

# OBSERVATOIRE GÉODÉSIQUE MULTI-TECHNIQUES DE CALERN

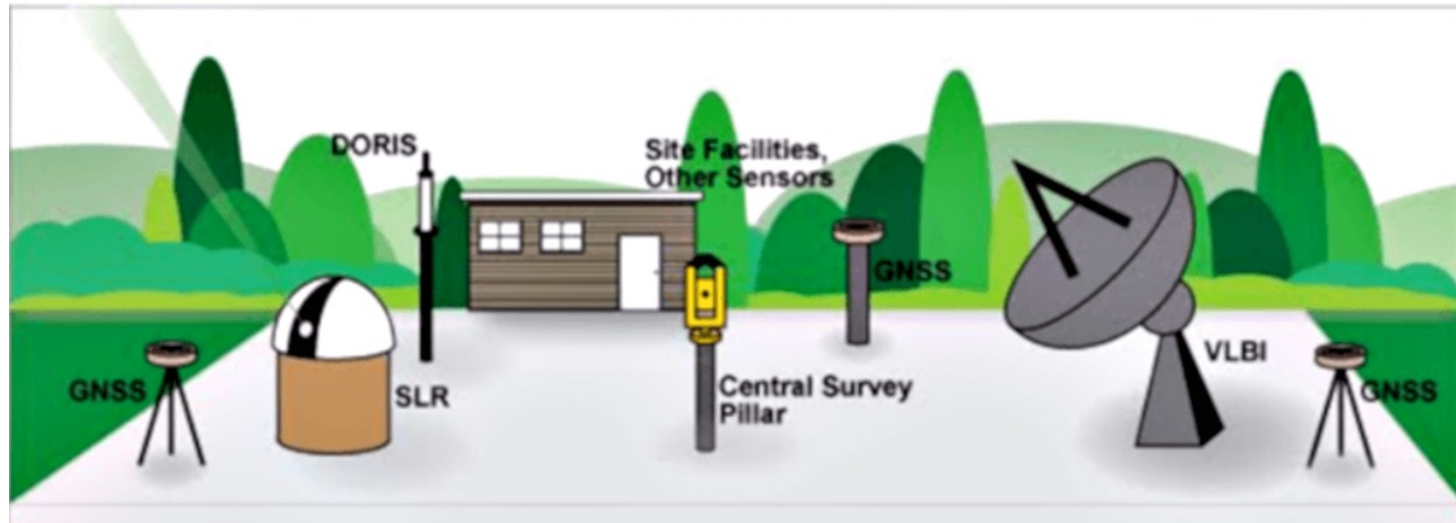
NOVEMBRE 2023

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# C'est quoi un observatoire géodésique multi-techniques ?

Un site accueillant plusieurs techniques de géodésie spatiale co-localisées.

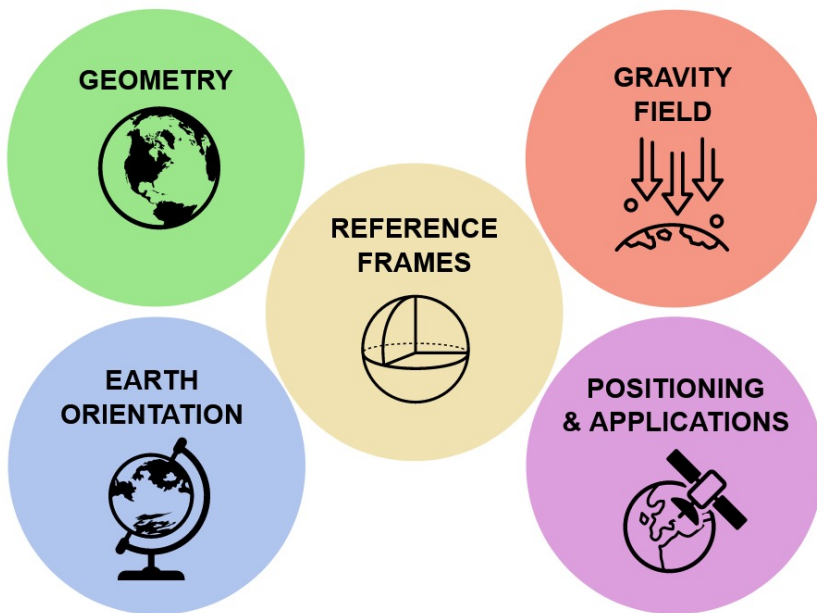


- GNSS – Global Navigation Satellite Systems
- SLR – Satellite Laser Ranging
- VLBI – Very Long Baseline Interferometry
- DORIS – Doppler Orbitography and Radiopositioning Integrated by Satellite






# A quoi sert un observatoire géodésique multi-techniques ?

## Geometry


-  Surface Deformation Models
-  Ocean Topography Models
-  Sea Level Change
-  Digital Elevation Model
-  Ice Sheets & Glaciers - Variations
-  Station Positions & Variations
-  Tide Gauge Records
-  Sea Surface Heights







### Gravity Field

-  Global Gravity Field - Models
-  Gravity Field - Temporal Variations
-  Terrestrial Gravity Data
-  Regional / Local Geoid Models
-  Ice Sheets & Glaciers - Variations
-  Height Systems

## Earth Orientation




-  Earth Orientation Parameters

### Reference Frames

-  Height Reference Frame
-  Celestial Reference Frame
-  Gravity Reference Frame
-  Terrestrial Reference Frame

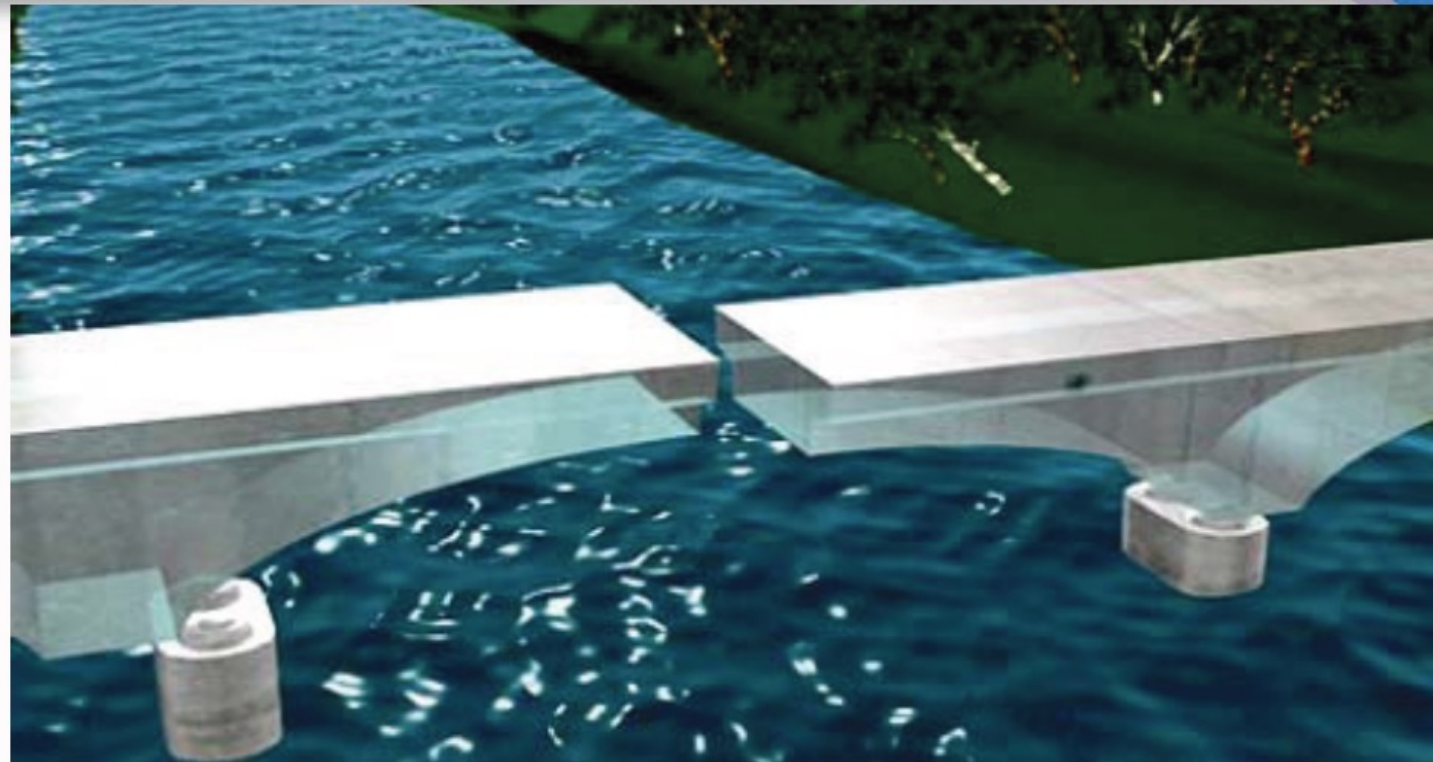


### Positioning & Applications

-  Thermosphere
-  Ionosphere
-  Lower Neutral Atmosphere
-  Atmospheric Products
-  GNSS Satellite Orbits and Clocks



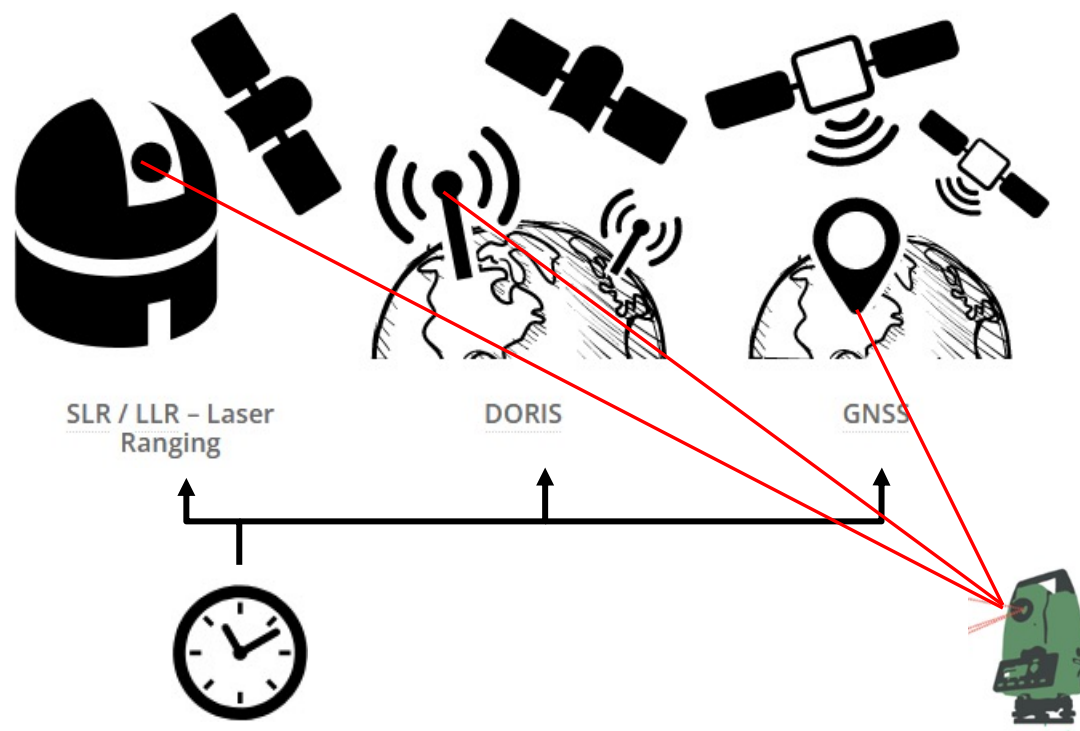
# Concrètement, à quoi ça sert ?



Design error at bridge construction in Laufenburg (2003): During the construction of the bridge across the Rhine river in Laufenburg, a control showed that a height difference of 54 centimeters exists between the bridge built from the Swiss side and the roadway of the German side. Reason of the error is the fact that the horizons of the German and Swiss side are based on different reference frames. Germany refers to the sea level of the North Sea, Switzerland to the Mediterranean.

*Courtesy of Hermann Drewes / DGFI*

# Sommaire



1. Présentation de l'Observatoire Géodésique multi-techniques du plateau de Calern
2. Co-localisation et suivi de la croisée des axes du télescope (collaboration IGN-ENSG)
3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaison
4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

# 1. OBSERVATOIRE DE LA COTE D'AZUR

## SITE DE CALERN

- Site inauguré en 1974
  - Astrométrie & plateforme de développement pour de nouveaux instruments
- Plateau calcaire de 20 km<sup>2</sup> dans l'arrière pays Grassois
  - Altitude : 1270m. longitude 6,9230°E ; latitude 43,750° N
  - Compromis entre accessibilité (20 km de Grasse) et qualité astronomique





# 1. UN OBSERVATOIRE GÉODÉSIQUE MULTI TECHNIQUES

Calern Atmospheric  
Turbulence Station

Station MéO  
SLR / LLR

Echelle de temps  
commune

DORIS  
CNES

INSAR

Laboratoire  
temps/fréquence

GNSS permanents



Réseau  
de piliers  
géodésiques



Rattachements topographiques – IGN



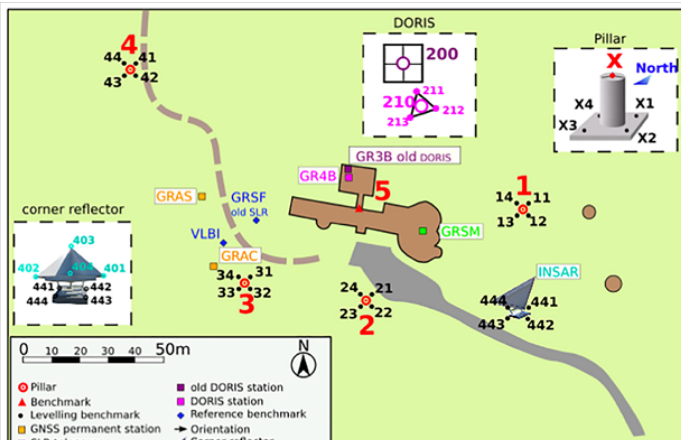
Réseau  
permanent  
2020



GRAS



GRAC



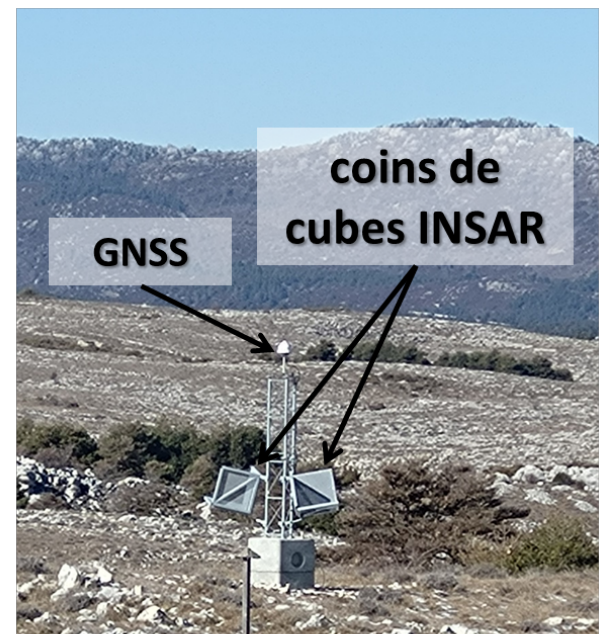


# Collaboration IGN-ENSG-Geoazur

## GNSS / INSAR

**Coins de cube : recommandation GGOS  
Obs. géodésique multi-technique**

- Réflecteur de référence pour Sentinel-1
- Rattachement IGN/ITRF + suivi mouvement vertical →
- Données Sentinel libres d'accès
  
- Étude mécanique sur l'installation de coins de cubes INSAR sur des mâts accueillant des antennes GNSS établies →
- Etude de l'impact des coins de cubes INSAR (et de leur design) sur le GNSS
  
- Deux réflecteurs → inclinaison topographique

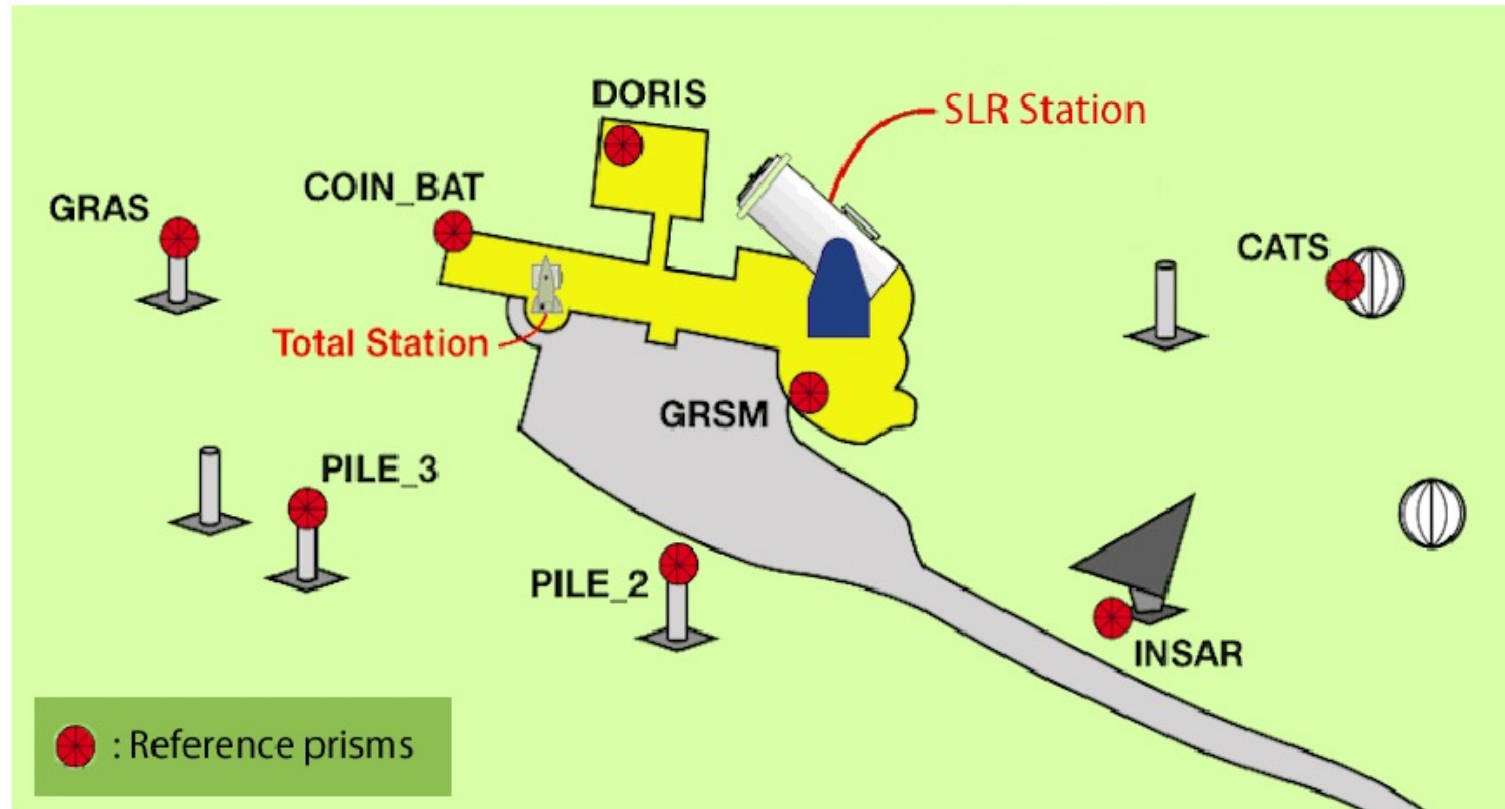






## 2. Rattachement topographique pour le suivi des points de référence des techniques de géodésie spatiale

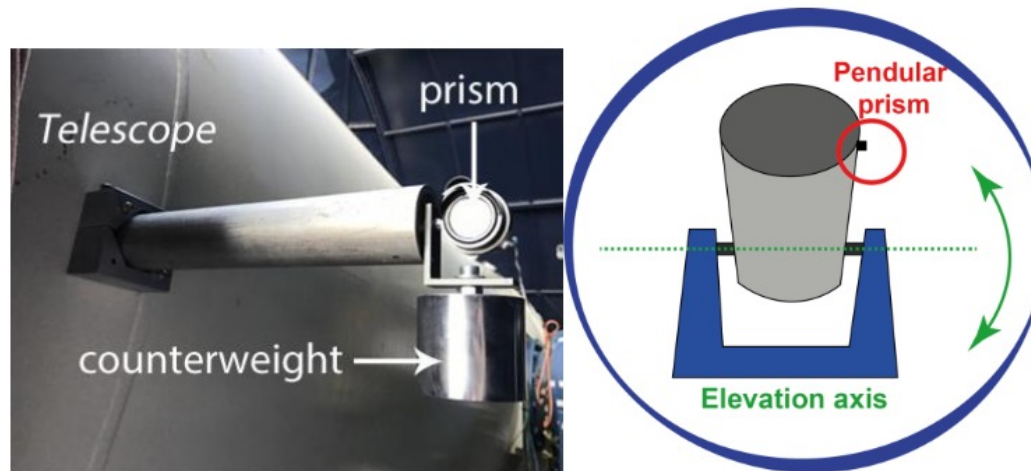
Collaboration IGN-ENSG-Geoazur



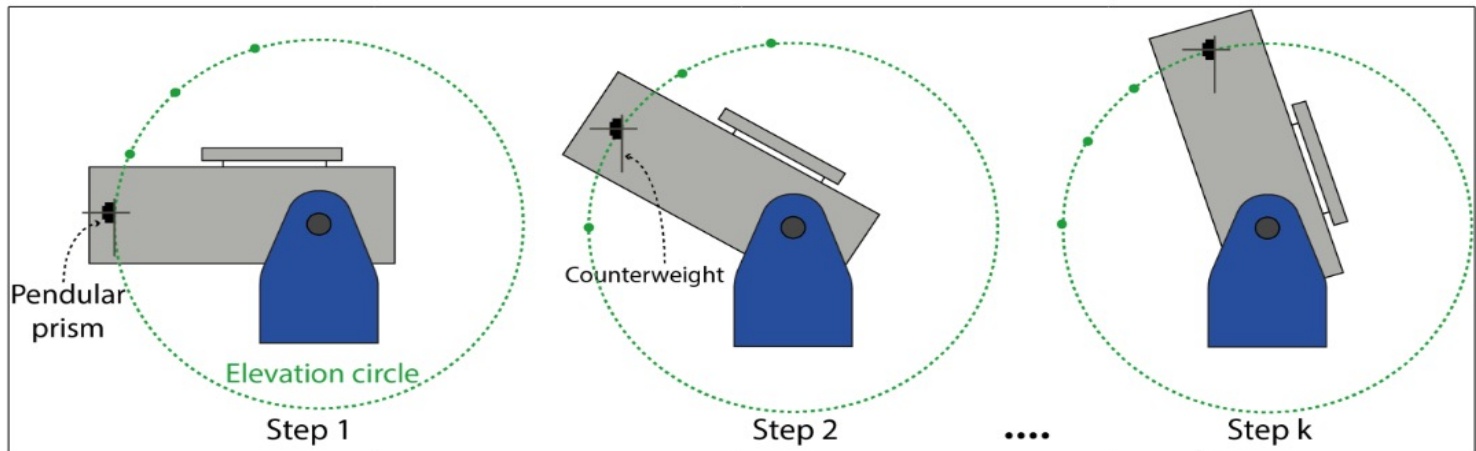
*Fig.1 Overview of the Grasse co-location site configuration during a local tie survey.*

Barneoud et al., REFAG 22

## 2. Rattachement topographique pour le suivi des points de référence des techniques de géodésie spatiale

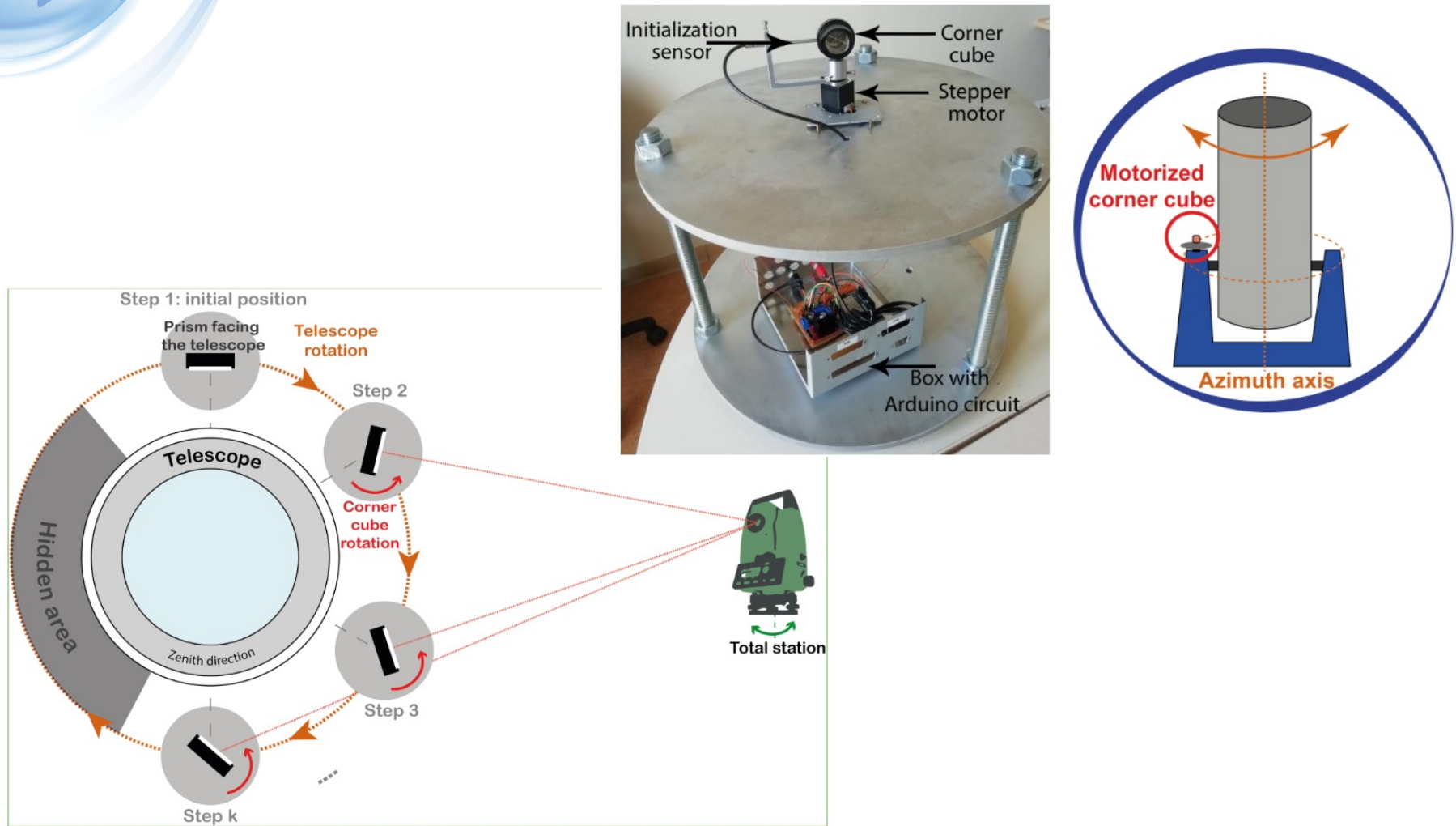


**Fig. 3** Setup of a pendular prism on the telescope (left) and global view during rotation along the elevation axis (right).



**Fig. 4** Steps of elevation circle measurements. Thanks to counterweights, the pendular prism always faces the total station.

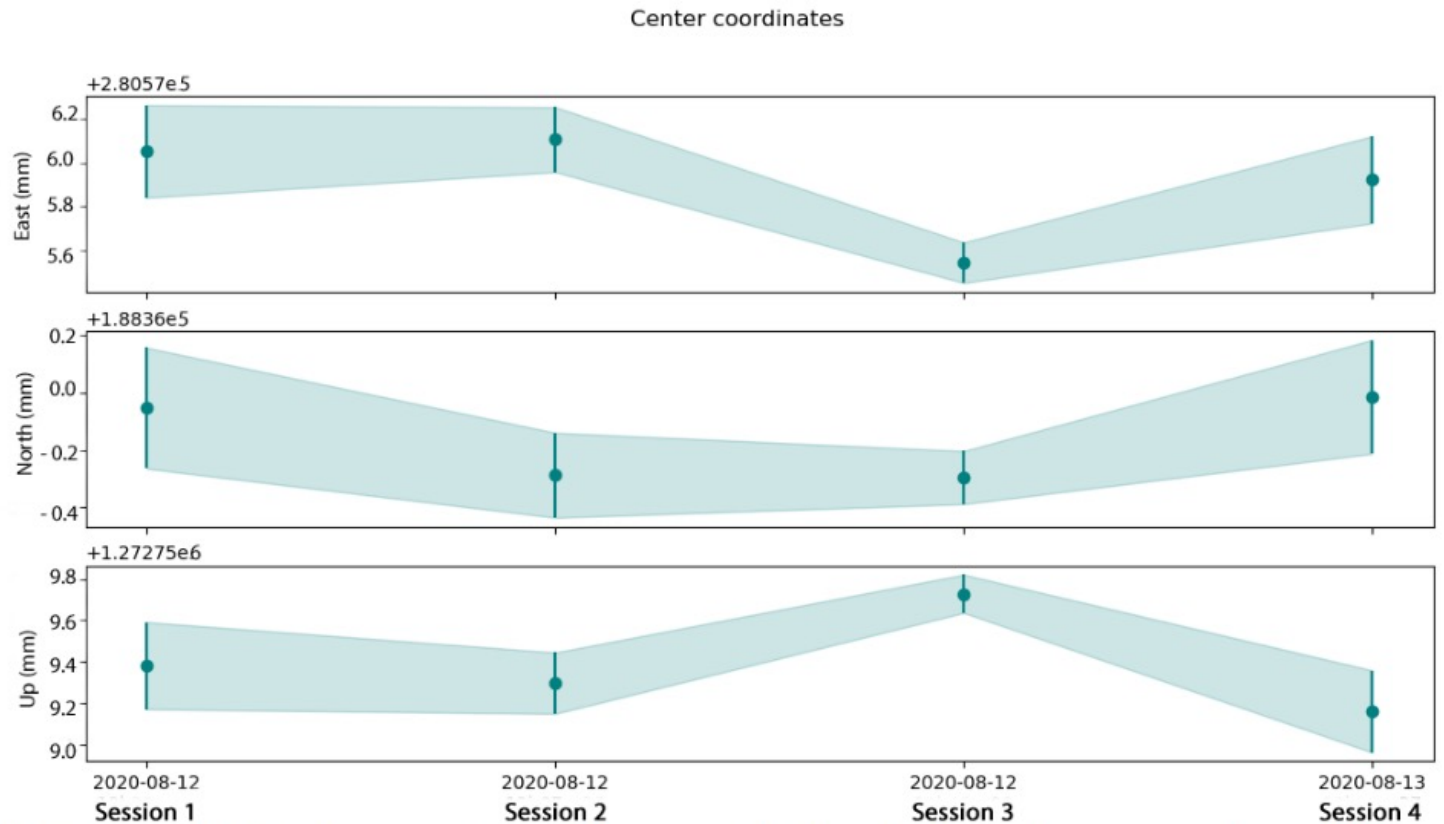
## 2. Rattachement topographique pour le suivi des points de référence des techniques de géodésie spatiale



**Fig. 6** Steps of azimuth circle measurements. With stepper motor, the corner cube is always visible from the total station after telescope rotation. The telescope is pointed upwards, in the zenith direction (top view, four steps shown).



## 2. Rattachement topographique pour le suivi des points de référence des techniques de géodésie spatiale



*Fig.8 Computed SLR reference point coordinates provided in a local coordinate system during different measurement sessions.*

Barneoud et al., REFAG 22

**Suivi du point de référence de la station laser avec une incertitude inférieure au mm.**



## 2. Rattachement topographique pour le suivi des points de référence des techniques de géodésie spatiale

- Intégration d'un nouveau tachéomètre de l'IGN pour offrir des données de géodésie spatiale co-localisées au sol



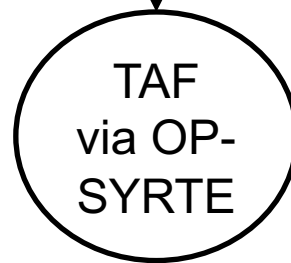
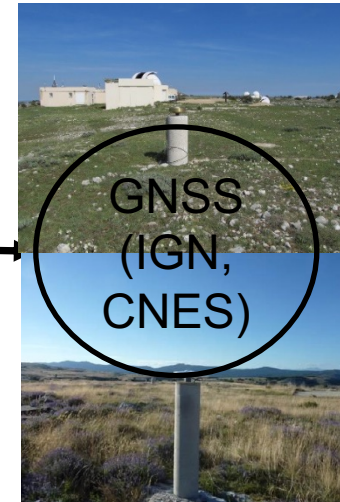
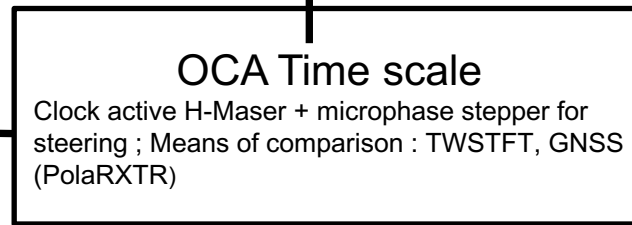
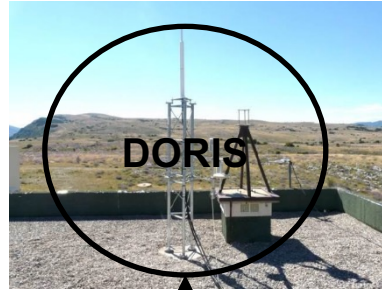


# 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons

Active H-maser (2008)



2x microphase stepper



passive H-maser (2020)



PolarX5TR +GTR50



TWSTFT



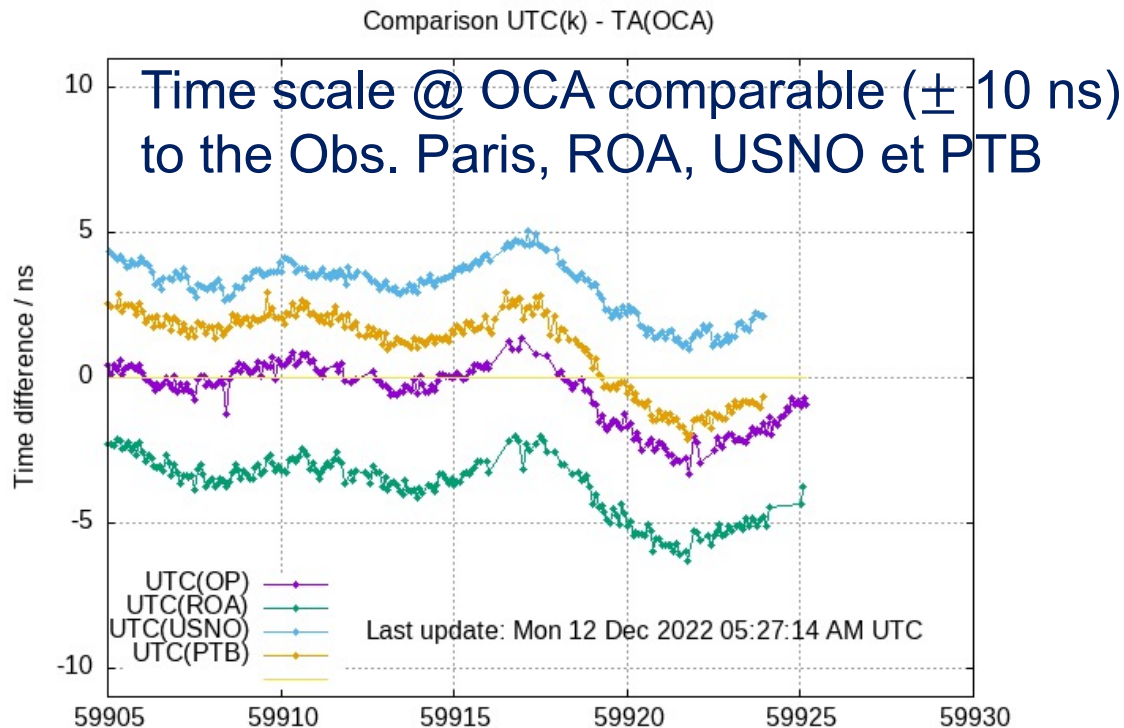


# 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons

- **Active H-Maser (2008) => 15 years !**

=> We are looking for support for a new one => ~500 k€ !!

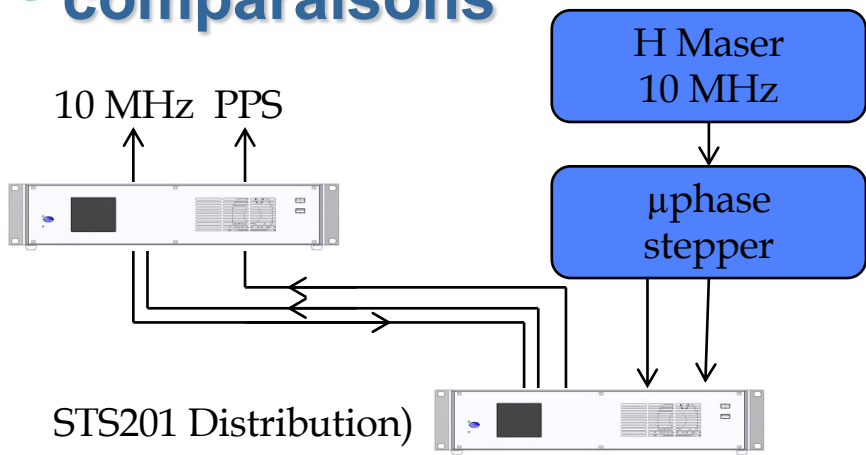
Common time scale with all the geodetic technics (DORIS, GNSS, SLR)



# 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons

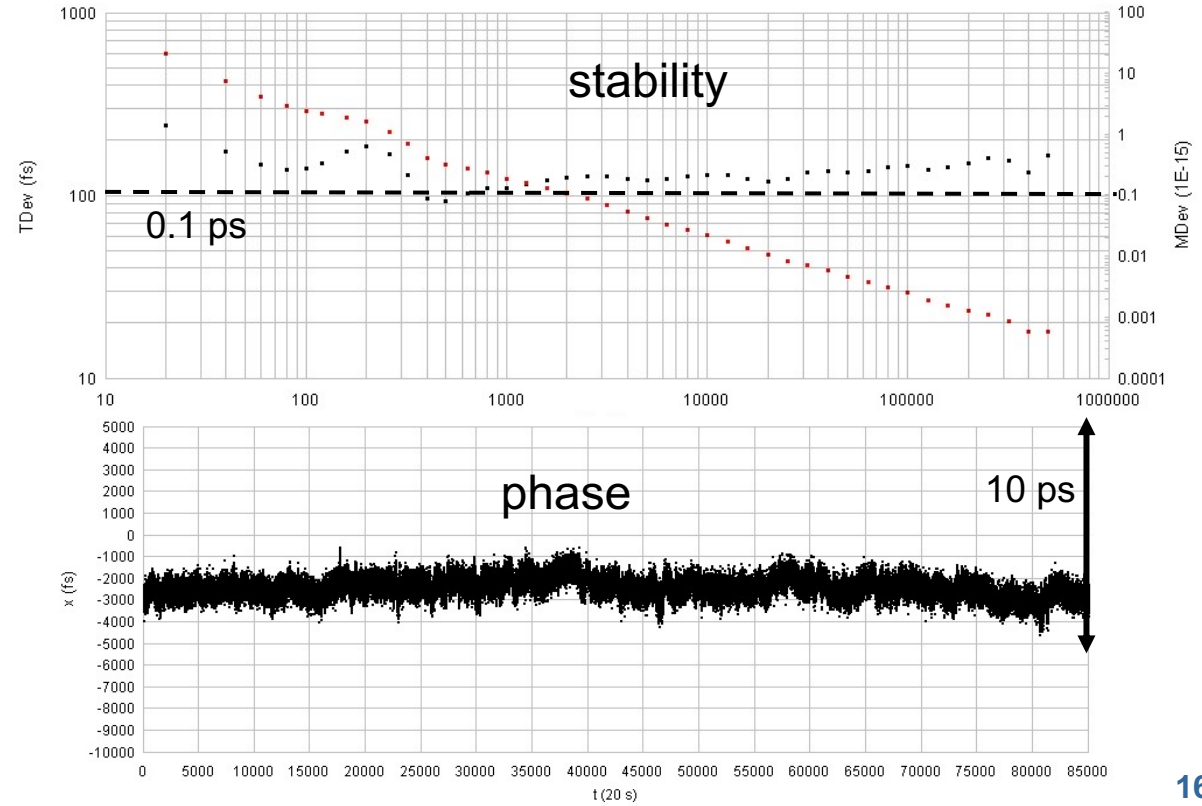


STS101 Distribution



STS201 Distribution

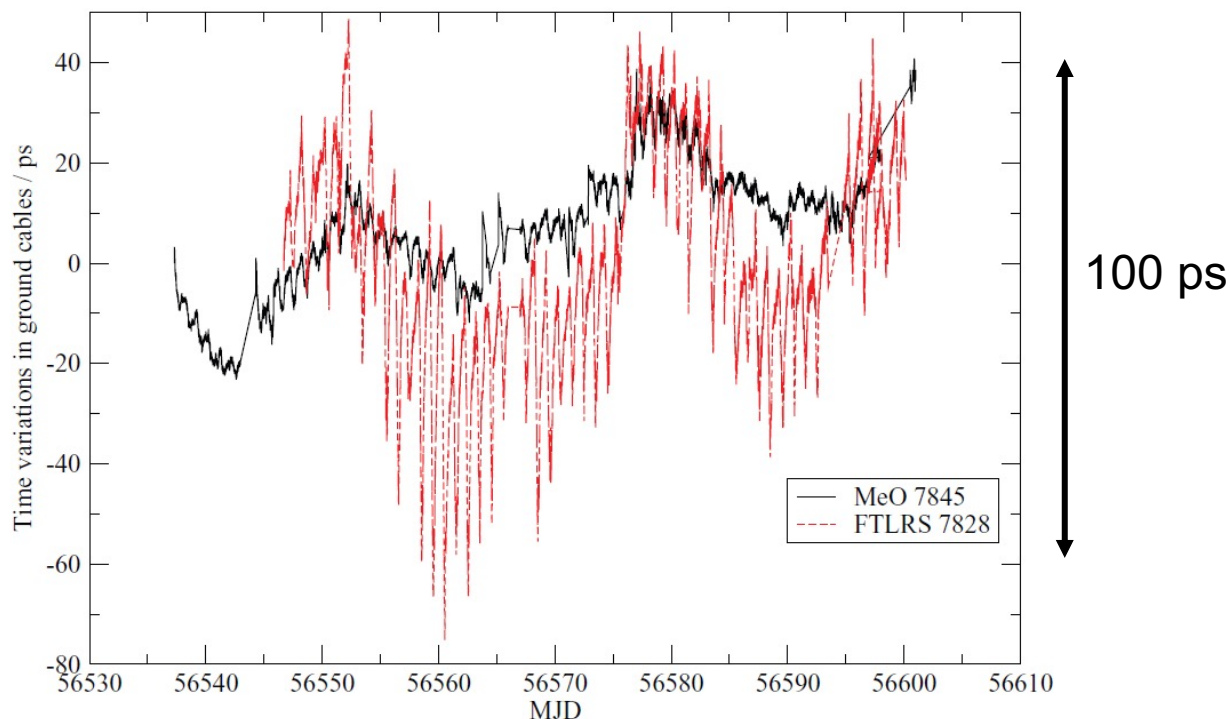
- STS distribution from CNES-T2L2 experiment
- In operation for SLR but not for the other geodetic techniques







### 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons



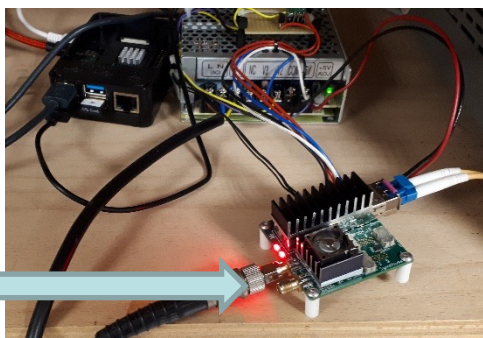
**Figure 1.** Monitoring of the time variations (in ps) of signals in ground cables from the SLR station to the local clock distribution reference point at OP (in red: FTLRS 7828) and in OCA (in black: MeO 7845), based on Sigma Time STS time signal generators. The correlation between plots is almost certainly due to similar weather conditions despite the distance between both stations.



### 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons

Evolution vers un système fibré basé sur des SFP en collaboration avec SigmaWorks

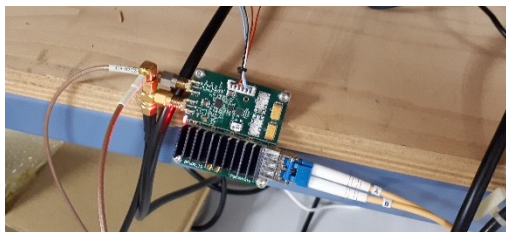
Input  
Signal  
single ou  
P/N pair



Fiber  
RX/TX pair



Output  
Signal  
single ou  
P/N pair

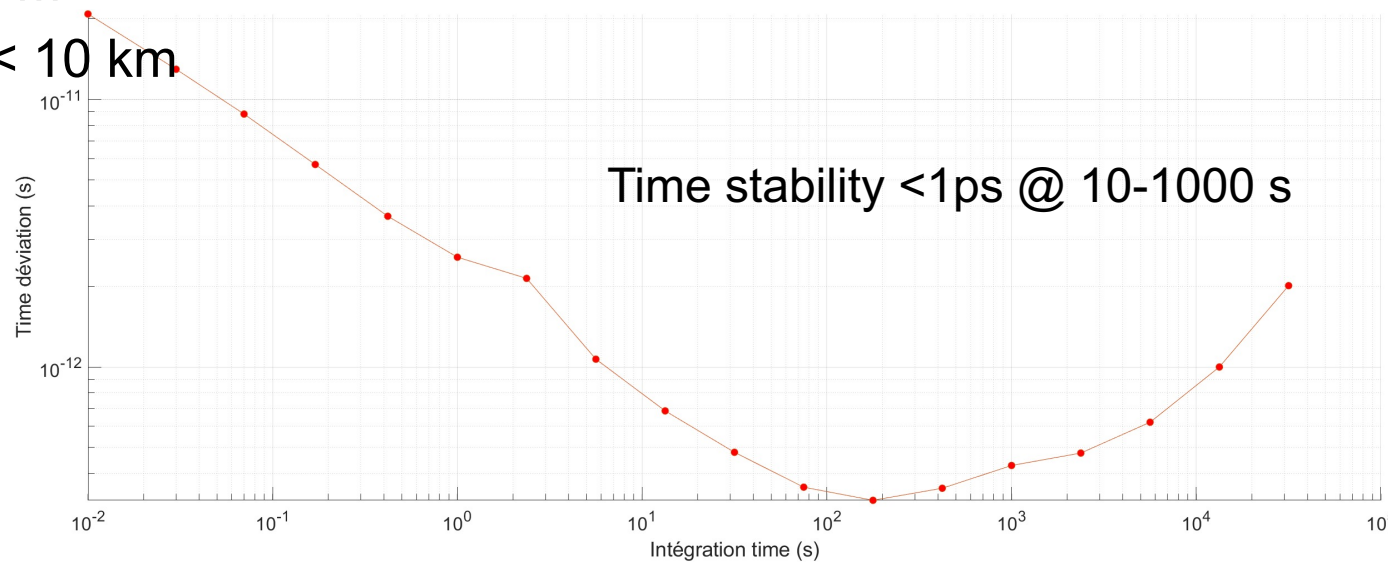
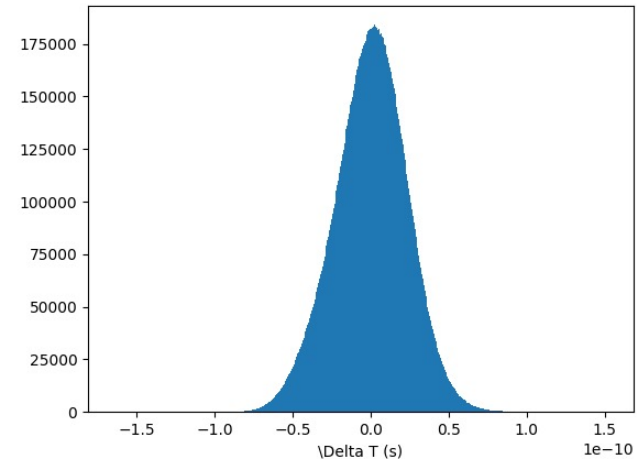


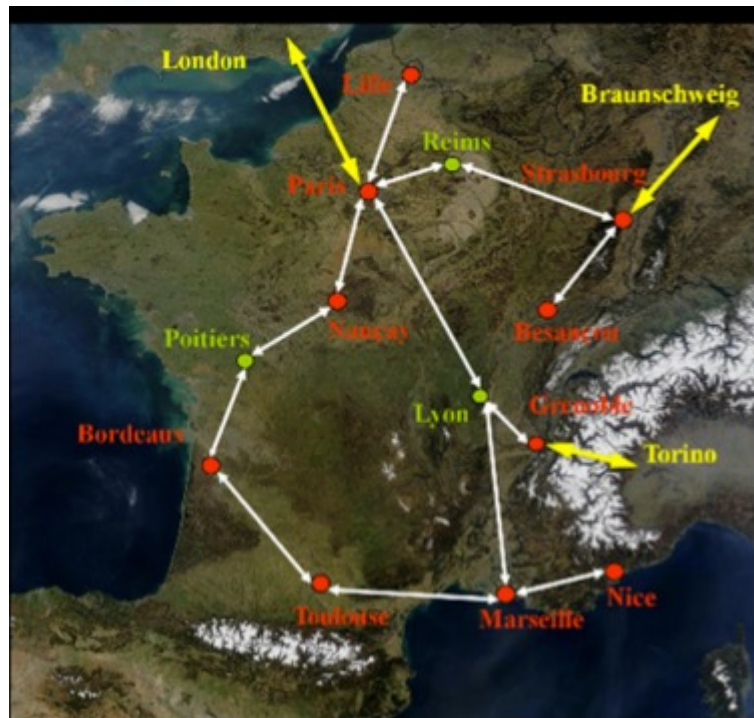
 **SigmaWorks**  
etienne.samain@sigmaworks.fr

# 3. Distribution de l'échelle de temps locale et comparaisons

- Cadence des signaux max : 5 MHz
- Incertitude : < 5 ps RMS
- Stabilité : < 10 ps @ 1000 s
- Déclenchement sur front de monté
- Durée des pulses : quelques dizaines de ns
- Nombre de canal : 1
- Distance min : 1 m
- Distance max : < 10 km

Standart deviation ~23ps RMS

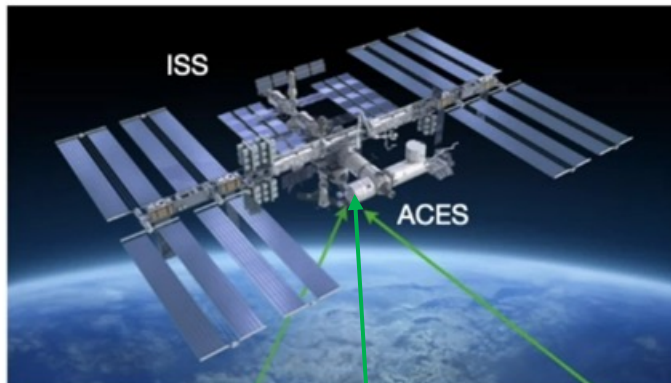




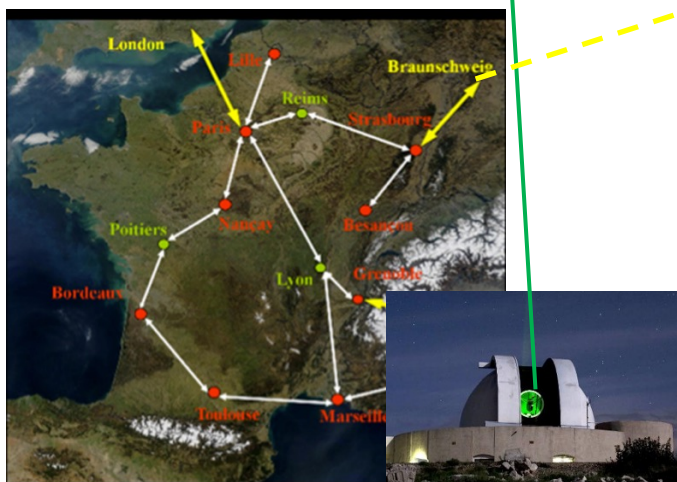
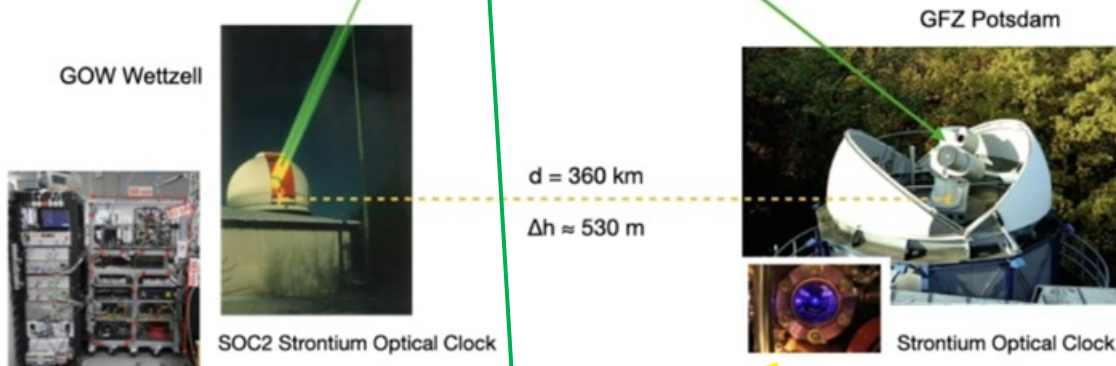
The Refimeve signal (ultra stable optical frequency through the fiber network) **should arrived at OCA-Calern in 1-2 years**

We have a co-fund from Refimeve for the acquisition of a comb (120k€) => we are looking for a second co-fund !

# Possible idea ?



Courtesy from Ulrich Schreiber, Virtual ILRS meeting 2023



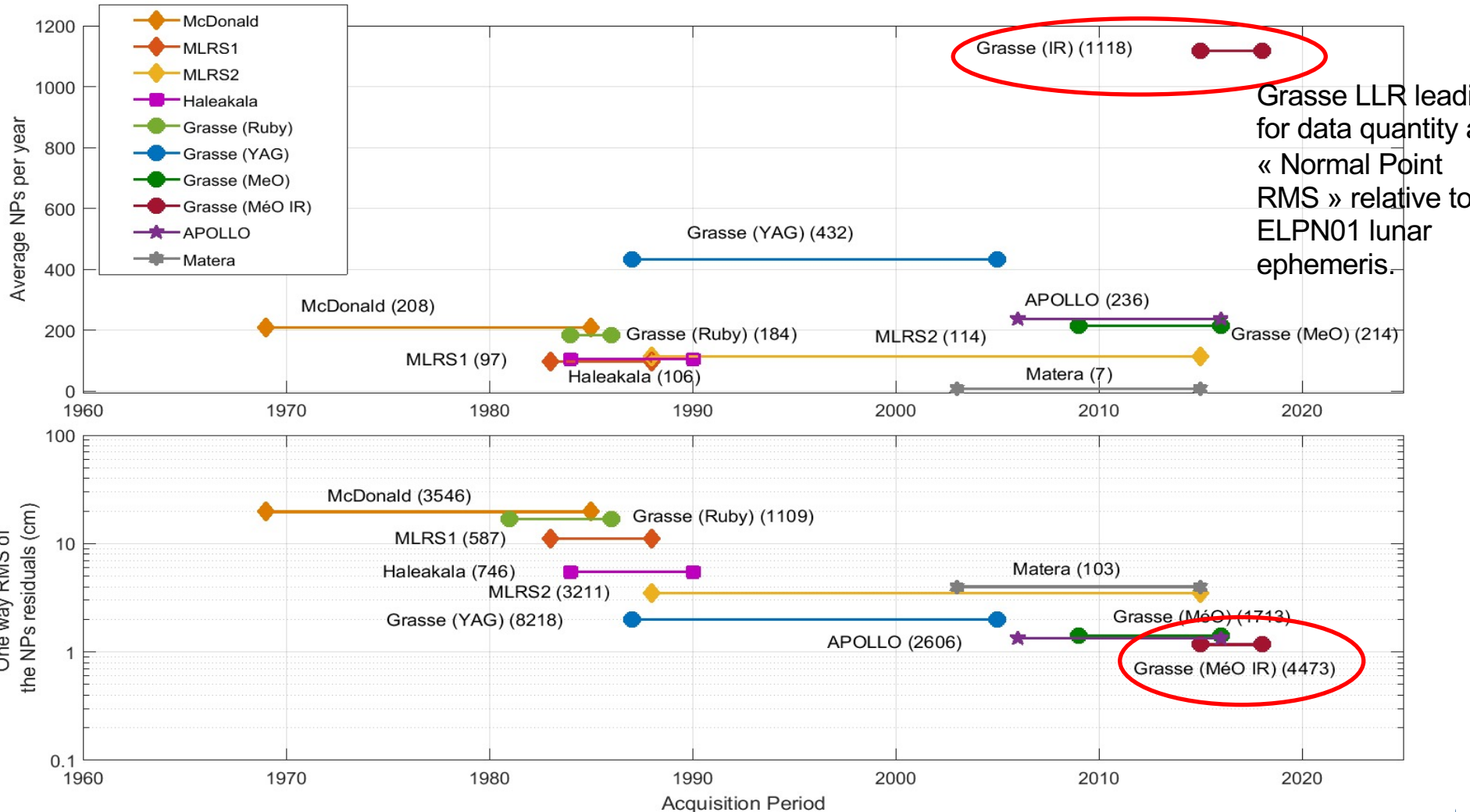
**With Refimeve link and/or mobile optical clock installed @OCA ?**

- Sr optical clock comparison with ACES and with a fiber link between Braunschweig-OP-OCA
- comparison between TWSTFT and mobile MWL



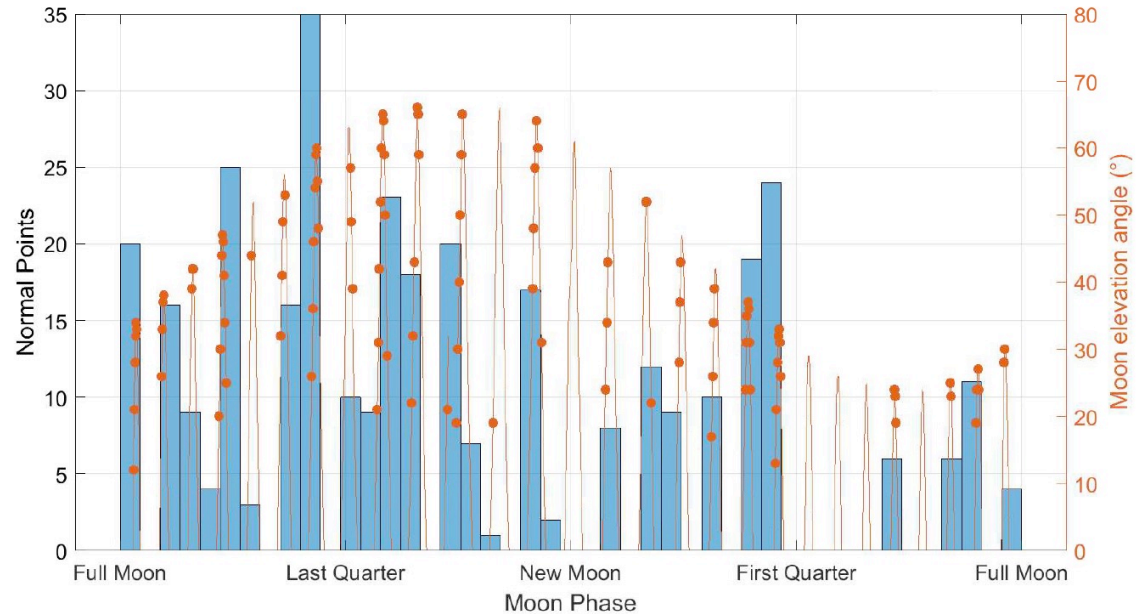
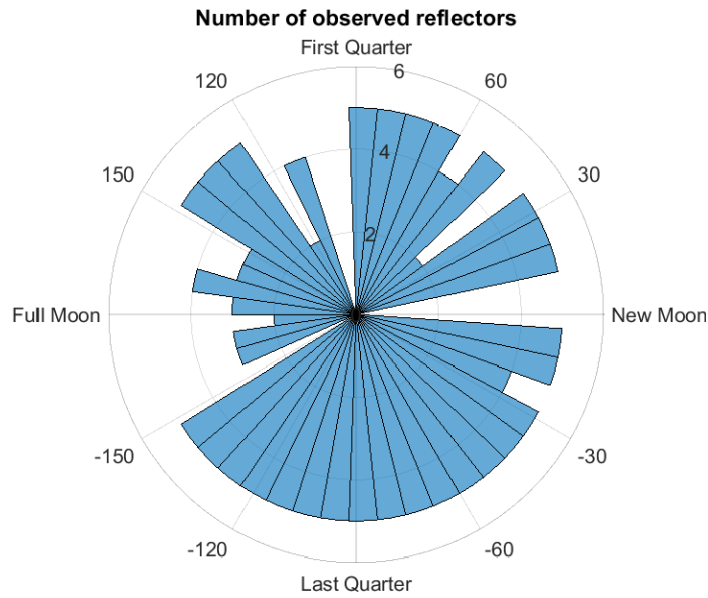
# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

## Installation photodétection IR en 2015





# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR



- Observation at any point of the lunar cycle
- First full and continuous cycle observation in 2018
- Link Budget greatly improved thanks to IR and new optical tuning of the MéO telescope : multi-photon return from the Moon !!

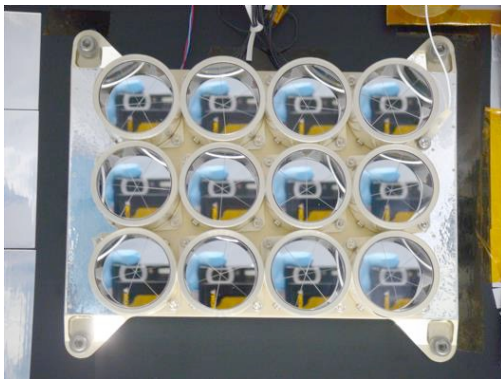
# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

## Interplanetary links with spatial probes

**Grasse-MéO is the only one station in the world to have succeeded on:**

- Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter LRO-NASA-> 2 ways ranging
- Hayabusa2 – 2 x one-way ranging at 6.5 Mkm

Same as Apollo XI and XIV



- 12 solid corner cubes, 31.7mm diameter
- Materials Suprasil cubes, Al frame
- Mass 650.25g
- Volume: 15 x 18 x 5 cm<sup>3</sup>
- Operating temperature range : -150 to +30°C  
Thermally isolated from spacecraft
- Tested for 14-g vibration
- Optical characteristics:
  - 90° dihedral angle (unspoiled)
  - Total internal reflection (bk uncoated)
  - AR coating on top surface

cnrs University of Cote d'Azur, France  
CNRS Cote d'Azur Observatory



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# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

## Perspectives for LLR

### Next Generation RetroReflector:

mono corner-cube instead of panel  
=> Ranging Accuracy Improved by a factor of 100

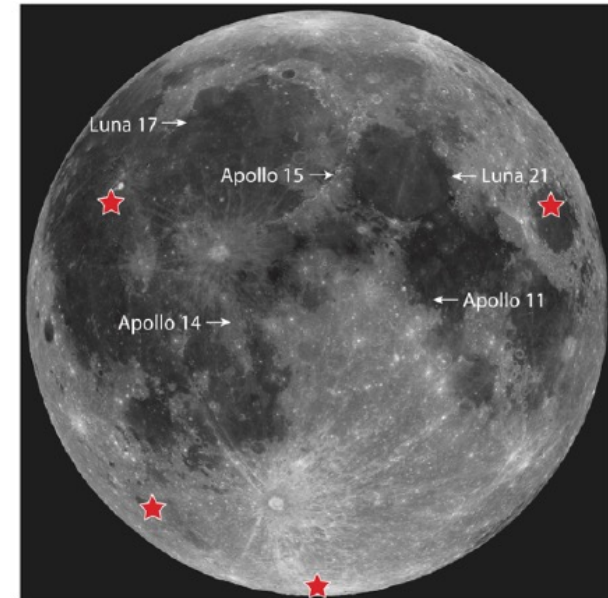
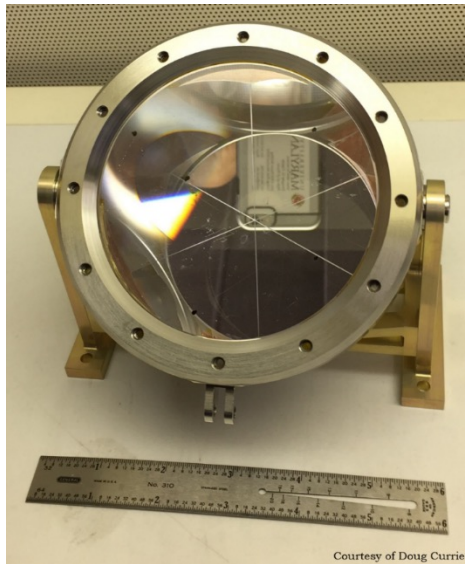


Figure 1: Existing LRA locations (labelled by mission) and possible locations (star) for future retroreflector deployment.

Vishnu Viswanathan et al., Extending Science from Lunar Laser Ranging, White paper,



# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

Old LLR laser : Quantel/BMI

Seeder :  
Nd:YAG pumped by flash, Mode-locking AOM + SESAM, 10Hz, 150 ps FWHM, 1 mJ/pulse @ 1064nm

Amplification : Nd:YAG pumped by flash ( $\Phi$  7mm,  $\Phi$  9mm,  $\Phi$  12mm) = 300 mJ/pulse @ 1064 nm, 10Hz



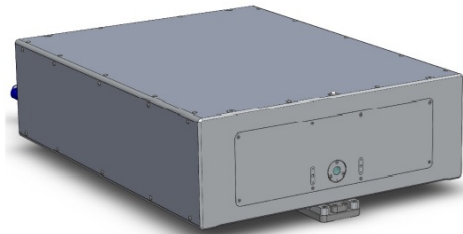
# 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR

Reception of a Coherent  
HyperRapid laser in 2020

With the support of



**New laser for ACES-ELT**

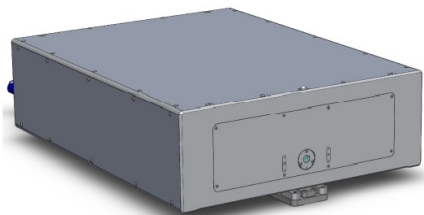


10 ps FWHM ; 50 W @532 nm @400 kHz => 125 mW @1kHz ; Adjustable pulse repetition rate between 1Hz to 4 MHz

	Specification	Measurement
Beam Quality Parameter $M^2$	$\leq 1.3$	1.11
Beam divergence, full angle (mrad)	$\leq 1$	0.72
Beam diameter, 1 m in front of laser (mm)	N/A	2.4
Beam circularity, 1 m in front of laser (%)	$\geq 85$	97.9
Average power (W)	100W	101.0
Average power stability over 8 hours, within +/- 1°C, RMS 1 $\sigma$ (%)	$\leq 1\%$	0.48
Pulse energy max ( $\mu$ J)	250 $\mu$ J	252
Pulse-to-pulse energy stability over 1000 pulses, RMS 1 $\sigma$ (%)	$\leq 2\%$	0.90
Pulse length, IR (ps)	$\leq 15$	10.3
Central Wavelength @ 1064 nm [nm]	1064	1064.1
Spectral Emission bandwidth @ 1064 nm	N/A	205pm
Temperature max Power 1064nm	N/A	42.5



# New instrumentation for high count rate telemetry



New laser in 2020 : 100W 10ps FWHM @400kHz



New SPAD in 2015 for 532nm (@1MHz) & 1064nm (@100kHz)

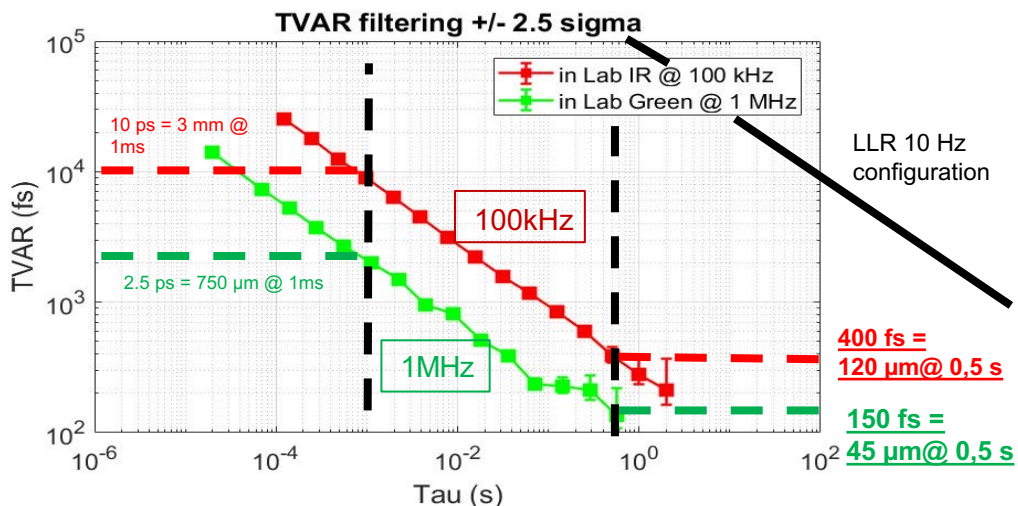


Aperture sharing in 2021

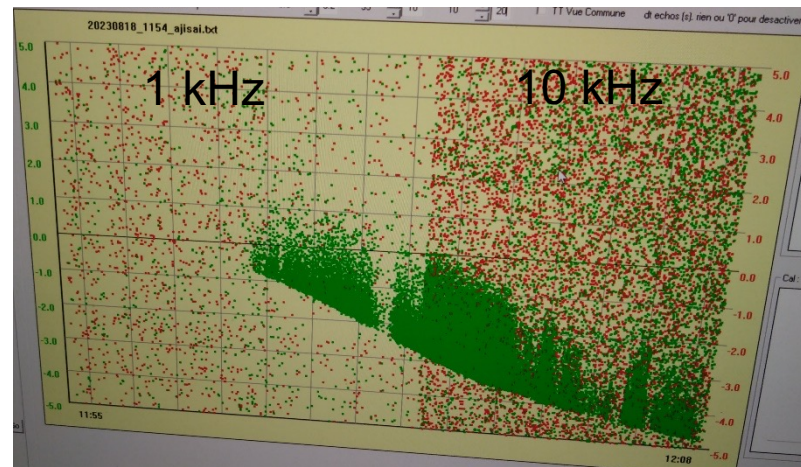


High count rate event timer (SigmaWorks)

## Performances on ground



## Example of data on Ajisai



With the support of

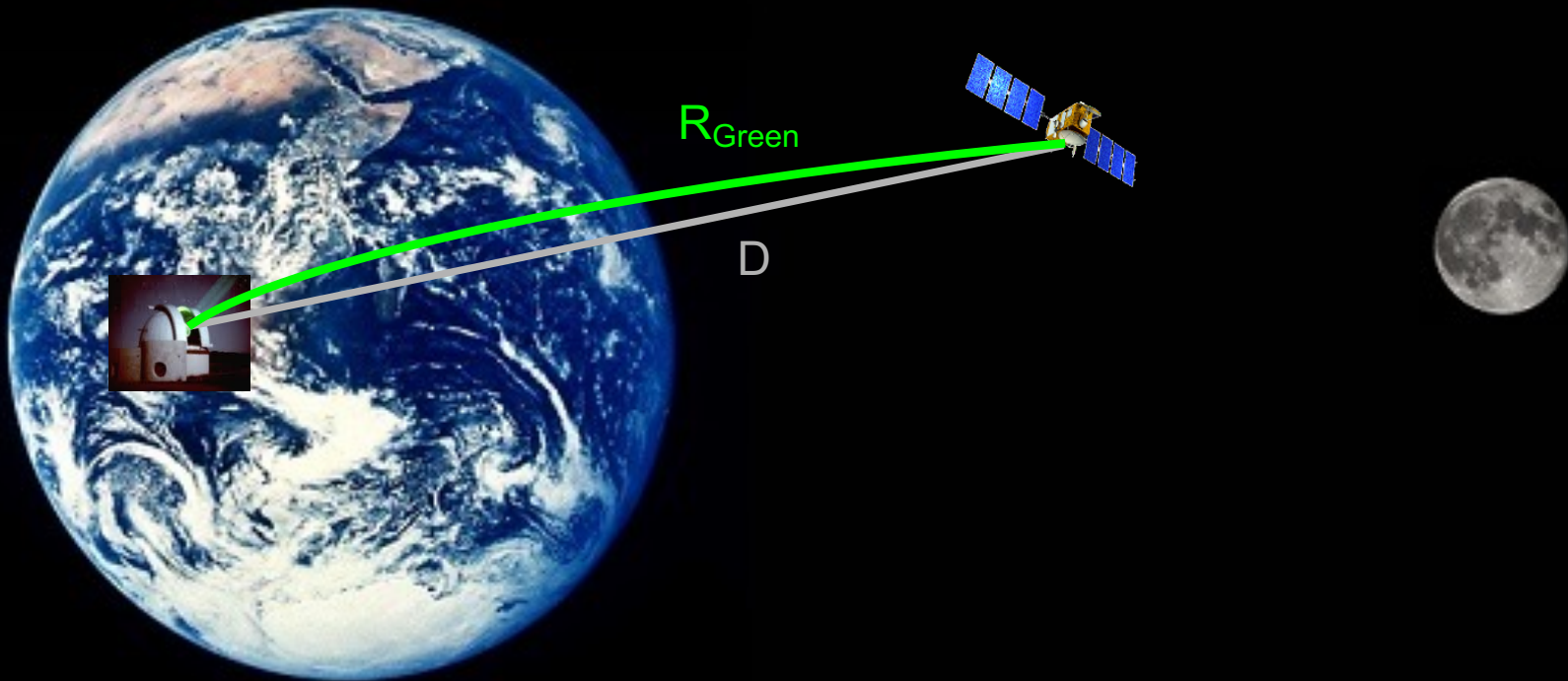


## 4. Amélioration de la métrologie SLR/LLR Accuracy for SLR

Currently:

$$2D = R_{Green} \quad \text{with} \quad R_{Green} = \frac{(t_{return} - t_{start}) \cdot c_0}{n(\lambda, T, Pv, Pa, CO_2)}$$

Unknown parameter  
=> uncertainty at the cm level





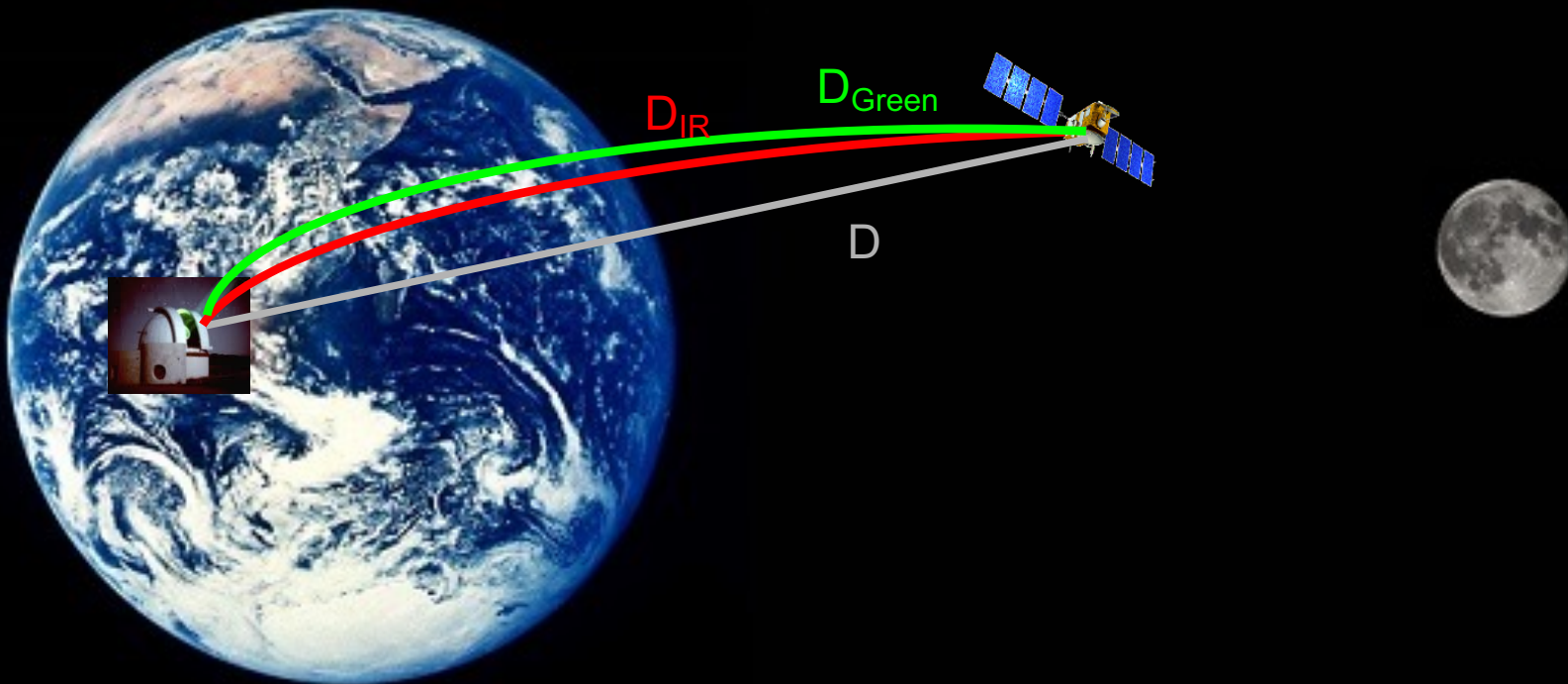
## Our motivation:

**2 colors measurement at the mm level**

$$D = D_{Green} + A (D_{Green} - D_{IR})$$

=>

Requires an high improvement of the time-of-flight measurement on the both wavelength.



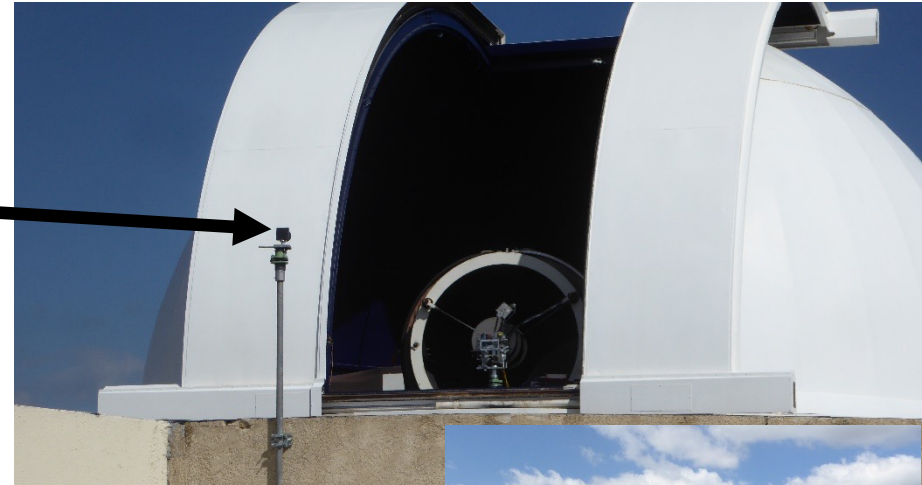
**Objectives :**

Compare the Arpent long range distance meter developed by LNE-CNAM (sub-mm accuracy) to the new two-colour SLR setup at GRSM and to the tie done by IGN



Distant corner cube

2587.402 meters



Close corner cube

ARPENT laser telemeter in front of the GRSM telescope

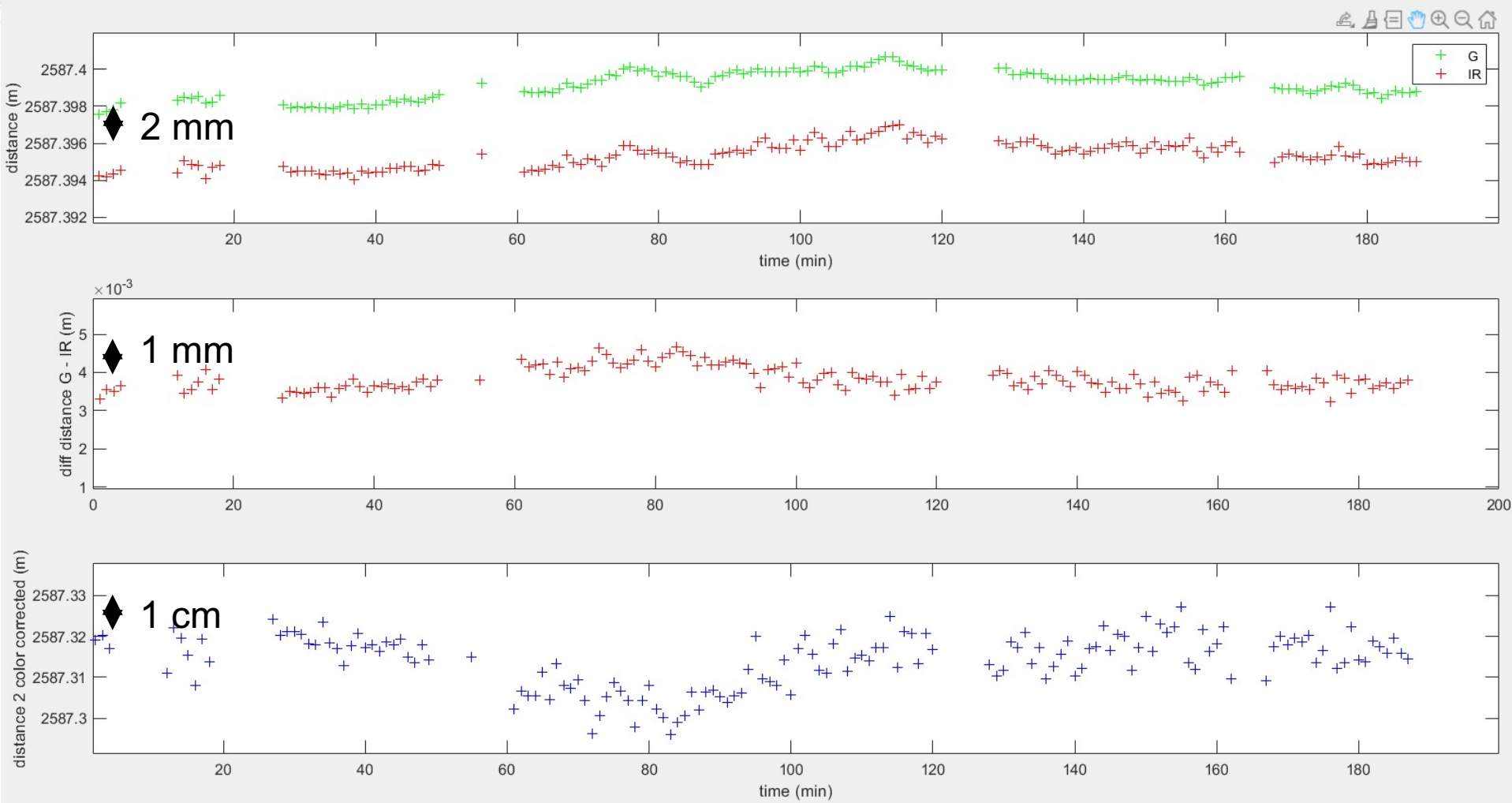
**2 experiments in september 2022:**

- 1) Relative distance measurement between two corner cubes with 2 different 2-colour instruments
- 2) Displacement over 1 cm and back with mm steps



# Geometre project

2-colour computation with CIDDOR, for day 22nd september

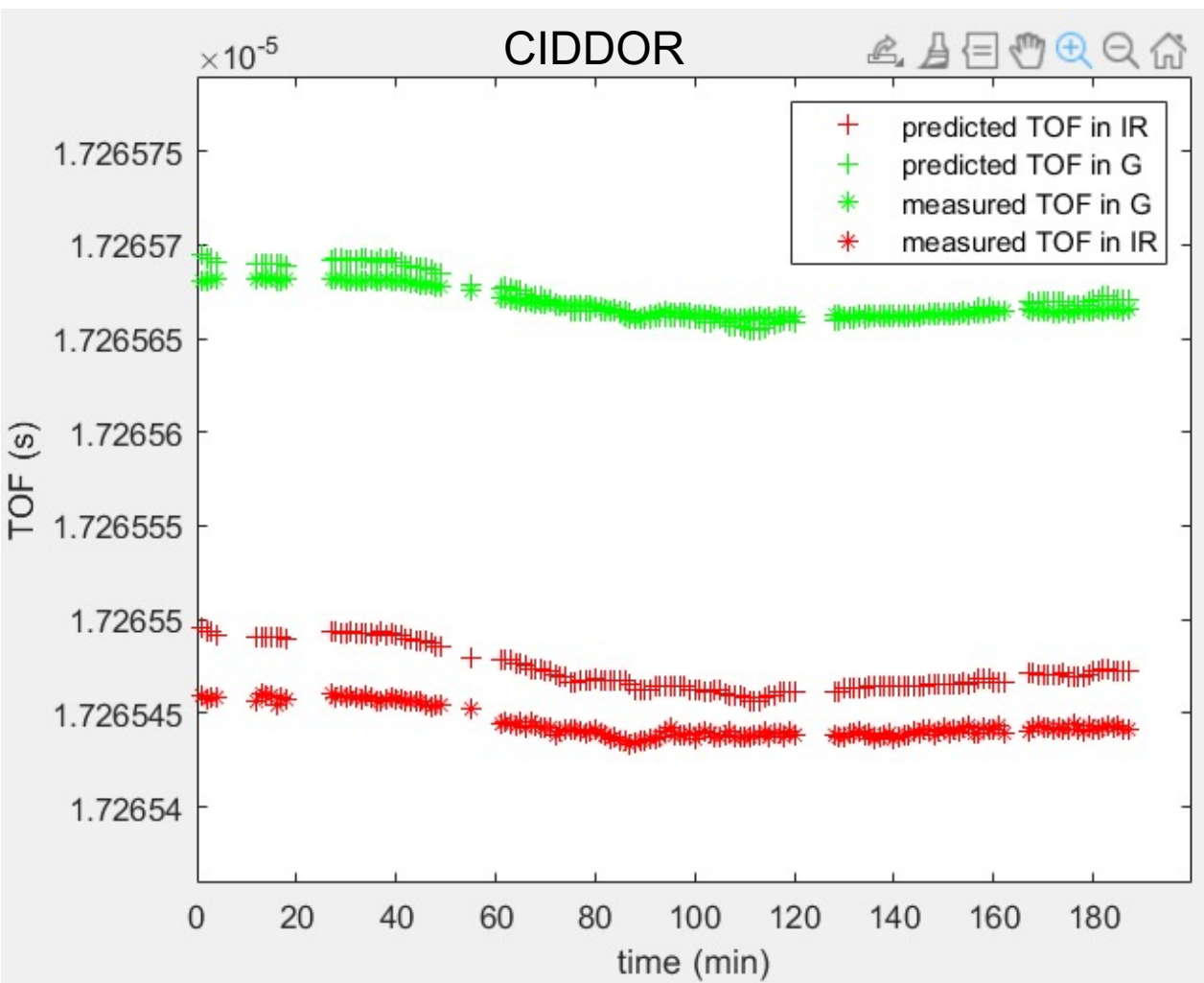




# Geometre project

Comparison between measured & predicted TOF for day 22nd september

Predicted TOF computed with  $D=2587.3996$  m



Good concordance  
between measured &  
predicted TOF in G

Bias between measured &  
predicted TOF in IR



# Geometre project

Day 22nd september, with CIDDOR

Sampling (1 min)	A (Ciddor)	Distance_G	Distance_IR	D_2color
Mean (m)	-22.18	2587.3992	2587.3954	<b>2587.314</b>
Std (m)	15E-3	0.7E-3	0.7E-3	<b>6.6E-3</b>

In G, concordance with CNAM&IGN @ 0.4 mm

In IR, concordance with CNAM&IGN @ 4.2 mm  
Bias with one mirror found

2color @ 10 kHz doesn't reach accuracy at mm level.

We hope to be close to the mm accuracy by operating at 400 kHz (2024)



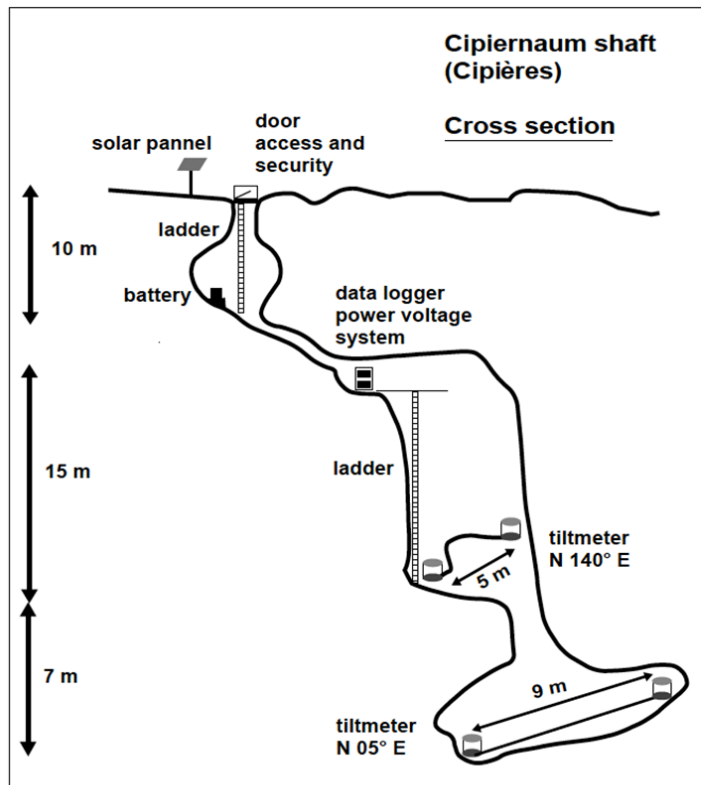
# CONCLUSION

- 1) l'Observatoire multi-techniques de Calern présente un certain nombre d'avantages
  - 3 des 4 techniques de géodésie spatiale rattachées et partageant une même échelle de temps
  - Tirs laser sur la Lune => EOP + lien ITRF-ICRF
  - Amélioration métrologique du SLR vers le mm
  
- 2) Sans soutien financier aux infrastructures sol => qualité métrologique des données ne sera pas atteinte ! Le financement sous forme de projet ne permet pas de répondre aux besoins d'infrastructures (exemple horloge H-MASER =500k€ ; Laser-Lune-TT = entre 500 k€ et 2,5M€) => impossible à financer par les ANR, APR-CNES, R&T, CSAA-INSU

**Thanks for your attention**



# Remise en fonction de l'inclinomètre longue base de cipiernaum



**En fonction entre 2007 et 2009**

- ✓ lien entre déformation et flux hydriques au niveau du plateau de Calern
- ✓ signal induit par composante hydrologique profonde et superficielle

**En cours de remise en fonctionnement**

