

SLR Station Riga Status Report

K. Salmins, J. del Pino, M. Abele, Aivis Meijers Institute of Astronomy, University of Latvia Boulevard Rainis 19, LV-1586 Riga, Latvia

Hardware Upgrades since 2016

Remote controlled filter selection. (3 interference + 2 Neutral)
New longer telescope power and data cable .
Sky clarity sensor Aurora Cloud Sensor III + rain/snow alarm.
A new calibrated backup meteorological station Vaisala PTU300
A Rapsberrry PI based temperature monitoring system at the SLR laser and electronic rooms. (poster B15)
New 3 local network reference points built and installed.



•In development

- Computer controlled divergence unit.
- An upgraded detector enclosure for optical, thermal and EM protection of the receiver chain.
- Selection and procurement of a high sensitivity CCD to replace the old image intensifier and TV camera assembly in the visual tracking channel.
- Improved signal processing electronics.

Notable Points of 2017-2018

First observation of a SNET satellite (SNET-4 2018-04-12 21:57 UTC).
Strong participation on the spinning satellites debris program (Adeos-2, OICETS, Topex).

Permanent monitoring of the hourly clarity values (simultaneous clarity with Metsähovi, Finland and independently for both SLR stations).
Experimental campaign for simultaneous observation of Galileo and Glonass Satelltes with the Ventspils International Radio Astronomy Centre (VIRAC) in Irbene, Latvia.

•Hosted the October 2017 ILRS Technical Workshop "Improving ILRS

Vaisala PTU300 Aurora Cloud Sensor III Filter Selector & Rain alarm



Prototyping the divergence unit

The new detector enclosure frame

Poster A27



Performance to Meet Future GGOS Requirements".

Spinning Space Debris 2018

PTU300 1 day calibration data



New Local Network Reference Points (yellow), GPS (red) SLR (green)





Riga passes during cloudy and clear months (night tracking only)



Riga Normal Points 2016 – 2018

Riga	Time	Bias	2016	- 20	18

Riga: HEO passes

Riga:	LAGEOS +	Lares	pass



Riga Passes 1997 – 2018 (2018/10/22) – Space Debris passes not included

Acknowledgements:

The Rapsberry PI assembly and programming and the PTU300 calibration were done in the frame of the *Interreg SpaceTEM* project internships. Many thanks to the SLR team @ GFZ Potsdam for lending the DPI Absolute Barometer!

Riga: All Passes



Main Author e-mail:



21th International Laser Ranging Workshop "Laser Ranging for Sustainable Millimeter Geosciences"

5-9 November 2018 Canberra, Australia