GRACE Science Data System: Status and Data Products Update

S. Bettadpur (1), M. Watkins (2), F. Flechtner (3)

(1) Center for Space Research, The University of Texas at Austin, USA, (2) Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA, USA, (3) GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam, Germany
(srinivas@csr.utexas.edu / Fax: +1-512-471-3570 / Phone: +1-512-471-7587)

The joint NASA/DLR Gravity Recovery And Climate Experiment (GRACE) mission will have completed its sixth year in orbit at the time of this meeting. During that time, the GRACE Science Data System has delivered nearly 100% of the science data in a timely manner. We will provide an update on the Level-1 and Level-2 data products that are available from the GRACE SDS. We will survey the state of the flight segment – including key spacecraft events, thermal environment and alignments – to the extent they affect the science data quality. As was reported at Fall 2007 meeting of the AGU and in the SDS Newsletters, fourteen months of Level-2 products from June 2006 to Sep 2007 were re-processed with a corrected AOD1B background model – we will summarize its impact on the sequence of data products. Finally, this paper will summarize the SDS plans for the near future.