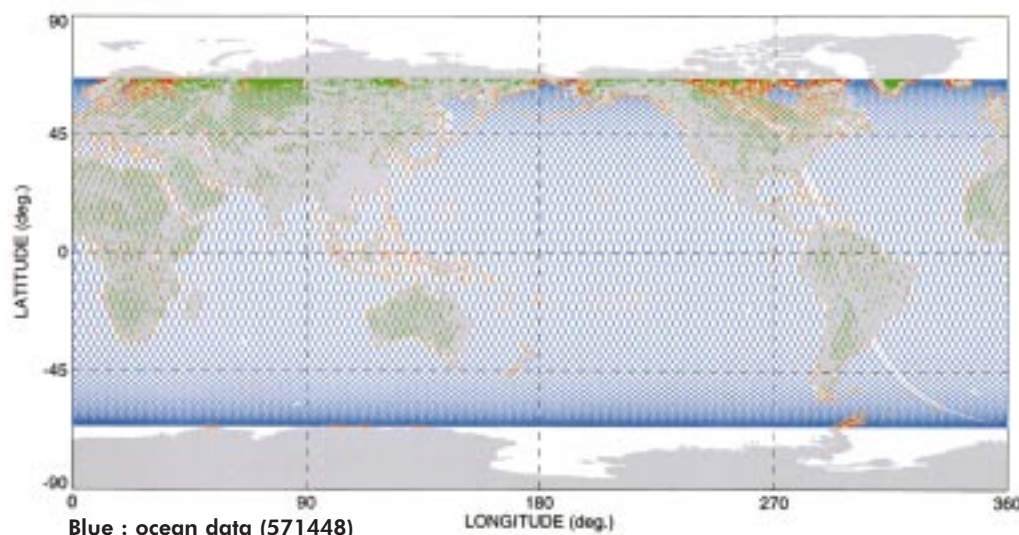


# POSEIDON-I operations and geophysical performances

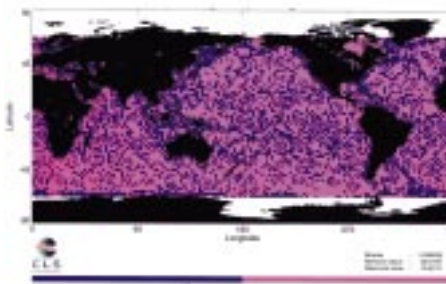
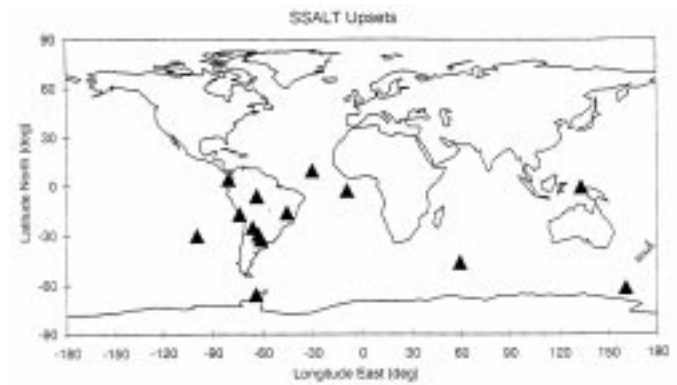
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E. Thouvenot, N. Picot and P. Vincent (CNES)

Poseidon has been turned on 36 times since launch. Over this period, data availability is more than 93%. During the 227 days of operations, all incidents (16) except very few ones, occurred in the south Atlantic anomaly area. Quality of oceanographical and geophysical signals (see below) derived from global data analysis is not affected.

Successful Tracking coverage



Blue : ocean data (571448)  
Red : ambiguous data (40226)  
Green : continental data (58095)



Comparison between Topex (cycle 163) and Poseidon (cycle 162) altimeters in terms of valid measurements (after application of AVISO/CALVAL criteria). Pink : more Poseidon valid measurements than Topex. Blue : more Topex valid measurements than Poseidon.

## Geophysical performances

Topex and Poseidon data may be efficiently merged for geophysical applications because of the quite comparable performances of the 2 instruments

Homogeneity of Poseidon and Topex data sets may be assessed through the following elements :

- CrossOver Analysis
- Mean Sea level trend
- Relative bias
- Maps of Sea Level Anomalies

