

Courde C., Torre JM., Samain E., Fienga A., Viswanathan V., Martinot-Lagarde G., Aymar M., Albanese D., Mariey H., Viot H.

Lunar laser ranging In Infrared

For many years, Lunar Laser Ranging observations using a green wavelength, suffer of an inhomogeneity problem both temporally and spatially. During this presentation we will report on the implementation of a new infrared detection at the Grasse LLR station and describes how infrared telemetry improves this situation. Our first results show that infrared detection permits to densify the observations and allows measurements during the new and the full Moon periods. Finally, a surprising result is obtained on the Lunokhod 2 array which procures the same efficiency than Lunokhod 1 with an infrared laser link, although those two targets exhibit a differential efficiency of 6 with a green laser link.