

CNES/PISTACH project approach to get better altimetric measurements close to the coasts: early results

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The use of altimetry measurements on ocean surface has been demonstrating its effectiveness for many years. Many efforts are now devoted to a better acquisition and understanding of the signals near the coasts and in the hydrological basins. The use of altimetry measurements over these surfaces is now a well identified goal for present and future altimetry missions (conventional or not). Even though the physical processes that induce altimetric signals in coastal areas and in inland water are different, the contamination of land signals in the altimetric signals absolutely damages the availability and the quality of the data. We propose here to review the results obtained in the frame of the CNES/PISTACH project including waveforms classification, waveforms filtering and waveforms retracking. We will also detail the corrections that have to be applied on the estimations (range, significant waveheight and backscatter coefficient) on transitions areas to insure continuity with deep ocean products. The objective of the PISTACH project is to extend the altimetric estimations as close as possible to the coasts with the data quality observed in deep ocean.