



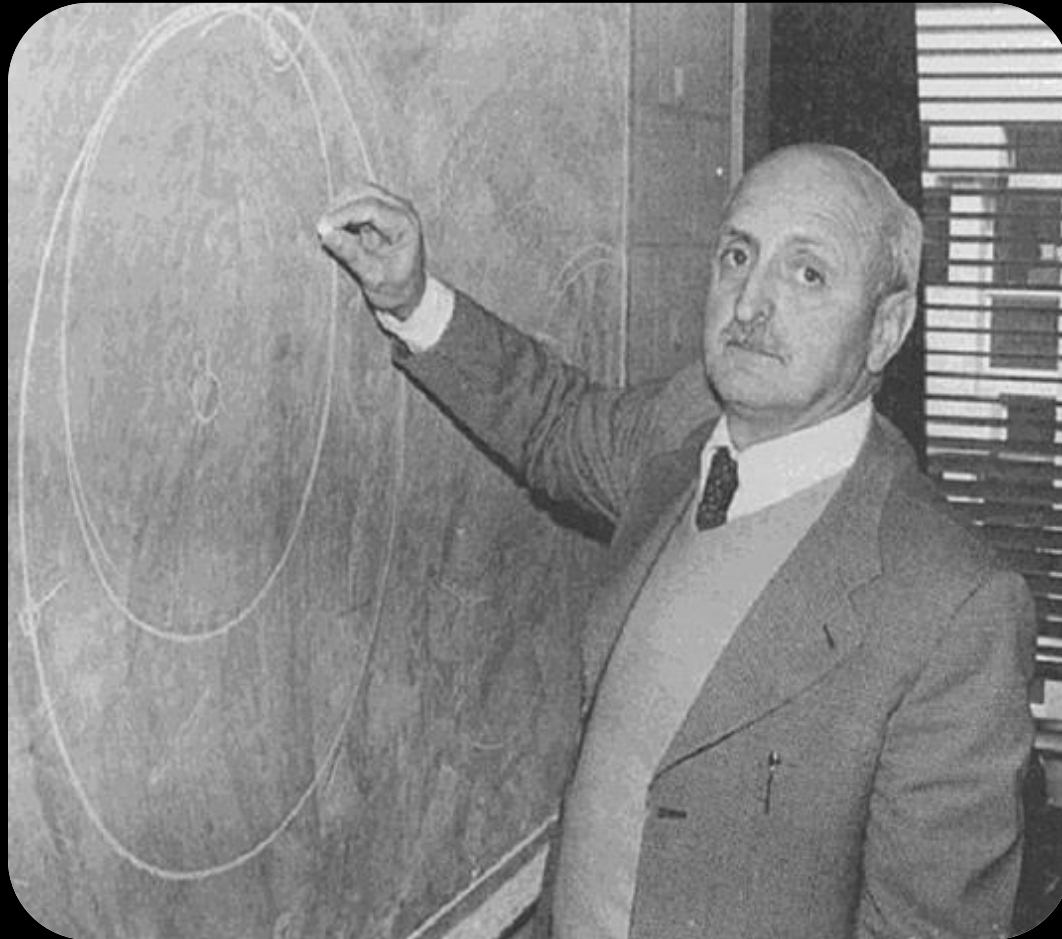
Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

# **The ASI Matera Centre for Space Geodesy «Giuseppe Colombo»**

**Giuseppe Bianco  
ASI/CGS**

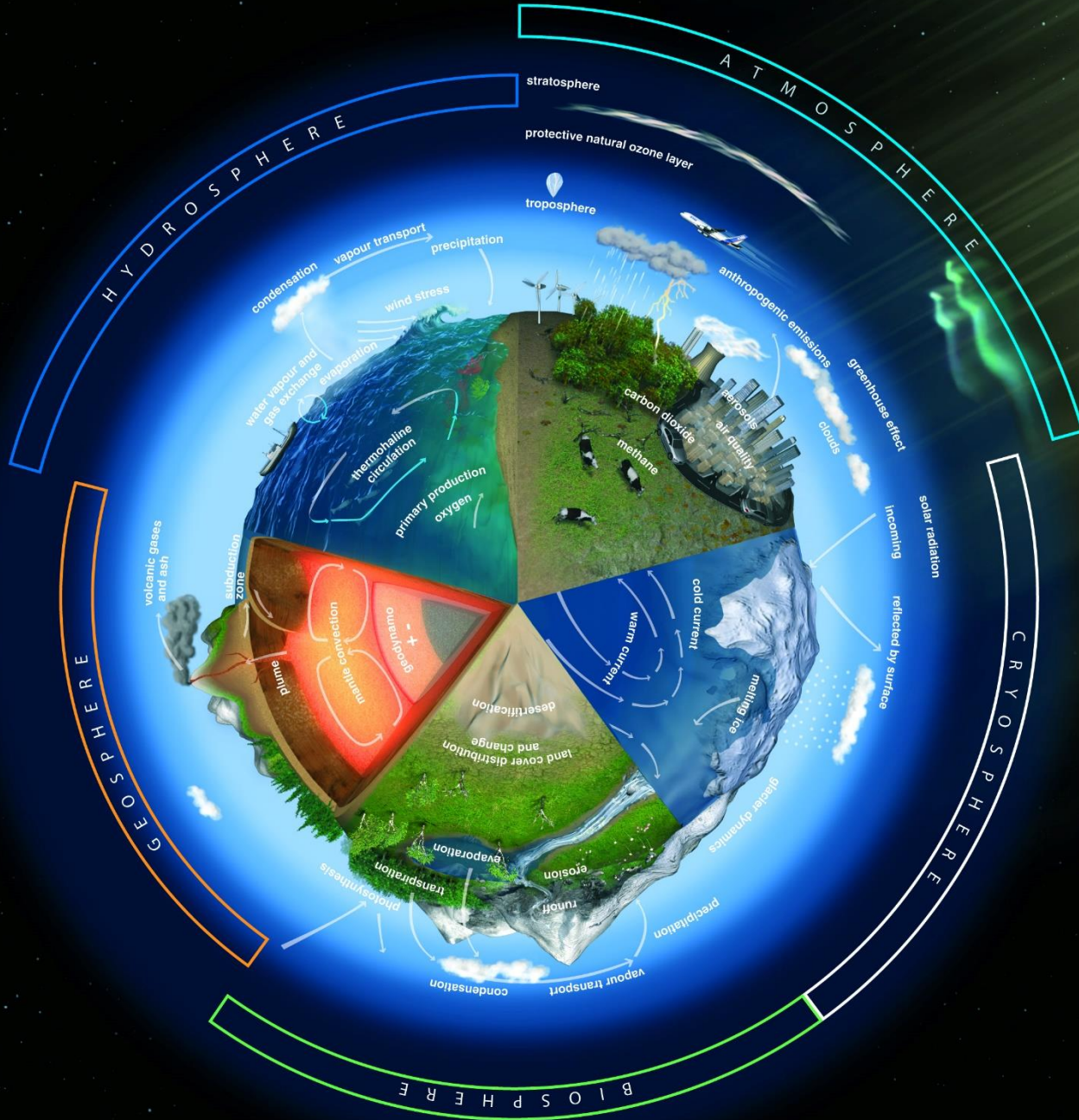
# Prof. Giuseppe *Bepi* Colombo

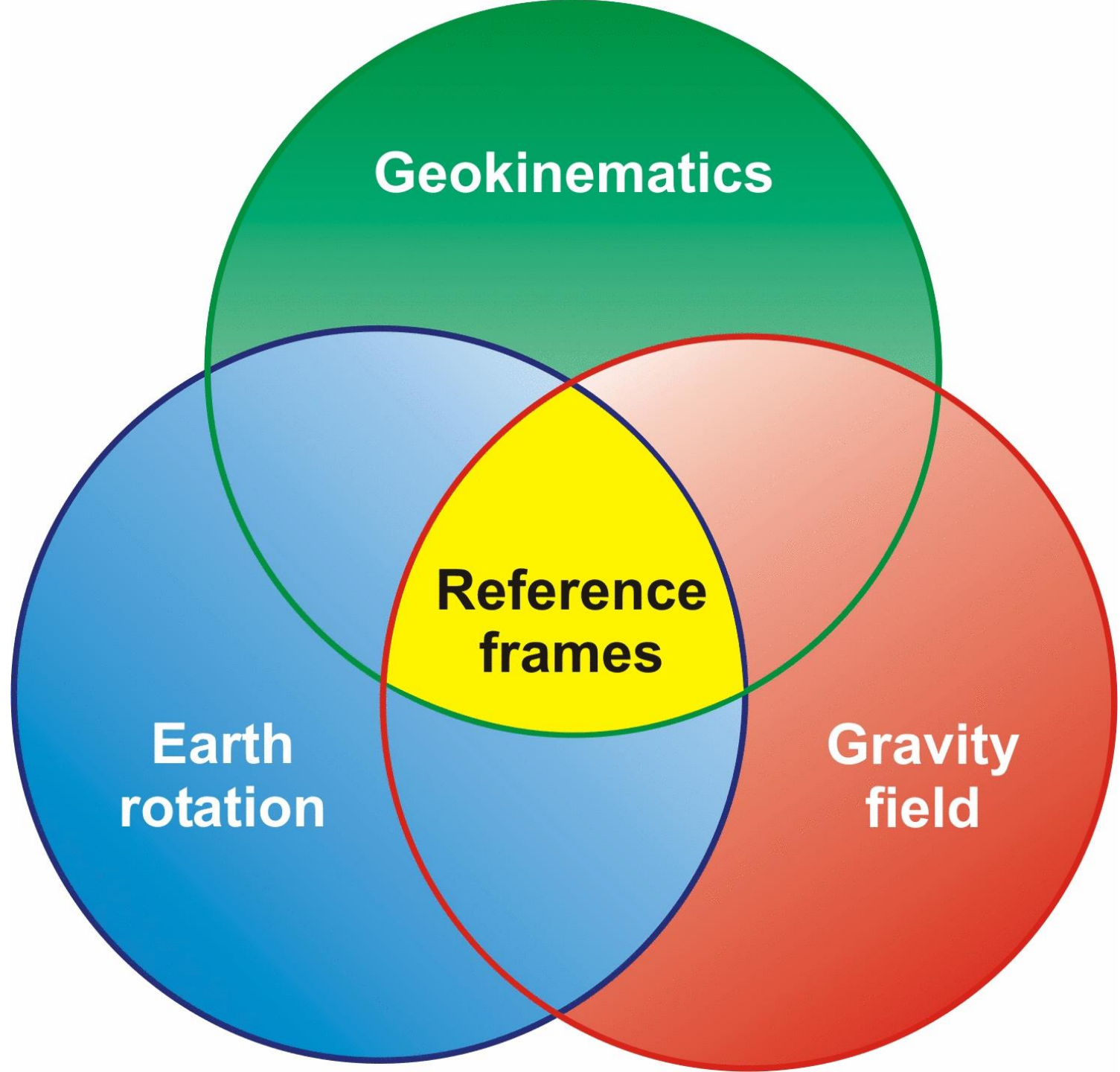
(Padua, October 2, 1920 – Padua, February 20, 1984)











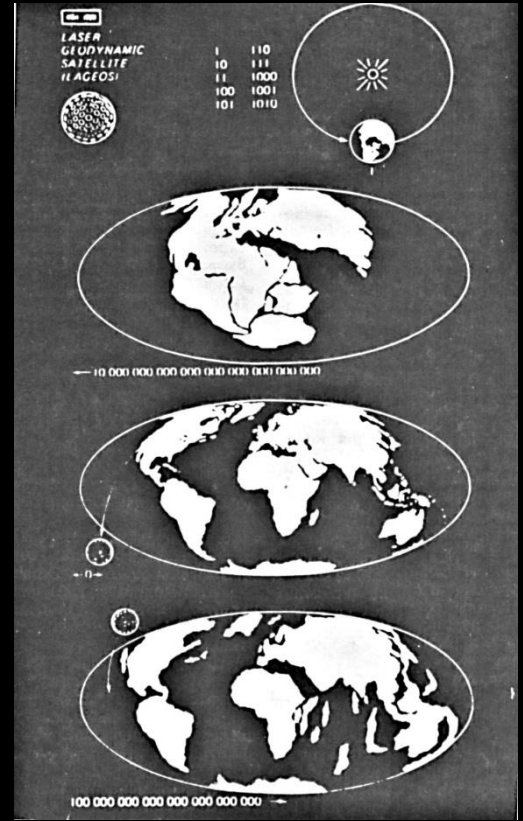
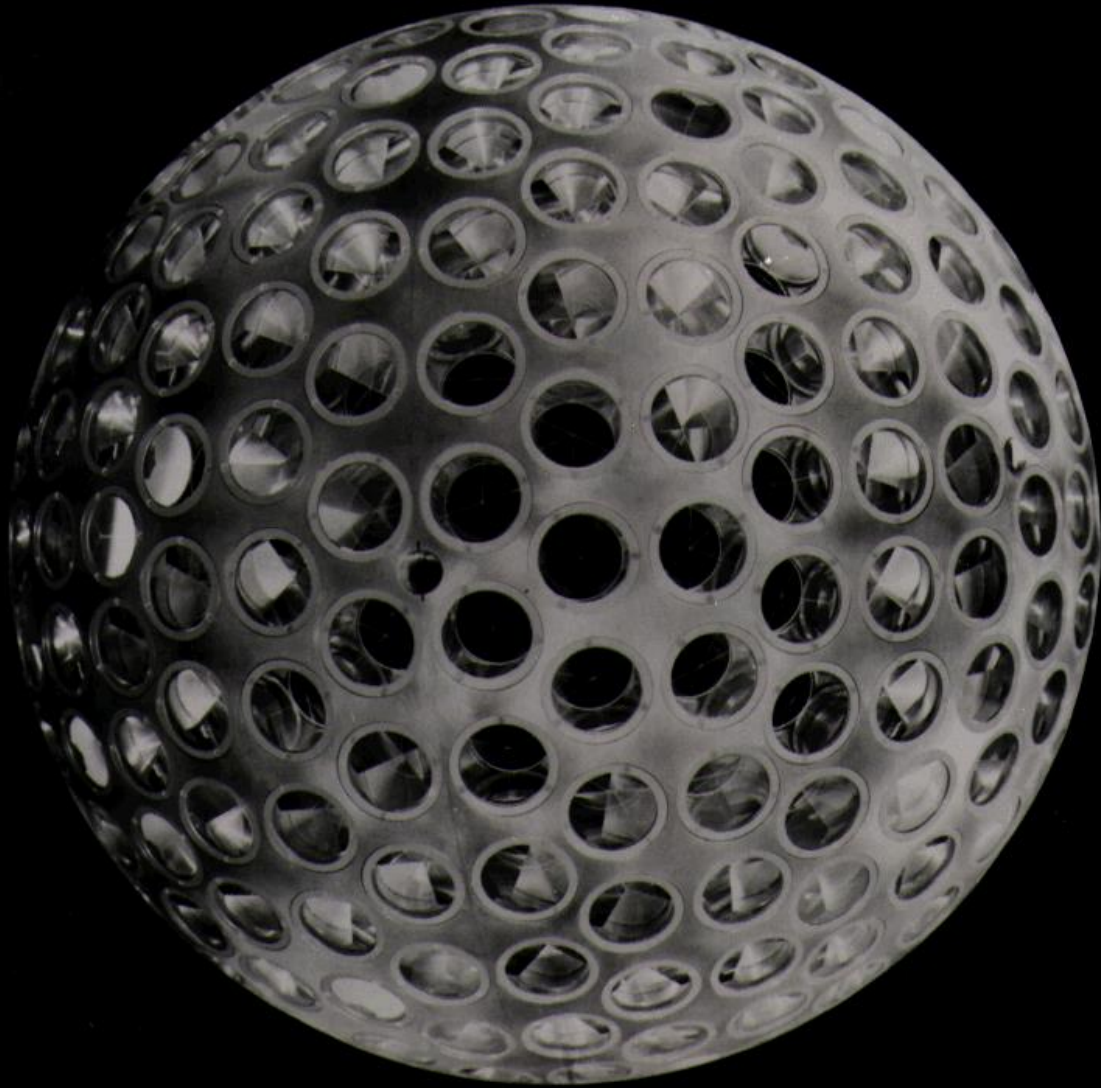
**Geokinematics**

**Earth  
rotation**

**Reference  
frames**

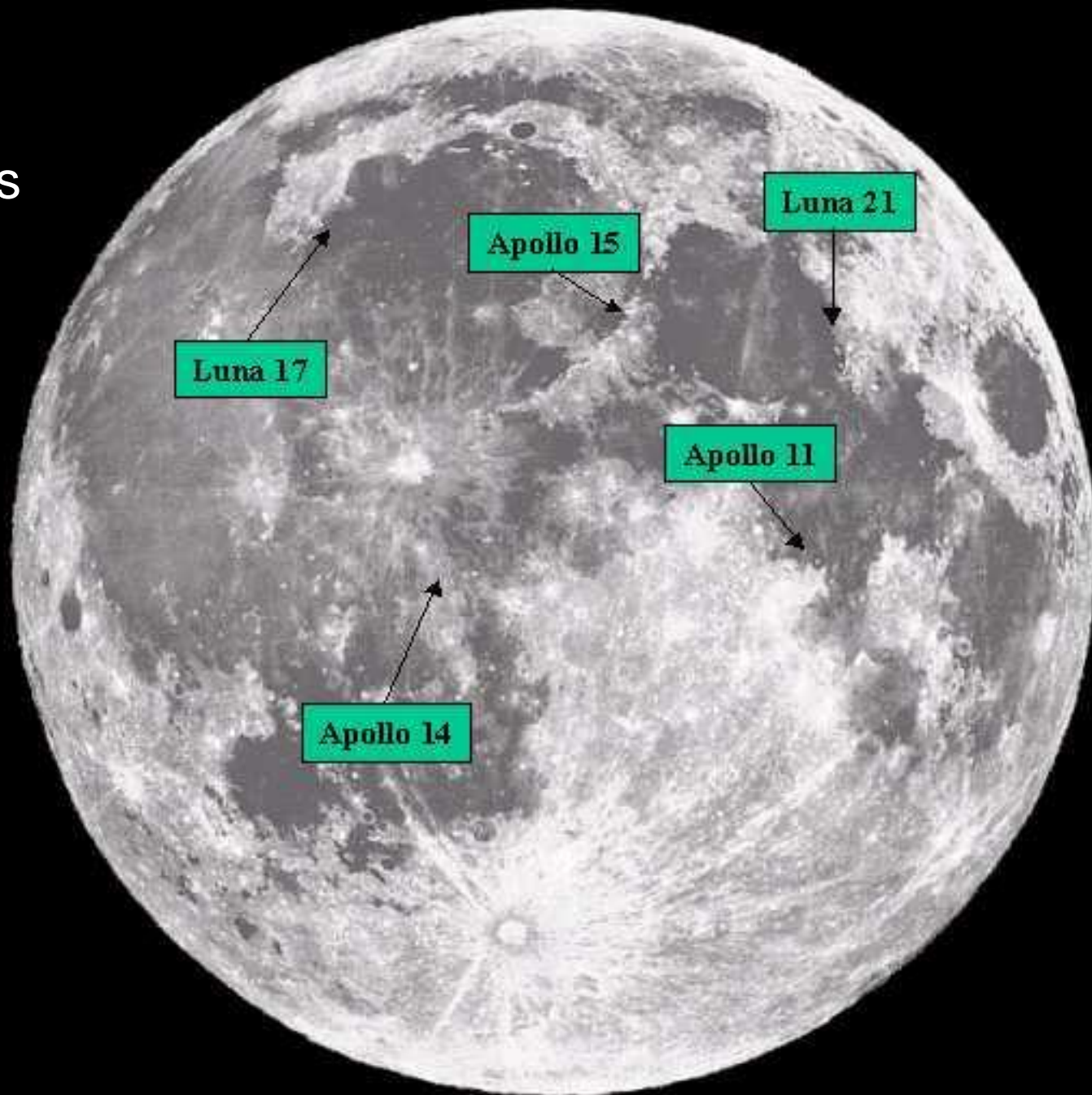
**Gravity  
field**







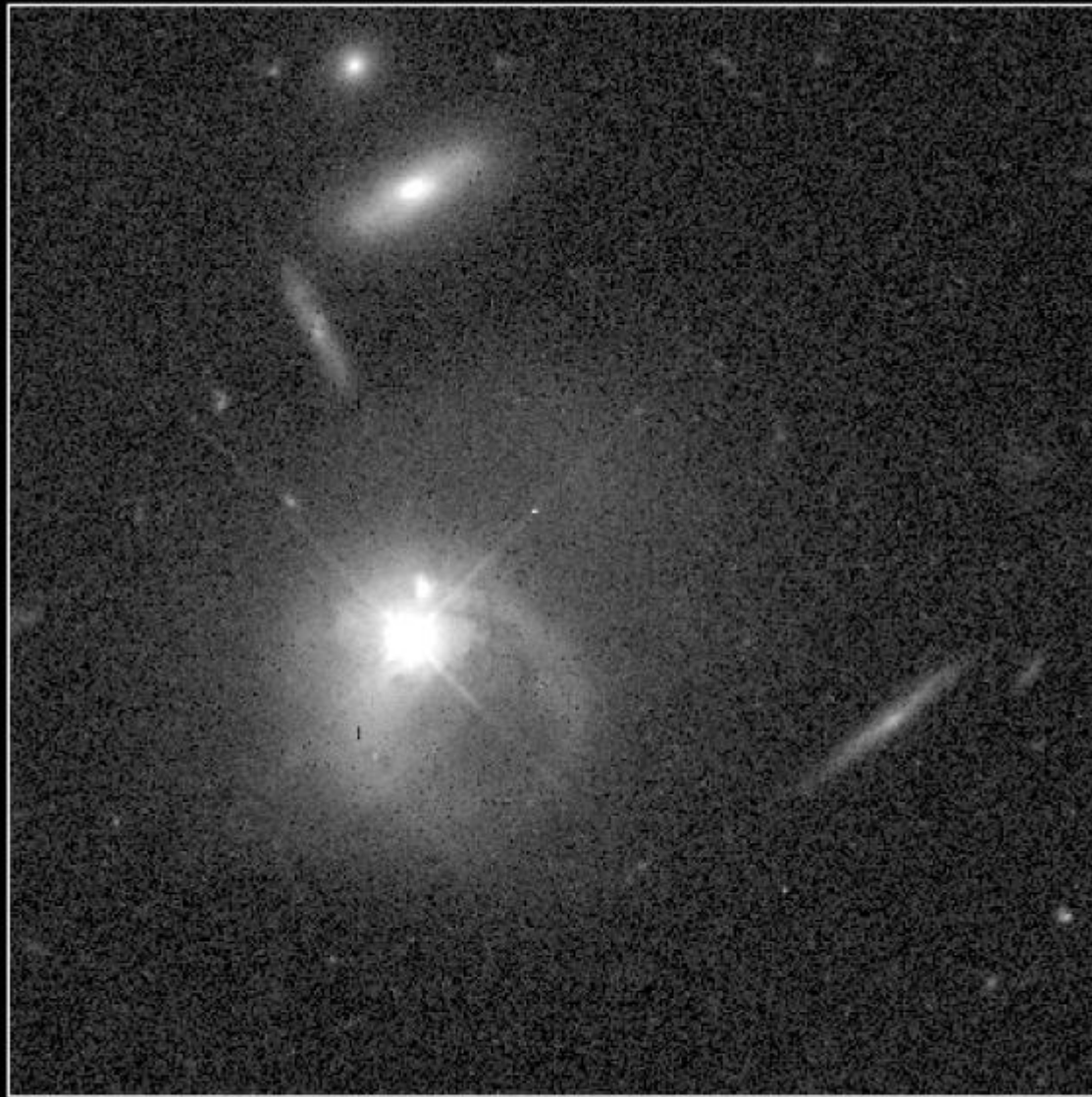
Laser  
Retroreflectors  
Arrays on the  
Moon



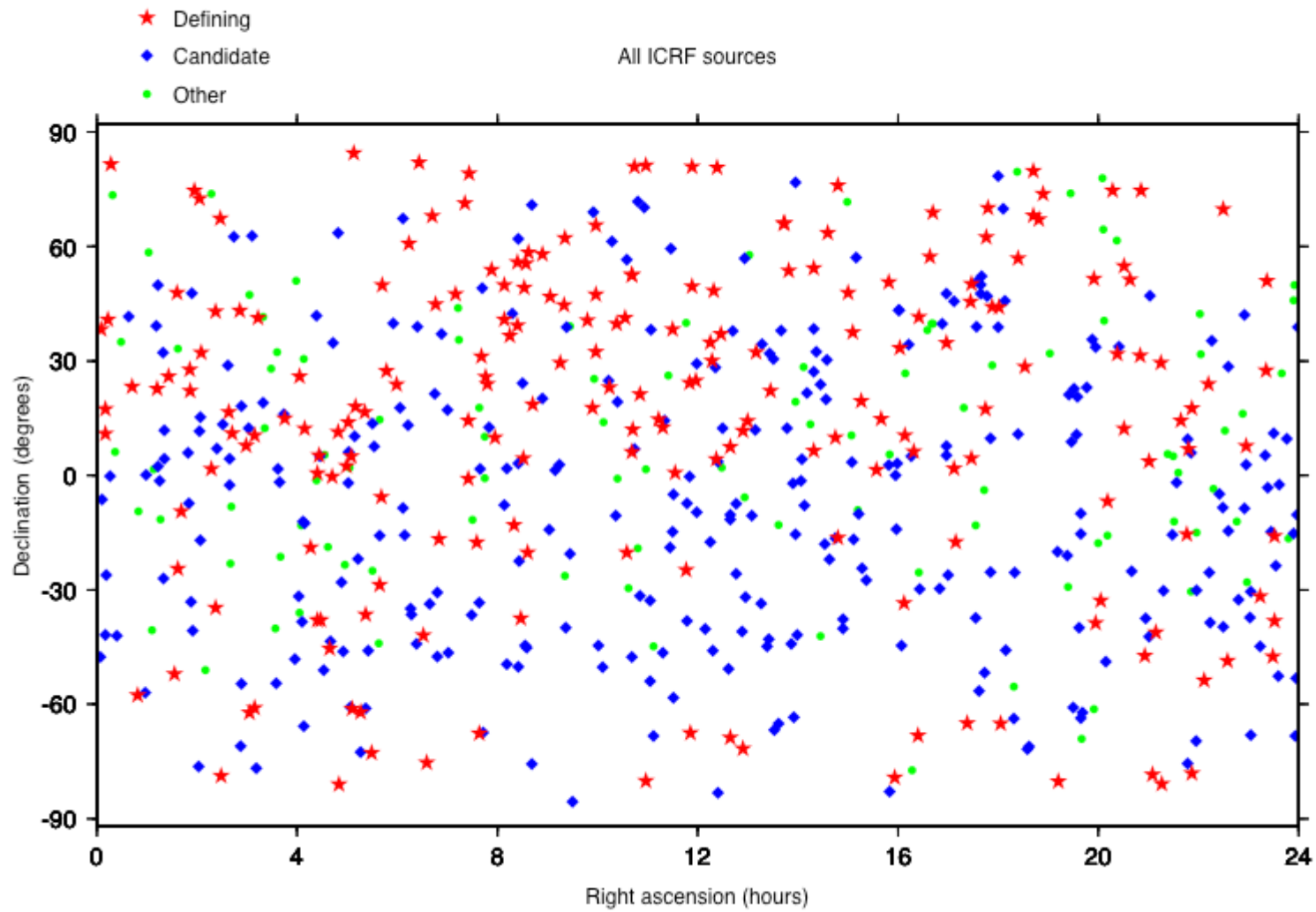
The ASI - Matera Laser Ranging Observatory is dedicated to  
Rocco Petrone  
(1926 – 2006)







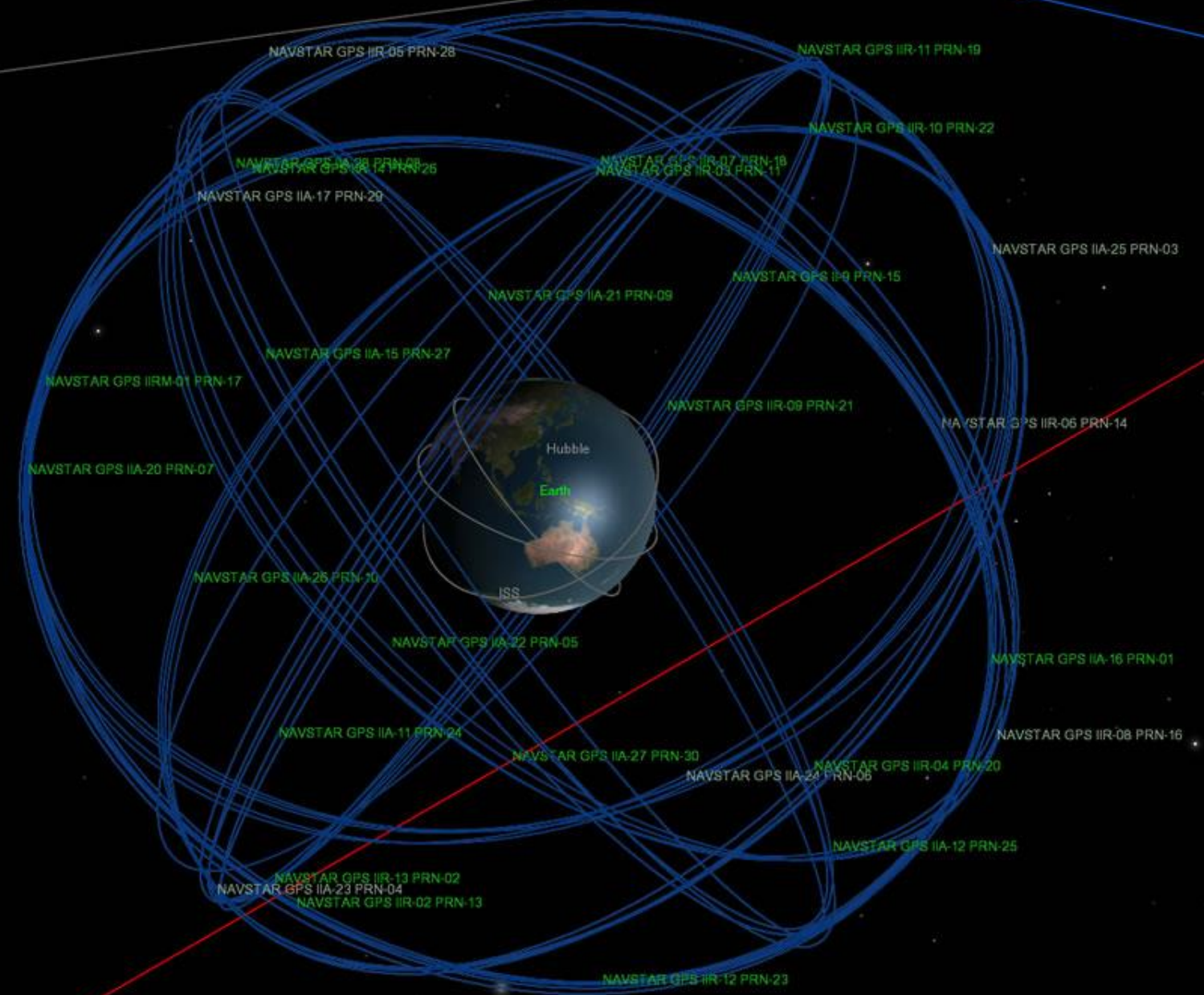
**Quasar PKS 2349**      **HST • WFPC2**  
ST ScI OPO • January 1995 • J. Bahcall (Princeton), NASA





**Earth**  
Distance: 83,511 km  
Radius: 6,378.1 km  
Apparent diameter: 8° 08' 16.0"  
Day length: 23.934 hours  
Temperature: 260 K

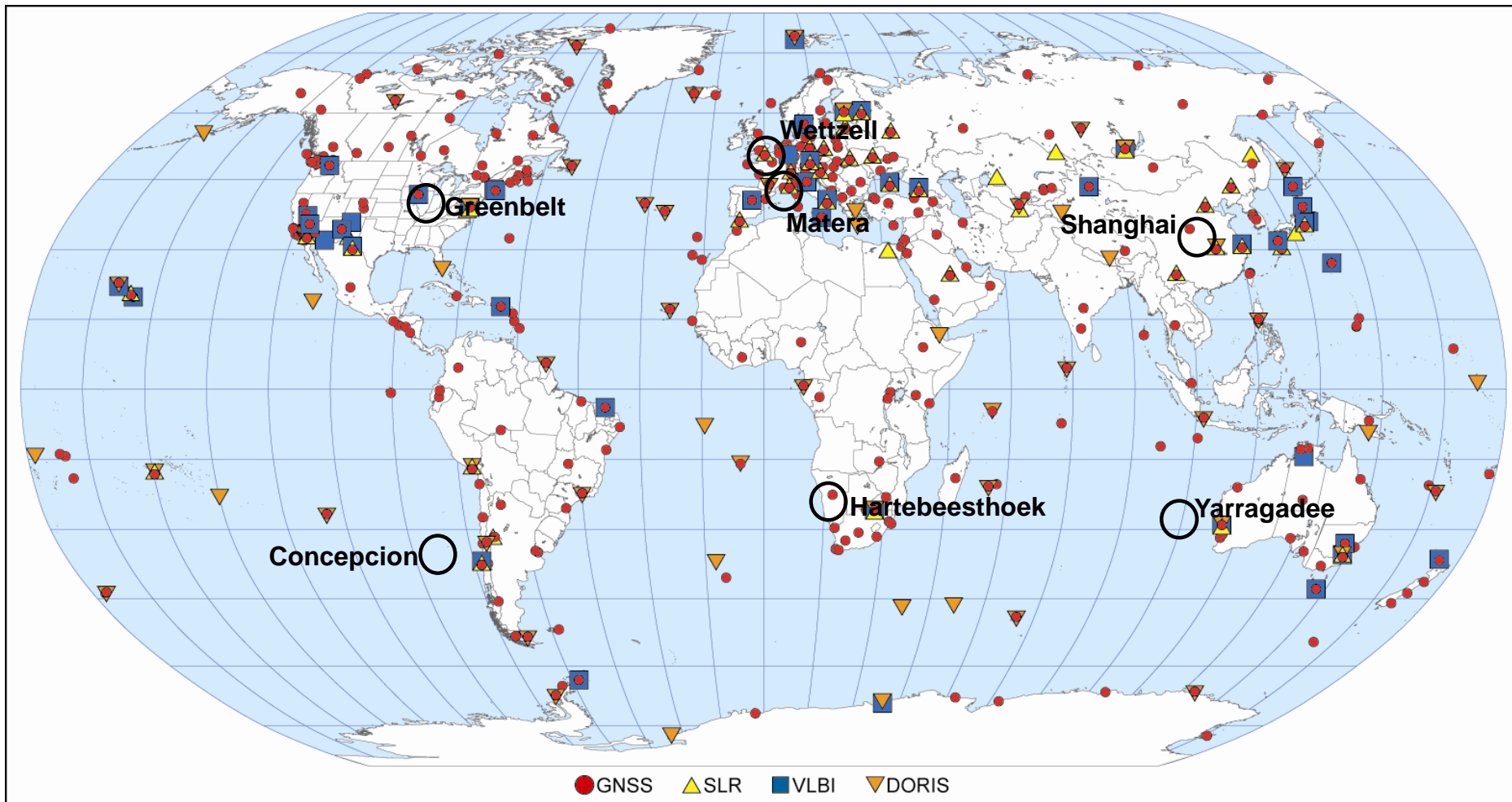
2006 02 11 01:14:11 UTC  
Real time



Speed: 0.000 m/s

Follow Earth  
FOV: 38° 18' 2.6" (1.00x)

# Current Networks of GNSS, SLR, VLBI, and DORIS Sites



○ Core sites



# ASI/CGS aerial view (from GoogleEarth)



VLBI 20m dish

Planetarium/  
museum

Remote sensing labs

CSK receiving antenna

Space Geodesy lab

Matera Laser Ranging Obs.



Agenzia Spaziale Italiana

© 2007 Europa Technologies

© 2007 Tele Atlas

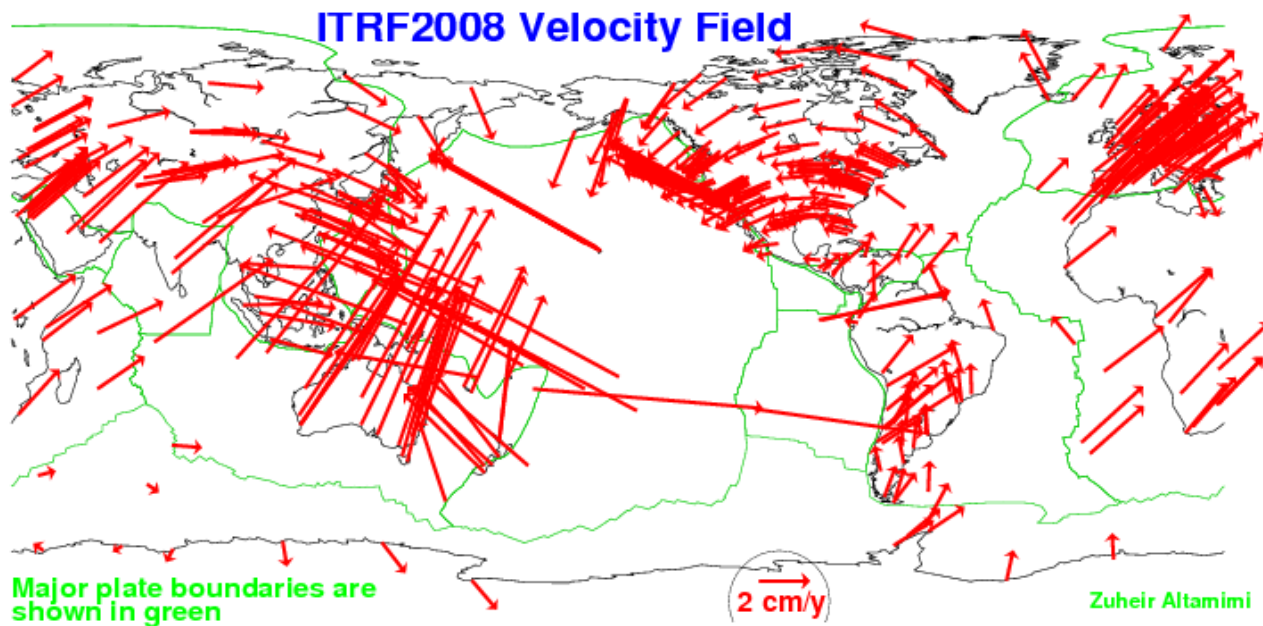
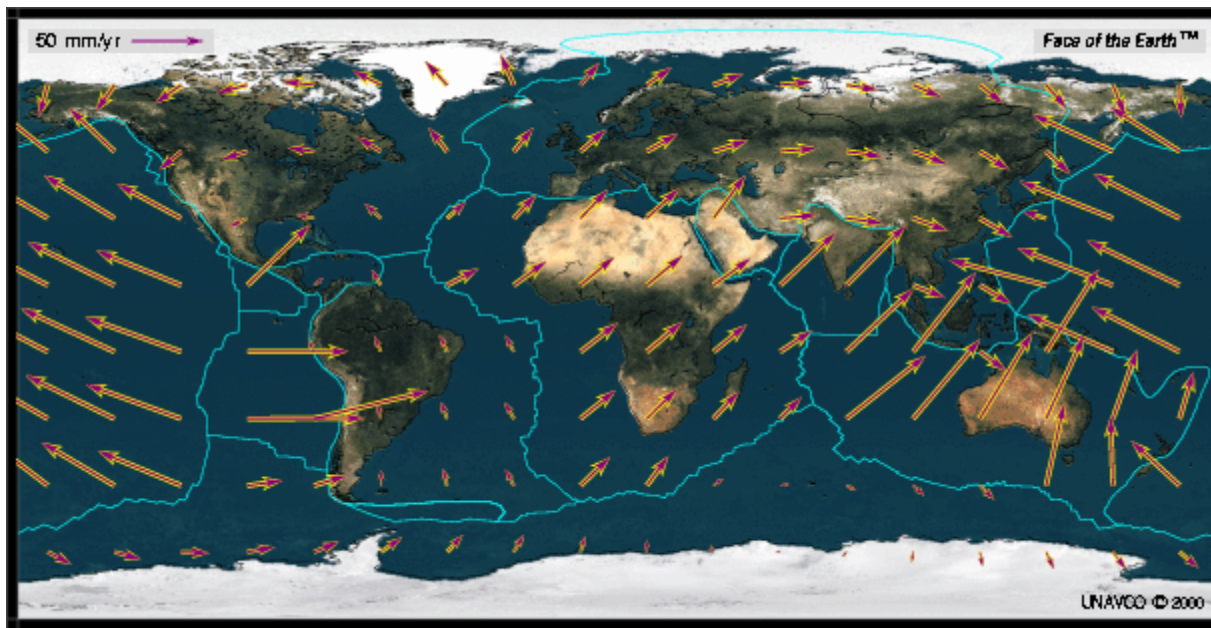
Image © 2007 DigitalGlobe

Streaming 100%

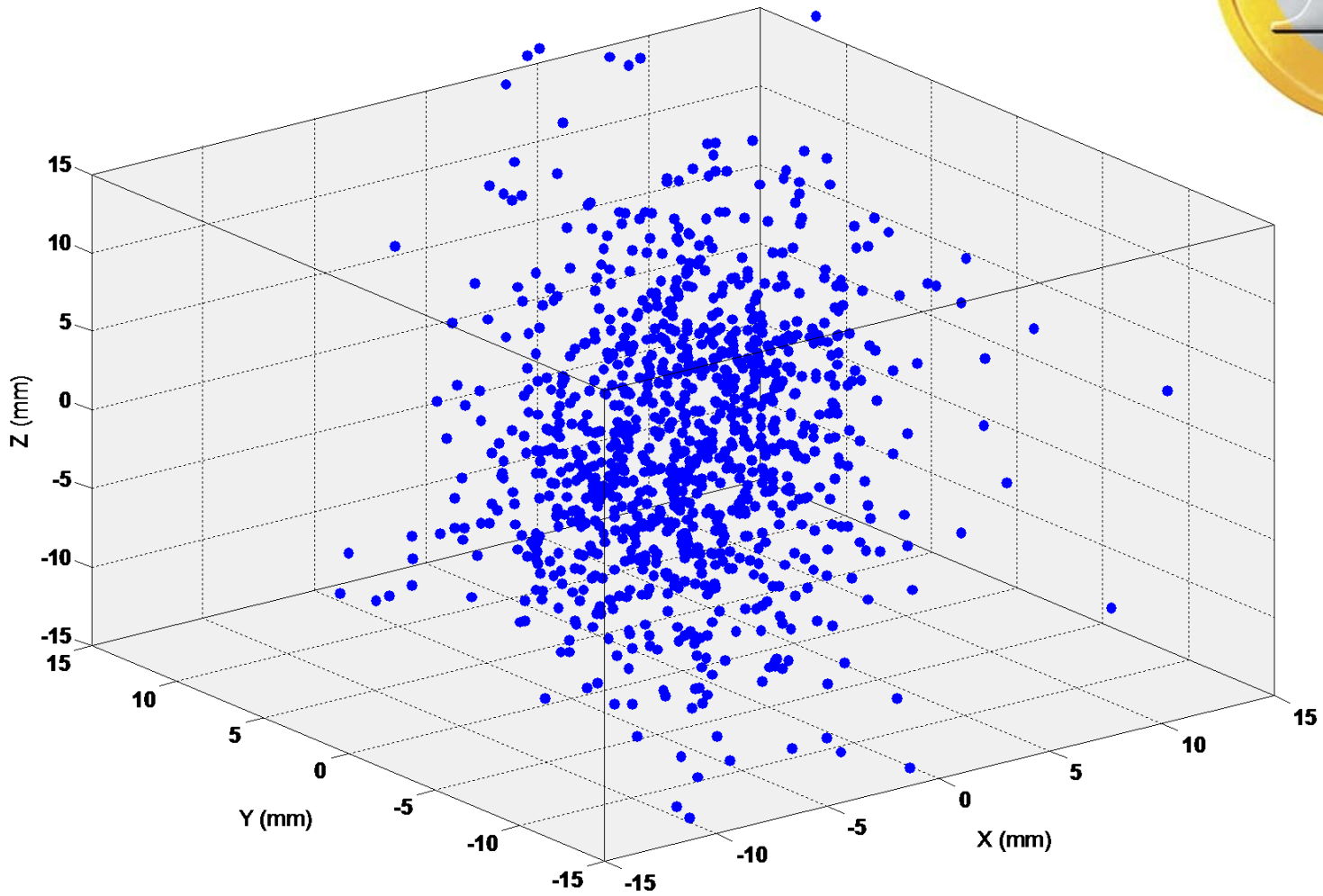
© 2007 Google™

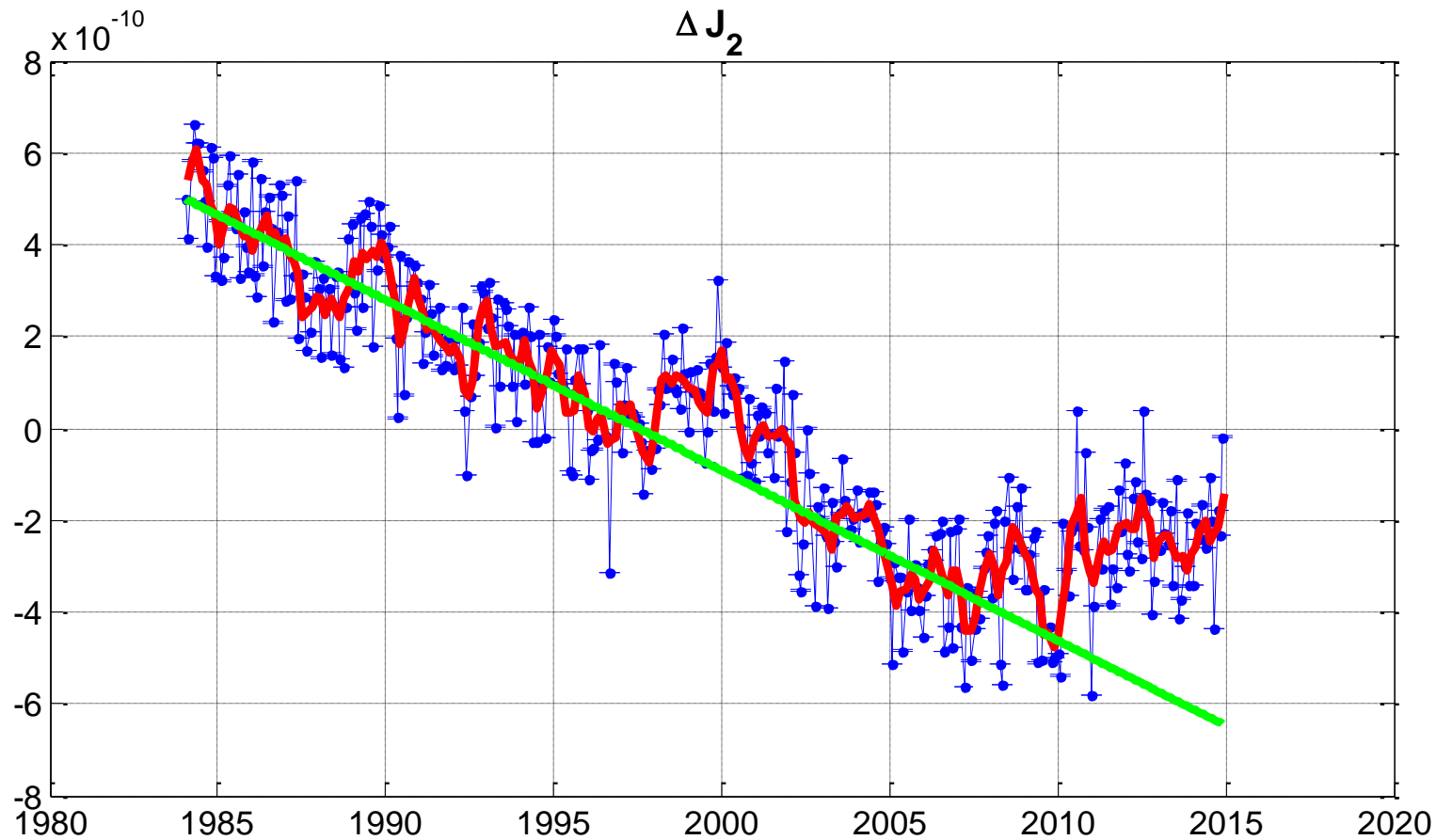
Puntatore 40°38'56.37" N 16°42'13.08" E elev 479 m

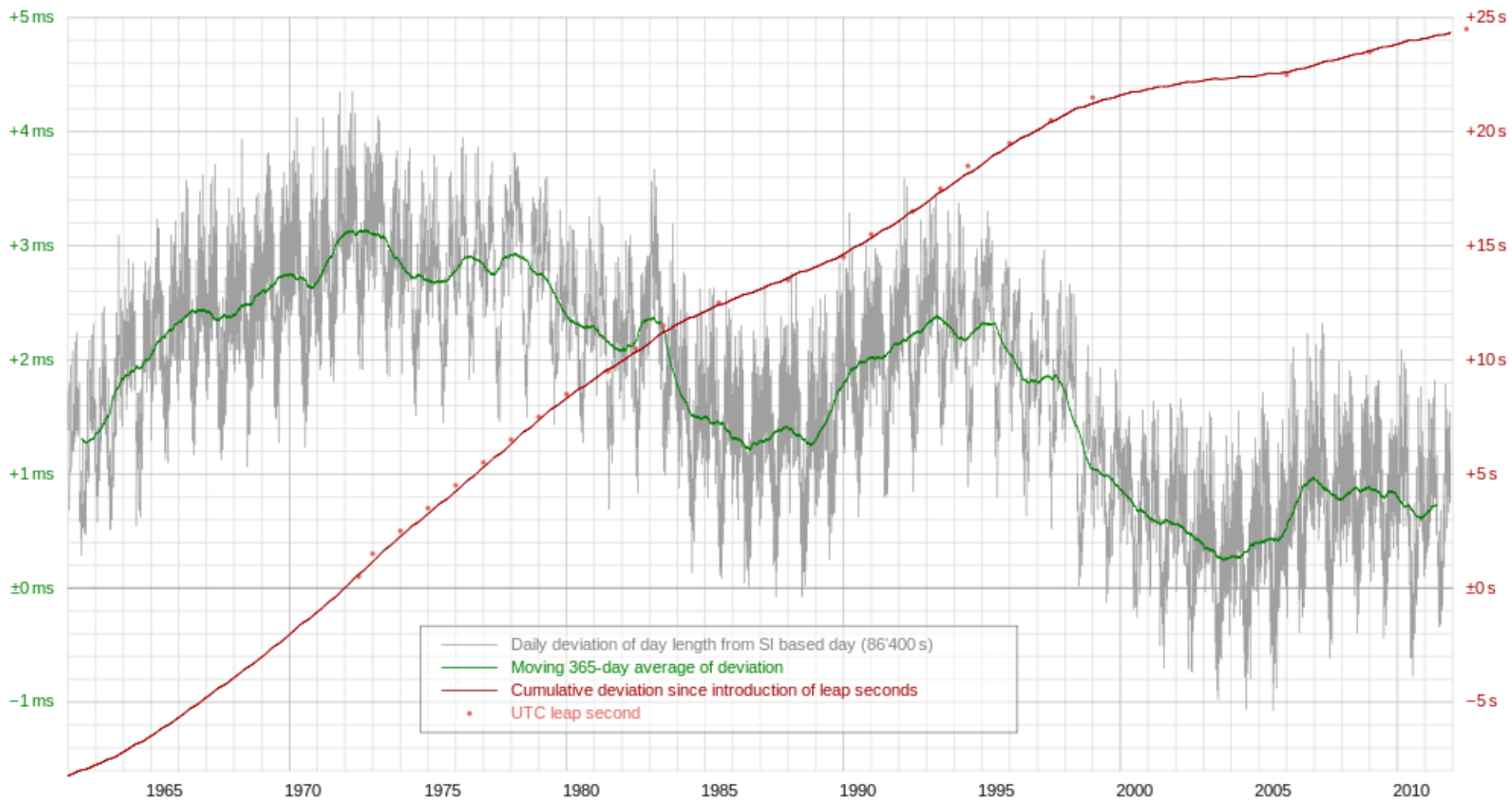
Alt 927 m



**ILRSA 1993-2012 weekly geocenter vs ITRF2008 origin**





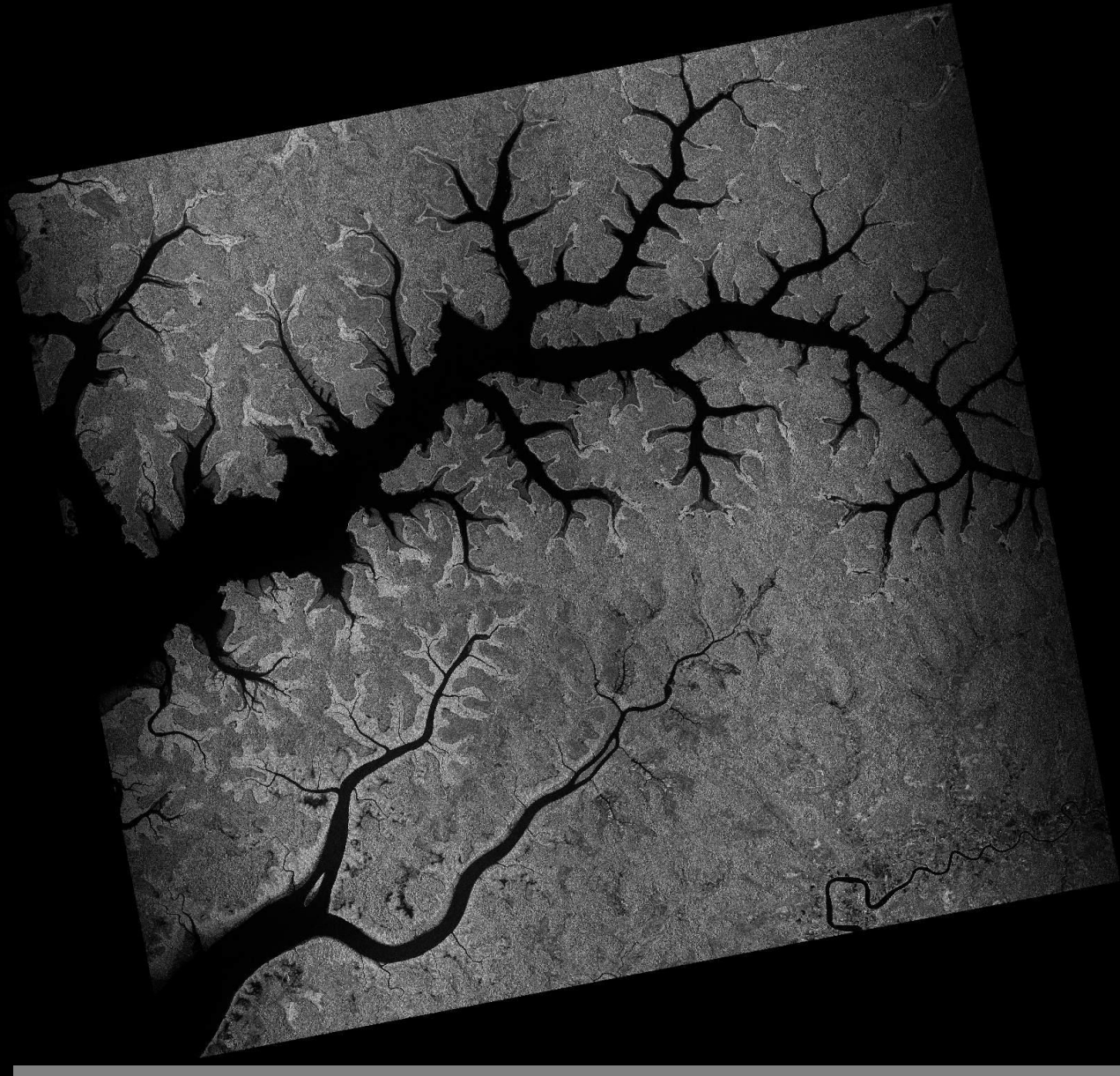


# COSMO-SkyMed

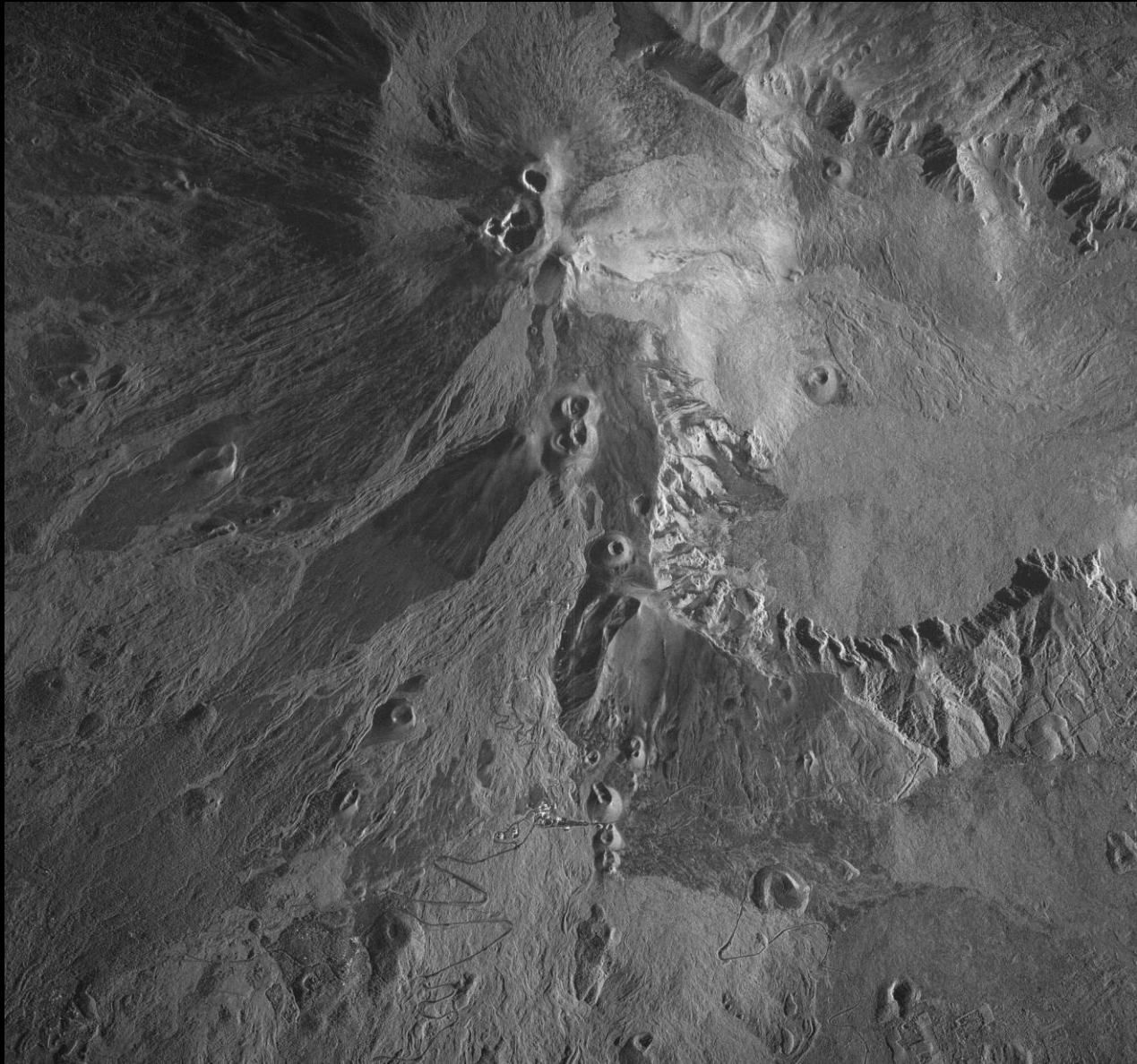
- 4 satellite, dual use constellation
- Italian Civilian User Ground Segment (I-CUGS) @ASI/CGS, Matera
- CSK-II generation to be launched in 2019 and 2020



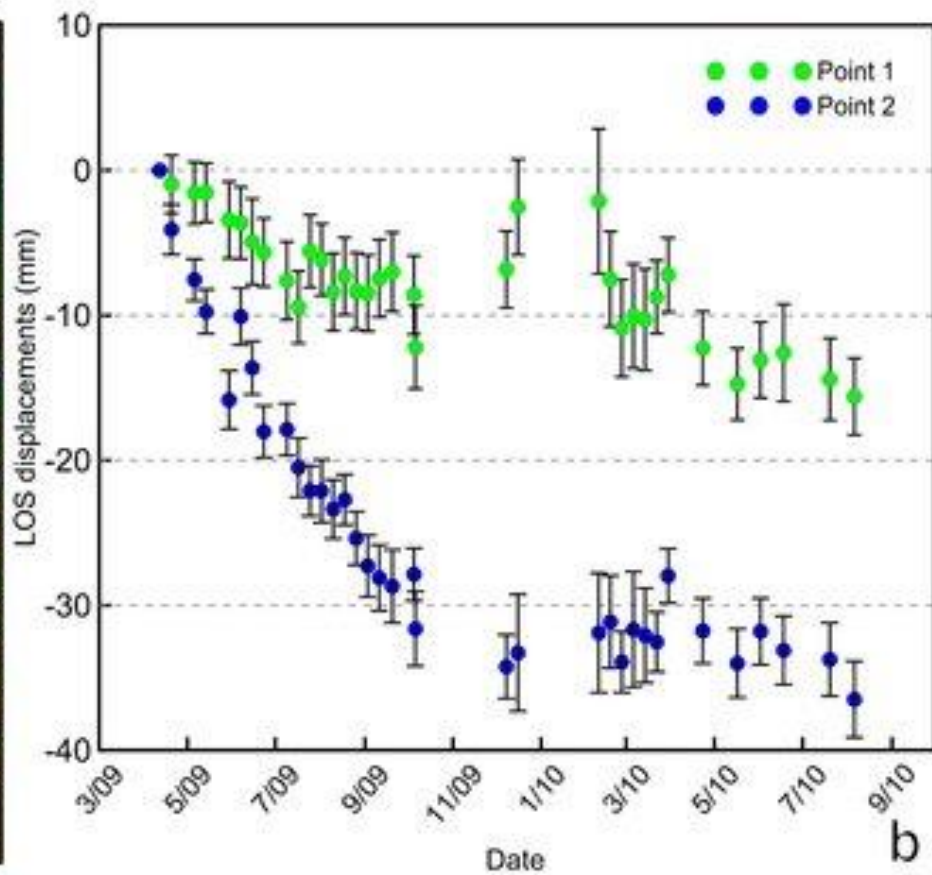
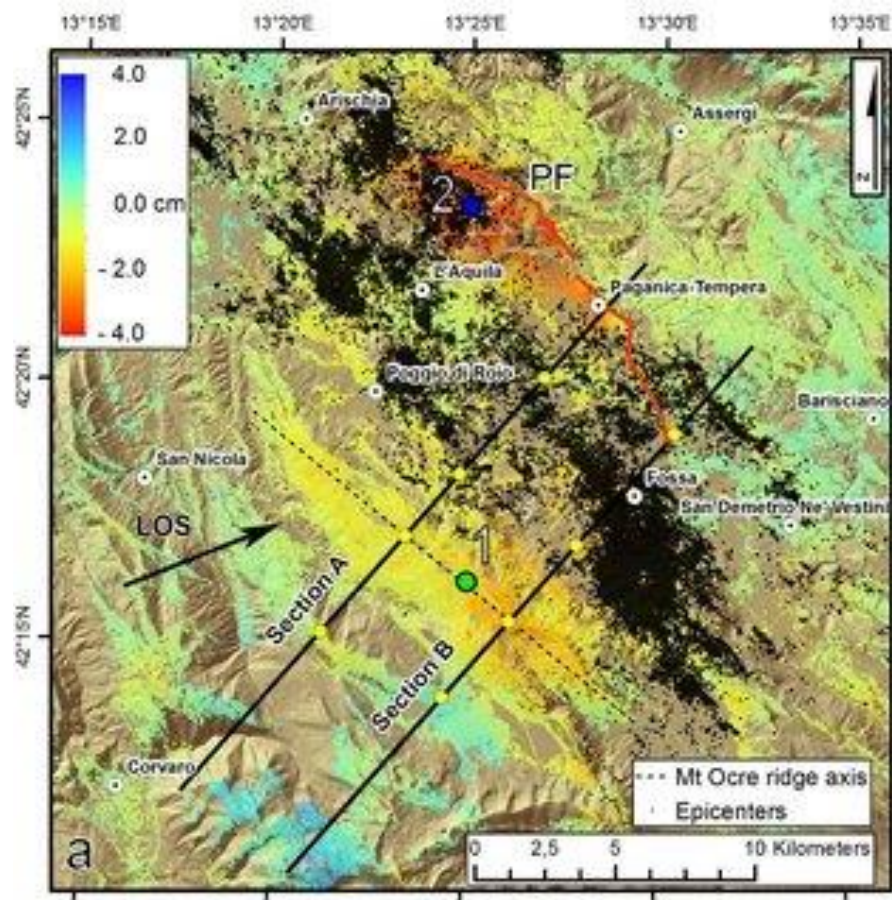
# Tidal creek in Africa



# Mt. Etna



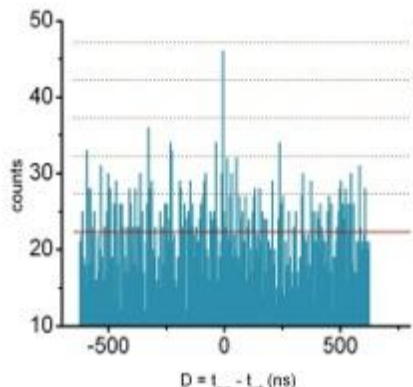
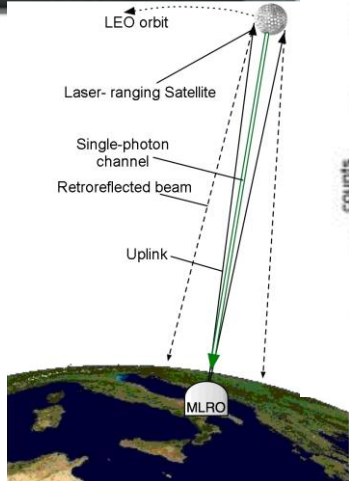
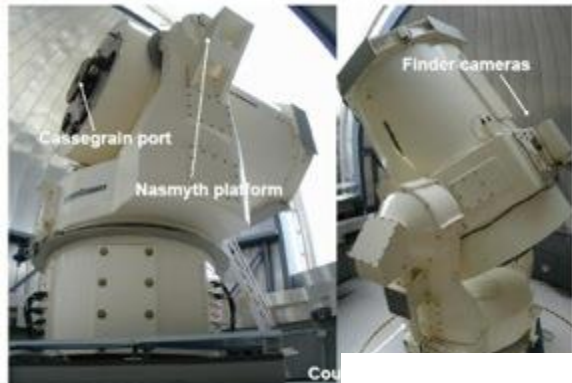




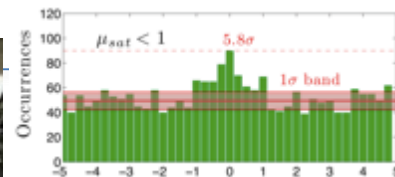
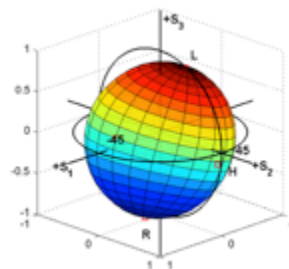
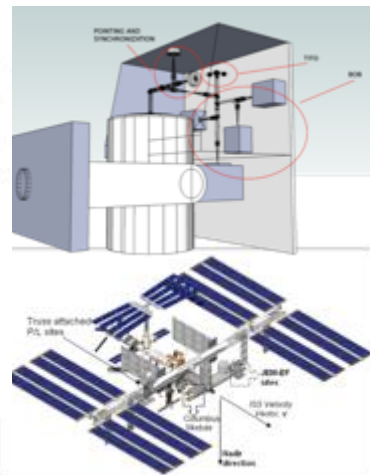
# Italian Space Quantum Communications

Exchanging quantum states, or quantum communications, allows for the realization of Quantum Information protocols as Quantum Teleportation and Q Key Distributions.

QuantumFuture Research Group of University of Padova, operated since 2003 at ASI Matera Laser Ranging Observatory, using its 1.5 m telescope with millimeter resolution in Satellite Laser Ranging.



P. Villoresi et al.  
New J. Phys.  
10 033038 (2008)



G. Vallone et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. vol 115 040502 (2015)

- 2003 - UniPD SpaceQ project
- 2003 - Optical front-end for single photon transceiver @ MLRO
- 2008 - first single-photon return from Aisaj
- 2009-2011 - Feasibility study Q payload for the ISS
- 2009-2011 - Characterization of MLRO Mueller Matrix
- 2012 - Analysis of response of different satellites CCR
- 2012 - 2013 state preparation and analysis satellite synchron
- 2014 - Q-Comm on satellites demonstrated
- 2015 - Temporal modes demonstrated in satellite qubit
- 2015 - New limit in single photon exchange from MEO sat
- 2016 - D. Dequal et al. Phys Rev. A Rapid Comm 93 010301 (2016)
- 2016 - F. Vedovato et al. - Science Adv. 3 e1701180 (2017)
- 2017 - Testing wave-particle duality in Space
- 2018 - 2000km feasibility QComms
- 2019 - sub-ns resolution - daylight free-space QKD

# Metrology: the Italian Link for Frequency & Time (LIFT)



**Turin**



**Florence**



**Bologna**



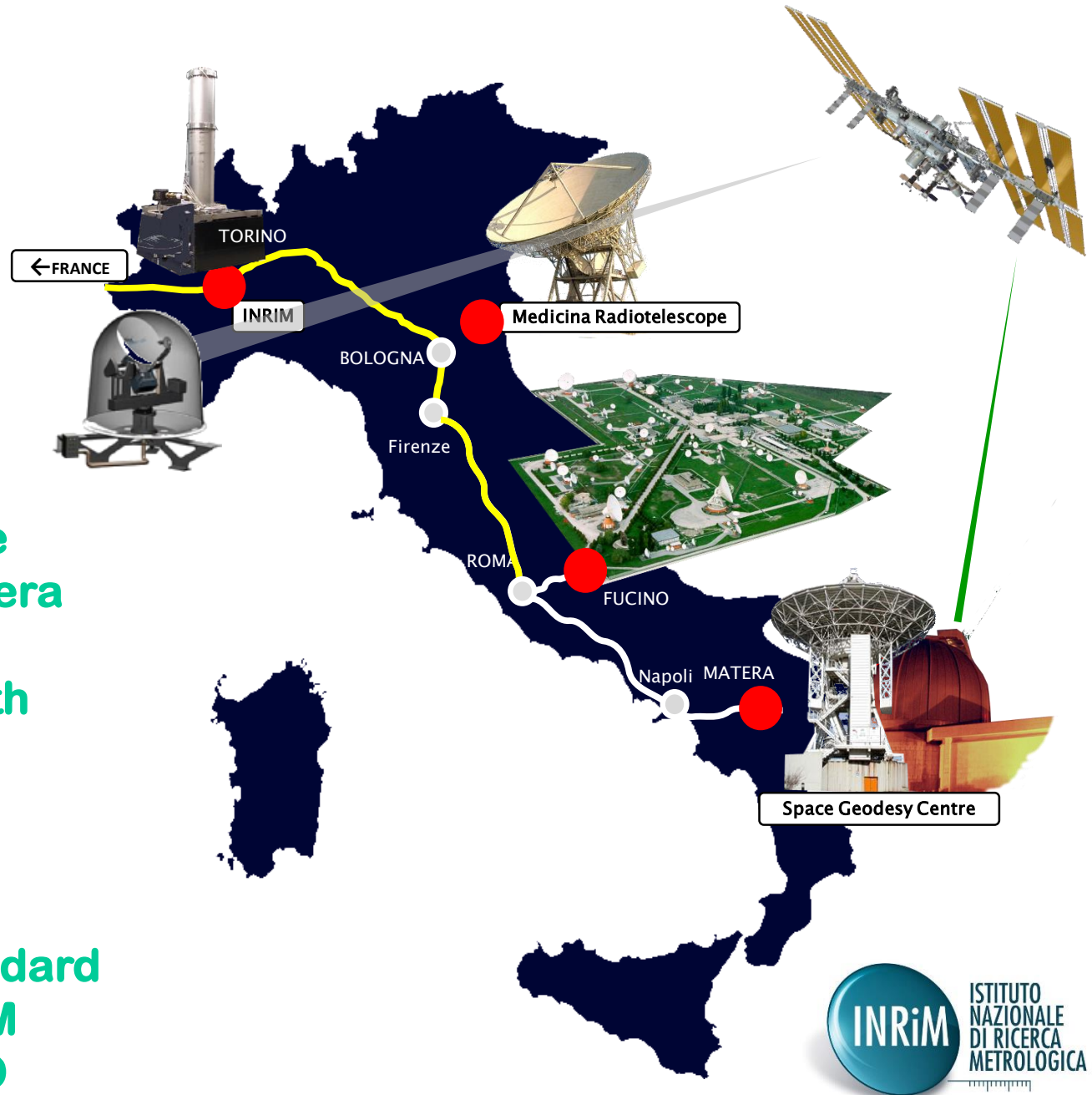
32-m dish for Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI)  
Part of the European VLBI Network



**Matera**



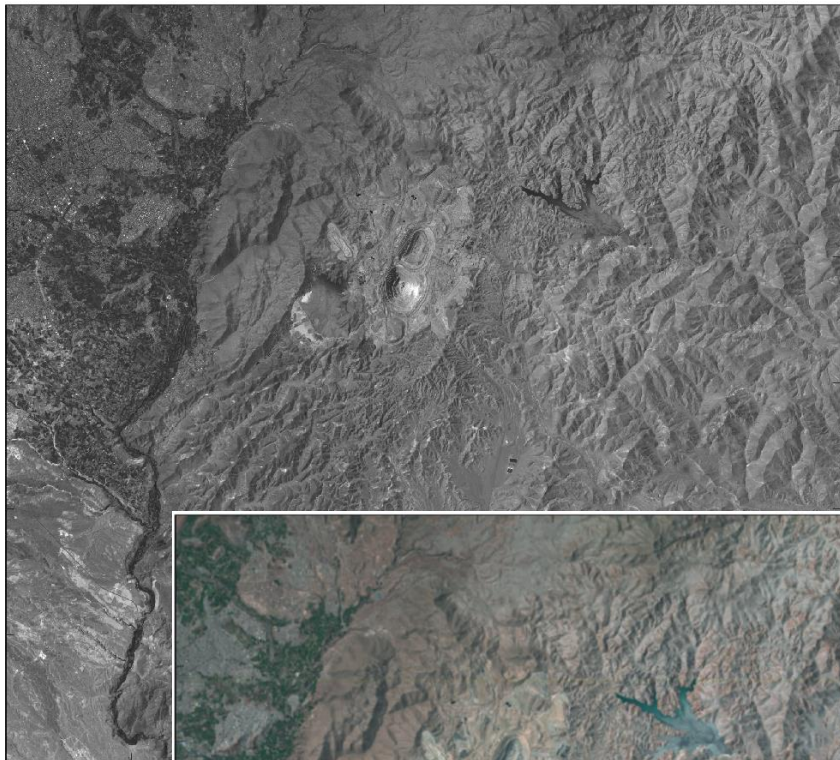
- ✓ Total Fiber Haul 3000 km
- ✓ Two Commercial Dark Fibers available /DWDM and CWDM channels/bidirectional Erbium Doped Fiber Amplifier
- ✓ Fiber provided by Consortium GARR and Consortium TOP-IX



- **H-Maser Absolute calibration in Matera**
- **Geodesy VLBI with common clock Medicina/Matera**
- **Italian Primary Metrological Standard provided by INRIM available at MLRO**

# SST (Space Surveillance and Tracking)





PAN



SWIR



VNIR



# ASI/INFN Joint Lab

- ASI/CGS Matera and INFN/LNF Frascati
  - Characterization of Corner Cubes  
Retroreflectors
  - LARES2 calibration
  - Development of CCR arrays for interplanetary  
exploration
  - Development of CCR's for Lunar Laser  
Ranging

# Legacy and new directions

- Space Geodesy (GGOS core station)
- Remote Sensing (SAR, hyperspectral) operations and applications development
- Free Space Quantum telecom
- Active and passive Space Debris tracking
- Time and frequency metrology
- Outreach