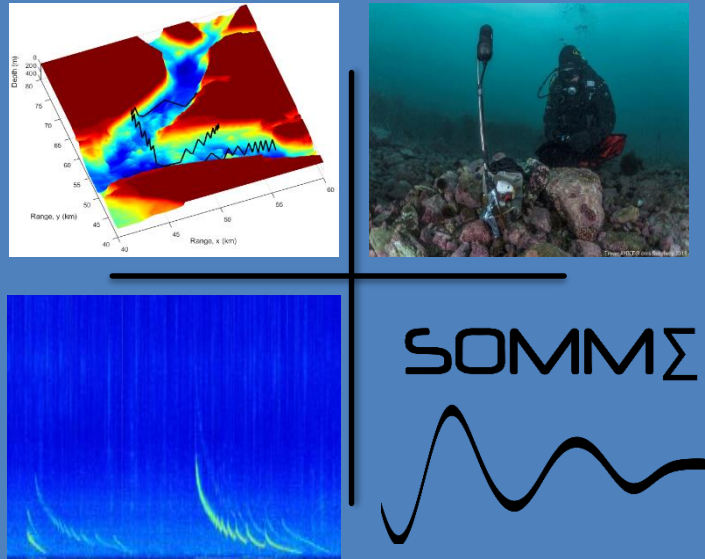


# Prediction of acoustic pollution in Arctic fjords: the importance of 3-D acoustic propagation modeling.



Gaëtan Richard<sup>1,2</sup>, Delphine Mathias<sup>1</sup>, Jérémy Collin<sup>2</sup>, Laurent Chauvaud<sup>2</sup> and Julien Bonnel<sup>3</sup>

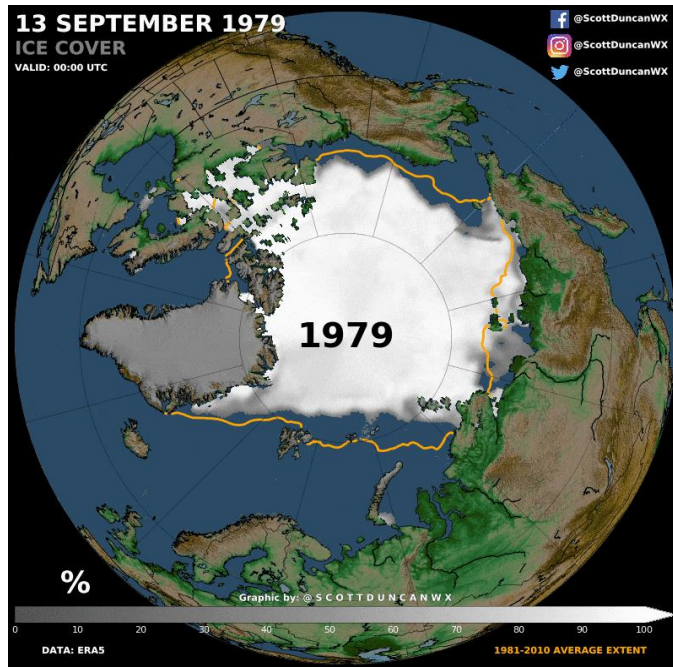
<sup>1</sup> Société d'Observation Multi-Modale de l'Environnement (SOMME), 38 rue Jim Sevellec, 29200 Brest

<sup>2</sup> Institut Universitaire Européen de la Mer, CNRS (UMS3113), Technopôle Brest Iroise, 29280 Plouzané

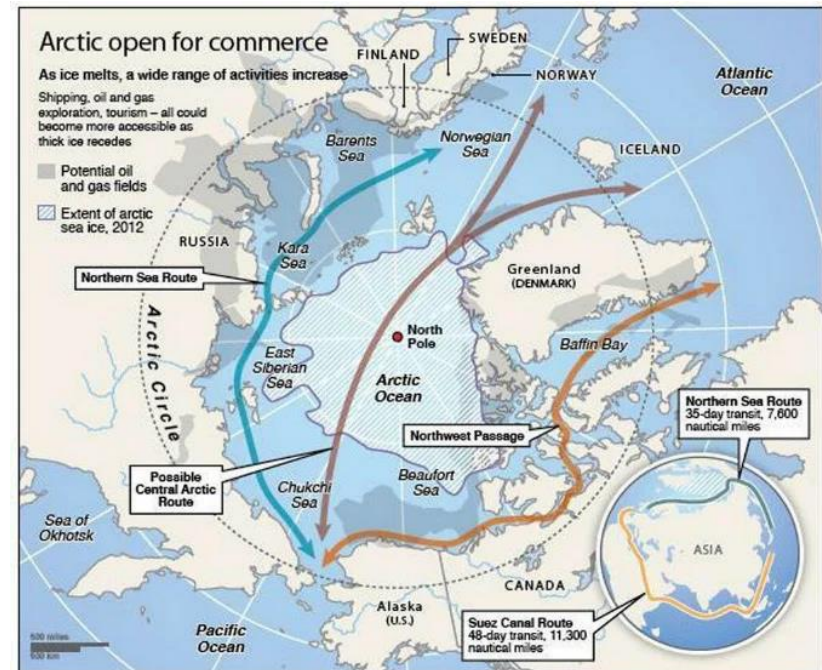
<sup>3</sup> Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Applied Ocean Physics and Engineering department, 266 Woods Hole Rd, Woods Hole, MA 02543-1050, USA

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Sea-ice covering declines drastically,  
with a potential ice-free summer predicted by 2040:



Scott Duncan

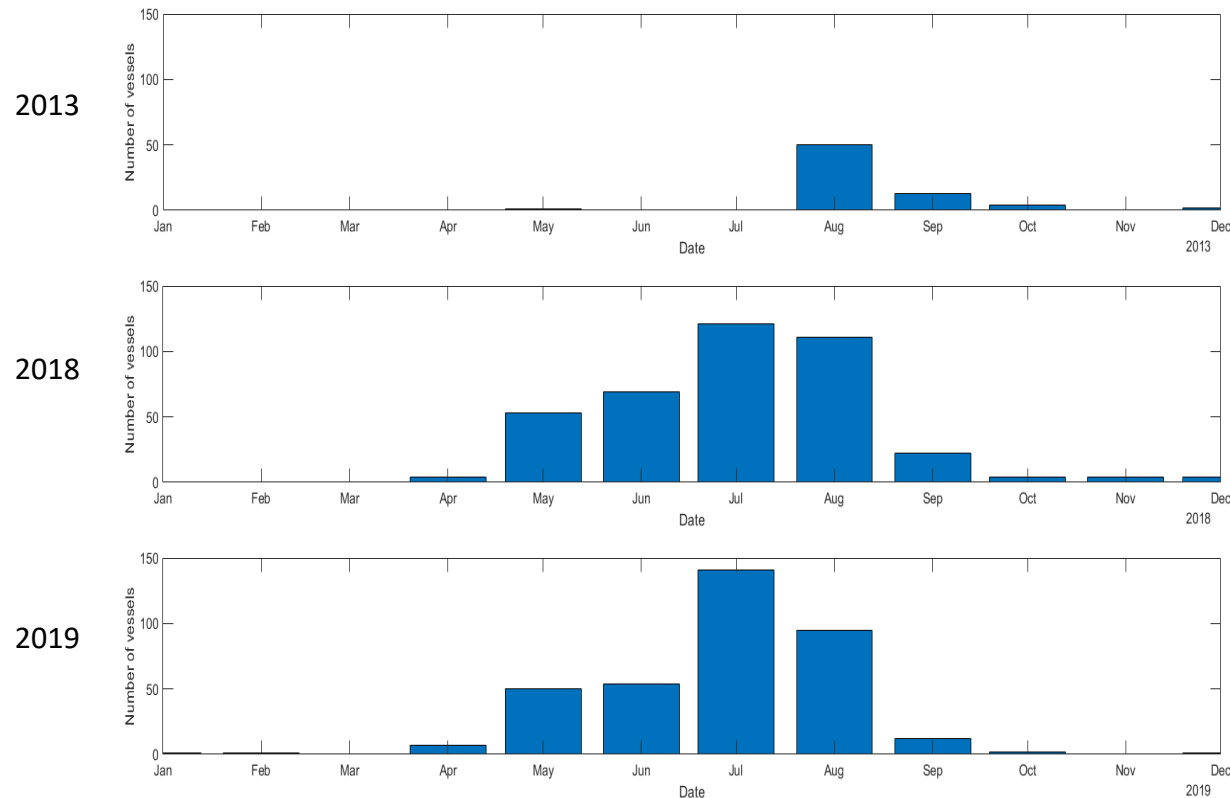


**Unprecedented access to the Arctic for  
anthropogenic activities :**

**Increasing anthropogenic noise in a nearly  
pristine acoustic environment**

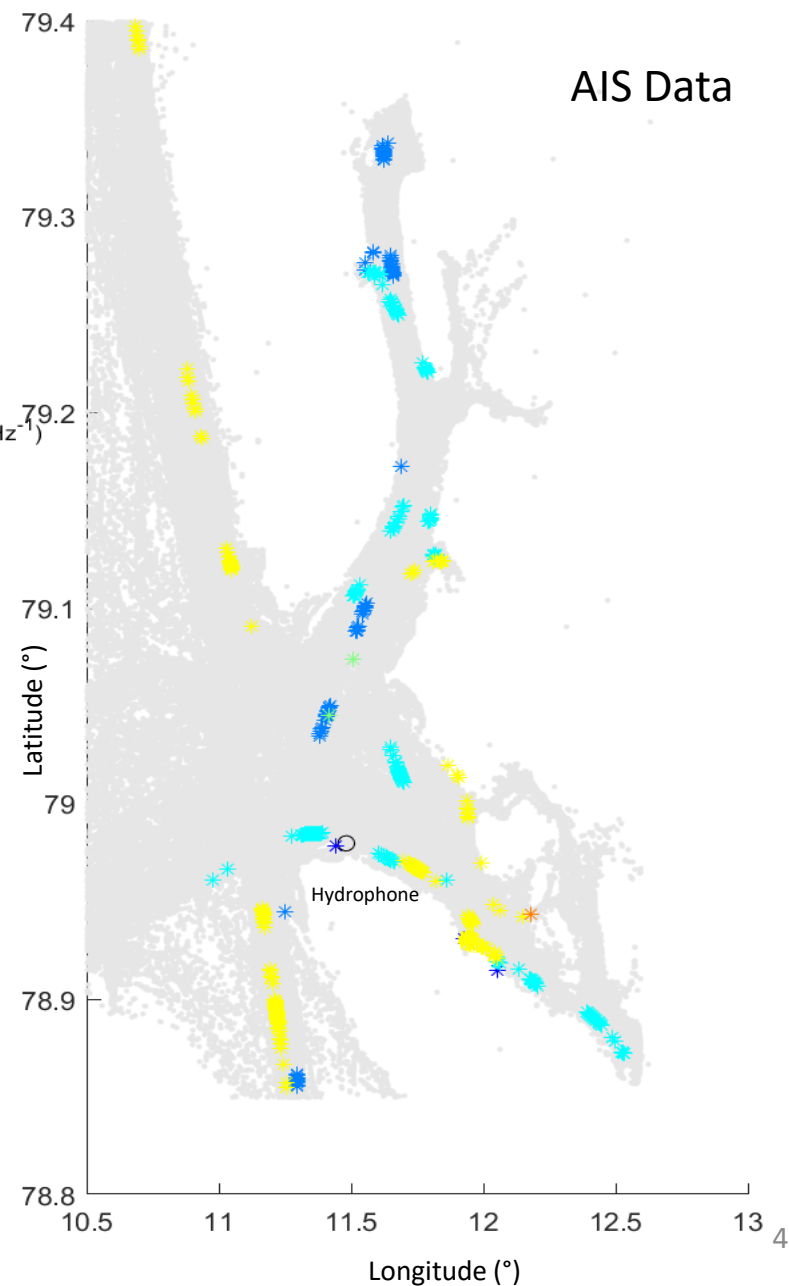
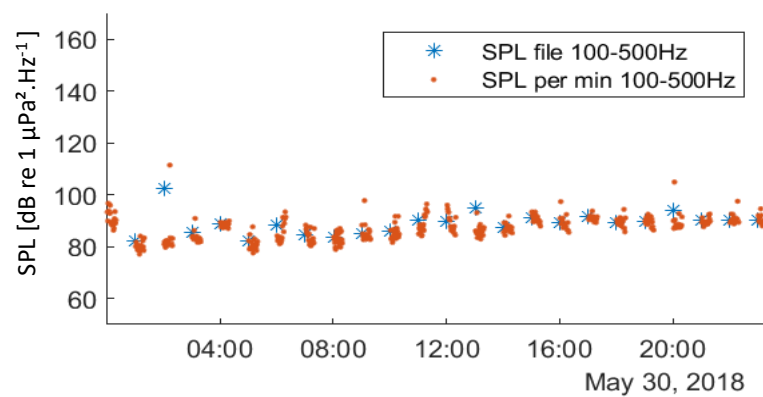
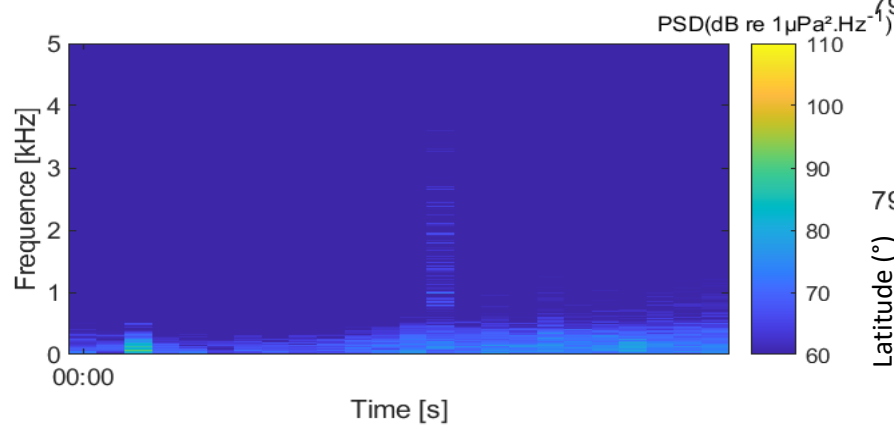
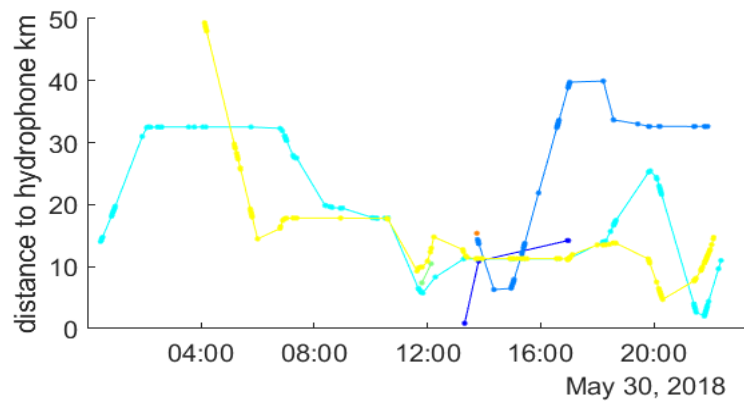
## Underwater passive acoustic research in Ny Alesund :

- To describe soundscape (biophony, geophony, anthropophony);
- To monitor changes over time;
- To assess impacts of anthropogenic noise on marine fauna.

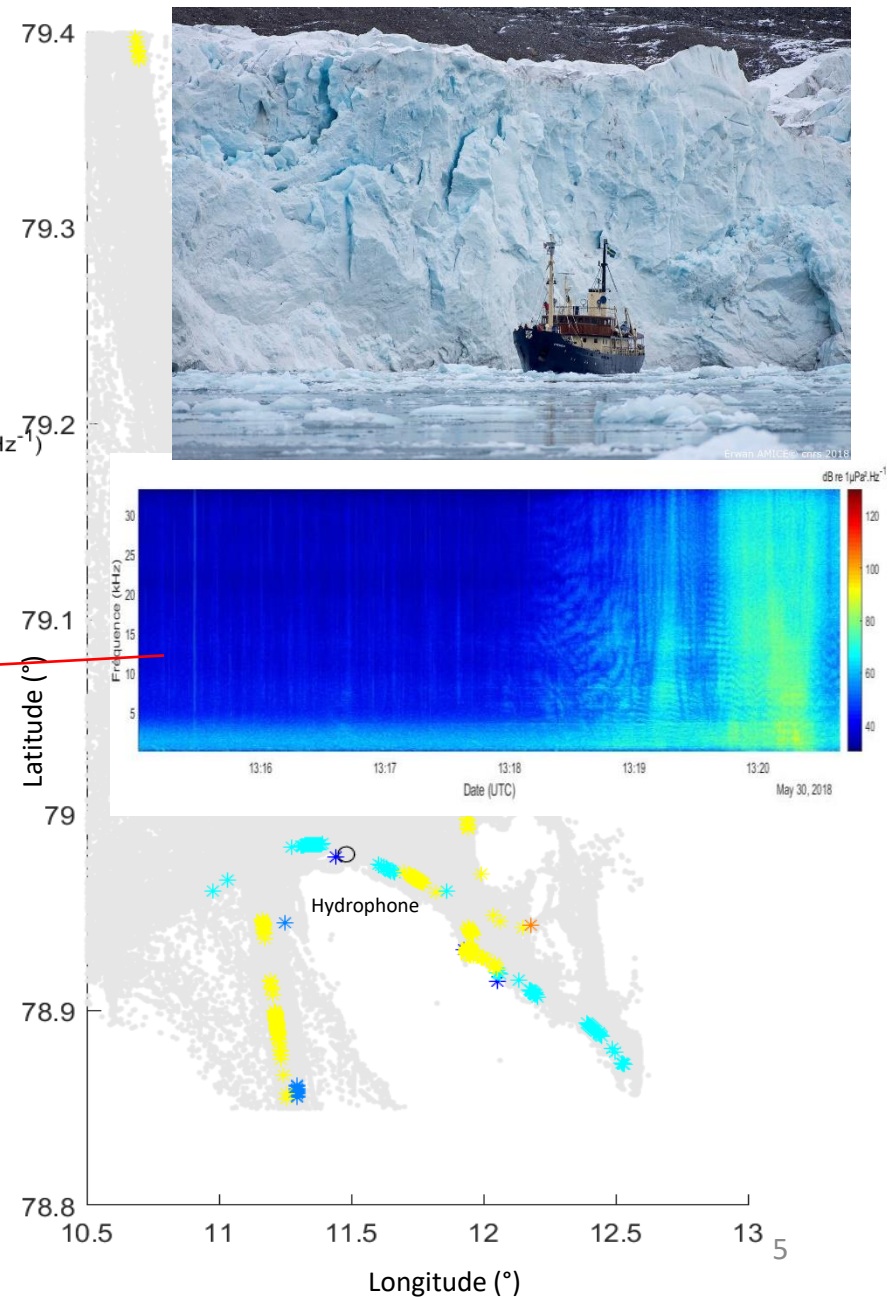
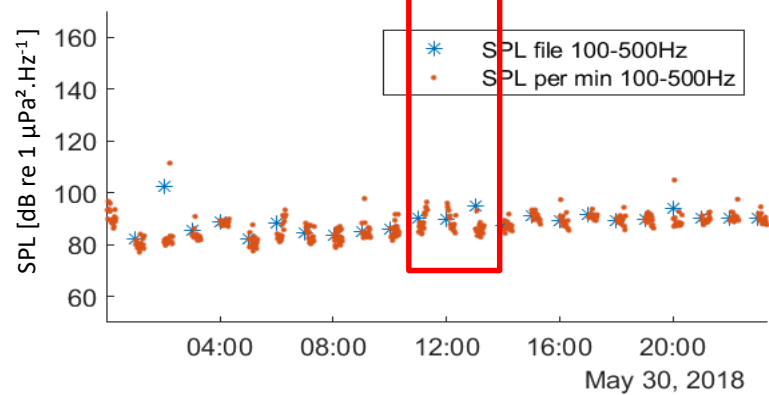
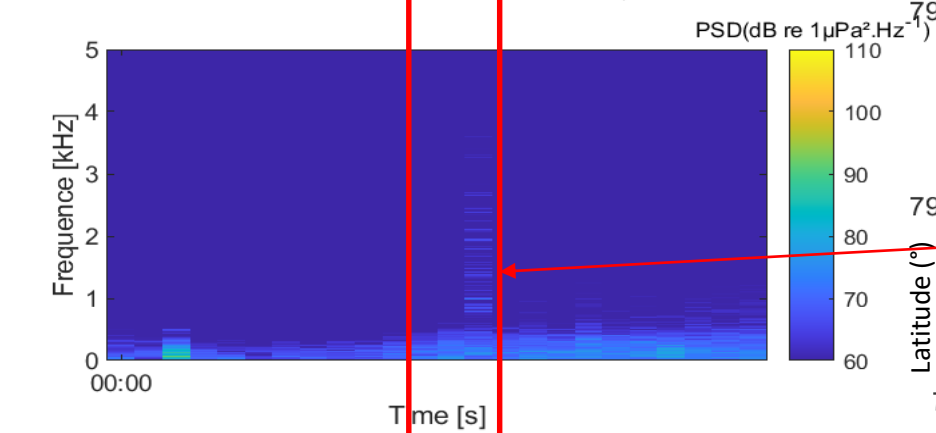
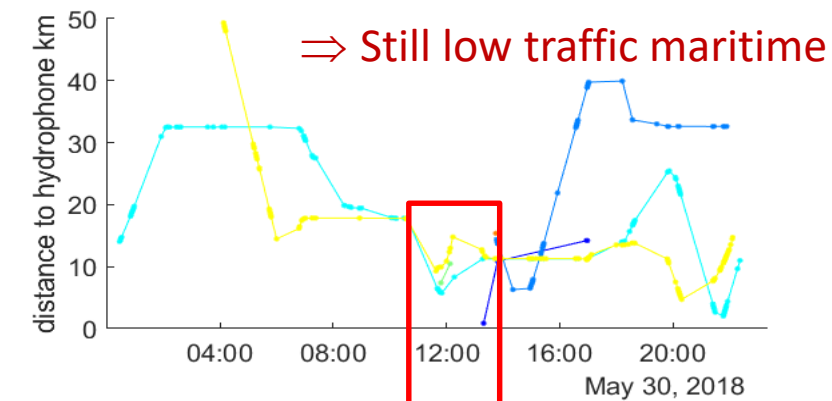


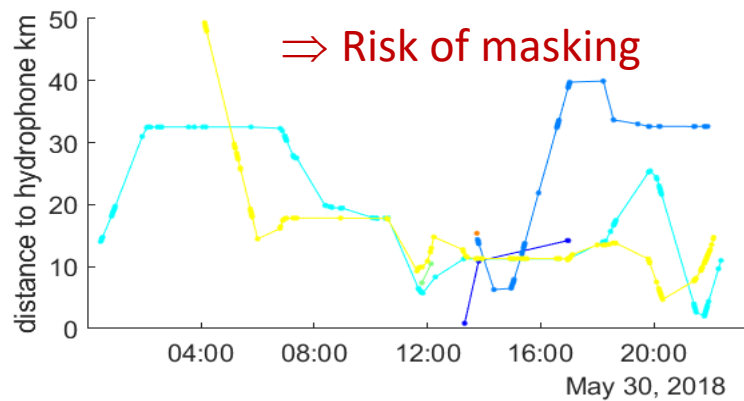
x3



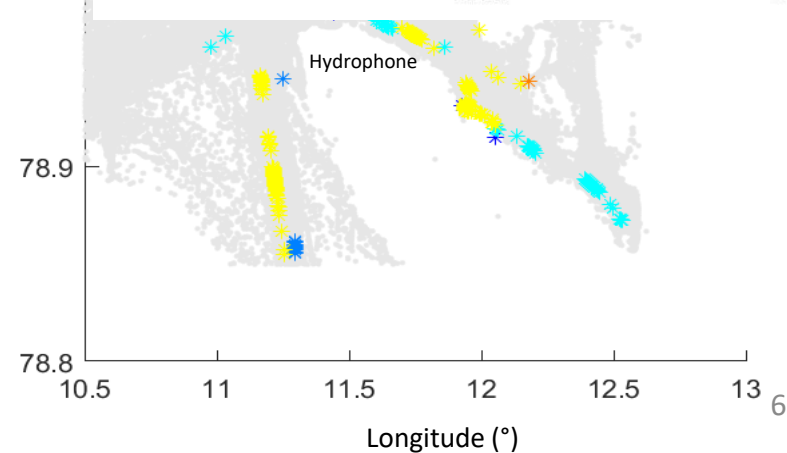
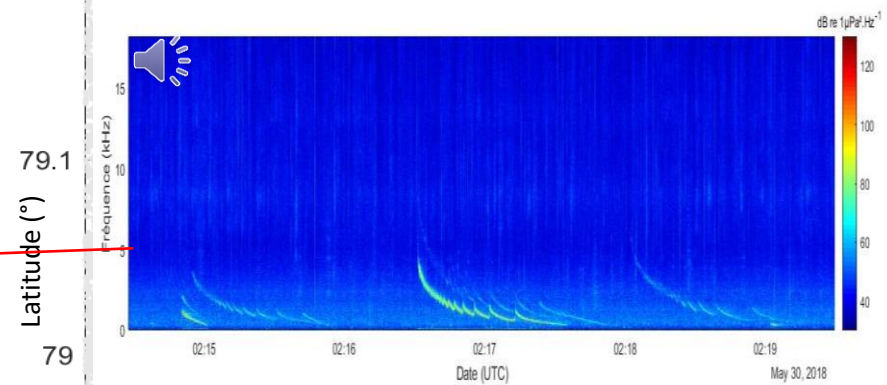
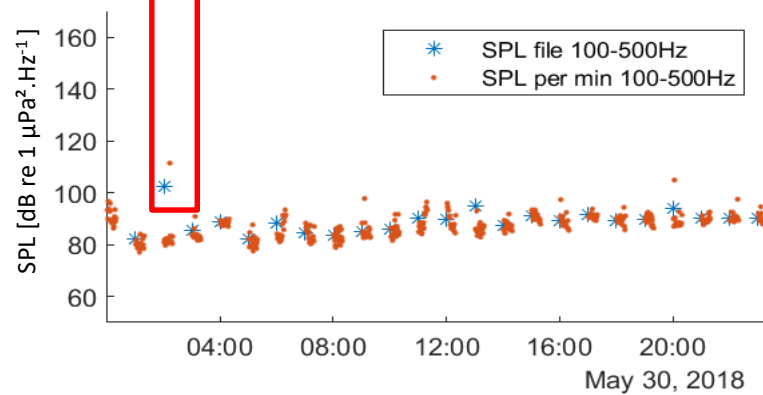
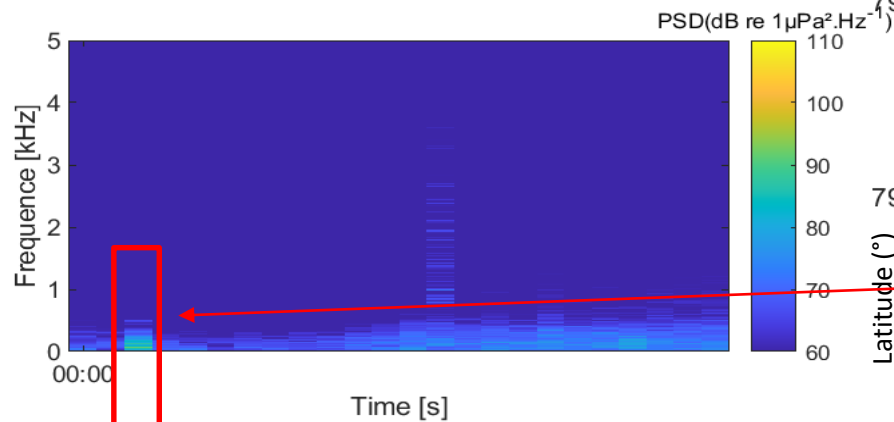






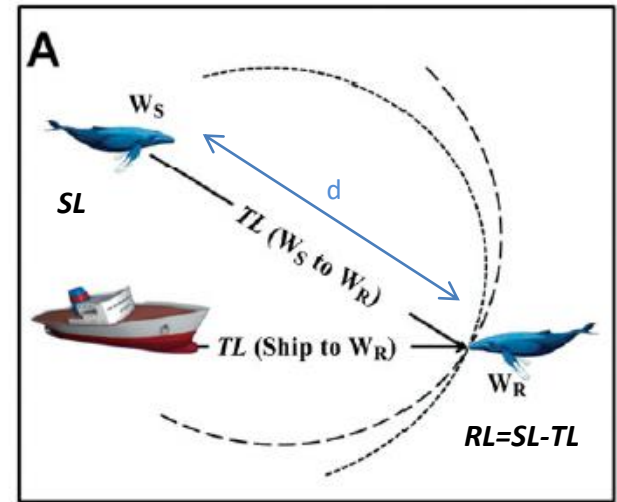
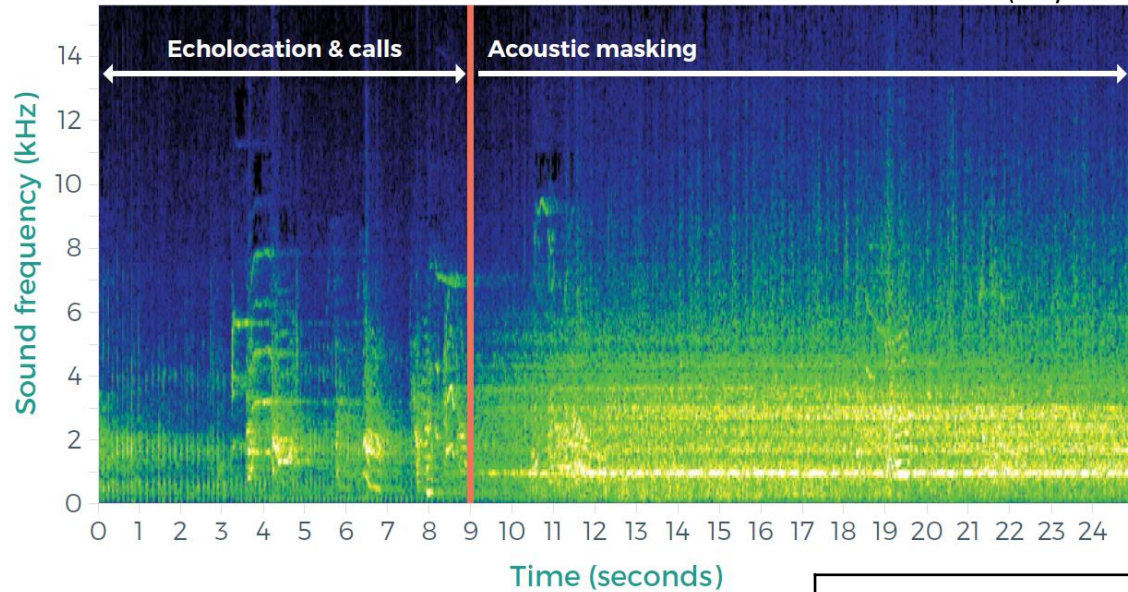
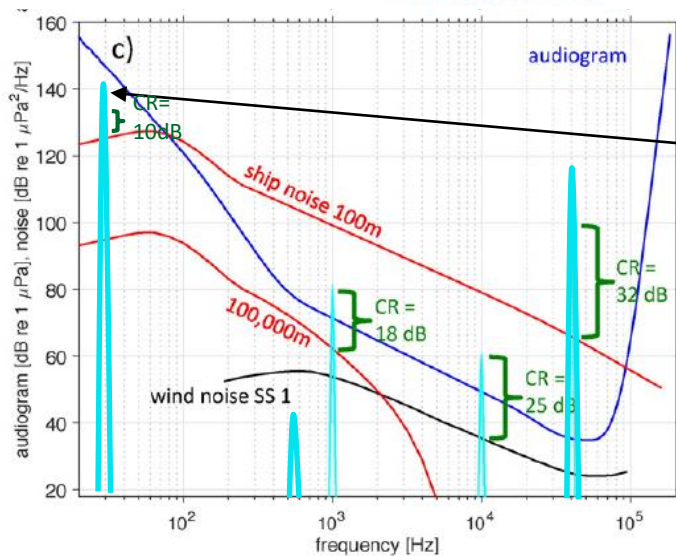


79.4  
79.3  
79.2  
79.1  
79



## ACOUSTIC MASKING OF WHALE CALLS BY A SHIP

(Katy Heise)

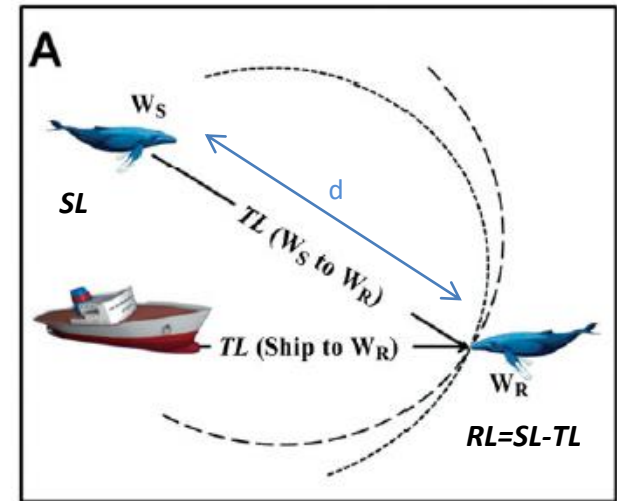
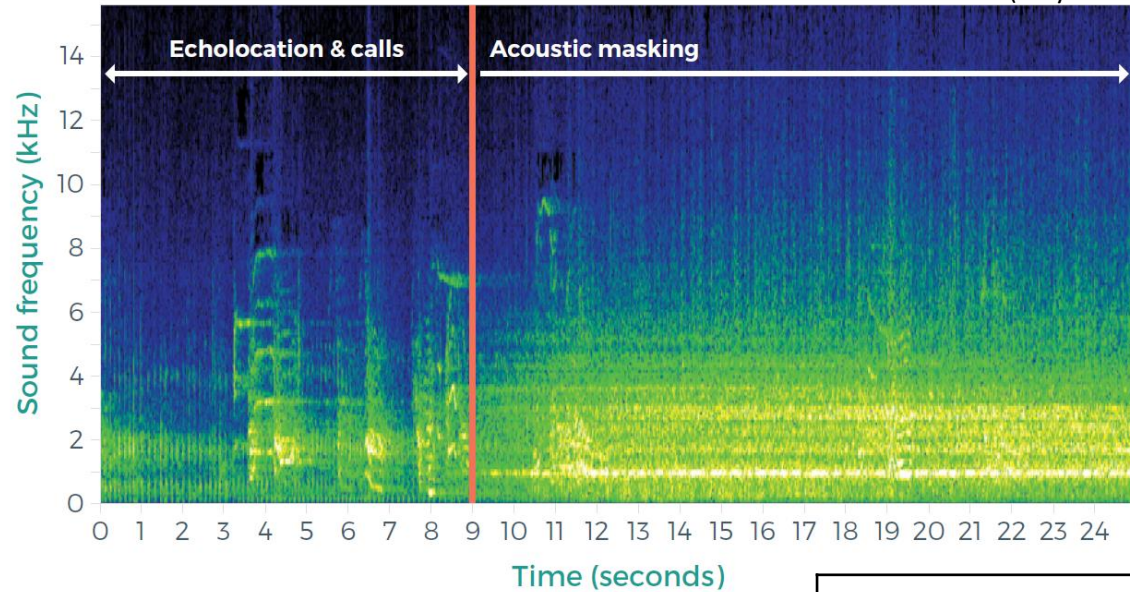

 $TL \sim 20\log(d)$ , with  $d$  distance (source-receiver)


Cases	Tonal detection
Tone (dB) < Audiogram (dB)	No detection possible by animal

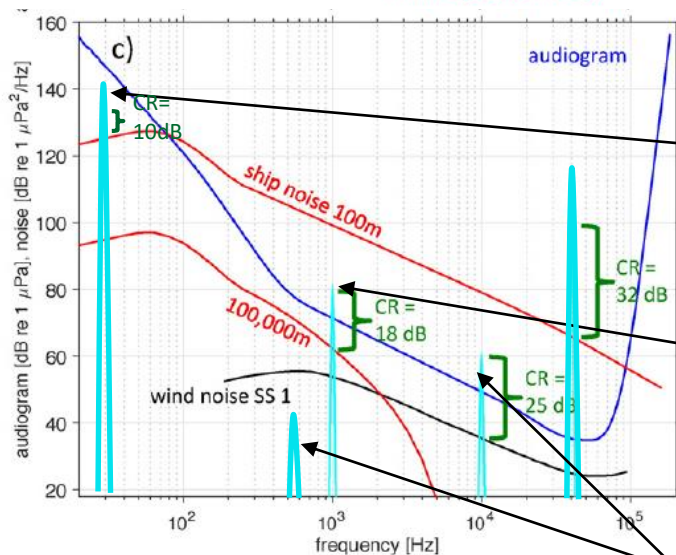


## ACOUSTIC MASKING OF WHALE CALLS BY A SHIP

(Katy Heise)



$TL \sim 20\log(d)$ , with  $d$  distance (source-receiver)  
 $RL = SL - TL$



Cases	Tonal detection
<b>Tone (dB) &lt; Audiogram (dB)</b>	No detection possible by animal
<b>Tone (dB) &gt; Audiogram (dB)</b> • & Tone < PSD <sub>ship</sub> + CR	Tonal detection possible: • Tonal masked by shipping noise

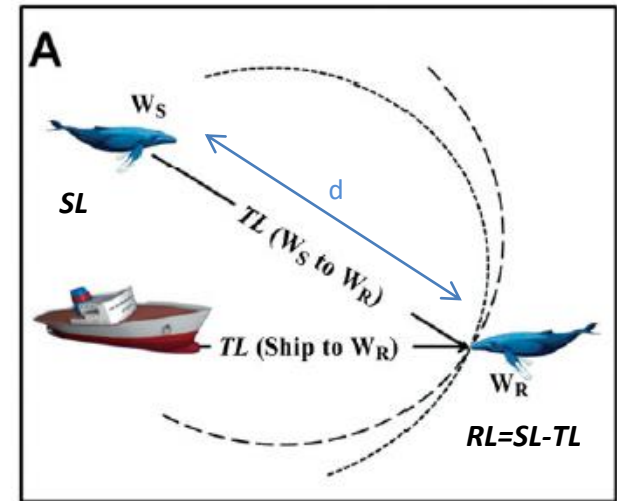
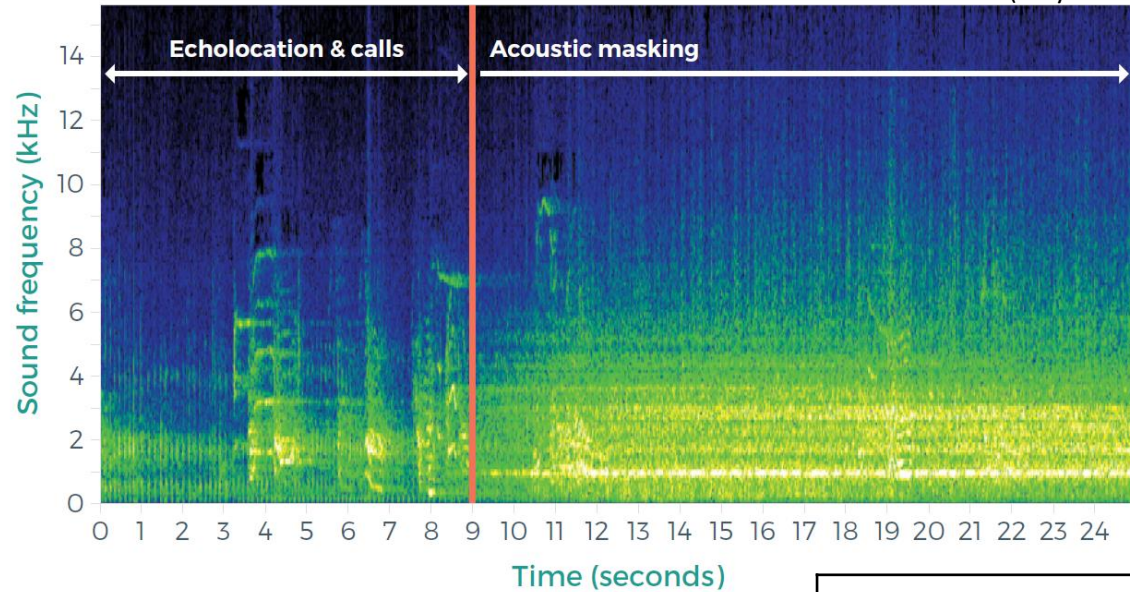
Tonal masked by wind

Clark et al. (2009), Erbe et al. (2016)

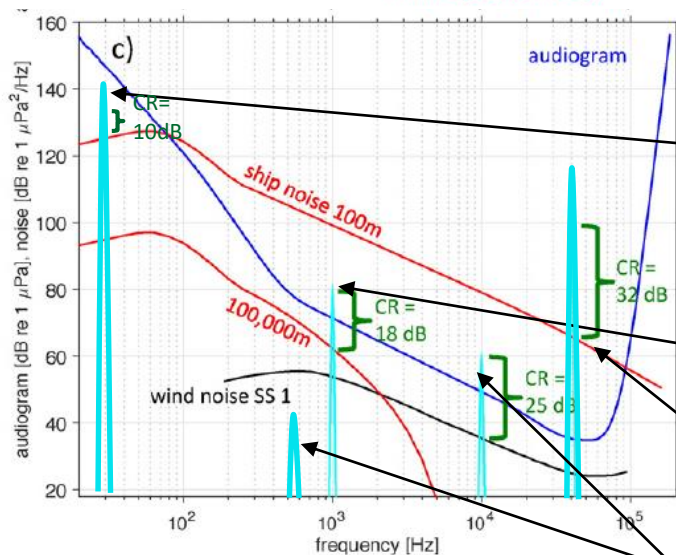


## ACOUSTIC MASKING OF WHALE CALLS BY A SHIP

(Katy Heise)



$TL \sim 20\log(d)$ , with  $d$  distance (source-receiver)  
 $RL = SL - TL$



Cases	Tonal detection
<b>Tone (dB) &lt; Audiogram (dB)</b>	No detection possible by animal
<b>Tone (dB) &gt; Audiogram (dB)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&amp; Tone &lt; PSD<sub>ship</sub> + CR</li> <li>&amp; Tone &gt; PSD<sub>ship</sub> + CR</li> </ul>	Tonal detection possible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tonal masked by shipping noise</li> <li>Tonal audible</li> </ul>

Tonal masked by wind

Clark et al. (2009), Erbe et al. (2016)

## Acoustic propagation modeling to predict noise pollution level

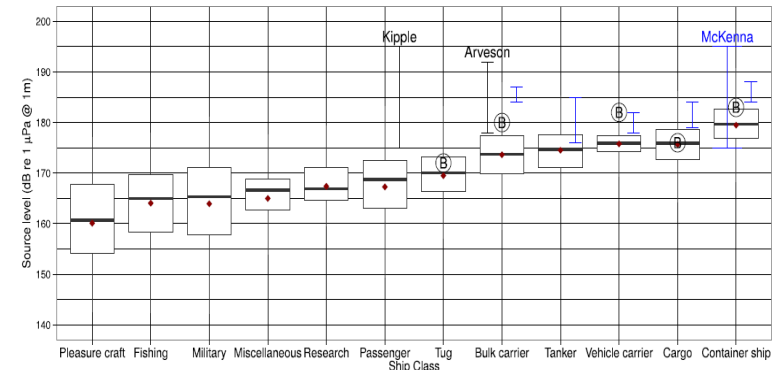
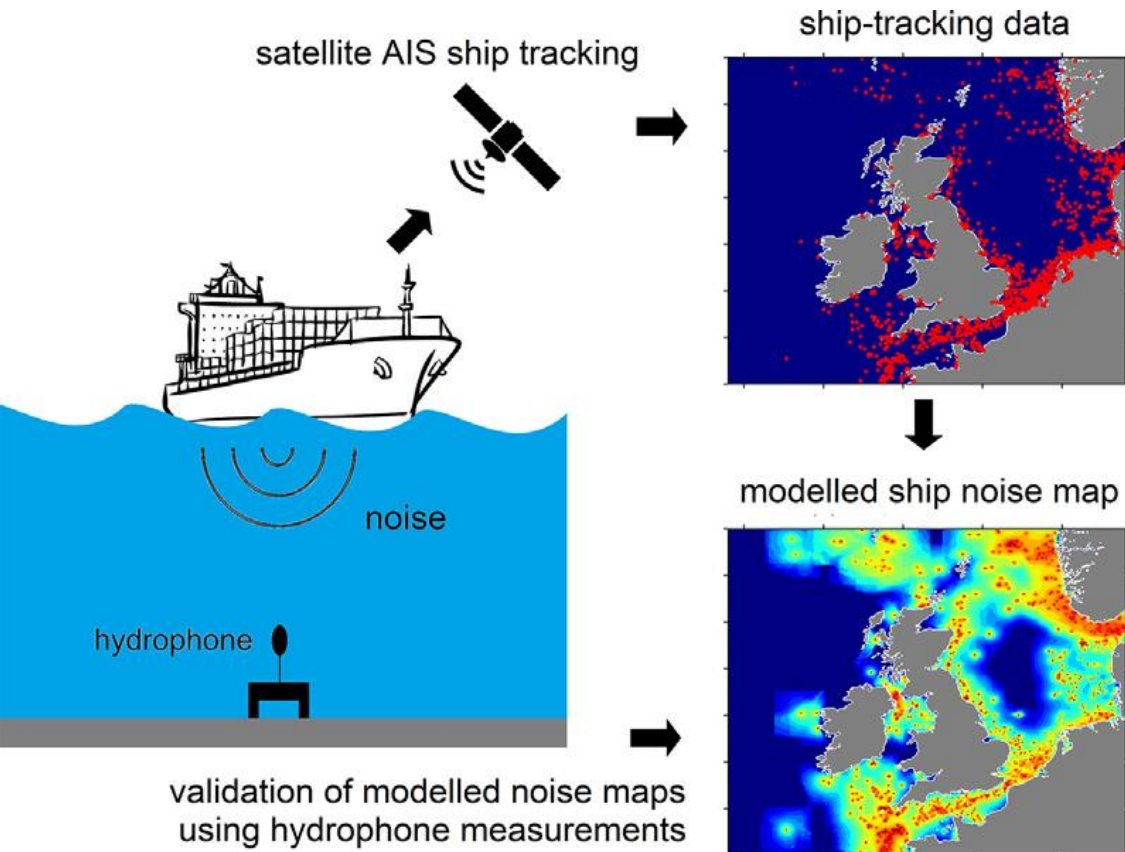
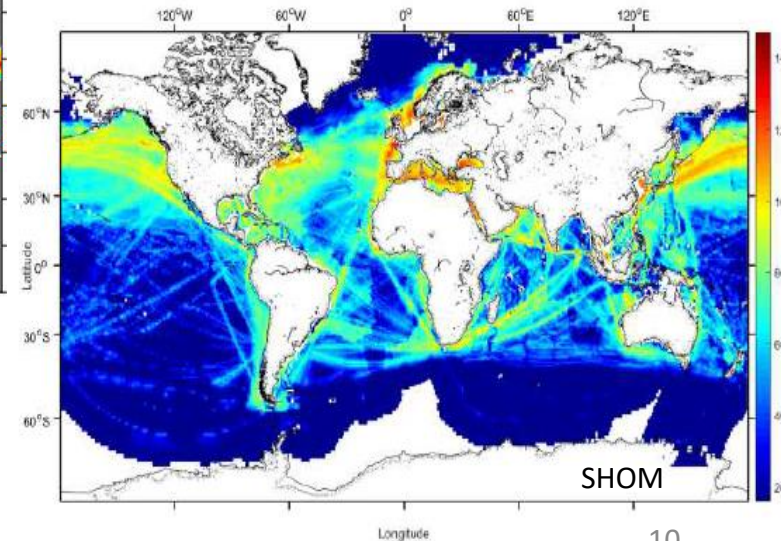
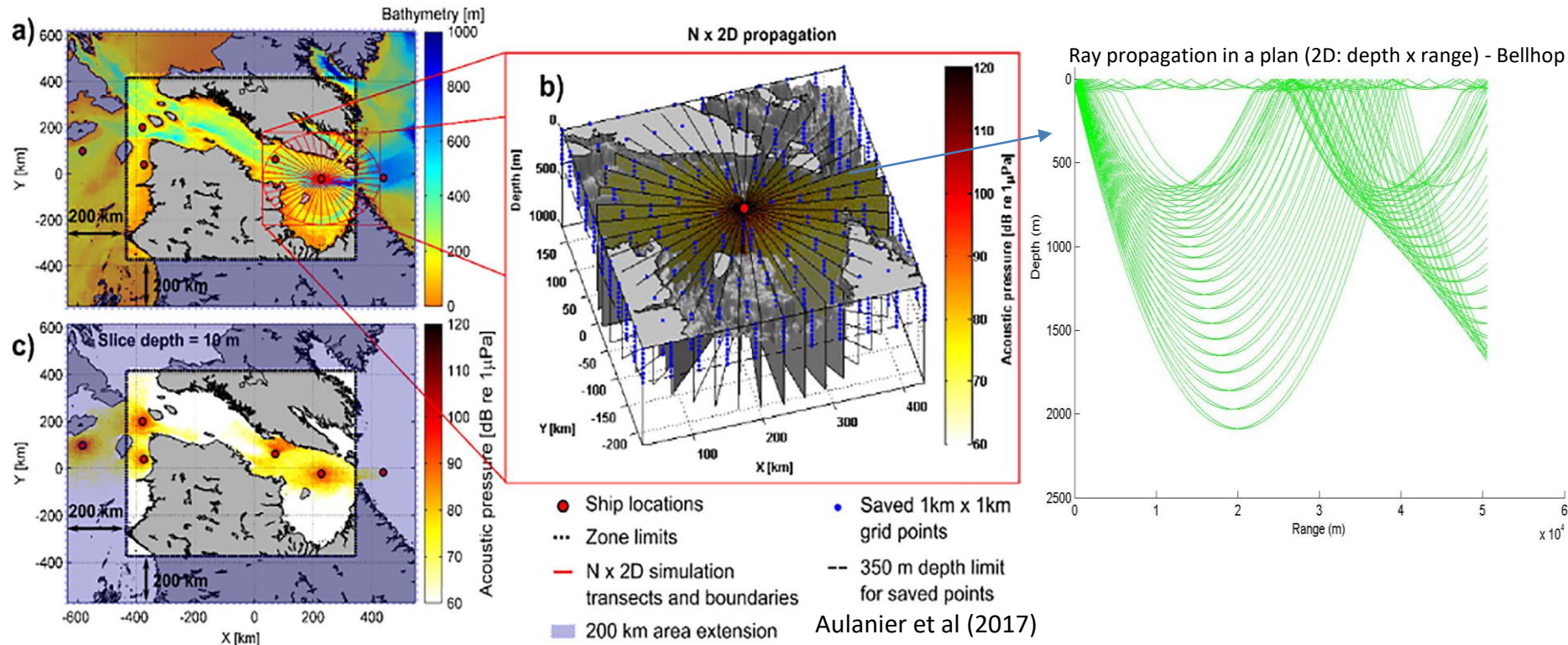


Figure 2 Comparison of source levels from different studies for various classes of ships. Broadband source level (SL) statistics for each ship class juxtaposed with results from recent studies of comparable classes. Bold horizontal lines are medians; gray box hinges are 25% and 75% quantiles; gray whiskers extend to the value that is most distant from the hinge but within 1.5 times the inter-quartile range (distance between the 25% and 75% quantiles); red dots are mean values from Table 2. Each encircled letter B represents a mean from Bassett et al. (2012); blue vertical bars represent means from McKenna et al. (2012) with the container ship estimate of McKenna, Wiggins & Hildebrand (2013) labeled McKenna; black vertical bars represent estimates from Kipple (2002) and Arveson & Vendittis (2000).

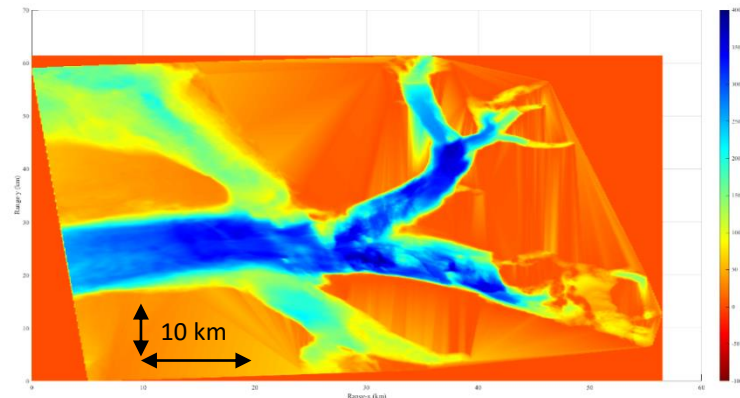




Acoustic propagation modeling to predict noise pollution level  
 $\Rightarrow$  spatial acoustic propagation is often simplified in several (N) plans (2D)



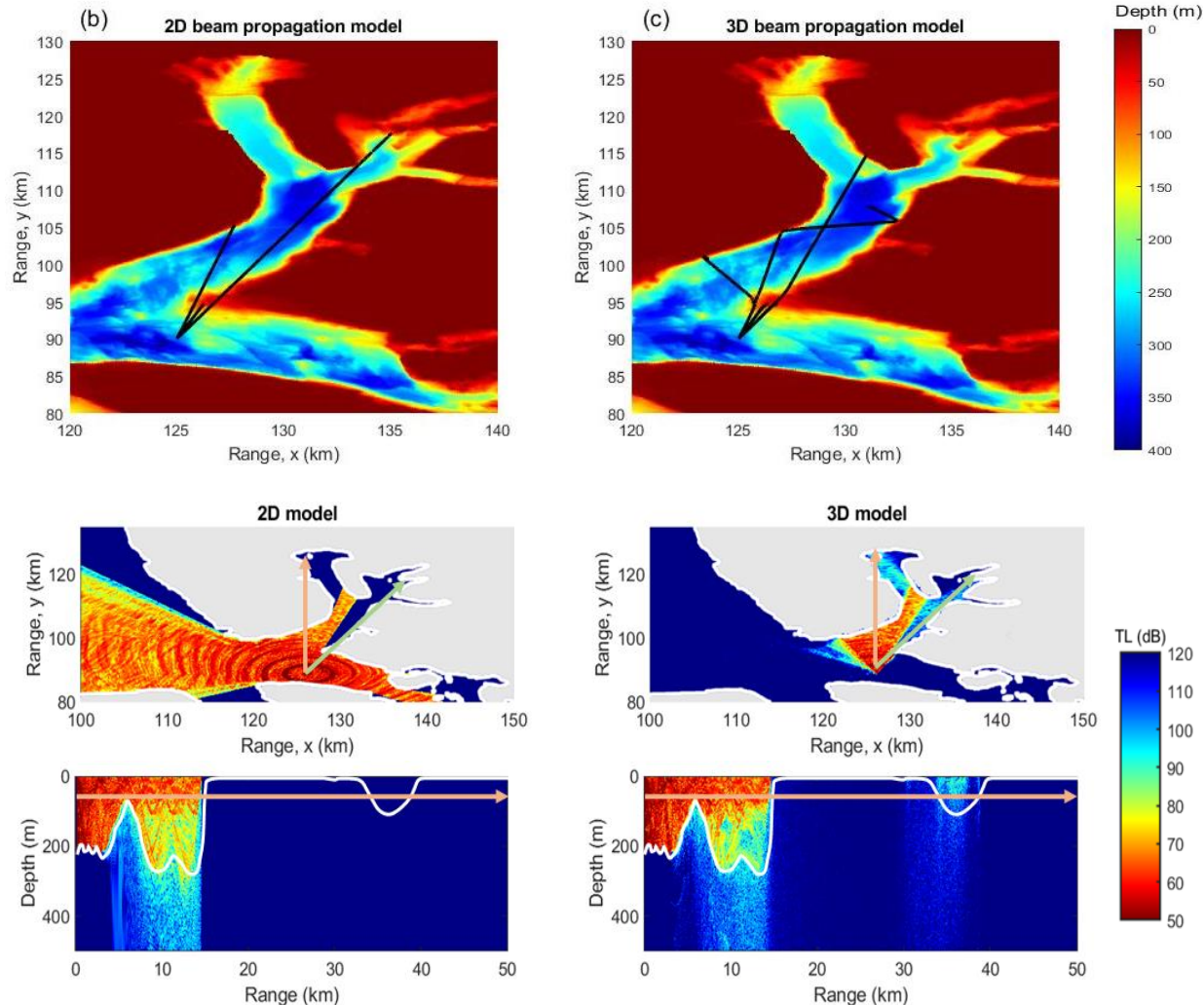
**Is a traditional N x 2D propagation model sufficient in Arctic fjords?**





## Propagation model considering the Fjord bathymetry and geography in 3D (Bellhop 3D)

### ➤ Comparison propagation model nx2D vs 3D



## Propagation model considering the Fjord bathymetry and geography in 3D (Bellhop 3D)

### ➤ Comparison propagation model 3D vs nx2D

Signal Excess estimation:

$$SE = SL - TL - NL$$

A 'pessimist' scenario:

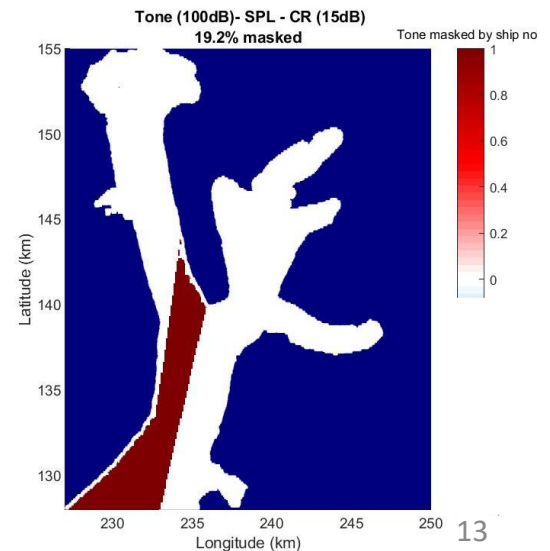
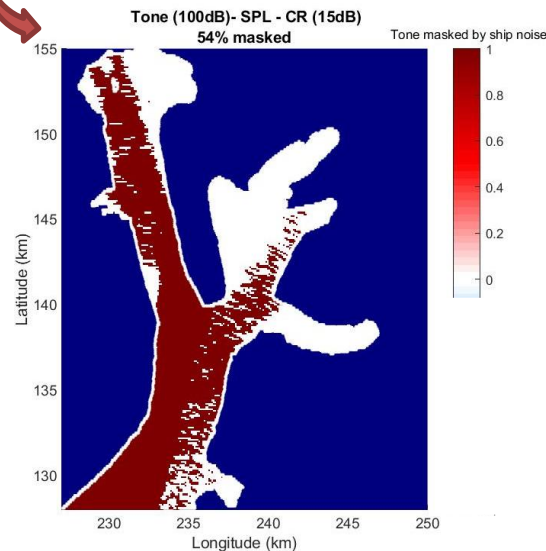
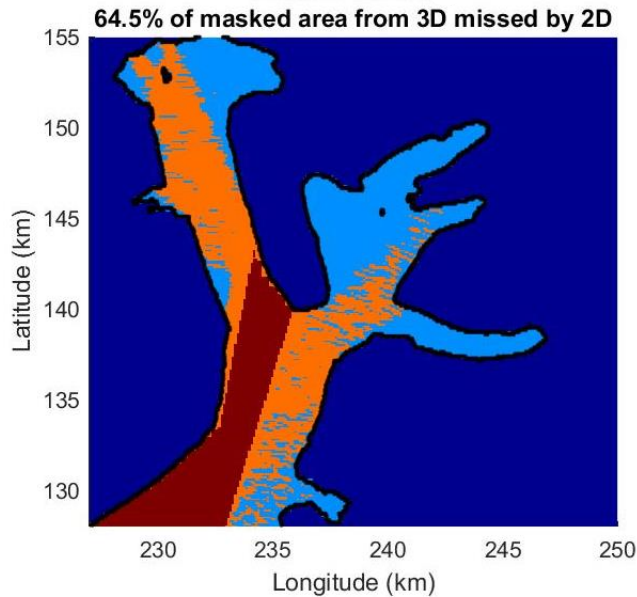
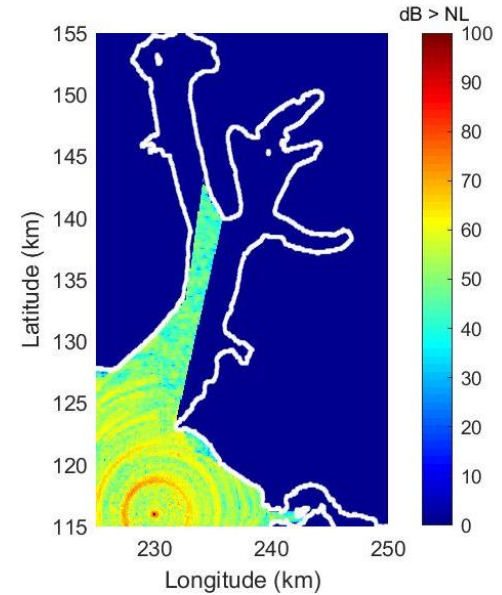
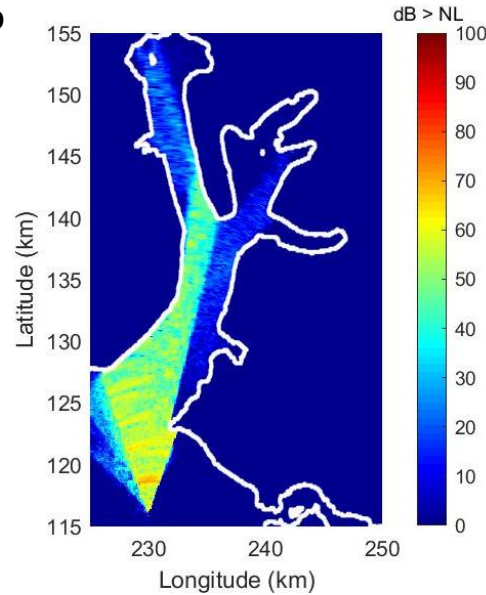
SL ~ value of noisiest vessel from literature

SL = 190 dB

ex: Cargo (~100m)

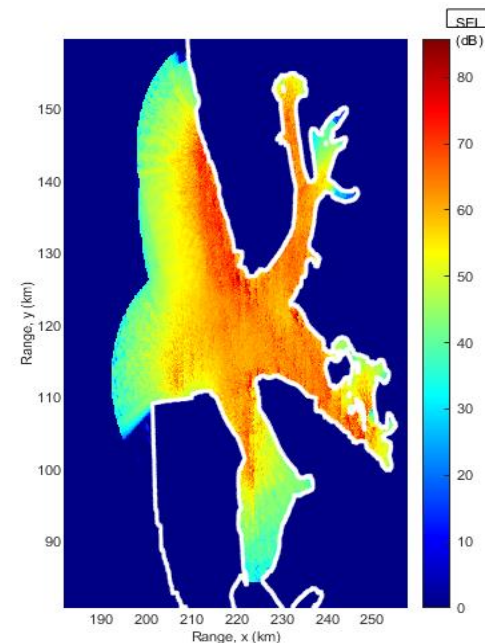
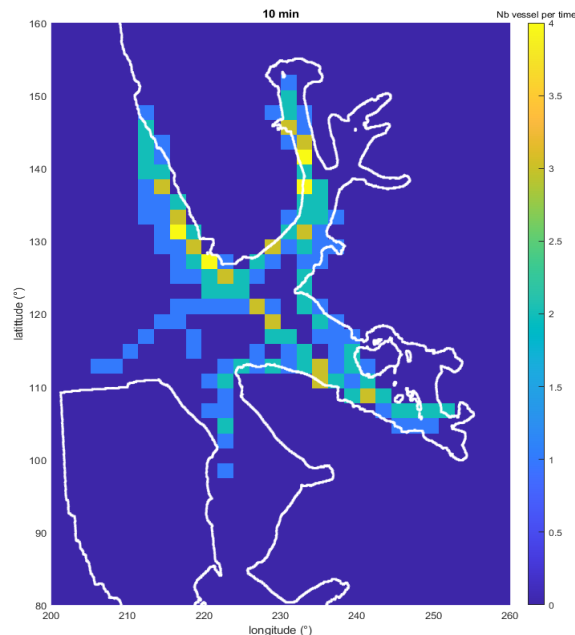
NL = 75 dB

Zones having  
a risk of masking



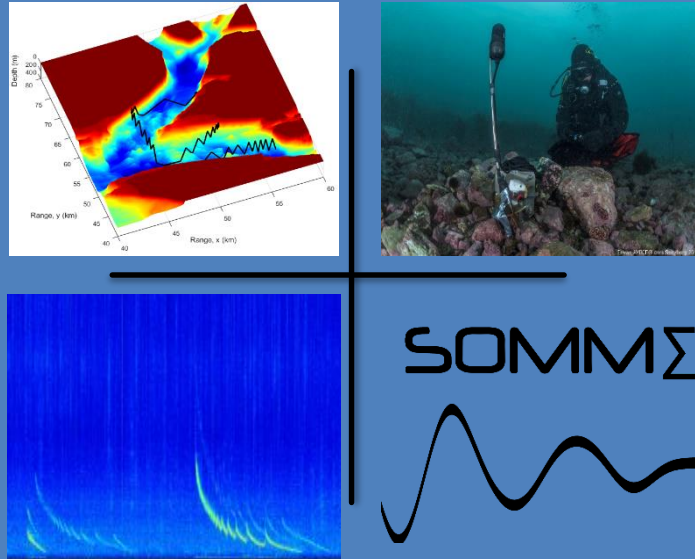
## Toward a better qualification and quantification of anthropophony impacts for marine spatial planning through a 3D propagation model

- At a spatial scale: mapping acoustic footprint where 2D propagation models can't propagate sounds
- Improvement of sound exposure level estimation : highlighting higher acoustic exposure to shipping noise to marine species than 2D propagation models
- Perspectives : predict acoustic footprint in the fjords.





Thank you for your attention  
Any question ?



[richard.somme@orange.fr](mailto:richard.somme@orange.fr)

<https://seaobs-somme.fr/>

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## Propagation model considering the Fjord bathymetry and geography in 3D (Bellhop 3D)

## ➤ Comparison propagation model 3D vs nx2D

Signal Excess estimation:

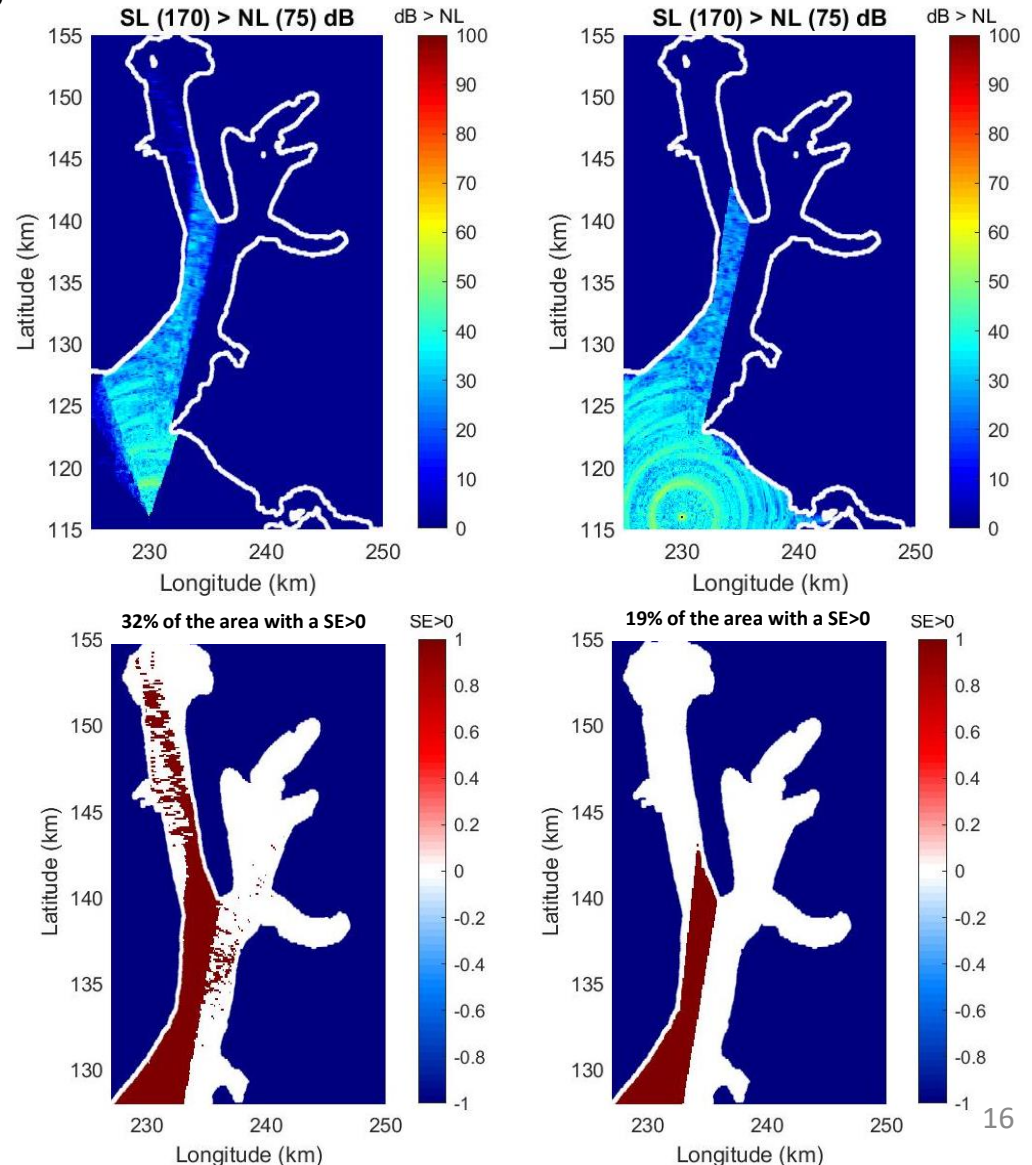
$$SE = SL - TL - NL$$

A 'realistic' scenario:

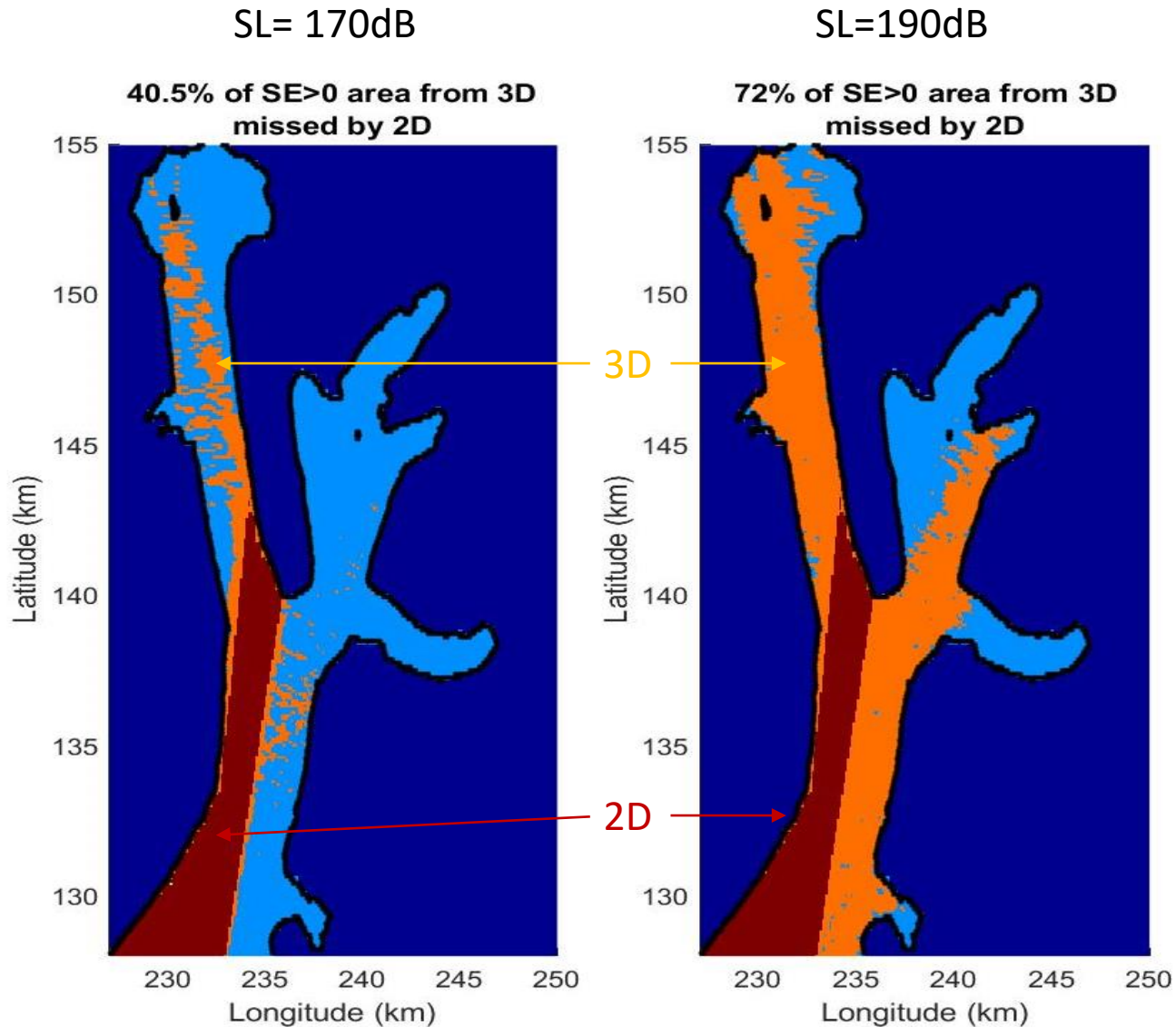
SL ~ median value from shipping literature

SL=170 dB

ex: Tourist vessels (~50-60 m)



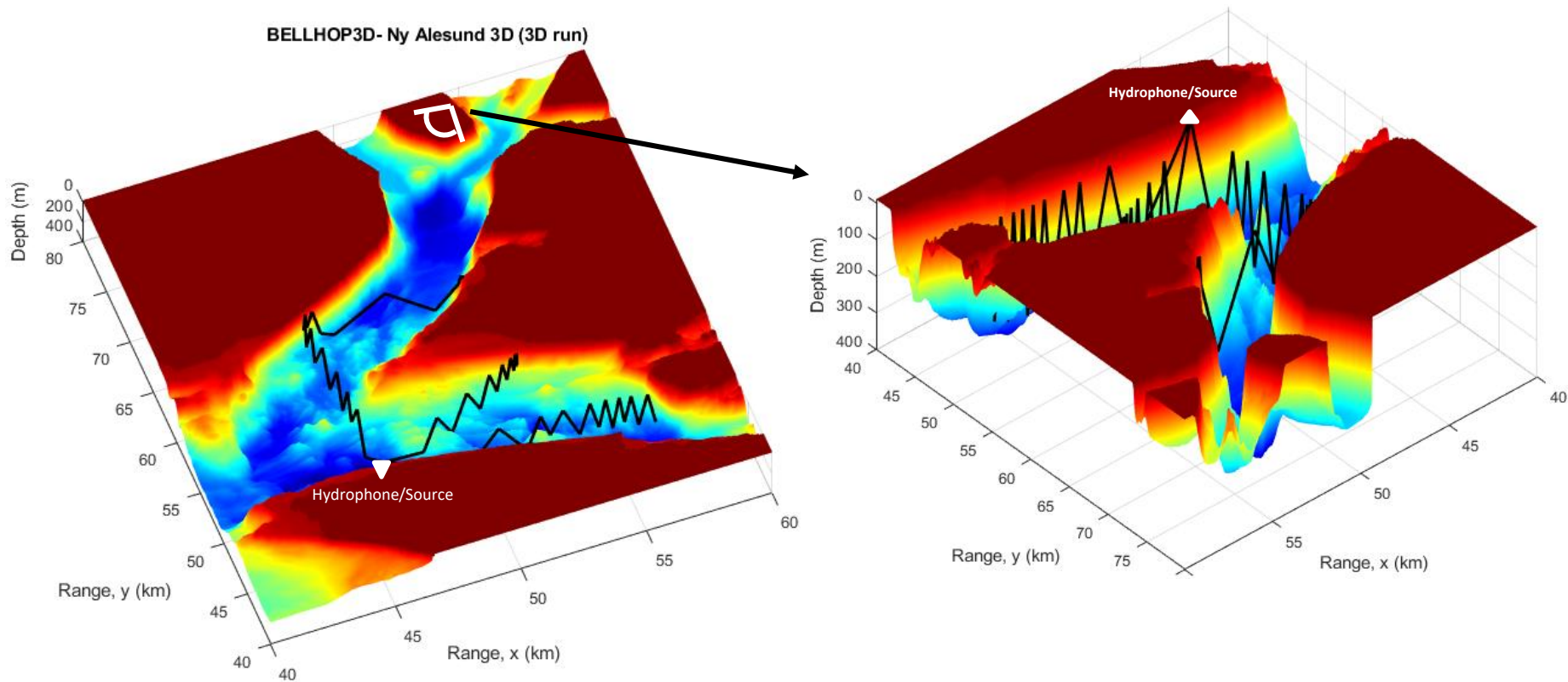
Differences of Signal Excess (SE) between the full 3D model and the nx2D model





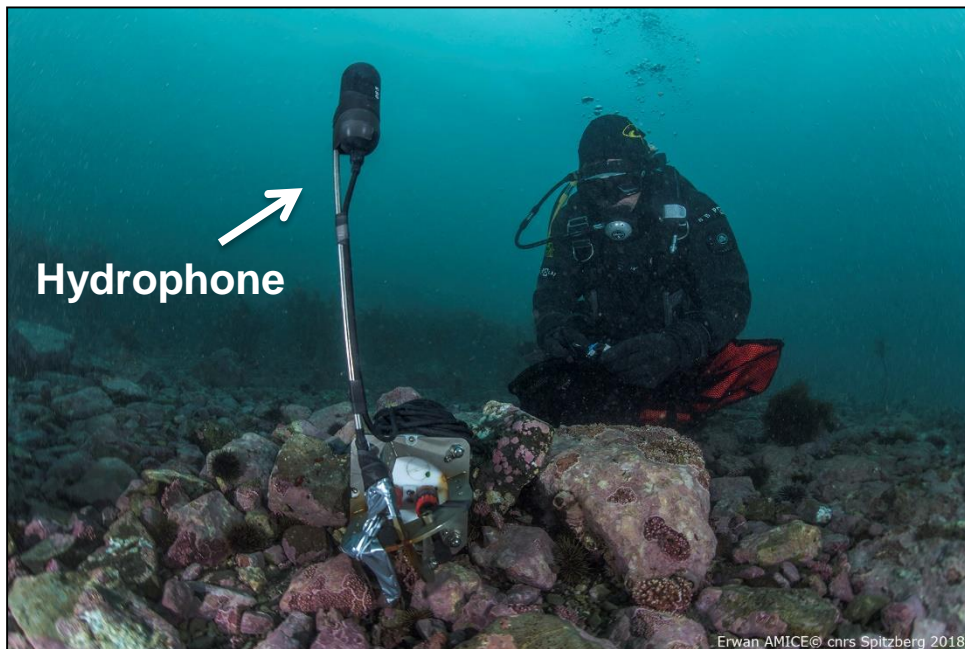
## Propagation model considering the Fjord bathymetry and geography in 3D (Bellhop 3D)

- **Bellhop: Beam tracing propagation model**

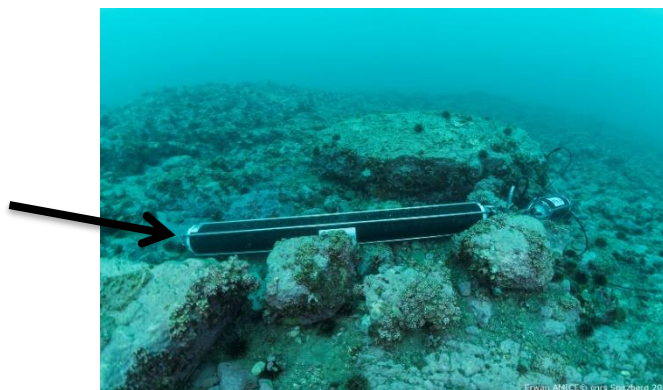


## How to monitor acoustic impact on biodiversity ?

Long-term deployments at 10 m depth:



Battery pack for  
long-term recording  
(several months)



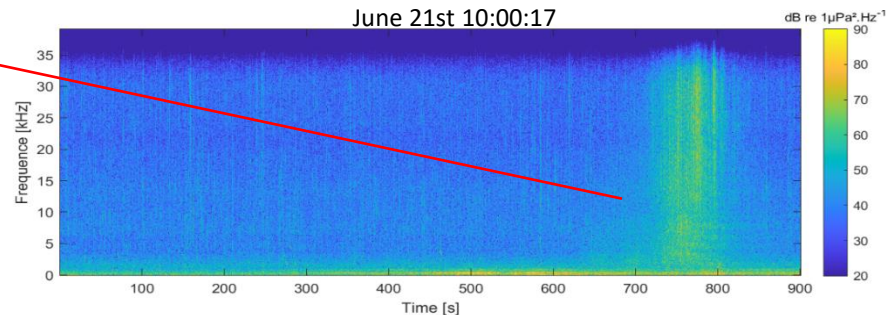
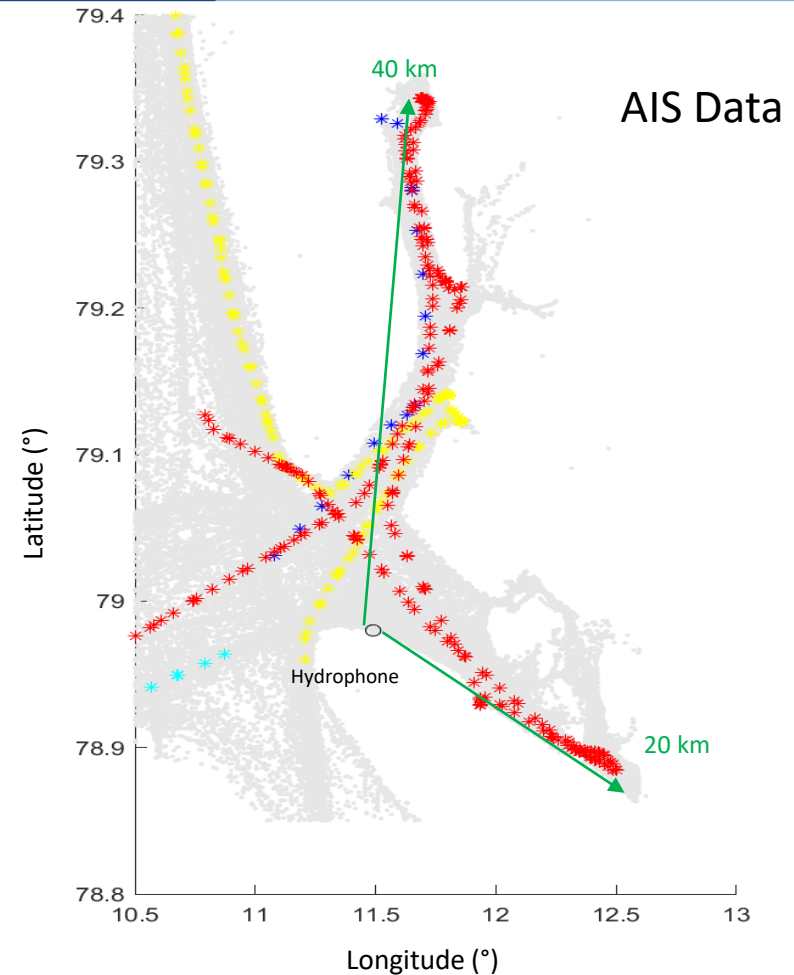
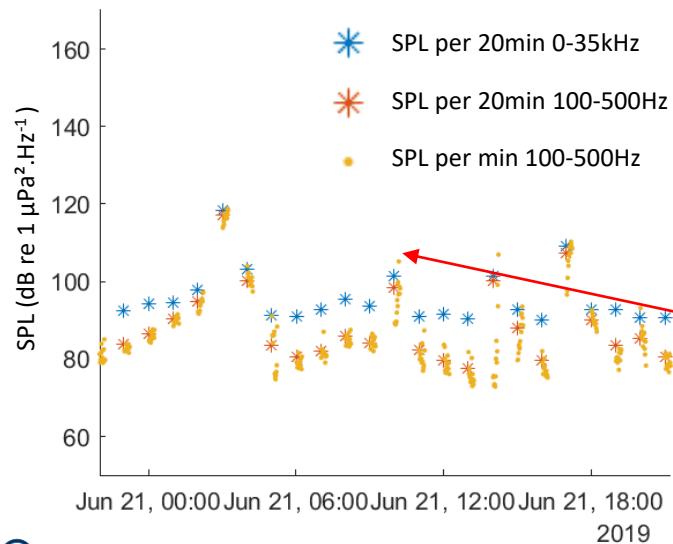
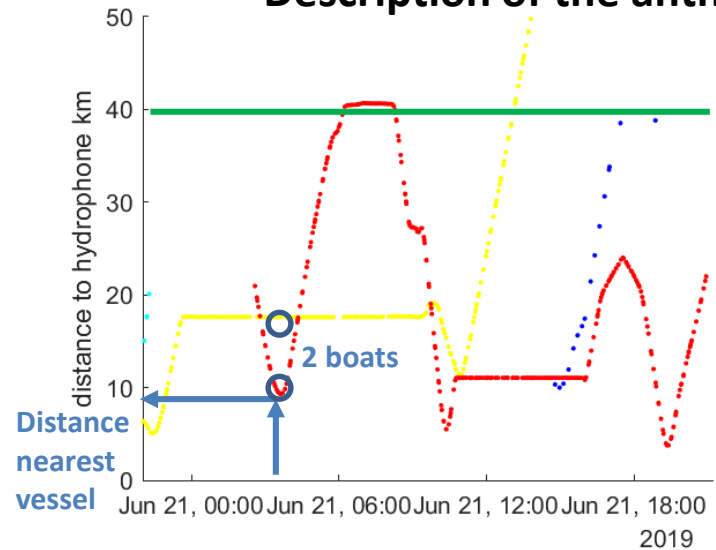
## How to monitor acoustic impact on biodiversity ?

### Long term monitoring : data

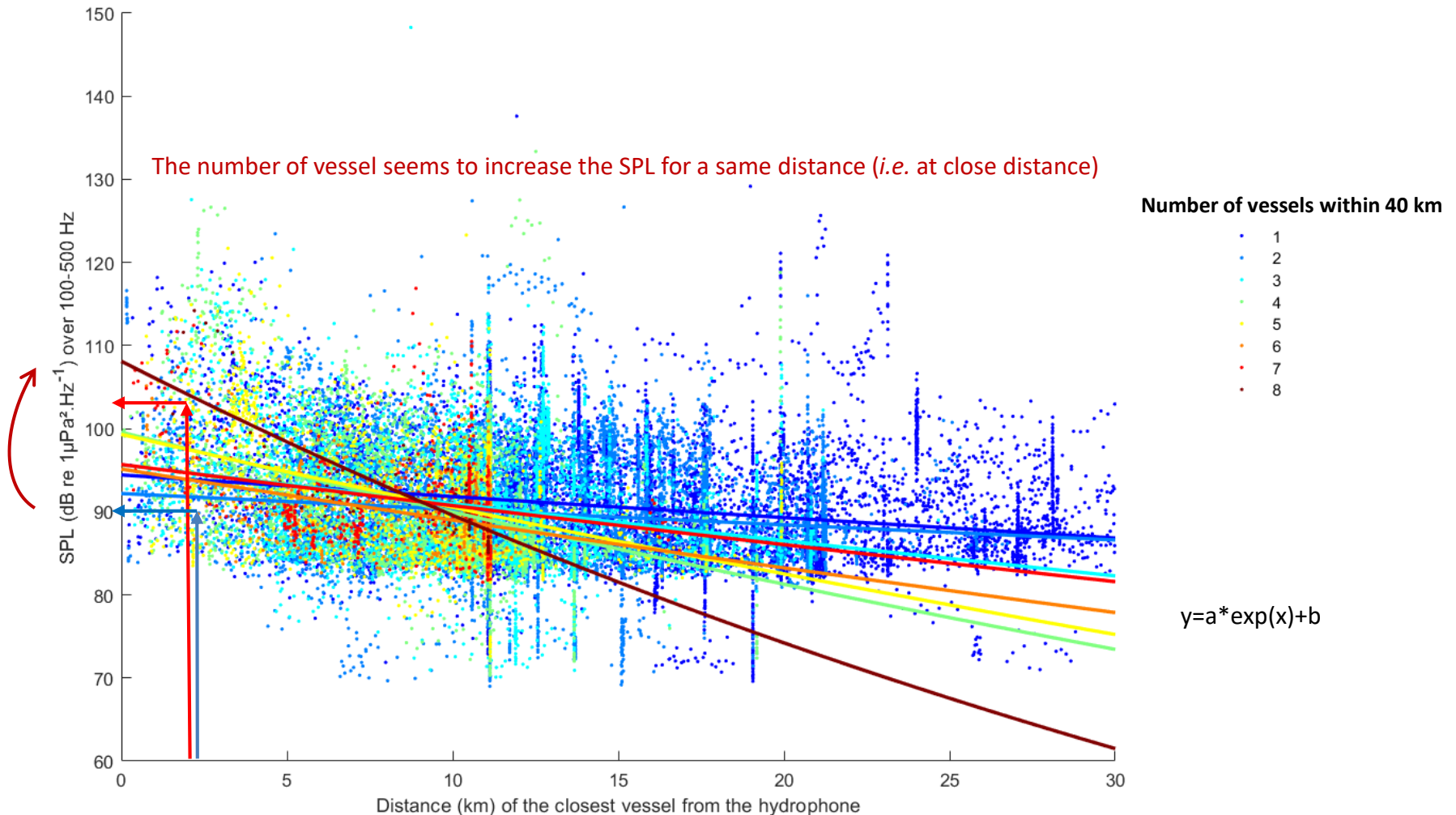
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Wildlife Acoustics SM2M2													2013
RTSYS EA-SDA 14									break				2018
RTSYS EA-SDA 14													2018
LOGGERHEAD LS1													2019
RTSYS EA-SDA 14													2019
LOGGERHEAD LS1													2020
RTSYS EA-SDA 14													2020
LOGGERHEAD LS1													2021
RTSYS EA-SDA 14													2021



## Description of the anthropophony



## Effect of number of vessels and/or distance of the nearest vessel?



The comparison of slope may inform upon the transmission loss in this area, but this required first a good understanding of the environment