SSALTO/DUACS: The reprocessing of the 20 years of data is on going

Change of the reference period

The historical 7-year [1993,1999] period historically used to reference the SSALTO/DUACS SLA products will be changed for the new 20-year [1993,2012] period. As a consequence the interannual signals will have more relevant intensities and spatial signatures.

Main impacts of this change on the products:

- Different signature of the SLA at regional scale
- No change of the Absolute products (i.e. ADT)

More information in Aviso website, Newsletter #9 (May 2013)

New absolute calibration of the SLA

SLA will be arbitrary calibrated so that the mean SLA is null aver 1993.

Main impacts of this change on the products:

- A near 2.5 cm global bias will be observed between the current DT products and the future products
- The bias between DT and NRT products will be changed

Geostrophic currents improved

- The use of the 9-point stencil width method (Arbic et al, 2012) allows to reduce the impact of the anisotropy introduced by the Cartesian 1/4° grid resolution.
- The SLA computation in the equatorial band is improved in order to smooth the transition at 5°N and improve the consistency between altimeter products and drifters observations.
- Zonally averaged discrepancies between the velocity component computed from 3-, 5- and 7-point stencils and those from 9-point stencils (from Arbic et al, 2012).
- The discrepancies, larger in high latitude areas in largely reduced when the stencil width is increased, with a convergence effect.

Mesoroscale better resolved

All the different changes implemented in the new version of the DT products lead to a more precise observation and reconstruction of the mesoscale structures.

In summary

Early 2014 different changes will be included in the DT and NRT products and in a complete reprocessing of DT Products:

- Change of the reference period and absolute reference of the measurement
- Improved standards and processing
- New nomenclature and format

PLEASE SEND US YOUR FEEDBACKS!
aviso@oceanobs.com