Improved Channel Evaluation using Automatic Identification System and Hydrographic Survey Data

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June 28, 2018









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USACE Navigation Mission

Background:

- USACE maintains a vast, aging navigation infrastructure portfolio that is critical to national well-being.
- Navigation projects facilitate marine transportation and support global supply chains.

• Action:

- Leverage existing data, user-friendly tools, and robust analytical approaches to develop objective, quantitative, and systems based approaches for management of the Corps' large coastal navigation project portfolio.
- Nation-wide, enterprise datasets
 - Automatic Identification System (AIS) identified mid 2000's as key to improving understanding and management.
 - Hydrographic surveys processed through eHydro and channel shoaling rates using Corps Shoaling Analysis Tool



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AIS Analysis Package (AISAP)

- Builds on the USCG-USACE data sharing agreement (2012)
- Strategic tool provides analysis and visualization capabilities for archival AIS data
- Serves diverse navigation stakeholders:
 - Gives <u>Corps project managers</u> insight into project use
 - Allows Corps planners to investigate key navigation metrics
 - Communicates "When", "Where", "How many" of corps project users



USCG-USACE Interagency Security Agreement



Enterprise Hydrographic Datasets: eHydro & CSAT

- eHydro: Application and Reporting Process
- What is the present channel condition?
- Geo-process hydrosurveys using automated GIS scripts
- Reports/Products generated
 - Channel Condition/Availability Reports
- Coastal districts using eHydro
 - National Channel Framework
 - Uploading surveys





•CSAT: Corps Shoaling Analysis Tool

- What will the channels look like in the future?
- estimates shoaling rates using hydrographic surveys within the boundary of the National Channel Framework.
- •CSAT uses the historical shoaling rates to predict future dredging volumes at various channel depth intervals.



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Incorporating Maintenance: Underkeel Clearance

• Can we estimate how much depth was available during a transit?



Resolving Length and Beam: Modeling Vessels

- Draft is no longer the only vessel dimension of concern.
- AIS has sufficient detail to resolve vessel hulls.
- Treat AIS data like the spatio-temporal record of a physical object.
- Contingent on managing AIS data quality
 - Validating vessel particulars
 - AIS draft provides conservative keel location





Measuring and Managing Reliability

- A transit is reliable if it has "enough" clearance in transit.
- The sequence of transited shoals and the available clearance can be tracked.
- A transit is "unreliable" if not "enough" clearance, "reliable" otherwise.
- A project's reliability is the reliable fraction of all transits.
- Assess the potential impacts to commodity flows based on dredging decisions vs. unreliability costs.



Ordnance Reach

Terminal Reach

Charleston Harbor

Dredged Reaches

Fort Sumter Range

Summary

- USACE is working to improve waterway management using a data driven approach
- Leverage existing data, user-friendly tools, and robust analytical approaches to develop objective, quantitative, and systems based approaches for management of the Corps' large coastal navigation project portfolio.
- Nation-wide, enterprise datasets
 - Automatic Identification System (AIS)
 - Hydrographic surveys processed through eHydro and channel shoaling rates using Corps Shoaling Analysis Tool
- The goal is to objectively and consistently quantify the relative effectiveness of maintained channel dimensions in supporting the Navigation mission requirement for safe, reliable, and cost-effective marine transportation.





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Thank you!

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