Echo Sounder Evaluation of XBT Drop Rate off the coast of Florida

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Introduction



- New fall rate evaluation approach
 - Echo Sounder
 - Distinctive probe bottom strike
- Preliminary results Deep Blue probes
 - "New" probes fall more consistently
 - Some "Old" probe populations appear slower than "New" probes
- Echo Sounder approach
 - Improved method of fall rate evaluation
 - Encourage community-wide usage

New Fall Rate Evaluation Approach

Echo Sounder with Probe Bottom Strike

Location and Facilities





Sea Trials

- Lockheed Martin base facility
- Lockheed Martin 50' vessel
- •35 km off the coast
- Relatively flat bottom
- •530 m average depth

50' Sea Hawk



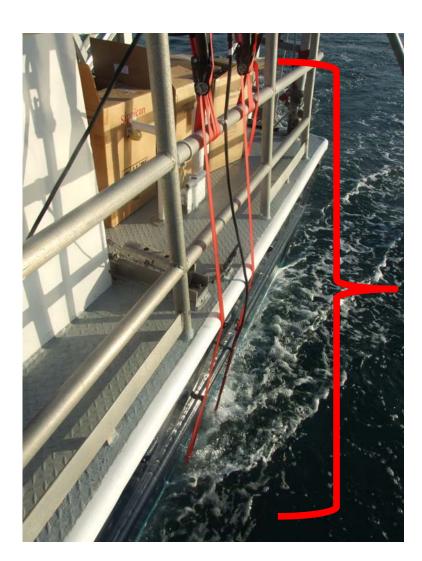




- Large aft deck
- Custom mounting
 - •Echo sounder transducer
 - Probe launchers
- Platform consistency

Transducer Mounting





Echo sounder transducer

- Over the side mount
- •18" below water line

Echo Sounder



Depth Range

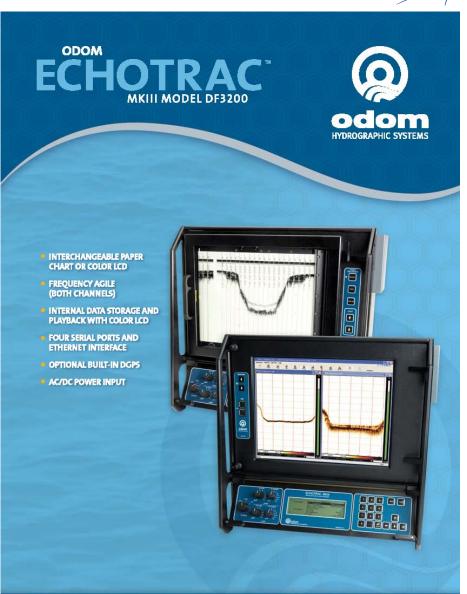
•0.2 – 200m @ 200 kHz

•0.5 – 1500m @ 33 kHz

•1.0 - 6000m @ 12 kHz

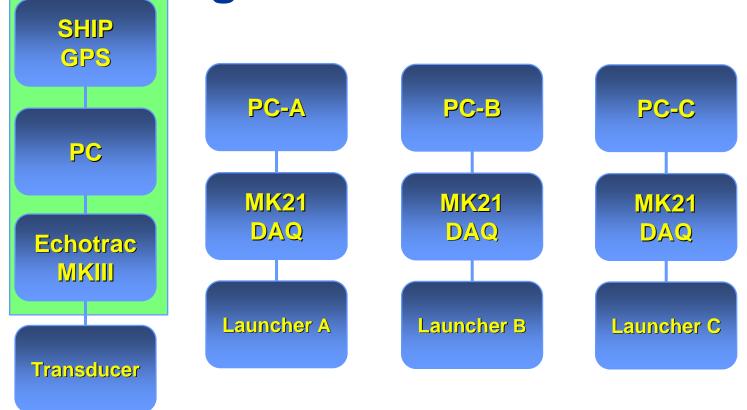
Accuracy

±0.1% of depth(sound velocity corrected)



System Diagram

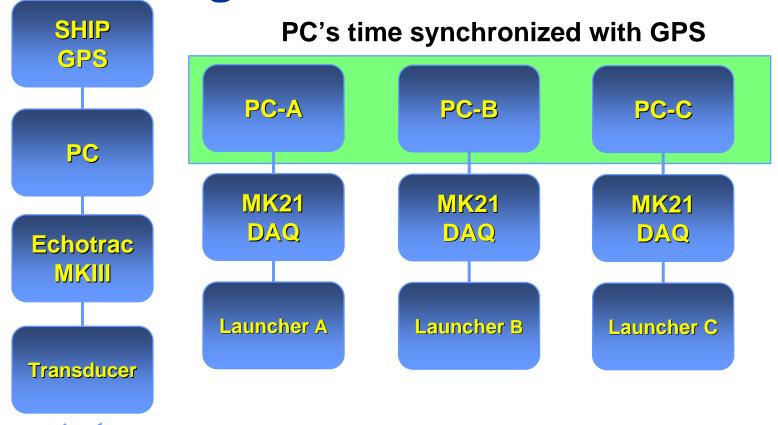




Depth data correlated with GPS time & position

System Diagram





Drop time correlated with GPS time & position

Location of 3 Launchers



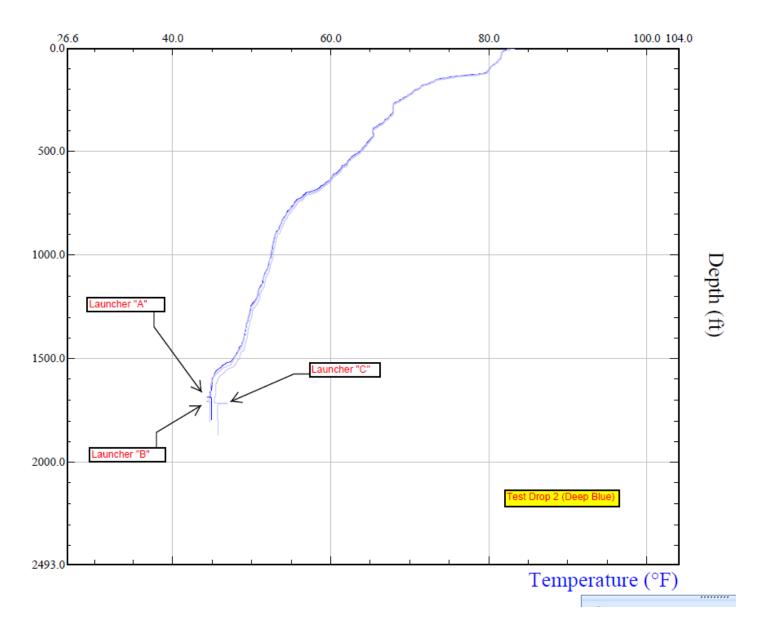


Allows simultaneous launch of 3 probes



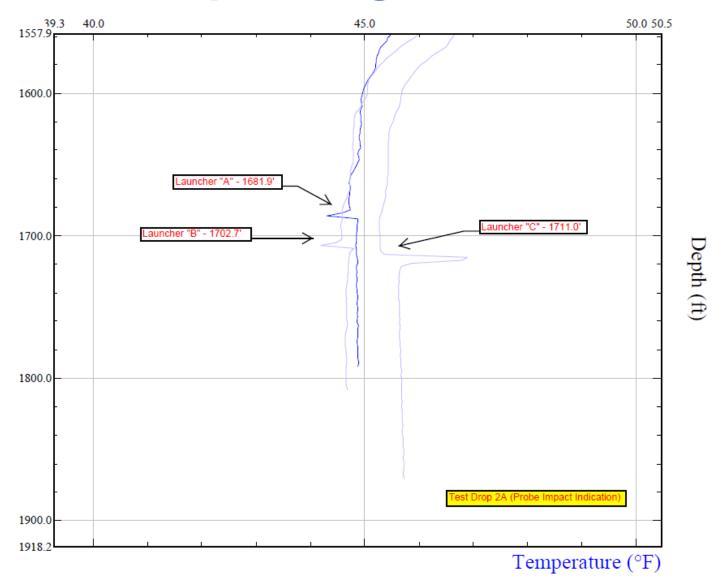
Probe Bottom Strike





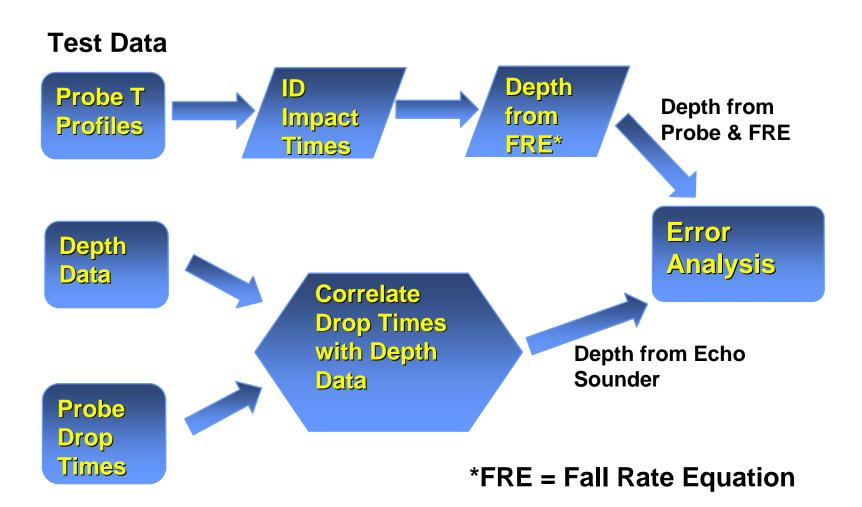
Reliable Impact Signature





Data Analysis





Probe Sea Trials

Definition – "New" Probes



- Manufactured after July 2008
- Same probe design
- Decreased gap between probe nose and body
 - Included additional space for Vexar netting
 - Ensures good fit between nose and body
- Investigation found small Nose-to-Body gaps
 - Older Probe sample population
 - Average of 0.50 mm
 - New Probe sample population
 - Average of 0.21 mm

Four Data Sets



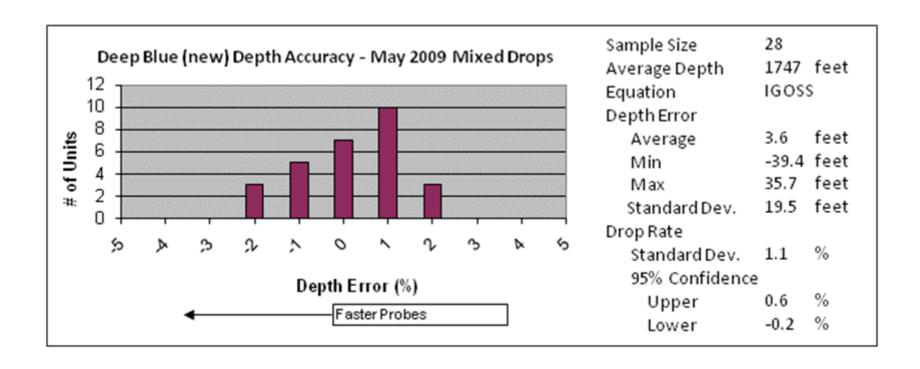
- May 2009
- November 2009
- May 2010
- All data combined

Echo Sounder Results

May 2009 Sea Trial Data

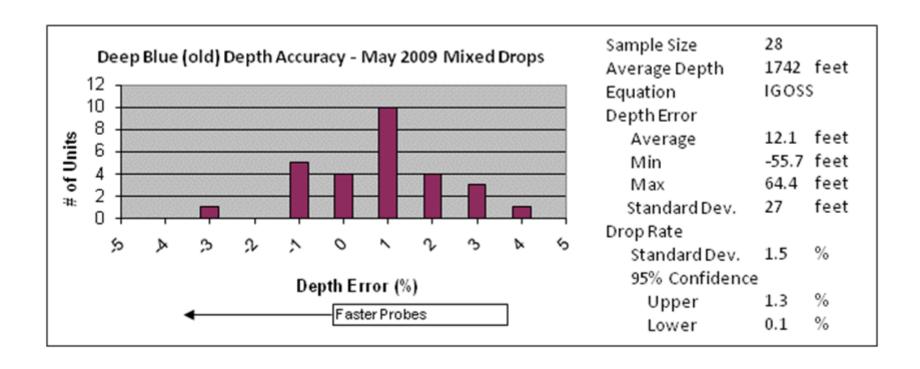
Deep Blues – New Probes











Deep Blues: May 2009 Summary



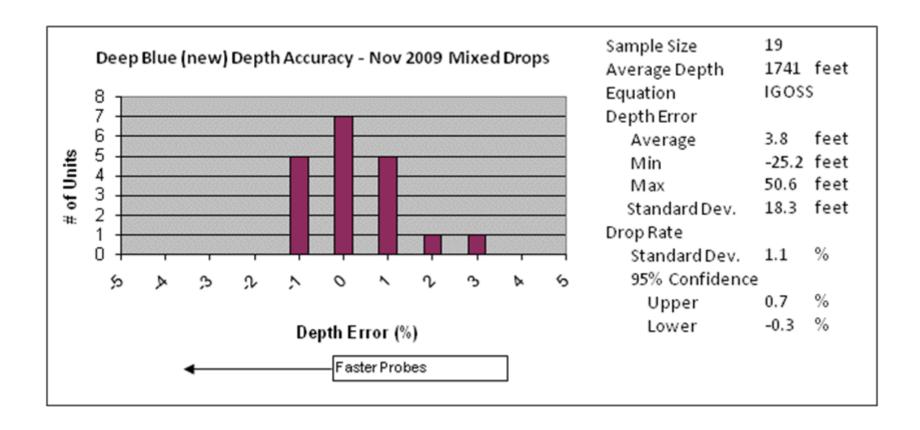
Deep Blue (Before Aug '08)			Deep Blue	Deep Blue (New)		
Sample Size	28		Sample Size	28		
Avg. Depth	1742 feet		Avg. Depth	1747 feet		
Avg Error	12.1 feet		Avg Error	3.6 feet		
Min Error	-55.7 feet		Min Error	-39.4 feet		
Max Error	64.4 feet		Max Error	35.7 feet		
Stdev	27 feet		Stdev	19.5feet		
RSD	1.5%		RSD	1.1%		
95% Conf Interval	0.1%	1.3%	95% Conf Interval	-0.2% 0.6%		

Echo Sounder Results

November 2009 Sea Trial Data

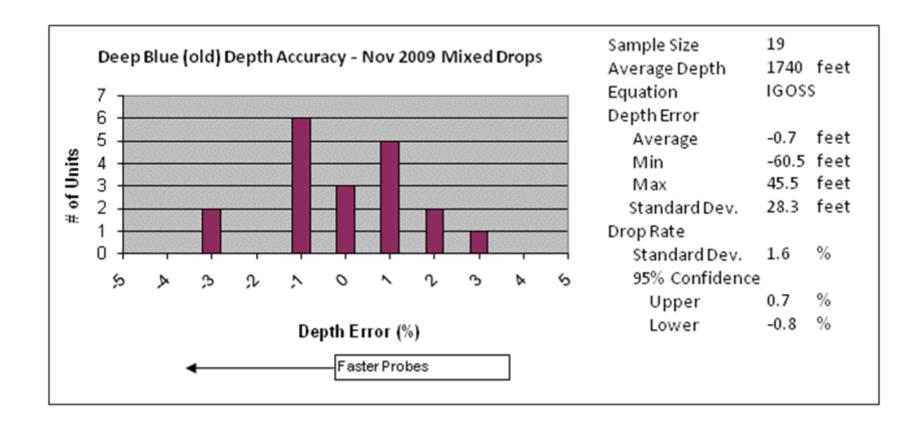
Deep Blues – New Probes











Deep Blues: Nov 2009 Summary



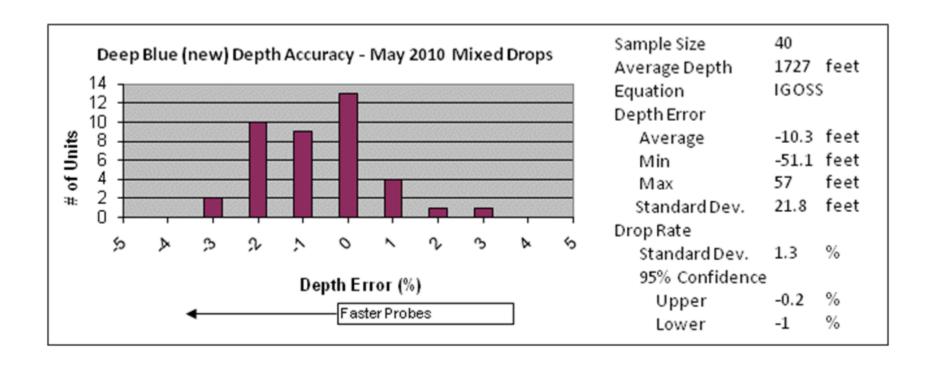
Deep Blue (Before Aug '08)			Deep Blue (New)		
Sample Size	19		Sample Size	19	
Avg. Depth	1740 feet		Avg. Depth	1741 feet	
Avg Error	-0.7 feet		Avg Error	3.8 feet	
Min Error	-60.5 feet		Min Error	-25.2 feet	
Max Error	45.5 feet		Max Error	50.6 feet	
Stdev	28.3 feet		Stdev	18.3 feet	
RSD	1.6%		RSD	1.1%	
95% Conf Interval	-0.8%	0.7%	95% Conf Interval	-0.3%	0.7%

Echo Sounder Results

May 2010 Sea Trial Data

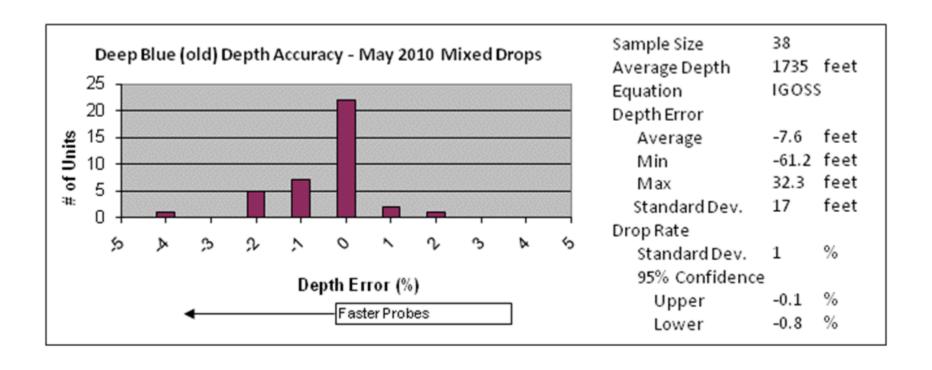
Deep Blues – New Probes











Deep Blues: May 2010 Summary

Deen Blue (Refore Aug '08)

-0.8%

-0.1%

95% Conf

Interval



Deep Dide (Delote Aug 00)		Deep Blue (Deep Dide (New)		
Sample Size	38	Sample Size	40		
Avg. Depth	1735 feet	Avg. Depth	1727 feet		
Avg Error	-7.6feet	Avg Error	-10.3feet		
Min Error	-61.2feet	Min Error	-51.1 feet		
Max Error	32.3 feet	Max Error	57 feet		
Stdev	17feet	Stdev	21.8feet		
RSD	1.0%	RSD	1.3%		

Deen Blue (New)

95% Conf

-1.0%

-0.2%

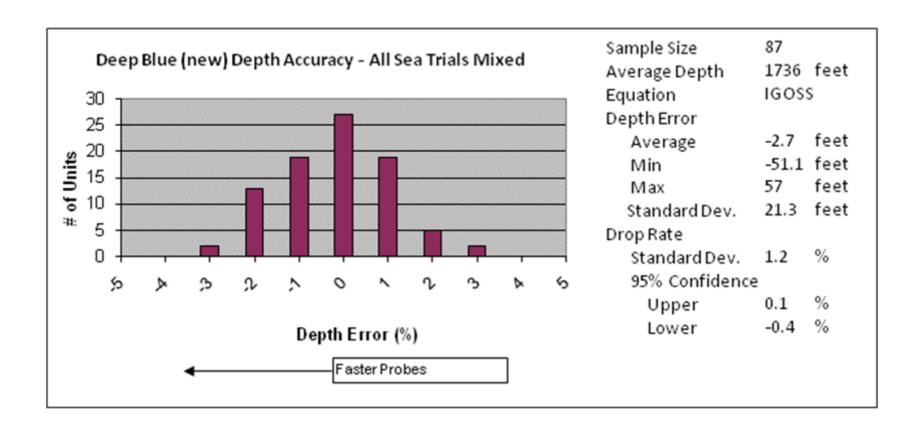
Interval

Echo Sounder Results

All Sea Trial Data

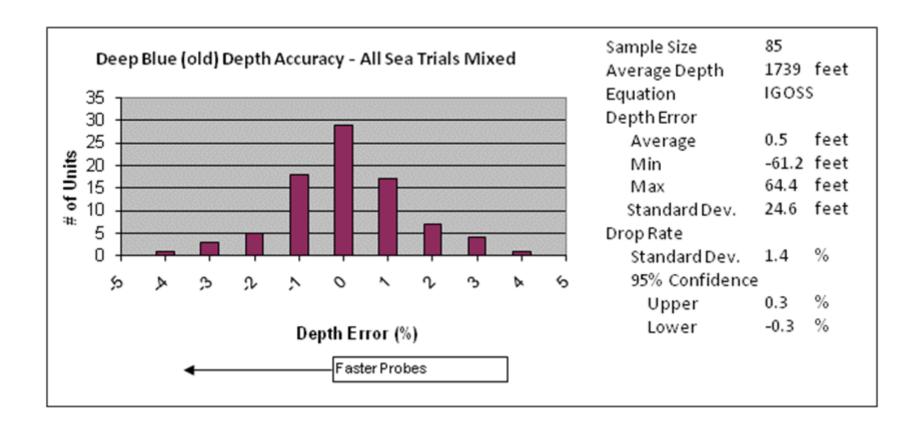
Deep Blues - New Probes











Deep Blues: All Data Summary



Deep Blue (Before Aug '08)			Deep Blue (New)		
Sample Size	85		Sample Size	87	
Avg. Depth	1739 feet		Avg. Depth	1736 feet	
Avg Error	0.5 feet		Avg Error	-2.7 feet	
Min Error	-61.2 feet		Min Error	-51.1 feet	
Max Error	64.4 feet		Max Error	57 feet	
Stdev	24.6 feet		Stdev	21.3 feet	
RSD	1.4%		RSD	1.2%	
95% Conf Interval	-0.3%	0.3%	95% Conf Interval	-0.4% 0	.1%

New: Faster and more consistent drops

Echo Sounder Results

Summary

Error Sources

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- Impact point uncertainty
 - Lateral current influence
 - Natural trajectory variability
 - Error minimized by flat bottom
- Impact time uncertainty
 - Vertical current influence
 - Launch detection
 - Data sample rate
- Echo sounder errors
 - False echoes
 - Sound velocity
- Wave height

Deep Blue Results Summary



- Echo sounder fall rate evaluation
 - Will continue as routine test
- Preliminary results from three sea trials
 - New probes on average drop faster
 - New probes generally drop more consistently
- Results include echo sounder error
 - Depth data quite variable
 - False echoes
 - Obtain better depth measurements
- Continue refinement of the approach
 - Procedural improvements
 - Depth measurement improvements

Future Plans



- Remap the bottom
 - Obtain more accurate depth data
 - Reprocess May '09, November '09, May '10 data
- Repeat error analysis with new depth data
- Procedural improvements
 - Improve echo sounder technique
 - Identify flattest bottom
 - Stationary drops
- Continue fall rate monitoring

