

Satellite-Derived Bathymetry:

Industry update for the Southwest Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC21)

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EOMAP

Mapping and monitoring aquatic environments worldwide

Satellite remote sensing – Earth Observation

Two main product suites: bathymetry and seafloor mapping water quality monitoring

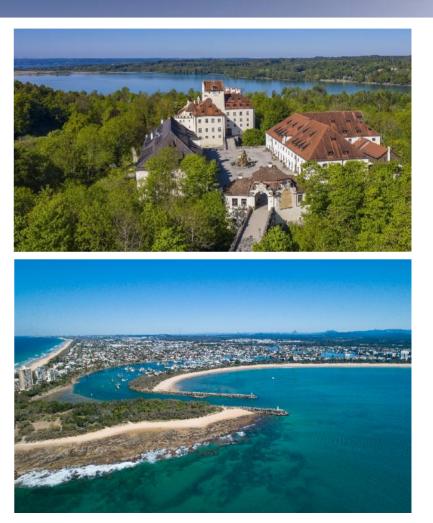
Innovative, proprietary algorithms

Operational processing systems

Software: enabling capabilities

First and leading commercial provider of SDB

Spin-off German Aerospace Center, 20+ years R&D





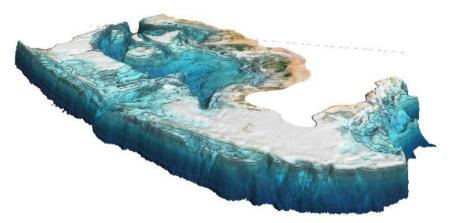
Pacific Highlights

SDB Classroom

Technology developments

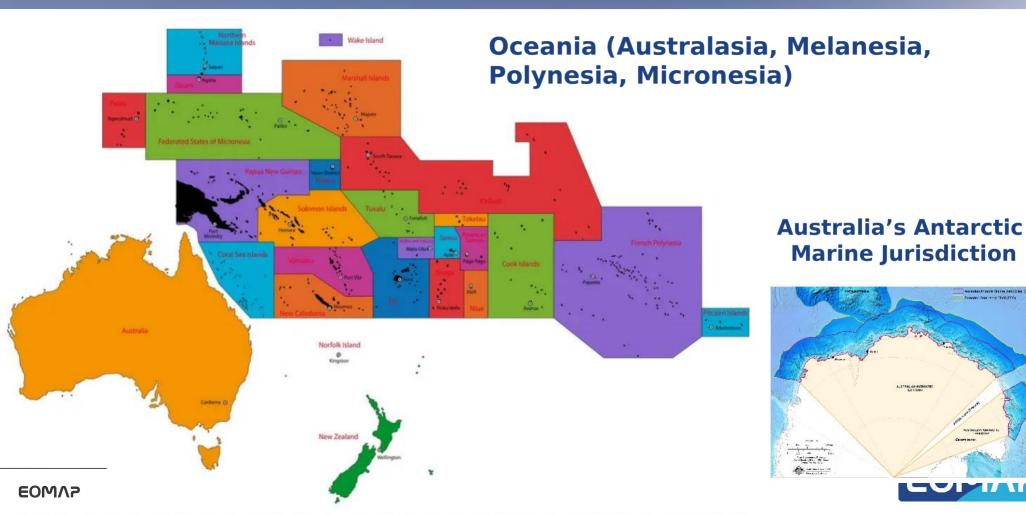
Capacity Building, Standards and Best Practice







(EOMAP) SDB across the Pacific





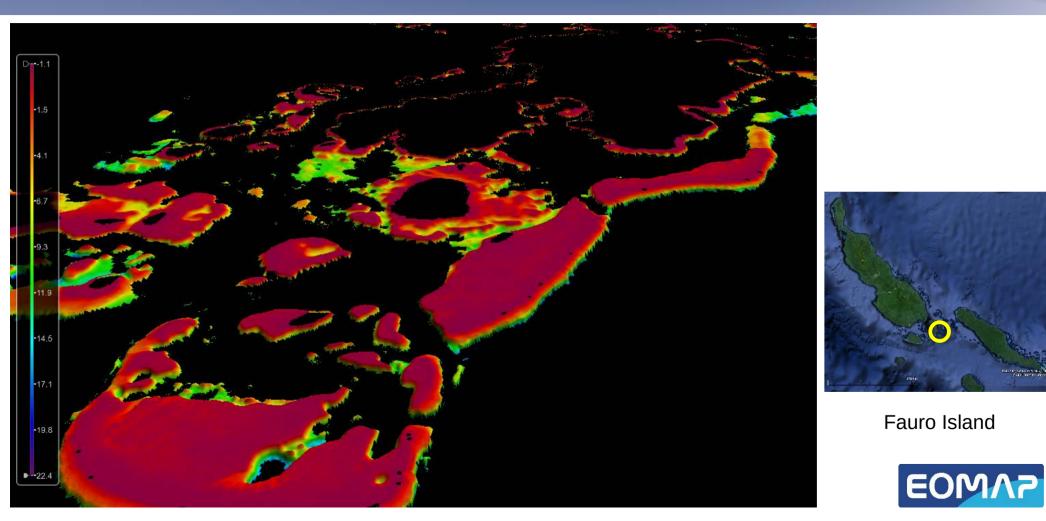
2m & 10m resolution Pacific SDB for the AGO

Delivered SDB covering ~27,500 sq km of shallow seafloor

(of which ~7,000 sq km at 2m resolution)

Including large areas in Fiji, PNG and Torres Strait



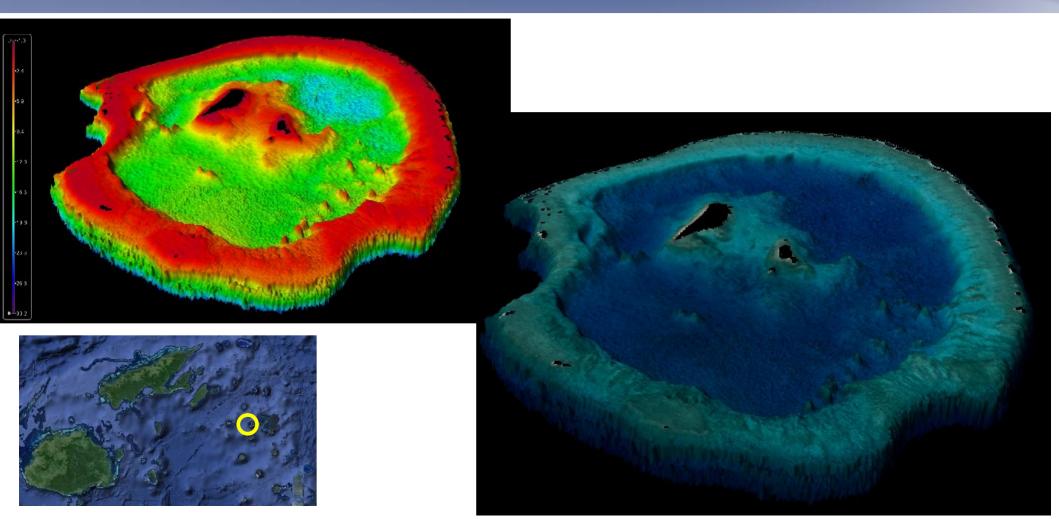




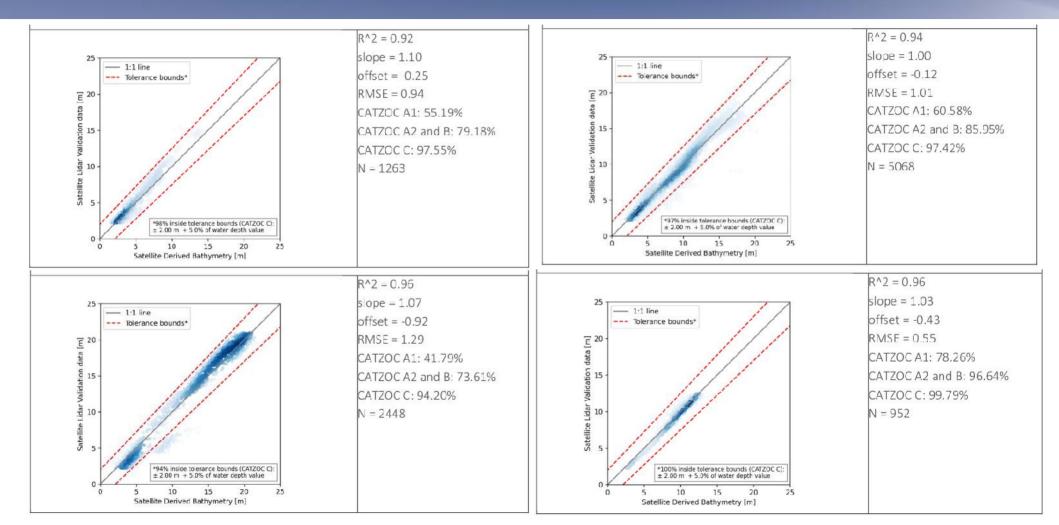


Fauro Island





Independent physics-based retrievals vs ICESat



100m resolution SDB of ... Everywhere



This work is being carried out as part of a Copernicus Marine Service contract. Copernicus Marine Service is implemented by Mercator Ocean in the framework of a contribution agreement with the European Union.

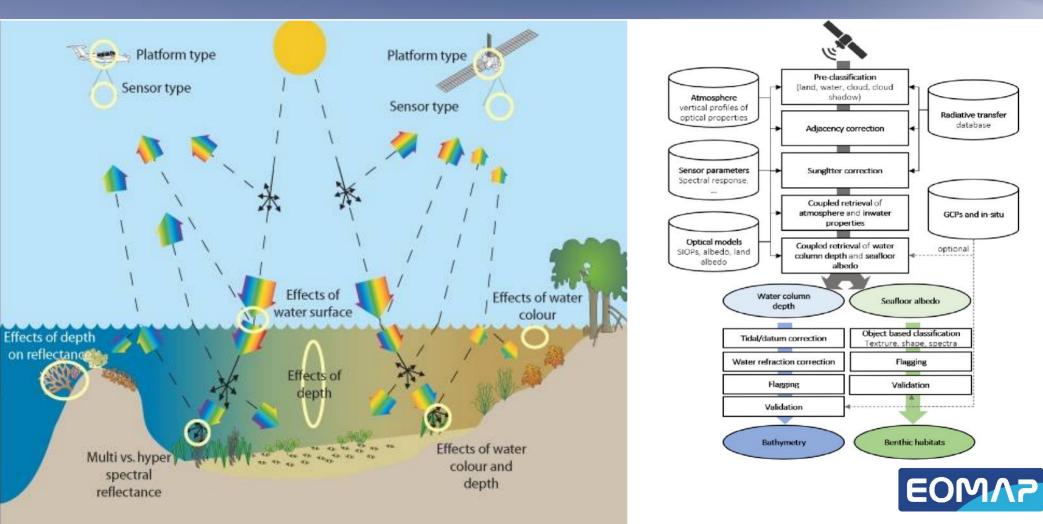
Global SDB product Copernicus Program (European Space Agency) 3 layers

Started Nov 2023

2 years



Mapping the seafloor with sunlight



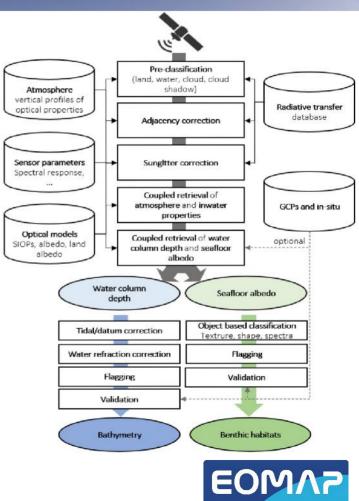
Two main SDB approaches

Empirical: fitting satellite values to survey data

Pros: Rapid and easy Cons: No control of uncertainties outside the training area; high quality training data required; issues with varying seafloor types; vertical accuracies e.g. GEBCO Cookbook

Physics-based: fully modeling the light pathway

<u>Pros:</u> Quantification of uncertainties; quantitative measure without in situ data, vertical accuracy, sensor and location agnostic <u>Cons:</u> Difficult



To need or not to need ... training data

Maching Learning (ML): includes 'straightforward' training algorithms e.g. random forest classifiers

ICESat: satellite-based LIDAR

ML + ICESat / chart data = increase in SDB providers and research papers (empirical nonetheless)

ICESat not same as airborne LIDAR: - intimidating point cloud, errors, notably 0 - 3m - transects can be several km's apart

1. Does the method require any form of training data?



Satellite Lidar Bathymetry, m

 Recordings with detected seafloor surface

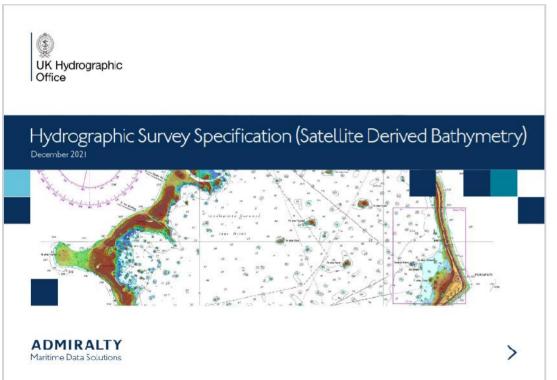
Tetiaroa, Fahiti

Data derived using EOMAP's Satellite Lidar Bathymetry toolbox and based on IceSAT-2 ATLAS data.



2. Validating ICESat-based ML with ICESat is circular

Requesting SDB made easy



1. Area and extent, polygon (e.g. shapefile / google earth / hand-drawn...)

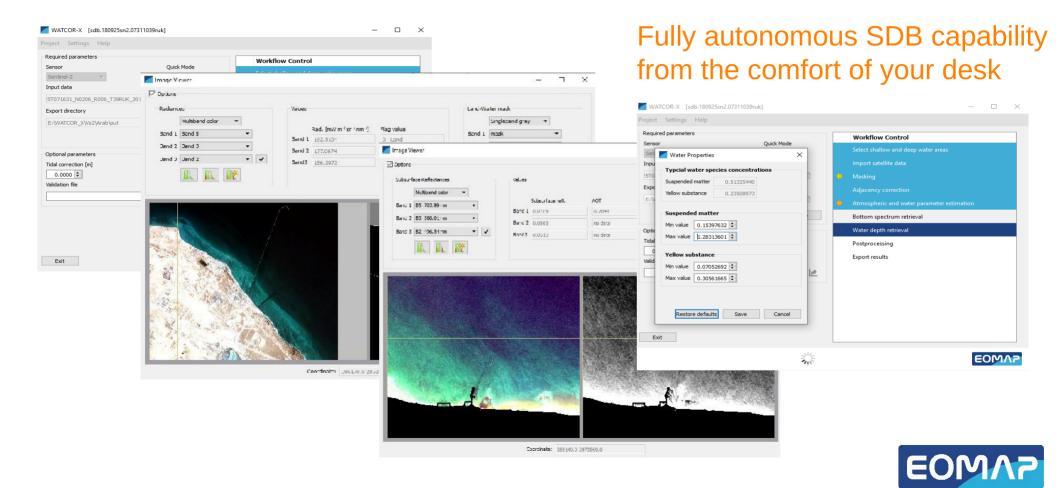
2. Spatial resolution (e.g. 2m, 3-5m, 10m..)

3. UKHO Hydrographic Survey Specification (Satellite Derived Bathymetry)

(Extras: specific file formats, custom products, Datum, QA/QC layers, validation, etc....)



WATCOR-X: sophisticated, stand-alone SDB software



SDB_Online

- Powerful cloud backend, fully scalable
- Ultra easy to use
- Physics-based SDB concept (radiative transfer inversion)
- Coupled with satellite archives (currently Sentinel-2)
- Automatic mode (image selection, full processing workflow)
- Cailbration/validation: optional fine tuning with own survey data
- Multi-image mode (US patent)
- Webapp user interface, any browser
- Pay-per-use
- Machine-to-machine (API)

https://www.sdb-online.eoapp.de/



SDB_Online in the Pacific: enabling capacity

- Done locally
- No investment / no commitment
- Leverages free satellite imagery
- Minimal user training
- No hardware requirement

Use Cases:

- Recon / planning: optimising precious boat time
- Monitoring critical areas of frequent change
- Otherwise un-mappable areas





SDB at the 22nd Pacific Maritime Boundaries Meeting

EOMAP workshop (with GA assist)

- Case studies
- How to use
- How to make (SDB_Online)

A key message: autonomous SDB capacity (fit-for-purpose, easy, low cost)

10+ agencies from 6 island nations requested online demos







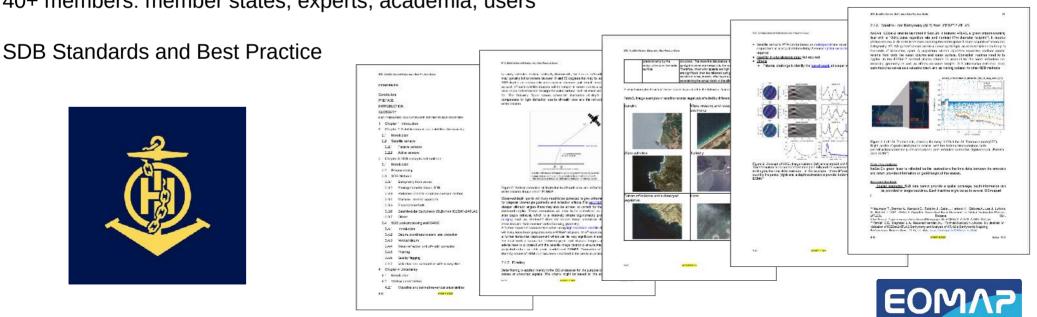
SDB Best Practice Project Team (SDBPT) - IHO

SDBPT is a supporting body of IHO HSWG (Hydrographic Surveys Working Group)

Commenced in April 2021, chaired by EOMAP

40+ members: member states, experts, academia, users

Completed 'B-13' document to HSSC (Hydrographic Services and Standards) IHO finalising steps to Vs1 official release



SDB Topics Summary

<u>Pacific Highlights</u> SDB across the Pacific: Seabed 2030, AGO Global 100m SDB layer

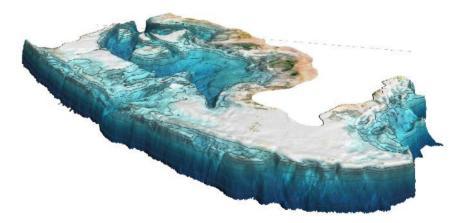
SDB Classroom

Approaches: with or without training/validation data Implications of ICESat Requesting SDB made easy

<u>Technology developments</u> Easy, powerful, cloud software: SDB_Online

Capacity Building, Standards and Best Practice SDB workshop: low threshold to SDB autonomy IHO SDB Working Group and SDB document







The SDB journey so far

- 1980s-2000's: R&D
- 2005: First commercial SDB project: (environmental management)
- 2012-2014: NOAA, UKHO, AHO, SHELL, etc., evaluate SDB
- 2015: UK Hydrographic Office puts EOMAP SDB in chart
- 2019: NZ Hydrographic Authority puts EOMAP SDB in charts
- 2019: IHO S-44 updated for SDB
- 2020: 2 hydrographic agencies with commercial SDB software
- 2021: AHO signs extended contract for EOMAP software services
- 2021: IHO HSWG establishes SDBPT, chaired by EOMAP COO
- 2021: Seabed 2030 filling gaps with SDB
- 2022: UKHO selects EOMAP as primary SDB provider for next 3-5 years
- 2023: large scale Pacific SDB projects for the AGO
- 2023: ESA commissions EOMAP for global 100m SDB layer





Thank you

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