

# Subduction in the Subtropical Gyre: Seasoar Cruises Data Report

by

Julie S. Pallant Frank B. Bahr Terrence M. Joyce Jerome P. Dean James R. Luyten

September 1995

# **Technical Report**

Funding was provided by the Office of Naval Research through Grants Nos. N00014-91-J-1585, N00014-90-J-1425 and N00014-90-J-1508.

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# WHOI-95-13

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Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543 GC 57,2 .W6 10.95-13

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Philip L. Richardson, Chair Department of Physical Oceanography

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# Abstract

The overall objective of the Subduction Accelerated Research Initiative (ARI) was to bring together several techniques to address the formation and evolution of newly formed water masses. The Seasoar component provided surveys of temperature and salinity to help determine the spatial variability of the temperature, salinity and density fields in both the active frontal regions and in the vicinity of subducting water tagged by bobbers. Data were collected in the eastern North Atlantic Ocean in spring 1991, winter 1992, winter 1993 and spring 1994. "Star" patterns were used to study the mesoscale variability. Temperature, pressure and thickness for each pattern were objectively mapped on potential density surfaces of 26.5, 26.7 and 26.9 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Acoustic Doppler Current Profiles (ADCP) maps were also created for the two shallower density surfaces. We describe the Seasoar data collected during the four cruises. A CD-Rom includes 1- and 3-second conductivity-temperature-depth (CTD), cruise navigation, ADCP and Seasoar engineering data, as well as color figures of these data. This data report can also be viewed using an internet information browser (i.e., Mosaic, Netscape) using the provided CD-Rom.

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# 1. Introduction

Seasoar conductivity-temperature-depth (CTD) data were collected during the Subduction Experiment in the eastern North Atlantic during the period of May 1991–May 1993. The Seasoar work is part of the Subduction Accelerated Research Initiative (ARI) supported by the Office of Naval Research. The overall objective was to bring together several techniques to address the formation, evolution and subduction of newly formed water masses over a two year period. Other activities include synoptic mesoscale sampling of tracers, including potential vorticity in the upper pycnocline, and direct tagging of water parcels with bobber floats, as well as independent Eulerian velocity and meteorological measurements from surface moorings. The Seasoar provides well-resolved surveys to help determine the spatial variability of the temperature, salinity and density fields in both the active frontal regions and in the vicinity of subducting water tagged by the bobbers.

The Seasoar, manufactured by Chelsea Instruments, Ltd., is a towed vehicle equipped with impeller-forced wings that can be adjusted to undulate in the upper ocean. The wings are controlled by signals from the ship, and moved by an hydraulic unit. The Seasoar undulates between 0–450 dbars while being towed at about eight knots, cycling to the surface approximately every 12 minutes. The Seasoar group participated in four cruises during the experiment (Table 1). On the initial cruise in May 1991, 18 bobbers were deployed, three mesoscale surveys ("star patterns") and a frontal survey were completed (Luyten, 1991). In February 1992, a second frontal survey was completed (Rudnick, 1992). The following November, six star patterns near bobbers and two long transects were executed (Joyce, 1992). The final cruise, May 1993, surveyed near four bobbers and towed along three long transects (Luyten, 1993) (Figure 1, Table 2). In conjunction with four star patterns (two on the first and two on the last cruise), a series of closely spaced CTD stations, using a profiling CTD, were made overlaying the star pattern in an L-shaped pattern for the tracer studies. We used the CTD data from these stations to augment the Seasoar dataset. All cruises were on the R/V Oceanus.

	Table 1	:	Dates	corresponding	to the	cruises	during	the	Subduction	1 Experiment
--	---------	---	-------	---------------	--------	---------	--------	-----	------------	--------------

Subduction 1 (OC240 Leg 2)5Subduction 2 (OC250 Leg 3)2Subduction 3 (OC254 Leg 4)2Subduction 4 (OC258 Leg 3)1	5 May 1991–3 June 1991 2 March 1992–20 March 1992 24 November 1992–16 December 1992 18 May 1993–16 June 1993	J. Luyten D. Rudnick T. Joyce J. Luyten
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**Table 2:** This table includes the mean locations, start and end times for all the star patternssurveyed on the Subduction cruises. In addition, it includes the start and endlocations and times for the sections presented in this data report.

Cruise	Star	Start	End	Latitude	Longitude
		Time	Time		
		05/16/01	05/20/01	22 9655 N	27 0472 F
1	1	05/16/91	05/20/91	22.8033 N	-27.0472 E
1	2	05/23/91	05/27/91	29.0139 N	-23.5313 E
1	3	05/31/91	06/02/91	29.9845 N	-21.6587 E
3	1	11/28/92	11/30/92	20.3393 N	-29.6893 E
3	2	12/01/92	12/02/92	22.8685 N	-27.0472 E
3	3	12/02/92	12/04/92	22.7953 N	-28.6941 E
3	4	12/04/92	12/06/92	23.2972 N	-29.4279 E
3	5	12/08/92	12/11/92	25.1120 N	-24.4478 E
3	6	12/11/92	12/12/92	26.9678 N	-24.9349 E
4	1	05/24/93	05/27/93	18.9862 N	-31.9748 E
4	2	05/30/93	05/31/93	24.2855 N	-37.4544 E
4	3	06/02/93	06/03/93	23.5120 N	-31.6550 E
4	4	06/05/93	06/08/93	28.1707 N	-26.3902 E

Cruise	Sect	Start	End	5	Start	End	
		Time	Time	Latitude	Longitude	Latitude	Longitude
3	1	12/06/92	12/08/92	23.2020 N	-29.0249 E	24.6882 N	-24.6651 E
3	2	12/12/92	12/14/92	26.8574 N	-24.8574 E	32.6342 N	-24.7439 E
4	1	05/27/93	05/30/93	19.0518 N	-32.0232 E	24.6200 N	-24.6200 E
4	2	06/04/93	06/05/93	26.3285 N	-28.2048 E	27.8200 N	-26.1847 E
4	3	06/08/93	06/09/93	28.9257 N	-25.8696 E	28.8426 N	-23.0890 E
4	4	06/09/93	06/10/93	28.8509 N	-23.0497 E	30.4189 N	-23.8573 E
4	5	06/10/93	06/11/93	30.4394 N	-23.8296 E	32.9475 N	-21.5498 E



Figure 1: Seasoar Cruise Track: May 1991–May 1993. Heavy lines denote when Seasoar was actually being towed. Heavy circles are location of Subduction moorings.

# 2. Methods

# A. Temperature, Conductivity and Pressure

The Seasoar CTD is a Sea-Bird model 911 with redundant sensors for conductivity and temperature and a single oxygen sensor. Data were telemetered to the ship at 24 Hz. The CTD sensors are openly mounted on the top cover of the vehicle, the temperature sensors are located behind and slightly above the conductivity cells (Figure 2). Peak flow rates past the sensors typically reached 5 m/s, with occasional extremes of 7 m/s. Flow rate exceeded the capabilities of the standard pump on Sea-Bird CTD's and therefore no pumping of seawater through the sensors was done. Seasoar sensors were exchanged with those on a pumped profiling CTD, also a Sea-Bird 911, for calibration purposes where they could be compared with rosette samples directly. The 24 Hz data were logged and displayed on a personal computer (PC) or a Sun computer.

# **B.** Location of Bobbers

In May 1991, 18 bobbers were launched during Oceanus Cruise 240, Leg 2. The bobbers are SOund Fixing And Ranging (SOFAR) floats which control their buoyancy to cycle every other day between prescribed isotherms (J. Price, personal communication). Bobbers transmit a swept 250 hertz signal for 80 seconds, precisely 12 hours apart on a preset schedule. The range to the float can be derived from the travel time and the speed of sound in the water. While at sea, onboard tracking was done using shipboard listening stations and SOFAR receivers. Either special hydrophone arrays or a Sonobuoy float was used at these stations to listen for the bobbers. In addition, drifting SOFAR receivers (DSRs) and ALFOS floats, which were deployed from the ship earlier, relayed the times of arrival (TOAs) of bobber signals to WHOI via Argos satellite. The TOAs and receiver position were then transmitted to the ship via Inmarsat Fax where the range from the drifting receivers to the bobber was calculated. Range information from two or three receivers was combined to locate the bobbers by triangulation. On the final cruise, the moored autonomous listening stations (ALS), which had been recording TOAs from the bobbers since May 1991, were recovered. The ALS data were decoded and actual positions were determined for the bobbers for the times of the Seasoar surveys (Figure 3 - a. Subduction 3 and b. Subduction 4).



Figure 2: Seasoar vehicle with sensors





Figure 3: Bobber location at the time of Seasoar mesoscale survey determined from ALFOS data. (a) Subduction 3. (b) Subduction 4.

# C. Data Processing

The CTD temperature and conductivity sensors were calibrated for each cruise using a combination of lab calibrations (done by Sea-Bird at the North-West Calibration Center) and comparisons with water samples collected on a profiling CTD. All sensors were calibrated before the initial cruise and following all subsequent cruises.

The temperature sensors were corrected for drift based on the lab calibrations alone, by assuming a linear change in time between two calibrations. Corrections to the laboratory calibrations were +/-0 to 2 mK (offset) and 1 +/-0 to 0.15 mK/K (slope).

Using the corrected temperatures, water sample salinities from approximately seven deep stations per cruise were converted to conductivity for comparison with the conductivity sensors. The calibration for conductivity in shallow water where the vertical gradients are large and spatially variable is particularly difficult. The profiling CTD maintained one sensor pair (primary) throughout a cruise, the secondary sensors were swapped with the Seasoar's for calibrations. Thus, the primary sensor pair had the greatest number of water samples to use for calibration. For cruises one and three, we determined the Seasoar sensor calibration by performing a water sample calibration for the primary CTD sensors, and then fit the secondary sensors to the primaries using data from the complete cast. The bottle data for the secondary sensors then served as a consistency check for the obtained calibration values. For Subduction 4, however, this approach generated a correction to the pre-cruise lab calibration that largely exceeded the post-cruise lab calibration. This can not occur if the sensors drift essentially linearly in time. We, therefore, relied only on the direct bottle comparison to calibrate the Seasoar conductivity sensors. Additionally, the vertical conductivity gradient during this cruise was at times so strong that the vertical separation of 1.5 meters between bottles and sensors introduced an error large enough to affect the calibration. To correct for the spatial difference, a polynomial fit of the conductivity gradient was determined for each station, and an offset was applied based on the polynomial and the distance between bottles and sensors. The conductivity gradients from the other cruises were not large enough to require this correction. Conductivity corrections ranged from -1.7 to +0.7 mS (offset) and 1 +/- 0 to 0.6 mS/S (slope). The remaining differences between calibrated CTD conductivity and bottle conductivities were of the order of 0.2 mS/m (deep samples) to 0.5 mS/m (shallow samples), corresponding to salinity differences of 0.002 to 0.005 psu.

The calibrated 24 Hz data were then screened for anomalous points using a 9-point median filter. To determine the proper relationship between temperature and conductivity sensors influenced by their physical separation and sensor response times, salinity was

calculated for various lags of temperature and pressure relative to conductivity. A lag of 4 scans (1/6 second) was found to minimize salinity spiking across sharp gradients. This lag was consistent over the course of the experiment. The data were edited further by excluding data shallower than 1 dbar. This excludes salinity spikes due to air in the conductivity cell when the Seasoar breaks the surface. Summary figures for quality control were produced (Figure 4). The data were then binned into 1 and 3 sec datasets (available in ASCII and Matlab format on CD-Rom) of time, pressure, potential temperature, salinity, and potential density. Salinity and potential density were calculated after binning.

The 3 second averaged data were interpolated onto a uniform grid in depth/distance along the Seasoar track using a second order exponential filter with vertical and horizontal scales of 5 dbar and 4 km, respectively. Grid points for which the sum of weights were less than or equal to 0.1 were flagged (Figure 5). Data were then mapped onto density surfaces at intervals of 0.05 sigma-theta (Table 3, Figure 6). Where appropriate, CTD data from the L-shaped tracer surveys were combined with the Seasoar data and input into the objective mapping programs. We chose to focus on sigma-theta levels of 26.5, 26.7 and 26.9. The levels correlate with the isotherm boundaries and corresponding average densities of the bobbers when they were initially deployed (Figure 7). The thickness of each density surface is based on the density gradient centered on the density surface of interest with a fixed density difference of 0.05 sigma-theta. The mapping technique used a spatial correlation scale of 10 km, and a signal-to-noise ratio of 50 percent was assumed. Areas with errors exceeding 95 percent were not contoured. Data was objectively mapped for all Seasoar surveys on the above-mentioned density surfaces for potential temperature, salinity, pressure and thickness (Figures 8a–i).

Despite the variety of shipboard location tools for determination of bobber position, the actual location of bobbers during the experiment was problematic. In some instances, insufficient fixes were available to locate bobbers or two Seasoar surveys were carried out because of possible ambiguities in bobber location. Why post-experiment bobber tracks (using the moored ALS data) seem to be 'offset' from at-sea locations has not been resolved. Thus, the Seasoar maps around bobbers should be considered only to reflect the general characteristics of the water masses at that particular time. **Table 3:** Mean and standard deviation of theta, pressure and thickness on density surfaces 26.5, 26.7, 26.9 for all star patterns surveyed. Not enough data were available for density level 26.9 for surveys 3 and 4 during Subduction 4.

### **SUBDUCTION 1 - STAR PATTERN 1:**

DATES: 05/16/91 10:30 - 05/20/91 07:30 BOBBER #: 24,29,22,5,8,21,16,17,18,23,25 MEAN LAT: 31.4729 N MEAN LONG: -22.4486 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.7702	16.2514	13.9505
Std. Theta	0.0201	0.0680	0.0206
Avg. Press	60.7186	240.5842	364.9566
Std. Press	10.9056	10.0753	4.1349
Avg. Thick	78.4115	31.4357	36.6801
Std. Thick	5.6687	1.5292	1.3638
# grid pts	86	469	223

### **SUBDUCTION 1 - STAR PATTERN 2:**

DATES: 05/23/91 06:00 - 05/27/91 20:00 BOBBER #: 19,14,11,12,26,20,15 MEAN LAT: 29.0139 N MEAN LONG: -23.5313 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.8185	16.1601	13.9314
Std. Theta	0.1699	0.0929	0.0249
Avg. Press	124.4070	241.9765	366.1262
Std. Press	6.6596	6.3833	4.9197
Avg. Thick	41.0442	30.1820	35.9329
Std. Thick	8.8076	1.6768	1.3890
# grid pts	473	473	346
U 1			

### SUBDUCTION 1 - STAR PATTERN 3: DATES: 05/31/91 06:30 - 06/02/91 01:30

BOBBER #: MEAN LAT: 29.9845 N MEAN LONG: -21.6587 E

			and the second
Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.7825	16.4236	13.9782
Std. Theta	0.2247	0.1287	0.0264
Avg. Press	51.0511	216.5273	340.1730
Std. Press	4.2587	15.9862	18.1612
Avg. Thick	45.1072	27.1940	36.2476
Std. Thick	5.5786	4.7615	1.0980
# grid pts	418	420	360
" Bue pro		EP-1	1

### **SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 1:**

DATES: 11/28/92 22:00 - 11/30/92 14:00 BOBBER #: 26 MEAN LAT: 20.3393 N MEAN LONG: -29.6893 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	17.6773	15.6800	13.5893
Std. Theta	0.1868	0.1361	0.0823
Avg. Press	163.4997	234.0999	342.2342
Std. Press	10.8143	11.4590	10.1150
Avg. Thick	13.0774	22.1654	30.2678
Std. Thick	0.8380	1.6846	1.5926
# grid pts	308	308	304
	A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT		to stand out the stand

### **SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 2:**

DATES: 12/01/92 01:00 - 12/02/91 18:30 BOBBER #: 15,25 MEAN LAT: 22.8685 N MEAN LONG: -27.0472 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.2682	16.0629	13.8362
Std. Theta	0.0742	0.0673	0.0426
Avg. Press	180.6118	262.3036	373.9740
Std. Press	5.6818	5.9471	5.1209
Avg. Thick	14.5908	24.6175	28.2718
Std. Thick	0.6068	1.1954	1.4681
# grid pts	308	308	308
<b>J</b> 1			

### **SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 3:** DATES: 12/02/92 19:00 - 12/04/92 19:30

BOBBER #: 19 MEAN LAT: 22.7953 N MEAN LONG: -28.6941 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.3048	16.0337	13.8438
Std. Theta	0.0858	0.0732	0.0374
Avg. Press	191.6362	271.8771	376.0974
Std. Press	6.4222	5.5544	5.1748
Avg. Thick	14.3554	23.5976	24.8414
Std. Thick	0.7220	0.8780	1.5926
# grid pts	312	312	30
		and the state we have a link of the	

SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 4: DATES: 12/04/92 20:00 - 12/06/92 01:00 BOBBER #: 15 MEAN LAT: 23.2972 N MEAN LONG: -29.4279 E			а РИСКТТАЛ ДАЛИ - А Вригосник наста соворно - рела родологият - сам Кайл М Слинал По-ских и самала - сама	
Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9	
Avg Thata	18 1280	15 9712	12 7206	
Avg. Ineta	18.1389	15.8/12	13.7200	
Std. Theta	0.2898	0.2891	0.1830	
Avg. Press	187.0571	268.6239	374.4001	
Std. Press	5.9160	8.1597	9.1982	
Avg. Thick	14.3723	24.3347	25.0590	
Std. Thick	0.8294	1.0564	1.4868	
# grid pts	301	301	298	
		the second s	the second se	

# **SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 5:**

DATES: 12/08/92 09:30 - 12/11/92 13:30 BOBBER #: 21 MEAN LAT: 25.1120 N MEAN LONG: -24.4478 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9	-
Avg. Theta	18.5389	16.2373	13.9424	
Std. Theta	0.0331	0.0267	0.0070	1.1.1
Avg. Press	176.1963	268.6849	387.1770	
Std. Press	4.8472	4.9632	6.2923	1.100
Avg. Thick	18.6155	28.0117	30.1917	
Std. Thick	1.3784	0.8609	1.1335	1.10
# grid pts	272	272	272	

### **SUBDUCTION 3 - STAR PATTERN 6:** DATES: 12/11/92 13:30 - 12/12/92 18:30

BOBBER #: 20 MEAN LAT: 26.9678 N MEAN LONG: -24.9349 E

	2		
Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	18.2821	16.1338	13.9678
Std. Theta	0.0512	0.0342	0.0164
Avg. Press	164.3603	256.8055	362.1923
Std. Press	3.9648	4.1351	3.9743
Avg. Thick	19.5107	28.0923	33.5705
Std. Thick	0.7727	1.1078	0.8828
# grid pts	265	265	265
• •			

# **SUBDUCTION 4 - STAR PATTERN 1:** DATES: 05/24/93 07:30 - 05/27/93 12:00

BOBBER #: 19 MEAN LAT: 18.9862 N MEAN LONG: -31.9748 E

	the second s	A State of the second se	
Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	26.9
Avg. Theta	17.8358	15.6538	13.5999
Std. Theta	0.1302	0.0988	0.1453
Avg. Press	199.7486	261.7677	361.3810
Std. Press	10.6113	11.6073	8.3183
Avg. Thick	11.1412	20.6743	28.2127
Std. Thick	0.8561	0.9830	2.1628
# grid pts	306	306	279
	and the second second		

### **SUBDUCTION 4 - STAR PATTERN 2:**

DATES: 05/30/93 02:00 - 05.31.93 13:30 BOBBER #: 26 MEAN LAT: 24.2855 N MEAN LONG: -37.4544 E

26.5	26.7	26.9
18.0407	16.0338	13.9275
0.0810	0.0271	0.0122
224.9581	318.8388	389.9046
8.3322	9.2240	4.6894
18.3139	27.8029	30.8733
1.4372	1.4772	1.5640
335	335	132
	26.5 18.0407 0.0810 224.9581 8.3322 18.3139 1.4372 335	26.526.718.040716.03380.08100.0271224.9581318.83888.33229.224018.313927.80291.43721.4772335335

### **SUBDUCTION 4 - STAR PATTERN 3:**

DATES: 06/02/93 01:30 - 06/03/93 14:00 BOBBER #: 15 MEAN LAT: 23.5120 N MEAN LONG: -31.6550 E

Sigma-Theta26.526.7Avg. Theta18.192416.0873Std. Theta0.02510.0184Avg. Press192.4304281.1632Std. Press5.99205.0778Avg. Thick17.114626.1395Std. Thick1.38081.8345# grid pts306306	
---	--

SUBDUCTION 4 - STAR PATTERN 4: DATES: 06/05/93 15:00 - 06/08/93 17:30 BOBBER #: 21 MEAN LAT: 28.1707 N MEAN LONG: -26.3902 E

Sigma-Theta	26.5	26.7	Trans.
Avg. Theta	18.4098	16.0449	
Std. Theta	0.0979	0.0424	
Avg. Press	183.8366	292.0272	
Std. Press	11.0004	10.4090	1
Avg. Thick	31.0742	28.0224	the second s
Std. Thick	3.0547	1.4874	
# grid pts	366	362	

Fighter 4: One load entroping plan of Sounds Sounds, In the appending the filmed have spreading the data basis will state and sounds in a line in the basis basis and the second sound in the film of the second state in a state in the state of the second of the film and soft. And will be set a second to the second the second state in a state in the state of the state of the state state. And so the state of the second sound in the state of the state of the state in the state of the s



Figure 4: One hour summary plots of Seasoar track. In the upper plot, the dotted line represents pressure over a 0-500 db range vs time. The solid line represent sigma-theta over range of 25-27.5.



Contour map of Sigma-theta with Seasoar Track overlay

Figure 5: Theta contour plot of gridded Seasoar data along transect 2 of Cruise 3. Gray areas denote unavailable data. The darker lines represent average sigma-theta, during Subduction 1, where the bobbers were deployed (see Figure 7).



Figure 6: Example Summary plot of pressure, theta, salinity and thickness vs. Sigma-theta. See Appendix A.

Their on Sigma-Their 26.5 - See 1. Stor 2



Figure 7: Representative range of bobber movements during Subduction 1.









	Date:	05/23/91	Mean:	124.4070
	Mean Lat:	29.0139 N	Std:	6.6596
	Mean Long:	-23.5313 E		

Figure 8b



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 2

# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2



Date:	05/23/91	Mean:	16.1601
Mean Lat:	29.0139 N	Std:	0.0929
Mean Long:	-23.5313 E		

Figure 8d

# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2





# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2

Figure 8f



Figure 8g

# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2

Figure 8h

# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2



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# **D.** Underway Currents – ADCP

Shipboard Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) data were collected during all four Subduction cruises using a standard 150 KHz RD Instruments transducer. The setup used 8 meter vertical bins with 8 or 16 meter pulse lengths averaged over 5 minutes. Bottom tracking data were collected over the continental shelf leaving Woods Hole, and for very short periods over the slopes of the Azores, Madeira, and Gran Canaria. One-second navigation data were provided by a Magnavox MX4200 Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver.

The ADCP data were processed with the Common Oceanographic Data Access System (CODAS) software developed by Eric Firing from the University of Hawaii (Bahr et al., 1990). After the data were loaded into a database, the individual profiles were edited for anomalous points based on editing criteria such as large second vertical derivatives of eastward (u) and northward (v) velocity components, large vertical (w) and error velocities, and subsurface maxima of backscatter amplitude. Aside from the usual amplitude warnings triggered by either bottom interference or biological scattering layers, we found occasional interference from the hydrowire when the CTD package had drifted into one of the ADCP beams. Next the GPS fixes were screened for outliers based on number of satellites used and Horizontal Dilution of Precision (HDOP) values, and then merged with the ADCP data to provide absolute velocities. This step involved the intermediate calculation of the absolute velocity of a reference layer (e.g., Kosro, 1985; see Table 4 for layer range). The velocity of the reference layer is the difference between the velocity of the ship over the ground, determined by the fixes, and the velocity of the ship relative to the reference layer, calculated from the ADCP profiles. This initial estimate of the reference layer velocity, which is constant between fixes, was then smoothed by convolution with a Blackman window function (Blackman and Tukey, 1959). The choice of filter width generally depends on the quality of the fixes. For Subduction 1, which occurred shortly after the Gulf war Desert Storm, selective availability (SA) was not in effect, and the fix quality was accordingly good. SA was in effect, however, for Subduction 3 and 4, and the filter needed to be correspondingly larger (Table 4).

Bottom track calibration was performed using mostly the Woods Hole continental shelf data, since the island bottom tracking was often too short. Underway calibrations were done on cruises with many CTD stations. In this type of calibration, velocity differences measured by the ADCP (e.g., when departing from station) are compared with those measured by the satellite navigation. This method has a large uncertainty associated with each individual calibration point and a large number of points need to be taken. Calibration values

anon out out	Subduction 1	Subduction 3	Subduction 4
Reference layer range	bins 5–20 (50–170 m)	bins 5–17 (50–145 m)	bins 5–20 (50–170 m)
Smoothing filter half width	20 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes
Calibration (amplitude; phase)	1.007; -1.32 degrees	1.005; -1.5 degrees	1.005; -1.7 degrees

Table 4: ADCP processing parameter settings.

were computed for each cruise from a combination of bottom track and water track information (Table 4).

In order to produce maps of velocity on density surfaces, temperature and salinity profiles were generated from 15-minute averages of the Seasoar data. Using this database, the ADCP data were vertically regridded on density, and 30-minute averaged vectors over the two shallower density intervals were calculated (Figures 9a-b). In addition, 30-minute averages of ADCP velocity along the original depth bins were produced in ASCII format (available on CD-Rom).

# 4. Discussion

The initial deployment cruise for the bobbers, in May 1991, came just as the water column began to stratify. The remnant mixed layer was deep and reflected the characteristics of late winter conditions. The density modes for the first two star patterns indicated that the initial winter mixed layer depth was between 100 and 150 meters (see Appendix B: Figures. Sub 1, Star 1 — Section SE–NW and Sub 1, Star 2, Section SE–NW). The Subduction bobber cruises were distributed in time in such a way as to cover a two year lifespan. However, due to the concentration in the northern region near the Azores Front on the second cruise (February 1992), no Seasoar data were collected near any of the bobbers. Thus, the temporal sampling between the bobber cruises was uneven, with intervals of 18 and 6 months.

The 'star' patterns were carried out in order to map the variability around the bobber floats. During the initial cruise, the star patterns each consumed about 45 hours of shiptime. The long legs of the patterns were approximately 110 km in length. An analysis of temperature, pressure, and thickness variations on the individual legs indicated that the decorrelation scale was 8–10 km. Error maps made from the objective mapping of the data showed that the star pattern was too large: large areas within the pattern were poorly mapped. In subsequent cruises, the scale of the pattern was reduced so that the long legs of the pattern were approximately 80 km. Not only did this better 'map' the variability, it took less shiptime (27 hrs/survey)!

# Barter, P., S. Yures, M. S. Sandar, and S. Sandar, D. Sandar, Company, N. S. Co, J. Sandar, S. Sandar, Sandar,

Figure 3: Representative may of ADC Preformers on a sea phones of Courts foods (a) 24.2



Figure 9: Representative map of ADCP velocities on a star pattern at density levels (a) 26.5 and level (b) 26.7. See Appendix E.
## 5. Acknowledgments

The Subduction ARI experiment was sponsored by the Office of Naval Research, grants N00014-91-J-1585 — Mesoscale Variablility of Subduction Waters (T. Joyce), N00014-91-J-1508 — Seasoar Operations in Subduction, and N00014-91-J-1425 — Subduction in the Subtropical Gyre (J. Luyten). We wish to thank the Captain and crew of the R/V Oceanus. Bobber locations were received from James Price and Christine Wooding.

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# Appendix A: Star Pattern — Data Summaries

Seasoar data were summarized for each star pattern surveyed during the Subduction experiment. The gridded data were mapped onto density surfaces of 0.05 sigma-theta. Plots of pressure, potential temperature, salinity and thickness vs potential density for each survey are presented in Figures A-1 through A-13. Location and time of the survey is described in Figure 1 and Table 2.



Figure A-1



Figure A-2



Figure A-3



Figure A-4



Figure A-5



Figure A-6



Figure A-7



Figure A-8







Figure A-10



Figure A-11



Figure A-12



Figure A-13

# **Appendix B:** Section Contour Plots for Star Patterns

Contour plots of gridded Seasoar data along selected sections of the radiator pattern are shown in Figures B-2 through B-15. Each figure consists of a sigma-theta, theta and salinity contour plot for the specified section. Location of the section on the star pattern is highlighted on the star pattern shown in the Figure B-1. Position and time of the individual star pattern is described in Figure 1 and Table 2. Gray areas denote unavailable data. The darker lines represent the average theta and sigma-theta where the bobbers were deployed during Subduction 1 (see Figure 7).



Sub 3, Star 1



Sub 3, Star 4



Sub 4, Star 1





Sub 3, Star 2

Sub 3, Star 3



Sub 3, Star 5



Sub 4, Star 2



Sub 4, Star 4



Figure B-1

Sections of Star Patterns Represented in Contour Maps



Sub 3, Star 6



Sub 4, Star 3































# Appendix C: Long Sections Surveyed Between Star Patterns

Contour plots of gridded Seasoar data along several long transects during the Subduction 3 and 4 cruises proceed on Figures C-1 through C-21. Position and time of the transects can be located on Figure 1 and Table 2. Gray shading denote areas of unavailable data. The darker lines represent the average theta and sigma-theta where the bobbers were deployed during Subduction 1 (see Figure 7). Color versions of these maps are available on the accompanying CD-Rom.





Figure C-1



Sigma Theta - Sub 3, Transect 1 - SW - NE

Figure C-2





Figure C-3




Figure C-4



## Salinity - Sub 3, Transect 2 - S - N

Figure C-5





Figure C-6



Theta - Sub 4, Transect 1 - SE - NW

Figure C-7





Figure C-8



Sigma Theta - Sub 4, Transect 1 - SE - NW

Figure C-9





Figure C-10



Sigma Theta - Sub 4, Transect 2 - S - N

Figure C-11



Salinity - Sub 4, Transect 2 - S - N

Figure C-12



Figure C-13





Figure C-14





Figure C-15





Figure C-16



Sigma Theta - Sub 4, Transect 4 - S - N

Figure C-17



Salinity - Sub 4, Transect 4 - S - N

Figure C-18





Figure C-19

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Sigma Theta - Sub 4, Transect 5 - S - N

Figure C-20



Salinity - Sub 4, Transect 5 - S - N

Figure C-21

#### Appendix D: Star Pattern Objective Maps

Figures D-1 through D-110 present objectively mapped plots of ocean properties on potential density surfaces of 26.5, 26.7, 26.9. Theta, pressure and thickness are individually plotted on the selected surfaces. The triangles on the plots denotes 15 minute averages along the cruise track. Color versions of these maps are available on the accompanying CD-Rom.



### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 1

### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 1





### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 2



### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 2





# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 3

### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 3



Figure D-7



### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 1, Star 3

Figure D-8

Mean Long: -21.6587 E



Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 1





Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 1



### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 2



Figure D-13





### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 3



Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 3




#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 4

#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 4





the second



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 5



Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 5

Figure D-22



Figure D-23



#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 6



#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 3, Star 6

Figure D-25





# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 1





Figure D-28



# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 1



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 2

117



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 2



#### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 2



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 3







#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 3







# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 4

Present.

#### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 4





#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 1

#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 1





Figure D-41



#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2

#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2



Figure D-43

#### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 2





#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 3



#### Pressure on Sigma—Theta 26.7 — Sub 1, Star 3



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 1, Star 3

Figure D-47



#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 1



#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 1



#### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 1



Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 2



Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 2

6-2-



Figure D-53


# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 3



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 3



# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 3



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 4



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# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 4



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 5



Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 5

Figure D-61



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 5



### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 6



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 5



# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 3, Star 6



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, star 1



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 1



#### Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 1

155



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 2



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 2

157



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.5 - Sub 4, Star 2



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 3



#### Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 3



# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 3

161



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 4

162







# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.7 - Sub 4, Star 4



Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 1

# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 1



Mean Lat: 31.4729 N Std: 4.1349 Mean Long: -22.4486 E Figure D-79

166



# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 1



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 2

Date:	05/23/91	Mean: 35.9329
Mean Lat:	29.0139 N	Std: 1.3890
Mean Long:	-23.5313 F	



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 3



# Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 3



Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 1, Star 3



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 1





# Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 1


Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 2



## Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 2

## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 2





## Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 3



## Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 3



## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 3



## Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 4



## Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 4



## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 4



Figure D-99





#### -----



#### Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 6



Figure D-103



## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 3, Star 6



# Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 1



## Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 1



## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 1



## Theta on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 2



## Pressure on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 2



## Thickness on Sigma-Theta 26.9 - Sub 4, Star 2

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## Appendix E: ADCP Maps for Star Patterns

Figures E-1 through E-12 show ADCP velocity maps for each star pattern on potential density surfaces of 26.5 and 26.7. ADCP vectors were averaged in density space over 0.05 sigma theta.











Figure E-5



ADCP velocities: S ub3 S tar4 sig 26.5









Figure E-9 207







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## Appendix F: Contents of Accompanying CD-Rom

This CDROM is a compilation of Seasoar data collected during the Subduction Experiment in the Eastern North Atlantic during the period of May 1991 - May 1993.

# TO READ CDROM

The most convenient way to view the following material is by using MOSAIC or NETSCAPE or any HTML reader. This file is repeated with pointers to the associated directories in README.htm. If you do not have the necessary software to run Mosaic, view gif files, uncompress files or read NetCDF files, go to the



miscellaneous directory, read the README file and use the available software, or instructions on how to retrieve the necessary software.

The CDROM consists of the following, it is the same as the CDROM file directory structure:

- **README** Readme file (same as this without html code)
- **REPORT.htm-** HTML code and pointers to the accompanying data report TEXT.htm. Start with this file to view the Data Report using HTML format.
- TEXT.htm HTML copy of the accompanying data report.
- **REPORT.DOC** Text copy of the accompanying data report
- map.gif Graphic view of cruise track for the entire experiment
- seasoar.gif Graphic View of Seasoar
- figure.con List of Figures and tables referred to in the REPORT.htm
- figure1-9.gif figures referred to in the REPORT.htm document
- table1-2.doc tables referred to in the REPORT.htm document
- transect.htm HTML file corresponding to appendix C of the Data Report
- star.htm HTML file corresponding to appendix D of the Data Report
- Photos collected during the four cruises
- Subduction Cruise 1:
  - Data 1 second and 3 second data. They are identified by star patterns in both matlab (\*.mat) and gzip compressed ascii format (\*.asc.gz). The 3 second files are delineated by an \_3 added to the name files. File format is time in Decimal days, pressure, temperature, Salinity, and Sigma-theta. 1E38 (or NaN in matlab files) is null value.
  - Gif files Color gif files of sections and star patterns (as shown in data report in black and white). Sub1.gif = cruise track for subduction 1. The files are identifies by star pattern name, plus an underscore with a number identifying the density surface of interest, and a letter to identify the property mapped on that density surface.

\_5 = 26.5 density surface \_7 = 26.7 density surface

```
_9 = 26.9 density surface
_5p = pressure on density surface 26.5
_5t = Theta on density surface 26.5
_5w = Thickness on density surface 26.5
```

- Navigation ASCII data of navigation averaged over 15 minute intervals in matlab (\*.mat) and ascii (\*.asc) format. File format is time in Decimal days, longitude (E), latitude (N) and number of fixes.
- ADCP ASCII data of adcp vector files for star patterns. File format is 89 column. For each 30 minute time period in a star pattern time, latitude, longitude and u,v pairs from 16 352 m every 8m. 1E38 is null value.
- O CTD ASCII files of the CTD stations taken during this cruise. Station locations, time, max depth, and number of bottles is described in the file OC240\_2.sum. The files are in WOCE (World Ocean Circulation Experiment) format and each has an header with the date of the cruise, station number cast number, number of records and parameter names and units. There is also a quality flag as described below:
  - 1 = Not calibrated with water samples
  - 2 = Acceptable measurement
  - 3 = Questionable measurement
  - 4 = Bad measurement
  - 5 = Not Reported
  - 6 = Interpolated value
  - 9 = Not samples
  - Bad data value = -9.00

Explanation of the WOCE format is described in WOCE Operations Manual: Volume 3: Section 3.1: Part 3.1.2: Requirements for WHP Data Reporting. WHP Office Report WHPO 90-1, WOCE Report No. 67/91. July 1991. Rev. 1. Woods Hole, MA USA.

#### Frontal Surveys

- O Sub1 CTD data from the SeaSoar is provided in 15 minute temporal by 8 m vertical bins and stored in netcdf format. One frontal survey was completed during Subduction 1 data is in file sub1c.cdf. The netcdf format is independent of operating system and/or platform, making it a convenient means of data exchange. Netcdf software is available from ftp.unidata.ucar.edu in /pub/netcdf. A set of matlab routines to read and write netcdf files is available from crusty.er.usgs.gov in /pub/mexcdf. The visualization tool FERRET allows the netcdf files to be examined interactively. FERRET is available from abyss.pmel.noaa.gov in /pub for a variety of machines. The netcdf headers for each file are listed in \*c.cdl.
- O Sub2 see description above. Two frontal surveys were completed for Subduction 2 in files sub2s1.cdf and sub2s2c.cdf.
- O ADCP ADCP data is provided in 15 minute temporal by 8 m vertical bins and stored in netcdf format. The files are named \*a.cdf and \*a.cdl.

### • Subduction Cruise 3:

- O Data See description of Subduction 1
- O Gif files See description of Subduction 1
- O Navigation One navigation file for all entire cruise. File format same as Subduction 1.
- O ADCP See description of Subduction 1
- CTD See description of Subduction 1. Summary of CTD stations is located in file OC254\_4.sum.
- Subduction Cruise 4:

- O Data See description of Subduction 1
- O Gif files See description of Subduction 1
- O Navigation See description of Subduction 1
- ADCP See description of Subduction 1. ADCP data not available until midway through the 2nd star pattern (5/31 14:10).
- CTD See description of Subduction 1. Summary of CTD stations is located in file OC258\_3.sum.
- Engineering Data: For more detailed information read the README file.
  - O Programs Basic programs. Sub3cd.exe (Subduction 3 executable), Sub4cd.exe (Subduction 4 executable). \*.bas are the quick basic program.
  - O Subduction 3 Data Subduction 3 Star 3 data in ascii format used for above program.
  - O Subduction 4 Data Subduction 4 transit 3-5 (this includes engineering test of "flying" the Seasoar) in ascii format used for above program.
- Miscellaneous: For more detailed information read the README file.
  - O gifview viewers for gif files without and within Mosaic. (dos, Sun4 versions)
  - O gzip used to uncompress ascii data files with .gz suffix(dos, Sun4 versions).
  - O MexCDF Reader for Netcdf files in conjuction with MATLAB (dos, Sun4 versions).
  - O Mosaic Mosaic for reading html files and viewing data (dos, Sun4 versions).

### BACKUP Directory:

• Subduction 1- Processed Matlab data files used in objective mapping for star patterns during Subduction 1.

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- O Subduction 3- Processed Matlab data files used in objective mapping for star patterns and long transects during Subduction 3.
- O Subduction 4- Processed Matlab data files used in objective mapping for star patterns and long transects during Subduction 4.

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE	1. REPORT NO. WHOI-95-13	2	3. Recipient's Accession No.
Title and Subtitle Subduction in the Subtropical Gyre: Seasoar Cruises Data Report			5. Report Date September 1995 6.
. Author(s) Julie Pallant, Fra	nk Bahr, Terrence Joyce, Jerome De	ean, James R. Luyten	8. Performing Organization Rept. No. WHOI-95-13
9. Performing Organization Name and	Address		10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543			N00014-91-J-1585           N00014-90-J-1425           N00014-90-J-1508
2. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address Office of Naval Research			13. Type of Report & Period Covered Technical Report
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