

DSSV Pressure Drop: Data Acquisition & Processing Report

Banda, Palau, Yap Trench Missions April 2019

Report developed for Five Deeps Expedition by Cassie Bongiovanni

Internal Use Only

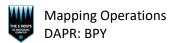
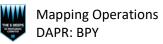
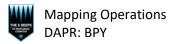


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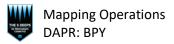


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A. Equipment

A.1 Vessel

A.1.1 DSSV Pressure Drop



Figure 1: DSSV Pressure Drop at sea (image: Atlantic Productions).

The DSSV Pressure Drop (Figure 1) is a privately-owned 225 -foot vessel built in the 1980s. This vessel is propeller powered with a hull-mounted gondola where the Kongsberg EM 124 system is mounted. The vessel reference frame is: +x bow forward, +y to starboard, and +z down (towards the seafloor). All points are referenced to the reference point (0,0,0) which is located at the MRU on the 1^{st} deck of the ship.

A.1.2 Vessel Data Flow

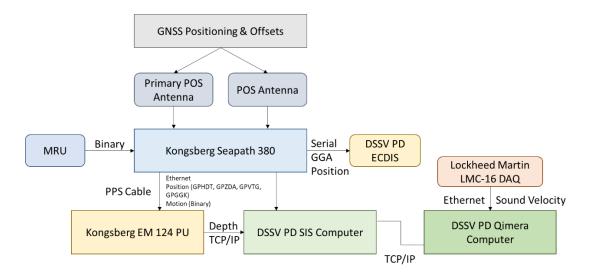
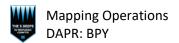


Figure 2: DSSV Pressure Drop data flow diagram.



A.2 Depth Measurement Equipment

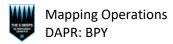
A.2.1 Kongsberg EM 124 Multibeam Echosounder



Figure 3: Kongsberg EM 124 gondola attached to the hull of the DSSV Pressure Drop (image: Tony Dahlheim).

The EM 124 was installed on a steel gondola attached to the center of the DSSV Pressure Drop hull. The EM124 sits ~1 m below the hull and a total of ~9 m below the vessel reference point. The EM 124 is a dual-swath system with sixteen-sector angular coverage capabilities and the ability to map the deepest parts of the ocean. Data from this sonar come with a new datagram and file format .KMall, currently only accepted by Qimera (discussed in section A.6.1).

Instrument	Kongsberg EM 124 (1° x 2°)			
Manufacturer	Kongsberg Underwater Technology, INC.			
Installation Technician	Tony Dahlheim	Contact:	Tony.dahlheim@km.kongsberg-us.com	
Installation Contractor	Brian Gamet	Contact:	brian@geosight3d.com; 01722 442302	
Reference Frame Sub-Contractor	Robert Howard	Contact:	rob@trueposition.net; 262-689-9744	
	Mounted		DSSV PD hull-mounted gondola	
	Frequency		12kHz	
	Ping Rate		Every ~20-29 seconds in deep water	
	Swath Width		2km-20km	
Runtime	Yaw Stabilized		Yes	
Specifications	Pitch Stabilized		Yes	
	Dual Swath		Yes, in shallow, No in deep	
	Sector Mode		Yes	
	Beam Spacing		Equidistant	
	Max Coverage ~20km			



Backscatter	Yes
Sonar Active Mode	No
Water Column	Yes

Table 1: Kongsberg EM 124 description and specifications.

A.3 Positioning Equipment

A.3.1 Seapath 380+ Processing Unit and GNSS antennas



Figure 4: Kongsberg Seapath 380 in the systems rack of the electronics lab on the DSSV Pressure Drop.

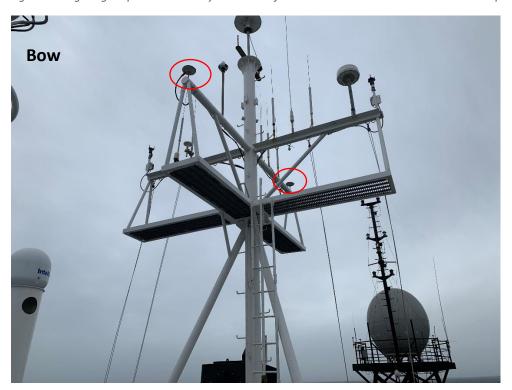


Figure 5: GPS antennas mounted at the top of the ship near the bow.

Instrument	Seapath 380		
Manufacturer	Kongsberg Maritime		
Description	The Seapath 380 provides accurate position and motion data. These		
Description	data are utilized by the EM 124 for sonar beam	steering corrections.	
	Roll & Pitch Accuracy for ±5° amplitude	0.02° RMS	
	Heading accuracy w/ 2.4 m antenna baseline	0.075° RMS	
	Heading accuracy w/ 4 m antenna baseline	0.05° RMS	
	Scale factor error in Roll, Pitch, Heading	0.08% RMS	
	Heave accuracy	5 cm or 5% (highest)	
	Heave motion periods (real-time output)	0-20 seconds	
	Heave motion periods (delayed signal)	0-50 seconds	
Specifications	Position accuracy w/ DGPS/GLONASS	0.5m RMS or 1m 95% CEP	
	Position accuracy w/ SBAS	0.5m RMS or 1m 95% CEP	
	Position assuracy w/ PTV (floating ambiguity)	0.15m RMS or 0.35m	
	Position accuracy w/ RTK (floating ambiguity)	95% CEP	
	Velocity accuracy	0.03m/s RMS or	
		0.07m/s 95% CEP	

Table 2: Kongsberg Seapath 380 system description and specifications.

A.4 Sound Speed Equipment

A.4.1 Reson SVP70 Fixed Mount at Transducer



Figure 6: Reson SVP70 used for sound speed at the transducer.

The Reson SVP70 sound speed profiler was secured at the EM 124 transducer to ensure accurate sound speed measurements at the transducer head. These measurements are used by the EM 124 PU for beam corrections.

Instrument	SVP 70			
Manufacturer	Reson	Reson		
Description	Transducer-mounted sound velocity probe to allow for accurate bathymetry data in deep water.			
Serial Number				
Specifications	Sound Speed Accuracy ± 0.05 m/s Baud Rate 115200 baud			

Supply	9V to 55V <1.5W
Depth Rating	6000 m
Sampling Time	50 ms to 10 s
Weight	1.0 kg

Table 3: Reson SVP70 specifications

A.4.2 Lockheed Martin (Sippican) XBTs

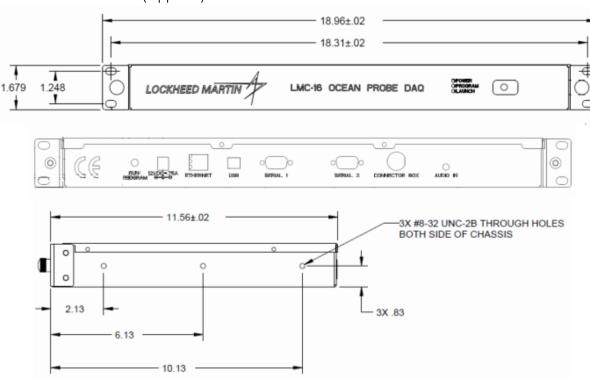


Figure 7: Lockheed Martin (Sippican) DAQ dimensions.

XBTs (or expendable bathymetric temperature gauge) measure temperature in the upper water column which are used to update sound speed profiles. Coupling XBTs and Sound Speed Manager (A.5.4), surveying can continue without the need to completely stop to take a full-depth profile. Profiles collected in this manner will be integrated into the Kongsberg acquisition software (SIS) upon collection. XBTs were launched using a hand-held launcher off the stern. The DAQ was connected via ethernet connection to the processing computer at the mapping workstation.

Probe Type	Sippican P/N	Max Depth	Max Vessel Speed
T-5	211105-1	1830m	6 knots

Table 4: Lockheed Martin (Sippican) XBT T-5 information.

Expendable Ocean Probes

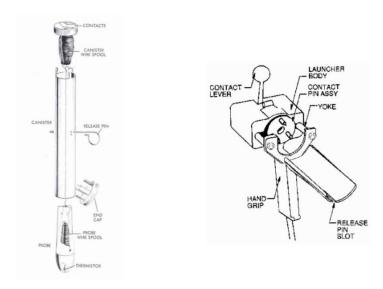


Figure 8: Lockheed Martin (Sippican) XBT T-5 and hand-held launcher dimensions and outlines.

A.5 Data Acquisition Software

The following software was used to collect accurate bathymetric (mapping) data.

Name	Manufacturer	Version	Installation Date
ArcMap/ArcGIS	ESRI	10.6.1	09/18/2018
SIS- Seafloor	Kongsberg	5.1.1.153	12/03/2018
Information System			
Seapath 380	Kongsberg SeaTex	1.11.0	12/03/2018
Sound Speed Manager	ССОМ	2018.1.50	12/08/2018
Sippican WinMK21	Lockheed Martin	7.4.0.5	01/24/2019

Table 5: Data acquisition software information.

A.5.1 ESRI ArcGIS (personal license)

ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) ArcGIS was used with a personal license to help with line planning, data visualization, and big-picture project organization.

A.5.2 Kongsberg SIS – Seafloor Information System

SIS was used to collect EM 124 MBES data, apply lever-arms and water lines, patch test offsets, motion corrections, and real-time sound speed corrections.

A.5.2.1 Installation Parameters

The angular and location offsets for the EM 124 were entered in SIS as shown in Figure 9. The waterline was visually inspected and determined before leaving the dock in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



Figure 9: Kongsberg SIS 5 transducer offsets.

The input settings for each of the systems necessary to run the multibeam are shown in Figure 10.

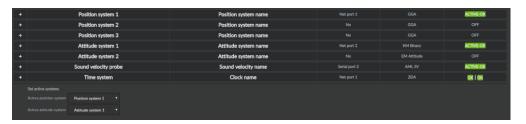


Figure 10: Kongsberg SIS 5 input parameters.

Position settings in SIS 5 are described in Figure 11 and are pulled from the Seapath 380. These were not changed for the duration of the mission.



Figure 11: Kongsberg SIS 5 Position System input settings.

Attitude settings entered in SIS 5 described in Figure 12 and are pulled from the Seapath 380 which obtains this from the MRU. These settings were not changed for the duration of the mission.



Figure 12: Kongsberg SIS 5 Attitude System input settings.

The sound velocity probe settings are outlined in Figure 13 and were not changed for the duration of the mission.



Figure 13: Kongsberg SIS 5 sound velocity probe input settings.

The time system input settings are outlined in Figure 14 and show that time was being pulled from the position datagram.

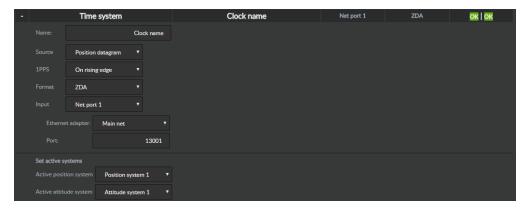


Figure 14: Kongsberg SIS 5 Time System input settings.

A.5.2.2 Output Settings

SIS output settings are outlined in Figure 15 and were not changed for the duration of the mission.

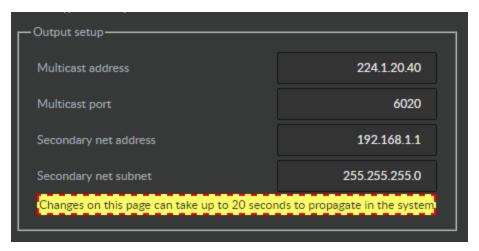


Figure 15: Kongsberg SIS 5 output settings.

A.5.2.3 Runtime Parameters

Runtime parameters changed frequently depending on what water depth we were operating in. For example, depths less than 500m needed to have a depth setting of 'Shallow Mode' and depths greater than 5000m needed to be in 'Very Deep Mode', but depths between could be in 'Auto'. Similarly, port and starboard angles were changed depending on weather and coverage – but were generally between 60-70 degrees on each side of nadir. Beam spacing was set to 'Equidistance' continuously with a maximum distance on either side of nadir set to 20 km. Dual Swath was set to 'Dynamic' (though was automatically turned off when 'Very Deep' depth mode was on) and pitch stabilization was always enabled. The pulse was set CW/FM mixed and not changed throughout the mission. To produce more accurate selections of the seafloor when noise was observed in the port side of the water column view, the transmit angle was set to 2° and sometimes changed to 3-4° when necessary. Sonar Mode OFF for the entire mission.

A.5.3 Seapath Software

Kongsberg Seapath software was used to provide real-time GPS location and DGPS corrections via SBAS corrections (coverage permitting) to SIS, the bridge, and Triton sub navigation.

A.5.3.1 GNSS Geometry

The following image shows the lever arms entered in the Seapath and shows the vessel reference frame information. These values were measured and determined by a third-party contractor listed in Table 1 and explained in further detail in the attached supplemental report.

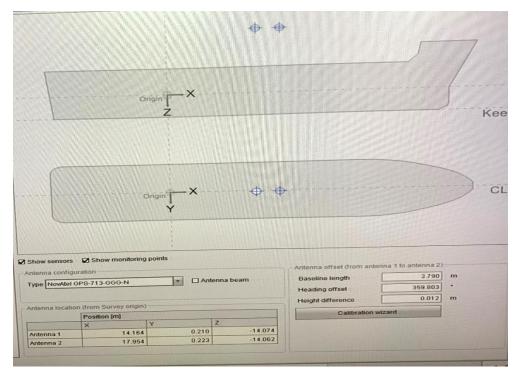


Figure 16:Seapath input geometry and offsets.

A.5.3.2 GNSS Processing

GNSS processing parameters entered in the Seapath configuration are shown in Figure 17. These parameters were not altered for the duration of the mission.

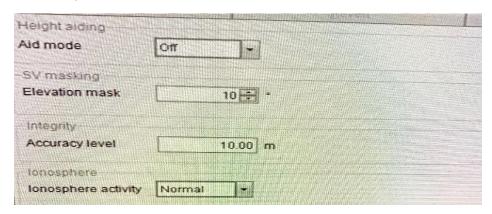


Figure 17: Seapath GNSS processing parameters.

A.5.3.3 GNSS Attitude Processing

GNSS attitude processing settings as set in the Seapath are shown in Figure 18 and were not altered for the duration of the mission.

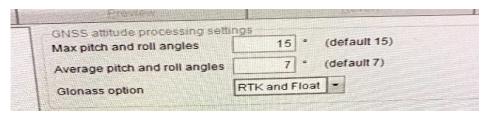


Figure 18: Seapath GNSS attitude processing parameters.

A.5.3.4 MRU Geometry

The MRU geometry angle offsets are recorded in the Seapath configuration settings as shown in Figure 19. These angles were measured by a third-party contractor as outlined in Table 1 and detailed further in the supplemental report included in this submission.

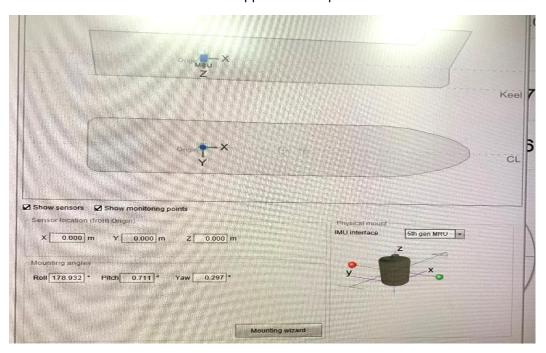


Figure 19: Seapath MRU input geometry - angles and offsets.

A.5.3.5 MRU Heave Configuration

The MRU heave information was set to 'Hydrographic survey' with a ten-second period as shown in Figure 20. These parameters were not changed for the duration of the mission.



Figure 20: Seapath MRU heave configuration.

A.5.3.6 Input/Output

As shown in Figure 21, the GNSS antennas and MRU are connected via serial connections whereas positioning and attitude are relayed via ethernet connections to the EM 124 and the SIS computer. Similarly, a serial connection allows for the positioning and attitude information to be used by the DSSV Pressure Drop ECDIS for navigation. Nothing was changed for the duration of the mission. The TelegramOut1 which was changed in February is shown in Figure 23 but is not reflected in Figure 21.

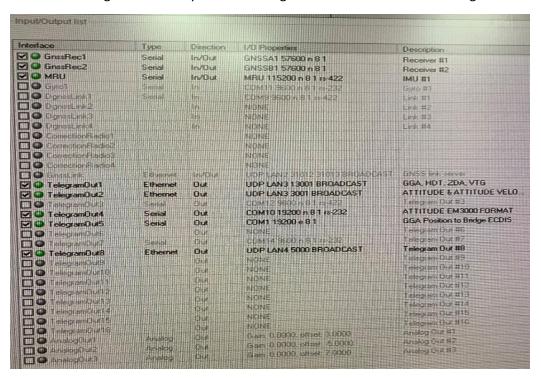


Figure 21: Seapath input and output information.

The TelegramOut1 settings were changed from those outlined in Figure 22 to those in Figure 23. Once this change was made, the POS-PU time delay was drastically improved.

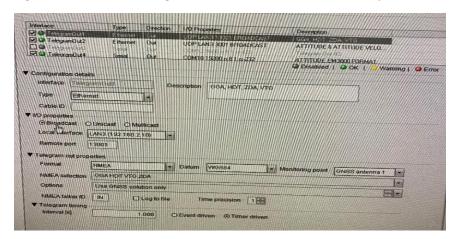


Figure 22:Original TelegramOut1 settings.

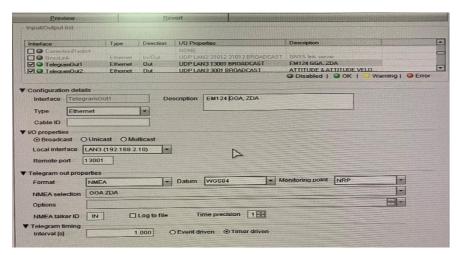


Figure 23: Updated TelegramOut1 settings.

The NMEA string and the monitoring point were changed as suggested by Kongsberg support.

A.5.3.7 Serial Port Extender

The Seapath serial port extender parameters are shown in Figure 24 and were not altered for the duration of the mission.

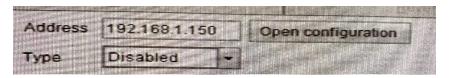


Figure 24: Seapath serial port extender input parameters.

A.5.3.8 Data Pool

The Seapath data pool parameters are shown in Figure 25 and were not altered for the duration of the mission.

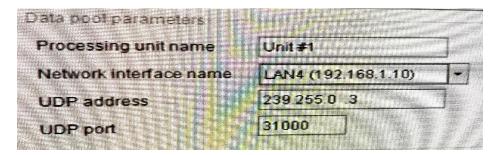
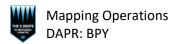


Figure 25: Seapath data pool input parameters.

A.5.4 Sound Speed Manager

Sound Speed Manager was used to create synthetic sound speed profiles during the mission when real casts were not able to be acquired. Additionally, this program was used to extend shorter profiles using archive data from the 2009 World Ocean Database. Data were able to be



compared to previous casts and exported to the appropriate file format for SIS and Qimera processing.

A.5.5 Sippican WinMK21

Sippican WinMK21 is the software used to collect XBT (expendable bathythermograph) data. The XBT is fired off the back deck of the ship and the data is recorded through the LMC-16 Ocean Probe DAQ and visible in real-time in the WinMK21 software. Profiles were exported through the messaging window and brought into sound speed manager to be extended using World Ocean Atlas 2009.

During a previous mission, we realized that the Sippican XBTs are including a static salinity value in their estimates, which cannot be changed directly prior or post collected within the Sippican software. As such, Matlab and Sound Speed Manager were used to address this issue. For this mission, no XBTs were launched.

A.6 Data Processing Software

Name	Manufacturer	Version	Installation Date
Qimera	QPS	1.7.5	12/04/2018
Hydro Office Sound Speed Manager	UNH CCOM/ Hydro Office	2018.1.50	12/06/2018
Matlab*	Matlab	R2018a	09/18/2018
Fledermaus & FMGT	QPS	7.8	12/04/2018
ArcMap/ArcGIS*	ESRI	10.6.1	09/18/2018

Table 6: Data processing software and versions. *personal license

A.6.1 QPS Qimera 1.7.5

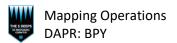
Qimera is used for all MBES data processing, line cleaning, and CUBE surface creation. Additionally, some of these end-product maps will be shared with Kongsberg (per user agreement) via the cloud. A connection was created by Kongsberg on the processing computer for this purpose.

A.6.2 Hydro Office Sound Speed Manager

Sound Speed Manager (SSM) was used for synthetic sound velocity profile generation during transits and extending Sippican XBT profiles. These profiles were exported as .asvp files for a direct input into Kongsberg SIS.

A.6.3 Matlab R2018a

Matlab (personal license) was used to parse the sub-collected CTD data to a manageable size and determine the deepest recorded depth by converting pressure (dbar) to depth (m). The parsed sound speed profile was saved and uploaded into Qimera. Matlab was also used to



adjust the Sippican XBTs for more appropriate estimates of salinity so the sound speeds are usable.

A.6.4 QPS Fledermaus and FMGT

Fledermaus was used to create fly-throughs of the data and FMGT was used to create backscatter products.

A.6.5 ESRI ArcGIS 10.6.1

ESRI ArcGIS (personal license) was used to calculate statistics on final bathymetric surfaces, compare these data to previous estimates, and create final figures for reports.

A.7 Survey Methodology

A.7.1 Mobilization

Mobilization occurred at the end of the Java Trench mission and continued after project personnel were dropped off in port in Dili, East Timor (04/11/2019). Vessel offsets and associated measurement uncertainties were calculated by a third-party contractor Robert Howard at True Position in December 2018 and were not changed for this mission. Any offsets and uncertainties were added to the QPS Qimera Vessel Configuration File as they were found. More information can be found in the DSSVPD Banda, Palau, or Yap DRs.

A.7.2 Sonar Acceptance Test

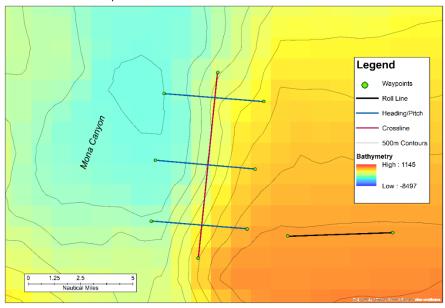
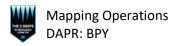


Figure 26: Sonar Acceptance Test (SAT) plan in the Mona Canyon offshore Puerto Rico and near the Puerto Rico Trench.

Shortly after the sonar was installed, a Sonar Acceptance Test (SAT) was performed by Kongsberg technicians, Kongsberg engineers, and Cassie Bongiovanni. The test calibrates the sonar for pitch, heading, and roll as time is already established by the Seapath. The SAT was performed on the eastern half of the Mona Canyon where the slope is > 20°. A full sound speed



profile (>5000m depth) was collected using the CTD sensors on the science lander, XBTs were used as needed to update the upper water column.

Correction	Value	Input Value	
Pitch 1	0	0	
Pitch 2	0	0	
Heading 1	0	0	
Heading 2	0	0	
Roll 1	0	0	
Roll 2	0	0	

Table 7: SAT offset results.

The SAT was performed in December 2018.

A.7.3 Survey Coverage

Survey coverage for each mapping area are discussed in more details in the location-appropriate report.

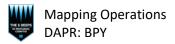
Location Name	North Western Corner South Eastern Corne		Area (km²)	
Transit to Banda	7°35'1.596"S	11°16'44.132"S	0.004	
	120°14'52.437"E	128°52'32.424"E	8,894	
Banda Trench	3°53'58.413"S	7°44'24.034"S	9.702	
	128°30'38.648"E	131°02'15.803"E	8,792	
Transit to Palau	1°27'9.817"N	4°20'35.087"S	5,154	
	129°44'44.092"E	132°48'41.938"E		
Palau Trench	8°02'01.803"S	1°22'16.836"S	9,756	
	132°37'16.516"E	135°04'19.557"E	9,750	
Transit to Yap	8°3'31.358"N	7°10'9.949"N	1,669	
	134°55'45.753"E	136°6'21.206"E	1,009	
Yap Trench	11°14'45.984"N	7°09'55.192"N	10 120	
	135°53'34.848"E	139°44'9.034"E	10,138	
Transit to Mariana	10°54'40.47"N	10°44'31.436"N	1,308	
	139°40'15.911"E	140°42'17.976"E	1,308	

Table 8: Survey locations and areas.

A.7.4 Depth Measurement Operations

Mapping operations for all datasets were run at 10 kts 24/7 between 04/12/19 and 04/19/19. These trenches were all opportunistic mapping during the ship's transit to Guam. DSSV Pressure Drop single beam was turned off for all mapping operations.

Processing was completed immediately in Qimera after each line was collected to minimize the time for feature identification and the time required for post-processing. The vessel configuration files and projection information were populated based on the information stored in the SIS raw datagram. The SVPs applied during acquisition were stored and are visible in



Qimera for editing. CUBE surfaces for each project were created. Data were cleaned and edited to their final stages and exported as: BAG, ascii, .xyz, and geotiffs.

More information on data results and processes are outlined in their respective DRs.

B. Quality Control

B.1 Multibeam Echosounder Data

B.1.1 Acquisition Operations

Line plans were created in ESRI ArcGIS 10.6.1 to maximize survey coverage in the time allotted. Way points were given to the bridge and a new survey project is created in SIS for each mission. More information is included in the South Sandwich Trench descriptive report.

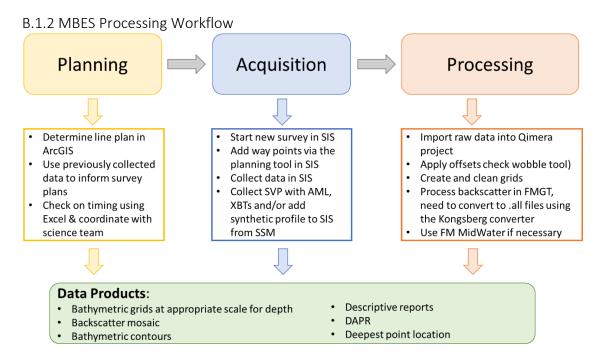


Figure 27: Multibeam processing workflow.

B.2 Backscatter Workflow

B.2.1 Backscatter Processing Workflow

Currently, QPS FMGT does not support the newest SIS output files (.kmall). As such, a Kongsberg KMALLtoALL converter is used to help with this process. Data were then brought into FMGT as source files. Due to the new file format, backscatter is saved differently, causing errors upon import that were typically resolved by adjusting the processing parameters for the backscatter acceptable dB range and applying the backscatter beam pattern correction. Backscatter mosaics were then created and exported as floating point geotiffs.

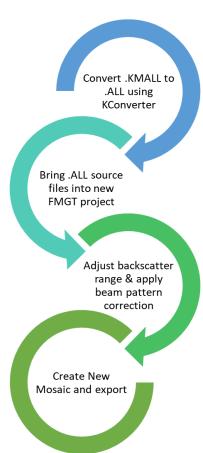


Figure 28: Backscatter mosaic workflow.

B.3 Feature Data

B.3.1 Hydrographic Features

More information detailed in the descriptive report.

C. Corrections to Data

C.1 Vessel Corrections

C.1.1 Static Offsets

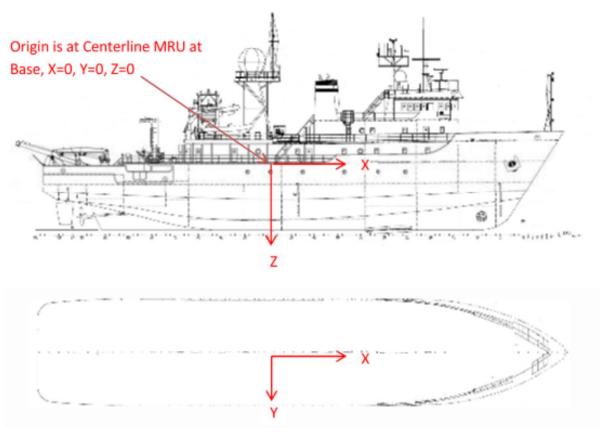


Figure 29: Vessel reference frame from DSSV Pressure Drop Report (attached).

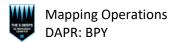
The DSSV Pressure Drop vessel reference frame is: + x bow forward, + y to starboard, and +z down. The offsets outlined in the following table were calculated by a third-party contractor (IMTEC – Industrial Measurement Technology Engineering Consultants) and are described in more detail in the supplemental report.

	Forward (X) m	Starboard (Y) m	Downward (Z) m
EM 124 Tx	16.580	0.199	9.444
Tx angles	0.196	0.074	359.907
EM 124 Rx	12.028	0.193	9.589
Rx angles	0.079	-0.108	0.002
FWD GPS	17.954	0.223	-14.062
AFT GPS	14.164	0.210	-14.074

Table 9: DSSV Pressure Drop EM 124 (grey) and GPS antenna (white) locations within the vessel reference frame with respect to the reference point.

C.1.2 Dynamic Offsets

The data are referenced to the geoid, dynamic offsets were not applied.



C.1.3 Patch Test Biases

SAT biases were identified as 0,0,0 for pitch, heading, and roll during the December 2018 SAT. These were calculated twice using two different calibration software – SIS and Qimera, both were quite close.

C.2 Sound Speed

Synthetic profiles were exclusively used for all three trenches.

C.3 Horizontal and Vertical Control and Corrections

Horizontal Reference:	World Geodetic System 1984
Realization:	WGS84
Geoid:	EGM96

Table 10: Horizontal reference information.

No horizontal and vertical corrections were applied. Data are referenced to the Geoid as the undulation (or difference) between the ellipsoid and the geoid at this location is -65 m, with the ellipsoid being lower (Figure 30).

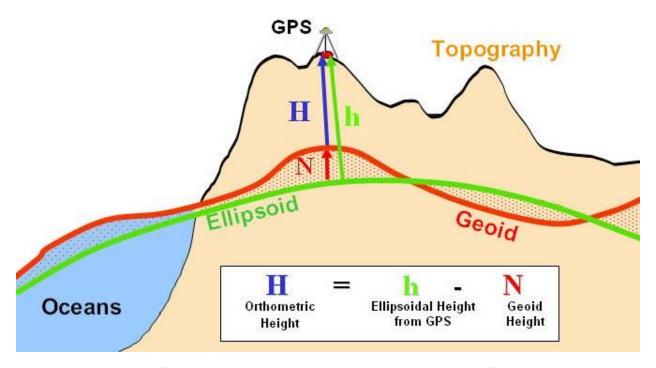


Figure 30: Geodetic vertical reference systems over land and sea to see how they change – image from google.