



PIANC French Section



# PIANC Mediterranean Days and Conference «Port of the future» by Cerema 25 to 27 october 2023 in Sete France

SEABIM<sup>®</sup>, the digital twin for rubble-mound  
breakwater construction and asset management

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# Context

- Single-layer Concrete Armor Units (CAU) rubble-mound breakwaters
- Block placement must fulfill precise **geometric and interlocking rules**
- Regular monitoring required as any damage worsens quickly

# State of the art

- Subsea inspections carried out by divers
- Time consuming and costly process for long infrastructures
- Subjective and partial analysis of the breakwater

# The use of a 3D model

- New high resolution scanning methods available
- 3D shape of the CAU is known
- Application of shape-matching algorithms based on computer vision
- Automatic detection of all the blocks positions in the point cloud – patented process

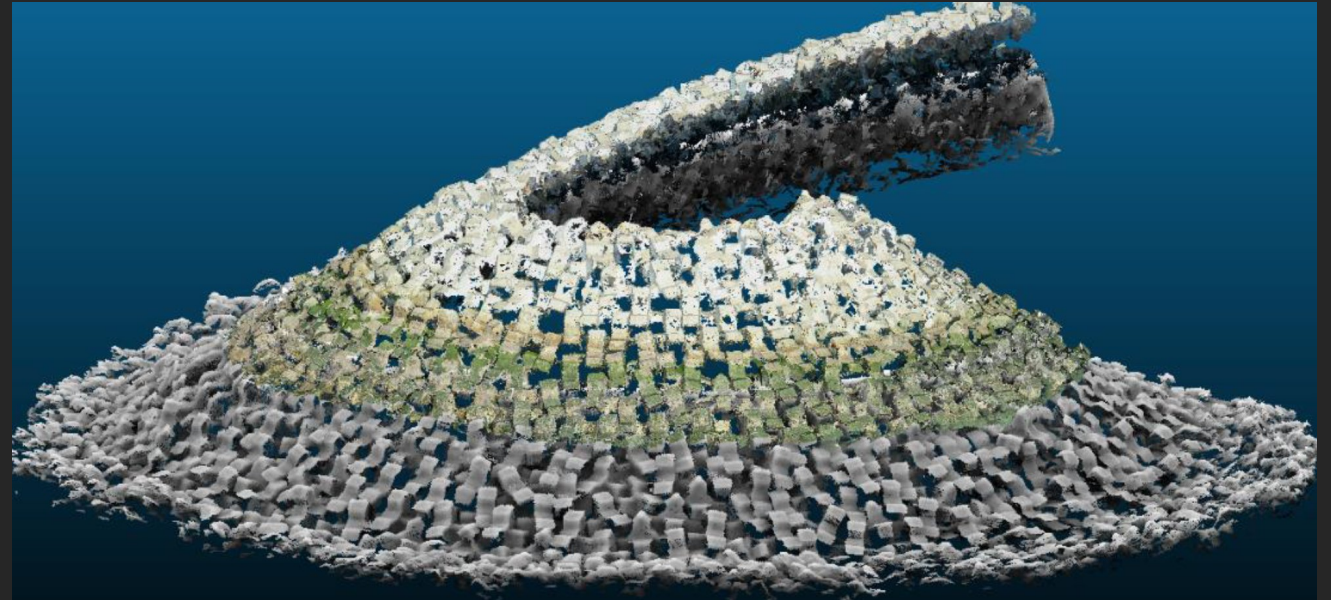
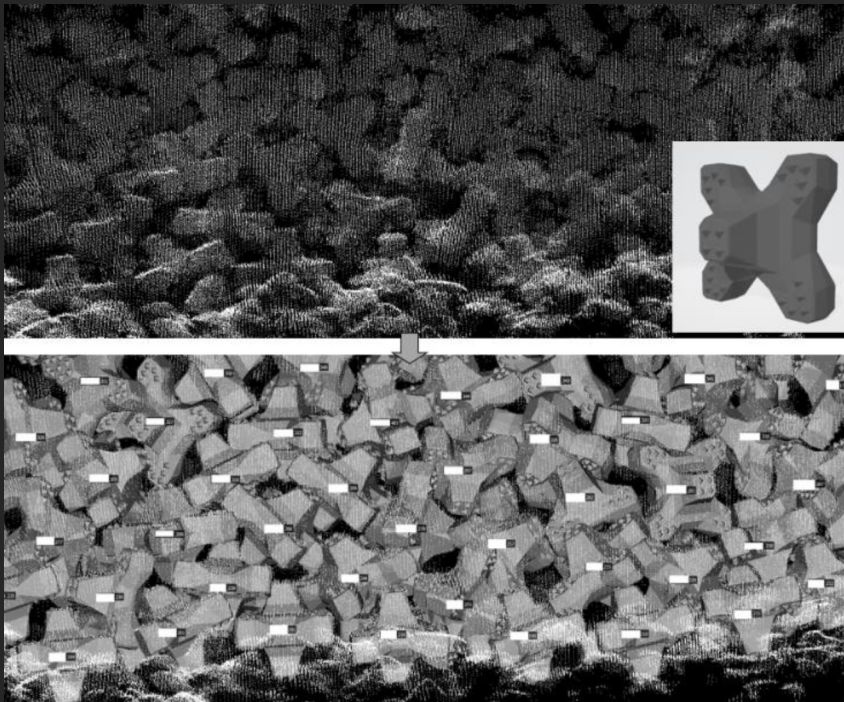


# 3D model construction

Step 1 : External surface Scan

-Multibeam sonar at high tide

-Photogrammetry or LiDAR at low tide



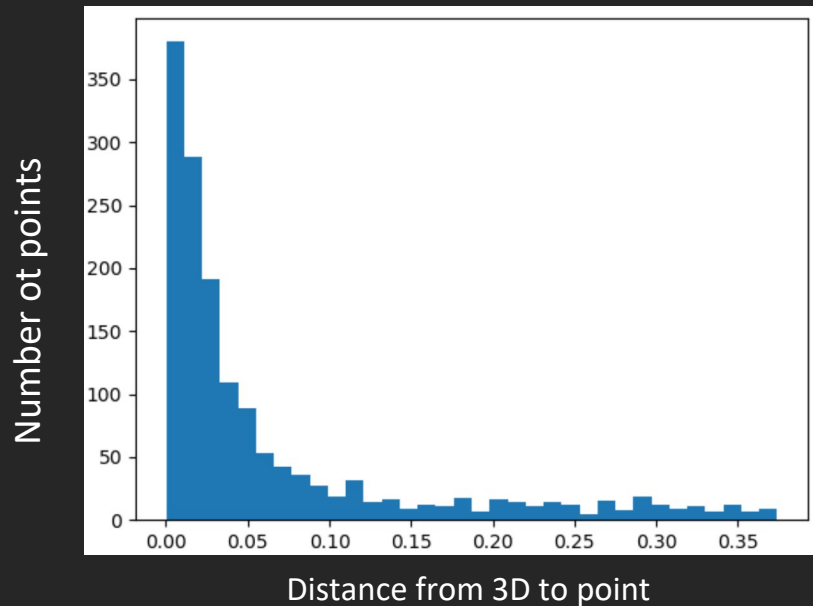
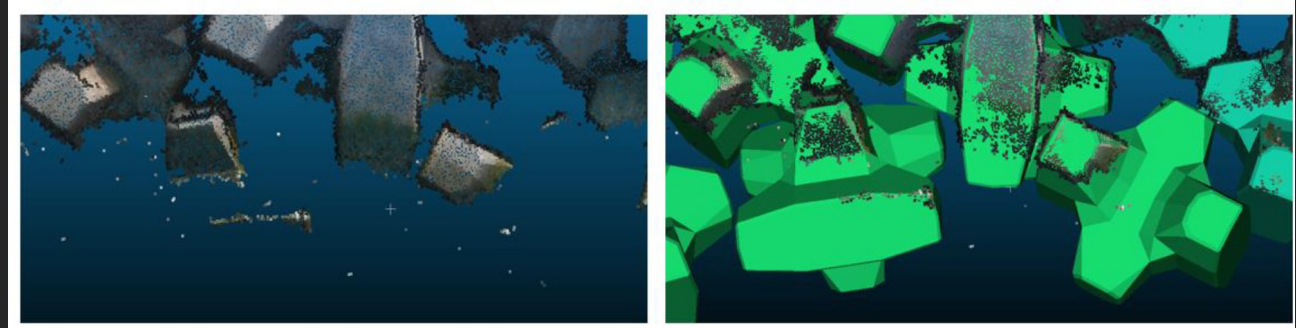
Step 2 : Automatic 3D shape-matching

-Identification of all the blocks position/orientation in the pointcloud

-Full 3D visualization of the armour

# 3D model construction

- Partial point cloud is sufficient on the waterline

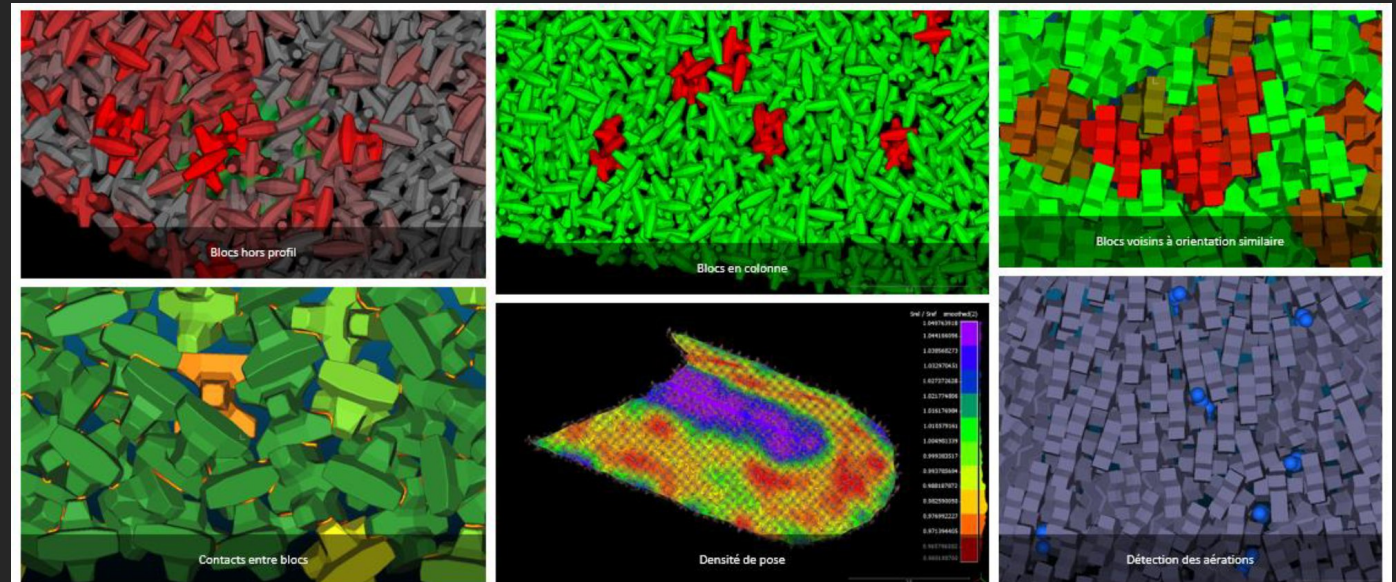


- Statistic point distribution calculated for each block (median, number of points used for the shape-matching)
- Automatic filtering based on statistic criteria

# Placement controls during construction

Filters:

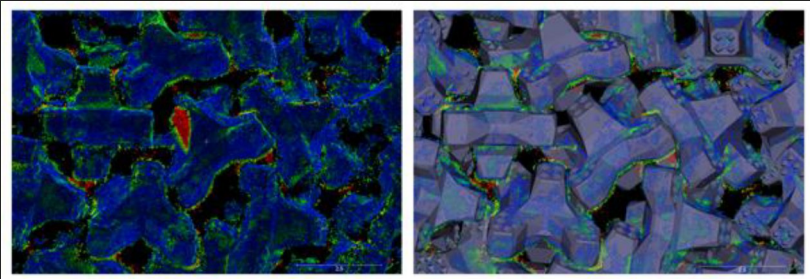
- Off-profile
- Column placement
- Block orientation
- Contacts with neighbours
- Placement density
- Hole detection



Armor placement validation throughout the construction by all stakeholders  
Avoids costly dismantling operations

# Asset management applications

Detection of broken units from the differential point cloud



The color coding represents the distance of each point to the 3D model (blue = less than 2 cm)

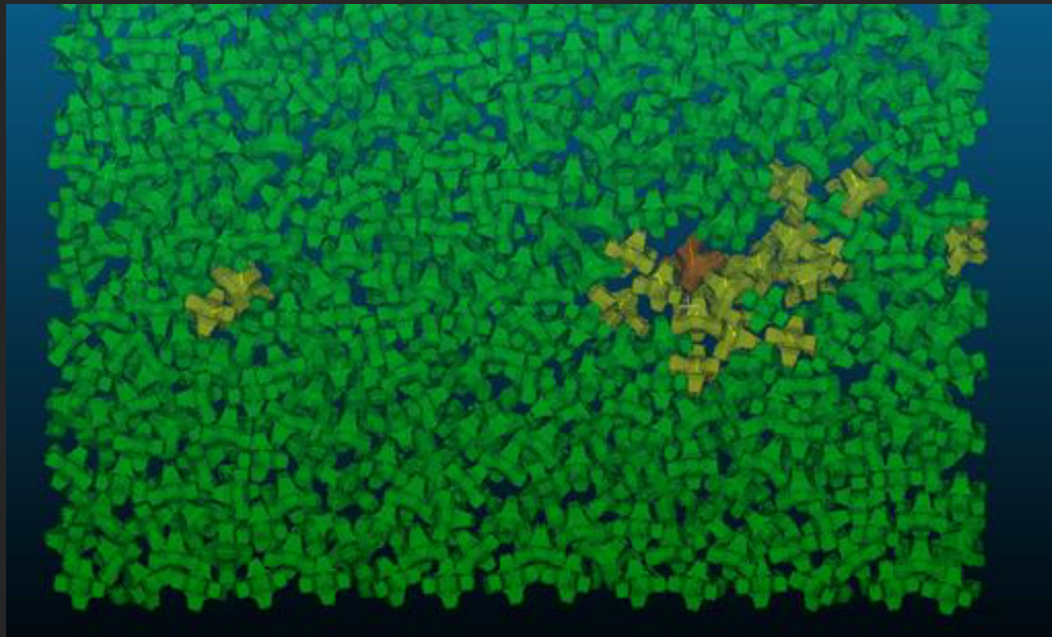
Vectorization of the blocks movements between 2 scans



The color coding represents the displacement of the block CoG between 2 models –scale in m

Breakwater digital insurance policy

# Application to wave flume physical models

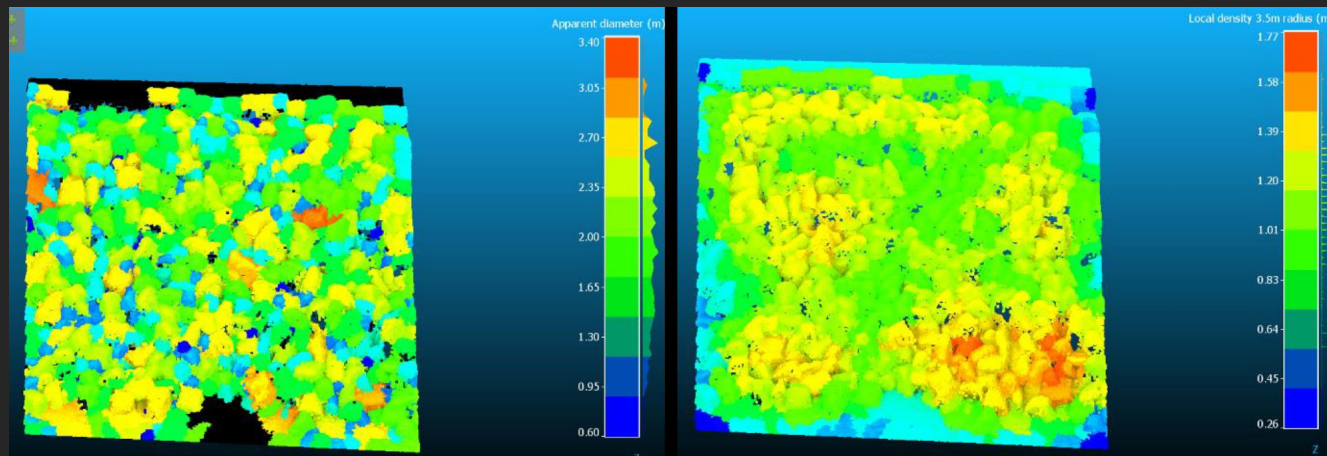
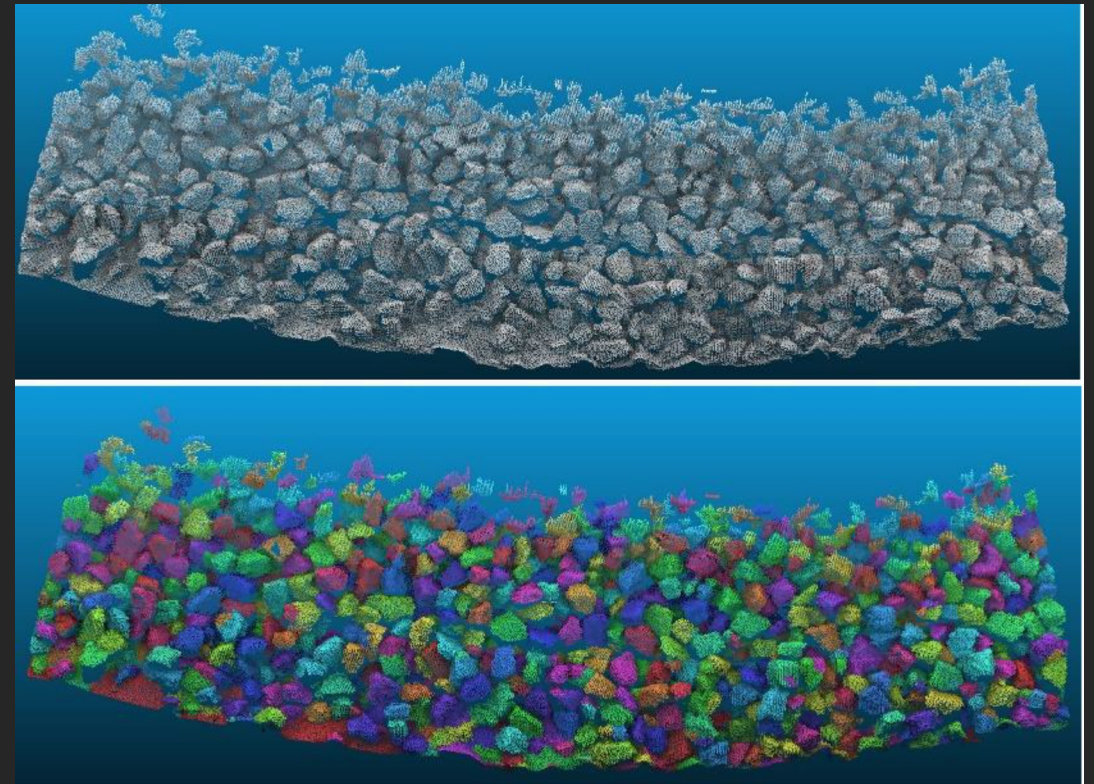


Enables to identify rocking, settlement, sliding etc  
Validate the breakwater design with accurate measurements

# Rip-rap segmentation

The challenge: Natural rocks do not have a regular shape like CAU

- Use of an in-house segmentation algorithm
- Each rock is isolated from the pointcloud
- Calculation of metrics from the rock manual



Apparent diameter

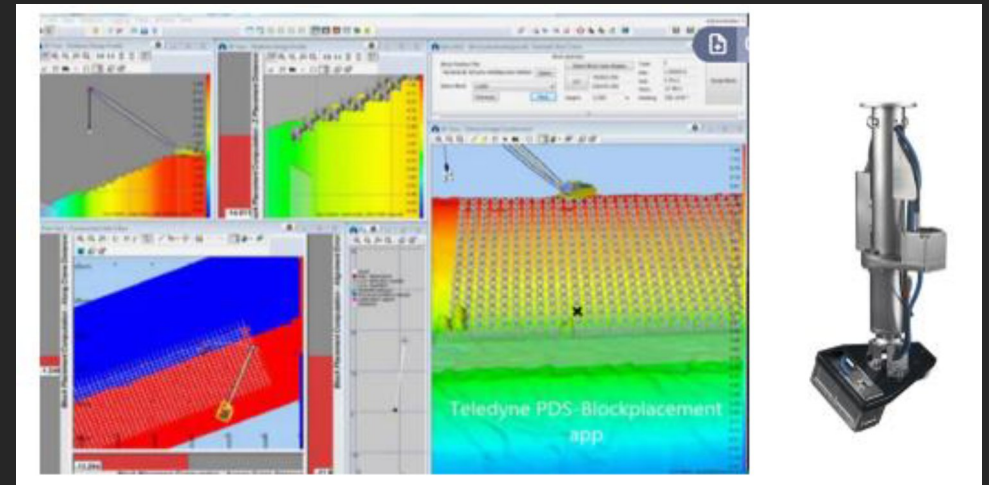
Local rock density



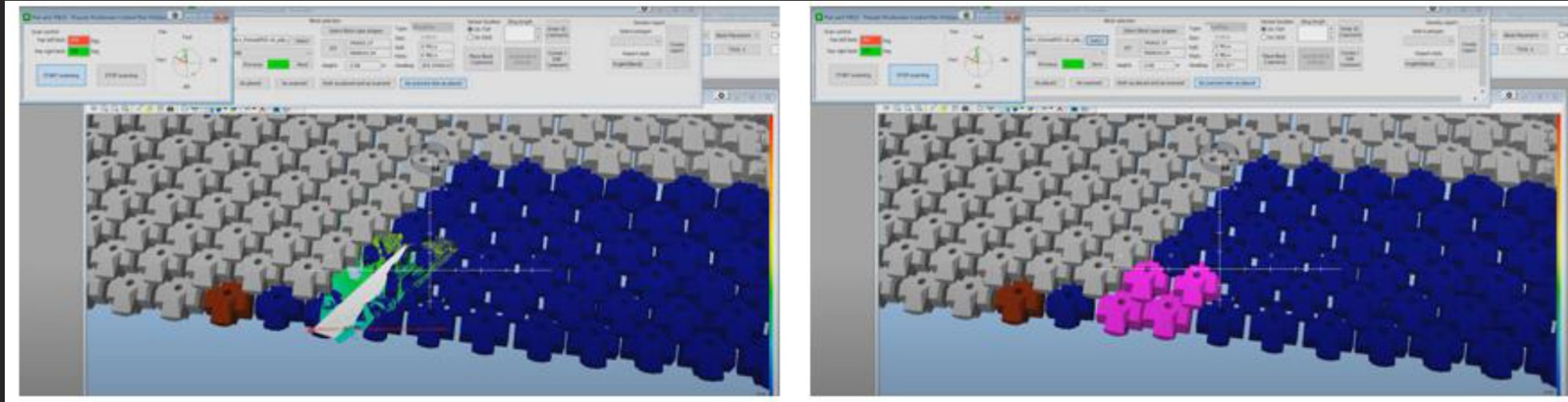
# Near real-time block placement control

The challenge: generate the as-built 3D model along the placement

- Partnership with Teledyne Marine
  - PDS construction software for machine guidance / scan / block management
  - Motionscan rotating sonar hardware on an excavator



# Near real-time block placement control



Scan of a block  
once it is  
placed

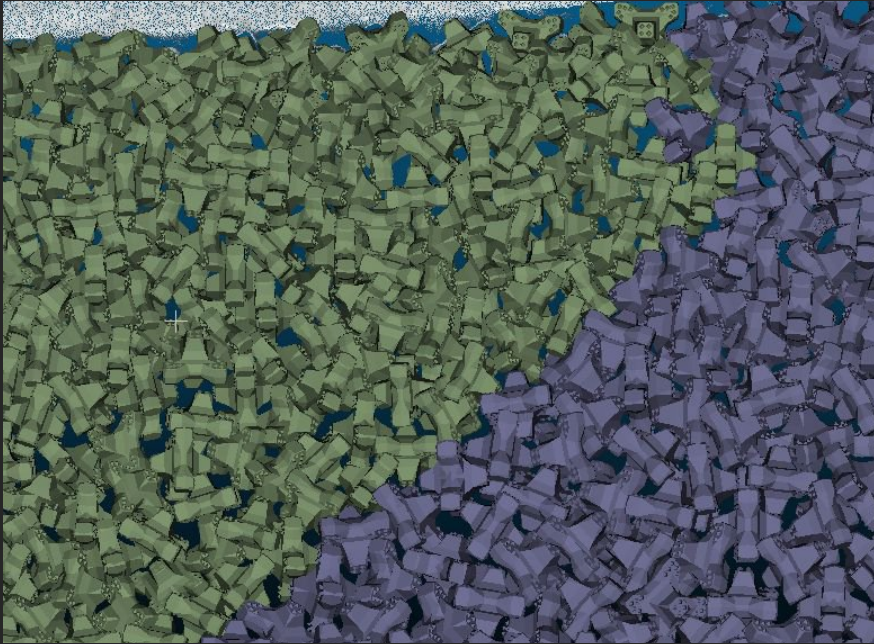
Automatic  
block detection  
from the scan  
with SEABIM

As-built 3D  
model  
displayed in  
PDS

Post-processing  
with SEABIM  
Editor software

# Application examples

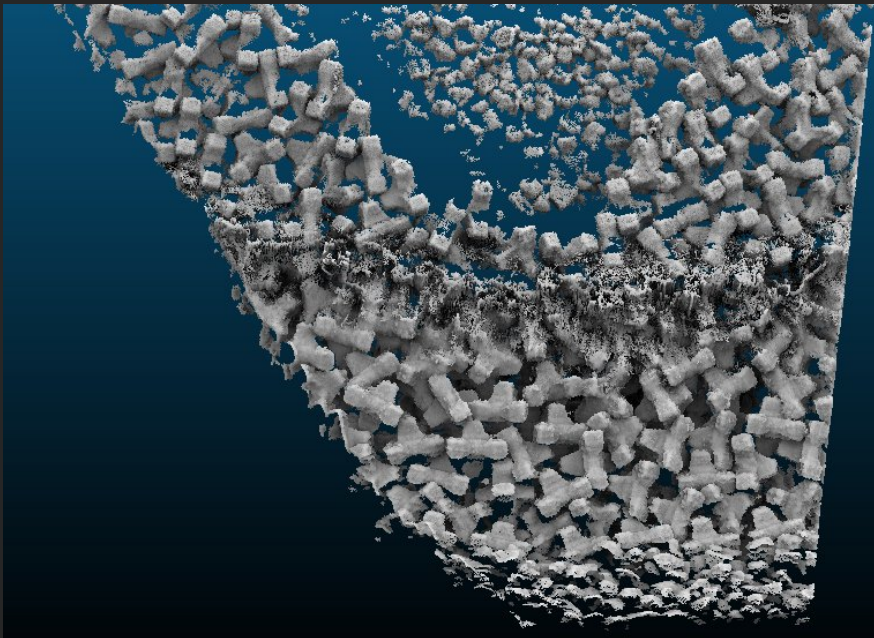
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Scope:

- Regular MBES and LiDAR surveys
- 3D model – 21 000 blocks – updated after each cyclonic event

Application: construction control and handover

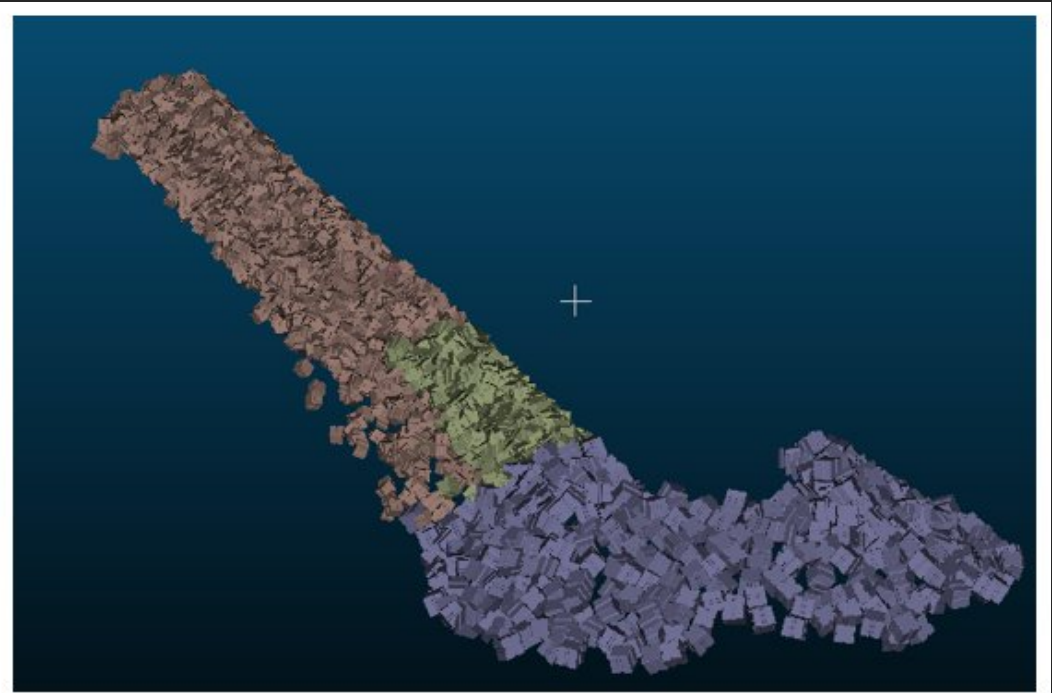
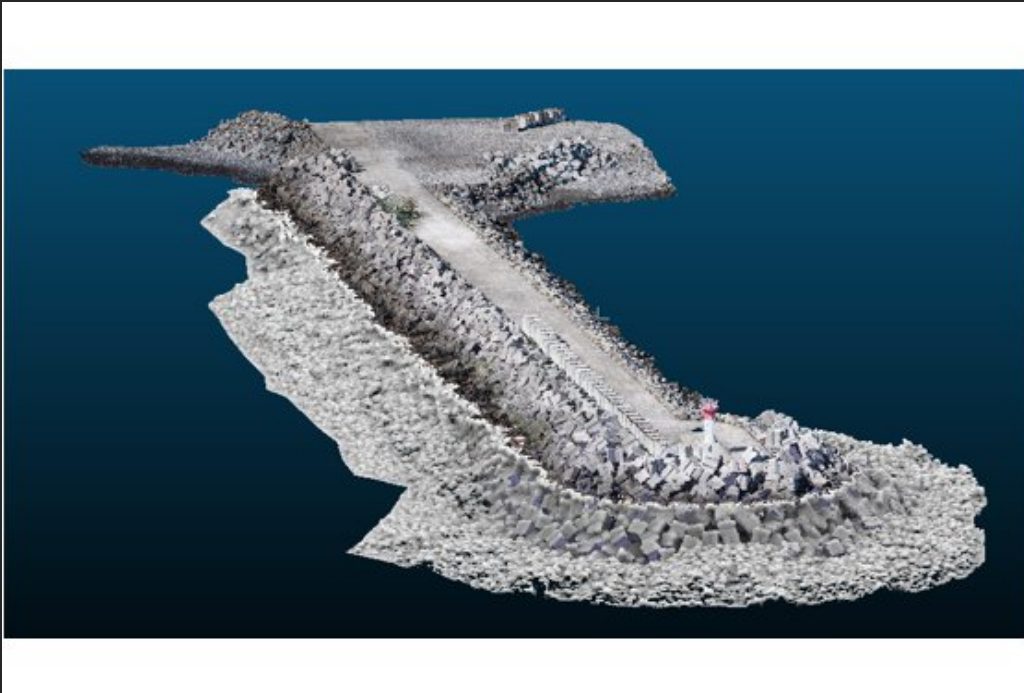


# Accropode™ II – New Coastal Road – La Réunion

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# Double layer Antifer blocks –La Réunion harbour

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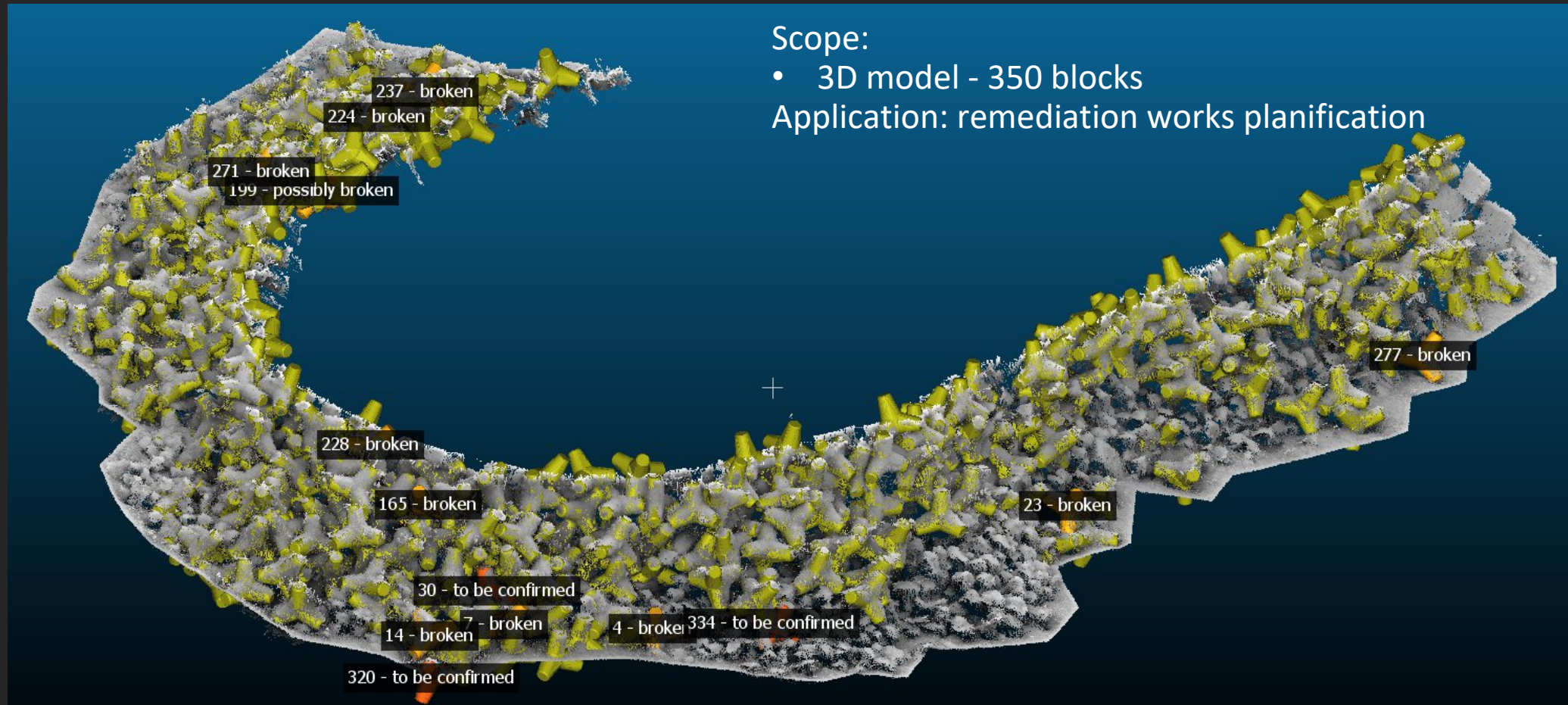


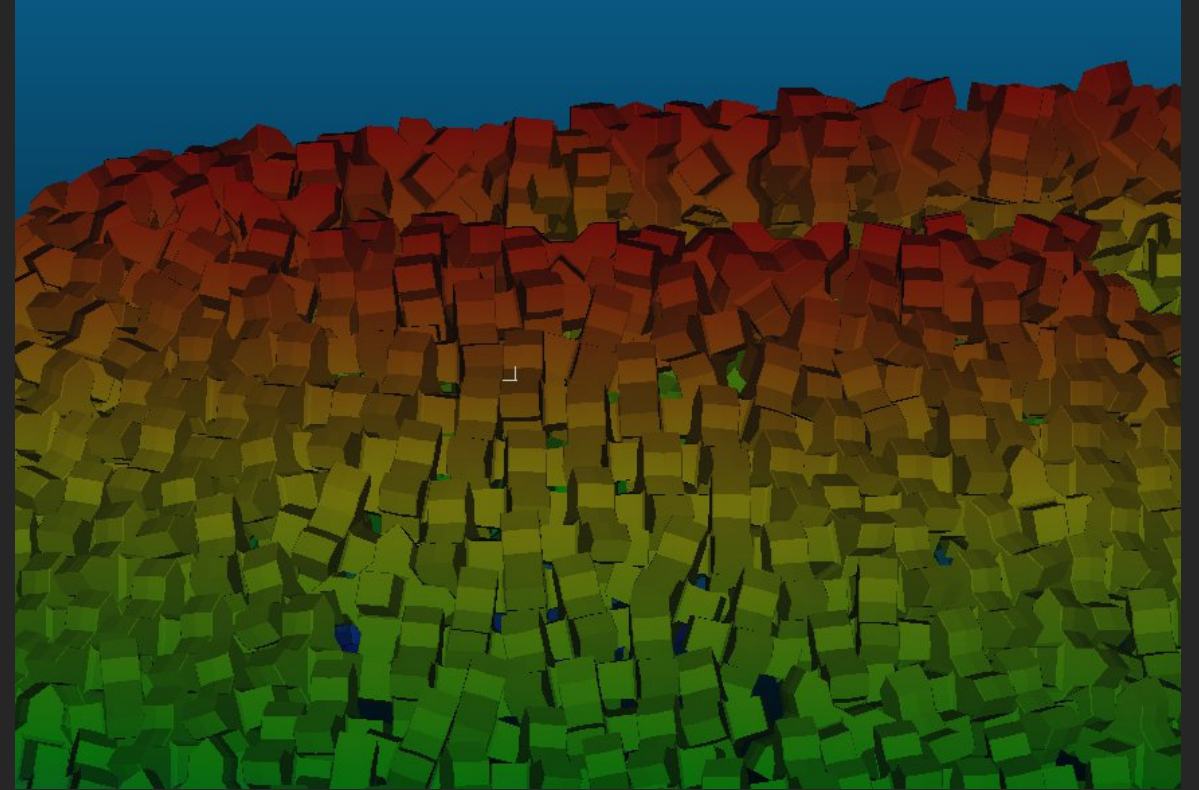
## Scope:

- MBES and photogrammetry scan
- 3D model – 4 000 blocks

Application: remediation works planification

# Double layer tetrapodes – Port-La-Nouvelle, France



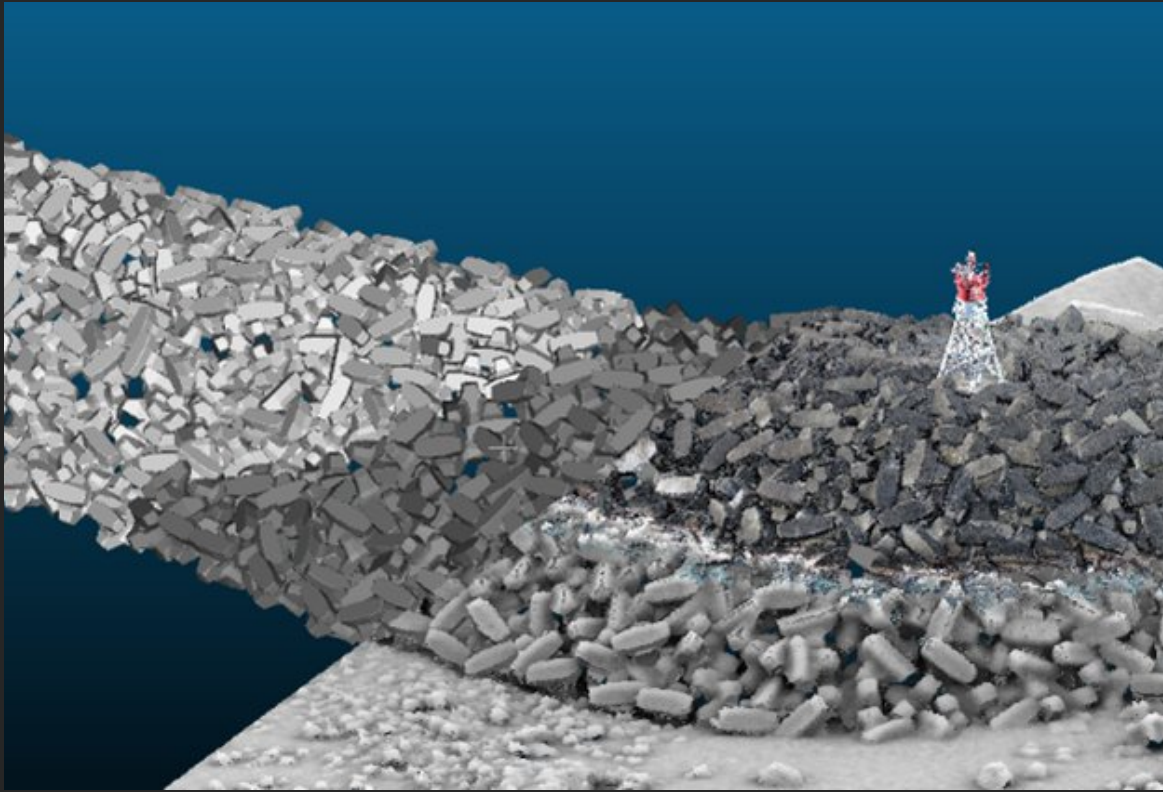


## Xbloc® - Calais harbour, France

### Scope:

- MBES and photogrammetry scan
- 3D model – 16 000 blocks

Application: handover and contractor liability phase control



## Accropode™ - Sainte-Rose, La Réunion

### Scope:

- MBES and photogrammetry scan
- 3D model – 1 000 blocks

Application: asset management, structure diagnosis 20 years after installation

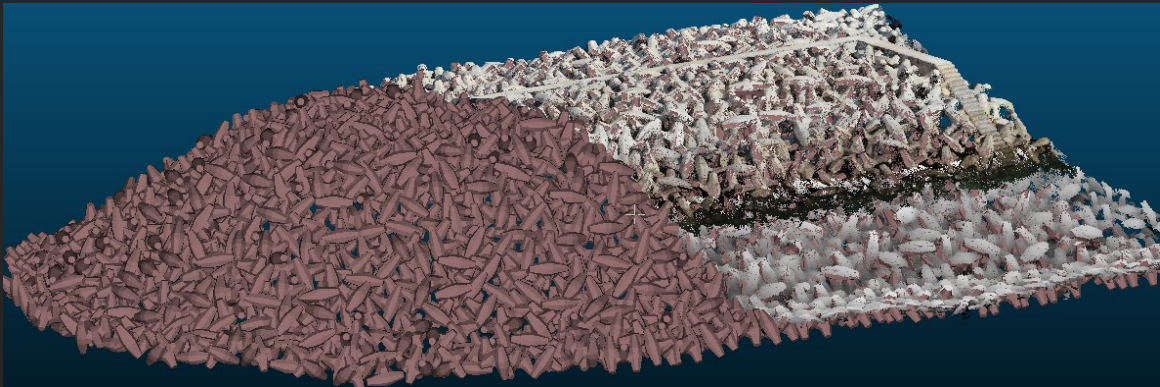


# Core-Loc™ - Oman

## Scope:

- MBES and LiDAR scan
- 3D model – 32 000 blocks

Application: handover



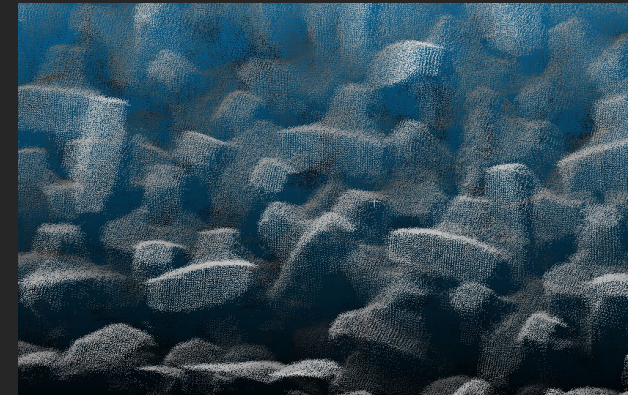
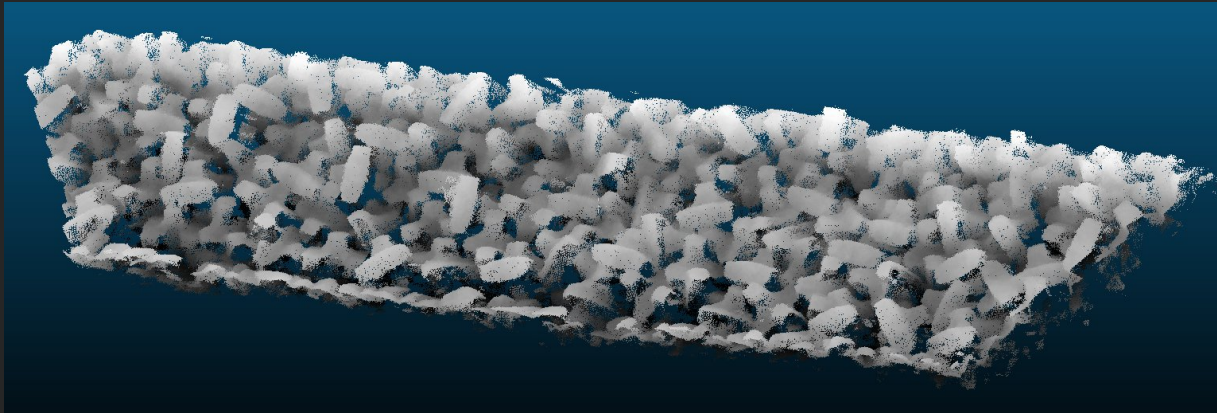
# Accropode™ - UAE

## Scope:

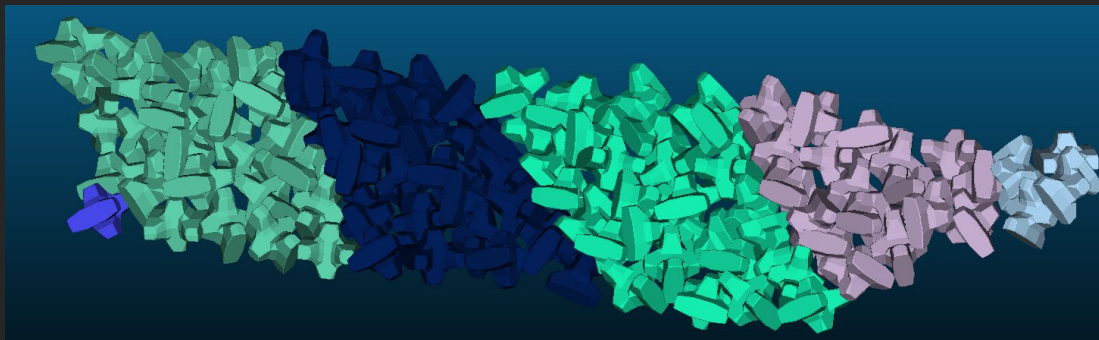
- 3D model – 67 000 blocks
- Audit and recommendations on survey

Application: block placement control during construction

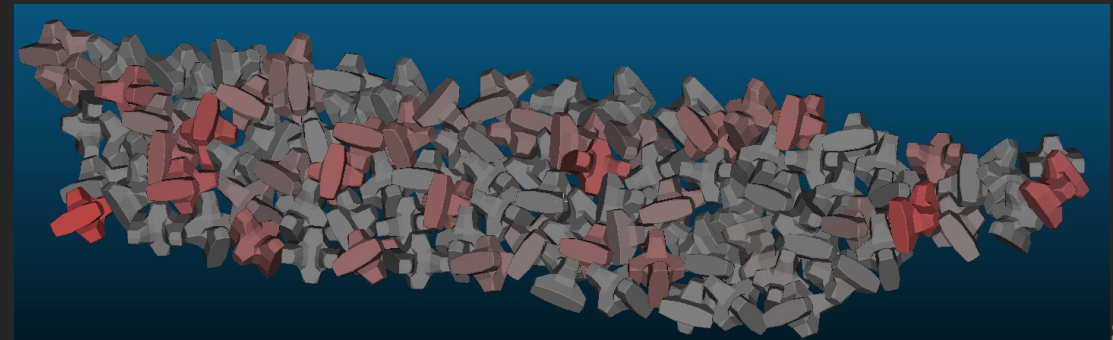
1/ Regular reception of MBES and photogrammetry surveys by the contractor



2/ 3D model sent back at Day+1 for up to 1000blocks/day



3D model with placement panels, each block is numbered according to the as-built coordinates list



Off-profil control automatic filter

# Numerical retro- engineering simulation

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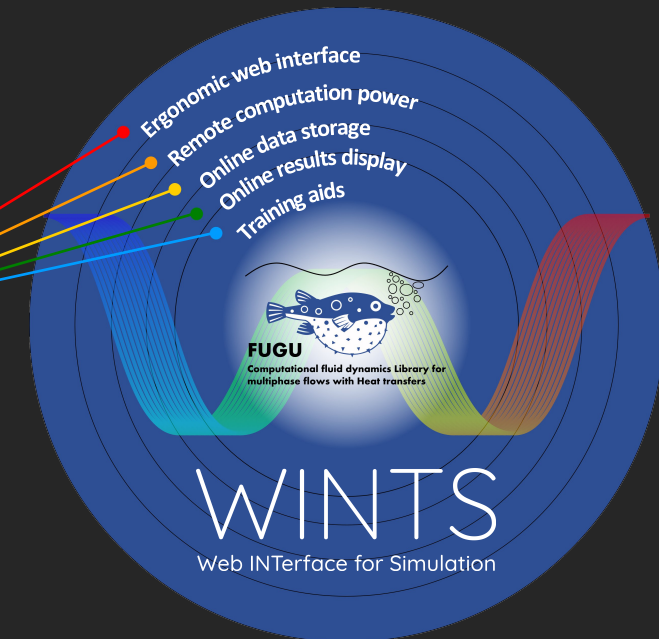
# A Cloud-Based native SaaS solution for CFD



**Our Mission:** To offer companies an innovative solution for performing numerical simulations in fluid mechanics via the cloud, with a user-friendly approach.

## Our Specialty:

- Design and development of an in-house simulation code adapted to modern challenges of fluid mechanics
- Design of an accessible Native SaaS platform for use even by novices



# A Cloud-Based native SaaS solution for CFD

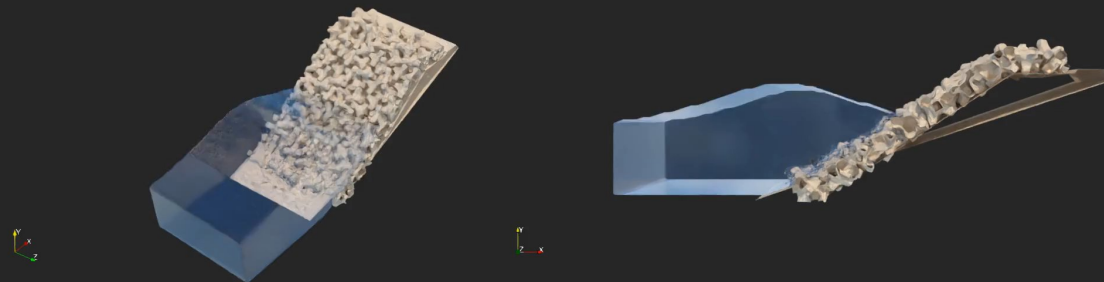


## Use case - Wave breaking

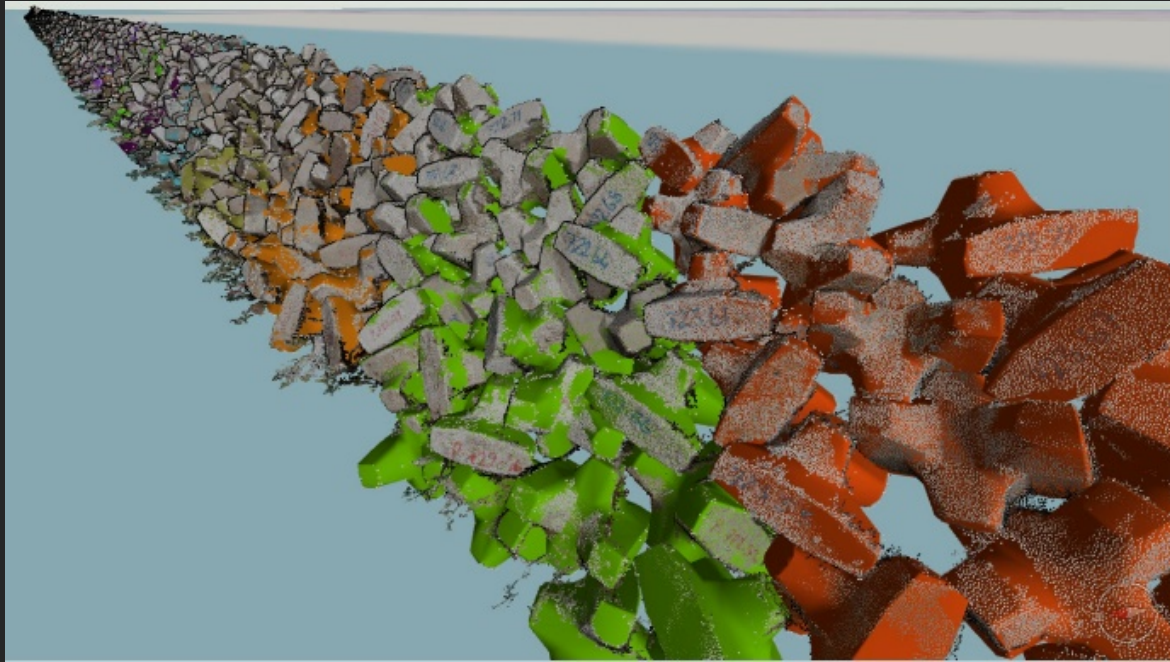
**Description:** CFD Model simulation of a wave breaking on a seawall from an as-built SEABIM 3D model. Our technology enables to predict and analyze the effects of waves on coastal infrastructures.

### Examples of quantities you can estimate:

- Wave overtopping
- Pressure applied to the seawall
- Wave propagation path



# Thank you for listening



## Contact:

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**Take control of your breakwater**

Digital twin | Block placement control | Asset management

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