

ATSR Core Group

Summary of the 21st meeting, held on 30th January 2001 at Cosener's House, Abingdon

Present:

Prof D Llewellyn-Jones (Univ. of Leicester) - Chairman	Dr J Settle (ESSC)
Dr M Edwards (Univ. of Leicester)	Dr A Jolly (NRSC)
Mr N Houghton (RAL)	Dr S Brown (DETR)
Dr B Maddison (RAL)	Dr S Wilson (NERC)
Dr C Mutlow (RAL)	Mr T H Guymer (SOC)
Dr R Saunders (Met Office)	Dr Y C Robertson (NERC) - Secretary

Apologies:

Dr B Greco (ESRIN)
 Dr S Laxon (UCL)
 Dr H Tait (ESTEC)
 Mr A Underwood (NRSC)

ESA Status Report

LRDAF: The new system has been successfully validated for real time operations, and will be switched on operationally at the beginning of February. The experience gained so far with that system, however suggests to do some additional configuration & testing work before its operational use as the second LRDAF chain.

ERS-2 Operations Status: On 17th January a failure of the Digital Earth Sensor (DES A-side) caused ERS-2 to enter Safe Mode. On 25th January, i.e. 8 days later, exiting the Safemode, gyro#1, the piloting one in mono-gyro-mode since some months, also failed. Therefore it is planned to continue ERS-2 operations as from 8th February using the Extra-Backup-Mode (EBM) and the DES B-side. The EBM is a coarse attitude control mode developed and uploaded in December 2000 as first step of the gyro-less operations mode.

An extensive data and product cal/val phase is being prepared for the first half of February going in-line with a further tuning in the attitude precision of the EBM. Data can be made available to users. The Quality will however have to be confirmed.

RAL Progress Report

The coefficient set will be considered at the next ATSR PCB meeting.

Development work on cloud clearing is proceeding, with related work being undertaken for Eumetsat and for a cloud map project.

RAL will investigate distribution of the ATSR CD-Roms at a EGS and IGARSS

RAL have about 5000 high-rate (AATSR-like) images. These could be made available for distribution.

ATSR-2 Validation

ATSR-2 validation was covered in the reports received from RAL and Ian Barton.

Future plans There was lengthy discussion on the planned ATSR2/AATSR validation cruise in the Indian Ocean. The Chairman has applied for (and been allocated) cruise time in November-December 2001, starting in the Gulf and finishing at Madagascar. Other opportunities still exist for calibration/validation (eg AMTcruise).

AATSR Current status

The cooler risk is considered small

ESA will make a presentation on the AATSR data processing system to the AATSR SAG on 16th February at RAL.

The field stop anomaly appears to have disappeared.

Envisat is due to leave ESTEC on 1st April.

AOB

Interest has been expressed in using ATSR and AATSR for the surface temperature of lakes. Near real time data is required, for lakes larger than 50 km.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday May 3rd at Infoterra Ltd, Farnborough.**