

Evaluation of Contemporary Ocean Tide Models

C.K. Shum, Hoksum Fok, Yuchan Yi

Division of Geodetic Science, School of Earth Sciences
Ohio State University, USA

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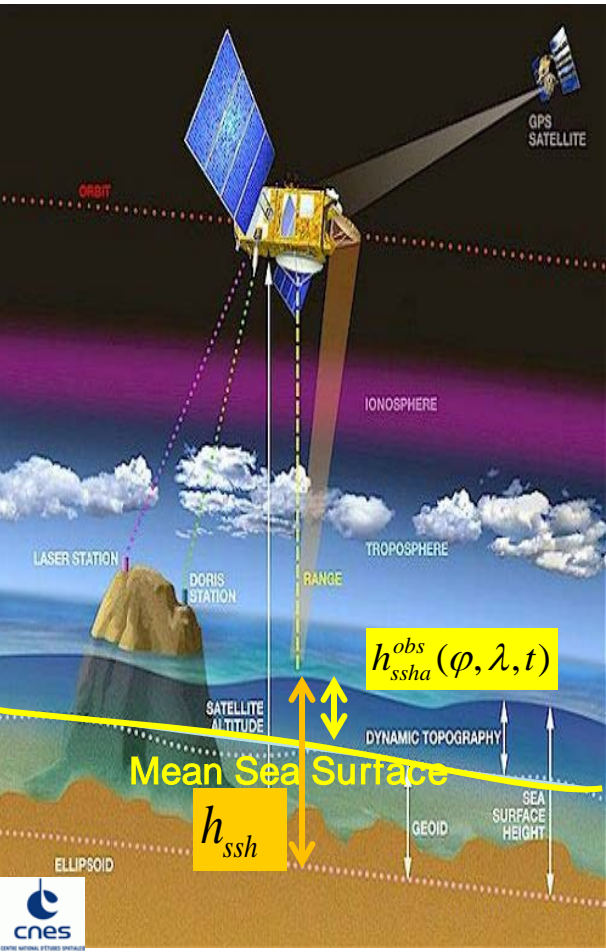
27–28 September 2012



20 years of progress
in radar altimetry

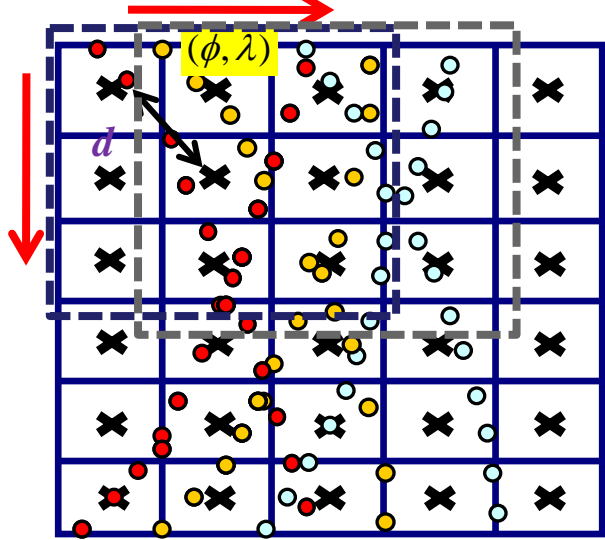


Empirical Ocean Tide Solutions



0.25° resolution

Search Area



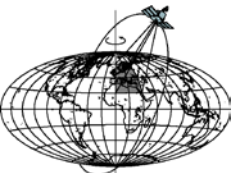
➤ New weighting method consider both *spatial and temporal weight* in the solution process (OSUsw)

➤ One employs variance component estimator (spatio-temporal modeling, OSUvce)

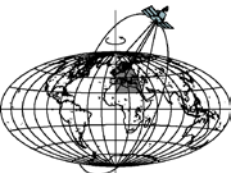
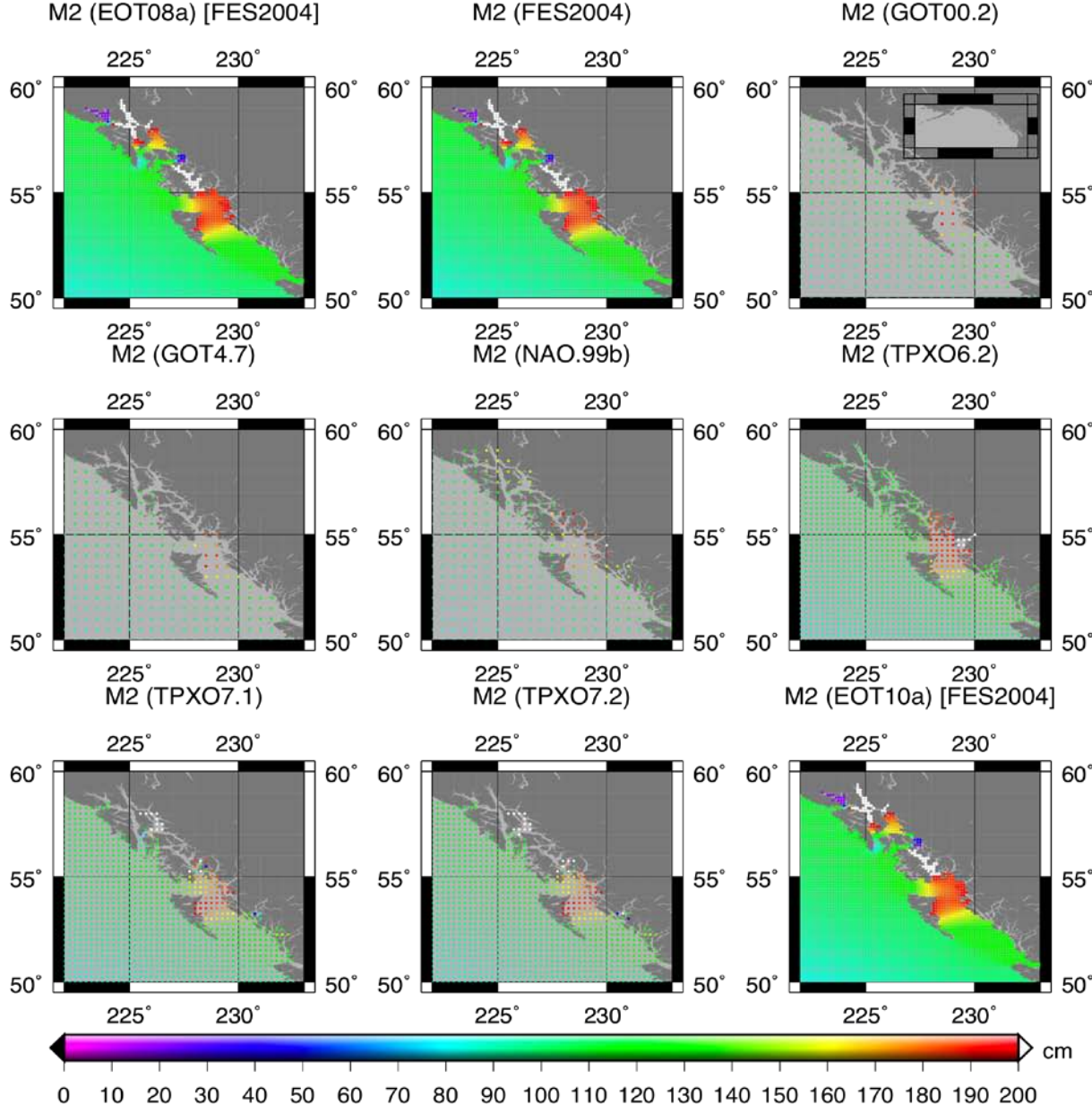
✕ (ϕ_c, λ_c) Gridded Tidal Solution locations

TOPEX/Poseidon (9/1992–9/2005); GFO (01/2000–11/2007); Envisat (11/2002 – 07/2009); Jason-1 (01/2002–01/2009); Jason-2* (07/2008–01/2010);* Used for model evaluation ONLY

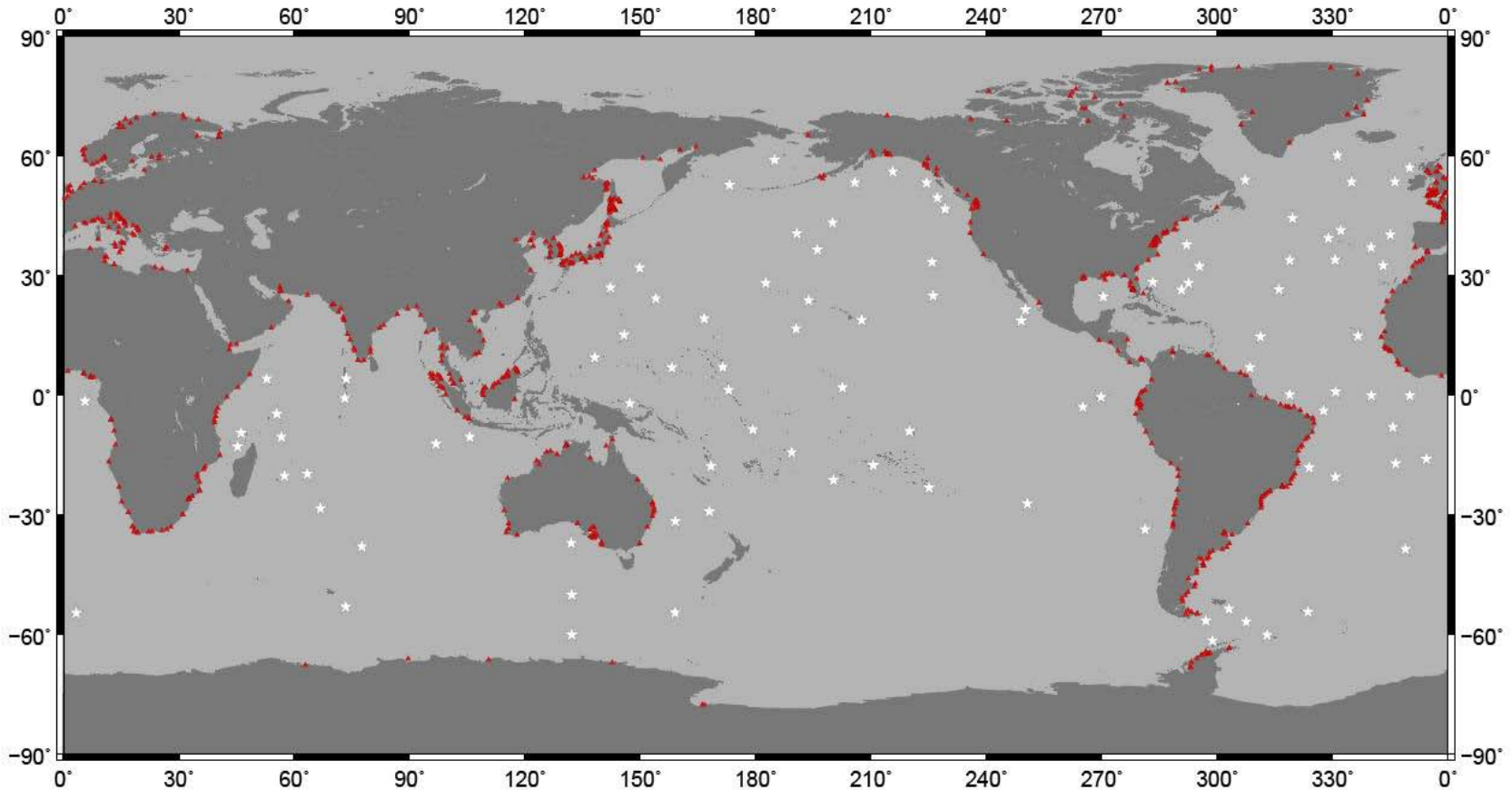
* Note that the location for each altimetry data time series are NOT reduced to grid center a-priori, but weighting in the solution process.





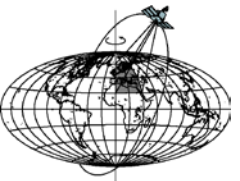
Model resolution and potential land flagged region



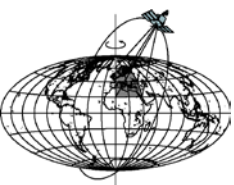
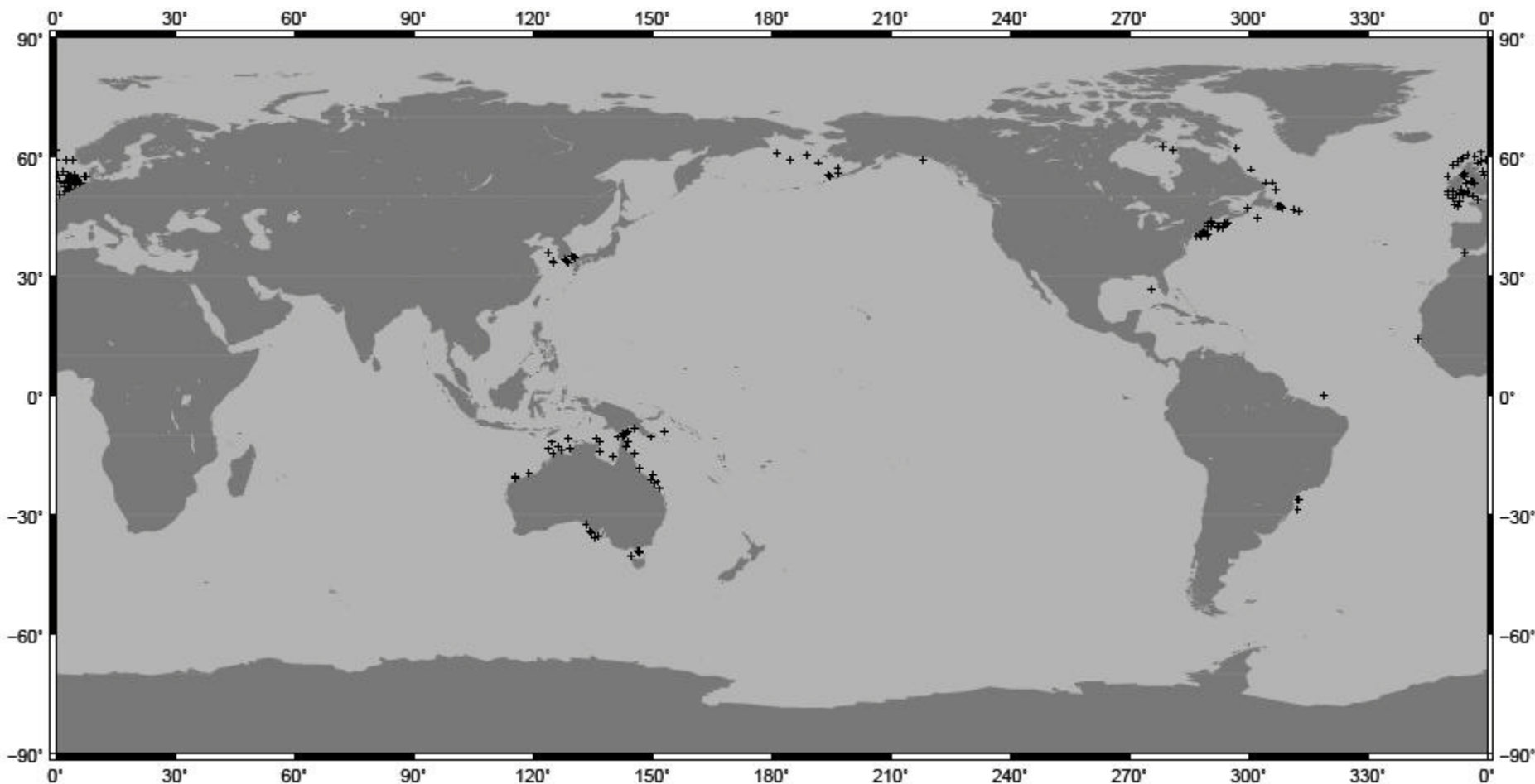
Tide gauge locations (pelagic and coastal)



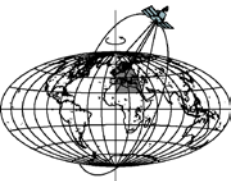
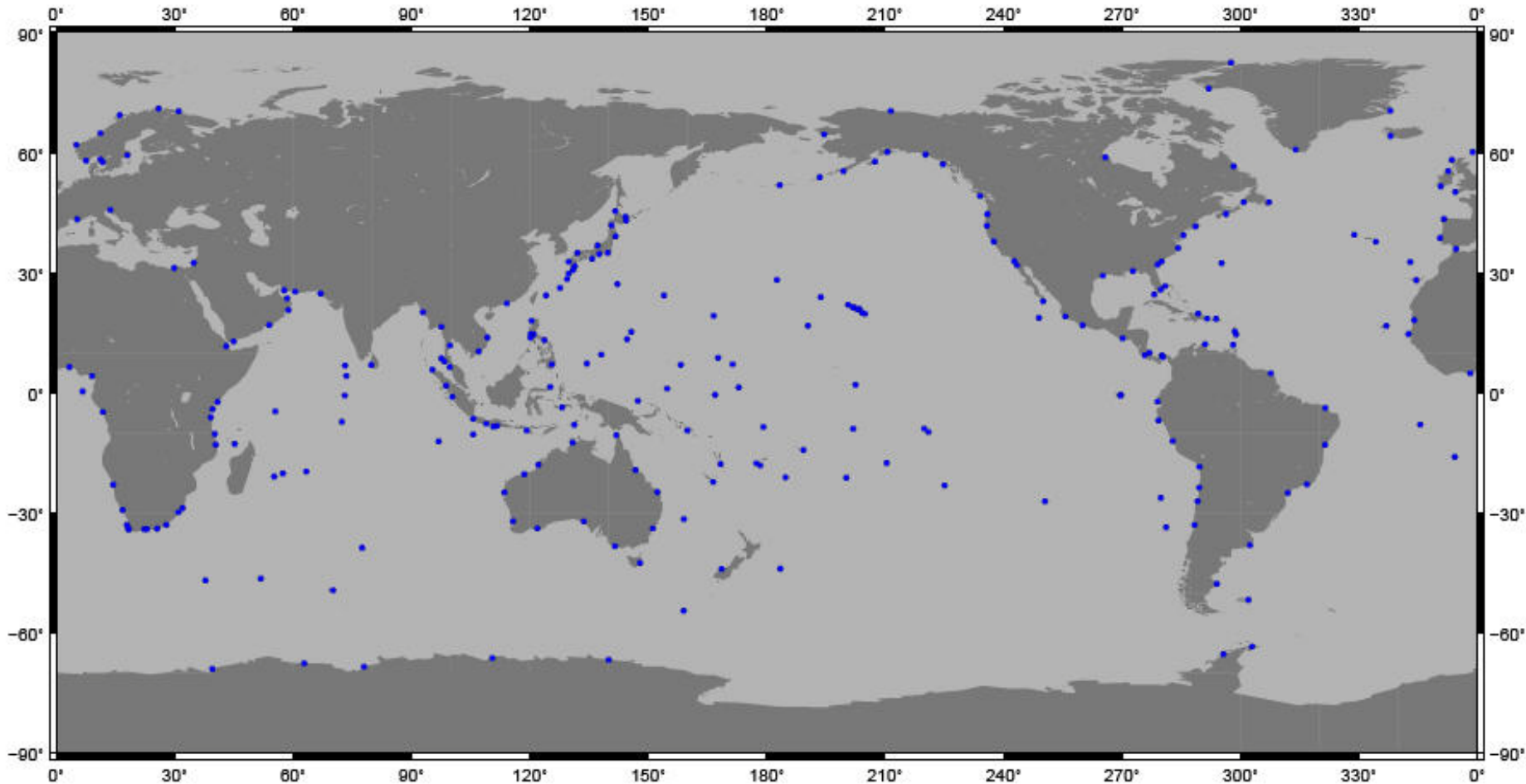
-  Coastal tide gauge locations
-  Pelagic tide gauge locations



Tide gauge locations (SW179)

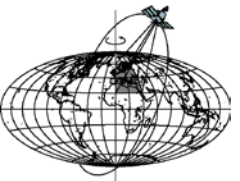
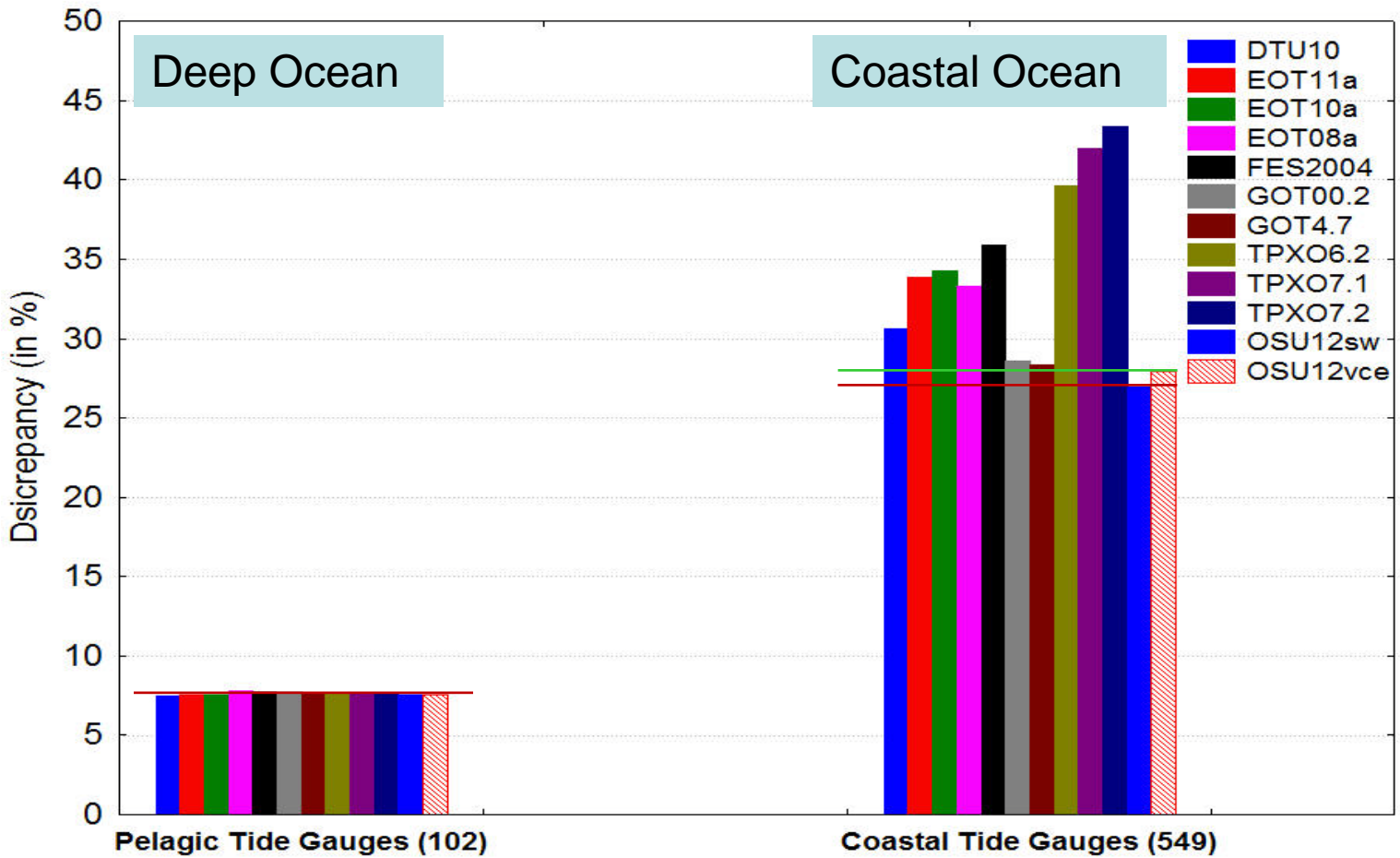


Tide gauge locations (GLOSS)

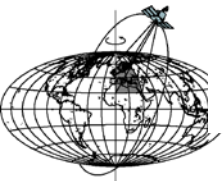
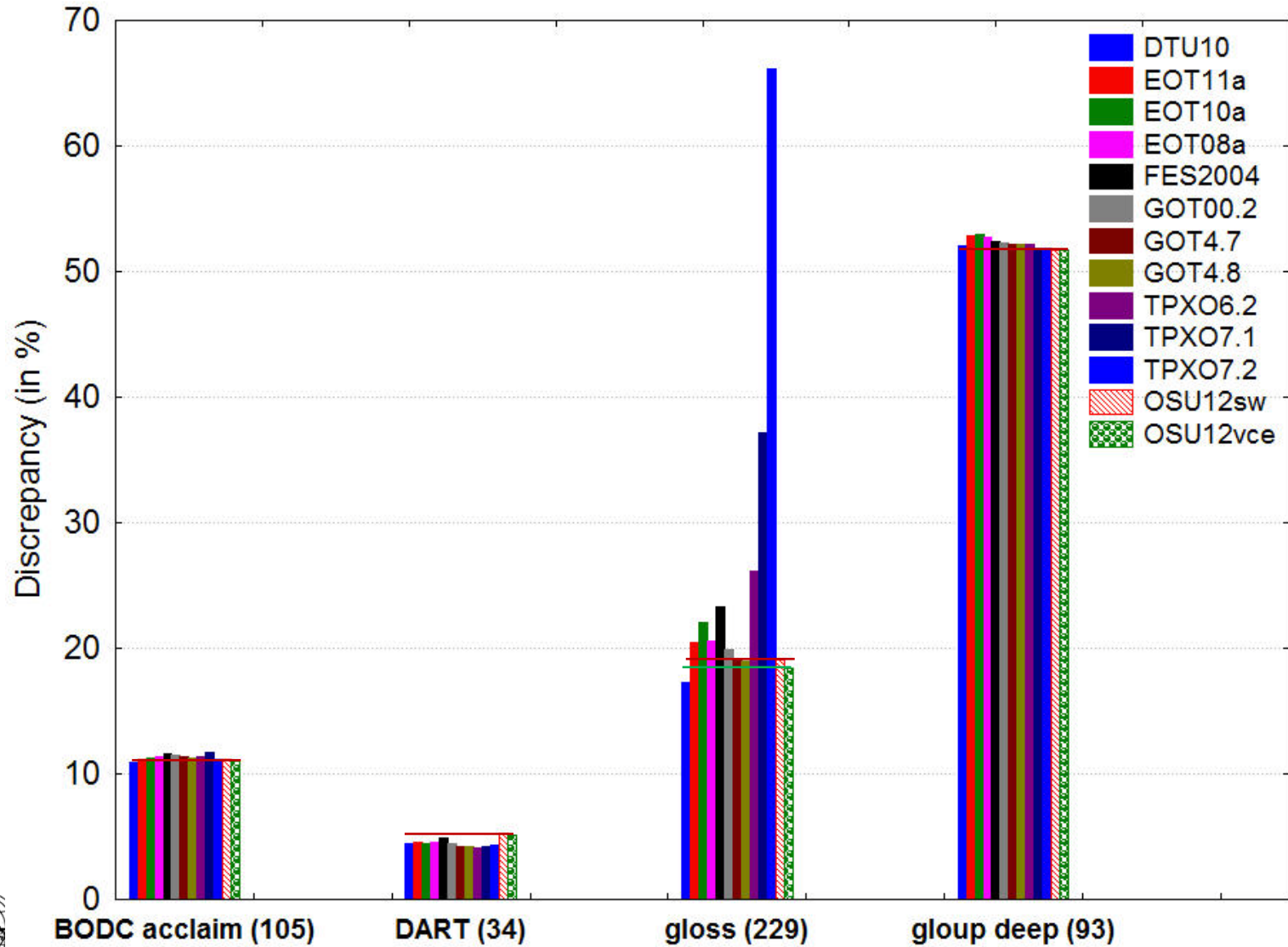


Global accuracy assessment – using tide gauge data

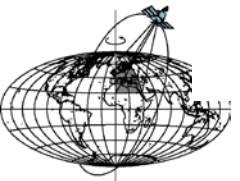
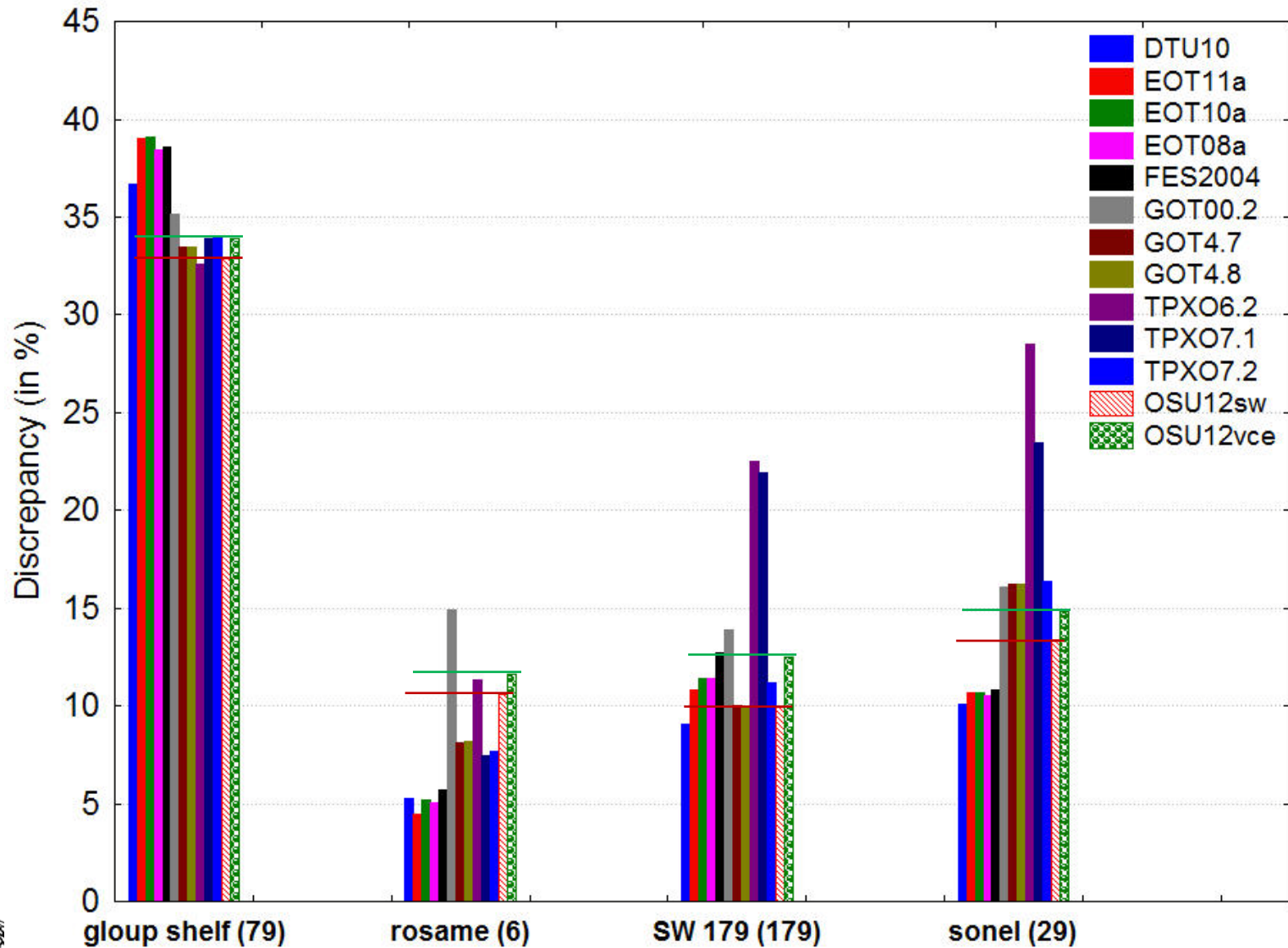
The smaller the discrepancy, the better the models.



Global accuracy assessment – using tide gauge data



Global accuracy assessment – using tide gauge data

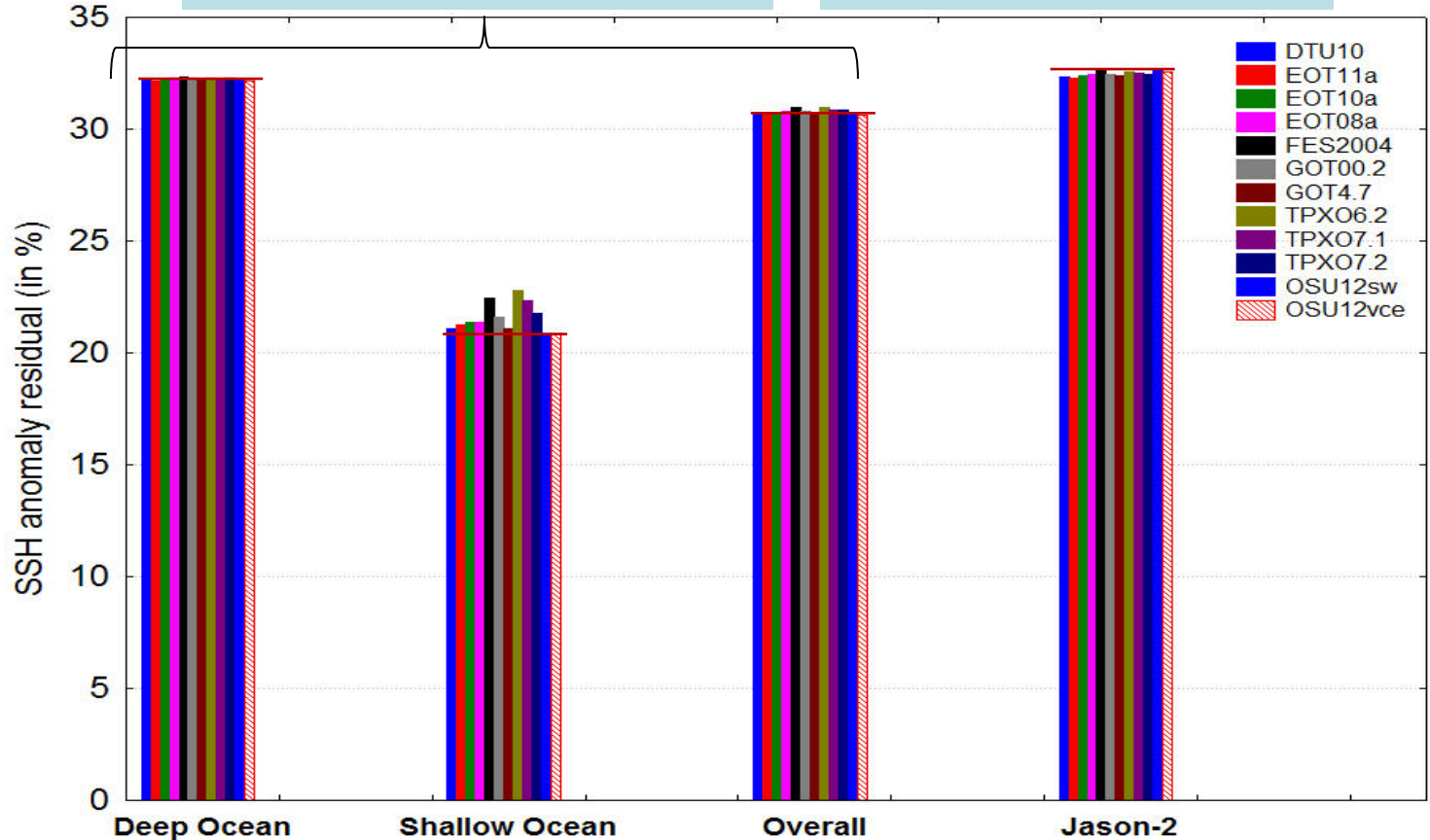


Global accuracy assessment – using altimetry data

The smaller the percentage, the better the models.

All altimetry data are used

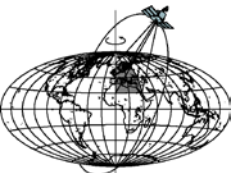
All Jason-2 data ONLY



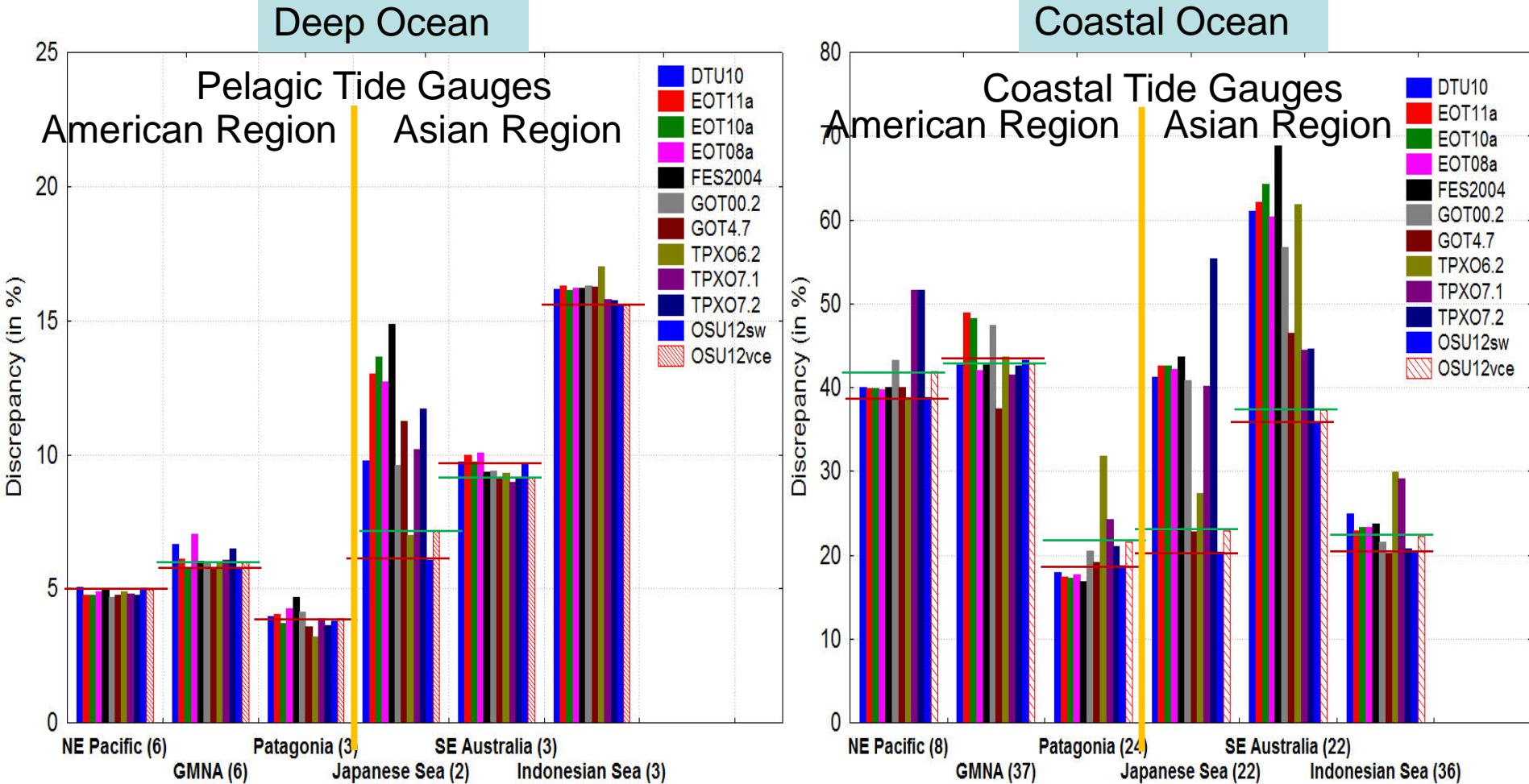
Depth > 1000m

Depth < 1000m

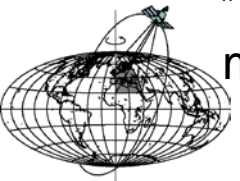
* Jason-2 data are independent



Regional accuracy assessment – using tide gauge data



* Note that **GOT00.2/4.7** model include several regional hydrodynamic models in shallow and inland seas, in addition to a-priori FES model (Ray, 1999)



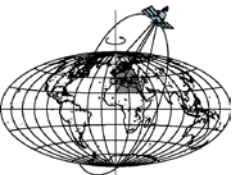
Regional Result – Overall variance explained by ocean tides

Shallow Ocean with depth <1000 m

Region	R (%)
Gulf of Mexico and Northwest Atlantic	~69%
Patagonia Shelf	~81%
Southeast Australia	~78%
Indonesian Sea	~74%
Northeast Pacific	~82%
Japanese Sea	~50%

Deep Ocean with depth >1000 m

Region	R (%)
Gulf of Mexico and Northwest Atlantic	~47%
Patagonia Shelf	~50%
Southeast Australia	~71%
Indonesian Sea	~72%
Northeast Pacific	~83%
Japanese Sea	~45%



Conclusions

- Evaluation of **contemporary ocean tide models** indicate that all models have **comparable performance**, despite regional dependence. However, analysis indicates that one could differentiate the 'better' models.
- Gulf of Mexico/NW Atlantic and Japanese regions exhibit the least altimetry sea-level anomaly reduction (**~46%**) after tides are removed, implying that the higher ocean variability in these regions likely degraded tide solutions. The Indonesia Sea, surprisingly shown a high (**73%**) altimetry sea-level reduction using current tide models/
- Coastal ocean tide modeling remains a **CHALLENGE** in the near future.

