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*Proceedings of the  
Second International GOCE User Workshop*

# **“GOCE, The Geoid and Oceanography”**

8 – 10 March 2004  
ESA-ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

**European Space Agency  
Agence spatiale européenne**

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# CONTENTS

## Foreword

*J. Benveniste*

## Dedication

## The GOCE Mission

High Level Processing Facility for GOCE: Products and Processing Strategy

*R. Rummel, T. Gruber & R. Koop*

## Oceanography and Synergy between Gravity and Altimetry

*Chairs: Keith Haines, Detlef Stammer & Ole Andersen*

The GOCINA Project - An Overview and Status

*P. Knudsen, R. Forsberg, O. Andersen, D. Solheim, R. Hipkin, K. Haines, J. Johannessen & F. Hernandez*

Gravity Field Improvements in the North Atlantic Region

*R. Forsberg, A. Olesen, A. Vest, D. Solheim, R. Hipkin, O. Omang & P. Knudsen*

Intercomparison of Dynamic Height in the Nordic Seas from Observations and Climate Model Simulations for the Period 1950 to 2000

*H. Drange, A. Korabely, J.A. Johannessen, Y. Gao & O.M. Johannessen*

Multiscale Modelling of Ocean Circulation

*W. Freeden, D. Michel & V. Michel*

Impact of Geoid Definition on the Simulated Strength of the Equatorial Undercurrent in a Global Data Assimilation System

*F. Vossepoel, P.J. van Leeuwen, J. Bouman, R. Koop & M. Naeije*

GOCE Data Product Verification in the Mediterranean Sea

*J.J. Martinez Benjamin, Y. Yi, C. Kuo, A. Braun, Y. Chen, S.-C. Han & C.K. Shum*

Estimating the Ocean Circulation and the Geoid through a Combined Analysis of Altimetric and GRACE Geoid Information

*D. Stammer, A. Köhl & C. Wunsch*

Geoid Recent Improvement in Altimetry: How MSS and MDT can Benefit from it in Combination with GOCE Geoid?

*F. Hernandez, P. Scheaffer, O. Andersen & J. Dorandeu*

Estimation of a Global Mean Dynamic Topography Combining Altimetry, In-Situ Data and a Geoid Model: Impact of GRACE and GOCE Data

*M.-H. Rio, F. Hernandez & J.-M. Lemoine*

Use of GOCE for Operational Oceanography

*F. Hernandez, P.-Y. Le Traon, F. Davidson, G. Larnicol, P. Scheaffer & M.-H. Rio*

## **National Activities Presentations**

FROG: French Resources Organisation for GOCE

*G. Balmino, S. Deroussi, M. Diament & P. Ultré-Guérard*

GOCE Activities in the Netherlands

*R. Koop, P. Visser, A. Selig & B. Ambrosius*

The Dutch GOCE National User Group – Fact Sheet

*R. Koop, P. Visser, A. Selig & B. Ambrosius*

The UK GOCE National User Group – Fact Sheet

*P.L. Woodworth, C.W. Hughes, T.F. Baker & J. Holt*

The German GOCE Community

*J. Flury*

The GOCE Italy National User Group – Fact Sheet

*F. Migliaccio & F. Sansò*

## **Processing Algorithms up to the Geoid and Gravity Field**

*Chairs: Erricos Pavlis & Thomas Gruber*

Recovery of the Earth's Gravity Field from GOCE Satellite Gravity Gradiometry: a Case Study

*O. Abrikosov & P. Schwintzer*

GOCE Gravity Field Processing

*G. Plank*

Computation of Calibration Gradients and Methods for In-Orbit Validation of Gradiometric GOCE Data

*J. Müller, H. Denker, F. Jarecki & K.I. Wolf*

An Enhanced Space-Wise Simulation for GOCE Data Reduction

*F. Migliaccio, M. Reguzzoni, F. Sansò & C.C. Tscherning*

Effect of High-Frequency Temporal Aliasing on GOCE Gravity Field Solution

*S.-C. Han, C.K. Shum, P. Ditmar, A. Braun & C. Kuo*

Precise Orbit Determination and Cal/Val for GOCE

*H. Boomkamp, J. Dow & M. Otten*

Multiscale Modeling from EIGEN-1S, EIGEN-2, EIGEN-GRACE01S, GGM01, UCPH2002\_0.5, EGM96  
*M.J. Fengler, W. Freedden & M. Gutting*

Modeling the Earth's Gravity Field from Precise Satellite Orbit Data: The Acceleration Approach Works!  
*P. Ditmar, A. Van Eck van der Sluijs & V. Kuznetsov*

## **Poster Session**

Numerical Simulation of the Gravity Field Recovery from GOCE Mission Data  
*S. Bruinsma, J.-C. Marty, G. Balmino*

Gravity Gradients and Spherical Harmonics – A Need for Different GOCE Products?  
*J. Bouman & R. Koop*

GOCE Quick-Look Gravity Field Analysis: Treatment of Gravity Gradients Defined in the  
Gradiometer Reference Frame  
*R. Pail*

GOCE: Dealing with Large Attitude Variations in the Conceptual Structure of the Space-Wise Approach  
*F. Migliaccio, M. Reguzzoni, F. Sansò & P. Zatelli*

Simulation Results from Combination of GOCE Gridded SST and SGG Data  
*C. Tscherning*

Gravity Field Analysis from Pre-Processed and Calibrated GOCE Observations: The Delft Approach  
*R. Klees, P. Ditmar & A. Van Eck van der Sluijs*

## **Solid Earth**

*Chair: G. Balmino*

Effects of Topographic and Isostatic Masses in Satellite Gravity Gradiometry  
*F. Wild & B. Heck*

A Linear Algorithm for Computing the Spherical Harmonic Coefficients of the  
Gravitational Potential from a Constant Density Polyhedron  
*O. Jamet & E. Thomas*

High-Harmonic Geoid Signatures due to Glacial Isostatic Adjustment, Subduction and Seismic Deformation  
*B. Vermeersen, H. Schotman, M.-W. Jansen, R. Riva & R. Sabadini*

Gravity Field Determination Using Multiresolution Techniques  
*M. Schmidt, O. Fabert, C.K. Shum & S.-C. Han*

The Use of GOCE Data for Detection and Classification of Mantle Plumes  
*G. Marquart*

## Poster Session

The T5 Ion Propulsion Assembly for Drag Compensation on GOCE

*C.H. Edwards, N.C. Wallace, C. Tato & P. van Put*

Comparison of some Methods for Modifying Stokes' Formula in the GOCE Era

*J. Ågren & L.E. Sjöberg*

Mean Dynamic Topography: Inter-Comparisons and Errors

*R. Bingham & K. Haines*

GOCE Gradients Validation by the Airborne Gradiometer and GRACE Measurements

*J.B. Zielinski & J.K. Latka*

Calibration/Validation of GOCE Data over Antarctica

*R. Dietrich, M. Wiehl, M. Scheinert, C.K. Shum, A. Braun, S. Han, K. Shibuya, Y. Fukuda & T. Sato*

Upward/Downward Continuation of Gravity Gradients for Precise Geoid Determination

*G. Tóth, L. Földvály, I.N. Tziavos & J. Ádám*

A Bayesian Approach to Invert GOCE Gravity Gradients

*G. Pajot, M. Diament, M.-F. Lequentrec-Lalancette & C. Tiberi*

Recovery of the Gravity Field Signal due to a low Viscosity Crustal Layer in Glacial Isostatic Adjustment Models from Simulated GOCE Data

*H.H.A. Schotman, P.N.A.M. Visser, L.L.A. Vermeersen & R. Koop*

Gravity and Geoid in the Arctic Region – The Northern Polar Gap now Filled

*R. Forsberg & S. Kenyon*

## Summaries and Recommendations

Summary and Recommendations for "Processing Algorithms up to the Geoid and Gravity Field"

*J. Müller, R. Koop, R. Floberghagen, T. Gruber & E. Pavlis*

Summary and Recommendations for "Solid Earth"

*B. Vermeersen & R. Haagmans*

Summary and Recommendations for "Oceanography and Synergy between Gravity and Altimetry"

*M.-H. Rio, D. Stammer, P. Legrand, C. Hughes, P. Knudsen, K. Haines, M. Drinkwater & J. Benveniste*

## List of Participants

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to present the proceedings from the Second International GOCE User Workshop, which took place from Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 March 2004 at ESA-ESRIN in Frascati, Italy.

This Workshop, "GOCE, The Geoid and Oceanography" was a unique opportunity to have first-hand information on latest developments and to discuss the use of GOCE products for scientific research and application.

The Workshop environment offered an ideal opportunity to liaise with ESA and to allow for scientific exchange with colleagues. As the Gravity field and steady-state Ocean Circulation Explorer (GOCE) mission approaches its launch, this workshop was designed to provide a forum for presenting the technical and programmatic status of the GOCE Project and progress in development of the:

- o Satellite and its payload
- o Ground Segment up to Level 1
- o Level 1-2 Data Processing
- o Level 3 Data Product developments
- o GOCE Data Exploitation preparations
- o National and EC GOCE activities.

Preparations are underway in the international scientific community for exploitation of high-resolution GOCE gravity data along with other geodetic and oceanographic data sources. Resulting high-precision geoid data are expected to have an impact in Oceanography, Solid-Earth Physics, Geodesy, Glaciology and Climate-change research. The goal of the GOCE mission is to deliver a high precision and high-resolution global gravity field model as well as global gridded geoid heights and gravity anomalies to the scientific community. ESA is presently co-ordinating efforts to produce a validated high-resolution gravity and geoid model. Various groups and consortia throughout Europe have also expressed an interest in development of either Level 2 or Level 3 products, and in pursuing GOCE-related research.

In particular, this Workshop focused on oceanographic applications, such as derivation of absolute dynamic topography, of GOCE data in conjunction with other space-borne data, such as radar altimetry, and also in-situ data and models. This Workshop provided an opportunity to publicise these higher-level data processing, geophysical validation plans and to coordinate such activities.

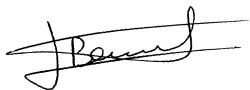
In order to avoid parallel sessions and to facilitate scientific discussion among the participants, the Workshop was organised with dedicated plenary poster sessions. The poster area remained open for the duration of the Workshop.

The "round table" discussions were animated by two moderators and facilitated the discussion on the presentations.

The scientific committee, the session chairs and the session rapporteurs stimulated the debates by preparing seed questions. The round tables also allowed ESA to capture all recommendations for the improvement of GOCE services and products and encourage proposals for new algorithms and products development, including a User Toolbox.

The final programme included more than 60 presentations organised in 4 sessions and round table discussions. Viewgraphs and posters are available on the Workshop web site ([www.esa.int/goce04](http://www.esa.int/goce04)). These proceedings contain papers related to all presentations, both poster and oral, including the national activities fact sheets. These proceedings also contain the session summaries and reports of the round table discussions, conveying the recommendations expressed by the participants.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank all the speakers, the chairs, and the participants whose valuable contributions made "GOCE, The Geoid and Oceanography" Workshop so successful and wish you an interesting reading.



Jérôme Benveniste  
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*The second International GOCE User Workshop  
is dedicated to the memory of*

## ***Christian Le Provost***

*(1-VI-1943–29-II-2004)*



*Christian will be remembered for the excellence of his contribution in tide modeling, mean sea level, ocean circulation and for his remarkable and invaluable participation to numerous international ocean observing and modeling programmes, WOCE, GCOS, GOOS, OOPC, GLOSS, GODAE, MERCATOR, FES, CLIPPER... ERS, T/P, Jason, ENVISAT, ESA Living Planet Programme... (and this list is not exhaustive!)*

*The GOCE community will particularly remember Christian for his conviction of the necessity of a space gravity mission to improve our knowledge of ocean circulation and for his persuasiveness.*

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