



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

CSCE 574 ROBOTICS

Introduction

Why Robotics?

- Manufacturing
- Labor shortage (agriculture, mining)
- Point where computers fast/cheap
- Automation of cars → more cars on highways
- To reach areas where no human can go



Present Everywhere

- **At home**
- On the road
- In the sky (drones)
- In the fields
(agricultural robotics)
- In resource utilization
(ROV in the oil industry)
- Along power lines
- In Hospitals
- Education
- In Factories
- In Warehouses
- In Space



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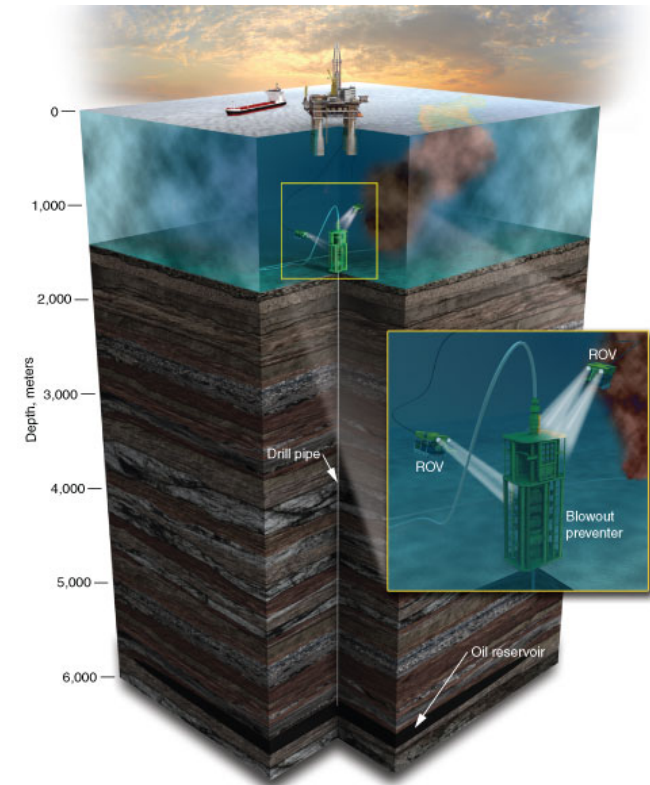
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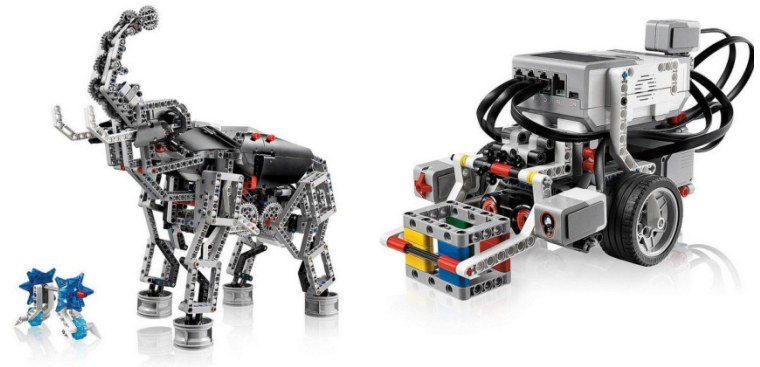
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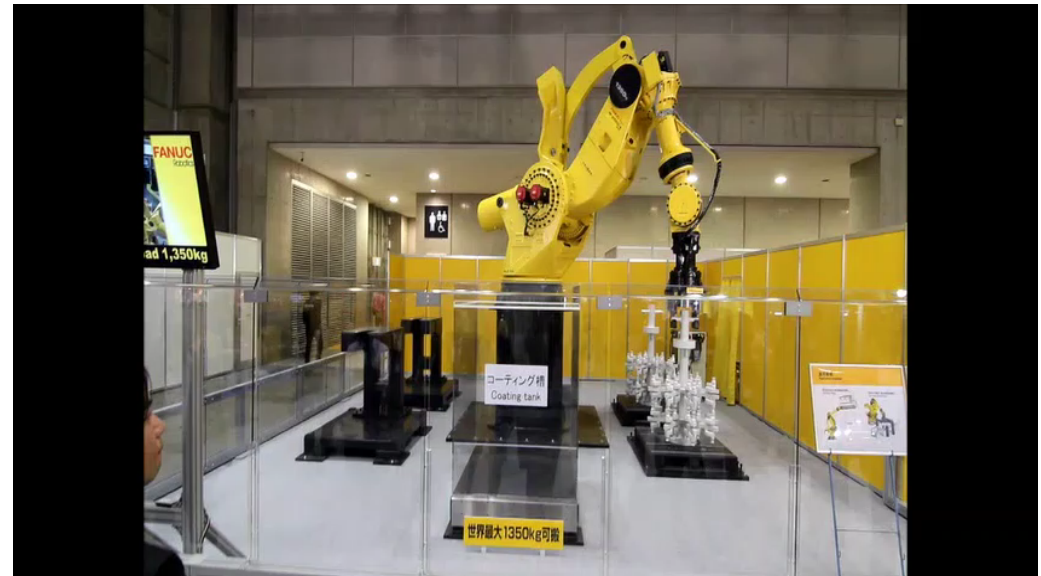
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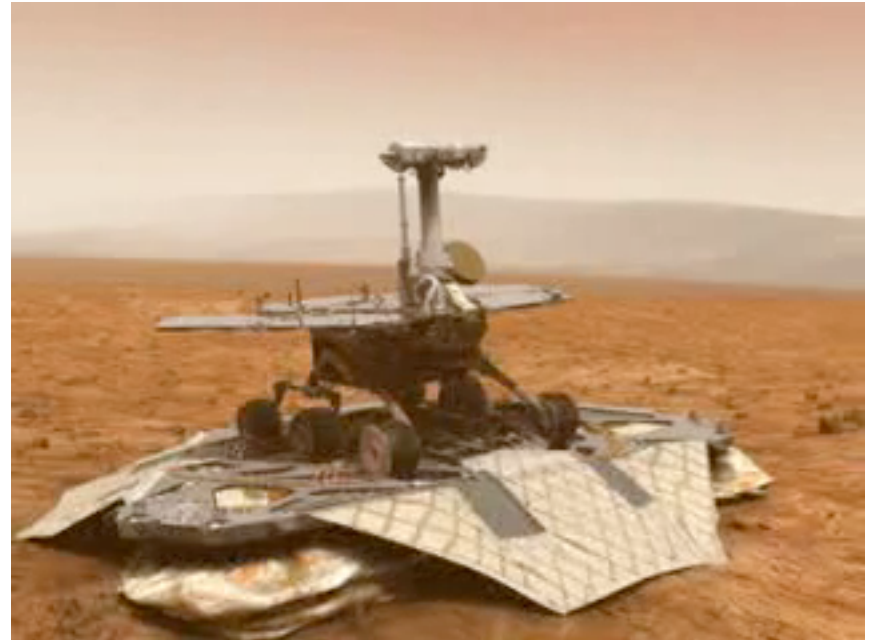
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Amazon bought Kiva for \$775M



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Robotic technology becomes affordable

TurtleBot 2



AR.DRONE



Kinect



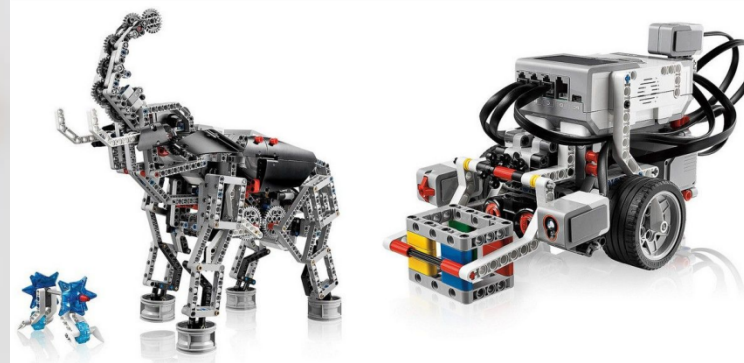
IMU



Raspberry Pi



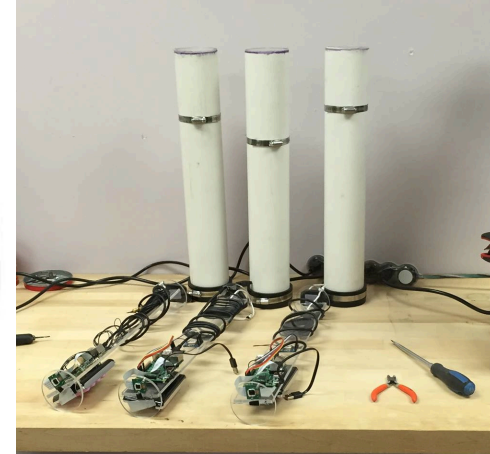
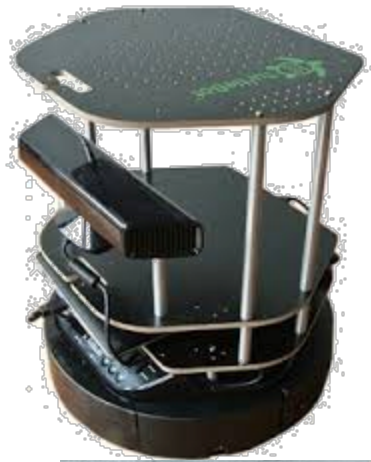
GPS



Lego Mindstorm

Robotics at USC

Courses	Professors
CSCE 274	Dr. O’Kane
CSCE 574	Dr. Vitzilaios (ME)
CSCE 774	Dr. Rekleitis
CSCE 790	Dr. Wang (EE)



Autonomous Field Robotics Lab



Autonomous Field Robotics Lab



**Develop
algorithms for
robotic
applications**

Philosophy

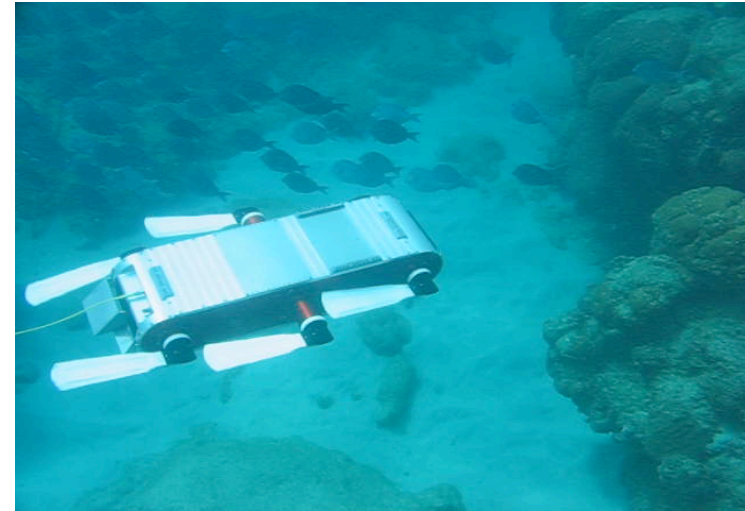
**Evaluate performance
of the deployed robots**

**Deploy algorithms on
fielded robots**
(Aerial, ground, surface,
and/or underwater)



Recent Funding:

- **NSF CRI II-New:** Acquisition of a Heterogeneous Team of Field Robots for Coastal Environments
- **PI: I. Rekleitis.**
- **CoPIs:** J. Beer, J. O’Kane



Several **Surface Vehicles** 2 **Aqua** u/
w vehicles



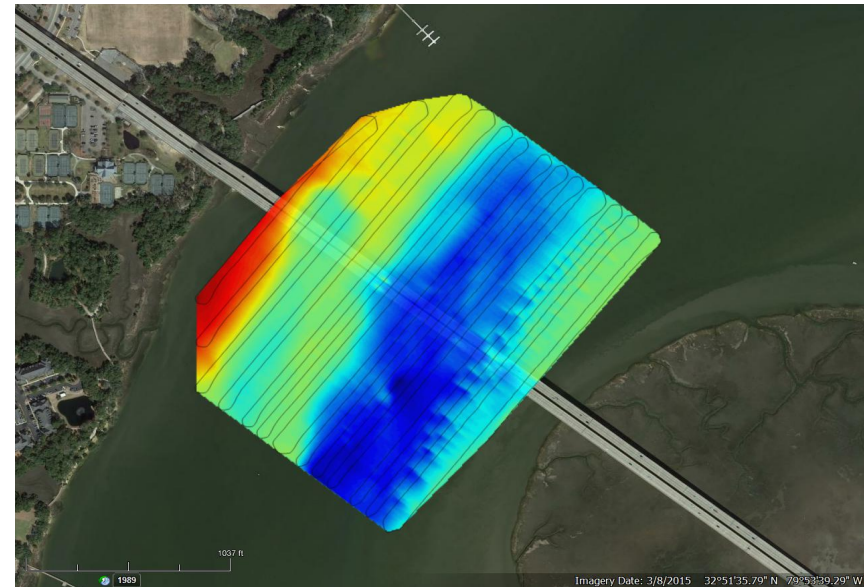
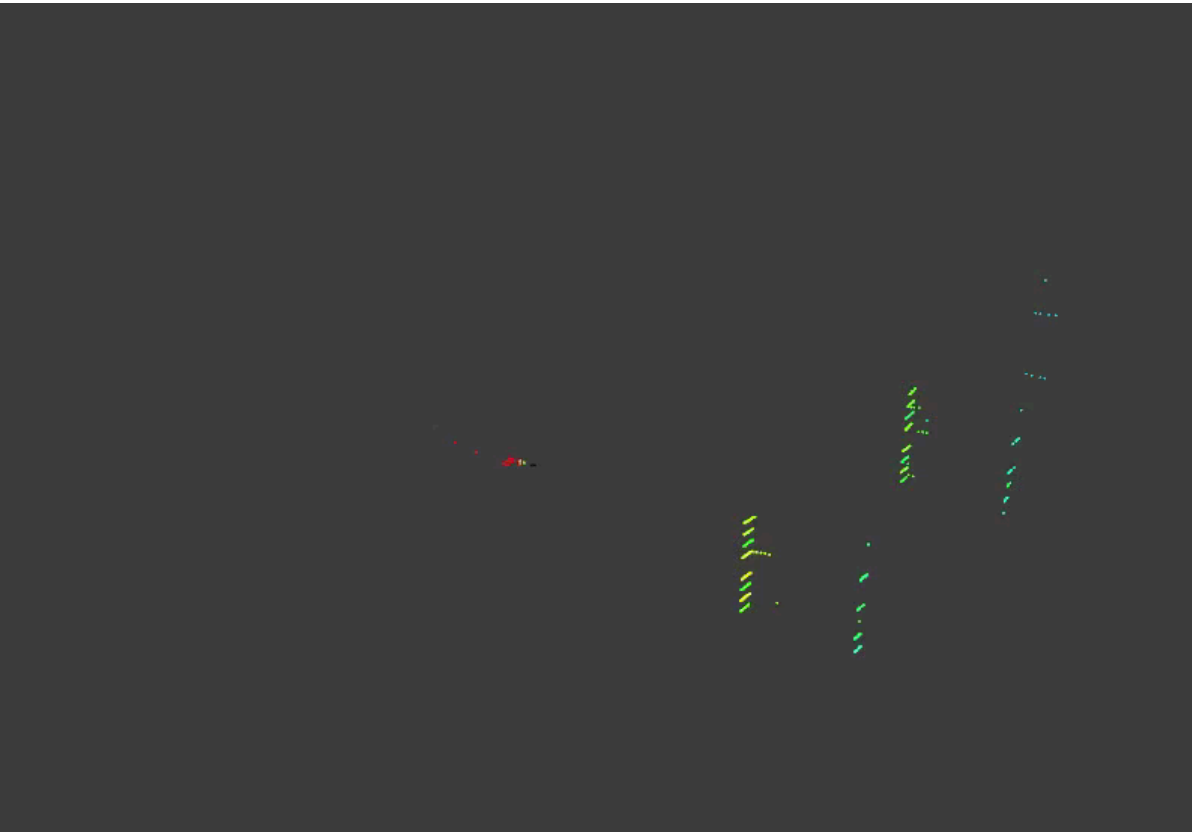
Aerial Vehicles:
2 fixed wings
2 quadrotor



Recent Funding:

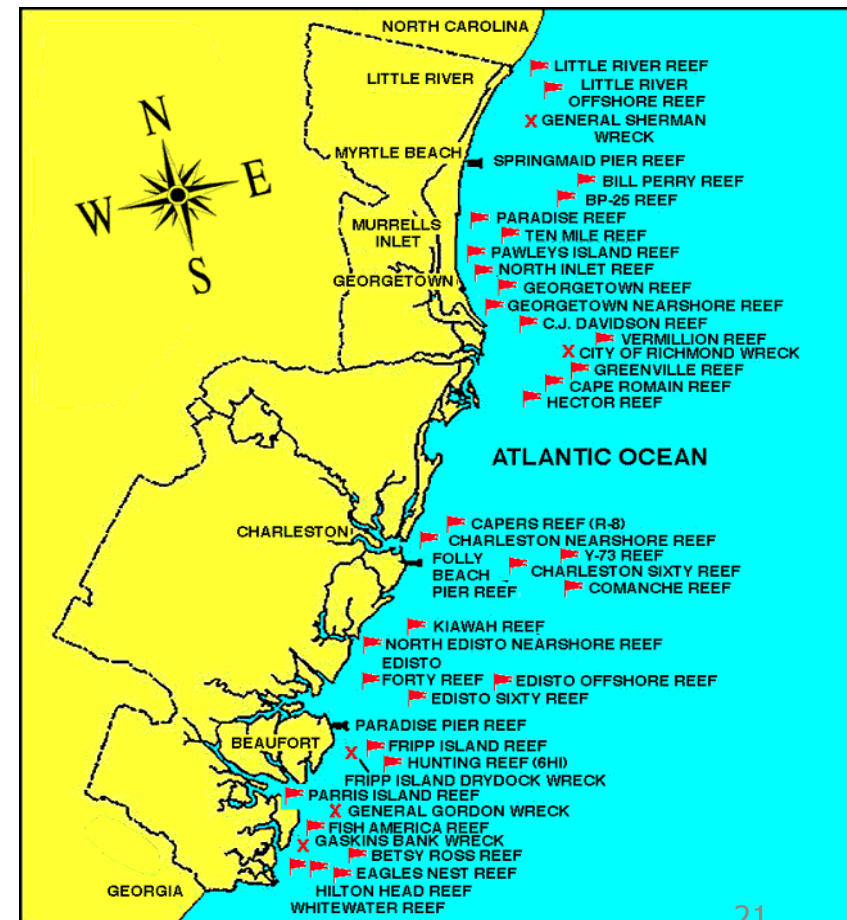


- **SC Floods Research Initiative:** Rapid Assessment of Bridge Scouring and Recovery Following Extreme Flood Events. **PI:** G. Voulgaris



Recent Funding:

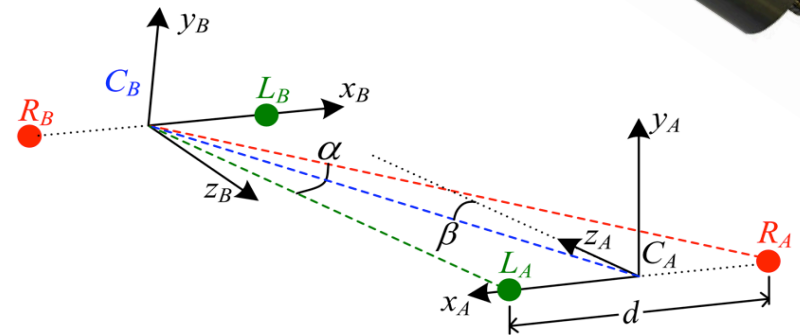
- **Google Faculty Research Awards: Underwater Street View: Wreck Mapping off the Carolinas**
- **PI: I. Rekleitis**
- **2016-2017**



Recent Funding:

- **NSF NRI:** Enhancing Mapping Capabilities of Underwater Caves using Robotic Assistive Technology
- **PI:** I. Rekleitis
- **Funding:** 2016-2019

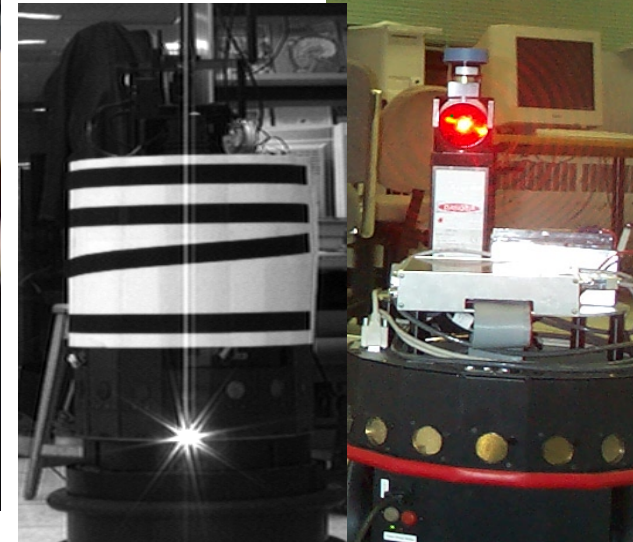
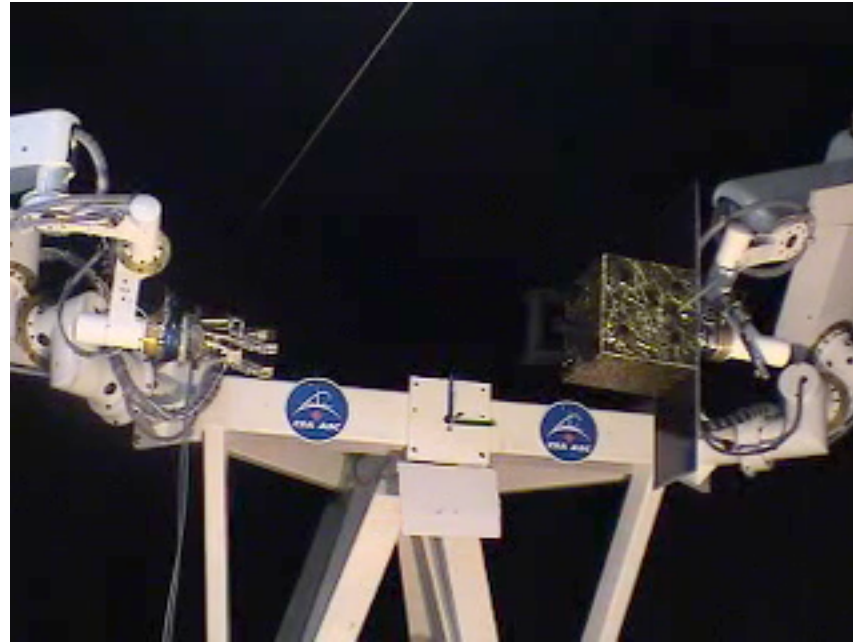
Stereo Based 3D Reconstruction



Cooperative Localization

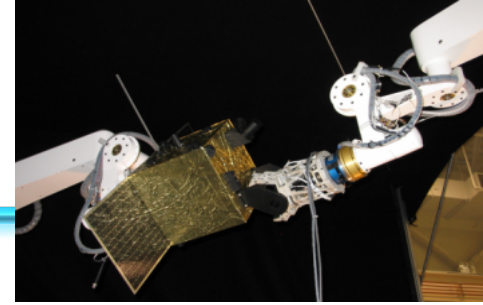


Past Projects





Past Projects



**Complete Optimal Terrain Coverage
using an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle**

Anqi Xu
Chatavut Viriyasuthee
Ioannis Rekleitis



The MARE ASV serves as a surface relay station
between the Unicorn UAV and the Aqua AUV





Aerial Robotics

Cooperative Localization

- Inferring relative pose
- Using vision only
- Bearing only data



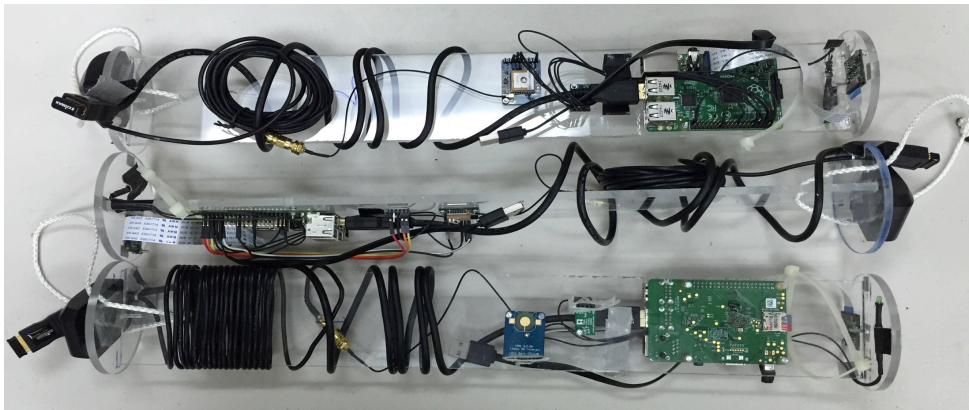
Coral Reef Monitoring by Heterogeneous Robots



Marine Robotics

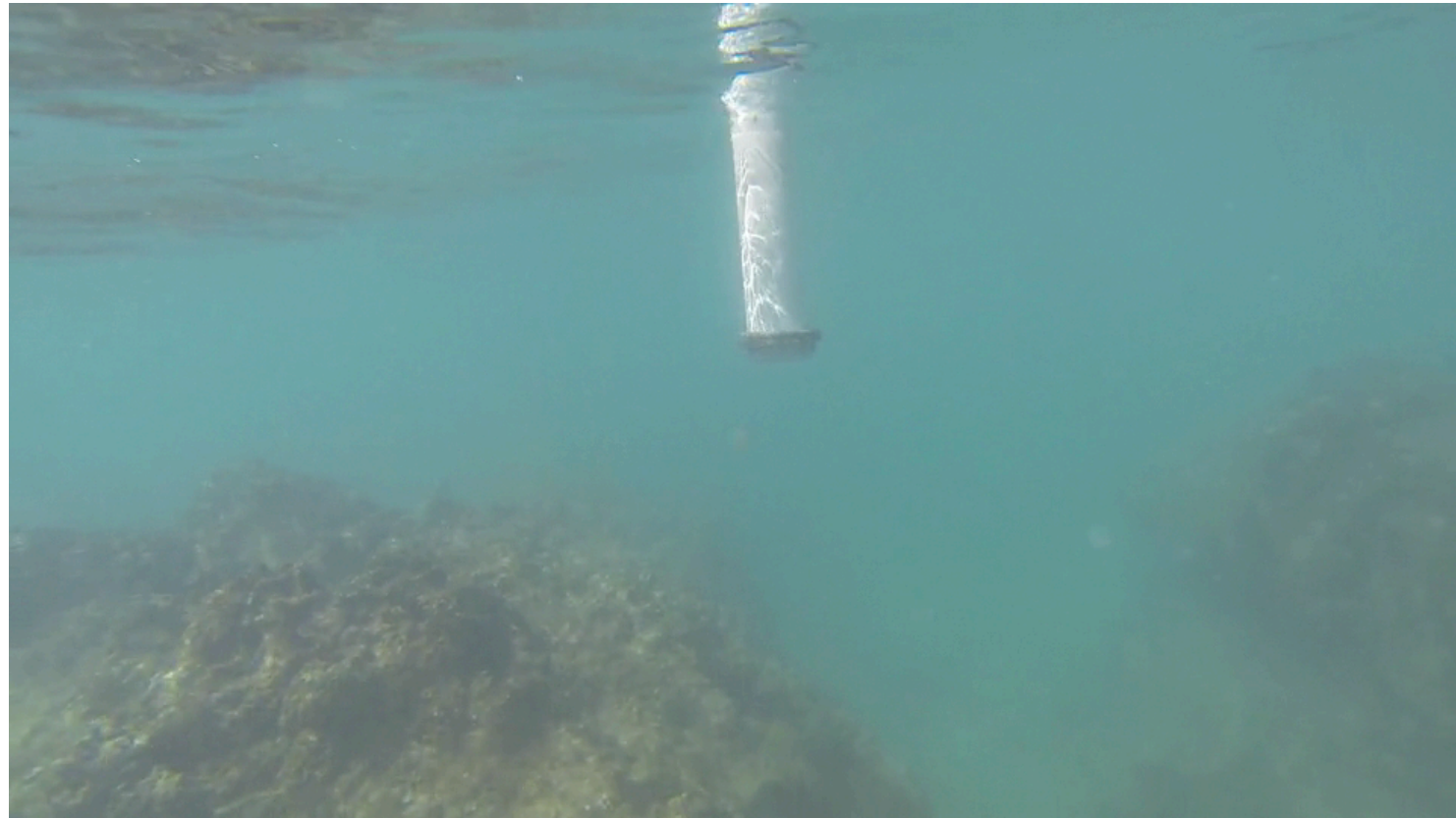
Capstone Project: Drift Nodes

- Measure Lagrangian current characteristics, marine life, salinity, turbidity, etc.
- Improve estimation accuracy



Marine Robotics: Drift Nodes

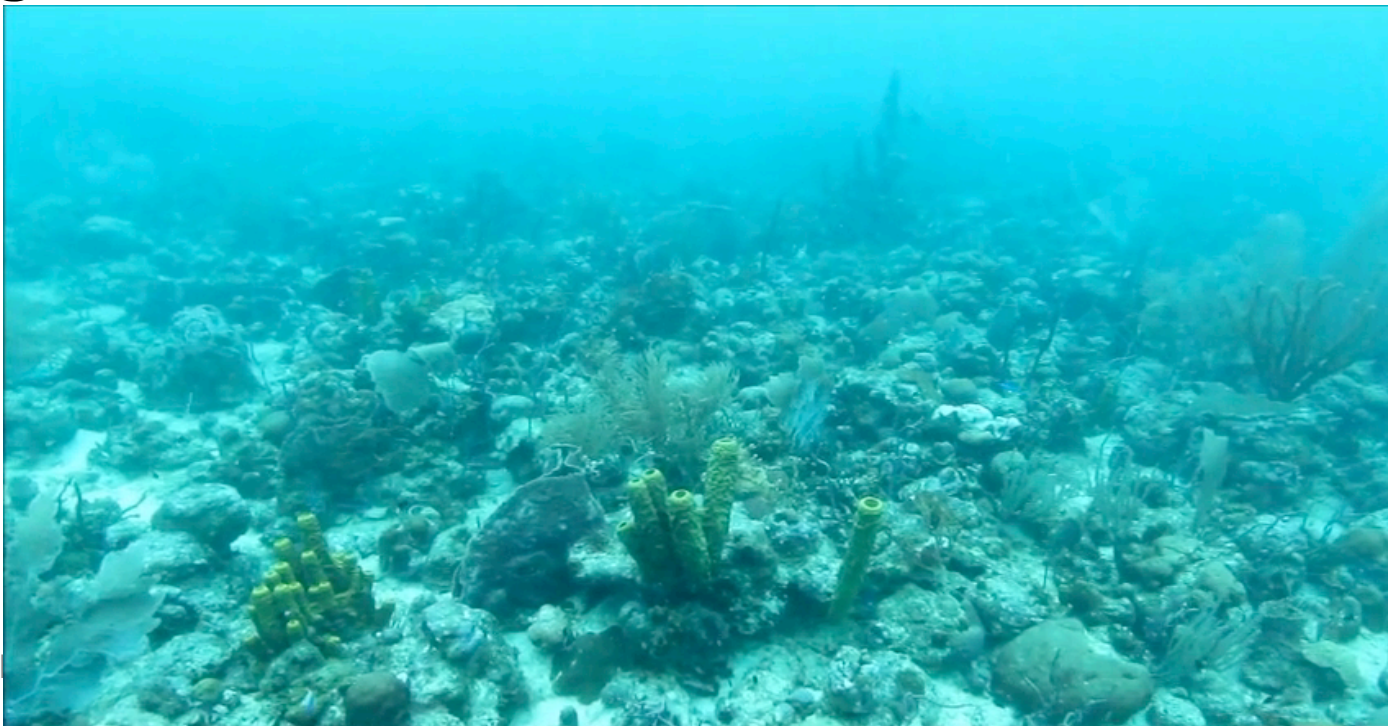
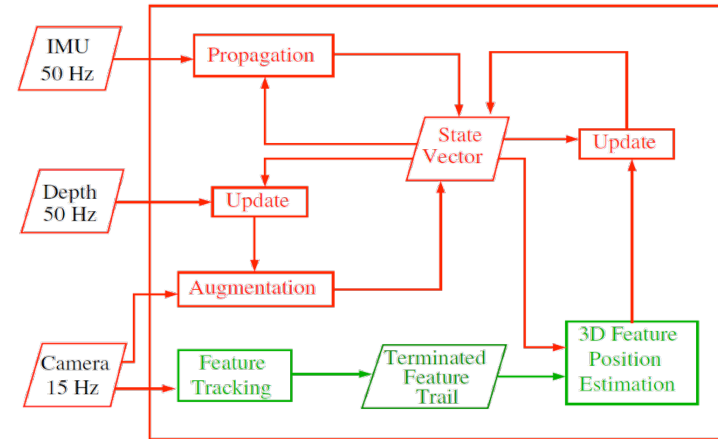
- Monitor, shallow coral reefs.
- Improve estimation accuracy



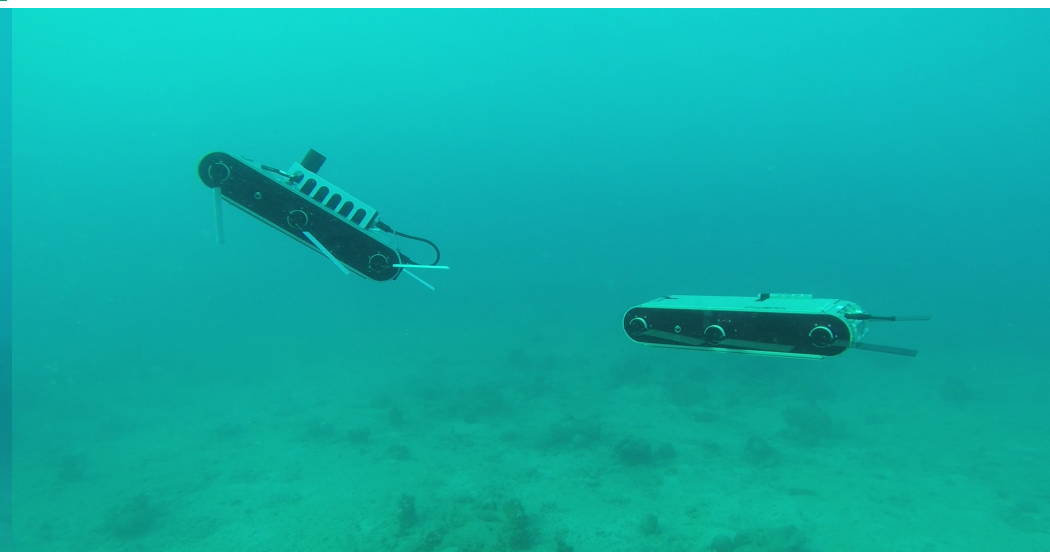
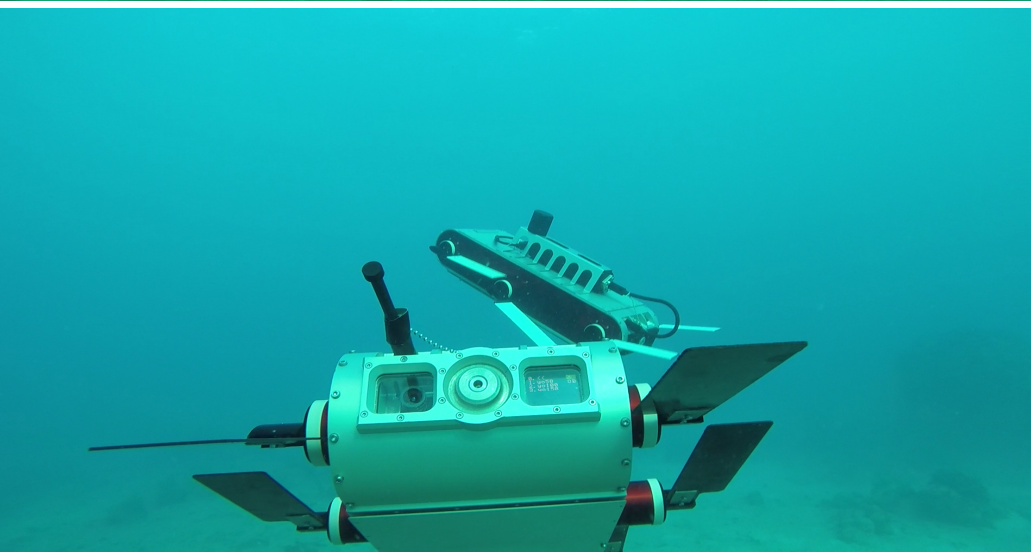
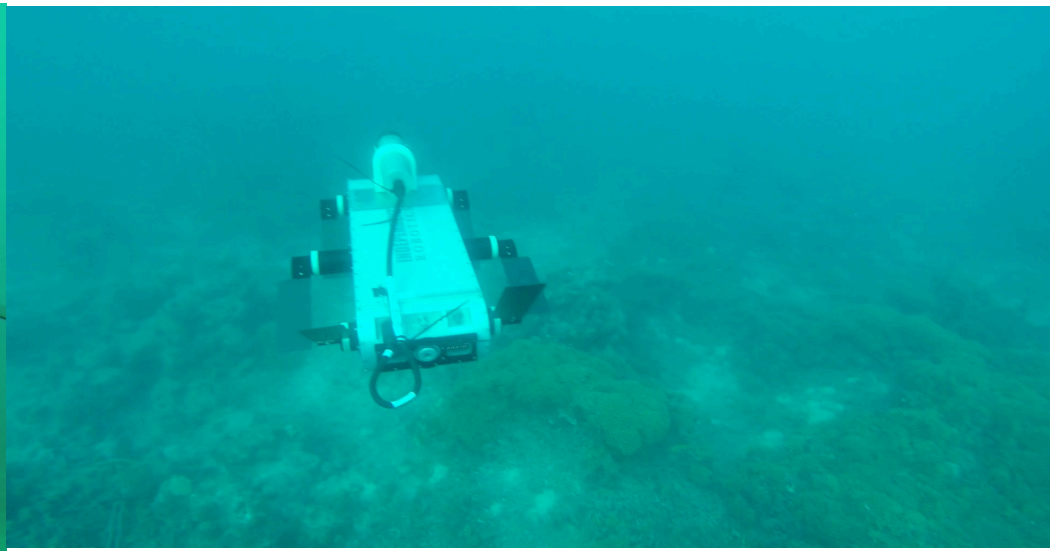
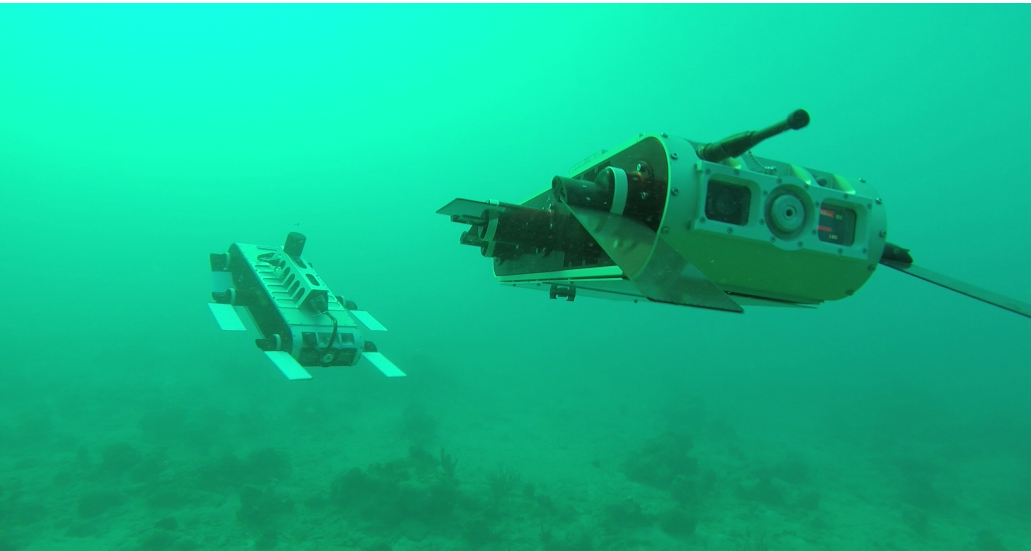
Marine Robotics

Underwater Situational Awareness

- Vision-INS State Estimation
- Path Planning
- Mapping

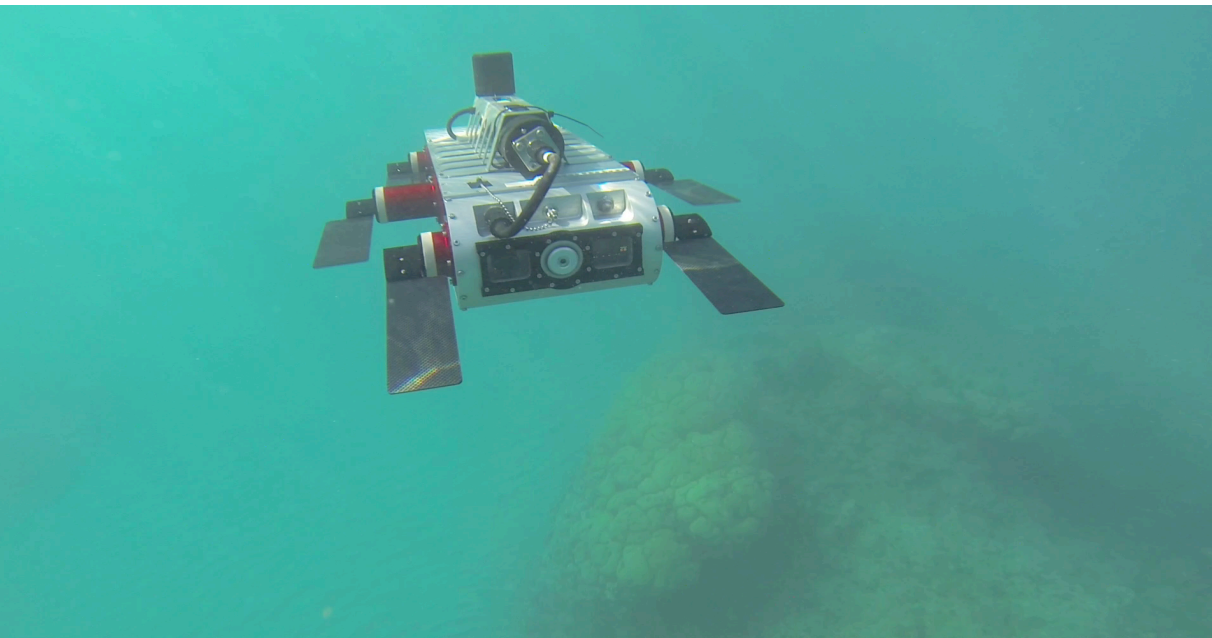


Marine Robotics



Vehicles

- Two Aqua with USBL



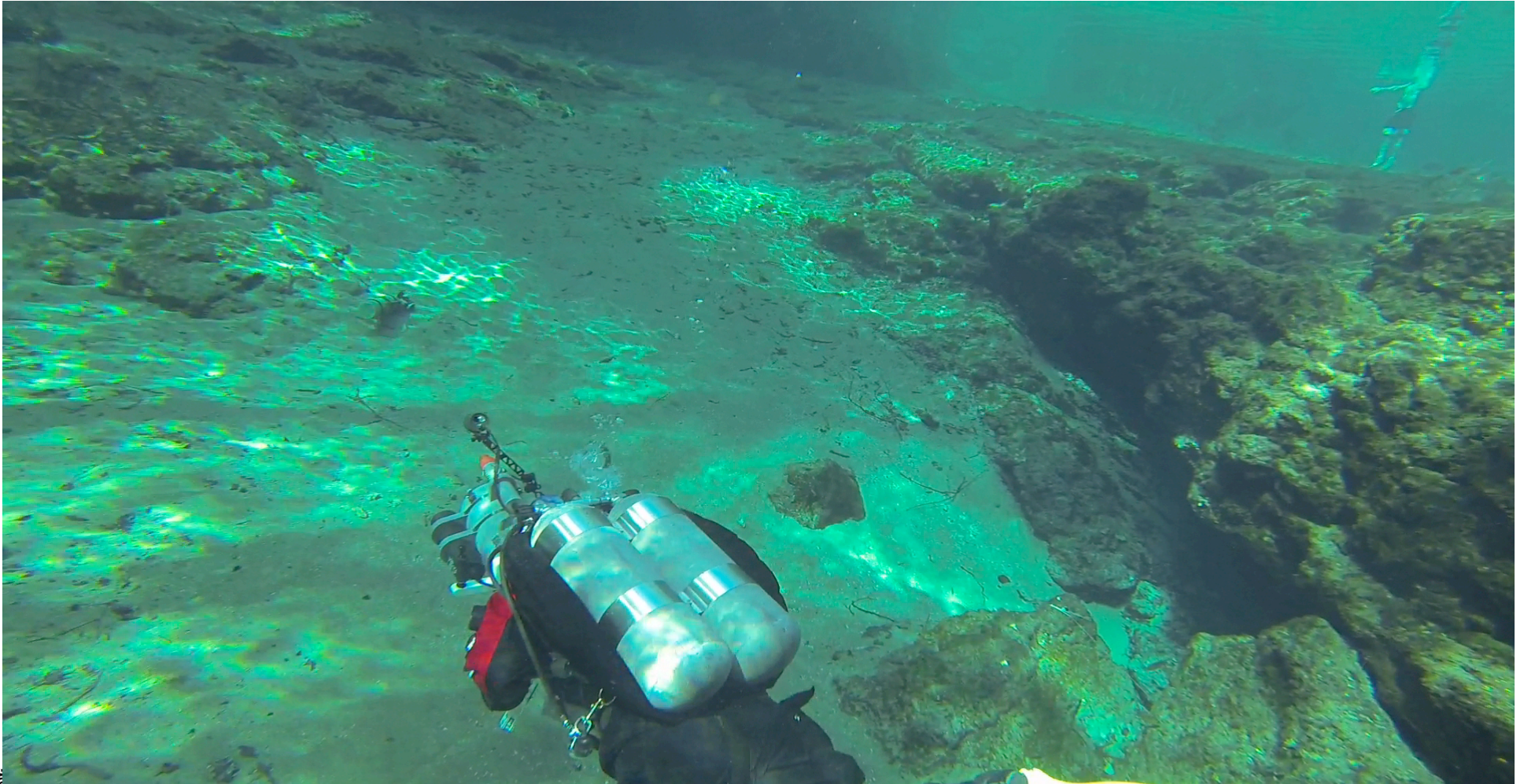
Vehicles

- Six ASVs



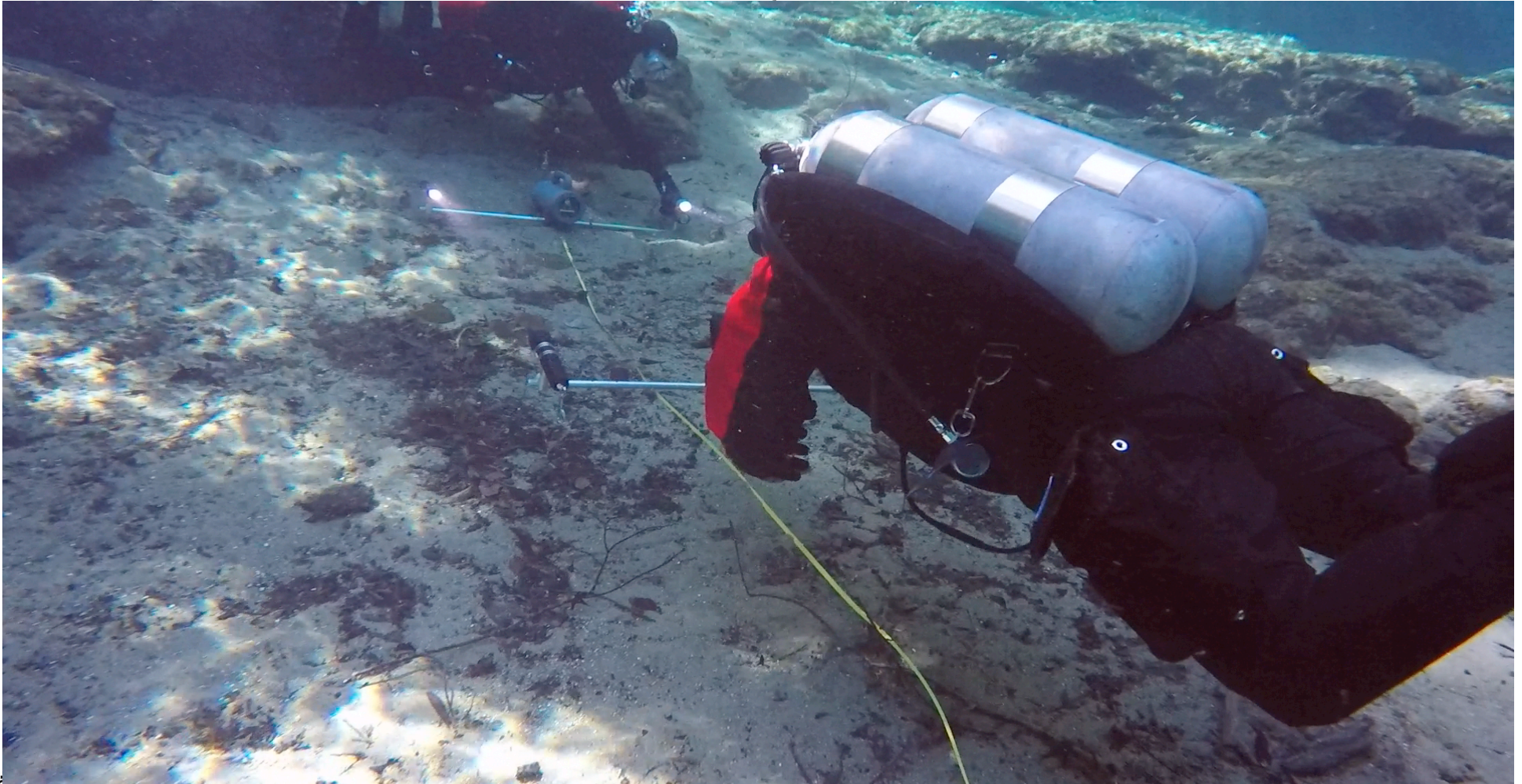
Sensors

- Stereo Rig – 2017 (made at SC)



Sensors

- Cooperative Localization (made at SC)



Shipwreck Mapping



Shipwreck Mapping

Robot's Eye View



Underwater Cave Mapping

A photograph of an underwater cave system. The water is a deep, clear blue. The cave walls are covered in intricate, branching rock formations, likely stalactites and stalagmites. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a sense of depth and mystery. The overall scene is a complex, three-dimensional environment.

Cave Mapping using Stereo Vision

Nick Weidner, Sharmin Rahman, Alberto Quattrini Li, and Ioannis Rekleitis

Underwater Cave Mapping

**Underwater Cave Mapping Using Sonar,
Visual, Inertial, and Depth Sensors**



UNIVERSITY OF

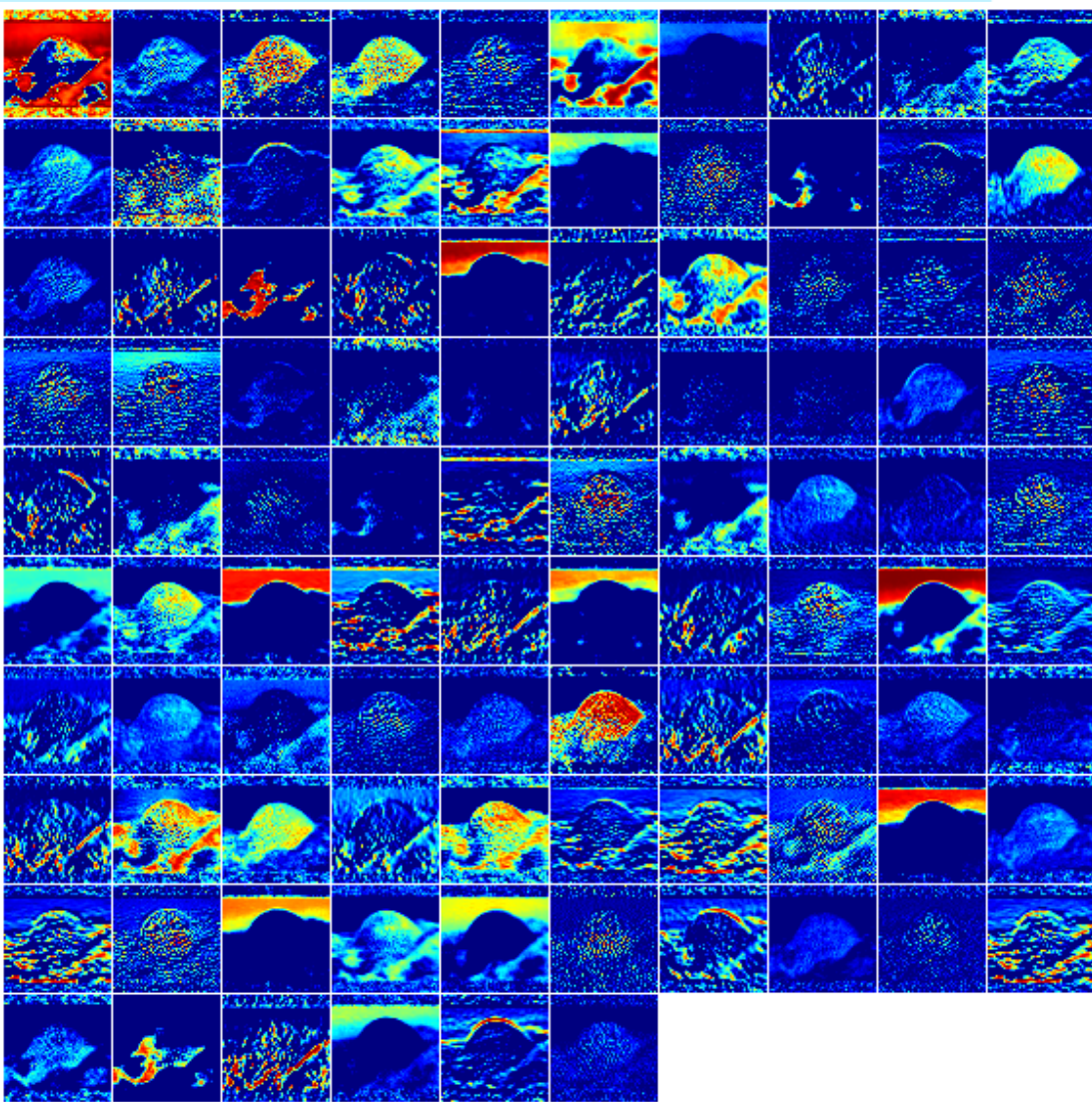
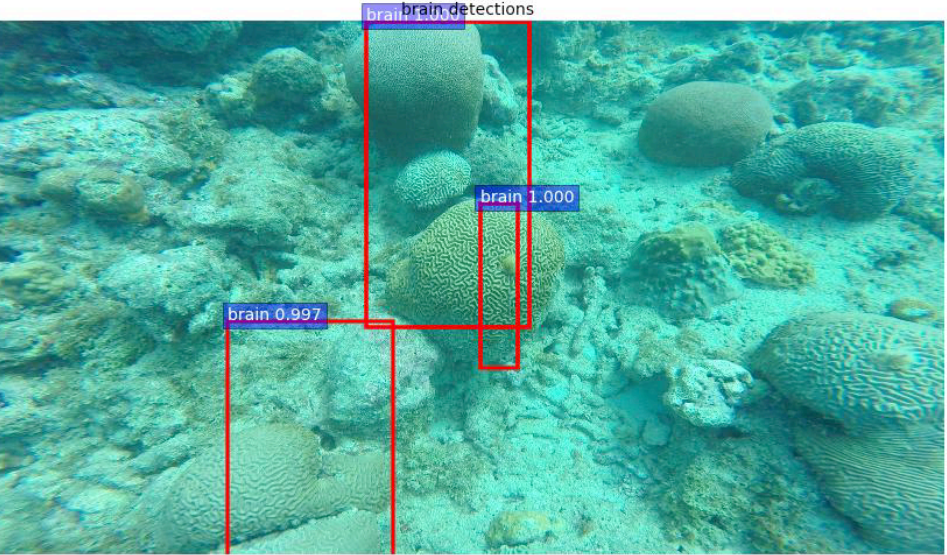
CSCE 574: Robotics

Sharmin Rahman, Alberto Quattrini Li, and Ioannis Rekleitis



Shallow Coral Classification using Deep Learning

- Using a CNN



ASV Modeling of Adverse Conditions

**External Force Field Modeling for
Autonomous Surface Vehicles**




**University of South Carolina
Autonomous Field Robotics Lab**

Jason Moulton, Alberto Quattrini Li, Ioannis Rekleitis



Single/Multi Robot Coverage

Dubins Vehicle kinematics



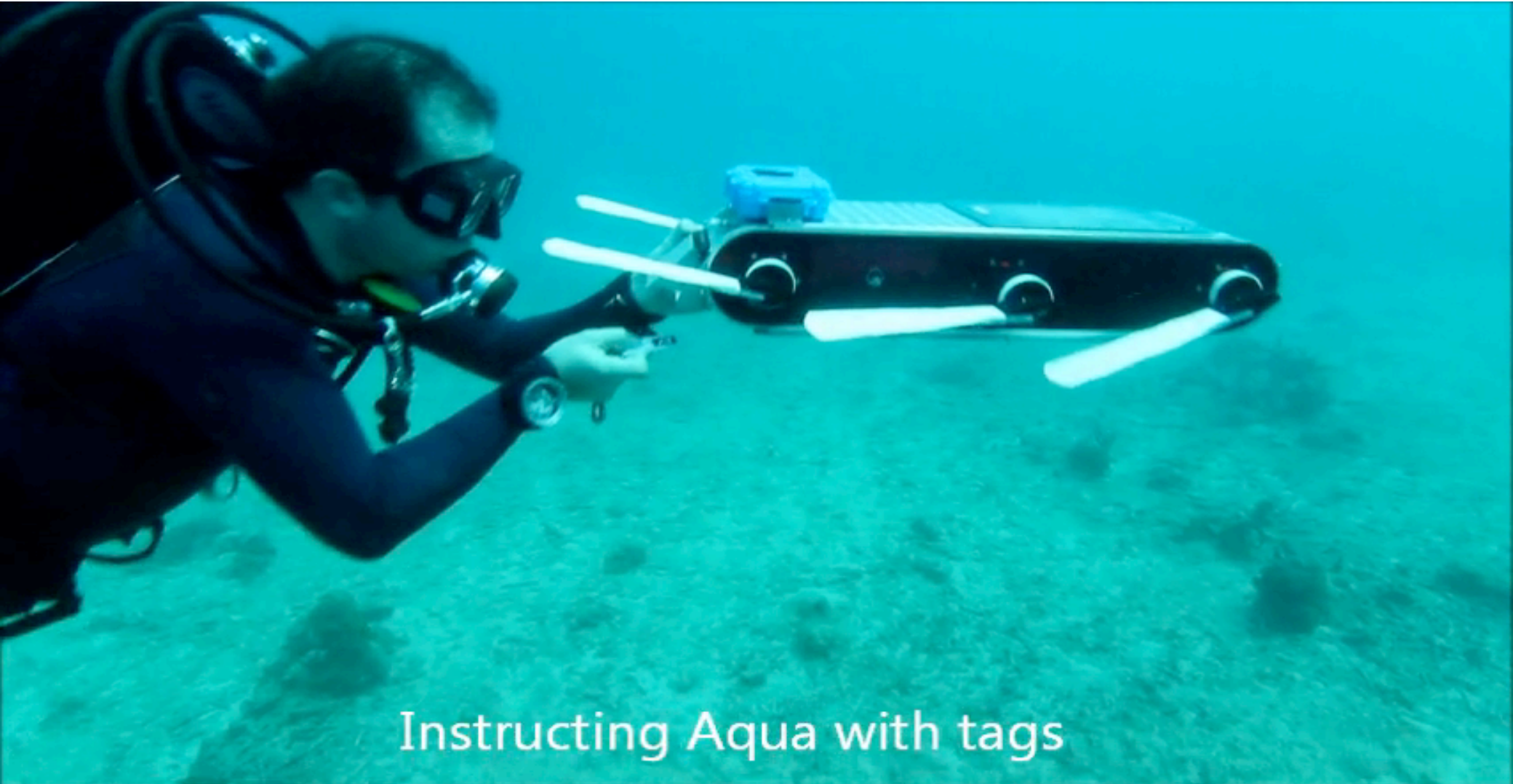
Multi-robot Area Coverage with Autonomous Surface Vehicles

Nare Karapetyan, Jason Moulton, Jeremy S. Lewis,
Alberto Quattrini Li, Jason M. O'Kane, Ioannis Rekleitis

University of South Carolina

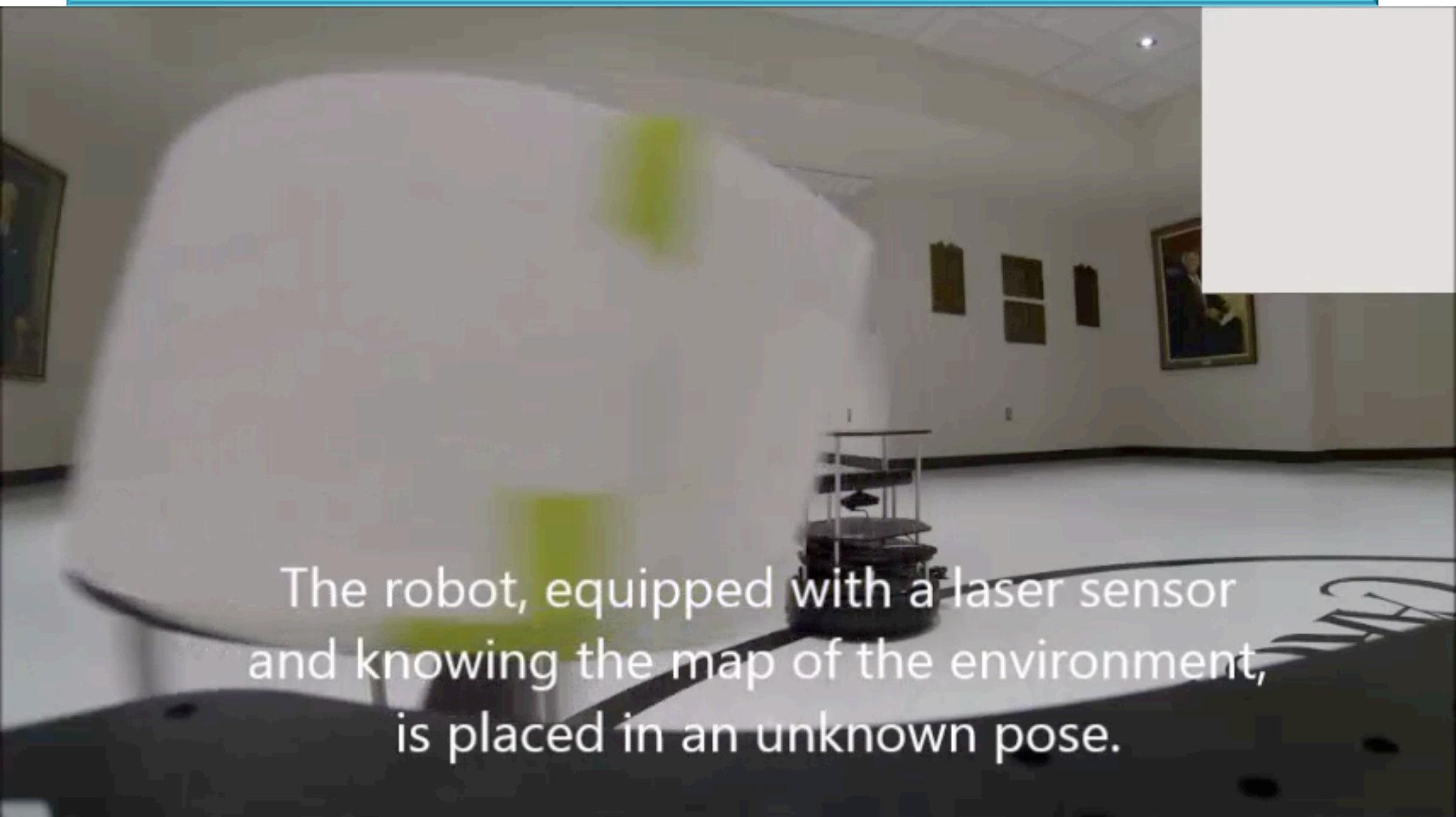
Marine Robotics:

HRI with limited bandwidth



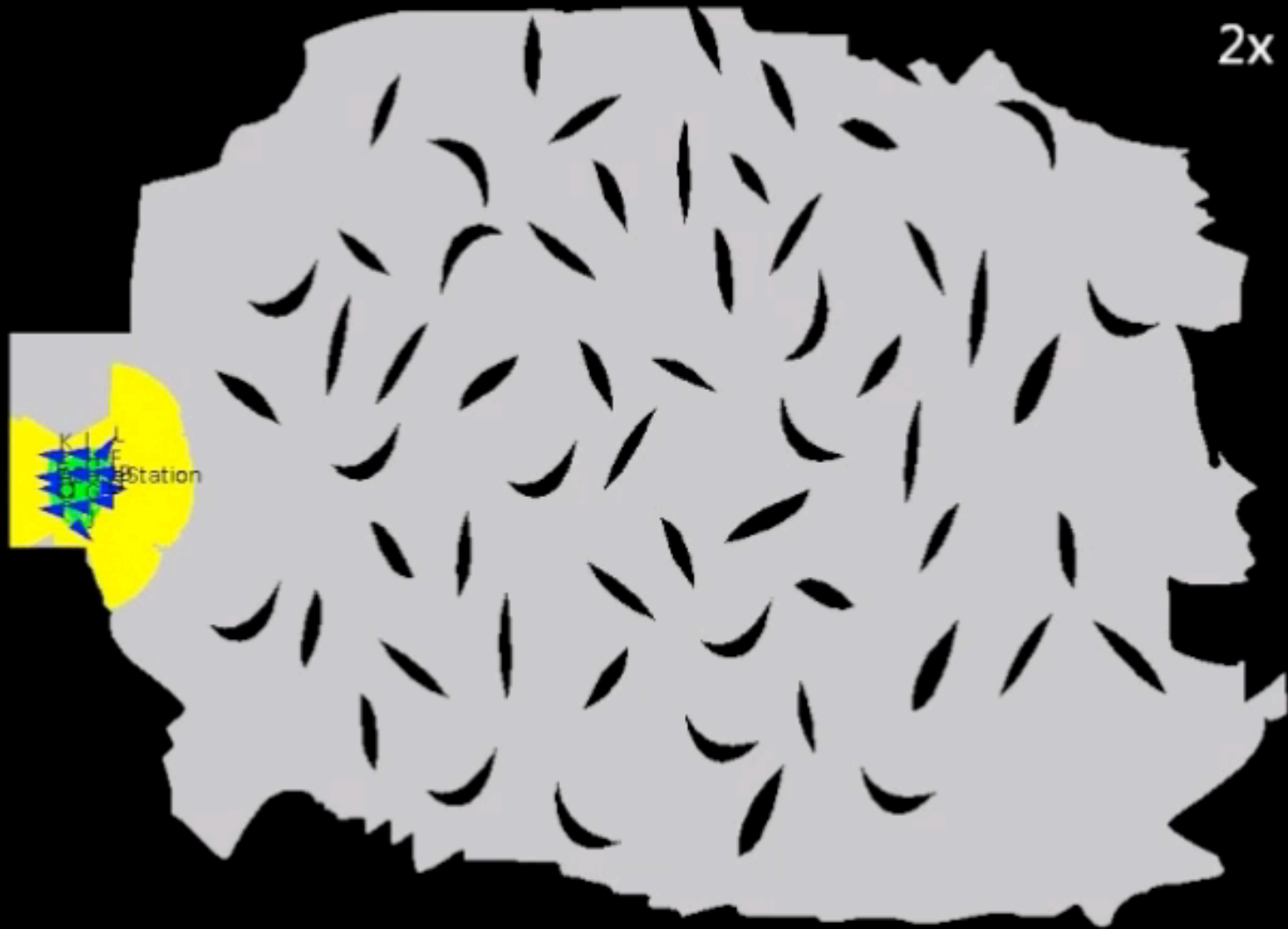
Instructing Aqua with tags

Indoor: Localization with dynamic obstacles

A small, dark-colored robot with a metal frame is positioned in a brightly lit indoor hallway. The robot is facing a large, white, rectangular obstacle that is partially obscuring the view of the hallway. The hallway has white walls, a dark baseboard, and several framed pictures or posters on the wall. The floor is light-colored and has some markings, including a large 'CA' logo. The robot is equipped with a laser sensor, which is visible as a green beam of light. The text overlay explains that the robot is in an unknown pose despite knowing the map of the environment.

The robot, equipped with a laser sensor and knowing the map of the environment, is placed in an unknown pose.

Indoor: Communication Constrained Exploration



Syllabus

- Week 01:** Syllabus presentation, Round Table, Introduction, History of Robotics. ROS
- Week 02:** Actuators. Locomotion. Sensor (Tactile, Range Finders, GPS, IMU, Position Encoders).
- Week 03:** Reactive Path Planning. Potential Fields. State Estimation,
- Week 04:** Bayesian Filtering Particle Filters
- Week 05:** Kalman Filters
- Week 06:** Exploration, HRI
- Week 07:** Mapping: Metric Maps, Topological Maps, hybrids
- Week 08:** Visibility Graphs, Bug Algorithm, Generalized Voronoi Graphs, Atlas.
- Week 09:** Coordinates, Control
- Week 10:** Semantic hierarchy of spatial representations. Configuration Space, PRMs
- Week 11:** Architectures.
- Week 12:** Coverage, Multi-Robot Coverage
- Week 13:** Learning in Robotics
- Week 14:** Sensor (Vision).
- Week 15:** Review of Material



Evaluation

- 5 Homeworks, 10% each: 50%
 - First two individual
 - Last three 50% team, 50% individual
- Final Examination: 30%
- Midterm: 20%



Homeworks/Projects

- Using ROS
- Using Simulations
- Using sensor data from real robots
- Using real robots (TurtleBot 2)



How to do poorly

Here are some habits that have correlated with poor performance in this course in the past:

- **Not starting/making progress on the programming assignments until the last minute**
- Skipping class
- Ignoring the communications from the instructor
- Not properly reading the instructions
- Ignoring the homework
- Not asking questions and interacting with the instructors



Contact

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- <http://www.cse.sc.edu/~yiannisr/574/2018Fall/>
- **Email:** yiannisr@cse.sc.edu

- **Office hours:** 2235– Mon/Wed 13:00-14:30
and by appointment

