

CURRENT PROFILER

Signature500



Mean currents and turbulence, plus wave height, direction and ice tracking

The Signature500 ADCP is designed for flexibility. It measures current profiles at up to 8 Hz sampling frequency. It can also measure direct vertical velocity profiles, wave height and direction, and ice thickness and drift. The center beam also functions as a biological echosounder, enabling high-resolution measurements of biomass in the water column. All these features can be combined using Nortek's patented concurrent mode technology.

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Highlights

- ✓ Five beams for mean currents and turbulence
- ✓ Wave height and direction
- ✓ Ice thickness and ice tracking

Applications

- ✓ Turbulence studies
- ✓ Tidal turbine operations
- ✓ Studies of tidal currents
- ✓ Sediment transport studies
- ✓ Ice drift and draft studies
- ✓ Vessel-mounted coastal surveying
- ✓ Plankton migration studies
- ✓ Biomass measurements
- ✓ Directional wave measurements
- ✓ Suitable for wave buoys

Technical specifications

→ Water velocity measurements

Maximum profiling range ¹	60 m (burst mode), 70 m (average mode)
Cell size	0.5-4 m
Minimum blanking	0.5 m
Maximum number of cells	256 (burst)/200 (average)
Velocity range (along beam)	User-selectable 2.5 or 5.0 m/s
Minimum accuracy	0.3% of measured value ± 0.3 cm/s
Velocity precision	Broadband processing, consult instrument software
Velocity resolution	0.1 cm/s
Max sampling rate	8 Hz (4 Hz using 5 beams)

→ HR option (on 5th beam only)

Velocity range	N/A
Cell size	N/A
Profiling range	N/A
Range velocity limitations	N/A

→ AD2CP measurement modes

Single	Burst or average
Concurrent	Burst and average
Alternate	Single and/or concurrent

→ Echo intensity (along slanted beams)

Sampling	Same as velocity
Resolution/ dynamic range	0.5 dB / 70 dB
Transducer acoustic frequency	500 kHz
Number of beams	5; 4 slanted at 25°, 1 vertical

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→ Echo intensity (along slanted beams)

Beam width	2.9°
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→ Echo sounder option

Resolution	6 mm - 0.5 m
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Number of bins	11,000
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Transmit pulse length	32 μ s - 1 ms
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Transmit pulse	Monochromatic or pulse compressed (25% BW)
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Resolution / dynamic range	0.01 dB / 70 dB
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→ Wave measurement option

AST frequency	500 kHz
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AST max distance	75 m
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Maximum wave measurement depth	60 m
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Height range	-15 to +15 m
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Accuracy/resolution (Hs)	< 1% of measured value / 2 cm
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Accuracy/resolution (Dir)	2° / 0.1°
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Period range	1-50 s
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Cut-off period (Hs)	5 m depth; 0.6 sec, 20 m depth; 1.1 sec, 60 m depth; 1.9 sec
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Cut-off period (dir)	5 m depth; 1.5 sec, 20 m depth; 3.1 sec, 60 m depth; 5.5 sec
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Sampling rate (velocity and AST)	4 Hz
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→ Ice measurement option

Parameters	Ice thickness, speed and direction, echo sounder data
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→ Sensors

Temperature:	Thermistor in head (sampled at meas. rate)
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Temp. range	-4 to +40 °C
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Temp. accuracy/resolution	0.1 °C/0.01 °C
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Temp. time response	2 min
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Compass:	Solid State magnetometer (max 1 Hz samplerate)
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Accuracy/resolution	2° for tilt < 30°/0.01°
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→ Sensors

Tilt:	Solid State accelerometer (max 1 Hz sample rate)
Accuracy/resolution	0.2° for tilt < 30°/0.01°
Maximum tilt	Full 3D
Up or Down	Automatic detect
Pressure:	Piezoresistive (sampled at meas. rate)
Standard range	0-100 m (inquire for options)
Accuracy/precision	0.1% FS / Better than 0.002% of full scale

→ AHRS option

Accelerometer dynamic range	± 2 g
Gyro dynamic range	± 250°/sec
Magnetometer dynamic range	± 1.3 Gauss
Pitch and roll range /resolution	± 90° (pitch) ± 180° (roll) /0.01°
Pitch and roll accuracy	± 2° (dynamic) ⁴ , ± 0.5° (static, ±30°)
Heading range / resolution	360°, all axis /0.01°
Heading accuracy	± 3° (dynamic) ⁴ , ± 2° (static, tilt < 20°)
Sampling rate	Same as measurement rate (up to 8 Hz)

→ Data recording

Capacity	16 GB, 64 GB or 128 GB (inquire for larger capacity)
Data record	Consult instrument software
Mode	Stop when full

→ Real-time clock

Accuracy	± 1 min/year
Clock retention in absence of external power	1 year. Rechargeable backup battery.

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→ Data communications

Ethernet

10/100 Mbits Auto MDI-X, TCP/IP, UDP/IP, HTTP protocols, Fixed IP / DHCP client /Auto IP address assignment, UPnP and Nortek proprietary instrument discovery over Ethernet

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→ Data communications

Serial	Configurable RS-232/RS-422 300-1250000 bps
Recorder download baud rate	20 Mbit/s (Ethernet only) - 1 GB in 6 minutes
Controller interface	ASCII command interface over Telnet and serial

→ Connectors

Depending on configuration	MCBH6F (Ethernet), MCBH8F (serial), MCBH2F-G2 (pwr), optional Souriau M-series metal connector for online use (10M)
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→ Software

Functions	Deployment planning, instrument configuration, data retrieval and conversion (for Windows®)
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→ Power

DC input	12-48 V DC
Maximum peak current	1.5 A
Max. average consumption at 1 Hz	8 W at 1 Hz, Ethernet adds 0.75 W
Typical average consumption	25 mW
Sleep consumption	100 μ A, power depending on supply voltage
Transmit power per beam	0.3-30 W, adjustable levels
Ping sequence	Parallel

→ Batteries

Internal	180 Wh alkaline, 540 or 1800 Wh with long canister
Duration	Depending on configuration, consult software

→ Environmental

Operating temperature	-4 to +40 °C
Storage temperature	-20 to +60 °C
Shock and vibration	IEC 60068-1/IEC60068-2-64
EMC approval	IEC 61000
Depth rating	300 m

→ Materials

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Standard model

POM with titanium fasteners

→ Dimensions

Maximum diameter 228 mm

Maximum length with room for internal batteries 274 mm (180 Wh), 464 mm (540 Wh or 1800 Wh Li)

Maximum length without room for internal batteries 184 mm

→ Weight

In air, no battery 6.4 kg (5.2 kg short)

In water, no battery -0.35 kg (0.6 kg short)

Battery 1.8 kg