

# Classification of Bathymetry Grids Using Open Source Tools

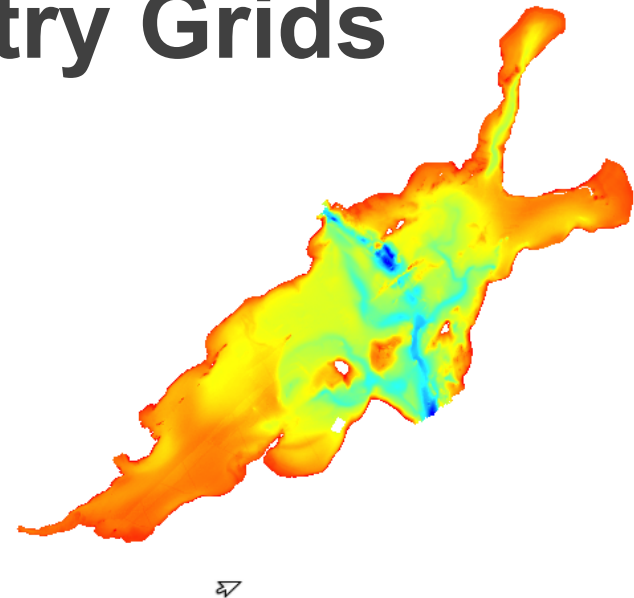
Google Ocean

Kurt Schwehr, Jamie Adams, Jenifer Austin Foulkes

<http://earth.google.com/ocean>

<http://maps.google.com/ocean>

<http://schwehr.org/blog>





LINKS

[BACKGROUND](#)

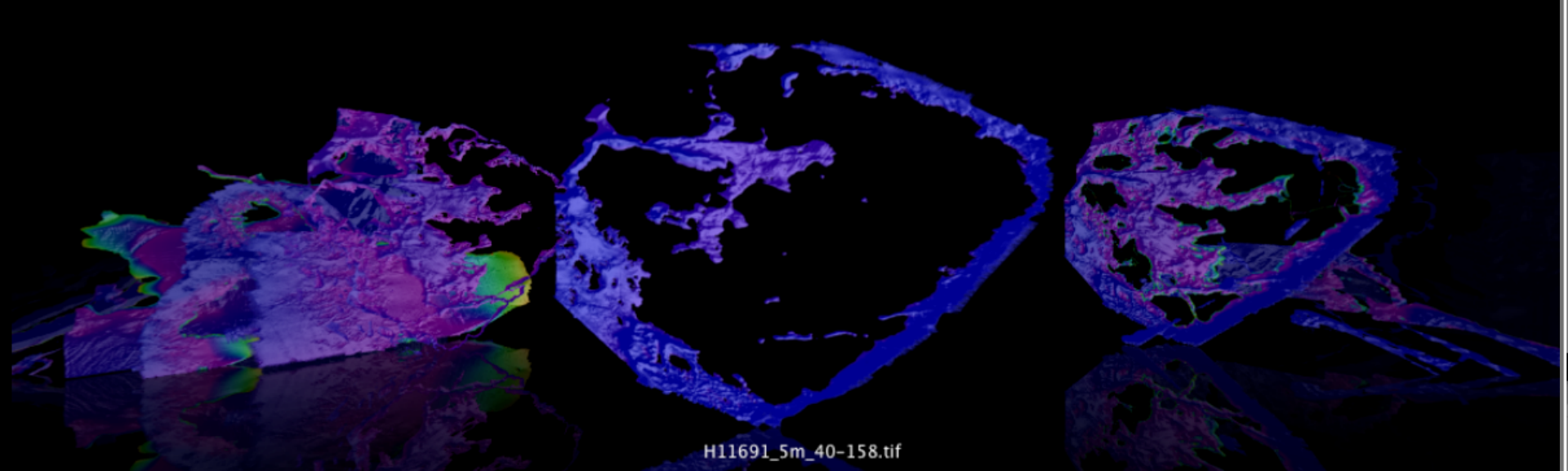
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[MEETINGS](#)

The Navigation Surface ([DOWNLOAD \[2.56M\]](#)) paradigm is a design for a databased alternative to traditional methods of representing bathymetric data. It aims to preserve the highest level of detail in every bathymetric dataset and provide methods for their combination and manipulation to generate multiple products for both hydrographic and non-hydrographic purposes. The advantages of the method over traditional schemes are such that a number of commercial vendors have adopted the technology. However, this means that there is a strong requirement for a method to communicate results in a vendor neutral technology. The Open Navigation Surface (ONS) project was designed to fill this gap by implementing a freely available source-code library to read and write all of the information required for a Navigation Surface.

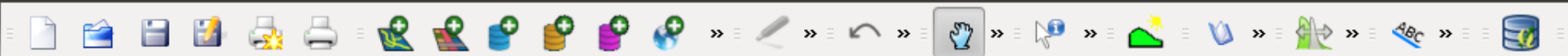
The Navigation Surface concept requires that in addition to estimation of depth, we must also estimate the uncertainty associated with the depth. In order to make the system suitable to support Safety of Navigation applications, we also require a means to over-ride any automatically constructed depth estimates with




# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa



File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help





Layers

☒  H12267\_MBVB\_4m\_MSL\_combined

☒ Control rendering order

Browser

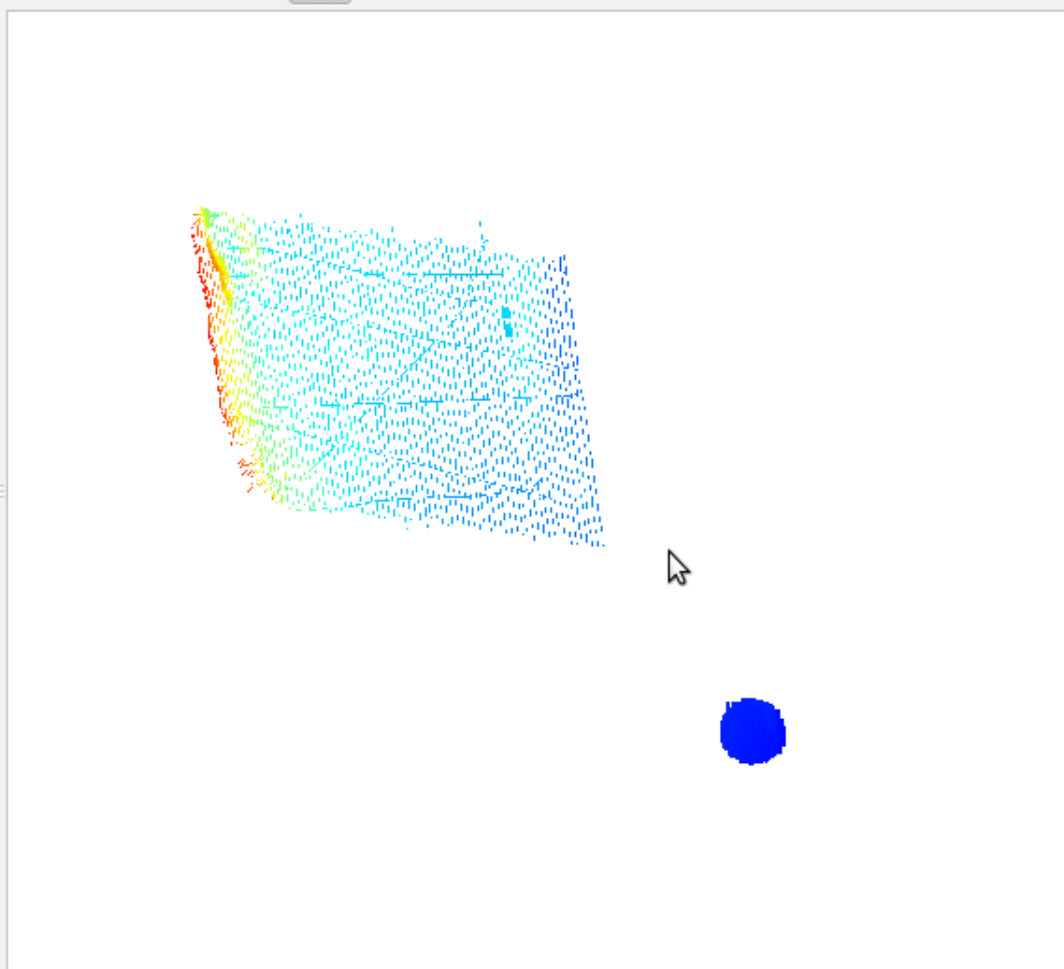
 Refresh  Add Selection





- Home
- Favourites
- /
- WFS
- MSSQL

Value Tool

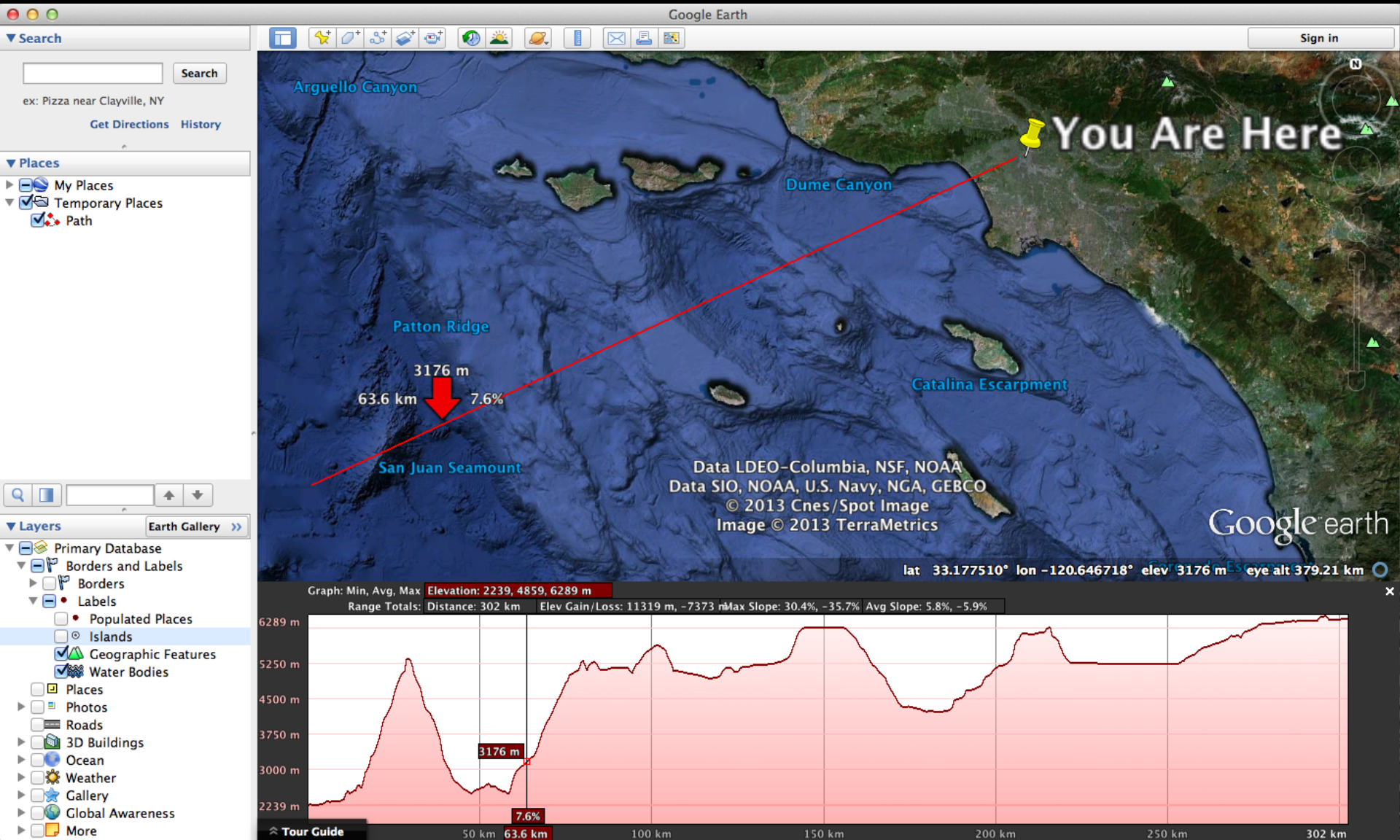
☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value



375675.99,4227561.10 : 38778  Coordinate:  Scale   ☒ Render EPSG:26918  







## NOAA Coast Survey The Nation's Nautical Chartmaker

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The men and women of Coast Survey continue a long tradition of navigational, cartographic, and hydrographic excellence. Because of their expertise, mariners have trusted Coast Survey's nautical products and services for over two centuries.

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go.usa.gov/KOT 3 hours ago

NOAA ENC posting for Oct 10: US2GC15M  
US2HA05M US3EC08M US4GA17M  
US4NY24M US4TX58M US5IN11M  
US5MD14M go.usa.gov/KOT 1 day ago

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Influenced by Native mapmakers  
New edition of seminal Coast Pilot  
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NOAA Hurricane Research Division Blog  
NOAA's Response and Restoration Blog  
NOAA Ocean Science Blog

## NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson mapping Long Island Sound seafloor: contributing to multi-level collaboration [Leave a comment](#)

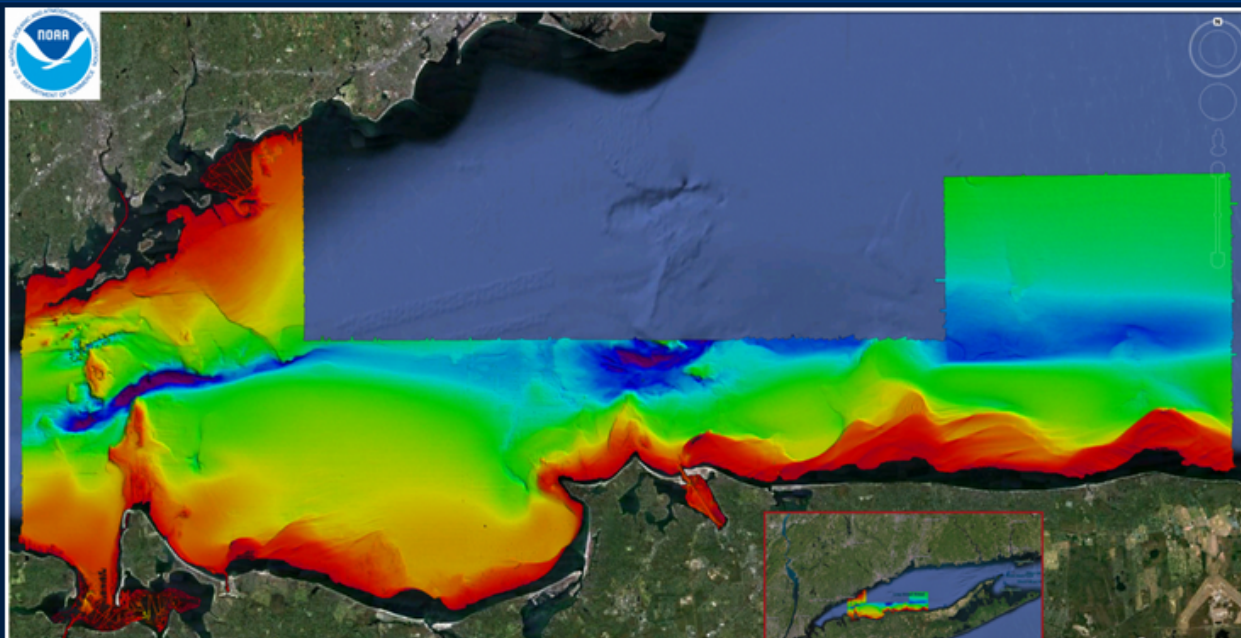
How many geospatial products can be developed by one seafloor mapping project? As a phased-in project for Long Island Sound shows, a strong collaboration among diverse groups of researchers and technology developers can integrate temporal and geospatial data sources to produce dozens of products. In addition to updating NOAA's nautical charts, ongoing collaborations in Long Island Sound will create products that depict physical, geological, ecological, geomorphological, and biological conditions and processes – all to balance the development of new ocean uses while protecting and restoring essential habitats.

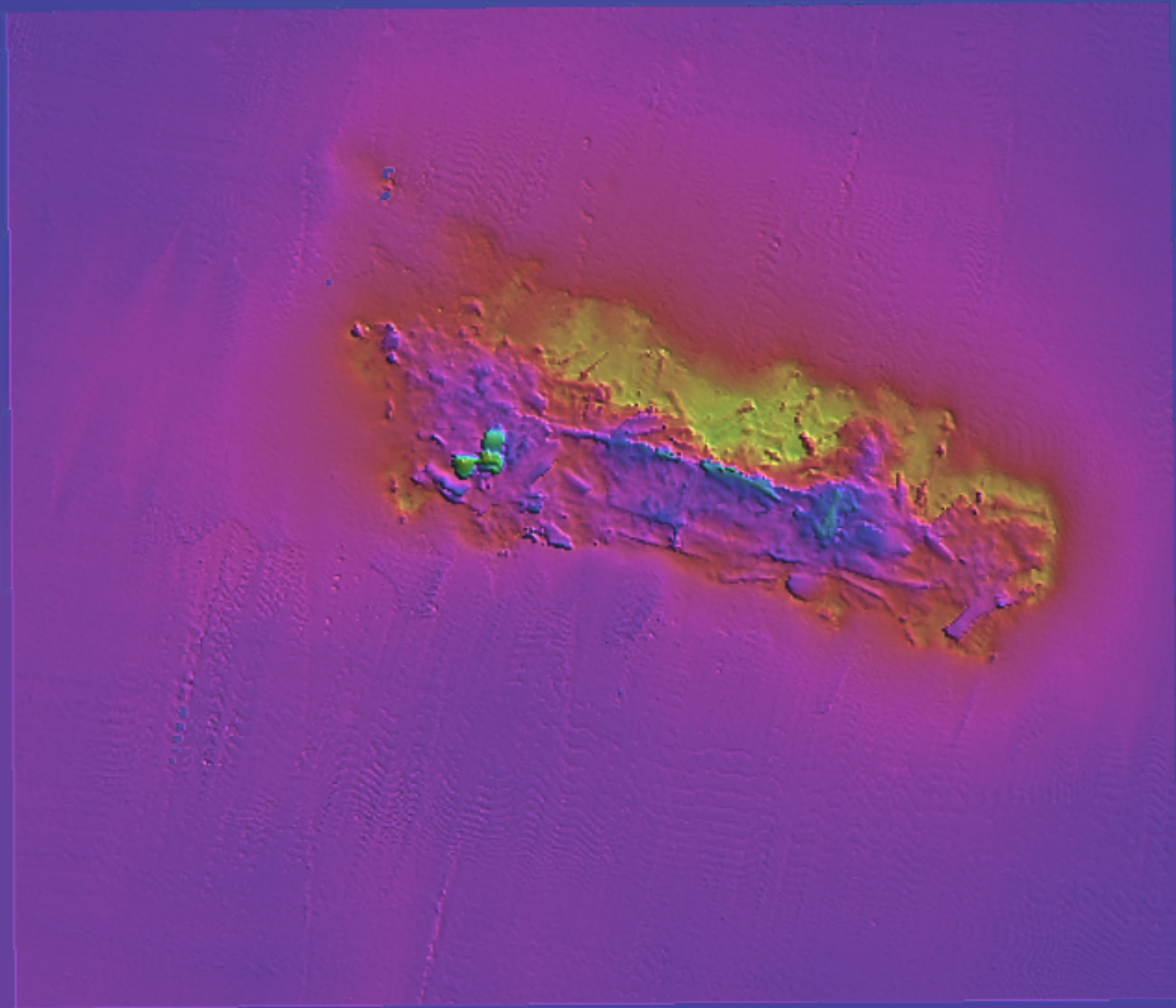
In 2011, the Long Island Sound Program (representing a partnership between the State of Connecticut, State of New York, Connecticut and New York Sea Grant, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) requested assistance from NOAA. They asked for help in providing management and technical expertise; acquiring data; and developing products. They required key temporal and spatial information about seafloor conditions in the Sound. They needed bathymetry and backscatter, and biological and physical observational and sampling data, to produce all the products needed by governments, industry, academia, and the public.

Coast Survey already had plans for NOAA Ship *Thomas Jefferson* to survey in Long Island Sound, to acquire new bathymetry for chart updates. With some adjustments to survey areas and project parameters, a mutually beneficial partnership was formed for long-term seafloor mapping of Long Island Sound habitats over the next several years, as an integrated ocean and coastal mapping project.

This summer, *Thomas Jefferson* conducted hydrographic surveys in the mid-sound area of Stratford Shoal and vicinity, extending from New York on the north shore of Long Island to the Connecticut shoreline.

"Ocean floors are amazingly dynamic, and we have to chart those changes to provide precise and accurate navigational data for today's maritime economy," explained Cmdr. Lawrence Krepp, commanding officer of the *Thomas Jefferson* and the ship's chief scientist. "Our data is used to update NOAA's nautical charts, but the hydrographic information can also be used to support a number of non-navigation uses, ranging from benefits to fisheries management to support of regional ocean planning efforts like this."







Search

Search Google Parcel Search (APN)

Search

ex: pizza near NYC

Get Directions History

Places

My Places

Temporary Places

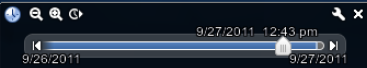
Footprints

- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11018\_2m\_MSL\_2of5
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_2m\_MSL\_12of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_2of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_3of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_4of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_7of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11205\_50cm\_MSL\_1of6
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11206\_50cm\_MSL\_1of4
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11224\_4m\_MSL\_1of1
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11225\_4m\_MSL\_1of1
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11277\_50cm\_MSL\_5of16
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11290\_1m\_MSL\_3of4
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11295\_50cm\_MSL\_5of9
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_13of57
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_14of57
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_15of57
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_16of57
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_17of57
- ☐ noaa\_ngdc\_bag:H11301\_50cm\_MSL\_18of57

Layers

Earth Gallery >>

- ☒ paradiddle.mtv.corp.google.com:12345
- ☒ Imagery
  - ☒ Earth Pro (US)
  - ☐ Borders and Labels
  - ☐ Places
  - ☐ Photos
  - ☐ Roads
  - ☐ 3D Buildings
  - ☐ Ocean
  - ☐ Weather
  - ☐ Gallery
  - ☐ Global Awareness
  - ☐ More
- ☒ Terrain



Sign in

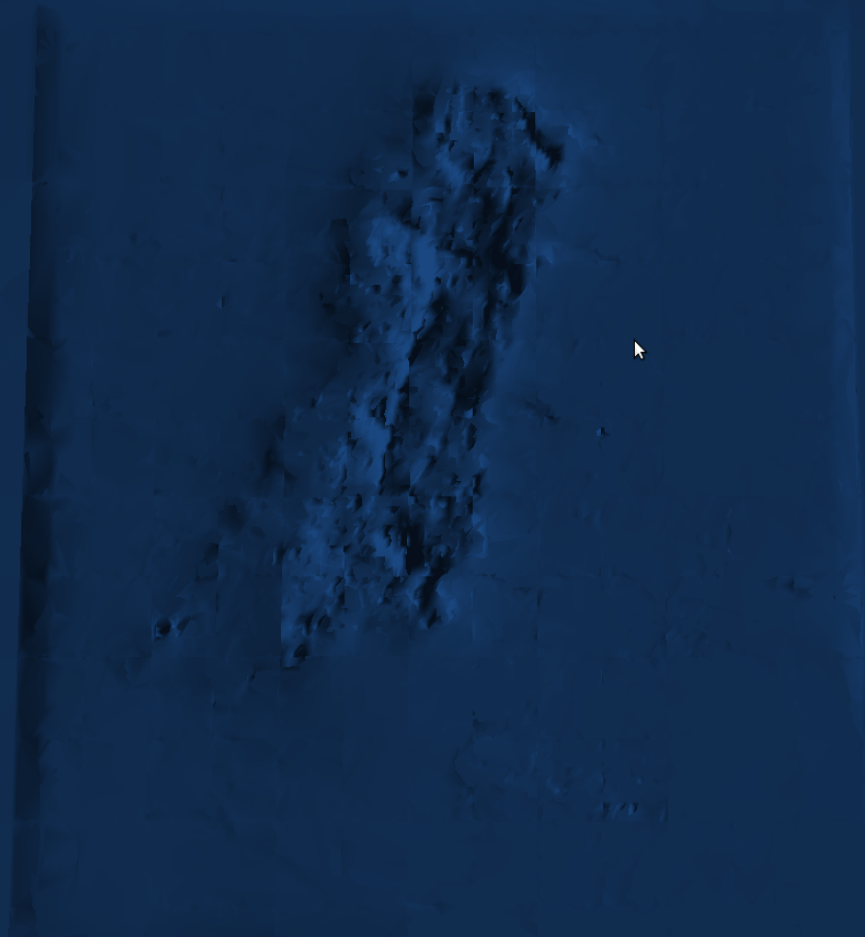


Image NASA

Google earth

lat 36.897921° lon -75.780334° elev -16 m eye alt 251 m

**9410230**

-117.257,32.867

[Station 9410230](#)

HWI	1.527m
GT	1.625m
DTL	2.143m
MN	1.125m
DLQ	0.274m
MSL	2.164m
MLLW	1.332m
MLW	1.606m
MTL	2.170m
MHW	2.734m
MHHW	2.957m
LWI	3.374m
DHQ	0.223m

Directions: [To here](#) - [From here](#)

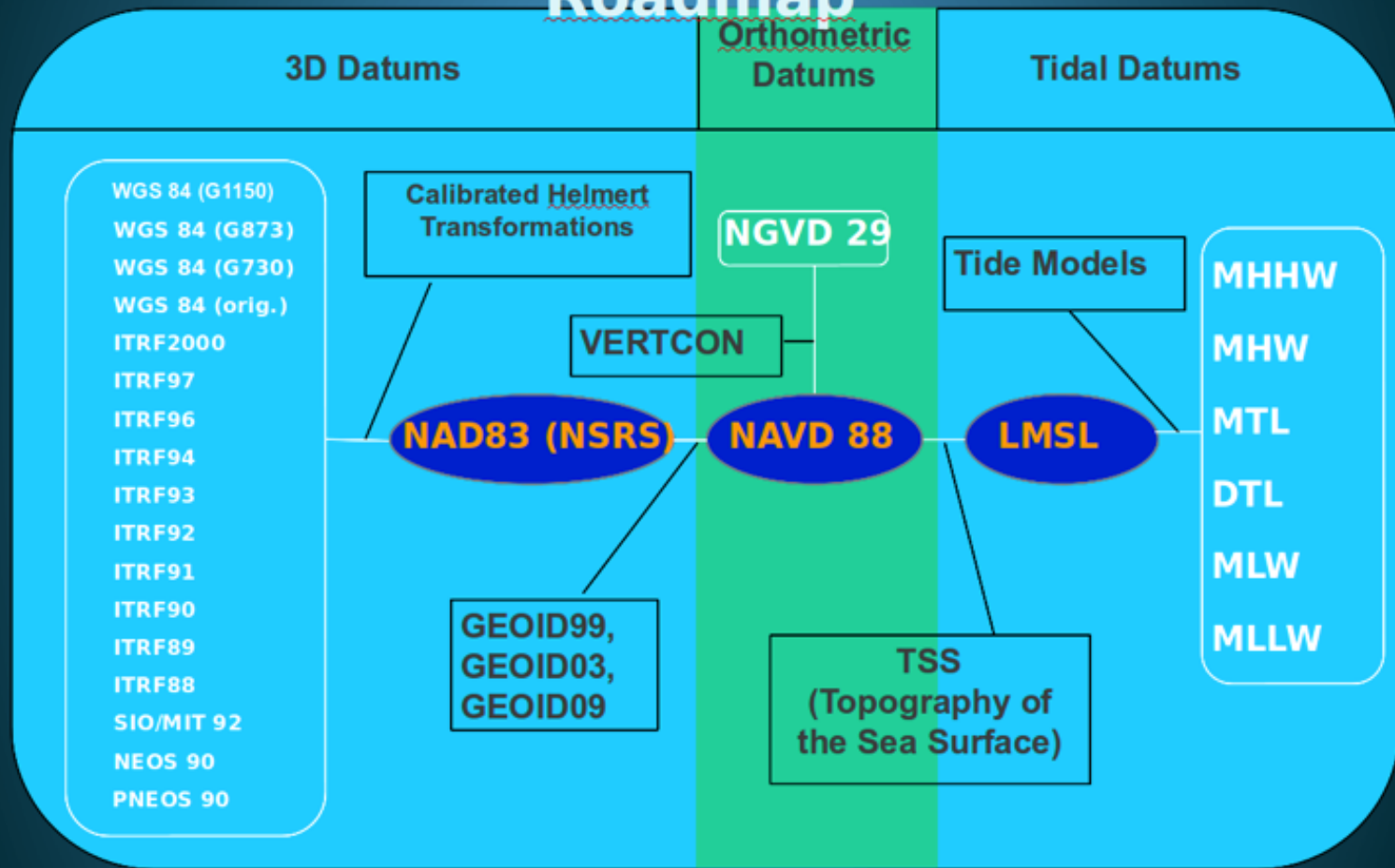
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S.  
Image © 2012 TerraMetrics

© 2012 Cnes/Spot Image

Google earth



# Vertical Datum Transformation “Roadmap”

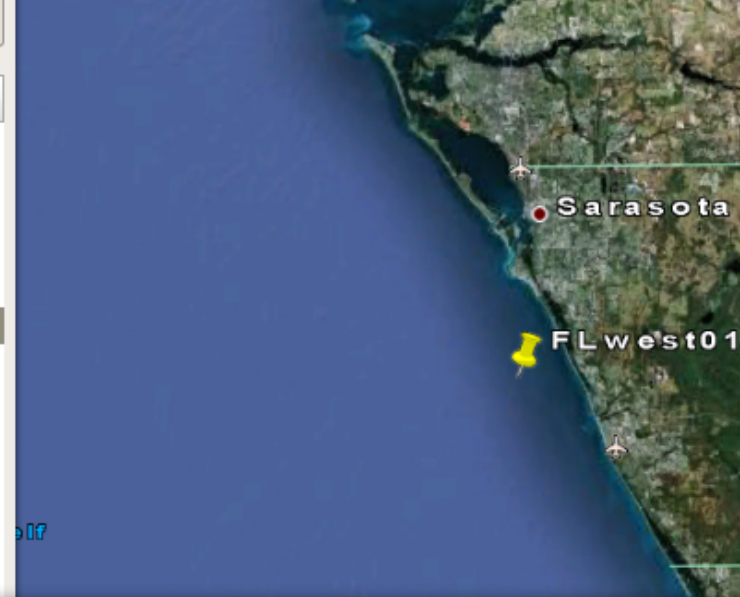


## Description of Data

### File name

NCLA	NADCON latitude shift, units of arc
NCLO	NADCON longitude shift, units of arc
HPGNLA	NADCON latitude North shift, units of arc
HPGNLO	NADCON latitude West shift, units of arc
VCN	VERTCON 2.0
Gxx	GEOIDxx model. Location of NAVD 88 relative to GRS 80 ellipsoid or NAD 83 (NSRS2007/CORS96). Values are also known as geoid heights. Values are negative throughout the conterminous U.S.
TSS	Inverse topography of sea surface. Location of NAVD 88 relative to LMSL. In the near future, this file will be named as TSSxx where xx is from the corresponded Gxx.
MHHW	Tidal model. Location of MHHW relative to LMSL. Values are always positive.
MHW	Tidal model. Location of MHW relative to LMSL. Values are always positive. MHW is closer to LMSL than MHHW.
MTL	Tidal model. Location of MTL relative to LMSL. This surface is "near" LMSL.
DTL	Tidal model. Location of DTL relative to LMSL. This surface is "near" LMSL.
MLW	Tidal model. Location of MLW relative to LMSL. Values are always negative. MLW is closer to LMSL than MLLW.
MLLW	Tidal model. Location of MLLW relative to LMSL. Values are always negative.

- S
- Places
- oston.kml
- oston TSS whale notices
- emporary Places
- tx\_zones.kml
- tations.kml



**8725520 8.79**  
-81.8716666667,26.6483333333  
HWI:2.728m  
GT:0.402m  
DTL:1.530m  
MN:0.287m  
DLQ:0.049m  
MSL:1.521m  
MLLW:1.329m  
MLW:1.375m  
MTL:1.521m  
MHW:1.664m  
MHHW:1.731m  
LWI:0.911m  
DHQ:0.067m

Directions: [To here](#) - [From here](#)

**Vertical Datums Transformation Tool 2.3.3**

Choose an Area: Florida - Anclote Key to Naples, Version 01

Tidal Transf. Grid Fol.../usr/local/google/home/schwehr/vdatum/FLwest01\_8301

Datum Information

Horizontal Da...  
NAD 83 (NSRS2007/CORS96/HARN), WG...

Input Vertical Da...  
MLLW - Mean Lower Low Water

Output Vertical ...  
NAVD 88

Geoid: (required)

Height Units:  
☒ meter  
☐ feet

Height/Sound...  
☒ Height  
☐ Sounding

Coordinate System  
☒ Geographic (Latitude, Longitu...

Point Conversion

Input	Output
Latitude: 26.648333333	26.648333
Longitude: -81.87166666	-81.871667
Height: 1.329	1.0107

Convert Reset

File Conversion

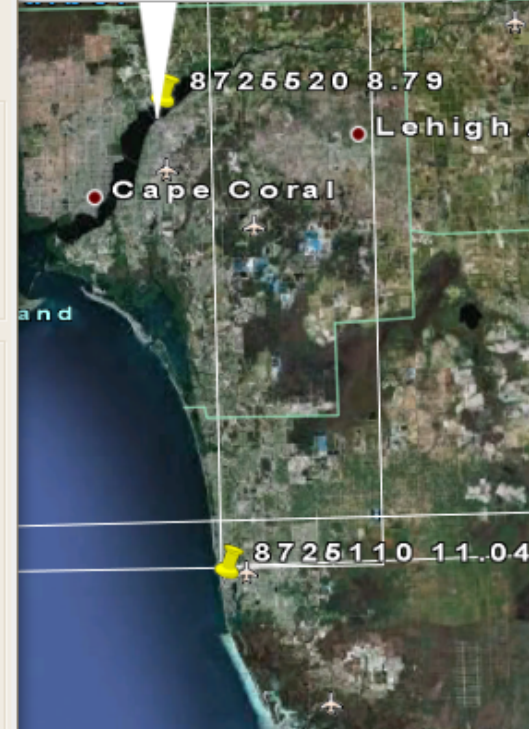
File(s) Format

☒ With ID Key (GIS d...  
☒ Latitude Longitude  
☐ Longitude Latitude

Input File(s):

Output File or Fol...

☒ Save output data as in geographic coor. system







Quantum GIS 1.7.3-Wroclaw

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Help



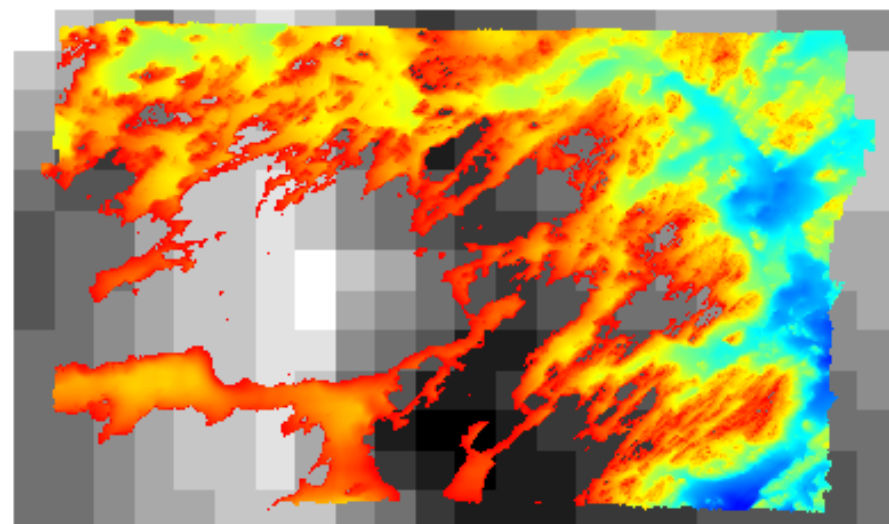
Layers

- ☒ F00574\_MB\_2m\_MLLW\_2of3
- ☒ mllw-2960-crop
- ☐ mllw-2960

Value Tool

☒ Active (Shift+A) ☐ Graph

	Layer	Value
1	F00574_MB_2m_MLLW_2of3 Band 1	-28.8356
2	F00574_MB_2m_MLLW_2of3 Band 2	0.334843
3	mllw-2960-crop	-1.4427





Quantum GIS 1.7.3-Wroclaw

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Help

Quantum GIS 1.7.3-Wroclaw interface showing the main menu, toolbar, and a map view displaying a color-coded elevation or temperature map.

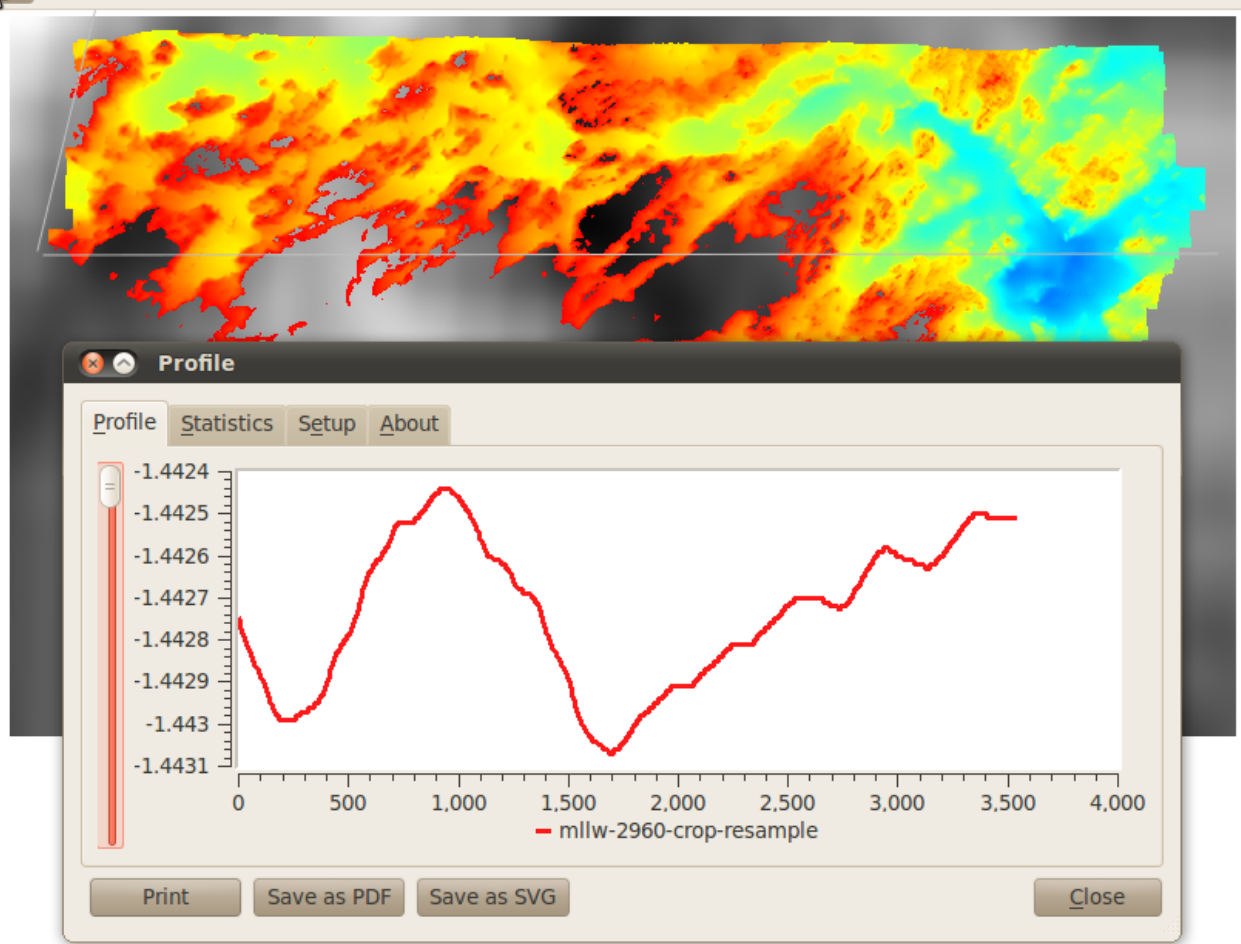
Layers

- ☒ F00574\_MB\_2m\_MLLW\_2of3
- ☒ mllw-2960-crop-resample
- ☐ mllw-2960-crop
- ☐ mllw-2960

Value Tool

☒ Active (Shift+A) ☐ Graph


	Layer	Value
1	F00574_MB_2m_MLLW_2of3 Band 1	null (no data)
2	F00574_MB_2m_MLLW_2of3 Band 2	1e+06
3	mllw-2960-crop-resample	-1.44251





## Layers



☒  H11224\_4m\_MSL\_1of1\_WGS84

☒  mllw-0









☒ Control rendering order

## Browser



 Refresh  Add Selection



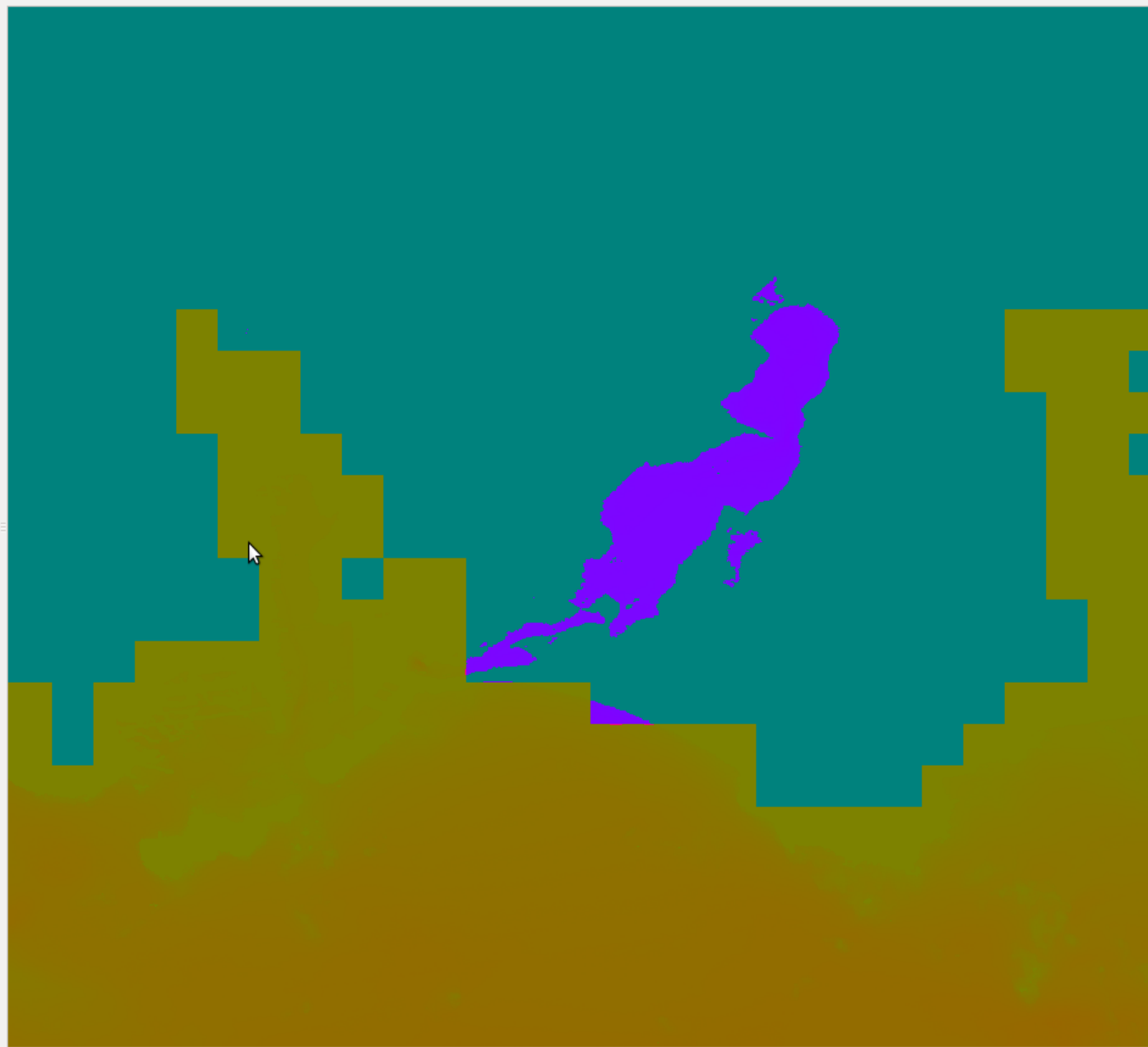
-  Home
-  Favourites
-  /
-  WFS
-  MySQL
-  PostGIS
-  Spatialite
-  WMS

## Value Tool



☒ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

	Layer	Value
1	H11224_4m_...	0
2	mllw-0	-0.4613



# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help



Layers

☒ H12258\_MB\_2m\_MSL\_Combined\_hill

☒ Control rendering order

Browser

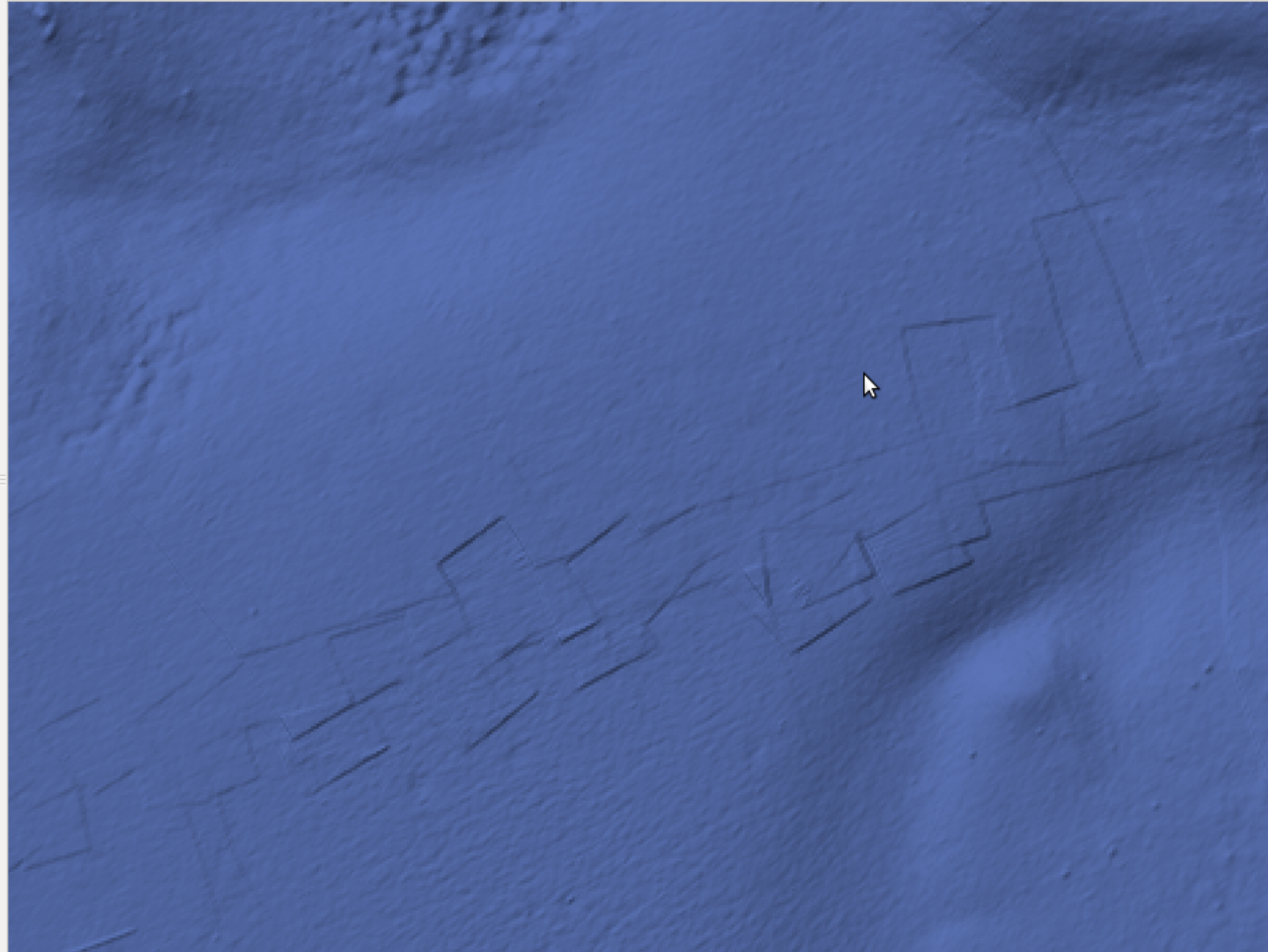
☒ Refresh ☒ Add Selection

- Home
- Favourites
- /
- WFS
- MSSQL
- PostGIS
- Spatialite
- WMS

Value Tool

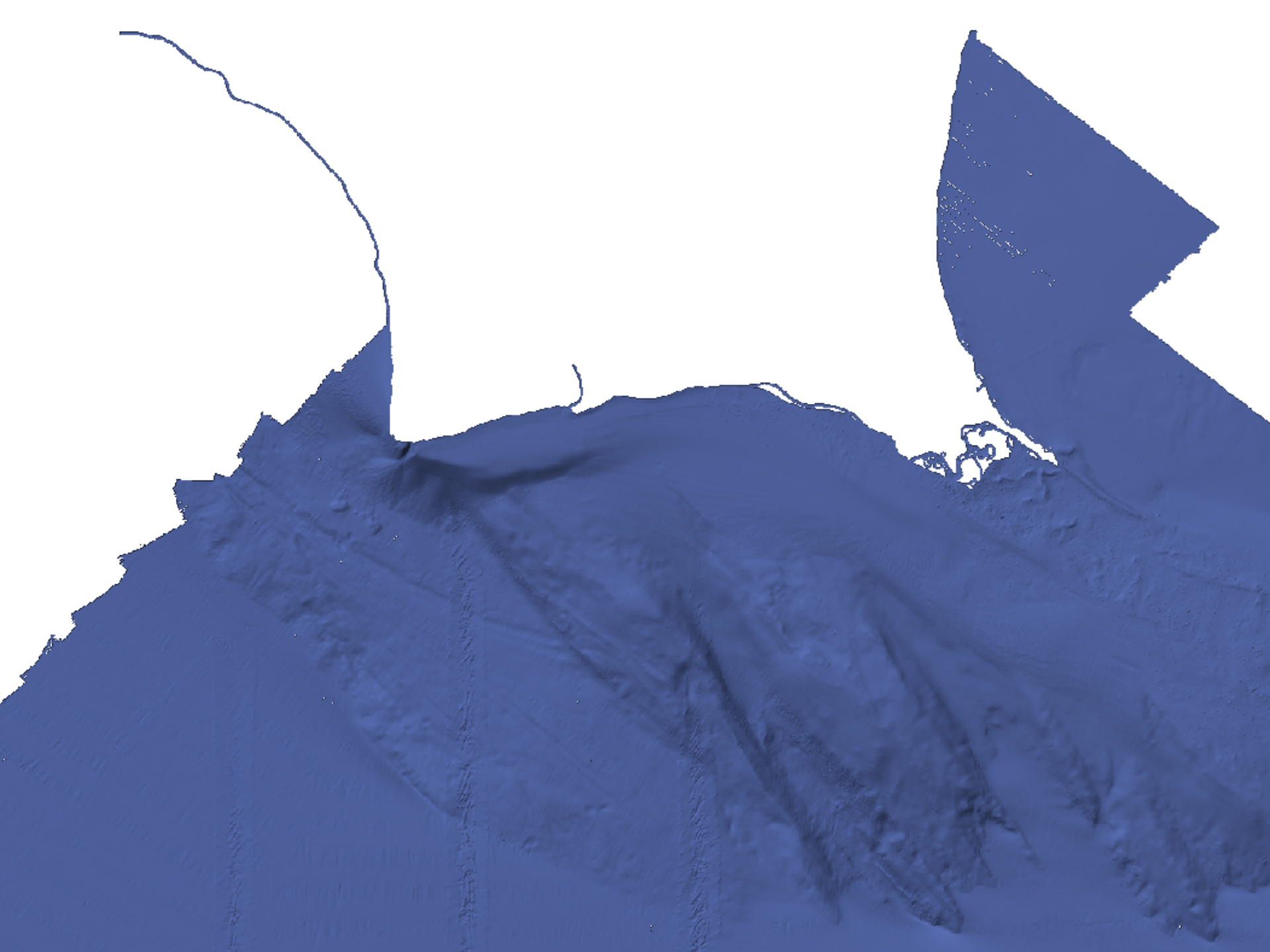
☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value
-------	-------



Coordinate:  Scale:  ☒ Render EPSG:26919





# Google Earth

File Edit View Tools Add Help

## ▼ Search

3888889, -77.506425 **Search**

ex: pizza near NYC

[Get Directions](#) [History](#)

✓ 34.34351388888889, -77.506425

◀ ||| ▶

## ▼ Places

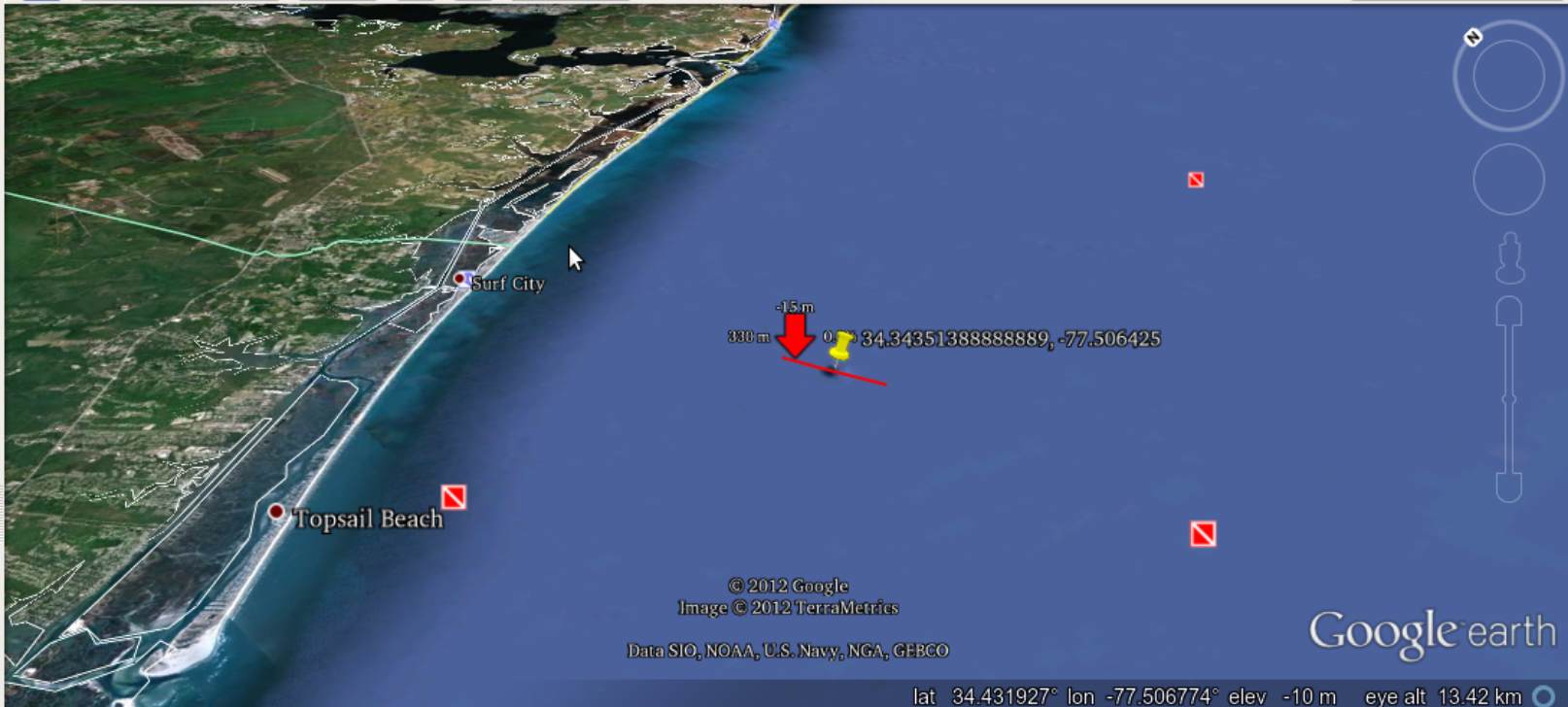
- ☒ My Places
- ☒ Temporary Places
- ☒ SC question - profile

## ▼ Layers

[Earth Gallery >>](#)

- ☒ Primary Database
- ☒ Borders and Labels
- ☐ Places
- ☐ Photos
- ☐ Roads
- ☒ 3D Buildings
- ☒ Ocean
- ☐ Weather
- ☐ Gallery
- ☐ Global Awareness
- ☐ More

**Sign in**



lat 34.431927° lon -77.506774° elev -10 m eye alt 13.42 km

Graph: Min, Avg, Max **Elevation: -41, -18, -15 m**  
Range Totals: Distance: 2.56 km | Elev Gain/Loss: 29.6 m, -30.7 m | Max Slope: 15.4%, -28.7% | Avg Slope: 2.3%, -2.3%



20121115-BagClassification - Google Chrome

IPython Dashboard

20121115-BagClassificati

127.0.0.1:8889/be46d7db-aebc-46e2-b818-4b0d7ac10851#

☆

🔍

📁

🌐

🔌

☰

IP[y]: Notebook20121115-BagClassificationLast saved: Nov 15 1:54 PM

FileEditViewInsertCellKernelHelp

📁

🔍

📄

📁

↑

↓

↕

⬇

▶

■

Code

In [4]:

filenames = !ls -S \*.tif | tail | head -1  
filename = filenames[0]  
filename

Out[4]:

'H11207\_50cm\_MLLW\_9of12.tif'

In [5]:

import gdal

In [6]:

tif = gdal.Open(filename)

In [7]:

grid = tif.GetRasterBand(1).ReadAsArray()

In [8]:

whos

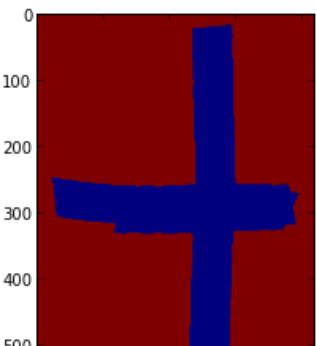
Variable	Type	Data/Info
filename	str	H11207_50cm_MLLW_9of12.tif
filenames	SList	['H11207_50cm_MLLW_9of12.tif']
gdal	module	<module 'gdal' from '/usr<...>nux-x86_64.egg/gdal.pyc'>
tif	Dataset	<osgeo.gdal.Dataset; prox<...>Shadow *' at 0x452d6c0> >

In [9]:

imshow(grid)

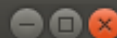
Out[9]:

<matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x46553d0>

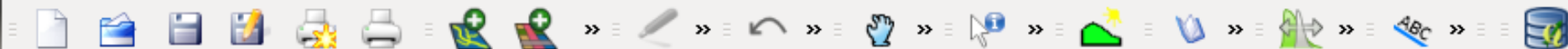




# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa



File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help



Layers



☒ H11018\_2m\_MSL\_2of5

☒ Control rendering order

Value Tool



☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value



[There is a new plugin available](#)



547185,5311199



1:142611



Render

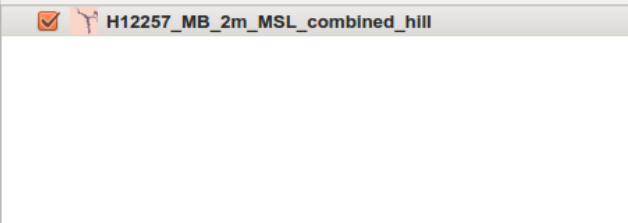


# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help

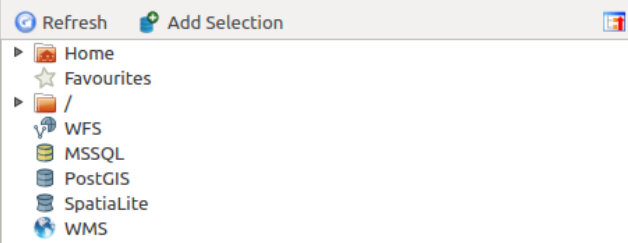


Layers



Control rendering order

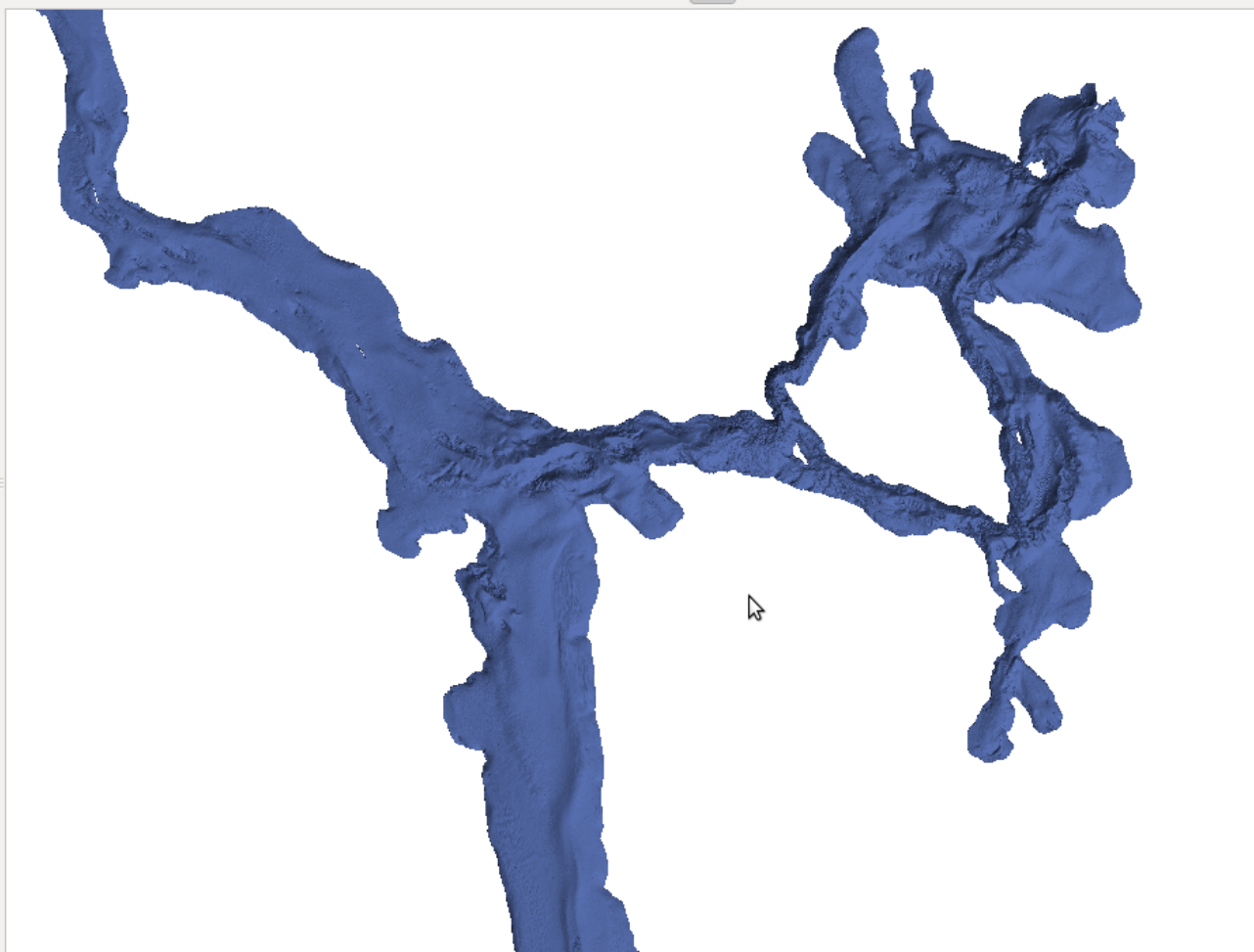
Browser



Value Tool

☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value



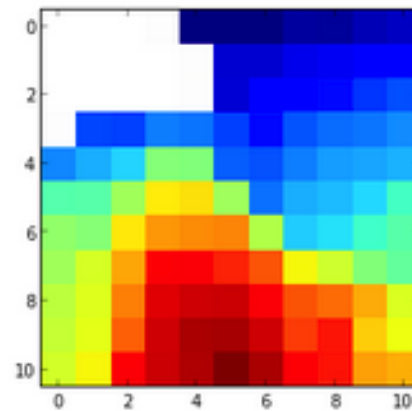
Coordinate: 647658,4970476 Scale 1:27391 Render EPSG:26919

```
In [13]: f1 = FillWithAveNeighbors(data_nd, labels, 2)
```

```
In [15]: np.set_printoptions(linewidth=180)
```

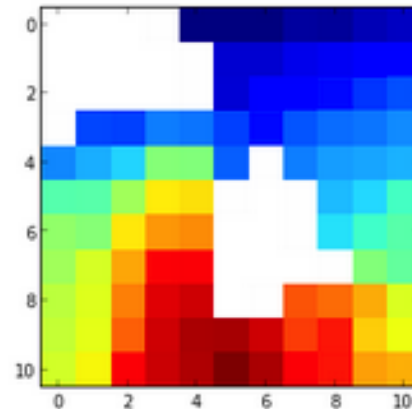
```
In [18]: imshow(f1, interpolation='none')
```

```
Out[18]: (<matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x3ec6350>,  
<matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x3ec6610>)
```

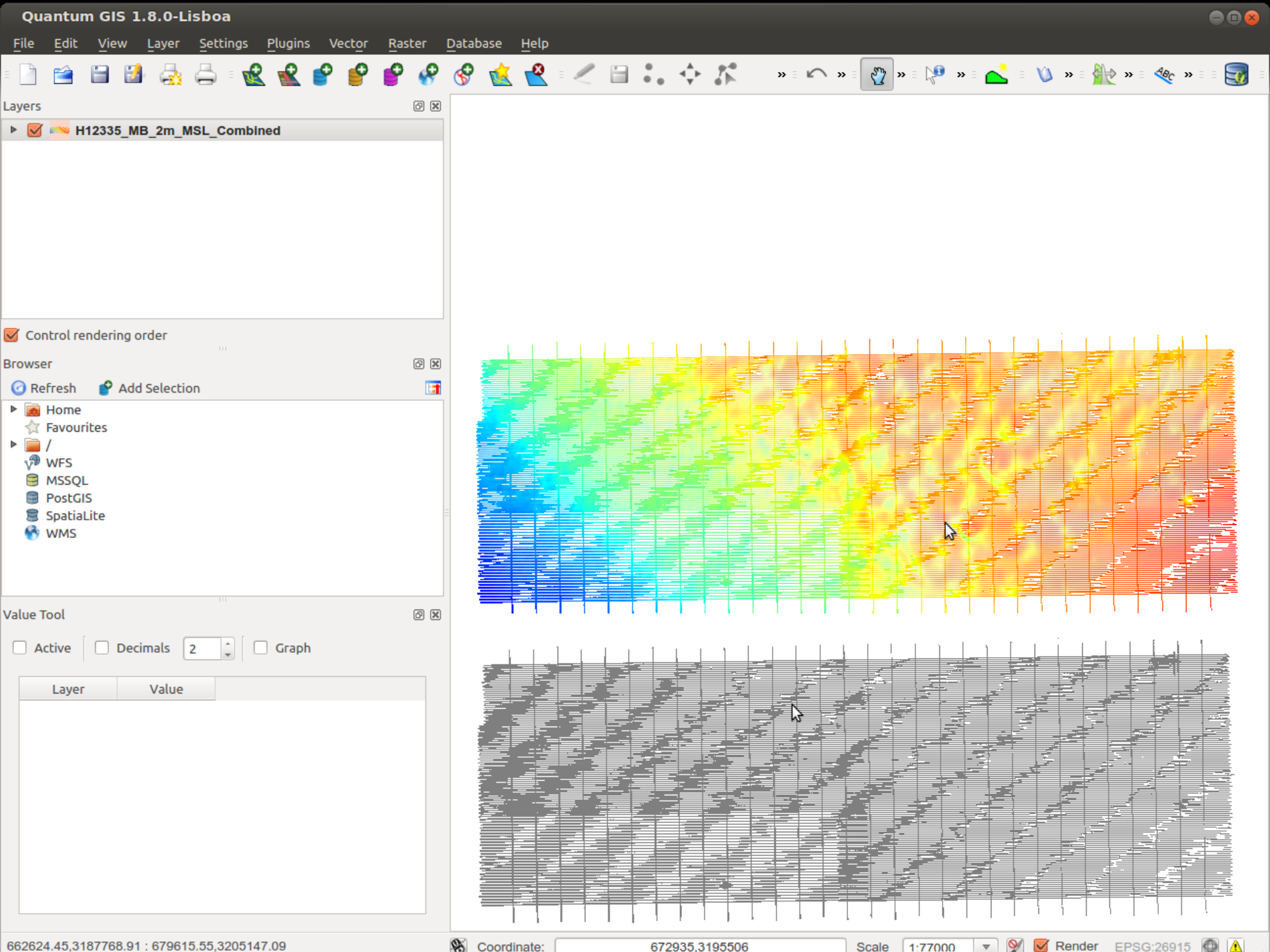


```
In [19]: imshow(data_nd, interpolation='none')
```

```
Out[19]: <matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x41b9f10>
```





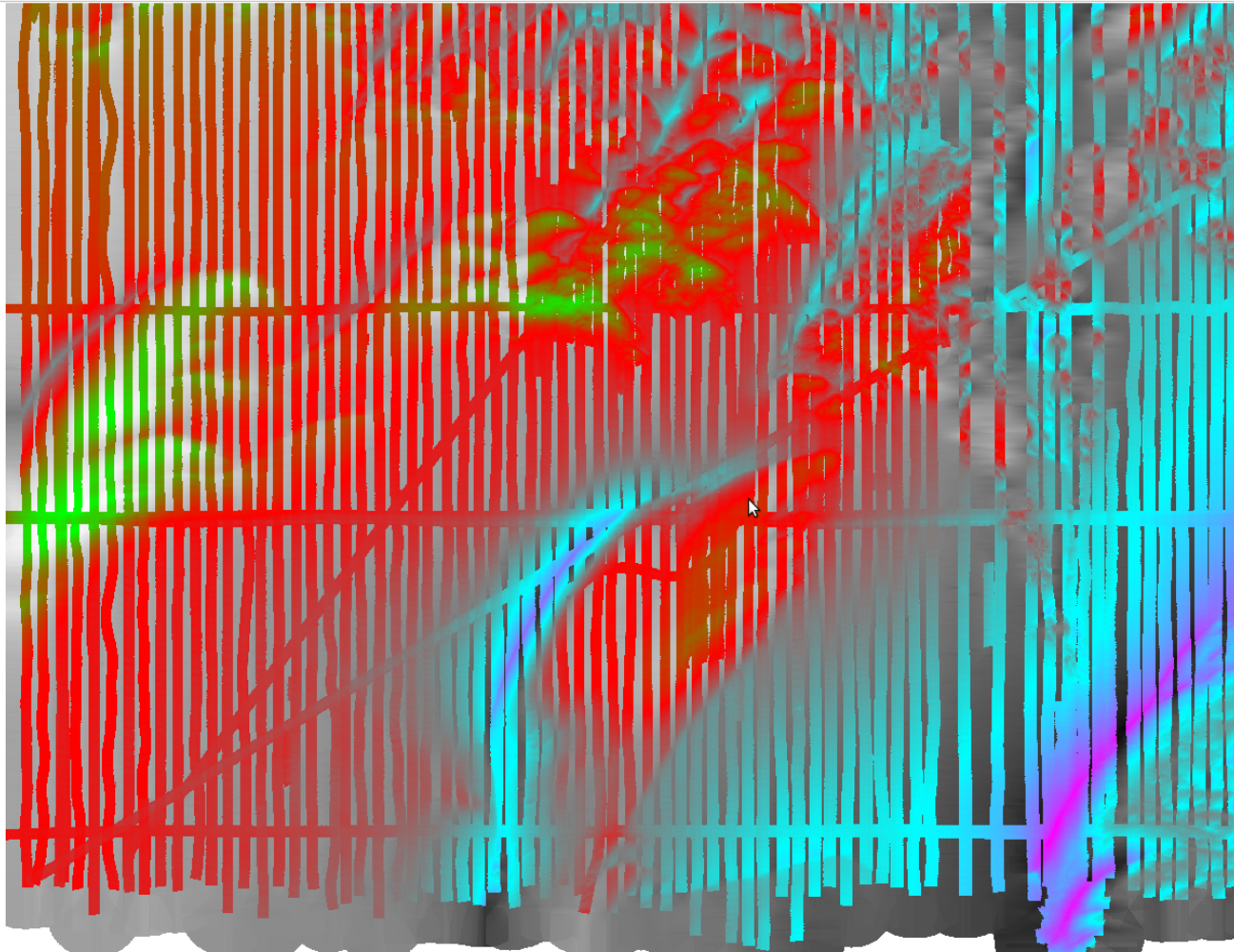








A screenshot of a terminal window with a title bar containing a play button, a red square icon, and the text 'out'. The terminal output shows the command 'gcc -o main main.o' followed by a successful compilation message: 'gcc: warning: main.o: linker script has no INPUT file specified' and 'main.o'.


Value Tool  



File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help





Layers  

▶  H12337\_MB\_4m\_MSL\_Combined-NJVA\_mab

☒ Control rendering order

Browser  

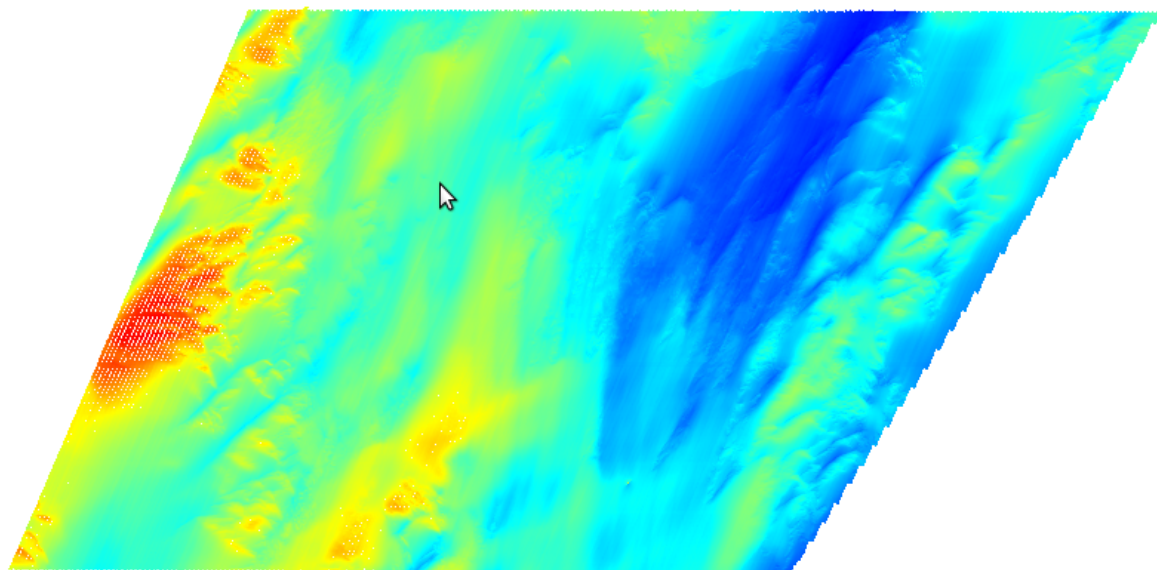
 Refresh  Add Selection 

▶  Home  
★ Favourites  
▶  /  
WFS  
MSSQL  
PostGIS  
SpatialLite  
WMS

Value Tool  

☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value
-------	-------





# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help



## Layers

☒ out

☒ H12336\_MB\_4m\_MSL\_Combined

- 25.7427
- 21.0082
- 16.2736

☒ Control rendering order

## Browser

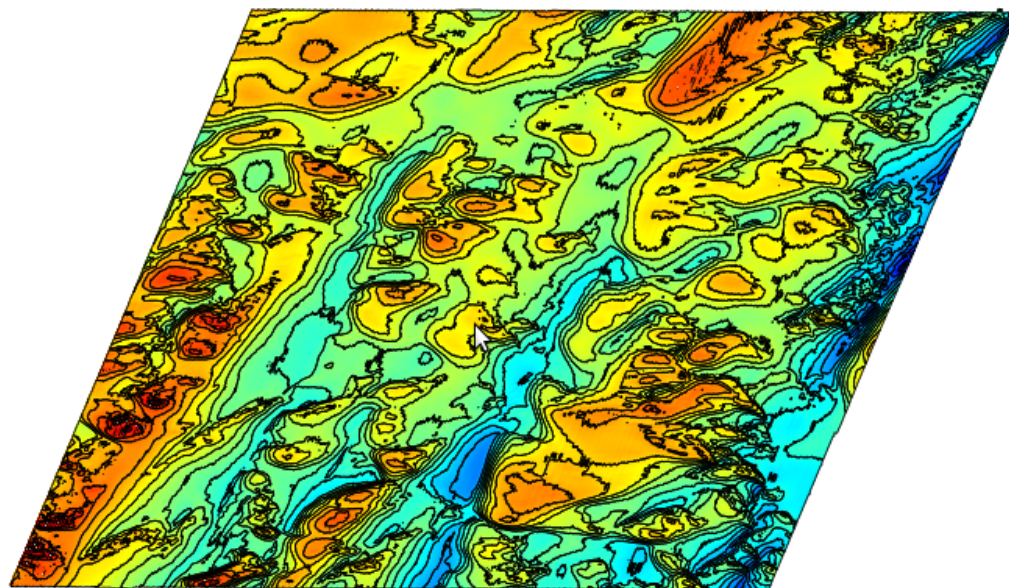
☒ Refresh ☒ Add Selection

- Home
- Favourites
- /
- WFS
- MSSQL
- PostGIS

## Value Tool

☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value



[There is a plugin update available](#)



Coordinate:

464169,4163652

Scale

1:90037



Render

EPSG:26918



# Quantum GIS 1.8.0-Lisboa

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help



## Layers

- ☒ out
- ☒ H12336\_MB\_4m\_MSL\_Combined
  - 25.7427
  - 21.0082
  - 16.2736

☒ Control rendering order

## Browser

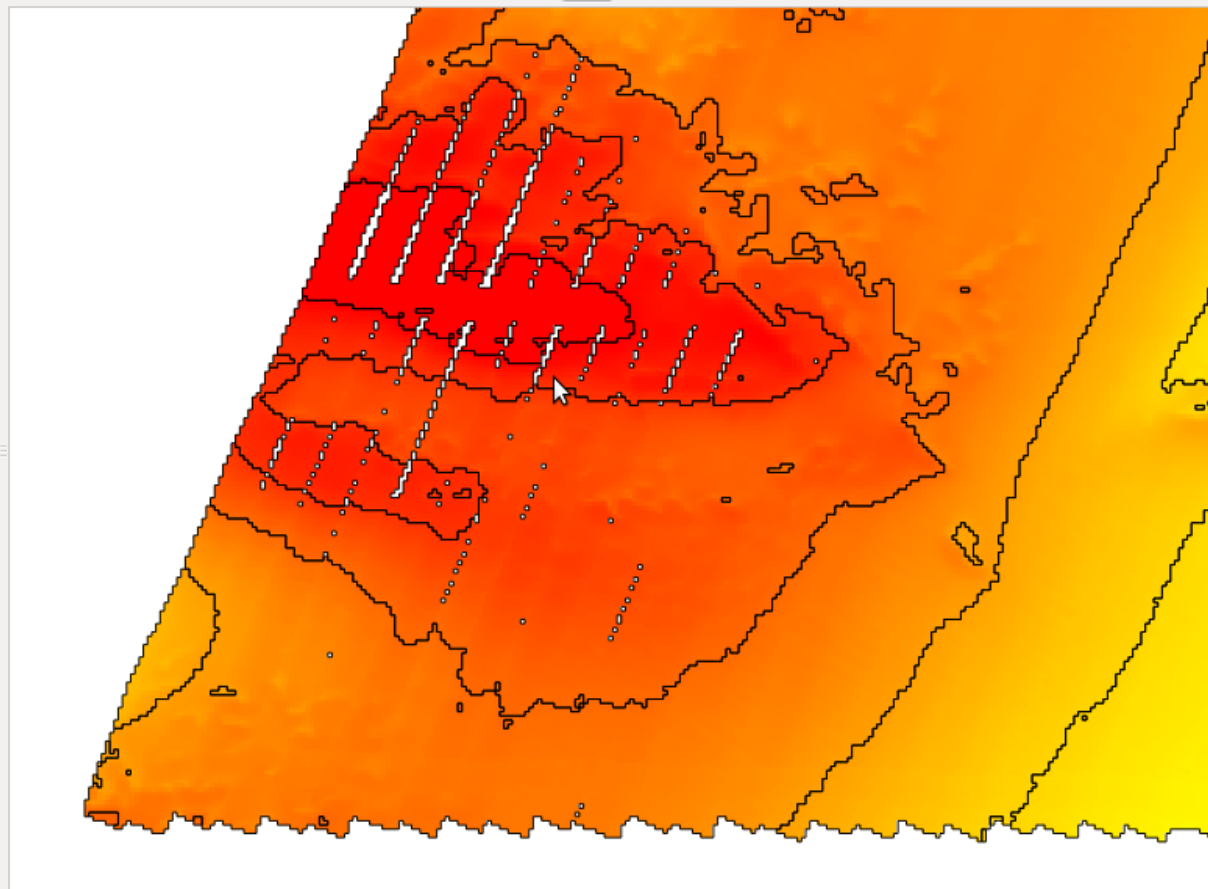
☒ Refresh ☒ Add Selection

- ☒ Home
- ☒ Favourites
- ☒ /
- ☒ WFS
- ☒ MSSQL
- ☒ PostGIS

## Value Tool

☐ Active ☐ Decimals  ☐ Graph

Layer	Value



[There is a plugin update available](#)



Coordinate:

457802,4160202

Scale

1:5627

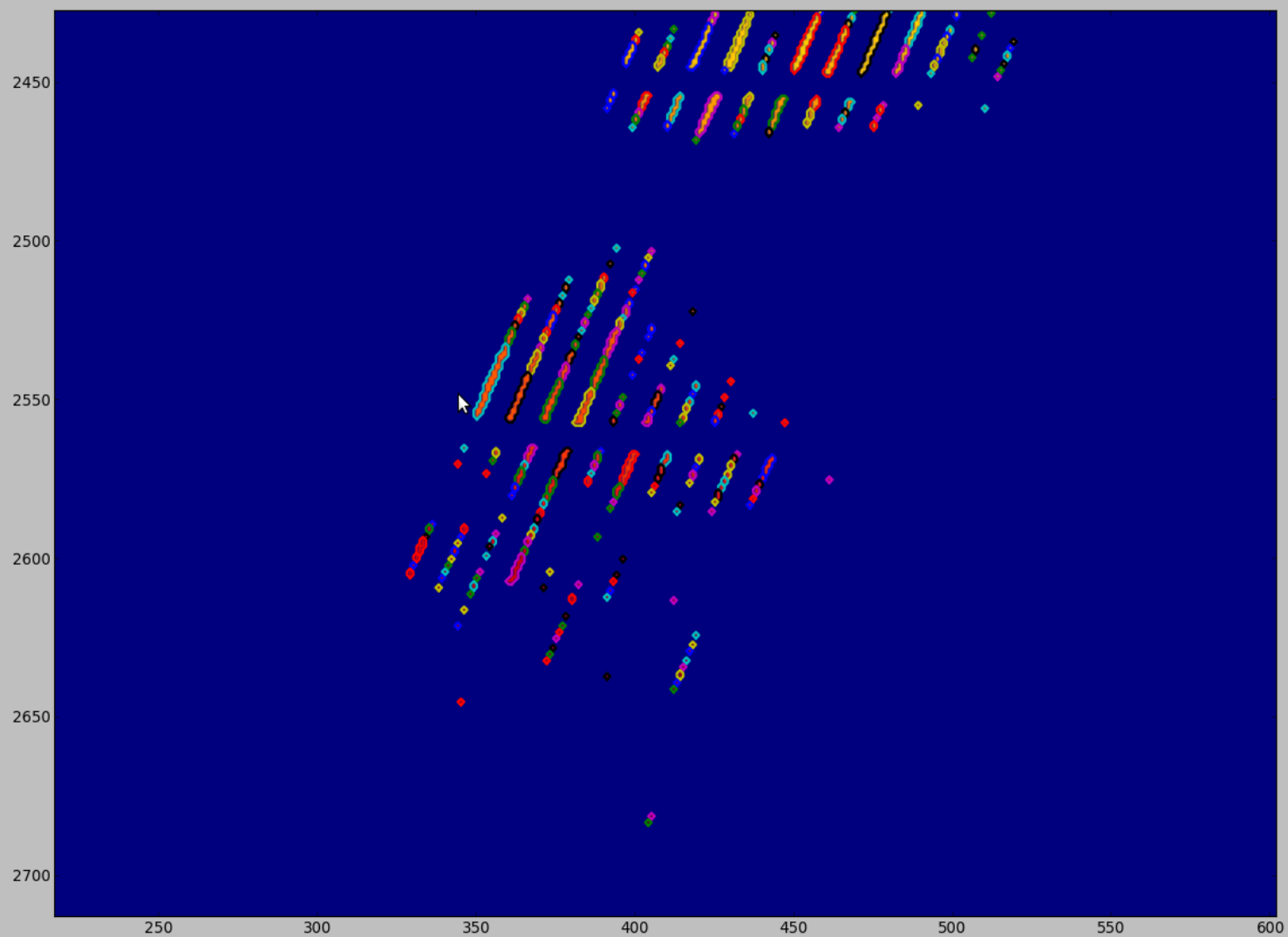


☒ Render

EPSG:26918



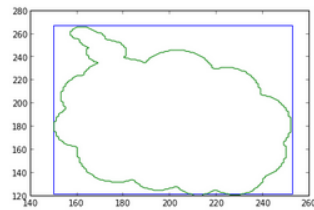
Figure 1





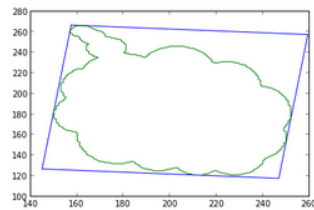
```
In [73]: r_x, r_y, r_w, r_h = cv2.boundingRect(cnt)
r_x, r_y, r_w, r_h = (150, 121, 103, 146)
plot((r_x, r_x+r_w, r_x+r_w, r_x), (r_y, r_y+r_h, r_y+r_h, r_y, r_y))
plot(x,y)
```

Out[73]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x6eab610>]



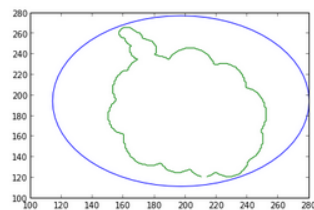
```
In [88]: rect = cv2.minAreaRect(cnt)
rect = ((202.134521484375, 192.14178466796875), (102.39618682861328, 140.3079376220703), -5.128190994262695)
box = cv2.cv.BoxPoints(rect)
box = ((157.41201782126562, 266.59124755859375), (144.87069702148438, 126.84494018554688), (246.85702514648438, 117.69232177734375), (259.3983459472656,
# plot( [p[0] for p in box] + [box[0][0]], [p[1] for p in box] + [box[0][1]] )
box_list = list(box)
box_list.append(box[0])
ba = np.array(box_list) # Box array
plot(ba[:,0], ba[:,1])
plot(x,y)
```

Out[88]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7746a10>]



```
In [97]: (c_x, c_y), radius = cv2.minEnclosingCircle(cnt)
c_x, c_y, radius = (197.0, 194.5, 82.92139434814453)
center = shapely.geometry.Point(c_x, c_y)
circle = np.array(center.buffer(radius).boundary.coords)
len(circle) # 66 points
plot(circle[:,0], circle[:,1])
plot(x,y)
```

Out[97]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7ba81d0>]



```
In [100]: ellipse = cv2.fitEllipse(cnt)
ellipse = ((199.31251525878906, 185.9192352294922), (93.7149658203125, 138.58531188964844), 202.948486328125)
# TODO: what is a convenient way to get the coords for an ellipse?
```

Out[100]: ((199.31251525878906, 185.9192352294922),  
(93.7149658203125, 138.58531188964844),  
202.948486328125)

In [ ]:

File Edit View Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Help



Layers



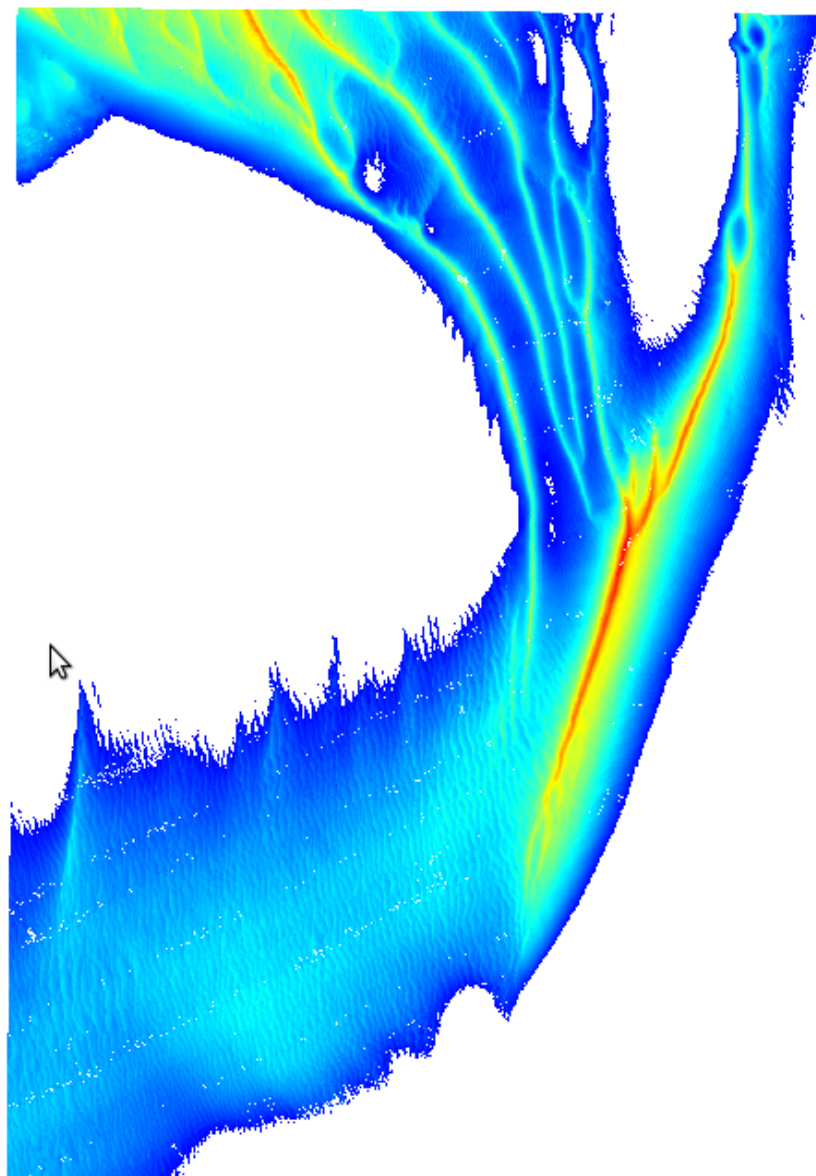
- ☒ H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13
- ☐ H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13-filled

☒ Control rendering order

Value Tool

☒ Active ☐ Decimals 2 ☐ Graph

	Layer	Value
1	H11076_50cm_MSL_8o...	null (no data)





Layers

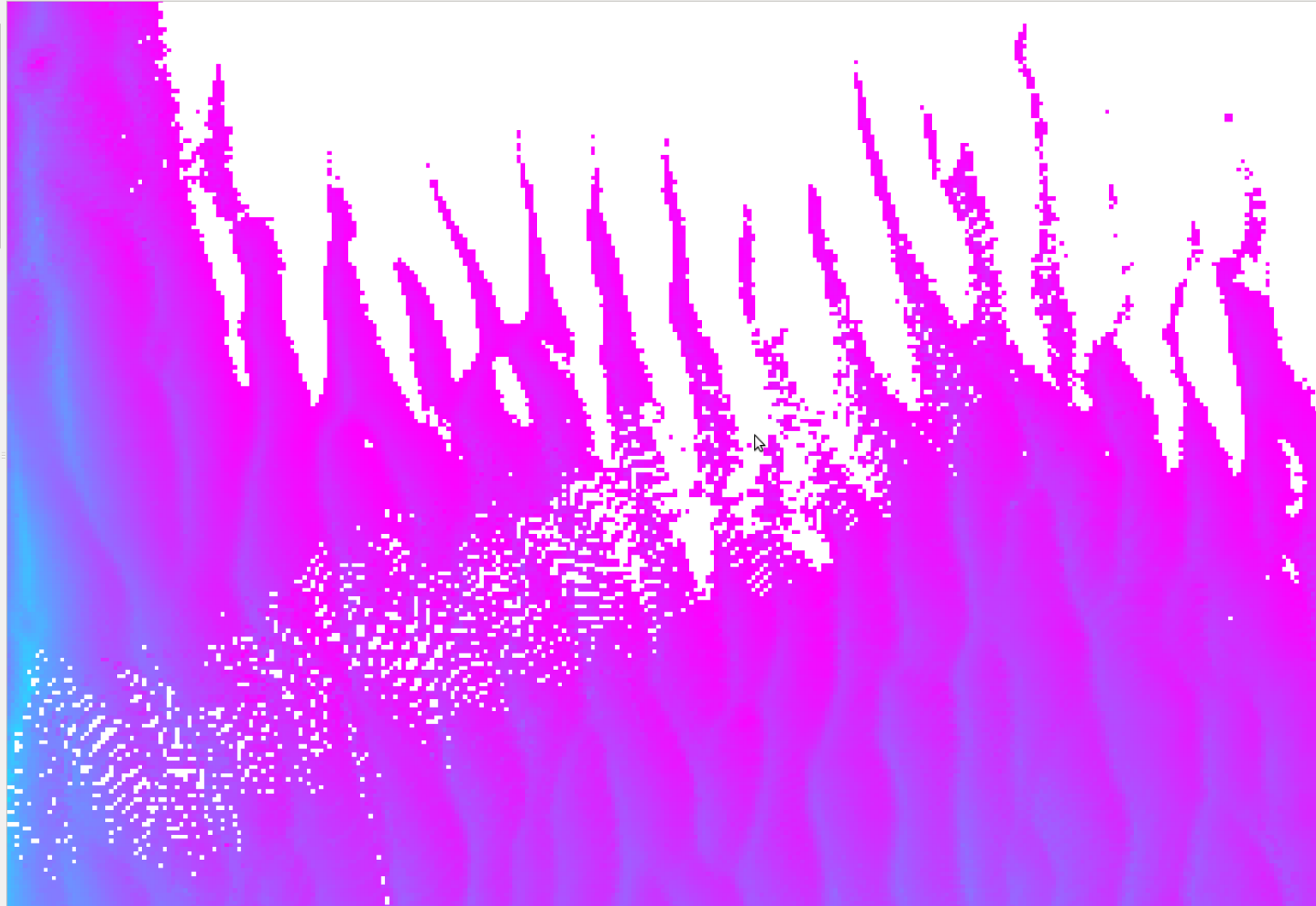
☒ H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13

☒ Control rendering order

Value Tool

☒ Active
 ☐ Decimals
 2
 ☐ Graph

	Layer	Value
1	H11076_50c...	null (no data)







## Layers

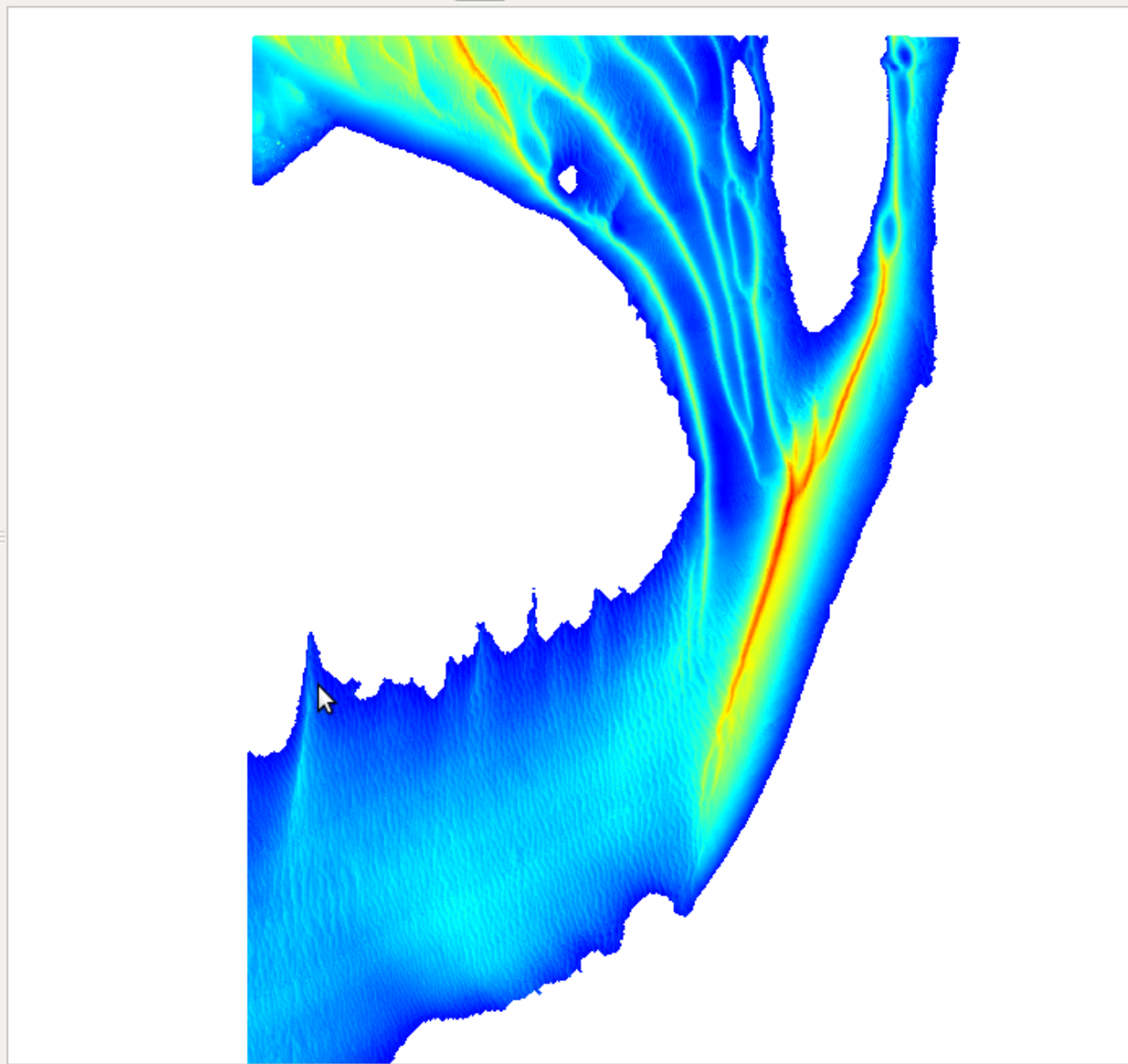
- ☐ H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13
- ☒ H11076\_50cm\_MSL\_8of13-filled

☒ Control rendering order

## Value Tool

☒ Active ☐ Decimals 2 ☐ Graph

	Layer	Value
1	H11076_50cm_MSL_8o...	-16.9547





# Classifications

What is a hole?

- Data gap
- Island
- Algorithmic error
- Data in another file

Source & relationship

- VB, MB, Lidar etc
- Low & High res
- Singleton or many pieces

What is the boundary?

- Survey area
- Cut for grid size
- Shallow w/out land
- Shallow with land

What artifacts?

- Tidal Zones
- Sonar errors
- Processing errors
- Sound speed drift

# Open Source Software

proj

gdal

qgis

grass

gmt

mbsystem

...

python

ipython notebook

lxml

numpy

scipy measurements

shapely

opencv

...



# A call for open data formats and more release data with open formats

Bathymetry

Lidar

...

GSHHS & other shorelines

Raw tide records

...

SAIC's Generic Sensor Format (GSF) library  
is NOT currently licensed as open source  
software!

<http://meridian.aag.org/callforpapers/program/AbstractDetail.cfm?AbstractID=55122>

**Abstract Title:** *Classification of Bathymetry Grids Using Open Source Tools*

**is part of the Paper Session:** *Advances and Challenges in Digital Elevation Models I (Overview)*

**Author(s):** Kurt Schwehr, PhD\* - Google, Jamie Adams - Google, Jenifer Austin Foulkes - Google

**Abstract:**

Creating global synthesis views of the Earth's bathymetry is a challenge complicated the process of merging data products from diverse sensor platforms with a wide range of data artifact classes. Processing large numbers of gridded bathymetry DEMs requires being able to automatically classify the input DEMs based on the surveying and gridding techniques used and the resulting artifacts. The platform type and details of techniques used are not detailed in a machine readable form within the ISO XML metadata contained in Bathymetry Attributed Grids (BAGs). We demonstrate the results of processed NOAA NGDC's archive of BAGs using Open Source tools to identify the quantity and morphology of data gaps using the Python SciPy library's image processing routines. Once grids have been classified and referenced to the same vertical datum using the Geospatial Data Abstraction Library (GDAL), the grids can be hole filled and merged based on project specific requirements. We will discuss the general classes of artifacts that can be found and propose how each class might be handled to produce a more continuous surface. We show how to use IPython Notebooks and QGIS to assist with quality checking BAGs insure the archived grids represent the quality of the sensor platform and acquisition strategy. We will conclude with suggested strategies for data acquisition and gridding that are more likely to produce DEMs that blend well with large global scale projects such as Google Ocean.

**Keywords:**

dem, terrain, open source, gdal, python, scipy