




New frontiers of altimetry



Lake Constance - Germany,
27-31 October 2014

Discussion, summary and recommendation

Pascal Bonnefond

Josh Willis

Remko Scharroo (on behalf of Hans Bonekamp)

John Lillibridge

Lee-Lueng Fu

Rosemary Morrow

Jason-3

- **Launch date 31st March 2015**

Continuity being of the utmost importance, the Ocean Surface Topography Science Team strongly recommends that space agencies strive to maintain the current launch date of Jason-3.

Jason-CS

- **Launch date 2020**

Nominally, the current and projected launch dates for Jason-3 (March, 2015) and Jason-CS (2020) may not leave sufficient margin for cross calibration between missions, and further slips will jeopardize continuity of the sea level record. ***The Ocean Surface Topography Science Team strongly recommends that space agencies strive to avoid further slippage of the Jason-CS launch date to ensure that there is overlap with the expected 5 year lifetime of Jason-3.***

Jason-2/Jason-3 Formation Flight Phase

- The proposed strategy from the project:
 - Jason-2 remains in nominal median tracking throughout
 - Jason-3 alternates median/DEM cycles (after validation of DEM mode)

Jason-2 interleaved orbit

- Recommendation

Move Jason-2 to the interleaved orbit with a 5-day delay (as for Jason-1) after 6 months of Formation Flight with Jason-3

Jason-2 Extension of Life

- **We need to decide on a graveyard orbit for Jason-2 in the case of failing performance in its end of life**
- **Jason-2 has to be moved out of the altitude of the long term Jason reference orbit**
- **J2-EOL working group to be re-established to consider different options for science, given the operational limitations (to be clarified by agencies)**
- **What are our science priorities for J2-EOL?**
 - **Geodesy? Operational oceanography? SWOT?**

T/P Reprocessing

- **What is missing to speed up the process?**

Altimetry Monitoring with Tide gauges

- Develop a high accuracy and stability tide gauge network to monitor altimeter accuracy
- Better vertical land motion monitoring (long lasting open point ...) is required – GPS (or other means) should be co-located! This would also provide additional GPS information in coastal areas for radiometer correction analysis
- We can't rely on everyone's good will and then we may address this need to agencies for routine and long term calval



Organizing team

CNES

Laurence AMEN

Nicole BELLEFOND

EUMETSAT

Gabriele KERRMANN

Lorna PUTZE

CARTE BLANCHE

Violaine FERRERO

Anaïs FRANCO

Franck THABAUD