#### MAREANO – PROGRAM: COLLECTING MARINE KNOWLEDGE

NORWEGIAN MAPPING AUTHORITY

SPATIAL DATA - FOR BENEFIT OF THE SOCIETY



#### **MAREANO – program: Collecting marine knowledge**

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#### **MAREANO** – Dataflow







#### From bathymetry surveyes to digital terrain models (DTM)



Bathymetry survey with multibeam echosounder

- - Water coloumn data
  - Gravity





# Depth data from different sources: Defence, gas- and oil industri, other projects, own vessel and purchase of bathymetry surveys



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#### Norwegian sea areas

- Large areas (2.1 mill km<sup>2</sup>)
- Only partly covered by MBE data (pink areas show MBE data in NHS database)
- Bathymetry data collection is expensive ecpecially in shallow waters
- It is important to use data from other sources: Defence, oil- and gas industry etc.







#### **Coverage – detailed DTM**



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#### Detailed depth data are restricted inside the terretorial boarder

The terretorial boarder is 12 nautical miles outside the baseline Inside the terretorial boarder DTM with grid size < 50m is Finnmar restricted Area Hola with coral reefs is released by the Norwegian Defense





#### Coral reefs in Hola DTM with 5m grid



Coral reefs

Sandwaves with coral reefs in the background



#### Digital terrain models with 50m, 25m og 5m resolution



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### The MAREANO survey this year starts 29 April 2010



- Later in 2010 we will survey in an area outside Lofoten
- We have also received data from Statoil measured in 2003

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#### Alternative methods for seabed mapping

- Seabed mapping with water level data from a tide gauge
  - We use this method close to the coast
- Seabed Mapping using the ellipsoid as vertical reference
  - We use this method for offshore areas



We will look at the two methods in more detail...

#### Seabed mapping with water level data



 $Depth_{CD} = Depth_{ES} + draught - WL_{CD}$ 

### <u>Water level</u> at the time of seabed mapping must be removed from the depth data

Methods to obtain water level data:

- Permanent tide gauge
  - possibly combined with tide zone
- Temporary tide gauge
  - associated with a permanent tide gauge to get the relation to mean sea level
- Predicted tide
  - possibly combined with air pressure

#### Alternative method:

• Use GPS to measure water level with ellipsoid as reference



#### **Using Ellipsoid as Vertical Reference for Seabed Mapping**



## What we need to use the ellipsoid as vertical reference for seabed mapping

#### Mandatory:

- Vertical position of high quality
- The position of the GPS-receiver must be known in the vessel coordinate system
- The motion of the vessel must be known (attitude data: heave, roll, pitch and heading)

#### Not mandatory:

- If we want to convert to mean sea level we must know the difference between mean sea level and the ellipsoid.
  - •MSS (Mean Sea Surface) models can be used.
- If we want to convert to Chart Datum (CD) we must know the difference between Chart Datum and mean sea level.

 Along the Norwegian coast the Chart Datum is equal to LAT (lowest astronomical tide) with a few exceptions. Tide models can be used to estimate LAT offshore

## Advantages and disadvantages of using ellipsoid as vertical reference for seabed mapping

- Advantages
  - Water level measurements are not needed
  - Do not have to consider different tidal zones
  - Knowledge of the draught is not needed
  - Less possibility of mismatch in overlapping survey areas by using a consistent reference
  - GPS also measures medium frequency waves not measured by the heave sensor nor the tide gauge

- Disadvantages
  - High quality vertical position is needed
  - The position of the GPS-antenna relative to the echo sounder must be known
  - Confusing: The ellipsoidal depth will not represent the true ocean depth
  - MSS and LAT-models must be known to convert to mean sea level and and chart datum
  - MSS- and LAT-models are continuously improving (version control is necessary)



#### **Prerequisites for utilizing GPS heights**

#### Basic requirement:

- Stable positioning with a vertical accuracy of 10 cm (95%)
- This requires:
  - High quality software So far only post processing with the TerraPos software has shown the required quality (RTK may be used for nearshore applications)
  - Data processing with TerraPos requires GPS data to be logged continuously – not depending on start and stop of survey lines
  - The vessel coordinates of all essential sensors must be well determined

#### What is TerraPos?

#### PPP – Precise Point Positioning

- One single GNSS receiver
- Utilize precise GNSS orbit and clock data (e.g from IGS)
- High end dual frequency GNSS receiver is required to eliminate the main part of the ionospheric refraction
- Positioning accuracy cm dm

#### Corrections

- Ionospheric and tropospheric delay
- Tide and loading effects (solid earth tide, ocean loading, polar motion)
- Antenna phase center, yaw effects etc.

#### Limitations

- Long continuous data (preferably >6 hours)
- Post processing (precise orbit data must be available)

#### **TerraPos horisontal accuracy**



#### **Conclusions: Seabed mapping with the ellipsoid as vertical reference**

- To use the ellipsoid as vertical reference for seabed mapping is today a relevant method since the GPS-height has become quite accurate: 6.4 cm 95%
- <u>Offshore</u> it is favourable to use the ellipsoid as reference:
  - 1. Difficult to get good water level data offshore
  - 2. There are good MSS-models covering these areas (although poorer for high latitude and areas with sea ice)
  - 3. It does not matter that the LAT-surface is of less quality offshore since the requirements for depth accuracy in navigational charts are weak offshore
- NHS can still not use the ellipsoid as reference *close to the coast*.
  - 1. MSS-models are of poor quality
  - 2. The requirements for depth accuracy in navigational charts are stringent
- It is attractive in the future to use the ellipsoid close to the coast as well, and NHS have project with object to improve MSS-models in this area. It will also be important to reduce other contributions to the error budget

#### **Questions?**



