

Use of remote sensing for optimising the maintenance strategy of road transition zones: a data-driven solution

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ABSTRACT:

Transition zones between bridges and embankments are the most maintenance-prone locations in the road network of The Netherlands. Loading of weak and compressible soft soil layers causes (differential) settlements, damage and therefore extra maintenance costs for the road owner and delays to road users.

Our goal is to move from standard assessments to data-driven assessments, where the paradigm of how we look at geo-infrastructures (an uncertain and challenging field) is changed by encouraging the use of unconventional data. We believe that data-driven solutions will help network managers making better decisions under uncertainty. The work presented here, provides the proof-of-concept of an innovative multi-source data-driven solution based on the assimilation of remote sensing and in situ testing in numerical geotechnical modelling, with the aim of supporting informed maintenance decisions for road transition zones.

After calibrating the geotechnical model, we can predict the effects of different maintenance strategies. Three strategies/scenarios are considered: (0) “do nothing”, (1) “asphalt fill” once every 10 years, compensating for the previous settlement, and (2) “EPS fill”, replacing 1.5 m of the original sand fill by lightweight material. Combining the analysis and thresholds for differential settlement will support the road owner in making decisions concerning the best strategy. We will demonstrate the procedure with a case study: the N3 in the Netherlands. Also, we will show the sensitivity of the maintenance decision to model uncertainties.

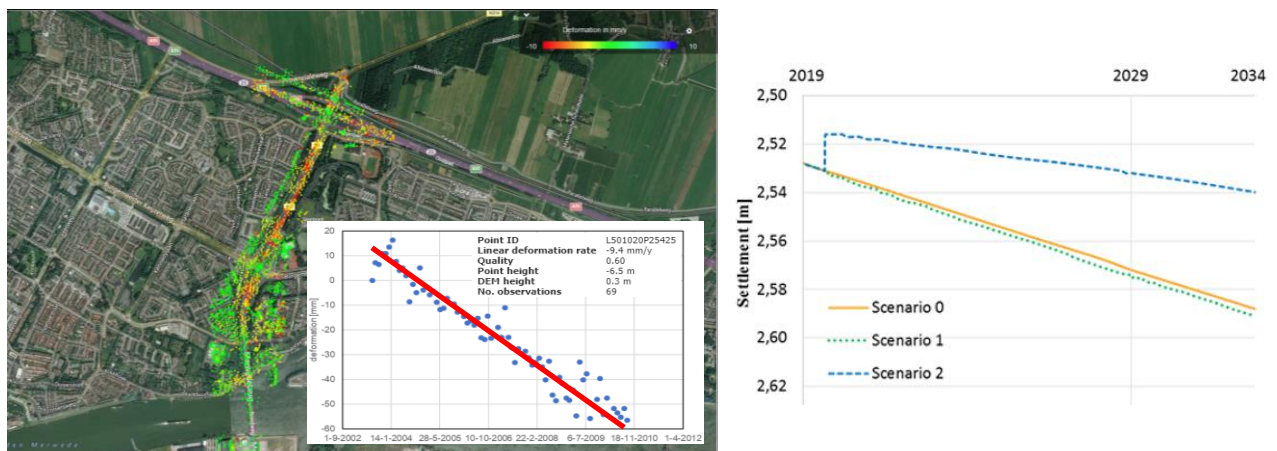


Fig. 1. Map showing InSAR remote sensing data and timeseries points (left) and calibrated settlements for three scenario's (right).

References:

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A data-driven approach to probabilistic budget forecasting

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ABSTRACT:

This presentation aims to initiate a practical dialogue on a more data-driven approach to probabilistic budget forecasting. It proposes to represent price uncertainty as a Geometric Brownian Motion (GBM). Available historic price indices [1] provide the uncertainty parameters drift and volatility, which describe a GBM. An illustration is provided in Figure 1. Moreover specific project uncertainty parameters can be obtained from forecasted project cash flows [2, 3]. Hence a Monte Carlo Simulation combines distinct GBMs in probabilistic budget forecasting.

The Dutch SSK standard for project budgeting [4] may benefit from a more data-driven approach. The current best practice works with users' defined confidence bounds and Monte Carlo Simulation to obtain a range of probable time-variant monetary outputs. A challenge in such approach is choosing adequate confidence intervals and probability distributions, as projects have different risk profiles. Another observation is that uncertainty in reality increases with longer time forecasts. The current best practice does not account for these uncertainty dynamics.

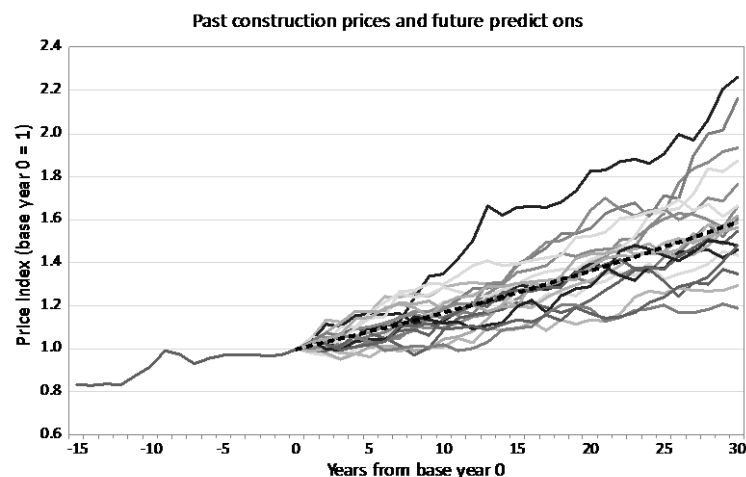


Fig. 1. Geometric Brownian Motion representing the uncertainty of construction costs based on historic price indices. Obtained from [5]

References:

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Workshop on
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3D Linked Data and BIM for Life Cycle Information Management

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ABSTRACT:

Life Cycle Management of infrastructural assets — *like bridges, tunnels and dykes* — is highly dependent on reliable data. In order to make the right decisions the data needs to be findable, up-to-date and understandable. However, in practice the data about infrastructural assets is seldomly stored in one place and structured following a interoperable standard. Data about these assets has been gathered over long periods of time according to different protocols for various purposes. Much of the data is unstructured and only available as text, without structured semantics. Even if data is structured and semantics are properly defined, there can still be different semantic conventions in different datasets. Geometric representations vary, system boundaries are often not uniformly used and even unique coding systems can be inconsistent over the datasets. Attempts to re-design data structures to a “one fits all” solution often fail, because individual processes have their own standardized semantics throughout the sector. Furthermore, software systems often dictate how data is stored. Most software packages are not per se designed to correspond with the specific data the organization needs. Integrating data structures therefore often result in replacing existing software systems.

Choosing a “one fits all” approach might theoretically sound ideal, but in practice creates a huge barrier to make the step to Life Cycle Management. An alternative methodology is to accept the world as it is, and deal with it in a structured manner. In this presentation we present a solution to integrate internal and external datasets by translating it to linked data in an easy to use 3D viewer. Furthermore we have developed Machine learning algorithms which allows us to generate new knowledge by combining the individual datasets. We have developed a so called “digital twin” which brings together all the asset management data in a user-friendly interface. This paper is the result of an ongoing collaboration between Rijkswaterstaat and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (De Kleijn et al., 2018, SPINlab, 2018).

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Leveraging Big Data platforms for data and information management

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ABSTRACT:

Few organisations underestimate the power of data to help achieve their business objectives, however using this data to its fullest potential can be a challenge. In an uncertain world, being able to make good decisions swiftly is an operational necessity and for commercial organisations a big competitive advantage.

Today we know what we want to discover and why, but do we know what data we want to look at tomorrow and why? How do we make it easier to access whatever data we need at any point in time to support decision making, innovation and improvement processes? How do we ensure that data science and advanced analytics activities are allowed to deliver value without being hampered by the fact that the underlying data may be distributed across many locations and/or only available for a short moment as it is created by a sensor? How do we assure ourselves of the quality of data that is feeding our Decision Support Systems will contribute to outputs that we can rely on?

These are some of the questions that we will look to address in the context of modern Big Data Platforms. We will refer to our latest Big Data platform reference architecture (Fig 1.) that was used as the basis of work undertaken in Safe-10-T to feed data into the Decision Support Tool.

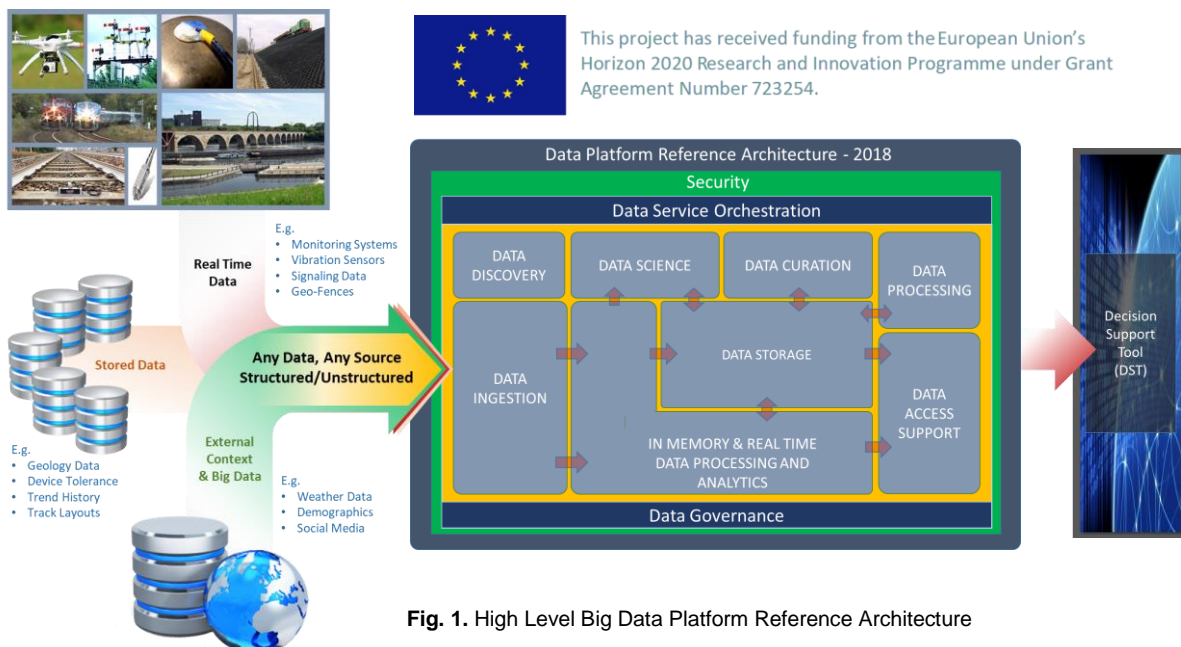


Fig. 1. High Level Big Data Platform Reference Architecture

References:

- Wells, S. (2019) SAFE-10-T Deliverable D3.2 Report on Integration of Big Data from and to Open Source.

The CEDR-INTERLINK approach towards Asset Information Management

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ABSTRACT:

In 2015, the Conference of European Road Directors of Roads (CEDR), on behalf of European National Road Authorities (NRAs), initiated research into the use of Building Information Modelling for information management during the delivery and operation of civil infrastructure. The research aims at improving interoperability within European NRAs and their stakeholders by digitalisation of the sector. The CEDR-INTERLINK research project resulted in a validated basic European Road Object Type Library (EUROTL), using powerful semantic web technology. In 2018 INTERLINK published at www.roadotl.eu their CEDR-INTERLINK Approach and the first basic EUROTL, which NRAs can use to improve their Asset Information Management. The main findings of the project are presented, including a discussion on how this approach could support asset information management over the life cycle, including life cycle cost management.

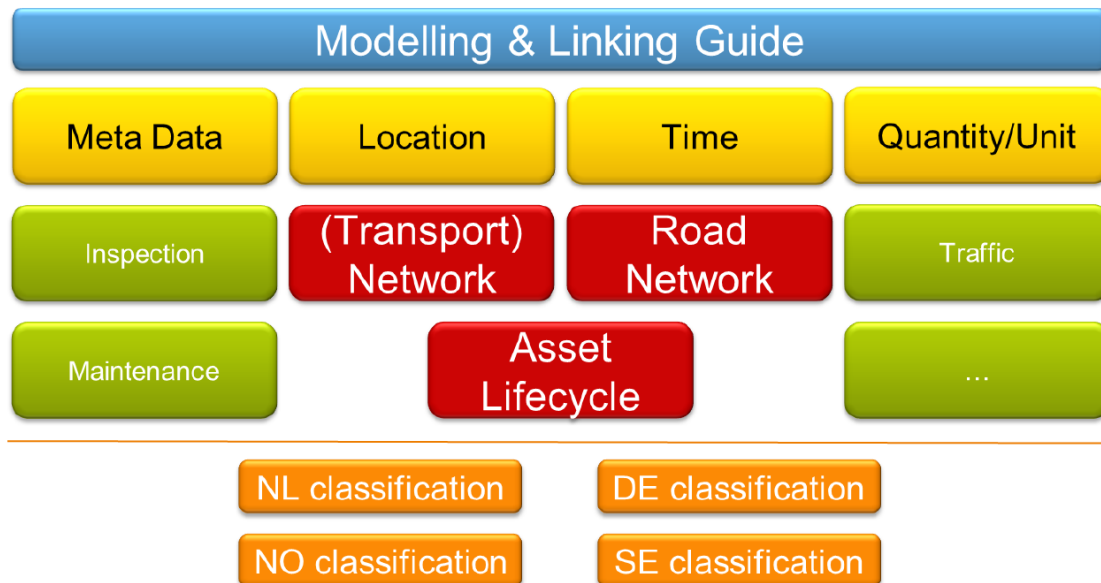


Fig. 1. Basic European Road Object Type Library

References:

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