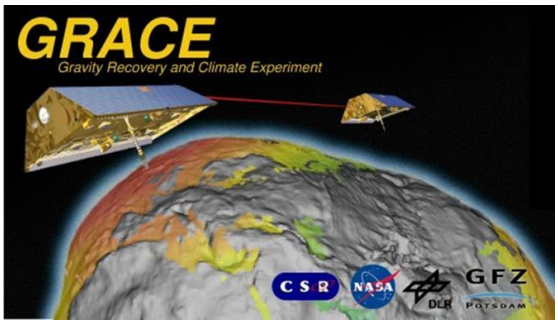
GRACE Science Data System Monthly Report February 2010



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Highlights:

- CSR has generated and delivered RL04 Level-2 products for January 2010.
- GFZ has generated unconstrained degree 60 solutions for the period October 2008 till December 2009 to overcome creeping and now notable monthly (degree 120) model degradations caused by the current long lasting 7 day repeat cycle with climax around December 2009/January 2010. These additional L2 products are named *GM60* which is in agreement with GFZ's unconstrained degree 30 weekly solutions (*GW30*). The unconstrained degree 120 solutions are still provided for comparison (current status is December 2009). According to degree variance plots (see appendix) and results of GFZ's evaluation chain, it is recommended to use the alternative solutions starting with May 2009 till now. For the months before, a cut-off of the 120x120 solutions at degree 60 delivers approximately the same results as the corresponding 60x60 solutions. Further information can be found in the GFZ L2 Release Notes.
- JPL has generated and delivered unconstrained degree 60 solutions for December 2009, January 2010, and February 2010 to overcome the solution degradations caused by the near 7 day repeat cycle. Further information can be found in the JPL L2 Release Notes.
- DLR agency, DLR R&D and GFZ have agreed on funding for Mission Operation at DLR/GSOC till GRACE mission end of lifetime. GFZ will contribute with 500KEUR/yr!

Satellite Science Relevant Events:

- Operations in Science Mode throughout the month except for the periods highlighted in the L1B Data Processing section below.

- The GRACE-1 Brouwer mean orbital elements on March 1, 2010 00:00:00 are as follows:

  A [m] = 6837281.559

  E [-] = 0.001599

  I [º] = 89.024192
- The satellites separation was 238 km on March 1, 2010 with a rate of -0.46 km/d. Orbit maintenance maneuver won't be needed for some months.

Level-0 raw data dump reception statistics at DLR ground stations Weilheim and Neustrelitz:

GRACE-A Housekeeping:	100.0 %	GRACE-B Housekeeping:	100.0 %
GRACE-A Science:	100.0 %	GRACE-B Science:	100.0 %

Level-1 Data Processing:

- Level-1B Release 01 instrument data have been processed at JPL and archived at GRACE-ISDC and JPL PO.DAAC. Please refer to the statistics below.
- Notes:
  - On 2010-02-13 16:54:09 an ACC bias jump occurred on GRACE-B in the Science Reference Frame linear Y-axis and in the angular Z-axis. The ACC1B data was corrected by adding a bias of $6.336639487463746e^{-9}$ m/sec^2 prior to 16:54:09. The angular Z-axis was not corrected. The linear ACC1B data are considered nominal and should be used in the level-2 gravity field determination processing
- **KBR statistics:**

  A) KBR1B product name

  B) Total arc length with data (hours)

  C) Number of observations used in residual calculation

  D) KBR-GPS range residual RMS (cm)

  E) minimum KBR-GPS range residual (cm)

  F) maximum KBR-GPS range residual (cm)

  G) number of continuous segments in the KBR product

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
KBR1B_2010-02-01_X_01.dat	24.0	17280	0.28	-0.8	0.9	1
KBR1B_2010-02-02_X_01.dat	24.0	17260	0.44	-1.3	1.7	1
KBR1B_2010-02-03_X_01.dat	23.7	17085	0.38	-1.0	1.4	2
KBR1B_2010-02-04_X_01.dat	24.0	17280	0.34	-1.4	0.9	1

```
KBR1B_2010-02-05_X_01.dat  23.8  17145  0.35    -1.2    1.1  2
KBR1B_2010-02-06_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.26    -0.7    0.9  1
KBR1B_2010-02-07_X_01.dat  24.0  17258  0.38    -1.3    1.1  2
KBR1B_2010-02-08_X_01.dat  23.9  17222  0.34    -1.7    0.8  3
KBR1B_2010-02-09_X_01.dat  23.5  16902  0.37    -1.2    1.2  5
KBR1B_2010-02-10_X_01.dat  24.0  17259  0.41    -1.9    1.3  2
KBR1B_2010-02-11_X_01.dat  23.5  16944  0.55    -1.6    2.2  4
KBR1B_2010-02-12_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.37    -1.4    1.0  1
KBR1B_2010-02-13_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.55    -2.1    3.0  1
KBR1B_2010-02-14_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.38    -1.2    1.6  1
KBR1B_2010-02-15_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.60    -2.0    2.5  1
KBR1B_2010-02-16_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.77    -2.4    3.4  1
KBR1B_2010-02-17_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.48    -1.5    1.8  1
KBR1B_2010-02-18_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.59    -1.3    3.0  1
KBR1B_2010-02-19_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.33    -1.1    1.2  1
KBR1B_2010-02-20_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.36    -1.1    1.3  1
KBR1B_2010-02-21_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.41    -1.7    1.3  1
KBR1B_2010-02-22_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.44    -1.2    1.8  1
KBR1B_2010-02-23_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.43    -1.2    2.3  1
KBR1B_2010-02-24_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.60    -3.3    1.6  1
KBR1B_2010-02-25_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.43    -2.0    1.4  1
KBR1B_2010-02-26_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.46    -2.2    1.1  1
KBR1B_2010-02-27_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.49    -2.1    1.6  1
KBR1B_2010-02-28_X_01.dat  24.0  17280  0.42    -1.2    2.4  1
```

- Following JPL RL00 (yellow) and RL01 (green) L1B products are publicly available. June and July 2002 (red) are not provided due to accelerometer problems.

L1B data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2002												
2003												
2004												
2005												
2006												
2007												
2008												
2009												
2010												

- The software to convert from GRACE GPS1x format to Rinex format has been updated to

handle the presence of data from PRN32 since Feb. 26, 2008. Users should download and re-install the entire Level-1 Read software suite (RELEASE_2008-03-20) from the GRACE archives. This software is backwards compatible and can process all mission data.

- L1B De-aliasing Products Status (for details see AOD1B Product Description Document):
  - Release 01: Generation has been stopped June 30, 2007.
  - Release 03: Generation has been stopped January 31, 2007.
  - Release 04: Generated until March 4, 2010 and extended to 1976-2000 (see newsletter for December 2008).
  - Quality statistics for Release 04 products are online available at http://www-app2.gfz-potsdam.de/pb1/op/grace/results (follow link "GRACE Atmosphere and Ocean De-aliasing Statistics).
  - Following AOD1B products are publicly available (yellow: RL01, RL03 and RL04; green: RL01 and RL04, blue: RL04 only):

AOD1B	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1976												
…												
1999												
2000												
2001												
2002												
2003												
2004												
2005												
2006												
2007												
2008												
2009												
2010												

Level-2 Product Generation and Distribution:

- Besides historical CSR RL01, GFZ RL03 and JPL RL02 time-series (see below) and more experimental releases which are only available to the GRACE Science Team the following RL04 L2 products are presently available to the public (green: available, yellow: in preparation; red: missing due to accelerometer data problems):

  - **GFZ:** GSM solutions are available for August 2002 until December 2009. July 2004 until October 2004 and December 2006 are also available as constrained solutions (*GK2-*, reason is GRACE 4d repeat orbit and GPS anomaly on GRACE-B, respectively). October 2008 until December 2009 are also available as unconstrained solutions up to degree and order 60 (*GM60*, reason is GRACE 7d repeat orbit). Corresponding background GAA,

GAB, GAC and GAD products and calibrated errors (GSM*.txt) have been provided too. Details are listed in the GFZ L2 Release Notes.

GFZ RL04	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2002												
2003												
2004							**GK2**	**GK2**	**GK2**	**GK2**		
2005												
2006												**GK2**
2007												
2008										**M60**	**M60**	**M60**
2009	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**	**M60**

- **CSR:** GSM solutions along with the GAC and GAD background model files and calibrated errors (GSM*.txt) are available for the period April 2002 until January 2010. Details are listed in the CSR L2 Release Notes.

CSR RL04	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2002												
2003												
2004												
2005												
2006												
2007												
2008												
2009												
2010												

- **JPL:** GSM version 4.1 labeled "*JPLEM_0001_0004" along with the GAA, GAB, GAC and GAD background model files and calibrated errors (GSM*.txt) are available for the period April 2002 until February 2010. Details are listed in the JPL L2 Release Notes.

JPL RL04	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2002												
2003												
2004												
2005												
2006												
2007												
2008												
2009												
2010												

- GFZ has stopped RL03 processing (Feb 2003 until Jan 2007 available at the archives. For further details refer to the GFZ RL03 release notes for Level-2 products).
- CSR has stopped RL01 processing. (Apr. 2002 until Dec 2006 available at the archives. For further details refer to the CSR RL01 release notes for Level-2 products).

- JPL has stopped RL02 processing (January 2003 until November 2005 available at the archives. For further details refer to the JPL RL02 release notes for Level-2 products).
- TN05 containing C20 estimates derived from SLR and using GRACE RL04 standards is periodically updated.

Miscellaneous:

- Next GRACE Science Team Meeting will take place at GFZ in Potsdam on 11/12 November 2010!
- The following acknowledgement shall be added to any new GRACE related publication (paper, poster etc.): *Acknowledgement: We would like to thank the German Space Operations Center (GSOC) of the German Aerospace Center (DLR) for providing continuously and nearly 100% of the raw telemetry data of the twin GRACE satellites.*
- A list of GRACE related publications which can be sorted by author or date is available at http://www.gfz-potsdam.de/pb1/op/grace/index_GRACE.html under item "Publications" (current status: 452 papers). This list is regularly updated and maybe incomplete. If you are missing a publication please send an e-mail to Frank Flechtner (flechtne@gfz-potsdam.de).
- Science data users are encouraged to submit citations of their own and other works related with GRACE to the bibliography web page implemented at PO.DAAC: http://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov/grace/bibliography.html.

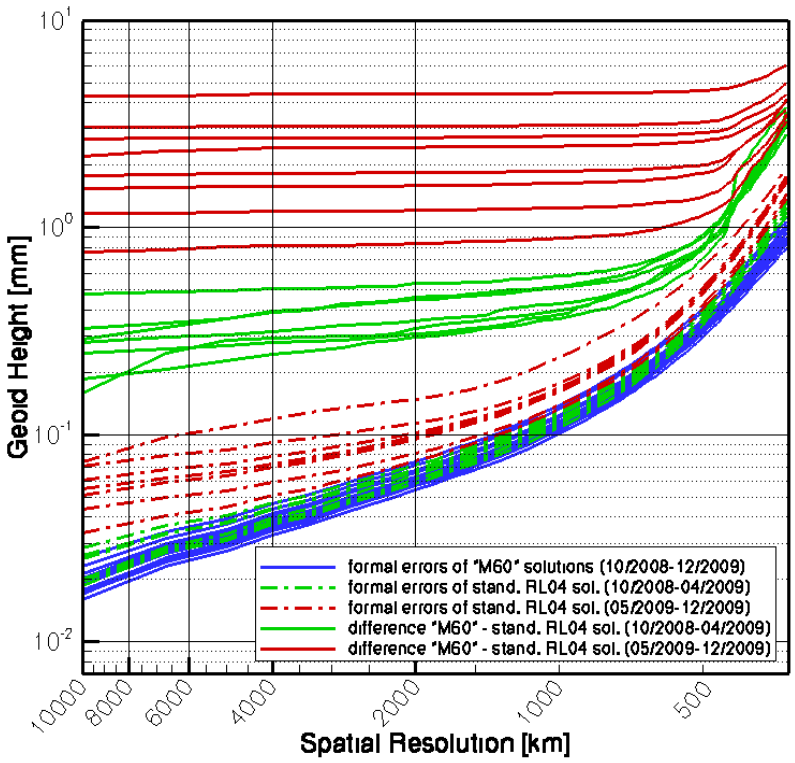

Figure 1: Accumulated formal errors of GFZ *M60* solutions for period 10/2008 till 12/2009 (blue) and of standard 120x120 RL04 solutions for period 10/2008 till 04/2009 (dashed green) and period 05/2009 till 12/2009 (dashed red), respectively. The accumulated differences between the *M60* and standard 120x120 solutions are shown in red for the period 05/2009 till 12/2009 and in green for the period 10/2008 till 4/2009.