

# World Seaborne Trade in Real Time

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Big Data for Official Statistics  
United Nations | Statistics Korea  
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The views expressed here are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Executive Board, or IMF management.



# THE PROBLEM

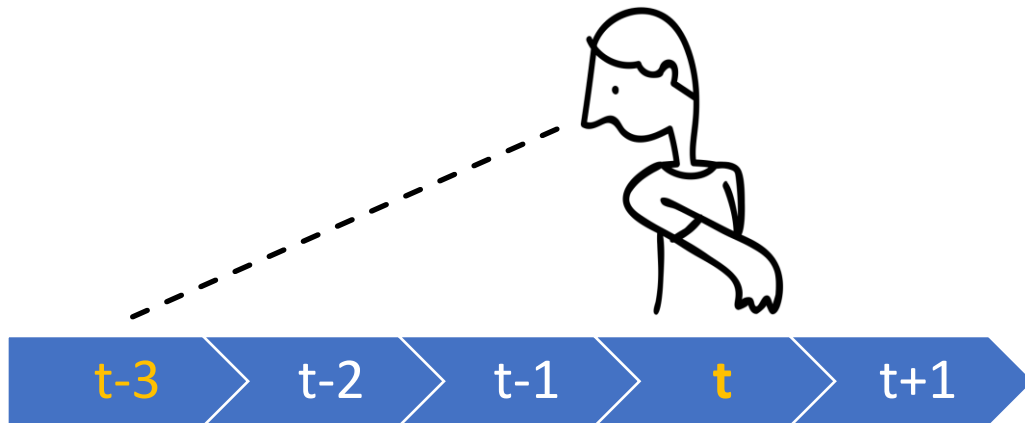
## 3 months

Lag of main trade volume indicator

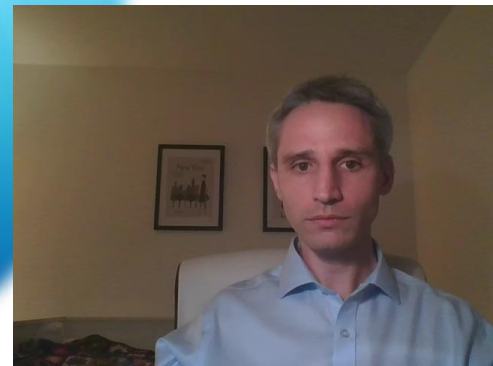
## < 15%

Trade covered by trade finance  
(and not volumes)

### Data lags



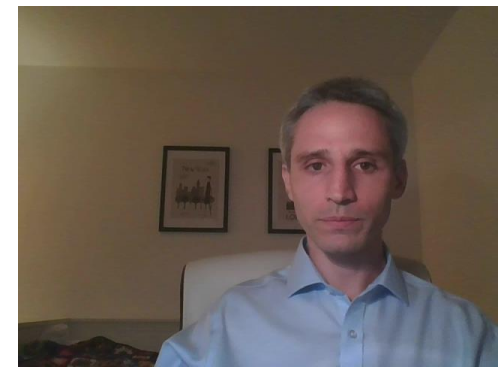
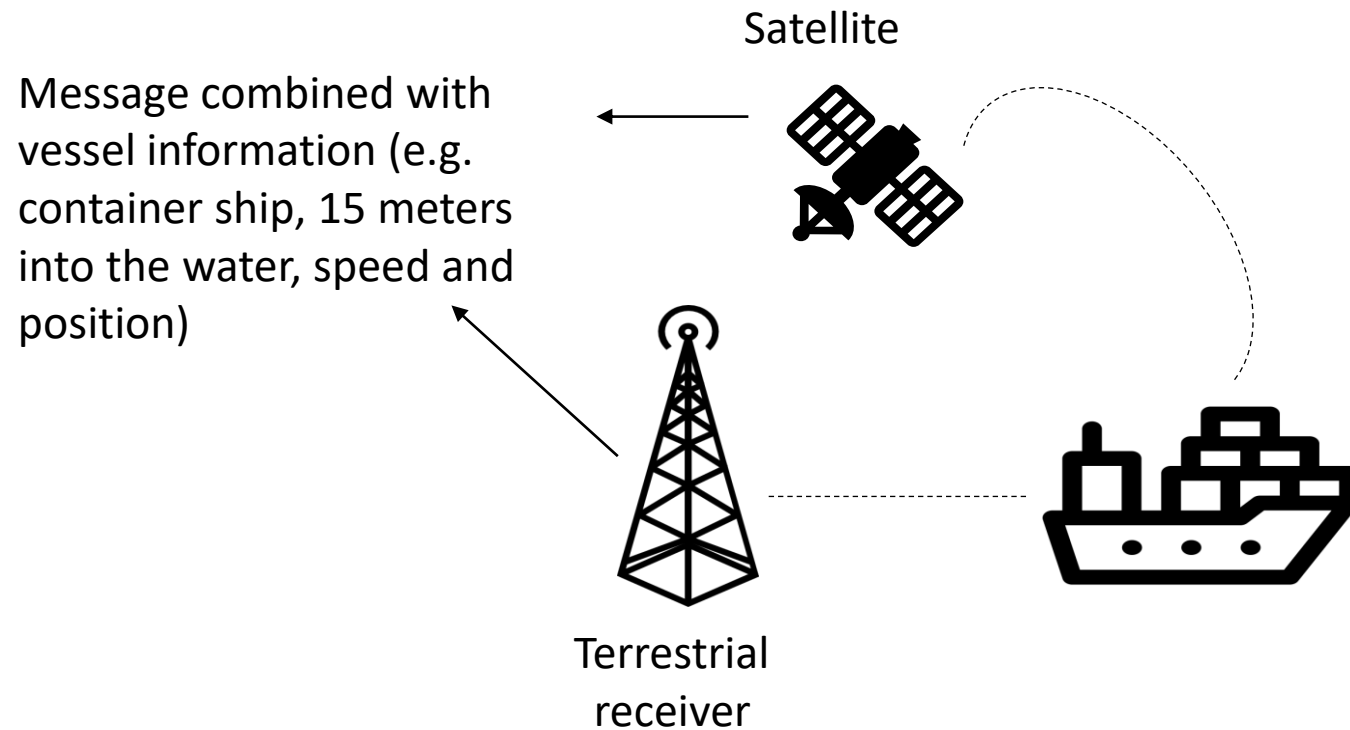
### Coverage



# THE DATA

## 2 to 10 seconds

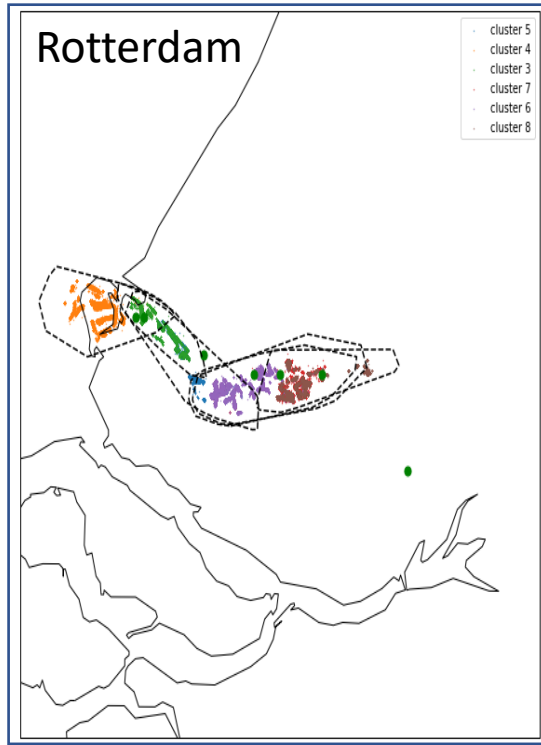
Frequency of radio messages sent by ships



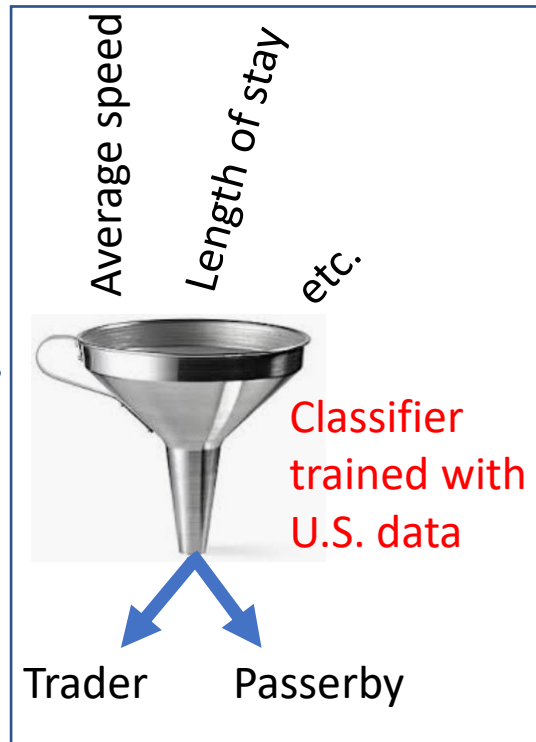
# THE SOLUTION

Transforming raw messages into policy-relevant indicators

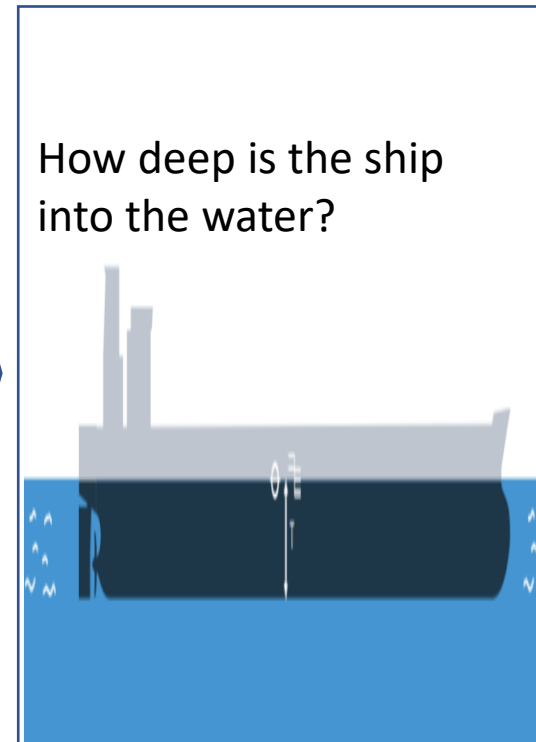
Spot the port



Trader or passerby?

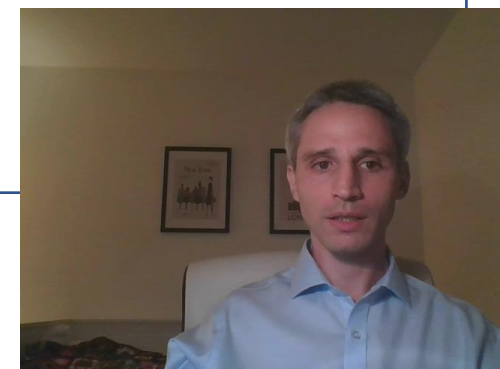


Volume? Import/Export?



Benchmarking

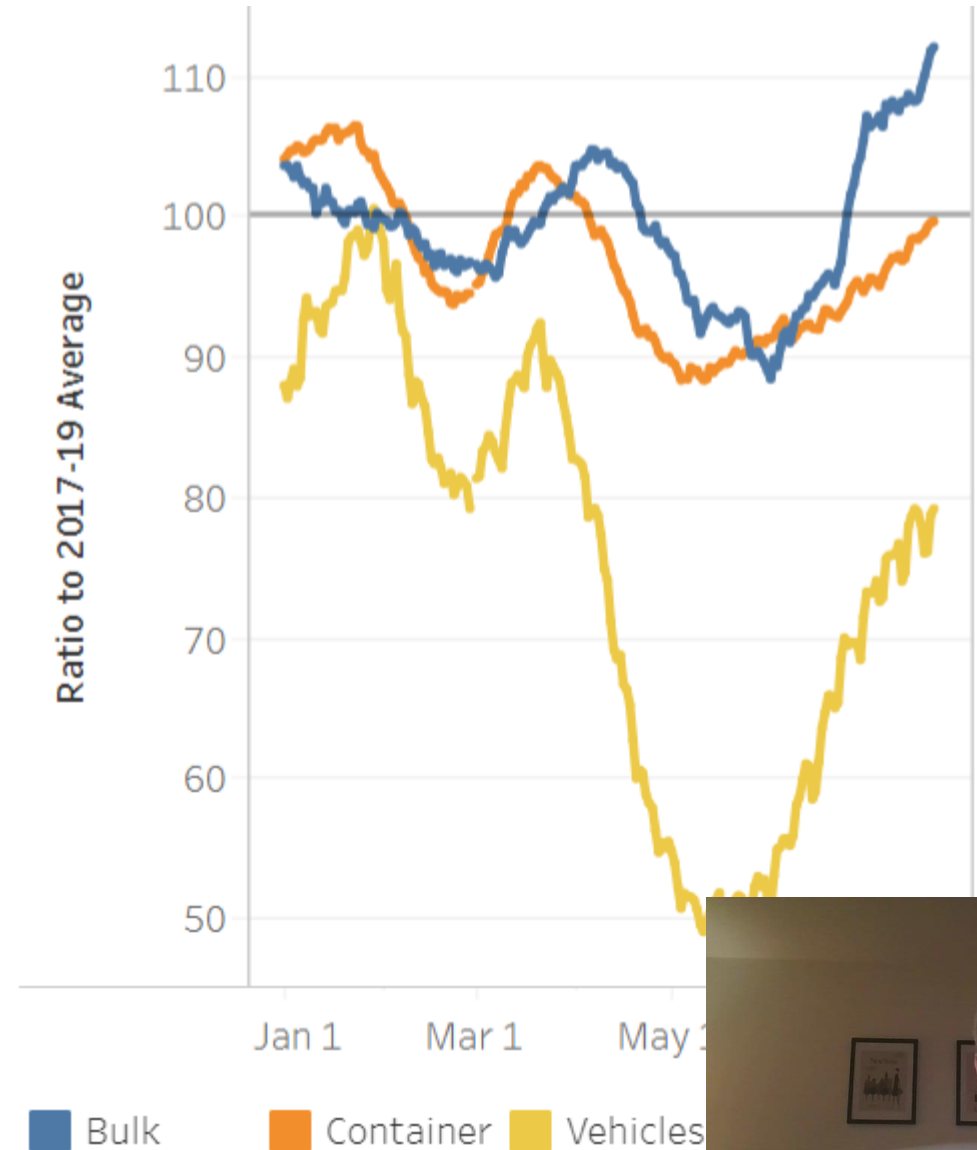
This section contains two logos. The top logo is the official emblem of the CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis, featuring a crown and two lions. Below it is the logo for Jodi, which consists of the word "Jodi" in a bold, black sans-serif font next to a circular icon containing a stylized bar chart.



# RESULTS

- Macroeconomic nowcasting
- Event studies
- Sectoral analyses

## Example: World exports



# ESTIMATES AVAILABLE ONLINE

- Visualize metric tons estimates:

<https://comtrade.un.org/data/monitor>

- Query interface for metric tons estimates:

<https://comtrade.un.org/data/ais>

- Further estimates in .zip file posted here

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WP/Issues/2020/05/14/World-Seaborne-Trade-in-Real-Time-A-Proof-of-Concept-for-Building-AIS-based-Nowcasts-from-49393>

