

Hydroacoustics in the USGS: From Research to Operational Tools

Kevin Oberg

Scientist Emeritus, USGS | Oberg Hydroacoustics

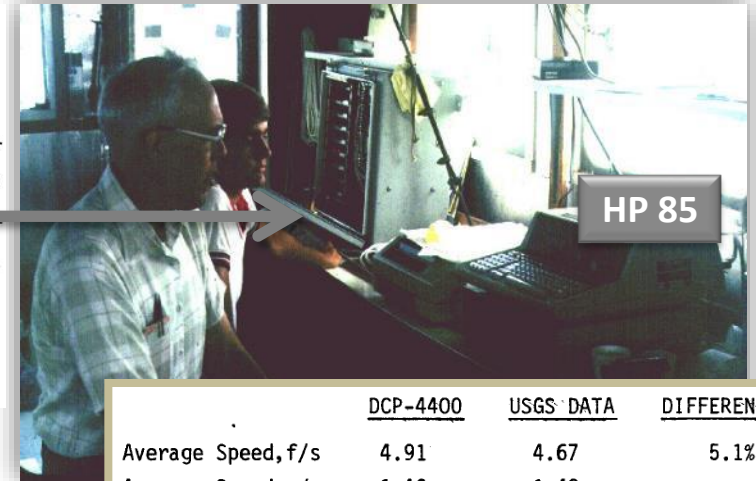
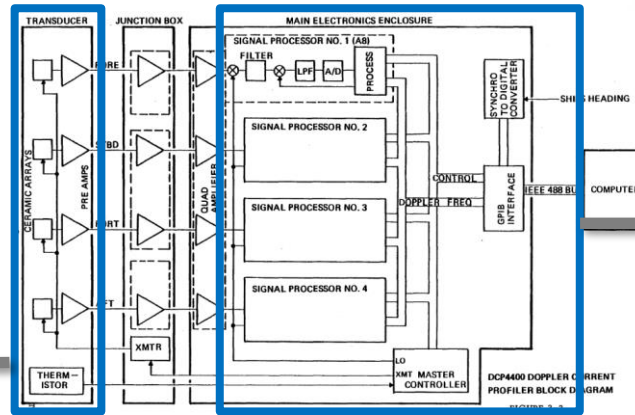
Hydroacoustics in the USGS: From Research to Operational Tools

- Experience with Hydroacoustics
- Lessons Learned
- Sustaining Innovation

Kevin Oberg

Scientist Emeritus, USGS | Oberg Hydroacoustics

First ADCP River Discharge - 1982



Ametek/Straza
DCP 4400 ADCP

Min bin size (cm) 100
 Vel. Std. Dev. (cm/s) 1,100
 Update rate (p/s) 8
 Depth to first bin (m) ~3.6
 Total Weight (kg) 90

	DCP-4400	USGS DATA	DIFFERENCE
Average Speed, f/s	4.91	4.67	5.1%
Average Speed, m/s	1.49	1.42	
Average Depth, feet	59.2	54	9.2%
Average Depth, meters	18.05	16.5	
Discharge Area (sq feet)	142,523	150,000	-5.2%
Discharge Area (sq m)	13,252	13,942	
Discharge (cu ft/sec)	701,904	703,916	-0.3%
Discharge (cu m/sec)	19,891	19,948	

1982

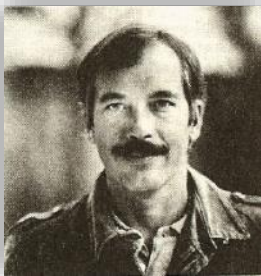
Photos from Steve Blanchard



RD Instruments Narrowband ADCP



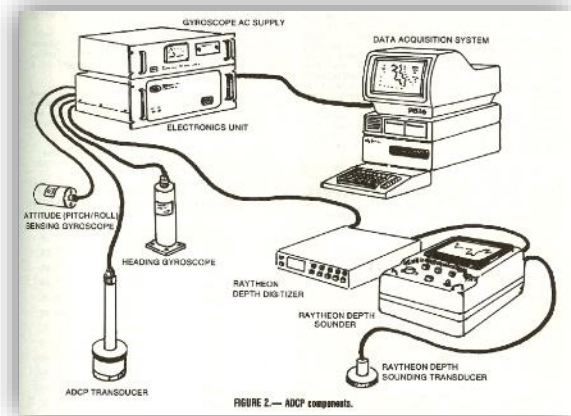
- CA District bought prototype
- Mike Simpson, others tested NB ADCP in SF Bay & Delta.
- Mike wrote software for computing discharge in real time (ADDMS)



Limitations

“Average depths < 4.5 m”

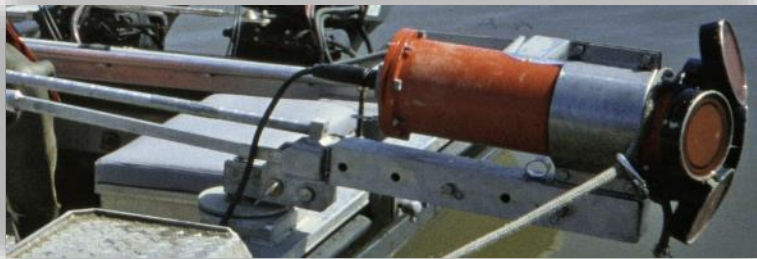
“Irregular cross sections (unless vessel is slowed sufficiently to allow depth definition by ADDMS)”



Min bin size (cm)	100
Vel. Std. Dev. (cm/s)	13.4
Update rate (p/s)	8
Depth to first bin (m)	~3.6
Total Weight (kg)	27
Length (m)	1.07

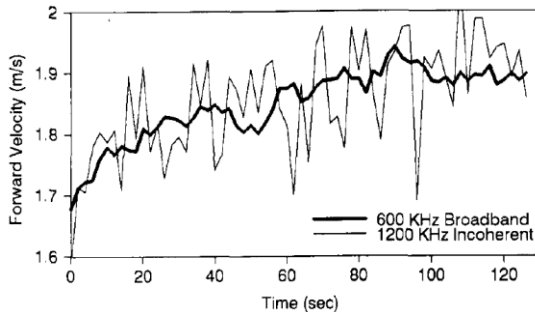


RD Instruments Broadband ADCP



Performance of a Broad-Band Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler

Blair H. Brumley, Ramon G. Cabrera, Kent L. Deines, and Eugene A. Terray



Min bin size (cm) **25**
 Vel. Std. Dev. (cm/s) **6.5**
 Update rate (p/s) **2**
 Depth to first bin (m) **~1.8**
 Total Weight (kg) **27**
 Length (m) **1.0**

Cost: \$55,000

Table C-1. ADCP Input Command Summary

COMMAND	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
?	SHOWS COMMAND MENU	C-7
-BREAK- or [ESC]	INTERRUPTS OR WAKES UP ADCP AND LOADS LAST SETTINGS USED	C-9
BA#nn	BT EVALUATION AMPLITUDE MINIMUM (1-255 counts)	C-10
BC#nn	BT CORRELATION MAGNITUDE MINIMUM (0-255 counts)	C-10
BD#nn	BT DELAY BEFORE REACQUIRE (0-999 ensembles)	C-10
BE#nn	BT ERROR VELOCITY MAXIMUM (0-9999 m/ms)	C-11
BT#nnnn	BT TRANSMIT POWER (0-255 counts)	C-11

EX1011	Coordinate transformation
WS25	Cell size (cm)
WV170	Ambiguity velocity (cm/s)
BA30	Bottom amplitude

CP#nn	TRANSMIT POWER (0-255 counts)	C-19
CQ#nn	TRANSMIT DELAY SELECT (0-127 counts) (NOTE: NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTED)	C-19
CR#n	RETRIEVE PARAMETERS (0 = user, 1 = factory)	C-20
CS or T	START PINGING	C-20
CT#n	TURKEY OPERATION (0 = off, 1 = Turkey)	C-22
CK#n	TRIGGERED TRANSMIT (0=off, 1=on)	C-22
CY	CLEAR ERROR STATUS WORD	C-23
CZ	POWER DOWN ADCP	C-24
DA	ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE CORRECTION	C-25
DI	IDENTIFY THE SVP	C-25
DQ	SENSOR POWER ON/OFF TOGGLE	C-26
DS	SAMPLE/DISPLAY DATA SCAN	C-26
EA#mmmm	HEADING ALIGNMENT (PHYSICAL) (LSD = ±0.01 ; -179.99 to 180.00)	C-27
EB#mmmm	HEADING BIAS (ELECTRICAL/MAGNETIC) (LSD = ±0.01 ; -179.99 to 180.00)	C-28
EC#mm	SPEED OF SOUND (1400-1600 m/s)	C-30
ED#mmmm	DEPTH OF TRANSDUCER (0-65535 decimeters)	C-30
EE#mmmm	HEADING (LSD = 0.01 ; 000.00 to 359.99)	C-30
EP#mmmm	PITCH (LSD = 0.01 ; -20.00 to +20.00)	C-31
ER#mmmm	ROLL (LSD = 0.01 ; -20.00 to +20.00)	C-31
ES#n	SALINITY (0 to 40 parts per thousand)	C-32
ET#mmmm	TEMPERATURE (LSD = 0.01 C, -5.00 C to +40.00 C)	C-32
EX#mmmm	COORDINATE TRANSFORMATION (type,type, bits; 3-beam; bin mapping)	C-32
EZ#mmmm	SENSOR SOURCE (EC: ED, EH, EP, ER, ES; ET; (0=manual, 1=transducer, 2=synchro)	C-35
FA#n	PRE-DEPLOYMENT TESTS	C-36
FB#nn	BUILT-IN TESTS (0=help)	C-36
PD#nn	DATA STREAM SELECT (0 = manual, 1 = simulated, 2=ADCP1, 4=ADCP2, 8=ADCP3, 6=ADCP4, 7=HIMES)	C-38
PI#mmmm	BUILT-IN TESTS (repeat, CPU, clock, timing, demod, loop)	C-38
PM	DISTANCE MEASURING FACILITY	C-39
PS#n	SHOW SYSTEM PARAMETERS (0=hard/firmware; 1=led id; 2=var id; 3=modr mbr; 4=ping sec)	C-41

1992

1980

1985

1990

1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

RD Instruments Rio Grande ADCP



- First 12-volt ADCP
- Based on Workhorse technology

	<u>WM1</u>	<u>WM5</u>
Min bin size (cm)	25	10
Vel. Std. Dev. (cm/s)	10	.60
Update rate (p/s)	2	3
Depth to first bin (m)	~1.8	0.5
Total Weight (kg)		6.8
Length (m)		0.20

Cost: \$23,000



1997

1980

1985

1990

1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

RiverRay and RiverPro & M9/S5



- Multi-frequency
- Auto-adaptive configuration
- Smaller footprint
- Vertical beam for depth measurement
- Bluetooth radio support
- Geo-location info (some models)



2008

1980

1985

1990

1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

SonTek FlowTracker ADV



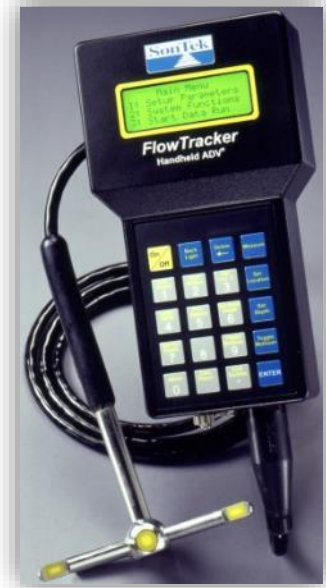
ADV



Proof of concept



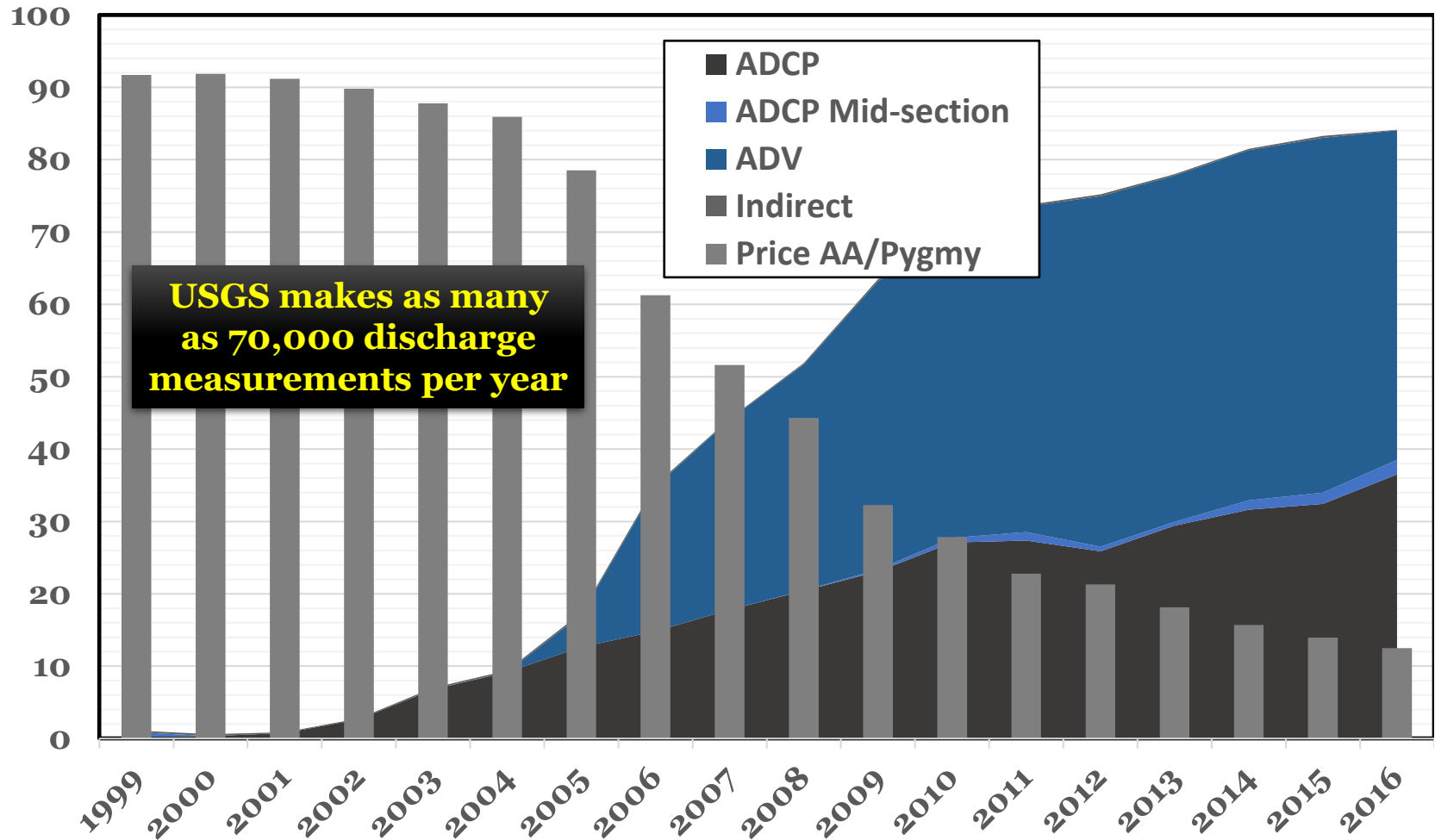
2nd generation



Flowtracker



Impact of Hydroacoustics in USGS

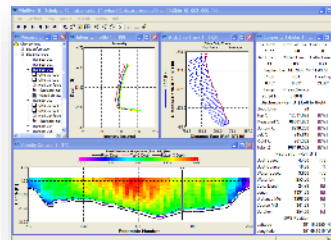
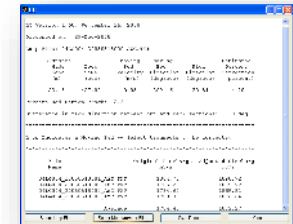
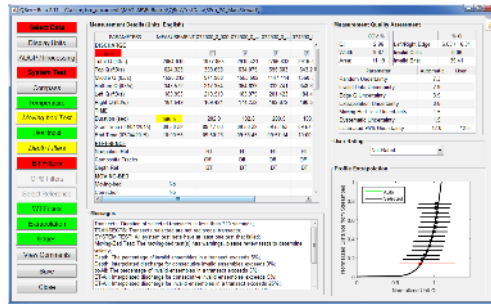


Lessons Learned

What lessons can be learned?

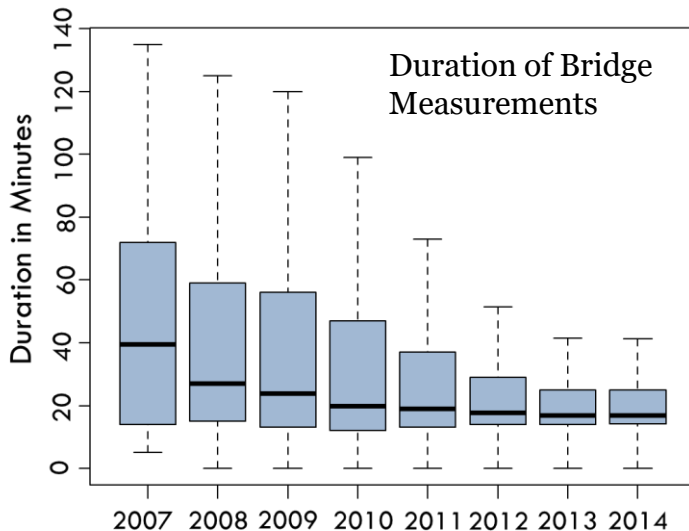
1. Technological Innovation
2. Incentives
3. Standardized Training / Standard Operational Procedures
4. Vendor Interaction & Collaboration
5. Validation and Quality Assurance
6. Dedication of Resources (Staff and \$\$)

(1) Technological Innovation



(2) Incentives are Necessary

- **Economic**
- **Capability**
- **Accuracy**
- **Safety**
- ADCP usage
 - Cost less (less staff / Qm time)
 - Measure in conditions that were previously not possible
 - More Qms/time
 - Enabled use of in-situ ADCPs (estuaries, unsteady flow, etc.)
 - Moving boat measurements are more accurate than with mechanical meters
 - Safer to use in many situations (e.g. less time on bridges)



(3) Training & SOPs (Manuals)



Training in the Use of the
Technology is Essential
10-15 classes per year in USGS

USGS
science for a changing world

Measuring Discharge with Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers from a Moving Boat
Chapter 22 of Book 3, Section A

USGS
science for a changing world

Computing Discharge Using the Index Velocity Method
Techniques and Methods 3-A23

Techniques and Methods 3-A22

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

**Publish Manuals /
Standard Operating
Procedures**

EXPLANATION

- Lower range
- Transition range
- Upper range

Measured-mean velocity in feet per second

Index

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

(4) Work with Manufacturers



Regular Meetings

- Discuss requirements
- Learn the technology
- Share problems/bugs

The screenshot shows the 'Setup Dialog' window for the 'Project Wizard' Configuration Dialog. The window is divided into several sections:

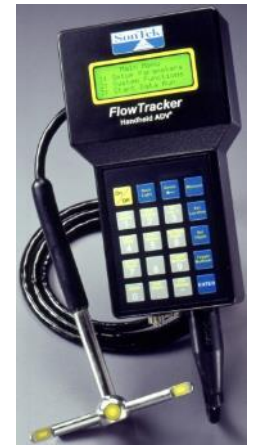
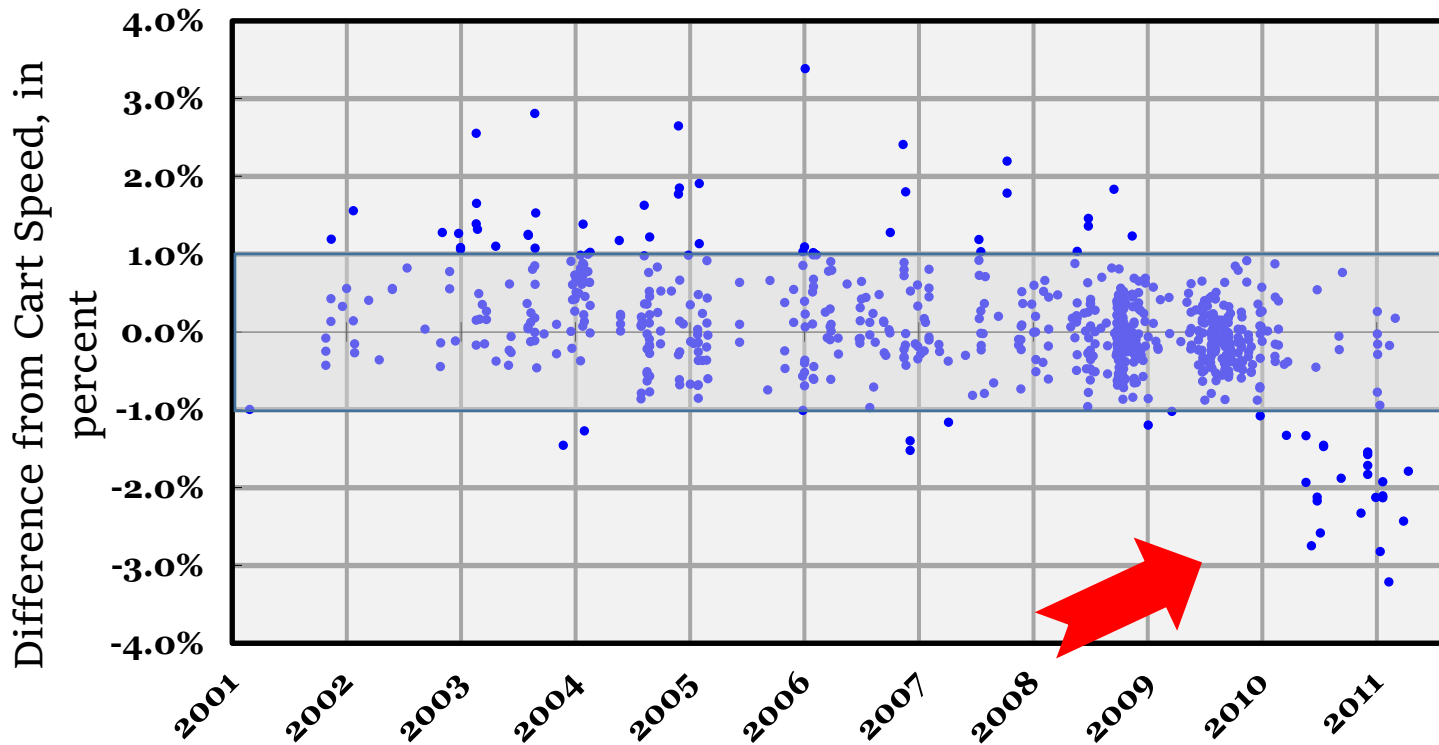
- Recording:** Filename Prefix: DATA; Output Directory: C:\Projects\DATA
- Offsets:** Transducer Depth [ft]: 0.16; Mag Variation [deg]: 0
- Discharge:** Top Method: Power; Bottom Method: Power; Power Curve Coef: 0.1667; Left Bank Coef: 0.35 - Triangle; Right Bank Coef: 0.35 - Triangle; Shore Pings: 10
- Devices:** Select all devices used during data collection. ADCP: Rio Grande 600 kHz; ADCP Serial Nmb: [empty]
- ADCP Configuration:** Max Water Depth [ft]: 16.40; Secondary Depth [ft]: 0.00; Max. Water Speed [ft/s]: 1.64; Max. Boat Speed [ft/s]: 1.64; Streambed: Sand; Bottom Mode: Mode 5; Water Mode: Auto; Update Rate: Auto

At the bottom, there are navigation buttons: Back, Next, and Cancel, along with the text 'Teledyne RD Instruments'.

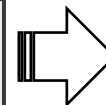
Collaborate to improve the product

Example: USGS developed the logic for an ADCP configuration wizard

(5) Testing is Essential – Field and Lab



- Error was introduced into manufacturer's calibration facility
- USGS QA program identified the problem



Trust but Verify!

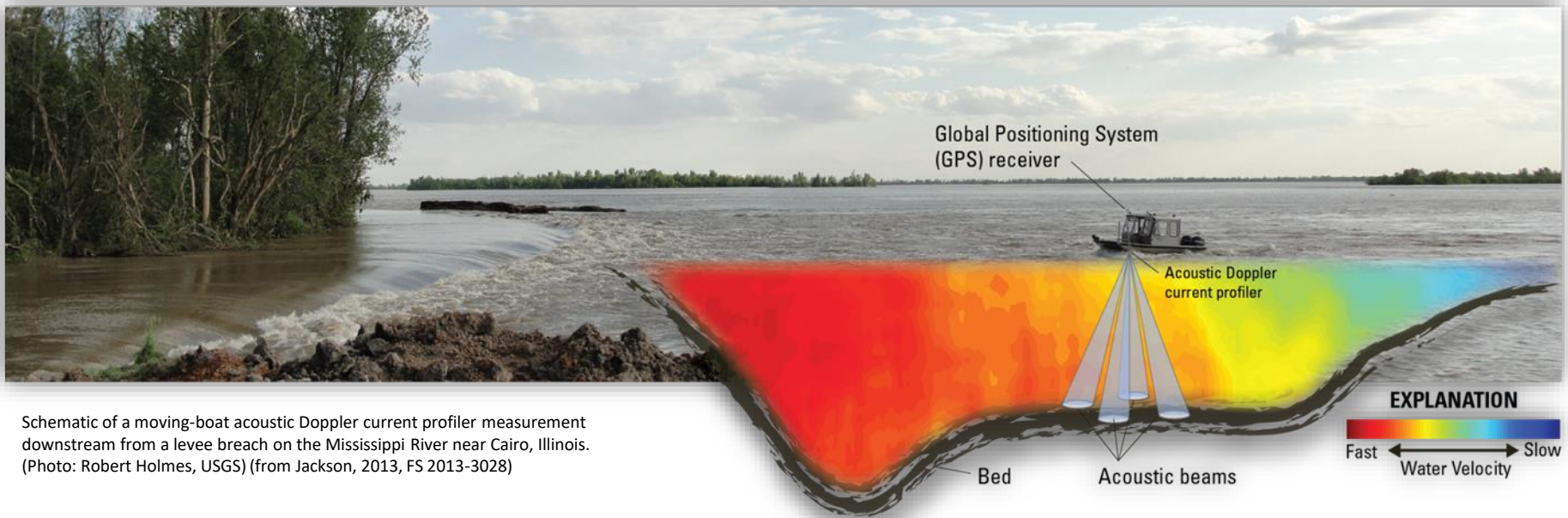
(6) Resources

- Necessary to have staff dedicated to ensure that the things get done
 - **Field Support** (trouble shooting problems via phone, email, etc..)
 - Implement **Training** and Standard Procedures
 - **Validate** Instrument and software
 - **Interact and collaborate** with vendors consistently
- Funding needed to facilitate desired software and hardware enhancements

Sustaining Innovation

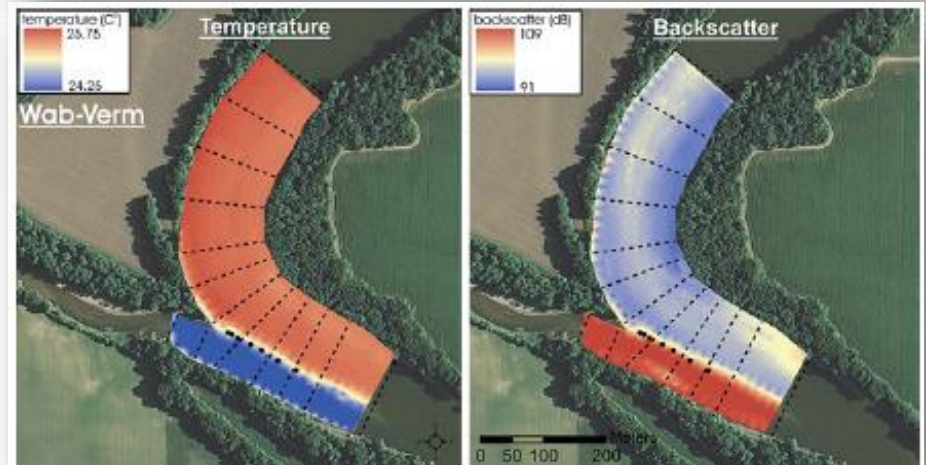
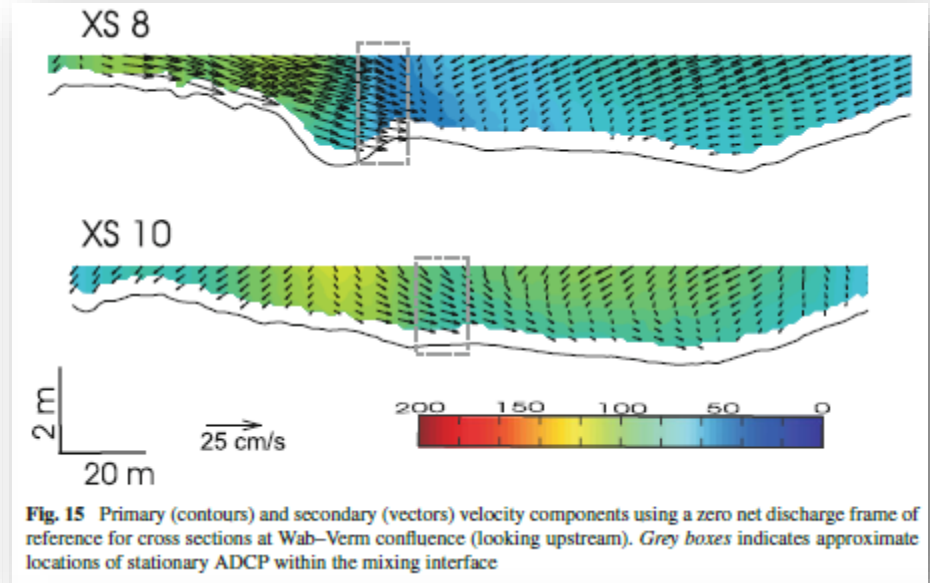
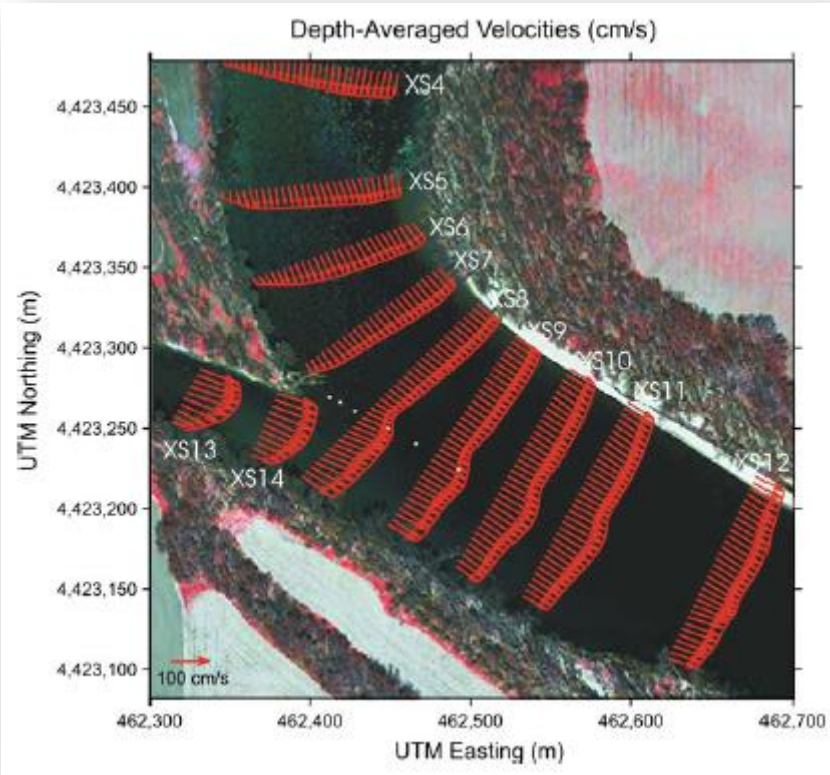
Untapped Potential?

- Every ADCP measurement contains high-resolution 3D velocity data
- Most ADCPs are only used for discharge



Schematic of a moving-boat acoustic Doppler current profiler measurement downstream from a levee breach on the Mississippi River near Cairo, Illinois. (Photo: Robert Holmes, USGS) (from Jackson, 2013, FS 2013-3028)

“Other” Data & the Velocity Mapping Toolbox



Velocity Mapping Toolbox (VMT): a processing and visualization suite for moving-vessel ADCP measurements <https://doi.org/10.1002/esp.3367>

VMT software available at:
hydroacoustics.usgs.gov/movingboat/VMT/VMT.shtml

New Uses for “Old” Data: Sediment Acoustics



USGS
science for a changing world

Sediment Acoustic Index Method for Computing Continuous Suspended-Sediment Concentrations

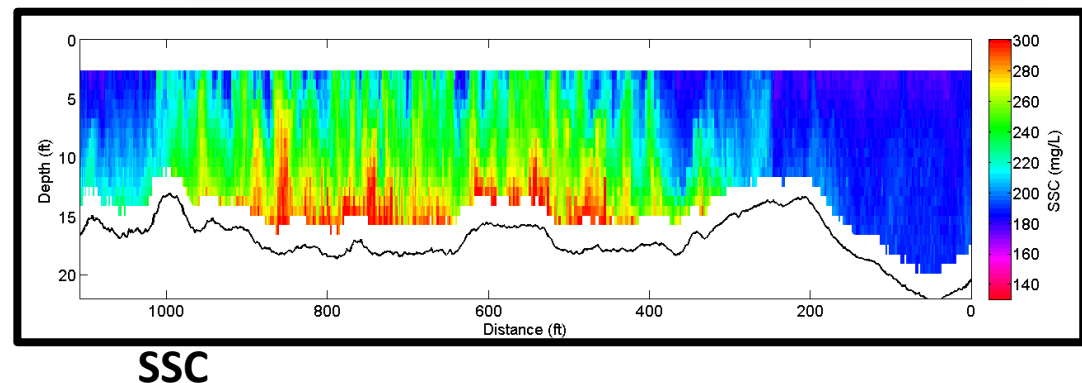
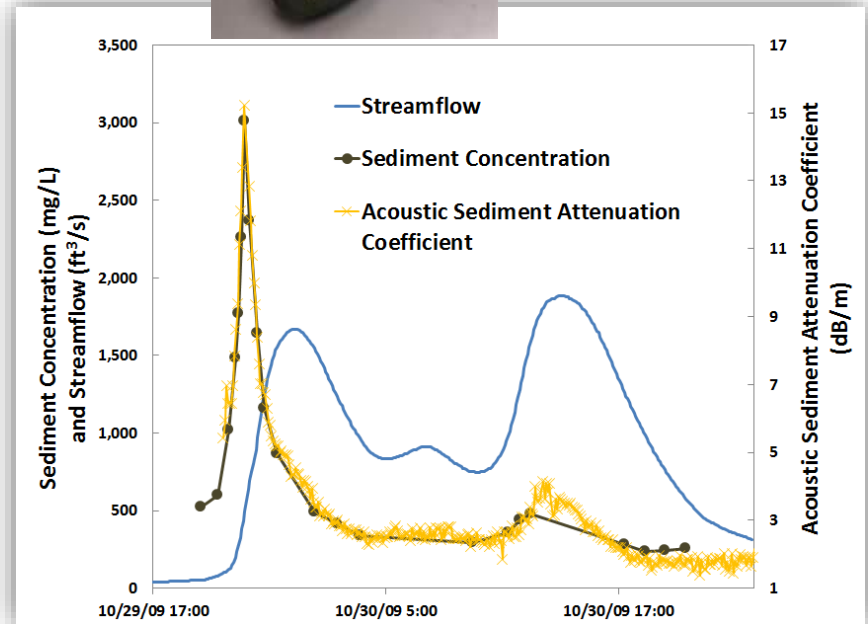
Chapter 5 of
Section C, Sediment and Erosion Techniques
Book 3, Applications of Hydraulics

Suspended sediment concentration, in milligrams per liter

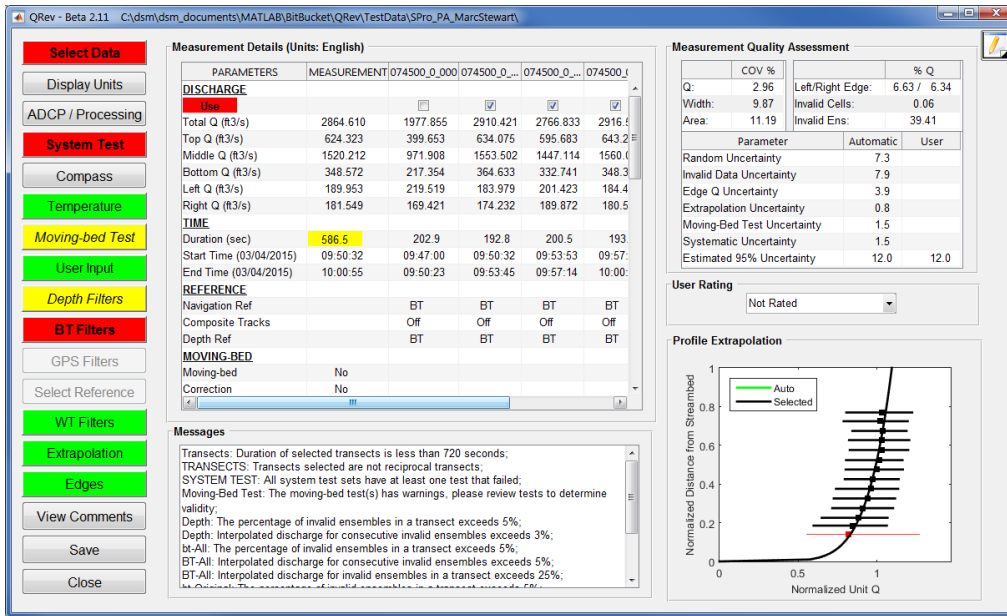
Mean sediment corrected backscatter, in decibels

Techniques and Methods 3–C5

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey



Develop New Tools: QRev Software



- Manufacturer independent
- Improve efficiency of data review and ensure consistency
- Automate data screening algorithms, better data interpolation
- Automate data quality checks and feedback
- Assist user with uncertainty estimation
- Finalize Qm in the field

QRev is used by many agencies around the world for processing ADCP discharge measurement data.

[QRev User's Manual](#)

https://hydroacoustics.usgs.gov/software/QRev_Users.pdf



Thanks for listening!

Thanks also to whoever shared this photo!

Questions?

Kevin Oberg
Oberg Hydroacoustics

✉ kevin@hydro-acoustics.com

🐦 [@Hydro_Acoustics](https://twitter.com/Hydro_Acoustics)

🏠 <https://hydro-acoustics.com/>