ON THE *IN-SITU* DETERMINATION OF SOIL ERODIBILITY FROM THE 20TH TO THE 21ST CENTURY

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Abstract It is now 12 years since the publication of Black and Paterson (1997)[1] which summarized and compared the range of scientific technologies and instruments which could collect data on the surface erodibility of soils and sediments. It is perhaps timely to look back at what was the state-of-the-art then, and to review the progress that has been made in the time since. The aim of the presentation is to map the development of the tools and methods over the last 20 years to measure soil erodibility directly in the field, and to use comparative datasets to compare and contrast the benefits and disadvantages of selected approaches. Partrac's *Voyager 2* sea flume is a modern, hi-tech instrument which can collect erodibility data down to 200m on the continental shelf, and recent data collected as part of the UK Marine Ecosystems Connections (MECS) Programme will be presented to show the state-of-the-art in 2009.

[1] Black, K.S., and Paterson, D.M., 1997 Measurement of the erosion potential of cohesive marine sediments: a review of current *in situ* technology. *Journal of Marine Environmental Engineering* Vol. 4: 43-83.