

New acoustic sensors on Seagliders

Karen J. Heywood¹, Gwyn Griffiths², Sophie Fielding³ and Chris Yahnker⁴

¹School of Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

²National Oceanography Centre Southampton, UK

³British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK

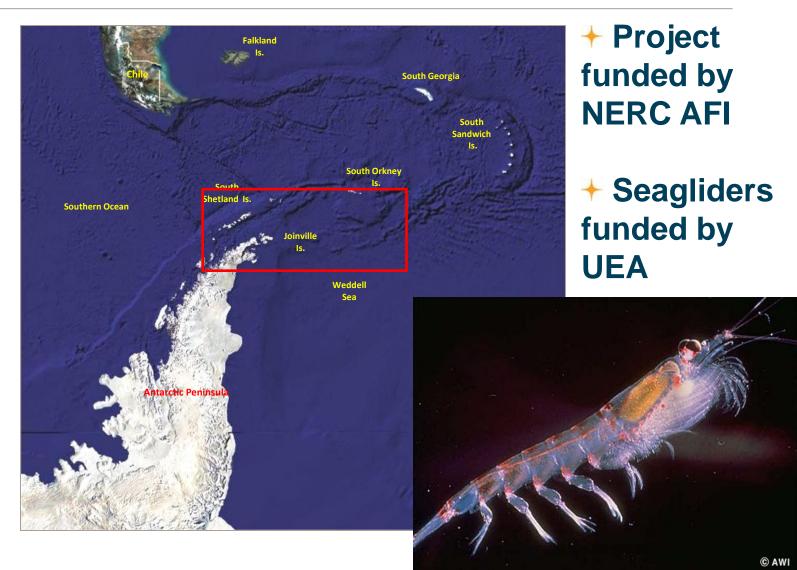
⁴iRobot Corporation, Durham, USA

k.heywood@uea.ac.uk

March 24, 2011 UEA Seagliders

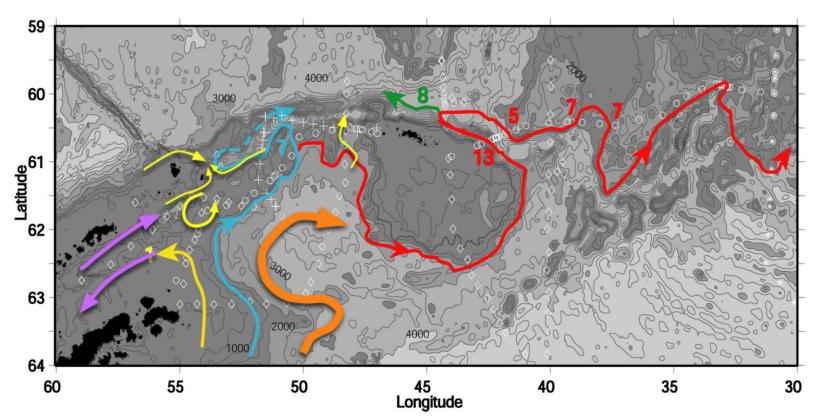
GENTOO Gliders: Excellent New Tools for Observing the Ocean





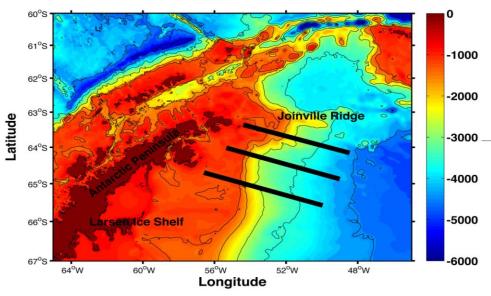
GENTOO Gliders: Excellent New Tools for Observing the Ocean





- → What is the variability of the frontal jets?
- + How do they affect the transport of krill?

(Thompson et al. 2009)







Pilot study for Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) – multidisciplinary Seaglider deployments in Weddell Sea (January-February 2012)



Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers

★ For measurement of current velocity and zooplankton abundance/distribution

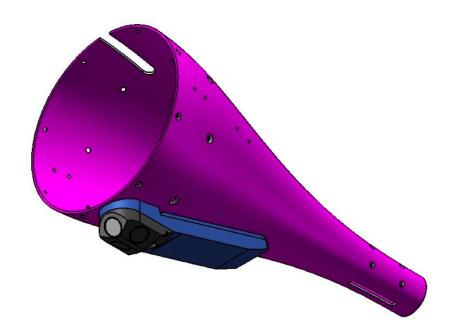
- → Scripps have been successfully flying a Sontek ADCP on their Spray gliders for years
- → Rutgers and Teledyne Webb are flying RDI ADCPs on Slocums (400 kHz)
- → UW have flown a Nortek ADP on a Seaglider

3/24/2011 UEA Seagliders

ADCP



→ In our GENTOO project, we are working with iRobot and Nortek to install an AquaDopp in one of our Seagliders (1 MHz)

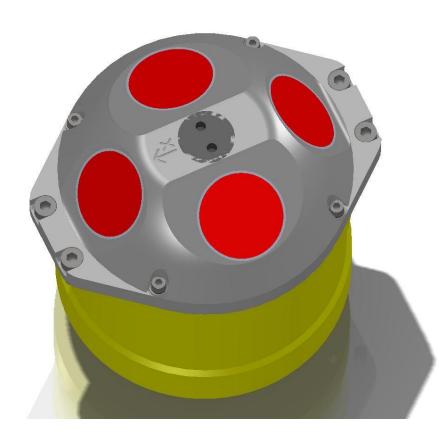




University of East Anglia

ADCP

- Nortek current profiler
- ↑ 1 MHz
- → Range: 5 20 m with an Acoustic Backscattering
 Strength (Sv) of -80 dB/m
- + 22.5° beam angles fore and aft (matched to the Seaglider projected glide angle)
- → 50° beam angles port and starboard



ADCP



- Nortek current profiler
- Draft specification :
- → 64 depth cells
- → 0.3 m vertical resolution
- → 0.2 cm/s velocity resolution
- → Sensor health (not full data set) will be transmitted back over iridium
- + 1000 m depth rating



Bioacoustics





- ★ We are also installing a small echo sounder for krill abundance estimation
- → Imagenex model 853 ultra-miniature 1000 m echo sounder
- → Based on existing model852
- Designed for use on AUVs, ROVs and gliders

3/24/2011 UEA Seagliders



Bioacoustics

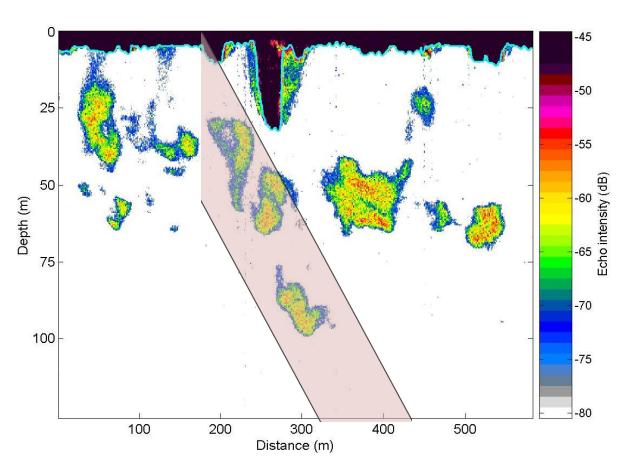
- → Provisional specification being finalised by iRobot and Imogenex:
- * Single beam, singe frequency echo sounder
- + 120 kHz conical transducer with a 10° beam width
- → 200 range bins, range 0.5 100 m
- Downward looking when glider descends

★ We will calibrate against shipboard EK60 and RMT-8 krill net samples

3/24/2011 UEA Seagliders



Bioacoustics



Acoustic backscatter data from Autosub showing krill swarms near an ice keel.

Pink area illustrates the working area of a 40 m range (to -80 dB SV) glider echo