

Data courtesy of USGS

QTC

IMPACT™

Classification of Single Beam Echosounder Data

QTC IMPACT™ is a powerful tool for extracting information about the seabed from echosounder data. Seabed echoes, which can be read from a number of different formats, are processed to define boundaries of discrete acoustic classes of bottom type. Accuracy and repeatability are ensured by using only the first echo-return from the seabed.

Seabed echoes are processed to present geo-referenced acoustic classes with no prior knowledge of seabed type using unsupervised classification techniques and automated 3-D clustering. Supervised classification based on a user-defined catalogue of seabed types is also available.

This approach provides unique flexibility in describing the seabed and correlating the data with other information to quantify seabed features or habitat.

Software-only solution for classification of echosounder digital data

Straightforward, structured process to move from echoes, through class definition and identification to final results

Unsupervised classification processing requires no prior calibration or catalogue, while existing catalogues can be used for supervised classification

Comprehensive quality assurance tools ensures consistency, accuracy and repeatability of results

Flexible processing options for research applications, or automated processes for regular surveying

Simple ASCII data output for GIS and mapping



**QUESTER
TANGENT™**

Making Data Intelligent™

Unsupervised Acoustic Seabed Classification

- Prior calibration not required
- Increased confidence in classification results
- Acoustic classes are identified and associated with particular seabed types
- Advanced statistical techniques determine the variability of seafloor substrate

Feature Extraction Algorithms

- Cumulative Integral
- Quantile and Histogram
- Wavelet Analysis
- Fast Fourier Transforms

APPLICATIONS

Fisheries management, habitat assessment and environmental monitoring

Coastal zone management

Dredging and port construction

Hydrographic and route surveys

Military: MCM and ASW

Echo Post-Processing & Classification

- Graphical editing tools provide comprehensive quality control of data and results
- Accurate bottom picking, quality control and echo trace visualization
- Incorporation of GPS position
- Processed data are GIS ready
- Automated objective clustering

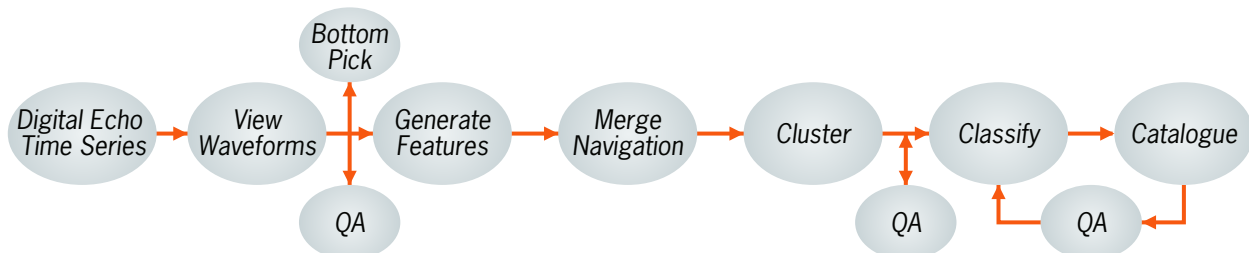
Supported Systems:

QTC IMPACT currently supports digital echo data from the following systems:

- Atlas Deso
- BioSonics
- Knudsen
- Odom
- Qvester Tangent QTC VIEW
- Simrad EA400 / EA600
- SonarData Echoview custom export

New systems and capabilities are continuously being added. See www.questertangent.com for a current list of supported systems.

Data Processing Flow



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