

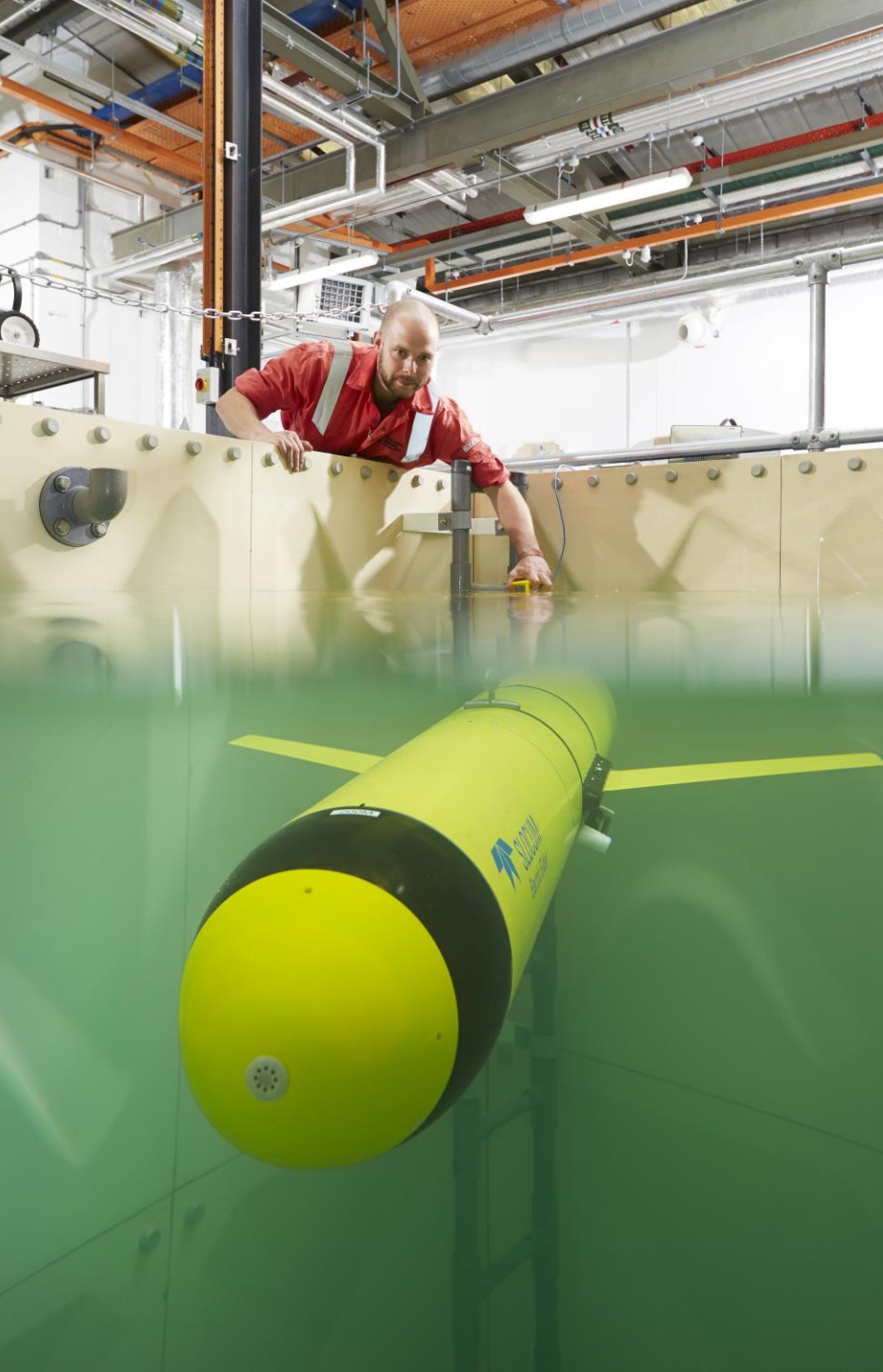


National  
Oceanography  
Centre

**AUTONOMOUS TECHNOLOGIES  
ALLOWING PERSISTENT  
UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE**











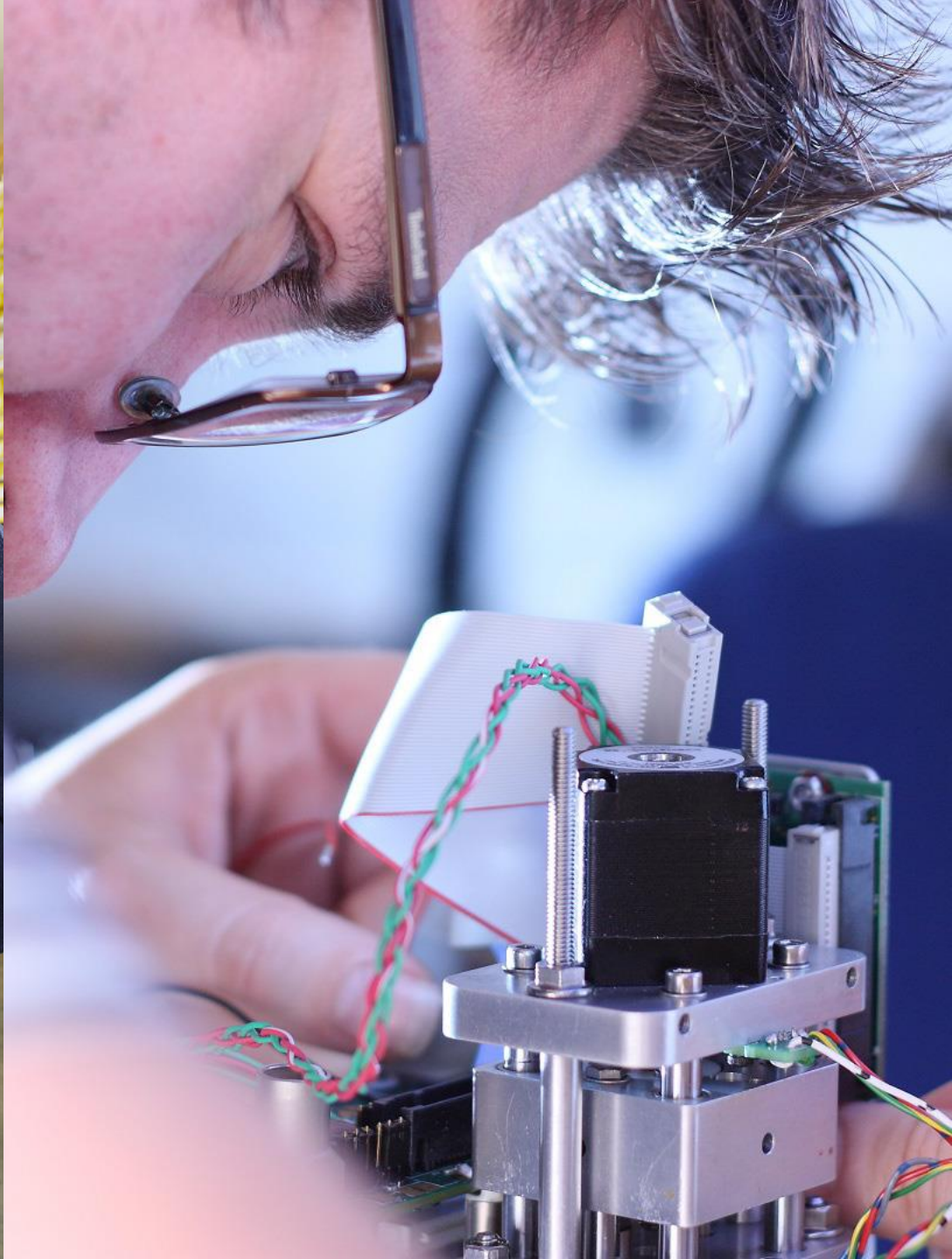
DISCOVERY

2FGAS

2FGAS

DISCOVERY













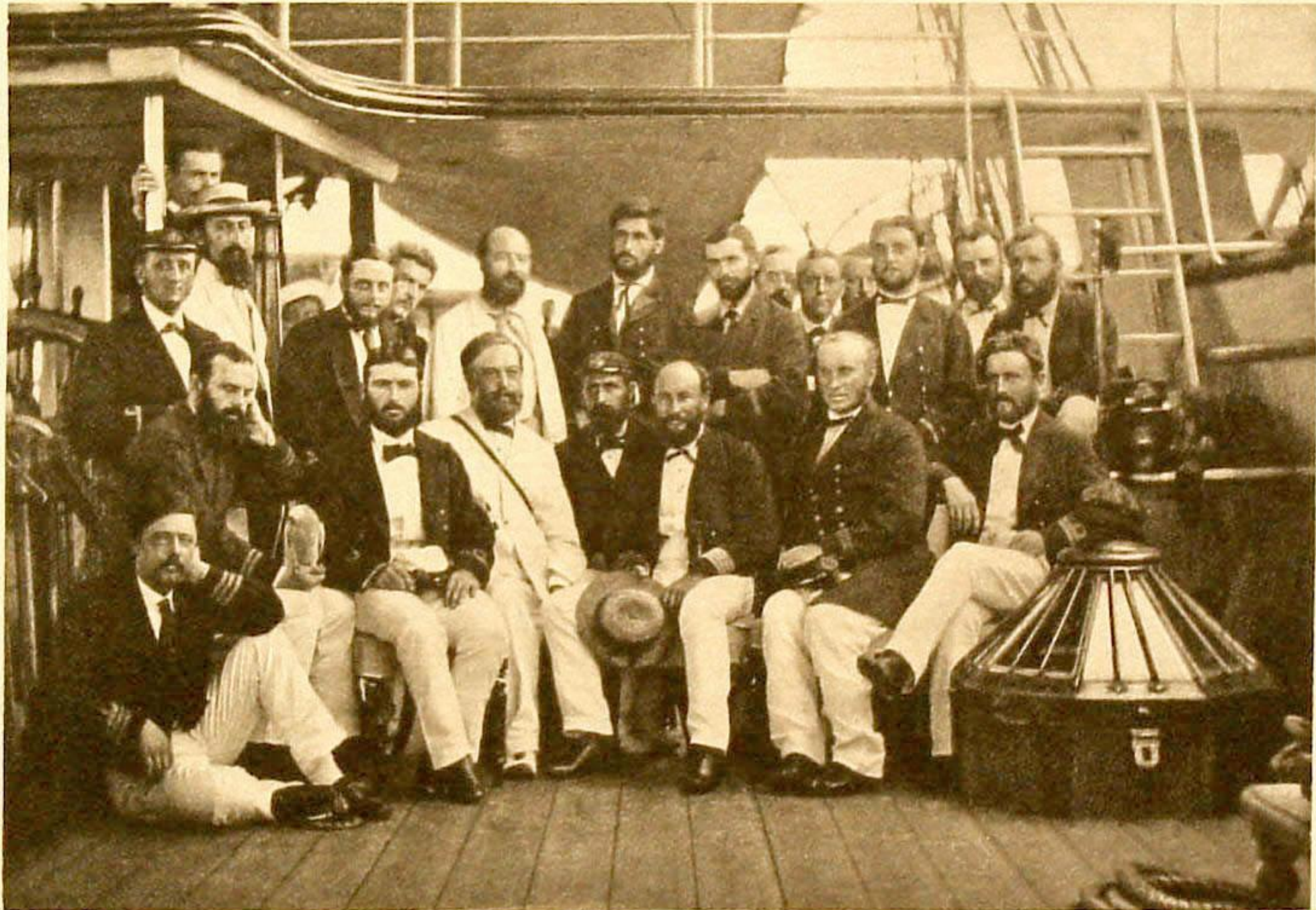
The logo consists of a square with a thick black border. The top half of the square is white, and the bottom half is a solid bright blue. The text "National Oceanography Centre" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font in the bottom-left corner of the blue area.

**National  
Oceanography  
Centre**





*HMS Challenger at the naval base at Bermuda, West Indies, taken by Caleb Newbold (ALB0174)*



*H.M.S. Challenger, October, 1874.*

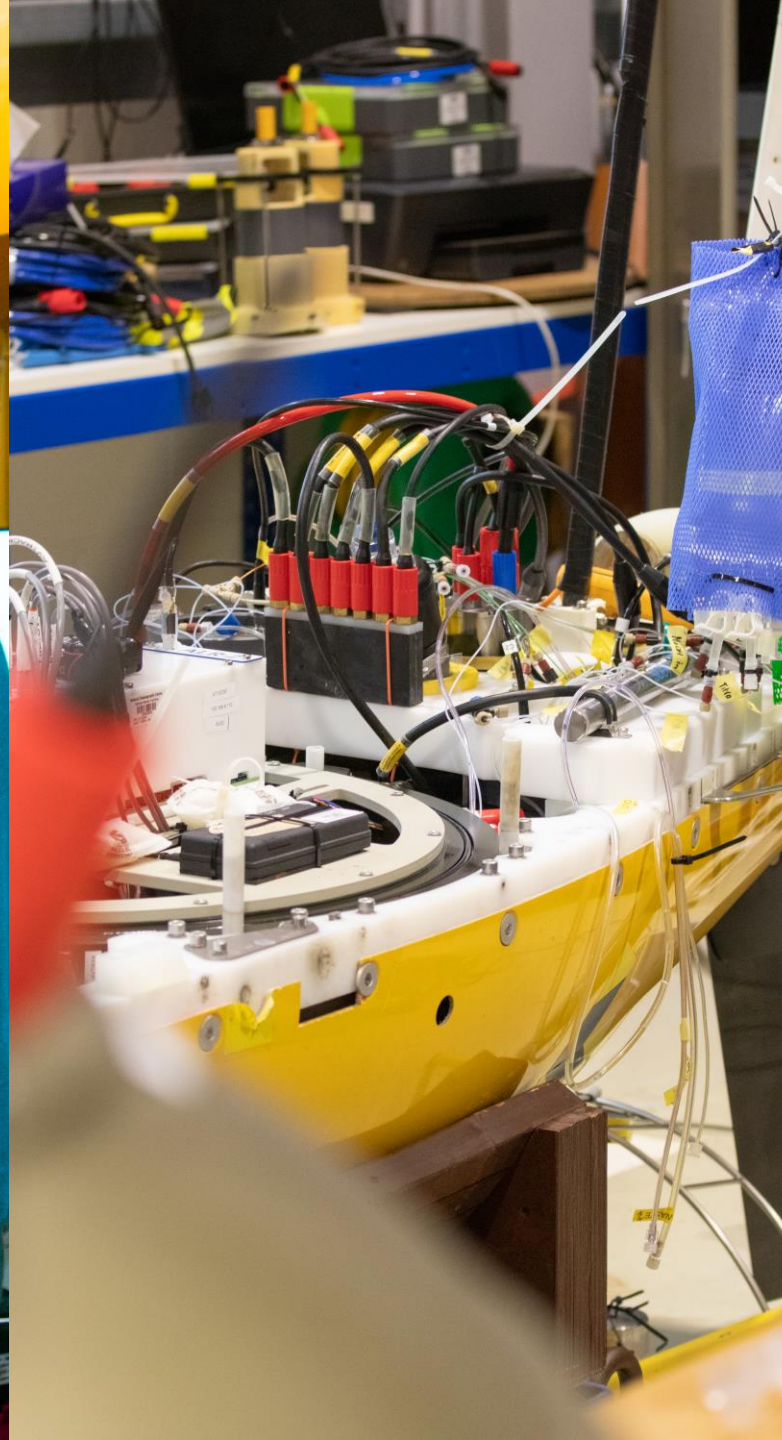


IS THERE LIFE IN THE DEEP OCEAN?

WHAT IS THE SHAPE OF THE SEAFLOOR?

































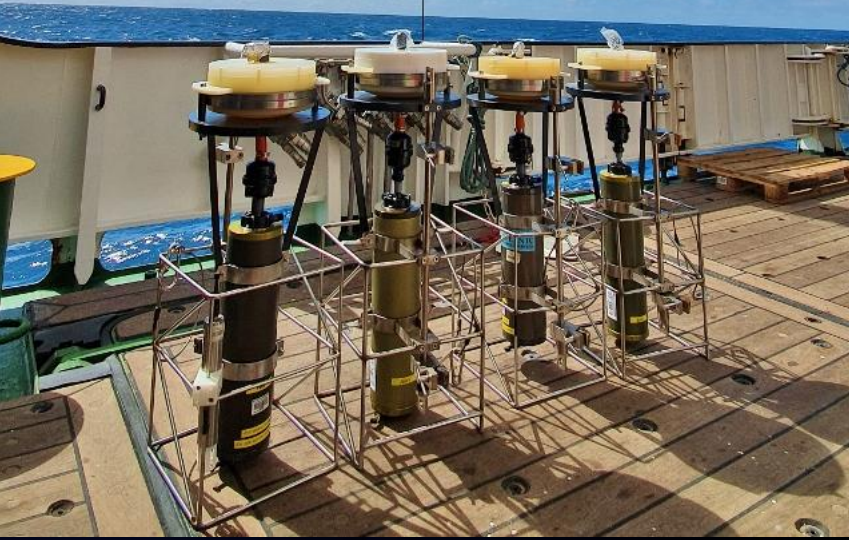


**SO WHAT?**

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR  
UNDERWATER SURVEILLANCE?**

# SENSORS

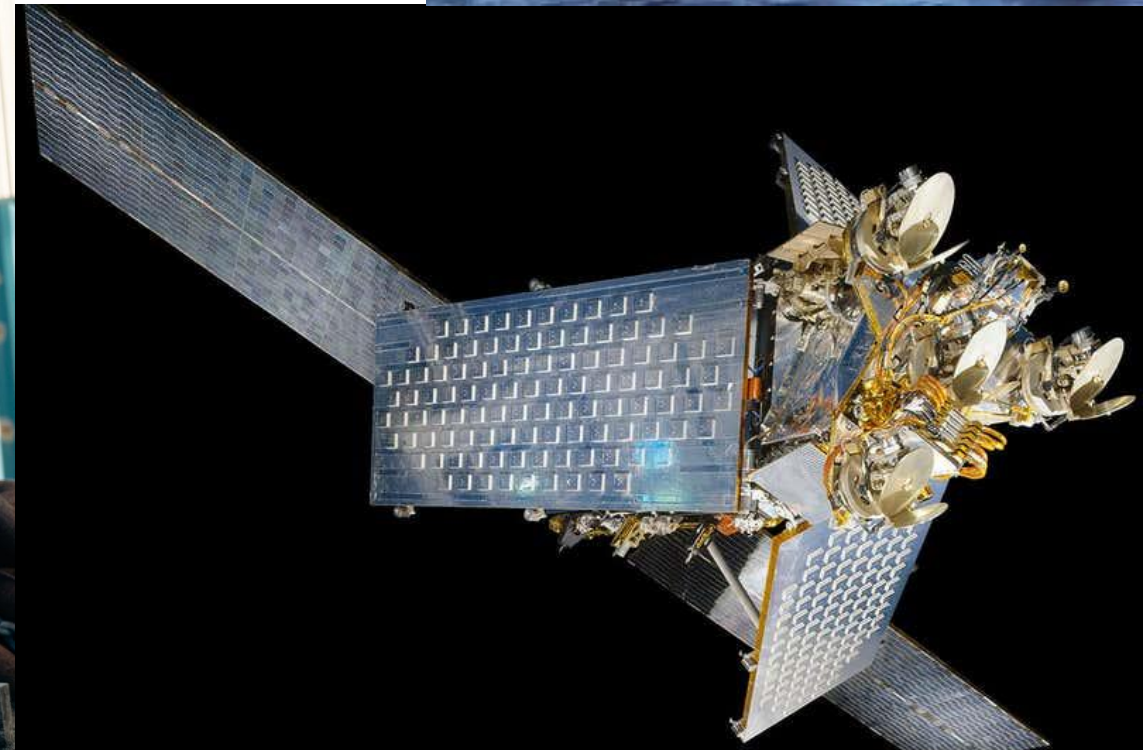
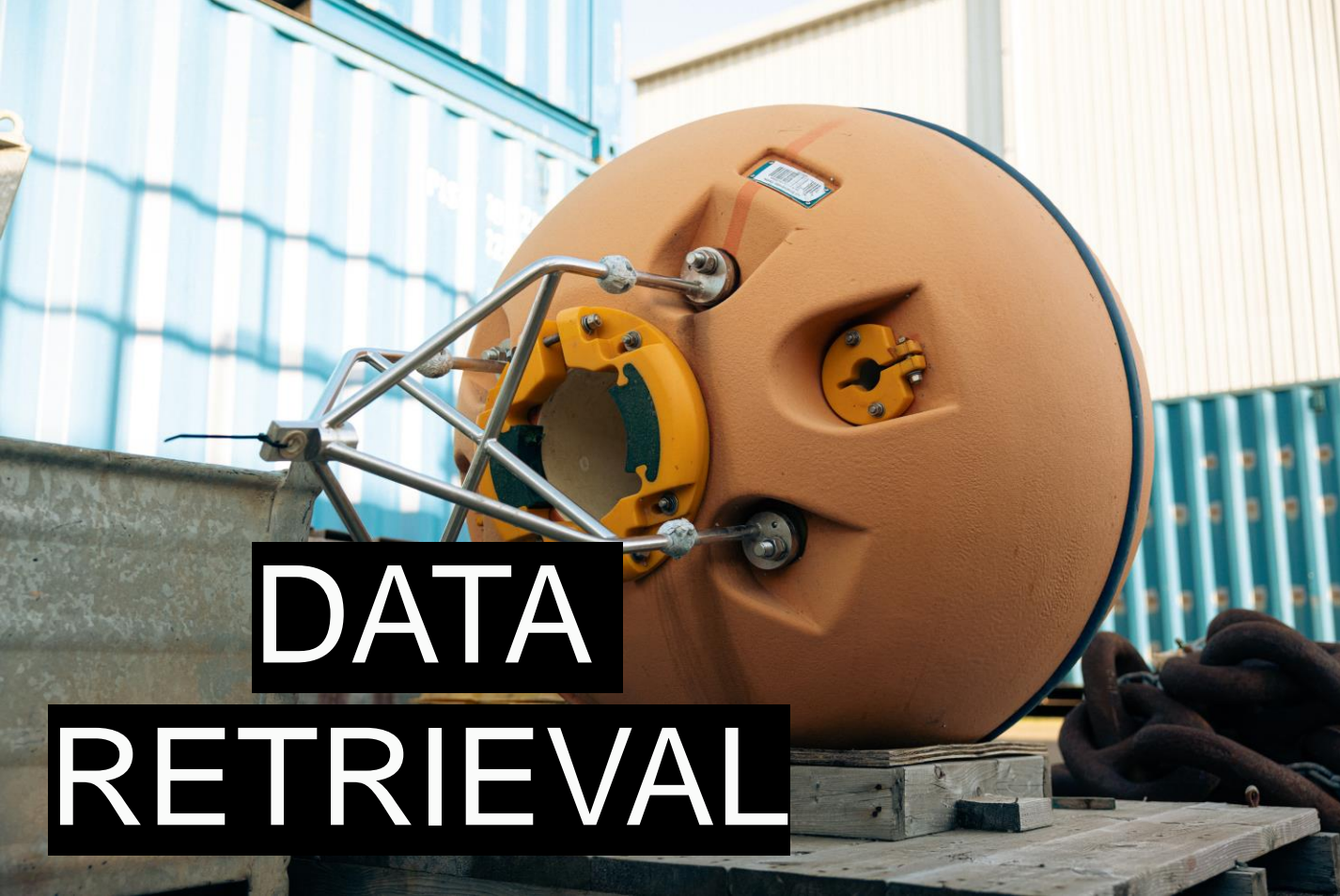




# PLATFORM









SHIP+



# PERMENANT ARRAY

# SHORE LAUNCHED AUTONOMY



# AIR LAUNCHED



# DATA VIA SAT COMMS





# DATA VIA SURFACE EXPRESSION

# North Sea measurements using gliders

A map of the North Sea region, showing the coastlines of the United Kingdom, Norway, and Denmark. The map is overlaid with several colored lines representing glider tracks. Two glider icons are shown: one in the central North Sea (black with a pink wake) and one further east (black with a green and blue wake). The background is a topographic map of the sea floor.

Over 8,600km travelled each year

2 gliders

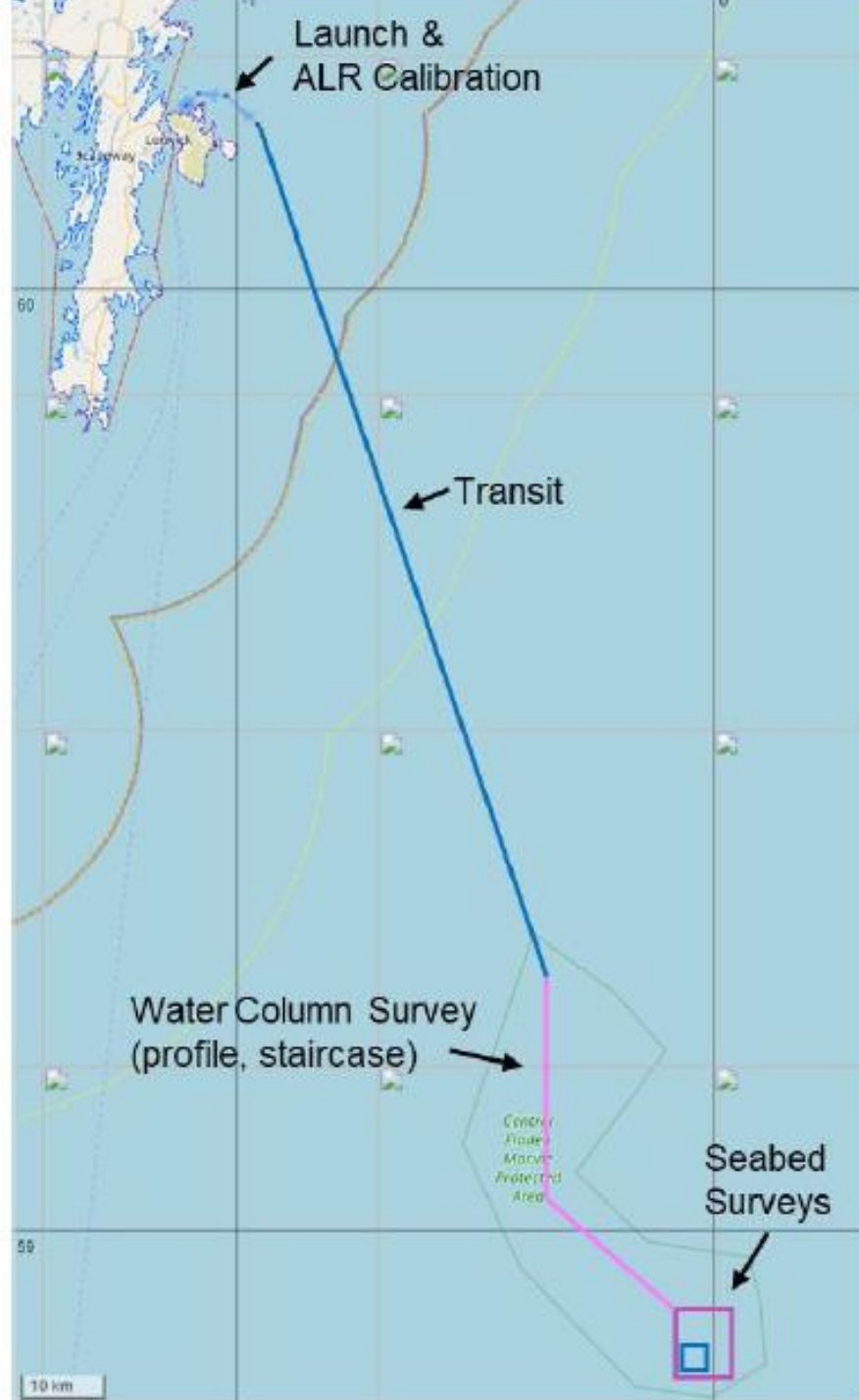
36,480 dives

>41 million data points transferred

Glider to NOC data transfer; 0.98hr average

Glider to end user data transfer; 3.2hr average





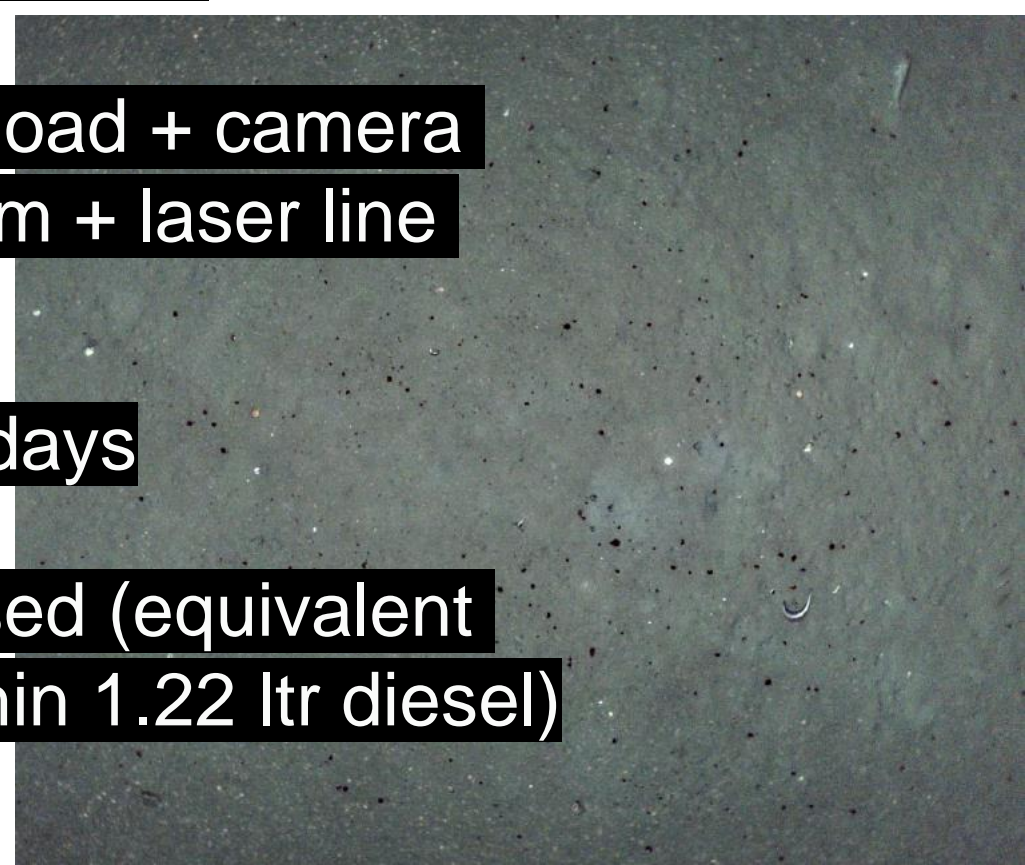
# Targeted survey of a Marine Protected Area

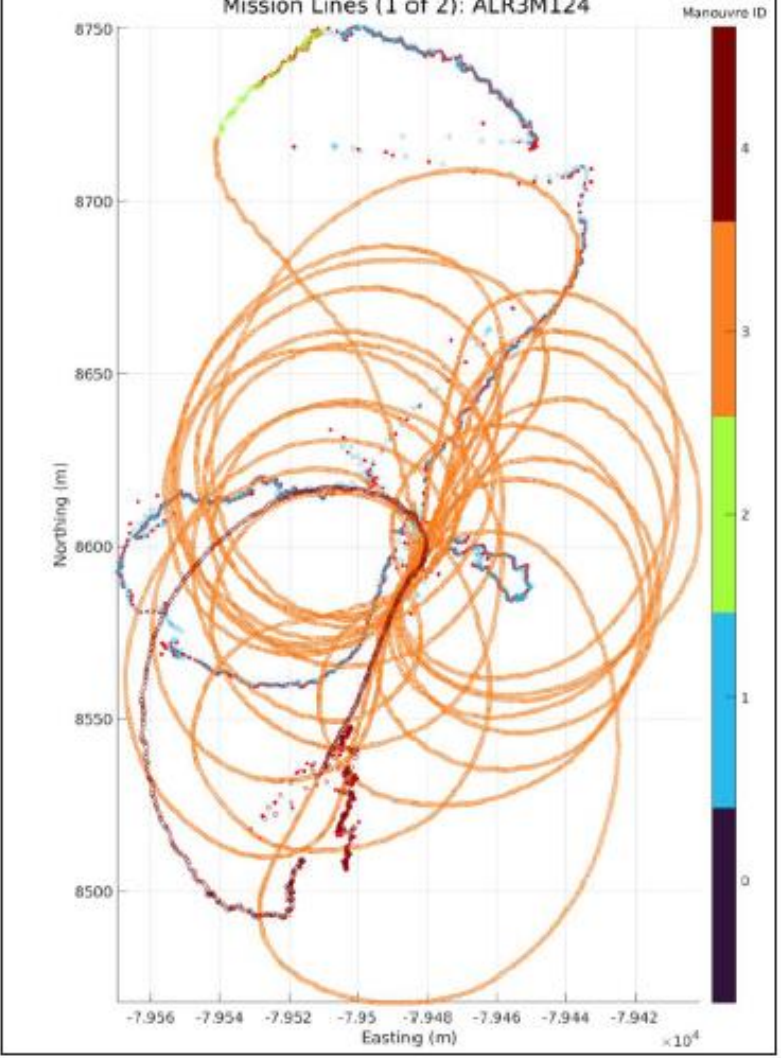
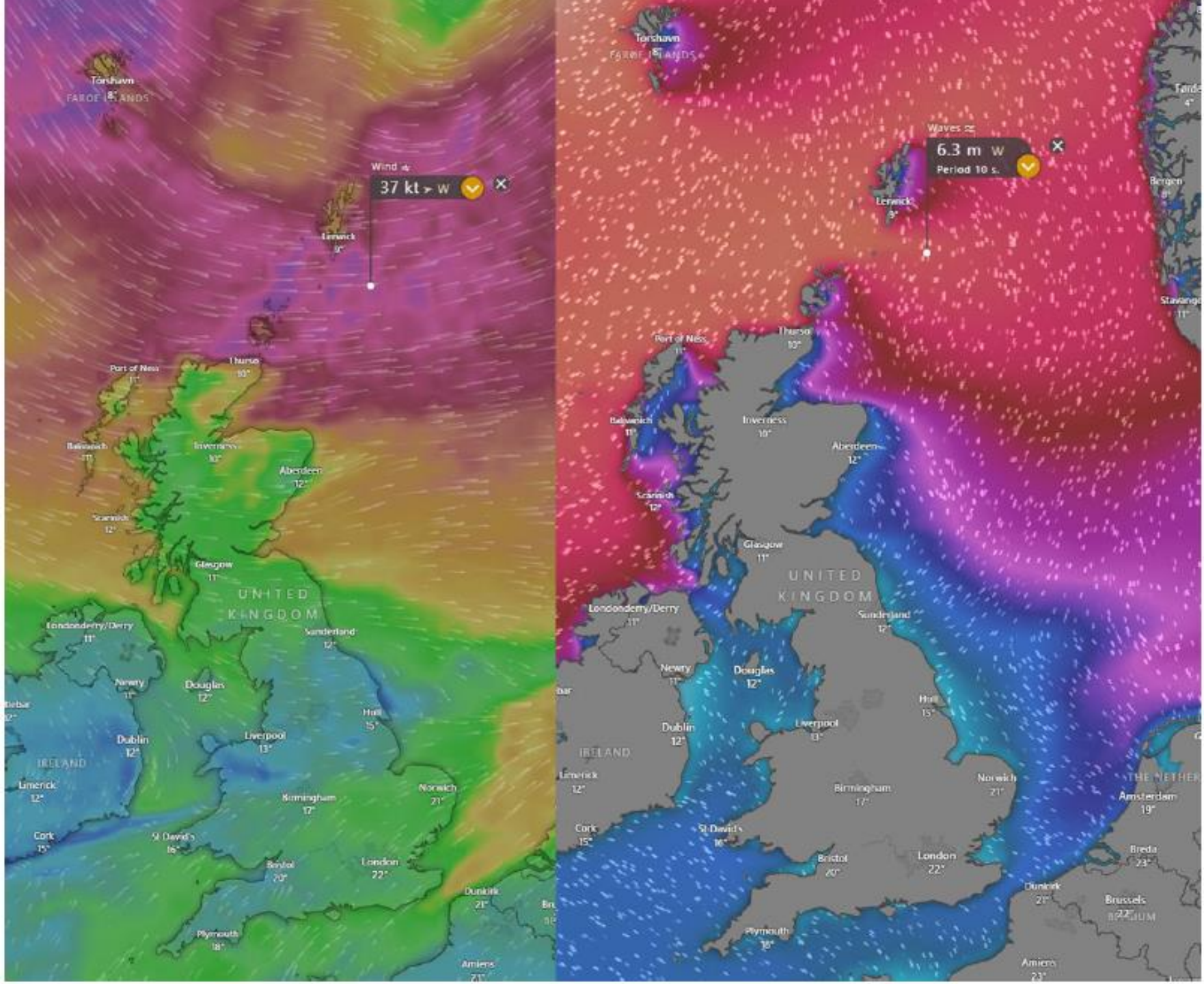
1 x 6,000m rated AUV (12 rechargeable Li Ion 24v)

Mixed sensor payload + camera system (stereo cam + laser line bathymetry)

523km over 10.5 days

13 kWh energy used (equivalent energy stored within 1.22 ltr diesel)





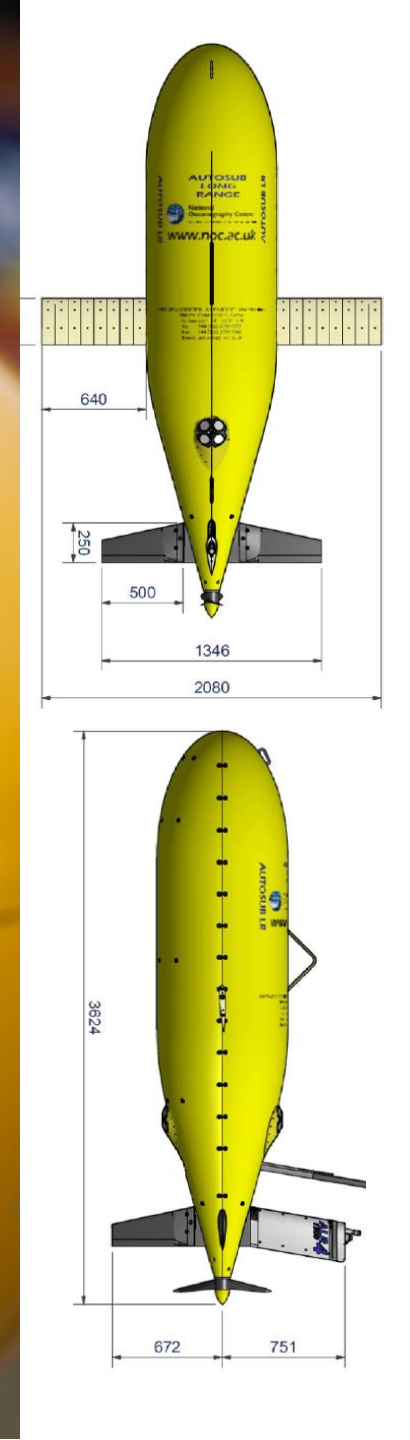
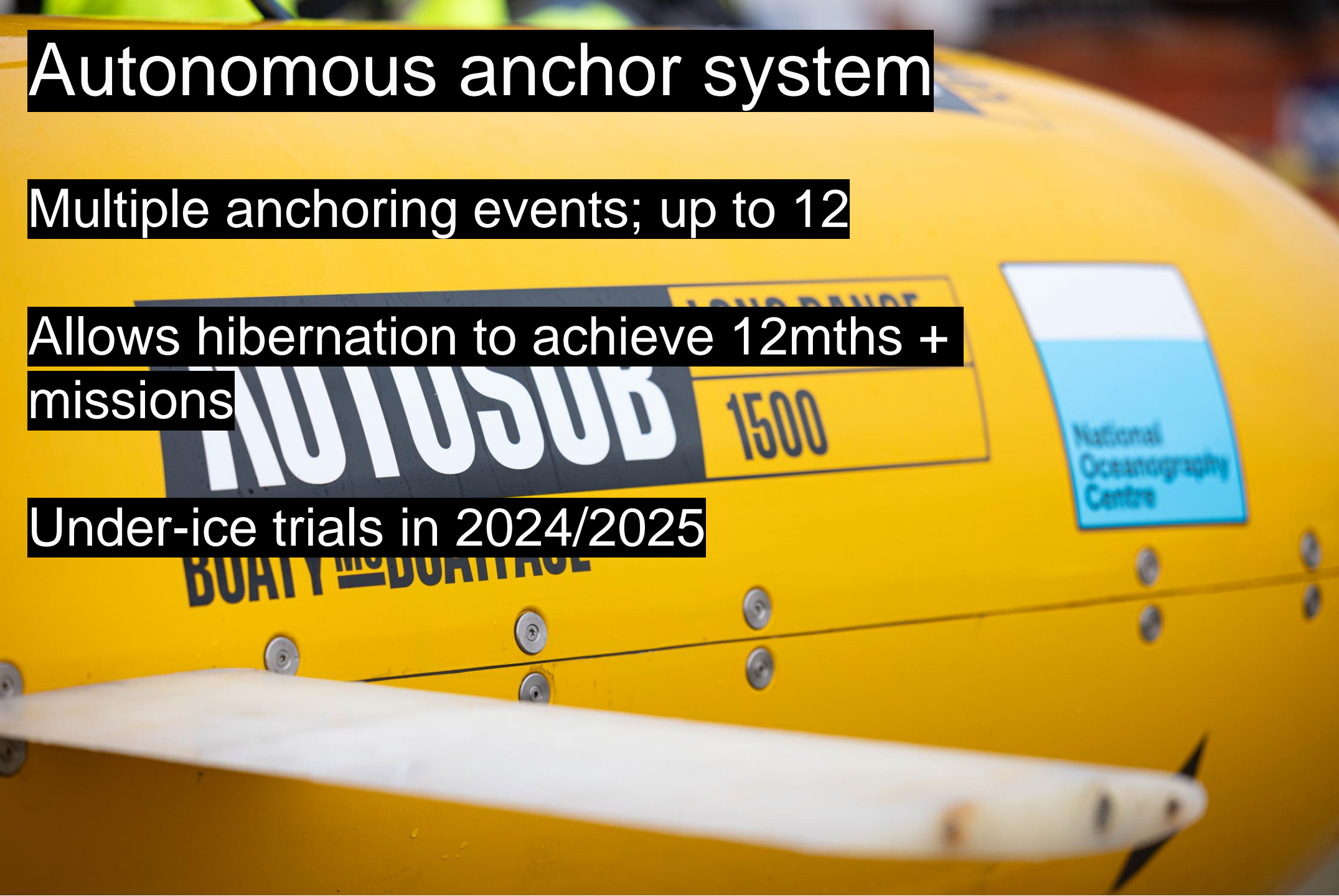
Loiter then recover

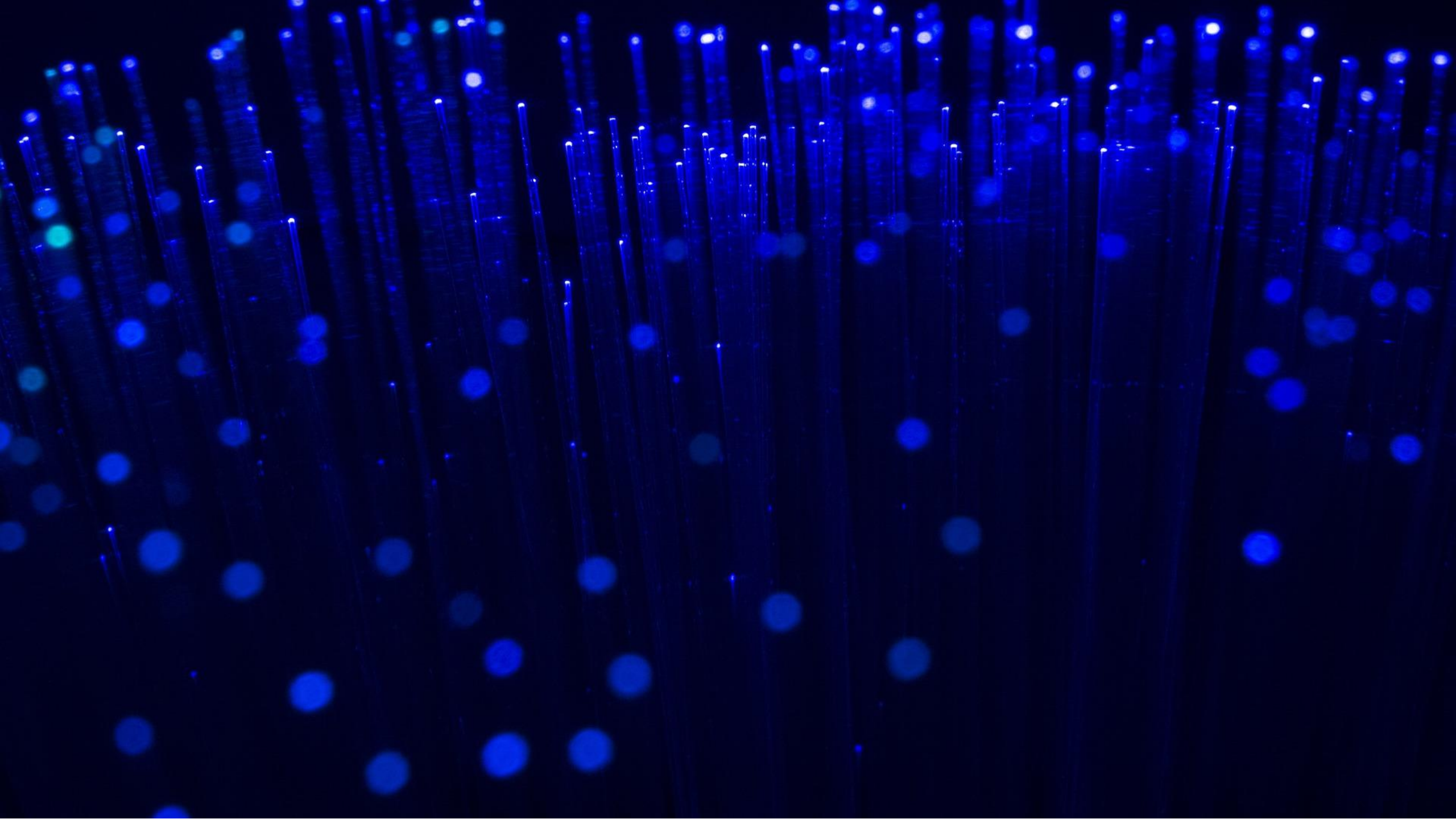
# Autonomous anchor system

Multiple anchoring events; up to 12

Allows hibernation to achieve 12mths + missions

Under-ice trials in 2024/2025







```
function K(){(d.addEventListeners...
    detachEvent("onload",K);var e=...
    for(l in n(l))break;l.ownFirst="...
    border:0;width:0;height:0;...
    (c.style.zoom=1),c.remove...
    c?!1:!b||b!==!0&&a...
    c?!0:"false"===c?!1:"...
    "string"!==typeof b) return e...
    n.camelCase(b),...
```

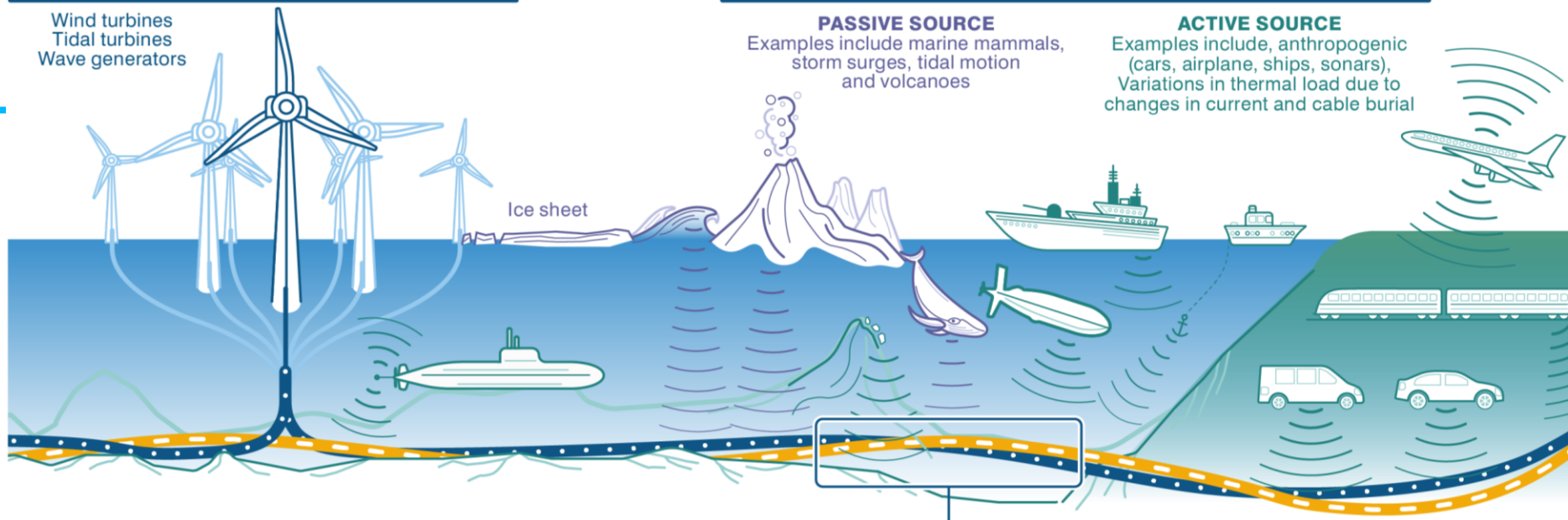


Coherent detection, identification,  
tracking and classification of multiple  
sound sources

Water column, beneath the seafloor, the  
overlying atmosphere

**OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION PLATFORMS WITH OFFSHORE ENERGY CABLES, INTERCONNECTS & TELECOMMUNICATION CABLES**

Wind turbines  
Tidal turbines  
Wave generators



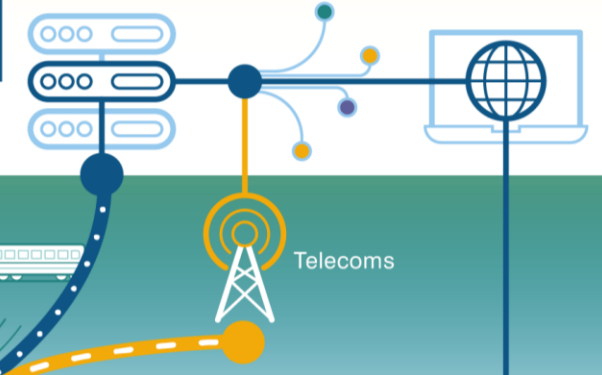
**INTERACTING AMBIENT NOISE WITH CABLES**

**PASSIVE SOURCE**  
Examples include marine mammals, storm surges, tidal motion and volcanoes

**ACTIVE SOURCE**  
Examples include, anthropogenic (cars, airplane, ships, sonars), Variations in thermal load due to changes in current and cable burial

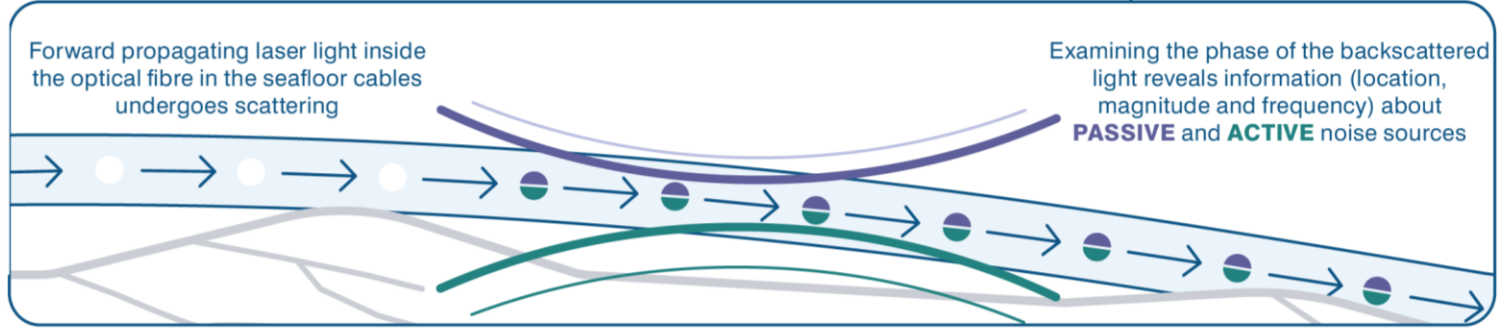
**DATA MANAGEMENT**

Single-ended opto-electronic data acquisition  
Big-data processing  
ML/AI analytics with remote operability

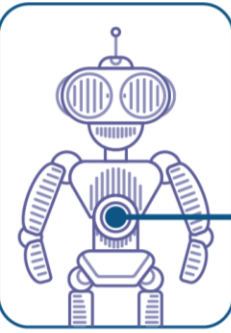


Locate-Track-Forecast noise fields present in and around the cable

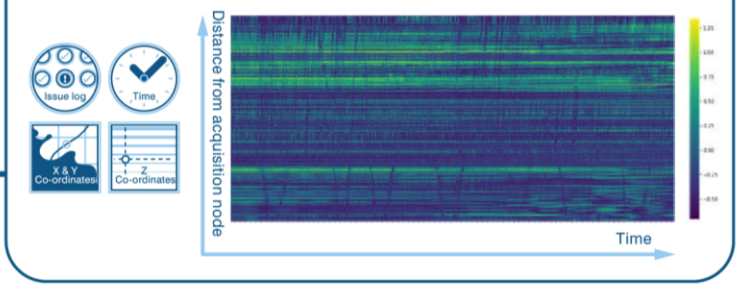
Forward propagating laser light inside the optical fibre in the seafloor cables undergoes scattering



Examining the phase of the backscattered light reveals information (location, magnitude and frequency) about **PASSIVE** and **ACTIVE** noise sources



Distribution of noise fields with corresponding events in cable ambience



**OFFSHORE/TERRESTRIAL CABLES**

**REAL TIME AUGMENTED LARGE SCALE DISTRIBUTED PERCEPTION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

**Distinguish what, where and when activity is occurring along a cable using novel optoelectronic interrogation (OI)**

**OI is embedded with bespoke analytics and big-data processing that combines NOC's world-leading oceanographic expertise with artificial intelligence and machine learning to decipher the important information from the ambient noise**



# THE CABLE+ FUTURE?

Access to a **global Submarine Fibre Optic Cable network**, both on shelf seas and over ocean basins including strategic geopolitical hotspots, shipping routes, harbours and critical infrastructure (e.g. offshore energy and telecoms).

Utilising this network, **remotely accessible, surveillance of the environment and vessels** (surface and submersible) in deep and shallow waters,.

Ability to **detect and track (range, bearing, time) quiet vessels in high noise environments** such as shelf seas (sea states, clutter from environmental and other man-made noise).

**Underwater communications** from submersible vessels close to seafloor cables and **possible two-way communications** between submersible vessels and seafloor cables for command and control, improved underwater navigation or using the cable as a possible 'sound' source (requires seafloor cable power/gateway/repeater integration)

**Ocean environmental data collection** for real-time tactical awareness (local information on changing water column acoustic structures, seafloor topography and acoustic properties, sea-ice thickness and extent, sea surface state).

UK Home and UK Overseas Territories **territorial waters policing** (for example monitoring and tracking illegal fishing and smuggling activities).

**Airborne threat early warning systems** using energy (eg. wind farm) assets.

Underwater **test explosion monitoring**, and surveillance of long-range seismic monitoring activities



# THE CABLE+ FUTURE?

Access to an unrivalled global surveillance network, both on shelf seas and over ocean basins including strategic geopolitical hotspots.

Possible two-way communications between submersible vessels and seafloor cables for command and control, improved underwater navigation, use of cable as a possible 'sound' source e.g. for decoys.

A truly autonomous monitoring and surveillance ecosystem that can be rapidly scaled and could unlock a communication link that is faster than conventional methods

Ability to detect and track (range, bearing, time) quiet vessels in high noise environments such as shelf seas (sea states, clutter from environmental and other man-made noise).

Airborne threat early warning systems using wind farm assets.

Covert, real-time, underwater communications from submersible vessels close to seafloor cables.

Underwater nuclear test explosion monitoring.



“Worlds Beneath the Waves” unveiled at the National Museum of the Royal Navy