

An underwater scene with a fish swimming in the center. The water is a deep blue-green color. The fish is seen from a side profile, swimming towards the right. The background is dark, suggesting a deep or shaded underwater environment.

**TAL
TECH**

FLOW FROM A FISH'S PERSPECTIVE: HOW LIVE FISH, BIOINSPIRED SENSORS AND AI CAN BE USED TO IMPROVE FISH PASSAGE

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Fish Counters



US Bonneville Dam (1938)

<https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Media/Images/igphoto/2000754585/>



HydroCam (2020)

<https://iamhydro.com/de/ausruestung/hydro-camerasystem.php>

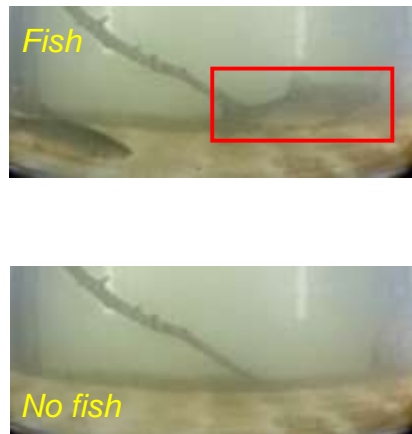
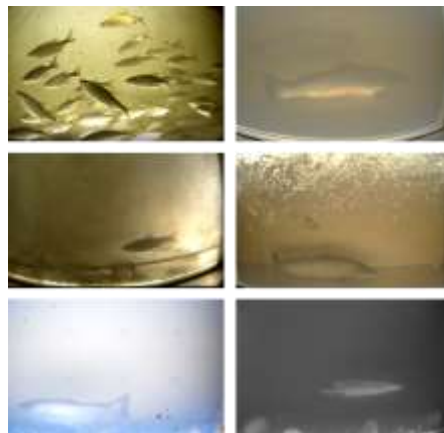
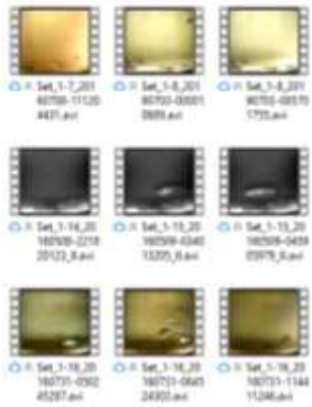
Smart Fish Counter AI

Upload videos from fish counter

Classification of the six environmental conditions

Sort and classify videos with fish and no fish

Classification of fish species, size and migration behaviour



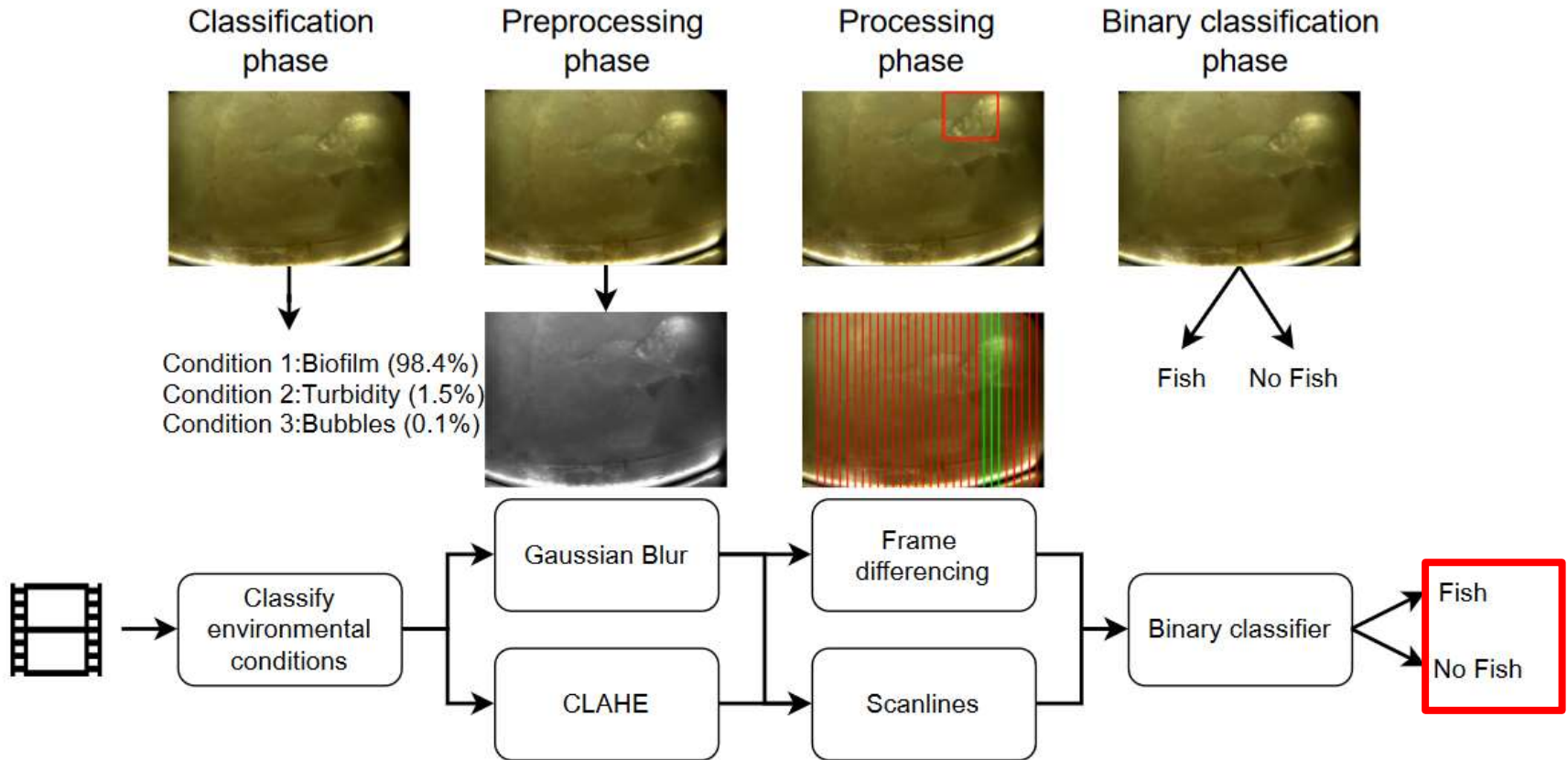
Chub (96.1%)



Length (45 ± 3.7 cm)

Behaviour: *Up-In*

Where are the fish and what are they doing?



Clear vs. Biofilm



Overexposure & Bubbles vs. Low Light



Turbidity (the worst of all...)

LK: FWH Hirnbach 2016-04-14 12:24:40



CNN for classification

Environmental Conditions

Fish / No-Fish

Predicted Labels

	Biofilm	Bubbles	Clear	Low Light	Overexposure	Trubidity
Biofilm	514	2	0	2	0	0
Bubbles	3	480	0	0	0	2
Clear	1	0	484	0	0	1
Low Light	0	0	0	504	0	0
Overexposure	4	8	1	0	484	0
Trubidity	0	1	0	0	0	509

3000 Videos

(150-900 Images / Video)

6 Classes

250 Video with,
250 Video without Fish

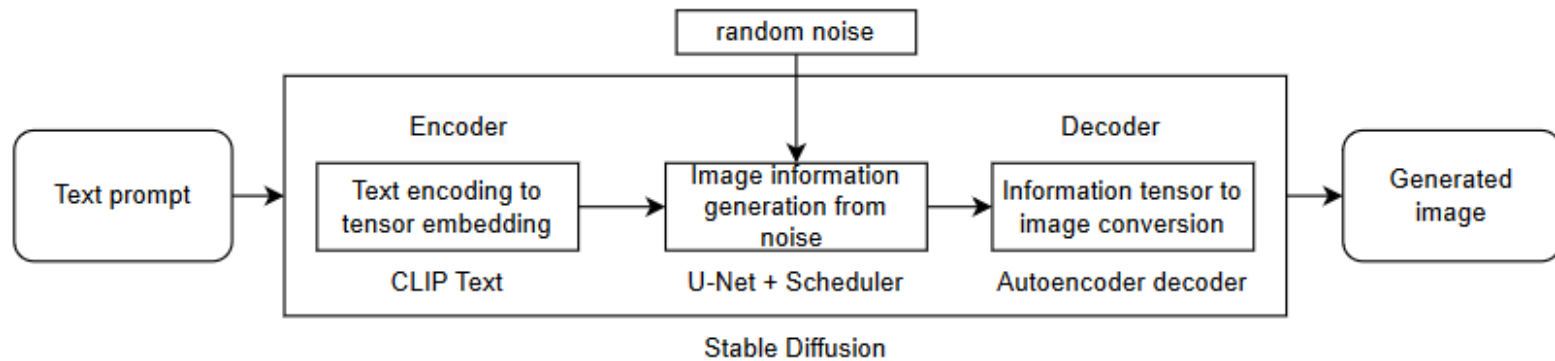
Mean Accuracy: 88.5%

F1 Score: 0.88

TP: 44% FP: 6%

TN: 43% FN: 7%

Synthetic Fish



Synthetic

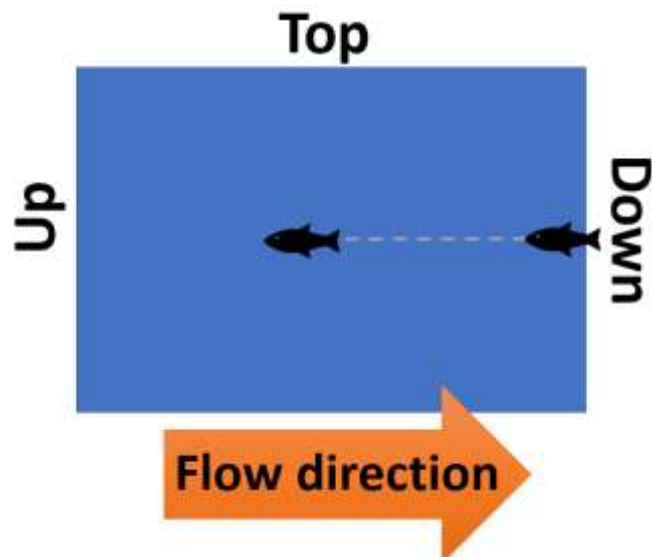


Real

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

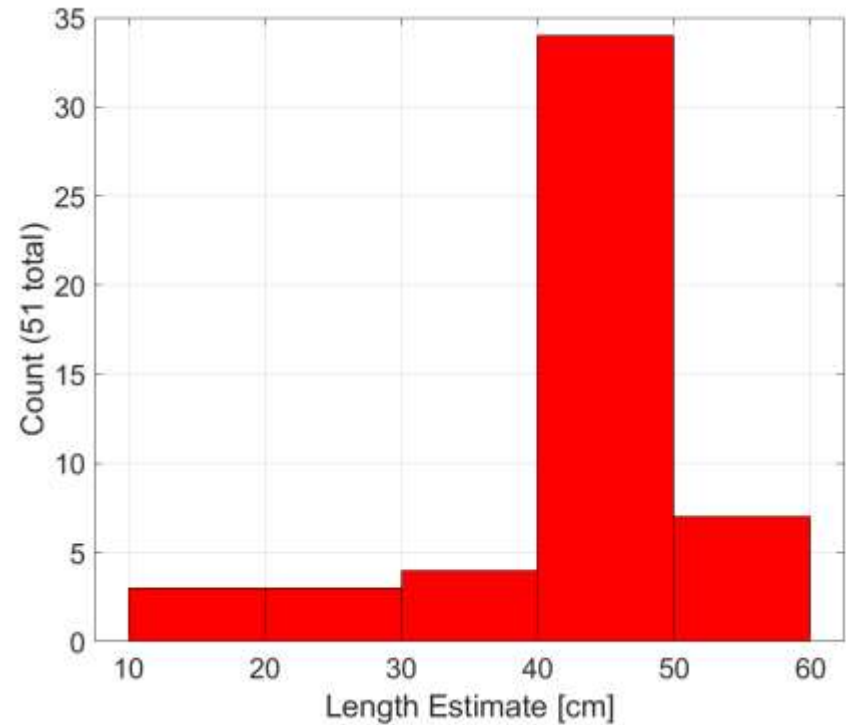


Species, behaviour and size



Behaviour „UP-IN“

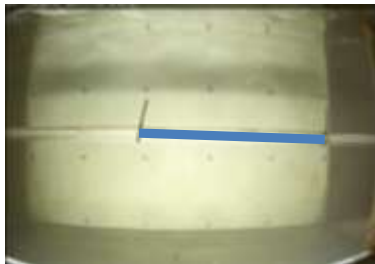
Size is actually the most difficult!



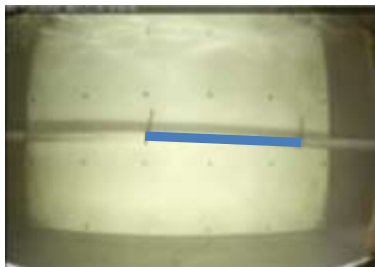
Dynamic scaling factor needed



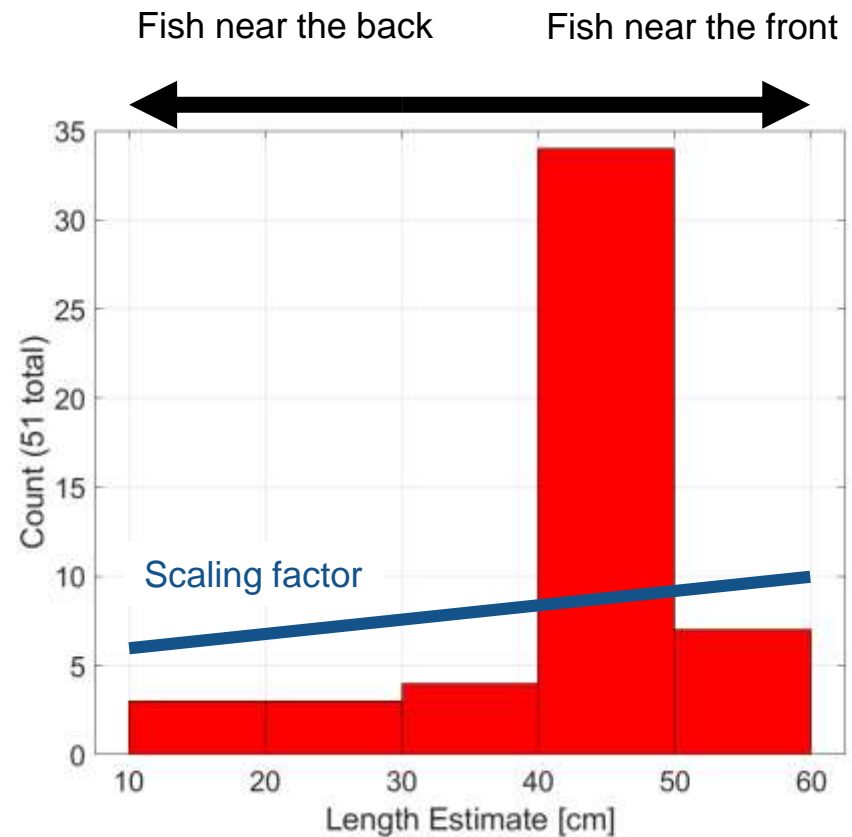
Front
10 px / cm



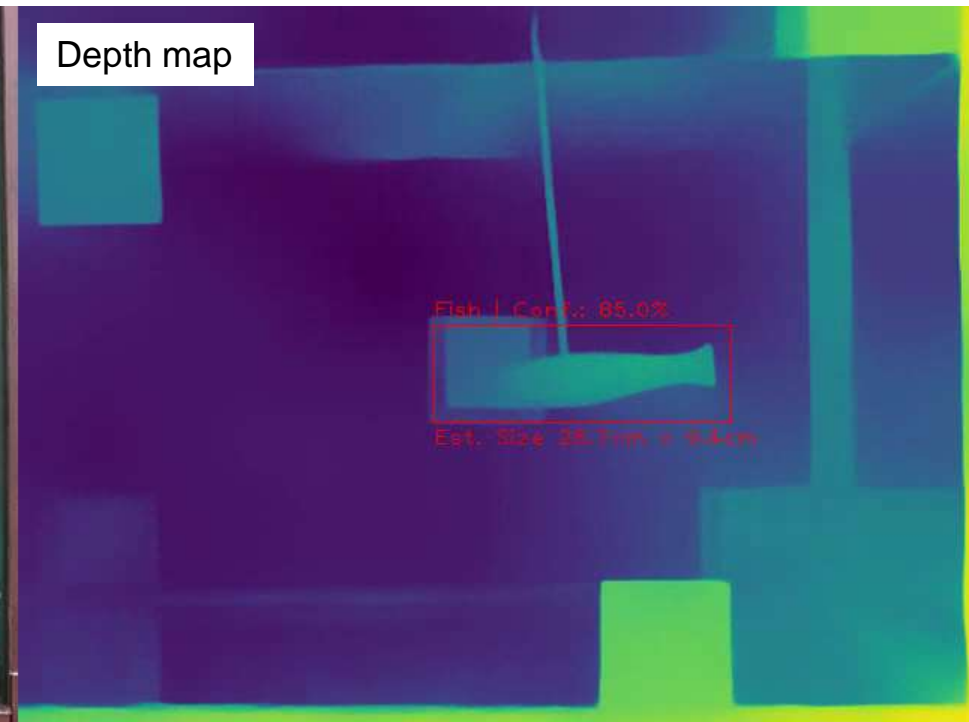
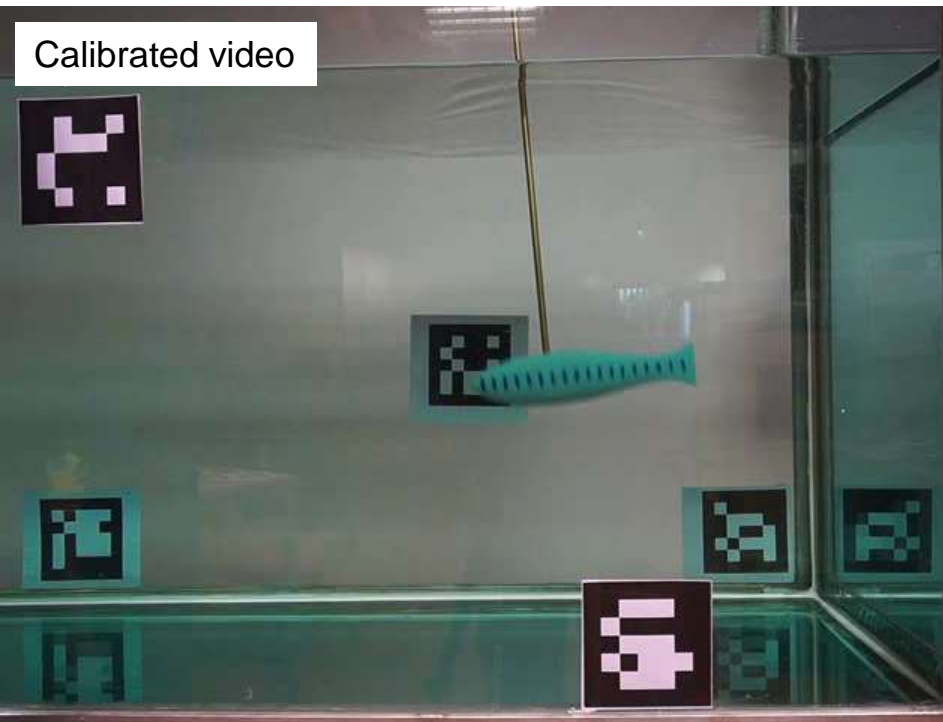
Middle
8 px / cm



Back
6 px / cm



Depth mapping using ML

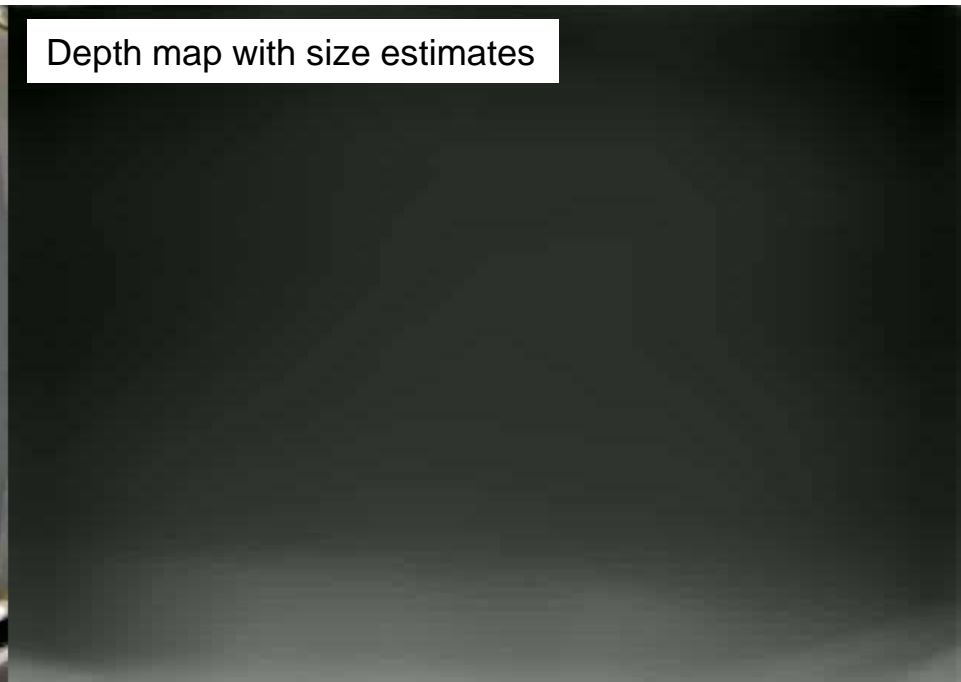


Depth mapping in River Watcher

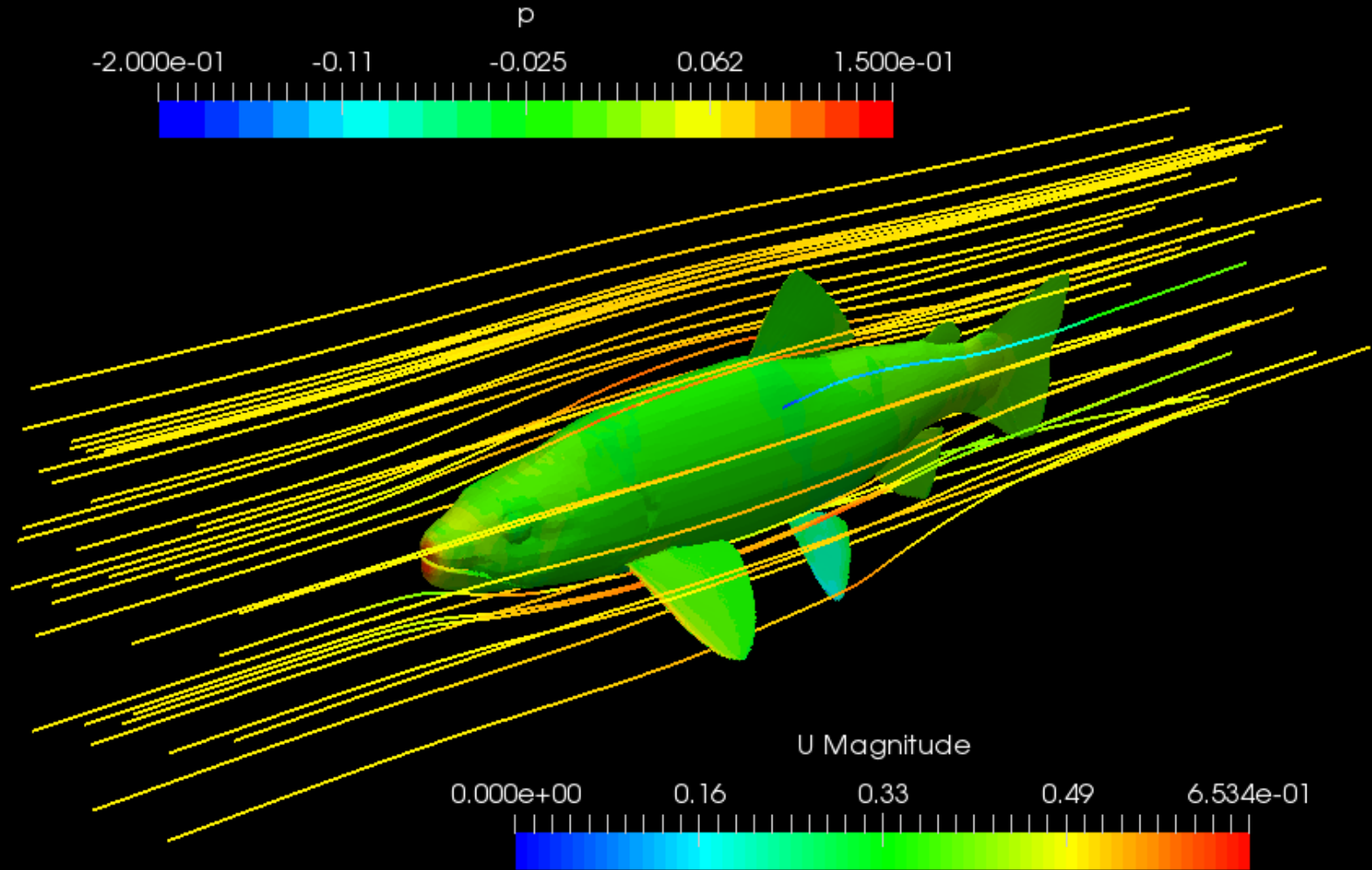
Uncalibrated video



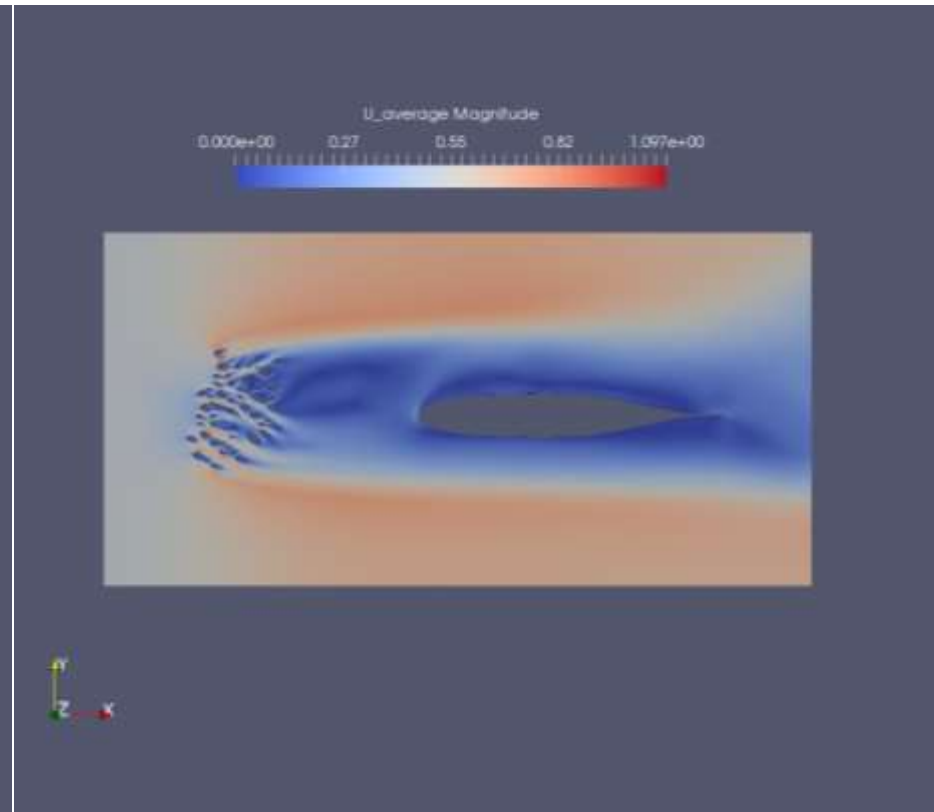
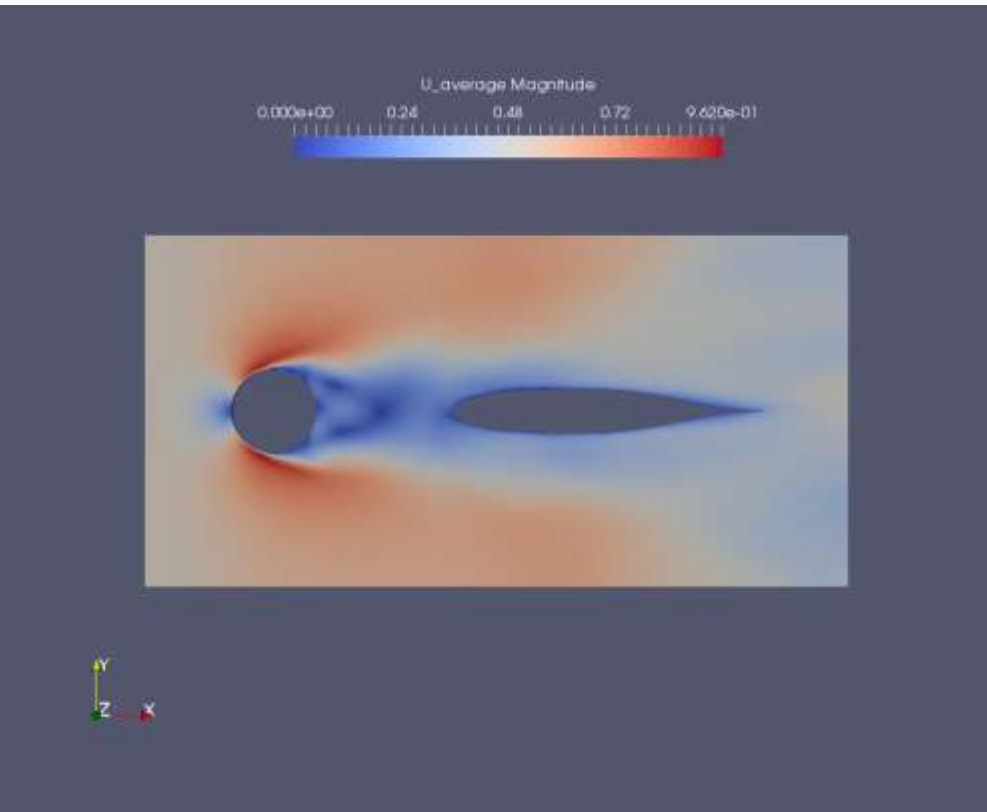
Depth map with size estimates



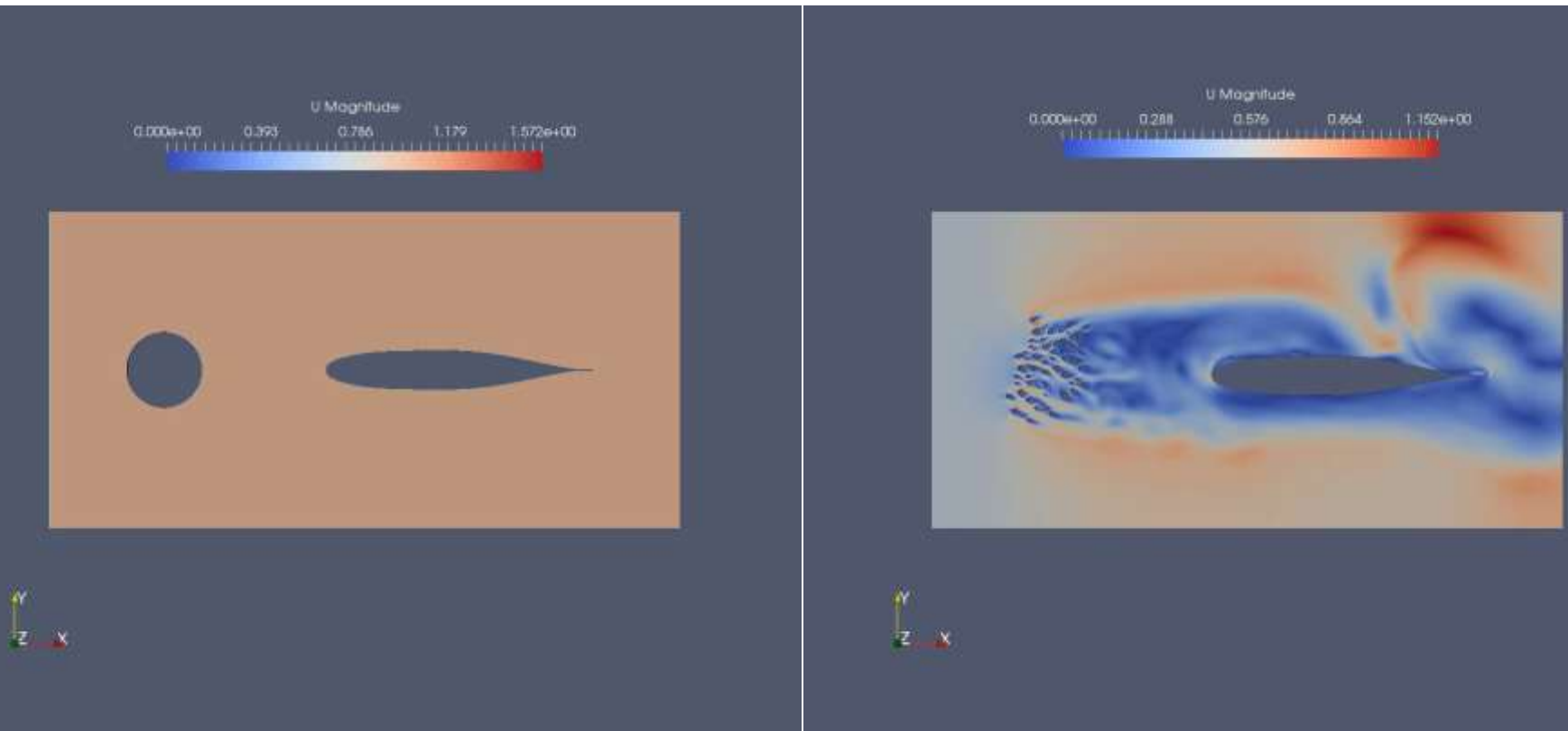
A fish is not a point in space



A fish is not a point in **time**



Changing flow = changing interaction



Large eddy simulations of 2D flow around a fish-shaped body

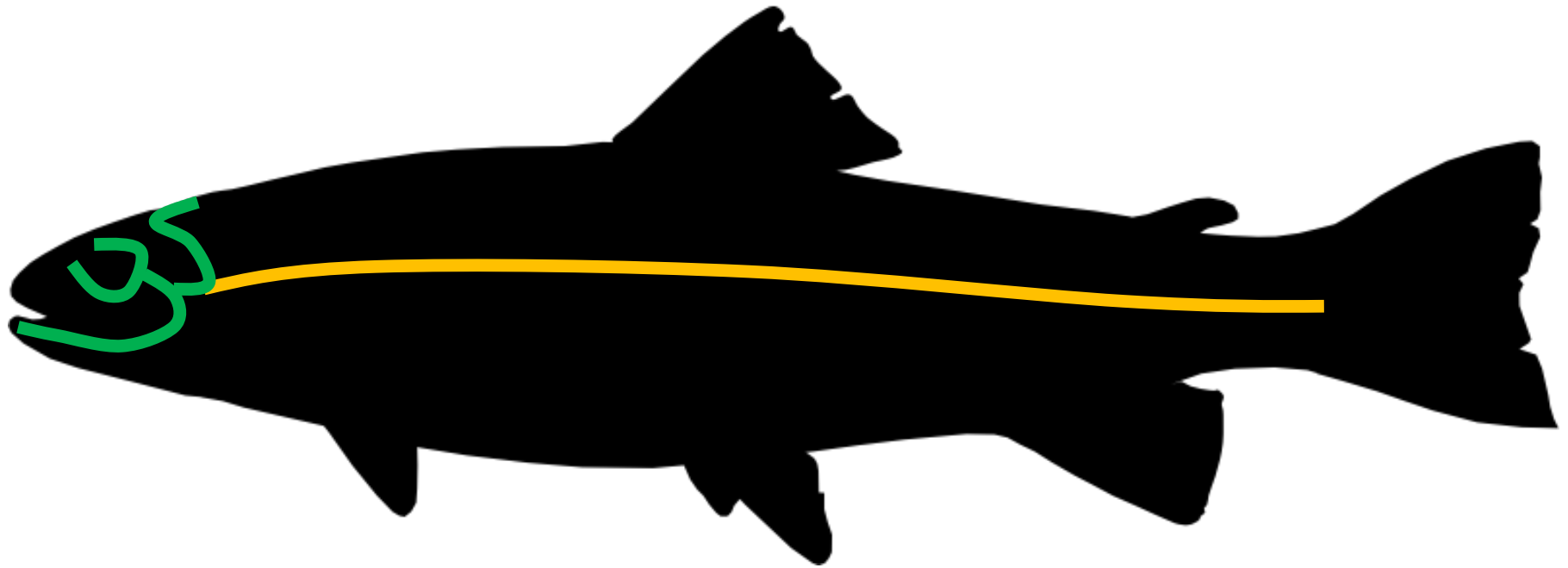
The Lateral Line

Fish use their **lateral line** primarily to sense the **local flow**



Pollach (*Pollachius virens*)

Superficial and Canal Neuromasts



Superficial Neuromasts < 30 Hz

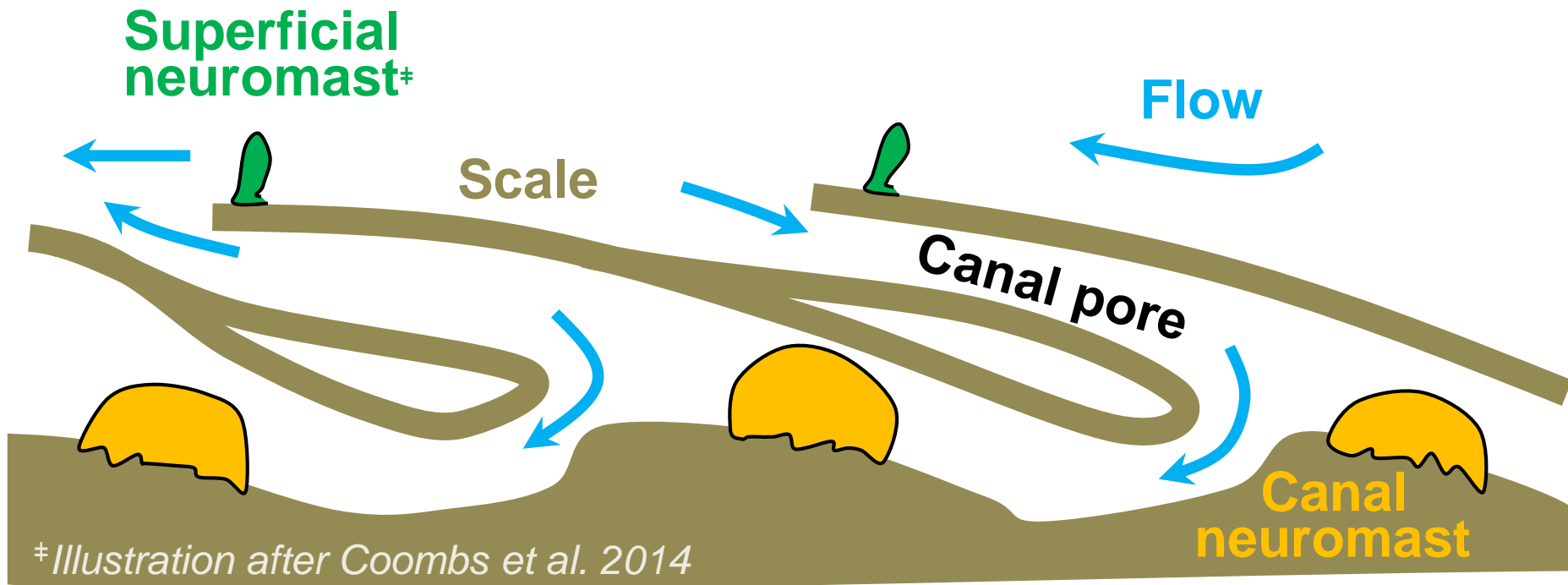
Canal Neuromasts 30-200 Hz

Superficial and Canal Neuromasts

Fish use **two modalities** to sense acceleration and **gradients**

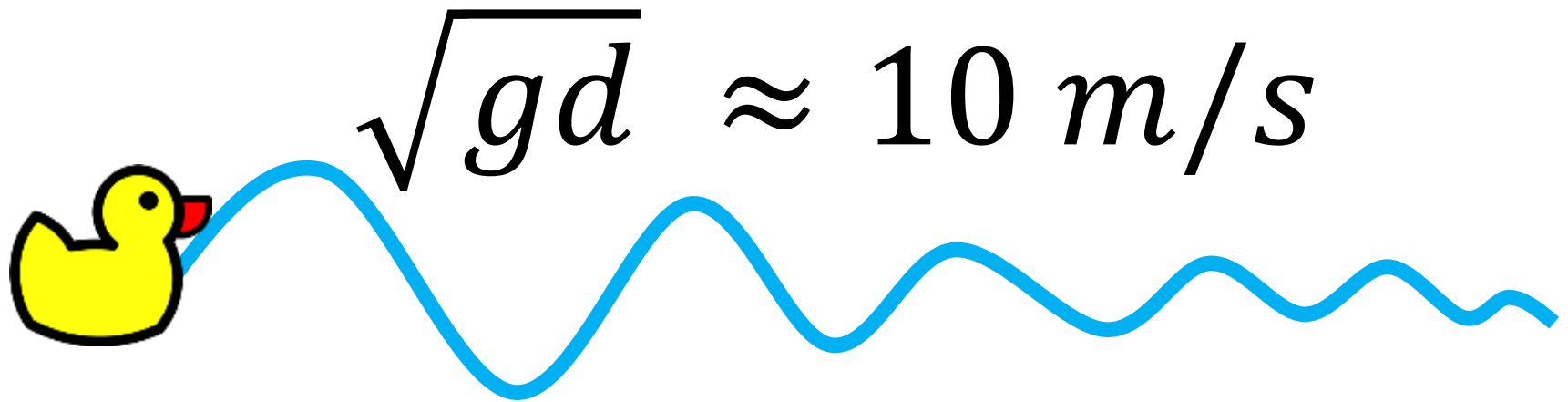
Superficial – senses velocity gradient at point

Canal – senses pressure gradient over body

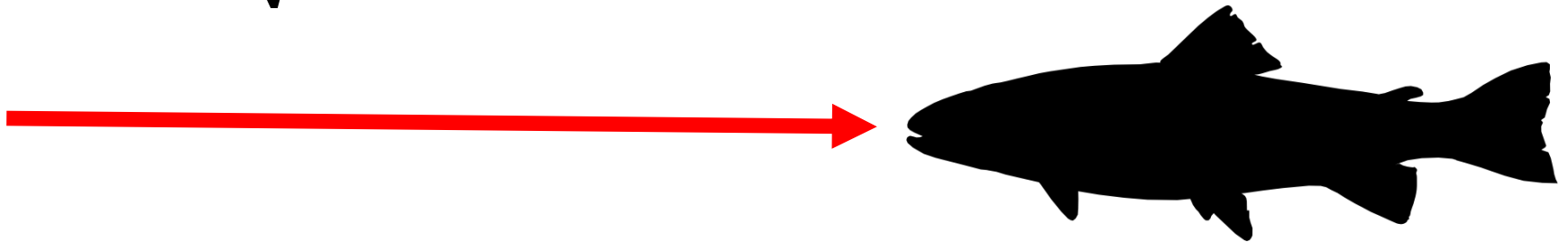


Origins of flow information

Water waves are **slow**, and sound waves are **fast**

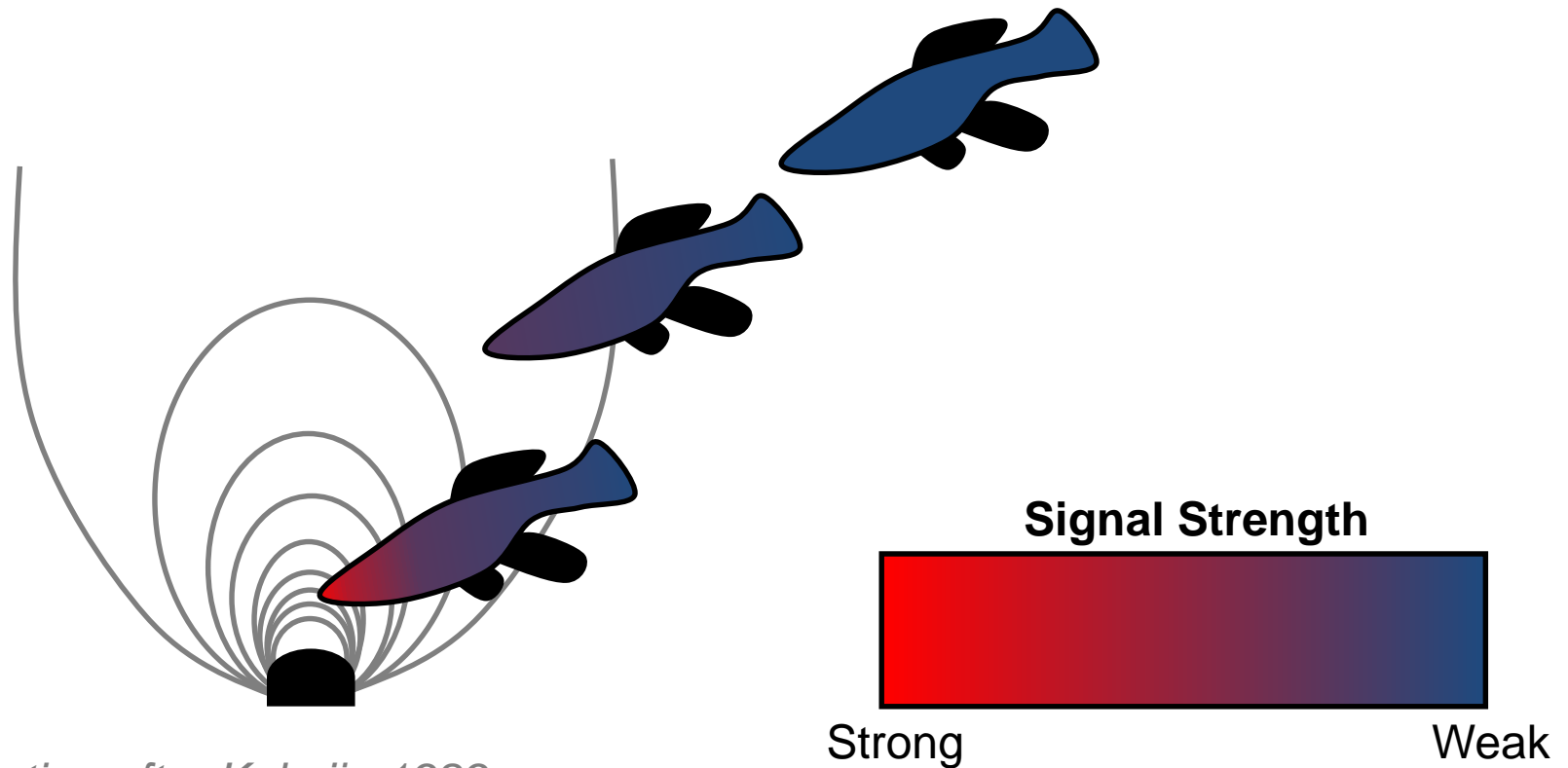


$$\sqrt{E/\rho} \approx 1500 \text{ m/s}$$



The Octavolateralis afferent system

Hydrodynamic detection of **vibrational signals**‡, including sound
Consists of the **inner ear**, **superficial** and **canal neuromasts**

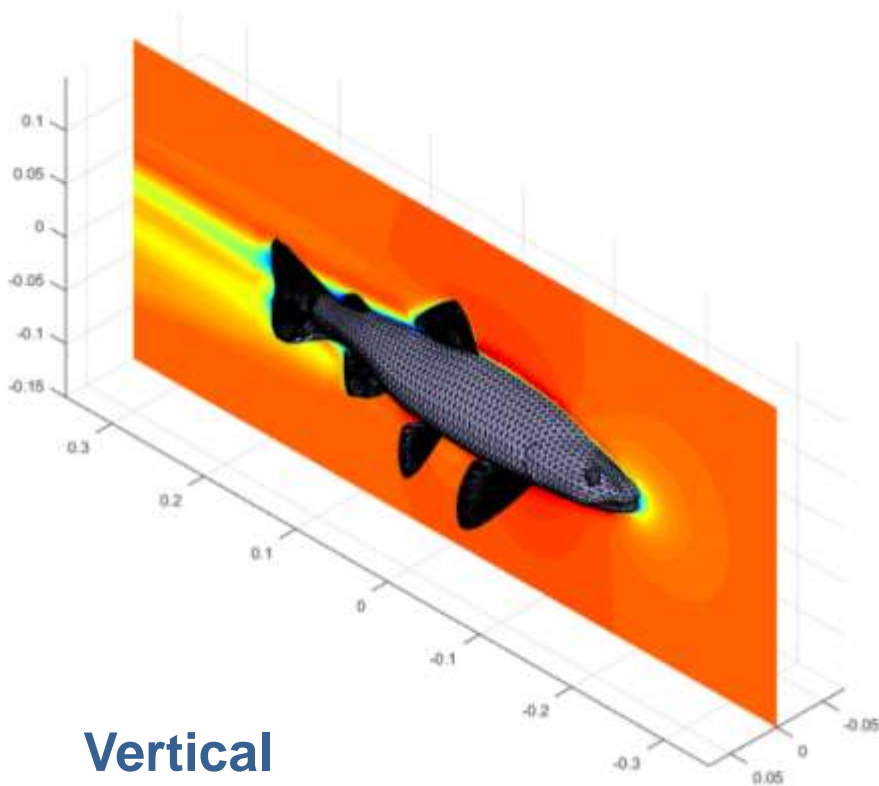


‡ *Illustration after Kalmijn 1989*

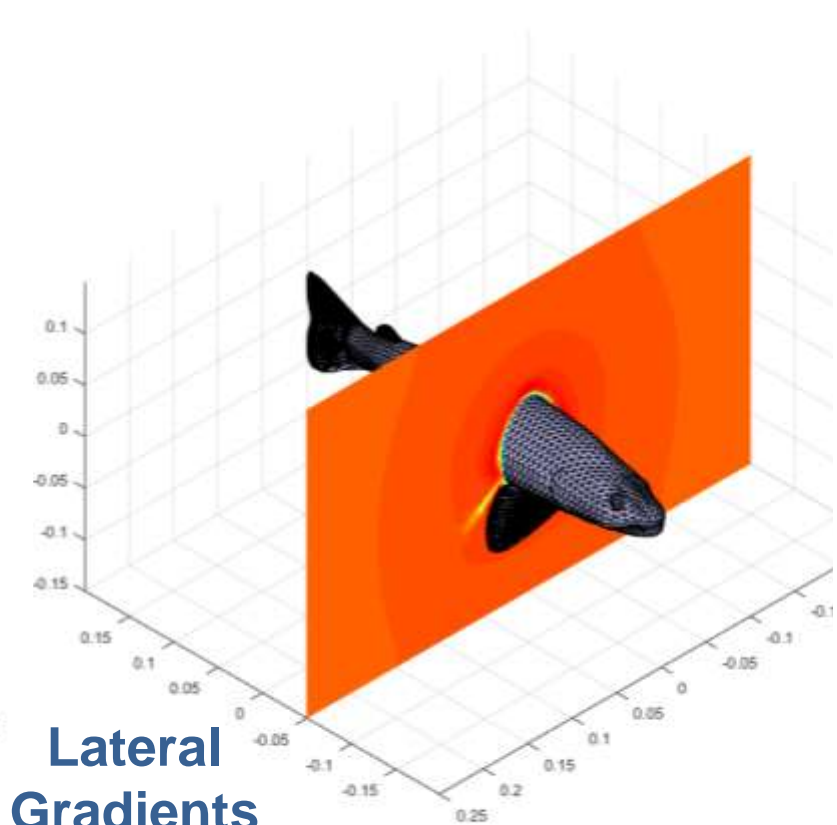
Flow Gradients

Flow around a fish is distributed into fast and slow regions

The **change** of flow is the **flow gradient**

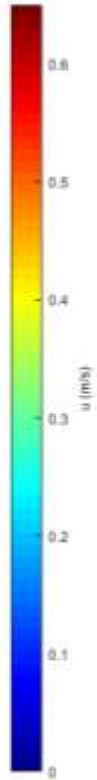


**Vertical
Gradients**



**Lateral
Gradients**

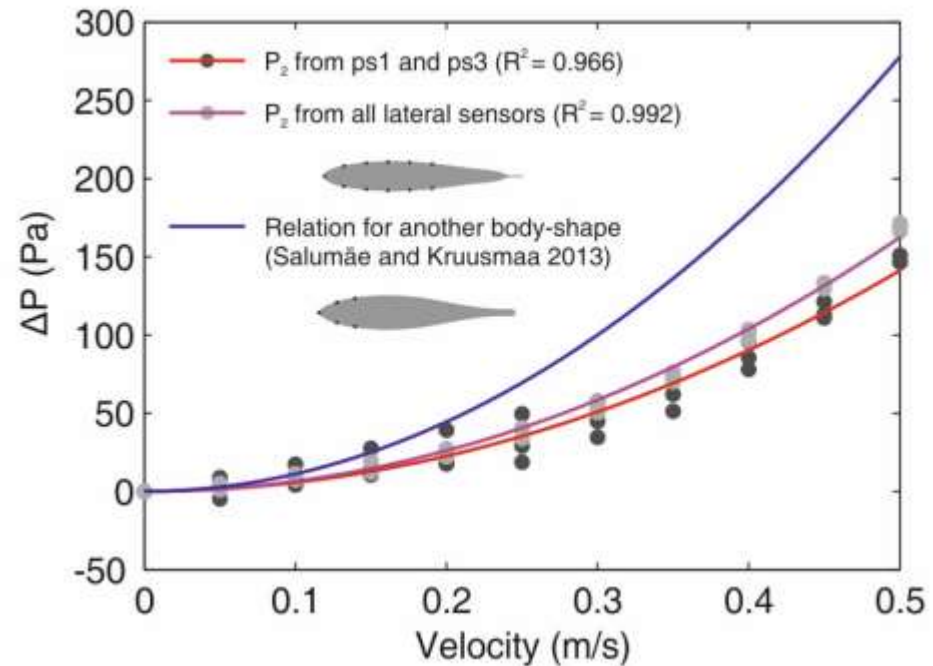
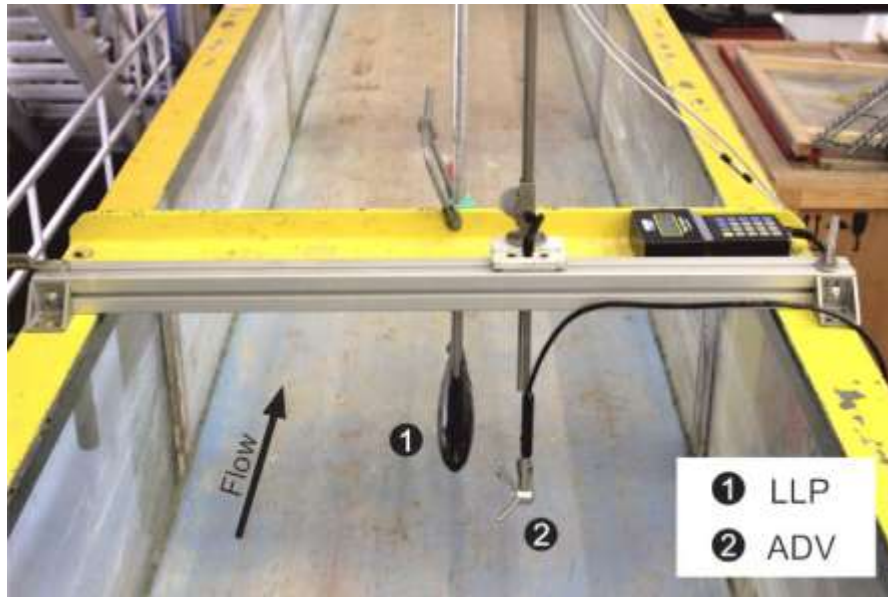
Fast



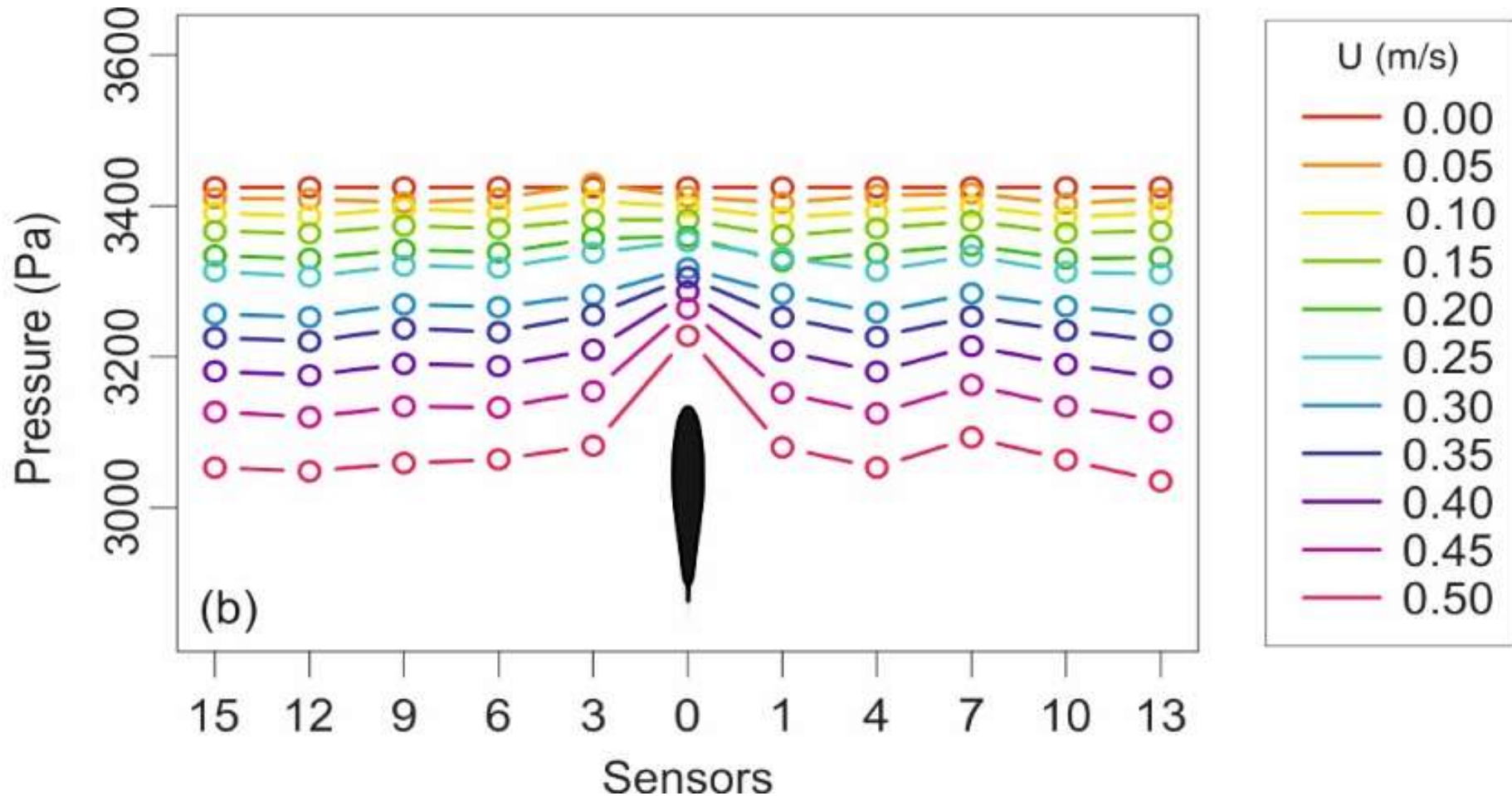
Slow

Using fluid-body interactions

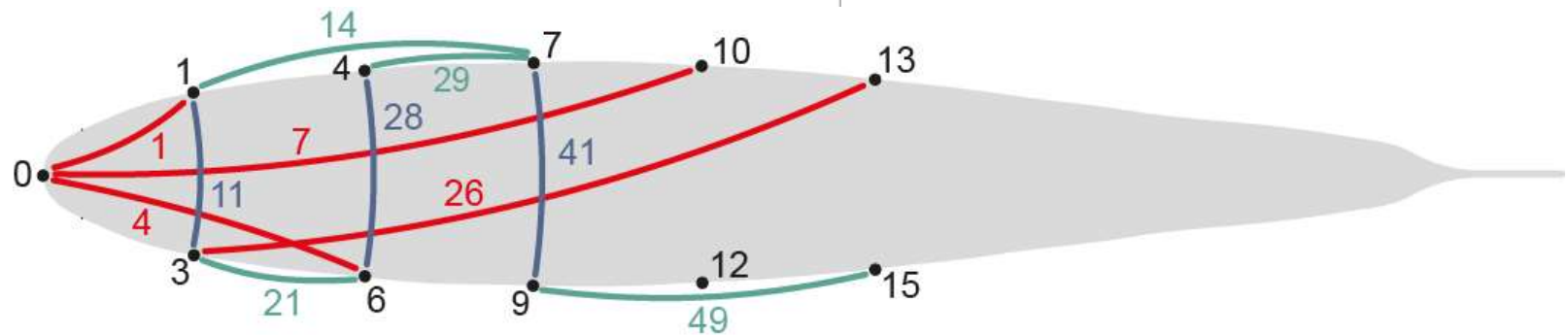
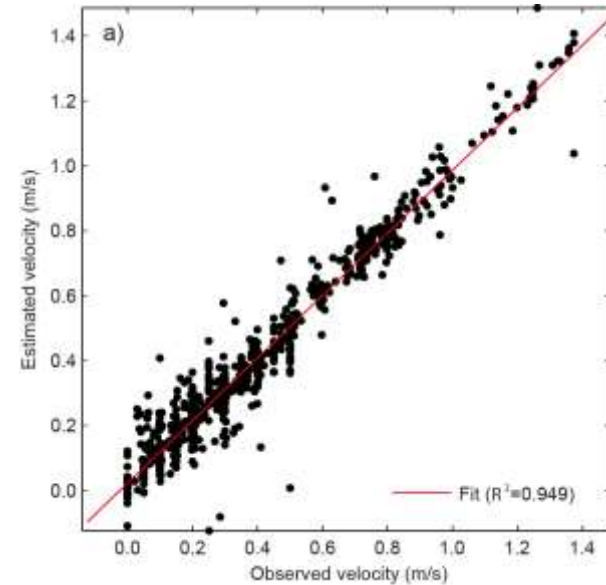
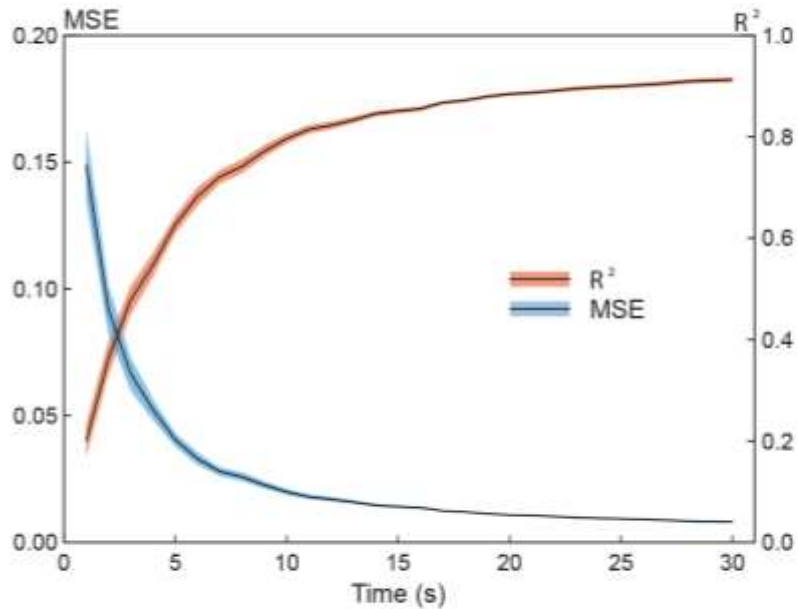
The **flow gradients** depend on the body and the flow field



Gradients map pressure to velocity

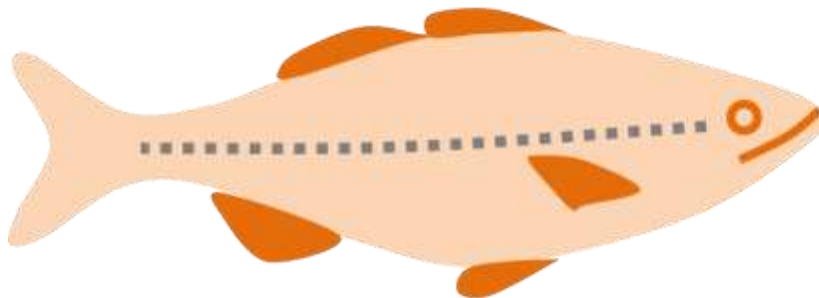


Sensor network outperforms Bernoulli

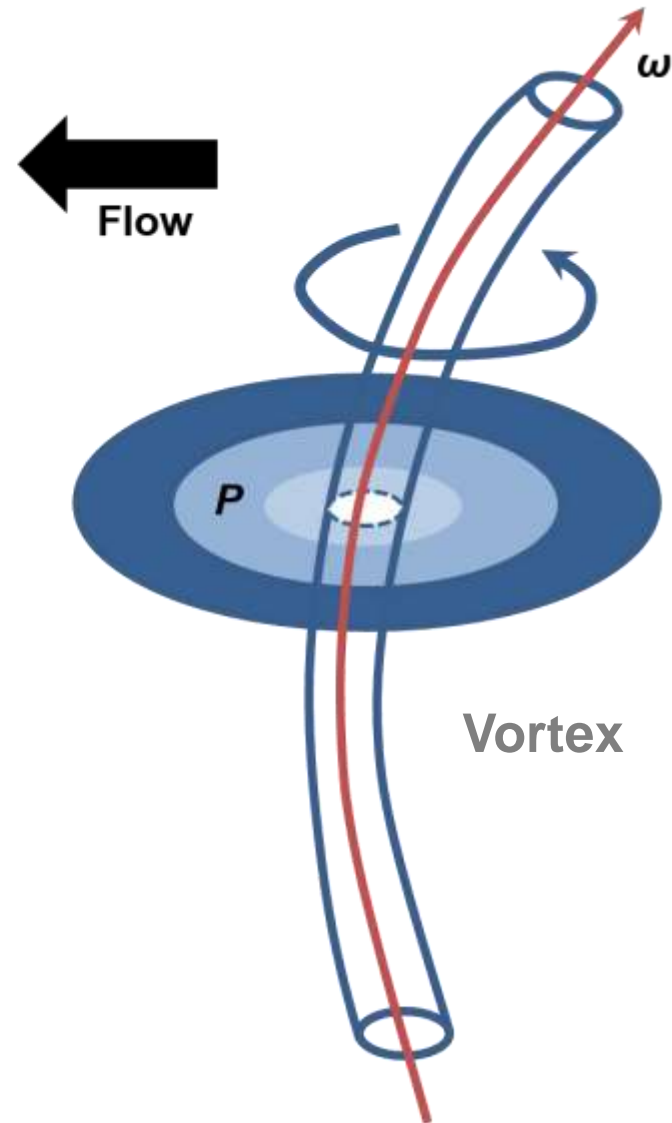


I got that “vortex-feeling“!

Fishes can feel vortices via a network of pressure gradients



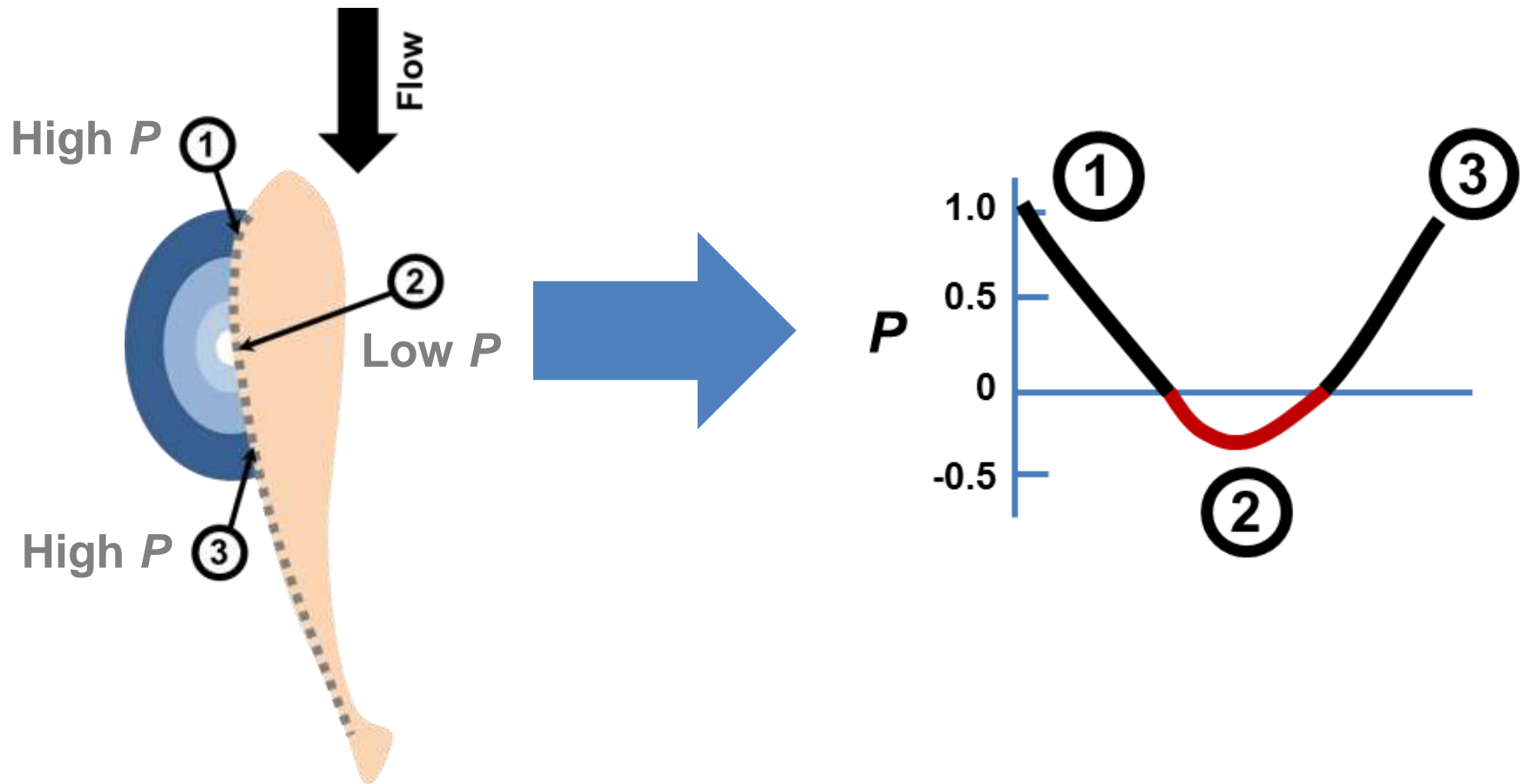
Lateral line



Vortex

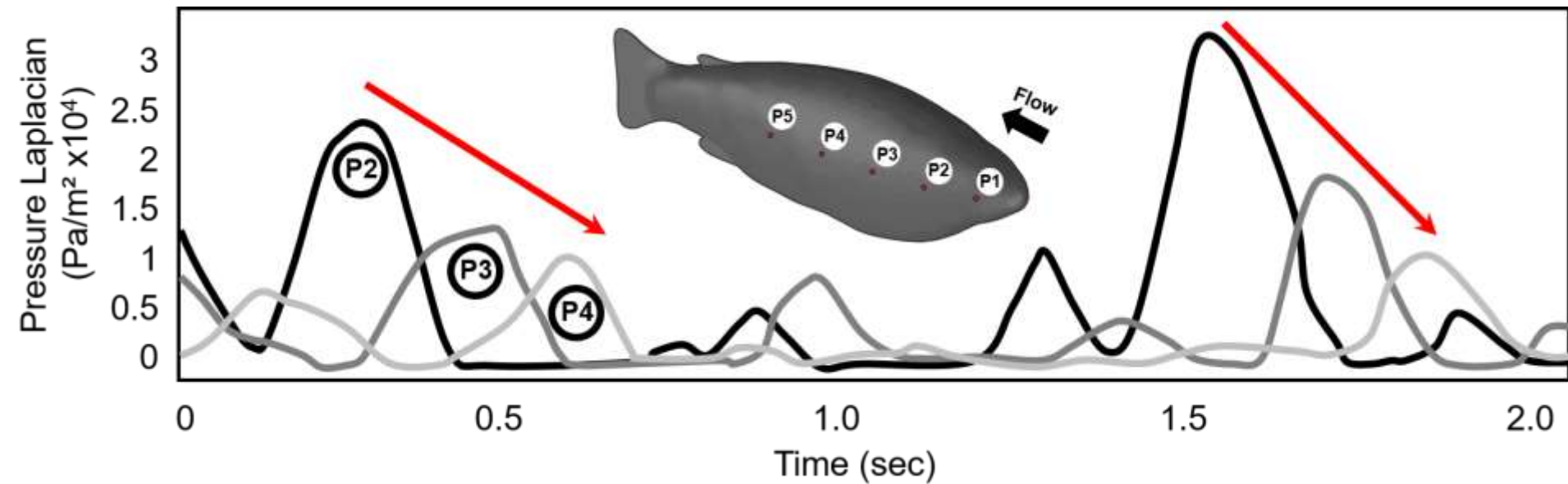
Vortex detection

Fishes feel a vortex as the pressure changes over their body



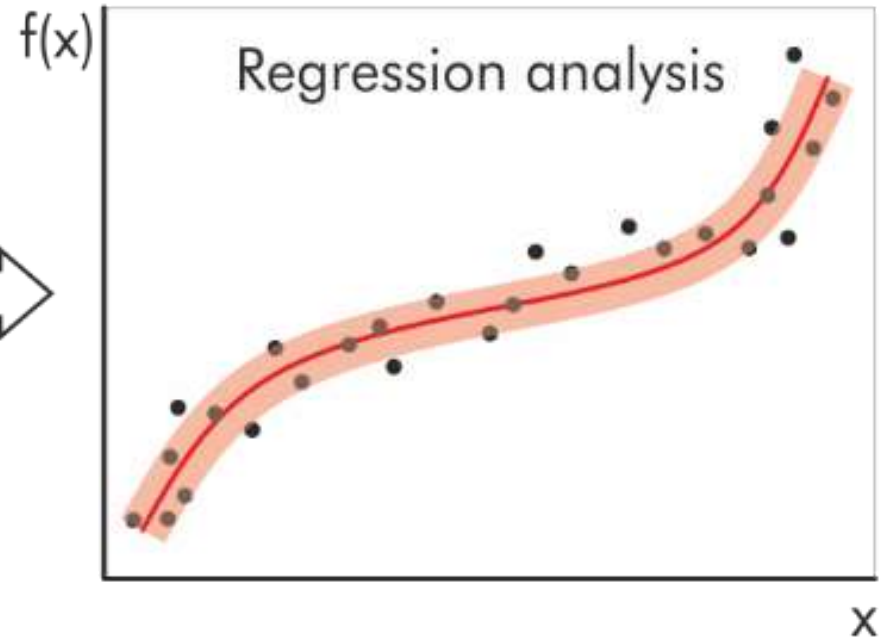
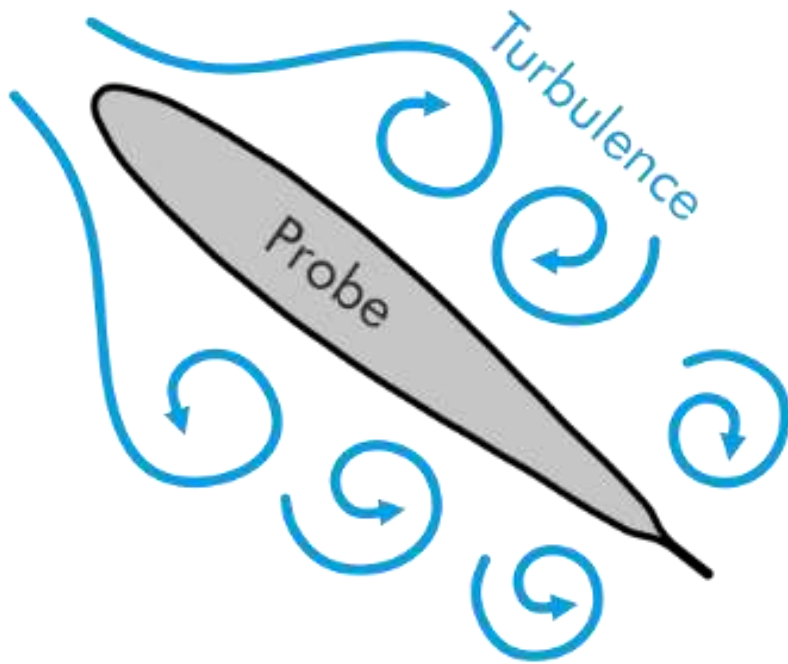
Artificial lateral line detection

A series of peaks shows that a vortex is passing over the body

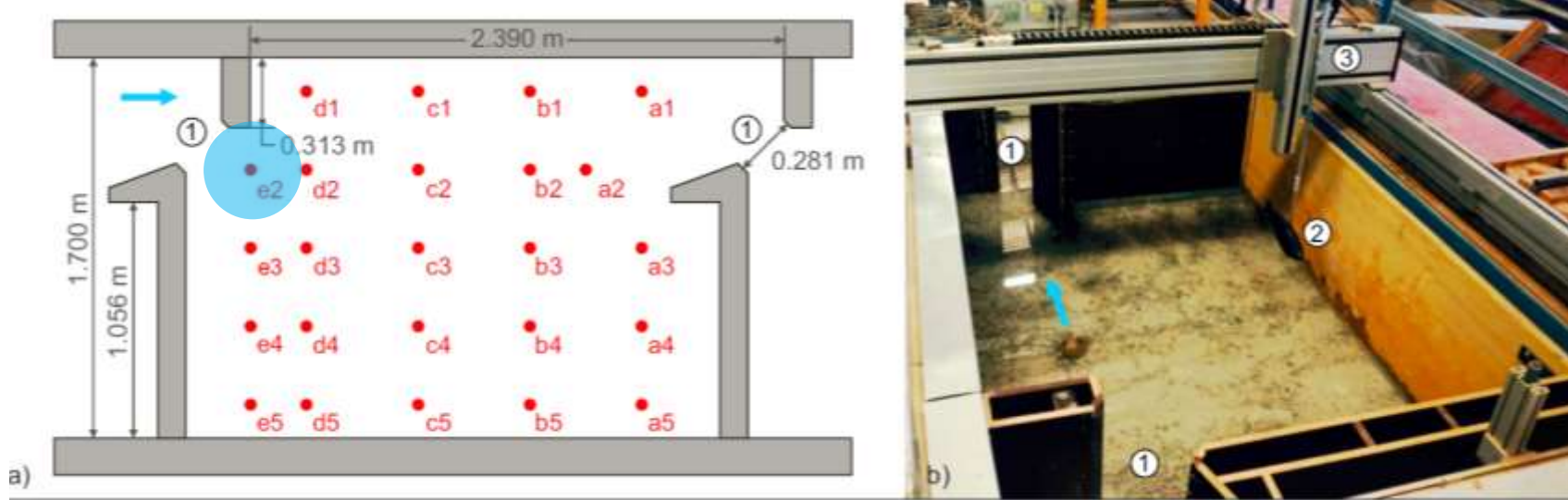


Mapping vs. measuring

Biological sensing systems do not measure physical quantities, they **map** them via the nervous system to the brain.

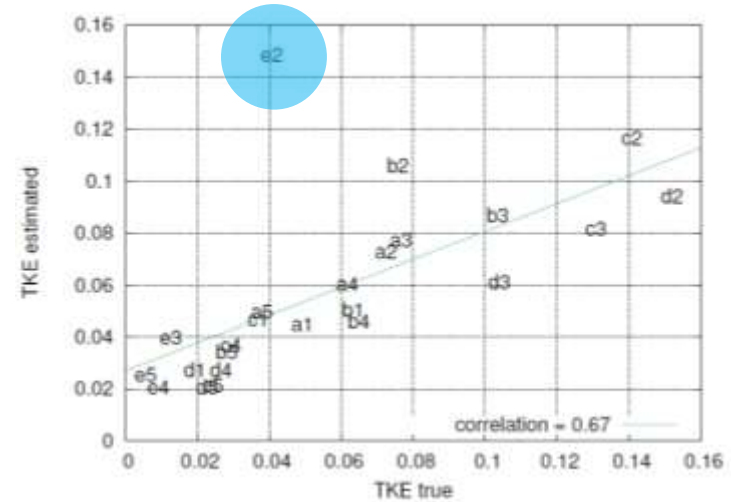
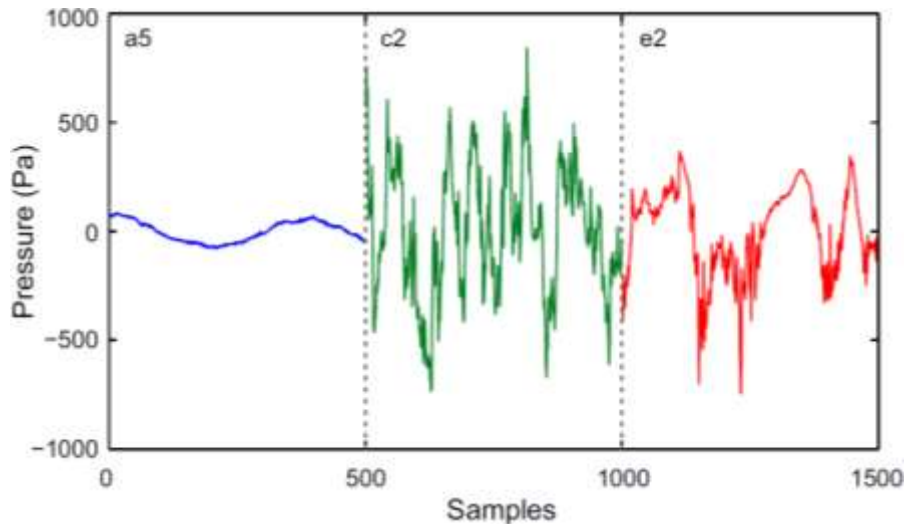


Turbulence in a vertical slot fishway



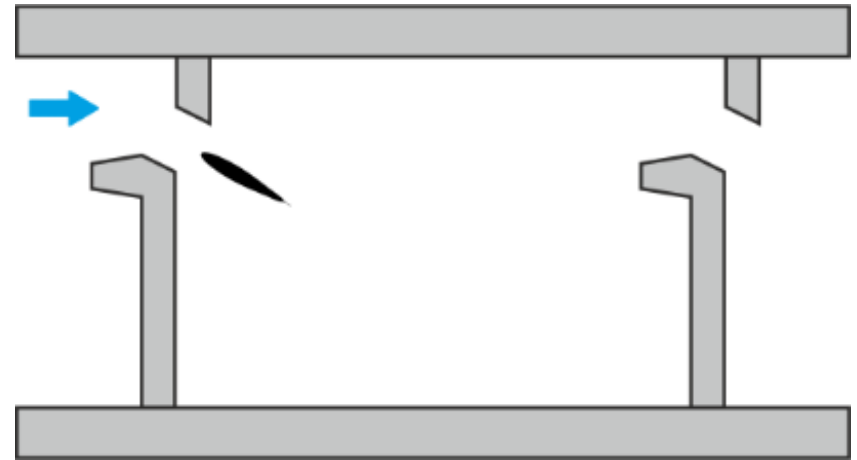
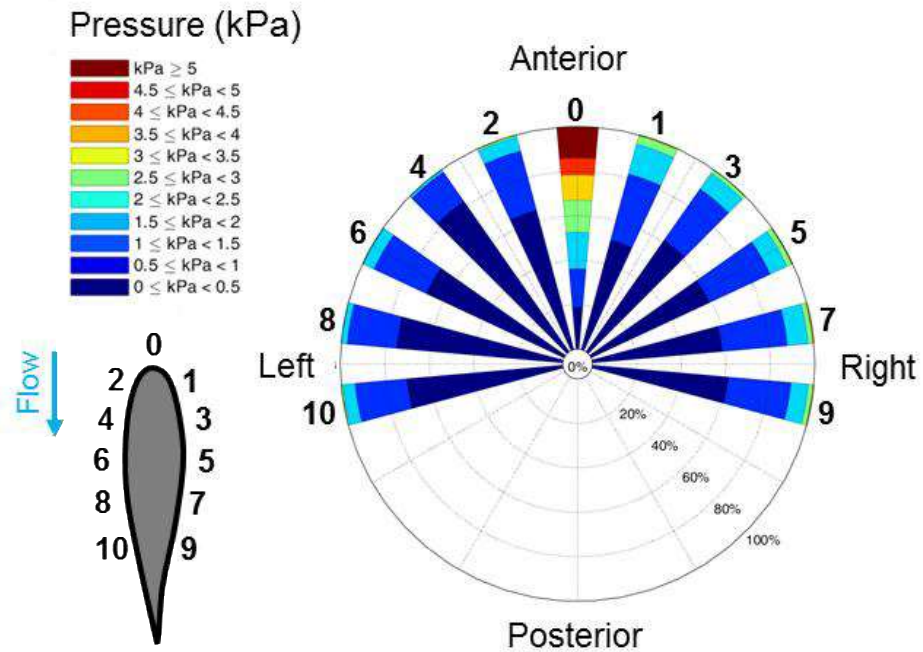
① Vertical slot ② Lateral line probe ③ Cartesian robot

→ Flow direction • Measuring points



Classification using space

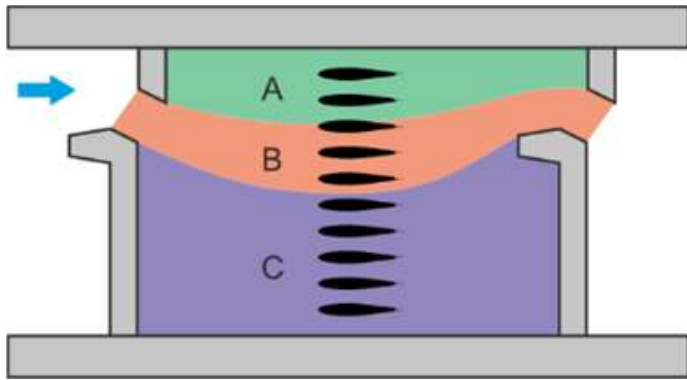
The flow around the body leaves a **hydrodynamic signature**.



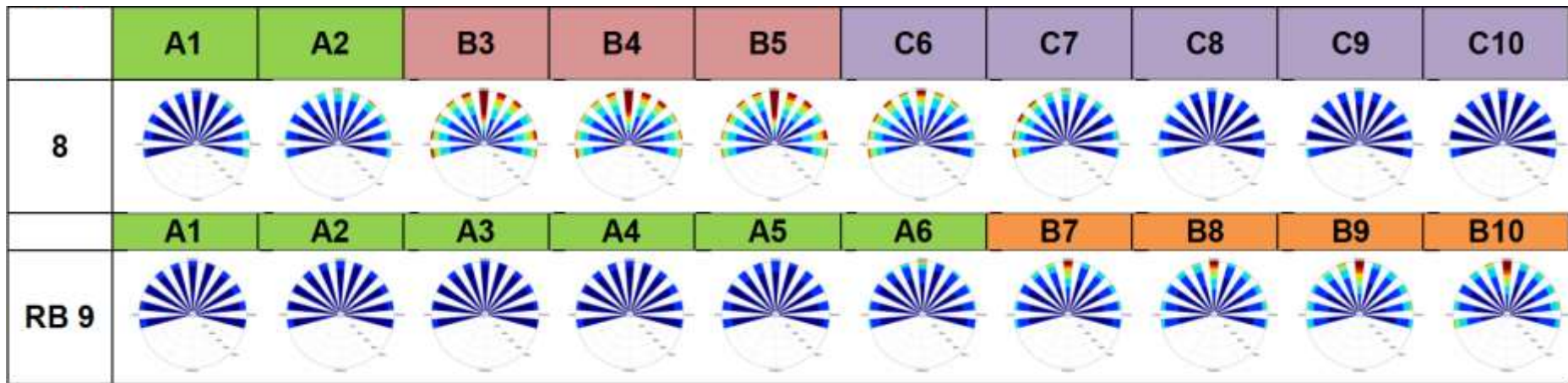
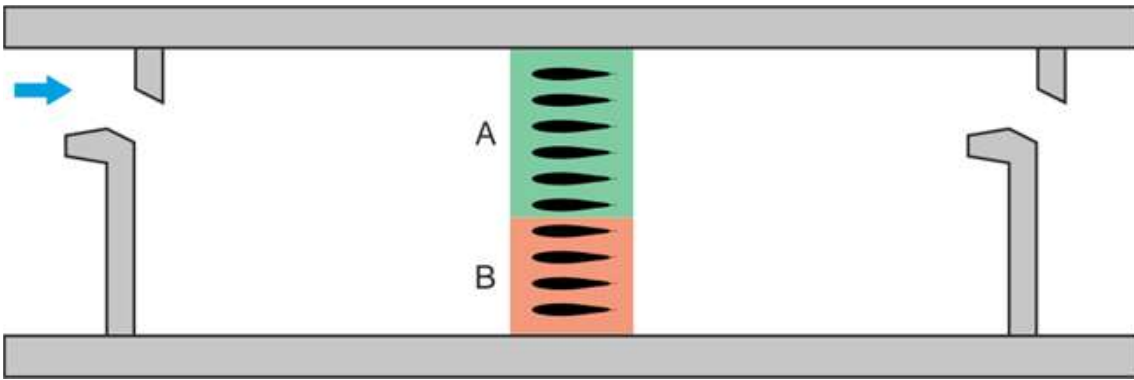
Classification using signatures

The signatures can help to identify **similar regions** in a fishway.

Standard Basins

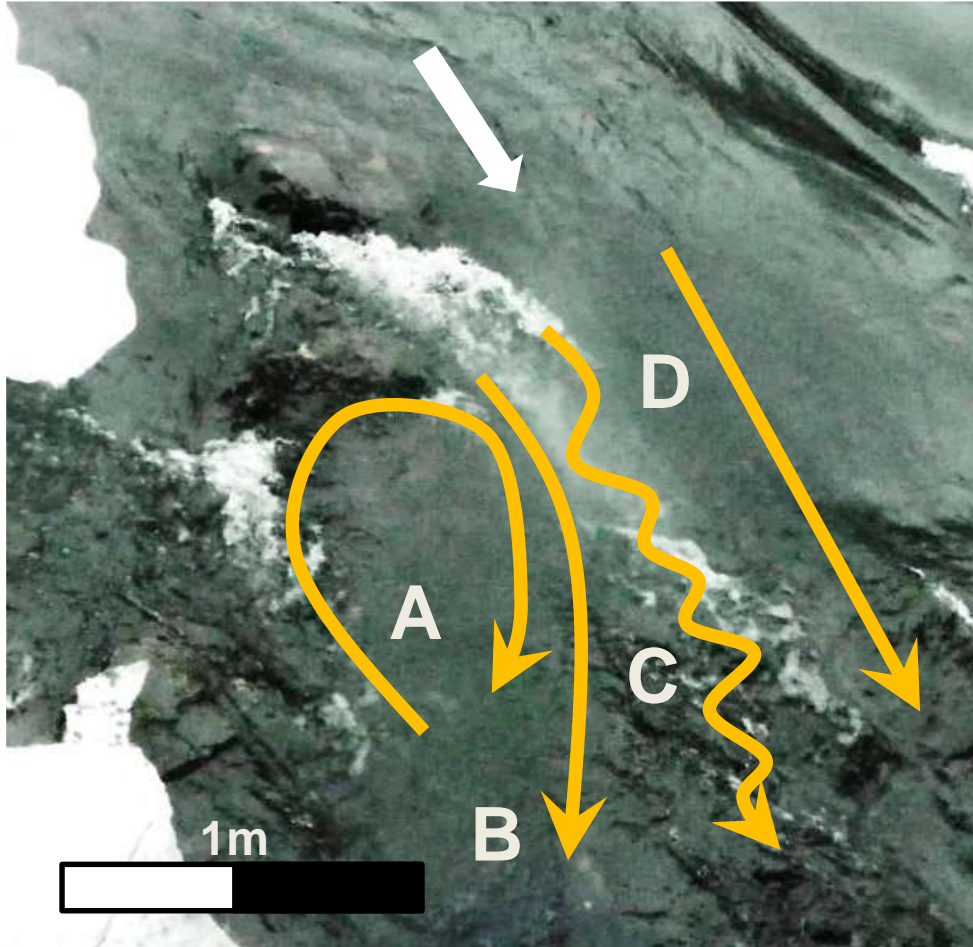


Resting Basin



Classification using time

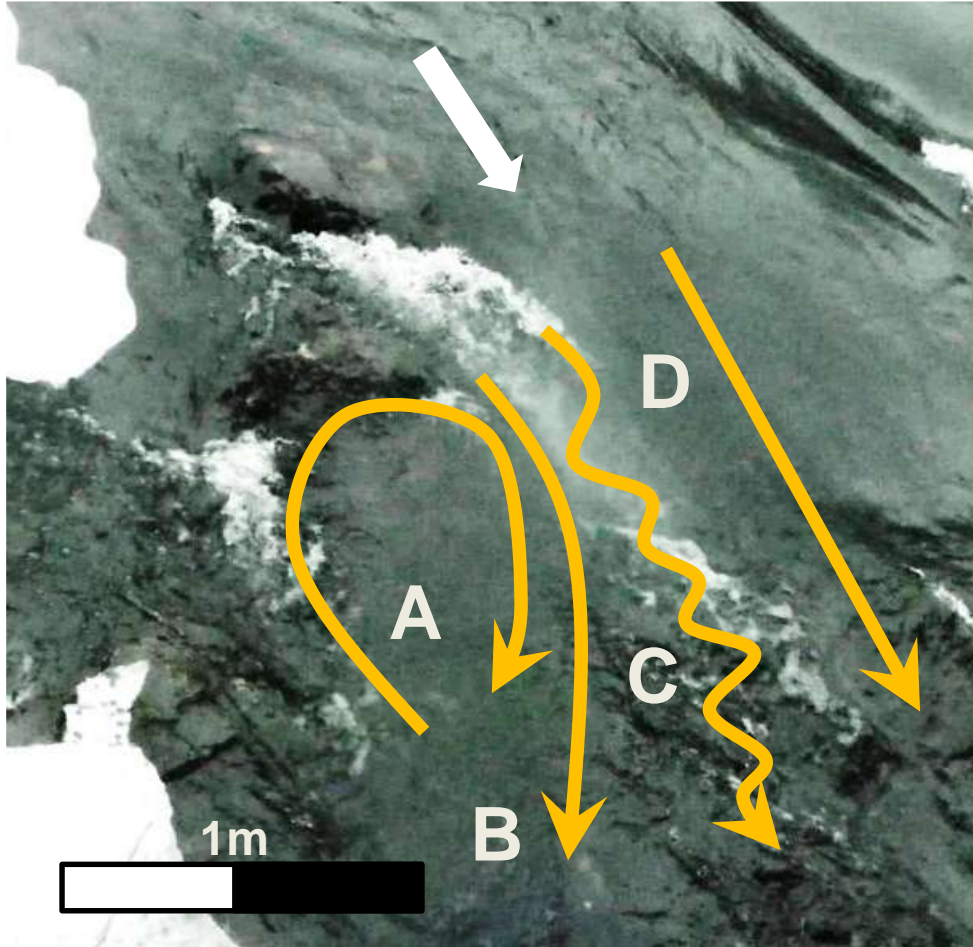
Natural flows require mapping at **multiple scales**.



- A** = recirculation zone
- B** = shear zone
- C** = turbulent wake
- D** = critical flow zone

Classification using time

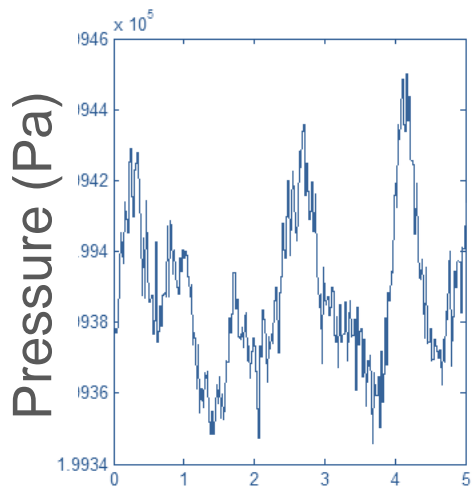
Natural flows require mapping at **multiple scales**.



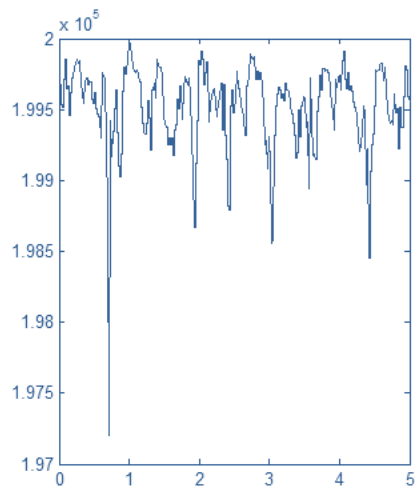
- A** = recirculation zone
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- C** = turbulent wake
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Flow Signatures – Time Domain

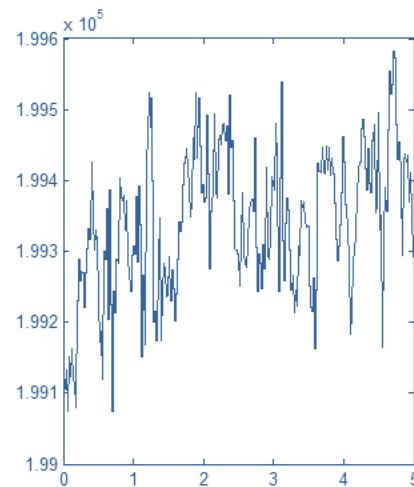
A



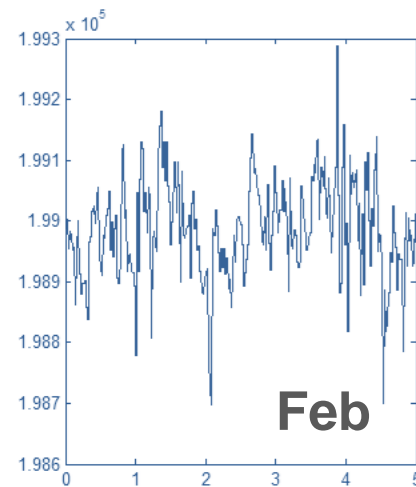
B



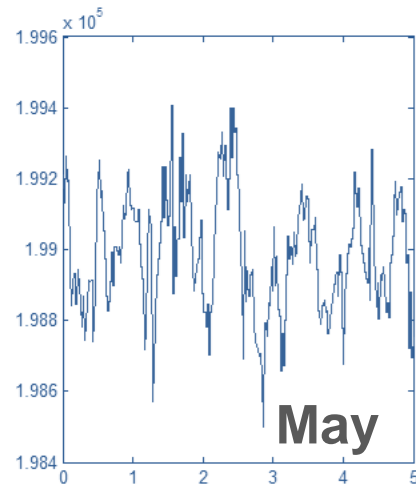
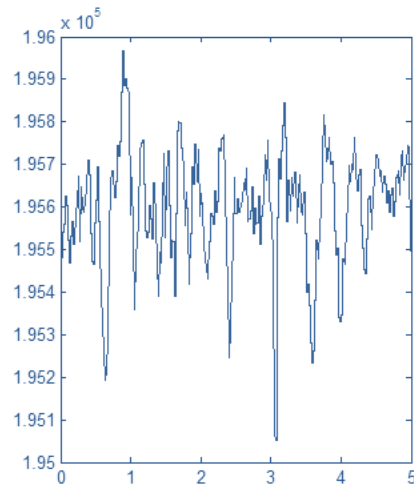
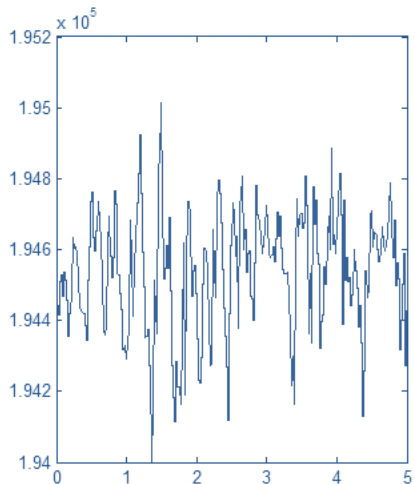
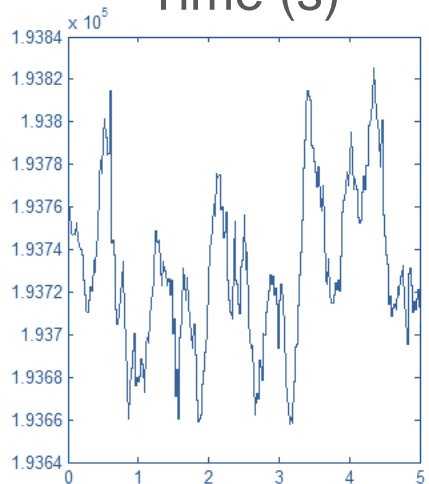
C



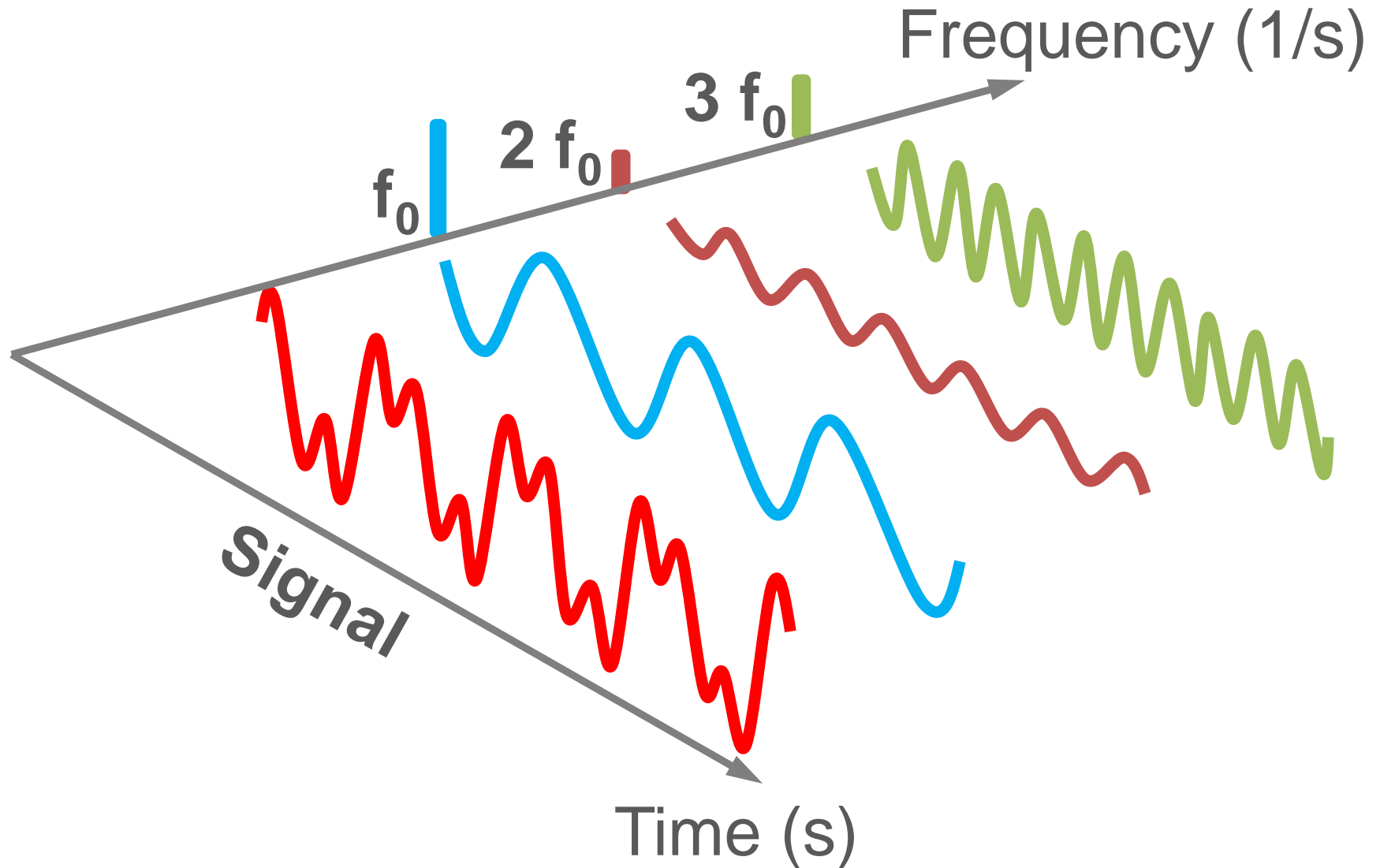
D



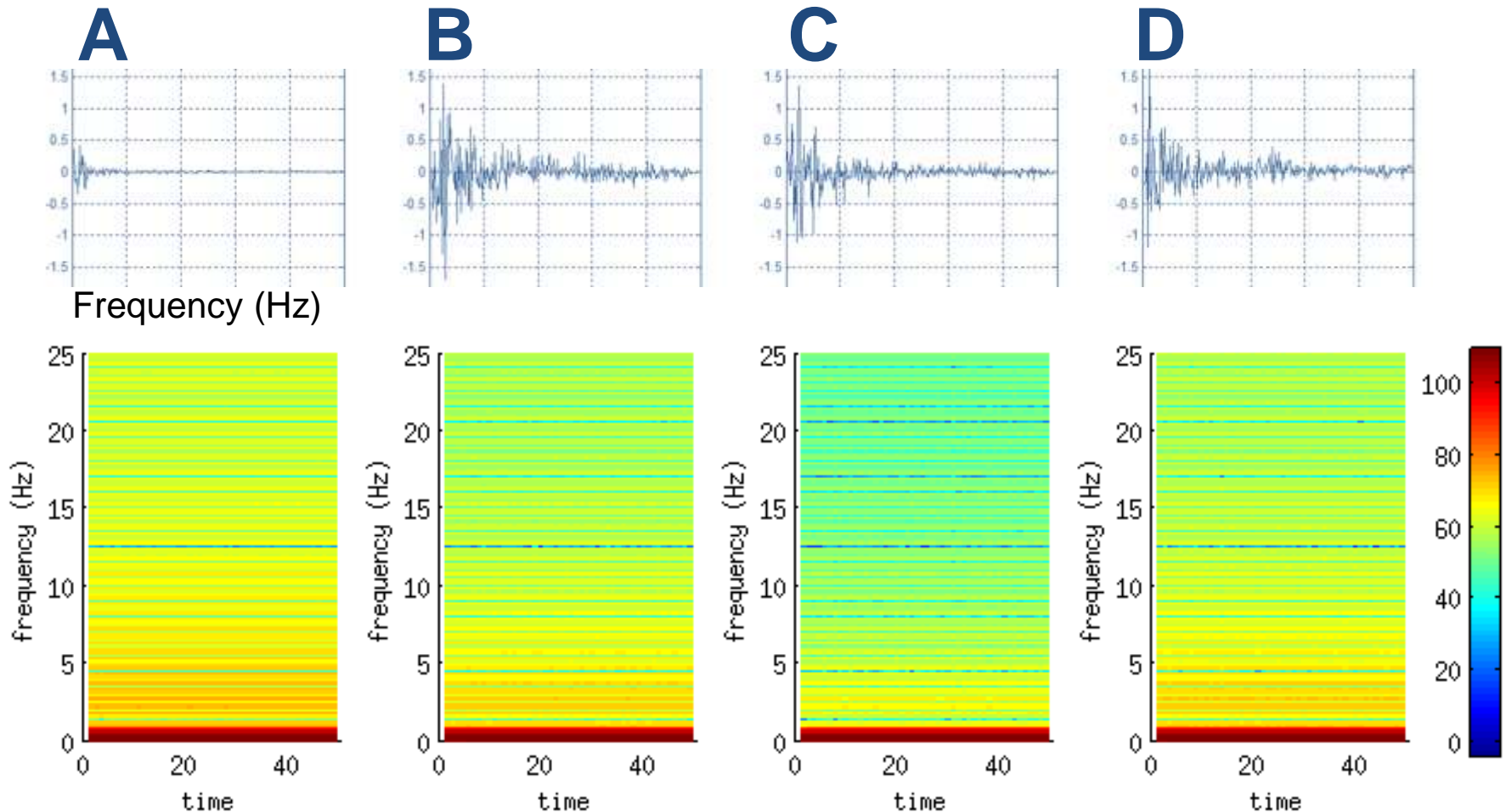
Time (s)



Time to frequency domain



Spectrogram features



86% correct classification at 2 Hz

Performed with a **Gaussian Mixture Model**

Wrap-Up

1. A **fish is not a point**, in space or in time.
2. Fish use their **lateral line system** to feel the flow and retrieve flow information using spatial gradients.
3. We can use **artificial lateral lines** to sense and classify complex flows in space & time.

Thank You!



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