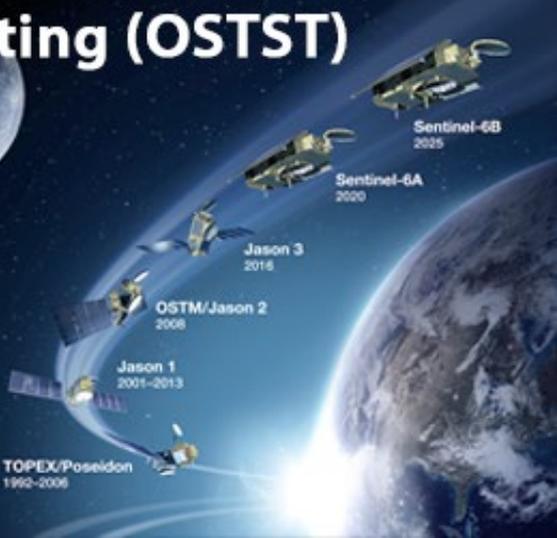


Closing statements

Project Scientists

Ocean Surface Topography Science Team Meeting (OSTST)

21-22 March 2022
Virtual Meeting



In Memoriam

Laury Miller, NOAA

Jason Program Scientist

Chief, Laboratory for Satellite Altimetry

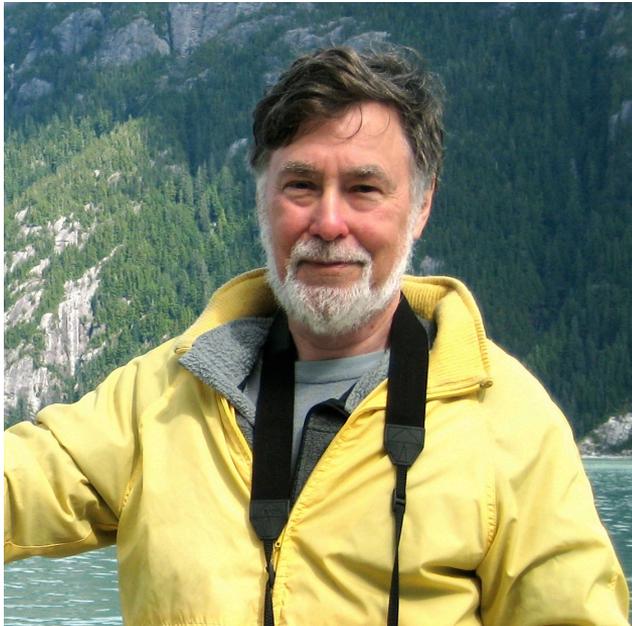
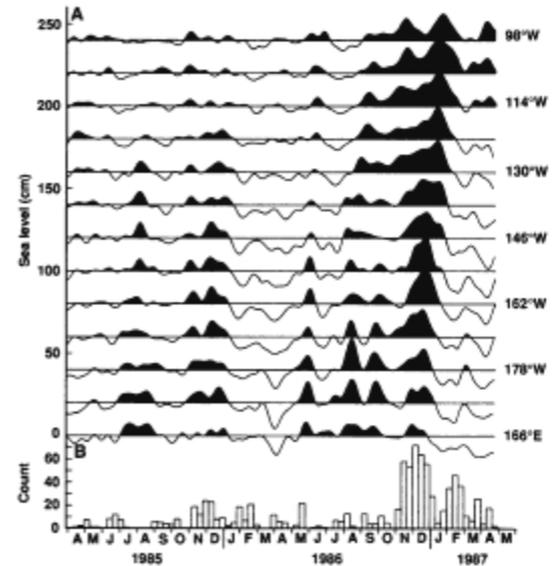


Fig. 2. (A) Altimeter-derived sea level time series at 13 locations (8° intervals between 166°E and 98°W) along the equator, April 1985 through April 1987. Sea level was computed in the same manner as in Fig. 1A. Horizontal lines indicate zero mean values for the first 12 months (April 1985 through April 1986) with 20-cm offset between pairs of series. (B) Histogram along the x-axis indicating the time intervals during which westerly wind bursts were persistently observed in the far western equatorial Pacific. The histogram was constructed by summing the number of days for which analyzed westerly winds greater than 5 knots were found in each 5° by 5° box in the region 0° to 5°S , 130°E to 170°E (19).



“GEOSAT Altimeter Observations of Kelvin Waves and the 1986-87 El Niño”, *Science*, 1 January 1988

Appreciations

- ...to the project teams for the difficult work done to maintain the missions during this unprecedented period.
- ... to the agencies for the successful transfer of Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich into the operational phase on schedule, which is critical to maintaining the climate data record.
- ...for the continuing effort to implement a consistent GDR-F standard across the missions, including the full-mission reprocessing of Jason-3.

Altimeter Constellation Reference Mission

Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich meets the requirements for the altimetry reference mission defined in section 6.1 of the CEOS The Next 15 Years of Satellite Altimetry: Ocean Surface Topography Constellation User Requirements Document. In support of this statement, the Sentinel-6 Project Scientists provide the following statement:

Given the analyses performed by the Sentinel-6 Mission Performance Working Group, the analyses presented at the Sentinel-6 Validation Team Meetings, results from the dedicated Calibration sites, and further analyses performed by the Agencies, the Project Scientists of the Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich mission state that:

- The performance requirements for low-resolution measurements, as set in the End User and System Requirements Documents, have been met;
- The performance requirements for high-resolutions measurements, as set in the End User and System Requirements Documents have largely been met, with deviations and processing evolutions agreed for their implementation by the end of 2022.

Regarding the long-term drift requirement, the Project Scientists agree that:

- Sufficient altimeter measurements have been captured to cross-calibrate both the Side A and Side B altimeter range measurements with Jason-3 to within 1 millimeter and that the drift requirement is on target to be confirmed based on analysis of a longer time series of measurements.

Given these findings, the Project Scientists conclude that Jason-3 can safely hand over its role as the Reference Altimetry Mission to Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich and move to an interleaved orbit.