

AGRC Southern Utah Lidar (QL1 Block1) 312020335

Lidar Report

October, 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The <u>Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center</u> (AGRC) contracted with <u>The Sanborn Map Company</u>, Inc. (Sanborn) to provide remote sensing services in the form of lidar. Utilizing a multi-return system, Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) detects 3-dimensional positions and attributes to form a point cloud. The high accuracy airborne system is integrated with both Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) and an Inertial Measure Unit (IMU) for accurate position and orientation. Acquisition of the project area's ~1,109mi² was completed on October 8th, 2020.

The Optech Galaxy PRIME was used to collect data for the aerial survey campaign. The sensor is attached to the aircraft's underside and emits rapid laser pulses that are used to calculate ranges between the aircraft and subsequent terrain below. The Airborne Lidar System (ALS) is boresighted by completing multiple passes over a known ground surface before the project acquisition. During data processing, the system calibration parameters are updated and used during post-processing of the lidar point cloud.

Differential GNSS unit in aircraft sampled positions at 2Hz or higher frequency. Lidar data was only acquired when GNSS PDOP is ≤ 4 and at least 6 satellites are in view. Collection conditions were for leaf-off vegetation. The atmosphere was free of clouds and fog between the aircraft and ground. The ground was free of snow and extensive flooding or any other type of inundation

The contents of this report summarize the methods used to establish the base station coordinates, perform the lidar data acquisition and processing as well as the results of these methods.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document contains the technical write-up of the lidar campaign, including system calibration techniques, and the collection and processing of the lidar data.

1.1 Contact Information

Questions regarding the technical aspects of this report should be addressed to:

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1.2 Purpose of Lidar Acquisition

The objective of this project is to collect accurate measurements of the bare-earth surface as well as above ground features to be provided as geometric inputs for surface and/or change modeling as is relates survey assessments.

1.3 Project Location



Figure 1: DPA and Trajectories As-Flown

2.1 Introduction

This section outlines the lidar system, flight reporting and data acquisition methodology used during the collection of the QL1 Block1 lidar campaign. Although Sanborn conducts all lidar missions with the same rigorous and strict procedures and processes, all lidar collections are unique.

2.2 Acquisition Parameters

Sanborn specifically defined the collection parameters to accomplish the desired project specifications. **Table 1** shows the planned acquisition parameters utilized for this aerial survey with the sensor(s) installed.

Acquisition Parameters								
Sensor	Optech Galaxy PRIME							
Flying Height (AGL) (m)	1600							
Air Speed (kts)	120							
Field of View (degrees)	36							
Overlap (%)	20							
Pulse Rate (kHz)	650							
Scan Rate (Hz)	85.0							
Laser Footprint (m)	0.24							
Multi-Pulse	Yes							
Point Spacing (m)	0.35							
Point Density (pls/m ²)	8.2							
Swath Width (m)	1040							

Table 1: Lidar Acquisition Parameters

2.3 Field Work Procedures

Sanborn's standard procedure before every mission is to perform pre-flight checks to ensure correct operation of all systems. All cables were checked and the sensor head glass was cleaned. A three-minute static session was conducted on the ground with the engines running prior to take-off in order to establish fine-alignment of the IMU and to resolve GNSS ambiguities.

The project acquisition consisted of thirteen (13) mission(s). During the data collection, the operator recorded information on log sheets which includes weather conditions, lidar operation parameters, flight line statistics and PDOP.

Preliminary data processing was performed in the field immediately following the missions for quality control of GNSS data and to ensure sufficient coverage of the project AOI. Any problematic data could then be re-flown immediately as required. Final data processing was completed in the Colorado Springs, CO office. **Table 2** below shows the flight acquisition metrics for the entire collection. **Table 3** contains the base station names and locations in operation during acquisition. Base station coordinates are provided in NAD83 (2011), Geographic Coordinate System, Ellipsoid, Meters.

Date	Sensor	Serial #	Tail #	MissionID	PDOP	Start (UTC)	End (UTC)
5/2/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200502A_5060410	1.5	16:03:38	18:58:41
5/3/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200503A_5060410	1.4	14:32:08	17:30:40
5/4/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200504A_5060410	1.4	12:46:12	15:55:03
5/5/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200505A_5060410	1.4	13:12:50	18:22:26
5/6/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200506A_5060410	1.5	13:03:00	17:46:57
5/8/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200508A_5060410	1.6	18:11:49	19:35:50
5/16/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200516B_5060410	1.6	12:02:12	17:54:08
5/17/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200517A_5060410	1.4	12:51:05	14:45:50
5/21/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200521C_5060410	1.4	18:22:31	20:03:04
5/22/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200522A_5060410	1.4	11:54:45	16:46:34

5/24/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200524A_5060410	1.5	12:16:48	16:45:45
5/25/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200525A_5060410	1.4	11:57:23	12:49:51
5/25/2020	Optech Galaxy PRIME	5060410	-	20200525B_5060410	1.4	13:16:55	17:22:20

Designation	Туре	PID	Latitude (N)	Longitude (W)	Elevation
ЕСНО	CORS	AI8817	37 54 55.90473	114 15 51.24324	1684.960
MC04	CORS	DH6916	38 41 02.97506	108 58 25.82380	1401.694
MC09	CORS	DL3642	38 14 35.61438	108 33 29.28319	1793.798
NVPI	CORS	DM7135	37 56 13.34653	114 27 03.10105	1794.204

Table 3: GNSS Reference Station Coordinates



Figure 2: GNSS Reference Stations

3.1 Introduction

The GNSS/IMU data was post-processed using Applanix POSPac MMS software to create Smoothed Best Estimate Trajectory (SBET) file(s). The SBET was then combined with the laser range measurements in Optech LMS software to produce the 3-dimensional coordinates resulting in an accurate set of Raw Point Cloud (RPC) mass points. These raw swath (*.las) files are output in WGS84, UTM, Ellipsoid, Meters and transformed to the project Coordinate Reference System (CRS) upon ingest into GeoCue before project wide lidar matching.

The Optech LMS pre-processing software created raw swath files with all return values. This multi-return information was processed and classified to obtain the required feature for delivery. All lidar data is processed using the ASPRS binary LAS format version 1.4. **Table 4** illustrates the achieved point cloud statistics.

Category	Value
Aggregate Total Points	52,281,986,481
Aggregate Nominal Pulse Spacing (m)	0.26
Aggregate Nominal Pulse Density (pls/m ²)	14.5
Aggregate Nominal Pulse Spacing (ft)	0.86
Aggregate Nominal Pulse Density (pls/ft ²)	1.4
Table 4: Point Cloud Statistics	



Figure 3: Raw Point Cloud Coverage

3.2 Coordinate Reference System

Horizontal Datum:	North American Datum of 1983 (2011)
Projection:	Universal Transverse Mercator Zone 12 North
Vertical Datum:	North American Vertical Datum of 1988
Geoid Model:	Geoid12B
Units:	Meters

3.3 Lidar Matching

Sanborn uses Optech LMS software and the latest boresight values to combine the processed SBET with the laser scan files to produce the lidar point cloud. The data is processed by mission and/or block and is output in ASPRS LASv1.4 Point Data Record Format (PDRF) 6 with 16bit linearly scaled intensities to the nearest 0.001 3D position. Each mission is produced in WGS84, UTM, Ellipsoid, Meters and transformed to the project CRS upon import into GeoCue.

Each mission is imported into GeoCue where each individual flight line is assigned a unique Source ID number. The SBET is cut per swath into TerraScan Trajectory files based on Source ID number and timestamp; these are utilized during the lidar matching process. The project area(s) are broken into logical blocks based on AOIs or predetermined delivery blocks and the individual flight lines are populated into lidar matching tile grids. These lidar matching tile grids are prepared for scanner, line, mission, block and eventual project wide lidar matching routines by first running point cloud filters to identify ground and building features to be used during any TerraMatch processes.

After successful point cloud filters have been run on the lidar matching dataset TerraMatch is used to extract Tie Line Observations. TerraMatch Tie Lines are 3D vectors extracted from the lidar point cloud intended to reduce the overwhelming data size to a more manageable number. Each Tie Line is extracted using a series of parameters designed to identify features such a flat or sloping ground or roofline apexes that geospatially correlate to the same observation of an overlapping flight line.

Sanborn takes advantage of both visual and statistical validation methodologies to review and ensure overlap consistency of the lidar data meets and/or exceeds project specifications. Height Separation Rasters modulated by Intensity are representative of the interswath alignment and provide a holistic qualitative look at the positional quality of the point cloud. The dZ rasters are reviewed in their entirety for flight lines and areas that exceed the required RMSDz. Furthermore, the set of TerraMatch Tie Lines are used to produce a Tie Line Report to statistically assess the X. Y. and Z offset averages and magnitudes for the whole project including each line individually. This visual and statistical review guarantees the relative accuracy of the lidar dataset. **Table 5** outlines the relative accuracy requirements of the project. **Tables 6 – 9** are the relative accuracies achieved.

Category	Value (m)	Value (ft)							
Smooth Surface Repeatability	≤ 0.060	≤0.197							
Swath overlap difference, RMSDz	≤ 0.080	≤0.262							

Table 5: Relative Accuracy Requirements

No Data	< 0.08m	0.08m to 0.16m	0.16m to 0.24m	> 0.24m
No Data	< 0.262ft	0.262ft to 0.524ft	0.524ft to 0.786ft	> 0.786ft

Figure 4:	Swath	Separation	Images
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Line	X	Y	Ζ	Line	Χ	Y	Ζ	Line	X	Y	Ζ
1	-	-	0.008	70	0.010	0.009	0.007	287	0.001	0.001	0.006
2	-	-	0.007	150	-	-	0.006	288	0.004	0.005	0.006
3	-	-	0.006	151	0.011	0.001	0.006	289	0.015	0.010	0.006
4	0.034	0.023	0.005	152	0.011	0.001	0.006	290	0.010	0.009	0.005
5	0.034	0.023	0.005	153	-	-	0.006	291	0.007	0.015	0.005
6	-	-	0.005	154	-	-	0.006	292	0.008	0.022	0.005
7	0.005	0.000	0.007	155	-	-	0.006	293	0.014	0.014	0.005
8	0.006	0.000	0.007	156	-	-	0.006	294	0.018	0.018	0.005
9	-	-	0.009	157	-	-	0.006	295	-	-	0.005
10	-	-	0.005	158	-	-	0.006	296	-	-	0.008
11	-	-	0.008	159	-	-	0.006	297	-	-	0.008
12	0.021	0.019	0.009	160	-	-	0.007	298	0.015	0.008	0.008
13	0.011	0.007	0.008	161	-	-	0.008	299	0.024	0.016	0.007
14	-	-	0.008	162	-	-	0.007	300	0.025	0.021	0.007
15	0.021	0.016	0.007	163	-	-	0.007	301	0.015	0.015	0.007
16	0.021	0.016	0.006	164	-	-	0.006	302	0.012	0.008	0.007
17	-	-	0.012	165	-	-	0.006	303	0.019	0.011	0.007
18	0.010	0.015	0.005	166	-	-	0.006	304	0.027	0.015	0.007
19	-	-	0.007	167	-	-	0.008	305	0.021	0.014	0.008
20	0.010	0.015	0.006	168	-	-	0.010	306	0.028	0.018	0.009
21	0.024	0.013	0.006	169	-	-	0.008	307	0.030	0.024	0.008
22	0.024	0.009	0.006	170	0.033	0.065	0.008	308	0.048	0.022	0.008

23	0.017	0.022	0.007	171	-	-	0.007	309	0.022	0.021	0.008
24	0.015	0.021	0.008	172	-	-	0.006	310	0.011	0.013	0.005
25	0.019	0.022	0.008	173	0.020	0.010	0.006	311	0.009	0.023	0.007
26	0.021	0.023	0.007	174	0.020	0.010	0.007	312	0.021	0.025	0.011
27	0.011	0.011	0.007	175	-	-	0.008	313	0.066	0.042	0.014
28	0.030	0.026	0.010	239	0.010	0.012	0.006	314	0.026	0.054	0.011
29	0.016	0.017	0.012	240	0.009	0.020	0.007	315	0.021	0.052	0.011
30	0.021	0.014	0.007	241	0.013	0.018	0.008	316	0.030	0.041	0.010
31	0.013	0.010	0.006	242	0.055	0.061	0.011	317	0.023	0.027	0.010
32	-	-	0.022	243	0.045	0.043	0.010	318	0.014	0.016	0.011
33	-	-	0.009	244	0.033	0.025	0.010	319	0.018	0.019	0.010
34	-	-	0.009	245	0.027	0.059	0.010	320	0.021	0.018	0.008
35	-	-	0.009	246	0.027	0.029	0.010	321	0.004	0.005	0.005
36	-	-	0.009	247	0.048	0.037	0.010	322	-	-	0.005
37	-	-	0.007	248	-	-	0.009	323	0.005	0.007	0.005
38	-	-	0.009	249	0.014	0.011	0.007	324	0.007	0.012	0.006
39	-	-	0.006	250	0.014	0.011	0.006	325	0.007	0.012	0.006
40	-	-	0.008	251	0.081	0.040	0.007	326	0.007	0.005	0.006
41	0.001	0.038	0.008	252	0.081	0.040	0.008	327	0.011	0.005	0.007
42	0.001	0.038	0.007	253	0.016	0.019	0.009	328	0.000	0.000	0.006
43	0.001	0.009	0.007	254	0.019	0.020	0.008	329	0.003	0.023	0.006
44	0.002	0.010	0.007	255	0.026	0.017	0.008	330	0.003	0.023	0.006
45	0.005	0.015	0.006	256	0.028	0.028	0.008	331	-	-	0.006
46	0.001	0.065	0.005	257	0.021	0.024	0.007	332	-	-	0.006
47	0.000	0.021	0.005	258	0.017	0.014	0.010	333	0.008	0.010	0.006
48	0.002	0.017	0.004	259	-	-	0.010	334	0.019	0.020	0.006
49	0.004	0.022	0.005	283	-	-	0.006	335	0.018	0.018	0.007
50	-	-	0.007	284	-	-	0.005	336	0.010	0.012	0.006
51	-	-	0.008	285	-	-	0.006	337	0.014	0.028	0.007
69	0.011	0.010	0.007	286	-	-	0.006				

 Table 6: Average Magnitudes by Line (Meters)

Category	X	Y	Ζ
Average Magnitude	0.019	0.018	0.007
RMS Values	0.029	0.029	0.010
Maximum Values	0.130	0.155	0.108
Observation Weight	20204.0	20204.0	115909.0

Table 7: Internal Observation Statistics (Meters)

Category	Mismatch
Average 3D Mismatch	0.01223
Average XY Mismatch	0.03288
Average Z Mismatch	0.00738
Average Z Mismatch	0.00738

Table 8: Overall Relative Accuracy (Meters)

Category	Observations
Section Lines	47,583
Roof Lines	9,965
TE 1 1 0 17	01

Table 9: Vector Observations

3.4 Lidar Classification

Lidar filtering was accomplished using GeoCue with TerraSolid processing and modeling software. The filtering process reclassifies all the data into classes within the point cloud classification scheme. Once the data is classified, the entire dataset is reviewed and manually edited for anomalies that are outside the required guidelines of the product specification or contract requirements. This can include, but is not limited to, classifying bridges, structures, filling culverts, and manually analyzing the bare-earth surface by classifying features that belong in non-extraneous classification codes. **Table 10** outlines the point classes leveraged in the lidar dataset.

Code	Description	Definition		
1	Unclassified	Processed, but unclassified		
2	Ground	Bare-earth surface		
7	Low Noise	Erroneous returns below bare-earth surface		
9	Water	Hydrologically identified water surface points		
17	Bridge Decks	s Structure carrying a means of transit of higher		
18	High Noise	Erroneous atmospheric returns above bare-earth		
20	Ignored Ground	Bare-earth points near breaklines		
21	Snow	Unavoidable snow or snow pack		
22	Temporal Exclusion	Nonfavored data in intertidal zones		
Flag	Overlap	Overage points lying within overlapping areas of two or more swaths		
Flag	Withheld	Outliers, blunders, noise points, geometrically unreliable points near the extreme edge of the		

Table 10: Lidar Classification Scheme

3.5 Accuracy Assessment

The lidar dataset was evaluated using a total of ninety-five (95) check points (55 NVA + 40 VVA). The end result provided a vertical accuracy that fell within project specifications. Please see the **Attachment A** for the full Vertical Accuracy Report and the project *Metadata* for an in-depth accuracy assessment. **Table 11** outlines the absolute accuracy requirements of the project. **Table 12** shows high level statistics and mean errors for the area processed by Sanborn.

Value (m)	Value (ft)
≤0.100	≤0.328
≤0.196	≤0.643
≤0.300	≤0.984
	Value (m) ≤0.100 ≤0.196 ≤0.300

Table 11: Absolute Accuracy	Requirements
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Broad Land Cover Type	# of Points	RMSEz	95% Confidence Level	95th Percentile
NVA of Point Cloud	55	0.051	0.100	
NVA of Bare Earth	55	0.051	0.099	
NVA of DEM	55	0.050	0.097	
VVA of Bare Earth	40	0.104		0.216
VVA of DEM	40	0.096		0.216

Table 12: Vertical Accuracy Assessment of Check Points (Meters)



Figure 5: Non-vegetated Check Point Distribution



Figure 6: Vegetated Check Point Distribution

4.0 PRODUCT GENERATION

The following products were generated using the final coordinate system as defined in the contract:

Classified Point Cloud

The Classified Point Cloud, containing all returns, is delivered in LASv1.4 (*.las) format and meets project specifications. The Classified Point Cloud contains file names referencing the tile index.

Bare-Earth Digital Elevation Model

32-bit GeoTIFF (*.tif) elevation rasters were created from the bare-earth points in the processed lidar dataset and hydroflattened breaklines. Each pixel contains an elevation.

First-Return Digital Surface Model

32-bit GeoTIFF (*.tif) elevation rasters were created from the first-return points in the processed lidar dataset. All overlap classes were ignored during this process. Each pixel contains an elevation.

First-Return Intensity Images

8-bit GeoTIFF (*.tiff) intensity rasters were created from the first-return points in the processed lidar dataset. All overlap classes were ignored during this process.

Swath Separation Images

24-bit GeoTIFF (*.tif) height separation rasters modulated by intensity were created from the last-return points in the processed lidar dataset.

Swath Polygons

Polygons features representing either the convex or concave hull of swaths, where each record is an individual swath or channel within a swath. Delivered in Esri (*.shp) format.

Other Deliverables

Breaklines Metadata Vertical Accuracy Report

A final quality assurance process was undertaken to validate all deliverables for the project. Prior to release of data for delivery, Sanborn's Quality Control/Quality Assurance department reviews the data and then releases it for delivery.