

Implications of the Navigation Surface Approach

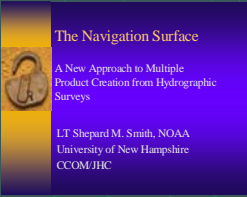
Archiving and Charting Shallow Survey Data

Andy Armstrong, Shep Smith and Rick Brennan

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The Navigation Surface

- Proposed by Shep Smith at Shallow Survey 2001
- Thesis topic for Shep's M.S. degree
- Slated for adoption by NOAA Charting
- Commercialized by CARIS



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The Navigation Surface

- A database approach to creating multiple products from high resolution hydrographic surveys
- Survey data is archived as a high resolution DTM rather than a set of soundings
- Charting products are created directly from successive generalizations of the DTM

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The adoption of a DTM as the hydrographic survey product and the archived survey database has significant implications for hydrographic practice and the nautical charting process

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Three Big Problems in Modern Hydrography

- Traditional validation methods overwhelmed by data volume from modern multibeam sonar
- Cartographic processes to produce nautical charts from such data are manually intensive
- Products derived from hydrographic surveys are often incompatible with the needs of other users of marine bathymetric information

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Data Size/Rate Comparison

- Leadline survey – 1000-2000 soundings (800 KB)
- Single-beam echosounder – 15,000-20,000 (1 MB old surveys, 30 MB new surveys)
- Multibeam sonar – 400 Million to 1 Billion (5GB)

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These rules no longer apply:

- ❌ Survey conducted with a shoal bias
- ❌ Survey database is a representative collection of corrected soundings
- ❌ Charted soundings can be traced to a unique measured depth
- ❌ All depths are portrayed as equally valid
- ❌ Charts are compiled successively through the scales

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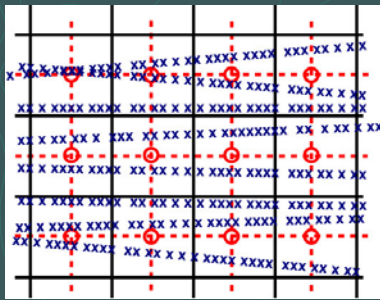
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Multiple Soundings in Bins



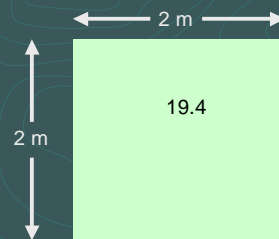
de Moustier, C.

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Binned Sounding Selection

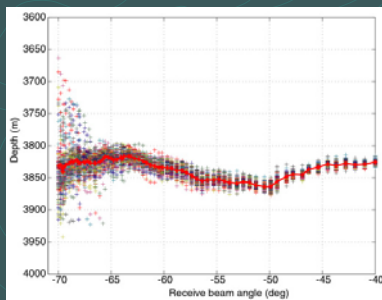


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Sounding spread & mean depth vs. beam angle



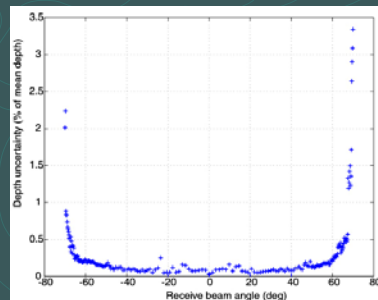
de Moustier, C.,
Oceans 2001 MTS/IEEE Conference Proceedings

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Depth uncertainty vs. beam angle



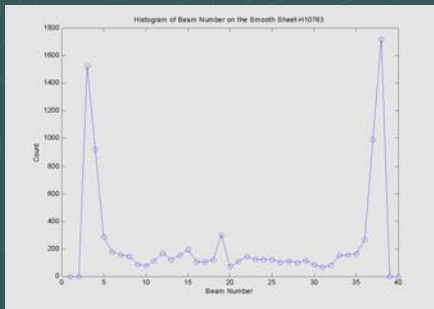
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Selected depths vs. beam number



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Sounding Database

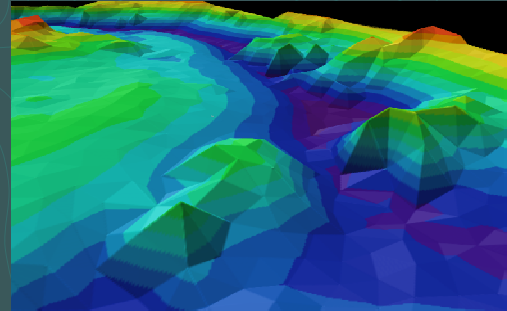


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TIN model from sounding database

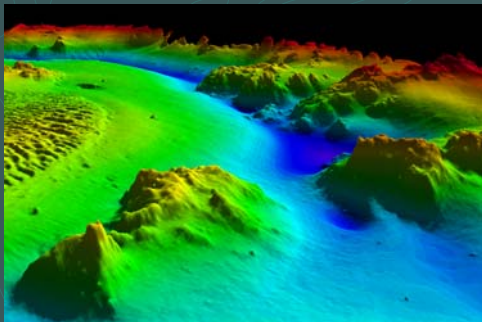


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Full-resolution grid model database



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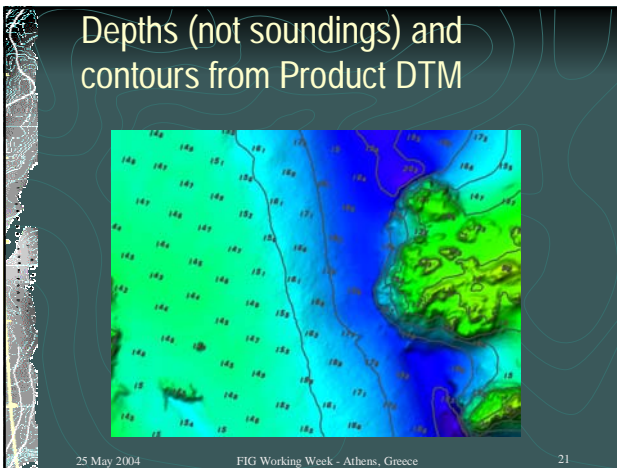
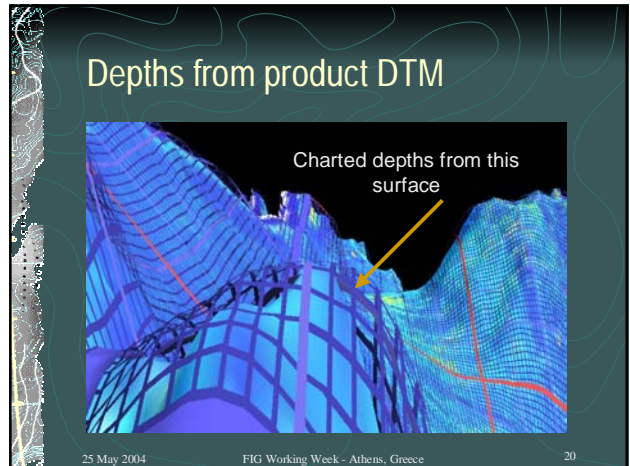
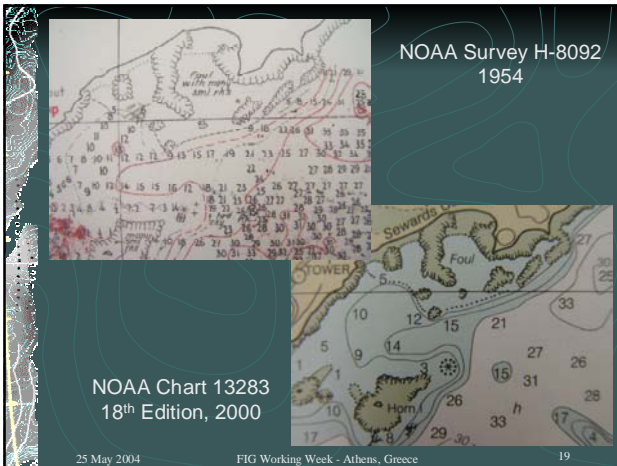
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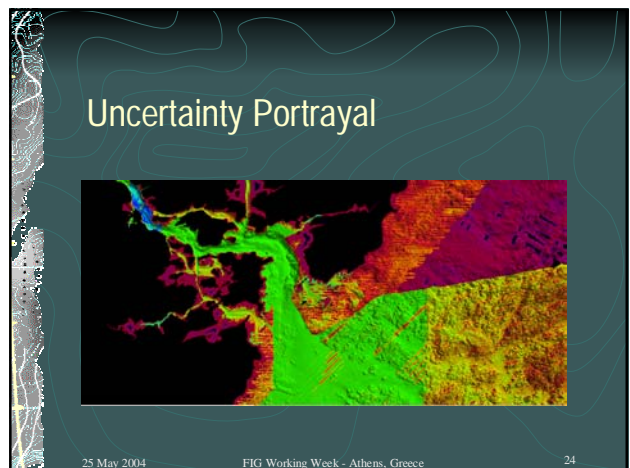
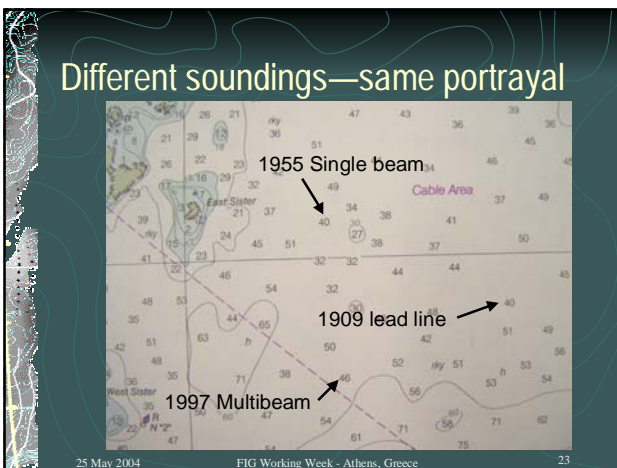
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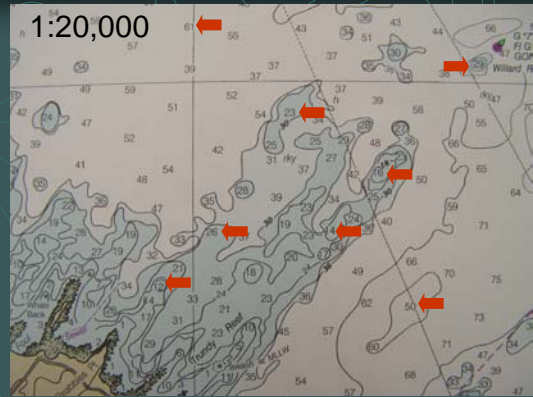
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1:20,000



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1:40,000



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1:80,000

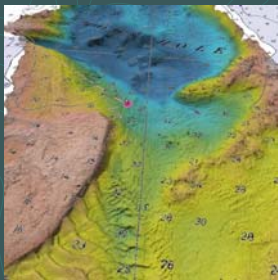


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Generalisation



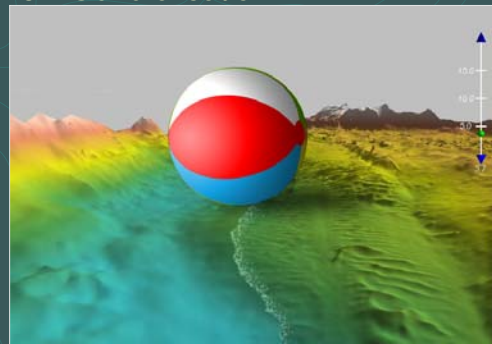
- ❖ Composite surface has too much detail for cartographic work
- ❖ Need to remove 'extraneous' detail but still preserve shoals
- ❖ Uses 3D Double-Buffering technique, which is shoal preserving

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3D Generalisation

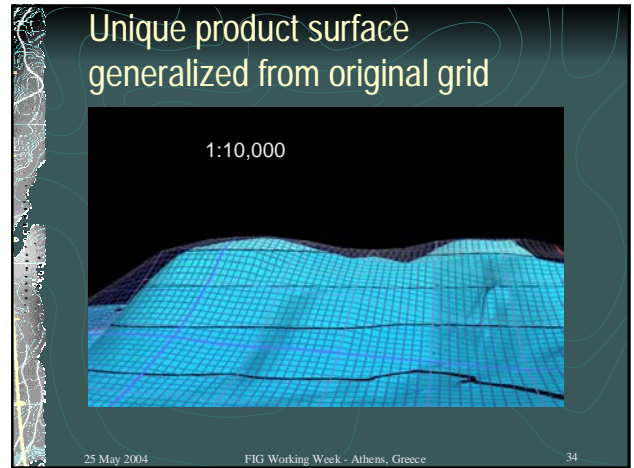
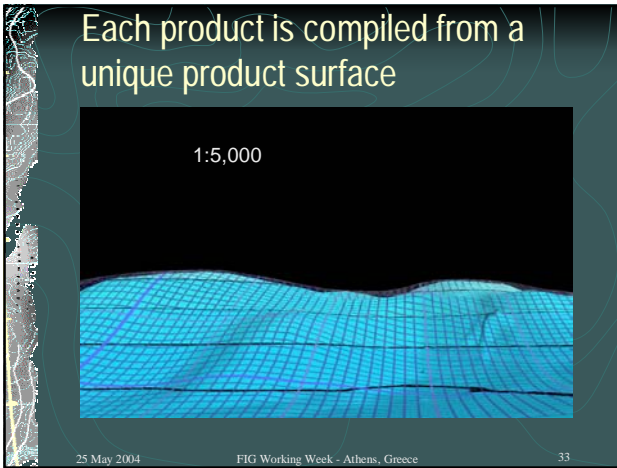
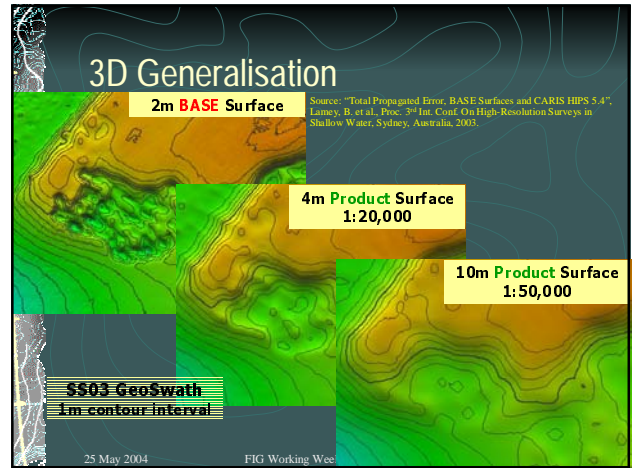
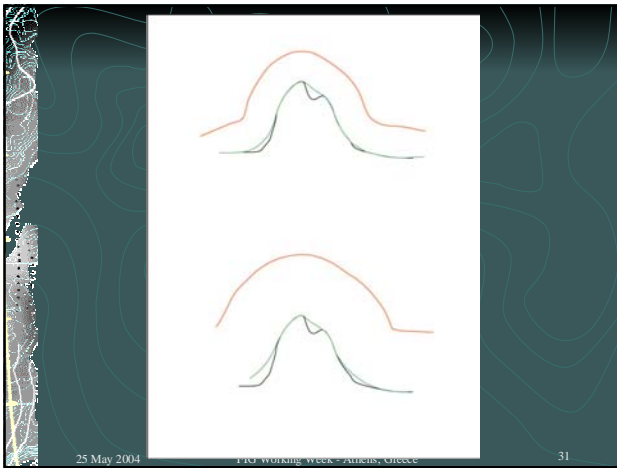


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Source: "Management of Bathymetric Databases in the BASE Software", Gourlay, M. et al., Proc. 2nd Int. Conf. On High Res. Survey in Shallow Water, Sydney, Australia, 2003.



Conclusions?

Things will be different

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