

# Reference Frame in Practice Workshop 2A

#### A template for the development of a modernised geodetic infrastructure in Pacific Island states

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## Workshop presentation overview

What is geodetic infrastructure used for?
Monumentation and CORS
Network Design and Observations
Data processing and Adjustment
Modelling
Products for Users



# What is geodetic infrastructure used for?

- Cadastral (including customary land) surveys define land ownership
- Engineering surveys (roads, ports, construction, mining, oil & gas, exploration)
- Topographic Mapping & DEM (LiDar ground control and imagery control)
- Asset Mapping (e.g. GIS surveys, general features, villages, street map, TLS)
- Hazard & environmental monitoring (volcanoes, landslides, subsidence)
- Plate tectonics, seismic deformation
- Sea level change (e.g. monitoring elevation and stability of Tide Gauges)
- Contribution to global and regional geodesy (e.g. GGOS, IGS, APREF)







#### **Monumentation** – Evaluate existing infrastructure

Identify existing primary control stations and levelled benchmarks from earlier survey networks

(e.g. trig stations)

(assess for accessibility, stability, GNSS (sky visibility), utility and proximity to development, cadastral connections)

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AGD66 trilateration network, Morobe Province, PNG



#### **Monumentation** – Augment existing infrastructure

Construct new primary geodetic stations at useful places like airports, port facilities (tide gauges), government offices, schools, playing fields, meteorological stations, resource sector camps (secure locations with no land ownership issues and good sky visibility)



Kiunga, Base station, Western Province, Papua New Guinea





#### **Monumentation** – Establish CORS

(continuously operating GNSS stations) in main towns and development areas to support RTK/NRTK and local static GNSS surveys. (Consider RTK and static range limitations, mobile network coverage for NTRIP, power supply and UPS backup)



COCO Cocos Islands IGS/ ARGN/ APREF pillar Indian Ocean Australia



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## **Monumentation** – Tectonic Monitoring

Dense network of geotechnically stable geodetic monuments on either side of plate boundary or active fault zone.

Consider optimum geometry for modelling.

Regular network of stations within rigid portion of plate to enable inversion of plate model.

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Southern New Ireland, Papua New Guinea geodynamic monitoring network





#### **Monumentation** – Tectonic Monitoring & sea level



Siting of monitoring stations around each tectonic plate and boundary zone

Tide Gauges well spaced around coastline away from river mouths.







# Direct measurement of seismic deformation



Mw8.0 Weitin Fault earthquake, New Ireland, Papua New Guinea 16<sup>th</sup> November 2000 (Tregoning, ANU)





# Other geodetic networks – hazard monitoring

Volcano monitoring networks

Subsidence zones

(e.g. Above underground mining operations, coalseam gas extraction, groundwater and aquifer abstraction)

Landslide monitoring

Localised deformation monitoring





#### **Co-location with other geodetic sensors**

DORIS Beacon (IDS Network) Satellite Laser Ranging?

VLBI?

Co-location has very significant benefits for global geodesy and ITRF



Port Moresby DORIS and APREF CORS Papua New Guinea GNSS Antenna APREF GNSS Network

Tie and stability check RM (preferably should be instrument pillar)



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#### **Contribution to global and regional networks**



#### **ITRF (including IGS )**

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#### **APREF (including SPSLCMP)**

(regional densification of ITRF)





## **Choice of monument construction**

#### considerations:

Cost & availability of materials longevity and stability of monument

Risk of vanadlism (e.g. theft of brass plaques!)

Deep footings and reinforcement if possible

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#### **Brass Plaque**



#### Stainless steel bolt



#### Star Picket



#### Galvanised Iron Pipe







## **Geodetic pillars**

#### considerations:

Ideal for mining and CORS tie monitoring (already centred for total stations and GNSS antennas)

Easily located (of course!)

Requires especially deep and robust footings and reinforcement

FIG Commission 5 Position and Measurement United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management – Asia Pacific Lihir Pillar New Ireland PNG









## **Choice of monument siting**

Sky view for GNSS observations (under trees is no good!)

Utility – e.g. Is it within range of working area for reliable L1 fixed solution? Intervisibility with other stations for total station use

Risk of destruction – located away from possible earthworks or construction, vehicles.

Stability of site – On contiguous bedrock – not floaters!

Avoid clay or deep soils, slopes, edges – requires very deep footings.





#### **Stability of stations!**



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#### **CORS** monuments – good enough?

#### **Roof or tower antenna mount limitations:**

Unstable structure?

Strong winds (e.g. cyclones) can induce wind shear deformation Thermal expansion of structure (e.g. steel tower)

**Best construction is a low concrete pillar** with very deep footings and reinforcement - tied to bedrock. Requires long curing time.

Consider sky visibility and multipath (remove young trees nearby)





## Stability monitoring of primary control / CORS

local RM network, low pillars, duplication (redundancy) at common sites, stability of tide gauges. Redundancy RMs at > 50 m to monitor site stability.

Azimuth RMs to support terrestrial surveys (e.g. cadastral and construction)

> 100 m from station

Azimuth RM



RM2

RM1

Pillar

Reference pins

RM3

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#### **Reference Marks and Witness Posts**

RMs especially important to verify stability of primary mark (and recovery of main mark if disturbed or vandalised). Constructed to similar standard to main mark (e.g. iron pin in concrete)

Best located within 5 m of main mark and concealed slightly below ground level. 3 marks in a triangle around mark.

Witness post ideally within 50 cm of station. e.g. star picket or galvanised pipe set in concrete. Also consider windsocks at airports (> 5 m away), rugby goal posts (beyond dead ball line to avoid broken ankles), basketball posts.





# **Considerations for siting of Tide gauges**

Tide Gauges sited away from river mouths – areas of strong wave action or currents

Lower precision sea surface measurements are still useful especially if made over the full tidal cycle (e.g. by lowering levelling staff or tape from jetty edge)

Updated MDT (of the sea) model from satellite altimetry can also be used





#### Tide Gauge – monitoring network (1)

Human Tide Gauge!



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#### Tide Gauge – monitoring network (2)



Considerations: Subsidence and disturbance to wharf Slipping of tide gauge zero mark over time – damage Important to have nearby BM on bed-rock away from wharf FIG Commission 5 Position and Measurement United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management – Asia Pacific





# **Observations – Choice of equipment**

#### **GNSS** sensors:

- L1 only limited to 10-15 km for fixed solution or so (cheaper)
- L1/L2, L1/L5 anywhere on the Earth (more expensive)
- GPS only, GPS + Glonass, GPS + Galileo,
- Beidou(Compass), QZSS .....
- Carrier-phase processing not yet fully interoperable
- (so multi-GNSS of limited value for static GNSS)
- e.g. GPS only fixed solution + Glonass only float solution





# **Choice of equipment considerations**

It's not just about price!

Does the equipment have a good warranty and reputation?

Use a local supplier for warranty and ex- warranty support & repairs – even if it costs more.

(air freight is expensive!)

Is the equipment robust (water proof) for Pacific conditions?

Do other organisations nearby have similar equipment?

Remote area extras: external batteries and cables, spares

Ongoing equipment maintenance budget.





# **Configuring GNSS for static observations**

Does GNSS receiver have a RINEX logging option?

(If not requires software to convert binary observation and nav file to RINEX)

Log all observables (pseudorange, carrier-phase, doppler, SNR)

Choice of epoch interval for data logging:

1 second (Hz) for real-time surveys (e.g. IGS met, LiDar, RTK)

10 seconds (Hz) for rapid-static surveys (< 2 hrs)

30 seconds (Hz) for daily solutions and ITRF connection





# **GNSS Observations for fiducial network**

4 hours of dual-frequency carrier-phase GPS observations can provide 15 mm precision in ITRF (30 mm for ellipsoidal height)

Ideally CORS for continuous measurement! Or campaign style observations:

For fiducial network recommend multi-day observations

(e.g. 2 day or 4 day to moderate unmodelled ocean-tide loading effects – affects vertical precision)

Repeat observations every six months for two to four (or more) years

in order to model station time series in ITRF and average out seasonal (annual) deformation signals e.g. draconitic effect, hydrological loading

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# **GNSS Observations for 2<sup>nd</sup> order network**

GNSS base station running over fiducial station

GNSS rover stations running at stations within radius of 30 km in order to optimise observation time and minimise tropospheric modelling errors.

Observation time 15 minutes to 2 hours depending upon baseline length, Satellite geometry (GDOP), availability and observing conditions (e.g. longer obs required if station near trees or buildings)

Three receivers running concurrently provides baseline loop closure check. Unchecked baseline radiations are dangerous.





## **GNSS observations on older datum stations**

Important for estimating transformation between old and new datums to enable legacy spatial data (e.g. Topographic and cadastral plans) to be transformed accurately to a new datum.

Observe dense network in urban areas for high precision estimation (and evaluation) of parameters.

Locate bench marks (with local height datum) in order to estimate offset between geoid model and local height datum surface.





### **GNSS network (with two receivers)**



First set of radiations from central base station







## **GNSS** network (with two receivers)



Second set of radiations from central base station





## **GNSS** network (with two receivers)



#### Network of closed loops





## **GNSS** network (optimum geometry)



Sufficient redundancy and geometry improvement with additional baseline measurements





# Antenna height measurements

## some care needed!

Important checks:

Centering of antenna over station mark

(calibrated optical plummet, plumb-bob check)

Threaded pillar is ideal

Double checking of height measurement start and end of observations with different tapes (use different observers).

Careful note of what is measured on log sheet – also antenna part number

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## **Reduction of slant height measurements**

In most instances Antenna Reference Point (ARP) is required for data processing (ARP is usually lowest point on antenna body)

$$A = \sqrt{S^2 - R^2} - O$$

Most common error with GNSS heighting arises from using measured slant height as ARP height & selecting wrong antenna type







# **Other geodetic measurements**

Total station measurements for site ties, RM surveys,

observations to geodetic control (especially legacy control) under trees. EDM calibration baselines

**Important considerations:** using realistic atmospheric corrections in EDM equipment (e.g. atmospheric pressure and temperature – especially important for long EDM measurements and at higher elevations). 90 ppm correction typical at 3000 metre elevation.

Verify prism constant

Levelling ties at tide gauges to monitor stability.

Sea level measurements at tide gauges





# Data processing and adjustment - (1) Choice of software

Can the software do dual-frequency carrier-phase processing?

Can software do network adjustment with weighting options?

Does software support projected coordinates, geoid models?

Can software use IGS precise orbits?

Are different troposheric and ocean-tide loading models selectable? Multiple licences for field use – support agreement indefinite?

Bernese software (GNSS) – widely used and supported – expensive \$\$\$\$

**RTKLIB** – open source

**GAMIT/GLOBK (GPS)** – less well used, not so user-friendly – but free!

Trimble Business Centre, Leica GO, Topcon Tools – user friendly - \$\$



#### Data processing and adjustment AUSPOS Relatively painle

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**Relatively painless** method of data processing! -Uses Bernese engine It's free! ITRF2008 coordinates EGM2008 elevation & uncertainty 5 hours data -> 15 mm Hor. & 30 mm Vert. Wait 3+ days for IGS Rapid orbit





# Choice of reference frame for GNSS data

ITRF at mean epoch of measurement!

Overcomes adverse effects of unmodelled localised deformation and plate rotation between reference epoch and epoch of measurement

Convert to local frame/datum after adjustment.





# Model station time-series in ITRF to estimate site velocity & reference epoch

Recommended approach for local datum reference epoch:

Choose epoch near end of timeseries.

1<sup>st</sup> January (e.g. 2003.0)

Consider reference epochs of adjoining jurisdictions

Unwise to choose epoch too far the future – unless seismic activity and deformation are predictable!

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Select reference epoch for local frame (datum) determination

e.g. 2003.0





# **Develop site velocity (deformation) model**

Enables ITRF coordinates at epoch to be propagated to another epoch (e.g. local datum reference epoch) to model out underlying plate motion.

Alternatively a rigid plate model, 14 parameter, 6 parameter or block shift rate can be derived (e.g. for smaller islands in Pacific located away from plate boundaries)

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# Estimate seismic offsets in time series

Gridded patch models of seismic deformation (including postseismic) Used in conjunction with linear (interseismic) deformation model.

If postseismic decay is significant, a gridded model of decay coefficients may be required









## **Develop quasigeoid to fit observed MSL**



Offsets between observed MSL and EGM2008 can be interpolated (e.g. by kriging) and a quasigeoid computed by adding offsets to EGM2008 N values Other technique – using model of MDT (ocean topography) from altimetry





#### **Difference between MSL and EGM2008**



Technical University of Denmark – National Space Institute

UN-GGIM-AP FIG

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### **Geodetic Adjustment**







# Develop Map Grid related to datum and ellipsoid

UTM typically has large scale factors due to 6 deg wide zone Often not suitable for cadastral mapping and engineering surveys

Options for best fitting projection to keep scale factors close to 1.00000 Selecting projection surface to coincide with mean elevation of region Local Transverse Mercator (LTM) (good for most jurisdictions) – Projection can be designed so that LTM bearings are aligned with underlying UTM grid brgs. Stereographic Projection – Good for large square / circular regions Lamberts Conformal Conic – Good for higher latitude E-W shaped regions FIG Commission 5 Position and Measurement United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management – Asia Pacific



# Compute transformation parameters from old datums

Least squares estimation of transformation parameters by analysis of new datum and old datum coordinates.

Requires robust filtering strategy (e.g. L1 Norm) to isolate "rogue" coordinates and undocumented adjustment and realisation differences.

7-parameter model is the standard approach, but also 3-parameter (small data sets) and distortion grids (e.g. NTv2) Need to provide parameters to GIS developers (e.g. ESRI and MapInfo) EPSG and other custodians of transformation parameters





#### **Dynamic datums and data** – not a nice marriage!



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# Promulgation of Datum definition, coordinates, station summaries etc.

Publish datum technical specifications on the web

Station maps, coordinate lists, uncertainties /VCV and station diagrams on web

Online portal for Rinex data from CORS

Subscription access to RT data streaming (e.g. RTK, NTRIP)

New Zealand has a particularly good model for dissemination of geodetic data to users





#### **Example of datum access (New Zealand)**

Location Diagram

Antenna info

#### Web-page for data





#### **Datum access – PNG example**

#### Using Google Earth







## **Thank You! - Vinaka**

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