

## About drift, oscillations and steps of the center of mass of the Moon

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We have previously predicted and studied a step (abrupt) shift of the center of mass of the Earth in 1997 - 1998 years relatively to the mantle (Zotov, Barkin, Lubushin, 2009). In accordance with the basic provisions of the geodynamic model of excitation of planets and satellites shells (Barkin, 2002) we expected and we expect similar displacements of the centers of mass for other bodies in the solar system (for Mercury, Moon, Sun, Titan, Mars, etc.). Moreover, according to our hypothesis these abrupt geodynamic phenomena for solar system bodies are synchronous (Barkin, 2000) and, in particular, it should appear in 1997-1998. On the Earth, the similar jumps in 1997-1998 were observed in almost all planetary processes (Barkin, 2009). In the case of the Moon similar jump of center of mass obtains a confirmation in the data of laser observations and accounts for a specified period of time 1997-1998.

The jump (step) in the center of mass of the Moon in 1997 on data of laser ranging of reflectors on the lunar surface. On the basis of current laser measurements of distances to reflectors mounted on the Moon the preliminary estimates of the parameters of drift, oscillations and jump of the center of mass of the Moon were obtained. Their dynamic interpretation on the base of a geodynamic model of forced relative oscillations of the shells of planets and satellites has been done (Barkin, 2002). In the paper of G.A. Krasinskii (2003) from the analysis of lunar laser range measurements (or rather their residual differences compared with the theoretical celestial-mechanical design values of ranges) an abrupt (step) changes (in 1997 - 1998) in the coordinates of reflectors on the very substantial distances of about 15 -25 cm in selenographic coordinate system of the epoch have been discovered. Since jumps of coordinates for all four observed reflectors were quite close, it is natural to assume that the jump occurred in the position of the center of mass of the Moon by about 25-35 cm relatively to the lunar crust (in direction toward the Earth). Extremely important here is the fact that the jumps occurred in 1997-1998, as it was predicted by the theory of the unified geodynamic synchronous rhythms in variations of the activity of natural processes on the bodies of the solar system (Barkin, 2000). For the mean values of displacements of reflectors the following values were obtained (in meters): -0.15 +/- 0.04 m (offset along x coordinate - from the Earth), 0.23 +/- 0.07 m (offset on y - east), - 0.23 +/- 0.07 m (offset along z - to the north). Thus in 1997, the center of mass of the Moon abruptly shifted to a geographical point on the lunar surface with coordinates 40.0o N, 32.1o W approximately on distance in 0.36 +/- 0.11 m. According to the Krasinskii work (2003) we have identified trends in the changes of distances to reflectors and their abrupt changes before 1997 and after 1998, with rates of about 0.036 ns / year (before the jump) and at a rate of 0.128 ns / year (after the jump). If we consider only the drift relatively to the axis x, then estimates the drift velocities decrease: 0.98 cm / year - until 1997 and 1.47 cm / year - since 1998. It is expected to perform a spectral analysis of the residual differences of distances in order to identify their cyclic variations (with lunar months periods and with multiple periods).

Keywords: center of mass of the Moon, jumps and trends of center of mass of the Moon, LLR data

## Interpretation of unexplained secular changes of the lunar orbit

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Unexplained secular effects in the orbital motion of the Moon are consequences of the observed phenomenon of remove of the center of mass of the Moon relatively to its mantle and crust toward the back-side. An explanation of anomalous part of secular variation in the longitude of the Moon and in the eccentricity of the lunar orbit has been obtained.

Unexplained secular variation of the eccentricity of the lunar orbit. In the works of James Williams and his colleagues showed that the observed rate of secular change of the eccentricity of the orbit of the Moon in  $2.3 \times 10^{-11}$  1/year can not be explained within the framework of the classical model of the tides. Earth tides give only a fraction of the value specified in  $1.3 \times 10^{-11}$  1/year and lunar tides result even effect with the opposite sign and give part of the acceleration in  $-0.6 \times 10^{-11}$  1/year. Remains unexplained an anomalous part of the secular change in the eccentricity  $(1.6 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-11}$  1/year. This value corresponds to abnormal changes in the distances to the perigee and apogee at 6 mm / year. "Abnormal speed distances to the perigee and apogee of the lunar orbit is up to 6 mm / year and its cause is unknown" (Williams J.,2006).

Tidal acceleration and evolution of the Moon's orbit. Laser ranging method proved to be very sensitive to the tidal acceleration of the Moon. Tides on the Earth dominate in the transfer of angular momentum, and energy in the orbital motion, in particular in the removal of the Moon from the Earth. Tidal effects on the Moon are separable from the effects of Earth tides in laser range measurements to the Moon (Chapront et al., 2002; Williams et al., 2009). Full tidal acceleration in the mean orbital longitude (due to the tides of the Earth and the Moon) is estimated at  $-25.85''$  1/cy<sup>2</sup>, corresponding to the removal of the Moon from the Earth at a speed of 3.81 cm / year (Williams et al., 2009). The rate of secular variation of the eccentricity of the lunar orbit  $e = (9 \pm 3) \times 10^{-12}$  1/year also detected on the basis of long laser observations over a period of 38.7 years (March 16, 1970 - November 22, 2008) (Williams, Boggs, 2009). The basis of dynamical studies makes a precision lunar ephemeris DE421, taking into account all of Newtonian and Einsteinian effects. The authors believe that the study of the evolution of the lunar orbit is an important and surprisingly difficult task. Lunar laser ranging provides the numerical values for the two sources of dissipation on the Earth and the Moon.

Possible secular drift of the center of mass of the Moon relative to its crust and mantle toward the back side and an explanation of the anomalies of the orbital motion. In this report we give some first estimations of the possible rate of the secular drift of the Moon center of mass with respect to its crust and mantle in the 10 - 15 mm / year toward the back-side of the satellite. This secular drift of the center of mass of the Moon should be considered by the studying of the orbital motion of the Moon on laser-based observations. Namely, to add to the value obtained by laser observations. The result will be an estimate of the secular increasing of semi-major axis is the center of mass of the Moon. It should be expected that this will obtain the interpretation and explanation of the unexplained part of the secular acceleration of the Moon orbit and the anomalous part of the secular variation of the eccentricity of the lunar orbit, identified according to the perennial laser observations of the Moon. An anomalous part of the orbital acceleration (unexplained) of the Moon is  $0.7''$  / cy<sup>2</sup>, and the anomalous part of the secular variation of the eccentricity is characterized by rate in  $1.23 \times 10^{-11}$  1/year (Williams et al., 2011). Found offset - drift of the center of mass of the Moon (12 - 15 mm / year) is explained by the mechanism of excitation and the relative displacements of the shells of the Moon (solid core, liquid core, mantle) (Barkin, 2002).

Keywords: anomalous secular variation of the eccentricity of the lunar, tidal and non-tidal acceleration of the Moon, the center of mass of the Moon drift

## Deep interior structure of the Moon inferred from Apollo seismic data and the latest se- lenodetic data

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Internal structure and composition of the Moon provide important clue and constraints on theories for how the Moon formed and evolved. The Apollo seismic network has contributed to the internal structure modeling. Efforts have been made to detect the lunar core from the noisy Apollo data (e.g., [1], [2]), but there is scant information about the structure below the deepest moonquakes at about 1000 km depth. On the other hand, there have been geodetic studies to infer the deep structure of the Moon. For example, LLR (Lunar Laser Ranging) data analyses detected a displacement of the lunar pole of rotation, indicating that dissipation is acting on the rotation arising from a fluid core [3]. Bayesian inversion using geodetic data weakly suggests a fluid core and partial melt in the lower mantle region [4]. Further improvements in determining the second-degree gravity coefficients and the Love numbers will help us to better constrain the lunar internal structure.

Recent analyses of GRAIL data have achieved the improved  $k_2$  accuracy; JPL solution is  $0.02405 \pm 0.00018$  [5], and GSFC solution is  $0.02427 \pm 0.00026$  [6]. The two solutions are consistent with each other within their error bounds, and the accuracy of  $k_2$  is now about 1 %. By introducing the improved gravity coefficients and  $k_2$  from GRAIL mission, the updated LLR data analysis has also resulted in a better  $h_2$  determination. Such accurately-determined Love numbers will contribute to constrain the structure of the lunar deep interior, such as the radius of the possible liquid core. It is difficult, however, to tightly constrain the internal structure from the geodetic data only because there are trade-offs among the structures of crust, mantle, and core. The combination of the Apollo seismic data and the geodetic data therefore afford the key to better determination of the lunar interior structure. We included geodetic data of the mass, the mean moment of inertia, the Love numbers  $h_2$  and  $k_2$ , and 262 P and S travel time data in the analysis.

Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) method is used to infer the model parameters. When we used a five-layer model consisting of crust, upper-mantle, mid-mantle, lower-mantle, and core, the core radius is estimated to be  $483 \pm 22$  km, and the core density values tend to be sampled around the assumed lower limit of  $3600 \text{ kg/m}^3$ . However, the inferred core radius is significantly larger than the magnetic constraint from SELENE data [7] which predicts the upper bound of the core radius to be 400 km. This discrepancy might be attributed to a possible low velocity layer above the core-mantle boundary which was not included in the five-layer model. We will discuss the results when such a low velocity layer is taken into account.

[1] Weber et al. (2011), *Science*, 331, 309-312, doi:10.1126/science.1199375

[2] Garcia et al. (2011), *PEPI*, doi:10.1016/j.pepi.2011.06.015

[3] Williams et al. (2001), *JGR*, 106, E11, 27,933-27,968

[4] Khan and Mosegaard (2005), *GRL*, 32, L22203, doi:10.1029/2005GL023985

[5] Konopliv et al (2013), *JGR*, 118, doi:10.1002/jgre.20097

[6] Taken from the PDS label of GRAIL Derived Data Products

[7] Simizu et al. (2013), *Icarus*, 222, doi:10.1016/j.icarus.2012.10.029

Keywords: Moon, internal structure, gravity field, tidal Love number, GRAIL

## Observations of lunar rotation on the Moon: possibility and problems.

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The lunar rotation is one of the essential and basic target of selenodetic observations for investigation of the interior of the Moon as well as those of gravity fields, and high accuracy of the observations have a potential to detect signals related to the structure of lunar deep interior including the core. We have developed a small telescope like a PZT (Photographic Zenith Tube) for observations of Lunar rotation with the target accuracy of 1 milli-seconds of arc (1 mas)[1]. Theoretical investigation shows that observations by the telescope in the polar area of the Moon will open great possibilities for determining the libration in inclination  $\rho$  and node  $I\sigma$  with the accuracy much better than before, although the determination of the libration in longitude will not be very well. It also showed that the determination error in the libration angles will not exceed  $\sqrt{2}\varepsilon$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is the positioning error of stars and is regarded as 1 milli-seconds of arc [2].

There are several technical problems to be solved in the development of the telescope. Effect of large temperature change is one of the most serious problem for such a precise observation, and we can loosen thermal condition by about ten times by introducing a diffraction lens compared with the case not introducing it. It is possible, on the other hand, that the vibrations of the mercury surface caused by the ground vibrations lead to fluctuations of star positions on CCD as large as 1 second of arc judging from laboratory experiments. The amplitude of the fluctuations depend on the amplitude of the ground vibrations and the depth of mercury pool. We can reduce the effect of the vibrations by making the mercury pool shallow down to the minimum depth. In the case of the mercury pool of 64mm diameter, the depth of 0.5mm is the best according to our experience [3]. It is important to keep the proper period of the mercury pool away from the period of ground vibrations in order to avoid the resonance. It is also effective to lengthen the integration time, and it can improve the reliability of the mean value of the center of a star image by statistical procedure.

We have already made a bread board model (BBM) and we will observe the deflection of the vertical on the ground by using the BBM for the time being in order to evaluate the characteristics of the total system of the telescope.

### References

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Keywords: rotation, moon, telescope, PZT, librations

## THE EARTH ORIENTATION PARAMETERS AND THE VARIATION OF THE SECOND ZONAL HARMONIC OF THE GEOPOTENTIAL

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The study of the time variations of the geopotential as a result of the rotary-oscillatory processes of the Earth motion is of a significant natural-sciences and practical interest. Oscillations of the Earth's inertia tensor components depend on many factors, among them the mechanical and physical parameters of the planet, the motions of tide-forming bodies, and the observed large-scale phenomena in nature. Time-dependent variations of these and other factors (regular and irregular oscillations, stochastic fluctuations, secular variations) affect the Earth rotary-oscillatory processes and the rotational parameters of the planet. The dynamic processes of the Earth orientation parameters (EOP) in turn have an effect on its figure and lead to the fluctuations of the gravitation field. Observed variations of the EOP, the variations of the Earth's gravitational field and oscillations in the large-scale geophysical events appear to be in a considerable correlation.

An amplitude-frequency analysis of the rotary-oscillatory Earth motion under the action of gravitational-tidal perturbing torques from the Sun and the Moon is carried out using the classical mechanics' methods. The simulation results of the oscillatory process in the motion of the Earth pole and the variations of the second zonal harmonic of the geopotential are studied. Based on the dynamic Euler-Liouville equations expressions for amplitude and phase of the Earth pole oscillations are obtained. A comparison of the spectral power densities of the time series between the Earth pole coordinates and the variations of the geopotential is carried out. A functional dependence of the aforementioned component of the geopotential from the amplitude and phase of the Earth's pole oscillatory process is shown.

Keywords: the rotary-oscillatory processes, secular variations, stochastic fluctuations, geopotential