A new SAR altimetry waveform model ready for current and forthcoming SAR missions

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- **1.** Model improvements
- 2. The Sentinel-6 / Jason-CS retrieval processor
- 3. Verification results (by means of CNES CPP & ESA Baseline B)
- 4. Sentinel-6 / Jason-CS geophysical records (HR RAW and HR RMC)
- 5. Conclusions

1. Model improvements

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- Revisited Ray et al. 2014 (SAMOSA) under the framework of the Sentinel-6/Jason-CS contract
- Improvements include:
 - Different windowing along- and across- track
 - Different clock frequency (sampling) and receiving bandwidth

New mathematical formula different to [Ray et al.]

- Introduction of noise floor in multi-look waveform revisited
- Stack masking:
 - Range cell migration tail compensation
 - Doppler ambiguity cancellation

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- Stack weighting
- None-equal range bin incoherent integration

Some of the improvements above are already implemented in parallel works or can easily be implemented, but not the new mathematical formulation. Without it, for solutions derived from Zero-Padding or Hamming windowing, swh estimates won't be 100% correct, nor Sigma0.

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2. The S-6 / J-CS retrieval processor



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3. Verification Results



- After processing 2 full months of CPP data over the pacific
- @ 20 Hz results show **excellent agreement** between the numerical solution @ CNES and our new formulation for **Epoch and Pu**
- @ 20 Hz Epoch shows a minor mean bias in the order of mm between the two solutions with Epoch bias mean ~ mm; std = 1 cm → @ 1Hz std goes down to 2.5 mm
- @ 20 Hz Pu shows a ratio difference between solutions of 1.8 that once compensated results into no appreciable difference among solutions \rightarrow our solution is not calibrated
- @ 20 Hz swh
 - If noise floor is achieved from first 10 samples (rb 13 to 23) \rightarrow ratio between solutions
 - If static noise floor + ThN from CNES → no ratio (mean bias = 6 mm; std bias = 8.5 cm)

THIS VALUES ARE ACHIEVED WITHOUT FURTHER PROCESSING THAN RETRACKING, THUS NO LOOK UP TABLES SOLUTION





3. Verification Results



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- isardSAT
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S-6 / J-CS Geophysical Records - SSH





- SSH estimates show to be under estimated when Doppler ambiguity is not filtered
- HR RAW and RMC show nice agreement when filtering for Doppler ambiguity
- From these last two and as means of error bar, not accounting for results @ 0.1 [m], SSB shows to be ~2% of swh @ 20Hz HR



S-6 / J-CS Geophysical Records - SWH





- Swh estimates show to be over estimated when Doppler ambiguity is not filtered
- HR RAW and RMC show nice agreement when filtering for Doppler ambiguity. Although for high swh RMC shows a little under estimation compared to RAW due to the none presence of the wfm tail → SWH information in HR is contained in leading edge and trailing edge

-S-6 / J-CS Geophysical Records -Sigma0





- Sigma0 estimates show to be over estimated when there is Doppler ambiguity
- RAW and RMC filtered results show very nice agreement

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5. Conclusions

- A new formulation is available which accounts for all possible configurations of the Delay Doppler processor known till present
- This new formulation shows very nice agreement with CNES CPP without the need of LUT or any kind of post-processing
- Sentinel-6/Jason-CS simulated results when filtering for Doppler ambiguity show:
 - SSB to be ~2% for 20Hz HR mode
 - SWH RAW and RMC to have nice agreement with some difference for high SWH values
 - Sigma-0 RAW and RMC to have nice agreement with some difference for high SWH values

S-6 / J-CS Test Datasets FTP

• For further details

- Instrument Processing: Measurement and retracking (SAR and LRM)
 - Poster num 115 \rightarrow combined with Chris Ray's poster
- Please download the data and send us your feedback!
 - FTP server: ftp.eopp.esa.int
 - **Login:** sentinel6-science
 - Password: yot7+scart
- Note: this new formulation will be in use for the Globcurrent contract for the derivation of Ocean currents



Thank You!

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3. Verification Results

Thermal noise properly added or not IMPORTANT FOR SENTINEL-3 TEAM !!

