

# GAMBLE – A Thematic Network to Consider Future Developments in Satellite Altimetry

## Workshop for Themes 1 and 3:

Sea surface height error budget and feature detectability  
Orbit determination and satellite tracking

### Hosted by:

Delft Institute for Earth-Oriented Space Research, Delft University of Technology

### Venue:

Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, Jaffalaan 5, Delft

### Date:

November 7/8 2002

### Attending:

Pierre-Yves LeTraon	CLS	letraon@cls.fr
Christian Le Provost	CNES	Christian.Le-Provost@cnes.fr
Baptiste Mourre	CNES	mourre@notos.cst.cnes.fr
Yves Menard	CNES	Yves.Menard@cnes.fr
Eric Thouvenot	CNES	eric.thouvenot@cnes.fr
Patrick Vincent	CNES	Patrick.Vincent@cnes.fr
Pierre Bahurel	CNES	bahurel@thor.cst.cnes.fr
Lucy Mathers	DEOS	L.Mathers@geo.tudelft.nl
Ejo Schrama	DEOS	E.J.O.Schrama@geo.tudelft.nl
Eelco Doornbos	DEOS	eelco@deos.tudelft.nl
Marc Naeije	DEOS	marc@deos.tudelft.nl
Remko Scharroo	DEOS/NOAA	remko.scharroo@noaa.gov
Ron Noomen	DEOS	ron.noomen@lr.tudelft.nl
Pieter Visser	DEOS	Pieter.visser@lr.tudelft.nl
Jose vd IJssel	DEOS	jose@deos.tudelft.nl
Sander Goossens	DEOS	sander@deos.tudelft.nl
Karel Wakker	DEOS	K.F.Wakker@deos.tudelft.nl
Boudewijn Ambrosius	DEOS	boudewijn.ambrosius@lr.tudelft.nl
Detlev Mueller	DKRZ	detlev.mueller@dkrz.de
Michiel Otten	ESA/ESOC	michiel.otten@esa.int
Drazen Svehla	TUM	svehla@bv.tum.de
Cees Leenaars	Leenaars	ceesl@xs4all.nl
Jean-Michel Brankart	LEGI-CNRS	Jean-Michel.Brankart@hmg.inpg.fr
Phil Moore	NCL	Philip.Moore@newcastle.ac.uk
CK Shum	OSU	ckshum@osu.edu
Philip Woodworth	POL	plw@pol.ac.uk
Keith Hanes	ESSC	kh@mail.nerc-essc.ac.uk
Peter Challenor	SOC	P.Challenor@soc.soton.ac.uk
Tom Allan	SOS	tom@satobsys.co.uk
David Cotton	SOS	d.cotton@satobsys.co.uk
Maarten Meerman	SSTL	m.meerman@sstl.co.uk

## **Agenda day 1: Thursday, November 7**

09:30 Opening

- Welcome and opening: K. Wakker
- Introduction and local arrangements: E. Doornbos
- Purpose of the meeting: Y. Menard / D. Cotton

10:00 Overview of new altimeter projects

- Jason-2: Y. Menard
- WSOA: E. Thouvenot
- Cryosat: P. Vincent
- AltiKa: P. Vincent
- Gander: D. Cotton or T. Allan
- Bistatic Delay Doppler Altimeter: K. Raney and C. Shum

11:15 Coffee break

11:30 Results from simulations on the contribution of present/future altimeter missions

- LEGI: J.M. Brankart
- LEGOS: B. Mourre
- SOC: P. Challenor
- Discussion

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Refined requirements for sea level measurements (mainly sampling issues)

- Climate/mesoscale and operational oceanography applications: P.Y. Le Traon
- Coastal/tidal applications: C. Le Provost
- Discussion

15:00 Coffee Break

15:30 Requirements for SSH measurement errors

- General requirements (noise, orbit): P.Y. Le Traon
- Specific discussion on the choice of orbit (heliosynchronous or not): C. Le Provost
- Gander specific issues : dual-frequency, no radiometer, non-repeat orbit: D. Cotton, P. Challenor

16:20 Summary, conclusions and recommendations of day 1

- GAMBLE recommendations for future altimeter missions

17:00 Close

19:00 Group dinner in Delft

## **Agenda day 2: Friday, November 8**

09:00 Summary of future requirements affecting orbit choice and orbit determination for Themes 1 and 2

- Theme 1: P.Y. Le Traon
- Theme 2: D. Cotton

09:30 Presentations on future developments in high precision satellite tracking for low-Earth satellites:

- SLR: R. Noomen
- DORIS: P. Vincent
- GPS: D. Svehla
- GPS receiver for GANDER: M. Meerman

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Opportunity for presentations on future developments in orbit determination and related issues, for example:

- Aspects of Precise Orbit Determination for Geodetic and Altimetric Missions: Current Issues and Future Trends: P. Moore
- Orbit choices and OD using kinematic approach: C. Shum and D. Chambers
- Gravity models: P. Visser
- Non-gravitational force models: E. Doornbos

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Guided discussion on orbit determination and tracking, providing preliminary recommendations on:

- Tracking systems
- Orbit choice and orbit determination strategy for future missions

15:30 Coffee break

15:45 Discussion on summary, conclusions and recommendations of the workshop, and to establish:

- Contributions to GAMBLE reports on theme 1 and 3.
- What work should be carried out in second phase of both work packages.

16:30 Close

# Minutes

## Day 1

### 1. Opening

- Karel Wakker welcomed the participants and opened the meeting.
- Eelco Doornbos presented the agenda and arrangements.
- David Cotton presented the purpose of the meeting.

### 2. Overview of new altimeter projects

- Patrick Vincent presented the Jason-2 mission.
- Eric Thouvenot presented the WSOA ([presentation available online](#)).
- Patrick Vincent presented the Cryosat mission.
- Patrick Vincent presented the Altika mission ([presentation available online](#)).
- David Cotton presented the GANDER mission ([presentation available online](#)).
- C.K. Shum presented the bistatic delay Doppler altimeter and mission concepts ([presentation available online](#)).

### 3. Results from simulations on the contribution of present/future altimeter missions

- Jean-Michel Brankart presented recent results at LEGI.
- Baptiste Mourre gave a presentation on the work at LEGOS-CNES about altimetry and coastal ocean dynamics ([presentation available online](#)).
- Peter Challenor gave a presentation on the sampling of ocean eddies with satellite altimetry.

### 4. Refined requirements for SSH measurement errors

- Pierre-Yves Le Traon presented climate/mesoscale and operational oceanography applications.
- Christian Le Provost presented coastal/tidal applications and gave a presentation discussing the choice of orbit.

### 5. Requirements for SSH measurement errors

- Pierre-Yves Le Traon presented the general requirements.
- David Cotton presented the GANDER specific issues ([presentation available online](#)).

### 6. Summary, conclusions and recommendations of day 1

- Patrick Vincent presented a summary of the issues and presented scenarios for future missions. The outcome of the discussion is presented in the interim report for GAMBLE WP2.

## Day 2

### 7. Summary of future requirements affecting orbit choice and orbit determination for themes 1 and 2

- Pierre-Yves Le Traon presented the theme 1 requirements.
- David Cotton presented the theme 2 requirements ([presentation available online](#)).

### 8. Presentations on future developments in high precision satellite tracking for low-Earth satellites

- Ron Noomen presented the current status and future developments in Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR) ([presentation available online](#)).
- Patrick Vincent discussed the ongoing developments and applications of the DORIS tracking system ([presentation available online](#)).
- Dražen Švehla presented the applications of GPS tracking on low-Earth satellites, including the various orbit determination strategies available with this measurement type ([presentation available online](#)).
- Maarten (Max) Meerman gave a presentation on the development of miniaturized GPS hardware at SSTL ([presentation available online](#)).

### 9. Presentations on future developments in orbit determination and related issues

- Phil Moore gave a presentation titled “Aspects of precise orbit determination for geodetic and altimetric missions: current issues and future trends” ([presentation available online](#)).
- C.K. Shum gave a presentation on orbit choices and orbit issues ([presentation available online](#)).
- Pieter Visser presented the role of gravity models ([presentation available online](#)).
- Eelco Doornbos gave a presentation on non-gravitational force models in orbit determination of altimetry satellites ([presentation available online](#)).

### 10. Guided discussion on orbit determination and tracking

- Ejo Schrama lead the discussion on the choice of tracking system and orbit determination strategy for the future missions. Notes by Marc Naeije are [available online](#).

### 11. Summary and conclusions

- David Cotton presented a short summary and conclusion. He also thanked the participants and organization. The interim reports for WP2 and WP4 are currently available on [www.altimetric.net](http://www.altimetric.net). The deadline for the final reports of these work packages is April 2003.