



Ocean
Science
Analytics



Passive Acoustic Monitoring

OCEANS 2023 Workshop:
Rice's Whale in GOM

Overview of
PAM

Mitigation vs.
Monitoring

Applications

Now & the
Future of
PAM

Liz Ferguson
CEO & Marine Ecologist
eferguson@oceanscienceanalytics.com



PAM Overview

"Passive acoustic monitoring" = using sound to understand underwater environments

Evolution

Marine Mammals



"Passive acoustic monitoring" = using sound to understand underwater environments

EVC

**Ma
Mar**



"Passive acoustic monitoring" = using sound to understand underwater environments

- Incorporated in marine biology, ecology and environmental monitoring fields

EVC

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- Hardware: hydrophones, data acquisition system, deployment platform, power

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- Incorporated in marine biology, ecology and environmental monitoring fields
- Hardware: hydrophones, data acquisition system, deployment platform, power
- Software: signal processing (including detection, classification), interpretation, communication systems
- Can be related to: environmental data, human activities

EVC

Ma
Mar

PAM Evolution

PAM Evolution

1940-1950s

Earliest observations of marine mammal sounds underwater

PAM Evolution

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1960-1970s

PAM Recording equipment deployed more broadly, launch of PAM research

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2000s-present

PAM increasingly used in regulatory & conservation

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Recent Years

Advancement of equipment and data storage & increased use

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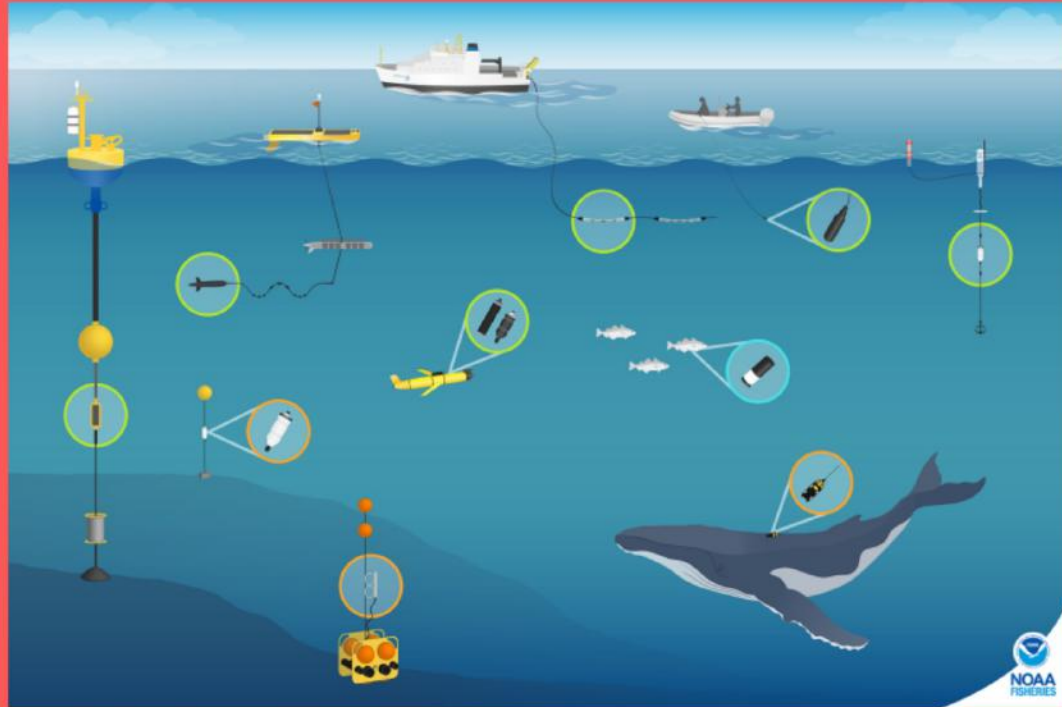
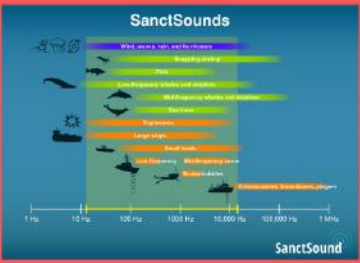


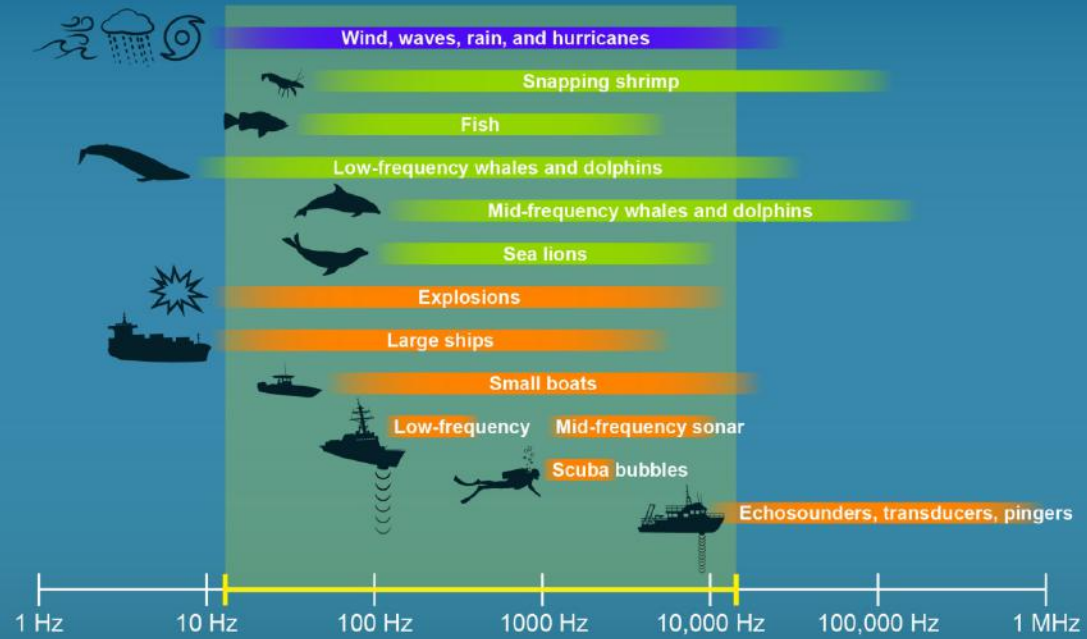
Figure source: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/endangered-species-conservation/passive-acoustic-research-atlantic-ocean>

Marine Mammal Sounds



Baleen Whales

SanctSounds



Baleen Whales

Baleen Whales

- Low frequency sounds include tonal calls, pulses, grunts, etc.

Baleen Whales

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- Navigation and behavior purposes

Baleen Whales

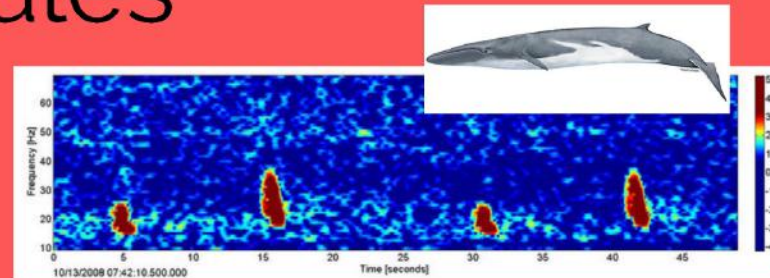
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Baleen Whales

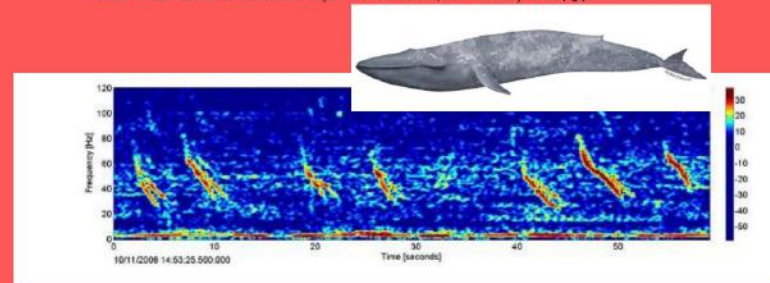
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- Stereotyped calls can be spectrally & temporally similar

Baleen Whales

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Širović, A., Oleson, E. M., Calambokidis, J., Baumann-Pickering, S., Cummins, A., Kerosky, S., ... & Hildebrand, J. A. (2011). Marine mammal demographics of the outer Washington coast during 2008–2009. Oleson, E. and Hildebrand, J. Marine mammal demographics of the outer Washington coast and near Hawaii. Naval Post Graduate School Rept. NPS-OC-11-004CR, Monterey, CA, 14-34





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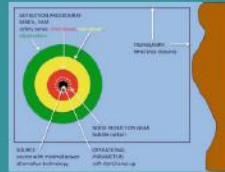
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Mitigation vs. Monitoring

Mitigation Methods

Controlled Activities

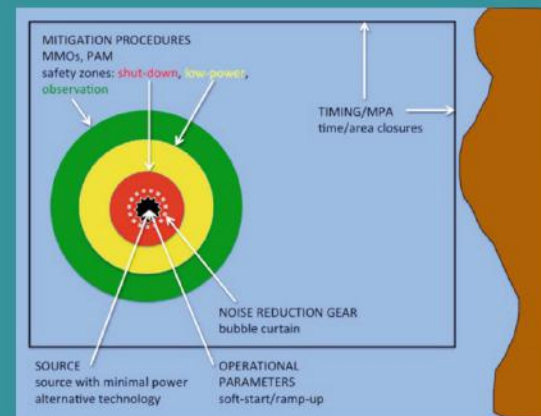


Monitoring Methods

Mitigation Methods

Mon

Controlled Activities

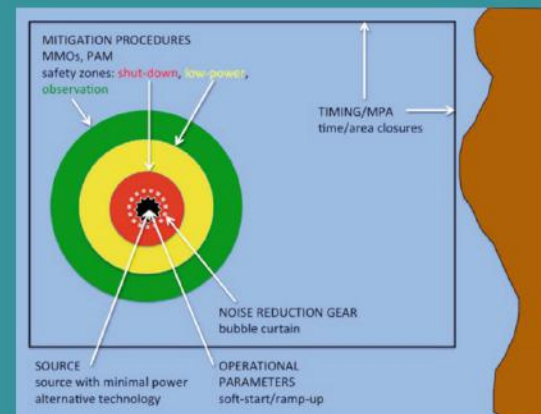


Mitigation Methods

Mon

Controlled Activities

Procedures defined by governing agencies



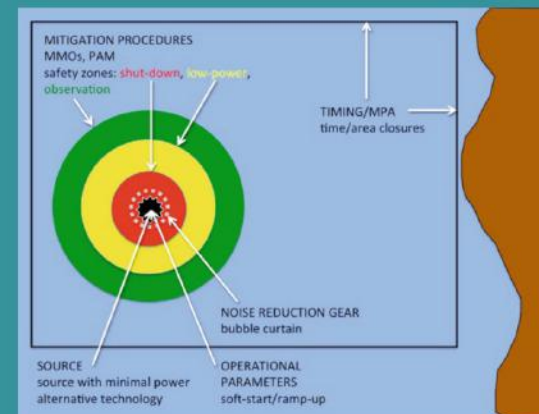
Mitigation Methods

Mon

Controlled Activities

Procedures defined by governing agencies

Equipment involves real-time buoys, towed arrays, single hydrophone



Mitigation Methods

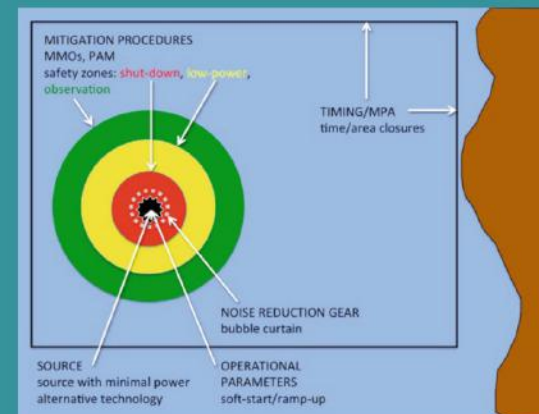
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Controlled Activities

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Methods for mitigation include:



Mitigation Methods

Mon

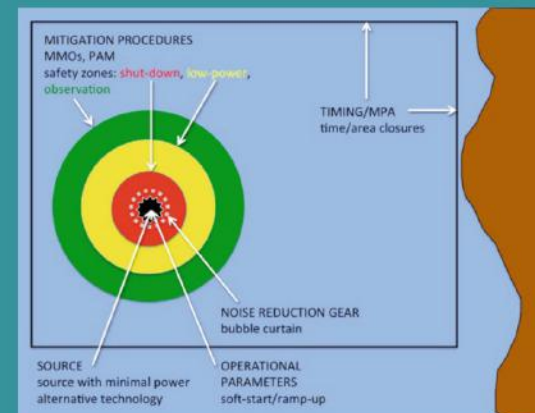
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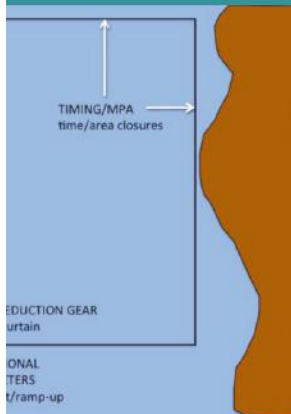
Equipment involves real-time buoys, towed arrays, single hydrophone

Methods for mitigation include:

- area closures
- increase mitigation zone during seasonal activity
- noise reduction with bubble curtains (pile driving)
- noise source/operational modifications ("soft start")



Monitoring Methods

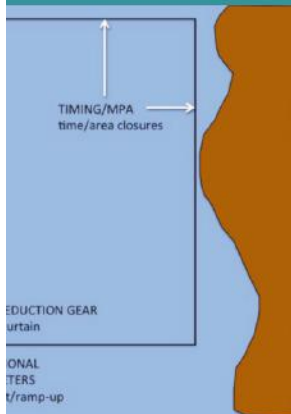


www.mnh.si.edu

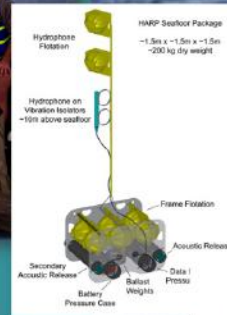


Monitoring Methods

Wide range of fixed, mobile equipment options



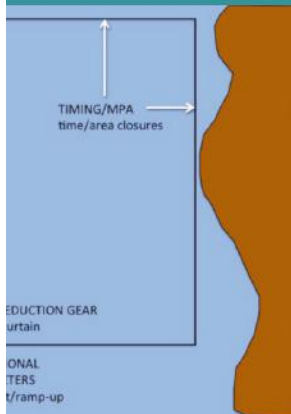
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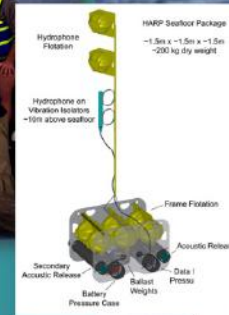
Monitoring Methods

Wide range of fixed, mobile equipment options

Defines occurrence of marine mammals in a region



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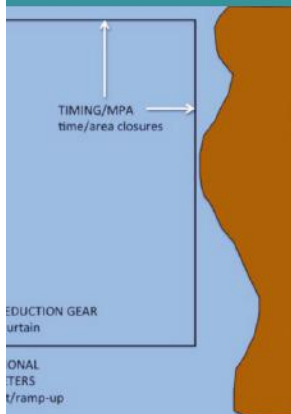


Monitoring Methods

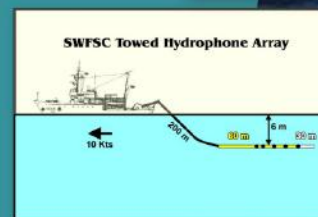
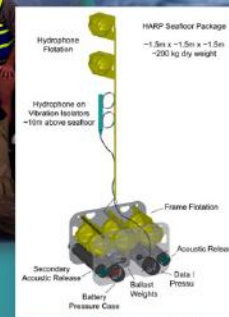
Wide range of fixed, mobile equipment options

Defines occurrence of marine mammals in a region

Can incorporate localization for directing visuals or density/abundance estimation



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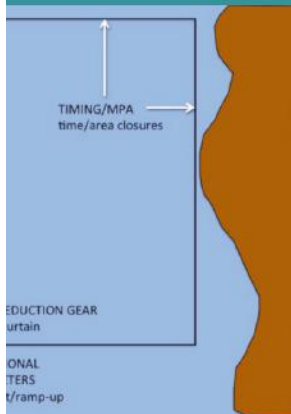
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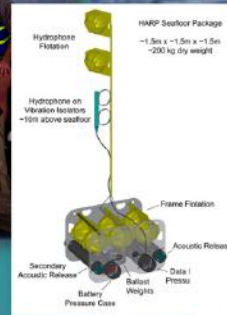
Defines occurrence of marine mammals in a region

Can incorporate localization for directing visuals or density/abundance estimation

Useful in regions where occurrence is infrequent/unknown, or extreme/remote locations



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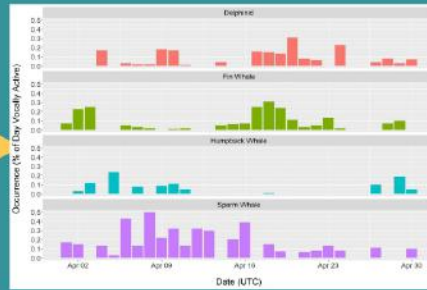
PAM Applications



Distribution & Abundance

Behavior

PAM Applications



Distribution & Abundance

Behavior

PAM Applications

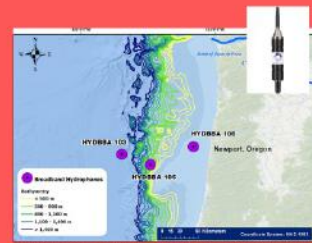
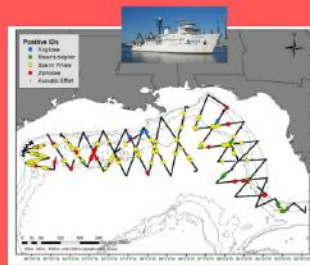


Distribution & Abundance

Behavior

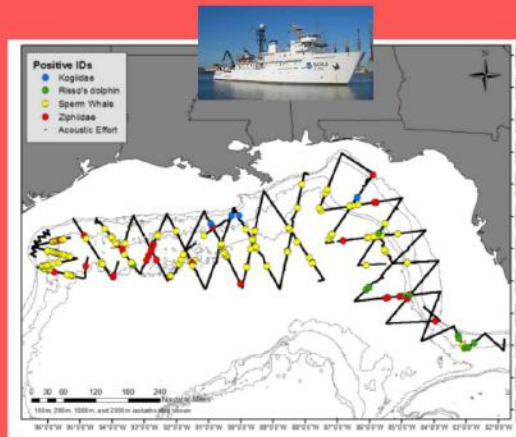
Distribution & Abundance

Distribution



Density/Abundance

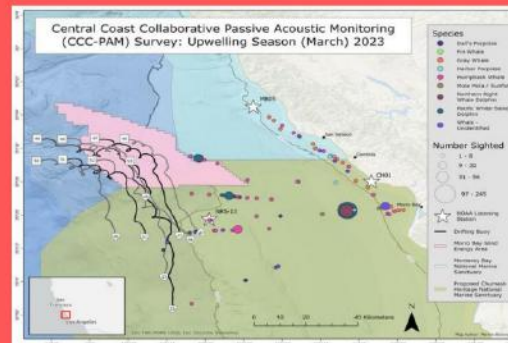
Distribution



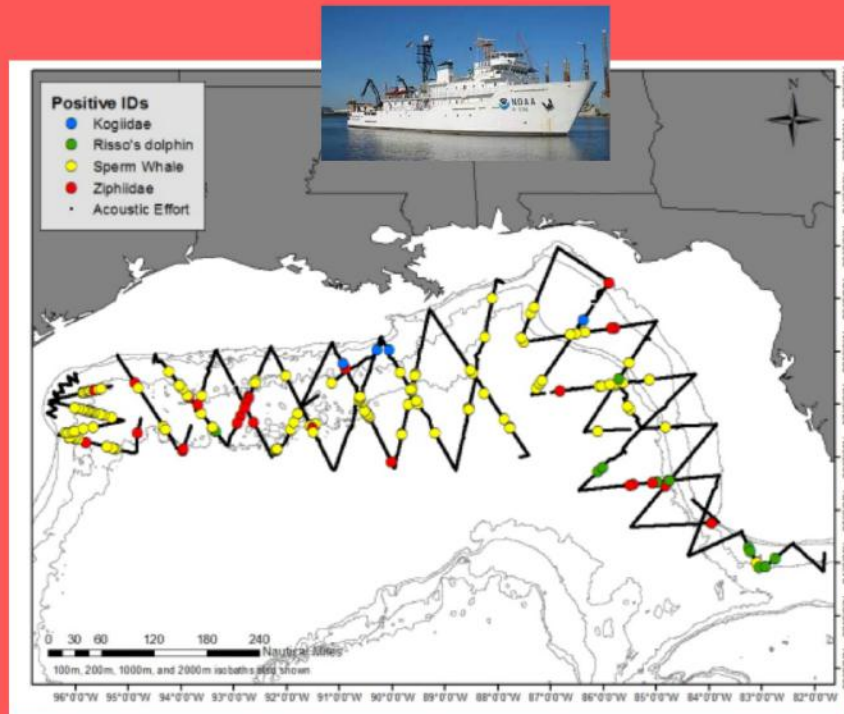
Source: GoMMAPPS Summer 2017 Research Cruise Report



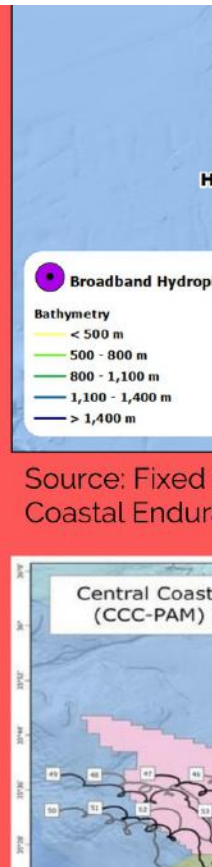
Source: Fixed recorders from Ocean Observatories Initiative, Coastal Endurance Array



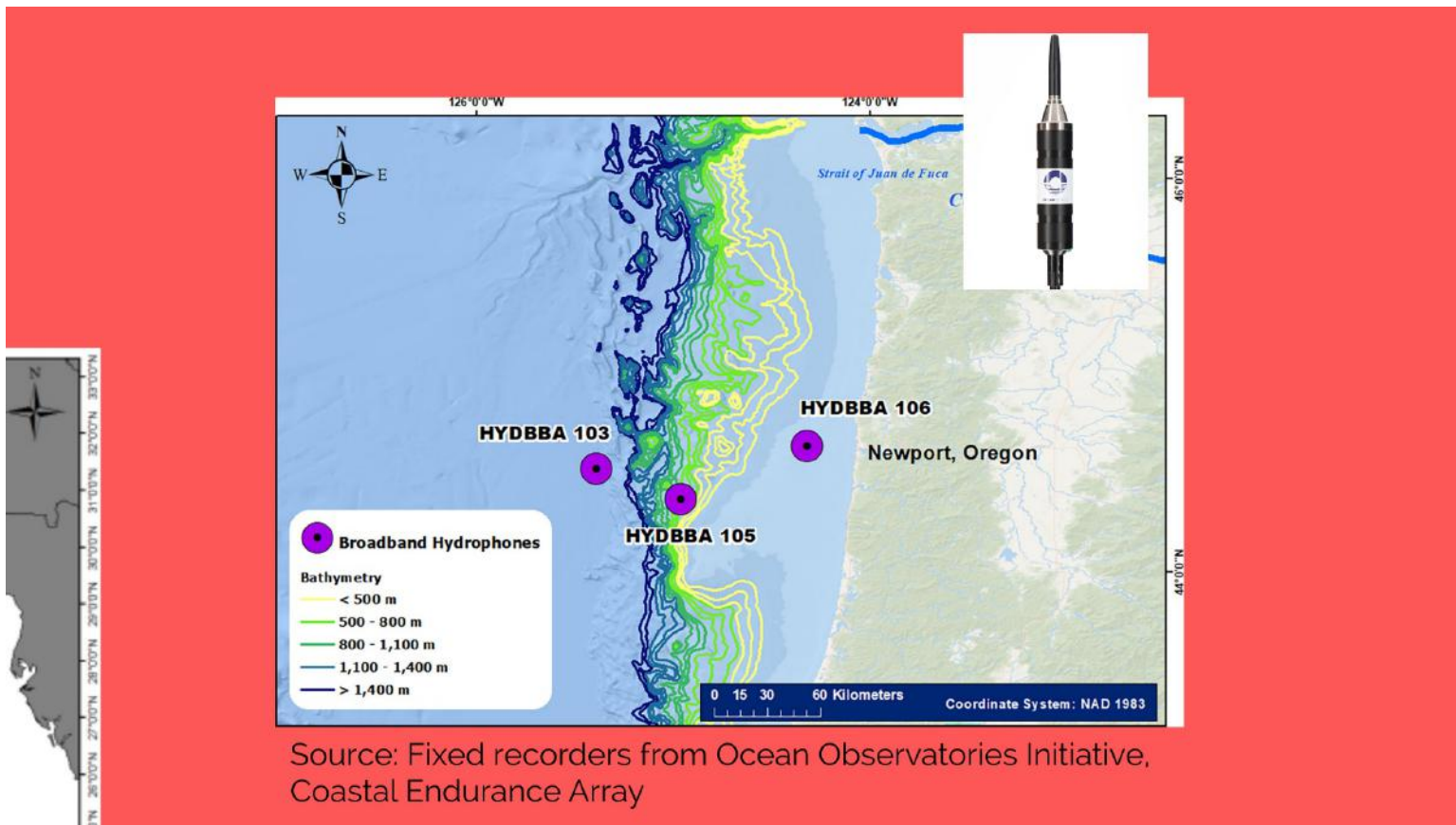
Source: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/science-blog/sound-bytes-adventures-drifting-buoy>



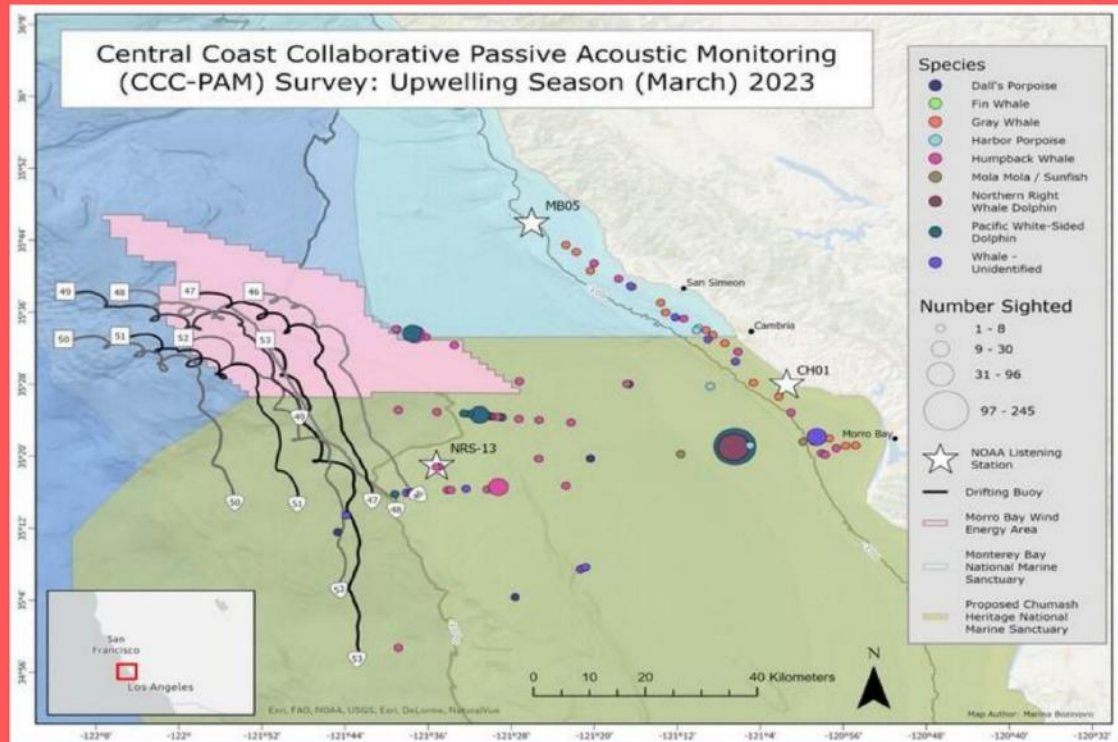
Source: GoMMAPPS Summer 2017 Research Cruise Report



Source: Fixed Coastal Endura



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Density/Abundance

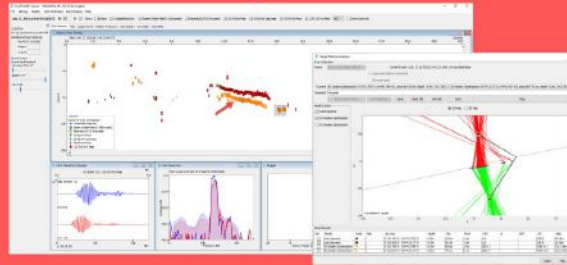


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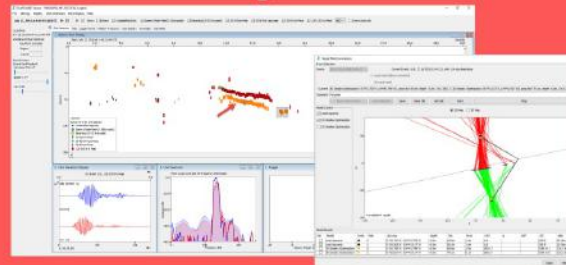
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Density/Abundance



**Adaption of Distance
Sampling methods used
with visual survey data**

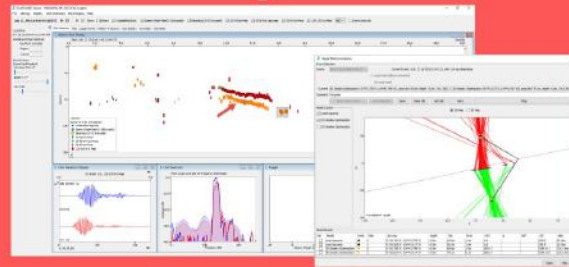
Density/Abundance



**Sigourney et al. (2023):
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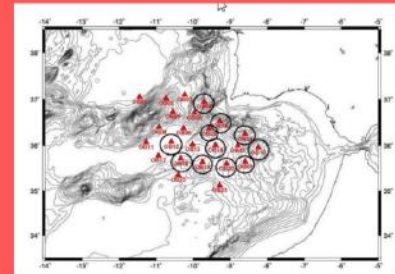
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**Adaption of Distance
Sampling methods used
with visual survey data**

**Harris et al. (2013): Point
transect sampling using
cue counts = estimate the
average probability
of detecting fin whale calls**



Behavior Applications

Changes in Behavior

Behavior & Environment

Changes in Behavior

Changes in Behavior

Example: Beaked whale behavioral response to ultrasonic antifouling gear

Trickey, J. S., Cárdenas-Hinojosa, G., Rojas-Bracho, L., Schorr, G. S., Rone, B. K., Hidalgo-Pla, E., ... & Baumann-Pickering, S. (2022). Ultrasonic antifouling devices negatively impact Cuvier's beaked whales near Guadalupe Island, México. *Communications biology*, 5(1), 1-9.

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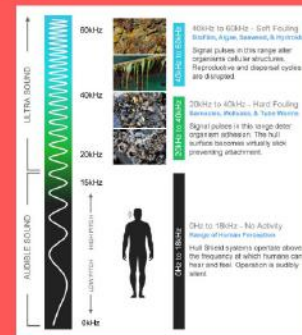
- Ultrasonic antifouling (UA) systems aide in biofouling, proving more successful than paint

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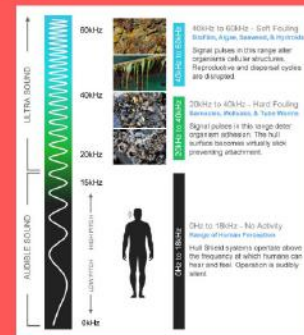
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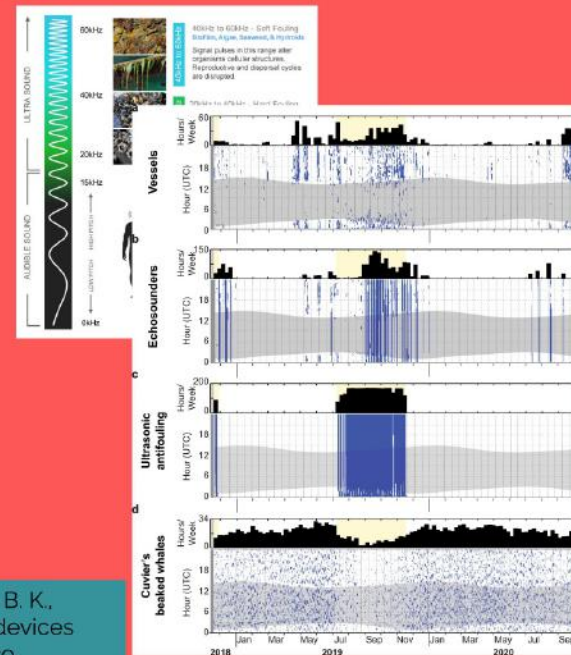


Changes in Behavior

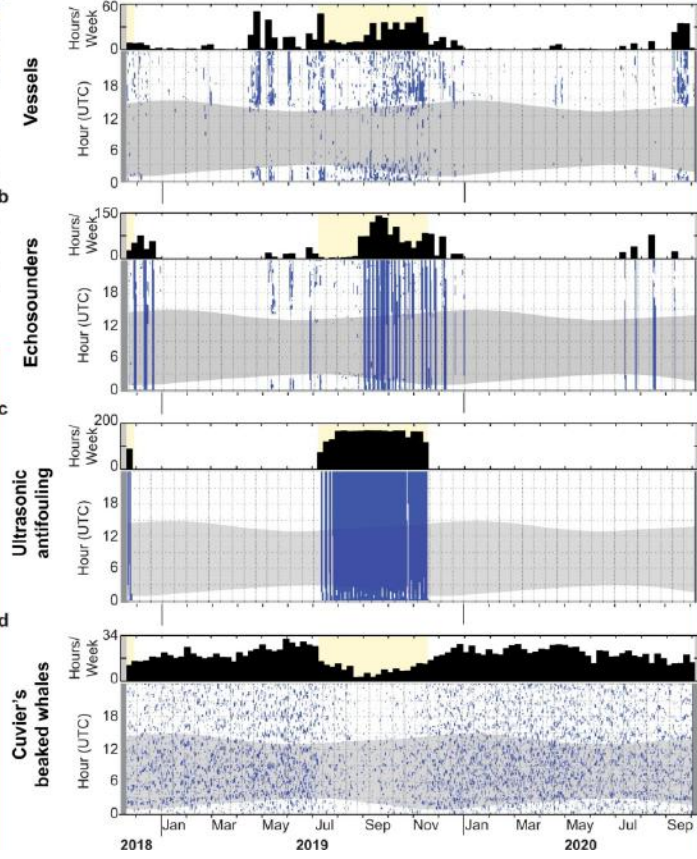
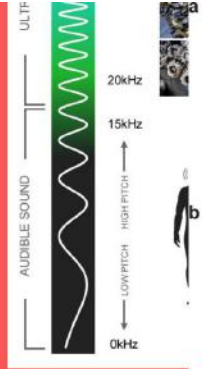
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- Clear picture of habitat displacement off Guadalupe Island for this unregulated noise

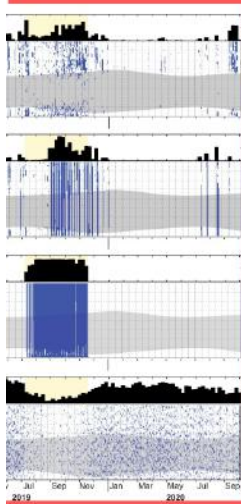
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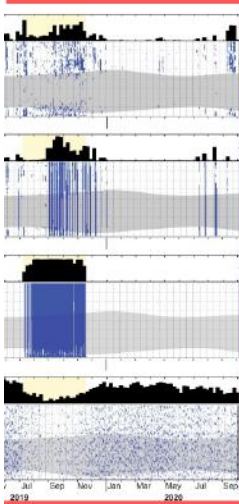


Behavior & Environment



Behavior & Environment

Example: Environmental conditions influence blue whale calls

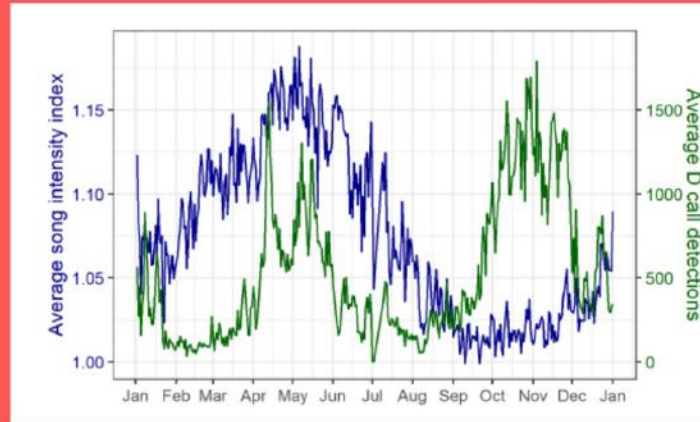
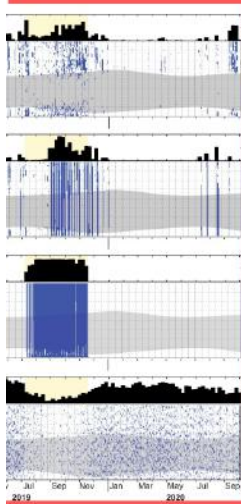


Barlow, D. R., Klinck, H., Ponirakis, D., Branch, T. A., & Torres, L. G. (2023). Environmental conditions and marine heatwaves influence blue whale foraging and reproductive effort. *Ecology and Evolution*, 13(2), e9770.

Behavior & Environment

Example: Environmental conditions influence blue whale calls

- Environmental correlates of call types vary



Barlow, D. R., Klinck, H., Ponirakis, D., Branch, T. A., & Torres, L. G. (2023). Environmental conditions and marine heatwaves influence blue whale foraging and reproductive effort. *Ecology and Evolution*, 13(2), e9770.



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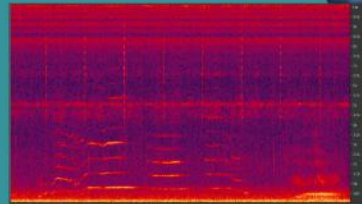
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Processing Large Acoustic Data



Deep Learning Methods

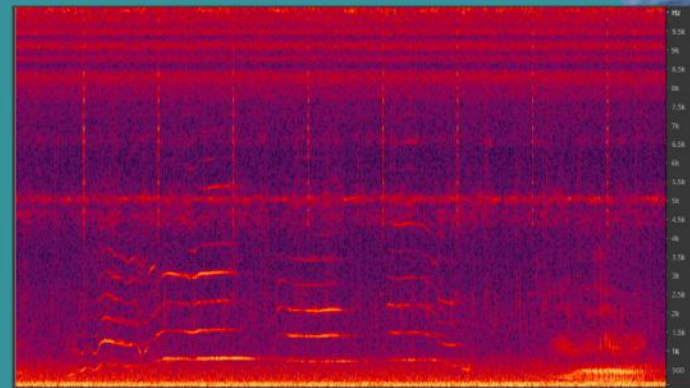
How Does Deep Learning Differ?

Real-time
vs. Archival

Real-time
Example:
Saildrone

Considerations

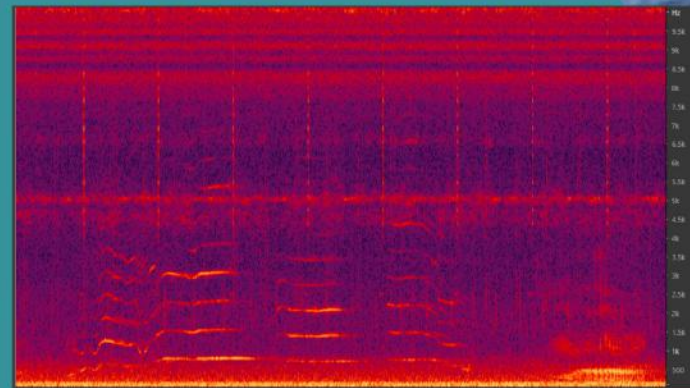
Processing Large Acoustic Data



Deep Learning Methods

Processing Large Acoustic Data

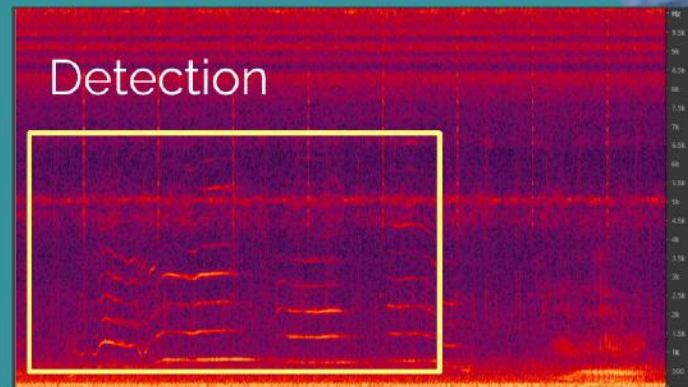
- Data collection & storage allows for terabytes of information
- Manual methods not feasible with large acoustic datasets
- Machine learning methods expedite that process



ep Learning Methods

Processing Large Acoustic Data

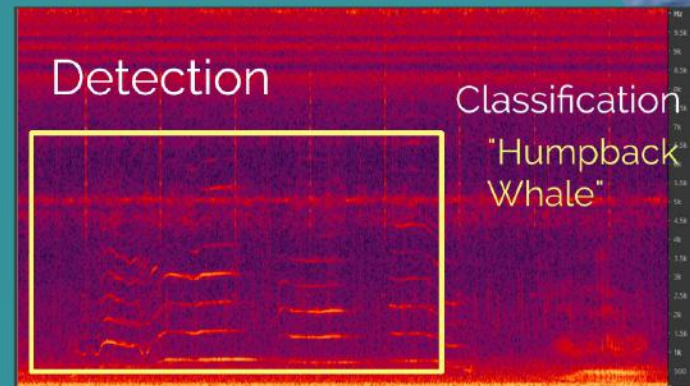
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ep Learning Methods

Processing Large Acoustic Data

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ep Learning Methods



Deep Learning Methods

Deep Learning Methods

Artificial Intelligence

Machine Learning

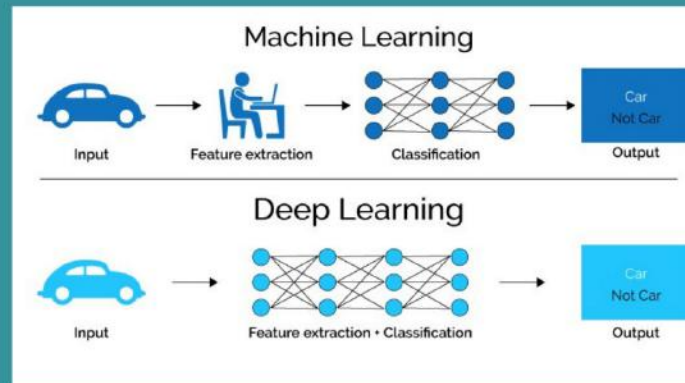
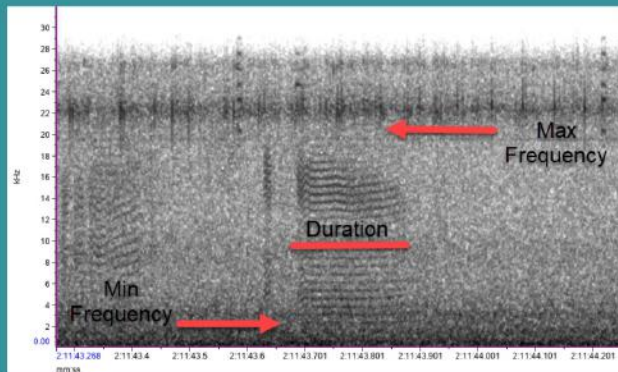
Deep Learning

Subset of machine learning based on learning and improving on its own algorithms.

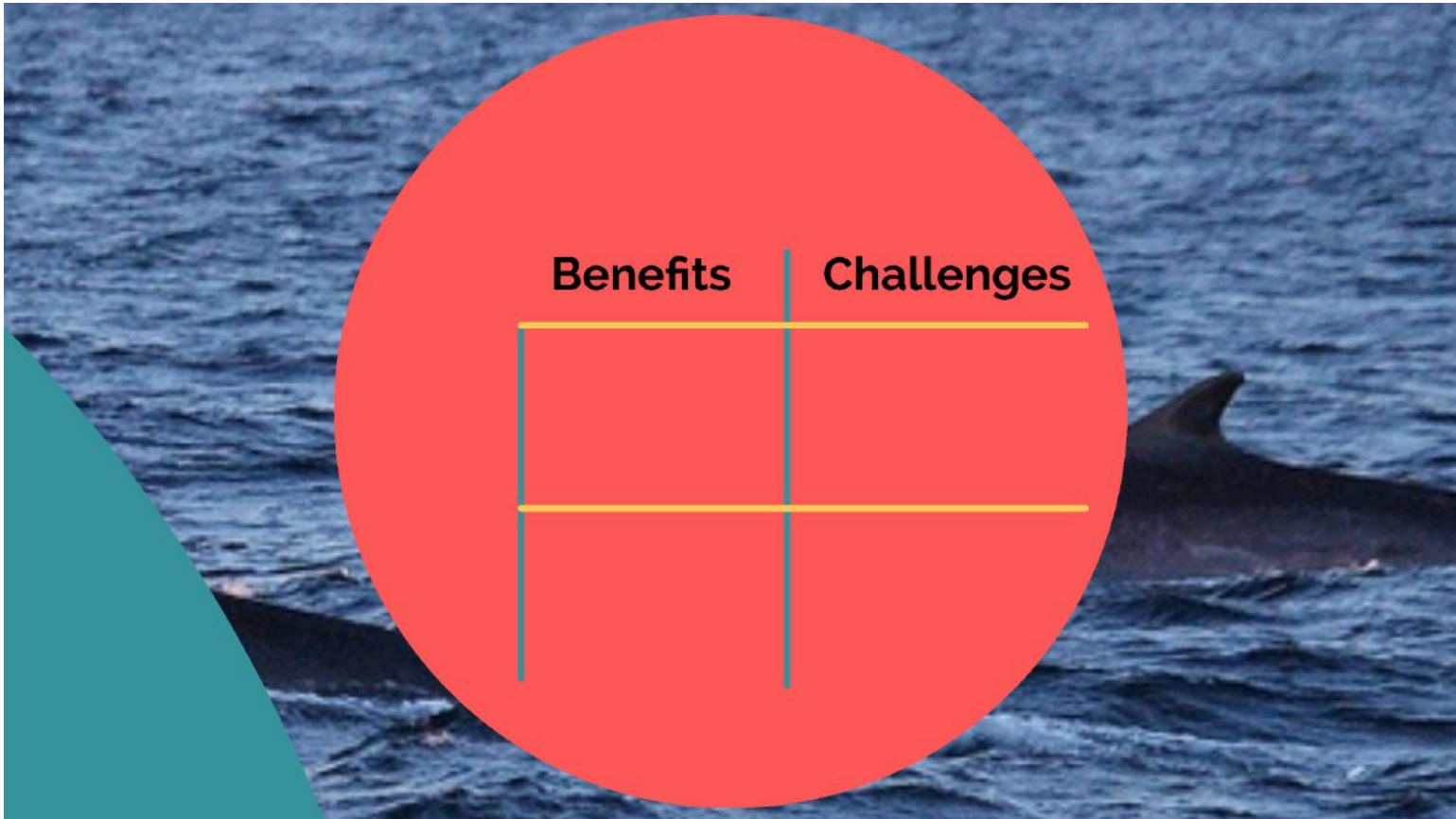
Hinges on the use of artificial neural networks, which imitate human learning.

How Does Deep Learning Differ?

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<https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2020/02/cnn-vs-rnn-vs-lstm-analyzing-3-types-of-neural-networks-in-deep-learning/>



Benefits

Challenges

Benefits

Challenges



Benefits

Challenges



Real-time



Archival
Analysis

Benefits

Challenges



Real-time

- Timely results = faster reporting
- Satellite transmission = lower cost



Archival
Analysis



Real-time



Archival
Analysis

Benefits

- Timely results = faster reporting
- Satellite transmission = lower cost

Challenges

- Subject to higher rate of false positives
- Data: onboard processing & transmission



Real-time



Archival
Analysis

Benefits

- Timely results = faster reporting
- Satellite transmission = lower cost

- Access to full bandwidth
- Validation more accurate

Challenges

- Subject to higher rate of false positives
- Data: onboard processing & transmission



Real-time



Archival
Analysis

Benefits

- Timely results = faster reporting
- Satellite transmission = lower cost

- Access to full bandwidth
- Validation more accurate

Challenges

- Subject to higher rate of false positives
- Data: onboard processing & transmission

- Delay in results, all species is time consuming
- Lost recorders = no data

Real-time PAM Example: Saildrone



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Automated processing and
remote transmission of marine
mammal detections



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"Neptune" algorithm detects
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Cloud-based data hosting



Real-time PAM Example: Saildrone

Automated processing and remote transmission of marine mammal detections

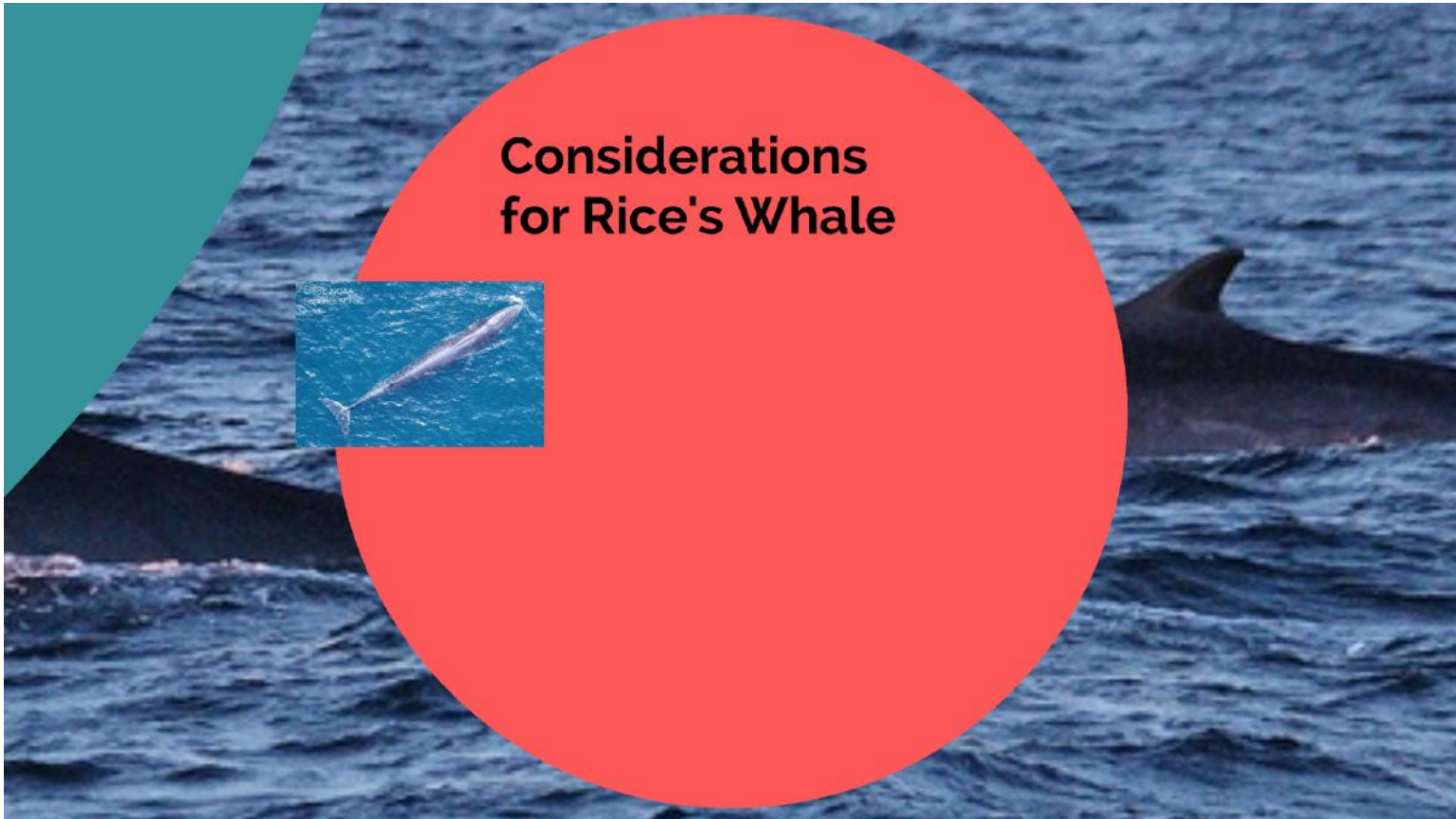
"Neptune" algorithm detects and classifies signals

Cloud-based data hosting

Deployed in windfarm for monitoring vetted by remote-based operator



Considerations for Rice's Whale



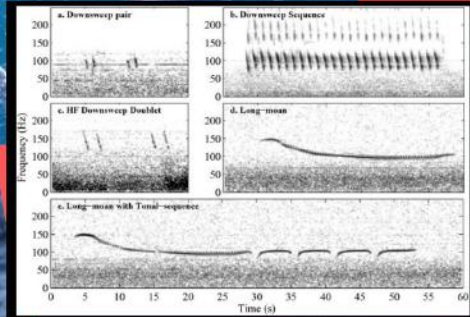
Considerations for Rice's Whale



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Soldevilla et al., 2022 confirmed call types attributable to Rice's Whale

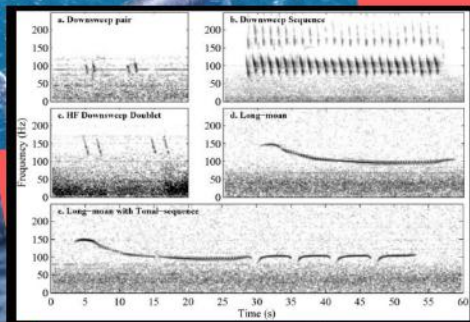


Soldevilla et al., 2022

Considerations for Rice's Whale



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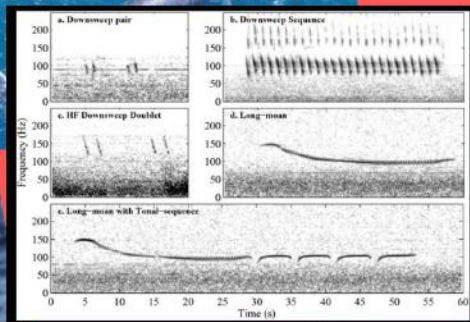
Soldevilla et al., 2022

Large spatial coverage of acoustic instrumentation + AI analysis methods = Comprehensive distribution

Considerations for Rice's Whale



Soldevilla et al., 2022 confirmed call types attributable to Rice's Whale



Soldevilla et al., 2022

Large spatial coverage of acoustic instrumentation + AI analysis methods = Comprehensive distribution

PAM offers opportunity to better understand Rice's Whale



Ocean
Science
Analytics



Passive Acoustic Monitoring

OCEANS 2023 Workshop:
Rice's Whale in GOM

Overview of
PAM

Mitigation vs.
Monitoring

Applications

Now & the
Future of
PAM

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