

Faculty of Environmental Science Institute of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

Analysis and Modeling of the Effect of Wave Patterns on Refraction in Airborne LiDAR Bathymetry

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Rostock, 11/15/2016



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Local wave-induced water surface inclination lead to geometric displacement

 Lateral displacement dXY (caused by errors in the local refraction angle) propagates as depth error dZ (expressed as changes in ray path lengths)



centroids of the ground reflections

Aim of the work

- Investigate the effect of waves on the refraction affecting the path of the laser pulse under water
- Simulation of typical wave patterns (river, ocean)
- Analysis of the **impact on the 3D coordinates** at the bottom of the water body



- A Introduction
- B Methodology
- C Results
- D Conclusion and outlook

Two different levels of complexity in water surface modelling

Simple symmetrical waves

- Periodic sine and cosine functions
- Amplitude and frequency specify height, width and slope of a single wave

Complex wave structures

- Horizontally and vertically running waves
- Adapting algorithm for simulating ocean water from Jerry Tessendorf (2001)
 - 1. Define regular grid of 2D points
 - 2. Calculate set of ,random' amplitudes (based on oceanographic conditions)
 - 3. Use FFT on amplitudes to obtain grid's wave heights
- Simplified parameterization: wind speed, wind direction, length of biggest wave



Water surface modelling Periodic wave patterns (Σ1)

Calm, rippled sea state with slight, high frequency waves.





Water surface modelling Periodic wave patterns (Σ2)

Moderate ocean sea state with long waves.





Water surface modelling Complex wave patterns (Y1)

Calm, rippled sea state with short but steep waves.





Water surface modelling Complex wave patterns (Y2)

Smooth, shallow wavelets with small crests and troughs.





Water surface modelling Complex wave patterns (Y3)

Ocean sea state with moderate wave heights and long sea swell.









Ray path modelling

The intensity distribution within the incident laser pulse should follow a Gaussian intensity profile.



Ray path modelling

Ground reflections are represented by centroid coordinates, weighted accordingly to the intensity distribution.



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Parameters of the flight campaign simulated Airborne survey campaign (Weiß, DGPF 24/2015), Leica AHAB Chiroptera_I LiDAR

- Aircraft altitude is 300m
- ▶ Beam divergence of 3mrad → 1m laser footprints at water surface
- Beam deflection in elliptical scanning pattern is 20deg
- 5 different water surface topographies (grid size: 20mm × 20mm)
- Smooth, continuous bottom surface (grid size: 80mm×80mm)



 \odot Applied Geomatics Research Group, Airborne Hydrography AB

3D coordinate displacement Systematic Approach

Local planar water surface elements vs.

(\triangleq common assumption made in ALB applications)

non-planar, wavy water surface

(\triangleq consideration of local wave-induced inclination)

- Lateral displacement dXY is calculated from differences between the irradiance-weighted centroids of the ground reflections
- Changes in underwater ray path lengths express the depth error dZ
- ► 100 consecutive epochs
- 50 infinitesimal paths representing one finite cross section
- Simple periodic vs. complex realistic modelling









3D coordinate displacement Calm, rippled sea with short but steep waves (Y1)

Significant effects occur, even if multiple wave cycles are within the laser footprint

	RMSE (% / @5m)				
dXY	7.5% (max. 14.8%)	375 mm (max. 740 mm)			
dZ	3.0% (max. 6.3%)	150 mm (max. 315 mm)			



3D coordinate displacement Smooth, shallow wavelets with small crests and troughs (Y2)

• Significant effects occur, even if **multiple wave cycles** are within the laser footprint

	RMSE (% / @5m)				
dXY	4.0% (max. 10.2%)	200 mm (max. 510 mm)			
dZ	0.9% (max. 1.8%)	35 mm (max. 90 mm)			





3D coordinate displacement Moderate, long ocean waves (Y3)

Shifting effects are more distinct if the period length is greater than the footprint

RMSE (% / @5m)					
dXY	15.8% (max. 36.4%)	790 mm (max. 1820 mm)			
dZ	4.7% (max. 12.0%)	235 mm (max. 600 mm)			



3D coordinate displacement Summary

- Lateral bottom point displacement can take on significant dimensions
- Improvements in 3D object coordinate determination after modeling simple symmetrical waves
- More complex, asymmetric-wave models increase improvements by a factor 2

Wave		dXY (%)		$\mathrm{d}Z\left(\% ight)$	
pattern	min. / max. / RMSE					
Σ_1	2.7	5.0	4.0	-1.0	1.2	0.7
Σ_2	5.7	14.5	11.1	-1.5	4.3	2.6
Υ_1	0.2	14.8	7.5	1.5	6.3	3.0
Υ_2	0.4	10.2	4.0	-0.2	1.8	0.9
Υ_3	0.9	36.4	15.8	0.1	12.0	4.7

Changes in laser footprint size and shape

Elliptical footprint at water surface

- Size depends on flying height and beam divergence
- Sea state induces slight deformation
- Analyze length of major and minor axis







Changes in laser footprint size and shape

Elliptical footprint at water surface

- Size depends on flying height and beam divergence
- Sea state induces slight deformation
- Analyze length of major and minor axis

Blurred footprint at water bottom

- Discrete laser points are misaligned (beam expansion, beam focusing)
- Intensity distribution no longer follows a Gaussian distribution
- Compute length of 1st and 2nd principal component







Changes in laser footprint size and shape Calm, rippled sea with short but steep waves (Y1)

Expansion by +3.2m in X and +0.8m in Y @5m water depth









Changes in laser footprint size and shape Smooth, shallow wavelets with small crests and troughs (Y2)

Expansion by +1.4m in X and +1.0m in Y @5m water depth



Changes in laser footprint size and shape Moderate, long ocean waves (Y3)

Expansion by +2.2m in X and +1.0m in Y @5m water depth



Changes in laser footprint size and shape Summary

- Wave effects will influence size, shape and intensity distribution of the underwater laser pulse
- On average, most laser footprints are expanded
- Expansion of 0.3% caused by beam divergence included
- Expansion/focusing depends on length and orientation of the waves as well as on flight and scan direction

Wave pattern	1 st PC	C – MajAz	x (%)	2 nd P	C – MinA	x (%)
	min. / max. / mean					
Υ_1	39.6	89.1	64.6	3.2	28.0	15.8
Υ_2	12.4	57.5	27.3	-3.7	17.2	3.3
Υ_3	17.4	79.6	43.9	-0.5	42.7	21.0

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Conclusion and outlook

- Investigation of the effect of wave patterns on refraction and coordinate accuracy
- The simplified assumption of averaging wave effects is not fulfilled
- Significant wave pattern dependent coordinate errors
- Strictly applying corrections by differential ray tracing for each laser pulse
 → high resolution water surface modelling required
- Derive correction terms for typical wave patterns using the simulations at hand
- More extensive simulations varying beam divergence/aircraft altitude and beam deflection
- Water surface modelling from ALB data or other observations
- Acquisition of ground truth data



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Underwater Data Acquisition and Processing ISPRS Working Group II/9

Develop, evaluate and promote methods for underwater photogrammetry data acquisition and processing in the fields of environmental monitoring, heritage recording and industrial measurement.

Terms of Reference

- Definition of best practice for geometric calibration, color correction and validation of systems for underwater 3D measurements
- Geometric and stochastic modeling of multimedia geometry for underwater image and range measurements
- Lidar bathymetry for seafloor and water surface measurement
- Algorithms and methods for underwater localization and navigation
- Combined above water, through water and underwater techniques for 3D modeling of artefacts and mapping of coastal areas

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