

**Presented at the FIG Working Week 2019,
April 22-26, 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam**



International Association
of Geodesy

Developments in Geodesy from IAG Perspective and its Contribution to the Societal Benefit Areas (SBA) of GEO

Harald Schuh - IAG President

Helmholtz Centre Potsdam
GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

Hermann Drewes - IAG Secretary General

Deutsches Geodätisches Forschungsinstitut (DGFI-TUM)
of Technische Universität München

Hanoi, 24th of April, 2019

Organisation of International Science

International Science Council (ISC) (2018: merger of ICSU and ISSC)

Sciences: IAU, ICA, IGA, ...

IUGG

Social Sciences

International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)

IACS

IAGA

IAHS

IAPSO

IAG

IAMAS

IASPEI

IAVCEI

International Association of Geodesy (IAG): 71 Member countries

→ **Council:** Representatives of the member countries

→ **Executive Committee:** 16 members (elected by the Council)

→ **Bureau:** Administrative work

→ **Office:** Management (Secretary General)



IAG Scientific Structure 2015 – 2019

Bureau

President: *Harald Schuh, Germany*
 Vice-president: *Zuheir Altamimi, France*
 Secretary General: *Hermann Drewes, Germany*

Commissions

1 Reference Frames
(G. Blewitt, US)

2 Gravity Field
(R. Pail, DE)

3 Geodynamics
(M. Hashimoto, JP)

4 Applications
(M. Santos, CA)

Inter-Commission Committee on Theory *(P. Novák, CZ)*

Scientific Services

Geom.:

IERS

IGS

Gravim.:

IGFS

BGI

ICGEM

General:

BIPM

IDS

ILRS

IVS

IDEMS

IGETS

ISG

PSMSL

(Representatives in the EC: *R. Neilan, US, R. Barzaghi, IT, A. Nothnagel, DE*)

Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS) *(R. Gross, US)*

Communication and Outreach Branch (COB) *(J. Ádám, HU)*

(EC Members at Large: *Y. Dang, CN, M. C. Pacino, AR; Past President: Ch. Rizos, AU*)



Mission and objectives of the IAG

The **mission** of the IAG is the **advancement of geodesy** by

- furthering geodetic theory through research and teaching,
- collecting, analysing, modelling and interpreting observational data,
- by stimulating technological development and
- providing a consistent representation of the figure, rotation, and gravity field of the Earth and planets, and their temporal variations.

The **objectives** of the IAG are to achieve the mission by **studying all geodetic problems related to Earth observation and global change**, i.e.:

- Definition, establishment, and maintenance of global and regional *reference systems* for interdisciplinary use;
- *Gravity field* of the Earth;
- *Rotation and dynamics* of the Earth and planets;
- *Positioning and deformation*;
- Ocean, ice and sea level.
- Atmosphere and hydrosphere.



Commission 1 “Reference Frames”

1.1 Coordination of Space Techniques

- Co-location using clocks and new sensors: New site ties concepts
- Performance simulations and architectural trade-off (of the ITRF)

1.2 Global Reference Frames

- IERS Conventions (2010): update will come soon

1.3 Regional Reference Frames

- EUREF, SIRGAS, NAREF, AFREF, APREF, Antarctica
- Time-dependent transformations between reference frames

1.4 Interaction of Celestial and Terrestrial Reference Frames

- Consistent realization of ITRF, ICRF and EOP: new ICRF3 (only IAU)

WG1: Site survey and co-location

WG2: Modelling environmental loading effects

WG3: Troposphere ties

Commission 2 “Gravity Field”

2.1 Gravimetry and Gravity Network

- Absolute and superconducting gravity measurements

2.2 Methodology for Geoid and Physical Height Systems

- Integration and validation of local geoid estimates

2.3 Satellite Gravity Missions

- GRACE Follow-On (GRACE FO) mission launched on May 22, 2018

2.4 Regional Geoid Determination

- Europe, South, N & Central America, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Antarctica

2.5 Satellite Altimetry

- New International Altimetry Service (under construction)

2.6 Gravity and Mass Transport in the Earth System

- Variation of groundwater, melting of ice, ...

WG: Relativistic Geodesy: Towards New Geodetic Techniques

3.1 Earth Tides and Geodynamics

- International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service (IGETS), 2017

3.2 Crustal Deformation

- New SC3.2 Volcano Geodesy (jointly with IAVCEI), 2019

3.3 Earth Rotation and Geophysical Fluids

- Global mass transport, Earth rotation and low-degree gravity change

3.4 Cryospheric Deformations

- Glacial Isostatic Adjustment (GIA) research

3.5 Tectonics and Earthquake Geodesy

- Joint Sub-commission planned with IASPEI, 2019

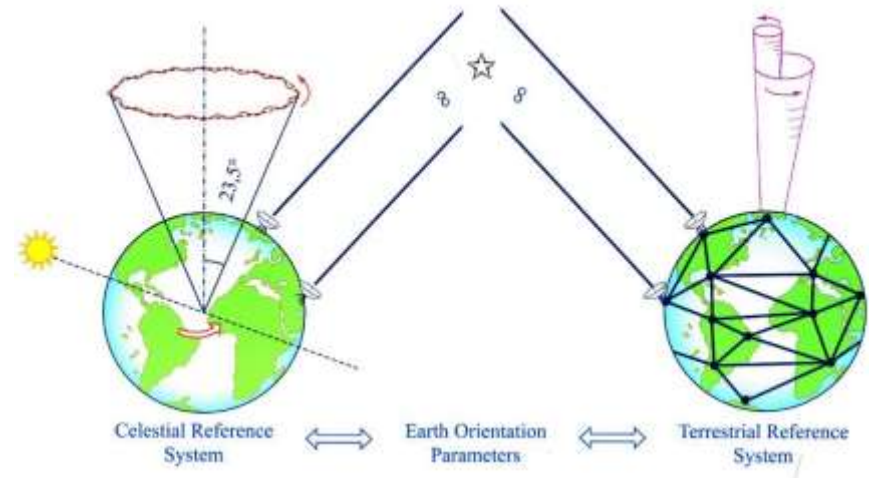
JSG1 : Intercomparison of Gravity and Height Changes

JWG1: Theory of Earth Rotation and Validation

JWG2: Constraining Vertical Land Motion of Tide Gauges

Challenges of geodesy to rotation & geodynamics

- Prove consistency of the ICRF3 (released by IAU 2018) with ITRF;
- Model effects of mass displacements (atmosphere, hydrosphere and solid Earth) on Earth rotation



NEW:

- For geodynamics research, establish new inter-association joint (Sub-)commissions or IAG Intercommission Committees, ICC):
 - With IAPSO (“marine geodesy”)
 - With IASPEI (“seismo-geodesy”)
 - With IAVCEI (“volcano-geodesy”)
 - With IACS (“cryosphere geodesy”)
 - New ICC on “Geodesy for climate research”, approved
 - New ICC on “Quantum technology and new sensors”, approved

Commission 4 “Positioning and Applications” (links to FIG, Commission 5)

4.1 Emerging positioning technologies and GNSS augmentation

- Multi-sensor systems
- Indoor positioning and navigation
- 3D point cloud monitoring
- Robust positioning for urban traffic

4.2 Geo-spatial mapping and geodetic engineering

- Mobile mapping technologies
- Geodesy in mining engineering
- Mobile health monitoring
- Building information modelling

4.3 Atmosphere remote sensing

- Iono-atmosphere coupling
- Real-time iono-/atmosph. monitoring
- Multi-dimens. Ionosphere
- Impact on GNSS-positioning
- Ionosphere scintillations
- Troposphere tomography

4.4 Multi-constellation GNSS

- Integrity monitoring for PPP

WG1: Biases in multi-GNSS data processing

WG2: Integer ambiguity resolution for multi-GNSS PPP and PPP-RTK

Joint Study Groups with Commissions / Services

- 10: High-rate GNSS
- 11: Multi-resolution aspects of potential field theory
- 12: Methods for recovery of high-resolution gravity field models
- 13: Integral equations of potential theory for continuation and transformation of classical and new gravitational observables
- 14: Fusion of multi-technique satellite geodetic data
- 15: Regional geoid/quasi-geoid modelling for sub-centimetre accur.
- 16: Earth's inner structure from geodetic and geophysical sources
- 17: Multi-GNSS theory and algorithms
- 18: High resolution harmonic analysis & synthesis of potential fields
- 19: Time series analysis in geodesy
- 20: Space weather and ionosphere
- 21: Geophysical modelling of time variations in deformation & gravity
- 22: Definition of next generation terrestrial reference frames

Geometry

- IERS:** International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service
- IDS: International DORIS Service
- IGS: International GNSS Service
- ILRS: International Laser Ranging Service
- IVS: International VLBI Service

Gravimetry

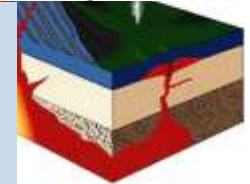
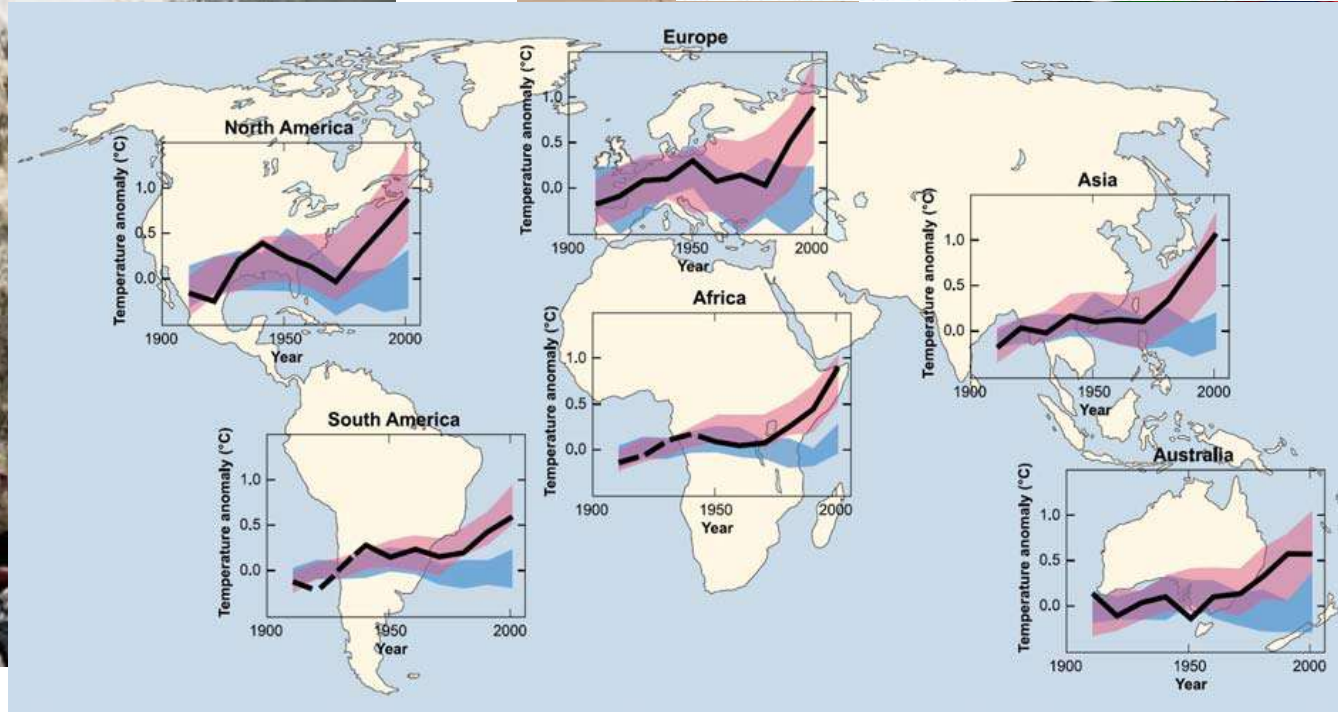
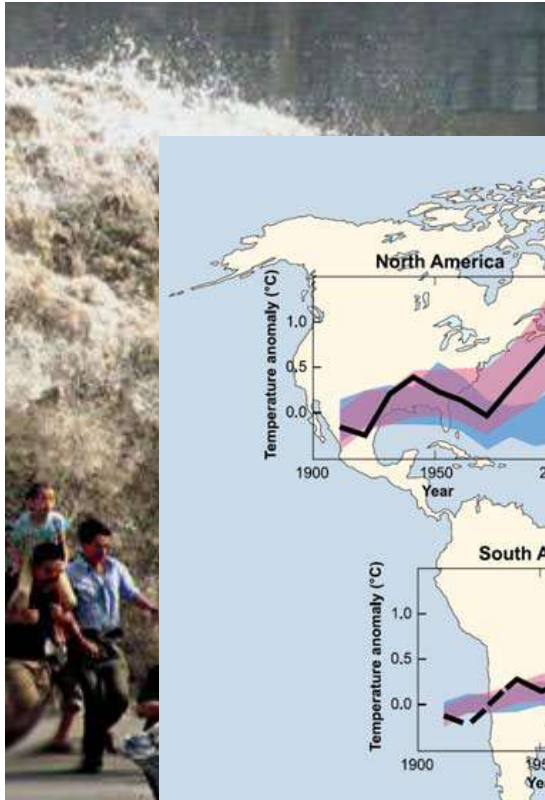
- IGFS:** International Gravity Field Service
- BGI: Bureau Gravimetrique International
- ICGEM: International Centre for Global Earth Models
- IDEMS: International Digital Elevation Models Service
- IGETS: International Geodynamics and Earth Tide Service

Stdns
Ocean

- ISG: International Service for the Geoid
- PSMSL: Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level
- IAS: International Altimetry Service (under construction)
- BIPM:** Bureau International des Poids et Mésures

New challenges in geosciences

- Increase of natural disasters (e.g. typhoons, flooding, ...)
 - Strong demand for prediction and warning
- Global climate change



IAG Bylaws 1(d)

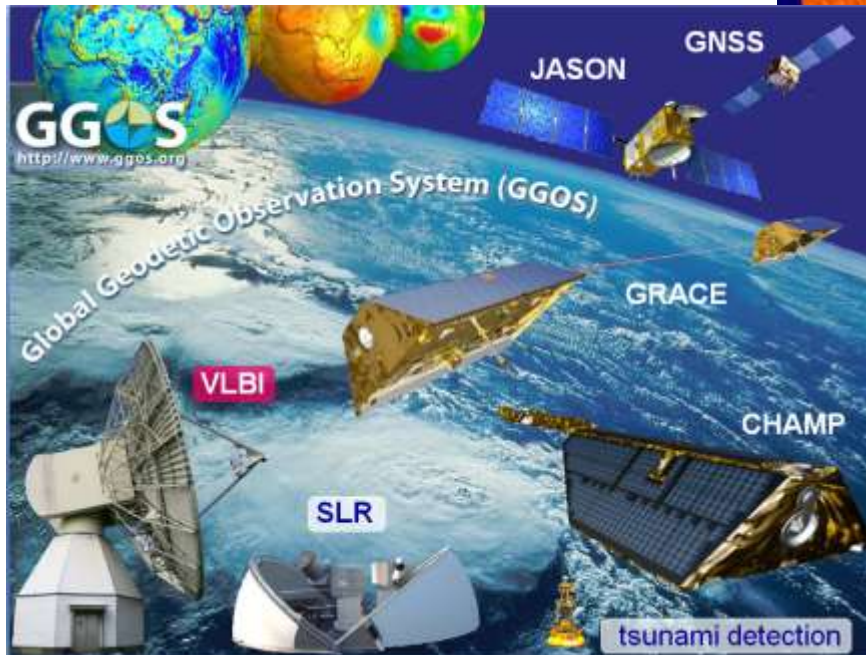
“The Global Geodetic Observing System works with the IAG components to provide the geodetic infrastructure necessary for monitoring the Earth system and global change research.”

The vision of GGOS is

*“Advancing our understanding of the dynamic Earth system by **quantifying** our planet’s changes in space and time.”*

Approaches of GGOS

- combination and integration of all available observations, methods, ...
- combine physical measurements and geometric techniques
- improve our understanding of the interactions in "System Earth"



- **1 mm position and 0.1 mm/yr velocity** accuracy on global scales for the ITRF
- **continuous measurements** (time series of EOP, station positions and baselines)
- measurements in **near real-time**
- **highest reliability** and **redundancy**
- **low cost** for construction and operation of geodetic infrastructure

The Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)

By its contribution to the GEO **Societal Benefit Areas (SBA)** GGOS shall benefit science and society by providing the foundations upon which advances in Earth science and applications are built.

THE GLOBAL EARTH OBSERVATION SYSTEM OF SYSTEMS



GGOS shall benefit science and society by providing the foundations upon which advances in Earth science and applications are built.

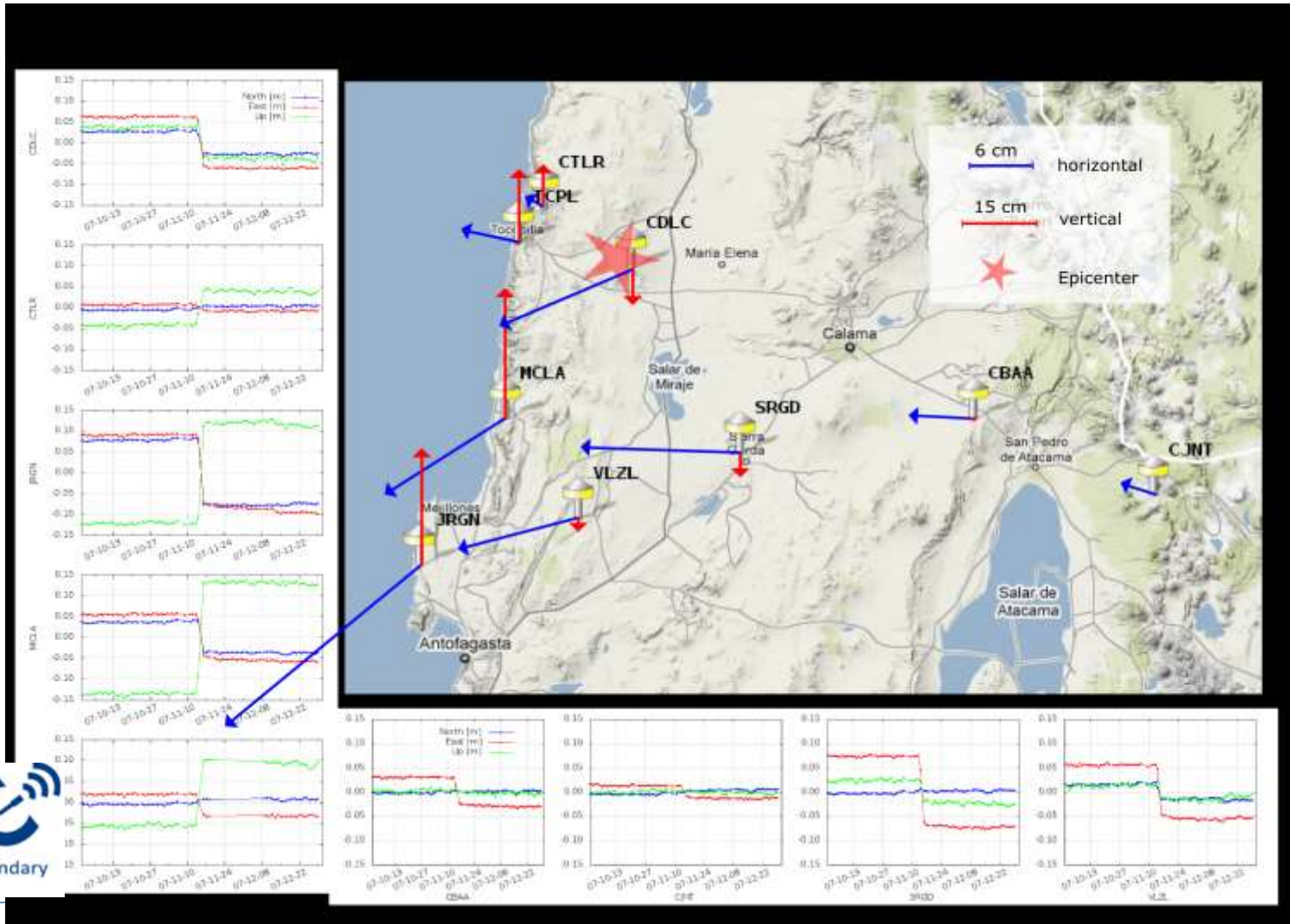
Geodesy's contribution to disaster research



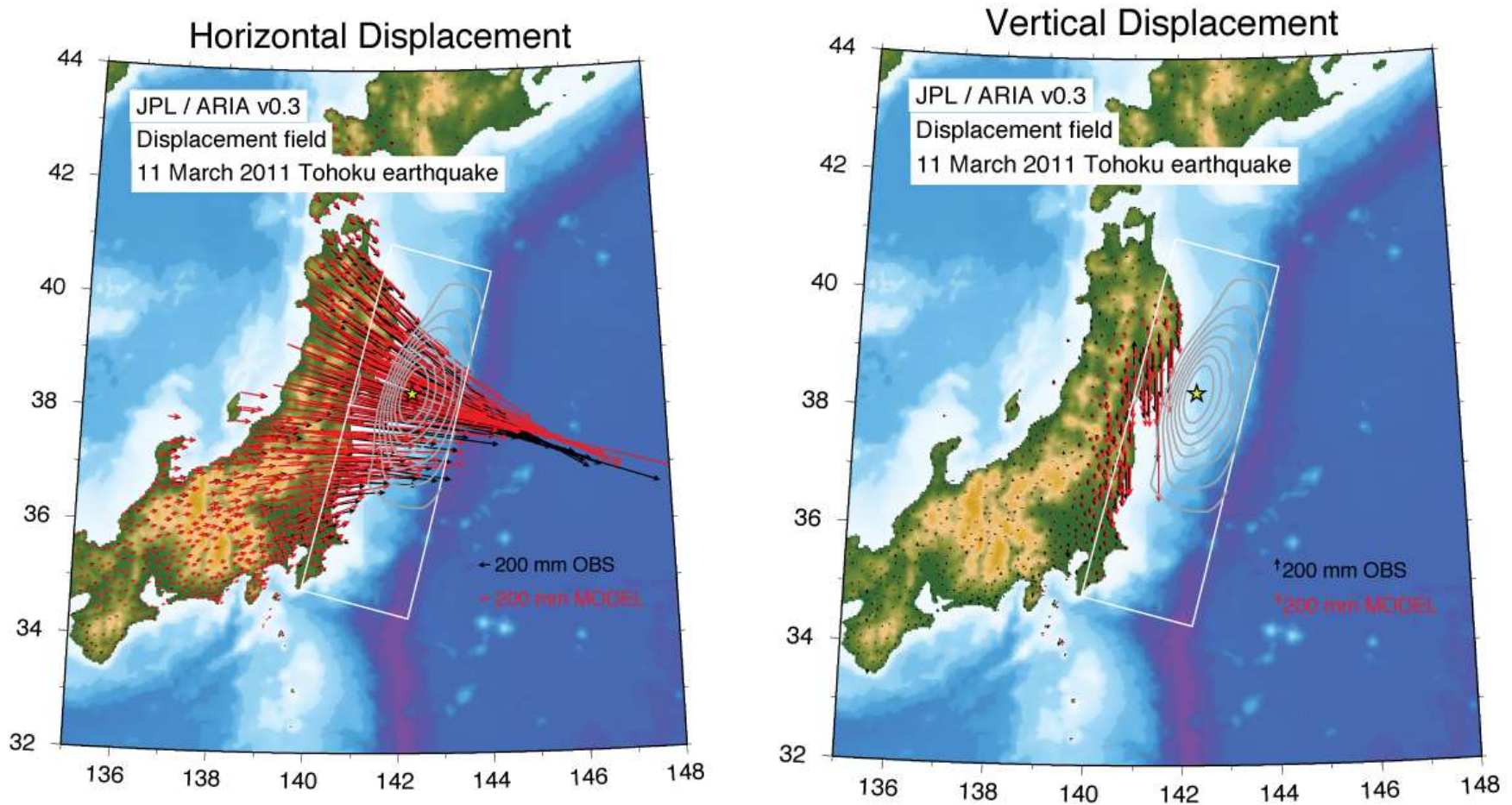
GNSS seismology



monitor deformations before, during and after the Earthquake

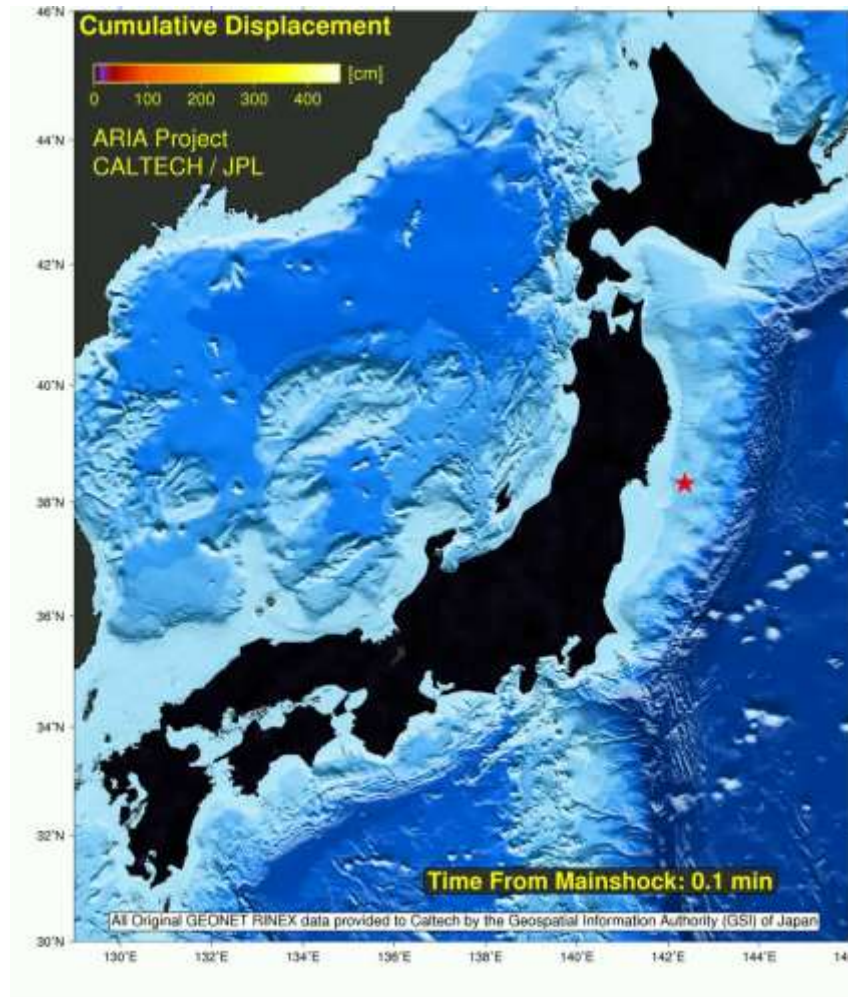


M9.0 Tōhoku earthquake – March 11, 2011



Data source: GEONET, Geospatial Information Authority (GSI) Japan
processed by: Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) und Caltech

M9.0 Tōhoku earthquake – March 11, 2011



<ftp://sideshow.jpl.nasa.gov/pub/users/ARIA/>

The Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS)

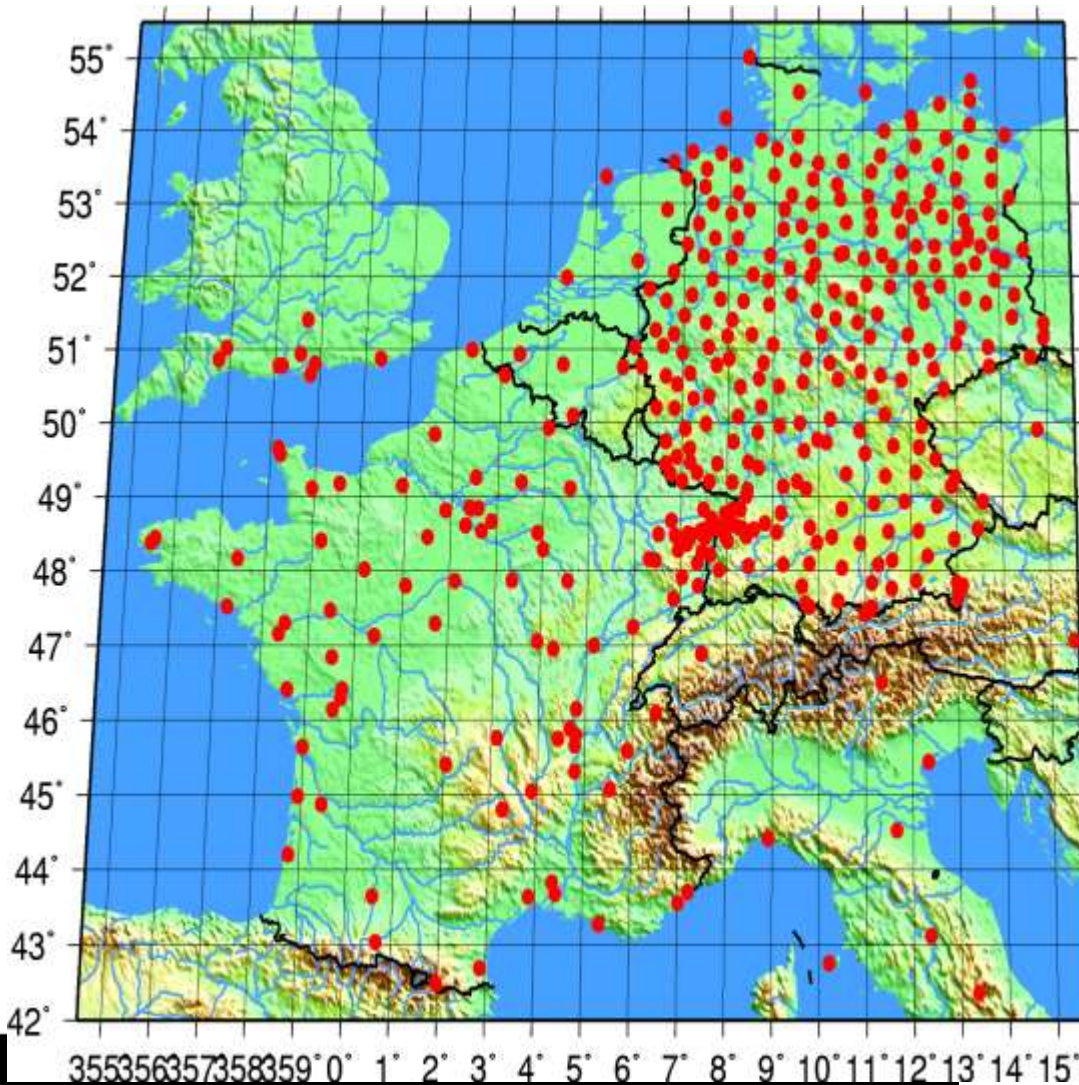
GGOS shall benefit science and society by providing the foundations upon which advances in Earth science and applications are built.

Geodesy's contribution to weather research

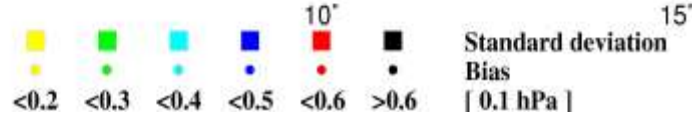
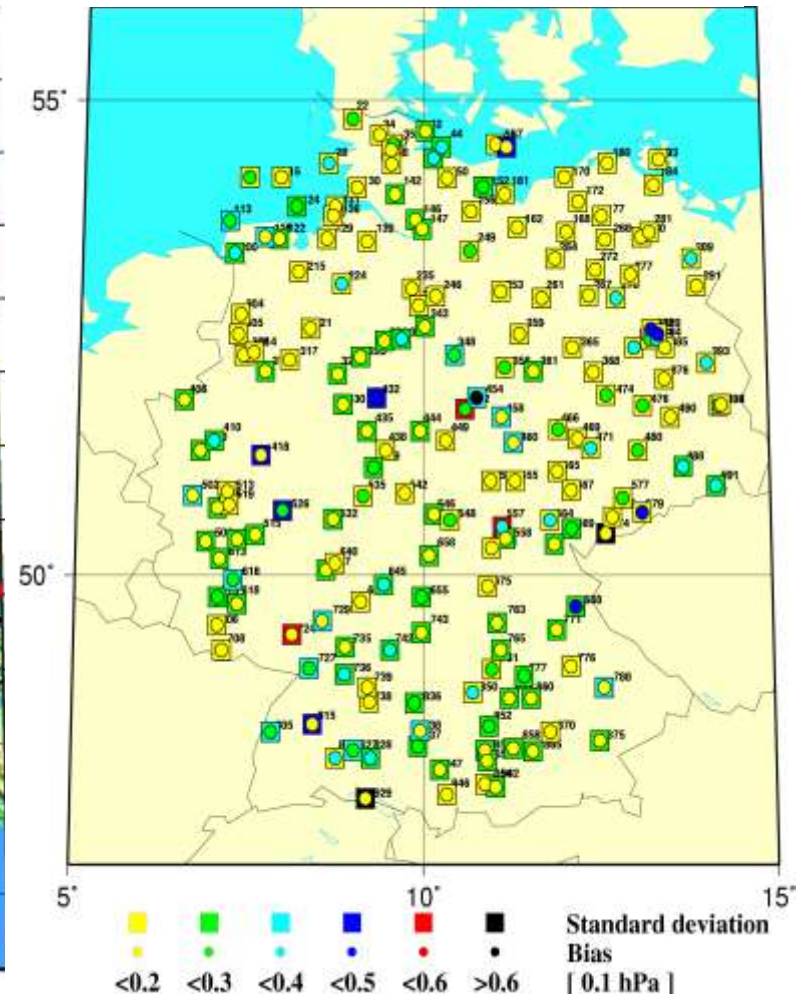


GNSS atmospheric monitoring: ground-based

~ 400 GNSS stations, ~300 in NRT



SYNOP net of DWD

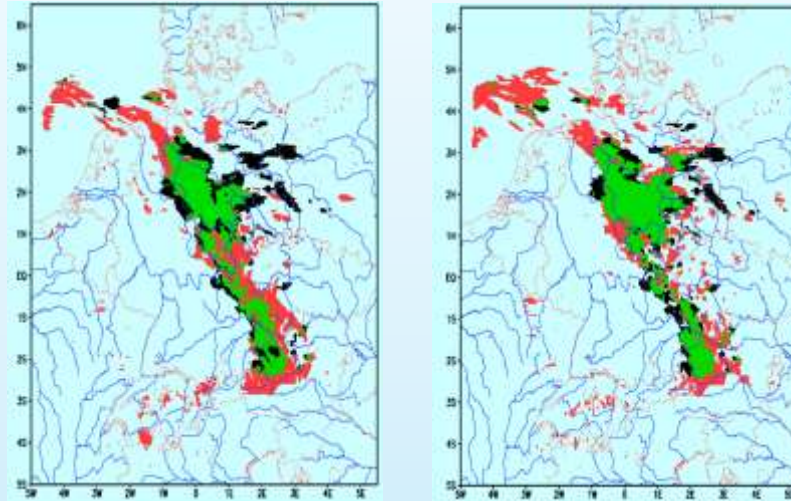


<http://dwd.de/>

GNSS Meteorology at GFZ

Weather Forecast

Germany, May 28, 2014



Improvement of precipitation forecast by 20 %

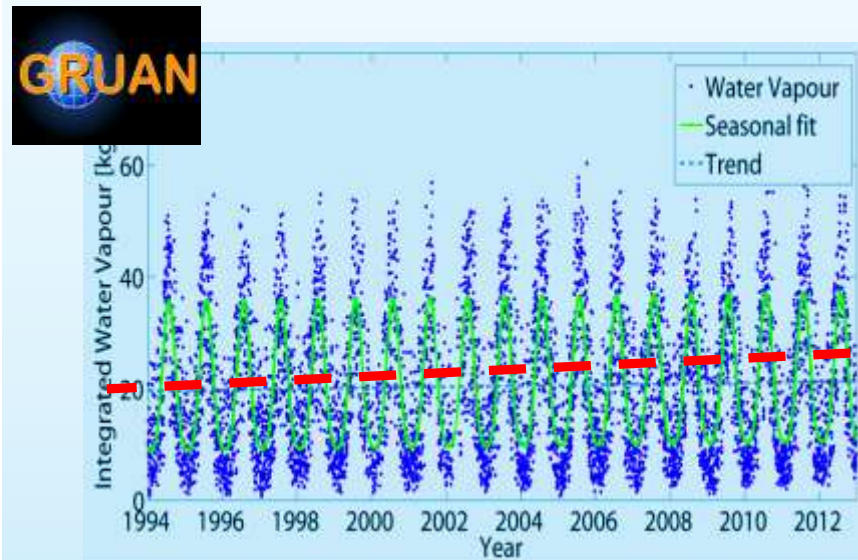
First GNSS processing center world-wide that **operationally** provides atmospheric slant data (humidity) to weather services (DWD, ...)

Zus (GFZ) et al., RS, 2015

GGOS shall benefit science and society by providing the foundations upon which advances in Earth science and applications are built.

Geodesy's contribution to climate research





Integrated water vapor (IWV) series, Greenbelt (U.S.)

trend: +0.94 mm/decade

GNSS processing center for the
reference network of the

Global Climate Observing System GCOS

Ning (GFZ) et al., Journal of Climate, 2016

GGOS shall benefit science and society by providing the foundations upon which advances in Earth science and applications are built.

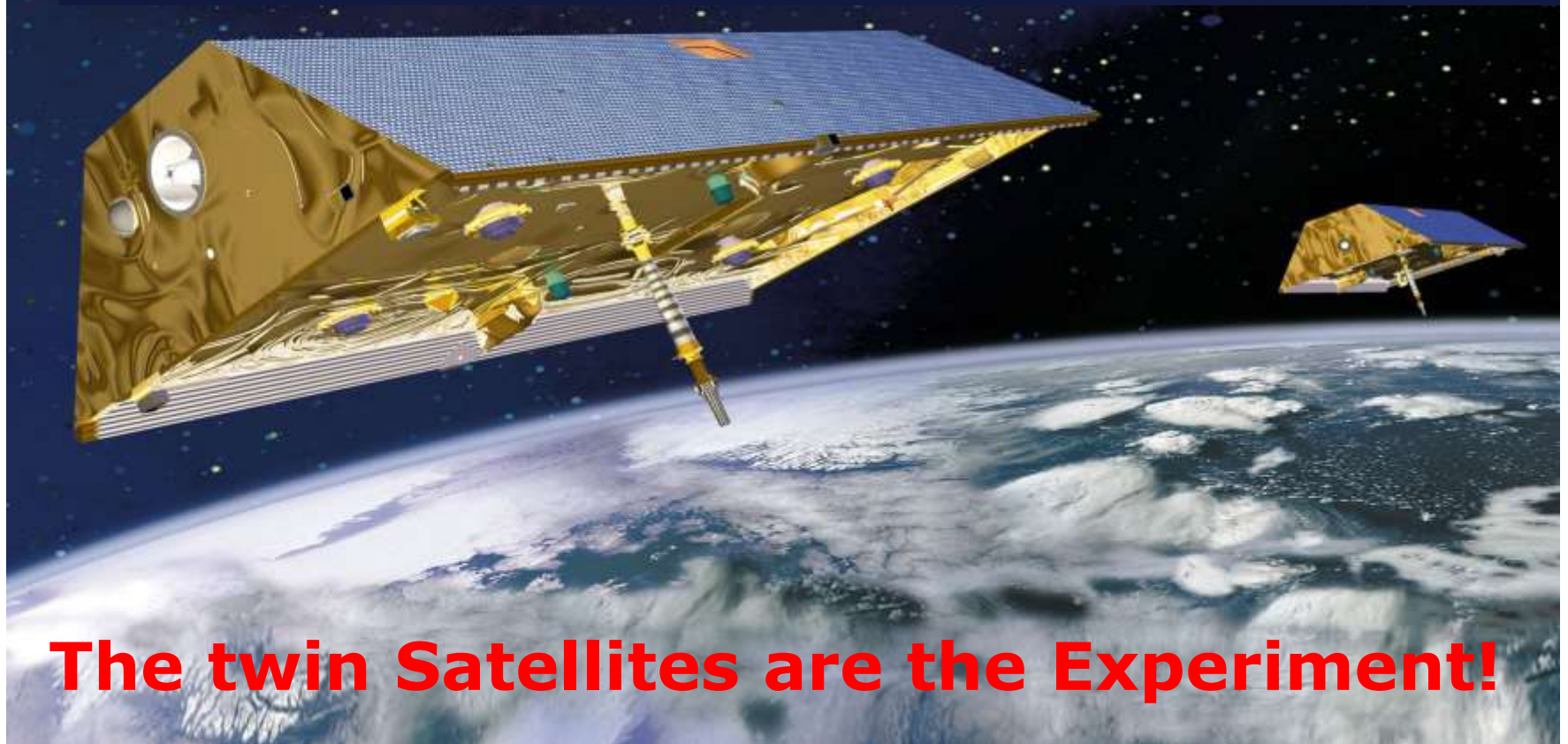
Geodesy's contribution to water research (global hydrology)



GRACE and GRACE-FO Twin Satellite Missions

GRACE = Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment
(NASA / DLR+GFZ, 17.3.2002- Oct. 2017)

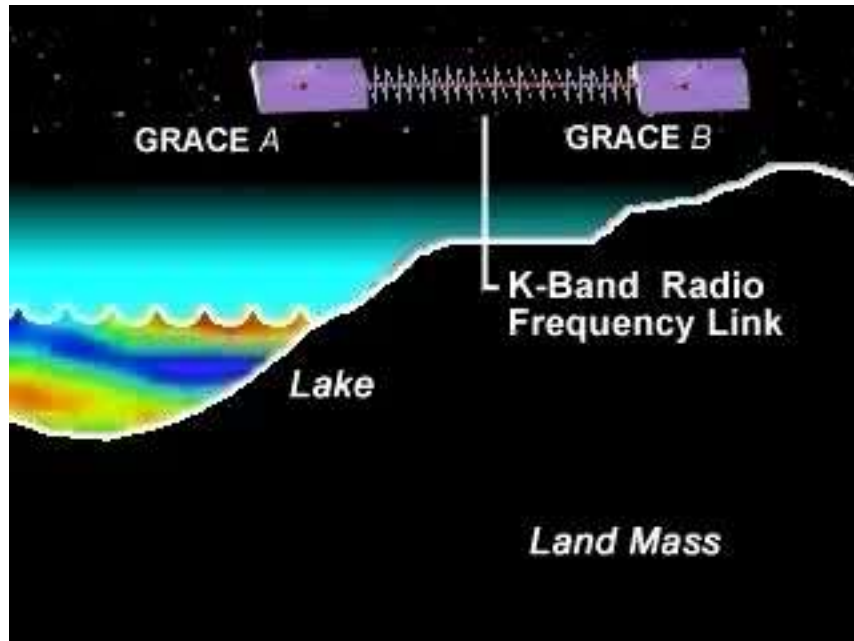
GRACE-FO (NASA / GFZ, launched on May, 22nd, 2018)



The twin Satellites are the Experiment!

GRACE Measurement Principle

$$s = 220 \pm 50 \text{ km}$$



$$\sigma_s = \text{few } \mu\text{m}$$

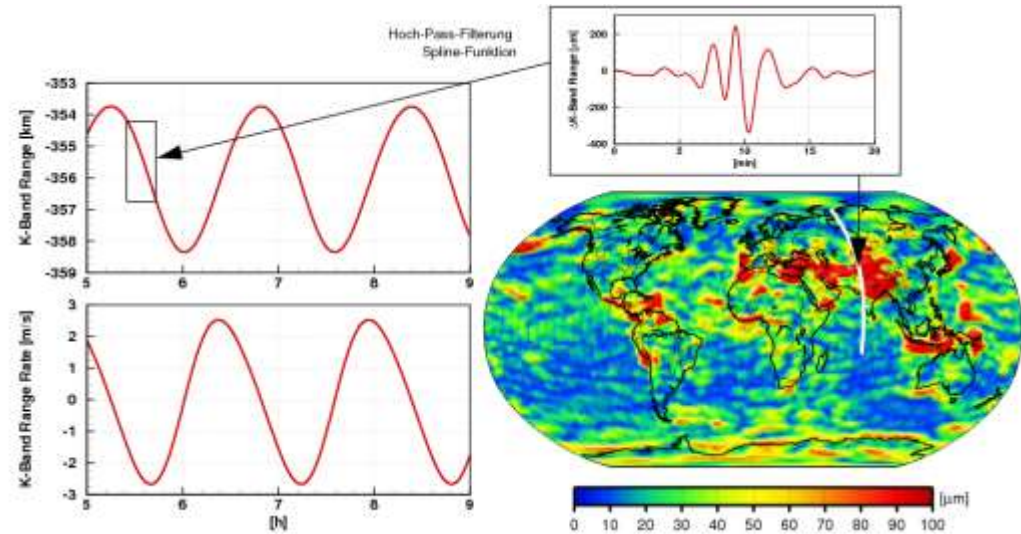
(a tenth of the thickness of a human hair)

resp.

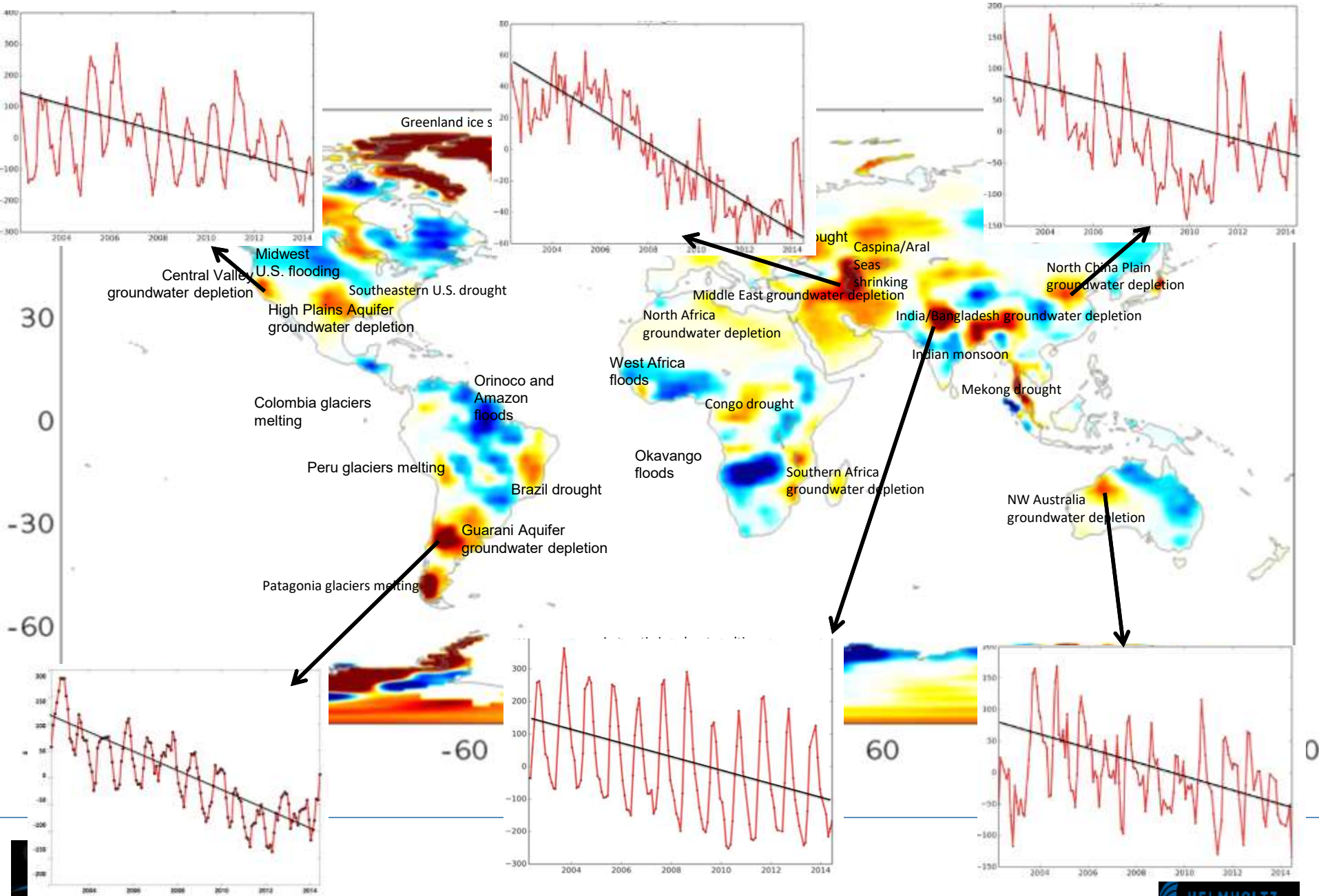
$$\sigma_s/dt = 100 \text{ nm/s}$$

Left: 1/rev separation change (primarily flattening of the Earth): $\pm 2 \text{ km}$

Right: Observed mass change related distance variation: $\pm 200 \mu\text{m}$



Trends in Freshwater Availability from GRACE (2002-2015)



6 IAG Symposia

G01 Reference systems and frames;

G02 Static gravity field and height systems;

G03 Time variable gravity field;

G04 Earth rotation and geodynamics;

G05 Multi-signal positioning, remote sensing and applications;

G06 Monitoring and understanding the dynamic Earth with
geodetic observations.

8 Joint Symposia with other associations (led by IAG)

20 Joint Symposia with other associations (sponsored by IAG)
(led by IACS, IAGA, IAHS, IAMAS, IAPSO, IASPEI, IAVCEI)

9 Union Symposia (co-organized by IAG)
(led by IUGG or IUGG Commissions)

Maintain awareness of innovation and of technological developments relevant to geodesy

Example:

Using current developments in **quantum technology**, such as **optical clocks** for geodesy and geophysics, e.g. for height measurements

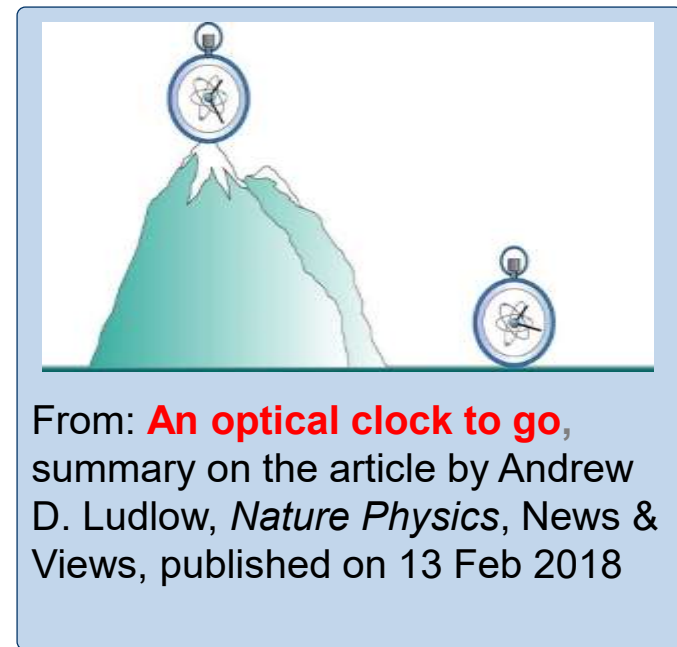
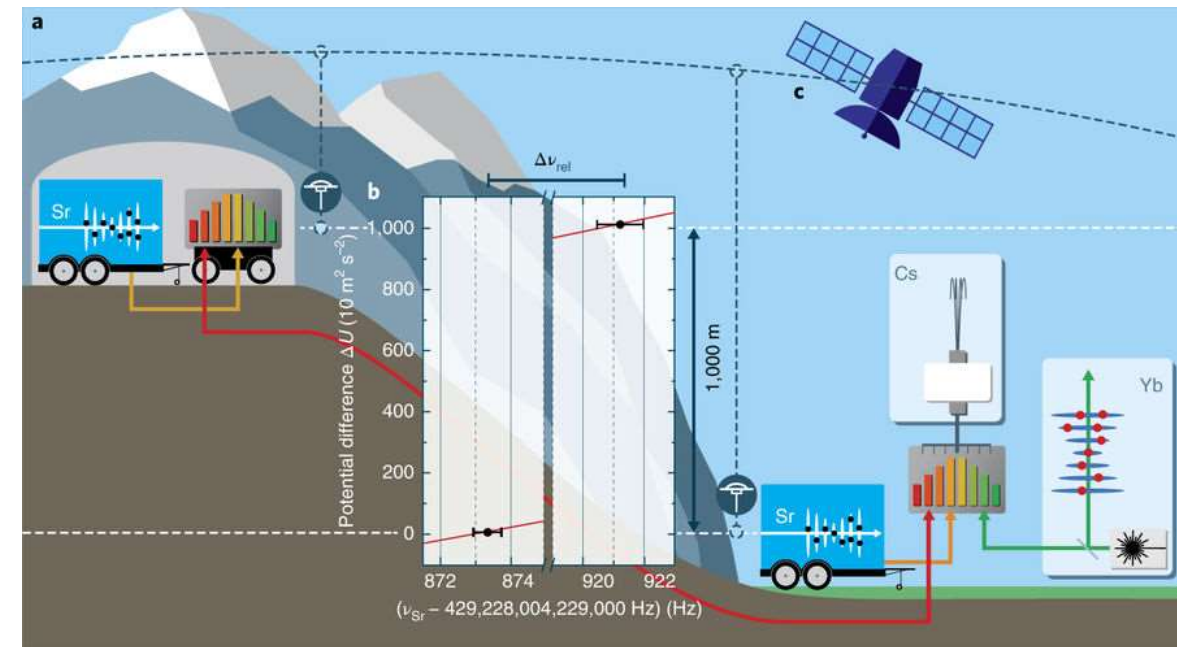
Outlook and future perspectives

Future research tasks (a)

Geodesy and metrology with transportable optical clocks

Authors: Jacopo Grotti, ..., **Christian Voigt (GFZ)**, ...

Nature Physics, 12 Feb 2018, doi:10.1038/s41567-017-0042-3



Excellent agreement between height differences from clock and from conventional geodesy: 0.19 m, but clock accuracy still two orders of magnitude below geodesy



Outlook and future perspectives

Future research tasks (b)

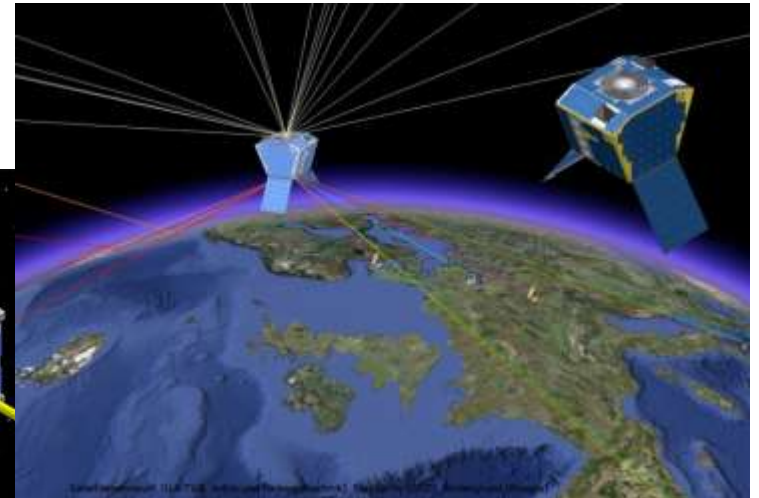
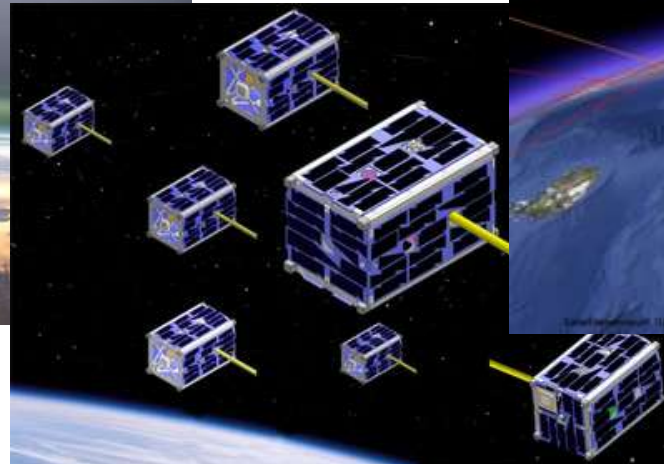
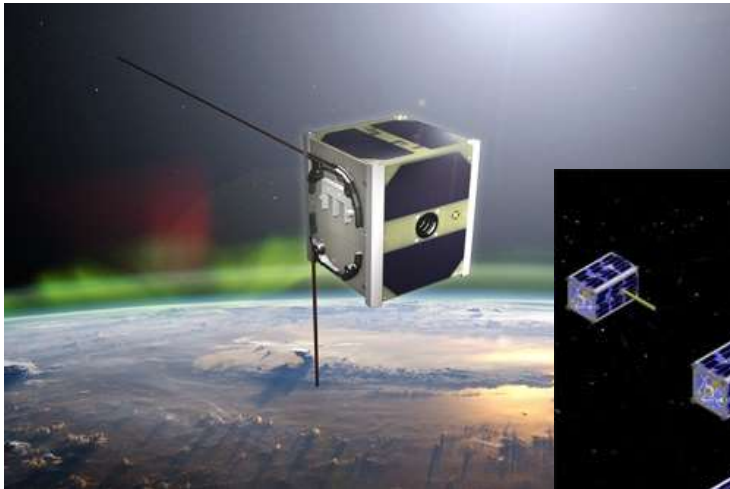
- 'Citizen Science': e.g. low-cost mass sensors transmitting geodetic and geophysical data from billions of points to central units for continuous processing ('Big Data')



Outlook and future perspectives

Future research tasks (c)

- Rapid development in satellite technology
 - swarms of low-cost mini-, micro-, nano-, pico-, and even smaller satellites
 - soon thousands of commercial communication satellites (Samsung, Boeing, SpaceX, ...) that can also be used for navigation and positioning



Thank you very much for your attention!



Invitation to IAG Membership via IUGG

All geodesists are invited to become an individual member (<https://www.iag-aig.org> or <https://iag.dgfi.tum.de>).

It is free of charge for all (undergraduate ... PhD) students!



Thank you for your attention!
¡Gracias por su atención!