KONGSBERG

Turbidity Monitoring Using Echosounder Technology

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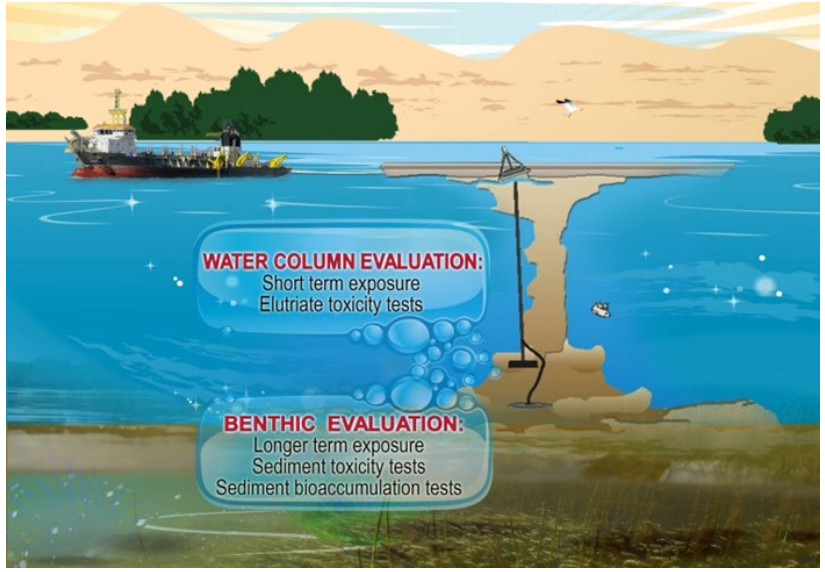
26/02/2023

Dredging: Environmental Concerns

- ✓ Water Quality
  - Increased turbidity due to sediment resuspension
  - Contaminant mobilization and transport
- ✓ Air Quality
  - Sox (SO_2), Nox (NO_2), CO, Ozone (O3)
  - Carbon Emissions
- ✓ Ecological Health
  - Impacts to endangered species
  - Impacts to fish migration and spawning due to turbidity
  - Impacts to essential fish habitat
  - Loss of habitat or benthos by removal or smothering
  - Acute and chronic toxicity due to resuspension of contaminants
  - Underwater noise impacts on fish



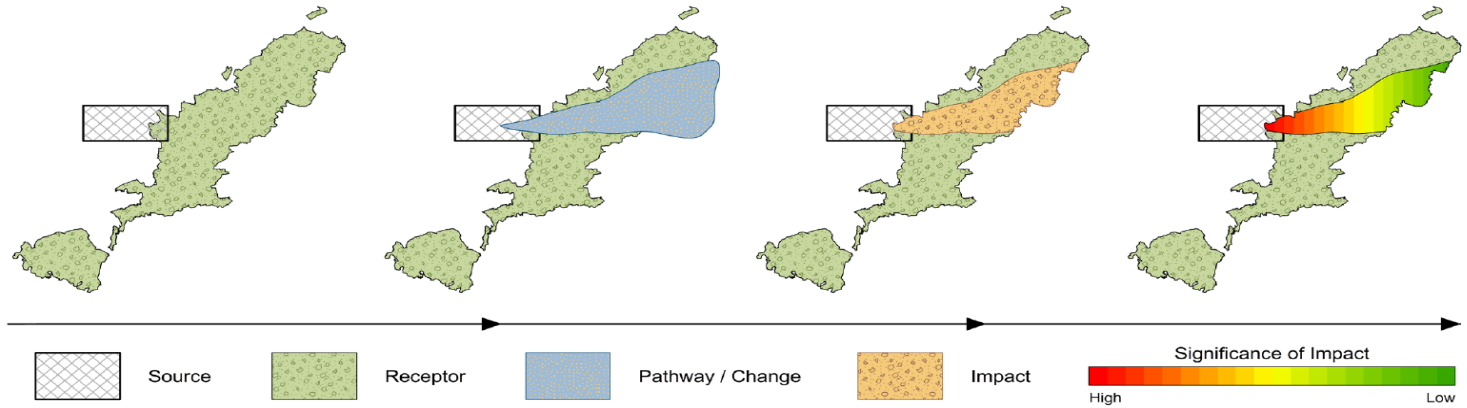
- ✓ Human Health
  - Bioaccumulation
  - Social Impacts

Dredging – Water Quality

- ✓ Dredge actions result in sediment losses to the water column
- ✓ Sediment dislodged by dredging action, but not fully captured
- ✓ Currents induced by equipment movement can erode unstable sediment and redistribute them in the water column
- ✓ Barge, tug, and tender vessel movement impacts may exceed dredge impacts

Environmental Monitoring during Dredging

- ✓Why do we monitor?
  - Understand baseline conditions and document post project conditions
  - Monitor potential impacts on receptors
  - Demonstrate compliance with regulations and permit conditions
  - Assess performance of BMPs

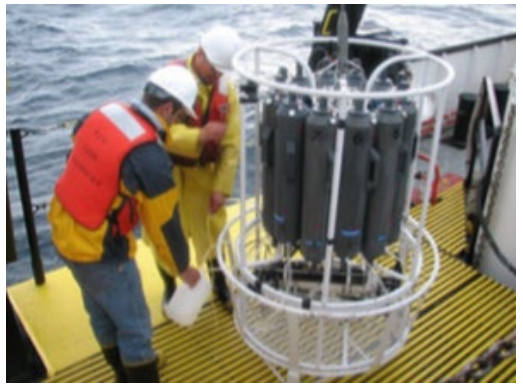


Source: CEDA 2015

https://dredging.org/media/ceda/org/documents/resources/cedaonline/2015-02-ceda_informationpaper-environmental_monitoring_procedures.pdf

Environmental Monitoring during Dredging

- ✓ What do we monitor?
  - Water quality (physical and sometimes contaminants at location of dredging and CDF discharge)
  - Biota (benthic, demersal, pelagic)
  - Fauna (e.g., eel grass)
  - Air quality
  - Sound levels (ambient and underwater)
  - Sediment quality



Environmental Monitoring during Dredging

- ✓ Common challenges
  - Natural systems often produce high-turbidity environments making effects from dredging difficult to identify
  - Other sources of pollution (e.g., outfalls) can affect results of water and sediment quality monitoring or cause flora/fauna mortality
  - Inclement weather can cause changes to the system by increasing turbidity and erosion of work areas

Source: USGS (City of Tuscaloosa, Alabama)

Mitigating Turbidity Impacts During Dredging

Image credit: https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/About/Technical-Centers/NDC-Navigation-and-Civil-Works-Decision-Support/NDC-Dredges/

- Requires managing suspended solids released at site or entering sensitive areas
- Sonar using FM pulses has longer range than optic sensors
- Acquisition, analysis and verification of data is crucial
- Data must be manageable, easily understood, real-time
- Software functionality:
  - Turbidity measurements, bottom morphology
  - Layout plans, real estate boundaries, tolerance ranges
  - Slope angles, target and actual slopes
  - Remaining material thickness, estimation of dredged quantities for output assessment

Ocean Science Instruments

KONGSBERG

Transducers

Transceivers

EK80 Series

- Broadband
- Split Beam
- Multiple Platform Systems:
  - Shipboard, Underwater Vehicle, Mooring and Portable Systems

EC150-3c

- PHASED ARRAY ADCP
- BROADBAND ECHO SOUNDER

ME70/MS70

- Calibratable Multibeam
- Individual Split Beams
- 10 to 120 kHz frequency range

ADCP vs. Split-beam Echosounder

- ADCP measures doppler shift of small particles
  - You know ‘something is there’ – not how much

- Split-beam echosounder measures back-scatter
  - Allows user to quantify amount and density of solids
  - Allows user to quantify what the material is

biomass characterization in oceans

The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America **152**, 2319 (2022); doi: 10.1121/10.0014910

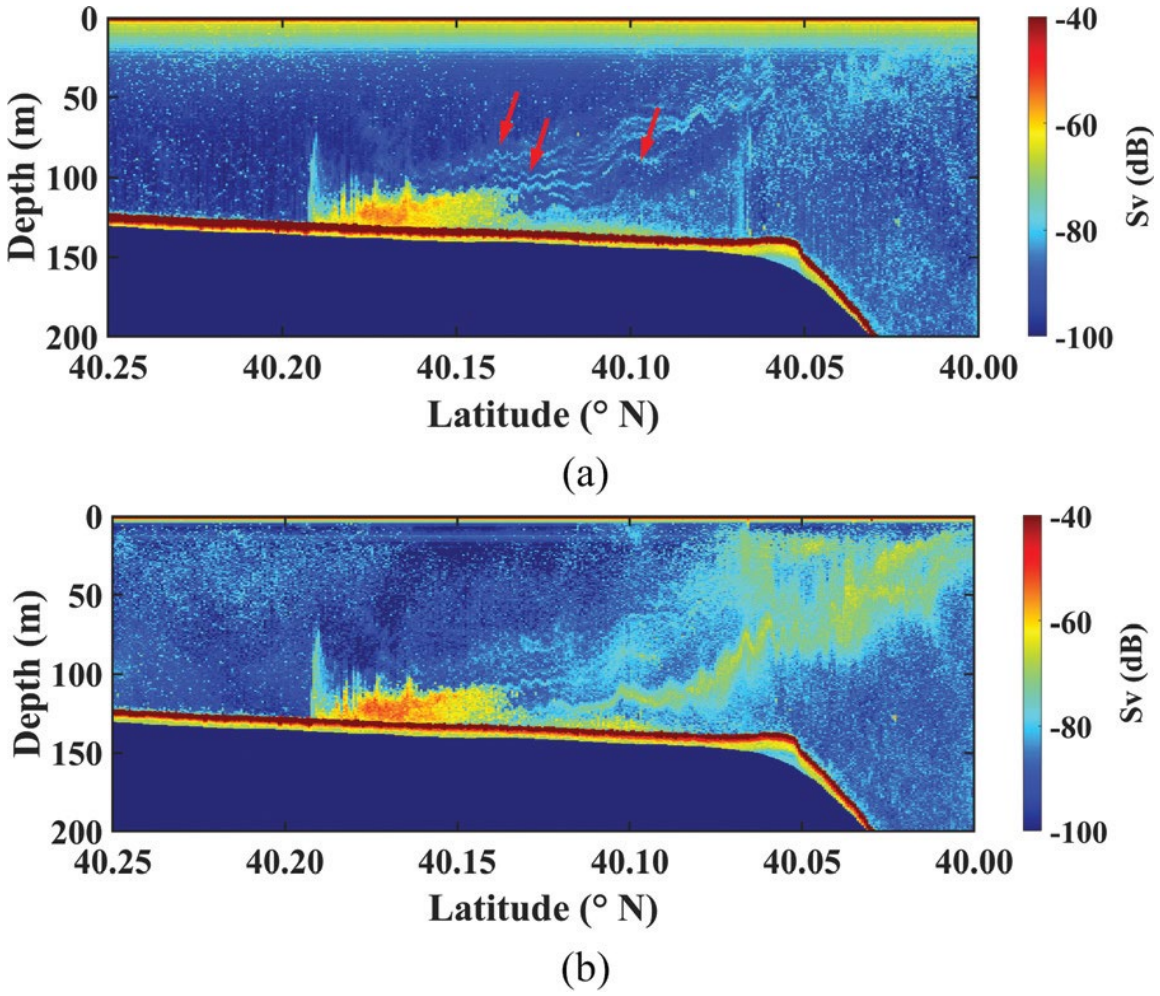
Broadband acoustic quantification of mixed biological aggregations at the New England shelf break

Scott Loranger,1,a) Michael J. Jech,2 and Andone C. Lavery1

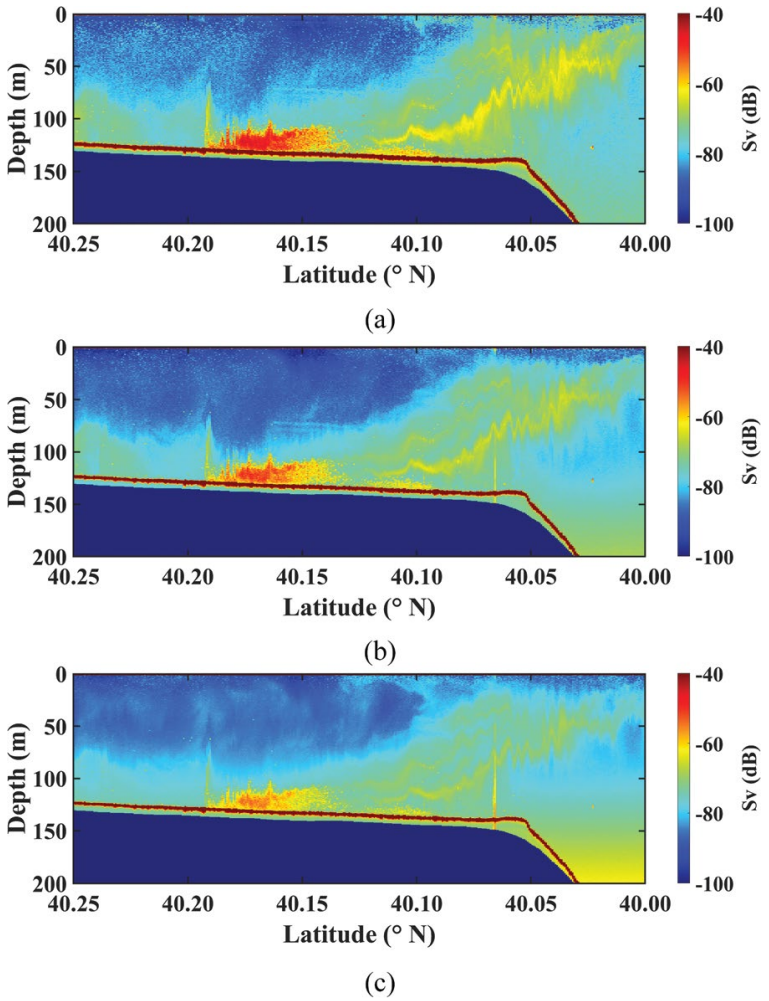
1Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, 86 Water Street, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, USA

2National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration–Fisheries, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543, USA

Echograms are shown for narrowband transducers, 18 kHz (a) and 38 kHz (b).

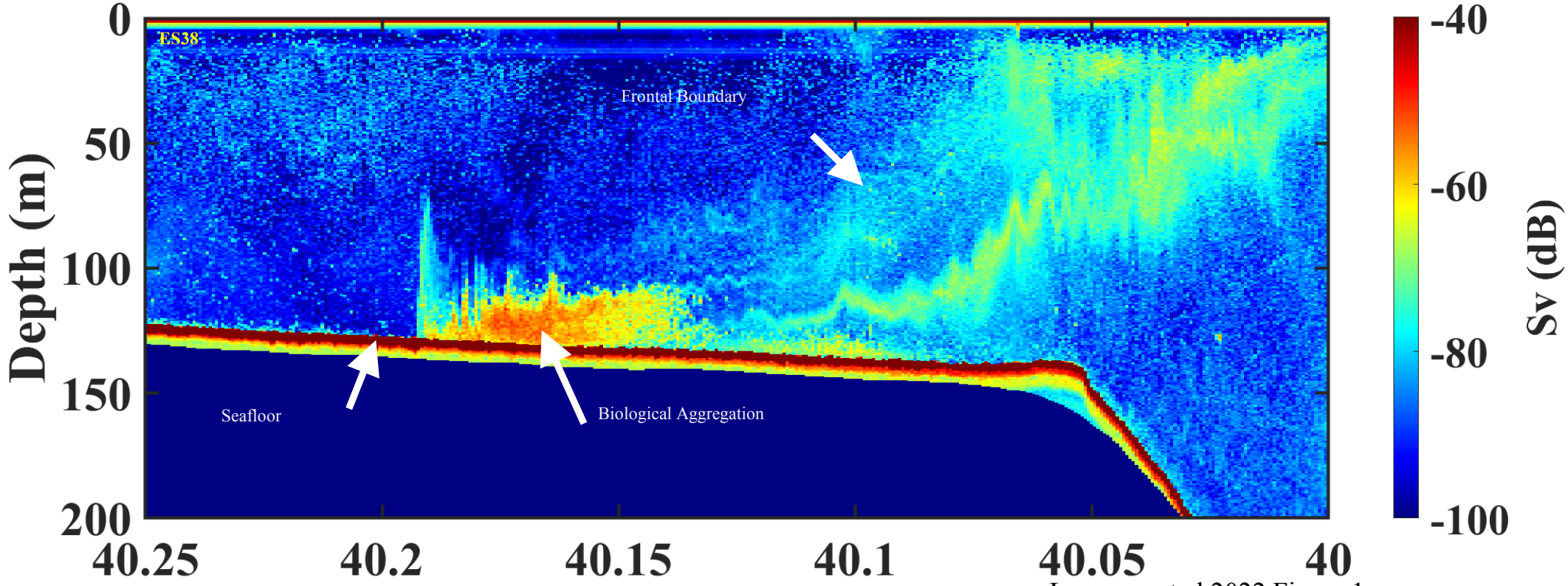


biomass characterization in oceans



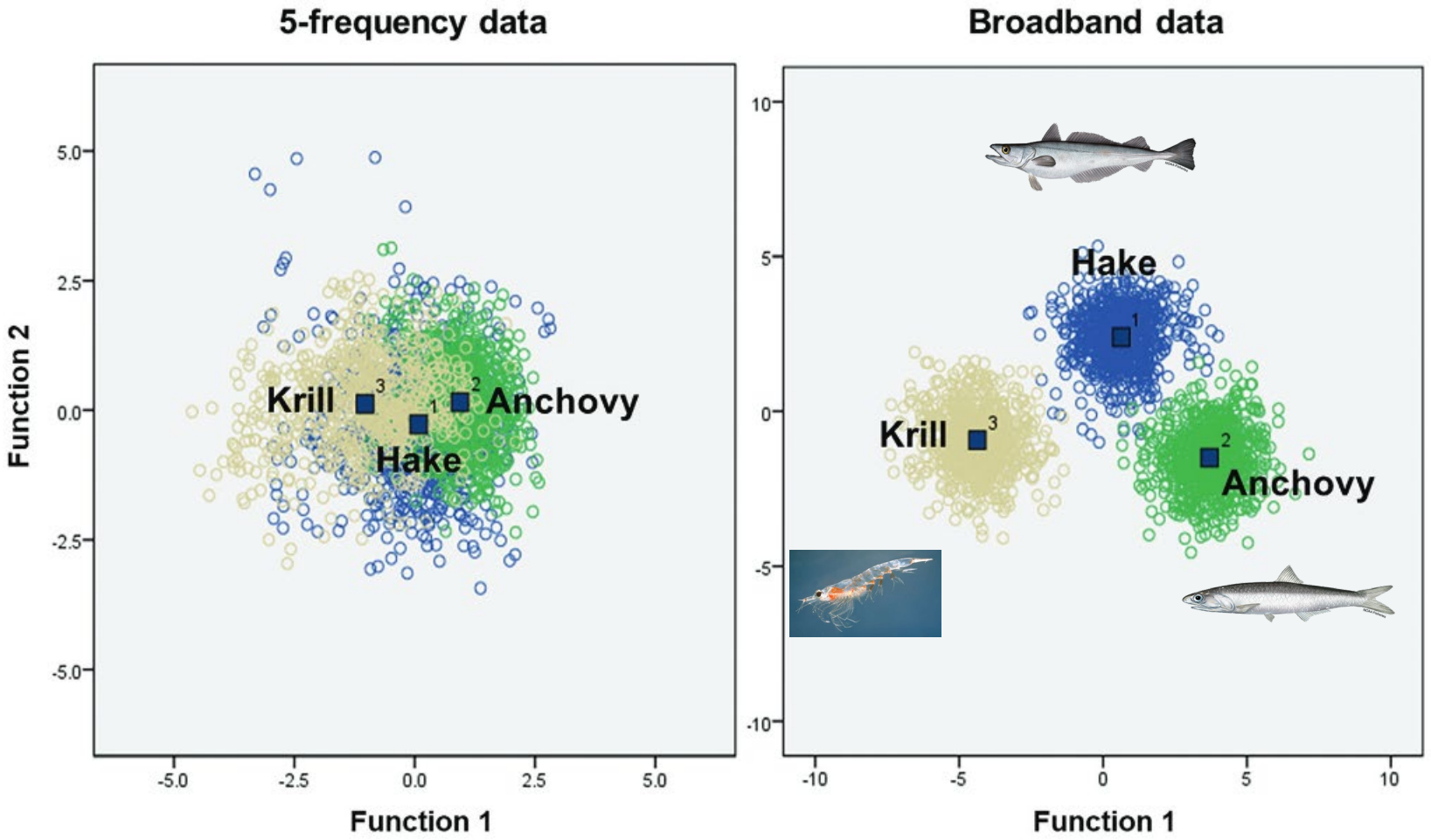
Echograms are shown for the broadband transducers with center frequencies
70 kHz (a), 120 kHz (b), and 200 kHz (c).

Species Identification and Biomass Measurement



Loranger et al 2022 Figure 1

Species Identification: Multispectral vs Broadband

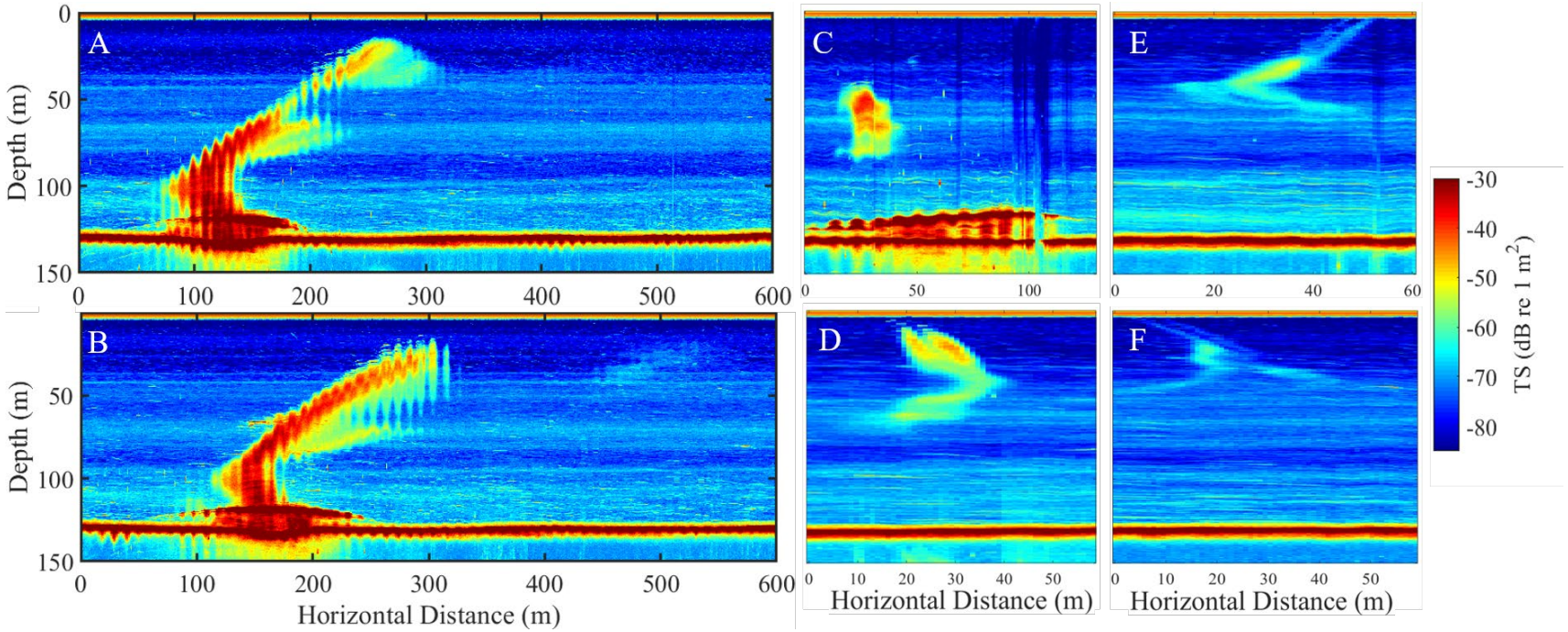


Benoit-Bird and Waluk 2020 Figure 6

Hydrocarbon Seep Studies

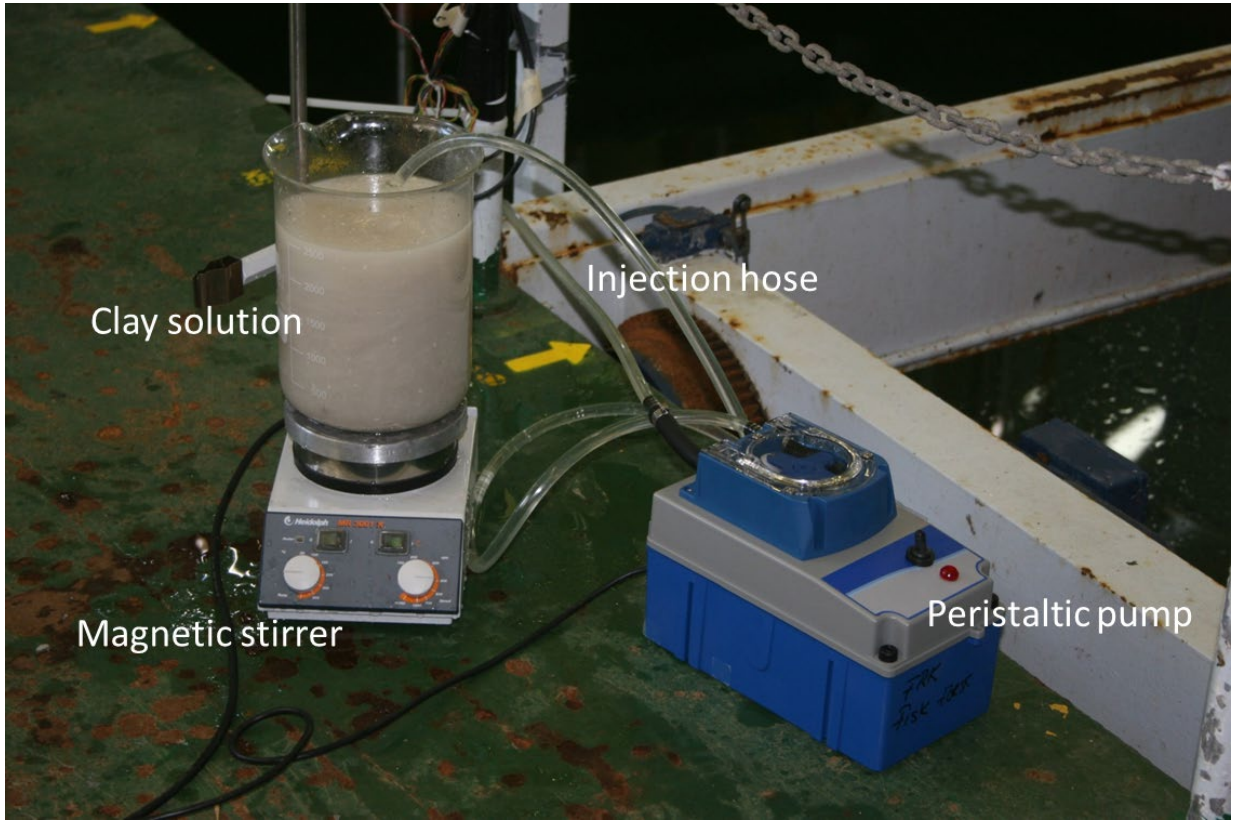
- Split-beam echosounders used in Gulf of Mexico to quantify hydrocarbon seeps
- Background measurements of natural seeps
- Quantification of new hydrocarbons above background due to spills

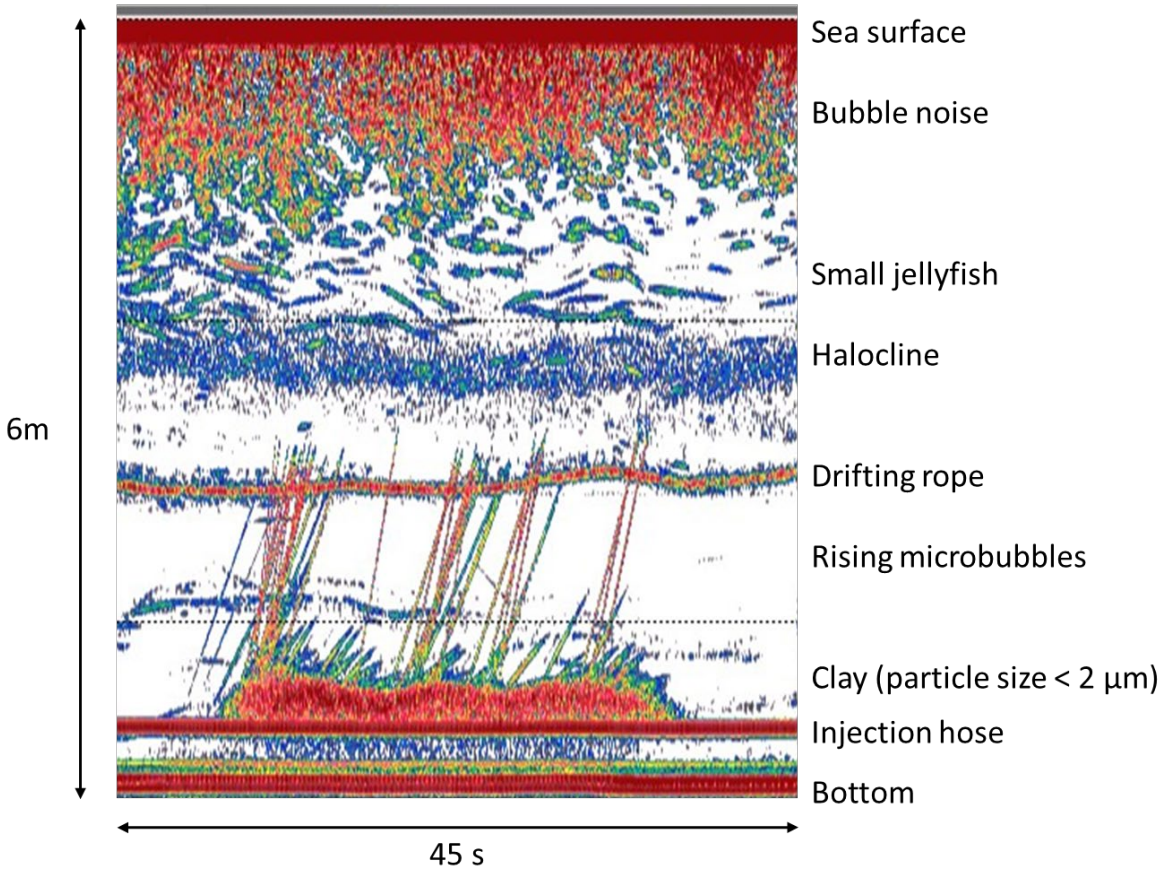
- Dredge turbidity monitoring has similar challenges



Preliminary Kongsberg Study (Frank Reier Knudsen)

Sediment detection experiments – injecting clay sediment bearing water samples and detecting their backscatter signals from chirped acoustic pulses





Observing sediment plumes in a controlled experiment with EK80 broadband echosounder during a preliminary experiment in the Delta Flume (Deltares, Delft, NL)

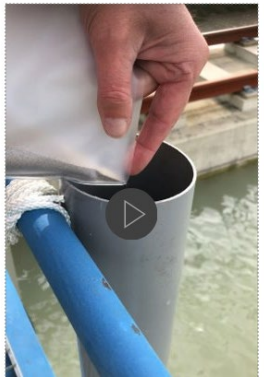
Preliminary data

Material

Kongsberg/Simrad EK80 FM mode :

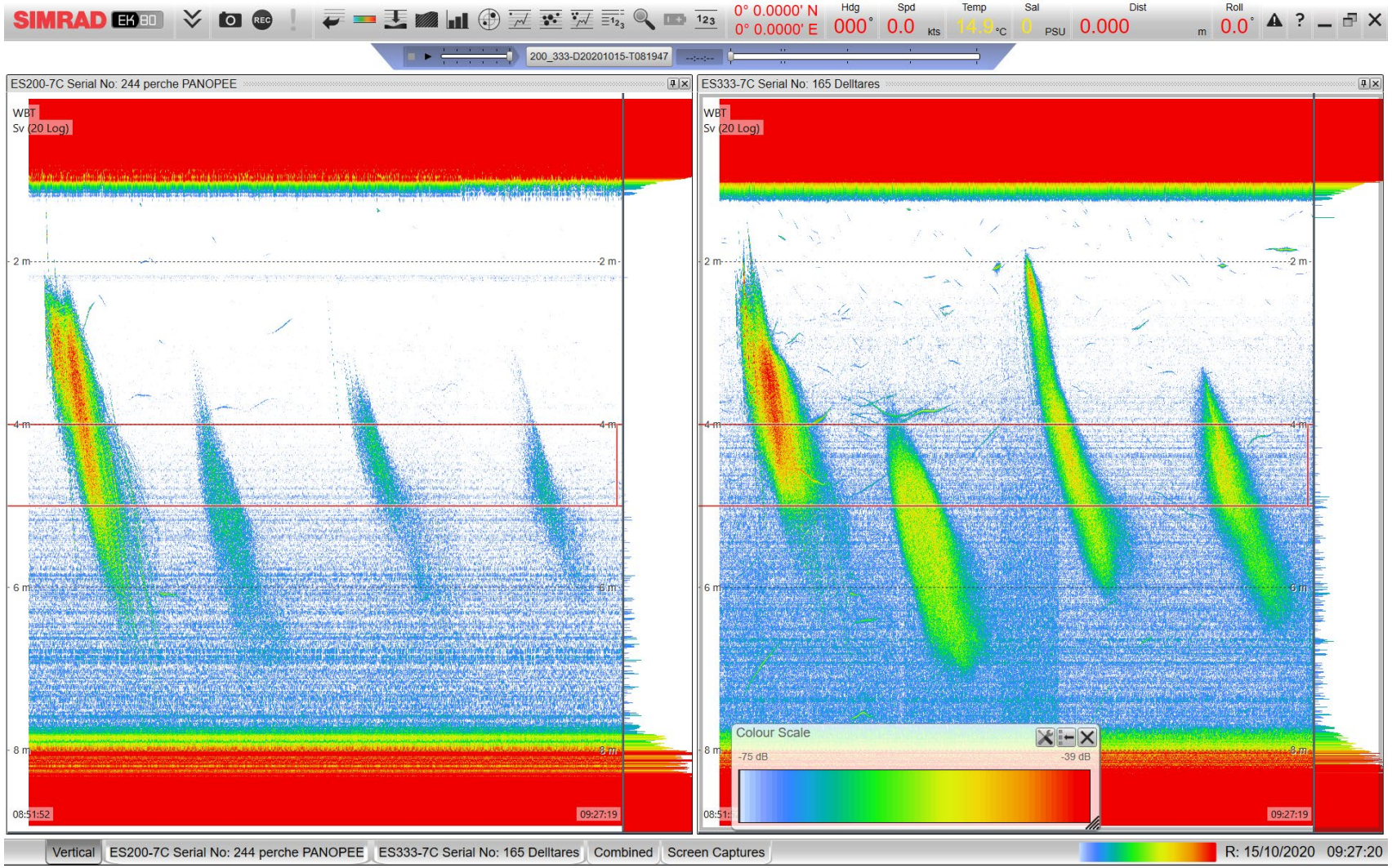
- 200kHz transducer [160-260] kHz
- 333kHz transducer [280-450] kHz
- 1ms pulse
- Calibrated with Tungsten Carbide sphere
- Steered 25°
- 8 m above floor
- 20g of sediment with four concentrations
  - >250 µm
  - [212:250] µm
  - [180:212] µm
  - [125:180] µm

EK80 antenna



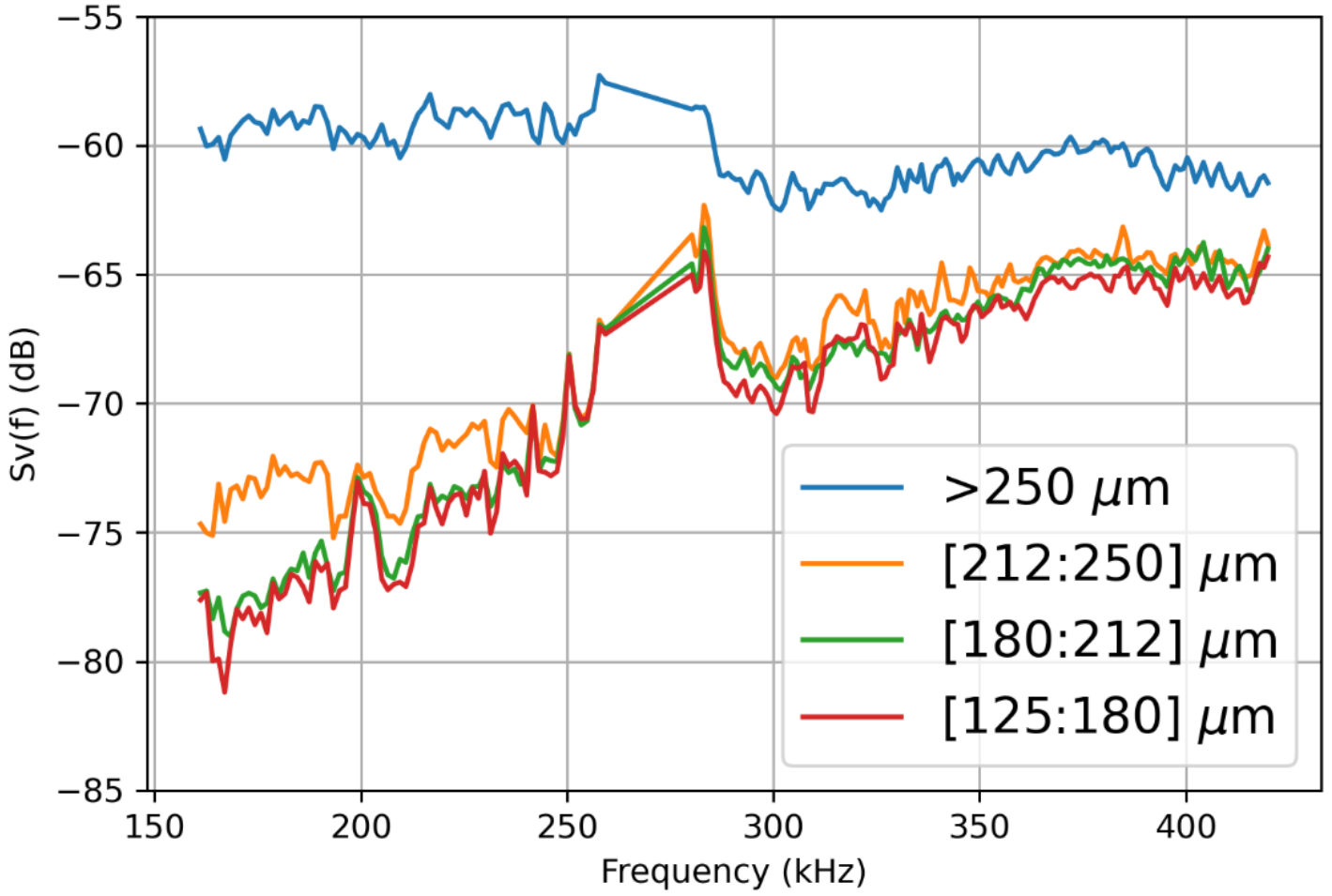
Preliminary data

Four sediment plumes of different grain size observed with an EK80



Preliminary data

Frequency response of sediment plumes extracted with Ifremer MOVIES3D software



Integrated volume backscatter in the layer from 4 to 5 m displayed on the echogram

Preliminary data

Recap – Boskalis study

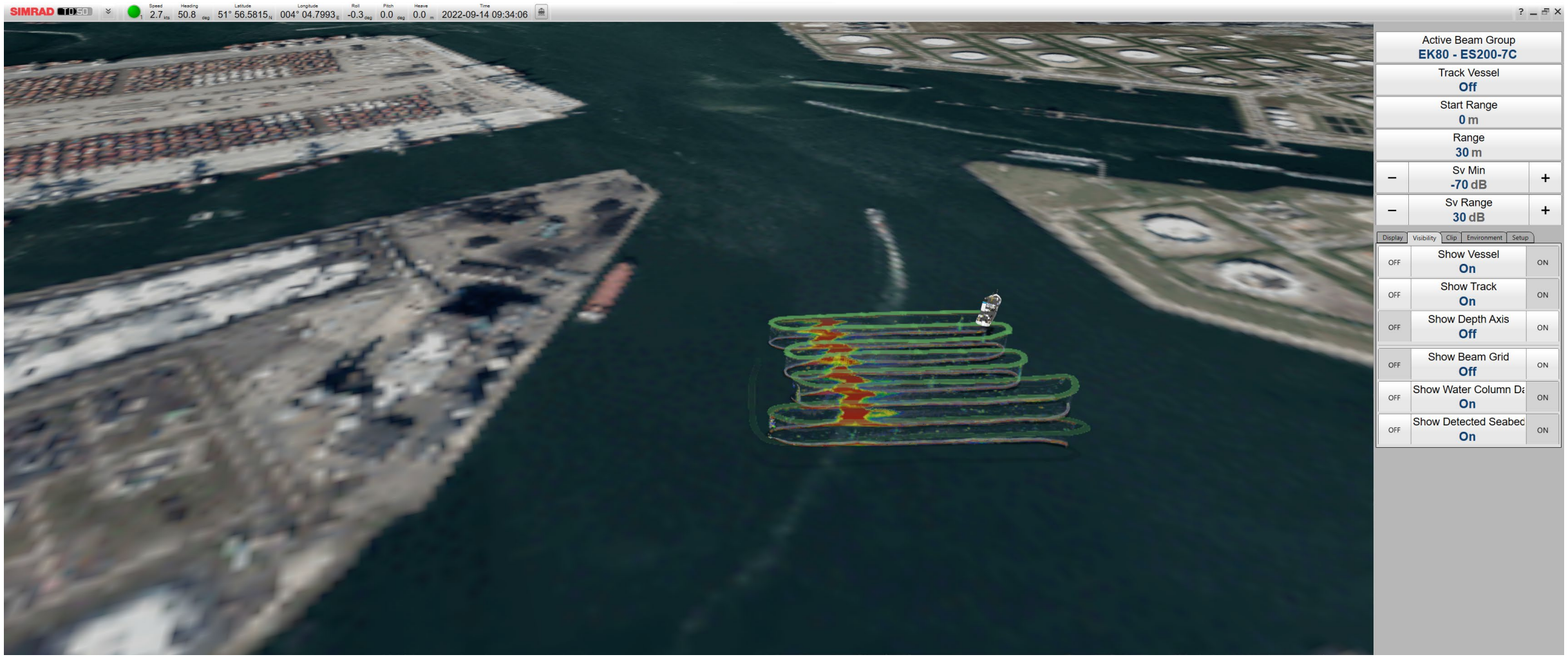
Purpose:

- Use EK80 to visualize what was going on in the water column and collect data for further analysis. We believe, based on other studies, that it's possible to make quantitative estimations of the sediments from the EK80 data.

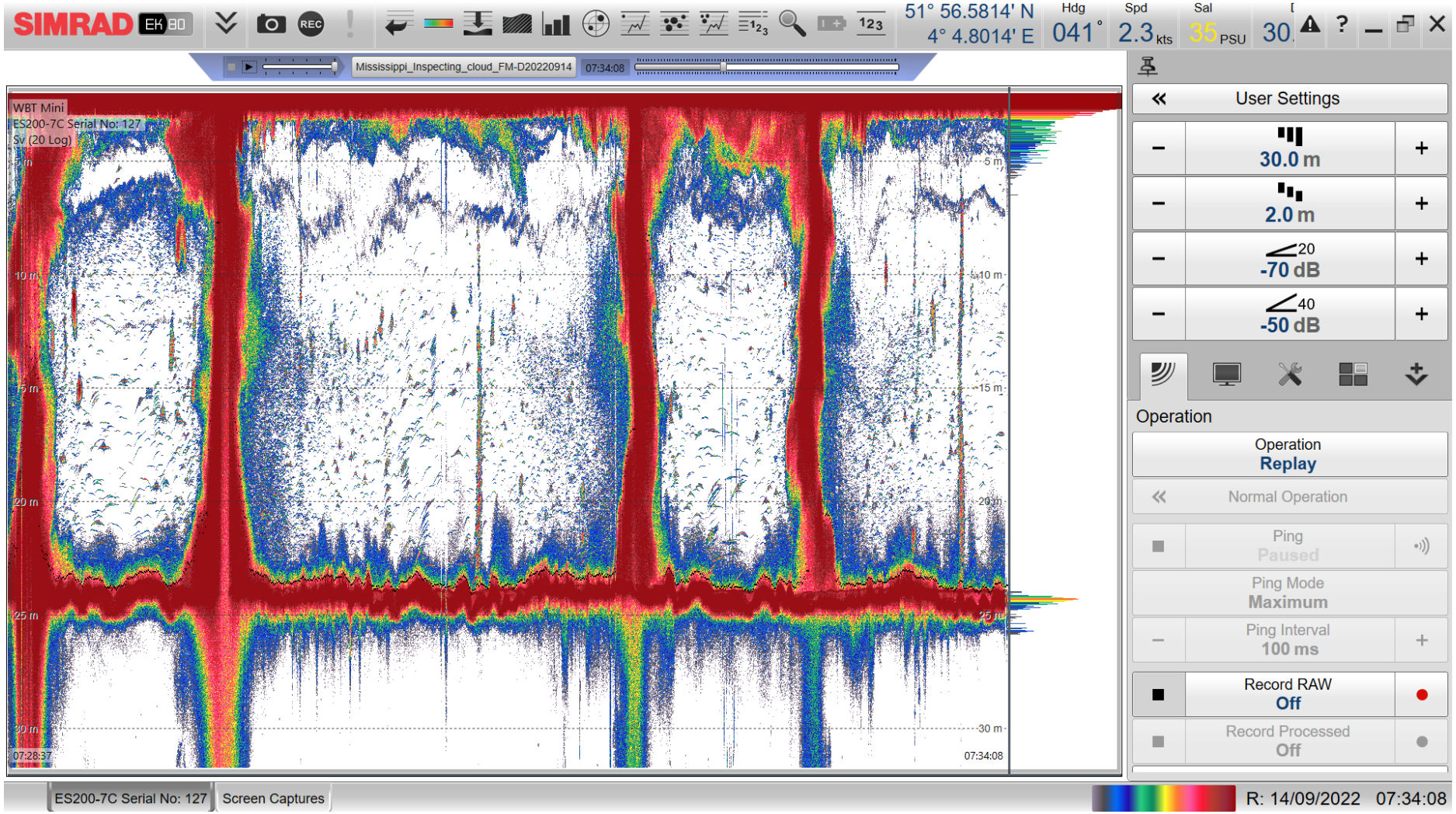
Method:

- used a WBT Mini with an ES200-7C transducer over the side of a small vessel
- followed a water injection dredging operation in the port of Rotterdam.

Recap – Boskalis study



Recap – Boskalis study



Conclusions and Next steps

- EK80 used to quantify and characterize ocean biomass. EK80-ADCP combination available, enabling simultaneous current measurements
- EK80 used to quantify and characterize hydrocarbon seeps in Gulf of Mexico
- Preliminary controlled environment studies by Deltares indicates EK80 has potential to show plume density, shape and dispersion
- Preliminary field study by Boskalis shows EK80 is able to track and quantify resuspended solids in open water column
- Ek80 can be installed on various types of platforms: from stationary deployments (moorings, buoys, landers) to mobile vehicles (USV, AUV, ROV, glider, Vessels), enabling flexible solutions within diverse environments
- Further proof of concept work needs to be done to determine the following;
  - Background turbidity
  - Quantification of dredge-produced turbidity
  - Ability to track direction and dissipation / resettlement of plume