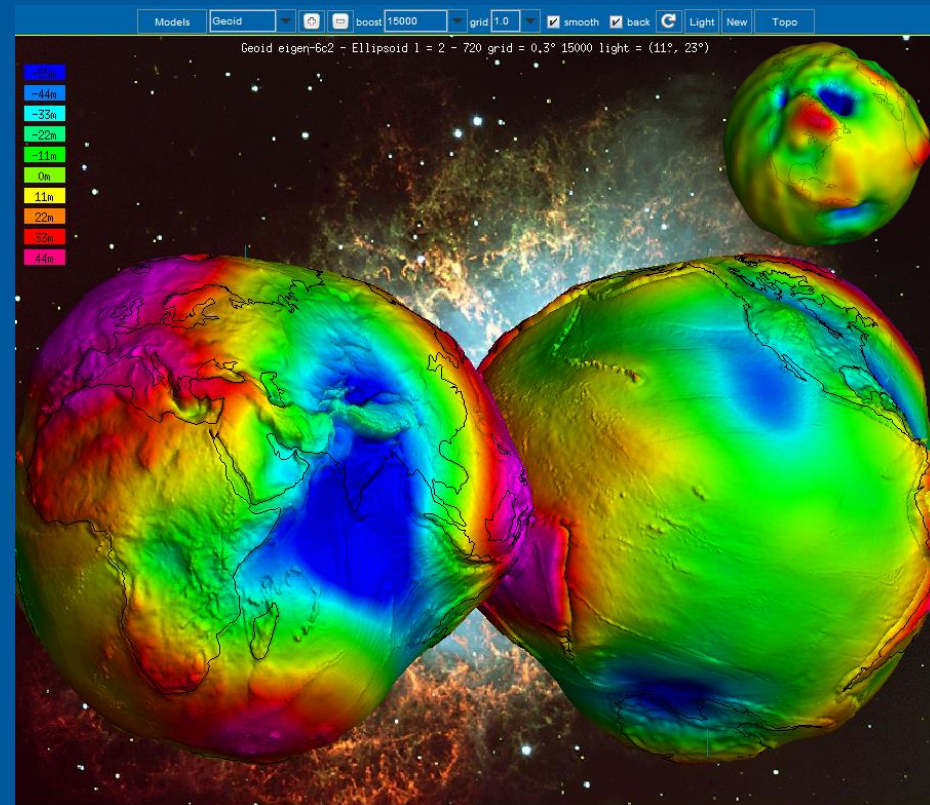


# ICGEM

## ICGEM – status of the IAG service for global Earth gravity field models after the first decade

Franz Barthelmes  
Wolfgang Köhler

GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences  
Telegrafenberg  
14473 Potsdam  
Section 1.2



# ICGEM – A Service of the IAG



International  
Association of  
Geodesy

Since 2003

Commission 2 "Gravity Field"

IGFS - International Gravity Field Service

**BGI**

International  
Gravity Bureau  
CNES Toulouse

**IGeS**

International  
Geoid Service  
Polimi Milano

**ICET**

International  
Centre for  
Earth Tides  
U.F. Polynesia

**ICGEM**

International  
Centre for  
Global  
Earth Models

**IDEMS**

International  
DEM Service  
DeMontfort UK

**IGFS**

Technical  
Centre  
NGA

# Objectives / Status of ICGEM

- **collecting and archiving** of all existing global gravity field models
- making them **available on the web**      **135 listed**    **120 downloadable**
- use of **standardised format** (self-explanatory) ( → accepted for GOCE / ESA)
- **interactive visualisation** of the models, their differences, and their time variation
- web-interface to **calculate different gravity field functionals** from the spherical harmonic models on freely selectable grids (filtering included)
  
- evaluation of the models ( → differences in the frequency domain, comparison with GPS/levelling)
- answering of questions (online discussion forum / guest book)

# Table of available Models

Model	Year	Degree	Data	Reference	download
ULux_CHAMP2013s	2013	120	S(Champ)	Weigelt et al, 2013	◆zip◆
ITG-Goce02	2013	240	S(Goce)	Schall et al, 2013	◆zip◆
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R4	2013	250	S(Goce)	Pail et al, 2011	◆zip◆
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R4	2013	260	S(Goce, Grace, Lageos)	Bruinsma et al, 2013	◆zip◆
EIGEN-6C2	2012	1949	S(Goce, Grace, Lageos), G, A	Förste et al, 2012	◆zip◆
DGM-1S	2012	250	S(Goce, Grace)	Hashemi Farahani, et al. 2012	◆zip◆
GOCO03S	2012	250	S(Goce, Grace, ...)	Mayer-Gürr, et al. 2012	◆zip◆
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R3	2011	240	S(Goce, Grace, Lageos)	Bruinsma et al, 2010	◆zip◆
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R3	2011	250	S(Goce)	Pail et al, 2011	◆zip◆



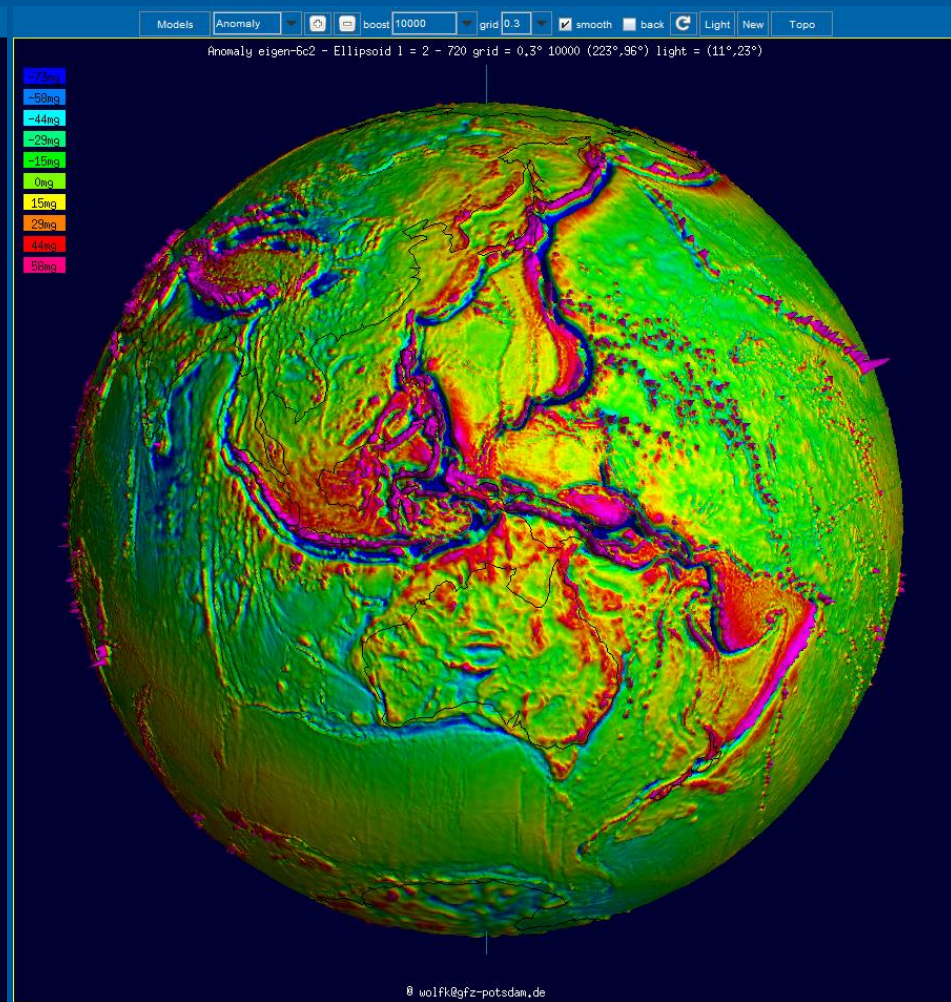
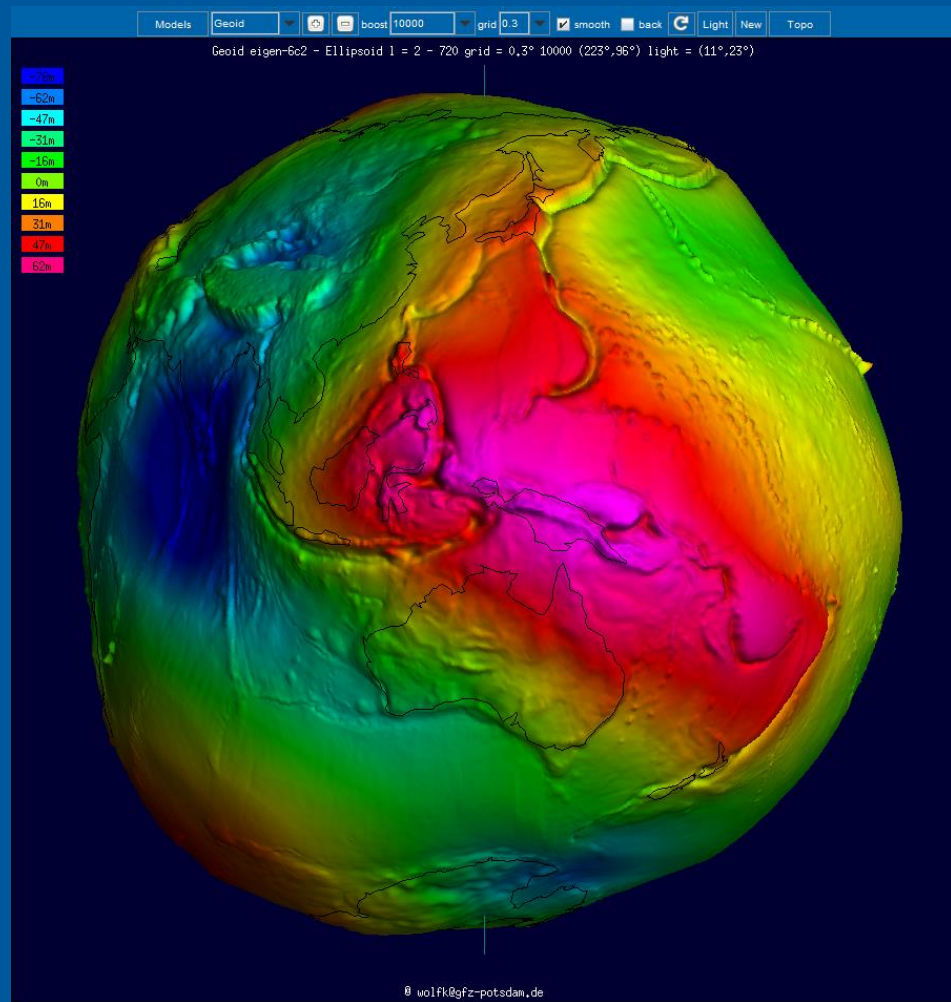
GEM1	1972	12	S	Lerch et al, 1972a	◆◆◆◆
KOCH71	1971	11	S,G	Koch and Witte, 1971	◆◆◆◆
KOCH70	1970	8	S,G	Koch and Morrison, 1970	◆◆◆◆
SE2	1969	16	S,G	Gaposchkin and Lambeck, 1970	◆◆◆◆
OSU68	1968	14	S,G	Rapp, 1968	◆◆◆◆
WGS66	1966	24	G	WGS Committee, 1966	◆◆◆◆
SE1	1966	8	S	Lundquist and Veis, 1966	◆◆◆◆

135 models



# Interactive Visualisation Service

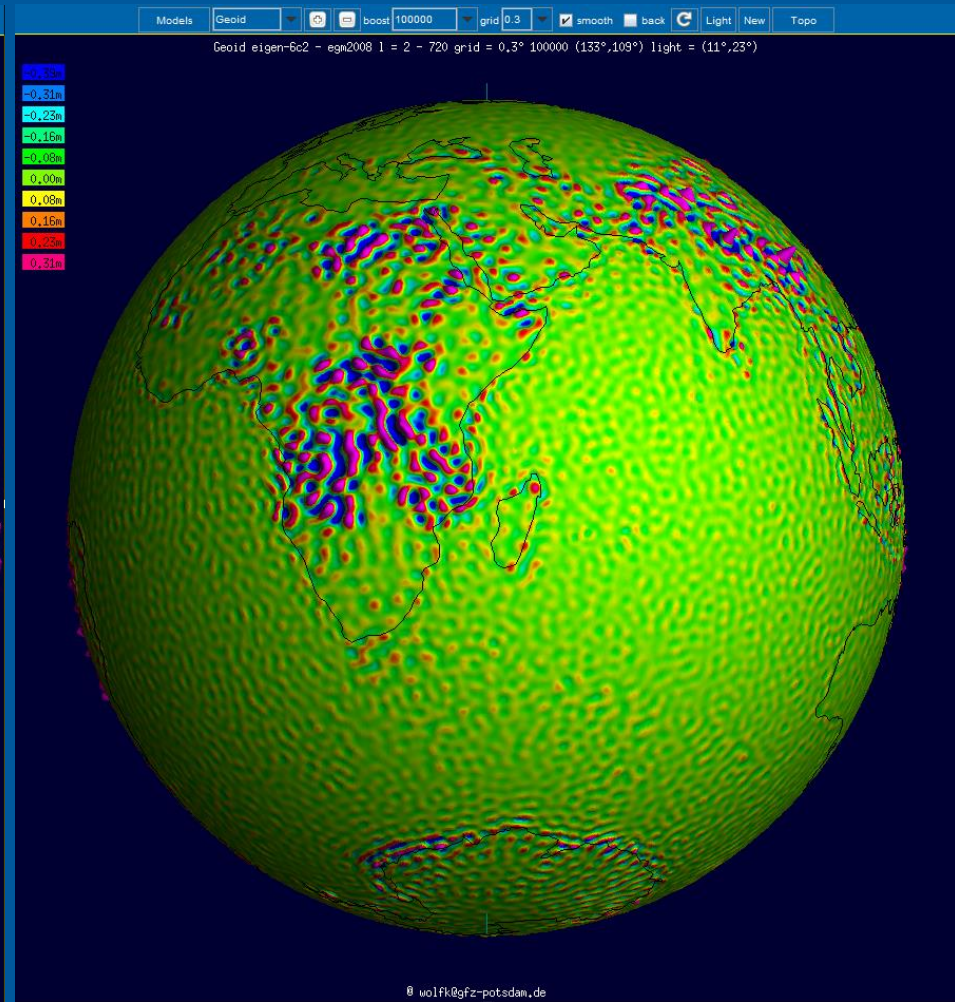
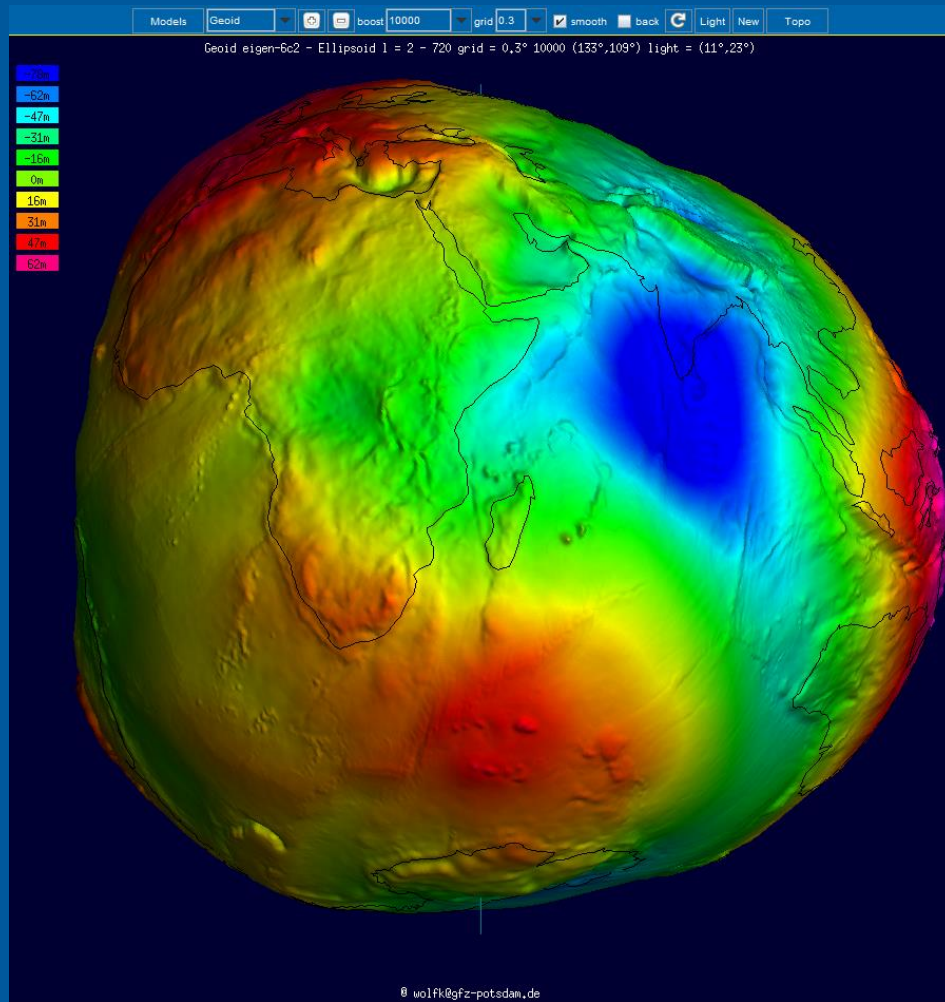
## Geoid Gravity Anomaly



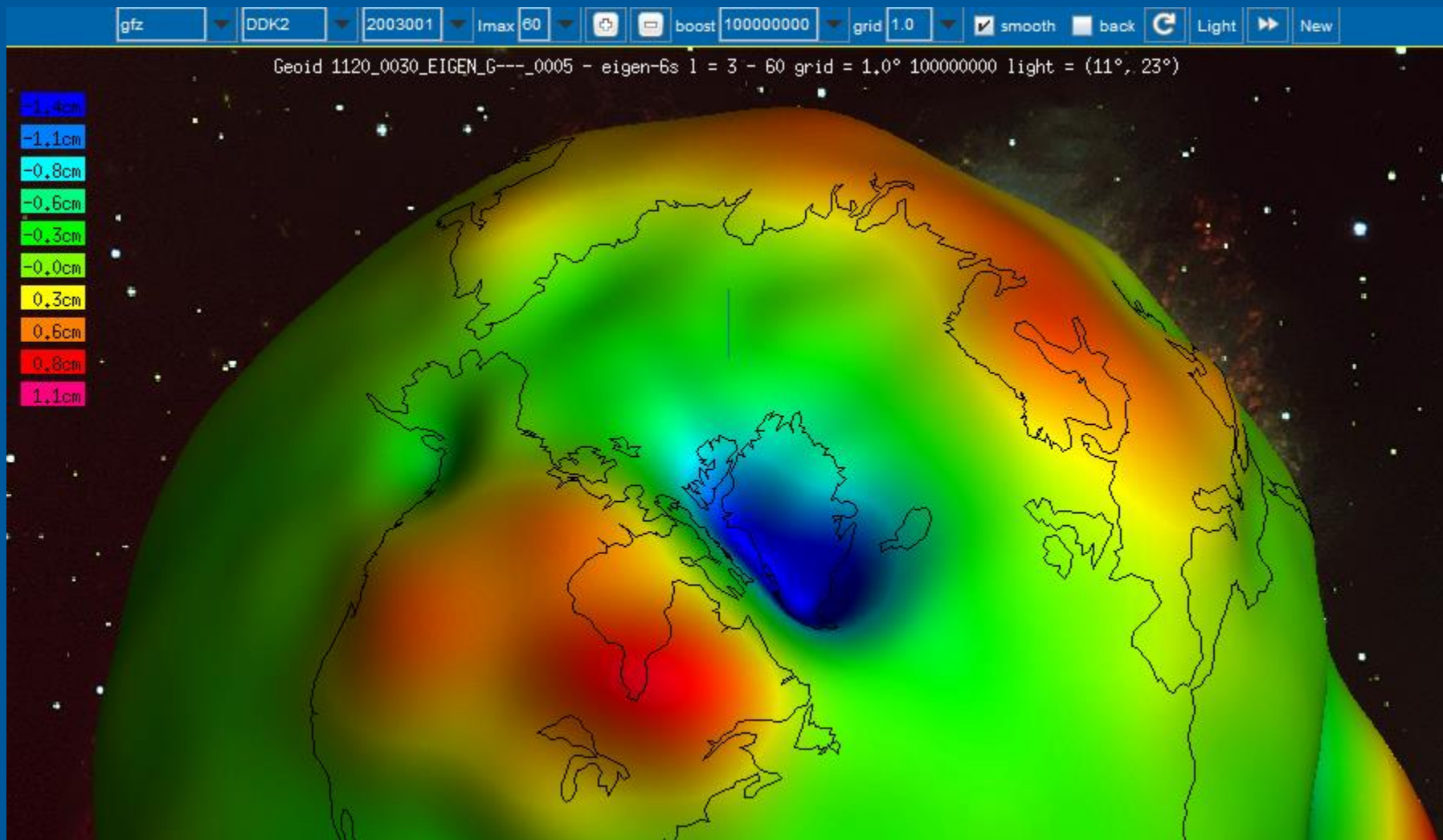
# Interactive Visualisation Service

## Geoid

## Differences of 2 Models



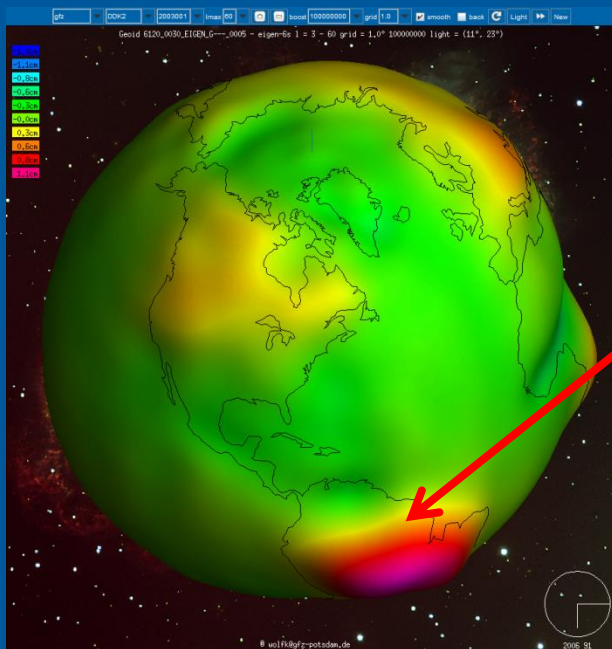
# Animated Visualisation of Monthly Solutions



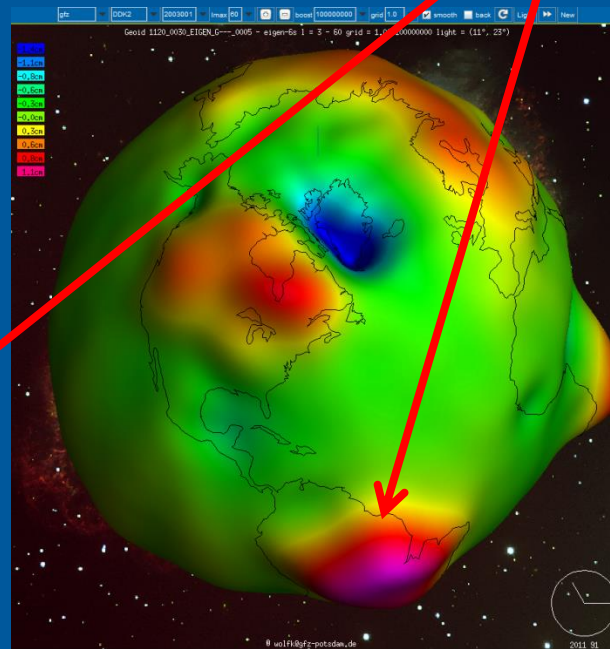
# Animated Visualisation of Monthly Solutions

annual

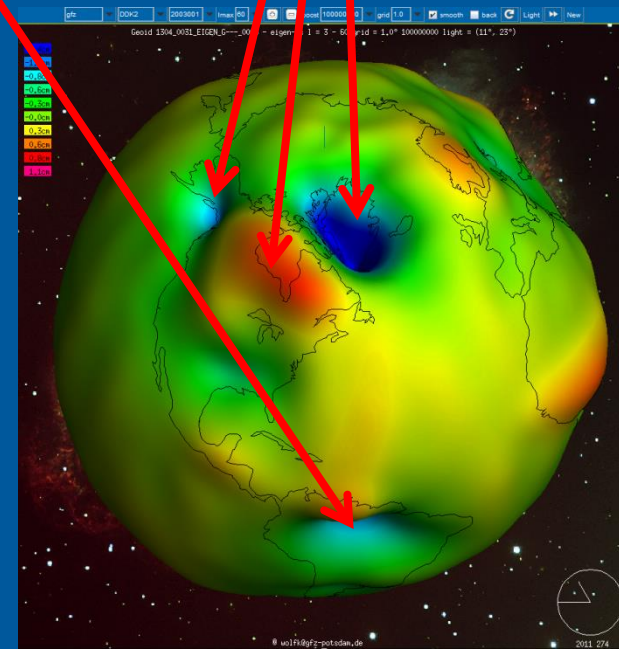
Trends



March 2006



March 2011

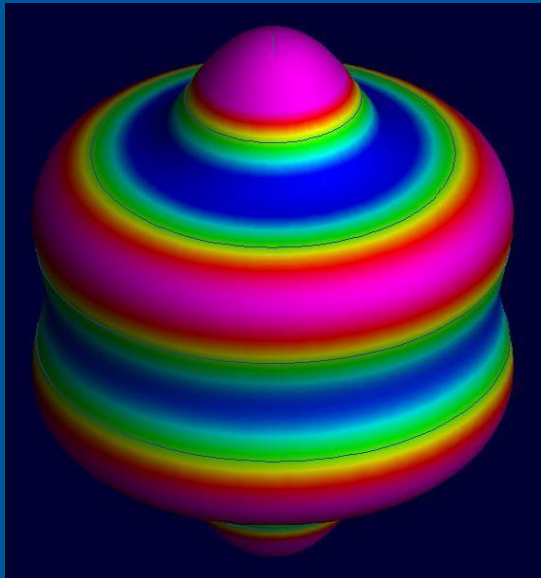


July 2011

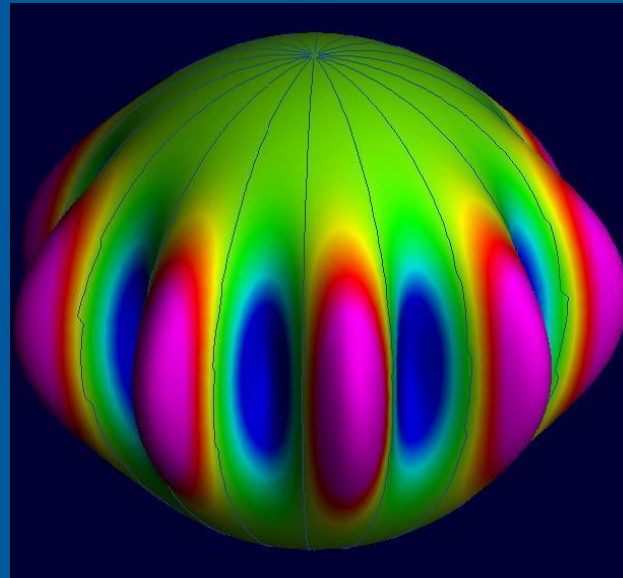


# Interactive Visualisation Service

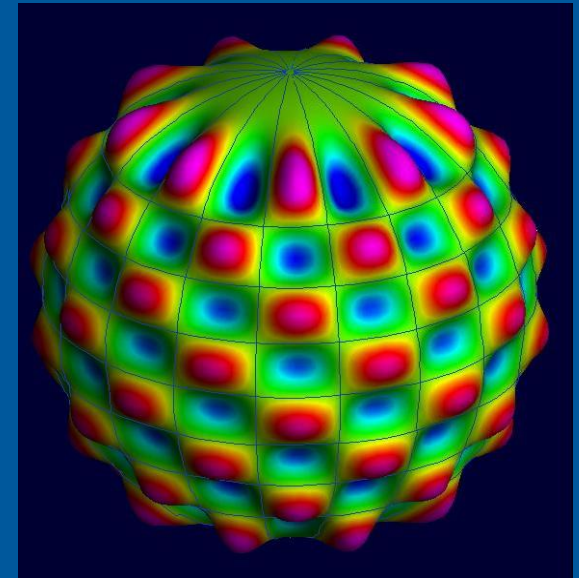
## Spherical Harmonics as Tutorial



zonal:  $\ell = 6, m = 0$

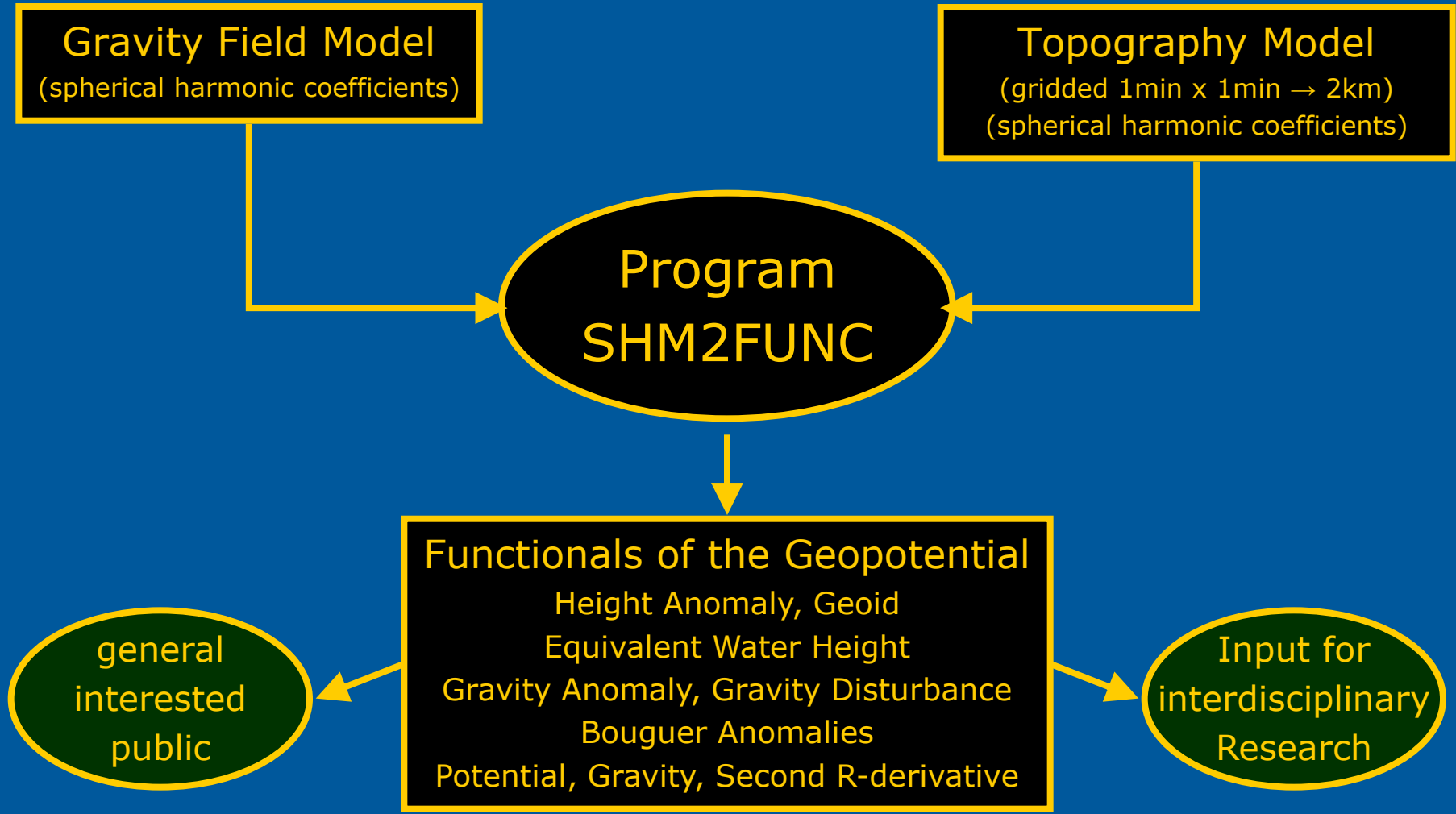


sectorial:  $\ell = 9, m = 9$

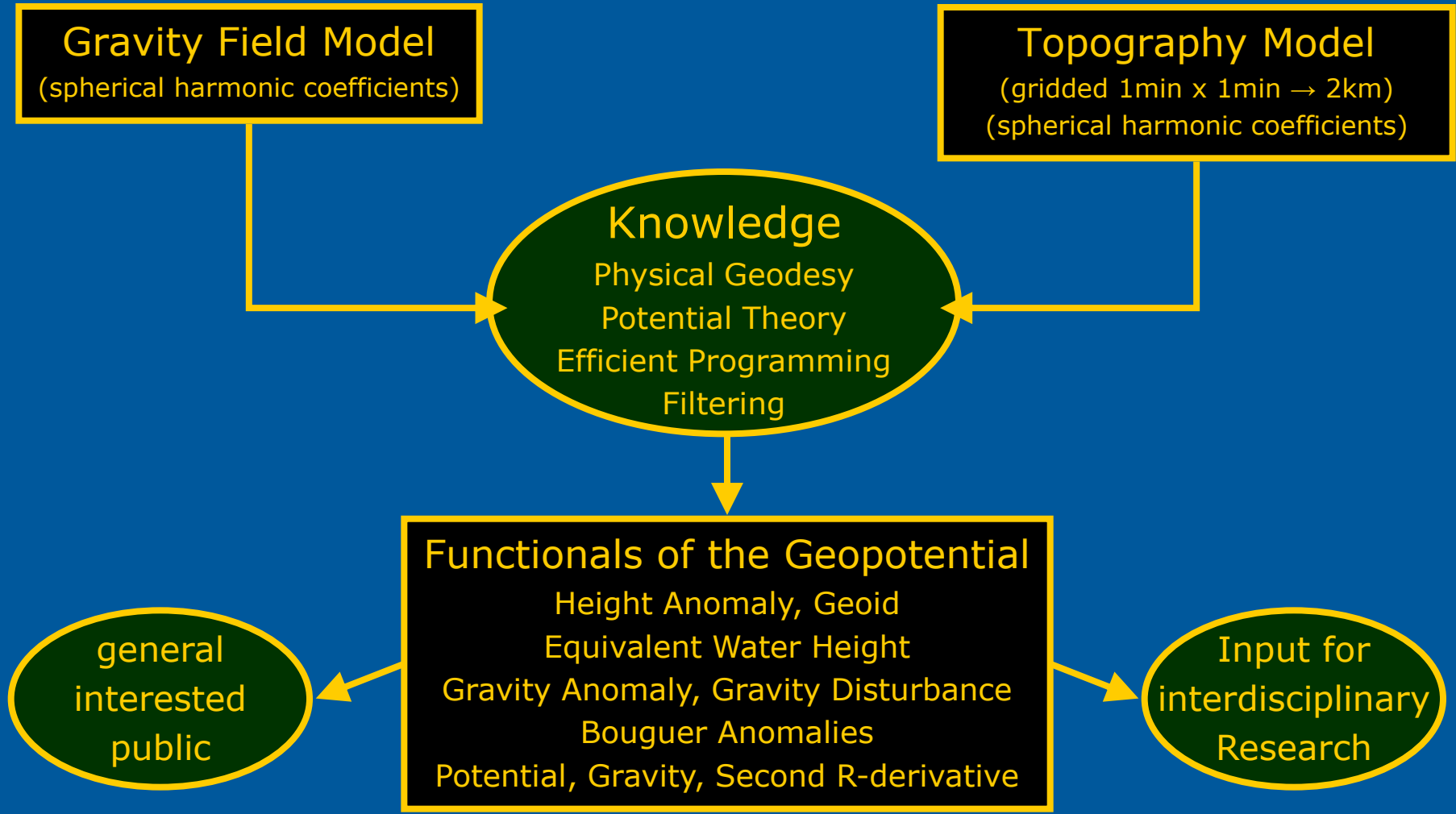


tesseral:  $\ell = 16, m = 9$

# Calculation Service



# Calculation Service



# Calculation Service

Web-Interface

Reference System

Model

Functional

Grid Density

Grid Area

Truncation

Filtering

Grids and Plots

model and reference selection	
refsys	WGS84
radiusrefpot	6378137.0
flatrefpot	298.257223563
gmrefpot	3.986004418d+14
omegarrefpot	7.292115d-5
model directory	longtime models
modelfile	eigen-5c
functional	height_anomaly_ell
tide_system	tide_free
zero_degree_term	yes

grid selection	
gridstep	1.0
longlimit_west	0
longlimit_east	360
latlimit_south	-90
latlimit_north	90
height_over_ell	0

truncation	
max_used_degree	** max degree of model **
startgentlecut	** unused **

Gaussian filtering	
flength_definition	** unused **
filterlength_degree	5
filterlength_meter	556597

definition of the Gaussian filterlength

[start computation](#) [show directory](#) [get gridfile](#)  PS-file  illumination [get PS-file](#) [reset defaults](#)

---

# Calculation Service

## available functionals

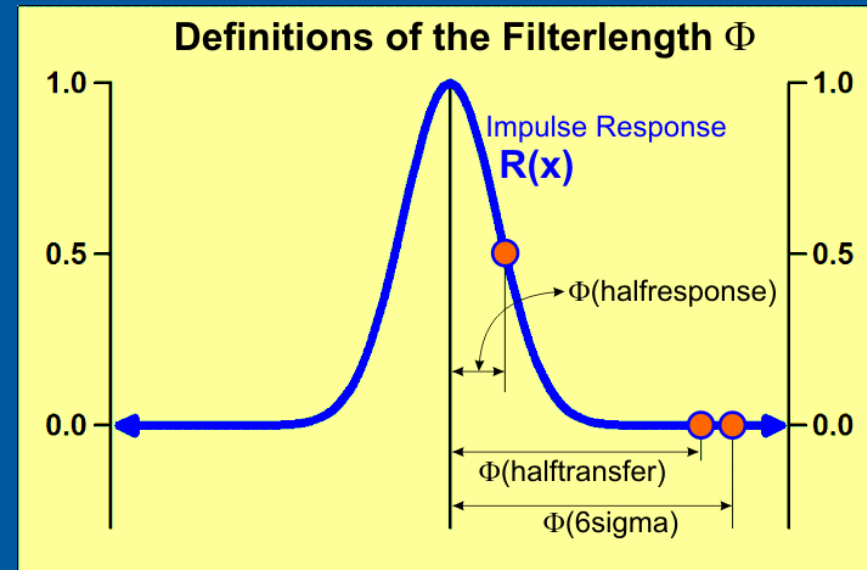
- **height anomaly** (on the Earth's surface, on the ellipsoid)
- **geoid undulation**
- **gravity anomaly** (Molodensky, classical  $\approx$  free air, spherical approximation, Bouguer)
- **gravity disturbance** (on the Earth' surface, spherical approximation)
- **gravity** (on the Earth' surface, on or above the ellipsoid)
- **gravitation** (on or above the ellipsoid)
- **second radial derivative** (on or above the ellipsoid)
- **equivalent water height** (including elastic deformation)
- **potential** (on or above the ellipsoid)

# Calculation Service

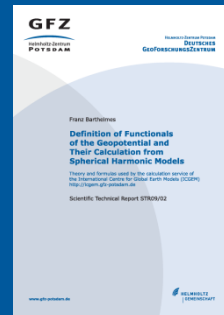
## Explanation of the Functionals

keyword	explanation
height_anomaly	The so called "height anomaly" is an approximation of the geoid according to Molodensky's theory. It is equal to the geoid over sea. Here it will be calculated, as defined, on the Earth's surface approximated by Bruns' formula on the ellipsoid plus a first order correction (eqs. 81 and 119 of STR09/02).
height_anomaly_ell	The height anomaly can be generalised to a 3-d function, (sometimes called "generalised pseudo-height-anomaly"). Here it can be calculated on ( $h=0$ ) or above ( $h>0$ ) the ellipsoid, approximated by Bruns' formula (eqs. 78 and 118 of STR09/02).
geoid	The Geoid is one particular equipotential surface of the gravity potential of the Earth. Among all equipotential surfaces, the geoid is those which is equal to the undisturbed sea surface and its continuation below the continents. Here it will be approximated by the height anomaly plus a topography dependent correction term (eqs. 71 and 117 of STR09/02).
gravity_disturbance	The gravity disturbance is defined as the magnitude of the gradient of the potential at a given point minus the magnitude of the gradient of the normal potential at the same point. Here it will be calculated on the Earth's surface (eqs. 87 and 121 – 124 of STR09/02).
gravity_disturbance_sa	The gravity disturbance calculated by spherical approximation (eqs. 92 and 125 of STR09/02) on ( $h=0$ ) or above ( $h>0$ ) the ellipsoid.
gravity_anomaly	The gravity anomaly (according to Molodensky's theory) is defined as the magnitude of the gradient of the potential on the Earth's surface minus the magnitude of the gradient of the normal potential on the Telluroid (Earth's surface minus height anomaly) (eqs. 101 and 121 – 124 of STR09/02).
gravity_anomaly_cl	The classical gravity anomaly is defined as the magnitude of the gradient of the downward continued potential on the geoid minus the magnitude of the gradient

## Explanation of the Filtering



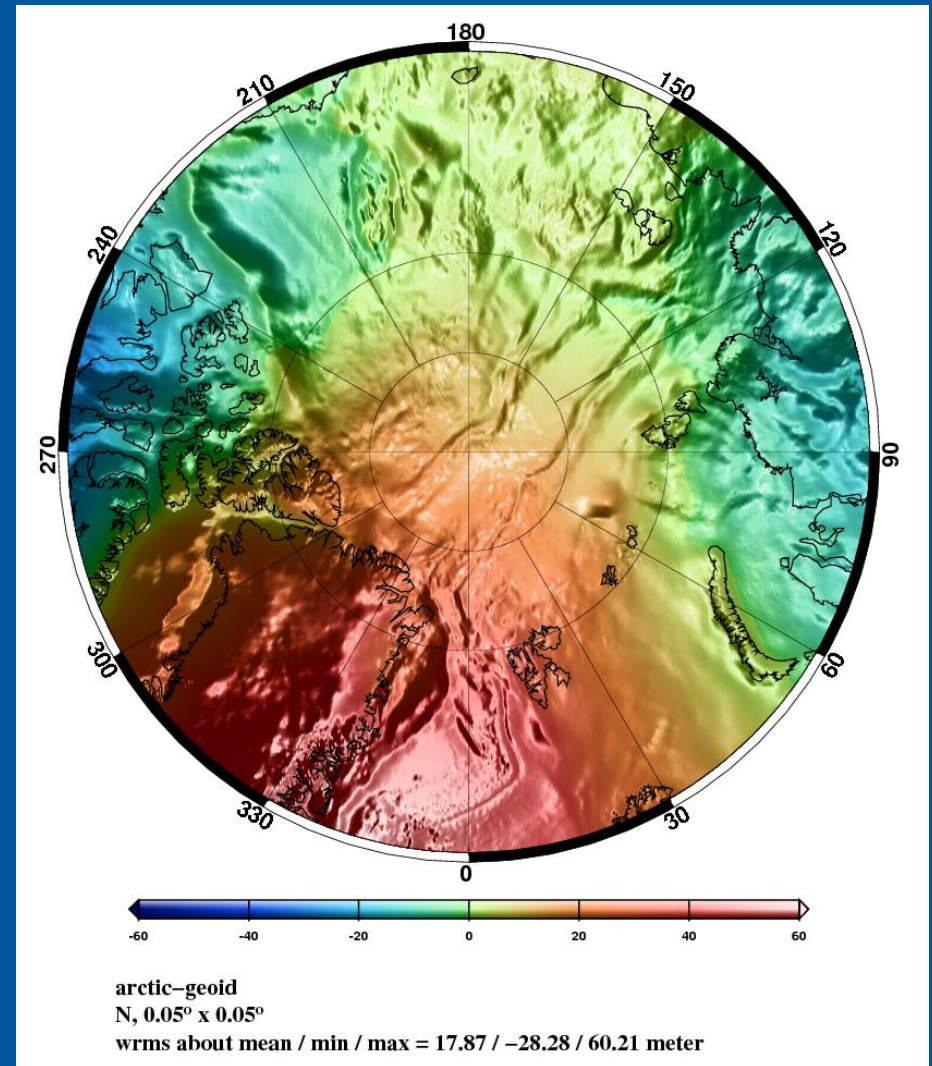
Theory and Formulas  
 → Link to: Report STR09/02



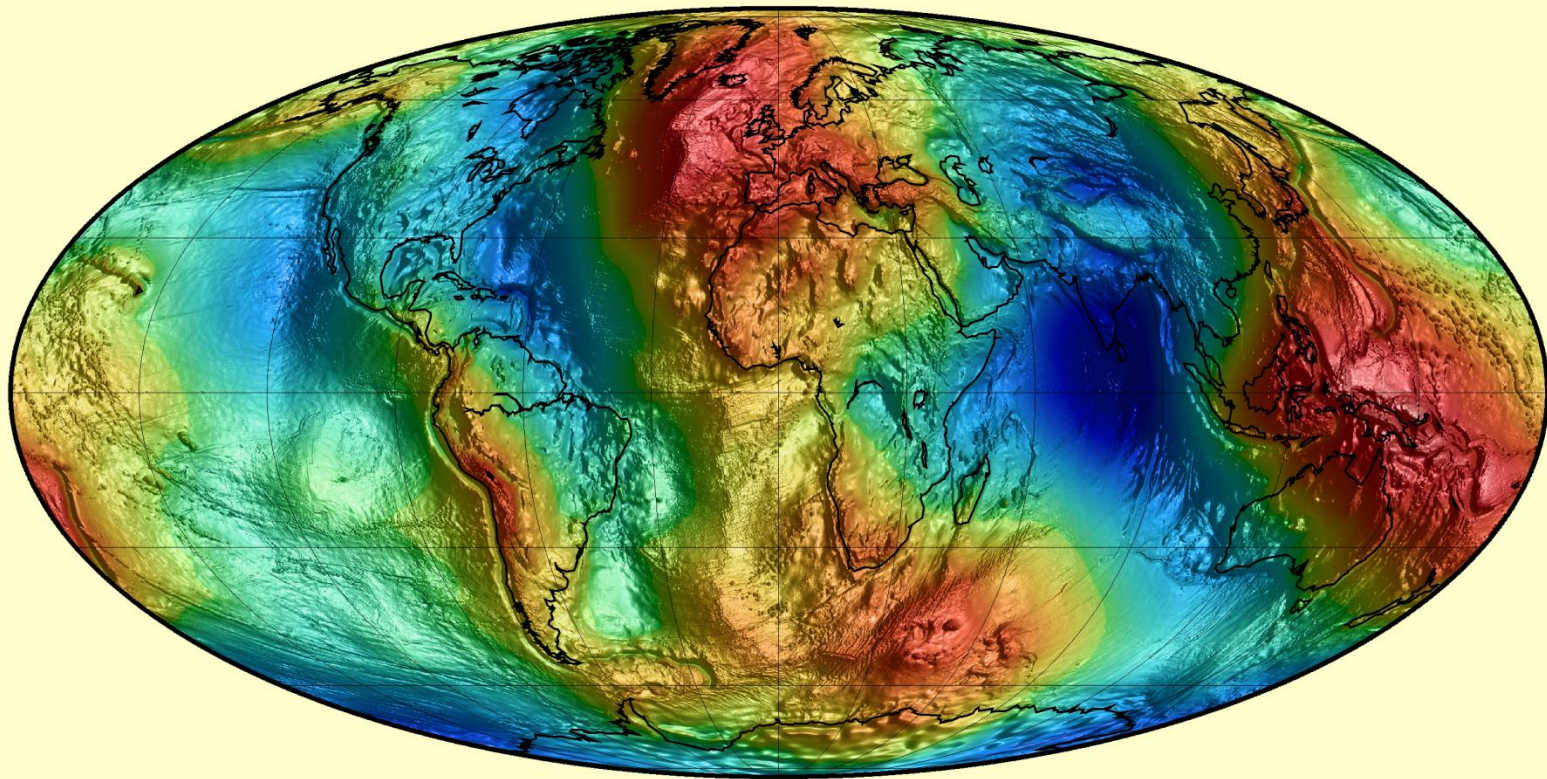
# Calculation Service

## Calculation of downloadable Grids

- freely selectable grid areas
- automatic generation of plots

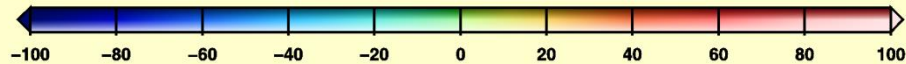


# Calculation Service



eigen-6c2  
N, 0.1° x 0.1°

wrms about mean / min / max = 30.59 / -106.5 / 86.38 meter



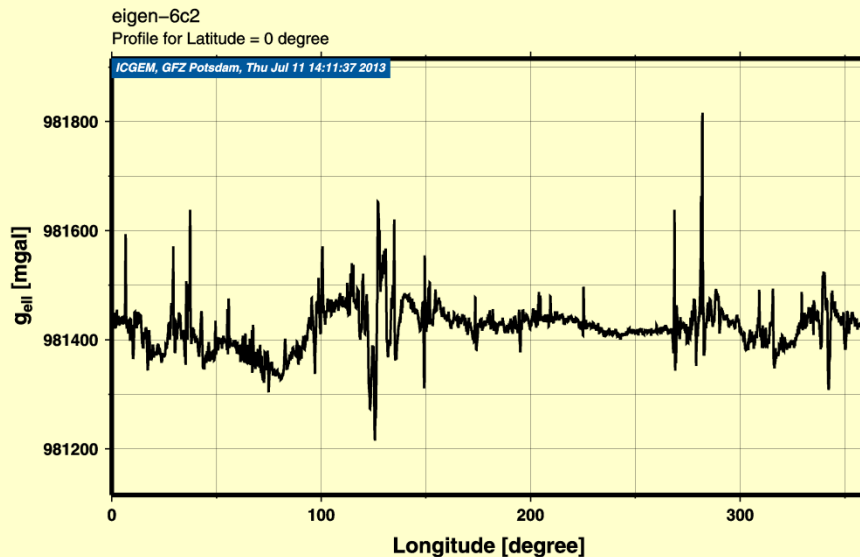
ICGEM, GFZ Potsdam, Thu Jul 11 09:23:59 2013



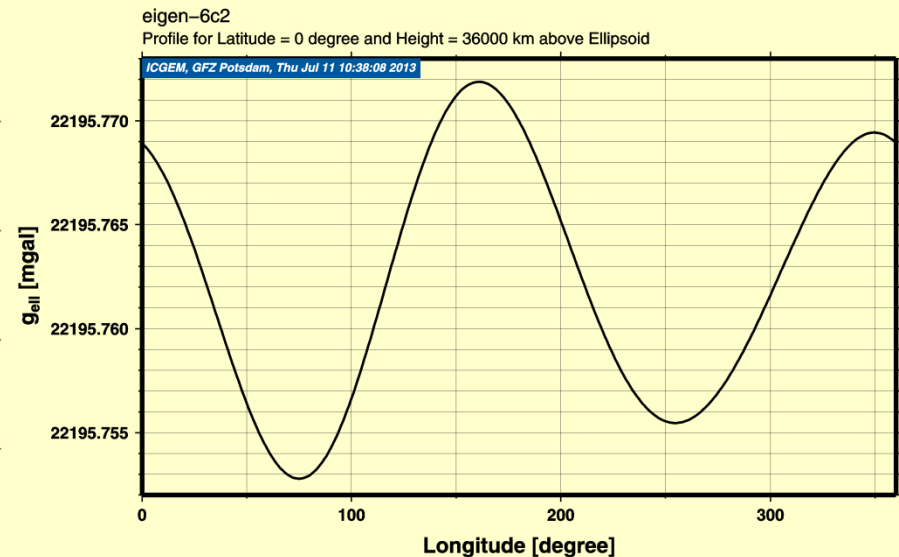
# Calculation Service

## Cross Sections (here: gravitation on and above the ellipsoid)

Cross Section along Latitude



Cross Section along Latitude



# Evaluation of the Models

Comparisons in the spectral domain

→ plot for each model

## GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_DIR\_R4 spectral comparison with the model EIGEN-6C2

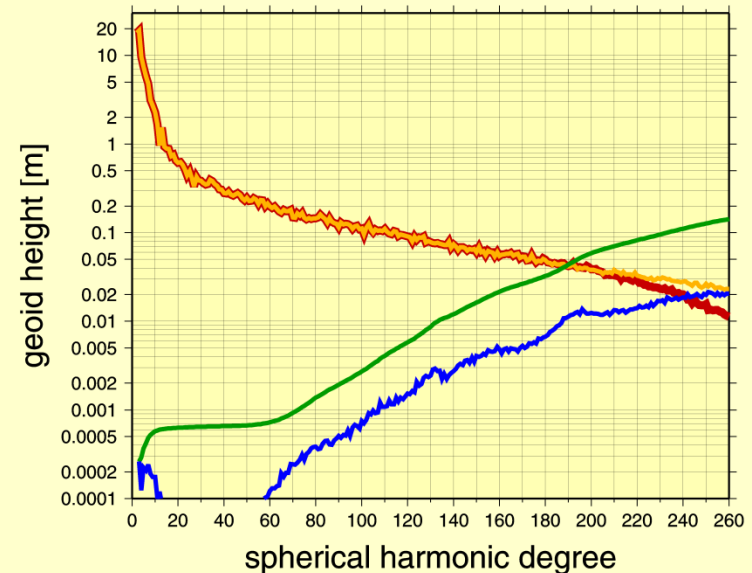
The graphs show:

Signal amplitudes per degree of GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_DIR\_R4

Signal amplitudes per degree of EIGEN-6C2

Difference amplitudes per degree of  
GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_DIR\_R4 vs. EIGEN-6C2

Difference amplitudes as a function of maximum degree of  
GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_DIR\_R4 vs. EIGEN-6C2



# Evaluation of the Models

Comparisons with  
GPS-levelling data

Model	Nmax	USA 6169 points	Canada 1930 points	Europe 1235 points	Australia 201 points	Japan 816 points
ULUX_CHAMP2013S	120	0.778 m	0.688 m	0.994 m	0.770 m	1.288 m
ITG-GOCE02	240	0.429 m	0.354 m	0.434 m	0.371 m	0.511 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R4	250	0.407 m	0.325 m	0.399 m	0.331 m	0.486 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R4	260	0.404 m	0.314 m	0.393 m	0.337 m	0.476 m
EIGEN-6C2	1949	0.249 m	0.127 m	0.212 m	0.214 m	0.080 m
DGM-1S	250	0.441 m	0.352 m	0.430 m	0.366 m	0.513 m
GOCO03S	250	0.428 m	0.340 m	0.418 m	0.355 m	0.500 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R3	240	0.431 m	0.347 m	0.423 m	0.355 m	0.506 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R3	250	0.430 m	0.343 m	0.417 m	0.357 m	0.496 m
EIGEN-6C	1420	0.247 m	0.135 m	0.214 m	0.219 m	0.082 m
GIF48	360	0.319 m	0.230 m	0.275 m	0.236 m	0.275 m
EIGEN-6S	240	0.446 m	0.373 m	0.449 m	0.397 m	0.520 m
GOCO02S	250	0.435 m	0.352 m	0.434 m	0.371 m	0.516 m
AIUB-GRACE03S	160	0.650 m	0.514 m	0.713 m	0.486 m	0.835 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R2	240	0.443 m	0.374 m	0.449 m	0.391 m	0.519 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R2	250	0.436 m	0.355 m	0.434 m	0.375 m	0.515 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_SPW_R2	240	0.457 m	0.376 m	0.473 m	0.376 m	0.553 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_DIR_R1	240	0.407 m	0.319 m	0.402 m	0.319 m	0.489 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_TIM_R1	224	0.455 m	0.378 m	0.474 m	0.371 m	0.578 m
GO_CONS_GCF_2_SPW_R1	210	0.471 m	0.399 m	0.498 m	0.384 m	0.569 m



GEM2	22	2.910 m	3.226 m	3.720 m	3.003 m	4.080 m
GEM1	22	4.180 m	4.691 m	3.164 m	3.449 m	4.847 m
KOCH71	11	17.179 m	10.337 m	12.101 m	11.823 m	6.075 m
KOCH70	8	15.783 m	12.880 m	10.683 m	13.334 m	2.854 m
SE2	22	3.897 m	4.988 m	4.434 m	3.325 m	4.924 m
OSU68	14	4.261 m	9.115 m	3.654 m	5.097 m	4.013 m
WGS66	24	3.206 m	5.326 m	3.360 m	3.982 m	5.853 m
SE1	15	3.895 m	4.851 m	8.339 m	3.826 m	5.003 m

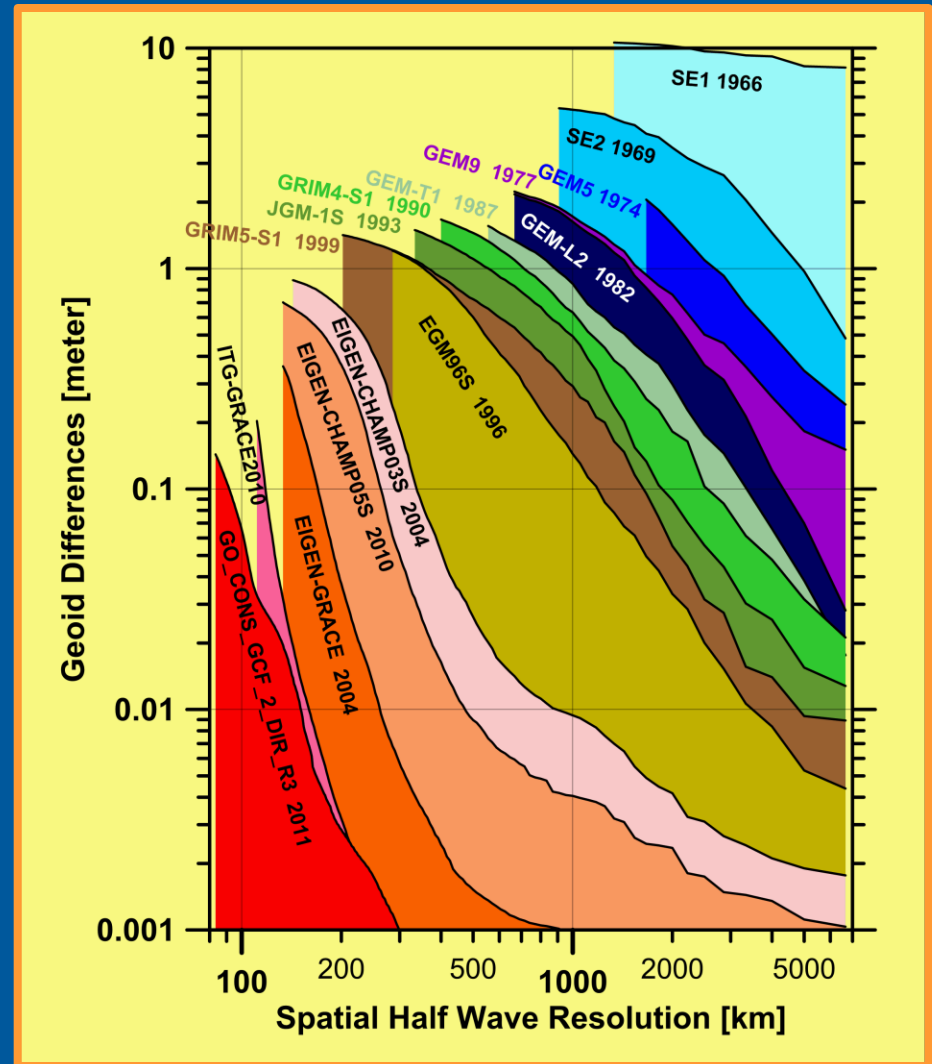
# Latest Changes

- **2. August 2013:**  
Two new models with degree and order 660 for the Moon (**GRGM660PRIM, GL0660B**), based on the GRAIL mission, have been included.
- **30. April 2013:**  
New model **ULux\_CHAMP2013s** and the CHAMP monthly solutions **ULux2013s\_2003\_01 ... ULux2013s\_2009\_12** from the University of Luxembourg included.
- **24. April 2013:**  
New model **ITG-GOCE02** included.
- **15. April 2013:**  
Visualization applet for **monthly models (Animation)** improved.  
Now also filtered solutions of all 3 processing centers (GFZ, JPL, CSR) and GFZ weekly solutions can be inspected.
- **28. March 2013:**  
**GRACE weekly solutions** from GFZ included.
- **21. March 2013:**  
New models **GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_TIM\_R4** and **GO\_CONS\_GCF\_2\_DIR\_R4** included.
- **11. February 2013:**  
Revised Edition of the **STR09/02** is available ⇒ **Button "Theory"**.
- **11. January 2013:**  
On the evaluation site comparisons with **GPS/levelling data** from **Japan** are included.
- **11. December 2012:**  
New model **EIGEN-6C2** included.
- **21. September 2012:**  
New model **DGM-1S** included.
- **14. July 2012:**  
The value **gmrefpot** for the **reference system EGM2008** was not correct.  
Due to accidentally erroneous rounding  
 $gmrefpot=3.986004415E+14$  instead of  $gmrefpot=3.986004415d+14$   
the (slightly wrong) value  $3.98600446149d+14 \text{ m}^{**3}/\text{s}^{**2}$  was used.  
⇒ **error has been corrected**

# Global Models – Improvement in History

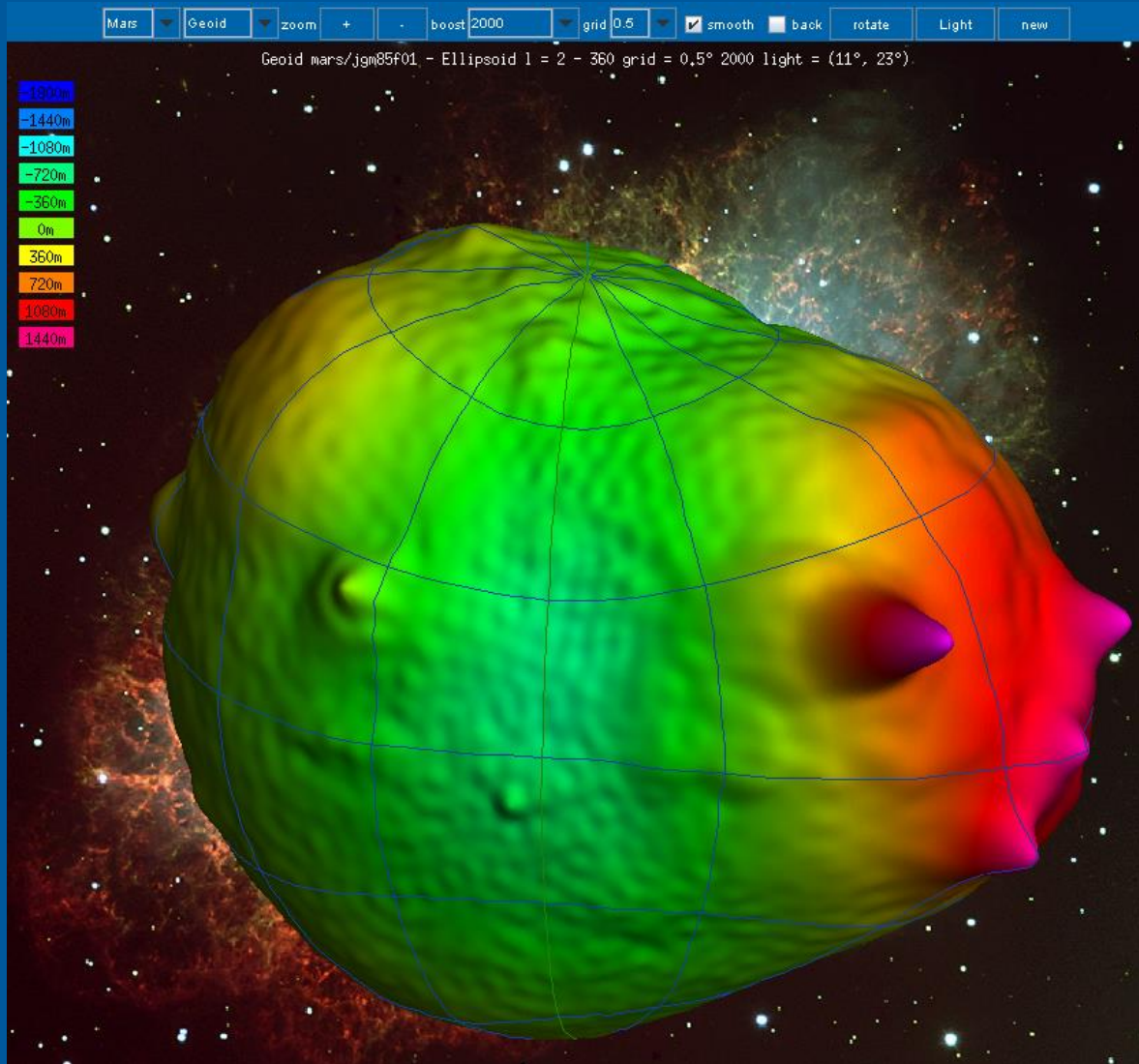
Geoid differences of satellite-only models of the past to recent (“best”) combination solution as a function of spatial resolution

→ differences to **EIGEN-6C2**

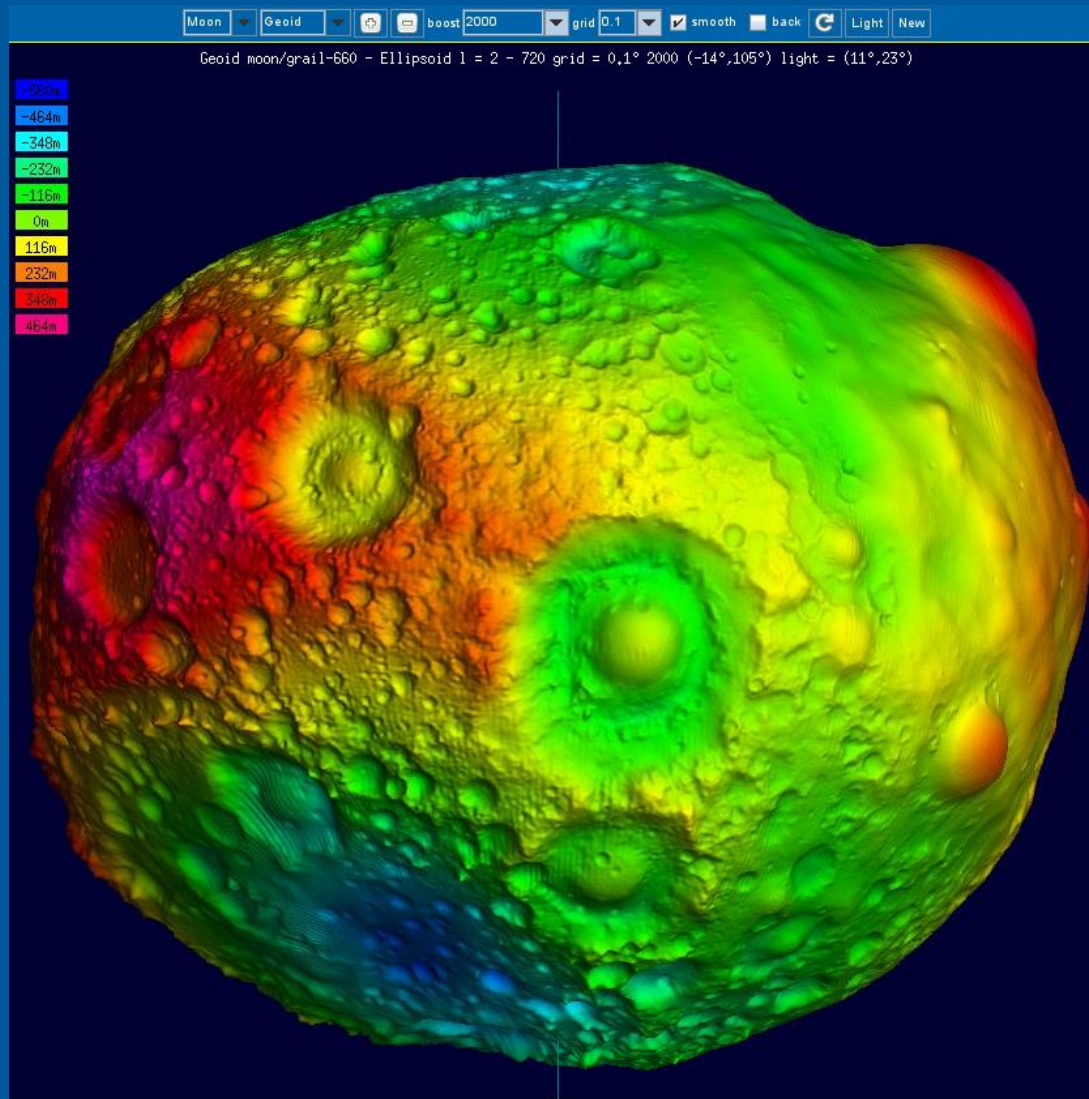


# Byproducts: Models of Moon, Mars and Venus

## Mars

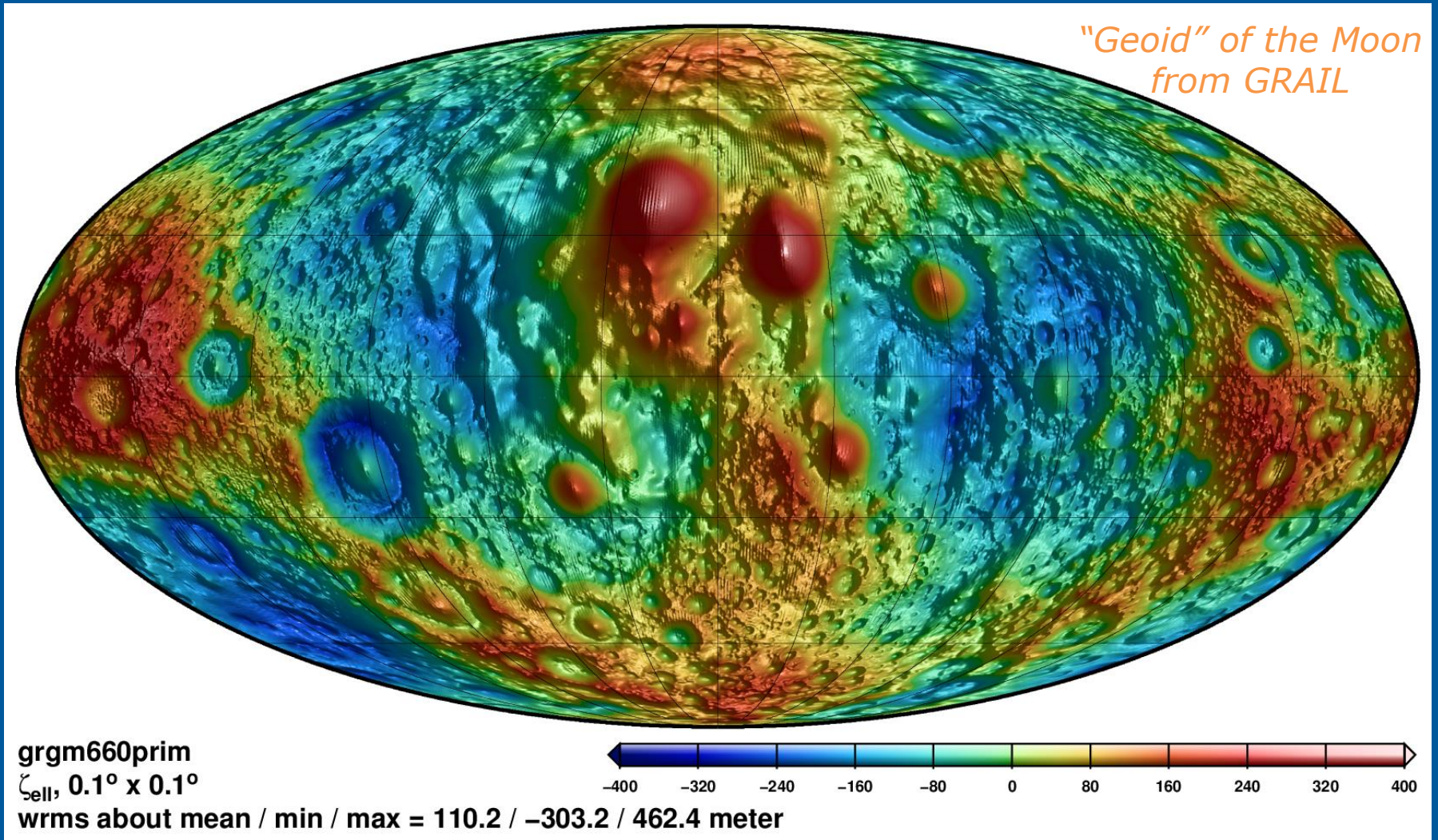


# Byproducts: Models of Moon, Mars and Venus



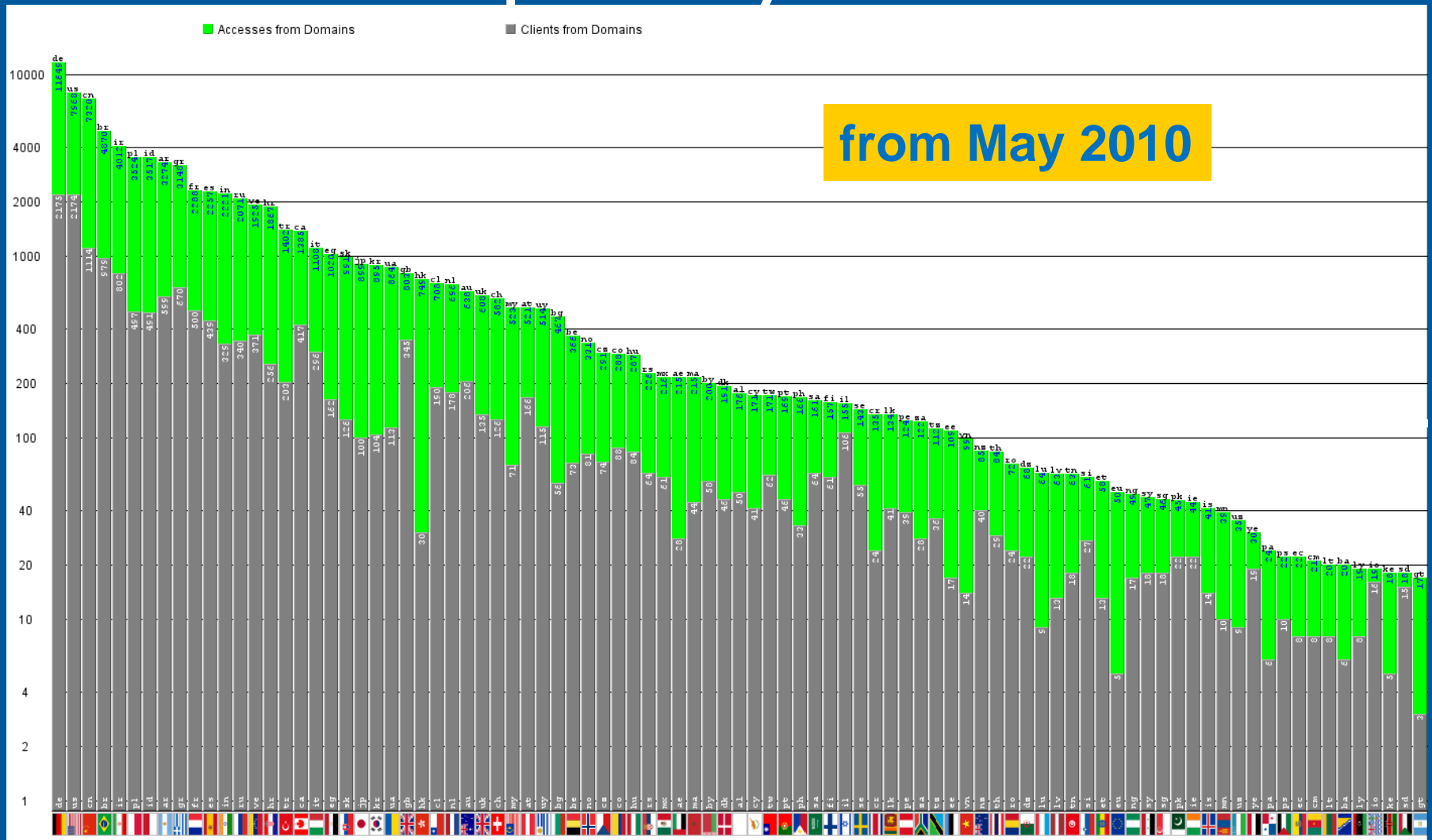
Moon  
(GRAIL-mission)

# Byproducts: Models of Moon, Mars and Venus



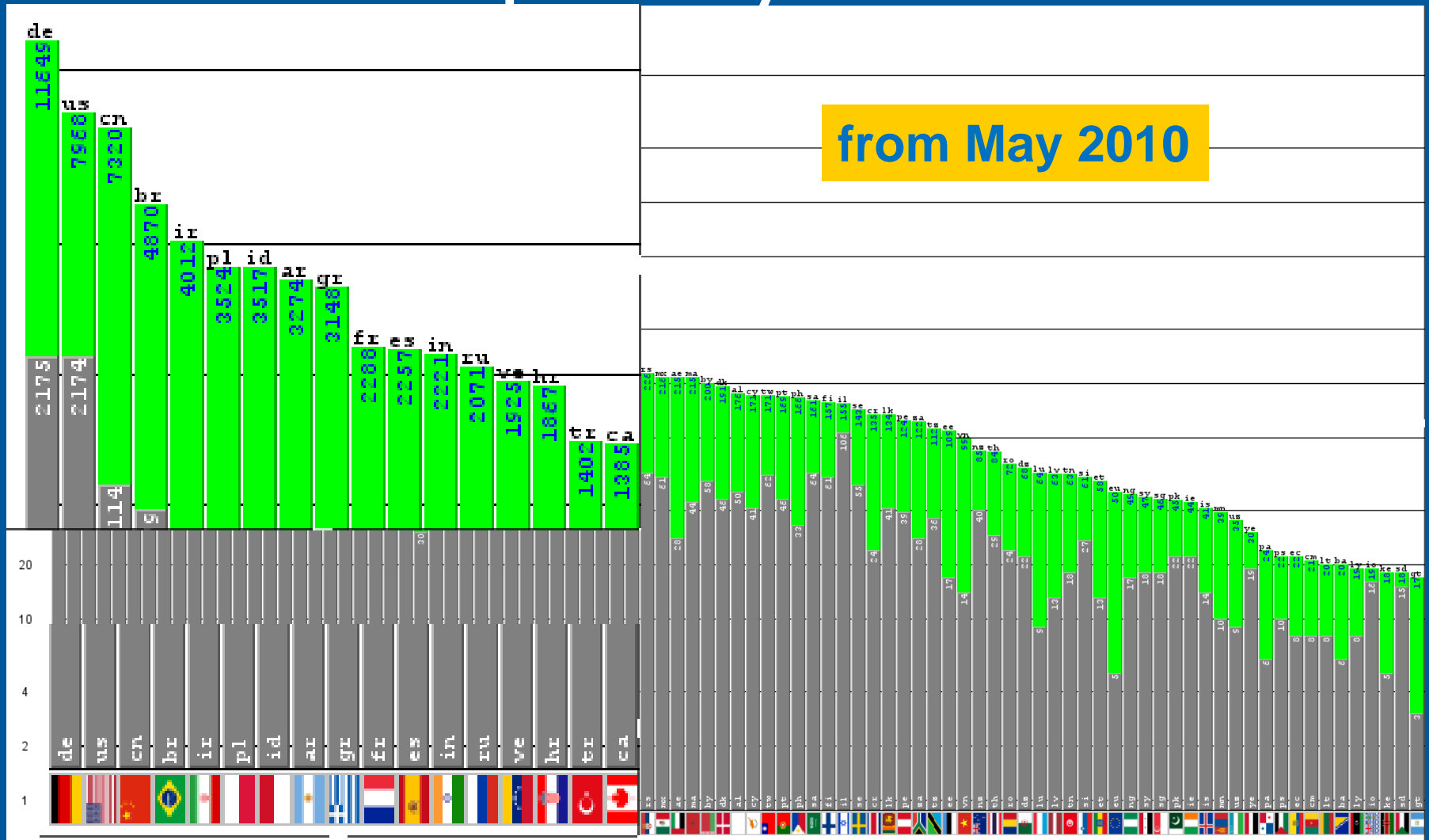


# Frequency of use



# Frequency of use

from May 2010

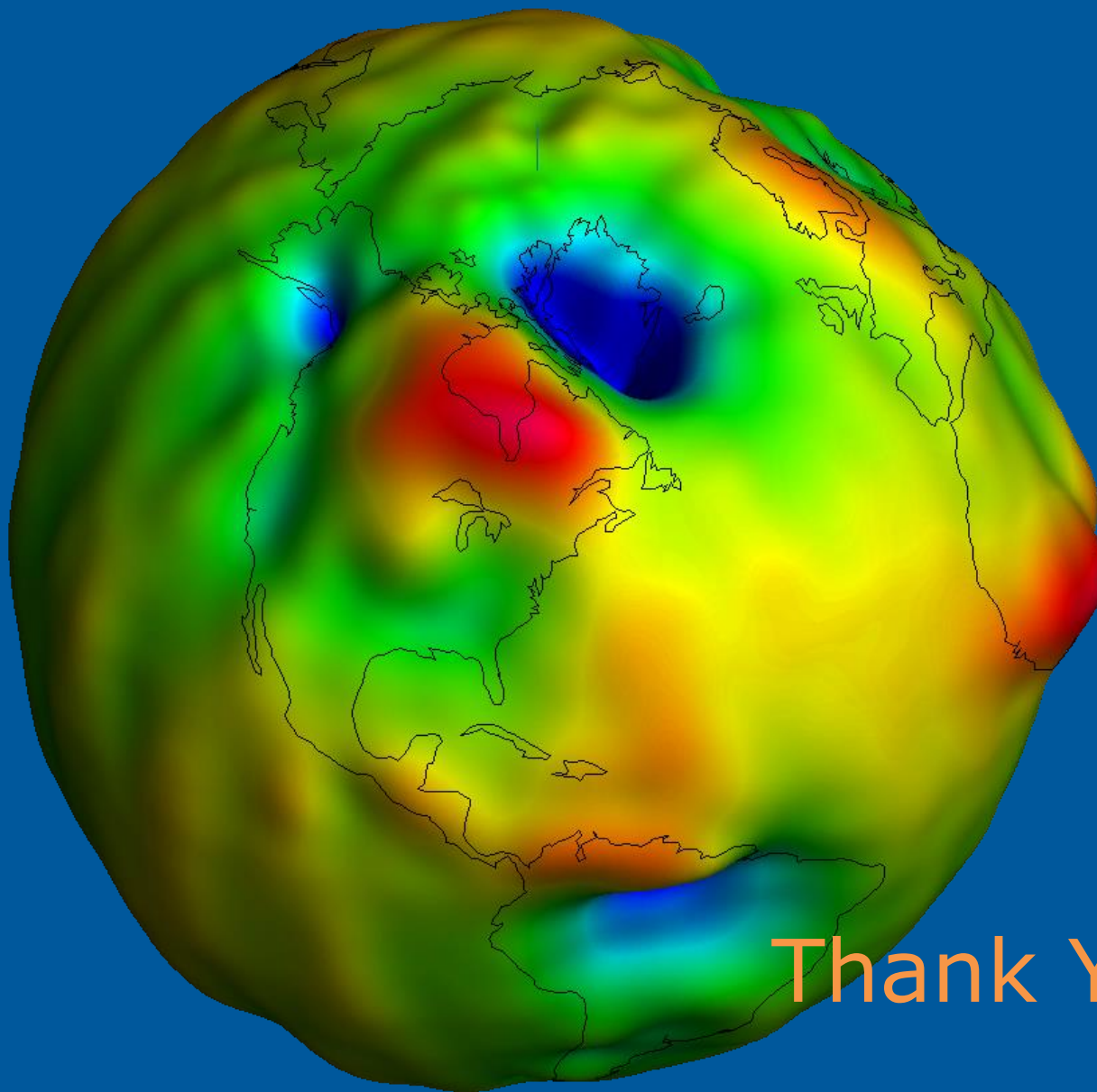


# Conclusion

ICGEM do NOT offer:  
research at the push of a button

But (hopefully) ICGEM:

- is useful for educational purposes
- helps to overcome obstacles in using the global gravity field models
- enables and stimulates research



Thank You