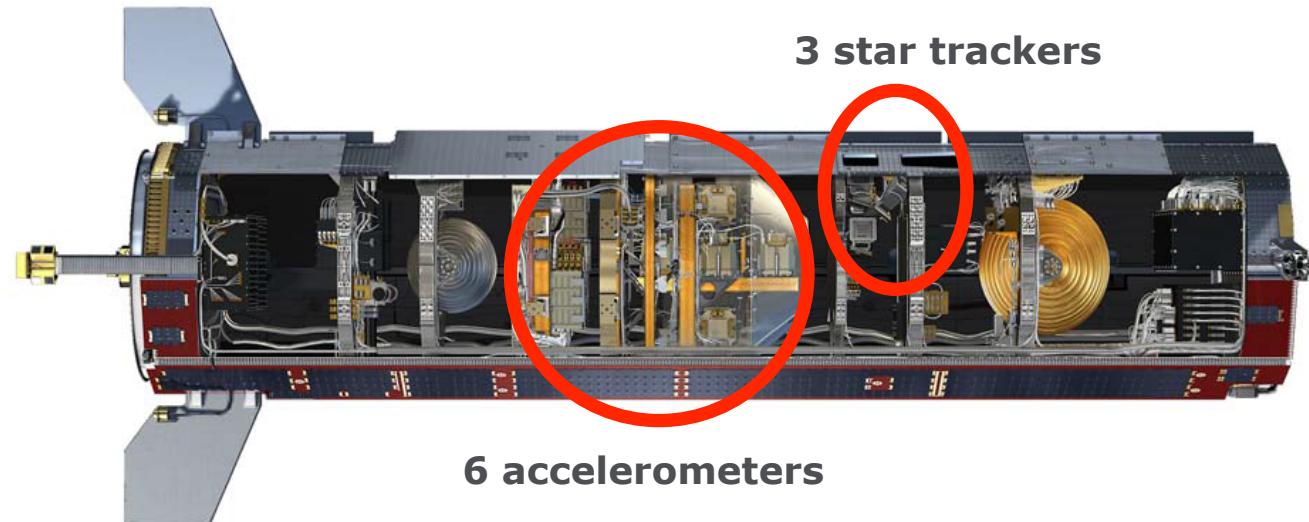


# On the reprocessing of GOCE gravity gradients

Christian Siemes, Moritz Rexer, Anja Schlicht, Thomas Gruber,  
Roger Haagmans, Rune Floberghagen, Björn Frommknecht

13 April 2018

# Introduction



Accelerometer data

Star tracker data

Level 1b processing

New EGG\_NOM\_1b data

- Calibrated accelerations
- Attitude quaternions
- Angular rates
- Gravity gradients

Level 2 processing

- Gravity field models
- Thermosphere density & winds
- ...

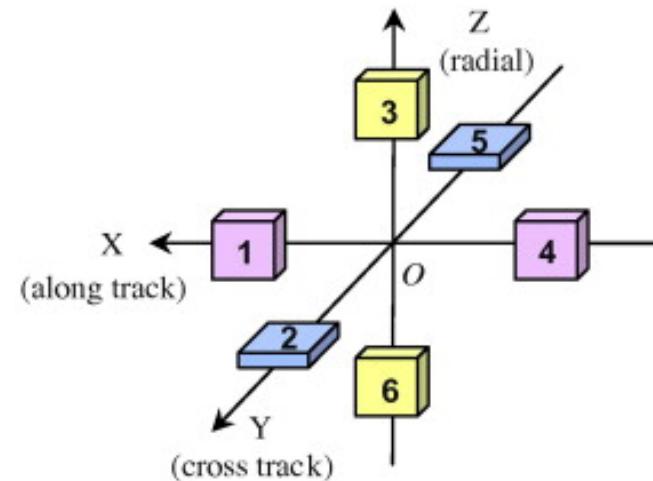
# GOCE gradiometer Level 1b processing



Each accelerometer measures in the rotating gradiometer frame

$$\mathbf{a}_i = -(V - \Omega^2 - \dot{\Omega})\mathbf{r}_i + \mathbf{d}$$

Gravity gradient      Centrifugal      Euler      Non-gravitational  
Position with respect to center of mass



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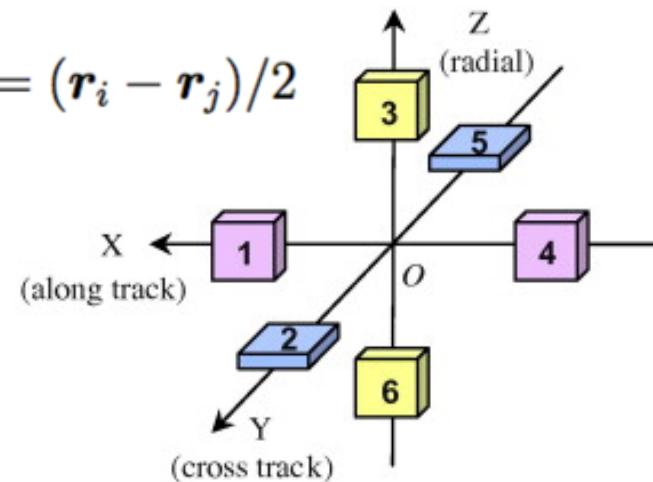
Gravity gradient      Centrifugal      Euler      Non-gravitational  
Position with respect to center of mass

Disaggregate ( $i, j = 14, 25, 36$ )

$$\mathbf{a}_{cij} = (\mathbf{a}_i + \mathbf{a}_j)/2 = \mathbf{d}$$

$$\mathbf{r}_{dij} = (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)/2$$

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$$\mathbf{a}_{dij} = (\mathbf{a}_i - \mathbf{a}_j)/2 = -(\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\Omega}^2 - \dot{\boldsymbol{\Omega}})\mathbf{r}_{dij}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1} + (\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1})^T = -2(\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\Omega}^2)$$

$$\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1} - (\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1})^T = 2\dot{\boldsymbol{\Omega}}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_d = [\mathbf{a}_{d14} \quad \mathbf{a}_{d25} \quad \mathbf{a}_{d36}]$$

$$\mathbf{R}_d = [\mathbf{r}_{d14} \quad \mathbf{r}_{d25} \quad \mathbf{r}_{d36}]$$

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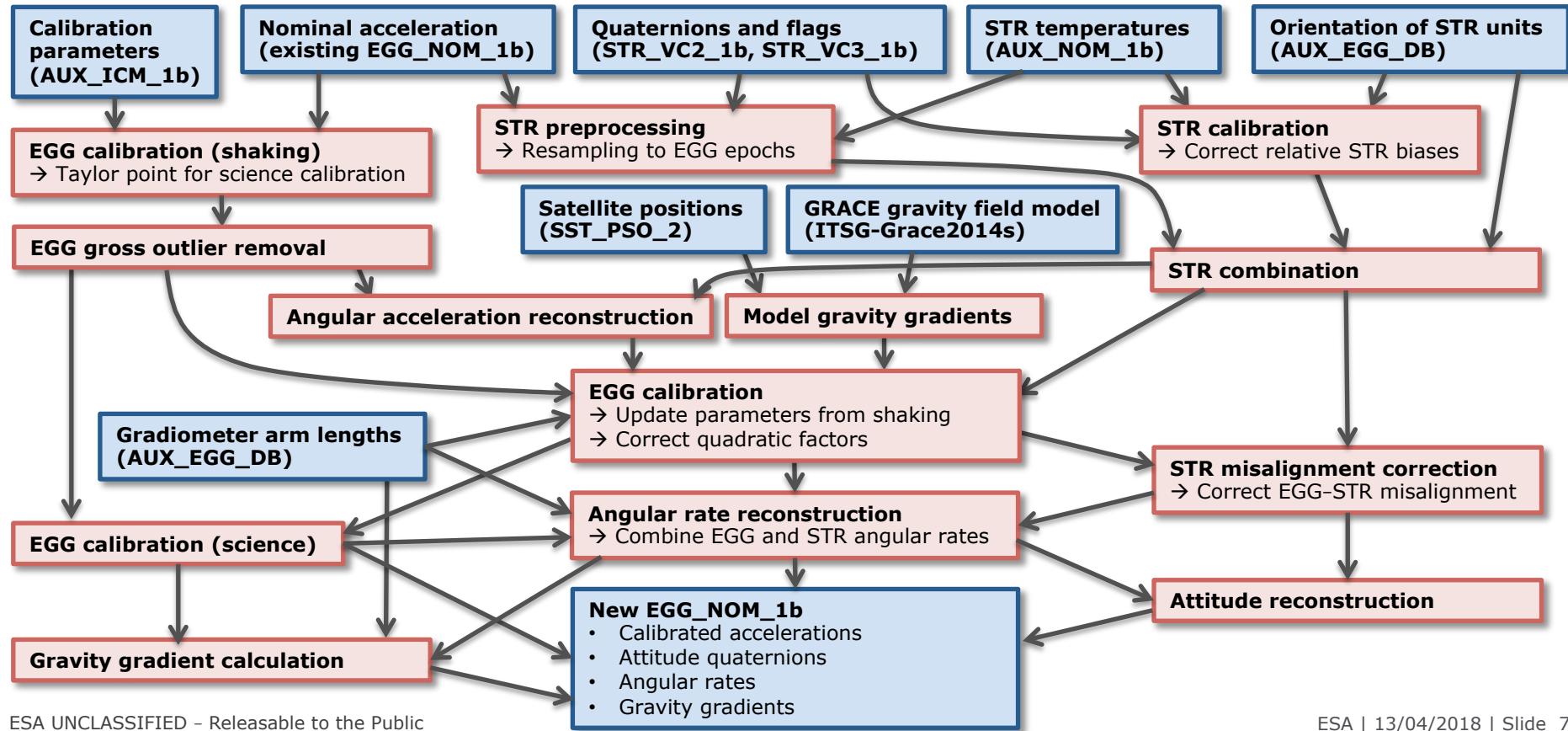
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$$\mathbf{A}_d = [\mathbf{a}_{d14} \quad \mathbf{a}_{d25} \quad \mathbf{a}_{d36}]$$

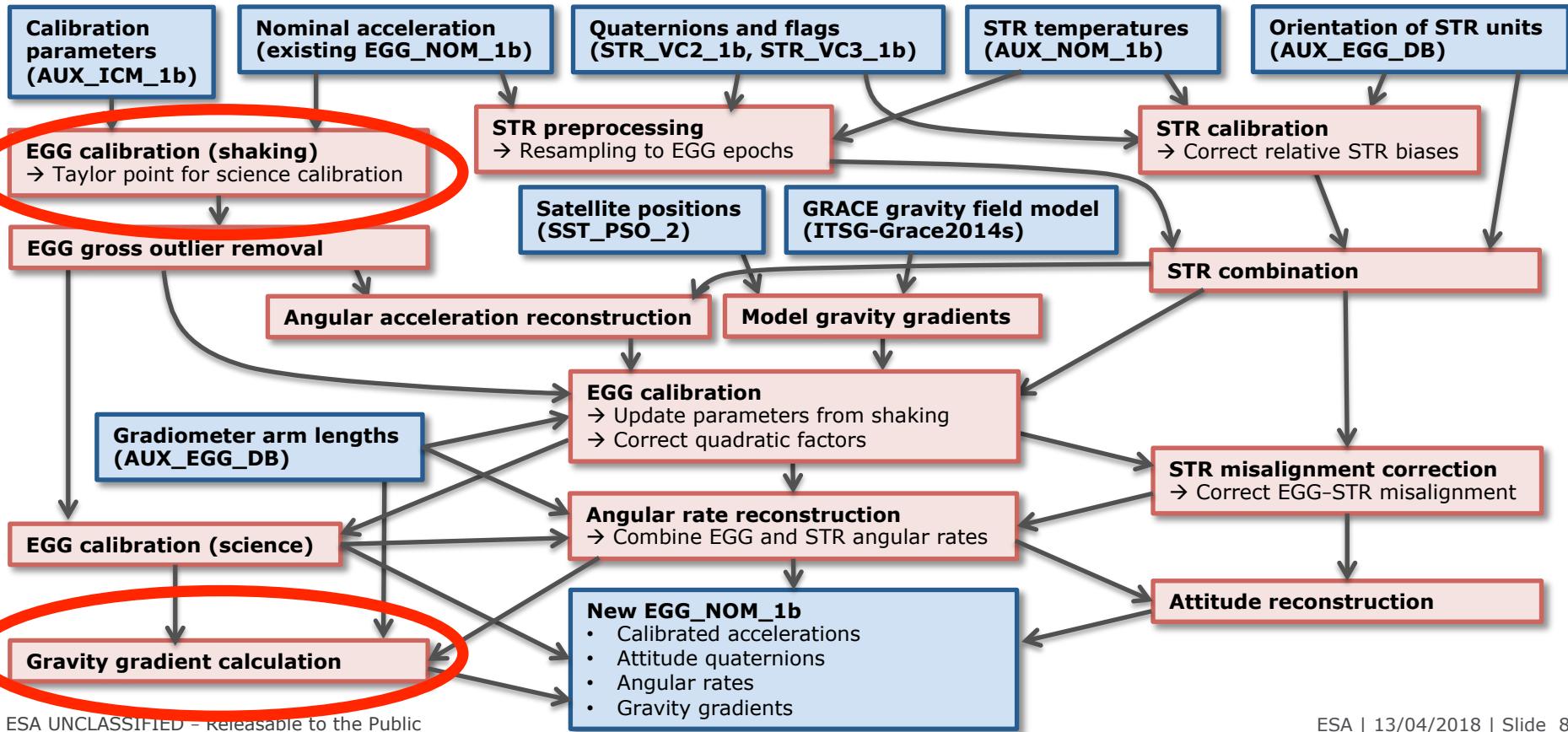
$$\mathbf{R}_d = [\mathbf{r}_{d14} \quad \mathbf{r}_{d25} \quad \mathbf{r}_{d36}]$$

Combine with star tracker data

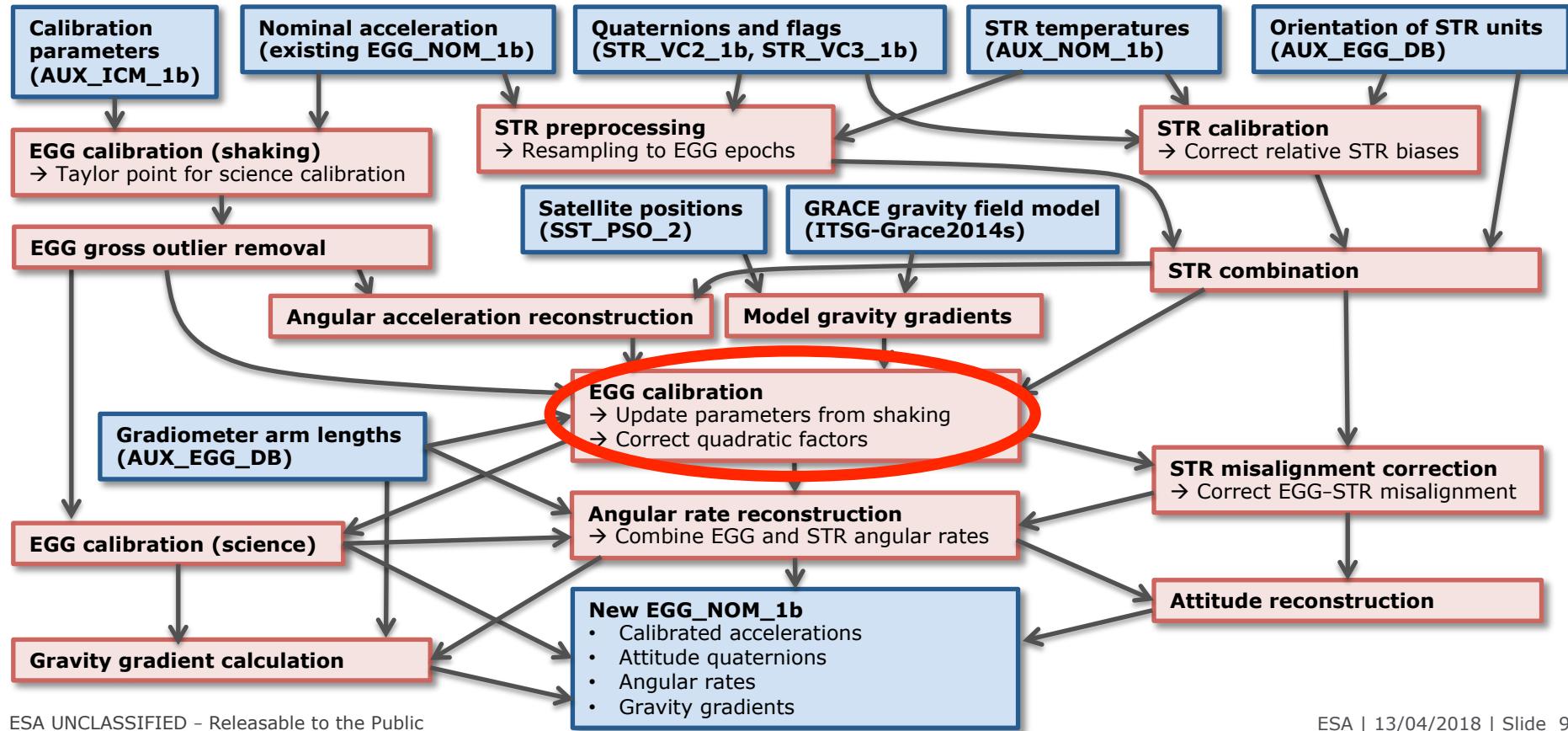
# GOCE gradiometer Level 1b processing



# GOCE gradiometer Level 1b processing



# GOCE gradiometer Level 1b processing



# Gradiometer calibration: Observation equations

$$\mathbf{V}^{\text{GRACE model}} = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1} + (\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1})^T) + \boldsymbol{\Omega}^2$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega}^{\text{star trackers}} = \int \dot{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} dt = -\frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1} - (\mathbf{A}_d \mathbf{R}_d^{-1})^T dt$$

$$\mathbf{a}_{cij} = \mathbf{a}_{ckl}$$

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Weakly non-linear through attitude

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Non-linear via angular rates

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Non-linear via angular rates

$$\mathbf{a}_{cij} = \mathbf{a}_{ckl}$$

Use observations from science mode (as opposed to shaking mode)



# Gradiometer calibration: Model parameters

For each gradiometer arm ( $ij = 14, 25, 36$ ) per two months:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{dij} \\ \mathbf{a}_{cij} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{ij} & \mathbf{D}_{ij} \\ \mathbf{D}_{ij} & \mathbf{C}_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{a}}_{dij} \\ \hat{\mathbf{a}}_{cij} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_i & \mathbf{K}_j \\ \mathbf{K}_i & -\mathbf{K}_j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{a}}_i^2 \\ \hat{\mathbf{a}}_j^2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W}_{dij} \\ \mathbf{W}_{cij} \end{bmatrix} \dot{\boldsymbol{\omega}}$$

↑  
18 quadratic factors  
↑  
18 angular couplings

Inverse calibration matrices (ICMs):  
54 parameters + 54 parameter drifts

3 misalignments between  
gradiometer and star trackers

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**new**

18 quadratic factors

18 angular couplings

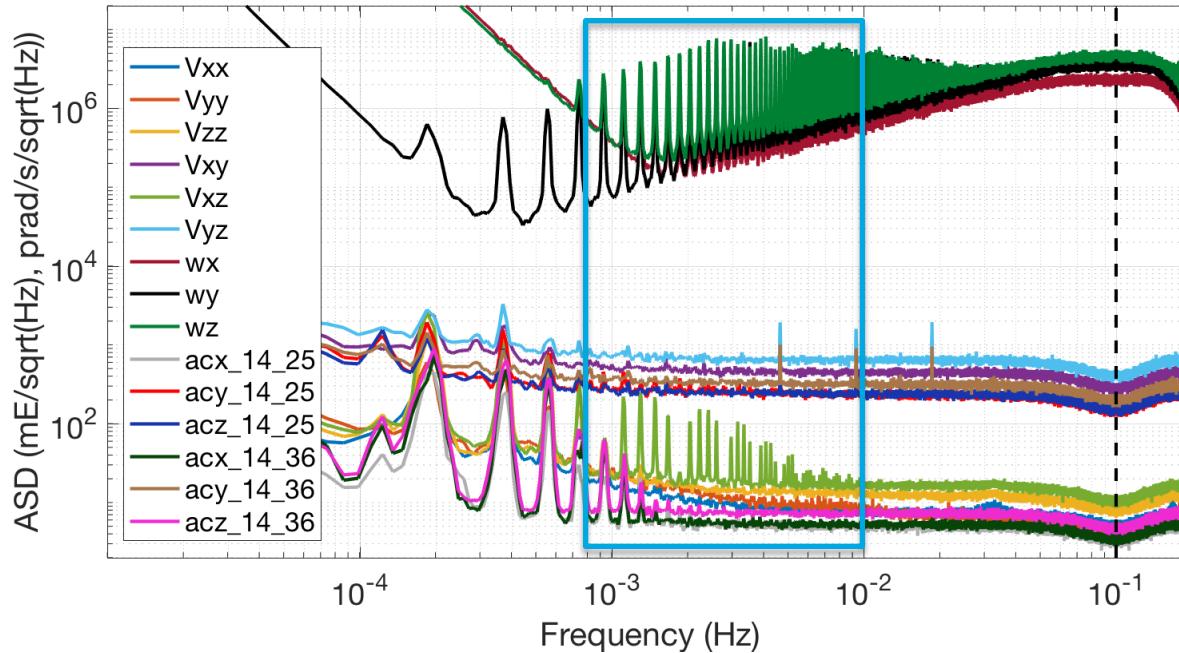
Inverse calibration matrices (ICMs):  
54 parameters + 54 parameter drifts

3 misalignments between  
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# Gradiometer calibration: Stochastic model

Welch's method for estimating the PSD where median replaces the average for robustness

Additional band-pass filter 0.8–10 mHz



**16 March – 22 May 2012**

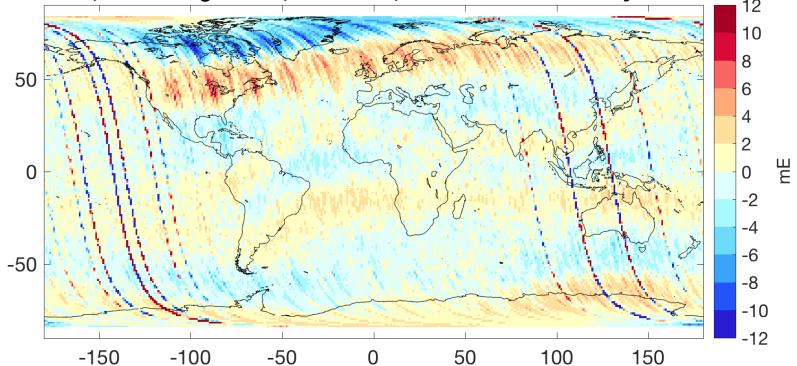
→ Towards the end of mission lifetime, but not yet at lower altitude

**Compare GOCE gradients with GRACE model (ITGS-Grace2014k)**

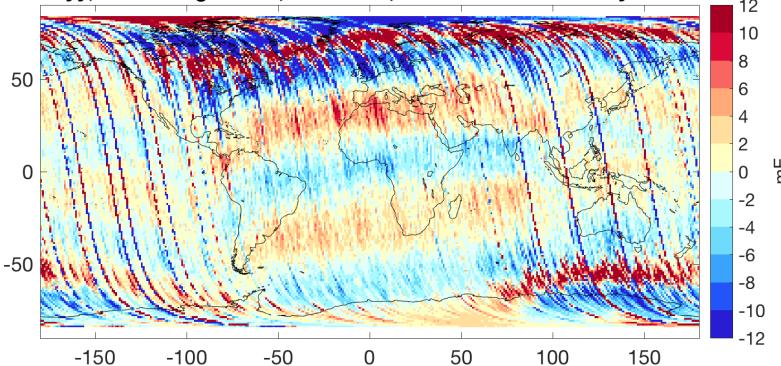
→ For maps: band-pass filter to 1-10 mHz, in which most systematic effects could be removed

# Results

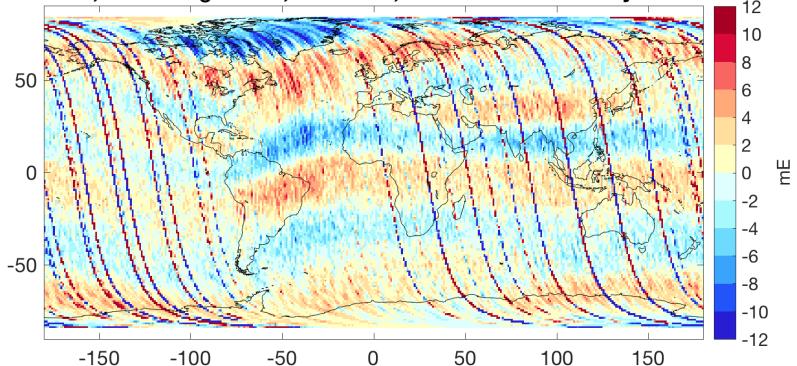
Vxx, ascending tracks, 1-10 mHz, 16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012



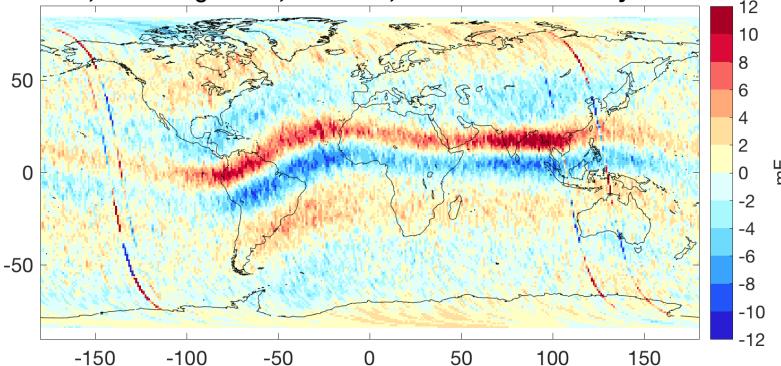
Vyy, ascending tracks, 1-10 mHz, 16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012



Vzz, ascending tracks, 1-10 mHz, 16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012

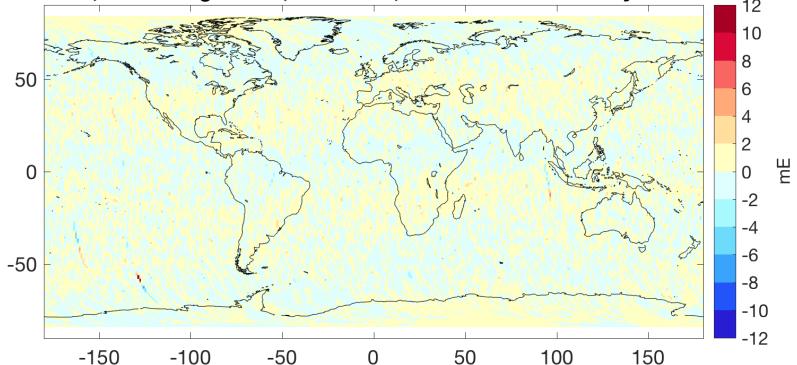


Vxz, ascending tracks, 1-10 mHz, 16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012

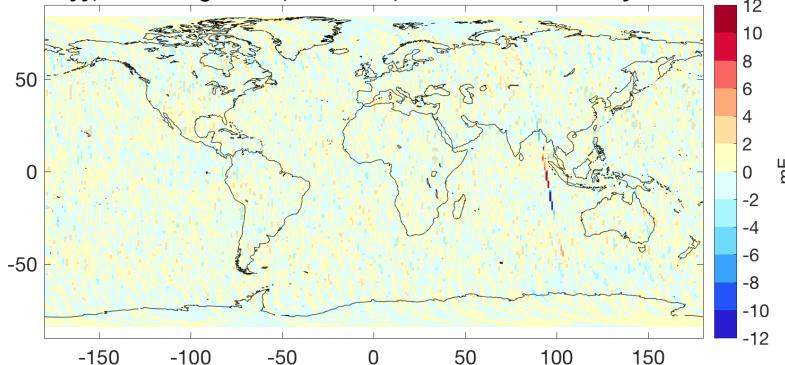


# Results

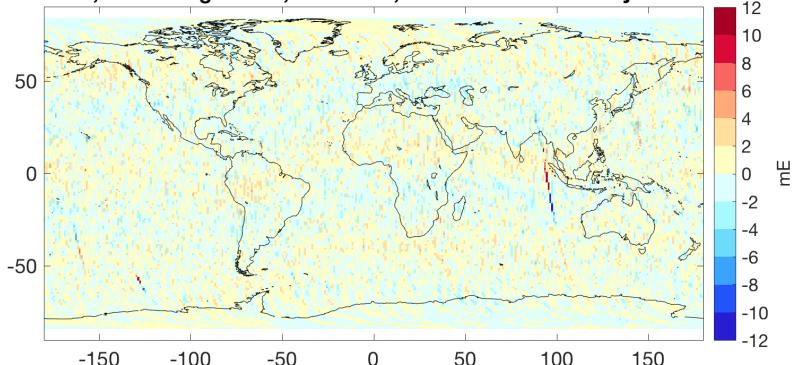
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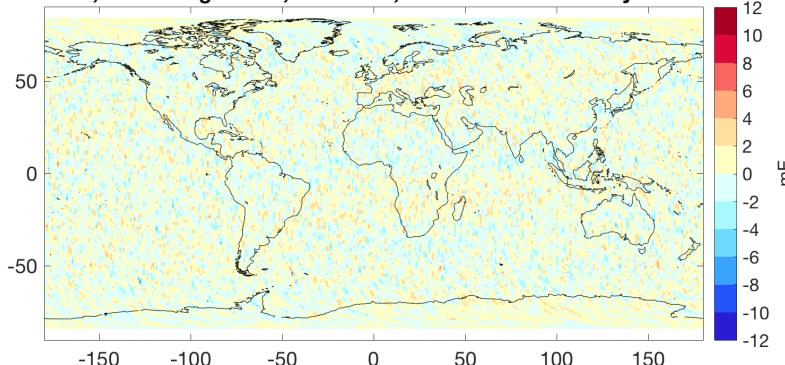
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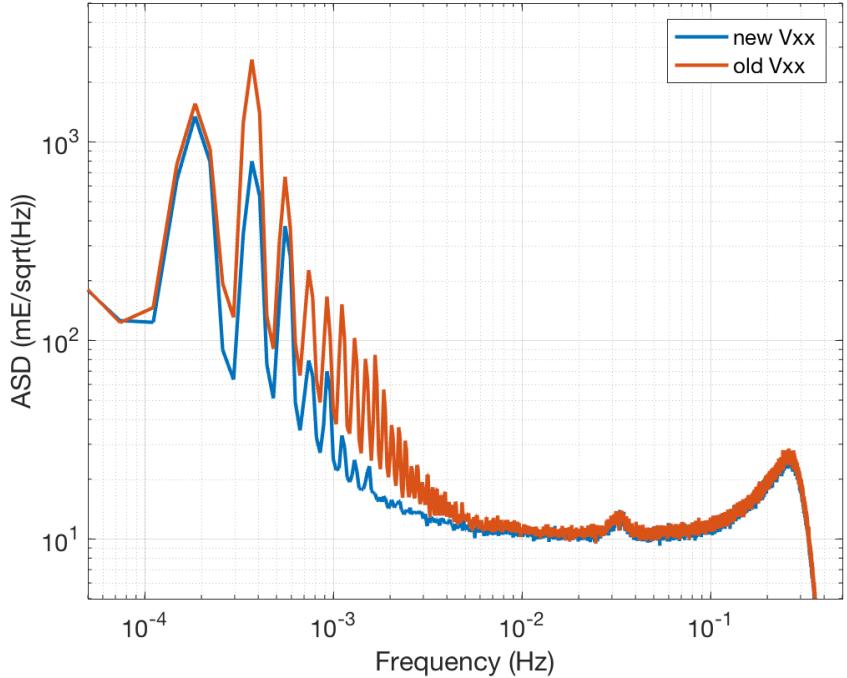


Vxz, ascending tracks, 1-10 mHz, 16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012

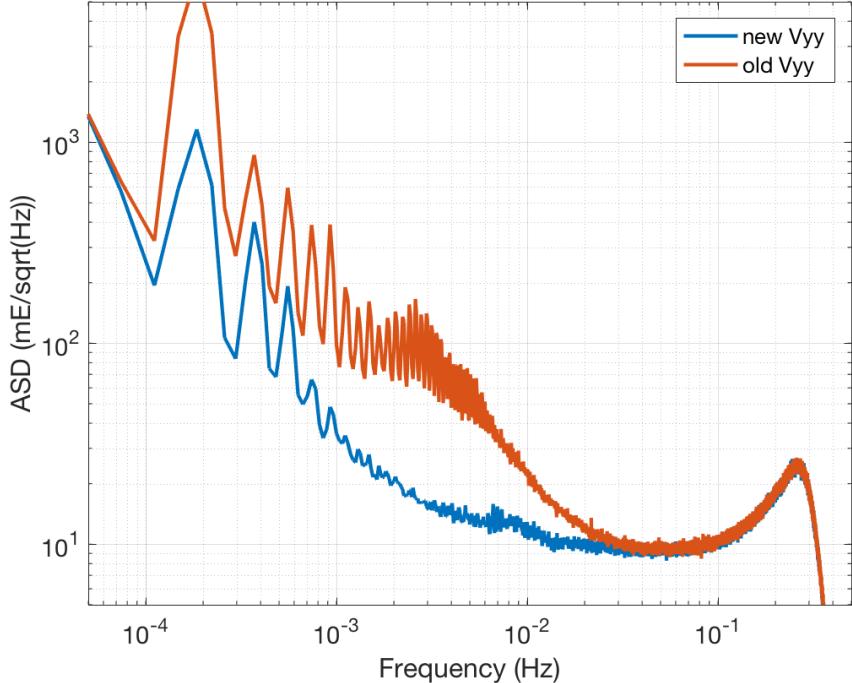


# Results

16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012

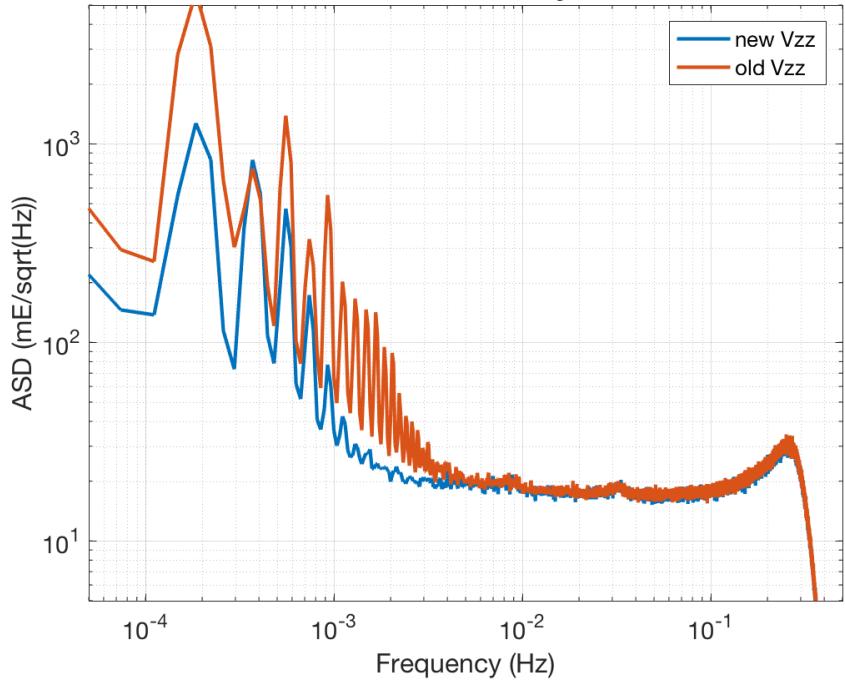


16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012

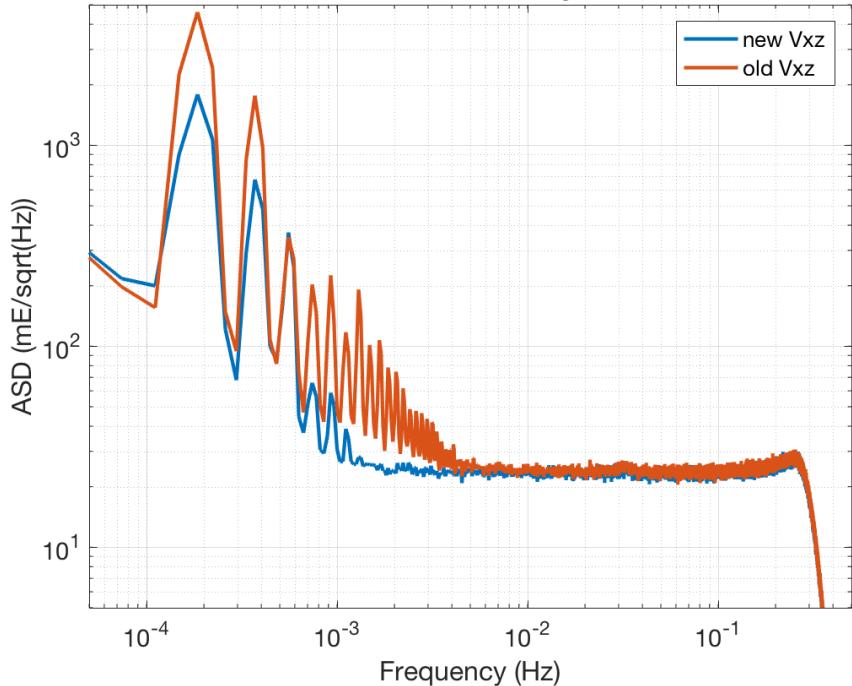


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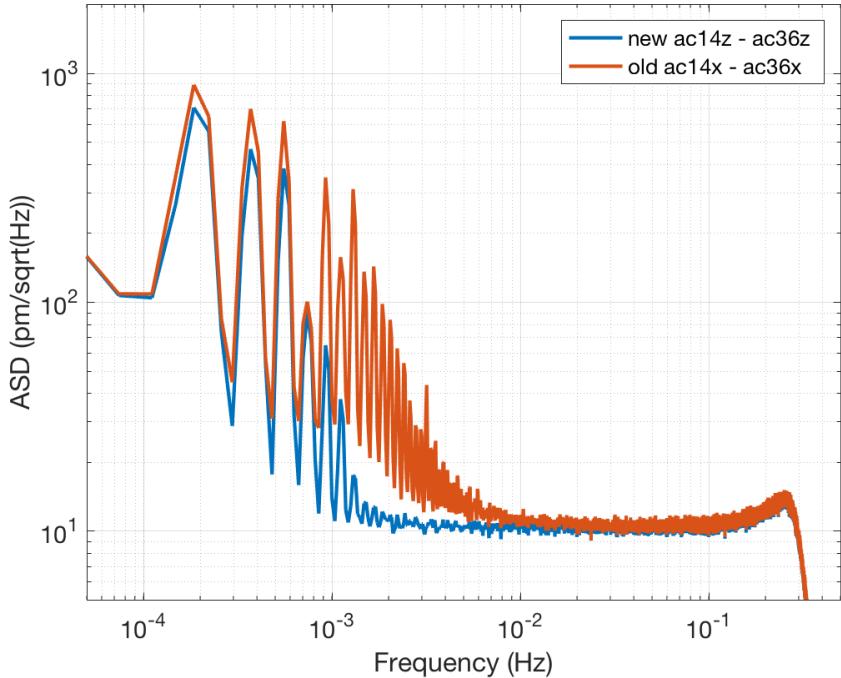


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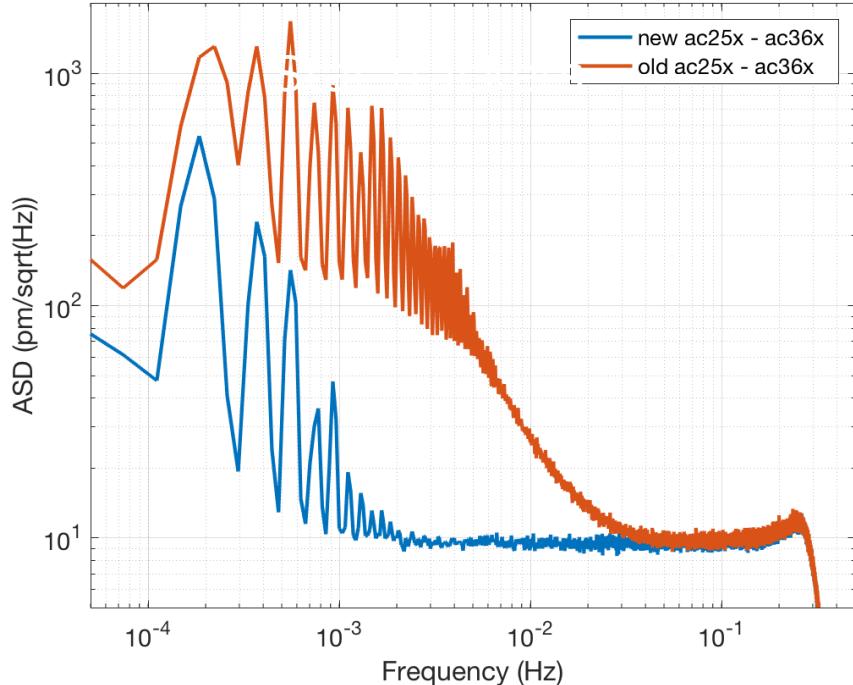


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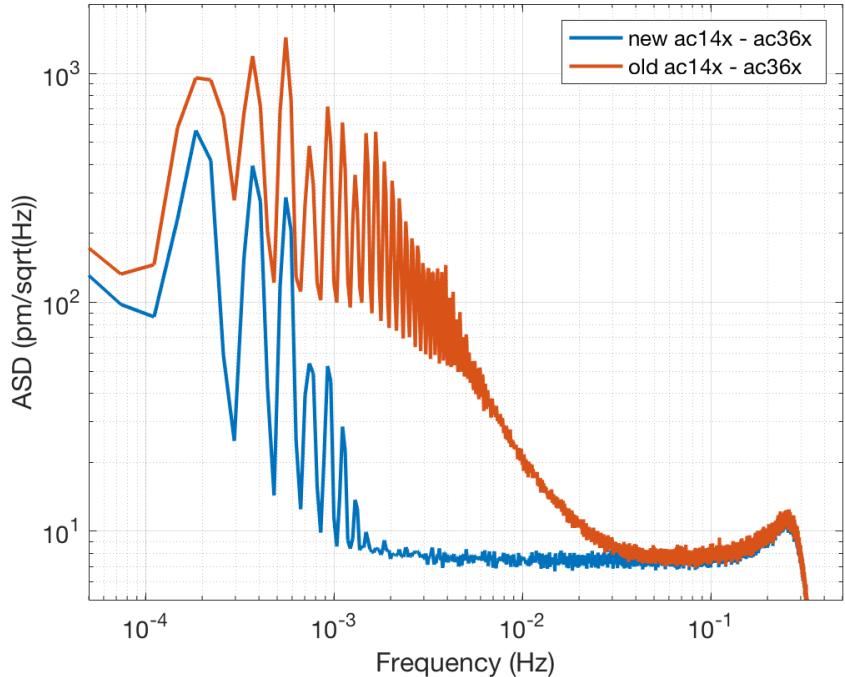


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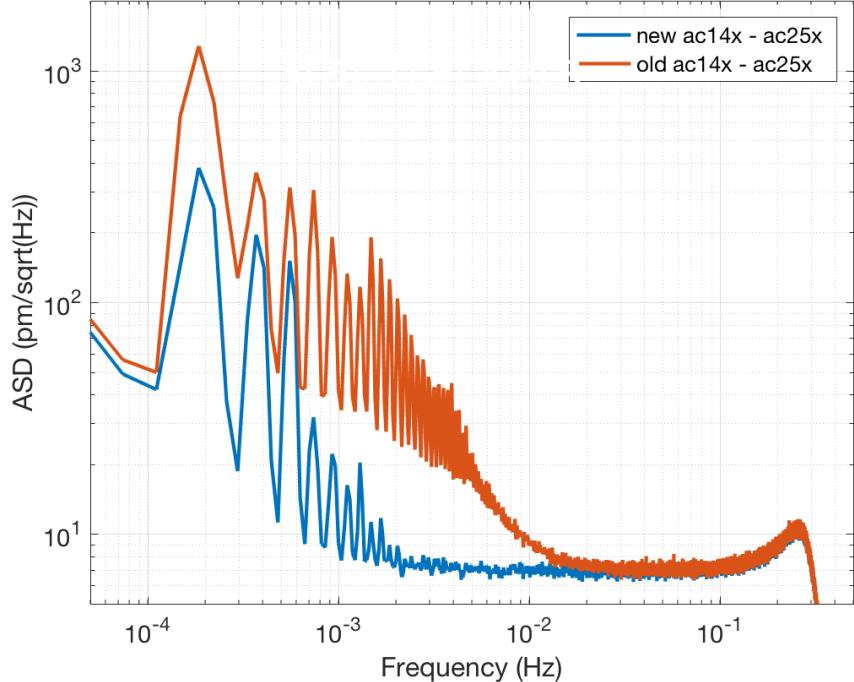


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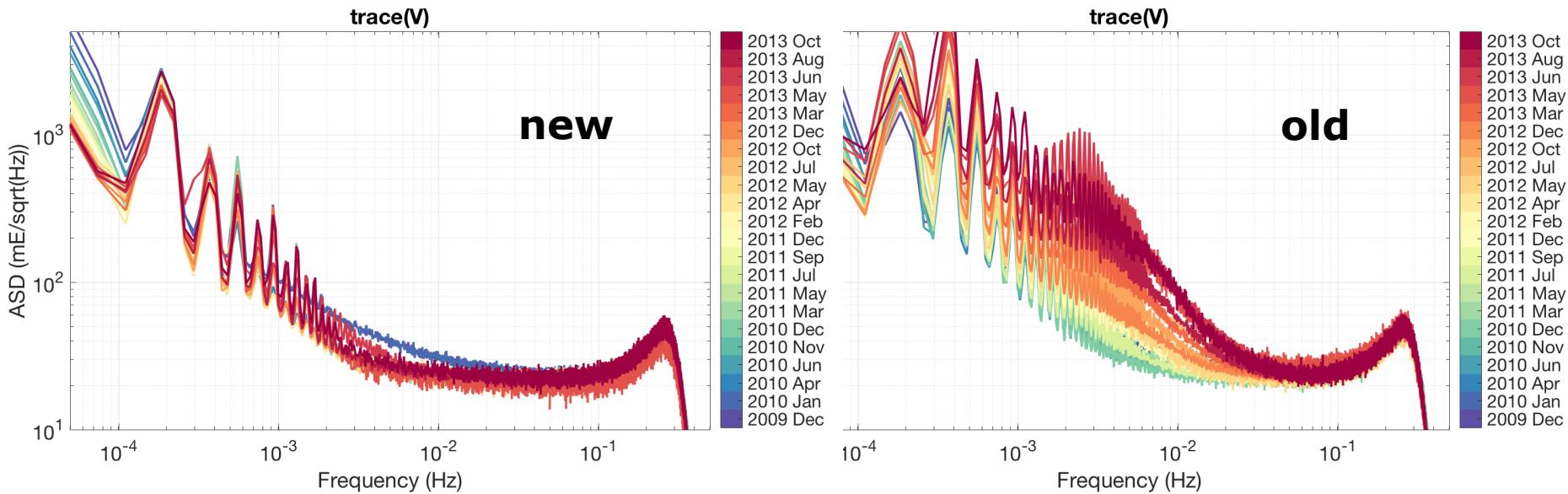
16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012



16-Mar-2012 - 22-May-2012



# Results



# Summary and Conclusions

Almost entirely **new L1b processing** implemented

Completely **new calibration** in science mode, including new parameters

- Quadratic factors
- Angular couplings

**Quadratic factors** are very important to take into account

- Vyy drastically improved in regions around geomagnetic poles
- Vxx during first orbit lowering drastically improved

**All gradients improved at low frequencies** (smaller than 5 mHz)

Impact on GOCE gravity field models → presentation by Jan Martin Brockmann

# Thank you

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