

The Potential of Starlette and Ajisai for Station Positioning

Horst Mueller

Deutsches Geodaetisches Forschungsinstitut, Muenchen, Germany

The last ITRF realization has shown that a scale differences between SLR and VLBI exists. Besides in SLR the z-component of the stations' positions seem less accurate the x- and y-components and a north drift of the whole network compared to ITRF2000 is visible. Test have shown that low earth orbiting satellites like Starlette and Ajisai allow a better estimation of the z-component with respect to the Lageos or Etalon satellites. Additionally, these satellites have a much better tracking statistic than the higher orbiting satellites. To qualify the capacity of these two satellites we have processed for some selected weeks the gain for the stations positions if we add observations from these satellites.