

Sediment Volume Search Sonar: System & Dataset Development

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Applied Research Laboratory



SERDP
DOD • EPA • DOE

Acoustic surveys for remediation of unexploded ordnance

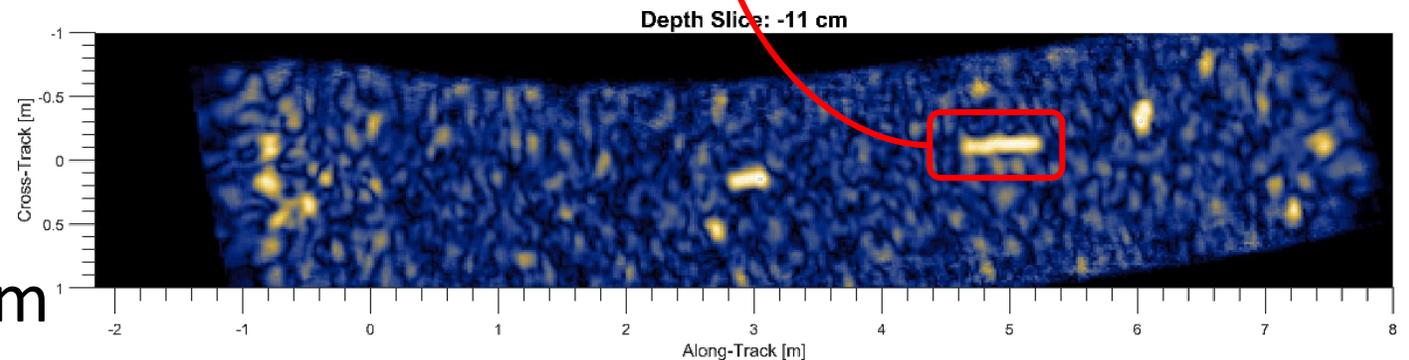
- Historical military activities have resulted in unexploded ordnance (UXO) in marine environments
- These items present a difficult environmental remediation problem due to challenges with underwater sensing



The SERDP munitions response program develops and demonstrates technologies addressing these issues for both terrestrial and underwater remediation sites

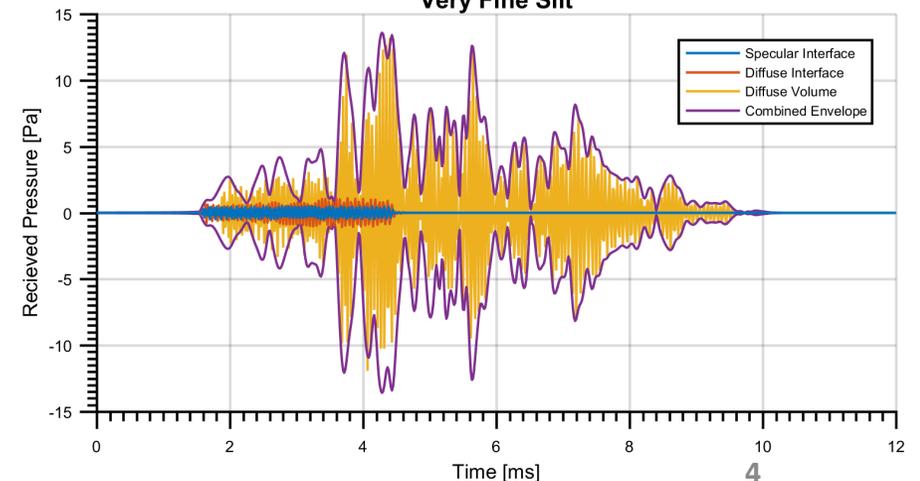
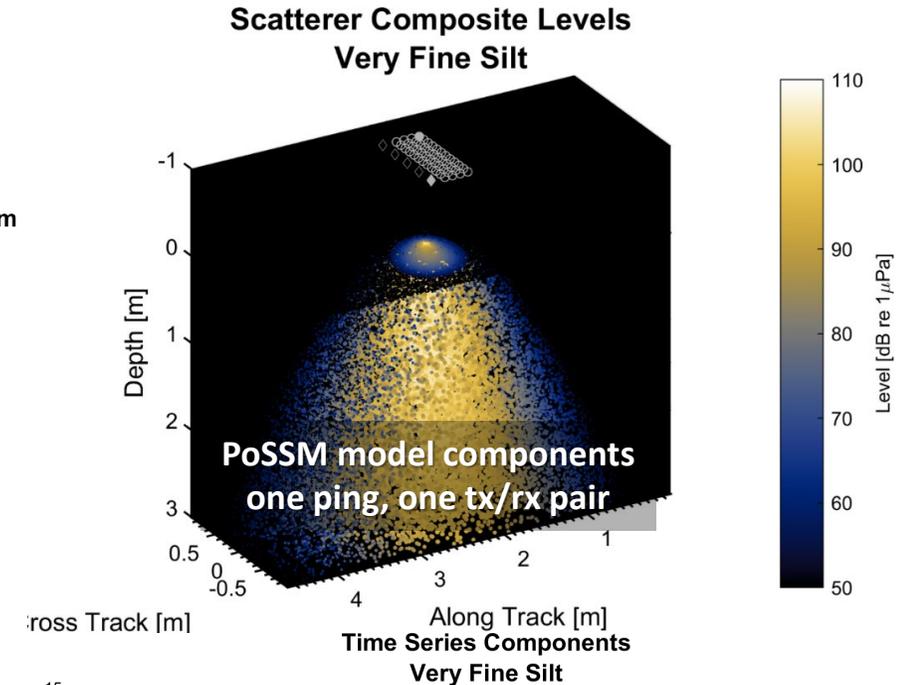
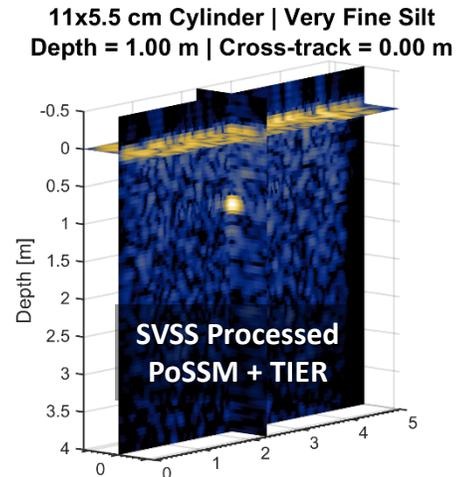
Sediment Volume Search Sonar

- Develop a sensor and platform for detailed UXO surveys in very shallow water
- Technology development focused project
 - Surface craft and sonar system for very shallow water
 - Sonar system design and signal processing for buried UXO imaging
- Developing custom sonar hardware tailored to problem



Modeling and simulation was used in the design of the SVSS sensor

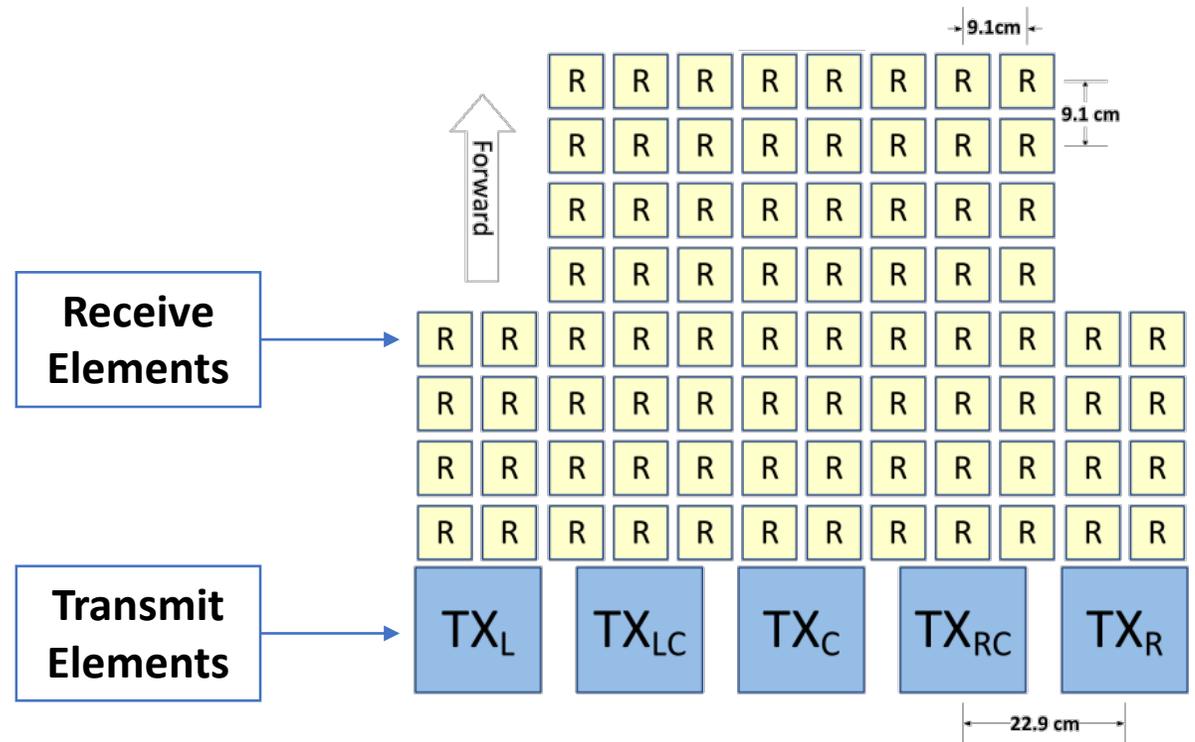
- Hybrid approach utilizing independent models for the environmental and target scattering
 - ARL/PSU: Point-based Sonar Signal Model (PoSSM)
 - APL-UW: Target in Environment Response (TIER)
- Present model/data comparison for environmental scattering



S. G. Kargl et al., "Scattering From Objects at a Water-Sediment Interface: Experiment, High-Speed and High-Fidelity Models, and Physical Insight," IEEE J. Oceanic Eng., 2015.

D. C. Brown, S. F. Johnson, and D. R. Olson, "A point-based scattering model for the incoherent component of the scattered field," J. Acoust. Soc. Am., 2017.

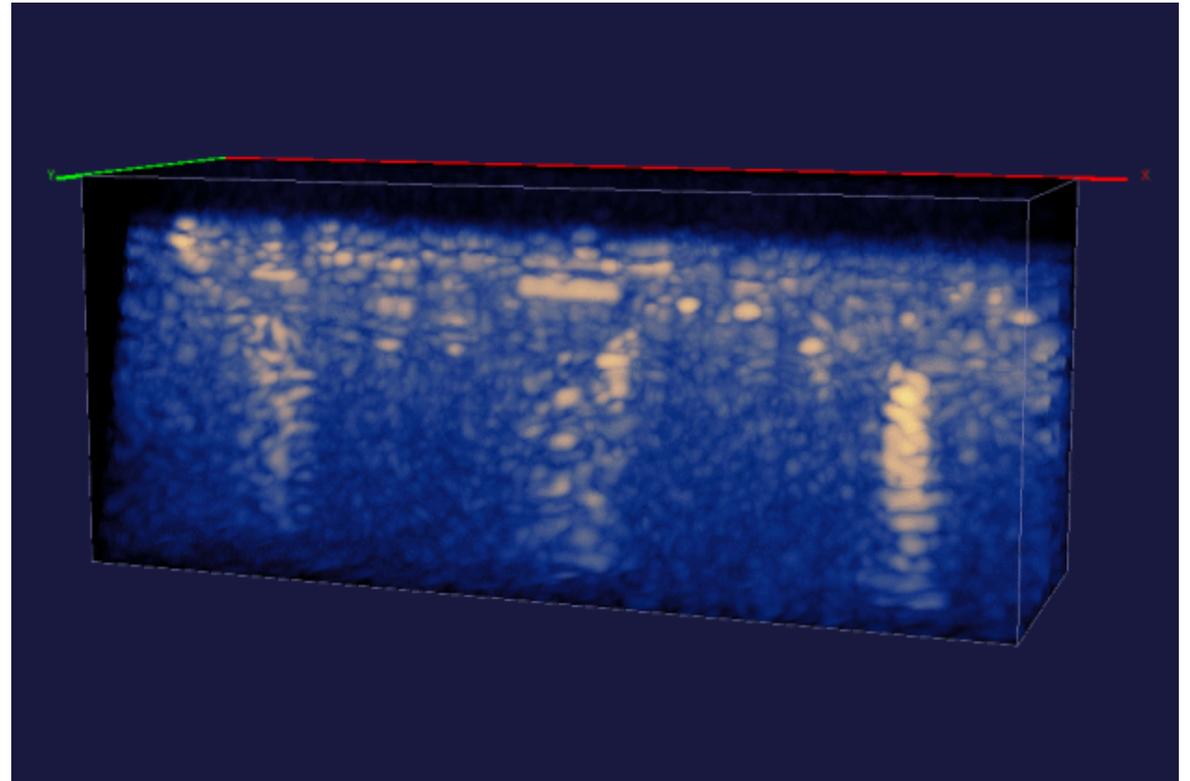
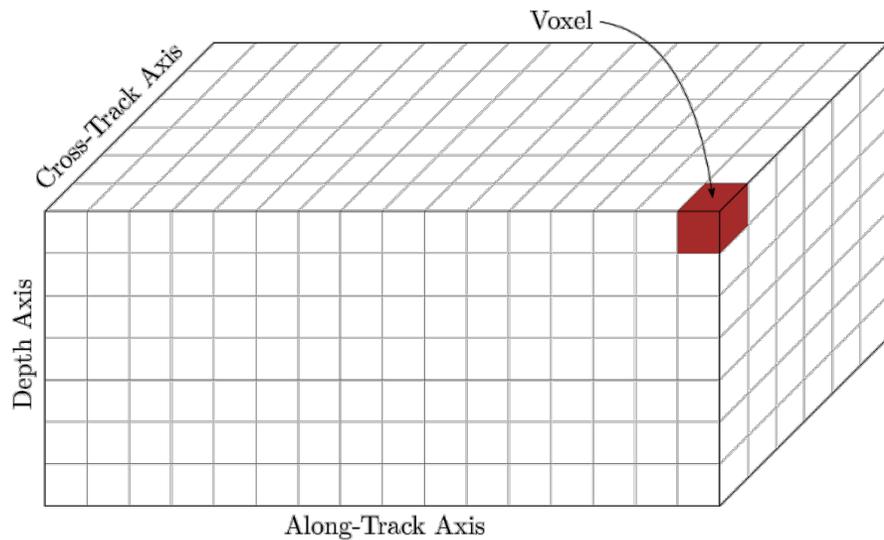
SVSS Sonar Hardware and Array Configuration



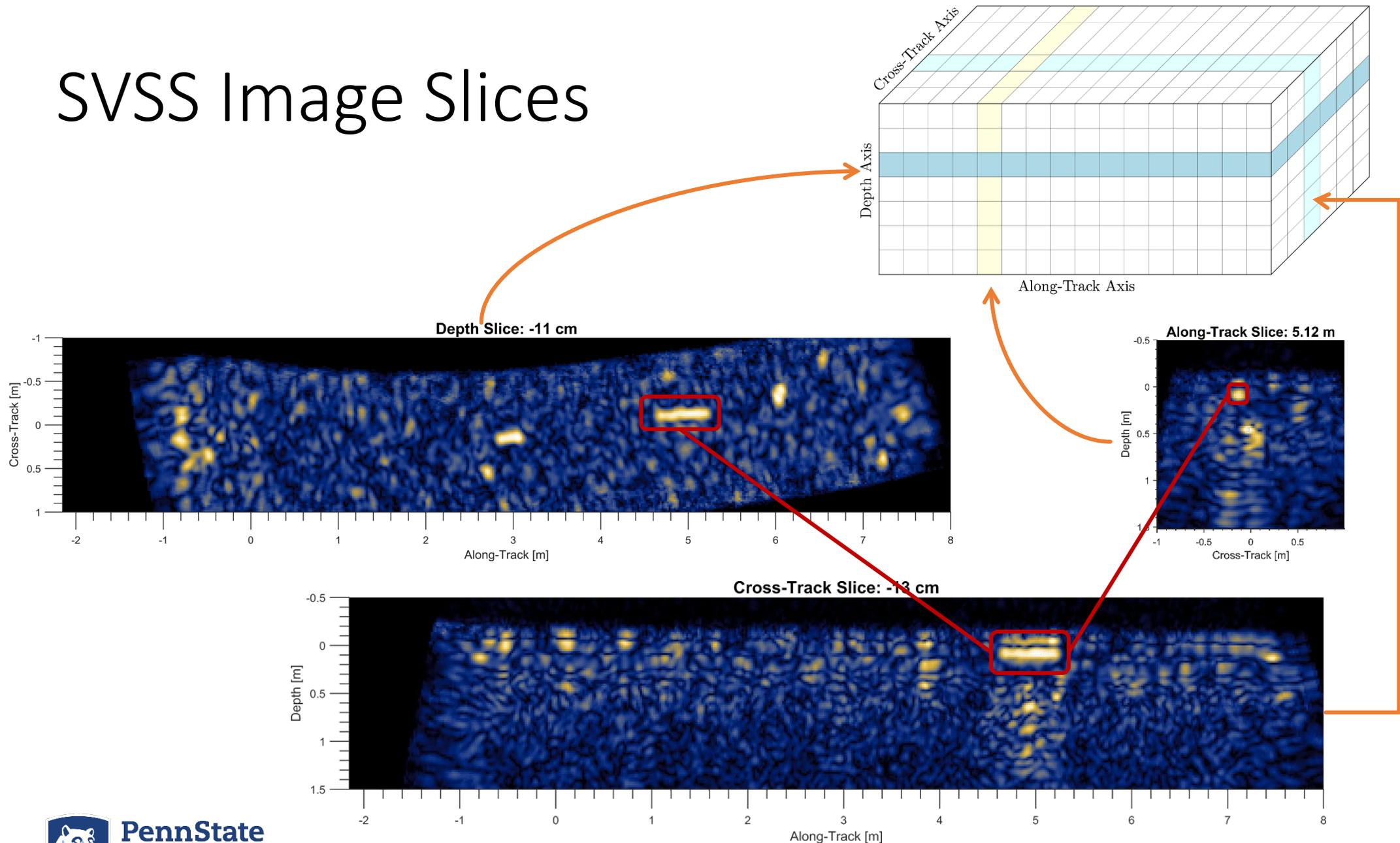
Two-dimensional synthetic aperture allows formation of three-dimensional sonar imagery

The SVSS creates three-dimensional imagery

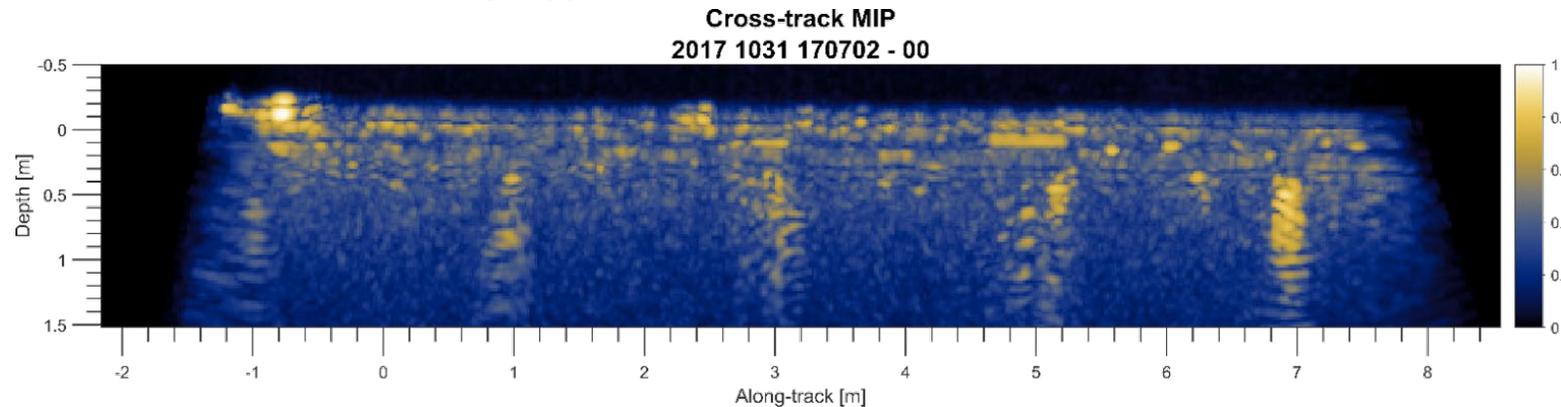
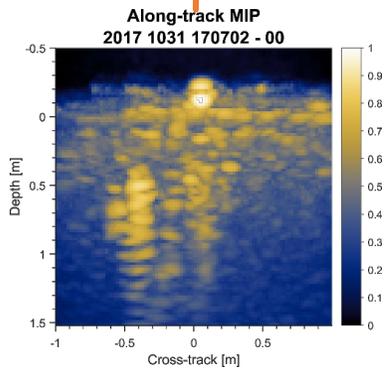
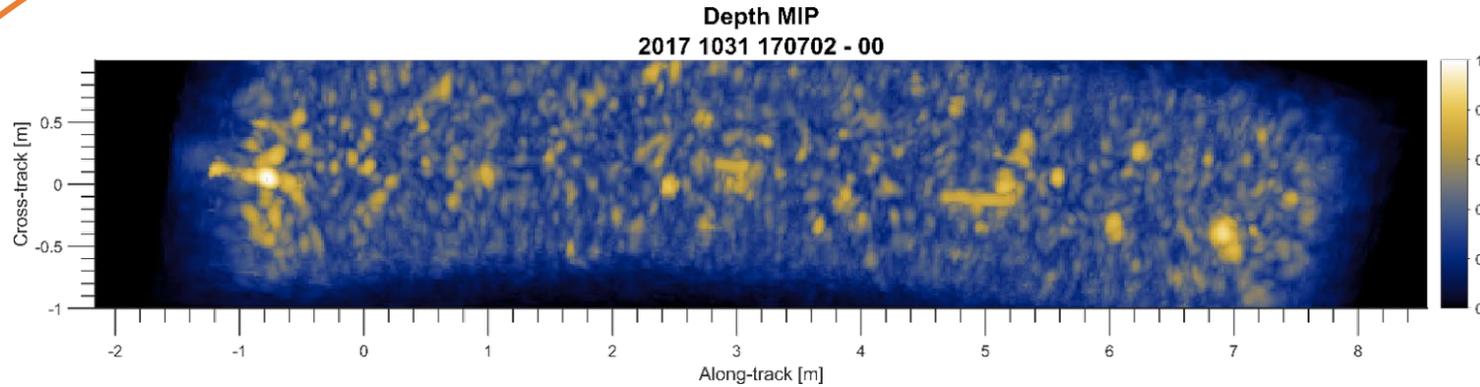
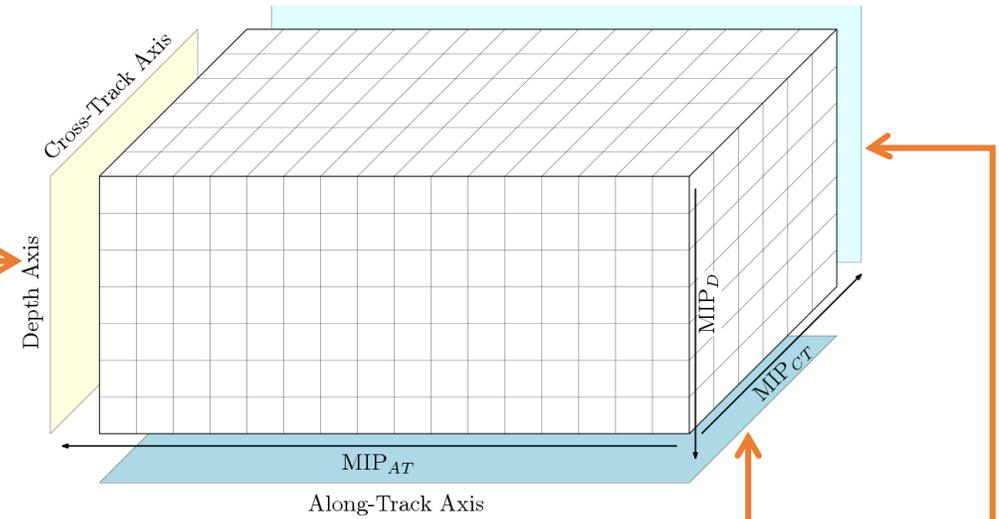
- Visualization techniques
 - 3D Viewer
 - Slices
 - Projections



SVSS Image Slices



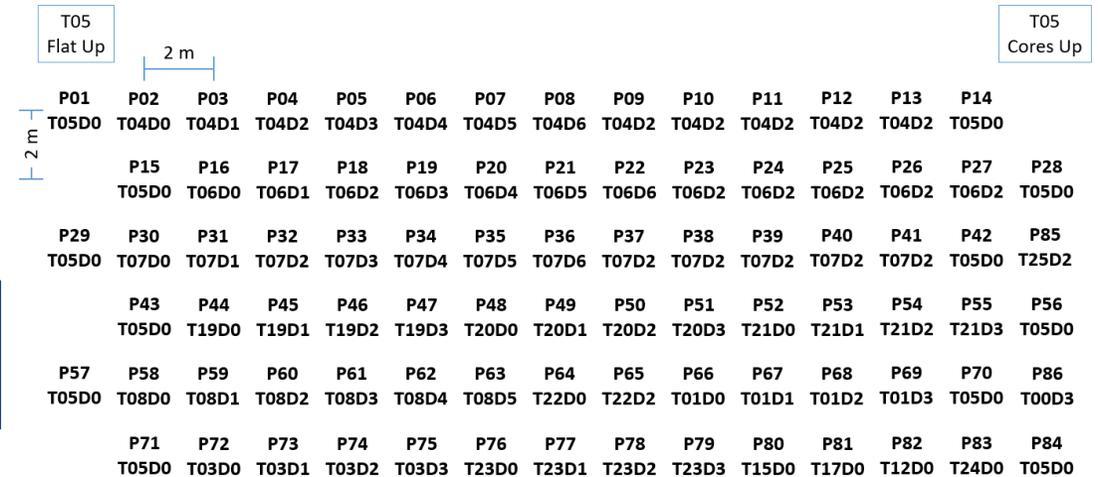
Maximum Intensity Projections (MIPs)

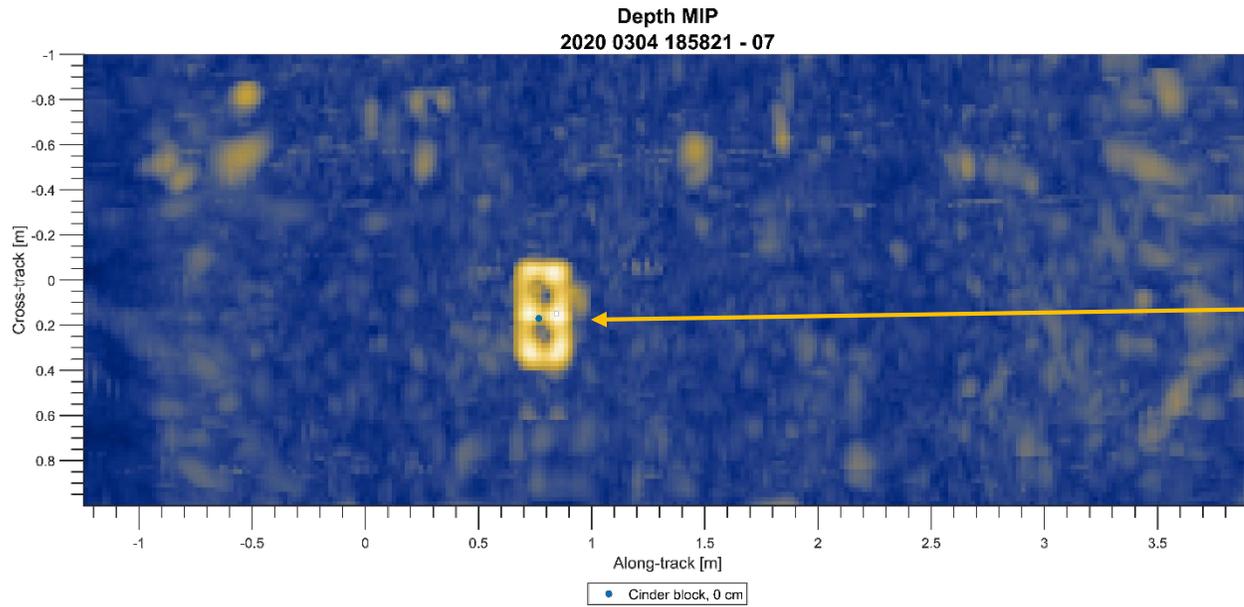
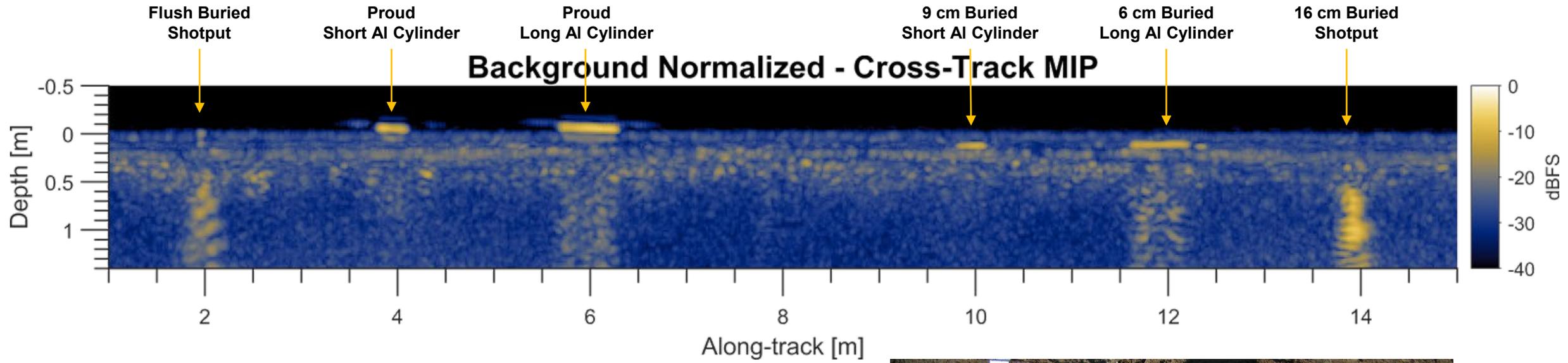


Engineering test bed development

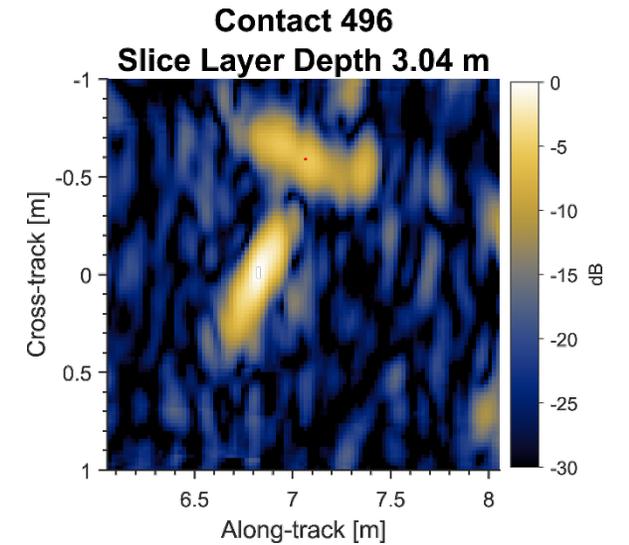
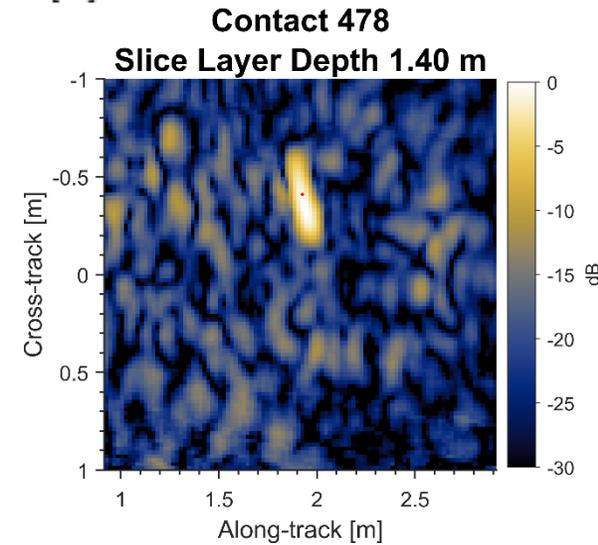
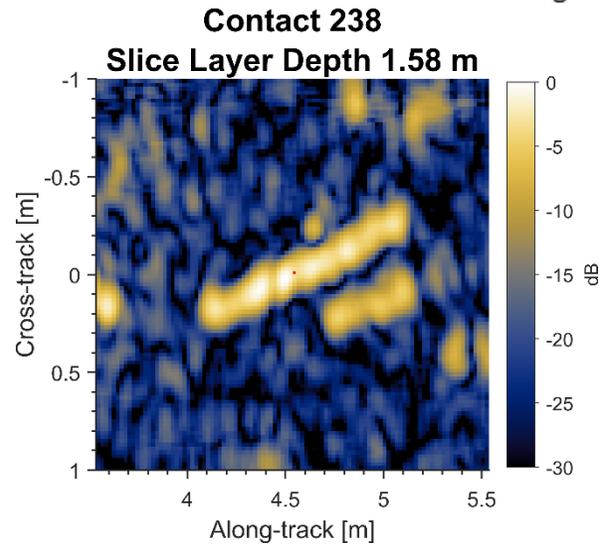
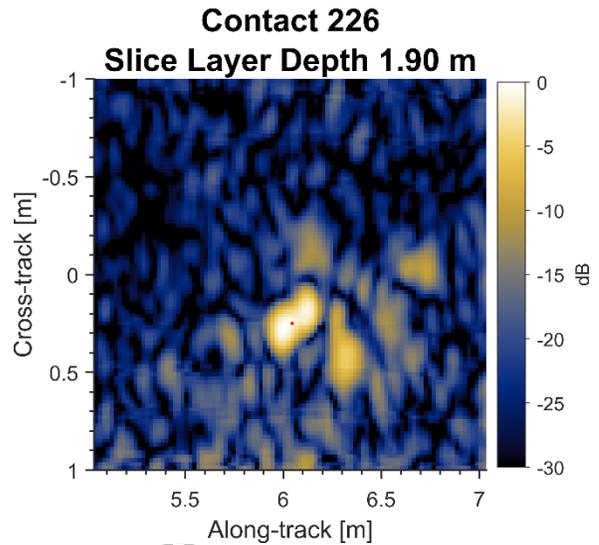
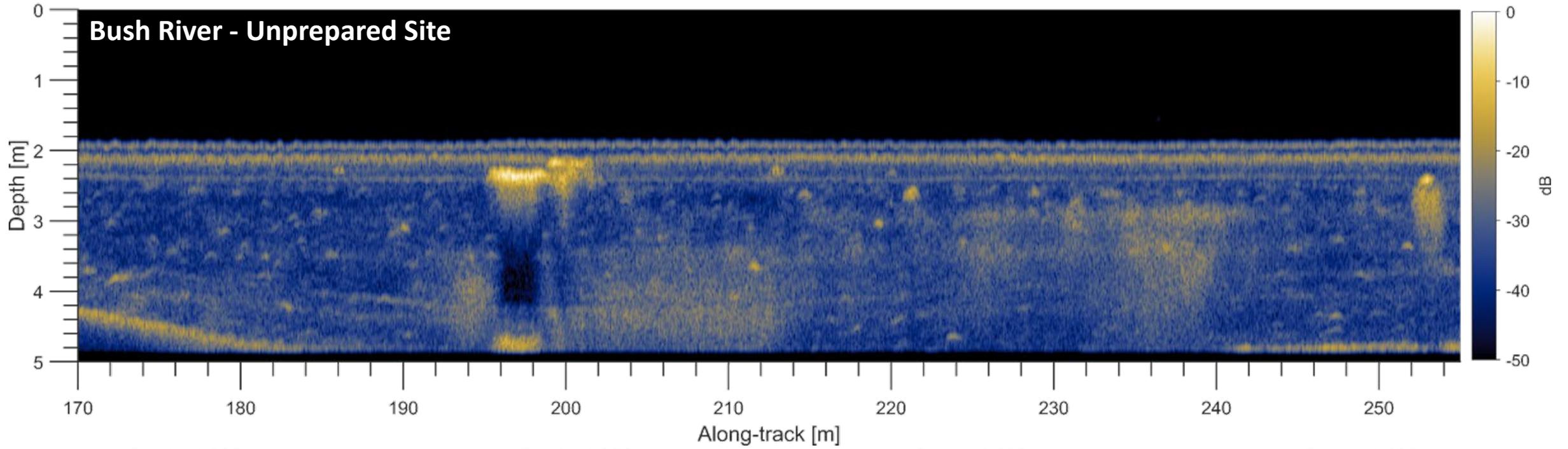


Two separate engineering test beds developed with munitions, clutter, and science objects



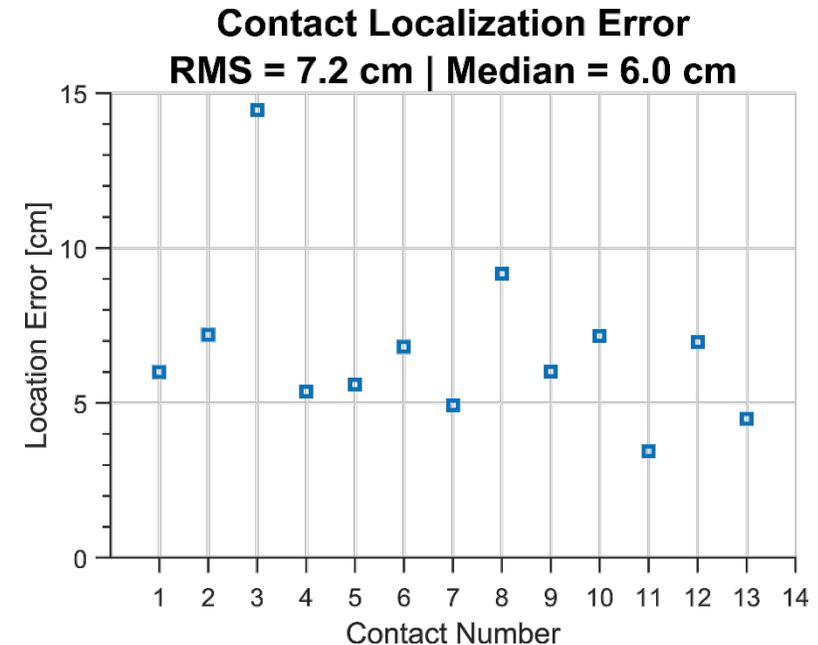
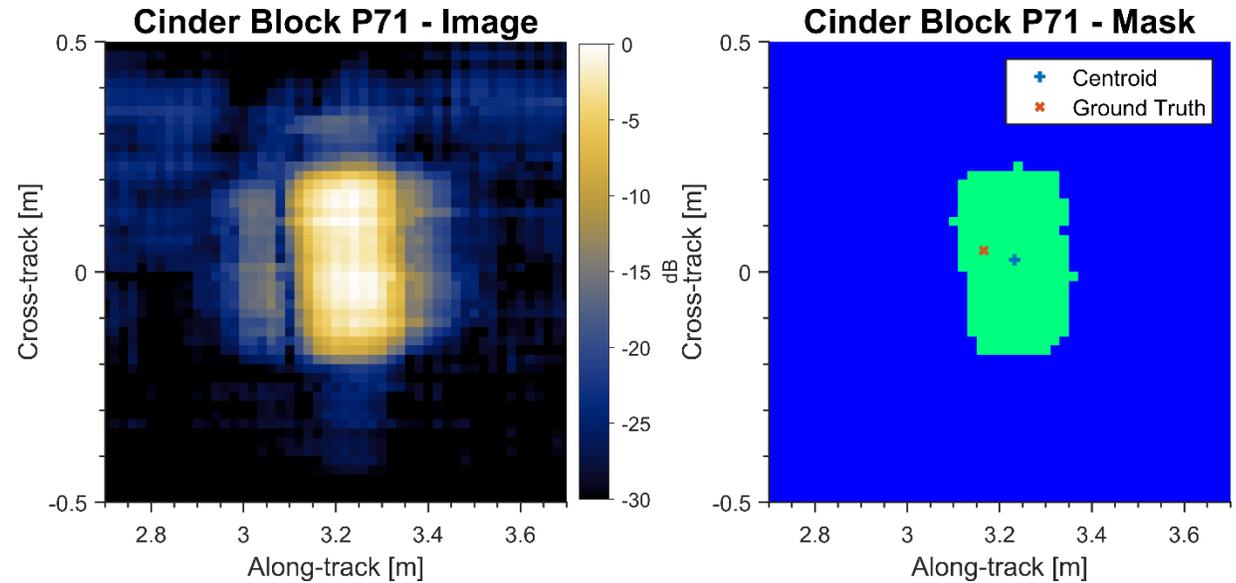


Bush River Test Site Sub-Bottom Profile

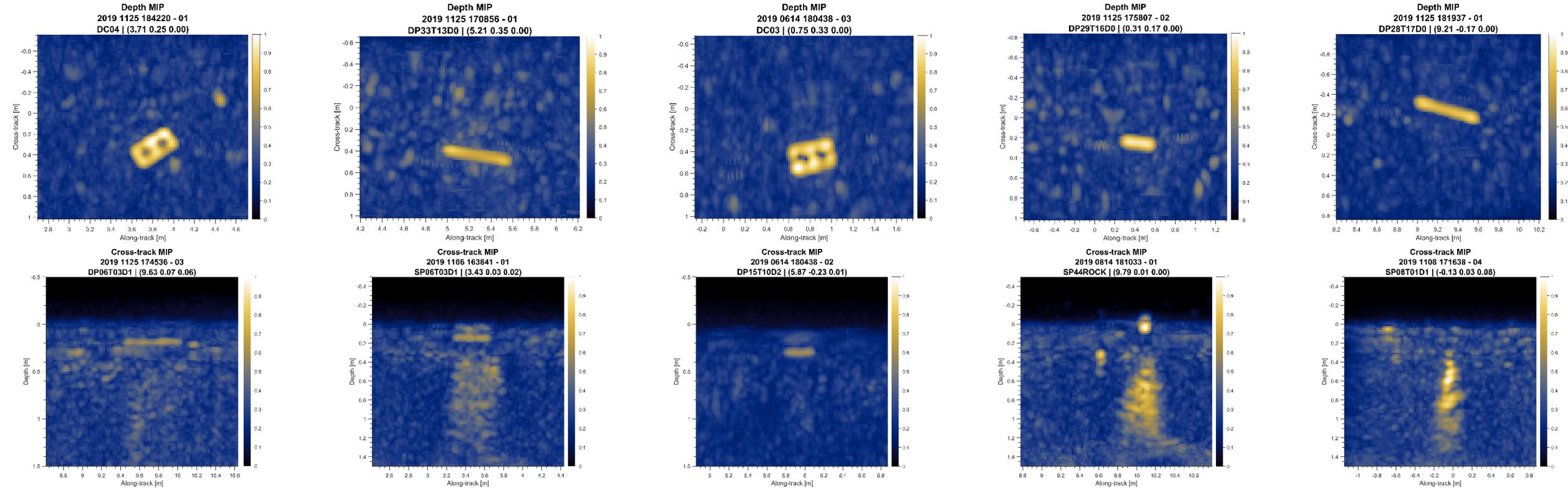


Accurate Target Geolocation

- Proud cinder blocks were analyzed to quantitatively assess target localization
- Manual selection of depth slice
- Automated centroid calculation
- Localization error “within a shovel head”



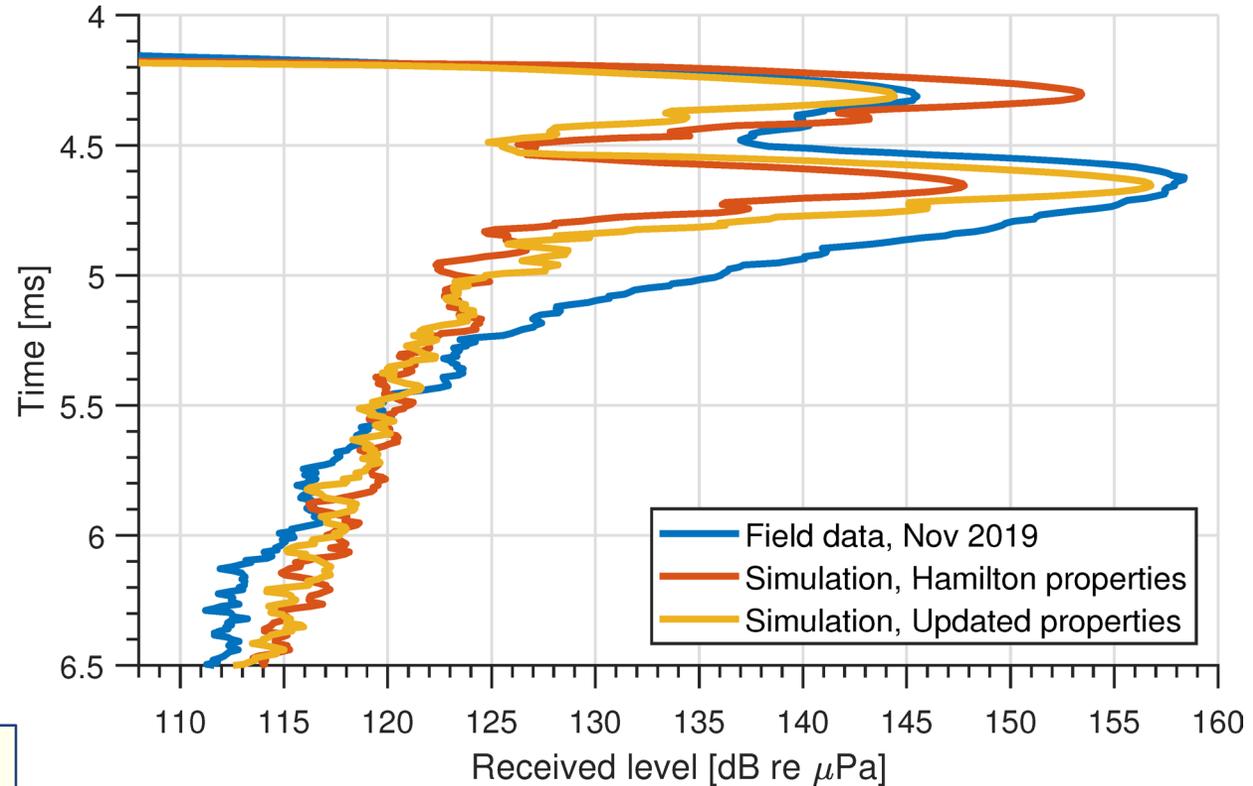
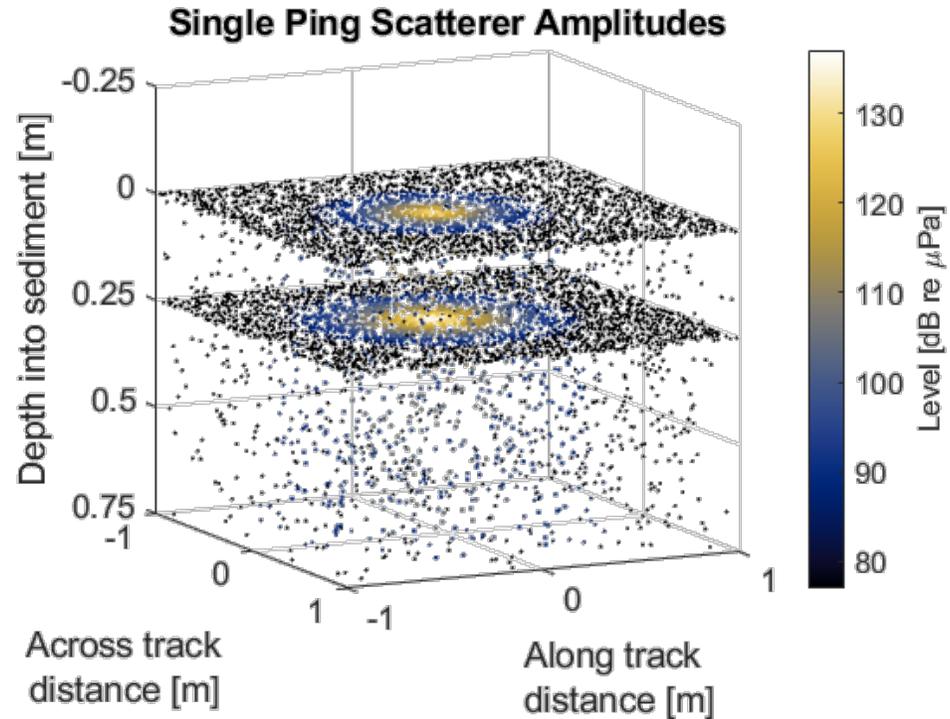
Field experiments have produced labeled datasets suitable for training machine learning systems



SVSS datasets provided to collaborators at Arizona State University and Penn State University
>1000 Labeled 3D image Cubes

Backup

Model/data comparison shows reasonable agreement for A-scan levels



Updating scattering models with estimates of in situ sediment properties improved agreement