
The Evolution of SLR/LLR in Response to Mission Needs

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Abstract

The response of the laser ranging network to the needs of the various missions over the past 40 years or so has been an evolving one. The targets have been varied and the science has been exciting. With the establishment of the International Laser Ranging Service (ILRS) and its Missions Working Group, this planning and coordination has been put on a much more formal basis. This presentation reviews some of the history, provides information on where we find ourselves right now, and tries to look a bit into the future as to where we wish to be.