



Underwater Electric Field Measurement

Individual Sensing Elements

Ultra Electronics Electric Field Sensors are used to measure electric fields in seawater with high precision. The technology utilises specially designed Silver / Silver chloride sensor elements and extremely low noise pre-amplifiers to achieve detection in the nV/m range. The very high performance is achieved due to the exceptionally low noise of the electrodes and pre-amplifiers.

The three pairs of electrodes are shown overleaf, together with matching pre-amplifiers and filters. This configuration is typical of a simple sensor arrangement suitable for OEM integration. Alternatively Ultra are able to offer complete stand alone electric field sensor solutions and multi-influence sensor solutions that can measure magnetic, electric, acoustic and pressure influences.



- Geophysical measurements and prospecting
- Oceanographic studies
- Long range detection and surveillance
- Ship signature ranging and management
- Corrosion protection

Sensor Specifications Overall System Performance

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Sensor type | Ag/AgCl |
| Package | cylindrical. |
| Package | Material Poly acetal |
| Overall length excluding penetrator (cover fitted) | 165mm |
| Cable length | 1.3m (other lengths upon request) |
| Diameter with cover fitted | 70mm |
| Maximum working depth | 4000m |
| Total Mass with cover fitted | 700g |
| Electrical interface connector | Impulse VMF-1-fS |
| Operating temperature range | 0°C to + 50°C |
| Storage temperature range | 0°C to +70°C |

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Measurement channels | 3 |
| Power Supply | Vs = ±8V ±1V DC |
| Power Consumption | < 5W |
| Power up time | < 10 minutes |
| Dynamic input range (within pass band) | ± 2.5mV |
| Bandwidth | DC to 3kHz (-3dB) |
| Roll off rate | 6dB/octave (20dB/decade) |
| In band ripple | < ± 3dB |
| Output voltage swing | ±5V min |
| Scale factor tolerance | ±1.0% |
| Output type | Analogue Voltage |
| Equivalent input Noise at 1Hz | < 0.52 nV ^{-1/2} |

Examples of resolution for differing baselines

$$1\text{m I/P noise} = 0.5\text{nV}^{-1} = 0.5\text{nV}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$$

$$5\text{m I/P noise} = 0.5\text{nV}^{-1} = 0.1\text{nV}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$$

$$10\text{m I/P noise} = 0.5\text{nV}^{-1} = 0.05\text{nV}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$$

Amplifier Specifications

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Supply voltage | ±8V |
| Supply current | 75mA |
| Gain | 2000 |
| Gain tolerance | ±1% |
| Output voltage swing | ± 5V min |
| Input dynamic range | ±2.5mV |
| Bandwidth DC | to 3kHz (-3db) |
| Output type | Analogue Voltage |
| Input noise | 0.44nV Hz ^{-1/2} at 1HZ |



Ultra Electronics Limited
 PMES
 Towers Business Park
 Wheelhouse Road
 Rugeley
 Staffordshire WS15 1UZ
 England
 Tel: +44 (0) 1889 503300
 Fax: +44 (0) 1889 572929
 e-mail: enquiries@ultra-pmes.com
 www.ultra-pmes.com

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