



# The OGMOC MDT and the combined mean dynamic topography model – DTU17cMDT first results.

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# **Computation of a MDT**

Basically, the Mean Dynamic Topography is obtained through:

1. Subtracting a MSS and a GOCE geoid

### MDT = MSS – Geoid

2. Filtering to remove unmodeled/erroneous parts of the geoid and/or MSS









# DTU17MDT (based on OGMOC geoid):

DTU17MDT is (still to be) a purely geodetic MDT.

Update models – all GOCE data – DTU15MSS.

Assessment of geoid models over the oceans:

- Quantify the quality of various models,
- Extract inhomogeneous/anisotropic features,
- Resolve resolution capacities wrt geostrophic currents.

Improvement of filtering:

• Fine tune <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-width and anisotropy

OGMOC is an just completed ESA sponsored study For Optimal Geoid for Modelling Ocean Circulation







# **Geoid model differences**

#### Differences Eigen6c4 - GOCO05c d/o 150 - 250.









# Improving the filtering:

Filtering varies geographically (1/2-width and anisotropy)

- More smoothing towards the poles,
- More anisotropy towards the Equator,
- More details in energetic areas using the mask below.









# DTU17MDT – Step 1:

#### Update models:

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- New Mean Sea Surface DTU15MSS (mainly Cryosat-2 in Polar regions)
- Geoid models complete to d/o 2160.
- Filter (non-isotropic) at an average 1/2 degree or 45 km





## DTU17MDT



West

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Build on DTU17MDT

Integration with mean drifter velocities:

- Processing of drifter velocities (Ekman + Aviso GCA (20y)),
- Comparisons and error assessment (MDT and mean velocities),
- Model set-up and inversion (Smoothing).









## Merged set of mean drifter velocities





# Inversion

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Model: MDT heights at nodes of a regular 1/4 by 1/4 deg grid.

Minimizing the cost function:

 $\mathbf{F} = \sum (MDT - MDT_{geodetic})^2 + C_{gradient} \cdot \sum (\nabla MDT - \nabla MDT_{oceanographic})^2 + C_{smoothness} \cdot \sum (\Delta MDT)^2$ 

Consider errors

- Mean drifter velocities: e ~ 1/sqrt(n)
- MDT error:







# Results

# DTU17MDT > OGMOC









# Results

#### DTU17MDT >

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GOCE







- Further assess errors
- Adjust / fine tune weights and regularization
- -> Update to DTU18MDT by integrate with DTU18 MSS.



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## Summary

First version of DTU17cMDT being a MDT combining the geodetic DTU17MDT with drifter mean velocities.

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Still need to:

- Assess errors,
- Adjust weights and regularization/smoothing

DTU17cMDT and DTU17MDT is available upon request to pk@space.dtu.dk or oa@space.dtu.dk

