

Moving Objects Analytics: The Case of Maritime Analytics

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Moving Objects Analytics → Maritime Analytics

- Trajectory Data Mining (theory & practice)
 - Data Sources
 - trajectory pre-processing
 - Indexing and retrieval
 - trajectory pattern mining



Computing with spatial data

- A *spatial trajectory* is a trace generated by a moving object in geographical space, usually represented by a series of chronologically ordered points, e. g. $p_1 \rightarrow p_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow p_n$, where each point consists of a geospatial coordinate set and a timestamp such as $p=(x,y,t)$.

						x,y		t			
ID	POS_ID	MMSI	STATUS	STATION	SPEED	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	COURSE	HEADING	TIMESTAMP	SHIP_ID
	1094062019	667002119	0	1466,91		"27,41997"	"36,84816"	208,511		16/09/14 12:54	763967
	1094076566	667002119	0	1466,91		"27,41625"	"36,84376"	218,511		16/09/14 12:56	763967
	1094091446	667002119	0	1468,93		"27,41197"	"36,83942"	218,511		16/09/14 12:58	763967
	1094108793	667002119	0	1466,93		"27,40693"	"36,83435"	219,511		16/09/14 13:01	763967
	1094132136	667002119	0	1466,93		"27,4004"	"36,82856"	221,511		16/09/14 13:04	763967
	1094147871	667002119	0	1466,95		"27,39584"	"36,82366"	212,511		16/09/14 13:06	763967
	1094162364	667002119	0	1466,95		"27,39234"	"36,81873"	208,511		16/09/14 13:08	763967
	1094176311	667002119	0	1466,94		"27,38876"	"36,81381"	211,511		16/09/14 13:11	763967
	1094193923	667002119	0	1466,93		"27,38432"	"36,80786"	209,511		16/09/14 13:13	763967
	1094211580	667002119	0	1466,94		"27,38013"	"36,80176"	208,511		16/09/14 13:16	763967

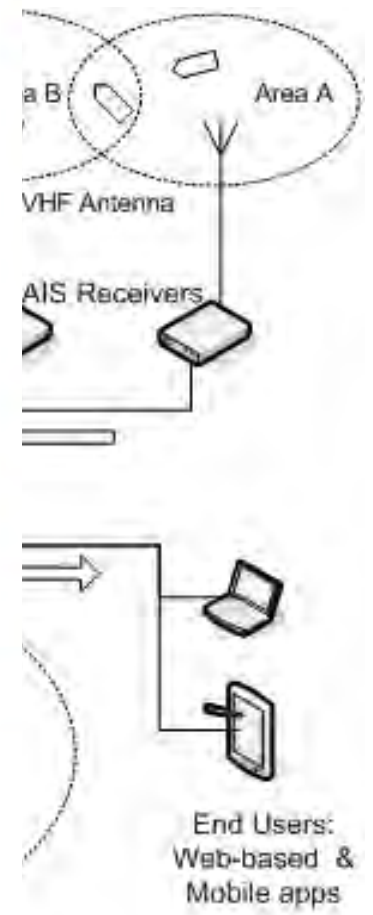
System

6.5 million monthly unique visitors

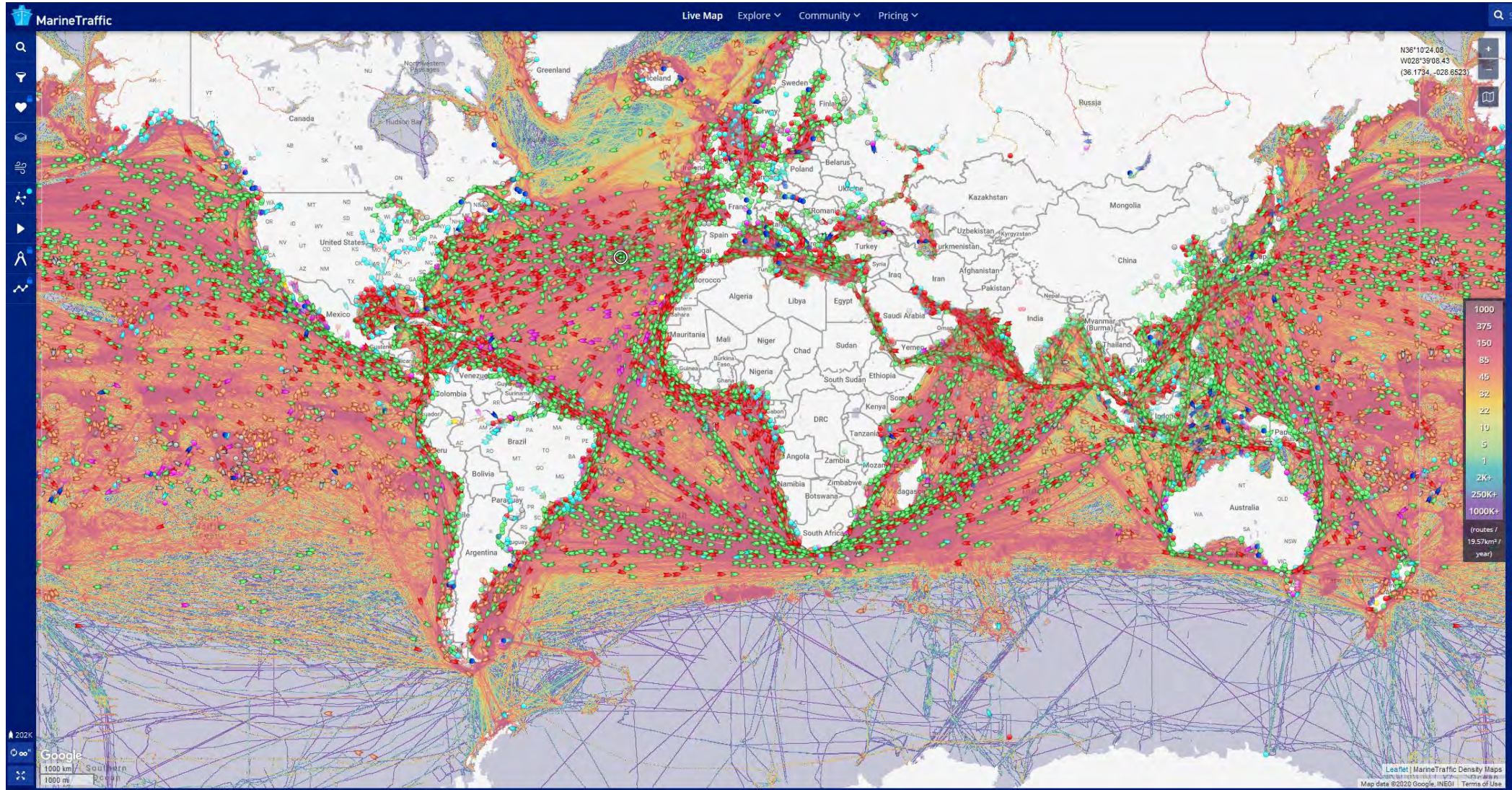
400 thousand daily visits

800+ thousand registered users

- The location objects
- The location
- The LB queries
- moving
- or other

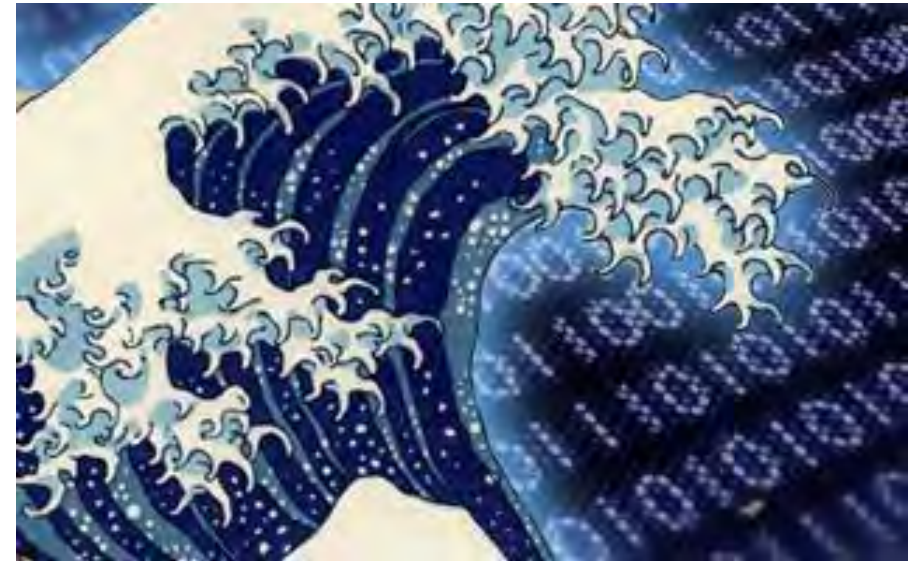


Big (spatial) Data

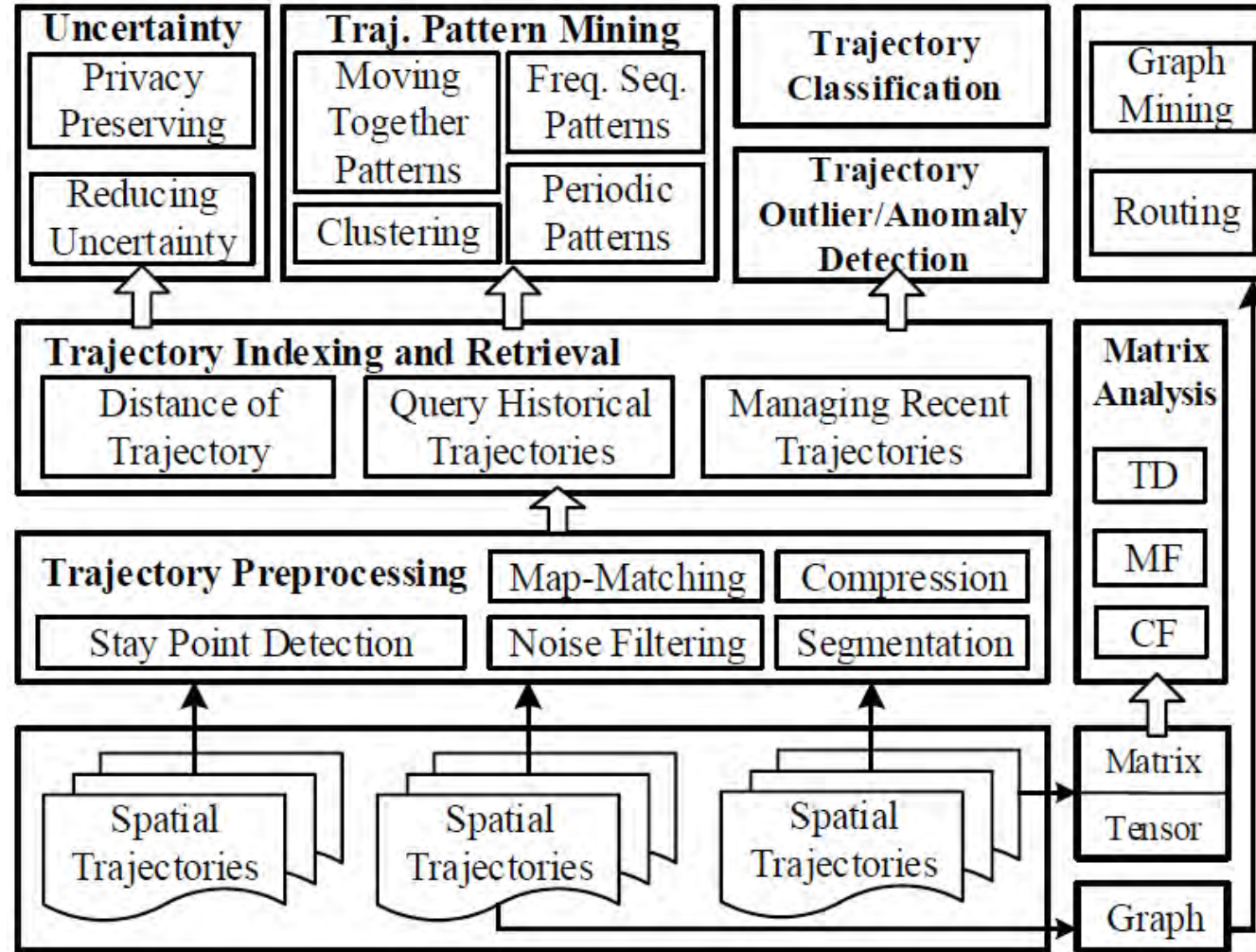


Well...the data is BIG

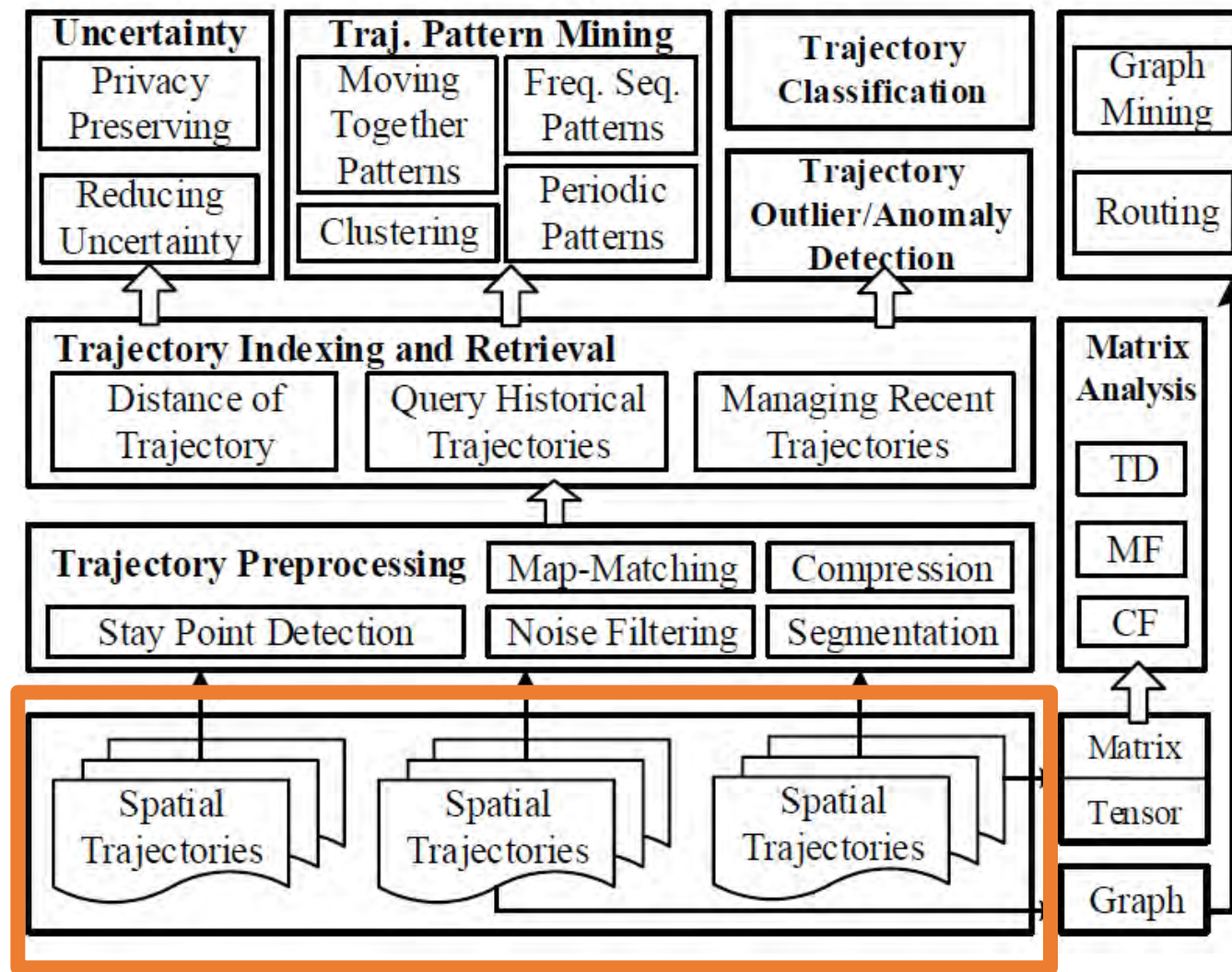
- Volume
 - 70GB per day
 - 50 bytes per message
- Speed
 - 1 message per minute per vessel
 - >0.5 Billion messages per day
 - >200,000 streams
- Variety
 - Multiple receiving sources
 - Data fusion from various different sources



Trajectory Data Mining/ Moving Objects Analytics



Data Sources



Maritime Big Data

- While in the past surveillance data was scarce, today there is a multitude of tracking systems both on board the vessel but also “above”
 - Collaborative Systems
 - *Automatic Identification System (AIS)*
 - *Long-Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT)*
 - *Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)*
 - Non collaborative systems
 - Cameras
 - Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)

Automatic Identification System

- The AIS is a **collaborative**, self-reporting system that allows marine vessels to broadcast their information to nearby vessels and on-ground base stations.
- It uses digital radio signals to exchange real time information between vessels and shore based stations on dedicated VHF frequencies.
 - Collision detection
 - Although mandatory for large commercial vessels to carry device, it is not mandatory to use it.
 - Not a replacement of radar as it cannot detect land masses, navigation beacons and vessels not equipped with AIS

Class A Transceivers

Class A AIS transceivers transmit and receive AIS signals. AIS transceivers are currently mandatory on all commercial vessels exceeding 300 tons that travel internationally (SOLAS vessels).

The following information can be transmitted by a Class A AIS system:

- Static data. Includes information such as vessel name, vessel type, MMSI number, call sign, IMO number, length, beam and GPS antenna location.
- Voyage related data. Includes information such as draft, cargo, destination, ETA and other relevant information.
- Dynamic data. Includes information such as time (UTC), ship's position, COG, SOG, heading, rate of turn and navigational status.
- Dynamic reports. Ship's speed and status.
- Messages. Alarms and safety messages.

Remember that not all vessels will transmit all of the information.

Class B Transceivers

Class B AIS transceivers transmit and receive AIS signals, but use a reduced set of data compared to Class A (see *Data Summary*). A Class B AIS transceiver can be fitted on any vessel not fitted with a Class A transceiver, but is not mandatory aboard any vessel.

Data	Class A (receive)	Class B (send)	Class B (receive)
Call sign	Yes	Yes	Yes
IMO number	Yes	No	No
Length and beam	Yes	Yes	Yes
Antenna location	Yes	Yes	Yes
Draft	Yes	No	No
Cargo Information	Yes	Yes	Yes
Destination	Yes	No	No
ETA	Yes	No	No
Time	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ship's position	Yes	Yes	Yes
COG	Yes	Yes	Yes
SOG	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gyro heading	Yes	Yes*	Yes
Rate of turn	Yes	No	No
Navigational status	Yes	No	No
Safety message	Yes	No	Yes

It is impossible to capture a lossless trajectory

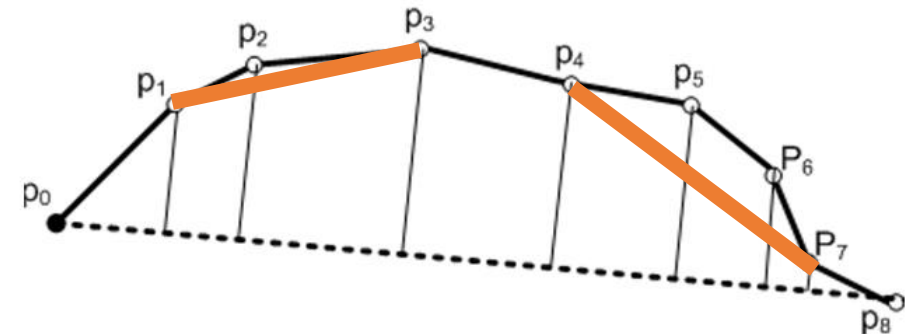
- To capture though the accurate and complete trajectory of a moving object, is almost impossible in real conditions, due to the inherent limitations of data acquisition and storage mechanisms.
- Thus it can be captured as a time stamped series of location points denoted as $p_0(x_0, y_0, t_0)$, $p_1(x_1, y_1, t_1)$, ..., $p_n(x_n, y_n, t_n)$, where x_i, y_i represents geographic coordinates of the moving object at time t_i and N is the total number of elements in the series. To generate the trajectory, a sensor needs to acquire its coordinates x, y at time t .

$$\sum traj_1 = \overline{p_0p_1}, \overline{p_1p_2}, \overline{p_2p_3}, \overline{p_3p_4}, \overline{p_4p_5}, \overline{p_5p_6}, \overline{p_6p_7}, \overline{p_7p_8}$$

$$\sum traj_2 = \overline{p_0p_1}, \overline{p_1p_3}, \overline{p_3p_4}, \overline{p_4p_7}, \overline{p_7p_8}$$

Don't forget

$$\sum traj_1 \neq \sum traj_2$$



Non uniform temporal and spatial data

- AIS information is classed as either static or dynamic. Static is broadcast when data has been amended or upon request or by default every 6 minutes.

Class A systems

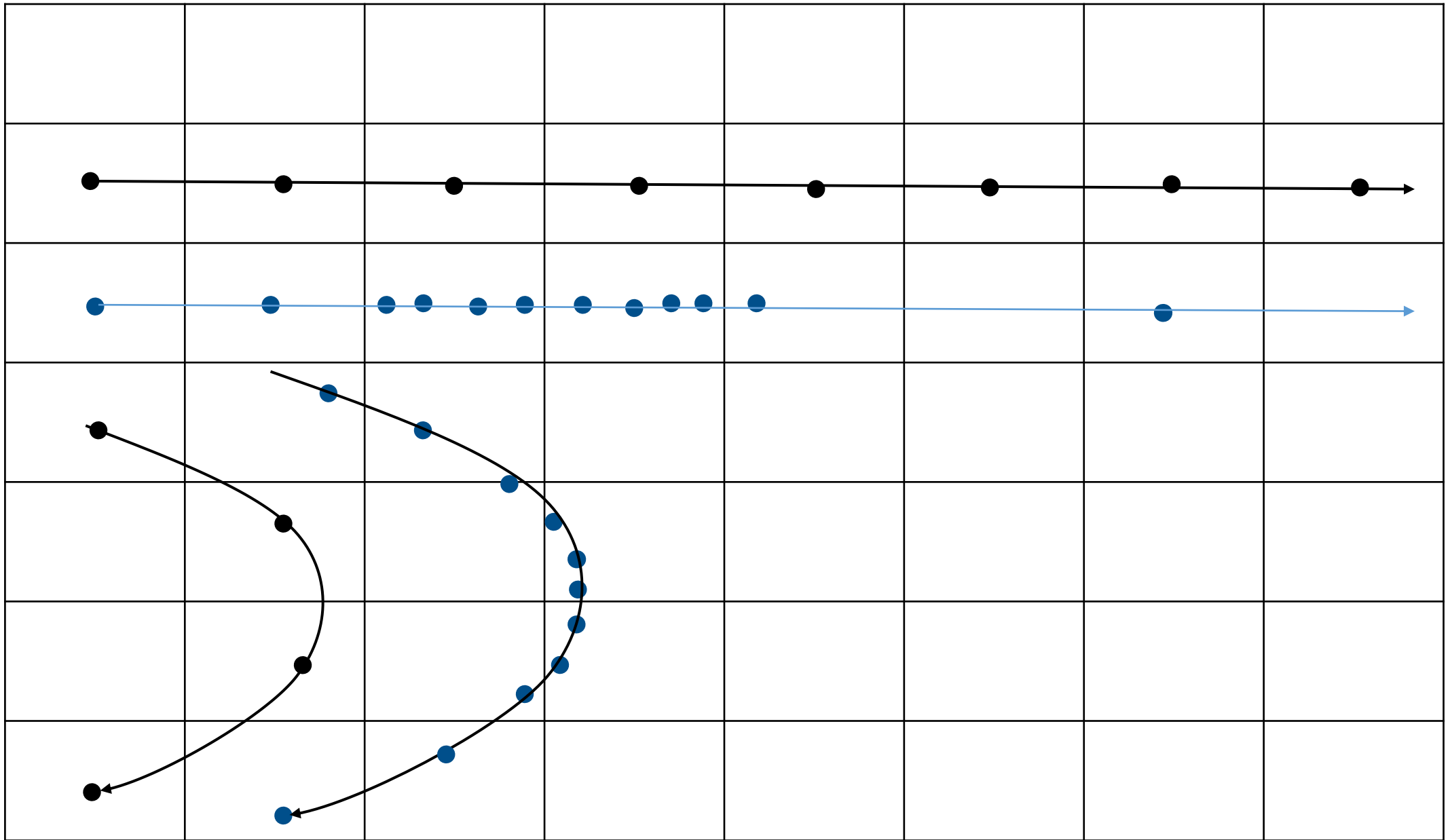
Ships Dynamic Conditions	Reporting rate
At anchor or moored	3 Minutes
0-14 knots	10 Seconds
0-14 knots and changing course	3 $\frac{1}{3}$ Seconds
14-23 knots	6 Seconds
14-23 knots and changing course	2 seconds
Faster than 23 knots	2 seconds
Faster than 23 knots and changing course	2 seconds

Class B systems

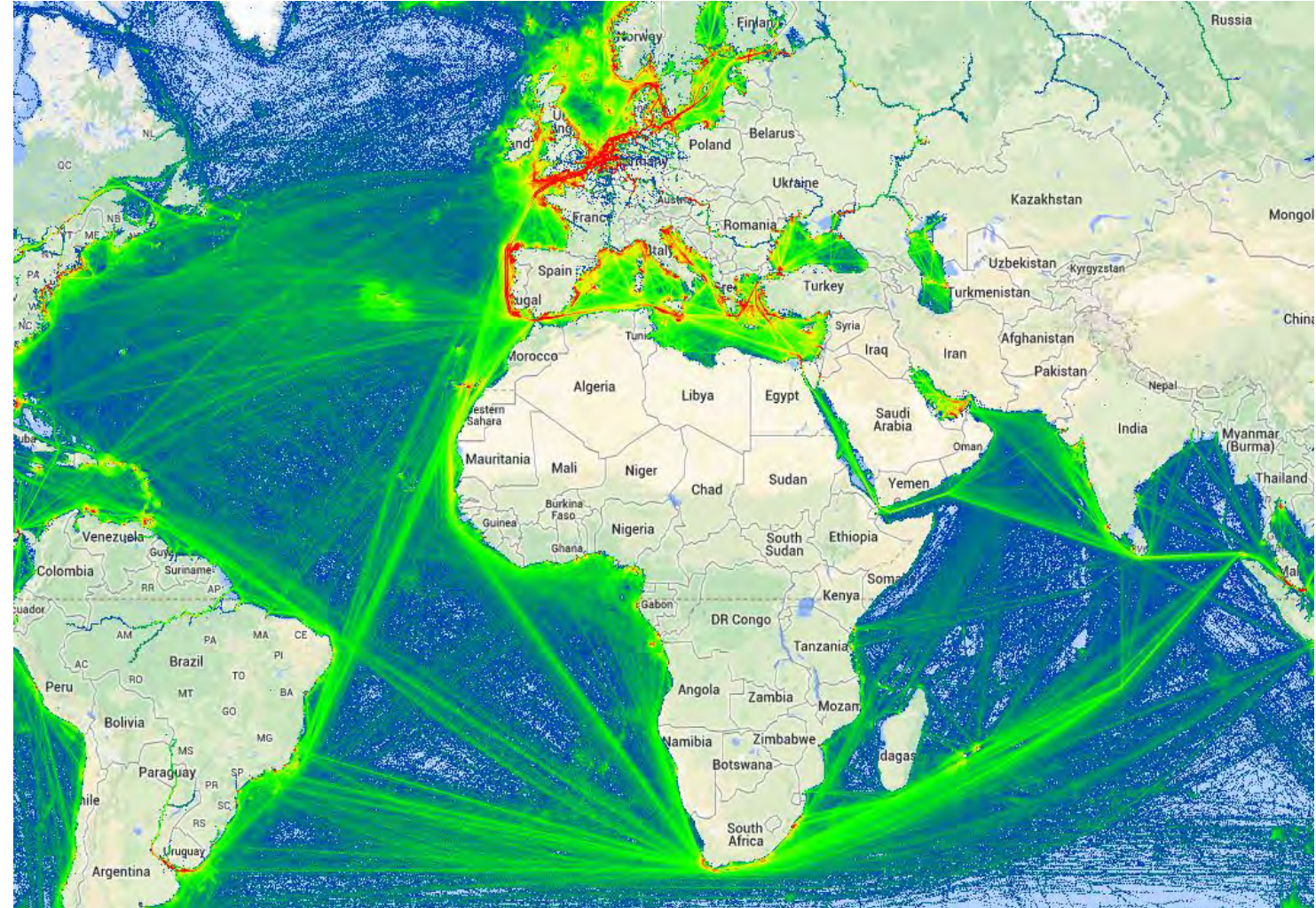
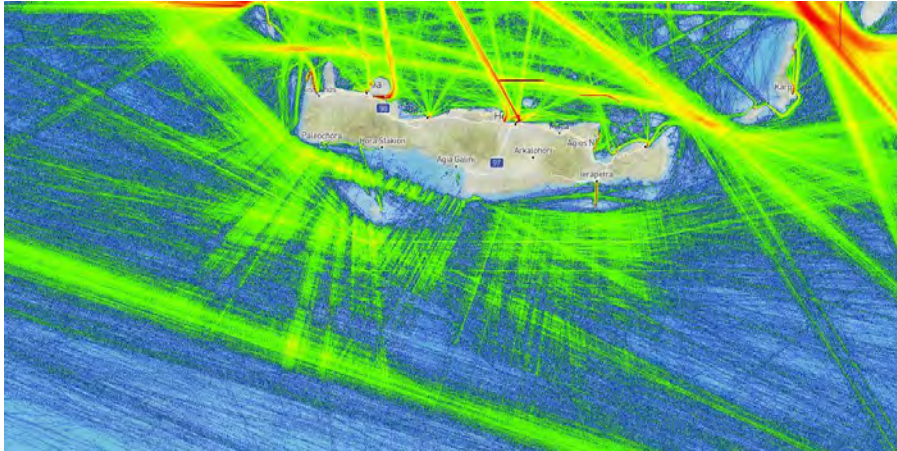
Ships Dynamic Conditions	Reporting rate
0 to 2 knots	3 Minutes
Above 2 knots	30 Seconds

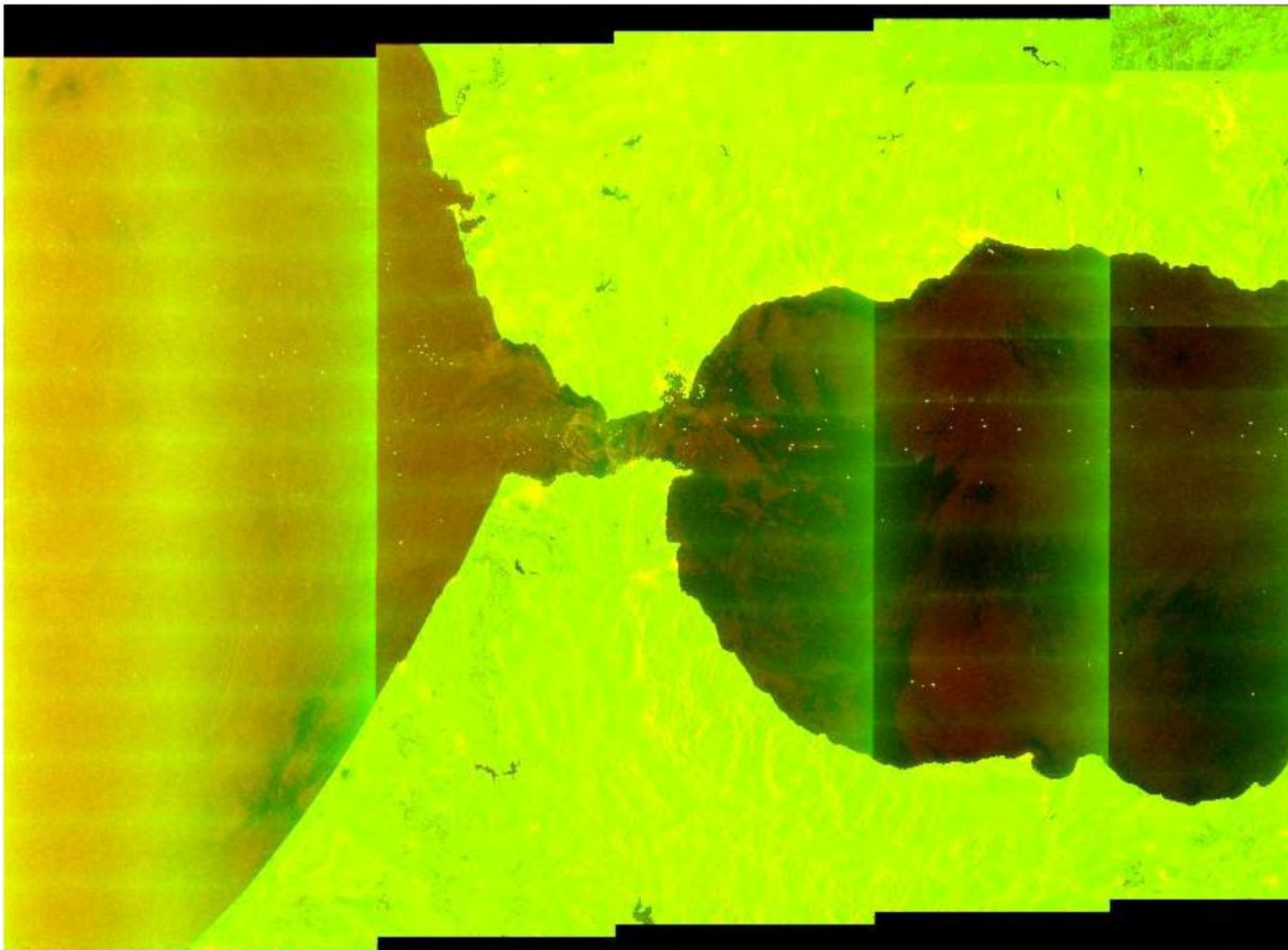
Other AIS sources

Source	Reporting rate
Search and Rescue (SAR) aircraft	10 seconds
Aids to navigation	3 minutes
AIS base station	10 seconds or 3.33 seconds, depending on operating parameters

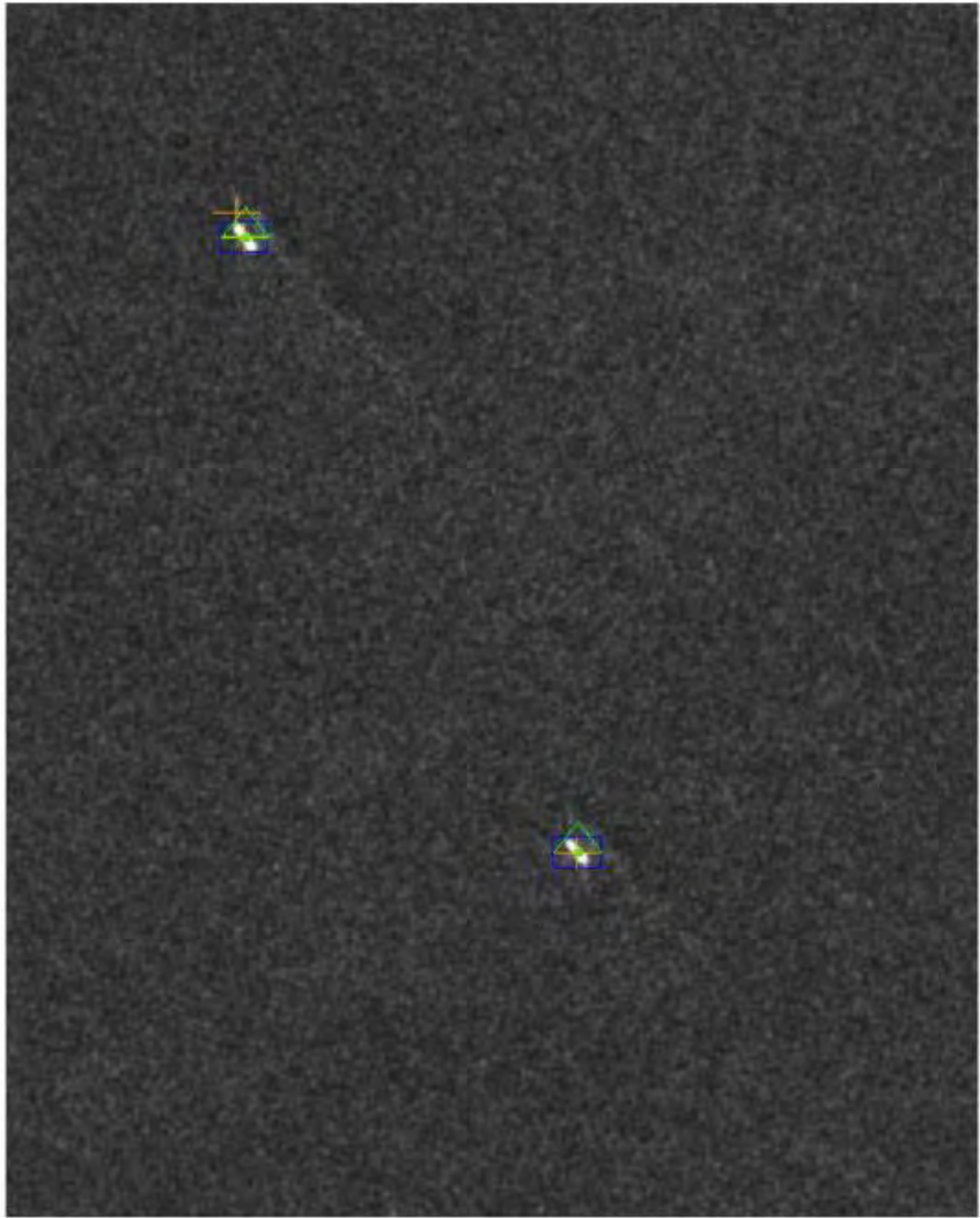
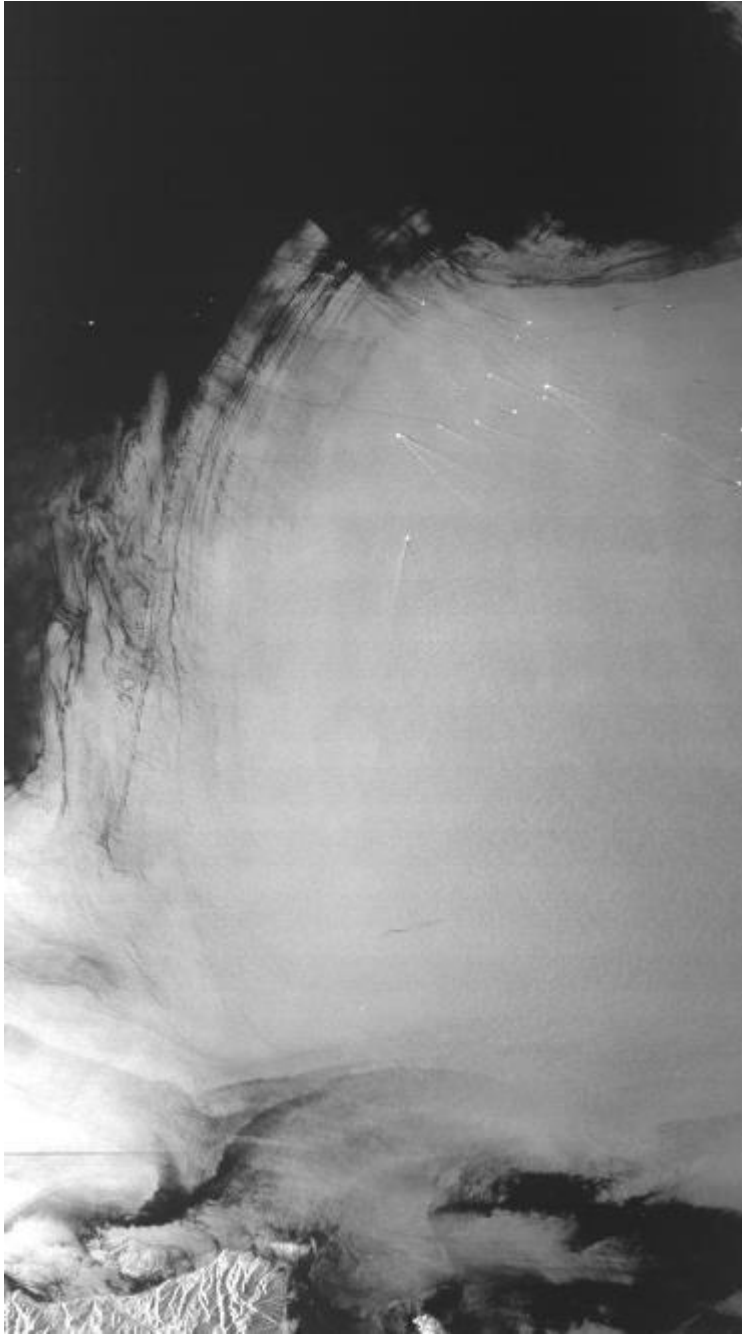


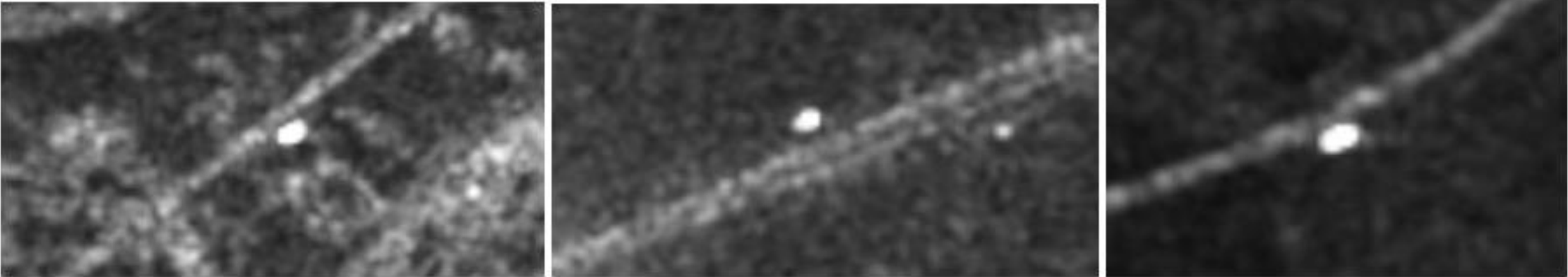
Non uniform temporal and spatial data



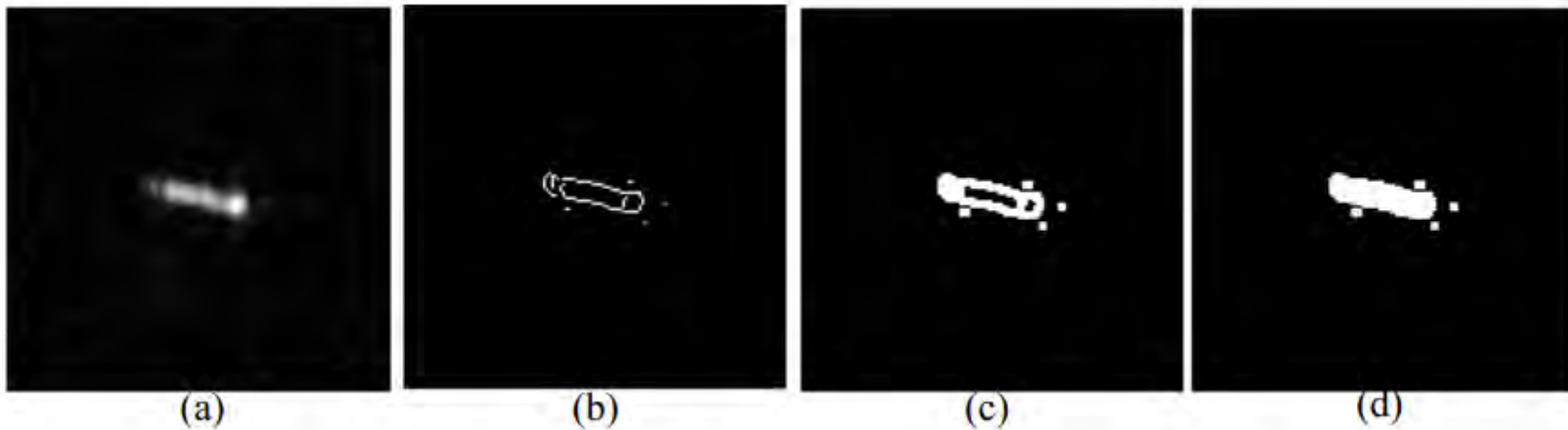


Strait of Gibraltar. Ships (there are many) show up as bright dots.

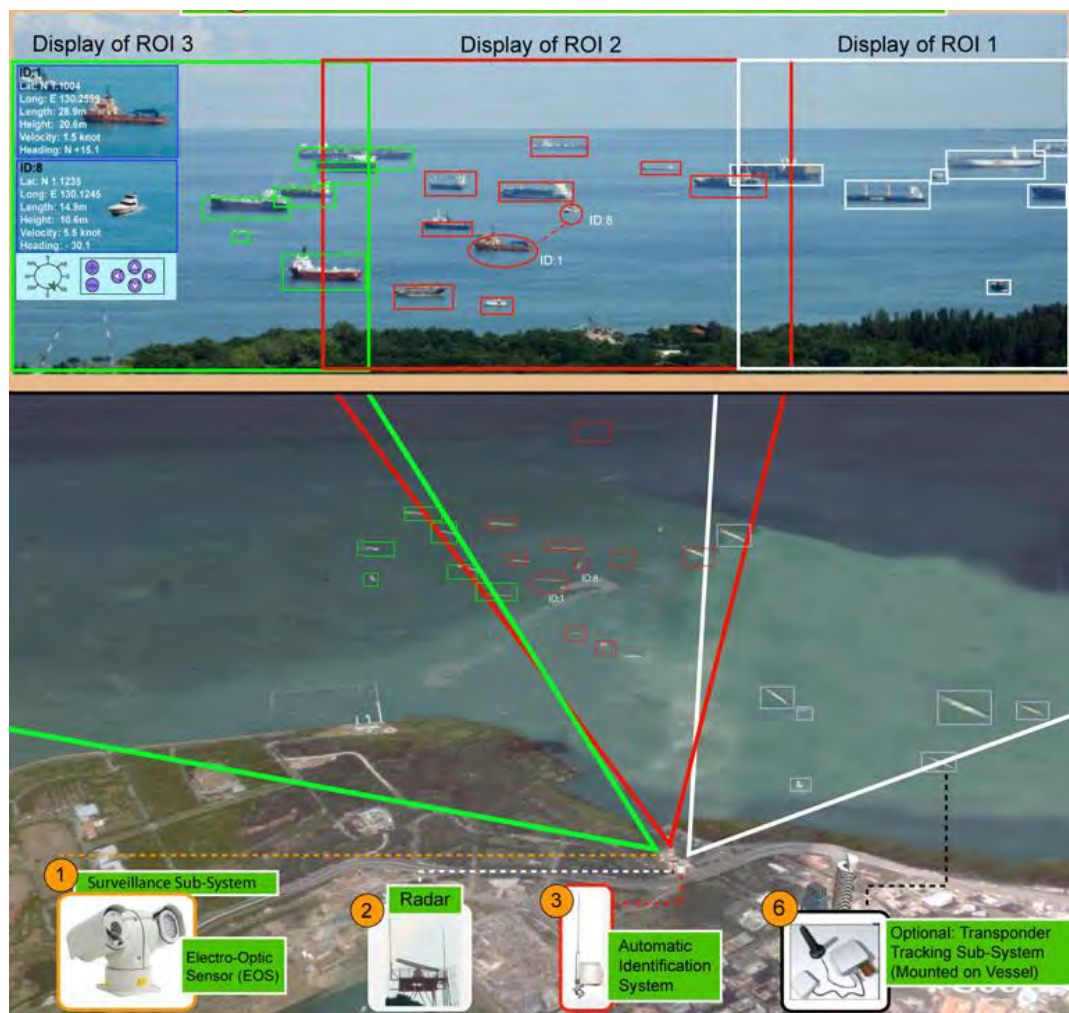




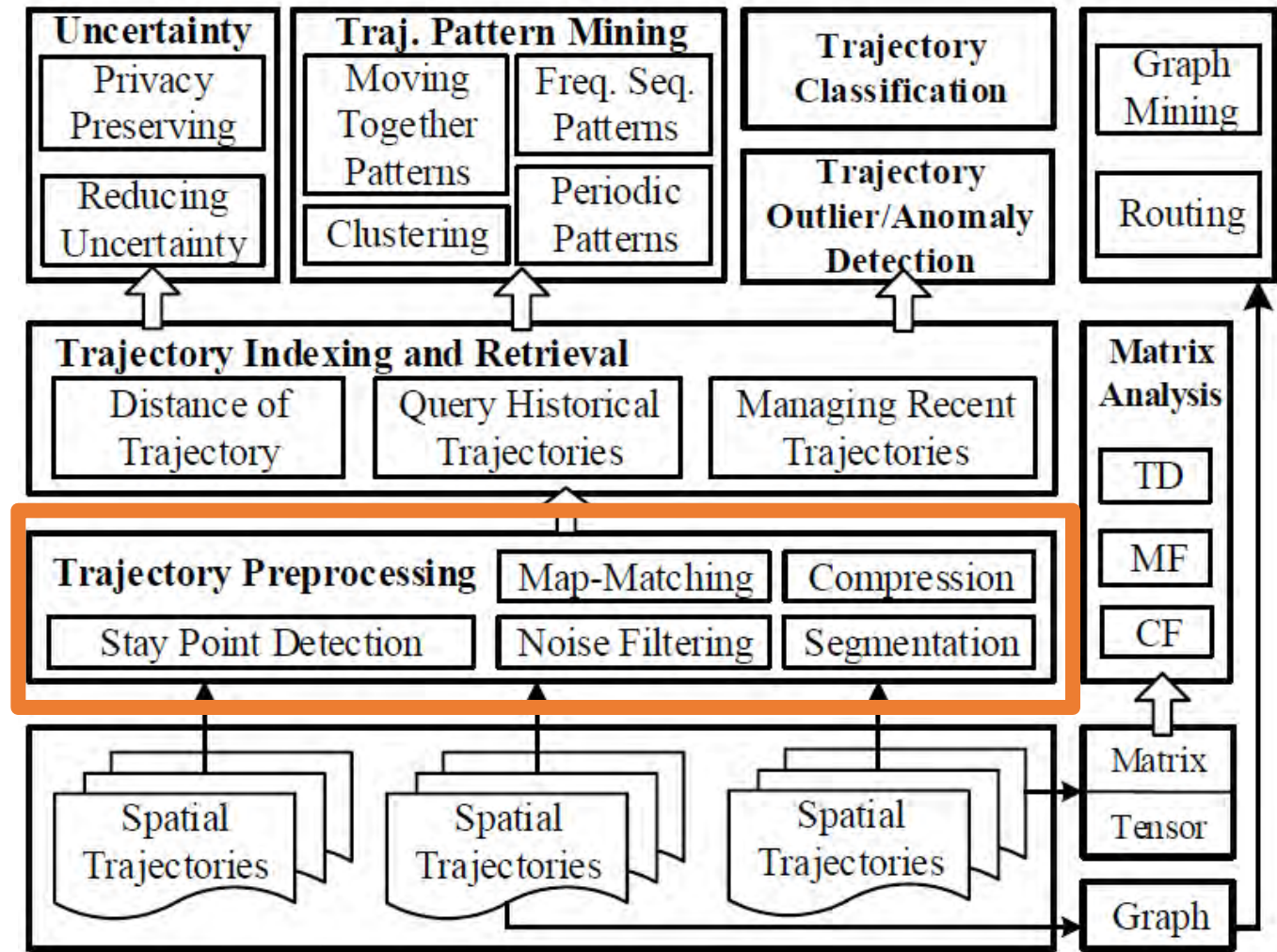
ship targets seen next to the track through the sea ice.



Coastal Cameras



Trajectory Pre- processing

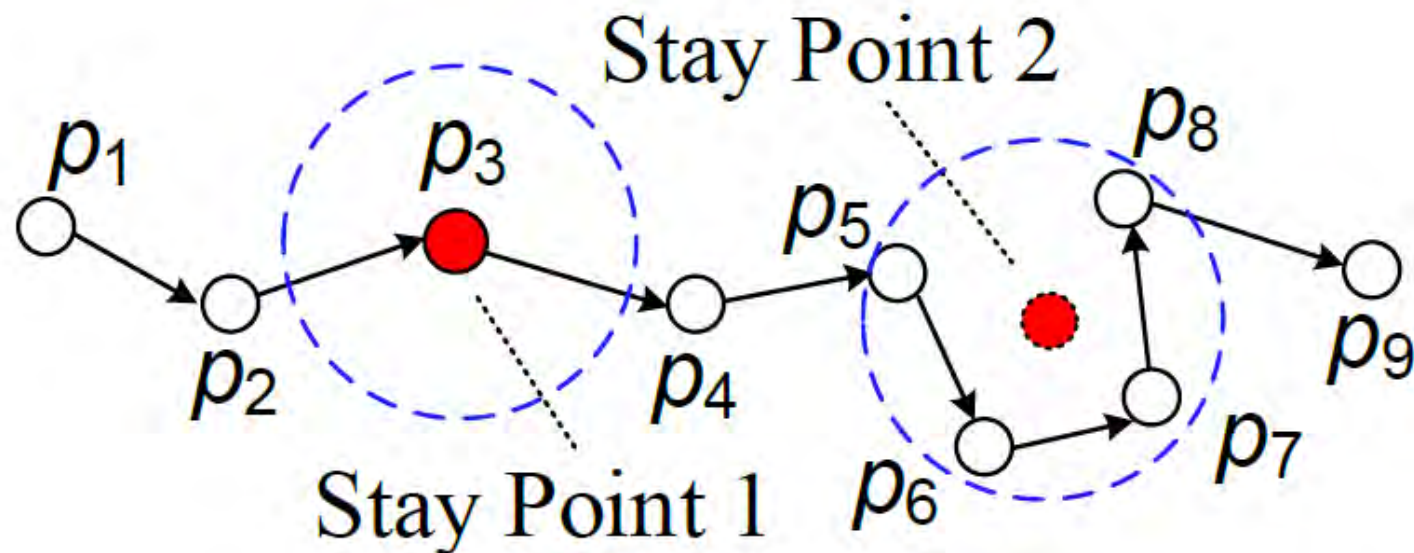


Stay Point Detection

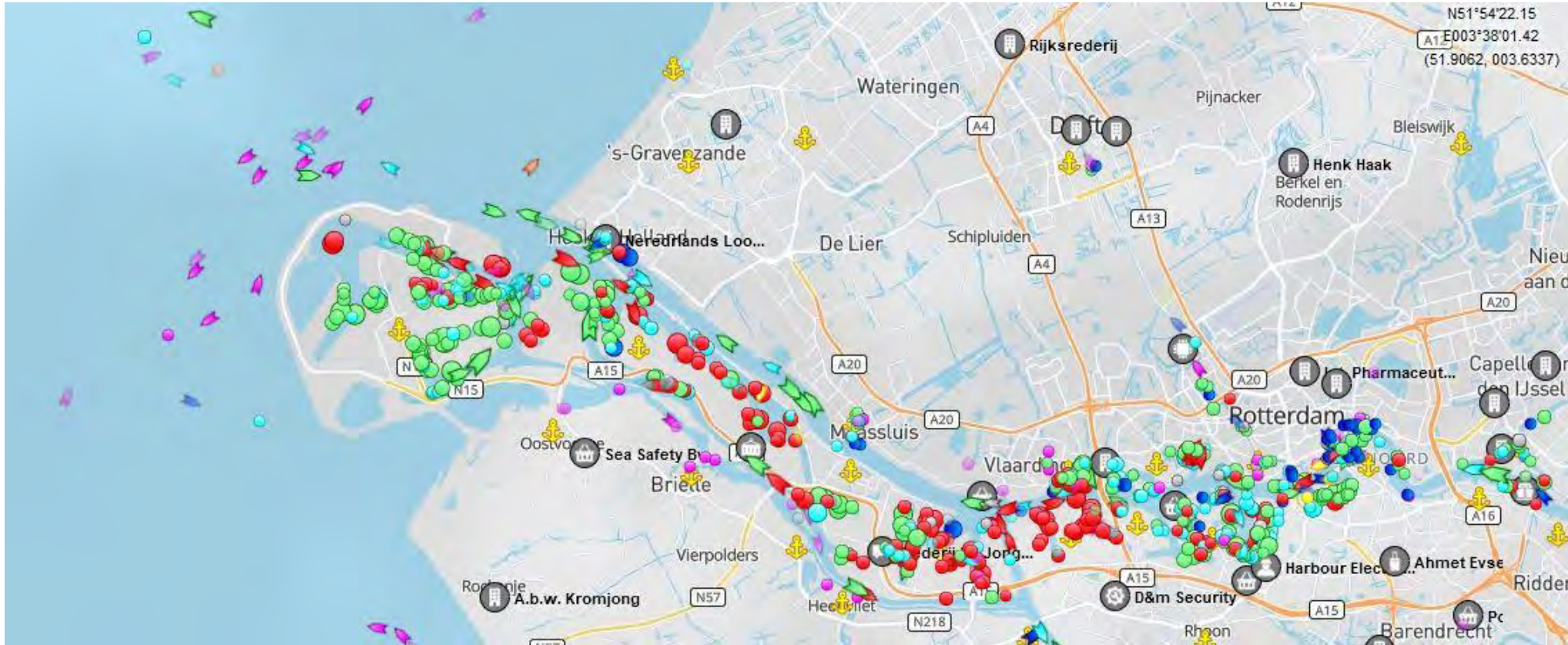
- Spatial points are not equally important in a trajectory.
- Some points denote locations where objects have stayed for a while
 - such as shopping malls and tourist attractions, or gas stations where a vehicle was refueled.

With such stay points, we can turn a trajectory from a series of time-stamped spatial points P into a sequence of meaningful places S ,

$$P = p_1 \rightarrow p_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow p_n, \Rightarrow S = s_1 \Delta t_1 \rightarrow s_2 \Delta t_2 \rightarrow \dots, \Delta t_{n-1} \rightarrow s_n,$$



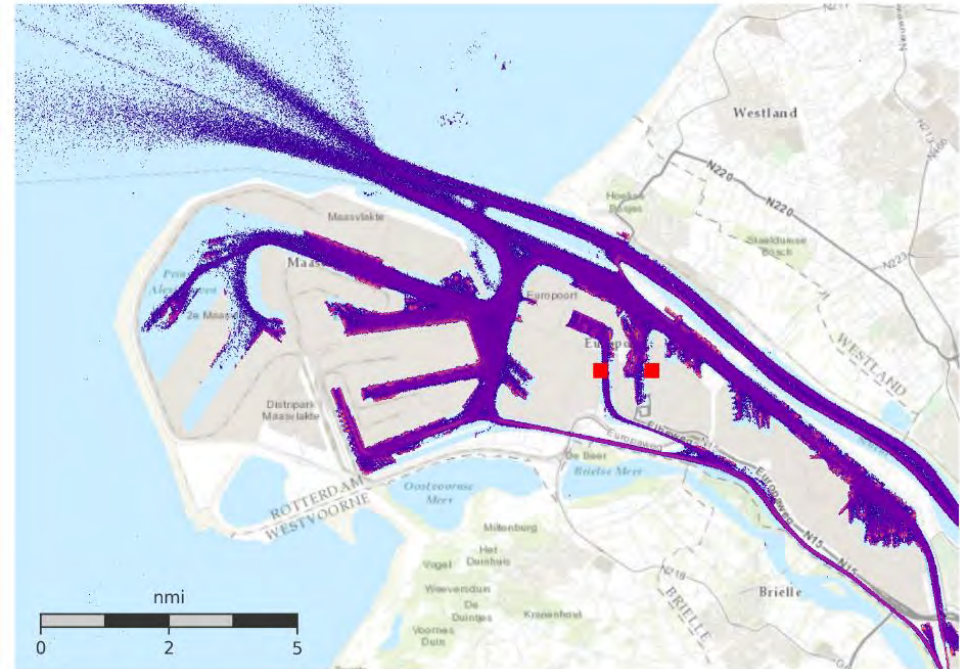
Defining port boundaries



[A distributed approach to estimating sea port operational regions from lots of AIS data](#)

Millefiori, L.M., Zisis, D., Cazzanti, L. , IEEE Big Data, 2016

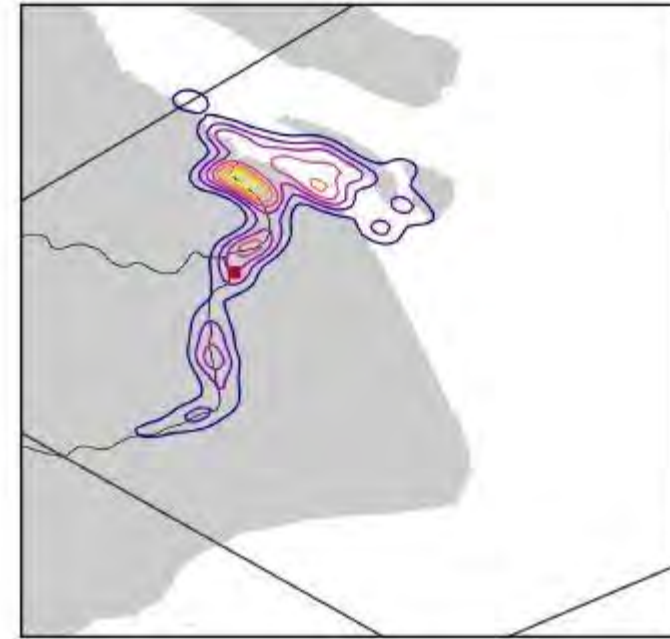
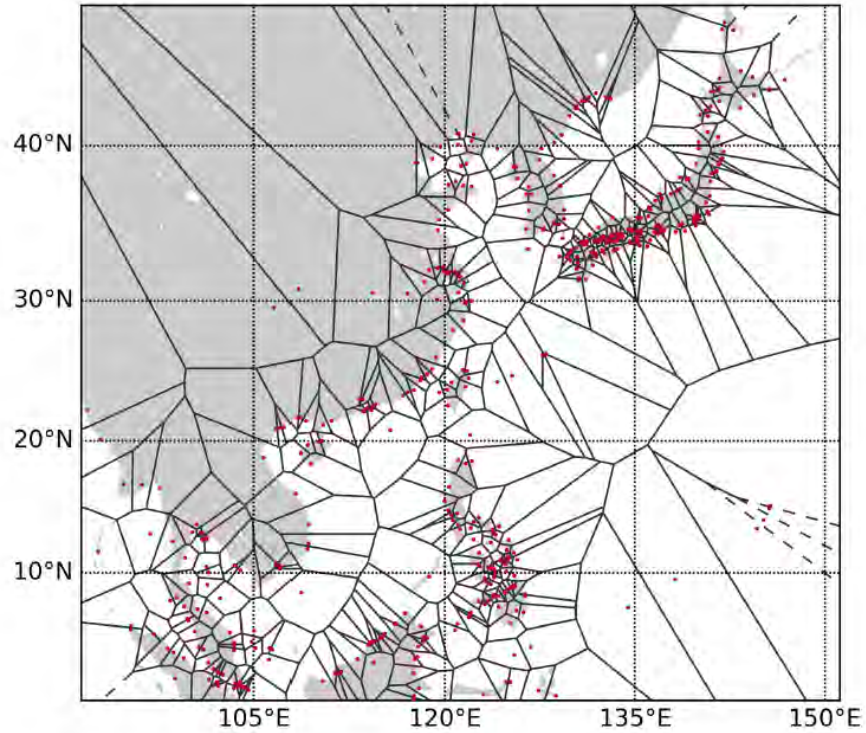
Scalable and distributed sea port operational areas estimation from AIS data



[A distributed approach to estimating sea port operational regions from lots of AIS data](#)

Millefiori, L.M., Zisis, D., Cazzanti, L. , IEEE Big Data, 2016

SHANGAI PORT



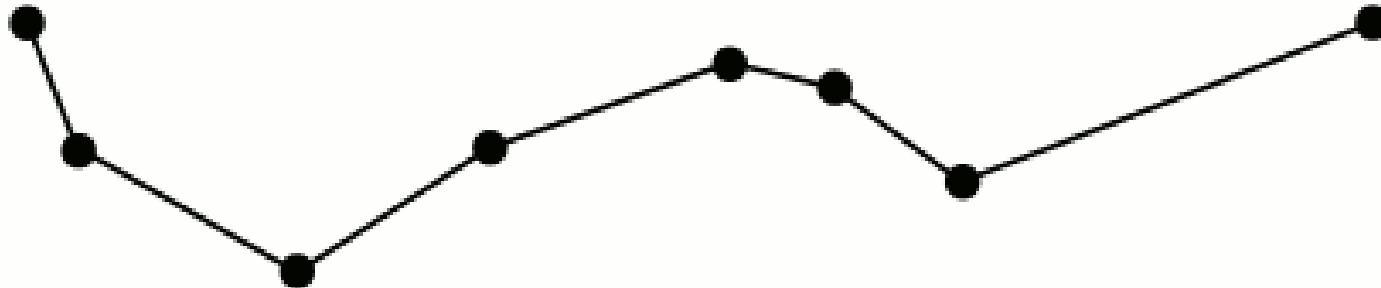
>57 million AIS messages!
recorded during the month of March 2015

[Scalable and distributed sea port operational areas estimation from AIS data](#)

Millefiori, L.M., Zissis, D., Cazzanti, L. Arcieri, G, IEEE International Conference on Data Mining, 2016

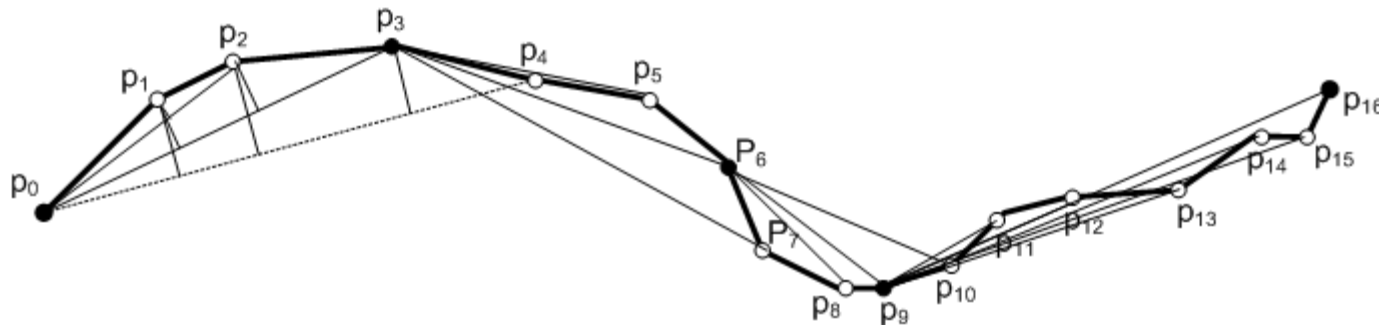
Compression

- Given a trajectory that consists of a full series of time-stamped points, a batched compression algorithm aims to generate an approximated trajectory by discarding some points with a negligible error from the original trajectory
- A well-known algorithm, called Douglas-Peucker, is used to approximate the original trajectory.
- the idea of Douglas-Peucker is to replace the original trajectory by an approximate line segment, e.g. p_1p_12 .
- If the replacement does not meet the specified error requirement (Perpendicular Euclidean Distance is used in this example), it recursively partitions the original problem into two sub-problems by selecting the point contributing the biggest error as the splitting point.

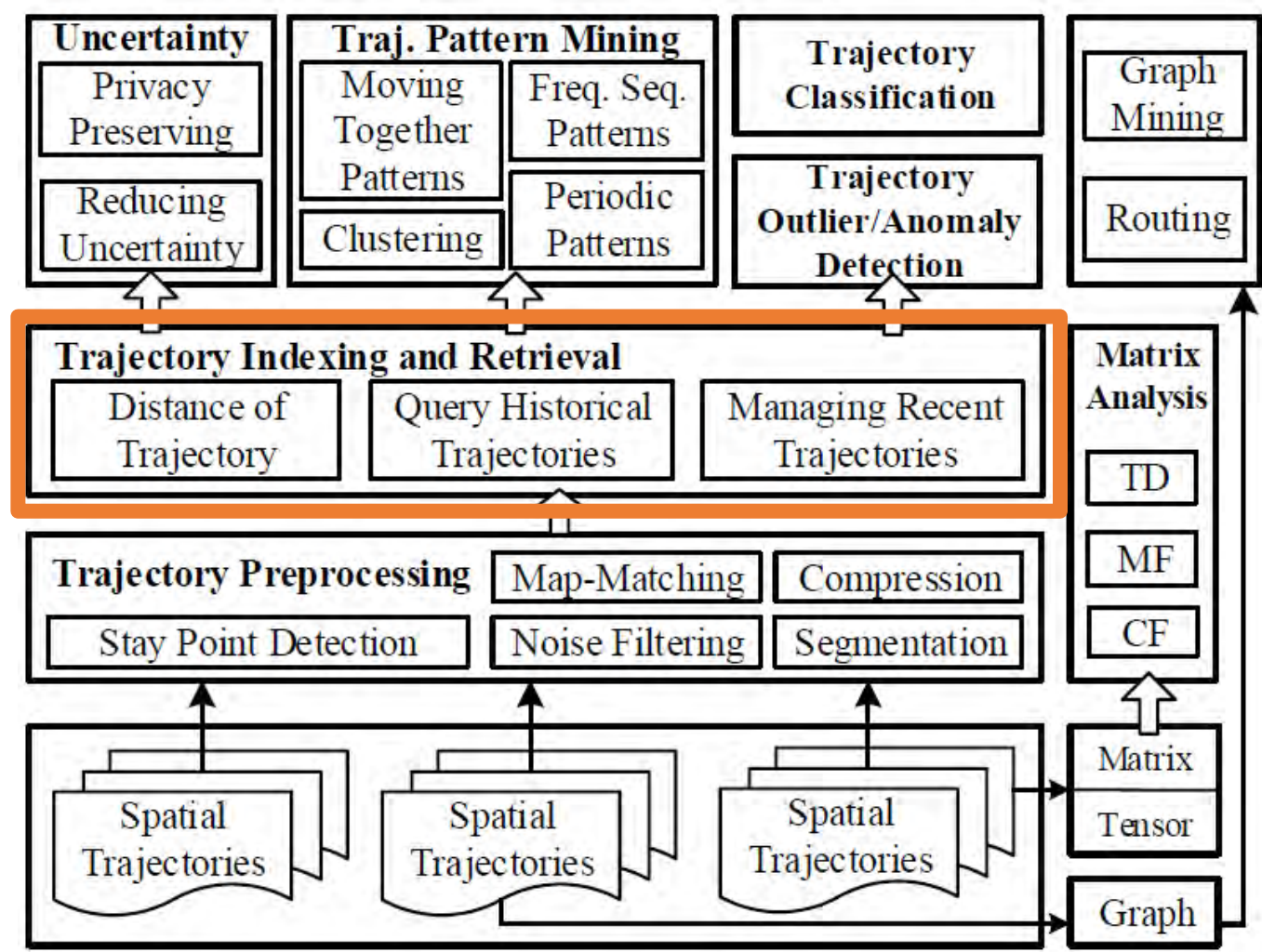


On-line Compression – Sliding Window

- Fit the location points in a growing sliding window with a valid line segment and continue to grow the sliding window until the approximation error exceeds some error bound.
 1. First initialize the first location point of a trajectory as the anchor point p_a and then starts to grow the sliding window
 2. When a new location point p_i is added to the sliding window, the line segment $p_a p_i$ is used to fit all the location points within the sliding window.
 3. As long as the distance errors against the line segment $p_a p_i$ are smaller than the user-specified error threshold, the sliding window continues to grow. Otherwise, the line segment $p_a p_{i-1}$ is included as part of the approximated trajectory and p_i is set as the new anchor point.
 4. The algorithm continues until all the location points in the original trajectory are visited.



Trajectory Indexing / Retrieval



Trajectory Data Management

- Spatial Databases

- Queries

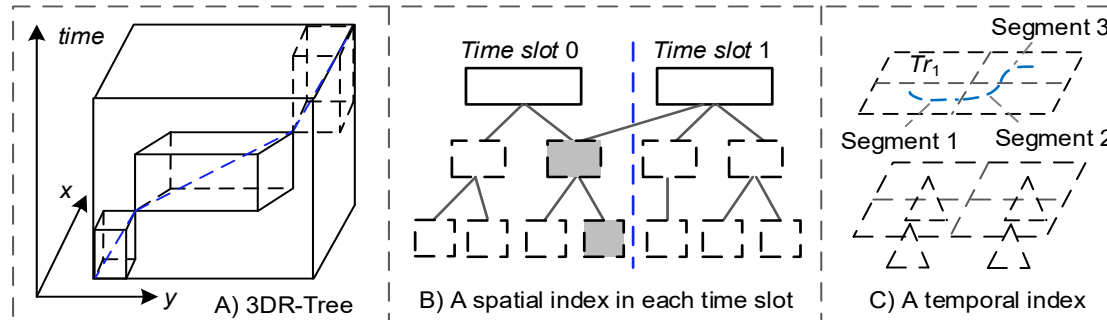
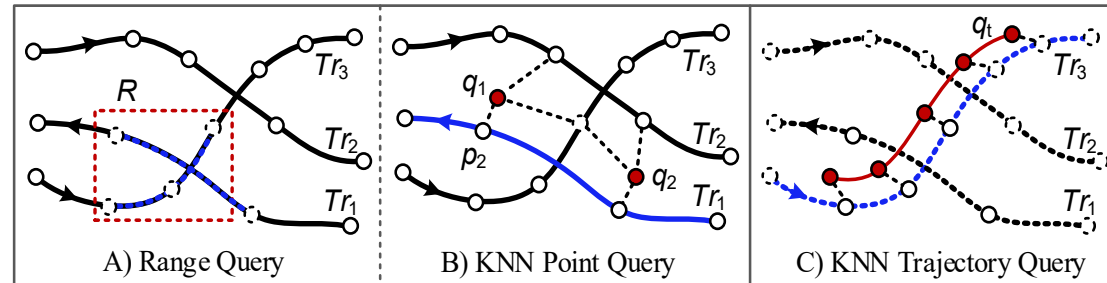
- Range queries
- KNN queries

- Distance metrics

- The distance between a point q and a trajectory
- The Distance between two trajectories
- The distance between two trajectory segments

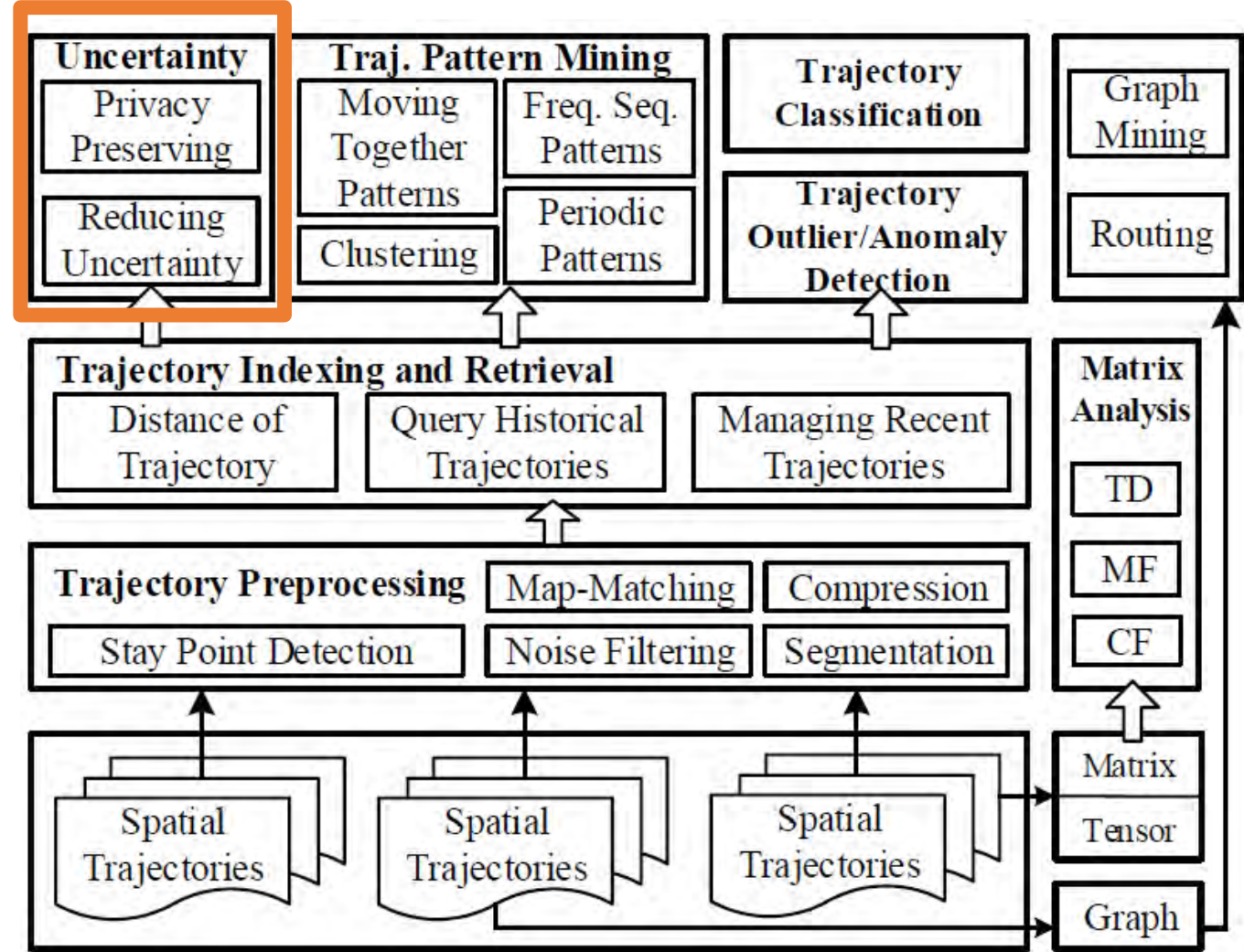
- Indexing structures

- Retrieval algorithms



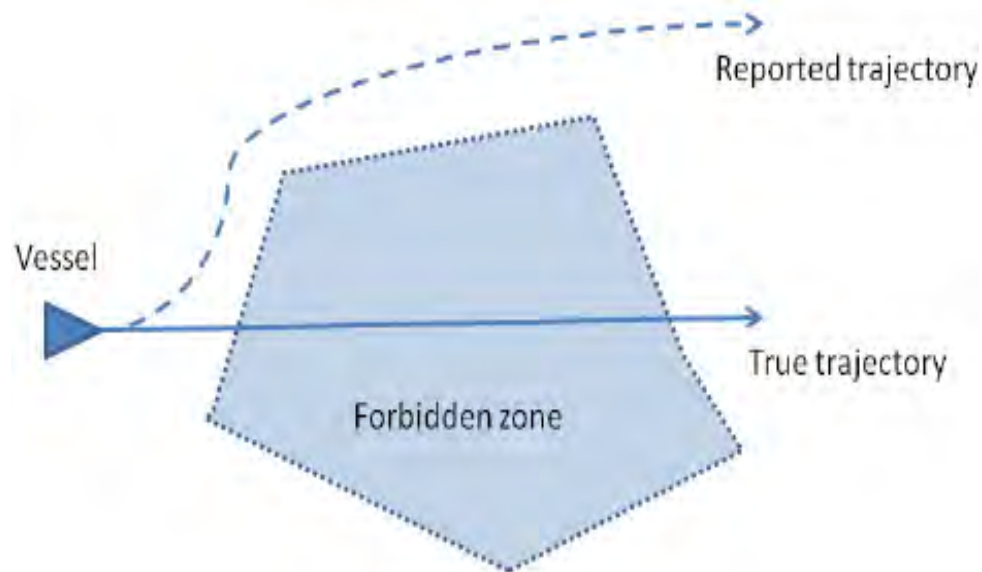


Uncertainty

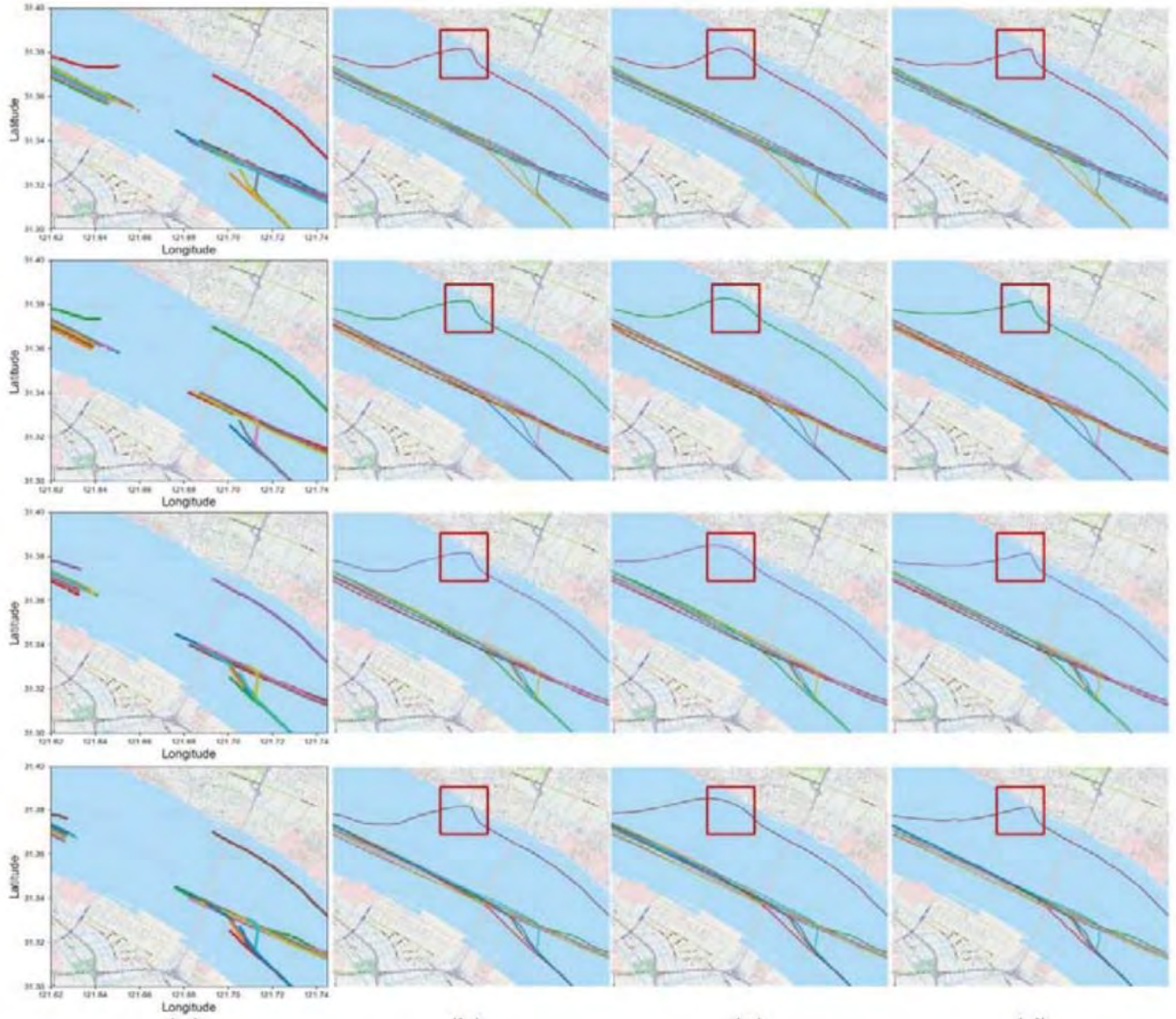
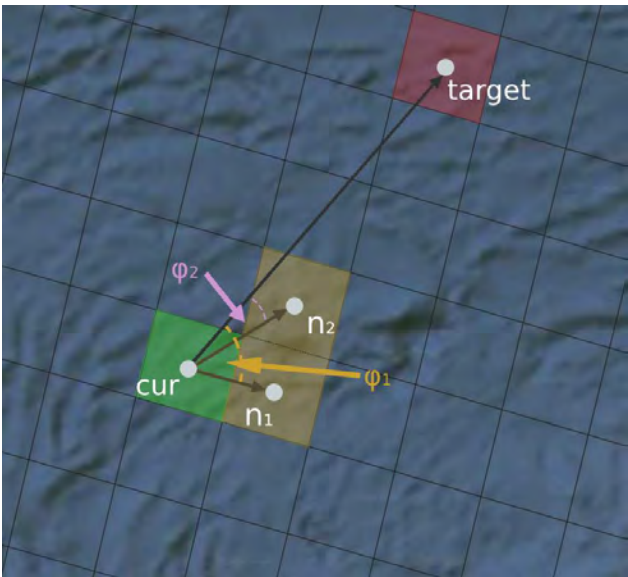


Uncertain Trajectories

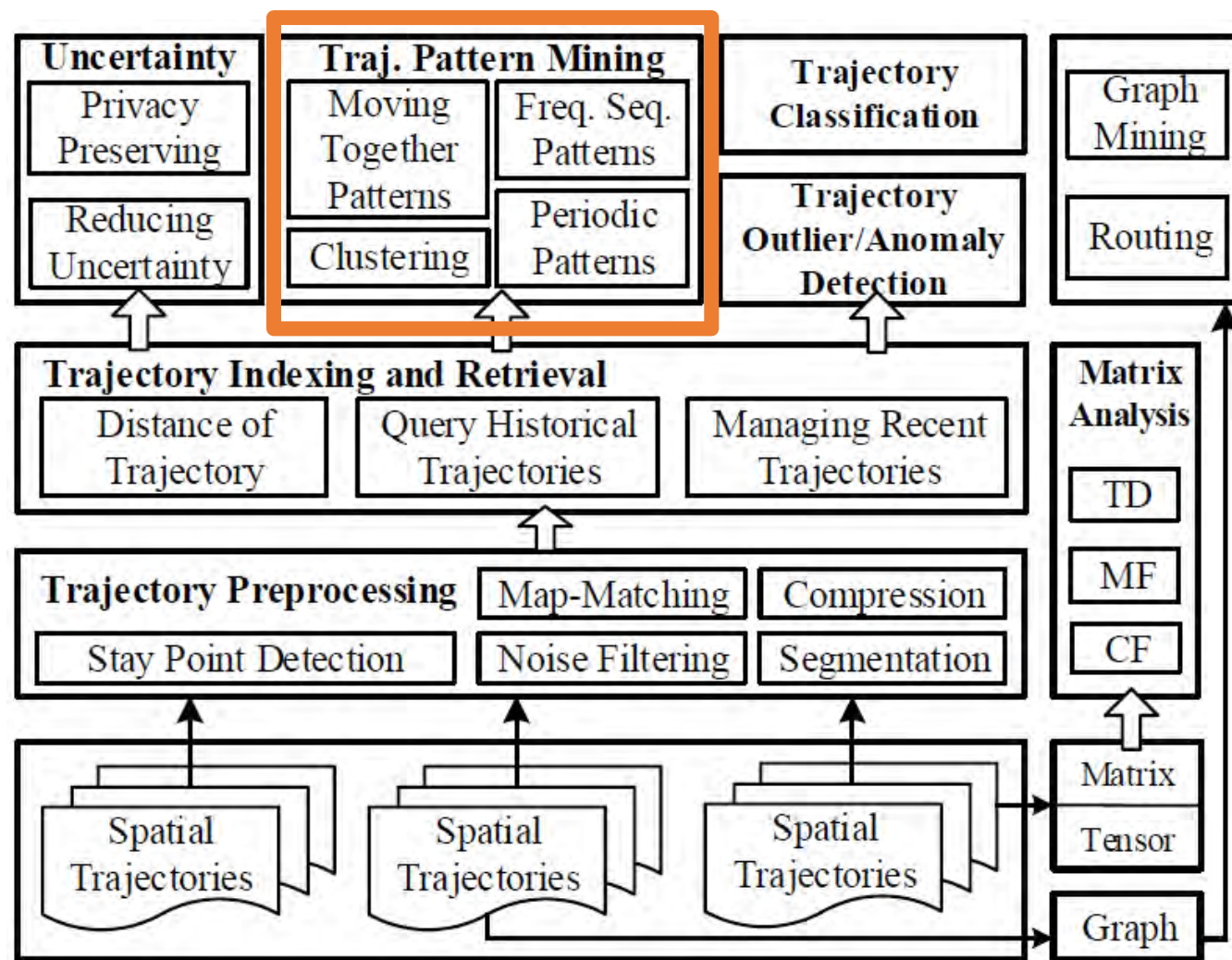
- As the location of a moving object is recorded at a certain time interval, the trajectory data we obtain is usually a sample of the object's true movement. On one hand, the movement of an object between two consecutive sampling points becomes unknown (or called uncertain). To this end, we expect to reduce the uncertainty of a trajectory.
- On the other hand, in some applications, to protect a user's privacy that could be leaked from her trajectories, we need to make a trajectory even more uncertain.



Interpolation or Gap filling

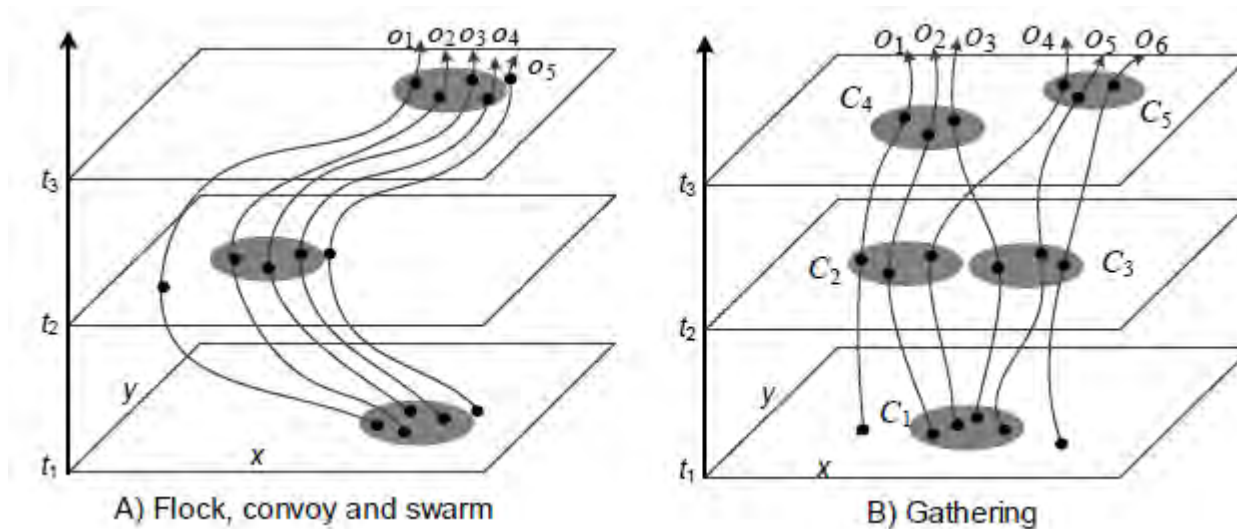


Traj. Pattern Mining



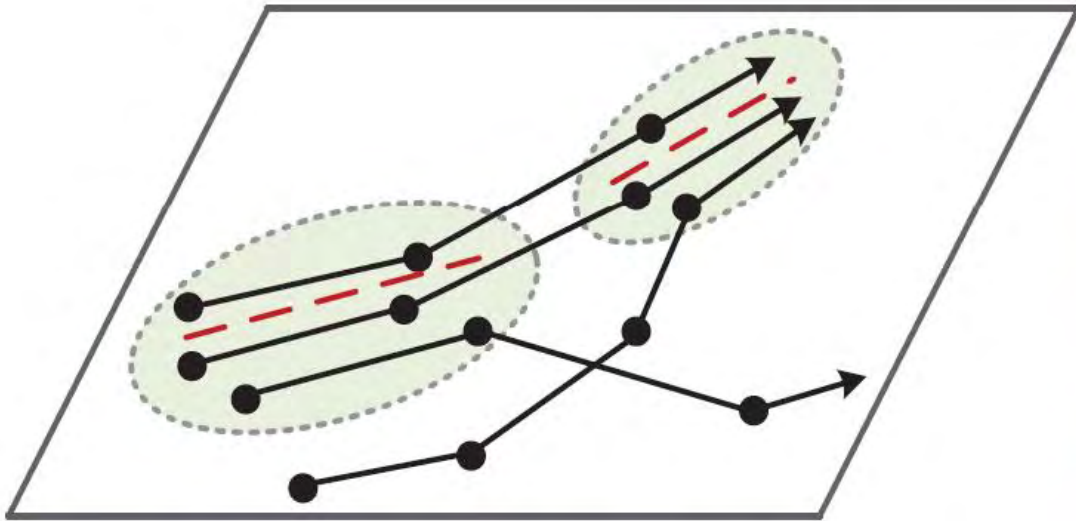
Trajectory pattern mining

Common Behaviour Detection: flocks, convoys, moving clusters, group patterns and swarms



Trajectory Clustering

- Route detection and definition



Why is this useful though?

NISSOS MYKONOS
Ro-Ro/Passenger Ship

© Eleni Patsetaki
MarineTraffic.com

GR JSY **GR JMK**
ATD: 2017-06-13 11:14 ETA: 2017-06-13 11:55 ⓘ

Past Track **Route Forecast**

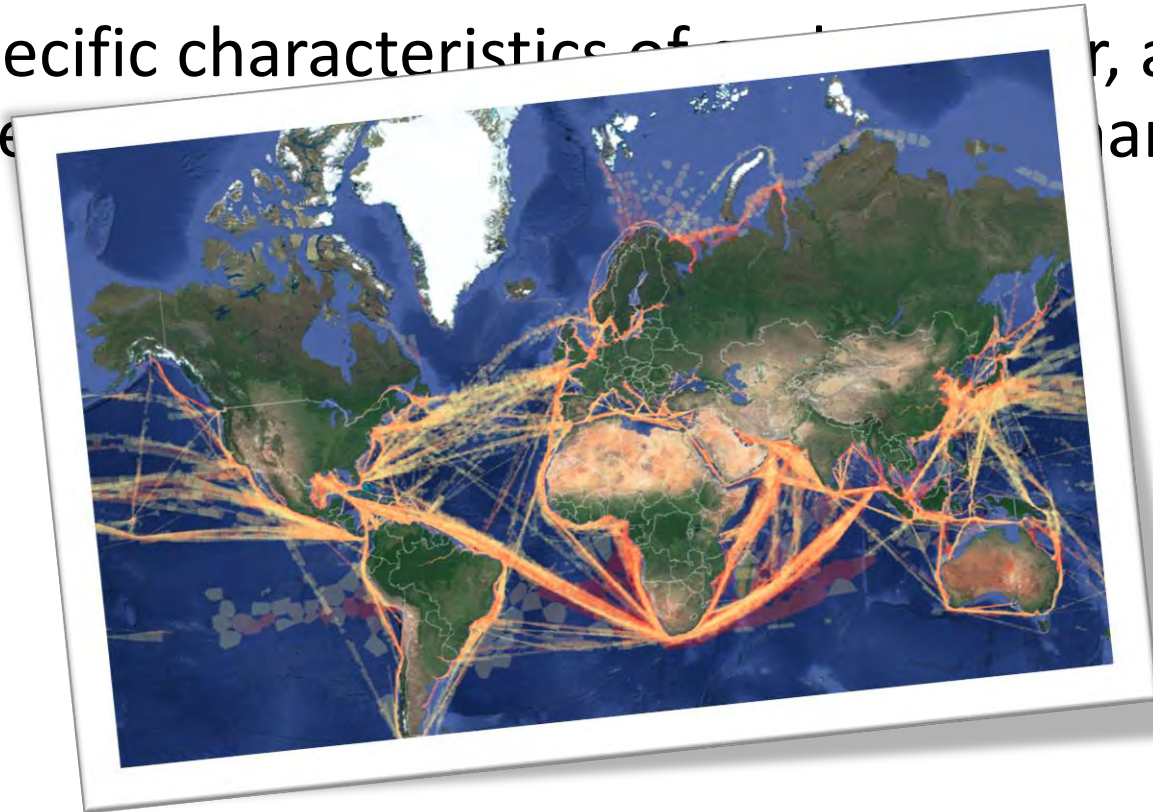
Status: **Underway Using Engine** Speed/Course: **24.3kn / 82°** Draught: **5.2m**

The interface shows a detailed view of the vessel NISSOS MYKONOS, including a satellite image of the ship, its registration numbers (GR JSY and GR JMK), arrival and departure times, and real-time status information such as speed, course, and draught. The vessel is currently underway using its engine.

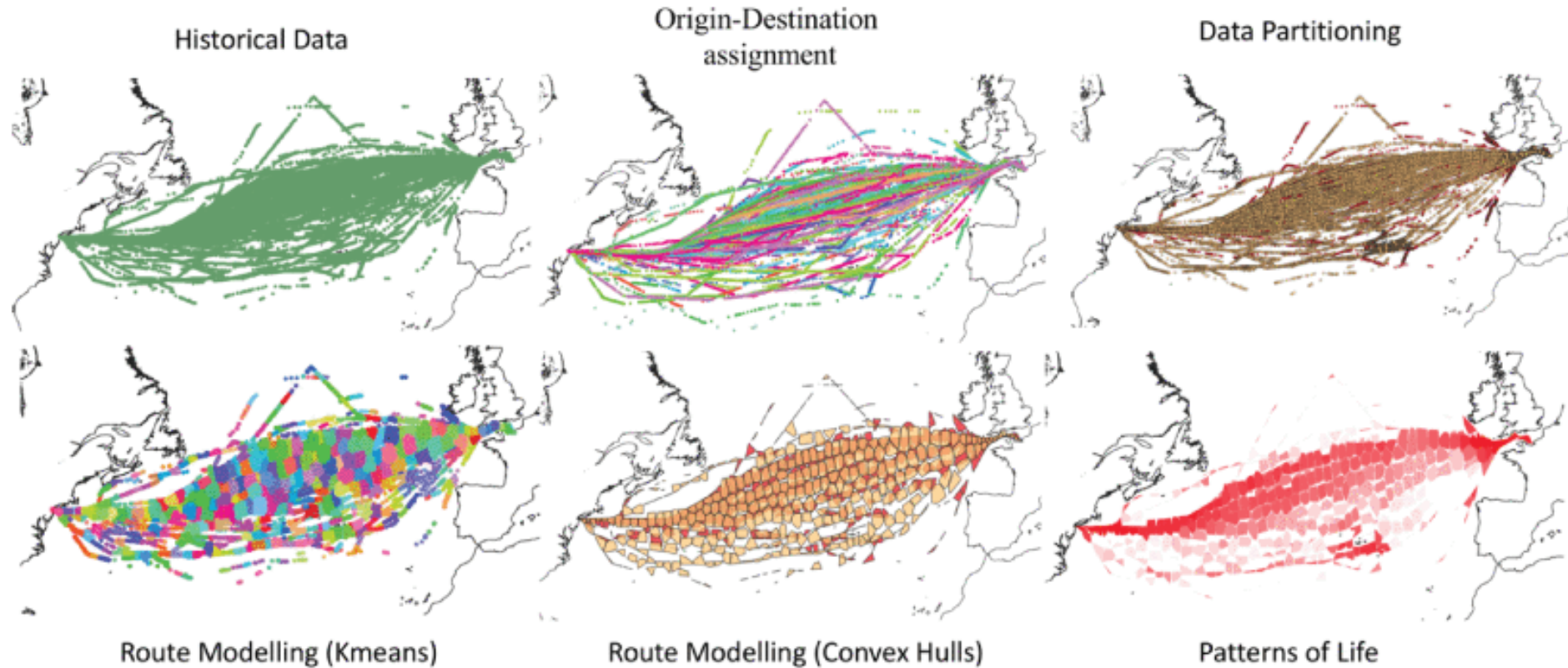


Routes as traffic corridors (1)

- In the real world though, ships do not travel on these thin lines, as traffic corridors have a variable width, volume, and distribution
- identifying the specific characteristics of these corridors, and fundamentally the dynamics.

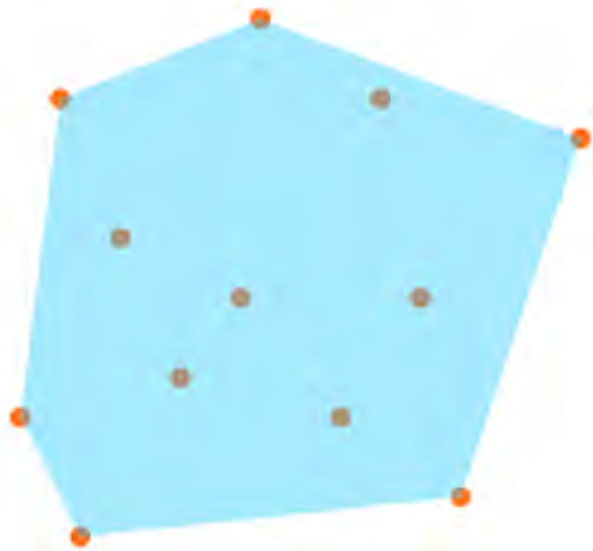


Patterns of Life

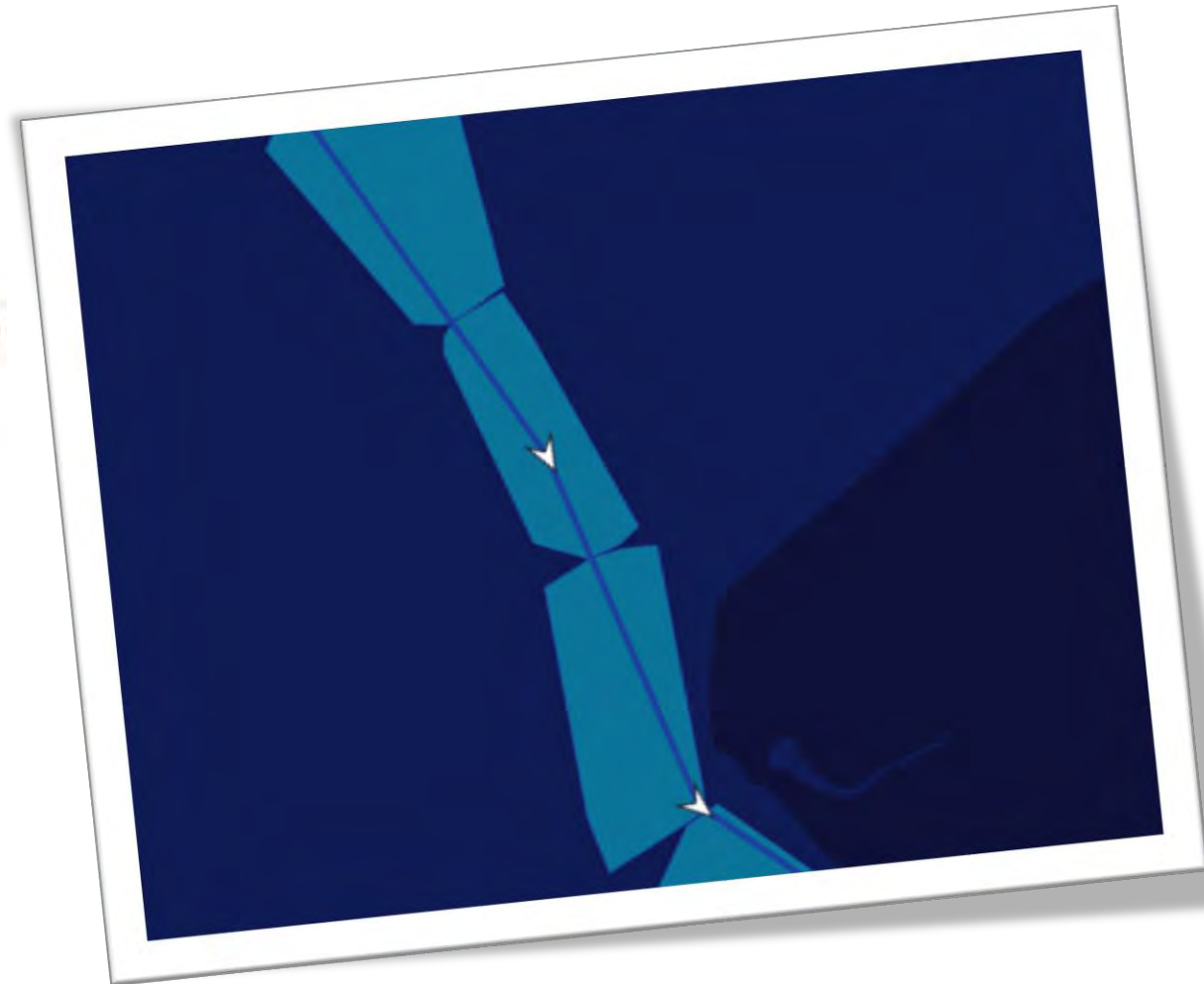


D. Zissis, K. Chatzikokolakis, G. Spiliopoulos and M. Vodas, "A Distributed Spatial Method for Modeling Maritime Routes," in *IEEE Access*, vol. 8, pp. 47556-47568, 2020, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2979612.

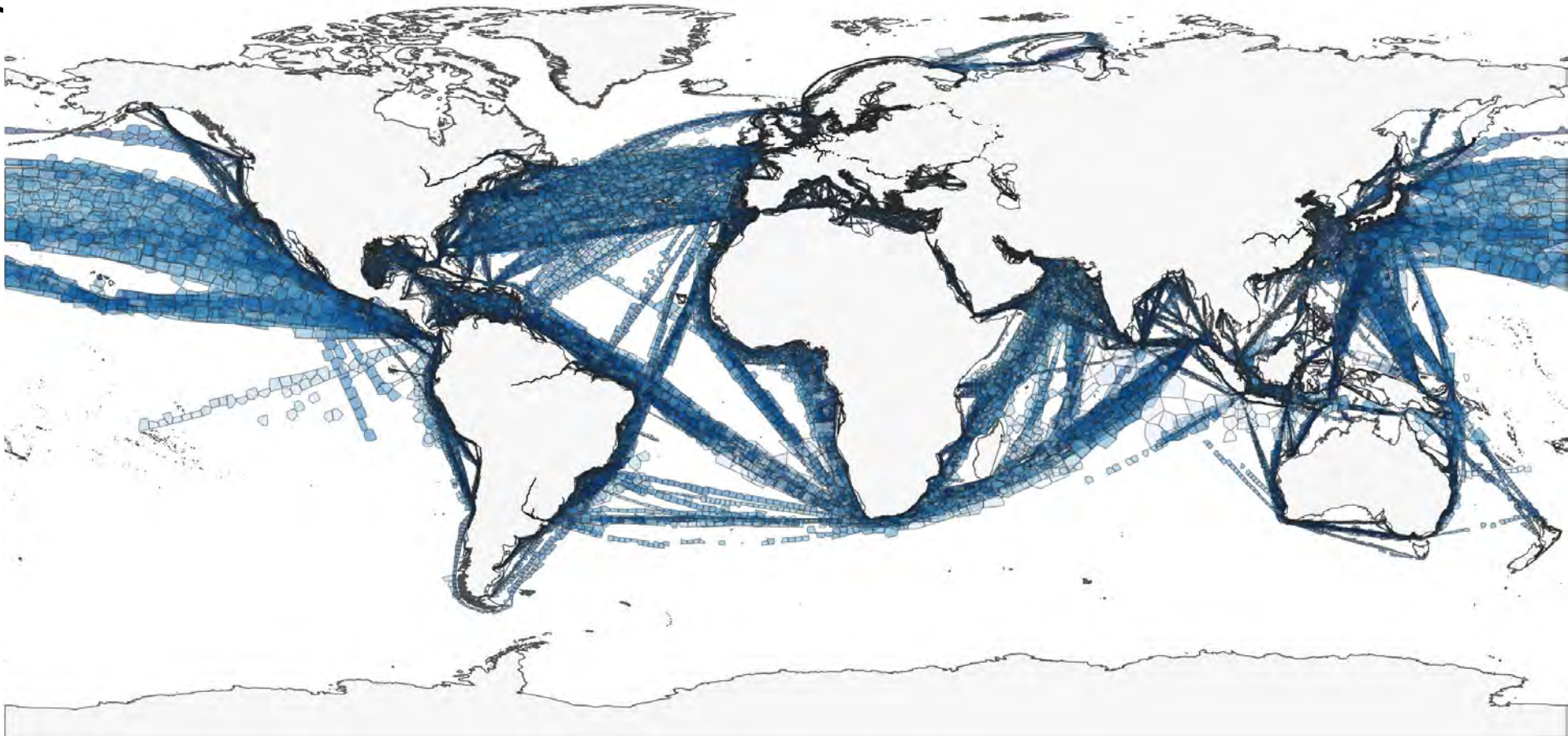
Routes as traffic corridors (2)



a convex polygon of 95% of clustered locations

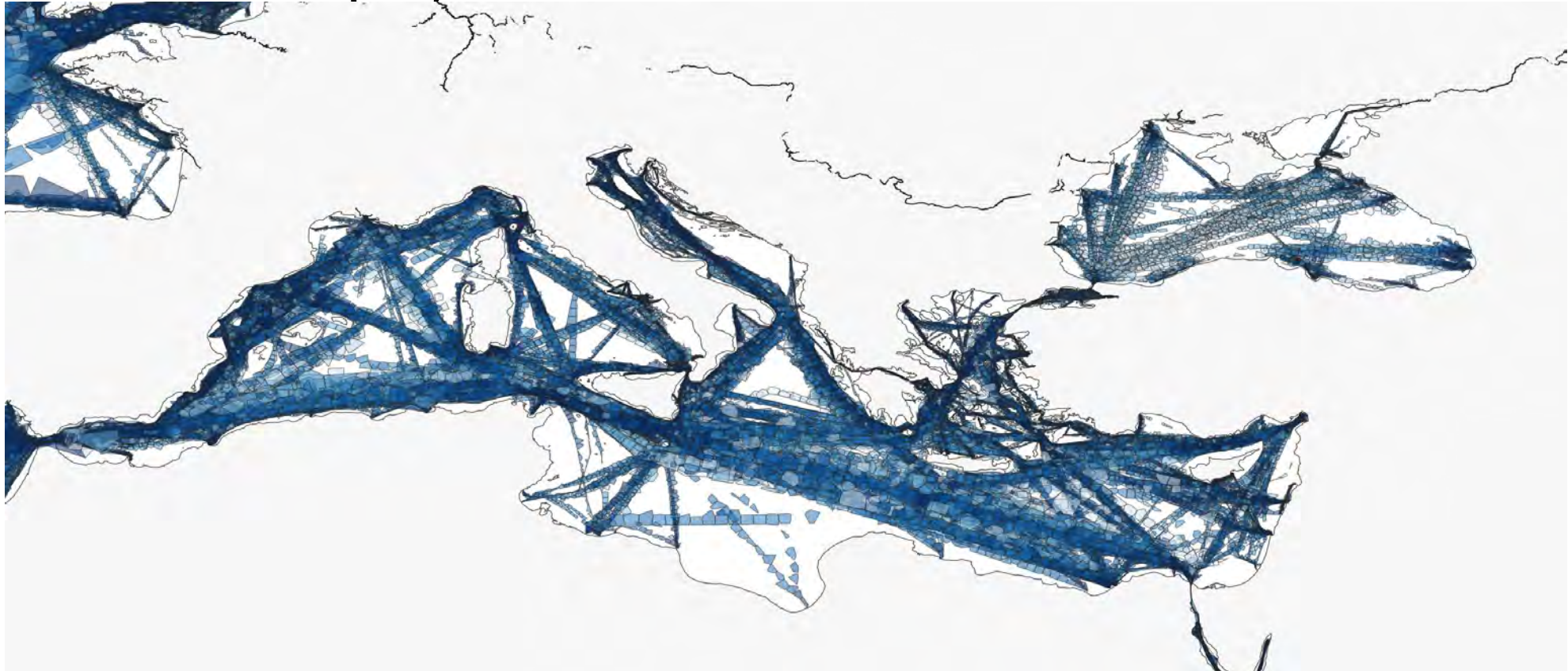


Global Tanker PoL (more than 100 trips per route)



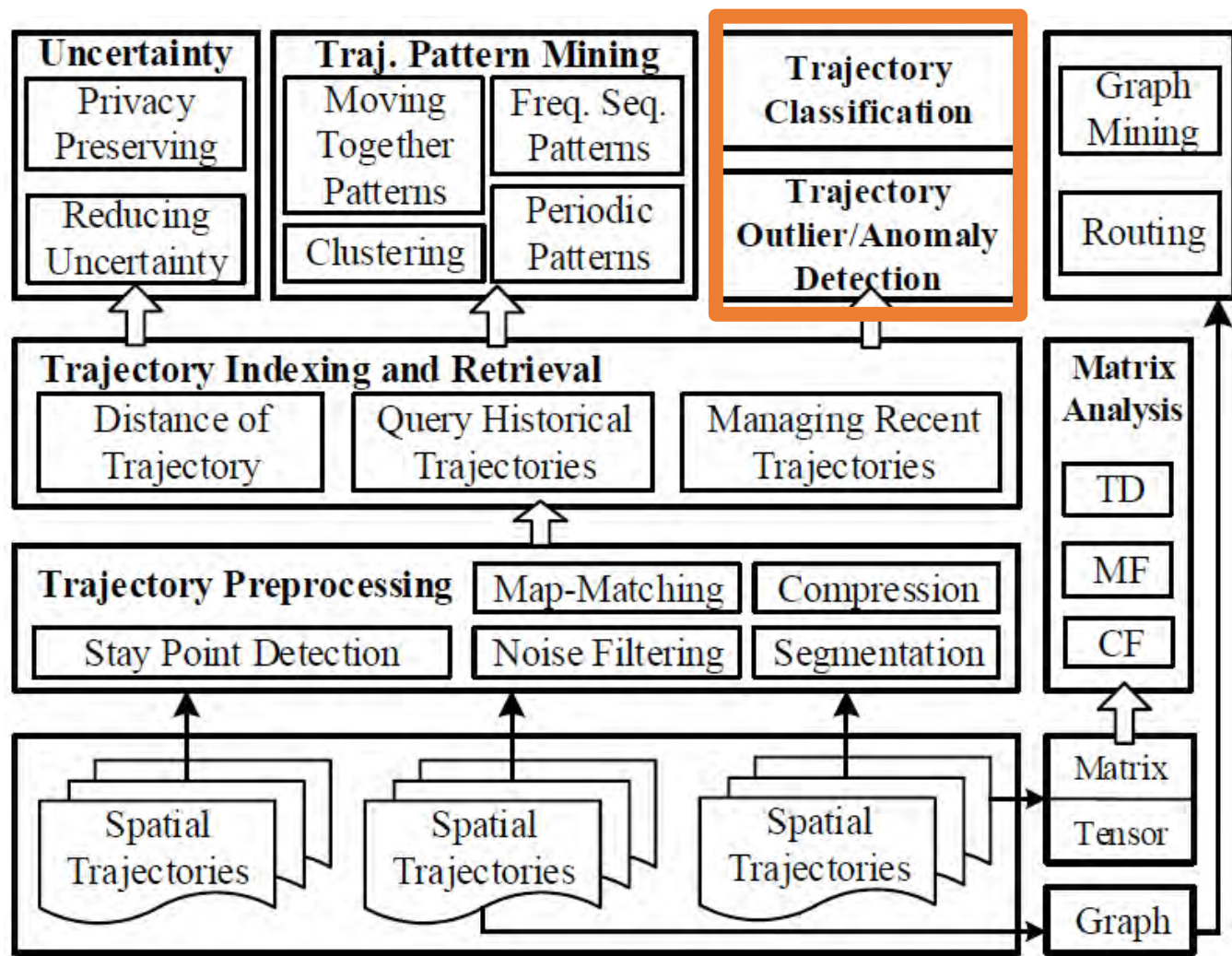
D. Zissis, K. Chatzikokolakis, G. Spiliopoulos and M. Vodas, "A Distributed Spatial Method for Modeling Maritime Routes," in *IEEE Access*, vol. 8, pp. 47556-47568, 2020, doi: [10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2979612](https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2979612).

Tankers PoL in Mediterranean (with more than 100 trips)



D. Zissis, K. Chatzikokolakis, G. Spiliopoulos and M. Vodas, "A Distributed Spatial Method for Modeling Maritime Routes," in *IEEE Access*, vol. 8, pp. 47556-47568, 2020, doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2020.2979612.

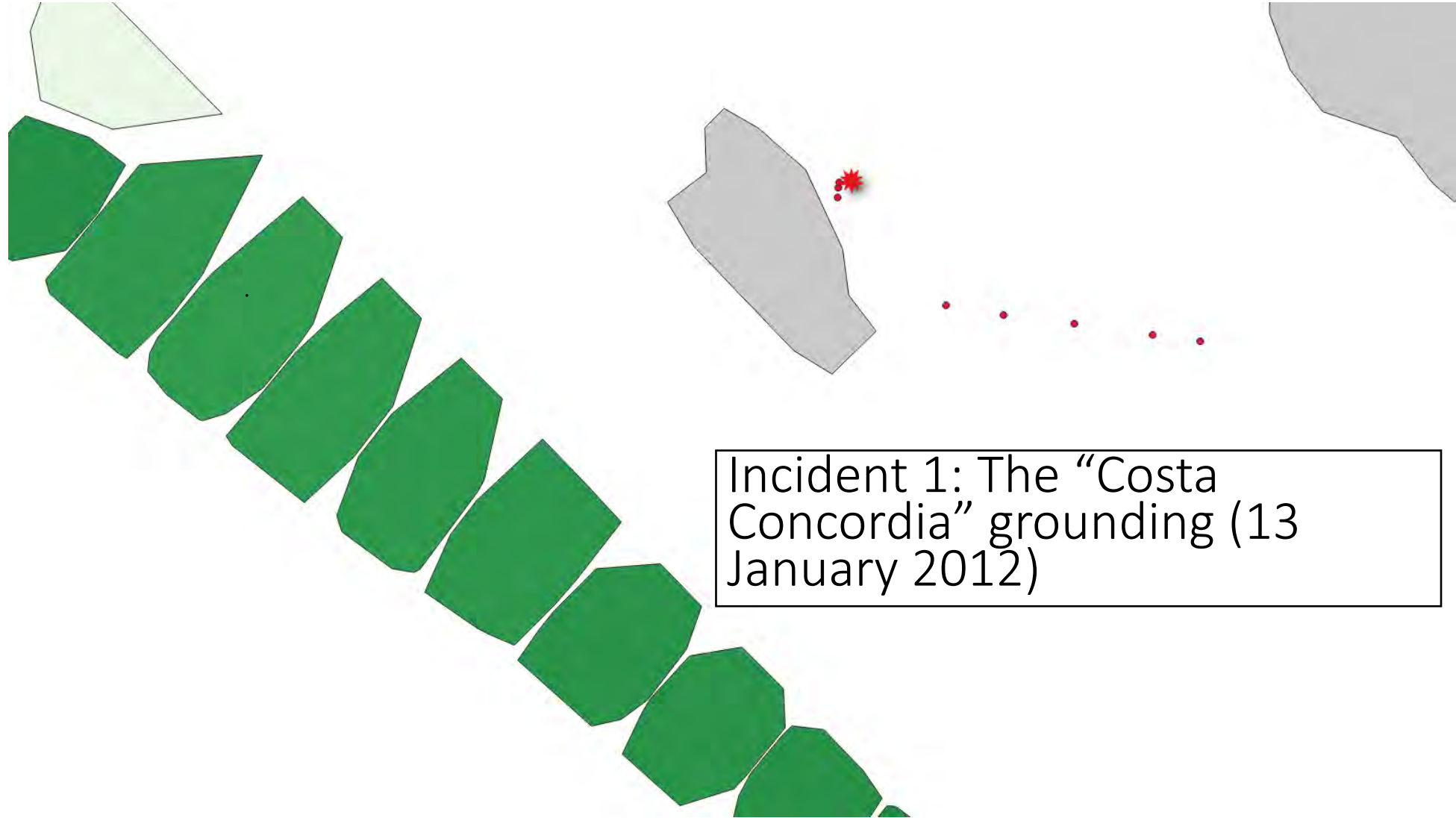
Trajectory Classification/ Anomaly Detection



Detecting real world “anomalies”

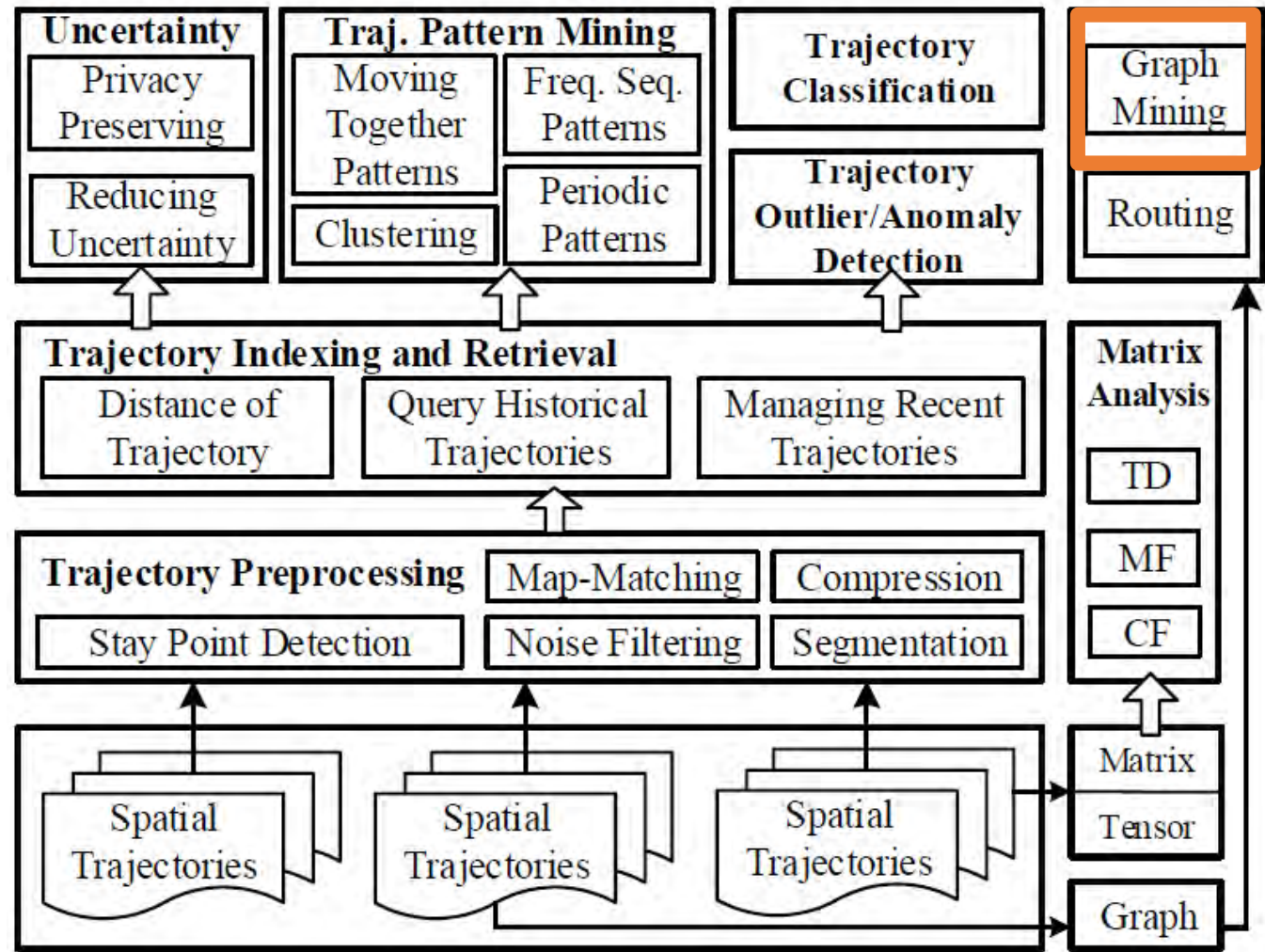


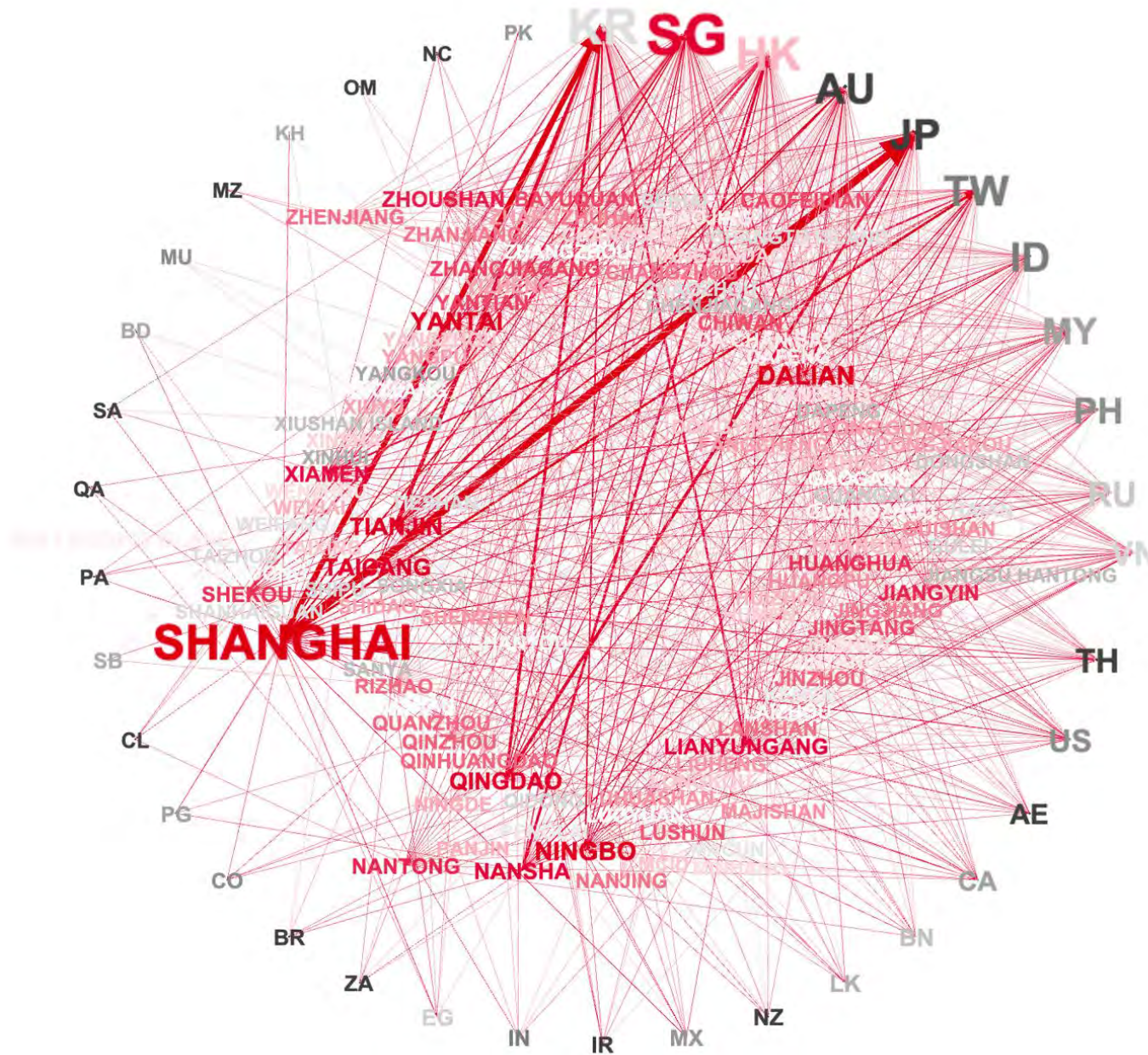
Detecting real world “anomalies”



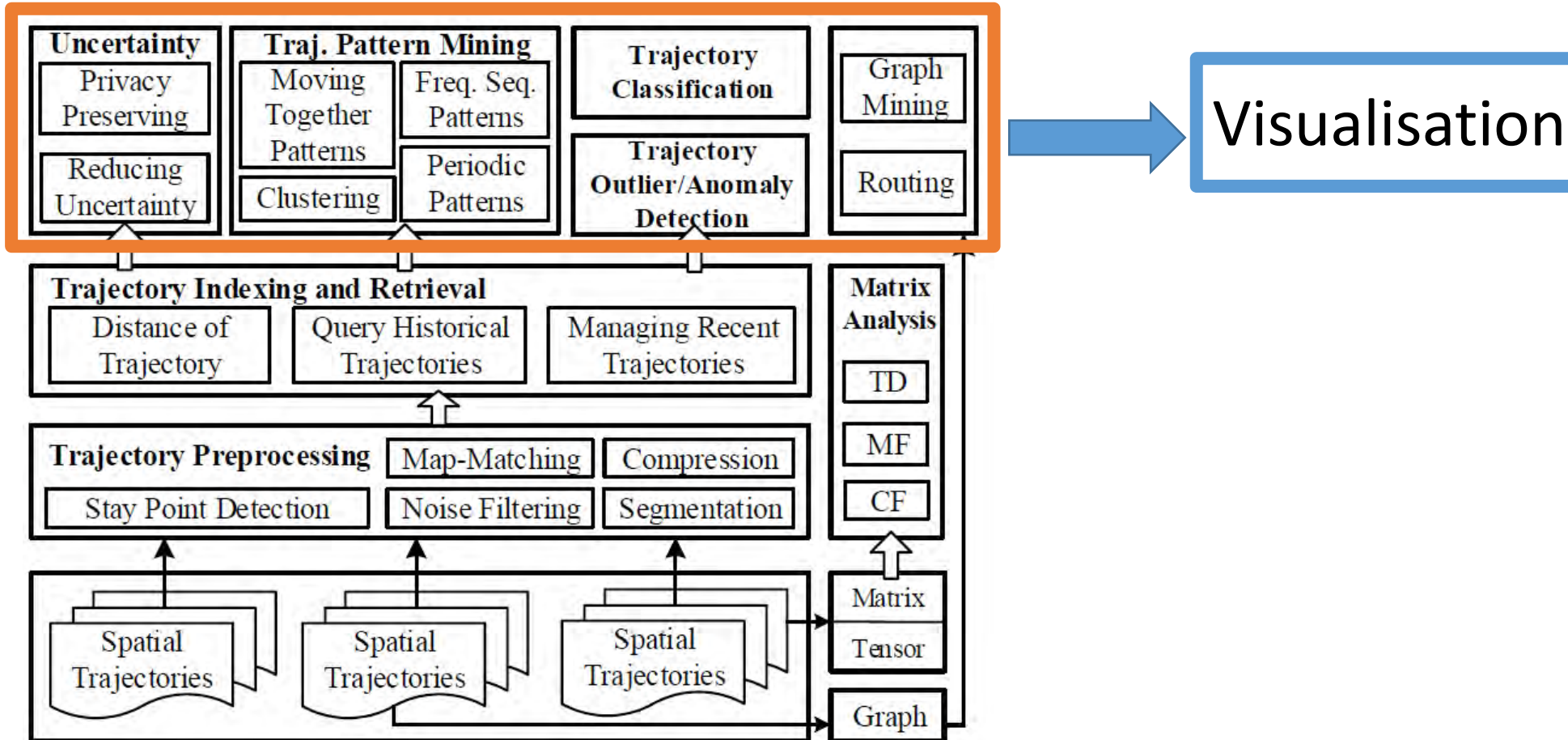
Incident 1: The “Costa Concordia” grounding (13 January 2012)

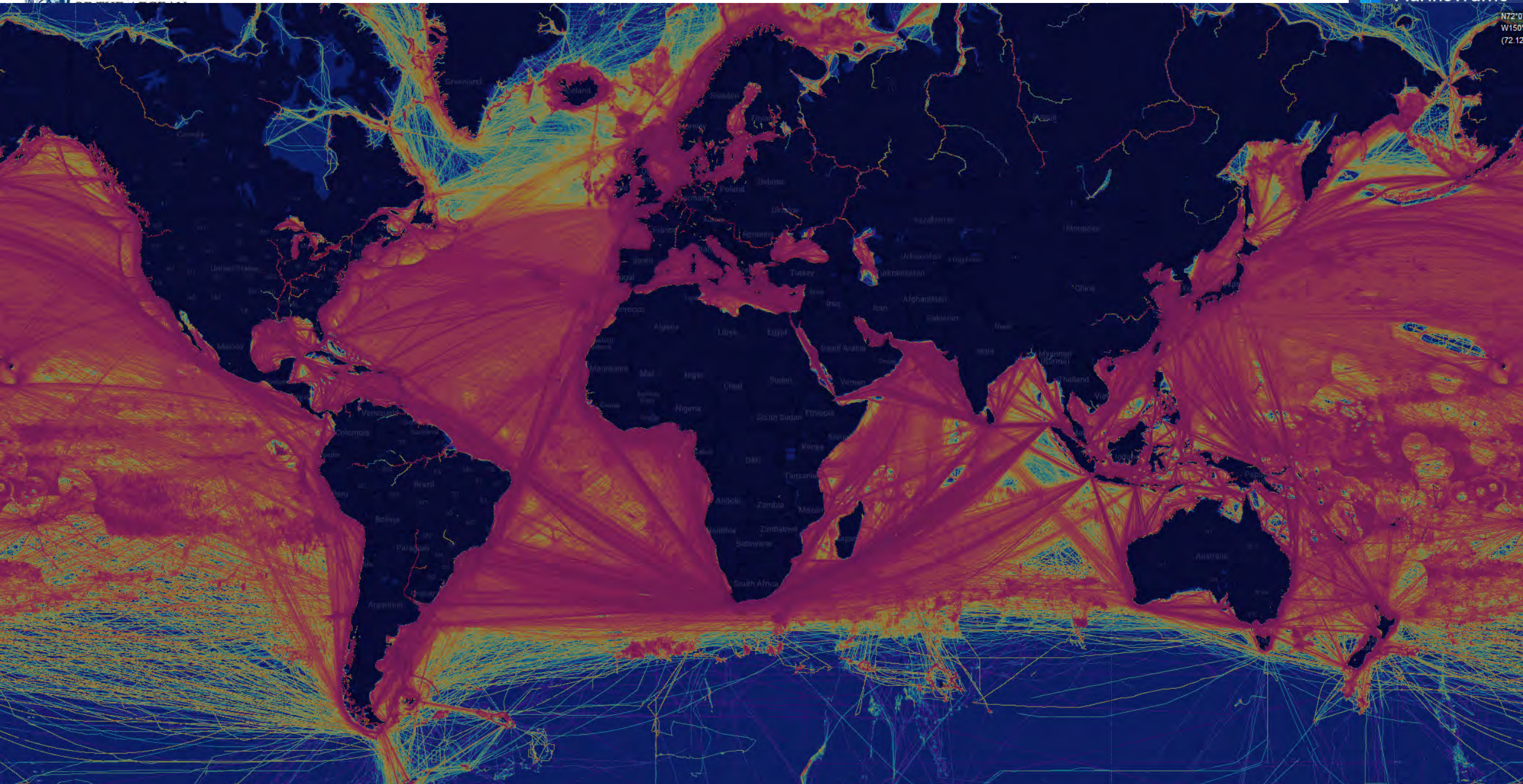
Graph Mining





Visualisation





The MarineTraffic AIS toolbox

An open-source tool developed from Marinetransport Research

The MarineTraffic AIS toolbox provides a number of modules to support handling AIS data while improving their transformation into actionable visualisations such as density maps. The code is written in python for simplicity, readability and overall ease of use. We look forward to seeing what people do with the MarineTraffic Toolbox and would like to hear your comments.

We will be releasing the software as a beta version over the next few weeks because we wanted to [get feedback as soon as possible](#).

[Tutorial](#)[Repository](#)

AIS Cleaning Module

Trajectories are never perfectly accurate due to sensor noise and other factors. In most situations it is necessary to apply algorithmic techniques to the data to smooth the noise and potentially decrease the error in the measurements.

This module also includes a number of simple data reduction techniques. The main objective of such trajectory reduction techniques is to reduce the size of the dataset so as to make it operable without compromising too much of its precision.

This module reads data as csv, it applies filters and delivers the cleaned data-set into the same csv format. The filters applied include removing empty fields, invalid movement data, invalid vessel details, special characters and downsampling the data according to user defined parameters.

[Tutorial](#)

Density Maps Module

Density Maps support the improved understanding of vessel traffic, through providing a bird's eye view of vessel behavior either at a regional or global scale.

The term "vessel density" has several co-notations and thus is used with several meanings in this domain. Therefore, vessel density can refer to

Will be
published in
the next weeks

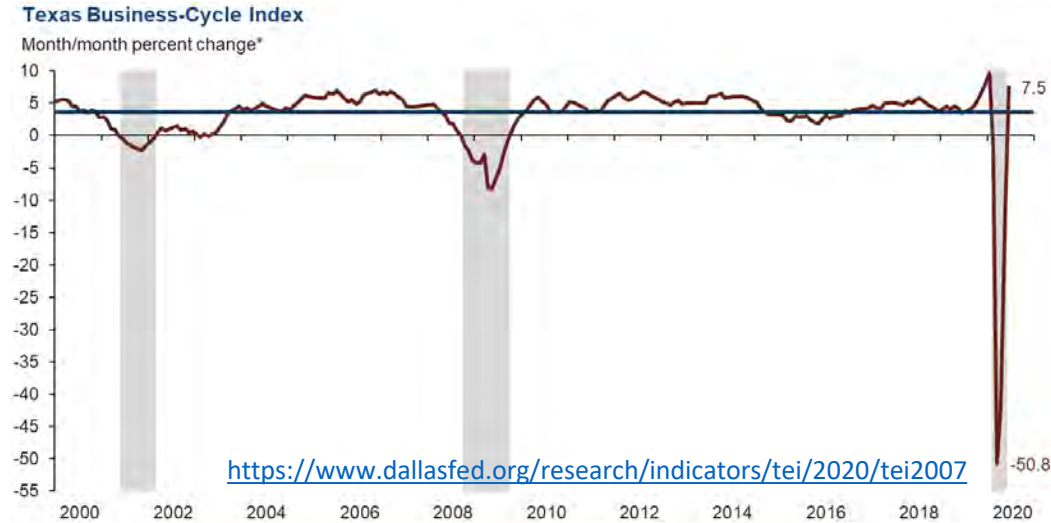
The pandemic's impact on global maritime mobility

The work is collaboration with several colleagues and friends from US and EU: Leonardo M. Millefiori, Paolo Braca, Stefano Marano, Peter K. Willett, Giannis Spiliopoulos, Sandro Carniel.

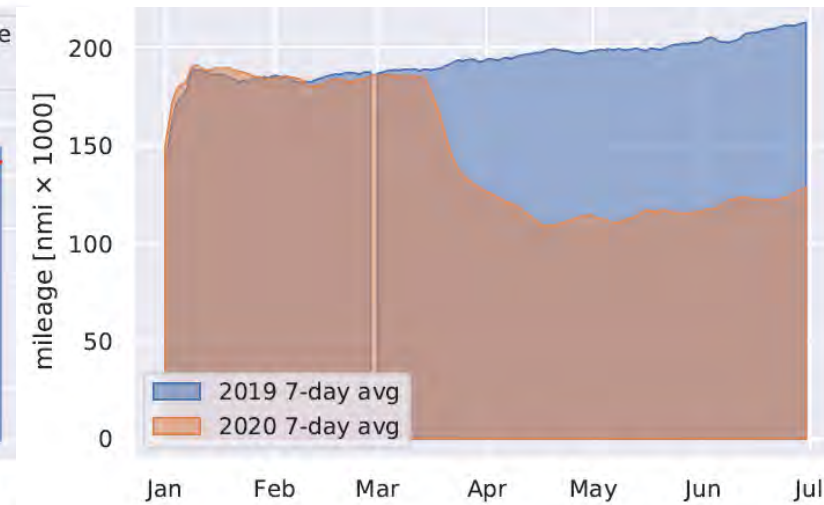
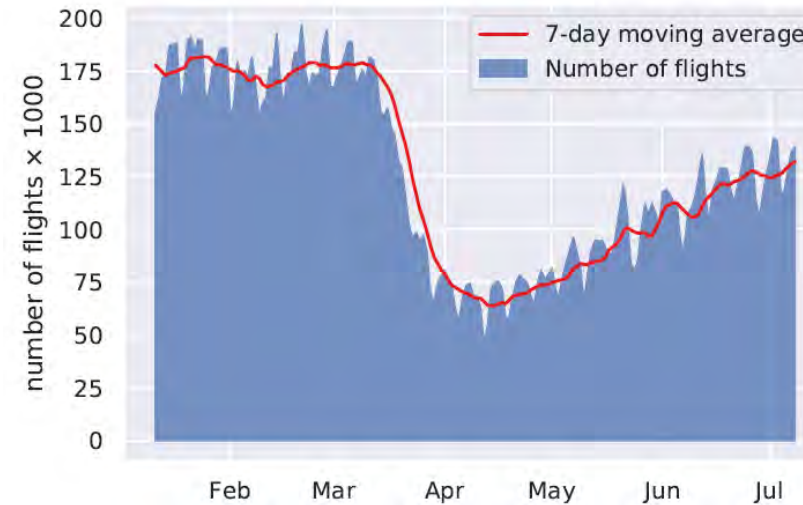


One of the most disruptive crises ever...

- To prevent the outbreak of COVID-19, many countries all around the world went into **full lockdown** in the first half of 2020
- **Unprecedented containment measures**
 - Produced changes to all aspect of social life
 - Dramatically **changed mobility patterns**
- **Shipping industry** accounts alone for more than **80% of world trade**
 - **Reduced ship mobility** could imply **reduced goods mobility** on the global scale
- Need to **assess qualitatively and quantitatively** the **impact of lockdowns** on global shipping mobility

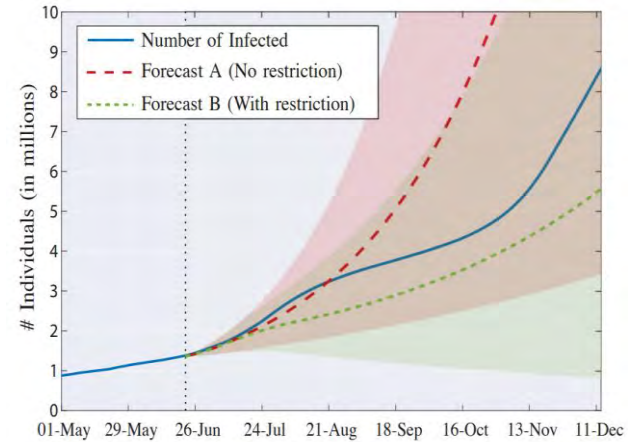


L. M. Millefiori, P. Braca, D. Zisis, G. Spiliopoulos, S. Marano, P. K. Willett and S. Carniel, "COVID-19 impact on global maritime mobility," *Nature Scientific Reports*, 2021.

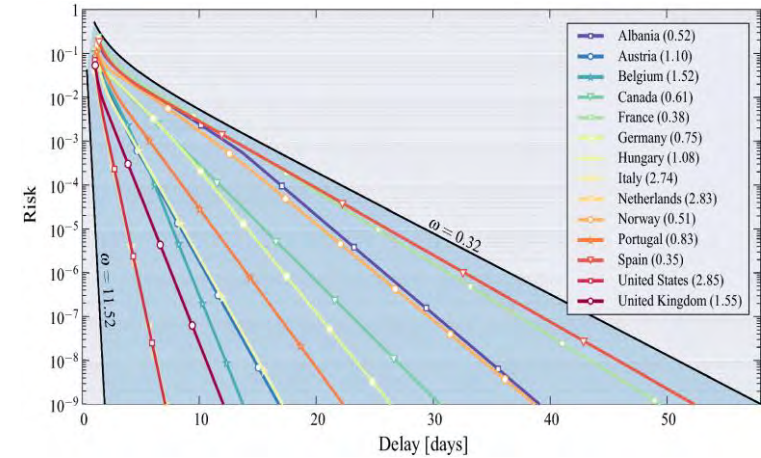


Data-driven approach to COVID-19 data

- Data-driven approach to COVID-19 data
 - **Global maritime mobility**
 - Epidemiological curve (upper plots)
 - Risk vs Detection Delay
 - Forecast evolution
- Unprecedented data analysis of the maritime mobility
 - Historical Automatic Identification System (AIS) dataset
 - **55 TB** stored in a big-data architecture
 - **1 trillion AIS messages** from more than **50,000 ships**
 - Terrestrial network of over **4,500 receiving stations** from 140 countries.
 - The processing is based on a distributed Apache Spark™ cluster of 40 virtual cores and 128 GB of RAM.

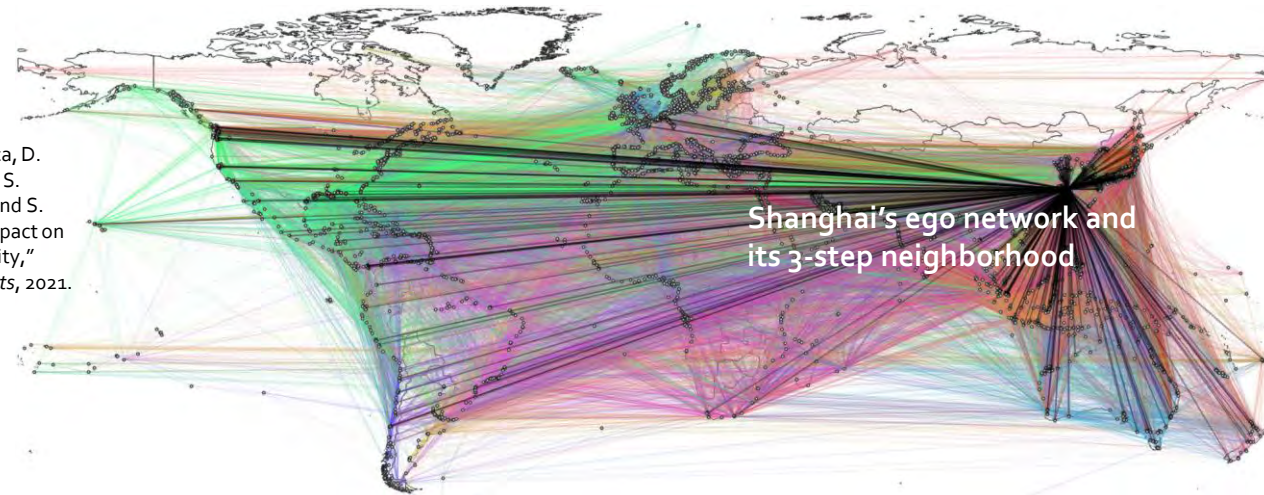


G. Soldi et al., "Quickest Detection and Forecast of Pandemic Outbreaks: Analysis of COVID-19 Waves," in IEEE Communications Magazine, 2021.



Braca, P., Gaglione, D., Marano, S. et al. Decision support for the quickest detection of critical COVID-19 phases. *Nature Scientific Reports*, 2021.

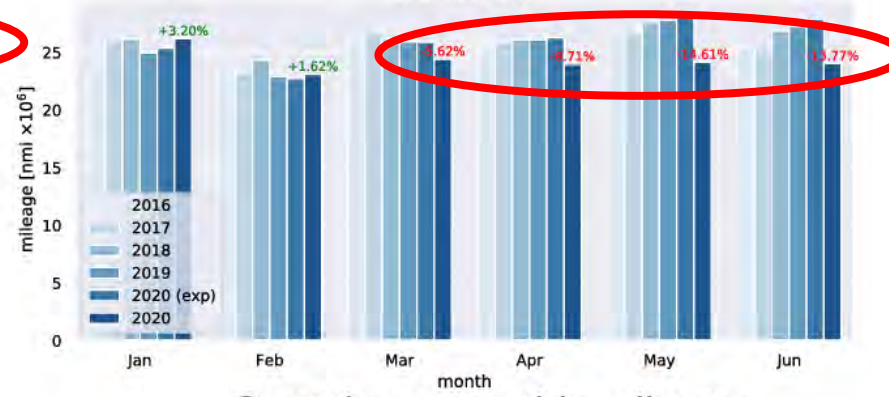
L. M. Millefiori, P. Braca, D. Zisis, G. Spiliopoulos, S. Marano, P. K. Willett and S. Carniel, "COVID-19 impact on global maritime mobility," *Nature Scientific Reports*, 2021.



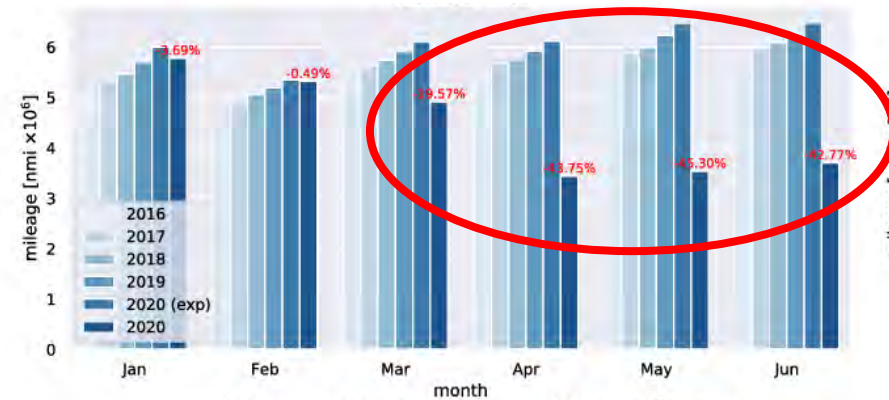
Monthly Cumulative Navigated Miles (CNM)



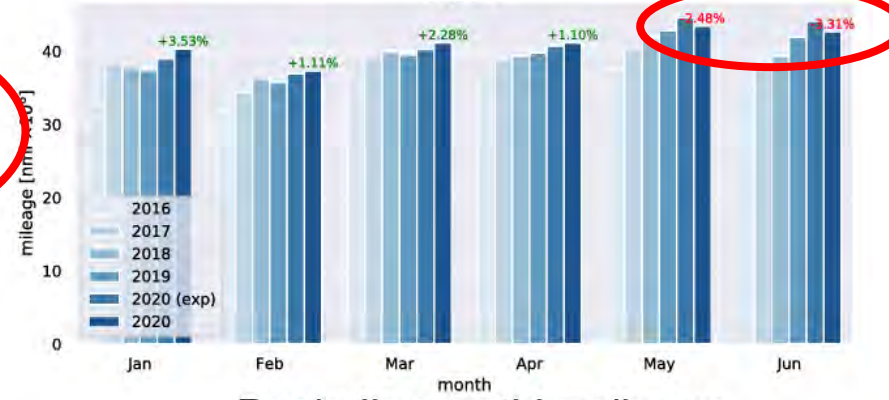
Wet bulk: monthly mileage



Container: monthly mileage



Passenger: monthly mileage

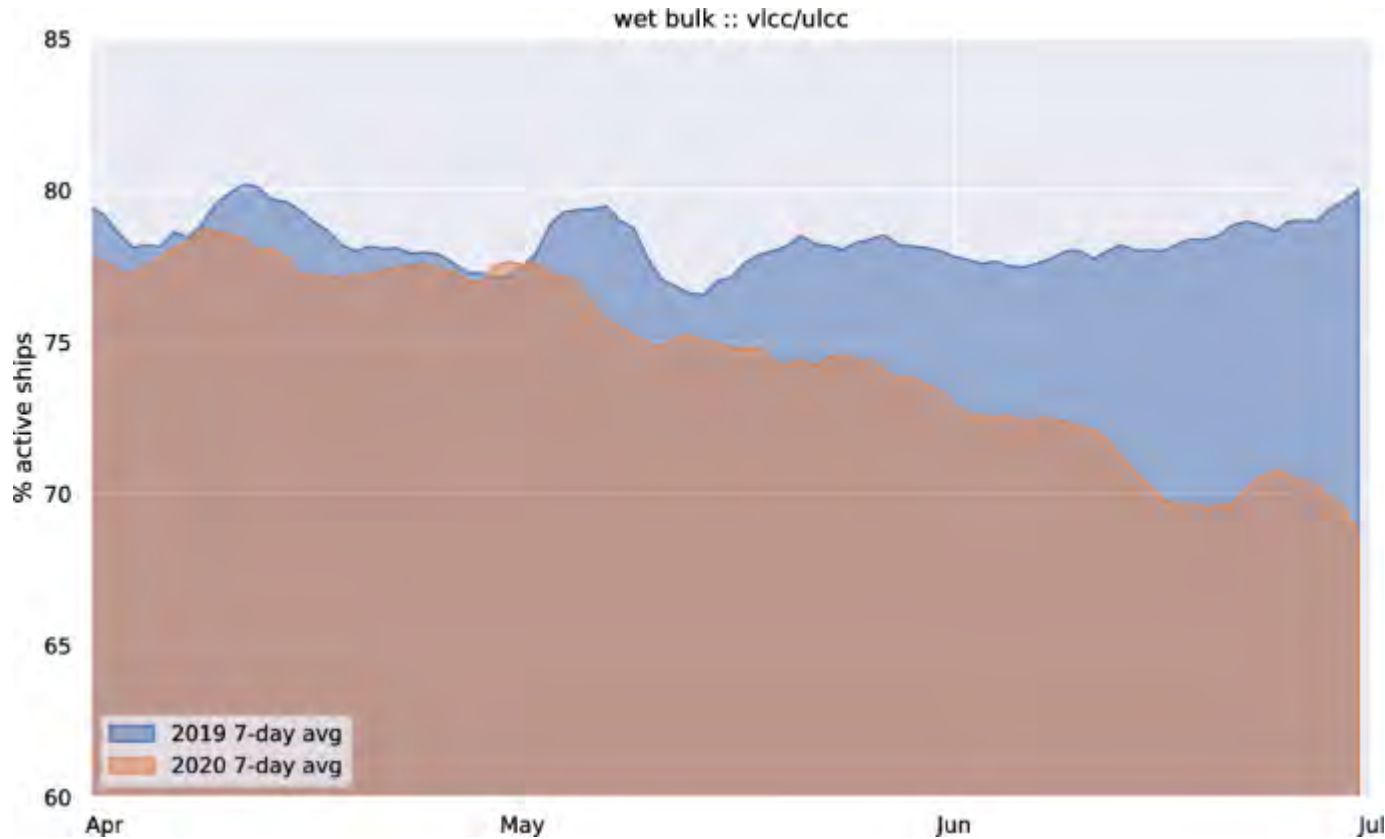


Dry bulk: monthly mileage

- Unprecedented decrease of the global mobility – CNM – after the lockdowns in 2020, compare with
 - the previous years; and
 - the expected value in 2020 without pandemic
- Range of variation mobility [%]
 - Container [-5.62, -13.77]
 - Dry bulk [+2.28, -3.32]
 - Wet bulk [-0.22, -9.27]
 - **Passenger [-19.57, -42.77]**

L. M. Millefiori, P. Braca, D. Zisis, G. Spiliopoulos, S. Marano, P. K. Willett and S. Carniel, "COVID-19 impact on global maritime mobility," *Nature Scientific Reports*, 2021.

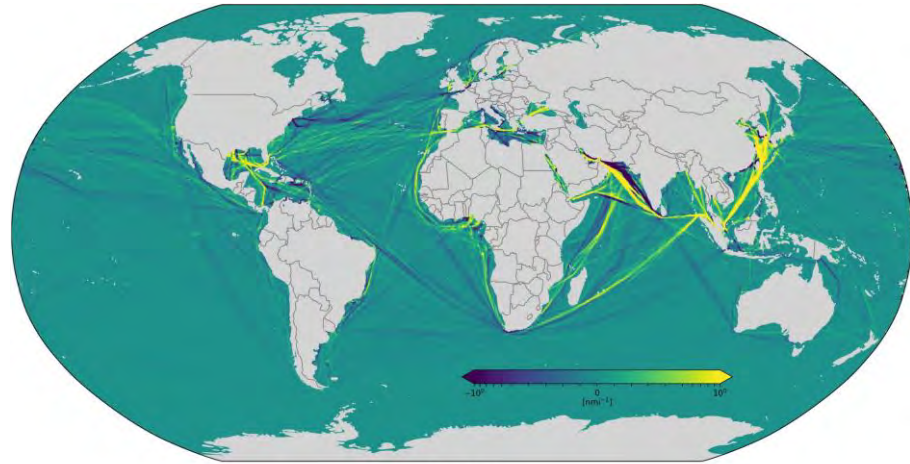
Substantial increase in idle ships



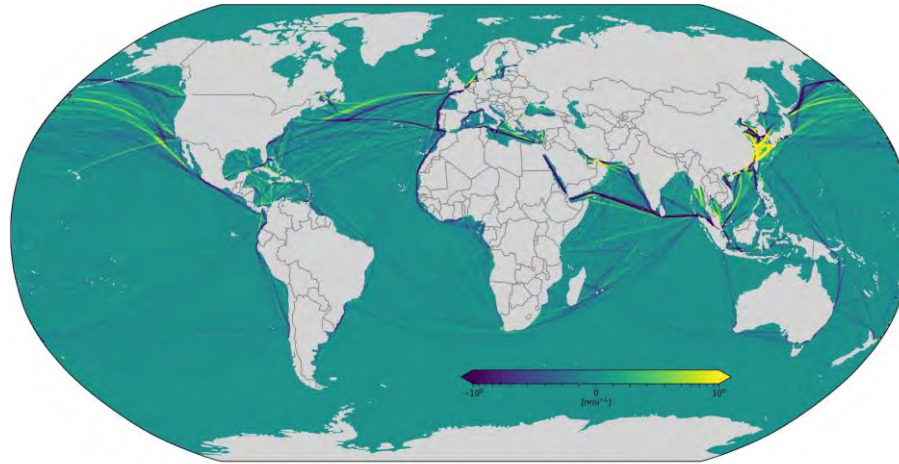
- Substantial increase in idle ships across all types of ships/markets globally in the first 6 months of 2020
- Case of study
 - Daily active and idle ships in 2019 (in blue) and 2020 (in orange) of the supertankers, VLCC and ULCC.
 - Evident decrease (increase) of active (idle) ships from April, 2020, not present in 2019.
 - This is confirming the use of a significant subset of supertankers as oil storage.

L. M. Millefiori, P. Braca, D. Zisis, G. Spiliopoulos, S. Marano, P. K. Willett and S. Carniel, "COVID-19 impact on global maritime mobility," *Nature Scientific Reports*, 2021.

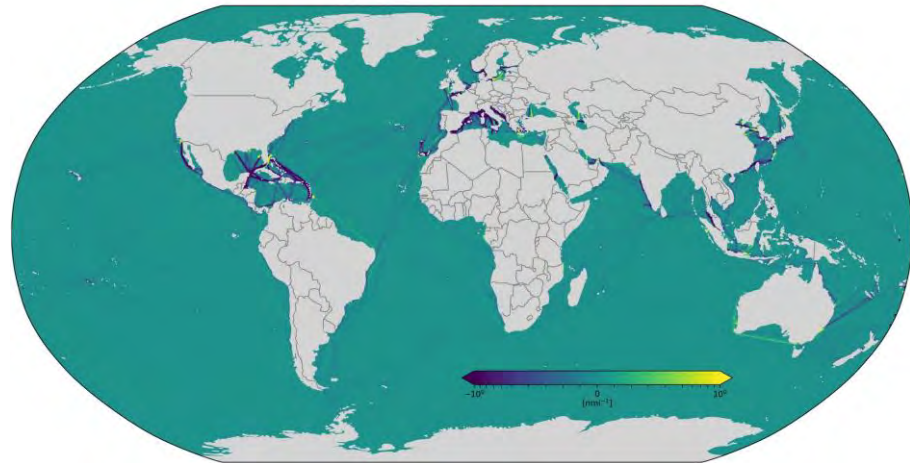
Monthly CNM density difference between 2020 and 2019



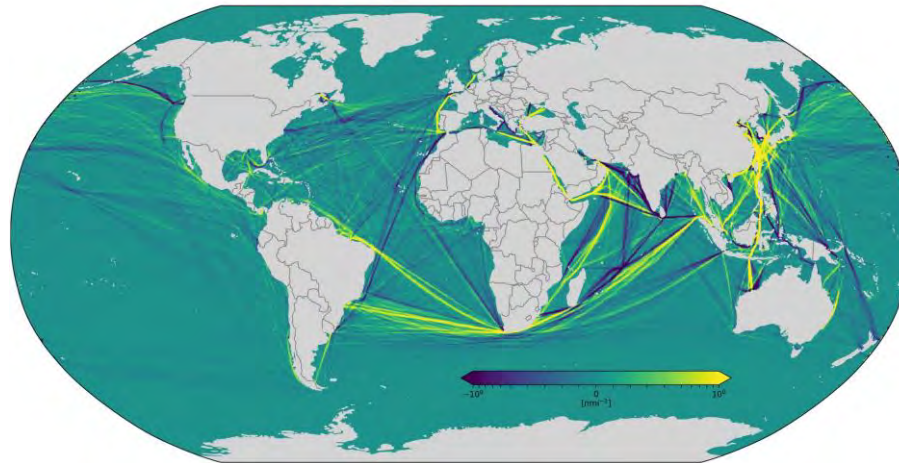
(a) Wet bulk



(a) Container



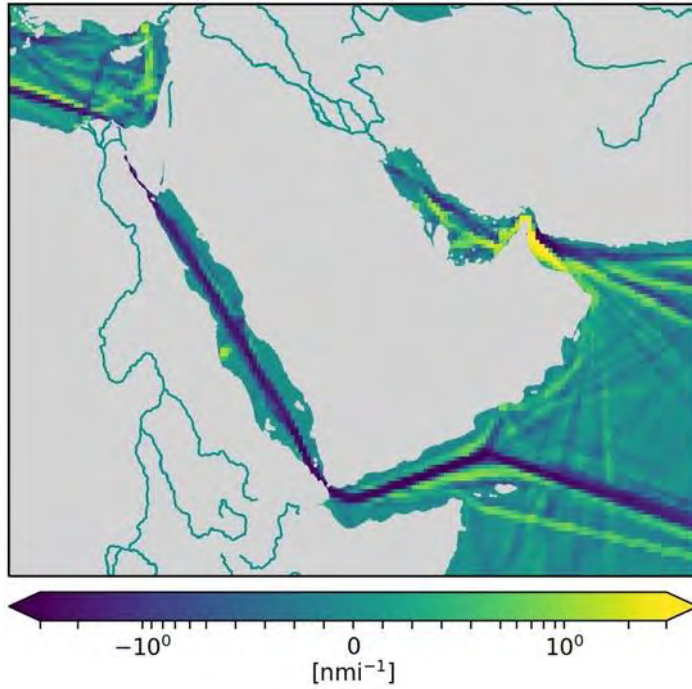
(b) Passenger



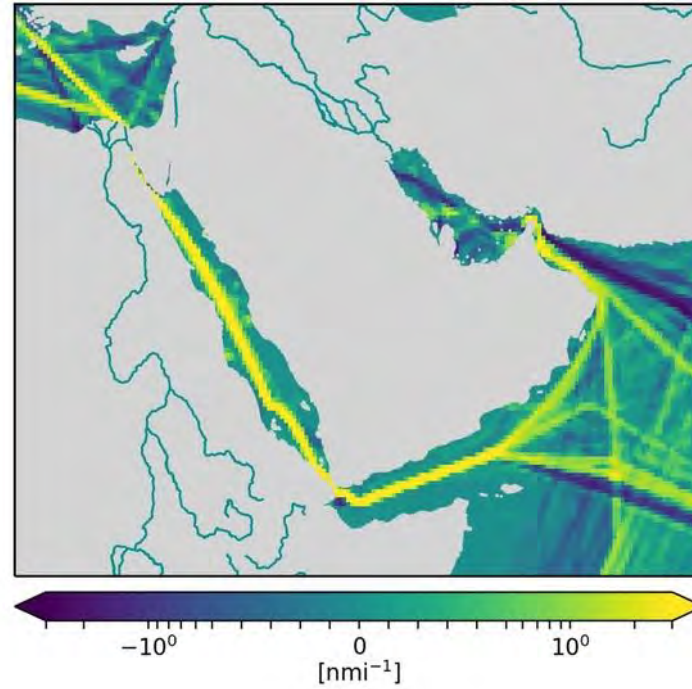
(b) Dry bulk

- Monthly CNM density difference between 2020 and 2019.
- The considered time period is from 13 March to 13 April.
- Each grid cell is colored based on the variation of the 2020 value with respect to 2019.

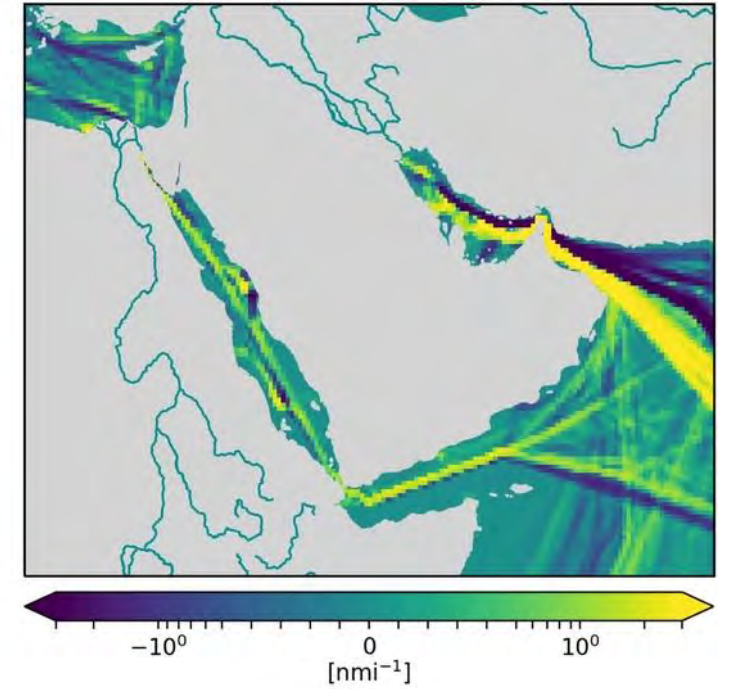
Monthly CNM density difference – Suez Canal



(a) Container



(b) Dry bulk

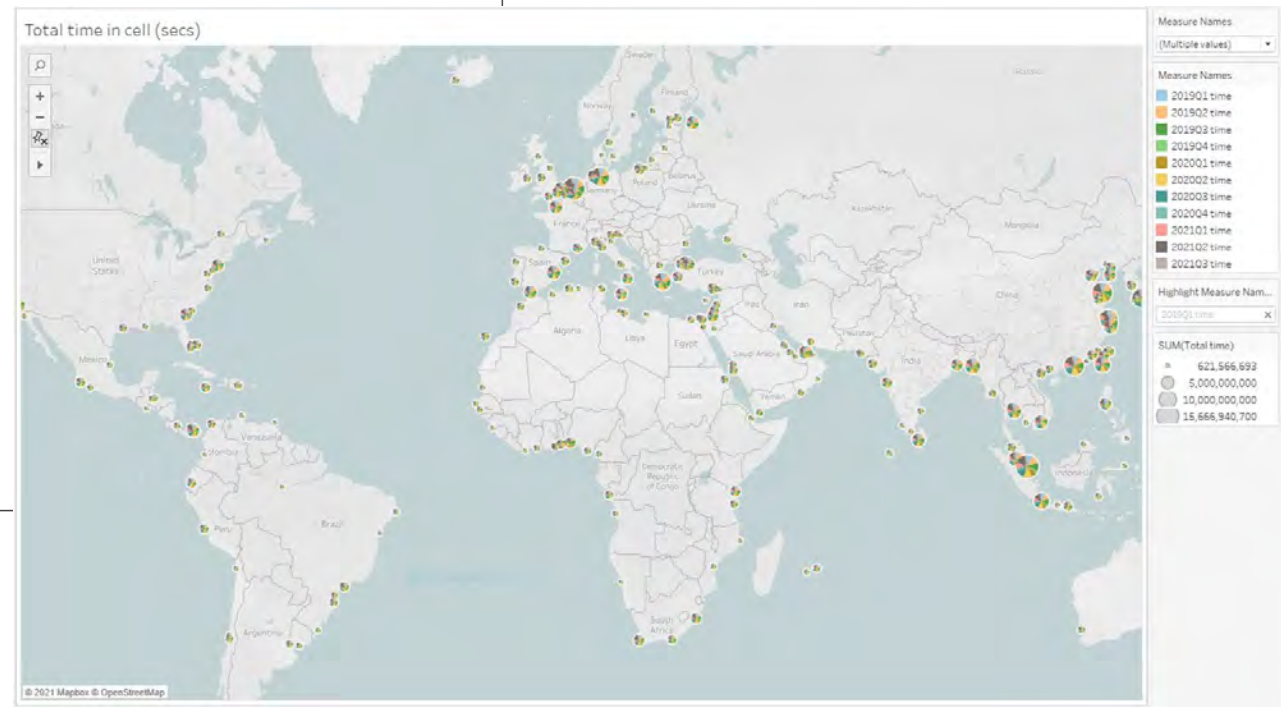
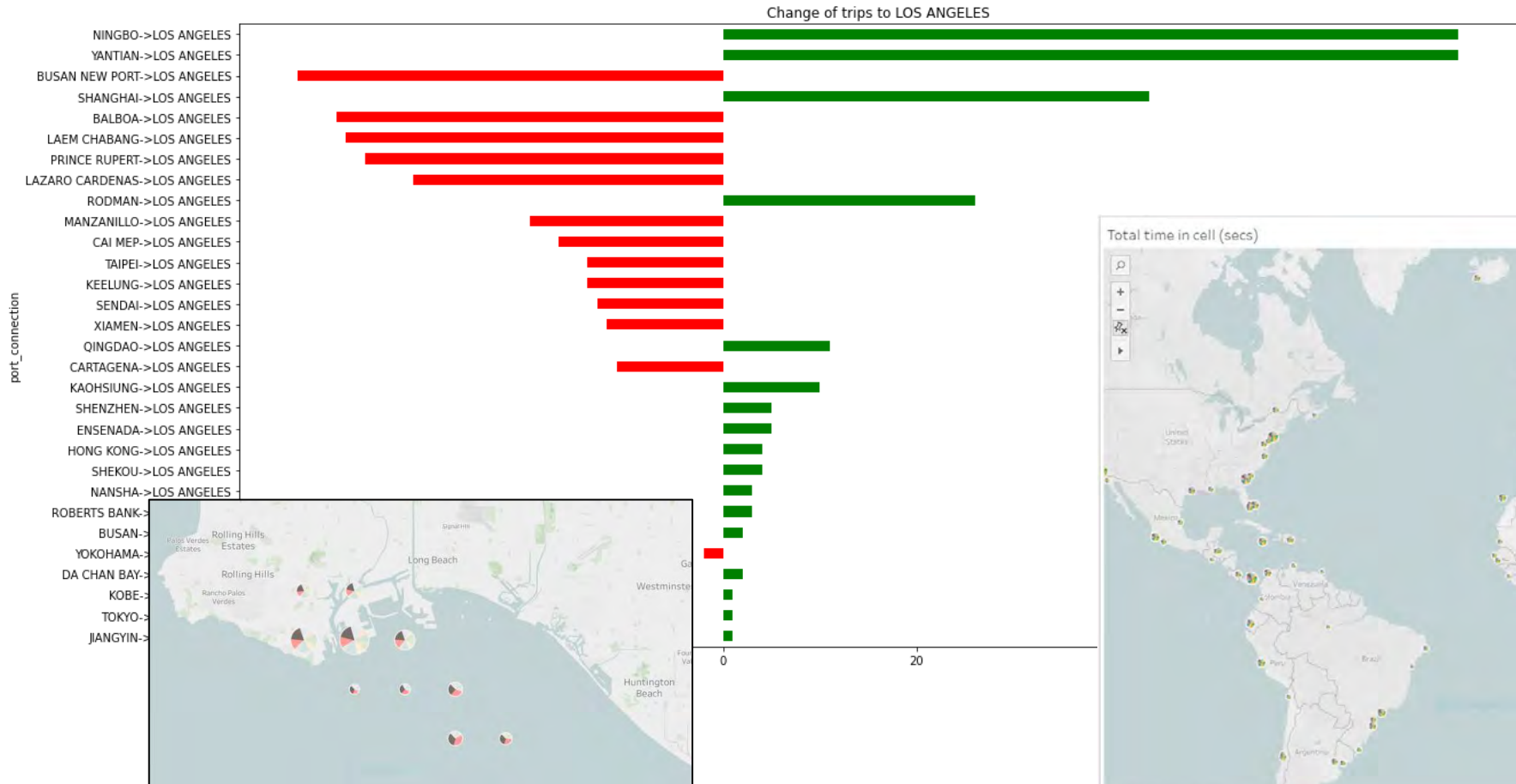


(c) Wet bulk

Supply chain crisis in 2021-2022

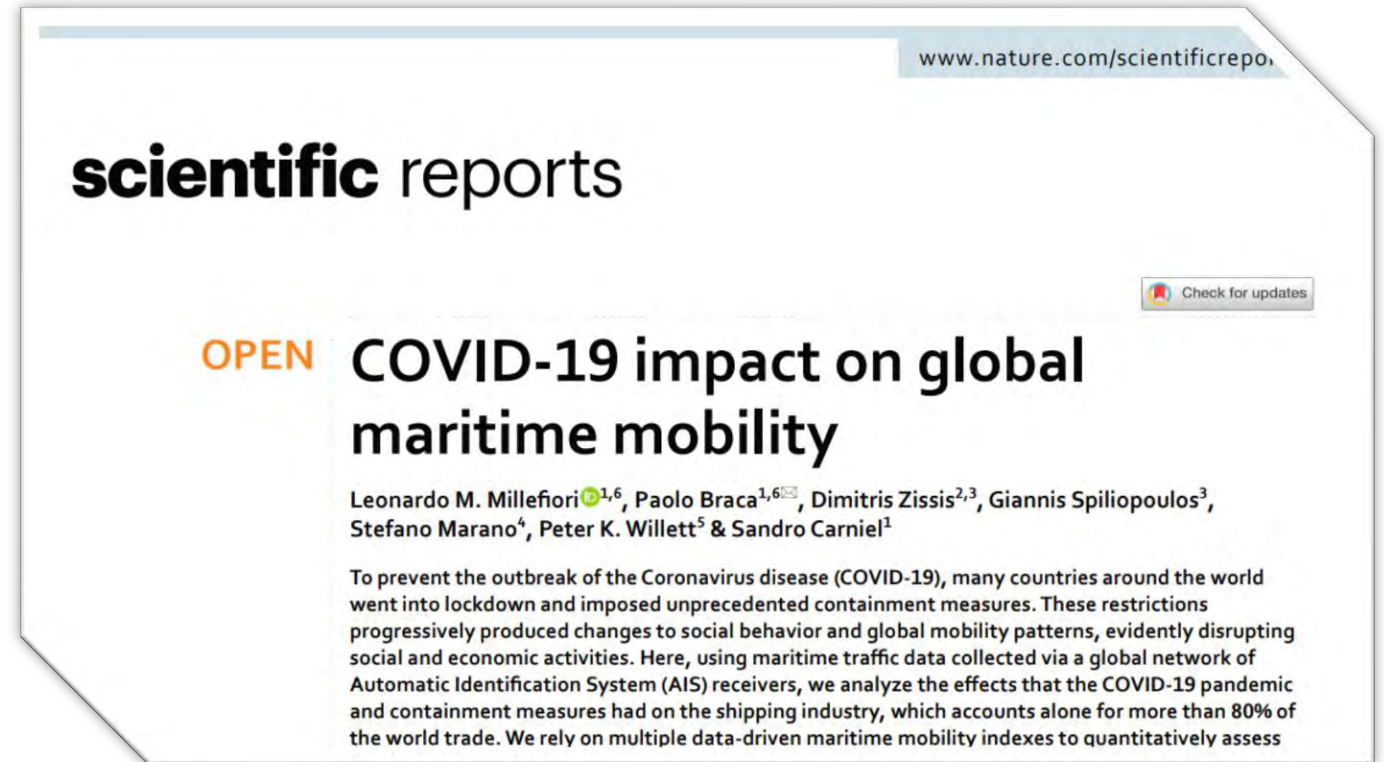
Waiting times analysis

Work in progress...

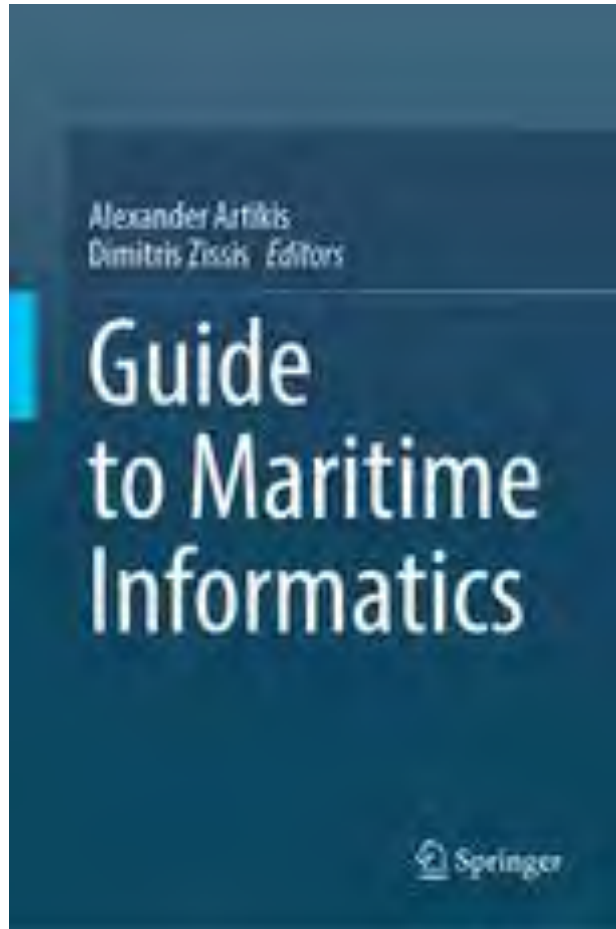


Conclusion

- **Data-driven approach** to the global maritime mobility
 - Analysis based on the AIS
- Unprecedented **decrease** of the mobility
- However the supply chain **was not** disrupted showing a certain amount of **resilience**
- More details at
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-97461-7>



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In the last 25 years, information systems have had a disruptive effect on society and business. Up until recently though, the majority of passengers and goods were transported by sea in many ways similar to the way they were at the turn of the previous century. Gradually, advanced information technologies are being introduced, in an attempt to make shipping safer, greener, more efficient, and transparent. The emerging field of Maritime Informatics studies the application of information

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