#### The Sea Ice System in Antarctic Summer



Sea ice geophysics in the Bellingshausen -Amundsen – Ross Sea Sectors Oden Southern Ocean Expedition Principal Investigators Stephen Ackley<sup>1</sup> Hongjie Xie<sup>1</sup>

Field Team Blake Weissling<sup>1</sup> Brent Stewart<sup>2</sup> Anne Marie Wotkyns<sup>3</sup> David Prado<sup>1</sup>

> <sup>1</sup>University of Texas at San Antonio <sup>2</sup>Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute <sup>3</sup>Polartrec – Arctic Research Consortium of the U.S.



- Sea ice extent in the Antarctic has increased by ~ 1%/decade in the satellite era (30 yrs)
- Contrasting trends have been observed
  - Bell/Amund sector with 5.7%/decade
  - Ross sector with + 4.2%/decade
- B-A-R seas least studied sea ice region to date

#### Science objectives:

- Collect spatio-temporal sea ice geophysical data (eg. sea ice/snow thickness and structure, ice concentration, floe sizes, sea ice topography)
- Validate/develop algorithms for remote sensing of Antarctic sea ice and for sea ice modeling using the surface measurements as ground truth

### Sea Ice Extent from Satellite Passive Microwave Radiometers



Weddell Sea = + 0.7% decade<sup>-1</sup> Ross Sea = + 4.2% decade<sup>-1</sup> Pacific Ocean = + 1.2% decade<sup>-1</sup> Indian Ocean = + 1.9% decade<sup>-1</sup> Bellingshausen/Amundsen Sea = - 5.7% decade<sup>-1</sup> (Comiso and Nishio, 2008)

#### Increasing Trend in Antarctica ~ 1% decade<sup>-1</sup>

Arctic and Antarctic Standardized Anomalies and Trends Jan 1979 - Jul 2009



#### But, mass-balance requires understanding of volumetric change

# Methodology

- Underway standardized sea ice observation
  - ASPeCt (Antarctic Sealce Processes and Climate protocols)
- Underway sea ice digital ortho-photography
  - EISCam (Evaluative Imagery Support Camera)
- In situ electromagnetic induction (EMI) sounding for sea ice thickness
- In situ ice mass balance buoys (IMB's) for long term temporal series (ice thickness, snow depth, meteorology, temp/thermal properties, GPS positioning, Iridium com link)
  - In situ Terrestrial Lidar Scanning (TLS) for sea ice/snow surface topography and morphology





OSO1011 Cruise Track and Science Station Map

### **ASPeCt Sea Ice Observations**

Day/Date (Z): 20/9/98

	POSI	SEA ICE OBSERVATIONS																								
hr	Lat (ºS)	Long (°E/W)	Conc	Conc P					RIMARY				SECONDARY						TERTIARY O/W							
(Z)	dd mm	ddd mm	(tenths)	C	ty	Z	f	t	s	SZ	C	ty	Z	f	t	S	SZ	С	ty	Z	f	t	s	SZ		(Z)
01	66°27'S	75°04'E	9	4	60	30	600	)			3	3 20	10	500	)			2	12	2	200					01
																										Τ

Thin first year ice recently broken up by ocean swell in advanced state of melt

First year ice broken up by ocean swell

Thicker first year ice with some deformation ridging New ice forming in lead

Small floes of thick highly deformed multiyear ice with snow cover

Extensive sheet of thick deformed multiyear ice with snow cover

#### EISCam sea ice digital ortho-photography

 Acquired oblique-view digital imagery is reprojected (orthorectified) to a nadir view

 Nadir true-scale images can be analyzed for sea ice spatial/physical parameters

#### Sample view from EISCam v1 NB Palmer 2007

Sample view from EISCam v2 Oden 2010

Bridge Win

09/08/2007 18:36:19:218

Vertical height above water line – 25.3 m Frame rate – 1 frame every 20 seconds Image dim: 704 x 480 Analog video

Vertical height above water line – 25.5 m Frame rate – 1 frame every 20/30 seconds Image dim: 4752 x 3168 Digital SLR

#### **Evaluation of the orthorectification**





#### **EMI Sounding for ice thickness**



Fabra Site - Line 1B



#### Distance along transect (m)

-8.00

#### **IMB** Installations

- 2 CRREL Ice Mass Balance buoys sited on 24 hr stations
  - **Radiometer and Seabird**
  - Snow depth sonic pinger, ice bottom pinger, under ice PAR radiometer, temperature, pressure (under ice), conductivity, GPS geolocation, Iridium com link
- 2 SAMS buoys (sited at 6 hr stations)
  Air/ice/sea water thermal conductivity and derived temperature, GPS geolocation, Iridium com link

# CRREL IMB installation

## Radiometer

# **CRREL IMB's**

# Seabird



OSO1011 Cruise and IMB Drift Track



# SAMS SIMBA Buoys



# **Corollary** activities



#### What is "LiDAR"?

- LiDAR = <u>Light Detection And</u> <u>Ranging</u>
- Satellite-based LiDAR
  - ICESat I (operational until April 2010)
  - ICESat II (launch 2016)
  - Airborne LiDAR
    - NASA's Ice Bridge polar flights
    - BAS IceBell project
- Terrestrial LiDAR
  - Oden's Amundsen survey
  - JC Ross's Weddell/Bell. survey



# Panorama LiDAR scan



















# Questions?

