



New Release of DUACS Products: 20 Years of High Resolution Sea Level Time Series Reprocessed

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During the last 20 years, altimeter high quality near real time and delayed time Level3 (along-track cross-calibrated SLA) and Level4 products (merging multiple sensors) were developed in parallel with Level2 (a.k.a [O/I]GDR) processing improvements. Directly usable and easier to manipulate, L3/4 products are vastly used and contribute to various studies in different fields, from climate and meteorological phenomena, to geophysics and biology. In early 2014, many changes will be implemented in the products. We present here the main changes and their impact for the users.

A full reprocessing of the 20 years of altimeter data is on going, taking advantage of new missions, improved L2 processing, and a better understanding of the ocean stemming. An important improvement will be the use of a new reference period, taking into account the 20 years of altimeter data now available. This will lead to more pertinent sea level anomalies, without impact on the absolute topography. Validation results show improvements at climatic scales as well as mesoscales. The full reprocessed data sets will be available in early 2014.