

## Splinter Session 4: Multi-agency data sharing (satellite and in situ data)

**Chair:** Mark Higgins (EUMETSAT)

The purpose of the session was to address the issues related to Ocean Colour data distribution and sharing amongst the various operators of Ocean Colour instruments. During the session, each agency/operator (i.e. ESA, Eumetsat, NASA, NOAA and JAXA) provided a description of their respective Ocean Colour data distribution policies as well as restrictions and timeliness of satellite data provision. In addition, the operators provided a description of their related In Situ data distribution policies.

The descriptions of the Ocean Colour (and related in-situ) data distribution provided by the agencies was of high value and are summarized in the table below.

<b>Operator</b>	<b>Ocean Colour data policy</b>	<b>Ocean Colour data access</b>	<b>In-situ data access</b>
<b>ESA / Eumetsat</b>	<b>MERIS</b> (Envisat): <i>open &amp; free of charge</i>	<b>MERIS</b> (Envisat): - <i>Reduced Resolution (1200 m) archive fully on Internet</i> - <i>Full Resolution (300 m) archive not (yet) fully on Internet</i> - <i>L1b to L2 source code available to users (Odesa)</i>	<b>MERMAID:</b> <i>Policy set by in-situ data providers</i>
	<b>OLCI</b> (Sentinel-3): <i>open &amp; free of charge</i> (TBC by European Commission)	<b>OLCI</b> (Sentinel-3): <i>data distributed through Internet and through Telecom Satellite.</i> → <i>Collaborative Ground Segment agreements are foreseen (e.g. redistribution through mirror sites).</i>	
<b>NASA</b>	<b>MODIS/SeaWiFS:</b> <i>open &amp; free of charge</i>	<b>Multi-mission ocean colour data access:</b> - <i>All archive on Internet;</i> - <i>Fast reprocessing capabilities</i> - <i>L0 to L3 source code available to users</i>	<b>SeaBASS:</b> <i>Same as NASA EO data policy</i>
<b>JAXA</b>	<b>SGLI (and GLI)</b> <i>open &amp; free of charge for non-commercial purpose (Special agreement for NRT)</i>	<b>SGLI (and GLI)</b> <i>All L1 and L2 to be made available on Internet</i>	<b>JAXA on-line system:</b> <i>Policy set by in-situ data providers</i>
<b>NOAA</b>	<b>VIIRS</b>	<b>CLASS</b> <i>All archived data available, including L0 NRT within NOAA Coastwatch</i>	

The attendance to the session was quite low, possibly suggesting that the Ocean Colour user community does not see the data distribution and sharing as a major obstacle for their activities.

Nevertheless the presentation of the Splinter session to a wider audience triggered several comments, e.g. the request to EC/ESA/Eumetsat to generate OLCI Level 3 products, the request to the Ocean Colour operators to identify unambiguously the version of the reprocessed datasets.