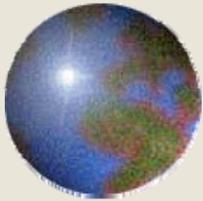




Position, Navigation and Timing: GPS Scientific Applications



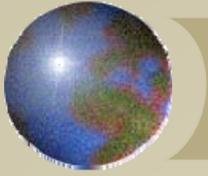
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Ruth E. Neilan

International GNSS Service Central Bureau

ruth.neilan@jpl.nasa.gov

<http://igs.cb.jpl.nasa.gov/>



Quick Overview

- Measuring space and time
- GPS a tool for science
 - Motivation - *disasters, climate change, sea level rise,...*
- Development of high precision JPL GPS receivers
 - GPS receivers on board Low Earth Orbiting satellites
- Technology & Application developments
 - NASA's GDGPS
 - International GNSS Service (IGS)
 - National Science Foundation's *Earthscope*



INTRODVCTIO

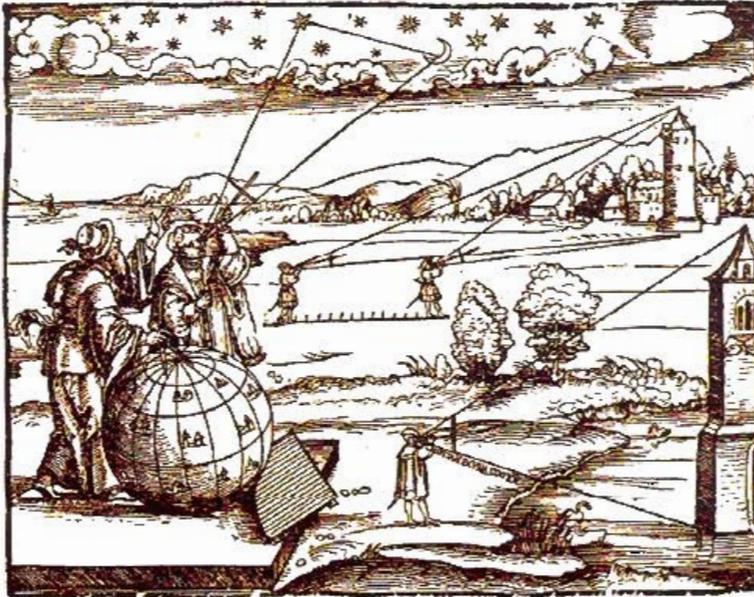
GEOGRAPHICA PETRI APIANI IN DOCTISSIMAS VER-

acri Annotationes, cōtinens plenum intellectum & iudicium omnis operationis, quæ per sinus & chordas in Geographia confici potest, adiuncto Radio astronomico, cum quadrante nouo Meteoroscopii loco longe vtilissimo.

HVIC ACCEDIT Translatio noui primi libri Geographiæ Cl. Ptolemæi, Translationi adiuncta sunt argumenta & paraphrasæ singulorū capitulorū libellus quoq; de quatuor terrarum orbis in plano figurationalib; Authore Vetrero.

LOCVS etiam pulcherrimus desumptus ex fine septimi libri eiusdem Geographiæ Claudii Ptolemæi de plana terrarum orbis descriptione iam olim & à veterib; instituta Geographis, vnâ cum opusculo Amirucii Constantinopolitani de iis, quæ Geographiæ debent adesse.

ADIUNCTA est & epistola IOANNIS de Regio monte ad Reuerendissimam matrem & Dominum D. Bessarionem Cardinalem Nicenum, atq; patris archam Constantinopolitanam, de compositione & vsu cuiusdam Meteoroscopiæ armillaræ, Cui recens tam opera PETRI APIANI accessit Torquetum instrumentum pulcherrimū sane & vtilissimū.



INGOLSTADII, Cum Gratia & Privilegio Imperiali, AN. M.D.XXXIII.

Figure 1
Geographia by Peter Apian, dated 1533.

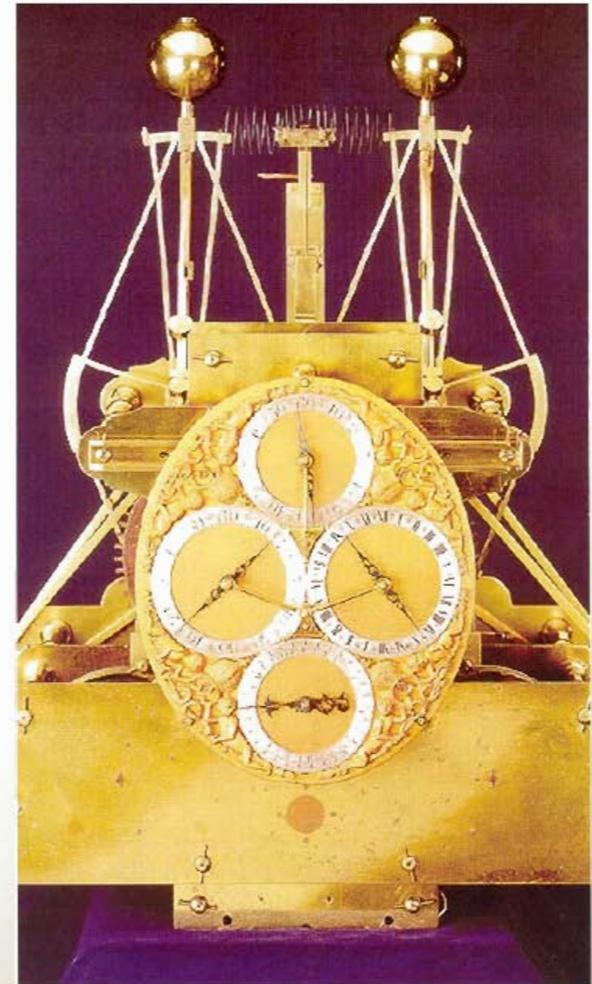
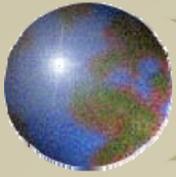


Figure 2
Harrison 1, first marine Chronometer (credit: D. Sobel und W. J. H. Andrewes, Leipzig, ed. Berlin Verlag 1999)

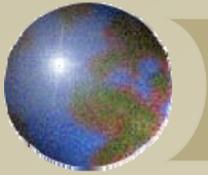


Global Positioning System



- Most significant recent advance in navigation and positioning technology. In the past, the **stars** were used for navigation. Today's world requires greater accuracy in real-time. The constellation of **artificial stars** provided by GPS do this.
- GPS uses satellites and ground equipment to determine position and time **anywhere** on Earth.

What a fantastic tool!



GPS Policy Affects Civil Use - 1980

One of the notable Federal coordination efforts associated with GPS occurred in 1980 when NOAA, NASA, and USGS joined with the Department of Defense (DoD) to complete the "Interagency Coordination Plan for Development of the Application of the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System (GPS) for Geodetic Surveying" (NOAA et al. 1980). The 1980 coordination plan identified specific roles for each agency in the development of GPS applications, in the testing of GPS concepts, and in the eventual selection of the optimum method, based on costs and performance, for general use. This cooperative effort culminated in the first interagency tests of GPS receivers which was conducted in January and February 1984 in Southern California. The results were reported at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco (Goad et al. 1984).

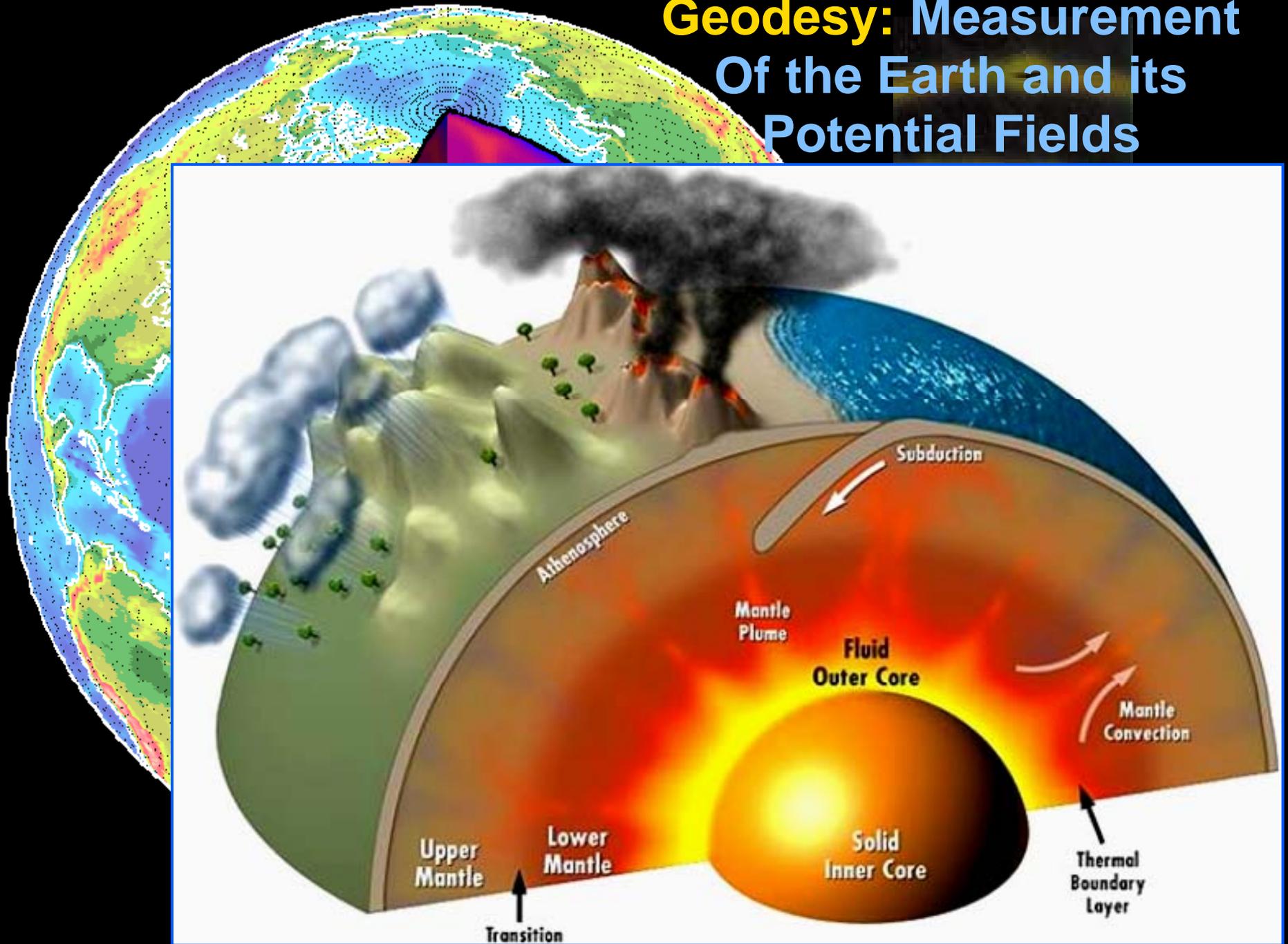
Latest Policy: Space Based Position Navigation and Timing, December 2004



GPS - Vital for Science

- GPS enable amazing information technology
 - Navigation, Surveying, Geodesy,...
- Geodesy, the science of
 - measuring and monitoring the size and shape of the Earth
- Understanding changes and complex dynamic processes of our home planet - to better protect our world

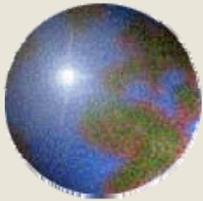
Geodesy: Measurement Of the Earth and its Potential Fields



Problem and fascination of measuring the Earth:

Everything is moving !

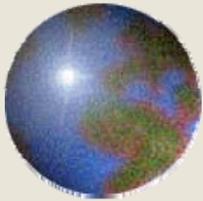
Monitoring today mainly by GPS permanent networks



*Continuous
observations are
absolutely crucial!*



Motivation



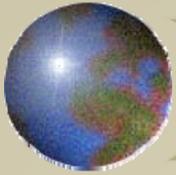
Helplessness in the face of natural disasters demonstrates that our knowledge of the Earth's complex system is rather limited.

GPS Contributes to Monitoring the Earth

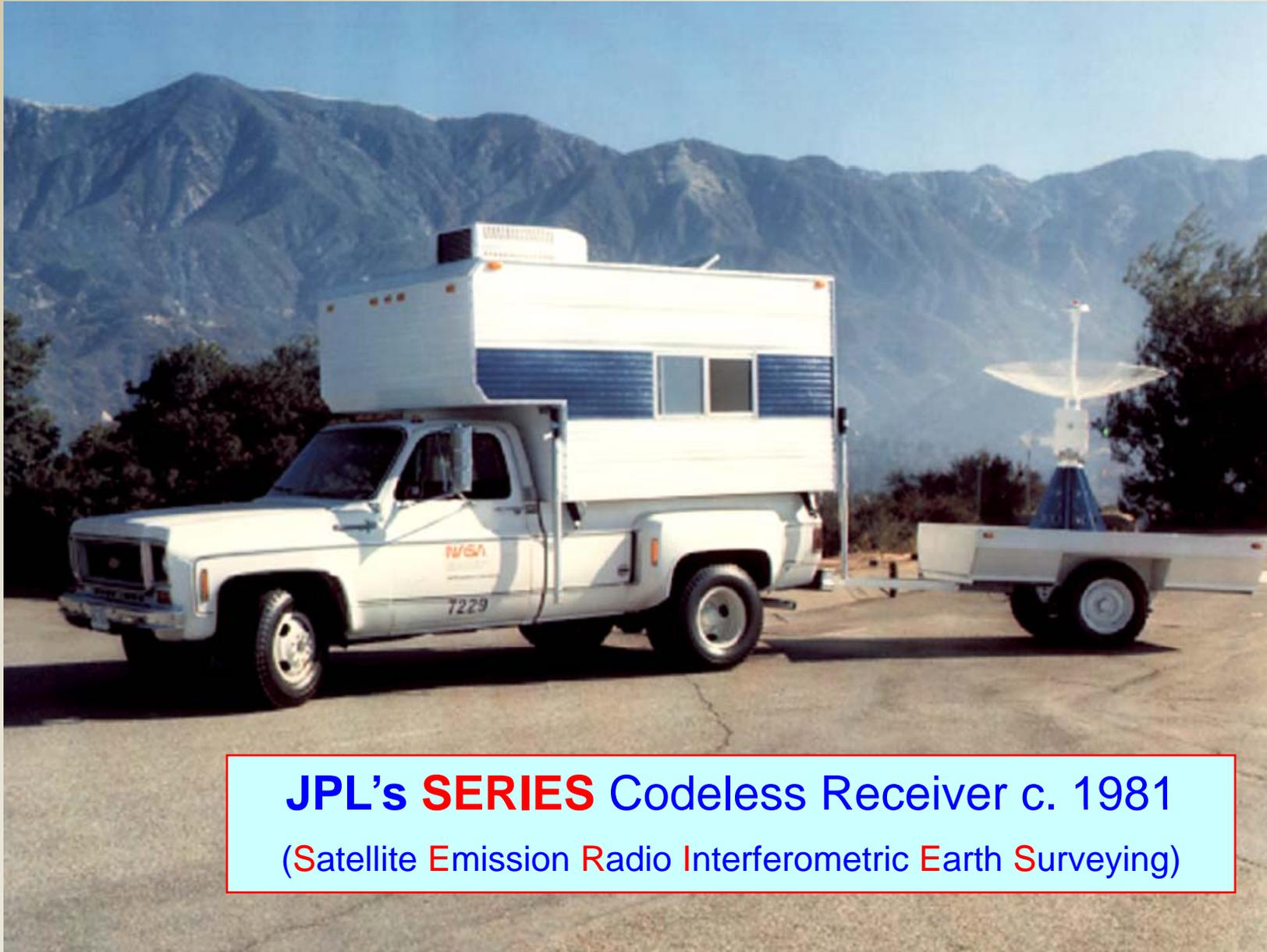


Global Geodetic Observing System - GGOS

GPS/GNSS combines with other space geodetic techniques, VLBI, SLR, DORIS, InSAR, UAVSAR



Early Mobile GPS Technology



JPL's SERIES Codeless Receiver c. 1981
(Satellite Emission Radio Interferometric Earth Surveying)



GPS Systems Group: TRSR Family Tree



TurboRogue
Commercial
Ground Receiver
(1992)

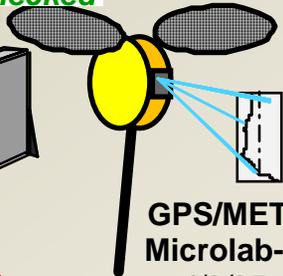


Operating in-orbit
when last checked

Mission Completed

EM UNIT

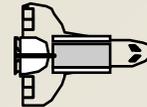
GPS/MET Class
Ruggedized
A/D Converter
RS-422
(1995)



GPS/MET
Microlab-I
4/3/95
(Pegasus)



Wake Shield II & III
9/7/95 & 11/96
Non-JPL
(Shuttle)



Engineering
Model

Bit-Grabber Class
Ultra-Low Power Nav
RF Sampling @ LEO/GEO
CA/P/Y Ground Proc.

Operating in-orbit

IN STORAGE

Operating, hw bias

Operating in-orbit

Ørsted Class
Low Power
Data Compression
(1996)
IOX-PicoSat (STP)
800 km 67°
8/31/01 Strauss
Operating in-orbit



Ørsted
Denmark
2/23/99
(Delta)
500-850 km,
97°



Rcvr worked
satellite lost jan 01



Sun Sat
S. Africa
2/23/99
(Delta)
00-850 km,
97°



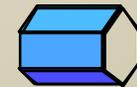
MIR-HMG
Russia/US
Cancelled
(Shuttle/MIR)

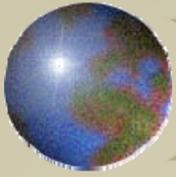


GeoSat Follow
On
Non-JPL
2/98 Ball/AOA
(Taurus)
1162 km, 108°



SNOE
2/98(Pegasus)





rcvr worked
satellite failed 12/00

Operating in-orbit

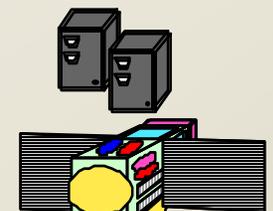
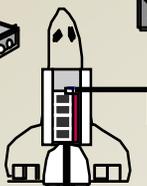
Mission Completed

Operating in-orbit

Operating in-orbit

BlackJackClass

Hi- Performance
New ASIC, PowerPC
Lower Power
Multi-Antenna
2000->



SRTM
2/11/00
(Shuttle)
126 nm, 57°

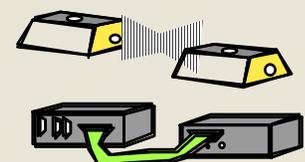
SAC-C
Argentina
11/21/00
(Delta II WITH
EO1) 600 km
98°, 2 yr

CHAMP
Germany
7/15/00
(COSMOS)
460-300 km,
98°, 5 yr

STRV-1c
UK/US
11/ 15/00
(Ariane-5)

Jason-1
French/US
12/07/01, 1337 km polar
(Delta II with
TIMED & IOX)

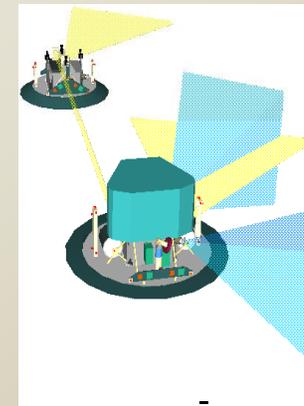
Operating in-orbit



GRACE
US/Germany
3/16/02(Rocket)500km
3 gps ant, red bb and
K,Ka RF, +star cameras



COSMICoccultations
6-satellite constellation
3/06launch



Autonomous Formation Flyer
Provides range, bearing, and
communications

VCL
DELIVERED 7/99
??/? Athena from
Kodiak, 30 cm

ICESAT
Operating in-orbit
1/03, Delta II 600 km
pol, 5 cm rad

FEDSAT
Operating in-orbit
12/02 on
H2A with
ADEOS II
800 km/98°
1(3) yr

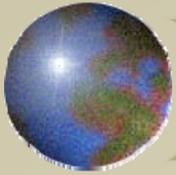
Raptor Class

AdditionalFunctions
Lower Power
2002->

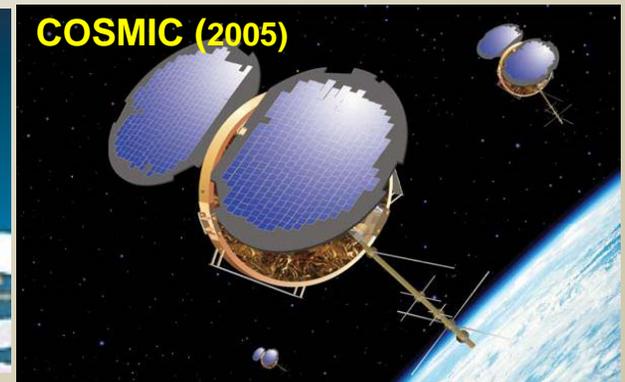
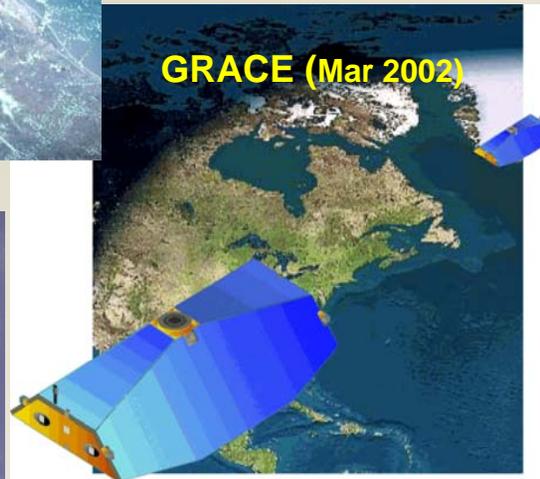
And
CNOFS 4/03
OSTM/JASON2 3/06



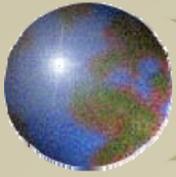
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology



GPS Precise Navigation - Low Earth Orbiters



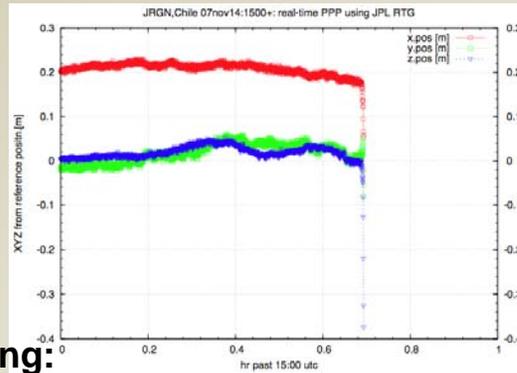
- *GPS Flight Receiver on board each*
- *LEO Missions Objectives/ Science Goals include:*
 - *Atmospheric remote sensing*
 - *Gravity, Magnetics*
 - *Ionospheric remote sensing*
 - *Ice and oceans*



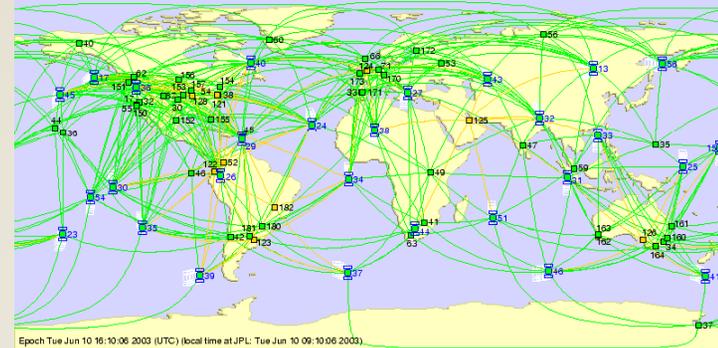
Broad Societal Benefits from NASA GDGPS

GDGPS: Global Differential GPS

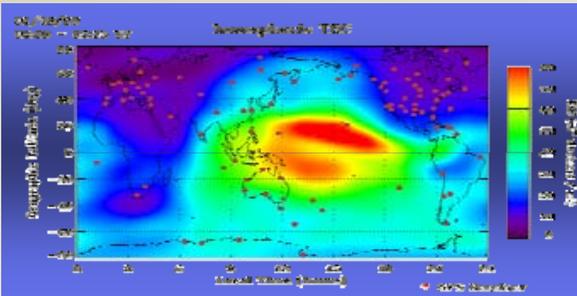
Natural hazard monitoring: real time earthquake damage assessment and Tsunami alerts



National security (GPS integrity monitoring)



Natural hazard monitoring: space weather



Deep space navigation



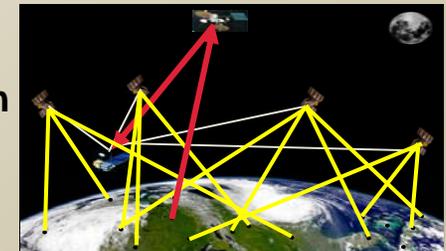
Precise real-time positioning anywhere



Civil Emergency systems (E911)



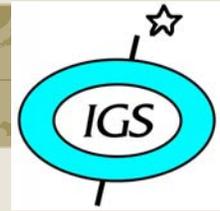
TASS: next generation navigation near Earth



Location-based services

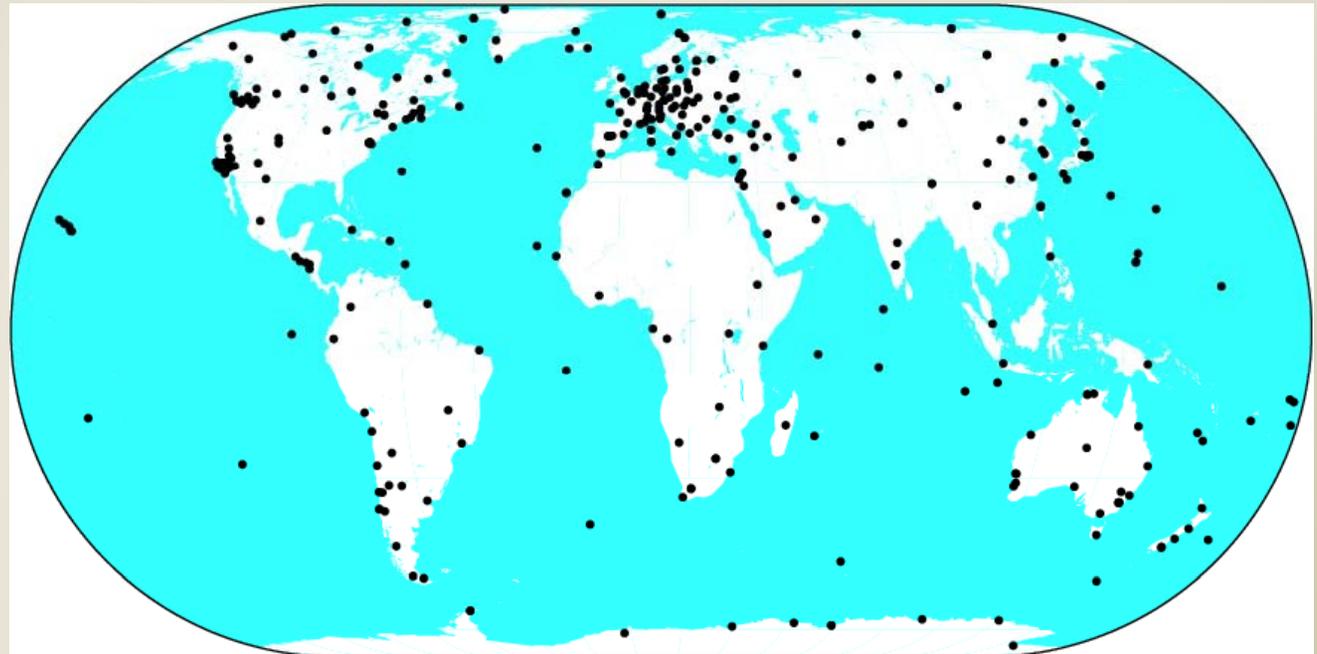


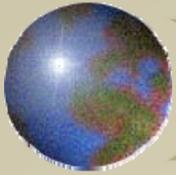
Quick answers: What is the IGS?



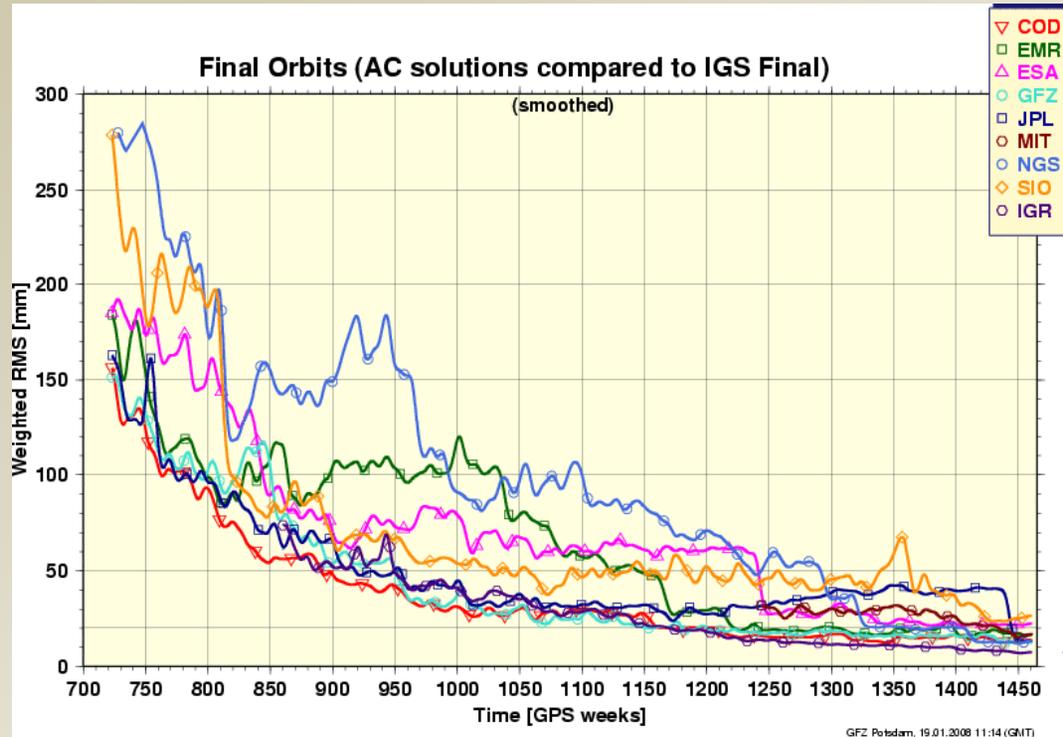
The International GNSS Service (IGS, formerly the International GPS Service) is a voluntary federation of more than **200** worldwide organizations in **90+ countries** that pool resources and permanent GNSS station data to generate precise GNSS products with '**open data**' policy. Currently the IGS supports two GNSS: GPS and the Russian GLONASS.

Over **350** permanent, geodetic GNSS stations operated by more than 100 worldwide agencies comprise the IGS network.





Quick answers: What is the IGS?



IGS products are formed by combining independent results from each of several Analysis Centers.

Improvements in signals and computations have brought the centers' consistency in the Final GPS satellite orbit calculation to about **2cm**.

Many earth science missions and measurements, and multidisciplinary applications, rely upon the openly-available IGS products such as ephemerides and coordinate time series.

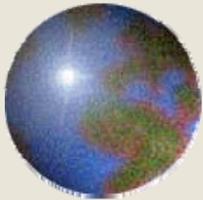
NGS is the IGS Analysis Center Coordinator for 2008-2011. The IGS Central Bureau at JPL handles overall coordination and day-to-day management of the IGS, view must be global.



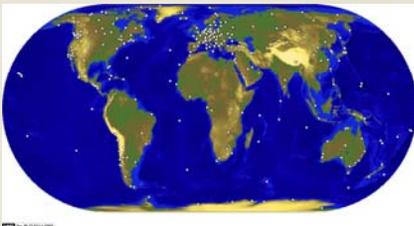
International GNSS Service

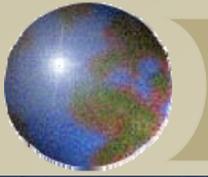
*Formerly the **International GPS Service***

US agencies and organizations that contribute to the IGS:

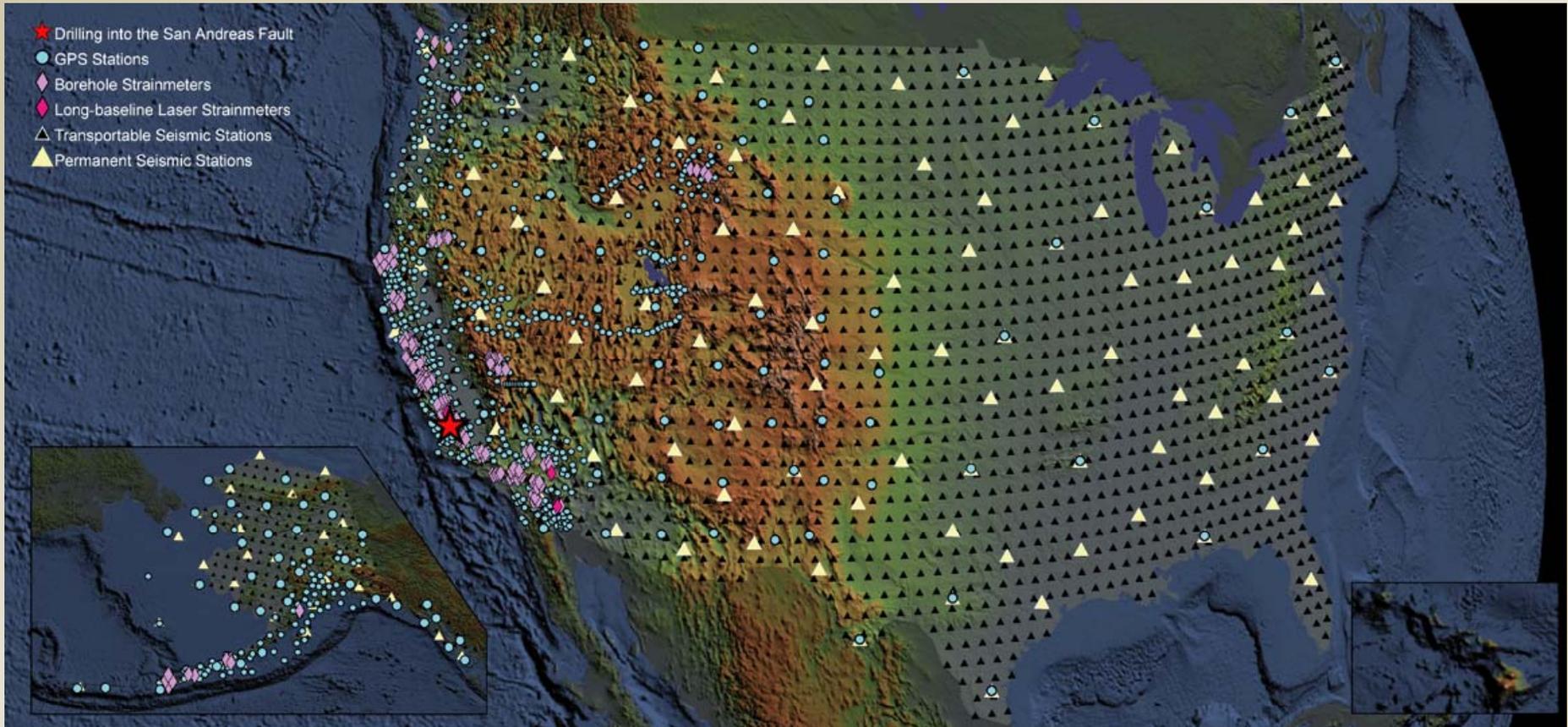


- *National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)*
- *National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)*
- *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*
 - *National Geodetic Survey (NGS), IGS Analysis Center Coordinator*
- *Naval Research Laboratory (NRL)*
- *National Science Foundation (NSF)*
- *National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)*
- *US Naval Observatory (USNO)*
- *US Geological Survey (USGS)*
- *Numerous universities & research organizations.*



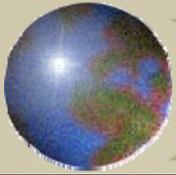


EarthScope

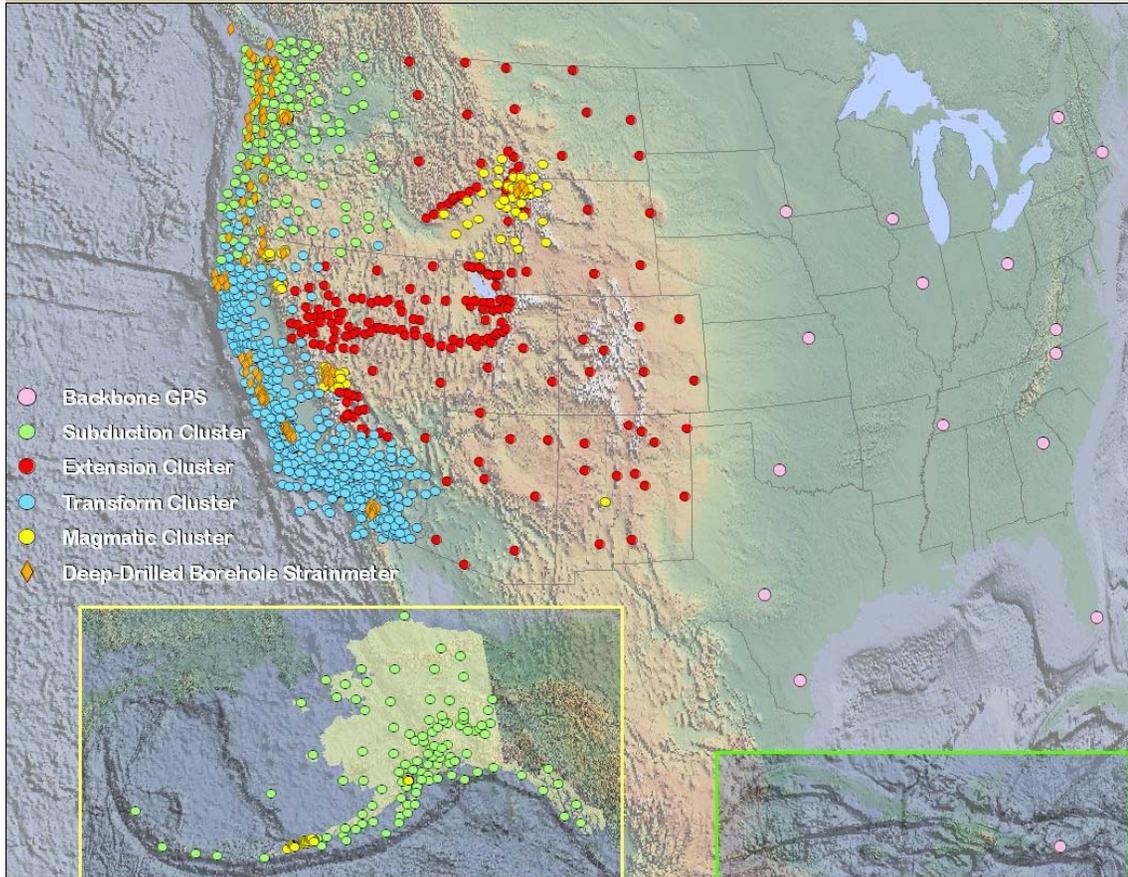


- EarthScope is an NSF funded Major Research and Facilities Construction (MREFC) Observatory
- Construction complete September 2008 at a cost of \$200 million dollars

- EarthScope is a broad-based earth science program that is taking a multidisciplinary approach to studying the structure and evolution of the North American continent and the physical processes controlling earthquakes and volcanoes



EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory



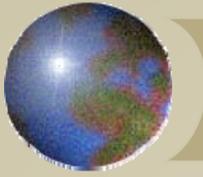
•The Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO) is a geodetic observatory designed to study plate & tectonic deformation of the United States.

•The observatory is being constructed by UNAVCO and consists of arrays of Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers (1000) and strainmeters combined with air/satellite imagery.

•Requires the global IGS infrastructure to meet US science requirements.



University NAVSTAR Consortium is a joint NSF/NASA facility



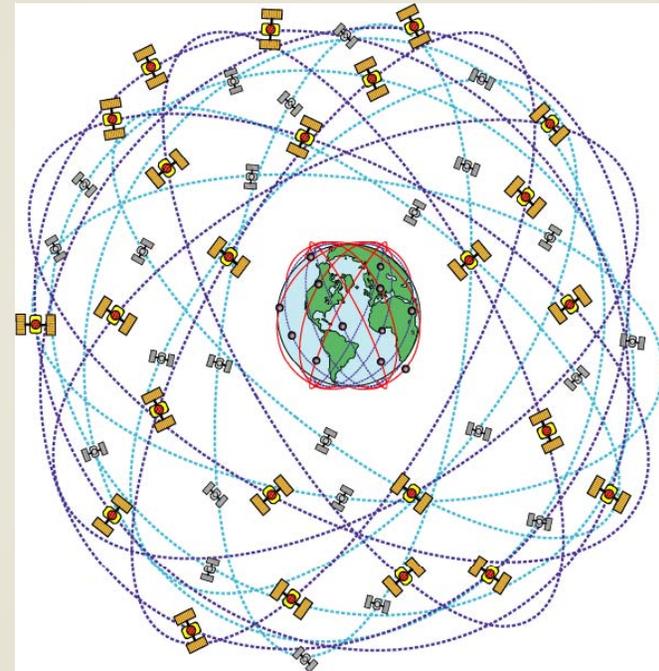
Closing Remarks

- GPS provides a unique and valuable tool for observing and understanding our planet
 - Climate change, sea-level change, ice and glacier melting, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, subsidence, severe weather, severe space weather,...
- ***Scientific observations and understanding can lead to actions in order to better protect our world today and for future generations***

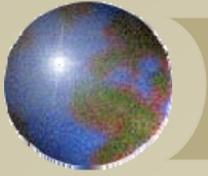


Contact Information

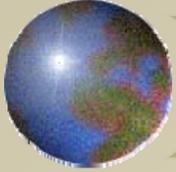
Ms. Ruth E. Neilan
International GNSS Service Central Bureau
Jet Propulsion Laboratory/Caltech
MS 238-540
4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA
91109-8099
USA
tel: 818-354-8330
fax: 818-393-6686
ruth.neilan@jpl.nasa.gov



Part of the work for this presentation was carried out at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



Some Back-ups



Bossler's Paper

BACKGROUND OF FEDERAL GPS ACTIVITIES

The NAVSTAR GPS program is a joint service program managed by the U. S. Air Force with representation from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Defense Mapping Agency (DMA), Department of Transportation, NATO, and Australia. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) also recognized early on that they each had an interest in either the development or in the application of GPS for geophysical and geodetic purposes.

One of the notable Federal coordination efforts associated with GPS occurred in 1980 when NOAA, NASA, and USGS joined with the Department of Defense (DoD) to complete the "Interagency Coordination Plan for Development of the Application of the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System (GPS) for Geodetic Surveying" (NOAA et al. 1980). The 1980 coordination plan identified specific roles for each agency in the development of GPS applications, in the testing of GPS concepts, and in the eventual selection of the optimum method, based on costs and performance, for general use. This cooperative effort culminated in the first interagency tests of GPS receivers which was conducted in January and February 1984 in Southern California. The results were reported at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco (Goad et al. 1984).

NASA Activities

Under the GPS coordination plan, the NASA role and mission were to:

1. Develop and demonstrate interferometric GPS positioning.
2. Participate in the development of advanced GPS receivers.
3. Use GPS for accurate positioning of satellites.

A major aspect of NASA's involvement has been the development of the Satellite Emission Radio Interferometric Earth Surveying (SERIES) concept (MacDoran et al. 1982). More recently, NASA has been actively involved with applications of GPS for crustal motion monitoring and with the development of GPS orbit prediction and tracking systems. NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory is conducting another interagency test this spring. That activity is the subject of one of the presentations at this conference. NASA is also investigating the use of GPS receivers on board geodetic satellites for precise ephemeris determination throughout scientific missions.

NOAA Activities

The NOAA activities related to GPS fall under the basic National Geodetic Survey authorization and include:

1. Using GPS for operational geodetic control surveys.
2. Development of specifications for GPS operations.
3. Investigations and research in GPS-related technology.
4. Using GPS results for monitoring and modeling crustal motion.

In addition to the active participation of National Geodetic Survey, NOAA contributed to a tri-agency receiver development project through a contract with the Applied Research Laboratories, The University of Texas at Austin. DoD and USGS also participated in this contract which led to the current hardware

available from Texas Instruments. NOAA is currently using the Texas Instruments TI 4100 as well as the MACROMETER™ V-1000 for operational GPS surveys. Several of NOAA's ideas and programs will be presented at this meeting. Preliminary results from simultaneous mobile very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) and GPS surveys in Alaska will also be presented.

DoD Activities

Within DoD, DMA serves as Deputy Program Manager. Additionally, DMA provides:

1. Static positioning tests for the GPS/Joint
2. Development of GPS satellite for LANDSAT 1
3. Point of contact for the geodesy interest
4. Lead in tri-agency development of GPS rece

Under a separate agreement, the DoD GPS role also Geophysical Laboratory (AFGL) research and develo in response to DMA requirements in mapping, char activities have included extensive GPS research receivers for precise relative geodesy and orbit Draper Laboratory (CSDL) and at the Massachusetts

USGS Activities

The USGS is primarily concerned with its geoph from the perspective of a user. USGS GPS ac

1. Identify applications of GPS to USGS progr
2. Provide support for GPS research at CSDL a
3. Contribute towards the tri-agency prototy

Currently, the USGS is purchasing five GPS receiv networks now being measured by other techniques, regions of California (Kerr 1985).

FGCC Activities

The Federal Geodetic Control Committee (FGCC) Federal agencies involved with geodetic surveying include the testing and evaluation of new survey/ establishment of standards and specifications for

In January 1983, the FGCC Instrument Subcommitt demonstration of the MACROMETER™ interferometric Fronczek 1983). The tests compared MACROMETER™ azimuths, and ellipsoidal height differences with the test showed that the MACROMETER™ V-1000 is a be used successfully to establish geodetic contro National Geodetic Reference System.

ICCG GPS Panel

Under the auspices of the Interagency Coordinat (ICCG), Federal agencies involved with GPS will c

6

purpose of the recently reconstituted ICCG GPS Panel for Operational Coordination and Long Range Planning will be to:

1. Compile agency needs and plans for use of GPS receivers.
2. Formulate procedures for interagency sharing of receivers.
3. Facilitate cooperative data acco
4. Develop standardized data forma
5. Recommend procedures and locati

This panel has just been formed and i meeting tentatively scheduled for Oct

GPS SATELLITE

The recent launch of the tenth GPS, the testing and development phase. T operational GPS satellites has plann continuing on until December 1988. T satellites are available and continuo expected to begin in late 1987. The available by the end of 1988.

FEDERAL

As referred to earlier in the Instr dependent on access to the C/A (coars code for field operations. These cod transmissions and provide timing, sat position information. Other systems "codeless" mode, treating the GPS sat interferometric measurement techniq

Separate from the field use code re processing of GPS data with precisely the highest quality geodetic results. post orbit ephemerides must now be c

6

The C/A code, under the DoD label (will be made available to a wide vari broadest possible commercial, civil, world. However, the GPS system will SPS accuracy during times of national

Access to the P code, under the DoD is another matter. Originally the D applications of high national securit to the U. S. and Allied military use policy on PPS use in the civil commu

Under the proposed policy framewor could apply for access to the PPS. I

application to ensure consideration of national security needs. Once an application has been approved, a certification would be issued specifying the geographic area and time frame. The approved applicant would then contract with the U. S. government, or perhaps a third party agent, for delivery of the equipment, the cryptography, and the supporting services. Additional details on this access policy will be covered later in this session.

Precise Ephemerides

Under a proposed agreement, NOAA, NASA, and DMA will participate in the tracking of the 18 GPS satellites, computing the precise ephemerides for the satellites, and then distributing the ephemerides to military and civilian users for post processing of their GPS observations (NOAA et al. 1984). The computations and distribution activities will be for the purpose of producing geodetic quality data, and will not occur in real time.

In addition to each agency providing technical expertise to support the development of orbit determination procedures, the specific NOAA responsibilities will include:

1. Operating satellite tracking stations at VLBI sites in Massachusetts, Texas and Florida.
2. Distributing the tracking data and geodetic quality ephemerides generated at DMA to domestic requestors.

The specific NASA responsibilities will include:

1. Operating tracking stations in Spain, California, and Australia.
2. Providing tracking data and geodetic quality ephemerides to those with whom NASA has cooperative research programs.

The specific DMA responsibilities will include:

1. Establishing agreements for the operation of some tracking stations.
2. Operating the Satellite Tracking Network Control Center.
3. Maintaining the Satellite Tracking Data Base.
4. Generating the geodetic quality ephemerides.
5. Providing the precise ephemerides to foreign requestors.

The proposed agreement has been accepted by both NOAA and NASA. We are now awaiting final approval from DMA where the memorandum of understanding is being circulated for comments.

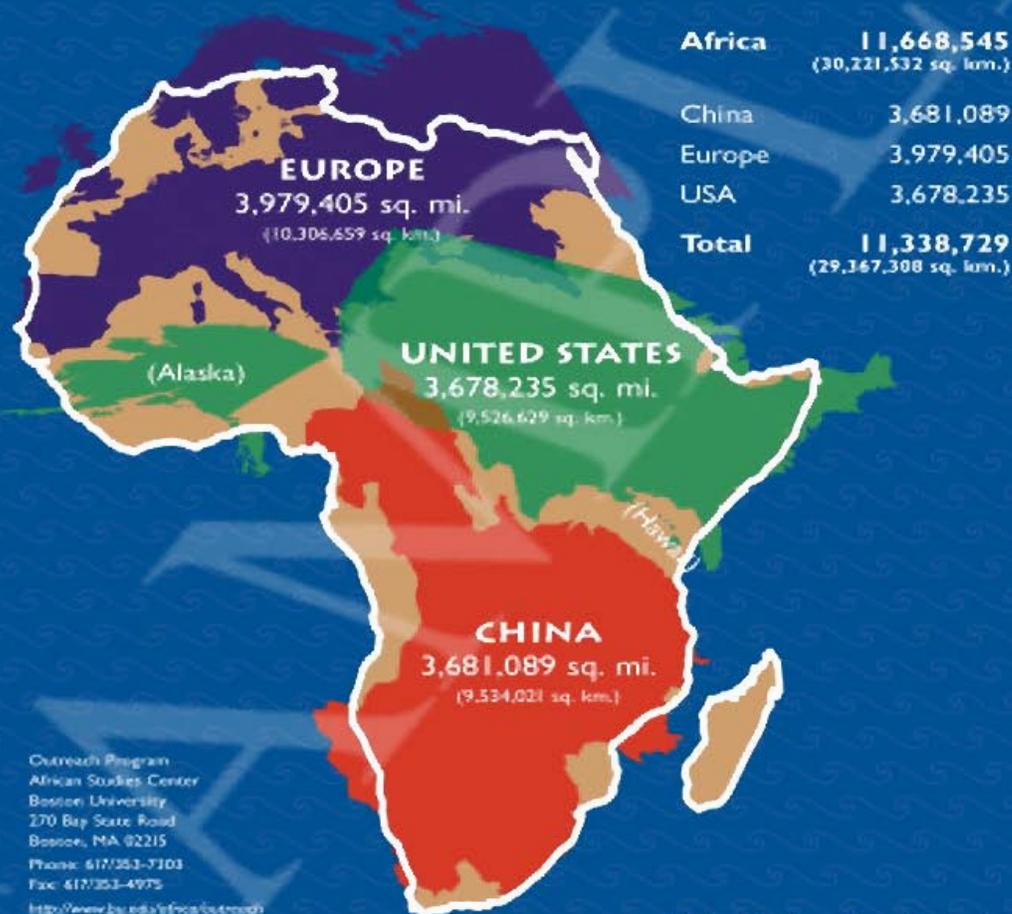
SUMMARY

The GPS will permit rapid, economic point positioning with accuracies of a few centimeters over distances of 100 km or more. The development of GPS geodetic surveying instruments has come about because of the significant cooperation within the Federal sector. This cooperation, together with the recognition of GPS potential by the private sector, brings us to this symposium today. Those of us in the Federal environment recognize our roles and our responsibilities to provide orbits, standards and specifications, SPS access, limited PPS access, continued research and development, and to continue and expand our cooperative relationship with the civil sector.



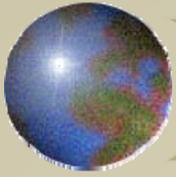
HOW BIG IS AFRICA?

Approximate Area in Square Miles



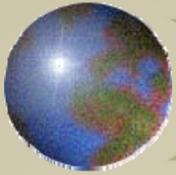
Outreach Program
African Studies Center
Boston University
270 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215
Phone: 617/353-7103
Fax: 617/353-4975
<http://www.bu.edu/africanstudies/outreach>
© Boston University
2003

Mollweide Equal Area Projection



Observation Changes

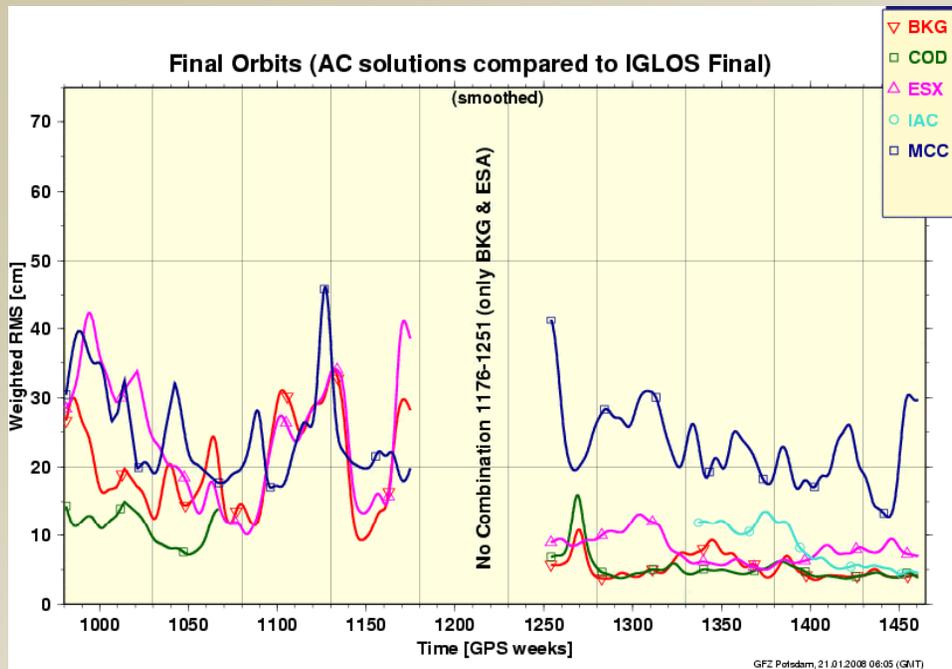




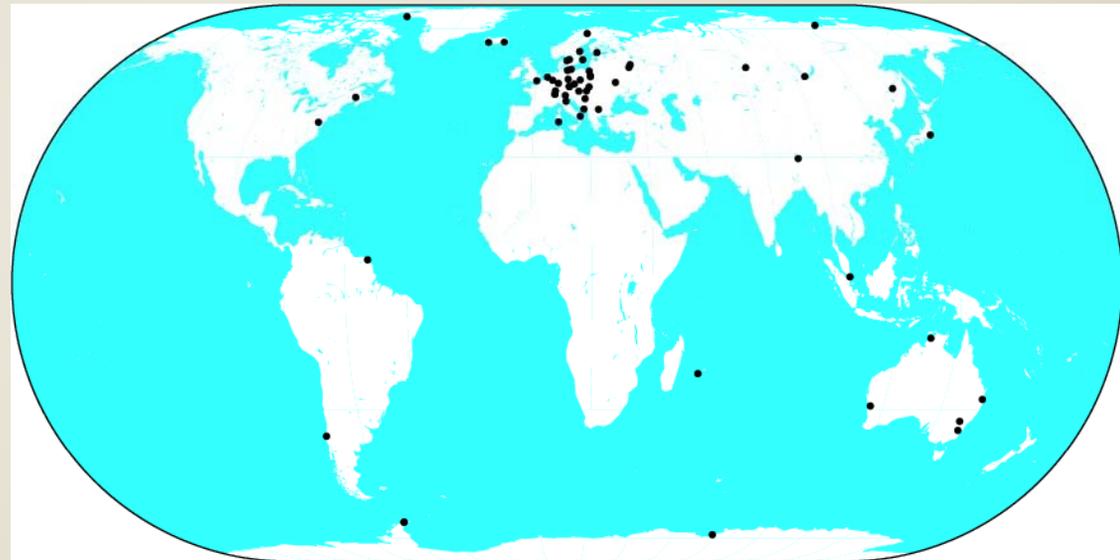
Inside the SERIES Truck



Macrometer & TI-4100



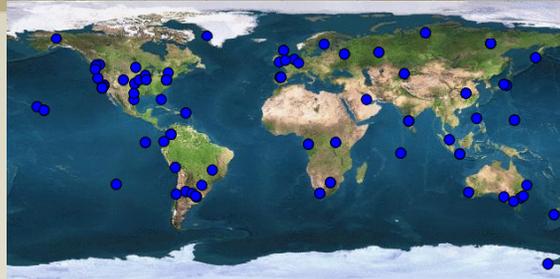
GLONASS Network and Final Orbit Comparison 1.21.08





The NASA Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System

GDGPS real time network



Operating since 2000 with
99.999% reliability

For more info see:

<http://www.gdgps.net/>

Terrestrial and
airborne users



GPS measurements



Frame relay,
internet

GDGPS Operations Center



Differential
corrections



Iridium,
Inmarsat,
GPRS,...

Differential
corrections,
ranging, integrity



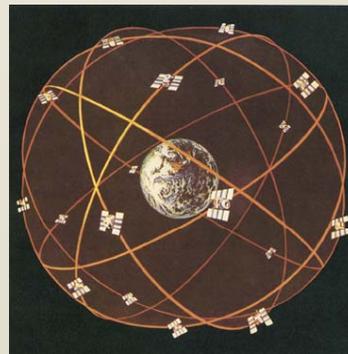
Uplink

TDRS



Land lines,
internet

TDRSS Augmentation
Service for
Satellites
(TASS)



Broadcast



Space users

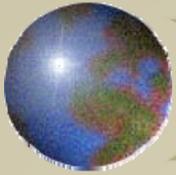




Gold Standard for Accuracy and Reliability

- Seamless global coverage
- Unparalleled accuracy on the ground, in the air, and in space
- Redundant and secure operations; no single points of failure
- Services for critical operations world-wide, including GPS performance monitoring

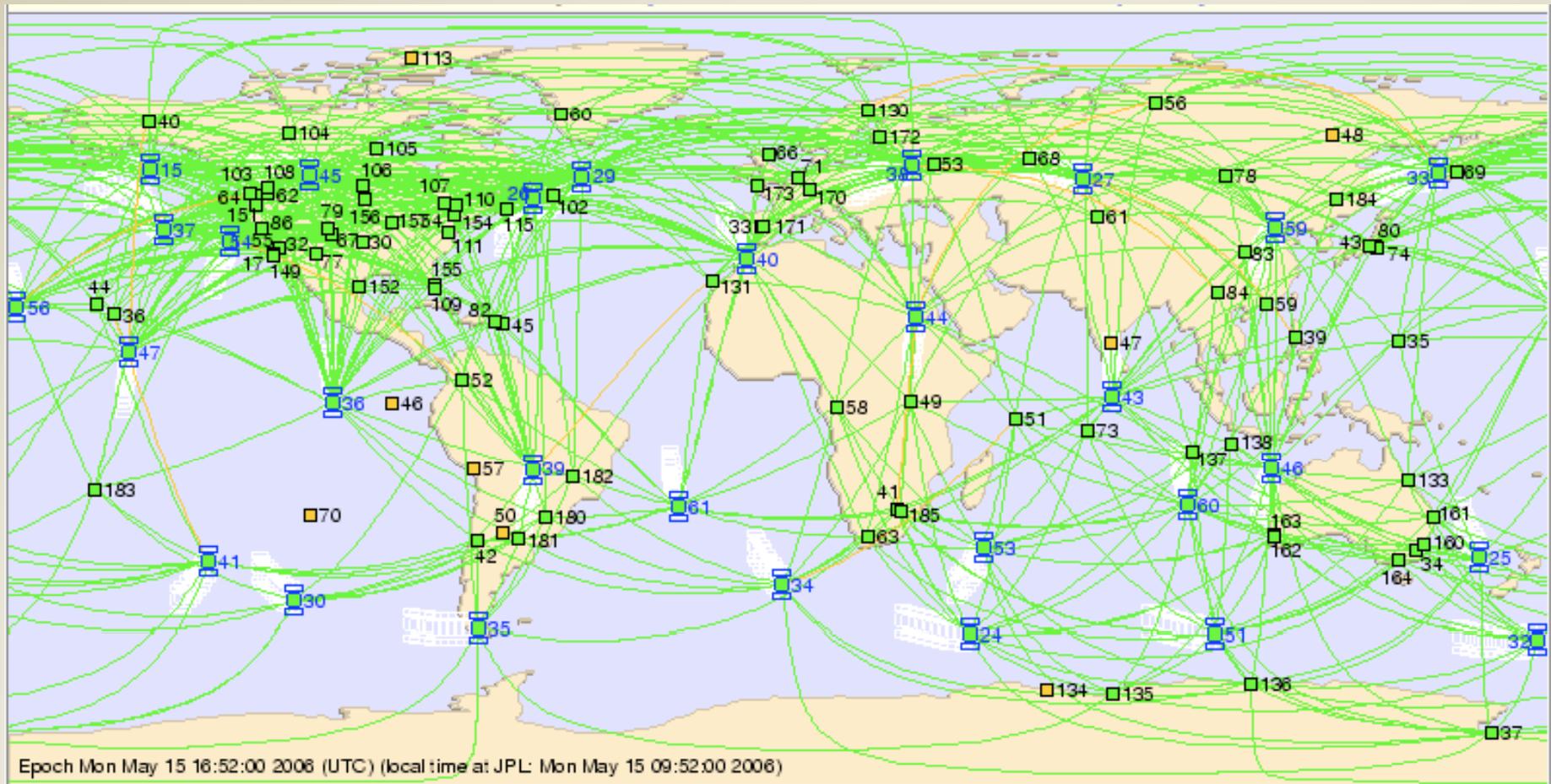


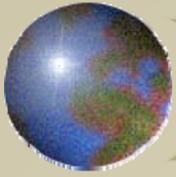


Powerful GPS Monitoring with GDGPS

With more than 90 real-time tracking sites, the GDGPS System tracks each GPS satellite by at least **10 sites**, and by **25 sites** on average, enabling robust, real-time GPS performance monitoring with **4 sec** to alarm

Optimal integrity is ensured by complete independence from the OCS tracking network





Classic IGS station: short pillar monument, choke ring antenna, desirable VLBI co-location

(Pie Town, NM)

Photo courtesy of D. Stowers, JPL

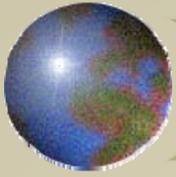


Photo courtesy NGS/NOAA



Tall pillar, newer antenna, radome, new paint job

(American Samoa)

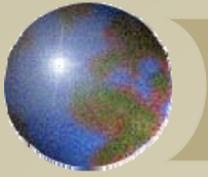
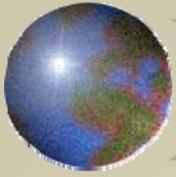


Photo courtesy ESA/ESOC

Think you can solve for the snow depth from this station's data?
(Kiruna, Sweden)



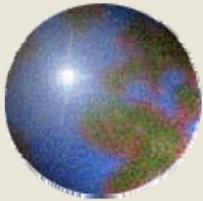
Relocating a station to a better-monumented spot (Thule, Greenland)



Photos courtesy F.B. Madsen, DNSC

IGS Mission

Science in service to society



“The International GNSS Service provides the highest-quality GNSS data, products, and services in support of the Earth observations and research, positioning, navigation and timing, the terrestrial reference frame, Earth rotation, and other applications that benefit society.”

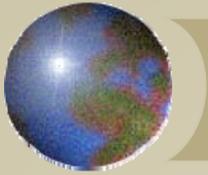


The Basics

International GNSS Service

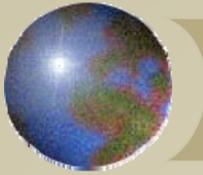


- ⊕ Recognized as an *international scientific service*
 - ▣ Advocates an **open data** policy, equal access
- ⊕ Name change from GPS to GNSS in 2005 reflects including:
 - ▣ **GLONASS** and future planning for **Galileo, QZSS, Compass, ...**
- ⊕ Highest accuracy GPS & GLONASS satellite orbits available **anywhere**
 - ▣ -3-5 cm 3-d wrms GPS solutions
 - ▣ ~10-20 cm GLONASS solutions
 - ▣ mm-level station positions and velocities, since 1992 (map)
- ⊕ Network of over **350+ stations** precision geodetic receivers produce GPS data on a continuous basis
 - ▣ ~ 35 also track GLONASS
 - ▣ ~100 report hourly
 - ▣ Real-time IGS network initiated,
 - prospects of integrity monitoring, other products
 - ▣ **Still major gaps, esp. in developing countries - AFREF**



WHY IGS? Historical notes

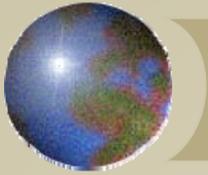
- Geodynamics, geodetic, and space agency organizations realized the potential of GPS by late 1980's
- Motivating goal: *millimeter* positioning in support of science & engineering anywhere in the world
- No single agency can or should assume the capital investment & recurring operations costs for the entire infrastructure
- Join with key international partners to form federation, define cooperation, set standards, driven by science quality
- Global framework for virtually all regional & national networks
- Implement a global *civilian* GPS tracking system for science and research
- Participants are enthusiastic!
- Later, more products (tropospheric, ionospheric...) from the same rich data set



Unique Applications

GNSS/GPS Applications in IGS Projects & Working Groups

- IGS Reference Frame - GNSS contribution and densification
 - Supporting AREF - African Reference Frame
- Precise Time & Frequency Transfer - Clock Products - NRL & BIPM
- GLONASS Pilot Service Project, now routine within IGS processes
 - Leadership by NGA
- Low Earth Orbiters Project
- Ionosphere WG
- Atmosphere WG - JPL lead
- Sea Level - TIGA Project - sea level change & variability
- Real-Time Project - new
- Data Center WG - GSFC
- GNSS WG - IGS colleagues lead GGRF (Galileo Geodetic Reference Frame) in Europe, ensuring interoperability; focus on GPS modernization and other developments



What IGS Offers

- Partnerships - Bi-lateral and Multi-lateral
 - True sense of community
- Robust, highly leveraged and redundant network
 - Improvements needed in developing countries and Africa - AFREF
- Data from global and dense regional networks that aspire to IGS standards matches global standards
- Combined precise & accurate analyses products are *'world class'*
- Calibration, validation, verification - the 'go to' for
 - Ephemerides, clocks, predicts
 - Tracking station coordinates and velocities -> Reference Frame
 - Earth rotation: polar motion, rate, length of day
 - Tropospheric delays: weather and severe storm warning
 - Ionospheric TEC: space weather
 - Time scale
- Signal monitoring: GPS, GLONASS, L2C, GIOVE (*Galileo*), interference, integrity - more potential here, QZSS, COMPASS,...

Catch the Earth!

GGOS is a program of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG):

- Ensures observations of the three fundamental geodetic observables and their variations: Earth's shape, gravity field and rotational motion
- Integrates different geodetic techniques, models, and approaches to ensure long-term, precise monitoring of observables in agreement with the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)
- Is a recognized member of the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS)
- Is a powerful tool consisting mainly of high quality services (e.g., IGS), standards and references, and of theoretical and observational innovations

