Earth Rotation and Global Dynamic Processes - An Inter-disciplinary Research Initiative

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An integrated study of Earth rotation and related global dynamic processes has been organised in a joint research initiative with partners from Germany, Austria and Switzerland. 10 inter-related sub-projects (with 12.5 co-workers from 11 universities and research institutions) are funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The main objective of this coordinated project covers the consistent modelling, analysis and interpretation of all relevant features related to Earth rotation (observation techniques, data processing, the geophysical processes in the Earth system, etc.). The contributions of various groups and scientific disciplines (from geodesy, geophysics, meteorology and oceanography) enable a comprehensive and integral treatment of Earth rotation. The project with a funding line of 3 + 3 years started in 2006 and has now successfully been evaluated to enter the second phase. This paper gives an overview about the research activities and the status of the project.