

Louisiana

# Center for GeoInformatics

Status Update & Ongoing Research

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Louisiana State University  
College of Engineering

# Presentation Overview

- Overview of C4G & Program Background
- Current Height Modernization Efforts
- Operational Activities & Funding
- Recent Accomplishments
- Addressing Challenges in the Short & Long Term

# What is the C4G?

## **A Science & Technology Research Unit and Data Provider Focused on High- Precision 3-D and 4-D Earth Positioning in Louisiana**

- Maintain a state-wide CORS network of GPS and GNSS Antennas and Receivers
- Supports scientific, commercial, and legal applications that are recognized by Louisiana statute (R.S. 50: 173.1)

# Who Are the C4G?

## Personnel for the Center for GeoInformatics:



George Z. Voyiadjis

Acting Director: Civil & Environmental Engineering



Clifford Mugnier

Instructor & Chief of Geodesy: Civil & Environmental Engineering and the Center for GeoInformatics



Randy Osborne

Network Administrator: Center for GeoInformatics



Joshua D. Kent

GIS Manager & Researcher: Center for GeoInformatics and Adjunct Faculty School of the Coast & Environment



Larry Dunaway

Field Operations Manager: Center for GeoInformatics



# Program Background

## **Center for GeoInformatics (C4G) & the LA Spatial Reference Center (LSRC)**

- C4G established in 2001 in College of Engineering at LSU
- LSRC established in 2002 to promote the utilization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS)
- Established the CORS Network in 2004
  - 18 GPS Reference Stations
- Legal Source for elevations in LA (R.S. 50:173.1)
- Established Real-Time Network (RTN) in 2007
  - 50 GPS Reference Stations
- Integrate GNSS Technologies into the RTN in 2009

# Mission Statement

***“It is the Mission of the Center for GeoInformatics to become a national force in expanding and strengthening the university, commercial and public-sector geospatial communities within the State of Louisiana and the US.***

***To this end, the Center for GeoInformatics will provide the advanced geospatial information applications, products, training, and commercialization expertise that are required to support economic development and environmental stewardship.”***

# Current Height-Mod Efforts

## The C4G is Finalizing Project Tasks for a NOAA Grant Awarded in 2010

- *TASK 1: Continue daily operations of the Louisiana Spatial Reference Center, including the operations of the LSU GULFNet GNSS network of National CORS.*
- *TASK 2: Create CORS 911 – a transportable CORS positioning system that can be deployed to support NOAA activities during hurricanes along the Gulf Coast.*
- *TASK 3: Continue to provide CORS data to NOAA/NWS/ESRL GPS-MET group.*
- *TASK 4: Continue program of monitoring subsidence data at CO-OPs/NOAA Tide gauges in coastal Louisiana for absolute sea-level change monitoring.*
- *TASK 5: Conduct Height Modernization Forums for users in Louisiana and the Gulf Coast.*

# ***TASK 1: Continue Daily Operations of the Louisiana Spatial Reference Center***

**C4GNet Consists of 70 CORS sites maintained by the University and through collaboration with regional stakeholders & operators:**

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## **List of Continuously Operating Reference Stations**

<b>Hardware Count</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>GPS Receivers</b>	<b>GNSS Receivers</b>
<b>53</b>	LSU	36	17
<b>9</b>	USM Gulf Coast Geospatial Center	4	5
<b>6</b>	Texas Dept. of Transportation	3	3
<b>2</b>	NOAA Earth Research Laboratory	2	0
<b>70</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>

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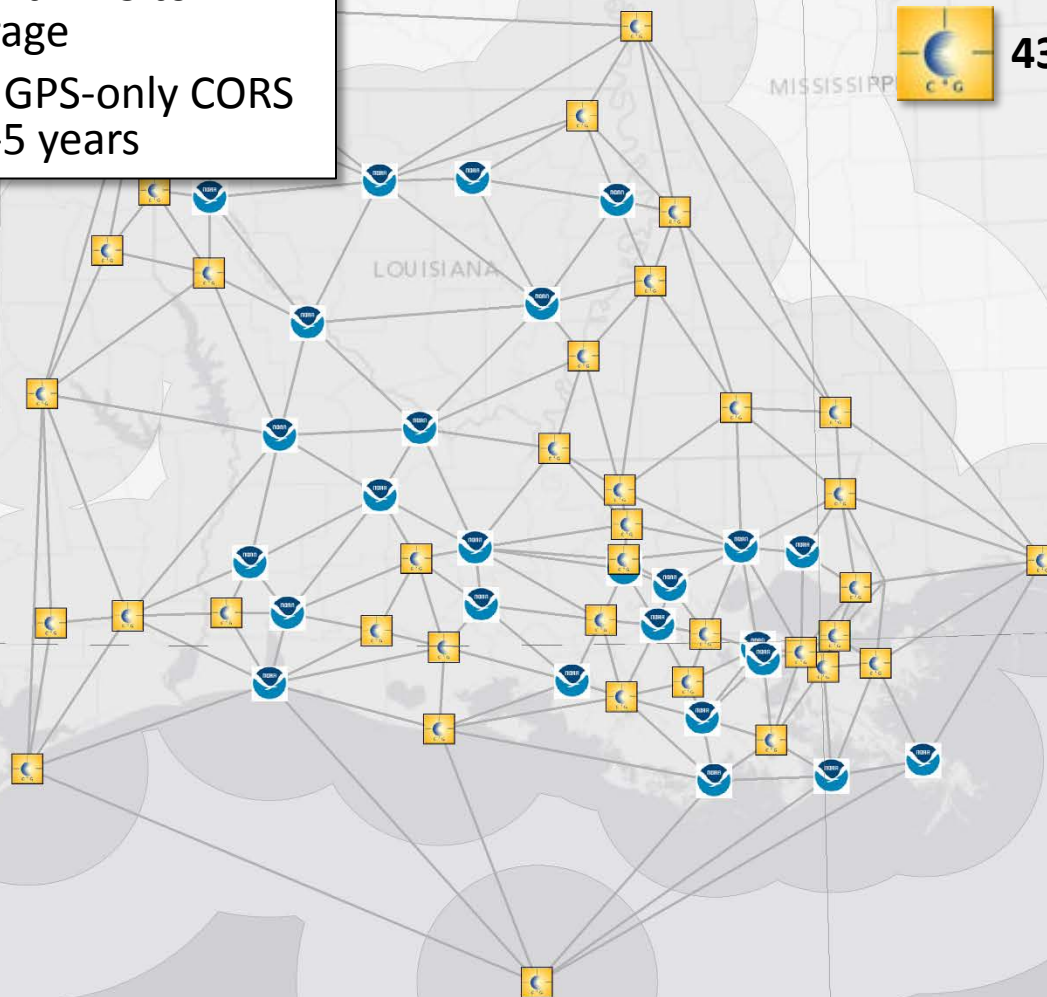
- 5 GNSS CORS Sites Planned for 2013
- Collaborate with MS to Extend Coverage
- Phase out all GPS-only CORS in the next 3-5 years



**27 National CORS**



**43 State CORS**



#### C4GNet RTN



C4Gnet RTN



NOAA CORS

#### Network

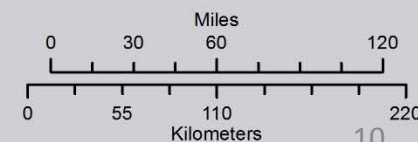
— Baseline

#### Functional Zones

Horizontal

Vertical

NAD83 (NA2011)



LSU Center for GeoInformatics

5/1/2013

# ***TASK 2: Create CORS911***

**Develop Autonomous, Rapid-Response CORS Sites that can be Deployed and Networked During Disasters...**



# ***TASK 3: Provide CORS Data to ESRL GPS-MET Group***

## **Automated Data Delivery from CORS Sites, Includes Stations Located on Off-Shore Platforms in the Gulf of Mexico**

- These stations are co-located with equipment used by the NOAA/NWS/ESRL GPS-MET group.
- The CORS station, DEV2 (near west Cameron Parish), was indefinitely deactivated by the platform's owner, Apache, in July 2012.
- The C4G is working with the GPS-Met group to recover the equipment installed at the DEV2 site and will identify a new hosting facility in the vicinity.

# ***TASK 4: Co-Locate CORS on CO-OPS Tide Gauges***

## **Install CORS on Sentinel Tide Gauge Stations in the Coastal Margin Supporting Absolute Sea-Level Change Monitoring**

### **SBCH: Shell Beach**

Shore of Lake Borgne in St. Bernard Parish, LA.

### **Amarada Pass**

Atchafalaya Basin Outlet in St. Mary Parish, LA.

### **Calcasieu Lake Outlet**

River outlet in Cameron Parish, LA.





# ***TASK 4: Co-Locate CORS on CO-OPS Tide Gauges***

**Install CORS on  
Coastal Margin  
Change Monitor**

**SBCH: Shell Beach**

Shore of Lake Borgne in St. Louis  
Parish, LA.

**Amarada Pass**

Atchafalaya Basin Outlet  
Parish, LA.

**Calcasieu Lake Outlet**

River outlet in Cameron Parish, LA.



**Stations in the  
Sea-Level**



# ***TASK 4: Co-Locate CORS on CO-OPS Tide Gauges***

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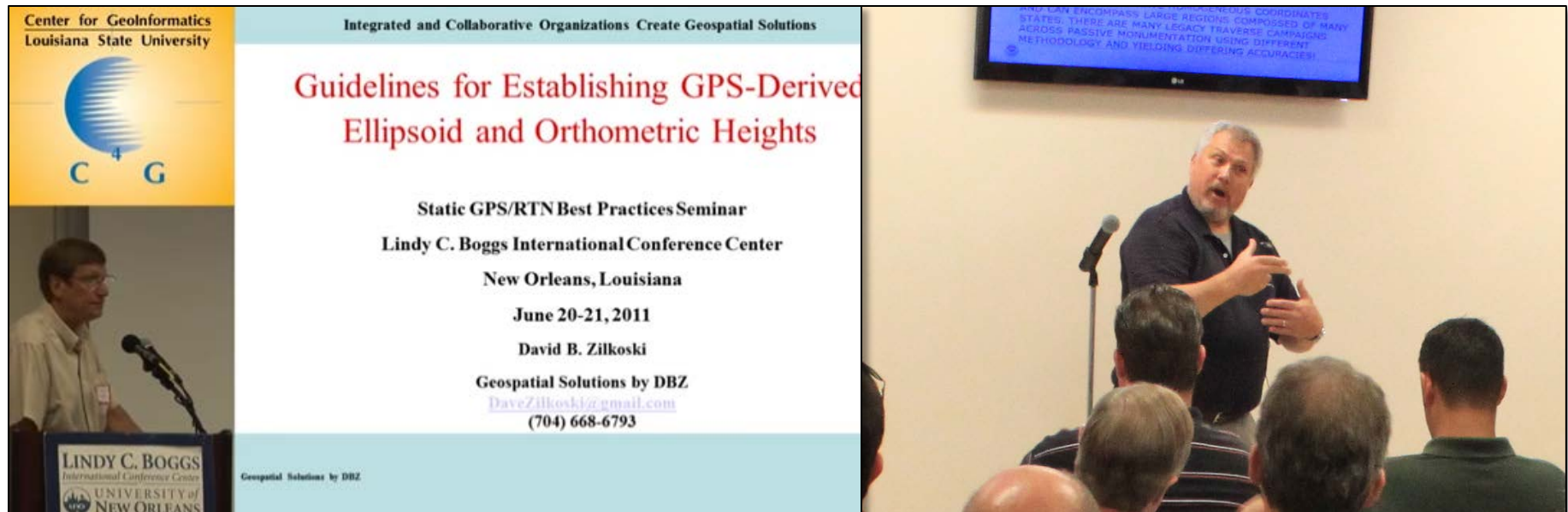
**Calcasieu Lake Outlet**

River outlet in Cameron Parish, LA.



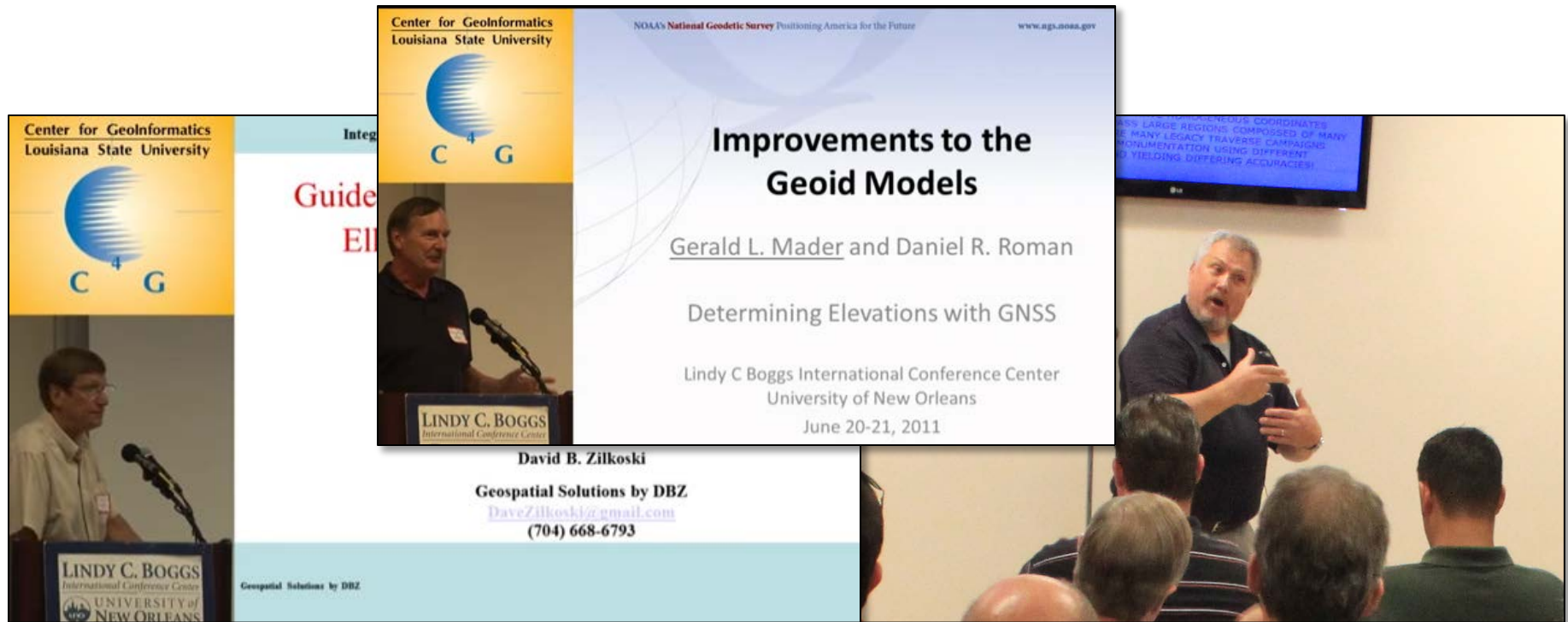
# *TASK 5: Conduct Height Modernization Forums*

## Host Height-Modernization and GPS Best Practices Workshops



# *TASK 5: Conduct Height Modernization Forums*

## Host Height-Modernization and GPS Best Practices Workshops



# Activity Areas

## **Maintain a Program of Research & Service that Addresses Critical and Timely Geodetic Issues Associated with Subsidence and Establishing a Consistent, Accurate, and Reliable Source for Vertical Control in Louisiana**

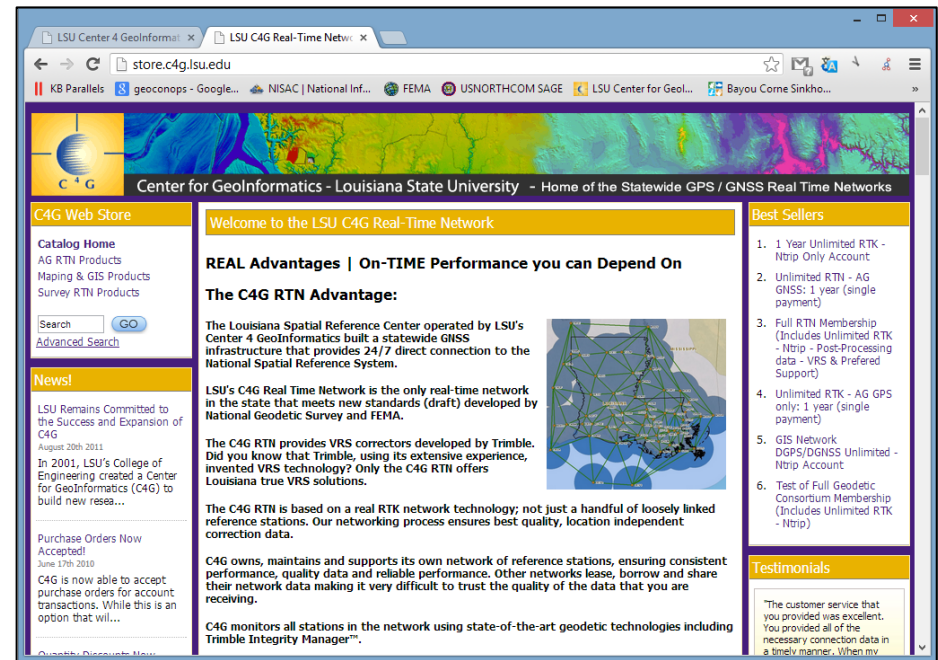
- Accurate, Precise, and Consistent Geographic Reference Framework – Access to NSRS
- Outreach & Training in Support of all Stakeholders in Louisiana.
- Research & Service to the State



# Positional Services

## C4GNet RTN is a Service Used to Correct GPS Positions in Real-Time

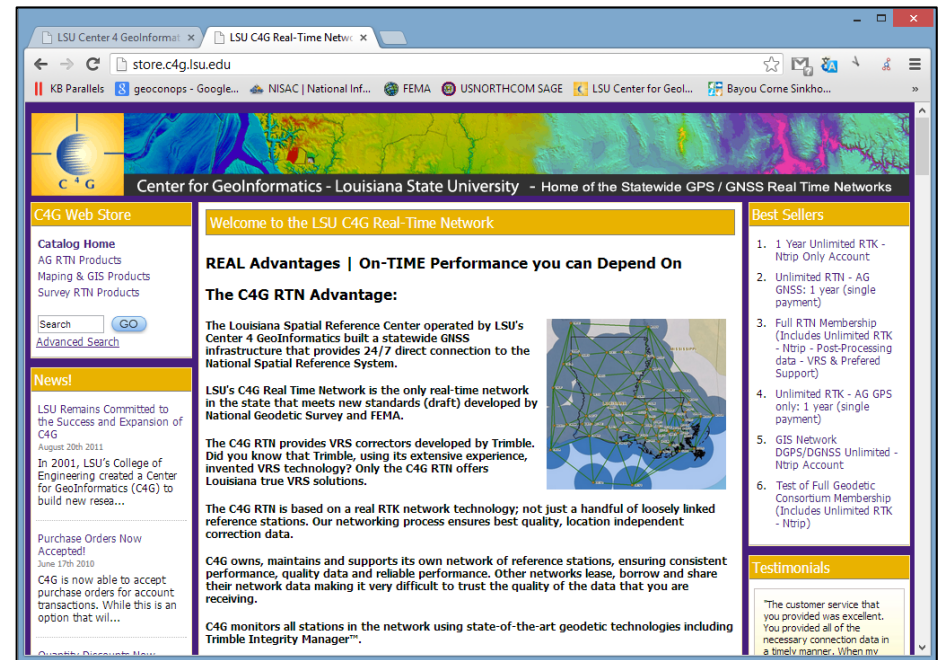
- No State Funding
- Revenue Generated from Subscription Services
  - Include Real-Time & Post-Processing
  - Surveyors, Engineering Firms, Farmers, municipalities, levee districts, State & Federal agencies.



# Positional Services

## C4GNet RTN is a Service Used to Correct GPS Positions in Real-Time

- Tiered Subscription Approach
  - Based on Industry Type:
    - Ag, Mapping, Surveying
  - Multiple Price-Points
  - Trial rates
  - VAR Contracts
- Current support >150 clients



# Outreach & Education

## • Universities and Colleges

- Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
- Louisiana State University, Shreveport
- Louisiana State University, Alexandria
- Louisiana State University, Eunice
- Loyola University, NOLA
- University of Louisiana, Lafayette
- University of Louisiana, Monroe
- Northwestern State University
- McNeese State University
- Nicholls State University, Louisiana Tech
- Southeastern University
- LUMCON, Cocodrie
- T. H. Harris Technical College
- Folks Technical College, Jackson

## • K-12 Schools

- Oakdale High School
- Franklin High School
- Boothville-Venice School
- Tallulah High School
- Sicily Island High School
- Lake Arthur Elementary
- Lakeside Elementary
- South Plaquemines
- Leesville
- Houma School District
- Destrehan High School
- Slidell Junior High School
- De Quincy High School
- Vinton High School
- Morgan City High School
- Ascension Parish Schools, Donaldsonville
- Southside Elementary, Bogalusa
- South Lafourche High School
- Lutcher High School
- Belle Chase High School
- Kaplan High School
- Sabastian Roy School, St. Bernard Parish
- Galvez Middle School, Ascension Parish
- Daisetta High School, Daisetta, TX

## • Federal, State and Local Governments

- Department of Transportation and Development
- City of Zachary
- City of Alexandria
- USACE, Simmsport
- USACE, Freshwater Bayou Lock
- USACE, Bayou Sorrel
- United States Coast Guard, Grand Isle
- Cameron Parish
- St. Tammany Parish, Covington
- Nation Weather Service, Offshore Louisiana



# Outreach & Education

- American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting
- Annual Roy J. Shlemon Specialty Conference
- Association of American Geographers Annual Conference
- Crime Mapping Research Conference
- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Conference
- Disaster Resistant University Workshop
- ESRI International User Conference
- Forum of European Highway Research Laboratories
- Geological Society of America Annual Meeting & Exposition
- IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Workshop
- International GNSS Service Workshop & Vertical Rates Symposium
- The National Map Users Conference and USGS Geographic Information Science (GIS) Workshop
- National Height Modernization Workshop
- Louisiana Remote Sensing & GIS Workshop
- Louisiana Surveyor's Association Conference
- Louisiana Transportation Conference
- Real-Time Network Best Practices Seminar
- State of the Coast Conference
- Trimble Dimensions Conference
- GPS Best Practices Workshops

# Research: Recent Scholarly Productivity

- (in Press) Mugnier, C.J. The Manual of Photogrammetry. 6th Edition, American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing, 2012. Chapters 3 and 14.
- **2013**: Kent, J. and Capello, H. Spatial Patterns and Demographic Indicators of Social Media Content During the Horseshoe Canyon Fire of 2012. Cartography and Geographic Information Science (CaGIS). DOI:10.1080/15230406.2013.776727
- **2012**: Kent, J. and Leitner, M., Incorporating Land Cover within Bayesian Journey-to-Crime Estimation Models. International Journal of Psychological Studies. DOI:10.5539/ijps.v4n2p120
- **2012**: Kent, J. and Dokka, R. (posthumous). Potential impacts of long-term subsidence on the wetlands and evacuation routes in coastal Louisiana. GeoJournal. DOI: 10.1007/s10708-012-9457-7
- **2011**: Dokka, R. The role of deep processes in late 20th century subsidence of New Orleans and coastal areas of southern Louisiana and Mississippi. Journal of Geophysical Research. DOI:10.1029/2010JB008008
- **2011**: Kent, J. and Dokka, R., Realizing a Spatially Accurate Incident Reporting System during the 2010 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill Disaster. Journal of Emergency Management. DOI:10.5055/jem.2011.0068
- **2011**: Leitner, M., Barnett, M., Kent, J., Barnett, T. The Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Reported Crimes in Louisiana - A Spatial and Temporal Analysis. Professional Geographer. DOI: 10.1080/00330124.2010.547156
- **2009**: Blom, R., Chapman, B., Dokka, R., Fielding, E., Ivins, E., and Lohman, R. Gulf Coast subsidence, crustal loading, geodesy, and InSAR: Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Transactions, v. 59, p. 101-114.
- **2009**: Kent, J. and Leitner, M., Utilizing Land Cover Characteristics to Enhance Journey-to-Crime Estimation Models. Crime Mapping: A Journal of Research and Practice. Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 33-54.
- **2009**: Leitner, M. and Kent, J. Bayesian journey-to-crime modeling of single and multiple crime-type series in Baltimore County, MD, Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling. Vol. 6, pp. 213-236.
- **2009**: Dokka, R. K. Comparison of methods used to measure modern subsidence in southeastern Louisiana: Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Transactions, v. 59, p. 225-242.
- **2008**: Dixon, T.H., and Dokka, R.K. Earth scientists and public policy: Have we failed New Orleans?: EOS, v. 89, no. 10, 4 March, American Geophysical Union.
- **2008**: Dixon, T.H., and Dokka, R.K. Earth scientists and public policy: Have we failed New Orleans?: EOS, v. 89, no. 10, 4 March, American Geophysical Union.

# Research: Recent Grant Funding

- **2013:** (LPN 39567-2) CORS 911: Continuously Operating Reference Stations for State Highway 70 in Assumption Parish, Louisiana, During the Bayou Corne Sinkhole. LA Transportation Research Center (LTRC). \$350,785; PI: Joshua D. Kent, Ph.D.
- **2013:** (LPN 40122-1) Classifying Accident Avoidance on Heterogeneous Road Networks using Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis. U.S. Dept. of Transportation. \$25,000; PI: Joshua D. Kent, Ph.D.
- **2012:** (LPN 39540-1) Bayou Corne Sinkhole: Control Measurements of State Highway 70 in Assumption Parish, Louisiana. LA Transportation Research Center (LTRC). \$84,356; PI: Joshua D. Kent, Ph.D.
- **2010:** (LPN 38036-1) Quantifying the Key Factors that Create Road Flooding. LA Transportation Research Center (LTRC). \$50,000. PI: Joshua D. Kent, Ph.D.
- **2010:** (LPN 37154-1) Assessing the Long Term Impact of Subsidence and Global Climate Change on Emergency Evacuation Routes in Coastal Louisiana. U.S. Dept. of Transportation. \$40,000; PI: Joshua D. Kent, Ph.D.
- **2009:** (LPN 34720-1) Real-Time Kinematic Global Positioning Service for Louisiana. LA Transportation Research Center (LTRC). \$79,961; PI: Roy K. Dokka, Ph.D.
- **2009:** (LPN 33740-1) Reference Measurements of Pavement Management System Roadway Elevations. LA Transportation Research Center (LTRC). \$33,550; PI: Roy K. Dokka, Ph.D.
- **2009:** (LPN 33796-2) Height Modernization in Louisiana. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). \$699,300; PI: Roy K. Dokka, Ph.D.
- **2008:** (LPN 33145-2) Height Modernization in Louisiana. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). \$190,000; PI: Roy K. Dokka, Ph.D.

# Recent Accomplishments

- 60% Growth of Subscription Services Since 2009
  - # of Clients
- Adoption of RTN by Local and Regional Entities
  - South Lafourche Levee District
  - Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East
- Napoleonville Salt Dome Sinkhole
- Subsidence Studies

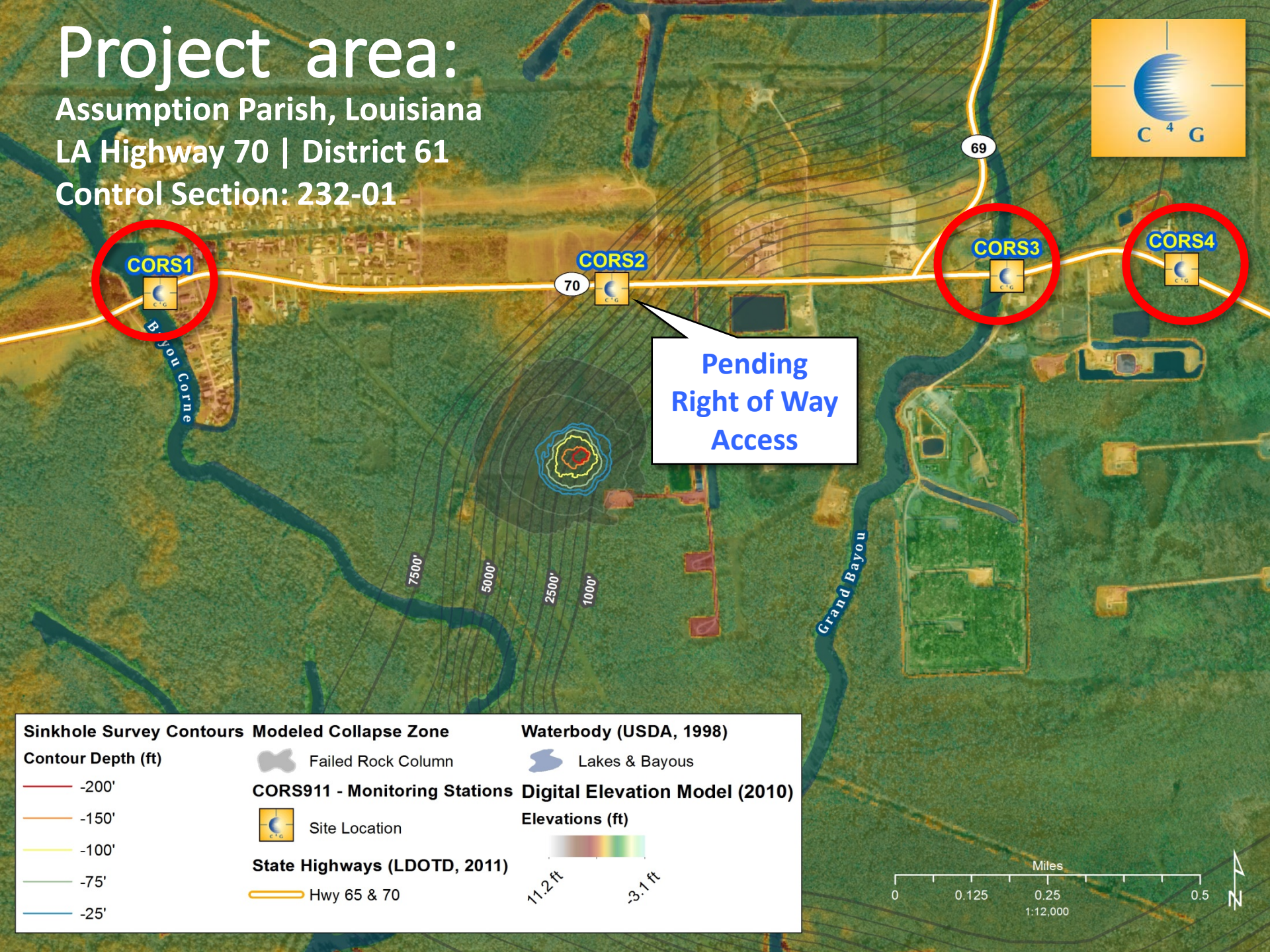


# Project area:

Assumption Parish, Louisiana

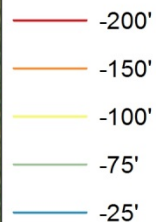
LA Highway 70 | District 61

Control Section: 232-01



## Sinkhole Survey Contours

### Contour Depth (ft)




## Modeled Collapse Zone

 Failed Rock Column


## CORS911 - Monitoring Stations

 Site Location

## State Highways (LDOTD, 2011)

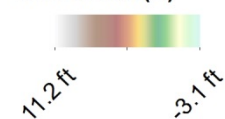
 Hwy 65 & 70

## Waterbody (USDA, 1998)

 Lakes & Bayous

## Digital Elevation Model (2010)

Elevations (ft)





# CORS1 – Bayou Corne

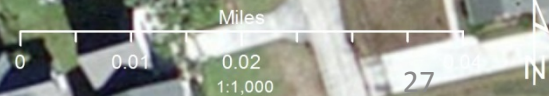


CORS911 - Monitoring Stations



Site Location  
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# CORS1 – Bayou Corne



CORS911 - Monitoring Stations



Site Location  
9/1/2013



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# CORS3 – Grand Bayou



CORS3

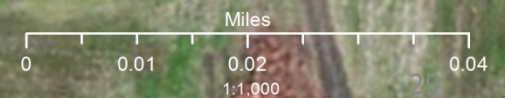


CORS911 - Monitoring Stations



Site Location  
9/1/2013

LSU Center for GeoInformatics





# CORS3 – Grand Bayou



CORS911 - Monitoring Stations



Site Location  
9/1/2013

LSU Center for Geoinformatics



# CORS4 – Bayou Choupique

CORS4

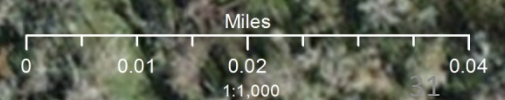


CORS911 - Monitoring Stations



Site Location  
9/1/2013

LSU Center for GeoInformatics





# CORS4 – Bayou Choupique



CORS911 - Monitoring Stations

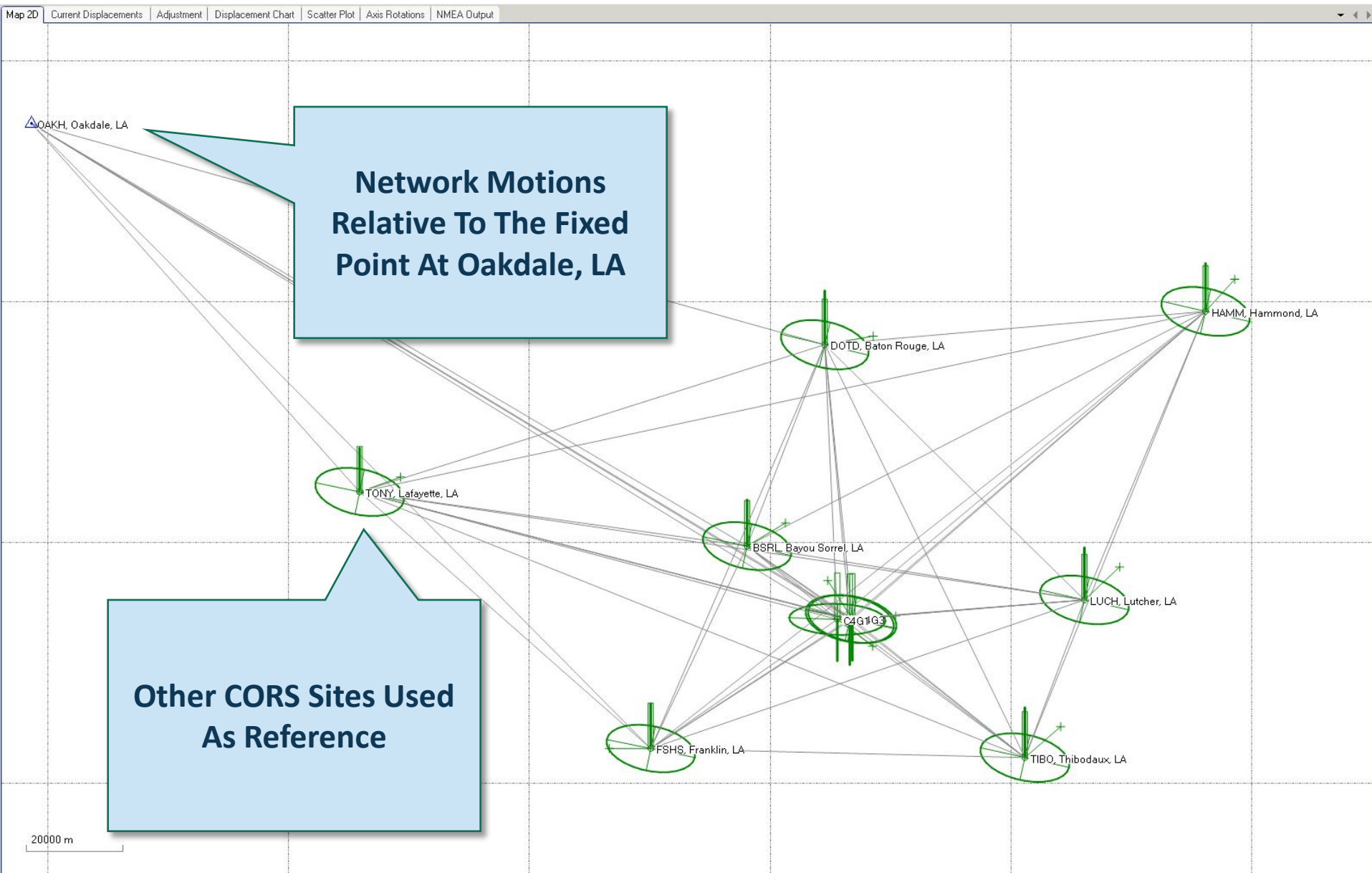


Site Location  
9/1/2013

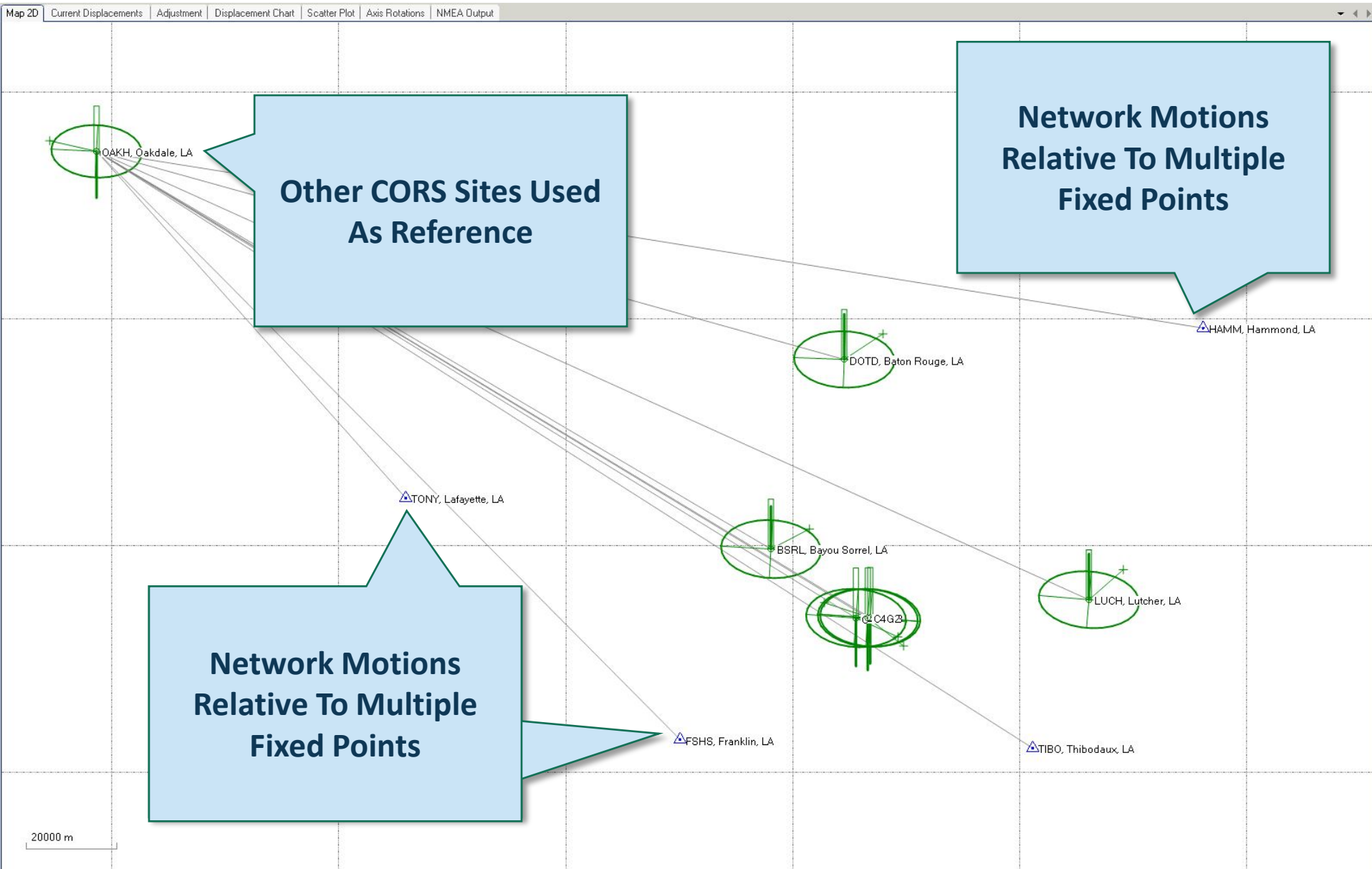
LSU CEE



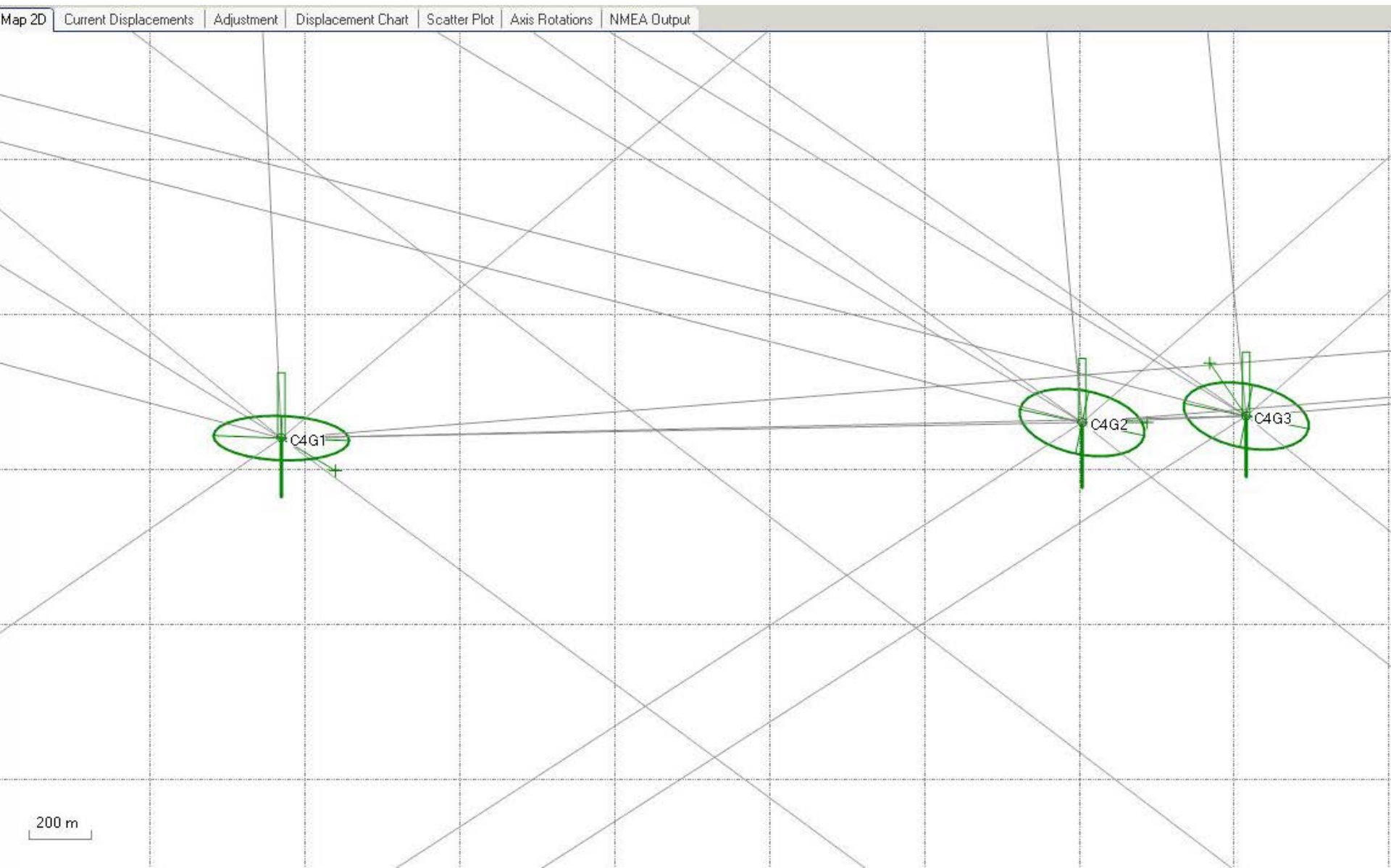
# Synchronizing CORS911 Relative to the C4GNet RTN



# Synchronizing CORS911 Relative to the C4GNet RTN



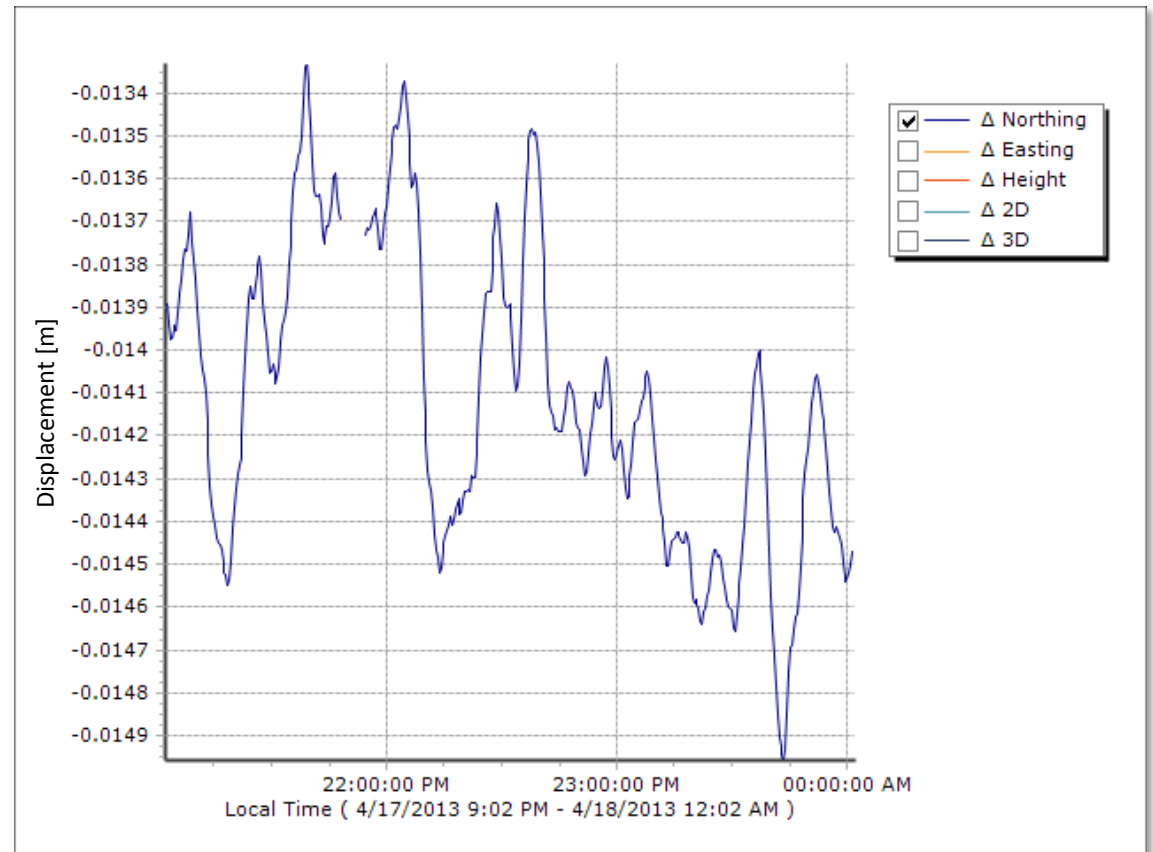
# Synchronizing CORS911 Relative to the C4GNet RTN



# Example

## Displacement in Northing:

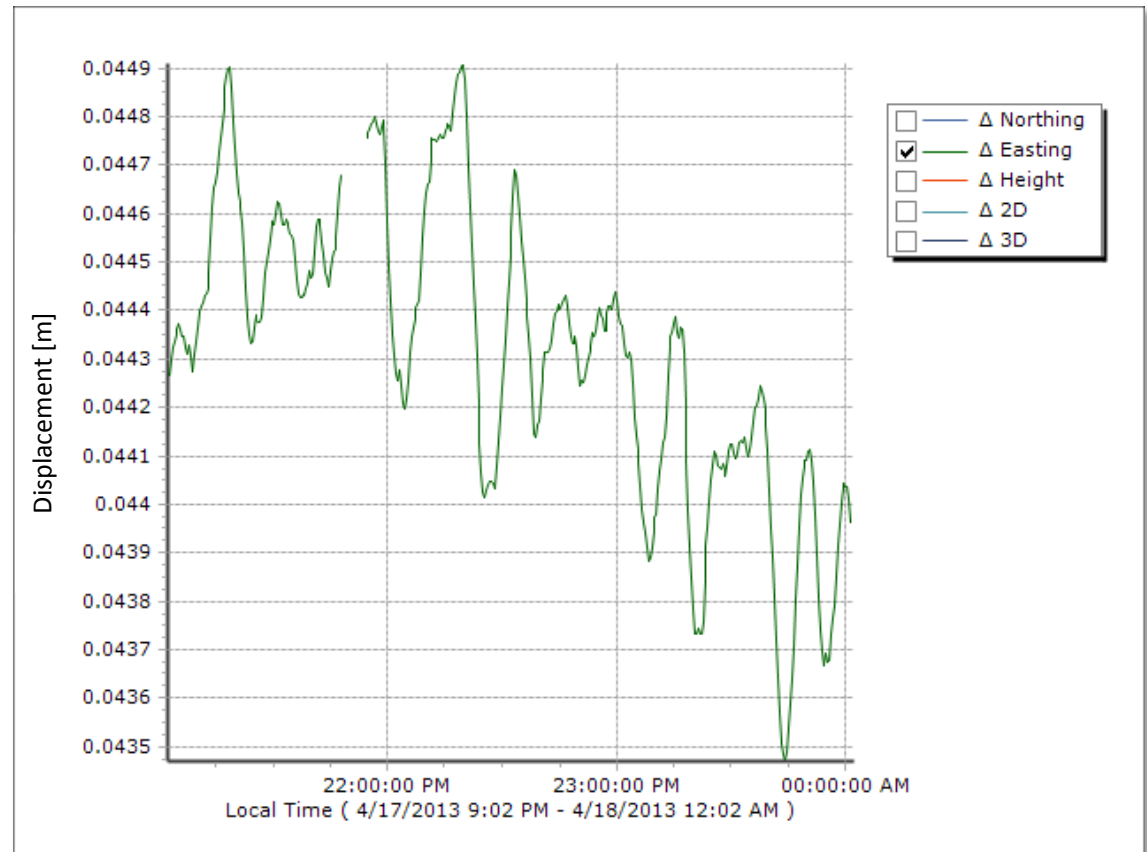
1.5 mm  
(0.059")



# Example

## Displacement in Easting:

1.4 mm  
(0.055")

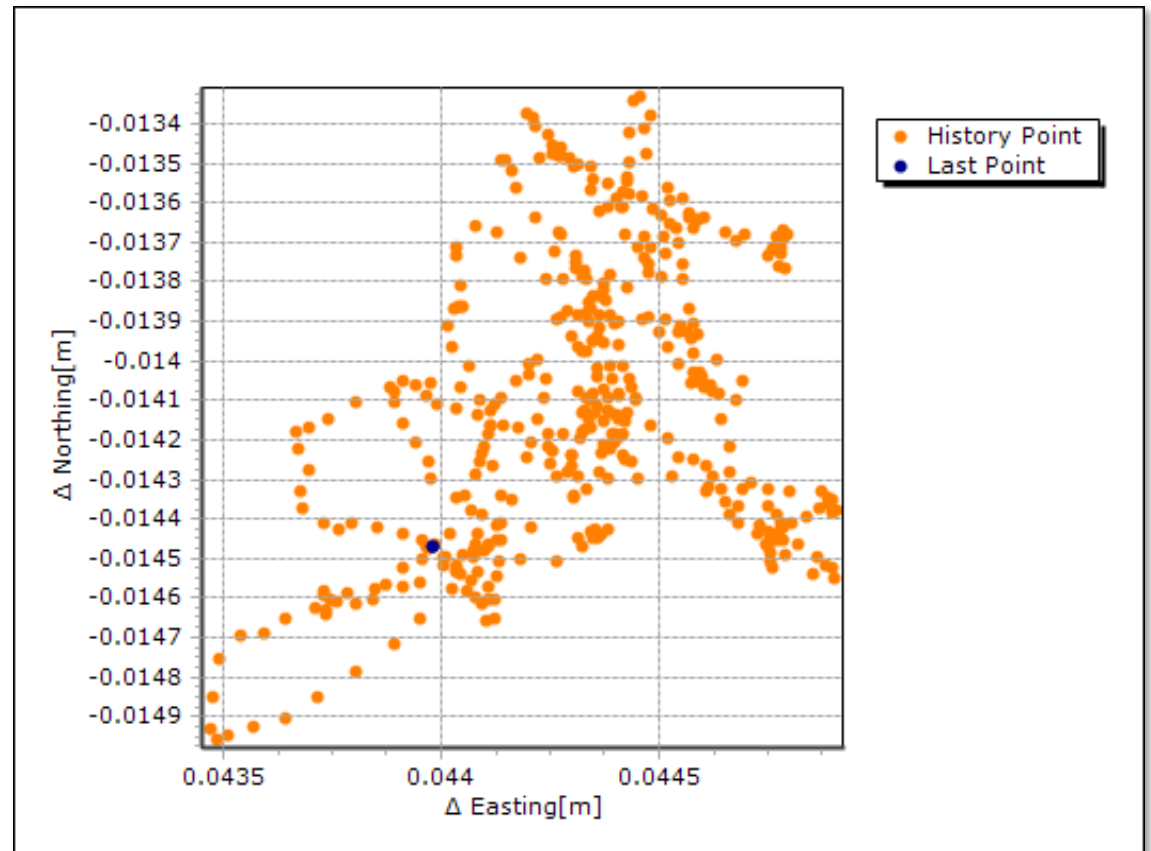




# Example

## Scatter Plots:

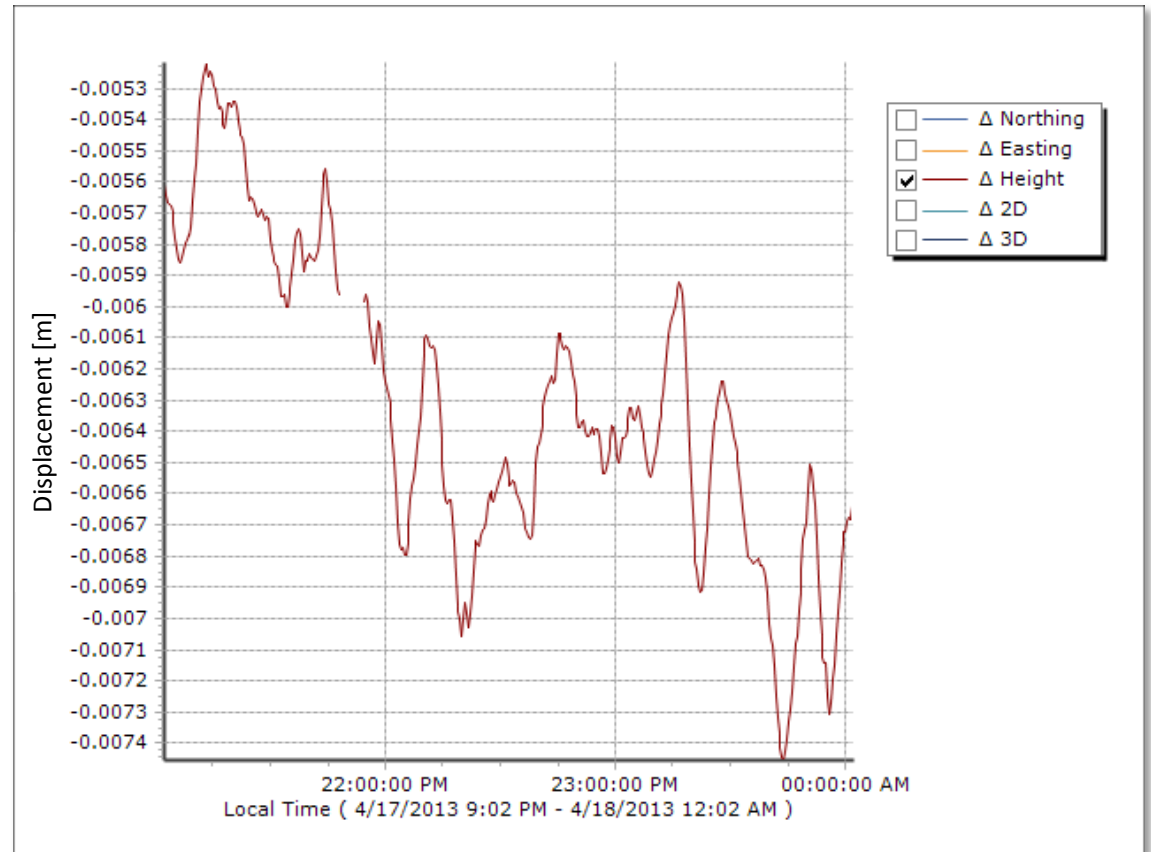
1.5 mm  
(0.059")



# Example

## Displacement in Vertical:

2.1 mm  
(0.083")



# Example 2: Subsidence Research

## Measuring the Differential Motions of Two CORS Sites

# Differential Motions Between Two CORS Sites

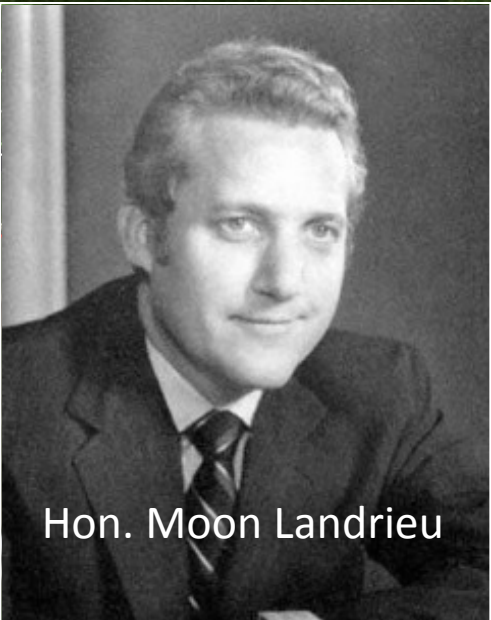
Continuously Operating GPS Reference Stations (CORS) located on the grounds of the NASA Michoud Assembly Facility, located in New Orleans East, LA.

- **MOON:** Located on a shallow concrete slab.
- **MARY:** Attached to a deep waste-water well.



# A Tale of Two CORRS Sites...

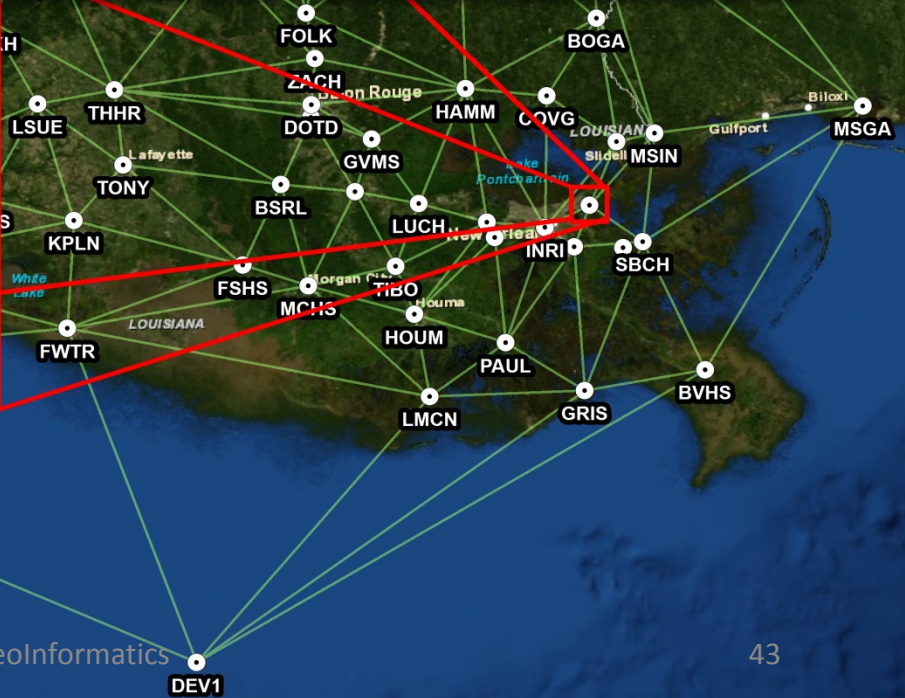
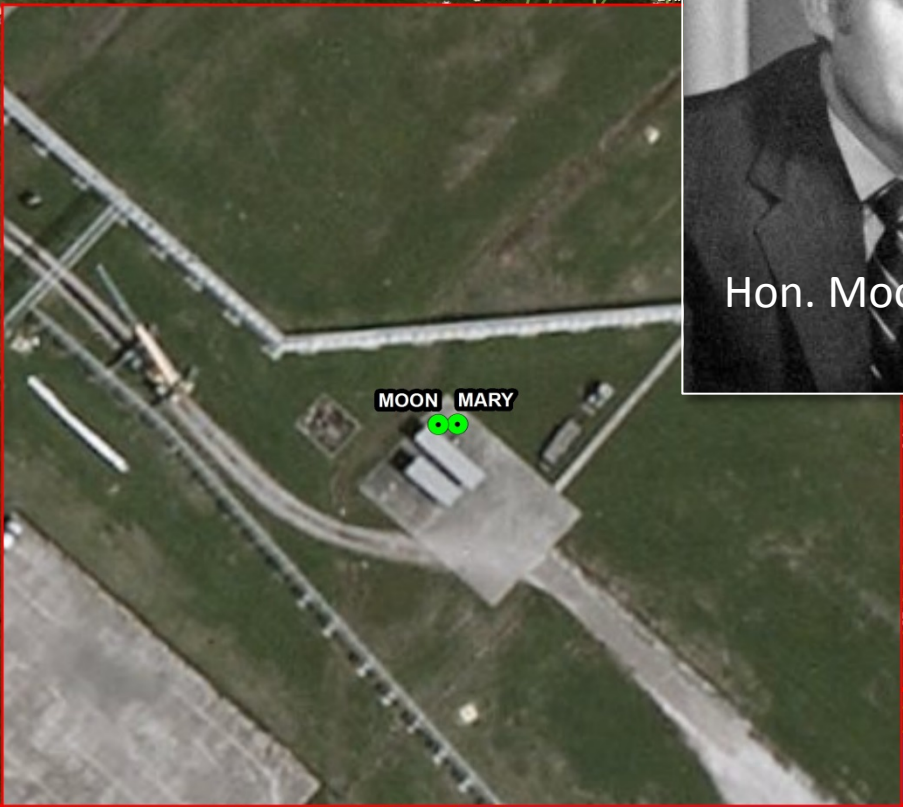




Hon. Moon Landrieu



Sen. Mary Landrieu







5/1/2013

LSU Center for GeoInformatics  
DEV1

# C4GNET INTEGRITY MONITOR REPORT:

## POSITION DISTURBANCE & THRESHOLD VIOLATION

### TIME:

1415Z (8:15AM Local Time)

### DESCRIPTION:

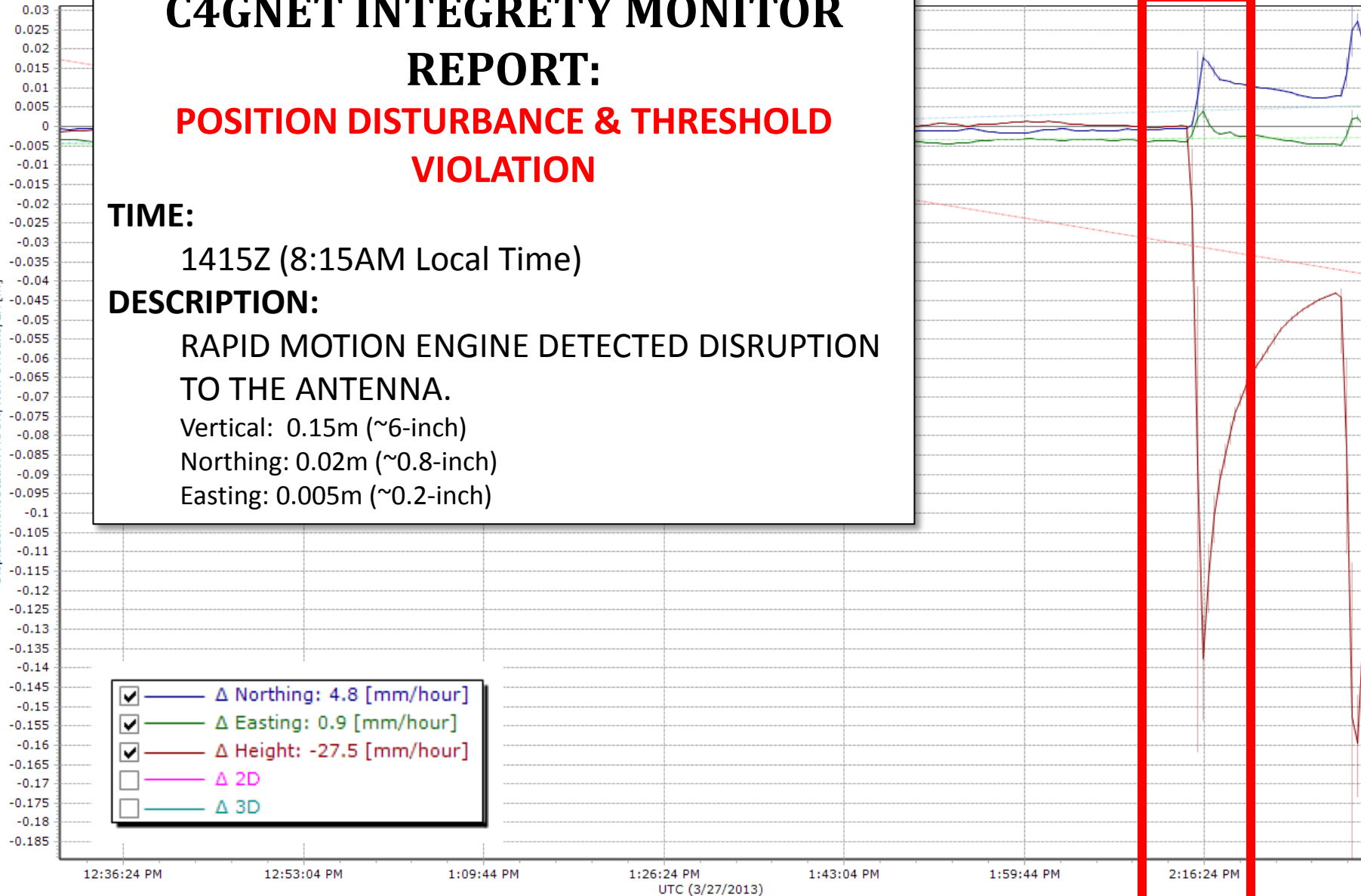
RAPID MOTION ENGINE DETECTED DISRUPTION  
TO THE ANTENNA.

Vertical: 0.15m (~6-inch)

Northing: 0.02m (~0.8-inch)

Easting: 0.005m (~0.2-inch)

Displacement Station MOON, New Orleans, LA [m]





# C4GNET INTEGRITY MONITOR REPORT:

## POSITION DISTURBANCE & THRESHOLD VIOLATION

### TIME:

1422Z (8:22AM Local Time)

### DESCRIPTION:

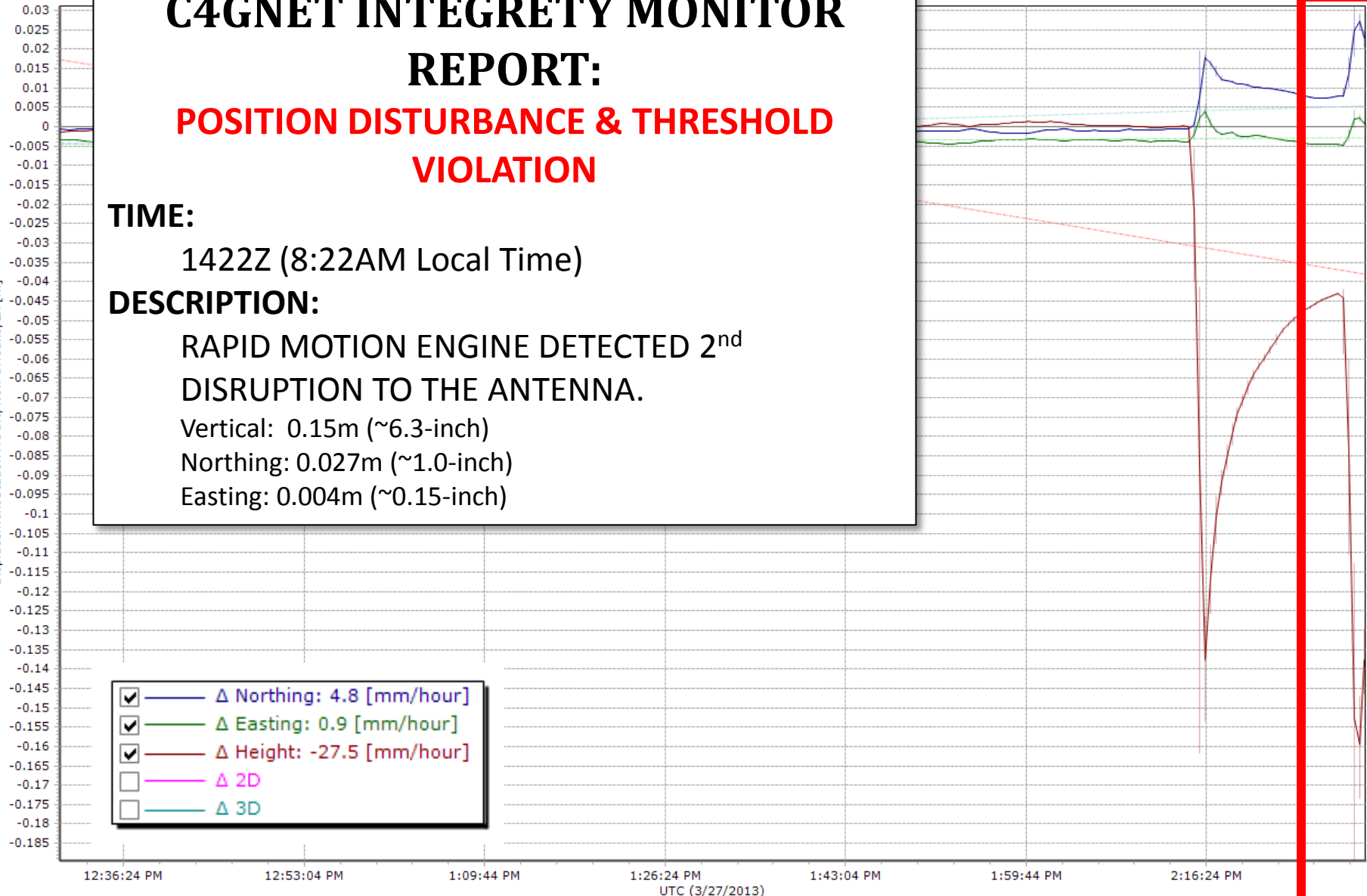
RAPID MOTION ENGINE DETECTED 2<sup>nd</sup>  
DISRUPTION TO THE ANTENNA.

Vertical: 0.15m (~6.3-inch)

Northing: 0.027m (~1.0-inch)

Easting: 0.004m (~0.15-inch)

Displacement Station MOON, New Orleans, LA [m]



# C4GNET INTEGRITY MONITOR REPORT: POSITION DISTURBANCE & THRESHOLD VIOLATION

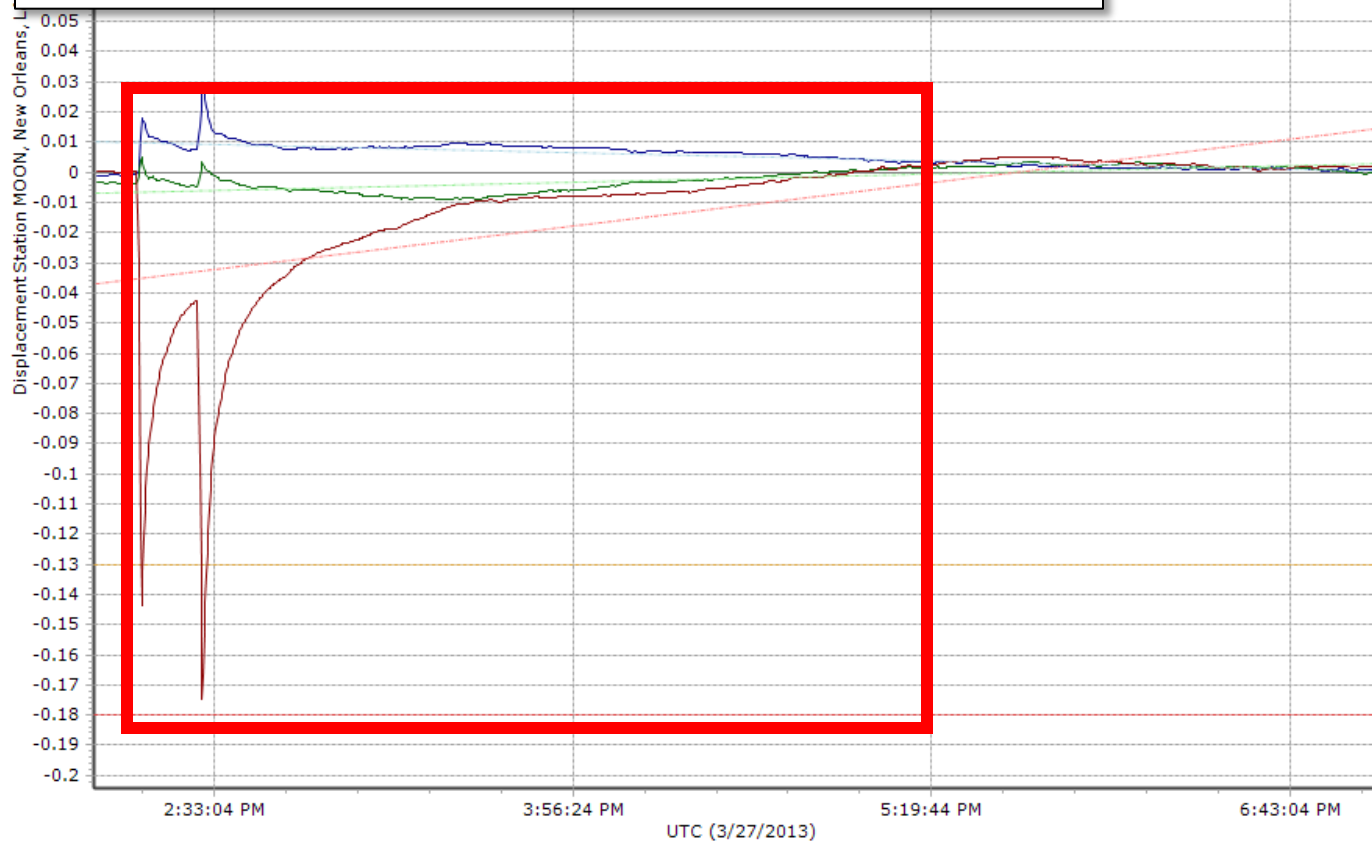
## TIME:

1415 – 1720Z (8:15AM – 11:20AM Local Time)

## DESCRIPTION:

RAPID MOTION ENGINE DETECTED 2 DISRUPTIONS TO THE ANTENNA REQUIRING > 3- HOURS TO SETTLE.

- ☒  $\Delta$  Northing: -1.9 [mm/hour]
- ☒  $\Delta$  Easting: 2.0 [mm/hour]
- ☒  $\Delta$  Height: 10.4 [mm/hour]
- ☐  $\Delta$  2D
- ☐  $\Delta$  3D



# Interpretations

## The Charts Depict Rapid Motion Relative to Two CORS Sites Located in New Orleans East

- Before 8:15am, the CORS positions were nominal (e.g., flat line), until something disturbed MOON.
- A Load likely placed near MOON caused rapid motion (spike down)
  - Warning emailed
- By 8:25am, the load shuffled and was removed (illustrated by a rebound)
  - Load adjusted (second spike down),
  - Load removed (rebound)
- By 11:20am, the position returned to steady readings (e.g., constant line).

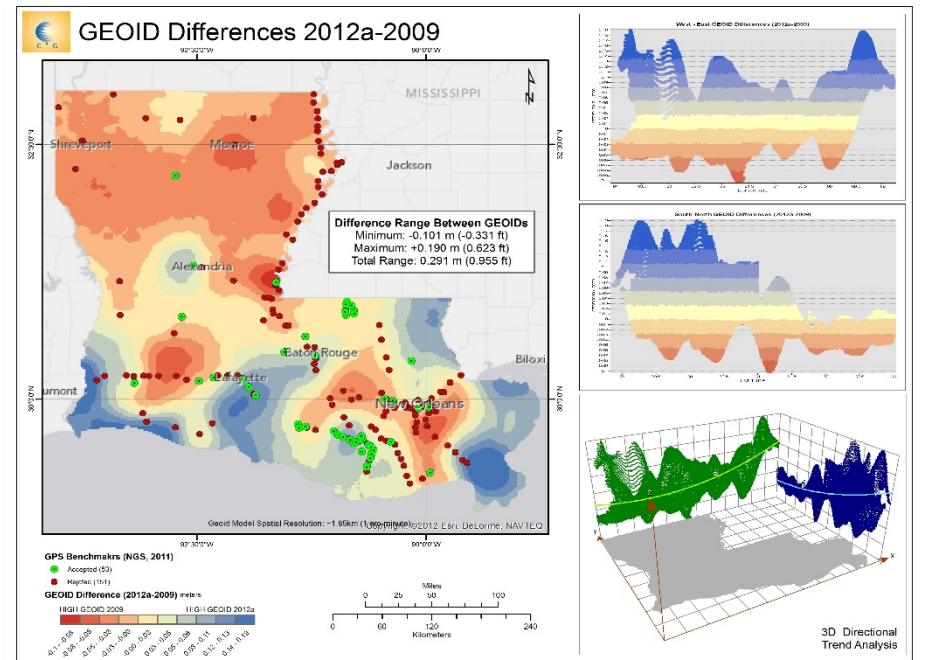
# Short-Term Plans

## Expand C4G Personnel

- Hire a Director
- Licensed Land Surveyors
- Visiting Researchers
- Adjunct Research & Faculty
- Post-Doctorate Fellows

## Broad Adoption of Active Reference Network

- Establish CORS RTN as a Requirements-Driven Standard of Practice
  - Increase utilization with Local, State, and Regional Governments
  - Flood Certification & Hazard Mitigation
  - Coastal Sustainability & Restoration



# Short to Mid Range Plans

## **Computational Expansion**

- Data Storage (currently @ 80TB)
- Improve *Big Data* Processing Capacity

## **Infrastructure Expansion**

- 5 GNSS CORS Sites Planned for 2013
- Gap Analysis of Network Coverage
- Collaborate with MS to Extend Coverage
- Phase out all GPS-only CORS in the next 3-5 years
- Adopt new GNSS platforms (Galileo and Compass)

# Mid to Long Term Plans

## **Geodetic Support**

- Measure Absolute Gravity at Site
- Coordinate with GRAV-D Program & New Geoid Model
- Support for New Reference Frameworks (NAD-2016/NAVD-2018??)

## **Innovative Utilization**

- Identify non-traditional applications
- Expand services into additional industries & grow subscriptions

# Questions?

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<http://c4g.lsu.edu>

