

# CDMA-based multi-domain communications network for marine robots

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Funded by :



Acoustics Virtually Everywhere, The 179<sup>th</sup> ASA Meeting

# Outline



Introduction



Background



Methodology



Simulation and  
Results



Conclusion



References

# Problem definition for research project

- design a CDMA-based communications protocol that can span above, surface and underwater with the following capabilities:

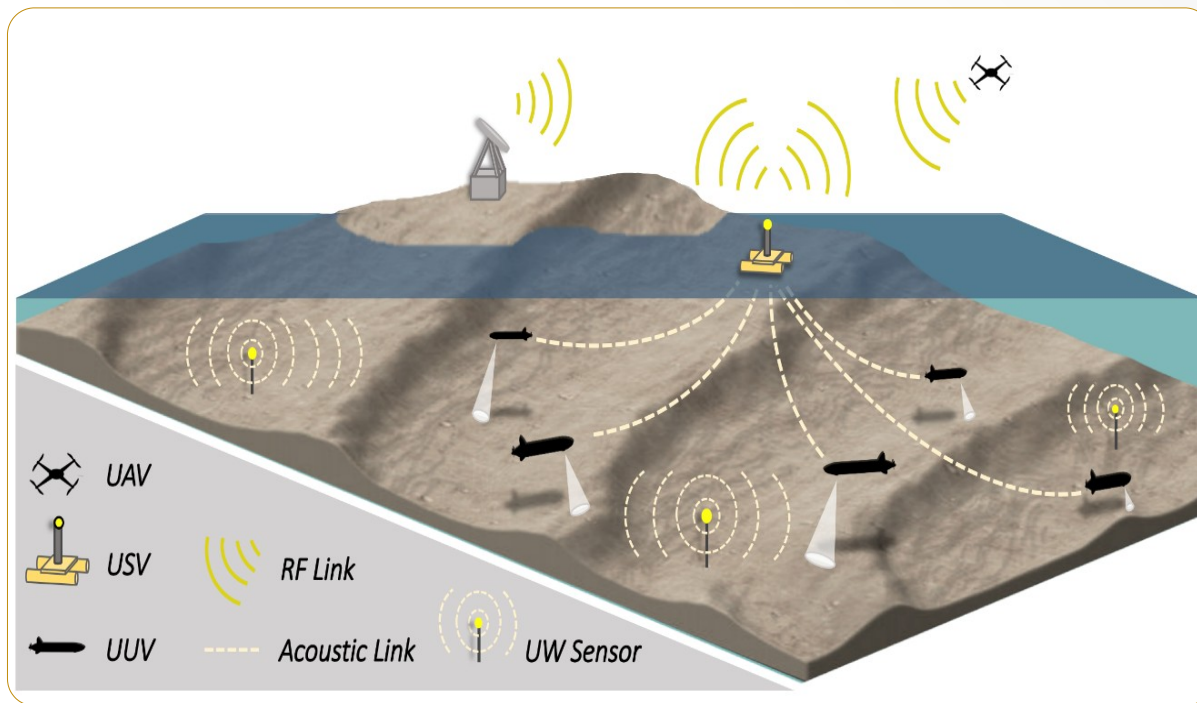


Figure 1: Robotic multi-vehicle collaboration – above and below water [7]

- robustness to frequency selective fading,
- compensates for multi-path effects at the receiver,
- allows receivers to distinguish among signals simultaneously transmitted by multiple devices.

Patel, J., Seto, M., "CDMA-based multi-domain communication network for marine robots", ACM WUWNET, Oct 2019, 2 pages.

# Introduction (1/2)

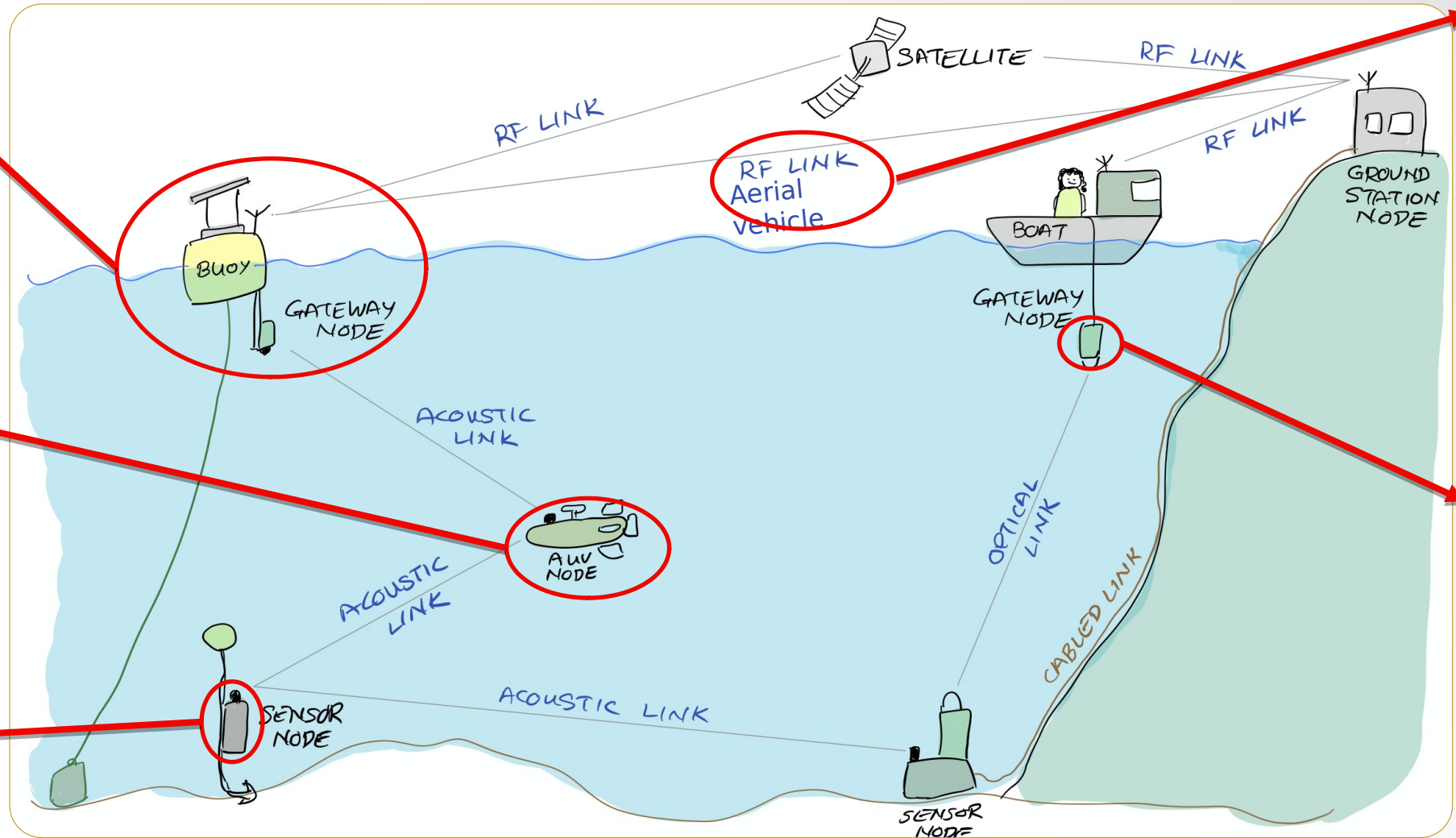


Figure 2: Network architecture of multi-vehicle collaboration above and below water +credit : subnero.com



# Introduction (2/2)

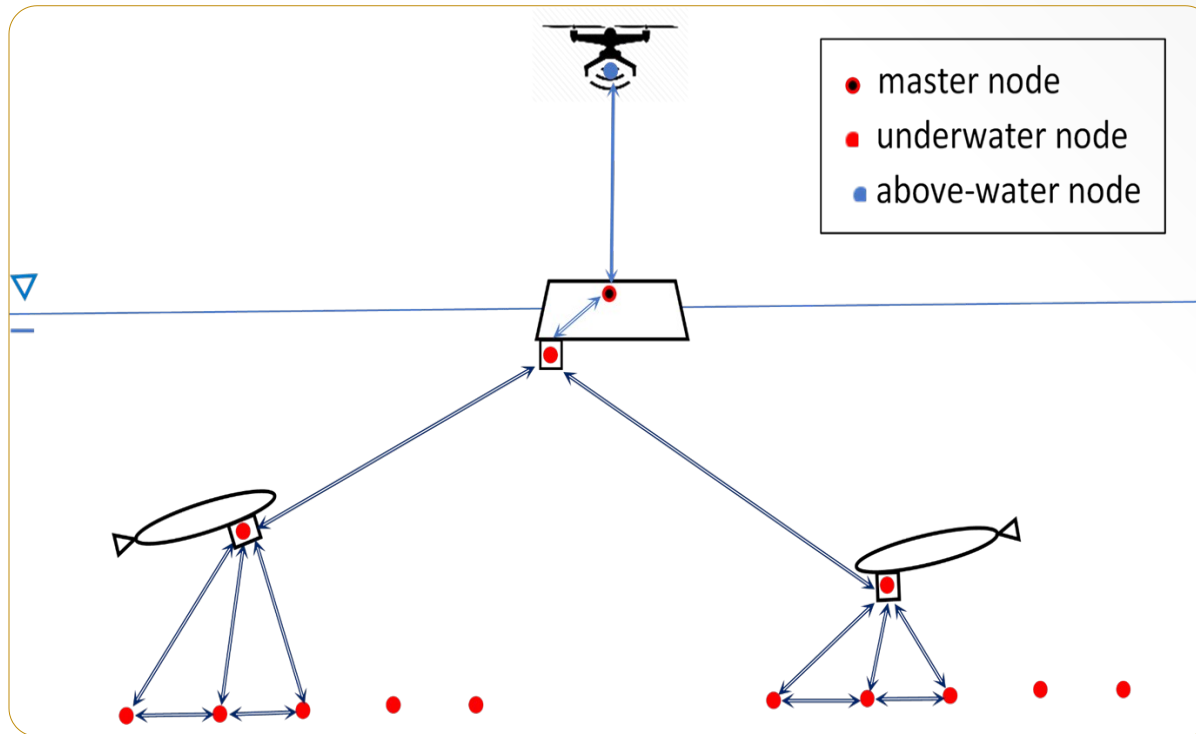
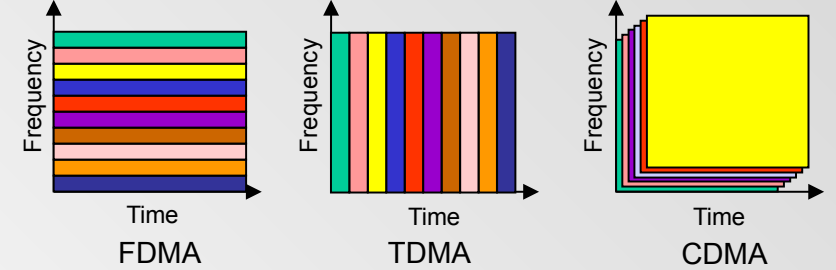


Figure 3: Heterogeneous marine sensor network architecture

- concept of operations: heterogeneous marine robots (unmanned underwater vehicle (UUV), unmanned surface vehicle (USV), and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)) collaboratively acquire situational awareness on a floating/any target,
- analyze impact of channel characteristics on level and quality of underwater communications .

# Background



- motivation of this research follows the concept of [15] where 7-UUVs, 2-USVs, and 1-UAV collaboratively communicate underwater information using TDMA for under, on and above water.



*Exercise UNMANNED WARRIOR 2016*

+ Credit : DRDC Canada

- proposed, is to use CDMA instead, so the full channel bandwidth is simultaneously used for multiple signals.
- following tools are integrated for simulations:
  - MATLAB (Initial stage),
  - Network Simulator-3 & WOSS,
  - Bellhop Acoustic Toolbox.

# State of the art (1/3)

- CDMA is a spread spectrum technique for multiple access, allows
- CDMA employs spread spectrum technology and a special coding scheme (each transmitter is assigned a code) to allow multiple users to be multiplexed

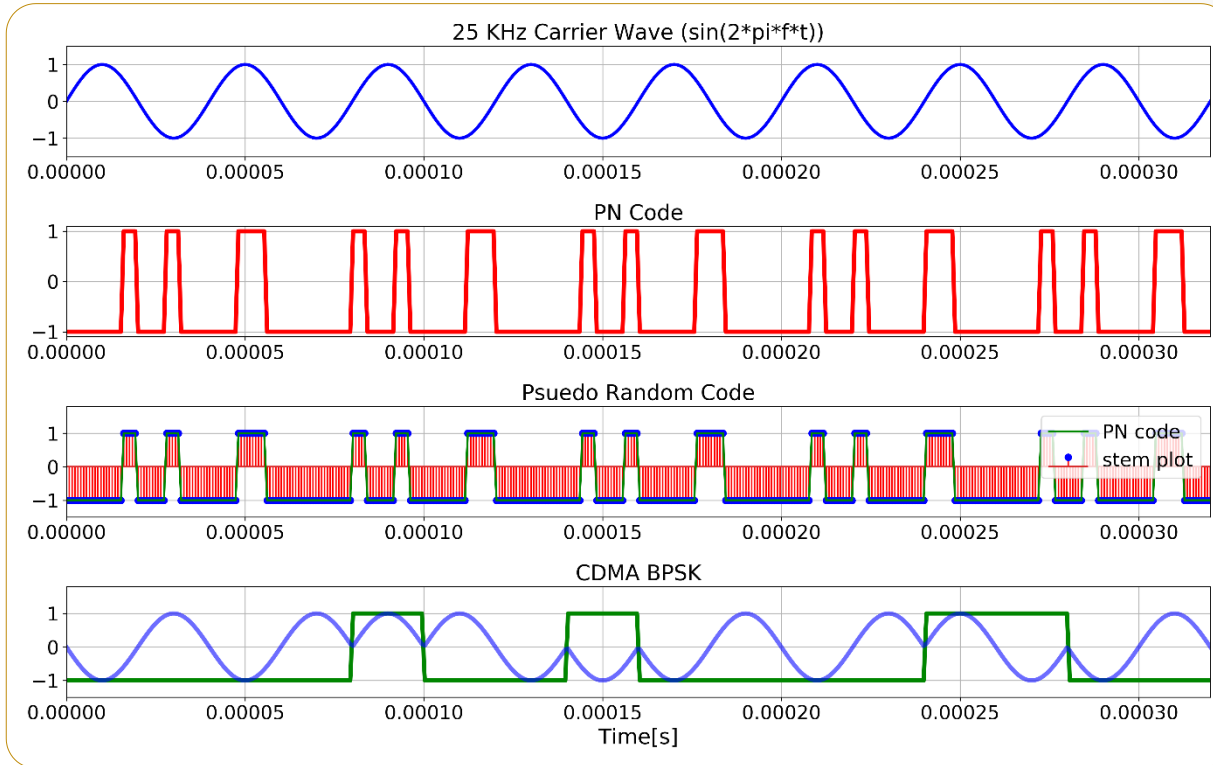


Figure 4: CDMA BPSK signal generation

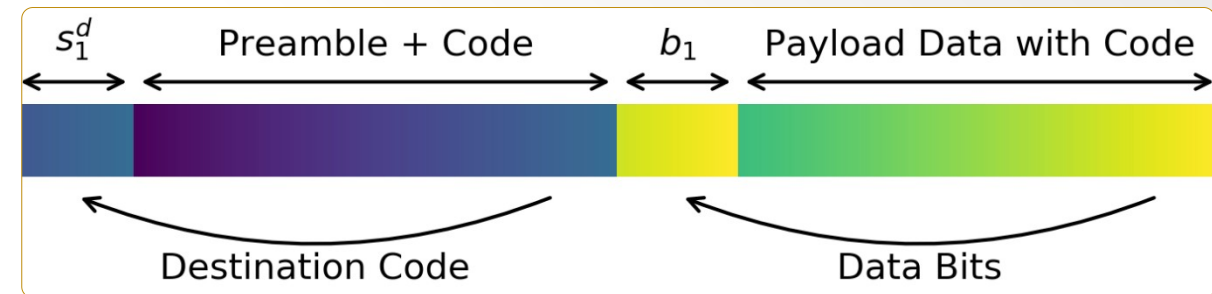


Figure 5: Modified UDP packet format

# CDMA State-of-the-art (2/3)

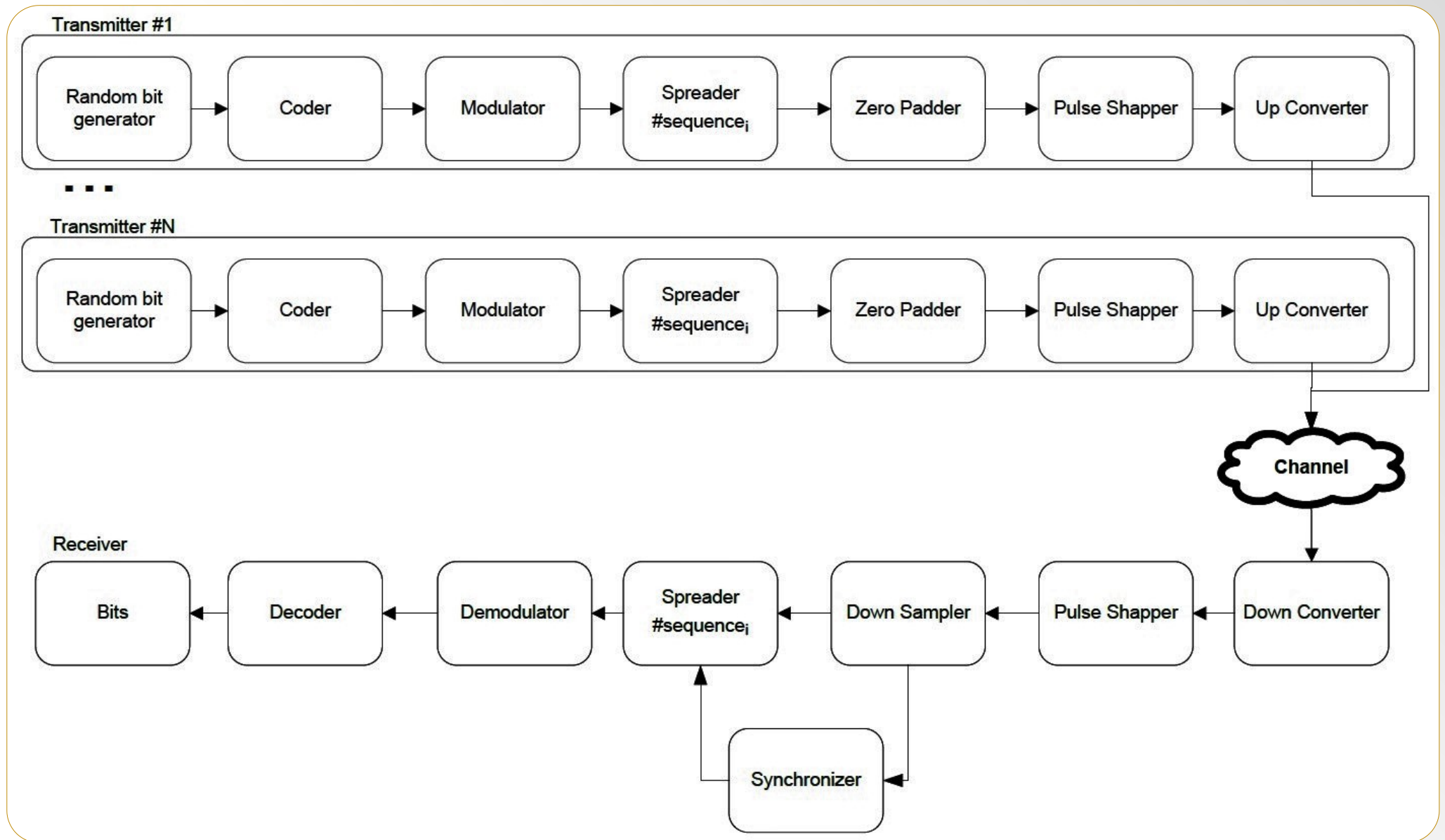


Figure 6: General structure of CDMA communication system [Thesis]

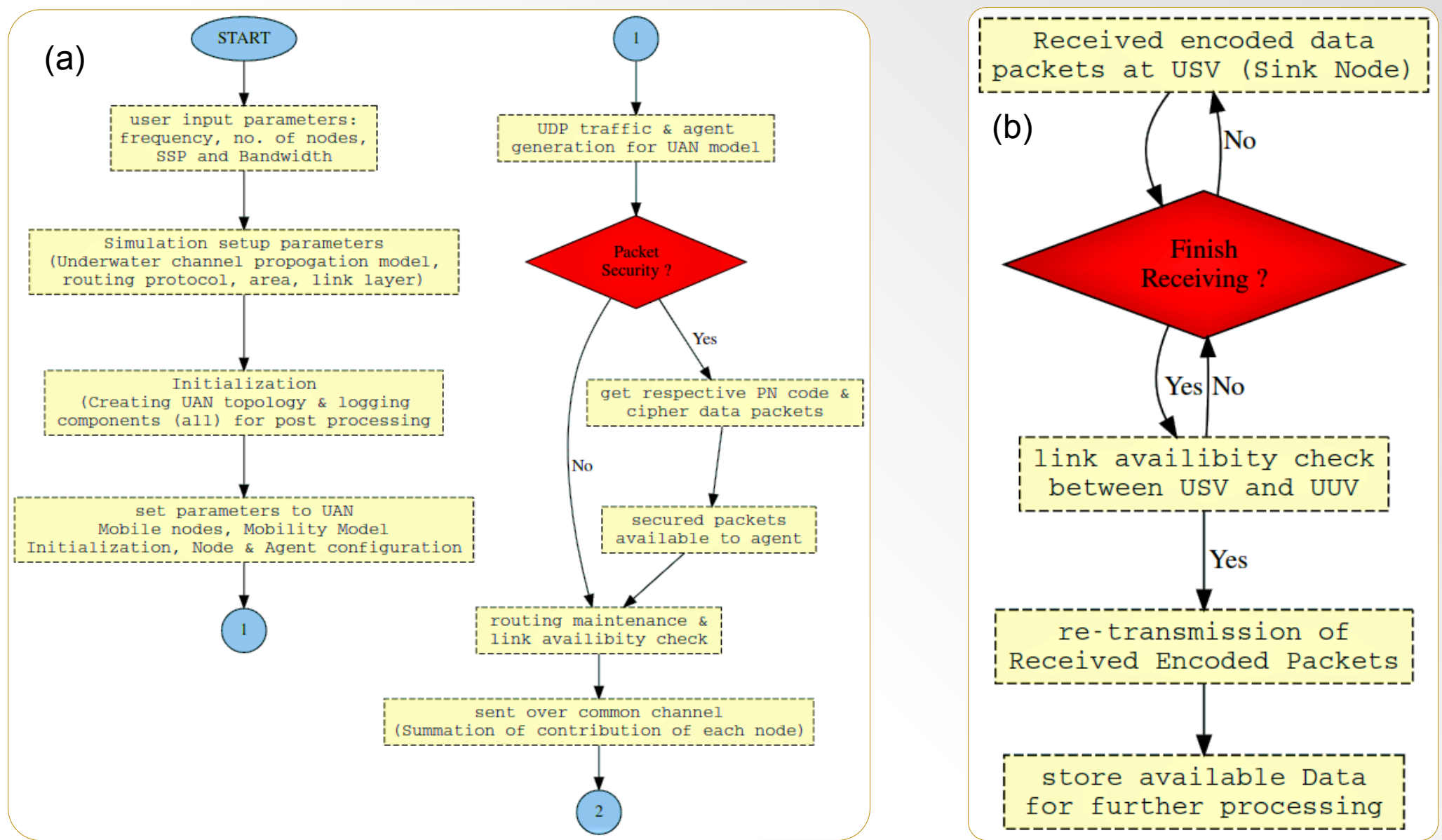


Figure 7: CDMA architecture: (a) transmit encoded signals between mobile nodes and the master node and (b) receive encoded signals between mobile nodes and master node.



# Methodology (1 / 5)

- custom MATLAB-based GUI<sup>+</sup> used for simulations of test cases

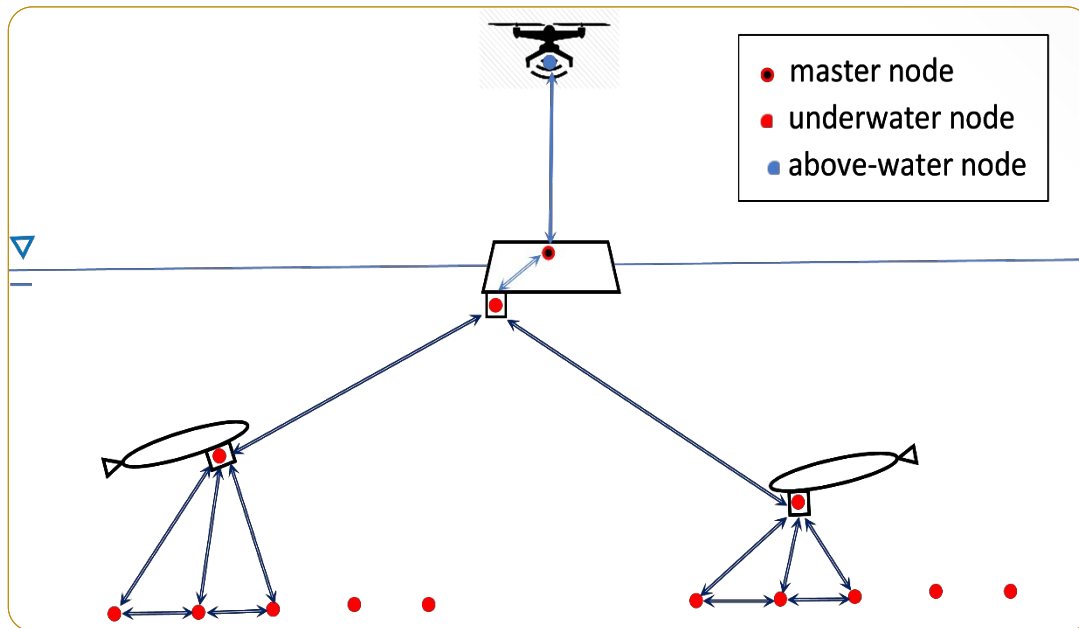


Figure 3: Heterogeneous marine sensor network architecture

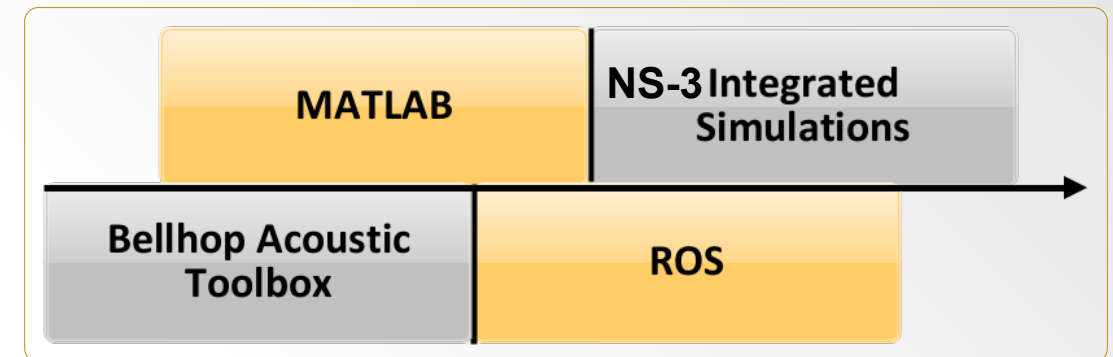


Figure 8: Software framework

# Methodology (2 / 5)

- GUI , planning to open source it soon to the community.

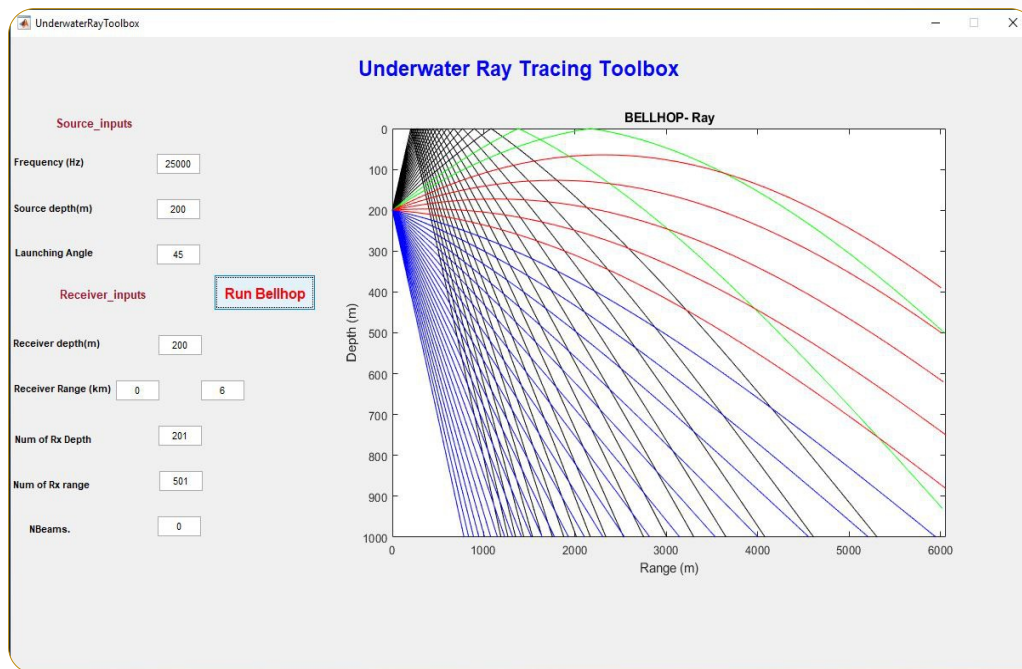


Figure 9: Ray tracing from Underwater  
Ray Tracing Toolbox – MATLAB custom GUI

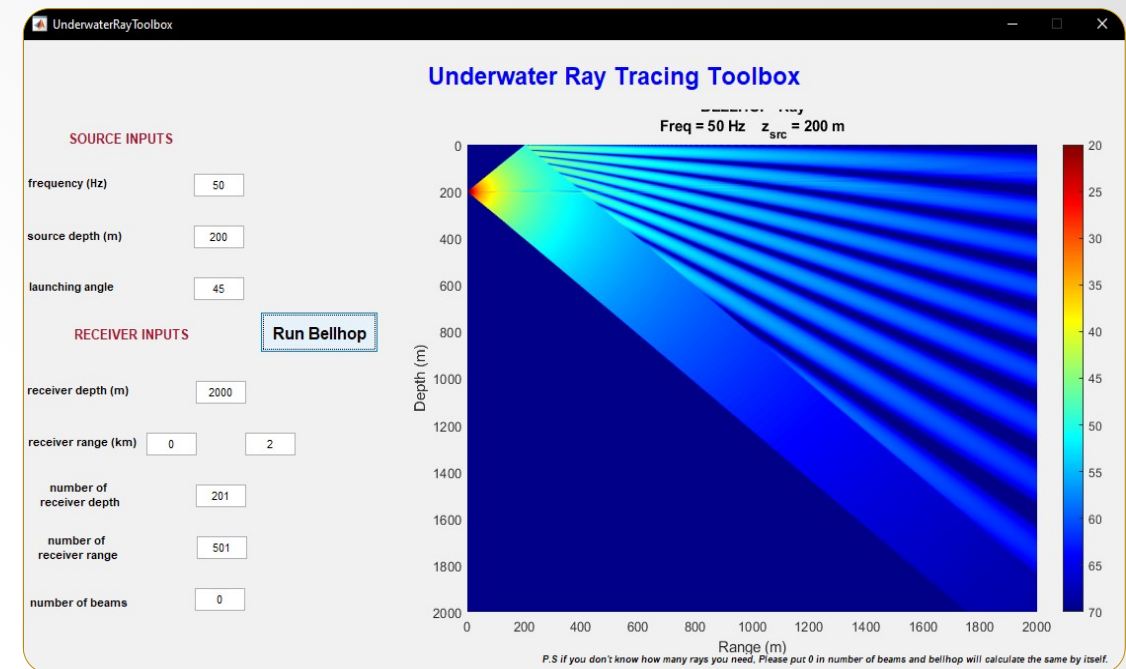


Figure 10: Transmission loss from Underwater  
Tracing Toolbox – MATLAB custom GUI<sup>+</sup>

# Methodology (3 / 5)

- GUI developed with MATLAB, plan to open-source it soon to the community

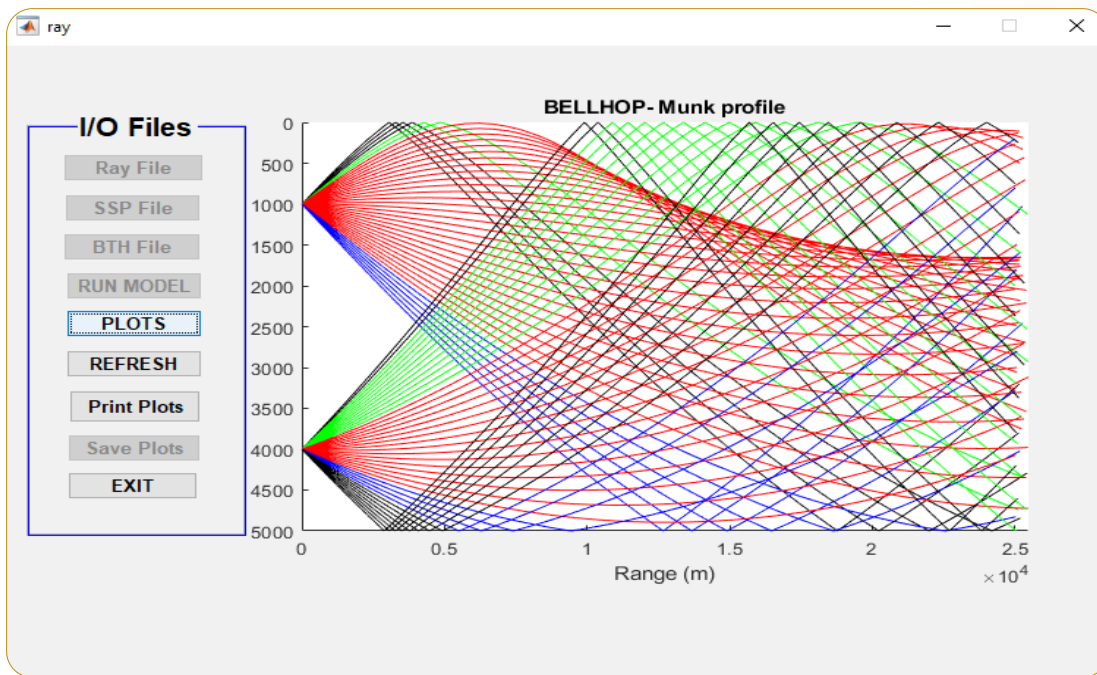


Figure 11: Ray plotting using Underwater Ray Tracing  
Toolbox - Plotting Toolbox

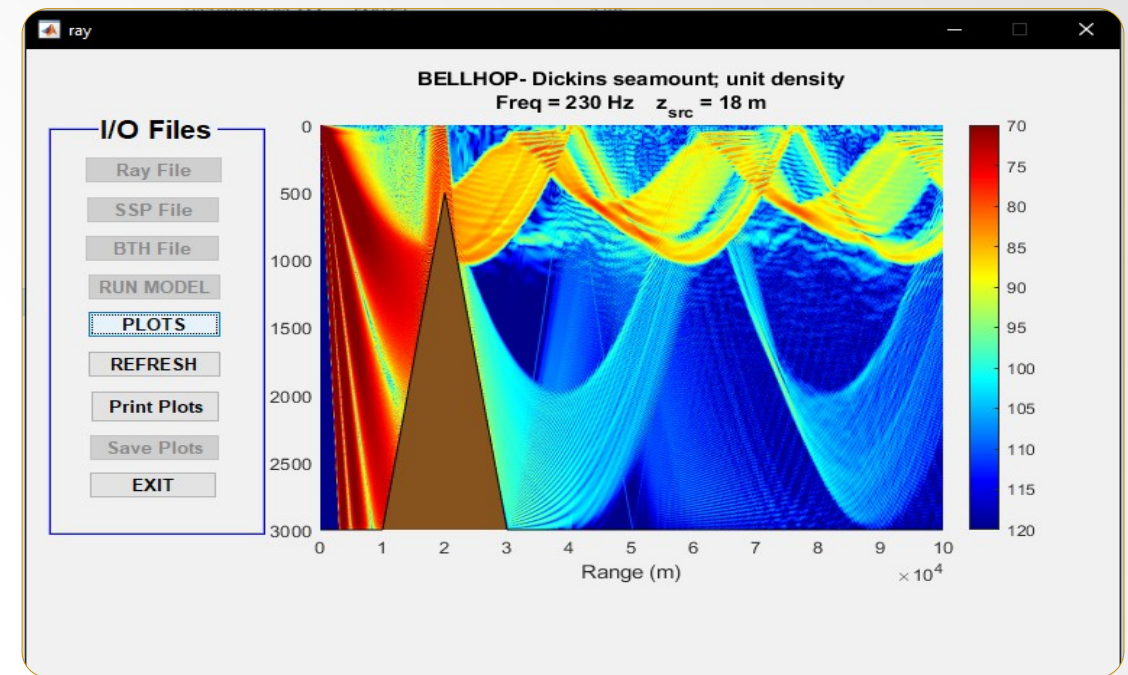


Figure 12: TL plotting using Underwater Ray Tracing  
Toolbox - Plotting Toolbox

# Methodology (4 / 5)

- Network Simulator-3

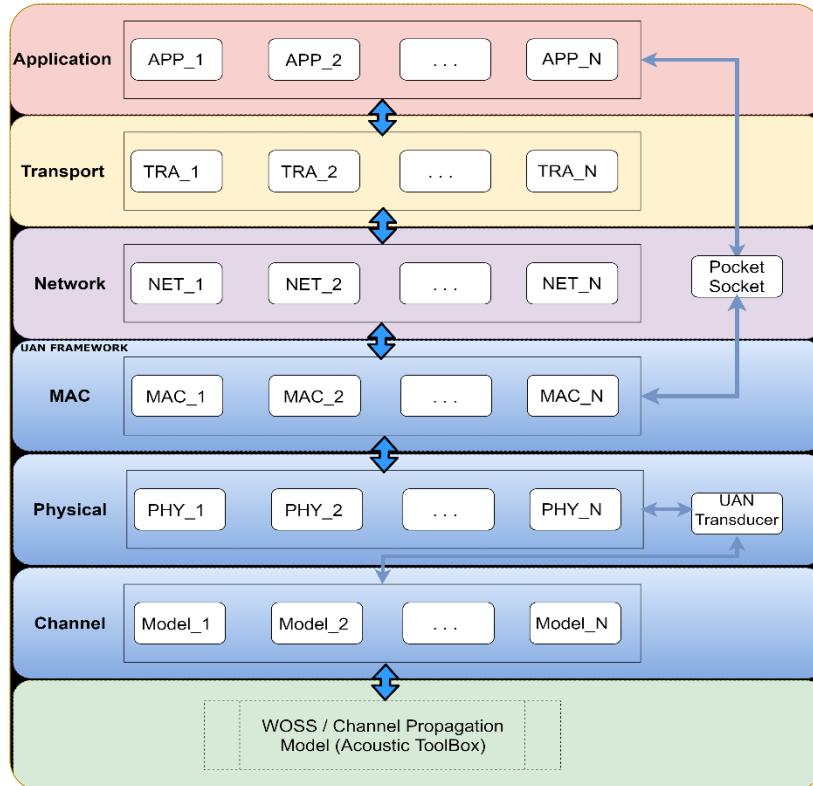


Figure 13: **Proposed framework for simulation**

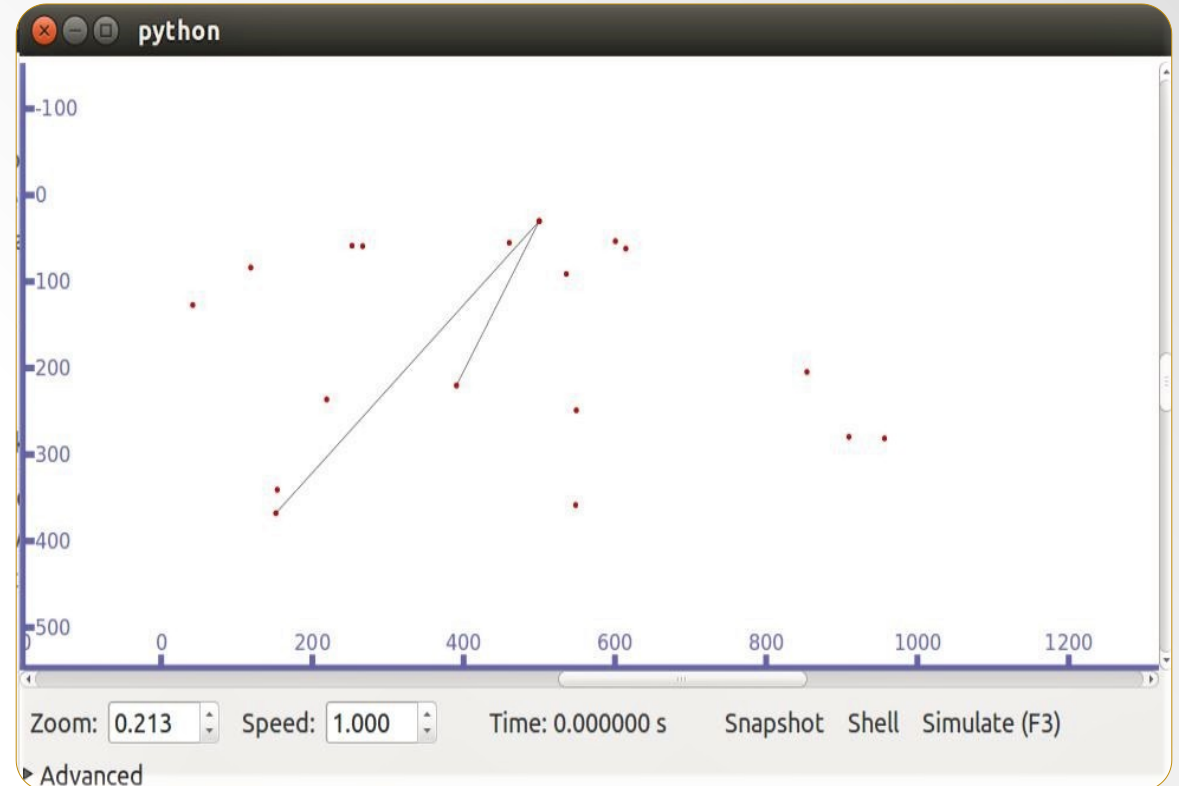


Figure 14: **Python GUI (NS-3) to display simulations**



# Methodology (5 / 5)

- WOSS<sup>[12]</sup> integration with NS-3

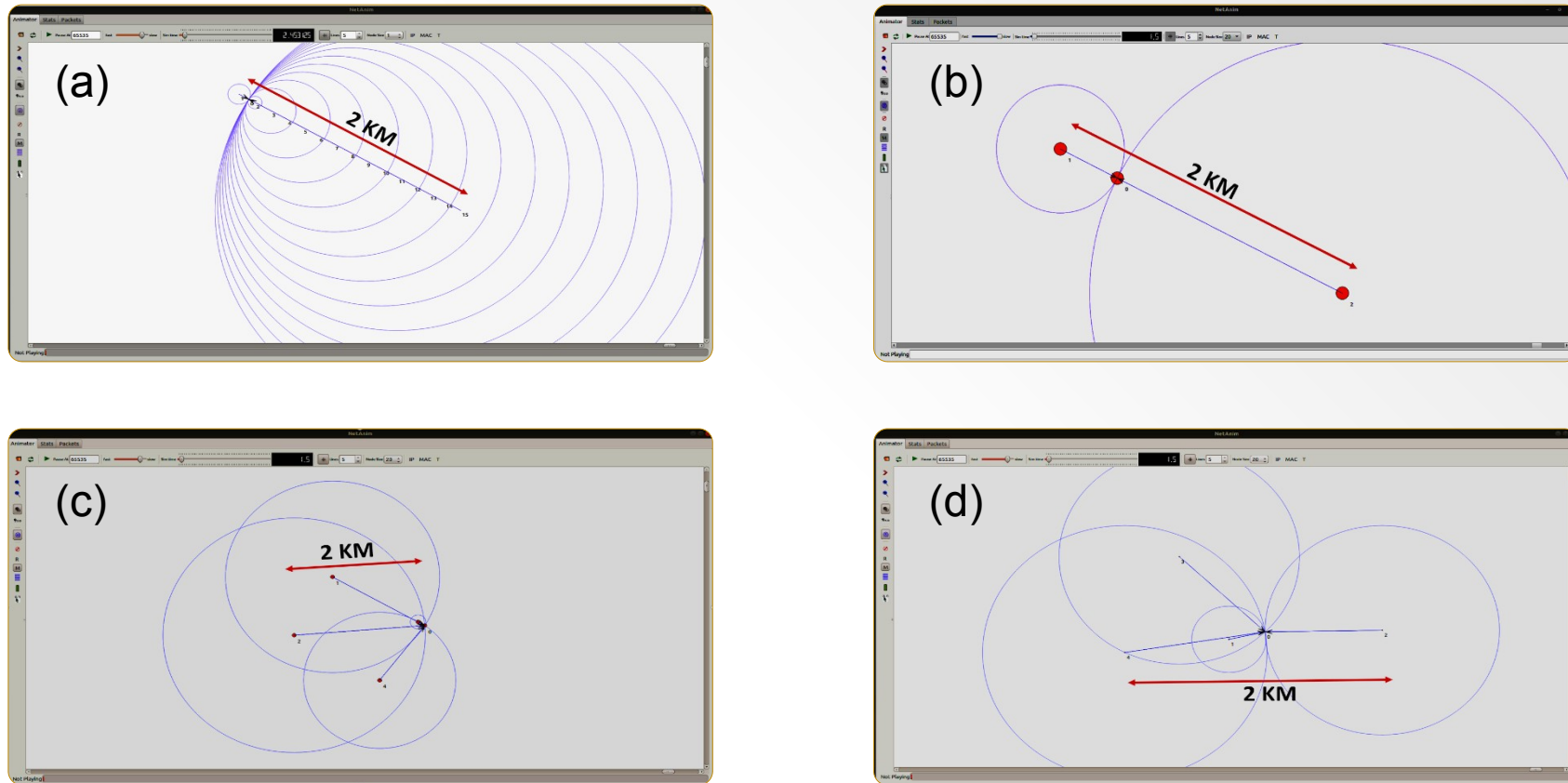


Figure 15: Various node deployments (a) List position allocation to 15 nodes (b) List position allocation to 2 nodes (c) Grid position allocation to 5 nodes (d) Random disc position allocation to 5 nodes



# Simulation objectives

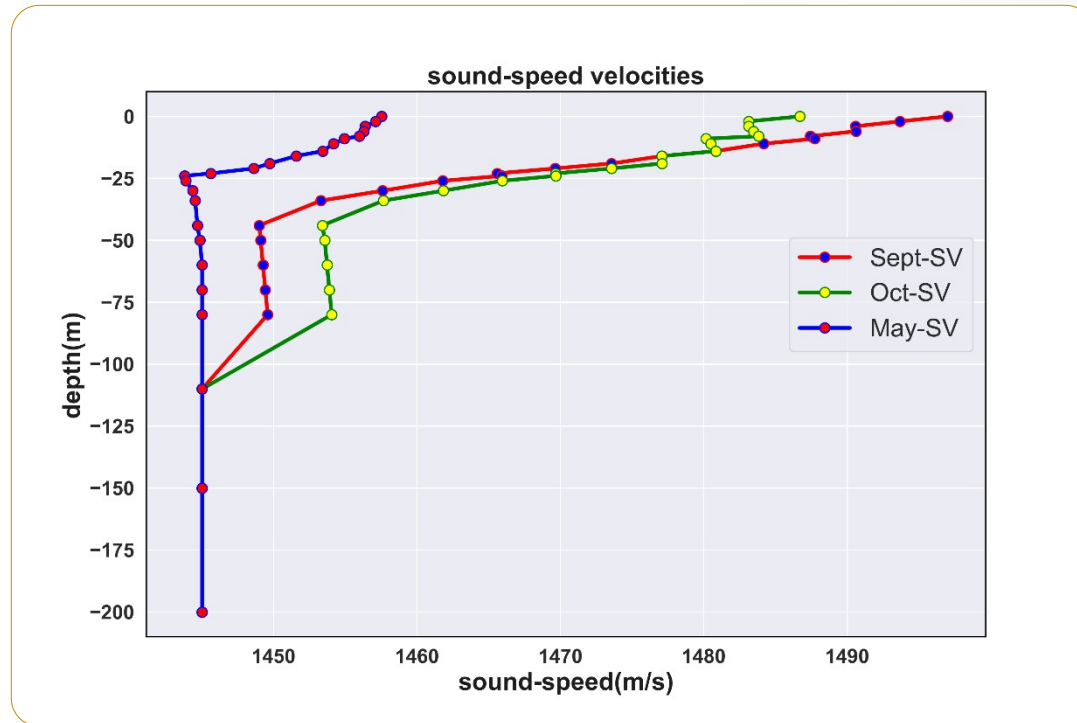


Figure 16: Sound-speed profile of Bedford Basin used in simulation test cases<sup>3</sup>

- prior to deploying robots, predict communication system performance
- provide guidance on best physical layout to deploy underwater vehicles given environmental conditions
- provide estimates on parameters for link budget calculation

# Bedford Basin bathymetry used for simulations

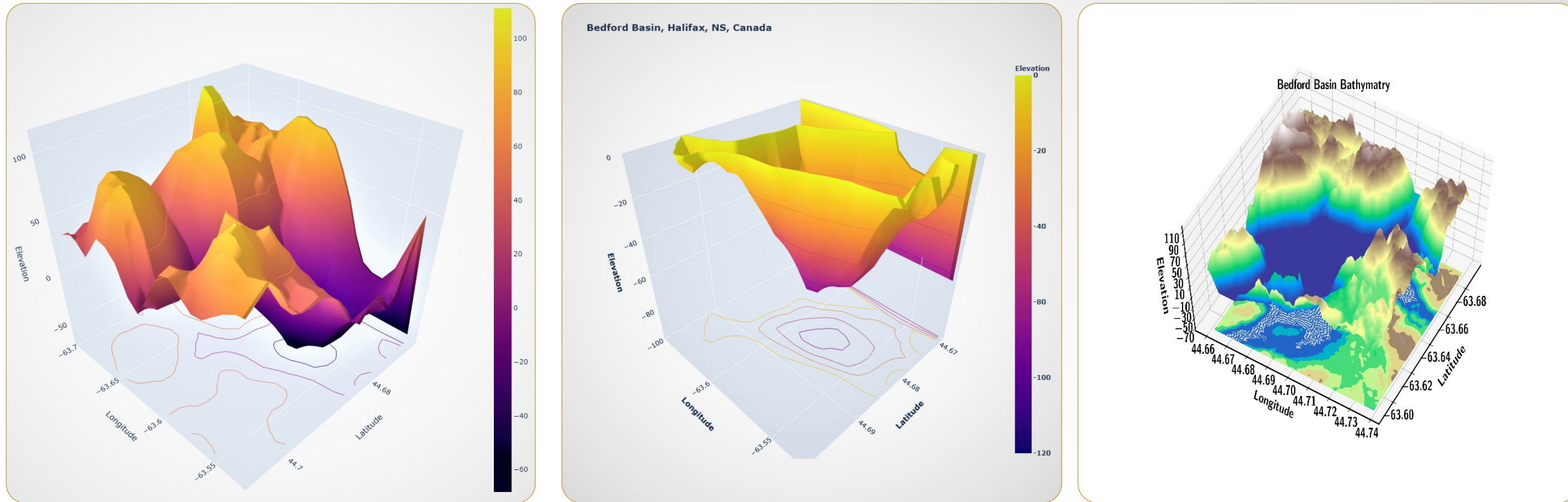


Figure 17: Detailed Bathymetry of Bedford Basin - Halifax, NS, Canada

# Bellhop Simulations – Shallow water

Table 1: System parameters to simulate

parameter	value
frequency	25 kHz
water depth	20, 50 m
range	0-6 km
USV uw modem depth	1.8 m
UUV depth	3, 10 m

- from predicted transmission loss to determine the optimal range (function of water depth, UUV depth = 3, 10 m)

J. Ross, J. Lindsay, E. Gregson, A. Moore, Patel, J. and Seto, M. "Collaboration of multi-domain marine robots towards above and below-water characterization of floating targets" Proc. IEEE ROSE Conf., Apr 2019.

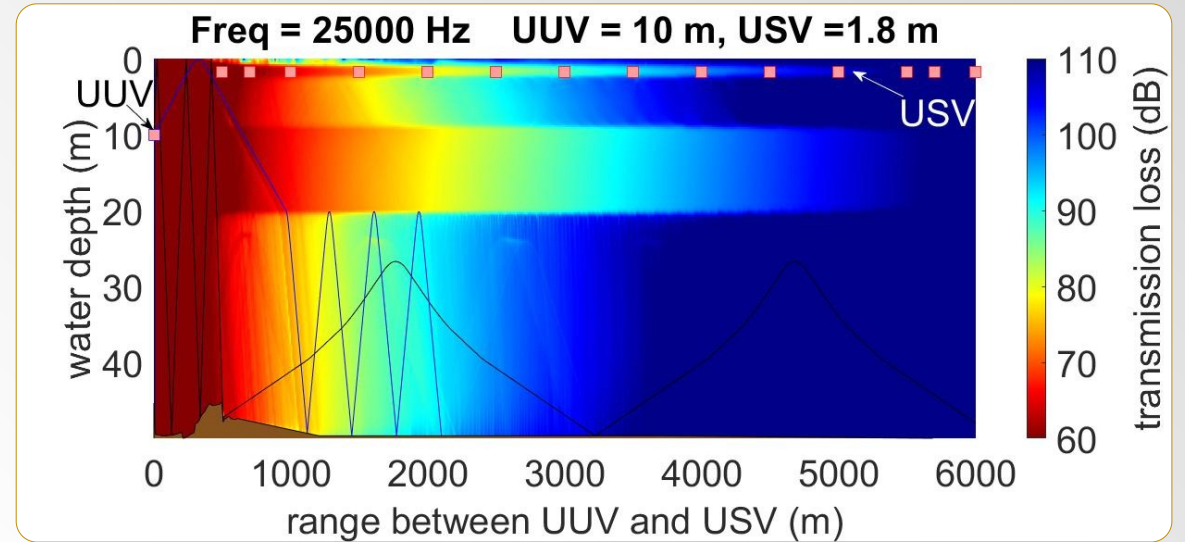


Figure 18: Ray Traced and TL with **water depth = 20 m**

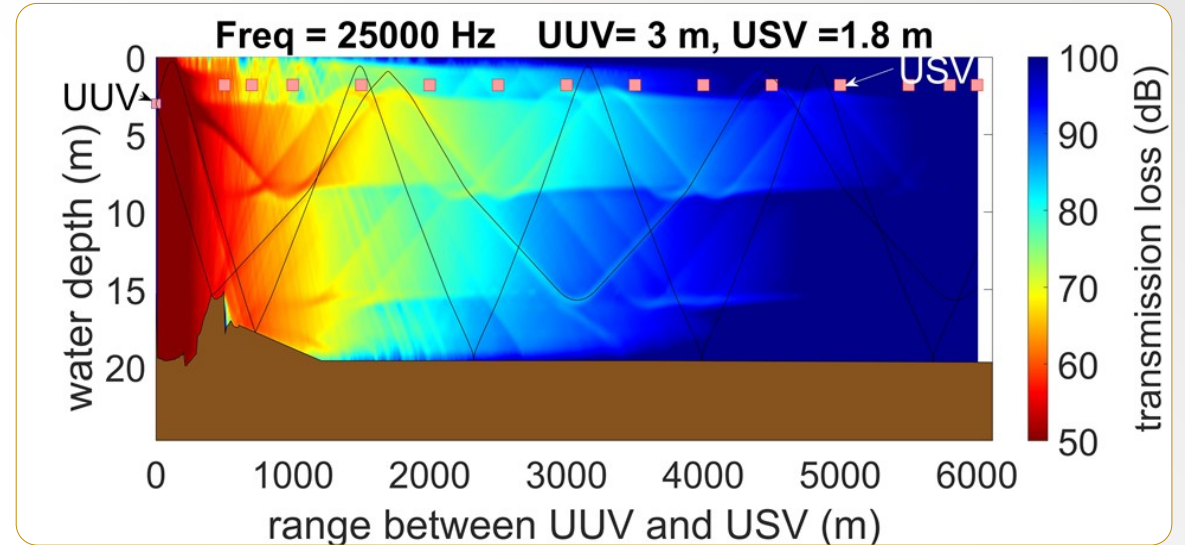
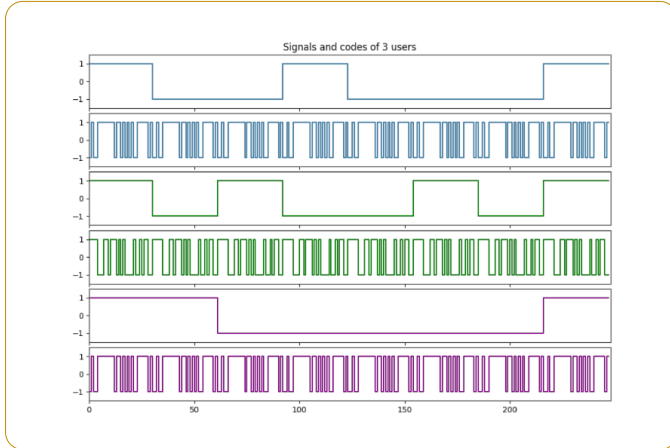


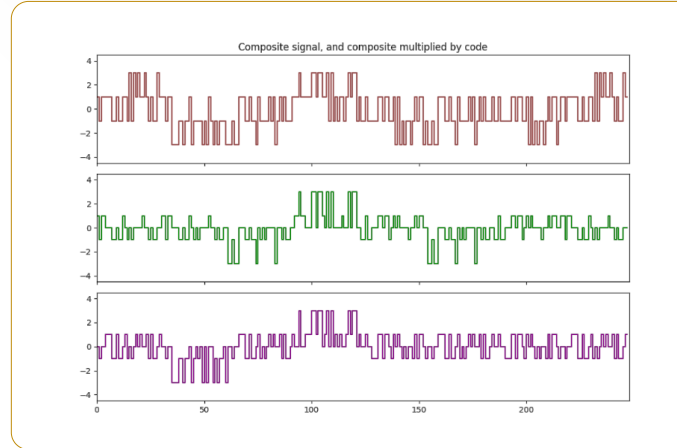
Figure 19: Ray traced and TL with **water depth = 50 m**

# I. Communication signal generation (simulations) (1 / 2)

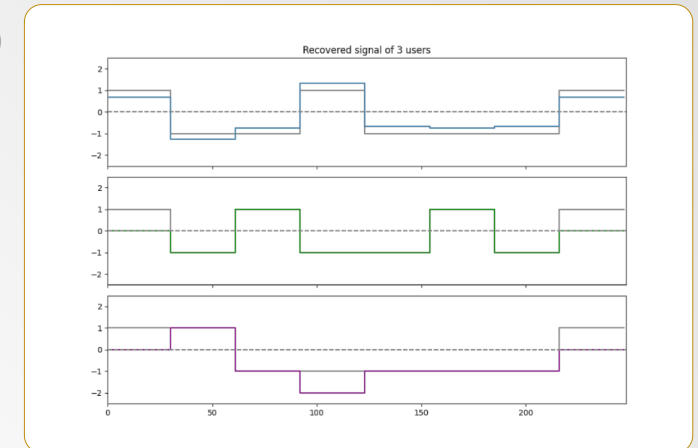
i)



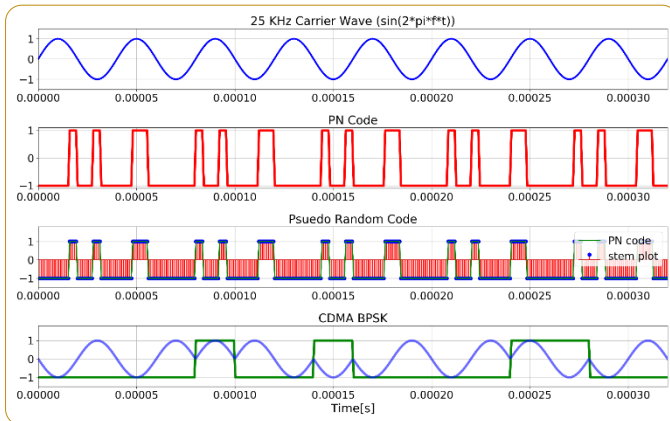
ii)



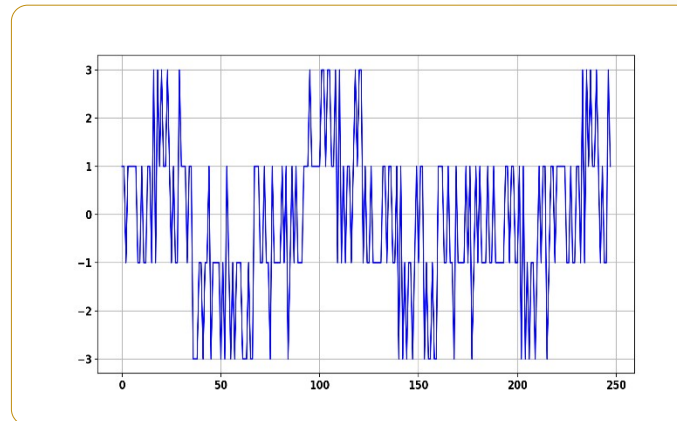
iii)



iv)



v)



vi)

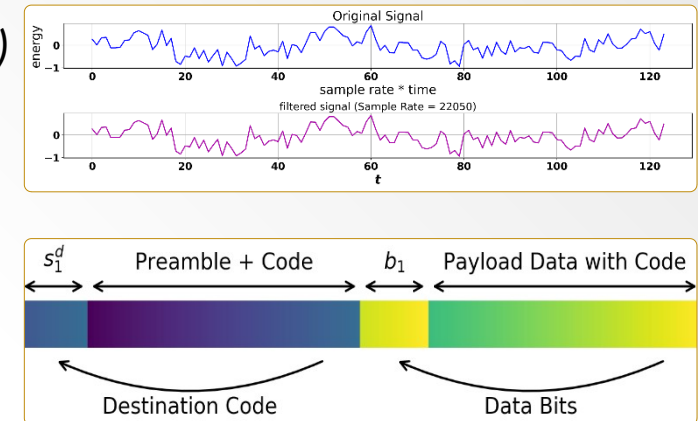


Figure 20: CDMA signal: i) signal for 3 receivers; ii) multiplexed composite signal; iii) recovered signal; iv) CDMA-BPSK signal; v) composite signal for receiver 1, and vi) generated & recovered CDMA.wav; modified packet format



## II. Channel response (simulations) (2 / 2)

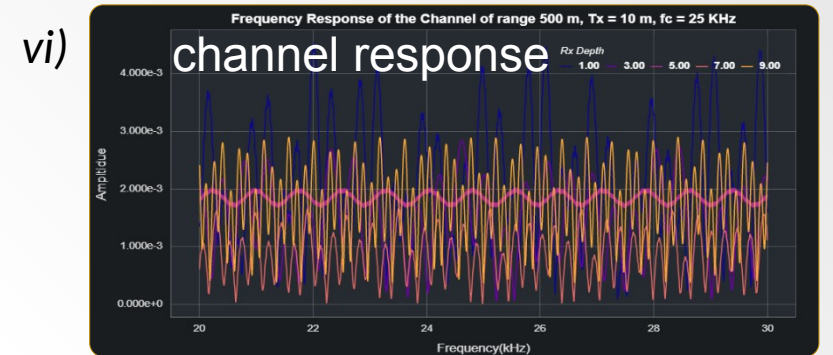
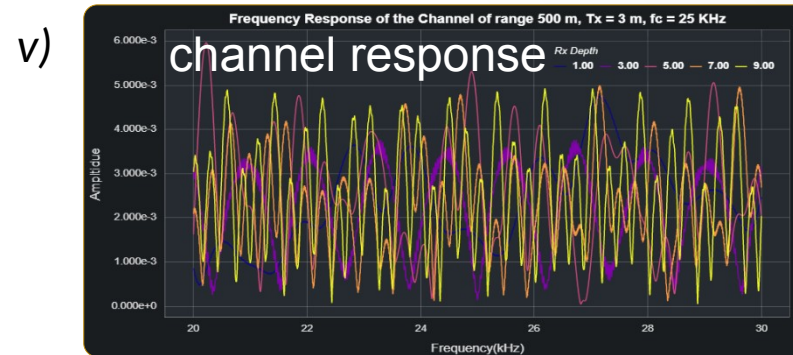
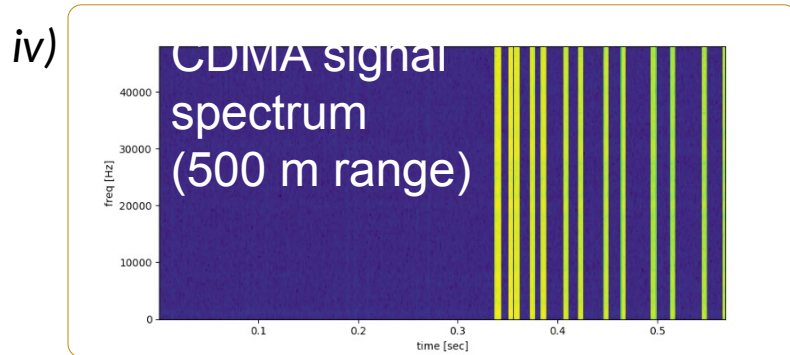
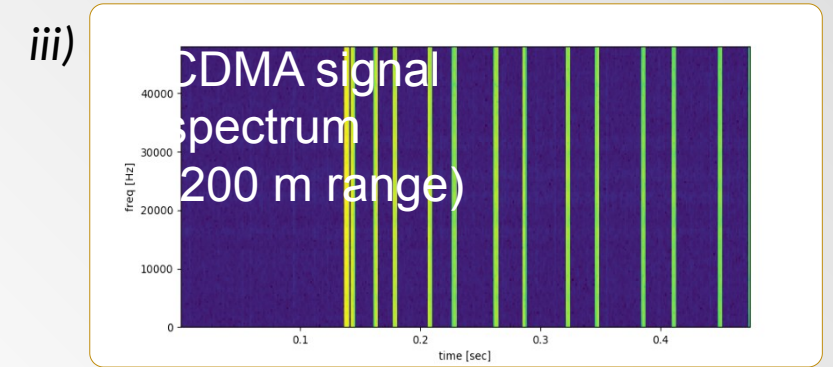
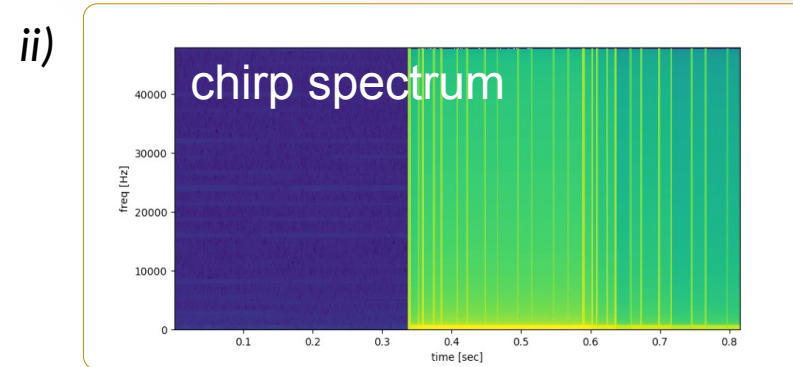
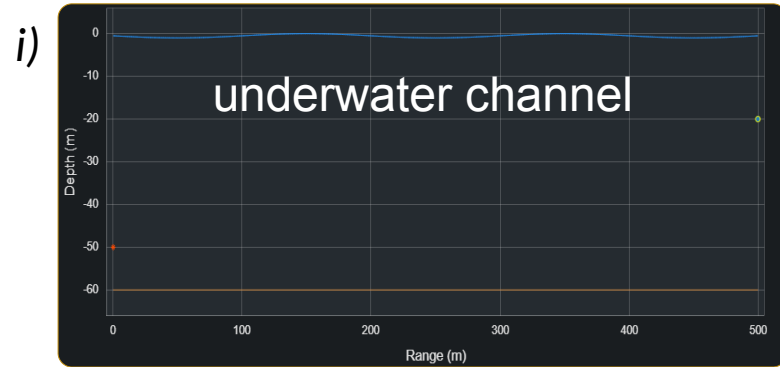
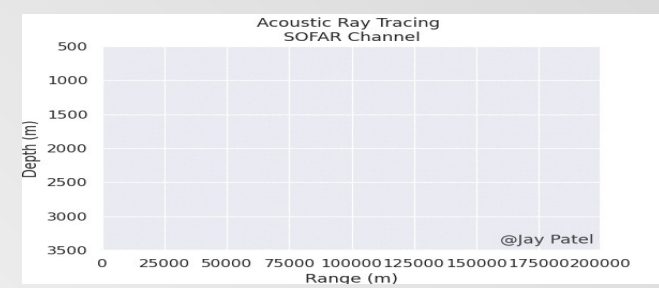


Figure 21: For water depth = 60 m;  $f_c = 25$  KHz starting from top left corner: i) UW-env; ii) spectrum of chirp signal; iii) spectrum of CDMA signal (range=200 m); iv) spectrum of CDMA signal (range=500 m); v) channel multi-frequency response ( $T_x=3$  m), and vi) channel multi-frequency response ( $T_x=10$  m)



### III. Simulation results (water depth = 20m, Tx = 3m, Rx = 3m, range = 1.6 km) (1 / 2)

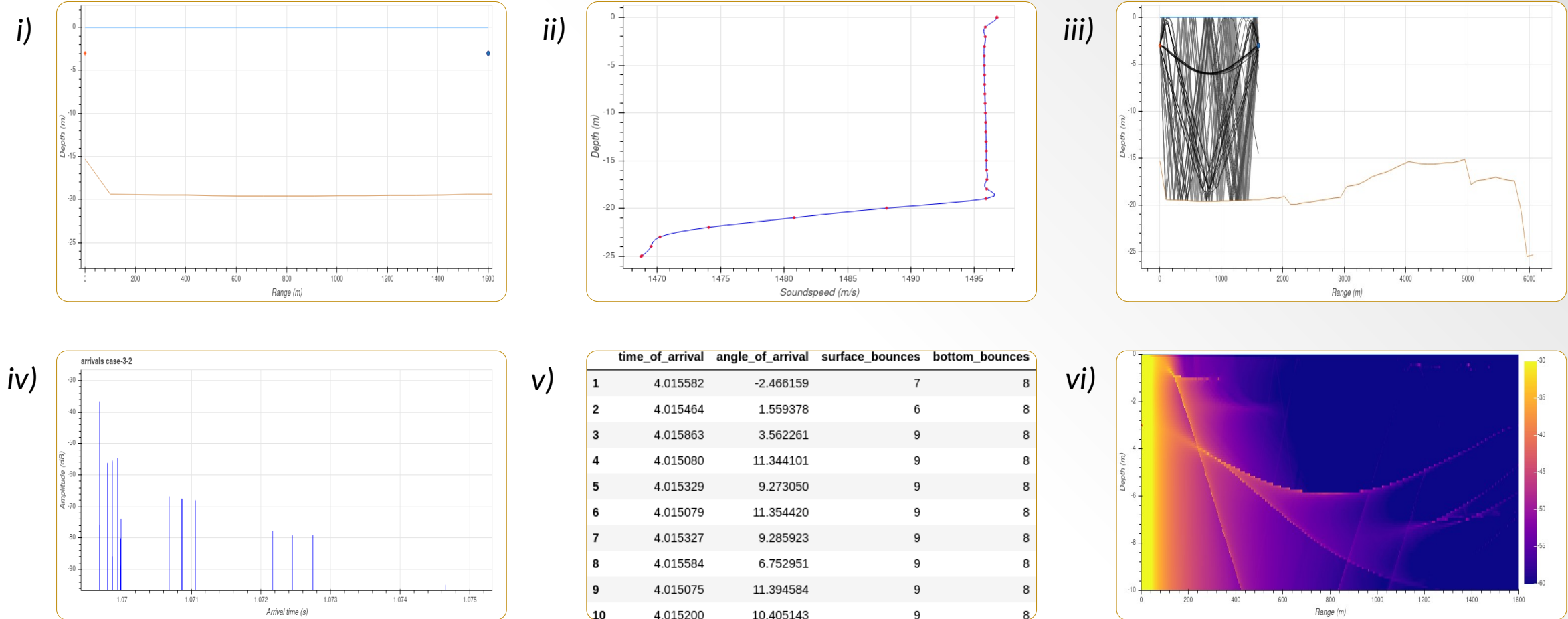


Figure 22: For water depth = 20 m; Tx=3m; Rx= 3m starting from top left corner - i) UW-env; ii) SSP; iii) Eigen rays; iv) arrivals; v) information of first 10 arrivals, and vi) incoherent TL

### III. Simulation results (water depth = 25 m, Tx = 3m, Rx=10m, range = 6 km) (2 / 2)

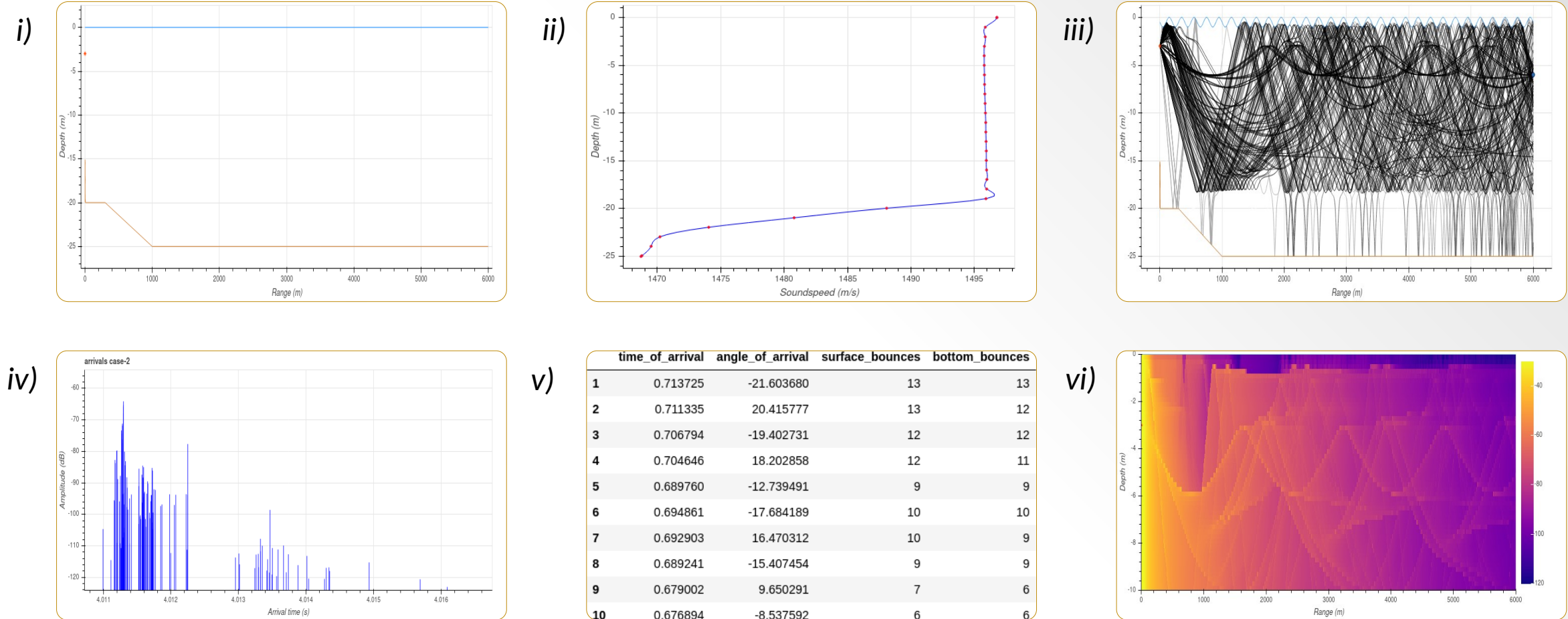
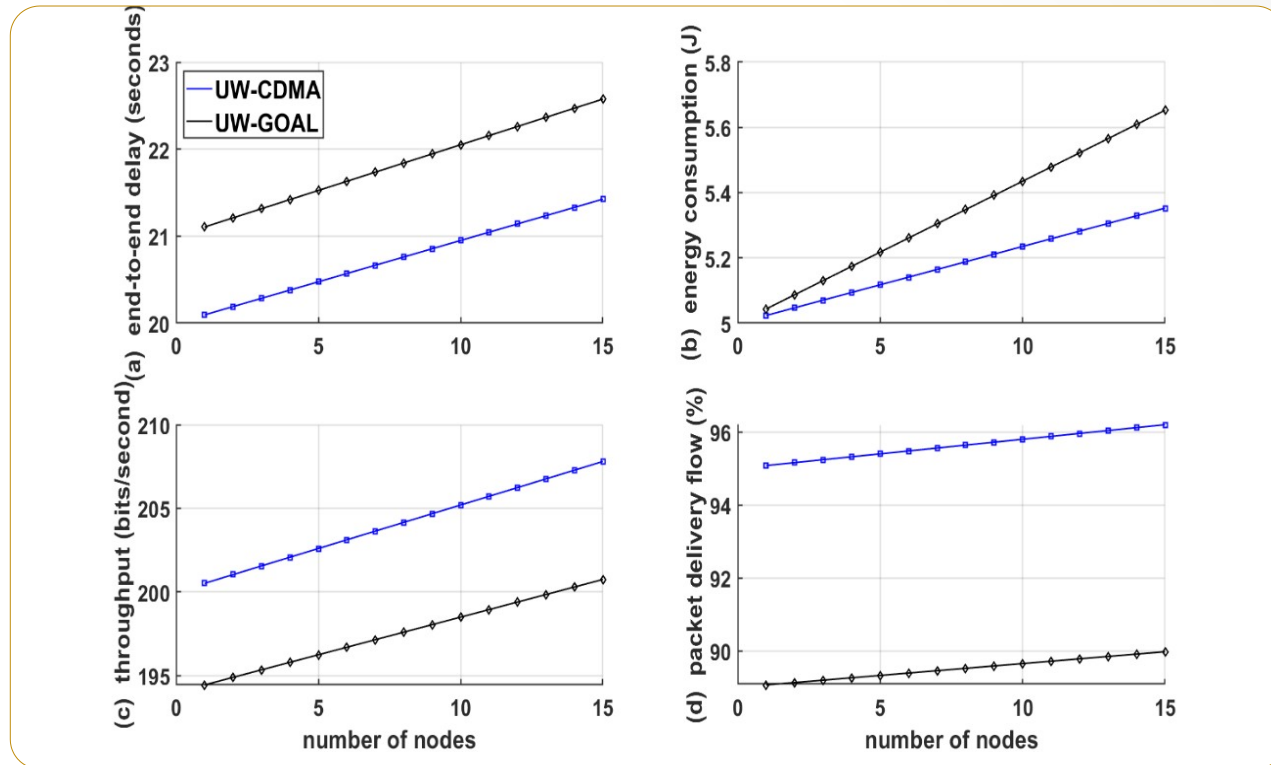


Figure 23: For water depth = 25 m; Tx=3m; Rx= 10m starting from top left corner - i) UW-env; ii) SSP; iii) Eigen rays; iv) arrivals; v) information of first 10 arrivals, and vi) incoherent TL

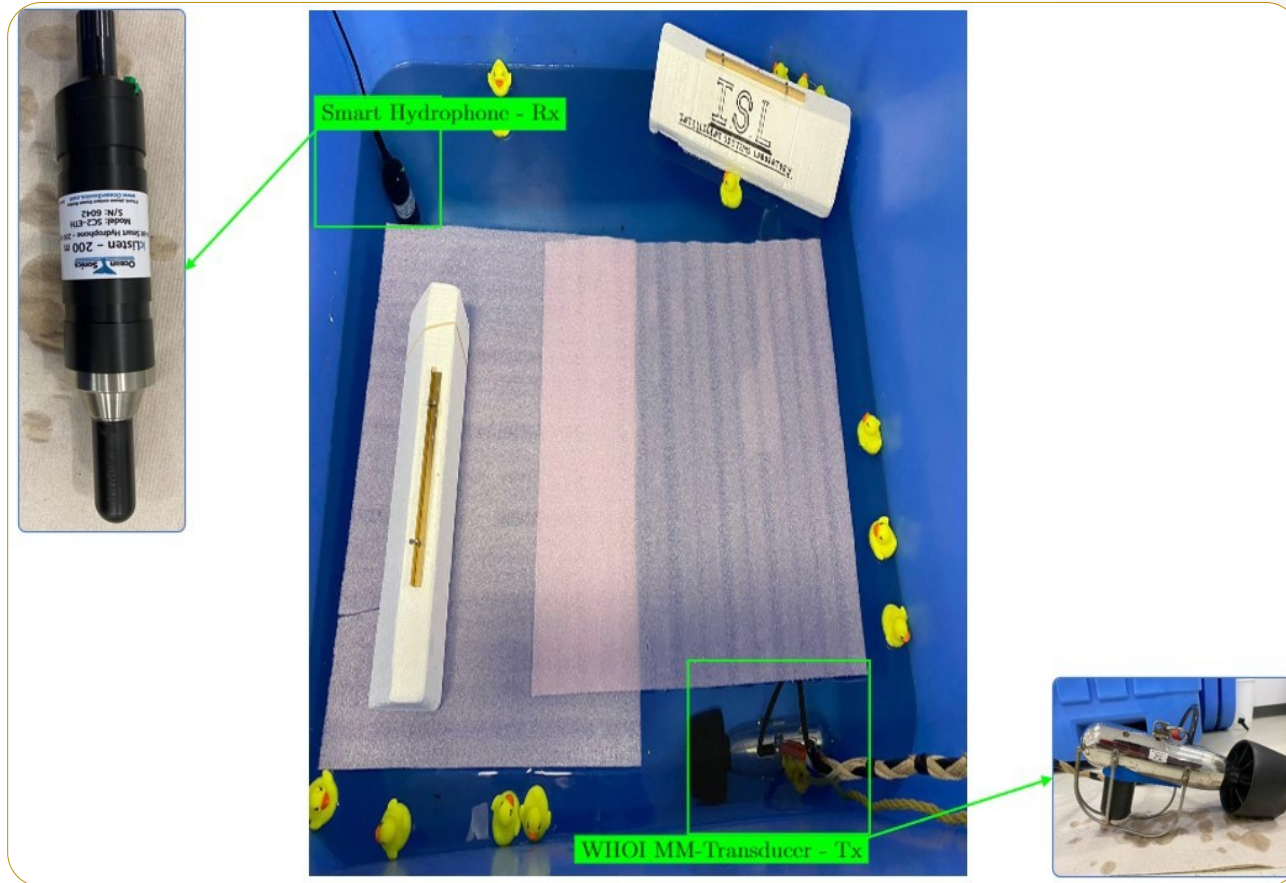
# CDMA and UW-GOAL Protocol performance comparison



- end-to-end delay (EED) ,
- energy consumption ,
- throughput ,
- packet delivery flow .

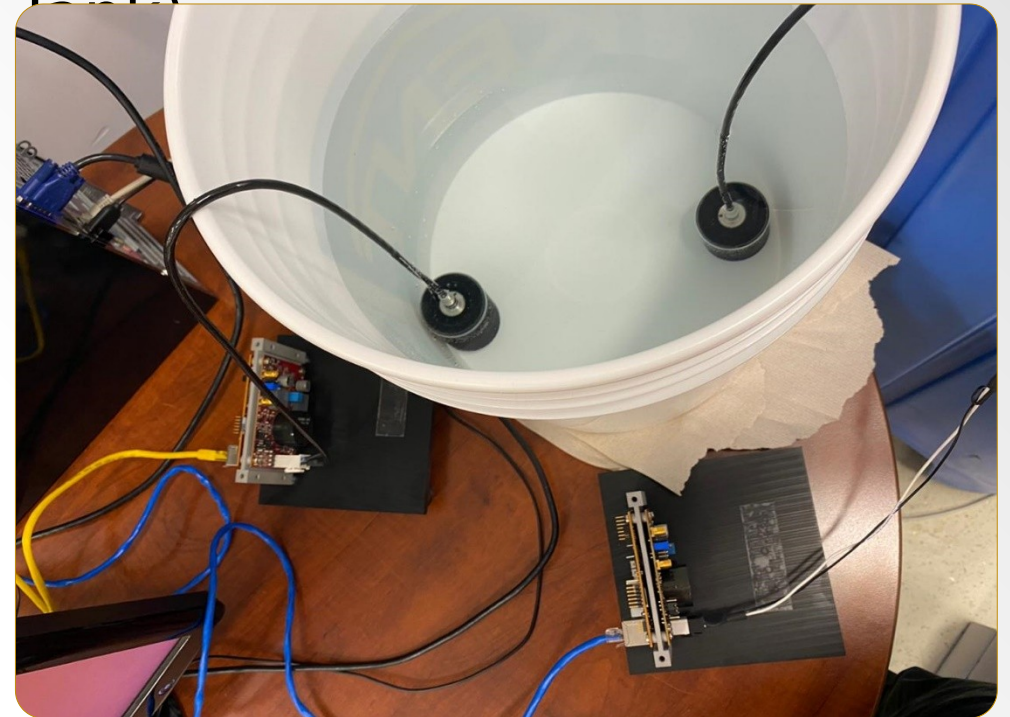
Figure 24: Performance comparison of UW-CDMA vs UW-GOAL

# What's Next ?



*Experimental setup of lab initial testing*

- Initial uw-modem selection and testing in water (Lab Test)



*Multiple OEM board (uw-modem)  
for lab-test*



# What's Next ?



*Underwater Software Defined Modems<sup>+</sup>*

- Hardware testing and in-water testing with minimal three nodes



*Surface Node configuration<sup>+</sup>*

<sup>+</sup> Credits : [subnero.com](http://subnero.com)



# Conclusion (1 / 2)

- simulating several underwater networks test case, it was observed that for the given environmental conditions, feasible range between UUV and USV as less than or equal to 1.3 km.
- simulation results are encouraging for the proposed CDMA protocol.

*Gazebo simulations experimental validation of all 3 marine robots in the experimental validation.*

J. Ross, J. Lindsay, E. Gregson, A. Moore, Patel, J. and Seto, M. "Collaboration of multi-domain marine robots towards above and below-water characterization of floating targets" Proc. IEEE ROSE Conf., Apr 2019.

## Conclusion (2 / 2)



Figure 33: All 3 marine robots in the experimental validation. The USV is left in the foreground. The surfaced UUV is right in the foreground. The barge is behind both. The UAV is left of the barge. On the wall, the red LED rings are 3 of the 8 motion capture cameras installed in the Aquatron Pool tank. <sup>[6]</sup>

- Integration of hardware-in-loop simulator for multi-domain marine robots may increase the complexity.

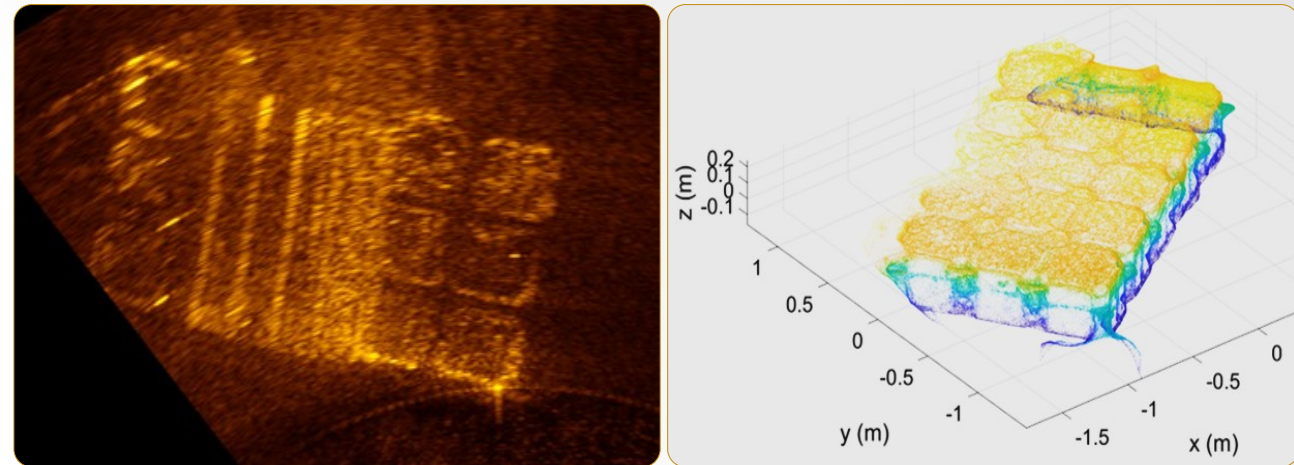


Figure 34: starting from left (a) Flexview sonar imaging of the barge underside from the IMOTUS UUV, (b) Optical camera photogrammetry reconstruction of the barge topside with the Pelican UAV on top of the bottom-side sonar (isometric view). <sup>[6]</sup>

# Questions ?

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Intelligent Systems Laboratory,  
Dalhousie University.





# References ( 1 / 3 )

1. Hanjiang Luo, Kaishun Wu, Rukhsana Ruby, Feng Hong, Zhongwen Guo, and Lionel M. Ni. 2017, "Simulation and experimentation platforms for underwater acoustic sensor networks: Advancements and challenges", ACM Comput. Surv. 50, 2, Article 28 (May 2017), 44 pages.
2. Nayyar A., Balas V.E. (2019), "Analysis of Simulation Tools for Underwater Sensor Networks (UWSNs)", Bhattacharyya S., Hassanien A., Gupta D., Khanna A., Pan I. (eds) International Conference on Innovative Computing and Communications. Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems, vol 55. Springer, Singapore, March 2019 .
3. D. Pompili, T. Melodia and I. F. Akyildiz, "A CDMA-based Medium Access Control for UnderWater Acoustic Sensor Networks," in IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications, vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1899-1909, April 2009.
4. Hala Jodeh, Aisha Mikkawi, Ahmed Awad, and Othman Othman. 2018, "Comparative analysis of routing protocols for under-water wireless sensor networks", in Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Future Networks and Distributed Systems (ICFNDS '18). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 33, 7 pages.
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7. J. Patel and M. Seto. 2019. “CDMA-based multi-domain communications network for marine robots”, in WUWNET’19: International Conference on Underwater Networks Systems (WUWNET’19), October 23–25, 2019, Atlanta, GA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 2 pages.
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11. J. Patel, M. Seto “Underwater channel characterization for shallow water multi-domain communications” In: 2020 International Conference on Underwater Acoustics (ICUA). pp. 1–7, Sept. 2020.
12. Federico Guerra, “WOSS-ns3 Module”, <https://github.com/MetalKnight/woss-ns3/>



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13. J. Patel, and M. Seto. “Live RF Image Transmission Using OFDM with RPi and PlutoSDR” In: 2020 IEEE Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE).London, Canada, Sept. 2020.
14. J. Patel and M. Seto. 2019. “CDMA-based multi-domain communications network for marine robots”, in WUWNET’19: International Conference on Underwater Networks Systems (WUWNET’19), October 23–25, 2019, Atlanta, GA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 2 pages.
15. <https://www.canada.ca/en/defence-research-development/news/articles/exercise-unmanned-warrior-an-international-exercise-using-autonomous-tech-to-detect-underwater-mines.html>
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19. W. Hao et al. (2017) “A Novel Cross-Layer Routing Protocol Based on Network Coding for Underwater Sensor Networks.” Sensors (Basel, Switzerland) vol. 17,8 1821. 8 Aug. 2017, DOI:10.3390/s17081821

# Relevant References from Literature Survey

Table 1: relevant literature survey

Sr No	Title	Authors	Published in
1.	Simulation and experimentation platforms for underwater acoustic sensor networks: Advancements and challenges <sup>[1]</sup>	Hanjiang Luo, KaishunWu, Rukhsana Ruby, Feng Hong, Zhongwen Guo, and Lionel M. Ni.	ACM Comput. Surv. 50, 2, Article 28 (May 2017), 44 pages
2.	Analysis of Simulation Tools for Underwater Sensor Networks (UWSNs) <sup>[2]</sup>	Nayyar A., Balas V.E.	Bhattacharyya S., Hassanien A., Gupta D., Khanna A., Pan I. (eds) International Conference on Innovative Computing and Communications. Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems, vol 55. Springer, Singapore, March 2019
3.	A CDMA-based Medium Access Control for UnderWater Acoustic Sensor Networks <sup>[3]</sup>	D. Pompili, T. Melodia and I. F. Akyildiz	IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications, vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1899-1909, April 2009
4.	Comparative analysis of routing protocols for under-water wireless sensor networks <sup>[4]</sup>	Hala Jodeh, Aisha Mikkawi, Ahmed Awad, and Othman Othman.	Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Future Networks and Distributed Systems (ICFNDS '18). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 33, 7 pages.
5.	Embedded systems for prototyping underwater acoustic networks: The DESERT Underwater libraries on board the PandaBoard and NetDCU <sup>[5]</sup>	I. Calabrese, R. Masiero, P. Casari, L. Vangelista and M. Zorzi,	2012 Oceans, Hampton Roads, VA, 2012, pp. 1-8.