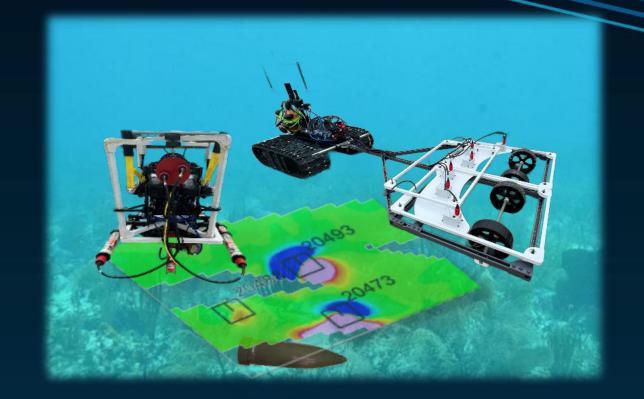
Autonomous 3DEM for Seabed Target Classification



Greg Schultz

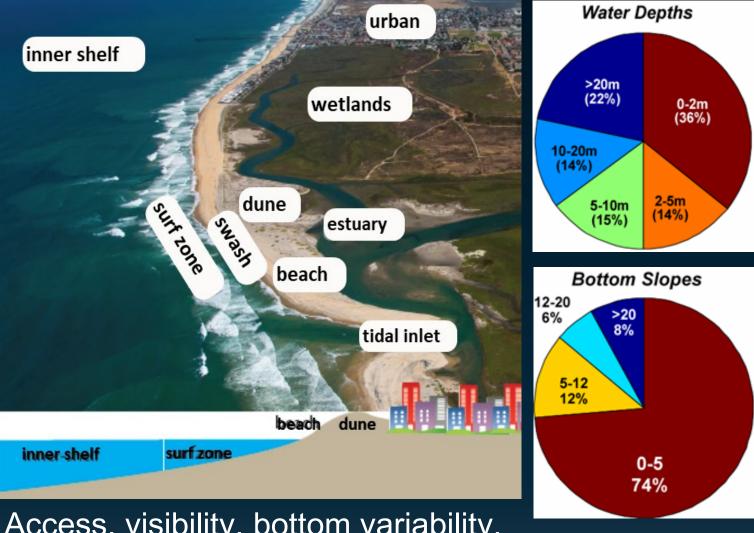
White River Technologies, Inc. Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA



MARELEC 2025

Nearshore Underwater UXO





white river

technologies

Access, visibility, bottom variability, hydrodynamics, ...

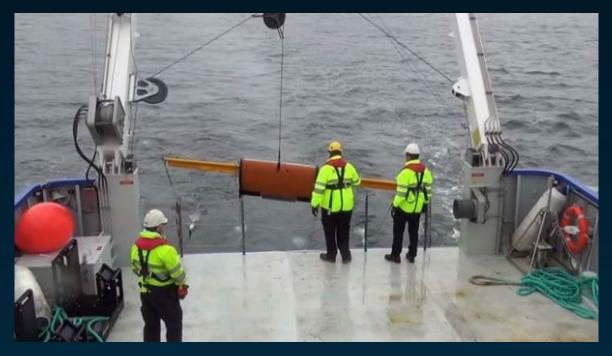
Current Methods

• Diving = High cost

- Limited depths and duration
- Push-carts in the surf and muck?



Ship-Tow Sensors



- Sonar, MAG, and EM
- Large and complex
- Limited in important nearshore areas
- Relatively expensive for smaller sites

Outline for This Briefing



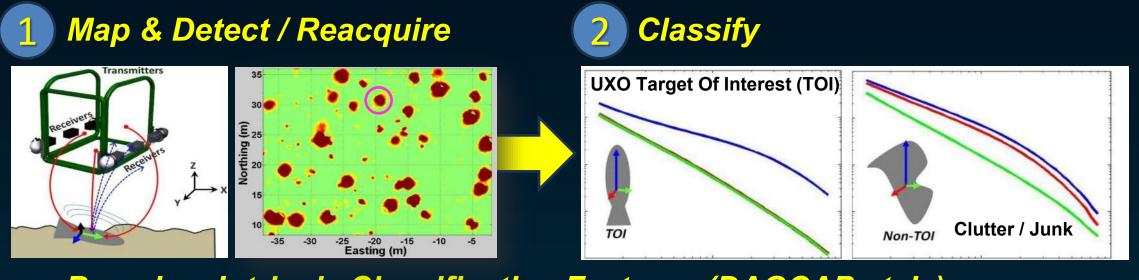
white river

technologies

2 ROV Implementation
3 Crawler (AUGV) Implementation
4 Experiments & Operations

Seabed 3DEM AGC

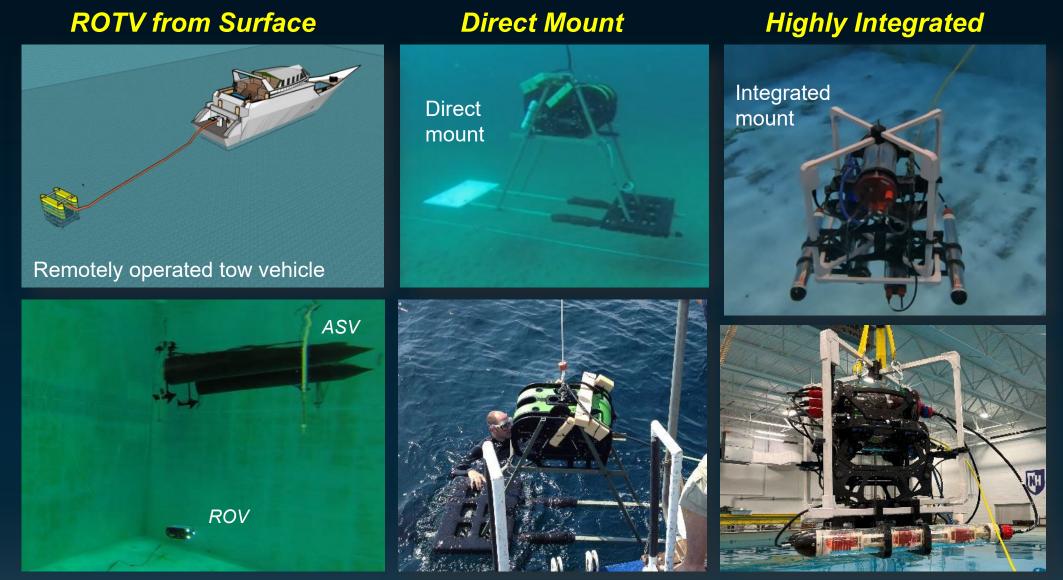
APEX 3DEM for AGC



Based on Intrinsic Classification Features (DAGCAP style) Polarizabilities = Fingerprint signatures unique to each target type



ROV 3DEM Sensor Integration

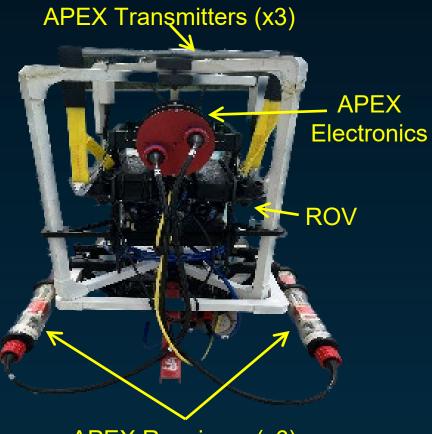


white river

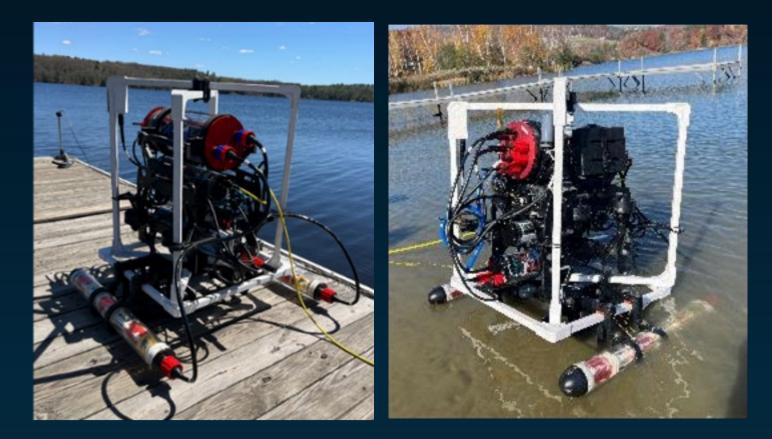
technologies

Making it smaller simplifies integration, but creates new EMI/EMC problems

ROV APEX Sensor Integration

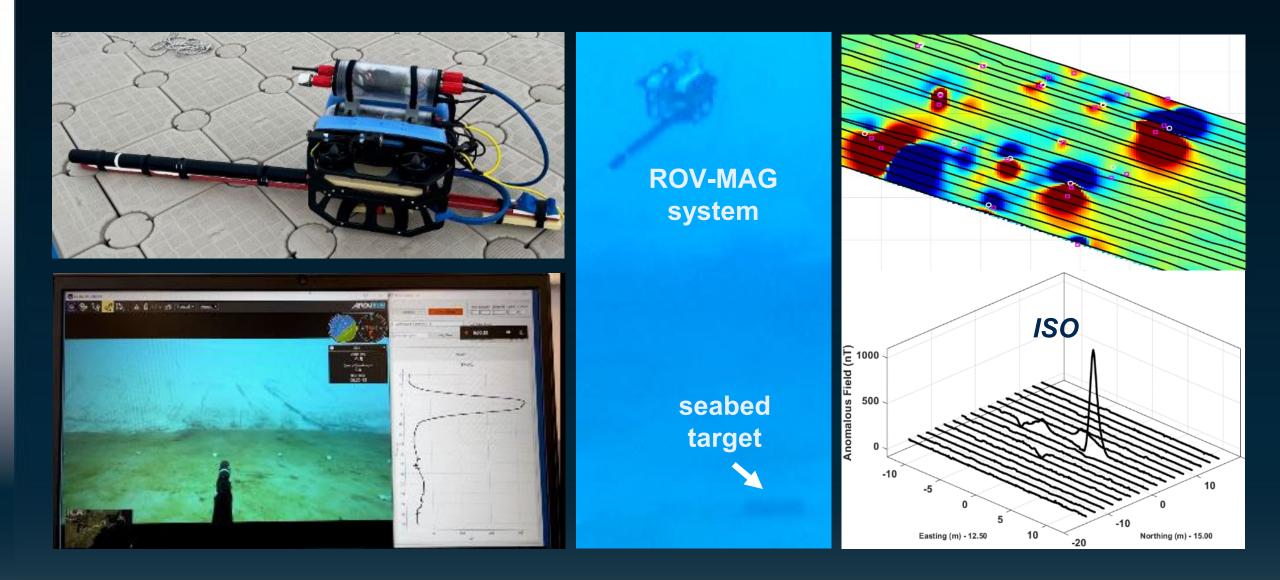


APEX Receivers (x6)



white river technologies

ROV MAG Sensor Integration



white river technologies

ROV APEX Sensor Integration

0

30

Bottom following and waypoint control Acoustics in shallow water (UGPS) DVL-INS positioning & control

20

15

10

10

15

20

25

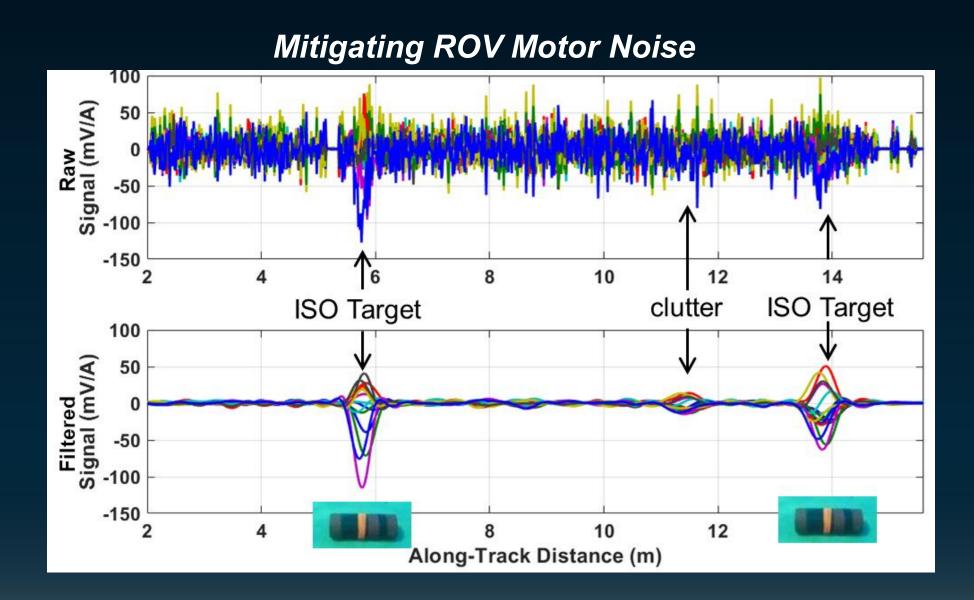
Easting [m]

Northing [m]



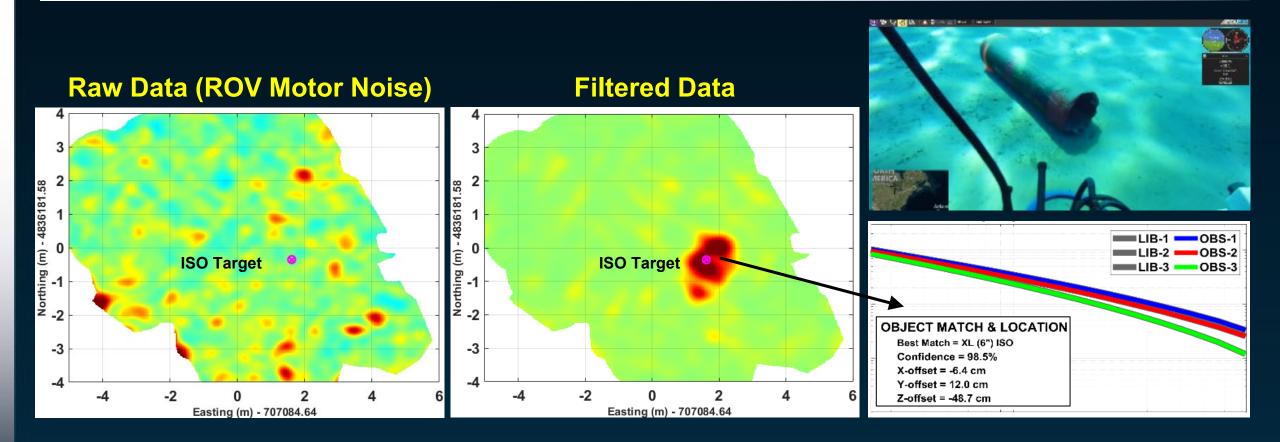
white river

ROV APEX Sensor Integration



white river technologies

ROV 3DEM Sensor Integration

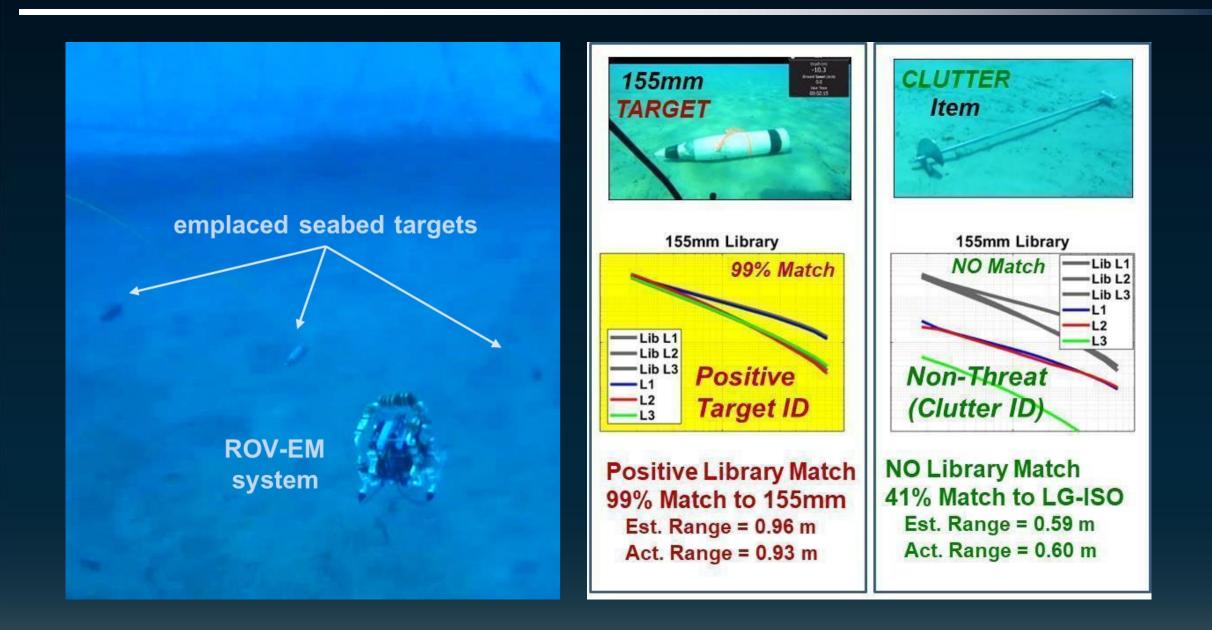


> Coherent Noise Filtering greatly reduces motor noise

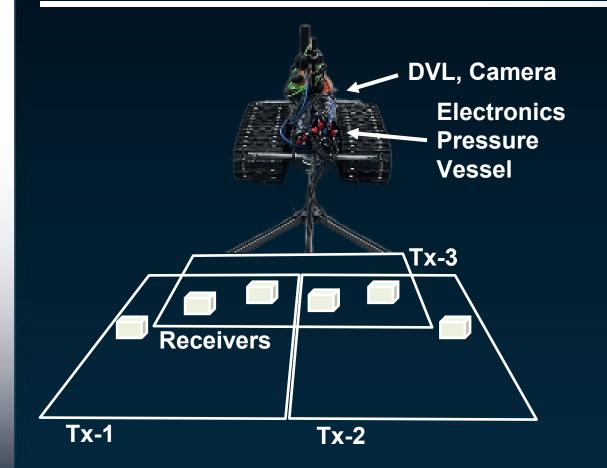
> Source Separation techniques further enable data for classification

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3DEM UXO Classification



Crawler-towed 3DEM





APEX HH6 Array on Bayonet AUGV Crawler

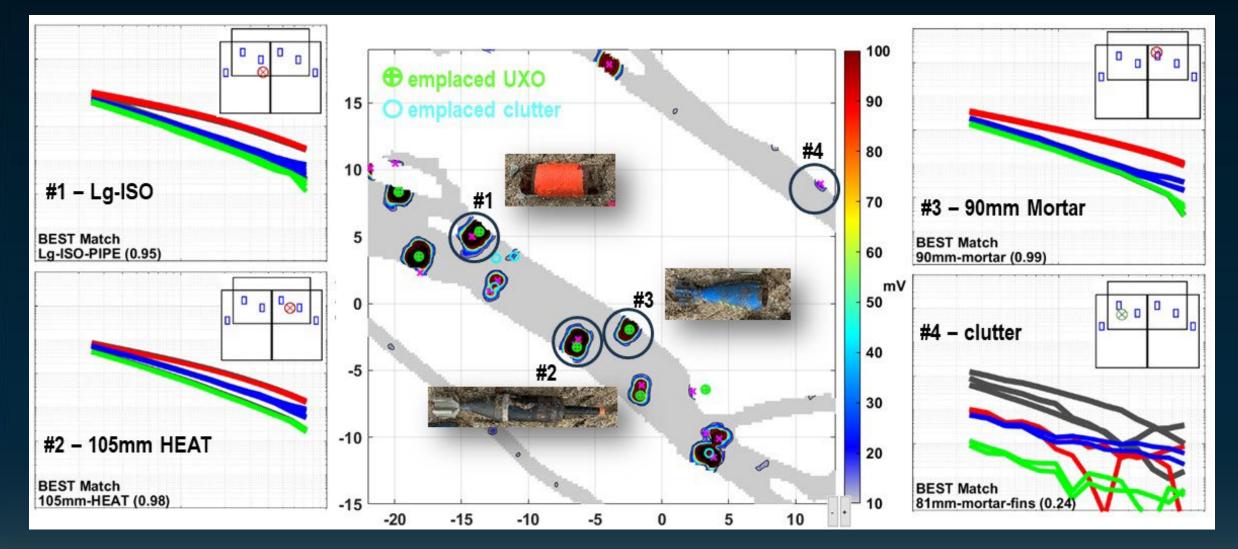
- 3 Transmitters
- 6 Receivers
- 30, 60, 120 Hz

- APEXCOM Software
- Ethernet Data to Topside
- Integrated POS & IMU

- Depth: 100m ASW
- 4-hour endurance (~10 km)
- Survey Width (1.6-2.4 m)

Crawler-towed 3DEM

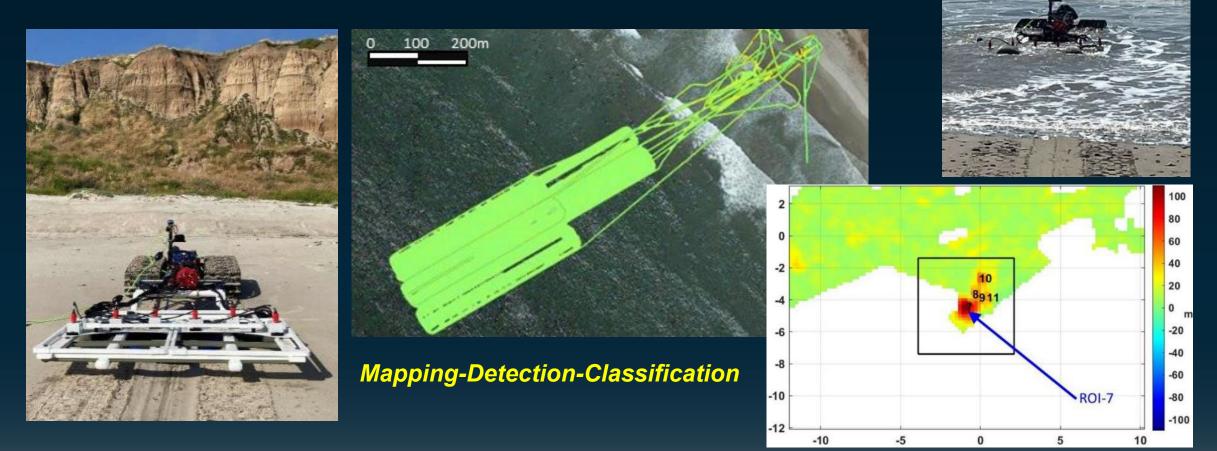
Blind trails in 0-2m water along Plymouth Bay shoreline (south of Boston, USA)



white river

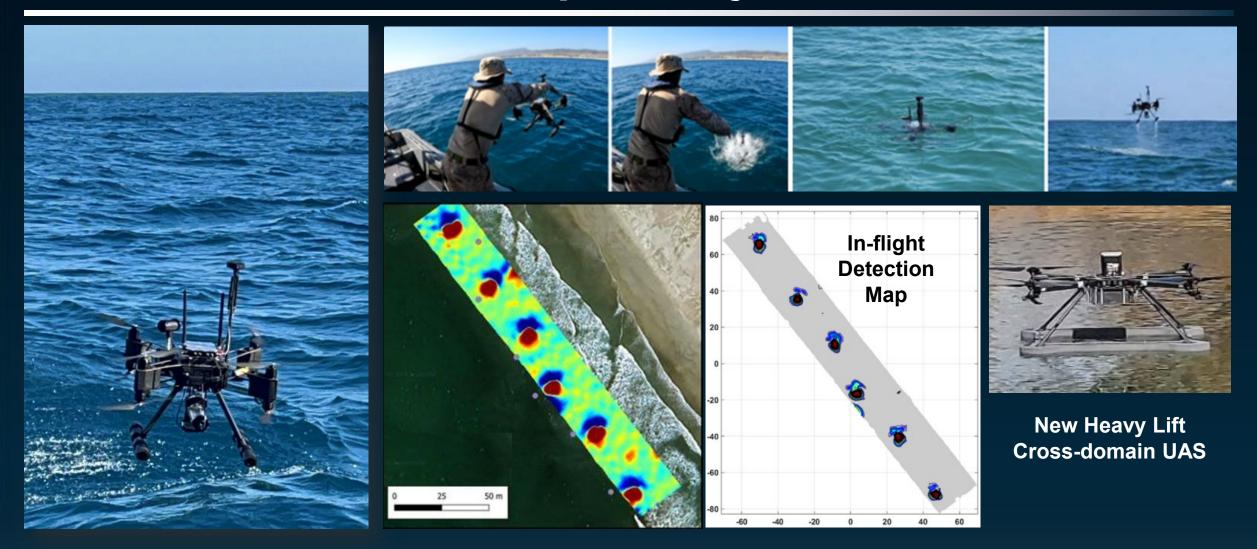
Crawler-towed 3DEM Operations

- Operational tests along California shoreline
- Through surfzone to 20-25 ft water depth
- >27 acres in 3 days (TOI found day 1)



white river

Cross-domain Aerial-Aquatic System



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Airborne / Drifting / Underwater MAD Operations in Single Mission

Synopsis

1. Seabed 3DEM provides classification where ship-tow and divers cannot

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- 2. Tight integration on ROVs requires specialized noise mitigation
- 3. Portable and cost-effective 3DEM classification
- 4. Cross-domain deployment from AUGV (Crawlers) & aquatic drones

