

Moorea Avatar – Physical Ecosystem Modeling of a Tropical Island



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The Island Digital Ecosystem Avatar (IDEA) Project



D'où venons-nous ? Que sommes-nous ? Où allons-nous ? (Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?) Paul Gauguin, 1897, Oil on canvas 54 3/4 x 147 1/2 in. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (source)

Can we model and predict the state of a (model) ecosystem?

What does the system look like today? How did it get to this point?

What is its future under alternative scenarios of environmental change and human activity?

Scales of Complexity (Society Islands – Windward Islands)

+ Tetiaroa

~150 people 6.5 km² (land) Flat

+ Moorea

~17,000 people 132 km² ~1,200m

🕇 Tahiti

~180,000 people 1045 km² 2,200m

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Moorea Landscape









View from Belvedere





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Tahitien culture













Tahitien culture













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Tahitien nights











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Tetiaroa - Island Avatar

"Tetiaroa is beautiful beyond my capacity to describe. One could say that Tetiaroa is the tincture of the South Seas."

Marlon Brando











Eidgenössische

Technische Hochschule

- Physical models are a foundation for ecological models
- Atmospheric models (M. Hopuare)
 - Climate, weather
 - micro-climate
- Water flows
 - ocean
 - lagoon
 - coral-scale
- Terrestrial hydrology





AVATAR

Interface: Control, Visualization, Animation



Many research groups work already on Moorea











École Pratique des Hautes Études

... and many more ...

BIOCODE moorea

Moorea IDEA

Matthias Troyer |

Thanks to the people helping build the Avatar

- Hervé Bossin (ILM)
- Andrew Brooks (UCSB)
- Alessandro Capra (Modena)
- Antoine Collin (EPHE Dinard)
- Pascal Correia (Service de l'urbanisme)
- Neil Davies (Gump)
- John Deck (Berkeley)
- Gastil Gastil-Buhl (UCSB)
- Sultan Kocaman (ETH & Ankara)
- + Armin Grün (ETH)
- ✦ Tao Guo (ETH)
- Sally Holbrook (UCSB)

- Matthias Troyer (ETH)
- Alex Kosenkov (ETH)
- Guillaume Le Port (CRIOBE)
- Chris Meyer (Smithsonian)
- Frank Murphy (Gump)
- Yves Pastol (SHOM)
- Serge Planes (CRIOBE)
- George Roderick (Berkeley)
- Russ Schmitt (UCSB)
- Gilles Siu (CRIOBE)
- Benoit Stoll (UPF)
- Hinano Teavai-Murphy (Atitia Center & Gump)

The Regional Oceanic Modeling System (ROMS)

- Niki Gruber and Matt Münnich (ETH)
 - ocean-scale models solving simplified Navier-Stokes equations
 - + plans to couple to local models around the island of Moorea



Water flows in the lagoon: Jim Hench (Duke)



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Hydrology: Ana Barros (Duke)

- Hydrology simulations will need additional data to be collected and instruments to be deployed
 - rainfall gauges
 - stream gauges
 - geology
 - +



Figure 3. Conceptual Model of atoll island hydrogeology, after Ayers and Vacher (1986). The principal controlling features on the freshwater lens are (1) the width of the islands, (2) the recharge to the freshwater lens, (3) the hydraulic conductivity of the Holocene sediments, (4) the contact between the upper and lower aquifers, and (5) the reef flat plate.



Hawaii aquifers can be categorized into a) dike-intruded volcanic rock b) dike-free volcanic rock c) caprock.

Coastal sedimentary deposits form a caprock in some places that confines, attenuates tidal propagation into, and creates a thick freshwater lens within the volcanic-rock aquifer.

Linking to biological models: Johanna Rosman

✤ A model to simulate effects of flow and sedimentation on reef development



Housego and Rosman 2015 (E&C)

Reef-scale modeling: Takashi Nakamura (Tokyo)

- Coral polyp model coupled with 3D ocean circulation model
- Polyp model evaluates evaluates the coral metabolisms (photosynthesis, respiration and calcification) in response to
 - flow condition,
 - material-limited situation and
 - + ocean acidification.





Moorea IDEA - Data options for physical modeling

- + Existing data (maps, digital, statistical, social, etc.)
- + Highres satelite images
- + Aerial images
- + UAV; ultra-light airplane
- + Underwater photogrammetry
- + LiDAR (aerial)
- + Bathymetric data

(sonar, sat. images, LiDAR)

- + SIS/DB platform
- + Visualization/animation



NEED FOR THE VERY SHALLOWS

Bathymetry mapping

How to map the bathymetry?



- 1. Waterborne
- 2. Airborne
- 3. Spaceborne
- Cost effective and budget adaptive
- Remote access to previously difficult and impractical areas
- Rapid project delivery
- No mobilizations or special permit requirements



ETH zürich

Bathymetry (water depth) from sonar

- ✤ Sonar cruise in July/August 2014, chief scientist Jim Hench
- R/V Kilo Moana
 - + 20m x 20m grid
 - + 100m 4074m depth
- + R/V Ahi
 - + 2m x 2m grid
 - + 10m 200m depth









Lidar mapping of the lagoon and coast of Moorea

- Measure depth of the water by laser scanner from an airplane
- SHOM does north-east corner of Moorea and parts of Tahiti
- National Science Foundation of the USA pays for the rest of Moorea







Moorea Bathymetry, Fugro LiDAR project 2015



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LiDAR pointcloud Gump Station





Pleiades

Two identical satellites: revisit time 1 day 4 gyros, 3 star trackers, location accuracy (without GCPs) < 12m Telescope: 650mm, f = 13m *Panchromatic*: 0.7m footprint 5 sensors (Lin. Array TDI) at 6000 x 20 pi, 13mue pi *Multi-spectral*: 2.8m footprint 5 sensors at 1500 x 20 pi, 52 mue pi 4 lines assembly: RGB, NIR

20 km swath, full agility, anti-blooming





Moorea Pleiades image triplet



Acquisition date: 23 June 2014

Convergence angles along track. -13.5, 9.55, -2.2 degree

Coordinates: Geographical, WGS 84 (EPSG 4326)



Tetiaroa Pleiades images



Acquisition date: 30 June 2014

Convergence angles along track: 0.4, -12.0, 10.4 degree



Moorea 3D model







DSM generation through image matching (LPS)

Problem: Blunders. Requires manual editing





DTM (from map)



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Contours (ortho overlay)









Building modeling – inaccurate DTM





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Phantom 2 quadrocopter

Maoea take-off



Maoea take-off2













UAV images landscape overview

(Courtesy: CRIOBE Station)





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UAV image Cook's Bay

(Courtesy: CRIOBE Station)





UAV images lagoon and reef

(Courtesy: CRIOBE Station)





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Views from UAV











Archaeological sites (Marae, Temple)







UAV images arch. site (Marae Nuu Roa)





UAV images arch. site (Marae Nuu Roa, 6.2015)







Diving the Moorea reef – morning at Cooks Bay









Diving the Moorea reef – leaving for the transects







Diving the Moorea reef











Diving the Moorea reef











Alessandro GoPro filming



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Our Cameras









5-head GoPro camera system









Calibration frame





C1 calibration images







C1 summary







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Matthias with Lumix single camera





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Alessandro with GoPro stereo rig









Underwater photogrammetry for 3D coral models





Forereef quick data processing, June 2016

Image sequence path





Forereef quick data processing, June 2016

3D point cloud





Forereef quick data processing, June 2016

Close view of 3D point cloud





Underwater Photogrammetry for coral growth Moorea Island, June 2015

40 000 images

Alessandro GoPro













Underwater Photogrammetry for coral growth Moorea Island, June 2015

40 000 images, GSD = 1.2.mm



Coral model Andy







Lagoon habitat mapping with UAVs





The imaging power of UAV videos





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UAV take-off and landing from a boat









hg = 10mGSD = 4.2mm







MRB at 200m





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Opunahu Bay, James Cook memorial





Inspire car take-off





Rockcaves of Puhinu and Hatara





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Marae Ti`i Rua







Archery Tahua Te'a



GSD = 2mm

Model: 66 images





On-site Processing – 3D Archaeological Sites





Temple relic

Image Stripes Stitching	
Data	Video (4K) Image (4K X 3K)
Software	Agisoft Photoscan
Comments	Merge of multiple blocks is need

Archery field



North Coast video

24 km HR video, 35 min









Conclusions

- + Big ambitious interdisciplinary project of environmental modeling
- + First step: Restriction to Moorea (plusTetiaroa) island. Transferable to other tropical islands
- + Avatar: Concept beyond GIS. Extended functionality
- + Currently: Data driven. Research proposal stage
- + Physical modeling: Multi-sensor, multi-scale approaches. Image based and point cloud based methods very important
- + System "Raw data acquisition Processing pipeline" out-of-balance
- + Software used: Australis, I-witness, LPS, Agisoft, pix4D, Sure. Under development: multiple channel (RGB) calibration, UWclassifier, building extractor from point clouds, etc.