

Centre for Materials and Coastal Research



# A common European database for underway data from FerryBoxes

Gisbert Breitbach, Wilhelm Petersen, Susanne Reinke, Patrick Gorringe, Antonio Novellino IMDIS 2016 Gdansk 12. Oct 2016

### Content

- FerryBoxes in general
- Ferrydata.hzg.de: The HZG approach for data from FerryBoxes on fixed routes.
- European FerryBox database
- First results from importing Hurtigrouten by IMR (Institute of Marine Research, Norway) on a regular base.
- SOS V2 access to FerryBox database





### Ferries and container ships as monitoring platforms



Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht **core parameters measured by all systems:** salinity, temperature, turbidity, chl-a fluorescence

**biogeochemical parameters:** oxygen, pH, pCO<sub>2</sub>, irradiance, nutrients, algal pigments, CDOM, discrete and passive samplers





### FerryBox pros and cons

#### **Advantages**

- Cost effective (no costs for the platform)
- Real-time/near-real-time data
- High spatial and temporal resolution (repeat transects)
- Often covers regions of socioeconomic importance
- "Friendly" environment for the system
  - No energy limitations
  - Good for testing/operating new sensors that may be less robust, or sensors/ samplers that have high energy or sample size requirements
  - Easy maintenance and antifouling measures
- Water can be sampled/preserved for advanced analysis in the lab





#### **Limitations**

- Data limited to the transect
- No depth profiles, unless XBTs are used
- Voluntary ships/routes can change





## Datamodel for FerryBoxes on fixed routes

- Currently most FerryBox data on fixed routes are provided to CMEMS as daily or monthly data which is not suitable because the data are transect oriented.
- A suitable data model should keep the transect information.
- Such a data model should consist of:
  - Fixed routes (e.g. Hurtigrouten, Cuxhaven-Immingham)
  - Every route has two or more sections (about 70 for Hurtigrouten, two sections Cuxhaven-Immingham and Immingham-Cuxhaven)
  - Every transect has his own id.
  - All data are stored within one table together with the transect id.
- The European FerryBox database should be based on such a data model.
- Upload of data into the database can be adapted as needed.







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## FerryBox Database

- Within JericoNext it was decided to use Ferrydata.hzg.de as a basis for an European database for all European FerryBoxes on fixed routes.
- Manually test imports were realised for most routes.
- Regular imports have been started for Hurtigrouten by IMR.
- IMR covers the costs partially.





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### European FerryBox Routes

## Hurtigrouten Bergen-Kirkenes

- Complete length: 2600 km
- About 70 sections from harbour to harbour.
- Parameter: Salinity, Temperature, Chlorophyll-a fluorescence (since 2016).
- First file imported: April 2015
- IMR gets files daily and put them onto a ftp server.
- The IMR ftp server is mirrored by HZG.
- Currently there are 2230 transect files mirrored and imported.







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Hurtigruten Berg-Kirk by IMR, NO\_Temp



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#### **HZG FerryBox Database**



52North developed a SOS V2 client which could be adapted to access the FerryBox database. First results for data from Hurtigrouten:



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0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70

#### SOS V2 example



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![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **Conclusion and Outlook**

- Ferrydata.hzg.de started to act as European FerryBox database and data portal.
- Ferrydata.hzg.de will try to import most European FerryBox routes on a regular base.
- Hurtigrouten by IMR is a first example.
  - A few problems should be corrected and quality control should be added.
- Other routes will start soon (Greek HCMR next).
- OceanSites netCDF output to Opendap can be provided.
- Further synchronisation with e.g. GOSUD must be developed.
- 52North's SOS V2 client for FerryBoxes seems promising.

![](_page_16_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_10.jpeg)