



So what's all this Vs stuff anyhow?

OK, everybody knows the word Boatspeed and what it means. Even the French. But using the full names of functions in spreadsheet column headings is impossible due to their length in comparison to the numbers, so everybody abbreviates them differently.

The closest thing to a standard nomenclature for sailing parameters comes from the Naval Architecture world. We at Ockam base our symbols on this standard.

<u>1st letter</u>	<u>Practical</u>	<u>Stands for</u>
V	V	Velocity (actually speed)
β (beta)	B	Angle (bow relative)
Θ (theta)	M ('Magnetic')	Direction (north relative)
ρ (rho)	Heel	Heel angle

<u>2nd letter</u>	<u>Stands for</u>
s	Ship
a	Apparent
t	True

The Ockam lexicon:

<u>Function</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Stands for</u>	<u>Other common symbols</u>
Boatspeed	Vs	Velocity ship	Bs, Bsp
Heading	Ms	Magnetic ship	Hdg
Heel	Heel		
Leeway	Bs	Beta ship	Lwy
Windspeed Apparent	Va	Velocity apparent	AWS
Windspeed True	Vt	Velocity true	TWS
Windangle Apparent	Ba	Beta apparent	AWA
Windangle True	Bt	Beta true	TWA
Wind Direction	Mt	Magnetic true	TWD