LEO-based solution of GPS PCOs and impact on terrestrial scale

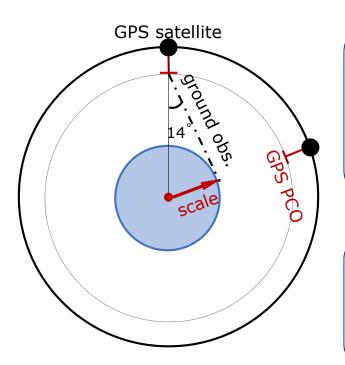
Wen Huang¹, Benjamin Männel¹, Andreas Brack¹, Harald Schuh^{1,2}

- 1. Helmholtz Centre Potsdam, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences
- 2. Technische Universität Berlin, Institute of Geodesy and Geoinformation Science





GPS z-PCOs and GNSS-based scale



Issues:

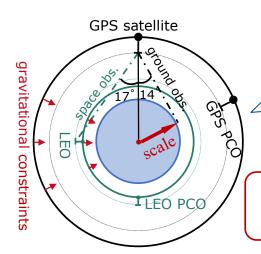
- z-PCO^{GPS} are highly correlated with the scale:
 - 13cm z-PCO^{GPS} → 1 ppb scale (Zhu et al. 2003)
 - 0.85 correlation coefficient (Huang et al. 2022)
- z-PCO^{GPS} (before Block III) given by the manufactories were not convincing (Ge et al. 2005)

Solution of the IGS:

- estimating GPS z-PCOs by introducing scale determined by VLBI and SLR
- scale is propagated to users and applications



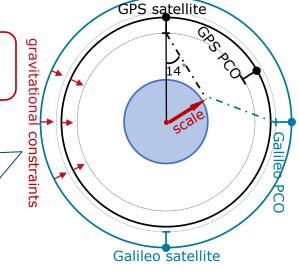
Two methods for z-PCOGPS and GNSS-based scale



- based on LEOs:
 - ground calibrated PCOs and gravitational constraint
 - fast movement and larger bore-sight angle
 - historical data for long term study

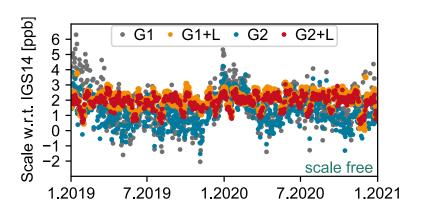
No-net-scale condition **NOT** applied → GNSS-based scale

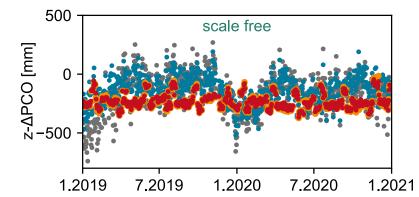
- based on Galileo:
 - scale based on Galileo is propagated to GPS z-PCOs (Villiger et al. 2020)
 - GPS z-PCO: -160.0 mm
 - IGS repro3 derived a Galileo-based scale





LEO-based solution





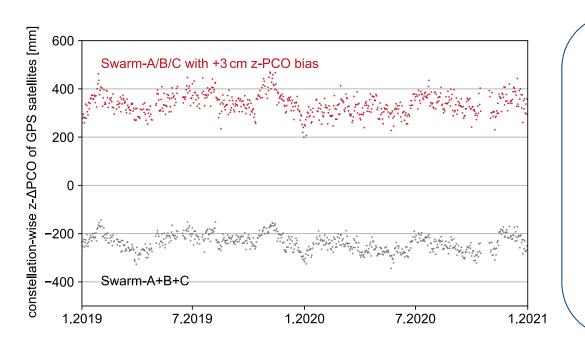
- G1 and G2: networks with different numbers of stations
- L: six LEOs (GRACE-FO, Jason-3, Swarm)
- scale free: NNS not applied

stations only → large variation **LEO-based** → **consistent effective decorrelation**





Requirement on the z-PCOs of LEOs



+3 cm z-PCO of LEOs leads to

- -574 mm z-ΔPCO^{GPS}
- +4.27 ppb scale (+27mm)

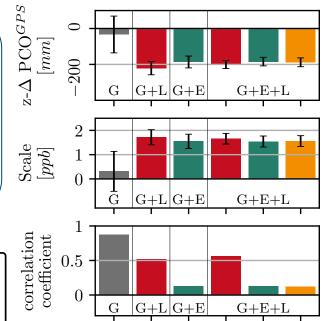
1 mm accuracy of z-PCO^{LEO} to achieve 1 mm scale; agrees with the simulation study by Glaser et al. (2020)

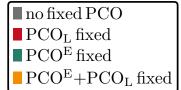




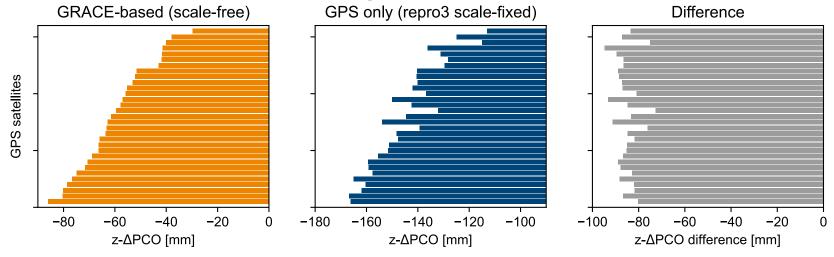
Cross-check of both methods

- first-time validation of the LEO-based method
- G: GPS (32); E: Galileo (24); L: Swarm (3)
- scale free: NNS not applied
- good agreement
- Galileo solution dominating due to the larger number of satellites (24 vs. 3)





Satellite-specific z-PCO^{GPS}



- 12-year processing: GRACE (2), GPS(51), and level 1&2 stations (100-130) of Repro3
- satellites with 2000+ daily solutions
- sorted by z-PCO^{GPS} corrections in GRACE-based solution (same sequence in all subplots)
- satellite-specific corrections
 - 5 cm difference between satellites in maximum
- both solutions agree with each other with an offset (accuracy of z-PCOGRACE?)



Conclusions

- By integrating LEOs, z-PCO^{GPS} values are calibrated without introducing the scale of other geodetic techniques.
- A GNSS-based scale is achieved by including Galileo or LEOs. Both methods agree well with each other. The LEO-based method has advantage in long-term study back in time.
- A 1-mm accuracy of the LEO z-PCOs is required for the GGOS goal (1 mm scale).
- Satellite-specific z-PCO^{GPS} is proposed based on the long-term study.



Thank you for your attention!

DFG funded project: Integrated GNSS Processing for Earth System Monitoring (**InGE**) benjamin.maennel@gfz-potsdam.de wen.huang@gfz-potsdam.de

