

Day two – RRS Sir David Attenborough science capability

- Physics and IT Dr Brian King and Jeremy Robst
- Geology and geophysics Dr Rob Larter and Prof Colm Ó Cofaigh







Physics and IT capability

Dr Brian King SDA physics representative, National Oceanography Centre

Jeremy Robst IT Engineer, British Antarctic Survey





The oceans are the dominant repository for global warming heat energy - more than 90%. The Southern ocean is warming more rapidly then the rest of the global ocean, especially the Atlantic sector.

The oceans are the dominant repository for global warming heat energy - more than 90%. The Southern ocean is warming more rapidly then the rest of the global ocean, especially the Atlantic sector.

These days we rarely study physics without biogeochemistry, understanding the carbon cycle and carbon storage, deploying large teams in complex multidisciplinary expeditions.

The Southern Ocean is the closure for the Atlantic Overturning Circulation that sets UK climate, and also sees the highest rates of ocean uptake of anthropogenic CO₂.

- The oceans are the dominant repository for global warming heat energy more than 90%. The Southern ocean is warming more rapidly then the rest of the global ocean, especially the Atlantic sector.
- These days we rarely study physics without biogeochemistry, understanding the carbon cycle and carbon storage, deploying large teams in complex multidisciplinary expeditions.
- The Southern Ocean is the closure for the Atlantic Overturning Circulation that sets UK climate, and also sees the highest rates of ocean uptake of anthropogenic CO₂.
- Observing and understanding these phenomena, and whether they will persist into the future, is at the forefront of understanding global climate and ecosystem changes.
- Data gathered on expeditions that are now being conceived will be fundamental to creating new knowledge. Apart from the thrill of discovery, this knowledge will inform and transform assessments such as those by IPCC, and should be the basis for guiding the national response to the challenges posed by our changing planet.

Understanding the oceans is really about answering three basic questions

Understanding the oceans is really about answering three basic questions

Where is the water coming from?
Where is it going?
How is it modified in between?

Understanding the oceans is really about answering three basic questions

Where is the water coming from?
Where is it going?
How is it modified in between?

In physics terminology understanding the oceans is a giant advection-diffusion problem

To reach understanding we need to be able to measure or infer

Ocean currents

Ocean properties

Ocean processes, especially mixing and air-sea exchange

Our new ship gives us the ability to measure these things abundantly, and for a breathtaking array of ocean properties, each of which reveals a different facet of the puzzle.

If you're early in your career, say under 35, you may have at least 35 years before you get to draw a pension

In that time you will describe the oceans, and the Southern Ocean in particular, in detail and with techniques that until now we could barely dream about.

This new ship will take you to places with measurement capability on board that is unprecedented in ocean science, opening up unique opportunities.

If you're early in your career, say under 35, you may have at least 35 years before you get to draw a pension

In that time you will describe the oceans, and the Southern Ocean in particular, in detail and with techniques that until now we could barely dream about.

This new ship will take you to places with measurement capability on board that is unprecedented in ocean science, opening up unique opportunities.

Ever more sophisticated analysis techniques mounted in the ship's laboratories will bring capability into the field that was previously confined to shore facilities. This will enable more samples to be analysed for more parameters, increasing the requirement for sample collection and analysis by big machines.

Unattended measurement platforms will enable us to be in multiple places at once, to go to places ships can't go, and to observe the ocean in ways that ships alone cannot, just as ships can deliver capability that will never be replicated on unattended platforms.

If you're early in your career, say under 35, you may have at least 35 years before you get to draw a pension

- In that time you will describe the oceans, and the Southern Ocean in particular, in detail and with techniques that until now we could barely dream about.
- This new ship will take you to places with measurement capability on board that is unprecedented in ocean science, opening up unique opportunities.
- Ever more sophisticated analysis techniques mounted in the ship's laboratories will bring capability into the field that was previously confined to shore facilities. This will enable more samples to be analysed for more parameters, increasing the requirement for sample collection and analysis by big machines.
- Unattended measurement platforms will enable us to be in multiple places at once, to go to places ships can't go, and to observe the ocean in ways that ships alone cannot, just as ships can deliver capability that will never be replicated on unattended platforms.
- Every 5 years or so I convince myself that now is the most exciting time there has ever been, to be an oceanographer. And the coming years will once again be more exciting than anything that has gone before.

The expected array of physics and biogeochemistry observing equipment CTDs, conventional stainless steel and trace-metal friendly Underway surface measurements

ADCPs 150 & 75 kHz

The expected array of physics and biogeochemistry observing equipment CTDs, conventional stainless steel and trace-metal friendly Underway surface measurements

ADCPs 150 & 75 kHz

Lab spaces – i/c a dedicated Salinometer lab, controlled environment labs, cold stores, and the ability to monitor/control data acquisition, from any number of vantage points

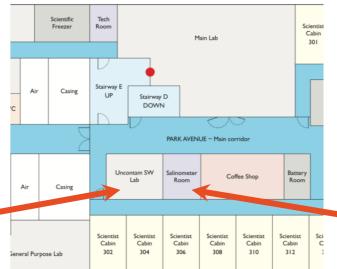
The expected array of physics and biogeochemistry observing equipment

CTDs, conventional stainless steel and trace-metal friendly

Underway surface measurements

ADCPs 150 & **75** kHz

Lab spaces – i/c a dedicated Salinometer lab, controlled environment labs, cold stores, and the ability to monitor/control data acquisition, from any number of vantage points



Underway seawater lab

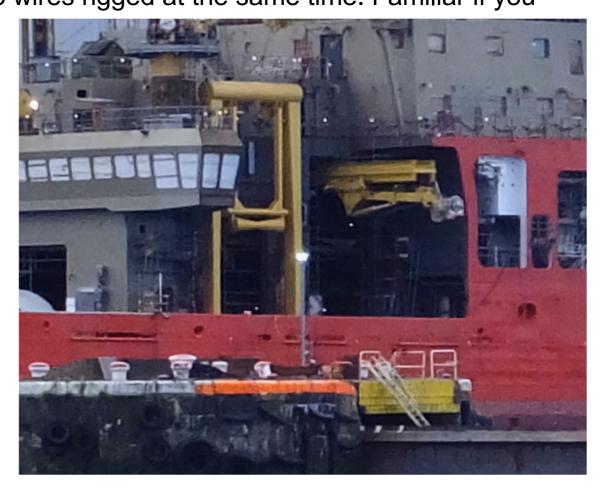
Salinometer lab



Deployment options

Two deployment options for overside vertical wires – a CTD boom and a conventional gantry – so it is possible to have two wires rigged at the same time. Familiar if you

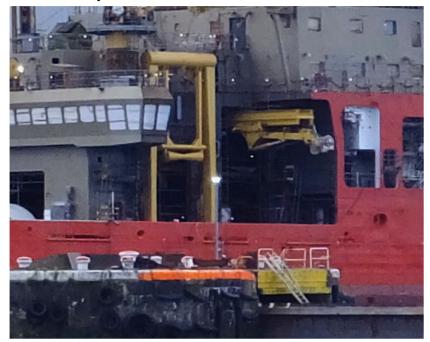
have sailed on DY recently



Deployment options

Two deployment options for overside vertical wires – a CTD boom and a conventional gantry – so it is possible to have two wires rigged at the same time. Familiar if you have sailed on DY recently

Active heave compensation – improves data quality and kinder to the termination Capability to deploy/recover unattended platforms – floats, gliders, moorings Space for launch and recovery systems for Autosub, free-fall profilers like VMP



Deployment options

Two deployment options for overside vertical wires – a CTD boom and a conventional gantry – so it is possible to have two wires rigged at the same time. Familiar if you have sailed on DY recently

Active heave compensation – improves data quality and kinder to the termination Capability to deploy/recover unattended platforms – floats, gliders, moorings Space for launch and recovery systems for Autosub, free-fall profilers like VMP

The moonpool – many of the wires can be diverted to be deployed through the moonpool

CTD wire

Metal-free kevlar

Trawling/coring wire (16mm)

Electro-optical deep tow

Hydro wire

Data logging and data distribution around the ship (Jeremy Robst will say more)

Nearly all the labs are on Deck 3, so samples land on deck and are easily and safely moved around for analysis

Up one deck to Deck 4, you find the data suite

Up one more deck to Deck 5, you find the winch control room, equivalent to the JCR UIC, where AME will set up to control things like CTD operations

The Chief Scientist's cabin is on Deck 6, and the Bridge is on Deck 9, so look forward to plenty of exercise if you ever visit those spaces

Hand over to Jeremy Robst who will talk about the data and IT provision



Physics and IT capability

Dr Brian King SDA physics representative, National Oceanography Centre

Jeremy Robst SDA IT Lead, British Antarctic Survey

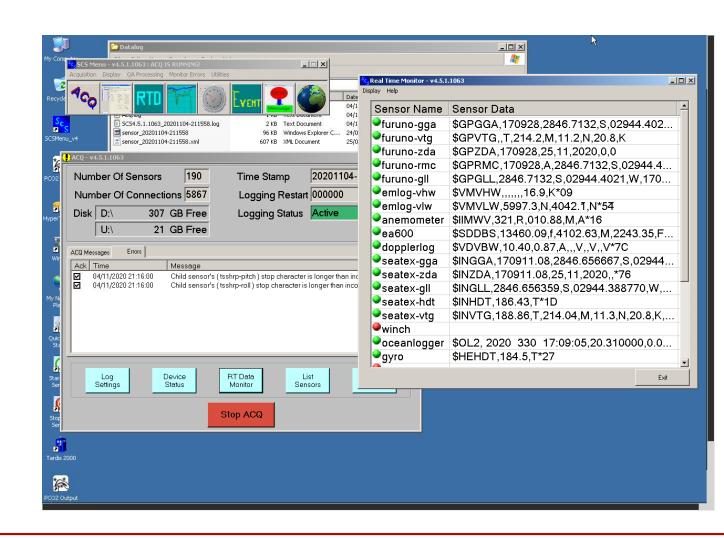






IT – Data Logging

- Data workshop held in November 2018 by SDA Data Manager (Alex Tate)
- Underway logging with 2 systems
 - Primay: NOAA SCS v5 (JCR using v4)
 - Secondary: NMF RVDAS
 - Sensors transmitting over network to both loggers
 - Data available in CSV format and BODC inspired NetCDF
 - SensorML based metadata
- Central location to store all other digital data – echo sounders, moorings, user data



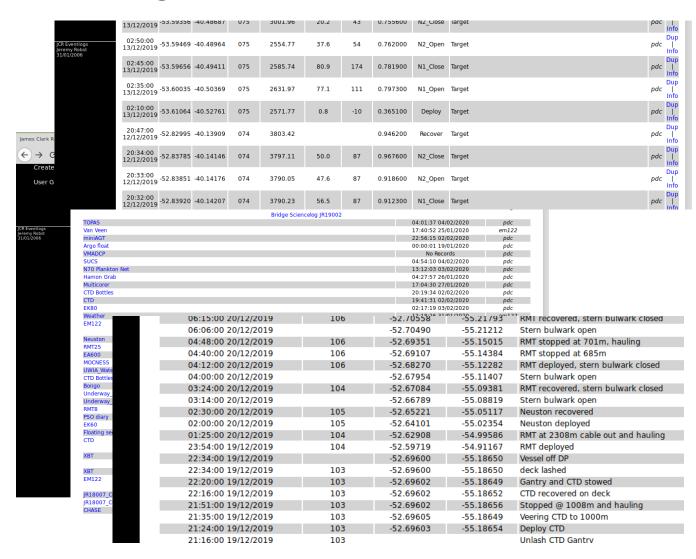






IT – Event Logging

- BAS IT developed system from the JCR transferred to the SDA
- Provides consistent view of cruise events recorded by the bridge
- User defined logs, saves paper recording and transcribing, securely backed up
- Integrated with data logging system to automatically populate underway data
- Data Workshop highlighted value and prioritized development (funding needed).



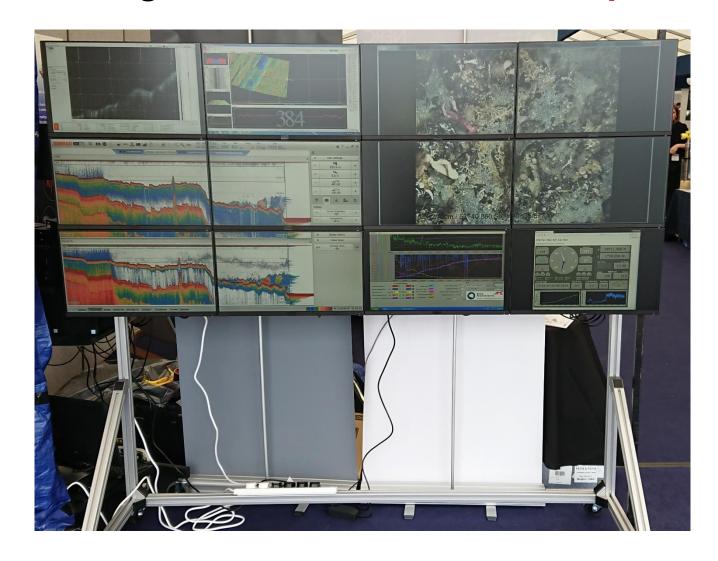






IT – Data Visualisation

- 12 screen video walls in main cruise hubs
- 2 to 4 screens in every laboratory and many living areas
- User selectable displays
 - Sensors and instruments
 - CCTV cameras
 - Cruise information screens
 - Ship Charts







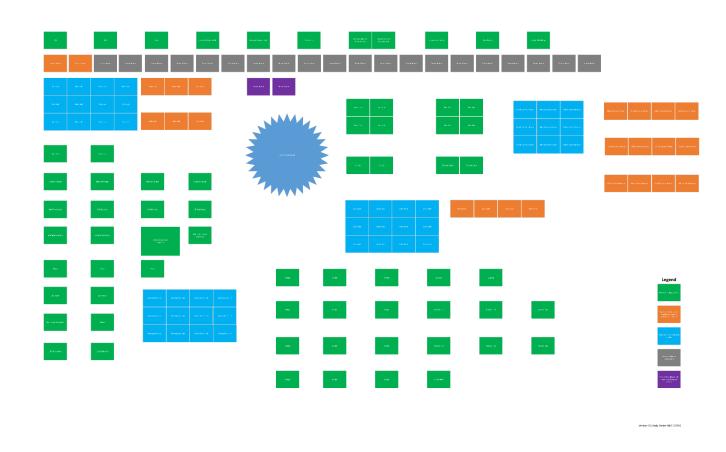


IT – Data Visualisation

- 4 screen operator stations in main hubs
- Allows control of multiple scientific systems from most convenient location
- 150+ screens across the vessel
- 85" touch screen in conference room



Data Display Locations – RRS Sir David Attenborough









IT – Communications

- VSAT link ~ 2.5Mb/s (UK home average 64Mbps)
- Fleet broadband or Iridium backup links
- 900+ wired network ports
- 90 Wireless access points
- 240+ internal phones
- 4G or shore wired / wireless connections in some ports (mainly UK home port)
- WhatsApp text messaging
- Email, web access
- BFBS Satellite TV system









IT – Infrastructure Comparison

	SDA	JCR
Storage	420 TB	18 TB
CPU	80 cores	12 cores
Memory	1536 GB	96 GB
Internal network	Dual 10Gb/s backbone	Single 1Gb/s backbone
Wifi	Full access	Internal only
VSAT link	~2.5 Mb/s	~1 Mb/s

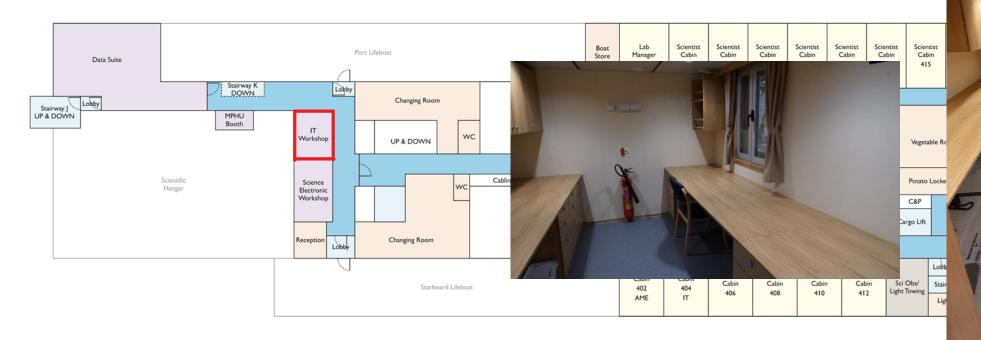






IT – and finally

A great office / workshop for the IT support on board, so you can always find us 😊



Thank you







Geology and geophysics capability

Dr Rob Larter SDA Science User Consultation Panel geophysics representative, British Antarctic Survey

Professor Colm Ó Cofaigh SDA Science User Consultation Panel geology representative, Durham University





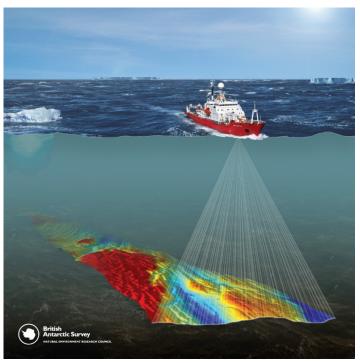
Multibeam Echo Sounding Systems

Kongsberg EM122 – 12 kHz, full ocean depth Kongsberg EM712 – 40-100 kHz, continental shelf and slope

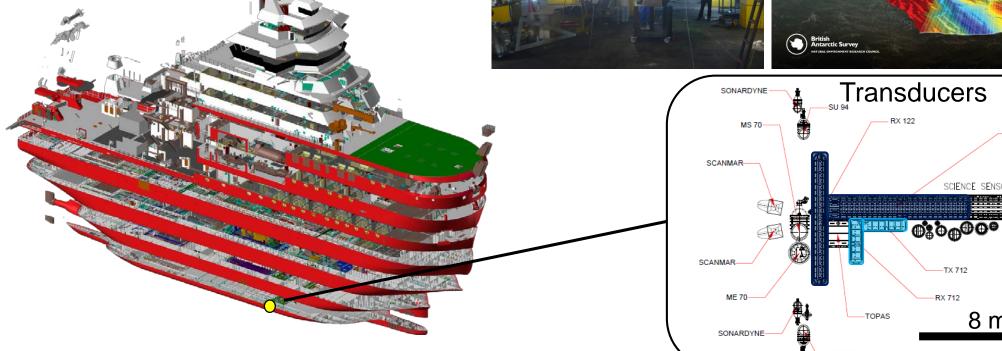
(Also Kongsberg EM2040 – 200-200 kHz, on Erebus workboat for

inshore surveys)



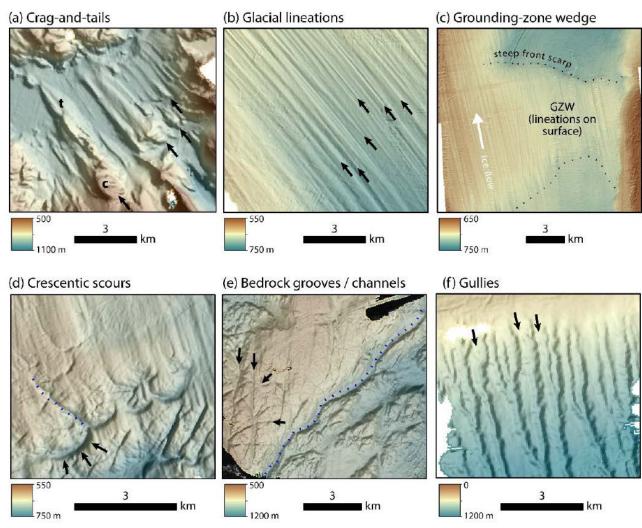


8 m



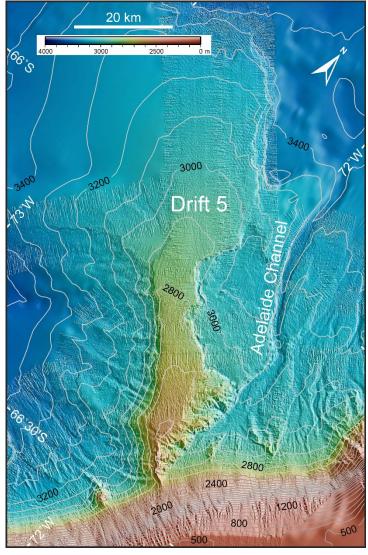
Multibeam Bathymetry Examples

Glacial/glacially-influenced continental shelf & slope



Hogan et al., The Cryosphere, 2020

Deep water sedimentary systems

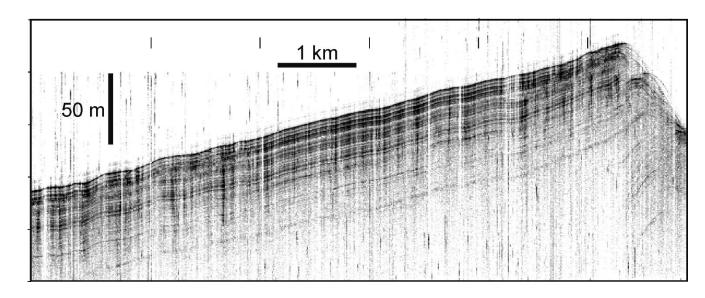


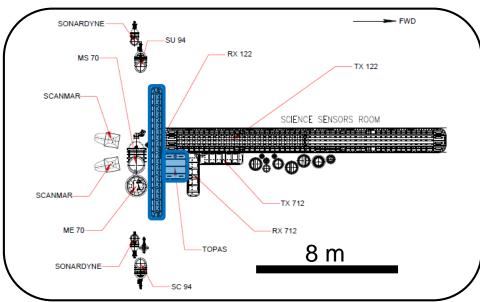
Larter et al., Geol. Soc. Memoir 46, 2016

Acoustic Sub-Bottom Profiling System

Kongsberg TOPAS PS 18

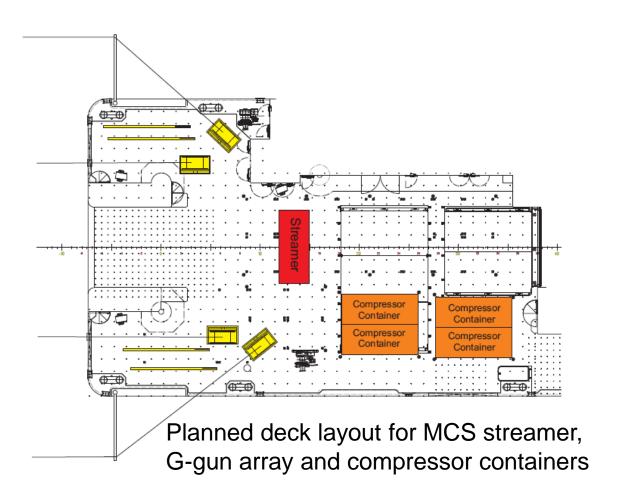
- 15-21 kHz primary frequencies
- 0.5-6.0 kHz secondary frequencies
- 4.5° beam width
- Uses EM122 receive array for detection of returns





Seismic Profiling Systems

- > Capability to operate NMF multichannel streamer and full G-gun array
- New compact high-resolution seismic profiling system



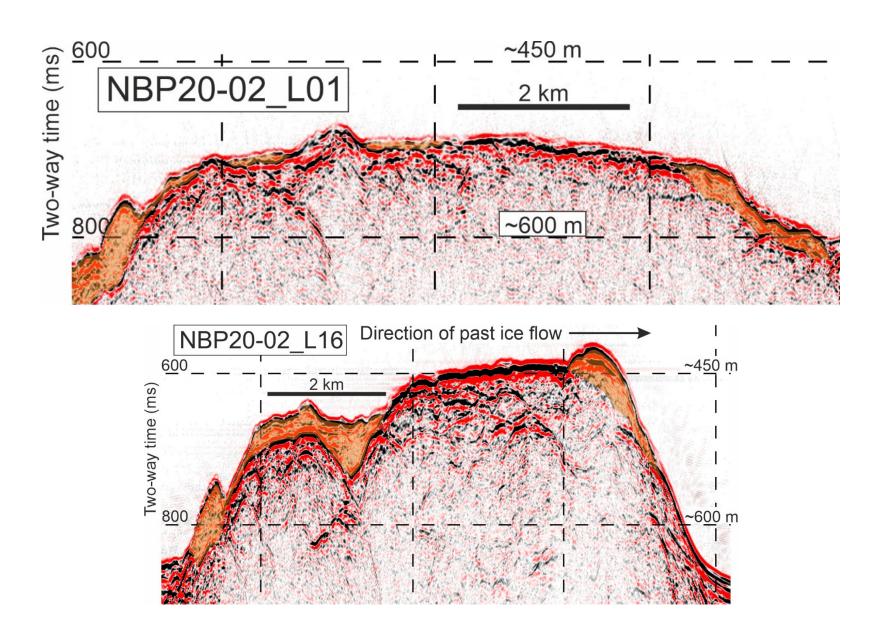
Geometrics GeoEel solid hydrophone streamer with 40 x 6.25 m groups

2 x 3.44 l generatorinjector airguns





High Resolution Seismic Profile Examples



Potential field sensors

Dynamic Gravity Systems AT1M gravity meter – on Deck 2

SeaSpy towed Overhauser magnetometer

Shipboard three component magnetometer



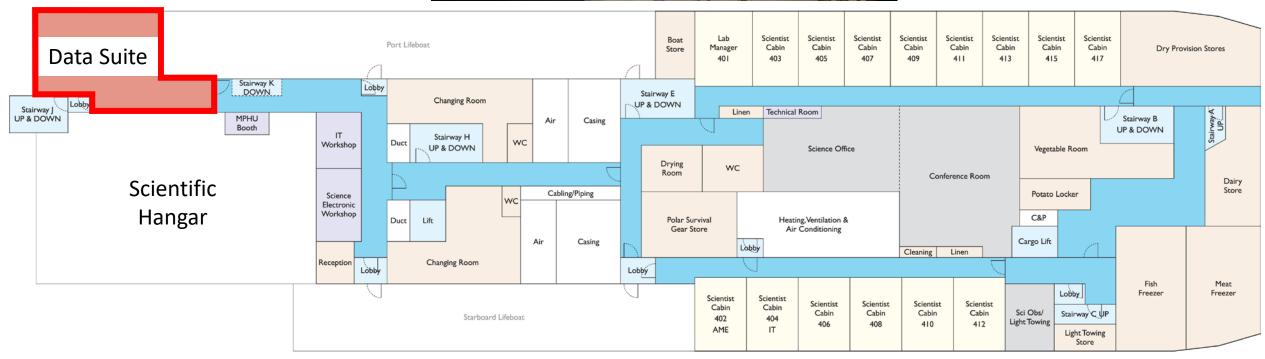














Sediment coring

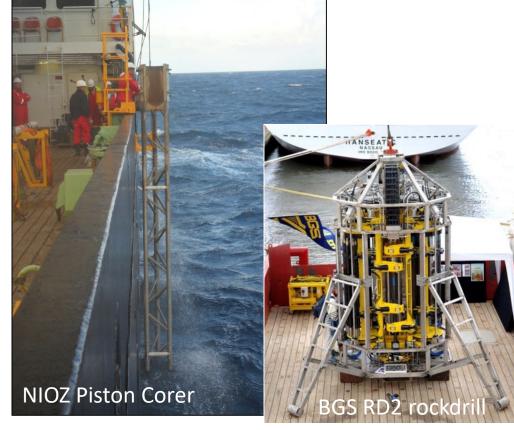
- Over the side, stern & moonpool deployment of a range of sediment corers for seafloor sampling.
- Dedicated SDA multi- & box corers for recovery of seafloor sediment/water interface.
- Longer coring systems (gravity-, piston, BGS vibro-).
- Moonpool deployment in icy waters & rough seas.

• Potential for deployment of BGS RD2 seafloor drill over the side (and possibly via the

moonpool).

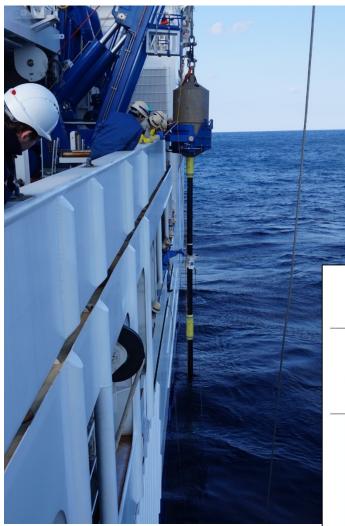




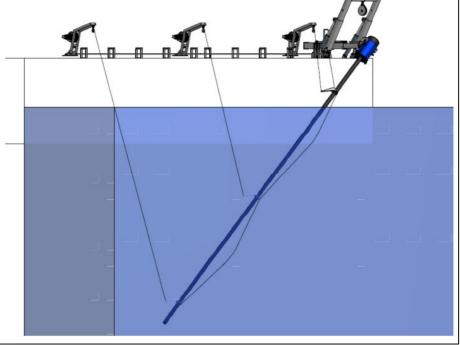


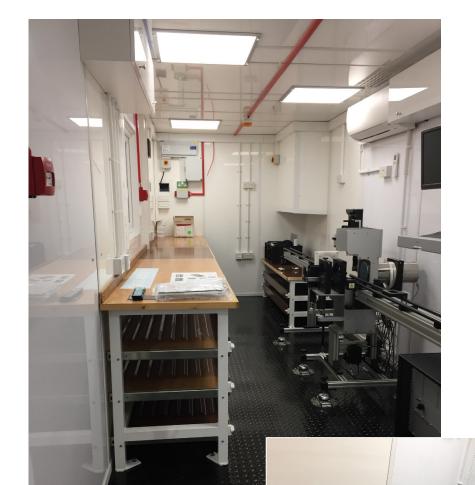
OSIL Giant Piston Corer aboard R/V *Kaimei (JAMSTEC)*

40 m Giant Piston Corer



- Longest piston coring system on an ice-strengthened polar research ship.
- Recovery of long climate records potentially back through the entirety of the last c. 2 m+ years (depending on sedimentation rate)



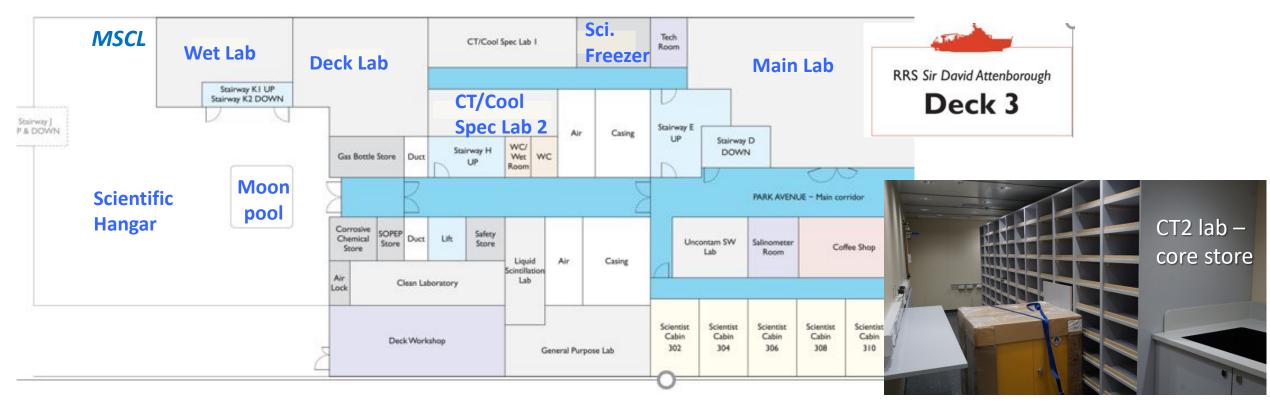


Containerised Multi-Sensor Core Logging System for analyzing physical properties of sediment cores



MSCL container to be placed on the port side of the hangar & connected directly to the aft end of the Wet Lab via removable bulkhead.

Laboratories & cold stores for sediment core processing and storage









Helicopter capability to support onshore geological sampling



Onshore deployment of geological field teams from the SDA

 Helis costed into grant & based out of the SDA as required to support individual grants.

e.g., KANG-GLAC (2023-2026) - using

Capacity for 2 helis in the heli-hangar (Eurocopter AS365 N3 type)

