

Geodetic Infrastructure for the Barcelona and l'Estartit Harbours for Sea Level Monitoring

Juan Jose Martinez-Benjamin¹, Ernest Bosch³, Begoña Perez Gomez⁴, Xavier Martinez de Oses², Josep Gili Ripoll¹, Ana Tapia Gomez¹, Juan Carlos Gonzalez¹, Mercedes Sanz Conde¹, Rogelio Lopez Bravo¹, Francesc Pros⁵

(1) Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), Dpt. Geotechnical Engineering and Geosciences, EPSEB, Barcelona, Spain, jj.benjamin@upc.edu

(2) Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), Dpt. Nautical Sciences and Engineering, FNB, Barcelona, Spain

(3) Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya (ICC), Barcelona, Spain

(4) Puertos del Estado (PE), Madrid, Spain

(5) Port de Barcelona, Spain



Abstract

It is described the actual geodetic infrastructure at Barcelona and l'Estartit harbours. The main objective is the implementation of these harbours, including Ibiza harbour main calibration site, as a precise geodetic areas for sea level monitoring and altimeter calibration in view of a new campaign for Jason-2 and AltiKa satellites in 2013. Measuring the sea surface height with in-situ tide gauges and GPS receivers provides an efficient way to control the long-term stability of radar altimeters and applications as the vertical land motion and trends of sea level change.

At the Barcelona harbour there is a CGPS with a MIROS radar tide gauge from Puertos del Estado and a GPS belonging to Puerto de Barcelona, receiver Leica Geosystems GRX1200 GG Pro and antenna AX 1202 GG. A precise levelling has been made by the Cartographic Institute of Catalonia, ICC in 2010 and by the Department of Geotechnical Engineering and Geosciences of the Technical University of Catalonia in 2011. Bathymetric campaigns have also been made. It is intended that the overall system will constitute a CGPS Station of the ESEAS and TIGA networks. A radar tide gauge MIROS from Puertos de Estado is also located inside the harbour.

The tide gauge of l'Estartit is a traditional floating gauge placed 19 years ago and has an accuracy of ± 2 mm. Since 1996, the l'Estartit tide gauge has been co-located with geodetic techniques (GPS measurements of XU and XdA levelling data) and it is tied to the SPGIC (Integrated Geodetic Positioning System of Catalonia) project of the Cartographic Institute of Catalonia (ICC). In 2006, due to the work for the expansion of the harbour, the tide gauge had to be moved. In June 2008, new GPS and levelling measures have been done in order to tie the new tide gauge location into SPGIC project and to co-locate old data respect the new one. A significant contribution has been made related to Topex/Poseidon and Jason-1 calibration campaigns, direct and indirect, in March 1999, August 2000 and July 2002 near Cape of Begur.

1.- L'ESTARTIT and BARCELONA TIDE GAUGES

L'Estartit Harbour



The tide gauge of l'Estartit is a traditional floating gauge placed 18 years ago and has an accuracy of ± 2 mm. Since 1996, the l'Estartit tide gauge has been co-located with geodetic techniques (GPS measurements of XU, Utility Network, and XdA, Levelling Network,) and it is tied to the SPGIC (Integrated Geodetic Positioning System of Catalonia) project of the Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya (ICC). In 2006, due to the work for the expansion of the harbour, the tide gauge had to be moved. Before the work started, appropriate GPS measurements were carried out in order to ensure the connection of the tide gauge data. During October 2006 and May 2008, the tide gauge was inactive and it has been moved on to a new location inside the harbour. In June 2008, new GPS and levelling measures have been done in order to tie the new location into SPGIC project and to co-locate old data respect the new one.

A significant contribution has been made related to Topex/Poseidon and Jason-1 calibration campaigns, direct and indirect, using GPS buoys, in March 1999, August 2000 and July 2002 near Cape of Begur.

Although l'Estartit does not have a GPS permanent station, it is possible to build a virtual one from the service "CATNET web" of the ICC. "CATNET web" is a data distribution system of a virtual GPS permanent station via web. From the coordinates where you want to place the virtual station, the time interval and the measurement rate, the system generates a RINEX file under the requested conditions.

code ; type of data; longitud; latitude; el-lipsoidal height
 314094002; XU-ICC20060; 3.2067323; 42.0538927; 50.881
 314094002; RTKAT-2006; 3.2067322; 42.0538928; 50.851
 314094003; RTKAT-2008; 3.2060021; 42.0533614; 50.491
 314094064; XU RTKAT-2006; 3.2063734; 42.0535306; 50.664
 314094064; XU RTKDAT-2008; 3.2063735; 42.0535309; 50.677

CGPS - Barcelona Harbour



At the UPC there is a CGPS, an Astech Internet Enabled Geodetic Reference System (IGRS) from Thales Navigation with an Astech choke ring antenna dome margolin, and a meteorological station DAVIS PRO2

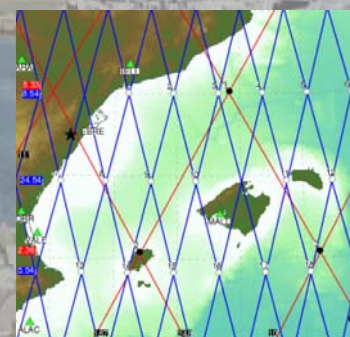
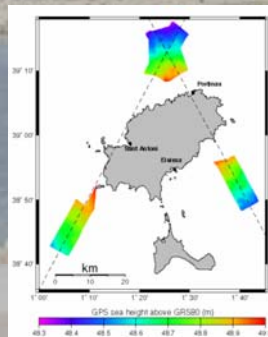
BARCELONA HARBOUR



At Barcelona harbour there are now two tide gauges belonging to Puertos del Estado. One tide gauge, at 2, installed recently, is placed at the dock 140 of the ENAGAS Building. The radar sensor is over the water surface, on a L-shaped structure which elevates it a few meters above the quay shelf. 1-min data are transmitted to the ENAGAS Control Center by cable and then sent each 1 min to Puertos del Estado by e-mail. This sensor also measures agitation and sends wave parameters each 20 min. A provisional tide gauge bench mark has been defined while the levelling is being done. The second Tide Gauge, at 1, is placed at the east end of Alvarez de la Campa Berth, opposite to the Pier for Oil Tankers. It measures inside of a PVC pipe of 300mm of diameter, and it has another pipe of similar calibration and with protection against blows and sun. The memory unit, or LPTM, is inside of a pavilion, and data are sent by radio to the Port Authority Office. The nearest geodesic signal is the NGP 791. The zero's situation is with respect the Sea Level Average in Alicante of 2.438m under NGP 791. It is over the foundation that gives support to the nearest bollard, opposite to the southern face of the pavilion. The NGP 792, placed next to the connection between the fences of the CAMPSA tanks and Can Tunis Institute, is taken as stable signal. There is a GPS station Leica Geosystems GRX1200 GG Pro and antenna 1202. Bathymetric campaigns inside the harbour have been made. In the framework of a Spanish Space Project, the instrumentation of sea level measurements is to be improved by providing the Barcelona site with a radar tide gauge, at 3, and with a continuous GPS station nearby. The radar tide gauge is a Datamar 3000C device and a Thales Navigation Internet-Enabled GPS Continuous Geodetic Reference Station (ICGRS) with a choke ring antenna. It is intended that the overall system will constitute a CGPS Station of the ESEAS (European Sea Level) and TIGA (GPS Tide Gauge Benchmark Monitoring) networks.

2. Contribution to Jason-2 and SARAL/AltiKa Missions

The main objective for the Geodetic Infrastructure of Barcelona and l'Estartit harbours, together with the main site of Ibiza harbour, is their scientific contribution to the marine campaign of 2013. A possible geographic area would be the west Mediterranean Sea (image courtesy of Dr. Richard Biancale (CNES/LEGOS). It is possible to make in part a campaign like IBIZA2003 (image courtesy of Dr. Pascal Bonnefond et al., OCA/GRGS).



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