

Concluding remarks

Very Long Baseline Interferometry plays a unique and fundamental role in the maintenance of the global (terrestrial and celestial) reference frames and in monitoring the Earth orientation parameters, which are required for precise positioning and navigation on Earth and in space. Furthermore, very valuable information on various time scales can be obtained about several other parameters needed for the investigation of phenomena such as meteorological and climatologic changes, and geodynamical or astronomical effects. Thus, geodetic VLBI is essential for the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), the flagship component of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The IVS has served this task very successfully in the past, and with the upcoming VLBI2010 concept, it is advancing to a bright and challenging future.

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