



# MERMAID

## MERis MAtchup In-situ Database

### Data Access and Account Registration Protocol

MERMAID is an ACRI-ST and ARGANS initiative to provide an easy-to-use centralised database of merged in-situ optical measurements with concurrent MERIS acquisitions to MERIS Quality Working Group Members within their mandate and to voluntary data contributors.

The current version of MERMAID includes extractions of ESA ENVISAT MERIS data at Level 1 and Level2, as well as intermediate data of the Level2 processing, provided in csv format. The raw *in situ* measurements within MERMAID are contributed by Principal Investigators, responsible for deployment, maintenance and data collection. Further post-processing and quality control of the measured water-leaving reflectances are performed for direct comparison with MERIS data.

This protocol defines the conditions of access to MERMAID beyond its initial purpose, i.e. to scientists contributing to various validation and algorithm improvement efforts.

#### **Eligibility**

Scientists, (co-)Investigators, data contributors and their support staff who sign the MERMAID Data Access and Account Registration Protocol agree to:

- use the data for research and educational purposes only;
- not distribute any MERMAID data via any media;
- consult the PI(s) to get approval of in situ data use, inform him/her/them of his/her/their data use and offer co-authorship;
- provide proper credit and acknowledgment of:
  - o the PI(s) and associated projects, e.g: we thank (the Project/PI) for the (cruise/experiment) data;
  - o ACRI-ST, ARGANS and ESA in all presentations/publications that include any results having benefited directly or indirectly from MERMAID, including explicit reference to MERMAID <http://hermes.acri.fr/mermaid>;
- contribute to the further expansion and enhancement of MERMAID for the benefit of all users, by submission of in-situ data for matchup;
- report possible data inconsistencies found in the database or the documentation to the MERMAID administration [mermaid@acri.fr](mailto:mermaid@acri.fr);

#### **Disclaimer**

This protocol does not warrant that the MERMAID data are free from errors or omissions and that such errors or omissions can be rectified, or that the User will have uninterrupted access to the MERMAID database.



**Liability**

Neither ACRI-ST, or ARGANS or ESA, nor any in situ data PI shall be held liable for any damage, loss whether direct, indirect or consequential resulting from the User's use of MERMAID.

**Intellectual property rights**

All Intellectual Property Rights in MERMAID database belong, and will continue to belong, to their original owners, in particular: the ownership of raw *in situ* data archived in MERMAID remains with the Principal Investigators; ENVISAT MERIS raw data remains with ESA and advanced extraction products remain with ACRI-ST.

**The MERMAID Administrator**

reserves the right to:

- monitor accounts, IP addresses and passwords;
- implement new security measures as necessary;

Access to MERMAID is granted only after having signed this protocol.  
Any violation of this protocol can result in termination of access to the MERMAID database.

For any enquiry related to MERMAID, contact: mermaid@acri.fr

**The undersigned agrees to the conditions of this protocol (print clearly)**

Family name: .....

Given name: .....

Affiliation: .....

E-mail: .....

Address: .....  
.....

Date: .....

Signature: .....

**Please return to:**

ACRI-ST  
MERMAID Service  
260 route du Pin Montard - BP 234 – F-06904 Sophia Antipolis Cedex , France  
Phone: +33 (0)4 92 96 29 15 - Fax: +33 (0)4 92 96 71 17 - E-mail: mermaid@acri.fr