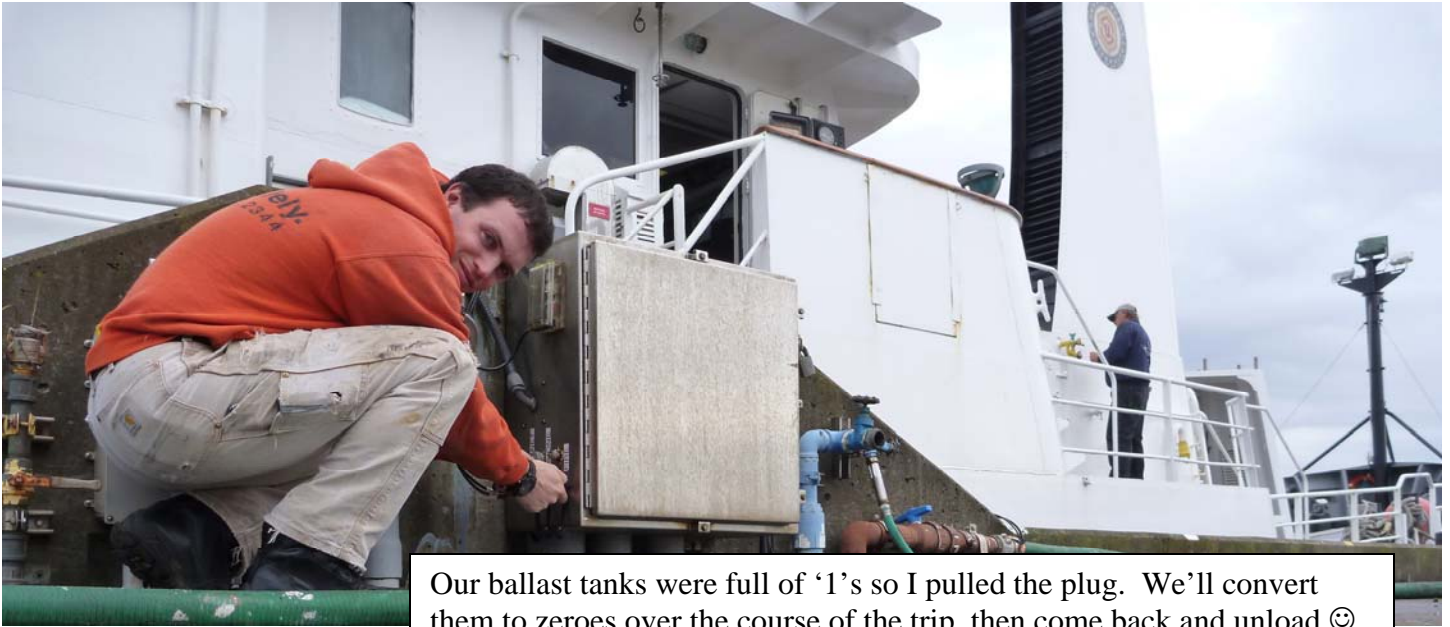


Dave's Blarg!

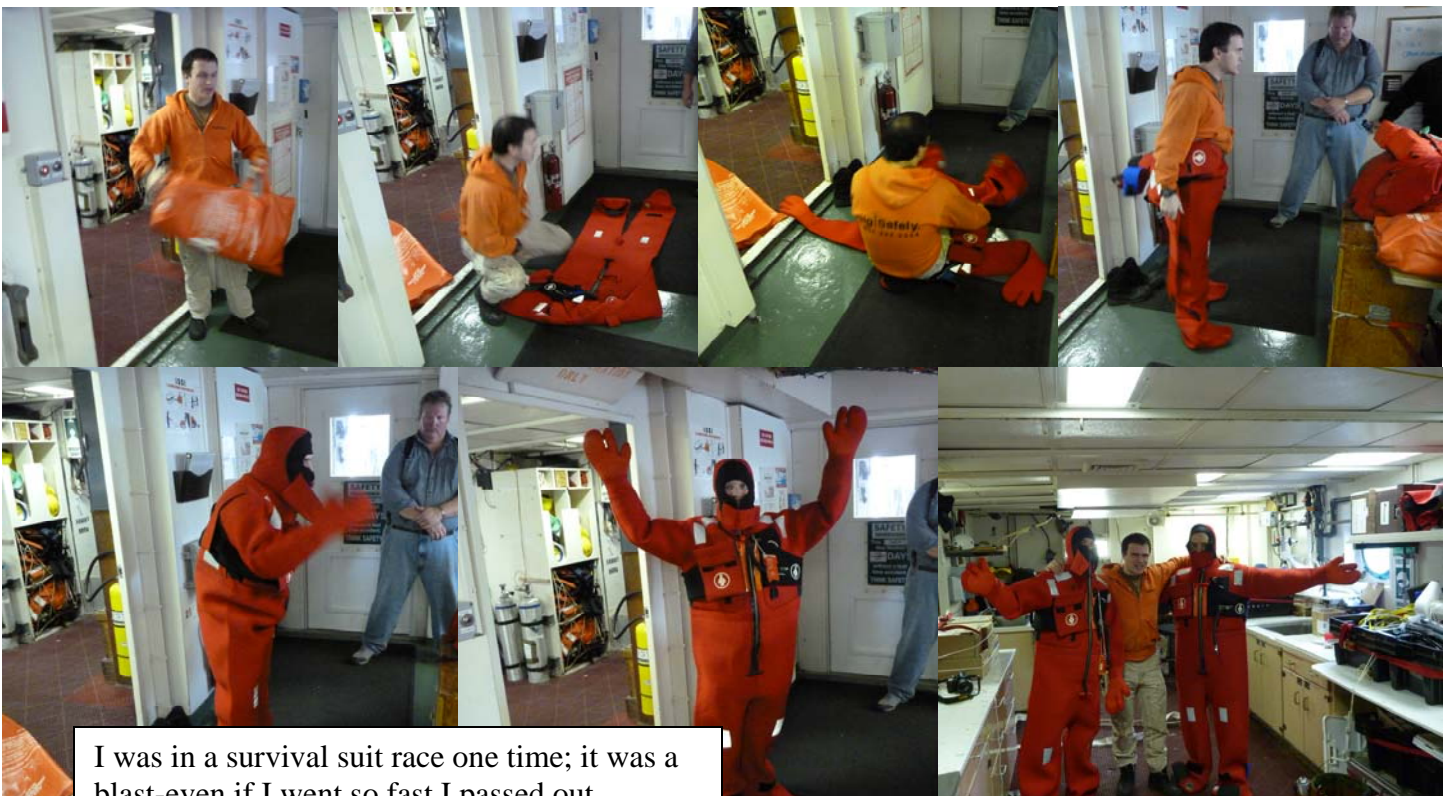
2011-Nov-15

Time to get outta here!! Today started off not-too early with disconnected the electron pipes for the ship (our electron tanks were all full ☺)



Our ballast tanks were full of '1's so I pulled the plug. We'll convert them to zeroes over the course of the trip, then come back and unload ☺

Then we went into the safety lecture. I demonstrated putting on a survival suit, and then the scientists got to do it. After that we had a fire drill, then the Captain came down and gave the full rundown to the science team.



I was in a survival suit race one time; it was a blast-even if I went so fast I passed out.....

We used to do the safety lecture right after we left the dock, and the seemed like fun system, but we switched to doing it at the dock a little while back, something about people having trouble paying attention while they were (ahem) tossing cookies about.



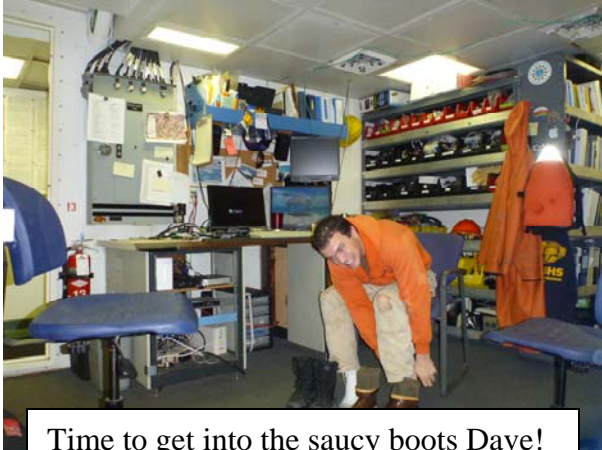
Jeff (the guy on the right) is our captain, he's pretty cool.

After that it was time to hit the road! We cast of our lines and headed out from the dock, under the bridge, and out into the ocean.



I like how oceanographic pictures always have lots of color in them. The wake of the ship looks *awesome* at night, but I've never been able to capture it just right. It looks pretty cool during the daytime too I suppose ☺

After that it was an eleven hour drive to our first deployment station, whence it was time to boot up and drop the gear. ☺ It's about 2.8kM deep here, and it takes the equipment more than an hour to reach the bottom after we drop it. After each deployment we have to drive in a diamond pattern to get an accurate final position for the OBS.



Time to get into the saucy boots Dave!



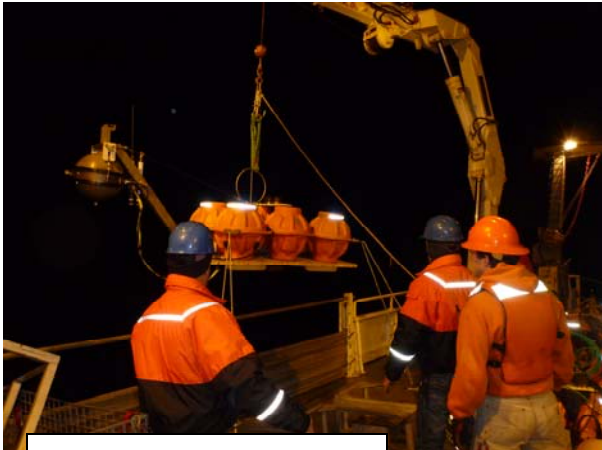
Hooking up the crane



All rigged for deployment



We all pause for a Job Safety Analysis



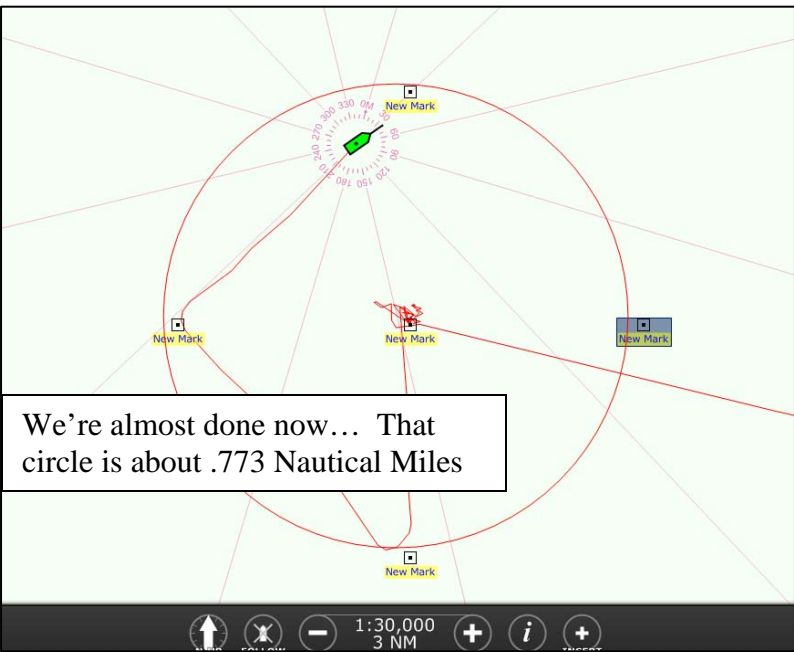
Then it's up and away!



And into the water



The OBS is floating away as we pull the release hook back.



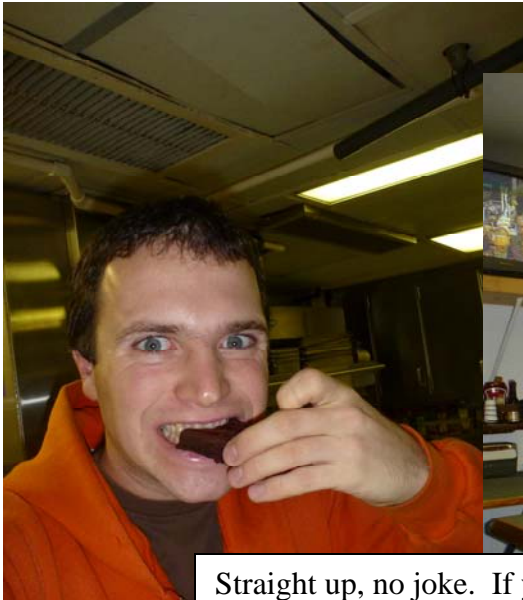
We're almost done now... That circle is about .773 Nautical Miles

Everything about the deployment went really smoothly. These are (by far) some of the most straightforward and smoothest science evolutions that we do on the Wecoma, which is great because the weather is supposed to get a lot worse out here.

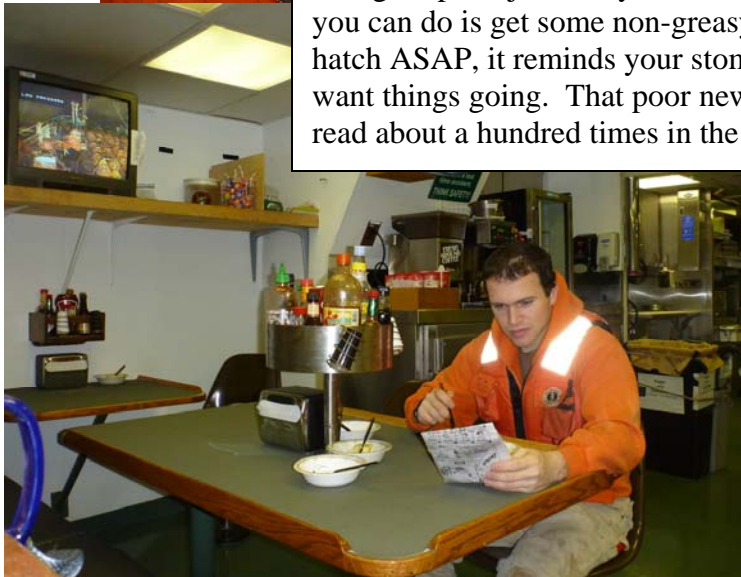
That green icon is the ships position as I write this. After we finish the survey we will head off to the next station to repeat the operation, and after that it should be close enough to day light for us to go and recover the glider.

As we drive in the diamond pattern we get acoustic ranges on the OBS. Because we can only get distance to the unit we have to take ranges at several locations on the surface to determine the actual position of the unit.

So that's what my day was like 😊 I'm going to end with a little montage entitled "The best way to deal with seasickness is to force everything to keep flowing in the right direction" and I'm going to take a nap until the next station. 😊



Straight up, no joke. If you're feeling queasy, the best thing you can do is get some non-greasy tasty food down the hatch ASAP, it reminds your stomach which direction you want things going. That poor newspaper is going to get read about a hundred times in the next two weeks...



I hope everyone out there is headed for a great day, and that wherever you are the floor isn't moving 😊

Dave

Dave.ogormanfamily.com
dave@ogormanfamily.com