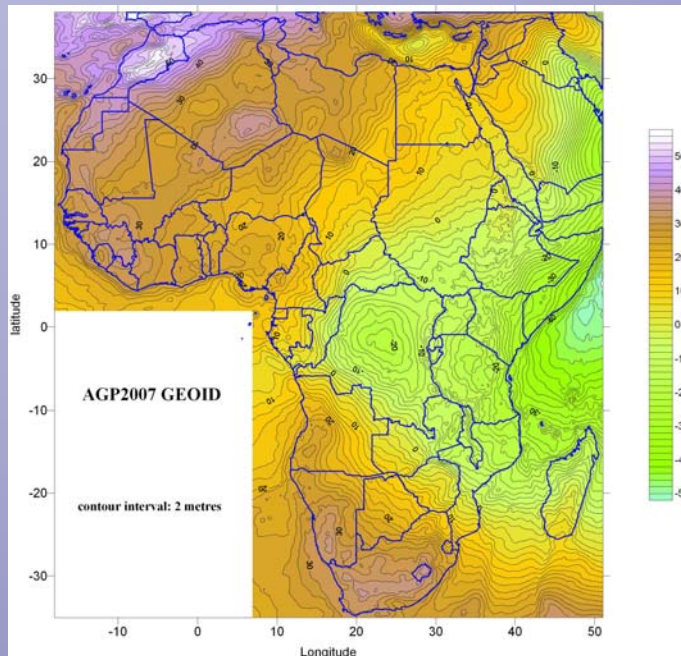


# AN UPDATED GEOID MODEL FOR AFRICA



**Charles L Merry**

**University of Cape Town**



## ❖ AFRICAN GEOID:

- ◆ Preliminary model developed in 2003  
by African Geoid Working Group
- ◆ Update data sets:
  - EGM96 → Eigen GL04C
  - GLOBE DEM → SRTM DEM
  - Change model for  $N - \zeta$  term



## ❖ MATHEMATICAL MODELS:

◆ Geoid from Height anomaly: 
$$N = \zeta + \frac{\bar{g} - \bar{\gamma}}{\bar{\gamma}} H$$

◆ Height anomaly: 
$$\zeta = \zeta_L + \zeta_S + \zeta_{G1} + \zeta_I$$

$\zeta_L$  : long wavelength, from harmonic coefficients

$\zeta_S$  : short wavelength, from reduced anomalies

$\zeta_{G1}$  :  $G_1$  contribution

$\zeta_I$  : inner zone contribution



## ❖ 2D CONVOLUTION:

$$\diamond \quad \zeta_S = \frac{R.\Delta\phi.\Delta\lambda}{4\pi\gamma} \left[ S(\psi) * \Delta g_r \cos \phi \right]$$

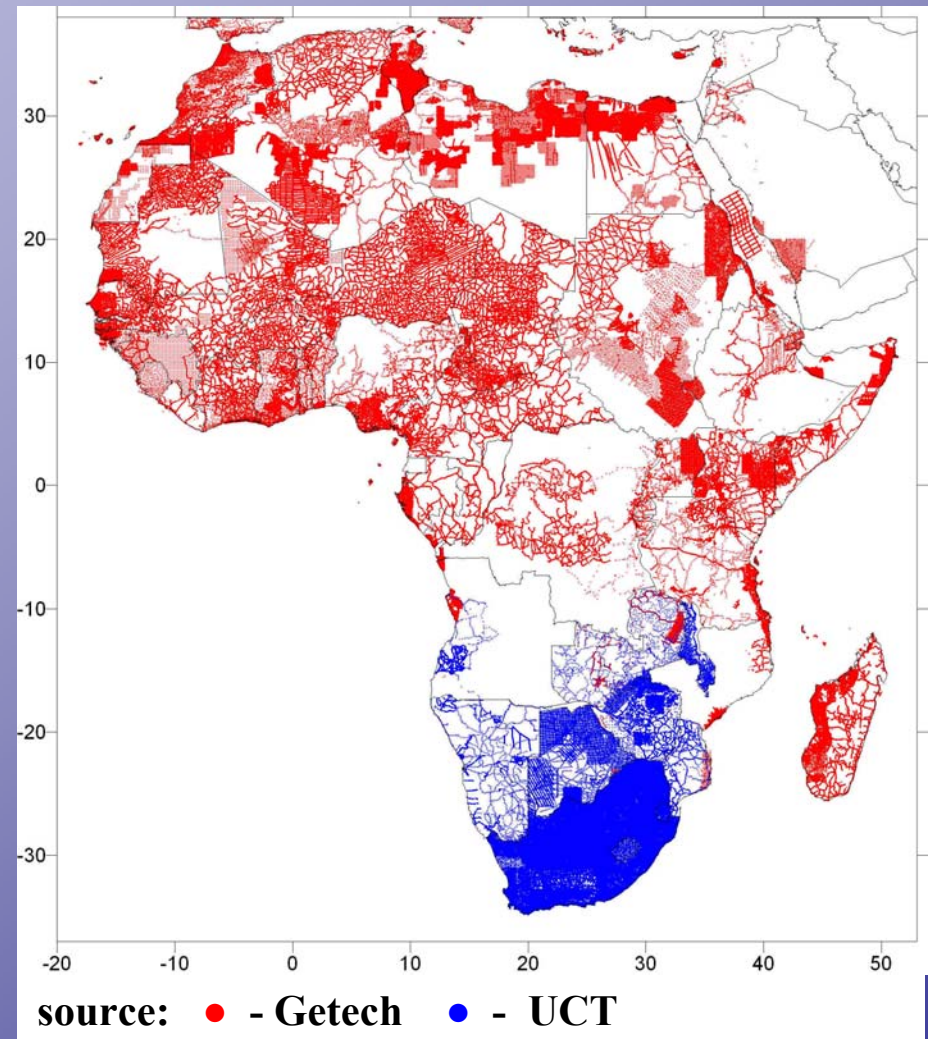
$$\diamond \quad \zeta_{G1} = \frac{R.\Delta\phi.\Delta\lambda}{4\pi\gamma} \left[ S(\psi) * G_1 \cos \phi \right]$$

$$\diamond \quad G_1 = \frac{\Delta\phi.\Delta\lambda}{2\pi} \left[ (h.\Delta g_f) * \frac{1}{\ell^3} - h. \left( \Delta g_f * \frac{1}{\ell^3} \right) \right]$$



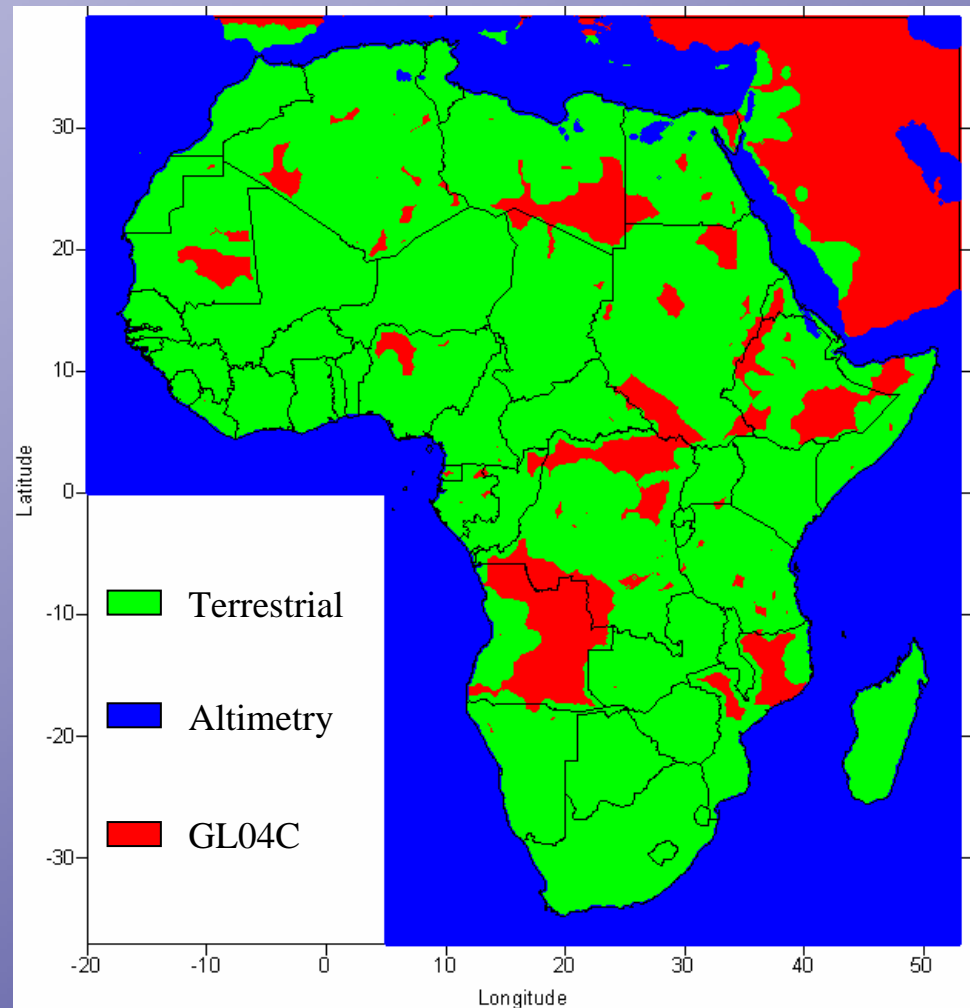
## ❖ DATA:

- ◆ Eigen GL04C  
(degree 120)
- ◆  $\Delta g_B \Rightarrow 5'$  grid
- ◆ gridded  $\Delta g_B + \text{DEM}$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $\Delta g_f$



## ❖ DATA (2):

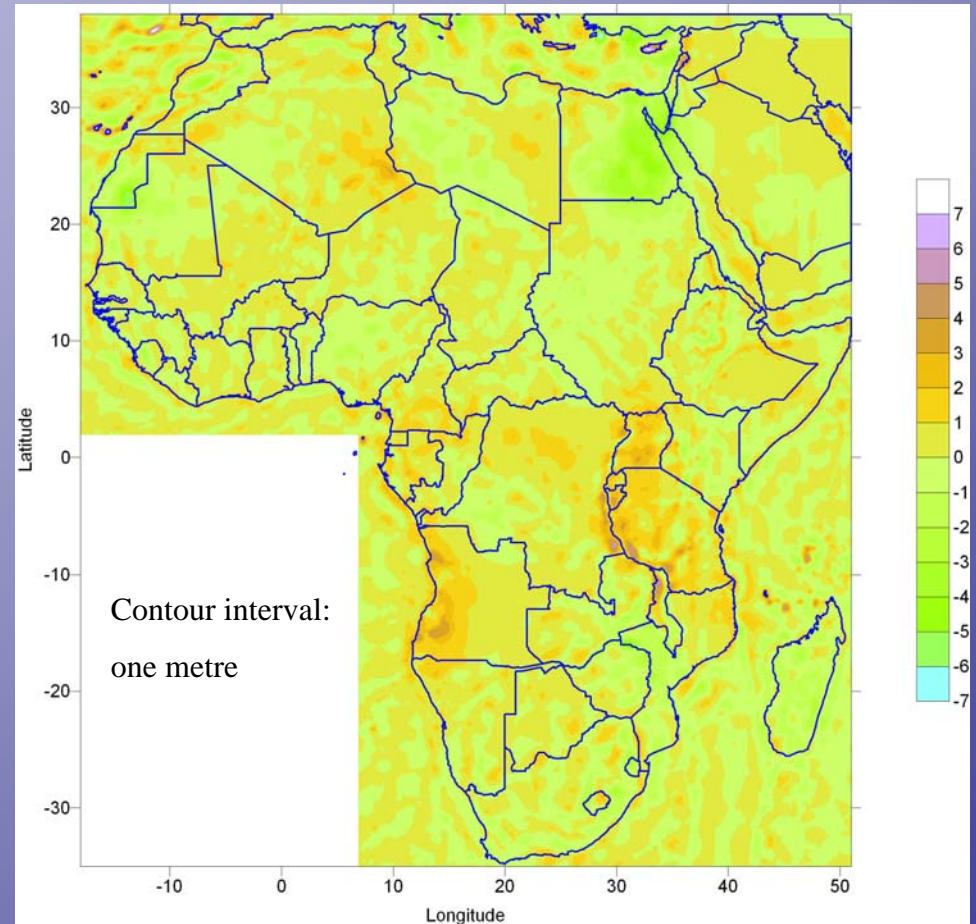
- ♦ Marine  $\Delta g_f$  : KMS02 satellite altimetry
- ♦ Data gaps: Eigen GL04C
- ♦ DEM: SRTM 30"



## ❖ RESULTS:

- ◆ Residual Quasi-Geoid  
(including inner zone)

- ◆ RMS: 88cm  
Max: +7.9m

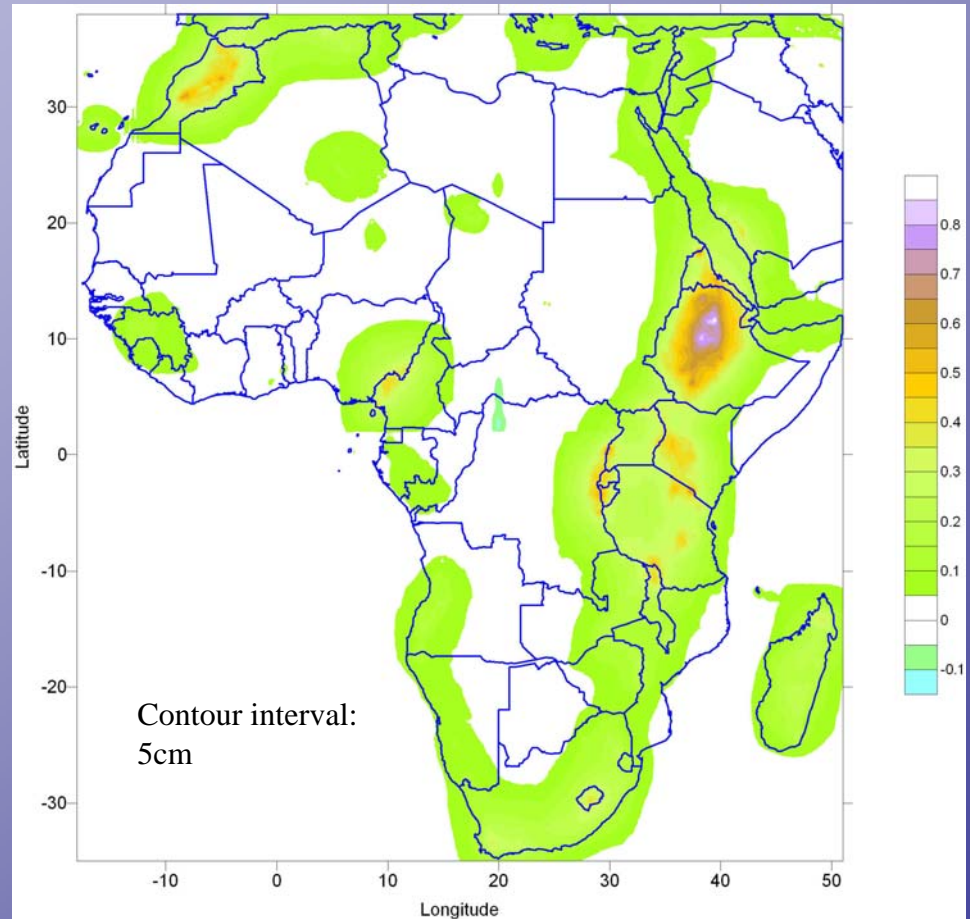




## ❖ RESULTS (2):

◆  $G_1$  Contribution

◆ RMS: 12cm  
Max: +87cm

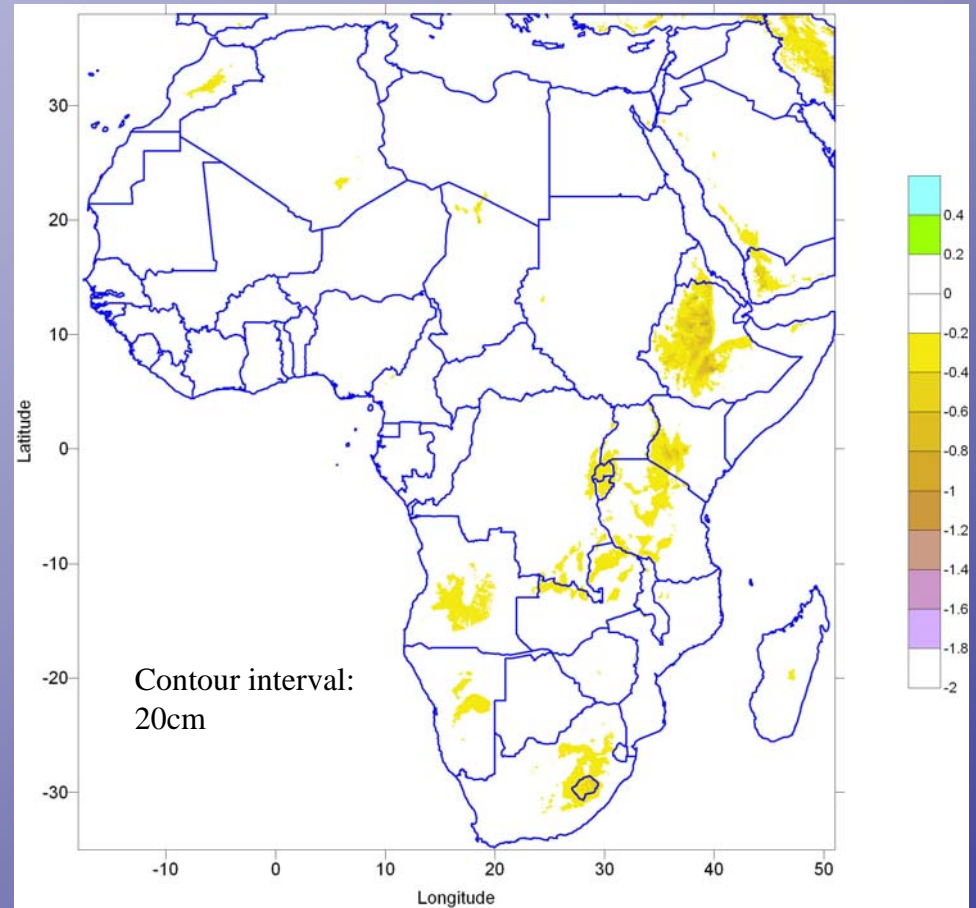




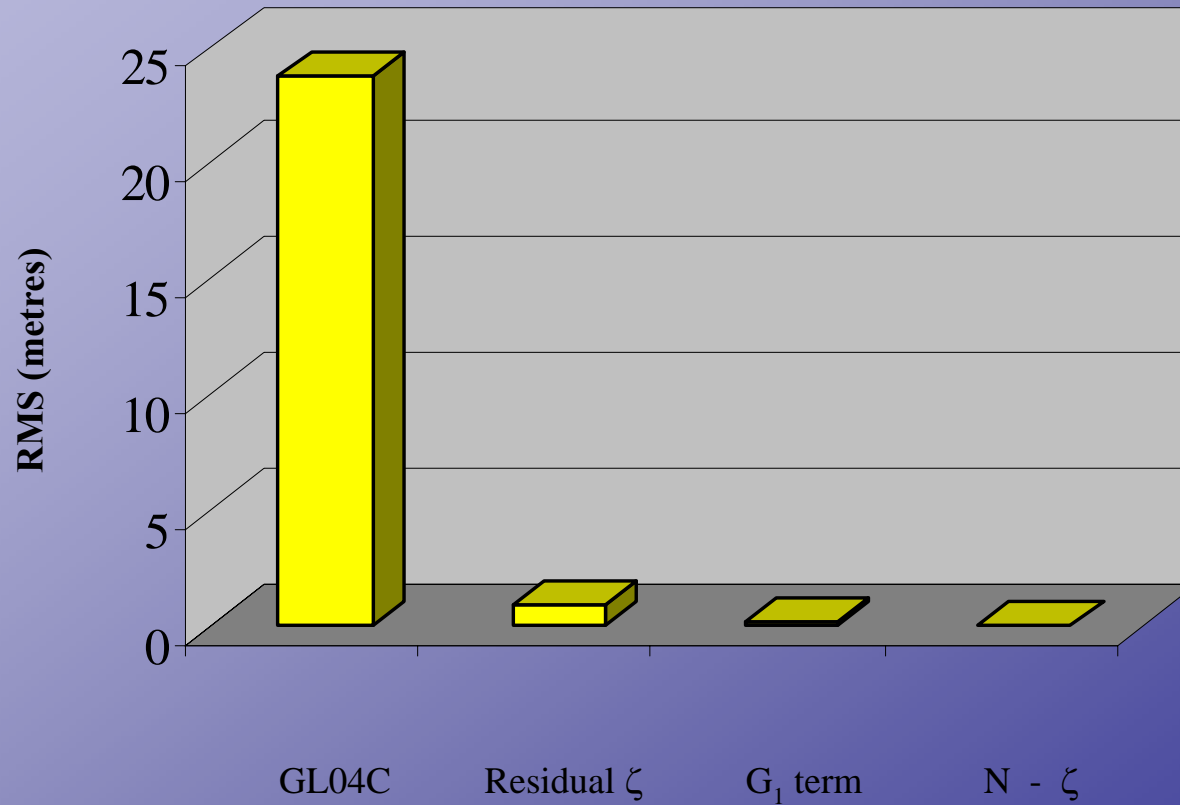
## ❖ RESULTS (3):

◆  $N - \zeta$

◆ RMS: 9cm  
Min: -182cm

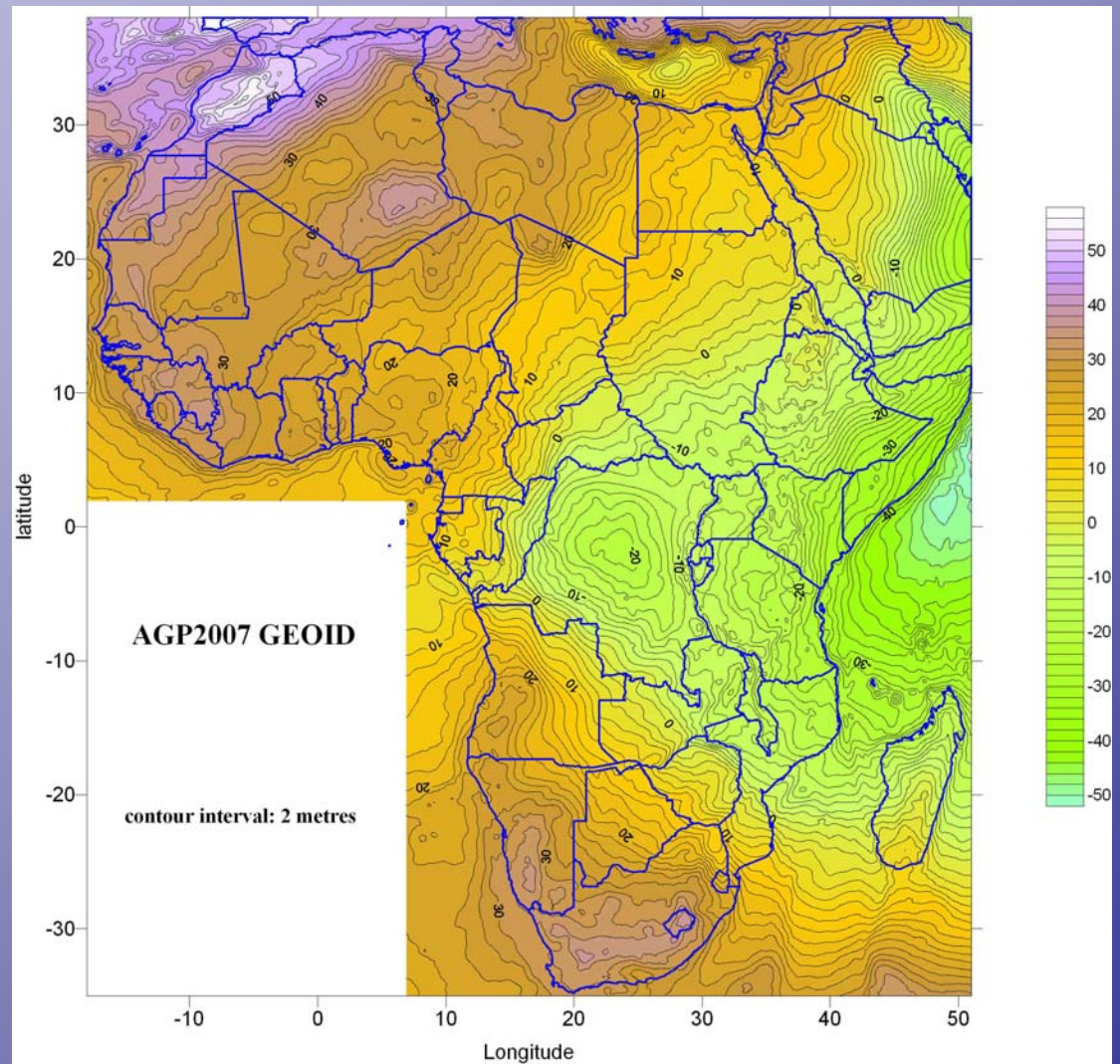


## ❖ RMS CONTRIBUTIONS:



❖ **RESULT:**

## Updated African Geoid

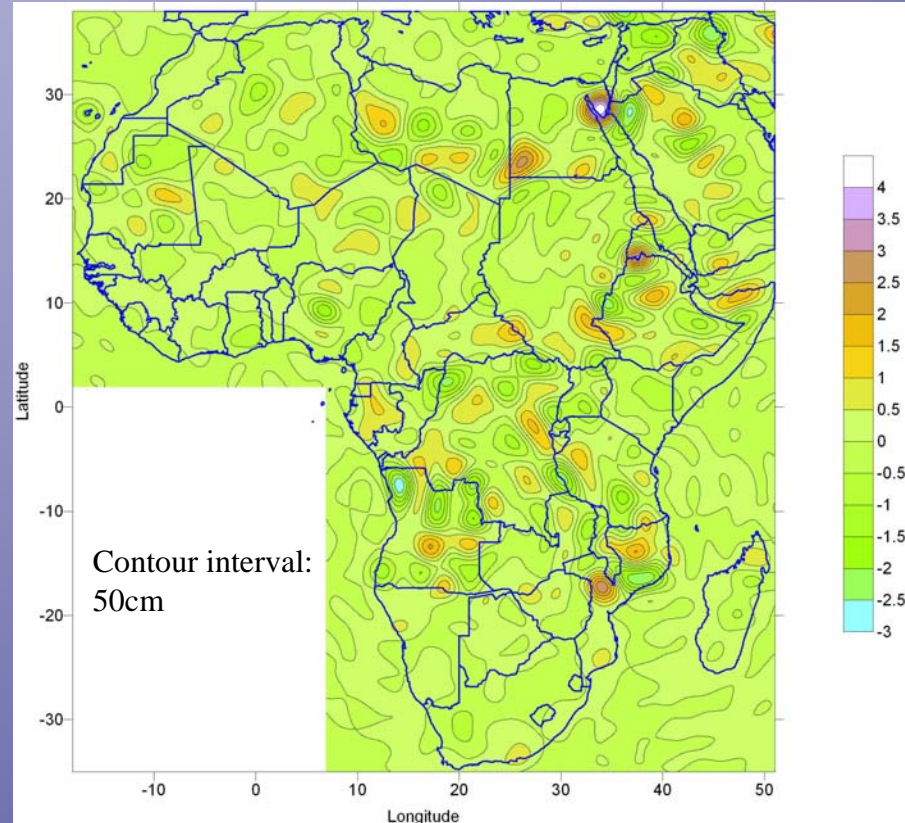


**UPDATED GEOID MODEL FOR AFRICA**

## ❖ COMPARISONS: AGP2007 – AGP2003

- ◆ Underlying geopotential model: GL04C – EGM96 (to degree 120)

- ◆ RMS: 49cm  
Max: + 4.4m

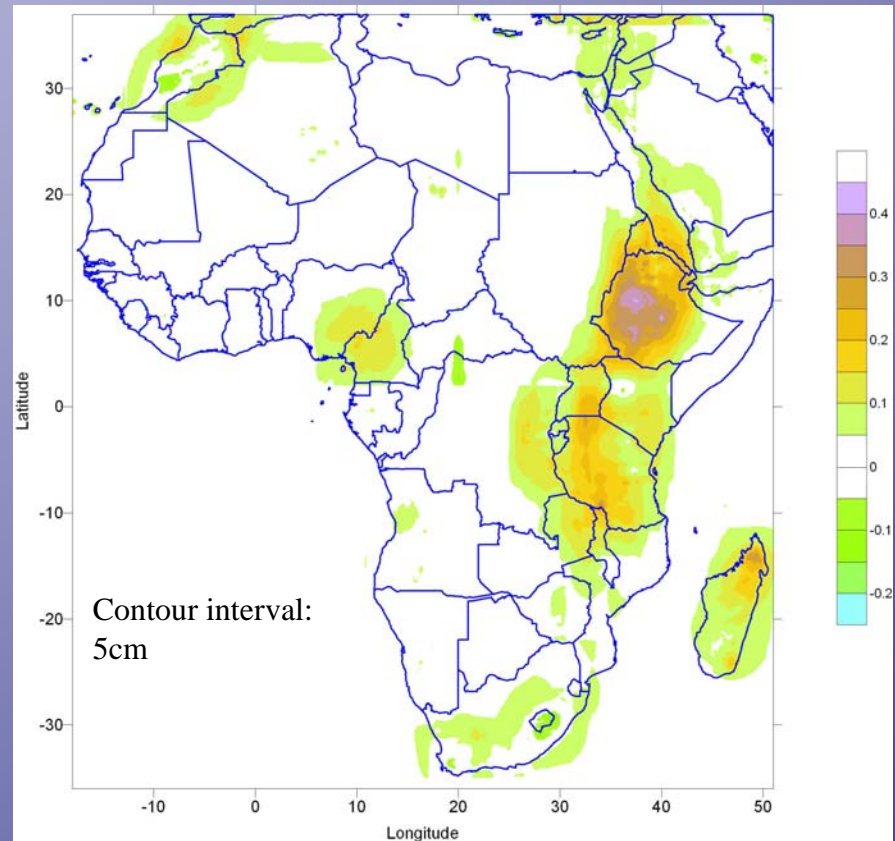




## ❖ COMPARISONS: AGP2007 – AGP2003

◆ Difference in  
 $G_1$  Contribution

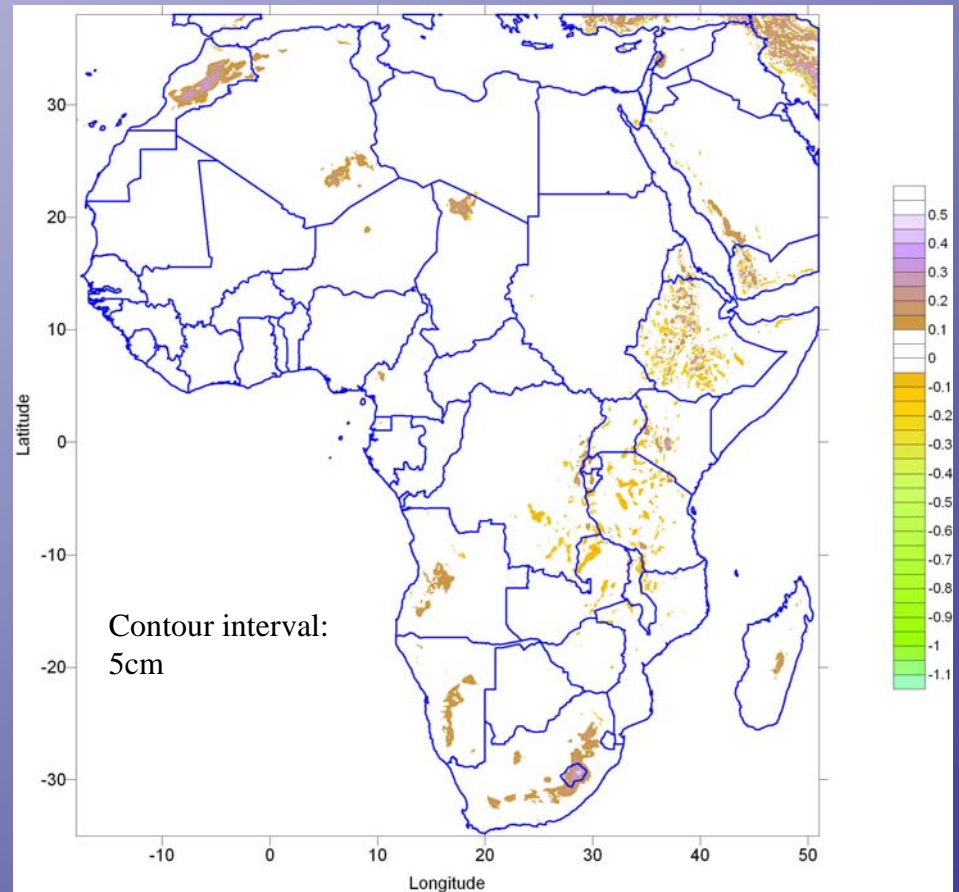
◆ RMS: 6cm  
Max: + 46cm



## ❖ COMPARISONS: AGP2007 – AGP2003

◆ Difference in  $N - \zeta$

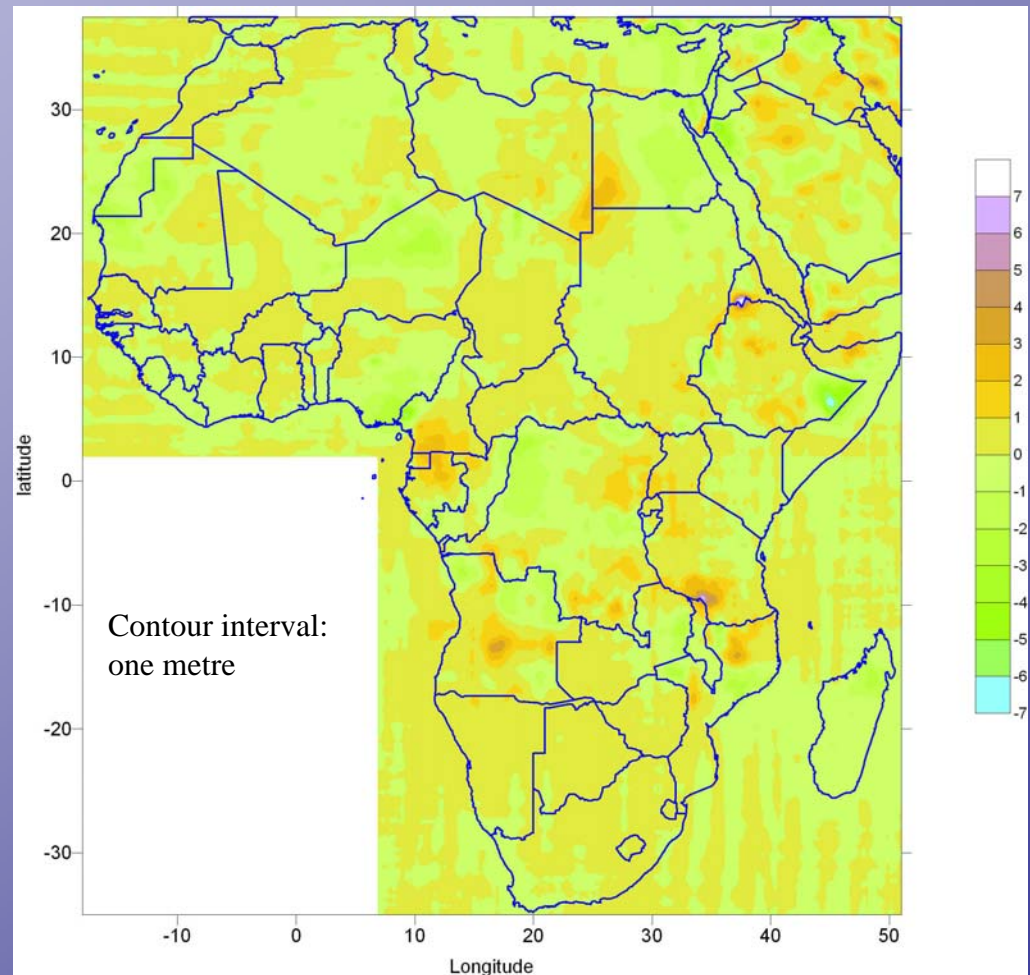
◆ RMS: 4cm  
Min: - 112cm



## ❖ COMPARISON: AGP2007 – AGP2003 Geoid Model

◆ RMS: 67cm

◆ Max: + 7.6m

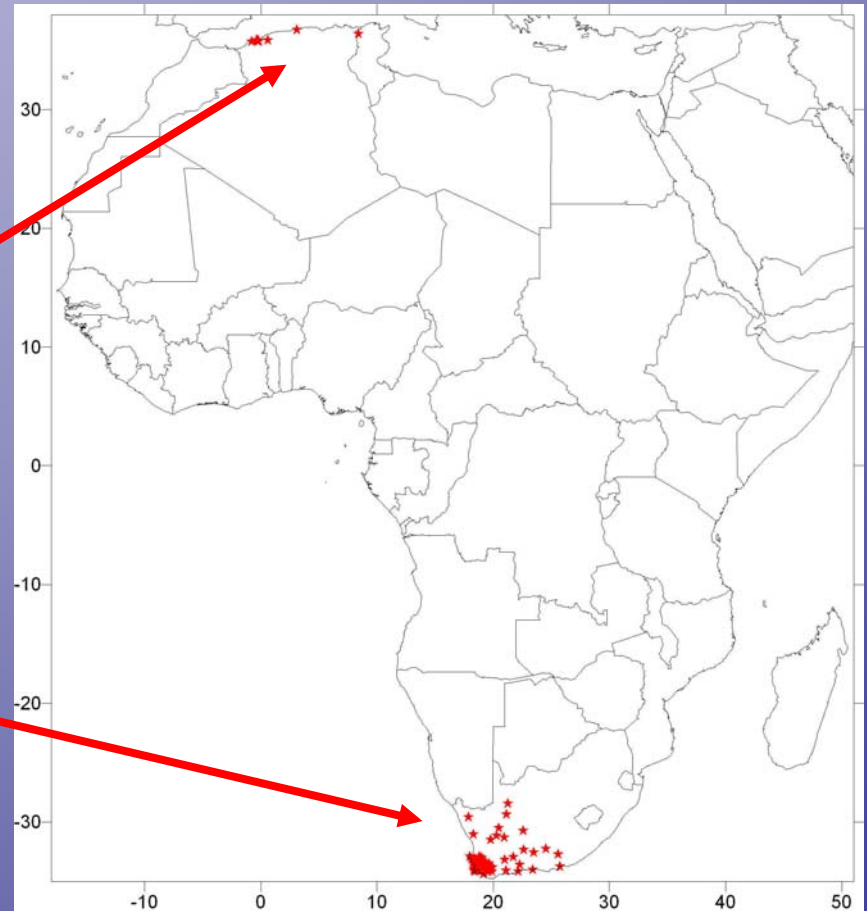




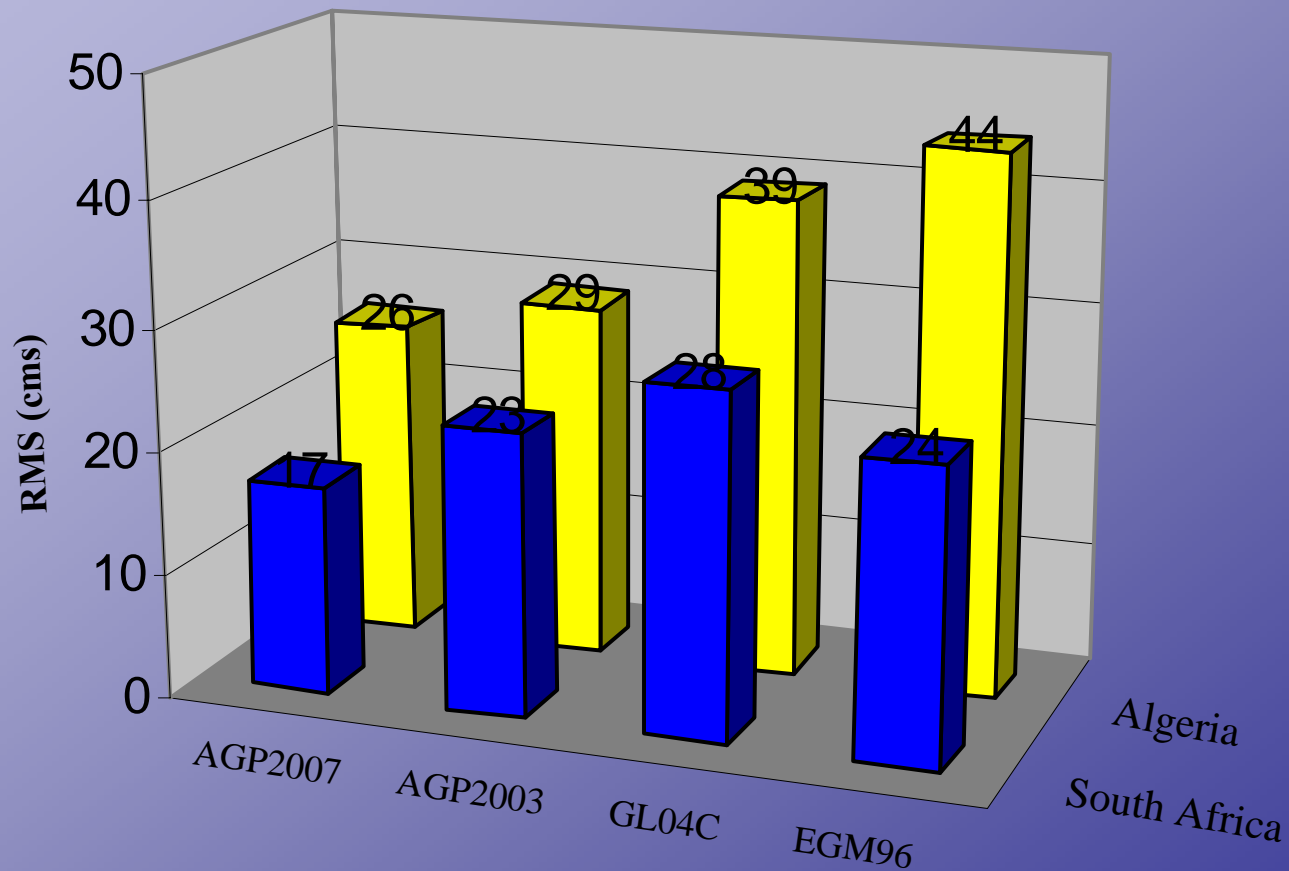
## ❖ COMPARISON WITH GPS/LEVELLING:

◆ Northern Algeria:  
AGP2007  $\sigma$  : 26cm  
GL04C(360)  $\sigma$  : 39cm

◆ Western South Africa:  
AGP2007  $\sigma$  : 17cm  
GL04C(360)  $\sigma$  : 28cm



❖ **RMS FIT TO GPS/LEVELLING (mean removed) :**



## ❖ CONCLUSIONS:

- ◆ Successful combination of Eigen GL04C and local  $\Delta g$  to determine new model of the African geoid – AGP2007, using 2D convolution, and including  $G_1$  term
- ◆ Refinements include new geopotential model, new DEM and new calculation of  $N - \zeta$
- ◆ Comparison with GPS/levelling shows improvement over AGP2003 in western South Africa and northern Algeria
- ◆ Greatest weakness is lack of gravity data in large parts of Africa (also insufficient GPS/levelling data for validation)

