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## List of Acronyms

|       |  |
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| AGU   | American Geophysical Union   |
| AIPS  | Astronomical Image Processing System   |
| APSG  | Asia-Pacific Space Geodynamics Project   |
| APT   | Asia Pacific Telescope   |
| ARIES | Astronomical Radio Interferometric Earth Surveying program                         |
| ARO   | Algonquin Radio Observatory (Canada)   |
| ASI   | Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (Italian Space Agency)                                   |
| ATNF  | Australia Telescope National Facility (Australia)                                  |
| BIPM  | Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (France)                                 |
| BKG   | Bundesamt für Kartographie und Geodäsie (Germany)                                  |
| CAS   | Chinese Academy of Sciences (China)  |
| CDDIS | Crustal Dynamics Data Information System (USA)                                     |
| CDP   | Crustal Dynamics Project (USA)   |
| CGLBI | Canadian Geodetic Long Baseline Interferometry (Canada)                            |
| CGS   | Centro di Geodesia Spaziale (Italy)  |
| CNR   | Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italy)   |
| CORE  | Continuous Observations of the Rotation of the Earth                               |
| COTS  | Commercial-Off-The-Shelf   |
| CRAAE | Center for Radio Astronomy and Space Applications (Brazil)                         |
| CRF   | Celestial Reference Frame  |
| CRL   | Communications Research Laboratory (Japan)   |
| CTVA  | Canadian Transportable VLBI Antenna (Canada)                                       |
| DAR   | Data Acquisition Rack  |
| DAS   | Data Acquisition System  |
| DAT   | Data Acquisition Terminal OR Digital Audio Tape                                    |
| DGFI  | Deutsches Geodätisches ForschungsInstitut (Germany)                                |
| DLR   | Deutsche Forschungsanstalt für Luft – und Raumfahrt (Germany)                      |
| DOMES | Directory Of MERIT Sites   |
| DORIS | Doppler Orbitography by Radiopositioning Integrated on Satellite                   |
| DRAO  | Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (Canada)                                  |
| DSN   | Deep Space Network   |
| EOP   | Earth Orientation Parameters   |
| ESA   | European Space Agency  |
| ESO   | European Southern Observatory  |
| EU    | European Union   |
| EVN   | European VLBI Network  |
| FFI   | Forsvarets ForskningsInstitutt (Norwegian Defence Research Establishment) (Norway) |
| FGS   | Forschungsgruppe Satellitengeodäsie (Germany)                                      |
| FITS  | Flexible Image Transport System  |
| FS    | Field System   |
| FTP   | File Transfer Protocol   |

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|----------|---|
| GALAXY   | Giga-bit Astronomical Large Array with cross connect (Japan)                |
| GAPE     | Great Alaska and Pacific Experiment   |
| GARNET   | GSI Advanced Radiotelescope NETwork (Japan)                                 |
| GARS     | German Antarctic Receiving Station (Antarctica)                             |
| GCGO     | Gilmore Creek Geophysical Observatory (USA)                                 |
| GEMSTONE | GEodetic Measurements by the colocation of Space Technique ON Earth (Japan) |
| GEX      | Giga-bit VLBI system performance check EXperiments                          |
| GGAO     | Goddard Geophysical and Astronomical Observatory (USA)                      |
| GIPSY    | GPS Inferred Positioning SYstem   |
| GIUB     | Geodetic Institute of the University of Bonn (Germany)                      |
| GLONASS  | GLObal NAVigation Satellite System  |
| GLORIA   | GLObal Radio Interferometry Analysis  |
| GPS      | Global Positioning System   |
| GRGS     | Groupe de Recherches de Géodésie Spatiale (France)                          |
| GSD      | Geodetic Survey Division of Natural Resources Canada (Canada)               |
| GSFC     | Goddard Space Flight Center (USA)   |
| GSI      | Geographical Survey Institute (Japan)                                       |
| GUI      | Graphical User Interface  |
| GeoDAF   | Geodetical Data Archive Facility (Italy)                                    |
| HartRAO  | Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory (South Africa)                   |
| HTSI     | Honeywell Technology Solutions Incorporated (USA)                           |
| IAA      | Institute of Applied Astronomy (Russia)                                     |
| IAG      | International Association of Geodesy  |
| IAU      | International Astronomical Union  |
| ICRF     | International Celestial Reference Frame                                     |
| ICRS     | International Celestial Reference System                                    |
| IEEC     | Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya (Spain)                           |
| IERS     | International Earth Rotation Service  |
| IGG      | Institute of Geodesy and Geophysics (Austria)                               |
| IGGOS    | Integrated Global Geodetic Observing System                                 |
| IGM      | Instituto Geográfico Militar (Chile)  |
| IGN      | Instituto Geográfico Nacional (Spain)                                       |
| IGS      | International GPS Service   |
| ILRS     | International Laser Ranging Service   |
| IMF      | Isobaric Mapping Function   |
| INPE     | Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (Brazil)                          |
| IRA      | Istituto di RadioAstronomia (Italy)   |
| IRIS     | International Radio Interferometric Surveying                               |
| ISAS     | Institute of Space and Astronautical Sciences (Japan)                       |
| ITIS     | Istituto di Tecnologia Informatica Spaziale (Italy)                         |
| ITRF     | International Terrestrial Reference Frame                                   |
| ITSS     | (Raytheon) Information Technology and Science Services (USA)                |
| IUGG     | International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics                               |
| IVS      | International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry                       |
| JADE     | Japanese Dynamic Earth observation by VLBI (Japan)                          |

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|-------|--|
| JARE  | Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition (Japan)                         |
| JIVE  | Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe (Netherlands)                       |
| JMA   | Japan Meteorological Agency (Japan)                                    |
| JPL   | Jet Propulsion Laboratory (USA)  |
| KPGO  | Koike Park Geophysical Observatory (USA)                               |
| KSP   | Key Stone Project (Japan)  |
| LNA   | Low Noise Amplifier  |
| MERIT | Monitoring of Earth Rotation and Intercomparison of Techniques         |
| MIT   | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)                            |
| MLRO  | Matera Laser Ranging Observatory (Italy)                               |
| MPI   | Max-Planck-Institute (Germany)   |
| MPIfR | Max-Planck-Institute for Radioastronomy (Germany)                      |
| MRI   | Meteorological Research Institute of JMA (Japan)                       |
| MTLRS | Modular Transportable Laser Ranging System                             |
| NAO   | National Astronomical Observatory (China, also Japan)                  |
| NASA  | National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)                    |
| NEOS  | National Earth Orientation Service (USA)                               |
| NGS   | National Geodetic Survey (USA)   |
| NIPR  | National Institute of Polar Research (Japan)                           |
| NMA   | Norwegian Mapping Authority (Norway)                                   |
| NMF   | Niell Mapping Function   |
| NOAA  | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (USA)                  |
| NRAO  | National Radio Astronomy Observatory (USA)                             |
| NRCan | Natural Resources Canada (Canada)                                      |
| NVI   | NVI, Inc. (USA)  |
| OAN   | Observatorio Astronómico Nacional (Spain)                              |
| OPAR  | PARis Observatory (France)   |
| OSO   | Onsala Space Observatory (Sweden)                                      |
| PRARE | Precision RAnge and Range-rate Experiment                              |
| RAS   | Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)                                   |
| ROEN  | Rádio-Observatório Espacial do Nordeste (Brazil)                       |
| SEFD  | System Equivalent Flux Density   |
| SGL   | Space Geodynamics Laboratory (Canada)                                  |
| SHAO  | SHanghai Astronomical Observatory (China)                              |
| SINEX | Solution INdependent EXchange format                                   |
| SLR   | Satellite Laser Ranging  |
| SPBU  | Saint-PetersBurg University (Russia)                                   |
| STDN  | Satellite Tracking Data Network  |
| SWT   | SW Technology (USA)  |
| TAC   | Totally Accurate Clock   |
| TIGO  | Transportable Integrated Geodetic Observatory (Germany)                |
| TMR   | Training and Mobility of Researchers program of the European Community |
| ToR   | IVS Terms of Reference   |
| TRF   | Terrestrial Reference Frame  |
| UAO   | Urumqi Astronomical Observatory (China)                                |

|      |                                      |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| URSI | International Radio Science Union    |
| USNO | U. S. Naval Observatory (USA)        |
| UT1  | Universal Time                       |
| UTC  | Coordinated Universal Time           |
| VERA | VLBI Exploration of Radio Astrometry |
| VEX  | VLBI EXperiment Language             |
| VLBA | Very Long Baseline Array (USA)       |
| VLBI | Very Long Baseline Interferometry    |
| VSI  | VLBI Standard Interface              |
| VSOP | VLBI Space Observatory Program       |
| WACO | WAshington COrrelator (USA)          |
| WGRF | Working Group on Reference Frames    |
| WRMS | Weighted RMS                         |
| WVR  | Water Vapor Radiometer               |
| WWW  | World Wide Web                       |