Glider Facilities and Technology in Cyprus

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Outline Review of Cyprus Infrastructure



- Gliders/Sensors and Oceanography in Cyprus (payload assessment)
- Workshop Facilities
- Ground Segment: Computer •
- Seagoing facilities (ships, access) ٠
- Achievements/plans

Present/future needs for gliders in Europe

- Scientific challenges: global change (T, S. CO2)
- Environmental challenges: Marine Strategy Framework Directive
- **Best practices in glider operations**
 - Sensor calibration and inter-calibration for glider fleets (example)
- **Recommendations for glider contributions to Coastal Observatory**
 - Inter-calibration and inter-comparison (existing and new sensors)
 - Establishment of long-term monitoring missions
 - Society: global change, pollution, emergency response

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Motivation



- Operational Oceanography: NRT observations and forecasting
- Applied: improved forecasting and monitoring means a cleaner, safer sea (pollution and trajectory modeling, data for regulatory agencies)
- Basic: circulation, mesoscale variability, biogeochemical processes
- Regarding capability and cost gliders are most effective: infrastructure grant from national funding body



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Seaglider/sensor description (I)



- Low-drag fairing over hull of compressibility ~= seawater
- Lithium batteries, ~6 mo life (4600 km or 650 dives to 1km)
- Iridium satellite phone for data, instruction transfer
- Controlled with file exchange (commands, waypoints, config)
- CTD (unpumped)
- Dissolved oxygen (unpumped SBE)
- Chlorophyll
 fluorescence, optical
 backscatter (470 nm,
 700 nm)
- Dive-average currents
- 1000 m dive
 capability, 5-7h
 dive/climb cycle



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Seaglider/sensor description (2)

- Acoustic Transponder for recovery
- New: ARGOS beacons
- New sensors: dissolved methane • and pCO2







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Workshop Facilities

•One small lab with tables, basic tools, access to open sky

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Workshop Facilities

•IBM x3400 server (dual power, UPS) basestation

- Fedora 7, 64 bit, latest basestation package
- RUDICS recently installed, backup modem
- Matlab scheduled scripts for visualization
- Updates shared folder
- •Field laptop

- •Benthos acoustic transponder
- •NO on site calibration for T, C, compass
- •NO pressure testing
- •NO battery change possible

Ship Facilities



•Agreement for support from Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (inflatable or small yacht)



Ship Facilities



- •Rent large vessels for "yearly" cruise (for T, S, oxygen) since 1995
- •Can add fluorometer, water samples for lab analysis of oxygen, chlorophyll, nutrients
- •Yet to deploy/recover glider



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Ship Facilities



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Personnel



- •PI, 1 technician, 2 part-time IT/web/programming support
- Small zodiac has crew from Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
- •Search and Rescue and Marine Police

Problems faced

- •Shipping nightmares
- Glider malfunctions
- •Iridium reliability poor—ARGOS for redundancy, RUDICS for reliability, now OK.

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What has been achieved?



- 2 gliders received July 2008
- •From July 2008-March 2009, glider/pilot/basestation trials
- •From March 2009-present, 5 missions > 1 month (1957 dives, most to 1000 m)
- 4 missions ended near catastrophically

 helicopter recovery, Marine Police, emergency rental, Israeli fisherman



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Future Plans

•Continue lines, in cooperation with hydrographic cruises whenever possible (CYBO)

- •Validate oxygen, chlorophyll and suspended matter with traditional methods for our region
- •Extend lines or join with lines to neighboring countries
- •Supplement the gliders with new types of sensors.
- •Continue data assimilation in Cyprus regional operational model.
- In-depth analysis of the Cyprus Eddy

