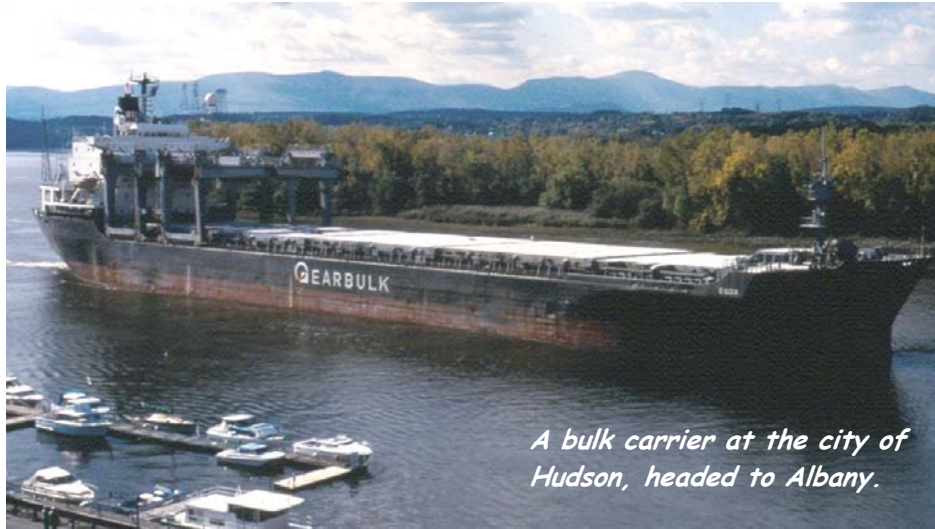


Tens! Hundreds!! Thousands!!! of Tons



Many of the big ships that travel to and from the Port of Albany are **bulk carriers**. They carry huge loads of loose material such as wheat. Such **cargo** is not valuable in small amounts. Only by transporting large amounts can the ships make money.

An example is the salt used to melt winter's ice and snow from sidewalks and roads. A shovelful of salt from your town's salt pile is worth only a few cents. Your highway department buys it by the ton (2,000 pounds), perhaps paying \$70 for each ton. Ten tons would cost \$700; one hundred tons would cost \$7,000.

Now \$7,000 may seem like a lot of money. But think about the costs of operating a large ship. The owners must pay for fuel, crew, repairs, and much more. They also must pay back loans for the millions of dollars that it costs to build a big ship. It helps to haul as much cargo as possible.

So how much salt could one bulk carrier bring to Albany? It would not be unusual for a ship to carry a cargo of 30,000 tons. At \$70 a ton, that salt would be worth \$2,100,000 - two million, one hundred thousand dollars!

On the other hand, the cargoes carried by heavy lift ships - **machinery** such as **turbines** and **generators** - are very valuable. As a result, these ships do not have to carry such large amounts of cargo to make money.



Table 1 below shows the types and amounts of cargo that were brought to Albany and unloaded from January to June, 2008. Table 2 shows the types and amounts of cargo loaded and shipped out from Albany in the same months. Table 3 shows the number of ships that docked in Albany. Use these tables to answer the questions on the next page.

1. Tons of Cargo Unloaded at Albany, January to June 2008

		Month					
		January	February	March	April	May	June
Cargo in tons	grain						
	heavy lift			2,862	4,675	1,245	2,302
	molasses			13,202			
	salt		34,532				
	scrap iron						
	steel/pipe	574	512	17,862	1,264	22,058	11,480
	wood pulp	2,930	3,400	2,187		7,283	3,280

2. Tons of Cargo Loaded at Albany, January to June 2008

		Month					
		January	February	March	April	May	June
Cargo in tons	grain	63,519		25,022		27,477	19,694
	heavy lift	1,247			6,687		3,334
	molasses						
	salt						
	scrap iron	22,014		27,180	20,561	15,101	17,509
	steel/pipe						
	wood pulp						

3. Ships Docking at the Port of Albany, January to June 2008

		Month					
		January	February	March	April	May	June
Cargo	grain	3		1		1	1
	heavy lift	2		1	7	2	4
	molasses			1			
	salt		1				
	scrap iron	1		1	1	1	1
	steel/pipe			3		2	2
	wood pulp	1	1	1		2	1



Name _____ Date _____

1. For each of the cargoes listed below, write whether it is unloaded at Albany, loaded at Albany, or both.

grain _____ heavy lift _____

molasses _____ salt _____

scrap iron _____ steel/pipe _____

wood pulp _____

2. To fill in the blanks below, estimate using information in Tables 1 and 2.

_____ More tons of this cargo were unloaded in Albany than of any other cargo unloaded there from January to June.

_____ More tons of this cargo were loaded at Albany than of any other cargo loaded there from January to June.

_____ More tons of cargo were loaded at Albany in this month than in any other month in this time period.

3. Use data from all the tables to answer the following questions. Write each question out in numerical form, then answer it using a calculator.

(a) How big was the average load of grain loaded at Albany in January?

(b) How big was the average load of scrap iron loaded at Albany between January and June, 2008?

(c) From January to June 2008, what was the average load per month of wood pulp unloaded at the Port of Albany?

(d) Assuming that salt is worth \$70 per ton, what was the value of the salt unloaded in Albany in February?

