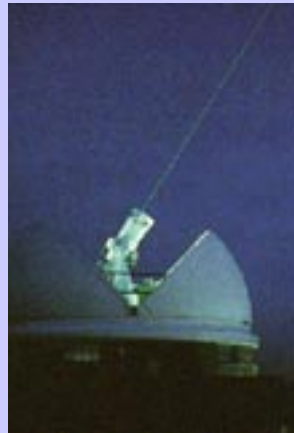# Station Operational Issues - an analysis perspective

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Input

- The aim is to open a discussion between the Network and its analysis customers to lead to a more informed and hence more productive use of tracking opportunities.

- Analysts, particularly the Analysis Working Group, provided general comments and responses to the following broad (brainstorming) issues;

Issues addressed (1)

Number of normal points and/or time-distribution of normal points within the pass;

- Minimum number of normal points per pass? Ideally AOS, PCA, LOS
- What is still useful? Any GOOD data!

Dedication of stations for specific satellites or missions

- In dense clusters like Europe:
  - Does it make sense to have all stations abandon Lageos to track Ajisai, Starlette, etc? Really only need AOS, PCA, LOS for science, but whole pass for QC
  - should we do some optimization using the real-time status exchange capabilities? This would be very useful:

Optimisation of tracking

- Rotate stations/satellites – achieve a mix relative to stations;

- Encourage the most able stations to tackle the difficult targets;

- Simultaneous tracking is only of marginal value;

- Develop a history of global tracking based on EUROLAS display – rising priority for a satellite not tracked for n time-units;

- Consider a dynamic, graphical indication of current priorities.

Issues addressed (2)

Submission of np data to the data centers or directly to prediction centres:

- To whom and how fast for quick improvement of predictions/time bias functions Provided passes are not missed due to poor predictions, current process should remain - must maximize data yield

What is more important? Small single shot RMS or large number of single shots per normal point Minimization of systematics is of prime concern- not precision, but accuracy!

- both result in the same RMS of the normal point
- Important to know for future on-site investments

Issues addressed (3)

Single photon vs multi-photon.

- What do the analysts prefer Minimization of systematics is of prime concern- stay in one regime!

Dual-wavelength data:

- What can be done with it; Almost certainly of value, not fully exploited (by analysts) yet _ stations to be encouraged. What should be avoided; what is essential. Get the data to the centres.

Where are the current limitations in the analysis capabilities?

- Limited by: All of the below! Global distribution is now getting much better, with good S. Hemisphere sites.
  - Data quality, quantity, spatial distribution?
- Where could the Network/Stations do better? For general discussion