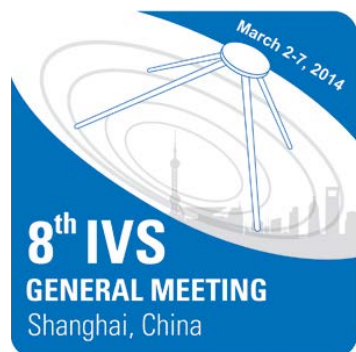


## Preface

This volume is the proceedings of the eighth General Meeting (GM2014) of the International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry (IVS), held in Shanghai, China, March 2–7, 2014.



**Fig. 1** Logo of the eighth IVS General Meeting.

The keynote of the eighth General Meeting was the establishment of the VGOS (VLBI Global Observing System) network under the theme “VGOS: The New VLBI Network”. The VGOS network continues to grow with many VGOS projects at various stages of accomplishment. By the end of 2014 as many as eight antennas are expected to have achieved broadband capability. The steadily growing VGOS network will gradually enter into full operations and provide daily products.

The eighth General Meeting was held at the Jianguo Hotel in Shanghai, China and was hosted by the Shanghai Astronomical Observatory (SHAO) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The goal of the meeting was to

provide an interesting and informative program for a wide cross-section of IVS members, including station operators, program managers, and analysts.

This volume contains the following:

- **The papers presented at the meeting.** There are six major sections of this volume, each corresponding to a meeting session. Poster and oral papers are mixed. The six sessions cover the following topics:
  1. Evolution of the VGOS Network
  2. Technology Development for VGOS
  3. Stations, Correlators, and Operations Centers
  4. Progress in Data Structure, Software Development, and Analysis Strategies
  5. VLBI Results and Their Geodetic/Astrometric Interpretation
  6. New Horizons for VLBI

This volume includes 106 papers. The program booklet with abstracts is available online at

<http://ivs2014.csp.escience.cn/dct/attach/Y2xiOmNsYjpwZGY6NjY2MzU=>

while the PDF versions of all oral presentations and many poster presentations are compiled at

<http://ivs2014.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/70045>

All papers of this volume were edited by the editors for usage of the English language, form, and minor content-related issues. Poster papers about IVS component status are not included in this volume; they have been published in the IVS 2013 Annual Report, available on the Web.

- **A list of registered participants.**
- **An author index.**



**Fig. 2** Participants of the eighth IVS General Meeting at the VLBI Data Processing Center in Sheshan.

The contents of this volume also appear on the IVS Web site at

<http://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/publications/gm2014>

142 registered participants attended the meeting, making this General Meeting one of the largest in IVS history. Over the span of four days, the participants made 134 presentations; 82 of these were talks, and 52 were poster presentations. The oral presentations consisted of seven invited talks and 75 contributed talks.

The April 2014 issue of the IVS Newsletter has a feature article about the meeting. The Newsletter is available at

<http://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/newsletter/issue38.pdf>

Photographs taken at the icebreaker, during the conference sessions, during the visit to Sheshan Observatory, and at the conference dinner can be found online at

<http://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/meetings/gm2014/>

We can only congratulate the meeting organizers on their excellent work. The event in Shanghai was very productive and trend-setting as well as very enjoyable and memorable at the same time. In short, GM2014 was exceptionally successful.



**Fig. 3** The Director of SHAO, Prof. Xiaoyu Hong, welcoming the meeting participants.



**Fig. 4** Meeting participants during an oral session.



**Fig. 5** Huangpu River cruise boat, venue of the meeting banquet.



**Fig. 6** Traditional Chinese music during the banquet.



**Fig. 7** Bian Lian performance at the banquet.



**Fig. 8** The new Tianma 65-m antenna at Sheshan.



**Fig. 9** More oral presentations are given.



**Fig. 10** IVS Chair, Prof. Axel Nothnagel, closing the meeting.



The editors would like to thank the contributing authors to this volume for the timely submission of their papers. Only this made it possible that these proceedings could be produced with such a short turnaround time. Thanks also to the publishing house of Science Press for printing this volume.

*Dirk Behrend, Karen Bayer, and Kyla Armstrong*  
GM2014 Proceedings editors  
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