

Jason-2 and Jason-1 SLA performances and consistency

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OSTST Nice 2008 – SLA consistency J1/J2



Introduction

- Objective : compare accurately the SLA performances and consistency between Jason-1 and Jason-2
- In this presentation, we concentrate on:
 - 1) Analyses at crossovers using OGDR, IGDR and preliminary POE orbits
 - 2) Along-track analyses of global SLA bias and geographically correlated biases between Jason-1 and Jason-2
- Data used :
 - OGDRs and IGDRs from Jason-2 cycles 0 to 10 (corresponding cycles 239 to 249 for Jason-1)
 - Preliminary POE orbits (provided by CNES and GSFC) from cycles 1 to 7



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SSH Mean at crossovers

- OGDRs : strong improvement with J2 SSH, better centered.
- IGDRs : slightly better centered and stable for Jason-2.
- GDRs (using POE CNES for J2) : similar statistics for both missions.



15 10

-10

-15

-20 -25

-30 -35

SSH crossovers (cm)

Mean of

Jason-1 : -28.2 cm +/- 5.2 cm

Jason-2 : -1.5 cm +/- 5.2 cm

OGDR

SSH mean at crossovers

Map of SSH mean at crossovers are performed from cycles 0 to 10 using GDRs Jason-1 and Jason-2

- Positive and negative structures are visible for Jason-1 and Jason-2, however:
- \Rightarrow Jason-2 map is more homogeneous
- \Rightarrow Positive structures are stronger for Jason-1





SSH STD at crossovers

- OGDR : strong variance reduction with Jason-2 OGDRs thanks to the DIODE orbit
- IGDRS : Slightly better performances with Jason-2
- GDRs (using preliminary POE CNES for J2): slightly better performances with Jason-1 GDRs.



rs (cm)

SSH crosso

q STD 10

18- Jason-1 : 13.6 cm RMS Jason-2: 9.0 cm RMS

OGDR

Summary of SSH crossovers analysis

- Jason-2 SSH performances are very good at crossovers
- OGDR: DIODE orbit increases significantly the SSH performances in comparison with Jason-1
- Small differences detected from IGDRs and GDRs products are mainly due to orbit calculation differences:
 - ⇒ Better performances with MOE Jason-2
 - \Rightarrow Slightly better performances with POE Jason-1, but POE Jason-2 is preliminary.



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Global SSH bias between Jason-1 and Jason-2

• During the verification phase, both satellites are spaced out by 54s

 \Rightarrow They measure exactly the same SSH

 \Rightarrow SLA differences are thus computed without applying any correction :

SLA = Orbit - Range - MSS



SLA consistency between Jason-1 and Jason-2

- 8

 Map of mean of J2 – J1 SLA differences performed over all the period ⇒From cycles 1 to 10 with IGDRs (CNES MOE)

- SLA differences with CNES MOE orbits highlight large structures (+/-3 cm)
- These biases vary in space and time (for each cycle) and they can reach +/- 5 cm.
- Cross-calibration with Envisat shows a better SLA consistency with Jason-2 than with Jason-1 (see -90-Ollivier's talk).





SLA consistency between Jason-1 and Jason-2

- Map of mean of J2 J1 SLA differences performed over all the period ⇒From cycles 1 to 10 with IGDRs (MOE) ⇒From cycles 1 to 7 using GDRs for Jason-1 and preliminary POE CNES for Jason-2
- Using CNES POE orbit, Jason-1/Jason-2 SLA consistency is improved.
- However, weak hemispheric differences remain close to 1 cm
- Correlated geographically biases are stable in space and time.





SLA consistency between Jason-1 and Jason-2

- Map of mean of J2 J1 SLA differences performed over all the period ⇒From cycles 1 to 10 with IGDRs (MOE)
 - \Rightarrow From cycles 1 to 7 using GDRs for Jason-1 and preliminary POE CNES for Jason-2 \Rightarrow From cycles 1 to 7 using POE GSFC for Jason-2 and Jason-1



STD of SLA differences

• The global standard deviation of SLA differences is very stable and weak

• The standard deviation map of SLA differences depending on the SWH as expected

• No abnormal feature is highlighted showing the good consistency of both SLA.





Summary of along-track SLA analyses

• The SLA consistency between both missions is already very good just 4 months after the launch.

• The weak remaining differences observed between both SLA are mainly due to the orbit calculation :

 \Rightarrow Using POE GFSC orbit for J1 and J2, differences are lower than 0.5 cm demonstrating there is no significant correlated geographically biases due to altimeter range between Jason-1 and Jason-2.





Conclusion

 Parameter and SLA performances and consistency is very good between Jason-1 and Jason-2:

⇒In comparison, J1/J2 SLA consistency using POE from 6 cycles is comparable to the SLA consistency between Jason-1 and T/P during all the verification phase (21 cycles), using new orbit standards and similar retracking.

 \Rightarrow The very stable SSH bias between J2 and J1 (<0.2 cm RMS) allows us to link both MSL series very accurately.

• Additional Jason-2 cycles will not be useful to better analyze the Jason-2 SSH performances and the SLA consistency with Jason-1. From this Cal/Val point of view, and in order to better benefit from these both missions for scientific applications, Jason-1 satellite can then be moved to its new interleaved orbit as soon as possible.





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