

Analysis Coordinator Report

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Abstract This report introduces my initial activities as IVS Analysis Coordinator (ACo) since taking over this role in mid-2024. These activities include creating a new website, communication and outreach, organization of the IVS Analysis Center and Combination Center Working Meetings, and contributing to new IVS Working Groups.

1 Introduction

I was elected the new IVS Analysis Coordinator (ACo) in March 2024 at the IVS Directing Board (DB) meeting following the IVS General Assembly in Tsukuba, Japan. Following the announcement, there was a handover meeting with former IVS ACo John Gipson. This report covers the activities since taking over the IVS ACo role in mid-2024.

2 Website

In 2024, a temporary website for the IVS Analysis Coordinator was set up as a subpage of the Space Geodesy group website at ETH Zurich (<https://space.igp.ethz.ch/>). At the same time, work on the main website of the IVS ACo had been ongoing. The main website was eventually released in early 2025: <https://unlimited.ethz.ch/x/rx2PEg>. Going forward, the website will serve as the main platform

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for important information related to IVS analysis activities. It is based on Confluence for ease of use and to facilitate the handover to future IVS ACos. It retains information from the website of the previous IVS ACo, John Gipson, while being updated with new information, such as the second ITRF2020 update (ITRF2020-u2024) in early 2025. The website will continuously be improved, and feedback is welcome.



Fig. 1 Website of the IVS ACo as of March 2025.

3 IVS Presentations at Major Conferences

The IVS DB decided to more regularly give public updates on recent IVS activities at major geodetic conferences (especially EGU, AGU, IAG, and IUGG). While this is done by most other (geometric) IAG services

such as the International GNSS Service, the IVS has been inconsistent in this regard. In the future, the IVS ACo is expected to play an important role in this regard.

In 2024, I gave an oral presentation about “The IVS Commitment to Advancing Terrestrial Reference Frames: ITRF2020 Update and Future Developments” at the ITRF session at the AGU Fall Meeting 2024 [1]. In addition to the IVS contribution to the first ITRF2020 update (ITRF2020-u2023), it discussed VGOS results and perspectives for the upcoming Genesis mission. For 2025, I plan a contribution to the IAG Scientific Assembly focusing on the second ITRF2020 update (ITRF2020-u2024).

4 Organization of AC and CC Meetings

Minghui Xu, Sabine Bachmann, and I took over the organization of the **BSCW Server** (<https://bscw.bund.de/sec/bscw.cgi/273957803>) and the **IVS Analysis Center and Combination Center Working Meetings** from Anastasiia Walenta. We organized a first meeting with introductory presentations about the new IVS ACo (myself), the new Analysis and Data Centers Representative (Minghui), and the BSCW server infrastructure (Sabine). The following meeting focused on the IVS contributions to ITRF2020-u2024.

5 Contributions to IVS Working Groups

In 2024, two new IVS Working Groups were established that are closely linked to VLBI analysis. I strongly supported their establishment and serve as an ex officio member in both.

- IVS Working Group on Satellite Observations with VLBI (WG7)
- IVS Working Group on VLBI Scale (WG9)

In WG7, I maintained a list of VLBI analysis software packages that support satellite observations. The initial list is available on the IVS ACo website¹. In WG9, I will disseminate lists of station position discontinuities and non-linear events via the IVS ACo website.

¹ <https://unlimited.ethz.ch/x/BE6PEg>

Regarding the Genesis missions, I have joined the IAG/IERS Working Group 1.1.1 “GENESIS” and the ESA Genesis Science Exploitation Team (GSET) Working Group 1 “ITRF & Combination of Techniques.” I also regularly receive updates from Dr. Matthias Schartner, senior assistant in my research group, who joined the ESA GSET Working Group 3 on “VLBI.”

6 Networking and Outreach

I started a **listening tour** with the goal of meeting the responsible persons behind various IVS ACs (in progress), the IVS CC (done), the IERS Analysis Coordinator (done), and the IERS ITRS CCs (in progress). While doing so, I was able to learn about their priorities, challenges, and suggestions.

I had the opportunity for an **interview in the IVS Newsletter** with editor Hayo Hase about my background, research interests, and important topics in VLBI analysis. The interview was published in Issue 70 and released in December 2024².

7 Next Steps

In early 2025, the main goal is going to be the successful contribution of the IVS to the second ITRF2020 update (ITRF2020-u2024). I will coordinate this activity and post updates on the IVS ACo website³. As of March 2025, the IVS combined solution has been successfully submitted to the IERS ITRS Combination Centers and will be discussed in detail in the next IVS Biennial Report.

I will organize my first IVS Analysis Workshop since becoming IVS ACo. It will take place in April 2025 as a splinter meeting during the EVGA Working Meeting in Matera, Italy. The agenda and, at a later stage, the minutes will be available at the IVS ACo website⁴.

² <https://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/publications/newsletter/issue70.pdf>

³ <https://unlimited.ethz.ch/x/Wx6PEg>

⁴ <https://unlimited.ethz.ch/x/2FH-Eg>

References

1. Soja, B., Bachmann, S., Gipson, J., Behrend, D., and Haas, R. (2024). The IVS Commitment to Advancing Terrestrial Reference Frames: ITRF2020 Update and Future Developments. *AGU Fall Meeting 2024*. <https://doi.org/10.3929/ethz-b-000711490>