

Enhancements to the Echogram Window in SBMAX

By Dave Maddock

The Echogram window in SBMAX provides the means to visualize and digitize echogram data from sonars such as the Odom CV3 and Echotrac MKIII. One issue with previous versions of SBMAX has been that the Echogram window did not cope well with data collected with the digitizer in “auto phasing” or “automatic scale change” mode.

This mode automatically adjusts the scale of the chart to ensure that bottom returns always remain visible. Previous versions of SBMAX would apply the scale at the start of the dataset to the entire line, which would require the surveyor to keep the chart scale set to the depth extents of the survey area. Data collected in “auto mode” would be displayed incorrectly in the SBMAX Echogram.

SBMax now considers any scale changes when drawing so using “auto mode” is possible.

Zoom and pan features are smarter now too. If you attempt to pan left or right into an area of the chart that the auto tracking window excluded (e.g. the upper right corner of Illustration 2), the zoom window will be shifted up or down to follow the tracking window.

Finally, there have been several speed enhancements that significantly reduce the time needed to draw the echogram, which makes the user interface more responsive.

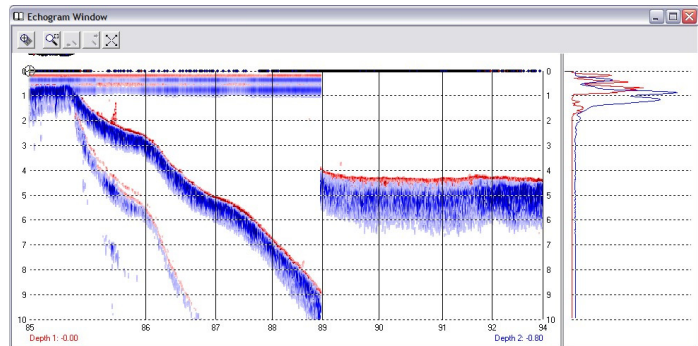


Illustration 2: Incorrectly scaled echogram

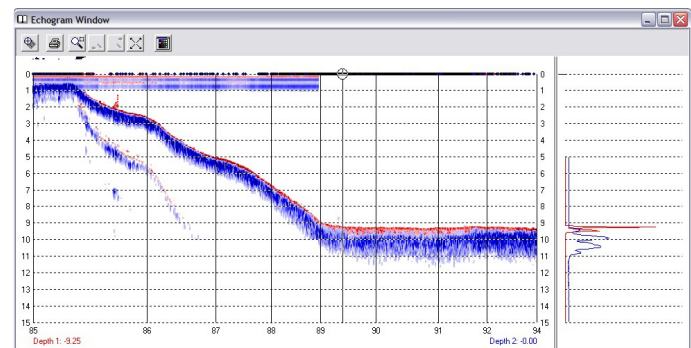


Illustration 1: Correctly scaled echogram