



SOUTH AMERICAN GEOCENTRIC REFERENCE SYSTEM

SIRGAS

NEWSLETTER #3

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EDITORIAL

I present to readers the third edition of the SIRGAS Project Newsletter. During 1995, important progress was achieved towards the establishment of a geocentric reference system for South America. From this point of view, I emphasize the realization of the SIRGAS GPS campaign, occurred from May 26 to June 04 1995, when 57 stations, which will form the SIRGAS reference network, were established in 11 South American countries, by around 30 South, North American and European collaborating institutions. The observation sessions lasted for 24 hours per day, as scheduled, and the data is now being processed. In general, it can be said that very few interruptions in the observation periods were reported, which let us conclude that the campaign was very successful.

The GPS networks available in each country will be integrated into the high precision frame established by the campaign, using and encouraging the establishment of the necessary international ties. This task, under the responsibility of the WG II, will be coordinated from now by the new working group president, Major Rodrigo Barriga Vargas, from Instituto Geográfico Militar of Chile. Major Barriga substitutes Major Walter Subiza, from Servicio Geográfico Militar of Uruguay, who was playing this role with competence and dedication, but he was appointed by his institute to assume new responsibilities in Antarctic. So, we wish all the success to the new president, as well as to Major Subiza in his new position.

During the XXI International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) General Assembly, held last July in Boulder, Colorado, USA, the SIRGAS project was considered by Prof. Wolfgang Torge, in the presidential address of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) General Assembly's opening ceremony, as a "extremely well running" project. Still during the assembly, papers about SIRGAS were presented, causing some remarks from the session attendants about the project representing an example of cooperation between countries. I would like to thank to all participants and collaborators of the project, who truly are responsible for this success.

During the IAG General Assembly, in Boulder, Rio de Janeiro city, Brazil, was chosen as the place of the next IAG Scientific Assembly, to be held in September 1997. This fact is especially meaningful for the SIRGAS project, as its results will be presented in that event. It should be emphasized that it will be the first time that the IAG Assembly, which is extremely important, will be held in our continent, which will facilitate the participation of South American geodesists in technical sessions, especially in the one about the SIRGAS project.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish to readers and family a peaceful and happy new year.

LUIZ PAULO SOUTO FORTES
President of Committee



COMPOSITION OF THE PROJECT

The composition of the committee, working groups and scientific council has changed in relation to the one included in the last edition of this newsletter. The complete and updated version is published below.

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INFORMATION ON WORKING GROUPS

WORKING GROUP I: REFERENCE SYSTEM (Information supplied by the President, Prof. Melvin Hoyer)

THE SIRGAS' 1995 CAMPAIGN

1. PREPARATION OF THE 1995 GPS CAMPAIGN

1.1 Collecting of preliminary information

Working Group I, with the collaboration of various representatives on the committee and its scientific consultants, has collected and kept updated the necessary information previously to the observation campaign (stations, descriptions, instruments, anticipated problems, etc).

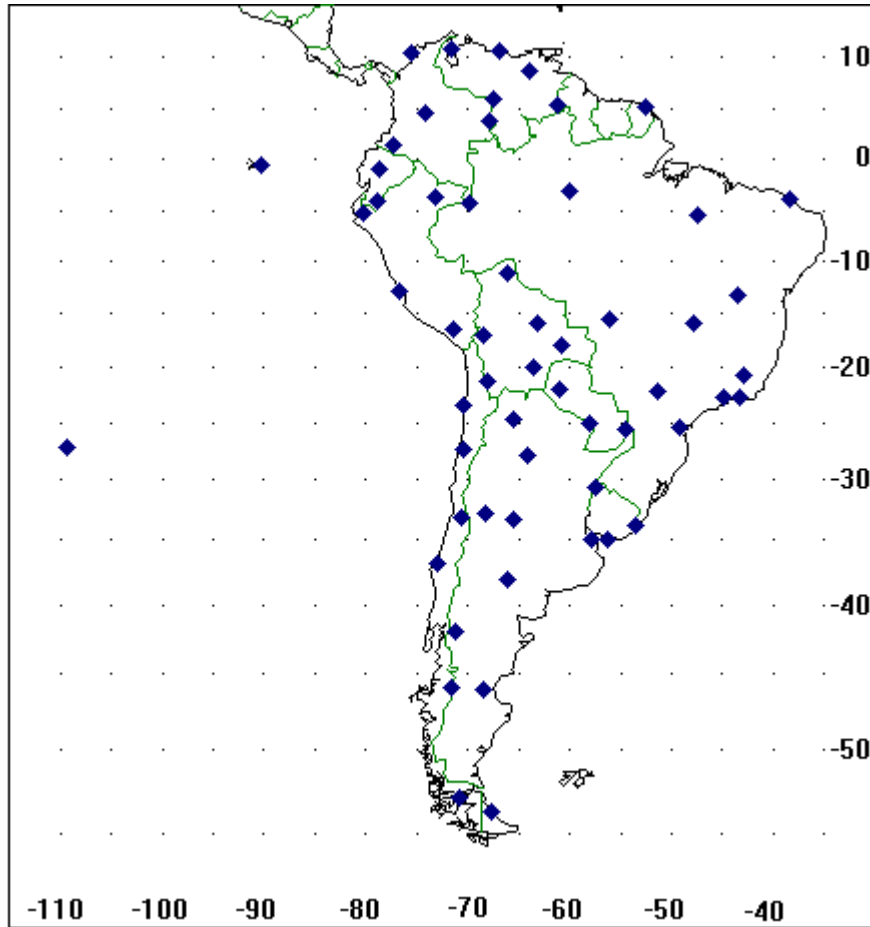
1.2 Technical specifications

Working Group I, with the collaboration of all its members and scientific consultants, has formulated the technical specifications needed for the GPS observations of the SIRGAS 95 campaign, which were sent to the representatives of all countries.

2. GPS OBSERVATION CAMPAIGN

As scheduled, the GPS observations were carried out from May 26, 0^h UT, to June 04, 1995, 24^h UT (10 days).

57 principal and 8 eccentric stations were observed in 11 countries, according to the following.



Stations observed during the SIRGAS'95 campaign

Country	# of stations
Argentina	10
Bolivia	6
Brazil	11
Chile	7
Colombia	5
Ecuador	3
Fr. Guiana	1
Paraguay	2
Peru	4
Uruguay	3
Venezuela	5
Total	57



SIRGAS STATIONS (10.Nov.1995)

				INSTR.	INSTITUTION
SALTA	Argentina	-24.70	-65.50	SSE	Univ. Tucuman / GFZ
PUERTO IGUAZU	Argentina	-25.60	-54.55	Z12+Leica	IGM Argentina / DGFI
VILLA ROBLES	Argentina	-27.91	-64.12	Z12	Univ. Tucuman
CRICYT	Argentina	-32.80	-68.20	Z12	UAGG Mendoza
MORRO	Argentina	-33.27	-65.48	Z12	UAGG Mendoza
LA PLATA	Argentina	-34.91	-57.93	T. Rogue	Obs. La Plata / GFZ
LOTE 24	Argentina	-38.13	-66.09	SSE	UAGG Mendoza
EL MAITEN	Argentina	-42.01	-71.21	Leica+SSE	Cat. Rio Negro DGFI / Univ.Dresden
LOTE 10B	Argentina	-46.04	-68.47	SSE	DGFI
RIO GRANDE	Argentina	-53.79	-67.75	T. Rogue +Leica	Obs. La Plata / GFZ/DGFI/Univ.Dresden
RIBERALTA	Bolivia	-11.02	-66.07	SSE	IGM Bolivia
CLARA	Bolivia	-15.81	-63.18	SSE	IGM Bolivia
HUICHURAYA	Bolivia	-17.03	-68.47	SSE	IGM Bolivia
S.J. DE CHIQUITOS	Bolivia	-17.87	-60.77	SSE	IGM Bolivia
CAMIRI	Bolivia	-20.03	-63.55	SSE	IGM Bolivia
OLLAGUE	Bolivia	-21.35	-68.03	SSE	IGM Bolivia
MANAUS	Brazil	-03.12	-60.06	Z12	IBGE
FORTALEZA	Brazil	-03.88	-38.43	T. Rogue	IGS(CRAAE/INPE/NOAA)
IMPERATRIZ	Brazil	-05.50	-47.47	Z12	IBGE/IfE Hannover
BOM JESUS LAPA	Brazil	-13.25	-43.42	Z12	IBGE
CUIABÁ	Brazil	-15.55	-56.07	Z12	IBGE/IfE Hannover
BRASÍLIA	Brazil	-15.95	-47.88	T. Rogue	IGS (IBGE/JPL)
VIÇOSA	Brazil	-20.75	-42.90	Z12	IBGE / UFV
PRES. PRUDENTE	Brazil	-22.12	-51.41	SSE	IBGE / UNESP / EPUSP
CACHOEIRA	Brazil	-22.69	-44.98	SSE	IBGE
RIO DE JANEIRO	Brazil	-22.82	-43.30	Z12	IBGE
CURITIBA	Brazil	-25.45	-49.23	SSE+Z12	UFPR / IfE Hannover
ANTOFAGASTA	Chile	-23.38	-70.38	T. Rogue	IGM Chile / GFZ
A. CHAMOHATE	Chile	-27.28	-70.40	SSE	IGM Chile
ISLA DE PASCUA	Chile	-27.15	-109.43	T. Rogue	IGS
SANTIAGO	Chile	-33.12	-70.68	T. Rogue	IGS
CARRIEL SUR	Chile	-36.78	-73.05	SSE	IGM Chile
BALMACEDA	Chile	-45.92	-71.70	SSE	IGM Chile
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LETICIA	Colombia	-04.20	-69.93	Leica	Agustin Codazzi
GALAPAGOS	Ecuador	-00.46	-90.26	Z12	IGM Ecuador / IGN
LATACUNGA	Ecuador	-01.00	-78.60	Z12	IGM Ecuador / IGN
ZAMORA	Ecuador	-04.05	-78.93	Z12	IGM Ecuador / IGN
KOUROU	Fr. Guiana	+05.13	-52.62	T. Rogue	ESA / IGS
M ESTIGARRIBIA	Paraguay	-22.00	-61.00	Z12	DSGM Paraguay / DMA
ASUNCIÓN	Paraguay	-25.00	-58.00	Z12	DSGM Paraguay / DMA

(Cont.)



SIRGAS STATIONS (10.Nov.1995) (CONT.)				INSTR.	INSTITUTION
IGUITOS	Peru	-03.73	-73.23	SSE	IGN Peru / DGFI
PIURA	Peru	-05.30	-80.20	Leica	IGN Peru / Univ. FAF FRG
LIMA	Peru	-12.80	-76.80	Leica+SSE	IGN Peru / DGFI / Univ. FAF FRG
AREQUIPA	Peru	-16.45	-71.48	T. Rogue +SSE+Leica	IGS / IGN Peru / DGFI / Univ. FAF FRG
YACARE	Uruguay	-30.60	-57.42	Z12	SGM Uruguay /
CERRO VIGIA	Uruguay	-33.72	-53.58	Z12	Univ. de la Republica
MONTEVIDEO	Uruguay	-34.88	-56.27	Z12 + Leica	/ Fac. Ingenieria
MARACAIBO	Venezuela	+10.77	-71.67	SSE+Leica	EIG Univ. Zulia / DGFI
JUNQUITO	Venezuela	+10.55	-66.87	SSE	DCN
LA CANOA	Venezuela	+08.57	-63.86	SSE	DCN/DIGECAFA/DGFI
AGUA LINDA	Venezuela	+05.88	-67.45	SSE	DCN/DIGECAFA/DGFI
KAMA	Venezuela	+05.39	-61.21	Leica	DCN/DIGECAFA/DGFI

The campaign was possible due to the collaboration of around 30 participant institutions from South, North America and Europe.

The following receivers were used:

- Ashtech Z12
- Trimble SSE/SSI
- Turbo Rogue
- Wild Leica System 200

In general, it can be said that there were very few interruptions in the observation periods, which let us conclude that the campaign was a very successful step of the SIRGAS project.

3. COLLECTING OF DATA

The data collecting step by the national data centers has worked normally, as well as the information delivery to the global data centers (DGFI and IBGE) later.

It can be said that on 15.Aug.95 almost 100% of data had arrived at DGFI (Munich, Germany), from which 90% approximately had been revised and stored on the data base. The corresponding files are promptly available to users at DGFI and IBGE (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).



4. PROCESSING

By now, 4 centers have shown interest in partially or totally process the network:

- DGFI (Munich, Germany)
- IBGE (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- DMA (Washington, USA)
- IfE (Hannover, Germany)/Universidade Federal do Paraná (Paraná, Brazil)

The processing of the GPS observations has started at DGFI.

It is expected to get the first global results in the first half of 1996, after which it is scheduled a working group meeting.

WORKING GROUP II: GEOCENTRIC DATUM

CHANGING OF THE PRESIDENT

According to what was mentioned on the editorial of this newsletter, the tasks under the responsibility of WG II will be coordinated from now by the new working group president, Major Rodrigo Barriga Vargas, from Instituto Geográfico Militar of Chile. Major Barriga substitutes Major Walter Subiza, from Servicio Geográfico Militar of Uruguay, who was playing this role with competence and dedication, but he was appointed by his institute to assume new responsibilities in Antarctic. In order to proceed with the coordination of the WG activities, a meeting, with the participation of the new president and components, is being scheduled for April 1996. It will probably be a joint meeting with the WG I. Details about date and place will be defined in the beginning of next year.

PROCESSING CENTERS OF THE WORKING GROUP

The GPS networks, available in each country, will be integrated into the high precision frame established by the SIRGAS GPS campaign, using and encouraging the establishment of the necessary international ties. The classical networks integration, according to the Resolution Nr. 2 of the first WG II meeting, will occur in accordance with the interest of each country. Inquiring the South American countries, the WG has identified that the following ones have interest in establishing a processing center for the activities related to this working group: Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Venezuela. Besides, DMA is supporting the establishment of another center, in Argentina, in order to contribute to the processing efforts. It is emphasized that, according previous decision, each country can carry out the adjustment computations on its own. For this



purpose, information related to all stations will be stored in a database to be established at IBGE, Brazil.

SIRGAS AT THE IUGG GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During the IUGG General Assembly, held in Boulder, Colorado (July 1995), the following papers about the SIRGAS project were presented:

- Fortes: Status of the SIRGAS Project
- Drewes, Kaniuth, Stuber, Tremel, Cifuentes, Fortes, Hernández, Hoyer: Results of the 1994 SIRGAS Pre-Campaign
- Drewes, Fortes, Hoyer: The SIRGAS'95 Campaign

Besides, informal meetings took place, when various aspects about the project were discussed, especially the 1995 campaign data processing.