

# Operation Manual iSAMI-pH



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## Cleaning your iSAMI for return to Sunburst Sensors



Please help us speed up your service by properly cleaning your iSAMI before return. iSAMIs that are returned with excessive biofouling may be subject to additional cleaning and processing charges.

1. Gently remove biological material from the surface of the iSAMI. Do not use abrasive pads or metal scrapers as these may damage the housing.
2. After completing the above steps, please allow 24 to 48 hours in a dry area before packing up the instrument. **Never wrap a wet iSAMI in plastic and return to Sunburst.**

To make cleaning easier, 10 mil PVC corrosion protection tape can be applied to the iSAMI pre-deployment and then removed along with fouling at the end of deployment. This is available from many suppliers such as McMaster Carr:  
<http://www.mcmaster.com/#7621A11>

## **Warnings and Safety**

To prevent damage to the Submersible Autonomous Moored Instrument (iSAMI), please carefully read the operating instructions before attempting to use your instrument. The cable provided is for bench-top programming and download of the iSAMI data, and can be used for shallow laboratory submersion. IT IS NOT MEANT TO BE DEPLOYED!

### **Handling**

The iSAMI is reagent-based with the reagent stored in sealed foil bags underneath the instrument. It is possible, though very unlikely, that these bags may leak or rupture. In case of exposure to the reagent, please refer to the material safety data sheets in section 9 of this manual.

### **iSAMI Power**

The iSAMI can be powered externally (10–13 VDC). Observe common safety protocols when using any external power supplies, especially in a wet environment. While the instrument is diode protected for reverse voltage, large voltages will damage the instrument. Connect with care!

# 1 Introduction to the iSAMI-pH

## 1.1 What's in the box...

The rugged instrument case for your iSAMI should contain the following upon arrival:

1. iSAMI-pH Instrument.
2. iSAMI Quick-Start Guide.
3. Communication/Power Cable.
4. iSAMI Software Disc or USB Drive.
5. De-Clogging kit (for air-locked pump).
6. Pre-Deployment Checklist.
7. Battery pack (if ordered).
8. Power cable adapter kit.

If any of these materials is damaged or missing, please contact Sunburst Sensors immediately.

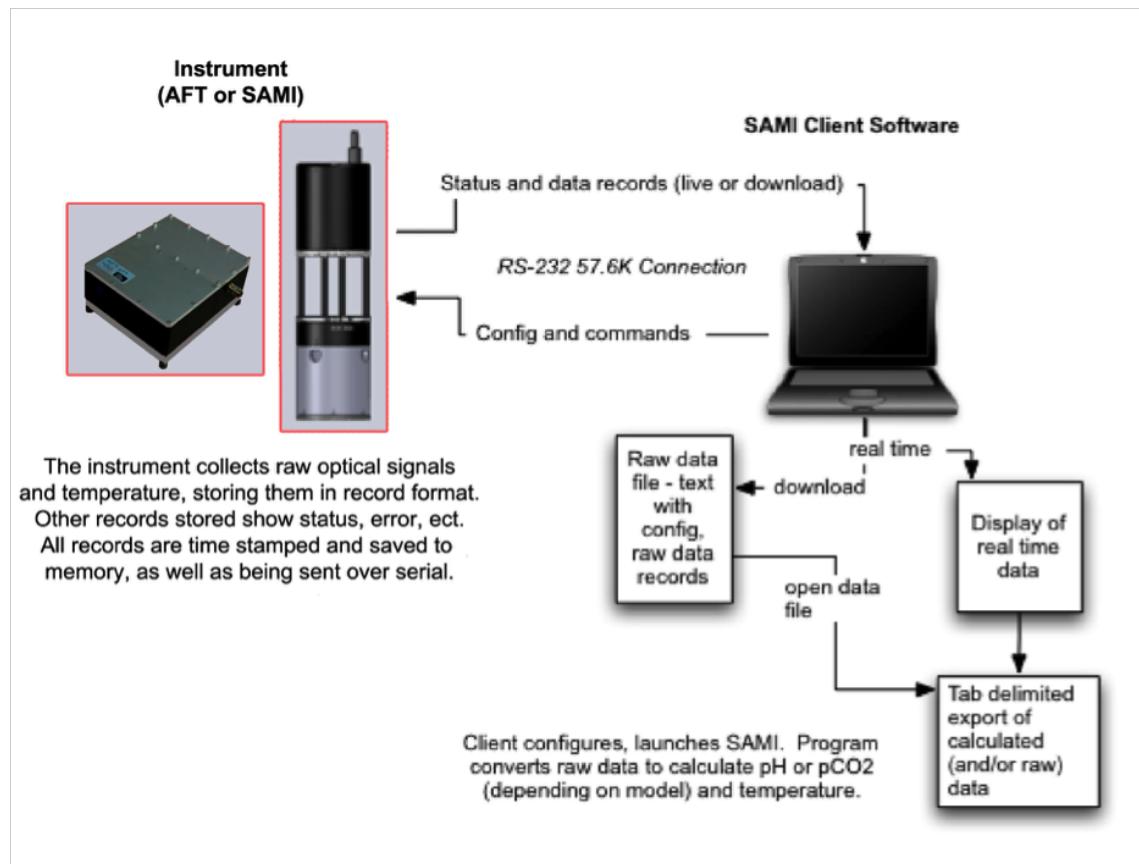


Figure 1: Operation overview.

## 1.2 Overview of Communication

Figure 1 gives an overview of how the iSAMI-pH operates and interacts with the iSAMI-Client software. The iSAMI uses a time-stamped, records based system to store and transmit data. There are two main types of records; Data and Status. Data records consist of raw measurement data, while status records contain information about the state of the instrument (start, stop, battery low, error, etc.)

Once running, all records are stored to internal memory for later download. Additionally they are transmitted over the serial port, though for energy efficiency the port only wakes up long enough to send the data.

Data records transmitted to the client can be displayed in real time via the **Real Time Data** button (enabled once data is detected). The user selects a column set to choose which quantities to view. Data can be shown in columnar (spread-sheet) display or as a graph.

The SAMI Client software sends configuration data (start time, sampling interval, etc.) and commands to the iSAMI (start, stop, erase, etc.) It also allows the download of data from the instrument. Data is downloaded into a text file that contains the configuration data and raw signal intensities as well as any status records. The user can then open and parse that file or data can be exported to tab-delimited files for use in other graphing or analytical software from the data viewer (Section 4).

## 1.3 iSAMI-pH Hardware

The iSAMI consists of the water-sealed electronics housing and the reagent housing. These are described below.

**Electronics Housing:** The electronics housing contains the controller board, back-up batteries, optics, and integrated pump, valve, mixer and optical cell. **The iSAMI pump is not pressure-compensated.** The iSAMI can therefore only be used from the surface to 3 m depth. The communication-power bulkhead fitting is located on the top of the housing. The tubing protruding from the top of the iSAMI is the sample outlet.

**Reagent Housing:** The reagent housing, found on the bottom of the instrument, holds and protects the reagent bag but is open to the environment to maintain pressure equilibrium. A bag containing nanopure water or “blank” will be attached to the inlet tubing protruding from the reagent housing. This tubing is the sample inlet, and the bag must therefore be removed before deploying the iSAMI. Be careful to not introduce air bubbles when removing the bag.

**Cable:** See Section 4.3.



Figure 2: iSAMI-pH.

## 2 iSAMI Deployment Considerations

The iSAMI-pH is recommended for use in waters with salinity and pH ranges of 25–40 and 7–9, respectively, at temperatures ranging from 0 to 35 °C, and depth to 3 m.

### 2.1 pH Range

The measurable pH range of the iSAMI-pH is dictated by the  $pK_a$  of the indicator, *meta*-cresol purple (*mCP*), and is 7–9 in the standard configuration. Below and above this range, absorbances become unreliable, and accuracy degrades. Different pH indicators in combination with different optics can be used to target a different pH, but the targeted range will not exceed 2 pH units. Targeting a pH range other than 7–9 requires using an indicator that is not as well characterized as *mCP*, and could result in less accurate pH measurement. Table 1 summarizes available indicators and their pH ranges at salinity of 35.

Indicator	pH Range*
thymol blue	7.5–9.5
<i>meta</i> -cresol purple	7.1–9.1
phenol red	6.5–8.5
bromo-cresol purple	4.9–6.9

Table 1: pH Measurement Range  
\*at salinity 35 and 15°C

### 2.2 Salinity Range

The  $pK_a$  of the indicator is dependent on temperature and salinity, and thus both need to be measured for accurate pH measurement. If salinity is known to  $\pm 1$  PSU, using the average, constant salinity to calculate the measured pH is adequate. If salinity varies at the deployment site, salinity should be measured with an external instrument. If a CTD logs salinity independently, QC\_PH can be used to calculate pH with the measured salinity.

iSAMI-pH instruments will be accurate to  $\pm 0.006$  pH through the salinity range of 25–40. This instrument has not been tested at lower salinity.

### 2.3 Measurement Frequency

By collecting a higher quantity of data points you will more quickly use reagent, battery life, and memory, which will shorten the longevity of your collection time. We encourage you to weigh your options to maximize the effectiveness of your deployment while considering the questions you are trying to answer through your research. Use tables 2 and 3 to help you decide upon the appropriate parameters for your deployment.

### 2.4 Cold Water Deployment

The iSAMI-pH indicator contains NaCl equal to salinity 35, which will prevent the indicator from freezing in seawater. However, water or indicator inside the narrow gauge tubing will freeze quickly

Measurement interval (min)	Measurement frequency ( $d^{-1}$ )	iSAMI total reagent life (d), 200 mL
15	96	83
30	48	167
60	24	333
120	12	667

Table 2: Reagent Life

Measurement interval (min)	Measurement frequency ( $d^{-1}$ )	iSAMI total battery life* (d), 0 °C
15	96	87
30	48	174
60	24	349
120	12	697

Table 3: Battery Life

if the iSAMI is kept at below-freezing temperatures for very long. This will result in loss of data until ice within the tubing melts. If you are planning to deploy your iSAMI-pH in below-freezing weather, we recommend that you take the following precautions to avoid data loss:

1. Remove the copper bell attached to the sample inlet tube (this tube comes out of the side of the iSAMI). Ice can form around the copper bell if it has water in it.
2. Please let the sales or technical staff at Sunburst know about the cold weather deployment, and request a blank bag with 10 % ethylene glycol. Ethylene glycol will decrease the freezing temperature of the water in the bag.
3. Minimize the amount of time that your iSAMI-pH is exposed to cold weather before deploying.

Additionally, the internal pump appears to be less efficient at cold temperatures. In order for your SAMI to provide the best data, we recommend that the instrument be set to a higher number of flush pumps. Please contact Sunburst for instructions. Note that this will decrease battery life.

## 2.5 Deployment in High TDS or Highly Productive Areas

The iSAMI-pH pumps about 1 mL of seawater through the system for every pH measurement. The hardware can become clogged or malfunctional and optical throughput can degrade due to fine particles or biological fouling. If you are concerned about the iSAMI failing due to highly productive or silty water, please contact technical support to request an inlet filter. This filter will cause loss of resolution and will require more pumping, which will drain the battery faster.

## **2.6 Avoiding Air-Lock**

Care must be taken to avoid deploying the iSAMI-pH with air in the tubing, or pumping the iSAMI when it is not either connected to the blank bag or immersed in water. If the iSAMI tubing is full of air when it is deployed, this can cause the pumps to lock up, and no useful data will be collected.

Before deploying the iSAMI-pH, flush with blank. Leave the blank bag connected to the inlet and perform a pH flush using the iSAMI Client software as described in section 7.2. After flushing is complete, set the sample start to a time well after deployment is expected. Be sure to remove the blank bag from the inlet before deploying.

### 3 iSAMI-pH Theory of Operation

*meta*-cresol purple (*m*CP) is a pH sensitive dye that has been purified to use in iSAMI instruments to increase measurement accuracy (Liu et al 2011). A seawater sample stream is pumped through the instrument and injected with *m*CP solution. Two wavelength-specific LEDs send alternating pulses of light through the indicator-sample mixture as it is pumped through a flow cell. Changes in absorbance at the two wavelengths, Beer's law, and the known molar absorptivities of the indicator can be used to calculate the concentration of protonated and un-protonated indicator. The indicator  $pK_a$  is then used to calculate pH using a derivation of the Henderson-Hasselbach equation.

#### 3.1 Equilibrium Reaction

Spectrophotometric pH determination is based on the equilibrium reaction of a pH-dependent indicator. A diprotic sulfonephthalein indicator, *m*CP, is used as the reagent. A single 25  $\mu\text{L}$  pulse of reagent is introduced into the seawater stream. The acidic ( $\text{HI}^-$ ) and basic ( $\text{I}^{2-}$ ) forms of the indicator are found in varying quantities based on the pH of the seawater being tested.

Indicator equilibrium is described by Equation 1:



where  $K_a'$  is the apparent dissociation constant. The acidic and basic forms of the indicator are measured at peak absorbance wavelengths of 434 nm ( $\text{HI}^-$ ) and 578 nm ( $\text{I}^{2-}$ ), respectively. The diprotic  $\text{H}_2\text{I}$  form is not present at seawater pH and therefore is not considered in our applications.

Combining the log form of the indicator equilibrium expression, Beer's Law, and the Henderson-Hasselbalch equations results in Equation 2.

$$pH = pK_a' + \log \left( \frac{R - e_1}{e_2 - Re_3} \right), \quad (2)$$

where  $pK_a'$  is the log of the apparent dissociation constant,  $R$  is the absorbance ratio  $A_{578}/A_{434}$  and the  $e_i$  are the temperature-dependent ratios of the molar absorptivities ( $\epsilon$ ) of  $\text{HI}^-$  and  $\text{I}^{2-}$  at 434 and 578 nm. Equations 3–10 define temperature-dependent values for  $pK_a'$  and  $e_i$  used for purified *m*CP in iSAMI instruments.  $T$  is temperature in Kelvin,  $t$  is temperature in Celcius, and  $S$  is salinity.

$$pK_a' = -241.462 + 7085.72T^{-1} + 43.8332\ln(T) - 0.0806406T - 0.3238S^{0.5} + 0.0807S - 0.01157S^{1.5} + 0.000694S^2 + 0.6367 \quad (3)$$

$$e_1 = \epsilon a_{578} / \epsilon a_{434} \quad (4)$$

$$e_2 = \epsilon b_{578} / \epsilon a_{434} \quad (5)$$

$$e_3 = \epsilon b_{434} / \epsilon a_{434} \quad (6)$$

$$\epsilon a_{434} = 18432 + 23.8680(25 - t) \quad (7)$$

$$\epsilon a_{578} = 120 \quad (8)$$

$$\epsilon b_{434} = 24198.7967(25 - t) \quad (9)$$

$$\epsilon b_{578} = 40910 + 104.5411(25 - t) \quad (10)$$

### 3.2 Optical Path

The iSAMI uses pulsed LEDs with narrow band filters at wavelengths corresponding to maximum optical absorbance for the protonated and deprotonated forms of the reagent. A reference photodiode tracks changes in the light sources. LEDs are imbedded in the flow cell which is mounted on the controller board. The flow-cell optical path length is 1 cm.

### 3.3 Fluid Path

The iSAMI uses a 25  $\mu\text{L}$  solenoid pump to drive reagent through the system. A solenoid valve allows the same pump to introduce a single pulse of reagent into the stream for each pH measurement. A card with engraved circuitous flowpath upstream of the flow cell ensures thorough mixing of the sample and reagent prior to optical measurements. The sample's blank signal intensity ( $I_0$ ) is established by taking measurements while pumping pure sample through the flow cell. After measuring the blank signal, reagent is introduced into the flow stream and signal intensity ( $I$ ) is collected as the pump pushes the mixture through the flow-cell. At each measurement, reference intensities ( $I_{0ref}$  and  $I_{ref}$ ) are also measured. The absorbance at each wavelength is calculated as:

$$A = -\log \left( \frac{I}{I_0} \times \frac{I_{0ref}}{I_{ref}} \right) \quad (11)$$

### 3.4 pH Perturbation and Data Record

Each pH data record consists of 28 light intensity measurements at each wavelength. The first four measurements are averaged and used as the blank intensity values ( $I_0$ ). pH and indicator concentration are calculated for each of the subsequent measurements. The addition of the *mCP*indicator will slightly alter the pH of the sample. The pH of the initial sample is determined by extrapolating to the pH at zero indicator concentration using a regression of pH vs. indicator concentration (Seidel et al. 2008).

### 3.5 Validation

The iSAMI-pH is validated by measuring the pH of Tris buffer at  $\sim 25^\circ\text{C}$ . pH accuracy is better than or equal to  $\pm 0.006$  at the time the iSAMI is sent to the customer.

### 3.6 References

For more information see the following references:

Delvalls, T.A., Dickson, A.G., 1998. The pH of Buffers Based on 2-amino-2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-propanediol. Deep-Sea Research I, 45, 1541–1554.

- Liu, X., Patsavas, M.C., Byrne, R.H., 2011. Purification and Characterization of meta-Cresol Purple for Spectrophotometric Seawater pH Measurements. *Environmental Science and Technology*, 45, 4862–4868.
- DeGrandpre, M.D., Spaulding, R.S., Newton, J.O., Jaqueth, E.J., Hamblock, S.E., Umansky, A.A., Harris, K.E, 2014. Considerations for the measurement of spectrophotometric pH for ocean acidification and other studies. *Limnology and Oceanography: Methods*. 12, 830–839.
- Martz, T.R., Carr, J.J., French, C.R., DeGrandpre, M.D., 2003. A submersible autonomous sensor for spectrophotometric pH measurements of natural waters. *Anal. Chem.* 75, 1844–1850
- Seidel, M.P., DeGrandpre, M.D., Dickson, A.G., 2008. A sensor for in situ indicator-based measurements of seawater pH. *Mar Chem.* 109, 18–28.

## 4 Software Installation, Communication and Power Cables

The iSAMI-pH requires the use of its own client software for programming, download and data interpretation.

### 4.1 SAMI\_Client Installation

iSAMI software is available for both Windows (XP and later) and Mac (OS X). To install the software, simply insert the iSAMI Software disc, navigate to the **SAMI\_Client Application** folder and drag the folder for your computer platform to an appropriate location on your hard drive. You may want to create a shortcut to your application, but it is important that the application itself remain in the folder with the various sub-folders and other files for it to operate correctly. When you open the **SAMI\_Client**, if connected to the internet, the software will automatically search for updates. You can update your software at <http://www.sunburstsensors.com/swupdate>

### 4.2 USB Serial Driver

Also on the disc is the driver for the serial-USB converter that is part of your communication cable. Most modern computers will already have appropriate drivers installed or automatically install this driver from the internet. If your computer does not recognize the USB-serial converter when the cable is plugged in, you can opt to install from this folder. You may also use the internet to download the latest driver from <http://ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

### 4.3 iSAMI Cables and Bulkheads

The black communication cable included with your instrument will have a 6-pin bulkhead connector on one end and on the other end, two diverging cables: a USB and banana plugs.

The black (ground) and red (positive) banana plugs should be connected to a DC power supply set to 10–13 VDC. The USB connects directly to one of your computer's USB ports.

Alternatively, the Molex connection to the banana plugs can be un-fastened, and the wall connector can be attached. The wall connector, which has adapters for 110-V and 220-V AC power, will be found in a separate box. The adapter appropriate for your power should be used.

The iSAMI uses wet-pluggable bulkhead connections made by Impulse or SubConn. To communicate with the iSAMI, remove the bulkhead cover plug by unscrewing the locking collar and pulling firmly up. Take care to not unscrew the bulkhead itself, which requires adequate torque (15 in-lb or 1.7 Nm) to maintain its seal. To connect the communication/power cable, align the pins on the cable with the receptacles on the iSAMI bulkhead and push down firmly.

The iSAMI uses the RS-232 communication protocol. Figure 3 shows the pin-out of the bulkhead as you look down on it.

The Tx line transmits data out and while the Rx line is how commands are sent to the unit. The RTS line tells the iSAMI that it is connected to the client software. While it is held high the iSAMI will send out status strings about once per second. If connecting to a terminal, or external logger, keep RTS off. RTS on the client software expires after three minutes to save power (See section 4.4).

**The iSAMI internal battery has enough power to maintain the datalogger for about 90 days. Once the internal batteries die, your iSAMI will not be able to store data.** Therefore, the recommended sequence for storing, programming, powering, and running, the iSAMI is:

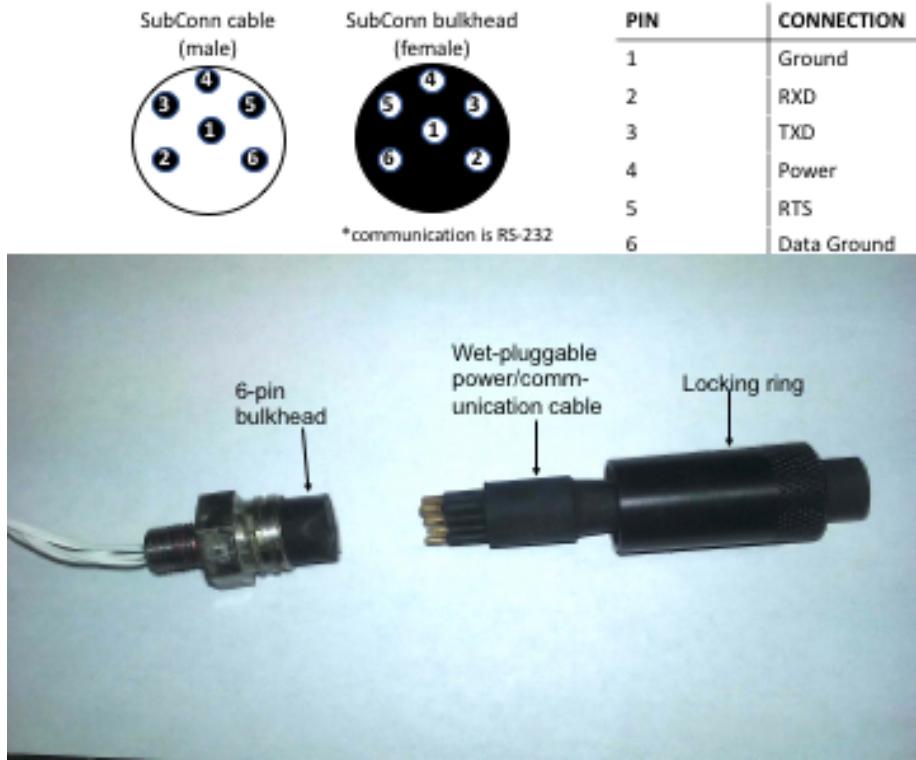


Figure 3: iSAMI 6-pin connection.

**iSAMI storage.** When storing the iSAMI, it should be left connected to a 12 V battery pack or 12 VDC power, in order to avoid draining the internal battery.

**Running the iSAMI in the lab.** When running the iSAMI in the lab, it must be connected to 12 VDC power or wall power. The iSAMI will not communicate without external power.

**Programming the iSAMI for deployment.** The iSAMI must be programmed while connected to external power. If a 12 VDC power supply, connectable with the provided cable and banana plugs will not be available in the field, the iSAMI must be programmed in the lab, with a start time set to after the iSAMI will be connected to external power and submerged.

**Deploying the iSAMI.** The iSAMI must be connected to the external battery pack or a 12 VDC power supply during deployment. The iSAMI will shut down when the 12 V supply is removed.

**Downloading data from the iSAMI after deployment.** Data can be downloaded from the iSAMI by disconnecting the battery pack and connecting the iSAMI to a computer and 12 VDC power via the banana plugs or to wall power .

#### 4.4 Communicating

Once your instrument and computer are properly interfaced, you may start communicating with the instrument. Under **Preferences** (in the **Edit** menu for PCs, and in the **SAMI Client** menu for Macs) select the appropriate serial port. Click the **Serial Open** button to establish communication with your iSAMI. The indicator next to the **Serial Port** text will specify if your iSAMI is interfaced with your computer (Figure 4). A red dot indicates a closed serial port while a green dot indicates an open serial port.

To save battery power, the instrument will time-out after 3 minutes.

Failure to connect usually indicates that the wrong port has been selected. Double check your port settings if you cannot connect. See also the troubleshooting section.

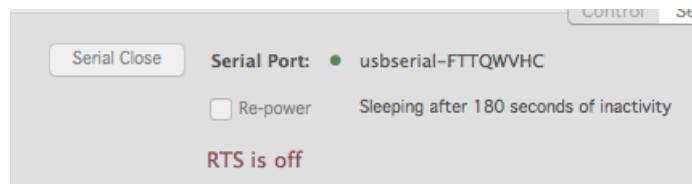


Figure 4: Instrument interface.

## 5 SAMI Client Interface

SAMI\_Client is the interface for your instrument. SAMI\_Client version 2 is used for the iSAMI, PiSAMI, and SAMI2 and AFT instruments built in 2019 or later. SAMI2 and AFT instruments build in 2018 or earlier use SAMI\_Client version 1. The **SAMI Client** menu is divided into six menus and three tabs to help you organize the information that you will be communicating to your instrument.

The **Control Tab** is where you will find buttons that manage basic operations such as establishing communication, downloading and erasing data, as well as launching and stopping the instrument.

The **Settings Tab** is where the deployment parameters and settings will be configured. The start time, interval between measurements, and any external device settings are set here.

The **Utility Tab** contains an interactive display that shows live data being collected. There are also controls that will allow you to create a pumping cycle so you can easily flush the instrument.

### 5.1 File Menu

**Open Data File:** Imports data files for data processing.

**Import Hex File:** Imports data that was stored by custom user systems in hex format.

**Import Settings from File:** Loads previously saved launch settings that have been created under the Settings Tab. This feature will save you time once you have decided upon your customized launch settings.

**Save Settings As...:** Stores launch settings from your Settings Tab so they may be easily loaded at a later time. The **Import Settings from File** option will load these settings which you have chosen under the SAMI Box in the **Settings** tab.

**Exit (PC only):** Shuts down iSAMI Client Software. This does not disrupt iSAMI operation. This function is located in the **SAMI\_Client** menu on a Mac.

**About... (PC only):** Software credits and version number displayed in dialogue window. This function is located in the **SAMI\_Client** menu on a Mac.

### 5.2 Edit Menu

The **Preferences** tool under this heading (PC only) is important for communication with your instrument. If using a Mac, **Preferences** is found under **SAMI\_Client** menu. **Preferences** contains a dropdown menu that is populated with the serial ports on your computer. To communicate successfully with your iSAMI, the correct serial port must be selected. If the correct serial port is not present in the list, you may need to wait for the rest of the ports to be identified. Check the **Auto-Open serial port** box to automatically establish communication with your iSAMI once the correct serial port has been selected. You will also set your iSAMI to default to either Local Time or GMT on the **Preferences** page.

### 5.3 SAMI Menu

**Read SAMI Settings:** The SAMI Launch Setting programmed into your iSAMI can be viewed by choosing this option. A separate window will appear with the Settings displayed in list format. This option is only active if the iSAMI is **NOT** running **AND** the **Port Powered** box is checked on either the **Control** or **Utility** tab.

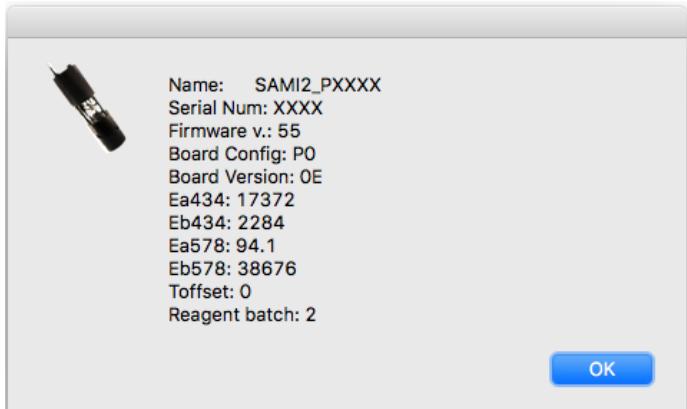


Figure 5: Read calibration window.

**Read/Edit SAMI Text:** The text added to the iSAMI under the **Edit Text** button on the control tab can be viewed by selecting this option. This option is only active if the iSAMI is *NOT* running *AND* the **Port Powered** box is checked on either the **Control** or **Utility** page.

**Update Firmware:** This action will be performed when software updates become available through Sunburst Sensors. As you receive or download newer versions of the **SAMI\_Client**, upgrades to the firmware may accompany these. If required, an advisory message suggesting update of the firmware will appear when you first connect to the iSAMI.

**Read Cal Info:** Figure 5 lets you view E values, iSAMI temperature offset compared to NIST-traceable standard, and reagent type (1 is un-purified; 2 is purified). These values should match the values on the calibration certificate that was shipped with the iSAMI after the most recent refurbishment. If values do not match, contact Sunburst Sensors before deployment.

## 5.4 Help Menu

Various documents are available via the Help menu, including this manual, release notes for the software detailing what changes have been made, use of external instruments, etc.

**View Sunburst Website:** This heading will direct you to <http://www.sunburstsensors.com> for convenient access to our business, research, and contact information.

**Send us Email:** Directs email to [Info@sunburstsensors.com](mailto:Info@sunburstsensors.com)

**About SAMI application (PC):** Brings up an information and credits window.

**Check for Updates:** If you have an internet connection the iSAMI Client software will automatically check the Sunburst Sensors website for updates to the software upon launch. You can manually check via this menu item.

## 5.5 Control Tab

The **Control** tab is where you establish communication and power with the iSAMI, start and stop sample collection, and download data.

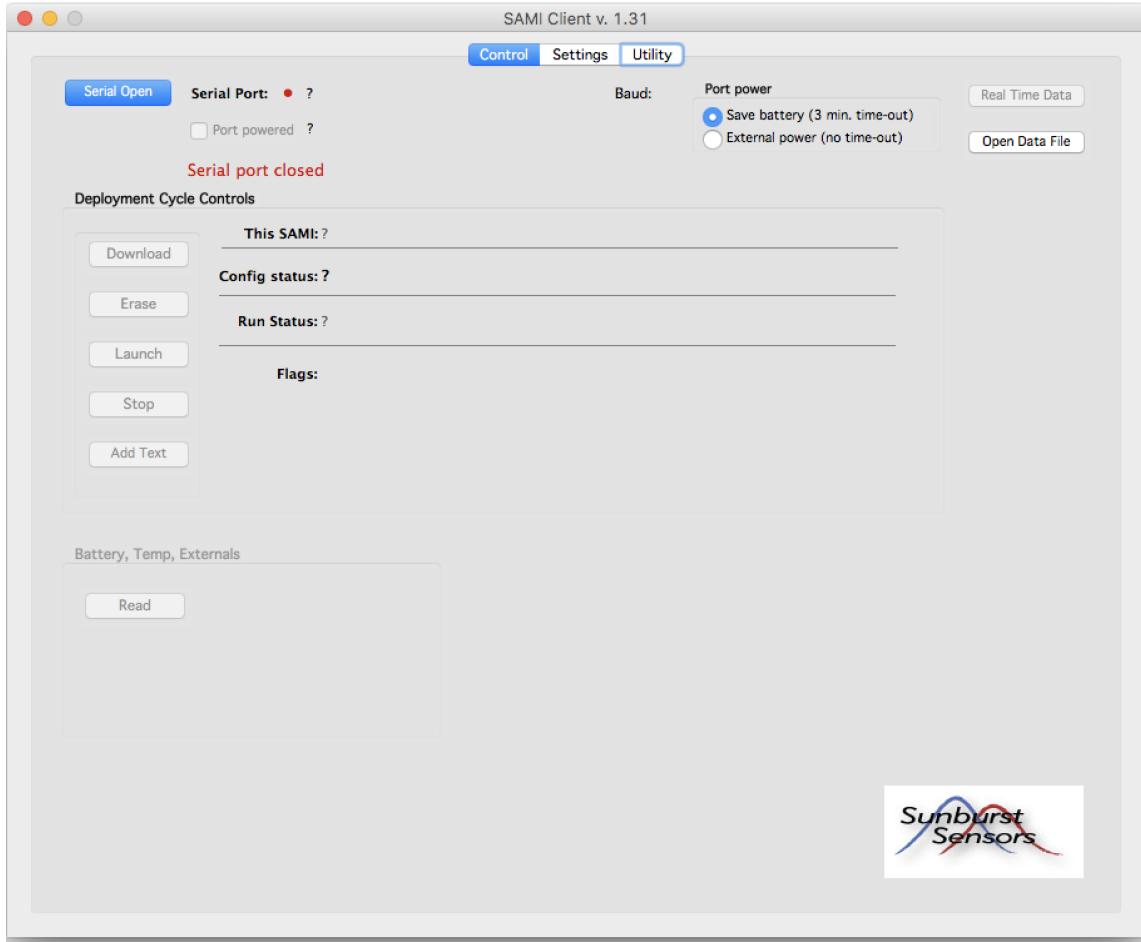


Figure 6: Control tab.

### 5.5.1 Serial Communication

The **Serial Open/Serial Close** button engages **SAMI\_Client** to communicate with your instrument. To establish communication, attach the communication cable to your computer and iSAMI, and power to 12 V supply or battery. In **Edit → Preferences** (PC), or **SAMI Client → Preferences** (Mac) select the appropriate serial port. Click the **Serial Open** button to begin communication with your iSAMI. The indicator next to the Serial Port text will specify if your iSAMI is interfaced with your computer. A red dot indicates a closed serial port while a green dot indicates an open serial port (Figures 4 and 6).

If the **Auto-Open Serial** box is checked in the **Preferences** pop-up page, the **Serial Open/Serial Close** button will no longer be visible and the iSAMI will automatically try to establish communication when it is powered on.

### 5.5.2 Power Settings

**Port Powered/Re-power:** You can communicate with the iSAMI and program it for deployment without connecting to external power. To conserve the small internal battery, the communications will time out after 3 minutes, unless you override this feature by selecting the **External Power** radio button. If the port does time out, you can re-open it by simply clicking the **Re-power** check box. If communications has timed-out, you cannot send commands or

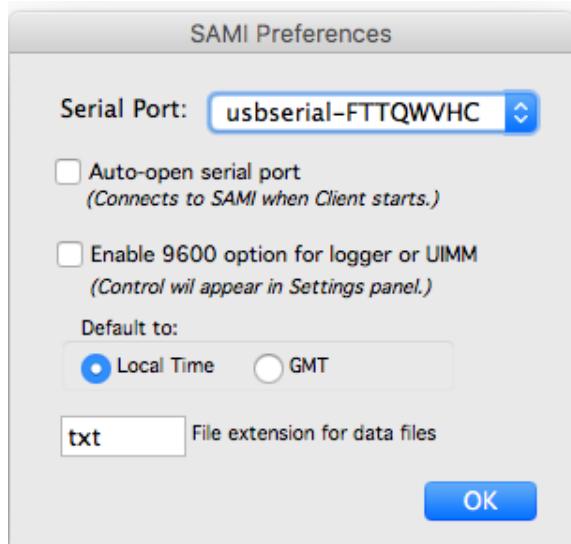


Figure 7: Communication preferences pop-up window

program the iSAMI until the port is re-powered. If 12 VDC power is available, it should be used in order to conserve battery power.

If the iSAMI is running (while connected to 12 V power), however, the iSAMI will send data out over the serial port after each measurement or other event, even if the port is timed out (The iSAMI powers up the port just long enough to send data).

**Save Battery:** The iSAMI can only run if connected to external power. The **Save battery** option should be selected when the deployable battery pack is used as the external power source. This allows the iSAMI to go into time-out after three minutes and preserves the battery. This function may also be controlled from the **Utility** tab.

**External power:** If the iSAMI is connected to a 12 VDC power supply, you can select this option to keep communication open with the **SAMI\_Client** at all times. If **External Power** is selected, the message “Port power on until disconnected” will appear under serial port. This function may also be controlled from the **Utility** tab.

### 5.5.3 Deployment Cycle Controls Panel

**Download:** The **Download** button will copy data stored on your iSAMI to a location you select on your computer. A default file name of **SAMI\_UnitName\_DDMMYY** will be suggested in the save dialog. Data will not be erased from the iSAMI by using the Download function. If download fails, try it again.

**Erase:** The **Erase** button will clear the memory on the iSAMI of the data that it previously collected. To launch your iSAMI you must erase all data stored on the iSAMI. If you wish to save the data from your last data collection you MUST download the information before it is erased. If you attempt to erase data before it has been downloaded, you will get a warning message “Data has not been downloaded!” **OK** will erase all data and settings!

**Add Text:** The **Add Text** button allows you to add notes to the instrument’s memory. The notes will be displayed in the data output files and can be accessed from the toolbar **SAMI → Read SAMI Text**.

**Launch:** Unless the iSAMI has been erased, it cannot be launched. Prior to launch, use the controls in the **Settings** tab to configure the iSAMI (see section 5.6). If you have set a

launch time that has passed, you will get the message “Start is less than 10 seconds from now! Would you like to start in 10 seconds?”. This may be OK for bench-top testing, but if you require data aligned to the hour, or a particular stop time, you should program the start time accordingly.

**Stop:** The **Stop** button will end the launch of your instrument and sampling will cease. Data will be saved in the memory of your instrument.

#### 5.5.4 Configuration status Panel

**Serial Port Opened:** The iSAMI has established communication with your computer.

**Config loaded and iSAMI started:** Indicates that your program has launched and measurement collection has begun.

**(#:) of Pages downloaded** This message appears when a measurement sequence has been stopped and you have downloaded a file.

**Erased:** The memory has been cleared and you may begin another measurement sequence.

#### 5.5.5 Flags

The Flags section will display messages that indicate status:

This iSAMI: Name: SN: Hardware: Firmware:

**Recording Started:** Data is being collected and stored in your instrument’s memory.

**Recording Stopped:** The measurement sequence has stopped. The data has not yet been downloaded or erased.

**Downloaded:** The measurement sequence has been stopped. The data has been downloaded, but not erased. Erase your data before continuing with another sequence of measurements.

#### Run Status:

While the program is running, the **Run Status** will display the date, time, number of data files collected, and the memory used. The **Run Status** section will remain blank if the program is not running, the files have been downloaded, or the data file is erased.

#### 5.5.6 Battery, Temp, Externals Panel

Clicking the **Read** button updates information on the battery voltage, the internal temperature, and the external temperature, in Celcius. The iSAMI is not configured to run external devices.

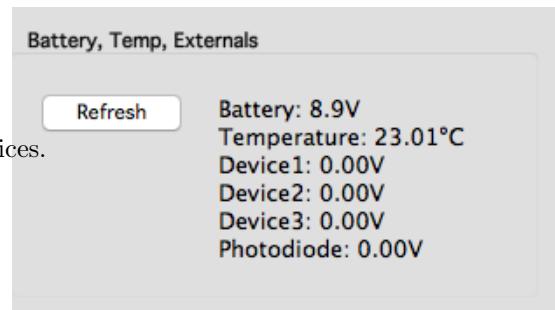


Figure 8: Battery, Temperature, Externals panel

## 5.6 Settings Tab

**Overview** The **Settings** tab contains the various control panels used to configure the instrument prior to a deployment. These control panels allow the user to set the start time and run duration, sampling interval, etc. It is important to note that these settings are not sent to the instrument until the user launches the unit via the **Launch** button in the **Deployment Cycle Controls** (section 5.5.3).

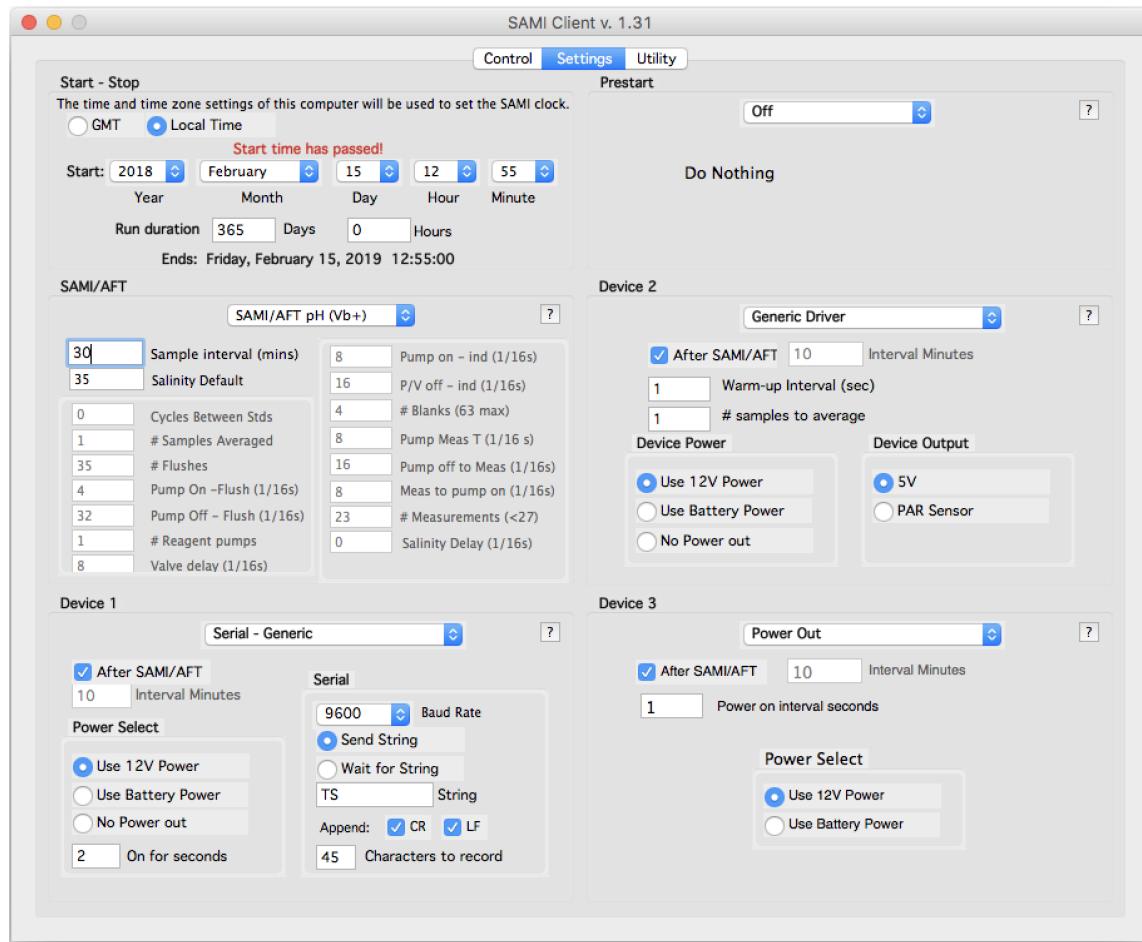


Figure 9: Settings tab.

### 5.6.1 Start-Stop Panel

In the **Start-Stop** panel in the upper left hand corner of the **Settings** tab you will enter your deployment start time and the run duration. You may enter the exact time you wish to launch your instrument, accurate to five minutes. Note that you may display your time in GMT or local time. However, **data is stored on the iSAMI in GMT, regardless of the time format set here**. When you enter the run duration in the specified box, a message appears below which will calculate the end time and date.

In the event that the start time has passed, you will receive a message informing you the start time has passed. When you Launch your instrument a message box will ask if you wish to begin sampling in ten seconds. By selecting **OK** measurements will begin immediately. Otherwise you may select a new start time by selecting **Cancel**.

### 5.6.2 SAMI/AFT Panel

The **SAMI/AFT** panel is where you will enter the sampling interval. In the dropdown menu in the top center of the box, select **SAMI-pH (Vb+)**. The sample interval must be entered in minutes and with a time of no less than five minutes (15 min or longer is optimal). If you enter a time less than 15 minutes, the Client will give you a warning, which can be ignored. Enter the approximate or measured salinity of the sample in **Salinity Default**. This salinity will be used to calculate pK<sub>a</sub> for the pH measurement. The grayed-out controls on the right hand side of the control panel are not user adjustable, but visible for trouble shooting and support.

### 5.6.3 External Device Panels

External devices are not supported by the iSAMI.

## 5.7 Utility Tab

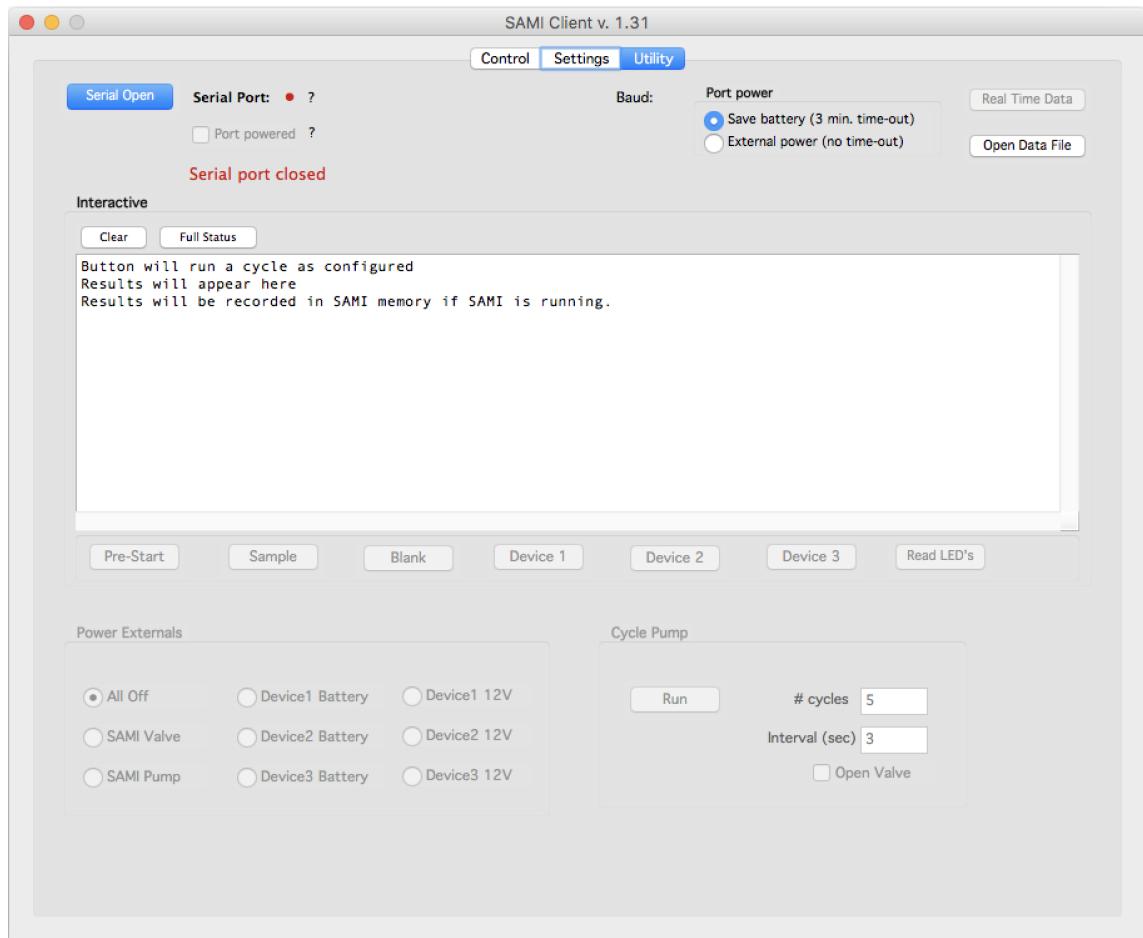


Figure 10: Utility tab.

The **Utility** tab is generally used for trouble-shooting, to flush the iSAMI prior to deployment or storage, and for data processing.

### 5.7.1 Serial Port Open-Close, Port Power

These functions can be controlled from the **Control** tab or from the **Utility** tab in SAMI Client version 1 version 2, these controls are only available from the **Control** tab.. See explanation in section 5.5.4.

### 5.7.2 Interactive

The **Interactive** panel will give you live feed on the data that your instrument is collecting when the communication cable is connected to 12V power. With each measurement, a string of information is written to the window. The first line will start with “Launch.” The next line will have the headers for the following columns of data: sample type, yearday, initial internal temperature, (434 nm reference, 434 nm signal, 578 nm reference, 578 nm signal)<sub>n</sub>, final internal temperature, battery voltage, external temperature. All readings are 12-bit when using SAMI Client version 1, 12-bit for version 2.  $n$  is # Blanks plus # Measurements from the Settings; default is 27. Data will be written to the screen each time a measurement is taken. This information is mostly for trouble-shooting. The records are not processed (i.e. pH, etc. is not calculated). At the top of the display you will notice a button marked **Clear** which will clear the display. The **Clear** button will not erase data from the memory.

**Read LEDs:** The **Read LEDs** button allows the user to check the Reference and Signal intensities of the instrument. This can help alert the user to problems such as a blocked flow cell path or malfunctioning valve and can otherwise help to ensure the instrument is ready to deploy. LED signals shoud be greater than 1000 when using SAMI Client version 1, greater than 6000 for version 2.

**Pre-Start:** The instrument can be programmed to perform functions while it is waiting to start. If this has been configured, it will read battery and temperature as programmed in the **Pre-start** panel of the **Control** tab.

**Sample:** The **Sample** button will run a measurement according to your programmed specifications. The measurement will not be saved in your stored data but will display in the **Interactive** panel, unless the instrument has been launched.

#### Device 1, 2, 3:

External devices are not supported by the iSAMI.

### 5.7.3 Power Externals

The **Power External** buttons located beneath the Interactive screen and can power the pump or valve using 12 VDC or battery voltage. External devices are not supported by the iSAMI.

### 5.7.4 Cycle Pump

The **Cycle Pump** function is available to flush your instrument. Flushing is an important function for the health of your iSAMI as well as to maintain a clear optical path. To flush the iSAMI you will need to attach the small fluid bag that came with the iSAMI or submerge the inlet tubing in deionized water, and click on **pH Flush**. The instrument will need to be flushed after each deployment. *Do not* check the **Open Valve** box, as this will flush the instrument with reagent.

The **Open Valve** box will initiate the valve during the pumping cycle. When this boxed is checked, reagent will be pumped through the instrument.

The **# cycles** refers to the number of 25  $\mu\text{L}$  pumps you wish to flush through the instrument. You may choose up to 99. **Interval (secs)** refers to the amount of time between each 25  $\mu\text{L}$  pump (1s or greater).

## 5.8 Viewing Data

Data can be viewed in real time or imported from a file after download. On the **Control** or **Utility** tab the **Read Real Time** button becomes activated when the software detects a new measurement record (if you have connected to a iSAMI that is already running) or immediately after the **Launch** button is pushed. Data that has been previously downloaded can be imported by selecting the **Open Data File** button or selecting **Import Data File** from the **File** menu. The iSAMI must be powered with a 12 VDC supply in order to view realtime data.

### 5.8.1 Data Overview:

Raw iSAMI data is stored as records while the iSAMI is running. These same records are transmitted over the serial port as well, so the client software will recognize and interpret them in real time.

**Raw Record Structure:** There are two main types of records recorded by the instrument. There are data records and information records. Every record leads with an identifying number (Record Type) and a 4-byte time stamp. Information records note events such as start, stop, low battery and possible errors if one should occur. Data records follow the type/time fields with a series of fields composed of the various readings (e.g. temperature, dark signal) needed for the measurement. In raw format these readings are not especially informative except in trouble-shooting situations.

**Computed fields:** Computed fields consist of data derived from the raw records. For example, the raw thermistor reading is stored as a 12- or 14-bit number. The temperature field is the temperature calculated from that raw number. Time is stored as a 4-byte number reflecting total seconds since Jan 1, 1904, while calculated fields allow time to be displayed in a variety of formats.

### 5.8.2 Viewing real time data:

The **Real Time Data** button plots data that is being collected by the instrument in real time. When you click on the **Real Time Data** button, a pop-up with a drop down menu titled **Column Set** will appear. iSAMI Client has a number of previously compiled parameter sets that you can choose from in Column Set Lists. Choose **pH\_ConstSal**. Be sure that the approximate salinity is entered in **Salinity Default** on the **Settings** tab. A new window will open with data in spreadsheet format. A drop down menu titled **Display Type** allows you to view data in spreadsheet or scatter plot format.

**Spreadsheet:** The Spreadsheet format will allow you to view the data being collected as a list (Figure 12).

**Scatter Plot:** Under the Scatter Plot data display select the x-axis and y-axis parameters you wish to plot (Figure 13).

**Creating your own set of parameters to view:** If a pre-fabricated set of parameters does not include the information that you would like to view, you may create and name your customized **Column Set List**. By selecting **Edit List...** from the **Column Set** drop-down window you will receive a Set List Editor. You may adapt a previously existing list or create a new one.

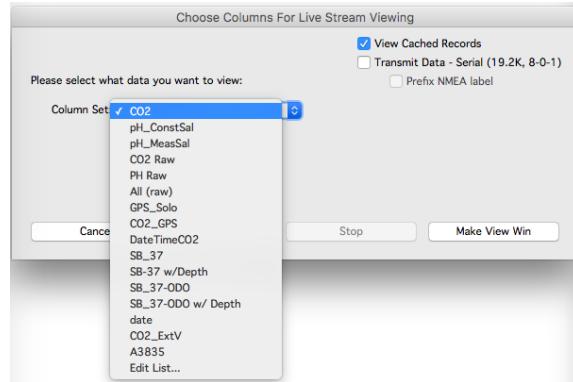


Figure 11: Real-time data dropdown menu.

File: SAMI\_P0156\_240315\_3.txt

Showing first 12 of 12 rows				
Year Day	Temperature C	Battery Voltage	pHMeasSal	
83.8854	24.76	12.06	8.0807	
83.8889	24.79	12.06	8.0832	
83.8923	24.79	12.06	8.0975	
83.8958	24.79	12.06	7.9349	
83.8993	24.79	12.06	8.1478	
83.9028	24.79	12.05	8.0972	
83.9062	24.79	12.05	8.1029	
83.9097	24.81	12.04	8.0887	
83.9132	24.81	12.04	8.1000	
83.9167	24.81	12.05	8.1147	
83.9201	24.79	12.05	8.1047	
83.9236	24.79	12.04	8.0897	

Figure 12: Processed data in spreadsheet format.

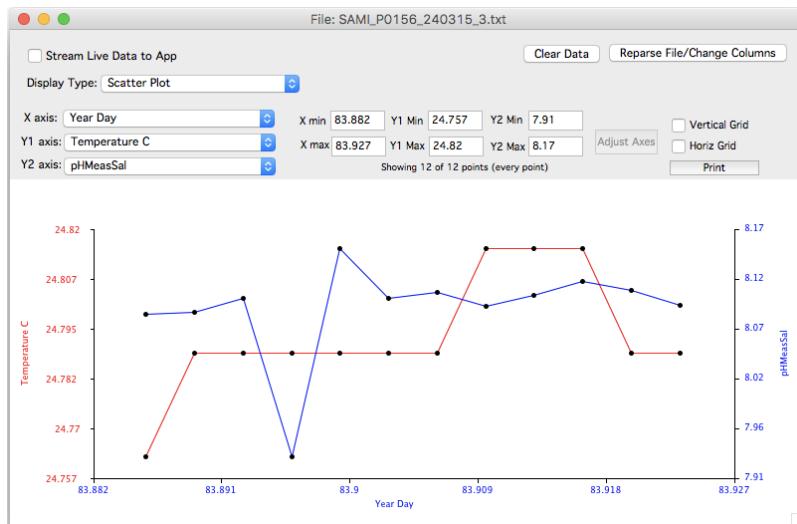


Figure 13: Processed data in scatter plot format.

Editing a pre-existing list is done by highlighting the list you wish to edit and clicking the button in the lower right hand corner labeled **Edit**. A list of the parameters appears in a new window. The left side window labeled **Columns** will display all parameters contained in the **Column Set List**. Clicking the **Add** button below the window will make available two drop down menus on the right side of the window. The **Column Type** drop-down menu will provide you with the classifications of parameter we have to choose from. You may be interested in viewing raw data or processed data. By selecting the type of data you can choose the exact parameter you wish to plot in the **Column Name** drop-down menu below. There you may select from a number of different parameters to populate your **Column Set List**: sample or reference signals of a specific wavelength, ratio of signals to reference, temperature, time, battery voltage, and pH.

To create your own **Column Set List**, return to the **Column Set List** editor. Select **Add** from the buttons at the bottom of the window. A **Column Editor** will appear with an untitled **Column Set List**. Name your Set List and populate the parameters in the same fashion as described above.

## 5.9 Data Processing

### 5.9.1 Processing text files

Once data has been downloaded, you can view raw and processed data with iSAMI Client software. Go to **File** menu and select **Open Data File**. A window will appear that asks you to select what data you want to extract from the file. In the drop down menu, select **pH\_ConstSal** for constant salinity (the approximate salinity of your sample must be entered in the **Salinity Default** box on the **Settings** tab). If you logged CTD data independently and want to use the measured salinity, you will need to process the data using **QC\_PH**, as described in section 6.

Next, click on the **Parse File** button. Data can be viewed as a spreadsheet or scatter plot and exported as a text file. Although you can only view the first 500 rows of data, you can process and export the entire data file. Note that this is preliminary data. **QC\_PH**, included on your disc, filters and processes the data more thoroughly. This is described in section 6.

### 5.9.2 Processing hex files from a custom interface

The iSAMI data can be collected from the user's system via RS-232. Data collected this way will be in hex format. A hex file can be imported and processed in **SAMI\_Client**. From the **File** menu select **Import hex File**. In the dropdown menu choose **pH\_ConstSal**. In the upper right hand corner of the **Import** menu, select **Choose Config File** and choose a configuration file. A configuration file is saved when you launch the iSAMI. If you did not save the configuration file when you started the instrument, a generic configuration file can be saved at any time. Once the hex data is imported, the functions of the program are the same as when reading iSAMI txt files.

## 6 Processing Data With QC\_PH

**QC\_PH** is a standalone Matlab program that reads data files from the iSAMI Client. This program does a better job of filtering out outlying blanks and sample points that resulted from air bubbles, and flags those points as well as points where a mechanical error such as a failed valve or pump might have occurred. pH values calculated from **SAMI\_Client** and **QC\_PH** will differ slightly, due to blank filtering and smoothing by **QC\_PH**. **QC\_PH** provides more reliable pH values.

### 6.1 Installing Matlab Runtime and QC\_PH Application

On the iSAMI disk, open the folder **QC\_PH**, copy the appropriate folder for Macintosh or PC to your computer and open the folder, then double-click on the application. For PC the application will be a \*.exe file, for Macintosh this will be a \*.dmg file. This will guide you through installation of Matlab runtime as well as **QC\_PH**. It will require web access and will take a bit of time, depending on the speed of the internet connection. Future updates to **QC\_PH** will install quickly. If you need a complete installer (no internet access), please contact technical support. The default folder for the application is Programs\Sunburst Sensors\. You can move an alias or shortcut of the application to a more convenient location.

### 6.2 Running QC\_PH

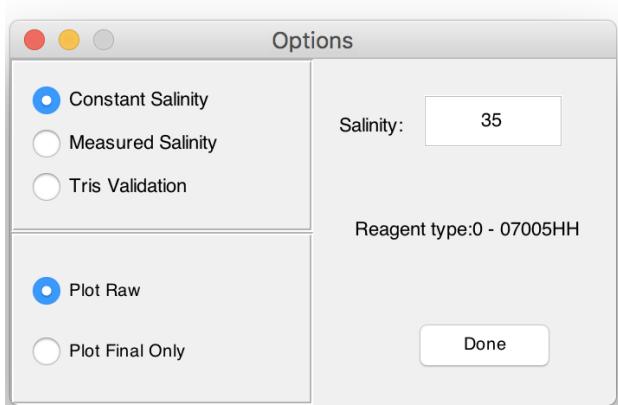


Figure 14: PH Options.

To run **QC\_PH**, double click on the icon. You will be prompted to choose the iSAMI data file. After reading the file, the app will ask you to choose **Constant Salinity**, **Measured Salinity**, or **Tris Validation**. Choose **Constant Salinity** if salinity was not measured, but you know the approximate value. Enter the salinity in the **Salinity** box. Choose **Measured Salinity** if you have a data file from a CTD that was deployed with the iSAMI. You will next be prompted to choose the CTD file. This file must be a tab delimited text file in the format: mm/dd/yy Tab hh: mm: ss Tab salinity. The times in the CTD file must cover all times in the SAMI file. If they do not, you

can copy a line of data to the top or bottom of the file, using an appropriate time. Choose **Tris Validation** if you are running a Tris buffer with known pH for validation of instrument accuracy.

**QC\_PH** will calculate pH and shows plots of signals, absorbances, blanks, point pH, temperature, and final pH. These plots can be useful in troubleshooting a iSAMI. You can set the range of samples to view by changing the **Start Sample** and **End Sample** and selecting **Re-Plot** on Figure 1. Select **Save Figs** to save the figures and **Close All** to close the Figure

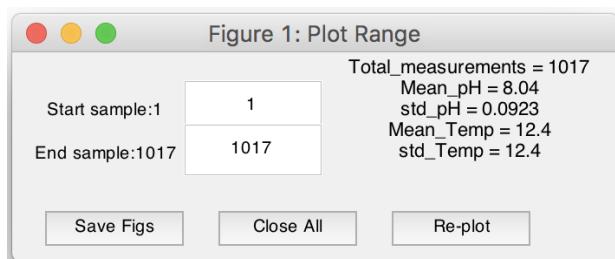


Figure 15: Range of points to plot.

windows. Figures and a text file of the output data will be saved in a folder named “Filename\_Results.”

### 6.3 Interpreting QC\_PH Data and Figures

**QC\_PH** will plot several figures. The figures that are often used to determine data quality and instrument performance are described here.

The **Intensity/Absorbance** plot indicates instrument performance (Figure 16). The top plot is reference signals, which should remain constant, but might degrade gradually over the course of a deployment. The middle plot is signals through the optical cell. These signals start high at the beginning of a sample (blank), drop as indicator moves through the cell, and gradually increase back to the blank values. Smooth curves indicate the iSAMI is working well, whereas flat lines or many spikes in signals indicates malfunction. The signals are plotted “Raw” and after outlying points are filtered out. Each line is for one sample measurement.

The **Blank** plot plots the signals of the blanks measured at the beginning of each sample (Figure 16). These signals will degrade gradually over the course of a deployment, but should not have large spikes, and should remain above 1000 for Sami Client version 1, 4000 for version 2). Each point is the blank for one pH measurement.

The point pH plot (not shown) shows the pH measured at each point during the sample measurement. The final pH is an extrapolation of point pH versus total indicator concentration to the pH at zero indicator. Each line is one pH measurement.

The Flags plot indicates problems that might have occurred during a sample measurement. If flags are all 0, there are no obvious errors. Any flags on 1 indicate that a blank value was not consistent from other blanks, and the pH measured could be erroneous. Flags on 2 indicate that the signal was saturated at some point during the measurement, and the pH measured could be erroneous. Flags on 3 indicate that the pump was not working, and the pH measurement will read NaN (not a number). Flags on 4 indicate that at least one point during the measurement was an outlier. The software will throw out the outlier, so this flag does not necessarily indicate an erroneous pH measurement.

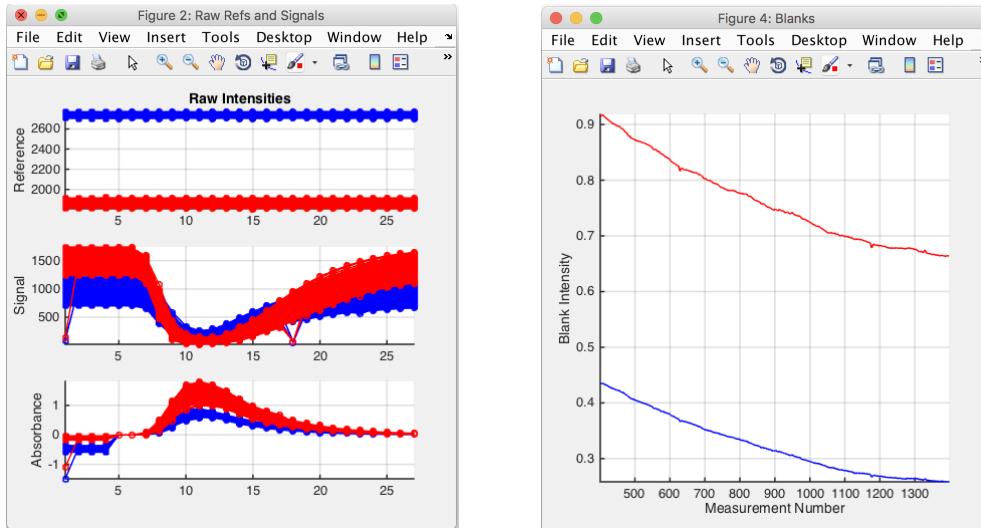


Figure 16: Signal intensity plots (left) are plotted as 28 points for each measurement (top: reference signals, middle: signals through cell, bottom: absorbances through cell); ratios of blank signal/reference signal (right) are plotted as one point per measurement (434 nm signal shown in blue; 578 nm signal shown in red).

The **Final pH** plot shows the temperature and pH measured throughout the deployment (Figure 17). Each point in one pH measurement. pH noise from one measurement to another should be less than 0.004 pH and temperature noise should be less than 0.05 °C. As blank signals degrade, pH precision might also degrade.

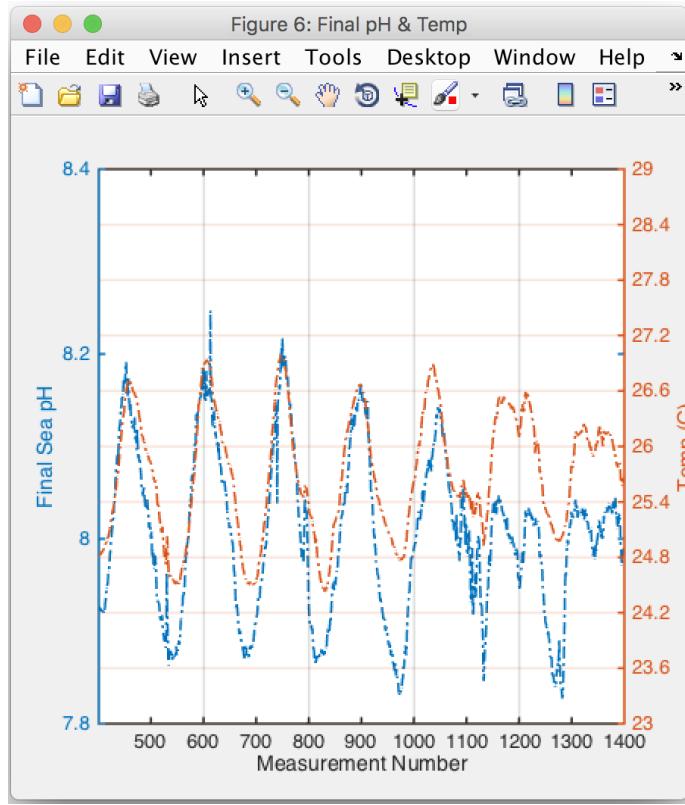


Figure 17: Final pH (blue) and Temperature (orange), plotted as one point per measurement.

The data output file will contain columns for date, pH measured, the potential error of the measured pH (estimated from the fit of the plot of point pH versus total indicator concentration), temperature measured, and flags. In the flags column 0000 indicates no flags, 0001 (1 line on plot) indicates a blank flag, 0010 (2 line on plot) indicates a saturated signal, 0100 (3 line on plot) indicates pump failure, 1000 (4 line on plot) indicates an outlier. If the file is opened in Excel the leading zeros will be absent. The flags are described in more detail above.

## 7 Care and Maintenance

### 7.1 General Cleaning

After your iSAMI has been in use, even for short periods of time, we recommend flushing it with deionized water to solvate any crystals of indicator or salt that may have formed. **WARNING:** Failure to flush your iSAMI may result in your instrument's inability to function properly!

### 7.2 Clearing air-locked or clogged iSAMI-pH

An air lock can occur when the instrument runs samples out of the water, allowing air to be pumped into the tubing before it is deployed. If you are testing the iSAMI on a bench top, be sure to attach a bag of deionized water to the inlet or place the inlet into a beaker of deionized water. When deployed in water with high amounts of sediments, materials can also cause a clog in the instrument. An air lock or a clog can be cleared with the steps below.

1. Fill the syringe with deionized water and connect to the intake tubing on the iSAMI (the tube protruding from the reagent chamber; this tube will have a blue fitting and a copper bell, an inlet filter, or a blank bag attached to it) as shown in Figure 18.

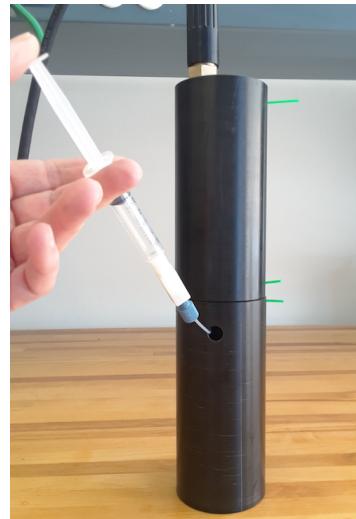


Figure 18: Using syringe to clear air lock.

2. Connect the iSAMI to a 12 V power supply and a computer with the Client software installed. Open **SAMI\_Client**. In the **Utility** tab under the **Cycle Pump** panel, set the **# cycles** to 10. Apply a constant pressure to the syringe and click **Run**. **Open Valve** should *NOT* be checked. The deionized water should move through the system and come out of the cell outlet tube (top of the instrument). This step may be repeated a couple of times. If the water does not move through the instrument, contact Sunburst Sensors for additional technical support.
3. Once fluid begins to move through the system, insert the intake tubing (the tube with the blue fitting where the syringe was attached) into a beaker with a few hundred milliliters of deionized water, or connect the blank bag to the inlet.
4. Next flush the iSAMI using deionized water from the beaker or the bag. On the **Utility** tab under the **Cycle Pump** panel set the **# of cycles** to 99 and click on **Run**. Make sure the intake tube is in the deionized water before pressing the **Run** button. **Open Valve** should *NOT* be checked.

The deionized water should move through the system normally. If the water is not moving through the instrument, contact Sunburst Sensors for technical support at [techsupport@sunburstsensors.com](mailto:techsupport@sunburstsensors.com).

## 8 Troubleshooting

These are a few common questions that we receive at Sunburst Sensors. If you do not see your question here, please contact us at [techsupport@sunburstsensors.com](mailto:techsupport@sunburstsensors.com).

**What do I do if I cannot communicate with the instrument?** You will not be able to communicate with your instrument if the correct serial port has not been selected. In **SAMI\_Client** select **Edit → Preferences** and try choosing another serial port from the menu. Many times it may take some time for the computer to fully populate the list. You may need to wait until another serial port appears in the drop-down menu. The COM port on the PC will typically be the last one in the list. On a Mac the serial port will be named **USB-serial XXXXXXXX** where “X” represents alpha-numeric characters.

On Windows operating systems (7, 10) it is sometimes helpful to go to the **Device Manager (Control Panels, System and Maintenance, System)** and look for the **Ports** to verify your USB-Serial converter is working. There should be at least one USB Serial Port under **Ports (COM & LPT)**. Double click to open and verify that it is the FTDI converter and not some other device. Use this port number in the SAMI Client Preferences.

If you do not see a USB serial port, it is likely that you will need to install the driver. Try unplugging and re-plugging the cable to the PC. This should prompt an install dialog. If this does not work, you can manually install the driver from the install CD or from <http://ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

On some PCs switching to another USB port will solve the problem. Also, it is occasionally useful to restart the iSAMI Client software and/or the PC itself.

The iSAMI will sometimes lock up if it has attempted to run on internal power. Take the following steps to reset the iSAMI if the above actions will not establish communication with your iSAMI.

1. Remove the iSAMI electronics housing cover by pulling out two green filaments, and then gently pulling the cover off the top of the iSAMI (this will take a bit of force to pull the cover past the o-rings) as shown in Figure 19.

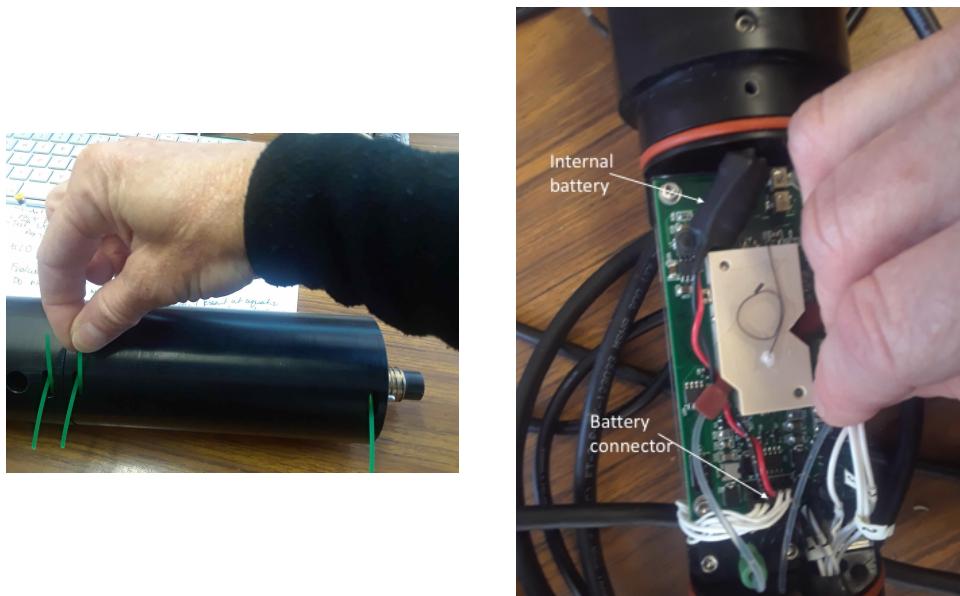


Figure 19: iSAMI electronics housing cover, secured by green filaments (left); iSAMI controller board (right).

2. Pull the battery connector from the board (this will be a 10-pin or a 2-pin connector). Wait 10 seconds. Re-attach the connector. See Figure 19.
3. Put electronics cover back on the iSAMI, being careful to line up the notch on the lid with the screw on the iSAMI (see Figure 20). Replace filaments.



Figure 20: Notch on lid lines up with screw on iSAMI.

**What happens if the signals drop?** This is very likely due to an obstruction in the path of the optical cell. Commonly, it is air bubbles which can be flushed out by continually pumping. If you use the **Cycle Pump** function on the **Utility** tab of **SAMI\_Client** to pump deionized water (after attaching DI bag to inlet) through the instrument, the problem will often be resolved.

**What should the signal intensities be?** If you are using **SAMI\_Client** version 2.01 or higher, signal intensities can range from 0 to 16383. If any signal intensity is at or near 16000, the channel may be saturated with light, giving erroneous results. Reference and signal intensities should be greater than  $\sim$ 6000 for a blank (DI, seawater, etc.). Lower intensities will result in higher noise in absorbance and thus pH measurements. However, if during a measurement signal intensities are low but reference intensities are not, the flow cell needs to be flushed with DI or tap water. Dark signals will normally range from  $\sim$ 200–400. Higher or erratic dark signals could indicate an electronic problem with your iSAMI. Contact Sunburst if any abnormal signals cannot be rectified.

If you are using **SAMI\_Client** version 1.35 or lower, signal intensities can range from 0 to 4095. If any signal intensity is at or near 4000, the channel may be saturated with light, giving erroneous results. Reference and signal intensities should be greater than  $\sim$ 1000 for a blank (DI, seawater, etc.). Lower intensities will result in higher noise in absorbance and thus pH measurements. However, if during a measurement signal intensities are low but reference intensities are not, the flow cell needs to be flushed with DI or tap water. Dark signals will normally range from  $\sim$ 50–200. Higher or erratic dark signals could indicate an electronic problem with your iSAMI. Contact Sunburst if any abnormal signals cannot be rectified.

**How do I flush my iSAMI?** There is a function on the **Utility** tab of the **SAMI\_Client** labeled **Cycle Pump**. Under cycle pump you may flush your iSAMI without disrupting the programmed measurement routine. In addition, the user may use the de-clogging kit that is included with all new pH instruments. See section 7 for instructions on using the de-clogging kit.

**My Spreadsheet Maker did not populate the Column Set List!** It is very likely that the file included on your instrument disc was not copied over to your computer. Please double check that every file on the disc has been successfully transferred including a file labeled `ColumnSettings.txt`.

**QC PH will not read my CTD file.** Make sure that your CTD file is formatted correctly (see Section 6) and that the times cover all times in the SAMI file. Extra lines of data can be pasted at the top and bottom of the file to include missing times, if necessary.

**What if I cannot rectify my problem?** Contact Sunburst Sensors, our information is found on the front of this manual. We will work with you to find the fastest and most economical solution to your problem. Never hesitate to give us a call or send us an e-mail at [techsupport@sunburstsensors.com](mailto:techsupport@sunburstsensors.com).

## 9 Low level operation of the iSAMI

The iSAMI has a very robust, user-friendly client that is recommended for programming, downloading, and updating. That being said, there are some users who wish to have a lower level control of the instrument. This document attempts to explain the low level operation of the iSAMI.

### RS-232 Serial Communication

The iSAMI uses RS-232 to communicate with 8-none-1 settings. RTS must be held high to turn on the RS-232. When RTS is asserted the iSAMI will begin to send status strings every second. For interactive use, these status strings should be turned off using the F5A command (see Low Level Commands below). Once this command is issued, however, the client software will not recognize the iSAMI as being connected. It can be turned back on by F01 if you need to use the client.

Once communications have been established the iSAMI needs to be stopped (if it is running), downloaded (if there is data), and erased.

The command sequence for this is:

- Q5A** - stop running and close memory
- D##** - send ## pages of memory over serial port
- E5A** - erase memory, including RAM variables

At this point the iSAMI must be configured before it can be used again, setting the time, sample interval, etc. Configuration is discussed next. While the iSAMI does not have a strict polling mode, it can be configured to start long in the future and sent commands to do measurements on a set interval. To get a measurement once the unit is configured, just send R. (All commands are CR terminated as discussed below.)

### Configuring the iSAMI

The configuration string sets the various parameters required by the iSAMI to operate. It sets the time and date, the start time and end time. It tells the iSAMI which drivers to use for the iSAMI itself (e.g. is it a pH unit or CO<sub>2</sub> unit?) and what drivers to use for any devices that are connected to the iSAMI. The configuration string also contains all the parameters required by the various drivers, including timings of pumps, valves, etcetera.

The configuration string is 116 bytes (232 hex characters) in length, which is padded to 128 bytes (256 hex characters), followed by 128 bytes (256 hex characters) of user text and terminated with a null character. Each byte is represented by a two character hex string. The beginning of the string specifies the time parameters and mode, followed by sampling intervals, driver info and pointers to parameters.

The configuration string is sent or retrieved to/from the iSAMI by client software using L command which is described in section 9.

++++++ Overview of Configuration String for Firmware 50++++++

<b>Description</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>bytes</b>	<b>position in string</b>
Launch time (GMT)	secs from 1/1/1904	4	0
Start time from launch	secs from launch	4	8
Stop time from start	secs from start	4	16
Mode	switch bits (see below)	1	24

#### For iSAMI, Dev1, Dev2, Dev3, Prestart (5 per row)

Interval	secs	3	26, 36, 46, 56, 66
Driver	n/a	1	32, 42, 52, 62, 72
PointerToParams	offset from pos 78	1	34, 44, 54, 64, 74
Global configuration	switches	1	76

Bit 0 Run main serial port at 57600 or 9600  
 Bit 1 Send ^ (record type) before a driver starts  
 Bit 2 Send live records over serial  
 Bit 3..6 Not assigned, set to zero  
 Bit 7 Extend Global config.

#### For iSAMI, Dev1, Dev2, Dev3, Prestart (pointed to by above)

Parameter bytes various max of 15 78 for iSAMI, others vary

Max config string length =  $13 + (5 \times 5) + 1 + (5 \times 15) = 114$  bytes (228 hex chars, padded to 256 chars)

#### Mode bits

Bit 0 PMI sampling schedule enabled  
 Bit 1 iSAMI sampling schedule enabled  
 Bit 2 Slot 1 follows iSAMI sample  
 Bit 3 Slot 1 independent schedule  
 Bit 4 Slot 2 follows iSAMI sample  
 Bit 5 Slot 2 independent schedule  
 Bit 6 Slot 3 follows iSAMI sample  
 Bit 7 Slot 3 independent schedule

+++++

## Example of a Configuration String

SAMI-pH programmed on Oct. 6, 2011

iSAMI uses driver 10,11 (pH-average) on 30 min intervals

All devices follow iSAMI

Device 1 - Serial + Power  
 Device 2 - Generic 0–5 V + Power  
 Device 3 - Power  
 Prestart - 4 hour intervals for DI pump

:ConfigHex (232 characters)

## General timing and mode

CAB39E84 - Time of programming (GMT) - Oct 6, 2011 18:05:56 (total seconds from 1/1/1904)

000000F4 - Time until start - 244 sec

01E13380 - Time from start until stop - 365 days (315360000 sec)

57 - Mode bits - (01010111 - Bits 6,4,2 = all devices follow iSAMII sample, bit 0= prestart schedule on, bit 1 = iSAMII schedule on)

000708 - iSAMI interval (1800 sec - 30 min)

## 04 - iSAM Driver (CO<sub>2</sub> Ave+)

01 - Pointer to params (iSAMi always 01)

00258 - Device 1 interval (10 minutes - overridden by mode bits above)

03 - Device Driver

0A - Pointer to params (position relative to byte 1 of iSAMI driver in bytes)

**00258** - Device 2 interval (10 minutes - overridden by mode bits above)

00 - Device Driver

17 - Pointer to params (position relative to byte 1 of iSAMI driver in bytes)

000258 - Device 3 interval (10 minutes - overridden by mode bits above)

01 - Device Driver

1A - Pointer to params (position relative to byte 1 of iSAMI driver in bytes)

003840 - Prestart interval (14400 sec - 4 hours)

00 - Driver

### 1C - Pointer (pre-start has no params)

07 - Global parameter switch - send live records, with record type early at 57.6K

## SAMI-pH Driver 10/11 Parameters explained

In the example above the SAMI-pH is using driver 10/11, which is default.

0001230420010808100410081700 - driver 10 parameters (SAMI-pH Vb+ driver) see figure 21

**10010120256400043338333500** - parameters for serial + power driver

020001 - 02 Duration 00 Power select 01 # samples to average

0200 - 02 Duration 00 Power select

## Padding

Parameter	dec	hex
Cycles Between Stds	0	00
# Samples Averaged	1	01
# Flushes	35	23
Pump On-Flush(1/16s)	4	04
Pump Off-Flush(1/16s)	32	20
# Reagent pumps	1	01
Valve delay(1/16s)	8	08
Pump on-ind(1/16s)	8	08
P/V off-ind(1/16s)	16	10
# Blanks	4	04
Pump Meas T(1/16 s)	16	10
Meas to pump on(1/16s)	8	08
# Measurements	23	17
Salinity Delay(1/16s)	0	00

Figure 21: SAMI-pH settings in decimal and hexadecimal format.

## Command Format

- Command format: one letter followed by a number of arguments as hex numbers and ending with carriage return (CR).
- Args may be separated by Space, Tab, comma, '/' or ':' the first separator may be omitted. For example "T 03/05/29 5 12:30:06" is equivalent to "T3 5 29,5,12 30 06"
- 123 is equivalent to 000123 if a long word is expected 0123 if a word or 23 if a byte.
- If more bytes are entered than the command uses the left most (first entered) bytes are ignored. For example, a command that takes a byte will read 1A2B as 2B.
- Arguments are represented as follows:
  - (B) One byte (S) 12 bits (W) 2 bytes (L) 3 bytes (E) 4 bytes (X) don't care, () none, (N) nibble
  - { } indicates return expected using above while {R} means returns record
  - (5A) sending 5A enables a variant of the commands normal function
- Arguments in [ ] are optional. Typically these optional arguments are present for a "write" to the iSAMI and omitted if the user wants to "read" from the iSAMI.
- No backspace or delete support for cmds sent - type non-hex arg with CR to abort.
- Results (reads) are returned as space separated hex and terminated with CR.
- Commands that are illegal or malformed return ?, error code in hex followed by return.
- Any input returns ! if a command or process is running.
- Echo is off by default. Echo off suppresses prompts and error text. Use I command to enable echo.

## Command List

**C (){R}** Run Blank cycle on SAMI-CO<sub>2</sub>

() - no argument required

{R} - returns a data record

A valid configuration is required. If iSAMI erased then error returned.

Returns (and if running writes) a data record.

**D (W,[B],[W]) {memory stream}** Dump Memory

(W - arg1) is number of pages beginning from page 0.

[B - arg2 ] - optional format switch 0 for binary, 1 for hex (default is binary)

[W - arg3 ] - optional start page

B - bit 0=1 send as hex return after page, bit 0=0 send as binary

Begins streaming memory with first data record.

**E ([B]){W}** Erase

() - no argument erases iSAMI memory

(5A) - for safety erase all of memory and clear ram vars.

{W} - returns the first unerased page or 8000 if all are erased

Erase shuts down all activity including time keeping but allows serial commands.

Stops real time clock

**F (B)()** Status ticks on/off & special cmd mode

(5A) - turns ticks off -turn off 1/sec status from iSAMI Enable Debug commands

(55) - turns on optional commands (see section below)

(any other byte) - turns ticks on and disables optional commands

**G ([B])()** Open flash and start recording

Starts real time clock if it is not running Clears n\_drec number of records, n\_erec number of error records. n-bytes Number of bytes stored - Is set to the start of the page after the last un-erased page. Restarting without erase is supported.

**H (N){S}** Read one adc channel

(N) - Channel 0..7 or

{S} - returns in Hex ADC count Voltage = (S/4096)\*5.00V

0 - Photo Reference, gated in firmware so not useful

1 - Photo Signal, gated in firmware so not useful

2 - Battery if 12V is enabled else 0 V= count/4096\*5V\*3 Volts

3 - Thermistor

4 - 3rd Party input J6 pin8 - 5V full scale

5 - 3rd Party input J6 pin8 - 5V full scale

6 - 3rd Party input J6 pin8 - 5V full scale

7 - 3rd Party input J6 pin8 - Photo diode amplified current input

### Special

If arg ≥ 80 turn on 12 V and read Batt, therm, 5 V in 1, 5 V in 2, 5 V in 3, photodiode restore 12 V

Returns {S S S S S}

**I** ([B]) {B} Immediate read status sw & bus

arg switches  
Bit 0 Pump on  
Bit 1 Valve on  
Bit 2 12V on  
Bit 3 Reserved - was Battery sense enable  
Bit 4 debug LED off  
Bit 5 echo off  
Bit 6 Reserved  
Bit 7 Reserved  
Return Switches {B} as in arg

**J** (B) invokes loader returns nothing, used to load firmware after erase

(5A) - branch to loader  
(5C) - Erase Board Type and SN 128 Bytes in microcontroller flash

**L** ([5A]) {ConfigString} Load or Read Config + UserText

-- Read or load a string. Consisting of Configuration string (+ fill to 256 bytes) + UserText  
() No argument gets configuration string from board.  
(5A) - start 4 byte timer at zero and wait for CR from board After receiving carriage return, send load data as packed hex with no separator.  
First non-hex non-return character causes abort of load.  
Either a null between byte 256 and 512 or 512 bytes is a valid termination. Any non hex is an error.  
Returns 2-byte checksum read from flash after write.  
Successful load starts real time clock. Erase or reset stops clock

**M** ([B]) {S,S,S,S,S} Measure LEDs w/o pumping

Read the ADC values no pump cycle  
Arg default = FF (read all)  
Bits enable sending of data below bit 2..7 - blue ref...dark signal  
Returns {S} in same order as below  
bit2 - Dark ref  
bit3 - Dark signal  
bit4 - LED1 ref  
bit5 - LED1 signal  
bit6 - LED2 ref  
bit7 - LED2 signal

**N** ( [B] B W W)

Compare or write a byte value to a range of memory W as page count  
Verify N(byte value, word Start\_page, word count\_pages) Return (0 if true, first failed page if false)  
Write N(\$5A, byte value, word Start\_page, word count\_pages)  
Progress reporting  
Returns hight byte of page +1 for each page started then XX last page address where

XX=00 for good FF for fail  
(Should fix this, should be page started then 2 byte end address and 00 or FF)

**O ([B]) {B}** Read or write port A - set bits enable power out functions

() - no arg is ‘read’ with {B} returned as described below  
(B) - arg writes to port A to turn on/off power out as below

Bit0 - 12 V  
Bit1 - Valve - J4 pin6  
Bit2 - Pump - J4 pin7  
Bit3 - 3rd party power J5 pin 6  
Bit4 - 3rd party power J5 pin 5  
Bit5 - 3rd party power J5 pin 4  
Bit6 - Select 12 V for 3rd party power  
Bit7 - Select Battery for 3rd party power  
Note that if both bit 6 and 7 are set, bit 7 is cleared - 12 V is selected

**P ([B],[B])** Pump and valve powering

() - no argument pump and valve off  
(B1) - one arg set pump and valve on or off  
(B1,B2) - 2 args set on or off and restore after arg2 1/8 seconds  
B1 - bit 0 turns pump on, bit 1 turns valve on  
B2 - time to hold state of B1 before returning to original state (1/8's sec)  
Turns on 12 V supply if required and restores to original state  
Return Null just carriage return after time out - single threaded

**Q (5A)()** Close flash and stop recording.

**R ([B])(R)** Run sample cycle on device

Arg Slot Default device is iSAMI - 0 slot1..3, PMI is 4  
Arg set bit 3 returns test error/info rec  
Arg bit 2 selects error/info record  
A valid configuration is required. If erased then error.  
Returns (and if running writes) a data record

**S ([B]){: E,W,L,L,L,W,W}** Ask for status from iSAMI (note this is auto sent when RTS is high)

(B) If arg=0 (default) returns : followed by :  
{E} time in seconds since L command - Cleared by Erase  
{W} statusflags - Cleared by Erase, defined here:

bit 0 Clock started  
bit 1 Recording started  
bit 2 Recording ended on time  
bit 3 Recording ended memory full  
bit 4 Recording ended due to error, failure, or user stopped  
bit 5 Data download  
bit 6 Flash Open  
bit 7 \*Low or no battery before start 256\*t\_pmi seconds - fatal  
bit 8 Battery low on measure cycle - fatal  
bit 9 Battery low on blank cycle - fatal

```

bit 10 *Battery low on external device cycle - fatal
bit 11 *External device 1 fault - fatal for device shut it down
bit 12 *External device 2 fault - fatal for device shut it down
bit 13 *External device 3 fault - fatal for device shut it down
bit 14 Erased
bit 15 Power on flags not valid

( * Not yet implemented )

{L} - n_rec (3) number of data records - Cleared by Erase
{L} - n_erec (3) number of error records - Cleared by Erase
{L} - n_bytes (3) Number of bytes stored including config and user text as full pages -
Cleared by Erase
If arg=1 returns Name(16) SN(4) FirmwareVer(4) iSAMI board version(2) iSAMI board
Config(2) Cal(24) Cksum(1)
If arg=2 returns 128 bit microcontroller flash Name(16) SN(4) calibration TBD Check-
sum(1)

```

### **Commands turned on by F55 command**

**@** ([X],[X],[X]...)(T) Test the command parser  
 Debug tool only works if echo is on.  
 Reports in text the number and value of args.

**A** (X)(T) List all commands  
 Debug tool only works if echo is on.  
 Lists all the commands.

**B** ( )(S) Battery Voltage  
 $S \text{ the battery voltage } 12V \text{ must be enabled } V_{bat} = Arg * 5 * 3 / 4096$

**T** () (s) Thermistor Voltage  
 $V = 4096 * ThermistorRes / (ThermistorRes + 17400)$

### **Debug tools hidden - enabled by F5A**

**Z** (W)( ) Set breakpoint  
**^C** Break to debugger  
**^T** Show current program address and reg.

### **Extra debug commands for now**

**K** Send error CF with 2 extra bytes &h0201  
**V** No arg send 'Hello World' out secondary port and echo for 10 sec then return 'Done'  
**V** Any arg send 'Hello World' out serial port and return 0 if all  
 characters echo - for tester

**W** Return status word, MFG code, etc.

**X** Sleep for ever but wake every 8 sec and send time - reset to exit

**Y** Show time, internal flags, wake counter

## Notes

While DTR is present on the serial port command mode is maintained and 5 V power is on. 12 V power is off by default but can be turned on with I or O command.

12 V power will cycle on and off as needed to run pump or valve.

### \*\*\* Command Error Codes \*\*\*

00 Wrong Number of Arguments  
01 Command Not Implemented  
02 Invalid Arguments  
03 Command Buffer Overflow  
04 Invalid Command Enter A return for a list of commands  
05 Error in config data  
06 > 2000 pages  
07 Invalid Configuration  
08 Bad Key  
09 Flash is Open  
0A Flash is Not Open  
0B Too Many Arguments  
0C Too Few Arguments  
0D Memory Full  
0E Not Valid With Echo Off  
0F Unimplemented Extension Index in Configuration  
10 Flash Data not erased  
11 Invalid Arguments

## Error conditions

No battery - If main battery without load at wake from sleep is below Vmin.

iSAMI counts no battery event and schedules next wake for measurement.

Note that iSAMI does not attempt to write Flash memory on backup battery.

If 2 byte no battery count overflows iSAMI shuts down completely.

If iSAMI awakes to find battery restored it writes an error record with counts and time and resumes normal operation.

Battery fail - if iSAMI tries to power up analog, pump, valve, or external device and battery falls below Vmin:

    write an error record

    close Flash page

    shutdown completely until handshake from host.

## **Warranty**

Sunburst Sensors, LLC warrants to the original purchaser that instruments manufactured by Sunburst Sensors shall be free from defects in materials and workmanship for the life of the product. Under this warranty, the instrument will be repaired or replaced as deemed appropriate by Sunburst Sensors without charge for parts or labor when the instrument is shipped prepaid to our location. This warranty does not apply to any instrument which has not been installed or used in accordance with proper operation and installation specifications. Sunburst reserves the right to void any warranty, written or implied, if upon Sunburst's examination of the instrument reveals failure was due solely, or in part, to accident, misuse, neglect, abuse, alteration, improper installation, unauthorized repair or improper testing by the buyer. Sunburst shall not be liable under any circumstances for indirect, special, consequential, or incidental damages in connection with, or arising out of, the sale, performance, or use of the instrument covered by this warranty. When a Product is returned to Sunburst Sensors for refurbishment/recalibration this service is considered normal preventative maintenance. Recalibration of your instrument shall not be treated as a warranty service unless recalibration of your instrument is required as the result of repairs to the instrument pursuant to this Warranty. Your instrument may only be repaired and refurbished by a certified, trained specialist from Sunburst Sensors, LLC. Breach of this requirement without prior consultation from Sunburst Sensors may result in the voiding of your Warranty.

If you would like more information on your iSAMI for self-repair or refurbishment please contact Sunburst Sensors. After notification is given that the interior of the instrument will be accessed, Sunburst Sensors is no longer responsible for defects incurred under the by the user.

# Material Safety Data Sheet

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE/PREPARATION AND OF THE COMPANY/UNDERTAKING

Product name: m-Cresol Purple sodium salt  
Product Number: 211761  
Company: Sigma-Aldrich  
3050 Spruce Street  
SAINT LOUIS, MO 63103  
USA  
Telephone: +18003255832  
Fax: +18003255052  
Emergency Phone: (314) 776-6555

## 2. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Synonyms: m-Cresolsulfonphthaleinsodium salt  
Formula: C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>S  
Molecular Weight: 404.41 g/mol  
CAS-No. EC-No. Index-No. Classification  
Concentration  
**m-Cresol Purple sodium salt**  
62625-31-4 263-656-9 - - -

## 3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Not a hazardous substance or preparation according to EC-directives 67/548/EEC or 1999/45/EC.

## 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

### If inhaled

If breathed in, move person into fresh air. If not breathing give artificial respiration.

### In case of skin contact

Wash off with soap and plenty of water.

### In case of eye contact

Flush eyes with water as a precaution.

### If swallowed

Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Rinse mouth with water.

## 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

### Suitable extinguishing media

Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

### Special protective equipment for fire-fighters

Wear self contained breathing apparatus for fire fighting if necessary.

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<http://www.sigma-aldrich.com> Page 2 of 4.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### Personal precautions

Avoid dust formation.

### Environmental precautions

Do not let product enter drains.

### Methods for cleaning up

Sweep up and shovel. Keep in suitable, closed containers for disposal.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

### Handling

Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed. Normal measures for preventive fire protection.

### Storage

Store in cool place. Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

### Personal protective equipment

#### Respiratory protection

Respiratory protection is not required. Where protection from nuisance levels of dusts are desired, use type N95 (US) or type P1 (EN 143) dust masks. Use respirators and components tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or CEN (EU).

#### Hand protection

For prolonged or repeated contact use protective gloves.

#### Eye protection

Safety glasses.

#### Hygiene measures

General industrial hygiene practice.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### Appearance

Form powder.

### Color

Dark red

### Safety data

pH: No data available.

Melting point: No data available.

Boiling point: No data available.

Flash point: No data available.

Ignition temperature: No data available.

Lower explosion limit: No data available.

Upper explosion limit: No data available.

Water solubility: No data available.

## **10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

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<http://www.sigma-aldrich.com> Page 3 of 4.

### **Storage stability**

Stable under recommended storage conditions.

### **Materials to avoid**

Strong oxidizing agents.

### **Hazardous decomposition products**

Hazardous decomposition products formed under fire conditions. Carbon oxides, sulfur oxides

<http://www.sigma-aldrich.com> Page 4 of 4.

### **IATA**

Not dangerous goods.

## **REGULATORY INFORMATION**

### **Labeling according to EC Directives**

Further information: The product does not need to be labeled in accordance with EC directives or respective national law.

## **11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

### **Acute toxicity**

No data available.

### **Irritation and corrosion**

No data available.

### **Sensitization**

No data available.

### **Chronic exposure**

IARC: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as probable, possible or confirmed human carcinogen by IARC.

### **Potential Health Effects**

Inhalation: May be harmful if inhaled. May cause respiratory tract irritation.

Skin: May be harmful if absorbed through skin. May cause skin irritation. Eyes: May cause eye irritation.

Ingestion: May be harmful if swallowed.

## **12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

### **Elimination information (persistence and degradability)**

No data available.

### **Ecotoxicity effects**

No data available.

### **Further information on ecology**

No data available.

## **13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Product**

Observe all federal, state and local environmental regulations.

### **Contaminated packaging**

Dispose of as unused product.

## **TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

### **ADR/RID**

Not dangerous goods.

### **IMDG**

Not dangerous goods.

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