

Updates from Echopype developers: changes and roadmap

Wu-Jung Lee¹, Emilio Mayorga¹
Brandon Reyes¹, Landung “Don” Setiawan², Imran Majeed³,
Valentina Staneva⁴, Kavin Nguyen³

¹Applied Physics Lab, ²School of Oceanography,
³Dept of Electrical Engineering, ⁴eScience Institute, UW

Acknowledgements

- Echotype developers
- Rick Towler (EK parser), Dave Billenness (AZFP parser - Matlab)
- Gavin Macaulay (convention, parsing and computing details)
- Dezhang Chu, Julia Clemons (processing features)
- Rudy Klucik, Chuck Anderson, Carrie Wall (testing, workflow)
- All contributors to issues, pull requests, and discussions on GitHub
- Funding agencies



Wu-Jung Lee



Emilio Mayorga



Brandon Reyes



Imran Majeed



Don Setiawan



Valentina Staneva



OCEAN
EXPLORATION



NOAA
FISHERIES

Echopype: what / why / where / how

- What: an open-source Python software library for processing water column sonar data
- Why: to enhance data interoperability and processing scalability
- Where: <https://github.com/OSOceanAcoustics/echopype>
- How:

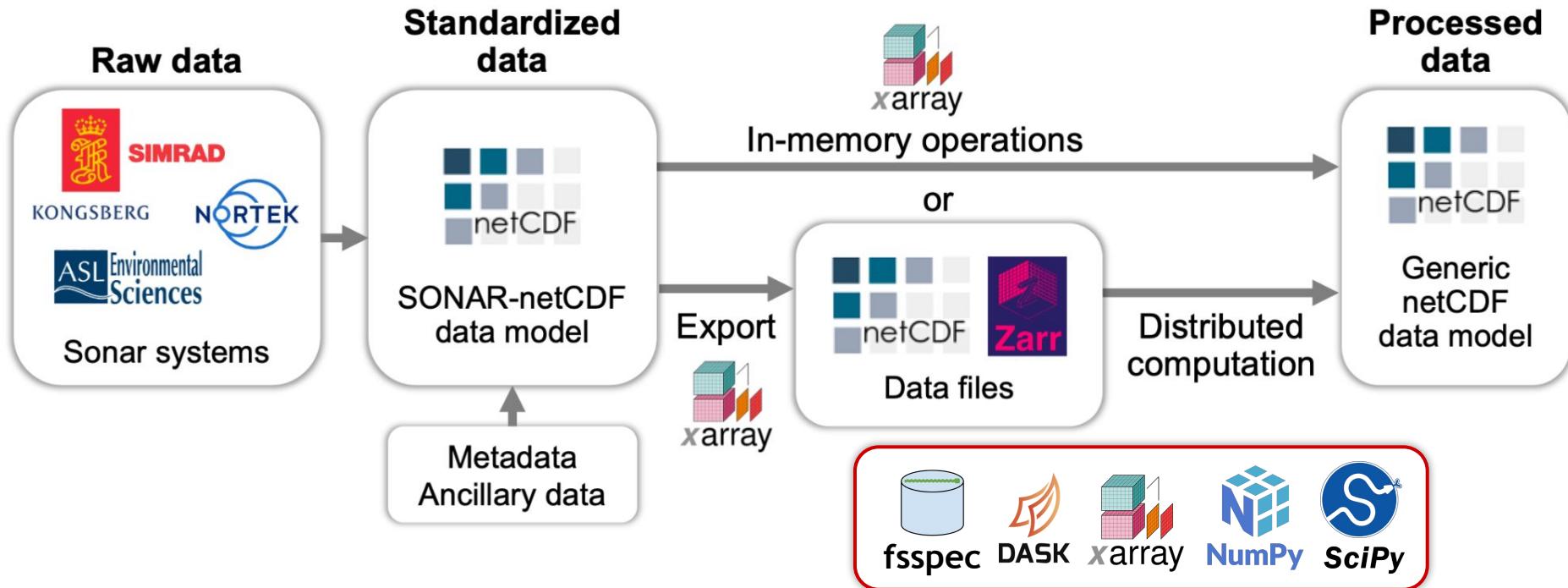
The screenshot shows a documentation page for the echopype library. At the top left is the echopype logo, which consists of a blue stylized 'U' shape with yellow sound waves above it, and the word 'echopype' in blue lowercase letters below. To the right of the logo is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search this book...'. On the far right, there are navigation icons for back, forward, and download, along with a 'Contents' menu.

The main content area has a header 'Contributing to echopype' with a subtitle 'We welcome your contributions, large or small!'. Below this is a section titled 'Contributing with Git and GitHub' with a note: 'Please submit questions or report problems via GitHub issues. If you’re new to GitHub, see these tips for submitting issues: "[Creating issues on GitHub](#)".' At the bottom of this section, it says 'For echopype development we use the **gitflow workflow** with forking. All development changes'.

The right sidebar contains a 'Contents' menu with several items: 'Contributing with Git and GitHub', 'Installation for echopype development', 'Tests and test infrastructure', and 'Documentation development'.

At the bottom left, there is a 'GETTING STARTED' section with links to 'Why echopype?' and 'Installation and Examples'.

The Echopype workflow



- Leverage the open-source scientific Python ecosystem!

Updates: programmatic and documentation enhancements

- Major API overhaul at v0.5.0 (May 2021)
 - Cleaner subpackage structure
 - Direct read/write interface with cloud storage
 - Intuitive function calls: `open_raw`, `compute_Sv`, `to_zarr`, etc.
 - New `EchoData` object encapsulating standardized raw data & metadata

Updates: programmatic and documentation enhancements

- Major API overhaul at v0.5.0 (May 2021)
 - Cleaner subpackage structure
 - Direct read/write interface with cloud storage
 - Intuitive function calls: `open_raw`, `compute_Sv`, `to_zarr`, etc.
 - New `EchoData` object encapsulating standardized raw data & metadata
- Other highlights
 - New support for: Simrad ES70/ES80/EA640, Nortek Signature ADCP (existing: EK60/EK80, AZFP)
 - Integrate external ancillary (position, CTD) data
 - Robust continuous integration development infrastructure

Updates: programmatic and documentation enhancements

- Major API overhaul at v0.5.0 (May 2021)
 - Cleaner subpackage structure
 - Direct read/write interface with cloud storage
 - Intuitive function calls: `open_raw`, `compute_Sv`, `to_zarr`, etc.
 - New `EchoData` object encapsulating standardized raw data & metadata
- Other highlights
 - New support for: Simrad ES70/ES80/EA640, Nortek Signature ADCP (existing: EK60/EK80, AZFP)
 - Integrate external ancillary (position, CTD) data
 - Robust continuous integration development infrastructure
- Documentation updates
 - Overhauled <https://echopype.readthedocs.io>
 - New companion site <https://osoceanacoustics.github.io/echopype-examples/>
 - arXiv preprint (Oct 2021) <https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.00187>

Updates: data structure enhancements

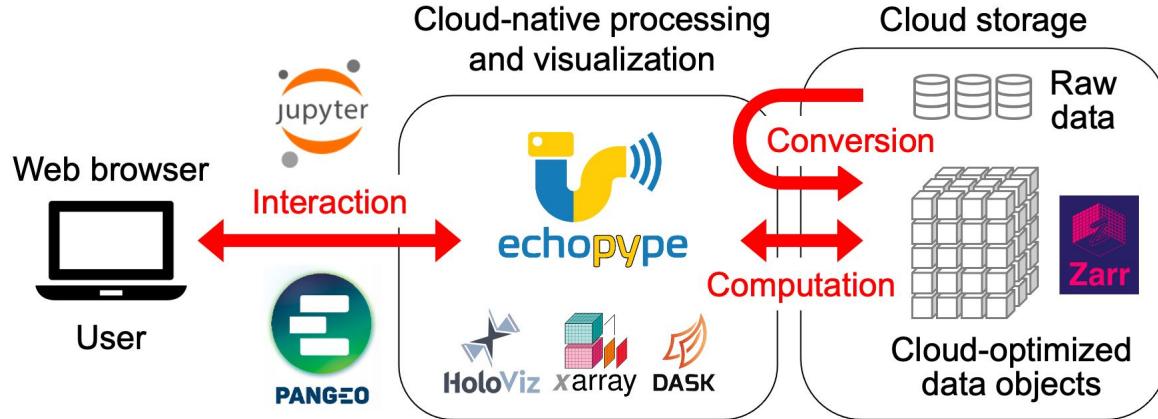
- Upcoming major release v0.6.0 (next week: May 2022)
 - Breaking changes. We are working to ensure backward compatibility
- Improve adherence to SONAR-netCDF4 ver.1
 - Thanks to Gavin Macaulay for discussions
 - SONAR-netCDF4 ver.1 is focused primarily on raw data
 - Overhaul coordinates and variable names and attributes: corrections and adding missing items
 - Restructure Beam netCDF4 groups, eg: /Beam → /Sonar/Beam_group1

Updates: data structure enhancements

- Upcoming major release v0.6.0 (next week: May 2022)
 - Breaking changes. We are working to ensure backward compatibility
- Improve adherence to SONAR-netCDF4 ver.1
 - Thanks to Gavin Macaulay for discussions
 - SONAR-netCDF4 ver.1 is focused primarily on raw data
 - Overhaul coordinates and variable names and attributes: corrections and adding missing items
 - Restructure Beam netCDF4 groups, eg: /Beam → /Sonar/Beam_group1
- Build provenance and standardization framework for processed data
 - Currently: Sv, MVBS, TS, etc
 - References: IMOS BA SOOP, ICES AcMeta (SISPs)

Development roadmap

- Overall goal:



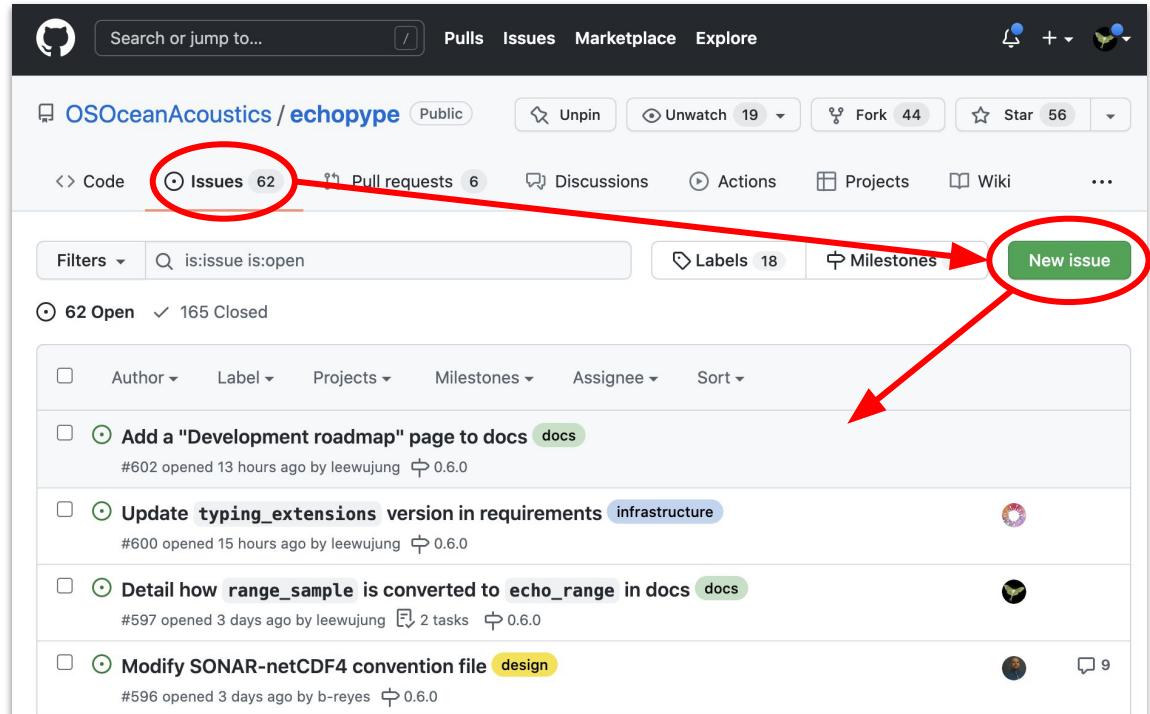
- Upcoming developments after v0.6.0
 - More processing functionalities: QA/QC, interfacing with Echoview files, more broadband processing
 - Pipeline testing with small datasets
 - Distributed computation for large datasets

Companion developments: early stage

- Data processing levels (raw → highly processed)
 - Well defined data processing or product levels fosters broad, productive use of data
 - Leverage experience from satellite remote sensing community and large-scale, long-term ocean and ecological observation programs
- Echoshader
 - Visualization “widgets” for user-configurable dashboards
 - Collaboration with US IOOS in Google Summer of Code (GSoC) 2022
- Echopydantic
 - Package to facilitate and validate SONAR-netCDF4 compliance

We need YOUR help!

- <https://github.com/OSOceanAcoustics/echotype>
- Questions
- Comments
- Bug reports
- Feature requests
- Code (“pull requests”)



Thanks!