Development of Novel and Adaptive Vessel AIS Association Algorithm for NovaSAR AIS and Maritime Mode Data

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AIS Honeywell AIS-MS03 (onboard NovaSAR)

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Methodology - 1



Figure illustrates the deadreckoning of the bracketing AIS-snapshots (blue and red lines), the interpolation to AISprojected position (intersection of green and yellow lines), and the azimuth-shift operation (green line) to the AISpredicted position





$t_{im,g}$ - Imaging Time

 $T_{ais}^{mmsi} - \text{Superset of all 't' for MMSI in AIS}$ $P_{mmsi}(t) - \text{Position of "MMSI" at 't'}$ $\mathcal{F}_{mmsi}^{pred} = \mathbb{C}(P_{mmsi}(t) \forall t \in T_{ais}^{mmsi})$

$$P_{mmsi}^{pred}(t_{img}) = \mathcal{F}_{mmsi}^{pred}(t_{img})$$

AIS Projection to time of imaging

 P_{img}^{vessel} - Position of Vessel in Image

$$\Delta_{az} = \frac{R_s V_r}{V_{sc}}$$

Azimuth Shift for Imaging Geometry

$$P_{mmsi}^{proj}(t_{img}) = P_{mmsi}^{pred}(t_{img}) \rightarrow \Delta_{az}$$

AIS Projection to time of imaging



Methodology - 2



SAR-AIS Association as a Linear Assignment Problem of $n_{vessels}$ detected in SAR Imagery and m_{mmsi} present in the vicinity.

Along these lines is the *Jonker-Volgenant* Algorithm, for associating as a Linear Assignment Problem. The JV algorithm finds an optimal solution to the global nearest neighbor (GNN) assignment problem by finding the set of assignments that minimize the total cost of the assignments. The Jonker-Volgenant algorithm solves the GNN assignment in two phases: begin with the auction algorithm and end with the Dijkstra shortest path algorithm.

The algorithm does not take into account the weightage of dimensions of the vessel, and other figures which provide a level of confidence for each match. Statistically we have observed in some populated cases, the JV algorithm makes one wrong assignment and all the corresponding assignments are seen to be erroneous.





Rank-Confidence based Vessel Association



For each rank, define confidence score based on the vessel parameters reported and observed.

For each vessel detected, generate top *n* ranks in terms of a metric (such as distance error)



| SARD | Rank | AISD | Confidence |
|----------------|------|----------------|------------|
| S ₁ | 1 | A ₂ | Low |
| | 2 | A ₃ | Low |
| | 3 | A ₁ | High |

Sort the confidence

scores for each

score and choose

the most confident

match if not already

assigned

This algorithm seeds the association process similar to the JV algorithm, however the associations are weighted by factors crucial to the maritime industry. It also levies an additional requirement for calibration of vessel parameters extracted from SAR imagery.

This algorithm was specifically seen to outperform JV Algorithm in presence of heavy traffic or absence of detections/AIS information.

Hyperparameter tuning was done with respect to choice of *n* ranks and weighting of confidence features.



Results & Discussion





Distribution of AIS-Source used in Association



Detected Ships After Removing Ambiguity
AIS – (Collated NVS + Others)

Some more Results







- Strip ID: 50036
- Scene ID: 2
- Ship ID: 2





2.11

2.29

2.57











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