

Cruise Report S221

Scientific data collected aboard
SSV *Robert C. Seamans*

Papeete, French Polynesia– Nuku Hiva, French Polynesia –
Honolulu, HI, USA

11 February 2009 – 21 March 2009



Sea Education Association
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

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To obtain unpublished data, contact the SEA data archivist:

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Ship's Company, SSV *Robert C. Seamans*, Cruise S221

Nautical Staff

Chirs McGuire	Captain
Tom Sullivan	Chief Mate
Colleen Allard	2 nd Mate
Jay Amster	3 rd Mate
Seth Murray	Engineer
Kevin Campion	Assistant Engineer
Tia Leo	Steward

Scientific Staff

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Skye Moret	1 st Assistant Scientist
Dave Murphy	2 nd Assistant Scientist
Randy Jones	3 rd Assistant Scientist

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Ms. Sarah "Brody" Brody	University of Pennsylvania
Ms. Sarah "S.B." Buhlman	Towson University
Ms. Amanda Chirlin	Cornell University
Ms. Laura Dismore	Carleton College
Mr. Jackson Elliott	University of Denver
Ms. Stephanie Floyd	Mount Holyoke College
Mr. Douglas Garrison	Colorado College
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Ms. Heather Gladstone	Bard College
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Ms. Cynthia Landgren	Webb Institute of Naval Architecture
Ms. Ilona Matulaitis	Colgate University
Ms. Erin "Ginger" O'Reilly	College of Charleston
Ms. Brita Stepe	Dartmouth College
Ms. Tracy Sylvester	University of Vermont
Ms. Emma Tobias	University of New England, Biddeford
(Mr. Anise Vance- departed Marquesas)	Dartmouth College

Data Description

An extensive oceanographic investigation of the tropical Pacific was conducted during Sea Education Association's cruise S221, Papeete, French Polynesia to Honolulu, HI (via Nuku Hiva, French Polynesia, see Figure 1, below). Along this cruise track the SSV *Robert C. Seamans* provided a platform for the following chemical, biological, physical and geological sampling efforts:

1. Zooplankton net tows (to depths of 100m+), focusing on pteropod and foraminifera distributions: 5 1-meter net tow stations
2. Surface zooplankton net tows, focusing on general zooplankton diversity and distribution: 41 Nueston stations.
3. Surface stations measuring temperature, salinity, chlorophyll a, phosphate: 50 surface stations
4. Deep (600m+) hydrocast/CTD casts measuring temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, colored dissolved organic matter, chl-a fluorescence, and discrete sampling for water chemistry (oxygen, chlorophyll a, nitrate, nitrite, phosphate): 62 CTD stations
5. Sediment samples acquired via Shipek: 4 sediment stations
6. Continuous monitoring and recording of ocean currents in the upper 800m via ADCP
7. Continuous monitoring and recording of bottom profile via CHIRP

As part of SEA's educational program, undergraduates conduct student-designed oceanographic research during the cruise. Project topics spanned, and integrated, the four "classic" disciplines of oceanography: chemistry, biology, physics and geology (Table 8). The samples and data collected were analyzed onboard as part of investigations of the following lines of scientific inquiry:

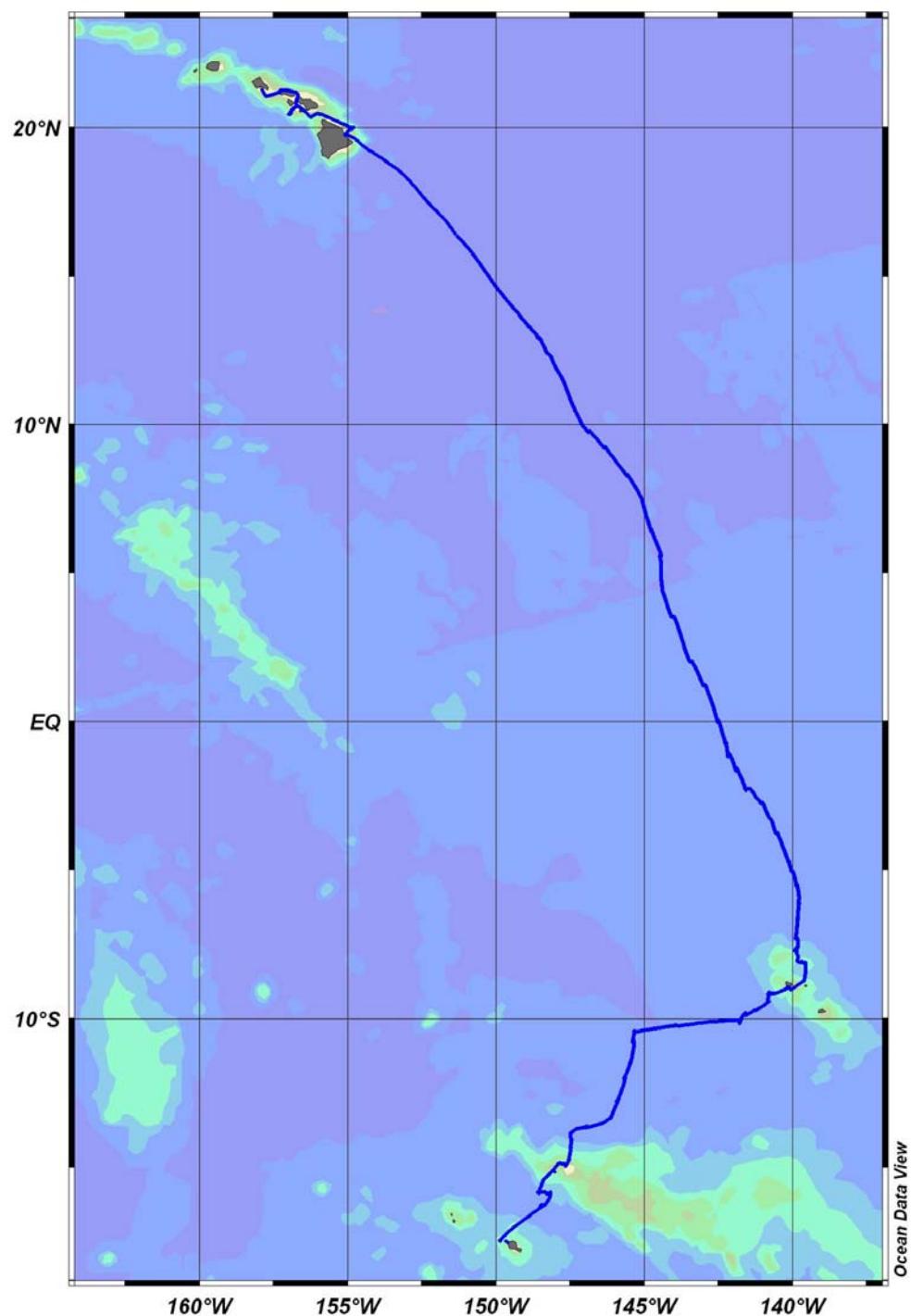
1. Surface and mix layer temperatures in relation to El Niño cycles
2. Heat and salt transport in the Equatorial Undercurrent (EUC).
3. Physical and nutrient effects of flow around island masses
4. A comparison of microbial abundance in the South Pacific Gyre and the Equatorial Pacific.
5. Analysis of the nutrient profiles of the upper 600m and an experimental approach to determining the degree to which primary productivity is nutrient limited
6. Alkalinity, pH and thus DIC variability in relation to the relative abundance of pteropod and foraminifera
7. Current and watermass identification, and comparison of volume transport to previous SEA and NOAA data within the framework of identifying cyclical trends related to El Niño.
8. Zooplankton abundance and diversity in relation to past SEA results, again with a focus on identifying El Niño related trends.

Student research efforts culminated in a written manuscript and poster presentation to the ship's company. These papers are available on request from SEA.

Giora Proskurowski
Chief Scientist S221

Figure 1. Cruise track for the SSV Robert C. Seamans voyage S221.

Plotted from hourly position data. Departed from Papeete, French Polynesia 11Feb09 and arrived Honolulu, HI 20March09, with port stop in Nuku Hiva, Marquesas, French Polynesia.



Station	Type	Date	Time	Latitude	Longitude	Cast Depth	Locale
S221-051	CTD	9-Mar-13	2015	6°27.8' N	144°44.7' W	620	Equatorial Pacific
S221-051	MN	9-Mar-13	2134	6°26.5' N	144°44.8' W	n/a	Equatorial Pacific
S221-051	NT	9-Mar-13	2245	6°24.6' N	144°44.0' W	n/a	Equatorial Pacific
S221-052	CTD	10-Mar-13	0920	7°25.1' N	145°2.9' W	615	NECC
S221-052	NT	10-Mar-13	1012	7°24.5' N	145°2.5' W	n/a	Equatorial Pacific
S221-053	CTD	10-Mar-13	2022	8°19.0' N	145°33.8' W	598	NECC
S221-053	NT	10-Mar-13	2145	8°17.6' N	145°34.4' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-054	CTD	11-Mar-13	0910	9°14.2' N	146°18.3' W	586	North Pacific Gyre
S221-054	NT	11-Mar-13	1004	9°13.4' N	146°19.4' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-055	CTD	11-Mar-13	2108	9°46.1' N	146°49.1.1' W	595	North Pacific Gyre
S221-055	NT	11-Mar-13	2226	9°45.5' N	146°50.9' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-056	CTD	12-Mar-13	1001	10°32.7' N	147°21.1' W	603	North Pacific Gyre
S221-057	CTD/HC	12-Mar-13	2011	11°35.0' N	147°46.3' W	614	North Pacific Gyre
S221-057	NT	12-Mar-13	2112	11°35.0' N	147°46.5' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-058	CTD/HC	13-Mar-13	0909	12°50.3' N	148°27.9' W	600	North Pacific Gyre
S221-059	CTD	13-Mar-13	2028	13°47.8' N	149°16.9' W	600	North Pacific Gyre
S221-059	NT	13-Mar-13	2128	13°48.2' N	149°17.6' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-060	CTD	14-Mar-13	0915	15°2.3' N	150°15.9' W	600	North Pacific Gyre
S221-062	CTD	17-Mar-13	1042	19°59.9' N	154°47.3' W	3045	North Pacific Gyre
S221-063	NT	19-Mar-13	0021	20°27.6' N	156°57.3' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre
S221-066	2MN	16-Mar-13	2203	19°57.9' N	154°52.9' W	n/a	North Pacific Gyre

Table 5: Meter Net Data.

Station Locations are as in Table 1. All tows employed a 1-m diameter (0.785m^2), 200 μm mesh net.

Station	Depth	Tow Volume (m ³)	ZoopBio mass (ml)	Zpl Density (ml/m ³)	Gel. >2cm (ml)
S221-014	117	2182	122.0	0.05592	0.50000
S221-022	235	2195	94.0	0.04282	2.20000
S221-034	125	2277	246.0	0.10805	19.50000
S221-041	100	1948	571.0	0.29312	14.50000
S221-051	200	1561	152.0	0.09737	10.00000

Station	Depth (m)	Temp (deg C)	Salinity (psu)	Density (kg/m3)	PO4 (uM)	Nitrate (uM)	Nitrite (uM)	Chl a (ug/l)	Alk (umol/kg)	pH
S221-048	410.3	10.059	34.709	26.723	2.382	21.262	0.689			
S221-048	396.5	10.104	34.725	26.728	2.230	18.012	4.307			7.586
S221-048	198.6	11.866	34.831	26.488						7.665
S221-048	99.1	23.029	34.889	23.847	0.776	10.613	2.063	0.157		7.969
S221-048	75.6	25.533	35.019	23.198	0.537	6.531	1.271	0.222		8.077
S221-048	50.1	26.132	34.704	22.772				0.293		
S221-048	9.5	26.428	34.577	22.581	0.479	2.802	1.109	0.216		8.121
S221-048	0.0	26.800	34.560		0.354	3.557	0.526	0.186		8.144
S221-050	594.0	7.287	34.588	27.062	3.127	20.962	0.937		1926.5	7.537
S221-050	396.2	9.069	34.659	26.847					56579	
S221-050	297.8	9.682	34.682	26.763	2.460	14.899	6.914		1933.0	7.601
S221-050	247.9	10.080	34.694	26.704					49264	
S221-050	197.0	11.018	34.697	26.541						7.608
S221-050	148.1	14.722	34.847	25.919				0.054		7.578
S221-050	99.0	22.995	34.934	23.891	0.839	13.768	1.328	0.238		7.820
S221-050	74.2	25.782	34.932	23.055				0.364		7.991
S221-050	59.3	26.129	34.842	22.878				0.336		8.041
S221-050	39.3	26.166	34.753	22.798				0.283		8.063
S221-050	20.5	26.293	34.672	22.695	0.516	4.158	1.032	0.316		8.049
S221-050	0.0	26.700	34.650		0.511	7.362	0.775	0.433		8.088
S221-057	594.4	7.000	34.536	27.061						
S221-057	88.2	20.100	34.871	24.642				0.080		
S221-057	0.0	26.600	34.360					0.381		
S221-058	496.2	7.535	34.546	26.992						
S221-058	98.5	19.237	34.756	24.778						
S221-058	39.1	25.482	34.610	22.902						

Table 7. ARGO Float deployment.

Float	ID	Date	Time (GMT)	Latitude	Longitude
4065	5902215	5-Mar-09	0327	1°18.44'S	142°00.84'W
4062	5902213	6-Mar-09	0639	0°02.69'S	142°27.17'W
4061	5902212	6-Mar-09	1818	1°00.9'S	142°50.8'W

Figure 2. Plot of surface temperature.

Note temperatures changes at 9-10°S and 13-14°N delineating boundary of equatorial and gyre waters, at and at the equator, indicating upwelling.

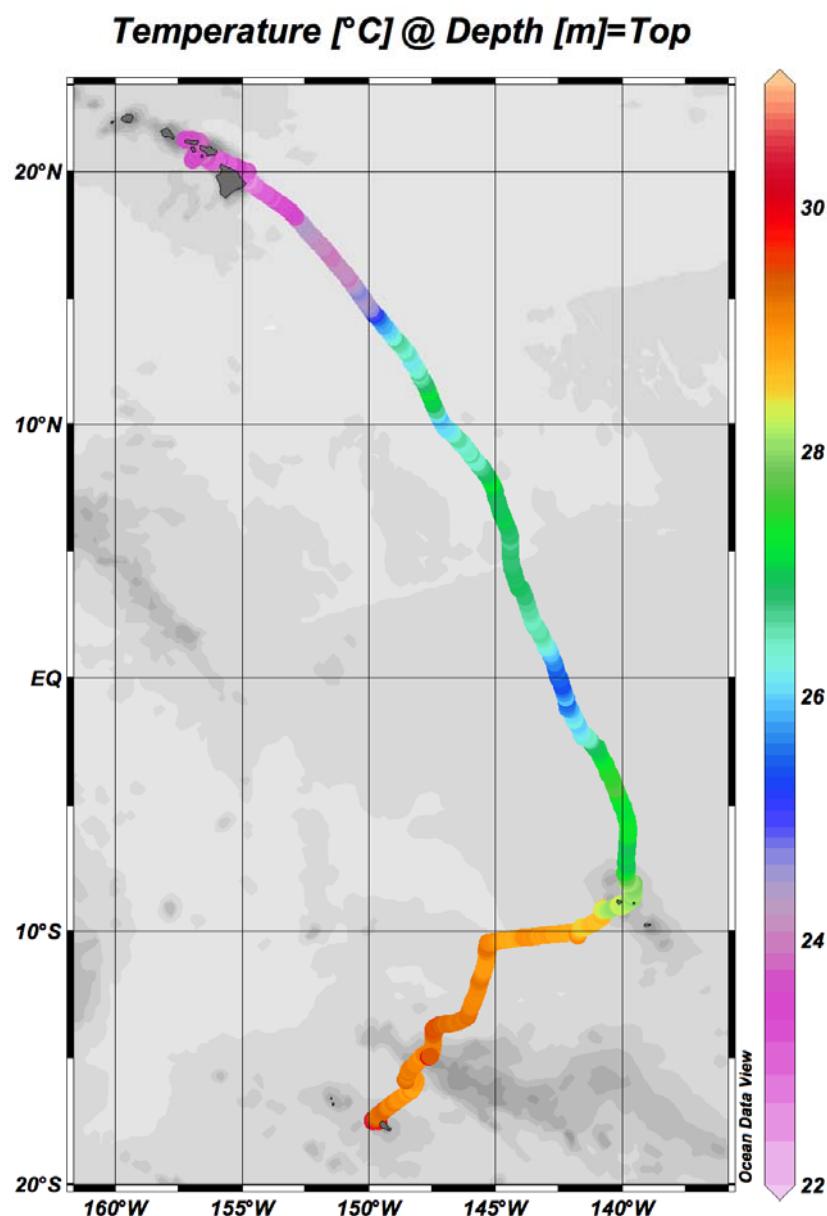


Figure 3. Plot of surface salinity.

Note salinity minimum at 2-5°N, corresponding with an unusually southern location of the ITCZ.

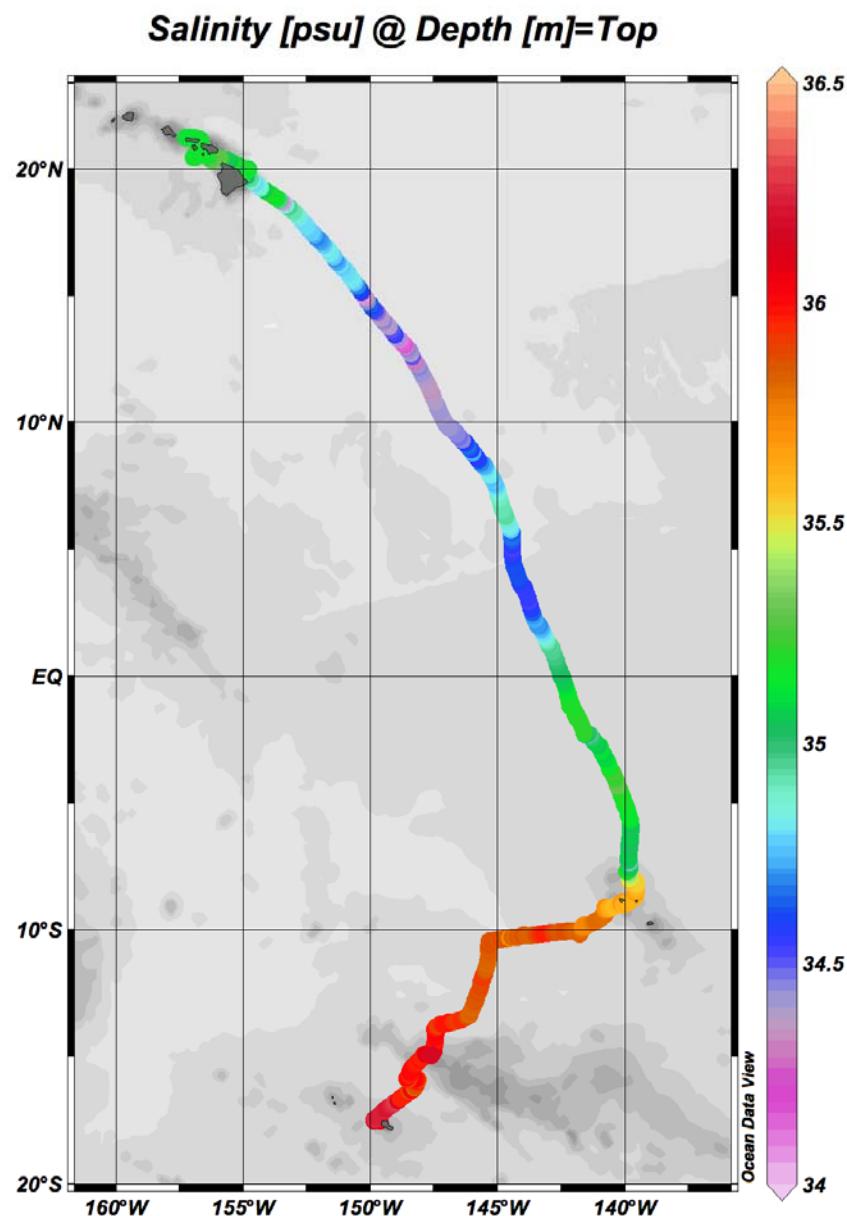


Figure 4. Plot of water column temperature and salinity.

Equatorial upwelling and the EUC are clearly visible. Acute barrier layers, salinity maxima at the base of the mixed layer, were observed at $\sim 10^{\circ}\text{N}$, and less well defined salinity maxima south of 5°S .

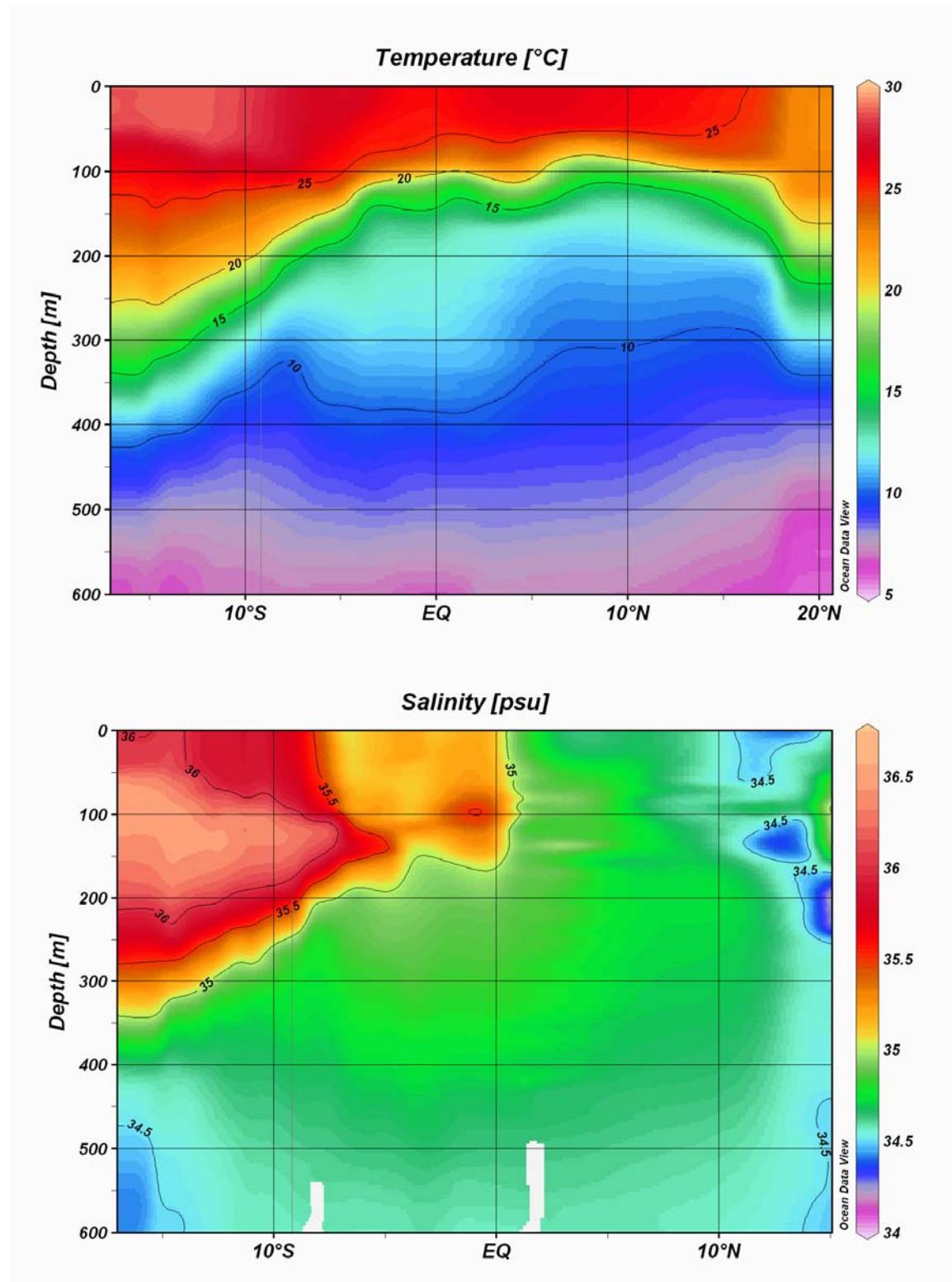


Figure 5. CTD station profile plots along cruise track.

Temperature, salinity, and density profiles articulate mix layer depth, thermocline/pycnocline strength (slope), and the presence of salinity maxima along S221 cruise track.

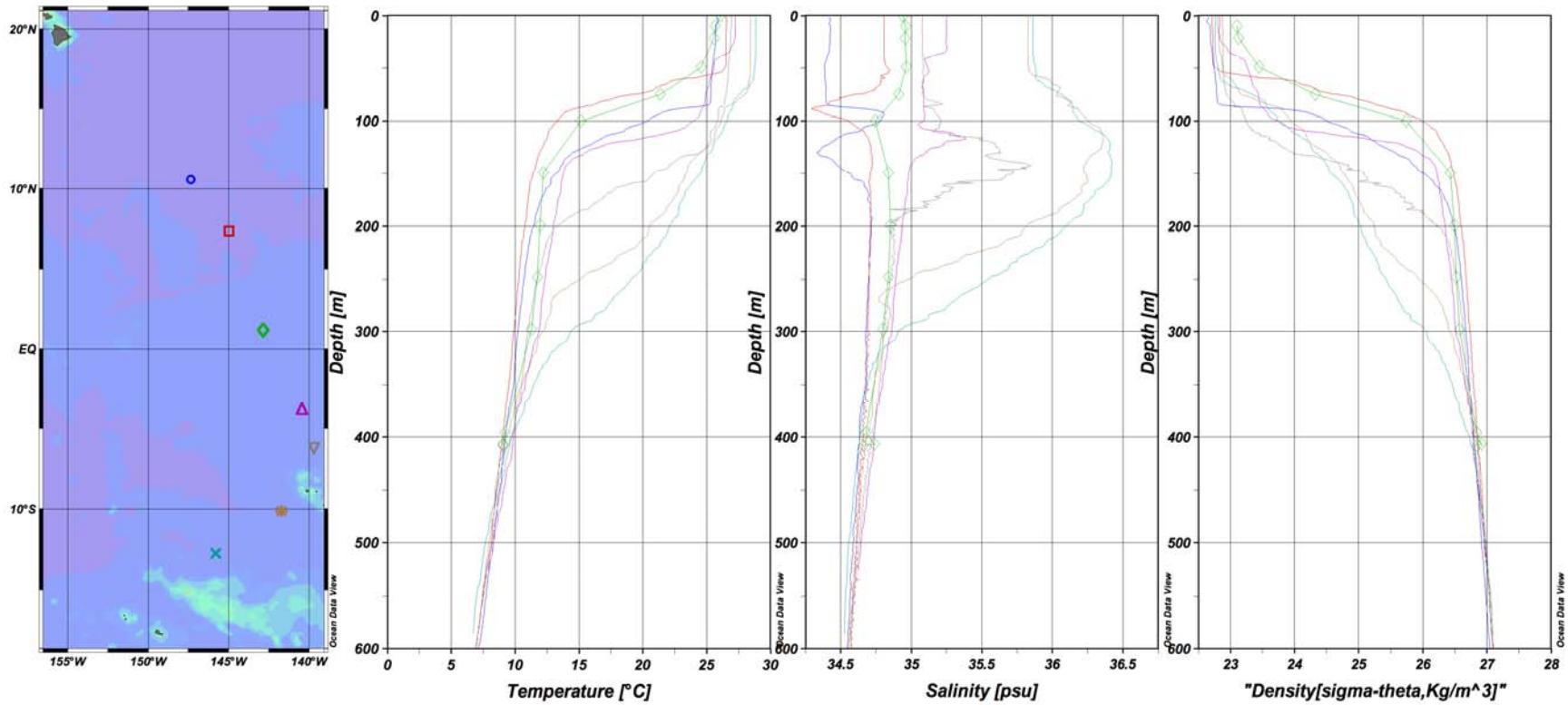


Figure 6. ADCP magnitude data.

The highest velocities of the EUC are centered at the equator, with slightly more transport south of the equator. The other regions of high magnitude currents are the predominant equatorial (SEC, NEC) currents, separated by the lower velocity counter currents.

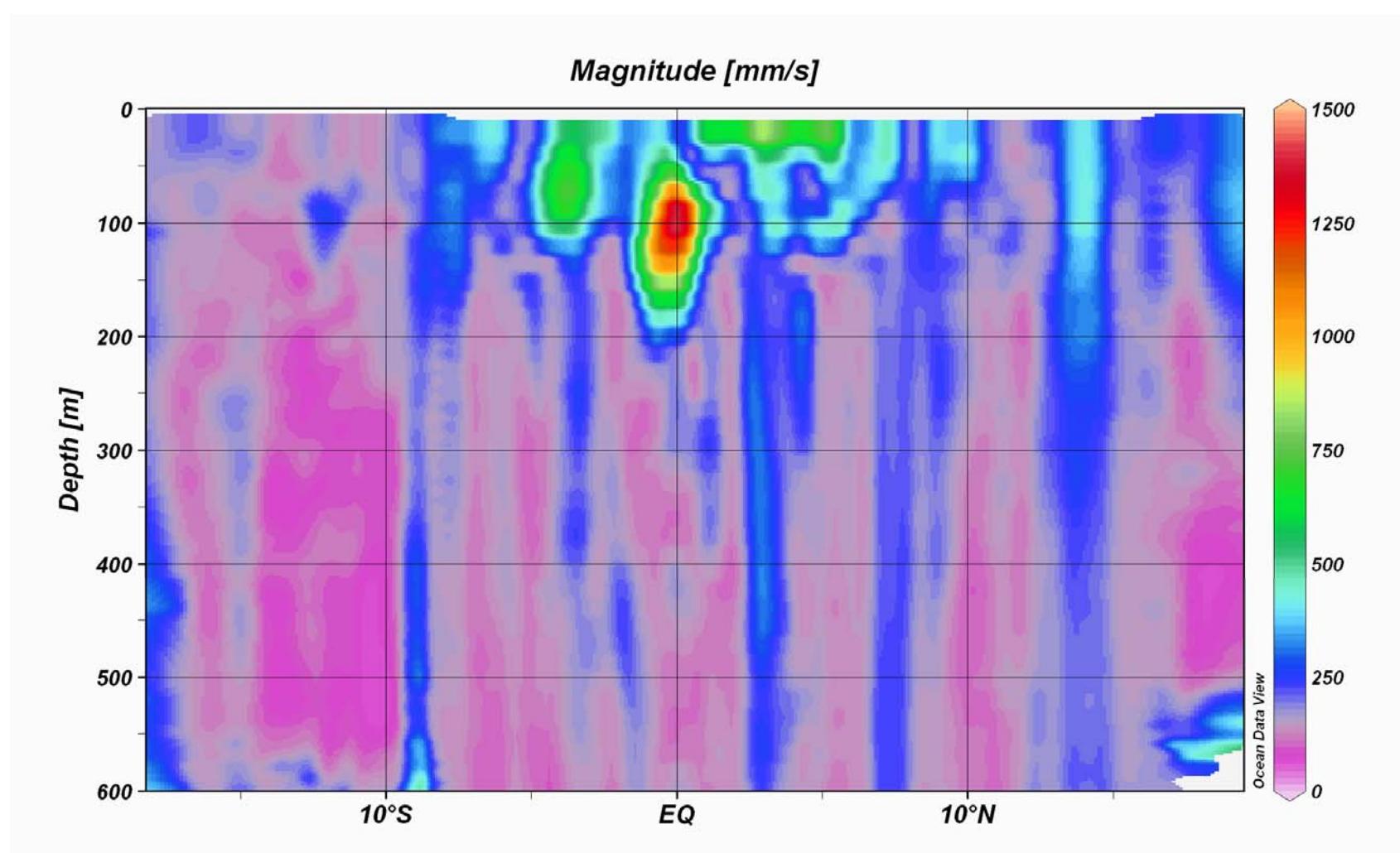
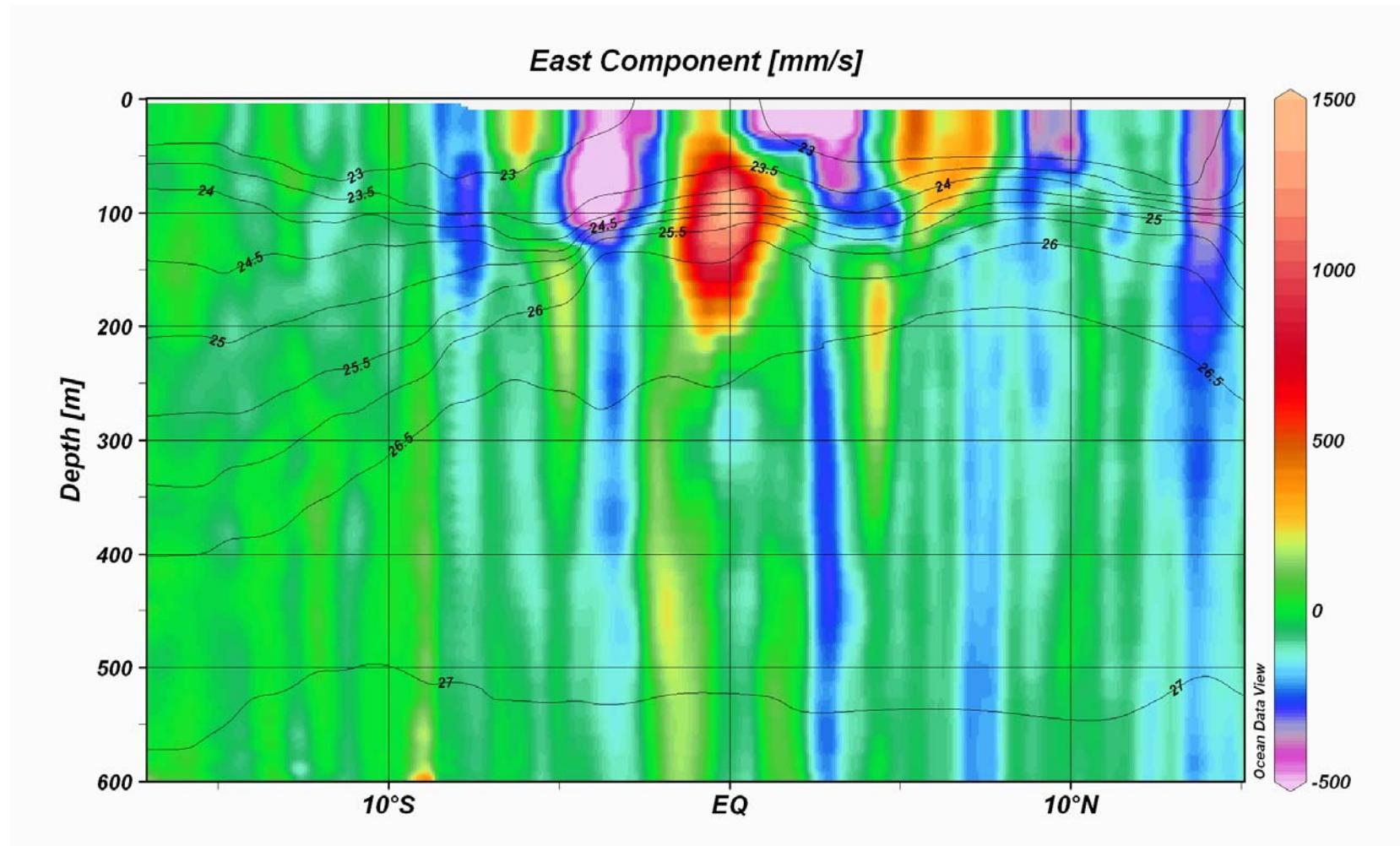


Figure 7. ADCP East component of the velocity, overlain by isopycnals.

Equatorial current structure is clearly visible, including Tsuchiya jets at $\sim 4^{\circ}\text{S}$ and 4°N . Note that isopycnals are compressed (stronger density gradient), at frontal boundaries.



Student Research Projects, S221

The Effect of Rising Sea Surface Temperatures on ENSO Cycles in the Equatorial Pacific

Sarah Brody

Thermal Energy Transfer and Salt Flux of the Equatorial Undercurrent

Cynthia Landgren and Erin Gilliam

Nutrient upwelling and primary production as a result of the island mass effect

Laura Dismore, Steph Floyd, and Emma Tobias

Microbial abundance within the south pacific subtropical gyre and the equatorial pacific

Tracy Sylvester, Erin O'Reilly, and Athena Aicher

Nutrient Concentration, Depth, and Productivity in the Central Equatorial Pacific

Amanda Chirlin, Ilona Matulaitis, and Brita Stepe

DIC Concentration in the Equatorial Pacific Waters and the Effect

on Marine Calcifying Organisms

Amy Beeston, Jackson Elliott, and Allie Ivanowicz

Establishing water masses and currents through the equatorial Pacific

Ryan Hirce & Sarah Kearsley

Surface Zooplankton Density and Diversity in the Equatorial Pacific During a

Developing La Niña Cycle

Sarah Buhlman, Douglas Garrison, and Heather Gladstone

Class photos.

