

Mission Status Report #8

Reference Period: 2 -8 April 2016

sentinel-3

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Mission status

- The overall mission status is nominal.
- All instruments are ON using the nominal side and are providing data as expected at this stage in commissioning.
- The satellite is in the nominal orbit with a ground track within the +/- 1km band around its reference.
- The X-Band ground station in Svalbard continues to successfully acquire data.
- The in orbit Cal/Val phase is on-going as planned.

Satellite

- All subsystems and units are operating nominally.
- The spacecraft (S/C) is in NORMAL mode, the high bit rate for telemetry and Attitude and Orbit Control System (AOCS) is in NOMINAL mode (geodetic with yaw steering).
- All instruments are functioning well and are in nominal measurement modes. In summary:
 - SRAL operation in LRM Close Loop (CL) is closed to be finished, the first full SAR mode operations have started on 6 April.
 - SLSTR is operating in nominal (ON-DUTY) mode.
 - OLCI is operating in Normal Mode with a short interruption for camera 2 on 6 April with the camera switching to test mode. The situation is recovered since 7 April and the issue is under investigation.
 - MWR is operating in Measurement Mode.
 - DORIS is operating in Measurement Mode with DIODE Routine Navigation.
- Extensive calibration exercises are on-going to verify the performance of all instruments. In particular
 - For OLCI the analysis of the spectral campaign has been completed. The spectral campaign with the nominal offset compensation loop disabled is planned for next week, together with further calibration activities.
 - For SLSTR the functional and performance tests show that the instrument is working as expected. The various calibration activities continue, in particular an integration test campaign has been performed this week to verify the sensitivity of the infrared channels.
 - For SRAL, due to the on-going investigation on the issue with reading the DEM after loss of tracking, three different SAR scenarios have been executed from 6 to 8 April to be prepared for the next cycle of 100% SAR operation. For next week-end and early next week SRAL will be operated again in LRM CL. The switch to full SAR mode is foreseen for end of next week.

Ground Segment

- The FOS ground segment is nominal. Contacts scheduling is nominal with 10 passes per day over Kiruna, Svalbard or Troll, and EUMETSAT continues to listen in.
- The Payload Data Ground Segment commissioning continues as planned.
- The Core Ground station (CGS) service is nominal.
- Housekeeping telemetry (HK TM) circulation to ESA and EUMETSAT FOS is nominal.
- Level 0 production continues successfully for all instruments at the Core Ground Station in Svalbard and at EUMETSAT's marine centre.
- Mission planning continues successfully providing updates of the Nominal Payload Planning File (NPPF) to allow the on-board commanding of data download to the X-band station.

Outlook

- The S-3A Cal/Val phase continues, with extensive calibration activities ongoing.
- The transition to 100% SAR mode operation for SRAL is planned for next week.

User interface and communication

- Users will be informed about the availability of sample data and their distribution in due time.