

Introduction and first results within the Project "Nautical Depth" in Hamburg

11th International SedNet Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia, 3rd -5th April 2019

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Definition of Nautical Depth





PIANC (1997):

"The nautical depth is the level where physical characteristics of the bottom reach a critical limit beyond which contact with a ship's keel causes either damage or unacceptable effects on controllability and manoeuverability."



What is the best description of the sea/river bed, which is safe regarding damage aspects, controllability and manoeuverability of vessels?



























Additional measurements for optimizing dredging works and monitoring





Additional measurements for optimizing dredging works and monitoring







Investigations regarding nautical depth issues in detail



- Starting stakeholder management processes first results:
 - Insurance status of the ports should be regarded:

- @ Berths: Ship has to be always afloat -> then everything is safe
- There are no overlapping regulations known, which may hinder the project aims at all





Keep the "Safe Port", "Safe Berth" status, do not get a "NAABSA" (Not Always Afloat, But Safe Aground) port

Memorandum of Understandings / Cooperation Frameworks

- Existing cooperation with:
 - Port of Rotterdam
 - Moving vessels
 - Joint venture with existing research and development projects
 - Antwerp Port Authority
 - Moored vessels at berths
 - Adaption of maintained berth depth
 - International Research and Development Institutions
 - Delft University of Technology (MudNet in progress)
 - Flanders Hydraulics Research (planned investigations regarding sediment conditioning and consolidation times of sediments)
 - Hamburg University of Technology (Investigations on moving and moored vessels in progress)
- Existing and planned contracts and cooperation with local partners:
 - National Research and Development Institutions (RDI)
 - Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME)









Hamburg University of Technolog





Necessary steps for the introduction of a safe Nautical Depth





Monitoring Campaign 2018 / 2019





Monitoring Campaign 2018





Laboratory Tests



- Rheological parameters: yield stress, viscosity, etc
- Dry density, wet density, water content, ignition loss
- Grainsize distribution with and without organic matter



Comparison of in-situ & laboratory data: Sandauhafen



Comparison between:

- Rheotune device and
- Rheological investigation in the laboratory
- Laboratory should be reference:
 - Rheotune device
 - → fine fit of density and equivalent yield point (reg. Bingham)
- Data get unreliable in deeper areas:
 - consolidated bottom layers



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Comparison of in-situ & laboratory data: Density



- Comparison of all investigation areas
 - → Rheotune measurements and laboratory data fits within a tolerance area of 10 %!



Comparison of in-situ & laboratory data: Eq. yield point (reg. Bingham)



- Comparison of all investigation areas up to 150 Pa eq. yield point (reg. Bingham)
 - \rightarrow higher scatter
 - → bad calibration of Rheotune device in fluid mud areas
 - → world-wide calibration of the Rheotune Enhancement due to direct calibration of the rheotune with Hamburg silt









research questions

 Comparison of different sampling methods during monitoring campaign and of different mud samples by means of physico-chemical analysis -> Quantitative and qualitative champles

MUD



analysis -> Quantitative and qualitative characterization of mud of different port areas

- 2) Investigations of the boundary conditions for different fluid mud behaviour.
- 3) **Cross reference** and investigations in the **basic physical**, **biological and geo-chemistry processes** (see next slides for BIOMUD)
- 4) **Understanding the consolidation / settling behaviour** of mud from different port location.
- 5) Rheological analysis of mud using samples and definition of **boundary conditions** which influence fluid mud and which should be operationally **measured to predict changes in the nautical depth concept**.
- 6) Theoretical modelling of consolidation and prediction of rheological properties of mud in time.

What do we find in Hamburg?



FM

PS





E] (0

yoghurt

chocolate drink



Pre-Consolidated (PS) (density < 1.3 kg/L)

(density < 1.2 kg/L)

Fluid Mud (FM)

pudding



Consolidated (CS)





First Conclusions / Characterisations of the mud in Hamburg











- 1) What is the relationship between **organic matter (OM) lability** and the physicochemical properties of OM and sediments?
- 2) What is the **spatiality** of the biogeochemical properties in the harbor area (locations)?
- 3) What is the **temporal variability** of biogeochemical properties (season)?
- 4) What is the effect of OM lability on the processes of flocculation, sedimentation and consolidation within the four-layer system of SPM, FM, PS and CS (**depth**)?

On the definition: What is fluid mud? Why is there fluid mud? Where it develops? Which are the drivers?



Polymers = slime that are originates from microorganisms and that have a density comparable to water; a fluid-mud layer must be in an **aerobic state** so that the bacterial (micro-organisms) cultures have the continuing ability to produce this slime.

The slime also significantly reduces the internal friction between clay particles.

Laboratory analyses



1) Organic matter degradation

- Anaerobic conditions (gas production: CH₄, CO₂)
- Aerobic conditions (respiration: CO₂)
- Longest duration so far: 250 days
- Standard evaluation after 21 and 100 days
- Unit: mg C/g TOC, giving C-quality of OM

2) OM physical and chemical properties

- Physical: density fractionation; TOC, TN, δ^{13} C in density fractions
- Chemical: humic acids, fulvic acids

3) Microbiology

- Microbial biomass
- Community composition (DNA)
- Extrapolymeric substances (EPS, "slimes")

4) Standard sediment properties

- Standard solids physics & chemistry + redox potential
- Standard pore water chemistry + DOM









Prediction of sediment gas production from sediment properties

'Detty thesenergy of Technology, Dage, Generations and Brightenering "Without the of Handsong, Institute of Sold Science.



101.1

Results III: Degradable organic matter pools

tital anaerobic OM degradability and distribution of CRI pools sary spatially (Fig. 51) Updateant (BV): More degradable DRA (sure popic 1-8)

More easily depredable OM (pool 11 Downstream (VW) Latic total degradable DWI

Larger share of slowly degradable GM (pools 2 and 3)

Generally, the maily degradable pool 2 as share of tural degradable OM decreases with depth (age) of and/most (strat -> ct).



Fig. 5: Size distribution of differently degradable organic matter plats.

Upstream (RV), more of the certiment's total mass is found in the light density fraction, downstream (sim), the rediment is dominated by the heavy density fraction (Fig. 4).



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Conclusion

HPA TUDelft

Codel (genetificability)

line.

Magnitude of gas parenation is a function of the content and degradability of pecknawl organic matter

- Obli degradability is spanta-dependent. Obli from catchment is more easily degradable than dopartment DM introduced by the tidal flood and therefore stratifies spatially within the Port of Hamburg. Oht degradability also stratifies along a death/lage gradient sets.
- reactive (degradable) OM correlates with an increased share of total many in the heavy density fraction
- woogthetic remaining OM is transformed etc ortane-mideral complexes and sharobed from further ingradators



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Thank you for your Attention !





