The Science Contributions of DORIS and Synergy with other Space Geodesy Techniques

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Outline

1. DORIS as a service for orbit determination.
   (A) Rationale.
   (B) History and current performance.
   (C) DIODE near-real time service.

2. DORIS contribution to measurement of Sea surface height and mean sea level.

3. DORIS as a contributor to the ITRF.

4. Synergy with other techniques: (SLR, time transfer, Jason-2 T2L2 experiment).

Rationale for precise orbit determination (POD) (1)

1. The accuracy of the orbit should ideally be equal to or better than the altimeter measurement precision.

2. The orbit has to be stable and accurate through time in order to be able to map out time-varying change in the ocean height on many time scales (weeks to years).

3. We need multiple tracking systems on one spacecraft in order to be able to intercompare the results and validate the orbit quality.

4. The measurement of Sea Surface Height (SSH) or the change in Mean Sea Level has such societal significance, that we must be able to validate the orbit accuracy with different space geodetic measurements (SLR, DORIS, GNSS).
Rationale for precise orbit determination (POD) (2)

Examples of altimeter measurement precision & orbit accuracy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satellite</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Altimeter Precision (cm)</th>
<th>Orbit Accuracy (Initial) (cm)</th>
<th>Orbit Accuracy (After reprocessing) (cm)</th>
<th>Tracking Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOS-3</td>
<td>4/1975 - 12/1978</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>SLR, SST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasat</td>
<td>7/1978 – 10/1978</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>~10-20</td>
<td>SLR, Doppler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason-1</td>
<td>12/2001 – 06/2013</td>
<td>~1</td>
<td>~1 - 1.5</td>
<td>~1</td>
<td>SLR, DORIS, GNSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason-2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>7/2008 &amp; 1/2016 to present</td>
<td>~1</td>
<td>~1 – 1.2</td>
<td>6—8 mm</td>
<td>SLR, DORIS, GNSS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rationale for precise orbit determination (POD) (3)

Example Ground Track Coverage for TOPEX (& Jason-1, Jason-2, Jason-3)

An altimeter maps the ocean from a set of reference ground tracks and behaves like an “orbiting tide gauge”.

Here the ground track repeats every 9.9156 days.

Altitude 1336 km. Inclin. = 66.039°; Ground track repeat: 9.9156 days. Cross-track separation (equator): 315 km
How has DORIS POD Evolved to better serve the science users? (1)

Improvement in stability & quality of monumentation AND better operating environment. (Fagard, J. Geodesy, 2006; Saunier, Adv. Space Res. 2016)

Current DORIS Monument types (Saunier, Adv. Space Res., 2016)

Early Rothera (Antarctica), ROTA.

Early Santiago (Chile), SANB.

Type I. (CADB, Cacheoira). Metal tower on load-bearing building pillar.

Type II. (ARFB, Arequipa) Concrete reinforced pillar extending up to 1.5 m depth.

Type III. (SJUC, San Juan) Metal tower on anchored concrete foundation.
How has DORIS POD Evolved to better serve the science users? (2)

More satellites, and increase in number of tracking channels for the DORIS receivers. Improved observation geometry for positioning of beacons, and more data for satellite tracking.

DORIS data used in ITRF2014
(Moreaux et al., Adv. Space Res. 2016)

The years 2002 & 2008 are inflection points in the quality of DORIS POD and quality of geodetic products.

Geographical Distribution vs. number of beacons observed for Jason-2 (2008)
What is the quality of POD and how has it evolved since 1993?

Independent SLR fits for DORIS-only orbits.

- We use satellite laser ranging (SLR) to evaluate the quality of the DORIS-only orbits for the different satellites.
- For simplicity, we don’t consider the DORIS time-bias w.r.t to SLR that is otherwise commonly estimated when the SLR and DORIS data are analyzed together.
- We see clear “break points” where the DORIS system (coordinates and ability to do POD) improved:
  - The first occurs in 2002, with the introduction of SPOT-5 & ENVISAT, equipped with 2-channel DORIS receivers.
  - The second occurs in 2008, with the introduction of Jason-2 in 2008, equipped with an 8-channel DORIS receiver.

(from Nikita Zelensky, ESSIC/Univ. of Maryland, 2018)
What is the DORIS “DIODE” real-time service? 

*How does it serve science users?*

**DIODE = On Board Kalman Filter:**
- Satellite state vector,
- Frequency of satellite Ultra Stable Oscillator,
- Beacon parameters, etc.

**Satellite orbit in real-time**

- Steers satellite instruments (e.g. mode of altimeter, land vs ocean.).
- Real-time orbit distributed with fast-delivery altimetry data (latency of 1-3 hrs, e.g. from AVISO, EUMETSAT, NOAA, EU/Copernicus).

**DIODE: A Short History**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>First used on SPOT-4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Used with ENVISAT, SPOT-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Provides input to Attitude Control system (Cryosat-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Jason-2. DIODE orbit helps to control the altimeter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Provides time reference (TAI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 2016</td>
<td>&gt; 2016. Improved Kalman filter updates beacon frequencies and Earth polar motion. 2.5 – 3.5 cm RMS radial agreement with CNES a posteriori orbit (GDRE).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIODE = “Détermination Immédiate d’Orbite par DORIS Embarqué”**


An Application of Near-Real time Altimetry
Monitor Hurricane Intensification over Warm Core Ocean Eddies

Sea Surface Height variations show the location of warm water eddies – which appear higher in absolute height. Their latent height can contribute to hurricane intensification.

Mapping of Gulf of Mexico Sea Surface Height Variations by Dr. Robert R. Leben, University of Colorado, Boulder.


- This example from Hurricane Katrina (2005).
- Contours are 5 cm of sea surface height.
- Peak height of eddy is ~50 cm above reference surface.
- Sea surface Temperature only measures the ocean skin temperature. Altimeter height can be used to derive the heat content of the water column.
Global mean sea level variations from TOPEX, Jason-1, Jason-2 & Jason-3; http://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov/Integrated_Multi-Mission_Ocean_AltimeterData

- For these GMSL measurements, all orbits are computed from available SLR & DORIS data.
- All orbits must be in a consistent reference frame (e.g. ITRF2014), using the most-up-to-date standards and geophysical models.
- GNSS data is used to compute independent orbits, and these different orbits are constantly intercompared with those produced from SLR & DORIS data.
- GNSS data is available from satellite receivers only starting with Jason-1 (~2002).
- The GMSL data now allows use to compute an acceleration that is robust, i.e. 0.084 ± 0.025 mm/yr².

Measurement of Regional and Global Mean Sea Level Change


Global mean sea level change is driven by (1) addition of mass (e.g. ice melt from glaciers and ice sheets), (2) thermal expansion due to ocean heating; (3) global, ongoing deformation of the ocean basins from the last Ice Age (Global Isostatic Adjustment).

On a local scale close to the coasts, more effects appear, subsidence or rebound from natural or anthropogenic effects.

The altimeter data have been interpolated to a fixed geodetic grid represented by the mean repeat ground tracks. The grid shows the power of the altimeter data to monitor the ocean surface topography over time, and the importance of providing accurate and precise orbits in a long-term and stable reference frame.
How do we know the satellite orbits for GMSL are accurate?

Use Independent Data, e.g. Altimeter Crossovers within a data arc (~9.91 days)

Crossovers are edited (removed) by 1. In areas of boundary currents (Gulf Stream) and the ACC, 2) close to coasts, 3) large outliers.

Intercompare orbits computed from different sources using different data.

Jason-3 RMS Radial Orbit Differences (mm) vs. JPL18a/GPS orbits by Analysis Center source

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Intercompare orbits computed from different sources using different data.

Jason-3 Altimeter RMS Crossover Fits (cm)

(2016-2017.6; 55 Jason-3 cycles, for GSFC orbits)

CNES gdre = 2016 version (DORIS + GNSS)
CNES poef = 2018 version (DORIS + GNSS)
GSFC dpod2014 = 2016 version (SLR+DORIS)
GSFC std1808a = 2018 version (SLR+DORIS)
DORIS Contribution to the ITRF

* e.g. ITRF2005, ITRF2008, ITRF2014 and now ITRF2020

DORIS Contribution to the ITRF
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ITRF2008-like (grey) and ITRF2014 (black) weekly solutions WRMS of the station residuals wrt IDS-TRF2014. Vertical lines correspond to DORIS satellite constellation changes.

DORIS Contribution to the ITRF
*e.g. ITRF2005, ITRF2008, ITRF2014 and now ITRF2020*

Geographical distribution of 3D RMS of station residuals in 2000 (Left) and 2007 (Right).

DORIS Contribution to the ITRF
Colocations with SLR & VLBI

Colocations w. SLR: 10 sites.
Colocations w. VLBI: 7 sites.

Today:
48 colocations out of 59 DORIS sites.

• DORIS @ Hartebeesthoek since 03/1988.
  SLR & VLBI are ~2.1 km from the DORIS antenna.
• DORIS @ Metsahovi since 06/1988.
  (New) SLR & VLBI will be ~2.7 km from the DORIS antenna.

DORIS/SLR colocations
Arequipa 12/1988
Badary 11/1991
Yarragadee 09/1992
Papeete 07/1995
Mt. Stromlo 10/1998
Greenbelt 06/2000
Wettzell 09/2016
Ny Alesund II 10/2018

DORIS/VLBI colocations
Kauai 09/1990
Badary 11/1991
Syowa 10/1993
Greenbelt 06/2000
Yarragadee ~06/2011
Wettzell 09/2016
Ny Alesund II 10/2018

Future SLR/DORIS Colocations:
Changchun (China): awaiting approval.
Ny Alesund (Svalbard): ~2022.
Papenoo (Tahiti): Planning underway.
1. A Laser pulse is transmitted from the SLR station and its time-tagged on the ground (transmission & reception, 2way)
2. The laser pulse is recorded at the satellite, by the clock onboard Jason2, which is the DORIS Ultrastable Oscillator.
3. This allows time transfer to Jason-2, alignment of time systems to SLR stations in common view.
4. Once a detailed clock mode is developed for the DORIS USO, time can be propagated to the other SLR stations using a reference clock (e.g. Grasse).


Grasse (France) Laser Station. Time standard is $\text{H}_2$ maser.

(1) Synergy of SLR & DORIS: Time Transfer by Laser Link – T2L2 (1)
Synergy of SLR & DORIS: Time Transfer by Laser Link – T2L2 (2)

Clockwise from Upper Left.
Time biases for SLR stations relative to Grasse, for Zimmerwald (7810), Wettzell (8834), Yarragadee (7090), and Mt Stromlo (7825) from Exertier et al. (2017). Units are ns.


Data from Jason-2/T2L2 reveal the behavior of the DORIS USO, and unmodeled effects on the DORIS/USO frequency, e.g. due to passage through the South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA), attitude changes, and USO temperature changes.


Clockwise from Upper Left:

1. 10^11
2. 10 days
3. SAA effect
4. Attitude change (temperature)
5. Orbital period (temperature)

- Radiation + temperature + aging
- Precision around 5-7 x 10^-13
- Accuracy 10^-12

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Possible future product: A DORIS contribution to geocenter

Geocenter from Jason-2 (DORIS) & Jason-2 (SLR) (Cohert et al., 2018), LAGEOS1+2 (Ries, 2016), and GPS+GRACE (Haines et al., 2015)

The paper explains how the DORIS data can be processed to produce a geocenter time series. This points to the possibility to derive a new IDS product for users using the non-polar orbiting satellites (e.g. Jason-2, Jason-3, HY-2C, SWOT).

The IDS GB is considering to establish a Pilot Project and Working Group to further explore the development of this potential new product.

Figure 3 & Table 9 from Cohert et al. (2018, “Systematic error mitigation in DORIS-derived geocenter motion”, JGR-Solid-Earth, doi:10.1029/2018JB015453.)
Ways to get involved in the IDS

1. Join an existing or a proposed working group
   A) Working Group on “Near-Real Time” data.
   B) Proposed working on the geocenter (Still to be formally approved by the IDS Governing Board).

2. Explore DORIS products: [https://ids-doris.org/](https://ids-doris.org/)


4. Partner with an existing. Associate Analysis Center (AAC), or Analysis Center (AC) in analysis of DORIS data.

5. Help elucidate key modelling problems (improve non-conservative modeling for DORIS satellites; better ways to process DORIS data).

6. Propose a new DORIS site (a modest expansion in the network is under consideration) that would support the network and satisfy clear scientific objectives.

Working Group on NRT Data

The general objective of this working group is a thorough assessment on applications, benefits, requirements and prospects of DORIS data with improved data latency. Currently, data is available as daily RINEX files with a latency of about one day. Thus, DORIS real-time and near real-time (NRT) applications of any kind are currently only possible on board of the satellite..

DORIS NRT data sets would be useful for different applications, one of them is the modelling of the Earth’s ionosphere. Using DORIS in combination with GNSS (and additional techniques) helps to improve the accuracy and reliability of ionospheric maps, especially in ocean regions with poor GNSS coverage. This has been proved for post-processing applications but will probably also hold for NRT.

For more information contact the NRT Working Group Chair: Denise.Dettmering@tum.de
Backup
Another application for satellite altimetry, enabled by Precise Orbit Determination (POD):

**Monitor Global Lakes and Reservoirs with Satellite Altimetry**

1. The satellite altimeter tracking mode can be altered over land to obtain returns over water bodies (reservoirs and lakes).
2. Groups in the U.S., & France have extracted this information for a global set of reservoirs and lakes that coincide with the TOPEX/Jasons1-3 ground tracks.
3. The information is useful for resource managers and hydrologists.

Lakes and Reservoirs are Monitored in the “Global Reservoirs and Lakes Monitor (G-REALM)”, maintained by Dr. Charon Birkett (now at NASA GSFC):

URL: [https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/global_reservoir/](https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/global_reservoir/)

CNES data for lakes and river “Crossings” information is at URL: