


Module 0

**Introduction to Sea-Bird
Electronics Training
for Data Collection
in the Ocean**

SBE Training Introduction



SBE
Sea-Bird Electronics

Sea-Bird Electronics Training for Data Collection in the Ocean

- Measurement of Ocean Profiles
- Thermosalinographs - Sea Surface Measurements
- Time Series Measurements with Moored Instruments
- Measuring Waves and Tides

Welcome to Sea-Bird Electronics training course. The next few slides will show you what we are going to cover in a little more detail.

Topics We Will Cover



Topics We Will Cover

- Introduction
 - Company history and departments
 - Oceanographic basics
- Profiling Equipment
 - Internally recording
 - Real time
 - Water sampling equipment
- Profiling Setup and Data Acquisition
 - User interface to internally recording instruments:
Seaterm and *SeatermAF*
 - Seasoft's real-time data application *Seasave*

Topics We Will Cover (*continued*)



- Basic Data Processing
 - Conversion of raw instrument output to scientific units
 - Bin averaging and plotting with *Sea Plot*
 - Batch processing large numbers of files
- Water Sampling and Deployment
 - Sampling equipment
 - User interface
 - Deployment issues
- Miscellaneous Applications and Troubleshooting
 - Adding Latitude and Longitude to your data
 - Fresh water applications
 - Thermosalinographs

Topics We Will Cover (*continued*)

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ocean

- Making Measurements in the Ocean
 - Sampling theory and sensor characteristics
 - Coordinating measurements in space and time
 - Comparison of sampling for different instruments
 - Conversion of instrument output to scientific units
- Getting the Highest Accuracy Data
 - Care of sensors in field
 - Calibrations in general
 - Sensor drift characteristics
 - Pre- and post-deployment calibrations
 - Field calibrations
 - As good as it gets: autonomous profilers

Topics We Will Cover (*continued*)

SBE *seawater*

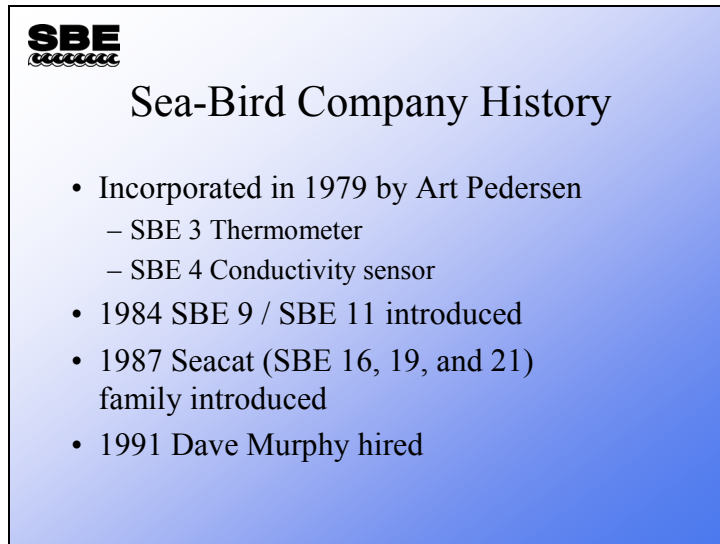
- Advanced Data Processing
 - Sensor alignment, matching measurements of same water parcel
 - Underwater package-induced errors
 - Correcting for conductivity cell thermal mass
 - Data editing and filtering
- Moored Instruments
 - SBE 16 and SBE 16*plus*
 - SBE 37
 - SBE 39
 - Inductive modem telemetry
- Setup of Moored Instruments
 - Preparation for deployment

Topics We Will Cover (*continued*)



- Getting the Highest Quality Data with Moored Instruments
 - Care of sensors in field
 - Calibrations in general
 - Sensor drift characteristics
 - Pre- and post-deployment calibrations
- Waves and Tides: SBE 26 and 26*plus* Setup
 - Measurement theory
 - Deployment planning
- Waves and Tides: Data Processing

Sea-Bird Electronics Company History


A blue gradient rectangular box containing the SBE logo (the letters 'SBE' above a series of horizontal wavy lines) in the top left corner. To the right of the logo is the title 'Sea-Bird Company History' in a serif font. Below the title is a bulleted list of key events in the company's history.

SBE
Sea-Bird Company History

- Incorporated in 1979 by Art Pedersen
 - SBE 3 Thermometer
 - SBE 4 Conductivity sensor
- 1984 SBE 9 / SBE 11 introduced
- 1987 Seacat (SBE 16, 19, and 21) family introduced
- 1991 Dave Murphy hired

Art Pederson developed Sea-Bird's first products for an autonomous vehicle at the University of Washington's Applied Physics Laboratory in 1961. These first products later became the SBE 3 ocean thermometer and SBE 4 conductivity sensor. Pederson incorporated Sea-Bird Electronics in 1979 with these two sensor products. From there, the product line expanded to include real-time ocean profiling instruments with the SBE 9 / SBE 11 acquisition/telemetry equipment and stored data profiling instruments with the Seacat product line.

Sea-Bird Electronics Company History (*continued*)



SBE
Company History continued

- 1991 SBE *9plus* / *11plus* introduced
- 1993 Water Sampling (SBE 32) added to product line
- 1997 MicroCAT (SBE 37-SM, -IM, and -SI) family of Moored instruments debuts
- 1998 CTD for ALACE autonomous profiling fielded
- 2001 Seacat *plus* (*16plus* and *19plus*) introduced

- SBE *9plus* CTD/ *11plus* Deck Unit:
 - Water sampler control
 - More power for auxiliary sensors
 - Any *9plus* will work with any *11plus*
 - Improved telemetry
- SBE 32 Carousel:
 - Improved reliability
 - Bottle closure in any order
 - Easier preparation for deployment
 - Mechanical compatibility with existing equipment
- Seacat *plus* enhancements:
 - Simultaneous P, T, and C sampling
 - Higher resolution for auxiliary sensors
 - More power available for auxiliary sensors
 - Ducted T and C

Sea-Bird Electronics Company History (*continued*)

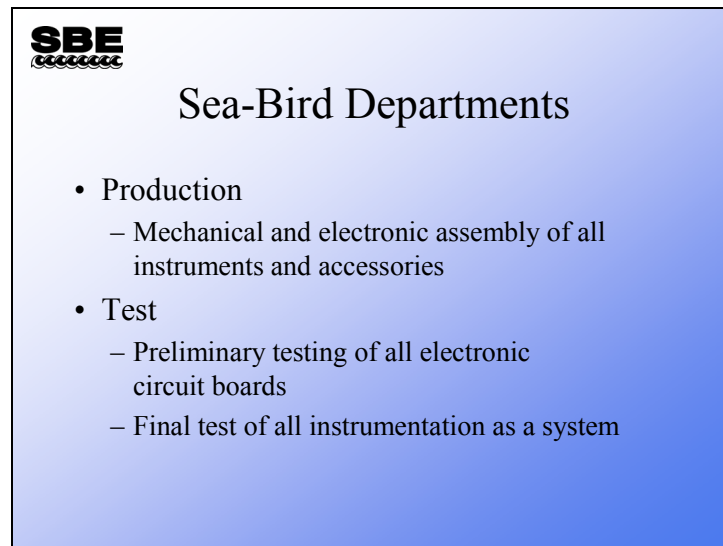


Company History continued

- 2001 SBE 43 DO sensor and SBE 49 FastCAT CTD introduced
- 2003 Pumped MicroCATs (SBE 37-SMP, -IMP, and -SIP) debut
- 2004 SBE 26*plus* Wave & Tide Gauge added
- 2005 SBE 39-IM Temperature Recorder and SBE 53 BPR fielded
- Presently employs 85 people with annual sales of \$18 million, 60% outside U.S.

- SBE 43 DO sensor:
 - Calibration stability, improved temperature response, continuous polarization, reduced hysteresis
- SBE 49 FastCAT CTD:
 - Fast sampling, low cost CTD with no internal power or memory, no auxiliary sensors – ideal for use with ROVs, AUVs, etc.
- Pumped MicroCATs:
 - Improved anti-foul protection and conductivity response
- SBE 26*plus*:
 - Real-time tide data, wave data, and wave statistics, and internal recording
 - Sampling flexibility, large memory, low power consumption
- SBE 39-IM Temperature Recorder:
 - Inductive modem version of high accuracy SBE 39
- SBE 53 BPR Bottom Pressure Recorder:
 - Full ocean depth water level with extremely high resolution, accuracy, and stability

Sea-Bird Electronics Organization



Sea-Bird's departments are:

- Production
- Test
- Customer Service
- Calibration
- Sales


Production

The production department does all product assembly, from Carousels to conductivity cells. To support product assembly, printed circuit boards are populated with electronic components either at Sea-Bird or off site. Mechanical components are machined, coated, and labeled as appropriate. Sea-Bird performs all bonding of plastic to glass or metal.

Test

The test department performs preliminary acceptance testing on all printed circuit boards and final testing on each instrument system. Sea-Bird tests products by collecting data from each instrument while immersing it in one of the cold salt-water baths maintained for this purpose. The bath testing serves two purposes: to provide an operation check for the entire system and to ensure the instrument's ruggedness by exposing it to the shock of being plunged into a bath at approximately 2 – 3 °C.

Sea-Bird Electronics Organization (*continued*)



Departments continued

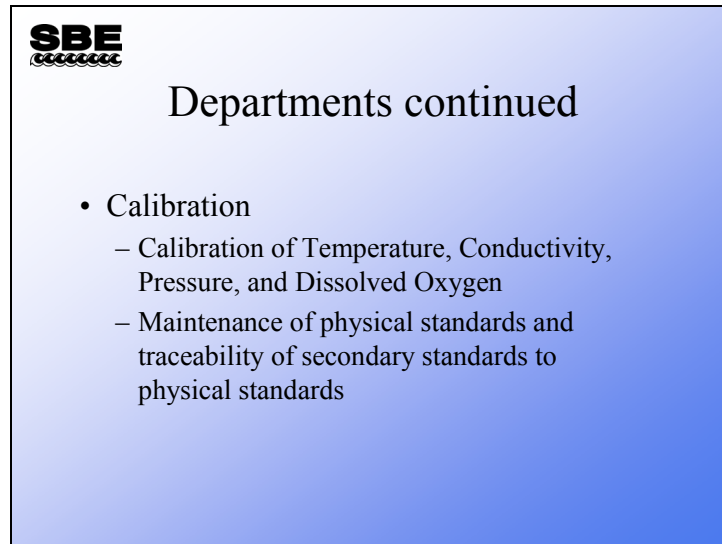
- Customer Service
 - Diagnosis and repair of customer-owned instrumentation
 - Scheduling and interpretation of calibration of customer-owned instrumentation
 - Customer love:
 - Disseminating calibration information and *.con* files
 - Answering customer questions and troubleshooting instruments in the field

Customer Service

Customer service has the broadest set of responsibilities at Sea-Bird. Their activities include:

- Receiving equipment for maintenance and repair.
- Scheduling maintenance and repair activities with customers.
- Responding to customer requests for help with instrument operation.
- Interpreting and disseminating calibration information.
- Performing final checkout of all instruments that have been repaired or recalibrated.

Sea-Bird Electronics Organization (*continued*)




Calibration

The calibration department:

- Calibrates new sensors and re-calibrates sensors returned from the field.
- Maintains calibration histories for all sensors.
- Monitors new sensors being held at Sea-Bird until a sensor history, adequate for the precision specified for the sensor, exists.
- Maintains physical standards that allow temperature calibrations to be traced to the triple point of water and the melting point of gallium.
- Operates the Guildline Autosal laboratory salinometer as a conductivity standard.

Sea-Bird Electronics Organization (*continued*)



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S E A B I R D

Departments continued

- Sales
 - Applications engineering
 - Quotes
 - Cost and delivery scheduling
 - Distribution of literature
 - Website
 - Data sheets
 - Manuals for downloading
 - Software for downloading
 - Technical information

Sales

Sea-Bird's sales department acts as our ambassador to the oceanographic community in addition to:

- Providing application engineering

Applications engineering means the customer describes their project and Sea-Bird makes recommendations for the equipment package to best suit their needs.
- Disseminating catalogs, manuals, and application notes.
- Maintaining the Sea-Bird web site.


All information available as paper copy is also available electronically on www.seabird.com.

TIP: Sea-Bird's web site is the best source of up-to-date software and documentation.

Introduction: Ocean Profiling

SBE *What is a *Profile* and Why Do We Want One?*

- *Profiling* means lowering an instrument from surface of ocean to some depth
- Instrument measures environmental parameters (e.g., pressure and temperature) as it is lowered
- Relationship between measured parameters is used for scientific purposes
 - For example: Prediction of ocean currents



A profile is a set of data for one or more environmental measurements, such as temperature and salinity, taken at a regular interval over the ocean depth. In the beginning, there were few options for obtaining ocean data. The most common means were:

- Hydrocasts

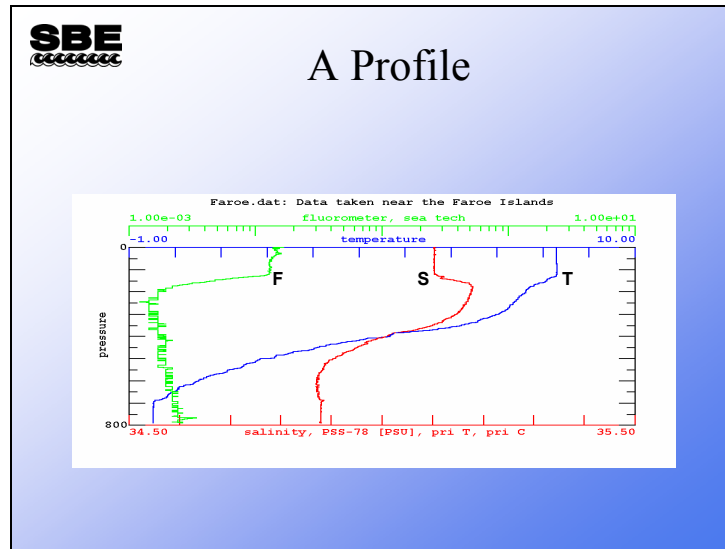
Oceanographers hung water samplers on a cable lowered into the ocean, then dropped a weight down the cable to close the sample bottle and capture a water sample, released another weight to trigger the next sample bottle, and so on. Once the samples were retrieved, discrete samples could be analyzed for temperature and salinity. Accuracy was poor by modern standards, and only 12 – 24 data points were obtained for the whole water column. They yearned for more data points.
- Bathythermograph

The bathythermograph was towed from a ship as it was lowered on a cable. It scratched a trace of the temperature versus depth on a coated glass slide. This provided more points, but only for temperature and only for relatively shallow depths. People still yearned for more data.
- Modern sensors and profiling equipment

Equipment that could make measurements and telemeter these measurements from the end of a conducting cable back to the ship was invented; now there were more points, and life was good. However, there was room for improvement. There has been steady refinement in profiling equipment, data is telemetered digitally, sensors are improved, water sampling equipment is attached to the measurement package, and samplers capture their water on command from the computer on the ship. There are sensors available to measure a wider variety of parameters.


What do we do with our profile? We estimate deep ocean currents based on density profiles. We look for sharp density changes to investigate the interesting chemical and biological processes that go on there. We look for the boundaries of surface ocean currents. We look for the movements of different water masses near shore that indicate upwelling or currents that move sediment along the shore. We measure a sound velocity profile so we can refine our acoustic investigation of the ocean bottom. We discover the depth at which a basin becomes anoxic. We are only limited by our imagination.

Introduction: Ocean Profiling



This profile was collected with an SBE 911*plus* system near the Faroe Islands.

Introduction: Oceanographic Terms

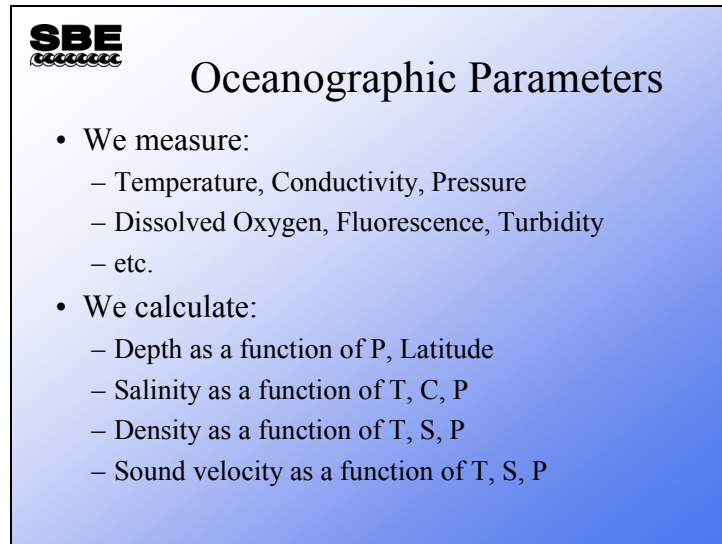


Oceanographic Terms

- Mixed layer
 - The surface ocean that is *fairly* homogeneous in properties because of wind and storm mixing. However, this region has the most biological activity.
- Thermocline
 - A region in the profile where temperature changes rapidly.

The ocean is often spoken of as a two-layer system: a mixed or surface layer and a deep layer. The mixed layer or surface layer is as it sounds, at the surface of the ocean and well mixed by wind and waves. The deep layer is separated from the surface by a region of rapidly changing temperature referred to as the thermocline. Because density is a strong function of temperature, the water in this area also changes sharply in density. The change in density makes it difficult for water in the deep ocean to mix with water in the surface ocean, effectively separating the deep layer from the mixed layer.

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters

A blue rectangular box with a black border containing the SBE logo and a list of oceanographic parameters. The SBE logo is in the top left corner, followed by the title "Oceanographic Parameters". Below the title is a bulleted list of measurements and calculations.

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Oceanographic Parameters

- We measure:
 - Temperature, Conductivity, Pressure
 - Dissolved Oxygen, Fluorescence, Turbidity
 - etc.
- We calculate:
 - Depth as a function of P, Latitude
 - Salinity as a function of T, C, P
 - Density as a function of T, S, P
 - Sound velocity as a function of T, S, P

We measure physical quantities with Sea-Bird instruments. These quantities are then used to calculate the many parameters that are found in the analysis of oceanographic data. Because the calculated parameters rely on accurate measurement of the physical quantities, a small error in the original measurement can result in a large error in data analysis.

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters (*continued*)

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seawater

Which Temperature Should I Use?

- The International Temperature Scale (ITS) is agreed upon by a committee of scientists.
- They agreed in 1968, producing the ITS68 temperature scale.
- Based on improved data they agreed again in 1990, producing ITS90.
- Oceanographic temperatures are reported in ITS90
- Over the oceanographic range:

$$\text{ITS68} = \text{ITS90} * 1.00024$$

The calculation of the parameters mentioned on the previous slide is made with equations of the physical parameters. These equations were derived by gathering data in a laboratory relating T, P, and C to the parameter of interest, and statistically fitting the data to high order polynomials. The coefficients of the polynomials were determined using the 1968 temperature scale. So, to use these high-order polynomials, we must convert to the 1968 temperature scale for these calculations.

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters (*continued*)



What is Salinity?

- Salinity was defined in 1902 as the amount of salts in 1 kg of seawater. Major salts are:
 - NaCl, MgCl₂, MgSO₄, CaSO₄
- As an approximation, 35 grams of salts dissolved in 1 liter of water equals 35 PSU salinity (1 liter fresh water weighs 1 kg)
- The relative proportions of the salts in seawater are (*almost*) always the same
- Conductivity is a function of temperature
- Water of a given salinity at a given temperature will have the same salinity if taken to a different temperature

The relative proportion of each salt in seawater remains constant all over the ocean. This means that if we compare a kg of seawater at 35.000 PSU with a kg of seawater at 20.000 PSU, only the proportion of water in each is different. This does not hold true in areas of freshwater influence, such as river estuaries, or at high Latitudes when the ice is melting. Similarly it does not hold true in brines, either those formed by evaporation of seawater or from dissolution of salt domes or formed via volcanic influence.

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters (*continued*)



How Do We Calculate Salinity From Conductivity?

- A committee of scientists commissioned work to create an equation that relates salinity to conductivity.
- The Practical Salinity Scale of 1978 was born (PSS 78).
- PSS 78 uses the 1968 temperature scale!
- To calculate Salinity we must convert our ITS90 temperatures to ITS68.

Salinity is calculated from several polynomials that characterize seawater's thermodynamic behavior in terms of conductivity, temperature, and pressure. The calculation is based on the ratio of the seawater sample conductivity to the conductivity of standard seawater. The polynomials were determined by statistically fitting the coefficients of these equations to laboratory results. The Practical Salinity Scale of 1978 is only valid when used with the temperature scale of 1968 over a temperature range of $-2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $35\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and it is only valid for seawater that has salinity between 2 and 42 practical salinity units (PSU).

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters (*continued*)



Oceanographic Density

- By definition, the density of fresh water is 1.0000 kilogram/liter
- The density of seawater might be 1.0250 kilograms/liter
- Oceanographers report density as a “sigma” value, which is $(\text{density} - 1) * 1000$ (in our example, 25.000)
- Further, “sigma” is referenced to pressure, sigma-t being at the surface, sigma-theta being at *in-situ* pressure and sigma-1000, sigma-2000, etc. being referenced to 1000 decibars, 2000 decibars, etc.

Introduction: Oceanographic Parameters (*continued*)



Ranges of Oceanographic Parameters

- Temperature: -2 to 35 °C
 - Best accuracy: ± 0.001 °C
- Conductivity: 0.0 to 7.5 Siemens/meter
 - Best accuracy: ± 0.0003 S/m
- Salinity: 2 to 42 PSU
 - Best accuracy: ± 0.002 PSU

