

Studies to support the European Green Deal Lot 2- Vessel density

Interim Presentation- Overview/ Current Status Presenter: Dimitris Zissis (dzissis@marinetraffic.com) MarineTraffic UBITECH

The team











Studies to support the European Green Deal

- The European Commission's proposal for a Green Deal resets the Commission's commitment to achieving zero emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 with economic growth decoupled from resource use.
- Scenarios explored in the preparation of the EU's Clean Planet communication suggested that achieving this will require doubling electricity production with about a quarter of it produced offshore
- This will mean enormous changes to European waters. Up to a quarter of certain countries' waters could be devoted to wind farms. Aquaculture production could be much greater than it is today. This will inevitably affect other marine activities fishing, shipping etc. The aim of this call for tender is to add to the evidence base that will underpin planning for this transition. It will look at two particular aspects:

(1) assessing the potential of shellfish and algae to recycle nutrients and the greenhouse gas emissions from their production;

(2) improving knowledge of vessel density in European waters.





Partial Truth

- Spatial trajectories are never perfectly accurate, due to sensor noise, measurement errors, physical limitations or other factors.
- Analyze the corrections necessary to vessel density maps to take into account those missed by AIS receivers mounted on satellites
 - Check against synthetic aperture radar image
 - Check through comparison between different • AIS receivers on satellites
 - Check through comparison with VMS records
 - Check through messages from receivers on • board ships





Task 1: Software development and evaluation for assessment of marine waters

[T1.1] Acquisition and processing of AIS data (Lead: MT) [T1.2] Vessel detection from spaceborne optical and SAR images (Lead: MT) [T1.3] Enrichment and reconstruction of vessel trajectories based on vessel routes (Lead: MT)

Task 2: Analysis The objective of this task is to use the outputs of Task 1 and perform an analysis in order to compare the computed vessel density per grid cell for each data source used in Task 1.

[T2.1] Comparison between vessel density results from SAT-AIS and SAT imagery processing (Lead: MT)

[T2.2] Comparison between different AIS Receivers on satellites (Lead: MT)

[T2.3] Comparison with VMS records (Lead: UBI)

[T2.4] Comparison with receivers mounted on board vessels and other offshore facilities (Lead: MT)

Task 3: Creating new sets of digital density maps

[T3.1] Creating density maps used in EMODnet [T3.2] Vessel density maps using vessel density information acquired from satellite image processing

[T3.3] Corrected density maps with SAT-AIS message collision elimination (Lead: MT)

[T3.4] Density maps showing the probability to avoid detection of a vessel (Lead: UBI)

[T3.5] Corrected trajectories density digital maps (Lead: MT)

Task 4: Preparation of results for peerreviewed journal



Journal of Geovisualization and Spatial Analysis





Konstantina Bereta, Ioannis Karantaidis, Dimitris Zissis. Vessel Traffic Density Maps based on Vessel Detection in Satellite Imagery. Submitted to IGARSS 2022.

Task 5: Transition and Handover details at the end of the contract

[T5.1] State of Play, Handover and Business continuity for products and services (Lead: UBI)

[T5.2] Legacy Strategy (Lead: UBI)

Objectives (1/2)

	Objective	Means of Achievement	Measures
01	Construction of a new set of vessel-based and trajectory-based density maps.	"detectability maps" that indicate the probability of a vessel crossing an area without being detected by a satellite passing overhead	Produce a vessel-based and trajectory based density map for every vessel category mentioned in EMODnet for the following areas: Baltic, Black, Irish, Mediterranean, North East Atlantic and North Seas.
02	Construction of "detectability maps" that indicate the probability of a vessel crossing an area without being detected by a satellite passing overhead.	Produce detectability maps for the following areas: Baltic, Black, Irish, Mediterranean, North East Atlantic and North Seas. The formula used to estimate detectability should be documented and explained.	Soundness of the used formula should be proved. Every vessel/grid cell in the detectability map should be associated with the respective detectability indicator.

Objectives (2/2)

	Objective	Means of Achievement	Measures
03	Design and implement the software that produces the maps and include detailed documentation.	The implemented workflow should be automatic and full documentation should be provided, including also test cases. Every step of the workflow should be explained.	End-to-end workflow documentation and scenario description. The workflow should be able to be executed in stand- alone mode producing the results described in the test cases.
04	Preparation of an article that describes the methodology and the results.	The methodology, data sources, and results should be reported in at least one scientific publication. The document should be formatted as a journal article and it should be submission- ready by the end of the project.	The article should be ready for submission.

Technology Readiness Level

TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL (TRL)



Milestones Description

MS1 (W2) Initial software requirements (Task 1)

MS2 (W22) First draft version of deliverables for Tasks 1,2,3,5 and interim progress presentation submitted to EASME for feedback.

MS3 (W22) Final version of interim report and deliverables submitted to EASME

MS4 (W32) Draft version of deliverables for Tasks 1-5 and presentation

MS5 (W34) Final version of deliverable and presentation of results to the steering committee

MS6 (W36) Final analysis report and final version of handover guidelines, including software manual



Overall Technical Approach



Interim Presentation

Presenter: Dimitris Zissis (dzissis@marinetraffic.com)

UBITECH ubiquitous solutions

Vessel density

- The term "vessel density" has several co-notations and thus is used with several meanings in this domain. Therefore, vessel density can refer to
- 1. the average number of vessels detected within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe;
- 2. the average number of crossings within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe (often also referred to as "vessel traffic density");
- 3. the total vessel presence times within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe;

The common dominator between all approaches is the dataset (AIS)

It is impossible to capture a lossless trajectory

- To capture though the accurate and complete trajectory of a moving object, is almost impossible in real conditions, due to the inherent limitations of data acquisition and storage mechanisms.
- Thus it can be captured as a time stamped series of location points denoted as p₀(x₀,y₀,t₀), p₀(x₁,y₁,t₁), ..., p_n(x_n,y_n,t_n), where x_i,y_i represents geographic coordinates of the moving object at time t_i and N is the total number of elements in the series. To generate the trajectory, a sensor needs to acquire its coordinates x,y at time t.

 $\sum traj_1 = \overline{p_0p_1}, \overline{p_1p_2}, \overline{p_2p_3}, \overline{p_3p_4}, \overline{p_4p_5}, \overline{p_5p_6}, \overline{p_6p_7}, \overline{p_7p_8}$ $\sum traj_2 = \overline{p_0p_1}, \overline{p_1p_3}, \overline{p_3p_4}, \overline{p_4p_7}, \overline{p_7p_8}$

$$\sum traj_1 != \sum traj_2$$



Spatial Trajectories & Density Maps



the average number of vessels or positions detected within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe;
 the average number of crossings within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe (often also referred to as "vessel traffic density");

3. the total vessel presence times within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe;



Automatic Identification System

- The most commonly used dataset for tracking vessel activities at sea is the Automatic Identification System (AIS), a collaborative, self-reporting system that allows vessels to broadcast their identification information, characteristics and destination, along with other information originating from on-board devices and sensors, such as location, speed and heading.
- AIS messages are broadcast periodically and can be received by other vessels equipped with AIS transceivers, as well as by on the ground or satellite-based sensors.
- This information is transmitted at regular intervals ranging anywhere from 2 seconds to 3 minutes, according to the vessels behaviour.
- Since 31 December 2004, AIS must be fitted aboard all vessels of 300 gross tonnage and upwards engaged on international voyages, cargo vessels of 500 gross tonnage and upwards not engaged on international voyages and all passenger vessels irrespective of size.



AIS receivers

- Terrestrial-based AIS (TER-AIS): Terrestrial receivers are coastal based stations which receive messages from vessels within their line of sight.
- Space-based AIS (SAT-AIS): Satellite receivers do not require line of sight; therefore, they have a large field of view (up to 5,000 km)

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Data fitness for purpose

- Spatial trajectories are never perfectly accurate, due to sensor noise, measurement errors, physical limitations or other factors.
- Sometimes the error is acceptable for a given use case while in other occasions it may lead to erroneous interpretations.
- The resolution of the initial rasterisation is the major factor effecting the data error or uncertainty propogation in the resulting grids.

Data Products

Density maps parameters			
Input	PointsDetectionsLines		
Count	 the average number of vessels detected within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe; the average number of crossings within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe (often also referred to as "vessel traffic density"); the total vessel presence times within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe; 		
Output Cell Size	 Density per square kilometers 10x10 100x100 		



Packet Collisions and phantom ships

• in large coverage areas there is no guarantee that another vessel is not transmitting at the same time

Priority to class A

- Class A transceivers reserve their time slots for transmission via Self Organized Time Division Multiple Access (SOTDMA).
- 1. After performing a scan to ascertain which slots have already been reserved by other vessels, they reserve an empty slot.
- 2. The device makes know to nearby AIS devices that it intends to use this slot for future broadcasts.

Class B transceivers are permitted to transmit via Carrier Sense Time Division Multiple Access (CSTDMA).

• Unlike SOTDMA, slots are not reserved. They instead simply scan for available space and transmit when a free one is determined to be available.

<u>Transmission priority is given to Class A</u> <u>transceivers which use SOTDMA since they</u> <u>reserve time slots</u>



Weaker transmission

- According to the ITU specifications Provision should be made for two levels of nominal power (high power, low power) as required by some applications. The default operation of the AIS station should be on the high nominal power level. The two power settings should be 1 W and 12.5 W or 1 W and 5 W for Class B "SO".
- Evidently the weaker signal of Class B devices means it is more difficult to receive these signals from space.



The data

- CLASS B
- Lower temporal resolution by design

Class A systems

Ships Dynamic Conditions	Reporting rate	
At anchor or moored	3 Minutes	
0-14 knots	10 Seconds	
0-14 knots and changing course	3 ^{1/} ₃ Seconds	
14-23 knots	6 Seconds	
14-23 knots and changing course	2 seconds	
Faster than 23 knots	2 seconds	
Faster than 23 knots and changing course	2 seconds	

Class B systems

Ships Dynamic Conditions	Reporting rate
0 to 2 knots	3 Minutes
Above 2 knots	30 Seconds

Other AIS sources

Source	Reporting rate
Search and Rescue (SAR) aircraft	10 seconds
Aids to navigation	3 minutes
AIS base station	10 seconds or 3.33 seconds, depending on operating parameters

Data Issues

Data fitness for purpose (SAT AIS)

Class A

 large coverage areas affect Class A reception

Class B

- 1. Congestion heavily affects Class B
- 2. Class A is given priority over ClassB (CSTDMA)
- 3. Weaker Signal
- Lower
 temporal/spatial
 resolution by
 design

Packet Collisions and phantom ships

Overall, two main types of issues can be identified in respect to package collisions in SAT-AIS, which affect density map generation,

- 1. Fewer vessels detected in a given region
- 2. Incomplete trajectories are received
 - Due to the lower temporal resolution (e.g. track difference between connected points could be 6-12 hours apart), vessel tracks cannot be reconstructed accurately.
 - Therefore, a track could be drawn between • two points quite a long way apart, cutting through landmasses and making it appear to be more dense.

- end of the gap
 start of the gap
- AIS messages

Differences in density maps

 $\sum traj_1 = \overline{p_0 p_1}, \overline{p_1 p_2}, \overline{p_2 p_3}, \overline{p_3 p_4}, \overline{p_4 p_5}, \overline{p_5 p_6}, \overline{p_6 p_7}, \overline{p_7 p_8}$ $\sum traj_2 = \overline{p_0 p_1}, \overline{p_1 p_3}, \overline{p_3 p_4}, \overline{p_4 p_7}, \overline{p_7 p_8}$





Data Pre-processing & Area Definition

Interim Presentation

Presenter: Dimitris Zissis (dzissis@marinetraffic.com)



DATA SOURCES USED

for the period 5 Oct 2021 – 31 Oct 2021



Terrestrial AIS from MarineTraffic own coastal Network

S-AIS from 3 major providers



Copernicus Sentinel-1 (SAR) and Sentinel-2 (Optical) imagery


Grid

- 500km (pink)
- 200km (yellow)
- 100km (orange)
- 10km (brown)
- 1 Km



Cleaning & Preprocessing

- trajectories are never perfectly accurate due to sensor noise and other factors.
- In most situations it is necessary to apply algorithmic techniques to the data to smooth the noise and potentially decrease the error in the measurements.



Cleaning & Preprocessing the data

- More precisely the filters applied to each input message are the following:
- Removing data with empty fields
- Invalid movement fields
- Invalid vessel ID
- Special characters
- Downsampling (min 3 minutes)

Removed messages during cleaning - Sat-AIS (%)



Open Source Release

Cleaning & Preprocessing the data

- More precisely the filters applied to each input message are the following:
- Removing data with empty fields
- Invalid movement fields
- Invalid vessel ID
- Special characters
- Downsampling (min 3 minutes)



Removed messages during cleaning - Ter-AIS (%)

Number of unique ships detected daily for each sea



Number of positions received per day



CLASS A / CLASS B fitness

AIS Class Distribution

		SEA									
		ATL		BAL		BAR		BLK		MED	
		% of Total	% of Total								
Datasource	CLASS	Positions a	Ships alon								
sat-ais-all-merged	А	98.03%	76.54%	100.00%	99.17%	96.69%	60.95%	99.81%	99.51%	99.79%	95.38%
	В	1.97%	23.46%	0.00%	0.83%	3.31%	39.05%	0.19%	0.49%	0.21%	4.62%
ter-ais-merged	A	76.14%	61.71%	82.14%	59.26%	53.87%	60.62%	63.75%	65.91%	76.37%	62.94%
	В	23.86%	38.29%	17.86%	40.74%	46.13%	39.38%	36.25%	34.09%	23.63%	37.06%

Our focus is on CLASS A

The tools are released open source

Traffic Research 🍿

ABOUT PUBLICATIONS PARTNERSHIPS OUTREACH TOOLS & DOWNLOADS NEWS CAREERS Q

У in

The MarineTraffic AIS toolbox

An open-source tool developed from Marinetraffic Reseach

The Marine Traffic AIS toolbox provides a number of modules to support handling AIS data while improving their transformation into actionable visualisations such as density maps. The code is written in python for simplicity, readability and overall ease of use. We look forward to seeing what people do with the Marine Traffic Toolobox and would like to hear your comments.

We will be releasing the software as a beta version over the next few weeks because we wanted to get feedback as soon as possible



This work has been partially funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) through service contract No. CINEA/EMFF/2020/3.1161.cd/2012.850940. The following people helped make the open source release possible. Alexandros Troupiots, Marios Vodas, Nikolaso Zugoura, Giennis Spiliopoulos

AIS Cleaning Module

Trajectories are never perfectly accurate due to sensor noise and other factors. In most situations it is necessary to apply algorithmic techniques to the data to smooth the noise and potentially decrease the error in the measurements.

This module also includes a number of simple data reduction techniques. The main objective of such trajectory reduction techniques is to reduce the size of the dataset so as to make it operable without compromising too much of its precision.

This module reads data as csv, it applies filters and delivers the cleaned data-set into the same csv format. The filters applied include removing empty fields, invalid movement data, invalid vessel details, special characters and downsampling the data according to user defined parameters.



Density Maps Module

Density Maps support the improved understanding of vessel traffic, through providing a bird's eye view of vessel behavior either at a regional or global scale.

The term "vessel density" has several co-notations and thus is used with several meanings in this domain. Therefore, vessel density can refer to

1. the average number of vessels detected within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe;

 the average number of crossings within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe (often also referred to as "vessel traffic density");

3. the total vessel presence times within a defined geographical area (spatial grid) in a given timeframe

Here we refer to vessel density as total presence time AIS is the most commonly used dataset for the generation of density maps. This module provides a number of functions for the conversion of AIS data into density maps.

The input is AIS csv while the output is geotiff in 1 km²2,10 km²2, 100 km²2 or any other km²² resolution defined in the configuration.



https://www.marinetraffic.com/research/the-marinetraffic-ais-toolbox/



Vessel detection from space



Interim Presentation

Presenter: Konstantina Bereta

UBITECH ubiquitous solutions



Analysis & Preliminary Results

Interim Presentation

Presenter: Dimitris Zissis (dzissis@marinetraffic.com)

MarineTraffic **UBITECH** UBITECH UBITECH Solutions

EU waters TER AIS (1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

EU waters TER AIS (1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

EU waters SAT AIS (1km)

EU waters SAT AIS (1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

Europe – TER AIS (10km)

K nac

Itelan

Maroko

100+ 20

10

Interim Presentation Lot 2

Njemačka

Isvicre

Belgija Luksemburg

Fransa

Andorra

Swede

Poljska

Slovakia.

Hungary

Serbia

Yunanistan

Češka

Austria

Slovenia

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sentation Lot 2-Vessel density

Finland

Estonija

Latviia

Belarus

Moldova

Ukraine.

Türkiye

tilling

Kibris

Suriye

Gürcistan

Azerbaycan

Kazakistan

Kırgızistar

Tacikistan

54

Özbekistan

Afganistan

Türkmenistan

fran

ithuania

Romanya

Bulgaristan

Europe – SATAIS (10km)

Maroko

100+ 20

10

Kingdon

Interim Presentation Lot 2-Vessel density

Yunanistan

Swede

Poljska

Slovakia.

Hungary

Serbia

Češka

Austria

Slovenia

Njemačka

Isvicre

Belgija Luksemburg

Fransa

Andorra

Finland

Estonija

Latvija

Belarus

Moldova

Ukrajne.

Türkiye

Lübna

Kibris

Suriye

Gürcistan

Azerbaycan

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Romanya

Bulgaristan

Afganistan

Özbekistan

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Europe – TER AIS (100km)

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Njemačka

Interim Presentation Lot 2-Vessel density

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Moldova

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56

Pakistan

Özbekistan

Afganistan

Türkmenistar

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Romanya

Bulgarista

Europe - SATAIS (100km)

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Belgija Luksemburg

Fransa

Andorra

Njemačka

Ireland

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

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Bulgaristan

Afganistan 57

Pakistan

Kazakistan

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Tacikistan

Özbekistan

Türkmenistar

fran

EU difference maps

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58

-50

100+

50

0

North Atlantic sea TER AIS (1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

North Atlantic sea TER AIS (1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

North Atlantic seá - Density map satellite data (1km)

20

North Atlantic sea - SAT AIS(1km)

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

North Atlantic Difference Maps

100+

50

0

-50

-100

nterim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

Baltic sea - TER AIS(1km)

Baltic sea - TER AIS(1km)

Baltic sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Baltic sea - SAT AIS(1km)

Baltic Sea Difference Maps

100+

50

0

-50

-100

Barents sea - TER AIS (1km)

Barents sea - TER AIS (1km)

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Barents sea - SATAIS (1km)

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Barents sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Barents Difference map

100+

50

0

-50

-100

Black sea - TER AIS(1km)

100+ 20 10

74
Black sea - TER AIS (1km)

Black sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Black sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Difference map Black Sea

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100+

50

0

78

Mediterranean sea - TER AIS (1km)

Mediterranean sea - TER AIS (1km)

Mediterranean sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Mediterranean sea - SAT AIS (1km)

Mediterranean sea - Difference Map

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel density

100+

50

0

-50

-100

Some important findings

EU Waters

>45% geographically covered by TER AIS
>80% SAT AIS

Some important findings

EU Waters

- No single data source can be used
- Each source complements the other

Average time gap between two sequential AIS messages of a vessel for Sat-AIS and TER-AIS per day.



Average distance between two sequential AIS messages of a vessel for Sat-AIS and TER-AIS per day.



1.0 NM = 1.852 km

Number of unique ships (Mediterranean Sea)



Number of unique ships (Black Sea)

Ships - BLK



Sea

BLK

Number of unique ships (Baltic Sea)

Ships - BAL



Sea

Number of unique ships (North Atlantic)





Number of unique ships (Barents Sea)

Note: This is the only area where we see SAT AIS detecting more vessels (CLASS A)



Average distance between two sequential AIS messages (Sat-AIS providers)



Average time gap between two sequential AIS messages (Sat-AIS) per day



Some important take aways

EU Waters

- Only in Barents Sea do we see SAT AIS outperform TER AIS
- Where TER AIS coverage is sufficient, SAT AIS detects approx. 50% less vessels in area
- TER AIS data has much better quality and granularity

Comparison between SAT AIS vs EO Det vs TER AIS (Med)

Measure N.. Sat Ais Vessels EO Detections Ter Ais Vessels

SAT-AIS vs EO Detections vs TER-AIS



Density map of vessels detected using Sentine 1 images Moldova

Italy

withenian Sea

Tunisla

Serbia

Greece

Bulgaria

Ukraine

Black Se

Turkey

Lebanon

Sy



There is a start of the start o

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Spain

Interim Presentation Lot 2- Vessel densi

Mediterranean Sta





Not detected from SAT AIS



Number of vessels detected (per cell) on average



spatial pattern of objects

- **Clustered**: occurs when objects exist in close proximity to one another.
- **Dispersed**: occurs when objects are spread out from one another.
- Random: occurs when objects exist in neither a clustered or dispersed pattern. This is what we also refer to as a "hypothetical" or "normative" pattern



Nearest Neighbour Analysis

- 1. measure the distance between each point and its nearest neighbor.
- 2. all the distances are summed together and divided by the number of points in the study area, which gives us a measure called the average nearest neighbor distance. The equation for the mean NND is:

$$\overline{NND} = \frac{\sum NND}{n}$$

Nearest Neighbour Analysis

a perfectly clustered pattern has a NND = 0



Some more important take aways

EU Waters

- Resolution of SENTINEL does not permit the detection of small vessels
 # of vessels and NNA is a
- good indicator for areas where SAT AIS detection is low

Overall Conclusions

- One single unique data source to compute a vessel density map at global level does not exist.
- SAT AIS only a partial view; missing both ships and positions, with less granularity
- We can calculate areas and conditions where SAT AIS reception is low (detectability maps)

Status Report & Next Steps

Release Open-Source software (v 1.0)

Quantify previous analysis into detection maps

Create density maps for additional months

 Different density maps per type

Sentinel-2 workflow execution in progress

Sentinel-1 execution for the rest of the time period

Classification by vessel type

Gap filling

Use transition grid to fill trajectory gaps



Gap filling

Mean temporal gap (mins):	31.2
Mean spatial gap (km)	2.5
Temporal Max	41990
Temporal Min	3
Spatial Max	6549.5
Spatial Min	0




Transition and Handover details at the end of the contract

Interim Presentation

Presenter: Sofia Karagiorgou



State of Play

- Best practices
 - PM²: effort needed, planning, etc.
 - ITIL: services for handover + business continuity w.r.t. lessons learnt and knowledge transfer
- Method Review, Liaison and Landscape set up
 - Focus on EMODnet method compatibility (i.e., 3rd method in EU Vessel density map; Detailed method; v1.5; 03/19 with current stack: PostgreSQL & PostGIS, QGIS)
 - Vessel detection from spaceborne optical and SAR images
 - Early publications w.r.t. 1st half of the project results
 - In progress: discussions/interactions with EMODnet team to:
 - Share & use common Med. Area
 - Share, use & compare GeoTIFF files

Handover and Business Continuity





Handover team already set: follows up & monitors progress

Regular & Digital communication channels for feedback & sync



Define objectives and KPIs; suggest plans:

Establish a pipeline/method to assess/compare density maps

Inform/Train interested stakeholders on the outcomes and their production

Collect lessons learnt & provide recommendations based on the findings

Extend and transfer insights to similar tasks/initiatives, i.e., maps on shipping emissions and noise maps

Contribute/assist in developing an adaptive legacy strategy on maritime/specific ecosystems





Thank you for your attention!