

CORS Network and Datum Harmonisation in the Asia-Pacific Region

Richard Stanaway and Craig Roberts

*School of Surveying and Spatial Information Systems
University of New South Wales*



CORS Networks in the Asia-Pacific - Challenges

Sparse geodetic infrastructure - datum, CORS distribution, data communications

Surveyors' knowledge, access to, and mastery of GNSS/GPS technology & geodesy

Tectonic deformation & subsidence

Multitude of regional datums (e.g. astro datums & geocentric datums with different reference epochs)



CORS Networks in the Asia-Pacific - Benefits

*Significant improvement in efficiency,
precision & repeatability*

*Legal Traceability for cadastral surveys (e.g.
customary land in remote areas)*

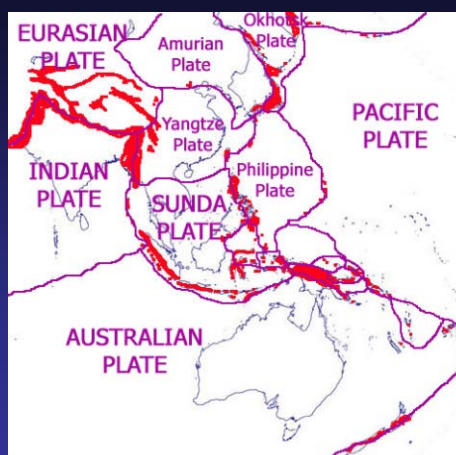
*Minimised engineering and environmental
risk for resource sector surveys*

*Minimal requirement for dense network
of ground marks in tectonically stable areas*

*Improved monitoring of sea level change,
volcanoes and other natural hazards*



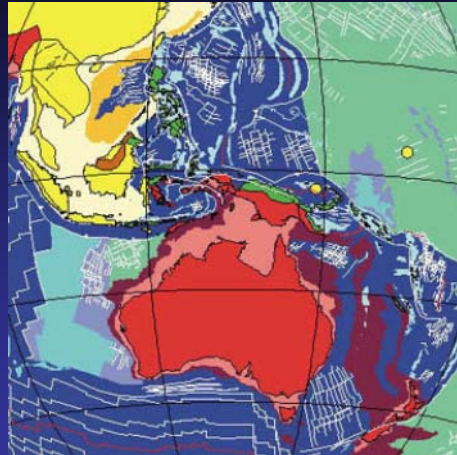
APREF Deforming zones & plate boundaries



**Deforming zones highlighted in red
(White space is on rigid plate)**



APREF Regional Tectonic Deformation



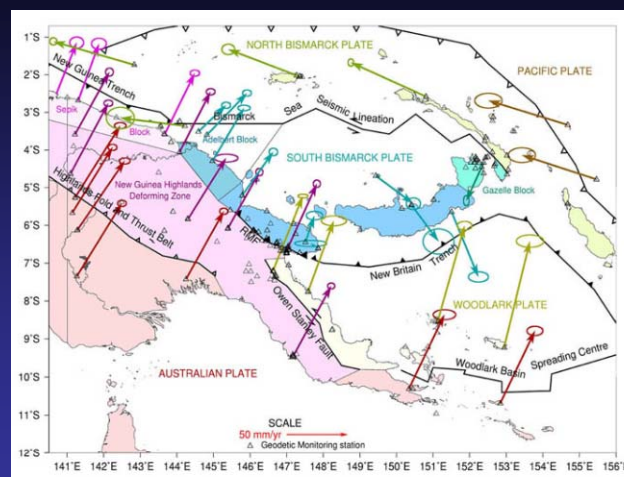
Regional deformation in the Asia Pacific Region over the last 10 million years



Hall, R. 2002. Cenozoic geological and plate tectonic evolution of SE Asia and the SW Pacific: computer-based reconstructions and animations. *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences*, 20 (4), 353–434.



Complex Tectonic setting in APREF



Microplates & ITRF Site Velocities

e.g. Papua New Guinea



Effect of tectonic deformation



+ S 7°26'50".9178 E 144°21'25".6692

ITRF Coordinates
on 1st January 2007



Effect of tectonic deformation



(at epoch 2008.0)

+ S 7°26'50".9162 E 144°21'25".6703

(at epoch 2007.0)

+ S 7°26'50".9178 E 144°21'25".6692

ITRF Coordinates
on 1st January 2007



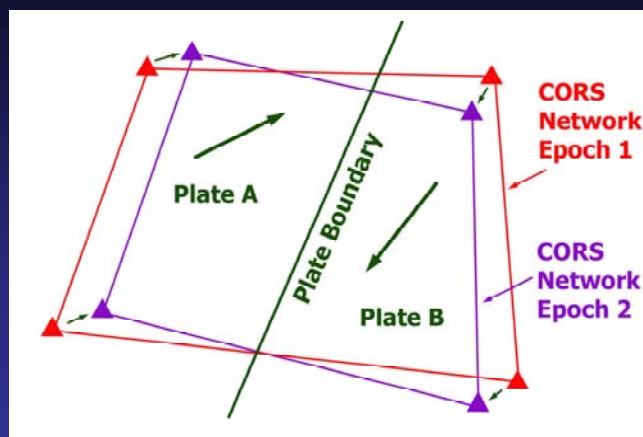
Coseismic deformation



*M_w 8.0 New Ireland Earthquake
Papua New Guinea - 16th November 2000*



Effect of tectonic deformation - CORS Networks



Benefits of adopting an epoch of ITRF

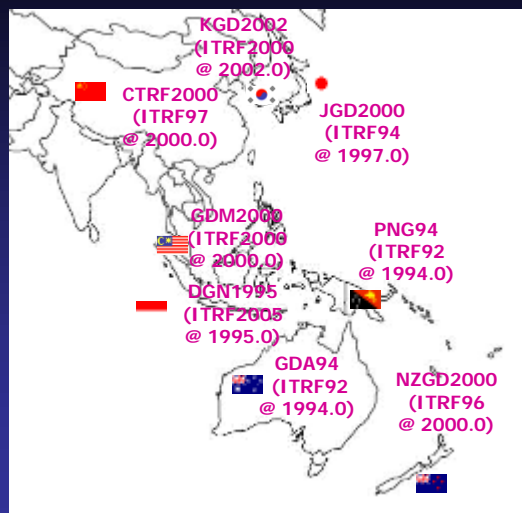
**Datum will be geocentric
(compatibility with GNSS orbit solutions)**

**< 3 metre agreement between other
geocentric ITRF based datums on decadal
scale (OK for 1:20,000+ scale mapping)
and navigation**

**simplified GNSS and datum
transformations**



Adoption of ITRF in APREF Countries to date



No common epoch or realisation across national borders (except AUS-PNG)

Regional misalignment ~ 0.5 m between 1994-2002



Kinematic, Semi-kinematic or Static?

Kinematic datum (e.g. ITRF)

*Coordinates change constantly (<8 cm/yr)
as a result of global tectonic deformation*

Semi-kinematic datum (e.g. NZGD2000)

*uses a tectonic deformation model to "fix"
coordinates at a reference epoch within an
internally deforming datum*

Static Datum (e.g. GDA94)

*Datum coordinates "fixed" at a reference
epoch - no internal deformation assumed*



Kinematic or Static/semi-kinematic? - Kinematic

KINEMATIC PROS

*ITRF effectively used as national datum
No velocity or deformation model required
with instantaneous coordinates*

KINEMATIC CONS

*Constantly changing coordinates
Difficult to integrate surveys / GIS
coordinates made at different times
(impossible without deformation model!!)*

*Legal traceability of coordinates will
require epoch and deformation model*

Precision Agriculture!!



Kinematic or Static/semi-kinematic? - Static

STATIC / SEMI-KINEMATIC PROS

*Coordinates do not constantly change
Integration of surveys at different epochs
possible without deformation model*

STATIC / SEMI-KINEMATIC CONS

*Divergence from ITRF as function of time
NRTK algorithm requires transformation
from ITRF to static*



Is a dual datum (kinematic & static) feasible?

Yes!!!

*ITRF used for: datum maintenance
 deformation monitoring
 NRTK / CORS orbit analysis
 LiDAR / InSAR processing
 highest precision regional surveys*

↓ *Transformation / deformation model* ↓
to link kinematic ITRF to "static" frame

*Static / semi-kinematic:
 used as working datum*

***AIM: Deformation
not "visible" to users***



What style of transformation should be used?

Rigid plate settings (e.g. Australia, Central Pacific Islands, Southern India, Borneo)

14 parameter transformation
(7 conformal / Bursa-Wolf + rates of change)
(can also be used for 3D deformation)

4 parameter rigid plate model

Deforming zones (e.g. Indonesia, Japan, Papua New Guinea)

Fault locking model

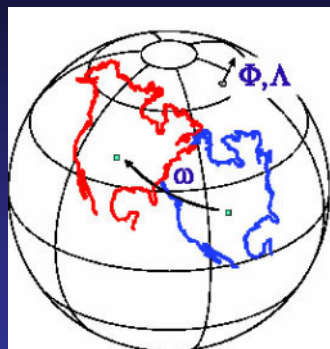
Finite Element Model

Localised rigid plate model



Parameterising rigid plate motion

kinematic parameters $\rightarrow \Omega_x \quad \Omega_y \quad \Omega_z$



Rigid plate motion defined by Euler pole

Plate	Euler pole of rotation			Equivalent Cartesian angular velocity		
	Φ ($^\circ$)	Δ ($^\circ$)	$\dot{\Phi}$ ($^\circ/\text{Ma}$)	Ω_x (Rad/Ma)	Ω_y (Rad/Ma)	Ω_z (Rad/Ma)
Americas	56.3	-181.8	0.269	-0.000577	-0.002543	0.002804
Australia	32.4	37.4	0.628	0.007354	0.005616	0.005874
Borneo	56.3	-181.8	0.269	-0.000577	-0.002512	0.002791
India	40.8	21.8	0.214	0.004417	0.002372	0.003008
Pacific	-87.8	117.9	0.232	-0.001131	0.006962	-0.010983
Tangaiia	59.4	-189.7	0.318	-0.000929	-0.002590	0.004822

ITRF2005 plate absolute rotation poles
(Altamimi *et al.*, 2007)

Site Velocity from Plate Model and Location (X,Y,Z)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \\ \dot{Z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_y Z - \Omega_z Y \\ \Omega_z X - \Omega_x Z \\ \Omega_x Y - \Omega_y X \end{bmatrix} \cdot 1E-6$$

Baseline changes usually insignificant within a rigid plate



Computing static coordinates in a kinematic system

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_0 \\ Y_0 \\ Z_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X_t \\ Y_t \\ Z_t \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{Y} \\ \dot{Z} \end{bmatrix} (t_0 - t)$$

Computing "Static" coordinates at a reference epoch coords from site velocity

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_0 \\ Y_0 \\ Z_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X_t \\ Y_t \\ Z_t \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_Y Z_t - \Omega_Z Y_t \\ \Omega_Z X_t - \Omega_X Z_t \\ \Omega_X Y_t - \Omega_Y X_t \end{bmatrix} (t_0 - t) \cdot 1E-6$$



"Static" coordinates at a reference epoch computed directly from a rigid plate model

4 parameters can link a kinematic datum with a static datum (on a rigid plate):
 $\Omega_X, \Omega_Y, \Omega_Z$ and t_0



What about deforming zones?

Static model requires additional parameters

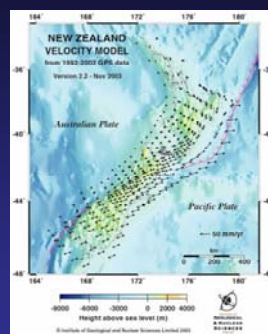
Fault locking parameterisation required

Finite element modelling - higher precision (e.g. New Zealand Deformation model)

Sesimic deformation

usually localised and non-linear

requires offset parameters at epoch of event and postseismic terms to be parameterised



Rigid Plate models - limited application in rapidly deforming zones



Focus of current research

Absolute deformation model

- *Rigid Plate Motion*
- *Non-linear plate boundary deformation*
 - *Parameterising co-seismic offsets*
 - *Parameterising post-seismic relaxation*
- *Slow slip deformation*



Practical Steps for CORS - APREF

Tier 1 CORS - Ultra-stable (e.g. IGS)

Tier 2 CORS - Datum maintenance

*Tier 3 CORS - Masts on buildings etc.
(fit-for-purpose)*

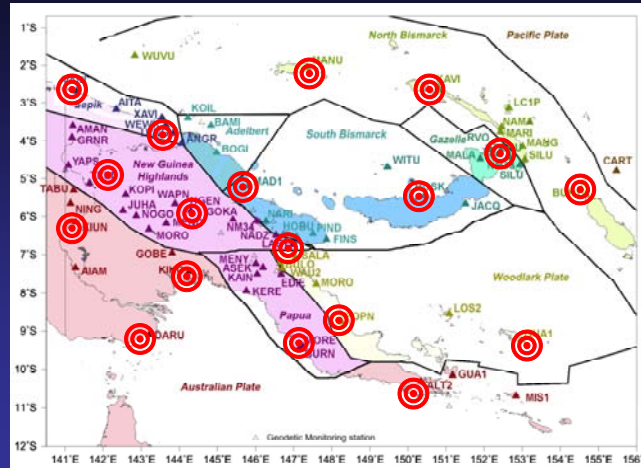
*Stable ground marks - (RMs, campaign
style obs., redundancy)*

*- very important in tectonically unstable
areas*

*Locations: Airports, Mines, Government
Offices, Tide Gauges*



Distribution of CORS & Geodetic monitoring



 **Optimal CORS Station**



Practical Steps for ITRF adoption - APREF

Several days observations over network

Repeat survey at different epoch

Adopt nearest whole epoch (e.g. 2011.0)

**Improve velocity model - by repeat obs.
(ITRF velocity precision will improve with time)**

**Observe earlier datum stations -
Essential for legacy datum transformation**

**Adopt EGM2008 with local
height datum geometric correction**



To summarise

semi-kinematic realisation of ITRF used as basis for a working national datum

kinematic ITRF - used for NRTK / datum maintenance

Absolute deformation model to connect ITRF and local

Good distribution of CORS and ground marks

Connection to older datums reqd. for transformation parameter estimation

Fully kinematic datum not recommended as a working datum - too many spatial data management issues



Thank you!

