



# SUBMERSE Project

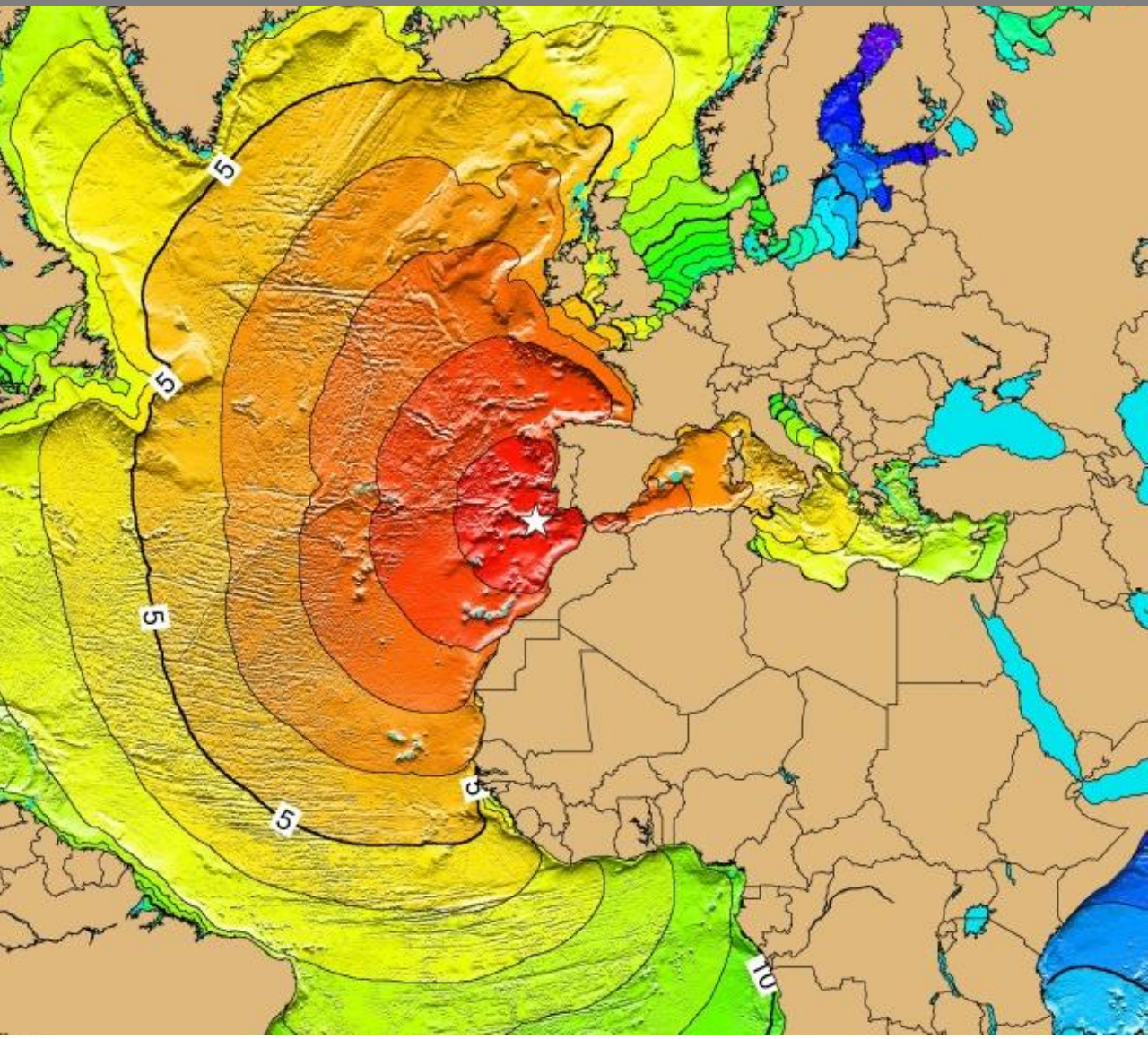
**Guy Roberts, Chris Atherton, GÉANT**  
**CEF 19 Apr 23**

[www.submerse.eu](http://www.submerse.eu)

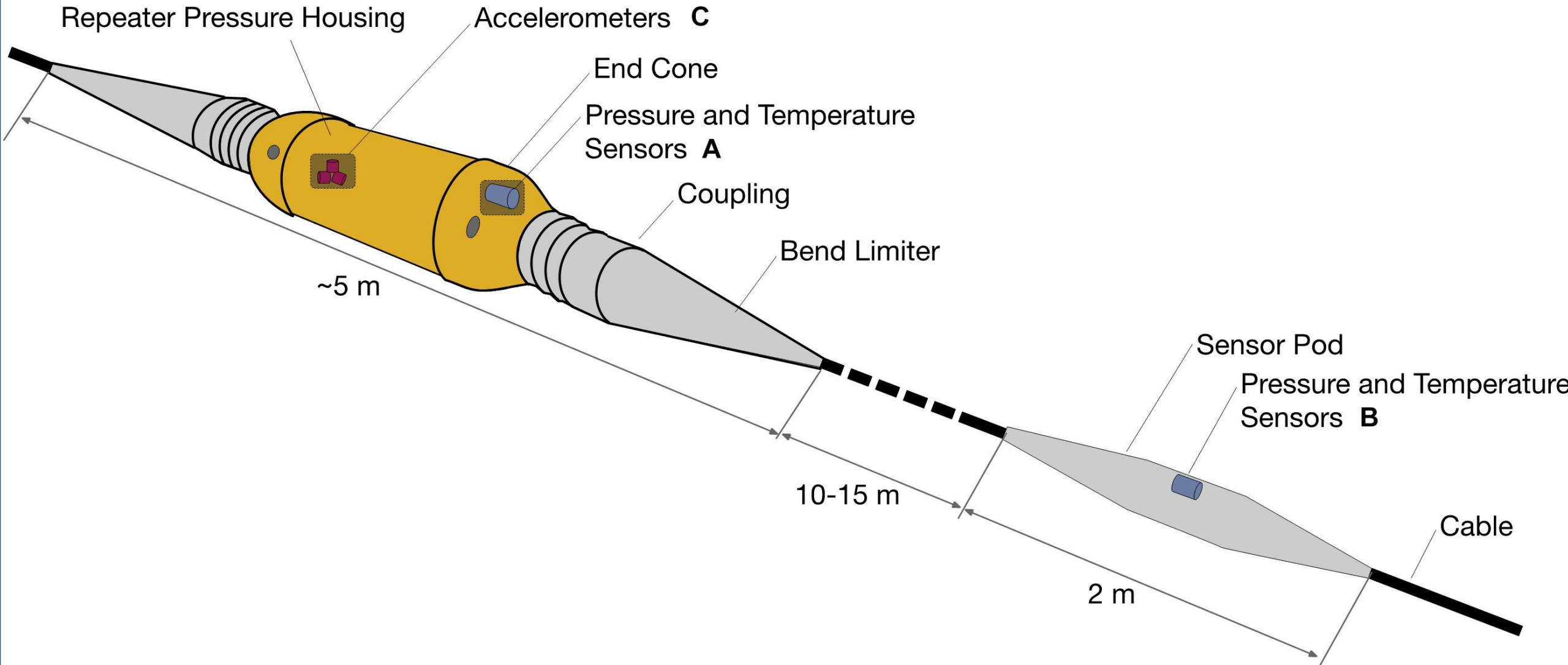


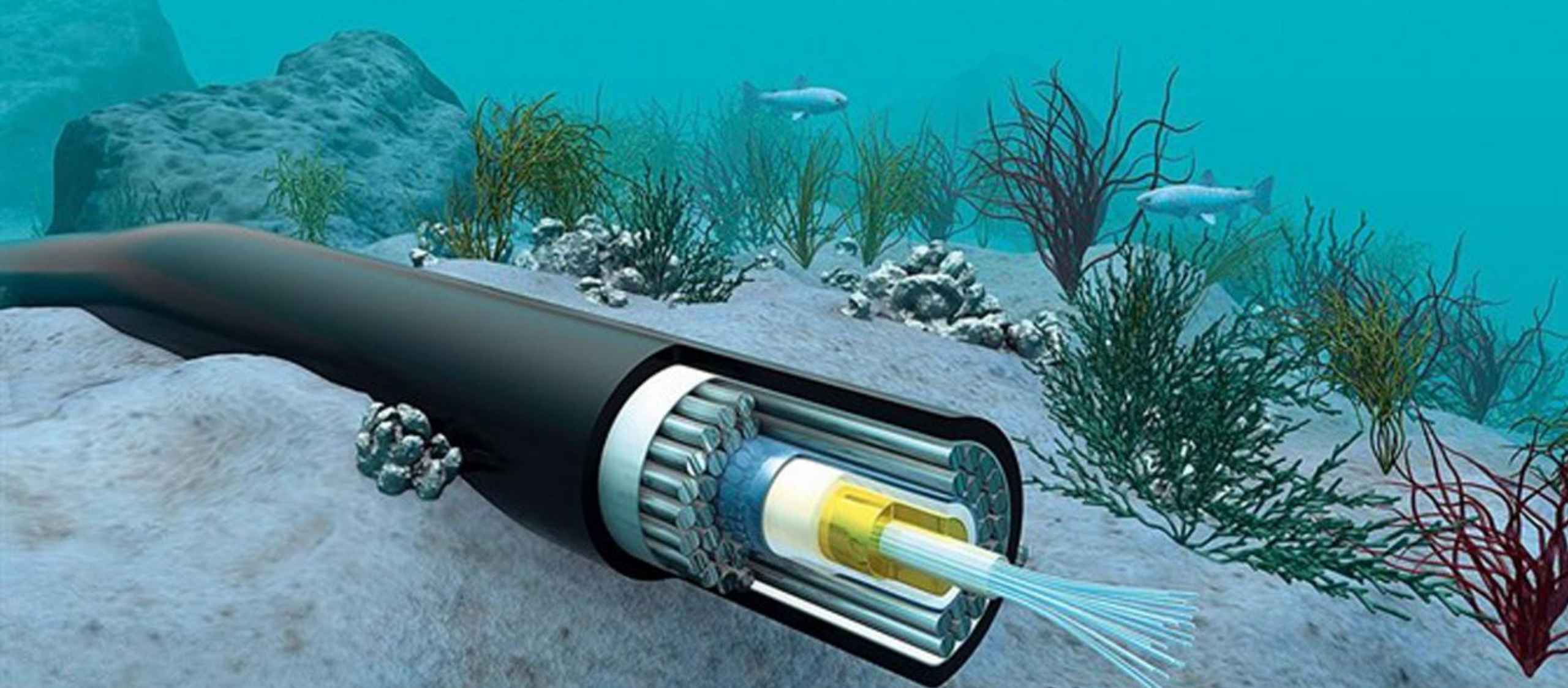
Co-funded by  
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Some of the many global challenges

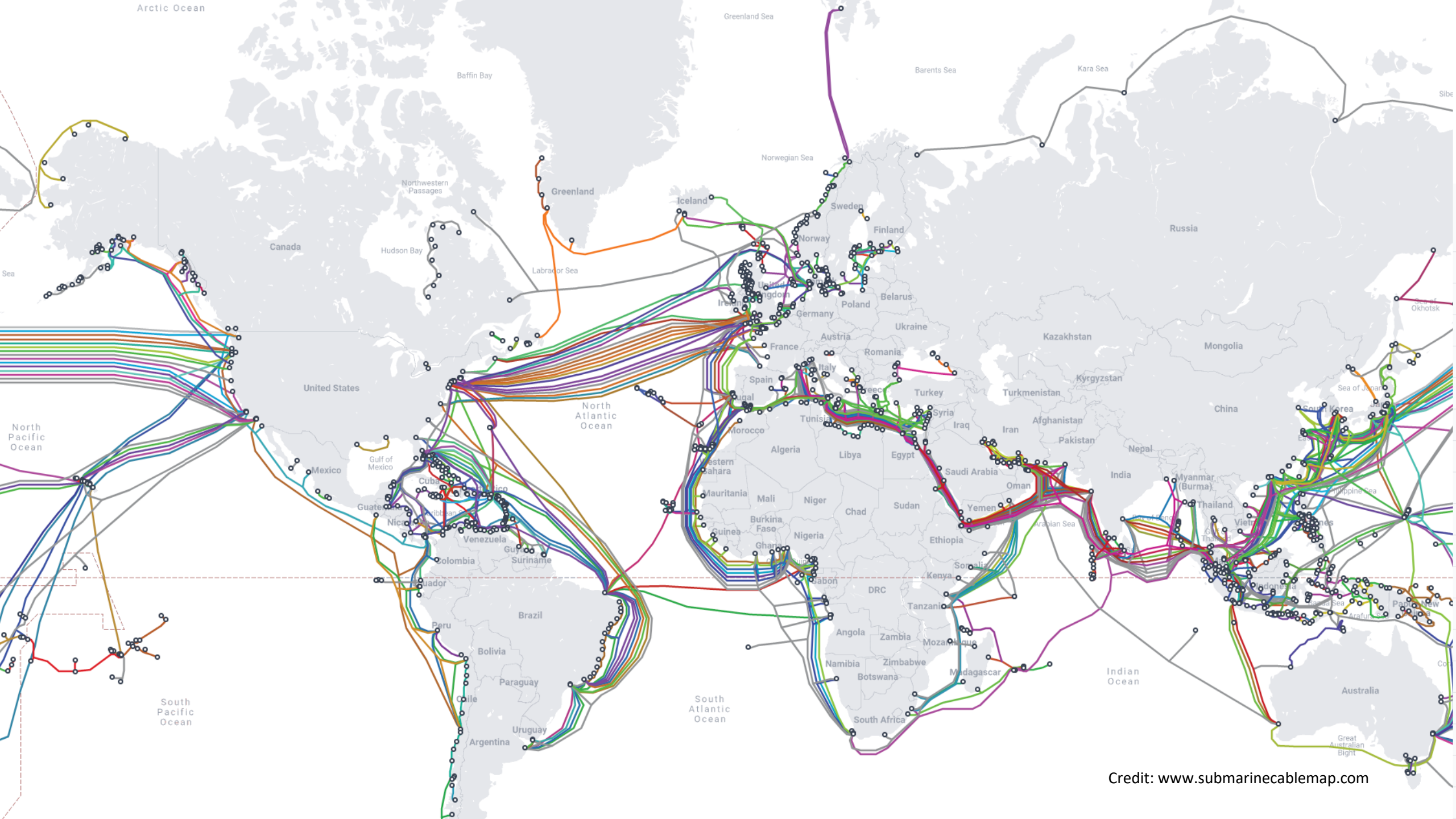


# SMART Cable concept





**Are New cables required?**



# SUBMERSE Project has been funded!



- **Duration:** 36 months
- **State date:** May 2023
- **Total Requested EU contribution:** €9,744,100
- **Total personnel effort:** 652 Person Months
- 24 partner, including GÉANT and 8 NRENs (FCT, GRNET, Sikt, NORDUnet, DeiC, PSNC, GRENA) and EUROPEAN FUTURE INNOVATION SYSTEM CENTRE as Coordinator)
- GÉANT leading WP2 – Set-up and implementation of Proof of Concept (PoC) and providing optical engineering advice.



# AIM

A hand in a dark suit sleeve points to a specific location on a map. The map is filled with a complex network of colorful lines in shades of blue, orange, red, green, and purple, representing telecommunication routes. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hand and the map.

Investigate utilising existing telecommunication systems, rather than dedicated submarine fibre, for monitoring the earth and oceans, without disrupting telecoms traffic.

# Objectives



Define a standardised concept architecture to integrate sensing technologies (DAS, SOP, SOP OTDR, SOP OFDR) into a single telecoms submarine cable system.

Complement existing infrastructures, datasets, and SMART cable concepts by developing a scalable data dissemination system from the new instruments to existing research infrastructures and communities.

Deploy a standardised prototype research instrument in at least 3 geographically diverse locations.

Scientifically validate and calibrate the instruments deployed

Produce open, machine readable, long-term datasets.

Develop the concept in collaboration with research communities, research infrastructures, Government institutions and industry.

Defining training and capacity building which allows for enhancing the collection, interpretation, processing and reuse of the data generated by the research instruments

Developing a roadmap and strategy to implement a sustainable research instrument and datasets from more countries



# Consortium Members



**EFISCENTRE**  
**FCiências**  
 ASSOCIAÇÃO PARA A INVESTIGAÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO DE CIÊNCIAS  
**Universidad de Alcalá**  
**NTNU**  
 Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
**INESCTEC**  
**GFZ**  
 Helmholtz-Zentrum **POTSDAM**  
**hcmr**  
 ΕΛΚΕΘΕ  
**LifeWatch ERIC**  
**UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA**  
**UNIVERSITAS BERGENSIS**

Research Organisations

**NORDUnet**  
 Nordic Gateway for Research & Education  
**grnet**  
**DeiC**  
 DANISH INFRASTRUCTURE COOPERATION  
**CESNET**  
**Sikt**  
**GÉANT**  
 Networks • Services • People  
**Red CLARA**  
**GRENA**  
 GEORGIAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL NETWORKING ASSOCIATION  
**FCT**  
 Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia  
**FCCN**  
 Computação Científica Nacional  
**PSNC**

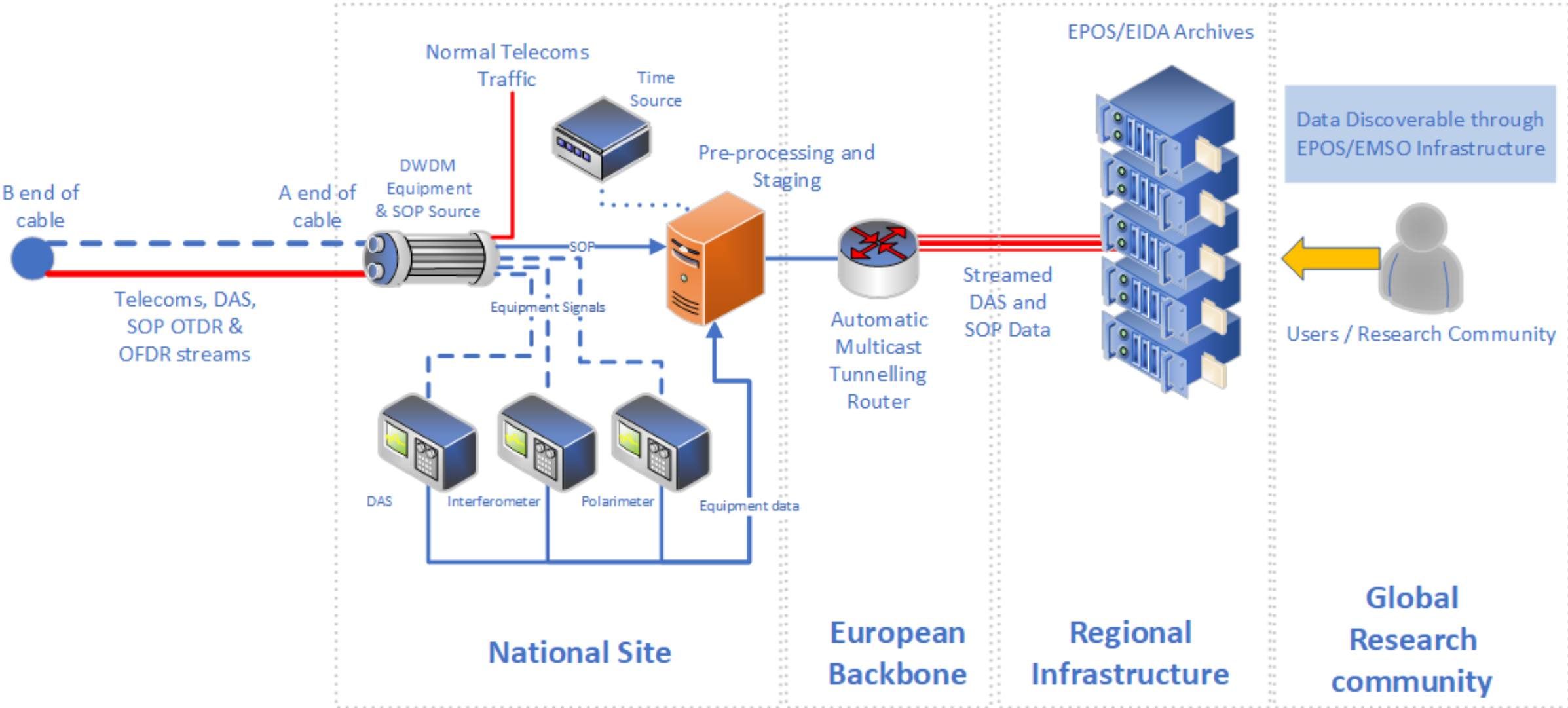
NRENs

**ALCATEL SUBMARINE NETWORKS**  
**EllaLink**  
**Coriant**

Commercial organisations



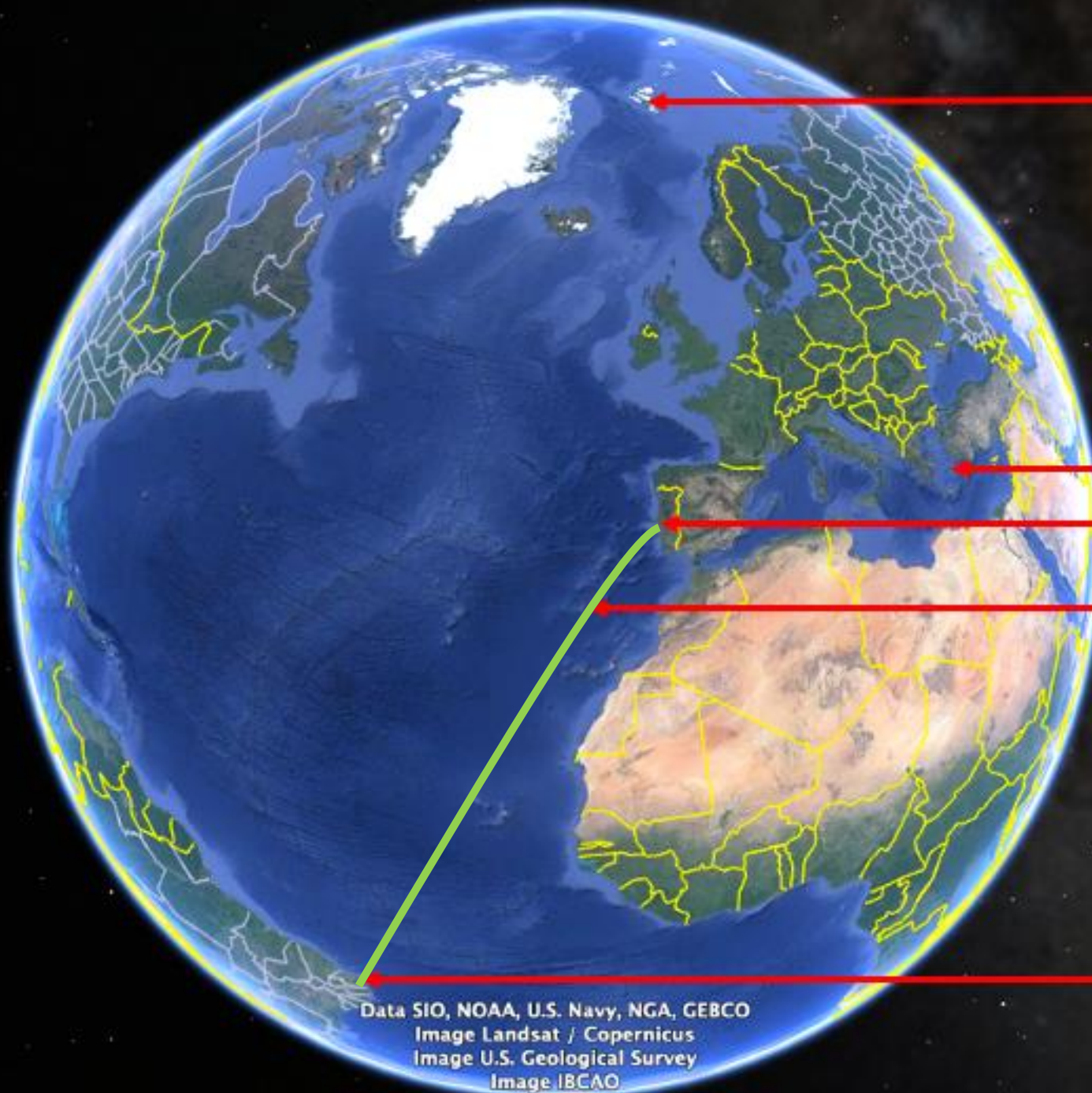
# SUBMERSE Project concept



# Indicative Site Locations

Primary sites would have both DAS, SOP and SOP OTDR

Secondary sites would not have all experiments



Svalbard, Norway  
(DAS, SOP, SOP OTDR)

Rhodes, Greece  
(DAS, SOP, SOP OTDR)

Sines, Portugal  
(DAS, SOP, SOP OTDR)

Madeira, Portugal  
(DAS)

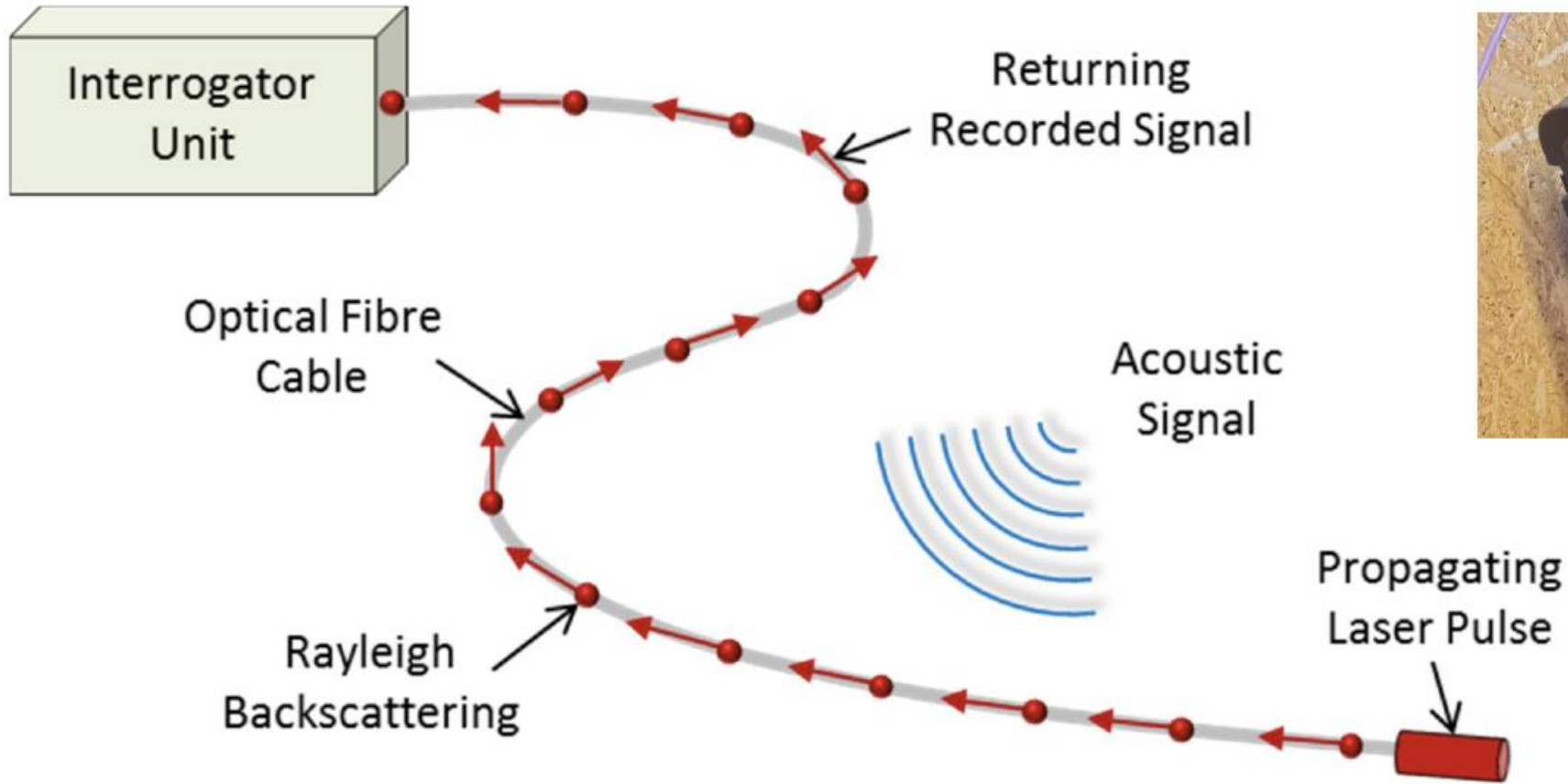
Fortaleza, Brazil  
(SOP, SOP OTDR)

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image Landsat / Copernicus  
Image U.S. Geological Survey  
Image IBCAO

# The technologies

The background is a dark blue gradient with a grid of thin, light blue lines. Numerous vertical lines of varying heights and colors (cyan, magenta, orange) are scattered across the scene, resembling data streams or signal paths. Small, glowing circles in red, white, and blue are positioned at various points along these lines, some appearing to be connected by thin vertical segments. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and high-tech.

# DAS: Distributed Acoustic Sensing



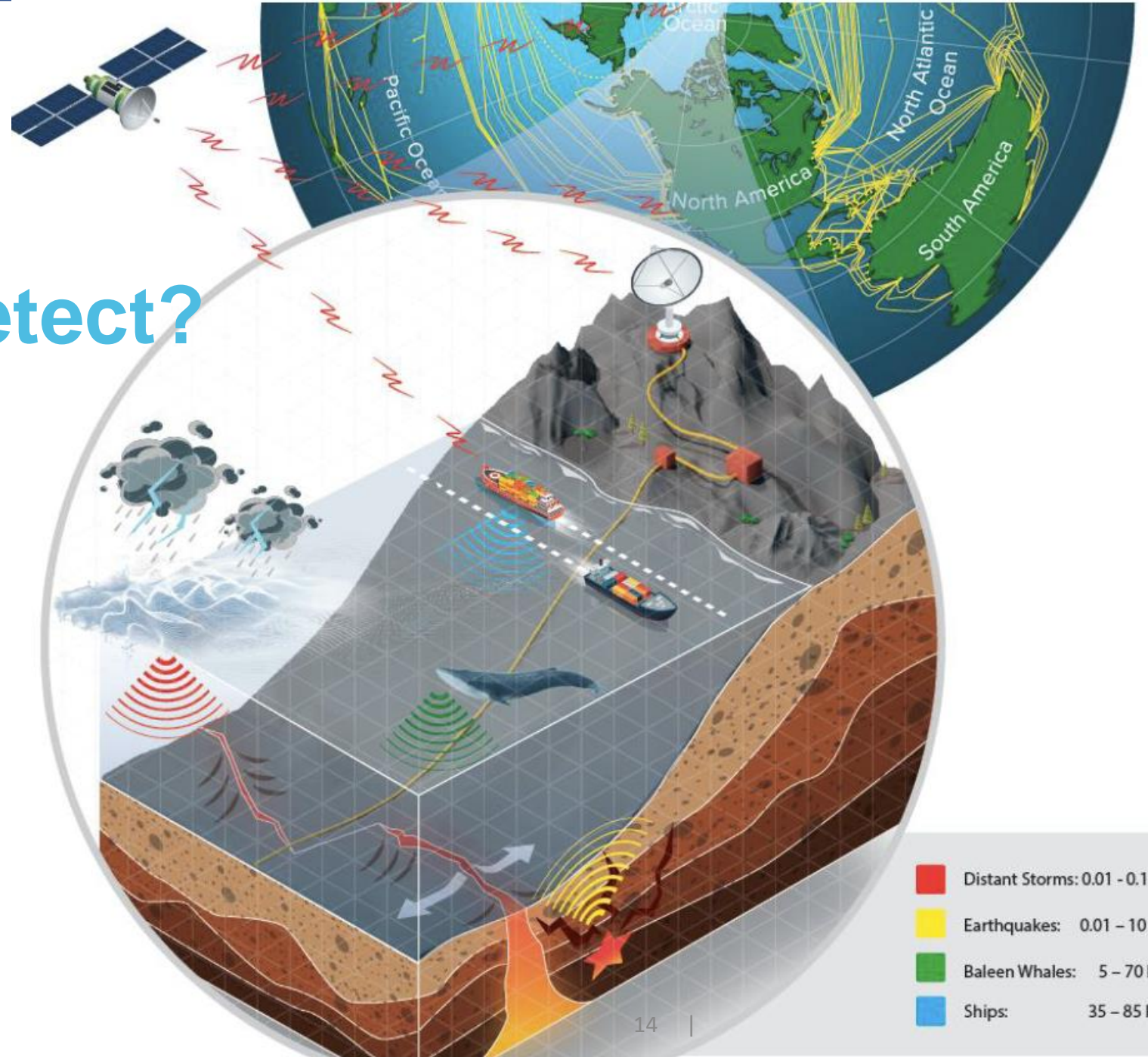
Can also measure transmitted signal or perform polarization analysis at the end of the fibre: SOP

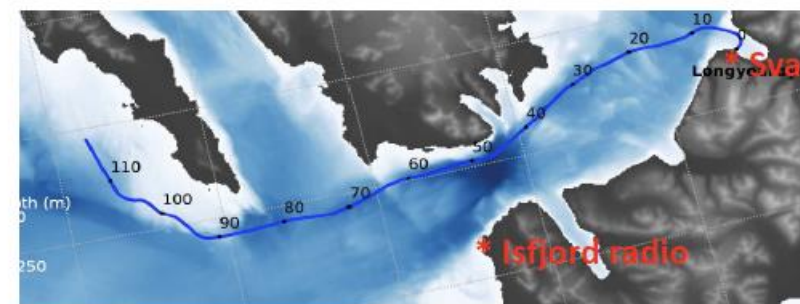
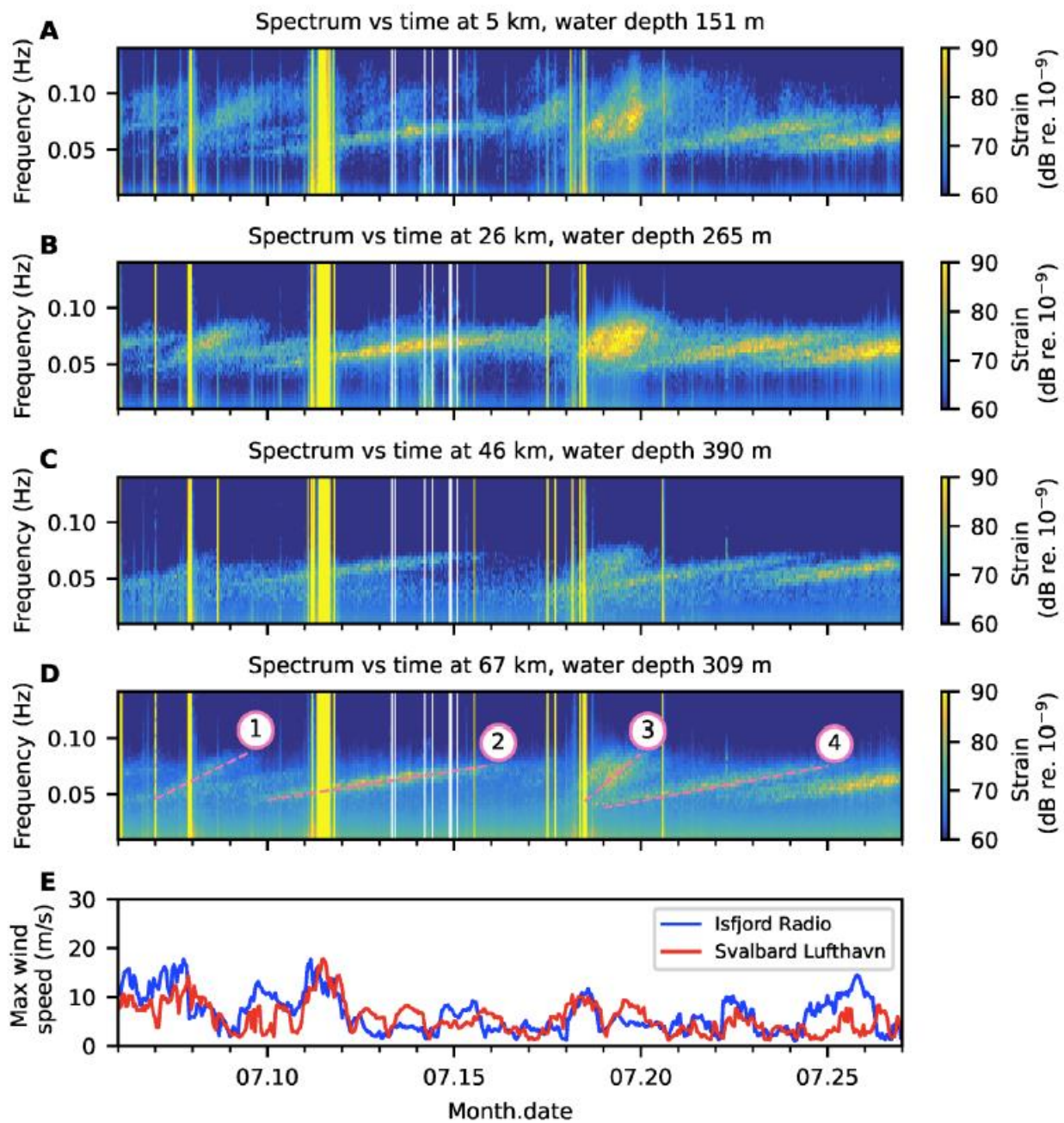
Figure adapted from Wilks et al. , CLIMIT poster 2016

With thanks to Prof Martin Landrø, NTNU

# What can DAS detect?

- Wales
- Storms
- Ships
- Earthquakes
- And more



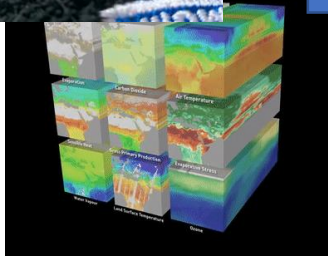
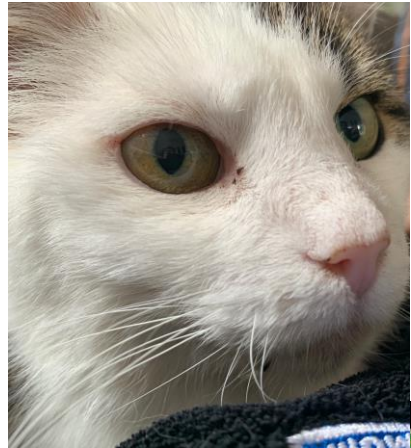


Munk, 1963:

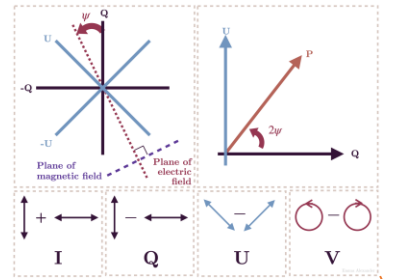
$$\chi = \frac{g}{4\pi \left( \frac{df}{dt} \right)}$$

- 1: Edouard 4100 km
- 2: Offshore Brazil, 13000 km
- 3: Storm between Iceland and Greenland 2400 km
- 4: Offshore Brazil, 11 000 km

# The other technique – State of Polarisation (SoP)



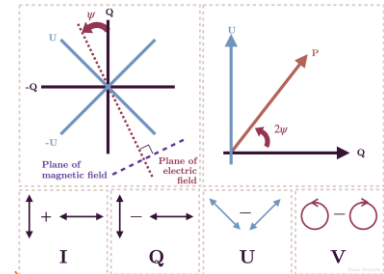
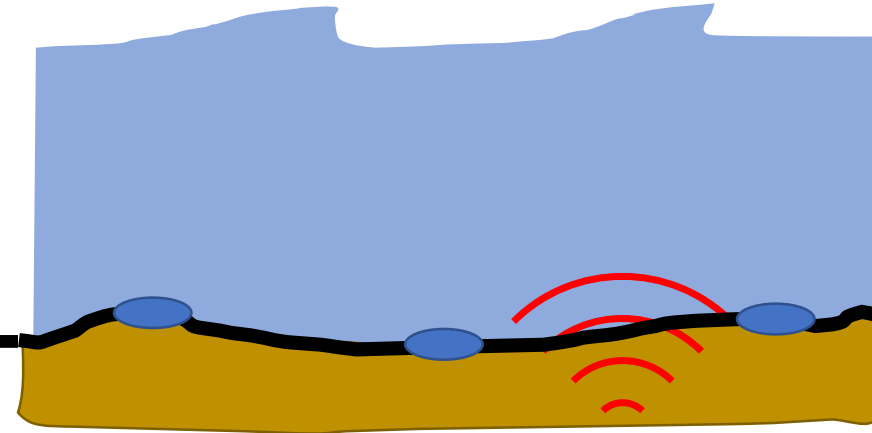
Normal telecoms traffic



Stokes Parameter

DWDM  
Optical  
Transponder

Fibre optic Submarine telecom cable



Stokes Parameter

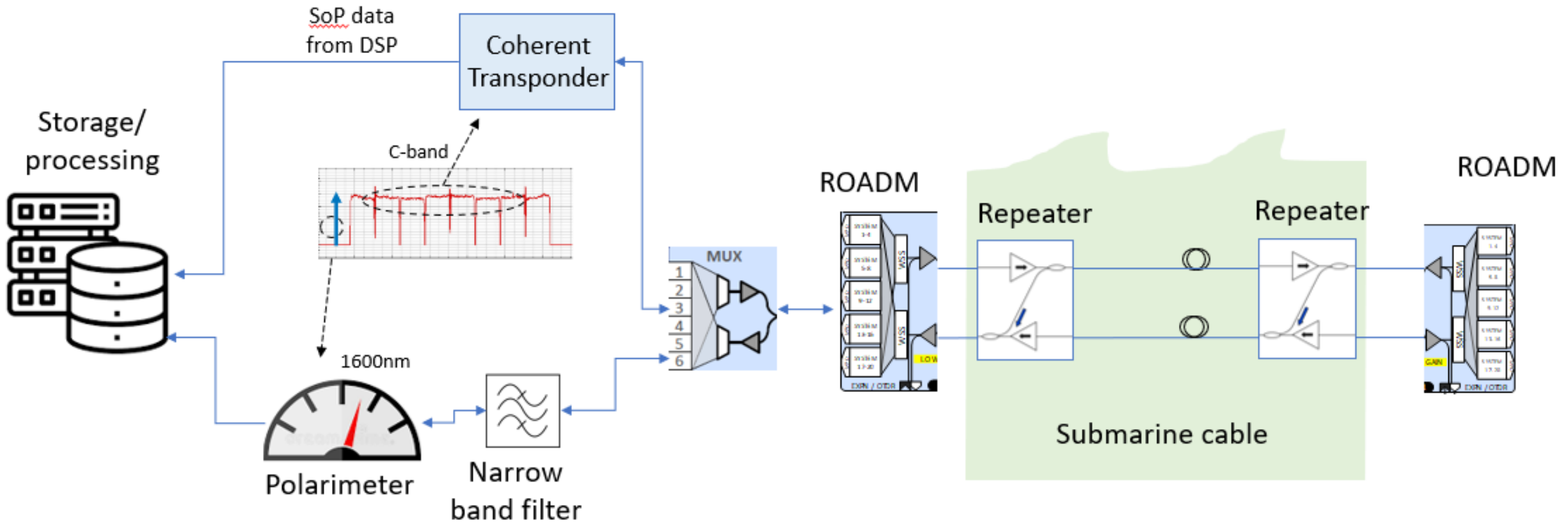
DWDM  
Optical  
Transponder

Carrier phase and polarization can be recovered from the DSP outputs.



# SOP OTDR

## Sate of Polarization testing



# SOP OFDR

Optical phase and polarization changes can be recorded across individual cable spans (the cable spans between repeaters) based on the frequency difference between the laser source and repeater units.

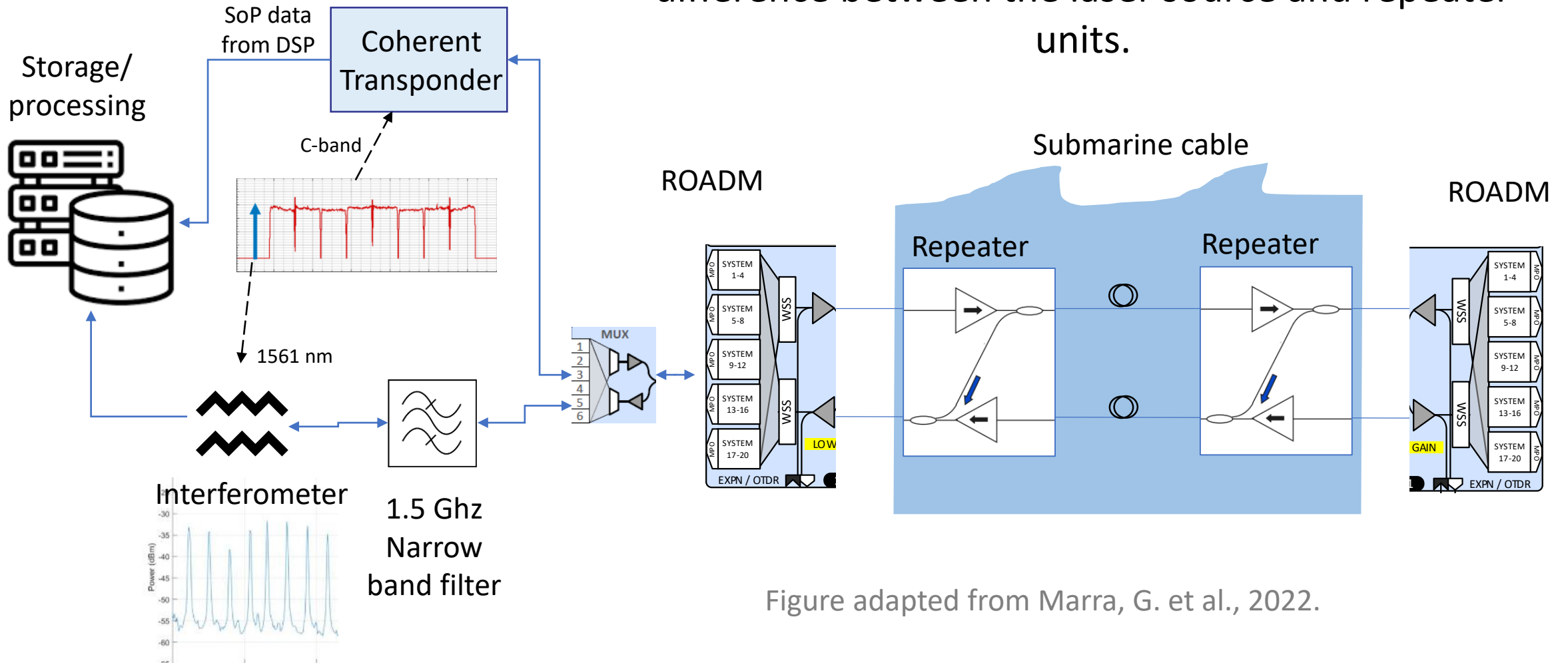


Figure adapted from Marra, G. et al., 2022.

## CONCLUSION



- SUBMERSE has been funded and will launch in May
- Strong consortium of equipment vendors, NRENs and research institutes
- Initial infrastructure will include three submarine fibre systems, likely more fibre in the future
- Building a repository of seismic data for science will be a big asset for researchers
- The GEANT community's dark fibre assets will move from being a commodity internet to a scientific instrument





**Thank you**  
Any questions

[www.submerse.eu](http://www.submerse.eu)



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