# 50 years (and +) of Geodesy in PNG

### **Richard Stanaway**

**Quickclose Pty Ltd** 



### Portuguese and Spanish exploration (by sea)

1512 Portuguese – Antonio d'Abreu

1526 Jorge de Menezes First use of "Papua" from Malay term for fuzzy hair.

1530 Spaniard – Alvaro de Saavedra N Coast of PNG – Isla del Oro

1545 Yñigo de Retez coined "Nueva Guinea"

1606 Luiz vaez de Torres claimed island for Spain

Maps likely destroyed in 1755 Lisbon earthquake



### **Dutch and British exploration**

1607 – William Jansz (in Duyfken) E and S Coast

1617 – Jacob le Maire and Willem Schouten NE Coast – discovered Sepik

Cartensz and Abel Tasman

1699 – William Dampier In HMS Roebuck (NE Coast, New Ireland, S coast of New Britain)



Dampier's 1699 Voyage (map by Emanuel Bowen c. 1746).

### **French exploration**

1767 PhilipCarteret1768 Comte deBougainville

1790 d'Entrecasteaux searching for La Perouse - entered Huon Gulf

1827 Dumont d'Urville (in the Astrolabe) surveyed Finisterre range and SE Coast



Carteret's 1767 Voyage including Cook's and Dampier's discoveries (map by Rigobert Bonne c. 1788).

### **Dutch and British colonialism**

- 1828 Dutch claimed New Guinea w. of 141 deg E
- 1843 Capt F P Blackwood in HMS Fly surveyed Torres Strait and Gulf of Papua and Fly River

1846 Lt Yule in HMS Bramble took possession of E New Guinea at Cape Possession (NW of Port Moresby)

Capt Owen Stanley – HMS Rattlesnake – surveyed E Coast

1872 Capt. Cortland Simpson – HMS Blanche – New Hanover, New Ireland, DoY Islands 1873 Capt. John Moresby – HMS Basilisk – named Fairfax Harbour after his father Admiral Sir Fairfax RN.

1874 – Moresby with Lt L Dawson – NE Coasts and named Markham River

(This was the last extensive survey of unchartered coastline in the habitable world)



50<sup>th</sup> Association of Surveyors of Papua New Guinea Congress, Port Moresby, 27-29 July 2016

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### British New Guinea 1884 - 1906

1880s Reverend James Chalmers – London Missionary Society established missions along Papuan coast

1883 Queensland took control of Papua

1884 British protectorate(British New Guinea)administered fromQueensland

1886 Walter Cuthbertson
survey of Port Moresby
(first land survey)
1888 – William MacGregor
administrator



### **British New Guinea – exploration and border surveys**

1888 Extensive exploration by James Brewer Cameron and James Cobon

1898 – Cameron surveyed Fly Bulge for inclusion into British New Guinea with longitude compensation S of fly to Netherlands

Many surveys of Crown Land (later state land)

1899 Lands and Survey department established Henry Hamilton Stuart-Russell as Govt. Surveyor



### German New Guinea (Kaiser Wilhelms Land) 1884 - 1919

1884 Deutsche *Neu Guinea Kompanie* established several trading posts and plantations along the N New Guinea coast (and New Britain, New Ireland and Bougainville)

1886 – Plantation surveys by von Schleinitz

1899 – under direct German Government control

1907 Otto Frolich inland surveys

1913 – Aerial survey of GermanNew Guinea using zepellins(abandoned in 1914 of course withWW 1)





### **German New Guinea**



### Australian Control – Territory of Papua 1906 - 1949





Transition from British administration to Australian control between 1902 and 1906

1907-1940 John Hubert Murray (Lt Governor of Papua)

### German – Australian Papuan border survey



1909 Gustavus Sabine

Straight sections of the boundary (e.g. 8 deg S)

### Mandated Territory of New Guinea 1919 - 1949

1919 German New Guinea surrendered to League of Nations (precursor to the UN) administration by Australia as Mandated Territory of New Guinea.

1920s and 1930s characterised by Oil and Mining (Gold) surveys –

Harry Eve – Oil Search Ltd surveyor 1929-1939 then Jackson Fryer

1930 Leahy expedition

Astonishing discovery of Highland valleys with 1.5 million people.

1933 Ken Spinks – surveys in Highlands

1939 Ivan Champion Bill Adamson – surveys of S Highlands

1939 Paga Grid Datum established





## World War II

Realisation of the absence of good maps (high loss of aircraft due to erroneous heights)

1942 – Royal Australian Survey Corps(RASC or RASvy)Aerial mapping to support field

operations

(Lt Jerry Owers – Kokoda)

Support from US 8<sup>th</sup> Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron – use of the trimetrogon camera.

Bulldog Road – Survey (feat of surveying and engineering at time)



Segment of two miles to one inch map of the Kokoda area, produced by 2 Field Survey Section, 1942.

### Post-war era – TPNG, Ship-to-shore triangulation



### **Shoran (SHOrt RAnge Navigation) – Surveys**

Developed by RCA in 1940s (primitive radar measurement 500 km range – precision 3 m)

Air-to-ground trilateration



### First serious geodetic surveys in PNG – 1960 to 1965

1958 Graham Matheson Chief of Division of Surveys (In 1965 titled Surveyor-General)

1960 Lambert (Director of National Mapping) instigated geodetic survey of PNG

PNG Government Geodetic Section formed

Use of Geodimeter (Sweden) Tellurometer (South Africa) Revolutionised geodetic survey Usage pioneered in PNG Helicopters used for first time

1960 ASPNG formed



**MRA 2 Tellurometer** 

### **Southwest Pacific Geodetic Survey - HIRAN**

Hi-Precision SHORANusing aircraftAir-to-ground trilaterationLongest line 870 km

1962-1964

16 stations including Aird Hills in 1963 Based on Mercury 165 Ellipsoid

Weak connection to Australia with ~10 m offset



### **PNG Geodetic Surveys 1960s - AGD66**

1963-1965 Geodetic Survey

Australian Army (AA) Royal Australian Army Survey Corps Coastal (AA stations)

and PNG NMD inland (NM/J stations)



### Aerodist and AGD66 difference with Australia

Air-to-ground trilateration (Aircraft used as trig stations!)

Used in PNG in the low lying foreland areas devoid of notable mountain peaks for trig stations.

Larger imprecision resulting in AGD66 difference in PNG





### 1:100 000 Topographic Mapping – Skai Piksa

#### Commenced 1964

Maps published between 1969 and 1980

Skai Piksa – aerial photography 1973-1975 using Wild RC10 cameras mounted in Canberra Bombers

Support from AAM (Australian Aerial Mapping) Jim Tait and Keith Barrie – also QASCO and Mapmakers

Datum AGD66 (Mainland and New Britain) WGS72 remote islands 1:250000 JOG maps derived from 1:100000





### **Extreme topography**



### **Extreme topography**



### **Extreme topography**



### Enter the space age for geodesy – Transit Doppler 1974-1988

1974-1979 RASvy 8 FD SVY SQN -202 Doppler Fixes using AN/PRR 14 Geoceivers US Navsat system NWL 9D ellipsoid – later transformed to WGS72. Accuracy 1-4 metres But with 24-25 m E-W offset from WGS84.





### **First measurements of tectonic deformation**

#### 1975

Barry Sloane and Jim Steed (DNM)

Construction of trilateration pillars across Markham valley

-Repeat measurements to directly measure tectonic deformation

-Similar network established across St Georges channel

Results inconclusive due to poor siting (away from active faults) & construction
& short time span
of repeat measurement



### **Tectonic deformation surveys – Doppler - UNSW**

1981

15 station doppler network

Peter Angus-Leppan and Peter Morgan Using JMR1A and JMR1 Doppler receivers

Network not reobserved by Doppler but with GPS

Doppler data reprocessed to 30 cm precison by Simon McClusky at UNSW



Fig. 2. Proposed crustal motion network to be surveyed in 1990 with GPS. Stations of the 1981 Doppler crustal plate survey are shown by solid circles.

### First GPS Survey – Bevan Rapids and Purari

#### 1988

- SE Oil and Gas with RMIT
- (Talbot and Carman)
- Used Trimble 4000SX receivers + gravity measurements
- Occupied NMB Control from 1970s.
- AA070 Bevan Rapids Processed using TRIMVEC software
- Heralded extensive use of GPS for Oil and Gas Exploration (seismic surveys and well head locations)



## **Operation Kumul – PNG / Indonesian Border Mapping 1989 - 1994**

1989-1994 Operation Kumul RASvy 2 FD Svy Sqn and 4 Fd Survey Sqn

1:50000 border mapping Using GPS control with TI 4100 GPS receivers (Texas Instruments) Some antennae elevated above jungle canopy using inflatable balloons



### **Tectonic motion GPS Surveys 1990 to 1992**

1990, 1991 and 1992 GPS Observation Campaigns UNSW funded by ANU RSES

Combined effort with NMB geodetic section and GPSCO

11 stations of 1981
Doppler network +
new stations observed
for multiple days.
Trimble 4000 SST and
4000 STD receivers
Data processed using
Bernese Software



FIGURE 6 Some of the field party for the 1992 GPS crustal motion survey. Front row: Vic Macolino, Wahun Nohu, Loina Madanga, Piten Nama, Art Stolz. Back row: Roger Harvey, John Oa, Simon McClusky, Simon McElroy, Wesley Loratung, John Gilliland (left to right).



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#### FIGURE 4

GPS networks observed in Papua New Guinea: (a) 1990, (b) 1991, and (c) 1992, Alotau (AL), Bunama (BU), Carteret (CA), Guasopa (GU), Hains (HA), Jacquinot Bay (B), Kavieng (KA), Losuia (LO), Manus (MA), Madang (MD), Misima (MI), Marobe (MO), Nuguria (NU), Port Moresby (PM), Robaul (RA), Ulamona (UL), Urasi (UR), Wari (WA), Witu (WI), Wataluma (WT).

### PNG94 Geodetic Datum surveys 1993 and 1994



### 1993, 1994

software

AUSLIG and NMB GPS campaigns over Australia and PNG to develop new geocentric geodetic datum - Ashtech Z-12 receivers Data processed by Peter Morgan using GAMIT

In PNG additional GPS measurements made Processed using Ashtech PRISM and GPPS, John Allman NEWGAN adjustment software

**1999 adjustment:** Prof. John Allman, Jan van der Kevie and Robert Rosa





### Tide Gauge Connections, Gravity – PNG Geoid Model







### PNG Geoid model developed by Prof. Bill Kearsley UNSW and Z. Ahmad



## **PNG94 zero order network**



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### GPS Surveys 1993 to 2008 – PNG Tectonics taking shape

1993-2001 UCSC – Huon Peninsula Ramu Markham Fault 1996-2008 Australian National University (Paul Tregoning, Richard Stanaway) **PNG wide NMB** Geodetic Section GPS

and DCA



### **GNSS CORS and Global Contributions**



DORIS and GPS Base at NMB



#### **PNGM CORS – Manus**





#### LAE1 – IGS Reference Frame Site

#### APREF – CORS Lands Dept



### 2011 re-adjustment of PNG94

Quickclose in conjunction with PNG OSG geodetic section have re-computed and densified the PNG94 network to improve formal uncertainties

Implemented a semi-dynamic datum

(deformation model using estimated site velocities from microplate Euler pole, fault locking models and known coseismic offsets) to enable ITRF and WGS84 coordinates to be propagated to epoch 1994.0

PNG94 (I	PNG94 (ITRF92 at epoch 1994.0) - 1st order control - Adjustment 7th June 2008 - Updated 1st December 2011																	
Station location				PNG94 Ellipsoid				dal Coordinates		PNGN	PNGMG94 Grid Coordinates		ITRF Site Ve		Velocity	elocity PNG94		
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Airport	GOBE	PSM 15262	-6	52	45.5700	143	43	21.3500	129.24	54	800901.00	9238734.50	50,98	0.034	0.054	-6.87932500	143.72259722	
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s - Airport	HOSK	PSM 9795	-5	28	0.4073	150	24	31.6614	101.35	56	212869.72	9395119.32	18.42	0.022	-0.027	-5.46677981	150.40879483	
g - Airport	KAVI	PSM 9513	-2	34	53.0660	150	48	22.5361	78.81	56	256077.96	9714464.61	2.85	-0.067	0.027	-2.58140722	150.80626003	
ot - Lands Base	KENB	PSM 23342	-4	20	45.1168	152	16	7.9951	136.69	56	418875.65	9519602.79	63.12	-0.002	-0.041	-4.34586578	152.26888753	
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### **PNG08 Geoid Model**

EGM2008 model fitted to observed MSL at <u>limited</u> TG around PNG

2.5' grid of N values

Precision 0.2 m  $1\sigma$ 

ASCII, Leica, Topcon and Trimble formats for use in GNSS and GIS

Future improvements: Dynamic height model MDT updates & denser TG



### **Transformation parameter estimation – EPSG**

Transformation parameters between datums have been estimated using GPS observations on earlier datum monuments (e.g. AGD66 and WGS72)

Parameters published at EPSG and soon ISO TC 211

Usage in GIS and spatial databases

AGD66 to PNG94 transformation parameters											
Area of Use	EPSG Code	Accuracy (m)	Tx (m)	Ty (m)	Tz (m)	Rx (sec)	Ry (sec)	Rz (sec)	Sc (ppm)		
Medium accuracy - 7 parameter Position Vector convention											
PNG Mainland	6937	1.0	-0.41	-2.37	2.00	3.592	3.698	3.989	8.843		
PFTB	6939	1.0	-131.876	-54.554	453.346	-5.2155	-8.2042	0.0900	5.02		
North Fly	6941	0.5	45.928	-177.212	336.867	-4.6039	-3.0921	0.5729	36.796		
Medium accuracy - 7 parameter Coordinate Frame rotation convention											
PNG Mainland	6937	1.0	-0.41	-2.37	2.00	-3.592	-3.698	-3.989	8.843		
PFTB	6939	1.0	-131.876	-54.554	453.346	5.2155	8.2042	-0.0900	5.02		
North Fly	6941	0.5	45.928	-177.212	336.867	4.6039	3.0921	-0.5729	36.796		
Lower accuracy - 3 parameter											
PNG Mainland	6938	4.0	-129	-58	152						
PFTB	6940	2.0	-131.3	-55.3	151.8						
North Fly	6942	2.5	-137.4	-58.9	150.4						

### **Recent Surveys**

2008 – Oil and Gas and Mining GPS Survey control

2008 – LiDar control surveys

2012-2014 PNGASL WGS-84 Survey

Arman Larmer Surveys Asia Pacific Surveys PNG Land Surveys



### **PNG94** issues – mostly earthquakes!

Originally realised as a static datum in a very complex tectonic environment – regular large earthquakes

(cannot measure baselines across plate boundaries)

Cannot transform current ITRF and WGS84 to PNG94 with any precision without a suitable velocity and deformation model (conformal transformations cannot be applied)





### **Planned improvements to datum**

Need good GPS observations on PSMs at useful and secure locations

Repeat GNSS observations on all geodynamics stations to improve velocity model

Gridded velocity and seismic patch model for PNG, to enable PPP and Auspos solutions to be propagated to epoch 1994.0 or other epoch and to facilitate GNSS post-processing within ITRF

Construction of CORS at each major provincial capital to support local GNSS surveys and DCDB updates. This aspect could be run by the private sector as a subscription service to surveyors. RTK corrections by radio link or GSM.

Tide Gauge observations and connections to improve geoid model and develop offset models for Chart Datum, LAT and CDW height datums

### **PNG2020? and beyond**

Existing PNG94 already 21+ years old now

(i.e. Possibly past its coming of age)

PNG2020? (ITRF2014 at epoch 2020.0) would remove any uncertainty arising from 26 years of earthquakes (coseismic and postseismic deformation).

Coordinates closer to current ITRF, but up to 2 m different to PNG94.

Requires gridded distortion model for PNG94 to PNG2020 transformations (e.g. legacy data such as DCDB, project datums, GIS data).



mm/cm accurate real-time personal positioning and navigation – everywhere - No need for "coordinates" *per se*!

