

A Brief Summary of the Float/Sensor Workshop (Sept 2017)

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Argo Steering Team Meeting, Sidney BC Canada
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Report from the 2nd Float and CTD Technical Workshop

University of Washington, Seattle, September 2017

Conveners: Brian King (National Oceanography Centre, UK), Steve Riser (U. Washington, USA) and Susan Wijffels (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, USA)

The 2nd Float/CTD Technical Workshop was held at UW September 11-15 2017. A total of 54 people registered for the meeting.

Goals of the workshop:

- (1) Increase float reliability**
- (2) Examine changes in float and CTD technology**
- (3) Increase communication between groups deploying floats and manufacturers**



The workshop report is available at

http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/Report_floattechnicalworkshop_2017.pdf



General topics discussed:

- The necessity of pre-deployment checking of floats and sensors; manufacturers supply software and hardware tools tests. Users take advantage of these tools.
- Float batteries: various types for different floats. Avoid using alkaline batteries if at all possible.
- The need for better capture of float technical data (battery configuration, pressure sensors, firmware revisions, etc.), and having manufacturers use the same syntax and nomenclature as float users and provide float information in a digital form.
- Float failure modes (grounding, leaking, passivation, etc.)
- The possibility of recovering a number of floats to examine age-related effects (battery and hardware aging, corrosion, sensors)
- Improvements in manufacturer calibration of CTD sensors
- Vendor reports on many types of floats and sensors, including new types of CTD sensors; putting RBR CTD data in the Argo data system with a note to users that these are pilot data, QC=3)

[see the full report for details of each of these discussions]

Another workshop:

BGC Profiling Float Workshop

Sponsored by Ocean Carbon & Biogeochemistry (OCB)

To be held at UW School of Oceanography, 9-13 July 2018

Topics to be addressed:

- (1) Informing the BGC community on the use of profiling floats**
- (2) A discussion of present types of floats and BGC sensors**
- (3) BGC float data management**
- (4) Future plans for the use of BGC floats and BGC Argo**

Workshop details and registration at [*https://web.whoi.edu/floats-workshop/*](https://web.whoi.edu/floats-workshop/)