

Summary of ILRS 19th Workshop Station Clinic
Friday October 31, 2014 Annapolis Maryland USA

Interactive sessions with station operators and analysts.

- David McCormick/NASA GSFC, Chair
- Toshimichi Otsubo/Hitotsubashi University, Co-Chair
- Jean-Marie Torre/OCA, Chair
- Mark Torrence/SGT, Co-Chair

Clinic Session Origin and Intent

The intent of the ILRS and its associated workshops is to bring together SLR collaborators to advance the scientific benefit of SLR by achieving standards of process and reduction of errors and inefficiencies. At the 18th workshop in Fujiyoshida Japan many station issues affecting the data were discussed and it was suggested that in the near future a clinic should be organized to resolve these. The clinic would be an opportunity for the analysts and engineers to work with the station operators to understand the results and information coming from the analysts, as well as to understand and share "best practices" for system configuration stability at the stations.

Clinic Session Content

The operations session committee settled on the following topics to be discussed during the interactive sessions:

1. Station procedures (ref: 3029)
 - a. Hosts: Justine Woo (NASA DOC/EXELIS), Horst Mueller and Christian Schwatke from (European Data Center (EDC)/DGFI)
2. ILRS station configuration tracking and site/history log review (ref: 3123)
 - a. Hosts: Randy Ricklefs (U of TX), Julie Horvath (SGSLR/HTSI)
3. Two fold Quality Assessment of Global SLR data, report card review (ref: 3036, 3163)
 - a. Hosts: Toshimichi Otsubo, Mark Torrance
4. Plotting NP range residuals-SGF web development (ref: 3125)
 - a. Host: Matt Wilkinson
5. Satellite Interleaving and Real-Time Normal Point Data-Quantity Monitoring (ref: 3059)
 - a. Host: Graham Appleby
6. Safety Best Practice
 - a. Host: Chris Quinn
7. Station Performance Assessment Tools for the ILRS stations (Ref: 3160, 3139)
 - a. Hosts: JCET team, Erricos Pavlis
8. Engineering best practice and calibration (ref: 3130, 3097, 3154)
 - a. Hosts: Jean-Marie Torre, Ivan Prochazka



Figure 1: Display of the clinic topics and logistics. Numbers correlate to the stationary discussion hosts and their associated topics. Letters represent groups of attendees that rotated through the topic discussions (letters shown in their starting positions).

Beckwith	Paul
Carabajal	Claudia
Carman	Randall
Combrinck	Ludwig
Dunn	Peter
Emerson	Curtis
Foreman	Craig
Govind	Ramesh
Kim	John
Lamb	Doug
Maberry	Mike
McCollums	Dennis
Ndlovu	Sphumelele
O'Gara	Daniel
Oldham	Thomas
Ries	John
Shawn	
Butani	
Tribble	Ken
Ujla	Tushar
Varghese	Thomas
Wei	Tong
Wiant	Jerry
Yanyachi	Raul

Figure 2: Example of attendee grouping placard. Placards were conspicuously posted in advance of the clinic and attendees were requested to become familiar with their grouping.

Day of Clinic Activity/Logistics

During the morning operations session each clinic host was given 10 minutes in front of the workshop audience to introduce their topic and allow participants to begin to think of issues regarding the topic. Immediately prior to the clinic the venue was configured for the clinic – set up of 8 interactive areas. Partitions were used between groups as a sound barrier but also to enable display of posters etc. Host 7 JCET used a projector setup but other groups used laptop screens or handout materials. The stations were set up with speaker table and audience seating for 20 except group 8 (Eng.) used round table discussion. All groups and hosts came to the main room for a briefing on the clinic logistics and schedule and then dispersed into groups. Groups rotated through the hosted stations (with coffee break halfway through). Time for each interaction was approximately 21 minutes with 4 minutes for moving between stations. 30 minutes was reserved at the end for a summary discussion. There was an unplanned break prior to the summary due to contractors needing to remove rental partitions, this worked fine since it allowed more room for the final discussion which occurred with mostly everyone standing.

Results/Summary

There was much positive feedback regarding this clinic format as it spurs more discussion than symposium format. No formal actions were given but some items were discussed that require follow up. Some of these items can be found in the individual station clinic summaries.