

# Remote Monitoring of Birds and Bats with Visual and Infrared Stereo Imagery

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# Motivation: Offshore Wind

Carcass counts?

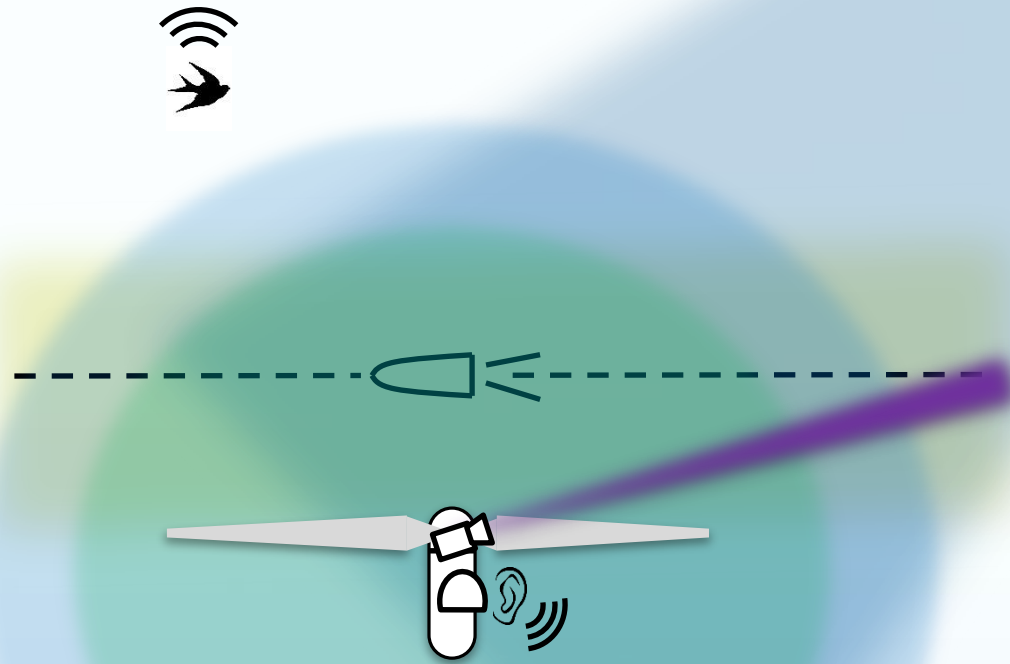
Observer...

So how?



# Detection Methods

Transects  
Tracking  
Acoustic  
RADAR  
Optical

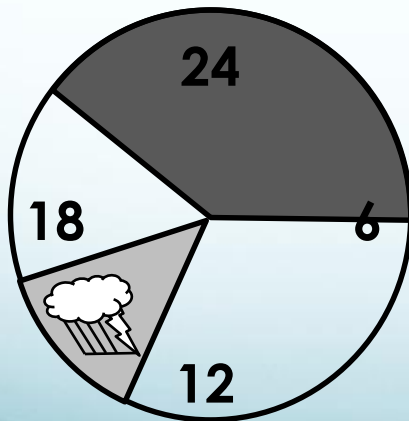


# Evaluating near-field optical systems

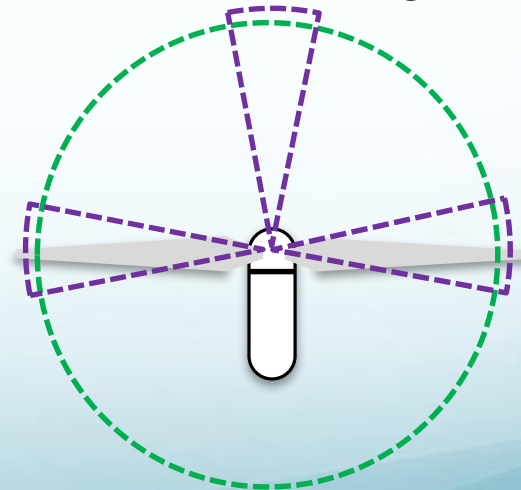
	Temporal Availability	Spatial Coverage
Visual	-	?
Thermal	+	?

## Availability

Temporal availability



Spatial coverage



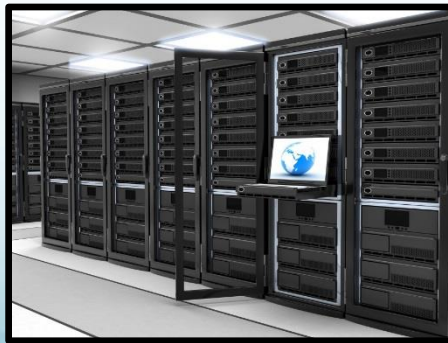
# Evaluating near-field optical systems

	Temporal Availability	Spatial Coverage	Cost	Computation Demand	Hardware
Visual	~	?	\$	?	~
Thermal	+	?	\$\$\$	?	~

## Practicality

Computation Demand

Storage



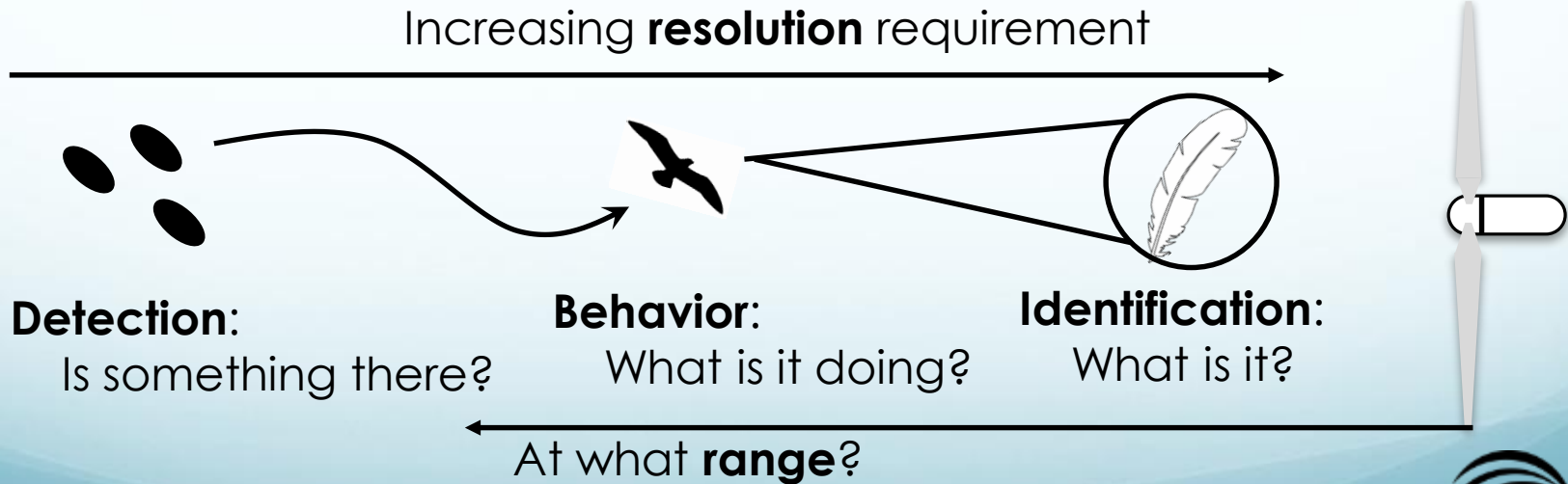
Processing



# Evaluating near-field optical systems

	Temporal Availability	Spatial Coverage	Cost	Computation Demand	Hardware	Detection	Behavior Analysis	Species Identification
Visual	~	?	\$	?	~	?	?	?
Thermal	+	?	\$\$\$	?	~	?	?	?

## Effectiveness



# Evaluating near-field optical systems

	Temporal Availability	Spatial Coverage	Cost	Computation Demand	Hardware	Detection	Behavior Analysis	Species Identification
Visual	~	?	\$	?	~	?	?	?
Thermal	+	?	\$\$\$	?	~	?	?	?

Computation Demand
Detection, Behavior Analysis, Species Identification

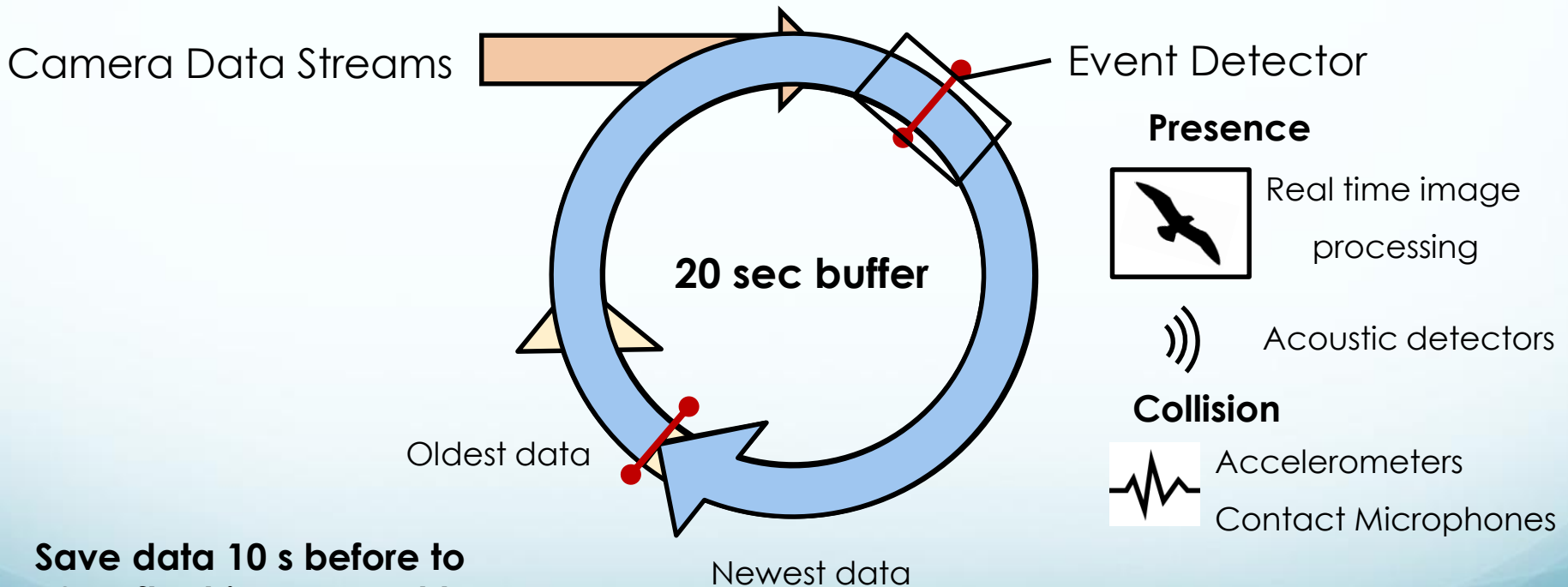
Secondary
Primary

Stereo?

# Improving Computational Demand

**Problem:** Continuous stereo IR + visual generates **20 TB Data/day**

**Solution:** Event based trigger of data recording



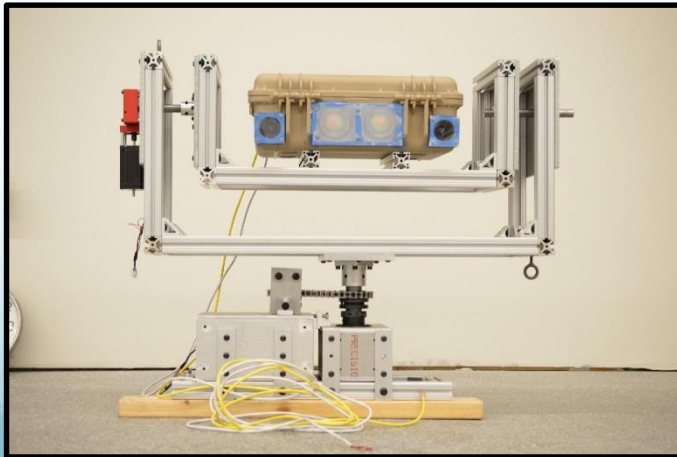
**Save data 10 s before to 10 s after trigger event to permanent file.**



# The Optical Node



On turbine pan and tilt mount



Travel profile

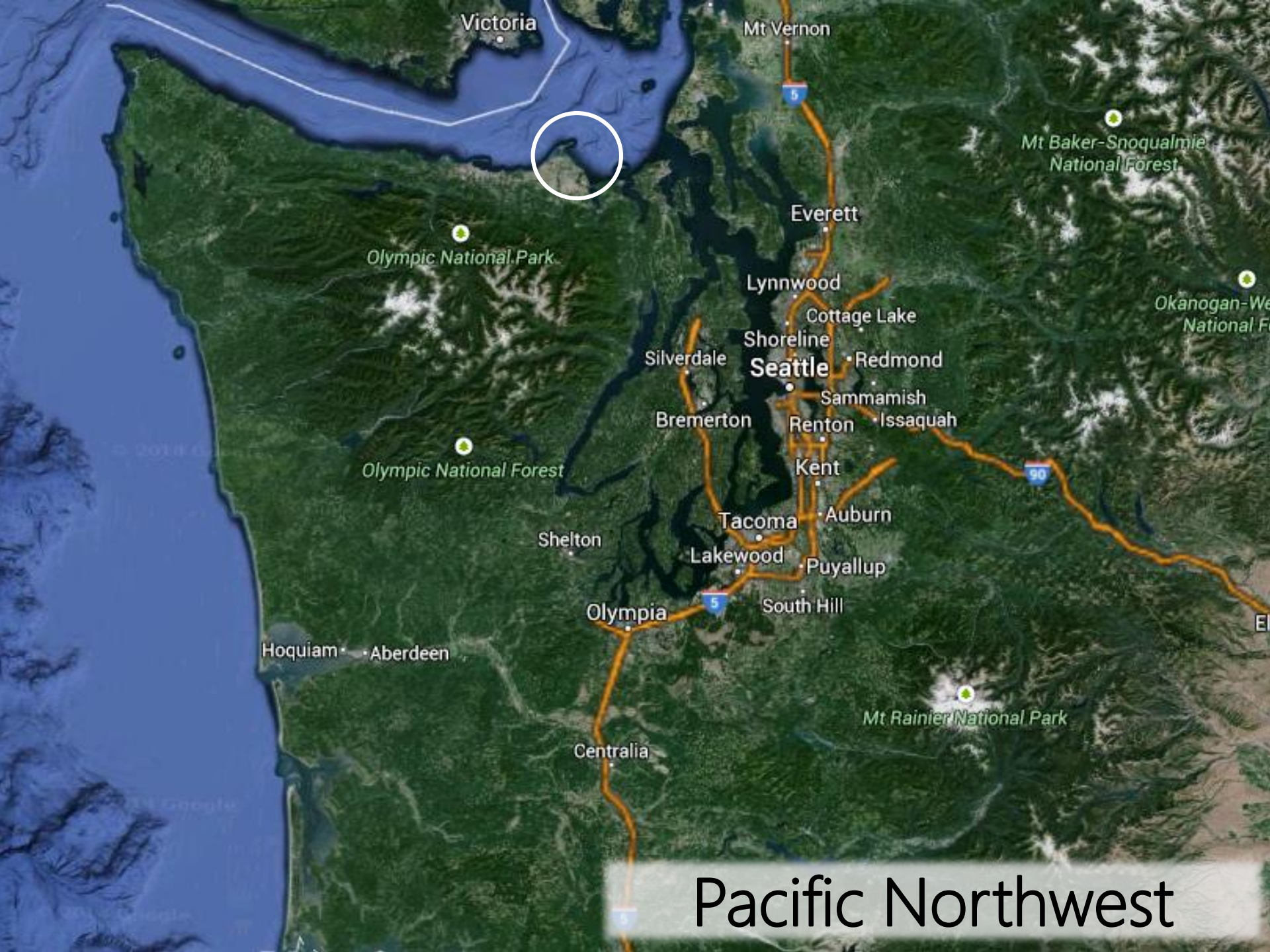


# System specifications

	Thermal Infrared	Visual
Model	FLIR A615sc	Manta G-210
Resolution	640 x 480	1624 x 1234
Lens FOV	15° x 12°	52° x 45°
Frame rate	50 fps	12 fps
Bandwidth	0.25 Gbps	~ 1 Gbps
Interface	1 Gbit Ethernet	1 Gbit Ethernet
Trigger	Software	Hardware
Cost	~ \$ 20 k	~ \$ 3 k

Software Infrastructure: **Labview**





# Pacific Northwest





Dungeness National  
Wildlife Refuge

Dungeness  
Bay

Three Crabs Beach

Marrowstone Point,  
Fort Flagler



Dock, PNNL – Sequim

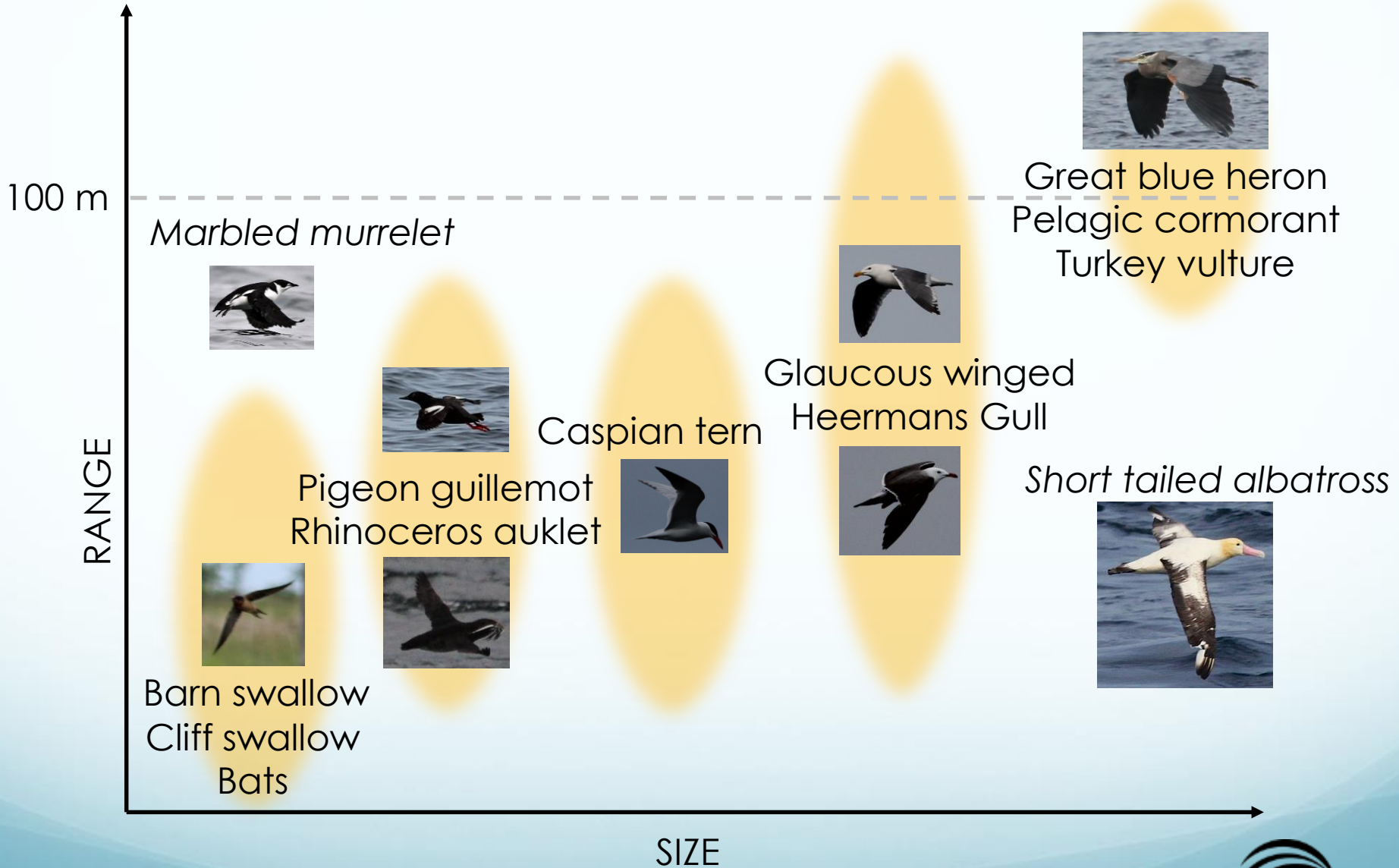
Carlsborg

101

Sequim

Battelle Marine  
Science Lab

# Data Collection





# Field Setup

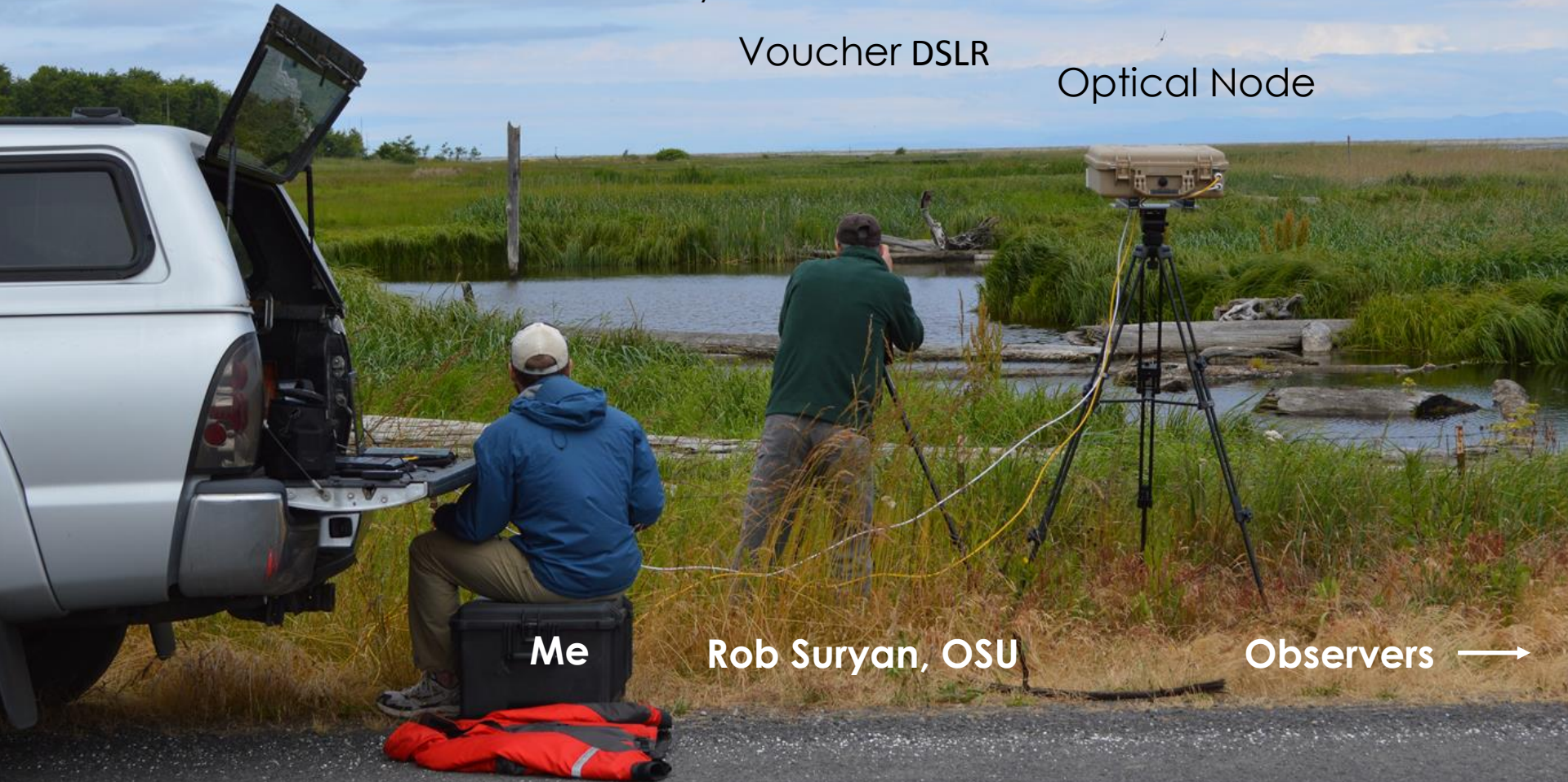
Command station

Optical node controls

Bird meta-data entry

Voucher DSLR

Optical Node



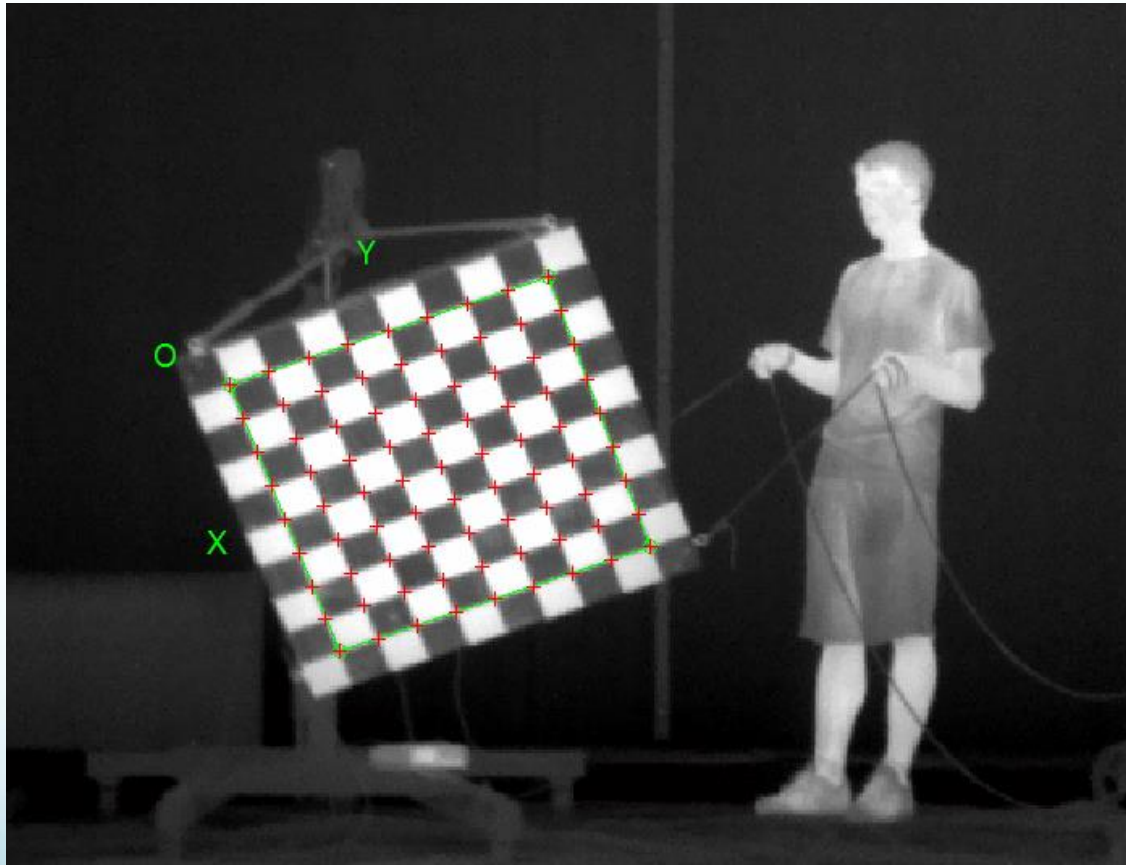
**Me**

**Rob Suryan, OSU**

**Observers** →

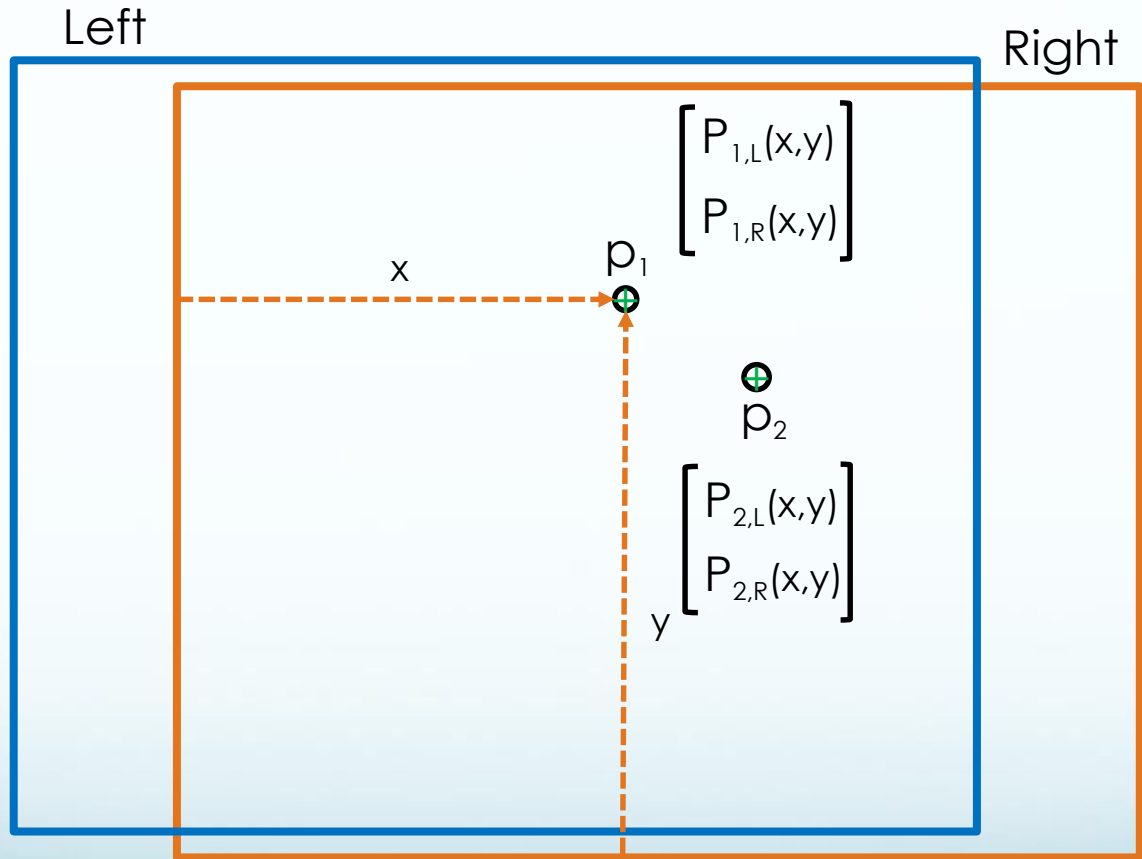
# Stereo Calibration

*Camera Calibration Toolbox for Matlab*  
Jean-Yves Bougout, Caltech



# Analyzing Stereo Data

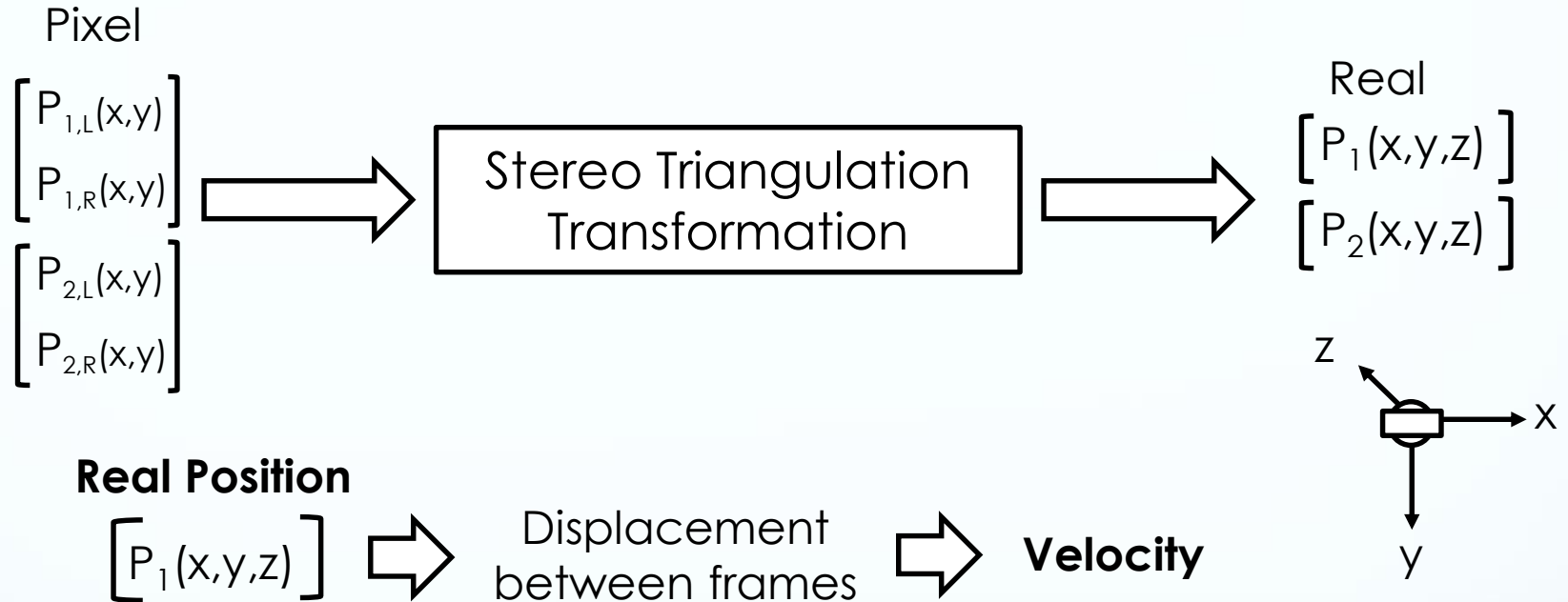
Selecting points in the images



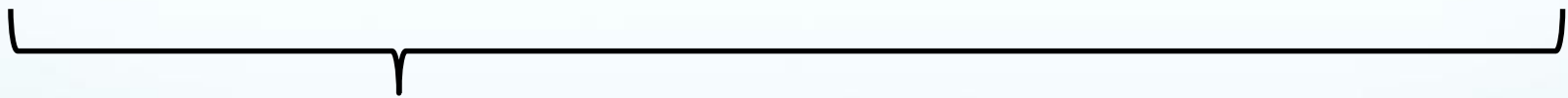
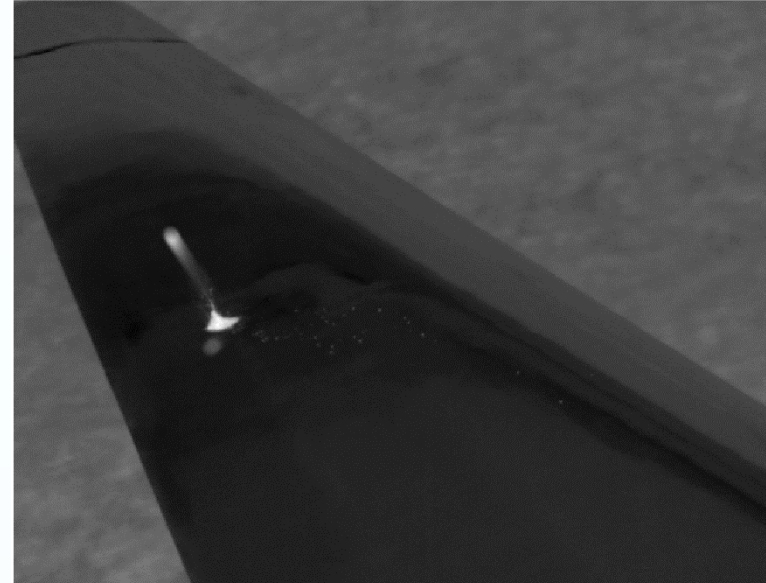


# Analyzing Stereo Data

Converting points to real world data



# Tennis Balls: Test of Accuracy



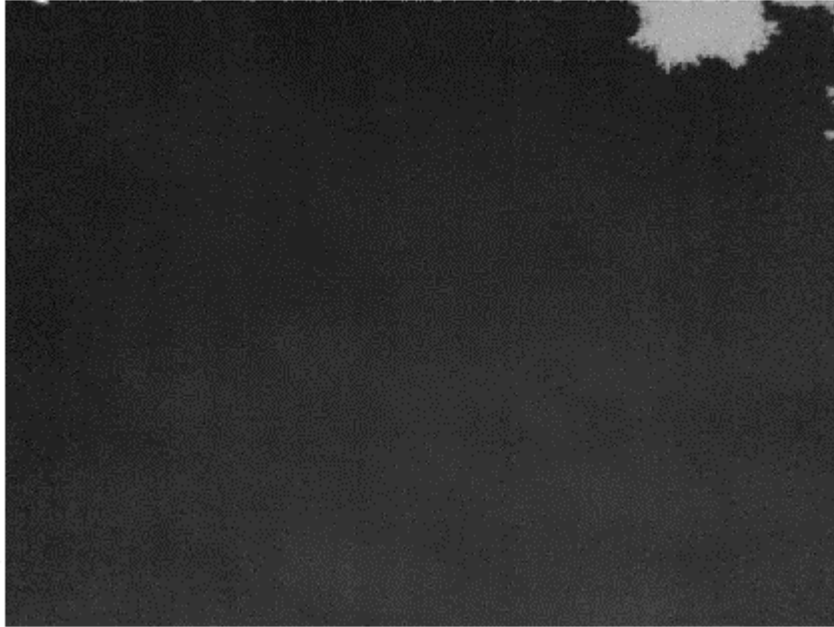
<i>Test 2</i>	Mean	Std Dev
Velocity	7.4 m/s	2.7 m/s
Length	7.9 cm	2.3 cm

<i>Test 11</i>	Mean	Std Dev
Velocity	11.6 m/s	0.41 m/s
Length	7.4 cm	4 cm

**Regulation Tennis Ball Size: 6.3 cm**

# Bats

Frame 152



## Track 1

	Mean	Std Dev
Z	14.5 m	0.6 m
Velocity	7.14 m/s	2.28 m/s
Length	14.5 cm	0.03 cm

## Track 2

	Mean	Std Dev
Z	14.6 m	1.0 m
Velocity	12.2 m/s	4.6 m/s
Length	14.2 cm	5 cm

**Frame Rate:** 50 fps

# Birds

Frame 82



	Mean	Std Dev
Z	81.4 m	17.2 m
Velocity	31.2 m/s	7.5 m/s
Length	7.2 cm	3.3 cm

**Brewers blackbird**  
Actual size: 20 – 26 cm

**Frame Rate:** 12 fps

# Conclusions

	Temporal Availability	Spatial Coverage	Cost	Computation Demand	Hardware	Detection	Behavior Analysis	Species Identification
Thermal	+	~	\$\$\$	?	~	+	+	?

} Stereo

## Strengths:

- Detection
- Temporal Availability
- Automatic Processing

## Promising:

- Behavior Analysis

## Weaknesses:

- **Cost**
- Resolution → Spatial Coverage

## Applications:

- Validation of deterrence systems
- Quantification of collision

# Acknowledgements



PNNL Sequim Marine Biological Laboratory

NREL Wind Energy Test Facility



Bird observers: Shari Matzner, Corey Duberstein, Valerie Cullinan, and Greg Spencer

Advisory panel for the overall system development

Stereo calibration: Chris Fisher and James Joslin

