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CryoSat product quality and evolutions

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The main CryoSat mission objectives are to measure the regional and basin-scale changes in the thickness of the sea-ice and, in the elevation of the ice sheets and mountain glaciers. Beside its ice-monitoring objective, CryoSat also provides valuable observations for the oceanographic community. The CryoSat data are processed by ESA both over the ocean and ice surfaces with two independent processors. These data need to be routinely Quality-Controlled and thoroughly Validated (QCV). Based on the QCV outcomes from ESA multi-national partners and the feedback from the scientific community, the data products continuously evolve in order to accommodate a wide range of users over the Sea ice, the Land Ice and the Ocean domains. The main objectives of this paper are to give an overview of main CryoSat QCV results and product improvements; as well as to present the processing algorithm upgrades being implemented for future ice and ocean Baselines.