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NAME Johann Eckl

EMAIL eckl@fs.wetzell.de

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ABSTRACT

When it comes to precise orbit determination in geodesy, Satellite Laser Ranging is the state of the art technology. Therefore, the geometrical reference point of the ground stations is well defined in space. Upgrading these systems with highly accurate clocks in combination with a good definition and stability of the local reference points in time would enable this technique for highly accurate and precise optical time transfer between space and ground. As a consequence the stations will become reference points in time as well. We report on the requirements for ground stations, which participate in the ELT experiment and the performance that can be expected.