Latest Results for the absolute calibration of Jason and HY-2 using Gavdos/Crete permanent calibration facility

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Gavdos Permanent Facility
HY-2 Ground tracks over Crete

- CRS1 is the Cal/Val site for HY-2
- Only 10 km away from PCA
- South & north track for HY-2 calibration
Gavdos and West Crete Facilities
Jason–2 Calibrating regions

OSTST Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, USA, 8–11–Oct–2013
Estimating sea level at gauges

- Four types of tide gauges, 2 GNSS receivers;
- Different measuring conditions (well, dock, ..)
- Robust linear fit using 1–hour data records;
- Weighted value for estimating sea level.

\[ W(t) = a_1 L_1(t) + \ldots + a_4 L_4(t) \]
Jason–2 bias along pass No. 109

- GDR–D, Cycles: 2–172;
- GOCE dynamic topography; Cal region 17.7km–24 km;
- Bias = 13.6 mm ± 2.4 mm, using local geoid model;
- Bias = 18.9 mm ± 2.5 mm, using altimetric MSS reference.
Bias, bathymetry and distance
Jason–2 bias along pass No. 109

- GDR–D, Cycles: 2–172;
- GOCE dynamic topography; Cal region 12.5km–24 km;
- Bias = 18.3 mm ± 2.3 mm, using local geoid model;
- Bias = 19.3 mm ± 2.3 mm, using altimetric MSS reference
Wet troposphere delays

[AMR wet tropo]–[GNSS wet tropo] = +2mm ±3mm; Cycles=2–172, GAMIT, meteo site data; GIPSY Processing with GPT model, bias= −11mm.
Sea level slopes & seismic events

- Locations of earthquake in 2011–2013, Magnitude larger than M=4;
- On 27–Sept–2011, M=4.7, located close to Jason-2 satellite orbit;
- The large peak on the diagram showing the difference in slopes between SSH and SLA happens on 29–Sept–2011;
- IB have been removed from both SSH and SLA.
Calibrating HY–2 using CRS1

- I–GDR files: Cycle No. 19–22 (19 June–14 Aug, 2012);
- Models for ionosphere, dry and wet troposphere, and Sea State Bias.
- 1–Hz Data, Time-tagging problems, Missing values in orbit.
- HY–2 Bias = 2.879 m (Preliminary in 2012, Pass No.280)
Calibrating HY–2, CRS1, west Crete

Bias values in Cycle=49 as function of distance, South leg.
HY-2 altimeter bias

Cycles: 43–50, I–GDR data, 20–Hz, Cycle=48 contains no SSB, Calibrating regions: 9–16 km (south), 10–18 km (north), Median bias= $-29\, \text{mm} \pm 27\, \text{mm}$, Mean = $-1.3\, \text{mm} \pm 40\, \text{mm}$ Wet and dry tropo values from ECMWF model.

OSTST Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, USA, 8–11–Oct–2013
Transponder Status

- Fully characterized, March–July, 2012 in ESTEC;
- Transponder is now operational for Cryosat–2.
Transponder Cal/Val at SLR2
Cryosat-2 calibration successful

Site: SLR2 in North West Crete
Time: 10–May–2013, 20 21 47 UTC
Lat= N 35 32 ’ 05.05 ’ ’, Long= E 24 04 ’ 03.6962386 ’ ’ ,
Ellipsoid Height= 156.275 m
Cryosat-2 transponder Cal/Val

- Cryosat-2 bias: $B = 0.638\text{m}$ (from FBR data)
- Time: 10–May–2013, 20 21 47 UTC
- Cryosat-2 calibrations are on-going.
Transponder CDN2 site, West Crete

Jason-2 mission will be used to perform a calibration of the surrounding terrain at the new location.
Conclusions

- **Jason-2 altimeter bias (GDR-D, Cycle=2-172, within 12.5–24 km south of Gavdos):**
  - $B = +18.3 \text{ mm} \pm 2.4 \text{ mm}$, (geoid reference);
  - $B = +19.3 \text{ mm} \pm 2.3 \text{ mm}$ (MSS reference);
- **AMR Wet Troposphere against GNSS:**
  - Pass No. 109 : $+2\text{mm} \pm 3 \text{ mm}$.
- **Calibration of HY-2, I–GDR, 20–Hz:**
  - $B=-29\text{mm} \pm 27 \text{ mm}$ (median); $=-1.3\text{mm} \pm 40 \text{ mm}$
- Transponder operates now for Cryosat-2;
- Permanent ESA transponder calibration site at CDN2 in 2014 for Sentinel-3 and Jason missions.
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