# Standards of Competence for Category "A" Hydrographic Surveyors (Preview PR)

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### **Foreword**

Comments arising from the experience gained in the application of the guidance are welcome. They should be addressed to the Chair of the International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers at the above address. This document is published periodically. Please check with IHO for the latest edition, including current amendments.

### Introduction

All components of the hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography profession face challenges as to how best to ensure the continuance of high standards and how best to ensure the continuation of best practices based on minimum standards of competence world-wide. In order to achieve these objectives, three international organizations (FIG, IHO and ICA) have developed Standards of competence that institutions or professional bodies may adopt for their educational/training programmes and competency schemes.

Standards indicate the minimum competences necessary for hydrographic surveyors. Standards recognize two levels of competence. Category "A" programmes introduces competences from the underlying principles level. Category "B" programmes introduce the competences from a practical level.

The intention is that a Category "A" individual with appropriate experience, would be a senior professional in their chosen field (government, industry, academia). Category "B" individuals with appropriate experience would be technical professionals leading and delivering products and services to meet specifications and outcomes.

### **Definitions**

### Subjects, topics, and elements

The S5-A standard contains the following list of **B**asic subjects, **F**oundation Science subjects and **H**ydrographic Science subjects:

- B1: Mathematics, statistics, theory of observations
- B2: Information and Communication Technology
- B3: Physics
- B4: Nautical science
- B5: Meteorology
- F1: Earth Models
- F2: Oceanography
- F3: Geology and geophysics
- H1: Positioning
- H2: Underwater Sensors and Data Processing
- H3: LiDAR and Remote Sensing
- H4: Survey Operations and Applications
- H5: Water Levels and Flow
- H6: Hydrographic Data Acquisition and Processing
- H7: Management of Hydrographic Data
- H8: Legal Aspects
- CMFP: COMPLEX MULTIDISCIPLINARY FIELD PROJECT

### **Topics and Elements:**

- Each **Foundation Science**, **Hydrographic Science or Basic** *subject* comprises a list of *topics* which are denoted by Bx.y, Fx.y, or Hx.y;
- Each topic contains elements which are denoted by Bx.y<c> Fx.y<c> or Hx.y<c>.

For example, the *subject* H1 "Positioning" contains the *topic* H1.1 Vessel and sensor reference frames that has the *element* H1.1a "Common reference frames for sensors".

### Learning outcomes and list of content

It is important to understand that each element is associated with:

- one or more intended *learning outcomes*, that a student should be able to achieve on completion
  of the programme. All *learning outcomes* should be assessed. This may be done through one of, or
  a combination of, the following: examination, assessed exercise or presentation, laboratory report,
  or final project work.
- a list of content. This list is associated with one or more learning outcomes and describes the
  theoretical knowledge or practical/technical context which the course syllabi should address in order
  to meet a particular learning outcome.

### Programme preparation and submission

The preparation of a programme submission to the IBSC should be done in accordance with the document entitled GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS. This document is available from the IHO website:  $\underline{\text{www.iho.int}} \rightarrow \text{Standards \& Publications}$ .

The cross reference table is a mandatory requirement for a programme submission and **MUST** be completed. A template is specified and is available from the IHO website: <a href="www.iho.int">www.iho.int</a>

### List of acronyms and initialisms used in this document

1D One-dimensional2D Two-dimensional3D Three-dimensional

A Advanced (level of knowledge)

ADCP Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler

AIS Automatic Identification System

ASV Autonomous Surface Vehicle

AUV Autonomous Underwater Vehicle

B Basic (level of knowledge)CAD Computer Aided Design

CMFP Complex Multidisciplinary Field Project

CW Continuous Wavelength
DOP Dilution of Precision

ECDIS Electronic Chart Display and Information System

ECS Electronic Chart System

ENC Electronic Navigational Chart

EPIRB Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon

F Fundamental Sciences Subjects

FIG International Federation of Surveyors

FOG Fiber Optic Gyroscope

GEBCO General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans

GIS Geographical Information System

GK Gauss-Krüger

GLONASS GLObal NAvigation Satellite System

GMDSS Global Maritime Distress and Safety System

GNSS Global Navigation Satellite System

GPS Global Positioning System

GRS80 Geodetic Reference System (1980)
H Hydrographic Sciences Subjects

HAT Highest Astronomical Tide

I Intermediate (level of knowledge)

IBSC International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical

Cartographers

ICA International Cartographic Association
IHO International Hydrographic Organization

IMU Inertial Motion Unit

INS Inertial Navigation System

LAN Local Area Network

LAT Lowest Astronomical Tide

LiDAR Light Detection And Ranging

MBES Multi-Beam Echo Sounder

MEMS Microelectromechanical systems
MSDI Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure

MSI Maritime Safety Information

MSL Mean Sea Level
NAVTEX Navigational Telex

NMEA National Marine Electronics Association

NtoM Notice to Mariners

P Practicals (fieldwork and/or laboratories)

RAM Random Access Memory

RINEX Receiver Independent Exchange Format

RNC Raster Navigational Chart

ROV Remotely Operated Underwater Vehicle

S-44 IHO Publication S-44 — Standards for Hydrographic Surveys
S-100 IHO Publication S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model

S-102 IHO Publication S-102 Bathymetric Surface Product Specification

SARSAT Search And Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking

SAS Synthetic Aperture Sonar
SBES Single Beam Echo Sounder

SG Self-guided exercises (or student's personal independent work)

SQL Structured Query Language
SSDM Standard Seabed Data Model

T Theoretical (theory through lectures)

TIN Triangulated Irregular Network

UNCLOS United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

UPS Universal Polar Stereographic

USBL Ultra Short Baseline

UTM Universal Transverse Mercator

WWNWS World Wide Navigational Warning Service

# XML Extended Markup Language

Standards of Competence for	Category "A" Hydrographic	Surveyors (Preview PR)

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### 1

# 1. BASIC SUBJECTS

# 1.1. B1: Mathematics, statistics, theory of observations

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes		
B1.1 Geometry and Linear Algebra				
B1.1a Geometry (B)	Conic Sections, geometry of the ellipse and of the ellipsoid.     Parametric equations of curves and surfaces.	Express curves and surfaces in parametric form.  Compute lengths and coordinates on an ellipse.		
B1.1b Linear Algebra	Vector and affine spaces, vector and inner products, norms.      Linear operators, matrix representation, composition, transpose.      Translations, rotations, coordinate transformations, similitudes, orthogonal projection.	Derive and compute 2D and 3D transformations, as typically involved in geodesy, surveying and survey data georeferencing.		
B1.1c Numerical methods for linear systems of equations (I)	Systems of linear equations, Gauss elimination.     Matrix decomposition, and factorization.     Condition number of a matrix.	Solve linear equations by numerical methods in a scientific computing environment and analyze error bounds.		
B1.2 Differential calcul	us and differential equations	1		
B1.2a Differential and integral calculus (B)	<ol> <li>Real and vector valued functions.</li> <li>Series, Taylor expansions</li> <li>Gradient of a real-valued functions.</li> <li>Jacobian matrix</li> <li>Integrals of real-valued functions.</li> <li>Numerical integration methods.</li> </ol>	Apply differential calculus to real and vector valued functions from a n-dimensional vector space.  Calculate integral of classical functions and approximate numerical values.		
B1.2b Differential equations (I)	<ol> <li>Linear ordinary differential equations, general solution with right hand side.</li> <li>Nonlinear differential equations, and linearization.</li> <li>Numerical methods for nonlinear ordinary differential equations.</li> </ol>	Compute explicit solutions for linear ordinary differential equations and apply numerical methods to approximate solutions to non-linear differential equations.		
B1.2c Numerical solutions of non-linear equation (B)	Iterative methods.     Rounding and numerical errors.	Apply numerical methods to find approximate solutions for non-linear equations.		

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B1.3 Probability and st	atistics	
B1.3a Probabilities and Bayesian estimation	Probability measures, density functions	Define probability measures, derive associated formulae and calculate values from data. (B)
(B, I)	Mathematical expectation, variance	Select a distribution for a given random variable and apply a Bayesian estimation method. (1)
	3) Covariance, correlation	, , ,
	Conditional probabilities,     Bayes law	
	5) Minimum mean square estimation	
	6) Distributions including normal, chi-squared, t and F	
B1.3b Statistics (I)	Random variables, mean, variance, standard deviation	Compute confidence intervals and associated statistical measures for random variables using
	Estimation of mean,     variance, covariance	various distributions.
	Statistical testing, confidence intervals	

# 1.2. B2: Information and Communication Technology

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B2.1 Computer systems (I)	<ol> <li>Central Processing Unit</li> <li>RAM, data storage devices and standards</li> <li>Communication board, serial links, communication ports and standards, buffers, Ethernet links, data transmission rates</li> <li>Communication protocols</li> <li>Clocks, clocks drift, time tagging and synchronization of data</li> <li>Operating systems</li> <li>Device drivers</li> </ol>	Describe the different components of a real-time data acquisition system, including various modes of communication and timetagging.  Describe the role of a device driver and its relation to data exchange.  Create/Configure a data link and evaluate any time delays across the link.
B2.2 Office work software suites (B)	<ol> <li>Word processors</li> <li>Spreadsheets</li> <li>Graphics software</li> </ol>	Use classical office work software suites. Prepare a poster describing scientific or project results.
B2.3 Programming (B)	<ol> <li>Basic operations of a computer program or script</li> <li>Algorithms (loops, conditional instructions)</li> <li>Scientific computation environments</li> <li>Application to data exchange, file conversion</li> </ol>	Write a program or script for data format conversion and/or basic algorithm computation.  Configure a small network and transfer data over that network
B2.4 Web and network services (B)	Networks (LANs)     Network and cloud storage     Internet     Networks integrity	Describe the different network options used in remote data exchange and storage applications.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	5) Communication protocols	
B2.5 Databases (B)	<ol> <li>File types (binary, text, XML)</li> <li>Relational databases</li> <li>Geospatial databases</li> <li>Database management systems and query languages</li> </ol>	Describe different types of geospatial data and their representation.  Construct a database, populate it and query its content using a database language, such as SQL.

# 1.3. B3: Physics

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B3.1 Kinematics (B)	Angular and linear velocities, accelerations     Angular velocities addition rules, accelerations due to rotational motion, Coriolis Law	Explain the principle and the relationship between position, velocity and acceleration for both rotational and linear motion.
B3.2 Gravity (B)	<ol> <li>The inertial frame</li> <li>Newton's law, forces, accelerations, energy</li> <li>Center of gravity, center of instantaneous rotation</li> <li>Gravitational field</li> <li>Potential fields</li> </ol>	Differentiate between inertial and Earth fixed frames.  Differentiate center of gravity from center of instantaneous rotation.  Develop the mathematical relationship between potential and acceleration in a gravitational field.
B3.3 Magnetism (B)	Magnetic characteristic of ferrous bodies     Magnetic field	Describe ferromagnetic properties and resulting magnetic field.
B3.4 Waves (B)	Harmonic waves modeling and wave parameters (amplitude, frequency, wavelength, celerity and phase)     Longitudinal and transverse waves     Intensity, Decibel scale     Attenuation     Doppler effect     Interferometric principles	Explain harmonics in the context of waves and resulting constructive and destructive interferences patterns from multiple waves and sources.  Use the Decibel scale to define intensity and characterize attenuation.  Explain the Doppler effect.
B3.5 Electromagnetic waves (B)	<ol> <li>Electromagnetic waves properties and propagation</li> <li>Radiation, emission and absorption</li> <li>Reflection, refraction, diffraction</li> <li>Optical reflectance</li> </ol>	Calculate field of view and resolving power of optics.  Describe aberrations.  Describe the effect of wavelength on the propagation in a medium.  Describe the effect of a medium in the propagation of an electromagnetic wave
B3.6 Geometrical optics (B)	Mirror, prisms, lenses and filters     Telescopic optics and magnification     Snell-Descartes law	Model a light ray-path through medium with various reflective and refractive properties.  Use the characteristics of a lens to calculate geometrical properties of an image.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B3.7 Lasers (B)	<ol> <li>Principle of lasers</li> <li>Laser parameters (frequency, wavelength)</li> <li>Types of lasers</li> <li>Laser attenuation</li> </ol>	Describe the operation, unique properties, and applications of stimulated sources of emission.
B3.8 Transducers and clocks (B)	<ol> <li>Pressure transducers</li> <li>Thermal transducers</li> <li>Types of clocks</li> <li>Measurement of elapsed time</li> </ol>	Describe different types of transducers and their calibration requirements. Describe time measurement devices in relation to their drift coefficient and accuracy.

### 1.4. B4: Nautical science

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B4.1 Conventional aids to navigation (B)	<ol> <li>Types of buoys and beacons</li> <li>Radar beacons</li> <li>AIS systems</li> </ol>	Describe the characteristics and purposes of fixed and floating aids to navigation and the use of automatic identification systems.
B4.2 GMDSS (B)	<ol> <li>Sea areas</li> <li>EPIRBs and SARSAT</li> <li>Digital selective calling</li> <li>NAVTEX</li> <li>SafetyNET</li> <li>Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (MSI)</li> <li>World Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS)</li> </ol>	Describe the components and purpose of GMDSS.
B4.3 Nautical charts (B)	<ol> <li>Content, datum, projection, scale and types of nautical charts</li> <li>Chart symbols</li> <li>Chart graticules</li> <li>Uncertainty indicators (e.g. source diagram, reliability diagram, zone of confidence, notes)</li> <li>Navigational hazards</li> <li>Plotting instruments</li> <li>ECDIS, ENC, RNC and ECS</li> </ol>	Plan and layout a route on a nautical chart, enter/plot positions, identify navigational hazards and revise navigational plan as required.  Describe the content of a nautical chart and explain datum, projection and scale.  Describe the uncertainty indicators associated with nautical charts.
B4.4 Navigation publications ( <i>B</i> )	<ol> <li>Sailing directions,</li> <li>Light and radio lists,</li> <li>Tides and current tables</li> <li>Notice to Mariners (NtoM) and Urgent Notice to Mariners</li> </ol>	Use content of nautical publications in a survey planning context.
B4.5 Compasses (B)	<ol> <li>Magnetic compasses</li> <li>Gyros</li> <li>Compass error and corrections</li> </ol>	Describe the capabilities, limitations and sources of errors of magnetic and gyro compasses.  Determine and apply corrections for magnetic and gyro compass error.
B4.6 Emergency procedures (B)	1) Fire extinguishers	Explain the importance of the emergency equipment and procedures.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	<ol> <li>Life preservers and cold water survival suits, life rafts</li> <li>Distress signals and EPIRB</li> <li>Procedures for man-overboard, fire, and abandoning ship</li> </ol>	Identify types of fire extinguishers and their use.
B4.7 Safe working practice (B)	<ol> <li>Water-tight doors and hatches</li> <li>Suspended loads</li> <li>Enclosed spaces</li> <li>Working aloft, with equipment over the side, life lines.</li> <li>Work permitting</li> <li>Securing equipment for sea</li> <li>Cables and antenna installation</li> <li>Earthing (grounding) of electrical equipment</li> <li>High voltage electrical safety</li> <li>Personal protective equipment</li> </ol>	Describe procedures for maintaining a safe working environment.  Design safe cable routes for survey instruments.  Define procedures for securing equipment for heavy weather.
B4.8 Rope and wires (B)	<ol> <li>Types of wire and rope</li> <li>Characteristics (stretch, floating, strength) of ropes and wires.</li> <li>Basic knots</li> </ol>	Select and tie basic knots. Select appropriate wire or rope.
B4.9 Towed and over the side instruments (I)	<ol> <li>Rosette systems and instruments</li> <li>ROVs, AUVs, ASVs, towed systems, catenary and layback</li> <li>A-frames, cable blocks, electro- mechanical wire, wire strength factor for deep casts, slip rings and optical cabling</li> <li>Moon pools</li> <li>Launch and recovery</li> <li>Station keeping and maneuvering</li> </ol>	Specify procedures for deployment and recovery of oceanographic and hydrographic equipment.
B4.10 Anchoring (B)	<ol> <li>Shipboard ground tackle including anchor, chain, windlass, stoppers</li> <li>Small boat anchoring</li> <li>Multiple anchors</li> </ol>	Describe ship and small boats anchoring and ground tackle.  Explain how the final position of the vessel can be adjusted through the use of anchors.
B4.11 Instrument moorings (I)	<ol> <li>Launch and recovery</li> <li>Anchors and acoustic releases</li> <li>Scope, wire, flotation, tension</li> <li>Weights</li> </ol>	Specify types of mooring and procedures for mooring underwater instruments.

# 1.5. B5: Meteorology

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
B5.1 Weather fundamentals and observations (B)	Vertical structure and the variability of the atmosphere     Temperature, humidity, dewpoint, frost-point	Define physical meteorological parameters  Operate instruments and sensors used to register temperature, pressure, direction and intensity of wind. Record these parameters according to internationally accepted standards.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
D5 0 W .	Atmospheric pressure, winds     Clouds and precipitations	Identify characteristics of weather by simple observation of the sea and the sky.
B5.2 Wind, waves and seas (B)	5) Rain, snow 6) Visibility, advection fog and	Explain the relation between atmospheric pressure, temperature and wind.
	radiation fog 7) Pressure systems 8) Geostrophic winds, anabatic and katabatic	Describe wind circulation around pressure systems and the effect of friction
	winds  9) Instruments and sensors used to register temperatures, pressure,	
	direction and intensity of wind  10) Sea state scales, weather	
	warning categories, wave height, periods and direction	
B5.3 Weather forecasting (B)	Synoptic charts     Weather forecast	Interpret a synoptic chart. Produce an operational short range forecast based on meteorological information, weather bulletins and facsimile charts.

# 2. FOUNDATION SCIENCE SUBJECTS

### 2.1. F1: Earth Models

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
F1.1 Physical geodes	sy	
F1.1a The gravity field of the Earth (B)	<ol> <li>Newton's law of gravitation</li> <li>Centrifugal acceleration</li> <li>Gravity (acceleration)</li> </ol>	Describe relationships between the gravity field of the Earth, normal gravity and level surfaces.
F1.1b Gravity observations and their reduction. (B)	<ol> <li>Gravity potential</li> <li>Level or equipotential surfaces</li> <li>The Geoid</li> <li>Normal gravity and ellipsoidal models such as GRS80.</li> <li>Gravity anomalies</li> <li>Gravity observations</li> </ol>	Explain methods for observing gravity and computation of gravity anomalies
F1.1c Height systems and height determination (B)	<ol> <li>Dynamic heights</li> <li>Orthometric heights</li> <li>Normal heights</li> </ol>	Describe different height models and the role of gravity-based heights in modern levelling networks.
F1.1d Geopotential and geoidal Modelling (I)	<ol> <li>Level ellipsoid</li> <li>Theoretical misclosure of a leveling loop</li> <li>Geopotential models</li> <li>High resolution global and local geoid grids</li> <li>Deflection of the vertical</li> </ol>	Describe techniques used to model the Earth's geopotential.  Discuss the application and limitations of geopotential models and their verification in height determination.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
F1.2 Coordinate Syst	tems	
F1.2a Coordinate Systems for Positioning (I)	Traditional geodetic datums     Terrestrial reference systems and reference frames.	Explain principles of astronomic and geocentric datums together with their practical realizations.
F1.2b Datum transformation techniques (A)	<ul> <li>3) Modern geodetic datums based on terrestrial reference frames.</li> <li>4) Datum transformation techniques including similarity transformations and grid based approaches.</li> </ul>	Compare datum transformation methods and transform coordinates between datums and between reference frames.  Estimate transformation parameters from observations.
F1.2c Geodetic computations on the ellipsoid (I)	<ol> <li>Grid computations and spherical trigonometry.</li> <li>Forward and inverse computations for geodesic and normal section curves on the ellipsoid.</li> </ol>	Assess the various solutions available for forward and inverse computations on the ellipsoid.  Compare grid and spherical methods with ellipsoidal computations.
F1.2d Three- Dimensional Geodetic Modeling (A)	Local and global Cartesian coordinate frames. Reference to physical plumb line and ellipsoidal normal. Geoid heights and deflections of the vertical.     3D observation equations and 3D adjustment. Laplace equation.	Explain the mathematical model of 3D geodesy, integrating satellite and terrestrial observations.  Evaluate a typical hybrid network, using commercial software. Describe application of 3D Geodesy to hydrographic survey control and 3D positioning of survey vessels.
F1.3 Land surveying	methods and techniques	
F1.3a Trigonometric surveys (I)	Principles of distance measurement and angle measurement     Atmospheric and radiometric	Select appropriate methods and use corresponding instruments for local positioning.
F1.3b Existing survey control (I)	corrections for optical measurements.  3) Calibration requirements and documentation	Recover survey marks and associated documentation with an appreciation for the datum and accuracy associated with the historical survey.
F1.3c Establishing survey control (I)	<ul> <li>4) Sextant (in legacy context)</li> <li>5) Theodolite</li> <li>6) Total Station</li> <li>7) Intersection, Resection, Polar and</li> </ul>	Establish terrestrial control using GNSS in accordance with published quality control procedures
F1.3d Instrument tests (I)	Traverse 8) Astronomic methods for	Field test and use distance and angle measurement instruments.
	determination of orientation.  9) Establishing ground control using GNSS, distance and angle	Select appropriate field validation procedures
F1.3e Historical surveys (B)	measurements.  10) Control station recovery  11) Logistical aspects of providing control	Relate historical surveys to legacy positioning systems.
F1.4 Levelling		I
F1.4a Levelling instruments (I)	<ol> <li>Levelling instruments</li> <li>Total stations</li> <li>Effects of curvature and refraction</li> </ol>	Explain the principles of operation of instruments used in determination of height differences.
F1.4b Height reduction (A)	<ul><li>4) Reduction of levels and correction to the relevant height datum</li><li>5) Calibration requirements and</li></ul>	Conduct surveys in accordance with standards.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes			
F1.5 Map Projections					
F1.5a Map Projections (A)	<ol> <li>Equidistant, equal area, azimuthal and conformal projections.</li> <li>Properties and applications of cylindrical, conical and stereographic projections.</li> <li>Grids, graticules and associated coordinates.</li> <li>Convergence, scale factors and arc to chord corrections.</li> <li>Worldwide cartographic systems Including UTM, GK and UPS.</li> </ol>	Classify the properties of projections.  Use parameters associated with map projections to compute distortion and apply corrections between geodetic and grid coordinates.  Use geometrical properties of map projections to contrast and compare the use of different projections for different applications.			
F1.6 Trigonometry a	nd least-squares	-			
F1.6a Trigonometry (B)	Plane trigonometry     Sphere, great circle, rhumb lines, spherical triangles and spherical excess	Apply plane and spherical trigonometry to surveying problems.			
F1.6b Theory of observations (I)	Measurements and observation equations     Notion of uncertainty related to observations     Accuracy, precision, reliability, repeatability     Linearized observation equations and variance propagation law     Propagation of uncertainty in observations through multiple measurements     Relative and absolute confidence ellipse	Differentiate between accuracy, precision, reliability and repeatability of measurements. Relate these notions to statistical information.  Apply the variance propagation law to a simple observation equation, and derive an estimate uncertainty as a function of observations covariances.			
F1.6c Least squares (A)	<ol> <li>Least squares principle</li> <li>Covariance of observation</li> <li>Weighted least squares</li> <li>Orthogonal least square</li> <li>Total Least Square</li> <li>Problems with explicit solutions</li> <li>Condition equations</li> <li>Covariance of estimated parameters</li> <li>Unit variance factor estimate</li> <li>Internal and external reliability</li> </ol>	Solve geodetic problems by least squares estimation.  Determine quality measures for least square solution to geodetic problems, to include reliability and confidence levels.			

# 2.2. F2: Oceanography

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
F2.1 Physical Oceanography and measurements		
F2.1a Water masses and circulation (I)	<ol> <li>Global ocean circulation</li> <li>Mechanisms of regional circulation.</li> </ol>	Use the knowledge of spatial and temporal variability of the water masses to plan surveys.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes	
	Global and local water masses and their physical properties.	Establish a water column sampling regime for use within	
	4) World oceanographic databases	survey operations	
	5) Seasonal and daily variability of temperature and salinity profiles.		
	Types of estuaries and their associated salinity profiles.		
F2.1b Physical properties of sea water (A)	Sound Velocity Profilers, Conductivity,     Temperature, Depth sensors, Expendable probes.	Specify oceanographic sensors to measure physical properties of sea water.	
	Units used in measuring and describing physical properties of sea water, normal ranges and relationships including: salinity, conductivity, temperature, pressure, density.	Apply appropriate equation to estimate density and speed of sound.	
	3) Sound speed equations	Create a sound speed profile.	
F2.1c Oceanographic measurements (I)	4) Oceanographic sampling. 5) Oceanographic sensors:  — Current meters  — ADCP	Specify equipment and procedures for oceanographic measurement to meet survey requirements.	
	Turbidity sensors and need for calibration	Configure and use oceanographic sensors and sampling equipment.	
F2.1d Waves (B)	<ol> <li>Wave measurement by radar and buoys</li> <li>Wave parameters and elements involved in the wave growth process including fetch and bathymetry</li> <li>Tsunamis</li> </ol>	Outline wave generation processes.  Describe the principles of wave measurement systems.  Describe how beach survey	
	<ol> <li>Breaking waves, long-shore drift and rip current processes in relation to beach surveys.</li> </ol>	monitoring strategies are related to wave regimes.	
	5) Beach profiles		

# 2.3. F3: Geology and geophysics

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
F3.1 Geology		
F3.1a Earth structure (B)	<ol> <li>Plate tectonics and other Earth processes</li> <li>Earthquakes zones</li> <li>Types of continental margins</li> <li>Ocean basins, trenches, ridges and other ocean floor features</li> <li>Different types of rocks in the marine environment</li> <li>Subsidence and uplift</li> </ol>	Describe the structure of the Earth and explain the relationship between Earth processes and bathymetric /topographic features of the Earth.
F3.1b Geomorphology (A)	<ol> <li>Types of coast</li> <li>Seafloor features and bed forms</li> <li>Erosion, transport and deposition</li> <li>Estuaries and inlets</li> <li>Seafloor temporal variability</li> </ol>	Interpret geological information and relate expected seafloor features to hydrographic survey methodology and need for repeated hydrographic surveys.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes	
	6) Sediment sampling		
F3.1c Substrates (I)	<ol> <li>Sediment types</li> <li>Outcropping rocks</li> <li>Submerged aquatic vegetation</li> <li>Corals</li> </ol>	Predict seafloor type and characteristics based on observations of local geological information.	
F3.2 Geophysics			
F3.2a Gravity fields and gravity surveys (B)	<ol> <li>Gravity meters</li> <li>Relative and absolute gravity measurements</li> <li>Bathymetric corrections for gravity measurements</li> <li>Local gravity anomalies and gravity surveys</li> <li>Influence of gravity on sea surface topography and correlation with seafloor features</li> </ol>	Explain the principle of operation of gravity meters and the need for corrections.  Discuss the objectives of gravity surveys in relation to seabed features.	
F3.2b Magnetic fields (B)	<ol> <li>Magnetic fields of the Earth</li> <li>Magnetic anomalies in relation to rock types and tectonic history</li> <li>Temporal variations</li> <li>Magnetic Earth models and databases</li> </ol>	Describe the Earth magnetic field, its spatial and temporal variability.	
F3.2c Seismic surveys (I)	<ol> <li>Continuous reflection/refraction seismic profiling.</li> <li>Typical sound sources, receivers and recorders.</li> <li>Analogue high resolution seismic systems (including pinger, boomers, sparkers, chirp)</li> <li>Frequency and wavelength in relation to resolution and penetration</li> <li>Equipment configuration for towing, launch and recovery</li> <li>Applications such as pipeline or hazard detection, seabed sediment identification for mapping, shallow sedimentary channels.</li> <li>Principles of seismic stratigraphy</li> </ol>	Evaluate coverage and penetration of systems and correlate equipment with applications.  Distinguish between noise, outliers, and real seafloor features and sub-seafloor geometry	

# 3. HYDROGRAPHIC SCIENCE SUBJECTS

# 3.1. H1: Positioning

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H1.1 Vessel and sensor reference frames		
H1.1a Common reference frames for sensors (A)	Identification of a common reference point and reference frame for the vessel	Specify a suitable vessel reference frame for sensor offsets and configure software to use values accordingly.

Topic/Element	Conte	nt	Learning outcomes
	ve 3) Ce se	entre of rotation for the ssel enters of measurement for nsors ensor offset measurements.	Reconcile the application of offsets between various hardware and software components of the survey system.
H1.1b Integration of reference frames (A)	fra 2) Tra rei wi ve	ensor body reference times.  ansformations between ference frames associated th sensor bodies, the ssel and local geodetic time.	Define and apply appropriate transformations between the different frames in the navigation solution.
H1.2 GNSS positioning			
H1.2a GNSS Signals (I, B)	GF Be 2) Sig 3) Fr an	NSS Systems, such as PS, GLONASS, Galileo, eidou, etc. gnal structure. equencies, time keeping d logistical segments: round, Space, User.	Describe the structure of signals broadcast by GNSS and explain the impact of the atmosphere on these signals. (I)  Describe the characteristics of different components of GNSS and detail sources of information relating to the orbital and timing parameters. (B)
	ep orl 5) lor eff	oadcast almanac hemerides and precise bit information. hospheric and tropospheric fects. arth rotation information.	
H1.2b GNSS observables (A)	ph ob 2) Dir ph an dif 3) Co	ode phase and carrier lase observables, mixed eservables.  Ifferencing using carrier lase including single, fixed d float double, and triple ferences.  Incrections for earth rotation, hosphere, and troposphere.	Write observation equations for different GNSS observables and develop mathematical and stochastic models for the solutions that include earth rotation and ionospheric elements.
H1.2c Relative and absolute techniques (A)	2) Reported 3) Proted 4) Syali	fferential and Wide area gmentation services. eal time kinematic and stprocessed kinematic chniques. ecise Point Positioning chniques and services. estem selection in gnment with survey quirements.	Evaluate and select appropriate system for applications by aligning survey requirements with capabilities and limitations of GNSS techniques
H1.2d Installation and operation (A)	co an 2) Le sy 3) Da	ntenna installation to nsider coverage, stability id multipath environment. evels of redundancy in stems and communications ata exchange formats and otocols such as RINEX and MEA	Specify, supervise and test the installation of GNSS hardware and software for both inshore and offshore operations.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H1.2e Quality control (A)	Sources of error including multipath, atmospheric effects, base station network, sensor offsets, etc.	Develop a quality control plan for GNSS operations including risk management associated with GNSS components and services.
	Measures and monitoring of precision (DOP variations) and reliability (statistical testing).	Assess the performance of GNSS positioning against the defined quality control criteria.
	Integrity monitoring of base station data.	
	Verification checks between systems or against known points.	
H1.3 Inertial navigation s	ystems	
H1.3a Accelerometers and gyroscopes, inclinometers, and	Accelerometers technology (pendulums, vibrating elements)	Describe accelerometer technologies, and differentiate between inclinometers, compass and gyroscopes. Describe error sources
compass (A)	Gyroscopes (FOG, Ring laser, Sagnac effect)	associated with these devices.
	3) MEMS	
	4) Inclinometers	
	5) Flux gate compass	
H1.3b Strapdown inertial measurement units (A)	Technologies available for IMU measurements through gyroscopes and accelerometers	Describe the technologies used in inertial measurements and quantify associated navigation errors.
	<ol> <li>Sources of error in inertial sensors: bias; scale factor; and, noise.</li> </ol>	Undertake static alignment of an IMU.  Develop strategies for mitigating induced heave and select filter parameters for heave estimation.
	The inertial navigation equation and error equations.	estimation.
	4) Static alignment of the IMU.	
	<ol> <li>Heave estimation from gyros and accelerometers.</li> </ol>	
	6) Induced heave.	
H1.3c Kalman filtering (I)	<ol> <li>Bayesian estimation</li> <li>State representation of</li> </ol>	Apply Kalman filtering methods to a dynamic observation process.
	a dynamic observation equation, observability	Define the parameters of a Kalman Filter in relation with sensors performances and
	Continuous, Semi-discrete     and discrete Kalman filtering	dynamic model uncertainty.
	Optimal smoothing	Differentiate between stationary and nonstationary observation processes
H1.3d Aided inertial navigation (I)	INS and GNSS loosely and tightly coupled solutions.	Describe the role of aiding sensors to reduce INS navigation drift.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Velocity and ranging aided     INS navigation.	Apply appropriate settings to filtering and smoothing for aided navigation solutions.
	Dynamic and aided     alignment of INS by Kalman     filtering.	The state of the s
	INS solutions from IMU and other sensors by Kalman filtering and smoothing.	

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H1.4 Subsea positioning		
H1.4a Acoustic positioning principles (A)	<ol> <li>Long base line</li> <li>Short baseline</li> <li>Ultra-short baseline</li> </ol>	Describe the signal structure and observables of mobile and fixed acoustic positioning devices.
	<ul><li>4) Doppler velocity log</li><li>5) Transponders</li><li>6) Acoustic modems</li></ul>	Relate observables and platform orientation to relative positions through observation equations.
H1.4b Acoustic positioning systems (A)	<ul><li>7) Subsea INS</li><li>8) Water column structure</li><li>9) Acoustic ray multipath</li></ul>	Explain how acoustic positioning observables, orientation and surface positioning data are used to achieve subsea rover spatial referencing.
	10) Time synchronization	Specify the deployment and calibration methods for fixed and mobile acoustic positioning systems.
H1.4c Acoustic positioning error analysis (I)		Compute the total propagated uncertainty in acoustic positioning, accounting for time, sound speed and other observable errors.
H1.4d. Acoustic positioning applications	Towed vehicles     Autonomous vehicles	Identify appropriate acoustic positioning solutions for different applications, considering
(B)	3) ROVs	potential sources of error.
	Surface vessel dynamic positioning	
	5) Engineering and installation	
	6) Metrology	
H1.5 Line keeping		
H1.5a Track guidance (B)	Track guidance and route following information systems.	Specify the methods to be used in maintaining a survey vessel or remote survey system on a planned survey line or route and meeting
	Tolerances for track guidance in compliance with survey specifications and positioning system precision.	sounding density specifications.  Describe what may occur if the real-time navigation systems are interrupted during a survey.
	3) Maintaining uniform sounding density in swath systems.	Explain how to compensate and mitigate for
	The impact of the environment on the line keeping and data density	the effects of strong currents across a survey area/in a river estuary.
	5) Options for accepting filed data when the navigation or line keeping is not optimal.	

# 3.2. H2: Underwater Sensors and Data Processing

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes	
H2.1 Underwater acoustics			
H2.1a Transducers and generation of acoustic waves (I)	<ol> <li>Piezoelectric principles</li> <li>Transducer arrays design, beamforming, side lobes.</li> <li>Transducer Quality factor</li> </ol>	Analyze the effect of transducer design on beam characteristics and performance.	

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	<ol> <li>Plane and spherical waves in terms of wavelength, amplitude and frequency.</li> </ol>	Describe the design and use of multifrequency, wide-bandwidth and parametric transducers.
	<ul><li>5) Absorption, spherical spreading</li><li>6) Frequency, attenuation relationship to range</li></ul>	Differentiate between chirp and CW transmission, and characterize their relative performance.
	<ol> <li>Acoustic units, intensities and sound levels</li> </ol>	Determine source level from typically available sonar specification.
H2.1b Propagation of acoustic waves (A)	8) Signal to noise ratio 9) Active Sonar Equation including sound source, causes of propagation loss in relation to water properties together with characteristics of the sea floor and targets, acoustic noise level and directivity	Explain how properties of the acoustic medium and source frequency affect the propagation of acoustic waves.  Calculate propagation loss in practical situations, using medium property observations and available tables.
H2.1c Acoustic noise (I)	10) Continuous Wavelength (CW), Chirp transmission	Identify the sources of noise and describe the effect of noise on echo sounding. Define the directivity index.
	<ol> <li>System parameters including bandwidth, pulse length, pulse repetition rate, gain, detection threshold.</li> </ol>	Calculate the effect on sonar range of a variety of noise conditions and sonar directivity circumstances.
H2.1d Reflection, scattering and system	12) Range resolution and spatial resolution.	Define the characteristic impedance of an acoustic medium.
performance. (I)	<ul><li>13) Dynamic range, clipping and saturation</li><li>14) Sound speed profile and gradient</li><li>15) Ray-tracing theory</li></ul>	Assess the effects of varying seafloor composition, texture, and slope on echo strength.
H2.1e Refraction and ray-tracing. (A)	<ul><li>16) Sound channel</li><li>17) Non horizontal sound speed layers</li></ul>	Use the sound speed profile to compute the path of sound ray through the water column.
H2.2 Single beam system	s	
H2.2a Single beam echo sounders principles (I)	<ol> <li>Single beam, split beam and dual beam concepts</li> <li>Beam footprint</li> <li>Specification of a single beam echo</li> </ol>	Explain the principles of operation of a single beam sounder detailing how acoustic parameters influence sounder returns.
H2.2b Single beam returns interpretation (A)	<ul> <li>sounder.</li> <li>Bottom detection principles (matched filtering, thresholding) and range resolution.</li> <li>Full-echo-envelope returns and</li> </ul>	Interpret single beam returns including analysis of full echo envelopes and
	bottom characterization	
H2.2c Single beam survey system (A)	Components of a single beam echo sounder system to include: positioning system, motion sensor, acquisition system, source of reference level (i.e. tide gauge, GNSS)	Specify survey system to perform a single beam survey in accordance with application requirements.  Select appropriate range, scale, frequency and pulse for specific
	Acoustic parameters of single beam echo-sounders	applications in relation to spatial resolution, bottom penetration, depth of water and water column analysis.
	Reduction of soundings to the specified datum	
H2.2d Processing of single beam data (I, A)	Systematic effects in system components:	Specify processing workflow for single beam data. (I)

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	Single Beam Echo- Sounders     IMU/INS     Sound speed profilers and other peripheral sensors  Single beam echo sounders data processing workflows	Integrate and merge data of various sources and of various types in preparation for product generation. (A)
H2.3 Sonar imagery syste	ems	
H2.3a Side-scan sonar systems (A)	<ol> <li>Principles, components and geometry of side scan sonar systems</li> <li>Range, beam angle</li> <li>Resolution in relation to beam width, sampling rate angle of incidence and pulse length.</li> </ol>	Evaluate, select and configure sidescan sonar in alignment with survey operational needs.
H2.3b Synthetic Aperture Sonar (I)	Principles of synthetic aperture imaging	Discuss and compare the use of SAS with that of more conventional sonar imaging systems.
H2.4 Swath echo sounder	rsystems	
H2.4a Multibeam echo sounders (A, I)  H2.4b Multibeam system parameters (A)	<ol> <li>Principles and geometry of multibeam sonar systems</li> <li>Combination of transducer elements into transmit and receive arrays.</li> <li>Beam stabilization and beam steering</li> <li>Amplitude and phase bottom detection</li> <li>Variations in beam spacing and footprint size</li> <li>Backscatter recording modes (e.g., beam average, side scan time series, beam time series)</li> <li>Backscatter and seabed classification</li> <li>Water column data</li> <li>Power, gain, pulse length</li> <li>Multiple signal returns, aliasing of multiple signals in the water.</li> </ol>	Explain the basic principles of multibeam sonar transmit and receive beam forming and beam steering. (I)  Explain the effect of aperture size and element spacing on array performance. (I)  Analyze the techniques of amplitude and phase methods of bottom detection and relate them to depth uncertainty. (A)  Tune acoustic parameters on-line for depth and backscatter.  Determine the beam footprint size and sounding spacing across the swath and assess the limitations and likelihood of detecting objects on the seafloor under varying surveying conditions.  Explain the use of water column returns and differentiate from bottom
H2.4c Multibeam systems (A)  H2.4d Multibeam data processing (A)	<ol> <li>positioning system, telemetry, motion and attitude sensors,</li> <li>acquisition system,</li> <li>source of reference level (i.e. tide gauge, GNSS),</li> <li>Sound Speed measurements</li> <li>Multi-beam data elements:</li> <li>Beam and travel-time data</li> </ol>	detection.  Specify survey system to perform a multibeam survey in accordance with application requirements.  Describe how and where data elements are combined to produce geo-referenced soundings.
	<ul><li>3) IMU/INS</li><li>4) Positioning data</li><li>5) Time stamping</li></ul>	Integrate and merge data elements in preparation for data processing.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	<ul><li>6) Offsets between sensor reference points</li><li>7) Sound speed profile</li><li>8) Data file formats</li></ul>	
H2.4e Interferometric Sonar (A)	<ol> <li>Principles and geometry of interferometric (phase measurement) sonar systems</li> <li>Sounding determination principles</li> <li>Mounting methods and towing</li> <li>Transducers arrangement</li> <li>Sounding filtering and binning techniques</li> </ol>	Analyze the principles and geometry of interferometry and phase differencing bathymetric sonars and the arrangement of transducer arrays.  Explain the need for filtering phase measurement data for depth, object detection and backscatter.  Explain the effect of aperture size and transducer geometry on array performance.  Assess the relative merits of multibeam and phase differencing systems for specific mapping applications in water depths from very shallow to full ocean depths.
H2.5 Backscatter		
H2.5a Backscatter from side scan, interferometric swath sonars and multibeam echo sounders (A)	Relationship between backscatter content and characteristics of the seabed, water column properties and acoustic signal parameters     Generation of backscatter information within acoustic systems.	Specify and configure a side scan sonar and a swath echo sounder for backscatter acquisition under varying environmental conditions and for specific application.
	information within acoustic systems  3) Principle of backscatter compensation for absorption, incidence angle, gain and power  4) Mosaicing	Monitor and assess quality on-line and apply appropriate compensation.  Apply backscatter principles to produce a compensated backscatter mosaic.

# 3.3. H3: LiDAR and Remote Sensing

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H3.1 LIDAR		
H3.1a Airborne LiDAR systems (A)	Wavelength, water penetration, ground detection and laser safety.      Scanning frequency	Determine the applicability of topographic and bathymetric LiDAR to specific mapping applications. Specify the appropriate LiDAR technology for given applications and identify supporting survey operations required to conduct the survey and process data.
H3.1b Airborne LiDAR data products (I, A)	and pattern in relation to power, coverage and spatial density.  3) Influence of sea surface roughness, water column turbidity on the beam pattern and penetration.  4) Sea bed optical characteristics and bottom detection.  5) Influence of seabed on reflectance	Identify potential sources of error in combined topographic and bathymetric LiDAR data and apply corrective processing techniques as appropriate. ( <i>I</i> )  Evaluate results (x,y,z) of specific bathymetric LiDAR surveys for compliance with hydrographic requirements. ( <i>I</i> )  Explain how to incorporate information from full waveform analysis in the production of LiDAR mapping products. ( <i>A</i> )

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H3.1c Terrestrial LiDAR (B)	Relationship between full waveform signature and seabed characteristics.	Determine situations where terrestrial and vessel-based LiDAR data can be used to complement other coastal and offshore spatial data.
	7) Secchi disc and Secchi depth	Explain the need for calibration and validation of vessel-
	8) Impact of structure and canopy on topographic LiDAR	based LiDAR and describe how data from such system will be integrated with other data streams.
	9) Optical characteristics of coastal terrain.	
	10) Influence of geometry and waveform on feature detection.	
	11) Integration of components including time stamping, attitude compensation, sensor offsets and networking.	
	12) Sources and levels of uncertainty associated with LiDAR data and products.	
	13) Combined bathymetric and topographic LiDAR systems	
	14) Vessel-based LiDAR	
H3.2 Remote Ser	nsing	
H3.2a Remotely sensed bathymetry (I)	Multispectral imagery     and water penetration in     relation to wavelength	Explain and compare the methods that enable depth to be determined from wavelength together with optical properties of both the water and the seabed.
	Optical properties of sea water.	
	Model based and empirical inversion methods for determining bathymetry.	
	<ul><li>4) Atmospheric corrections.</li><li>5) Spatial resolution and accuracy in position and depth.</li></ul>	
	6) Reflectance properties of the sea floor.	
H3.2b Satellite altimetry (B)	Missions and sensors     Products	Describe the principles and limitations of satellite altimetry products including sea-surface topography and derived bathymetry
H3.2c Optical methods of	Color imagery and multispectral imagery.	Describe geometrical properties of images and principles of orthorectification.
shoreline delineation (I)	Reflectance of multispectral imagery in relation to	Explain how imagery can be used in planning survey operations and in supporting hydrographic products.
	wavelength and terrain characteristics.	Compare image based methods with those of LiDAR for shoreline delineation
	Use of imagery in shoreline mapping and	

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	identification of other topographic features.	
	Uncertainty associated with map features derived from imagery.	
	Geometrical properties     of satellite images and     aerial photographs	

# 3.4. H4: Survey Operations and Applications

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H4.1 Hydrographic s	urvey projects	
H4.1a Hydrographic survey requirements (A)	<ol> <li>IHO S-44 and other survey quality standards.</li> <li>Underkeel clearance</li> <li>Procedures and installations required to conduct hydrographic surveys of specific types, for example:         <ul> <li>Nautical charting survey</li> <li>Boundary delimitation survey</li> <li>Ports, harbor and waterways surveys.</li> <li>Engineering works and dredging surveys</li> <li>Coastal engineering surveys</li> <li>Inland surveys</li> <li>Erosion and land-sea interface monitoring</li> <li>Oceanographic surveys</li> <li>Deep sea and ROVs /AUVs surveys</li> <li>Seismic, gravity and geomagnetic surveys</li> <li>Pipeline route, pipeline installation, inspection and cable laying surveys</li> <li>Wreck and debris surveys.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Establish procedures required to achieve quality standards in hydrographic surveys.  Specify the type of survey system and equipment needs together with associated parameters and procedures for various components of the overall survey operation.  Evaluate the impact of local physical and environmental factors on survey results.
H4.1b Hydrographic survey project management (A)	<ol> <li>Hydrographic instructions and tenders.</li> <li>Estimating and drafting survey work plans and schedules</li> <li>Risk assessment in survey operations associated with the proposed work plan.</li> <li>Assessment and reporting of work progress against the work plan</li> <li>Health and safety compliance</li> <li>Environmental impact of survey activities</li> </ol>	Prepare hydrographic specifications, instructions and tenders associated with survey objectives.  Estimate the resources, scheduling and timing associated with hydrographic projects and prepare project plans including health and safety requirements, environmental issues and emergency response.  Define, assign and distribute the roles and responsibilities of individuals within a survey team.  Prepare progress reports and submit interim project deliverables.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	Emergency Response Situations and Plan	S
H4.2 Hydrographic	survey operations	
H4.2a Survey planning (A)	Components of survey planning including on-board equipment, platform's dynamic positioning, remote installations, data from satellites and telemetry links.	Plan survey lines and schedule to accommodate environmental and topographic conditions for the vessel or aircraft and for towed, remote and autonomous vehicles.
	<ol> <li>Planning of survey operation considering general depth, bottom character, water column variability, weather, currents, tides, coastal features and vesse flight safety.</li> </ol>	el/
	Logistical considerations for survey operations	
	Maintaining safe working conditions.	
H4.2b Single Beam operations (A)	Transducer mounting     Calibration techniques and requirements	Specify survey procedures and quality assurance practices to perform a single beam survey in accordance with application requirements.
	Line spacing, orientation and line planning	Select appropriate range, scale, frequency
	Causes and effects of motion artefacts and water properties artefact on data	and pulse repetition rate for specific application in relations to spatial resolution, bottom penetration, depth of water, and
	<ul><li>5) Integration with ancillary system.</li><li>6) Compensation for vessel motion attitude, dynamic draft</li></ul>	
	7) Feature development	
	8) Data logging parameters	
H4.2c Multibeam and Interferometric operations (A)	Selection of platform and deployment (hull mount, pole mount, AUV, ROV)	Specify survey procedures and quality assurance practices to perform a multibeam or interferometric survey in accordance with
	2) Swath coverage and resolution	application requirements.
	<ul><li>3) Object detection</li><li>4) Sound speed profile</li></ul>	Identify deficiencies in multi-beam echo sounder or interferometric sonar data, relate
	5) Survey speed in relation to system parameters	issues encountered to system or operational factors and respond appropriately.
	Causes and effects of motion artefacts and water property artefacts on data	
	7) Swath planning	
	Calibration methods and procedures	
	9) Ancillary sensors and integration	
	10) On-line monitoring of data being acquired	
	11) Uncertainty models	
H4.2d Magnetic surveys (I)	Operating principles and sensitivity characteristics of magnetometers and gradiomete	Describe the capabilities and limitations of magnetometers and gradiometers in conducting object detection surveys.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes		
	<ol> <li>Deployment of magnetometers and gradiometers and planning of magnetic surveys</li> <li>Objectives of magnetic surveys in the detection of objects such as pipelines, cables, ordnance, debris, wrecks.</li> <li>Display and interpretation of magnetometer and gradiometer data.</li> </ol>			
H4.2e Airborne LiDAR surveys (I)	<ol> <li>Calibration techniques and requirements</li> <li>Flight line spacing, ground speed, orientation and aircraft turning characteristics</li> <li>Environmental factors affecting data coverage (i.e., sunlight, clouds, rain, smoke, sea conditions, etc.)</li> </ol>	Specify survey procedures and quality assurance practices to perform a LiDAR survey in accordance with application requirements.  Specify LiDAR coverage and data density requirements for a survey.  Assess LiDAR survey data (xyz point cloud and resultant depth grid) for adequacy and quality of overlap with adjacent acoustic survey data.  Consider operational and environmental conditions in planning LiDAR surveys.		
H4.2f Side scan sonar operations (A)	<ol> <li>Selection of platform and deployment (tow, hull mount, AUV)</li> <li>Elevation above the seafloor.</li> <li>Swath coverage</li> <li>Survey speed in relation to sonar system parameters</li> <li>Towfish positioning</li> <li>Target aspect</li> <li>Effects of motion and water properties on images</li> <li>Layback calculations</li> </ol>	Design and conduct a side scan sonar survey as part of an integrated data acquisition system in compliance with survey objectives.  Explain and identify the effects of stratification of the water column and develop mitigating strategies for surveying in a variety of environmental conditions.		
H4.2g Side- scan sonar data interpretation (A)	<ol> <li>Side scan sonar backscatter and sea floor reflection.</li> <li>Side scan images and mosaicking</li> <li>Sources of distortion and artefacts from water column properties, motion</li> <li>Determination of height, size and position of seafloor features</li> <li>Sonar signature of wrecks, pipelines, gas, fish and fresh water, etc.</li> </ol>	Interpret side scan sonar imagery through assessment of individual and overlapping swaths to identify potential sonar targets for further investigation.  Interpret side scan sonar imagery to assess differences in seafloor composition and topography.		
H4.3 Seabed charact	H4.3 Seabed characterization			
H4.3a Classification from acoustic data (I)	<ol> <li>SBES full echo envelope</li> <li>Sub-bottom profiler full echoenvelope</li> <li>Side scan sonar images</li> <li>Synthetic aperture sonars images</li> <li>Side scan sonar and swath echo sounders backscatter information</li> </ol>	Explain the concept of incidence angle dependence and describe the signal processing steps required to obtain corrected backscatter data for seafloor characterization.  Explain the techniques available and their limitations for observing, interpreting		

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	6) Ground-truthing	and classifying differences in seabed characteristics from acoustic sensors.
H4.3b Classification from optical data (B)	<ol> <li>Hyperspectral and multispectral sensors images</li> <li>Underwater cameras</li> <li>LiDAR</li> <li>Ground-truthing</li> </ol>	Explain the techniques available and their limitations for observing and interpreting differences in seabed and inter-tidal zone characteristics from optical sensors.
H4.3c Seabed sampling (I)	<ol> <li>Grabs</li> <li>Corers</li> <li>Use in ground-truthing</li> </ol>	Plan a sampling campaign to classify the seabed as part of a survey.  Use remotely sensed information to select sampling sites.
H4.3d Seabed characterization (I)	Classification standards     Classification methods	Consider the combination of remotely sensed information with seabed samples in a seafloor characterization survey.  Apply classification standards to seabed characterization results.

### 3.5. H5: Water Levels and Flow

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes		
H5.1 Principles of W	H5.1 Principles of Water Levels			
H5.1a Tide theory (I)	<ol> <li>Tide generating forces, the equilibrium and real tides.</li> <li>Tide constituents and different types of tide.</li> <li>Amphidromic points and cotidal and co-range lines.</li> <li>Geomorphological and basin influences on tidal characteristics</li> </ol>	Characterize features of the tide in terms of tide raising forces and local hydrographic features.		
H5.1b Non- tidal water level variations (I)	<ol> <li>Changes in water level caused by: atmospheric pressure, wind, seiches, ocean temperature and precipitation.</li> <li>Water level variations occurring in inland waters.</li> <li>Water level variations in estuaries, wet lands and rivers</li> </ol>	Evaluate the effect of non-tidal influences on water levels in the conduct of a hydrographic survey.		
H5.2 Water level mea	surements			
H5.2a Water level gauges (A)	Principles of operation of various types of water level gauges including pressure (vented and unvented), GNSS buoys, float, radar, acoustic sensors and tide poles.      Installing gauges, establishment and levelling of associated survey marks	Select appropriate type of water level gauge technology according to survey project operations.  Install, level to a vertical reference, and calibrate a water level gauge while evaluating sources of errors and applying appropriate corrections.		
H5.2b Tidal measurement (A)	<ul> <li>3) Determination of tide correctors from water level observations</li> <li>4) Networks of water level gauges</li> <li>5) Use of satellite altimetry in determining water levels</li> </ul>	Evaluate and select appropriate sites for water level monitoring.  Select water level gauge parameters for logging data, data communication, data		

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	Uncertainties associated with water level measurement devices	download and for network operation with appropriate quality control measures.
H5.2c Uncertainty in water level (I)	<ul><li>7) Uncertainties associated with duration of observations.</li><li>8) Uncertainties associated with a postion of unctor level.</li></ul>	Assess and quantify the contribution of water level observations to uncertainties in survey measurements.
	spatial separation of water level measurements.	Assess the uncertainty in water level observations due to duration of observations and distance from water level gauge.
H5.3 Tide modelling		
H5.3a Harmonic analysis (I)	Harmonic constituents from astronomical periods	Compute standard harmonic constituents from astronomical periods.
	<ol> <li>Harmonic coefficients and residuals.</li> <li>Water level time series observations</li> <li>Fourier series and Fourier analysis</li> </ol>	Derive harmonic coefficients and residuals from times series observations using Fourier analysis.
	5) Tide tables and tide prediction	Describe the computation of tide tables from harmonic coefficients.
		Compare the tidal characteristics and residuals of two tide stations using harmonic analysis.
H5.3b Ocean water level (B)	<ol> <li>Earth tide</li> <li>Harmonic astronomic component</li> <li>Oceanographic components</li> <li>Meteorological component.</li> <li>Satellite altimetry</li> </ol>	Describe ocean water level models and observation methods.
H5.4 Ellipsoid separa	ation models and vertical datums	
H5.4a Separation models (I)	<ol> <li>Single-point and regional models</li> <li>Principle of Separation surface</li> </ol>	Explain the relationship between geoid, ellipsoid, and chart datum.
• •	construction  3) Ellipsoid to Chart Datum separation models	Apply relevant offsets to convert between datums
H5.4b Vertical Datums (A)	4) Tidally defined vertical datums components, including LAT, HAT, MSL, etc	Select, establish, interpolate and transfer a vertical datum in various environments.
H5.4c Sounding reduction (A)	<ul><li>5) Chart Datum and sounding datum</li><li>6) Geoid as a reference surface</li><li>7) Datums in oceans coastal waters, estuaries, rivers and lakes</li></ul>	Reduce ellipsoidal referenced survey data to a water level datum using an appropriate separation model with an appreciation for associated uncertainty.
	8) Interpolation of datums between water level stations	Apply tide correctors to reduce survey soundings to a chart datum.
	9) Reduction of survey data to a datum	
H5.5 Currents		
H5.5a Tidally induced currents (B)	The relationship between currents and tides     Partilinear and return tidel currents.	Explain the forces behind tidally induced currents and describe temporal variations.
	<ol> <li>Rectilinear and rotary tidal currents</li> <li>current meters,</li> <li>acoustic current profilers</li> </ol>	Differentiate between tidal and non-tidal current.
H5.5b Current measurement,	<ul><li>5) Drogues</li><li>6) Surface current radar observation</li></ul>	Select, use techniques and instruments for current measurement.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
portrayal and surveys (I)	7) Static and mobile current measurements  8) Current surveys  9) Portraying current data	Plan current surveys.  Use appropriate methods for processing and displaying current data.

# 3.6. H6: Hydrographic Data Acquisition and Processing

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
H6.1 Real-time data acquisition and control		
H6.1a Hydrographic Data acquisition (A)  H6.1b Real-time data monitoring (A)	Integration of data from various sensors in accordance with survey specifications to include equipment such as:	Define, configure and validate a complex survey suite for different types of surveys in accordance with technical specification.  Specify and configure communication interfaces between survey devices and system components.  Evaluate performance of an integrated survey system against survey specifications using quality control methods and address deficiencies using troubleshooting methods.  Identify type and sources of system errors and undertake system analysis.
E6.1c Survey data storage and transfer (A)	Content of files in different formats used to record data in survey planning, data acquisition and products.     Multiple data types     Storage requirements     Proprietary vs. standard data format     Metadata     Organization of survey databases.	Export survey data to databases and analysis tools taking account of different data formats.  Employ data storage strategies to facilitate survey data flow.  Populate and maintain metadata associated with different data types and products.
-	filtering and estimation	T.,
H6.2 a Filtering and estimation of single beam data (A)	Data cleaning techniques (manual and automated)     Identification of outliers	Identify and remove outliers and validate data cleaning and other decisions made in processing single beam data.

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	<ol> <li>Identification and classification of systematic errors</li> <li>Total propagated uncertainty — horizontal</li> <li>Total propagated uncertainty — vertical</li> <li>Comparing crossing data between survey lines</li> <li>Comparing overlapping data between platforms</li> <li>Assessing coverage in relation with contour lines and features</li> </ol>	Interpret and resolve systematic errors detected during data processing  Perform time series analysis of data from multiple sensors to detect artefacts and other errors that may exist in a survey dataset.  Specify additional coverage and associated survey parameters to resolve shortcomings in survey data.
H6.2b Filtering and estimation of multibeam data (A)	<ol> <li>Data cleaning techniques (manual and automated)</li> <li>Identification of outliers</li> <li>Identification and classification of systematic errors</li> <li>Total propagated uncertainty — horizontal</li> <li>Total propagated uncertainty — vertical</li> <li>Comparing crossing and adjacent data between survey lines</li> <li>Comparing overlapping data between platforms</li> </ol>	Identify and remove outliers and validate data cleaning and other decisions made in processing multi-beam data.  Interpret and resolve systematic errors detected during data processing  Perform time series analysis of data from multiple sensors to detect artefacts and other errors that may exist in a survey dataset.  Assess processed data for coverage and quality, and specify remedial surveys.
H6.2c Spatial data quality control (A)	A posteriori and a priori total propagated uncertainty (horizontal and vertical)     Primary and secondary survey sensors used for quality control     Relative and absolute uncertainties	Differentiate between relative and absolute uncertainties.  Estimate and compare uncertainties through the use of different spatial and temporal datasets.  Define procedures used to assess and accept or reject data.
H6.2d Spatial data interpolation (I, A)	<ol> <li>1) 1D polynomial interpolation</li> <li>2) Interpolating splines,         BSplines, multi-dimensional         splines</li> <li>3) Spatial interpolation by         inverse distance and Kriging</li> <li>4) Grids and TIN construction         from spatial data</li> <li>5) Contouring techniques</li> </ol>	Choose an appropriate interpolation method and compute a surface from sparse survey measurements. (I)  Select appropriate spatial data processing methods to create digital terrain models or gridded surfaces and contouring. (A)
H6.2e Spatial data representation (I, A)	<ol> <li>Point Clouds</li> <li>Surface models</li> <li>Raster and vector data</li> <li>Spatial resolution</li> <li>Data resolution</li> <li>Horizontal scale and vertical exaggeration</li> </ol>	Apply estimation procedures to survey measurements to represent data according to survey product requirements. (I)  Select optimal parameters for data representation. (A)

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	<ul><li>7) Volume computations</li><li>8) Profiles</li></ul>	
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# 3.7. H7: Management of Hydrographic Data

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes	
H7.1 Data organi	H7.1 Data organization and presentation		
H7.1a Databases (I)	<ol> <li>Relational databases</li> <li>Spatial databases</li> <li>Databases to hold different types of feature and geographical information</li> </ol>	Explain the concepts of relational and spatial databases.  Conceptualize, develop, and populate a spatial database to represent hydrographic survey elements and define relationships between those elements.	
H7.1b Marine GIS basics (B)	<ol> <li>Features and feature types of point, line and polygon with marine examples.</li> <li>Marine and coastal data bases</li> <li>Datums and projections</li> <li>Vertical datums</li> <li>Survey metadata</li> <li>Base maps and images</li> </ol>	Identify the data types that might be used to represent features from the marine environment considering the attribute that might be associated with such features.  Create a GIS project using marine spatial data.  Perform spatial processing on marine data sets including datum and projection transformations.	
H7.2 Marine data sources and dissemination			
H7.2a MSDI (B)	Basic concept of MSDI     Importance and role of data standards     The value and benefit of good metadata     Data exchange and sharing	Describe the role of hydrographic data in Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures.	
H7.2b Open access marine data (B)	Open access databases including GEBCO     Marine data portals     Data reliability from web sources     Crowd-sourced data	Distinguish between types and sources of data as a measure of reliability and utility.	
H7.3 Spatial data	H7.3 Spatial data integration and deliverables		
H7.3a Spatial data integration (I)	Tools and method for integration and comparison of hybrid data sets     Co-registration of hybrid data sets	Integrate data from multiple sources and sensor types in the conduct of a multisensor survey.	
H7.3b Spatial data visualisation (A)	<ol> <li>Use of color schemes</li> <li>Shading and illumination</li> <li>Vertical exaggeration</li> <li>Standards</li> </ol>	Evaluate and select the best visualization method to highlight features of interest and quality-control a hydrographic data set.	
H7.3c Deliverables (A)	Products provided directly from source data such as sounding data files and metadata.  Peature databases such as wrecks, rocks and obstructions	Describe hydrographic deliverables and produce paper products as well as digital products in accordance with specifications and standards.  Prepare a report on a hydrographic survey.	

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	Data required for sailing directions, light lists, radio aids to navigation, port guides and notices to mariners.	
	<ol> <li>Digital and paper products derived from source data for various survey types and usage such as GIS and CAD files and/or geo-referenced images.</li> </ol>	
	5) Reports on quality control, procedures, results and conclusions detailing processes adopted within survey operations and data processing.	
	6) Standards including:	
	<ul> <li>IHO S-100, and product standards such as S-102.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Standard Seabed Data Model (SSDM).</li> </ul>	

# 3.8. H8: Legal Aspects

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes		
H8.1 Product liability				
H8.1a Responsibilities of the hydrographic surveyor ( <i>B</i> , <i>I</i> )	<ol> <li>Nautical charts.</li> <li>Notice to mariners.</li> <li>Survey notes and reports.</li> <li>Fundamentals of professional liability relating to surveying</li> <li>Professional ethics relating to commercial and government projects</li> <li>Legal issues and liability associated with hydrographic equipment and products.</li> </ol>	Detail the role and responsibilities of the hydrographic surveyor as required under industrial standards and national/international legislation/conventions. (B) Identify the sources of ethical guidance and discuss ethical considerations when dealing in a professional capacity with client and contracts. (I)  Discuss the potential liability of the hydrographic surveyor in common hydrographic endeavors. (I)		
H8.1b Contracts (I)	<ol> <li>Invitation to tender and survey work specification</li> <li>Response to tender</li> <li>Contractual obligations and insurance</li> <li>Survey work and deliverables</li> </ol>	Develop the technical content of an invitation to tender.  Analyze the risk and develop the technical content of a response that would include details and cost of necessary resources.  Interpret contractual obligations in terms of survey planning, execution and deliverables.		
H8.2 Maritime zones	H8.2 Maritime zones			
H8.2a Delimitations (B)	<ol> <li>Historical development of 1982 UNCLOS.</li> <li>Base points.</li> <li>Low tide elevations.</li> <li>Baselines: normal (including bay closing lines); straight and archipelagic.</li> <li>Internal waters.</li> </ol>	Define the types of baselines under UNCLOS and how the territorial sea limit and other limits are projected from them, including the use of low tide elevations.  Plan and specify hydrographic surveys to be utilized in the delimitation of baselines and maritime boundaries.  Describe the legal operational constraints that apply within maritime zones.		

Topic/Element	Content	Learning outcomes
	6) Territorial seas.	
	7) Contiguous zones.	
	8) Exclusive Economic Zone	
	9) Extended continental shelf.	
	10) High seas.	
E8.2b Impact of surveys (I)	Vessel speed restrictions and permanent and temporary threshold shifts (hearing) and harassment levels for marine mammals.	Specify appropriate procedures and limitations for use of surveying equipment in compliance with environmental laws and marine protected area regulations.
	Limitation of use of physical techniques such as bottom sampling and moorings in environmentally sensitive areas.	
	Respect for cultural traditions in relation to use of the environment	
	4) Marine protected areas	

### 4. CMFP: COMPLEX MULTIDISCIPLINARY FIELD PROJECT

Programmes must include a supervised and evaluated Complex Multidisciplinary Field Project with a minimum aggregate period of at **least four weeks**; see "GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS".

The Complex Multidisciplinary Field Project for Category "A" level shall comprise a comprehensive field survey incorporating different aspects of hydrography in a complex environment with varying sea-floor and oceanographic conditions.

Students should undertake:

- Survey specification and planning;
- Hydrographic and oceanographic measurements using a comprehensive suite of instruments;
- Data processing, quality control and quality assurance;
- Preparation of different type of product deliverables and reports.

NOTE: The Complex Multidisciplinary Field Project does not include the practical exercises that form a part of the course modules syllabi and are designed to complement the theory component.