

Module 3 | Lesson 3

# GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEMS



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# The Global Navigation Satellite System

By the end of this video, you will be able to...

- Develop a model of GNSS positioning based on pseudoranging and trilateration.
- Become familiar with the sources of GNSS positioning error.
- Describe two ways to improve GNSS.

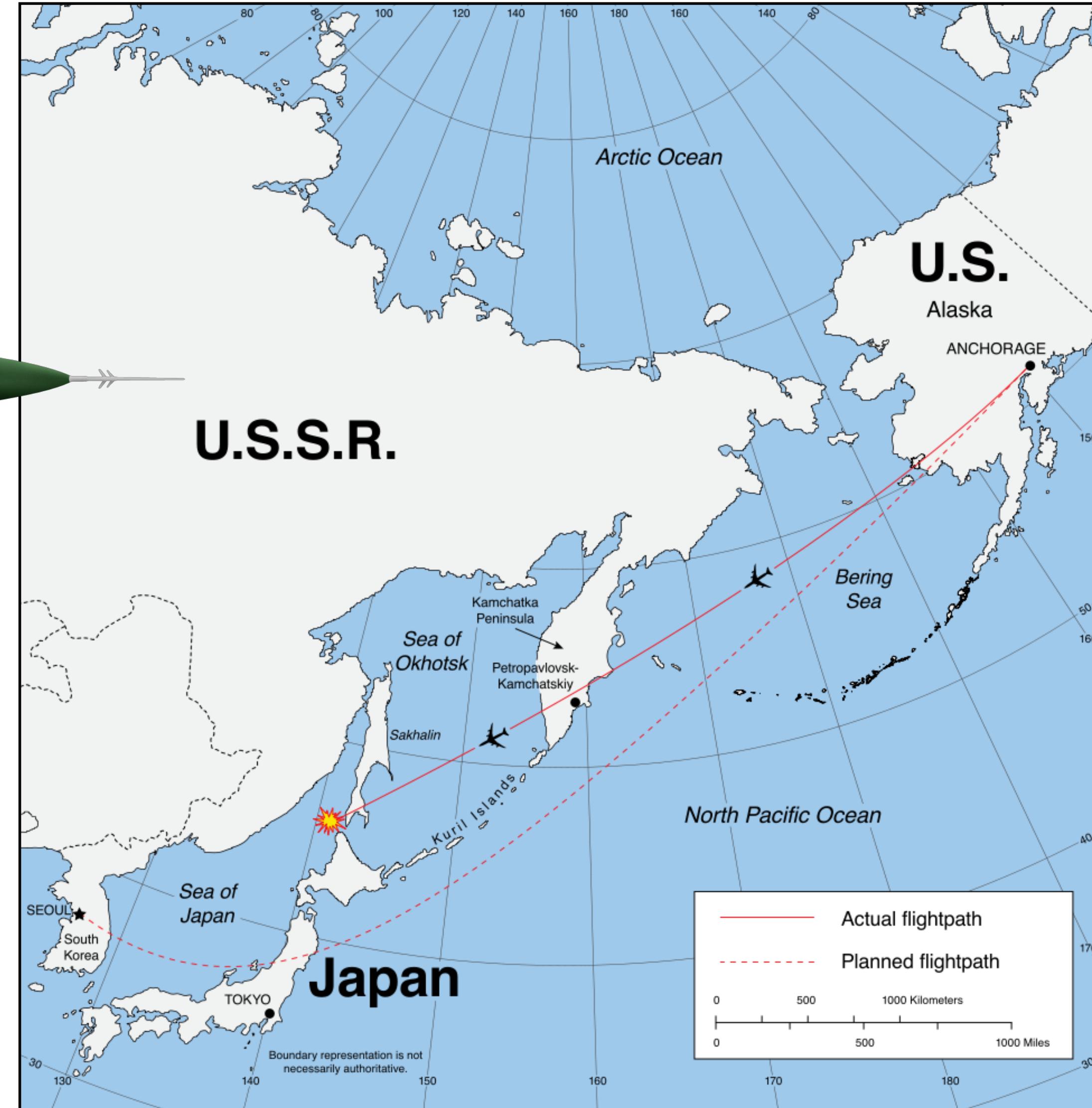
Changed numbers to bullets.

# Korean Air Lines Flight 007



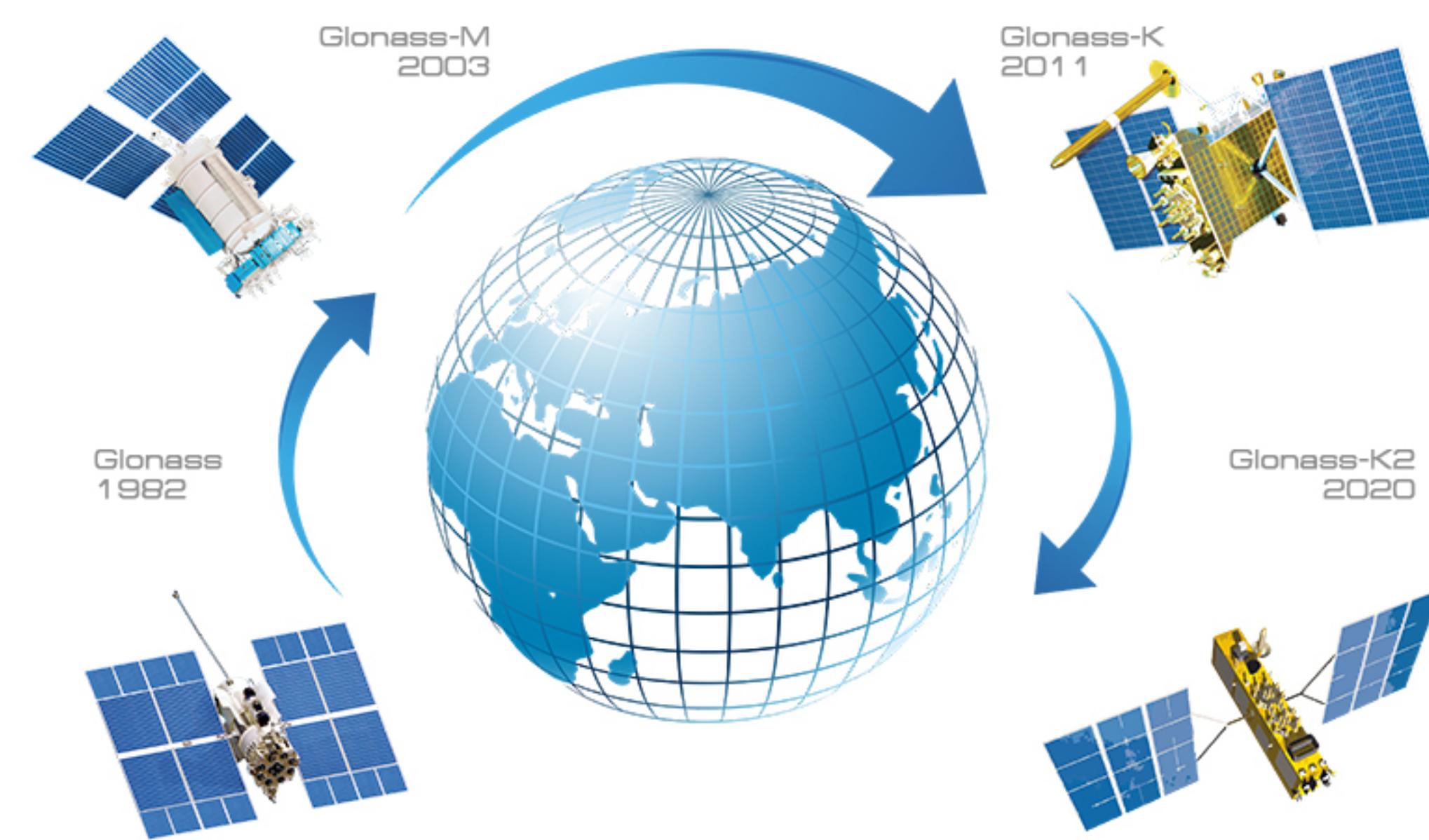
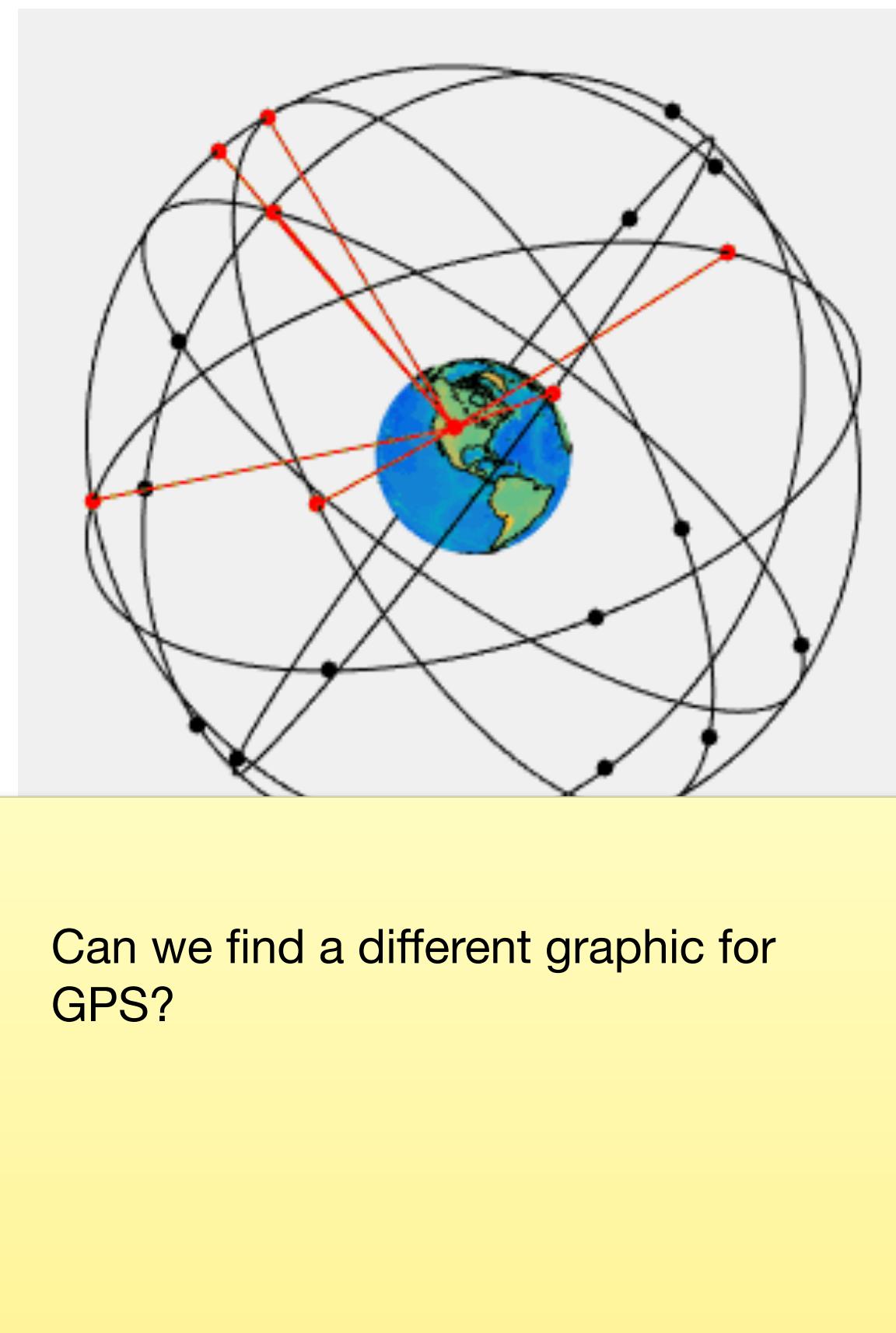
Korean Air Flight 007 was shot down in 1983 after deviating into Soviet airspace due to improper use of their Inertial Navigation System.

*This prompted the U.S. to open GPS for worldwide use.*



# GNSS | Accurate Global Positioning

- **Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)** is a catch-all term for a satellite system(s) that can be used to pinpoint a receiver's position anywhere in the world.

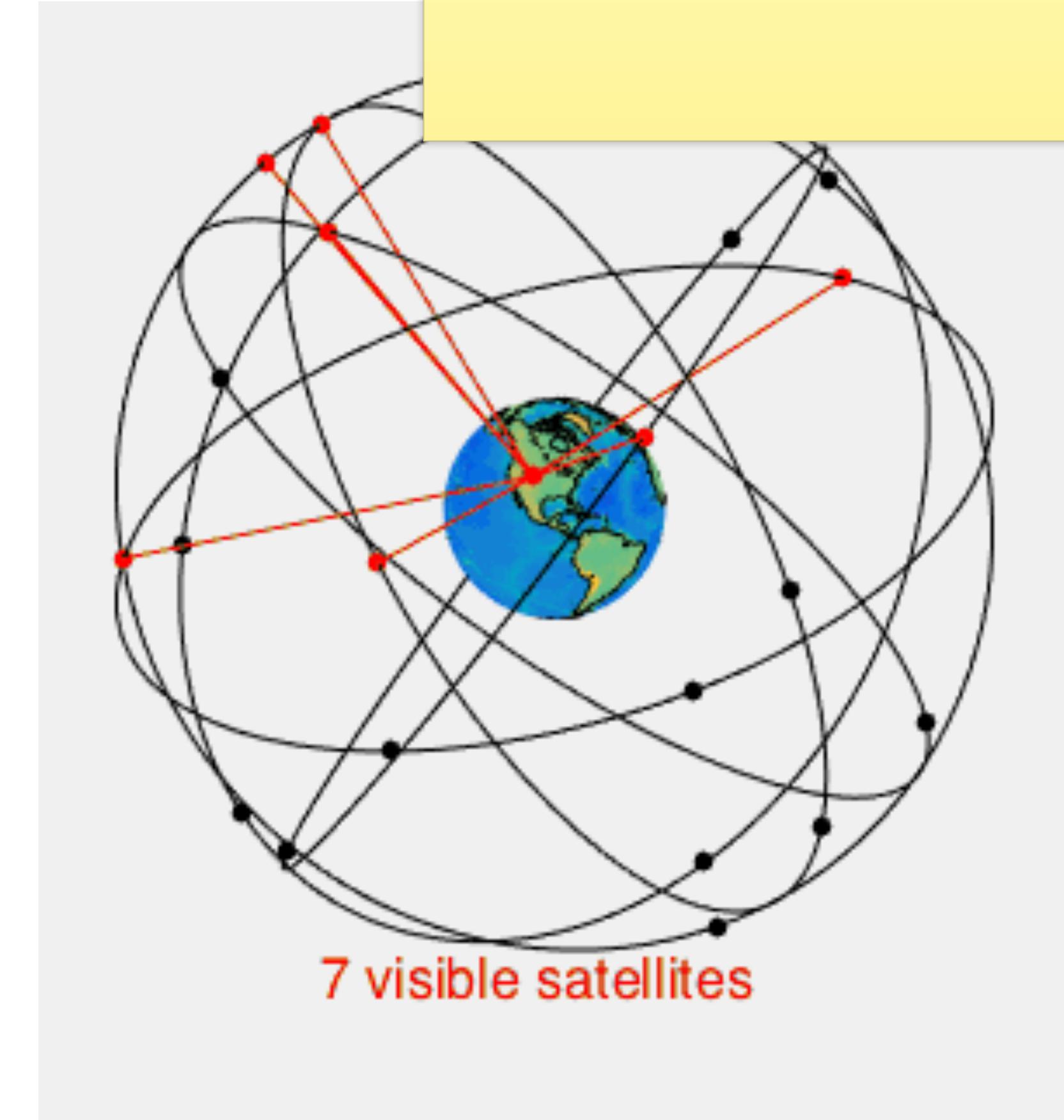


Globalnaya navigatsionnaya  
sputnikovaya sistema (GLONASS)

# GPS | Global Positioning System

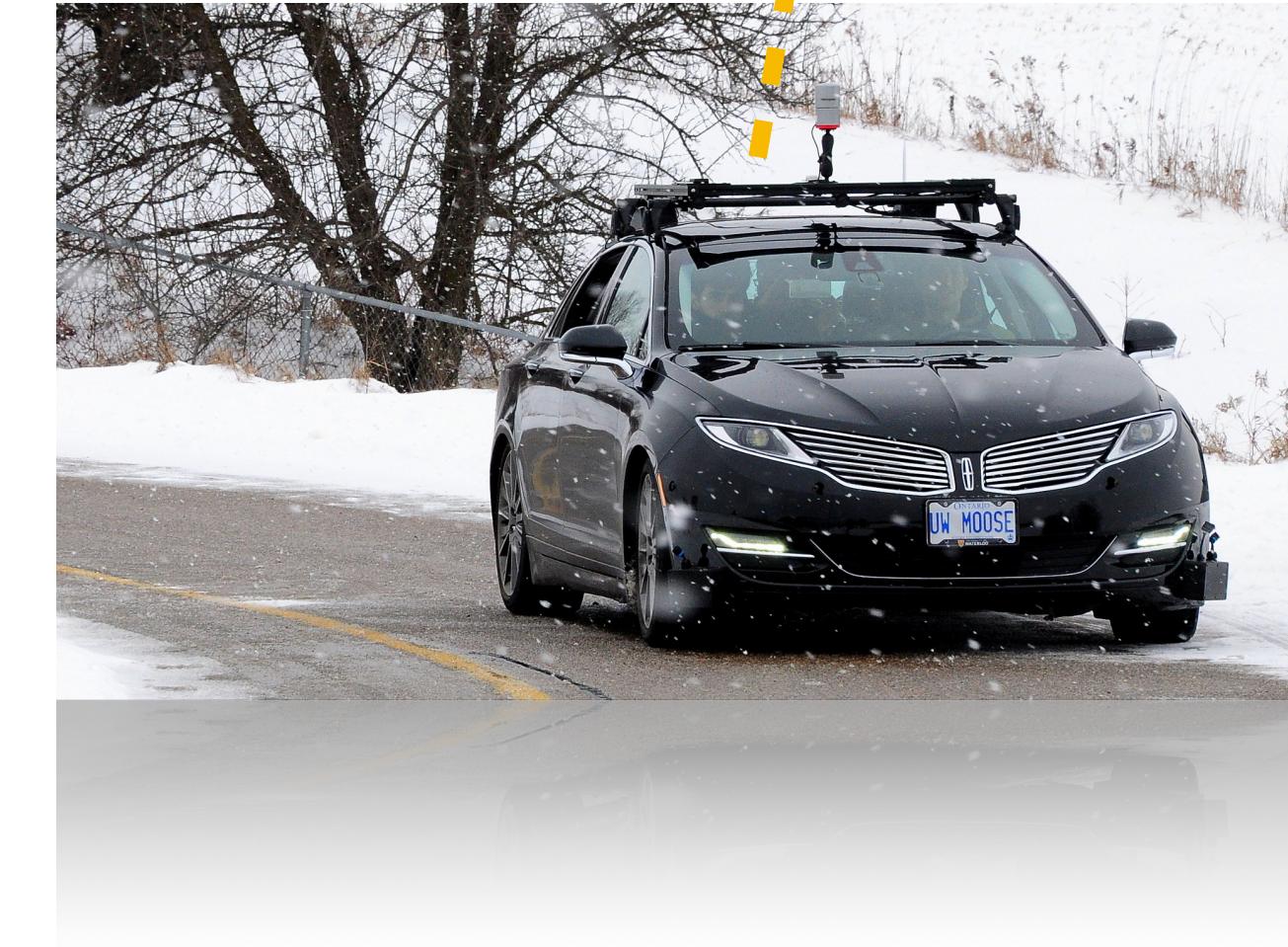
- Composed of 24 to 32 satellites in 6 orbital planes.
  - *Altitude of ~20,200 km (12,550 miles)*
  - *Orbital period of ~12 hours*
- Each satellite broadcasts on two frequencies:
  - *L1 (1575.42 MHz, civilian + military)*
  - *L2 (1227.6 MHz, military)*

Need a better looking graphic here as well



# GPS | Computing Position

- Each GPS satellite transmits a signal that encodes
  1. its *position*  
(via accurate ephemeris information)
  2. time of signal transmission  
(via onboard atomic clock)
- To compute a GPS position fix in the Earth-centred frame, the receiver uses the **speed of light** to compute distances to each satellite based on time of signal arrival.



At least **four** satellites are required to solve for 3D position,  
three if only 2D is required (e.g., if altitude is known)

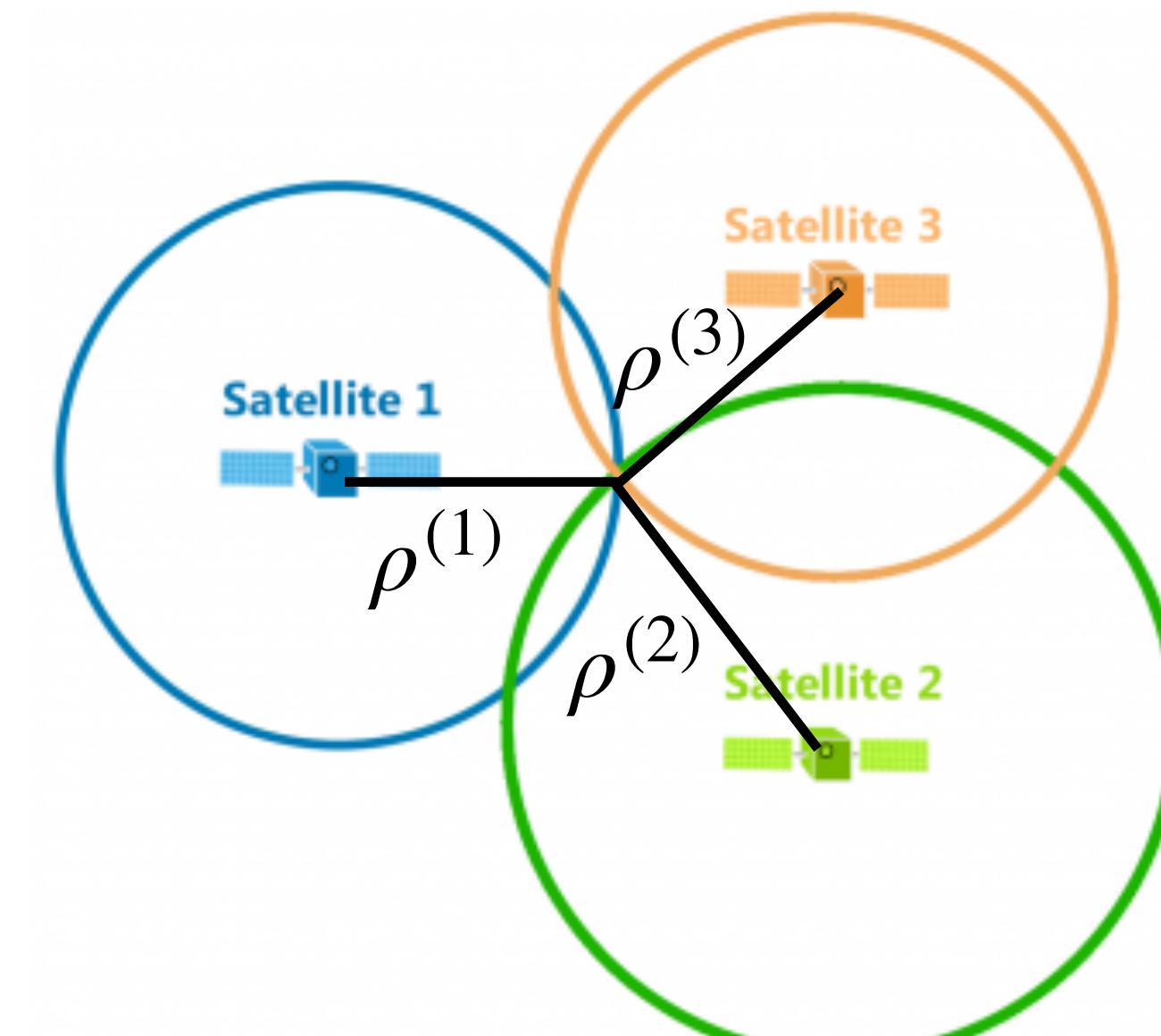
# Trilateration

Wrong title - fixed now

- For each satellite, we measure the *pseudorange* as follows:

$$\rho^{(i)} = c(t_r - t_s) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{p}^{(i)} - \mathbf{r})^T (\mathbf{p}^{(i)} - \mathbf{r})} + c\Delta t_r + c\Delta t_a^{(i)} + \eta^{(i)}$$

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| $\mathbf{r}$       | receiver (3D) position        |
| $\mathbf{p}^{(i)}$ | position of satellite $i$     |
| $\Delta t_r$       | receiver clock error          |
| $\Delta t_a^{(i)}$ | atmospheric propagation delay |
| $\eta$             | measurement noise             |
| $c$                | speed of light                |
| $t_s, t_r$         | time sent, time received      |

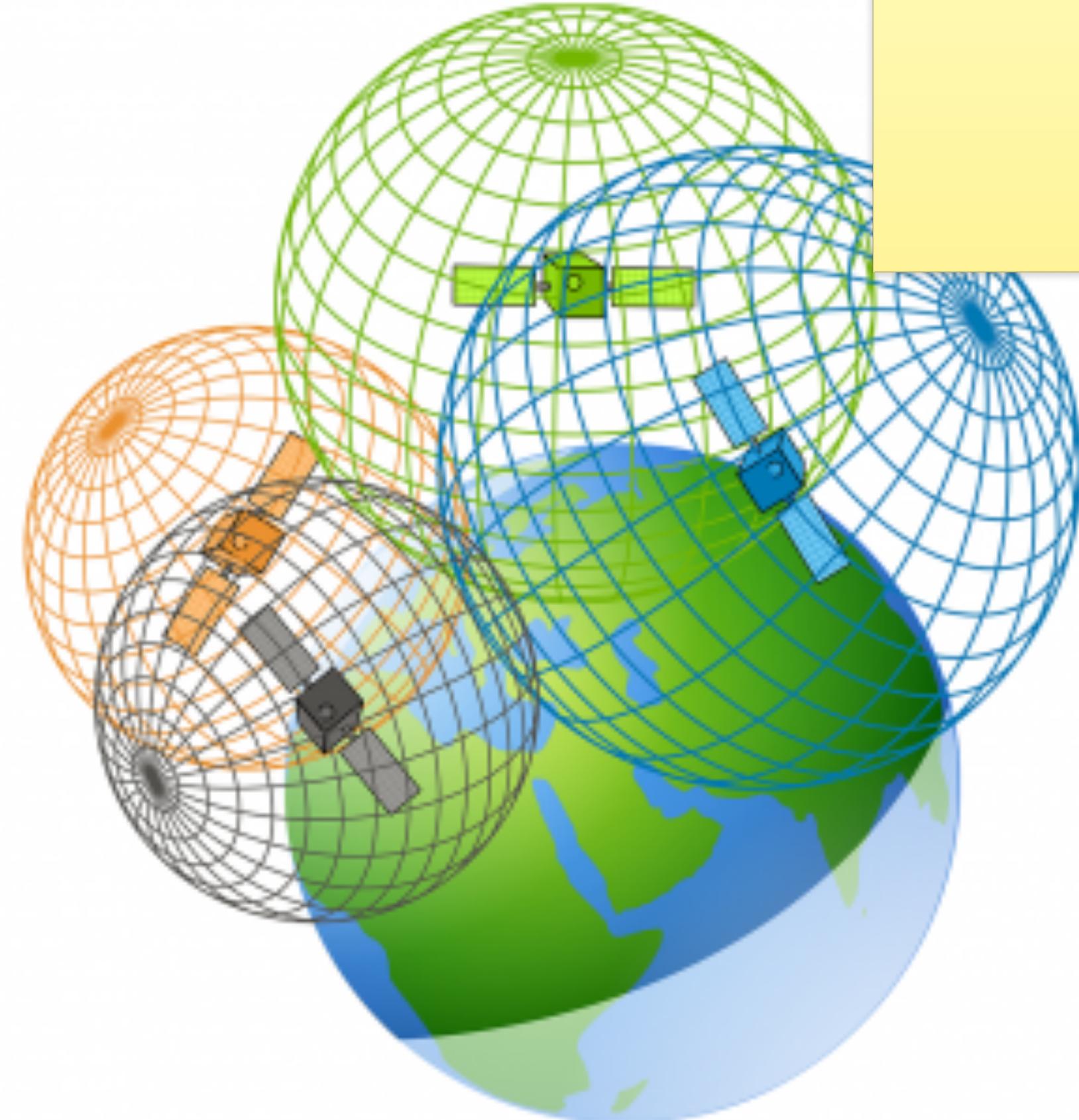


Trilateration in 2D

# Trilateration

- By using at least 4 satellites, we can solve for:
  - $\mathbf{r}$  receiver (3D) position
  - $\Delta t_r$  receiver clock error

Wrong slide title - fixed it



*Trilateration in 3D*

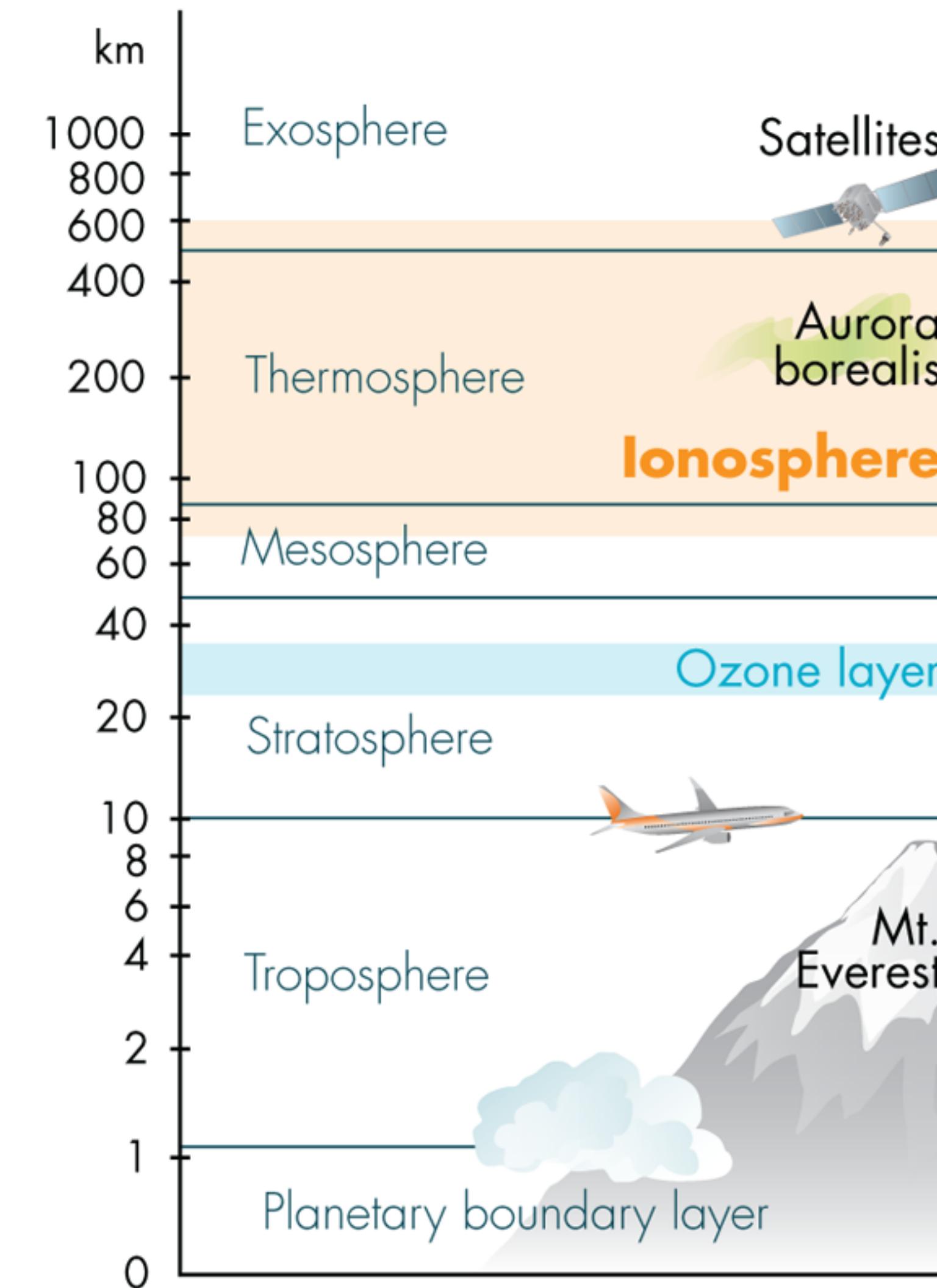
# GPS | Error Sources (I)

- **Ionospheric delay**

- Charged ions in the atmosphere affect signal propagation.

- **Multipath effects**

- Surrounding terrain, buildings can cause unwanted reflections.



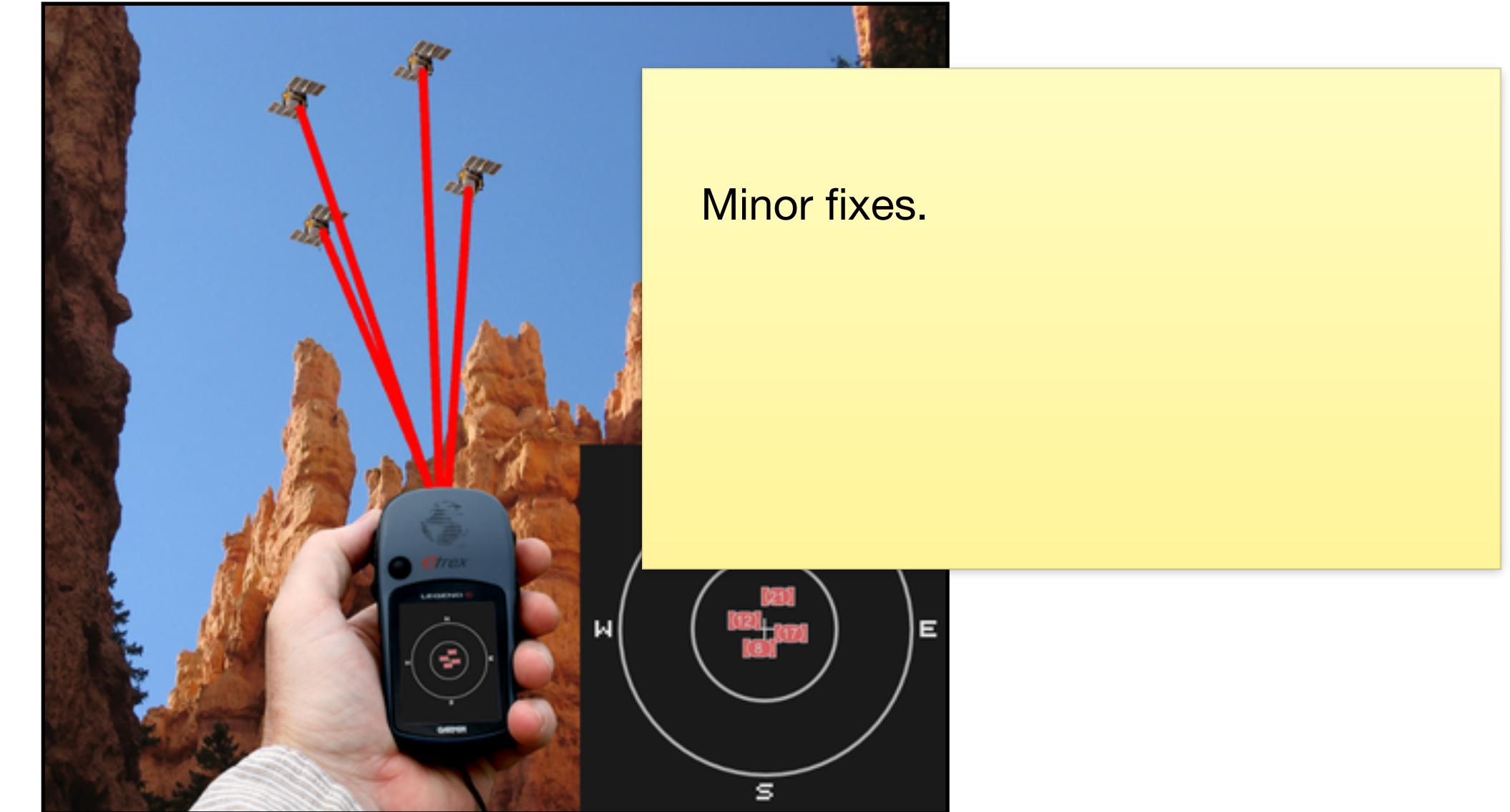
# GPS | Error Sources (II)

- Ephemeris & clock errors

- A clock error of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  s gives a 300 m position error!

- Geometric Dilution of Precision (GDOP)

- The configuration of the visible satellites affects position precision.



Poor config - high GDOP



Good config - low GDOP

# GPS | Improvements

Minor change to accuracy number  
(lower right of table)

## Basic GPS

mobile receiver

no error correction

~10 m accuracy

## Differential GPS (DGPS)

mobile receiver + fixed  
base station(s)

estimate error caused by  
atmospheric effects

~10 cm accuracy

## Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) GPS

mobile receiver + fixed  
base station

estimate relative position  
using phase of carrier  
signal

~2 cm accuracy

# Summary | The Global Navigation Satellite System

- A GNSS works through trilateration via pseudoranging from at least 4 satellites (for a 3D position fix).
- GNSS error can be caused by ionospheric delays, multipath effects, and precision is also affected by GDOP.
- For GPS, differential GPS and RTK GPS are potential methods to substantially improve performance.