Constructing Adaptive Mission Planning and Real-Time Control Systems for Autonomous Underwater Vehicles with Open-Source Software.

http://coolgate.mote.org/GeoTools2009/

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What is FOSS?

- Free and open source software
- Liberally licensed to allow users to study, change, and improve
- Everyone has access to the source code
- Can be modified and redistributed
- Often based on open standards

Examples of FOSS

- Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS, OpenSuSe)
- Thunderbird email client
- Firefox web browser
- FireBug JavaScript/CSS Debugger
- bsb2png (NOAA chart to PNG converter)
- OpenOffice Suite
- MySQL database
- Python language
- R Project (statistical computing)
- GRASS/Quantum GIS

Why FOSS was right for us

- Small group w/1 IT person
- No funding for expensive commercial s/w
- Able to leverage others work
- Math/Oceanographic libraries available
- Google Earth/Maps free for basic usage

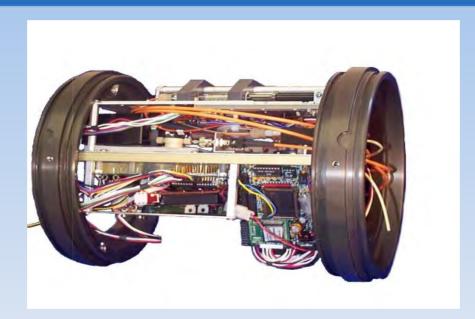
But Google Isn't FOSS!

- True but it is free
- We subscribe to the "IIWUI" Principle:
 - "If it works USE IT!"
- "Heavy Lifting" of building viz engine done
- Majority of our target users have GE/GM
- Don't be hard-core about using FOSS

About our program

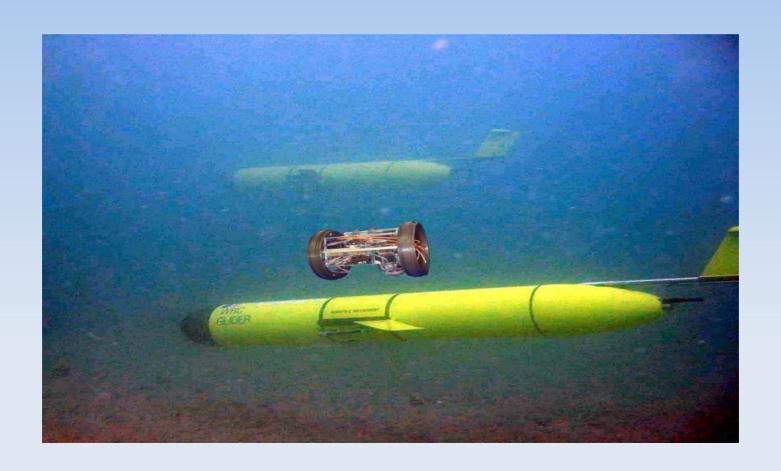
- SO COOL
- Home of the BreveBuster aka
 - Optical phytoplankton discriminator
- Located at Mote Marine Lab, Sarasota FL
- Brevebuster provides RT early warning
- Primarily deployed on Webb AUVs
- Also deployed on moorings/buoys

The BreveBuster



BreveBusters optically detect Karenia brevis blooms by comparing light absorption by particles in ambient water to the light absorption fingerprint that is characteristic of K. brevis. That comparison yields a Similarity Index (SI) which is related to the fraction of phytoplankton community biomass contributed by K. brevis. Values of SI below 0.5 indicate less than 10% K. brevis, values over 0.8 indicate greater than 90% K. brevis.

The Webb Slocum Glider



"As Delivered" Glider Data Management Tools

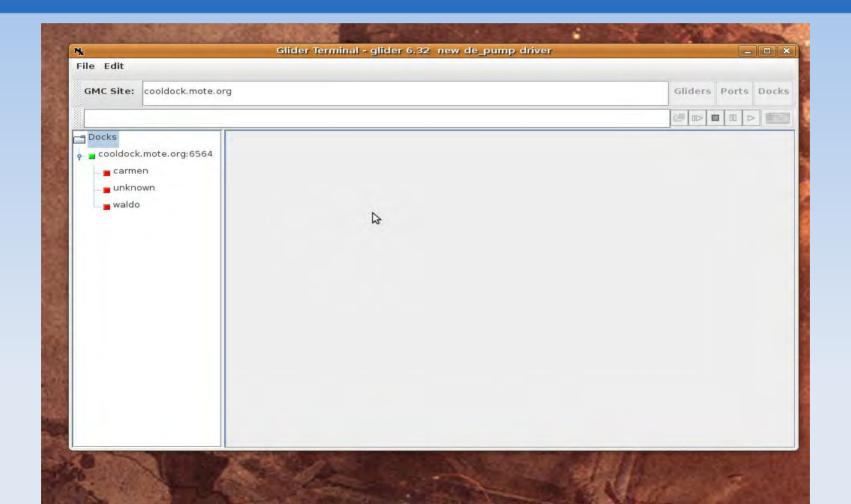
Dockserver

- Java-based client-server application
- Until recently no built-in database support
- Listens for glider comms via Iridium modem
- Logs data in text files
- Sends updated mission files to glider
- Scriptable
- "Talks" to users via Glider Terminal

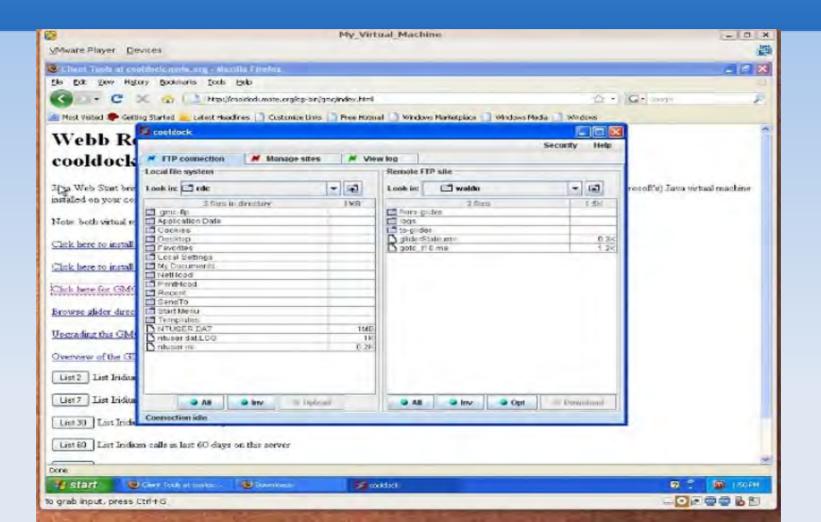
Glider Data Tools cont...

- Glider Terminal
 - Java-based client application
 - Like minicom or HyperTerminal
 - Can load scripts that:
 - send/retrieve files from glider
 - Ends mission
 - Alter waypoints

Glider Terminal



GMC FTP Client



Glider Data Files

- MA files: Waypoints
- MI files: Mission control statements
- Log files: Iridium modem text logs
- SBD files: Small binary data files
- DBD files: "Ginormous" binary data files

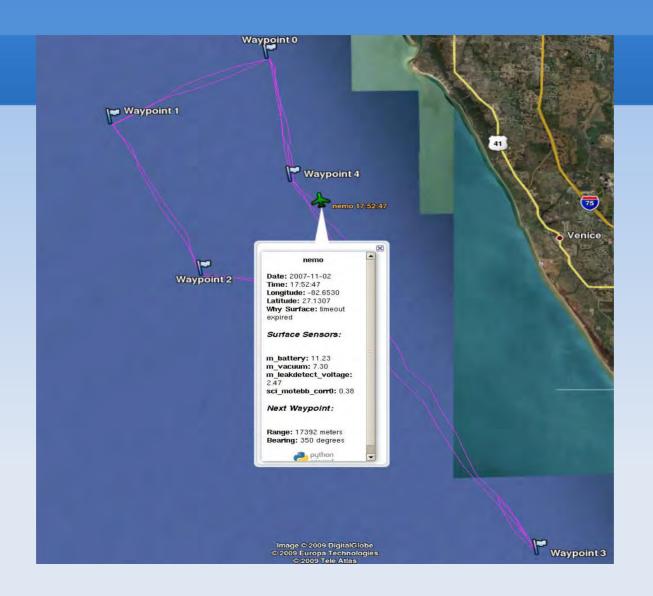
The Problem

- Many files to manage (MA, MI, SBD)
- GliderTerminal text-only
- ⇒No integration with imagery (MODIS)
- Changing waypoints error-prone
- Difficult to visualize retrieved data

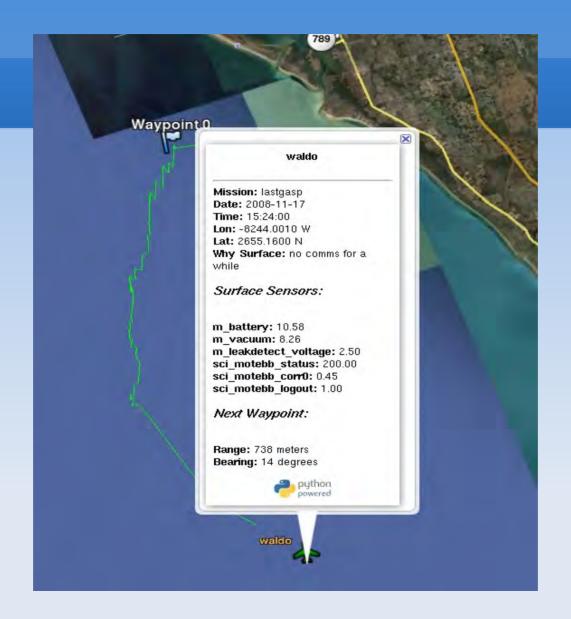
First Steps

- GliderTracker V1, written in TCL
- Used SQLite3 as embedded DB
- Parsed glider logfiles and exported KML
- Database 'in-memory' only
- Only dealt with surface reports
- Ran as cron job on CentOS server

Glider Tracker V1



Glider Tracker V2



GliderTracker V3

- Written in python
- Still SQLite3 but...
- Database saved as file (persistent)
- Glider location/depth correlated with SI
- ARGOS location retrieved w/telnet library

GT v3 w/depth&SI correlation



...and ARGOS location display



GliderTracker Summary

- Great improvement over manual tracking
- Google Earth good visualization tool
- But...
- Requires lots of hands-on from sysadmin
- Not a true 'mission planning' tool
- GE not user programmable

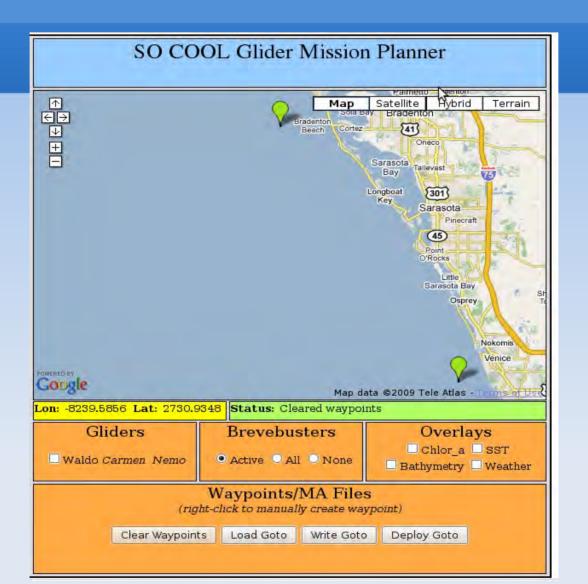
What We Wanted

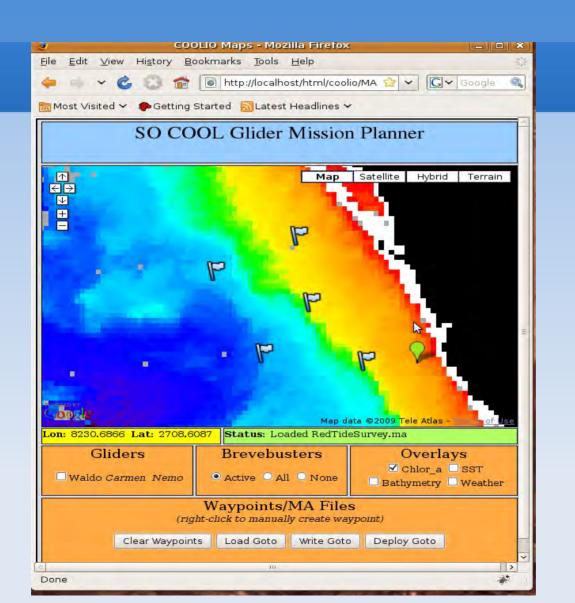
- 'Single Screen' app for glider operators
- Able to load waypoint files
- Ability to define new waypoints
- Error-checking of mission files
- Overlays of Chloro and SST
- Bottom profiles
- 'Auto deployment' of mission files

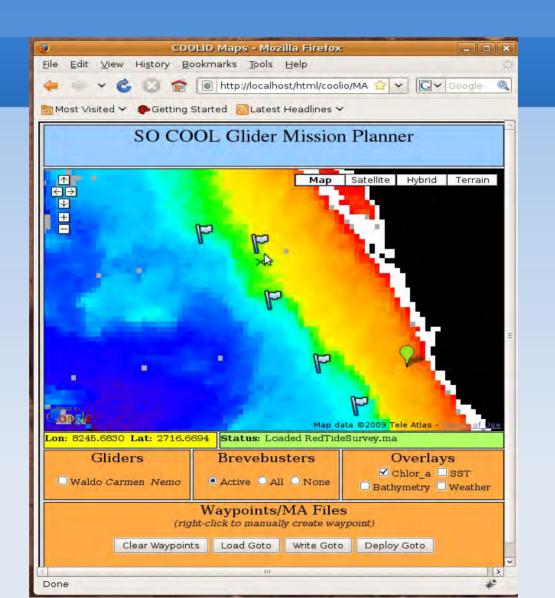
So we built COOLIO

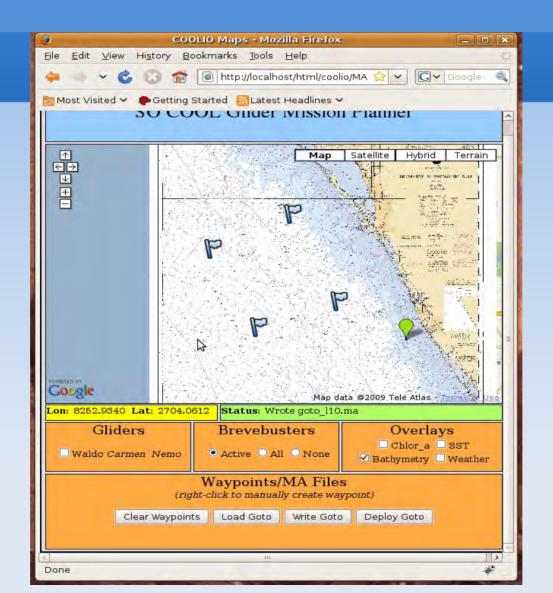
- COOLIO: COOL Input/Output
- Browser-based
- Written in Javascript, PHP, Python, MySQL, SQLite3
- 'Web 2' AJAX application
- Google Maps provides visualization

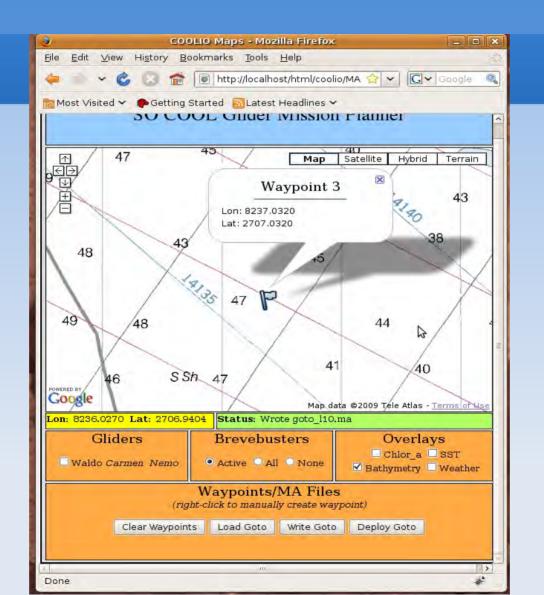
COOLIO (Glider Mission Planner)

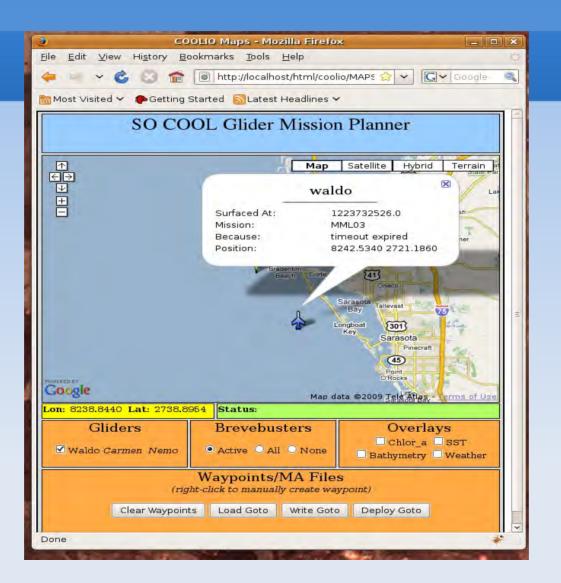


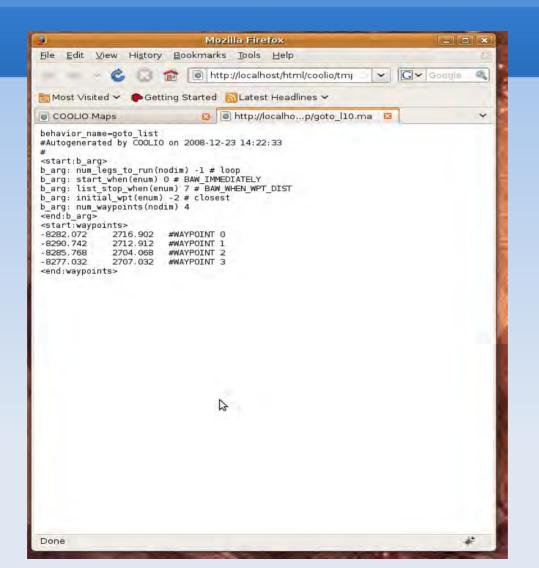












COOLIO Architecture

- Javascript drives the browser
- PHP for server-side
- Python for server side
- Brevebuster data in MySQL DB
- Glider data in SQLite3 DB
- XmlHttpRequest and JSON
- SCP w/private key for file deployment

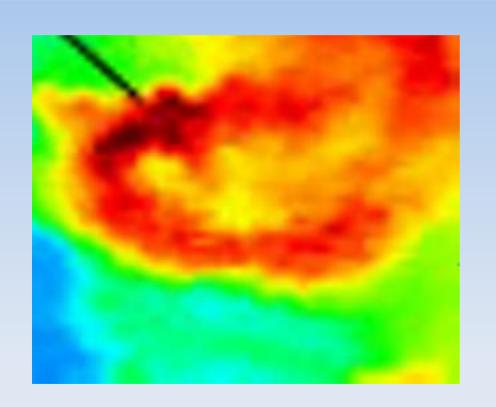
COOLIO Status

- Passed pre-deployment testing
- No active blooms
- Glider missions on hold due to budget
- Continuing development on adaptive mission planning modules
- Possible AMP testing by July 2009

Adaptive Mission Planning

- MODIS image analysis using python
- Edge-detection of blooms
- Bloom-mapping using active mission data
- New waypoints generated to fit bloom
- Goal: keep glider 'mowing the lawn'
- Goal: 'Hands-off' missions
- Will run as separate module out of 'cron'

Bloom Edge Detection in Python





Thanks

- NOAA-NOS
- START (Solutions To Avoid Red Tide)
- FWRI (Fish and Wildlife Research Institute)
- Webb Research
- Google
- All the hard-working FOSS contributors