

Foreword

Since its creation in 1999, the International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry (IVS) has documented its progress and current status in the form of annual or biennial reports. The first sixteen years were recorded in the form of annual reports. Starting in 2015/2016 the cadence was changed to two years; hence, this Biennial Report marks ten years of using the two-yearly reporting scheme.

The general structure of the reporting has remained stable over the years: the individual components of the IVS contributed short reports describing their numerous activities, progress, and future plans. Without the continued input from the VLBI groups of the international geodetic and astrometric community, this publication could not be compiled and the IVS itself would not be able to flourish. So, once again many thanks to all IVS components who contributed to this Biennial Report.

Like all other IVS publications, the Biennial Report is published in electronic form only. The last IVS publication, for which also a printed version was created, was the Biennial Report for 2015+2016. All IVS publications (i.e., Annual/Biennial Reports, General Meeting Proceedings, and IVS Newsletter) are available online. The contents of this report appear on the IVS website at

<https://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/publications/br2023+2024>

The contents of the report are organized as follows:

- The first seven sections hold the reports from the Coordinators (including the Chair) and the

reports from the IVS Permanent Components: Network Stations, Operation Centers, Correlators, Data Centers, Analysis Centers, and Technology Development Centers.

- The final section provides reference information about IVS. Following the current (May 24, 2019) version of the IVS Terms of Reference, a reference table is provided with links to the IVS Member and Affiliated organizations, the IVS Associate Members, and the IVS Permanent Components.

In its online location, the Biennial Report is part of the IVS website, which contains information concerning the IVS organization. For that, we consider it unnecessary to reproduce this information in the report itself. Hence, we would like to ask our readers to make use of the online tools to look up the most recent lists of IVS components, its member organizations as well as affiliated organizations, and Directing Board Members. The information can be found through the “About IVS” button, which is accessible from most IVS website pages. Useful links are also compiled in the closing section of this report.

During the report period, the IVS consisted of

- 34 Network Stations, acquiring high performance VLBI data,
- three Operation Centers, coordinating the activities of a network of Network Stations,
- seven Correlators, processing the acquired data, providing feedback to the stations and providing processed data to analysts,
- four Data Centers, distributing products to users and providing storage and archiving functions,
- 32 Analysis Centers, analyzing the data and producing the results and products,

- six Technology Development Centers, developing new VLBI technology,
 - an Office for Outreach and Communications, promoting knowledge about the VLBI technique, and
 - a Coordinating Center, coordinating daily and long-term activities.
- There were altogether
- 88 Permanent Components, representing 43 institutions in 22 countries, and
 - about 350 Associate Members.