ESA Sea level CCI

Quarterly progress report: Q4 2015

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### Chronology Issues:

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<td>23/12/2015</td>
<td>First Issue</td>
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1. Overall progress of project

The project is on schedule. The development of new algorithms and altimeter standards has been finalized. They have been evaluated through a round robin approach together with external corrections. The SL_cci team gathered with external experts for the Algorithm Selection Meeting that took place in Toulouse on Nov. 25-27th 2015. It was the opportunity to agree on the best standards to be used for the reprocessed ECV (v2.0, planned in 2016). In addition, new sea level products dedicated to the Arctic Ocean have been delivered and the ECV quality assessment performed by the CRG is in progress. The output of this selection meeting will be made available on the project website.

2. Readiness for operational ability

Among the sea Level ECV products, the monthly maps of sea level anomalies and the associated climate indicators are mature enough to be transferred to operational services.

However, the activities related to the ECV production need to be better characterized. In order to ensure climate-quality products, reaching the GCOS requirements which are not yet met for all elements of the ECV product, some further activities are fundamental. This includes the development of improved algorithms, their validation and selection, the maintenance of historical altimeter missions' databases, the use of reprocessed dataset made available by space agencies as well as the external ECV validation and the link with climate scientists. In addition, this should be noted that some input data required for the computation of the ECV are available with some delay, which prevents us from providing ECV updates at a better rate than approximately one year.

3. Technical info

The following peer-reviewed papers from the SL_cci team have been published within the last months:


Gruber, Ch., Groh, A., Rudenko, S. Validation of GRACE time-variable gravity field by GPS, ICESat, WGHM and altimetry satellites orbits, International Association of Geodesy Symposia, submitted, under review.


Cumulated number of users and downloads of the SL_cci ECV and FCDR since Jan. 2014