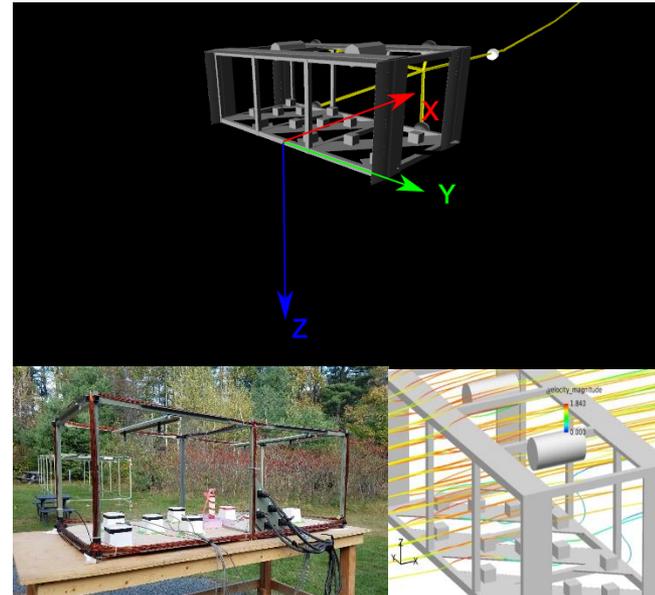




# Underwater Dynamic Classification Technology

Jon Miller<sup>1</sup>, Fridon Shubitidze<sup>1</sup>,  
Greg Schultz<sup>1</sup>, Andrew Baron<sup>2</sup>

1. *White River Technologies, Inc.*
2. *Dynamic Systems Analysis Ltd.*



# Marine UXO Classification

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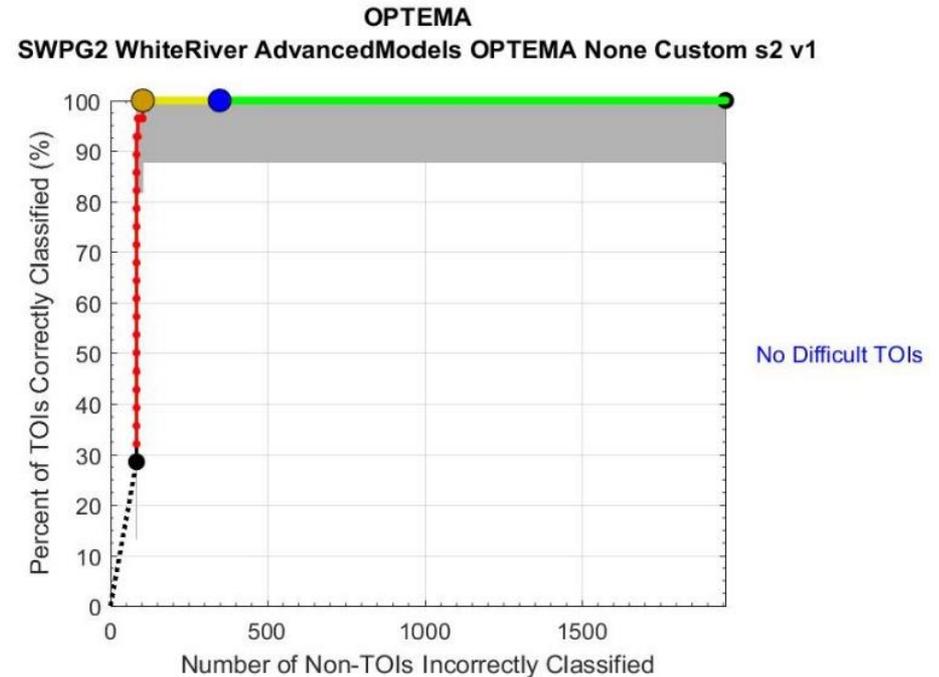
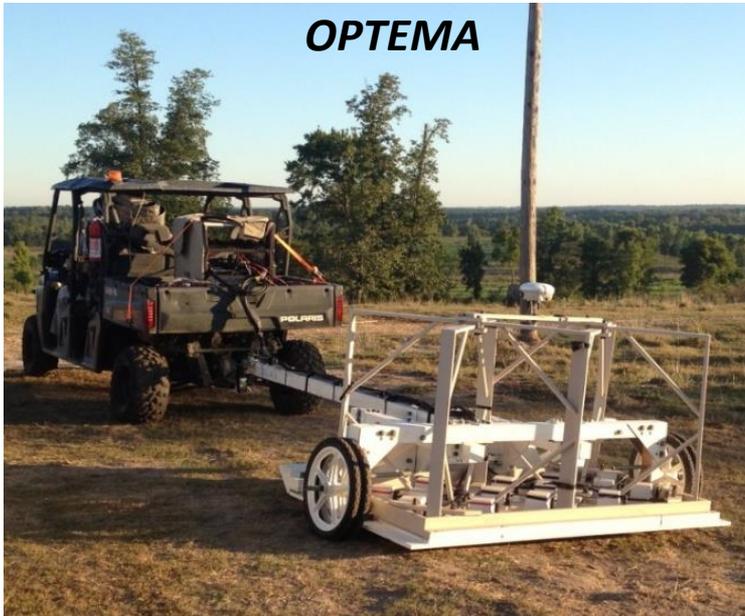
The marine UXO problem:

- Access to UXO is difficult; requires diver or ROV; targets obscured by marine growth or sediment
- Survey positioning quality significantly degraded underwater; limited availability of GPS methods
- Reacquisition is challenging due to access limitations compounded by positioning constraints

Current approaches:

- Advanced EMI very effective for land-based classification, but deployment underwater limited by increased standoff and positioning constraints

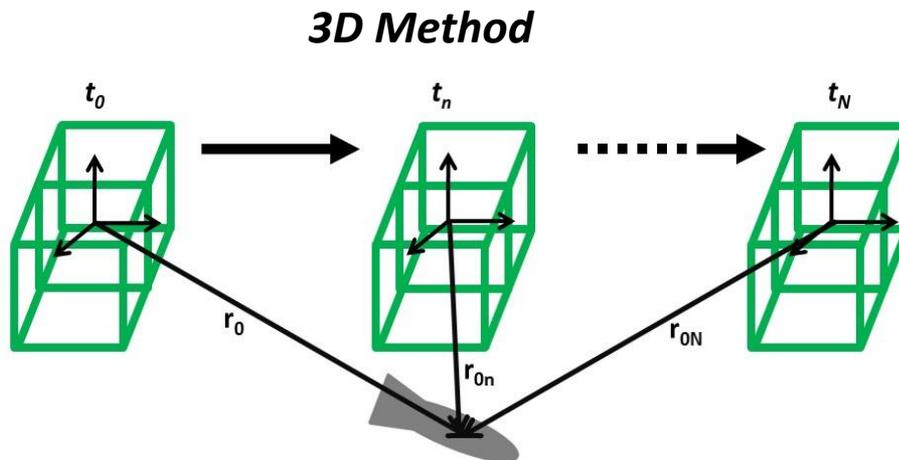
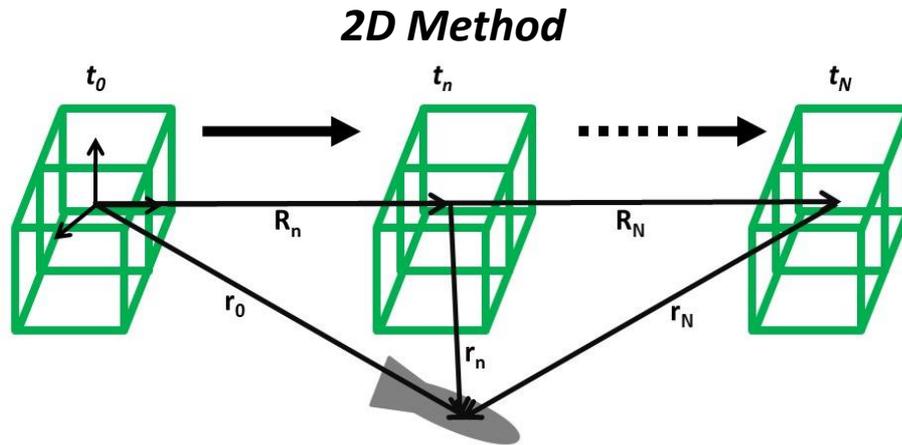
# Background: Dynamic Classification



Dynamic classification methods based on those demonstrated successfully under MR-201225, benefits for underwater include:

- One pass classification means no cued reacquisition
- Methods are particularly tolerant of positioning errors

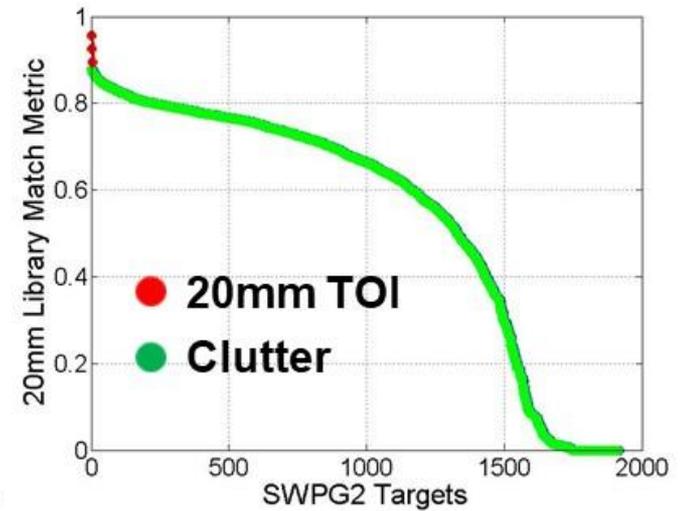
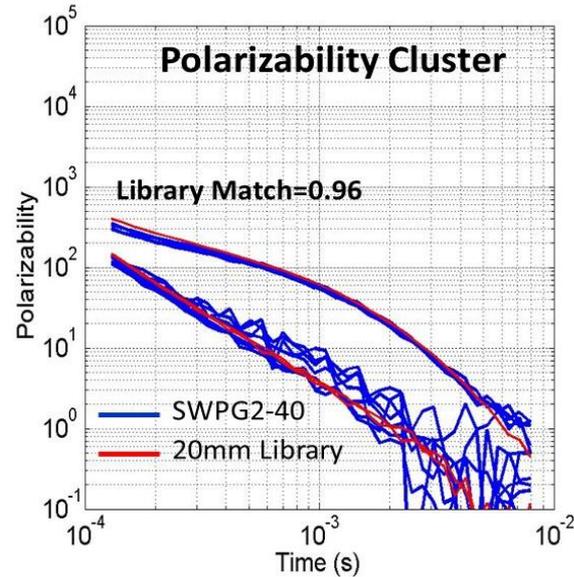
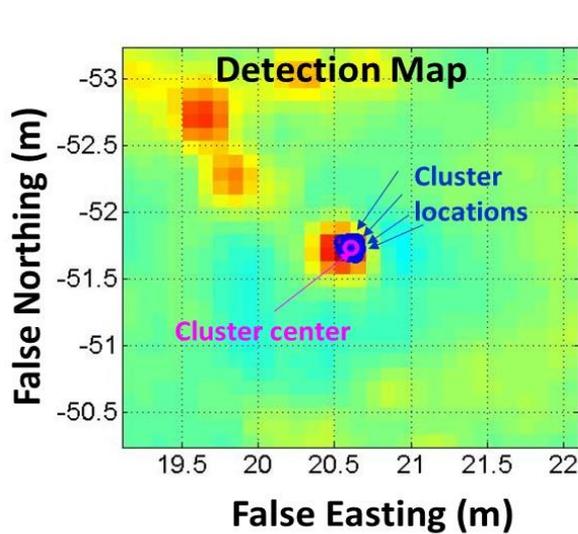
# Classification Approach: 2D vs. 3D



Position error tolerance: 3D EMI

- Each sensor position provides complete data for inversion of polarizabilities
- Polarizability “clusters” obtained from multiple sensor locations
- No need to accurately track relative position vectors,  $R_n$
- May be useful for underwater towed operation where towpoint surge could reduce accuracy of relative position tracking over short distances

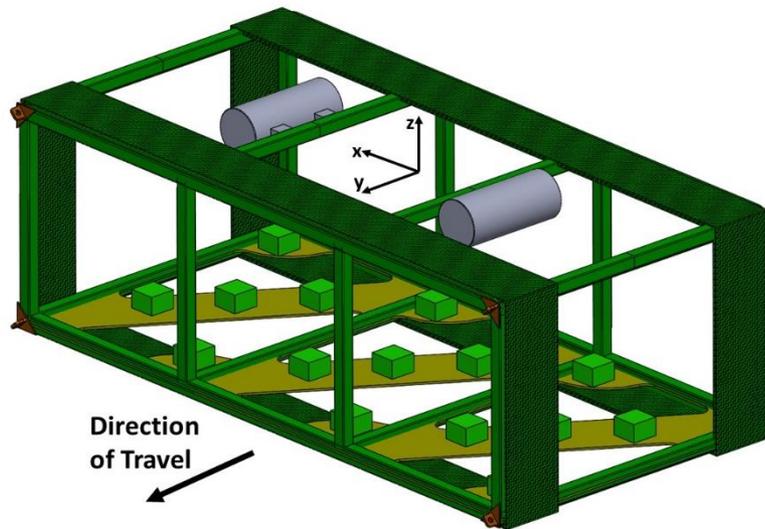
# Polarizability Cluster: Classification Decision



## 3D Dynamic classification decision flow:

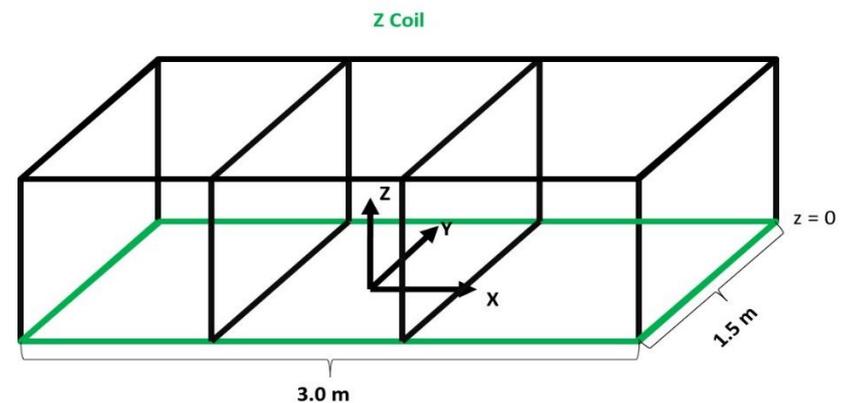
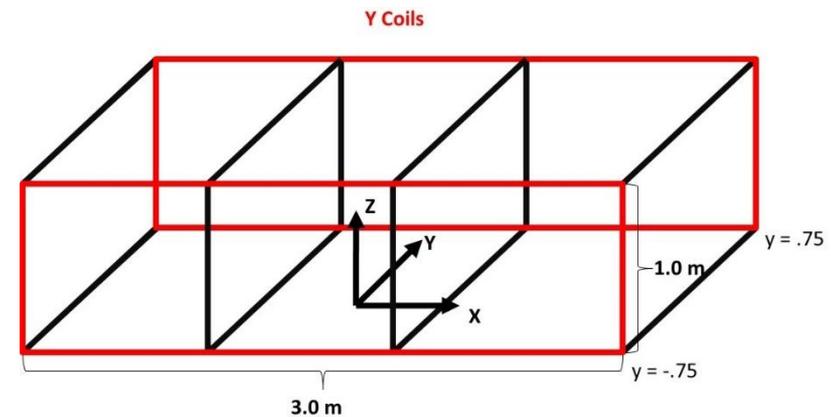
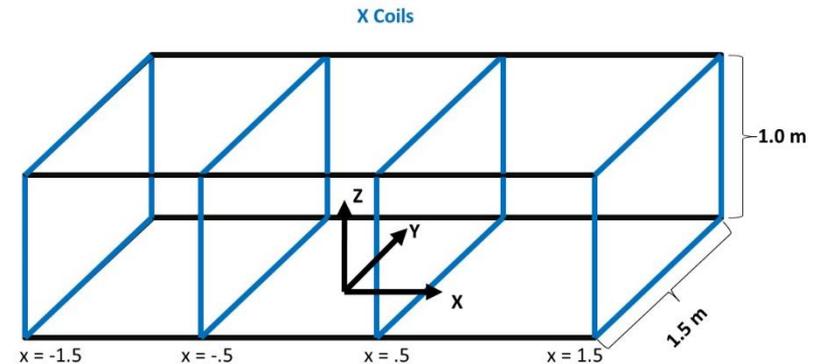
- Library match performed on polarizability cluster
- Average of cluster locations (cluster center) provides location estimate
- Targets ranked based on library match value

# Underwater Dynamic Classification Concept

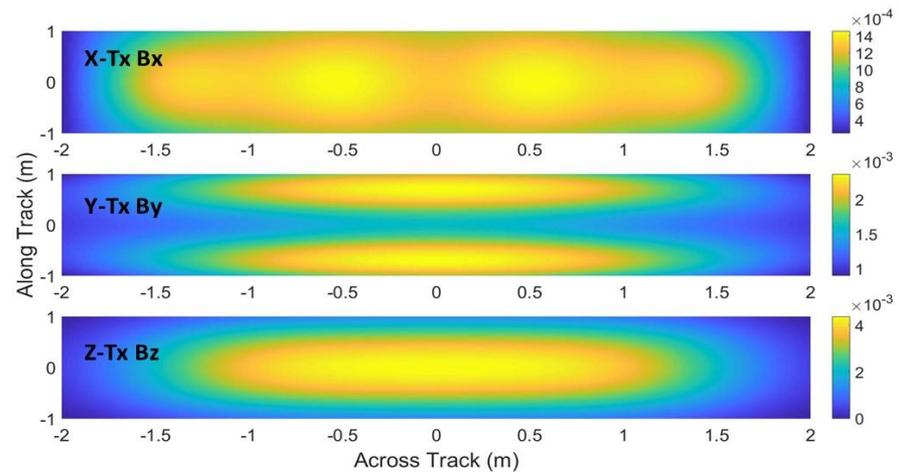
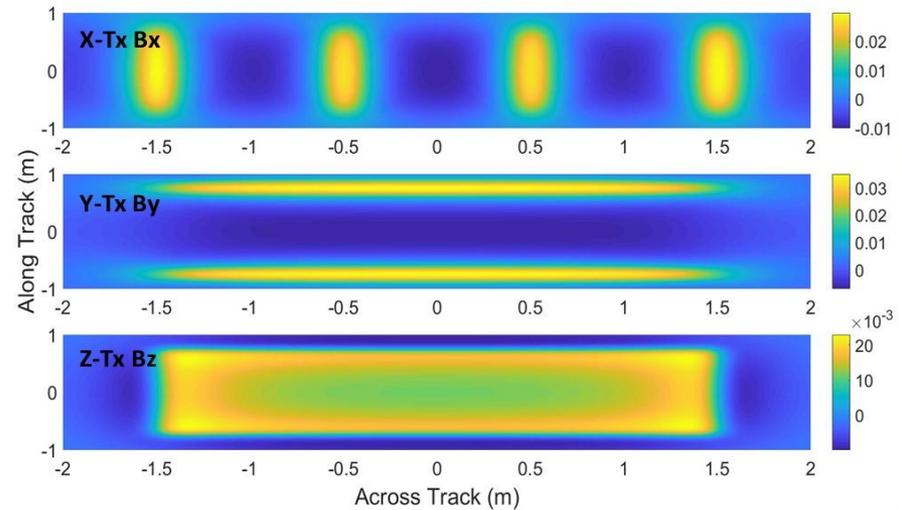
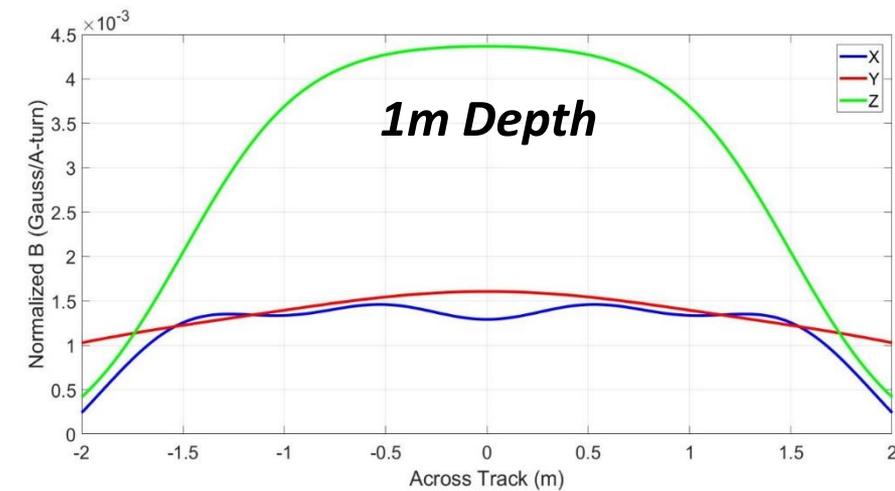
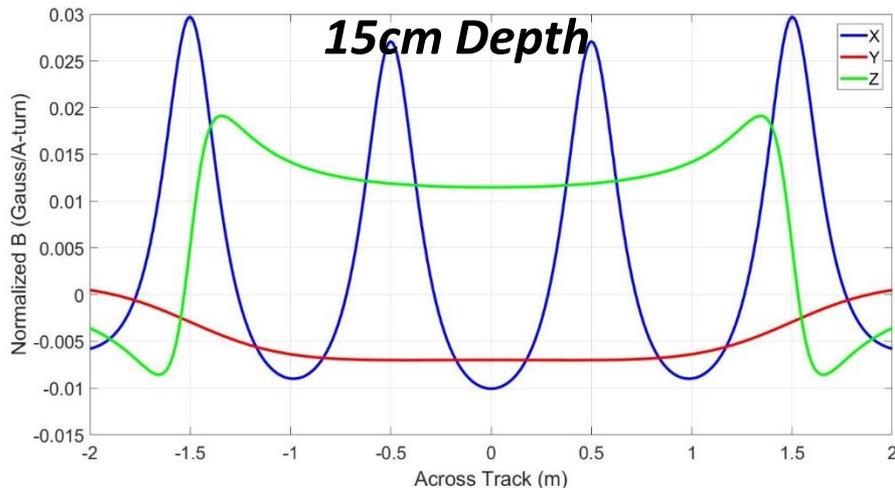


## Sensor Design:

- Enables 3D classification approach
- Optimized for increased standoff range
- Extended for towed survey swath of 3m

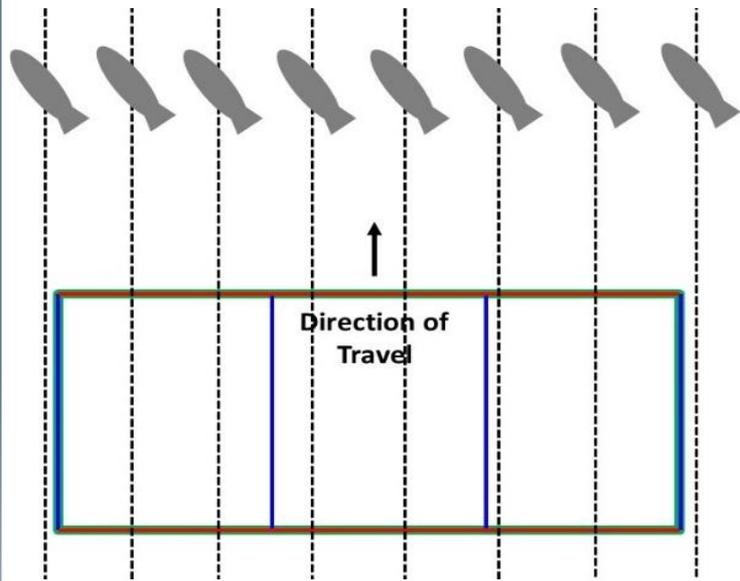


# Transmitter Field Optimization



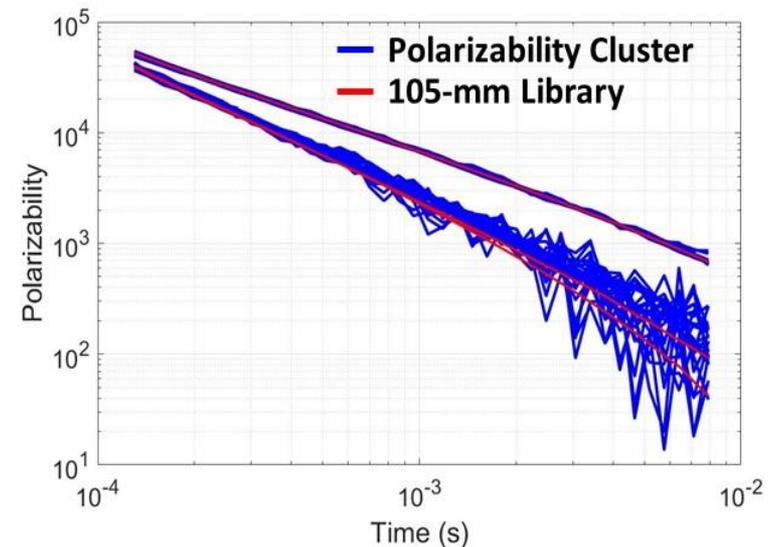
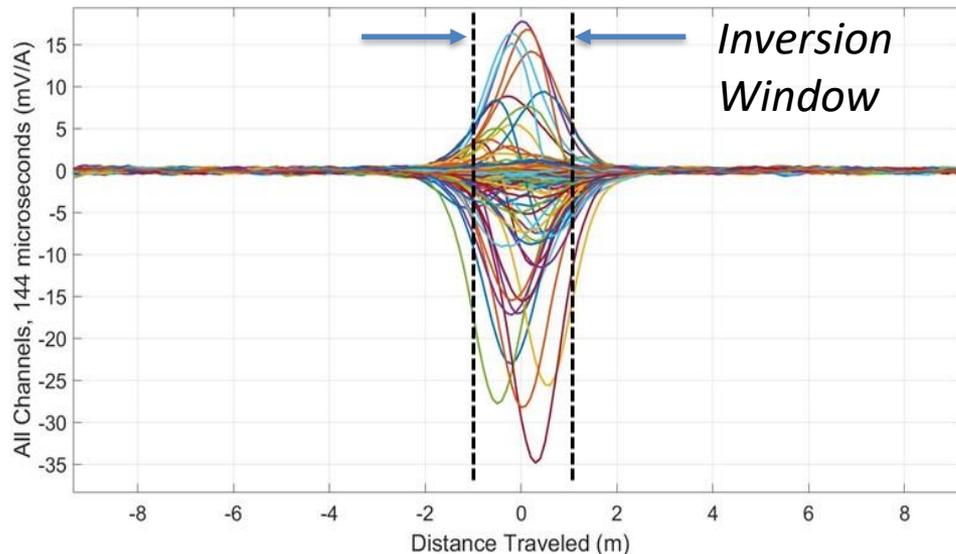
- Optimized for uniform field distribution at ranges  $>1$  meter

# Electromagnetic Simulation: Dynamic Encounters

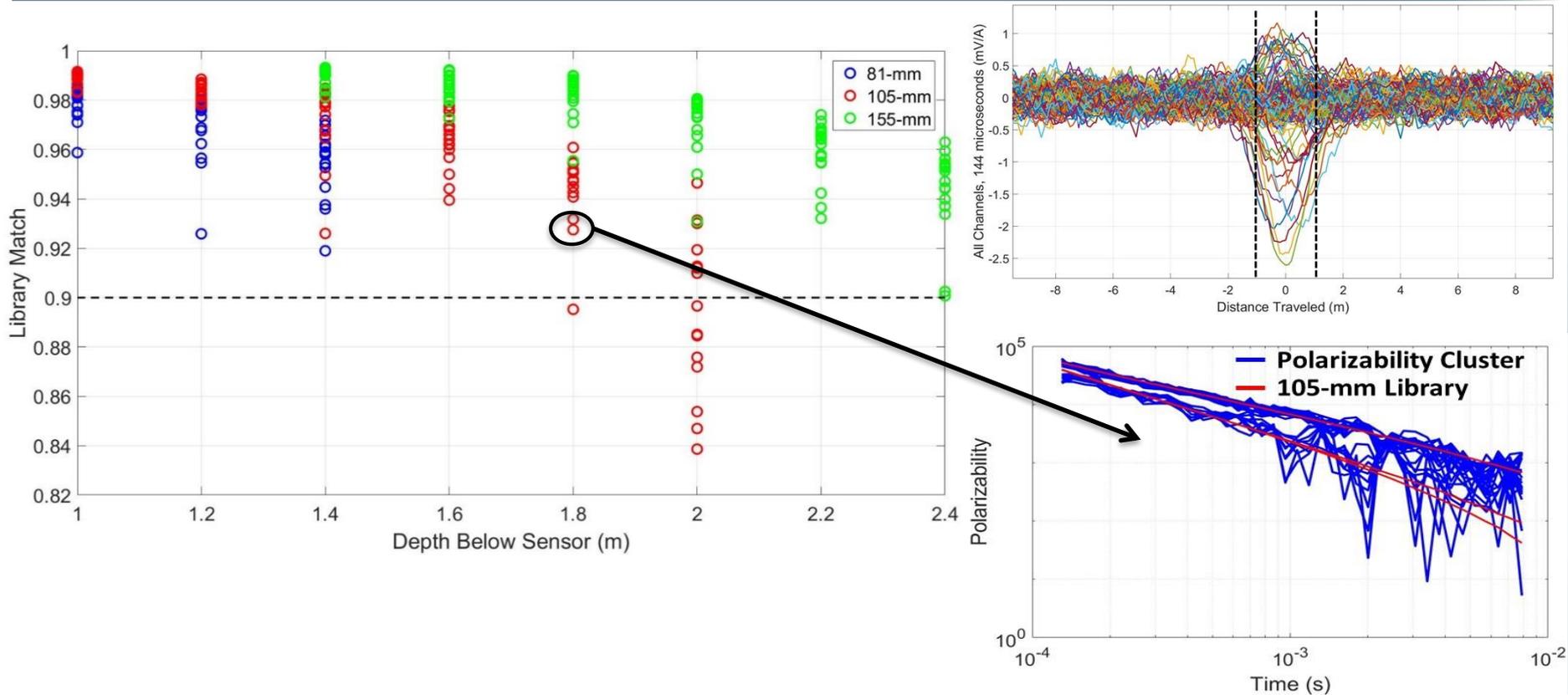


250 Dynamic Simulations:

- 20m lines (+/-10m from target)
- Across track offsets +/-1.6m
- Standoff ranges 1m – 2.4m
- TOI included 81mm – 155mm
- Dynamic noise added from OPTEMA survey data



# Electromagnetic Simulation: Dynamic Encounters

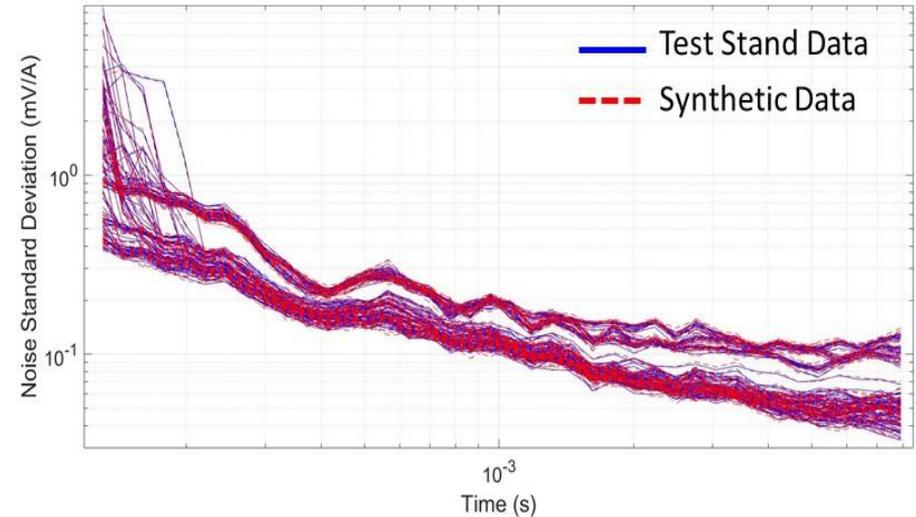


- Library match value of 0.9 used for classification quality threshold
- 81mm – 1.4m; 105mm – 1.8m; 155mm – 2.4m reliable classification depths
- Transmitter effective power = 200 A-turns

# Experimental Setup: Grid Measurements

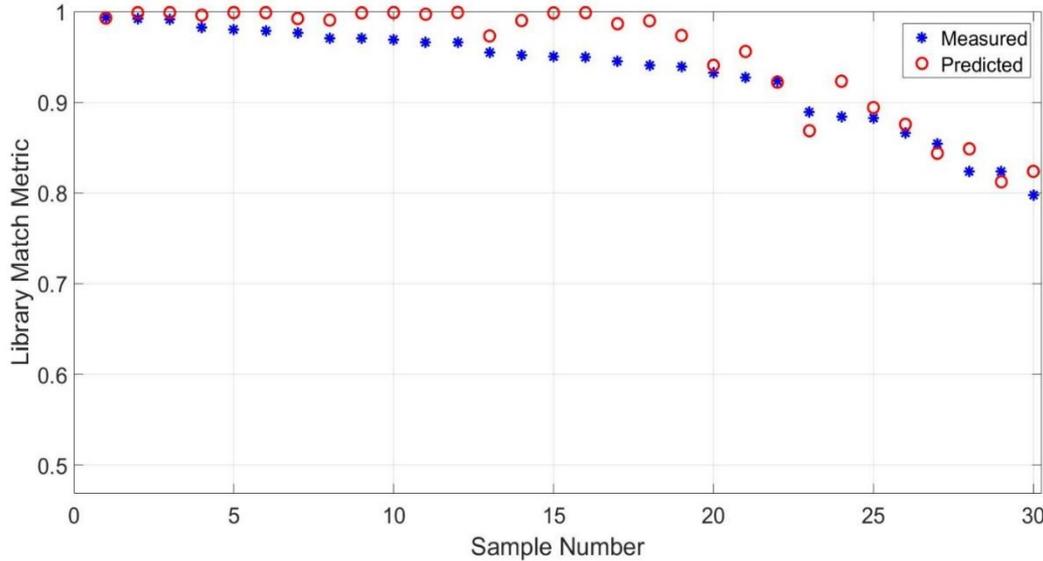


Noise Standard Deviation for  
90 Data Channels



- 2/3-scale mockup replicates full-scale concept Tx spacing
- Static grid measurements collected to compare model predictions with actual inversion results
- Sensor noise captured and added to simulation to produce synthetic data

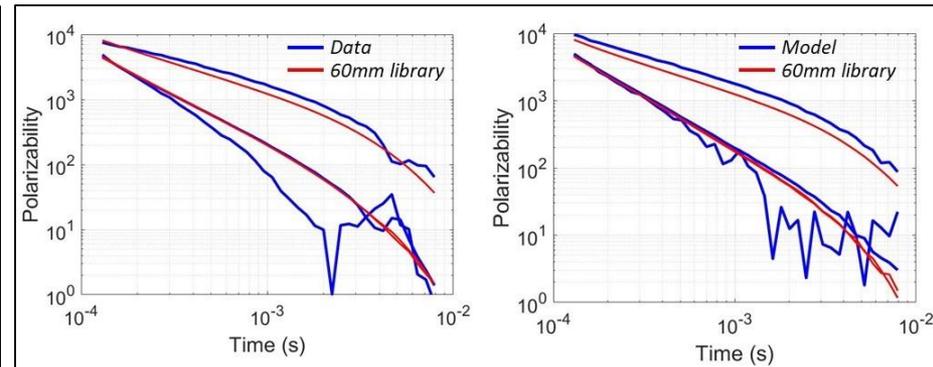
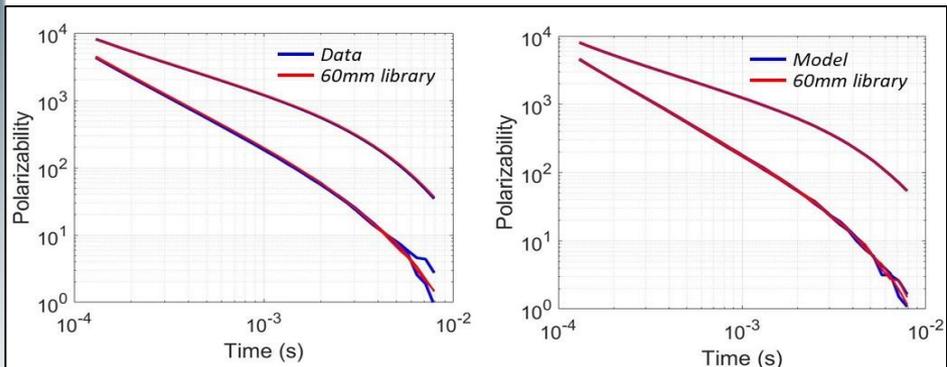
# Electromagnetic Experiment: Model Verification



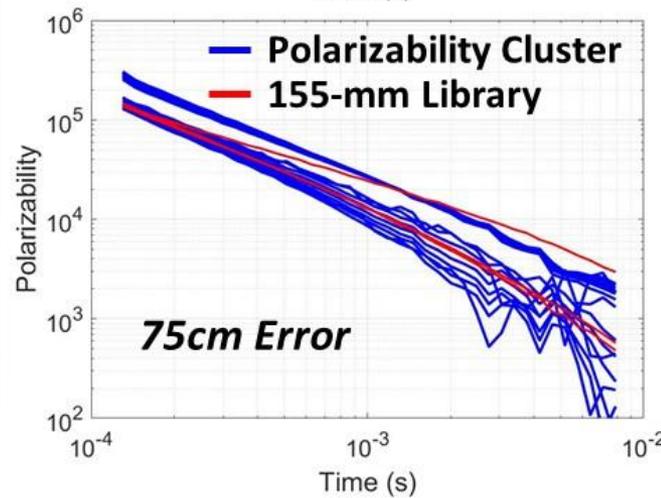
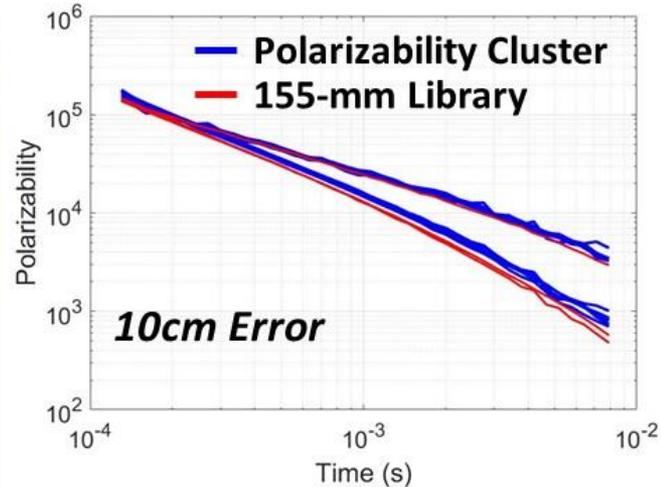
- 30 grid measurements
- Includes well constrained and poorly constrained grid locations
- Predicted match within 5% of observed match

**Constrained**

**Poorly Constrained**

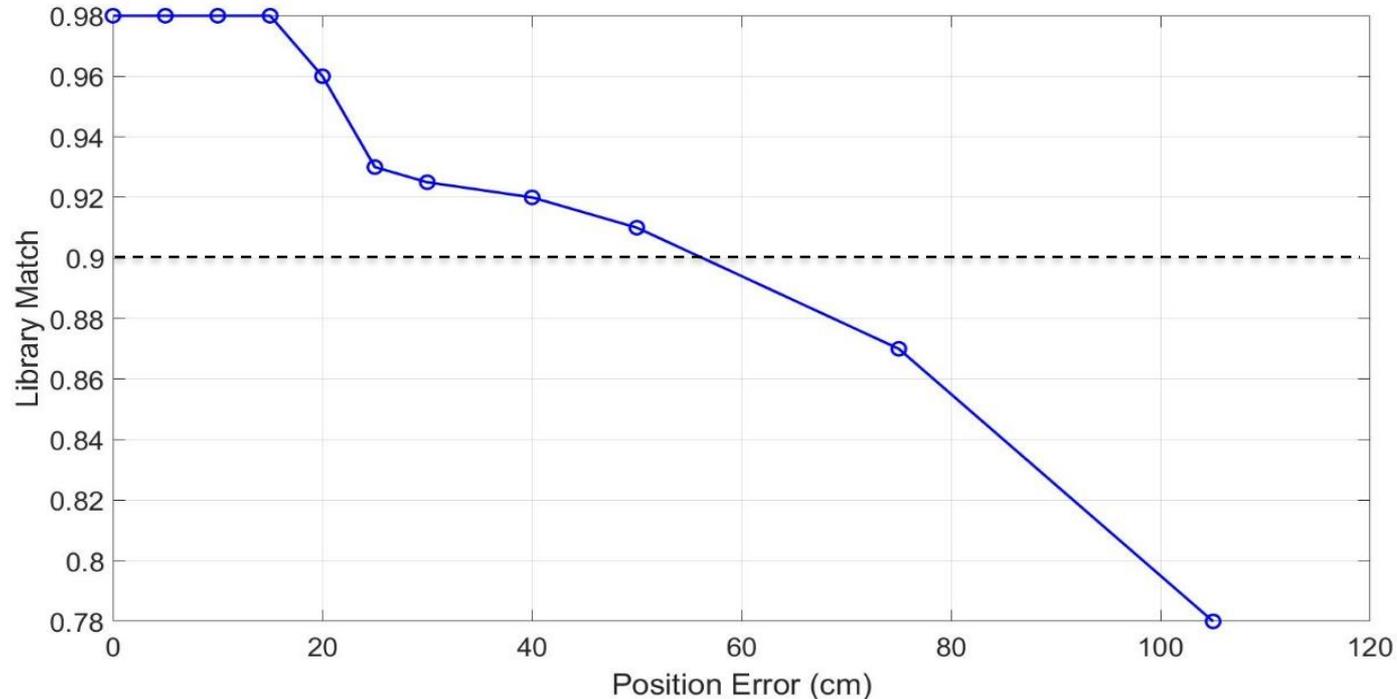


# Electromagnetic Experiment: Error Simulation



- Acquired dynamic data over 155mm using constant tow speed
- Added sample-to-sample position error in post-processing
- Evaluated single shot tolerance to relative position error between samples

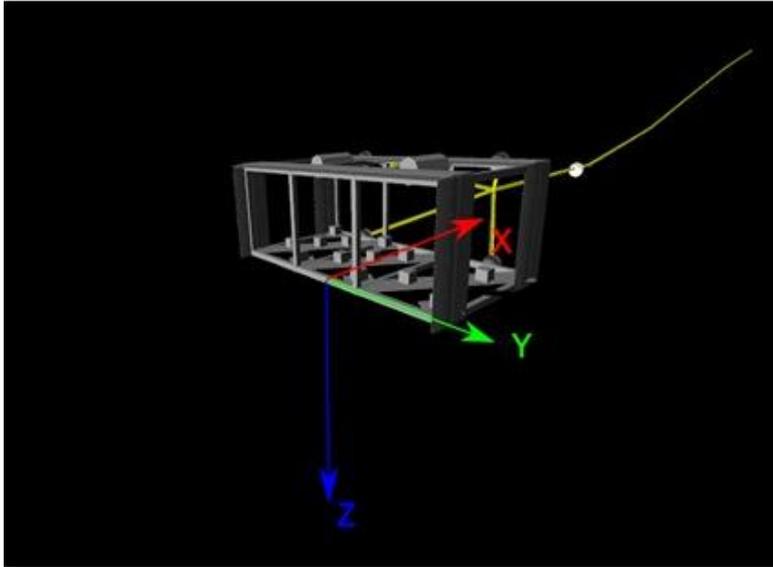
# Electromagnetic Experiment: Error Simulation



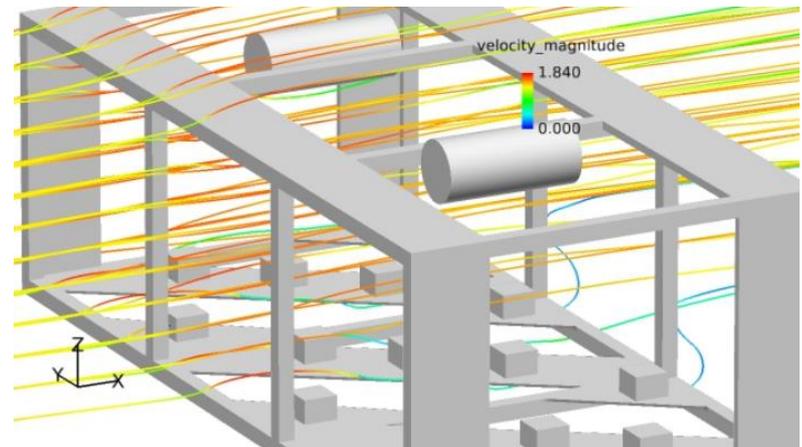
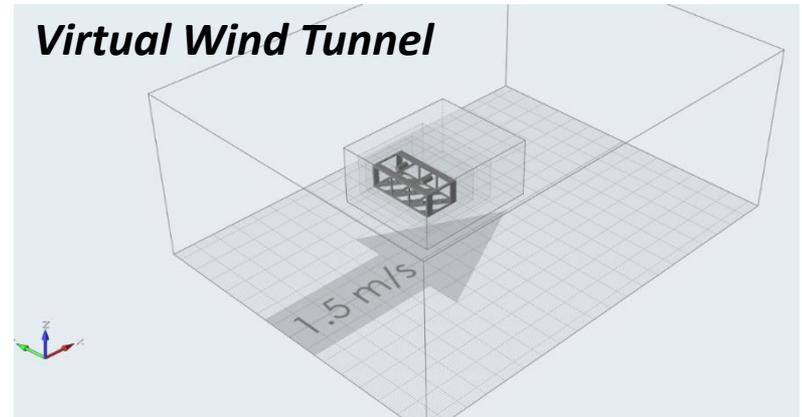
- No change in classification quality for up to 15cm sample-to-sample position error
- Quality match value (0.9 or higher) maintained to 50cm error

# Hydrodynamic Modeling and Simulation

## ProteusDS



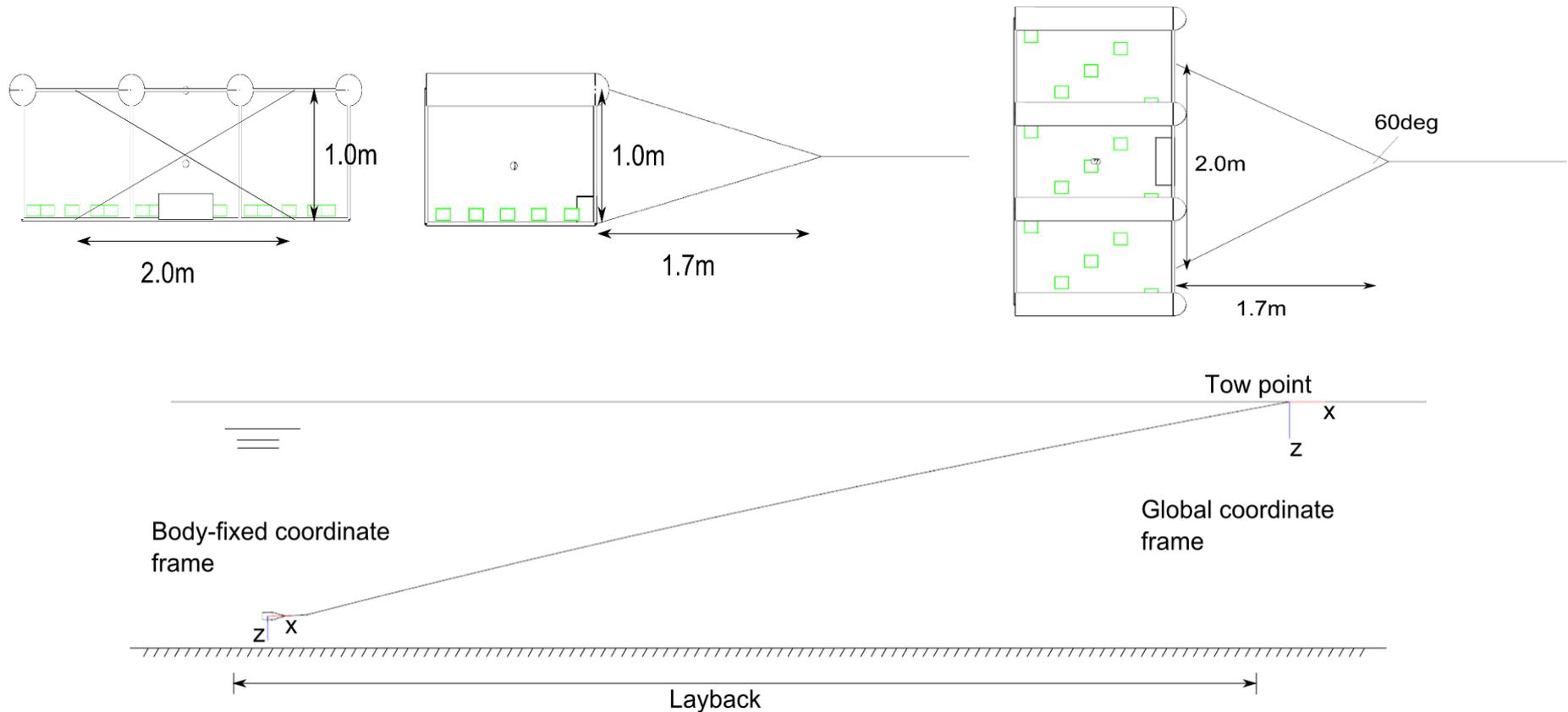
## Virtual Wind Tunnel



## DSA ProteusDS Simulation Environment:

- Identifies forces acting on towed body
- Finite element model determines towed body response to load cases
- Accounts for mass distribution and buoyancy (volume of components)
- Drag analysis accounts for hydrodynamic shielding through Virtual Wind Tunnel (VWT) simulations

# Hydrodynamic Model: Design

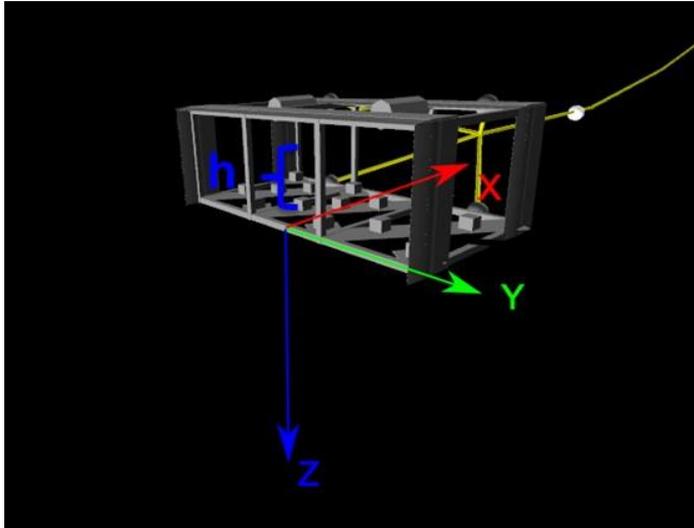


- Four point tow bridle designed for yaw and pitch stability
- 6 DOF rigid body model that calculates loads and buoyancy force
- Towline angle determined by drag and clump weight
- Depth determined by towline angle and layback

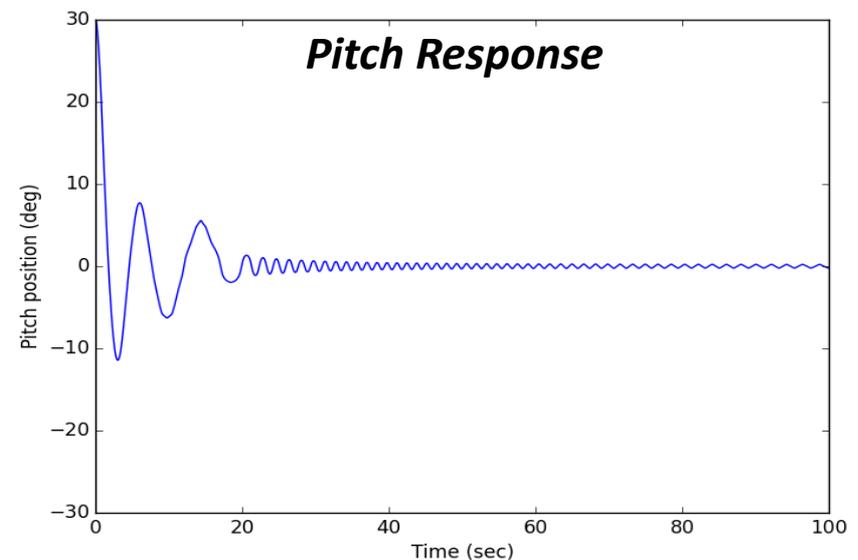
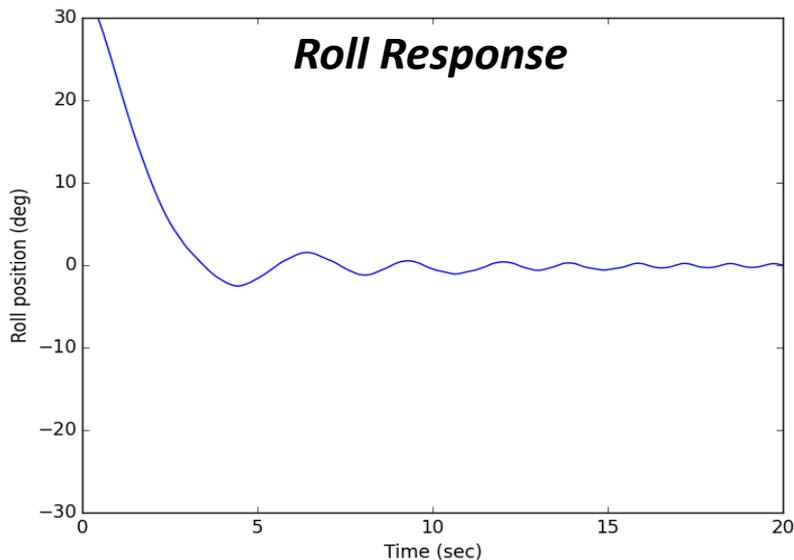
# Hydrodynamic Simulation: 25 Load Cases

Category	Sub-Category	test	Test Number	Comments
<b>Stability Load Cases</b>				
	Towed EMI sensor righting moment			Array only, no towline. Initial roll/pitch offset.
		Roll	S-01	
		Pitch	S-02	
	Transient response			Towline present, yaw/heave offset.
		Sway	S-03	
		Heave (falling)	S-04	
		Heave (rising)	S-05	
	Wave response			Wave test cases, both wave encounter frequencies.
		Sea state 3 - opposing	S-06	Height: 1.25m Period: 5.0sec
		Sea state 3 - with	S-07	Height: 1.25m Period: 5.0sec
	Cross current			Platform stability and sway position in 0.5 m/s and 1 m/s cross current
		0.5 m/s	S-08	
		1 m/s	S-09	
<b>Control Load Cases</b>				
	Winch response			Determine towed EMI sensor heave response to winch control
		1.0 m/s tow speed, 25kg clump weight	C-01	
		1.0 m/s tow speed, 50kg clump weight	C-02	
		1.0 m/s tow speed, 75kg clump weight	C-03	
		1.5 m/s tow speed, 25kg clump weight	C-04	
		1.5 m/s tow speed, 50kg clump weight	C-05	
		1.5 m/s tow speed, 75kg clump weight	C-06	
		2.0 m/s tow speed, 25kg clump weight	C-07	
		2.0 m/s tow speed, 50kg clump weight	C-08	
		2.0 m/s tow speed, 75kg clump weight	C-09	
<b>Operating Load Cases</b>				
	Operating configurations			Determine loads and layback on the system during normal towing operations
		Tow speed 1 knot	O-1	
		Tow speed 2 knot	O-2	
		Tow speed 3 knot	O-3	
		Tow speed 4 knot	O-4	
	Turning			Determine array stability when turning
		Turning - 1	O-5	
	Start/stop			Determine towed EMI sensor reaction on start up or sudden stop
		Sudden stop	O-6	
		Start up	O-7	

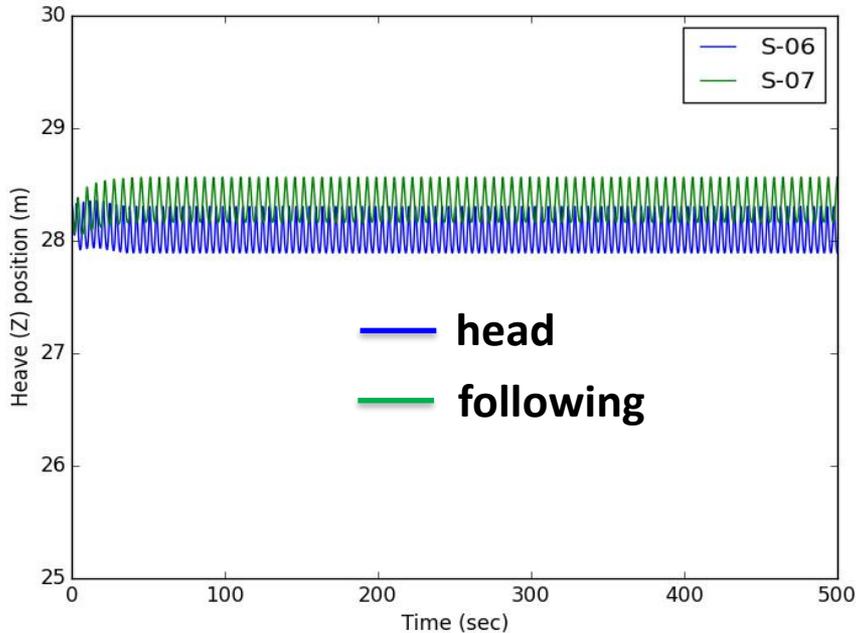
# Hydrodynamic Simulation: Stability



- Stability aided by increased metacentric height ( $h$ ) for 3D configuration
- Increases righting moment and improves roll and pitch stability
- Roll and pitch stability tested for 30 degree perturbation; settles to within 5 degrees of neutral within 3 seconds (roll) and 20 seconds (pitch)



# Hydrodynamic Simulation: Heave Response



- Sensor heave response evaluated for tow point heave and surge encountered in Sea State 3 conditions (head and following seas)
- Maximum heave variability is +/- 15cm for 1.25m wave height
- Indicates stability for maintaining seafloor standoff

## Towline Tension

Load case:	Mean tension - Bottom (kN):	Max tension – Bottom (kN):	Mean tension - Top (kN):	Max tension - Top (kN):
S-06	2.32	4.98	2.44	5.20
S-07	2.26	4.09	2.37	4.28

# Summary

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- Methods that limit number of underwater reacquisitions will have significant cost benefit for marine UXO remediation
- Dynamic classification has the potential to reduce reacquisition by eliminating cued survey and reducing diver reacquisition for false alarms
- 3D sensor design may provide position error tolerance that is beneficial for towed deployment
- Modification of land-based sensor configuration may improve ability to operate at increased standoff
- Initial hydrodynamic analysis indicates that there are no significant operational barriers to implementing a 3D configuration for towed deployment

# *Acknowledgments*

1. **Underwater Sensor Design Feasibility – ESTCP MR-201614;**
  2. **Dynamic Classification Live Site Demonstration – ESTCP MR-201225**
- 

## *Thanks to:*

*Dr. Hendrik Muller (WHOI) – Underwater TEM Modeling*

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