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G. Mitchum (1997, pers comm.) showed that the T/P data then available disagreed at the 2 mm/yr level with tide gages. An assessment by P.-Y. Le Traon and colleagues (May 1997) suggested no such difference when MGDR-C data and corrections were used. The possible discrepancy, regardless of its merits, spurred an analysis of the TMR as one possible cause of the discrepancy.

By May 1995, one of us (VZ) reported that TMR measured about 2 mm/yr shorter wet path delay than SSM/I as processed by F. Wentz (1997) over 1993-1996. J. Stum reported at the same time that TMR measured about 2 mm/yr shorter than the ATSR on the ERS-1,2 satellites while C.-K. Shum showed a comparison between TMR and ATSR that was discontinuous due to algorithmic changes in ATSR. B. Haynes showed two comparisons at Harvest, one with GPS that agreed with TMR and one with the WVR whereby TMR would have measured short 2mm/yr.

We will present further comparisons between TMR and both SSM/I, GPS and radiosonde data, in an attempt to reach closure on the question as to whether TMR is drifting.