

**ILRS Quality Control Board (QCB)
Telecon
April 25, 2018**

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 at 13:00 UTC, 09:00 EDT, 14:00 in UK; 15:00 in Central Europe; 22:00 in Japan.

Participants: Frank Lemoine, Carey Noll, Erricos Pavlis, Mike Pearlman, Tom Varghese, Alexandre Belli, Toshi Otsubo

Mt. Stromlo Data Bias Issues

Resolution of any remaining bias issues at Mt. Stromlo await the results from the SSEM PP. Back correction of data for biases awaits validation of the station's automated data system now in testing.

ACTION: To examine the use of circular polarized laser output as a means of reducing polarization induced range errors, we should ask 2 -3 stations to look at a test implementation;

Station Systematic Error Monitoring Pilot Project-- SSEM PP (Erricos)

At the ASC meeting in Vienna, it was agreed that the SSEM solutions should include Etalon, once an improved C/M correction has been made available by Jose, hopefully by early June. The next version of the SSEM is planned for mid-June. It will be updated later in the year when Jose's full set of C/M values are issued. When operational, the SSEM will provide a weekly set of updated biases.

ACTION: Request stations to try to increase Etalon tracking to at least 3 passes on each satellite per week.

Web Based Station Performance Tool (Erricos)

The tool is in the process of being moved to a new platform at UMBC; some upgrades are yet to be implemented. With passage of time, the Russian MCC QC data referenced on ITRF 2014 now runs back nearly a year.

Data Issues

The Russian data does not include the higher moments in their calibration information; Matt had mentioned that he had furnished them with software that included this, but we do not know if it was useful to them.

Did you look at Alexandre charts from last meeting? Unfortunately, T2L2 is no longer operational. Alexandre said that the 2017-8 T2L2 data would be made available. He said that they estimated the timing accuracy to be +/- 15 nsec relative to UTC.

ACTION: Urge the analysts to look at comparisons between T2L2 and LRO timing measurements for consistency.

Site Logs

Christian is testing the on-line s/w for conversion of the old site logs to the new format. Jose is requesting some additional format changes that are being vetted.

All stations were reminded (again) to keep their site logs and history logs fully up to date.

Full-Rate Data and NP Testing

Mike has asked Dave Arnold to follow-up on FR delinquent stations.

Matt is working on the NP software to make it more easily transferable; he will then do the NP studies with first priority on the spherical geodetic satellites.

Stefan Riepl is examining the impact of different ways of calculating NPs. Are he and Horst submitting an article for the JoG Special Issue on SLR (JOGSILR).

Satellites Center-of-Mass Parameters on New Satellites

Missions are expected to provide all of the physical information required for the C/M correction models. In some cases, the correction models may be developed from laboratory measurements or from using already standard arrays (LEO and GNSS). The final correction model will be derived from ranging measurements once in orbit.

ACTION: The CB should establish a target signal group to fulfill this roll, including perhaps Dave A., Toshi, Jose, etc.

Data Population on LAGEOS and Other Satellite Passes

The CDDIS now has the capability to generate data reports in terms of passes.

Have agreed to define a pass for synchronous satellites as all the data taken by a station over 24 hours, starting at 00:00 hours UT.

The study group tasked with recommending new criteria for evaluating (and rewarding) station performance (rather than just number of passes) has sent out a list of criteria for feedback and suggestions.

The CB should also issue a document of best practices for tracking operations including pass coverage and time separation of calibrations (as soon as we decide our proper strategies).

Station Tools

The Forum has been quiet. Don't be shy. Matt has started discussion on this within the Networks and Engineering Standing Committee and on the forum on stations tools and practices that might be useful. Toshi has asked that the forum have a section on satellite missions.

Next Meeting

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Telecon info: Passcode: 317382, international phone numbers

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