Advances in Coastal Altimetry

Summary

Chairs: Florence Birol, Marcello Passaro and Ted Strub

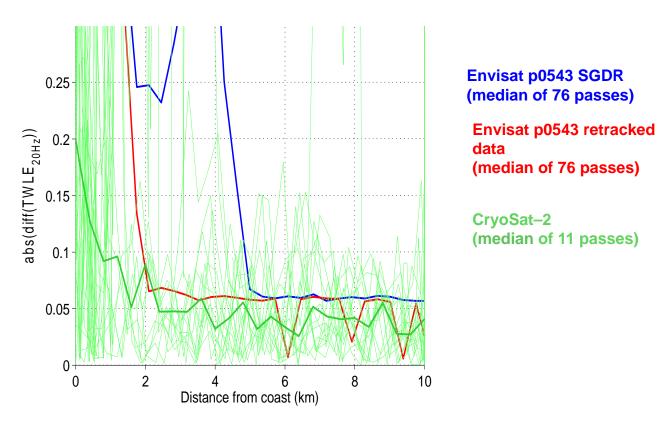
Structure of the Session

- 3 Oral Reviews
- Technical improvements (retracking and corrections)
- Application and multi-sensor/in-situ synergies
- Synergy with models

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Several posters (15) covering aspects of these topics

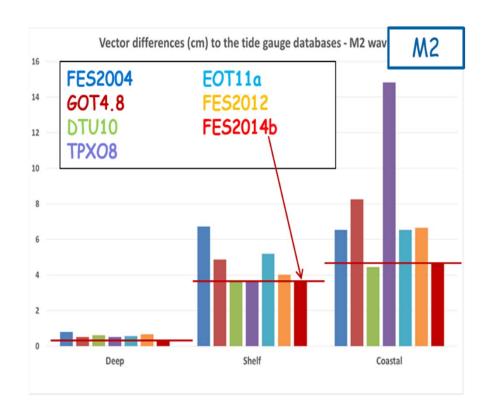
Progresses in retracking are acknowledged, but a standard and user-friendly data source is needed

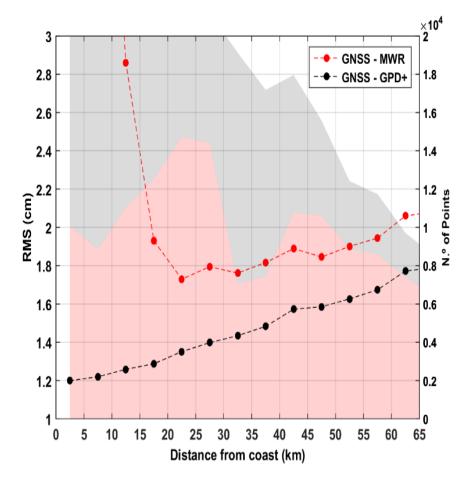


But a lot of discussion was focused on corrections ("adjustements") and references...

Example: Differences between tidal models greatly increase at the coast

Good knowledge of bathymetry is needed to improve tidal modelling in the coast





CORRECTIONS ("Adjustments")

- Need for high rate, to exploit added value of high-rate ranges, swh, winds.
- Special mentions to: Wet Tropo, Sea State Bias, DAC

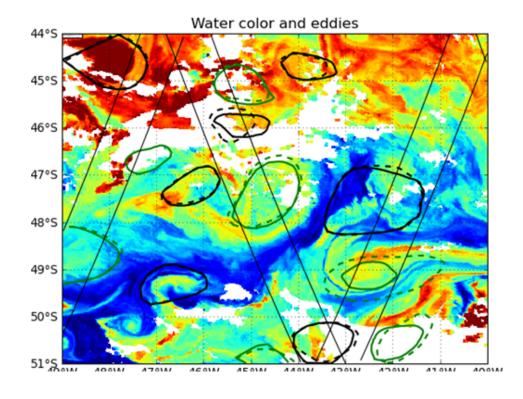
REFERENCE SURFACES

- Mean Sea Surface and Mean Dynamic Topography needs to be recomputed with coastal altimetry data (issue of gridded MSS models vs Along-Track MSS with coastal altimetry data)

SCALES OF VARIABILITY (Temporal and Spatial)

- Exploit favorable situation of
 - * (soon) 6 Altimeters in orbit
 - * Co-located SST (and Ocean Color) measurements with Sentinel-3

SYNERGY WITH SWOT fundamental to understand more about fine scales of variability and our capability to observe them



COASTAL OBSERVING SYSTEM

Multi-Platform analyses compares and combines altimeter SLA with surface data from tide gauge data, drifters and coastal radars; and subsurface data from gliders, undulating vehicle and ADCP surveys

Continue "approaching" the coastal modelling community (ex. ARCOM effort): models are able to resolve scales that altimeter cannot resolve.

The two communities needs more interactions (wikis, user needs) and understanding of feasibility.

DATASETS AND EXPLOITATION

Good Progresses, but partner-communities (such as Coastal Modeling community) still reluctant to adopt the advances in Coastal Altimetry.

Why? Lack of Synthesis, i.e. available products:

- have poor documentation
- are not user-friendly
- are only partial (only retracking, only corrections, only along-track)
- do not provided high level (L4 gridded) coastal products

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION