



International Committee on  
Global Navigation Satellite Systems

# **GPS/GNSS**

What is it?

How Does it Work?

What are its Applications?

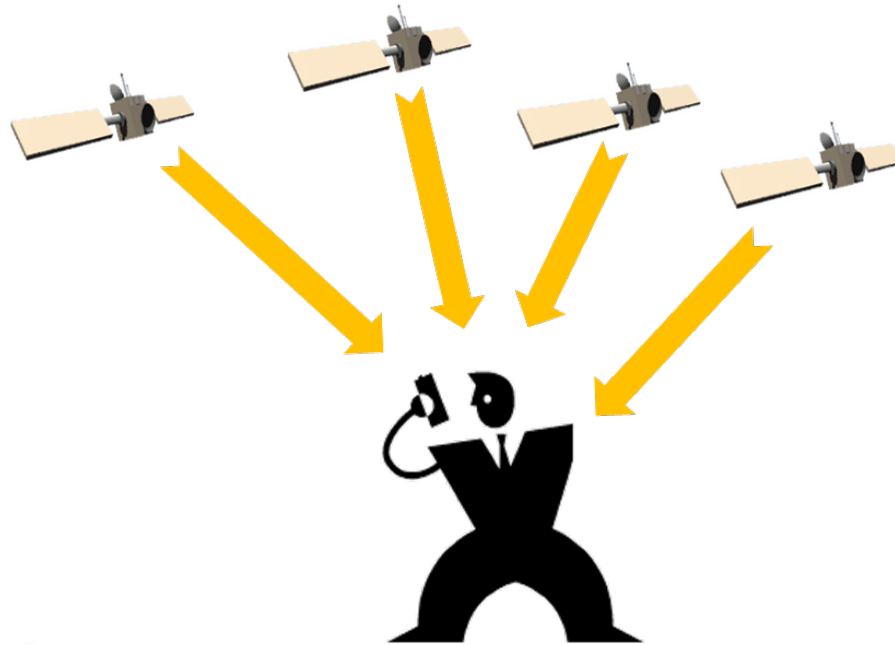
# Historic Navigation

- Reference points in the sky used for navigation
  - The Sun
  - The Pole Star / North Star
  - Southern Cross
- Gives Direction, but not position
- Add a sextant to give latitude
- And a clock to give longitude



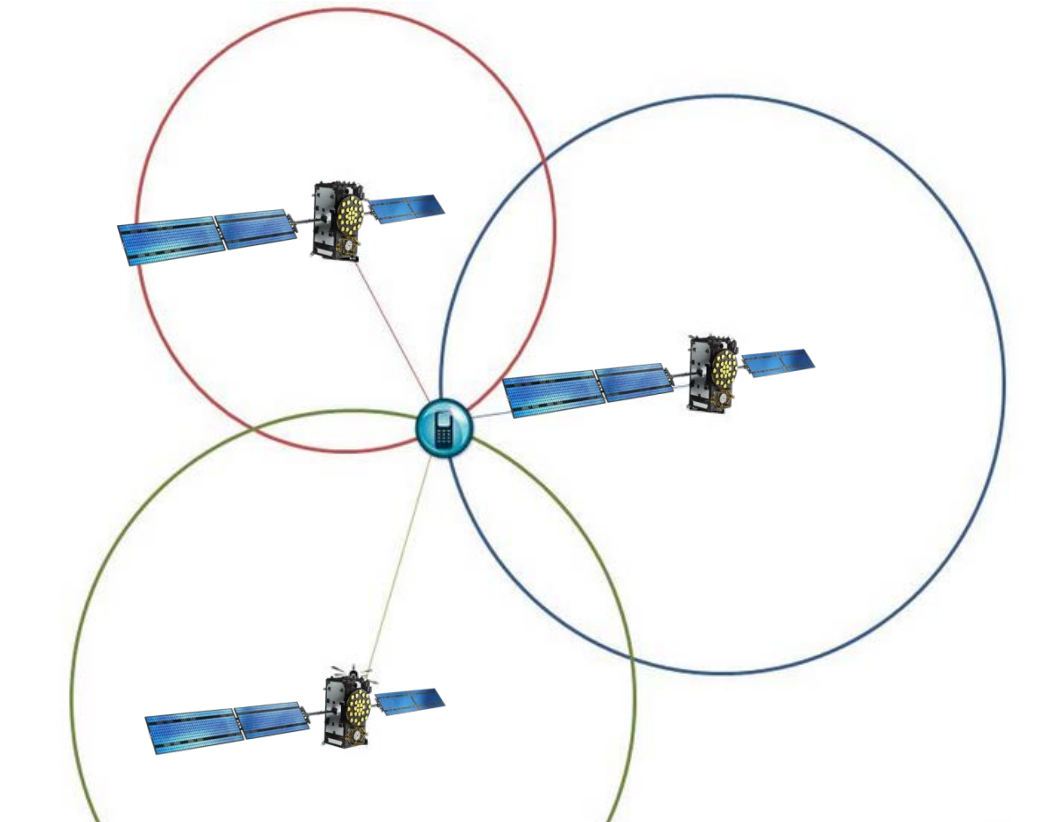
# GNSS Principles

- GNSS satellites in the sky are the new reference points
- If my GNSS receiver "sees" 4 or more satellites, it can compute my position
  - "see" means track and process navigation signals



# Satellites as Accurate Reference Points

- GNSS signals contain information about the satellites' positions
  - very accurate reference points
- Measure the distance from the satellites to the receiver
- Knowing at least three distances from three reference points gives position



# How do you measure distance?

$$\text{speed} = \text{distance} / \text{time}$$

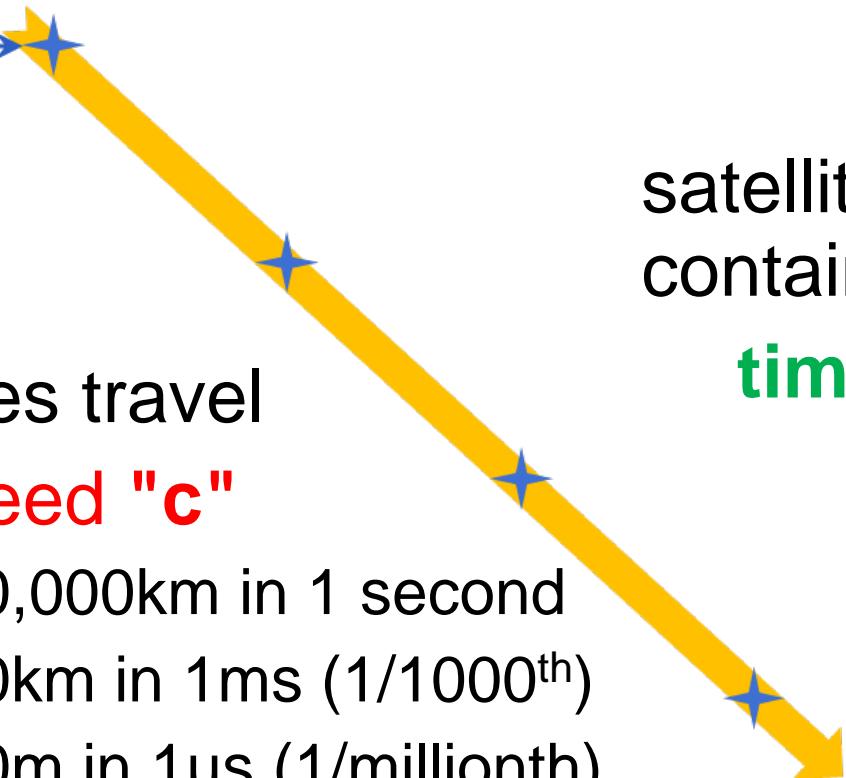
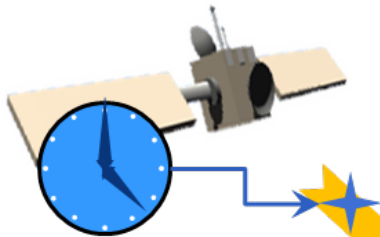
$$\Rightarrow \text{distance} = \text{speed} \times \text{time}$$

satellite signals  
contain 'time stamps'

$$\text{time} = t_{\text{sent}} - t_{\text{received}}$$

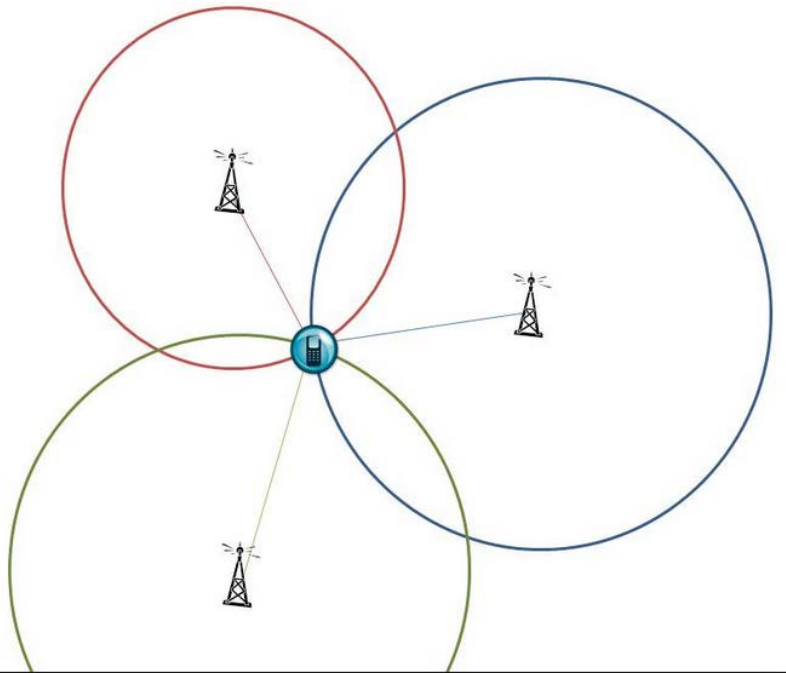
radio waves travel  
at light **speed "c"**

- 300,000km in 1 second
- 300km in 1ms (1/1000<sup>th</sup>)
- 300m in 1 $\mu$ s (1/millionth)
- 300mm in 1ns



# Compute position

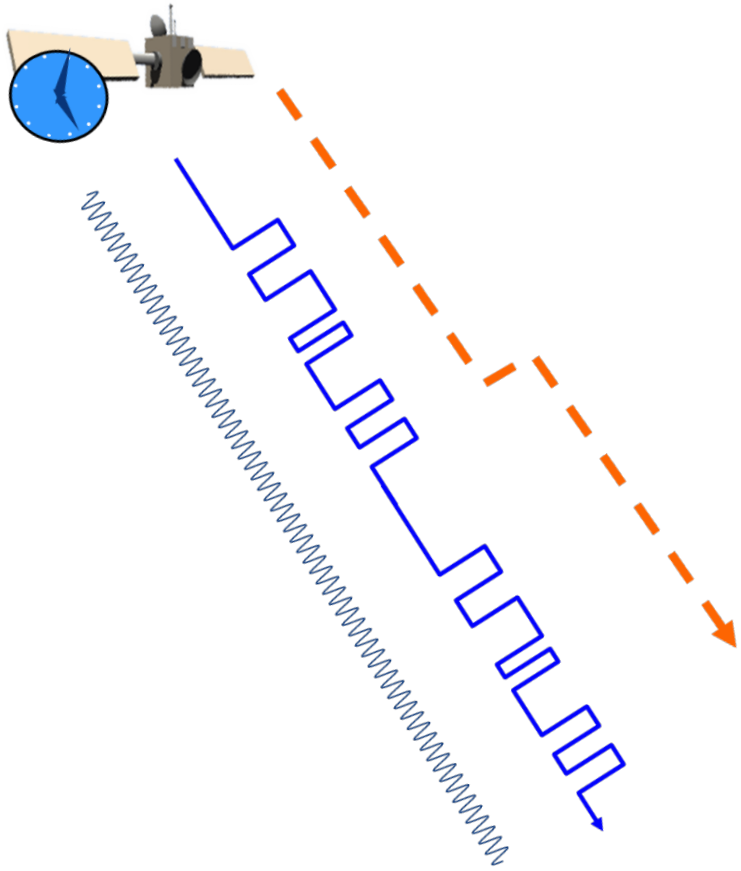
$$\text{distance} = \text{speed} \times \text{time}$$



- **speed** =  $3 \times 10^8$  m/s
- **time** =  $t_{\text{sent}} - t_{\text{received}}$
- but, receiver time not accurately known
- so the time stamp from a fourth satellite is measured
- compensates for the missing receiver time



# Example GNSS Signal



- radio frequency at "L-band"
  - typically 1575MHz
- at satellite: signal energy spread by a code
- at receiver: spread signal energy is unlocked and refocused
  - "code gain"
- allows simple antennas to receive low power signals
- and to share the frequency with other satellites/systems



# Position relative to?

- A position is pointless without having a ground reference
- A world reference is used, eg WGS84
  - World Geodetic System 1984
- Allows position fix to be placed on a World grid
- Maps can be referenced to the same grid
- you can determine where you are on a map





# What is GNSS used for?

## PNT

- Positioning... surveying and mapping
  - location based services
  - air traffic management
  - search and rescue
- Navigation... a given. cars, ships, cranes
  - remember GNSS gives position, you still need reliable/up-to-date maps and routing software
- Timing?... most large networks synchronised
  - telecoms
  - electricity distribution
  - banking... microseconds matter for transactions!



# What about?

- Monitoring sea/lake/snow levels
  - uses GNSS reflections seen into a fixed receiver
- Atmospheric measurements
  - GNSS signals change as they pass through atmosphere: air quality, gaseous content, etc
- Space weather monitoring
  - measuring changes in the ionosphere
- Soil and vegetation moisture measurements
- Volcanic plume density measurements
  - atmospheric ash uncertainty after eruptions
- Sea surface roughness, wind direction and more
- Earthquake/tsunami monitoring....



Thank You

Questions?



International Committee on  
Global Navigation Satellite Systems

# GNSS History

# Satellite Navigation in the 1950s

1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

4 Oct 1957  
Sputnik I  
Launched

Dec 1958  
The U.S.  
Navy  
Navigation  
Satellite  
System  
(Transit)  
Approved  
and  
Funded

# Satellite Navigation in the 1960s (1 of 3)

1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

13 April 1960  
First Successful  
Transit  
Experimental  
Satellite (1B)

5 Dec 1963  
First  
Operational  
Satellite

Jan 1964  
Transit  
Became  
Operational

Other Successful  
Experimental  
Satellites:  
2A, 22 Jun 1960  
3B, 21 Feb 1961  
4A, 29 Jun 1961  
4B, 15 Nov 1961

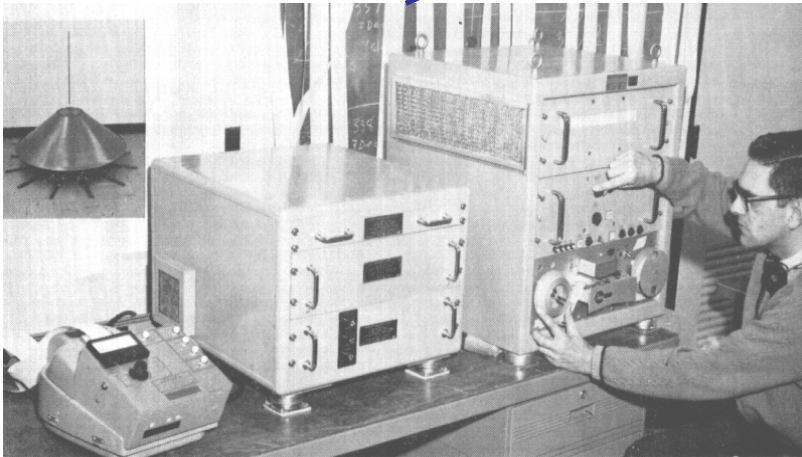
July 1967  
Transit  
Released  
for  
Commercial  
Use  
- - - -  
Establishing  
U.S. Dual  
Use SatNav  
Policy

Operational  
Transit  
Satellite



# Satellite Navigation in the 1960s (2 of 3)

1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
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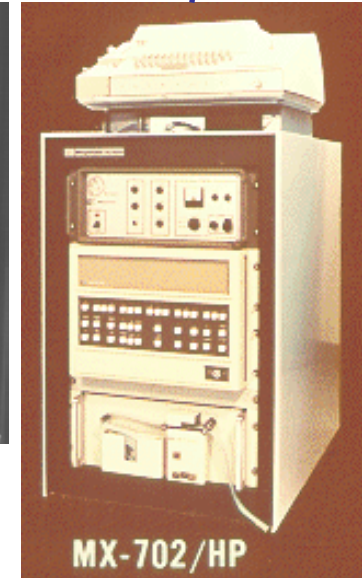
1964

World's First Surface Ship  
Satellite Navigator  
AN/SRN-9 (XN-5)



1968

World's First  
Portable Satellite  
Doppler Geodetic  
Surveyor  
AN/PRR-14  
Geoceiver



1969

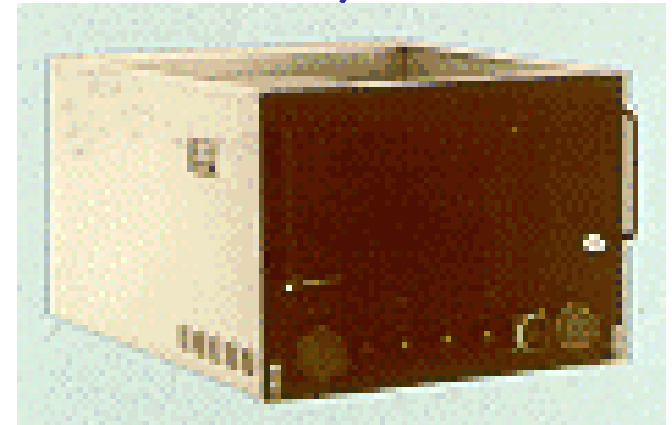
World's First  
Commercial  
Oceanographic  
Navigator

# Satellite Navigation in the 1960s (3 of 3)

1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

1969

First Steps Toward GPS;  
Air Force 621B Program;  
World's First Spread Spectrum  
Navigation Receiver, MX-450



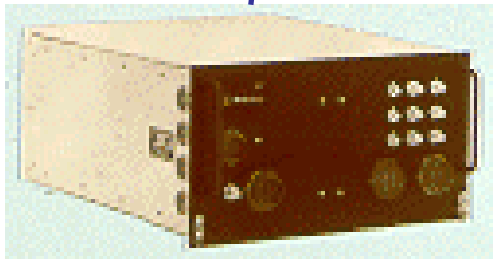


# Satellite Navigation in the 1970s



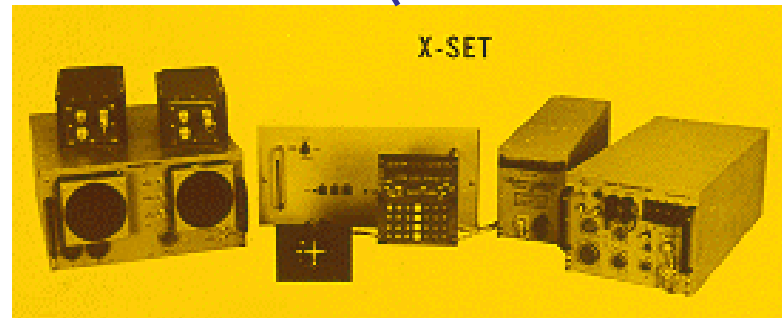
April 1973  
Formation of the GPS  
Joint Program Office  
(JPO)

1978 GPS Launches  
22 Feb, 13 May,  
7 Oct, 11 Dec



1971

First Timation Receiver  
for the Naval Research  
Lab (NRL)

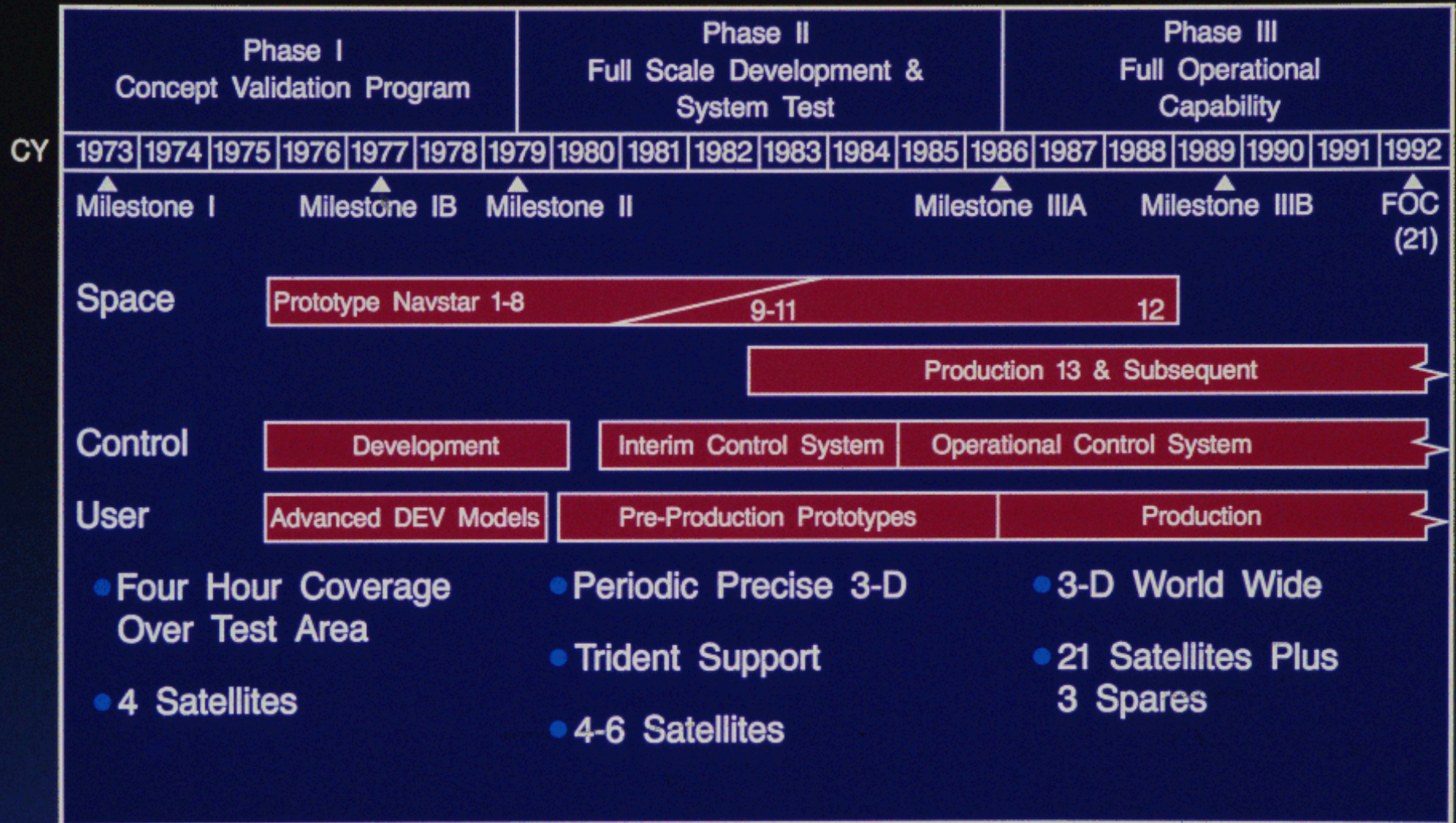


1975

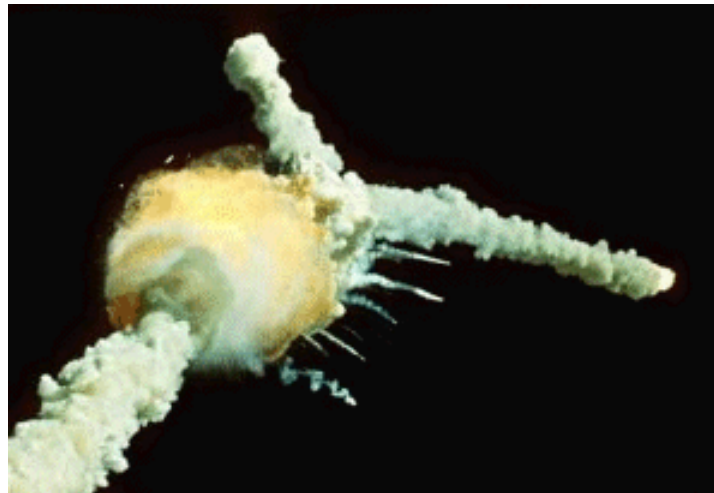
First Concept Validation GPS  
Navigator, the GPS X-Set

# Original

## GPS PROGRAM SCHEDULE



# GPS Launch Plans



National policy was to launch all operational GPS satellites with the space shuttle

The Atlas Booster launched all Block I GPS Satellites

The January 28, 1986 Challenger disaster forced a change

# Satellite Navigation in the 1980s

1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

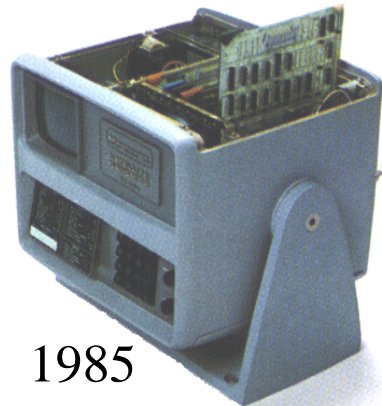


1984  
Commercial 5  
Channel GPS  
Navigator

9 Oct '85  
Last Block I  
Launch

28 Jan '86  
Challenger  
Disaster

14 Feb '89  
Launches  
Resume



1985  
GPS + Transit + Omega

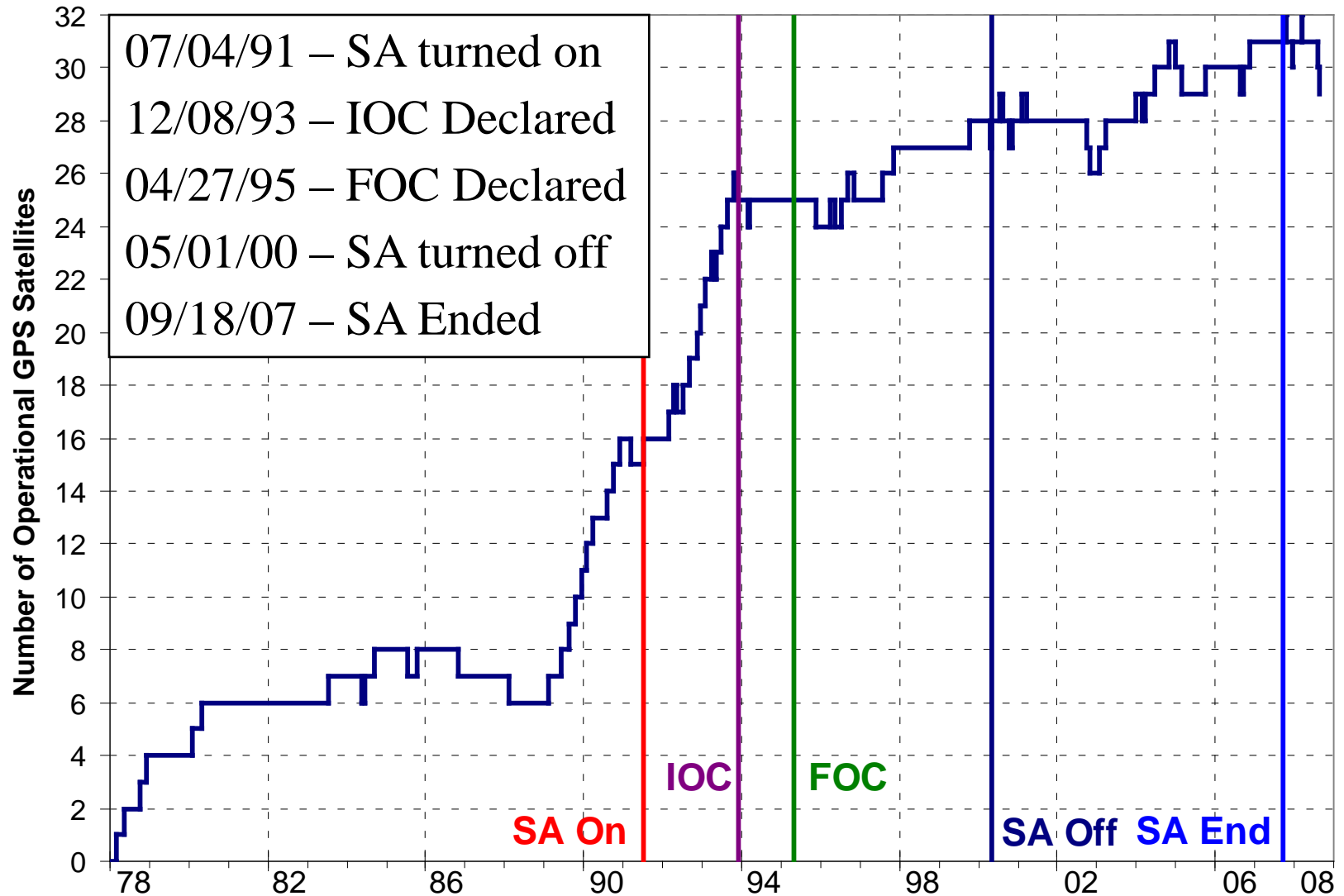


1986  
6 Channel GPS  
Navigator



1986  
WM101 GPS Satellite  
Surveying Set

# GPS Selective Availability, IOC, and FOC



# Satellite Navigation in the 1990s

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

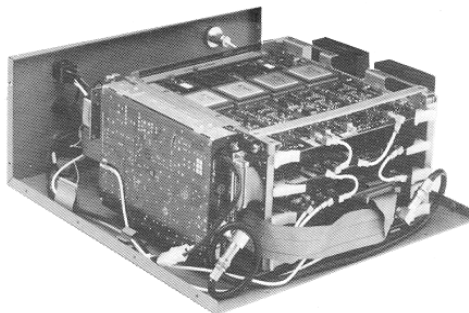
4 Apr '91  
SA Turned  
On

8 Dec '93  
GPS IOC

27 Apr '95  
GPS FOC



1996 Professional  
Marine DGPS  
Navigator



1990  
GPS/GLONASS  
Navigator



1991 6 Channel  
GPS Engine

26 Dec '91  
Dissolution of  
the Soviet  
Union Enacted

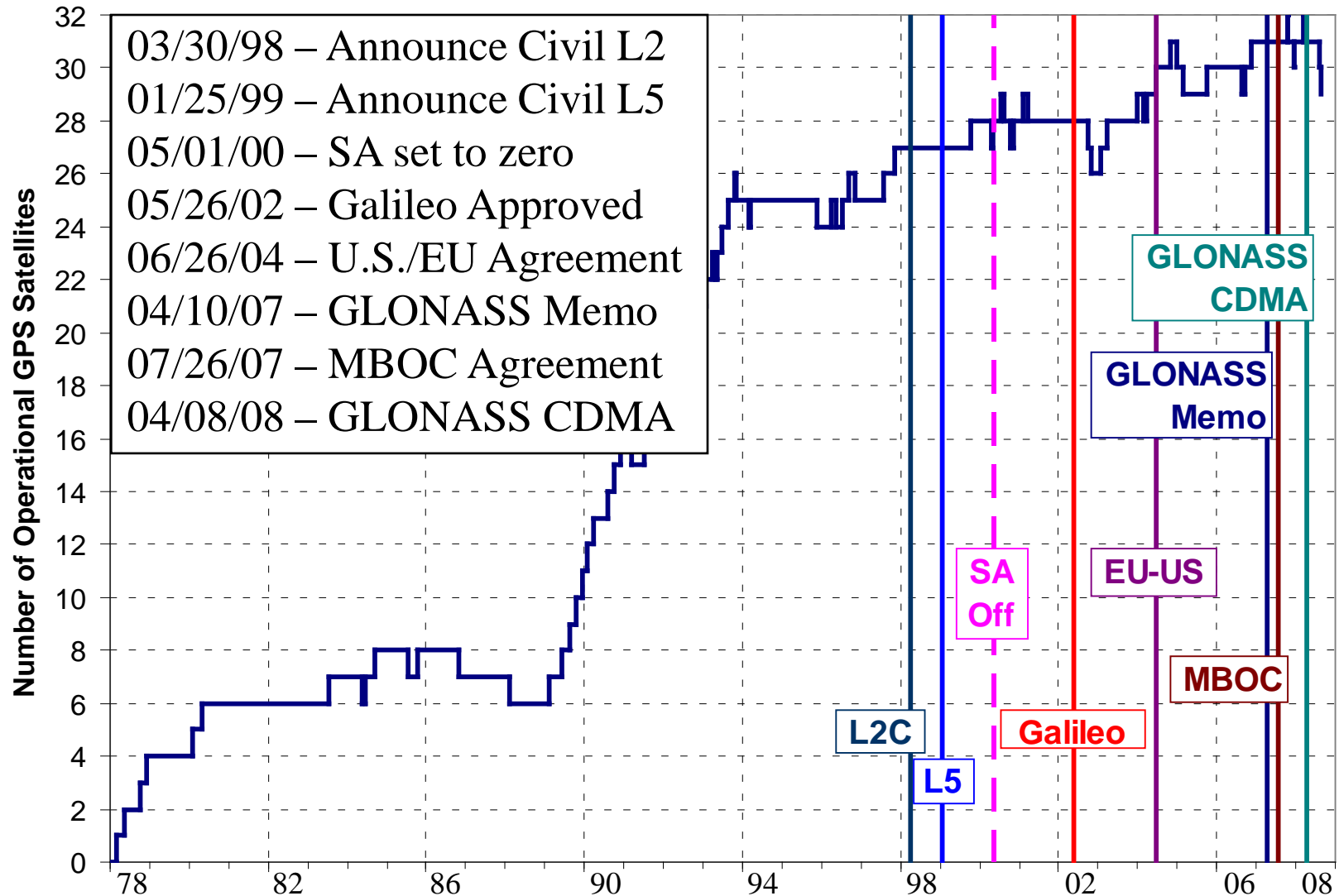


1991 Compact  
GPS Surveyor

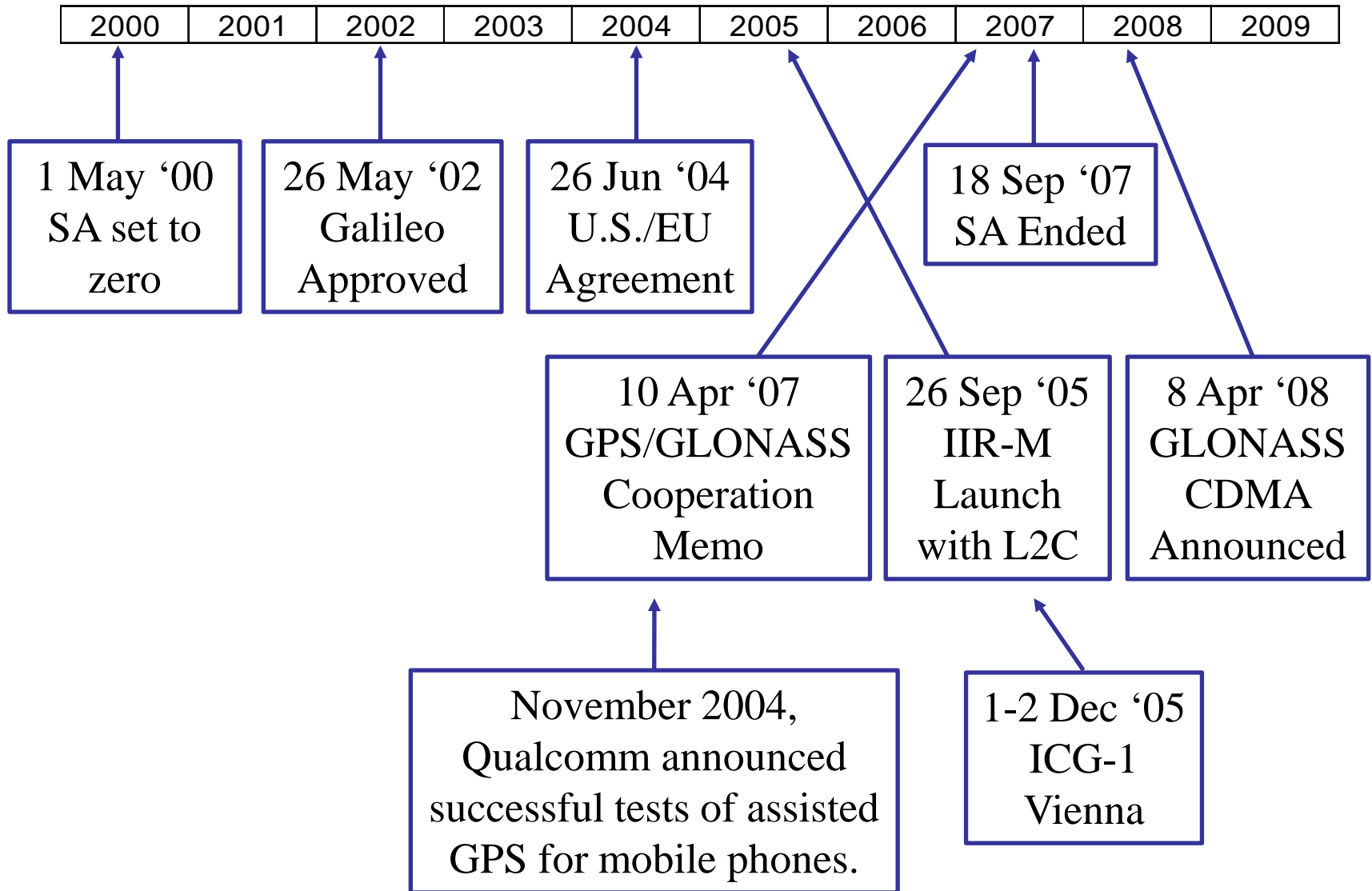


1997 Machine  
Control, 10 Hz,  
30 ms, 1 cm

# Modernization and GNSS Initiatives

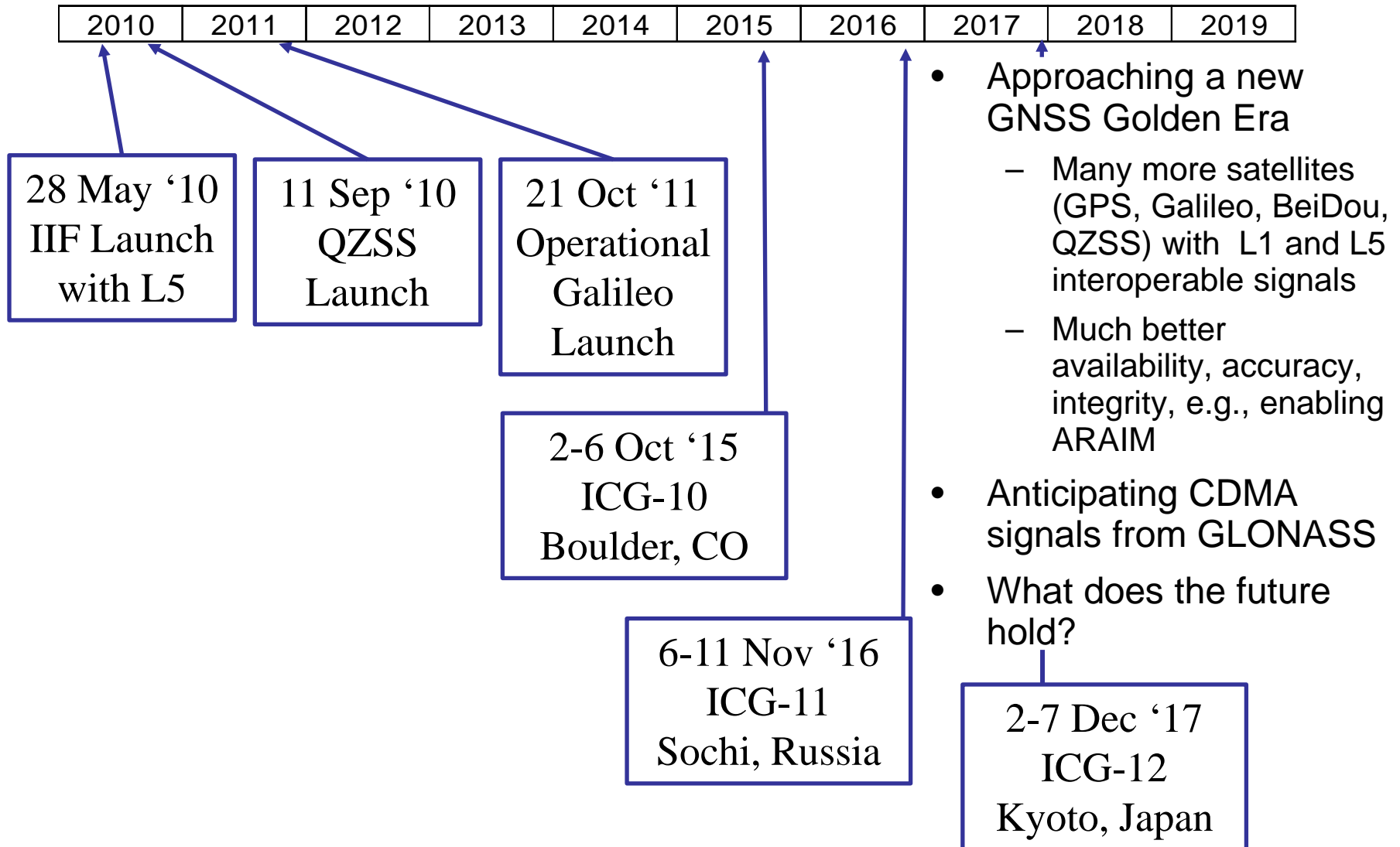


# Satellite Navigation in the 2000s





# Satellite Navigation in the 2010s



# Who Anticipated GPS in Cell Phones?



- Sparked by the E911 requirement
- Use of Location Based Services (LBS) is exploding
- Improved by Assisted GPS (A-GPS)
  - Better accuracy
  - Location in seconds
  - Turn-by-turn navigation

More than a Billion Cell Phone GPS Users

# Who Anticipated Precision Agriculture?

- One to 10 cm accuracy
- Far better productivity, efficiency, and protection of the environment
- Enabled, e.g., by MSS signals for the John Deere StarFire Service and several others



Automatic Steering

Automatic Spray Control

Thank You

Questions?



**GPS Program**  
**Status**  
**Future Plans**  
**Augmentations**  
**Applications**



# GNSS: A Global Navigation Satellite System of Systems

- Global Constellations

- **GPS (24+3)**
- GLONASS (24+)
- GALILEO (24+3)
- BDS/BEIDOU (27+3 IGSO + 5 GEO)

- Regional Constellations

- QZSS (4+3)
- IRNSS/NAVIC (7)

- Satellite-Based Augmentations

- **WAAS (3)**
- MSAS (2)
- EGNOS (3)
- GAGAN (3)
- SDCM (3)
- BDSBAS (3)
- KASS (2)





# GPS Economic Benefits Assessment (2013 -- U.S. Only)

Application	Range of Benefits (\$B)	Mid-Range Benefits (\$B)
Precision agriculture: grain	10.0–17.7	13.7
Construction: earthmoving w/ machine guidance	2.2–7.7	5.0
Surveying	9.8–13.4	11.6
Air transportation	0.119–0.168	0.144
Rail transportation: positive train control	0.010–0.100	0.055
Maritime transportation: private sector use of nautical charts and related information	0.106–0.263	0.185
Road: fleet vehicle connected telematics	7.6–16.3	11.9
Road: consumer and other non-fleet vehicles	7.3–18.9	13.1
Timing	0.025–0.063	0.044
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37.1–74.5</b>	<b>55.7</b>



# U.S. National Space Policy

## ***Space-Based PNT Guideline: Maintain leadership in the service, provision, and use of GNSS***

- Provide civil GPS services, free of direct user charges
  - Available on a continuous, worldwide basis
  - Maintain constellation consistent with published performance standards and interface specifications
  - Foreign PNT services may be used to complement services from GPS
- Encourage global compatibility and interoperability with GPS
- Promote transparency in civil service provision
- Enable market access to industry
- Support international activities to detect and mitigate harmful interference



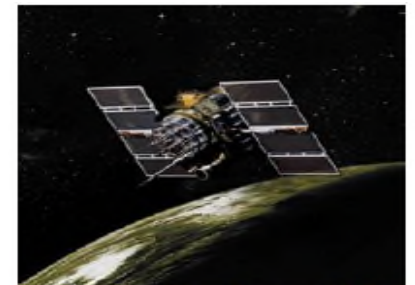


# GPS Constellation Status

**35 Total Satellites / 31 Operational (Set Healthy)  
(Baseline Constellation: 24)**

## Four Generations of Operational Satellites

- Block IIA - 3 Residual
  - 7.5 year design life
  - Launched 1990 to 1997
- Block IIR - 12 Operational
  - 7.5 year design life (oldest operational satellite is 19 years old)
  - Launched 1997 to 2004
- Block IIR-M - 7 Operational, 1 Residual
  - 7.5 year design life
  - Launched 2005 to 2009
  - Added 2nd civil navigation signal (L2C)
- Block IIF - 12 Operational
  - 12 year design life
  - Launched 2010 to 2016
  - Added 3rd civil navigation signal (L5)



Block IIA Satellite – Designed & Built by Rockwell International



Block IIR/IIR-M Satellite – Designed & Built by Lockheed Martin



Block IIF Satellite – Designed & Built by Boeing



# GPS III: Newest Block of GPS Satellites

- 4 civil signals: L1 C/A, L1C, L2C, L5
  - First satellites to broadcast common L1C signal
- 4 military signals: L1/L2 P(Y), L1/L2M
- 3 improved Rubidium atomic clocks
- Better User Range Error than IIF Satellites
- Increased availability
- Increased integrity
- 15 year design life



***First GPS III Launch Expected Later in 2018***



# GPS Ground Segment

- Current Operational Control Segment (OCS)
  - Flying GPS constellation using Architecture Evolution Plan (AEP) and Launch and Early Orbit, Anomaly, and Disposal Operations (LADO) software capabilities
  - Increasing Cyber security enhancements
- Next Generation Operational Control System (OCX)
  - Modernized command and control system - replaces legacy system and adds modern features
  - Modern civil signal monitoring and improved PNT performance
  - Robust cyber security infrastructure
  - New capabilities including civil signal performance monitoring capability



Monitor Station



Ground Antenna



# Modernized GPS Civil Signals

- Second civil signal “L2C”
  - Designed to meet commercial needs
  - Broadcast since 2005
  - Currently 19 satellites broadcasting L2C



- Third civil signal “L5”
  - Meets transportation safety of life requirements
  - Uses Aeronautical Radio Navigation Service band
  - Enables triple-frequency positioning techniques
  - Currently 12 satellites broadcasting L5



- Fourth civil signal “L1C”
  - Designed for GNSS interoperability
  - Specification developed in cooperation with industry
  - Improved performance in challenged environments
  - Launches with GPS III in 2018



***Continuous Broadcast of the new civil navigation “CNAV” message on L2C and L5 began April 28, 2014***



# GPS SIS Performance Scoreboard

## GPS SIGNAL IN SPACE (SIS) PERFORMANCE (CM)

**BEST WEEK\***

**BEST DAY\***

**WORST DAY\***

**ENDING**

**SIS**

**ENDING**

**SIS**

**ENDING**

**SIS**

**ROLLING YEAR**

**29 NOV 16**

**44.1**

**26 JAN 17**

**35.0**

**15 JUN 17**

**69.7**

**BEST WEEK EVER**

**29 NOV 16**

**44.1**

*\*ROLLING YEAR*





# Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS)

- Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS)
- Designed for aviation use, but available and used by many GPS users today
- Localizer Performance with Vertical Guidance (LPV)-200 approach is comparable to ILS Category I
- Provides the capability for increased availability and accuracy in position reporting, allowing more time for uniform and high quality air traffic management.
- Provides service for all classes of aircraft in all phases of flight

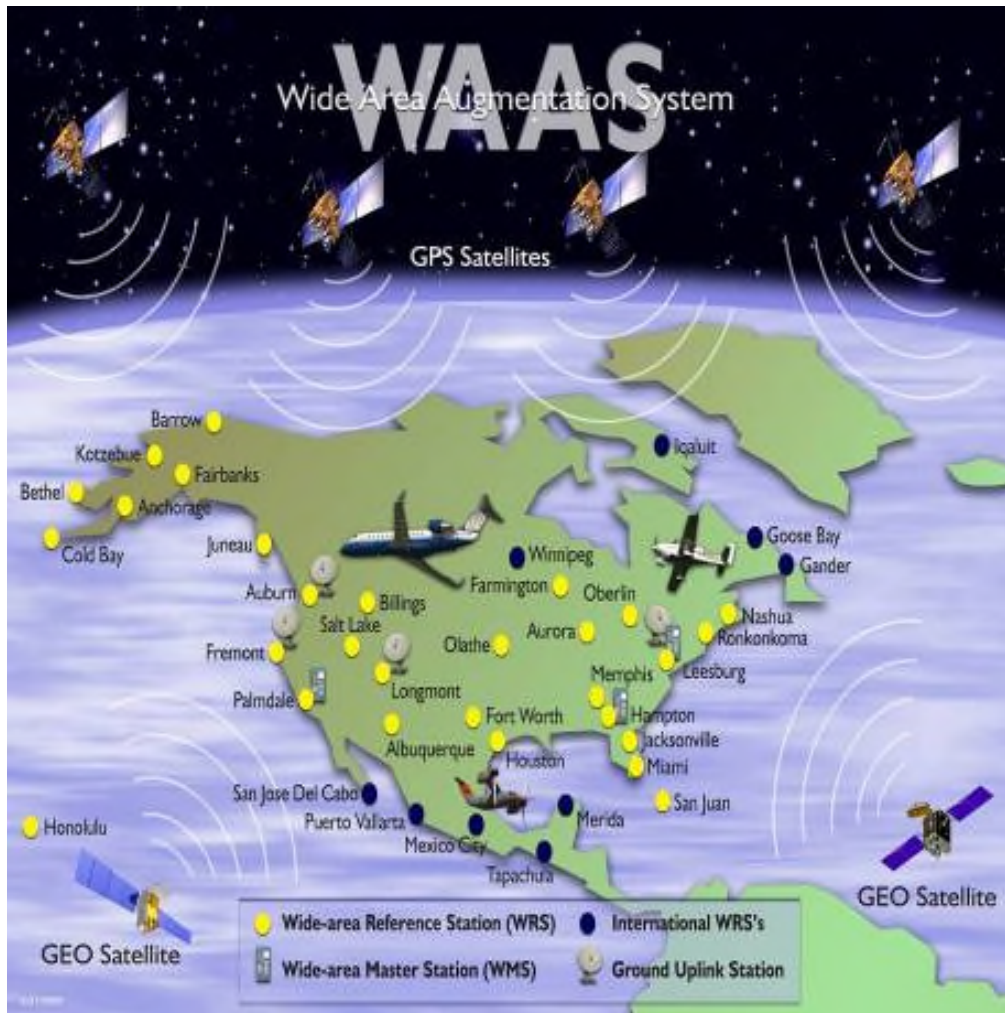


# WAAS/SBAS Aviation Benefits

- Increased Runway Access
- More direct en route flight paths
- New precision approach services
- Reduced and simplified equipment on board aircraft
- Potential elimination of some ground-based navigation aids (NDB, VOR, ILS) can provide a cost saving to air navigation service provider



# Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) Architecture



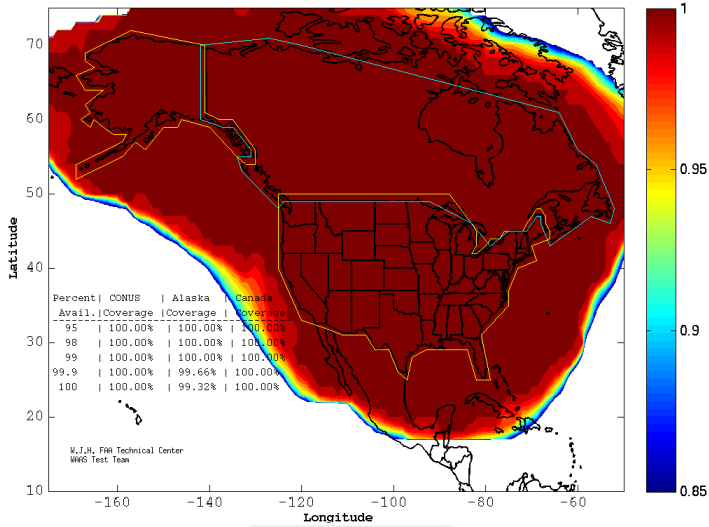




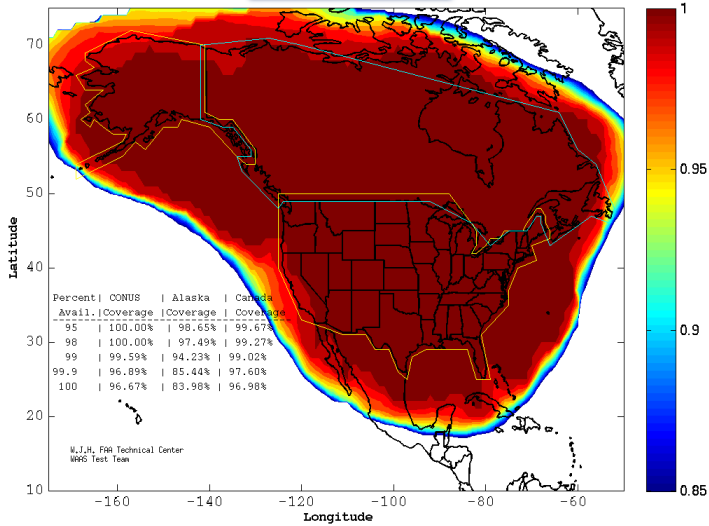


# Current WAAS Performance

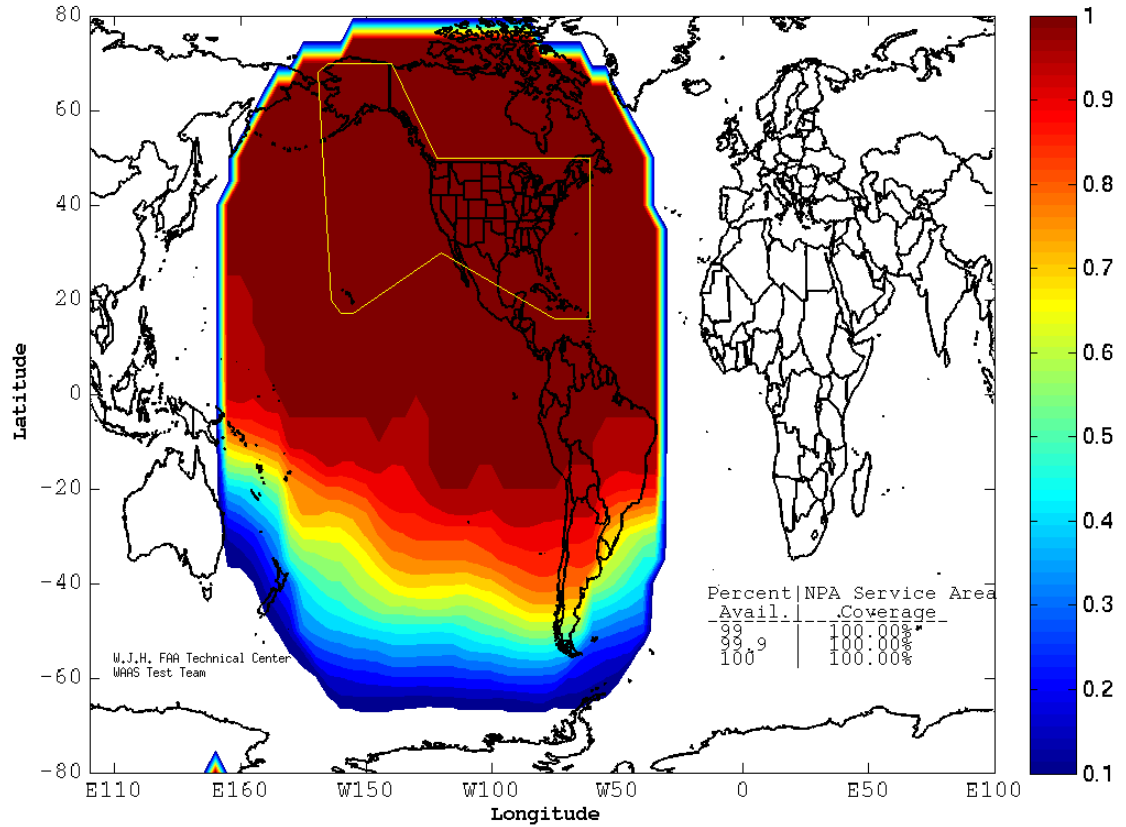
**LPV**



**LPV - 200**



**RNP 0.3**





# WAAS Dual Frequency Service

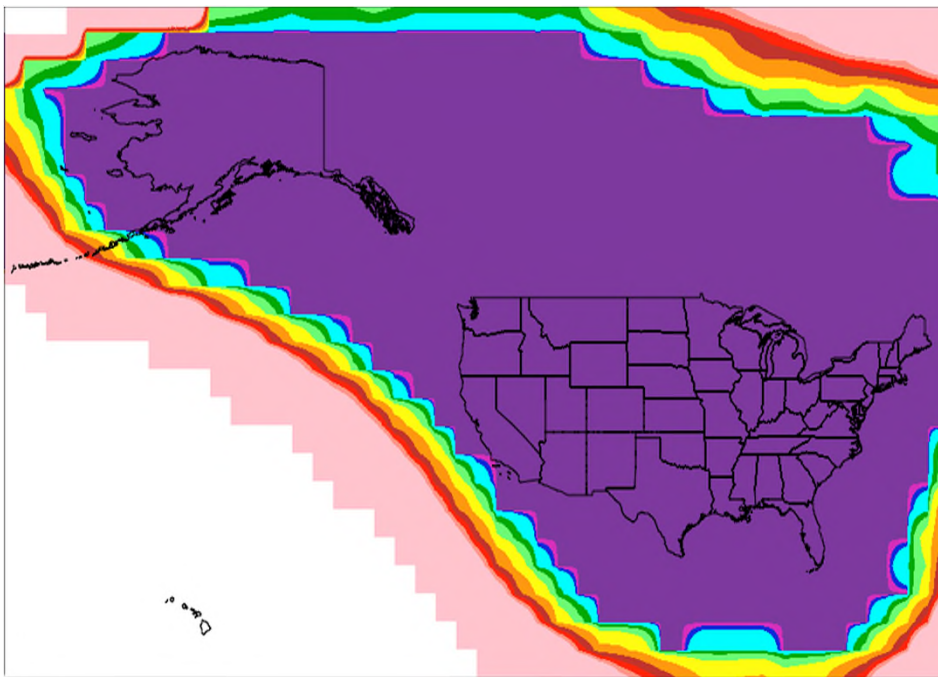
- WAAS has implemented system changes to enable a L1/L5 user
  - Upgraded reference station receivers to receive L5
  - Upgraded communication network to handle additional data (Dec 2017)
  - New safety computer with improved processor performance (Sep 2019)
- Minimum Operational Performance Standards (MOPS) and Standards And Recommended Practices (SARPS) requirements development is underway
- Significant additional work needed to implement a dual frequency WAAS Service
  - Preparing for FAA investment decision in 2019
- Have also installed non-operational test receivers at 6 WAAS reference sites to record Galileo data
  - Currently being collected for research purposes only



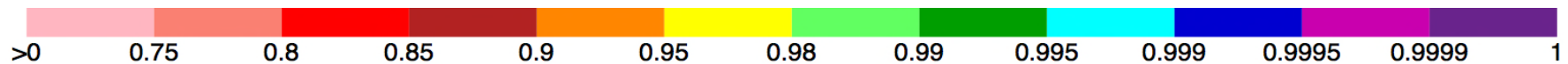
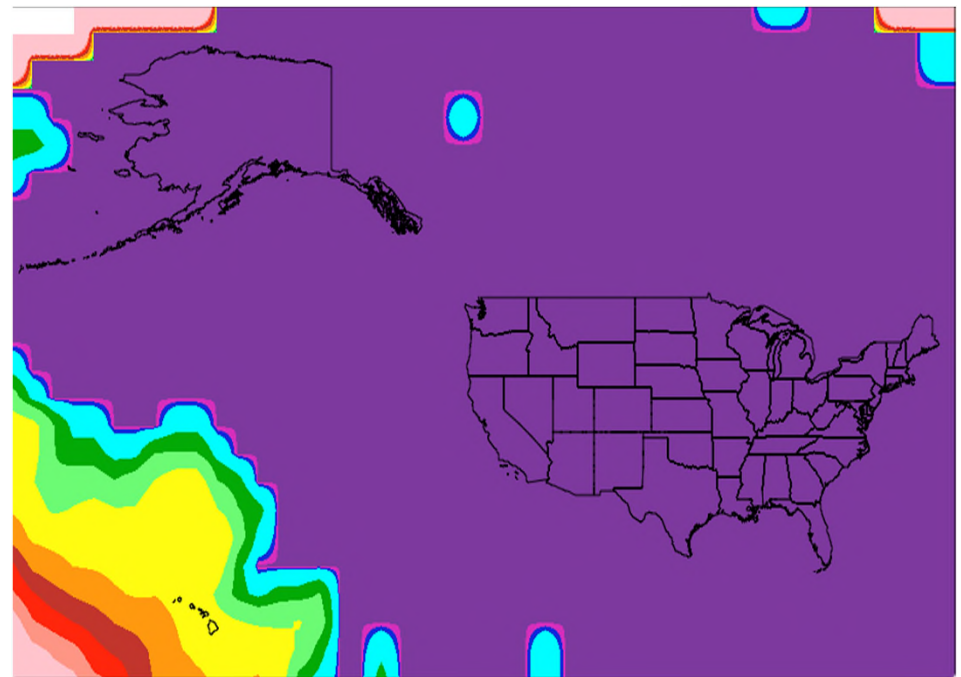
# Benefits of Dual Frequency Operations

- Dual frequency L1/L5 service improves availability and continuity

L1



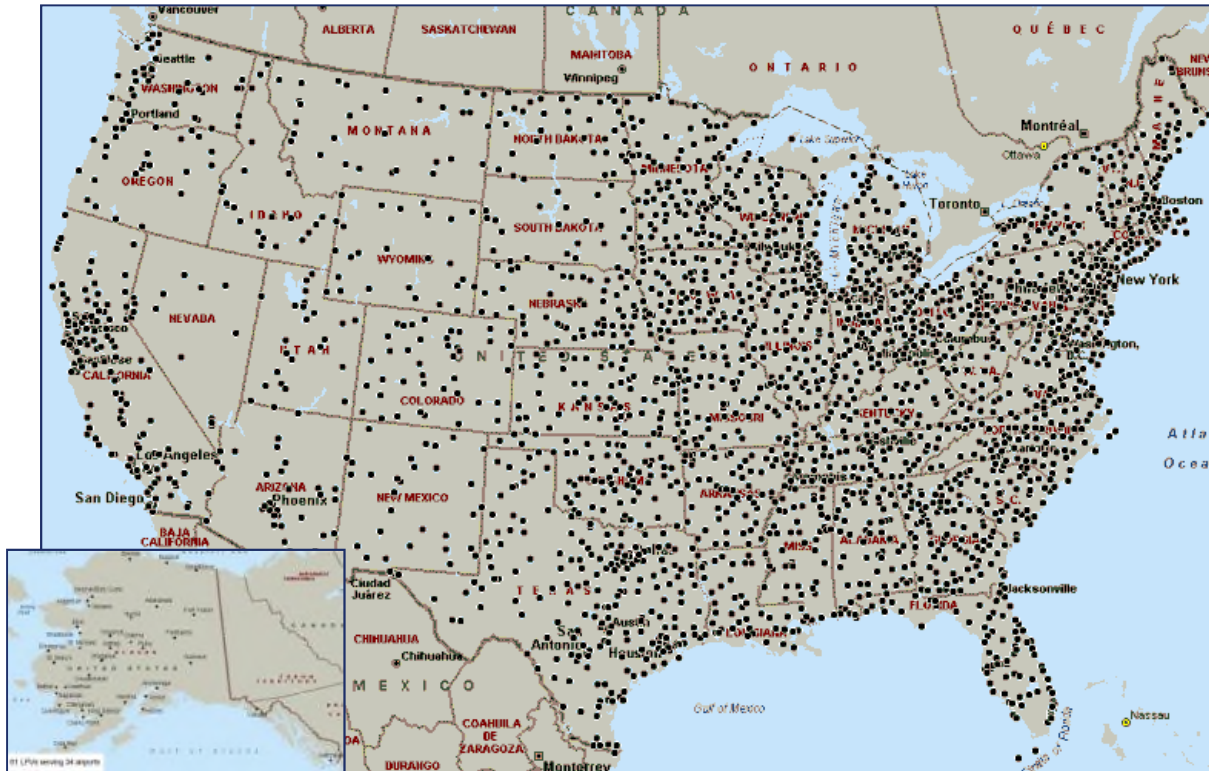
L1, L5



Simulation



# Procedures and Users Depending on WAAS



## Approach Procedures

- 4527 WAAS Procedures published (as of Jan 2018)
  - 3872 Localizer Performance with Vertical guidance (LPV) procedures
  - 655 Localizer Performance (LP) procedures



## Users


- Over 91,000 WAAS/SBAS equipped aircraft
- All aircraft classes served in all phases of flight
- WAAS/SBAS is enabling technology for FAA NextGen
  - Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADS-B)
  - Performance Based Navigation (PBN)





# For Additional Information...

# GPS.GOV

 Official U.S. government information about the Global Positioning System (GPS) and related topics

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- Systems
- Applications
- Governance
- Multimedia
- Support**

Home » Support » GPS Service Outages & Status Reports

## SUPPORT:

Frequently Asked Questions

Address, Route, & Map Problems

**Service Outages & Status Reports**

Civil GPS Service Interface Committee (CGSIC)

Technical Documentation


External Links

About This Website

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## GPS Service Outages & Status Reports

Users experiencing GPS service problems can get support from one of three federal agencies, depending on their application: civil non-aviation, civil aviation, or military. The responsibilities of the support agencies are documented in an interagency agreement. [VIEW AGREEMENT](#) ➔

### Civilian User Support – Non-Aviation

The U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center (NAVCEN) is the primary point of contact in the government for providing operational GPS user support to the civilian community. The following links lead to pages on the NAVCEN website.



- [Check the operational status of the GPS satellites](#) ➔
- [Look up planned GPS service disruptions due to interference testing](#) ➔
- [Report a GPS service outage or anomaly \(non-aviation\)](#) ➔
- [Receive GPS status messages & user advisories via email](#) ➔

If you suspect a GPS disruption due to illegal signal jamming ([LEARN MORE](#) ➔), please call the FCC Jammer Tip Line immediately at 1-855-55-NOJAM, then submit an outage report to NAVCEN.

[www.gps.gov](http://www.gps.gov)

Thank You

Questions?