

The first part of this book provides the motivating points and background for mobility forecasting supported by trajectory-oriented analytics. It presents specific problems and challenges in the Aviation (Air Traffic Management (ATM)) and the Maritime domains, clarifies operational concerns and objectives in both domains and explains domain-specific terminology. It presents challenging cases which motivate technology presented in subsequent chapters of this book and which drive evaluation and validation of solutions presented. Equally important to the above is the presentation of the data sources exploited, the big data challenges ahead in both domains and of course, the requirements from technologies presented in subsequent parts of the book.

Mobility Data: A Perspective from the Maritime Domain

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Abstract This chapter¹ overviews maritime operational situations and underlying challenges that the automated processing of maritime mobility data would support with the detection of threats and abnormal activities. The maritime use cases and scenarios are geared on fishing activities monitoring, aligning with the European Union Maritime Security Strategy. Six scenarios falling under three use cases are presented together with maritime situational indicators expressing users' needs when conducting operational tasks. This chapter also presents relevant data sources to be exploited for operational purposes in the maritime domain, and discusses the related big data challenges to be addressed by algorithmic solutions. An integrated dataset of heterogeneous sources for maritime surveillance is finally described, gathering 13 sources. This chapter concludes on the generation of specific datasets to be used for algorithms evaluation and comparison purposes.

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¹ The material presented in this chapter is a compilation of excerpts from [7, 8, 14, 15].

Extended Abstract

Motivating points

Ensuring *security* and *control* of fishing activities is one of the most important aspect of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy () - Action Plan, which defines several strategic interests for the European Union and the Member States. Europe is the world's biggest market for seafood and the aim of the is to promote better international governance across the world's seas and oceans to keep them clean, safe and secure. Since fishing is an activity that exploits common natural resources, it needs to be regulated to safeguard fair access, sustainability and profitability for all.

Creating new capabilities for monitoring and supporting quick actions against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, human trafficking, accidents or collisions at sea is a major step for the successful implementation of the . Effective involves extracting relevant contextual information (for instance maritime routes or loitering areas) but also monitoring the real time maritime traffic. The use of a set of various sensors mixing cooperative self-identification systems such as the AIS and non-cooperative systems such as coastal radars or satellite imagery provides complementary and redundancy in information, as necessary to overcome the quite common spoofing of AIS signals and increase the clarity and the accuracy of the maritime situation. In many cases, intelligence information can also be helpful in refining and guiding the search in the huge amount of data to be processed, filtered and analysed, as well as representing the contextual information for some Maritime Situation Awareness (MSA) problems.

The project aimed to develop novel methods for threat and abnormal activity detection in very large amount of moving entities. Both training and testing of maritime anomaly detection solutions require high quality datasets, with features challenging the specific research objectives. Effective MSA requires to take into account a large number of different data sources offering divers data types. Moreover, the applicability of innovative mobility data solutions requires the handling of big data and the capability to respond to the connected challenges, *i.e. volume, velocity, variety* and *veracity*. To motivate and support the development of vessel movement analytics algorithms within *datAcron* and to ensure their operational relevance, we developed six scenarios organised in three use cases. The scenarios explain the operational challenges linked to the monitoring of fishing activities in European waters, while relevant Maritime Situational Indicator (s) express users' needs for appropriate awareness of the situation, targeting expected outcomes for algorithms.

Abstract of the approach

This chapter overviews maritime operational situations and underlying challenges that the automated processing of maritime mobility data would support with the

detection of threats and abnormal activities. The maritime use cases and scenarios are geared on fishing activities monitoring, aligning with the European Union Maritime Security Strategy. Indeed, fishing activity monitoring is a complex maritime surveillance mission that encompasses several maritime risks and environmental issues such as environmental destruction and degradation but also maritime accidents, fishing and trafficking problems. In particular, fishing is a global threat to the marine environment and honest fishermen alike, whose global cost is estimated in about 10 Billion Euros per year. The European Union, in collaboration with international organisations, is committed to fighting fishing worldwide. Besides the detection of fishing activities, safety is another core issue of the . Fishing vessels may fish in areas with dense traffic, like traffic lanes and waiting areas, and to keep the fishing place hidden from others, they sometimes intentionally switch off their AIS device while fishing, endangering themselves and the surrounding traffic.

Therefore, preserving the maritime environment from illegal fishing and ensuring fishing safety requires live processing and prediction of fishing vessel trajectories, identifying, thanks to the detection of MSIs, movement patterns (*e.g. close-encounters, change in speed and course*), detecting vessel activities (*e.g. fishing, loitering, tugging, rendez-vous*), forecasting potential collisions between surrounding ships within a typical time scale of 5 to 15 minutes.

Six scenarios falling under three use cases have been developed in collaboration with operational experts to capture domain requirements. They are presented together with maritime situational indicators expressing users' needs when conducting operational tasks. The scenarios highlight the needs for live tracking of fishing vessels and surrounding traffic, as well as of contextually enhanced offline data analytics, including for instance, cluster and spatial analysis together with motion pattern detection. These scenarios have been elaborated in order to (1) stress trajectory and event detection, prediction and visualisation algorithms against Big Data challenges in terms of *velocity, veracity, variety* and *volume*, and (2) provide operational relevance to their future use. Each scenario of the three use cases focuses on *secured fishing, maritime sustainable development* or *findexmaritime security* and highlights different users' **goals** and possible **actions**, as well as **information needs** expressed in terms of Maritime Situational Indicators.

This chapter also presents relevant data sources to be exploited for operational purposes in the maritime domain, and discusses the related Big Data challenges to be addressed by algorithmic solutions. requires processing in real-time a high volume of information of different nature (numerical, geographic, natural language statements, objective or subjective assessments, . . .), originating from a variety of sources (like sensors and humans, respectively hard and soft sources), with a lack of veracity (*i.e.* being uncertain, imprecise, vague, ambiguous, incomplete, conflicting, incorrect, etc). The algorithms to be designed in support to should cope with these Big Data challenges and this ability should be reflected in the quality of the results provided.

An integrated dataset of heterogeneous sources for maritime surveillance [15] is finally described, gathering 13 sources. We identified over forty data sources, classified within sixteen categories. Based on this preliminary study, a representative

heterogeneous maritime dataset was built to support the developments of algorithms and visualisation features. The data description provides details about type, source, originator, file format (with , ,), spatial and temporal extent, size, and approximate average stream rate (with *msg*, messages; *obs*, observations). The maritime reference dataset relies on the most widely used maritime reporting system, AIS. The AIS is one of the electronic systems that enable ships to broadcast their position and nominative information via radio communications. In order to understand maritime activities and their impact on the environment, spatially and temporally aligned maritime data capturing additional features to ships' kinematic from complementary data sources (environmental, contextual, geographical, . . .) is of great interest. The dataset described in this chapter contains ship information collected through the AIS, prepared together with correlated contextual data, spatially and temporally aligned, characterising the vessels, the area where they navigate and the situation at sea. The dataset contains four categories of data: navigation data, vessel-oriented data, geographic data, and environmental data. It covers a time span of six months, from October 1st, 2015 to March 31st, 2016 and provides ship positions over the Celtic sea, the North Atlantic Ocean, the English Channel, and the Bay of Biscay (France). In addition a stream of data covering European coast has been considered to stress algorithms under higher volume and velocity.

This chapter concludes on the generation of specific datasets to be used for algorithms evaluation and comparison purposes. To support the evaluation of the algorithms, the reference dataset has been enriched with contextual historical information. Raw data have been processed to extract maritime patterns and clusters, specifically maritime routes, which facilitate the operators assessment. Additionally, a library of functions has been designed and implemented to systematically degrade and enrich the AIS batch dataset. The modifications applicable to each AIS field have been categorised along *kinematic*, *coverage* and *spoofing* dimensions. This library of functions provides a rich set of basic constructs to build different modification events or patterns in a non unique manner [5]. Having different ways to produce equivalent patterns or to provide a wide diversity in similar patterns is desirable to create realistic synthetic datasets. A semi-automatic process was designed to generate dedicated scenarios [23, 5] following several steps of data enrichment, data injection, resulting in a story matching the maritime surveillance challenges.

Main conclusions and results

Facing the huge *volume* of *various* information with high *velocity* which often lacks *veracity*, a system to automatically process both historical and timely information would greatly support the different maritime operators in monitoring and performing several types of analysis of situations at sea. This has been the aim of the three-year *Big Data Analytics for Time Critical Mobility Forecasting (datAcron)* project² that

² *datAcron* project website: <http://www.datacron-project.eu> (accessed January 2020)

run from January 2016 to December 2018 and whose main research objectives addressed the development of highly scalable methods for advancing (1) Spatio-temporal data integration and management solutions, (2) Real-time detection and forecasting accuracy of moving entities' trajectories, (3) Real-time recognition and prediction of important events concerning these entities, (4) General visual analytics infrastructure supporting all steps of the analysis through appropriate interactive visualisations, (5) Producing streaming data synopses at a high-rate of compression.

The operational scenarios and challenges together with the supporting datasets described in this chapter were aimed at supporting the design and development of Big Data analytics tools for maritime surveillance, such as the one developed in the project. Six scenarios corresponding to three use cases of Secure fishing, Sustainable development and Maritime security were proposed, while the collision avoidance scenario under the secure fishing use case was retained for experiments. A set of 28 Maritime Situational Indicators was proposed to both capture user information needs and provide targets to event detectors to be designed by the partners and integrated in the final prototype. The scenario was described with relevant *s*, for which big data analytics solutions were proposed and implemented. The algorithms thus designed have been exercised on an heterogeneous dataset gathering timely AIS data and other contextual data. The open heterogeneous maritime dataset has been made publicly available to enable other further maritime experimentation in realistic operational settings, challenging specifically the *variety* dimension of big data. The maritime prototype has been set-up following a human-centric approach involving maritime experts and tying together scenario definition, data preparation, visualisation and human evaluation. Finally, the evaluation of the maritime prototype has been conducted according to a methodology further described in [22].

Contributions

The contributions for this work are the following:

1. We developed of a methodology for articulating collaborative research in which the *s* play a pivotal role between the operational scenarios and the prototype design, capturing operators needs in a synthetic way on the one hand, and driving the development and integration of algorithms on the other hand.
2. We defined use cases and scenarios targeting several operational users performing maritime surveillance tasks. The scenarios described explicit user goals and information needs, together with actions to be taken once a suitable level of awareness was reached.
3. We proposed a list of *s* characterising low-level and generic user information needs and expressing output requirements for the design of algorithms.
4. We provided maritime data to the project partners as well as the research community. This publicly available integrated dataset from heterogeneous maritime data sources provides a benchmark against which algorithms can be compared.

5. We designed and implemented a methodology and a library to create, modify, enrich and degrade a set of data automatising the generation of scenario data.

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