

Quality assessment of SLR data-related products

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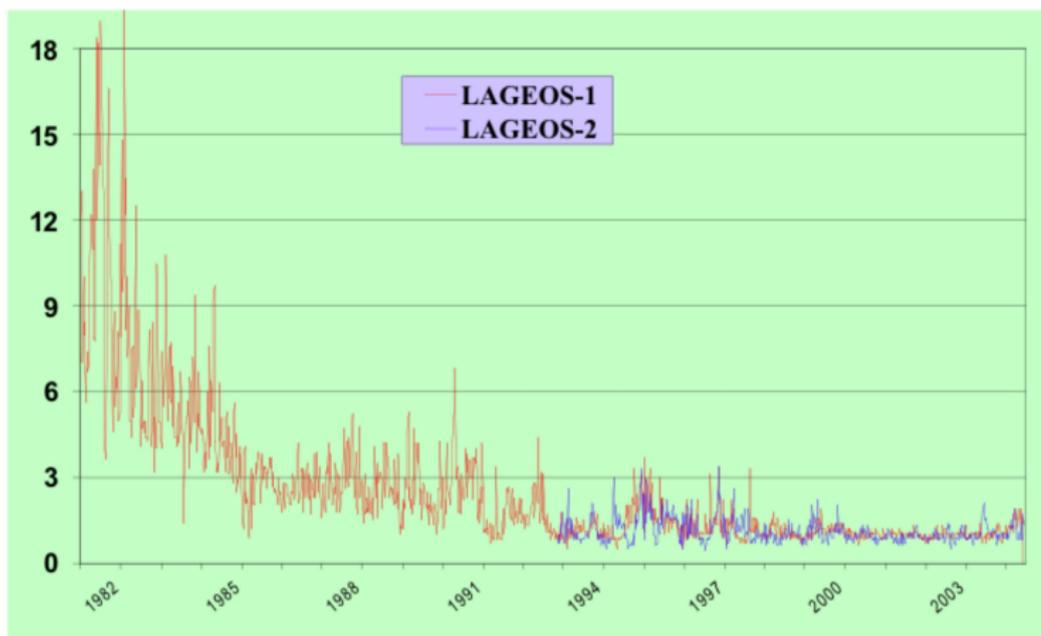
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12th Nov. 2013



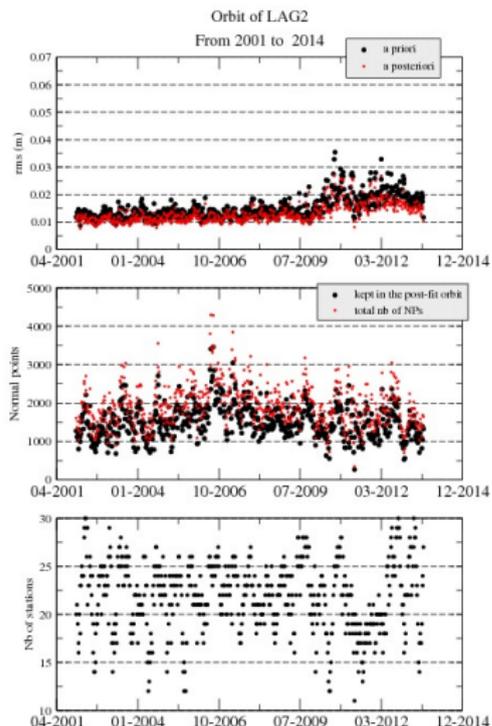
ITRF_{xxxx}: From a meter to a millimeter accuracy

Weekly Orbital Fit [cm]



(Saunders,2004)

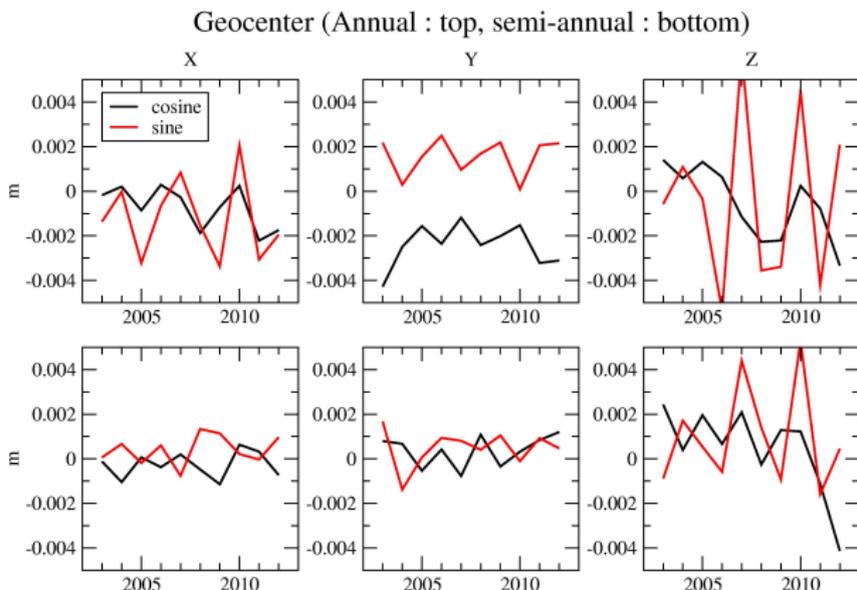
Over the last few years



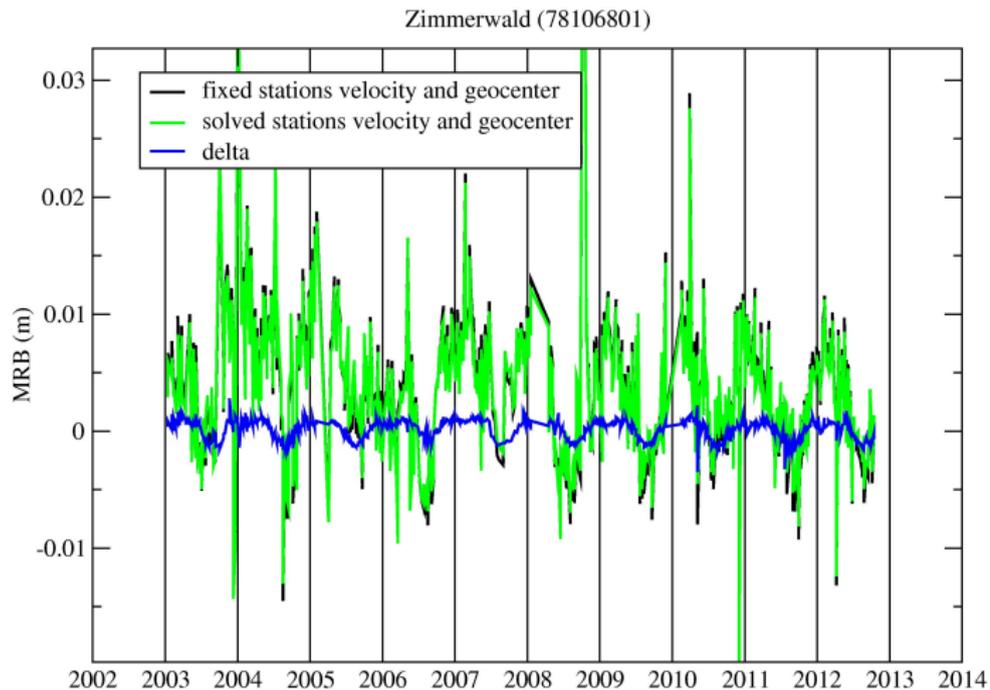
- Outline: as an analysis prior to ITRF2013
 - Methodological strategies
 - Bias or not bias estimation
 - *a priori/a posteriori* station coordinates / velocities
 - Other parameters (geocenter...)
 - Some features in SLRF2008
 - earthquakes
 - degradation with time of ITRF2008
 - station technological evolution
 - Possible improvements
 - one example

Followed Method

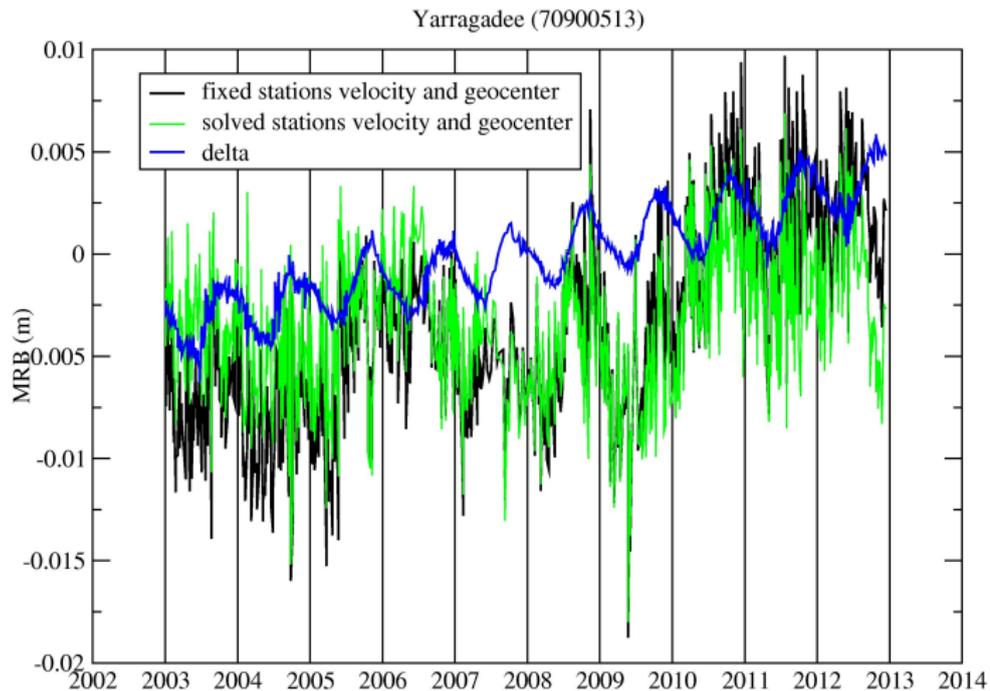
- LAG1 & LAG2 orbital arcs
- "Usual" dynamical modelling
- Data corrections provided by AWG (except CoM)
- Range bias estimated (weekly or 10-d)
- Last version of SLFR2008
- One set of coordinates over the whole period
- No velocity estimated
- Validation through the geocenter motion estimation



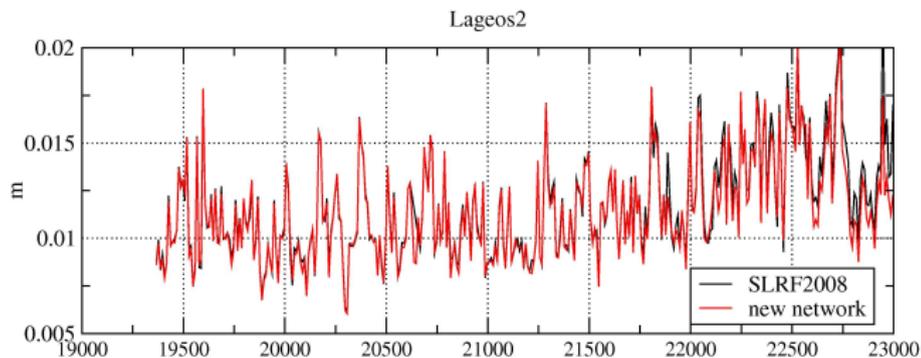
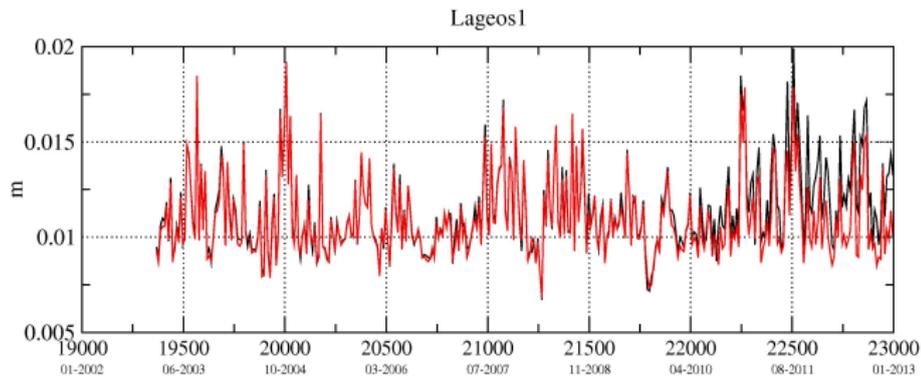
Case: Zimmerwald station



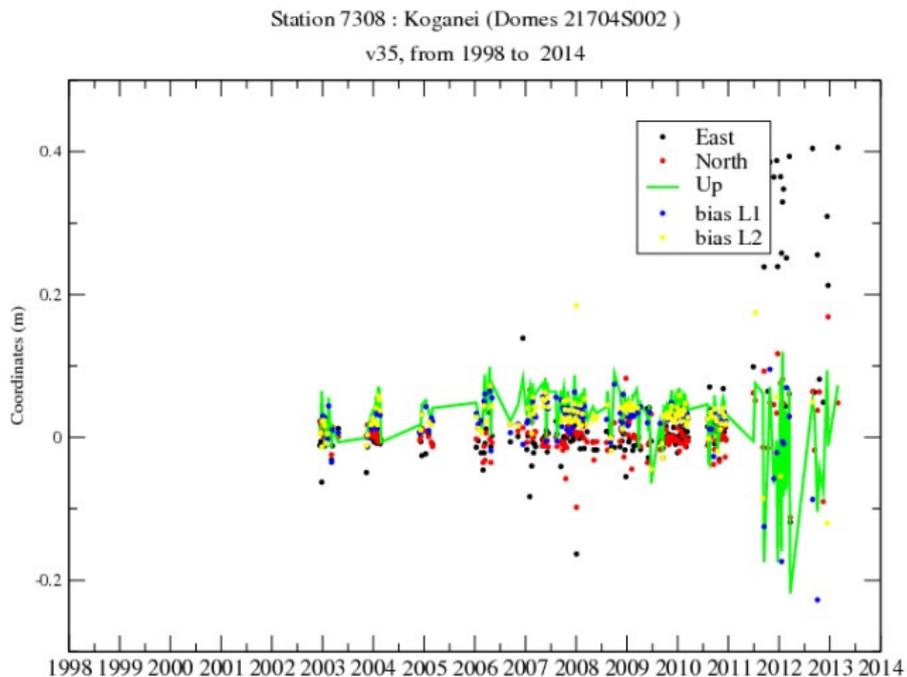
Case: Yarragadee station



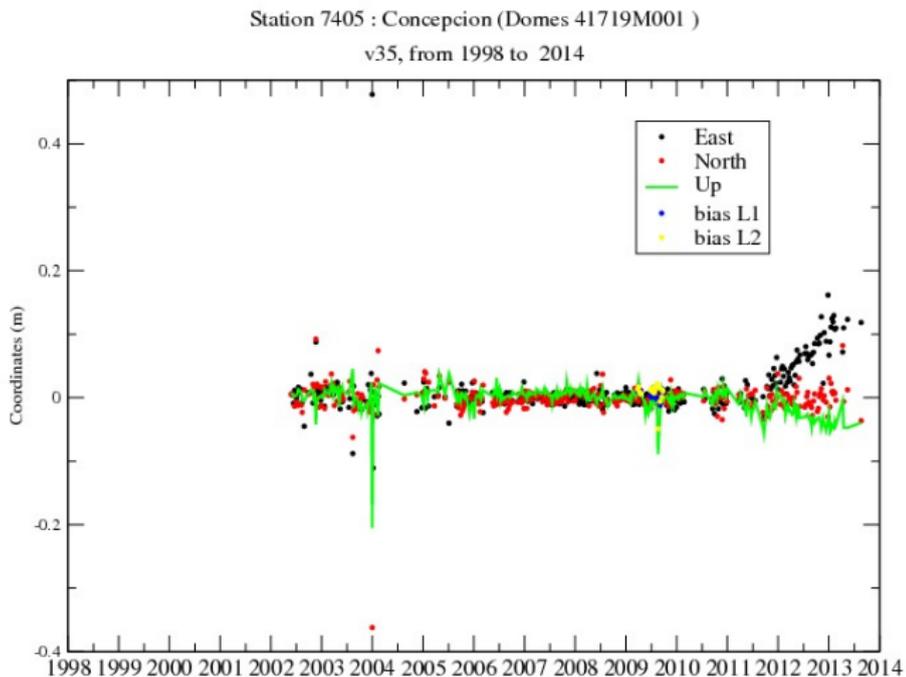
After new estimation of the station coordinates



ITRF2008, effect on an earthquake: Koganei



ITRF2008, effect on an earthquake: Concepcion



ITRF2008 features

- To be compared with other ACs, within the AWG
- Errors in position
 - horizontal:
 - vertical: 7825 (Mount Stromlo), 7839 (Graz), 7845 (Grasse)
- Errors in velocity:
 - horizontal: 7110 (Monument P.), 7403 (Arequipa), 7405 (Concepcion), 7406 (San Juan)
 - vertical : 7403 (Arequipa), 7405 (Concepcion)
- Bias: 7308 (Konagei), 7110 (Monument P., 2008)

Suggestion for an improvement

- weight of a station

following:

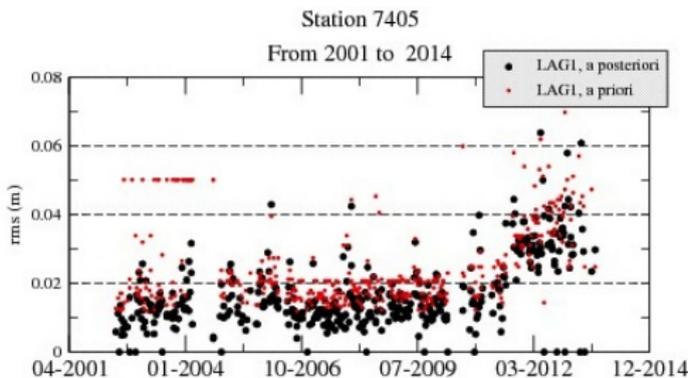
$$\sigma_{\text{station}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{ITRF}}^2 + \Delta\sigma^2}.$$

with

- $\sigma_{\text{ITRF}} =$

$$\sqrt{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 + \sigma_z^2}$$

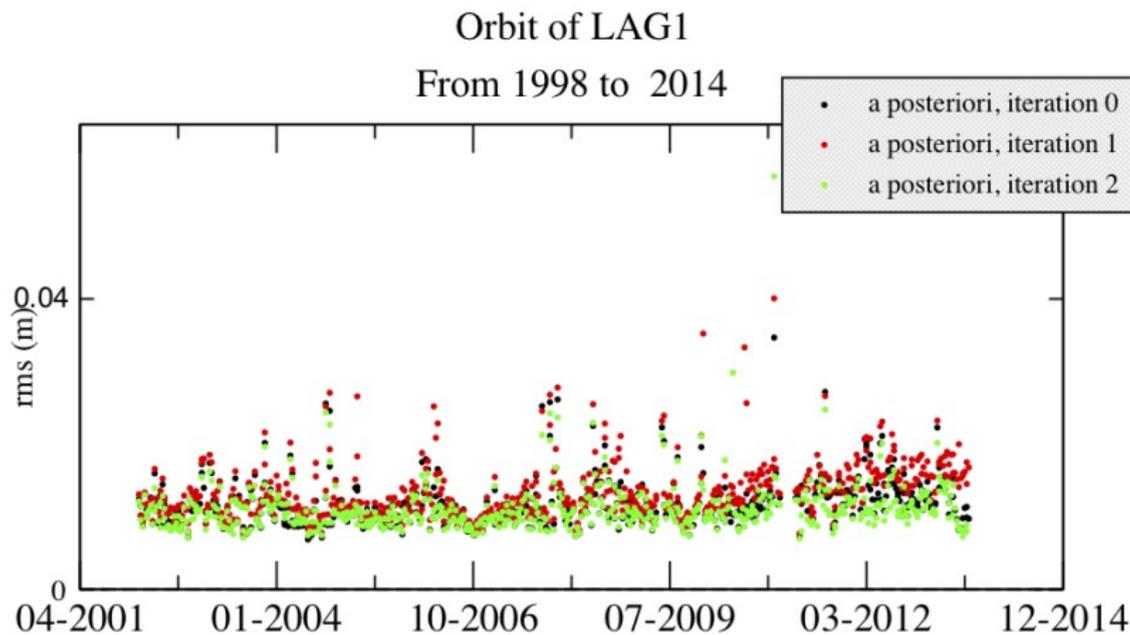
- $\Delta\sigma$ to over- or under-weight a station w.r.t. a typical well-known r.m.s., to correct operationally the ITRF fixed value.



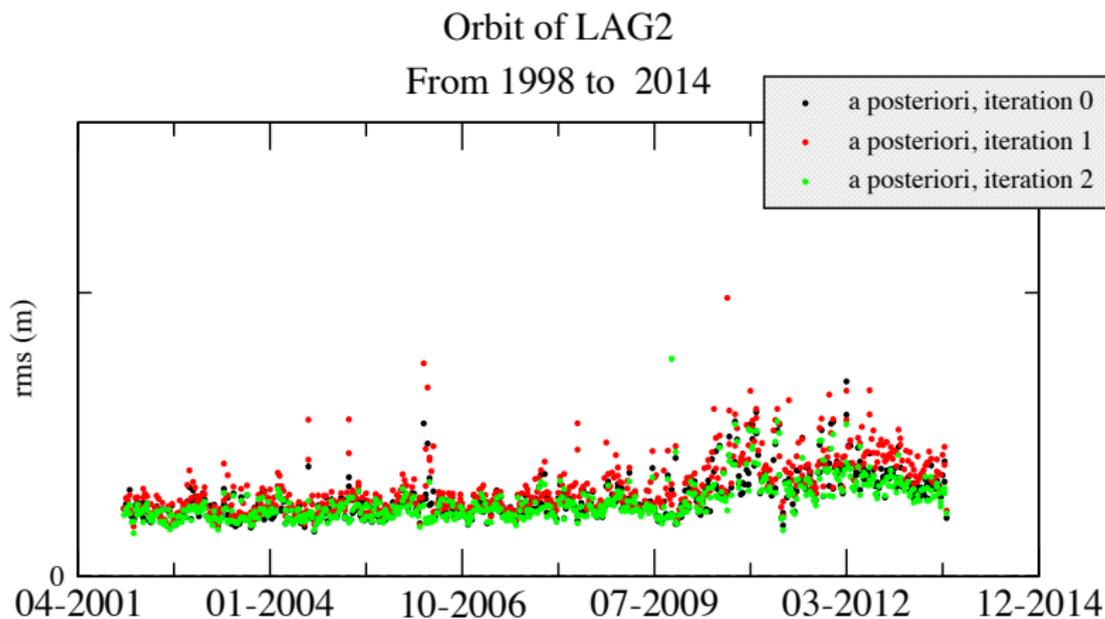
- idea:

- time dependency of the station quality
- $\Delta\sigma$ time dependent
- several iterations between *a posteriori* and *a priori* to derive an "optimum"

New results for Lageos-1



New results for Lageos-2

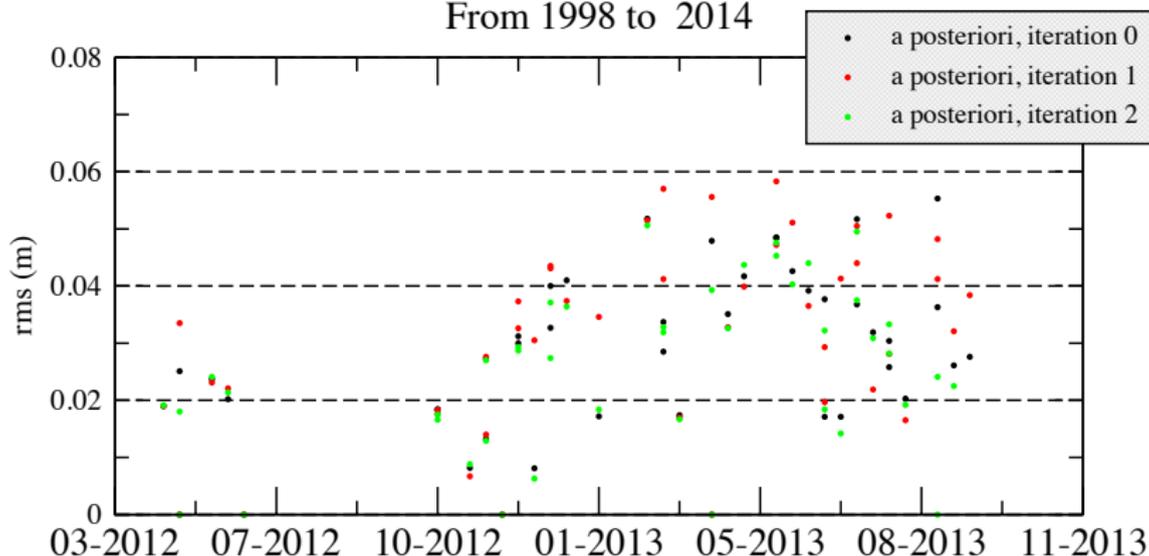


Consequences for some stations

- Very small impact for good and stable stations
- Approach of interest for new or "unstable" stations

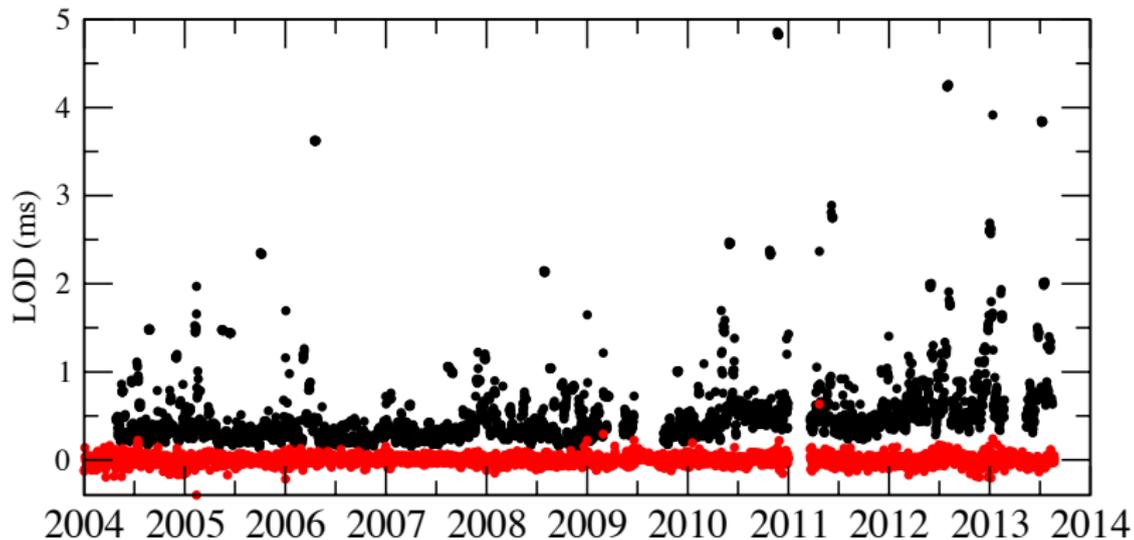
Station 1886 , Orbit of LAG1

From 1998 to 2014



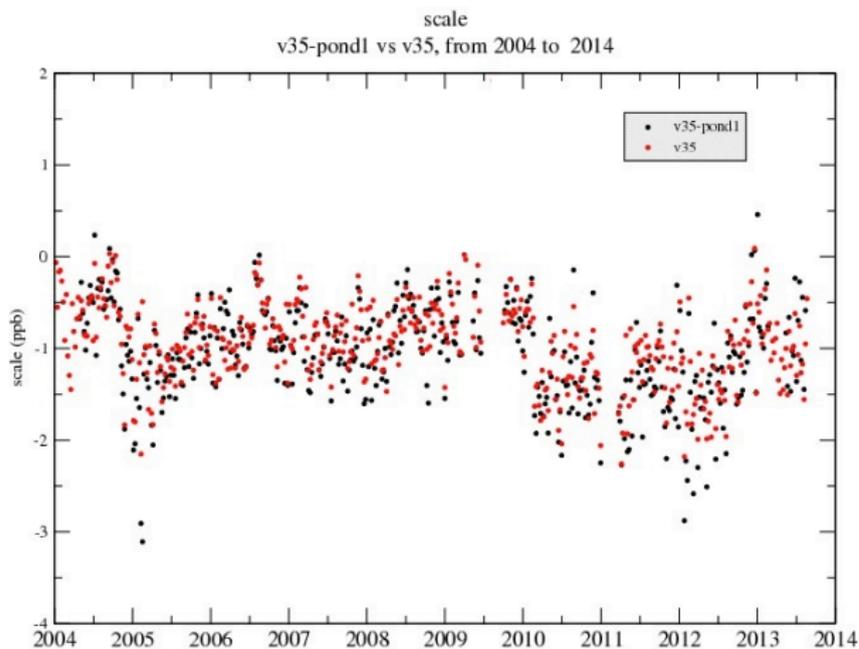
Consequences on LOD

L.O.D. wrt IERS C04



red: optimal weighting of the stations, black: $\Delta\sigma = 10\text{cm}$

Consequences on the scale



Conclusions

- ITRF2013
 - improvement of SLRF2008 required
 - preparation for ITRF2013 in progress
 - interest to get a time-dependency ponderation of the stations
- Lageos orbits
 - rise in the level of weekly residuals, due partly only to the degradation of ITRF2008
 - issues linked to NG effects affecting LAG1 & LAG2 should be investigated
- to be continued...