

# Underwater targets detection and classification Using Enhanced EMI models

*Fridon Shubitidze*  
Thayer School of Engineering,  
Dartmouth College,  
Hanover, NH, 03755  
[Fridon.Shubitidze@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Fridon.Shubitidze@Dartmouth.edu)

*Irma Shamatava*  
White River Technologies,  
Dartmouth College,  
Lebanon, NH, 03766  
[Shamatava@Whiterivertech.com](mailto:Shamatava@Whiterivertech.com)

Benjamin E. Barrowes  
USA Army ERDC  
Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory  
[Benjamin.E.Barrowes@erdcdren.mil](mailto:Benjamin.E.Barrowes@erdcdren.mil)



# Problem Statement

- Remediation and Detection of underwater UXO targets are more expensive than excavating the same targets on land
- Advanced EMI sensors and models have provided excellent classification performance for detecting and classifying subsurface metallic targets on land

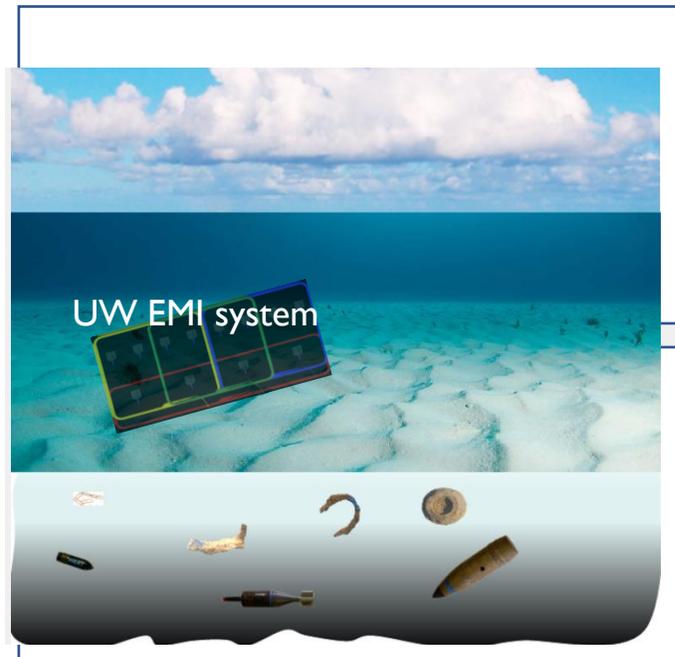


**There are needs to develop better EMI models and systems to:**

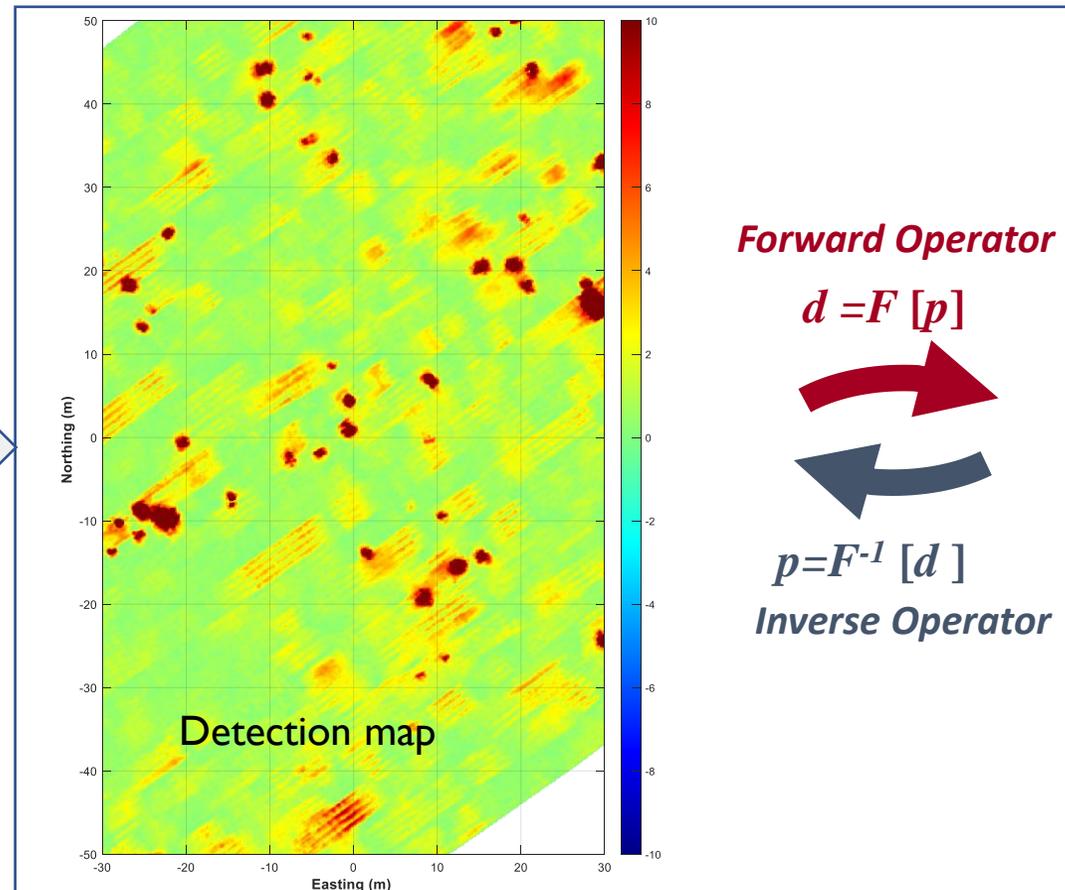
- Enhance EMI systems and signal processing approaches for UW targets detection and classification

# UXO classification workflow

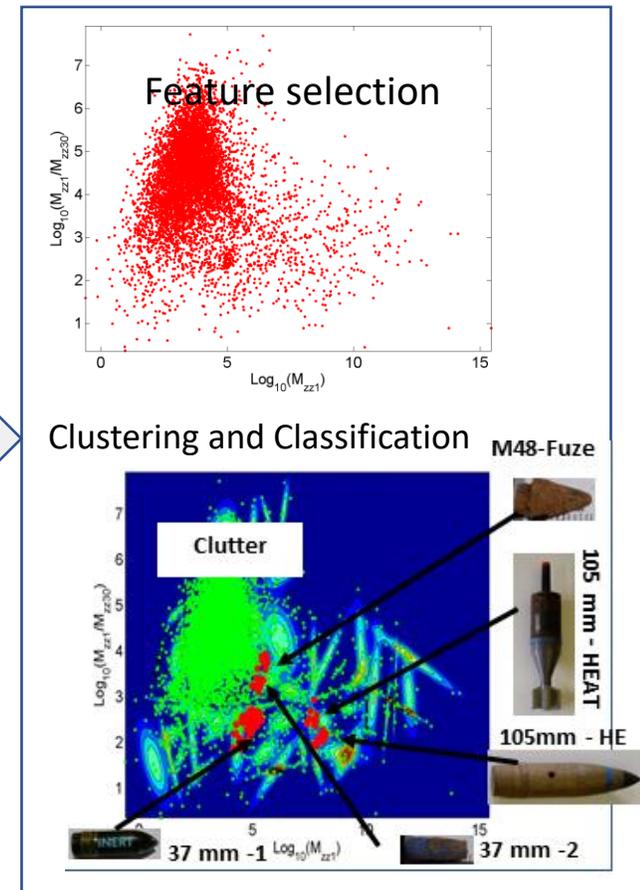
## I. Data Acquisition



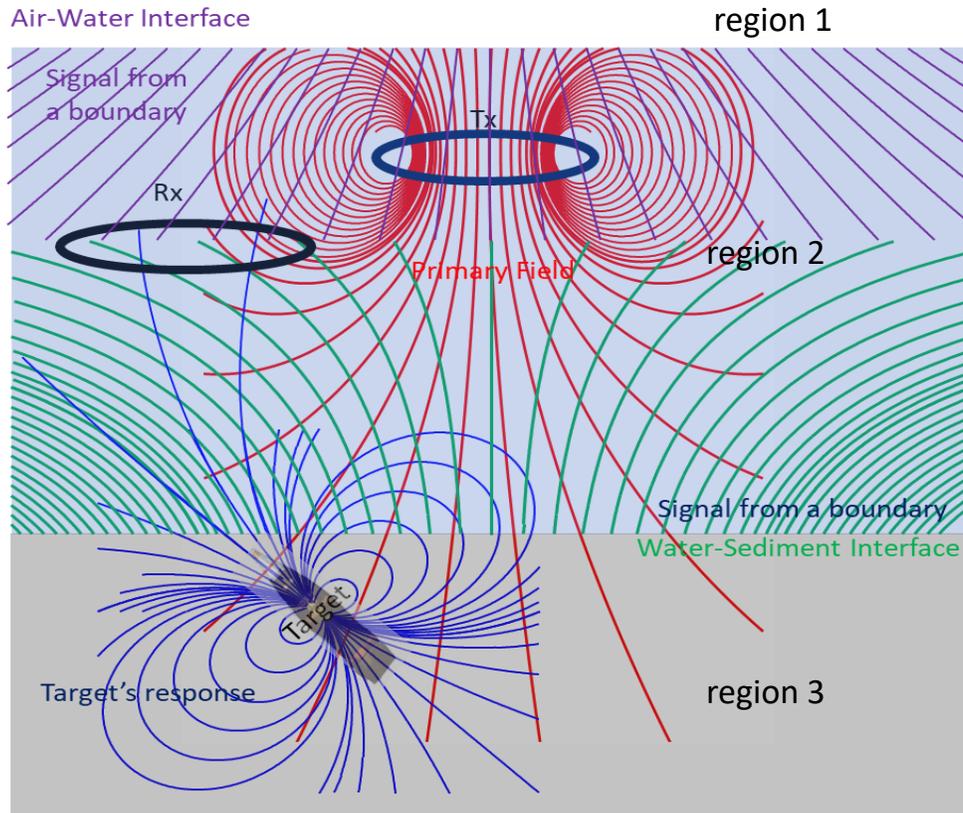
## 2. Data Inversion



## 3. Decision



# UW EMI sensing



- The primary electromagnetic fields induce currents in conducting media
- The total field in region 2 is sum of fields produced by a Tx coil (response from water), reflected fields from Boundaries and fields from a target
- The fields in region 1 are transmitted fields
- The total field in region 3 is sum of transmitted fields and response from a target

# Enhanced models

## Time harmonic response

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_o \frac{e^{-ikR}}{4\pi R^3} \left[ \left( \frac{3\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{m})}{R^2} - \mathbf{m} \right) (1 + ikR) - k^2 (\mathbf{R} \times (\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{m})) \right];$$

$$k = \sqrt{\omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon_o \epsilon \mu + i\sigma\omega\mu\mu_o}; \text{ for low frequency induction } k = \sqrt{i\sigma\omega\mu\mu_o}$$

Using the inverse Laplace Transform

$$\mathbf{B}(t) = L^{-1} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{B}(s)}{s} \right]; \quad s = i\omega$$

## Transient responses

The magnetic field in marine environment

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t) = \int_0^t \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}_{step}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t - \tau) \cdot \mathbf{m}(\tau) d\tau$$

The magnetic field in terrestrial environment

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t) = \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t = 0) \cdot \mathbf{m}(t)$$

**Induced *emf* (voltage)** in the receiver coil is the time derivative of the magnetic field

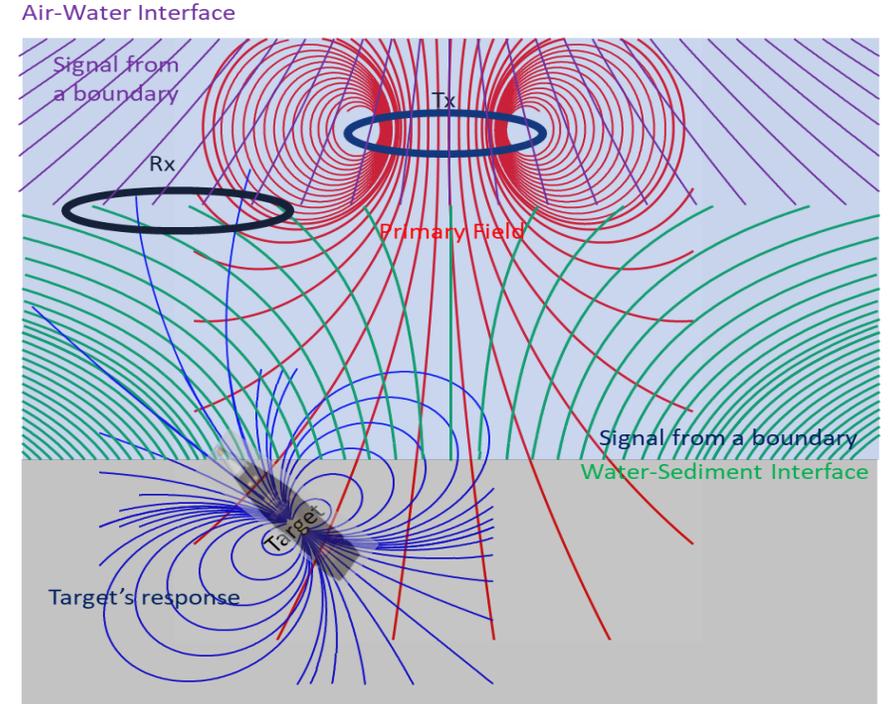
$$V(t) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t)}{\partial t} \approx \sum \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t = 0) \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t)}{\partial t} \cdot \mathbf{m}(t=0)$$

**Old model:**

Voltage due to the time derivative of magnetic dipole

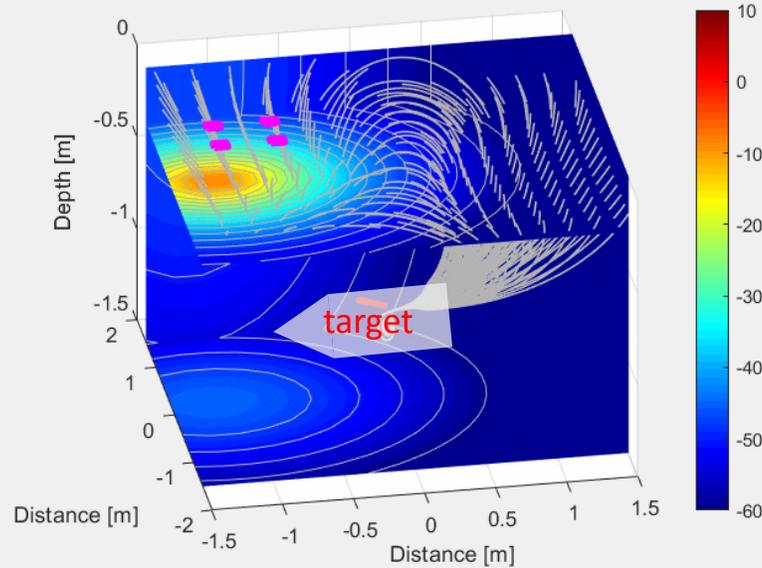
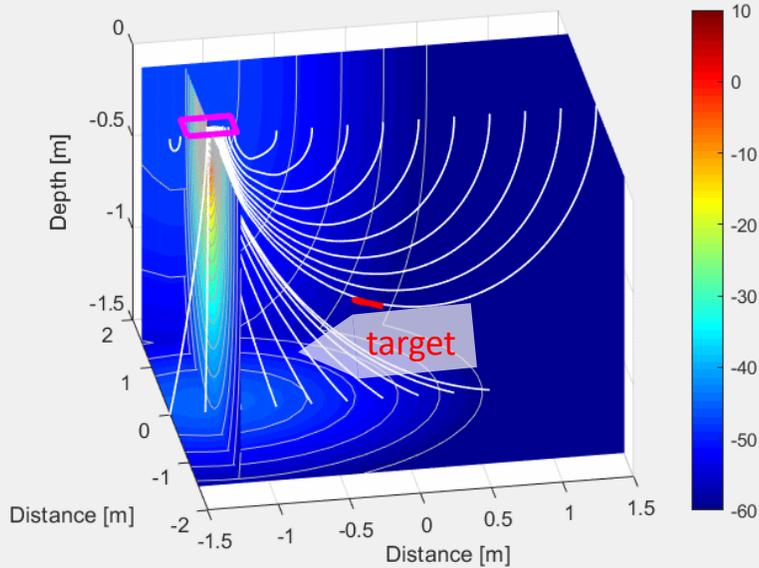
**Complete model:**

Voltage due to both the magnetic dipole and its time derivative



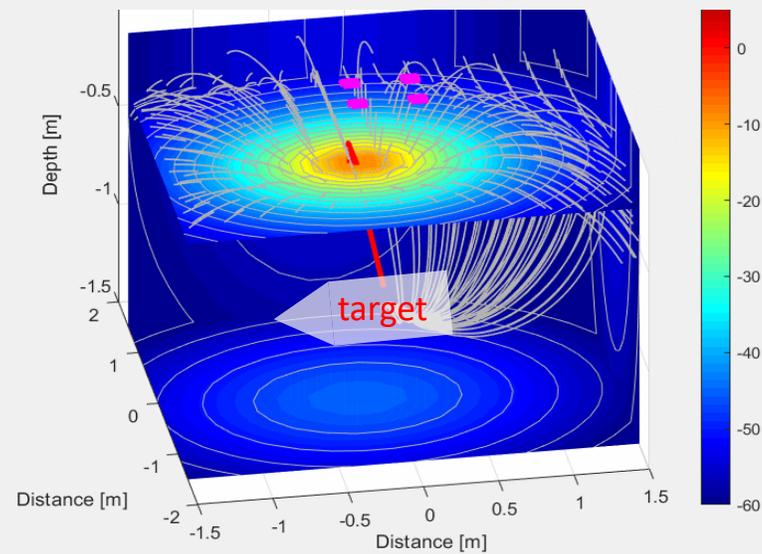
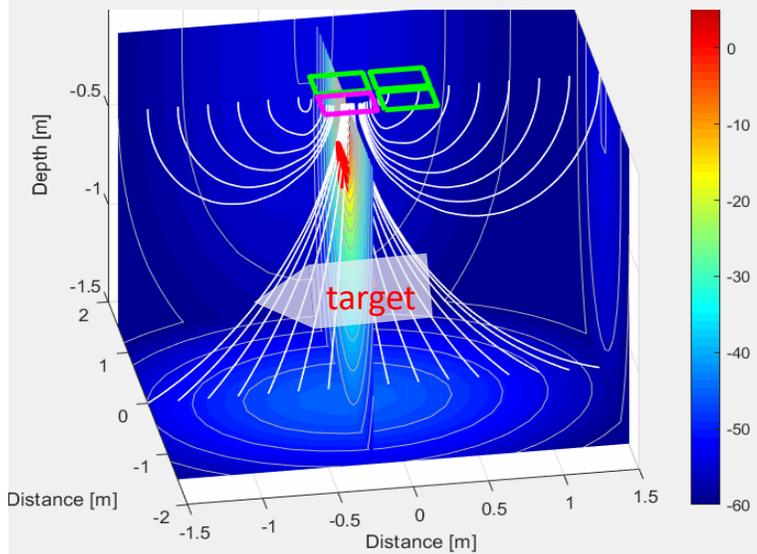
# Dynamic and Cued Data Collection

Dynamic data collection



- Covers large areas;
- Provides very dense data;
- Illuminates targets from multiple points.
- Data are NOT stacked

Cued data collection

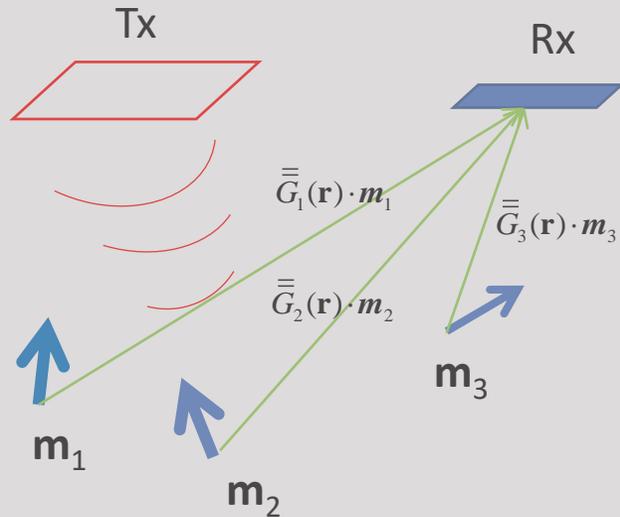


- Provides high quality data for classification
- Very slow process  $\sim 1.5$  min/per anomaly
- Data stacked

# Forward Models

## Standard model

Magnetic dipole model



The scattered EMI field is approximated as superposition of magnetic fields **from each individual dipole**, using the dyadic Green's function:

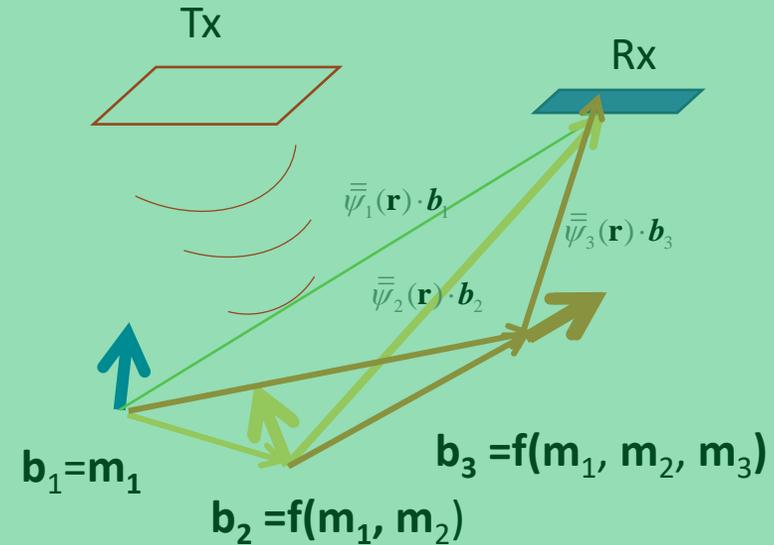
$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}_i(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{m}_i$$

where

$$\bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}_i(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi R_i^3} \left( 3\vec{\mathbf{R}}_i \vec{\mathbf{R}}_i - \bar{\mathbf{I}} \right); \quad \vec{\mathbf{R}}_i = \mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}$$

## Advanced model

Orthonormalized Volume Magnetic Source (ONVMS) model



The scattered EMI field is approximated as magnetic field from **groups of interacting dipoles** using an ortho-normalized function expansion:

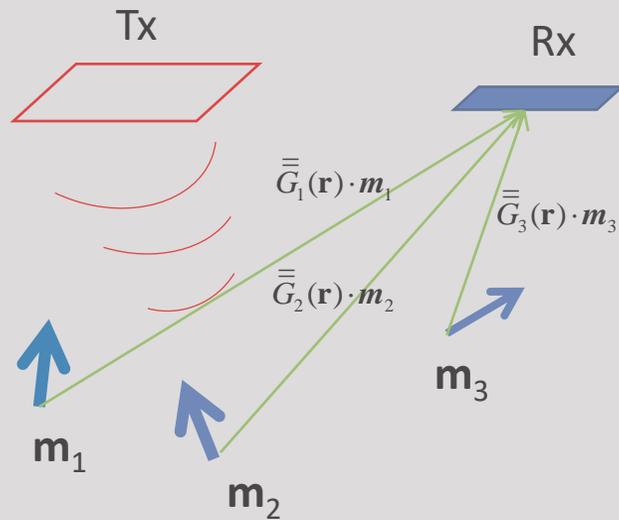
$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{q=1}^Q \bar{\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}}_q(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{b}_q,$$

where  $\bar{\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}}_q(\mathbf{r}) = \bar{\bar{\mathbf{G}}}_q(\mathbf{r}) - \sum_{k=1}^{q-1} \bar{\bar{\boldsymbol{\psi}}}_k(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \bar{\bar{\mathbf{A}}}_{qk};$

# Forward Models

## Standard model

### Magnetic dipole mode

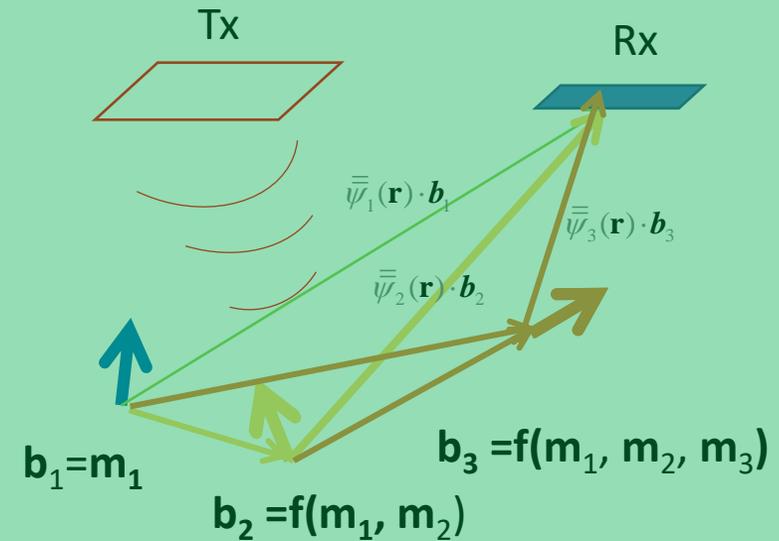


- $m_i$  are determined from the measured data **by solving** a linear system of equations.

- Uses **individual dipole polarizabilities** for classification

## Advanced model

### Orthonormalized Volume Magnetic Source (ONVMS) model



- First it determines  $b_q$  from the measured data **without solving** a linear system of equations, then it backs out  $m_i$

- Uses **total ONVMS/effective polarizabilities** for classification

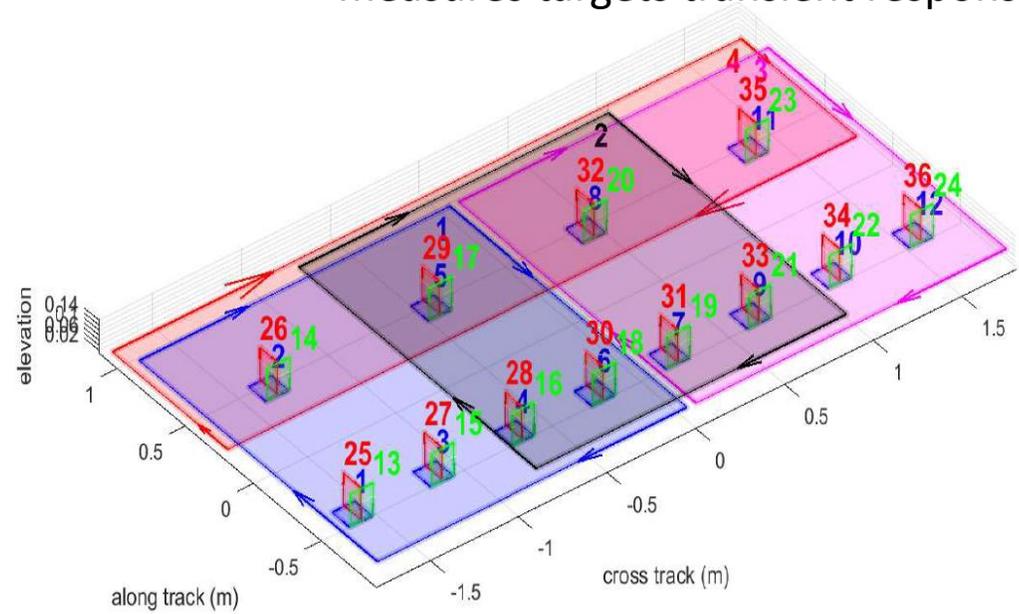
# UW ULTRATEMA



## System has:

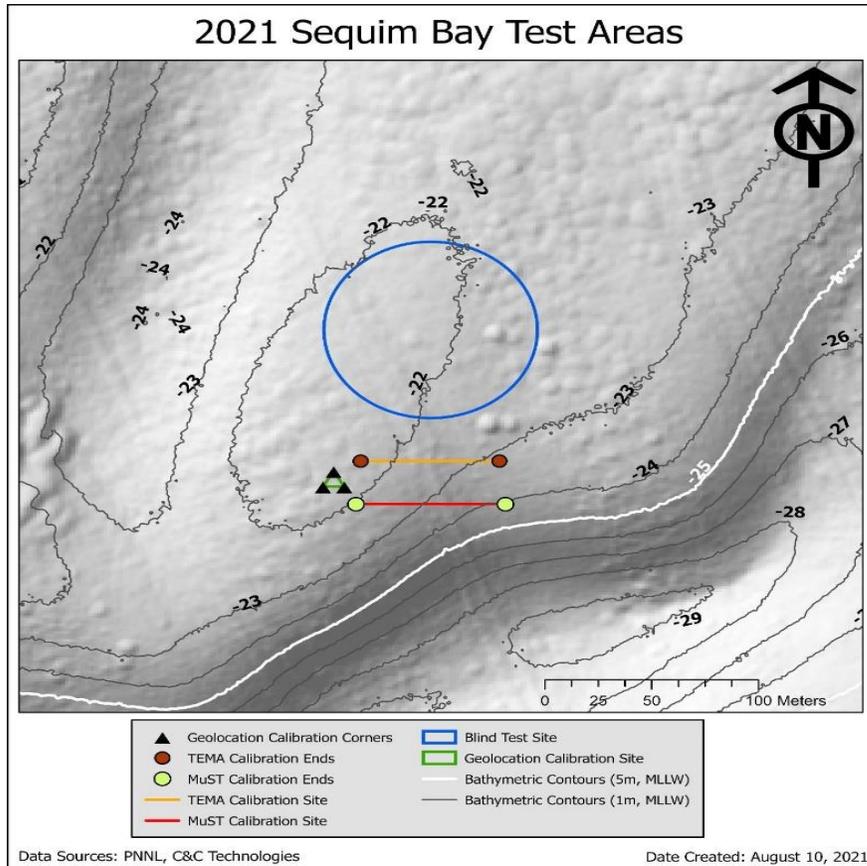
- Four (4) Tx coils
- Twelve (12) vector receivers

And operates in dynamic model and measures targets transient responses .

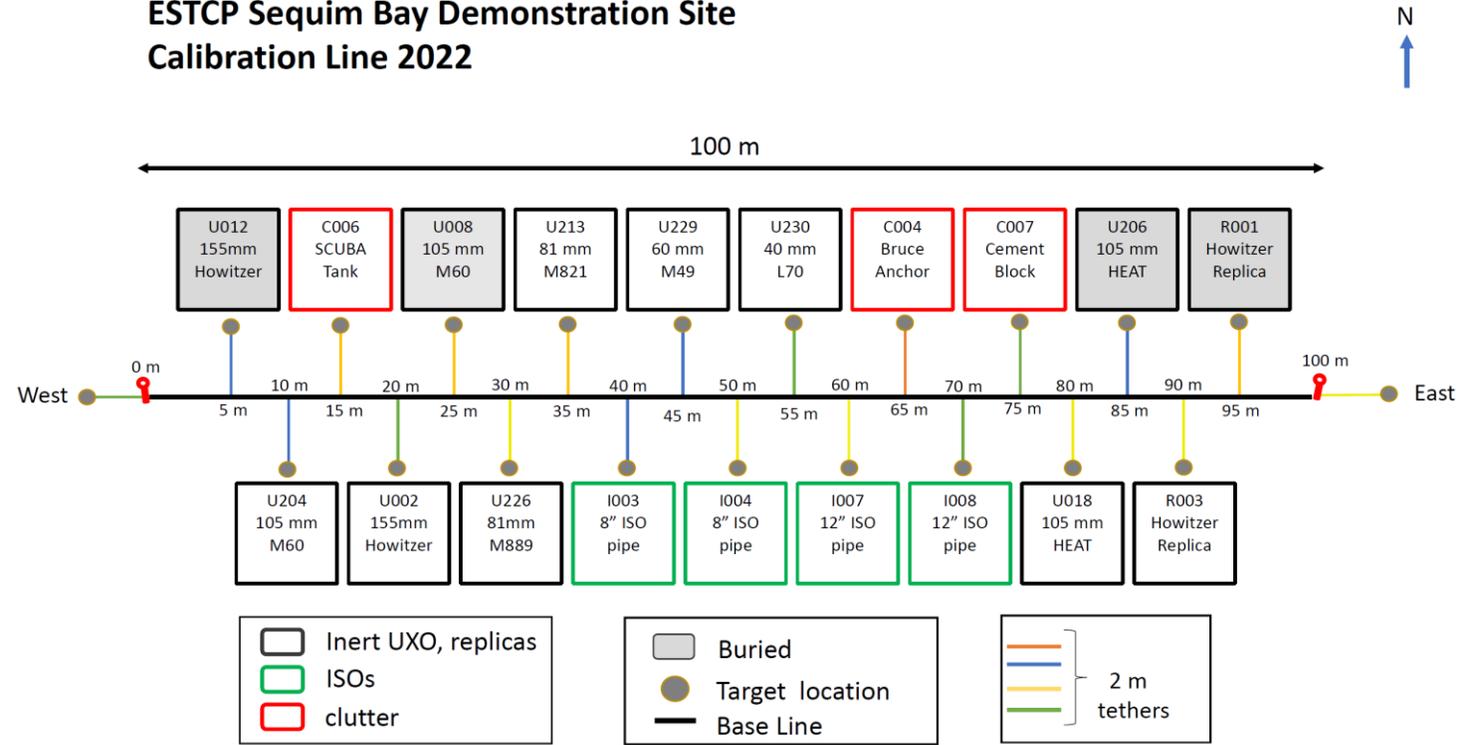


# Combine enhanced forward and inverse EMI models for UW data processing

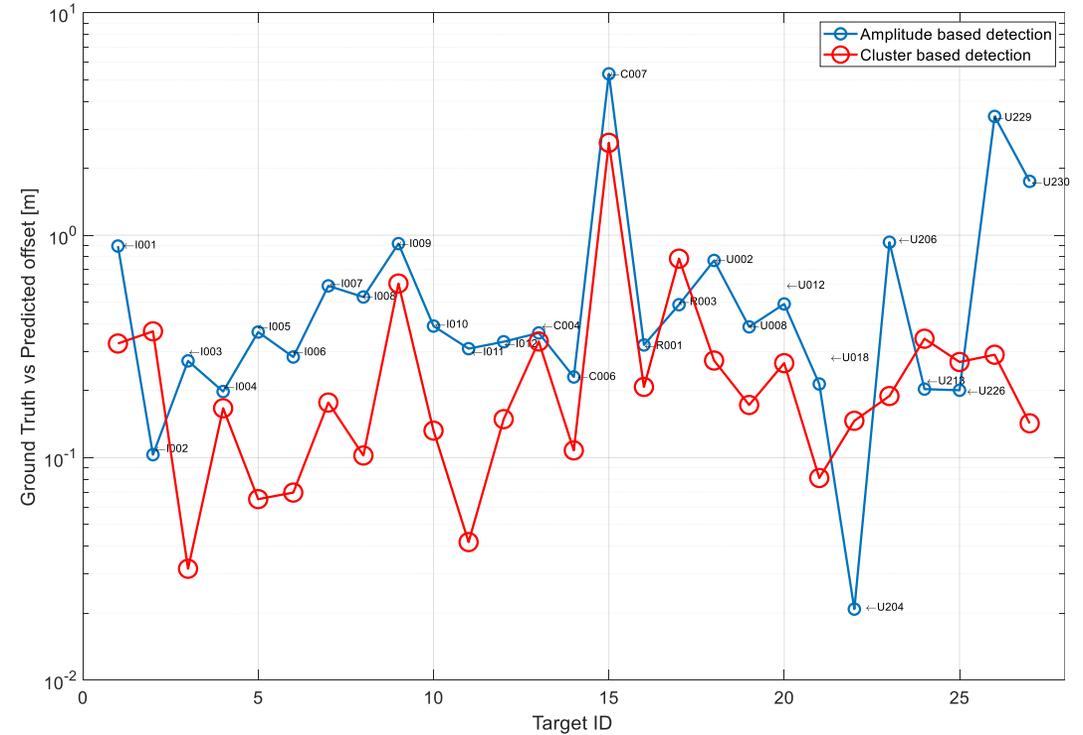
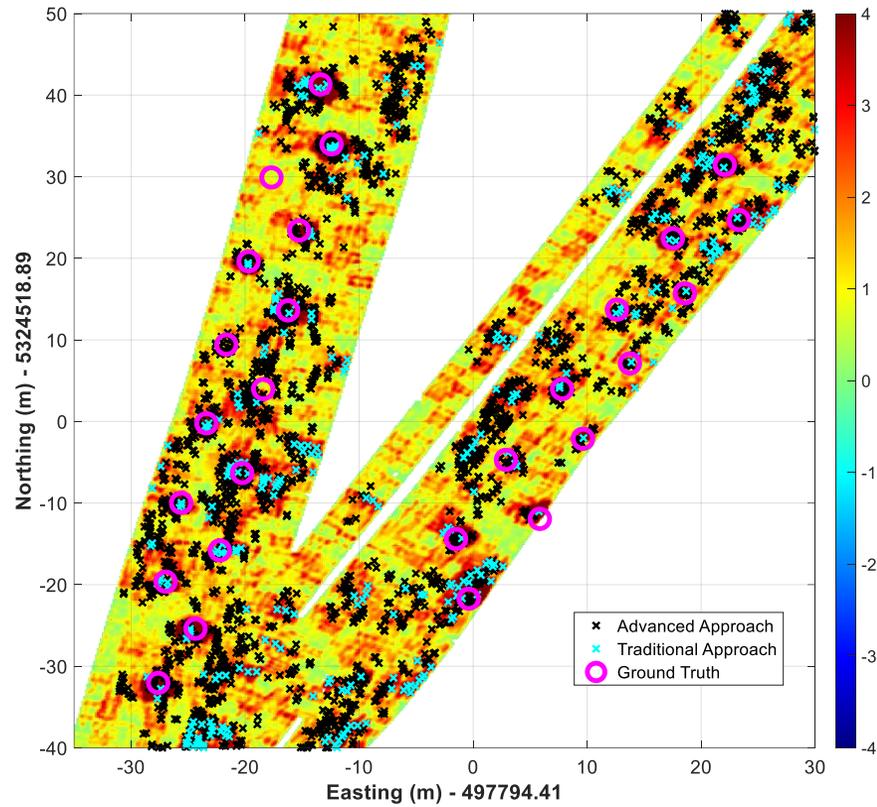
## 2021 Sequim Bay



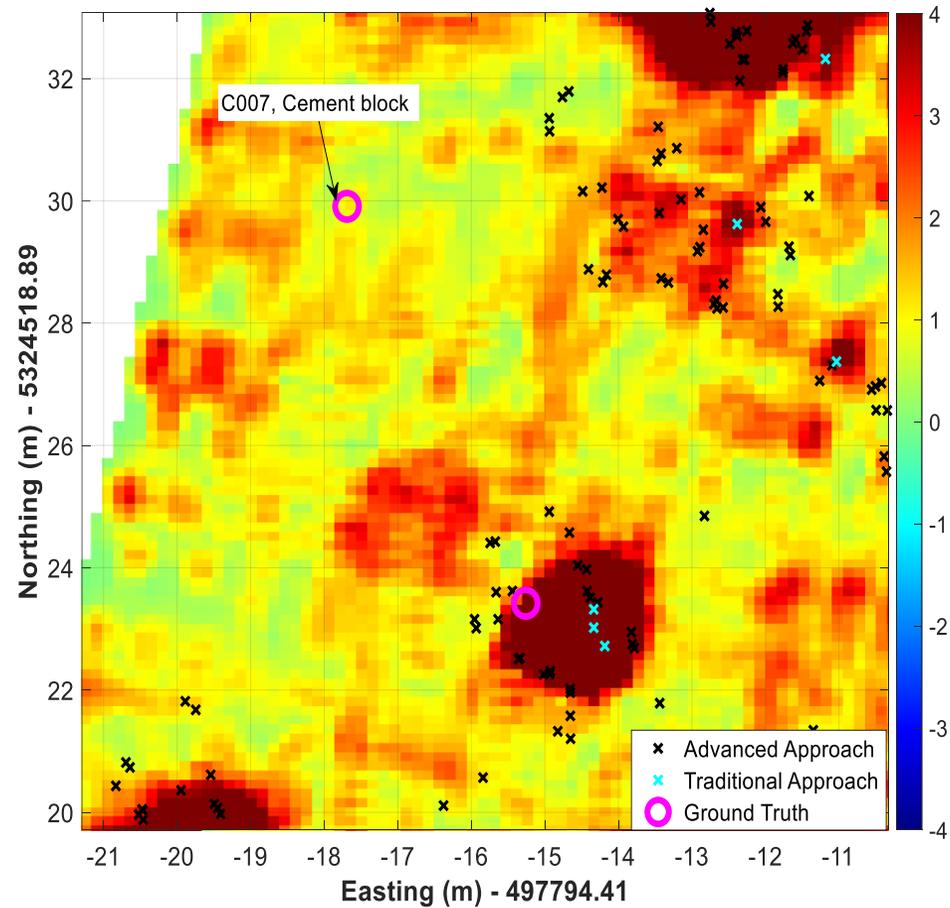
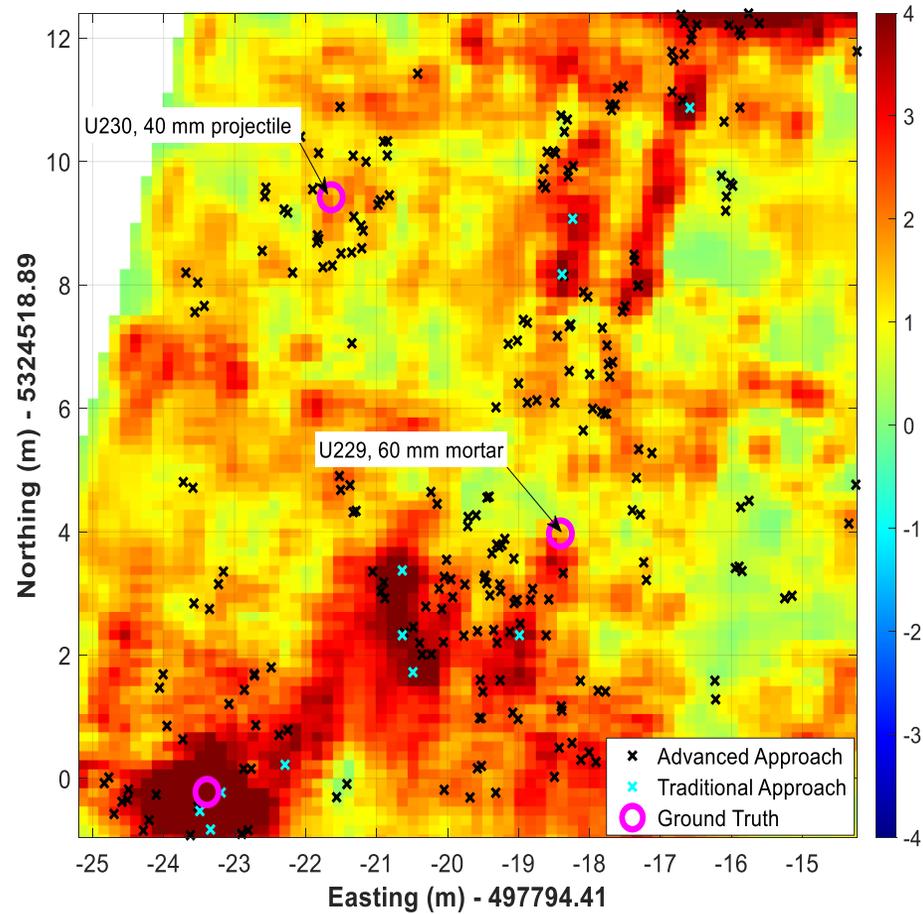
## ESTCP Sequim Bay Demonstration Site Calibration Line 2022



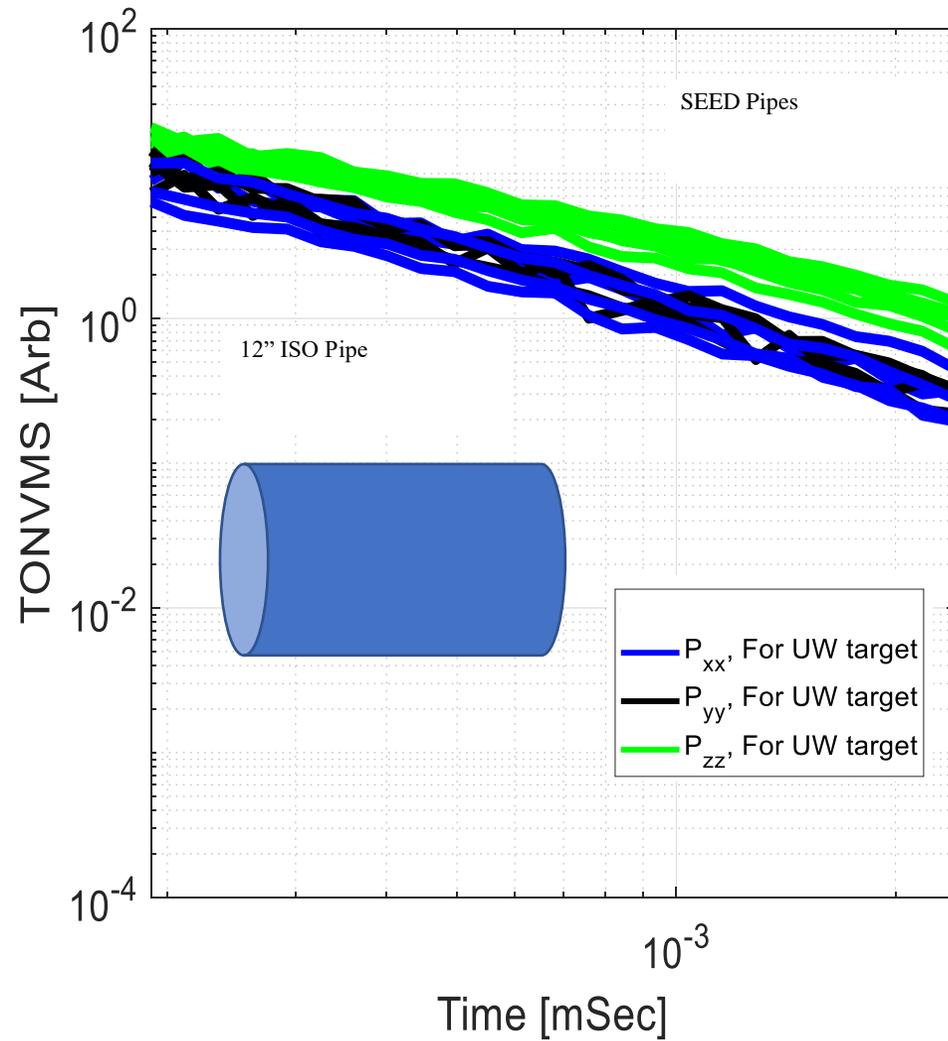
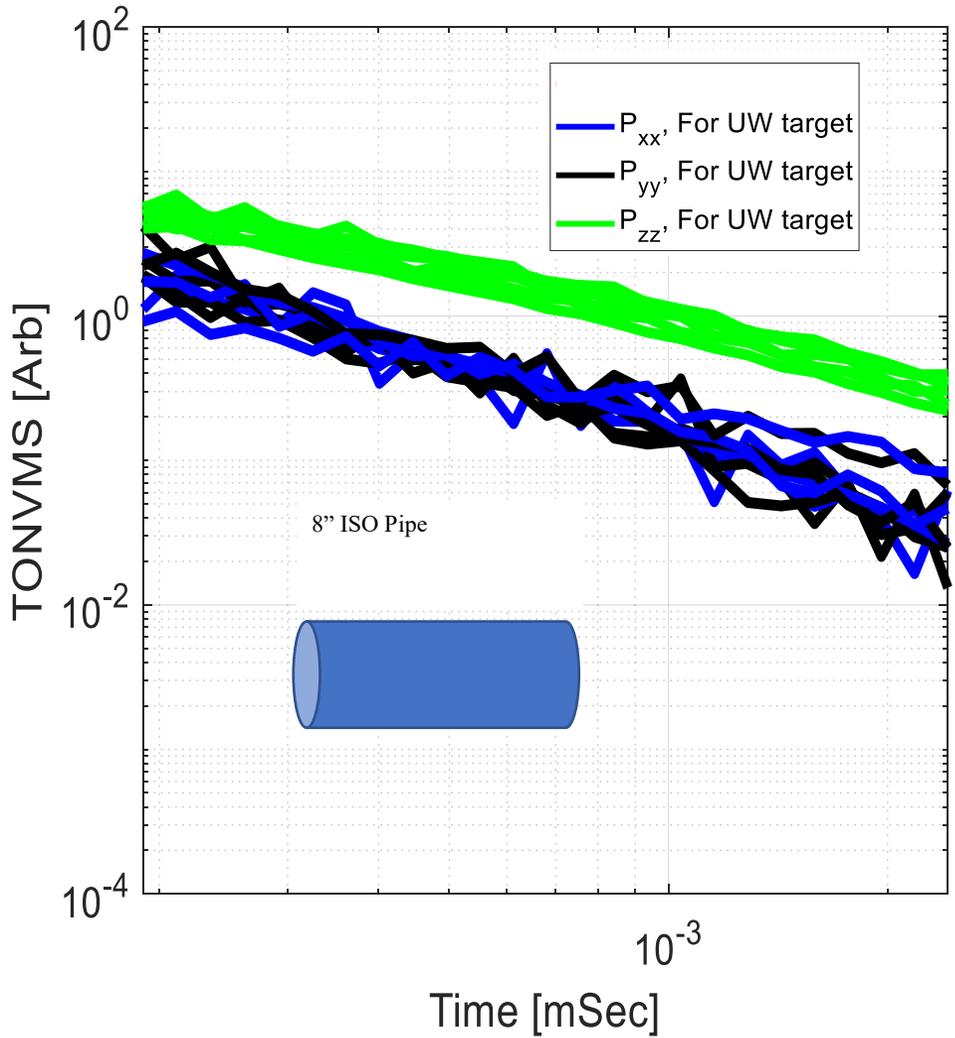
# Detection map: calibration grid



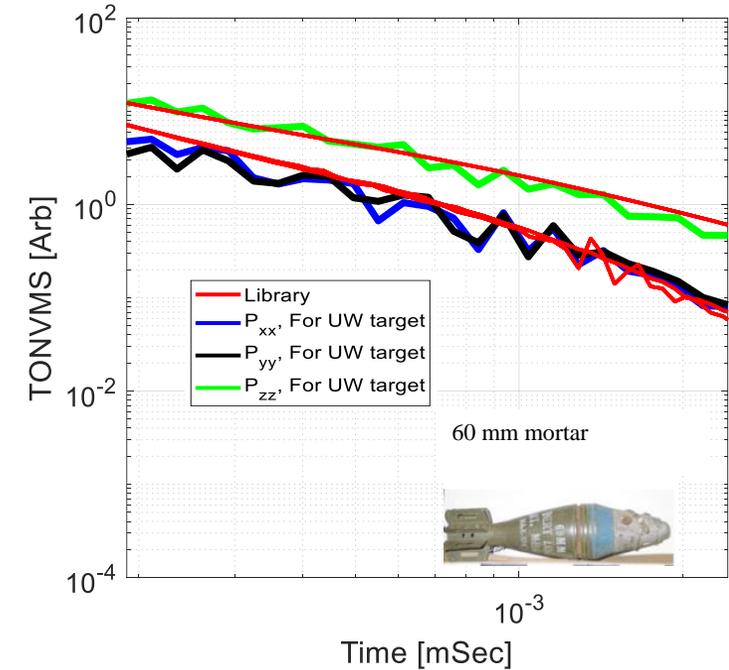
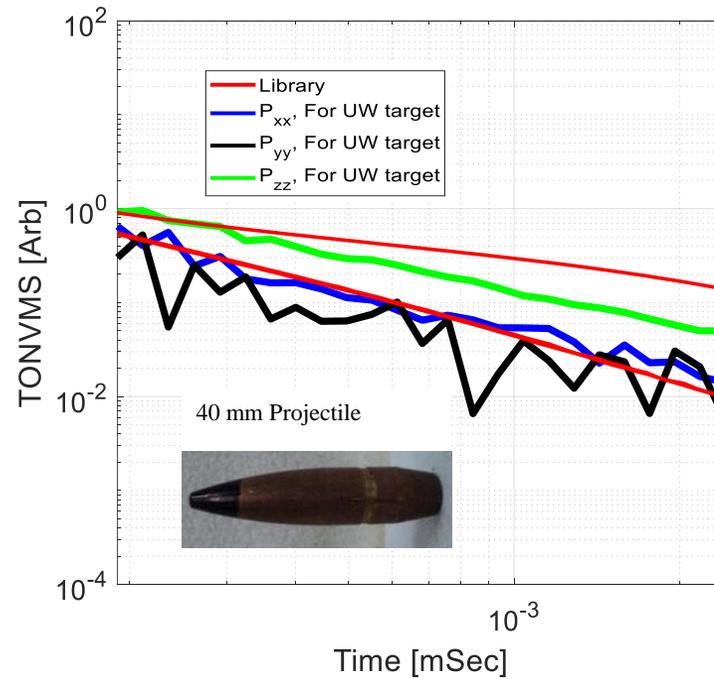
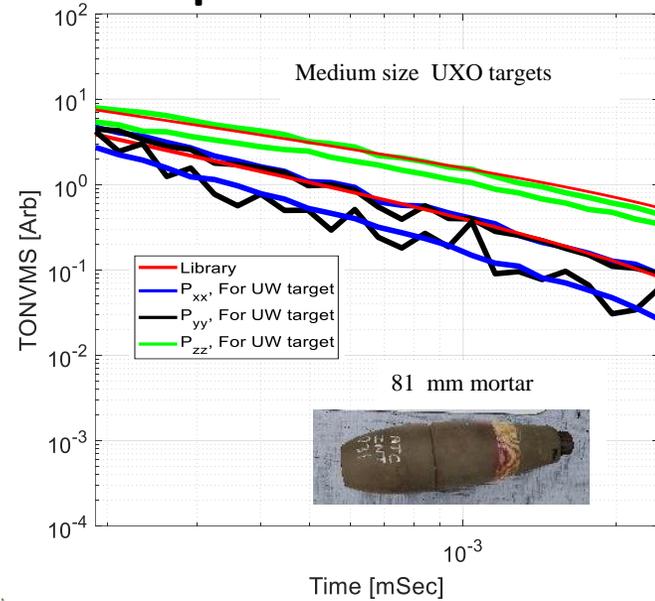
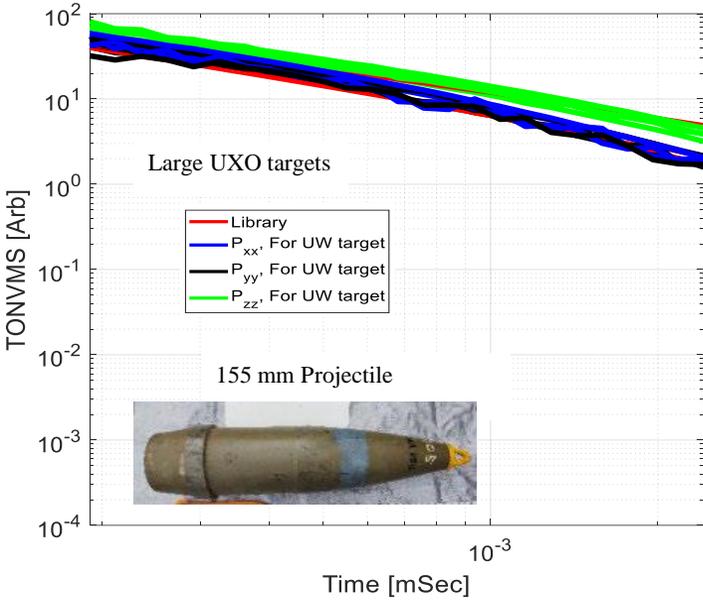
# Detection map: calibration grid



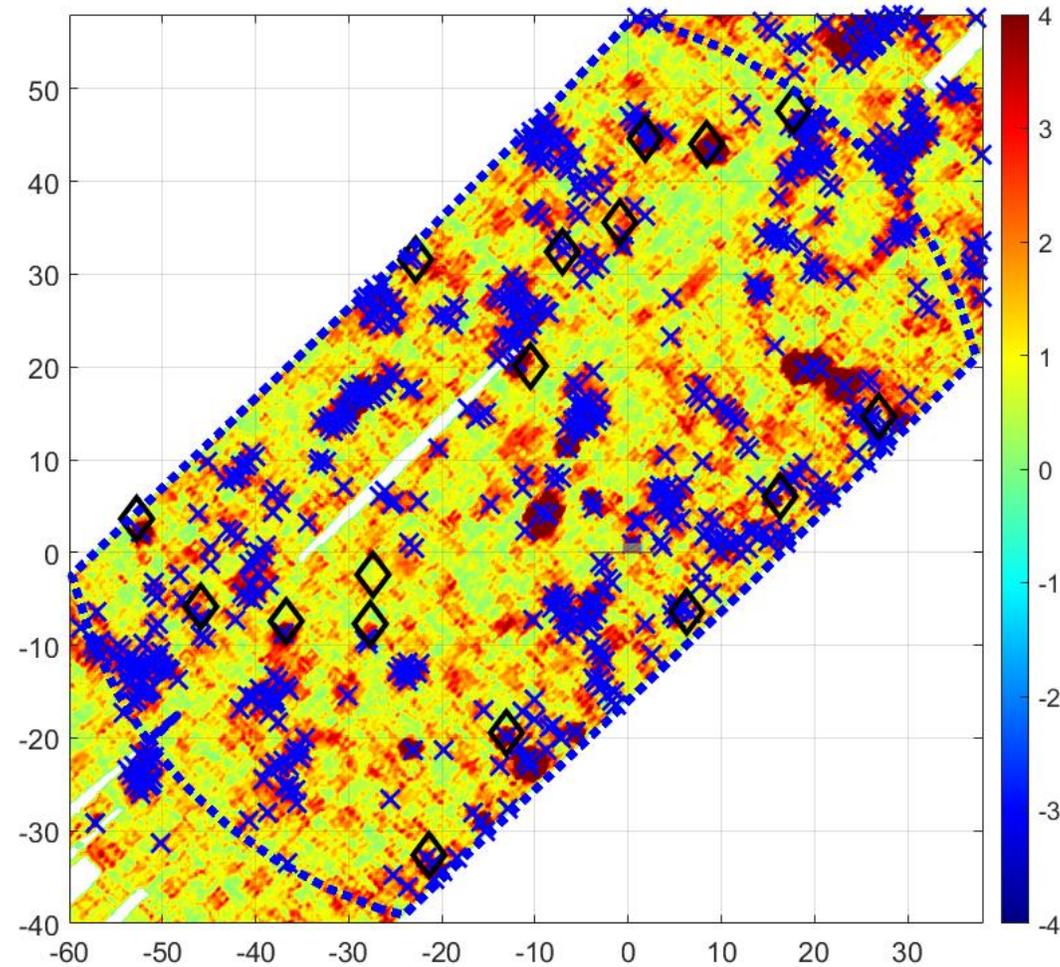
# Extracted effective polarizabilities



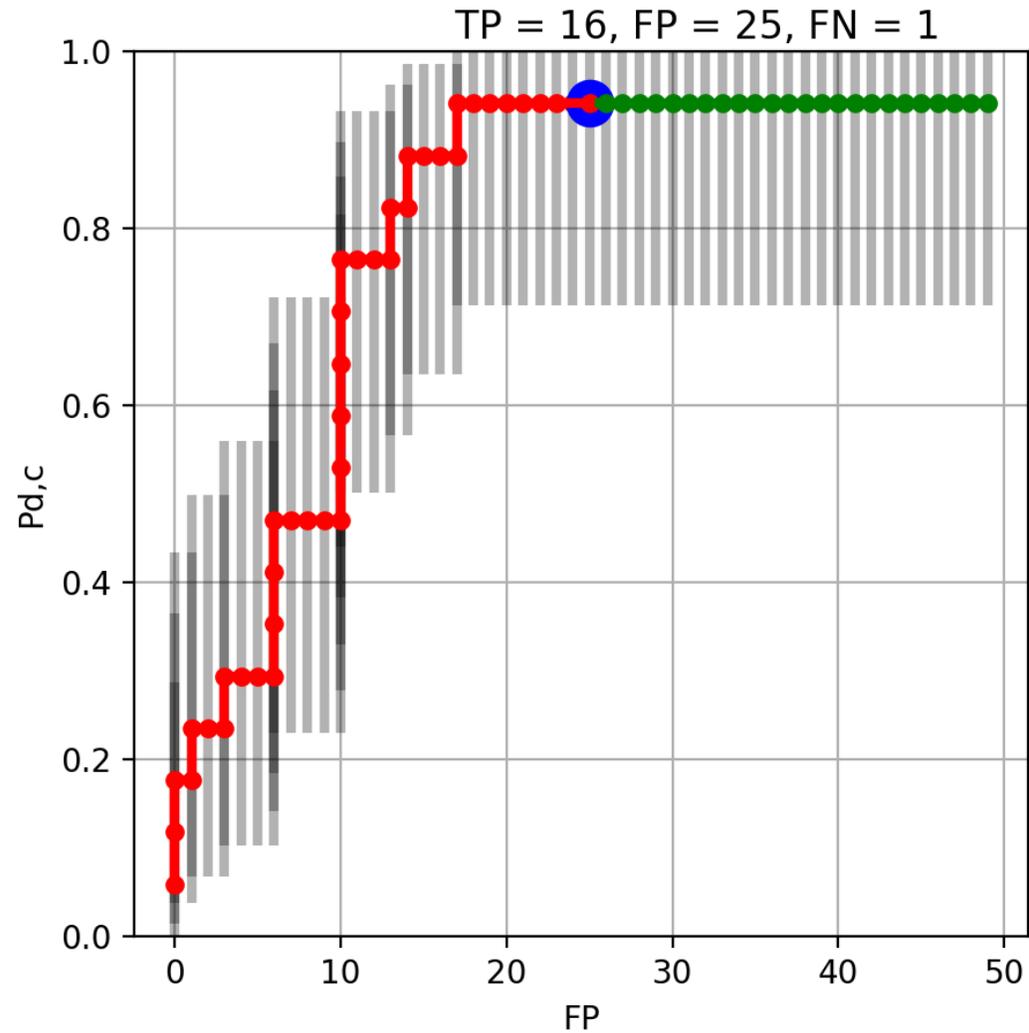
# Extracted effective polarizabilities



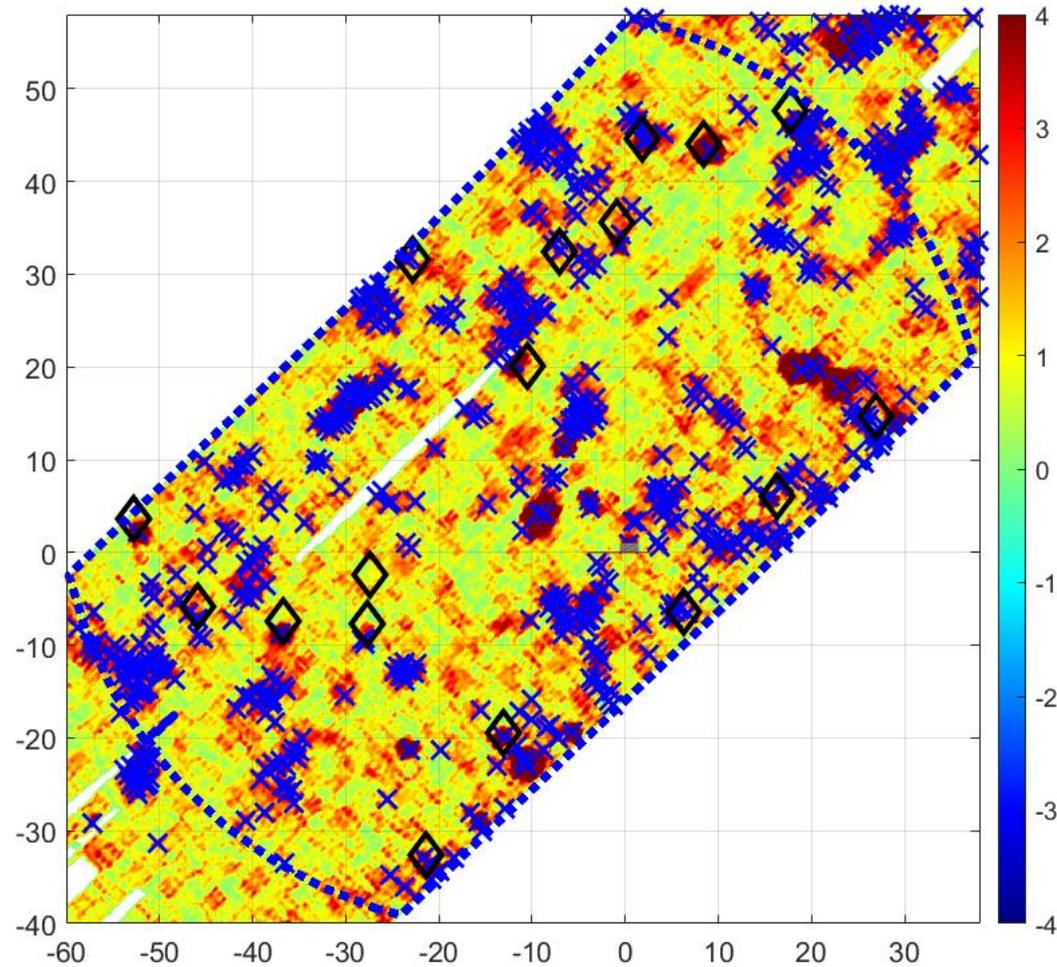
# Detection map using standard approach



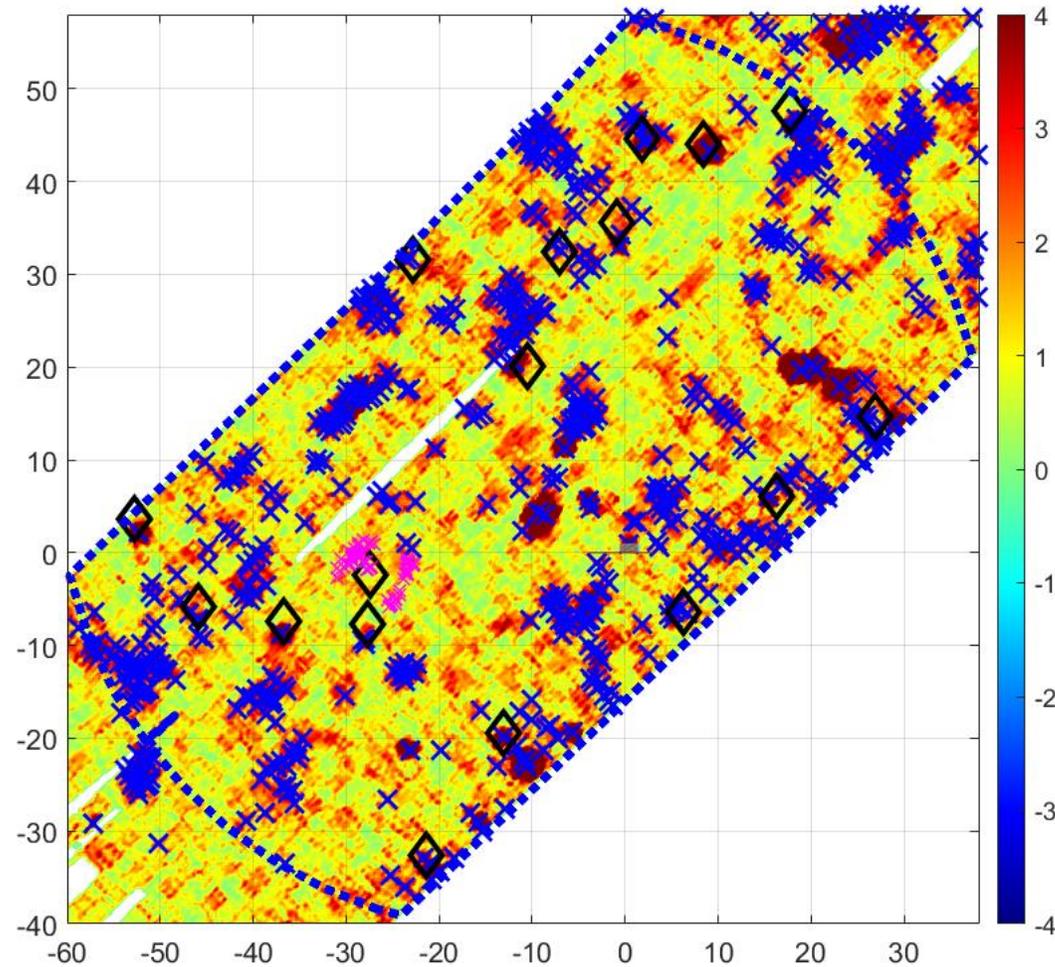
# Independently scored results:



# Detection map using standard approach

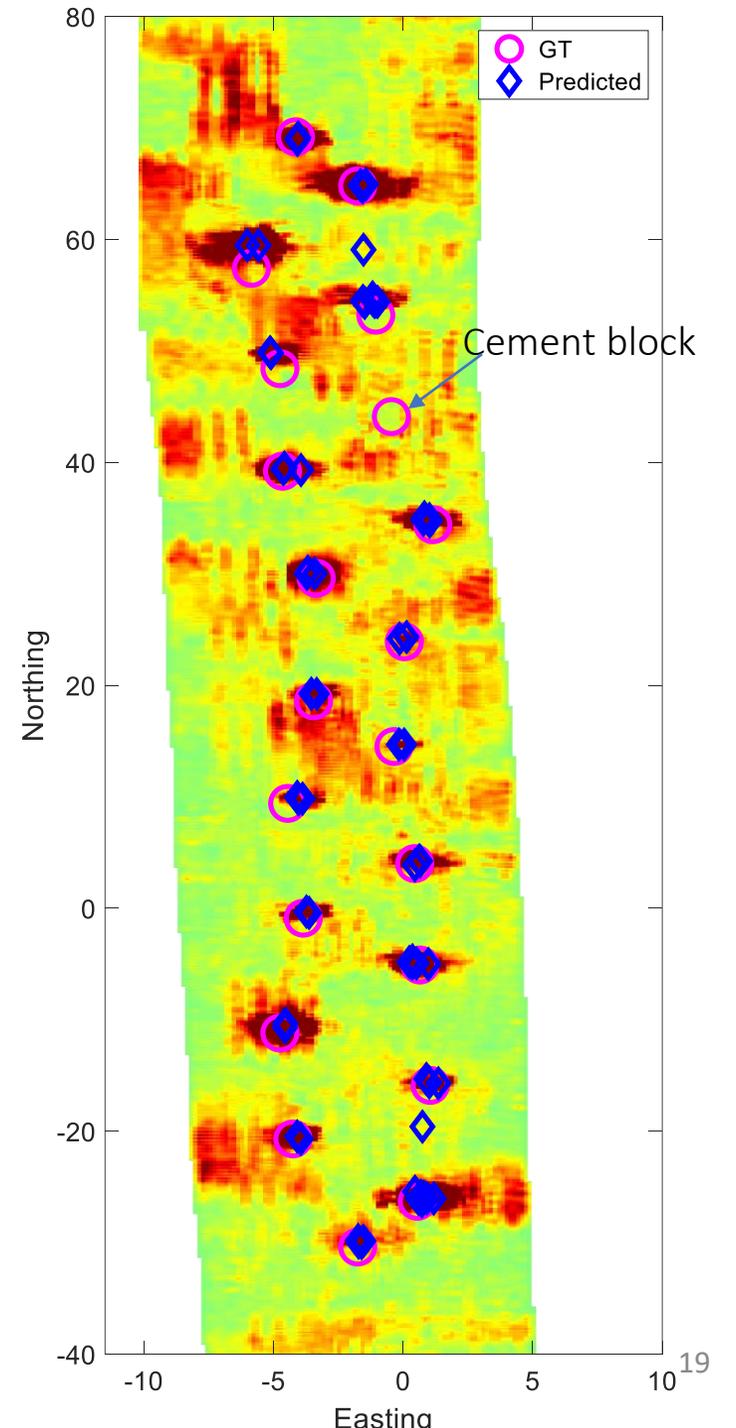
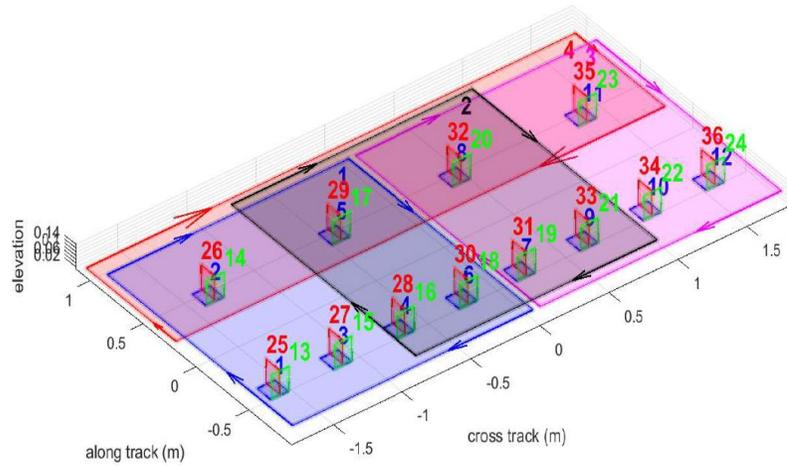


# Detection map using advanced approach



# 2022 Sequim Bay

Detection map: calibration grid



# Conclusions:

- Enhanced EMI models account accurately transient responses from: UW targets, layer boundaries and transmitters/receivers surrounding medium
- The voltage due to direct coupling from Tx to Rx is much higher than signals due to air-water and water-sediment boundaries
- Enhanced EMI provided excellent classification results when applied to UW UltraTEMA data sets.

# Acknowledgments:

This work was supported by the SERDP Project # MR-2728.