Equidistance lines exercises

(60 + 30 minutes)



Introduction

This exercise is designed to help participants improve their understanding of how equidistance lines are constructed, and how they can be modified by giving reduced effect to certain features of the coastline.

The exercise will take place in two stages, with lunch and a presentation in between.

1. Equidistance (before lunch)

On the supplied chartlet, construct an equidistance line between the nearest points on the coastlines on the Kingdom of Scotland and the independent island state of Coll & Tiree. In this first stage, all islands – no matter how small – should be given full effect in the construction of the equidistance line.

2. Modified equidistance (after lunch)

- (i) On the second version of the chartlet (with the 'full effect' equidistance line already marked) construct an equidistance line which gives no effect to the Treshnish Islands. Identify which basepoints are relevant in this scenario compared with the ones used to construct the full effect equidistance line.
- (ii) Estimate the likely course of a maritime boundary which gives half effect to the Treshnish Islands (half way between the full effect and no effect equidistance lines).
- (iii) If you are feeling brave, estimate the alignment of a weighted maritime boundary constructed using the 'equiratio' method which gives Coll & Tiree a 2:1 weight compared to the Treshnish Islands.

IBRU: Centre for Borders Research 11-13 September 2023

