

Cloud Interactive Visualization for Near Real-Time Ocean Sonar Data

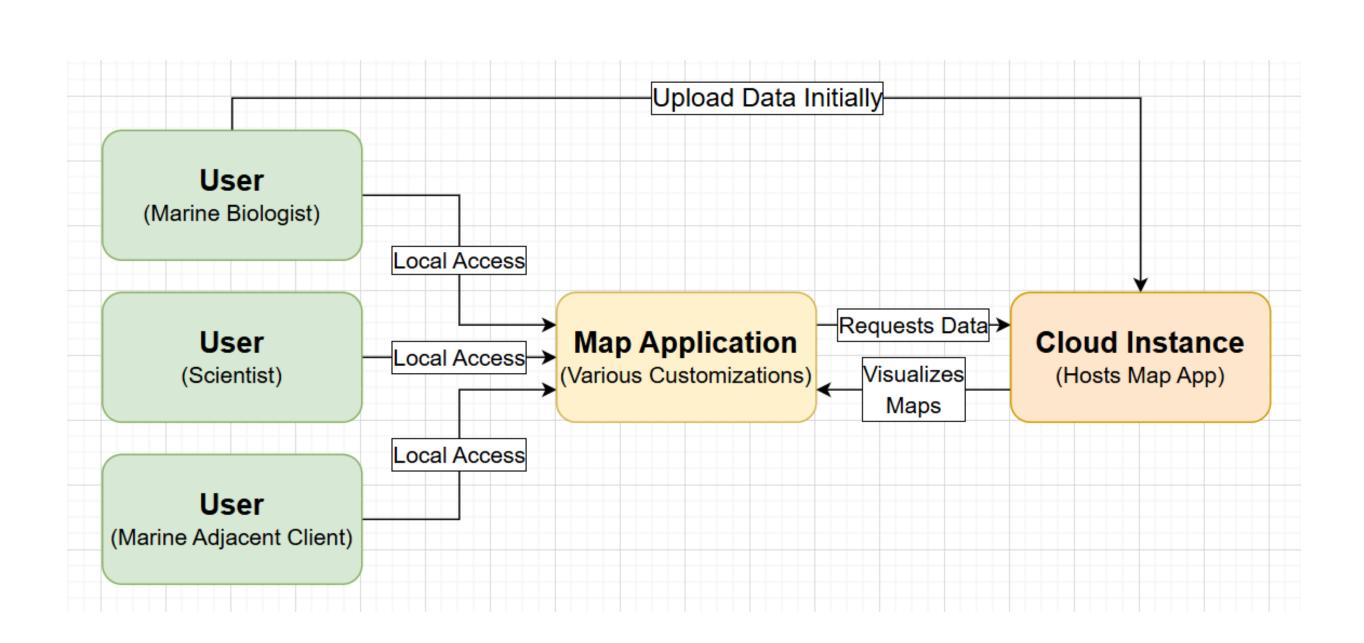


INTRODUCTION

- Ocean exploration requires methodical planning of ship routes, precise sonar timing, extensive data storage, and effective visualization techniques
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) leads in using sonar technology to investigate marine ecosystems
- Data volume has increased dramatically over the past decade, but processing and utilization capabilities have not kept pace
- A locally accessible mapping application has been proposed to efficiently present geospatial sonar data in a user-friendly format

OBJECTIVES

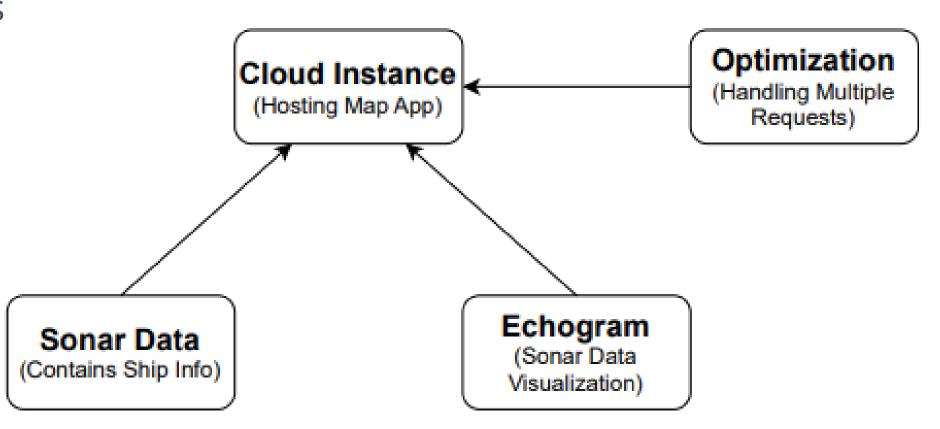
- Upgrade the open-source Echoshader package to enhance echogram analysis and offer improved customization for users
- Build a web-based map application integrating NOAA ship sonar data with visualization of ship tracks, sonar readings, and dynamic echogram displays
- Provide interactive controls to support customizable sonar data visualizations within the map application



WEB MAP APPLICATION

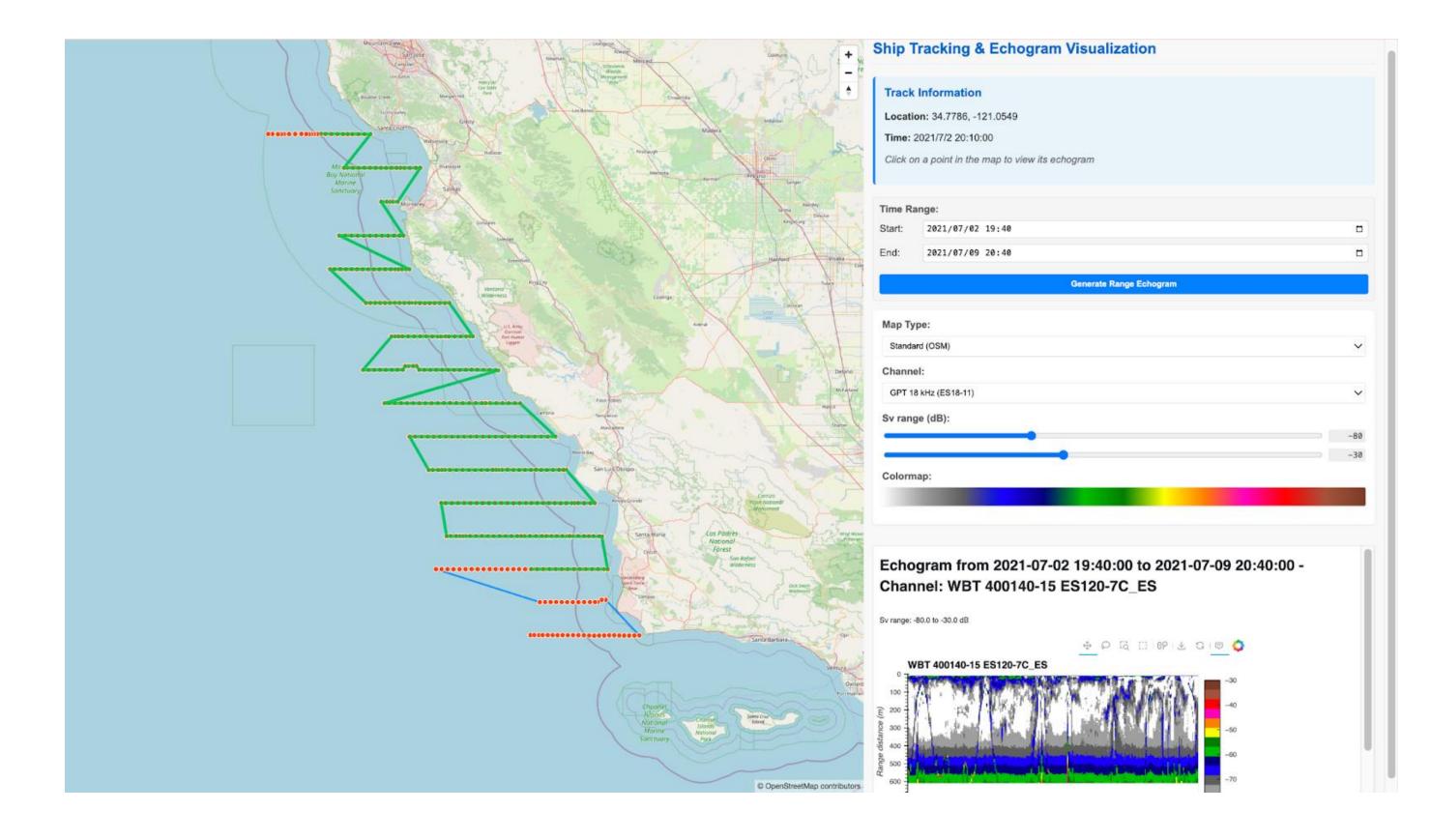
Backend server

 Loads sonar data from cloud storage, performs resampling and coordinate transformations



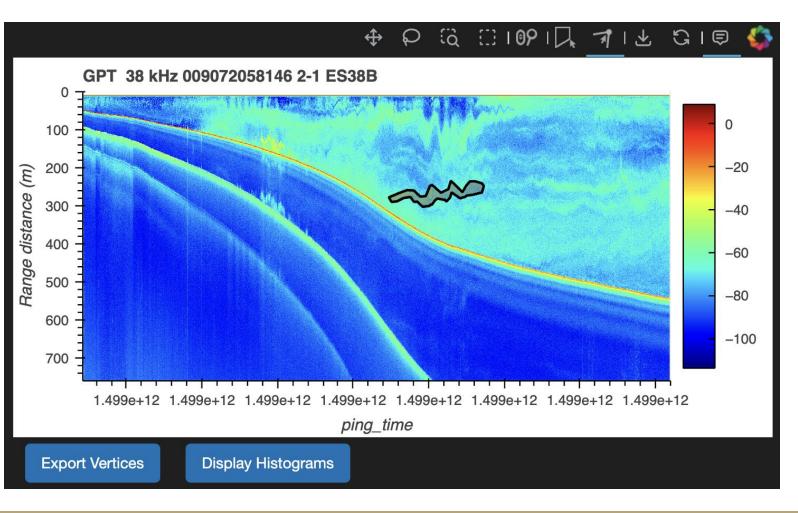
Frontend server

- Supports integration of multiple sonar datasets from NOAA
- Generates sonar data visualizations (echograms) within the interface
- Customizable widgets to select ships, time ranges, and adjust echogram parameters (e.g., SV range, channel)
- Visualizes real-time ship tracks alongside corresponding sonar data for intuitive spatial exploration
- Intuitive interface designed for marine scientists to explore large-scale ocean sonar data easily



ECHOSHADER PACKAGE

- Prototyped upgraded 3D curtain plotting using Plotly, enhancing image detail and reducing rendering time, with plans for future integration into the Echoshader package
- Improved unit tests and resolved several compatibility issues
- Developed a prototype region browser in Jupyter notebooks, enabling users to interact with polygonal regions on echograms to support intuitive data exploration in upcoming Echoshader updates



CONCLUSION

- Enhanced the open-source Echoshader package by fixing bugs and improving performance
- Prototyped additional functionalities in the Echoshader package, including upgraded 3D curtain plotting and a region browser
- Developed a cloud-hosted web application that integrates NOAA sonar data with ship track visualizations and customizable echogram displays
- Built the app using interactive web technologies and open-source Python libraries to support flexible data exploration

FUTURE WORK

- Further optimize data loading and visualization performance
- Stress test the map application later this summer using newly collected sonar data
- Continue development on the Echoshader project, which is part of a broader ecosystem of tools—such as the Echopype package—dedicated to ocean data exploration

