

Orbital analysis of ERS-2 with the GEOSAT software

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The purpose of this analysis has been to investigate the accuracy with which the orbit of ERS-2 can be computed with the GEOSAT software based on PRARE and SLR tracking data and the EGM96 geopotential. The data covers the period May - June 1996 split up into 5-day arcs with up to 10 PRARE stations and 16 SLR stations per arc. The paper describes the analysis strategy and models employed. Despite certain problems with PRARE biases, the PRARE data and the SLR data appear to yield orbits of comparable accuracies. Some of the orbits have been used at FFI to generate interferograms over Svalbard.