

# Seabed Variability and its Influence on Acoustic Prediction Uncertainty

## The G, G & G Team

*Charles Holland:* team leader;  
Acoustic measurements/geoacoustic inversion

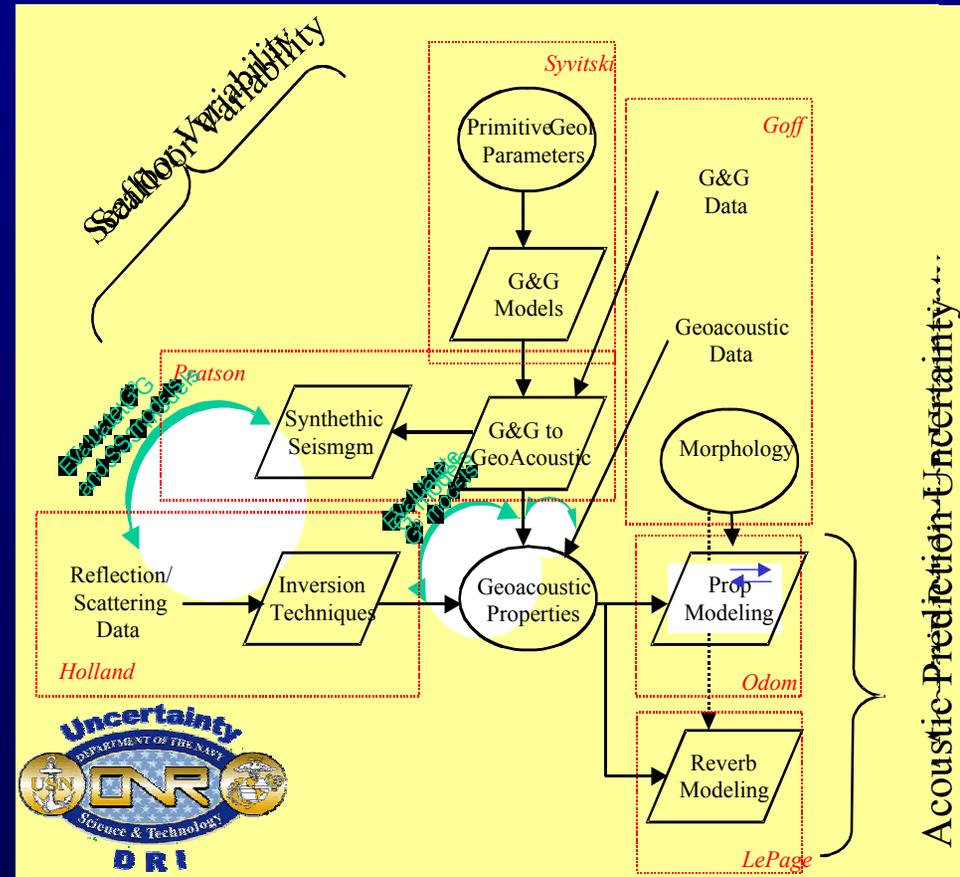
*John Goff:* Statistical characterization of surface/subsurface properties

*Kevin LePage:* Reverberation modeling

*Bob Odom:* Acoustic propagation modeling (forward/inverse)

*Lincoln Pratson:* Predictive geoacoustic modeling; lab-generated 3D strata

*James Syvitski:* Predictive geophysical modeling



# Long Term Goals

- Assess and characterize the seafloor variability
- Determine the impact of the seafloor variability on acoustic prediction uncertainty



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# 1. Determine Geoacoustic Errors and Uncertainties

- G&G modeling-to-geoacoustics (Syvitski, Pratson, Holland)
- G&G data analysis (Goff, Holland, Syvitski)
- Acoustic inversion (Holland, Pratson, Odom, Goff)
- Recommendations for new measurement-modeling approaches that minimize geoacoustic error/uncertainty (ALL)



## 2. Provide measures of acoustic prediction uncertainty due to seabed variability and geoacoustic uncertainty

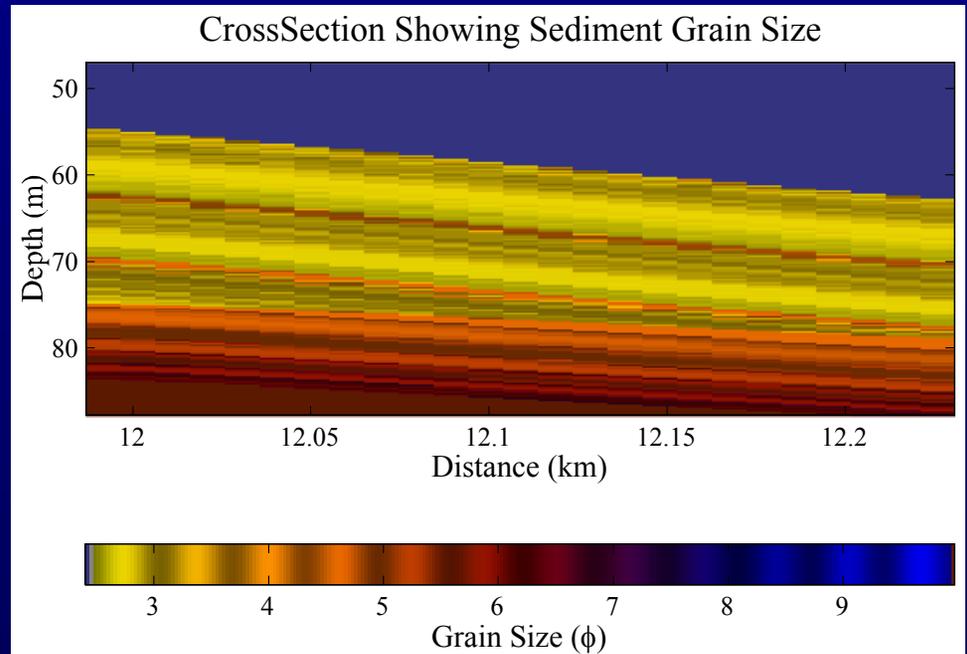
- Develop theory/techniques for modeling uncertainty (Odom, LePage)
- Forward and inverse propagation uncertainty based on deterministic/stochastic geoacoustic data (Odom)
- Scattering and reverberation uncertainty based on deterministic/stochastic geoacoustic data (LePage)



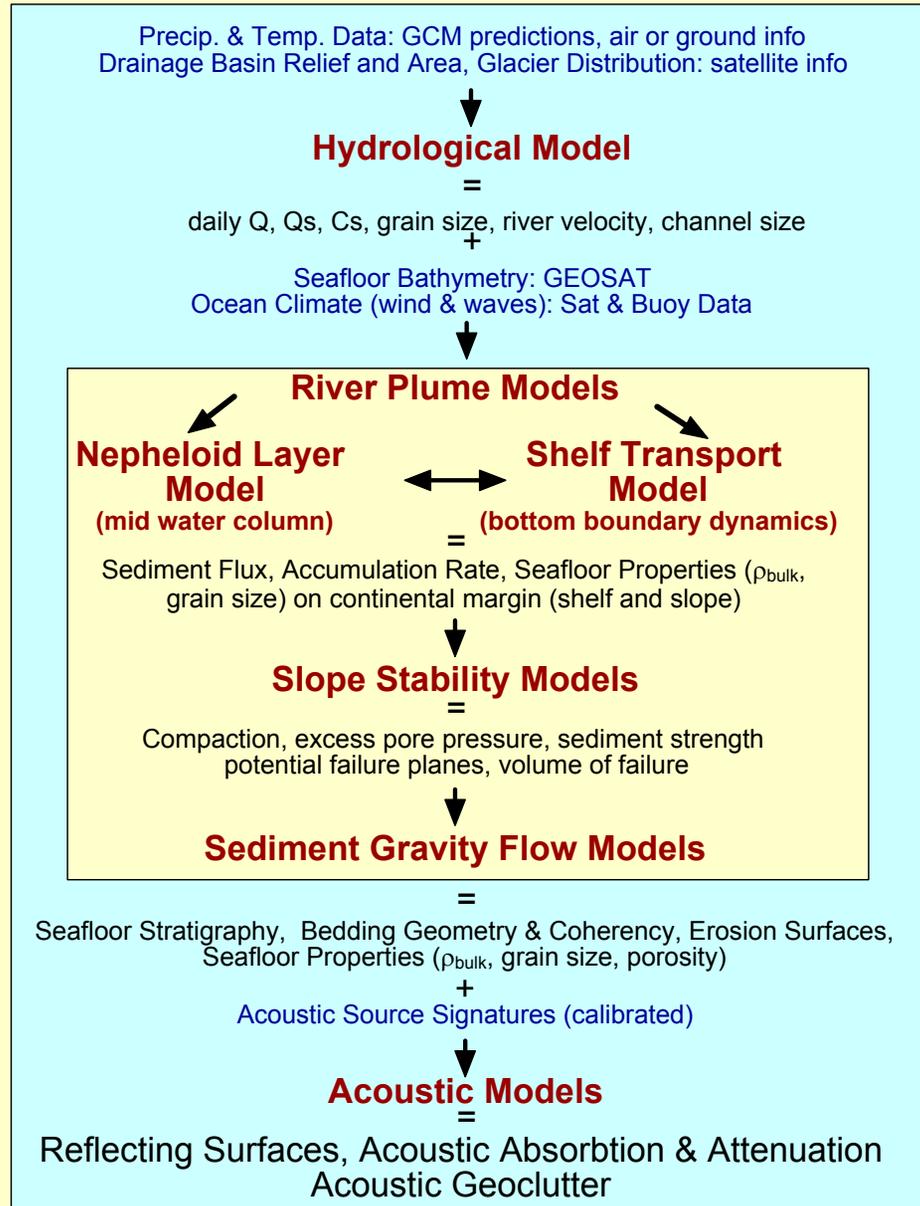
# Seabed Variability from Geophysical Modeling -James Syvitski

## Objectives

- Determine the uncertainty related to the natural variability in the environmental parameters that drive *SedFlux*.
- Provide *SedFlux* realizations in areas of interest to seafloor geoacoustic team, i.e. seafloor properties, bed coherency.
- Coordinate with ONR-GeoClutter Modeling group to explore seafloor uncertainty related to the location of buried channels, their morphology and orientation.
- Determine which continental margins would experience seasonal or inter-annual changes in the nature of its seafloor acoustic properties.



# STRATAFORM Modeling Effort



Quick Time™ and a  
video format  
are needed to see this picture.

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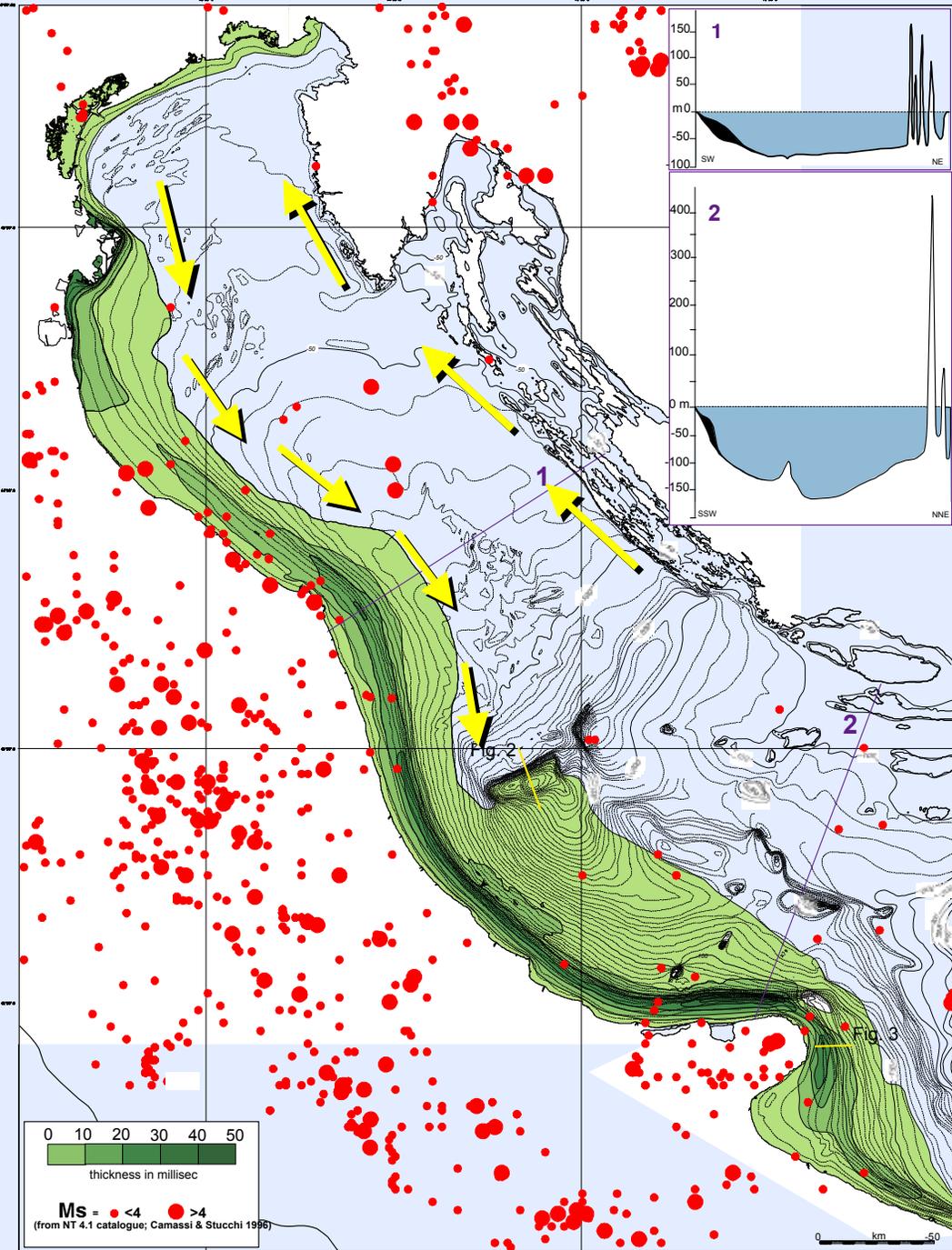
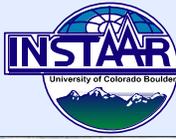
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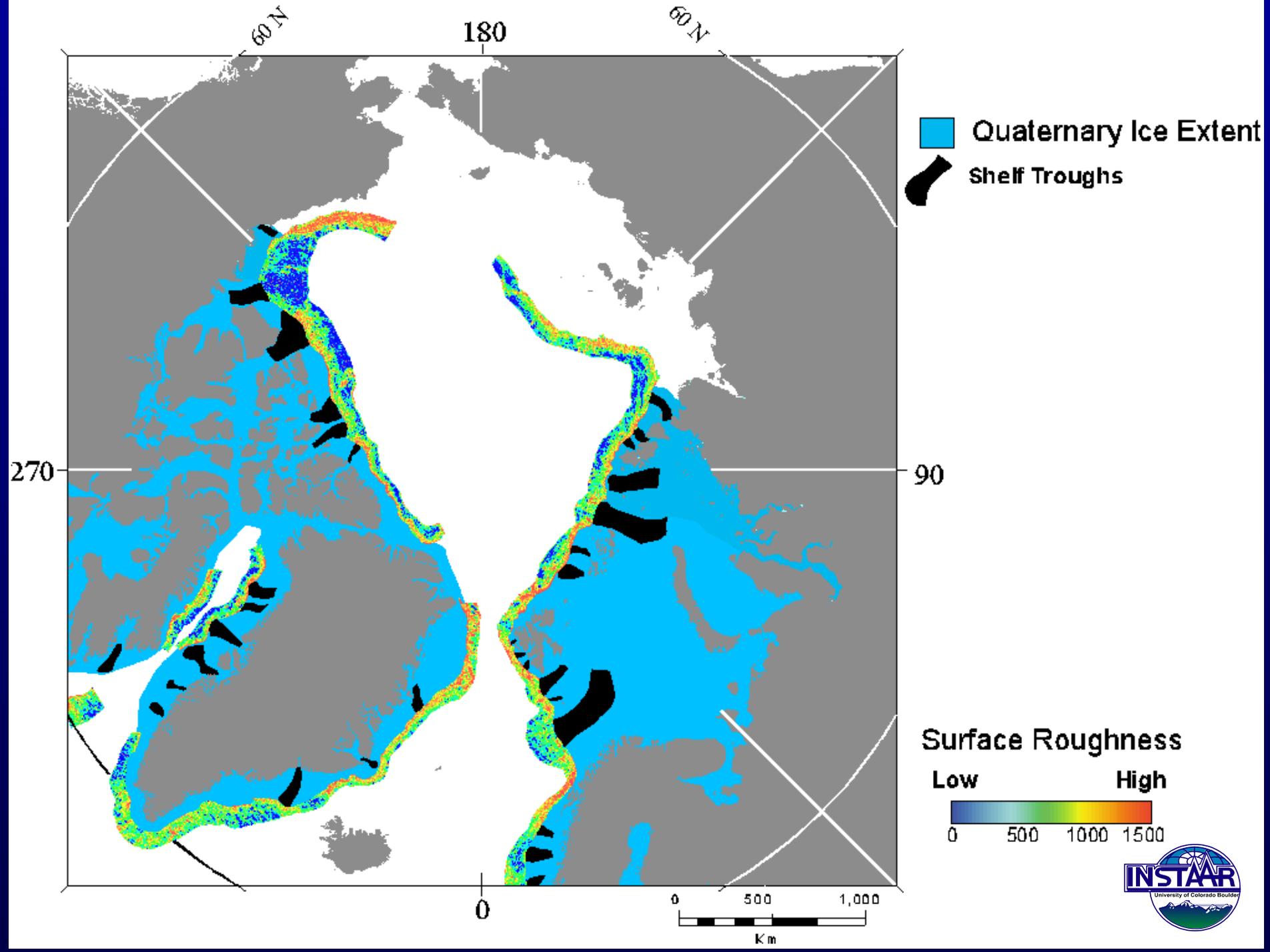


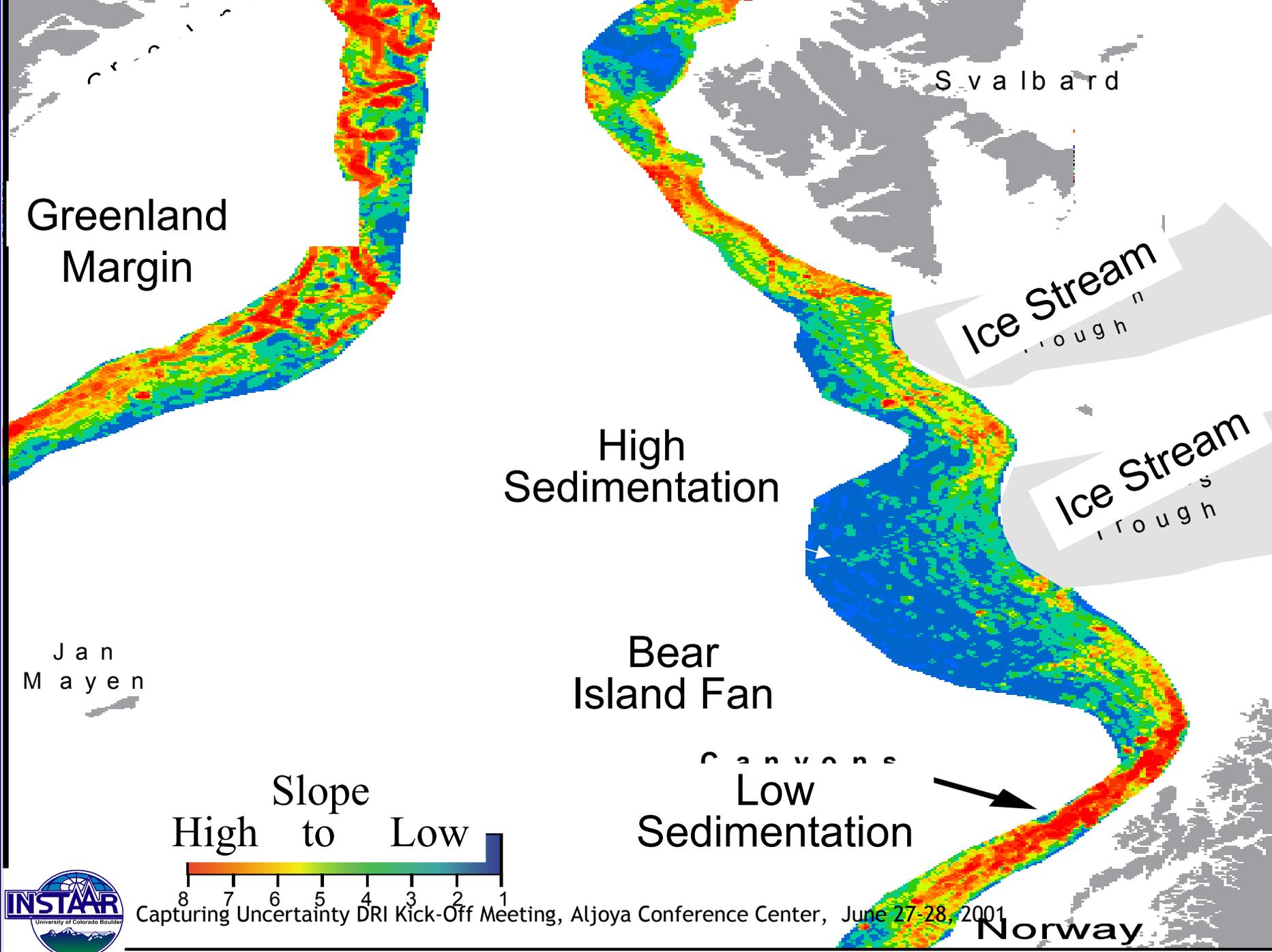
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**Strong coastal circulation can greatly influence the dispersal of sediment, as found within the Adriatic, where sediment is deposited along a tight coastal band.**



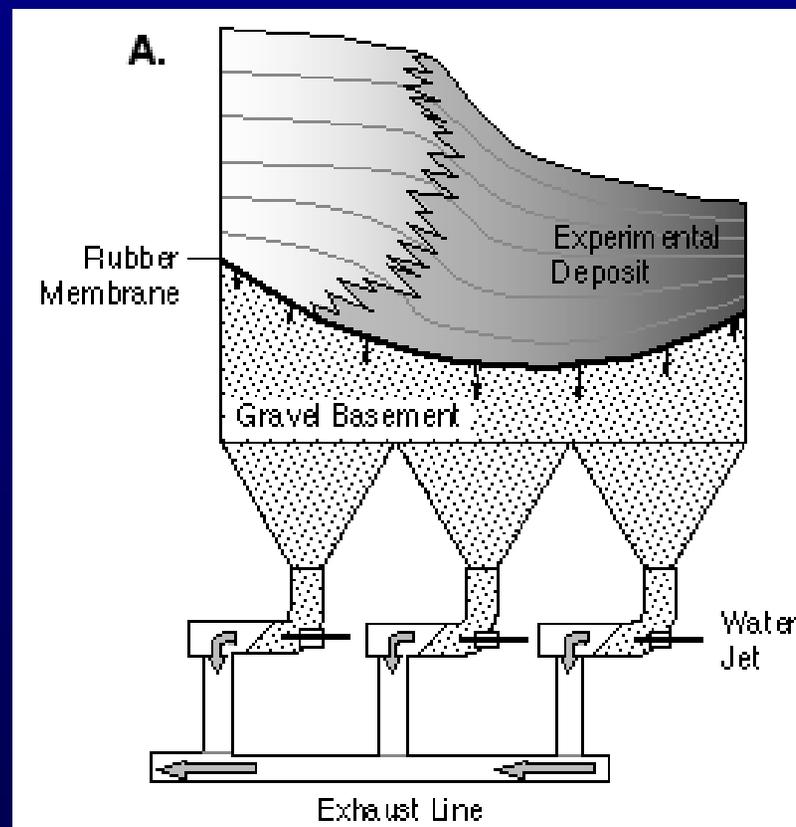


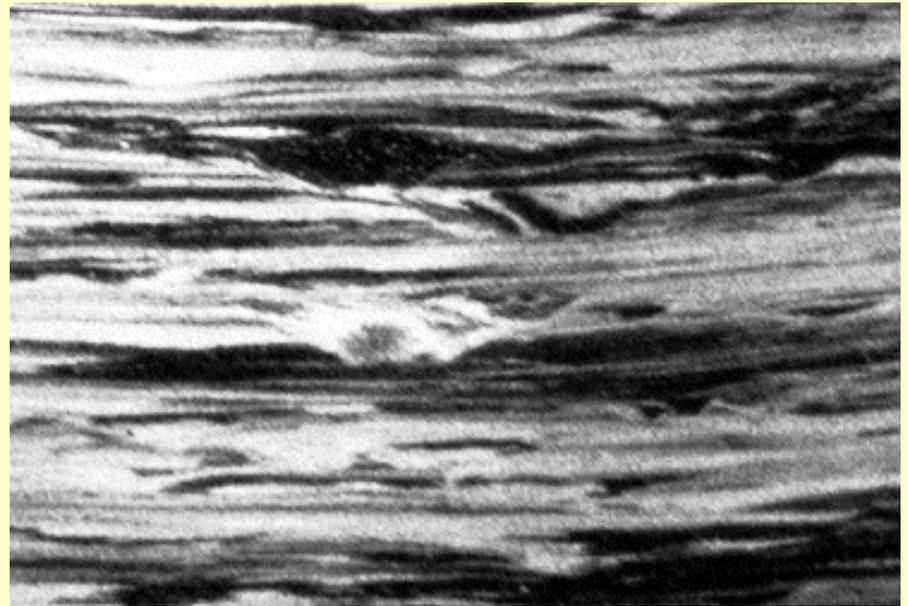
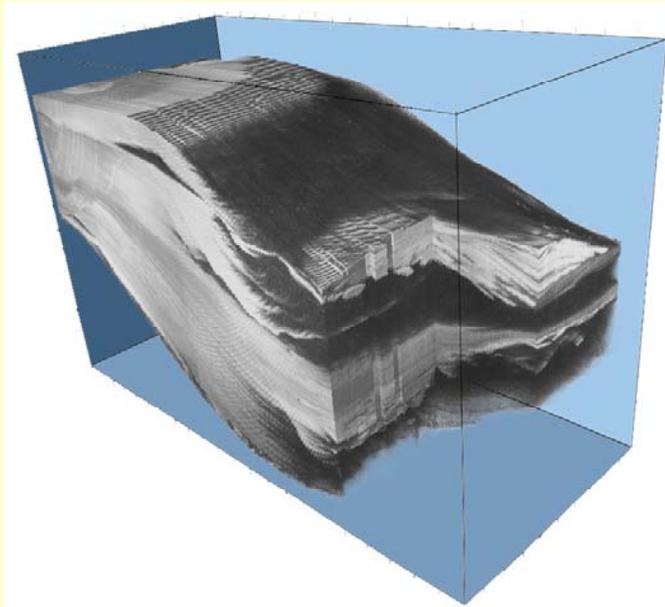


# Geoacoustic Properties from Lab and G&G Modeled Strata - Lincoln Pratson

Use computer- and laboratory-generated strata to forward model seabed acoustic properties in a variety of littoral settings, and provide statistical measures for use in simulating acoustic propagation and reverberation.

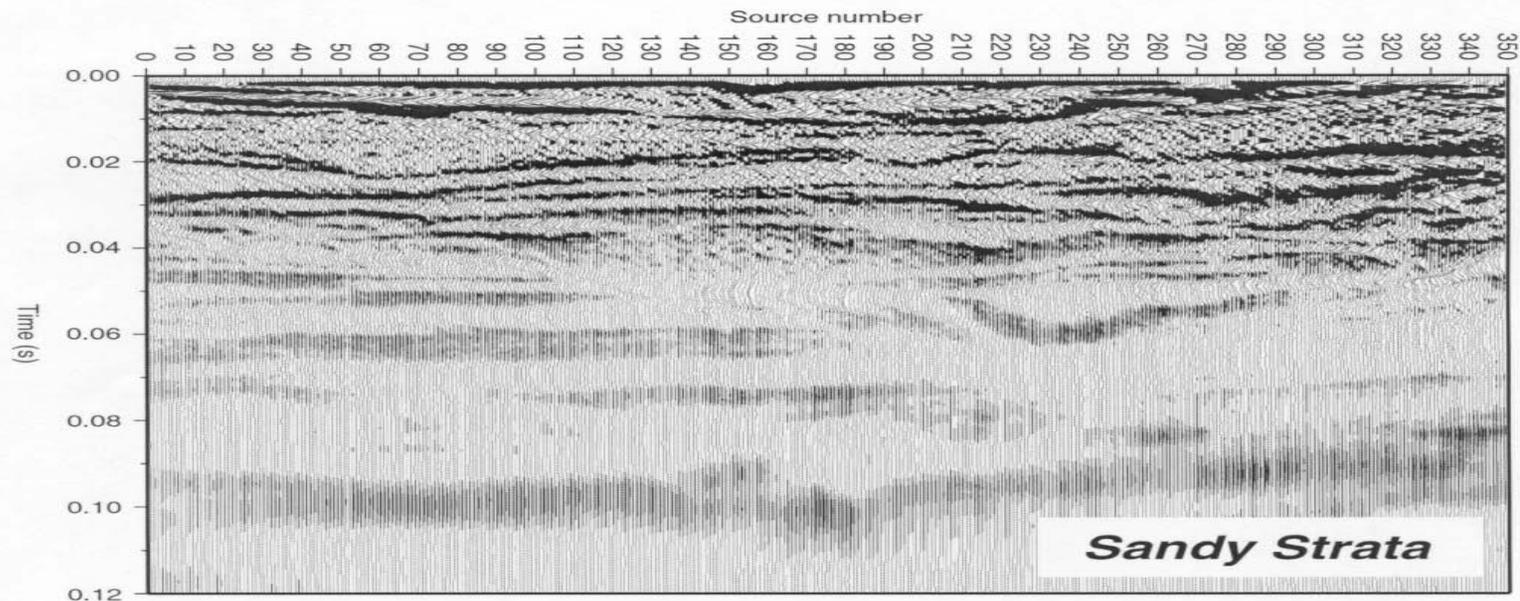
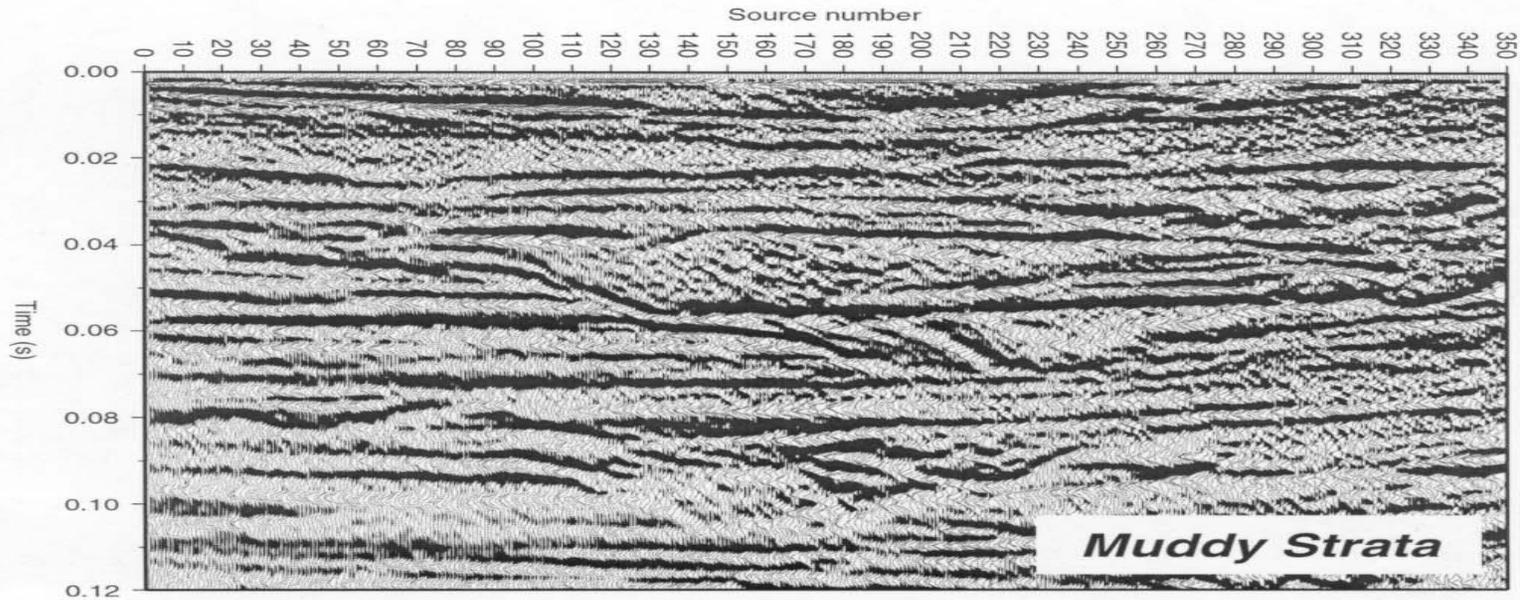
Generate synthetic seismic data of the computer- and laboratory-generated strata for use in testing high-resolution geoacoustic inversion methods.



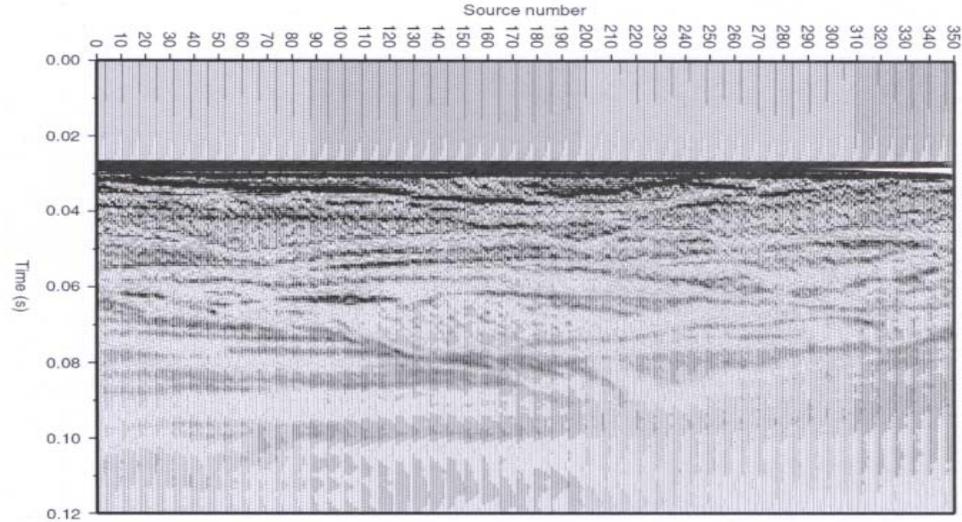
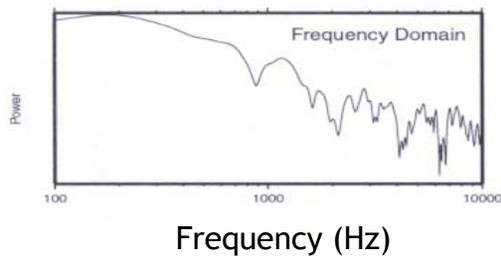
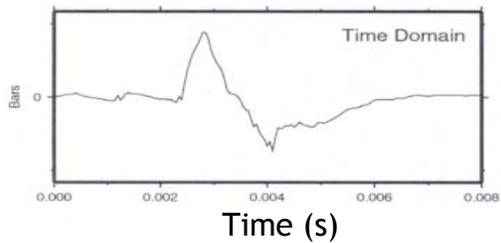


*3-D image of experimental delta/slope strata generated in XES Basin. (2) Cross section of buried experimental channels created in XES Basin. In both images, white regions are sand and black regions are coal, which is used as a proxy for mud*

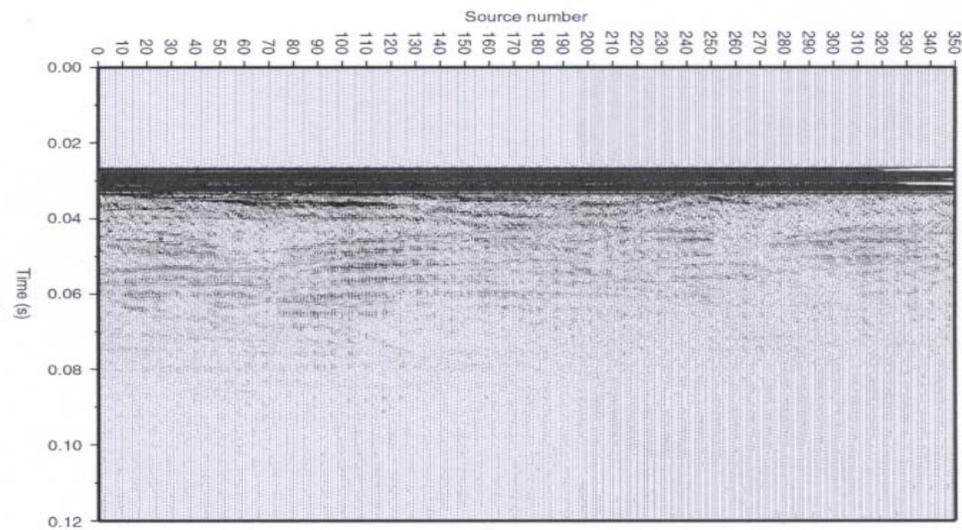
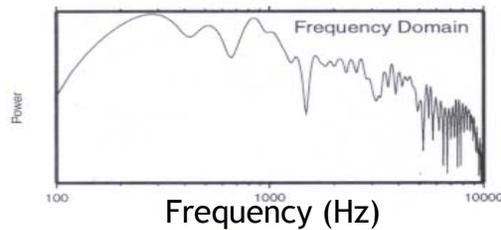
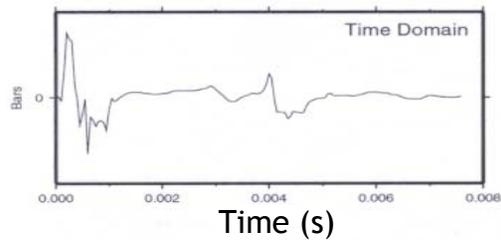
Gaussian Source w/ 500 Hz Peak Frequency



### Airgun



### Sparker



# G&G Statistical Characterization - John Goff

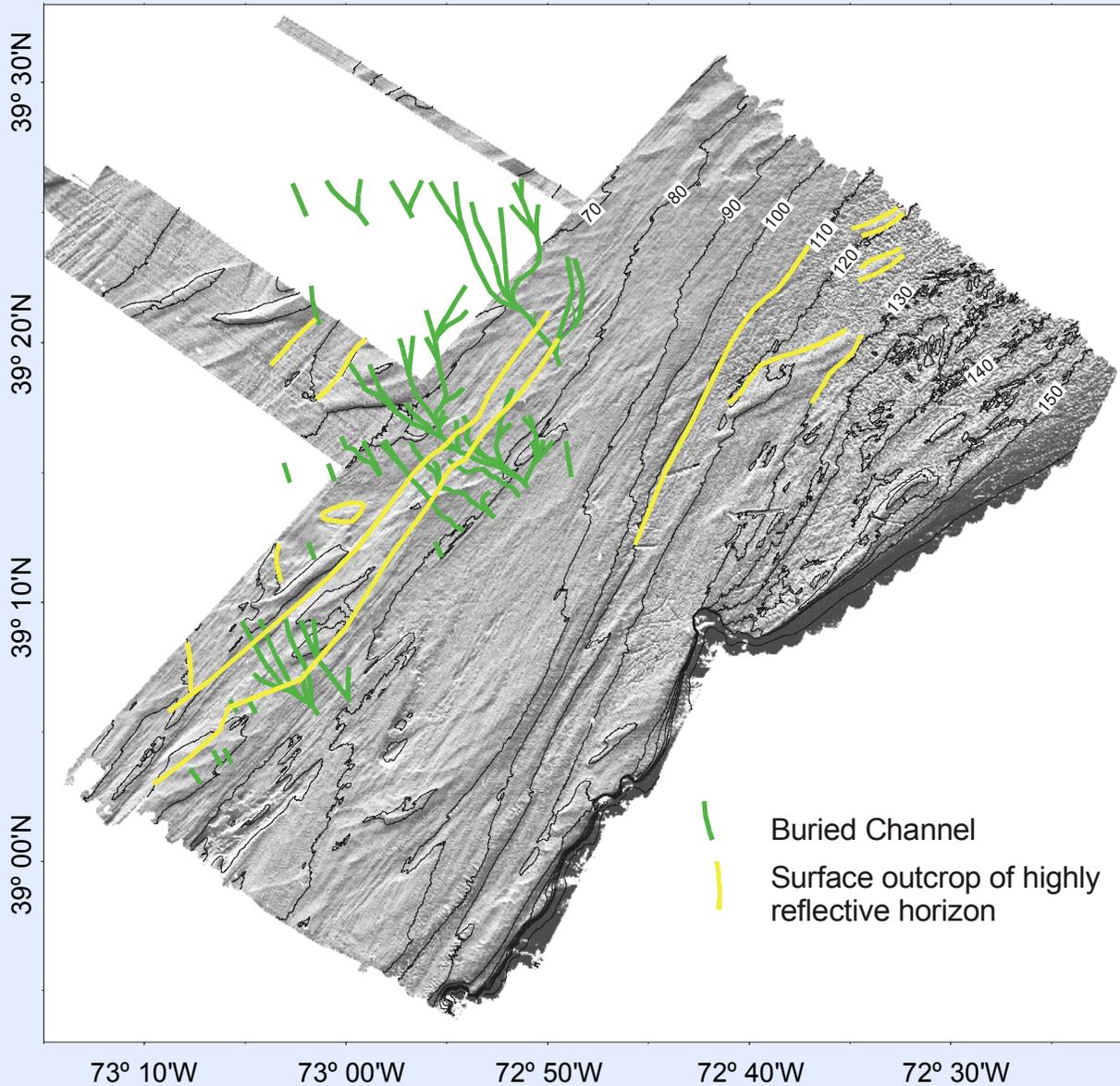
## Objectives

Investigating the statistical properties of seafloor and sub-seafloor variability into seafloor acoustic models and compared against the geophysical data:

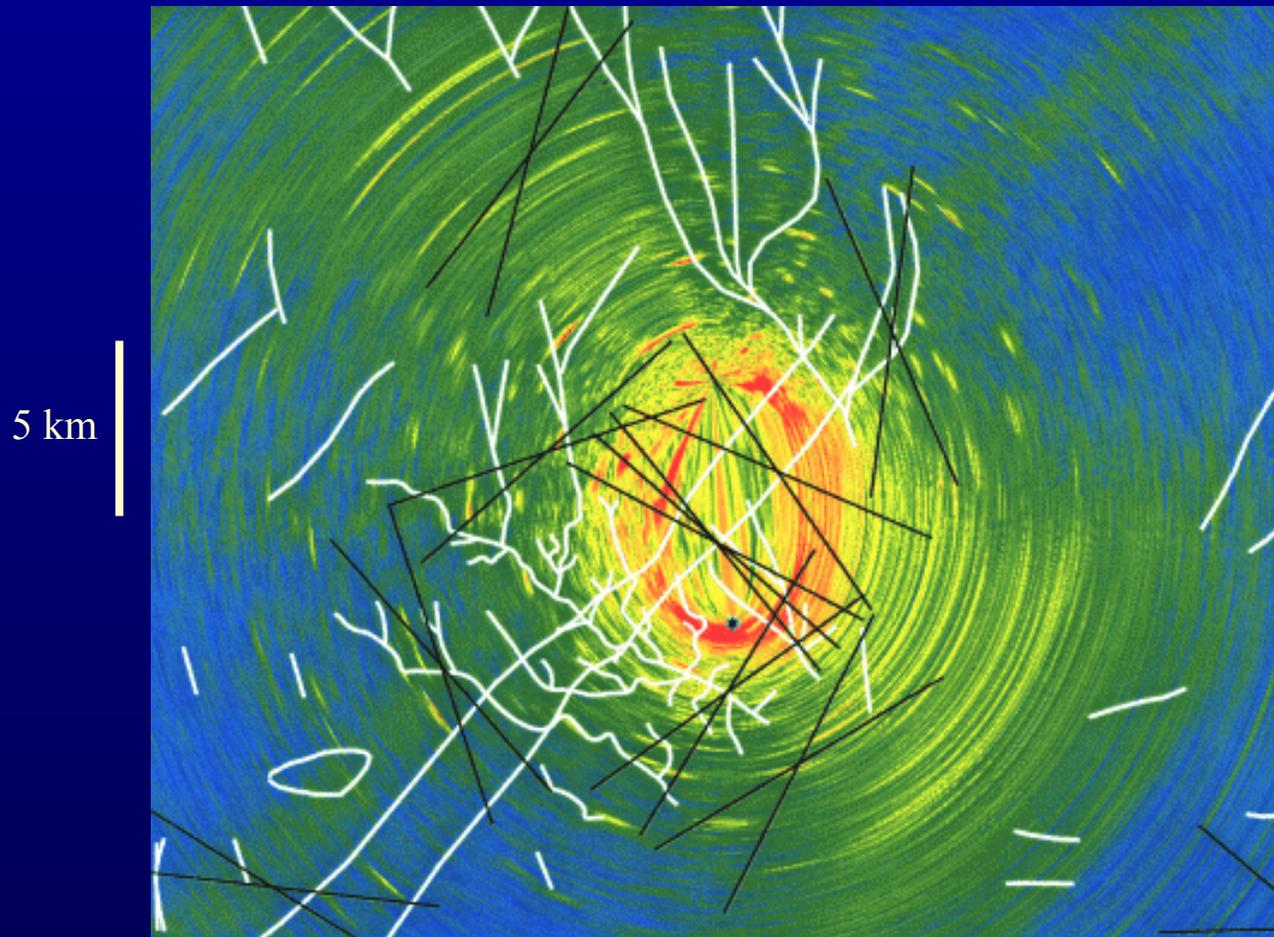
- (1) multibeam bathymetry;
- (2) direct measurements of surface and near-surface properties;
- (3) indirect measurements (sidescan);
- (4) limited direct measurements from long-coring effort;
- (5) indirect measurement of chirp seismic reflection data.



# Morphological Complexity in the NJ Geoclutter Area: Surface and Subsurface

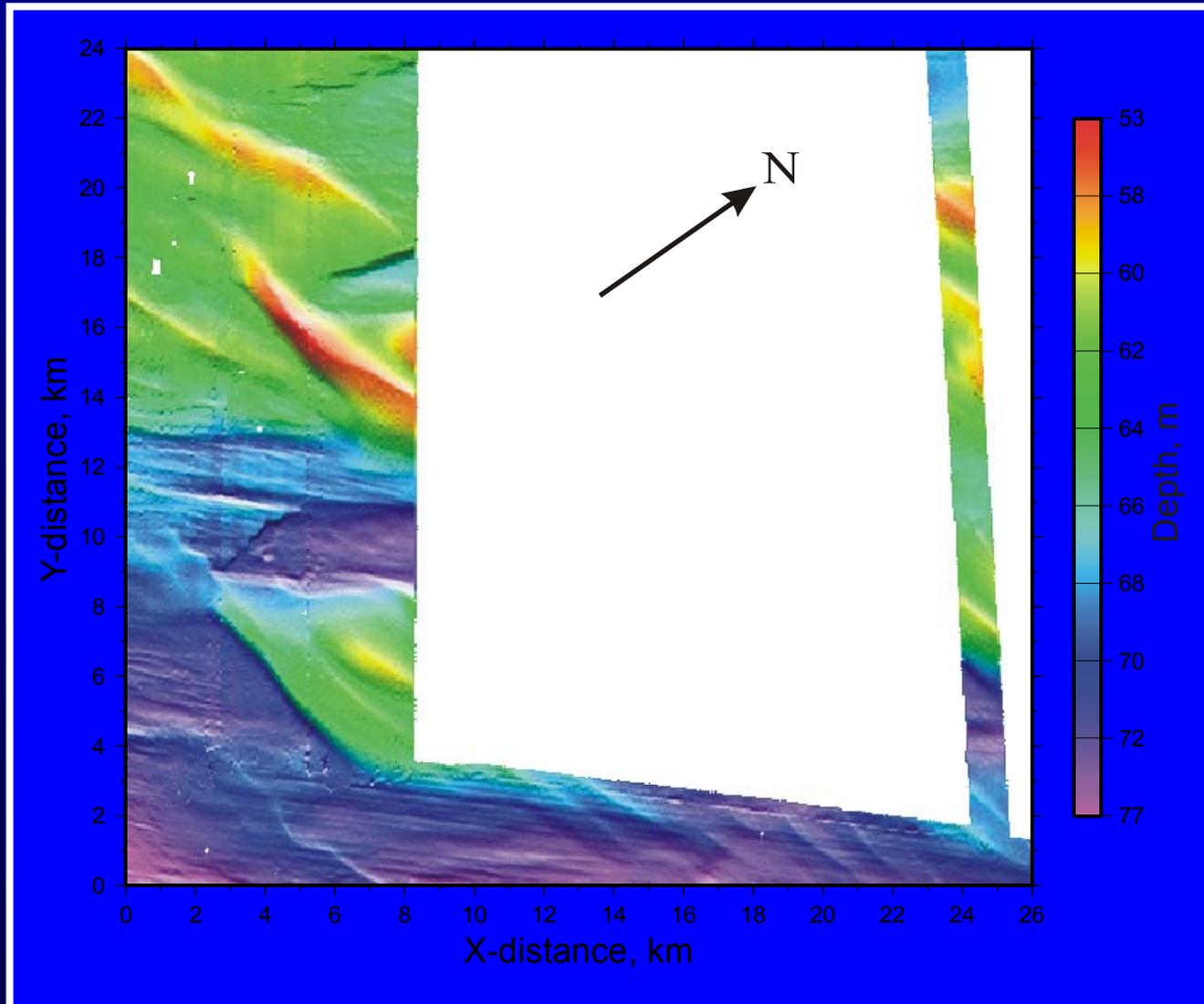


# Geoclutter on the New Jersey shelf

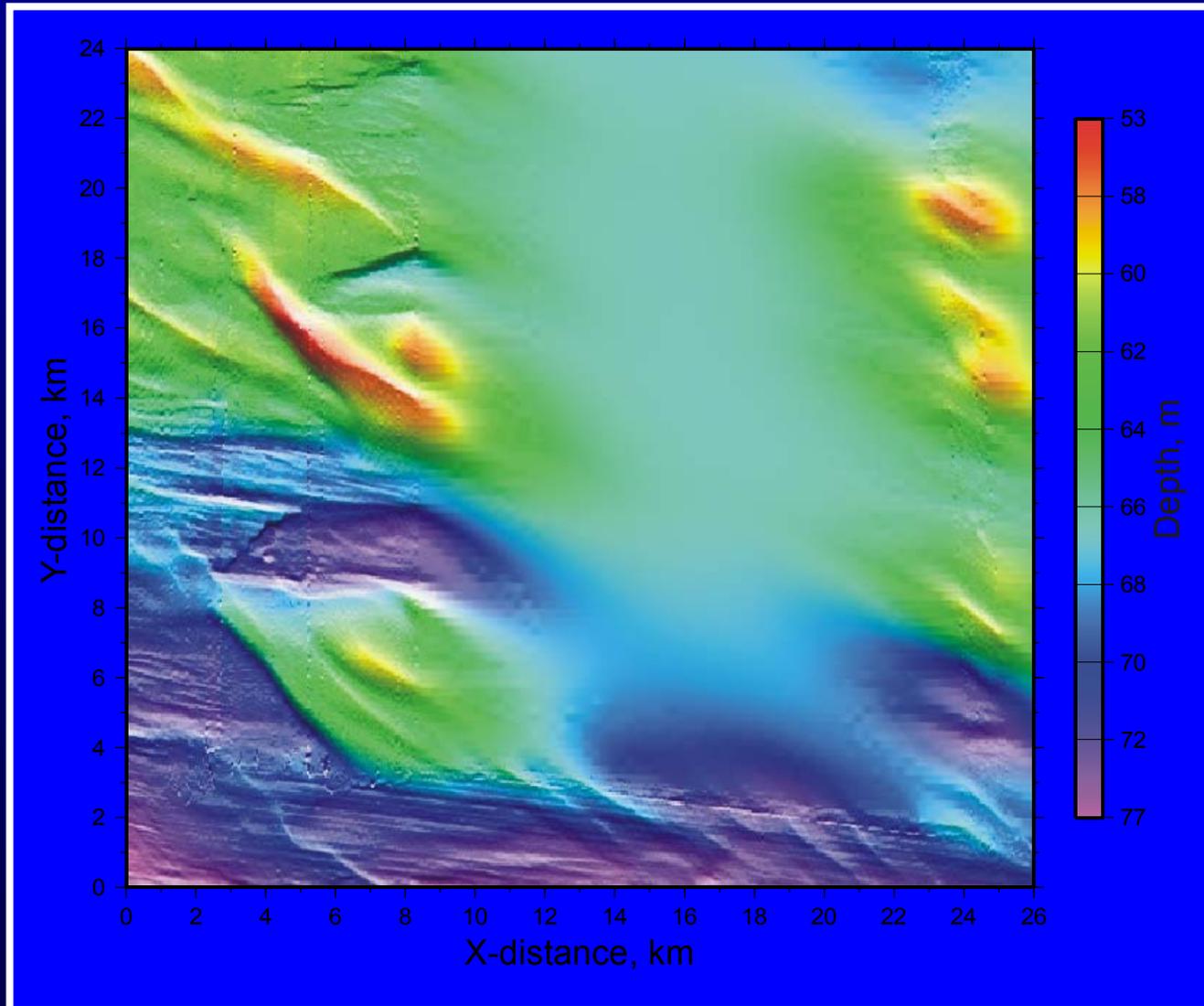


**Task:** Provide a geologic and geophysical model of surface and subsurface at sufficient resolution to model acoustic reverberation.

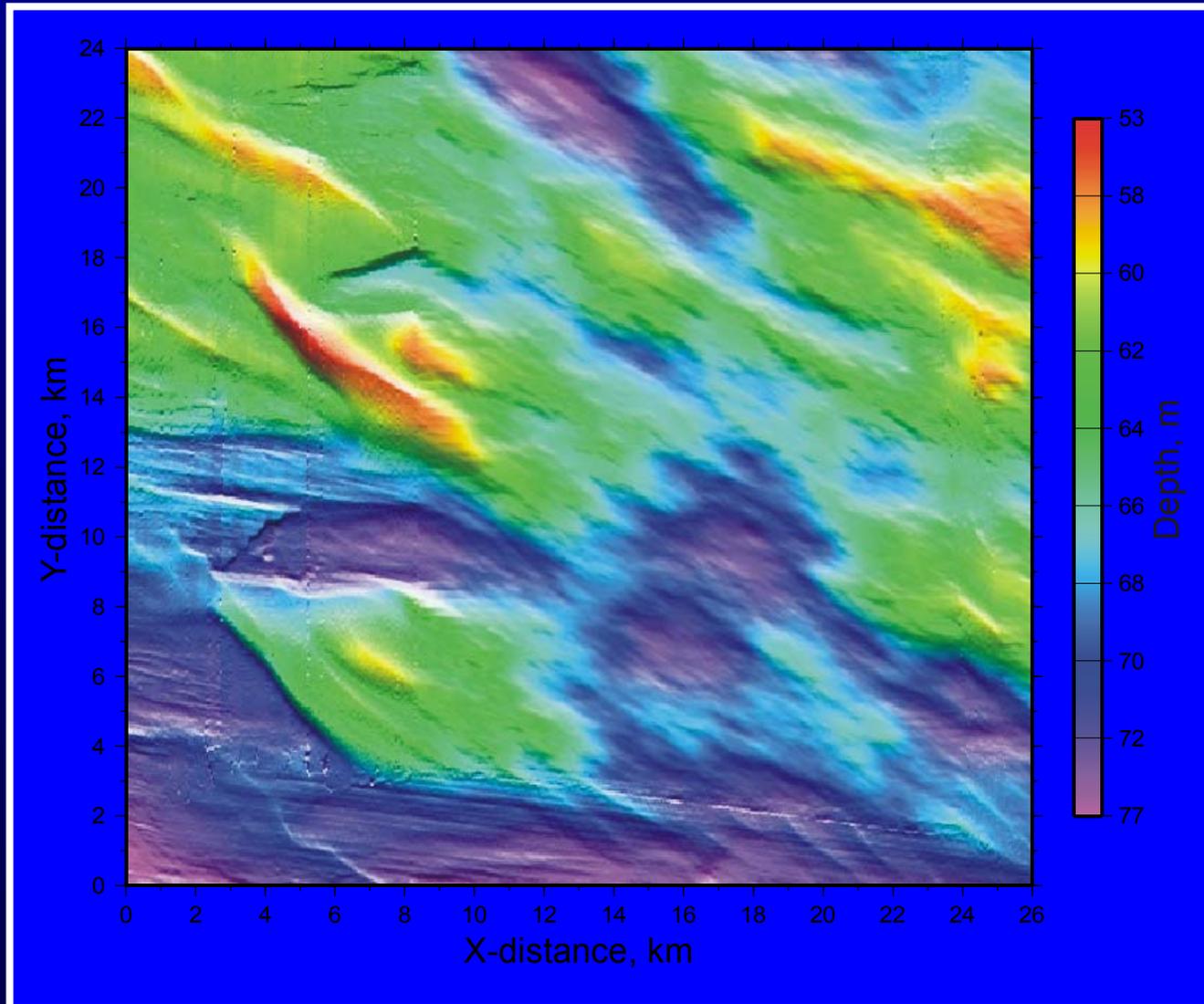
# New Jersey Bathymetry



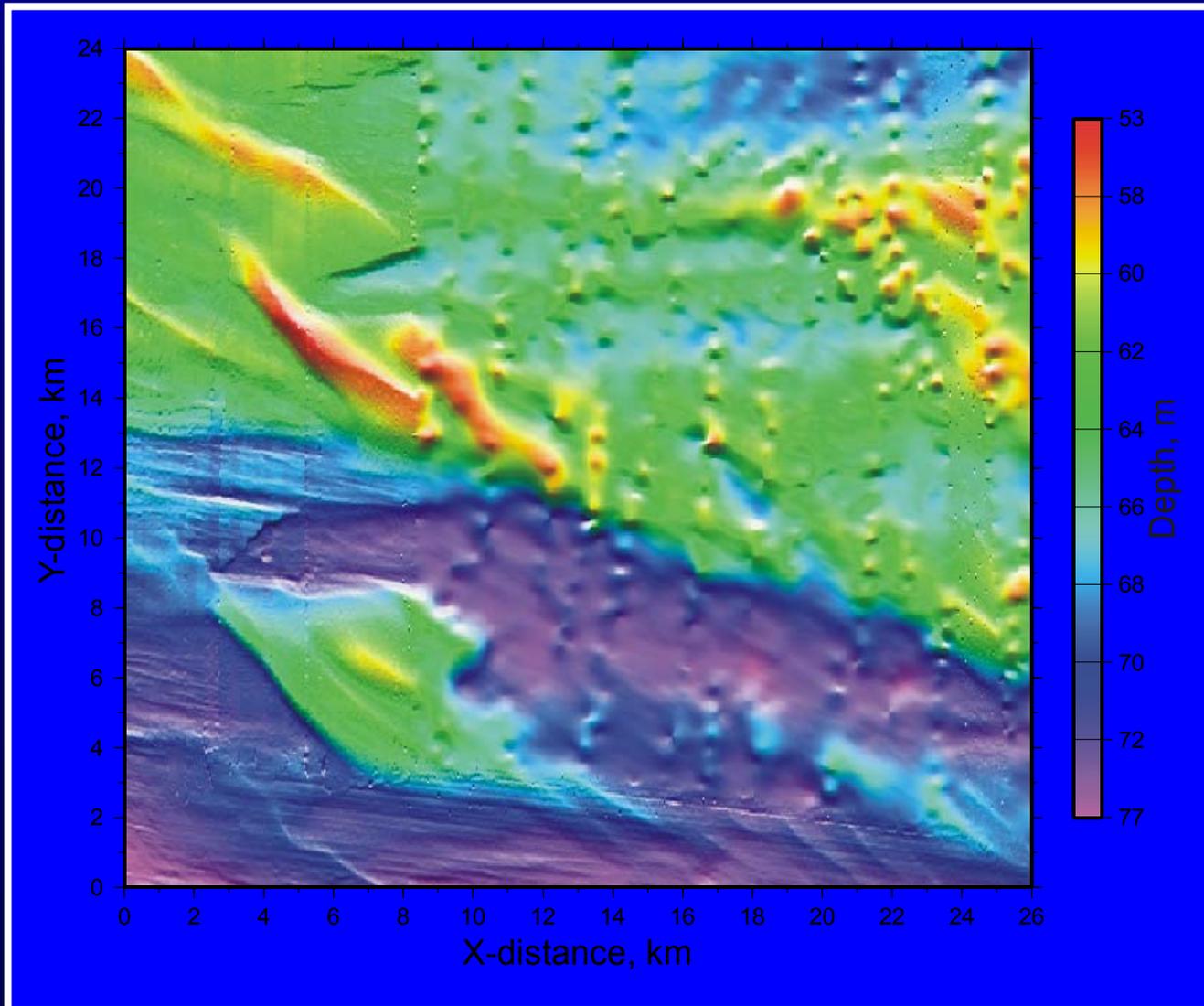
# Kriging Interpolation



# Conditional Simulation



# Conditional Simulation w/NGDC Data

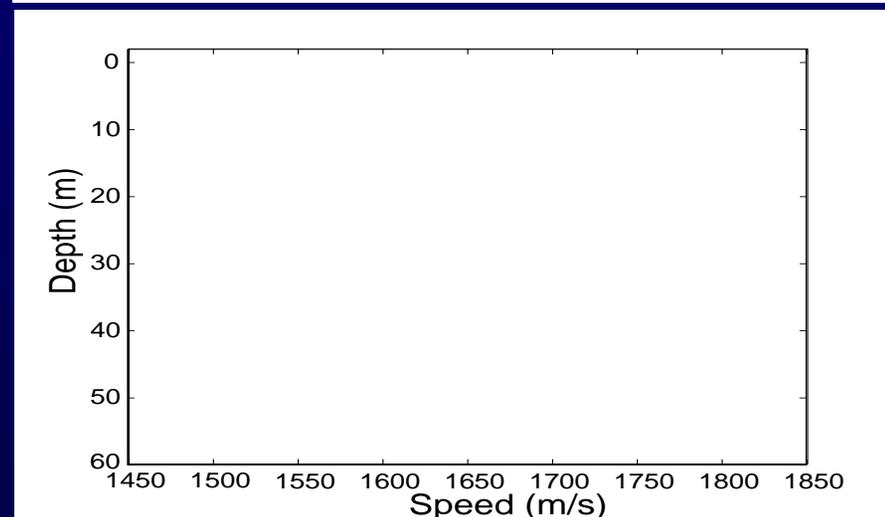
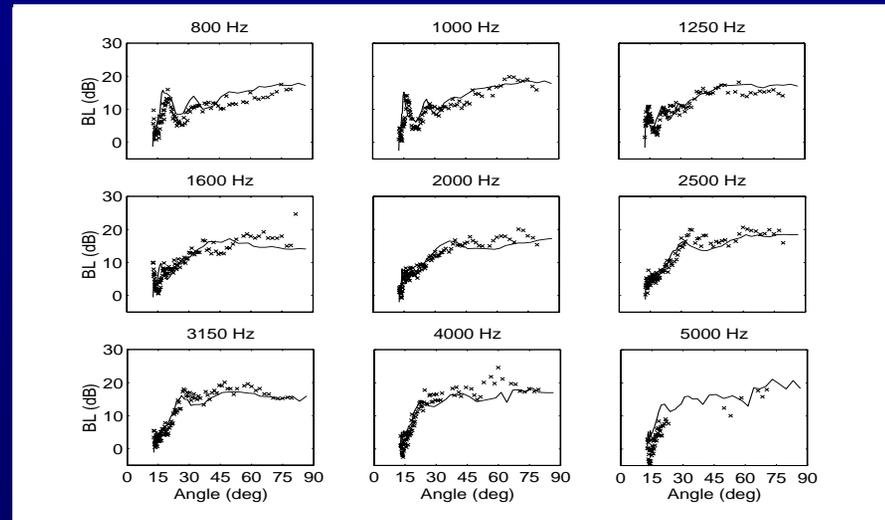


# Acoustic reflection and scattering

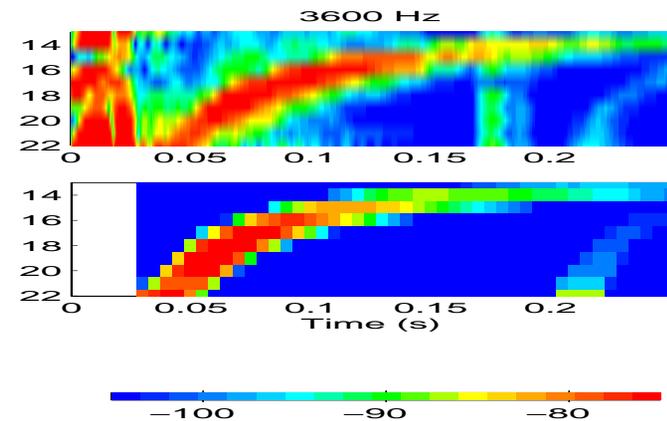
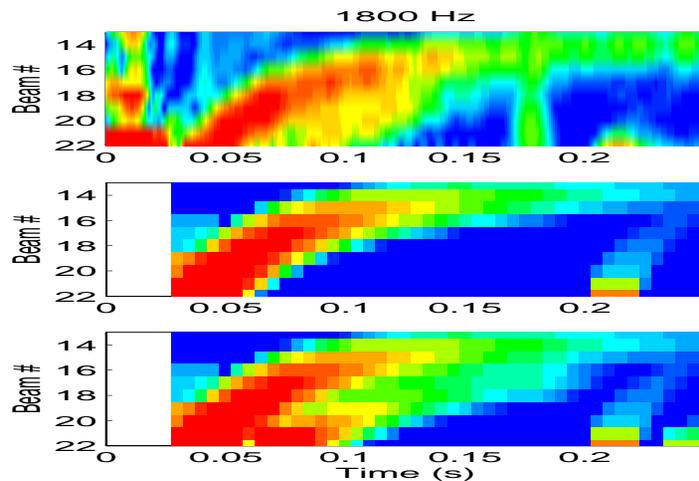
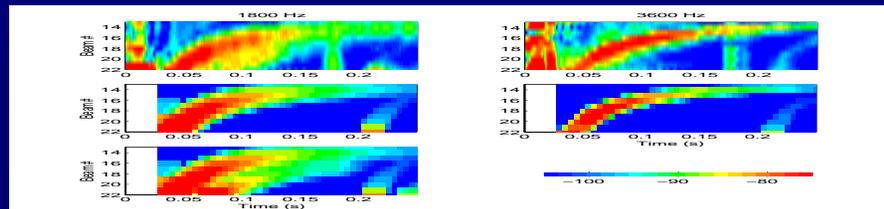
## - Charles Holland

### Objectives

- characterize the seabed geoacoustic variability using acoustic reflection / scattering data
- determine uncertainties and errors in measurements and inversion/extraction processing
- serve as liaison to Boundary Characterization Joint Research Project Experiment series



*Measured beam time-series from seabed scattering. The main scattering data are contained along the branch starting at 0.04 s. At 1800 Hz there is an additional scattering branch starting at 0.08 s, corresponding to a scattering horizon 25m below the sub-bottom. The importance of the sub-bottom scattering increases with decreasing frequency. The units in are dB re 1  $\mu\text{Pa}/\text{s}^2/\text{Hz}$  and have been normalized by source level.*



# Seabed Variability Effects on Propagation Prediction Uncertainty - Bob Odom

## Objectives

- Compute model and data sensitivities, and resolution and variance trade-offs
- Investigate model parameter correlations, and optimal model parameterizations.
- What model parameters are most important? Can we resolve them? What will be the model variance? What additional data would be useful, if it were available? Which model parameters are essentially unresolvable (unconstrained)?





# Analytical Expressions for Partial Derivatives

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{m} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial \mathbf{m}} \mathbf{m}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{g}}{\partial \mathbf{m}} = \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \kappa}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial P(z_r, t; z_s, 0)}{\partial \kappa(z)} = \frac{1}{\kappa^2(z)} P(z, t; z_r, 0) * P(z, t; z_s, 0) * \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} s(t)$$

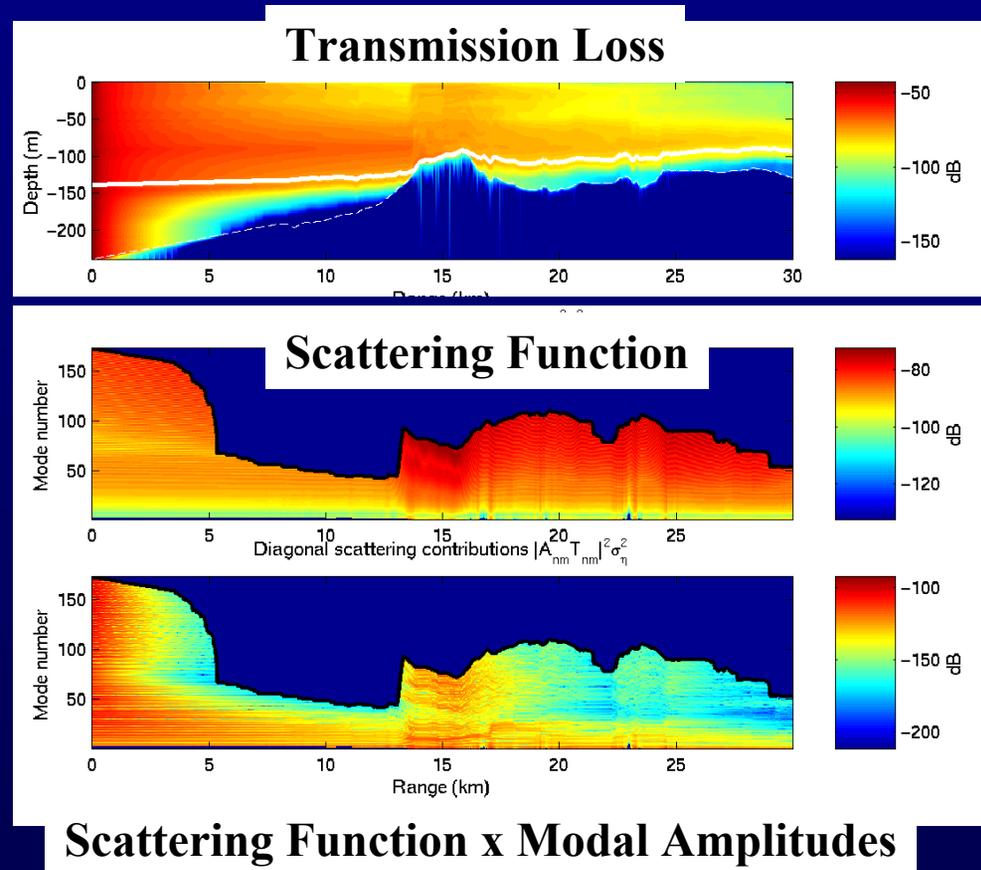
$$\frac{\partial P(z_r, t; z_s, 0)}{\partial \rho(z)} = \frac{1}{\rho^2(z)} \left\{ \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} P(z, t; z_r, 0) * \frac{\partial}{\partial z} P(z, t; z_s, 0) * s(t) \right] - \left[ \rho^2 P(z, t; z_r, 0) * P(z, t; z_s, 0) * \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} s(t) \right] \right\}$$

- $\left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \kappa}, \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)$  can be computed from **one pass** of FFP or SAFARI/OASES

# Seabed Variability Effects on Reverberation Prediction Uncertainty - Kevin LePage

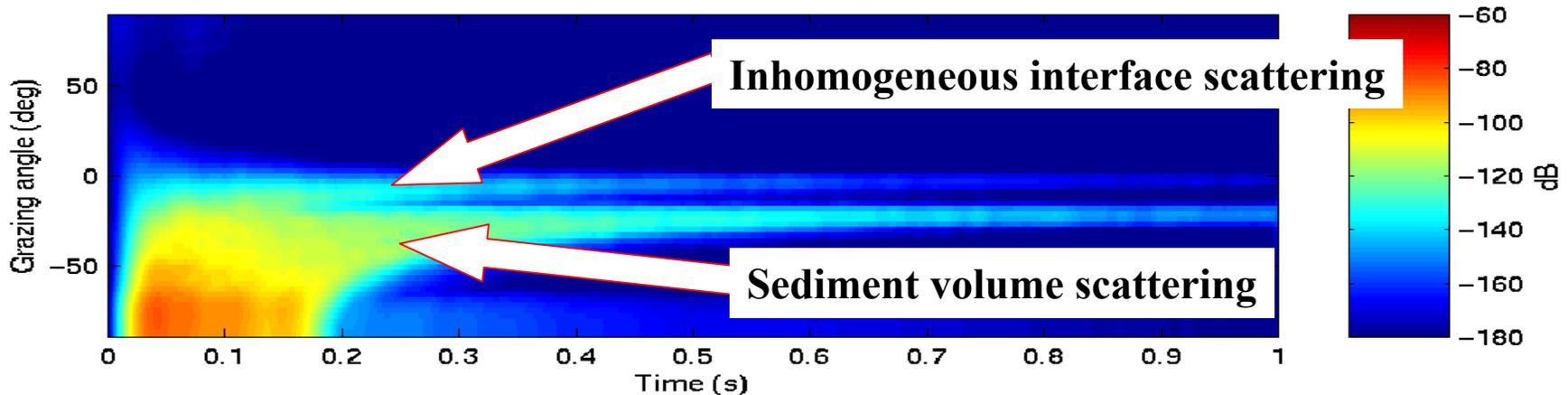
## Objectives

- Determine the fundamental uncertainty of acoustic time series to and from scatterers on and in the seafloor caused by large-scale variability of the seafloor properties.
- Determine the variance of the local scattering process due to the uncertainty of the fine scale variability that is superimposed on the large-scale seafloor structure.
- Determine the variance of the reverberation intensity due to the fundamental uncertainty of the large-scale seafloor variability.
- Determine the variance of the reverberation intensity due to uncertainty in the local scattering process alone

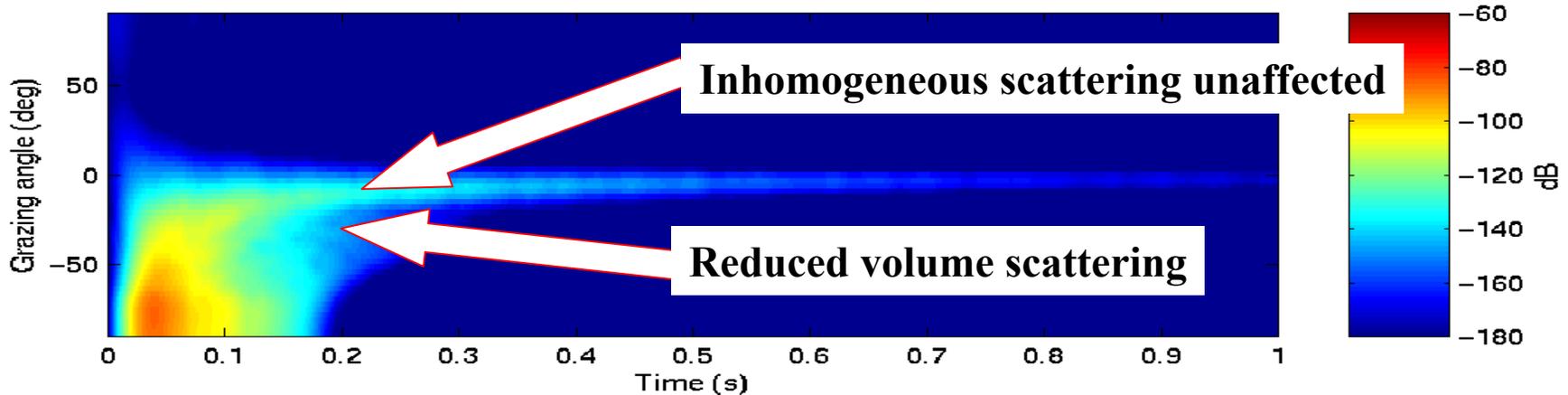


# Scattering and re-radiation from small scale features in uncertain seafloors

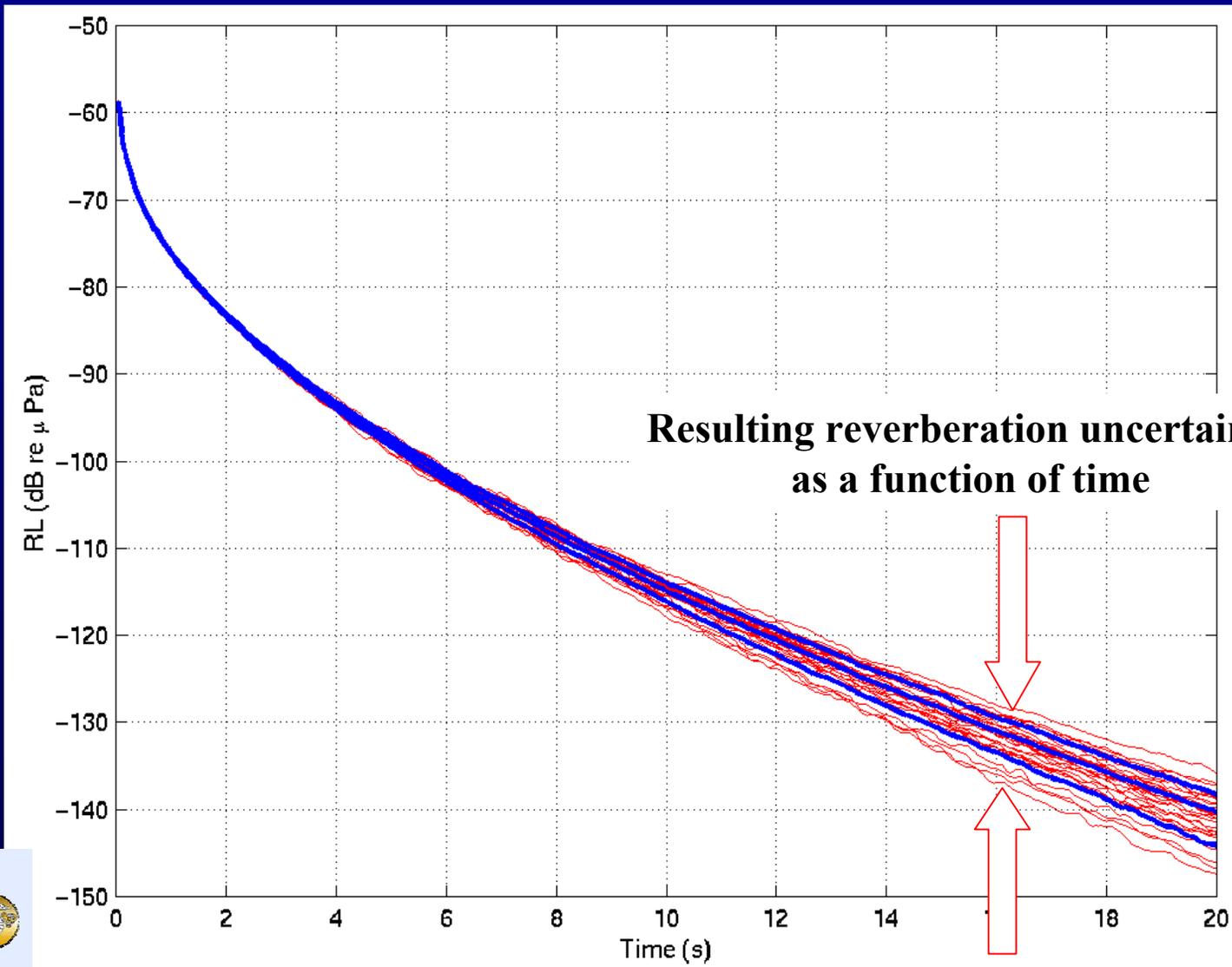
OASES Scenario 4 volume scatter  $\delta c=1$  m rms,  $\gamma=3.5$ ,  $I_r=10$  m,  $I_z=2$  m, frac=3.5, bw=20 Hz, 16 averages



OASES Scenario 4a volume scatter  $\delta c=1$  m rms,  $\gamma=3.5$ ,  $I_r=10$  m,  $I_z=2$  m, frac=3.5, bw=20 Hz, 16 averages



# Reverberation from bottom with large-scale sediment sound speed uncertainty



# Products

***SedFlux* simulation of the seafloor characterization of selected sites: grain size, bulk density, porosity, bedding surfaces, age**

**Determination of *SedFlux* model uncertainty**

**Determination of natural variability in primitive environmental parameters**

**Determination of the impact of rare ocean events on the acoustic properties of continental margins**

**Seabed acoustic properties developed from (1) lab generated strata, and (2) *SedFlux* simulations.**

**Synthetic multi-offset seismic data of experimental strata assuming strata are elastic, and poroelastic.**

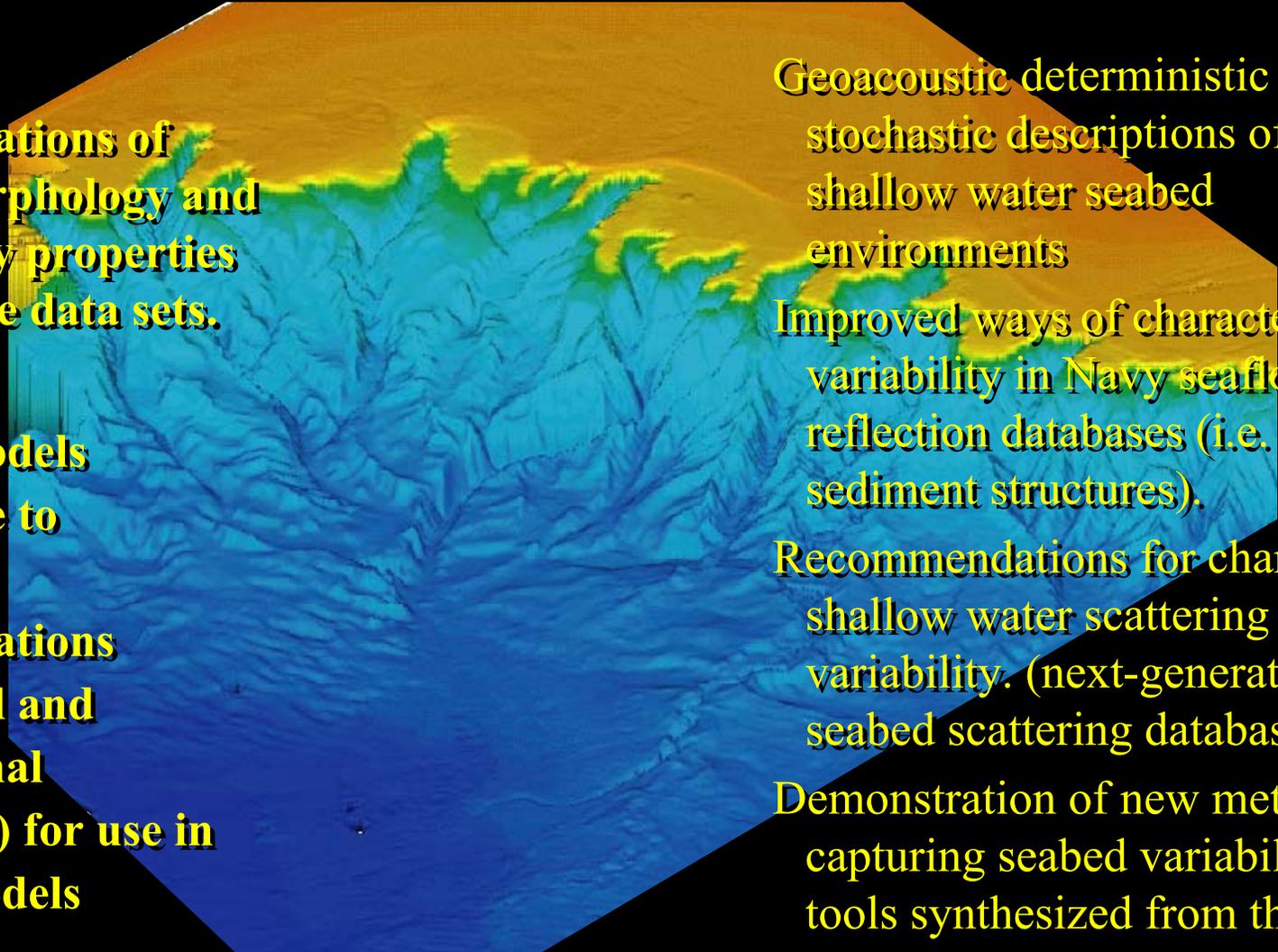
**Software for carrying out the physical property modeling.**

**1D and 2D seismic simulation algorithms for elastic media and for poroelastic media**

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# Products



**Statistical characterizations of surface morphology and sedimentary properties for available data sets.**

**Seafloor models appropriate to statistical characterizations (conditional and unconditional simulations) for use in acoustic models**

**Geoacoustic deterministic and stochastic descriptions of 3-D shallow water seabed environments**

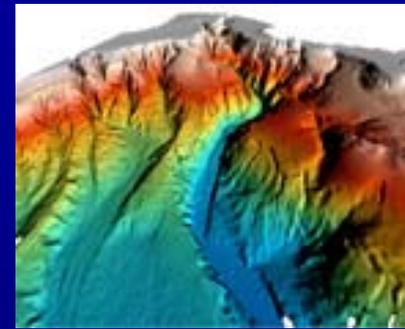
**Improved ways of characterizing variability in Navy seafloor reflection databases (i.e. new sediment structures).**

**Recommendations for characterizing shallow water scattering strength variability. (next-generation seabed scattering database).**

**Demonstration of new methods for capturing seabed variability using tools synthesized from the best aspects of the acoustic inversion, G&G modeling and G&G measurements.**

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GIF decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

# Products



Coding of Frechet derivatives and  
model and data variance and  
resolution matrices

Characterization of  
variance/resolution trade-offs,  
model parameter correlations,  
and optimal model  
parameterization guidelines

Monte-Carlo measures of forward propagation  
variability for two seafloor sites of interest  
as a function of seafloor parameter  
uncertainty and frequency

Monte-Carlo estimates of reverberation intensity  
variance for sites of interest due to  
fundamental uncertainty on large scale  
seafloor variability

Monte-Carlo measures of scattering function  
variance due to uncertainty of large-scale  
seafloor composition and uncertainty of  
statistical characterization of fine scale  
seafloor roughness and inhomogeneities

Monte-Carlo estimates of the variance of  
reverberation intensity caused by uncertainty  
in the local scattering function



Comments?

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