

Multibeam Advisory Committee (MAC) 2021 RVTEC Update

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The Multibeam Advisory Committee (MAC)

- Established 2011 with funding from NSF to ensure the consistent collection of high-quality multibeam data across the U.S. Academic Research Fleet (USARF)
 - *Standardize system performance testing*
 - *Publish performance and share best practices*
 - *On-board & remote support to ships*
- Technical Reports & Resources
 - SAT, QAT, ANT
 - Host Non-USARF Reports
 - Cookbooks, guidance, tools
- Help Desk: mac-help@unols.org
- New website!



Ship Info	Sonar
 Atlantis (WHOI)	Kong (12 k)
 Blue Heron (UMN)	Reson (240)
 Healy (USCG)	Kong (12 k)

Report Title	Team
2021 Sikuliaq EM302/EM710 QAT	QAT
2021 Atlantis EM124 SAT	QAT
2021 Healy QAT	QAT
2021 Sally Ride EM124/EM712 QAT Report	QAT
2021 Kilo Moana EM122/EM719 QAT Report	QAT
2021 Reville EM124/EM712 SAT	SAT
2021 Okeanos MKII SAT	SAT
2020 Healy EM122 QAT Report	QAT
2020 Kilo Moana EM122/EM710 QAT	QAT
2020 Sikuliaq EM302/EM710 Calibration Report	QAT

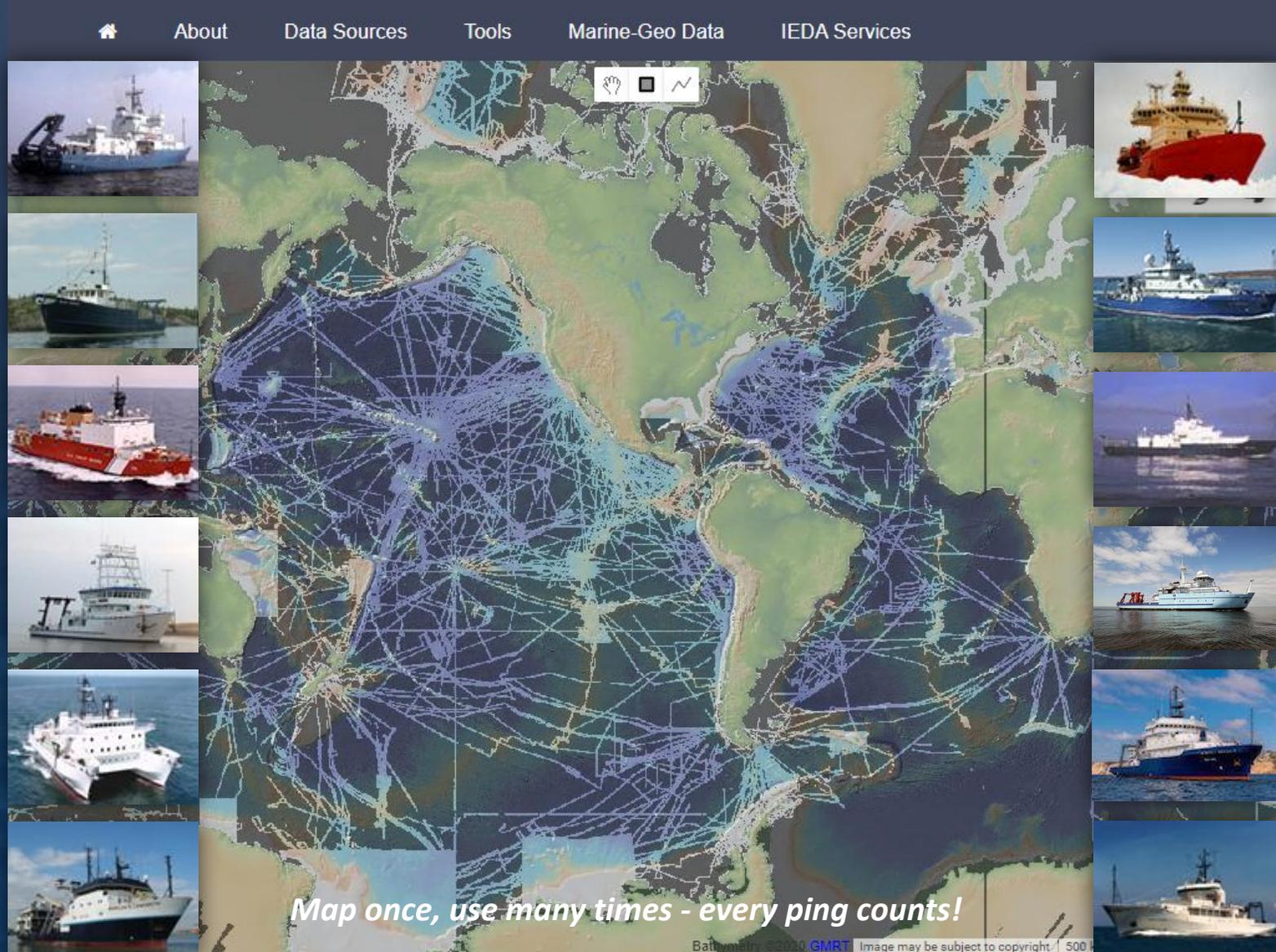


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<http://mac.unols.org>

Mapping Systems in the U.S. Academic Fleet

- USARF vessels with MBES
 - 11 Research Vessels
 - 1 USCG Icebreaker
- 15 Kongsberg systems
 - EM710 / EM712
 - EM302
 - EM122 / EM124
- 2 Reson shallow systems
- RCRVs under construction



Kongsberg Systems in the U.S. Academic Fleet

Ship	System(s)	Gondola	Arrays	Life Cycle	MAC Visits
<i>Atlantis</i>	EM124	Y	2021	Early-Life	QAT*, SAT*
<i>Healy</i>	EM122	N	2010	Late-Life	QAT, ANT
<i>Kilo Moana</i>	EM122 / EM710	N	2012	Late-Life	SAT, QAT*, ANT
<i>Marcus G. Langseth</i>	EM122	Y	2007 (TX) / 2010 (RX)	Late-Life	QAT*
<i>Nathaniel B. Palmer</i>	EM122	N	2015	Mid-Life	SAT, QAT, ANT
<i>Neil Armstrong</i>	EM122 / EM710	N	2016	Mid-Life	SAT, QAT
<i>Roger Revelle</i>	EM124 / EM712	Y	2020	Early-Life	SAT*, QAT
<i>Sikuliaq</i>	EM302 / EM710	N	2014	Mid-Life	SAT, QAT*
<i>Sally Ride</i>	EM124 / EM712	N	2016	Mid-Life	SAT, QAT
<i>Thomas G. Thompson</i>	EM302	N	2018	Early-Life	SAT, QAT*



System Performance Testing

SAT and QAT procedures include:

1. Geometry & Configuration
2. Calibration (patch test)
3. RX noise testing
4. Swath accuracy
5. Swath coverage (extinction)
6. Impedance testing
7. Water column evaluation
8. BS normalization
9. Reporting

Multibeam Advisory Committee Mapping System SAT/QAT Checklist

Roger Revelle EM124 / EM712 SAT
San Diego, October 2020

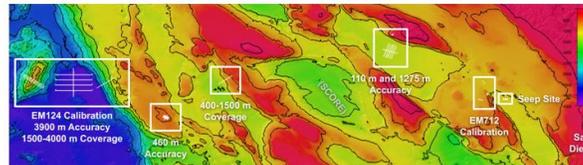
General

[Shared documents for RR 2020 SAT planning](#)

[Revelle IMTEC survey docs](#)

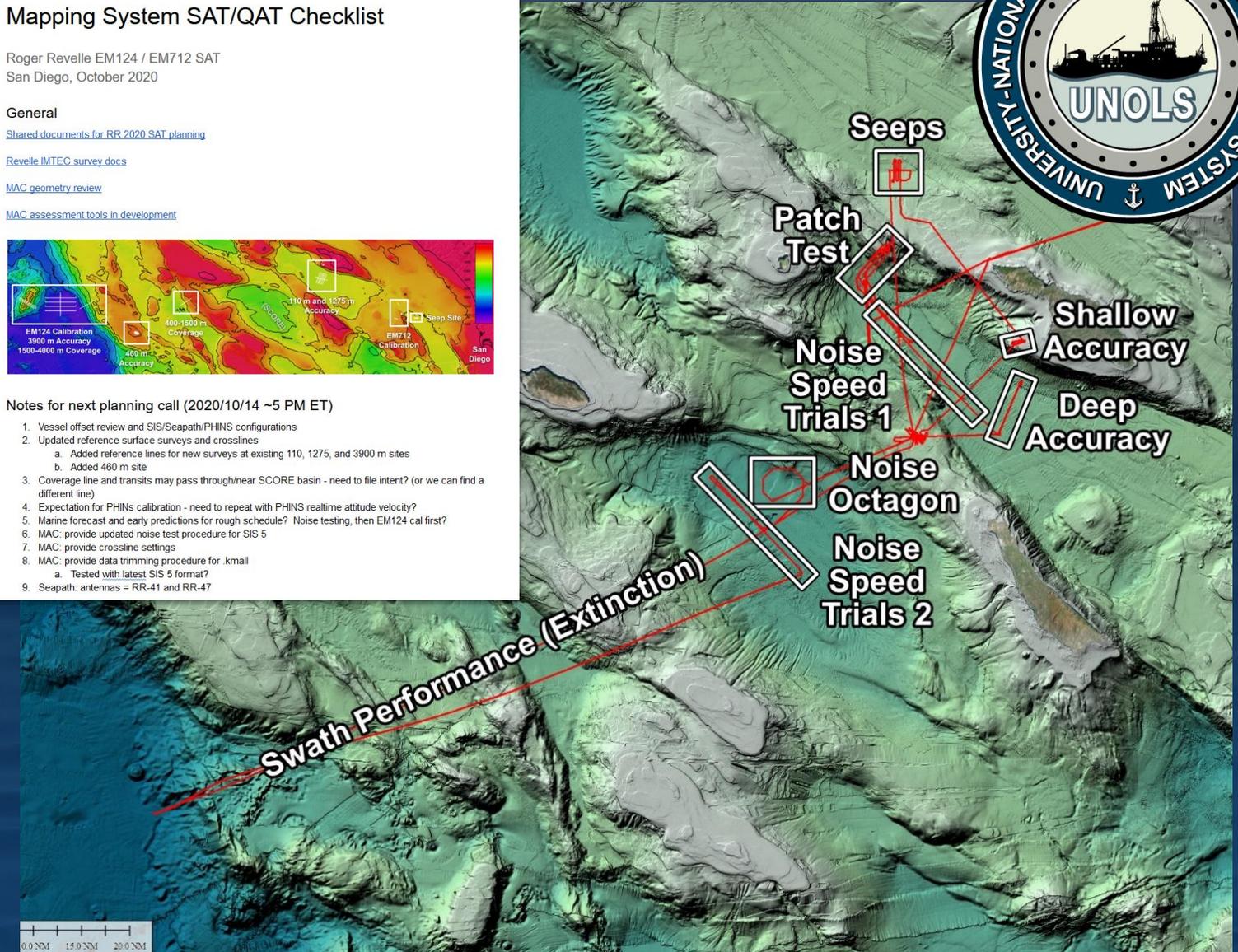
[MAC geometry review](#)

[MAC assessment tools in development](#)



Notes for next planning call (2020/10/14 ~5 PM ET)

1. Vessel offset review and SIS/Seapath/PHINS configurations
2. Updated reference surface surveys and crosslines
 - a. Added reference lines for new surveys at existing 110, 1275, and 3900 m sites
 - b. Added 460 m site
3. Coverage line and transits may pass through/near SCORE basin - need to file intent? (or we can find a different line)
4. Expectation for PHINS calibration - need to repeat with PHINS realtime attitude velocity?
5. Marine forecast and early predictions for rough schedule? Noise testing, then EM124 cal first?
6. MAC: provide updated noise test procedure for SIS 5
7. MAC: provide crossline settings
8. MAC: provide data trimming procedure for kmall
 - a. Tested with latest SIS 5 format?
9. Seapath: antennas = RR-41 and RR-47



Vessel Offset Survey Reports

Recommendations for Reporting Vessel Geometry and Multibeam Echosounder System Offsets

Data quality depends on correct configuration
Vessel and sensor offsets must be clearly documented
Survey reports directly impact data quality for decades
Vessel and sensor offset survey reports **must** include:

1. **Origin** of survey reference frame
2. **Axes** of survey reference frame
3. **Sign conventions** of survey results
4. **Images** of surveyed points and sensors
5. **Sigma** / standard deviation or uncertainty
6. **Second review** before submission

1. Origin of the survey reference frame

2. Axes of the survey reference frame

3. Sign conventions of the survey reference frame

4. Images

5. Sigma / uncertainty of the survey results

6. Second review before submission

Example table of mapping sensor results

The ultimate purpose of the VSR is the confident and correct interpretation of the survey data for mapping system configuration. Building on criteria #1-6 presented above, this is best addressed with a simplified table of results for the relevant sensors using the chosen MBES manufacturer's reference frame and sign conventions. This table may be presented at the beginning or end of the report and only summarizes, rather than replaces, the more detailed survey data throughout.

Table 1. Example mapping sensor offsets from a chosen origin using consistent axis and sign conventions. This table summarizes the more detailed survey results presented elsewhere in the report. While these final numbers may be used directly for configuration, the reader must still carefully consider how the offsets will be applied among the sensor software packages to avoid doubling or cancelling the offsets. The items in the left column are examples only, and the final offsets required for configuration may differ by system; this should be clarified by the client. For example, manufacturers of higher-frequency echosounders may require a transducer bracket 'reference point' instead of the center of each array face; the client and surveyor must identify these items in planning the survey. Installations on adjustable rams or drop keels should include separate results for each standard positions used for mapping (e.g., recessed and extended, plus any intermittent standard positions)

R/V VESSEL	X	Y	Z	ROLL	PITCH	HEADING	Notes
Sign convention	Positive forward	Positive to starboard	Positive down	Positive with starboard side down	Positive with forward side up	Positive with forward side to starboard	
Units	meters	meters	meters	degrees	degrees	degrees	
Origin (chosen feature)	0.000	0.000	0.000	N/A	N/A	N/A	
TX array (center of array face)							
RX array (center of array face)							
GNSS antenna 1 (phase center)							Phase center height is _____m above the survey point (source: _____)
GNSS antenna 2 (phase center)							
Motion sensor (survey target on sensor housing)							
Additional sensors							

*****Please give this to your surveyor!*****

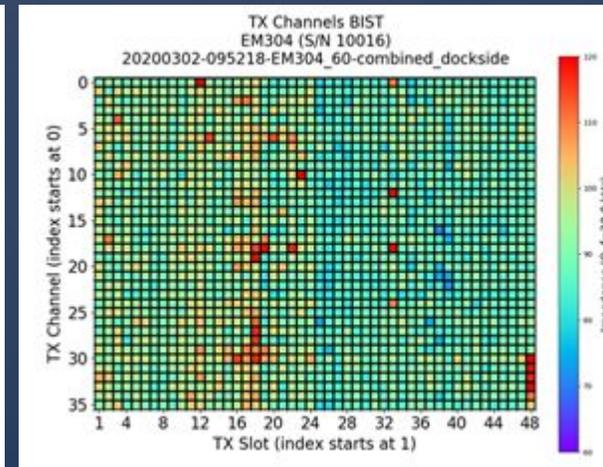
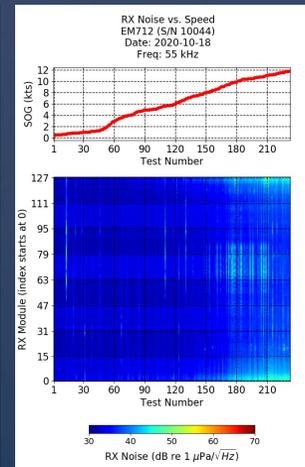
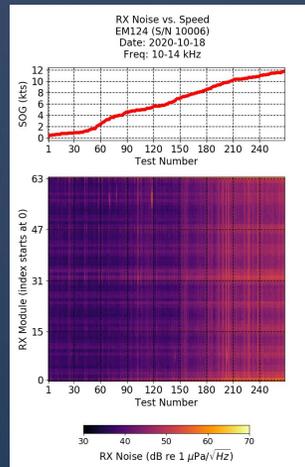
<http://mac.unols.org/resources/vessel-geometry-and-mbes-offset-recommendations>



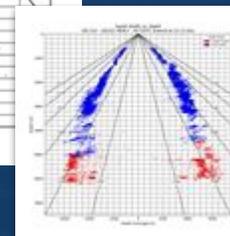
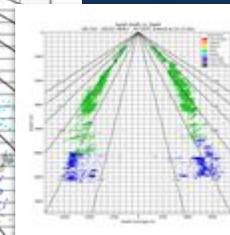
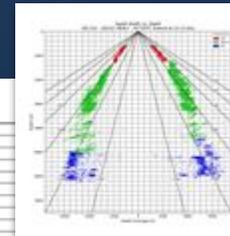
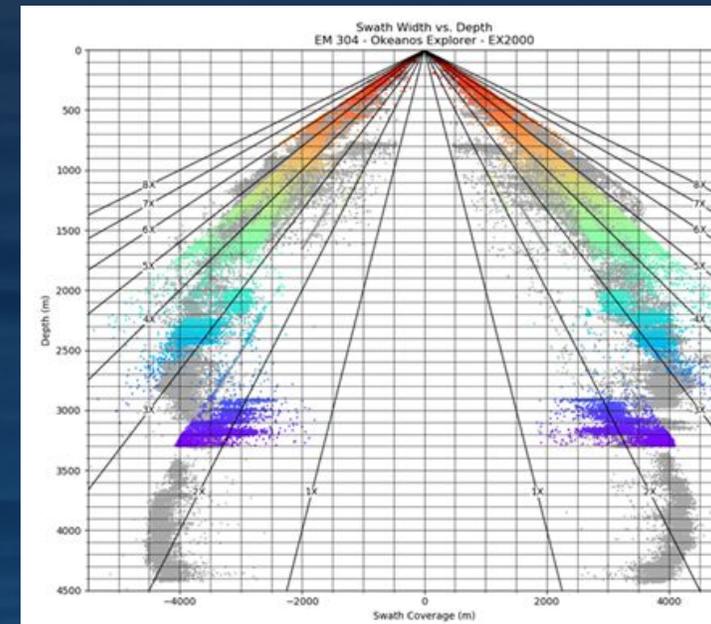
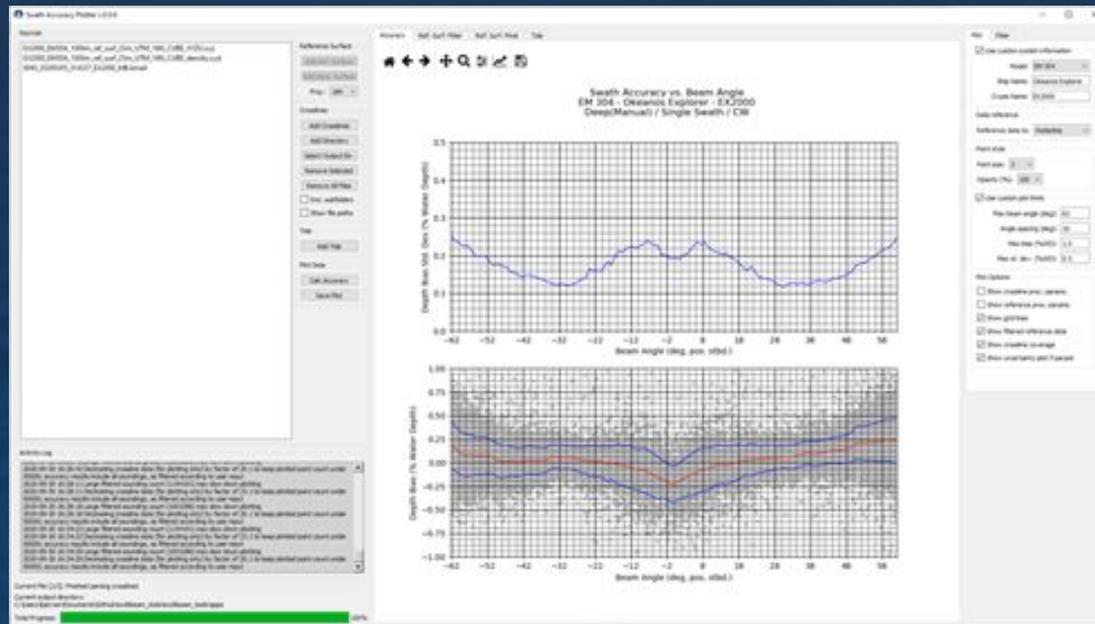
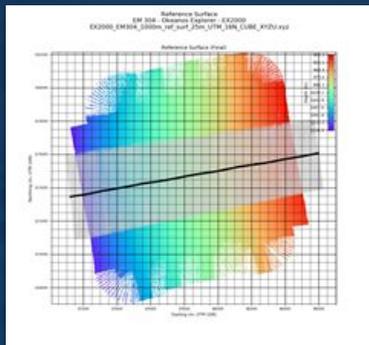
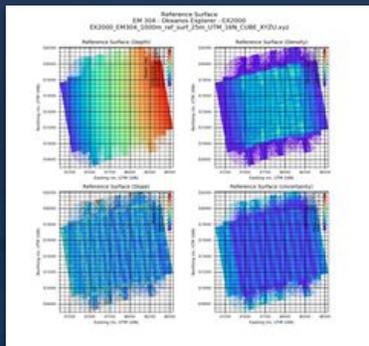
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Assessment Tools

1. File Trimmer
2. BIST Plotter
3. Swath Coverage Plotter
4. Swath Accuracy Plotter



<http://mac.unols.org/resources/assessment-tools>



MAC Activities since RVTEC 2020

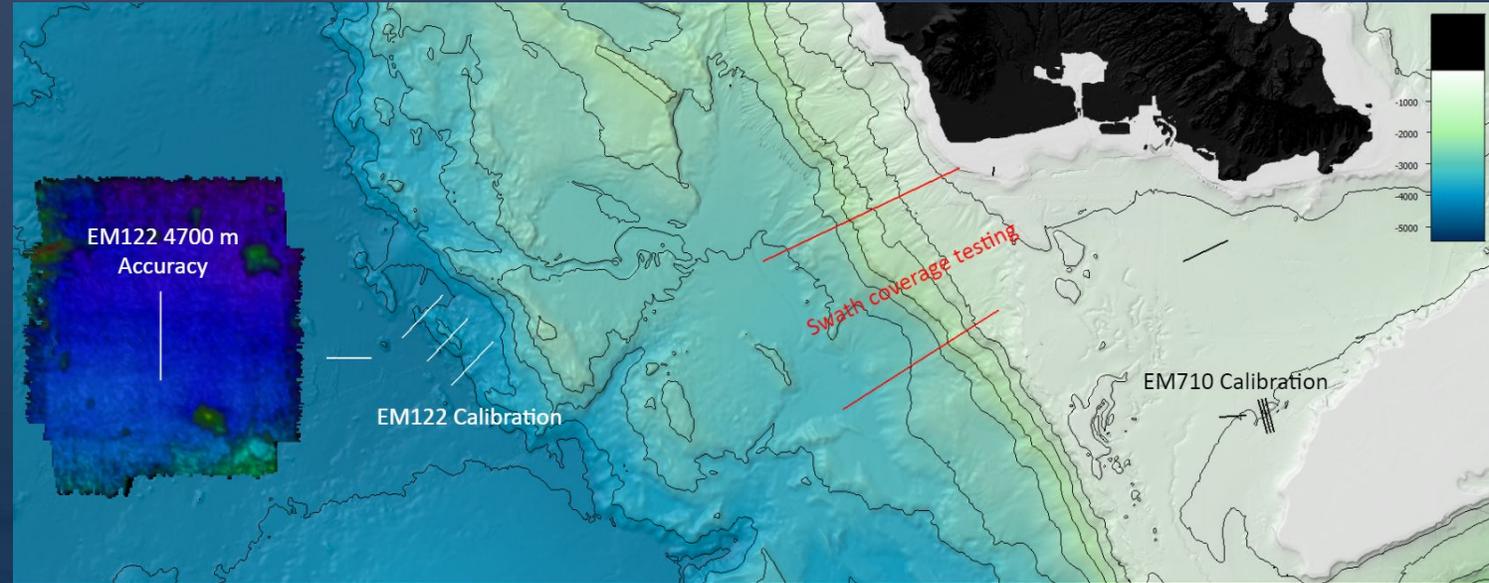
Remote* and on-board support:

- *Atlantis* (SAT*)
- *Healy* (QAT*)
- *Kilo Moana* (QAT*)
- *Sally Ride* (SAT)
- *Sikuliaq* (QAT*)
- *T. G. Thompson* (QAT*)

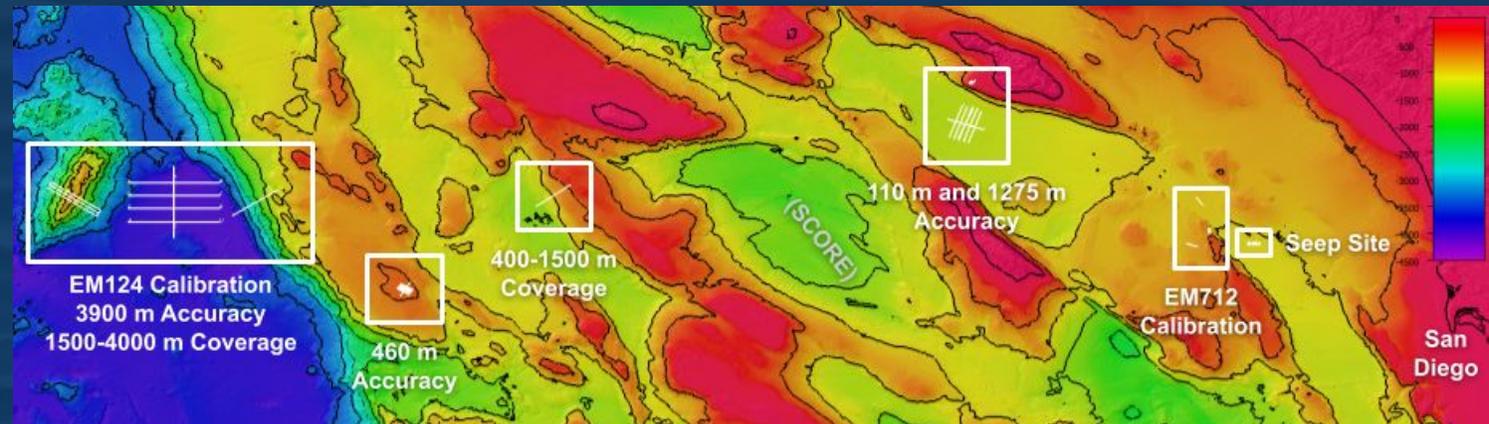
Assessment Tools (e.g., .ksmall)

Non-MAC testing:

- *Saildrone*, *DRiX* (SAT)
- *Okeanos Explorer* (SAT)
- *Nautilus* (QAT)

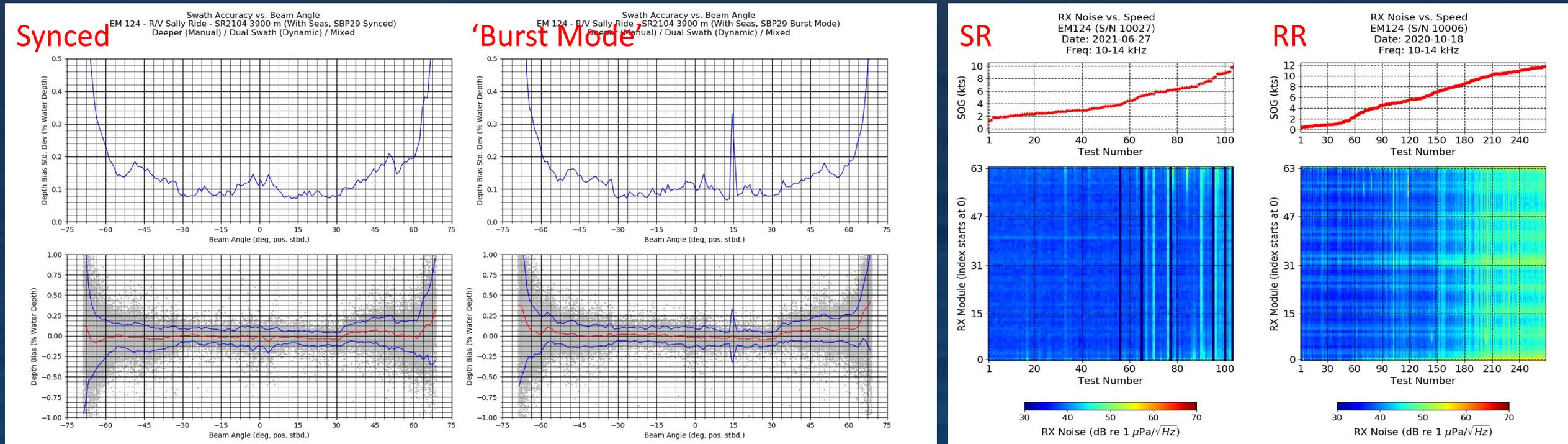


**THANK YOU to technicians and managers
for making remote support possible**



Lessons Learned 2020-21

- Increasing utility of common sites and processing tools for assessments
 - Easier/faster planning with more confidence in site suitability
 - Catch problems early → ‘apples-to-apples’ comparisons
 - Open access to performance reports is critical (e.g., configuration appendices)
 - Post-cruise quality assessment via R2R and GMRT (e.g., GMRT extinction plots)



Lessons Learned 2020-21

- Translation from survey report to configuration remains a source of error
 - Correct values are often reported unclearly
 - Clear reports can be interpreted inconsistently
 - MAC guidelines / examples for survey reports
 - Available for early review and feedback

TX	0° - 1' - 59"	PORT	0° - 3' - 7"	BOW UP	0° - 6' - 40"	STBD UP
RX	0° - 5' - 24"	PORT	0° - 7' - 37"	BOW UP	0° - 9' - 7"	STBD UP

Transducer setup			
	Forward, X / Roll	Starboard, Y / Pitch	Downward, Z / Heading
TX 1 Location offset (XYZ)	12.966	-0.489	6.197
TX 1 Angular offset (Roll/Pitch/Heading)	-0.111	0.519 ***	359.966
RX 1 Location offset (XYZ)	17.359	-1.429	6.195
RX 1 Angular offset (Roll/Pitch/Heading)	-0.152	0.127	359.910

Example table of mapping sensor results

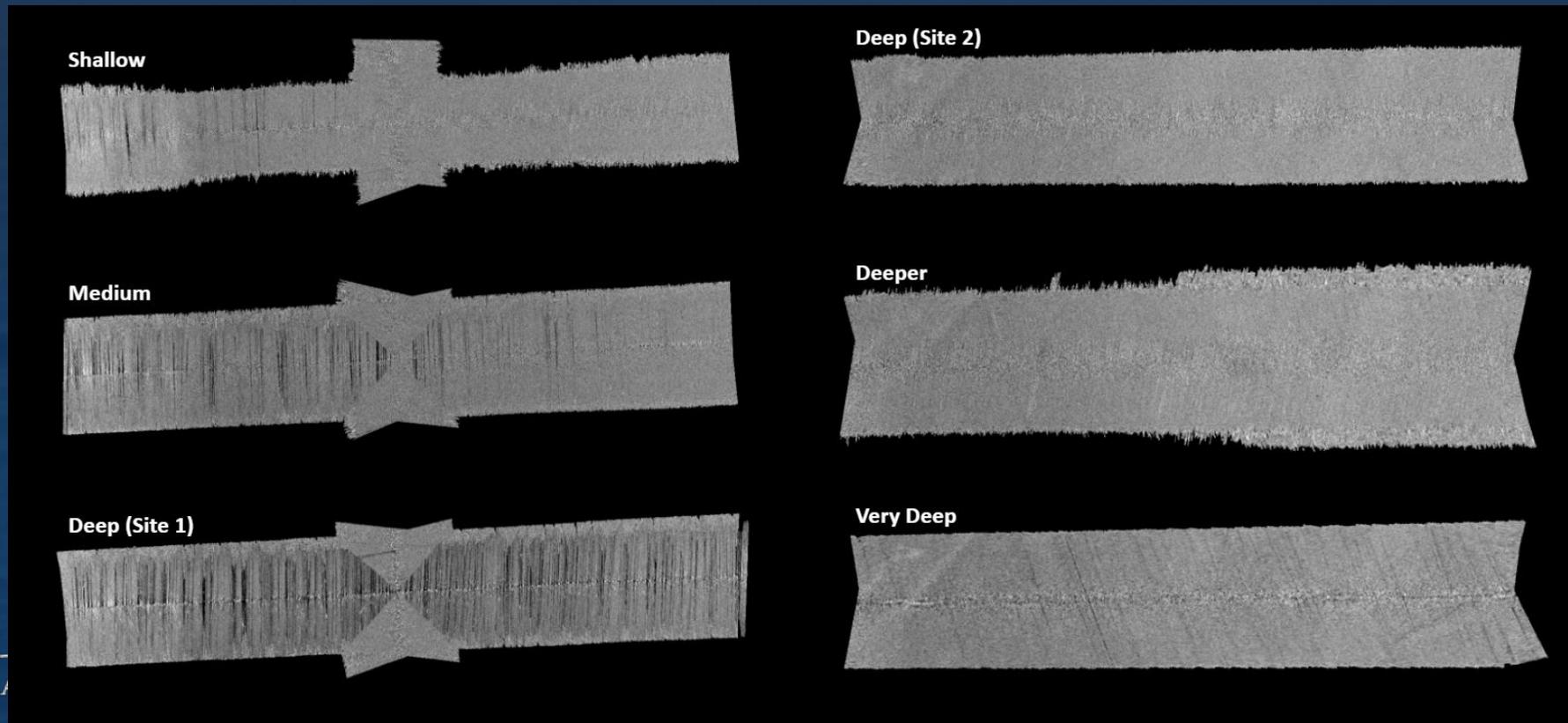
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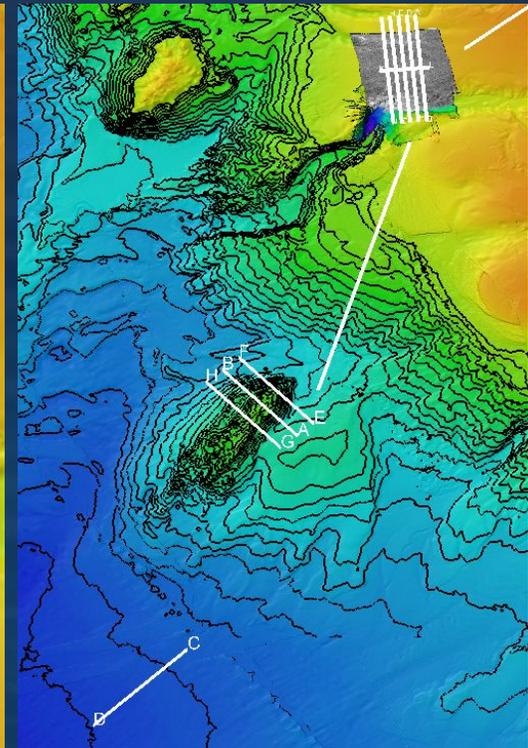
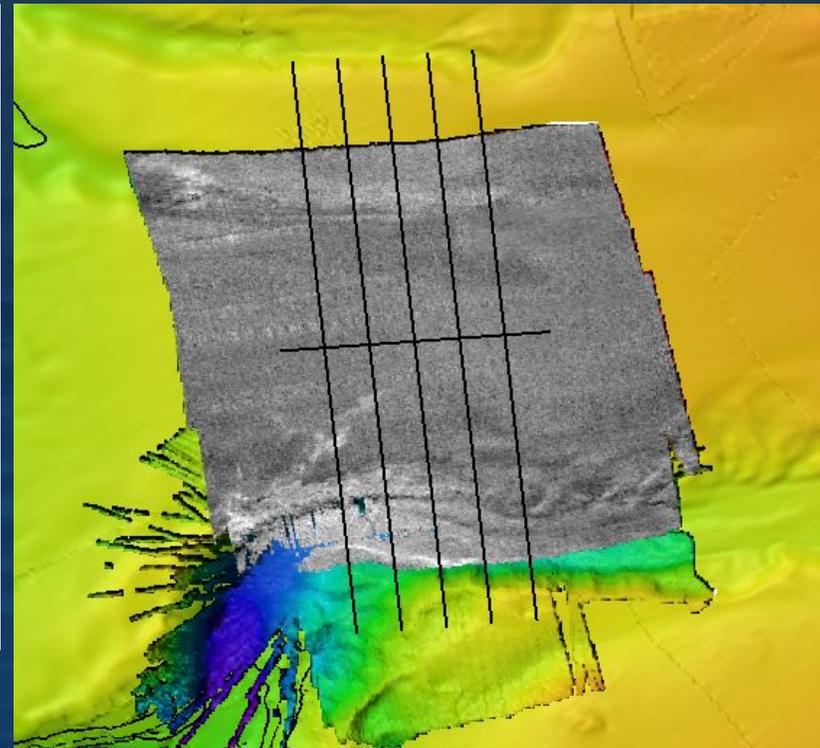
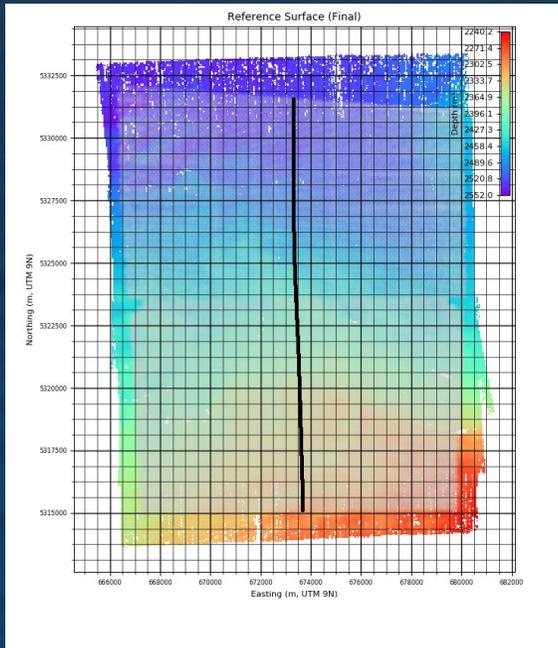
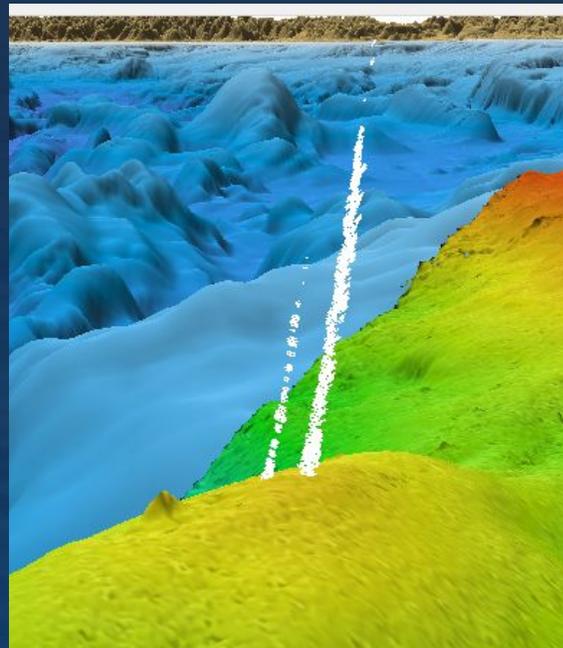
Lessons Learned 2020-21

- Growing interest in backscatter (habitat mapping, seafloor characterization)
 - Can be valuable tool for monitoring changes in array response
 - Post-processing does not fix biases between TX sectors ('stripes') and TX modes
 - BS normalization should be a standard SAT item (or QAT if not done earlier)



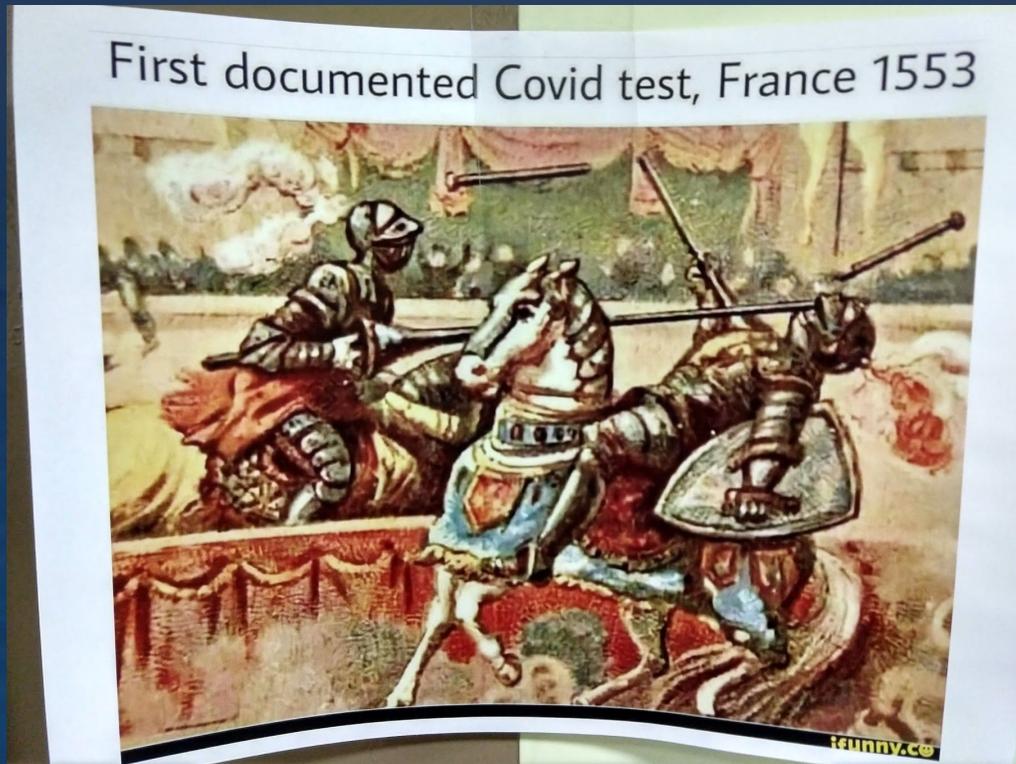
Lessons Learned 2020-21

- Performance testing plans are flexible, with limits
 - Standard SAT/QAT prioritized by impact on (and opportunity for) later testing
 - Advance planning means efficient use of ship time, proven sites, and personnel
 - Standard MB 'patch test' approach is effective, efficient, non-proprietary
 - MAC approach readily *dovetailed* (but not *replaced*) with other activities
 - Likewise, other systems have their dedicated test sites and time slots



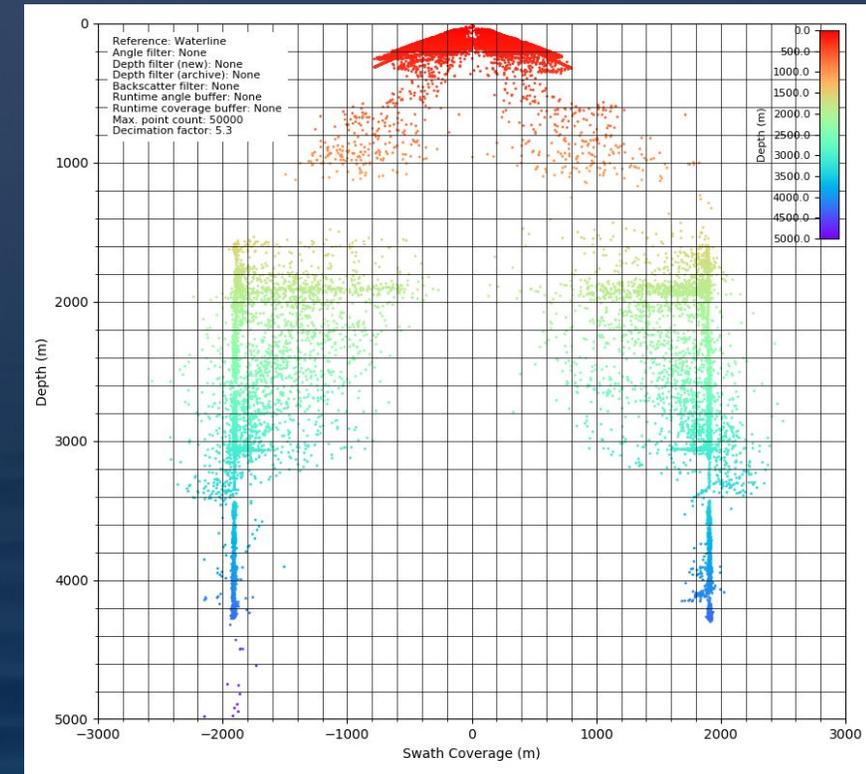
Lessons Learned 2020-21

- High-speed ship-to-shore connections are invaluable for remote support
 - Google Drive, Zoom, WhatsApp, Slack (email gets cumbersome quickly)
- There's no substitute for being on board (with proper protocols in place)



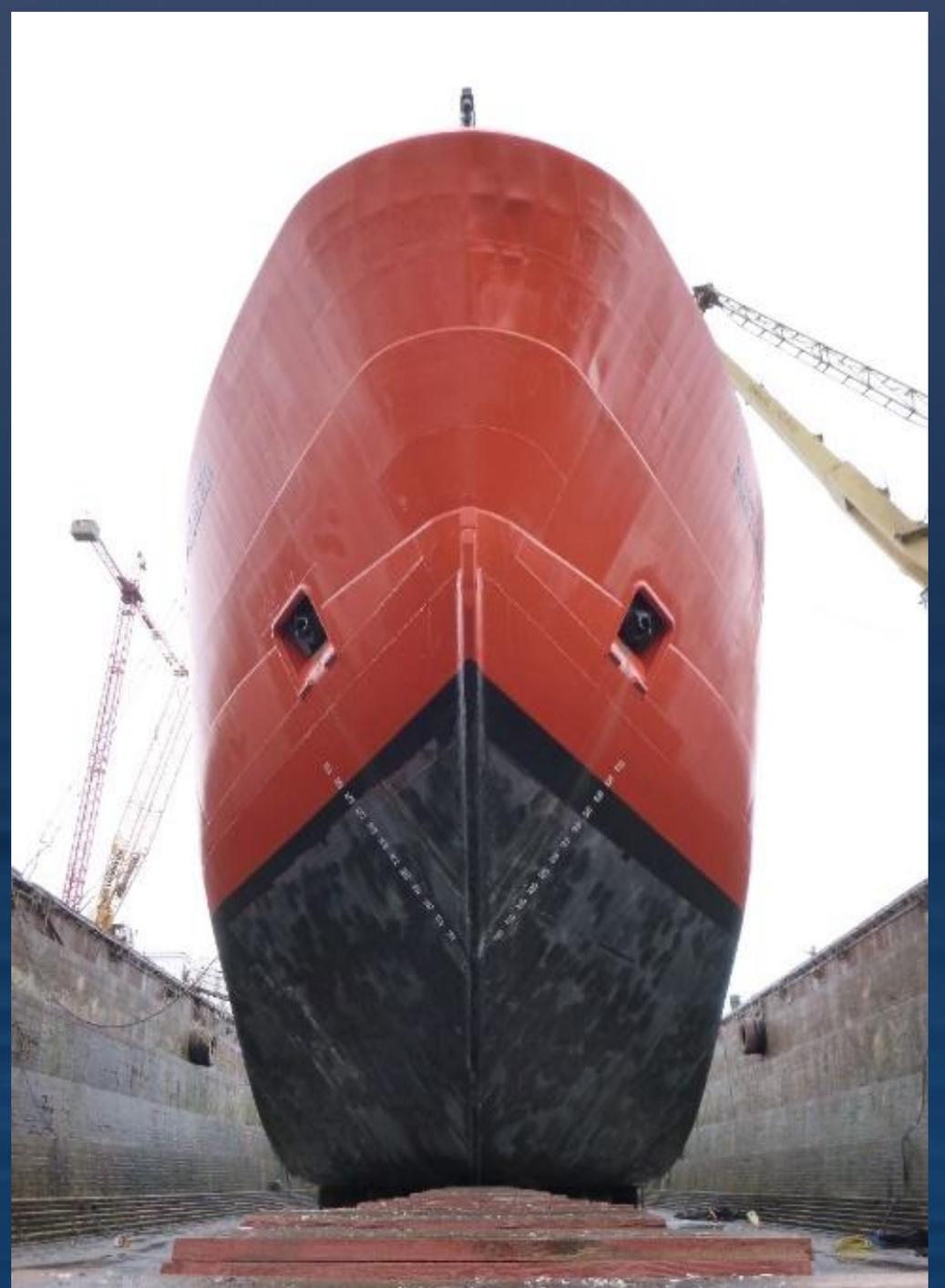
Next Steps: Transit Data

- Increasing and improving transit mapping data
- **Map The Gaps**
 - US EEZ, GMRT, Seabed 2030, UN Ocean Decade
 - Opportunistic testing
 - Swath coverage, backscatter normalization, etc.
- What are your top challenges/roadblocks?
 - Email mac-help@unols.org or chat with us here
- What resources/tools would help?
 - Sound Speed Manager
 - Route planning for gaps
 - Test sites en route
 - Other?



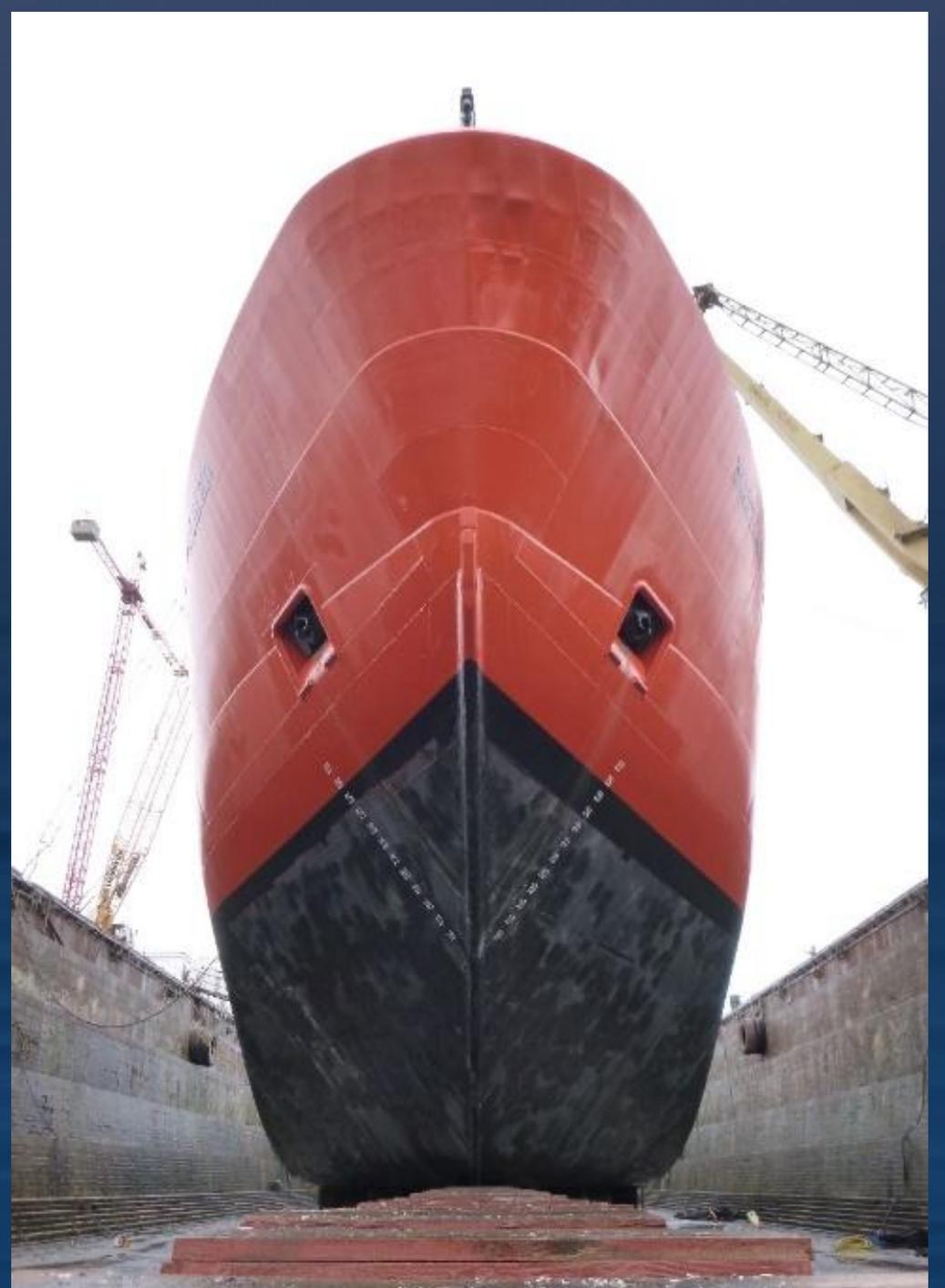
What's Next?

- RCRVs planning in progress
- *Healy* EM122 replacement
- Late-life cycle systems
 - EOL performance testing
 - Ship purposes / regions?
- Who is planning what (and when)?
 - Adding navigation/attitude systems?
 - Most recent patch test?
 - Any new noise issues?
 - Available to help plan SAT/QATs



What's Next?

- In talking with Tech Training Committee...
 - Multibeam 'quick guides' (Top 10?)
 - Wiki / community resource (GitHub?)
 - **What Went Wrong Wednesday** (Jan-Feb)



Thank you!

<http://mac.unols.org>

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