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Strategies and Priorities for Laser Ranging

The SLR network currently tracks about 80 satellites from LEO to synchronous altitudes. Although, the data include nearly all of the satellites, coverage in many cases is sparse. We will show recent results, discuss some of the patterns, and set the stage for discussion on how many satellites can be effectively tracked, whether there is a beneficial tradeoff between pass coverage and number of satellites being tracked, and other advantages that we get can get from the new technology, roster segmentation, time interval restrictions or different satellites, and whether careful scheduling or real-time strategies are more productive. The talk will be followed by a few presentations on local strategies and scheduling that some stations use to maximize their data yield. Come prepared to participate in discussion based on your experience.