

Assessment of recent revisions to the TOPEX/Poseidon/Jason Sea Surface Height Climate Data Record: Impact on global and regional sea level estimates

B.D. Beckley, N.P. Zelensky, X. Yang, M. Ricko SGT Inc. Greenbelt, MD, USA

> R.D. Ray, F.G. Lemoine NASA GSFC, Greenbelt, MD, USA

S. Desai, S. Brown, P. Callahan JPL, Pasadena, CA, USA

G. Mitchum University of S. Florida, St. Petersburg, FL, USA

D. Vandemark, H. Feng University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA



2015 OSTST Meeting, Oct. 21, 2015, Reston, VA



Preview

- Revisions to MEaSURE's Sea Surface Height (SSH) product TOPEX/Poseidon, Jason-1&2 primary mission data (Sep. 1992 – Aug. 2015) http://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov/Integrated_Multi-Mission_Ocean_AltimeterData EOSDIS doi: 10.5067/ALTTS-TJ122
- ü Current global and regional sea level estimates
- **ü** Geodetic issues POD, reference frame, time varying gravity modeling
- **ü** Monitoring instrument stability tide gauge verification analyses, error budget
- ü Monitoring of observed changes in recent regional SSH trends



Objective: Develop a coherent and consistent time series of sea surface height from multi-mission altimeter data that meets the most stringent accuracy requirements demanded to provide credible mean sea level estimates for climate research.





Revised Pole tide correction-impact on regional sea level estimates





Prior model has two deficiencies:

Not valid for long-term drift in polar motion.
 Ignores effects of self-gravitation, loading,

conservation of mass, and geocenter motion

arising from redistribution of mass of oceans.

• Error of +/- 0.25 mm/year.

• Recommended updated model of "Mean Pole" includes bias and long-term drift.



Poster TID_004 Updating the Pole Tide Model for Satellite Altimetry, Desai et al.



Note: GOT4.10 derived from Jason-1 & 2 altimetry only. GOT4.8 derived from T/P altimetry only.



Ocean Tide Model Development *reduction of the 59-day signal*







Periodic variations in GMSL Estimates Reduction of Error at 59-days





T/P: GOT4.7, Cg applied, S₂ air-tide error in dry troposphere correction **Jason-1**: GOT4.7 **Jason-2**: GOT4.7

T/P: GOT4.8, Cg not applied, Dry tropo corrected for S₂ air-tide error Jason-1: GOT4.10 Jason-2: GOT4.10

See also Zawadzki et al., Reduction of the 58.77-day Signal in the Mean Sea Level derived from TOPEX/Poseidon, Jason-1 and Jason-2 data with the latest FES and GOT ocean tide models



TOPEX Global Mean Sea Level Cycles 21 – 364 MGDR_B vs R-GDR_2015





see Poster: Feng et al., Revised sea state bias models for retracked TOPEX altimeter data





Tide Gauge "ground truth" Network

Ø*Prof. Gary Mitchum provides independent assessments of SSH time series for GSFC, NOAA, and U. of Colorado.*

Ø Largest uncertainty in estimated rates arises from land motion at gauges.

ØVertical land motion corrections based on GPS ULR5 series (*Santamaría-Gómez*, 2012).





Stability estimate of the 23 year record based on GSFC std1204 orbit.





Compounded TVG + TRF induced-errors in regional sea level trend estimates





Geographically correlated errors will impact verification results depending on the chosen validation tide gauge network geometry.

GSFC revised orbit standard std1504

SLR residual RMS differences (std1204-std1504) / cycle positive => improvement for std1504 Δ Topex Jason-1 0 Jason-2 3 2 Ę 1 -1 -2 -3 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020 1990



Std1504 radial orbit accuracy relative to std1204 using SLR data.

GSFC std1504 principal updates to the previous std1204 standard:

Sumple 3 gravity field: offset, rate, annual and semi-annual terms to deg/order 5x5 from SLR/DORIS tracking to 21 satellites, estimated over two spans: 1993-2002, 2003-2014; GOCO2S (from 6x6).

I measured **solar array pointing angles** for Jason1 and Jason2

O improved Jason-1/2 satellite **center of mass** (\mathbf{CM}_{s}) to SLR/DORIS antenna phase center modeling

 \emptyset forward modeling of station displacements due to annual geocenter variation (CM_E)



Jason-2 regional orbit difference trends GSFC std1504 minus JPL14a







 30
 Altimetry - Gauge rate = -0.27 mm/yr +/- 0.4 mm/yr

 20
 Standard deviation = 4.5 mm

 10
 -10

 -10
 -0.77 mm/yr

 -20
 3.6 mm

1992199419961998200020022004200620082010201220142016

JPL14a



1992199419961998200020022004200620082010201220142016

Jason-2 GDR_D and GDR_E POD Comparison



Jason-2 regional orbit difference trends CNES GDR_E minus JPL14a











Tide Gauge Vertical Motion Estimation Mis-modeling at Pago Pago





Impact of ENSO on Global Mean Sea Level









Regional SSH Trends Reflecting Climate Indices *Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) Case Study*







Regional 5-yr Sea Surface Height Trends 1993.0 – 2015.5





YEAR: 2010.50 - 2015.49





