

# WP4. Scientific Combination Service Combination of GRACE Monthly Gravity Field Solutions

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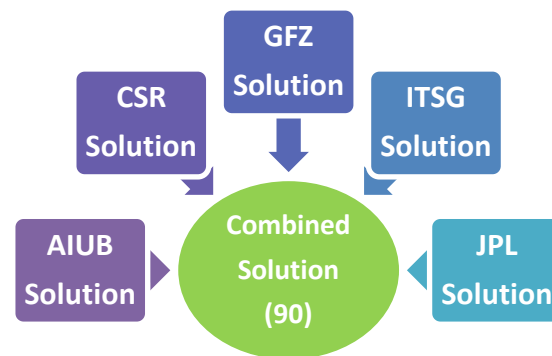
# Introduction

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- In WP4 at AIUB
  - Scientific Combination Service :  
Combination of GRACE Monthly Gravity Field Solutions
- Contents
  - Review:
    - Comparison and Combination of GRACE Monthly Solutions on Solution Level
    - Validation of a Combined Solution: Hydrology, Cryology, GIA, GPS Loading
  - Simulation Study on the Combination
  - Combined Solution using New Weighting Schemes

# Review (1/2): Combination of GRACE Monthly Solutions

- GRACE Monthly Solutions
  - The solutions available at ICGEM website
- Comparison
  - Signal: MEWH of river basins
  - Variability: wSTD over the oceans
  - Spherical Harmonic Coefficients
- Combination
  - Weighting schemes:  $1/(\text{Solution} - \text{Arithmetic Mean})^2$
  - Weighted combined solutions:  
One weight/month/gravity field



# Review (2/2): Validation of Combined Solutions

- Combined solution: Single weight/month/gravity field (degree 90)  
: in gfc file format and L3 grids (Thanks to *TU Graz's* prompt conversion assistance)

Slightly better correlation  
with a hydrological model

## Hydrology

(*Andreas Güntner, Ben Gouweleeuw*)  
Hydrological Events

- Combined Solution: 0~60
- Combined vs. ITSG: 60~90

## Cryology

(*Martin Horwath*)  
Ice Mass in Antarctica

## Combined Solution

Better fit to  
the center of  
rebound than  
CSR solution

## GIA

(*Holger Steffen*)  
Fennoscandia, Canada

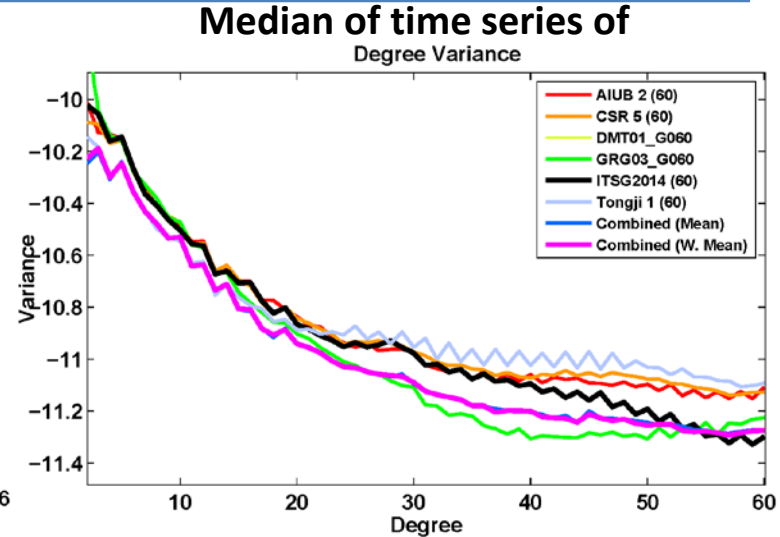
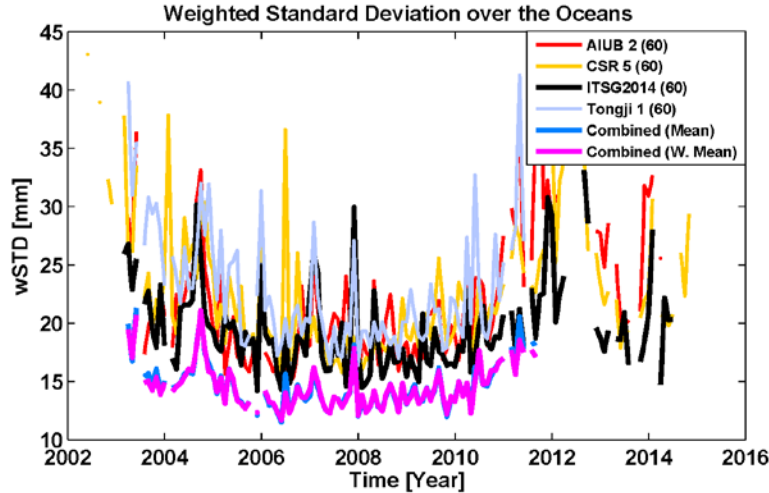
Station-related results

## GPS Station Loading

(*Tonie van Dam*)  
GPS stations

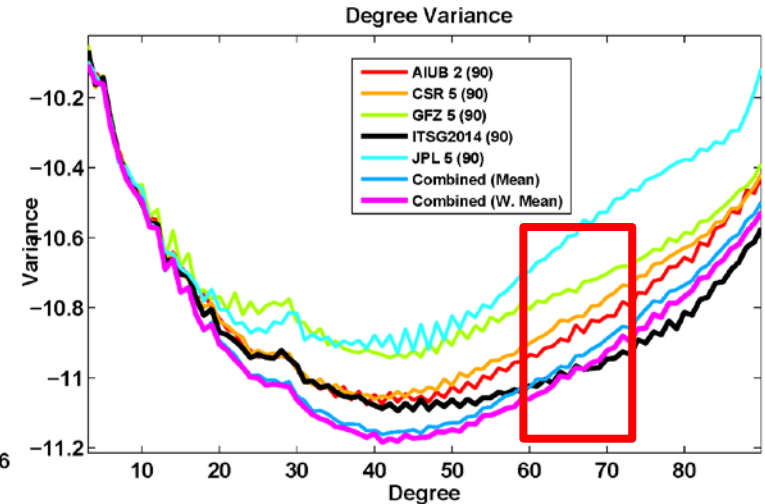
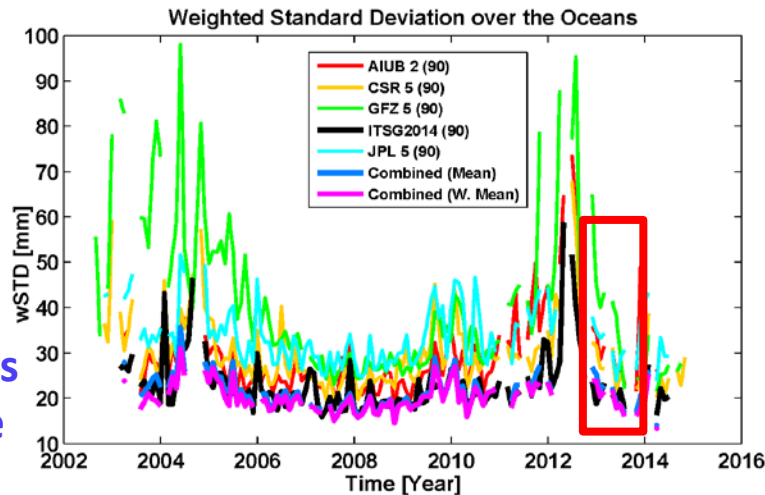
# [Simulation Study] Motivation

Degree 60



Degree 90

Strange behaviors  
in degree 90 case



# [Simulation Study] Objectives

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- To investigate
  - **Impact of an Individual Solution** with
    - Very different levels of noise
    - Attenuated Signal
  
  - **Weighting schemes**
    - Another weighting scheme to overcome the limitations of current weighting schemes
  
- Presented in *EGU General Assembly 2016* (April 2016)

# A Newly Tested Weighting Scheme

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- In the last meeting, about the limits of current weighting schemes
  - Assumption: the *arithmetic mean* is close to the truth.
  - However, the *reality* may be not like that.
  - How to *improve* the weighting scheme?
- **Variance Component Estimation (VCE)**
  - Iterative process
  - Replacing **Arithmetic Mean** → **Weighted Mean**  
in computation of weights in each iteration step
  - Updating weights in each iteration step

# [Simulation Study] Simulated Gravity Field Solutions

- **Reference gravity field:** extracted from a model

$$\hat{X}_{lm}(t) = \underbrace{a_{0lm}}_{\text{Offset}} + \underbrace{a_{1lm}\Delta t}_{\text{Trend}} + \underbrace{a_{2lm}\sin\omega\Delta t + b_{2lm}\cos\omega\Delta t}_{\text{Annual Signal}}$$

- **Simulated Individual Solutions**

$$X_{ilm}(t) = \mathbf{k}_0 a_{0lm} + \mathbf{k}_1 a_{1lm}\Delta t + \mathbf{k}_2 (a_{2lm}\sin\omega\Delta t + b_{2lm}\cos\omega\Delta t) + \mathbf{k}_3 \epsilon$$

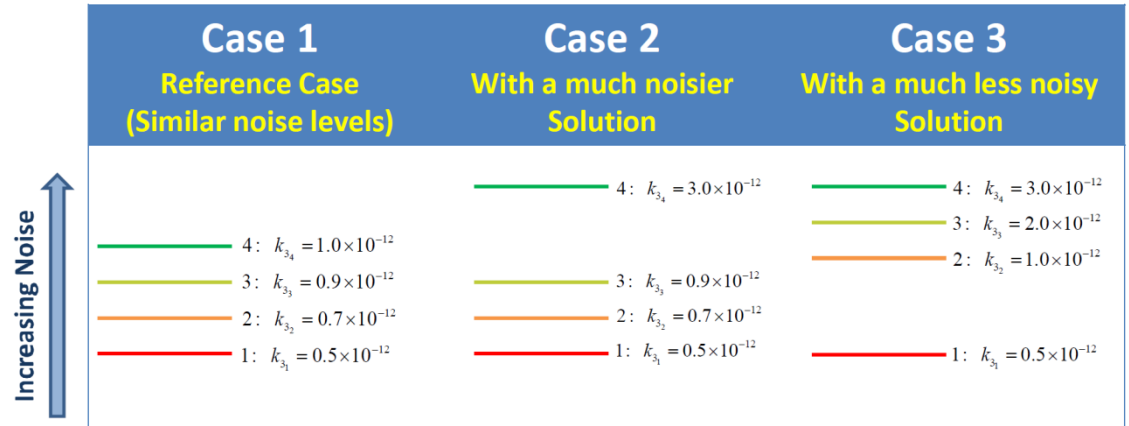
Coefficient	Term	Scale Factor	In the simulation
$a_0$	Offset	$k_0$	Fixed
$a_1$	Slope (Trend)	$k_1$	Fixed
$a_2, b_2$	Annual Signal	$k_2$	Varied
<b>1</b>	Random Error	$k_3$	Varied



# [Simulation Study] Cases (Four Individ. Simul. Solutions / Case)

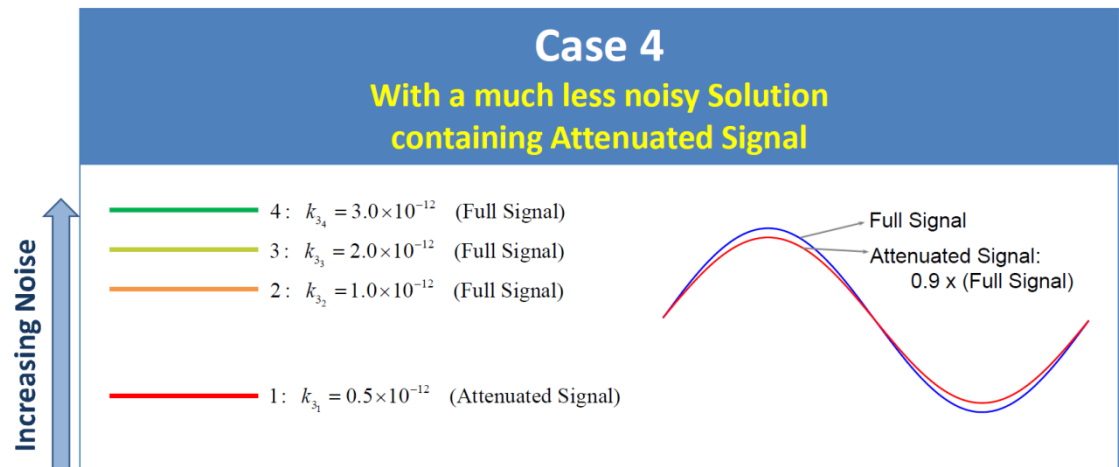
## Noise :

Deviated Level of Noise

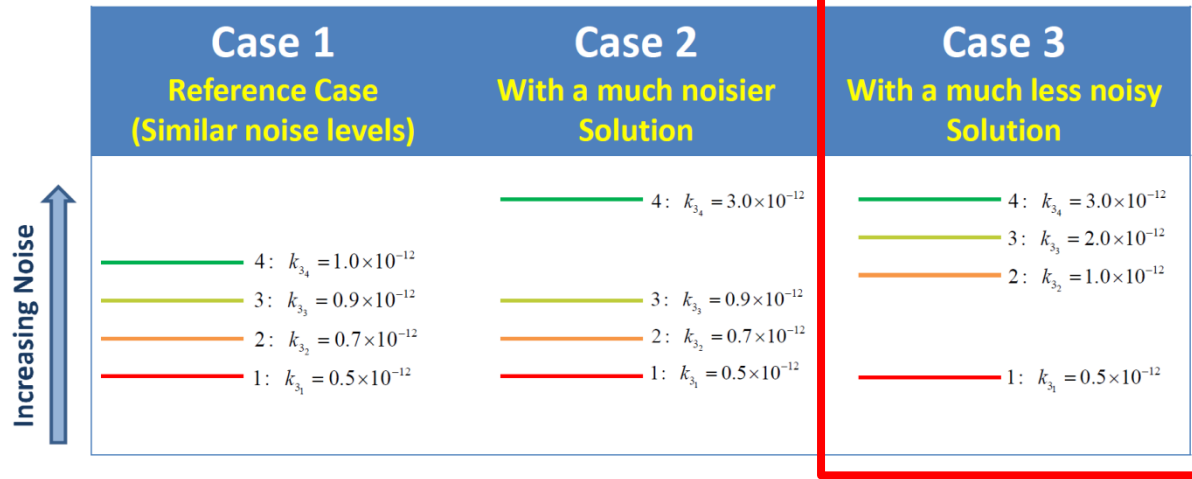


## Systematic Error :

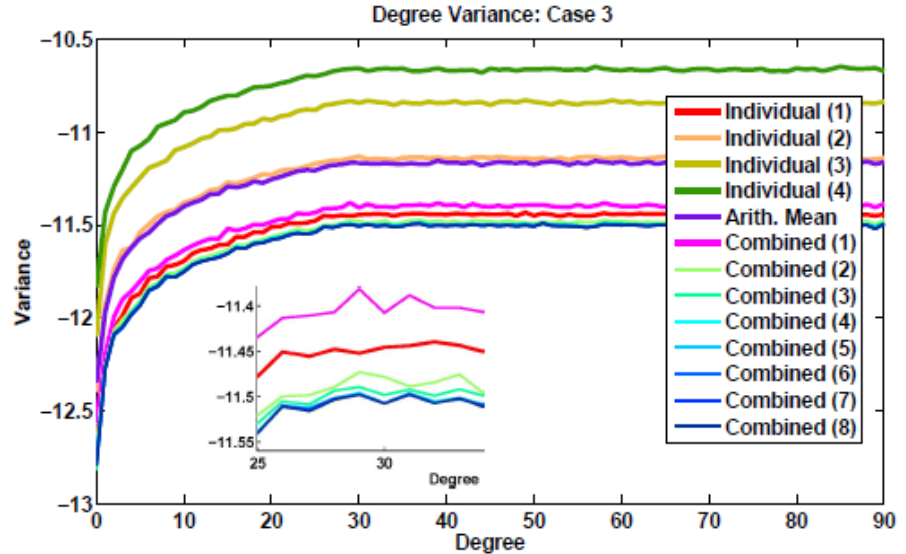
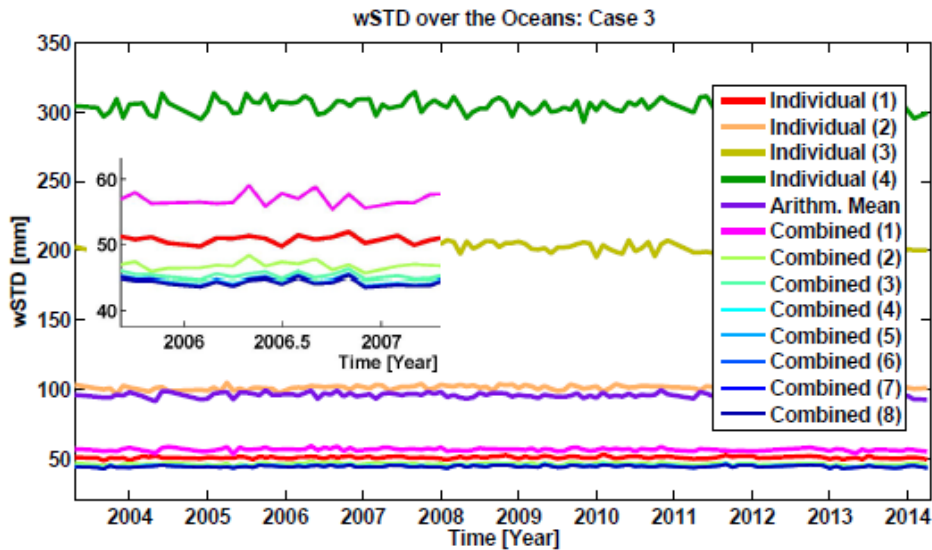
Attenuated Signal



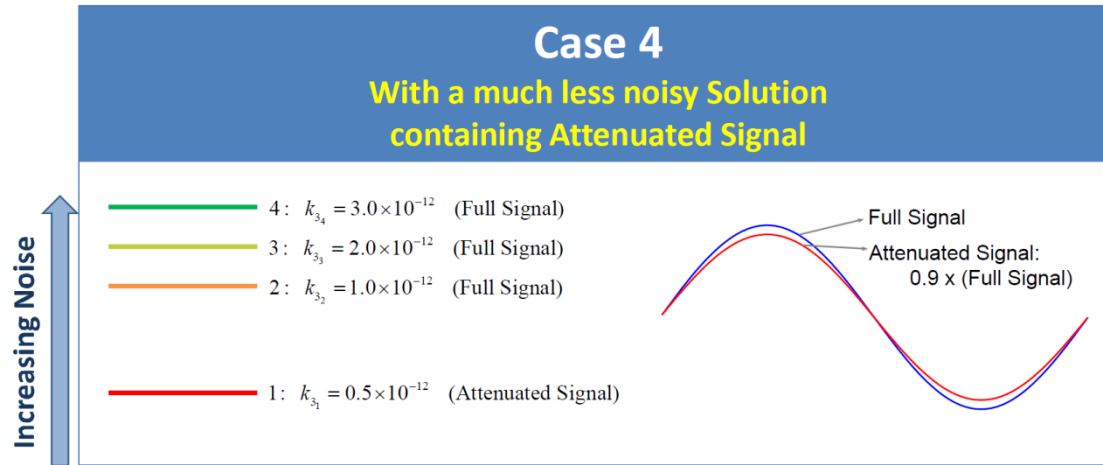
# Case 3: With a Much-Less-Noisy Solution



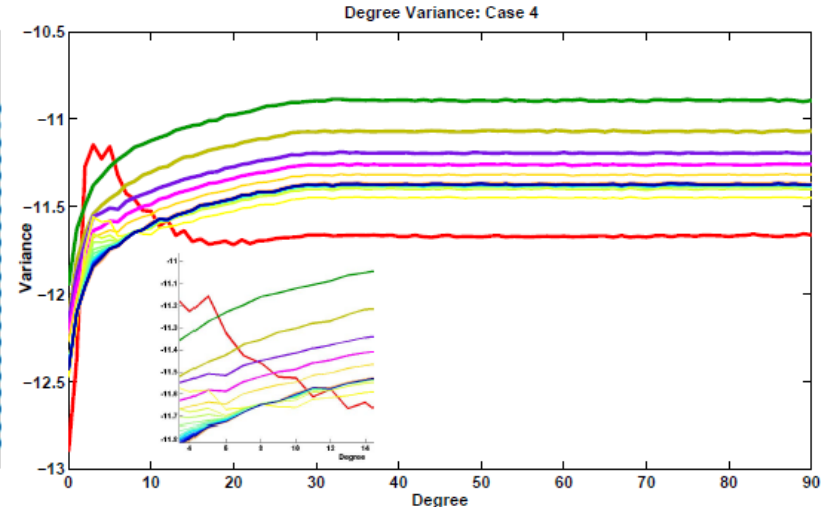
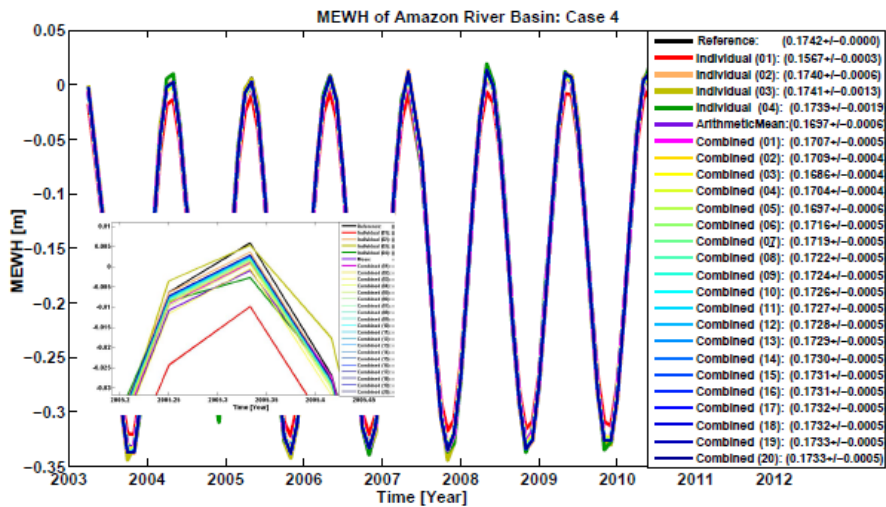
- Combined solutions after iterations have less noise than the individual solution with the least noise.



# Case 4: Attenuated Signal



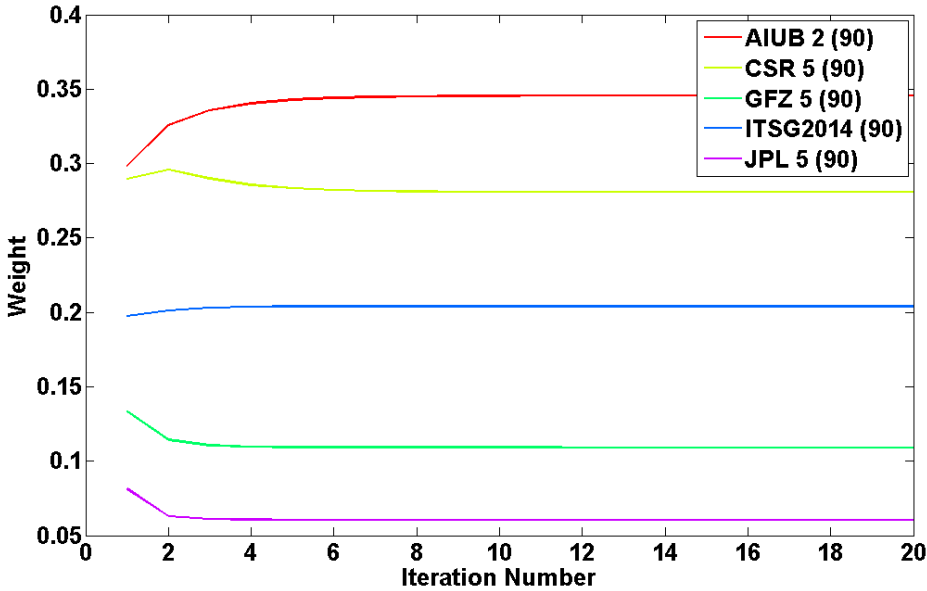
- Combined solutions after iterations have less noise than the individual solution with the second least noise.



# Real Combined Solutions using VCE Weighting Scheme

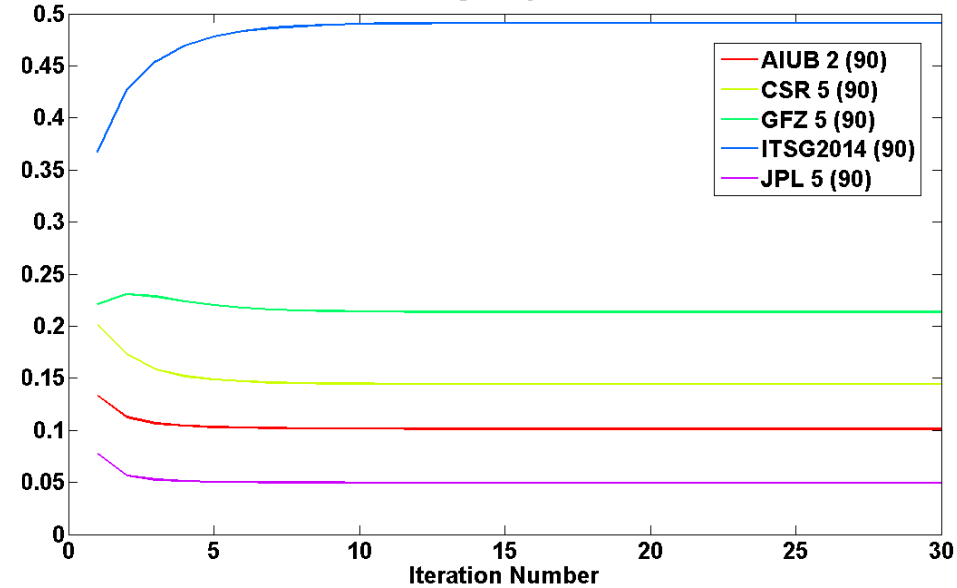
- Weights: (almost) Converging

Weight by VCE



2007/08

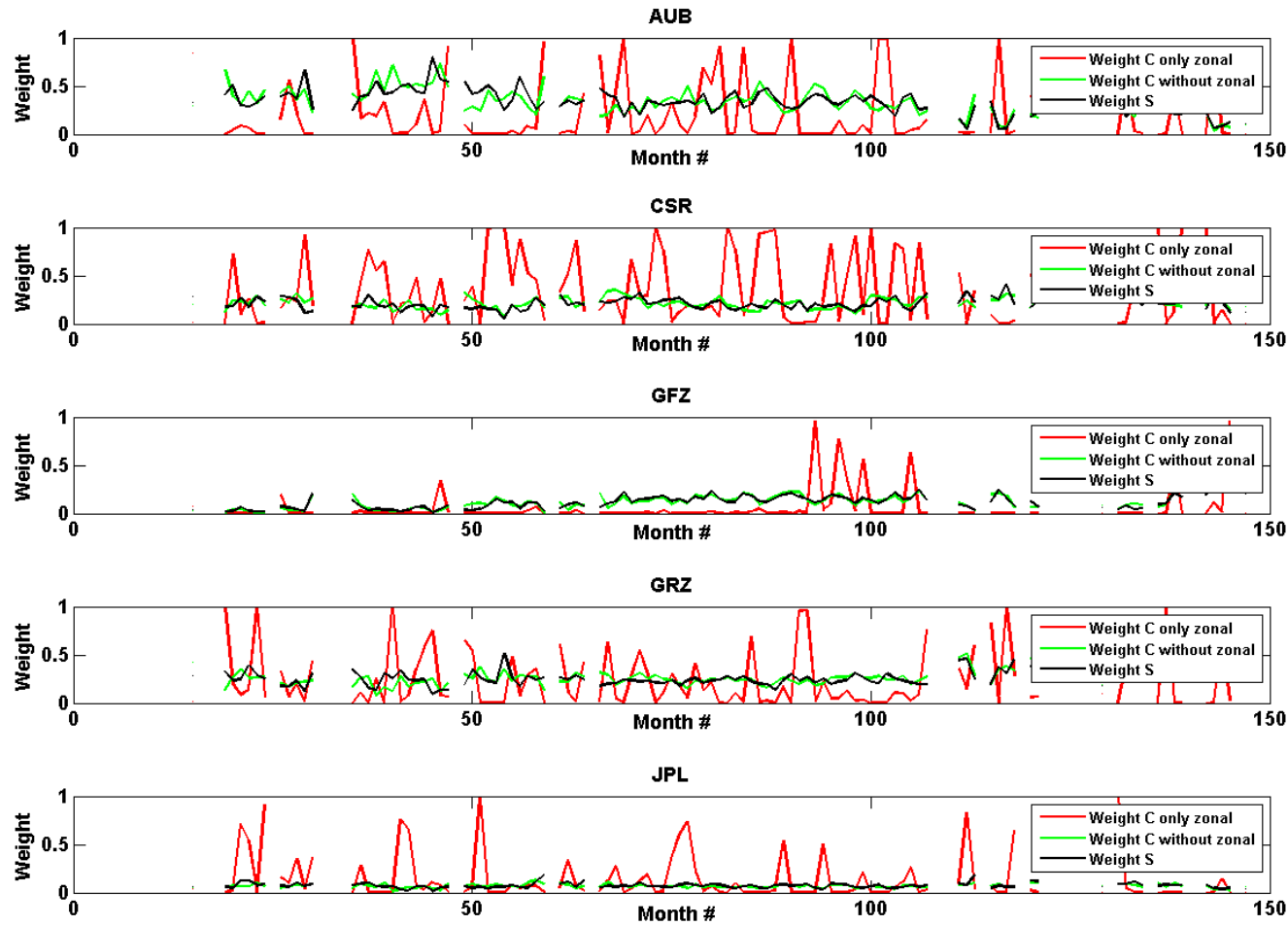
Weights by VCE



2014/03

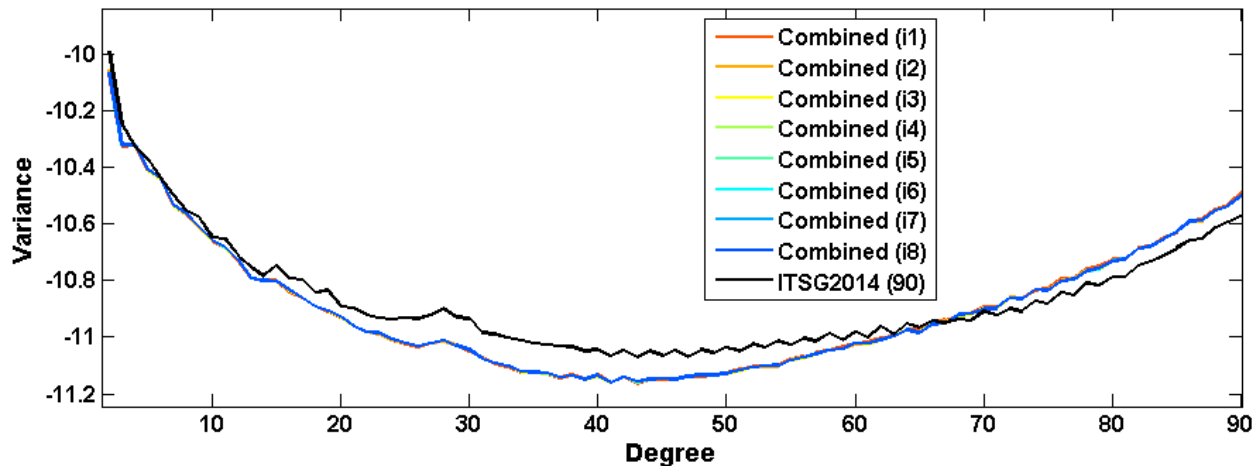
# Weights using (*Only C*), (*Only S*), (*Only Zonal Terms*)

- Weights by **C coefficients (w/o Zonal Terms)** and that by **S coefficients** are similar.
- However, the **weights by only zonal terms** are very different.



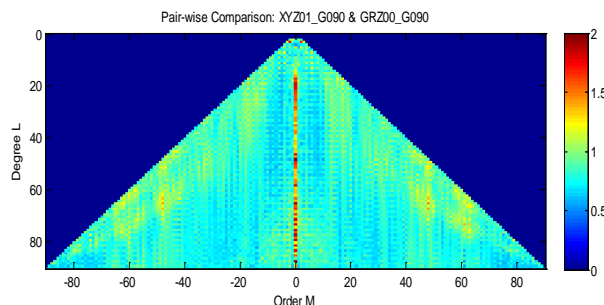
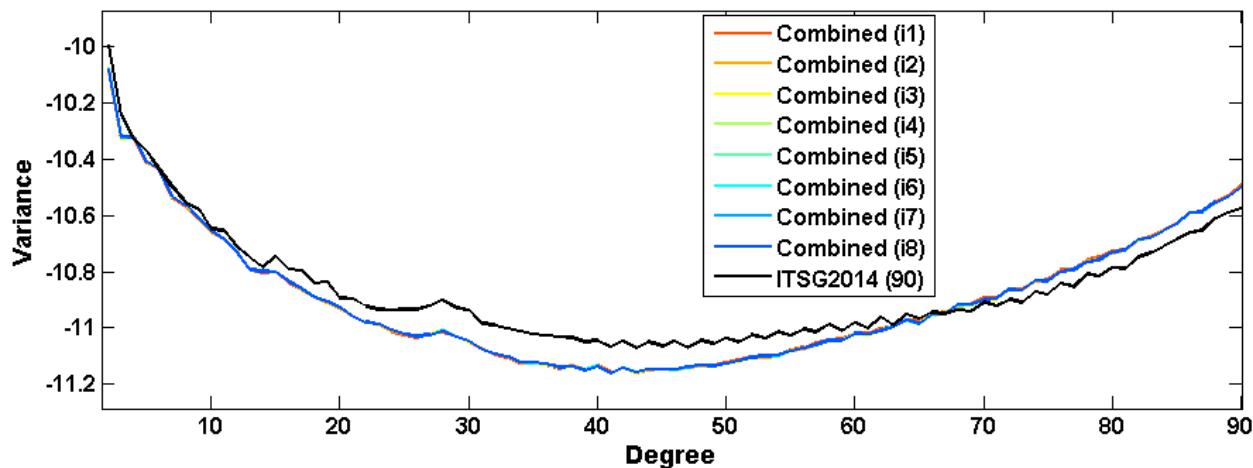
# Weights *with* and *without* Zonal Terms

Degree Variance: ITSG vs. Combined solutions using weights with Zonal Terms



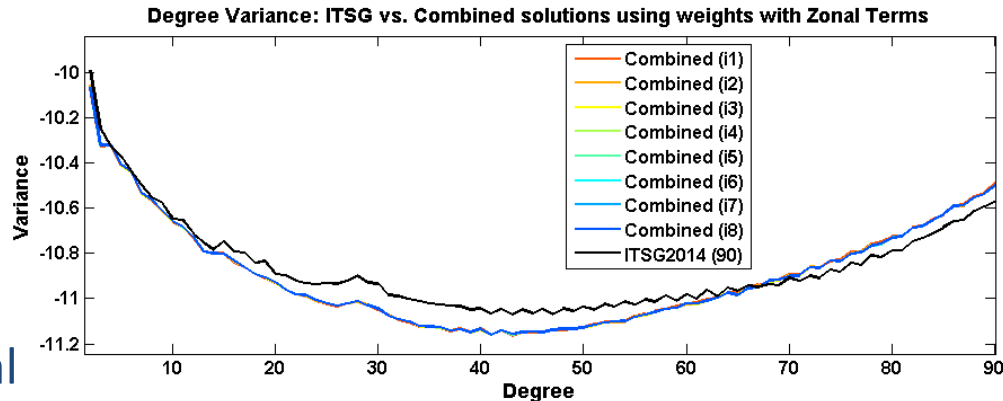
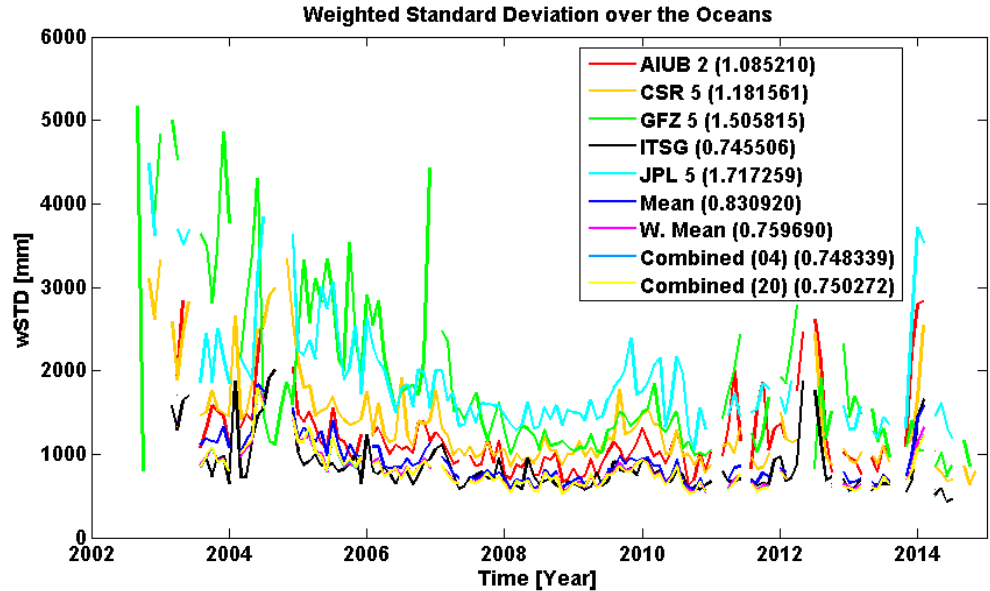
- Almost similar
- # of zonal coefficients: **90**
- # of whole coefficients: **4186**

Degree Variance: ITSG vs. Combined solutions using weights without Zonal Terms



# Real Combined Solutions using VCE

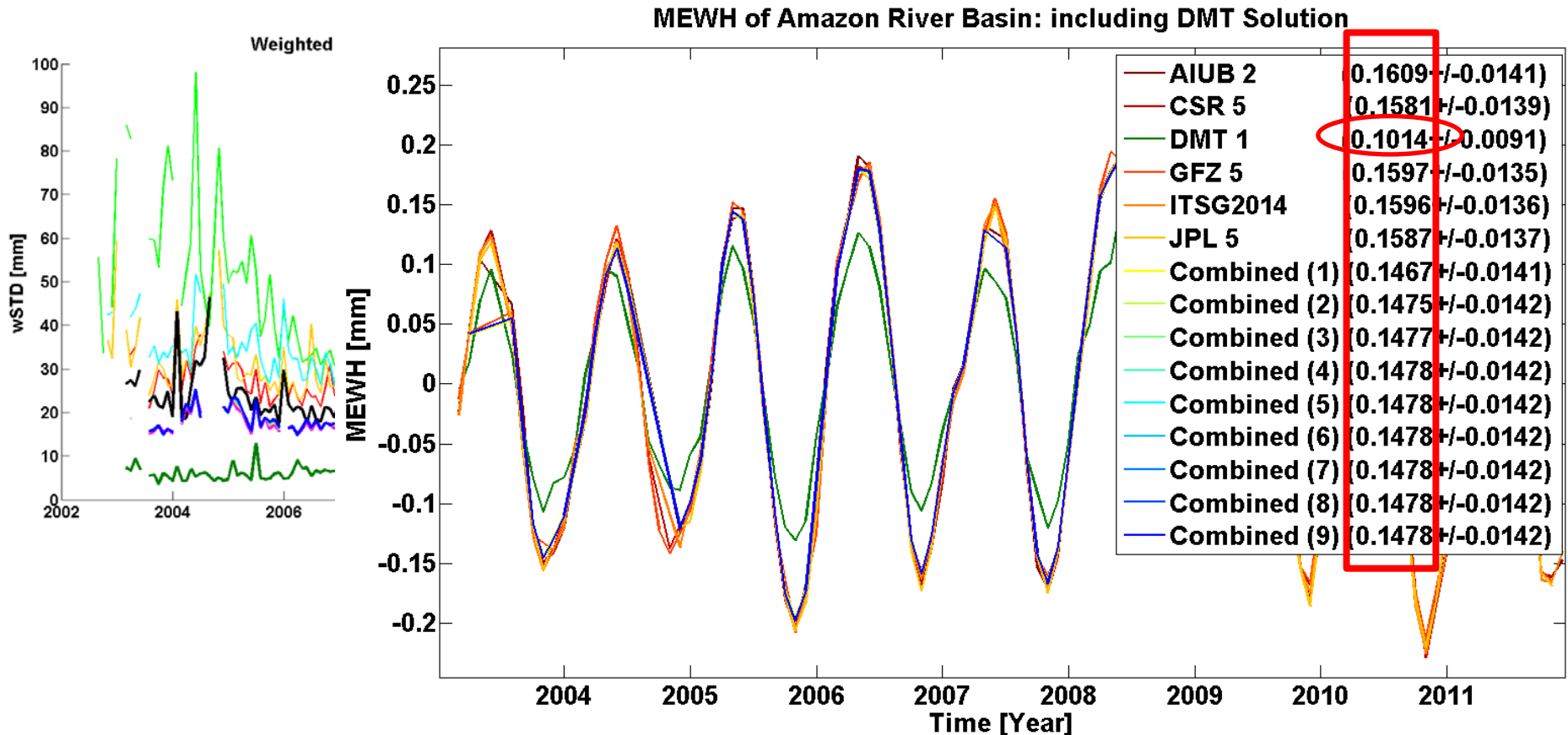
Solution	Median of wSTD over the Oceans
AIUB	1.085210
CSR	1.181561
GFZ	1.505815
<b>ITSG</b>	<b>0.745506</b>
JPL	1.717259
Combined 01	0.756438
Combined 02	0.750095
Combined 03	0.750446
<b>Combined 04</b>	<b>0.748339</b>
Combined05	0.748382



Combined solution using rough empirical weights (before optimization): **0.648336**

# Inclusion of DMT Solution in Combination

- In *Simulation*: the attenuated signal could be recovered by VCE.
- In *this real case*: the attenuated signal cannot be fully recovered by VCE.



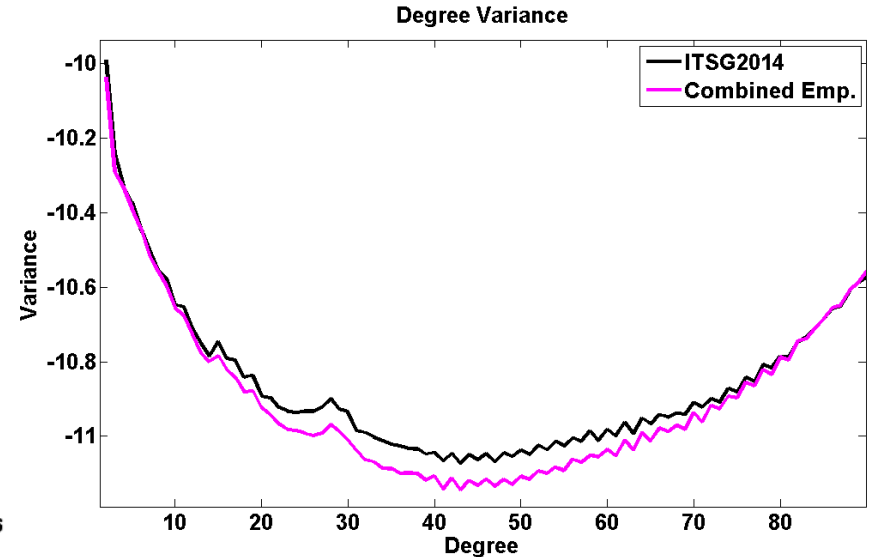
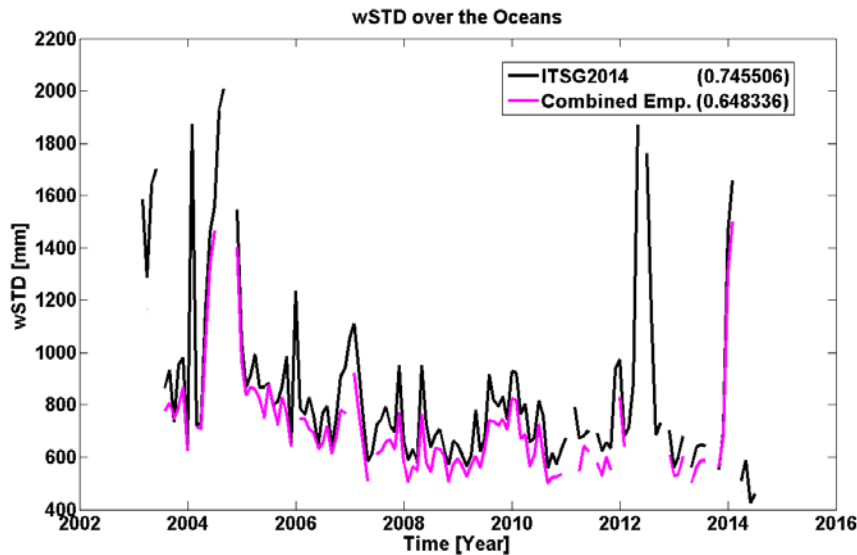


# Conclusions: in Simulation and in Reality

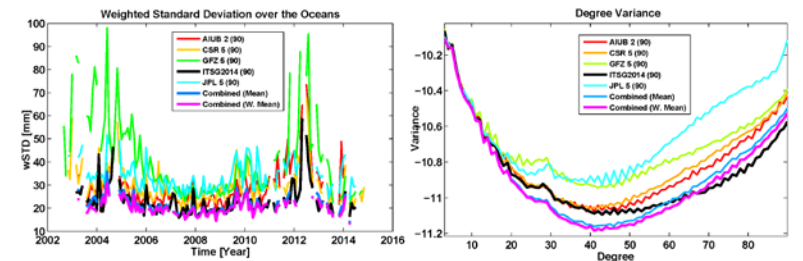
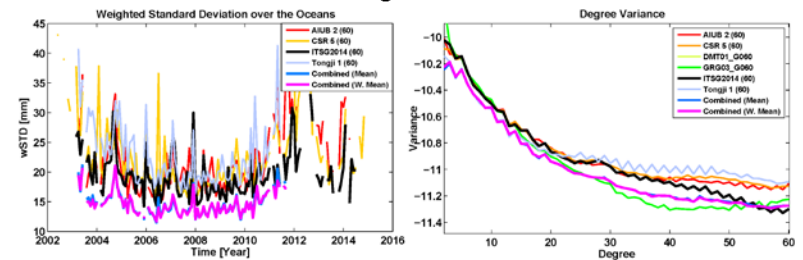
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- A solution containing attenuated signal can
  - cause strange behavior from certain degree: cross point
  
- Weighting scheme
  - In simulation study, the VCE works well. (only white noise)
  - In real case, benefits of VCE are limited due to systematic effect in noise.

# Combined Solution using Rough Empirical Weights



- Even before optimization:  
**0.745506** vs. **0.648336**
- Degree 90 combined solutions can be further improved.
- Mathematics + Signal contents



# Final Report of WP 4.1 (~M18)

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- Content related to **combination on solution level**
  - Availability and Preprocessing of GRACE Monthly Solutions
  - Comparison of GRACE Monthly Solutions
  - Combination of GRACE Monthly Solutions
  - Evaluation of GRACE Monthly Combined Solutions

# Presentations / Publications

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- **Presentation in the EGU 2015 (Apr. 2015)**
- **Presentation in the Geodätische Woche 2015 (Sep. 2015)**
- **Contribution to presentation by Prof. Adrian Jäggi in the AGU meeting 2015 (Dec. 2015)**
- **Presentation in the EGU 2016 (Apr. 2016)**

**In progress:**

- **Manuscript for a journal article (to be submitted in the first half of 2016)**
- **Final Report of WP4.1 (until M18: End of June 2016)**