

# Impact of GNSS Orbit Modelling on Reference Frame Parameters

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<sup>3</sup> *ETH Zurich*

IAG Commission 1 Symposium 2014: Reference Frames for  
Applications in Geosciences (REFAG2014)  
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# Overview

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Solar Radiation Pressure for GNSS Satellites

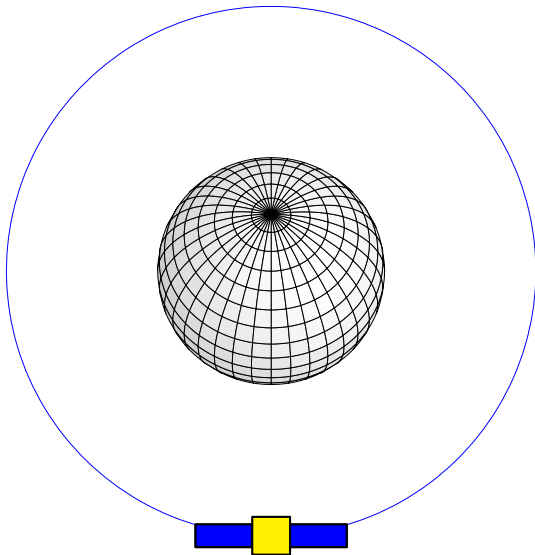
Impact on the GNSS Satellite orbits

Impact on the Reference Frame Parameters

Long-Arc Solutions

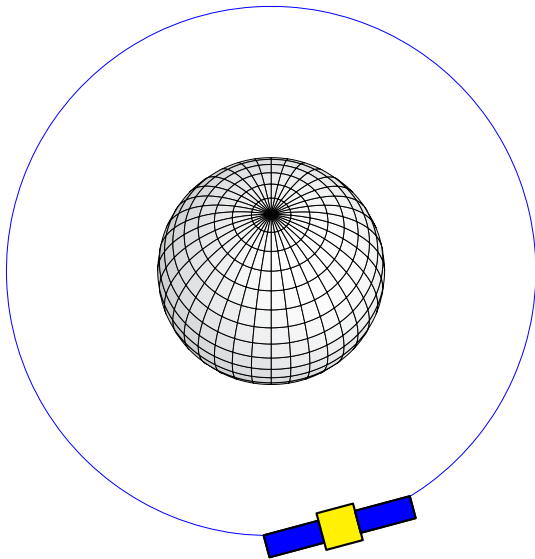
# Observing the satellite from the Sun

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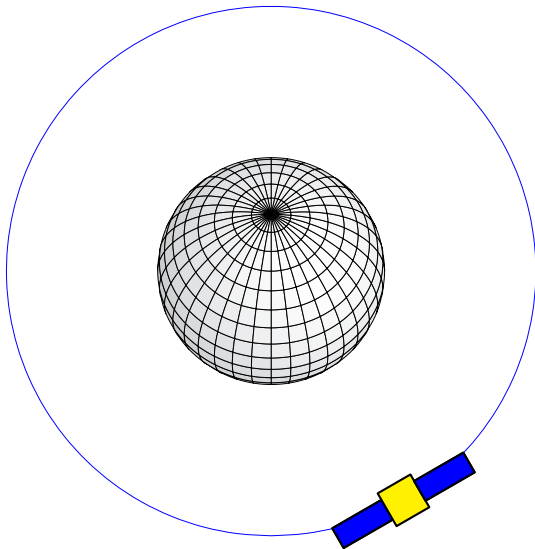
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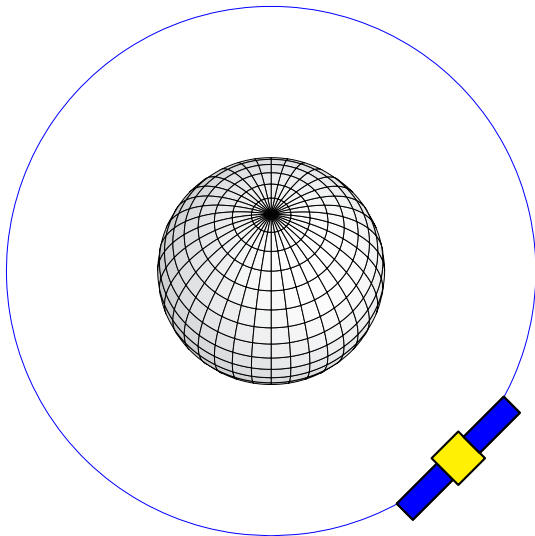
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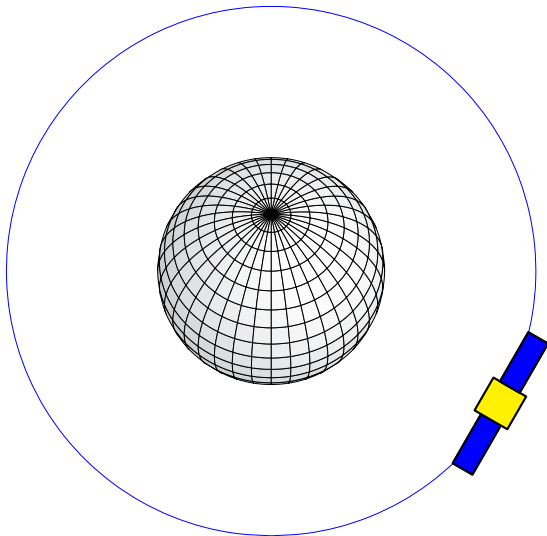
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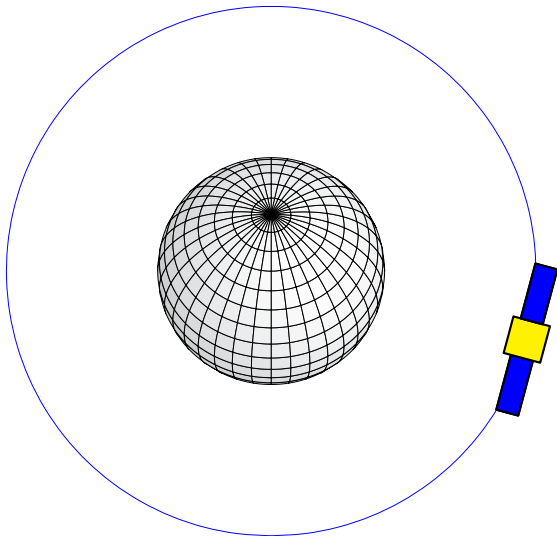
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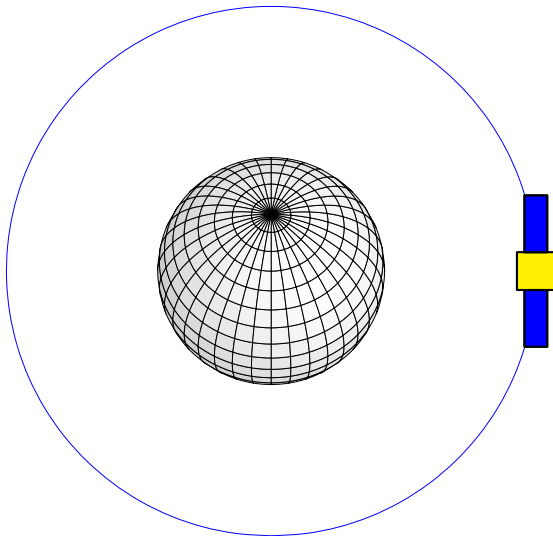
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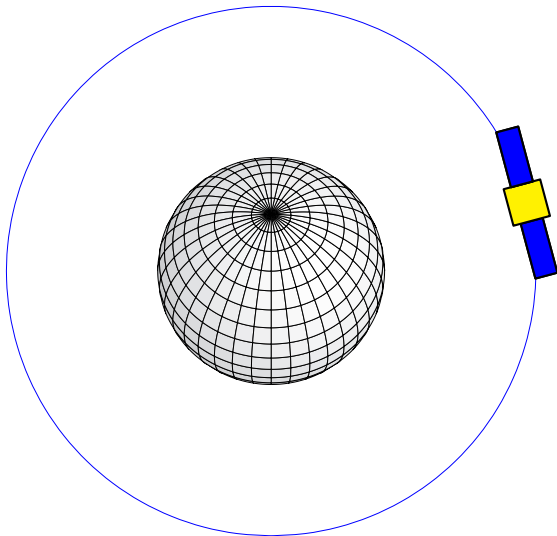
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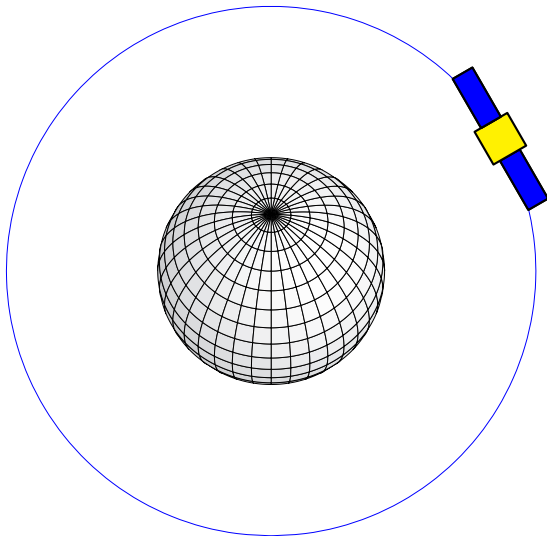
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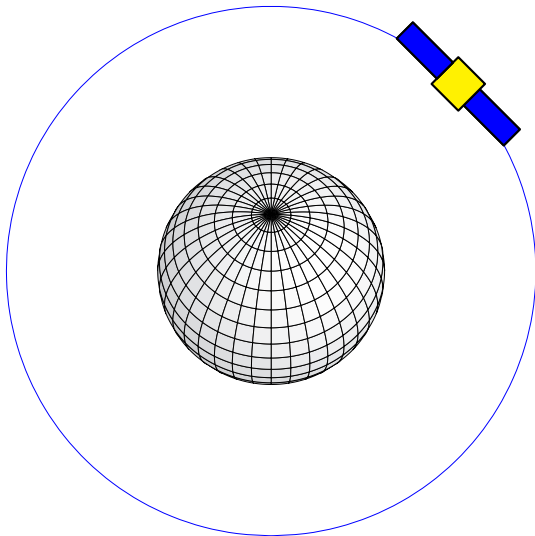
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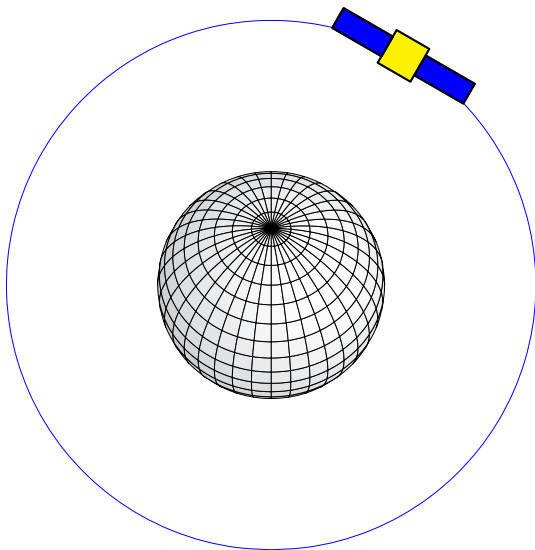
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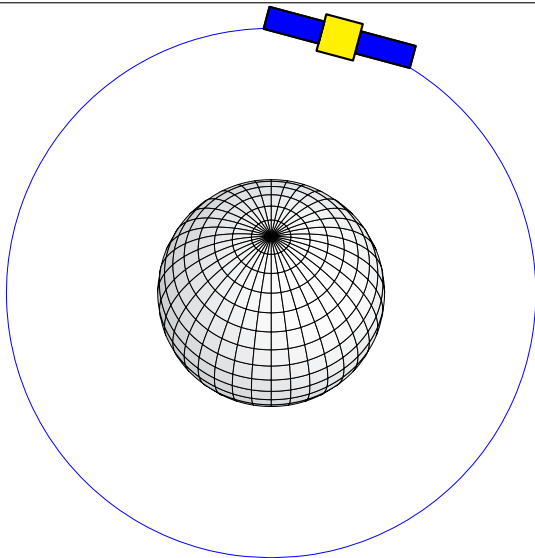
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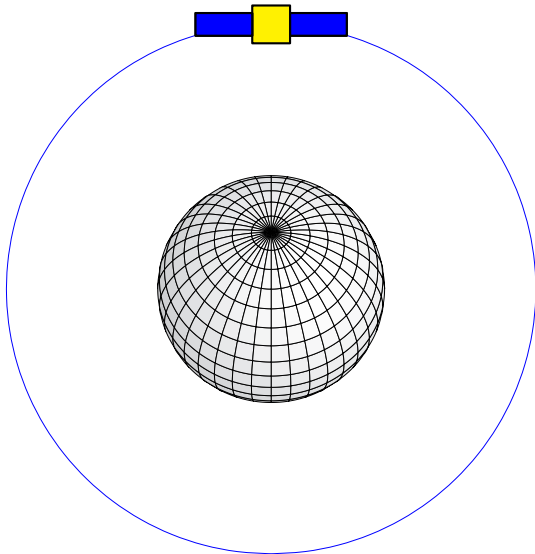
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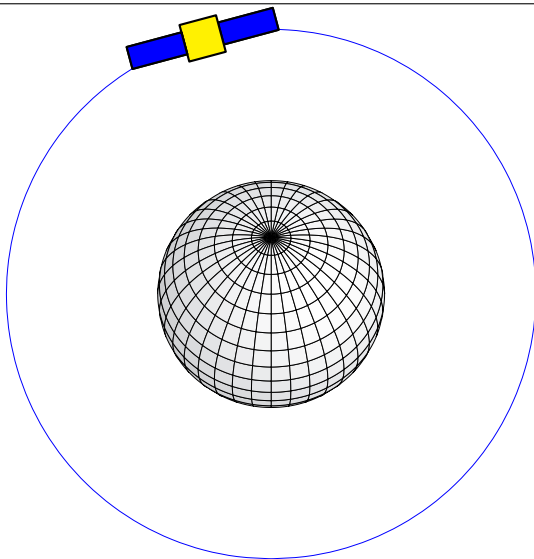
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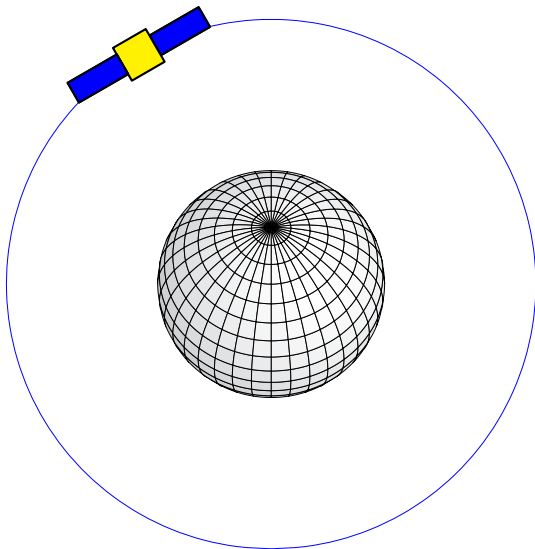
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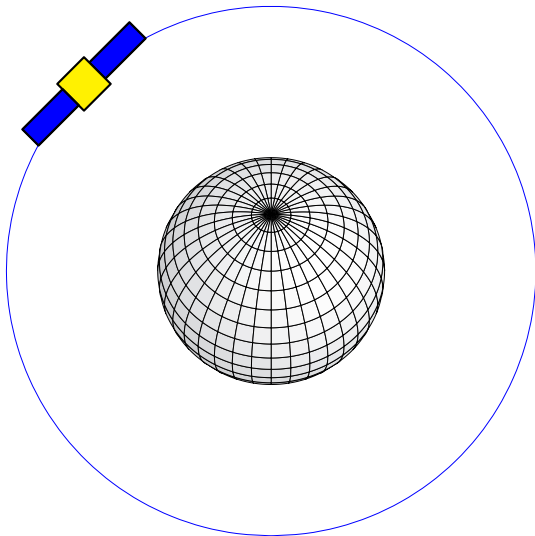
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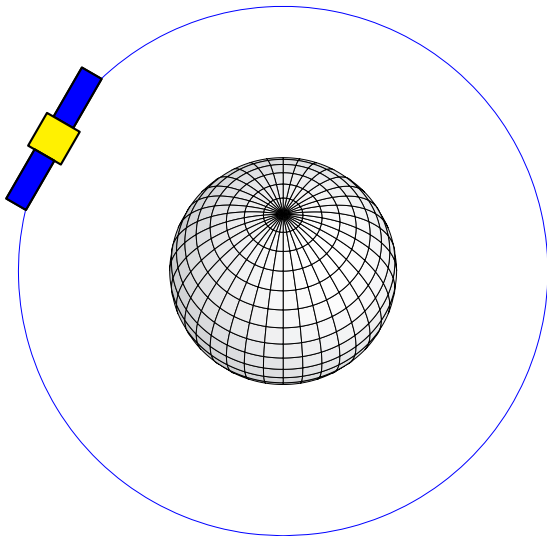
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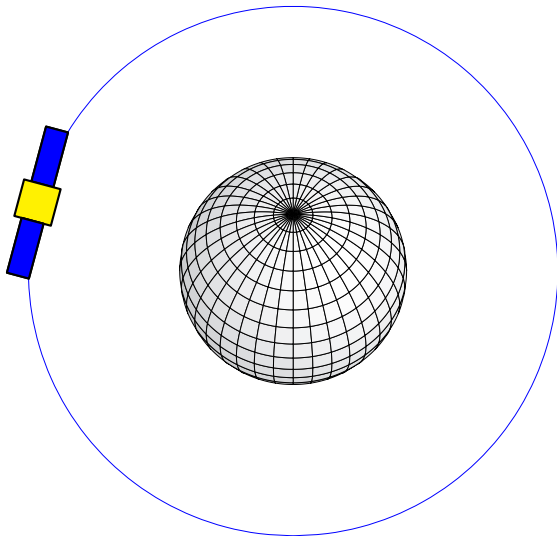
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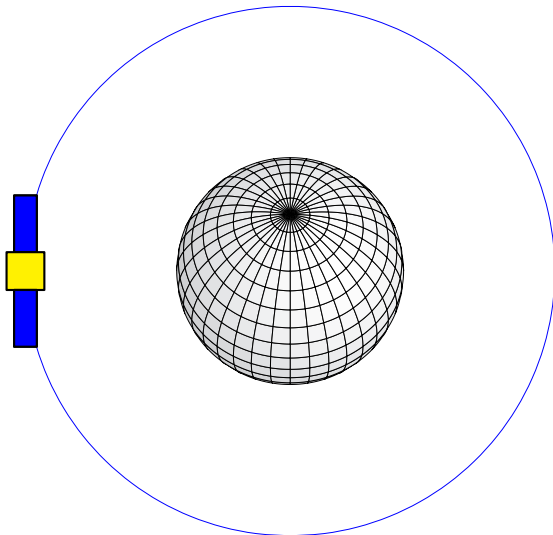
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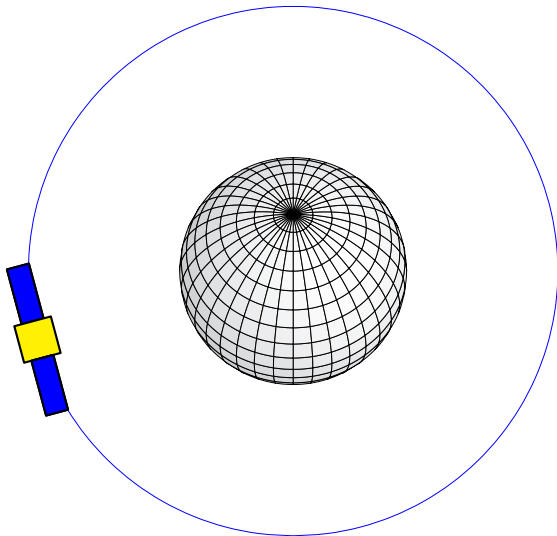
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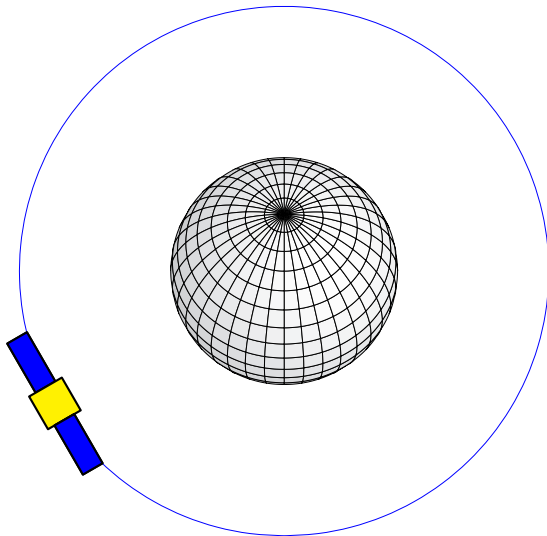
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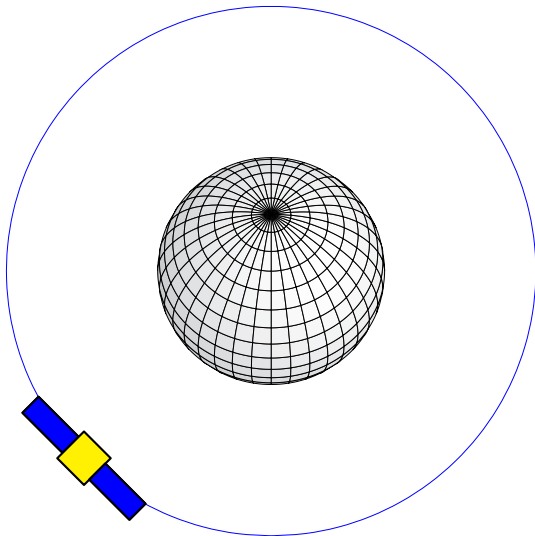
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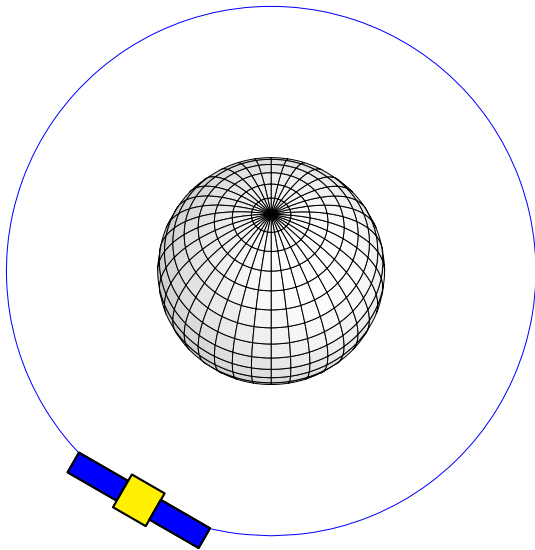
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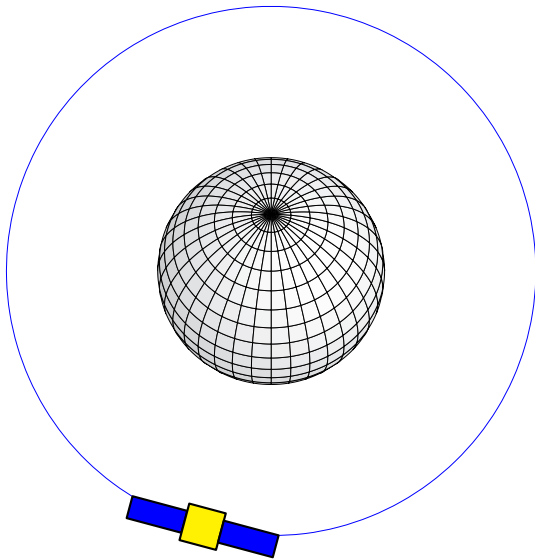
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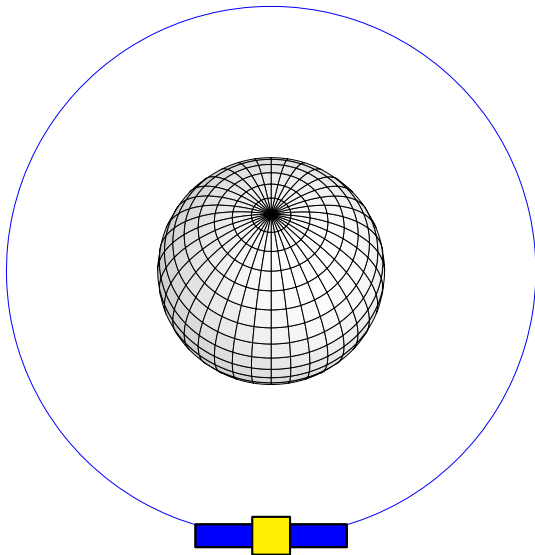
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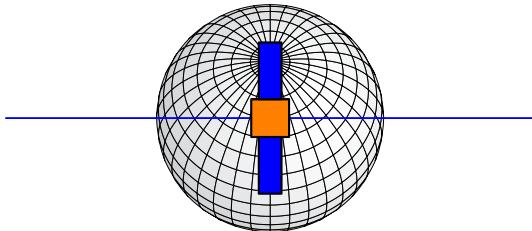
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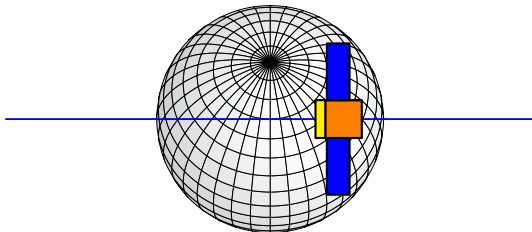
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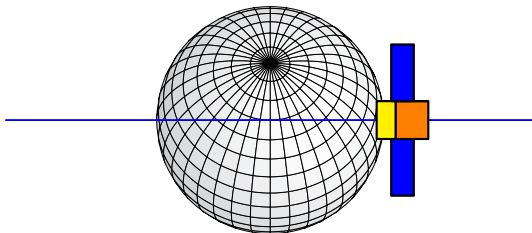
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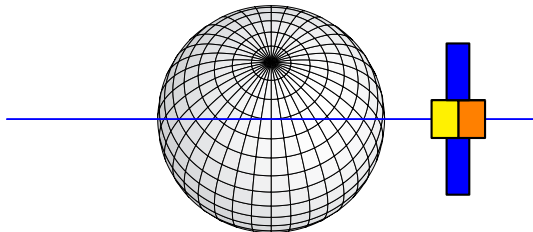
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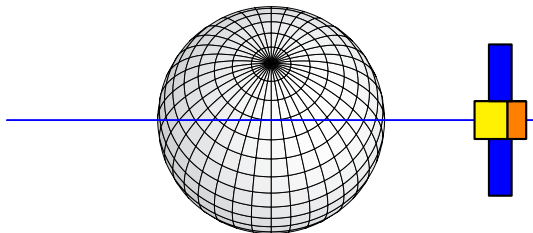
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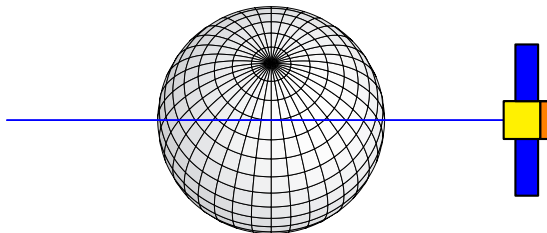
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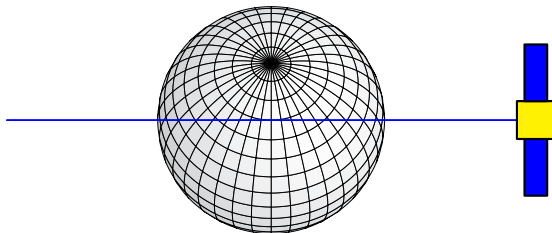
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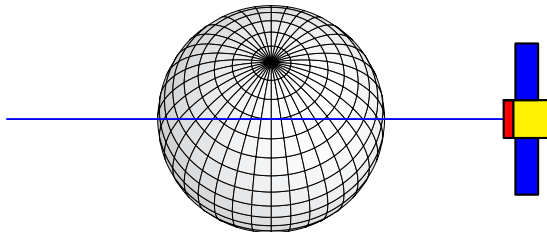
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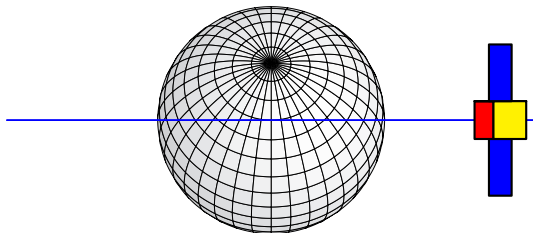
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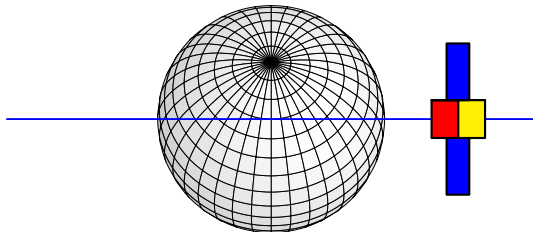
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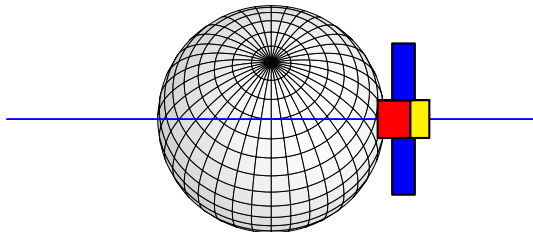
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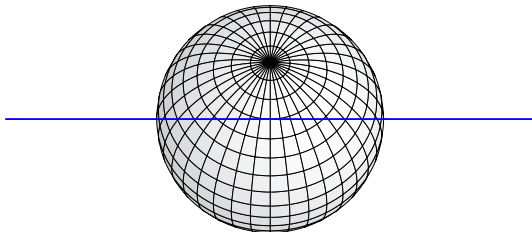
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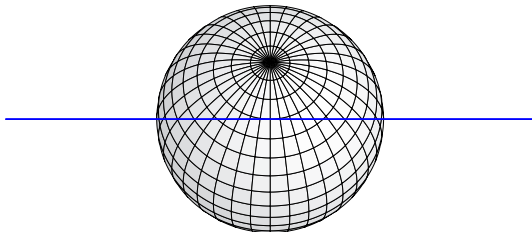
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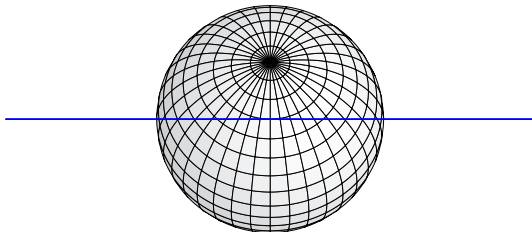
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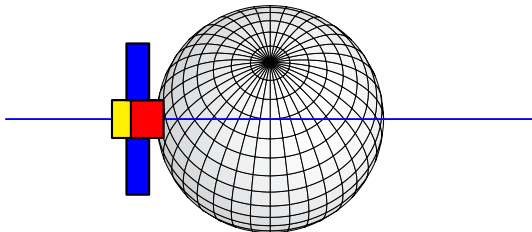
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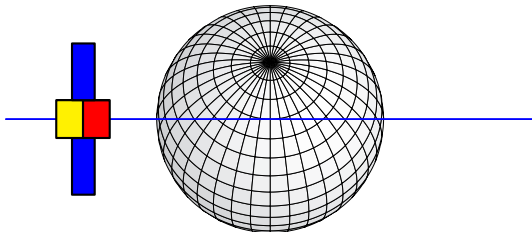
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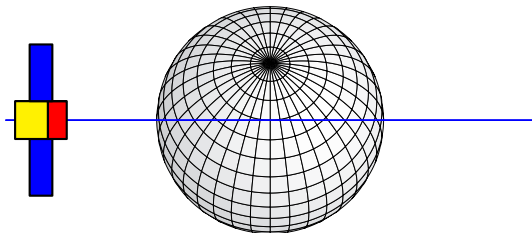
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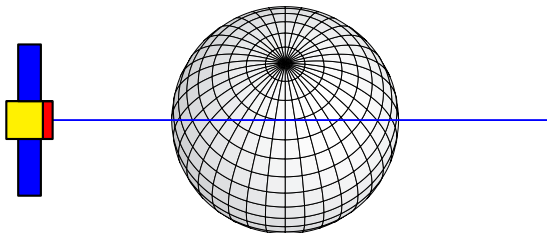
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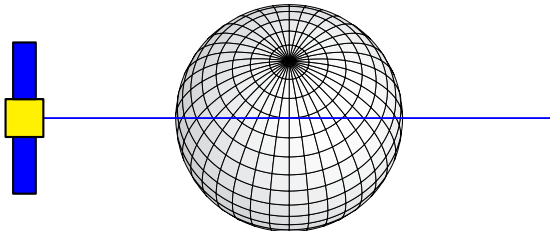
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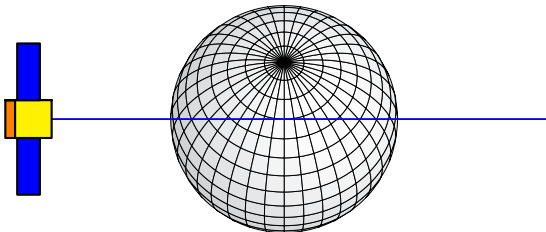
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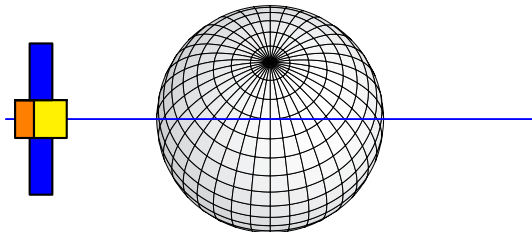
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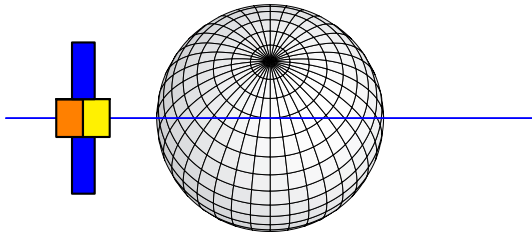
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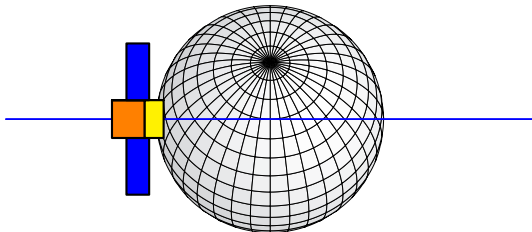
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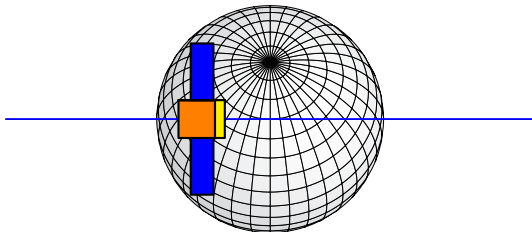
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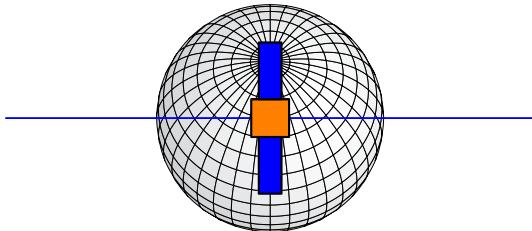
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# Observing the satellite from the Sun

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## Conclusions

- The solar panels are pointing to the Sun and causing only a constant perturbation in  $D$ -direction.

# Observing the satellite from the Sun

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- If the Sun is perpendicular to the orbital plane no periodic solar radiation pressure perturbations are expected.

# Observing the satellite from the Sun

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## Conclusions

- The solar panels are pointing to the Sun and causing only a constant perturbation in  $D$ -direction.
- If the Sun is perpendicular to the orbital plane no periodic solar radiation pressure perturbations are expected.
- If the Sun is located in the orbital plane a once-per-revolution signal is expected in the  $X$ -direction and a twice-per-revolution signal in the  $D$ -direction.

# Observing the satellite from the Sun

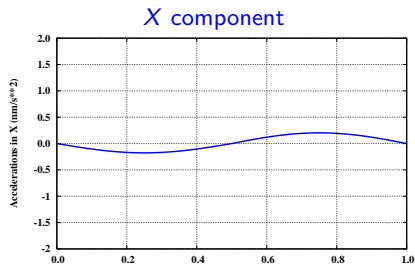
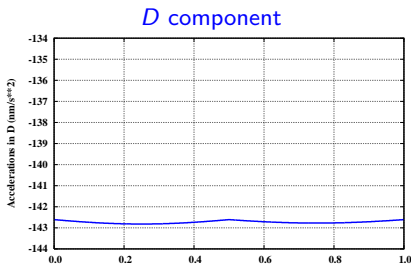
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## Conclusions

- The solar panels are pointing to the Sun and causing only a constant perturbation in  $D$ -direction.
- If the Sun is perpendicular to the orbital plane no periodic solar radiation pressure perturbations are expected.
- If the Sun is located in the orbital plane a once-per-revolution signal is expected in the  $X$ -direction and a twice-per-revolution signal in the  $D$ -direction.
- These periodic signals are the more pronounced the more the satellite body deviates from a sphere  
(less for a cube – GPS – than a cylinder – GLONASS)

# Solar radiation pressure from models

## Accelerations derived for GLONASS satellites from a boxwing model<sup>1</sup>



Computed for

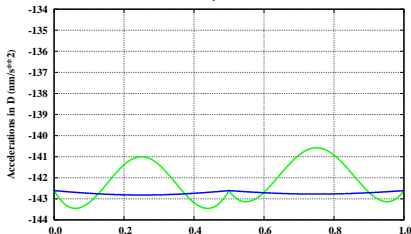
$$\beta = 88^\circ$$

<sup>1</sup>as proposed by Carlos Rodríguez-Solano for the IGS based on Ziebart (2001)

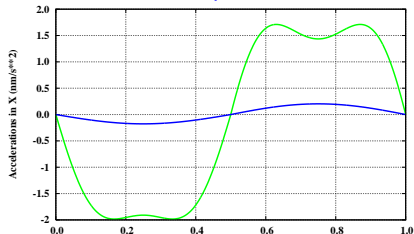
# Solar radiation pressure from models

## Accelerations derived for GLONASS satellites from a boxwing model<sup>1</sup>

D component



X component



Computed for

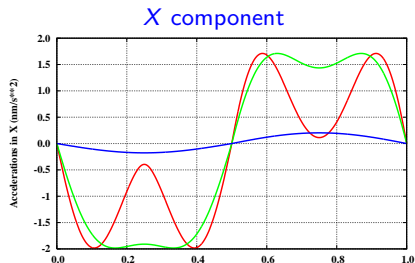
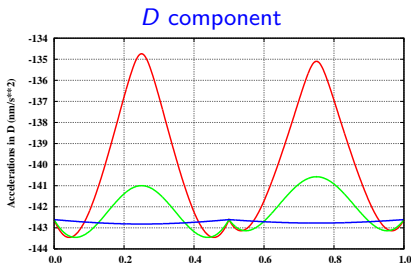
$\beta = 45^\circ$

$\beta = 88^\circ$

<sup>1</sup>as proposed by Carlos Rodriguez-Solano for the IGS based on Ziebart (2001)

# Solar radiation pressure from models

## Accelerations derived for GLONASS satellites from a boxwing model<sup>1</sup>



Computed for  $\beta = 10^\circ$

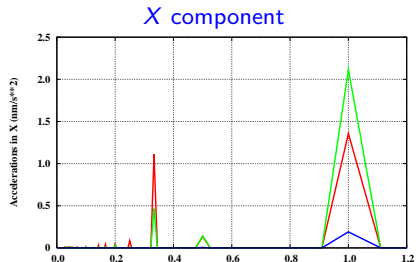
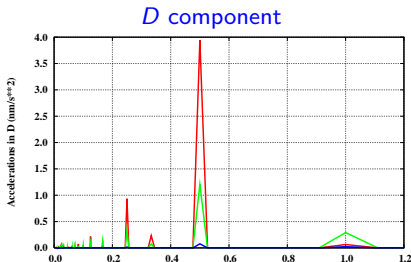
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## Accelerations derived for GLONASS satellites from a boxwing model<sup>1</sup>



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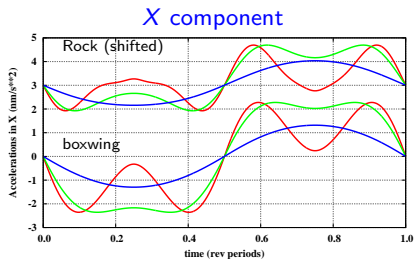
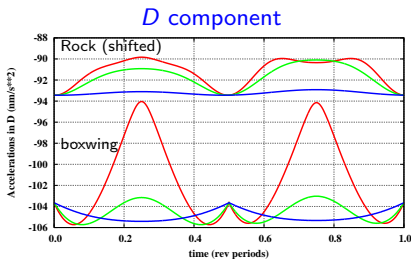
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# Solar radiation pressure from models

## Accelerations derived for GPS (Block IIA) satellites from a boxwing<sup>2</sup> and Rock-S<sup>3</sup> model



Computed for

$\beta = 10^\circ$

$\beta = 45^\circ$

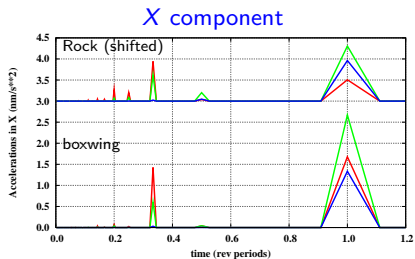
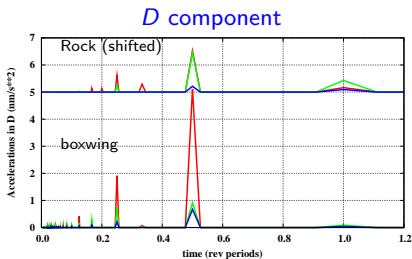
$\beta = 78^\circ$

<sup>2</sup>as proposed by Carlos Rodriguez-Solano based on Fliegel et al. (1992)

<sup>3</sup>Fliegel et al. (1992)

# Solar radiation pressure from models

## Accelerations derived for GPS (Block IIA) satellites from a boxwing<sup>2</sup> and Rock-S<sup>3</sup> model



Computed for  $\beta = 10^\circ$

$\beta = 45^\circ$

$\beta = 78^\circ$

<sup>2</sup>as proposed by Carlos Rodriguez-Solano based on Fliegel et al. (1992)

<sup>3</sup>Fliegel et al. (1992)

# Solar radiation pressure from models

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## Conclusions

- A Sun-fixed argument for the periodic terms is necessary to obtain interpretable series of these parameters:

$$u' = u_{sat} - u_{Sun}$$

# Solar radiation pressure from models

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## Conclusions

- A Sun-fixed argument for the periodic terms is necessary to obtain interpretable series of these parameters:

$$u' = u_{sat} - u_{Sun}$$

- Solar radiation pressure for satellites flying according to the previously mentioned models can be represented by:

$$D = D_0 + D_2 \cos(2u') + D_4 \cos(4u') + \dots$$

$$Y = (Y_0)$$

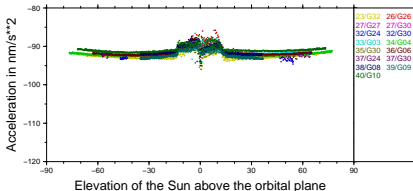
$$X = X_1 \cos(1u') + X_3 \cos(3u') + \dots$$

$Y_0 \neq 0$  if the satellite is flying “missaligned” with a  $Y$ -bias (e.g., GPS, except for Block IIF).

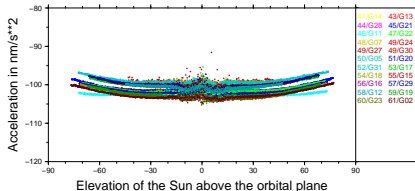
# Estimated solar radiation pressure

Component:  $D_0$

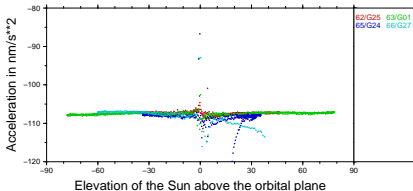
GPS Block IIA



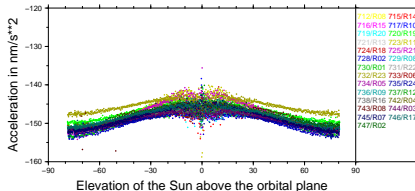
GPS Block IIR



GPS Block IIF

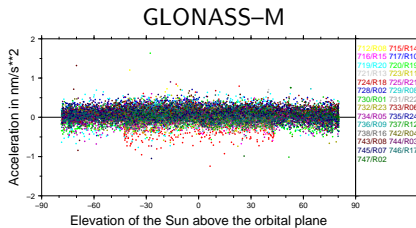
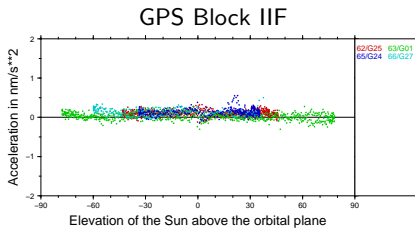
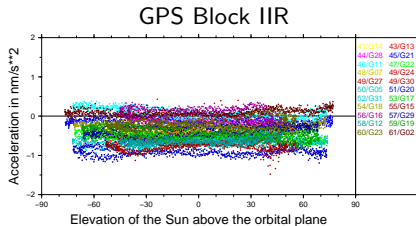
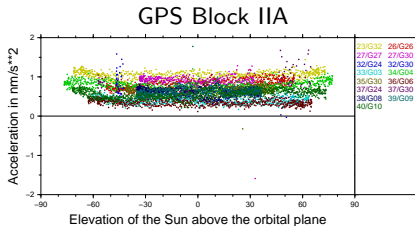


GLONASS-M



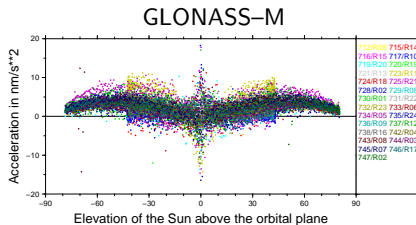
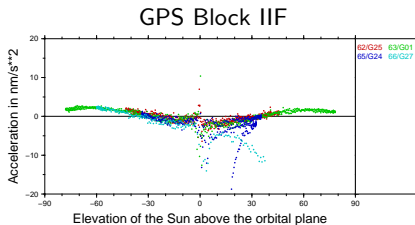
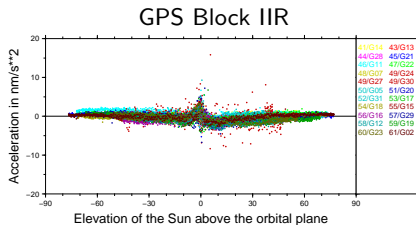
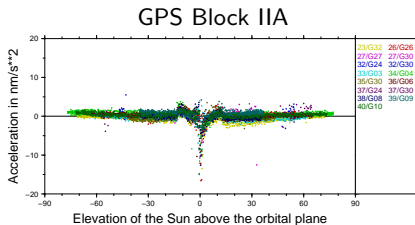
# Estimated solar radiation pressure

## Component: $Y_0$ (small scale)



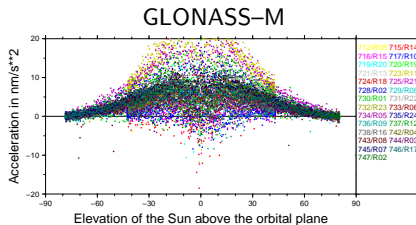
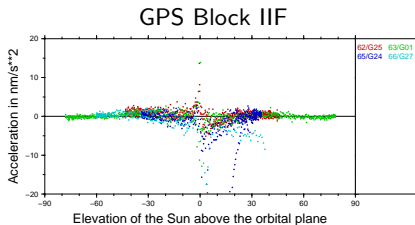
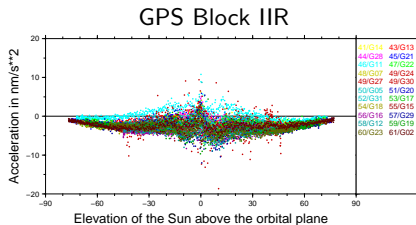
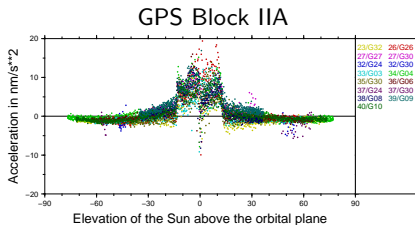
# Estimated solar radiation pressure

Component:  $\chi_1 \cdot \cos(1u')$



# Estimated solar radiation pressure

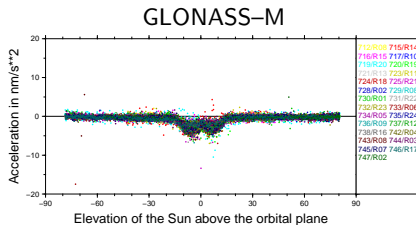
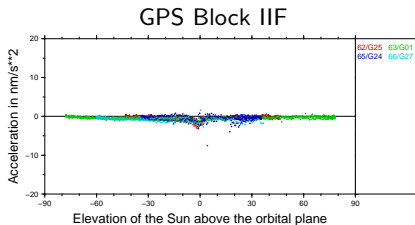
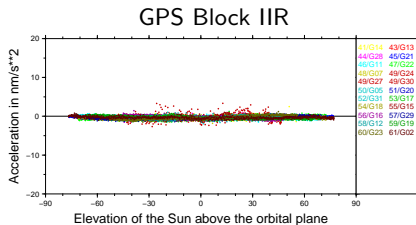
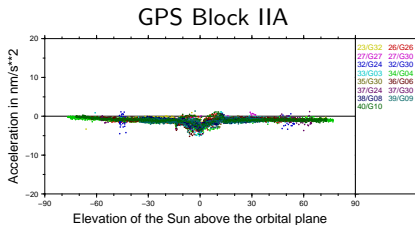
Component:  $D_2 \cdot \cos(2u')$





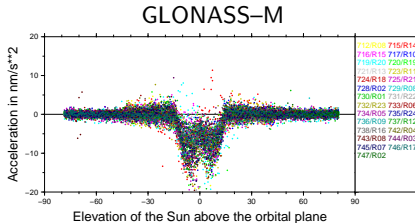
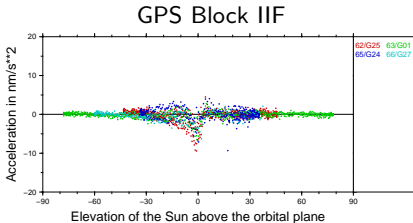
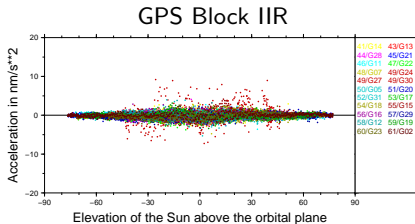
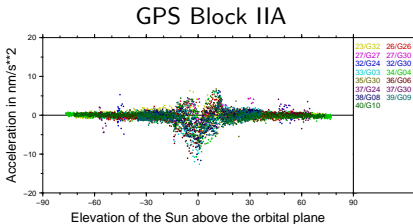
# Estimated solar radiation pressure

Component:  $X_1 \cdot \sin(1u')$



# Estimated solar radiation pressure

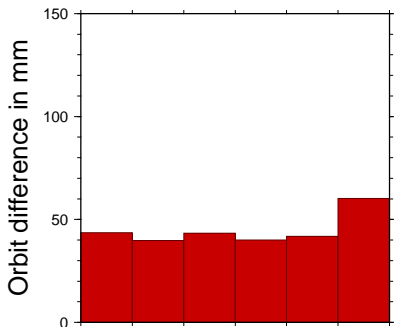
Component:  $D_2 \cdot \sin(2u')$



D. Arnold et al.: Impact of GNSS Orbit Modelling on Reference Frame Parameters  
REFAG 2014: 13-17 October, 2014 Kirchberg

# Impact on the GNSS Satellite orbits

Orbit overlaps from one-day solutions (mean over all components)

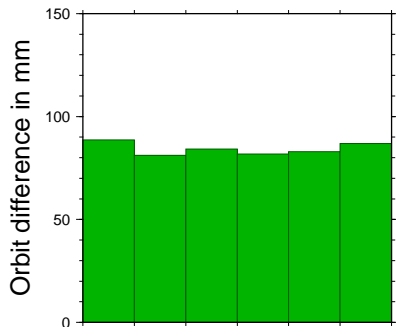


Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

X

D



Solutions (GLONASS)

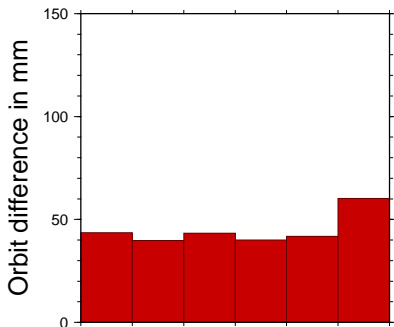
Components of the orbit model:

X

D

# Impact on the GNSS Satellite orbits

## Orbit overlaps from one-day solutions (mean over all components)

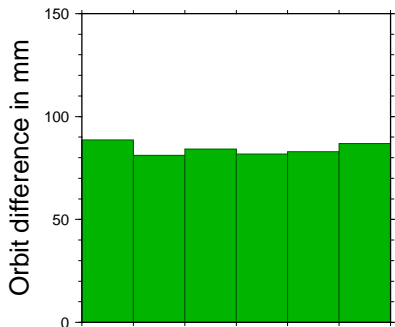


Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$X$   $1u'$

$D$  -



Solutions (GLONASS)

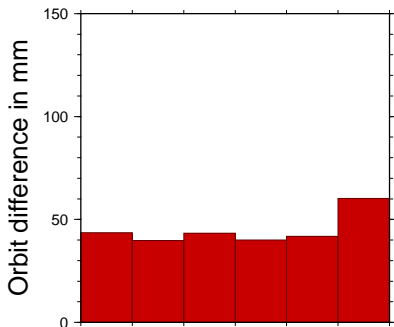
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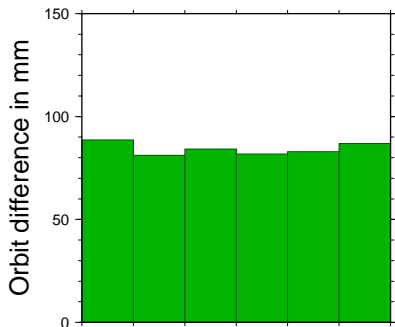


Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$$X \quad 1u' \quad 1u'$$

$$D \quad - \quad 2u'$$



Solutions (GLONASS)

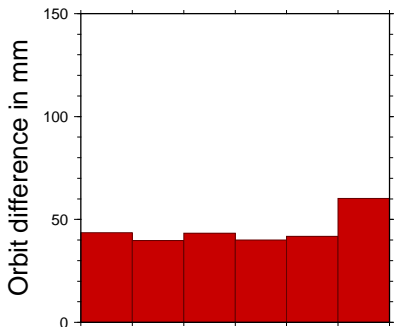
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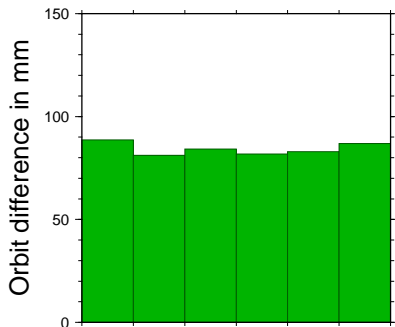


Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$X$   $1u'$   $1u'$   $-$

$D$   $-$   $2u'$   $2u'$



Solutions (GLONASS)

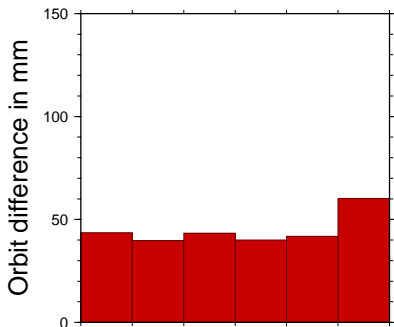
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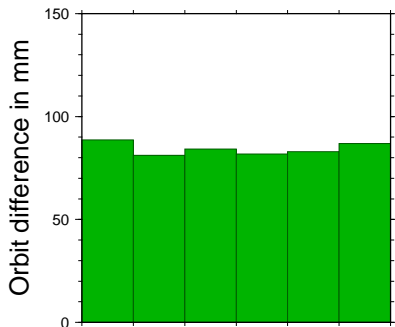


Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$$X \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad - \quad 1u'$$

$$D \quad - \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 4u'$$



Solutions (GLONASS)

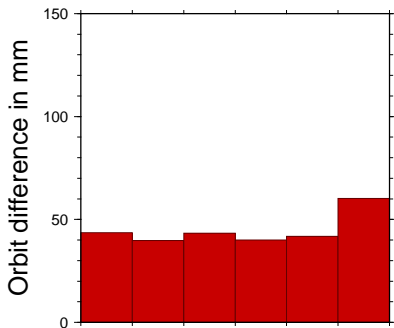
Components of the orbit model:

$$X \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad - \quad 1u'$$

$$D \quad - \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 4u'$$

# Impact on the GNSS Satellite orbits

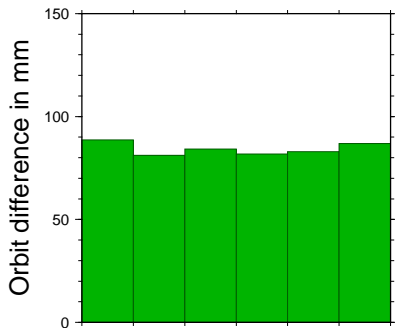
Orbit overlaps from one-day solutions (mean over all components)



Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 X \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad - \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 3u' \\
 D \quad - \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 4u'
 \end{array}$$



Solutions (GLONASS)

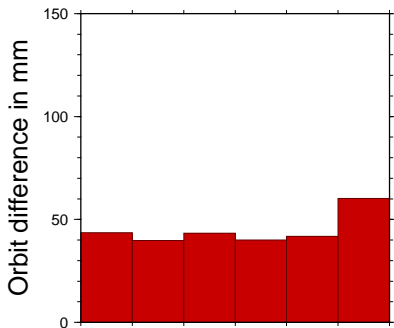
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 \end{array}$$



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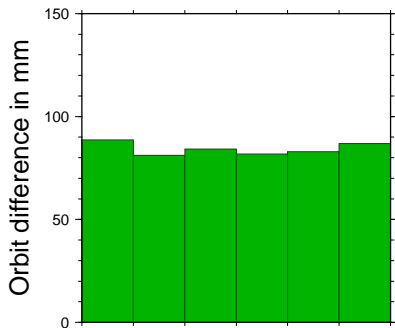
Orbit overlaps from one-day solutions (mean over all components)



Solutions (GPS)

Components of the orbit model:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 X \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad - \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 3u' \quad 3u' \\
 D \quad - \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 4u' \qquad \qquad (\cos)
 \end{array}$$



Solutions (GLONASS)

Components of the orbit model:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 X \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad - \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \quad 1u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 3u' \quad 3u' \\
 D \quad - \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \quad 2u' \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad 4u' \qquad \qquad (\cos)
 \end{array}$$

## Conclusions

- The new definition of the angular argument ( $u' = u_{sat} - u_{Sun}$  instead of  $u_{sat}$ ) allows it to better interpret of estimated parameter series, e.g., w.r.t. the elevation of the Sun above the orbital plane.

## Conclusions

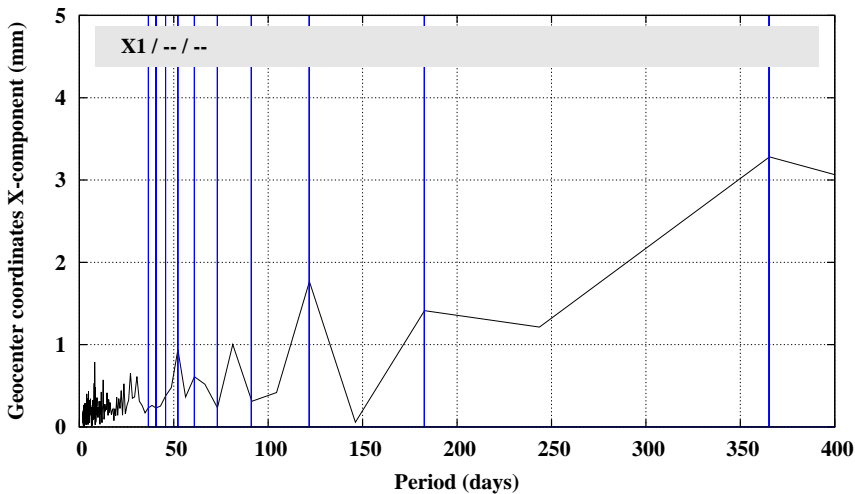
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- The new definition of the angular argument ( $u' = u_{sat} - u_{Sun}$  instead of  $u_{sat}$ ) allows it to better interpret of estimated parameter series, e.g., w.r.t. the elevation of the Sun above the orbital plane.
- Adding twice-per-revolution terms in  $D$ -component improves the orbit solution.
- Even if the sin-terms are not necessary according to theory they are needed for representing real satellite trajectories.

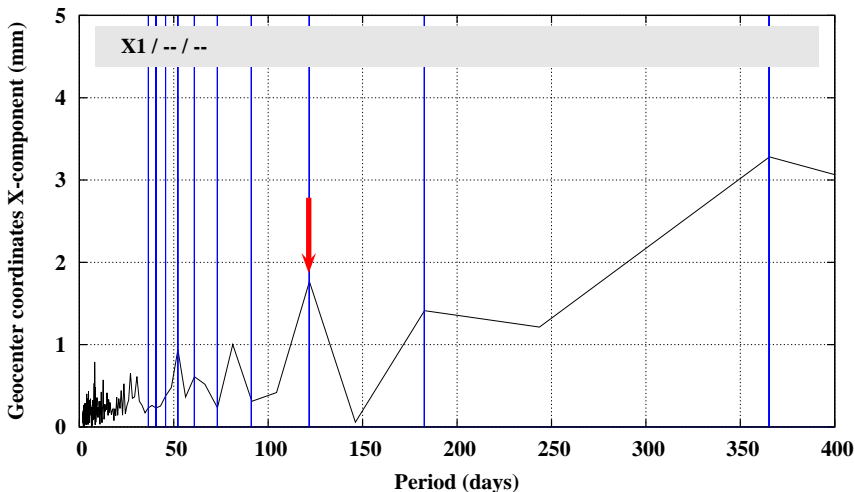
# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

Spectra from geocenter estimates: X component



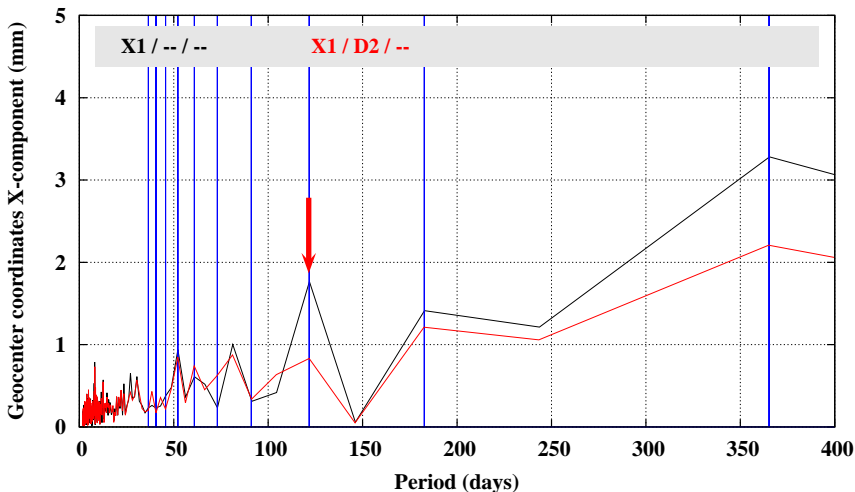
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Spectra from geocenter estimates: X component



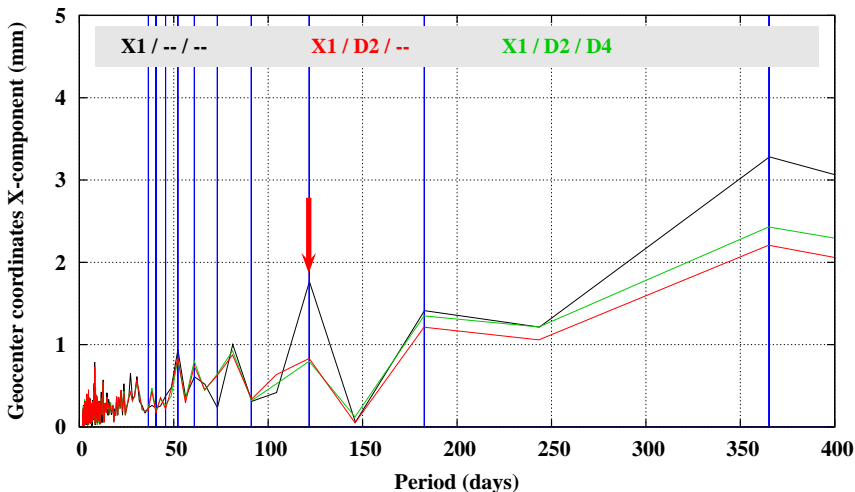
# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

## Spectra from geocenter estimates: X component



# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

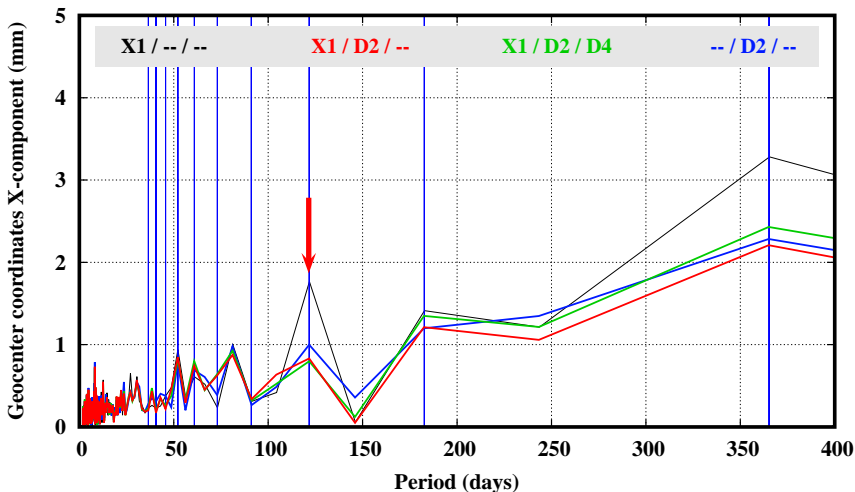
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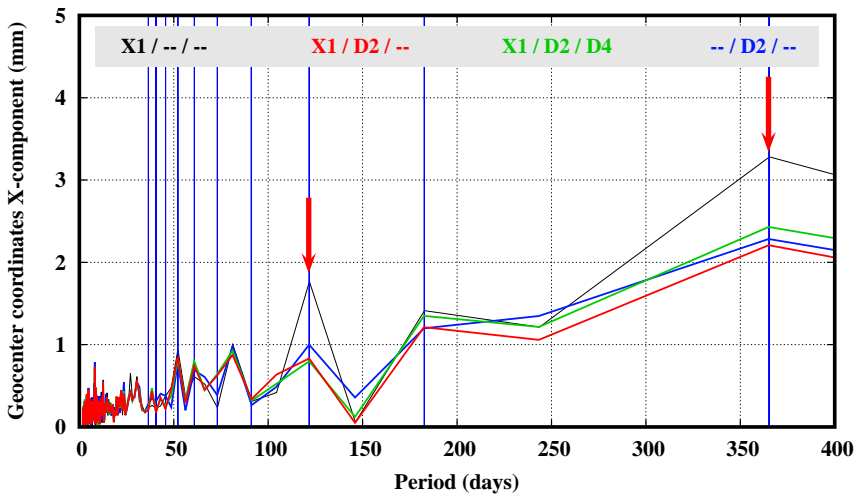
# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

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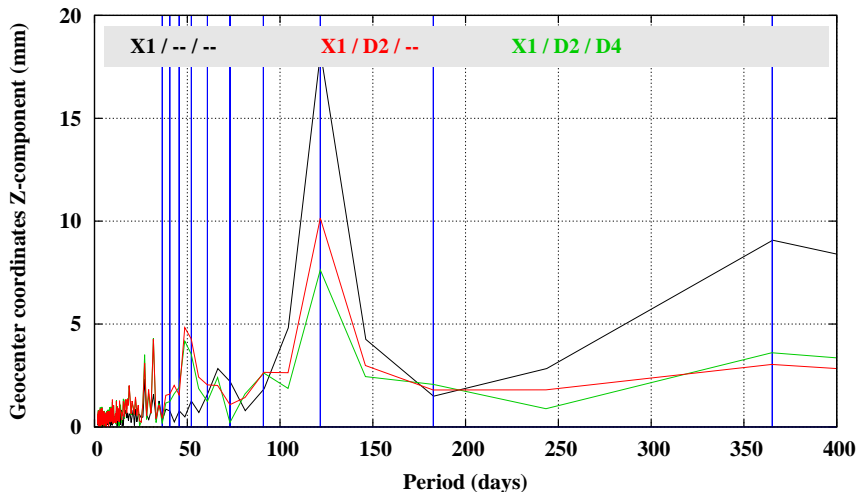
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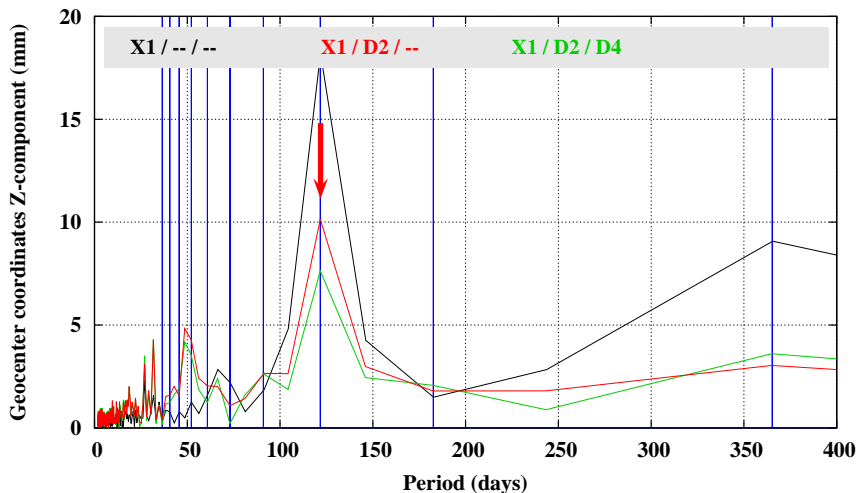
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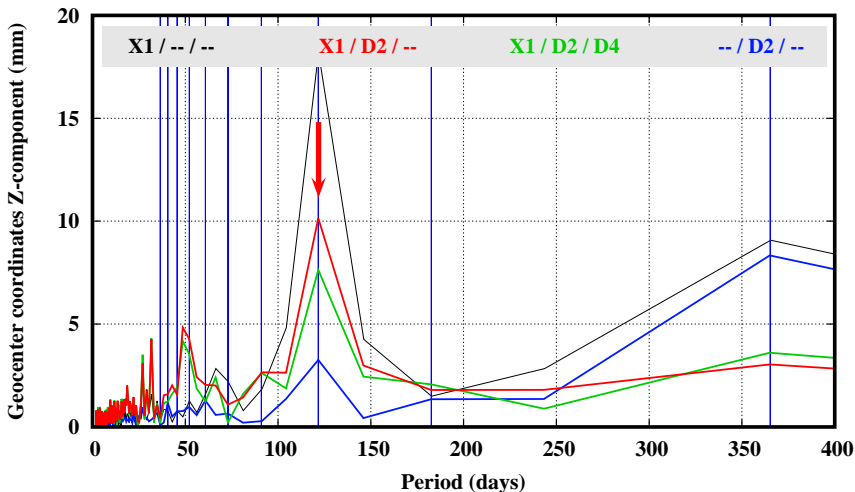
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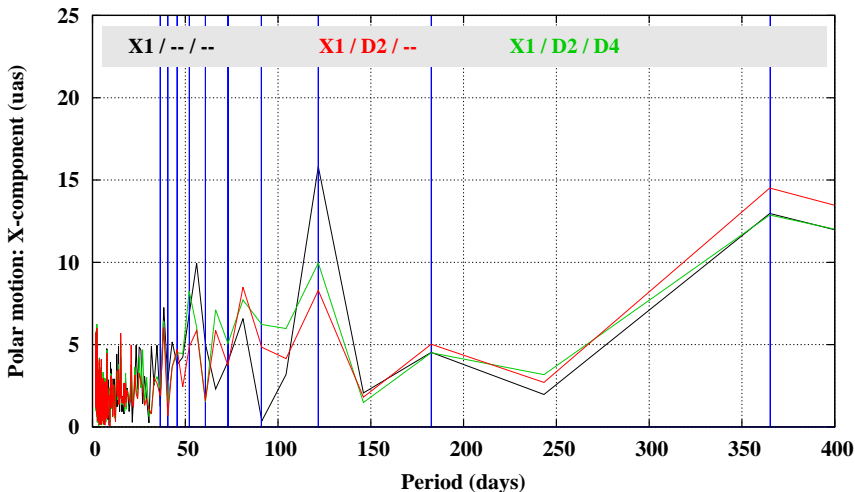
# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

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# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

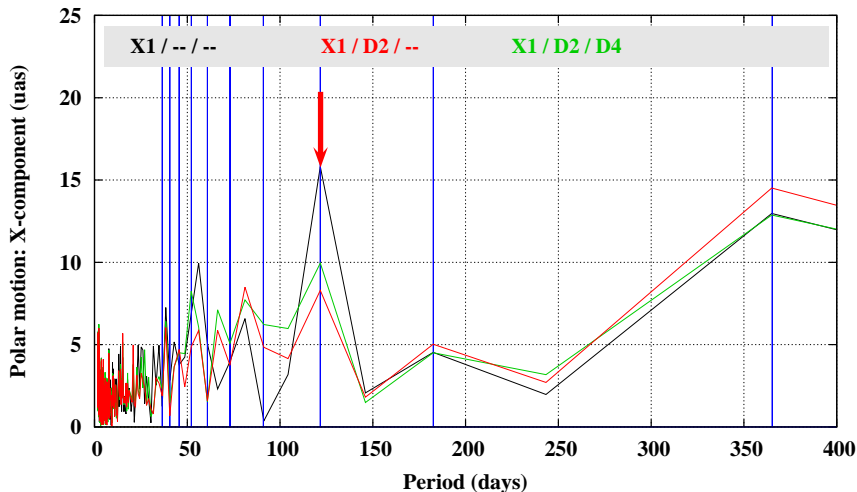
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – X



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

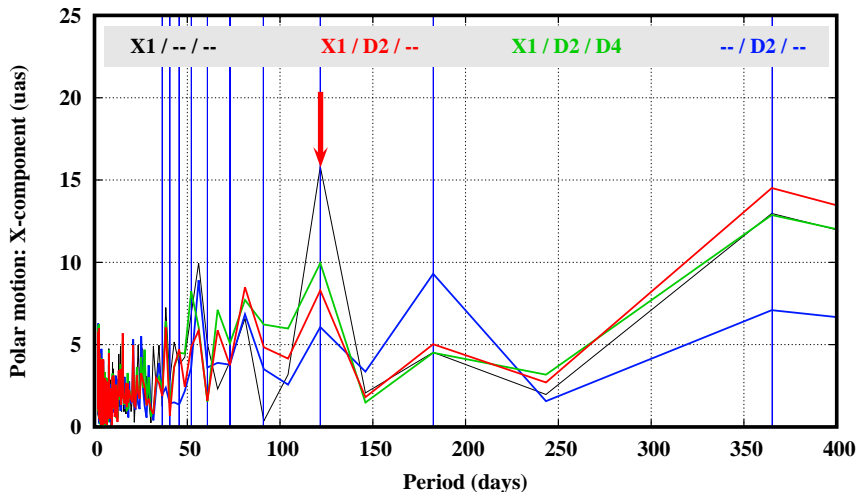
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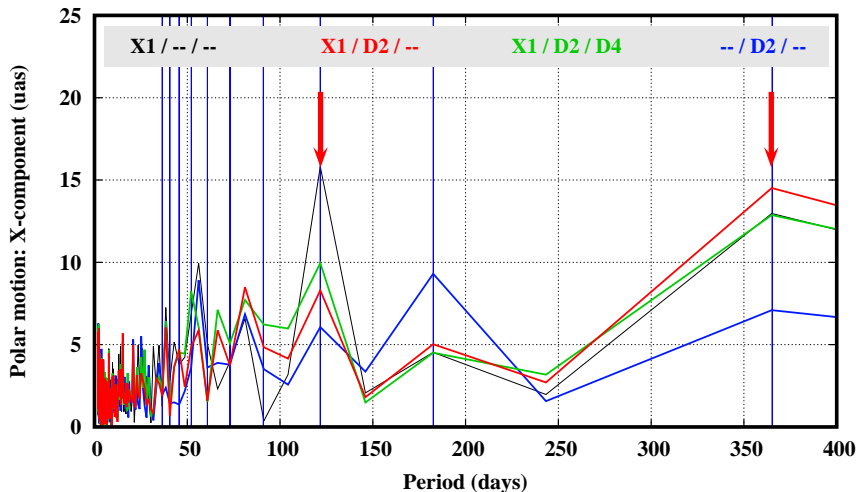


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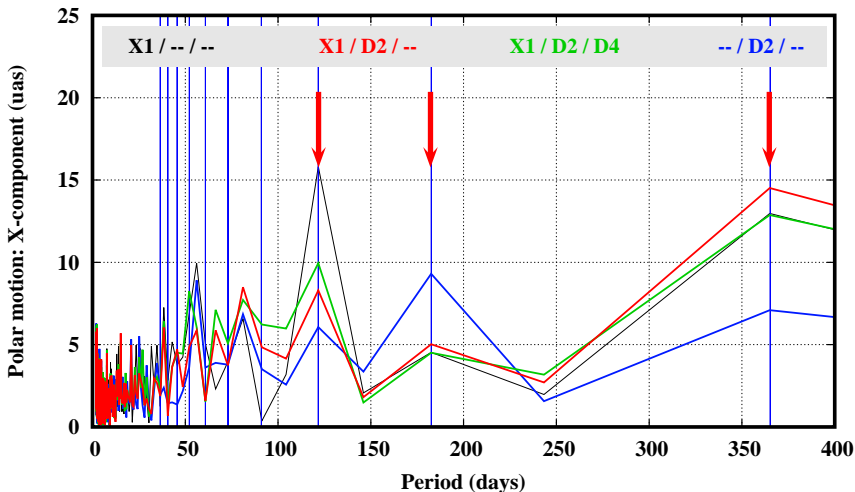
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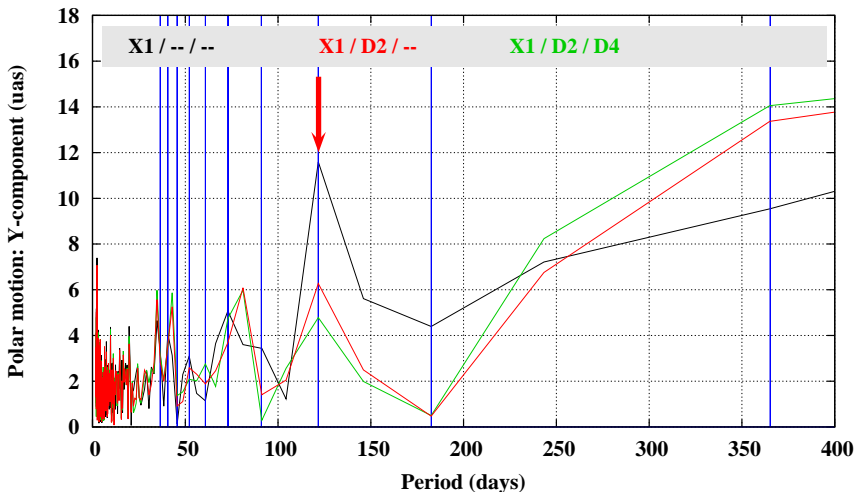
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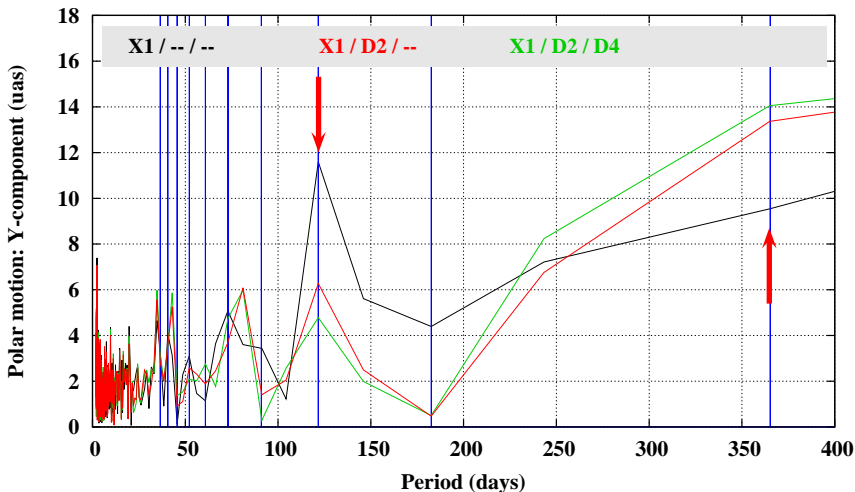
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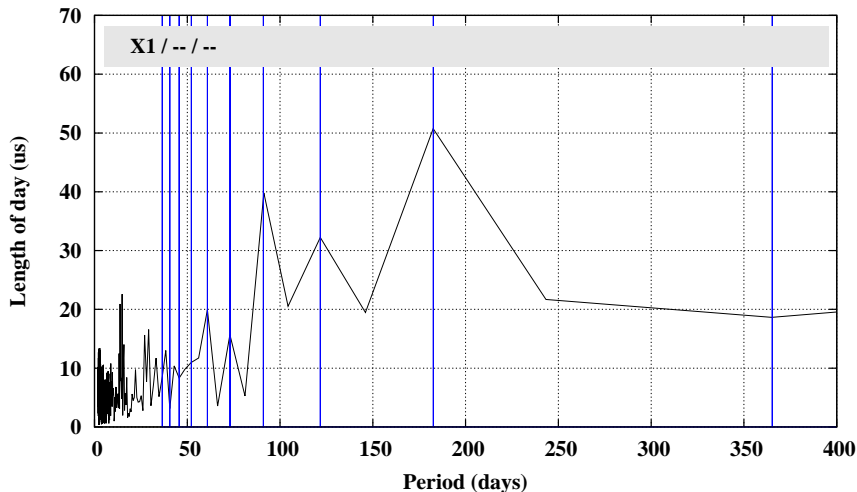
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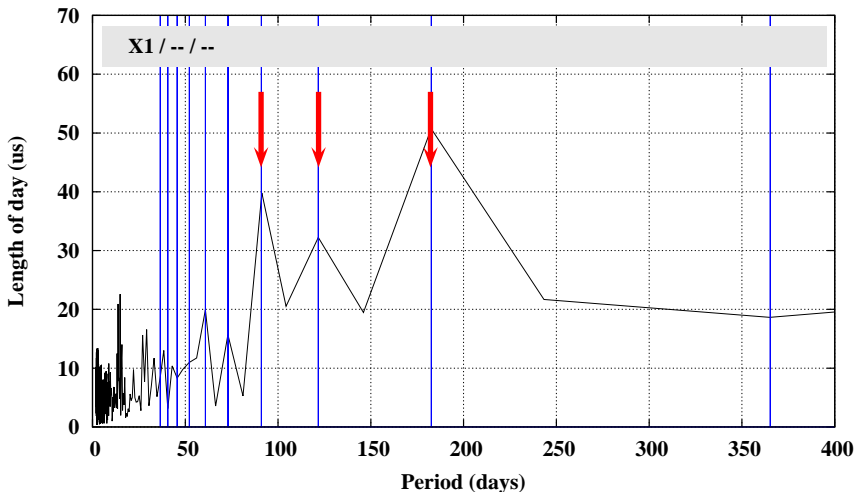
## Spectra from ERP solution: length of day



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) have been analysed.

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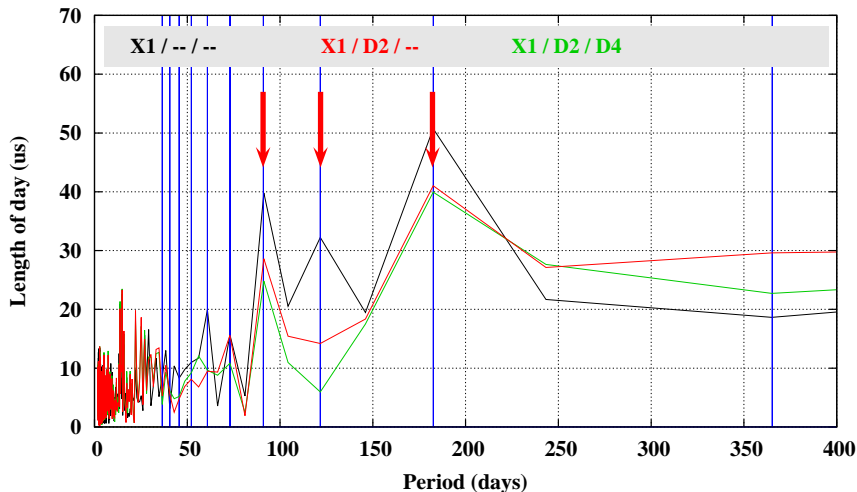
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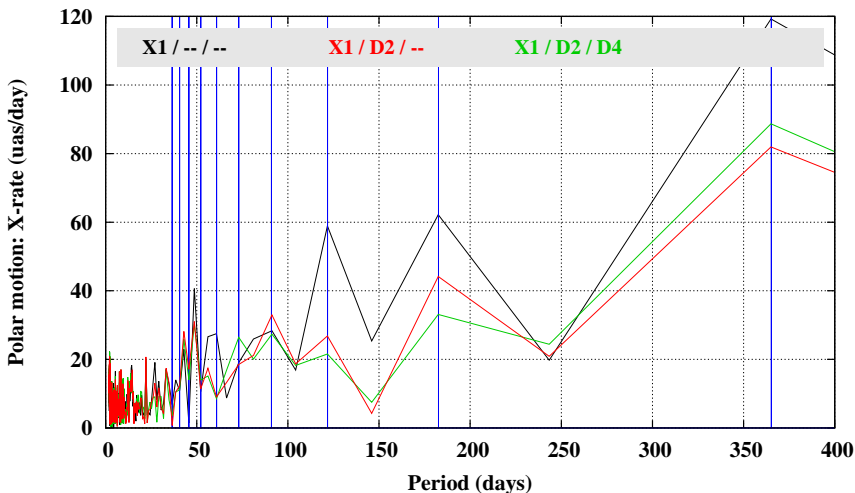
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Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) have been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – X rate

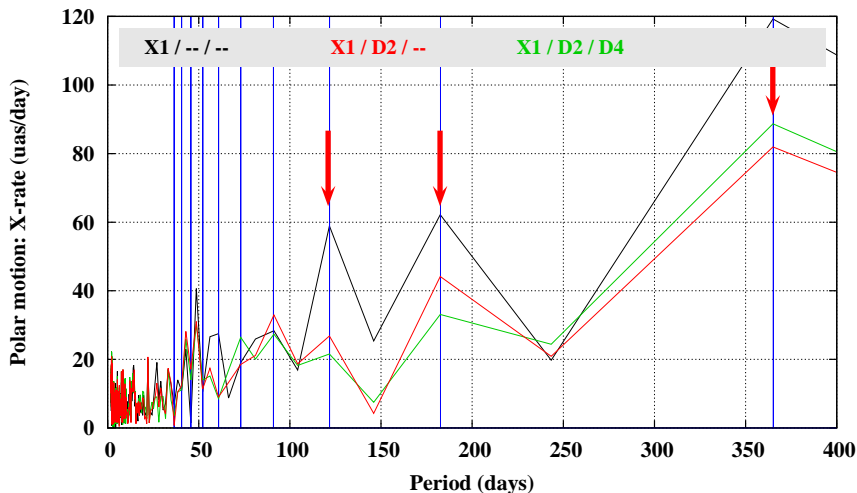


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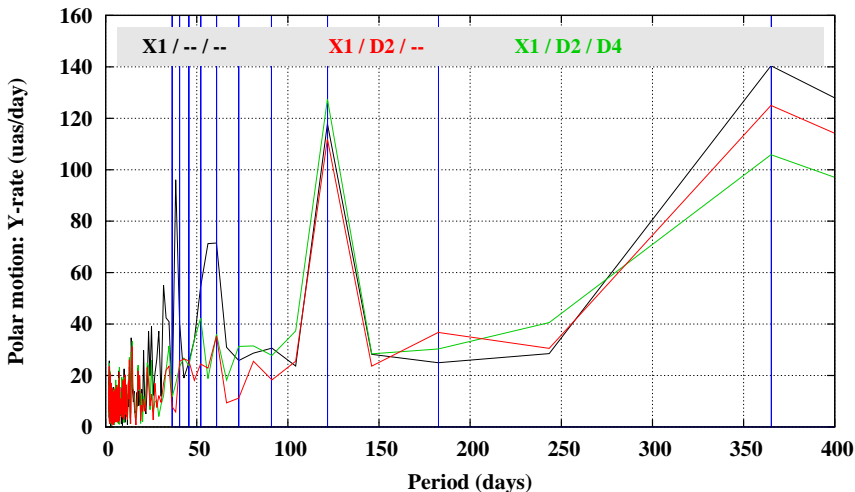
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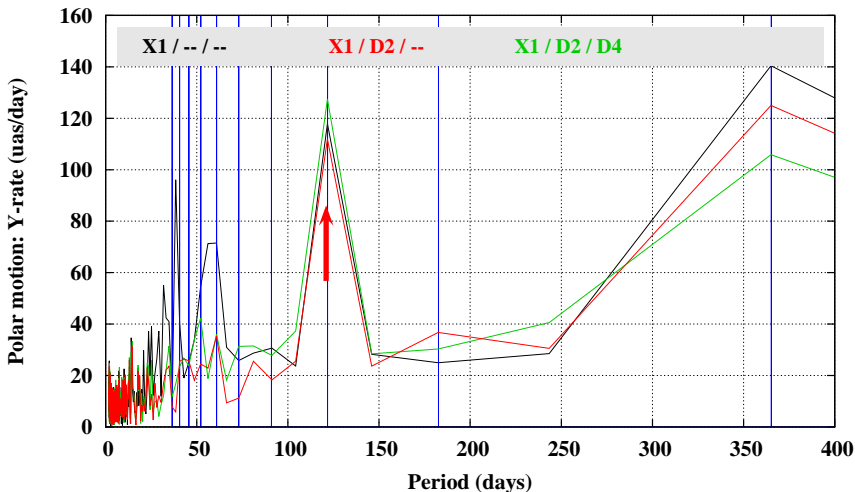
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# Impact on the Reference Frame Parameters

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- The analysis of the Earth rotation parameters shows a similar effect (apart from  $\dot{Y}$ ).
- The most promising orbit parameter setup is:  $X_1$ ,  $D_2$  (and  $D_4$ ).

# Long-Arc Solutions

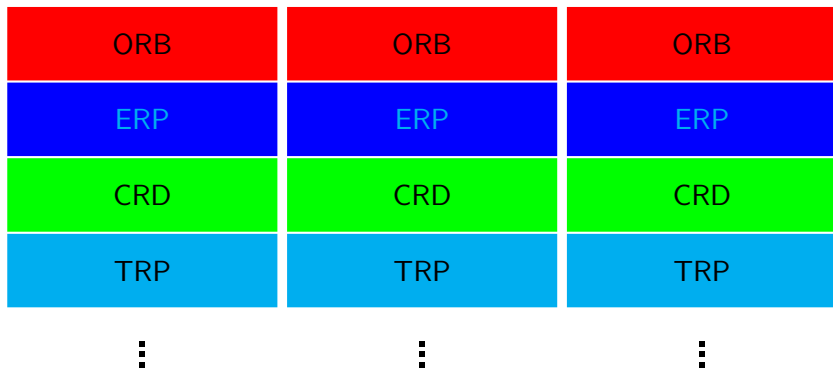
## Strategy for the long-arc solution

Classical approach to generate three-day solutions at CODE:

NEQ from day  $-1$

NEQ from day  $\pm 0$

NEQ from day  $+1$





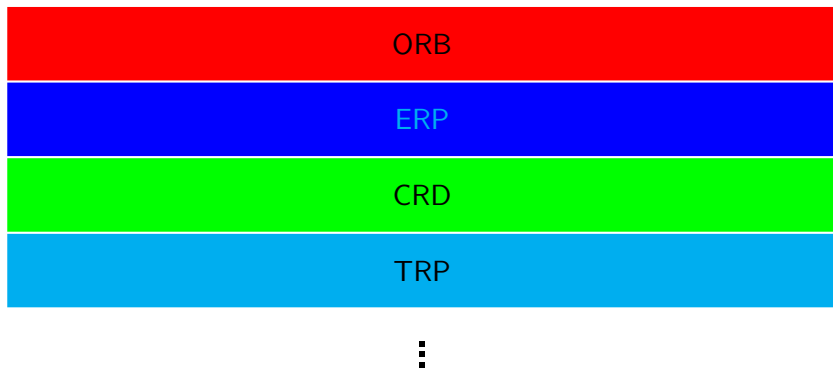
# Long-Arc Solutions

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## Strategy for the long-arc solution

Classical approach to generate three-day solutions at CODE:

NEQ for long-arc solution, day  $\pm 0$



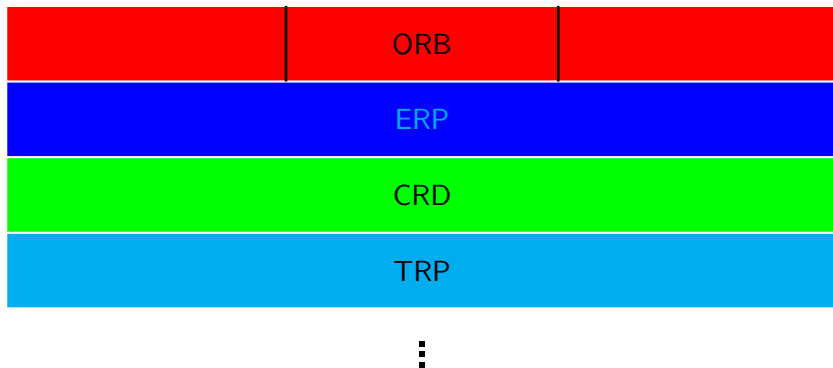
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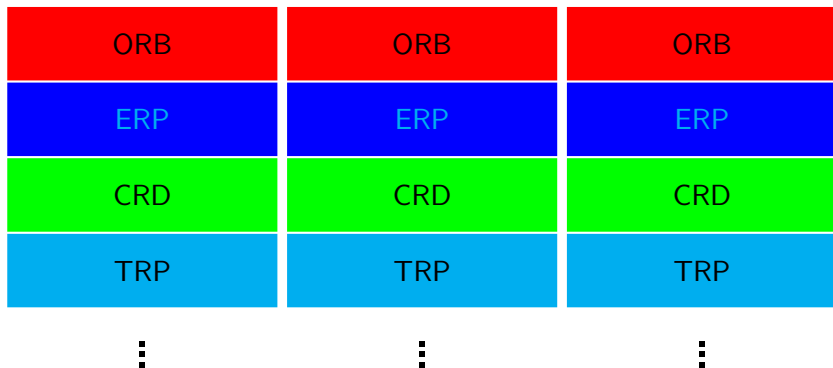
## Strategy for the long-arc solution

Alternative approach for a three-day long-arc solutions:

NEQ from day  $-1$

NEQ from day  $\pm 0$

NEQ from day  $+1$

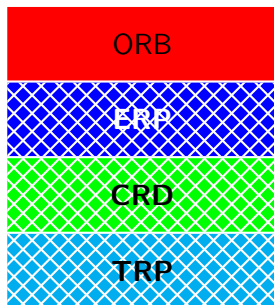


# Long-Arc Solutions

## Strategy for the long-arc solution

Alternative approach for a three-day long-arc solutions:

NEQ from day  $-1$



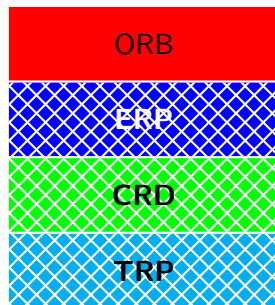
⋮

NEQ from day  $\pm 0$



⋮

NEQ from day  $+1$



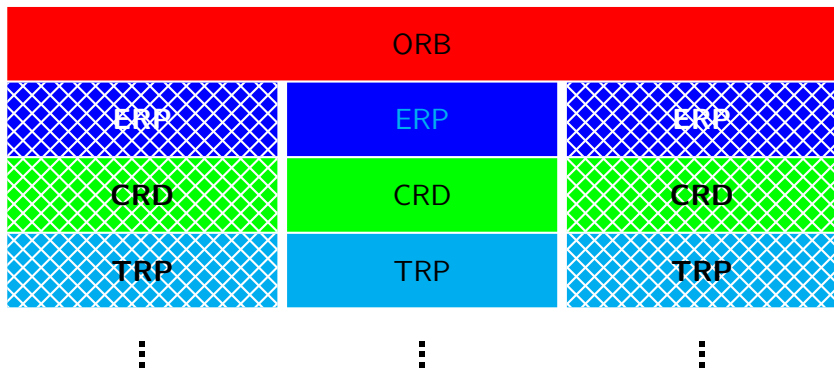
⋮

# Long-Arc Solutions

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Alternative approach for a three-day long-arc solutions:

NEQ for long-arc solution, day  $\pm 0$

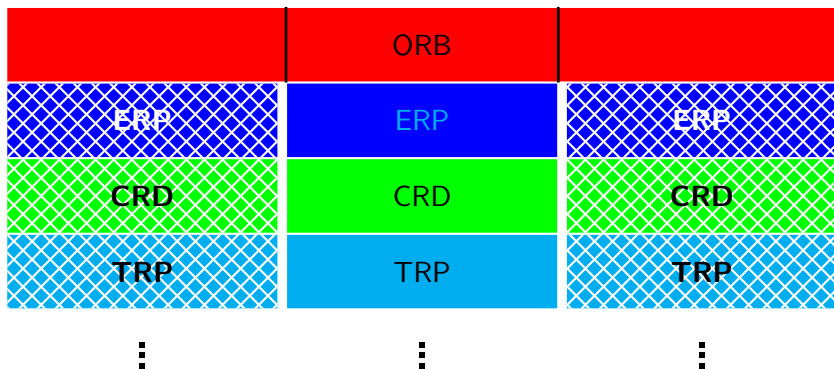


# Long-Arc Solutions

## Strategy for the long-arc solution

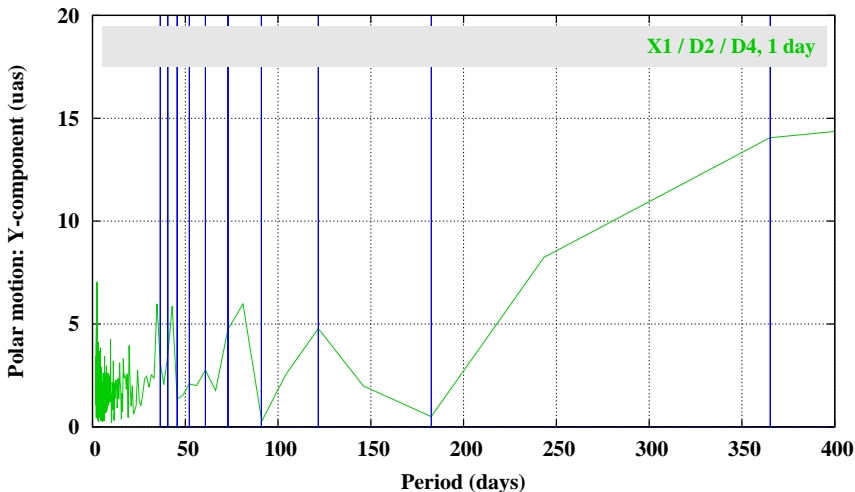
Alternative approach for a three-day long-arc solutions:

NEQ for long-arc solution, day  $\pm 0$



# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

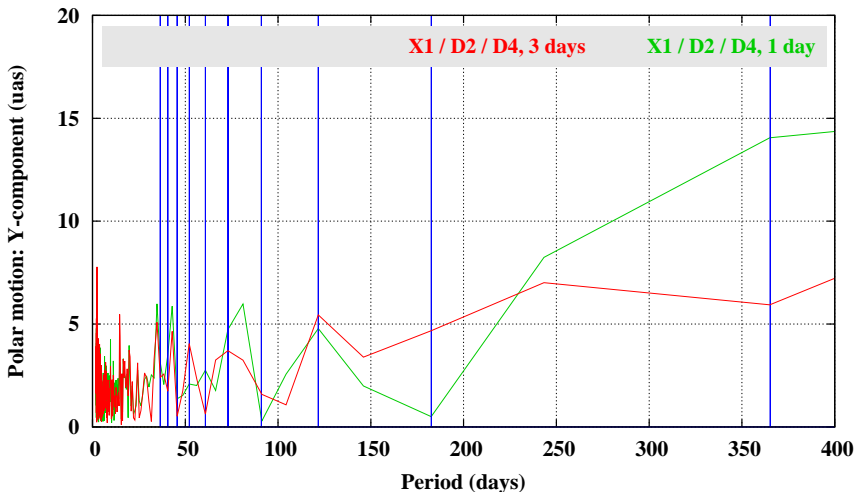
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – Y



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – Y

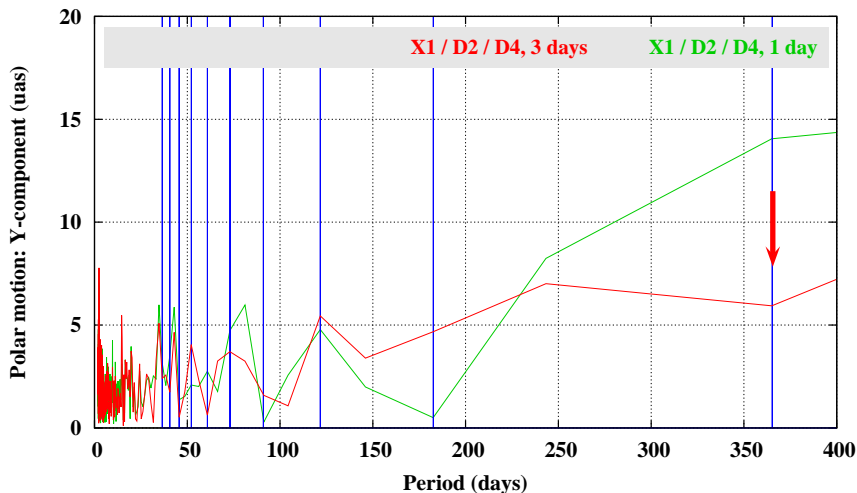


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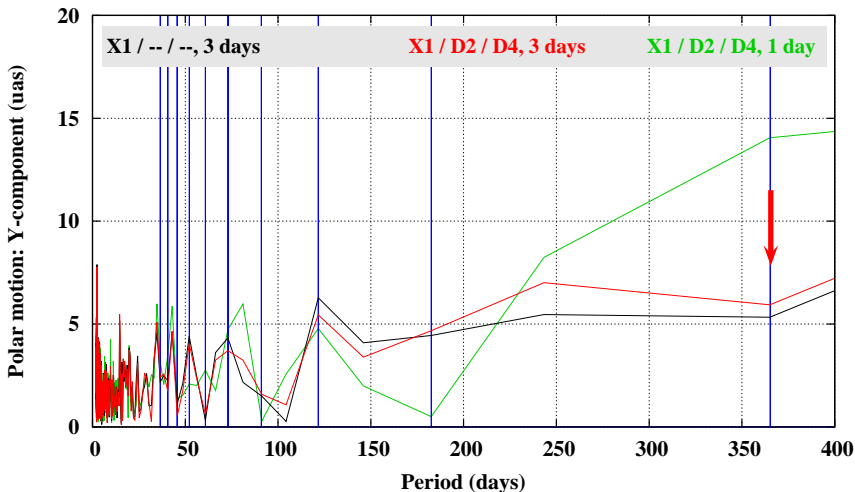
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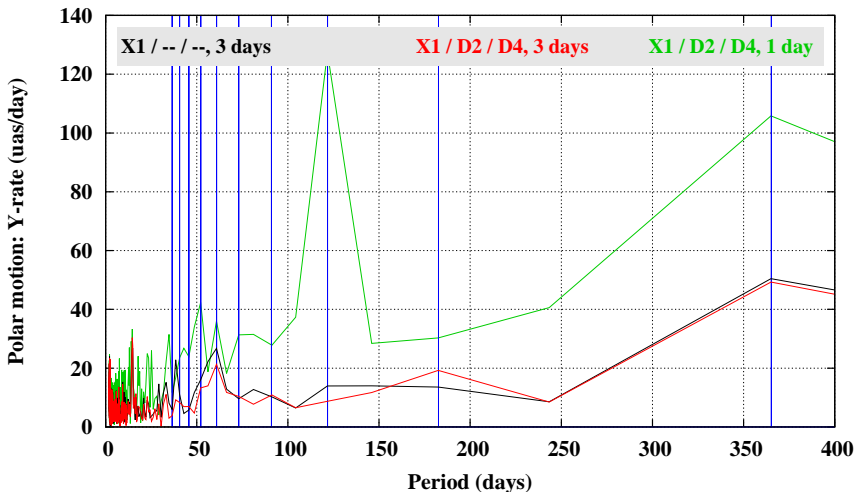
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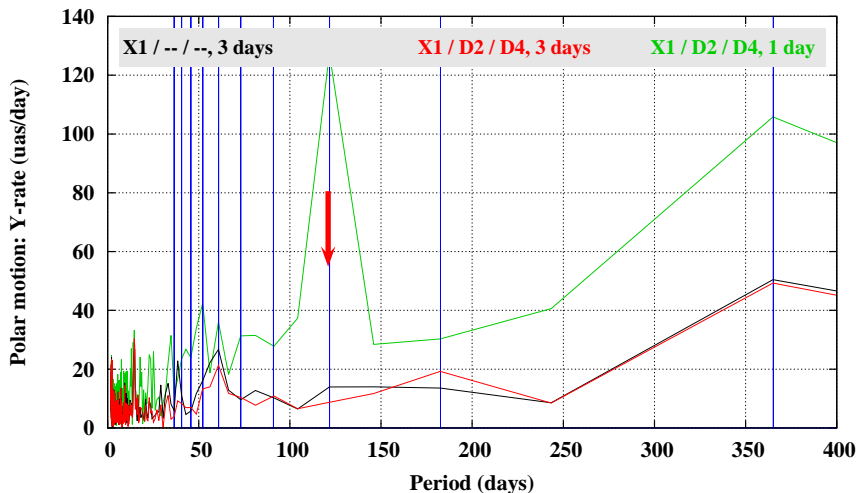
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – Y rate



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

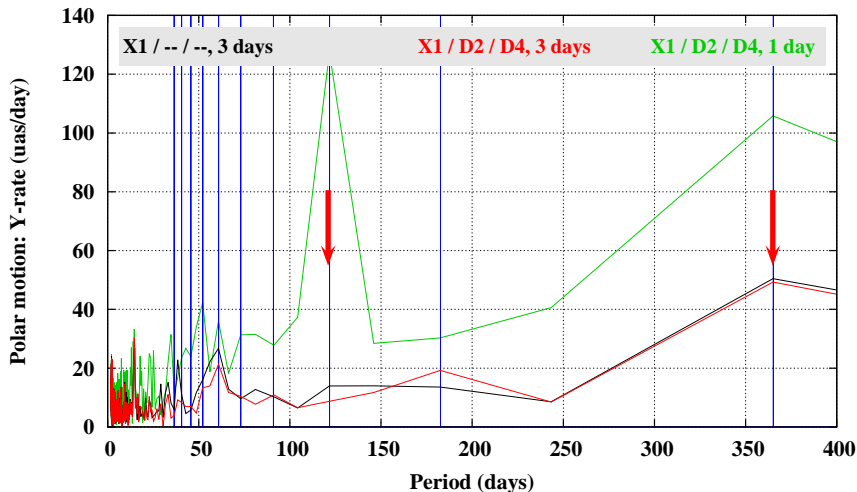
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – Y rate



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

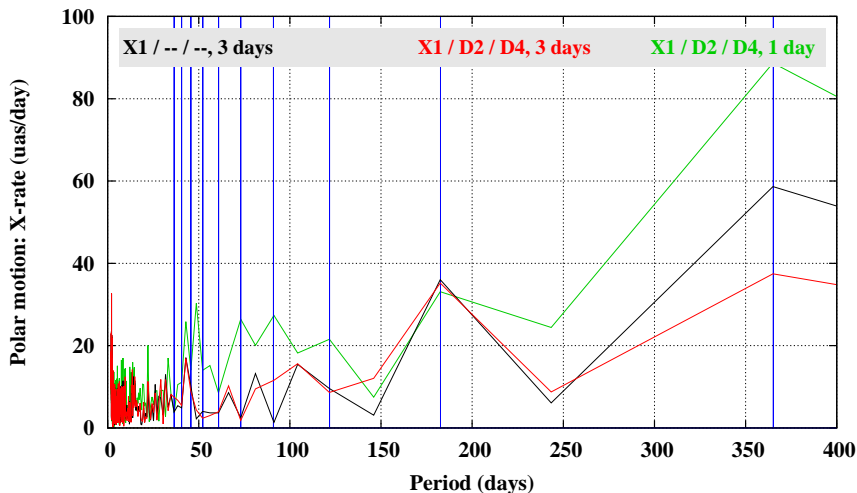
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – Y rate



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

# Impact on the Earth Rotation Parameters

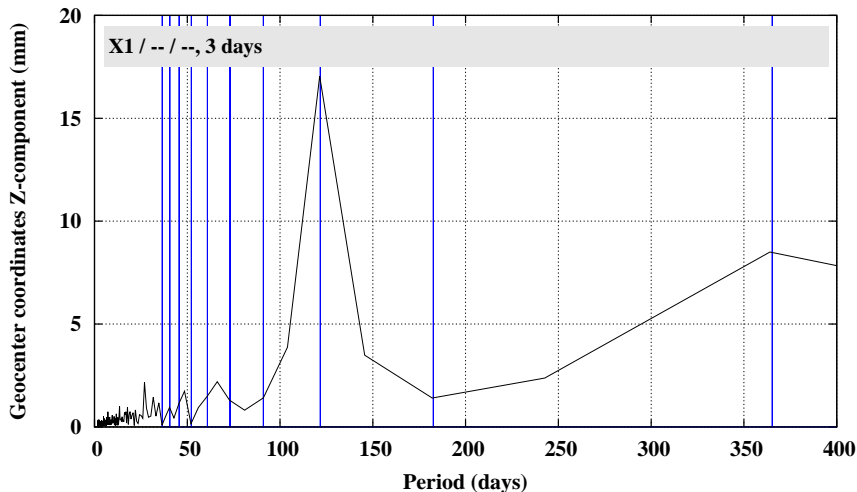
## Spectra from ERP solution: Polar motion – X rate



Differences w.r.t. IERS C04 series (related to ITRF2008) has been analysed.

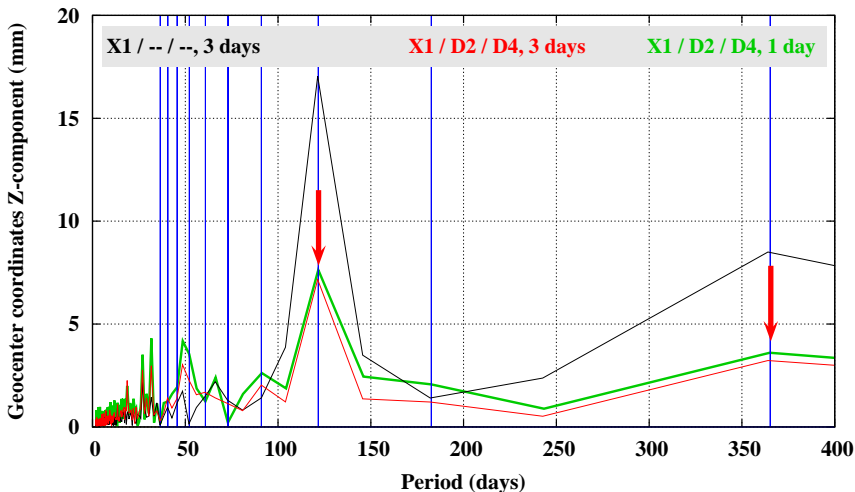
# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

## Spectra from geocenter estimates: Z component



# Impact on the Geocenter Estimates

## Spectra from geocenter estimates: Z component





# Long–Arc Solutions

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## Conclusions

- Long–arc solutions help to reduce the discontinuities between the daily orbit arcs by construction.

# Long–Arc Solutions

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# Long–Arc Solutions

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# Long–Arc Solutions

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## Conclusions

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- The improvement for the rates in polar motion ( $\dot{X}$  and  $\dot{Y}$ ) and in the length of day component are remarkable.
- In the geocenter series the orbit parametrization is more important than the arc length.
- **CODE is currently preparing the transfer of this new orbit model into its operational IGS processing.**

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# THANK YOU

for your attention



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