

Geoacoustic tomography and high-resolution acoustic probe measurements during NRL MEC/ANEX2015 Experiments

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ONR SEDIMENT CHARACTERIZATION WORKSHOP



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Outline:

Multi-static Environmental Characterization Experiment:

•Scientific Goal: Effects of range/bearing-dependent seafloor on signal excess (SE)

•Experimental Goal: Rapid characterization of seabed within 30 km x 30 km area

•Measurements: Broadband transmission-loss and reverberation measurements with limited number of sources and receivers

High-resolution acoustic probe measurements:

•Scientific Goal: Frequency dependency of sound speed and attenuation in marine sediments

•Experimental Goal: In-situ sound-speed and attenuation measurements in muddy, silty, and sandy sediments

•Measurements: Simultaneous measurements of acoustic probes and chirp sonar. Geotechnical measurements of sediment cores.



NRL MEC/ANEX2015 Experimental Sites:



Mid Atlantic Bight (Grain size distribution)



Palamara et al., in prep, (from J. Goff)



Pulse Decay vs. Bottom Type (Simulation)



$$p(\tau) = \left(\frac{c}{2r\tau}\right)^{1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{c}{H}\alpha_{eff}\tau\right), \qquad \alpha_{eff} = \frac{1}{R}\int_{0}^{R}\alpha(r)dr$$

- c : Sound speed
- r: Range
- H: Water depth
- *τ*: Pulse-decay time
- α : Bottom-loss gradient

Pulse decay vs. sediment type:













	Sound Speed (m/s)	Absorp (dΒ/λ)	α (Np/rad)	θ_{c} (deg)
Sand	1700	0.5	0.3	30
Silt	1600	0.3	0.8	20
Clay	1510	0.1	5.0	5



Geoacoustic Tomography:

Example: Bottom-Loss-Gradient Tomography:



$$\log 10[\sqrt{\tau} p(\tau)] = -\log 10(e) \frac{c\tau}{rH} \sum_{i}^{N} \alpha_{i} \Delta r$$

Underdetermined minimization problem:

 $\overline{m} = \arg \min_{m} || \operatorname{Am-d} ||^2$ (may diverge) A: measurement matrix, m: model, d: data

 l_2 - norm penalty: $\overline{m} = \arg \min_{m} || \operatorname{Am-d} ||^2 + \mu || m ||^2$ (Tikhonov regularization)

 l_{l} - norm penalty: (Sparse model in wavelet basis a fe

(Sparse model in wavelet basis, a few non-zero coefficient)

w = Wm wavelet coefficients of m

$$\overline{\mathbf{w}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{m}} \|\operatorname{Aw-d}\|^2 + 2\mu \|\mathbf{w}\|_1, \ (\overline{\mathbf{m}} = \mathbf{W}^{-1}\overline{\mathbf{w}})$$

W: wavelet decomposition matrix, W⁻¹: wavelet synthesis operator Noise-free model reconstruction (noise may not be sparse)



MEC/ANEX2015 Acoustic Experimental Assets (1)



•2-channel source array (XF4)•72-channel receiver array



Multistatic (moored)



Four moored source/4-ch receivers
One 32-channel VLA
Four 4-ch receiver arrays
Several 2-ch acoustic data loggers



MEC/ANEX2015 Acoustic Experimental Assets (2)

NRL VLA (1)



EARS Buoys (3)

•4-element hydrophone array•10-day deployment @ 50 kHz sampling•Deep-water capability (3000 m)



Vertical Array, 32 ch, d=2.5m Thermistors placed between phones



ITC-2010/ 4-elm. VLA (4)





MEC/ANEX2015 Acoustic Experimental Assets (3)

XF-4 (2)









NRL Chirp Sonar and GeoProbe

NRL Chirp Sonar

Longitude (deg W)





GeoProbe Measurements

NRL Deep-Sea GeoProbe System





BLUE10 Gulf of Mexico experiment (d=900 m)



Latest additions:

- 1) Linear actuator for probe penetration
- 2) Sidescan/chirp sonar





MF Source Array (Gauss)

10-transducer VLA cut for ~3 kHz

- Frequency: 1.5-9.5 kHz
- Towable at up to 4 kts
- Depths 20-200 m
- 2 NAS suites (depth, tilt, etc.)
- 'Quasi-omni' azimuthally
- 10-% duty cycle
- Elements individually controllable
- 440-V power





f (kHz)	
1.5	196
2.0	201
2.5	204
3.0	208
3.5	215
3.8-5.5	216
5.5-9.0	213
9.5	210







- •Transmission Loss measurements up to 30 km range (0.3-5.0 kHz)
- •Multistatic Reverberation Level measurements (0.3-5.0 kHz)
- •Ambient Noise Level measurements (0.1-10.0 kHz)
- •Moored VLA with thermistor pods, towed source/array with CTD
- •Limited Chirp/Sidescan Sonar measurements
- •Limited Geoprobe measurements