXUSS Partner Presentations



STEATITE



Sounds in the sea How can we listen from ocean gliders?





Pierre Cauchy¹

K. J. Heywood¹, B. Y. Queste¹, N. D. Merchant², D. Risch³







Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

Sounds in the sea

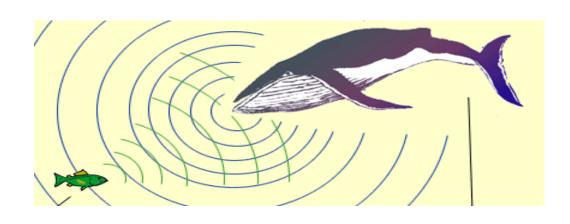
Propagation in seawater

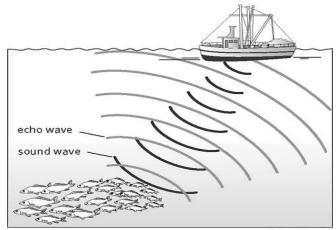
Light $\rightarrow \sim 10s$ of meters Sound $\rightarrow \sim 100s$ of kilometers

Acoustics provides the best means of communication, navigation and imaging

Active acoustics

Modification of the signal ↔ Information about the **environment**





Elizabeth Morale

Sounds in the sea

Propagation in seawater

Light $\rightarrow \sim 10s$ of meters Sound $\rightarrow \sim 100s$ of kilometers

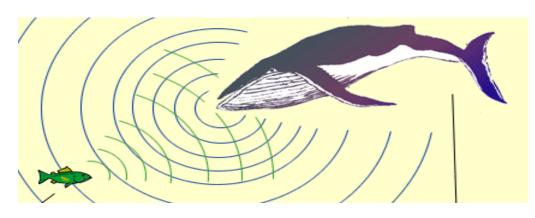
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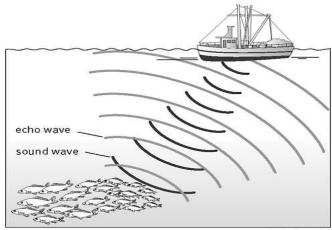
Active acoustics

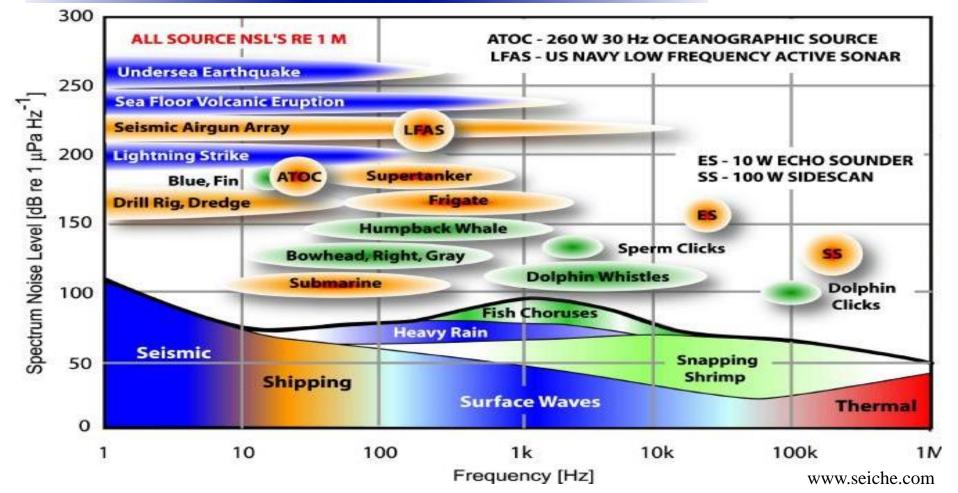
Modification of the signal ↔ Information about the **environment**

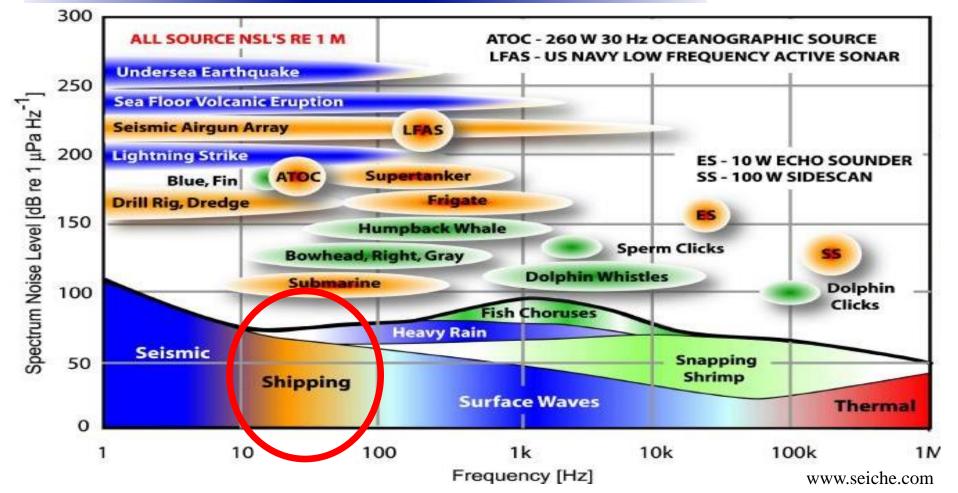
Passive acoustics

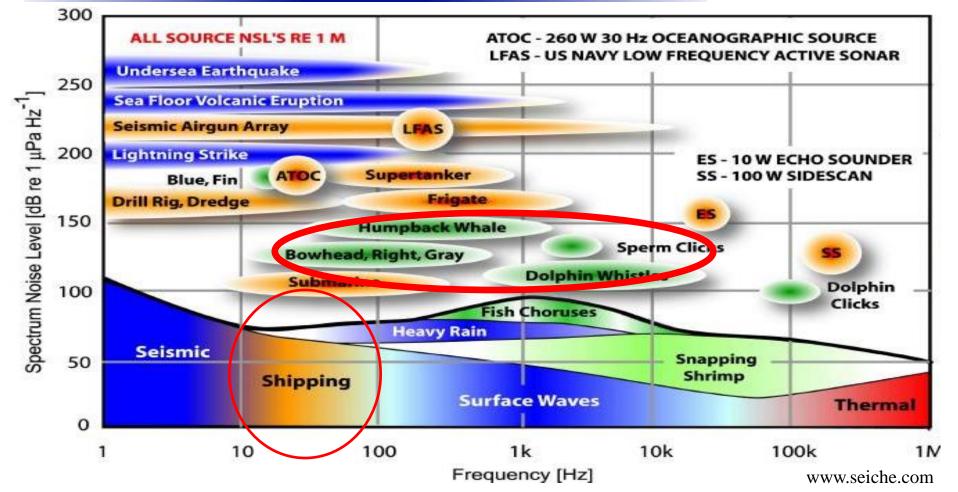
Signal ↔ Information about the **source**

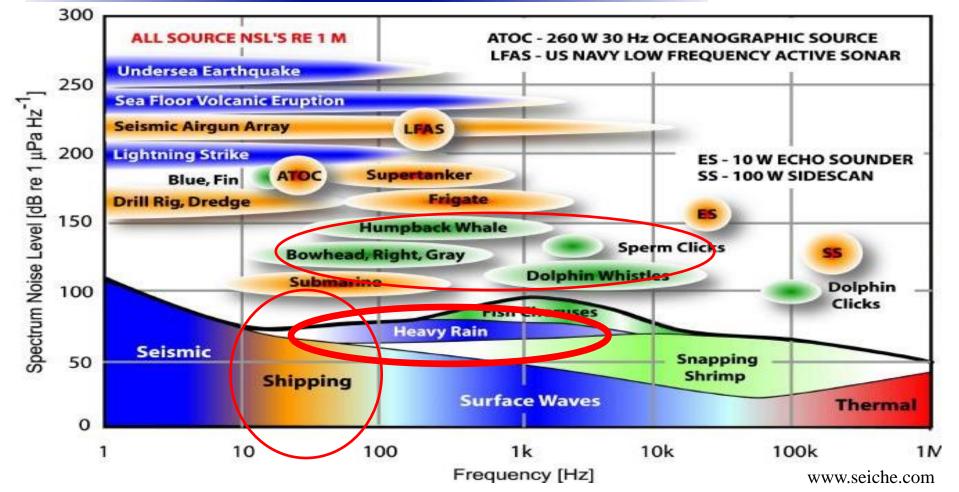








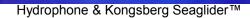




Sounds in the sea — Available datasets







MED-REP14 GALWAY COAS-UEA, CMRE COAS-UEA, Kongsberg

Sounds in the sea — Available datasets

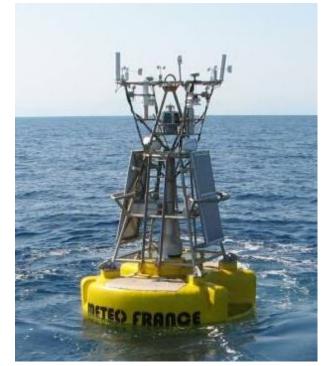




Acousonde™ & Slocum™ glider

MED-REP13 MOOSE LOCEAN, CMRE LOCEAN Sounds in the sea — Wind Observation Trough Ambient No

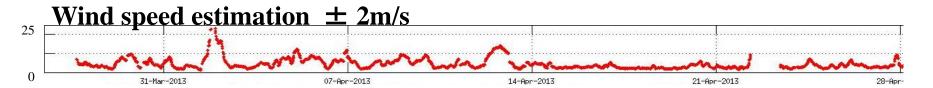




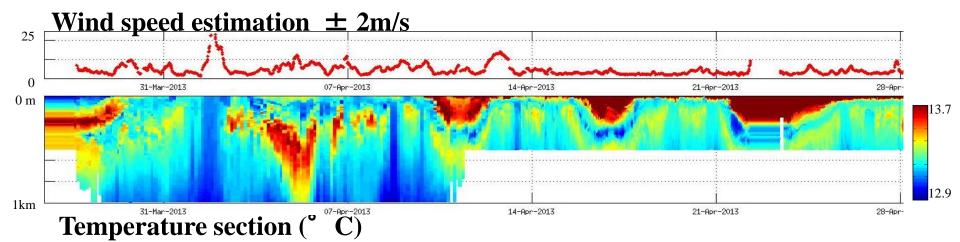
Weather buoy Meteofrance weather buoy

Real time surface weather sensors Wind speed

Sounds in the sea — Wind information co-located with glide

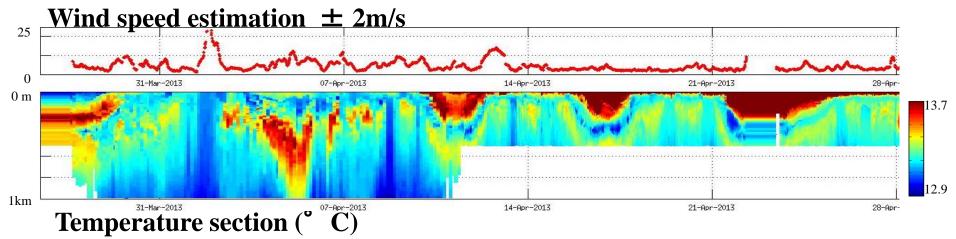


Sounds in the sea — Wind information co-located with glide



Air sea interactions Wind forcing

Sounds in the sea — Wind information co-located with glide



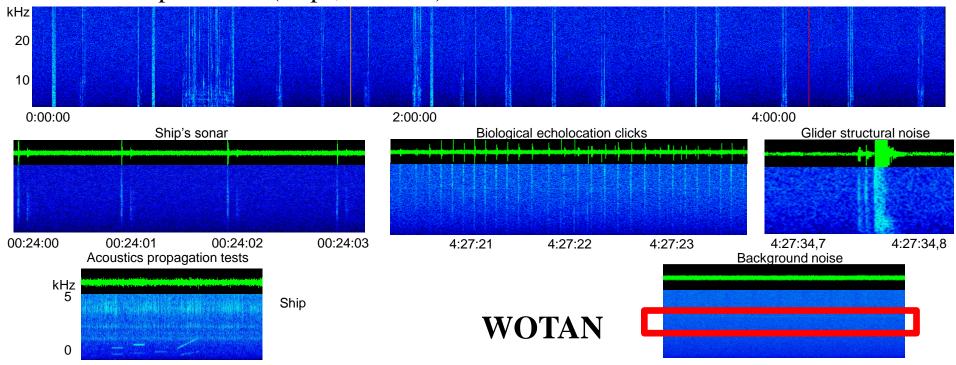
Air sea interactions Wind forcing

Contextual information

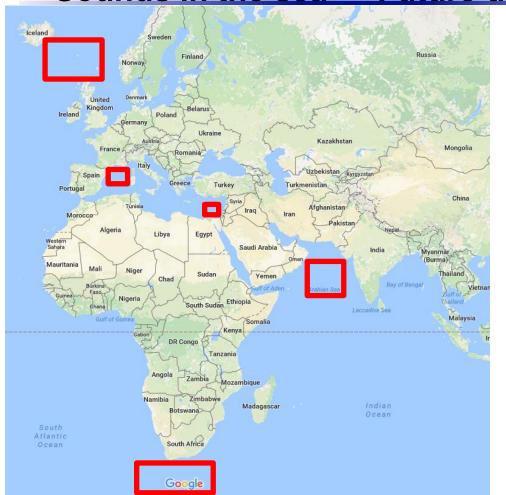
Sound velocity profiles Area mapping

Sounds in the sea — How can we listen from ocean gliders' Unwanted noise filtering

- Glider generated noises (pump, altimeter, engine...)
- Biological noises (whistles, clicks)
- Anthropic noises (ships, sonars...)



Sounds in the sea — Future datasets



Future deployments

WOTAN

Surface weather measurements Various weather conditions Rain!

Marine mammals monitoring

Visual survey Bioacoustics knowledge

Anthropogenic noise

Repeated measurements

Sounds in the sea — Future datasets



Future deployments

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Sounds in the sea How can we listen from ocean gliders?





Pierre Cauchy¹

K. J. Heywood¹, B. Y. Queste¹, N. D. Merchant², D. Risch³







Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

Luca Possenti

NEXUSS UEA

NEXUSS Partner Presentations



STEATITE

Luca Possenti (University of East Anglia)

Autonomous carbon system observations from gliders (AUTOCARB)

NEXUSS supervisory team:
Jan Kaiser & Bastien Queste (UEA)
Liam Fernand (Cefas)
Matt Mowlem & Socratis Loucaides (NOC)





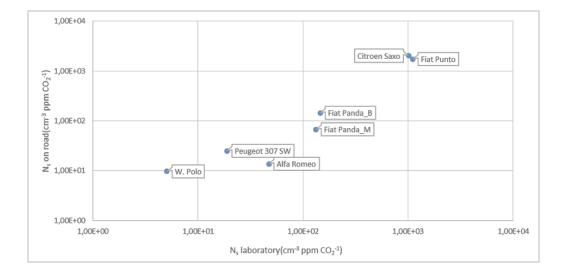






Background

- Bsc in Environmental sciences, Milano Bicocca University
 Thesis: Evaluation of the Carbon Footprint of Environmental Science department
- Master in Environmental and Land Sciences and Technology, Milano Bicocca University
 Thesis: Real time analysis of vehicles emissions measured on road and in the laboratory
 (with JRC of Ispra and Innovhub)



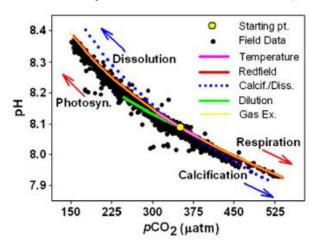
General problem

- pH / $p(CO_2)$ sensors problem with drift, accuracy and response time.
- No sensor to measure on a glider Total alkalinity (AT) and the total dissolved carbon ($\Sigma(\mathrm{DIC})$)
- Only a small amount of the Ocean has been characterised.

Need a sensor to quantify the ocean acidification and Carbon system

The sensor needs:

- stability
- accuracy
- precision
- low power consumption
- minimise the effects of biofouling



Cullison Gray et al. 2011

My project

What will I be doing?

- Lab work to test the sensor pH and pCO₂, in the future we hope to tackle A_T and Σ (DIC)
- Work at Cefas and NOC (OTE Group)
- Deploy the sensors on Gliders in the North Sea
- Move forward from prototype to mature technology
- Modelling of the data collected



New pH sensor of Fluidion:

- Resolution time of 1 s
- resolution 0.001
- light weight



Andrew Lock

NEXUSS UOS

NEXUSS Partner Presentations







Terrain Following UAVs for Sampling of Boundary Layer Turbulent Fluxes

Andrew Lock

a.lock@soton.ac.uk

Faculty of Engineering and the Environment

17th November 2016

Southampton UAVs

• 2Seas20 / SPOTTER





Southampton UAVs

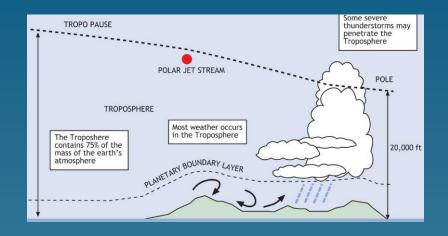
• SULSA – Southampton University Laser Sintered Aircraft





Boundary Layer Turbulent Fluxes

- Boundary layer the interface between the atmosphere and the Earth's surface
- Highly turbulent
- Turbulent fluxes transport of energy, chemicals, moisture, etc.
- Characterising turbulent fluxes can allow understanding of larger scale processes





Southampton Southampton

Measurement Tools

Automatic Weather Station





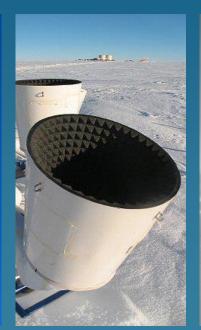
SODAR

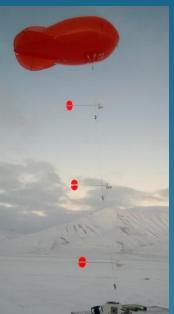
Balloonsonde/ Tethersonde







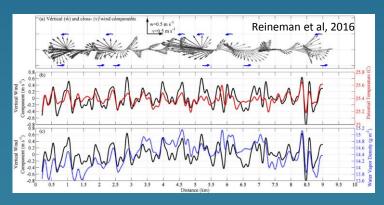




Southampton Southampton

UAVs for Boundary Layer Science

- Captures the spatial evolution of turbulent fluxes
- Differentiates from advection
- Need for better performance at low altitudes (<10 m)











Southampton Southampton

Terrain Following Challenges

- Challenging surfaces
- Turbulence
- Temperature inversions
- Turbulence probe requirements









Approach

Southampton

- Begin with multirotor
- Gain experience with sensors and control
- Develop a test platform for sensors



• Testbed followed by purpose-built aircraft



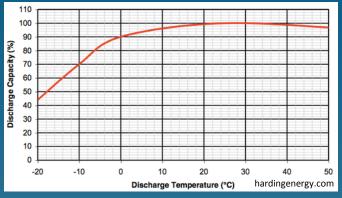


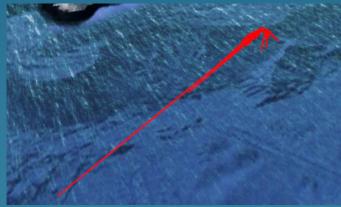


Southampton

Design and Operational Challenges

- Endurance requirements challenging to meet with an electric aircraft, particularly at low temperatures
- Performance in turbulent air
- Turbulence probe requirements
- Navigation GPS and magnetometers less reliable in polar regions
- Practical considerations







Thank you

Andrew Lock
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Faculty of Engineering and the Environment
17th November 2016

Andras Sobester

NEXUSS UOS

NEXUSS Partner Presentations











Oceanography and Polar Science through Agile Robotic Systems

Andras Sobester & Eleanor Frajka-Williams

University of Southampton,

Faculty of Engineering and the Environment and Faculty of Natural and Environmental Sciences

Observational challenges for Oceanography

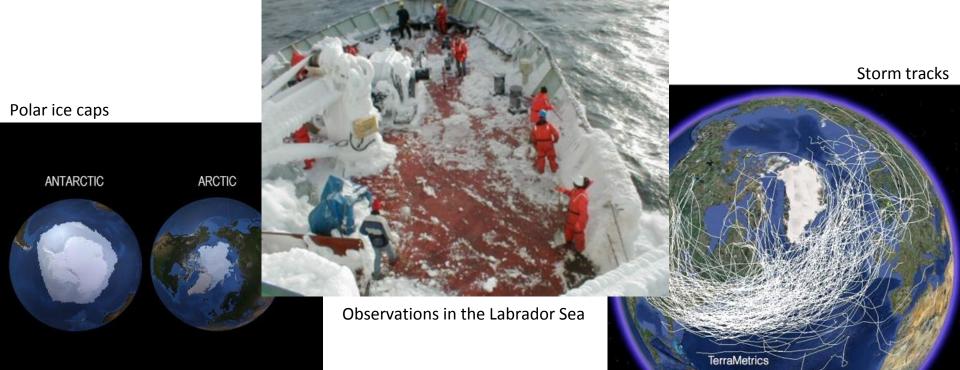
- Oceanic processes vary spatially and temporally.
- Difficult observational conditions.
- Traditional methods are expensive. (£30-50k/day for a big ship.)
- Challenges for autonomous platforms: must withstand high pressures, salty water, biological growth, and typically must surface to transmit data

We'll discuss a couple science problems, proposed and funded technological solutions (particularly for deploying instruments in remote regions) and new ideas for platform development.

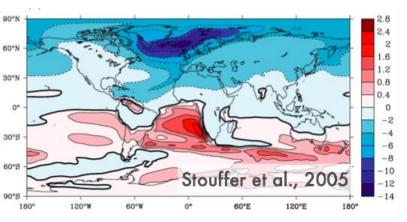
Polar observations are particularly challenging

Observational challenge: Inhospitable region, small spatial scales of variability, and both seasonal and interannual variability.

Ice & weather present challenges, and regions are remote (expensive to access)

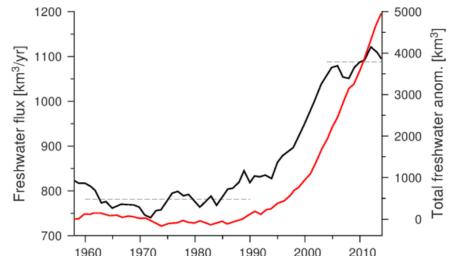


• Scientific problem: High-latitudes freshwater input may shut down the MOC. Greenland is melting, and the Arctic is storing freshwater and may release it. How does the freshwater escape boundary currents to influence convection?



Temperature anomaly 100 years after MOC shutdown, in a coupled climate model.

Freshwater melt from Greenland is increasing (since a 1960-1990 typical value), with accumulated freshwater release equal to that of the GSA by 2025 (Bamber et al., 2012)



- Scientific problem: High-latitudes freshwater dispersal
- Observational challenge: Rough seas, small areas, long timescales

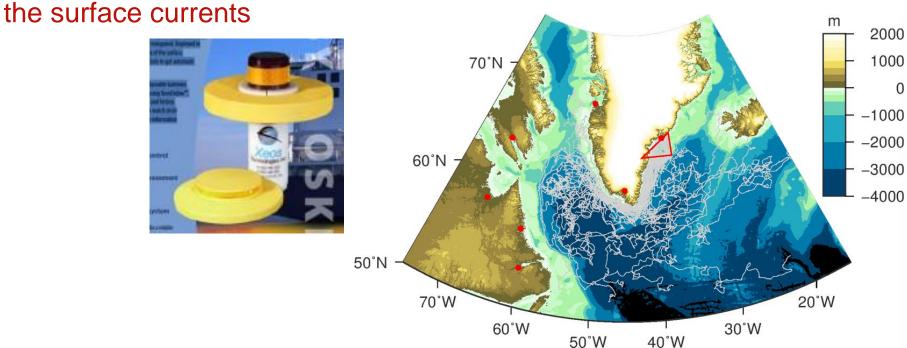
• Technological solution: Low cost, lightweight surface drifters to map

the surface currents 2000 70°N -1000 -2000 60°N -300050°N 20°W

60°W

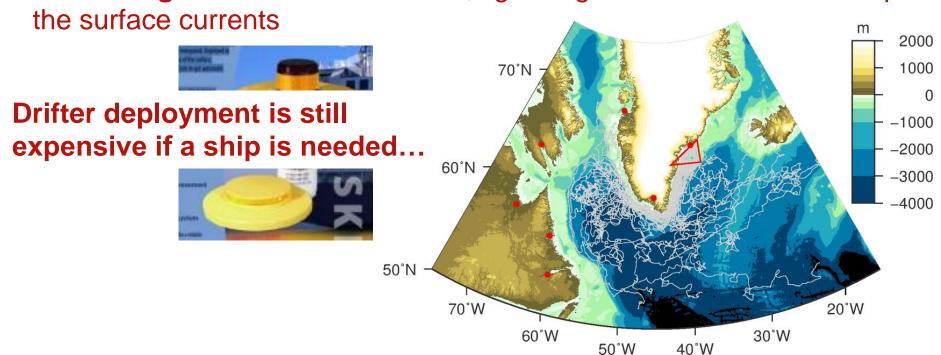
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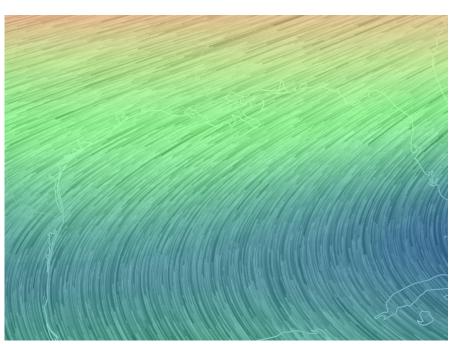
Disruptive ideas

- innovative range extension methods
 - How to cut the costs of tracking ocean currents (or oil slicks)?

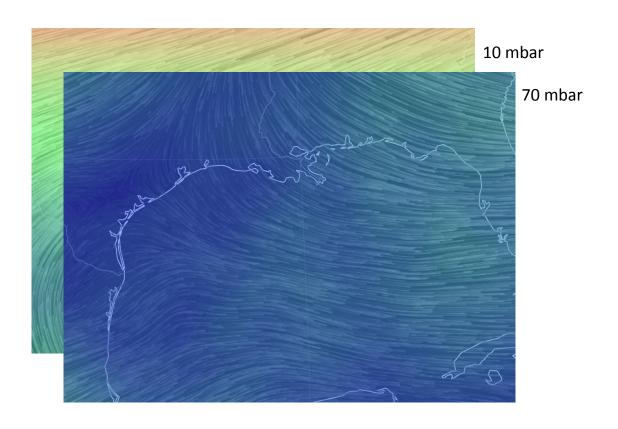


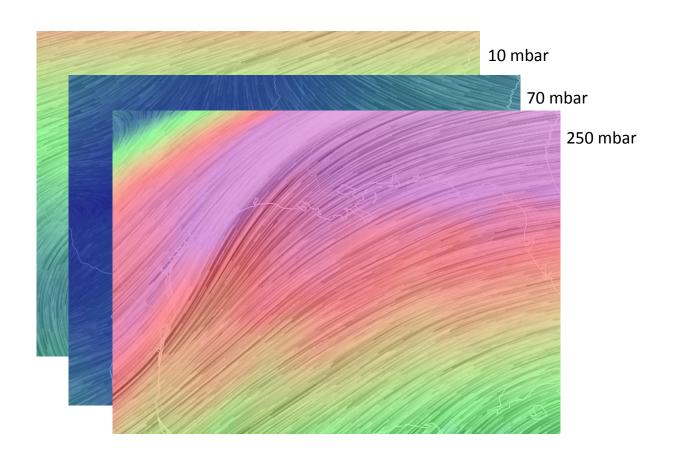


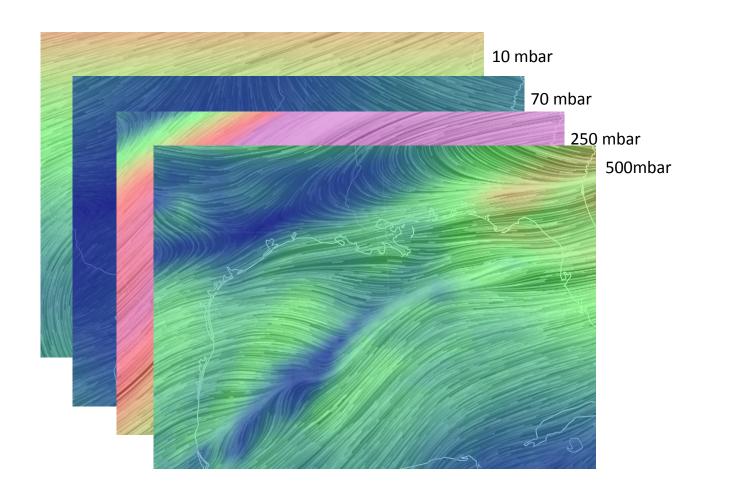
Fresh Ways of Targeting and Employing Robotic Systems (NERC-funded)

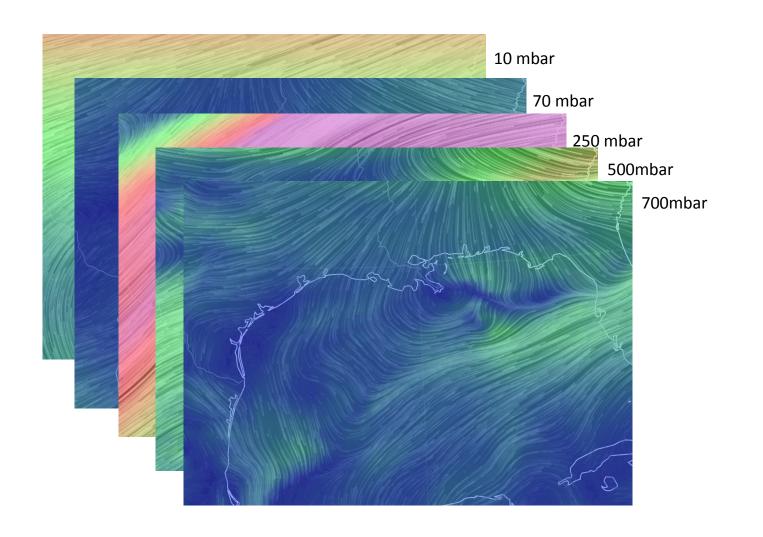


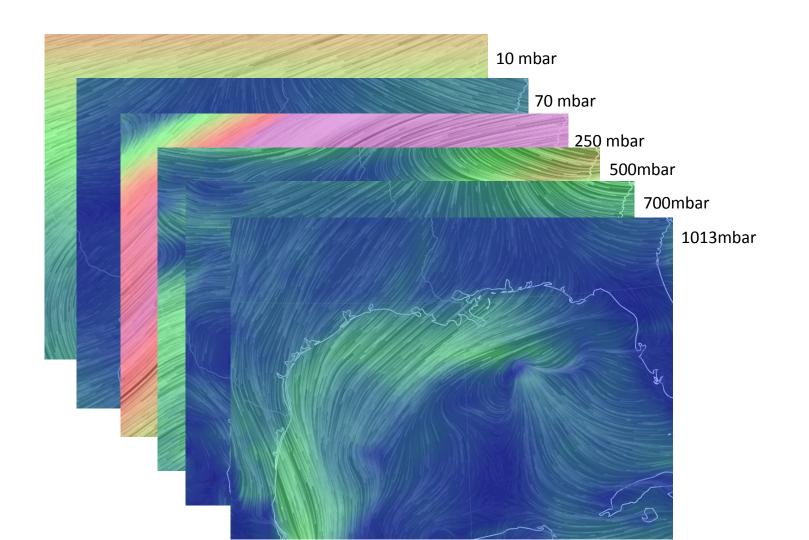
10 mbar

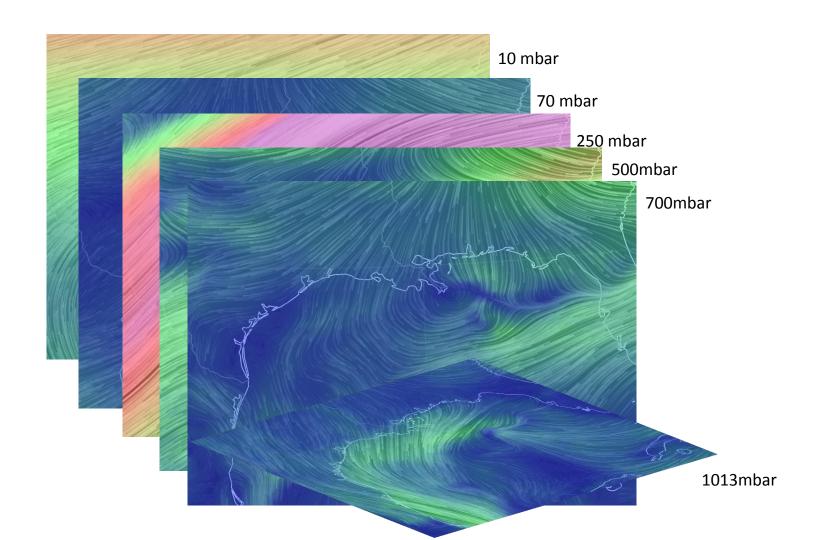


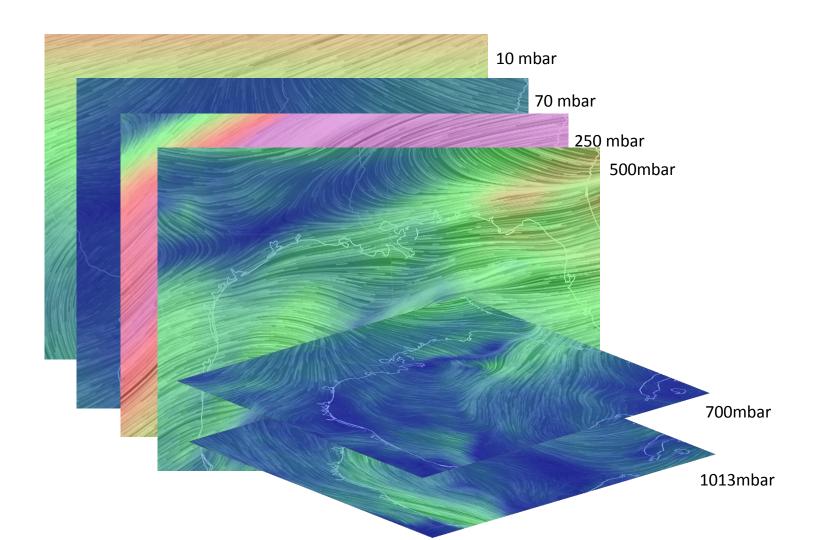


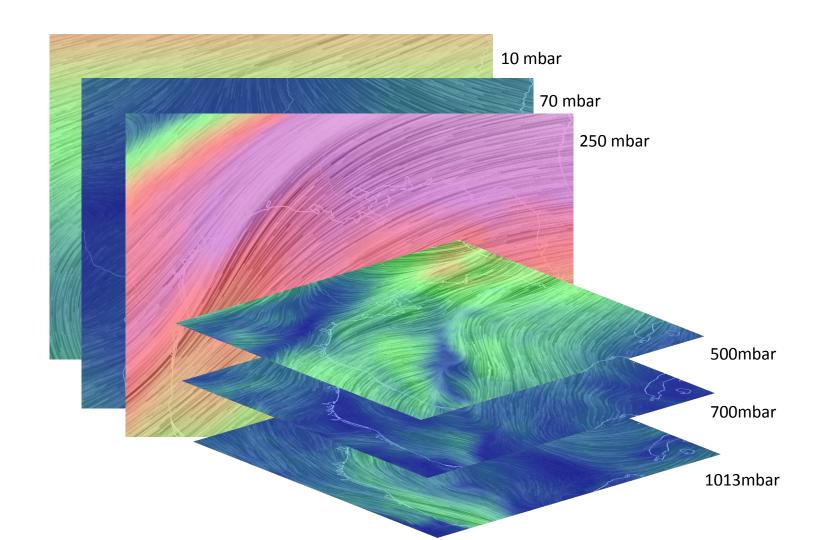


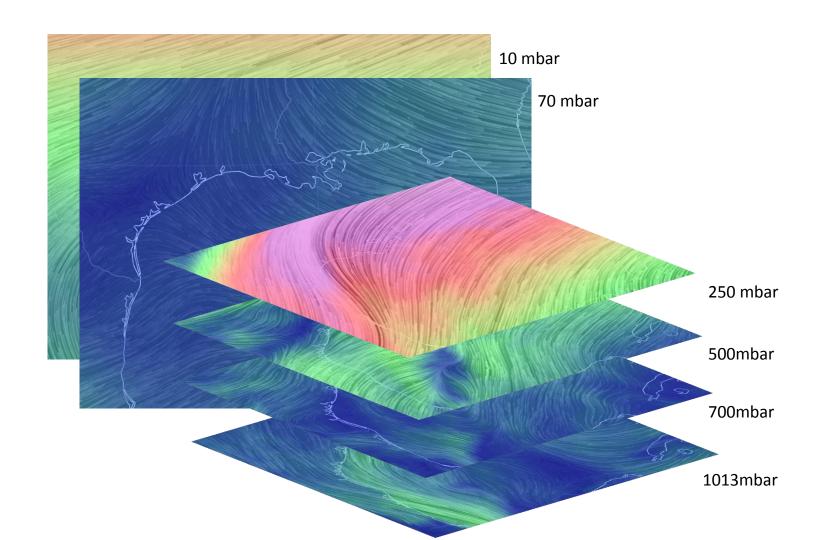


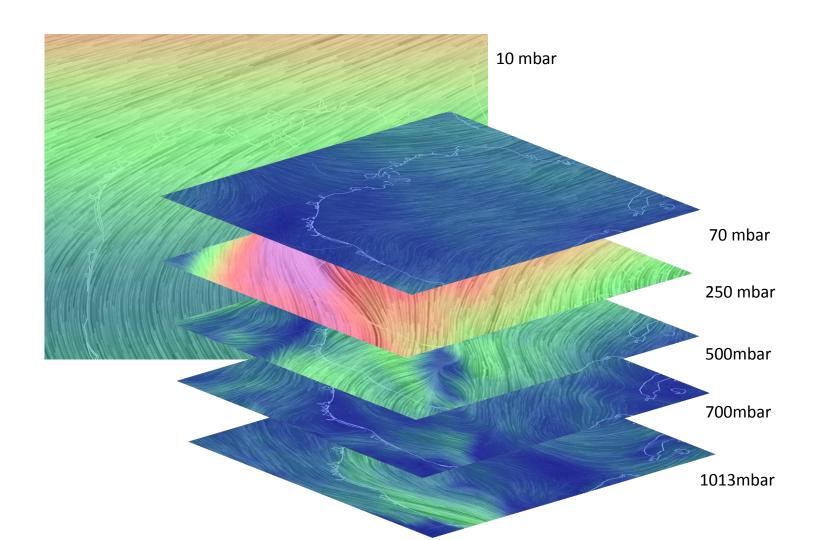


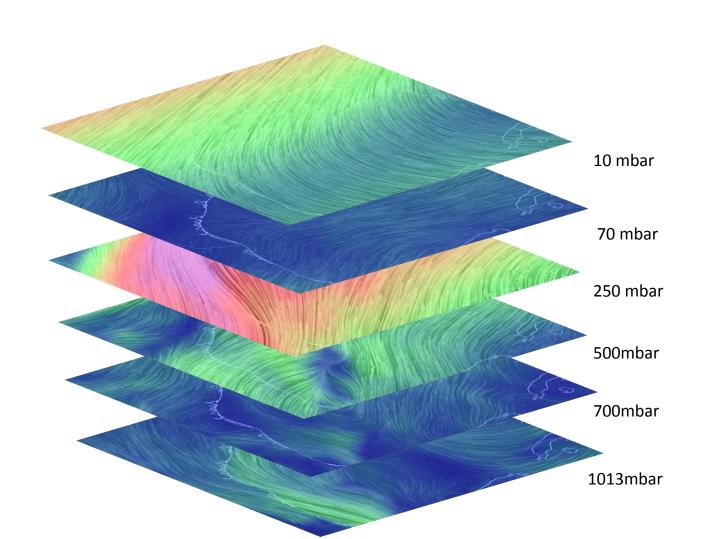


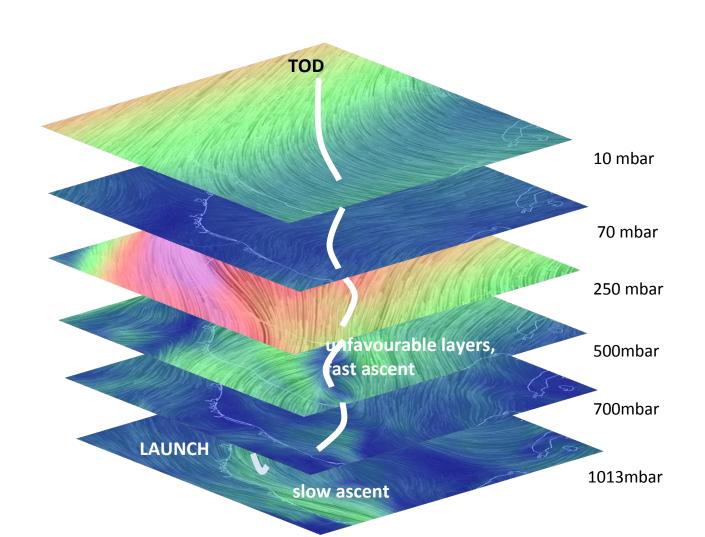


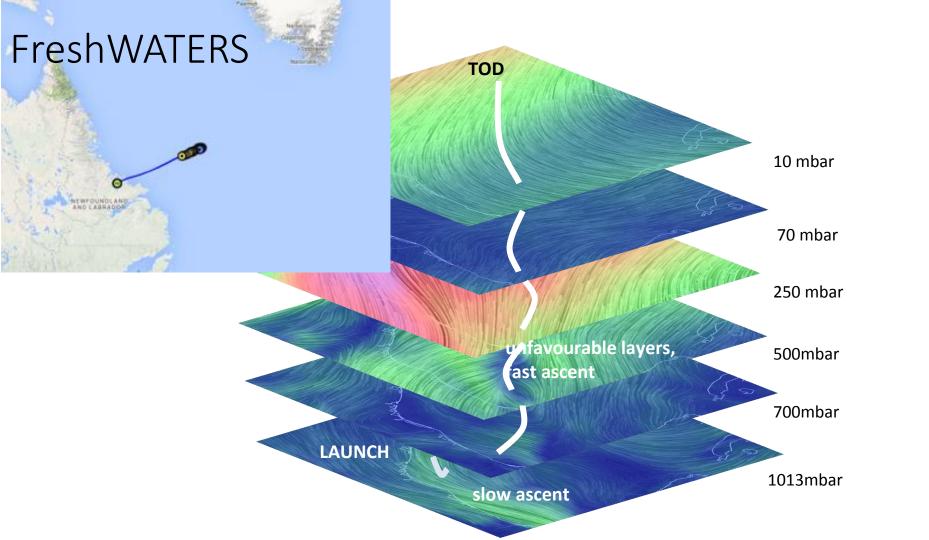














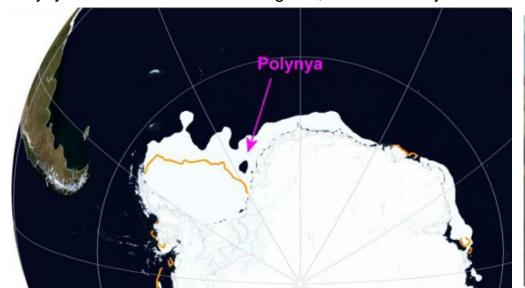
Potential:

- Rapid deployment (<24 hours) from a fixed point weather station
- Potential for one balloon can carry multiple (compact) ocean drifters
- "Smart" navigation using near-real time weather forecasts to optimize flight altitude
- Enables multi-season deployment

Reduced cost, reduced risk

• Scientific problem: High-latitudes, icy regions (e.g., polynyas), ocean-ice interactions are sites of dense water formation. Ice melt contributes to sea level rise, freshening of the North Atlantic, but the role of the oceans in melting is unclear.

Polynyas are localised ice-free regions, surrounded by ice



Ice makes travel by sea slow (and costly)



• Scientific problem: High-latitudes, icy regions (e.g., polynyas), ocean-ice interactions are sites of dense water formation. Ice melt contributes to sea level rise, freshening of the North Atlantic, but the role of the oceans in melting is unclear.



- Scientific problem: Icy regions are important to global circulation
- Observational challenge: Hard to get to, hard to work in

Technological solution: AUV

However, delivery is still expensive if a ship is needed...

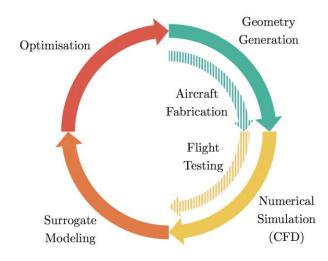


ALTERNATIVE: ecoSUB-μ – low cost, low mass, AUV

- Scientific problem: Icy regions are important to global circulation
- Observational challenge: Hard to get to, hard to work in

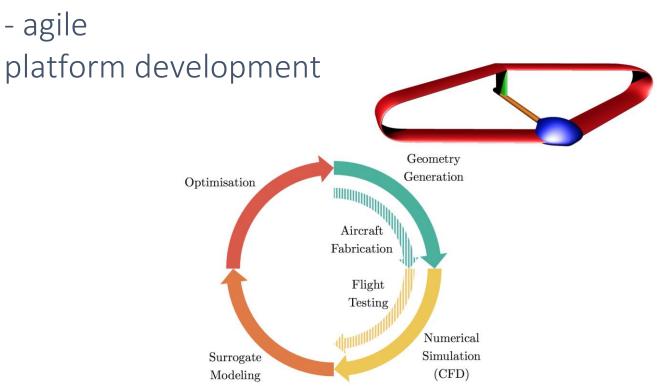


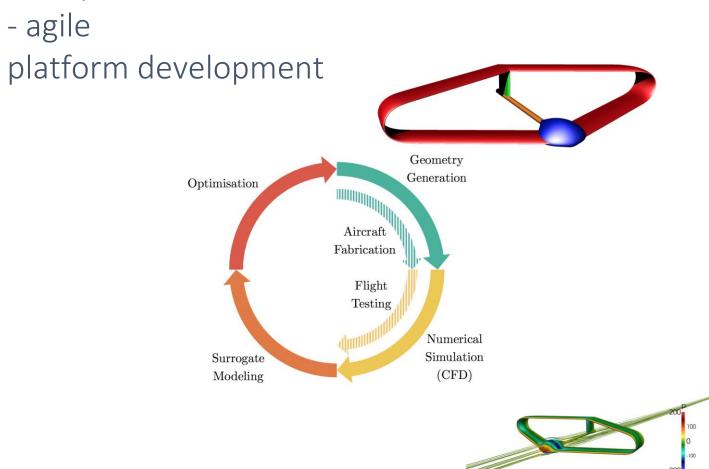
Disruptive ideas - agile platform development

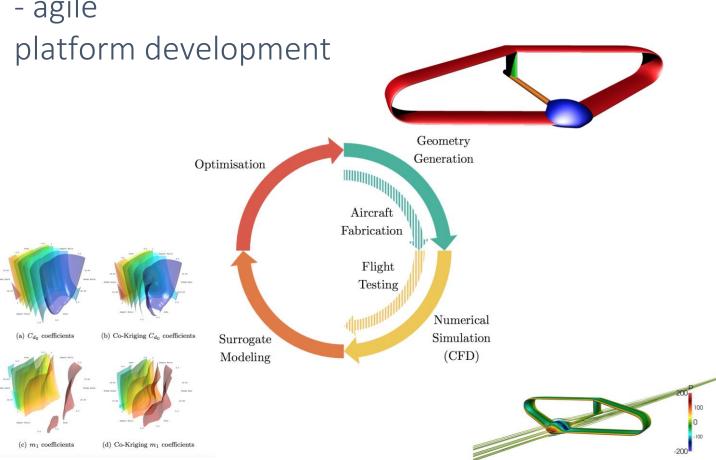


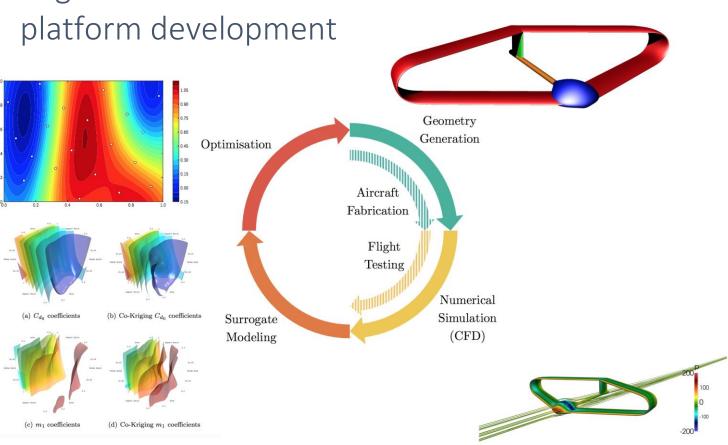
Disruptive ideas

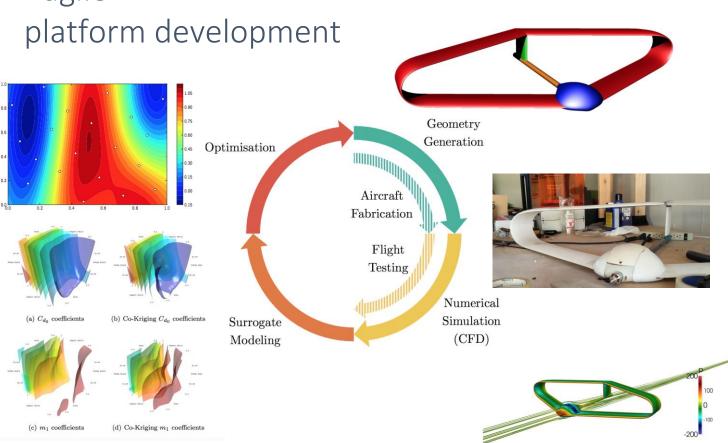
- agile

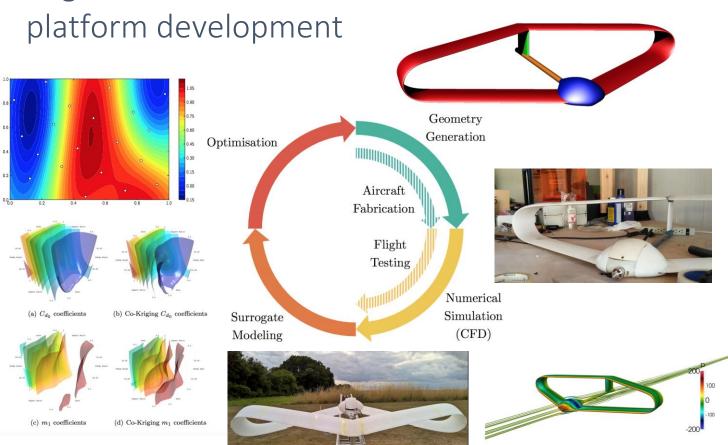












Afternoon Refreshments





30 Minute Break







Prof Matt Mowlem

OTE Group Head NOC

Introduction to the Sensors Capital Programme







Dr David Smeed

NOC

Science enabled by gliders: penguin ecology, hurricane prediction, ocean dead zones and other highlights from the EGO conference







Science enabled by gliders: penguin ecology, hurricane prediction, ocean dead zones and other highlights from the EGO conference

David Smeed National Oceanography Centre, UK

Acknowledgement

Thank you to all the presenters from the EGO conference for permission to use their material in this presentation







Outline

- The EGO network
- 7Th EGO conference on autonomous ocean gliders and their application
 - New developments in glider and sensor technology
 - Micro-scale to meso-scale physical processes observed with underwater gliders
 - Gliders in polar oceans: science and technological challenges
 - Observing biogeochemical processes with autonomous vehicles
 - Sampling strategies for single vehicles and networks
 - Glider operations: piloting, infrastructure, data management and legal issues
- Gliders in the Global Ocean Observing System
 - The Ocean Gliders steering team



EGO

The EGO network

- Started as informal collaboration between European glider users
- Subsequently supported by two EU programs: EU-COST action and GROOM FP7 project
- Now a global network of scientists and engineers
- 150 attendees at the conference

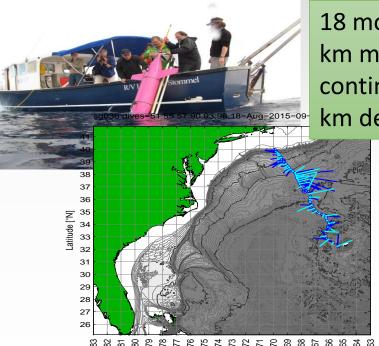


http://www.ego-network.org





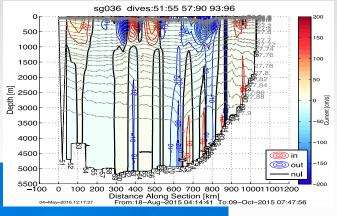
New developments in glider and sensor technology – DeepGlider

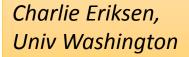


Longitude [°W]

04-May-2016 11:50:45

18 month / 10,000 km missions of continuous dives to 6 km depth @ 0.25 m/s

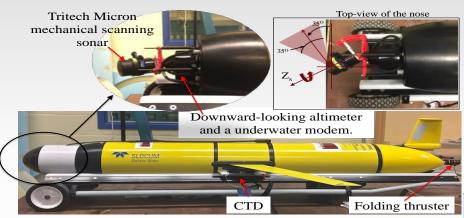




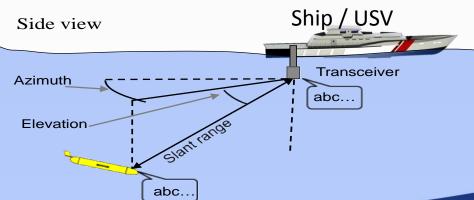




New developments in glider and sensor technology - Surface vehicle assisted navigation



Mingxi Zhou, Brad deYoung Ralf Bachmayer Memorial University, Canada Objective:
To map and
monitor icebergs







New developments in glider and sensor technology – Modelling flow around gliders

Ben Moat, NOC

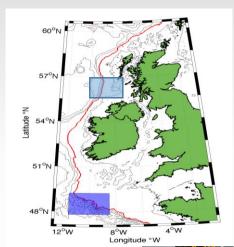
CFD simulations used to determine distortion of flow around glider and the impact upon sensor measurements





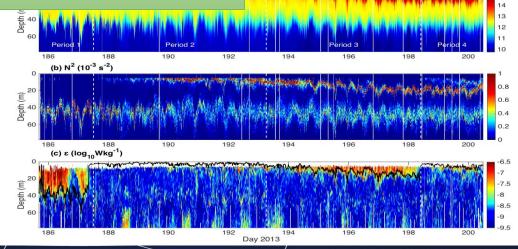
Micro-scale to meso-scale physical processes observed with underwater gliders

- Ocean microstructure glider



Measuring turbulence down to scales of 1cm to understand mixing in the ocean

Matthew Palmer, NOC

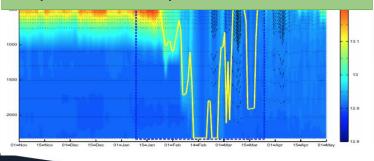


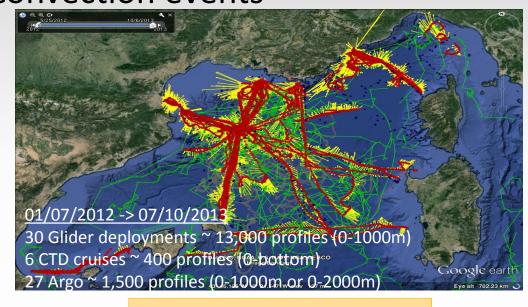




Micro-scale to meso-scale physical processes observed with underwater gliders - Deep convection events

Sustained glider measurements in combination with other platforms reveals details and long term variability of intermittent but climatically important deep convection





Pierre Testor, Félix Margirier, UPMC, France



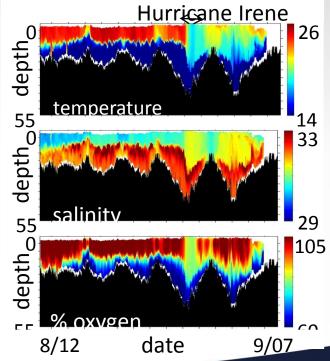


Micro-scale to meso-scale physical processes observed with underwater gliders

-- Hurricane prediction



Observing in hostile environments to improve the prediction of hurricanes intensity

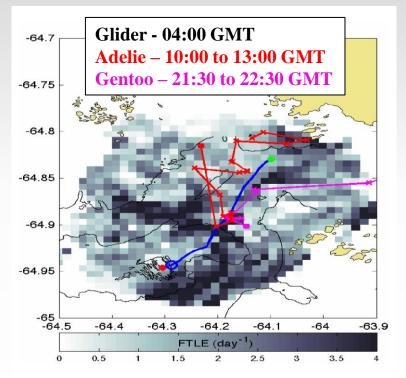






Gliders in polar oceans: science and technological challenges – Penguin ecology

Tidal convergence zones concentrate phytoplankton, aggregate schools of krill and influence the behavior of nenguing 0.5 -0.5 100 200 Chlorophyll a (µ l/g) 25 50 100 200 18 Acoustic Backscatter (dB) 10 40 Josh Kohut, 25 50 30 100 **Rutgers University** 200



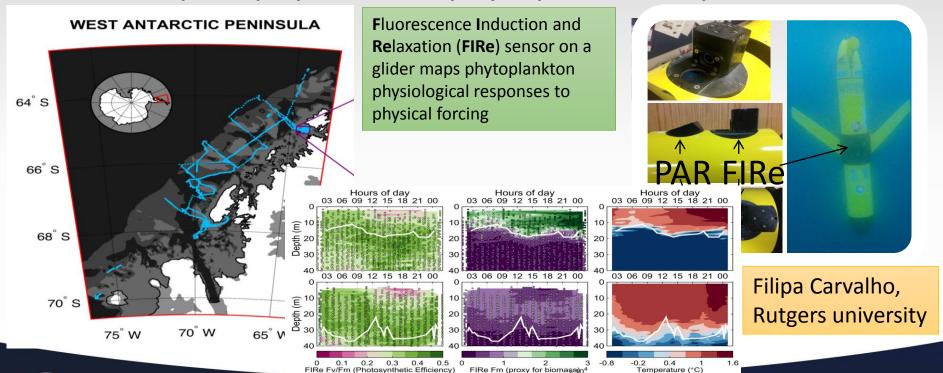




Time (HH) (reverse)

Observing biogeochemical processes with autonomous vehicles

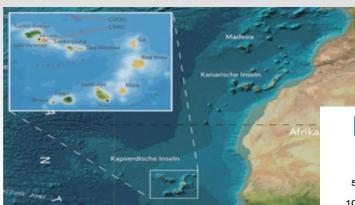
Coupled physical and phytoplankton dynamics





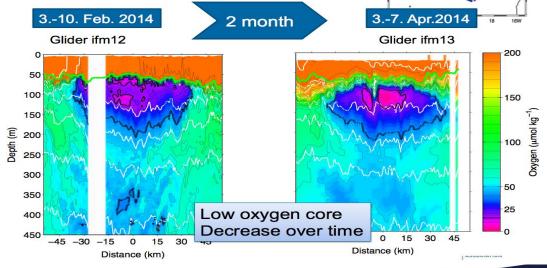


Observing biogeochemical processes with autonomous vehicles – Ocean 'dead zones'



Oxygen depleted eddies and nitrate cycling in the tropical Atlantic

Johannes Karstensen, GEOMAR

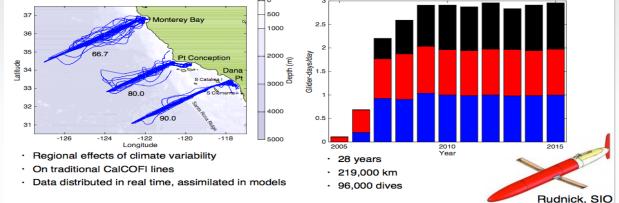




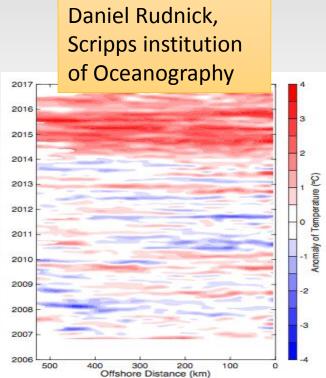


Observing System - The California Underwater

Glider Network
California Underwater Glider Network



10 years of continuous occupation allows identification of Climate anomalies, e.g. 2014-2015 warming, and 2015-2016 El Niño







- Novel science often involves multiple platforms
- Gliders enable:
 - New sampling strategies that compliment other platforms
 - Capability to monitor in hostile environments
 - Efficient platform for many sensors
- International coordination and adoption of common standards will enable gliders to make important contribution to regional and global observing systems



www.ego-network.org



Dr Maaten Furlong

NOC

Accessing the MARS Fleet







Prof Russ Wynn & Dr Maaten Furlong

NOC

NERC MAS Capital Programme: Introduction and Opportunities







Prof Russ Wynn

NOC

Close and Thank You



