

with contributions from:

- Marta Marcos
- Alvaro Santamaria

-...

CeCile



# GNSS Observations & Sea Level

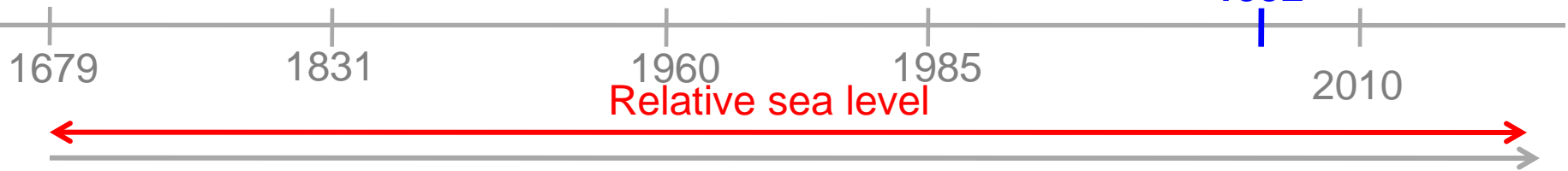
Guy Wöppelmann  
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- Outline:
1. Introduction
  2. The importance of Vertical Land Motions
  3. The GPS solution
  4. Spatial patterns of sea level change
  5. Concluding remarks

Liverpool, 27-28 Oct. 2013

# 1. The Era of Recording Sea Level



P. de La Hire  
(1640-1718)

J. Picard  
(1620-1682)



Tide pole



Floating tide gauge

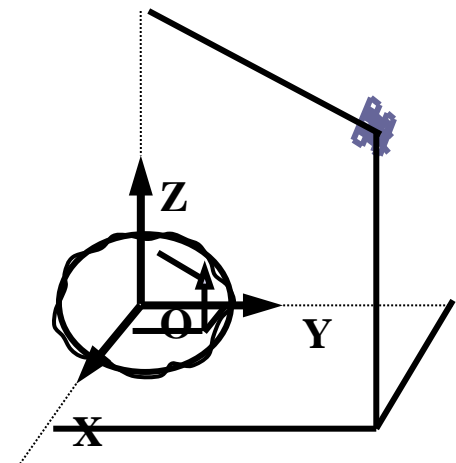
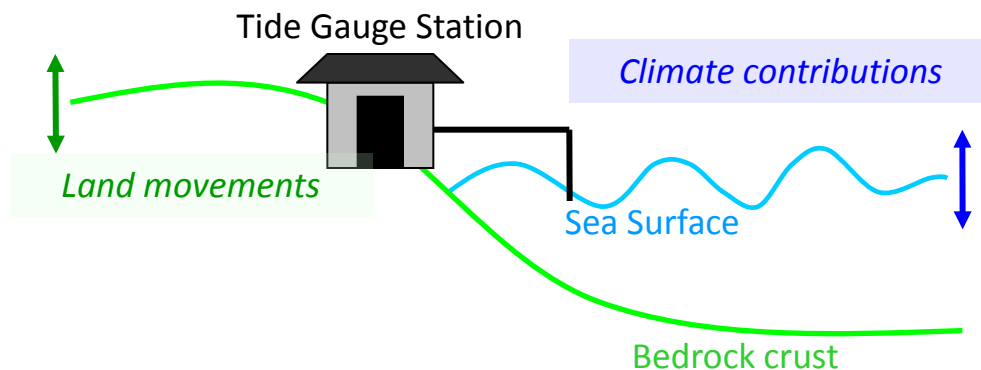
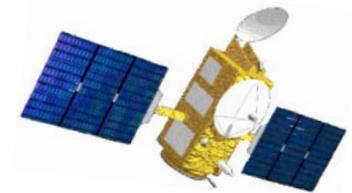


Pressure gauge

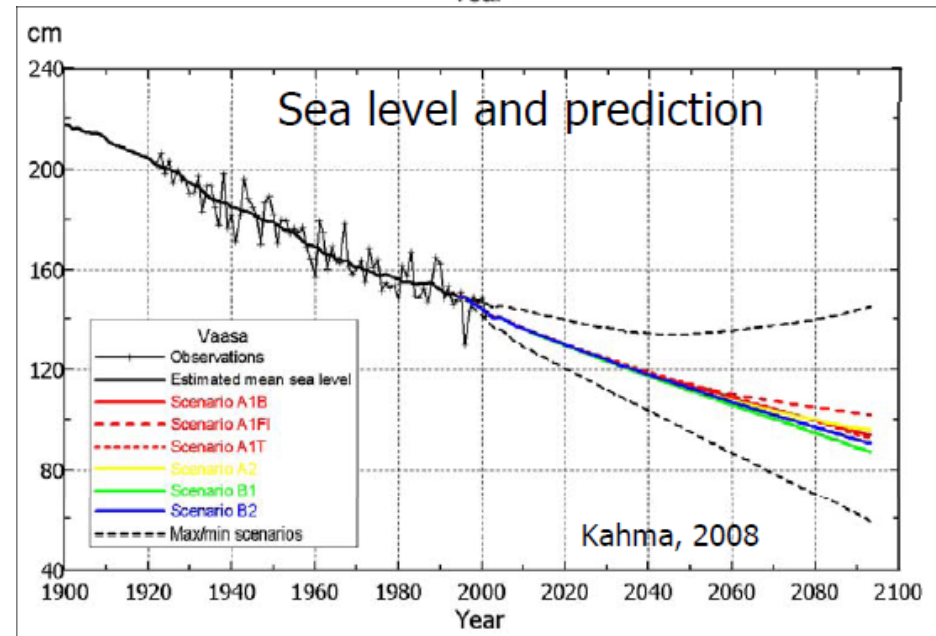
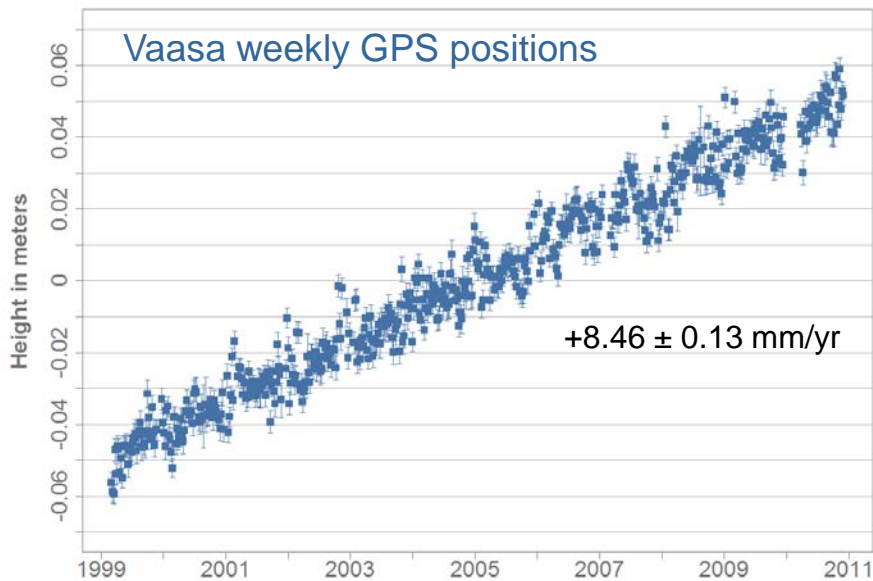
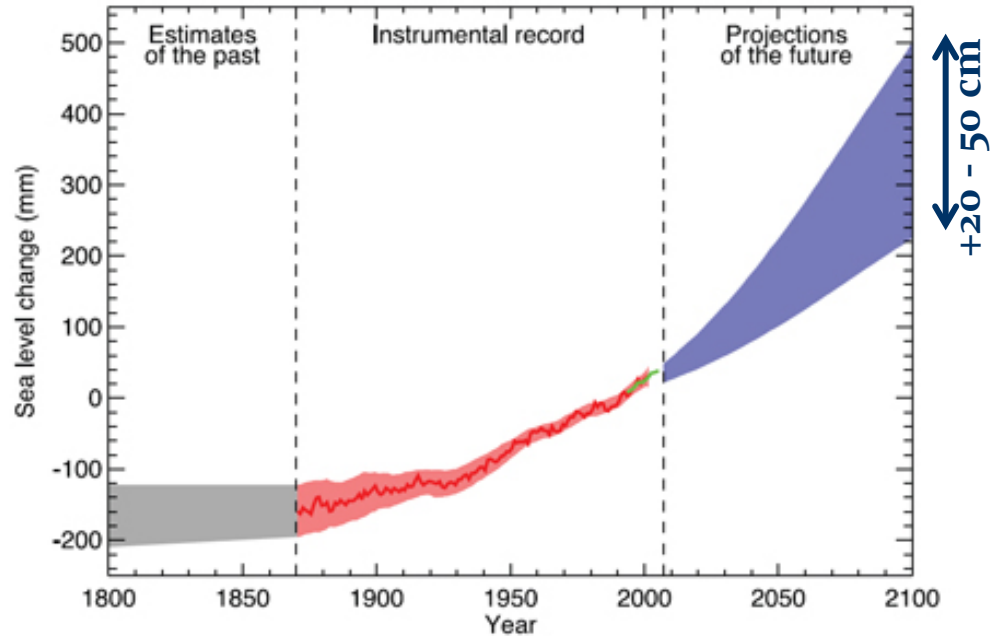
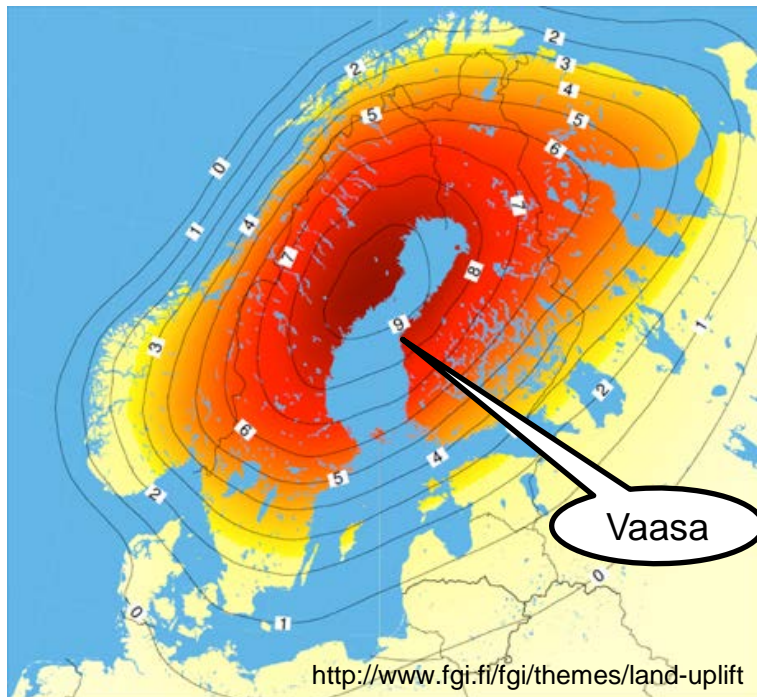


Acoustic & radar

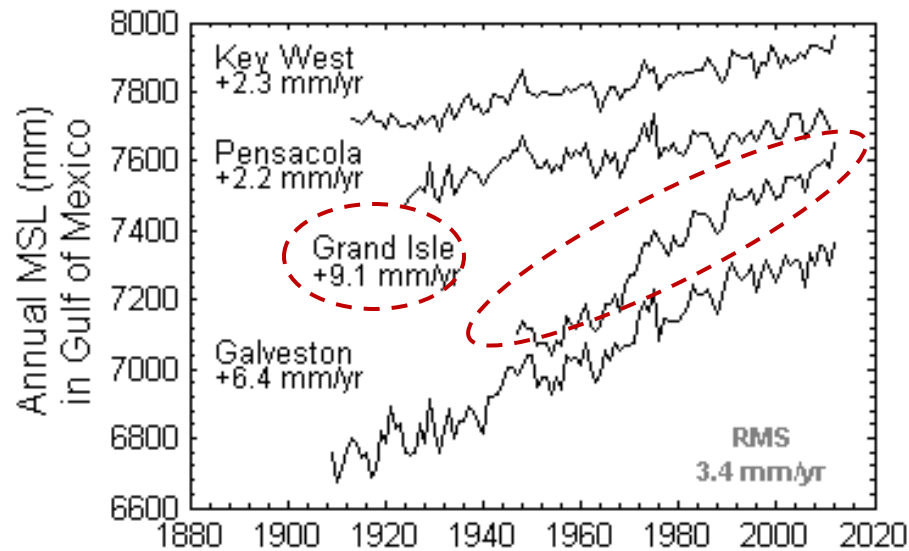
Geocentric sea level



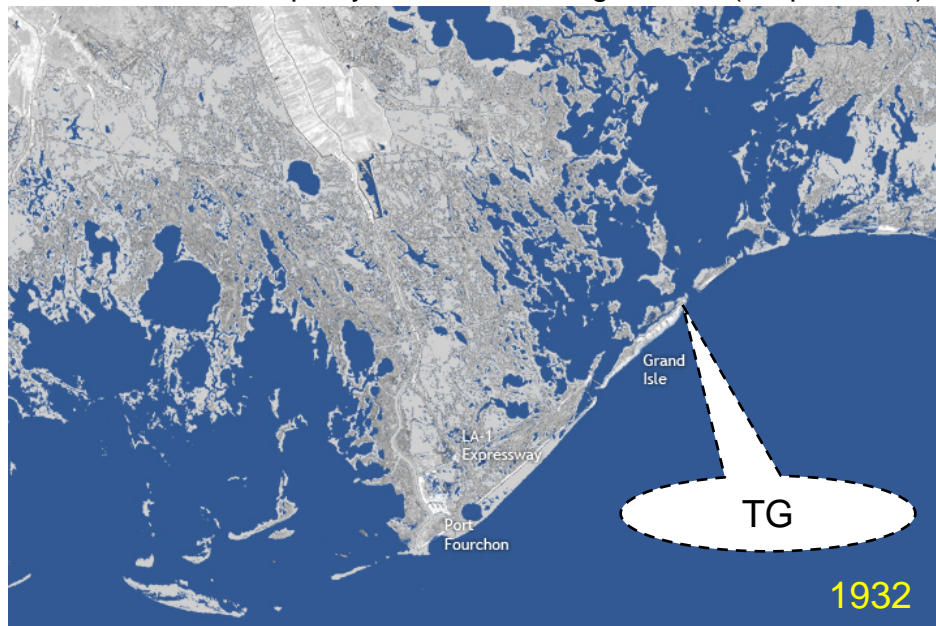
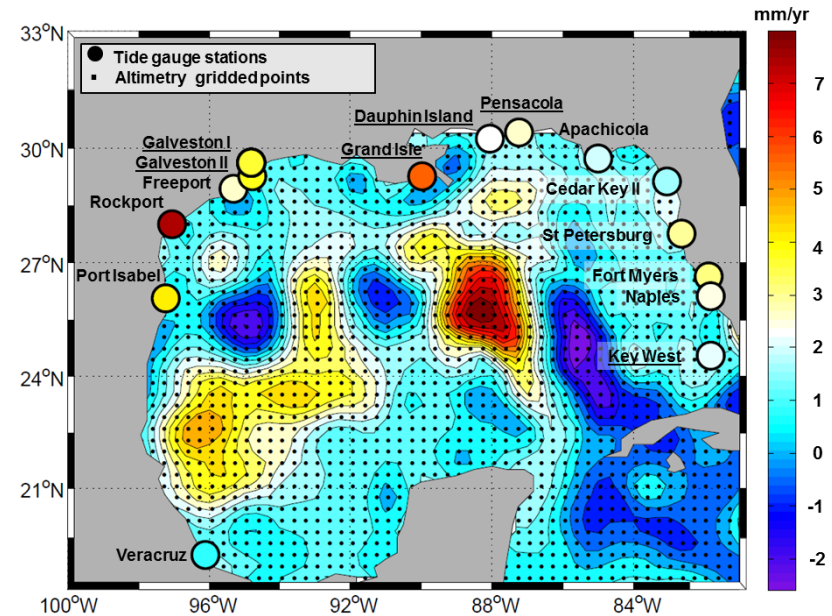
## 2. The importance of land movements at the coast



## 2. Gulf of Mexico & Grand Isle (Louisiana)



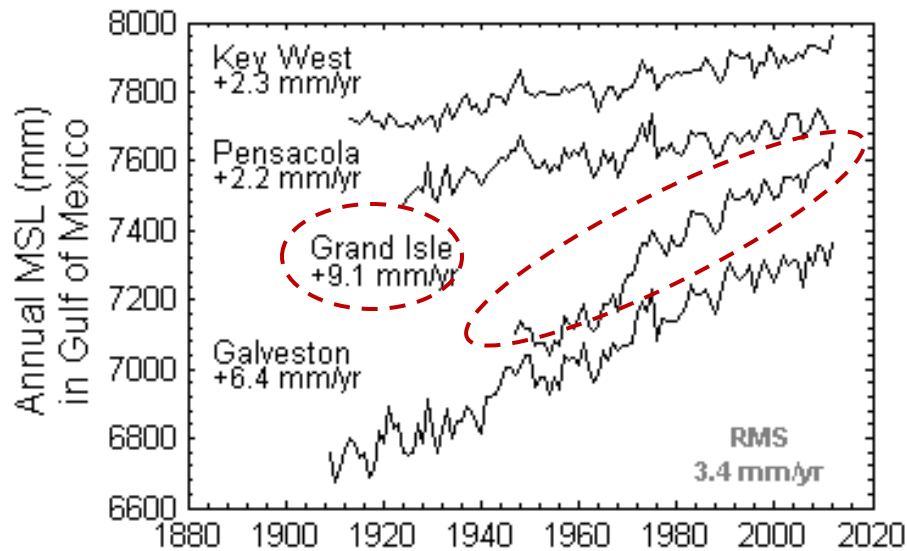
Maps by NOAA Climate.gov team (Stephen Gill)



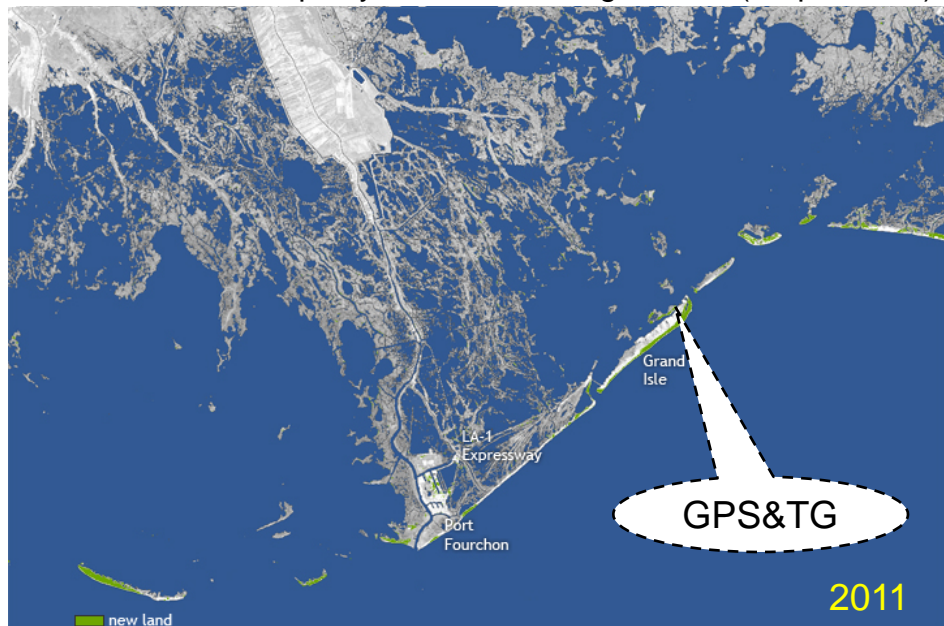
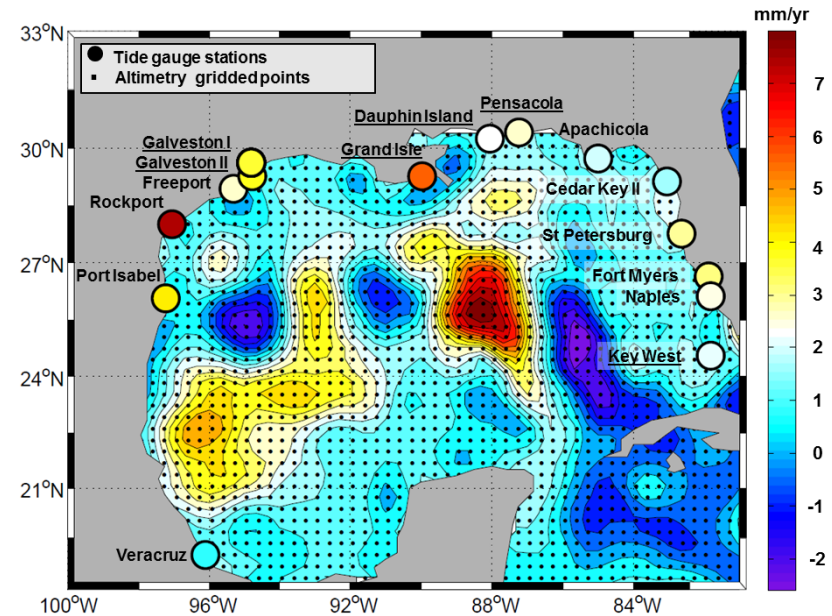
[Click to view land: 2011 | 1932](#)



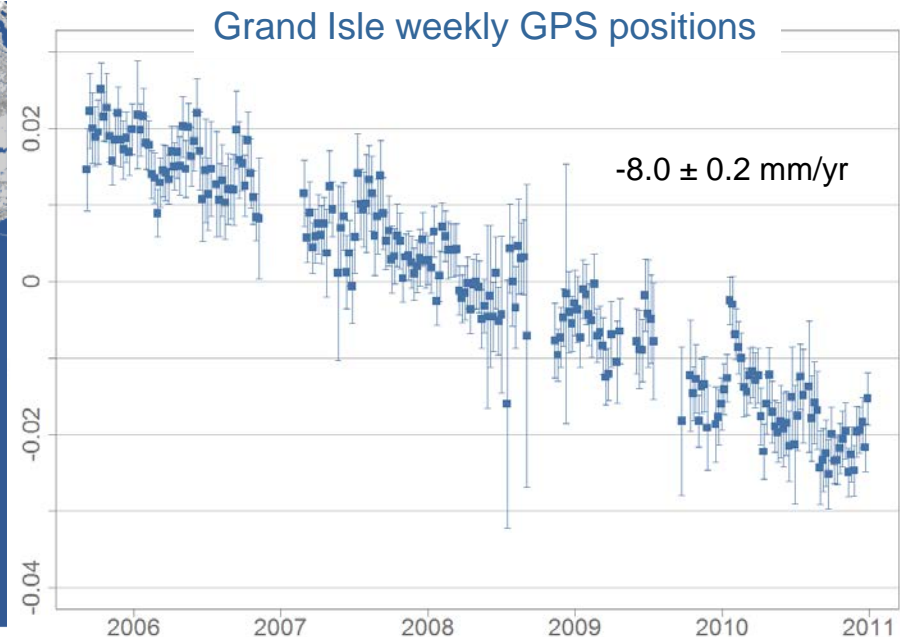
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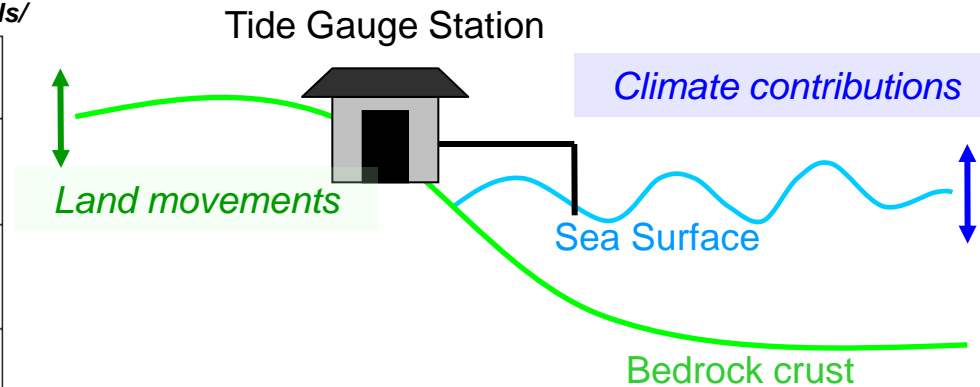
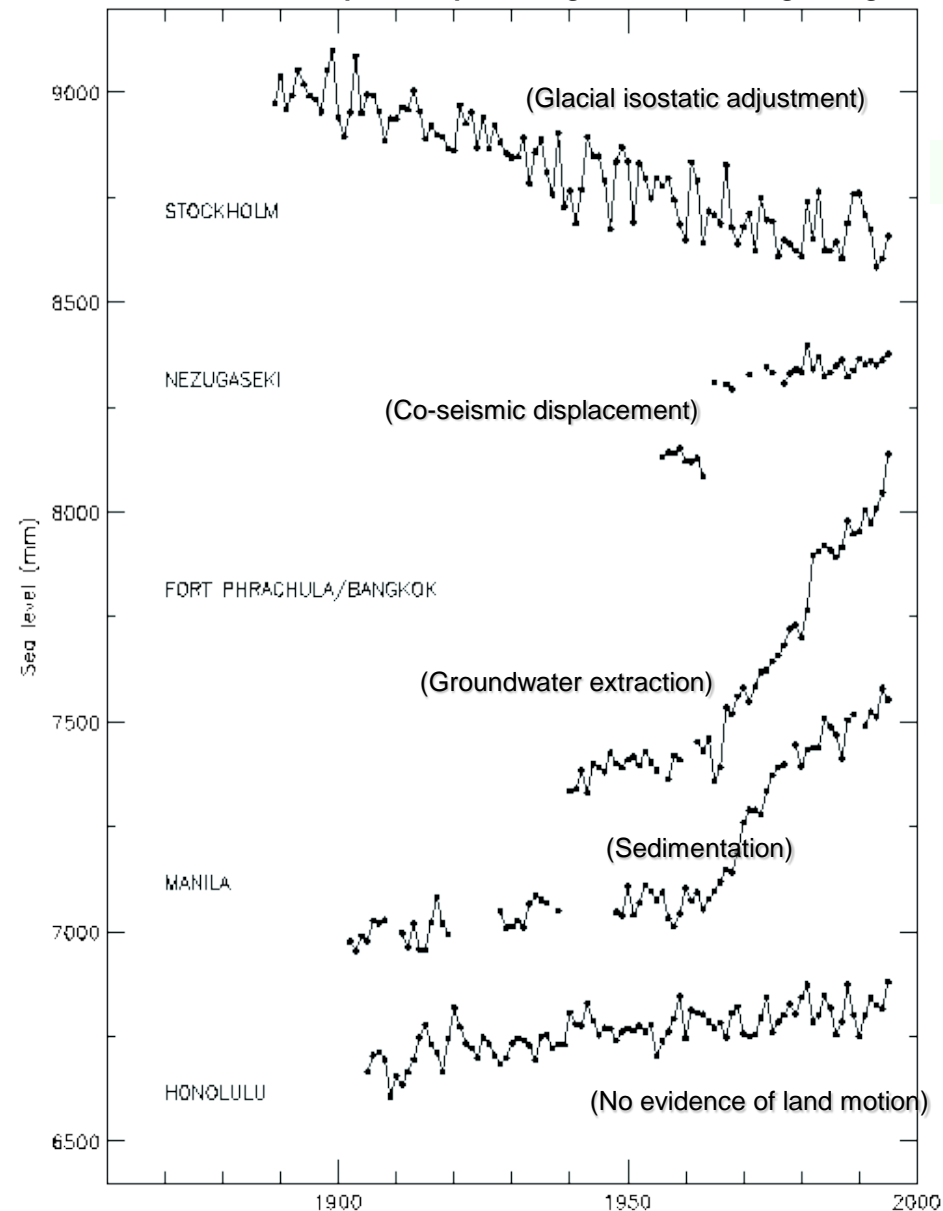


Click to view land: 2011 | 1932



## 2. Wide range of VLM processes

Source PSMSL: [http://www.psmsl.org/train\\_and\\_info/geo\\_signals/](http://www.psmsl.org/train_and_info/geo_signals/)



### □ Determination

- Modeling: Only GIA
  - ↳ Uncertainties (viscosity profiles, lithosphere thickness, ice retreat)
  - ↳ Other processes?
- Monitoring: Space Geodesy

### □ Challenges

- Rates of sea-level change: ~2 mm/yr
- Standard errors: one order of magnitude less to be useful in LTT sea level studies!

### 3. Measure (if one can): The GPS solution

- Review of Geodetic Techniques  
Carter *et al.* (1989; 1993)



Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR)



VLBI



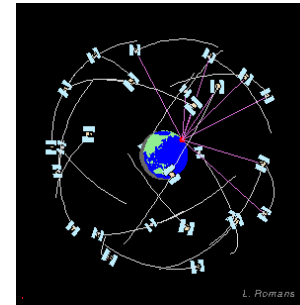
DORIS



Absolute Gravimetry

- Campaign versus Continuous GPS  
Zerbini *et al.* (1996)  
Neilan *et al.* (1998) – JPL (IGS/PSMSL)

- Regional versus Global GPS Processing  
Mazzotti *et al.* (2008)  
Legrand *et al.* (2010)



GPS constellation



Campaign mode



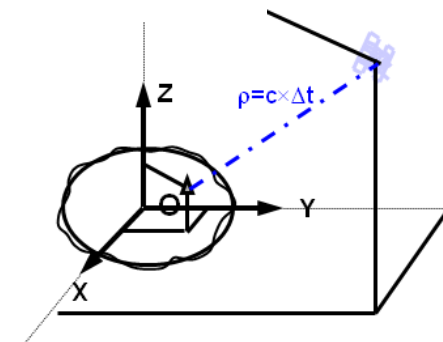
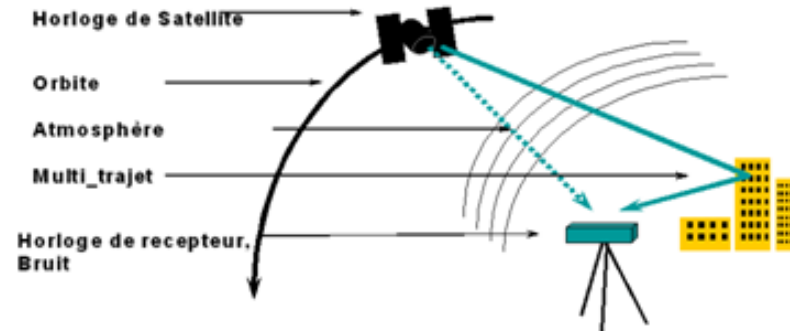
Continuous mode

#### ➤ International infrastructure (IGS)

- IGS pilot project: TIGA (OS, DC, AC)  
Launched in 2001

- Cumulative GPS processing versus Homogenous GPS reprocessing

Wöppelmann *et al.* (2007) in GPC



Dedicated Data Storage : 7 To  
"Lustre" Data File System

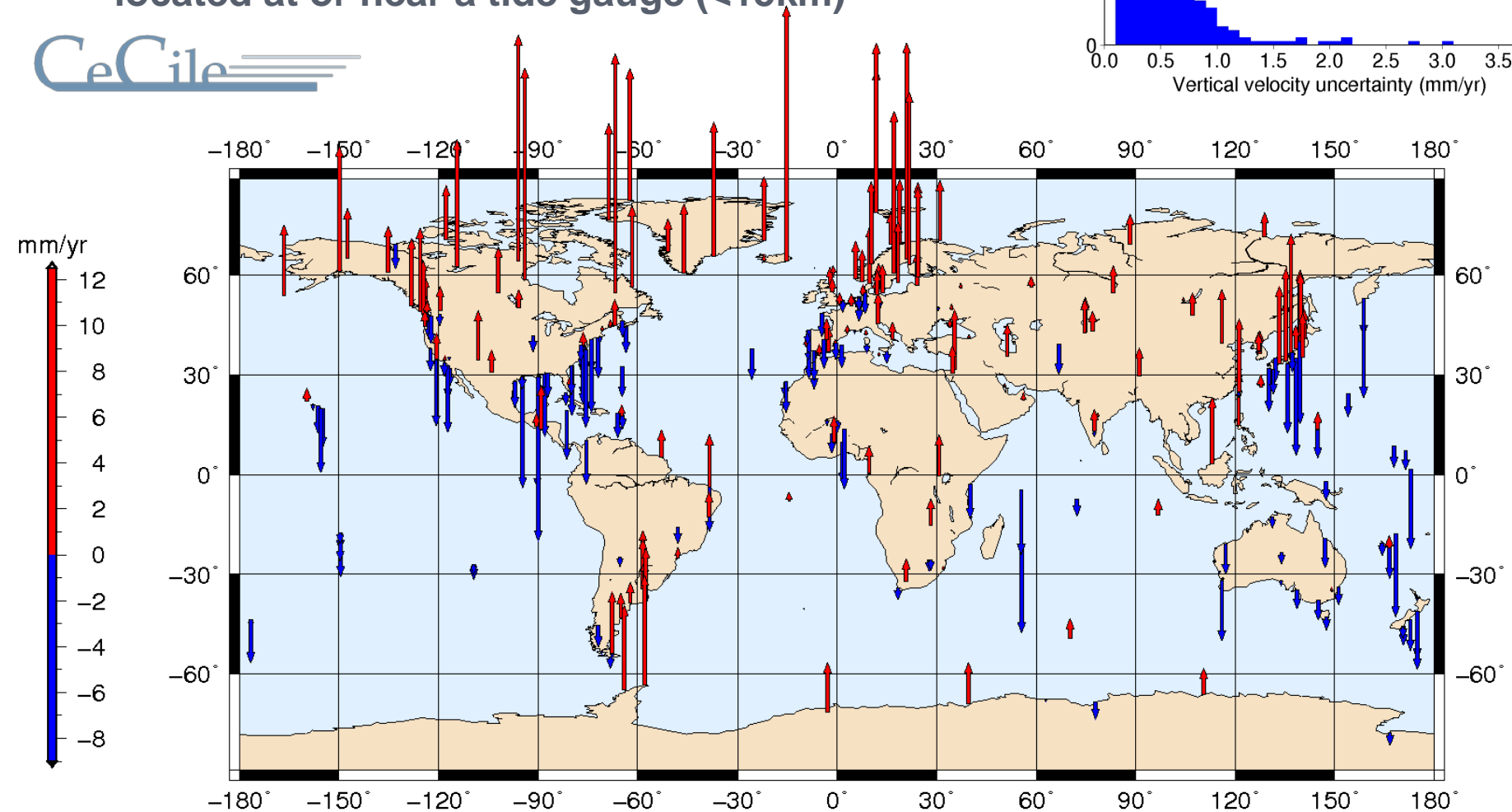
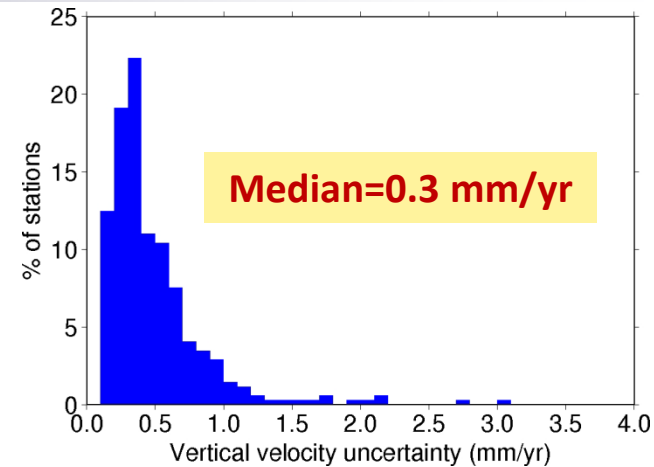
Altix ICE 8200 (SGI)  
Cluster Linux (2008 → 2010)  
128 processors → 392

### 3. GPS vertical velocities from the ULR consortium

Santamaria-Gomez *et al.* (2012) available at [www.sonel.org](http://www.sonel.org)

- Calculation of uncertainties on velocities taking into account time-correlated noise
- 326 GPS velocities, from which **201** co-located at or near a tide gauge (<15km)

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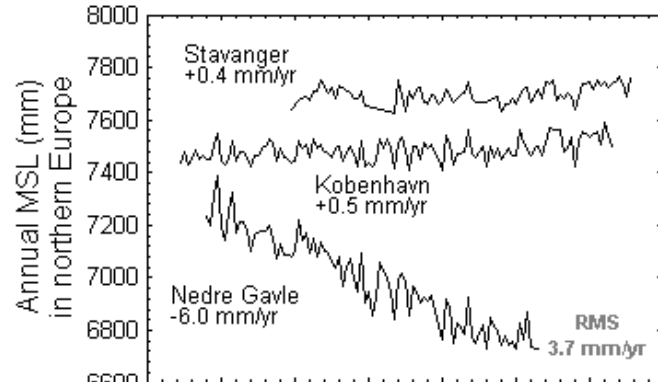




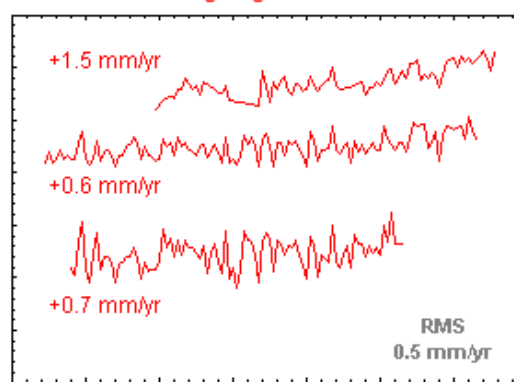
# 3. GPS velocities at TG...

# How well do they work?

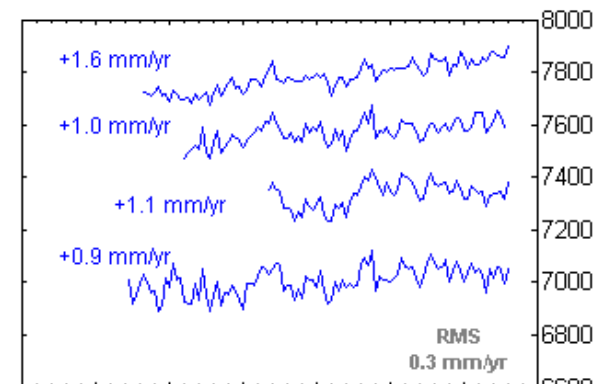
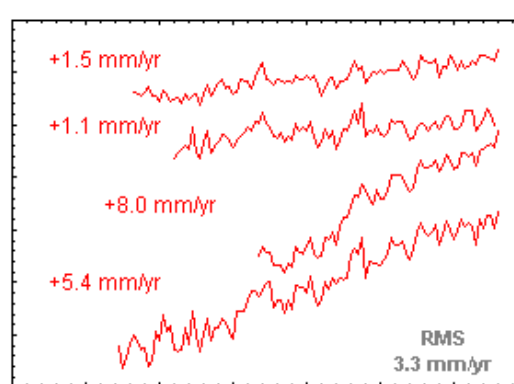
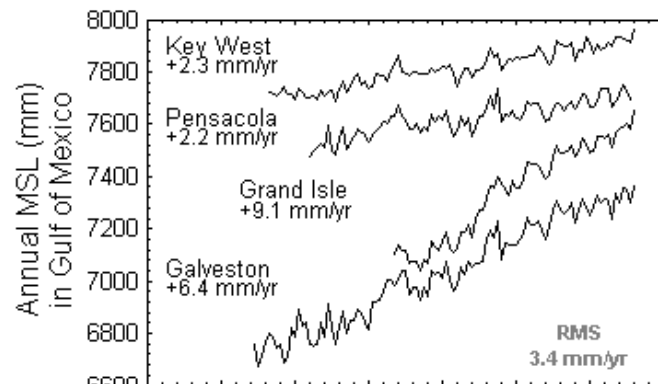
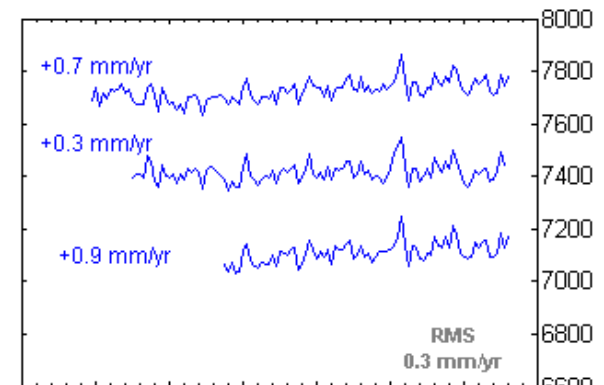
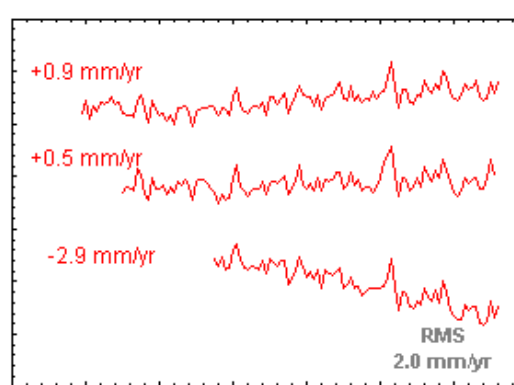
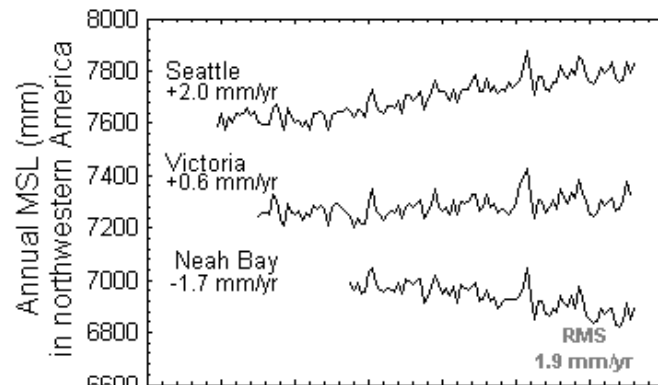
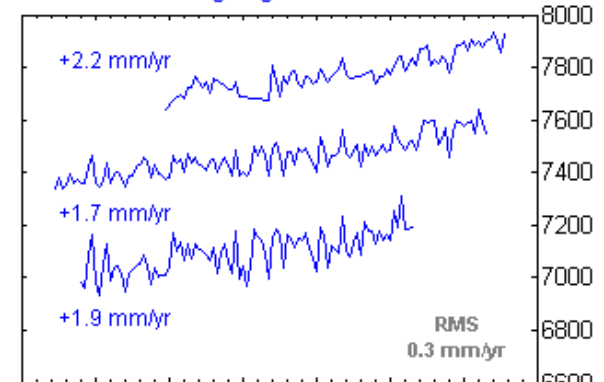
Tide gauge records



GIA-corrected  
tide gauge records

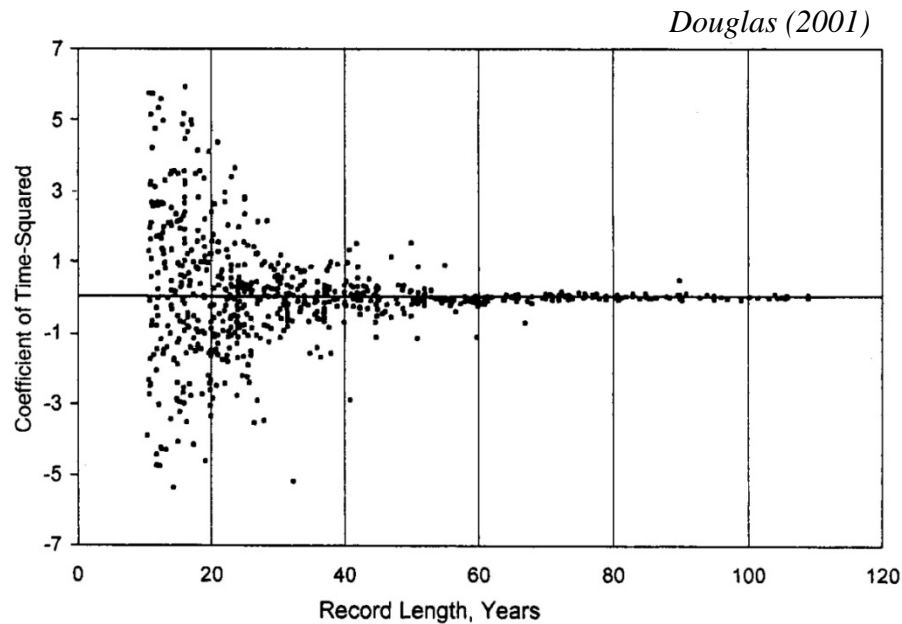


GPS-corrected  
tide gauge records

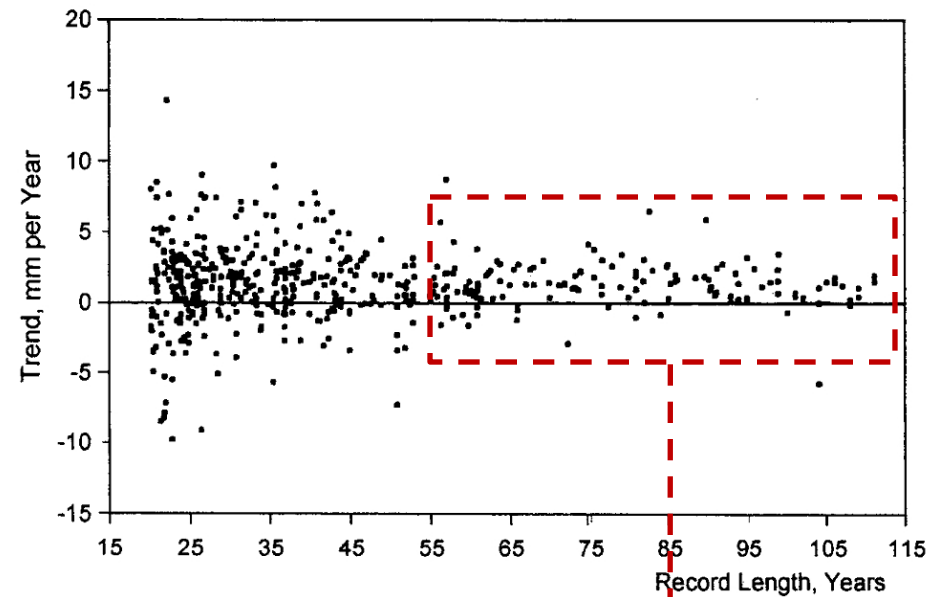


1880 1900 1920 1940 1960 1980 2000 2020

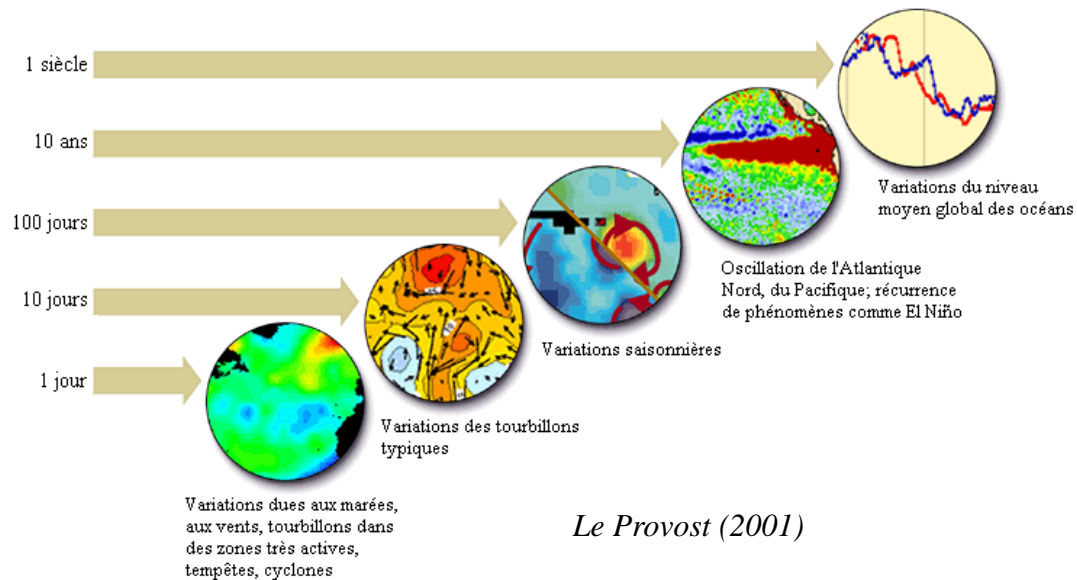
## 4. Studying Spatial Patterns of Sea Level Change



**Figure 3.16** Acceleration component of relative sea levels.



**Figure 3.11** RLR-site sea level trends corrected for glacial isostatic adjustment.



Local VLM are the most likely source of spatial variability

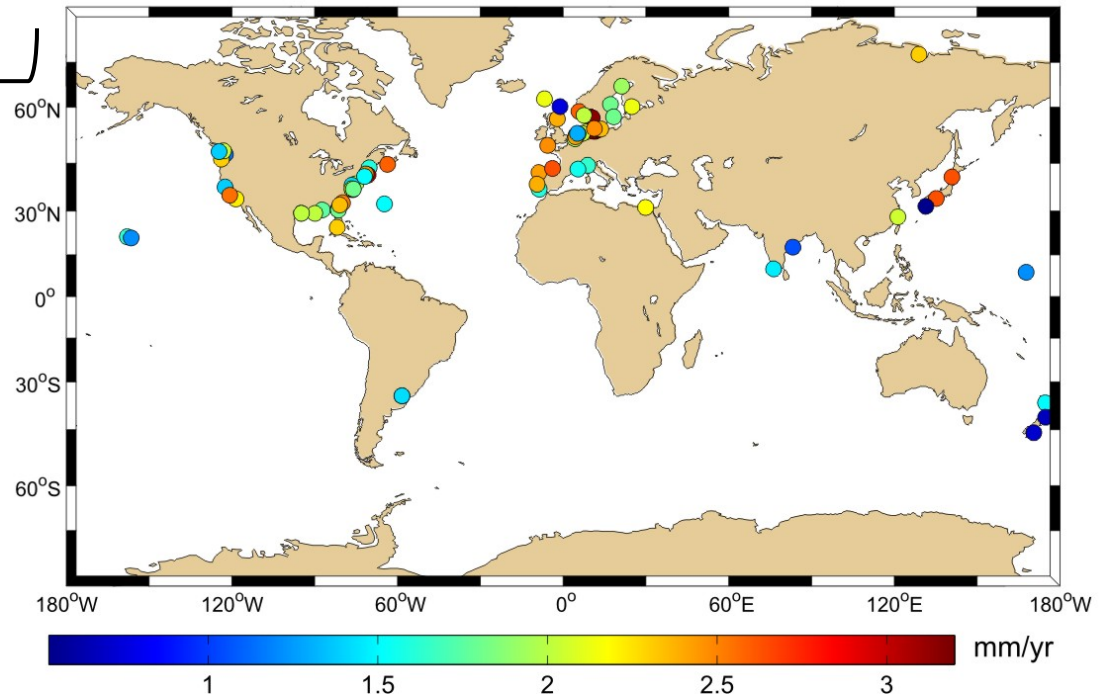
*Le Provost (2001)*

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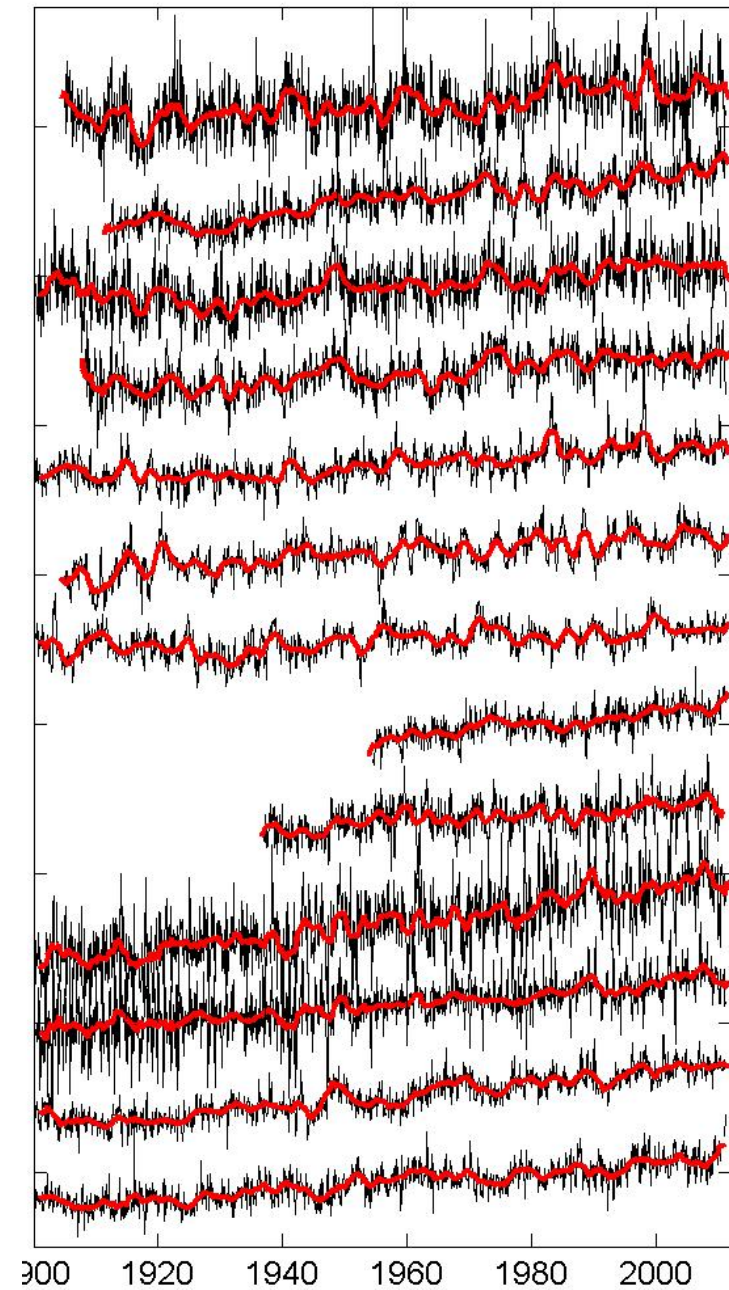
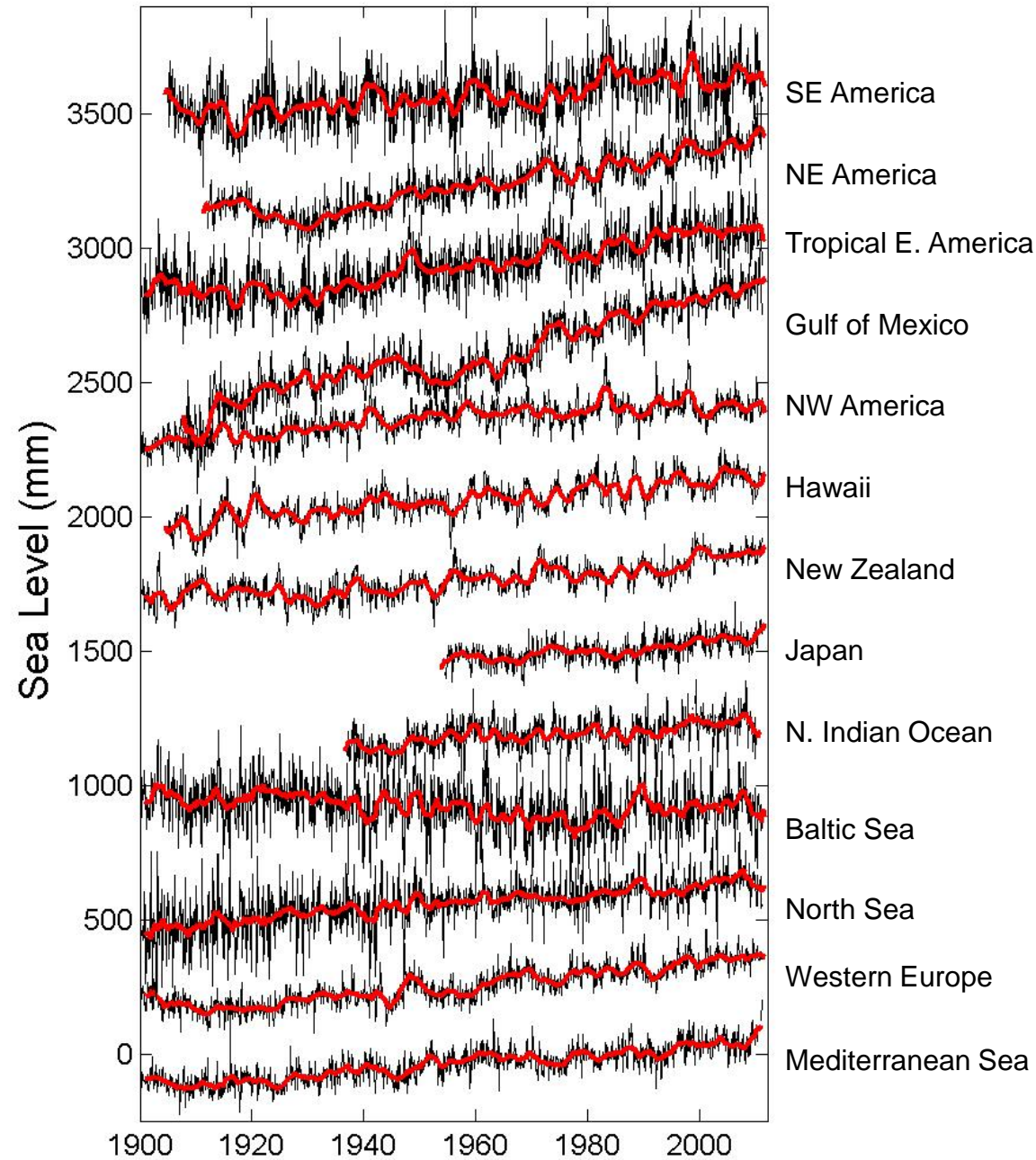
### □ Station selection criteria:

- Tide gauge records > 50yr from 1900
  - 70% of valid data
- Regional grouping based on correlation coefficients
- Nearest robust GPS velocity estimate
  - Same land (Islands)
  - GIA gradient of TG-GPS stations < 0.4 mm/yr
  - Active tectonic areas : co-location or redundant GPS data

76 records  
grouped into 17 regions

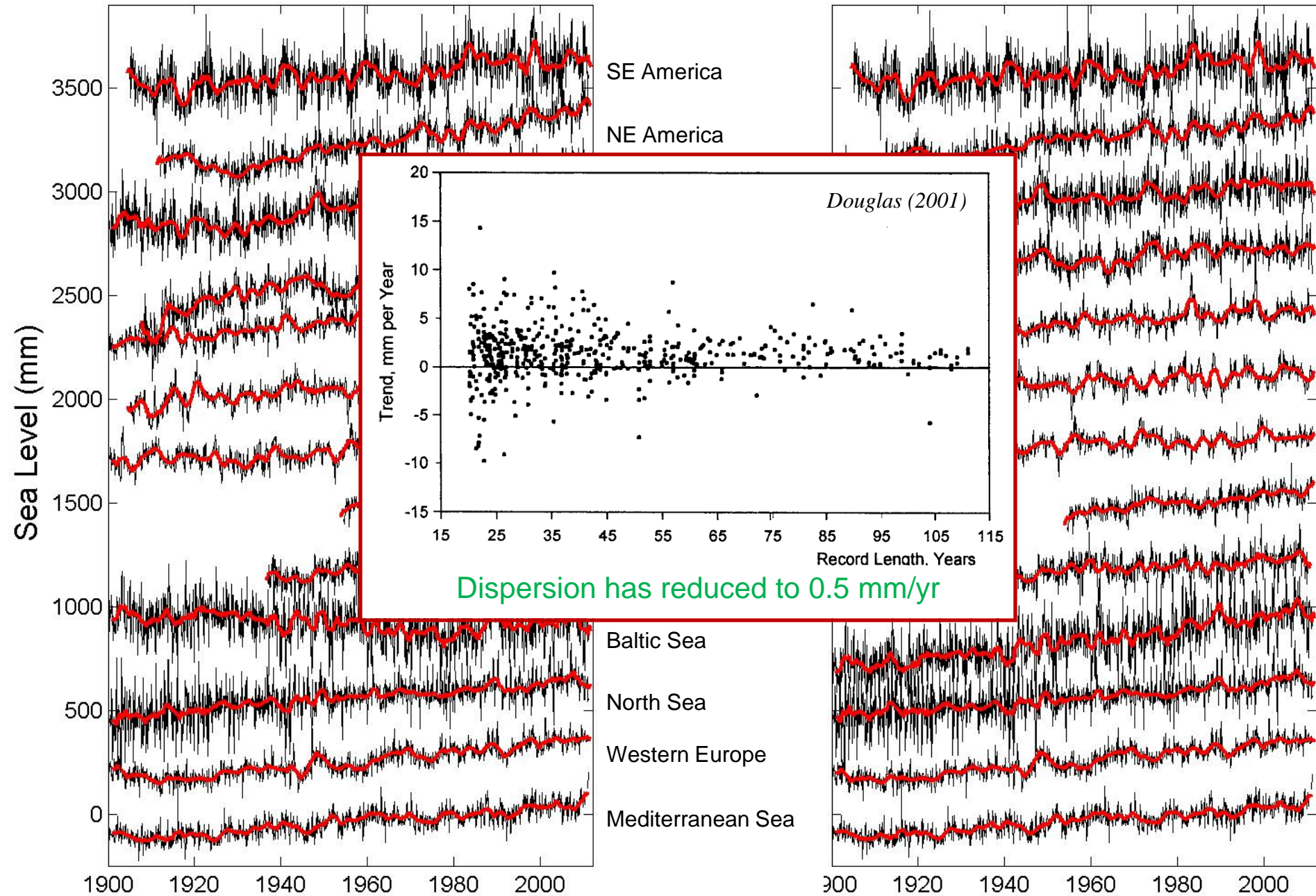


## 4. GPS velocities at TG... How well do they work?

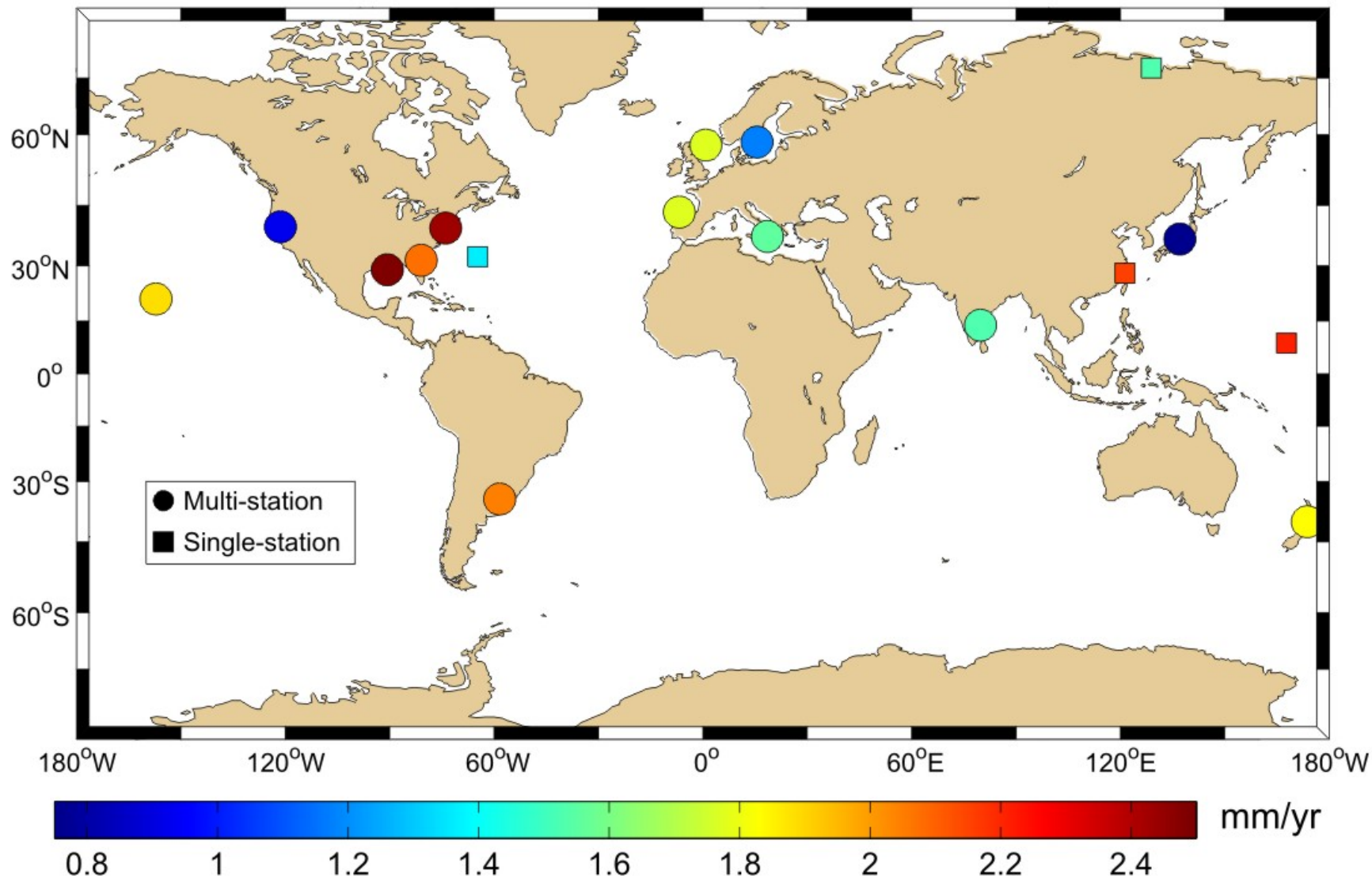




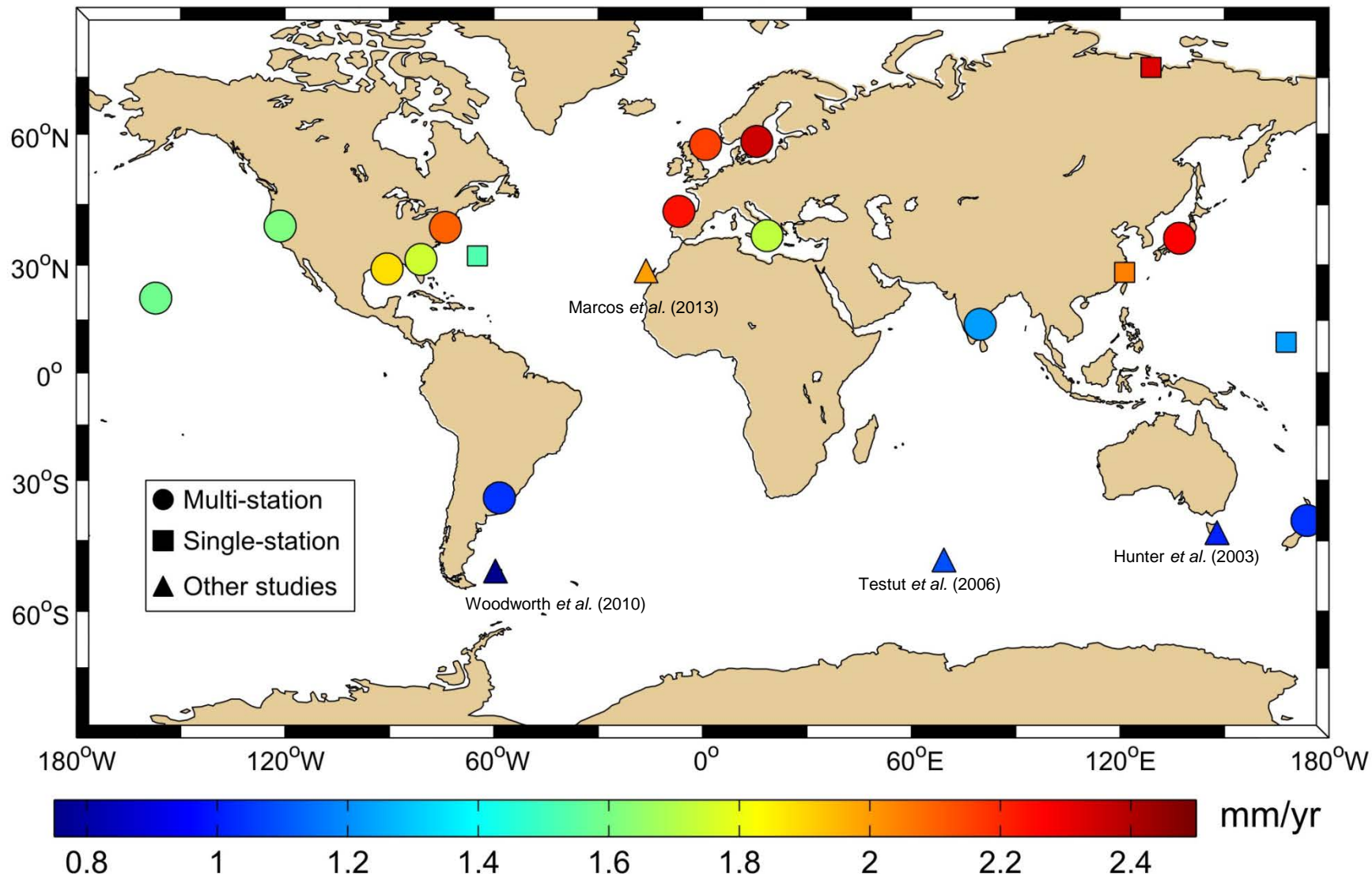
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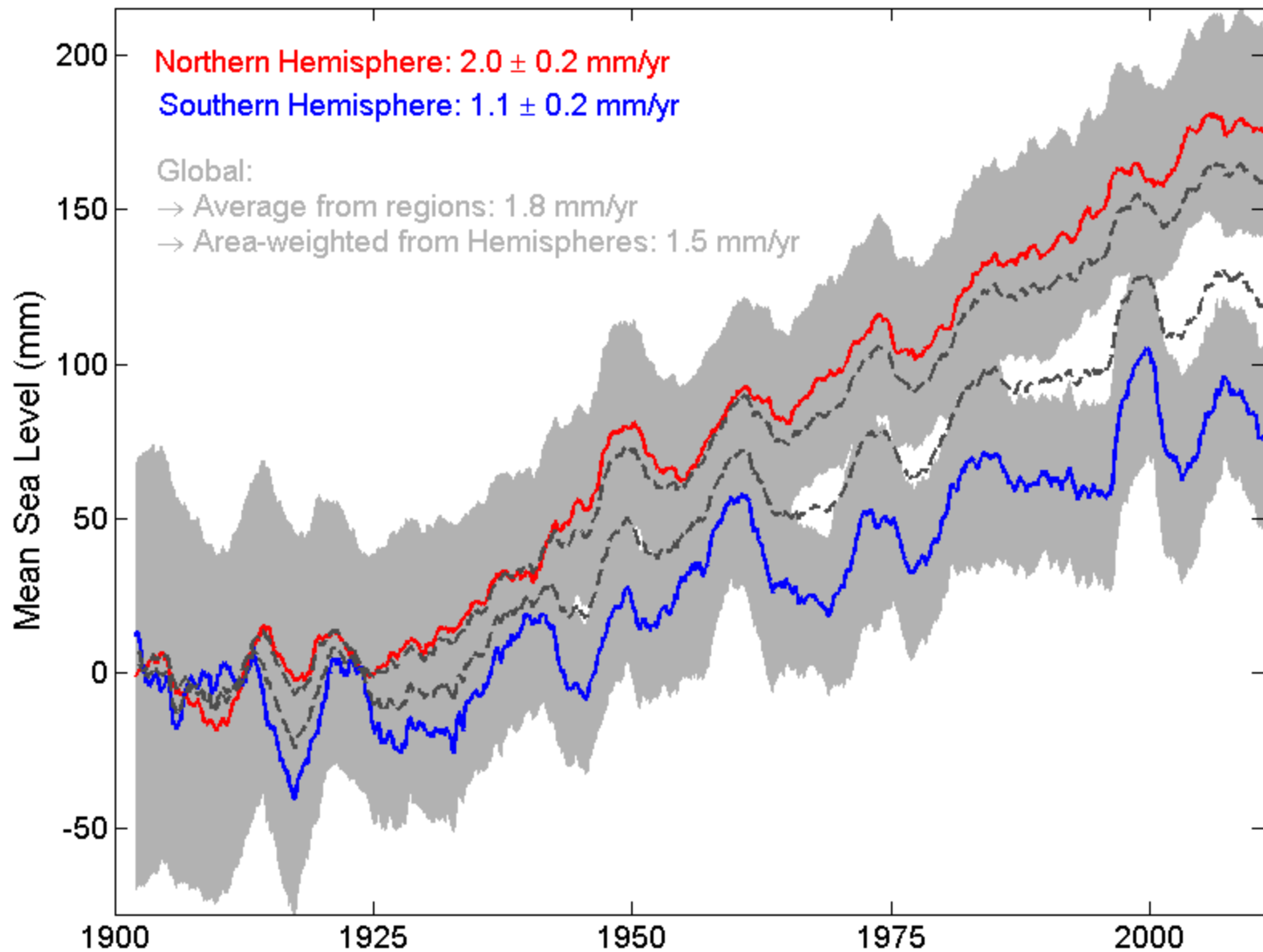
## 4. Spatial Patterns of Sea Level Change



## 4. Spatial Patterns of Sea Level Change



## 4. Hemispheric Sea Level Change





## 5. Concluding remarks



- Revisited study of global sea-level rise over the past 100 years
  - Updated datasets:
    - ↳ *Number of stations, time series completeness and length*
  - State-of-the-art methods and corrections
    - ↳ *e.g., Grouping with “Virtual station” technique*
    - Vertical land motion (VLM) with best GPS velocities*
- Evidence for a differential sea-level rise between hemispheres
  - Robust observational evidence
    - ↳ within the limitations of the datasets, **affecting any previous study**
- Major consequences in terms of sea level research
  - **Reconcile past estimates: the crucial role of geographic sampling**
  - Striving to close the budget of 20<sup>th</sup> global sea level rise is an elusive goal
  - Research avenue for explaining the cause of this pattern...
- VLM are an important source of spatial variability of sea level trends
  - Masking the detection of climate-related signals and fingerprints
    - ↳ GIA models are limited by essence to the GIA process
    - ↳ **VLM corrections are essential, from other sources e.g. GPS**
    - ↳ **GLOSS (IOC/Unesco) requires GPS at TGs and making the data available**

