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Data Acquisition and Processing Report

NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson* Chief of Party: Commander Lawrence T. Krepp Year: 2013 Version: 1 Publish Date: 2012-12-05

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A.2 Echo Sounding Equipment

A.2.1 Side Scan Sonars

A.2.1.1 Klein 5000

 Transceiver/Processing Unit (TPU), and a computer for user interface. Stern-towed units also include a tow cable telemetry assembly. The towfish operates at frequency of 455 kHz and a vertical beam angle of 40°, and can resolve up to 5 discreet received beams per transducer stave. There are two configurations for data acquisition using the KLEIN 5000 system: stern-towed and hull-mounted. S-222 uses exclusively stern towed SSS. HSL 3101 uses a hull-mount configuration. HSL 3102 can be converted from hull-mounted to towed as required. There are also two options for the weight of the towfish: the standard, and a lightweigh variant. The hull mounts on both survey launches can accommodate both standard or a light-weight towfishes, however S222 uses only the standard weight. Positioning of the Towfish is calculated using CARIS SIPS, and is derived from the amount of cable out, the towfish depth (from the towfish pressure gage), the vessel's Course Made Good (CMG), and the vessel's heading. Towfish altitude is maintained between 8% and 20% of the range scale unless specifically noted in the Descriptive Report. Vessel speed is adjusted during SSS acquisition to ensure that object detection density is met. Confidence checks are performed by noting changes in linear bottom features extending to the outer edges of the digital side scan image, and by verifying aids to navigation or other known features on the side scan record. The resolution of the system is: Along Track: 10cm out to 38 meters 20cm out to 75 meters 36 cm out to 150 meters Across Track: 3.75 cm *Serial Numbers Vessel Installed On* S-222 **HSL 3101** HSL 3102 *TPU s/n* 137 136 136 135 *Towfish s/n* 280 322 319 *Specifications Frequency* 455 kilohertz *Along Track Resolution Resolution* 10 centimeters 20 centimeters 36 centimeters *Min Range* \vert 0 meters \vert 39 meters \vert 76 meters *Max Range* 38 meters 75 nautical miles 150 meters *Across Track Resolution* 3.75 centimeters *Max Range Scale* 150 meters

Manufacturer Calibrations Manufacturer calibration was not performed.

Figure 3: Klein 5000 Side Scan Sonar towfish

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No phase measuring bathymetric sonars were utilized for data acquisition.

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No additional echosounders were utilized for data acquisition.

A.3 Manual Sounding Equipment

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No diver depth gauges were utilized for data acquisition.

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Figure 7: Sounding pole used aboard Thomas Jefferson and her survey launches

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No laser rangefinders were utilized for data acquisition.

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No additional positioning and attitude equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.5 Sound Speed Equipment

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A.5.2 Surface Sound Speed

A.5.2.1 AML Oceanographic AML Smart SV&T Probe

Figure 15: AML Smart SV&T probe used for surface sound speed aboard Thomas Jefferson S-222.

A.5.2.2 RESON SV-70

Figure 16: RESON SV71 Sound Velcoity Probe used for surface sound speed aboard HSL 3101 & 3102

A.6 Horizontal and Vertical Control Equipment

A.6.1 Horizontal Control Equipment

A.6.1.1 Base Station Equipment

No base station equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

A.6.1.2 Rover Equipment

No rover equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

Additional Discussion

The Horizontal Datum for all projects is the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83). During data acquisition and initial processing, horizontal control for all survey data is derived from Differentially corrected GPS, using USCG differential correctors. Differential beacons are chosen based on their proximity to the survey grounds and the signal-to-noise ratio of the beacons if more than one beacon is near the survey grounds.

During post processing, horizontal control for MBES data is replaced with a Smooth Best Estimate Trajectory (SBET) positioning. SBETs are created by adding ephemeris correctors and clock correctors to the original DGPS positions. The ephemis and clock data is downloaded from a network of Continuously Operated Reference Stations (CORS) stations that enclose the survey area.

A.6.2 Vertical Control Equipment

No vertical control equipment was utilized for data acquisition.

Additional Discussion

Vertical Datum for all projects is Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW). Vertical control is applied to bathymetry using one of three methods:

1: Zoned Tides. When using zoned tides water levels are supplied by NWLON tide stations. Vertical correctors are then applied to bathymetric data using a grid of discrete tide zones.

2: TCARI Tides: Tidal Constituents and Residuals Interpolator (TCARI) is an alternative to discrete zoning. Instead of a grid, TCARI uses the shoreline to generate a Triangulated Irregular Network (TIN) surface that encompasses the survey area. Water levels and residuals from tide stations in the area are used to populate each cell in the TIN, resulting in a smoother tide solution than can be achieved by discrete zoning.

3: ERZT: Ellipsoid-Referenced Zoned Tides derives vertical heights from the post-processed SBETs. See the Horizontal Control section of this report for deeper discussion of SBETs.

The form of Vertical Control used for each survey will be listed in section C.1 of the Descriptive Report.

A.7 Computer Hardware and Software

A.7.1 Computer Hardware

A.7.2 Computer Software

data. PYDRO: can be used to classify side-scan sonar and Multibeam bathymetry contacts and manage survey features, however this functionality has largely been replaced by CARIS BASE Editor. PYDRO is still used for the generation of chartlets, the generation of Danger to Navigation reports, and to process TCARI tides. VELOCIPY: is a program used for processing sound velocity casts. This program converts the hexadecimal SeaCat data to ASCII, and converts the ASCII data into a depth-binned sound velocity file. MVP data is recorded in a .txt format, and can be binned via Velocipy without conversion to ASCII. The resulting .svp files are applied to MBES and VBES data during post processing to correct for sound velocity variation within the water column. XmlDR: is used to generate Descriptive Reports for each survey.

Description Fledermaus is used to process backscatter mosaics.

A.8 Bottom Sampling Equipment

A.8.1 Bottom Samplers

A.8.1.1 Ponar Wildco # 1728

Figure 17: Ponar style grab sampler used aboard NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson

A.8.1.2 Kahlsico Mud Snapper 214WA100

Figure 18: Snapper type grab sampler used aboard HSL 3101 & 3102.

B Quality Control

B.1 Data Acquisition

B.1.1 Bathymetry

B.1.1.1 Multibeam Echosounder

All Multibeam data is logged using Hypack/Hysweep in the .HSX format. During acquisition, the hydrographer;

- Monitors the RESON SeaBat interface for errors and data quality;

 - Adjusts range scale, power, gain, pulse width, swath width, absorption, spreading, and gates to ensure maximum data quality;

- Monitors the Hysweep interface using the following sub windows: 3-D sounding points, Multibeam;

- Monitors the vessel speed and adjusts as necessary to ensure density specifications are met.

HSL 3101 and 3102 acquire MBES data using polygons, with coverage being monitered via HYPACK's mosaic feature. Holidays are acquired as they occur, with a final quality control check for density rareifactions occuring near the completion of acqusition. The ship acquires all MBES data using preplanned lines, with a mosiac in the background, with holidays being noted as they occur. Near the end of mainscheam acqusition, a quality control check for density rarifactions is completed, and all gaps in coverage are acquired.

B.1.1.2 Single Beam Echosounder

All Vertical Beam data is logged using ODOM eChart in the .bin and .raw formats. The .raw contains the depth data, the .bin files contain water column data. During acquisition the hydrographer:

- Monitors real-time data in the ODOM eChart window;
- - Adjusts gain and power as needed to ensure data quality.

B.1.1.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar bathymetry was not acquired.

B.1.2 Imagery

B.1.2.1 Side Scan Sonar

All Side Scan Sonar data is logged using Klein SonarPro, in the .SDF format. During acquisition the hydrographer:

 - Monitors range, towfish height, heading, pitch, roll, latitude, longitude, speed, pressure, and temperature;

- Adjusts towfish height, in accordance with Field Procedures Manual.

B.1.2.2 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar imagery was not acquired.

B.1.3 Sound Speed

B.1.3.1 Sound Speed Profiles

The Thomas Jefferson S-222 uses an Applied Microsystems SV&P probe installed inside an MVP free-fall fish to acquire sound speed profiles. Profiles aboard the ship are are acquired at 30 - 60 minute intervals. HSL 3101 and 3102 both use a Sea-Bird SBE19+ CTD to collect sound speed profiles, generally at 2 - 4 hour intervals. Casts are also conducted when changing survey areas, or when a chanve of weather, tide, or current warrant. The launch crew also moniters the real-time display of the Reson SVP 71for drastic changes in the surface sound velocity indicative of the need for a new cast.Aboard all platforms, the hydrographer processes each cast immediately, then reviews it for erroneous data.

Figure :

B.1.3.2 Surface Sound Speed

The Thomas Jefferson S-222 uses an Applied Microsystems Smart SV&T probe to find the speed of sound at the RESON transducer face. HSL 3101 and 3102 use a RESON SV-71 to acquire sound speed at the transducer face. The accuracy of each surface sound speed device is checked against the closest CTD data point after every CTD cast.

B.1.4 Horizontal and Vertical Control

B.1.4.1 Horizontal Control

The Thomas Jefferson S-222 and her survey launches all use Differentially-corrected GPS via a USCG DGPS beacon to establish horizontal position for all data acquisition and initial processing. The frequency of the assigned beacon is programmed into the Trimble DGPS receiver. The minimum number of satellites, their minimum elevation above the horizon, and the age of pseudo range correctors are also set using TSIP Talker. During acquisition, differential correctors are sent to the Applanix POS M/V via serial connection. Total positional accuracy is monitored inside the MV-POSView window.

During post-processing horizontal positioning can be shifted to an Inertially Aided Post-Processed Kinematic (IAPPK) solution. The solution is created by combining GPS/GNSS satellite ephemeris and clock data with positional information downloaded from a network of Continually Operating Reference Stations (CORS).

 The resulting positional data is corrected for the effects of atmospheric interference on the GPS signal. The corrected GPS position is then combined with the vessel's inertial data using the POSPac MMS program to create a Smoothed Best Estimate of Trajectory (SBET). The resulting position can be used to apply higher quality navigation information to the processed data.

B.1.4.2 Vertical Control

Vertical Control methods for each project are specified in the project instructions, and utilize one of three possible methods:

Zoned Tides: when using zoned tides vertical control is based on one or more NWLON stations operated by CO-OPS. Co-range and co-phase measurements from the NWLON stations are used to break the project area into zones, each of which has a distinct time-of-tide and range-of-tide corrector. CO-OPS provides the field unit a CARIS compatible file which takes observed water levels from surrounding gauges, computes the time and range correctors for each zone, and uses the zoned data to reduce bathymetric soundings to MLLW. Sometimes it is necessary to install temporary, tertiary tide stations to supplement data from existing NWLON stations in order to adequately model tides. After completion of a survey area, CO-OPS verifies all zoning and water level data.

TCARI Tides: Tidal Constituent and Residual Interpretor is an alternative to discrete zoning. A TCARI grid is a triangulated network that uses two or more water level gauges to create a weighted network across the survey area. Each point on the grid has a discrete tidal interpolation that is based on the horizontal nearness of a water level gauge, the harmonic constants of the area, and the residual water levels. Bathymetric data is then reduced to MLLW using the TCARI tool in Pydro. Like zoned tides, CO-OPS verifies TCARI grids and observed water levels at the conclusion of each survey.

GPS Tide: The IAPPK solution described in the Horizontal Control section can also be used to provide vertical control. Using this method the bathymetric data is initially reduced to the Ellipsoid using the highly accurate positional data. It is later reduced to MLLW using a separation model called VDATUM, which is provided to the field unit by NOAA's Hydrographic Services Division.

B.1.5 Feature Verification

The following work flow is used to develop and verify features:

- The location of all potentially significant features are exported to MapInfo. Any indication of shoaling found in VBES data is also noted, and the area outlined in MapInfo;

- A development line plan is created using MapInfo, creating line spacing that will ensonify all features with nadir beams;

- Object Detection level MBES data is collected over all SSS contacts, VBES designated soundings, and all possible shoals. Quality of data is controlled through:

- Real time monitoring during acquisition to ensure that all features are covered by nadir beams;
- Post Processing inspection of the CUBE surface's Density, Standard Deviation, and Uncertainty layers;

- All developments are examined for significances. Objects found to be significant are flagged with a designated sounding, and become part of the Final Feature File.

B.1.6 Bottom Sampling

Bottom samples are collected in accordance with the recommended bottom sample plan provided in each survey's shoreline Project Reference File (PRF). The potential sample sites are examined by the command and potentially culled based on the actual depths found during survey operations. Additional sample sites may also be added.

Aboard HSL 3101 & 3102 bottom samples are collected using the Kahlsico Mud Snapper, while the Thomas Jefferson uses the winch-deployed Ponar Wildco. Once obtained, samples are analyzed for sediment type and classified with S57 attribution using CARIS BASE Editor. In the event that no sample is obtained after three attempts, the nature of the surface is characterized as "unknown". Samples are discarded after field analysis is complete.

B.1.7 Backscatter

Current cuidance from Field Procedures Manual calls for field units to acquire and submit multibeam backscatter in snippet mode when feasible. The Thomas Jefferon's current policy is to ensure quality by processing one line of backscatter per platform, per day.

All backscatter data is logged using Hypack/Hysweep in the .7k format. During acquisition the hydrographer:

 - Uses a Saturation Monitor program to evaluate the sonar's power and gain settings plotted against a saturation point;

- Ensures that the RESON data does not saturate;

- Keeps sonar adjustments to a minimum to reduce the likelihood of artifacts in the resulting backscatter product.

B.1.8 Other

No additional data were acquired.

B.2 Data Processing

B.2.1 Bathymetry

B.2.1.1 Multibeam Echosounder

The development of IAPPK positioning has created two separate work flows for multibeam data. One is based on traditional tide methods, and one is based on Ellipsoid Referenced Survey methods. All data is converted into a .HSX format and processed using CARIS HIPS, however the application of navigation, heave, and positional data varies.

The work flow for traditionally processed surveys follows:

- Convert raw .HSX into the CARIS HIPS HDCS format;
- Scan Navigation and Attitude data, flagging erroneous data as rejected;
- Apply TrueHeave, tide, and speed of sound correctors;

- Compute Total Propagated Error. Uncertainty values applied to the data follow recommendations of NOAA's FPM (ed 2013) Appendix 4. The exception is MRU alignment uncertainties, which are calculated using the standard deviation of all angular biases found during a patch test. Tidal zoning and sound speed error modeling is computed on a per-project basis, and is detailed in section B.2.2 of the Descriptive Report;

- Create CUBE grids. Grid resolution is dictated by the type of coverage required (Complete Coverage vs. Object Detection), and the depth of water. Disambiguation method is NOAA CUBE Parameters. Compliance with HSSD gridding requirements is strictly observed;

- Review the CUBE grids for holidays;
- Create an initial holiday line plan;
- Review the uncertainty layer of each CUBE grid. Address each area where uncertainty falls outside of the standards set by HSSD;

- Examine all surfaces for erroneous surface designation and evidence of systematic errors. Also identify features and look for evidence of shoaling;

- Significant features are flagged 'designated', forcing the CUBE algorithm to honor the depth of the sounding;

- Create finalized grids. In finalization, the standard deviation for each node in the surface is multiplied by 1.96 to provide the 95% (2-sigma) standard deviation is compared to the computed Total Vertical Uncertainty (TVU) for each node. The larger of the two values is retained as the finalized Uncertainty for each node.

The work flow for ERS processed surveys follows:

- Convert raw data .HSX data into the CARIS HIPS HDCS format;
- Load TrueHeave correctors;

- Create a Smooth Best Estimate of Trajectory (SBET) file, and the associated error file using POSPac MMS;

- Review SBETs for erroneous data and poor satellite solution;
- Load Attitude/Navigation data;
- Load Error Data;
- Compute GPS Tide;
- Apply sound velocity correctors;

- Compute Total Propagated Error. Uncertainty values applied to the data follow recommendations of NOAA's FPM (ed 2013) Appendix 4. The exception is MRU alignment uncertainties, which are calculated using the standard deviation of all angular biases found during a patch test. Tidal zoning and sound speed error modeling is computed of a per-project basis, and is detailed in section B.2.2 of the Descriptive Report;

- Create CUBE grids. Grid resolution is dictated by the type of coverage required (Complete Coverage vs. Object Detection), and the depth of water. Disambiguation method is NOAA CUBE Parameters. Compliance with HSSD griddling requirements is strictly observed;

- Review the CUBE grids for holidays;
- Create an initial holiday line plan;
- Review the uncertainty layer of each CUBE grid. Address each area where uncertainty falls outside of the standards set by HSSD;

- Examine all surfaces for erroneous surface designation and evidence of systematic errors. Also identify features and look for evidence of shoaling;

- Significant features are flagged 'designated', forcing the CUBE algorithm to honor the depth of the sounding;

- Create finalized grids. Again, in finalization, the standard deviation for each node in the surface is multiplied by 1.96 to provide the 95% (2-sigma) standard deviation is compared to the computed Total Vertical Uncertainty (TVU) for each node. The larger of the two values is retained as the finalized Uncertainty for each node.

Figure :

B.2.1.2 Single Beam Echosounder

All VBES data is converted using CARIS. The work flow follows:

- Convert raw .bin and .raw data using CARIS HIPS;

- Scan Navigation and Attitude data, flagging erroneous data as rejected;

- Apply TrueHeave, tide, and speed of sound correctors;

- Compute Total Propagated Error. Uncertainty values applied to the data follow recommendations of NOAA's FPM (ed 2013) Appendix 4. The exception is MRU alignment uncertainties, which are calculated using the standard deviation of all angular biases found during a patch test. Tidal zoning and sound speed error modeling is computed of a per-project basis, and is detailed in section B.2.2 of the Descriptive Report;

- Scan all data using the CARIS Single Beam Editor tool, flagging data from the water column and the subbottom returns as rejected;

- When definition of the true bottom is ambiguous, the full water column dana can be inspected by viewing the HYPACK created .bin files;

- Create CARIS BASE Uncertainty weighted grids at 4-meter resolution;

- Analyze grids for features and for areas of shoaling, flagging them for development by a Multibeam sonar.

Figure :

B.2.1.3 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar bathymetry was not processed.

B.2.1.4 Specific Data Processing Methods

B.2.1.4.1 Methods Used to Maintain Data Integrity

All bathymetric data is moved through the CARIS HIPS processing pileline using a step-by-step method. Data integrity is maintained through the use of acqusition and processing logs, which track: acqusition of each line of data; conversion of the data; examination of ancilary sensor(navigation and attitude); and the application of heave, tides, SVP, and TPU. When processing an ERS survey, an additional log tracking the quality of SBETs is used.

B.2.1.4.2 Methods Used to Generate Bathymetric Grids

After initial processing the bathymetric data is gridded into BASE surfaces. VBES data is gridded using an Uncertainty Weighted algorithm, set to 4 meter resolution. This type of grid calculates a horizontal and vertical uncertainty for each sounding, derived from the combined uncertainty from each of the sensors that contributes data to the sounding (e.g water levels, tide zoning, attitude sensor error, navigation sensor horizontal position error, and sound velocity profile error). Individual soundings are then propagated to grid nodes, which takes on a depth value as well as an uncertainty value based on all the soundings that contribute to the node. The influence of a sounding on a grid node is limited to 0.707 times the grid resolution.

MBES data is gridded using the CUBE algorithm. Resolution is dictated by the Project Instructions, as well as section 5.2.2 of the HSSD. The disambiguation method used is always Density and Local. The settings used for Capture Distance Scale, Horizontal Error Scaler, and Capture Distance Minimum are those listed in section 4.2.1.1.1.1 of the FPM. After creation, Uncertainty and CUBE grids go through a quality control process. During this process, the Depth, Uncertainty, and Density child layers are examined for compliance with NOAA specifications. After the grids passes quality control, they are finalized. Uncertainty values for finalized surface come from the greater of either Uncertainty, or Standard Deviation.

B.2.1.4.3 Methods Used to Derive Final Depths

B.2.2 Imagery

B.2.2.1 Side Scan Sonar

- Convert raw .sdf data using CARIS SIPS;
- Scan Navigation and Attitude data, flagging erroneous data as rejected;
- Re-compute towfish navigation. This is when towpoint offsets and horizontal layback is applied to the data;
- Slant range correct each line of data;
- A primary reviewer scans each line for significant contacts;

- A secondary reviewer makes an independent check-scan of all lines, verifying contacts and checking for missed contacts;

- If the Project Instructions call for 200% Side Scan coverage, the scanners check correlation of contacts between 100% and 200% coverage;

- Correlation is also used to reveal systematic errors, particularly if a contact shows up on lines collected in opposite or orthogonal directions;
- Create individual mosaics for 100% and 200% coverage. Examine for coverage;
- If necessary, create a holiday line plan.

Figure :

B.2.2.2 Phase Measuring Bathymetric Sonar

Phase measuring bathymetric sonar imagery was not processed.

B.2.2.3 Specific Data Processing Methods

B.2.2.3.1 Methods Used to Maintain Data Integrity

Daily confidence checks were completed to ensure integrity of data. These checks were completed by ensonifing a target in the outer limits of the range scale on either side of towfish. When this target was seen on the trace within ten meters of the target's actual position (the positional accuracy of a towed system), it

 was understood that data integrity was maintained. Additionally, integrity is controlled through the use of acquisition and processing logs.

B.2.2.3.2 Methods Used to Achieve Object Detection and Accuracy Requirements

Object detection from side-scan imagery is obtained by acquiring the entire survey area two times, with survey lines in the second coverage offset halfway between the lines from the first coverage. This results in 200% Side-Scan Coverage with line spacing based on 80% of the range scale. To ensure positional accuracy, a side-scan certification test is performed. Multiple passes are made on a discrete feature (1m cube when possible) that ensonifies the feature with each transducer at a distance approximately 15%, 50%, and 80% of the range scale in use. A total of 12 passes are made and the feature must be detected in at least 10 of the 12 pass. All survey lines are then processed and a contact created for the feature. Contact positions are plotted and compared to the actual position of the feature. The contacts must be within 5m of the actual position for hull-mounted systems and 10m for towed systems.

B.2.2.3.3 Methods Used to Verify Swath Coverage

Side-scan sonar coverage is determined by creating mosaics using Mosaic Editor in CARIS SIPS. Each 100% of coverage is evaluated independently for gaps in coverage. Any holidays noted in the mosaics must be re-acquired in a manner that will ensonify the area from the same incidence angle as originally intended.

B.2.2.3.4 Criteria Used for Contact Selection

For water depths less than 20m, contact heights of 1m or greater are considered significant. For water depths 20m or greater, contact heights of 10% of the water depth are considered significant. A feature is created for each significant contact.

B.2.2.3.5 Compression Methods Used for Reviewing Imagery

No compression methods were used for reviewing imagery.

B.2.3 Sound Speed

B.2.3.1 Sound Speed Profiles

Sound speed profiles are acquired by two types of devices: CTD and MVP. Downloading and processing of all sound speed data is performed using Velocipy, a part of the HSTP supplied Pydro program suite.

B.2.3.1.1 Specific Data Processing Methods

B.2.3.1.1.1 Caris SVP File Concatenation Methods

All sound speed profiles are concatenated into Master files using Velocpy.

Figure :

B.2.3.2 Surface Sound Speed

Surface sound speed data were not processed.

B.2.4 Horizontal and Vertical Control

B.2.4.1 Horizontal Control

Fixed USCG DGPS stations are used for all real time horizontal information. If IAPPK positioning is used, the POSPac files are processed into SBETs using POSPac MMS.

Figure :

B.2.4.2 Vertical Control

CO-OPS zoned water levels utilizing water level observations from fixed, continuously operating NOAA tide gages are used for reduction of data to MLLW. Predicted water levels are applied during preliminary processing. Before submission, verified water levels are applied to all tidally corrected data. If post processed GPS techniques are used to improve vertical control, specific information is included in the Descriptive Report and/or the project's Horizontal and Vertical Control Report.

Figure :

B.2.5 Feature Verification

Feature verification begins during initial data processing. When conducting Side Scan surveys the data is converted and scanned for contacts using 2 independent reviewers. All significant contacts are then developed using a MBES. When conducting Multibeam surveys, or when reviewing MBES developments over Side Scan Sonar contacts, the least depths over navigationally significant features are flagged as

 'designated soundings', then imported into CARIS BASE Editor. Inside BASE Editor, each significant contact is given an S-57 attribution, and the hydrographer recommends charting action. The final deliverable is a Final Feature File (FFF) .000 format.

Figure :

B.2.6 Backscatter

All backscatter data is logged in HYPACK's .7k format, using datagram version 2. At the time of this report NOAA fiield units are not required to process backscatter data, however the Thomas Jefferson's policy is to process one line per platform, per day in order to conduct quality control checks. All processing of backscatter is done using the FMGT module of the QPS Fledermaus package.

Figure :

B.2.7 Other

No additional data were processed.

B.3 Quality Management

Prior to each Field year the Thomas Jefferson and her survey launches performs an annual Hydrographic Survey Readiness Review, during which all Multibeam sonars, Vertical Beam sonars, Side Scan sonars, Positioning systems, sound speed measuring devices, lead lines, and leveling equipment are calibrated.

Prior to acquisition, the hydrographer ensures that all charted Features and AWOIS items are in the Composite Source File (CSF), and reviews the coverage requirements.

During daily acquisition, a hydrographer monitors the cumulative uncertainties in position and attitude data, watches incoming data for errors, and compares the surface sound speed against full water column data for each CTD cast.

During post-processing, navigation and attitude data is scanned using CARIS HIPS and SIPS. Side Scan data is then scanned for significant features by two separate individuals. Multibeam data is binned into a BASE surface using the CUBE algorithm, then undergoes directed editing using the Standard Deviation, Depth, Uncertainty, and hypothesis Count child layers. The IHO allowed uncertainty is also calculated for each surface node, and compared against the actual uncertainty. The resulting "IHOness" layer is reviewed. Any systematic errors, problems in density, or areas of high uncertainty are addressed in the Descriptive Report.

Before any data is to be submitted it is reviewed by at least three experienced hydrographers who are signatories to the Descriptive Report.

B.4 Uncertainty and Error Management

CARIS computes TPU based on both the static and dynamic measurements of the vessel and survey-specific information including tidal zoning uncertainty estimates and sound speed measurement uncertainties. Static offset values are entered into the CARIS *.hvf file. Dynanamic tida/ERS and sound speed uncertainties are entered using the CARIS Compute TPU tool. Where TCARI tides are used, uncertainty is calculated and applied during application of TCARI tidal correctors to HDCS data.

B.4.1 Total Propagated Uncertainty (TPU)

B.4.1.1 TPU Calculation Methods

TPU is calculated in CARIS HIPS using the Compute TPU tool. Project specific values for tide/ERS and sound speed are entered and used over the duration of the project.

B.4.1.2 Source of TPU Values

Error values for the multibeam and positioning systems were compiled from manufacturer specifications sheets for each sensor and from values set forth in section 4.2.3.8 and Appendix 4 - CARIS HVF Uncertainty Values of the 2013 FPM.

B.4.1.3 TPU Values

B.4.2 Deviations

There were no deviations from the requirement to compute total propagated uncertainty.

C Corrections To Echo Soundings

C.1 Vessel Offsets and Layback

C.1.1 Vessel Offsets

C.1.1.1 Description of Correctors

All offsets for the Thomas Jefferson S-222 and her survey launches were derived from full and/or partial surveys performed by NGS personnel. All offsets are tracked and updated as needed.

C.1.1.2 Methods and Procedures

All sensor offsets for Thomas Jefferson S-222 were measured with respect to the vessel's reference point, then translated to the IMU. The offsets for HSL 3101 and 3102 are measured with respect to the vessel's IMU. Offset values are entered into each platform's CARIS HIPS Hydrographic Vessel File (HVF), with the exception of the x,y,z offsets between the Primary GPS Antenna and the IMU. The distance between Primary antenna and IMU is entered into POSView, which then feeds position relative to the IMU to all integrated sonars. All other offsets are applied to data during the SVP and/or Merge steps in processing of bathymetric data. Offsets are applied to Side Scan Sonar data during the Recompute Towfish Navigation step.

C.1.1.3 Vessel Offset Correctors

C.1.2 Layback

C.1.2.1 Description of Correctors

Towfish positioning is provided to CARIS HIPS using cable-out values registered by the Totco cable counter and recorded in the Sonar Pro SDF files. SonarPro uses Payout and Towfish Depth to compute towfish positions. The towfish position is calculated from the position of the tow point using the cable-out value received by SonarPro from the cable payout meter, the towfish pressure depth (sent via a serial interface from the KLEIN 5000 TPU to the SonarPro software), and the Course Made Good (CMG) of the vessel. This method assumes that the cable is in a straight line. Therefore, no catenary algorithm is applied at the time of acquisition, but in processing, CARIS SIPS applies a 0.9 coefficient to account for the catenary.

C.1.2.2 Methods and Procedures

Layback error is calculated by running a side-scan certification test. This test consists of running parallel to a known feature at varying ranges from nadir to ensonify the target in the near-field (approx 15% of range scale in use), mid-field (approx 50 % of range scale in use), and far-field (approx 85% of the range scale in use). The test requires that each side of the sonar ensonify the feature at each of these areas in the swath. Then the test is repeated in a direction that is orthogonal to the original set of lines such that the feature is ensonified a total of 12 times. A successful test will detect the feature in at least 10 of the 12 passes. For hull-mounted systems, the selected contact positions must be within 5m; for towed systems, the contact positions must be within 10m. Layback error is the amount of correction that must be applied to minimize the distance between contact positions.

C.1.2.3 Layback Correctors

C.2 Static and Dynamic Draft

C.2.1 Static Draft

C.2.1.1 Description of Correctors

Static draft for each vessel is measured via a sight tube. For the ship, a system of marks have been surveyed into the ship's reference point. A steel ruler is used to measure from one of these marks and the waterline height is calculated. A common waterline for the ship when fully loaded with fuel and ballasted normally is approximately 35cm below the reference point of the ship, but the waterline may change by as much as +/- 30cm over the course of a field season. On the launches, the waterline is measured by placing a steel ruler directly on the reference mark and measuring directly from the sight tube. The waterline is almost constant on the launches despite fuel levels or normal loading. The normal range for waterline on each launch is 22.5 cm to 23.5 cm above the reference point.

C.2.1.2 Methods and Procedures

Waterline measurements are recorded daily on HSL 3101 and 3102. The waterline for S-222 is measured at least weekly. When feasible, waterline measurements are taken before and after fueling or ballasting of the ship. The values are kept in a static draft log and periodically updated in the HVF. Once applied in the HVF, all affected lines have SVP re-applied and are then merged so that the updated waterline measurements will be applied.

C.2.2 Dynamic Draft

C.2.2.1 Description of Correctors

Dynamic draft for Thomas Jefferson S-222 and her survey launches were measured using the Post-Processed Kinematic GPS method outlined in section 1.4.2.1.2.1 of NOAA's FPM.

C.2.2.2 Methods and Procedures

See attached report for a full description of procedures

C.2.2.3 Dynamic Draft Correctors

C.3 System Alignment

C.3.1 Description of Correctors

On Day Number 071 the RESON 7125-ROV system aboard the Thomas Jefferson was patch tested in order to resolve residual biases between the sonar reference frame and the positioning system reference frame. On Day Number 090 the 400kHz RESON 7125-SV systems aboard HSL's 3101 and 3102 were also patch tested.

C.3.2 Methods and Procedures

See report for a full description.

C.3.3 System Alignment Correctors

C.3.4 System Alignment Correctors

C.3.5 System Alignment Correctors

C.4 Positioning and Attitude

C.4.1 Description of Correctors

C.4.2 Methods and Procedures

Vessel navigation and attitude is measured by the POS/MV and recorded in the Hysweep .hsx file and .7k file. Navigation and attitude measurements not applied in real time are applied during post processing in CARIS HIPS using the attitude data recorded in the .hsx or .s7k file. The POS/MV TrueHeave data is logged within the POS/MV .000 files and applied in CARIS HIPS during post processing using the "Apply TrueHeave" function. TrueHeave is a forward-backward filtered heave corrector as opposed to the real time heave corrector, and is fully described in section 6 of the POS/MV V4 User Guide 2009. In most cases, PPK data in the form of SBET files are applied to soundings to increase the accuracy of the kinematic vessel corrections and to allow the ability to reference soundings to the ellipsoid. Standard daily data processing procedures include post processing of POS/MV kinematic .000 files using Applanix POSPac MMS and POSGNSS software using either IN-Fusion SmartBase, IN-Fusion SingleBase or Precise Point Positioning (PPP) processing modes. After processing and quality control analysis of the postprocessed SBET files is complete. the SBET and SMRMSG files are applied to the HDCS data in CARIS HIPS using the "Load Attitude/Navigation Data" and "Load Error Data" processing tools, respectively.

C.5 Tides and Water Levels

C.5.1 Description of Correctors

C.5.2 Methods and Procedures

Unless otherwise noted in the survey Descriptive Report (DR) and/or project Horizontal and Vertical Control Report (HVCR), the vertical datum for all soundings and heights is Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW). Predicted, preliminary, and/or verified water level correctors from the primary tide station(s) listed in the Project Instructions may be downloaded from the CO-OPS website and used for water level corrections

 during the course of the project. These tide station files are collated to include the appropriate days of acquisition and then converted to CARIS .tid file format using FetchTides.

Water level data in the .tid files are applied to HDCS data in CARIS HIPS using the zone definition file (.zdf) or a Tidal Constituent and Residual Interpolation (TCARI) model supplied by CO-OPS. Upon receiving final approved water level data, all data are reduced to MLLW using the final approved water levels as noted in the individual surveys DR.

A complete description of vertical control utilized for a given project can be found in the project specific HVCR, submitted for each project under separate cover when necessary as outlined in section 5.2.3.2.3 of the FPM.

Newer methods for handling vertical control are being developed and, if utilized, are explained in more detail in the project wide HVCR or survey DR.

C.6 Sound Speed

C.6.1 Sound Speed Profiles

C.6.1.1 Description of Correctors

Aboard the Thomas Jefferson the MVP free-fall fish is used to collect sound speed profiles. Aboard HSL 3101 and 3102 hand-deployed seabird CTD units are used to take sound of speed profiles.

C.6.1.2 Methods and Procedures

Seabird .cnv and MVP .bot files are collected when necessary and converted to .svp files using NOAA's Pydro/Velocipy program. These .svp files are concatenated into one vessel specific master file per project which is then applied to HDCS data using a specified method. This method of applying sound speed to data is listed in the sheets processing log included in the Separates submitted with the individual survey.

C.6.2 Surface Sound Speed

C.6.2.1 Description of Correctors

Aboard the Thomas Jefferson S222 surface sound speed is measured using an AML Smart SV&T probe mounted inside a tank. The tank draws water from the approximate location of the RESON 7125-ROV transducer face. HSL 3101 and 3102 both use a RESON SV-71 probe mounted near the transducer face to measure the surface sound speed

C.6.2.2 Methods and Procedures

The speed of sound at the transducer face is fed directly to the RESON 7125-ROV and 7125-SV topside processing units. It is then passed to HYPACK/HYSWEEP, which records the value in the .HSX file.

D. Approval Sheet

This Data Acquisition and Processing Report is respectfully submitted for the following project:

OPR-B363-TJ-13 Approaches to Block Island Sound, RI & CT

As Chief of Party, I have ensured that standard field surveying and processing procedures were adhered to during these projects in accordance with the Hydrographic Surveys Specifications and Deliverables (2013), Hydrographic Survey Technical Directives through HTD 2013-04, and the Field Procedures Manual (2013).

I acknowledge that all of the information contained in this report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

This DAPR applies to all surveys completed in 2013 for the projects listed above.

Approved and Forwarded:

Migun R. Cuberski North ____________________________________ ____________________________________

Operations Officer **Commanding Officer** Commanding Officer

June 7 Kny

Leiutenant Megan R. Guberski, NOAA Commander Lawrence T. Krepp, NOAA