

# New role of optical fibre network for global environment

Omar AIT SAB  
Alcatel Submarine Network  
NOKIA Corporation

# Outline

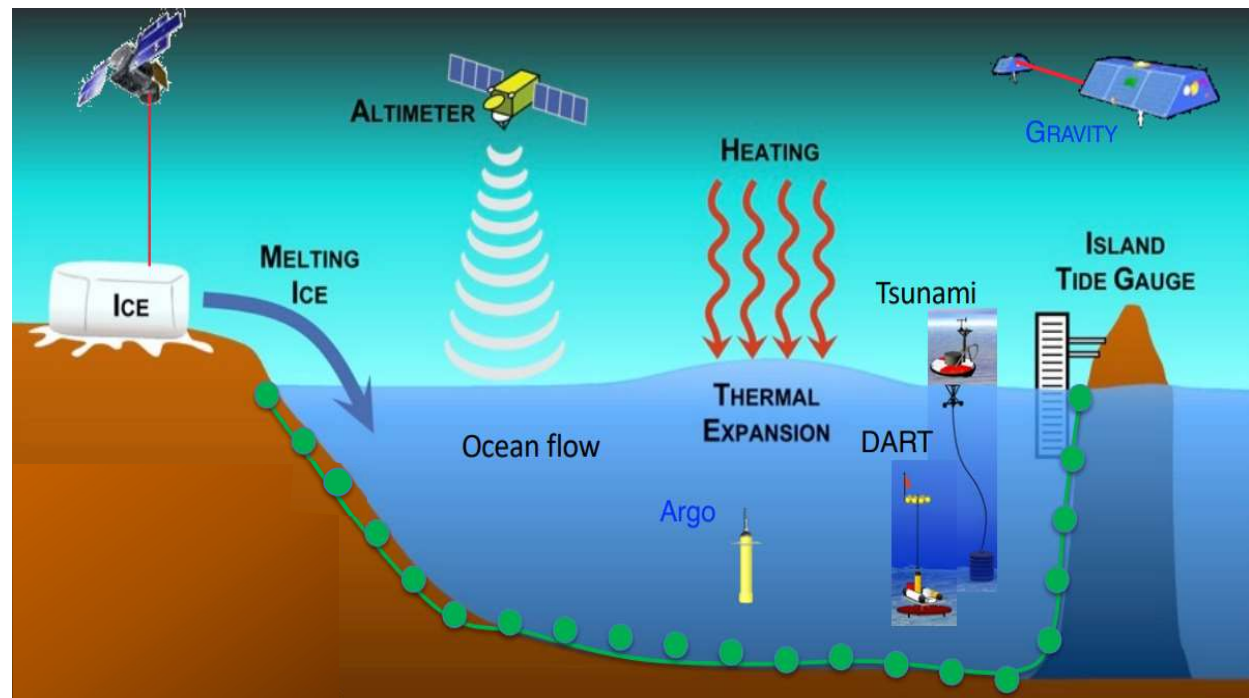
- Ocean observation overview
- Ocean observation
  - Submarine Cables observatories
  - SMART
  - DAS, SOP
- ITU-T/SG15/Q8 activities and new study items
  - G.DSSSC
  - G.SMART

## Objectives

- Seafloor seismic measurements and tsunami early warning
- Evaluation of the consequences of global warming on the behavior of the oceans - examples:
  - mean sea level rise (ice melting + thermal expansion)
  - ocean acidification (absorption of 30% of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - disruption of thermohaline circulation (lower salinity due to melting ice)

**Existing solution: Satellite and in-situ technologies**

**What role for submarine cables?**

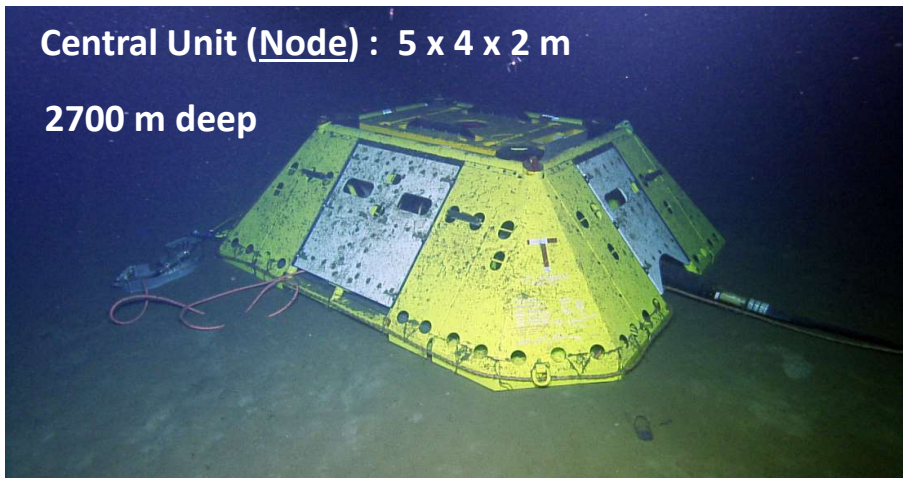


*Adapted from B. Howe, JTF, 2021*

## First Ocean Bottom Observatory system connected with submarine cables: Neptune (2009)

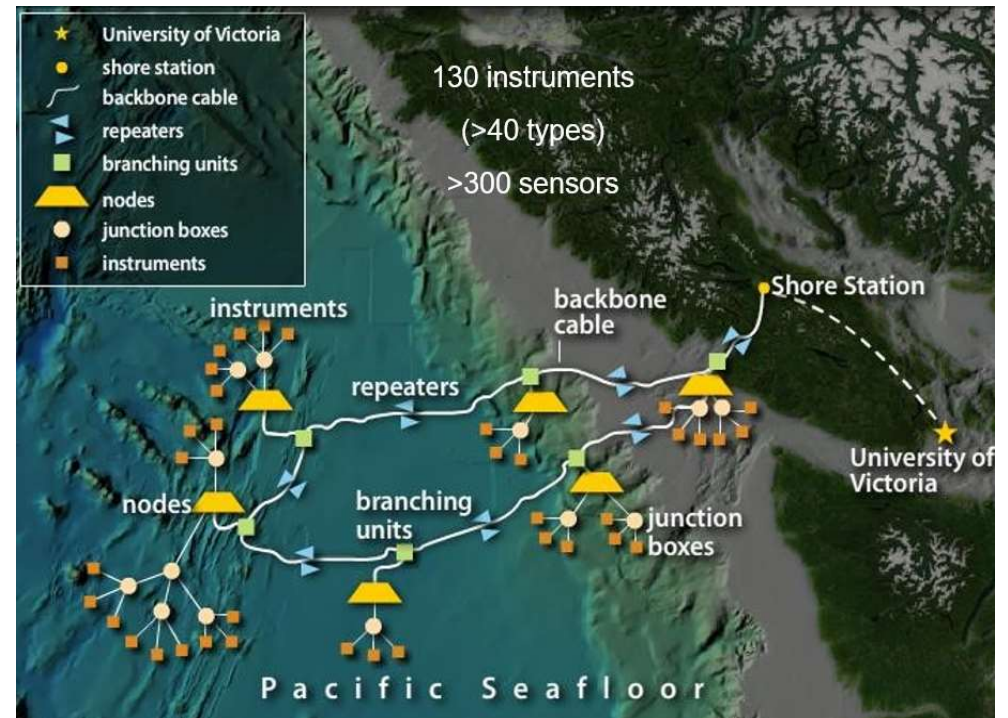
Central Unit (Node) : 5 x 4 x 2 m

2700 m deep

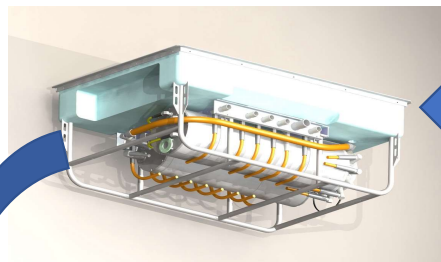


Optical submarine cable main equipment:

- PFE : 10 kV at 10 A
- EDFA based Repeaters with DWDM channels at 2.5 Gb/
- 6 Nodes at 2700 m deep

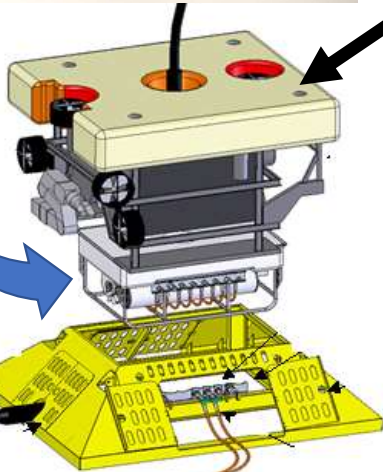


# Ocean Observation: Submarine cables



Two modules in the Node:  
 1/ Tension Converter 10 kV => 50V  
 2/ 2.5 Gb/s optical transceiver

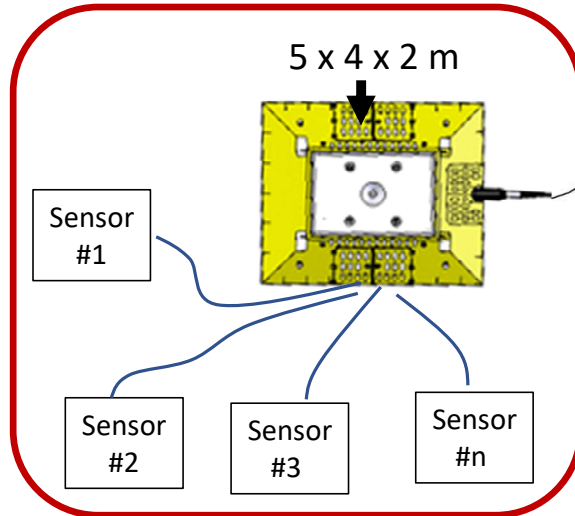
Robot handling the modules



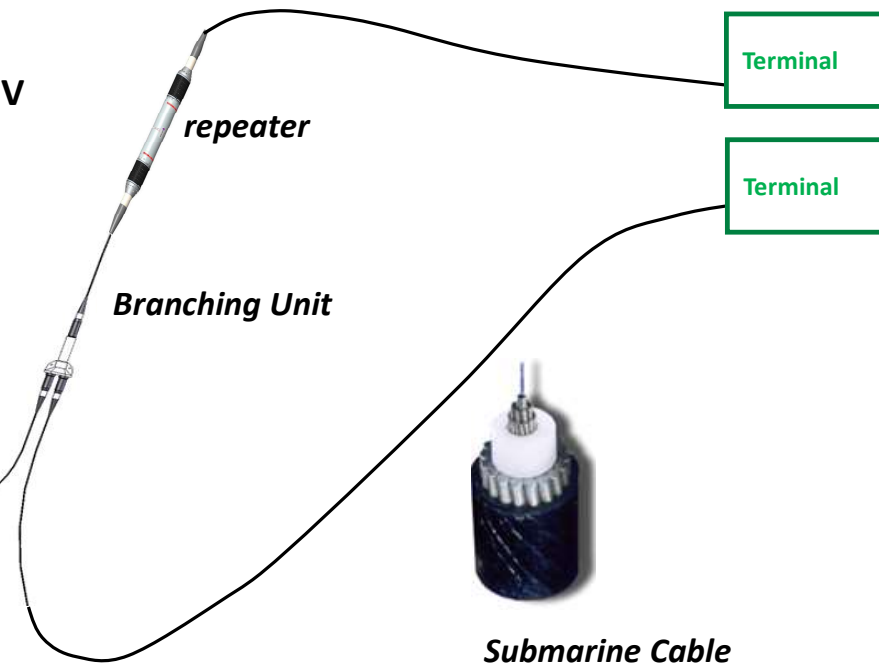
Cable connexion

Sensors connections

[www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)



**Observatory**



Equipment and modules are extractible and replaceable using a remote-control robot

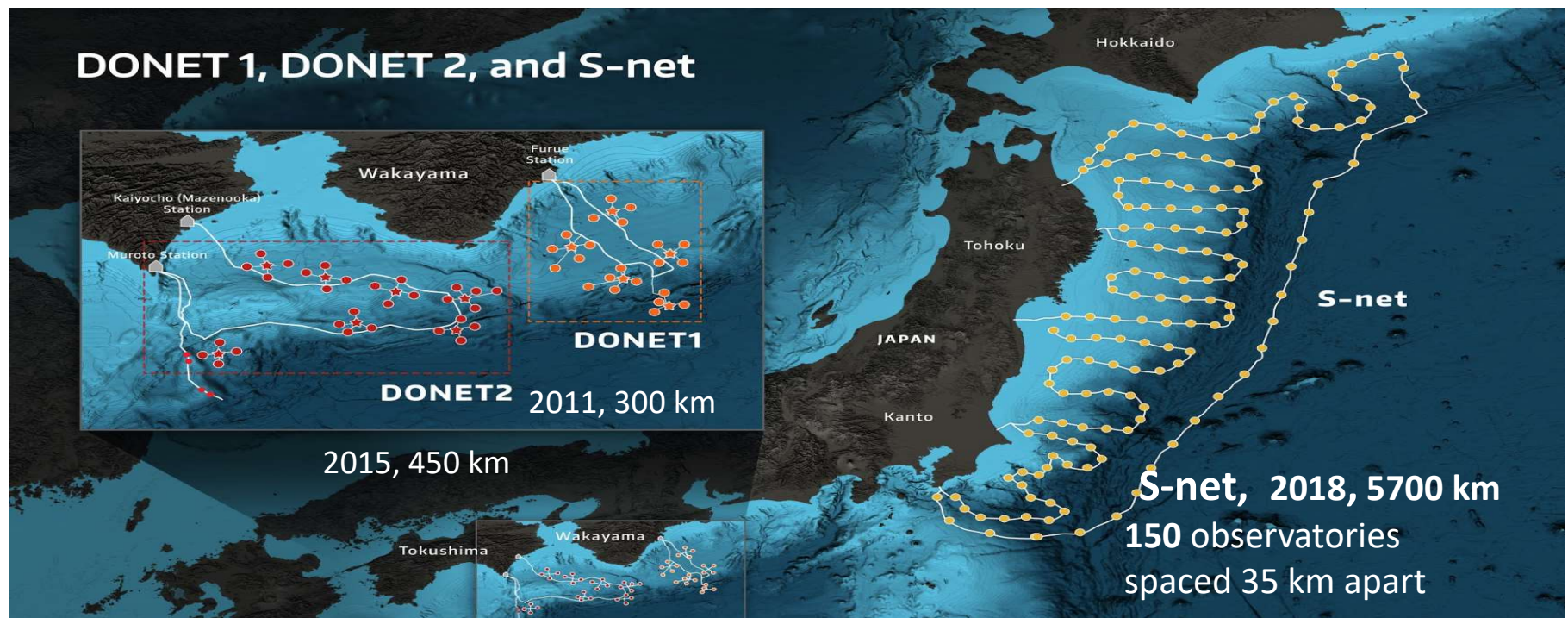


**WSIS  
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Starting on 15 March  
Final week 30 May - 3 June

# Ocean Observation: Submarine cables

## Observatory system connected with submarine cables: DONUT and S-NET Japan



[www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)

DONET = Dense Ocean floor Network System for Earthquakes and Tsunamis

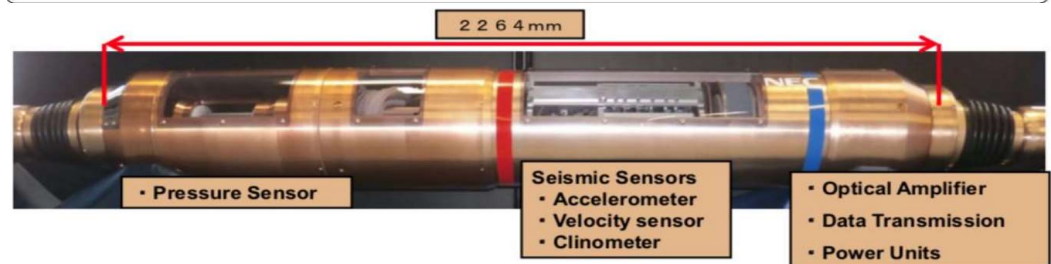
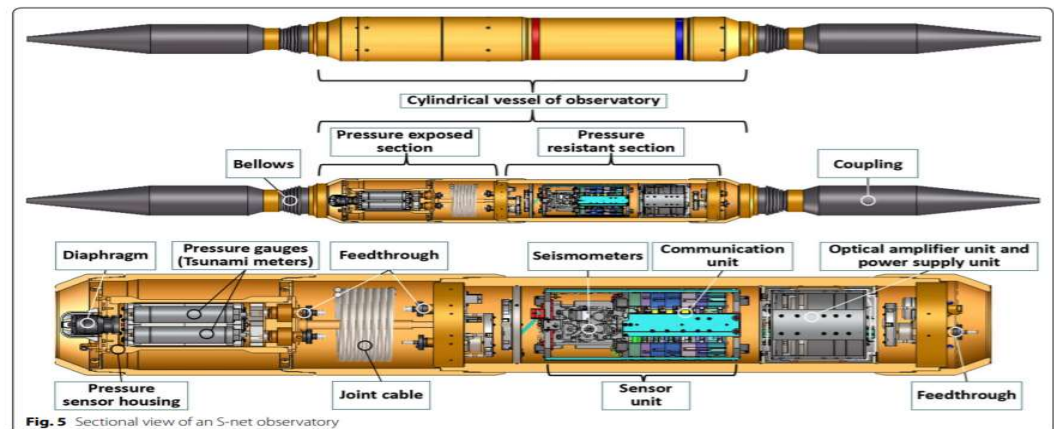
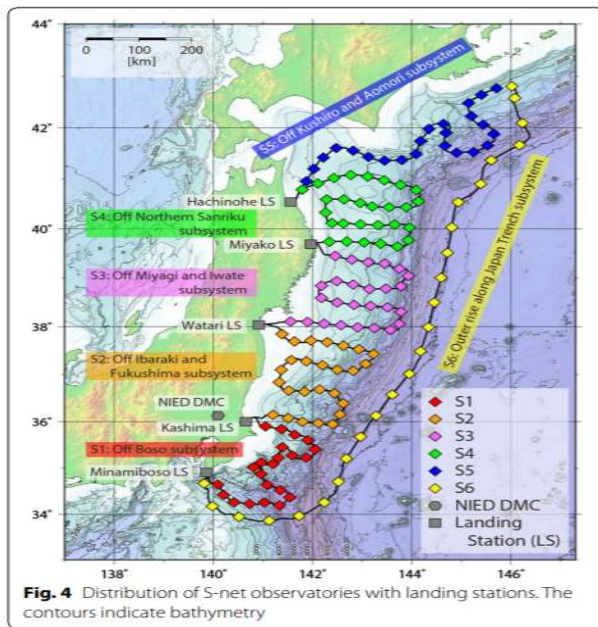


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# Ocean Observation: Submarine cables

## Observatory system connected with submarine cables: S-NET Japan



Aoi et al. Earth, Planets and Space (2020)

MOWLAS: NIED observation network for earthquake, tsunami and volcano

# Ocean Observation: SMART

## Concept

Equip a few telecommunication repeaters (10%) with scientific sensors

## Objectif

Each year: 100.000 km of submarine cables are deployed which leads ~ 2000 repeaters  
Assume 10% of SMART repeaters => **6000 sensors installed in 10 years**

## Advantages

- Coverage of all the seas of the globe
- Infrastructure and installation costs shared with the telecommunications network
- Equip only repeaters placed in useful observation areas
- Ocean Bottom Observation (8000m)
- Real-time measurement by high-speed optical fiber



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

UNESCO-IOC / ITU / WMO  
Joint Task Force - 2012



Chairman : B. Howe  
University of Hawaii

***SMART Cables for Observing the Global Ocean: Science and Implementation***

B. Howe et al. , 2019

[Frontiers in Marine Science](#)



## JTF main Recommendations

- Accelerometers

Characteristics	Value
Configuration	3-Axis
Response	0.1 to 200Hz
Resonance frequency	>2,000Hz
Full scale range	+/-1.5g where g is 9.806 m/s <sup>2</sup>
Noise	≤ 2ng / √Hz
Sampling rate	200Hz
Sample resolution	24 bit

- Temperature Sensor:

Characteristics	Value
Range	-5.0 to +35°C
Initial Accuracy	0.001°C
Stability	0.002°C / year
Sampling Rate	0.1 Hz
Sample Resolution	24 bits

- Absolute pressure gauge:

Characteristics	Value
Range	0 to 73MPa (0 to 7,000m)
Overpressure tolerance	84MPa (8,000m)
Accuracy	+/-1mm relative to recent measurements
Sampling Rate	20 Hz
Sample Resolution	32 bits

### JTF Engineering Team White Paper

*General Requirements for  
Sensor Enabled and Reliable  
Telecommunications (SMART)  
Cable Systems*

[General requirements of a  
SMART Cable Issue](#)



**JTF Recommendations:  
Deploy 3 types of sensors**

## Expected first SMART Cables Project: CAM2 SMART Cables

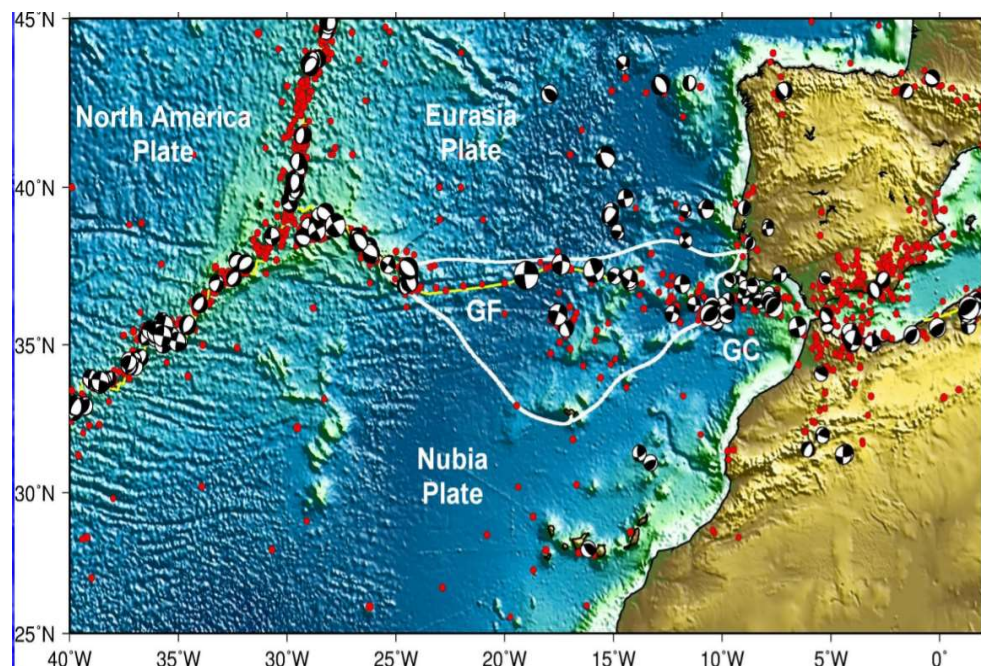
### Continent Azores Madeira

- Domestic telecom system with international connection
- 3700 Km, €120M
- 50 SMART Repeaters
- Seismic, tsunami, ocean, environment
- RFP 2022
- RFS 2025

1755 Tsunami, 60.000 deaths in Lisbon

CAM2 will enhance with more than 10s the EEWS

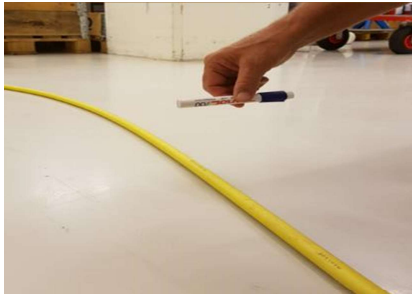
- **Less loss of lives**



## Observatory system using existing submarine cables: Distributed Acoustic Sensing

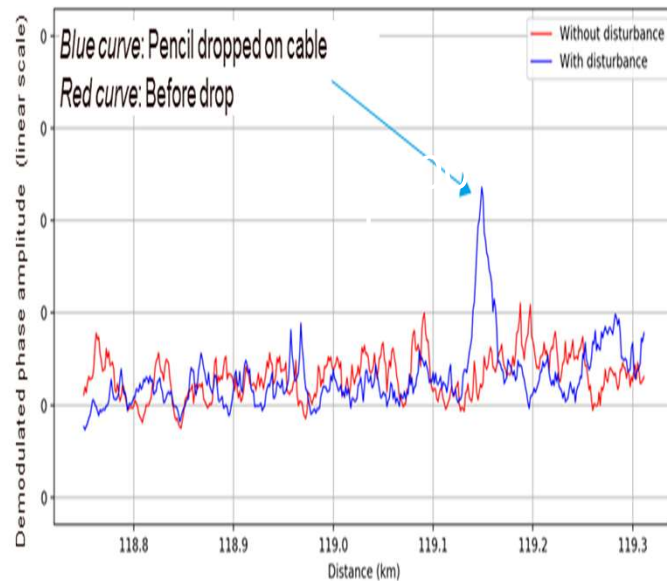


**Distance range 150 km**  
**Précision < 10 m**

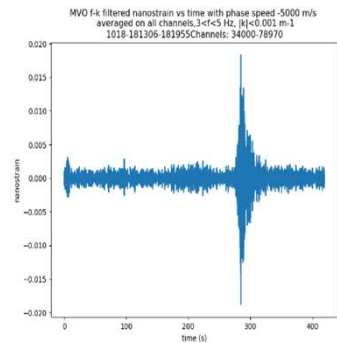


**Pencil dropped from a height of 10 cm on an armored cable at 119 km from the optoDAS**

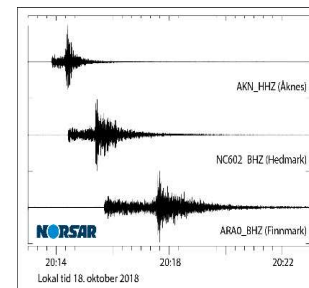
[www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)



**Earthquake with magnitude of 4,5**  
**18/10/2018**

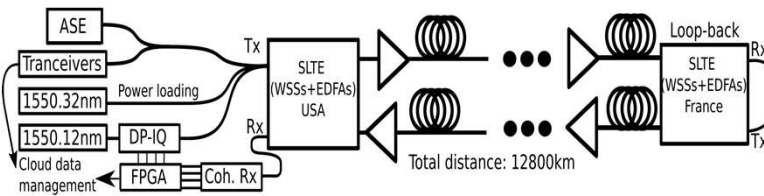
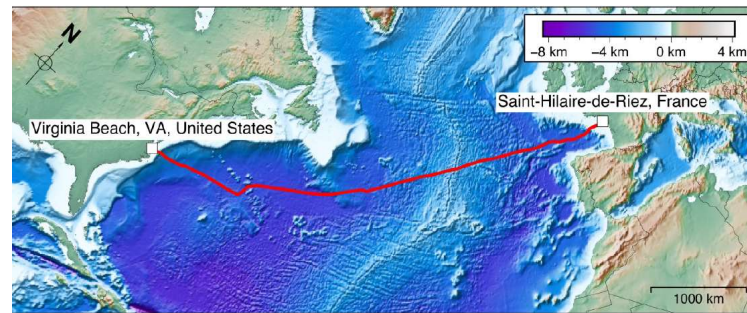
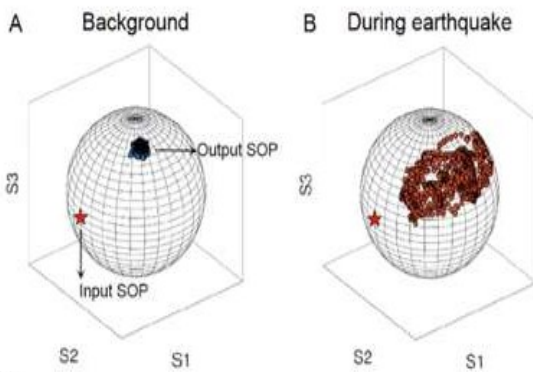


DAS measurements



3 Seismometers  
 measurements

## State Of Polarization (SOP) detection and analysis



### Fiber Sensing using Coherent Transceivers

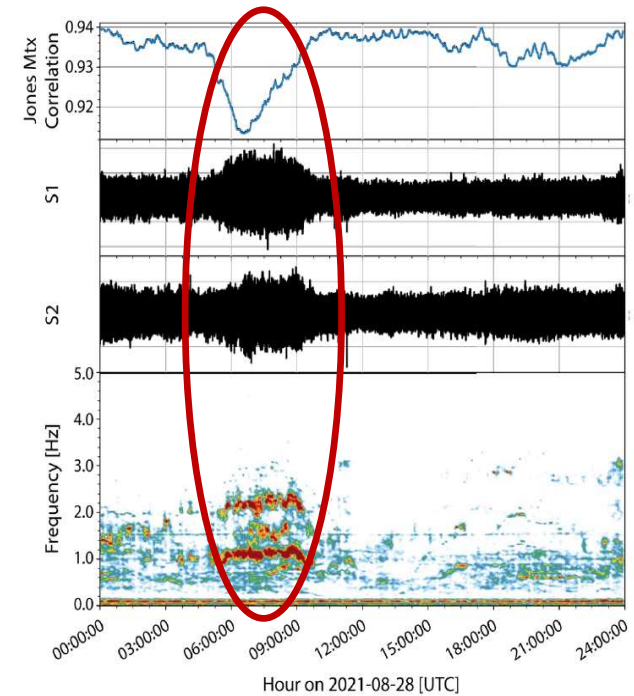
Mikael Mazur<sup>1</sup>, Jorge C. Castellanos<sup>2</sup>, Roland Ryf<sup>1</sup>, Erik Borjesson<sup>3</sup>, Tracy Chodkiewicz<sup>2</sup>, Valey Kamalov<sup>2</sup>, Shuang Yin<sup>2</sup>, Nicolas K. Fontaine<sup>1</sup>, Haoshuo Chen<sup>1</sup>, Lauren Dallachiesa<sup>1</sup>, Steve Corteselli<sup>1</sup>, Philip Copping<sup>1</sup>, Jurgen Gripp<sup>2</sup>, Aurelien Mortelette<sup>4</sup>, Benoit Kowalski<sup>4</sup>, Rodney Dellinger<sup>4</sup>, David T. Neilson<sup>1</sup> and Per Larsson-Edefors<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nokia Bell Labs, USA

<sup>2</sup> Google, USA

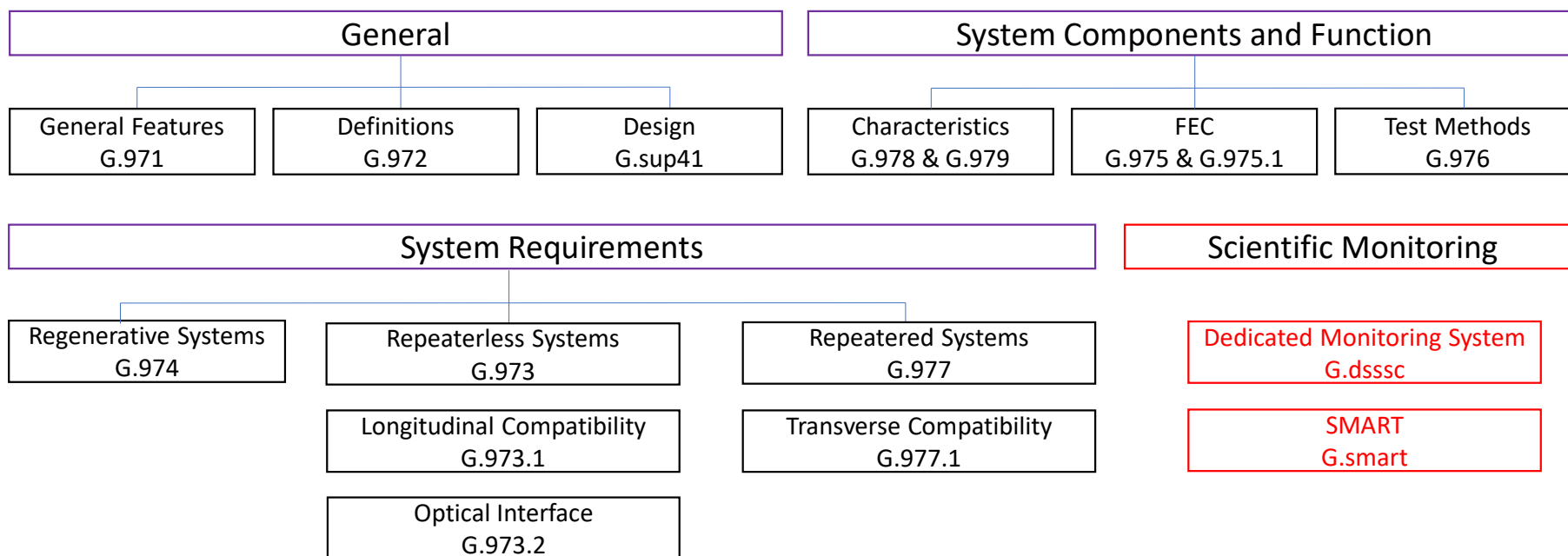
<sup>3</sup> Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden

<sup>4</sup> Nokia, USA



Zhan et al, « Optical polarization-based seismic and water wave sensing on transoceanic cables”, 2021

## Study all submarine transmission systems and related features within ITU-T



### ITU-T SG15/WP2/Q8 New study items (April 2021):

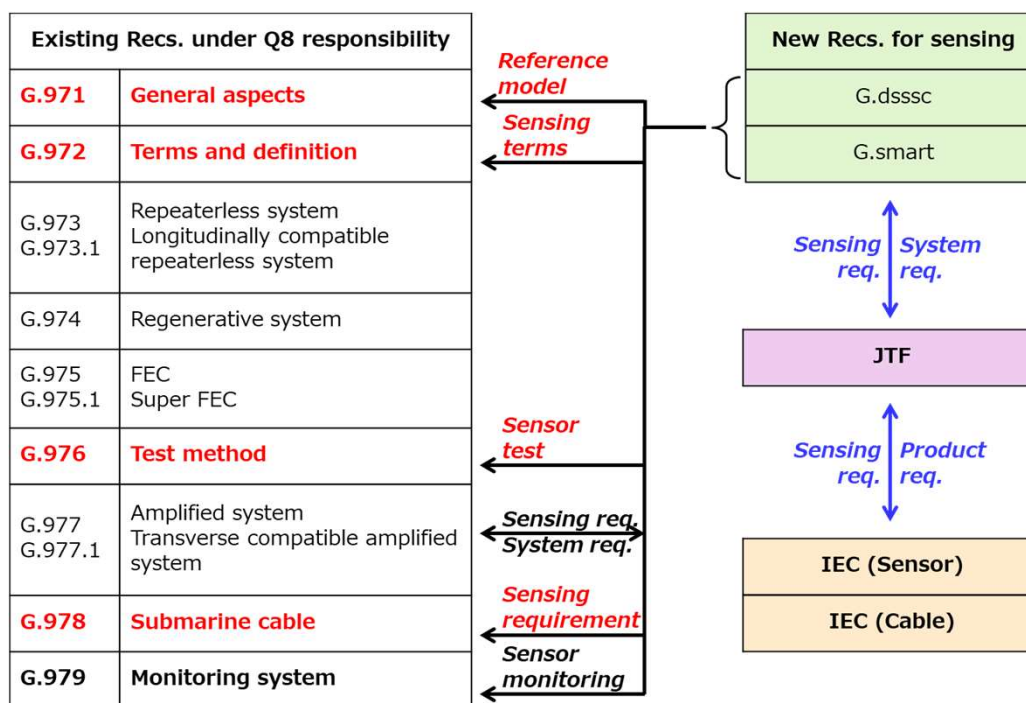
#### G.dsssc : Dedicated scientific sensing submarine cable system

This Recommendation deals with the dedicated submarine cables system for scientific sensing. It covers the aspects related to submarine cable system architecture, functional blocks, interfaces between various sensor sets and submarine cables. This Recommendation covers qualitative high-level sensing characteristics and features as well as telecommunication interfaces in order to monitor the ocean and climate change as well as disaster warning.

#### G.smart : Scientific Monitoring and Reliable Telecommunication Submarine Systems

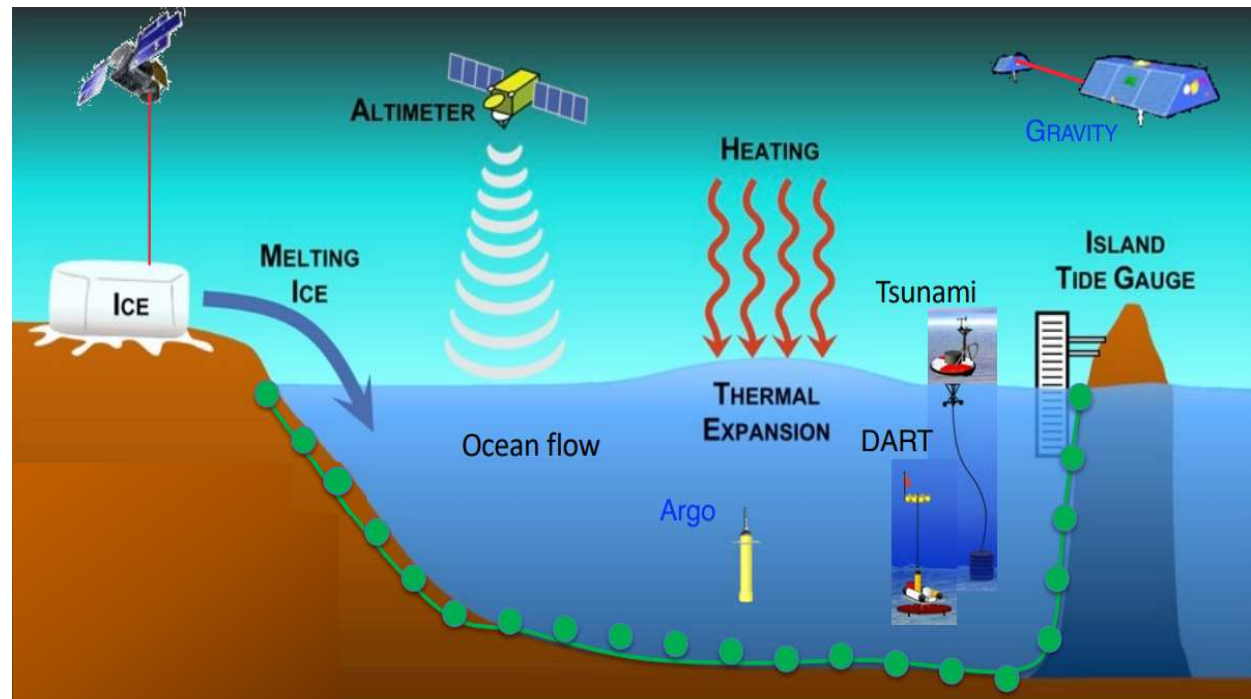
This Recommendation identifies the capabilities and features of fibre optical submarine telecommunication cable systems equipped with sensors at regular intervals along the entire length of the cables (i.e., SMART cables). It describes at a high-level characteristics and requirements of a SMART cable system (e.g., no interference between telecommunications and sensing functions, reliability of each function, operations and maintenance, general attributes of a power and communication interface).

## G.smart & G.dsssc impact on Q8 Recommendations



# Ocean Observation: Summary

- Very few bottom observation with satellites and in-situ solutions
- High cost of dedicated submarine ocean observation system
- Dual use of submarine cable (SMART): enhance and complement existing solutions
- SMART cables would address the short- and long-term ocean observation needs
- Extensive research area on the use of existing submarine cables for ocean monitoring



*Adapted from B. Howe, JTF, 2021*