

Shallow water bathymetry from active and passive UAV-borne, airborne and satellite-borne remote sensing

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GRAMMETRIC COMPUTER VISION

Research Group

Seabed mapping for shallow waters





Cultural Heritage



Shallow waters examples: Limassol marina, Cyprus



Shallow waters examples: Latsi, Cyprus



Shallow waters examples: Agia Napa, Cyprus



Shallow waters examples: Lemnos island, Greece



Shallow waters examples: Andros island, Bahamas



Shallow waters examples: Wadden Sea, Netherlands-Germany



Shallow waters examples: Ionian Sea, Greece





Bathymetry via active and passive airborne remote sensing



Colour loss – light absorption



Refraction effect

Snell's law

Snell's law states that the ratio of the sines of the angles of incidence and refraction is equivalent to the ratio of phase velocities in the two media, or equivalent to the reciprocal of the ratio of the indices of refraction.

The law is based on **Fermat's principle**, also known as the principle of least time.

Fermat's principle states that the path taken by a ray between two given points is the path that can be traversed in the least time.



Airborne Laser Bathymetry - Geometry



The 3D position x of a water bottom point is calculated by:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{o} + \mathbf{r_{air}} \frac{\Delta t_{air} c_{air}}{2} + \mathbf{r_{water}} \frac{\Delta t_{water} c_{water}}{2}$$

where Δt_{air} and Δt_{water} correspond to the round-trip time of the laser beam in air and water, r_{air} and r_{water} are the corresponding beam direction unit vectors and o is the scanner origin.

Multi-media Photogrammetry – Single View Geometry



Violation of the Collinearity Equation

Apparent depths

Multi-media Photogrammetry – Multiple View Geometry



Violation of the Collinearity
Equation

- Apparent depths
- Increased noise in the point clouds

Multi-media Photogrammetry – Correction Basics

- Analytical correction: modification of the collinearity equation.
- Image-space correction: re-projection of the original photo to correct the water refraction.
- Machine learning-based: depends on machine learning models that learn the underestimation of depths and predict the correct depth knowing only the apparent one.

Other methods: multiplying the apparent depth with a constant number, which in most of the cases is the refraction index of the water the use of this form of correction might be acceptable in the very shallow waters, however, **remarkable errors are expected after 2-3 m depth.**

Multi-media Photogrammetry – Image Space Correction



Multi-media Photogrammetry – ML-based Correction





Basics of spectrally-based bathymetry

$$L_T(\lambda) = L_p(\lambda) + L_s(\lambda) + L_c(\lambda) + L_b(\lambda)$$

 L_T is the total upwelling radiance L_p are the contributions from the atmosphere L_s is the radiance reflected from the water surface L_c is the radiance from the water column L_b is the bottom-reflected radiance

 L_s depends on the roughness of the water surface and sun position (sun glint) L_b is related to **depth** and is the radiance reflected by the **bottom** L_c is related to the water's optical property (i.e. **turbidity**)

Slide retrieved from Mandlburger 2017, "Bathymetry from active and passive airborne remote sensing – looking back and ahead"

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Image Sensor

Common colour-to-depth relation/methodology

• The standard linear algorithm (Lyzenga, 1978) assumes a log-linear relationship between reflectance (R(λ i)) and water depth (z):

$$z = b \log R(\lambda_i) + c$$

- Cluster-Based Method (CBR)
- SVMs

$$Z = m \frac{\ln(nR_{\rm w}(\lambda_i))}{\ln(nR_{\rm w}(\lambda_j))} - m_0$$

where m_1 is a tunable constant to scale the ratio to depth, n is a fixed constant for all areas, and m_0 is the offset for a depth of 0 m

- Empirically tune coefficients
- Tuning successful with chart soundings/LiDAR etc.
- Generalized model

Factors affecting Spectral-based bathymetry (UAV or SDB)

Sun glint • Turbidity • High Aerosol



Images source: Google Earth

Factors affecting Spectral-based bathymetry (UAV or SDB)



Factors affecting Spectral-based bathymetry (UAV or SDB) - Solution





Figures: Ilori and Knudby, 2020

Physics-based multi-scene processing to improve the accuracy

Examples-Airborne Laser Bathymetry



Examples-Satellite-borne Laser Bathymetry



Figure: TCARTA, https://www.tcarta.com/events/geospatial-intelligence-month-april-2020 Figure: Parrish et al, 2019

Examples-Spectral-based Bathymetry – Satellite-borne



Examples-UAV-borne Multimedia Photogrammetry



Data: CUT, Photogrammetric Vis. Lab., 3[Deep]Vision https://3deepvision.eu/

Examples-UAV-borne Multimedia Photogrammetry



A deeper look into Multimedia Photogrammetry Errors due to refraction



Ratio-based VS ML-based refraction correction methods



Figures and Table: Agrafiotis, 2020

Errors in the orthoimages due to refraction



Horizontal error in depth direction reaching 0.182m-0.291m at 1.6m depth and 1.78m-2.07m at 13.8m depth!

Figures: Agrafiotis et al., 2020

Improvements in texture



By correcting the images from refraction, the texture of the 3D model is improved Figures: Agrafiotis et al., 2020 33

Key-point matching difficulties



Bathymetry via active and passive airborne remote sensing



Wrap up

Airborne Laser Bathymetry – <u>refraction correction is necessary!</u>

- Active method
- Geometric & radiometric (intensity)
- Measures the depth via round trip time measurement & Delivers bottom reflectance
- Independent from external illumination and availability of texture
- Spatial resolution limited by relatively large laser footprint (~50 cm)
- Max depth ~ 3 Secchi

Multi-media photogrammetry - refraction correction is necessary!

- Passive method
- Geometric
- Requires texture to perform SfM-MVS
- Measured depth through triangulation & Delivers colour information
- Delivers high point density in shallow water areas
- Max depth ~ 1 Secchi

Spectrally based bathymetry

- No sophisticated geometry processing necessary
- Requires visibility of bottom features (similar to SfM-MVS, but not texture is required here)
- Can handle certain differences in substrate type and water clarity
- Requires ground-truth for calibrating coefficients
- <u>Covers large areas (satellite)</u>
- Max depth ~ 1 Secchi

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ALL the geometric methods need refraction correction!!!

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