



TÉCNICO  
LISBOA



*ERASMUS Mundus MSc  
FR, NO, PT, SP*

# Cooperative Robotics for Scientific and Commercial Applications

António Pascoal





# The work of many

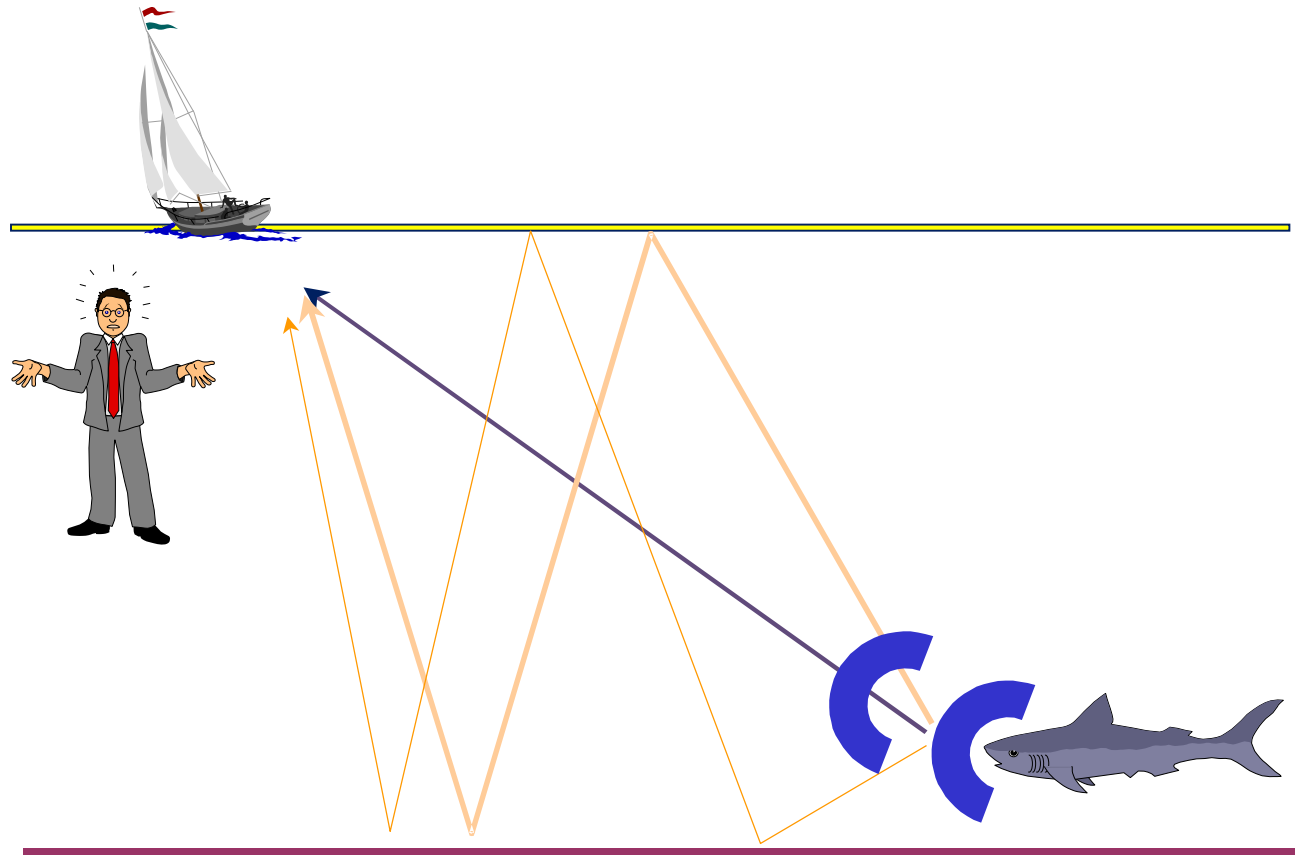


Cooperative projects  
with  
Colombia, India, Korea,  
Mexico, Peru, USA,  
and EU members

# Opening the multiple vehicle frontier

6

## Underwater Communications – *very hard!*



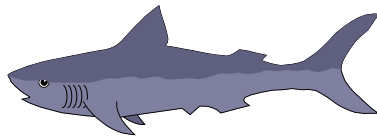
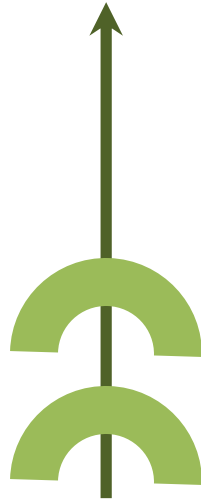
# Opening the multiple vehicle frontier

7



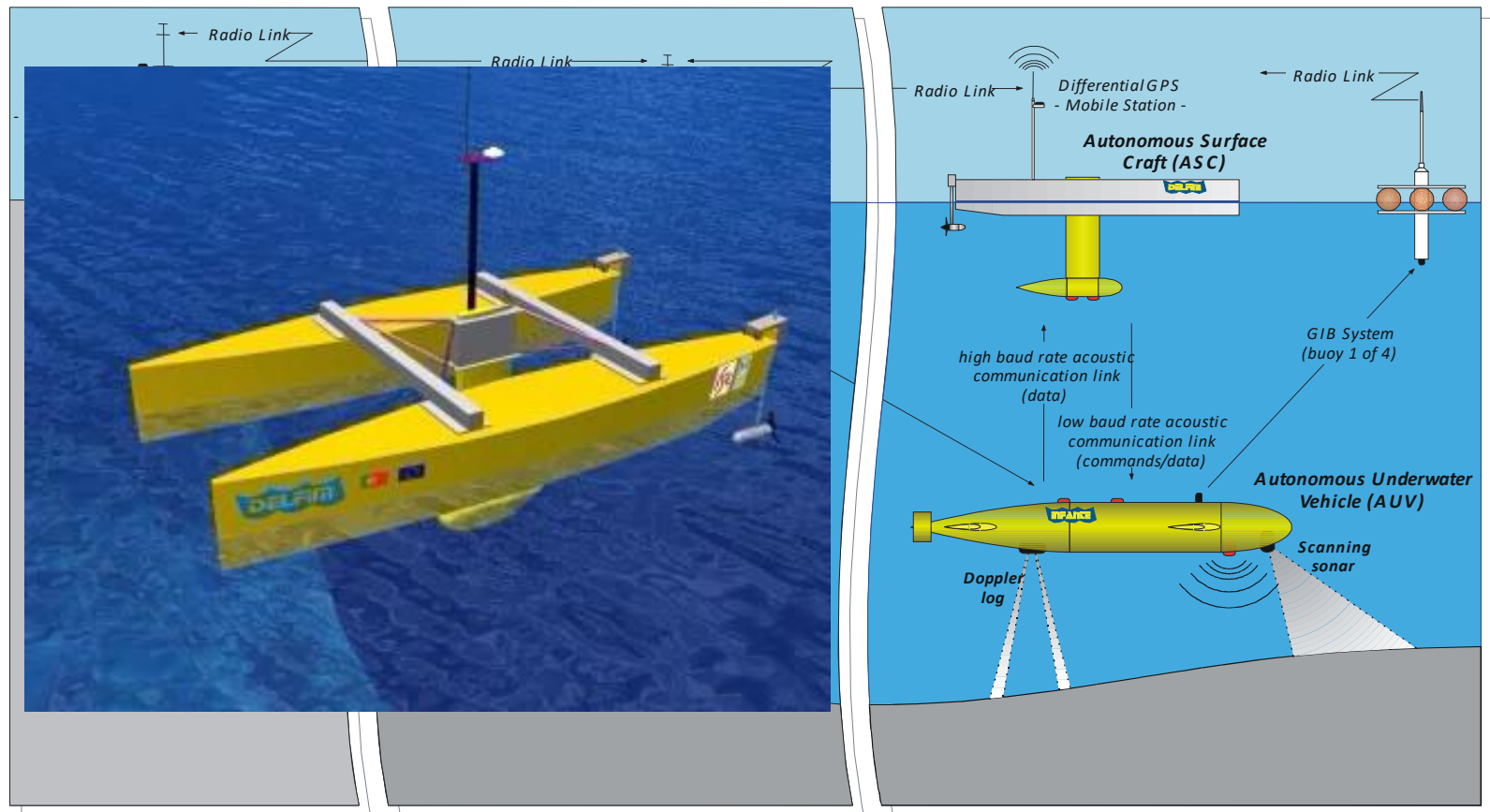
## Underwater Communications

*Transmit in the vertical !*



# Multi-vehicle operations

The **ASIMOV** concept (*ASIMOV project, EC – 2000*) – PT, FR, UK



*Difficulties: **no** reliable comms, miniaturized acoustic positioning systems, and tools for seamless implementation of Motion and Mission Control systems (ROS was not born yet!)*

# Networked Systems : a New Era (2009 - )

9



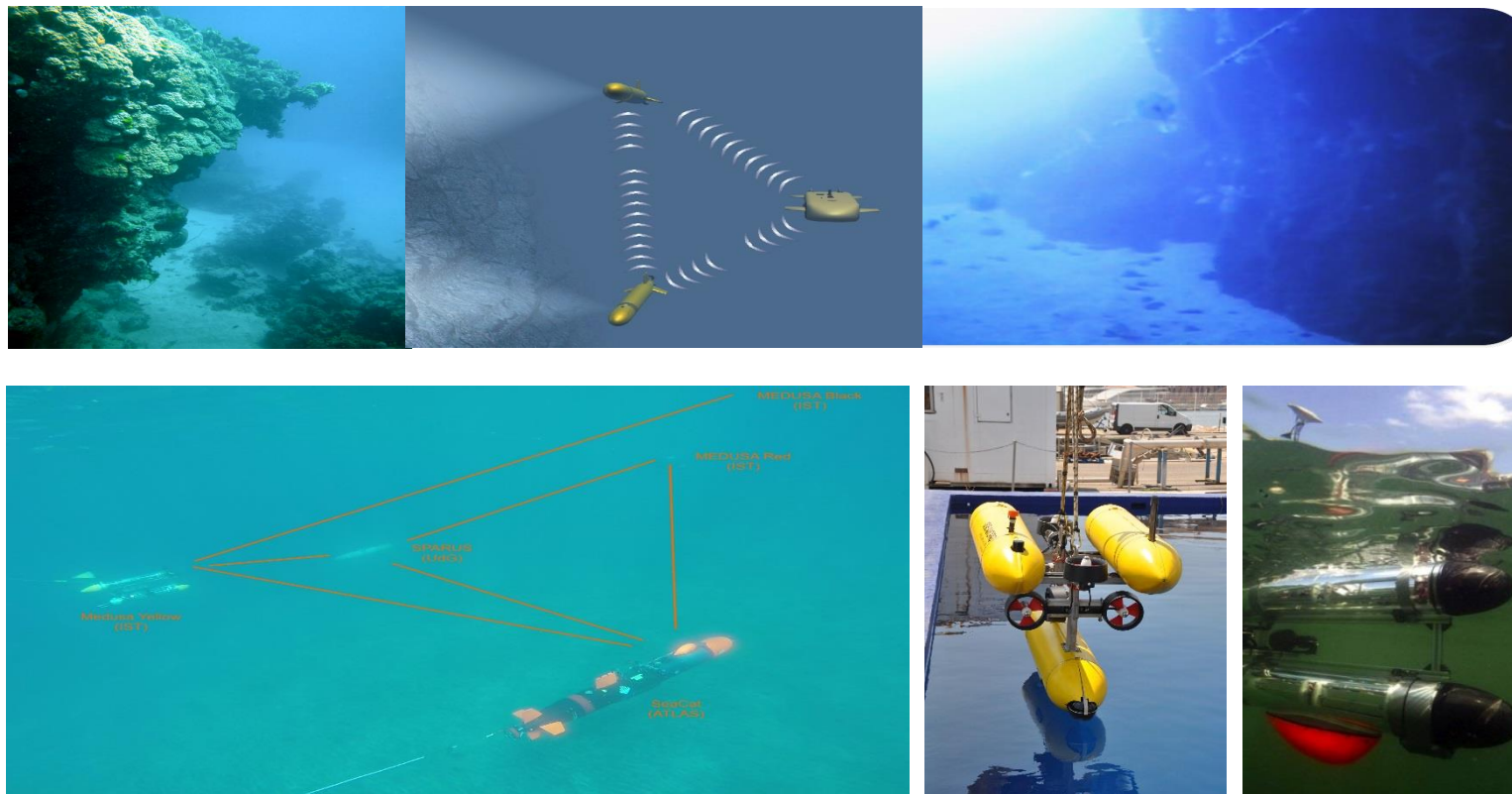
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and Control

# MORPH / EC (2012-2016)

10

## Cooperative Marine Robots for Marine Habitat Mapping in Complex Underwater Environments: A New Paradigm



**ATLAS ELEKTRONIK**  
A joint company of ThyssenKrupp and EADS

Universitat  
de Girona

lfremer

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LISBOA**

Consiglio  
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Ricerche

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& FISCHEREI  
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ESSEN

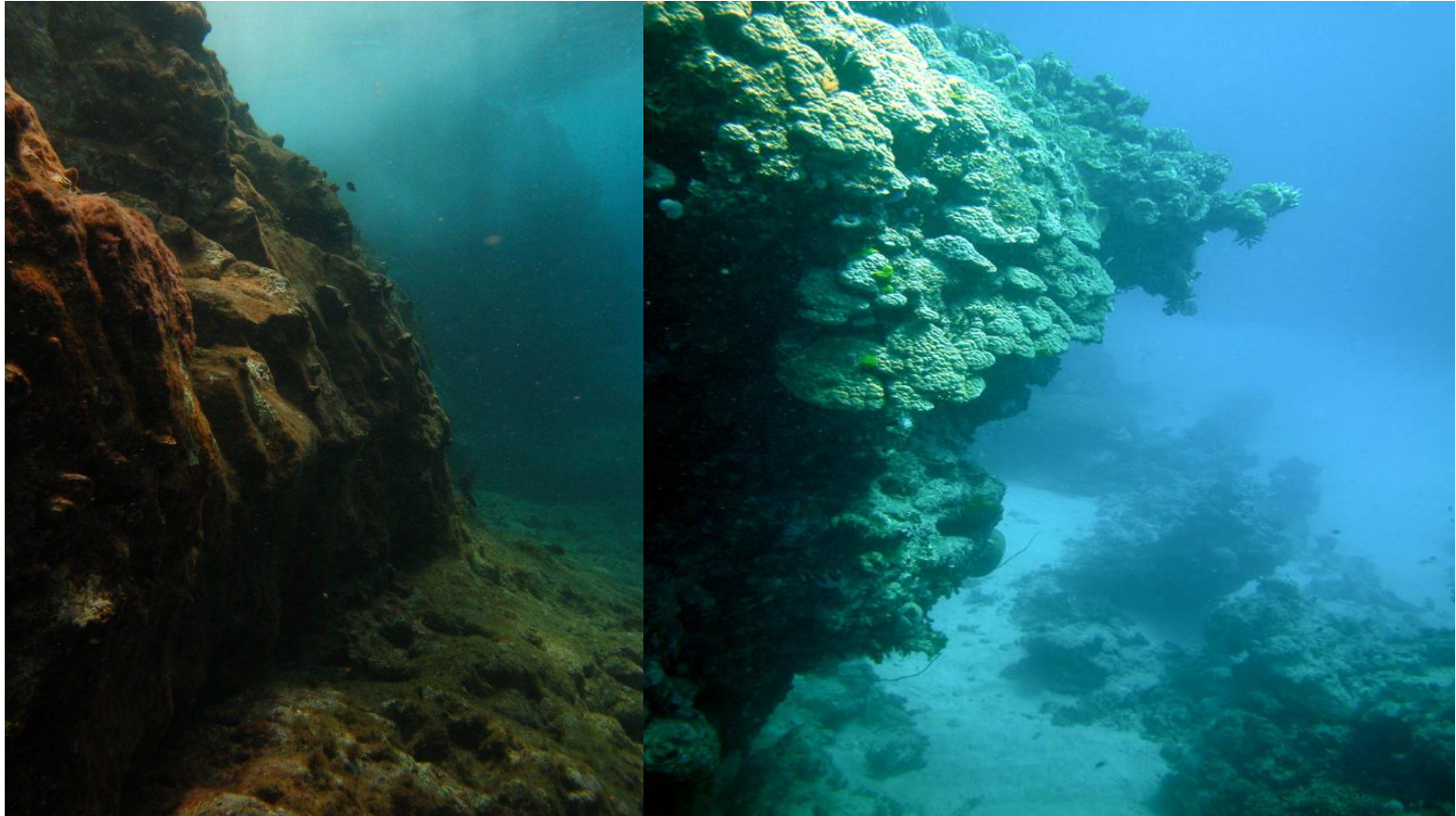
**S&T**  
organization  
CMRE



# MORPH / EC (2012-2016)

11

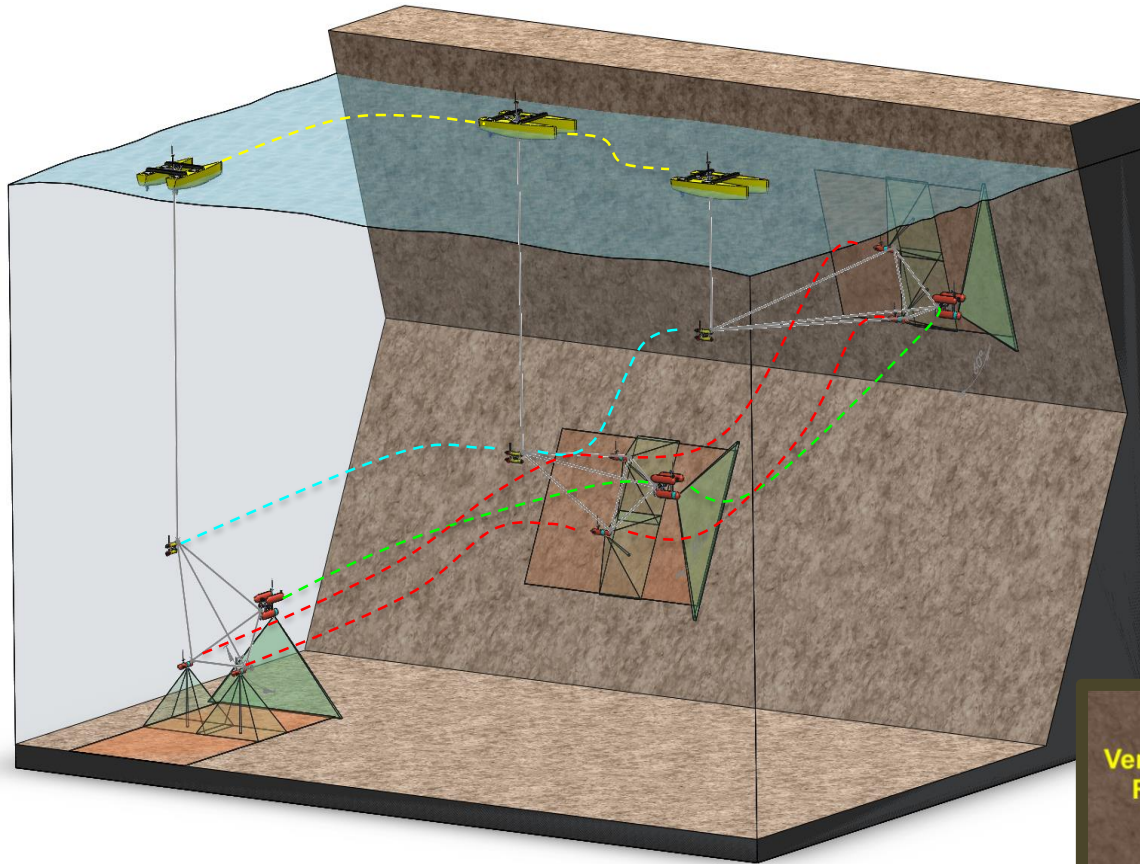
Habitat Mapping in complex 3D environments



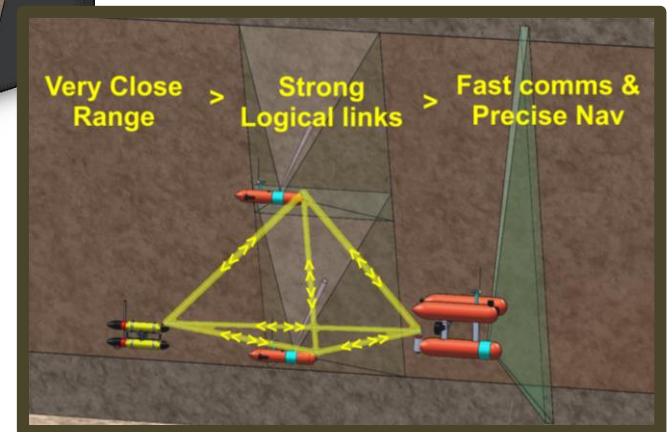
Underwater cliffs, canyon walls, fracture zones, seamount flanks, hydrothermal chimneys

# MORPH / EC (2012-2016)

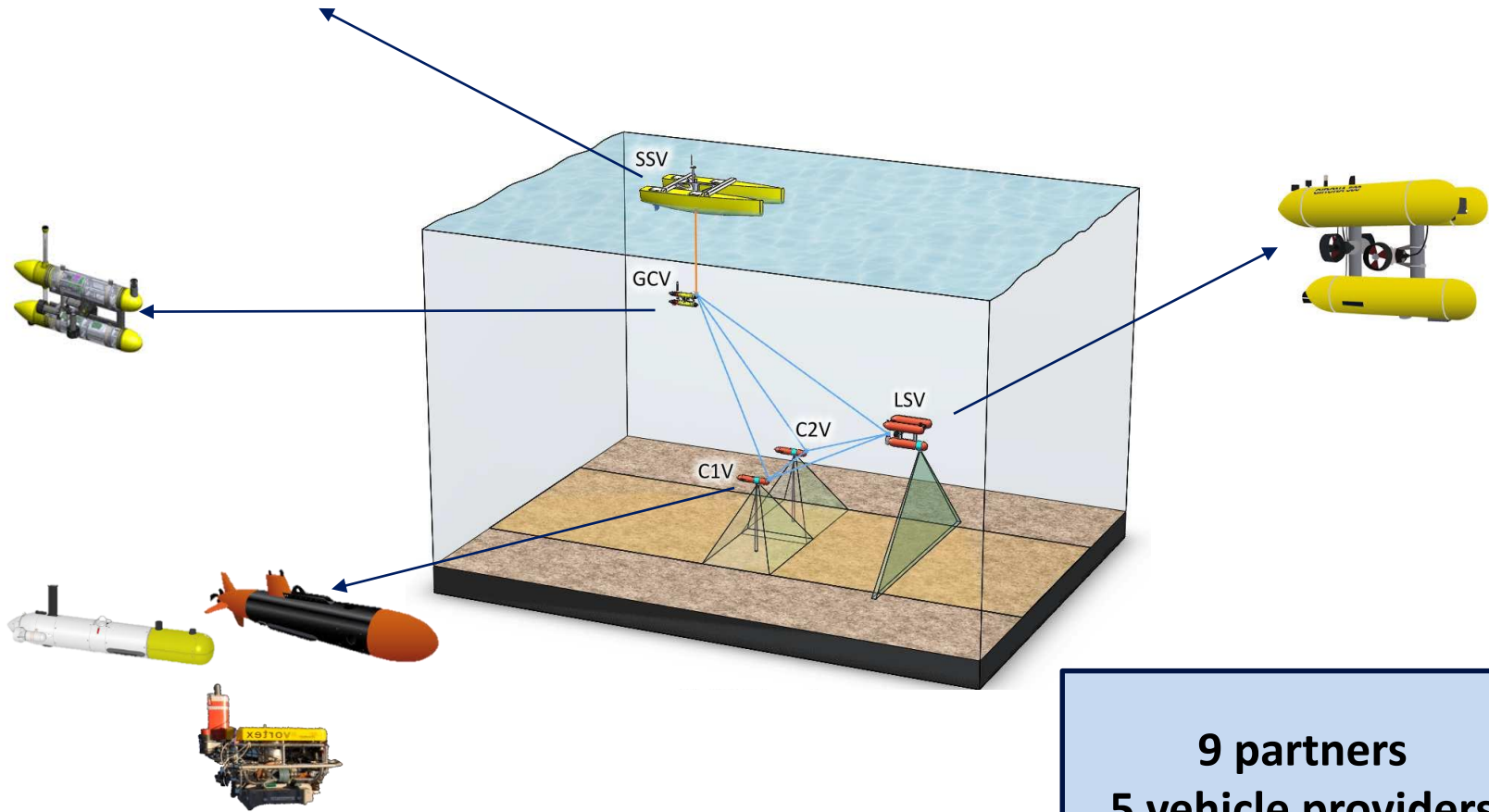
A team of agents  
operating as a  
virtual super  
marine vehicle



**Key MORPH concept:**  
*a self-reconfiguring robot for operations in  
complex 3D marine environments*



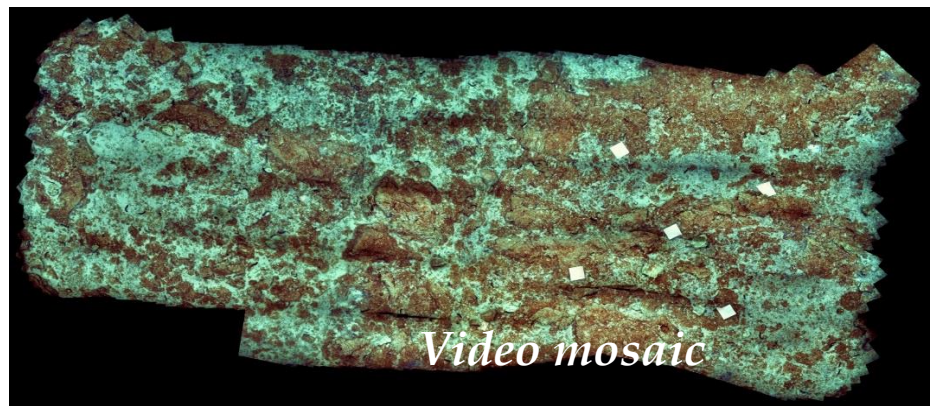
# MORPH Vehicles



**9 partners**  
**5 vehicle providers**

# MORPH / EC (2012-2016)

Cooperative Marine Robots for Marine Habitat Mapping  
in Complex Underwater Environments: A New Paradigm

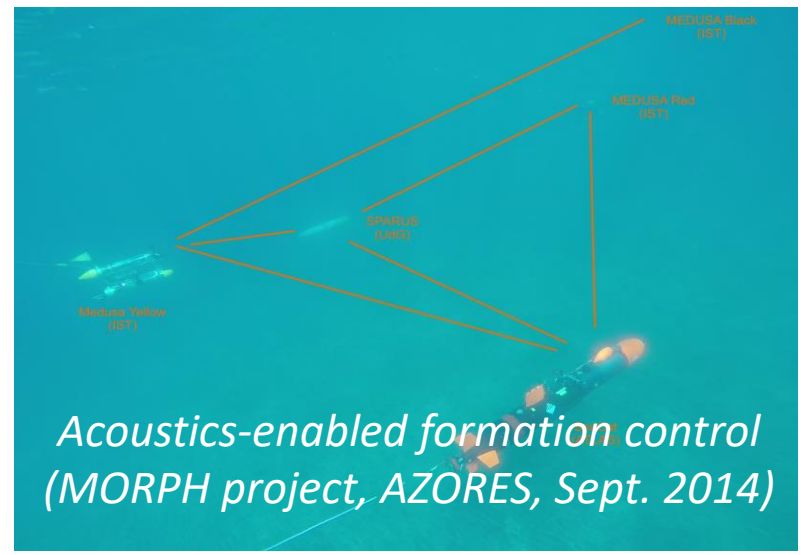
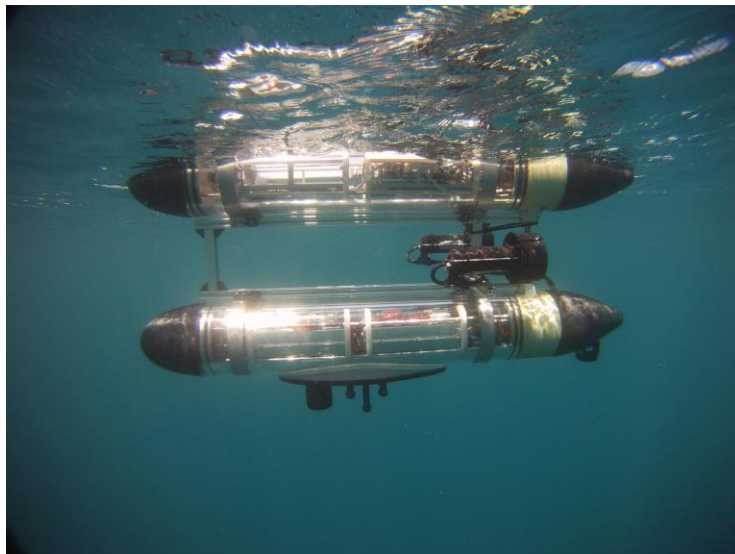
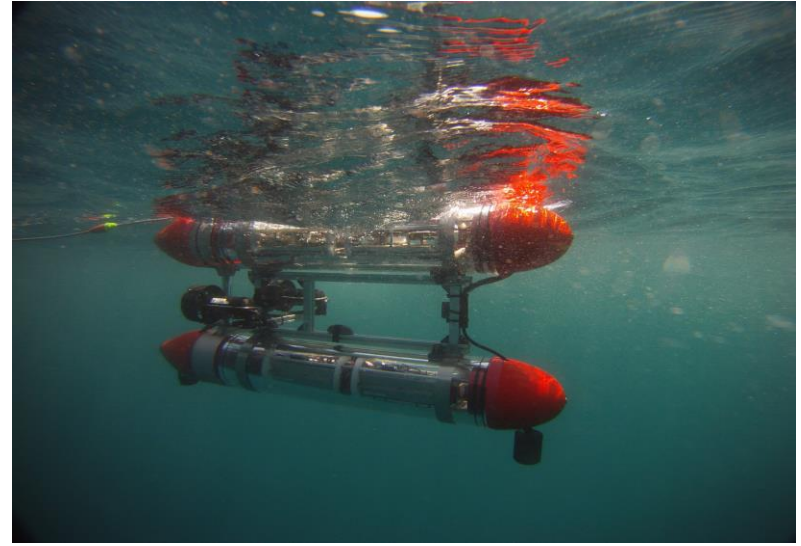
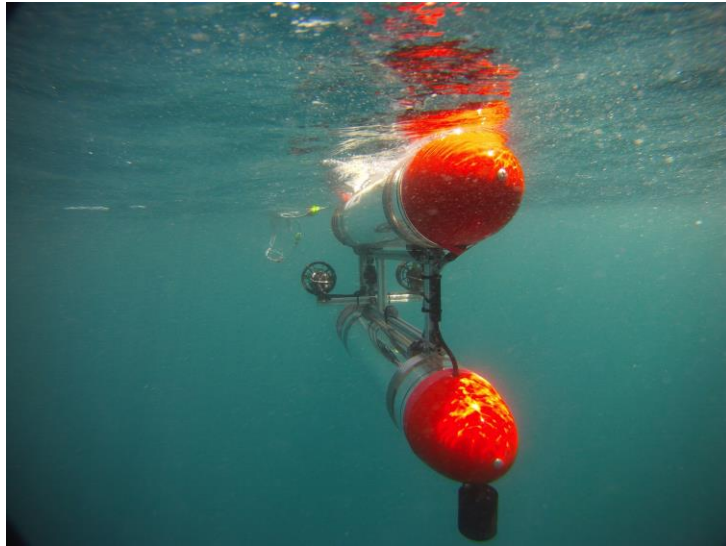


# The sea-going machines



The MEDUSA vehicles

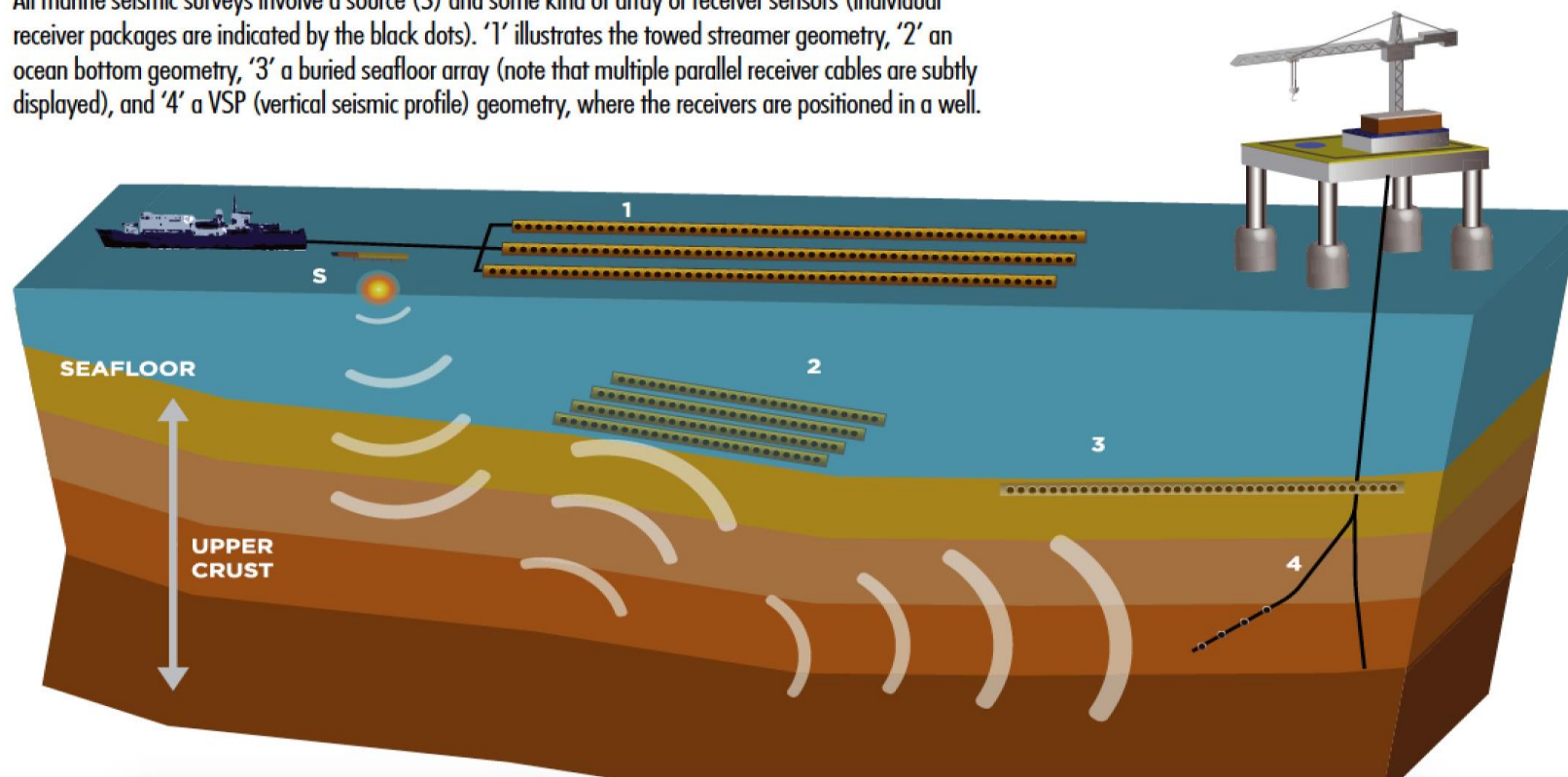
# Labs and equipment



*Acoustics-enabled formation control  
(MORPH project, AZORES, Sept. 2014)*

# Probing under the seabed : the EC WiMUST project

All marine seismic surveys involve a source (S) and some kind of array or receiver sensors (individual receiver packages are indicated by the black dots). '1' illustrates the towed streamer geometry, '2' an ocean bottom geometry, '3' a buried seafloor array (note that multiple parallel receiver cables are subtly displayed), and '4' a VSP (vertical seismic profile) geometry, where the receivers are positioned in a well.



S-acoustic source

1-Towed receiver geometry (hydrophones)

2- Ocean bottom geometry

3- Buried seafloor array

4- Vertical seismic profiler

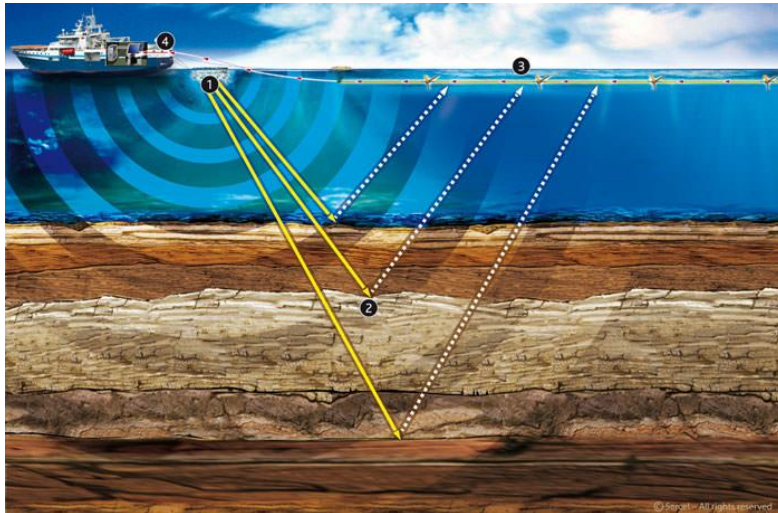


**WiMUST**

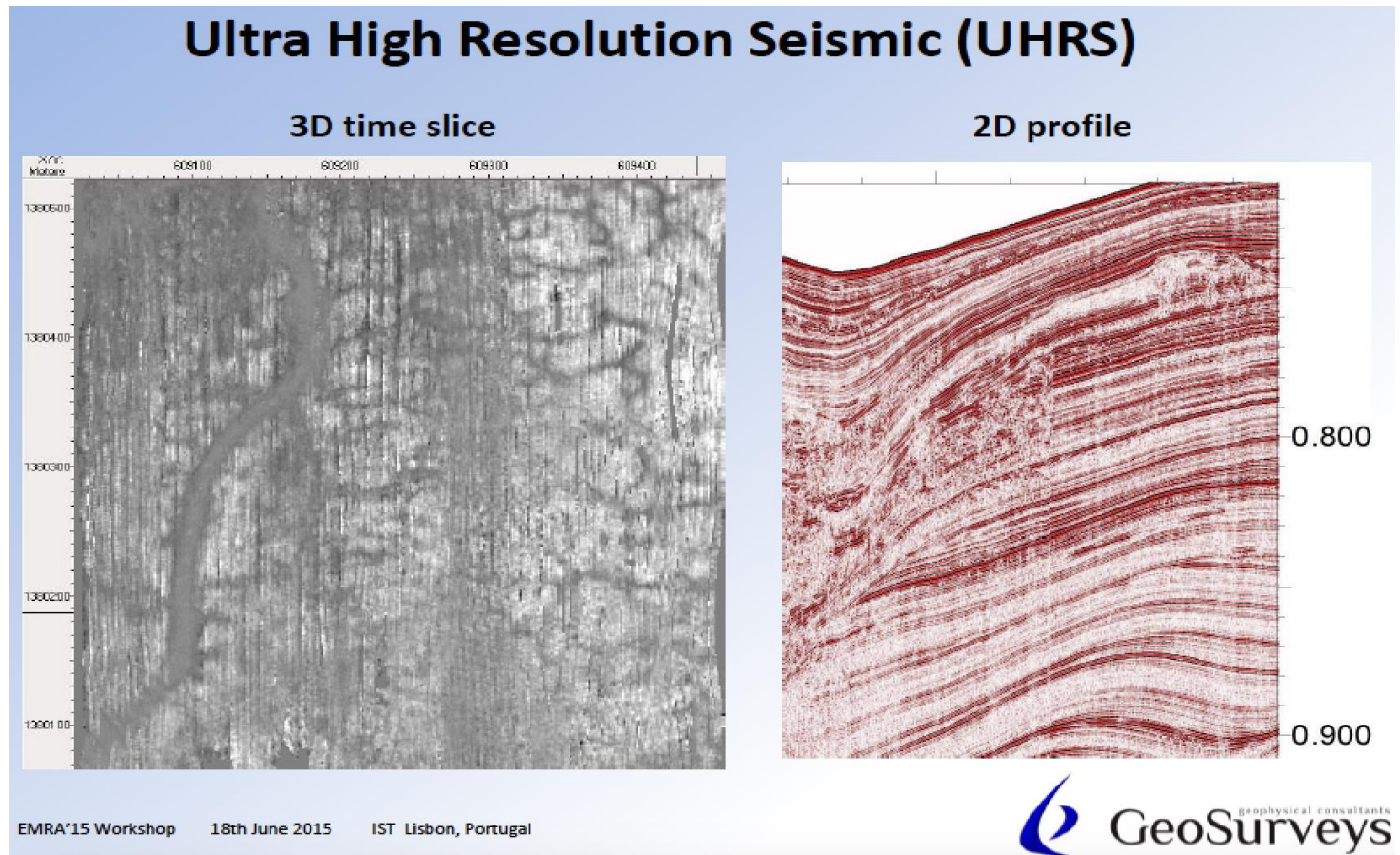
Widely scalable Mobile  
Underwater Sonar Technology

# Marine seismic surveys

- Vessel tows **acoustic sources** and long cables (**streamers**) up to 10km long, equipped with **hydrophones**, very close to the surface
- Acoustic sources shoot, waves reflect/refract off geological features on and beneath the seabed, hydrophones pick up these reflections
- Processing allows for inference of geophysical features

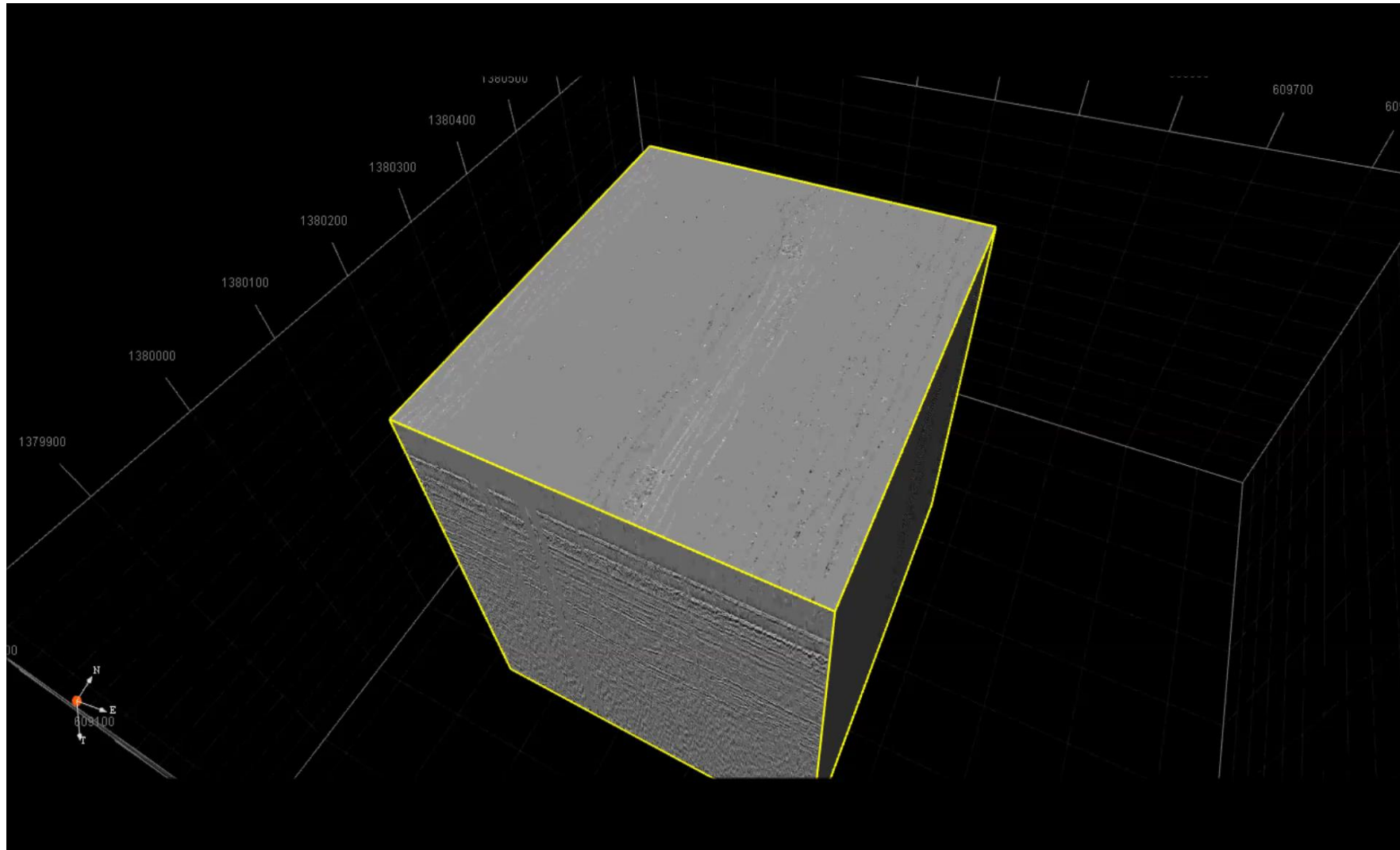


# Ultra high resolution Seismic Surveys in 2D and 3D <sup>19</sup>



Key applications: design of foundations for overwater and subsea structures and anchors; assessment of burial performance for pipelines and cables – marine windfarms

# Ultra High Resolution Seismic (UHRS) surveys

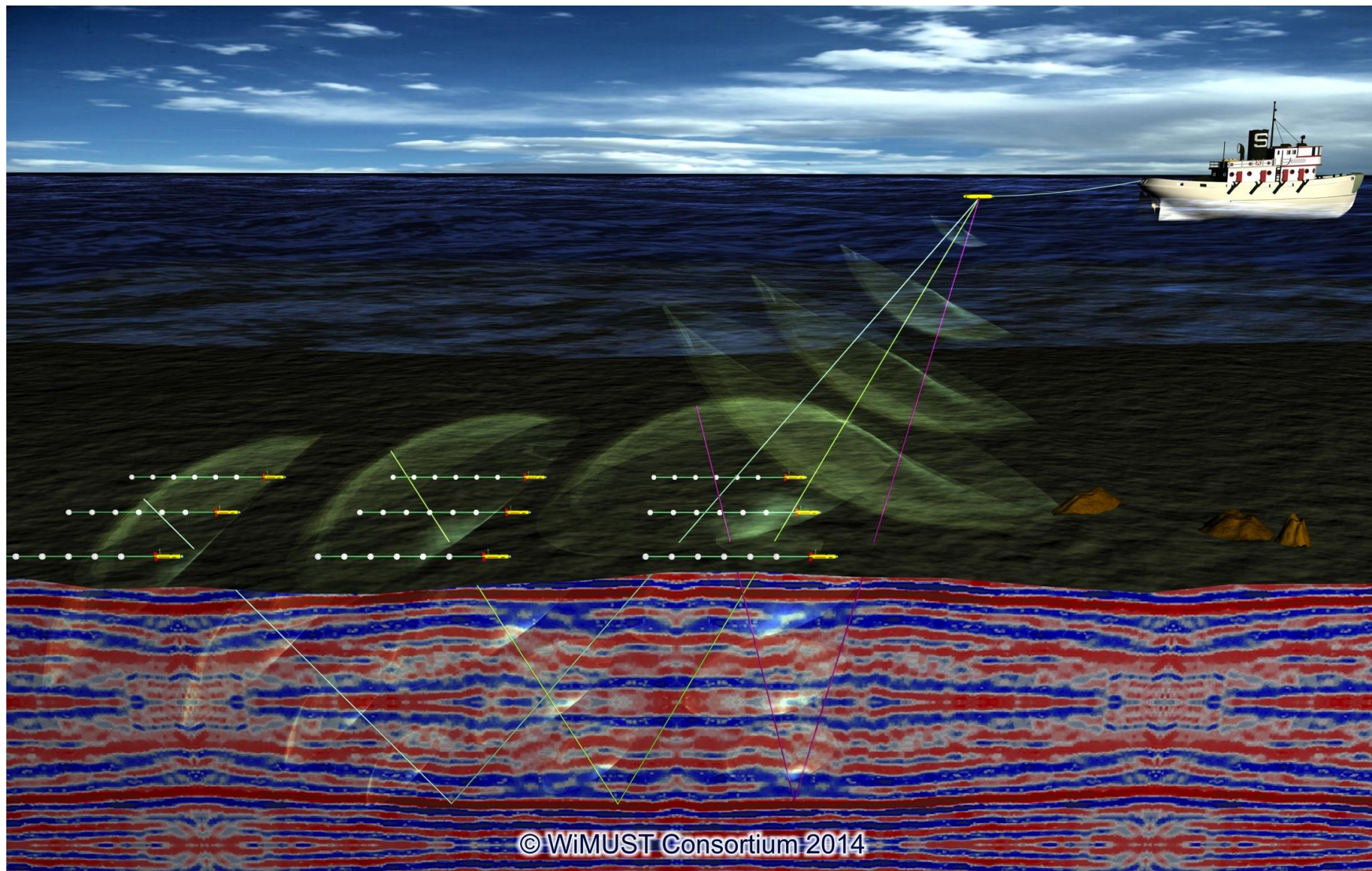


Courtesy of Henrique Duarte, GeoSurveys, Aveiro, PT

# The WiMUST concept

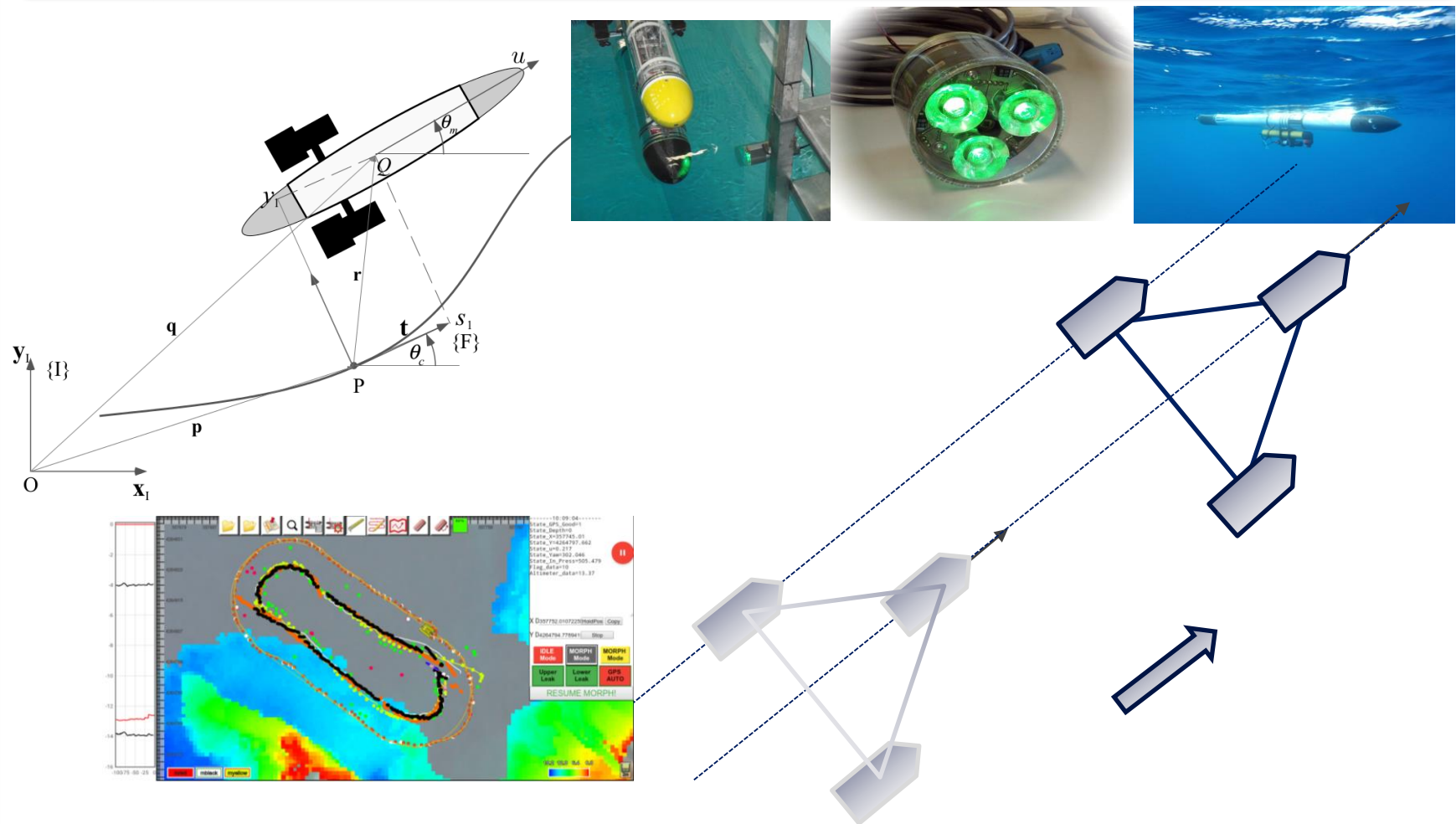


**WiMUST**  
Widely scalable Mobile  
Underwater Sonar Technology

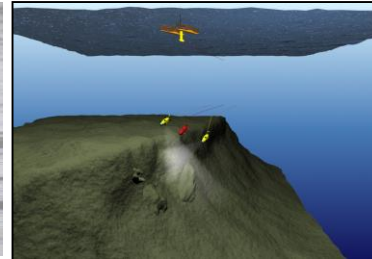
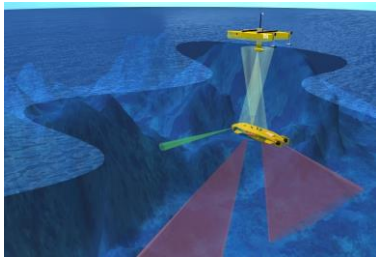


© WiMUST Consortium 2014

# The theory behind: a glimpse



**Cooperative, Networked Motion Planning, Navigation, and Control**  
*Nonlinear Control and Estimation, Range-based Localization, Optimization,  
 Event-Driven Systems, Optical and Acoustic Communications*



Mission  
specification  
→

Cooperative motion planning

Nominal trajectories &  
desired vehicle formation

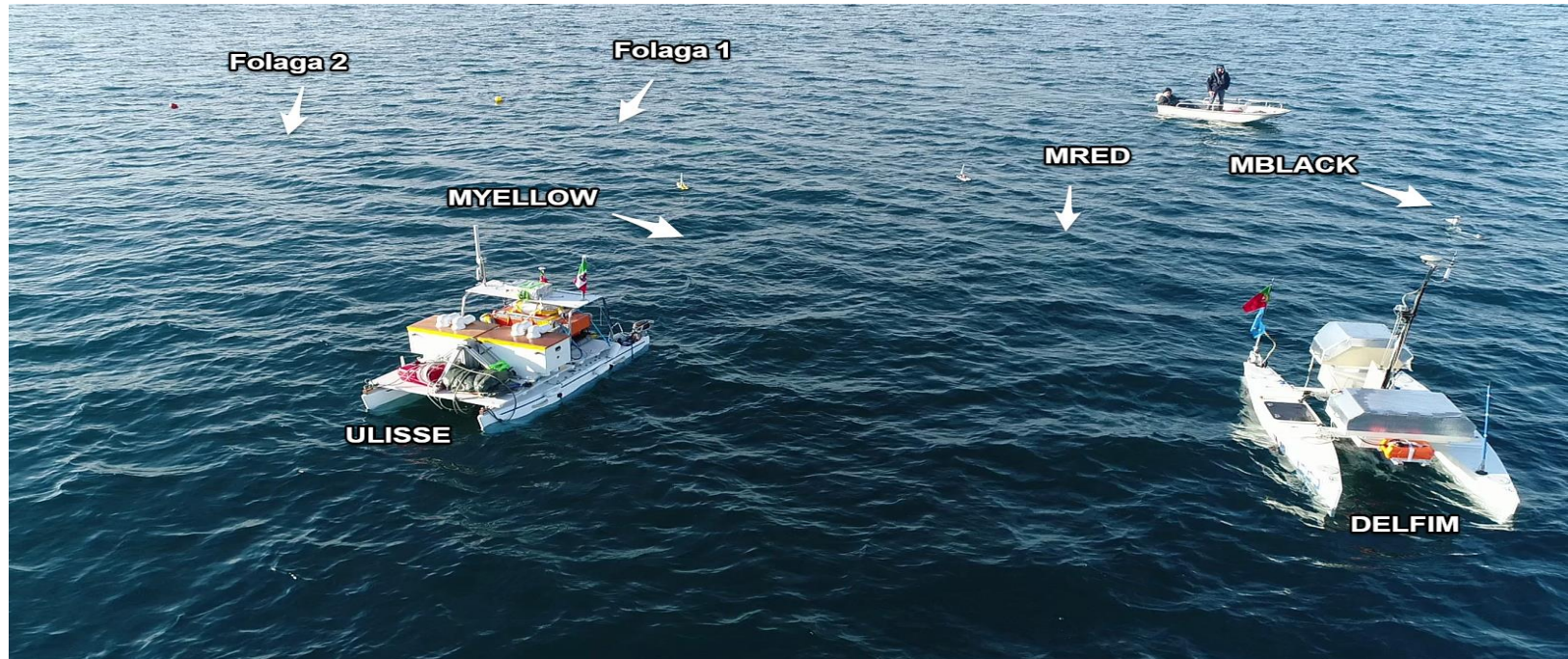
Cooperative motion control

Global and local, relative vehicle positions

Cooperative navigation

Cooperative systems: key blocks required

# Basic Building Blocks



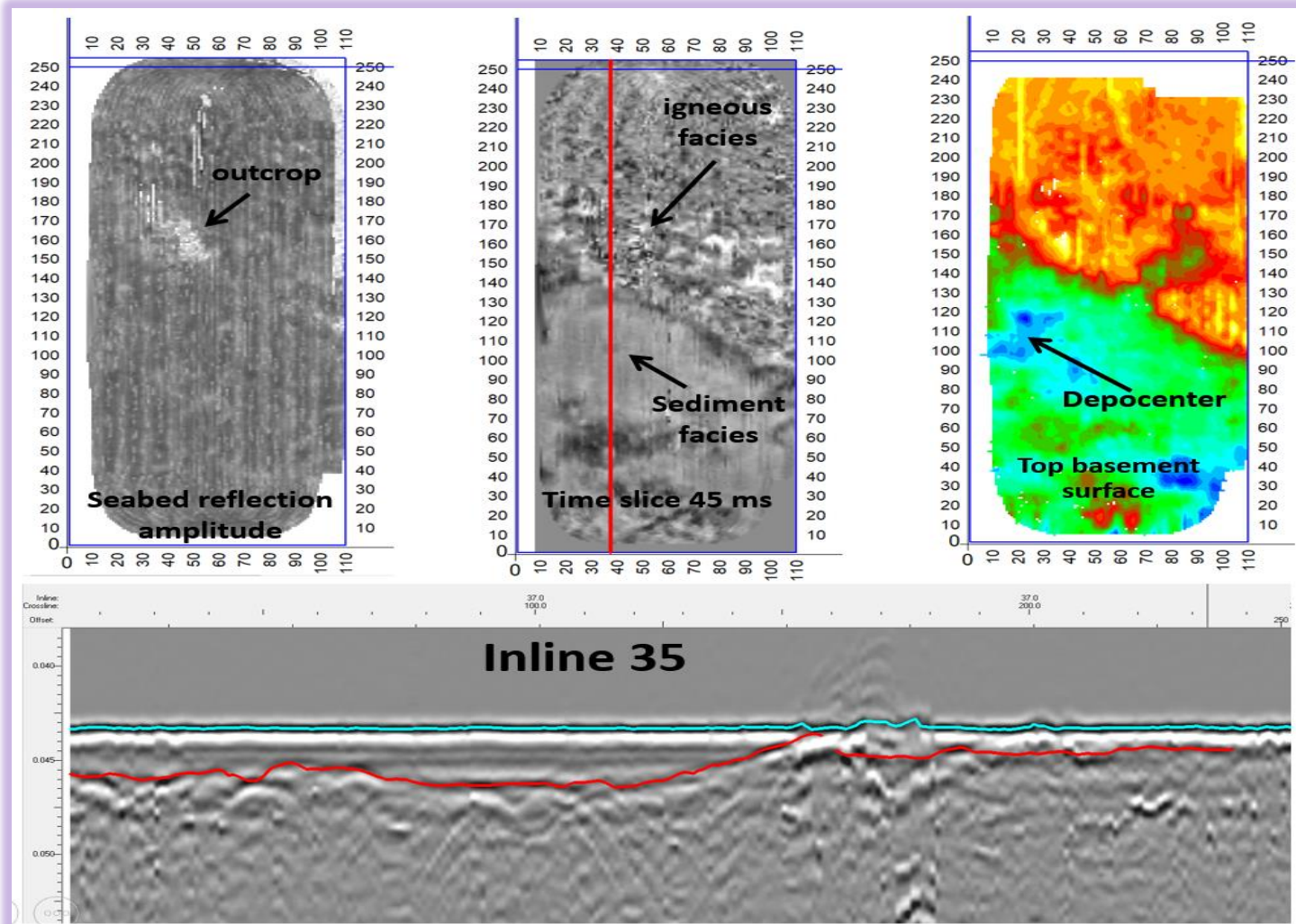
## Basic building blocks

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

## Full system implementation and final mission at sea



# Full system implementation and final mission at sea



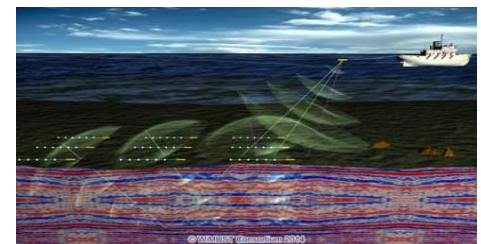
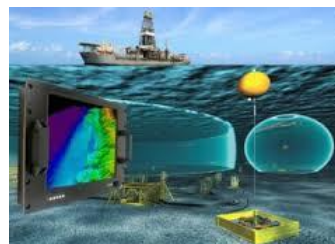
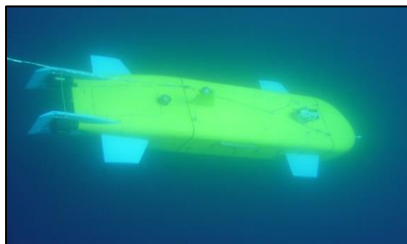
Technical Highlights & Seismic Data Acquired

# The big push forward

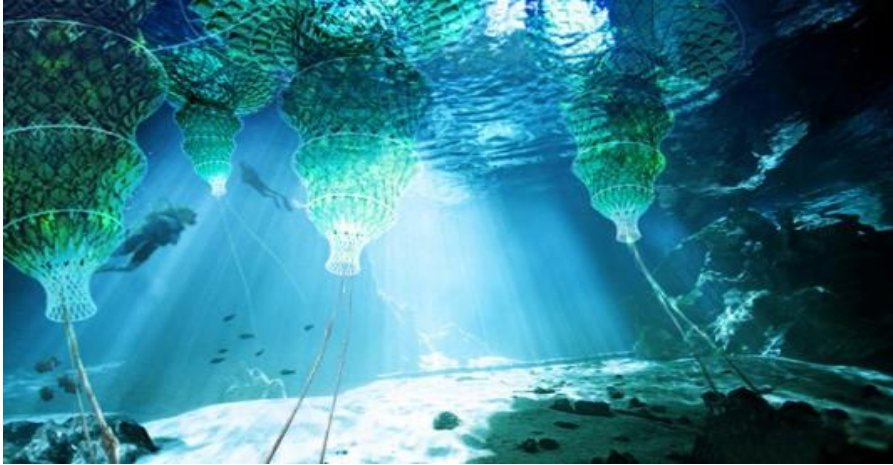
Bring about a true revolution in the marine technology area by:

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

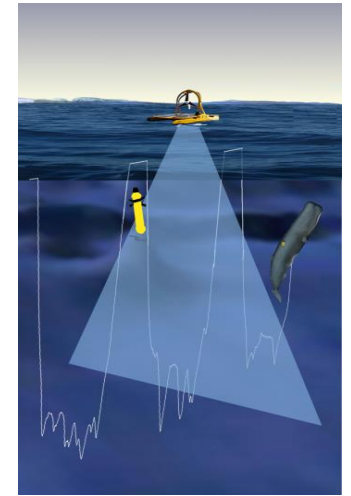
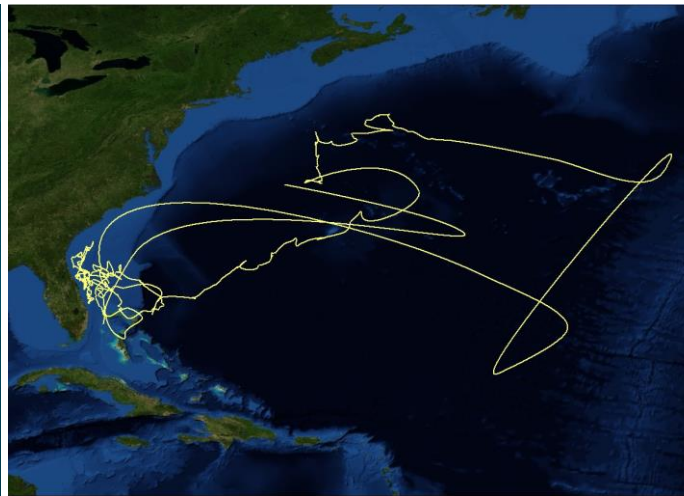
**Cooperative multiple assets; sustained presence at sea; energy harvesting**



# The future: Cooperative Robots and Humans in the Loop



## Automated Offshore Aquaculture



## Tracking of Marine Mammals

# SOS4ATLANTIC: A NEW MIT-PT INITIATIVE

29

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

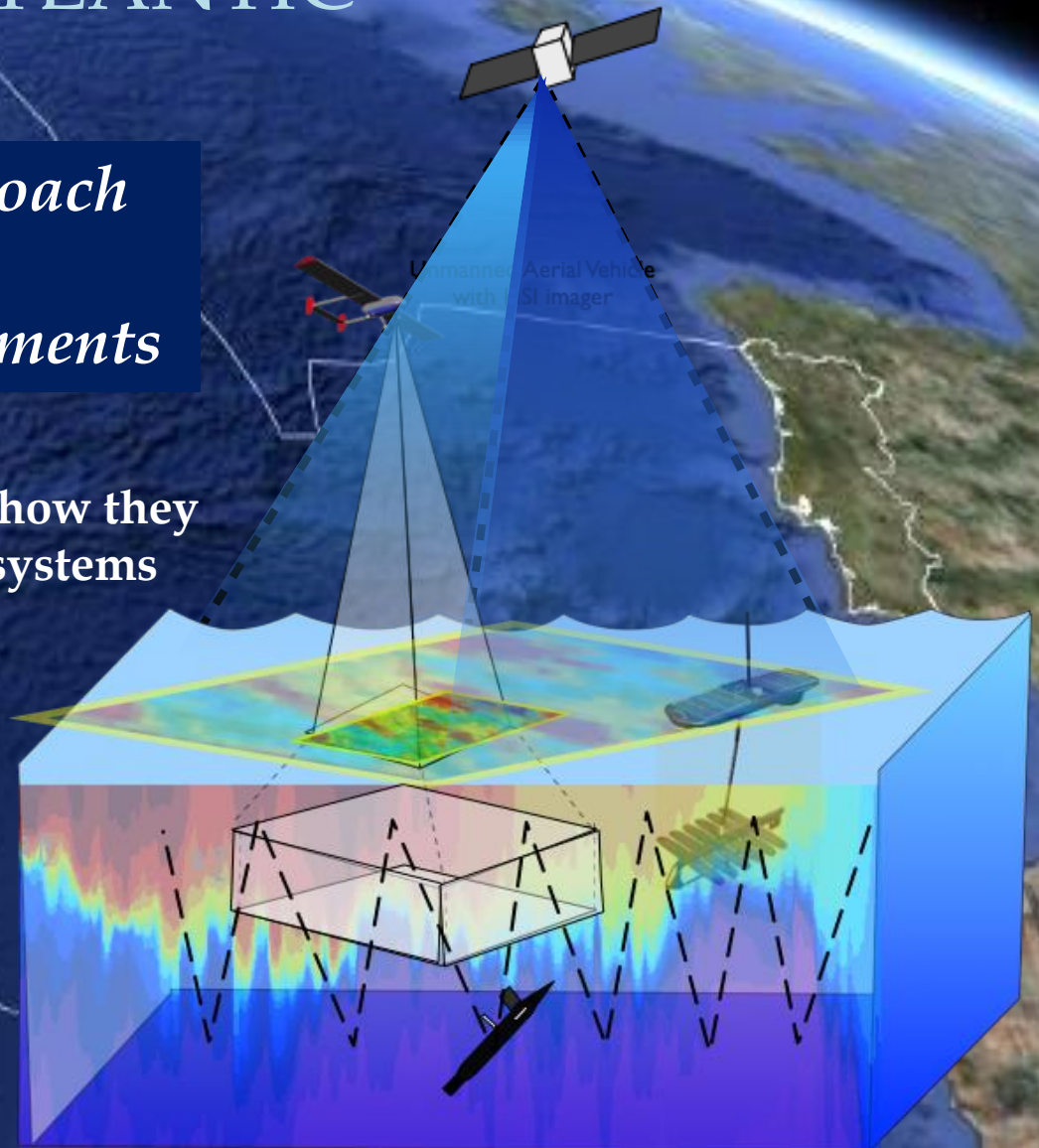


# SOS4ATLANTIC

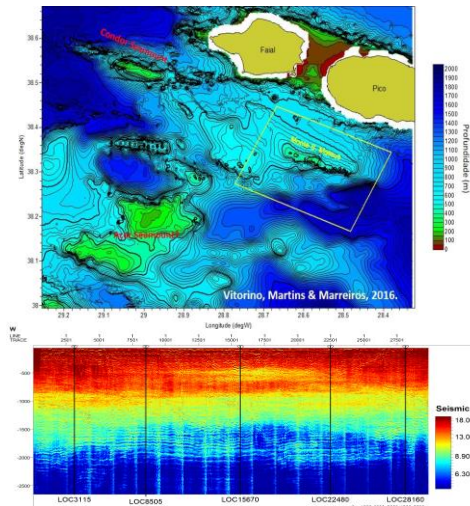
*A System of Systems approach  
integrating  
Space, Air, and Marine segments*

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

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

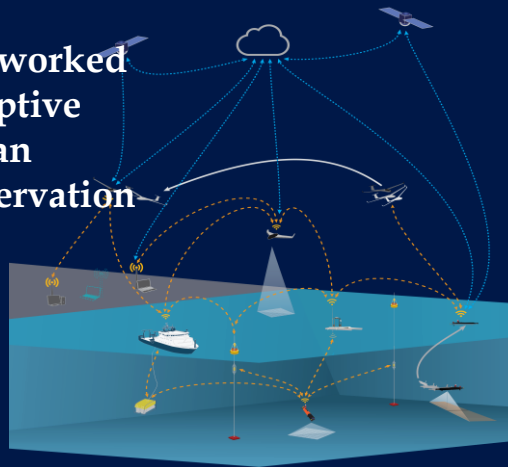


# A System of Systems approach integrating Space, Air, and Marine segments for Ocean Science



Modeling and  
Forecasting

Networked  
adaptive  
ocean  
observation



Multi-vehicle SOSystems



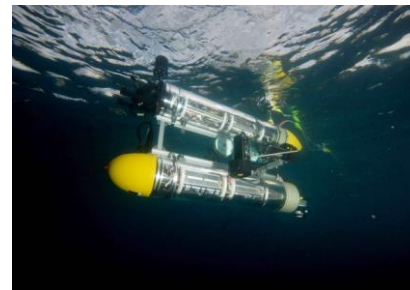
Ocean front and  
ecosystem studies

# SOS4ATLANTIC

A showcase of technological assets for science and the industry



**NRP D. Carlos class  
Oceanographic  
Vessel**



**RV Águas Vivas**

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

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





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