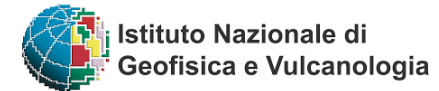


# Ionospheric prediction tools in IPS EU-Project

V. Romano<sup>1,3</sup>, C. Cesaroni<sup>1</sup>, L. Spogli<sup>1,3</sup>, G. De Franceschi<sup>1</sup>, I. Hunstad<sup>1</sup>, F. Rodriguez<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV), Italy



<sup>2</sup> Telespazio SpA,, Italy



<sup>3</sup> SpacEarth Technology, Italy



UN/USA Workshop on the ISWI 2017: The Decade after the International Heliophysical Year 2007  
Boston, 31 July - 04 August 2017

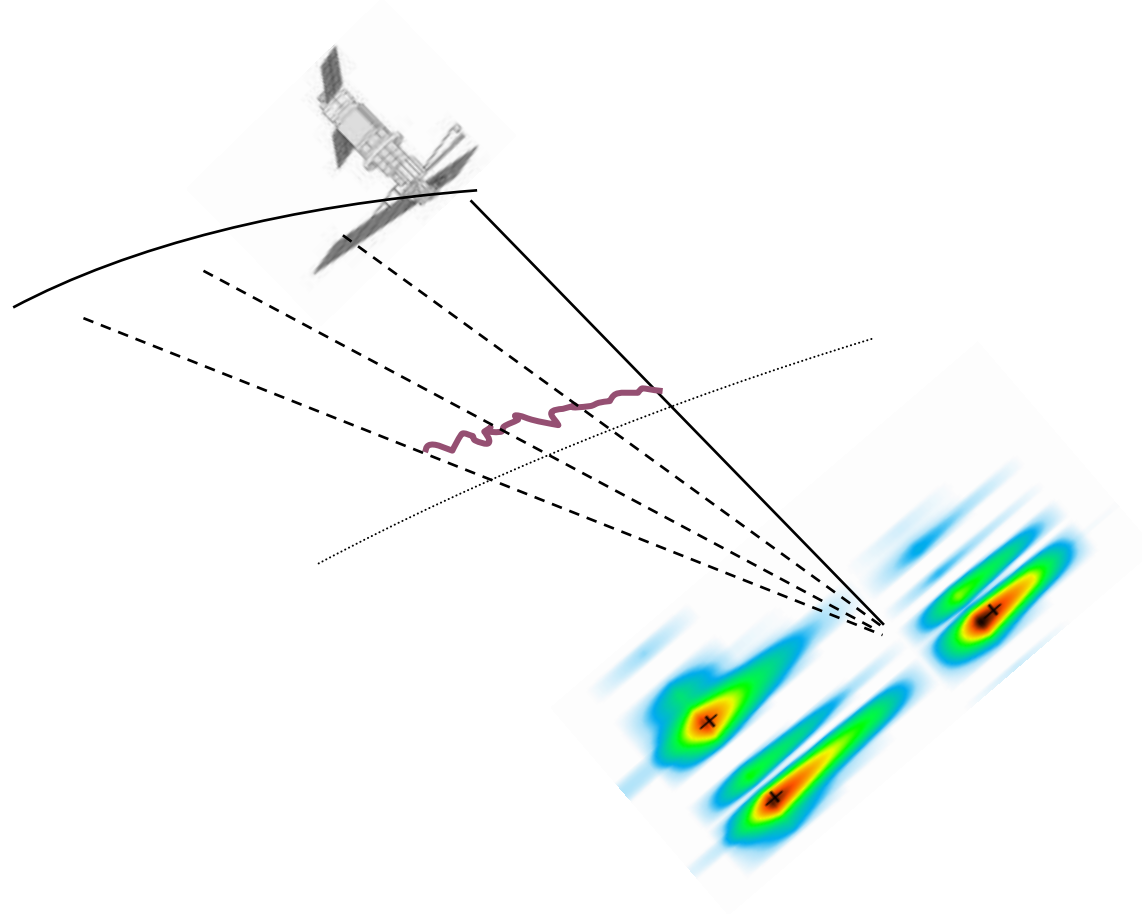


# Outline

- IPS project
- Ionospheric nowcasting and forecasting tools
- Validation
- Tools in operation
- Final remarks









# IPS Project

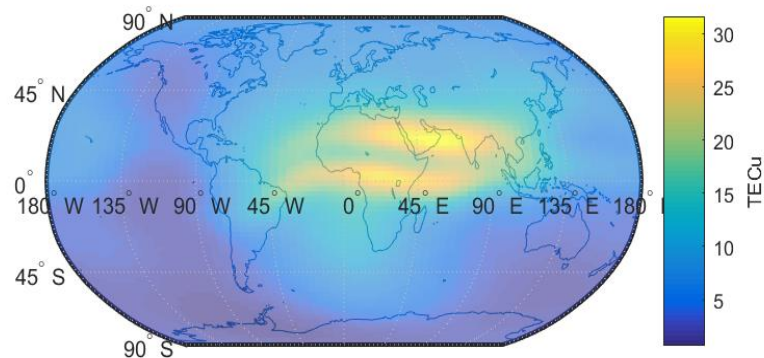




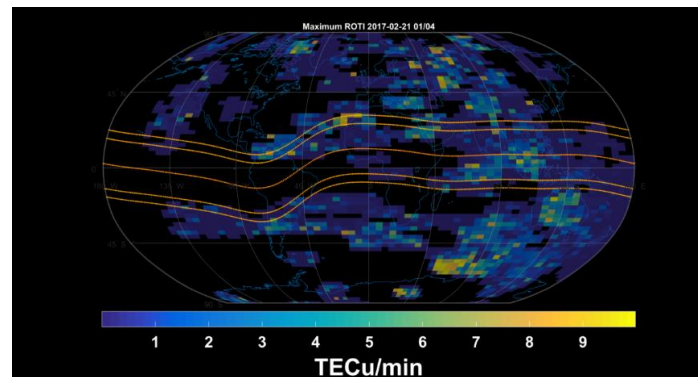
- “Ionosphere Prediction Service” (IPS) is a project funded by **European Commission** through the Tender contract No:434/PP/GRO/RCH/15/8381.
- The objective of IPS project is to design and develop a **prototypal service** platform with the aim to translate the current status and forecast of the ionosphere into tangible results and **user-devoted metrics**.
- The **pillar of this service** are:
  - characterization of ionospheric effects that influence the GNSS performance and improvement of current solutions to monitor and predict the ionospheric Space Weather effects;
  - generate, archive and distribute performance and prediction reports, analysis results, disseminate alert and early-warning messages, sensor data, etc., customized to the relevant user communities on the basis of the requirements defined for each of them;
  - Implementation of a front-end platform to interface the user communities providing dedicated services and presenting relevant monitoring and forecast data results.



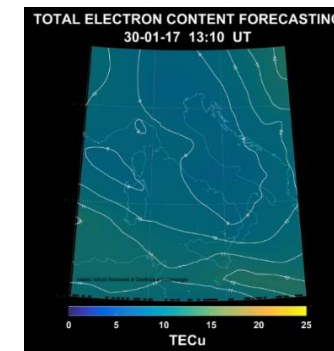
Team Member	Type	Roles
<b>Telespazio</b> 	Industry	Prime Contractor. In charge of IPS design, development and testing activities.
<b>Telespazio VEGA Germany</b> 	Industry	Involved in T5 (IPS Service Requirements), support to T6 and T9
<b>NSL (Nottingham Scientific Ltd)</b> 	Industry	Involved in T2 (User Req analysis), T6 (warning message generation) and T9 (feedback from aviation UC).
<b>University of Tor Vergata</b> 	University	Monitoring and forecast of Flares and Coronal Mass Ejections. Measurements of SEP and GCR.
<b>INGV</b> 	Research Institute	Forecast and nowcast of VTEC, spatial and temporal gradients, Proxy Scintillation Indices (PSI), S4, $\sigma_{\theta}$
<b>University of Nottingham</b> 	University	Prediction of GNSS tracking errors, loss of signal lock and expected levels of positioning errors. Detection of Travelling Ionospheric Disturbances (TIDs).



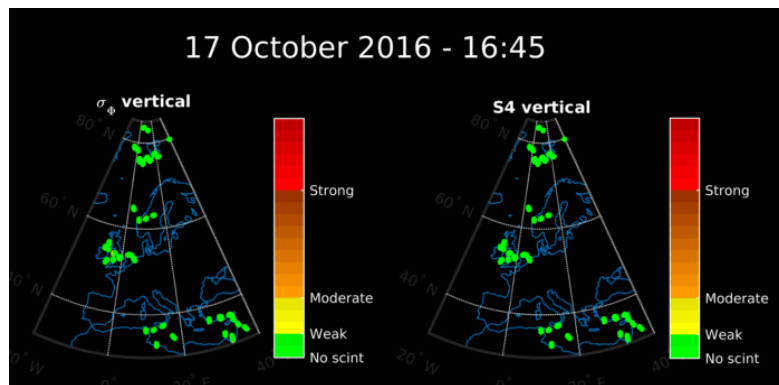
Long term forecasting TEC at global level



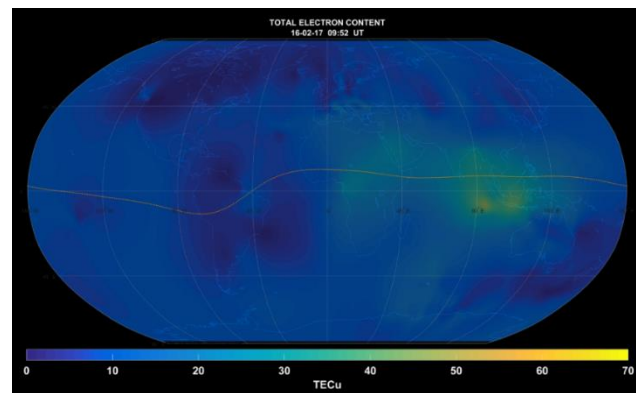
Long term forecasting Proxy Scintillation Index at global level



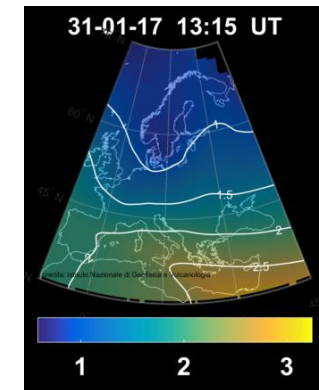
Short term forecasting TEC over Italy



Nowcasting scintillation indices over Europe



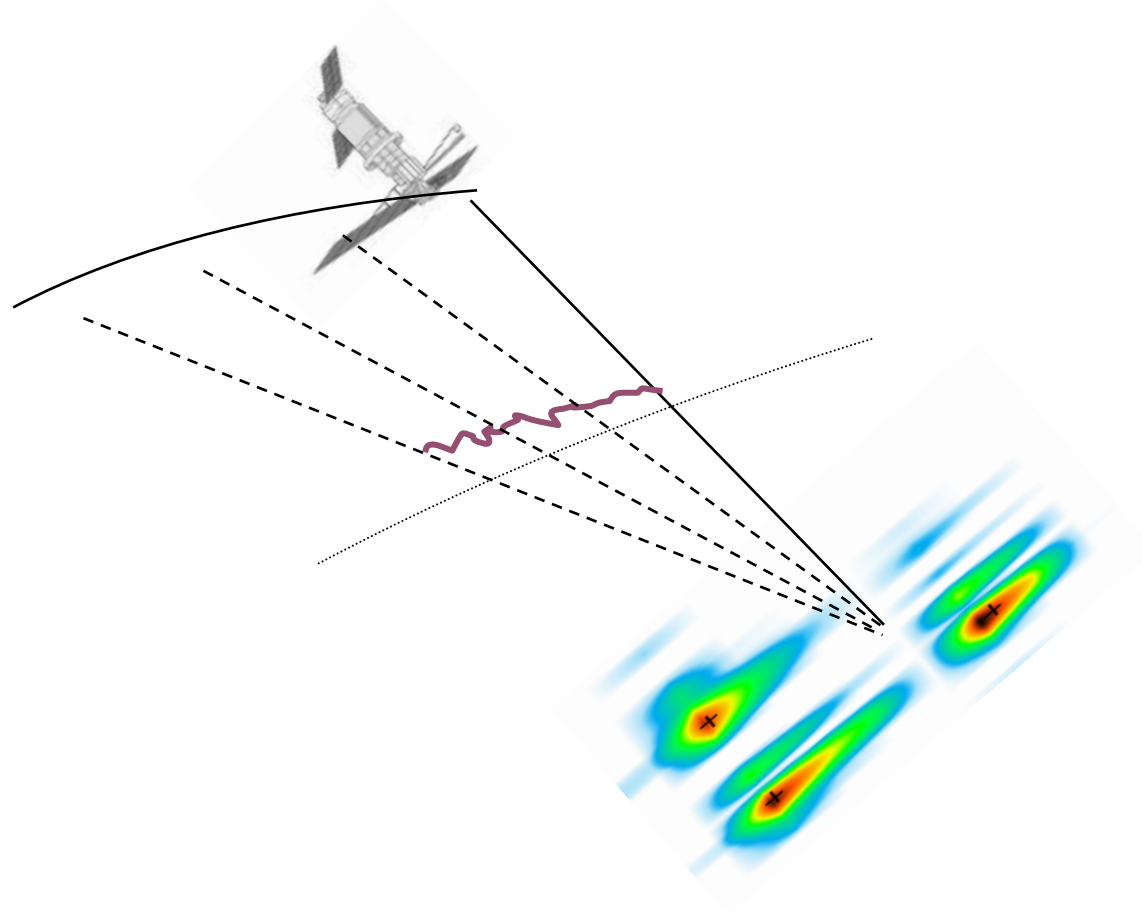
Nowcasting TEC at global level



Nowcasting Ionospheric Range Error over Europe



# Ionospheric tools

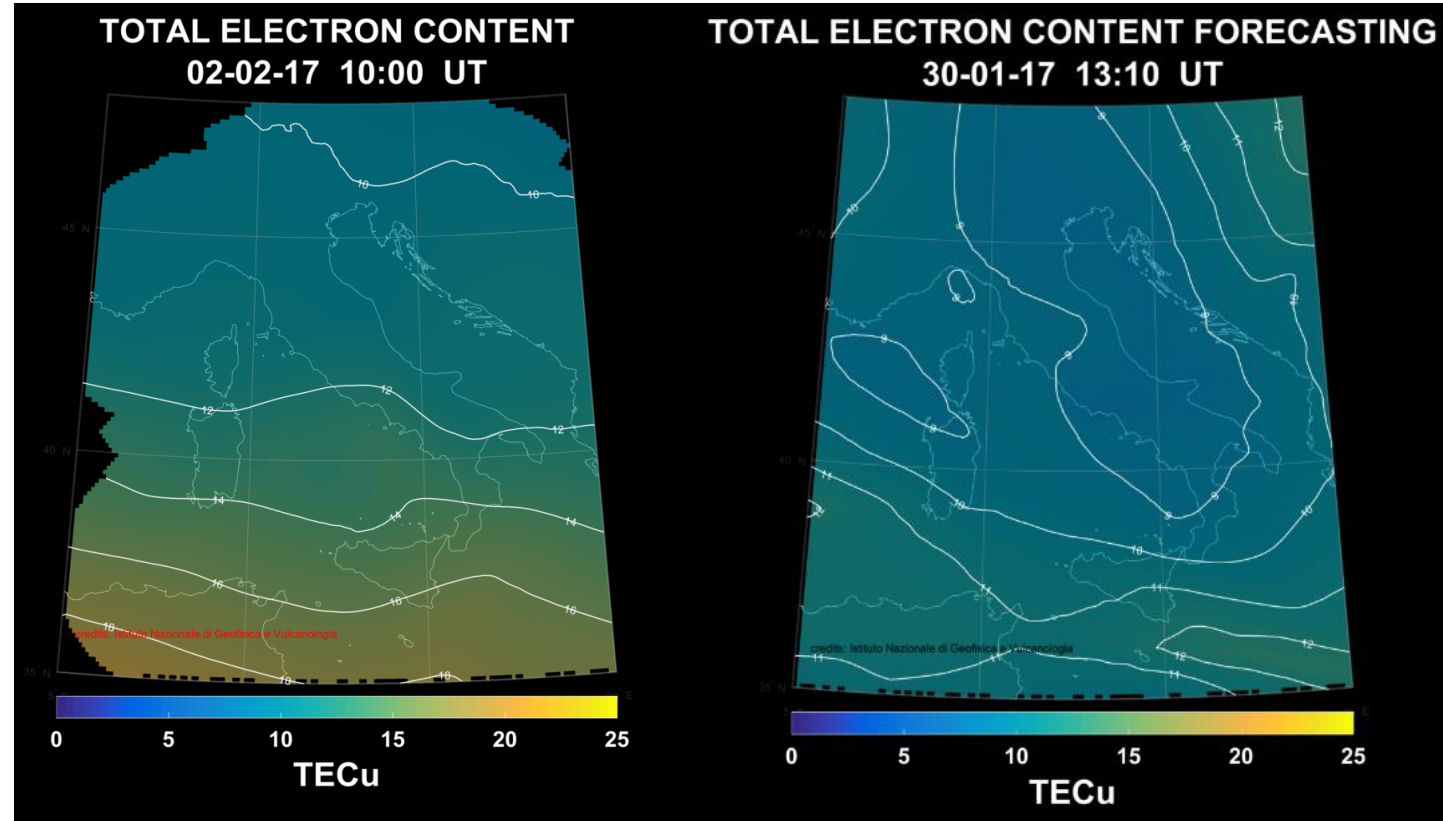
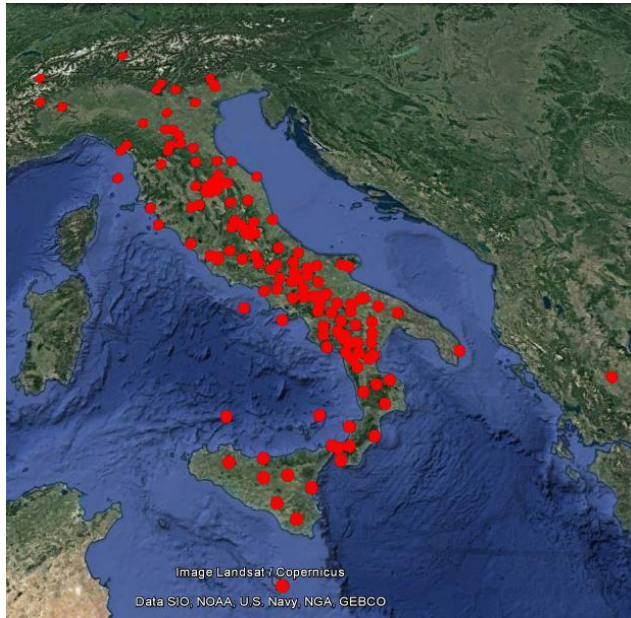


# Ionospheric TEC and Scintillation tools

Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	10	Italy	0.1° x 0.1°
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	15	Europe	0.5° x 0.5°
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	15	Global	2.5° x 5°
TEC, IRE	Short term (30 minutes)	10	Italy	0.1° x 0.1°
TEC, IRE	Short term (30 minutes)	15	Europe	0.5° x 0.5°
TEC, IRE	Short term (30 minutes)	15	Global	2.5° x 5°
TEC, IRE	Long term (24 hours)	120	Global	2.5° x 5°
Scintillation indices ( $S_4$ , $\sigma_\phi$ )	Nowcasting	15	Europe	Values at the IPP
Proxy scintillation indices (PSI)	Nowcasting	15	Global	2.5° x 5°
Proxy scintillation indices (PSI)	Long term (24 hours)	180	Global	2.5° x 5°

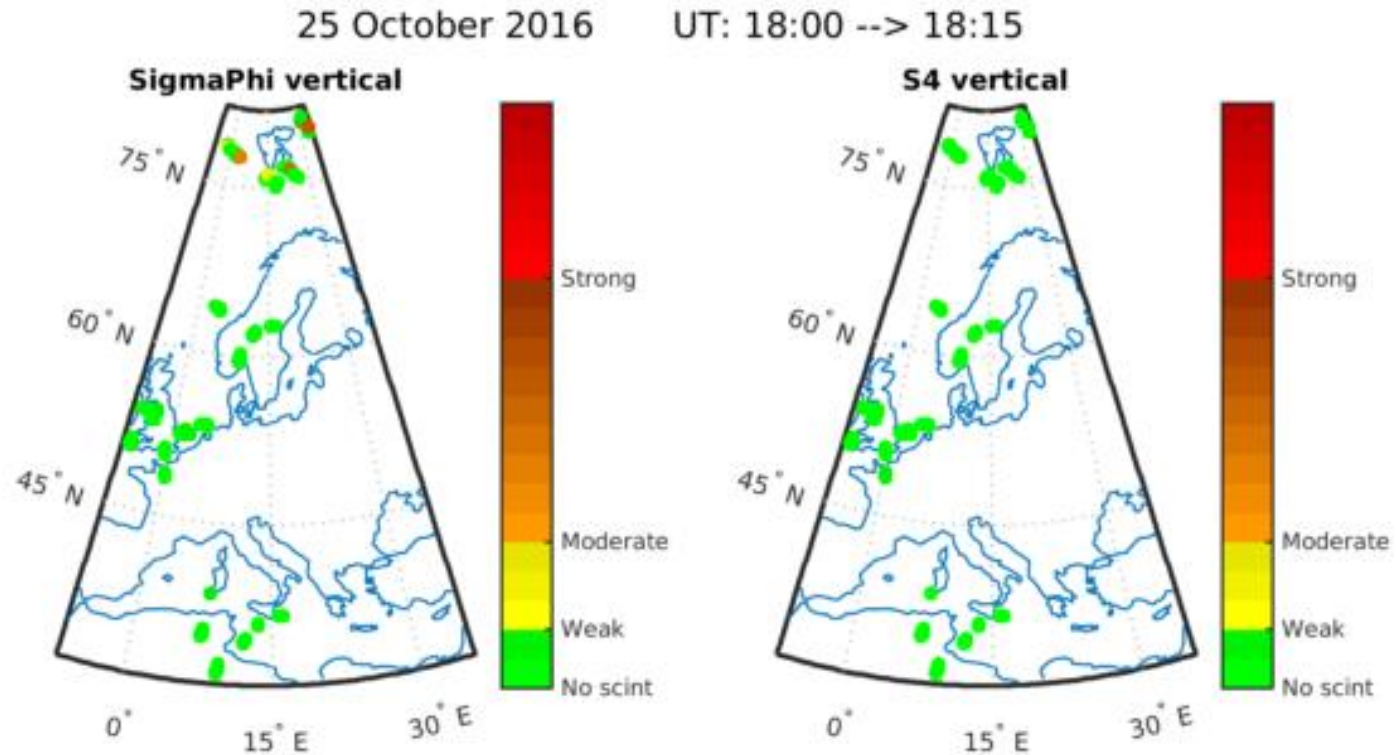


# Ionospheric TEC nowcasting and short-term forecasting



Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	10	Italy	0.1° x 0.1°
TEC, IRE	Short term (30 minutes)	10	Italy	0.1° x 0.1°

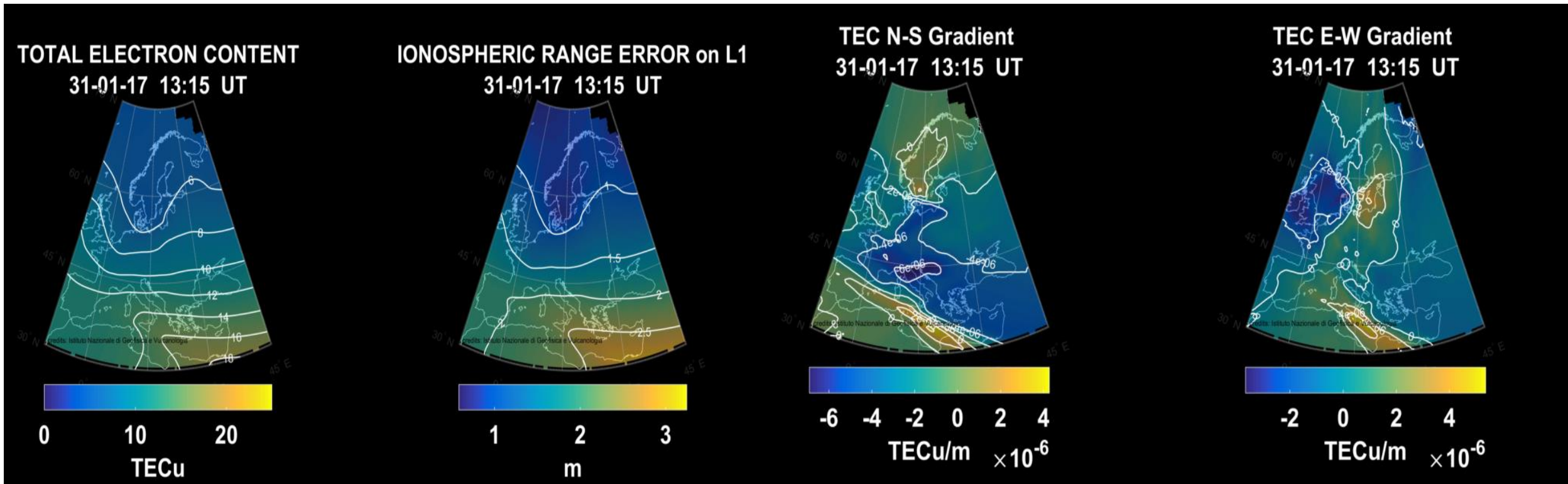
# Ionospheric Scintillation nowcasting



Scintillation nowcasting over europe

Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
Scintillation indices ( $S4$ , $\sigma_{\Phi}$ )	Nowcasting	15	Europe	Values at the IPP

# TEC nowcasting over Europe

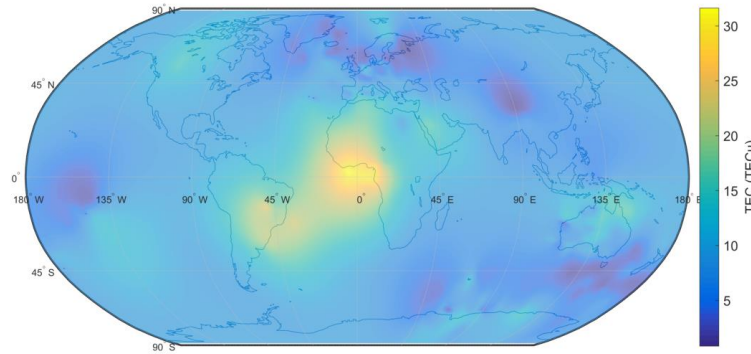


Around 60 stations from IGS/EUREF

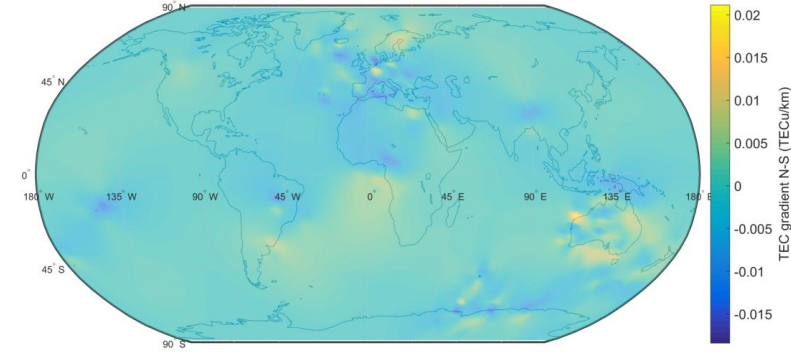
Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate	Coverage	Spatial Resolution
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	15 min	Europe	0.5° x 0.5° (lat x long)

# Nowcasting TEC at global level

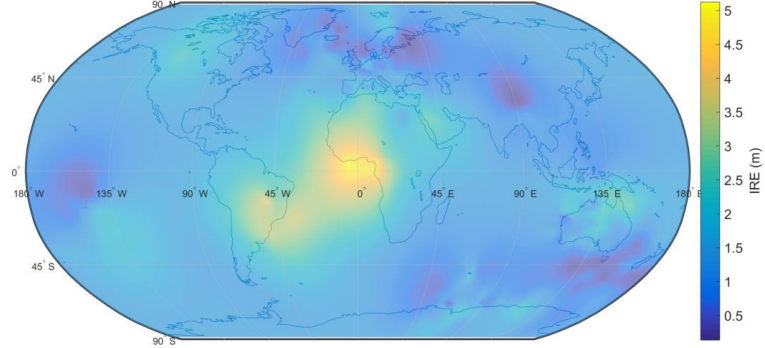
Total Electron Content



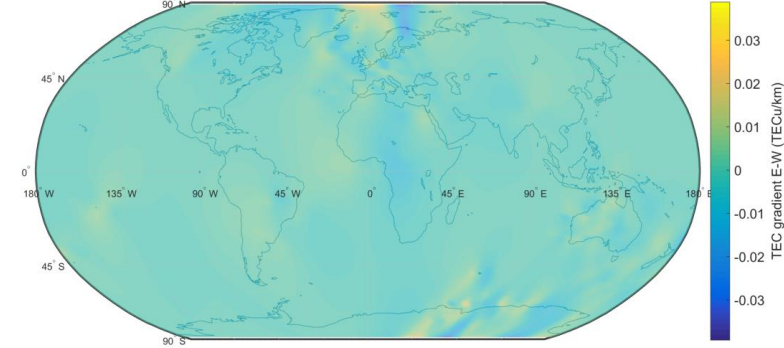
TEC gradient N-S



Ionospheric Range Error on L1



TEC gradient E-W

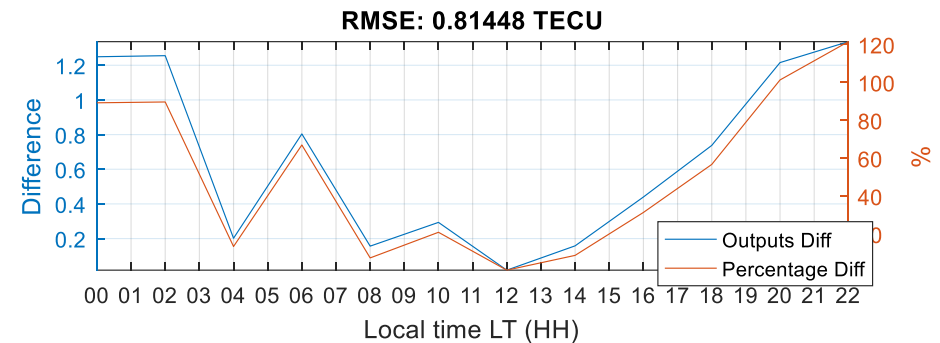
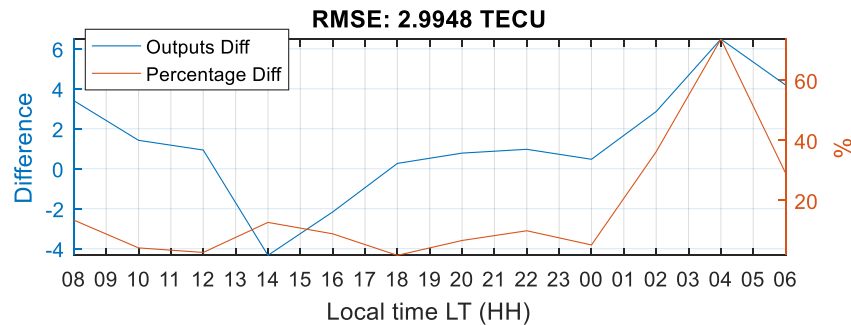
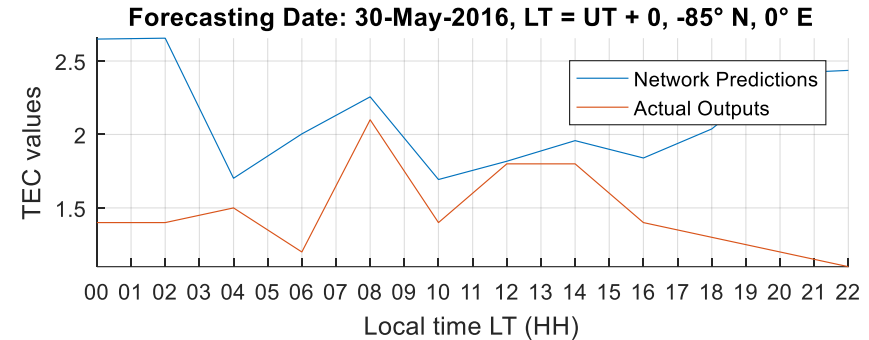
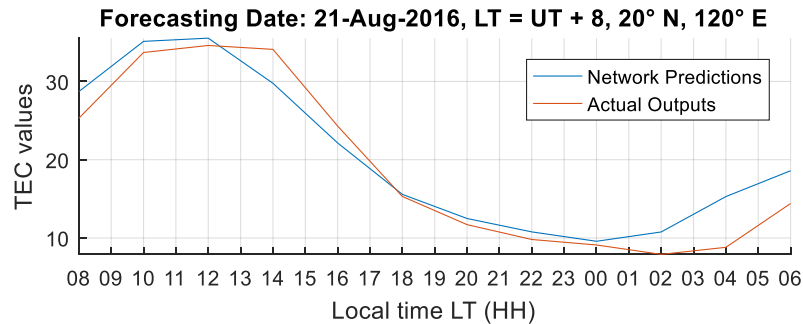
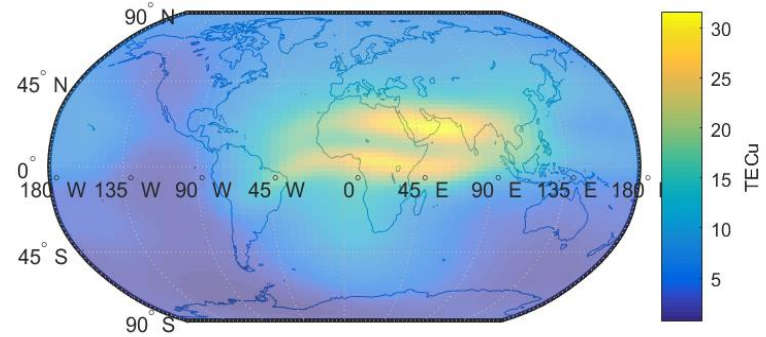


21 December 2016 at 14:00 UT

Around 120 IGS stations

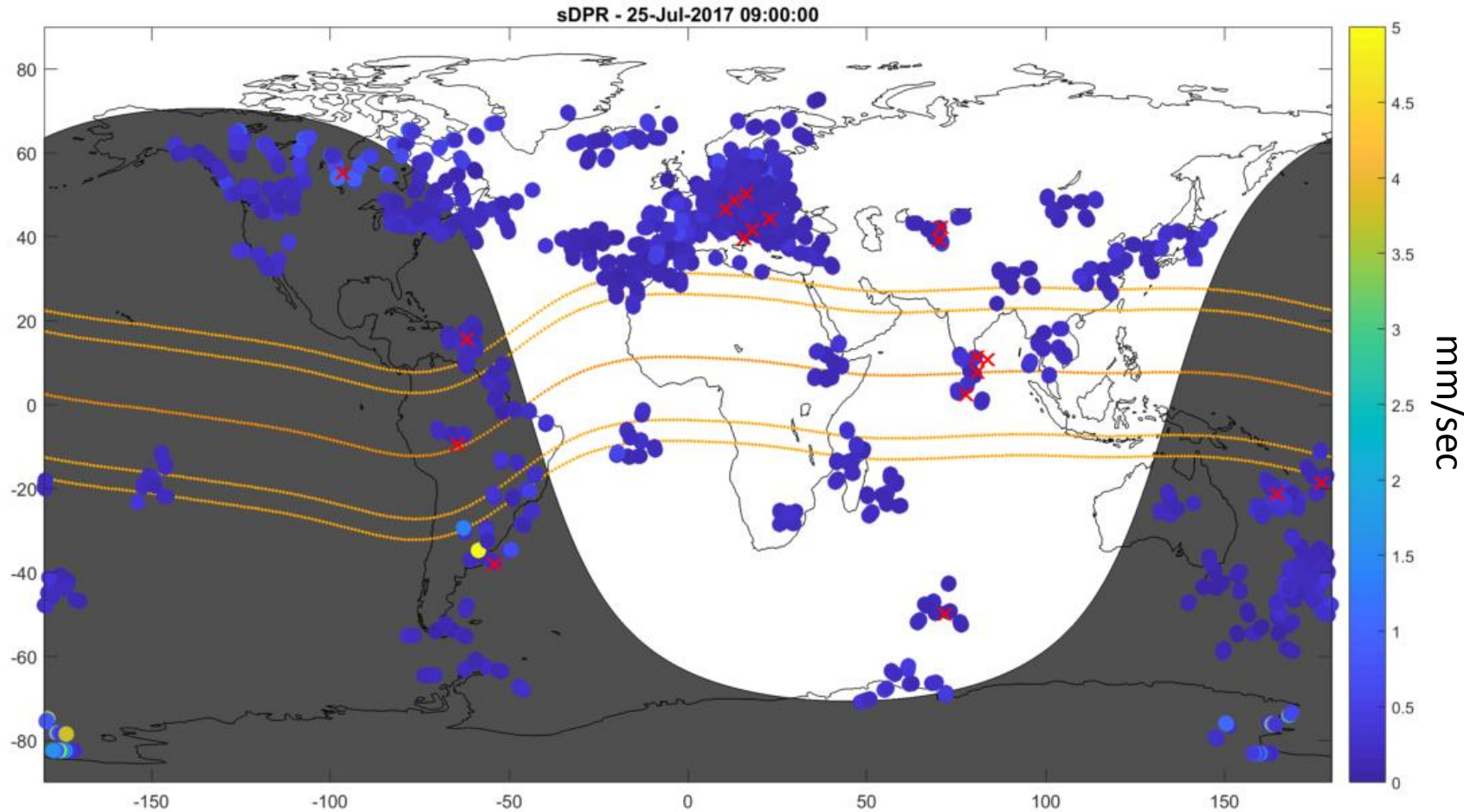
Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
TEC, IRE, TEC_gradNS, TEC_gradEW	Nowcasting	15	Global	2.5° x 5°

# Long term forecasting TEC at global level



Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
TEC, IRE	Long term (24 hours)	120	Global	2.5° x 5°

# Nowcasting PSI at global level



X cycle slip detected

$$sDPR = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{\psi} - \psi_i)^2}$$

$$\psi_i = \frac{\Phi_g^{t_i} - \Phi_g^{t_{i-1}}}{t_i - t_{i-1}}$$

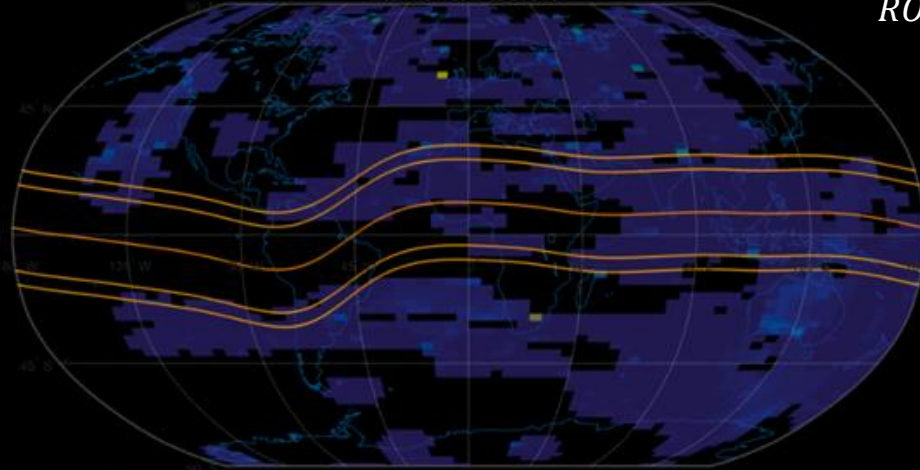
sDPR = sigma delta phase rate

$\Phi_g$  Is the carrier phase at the  $i$ -th epoch

Parameter(s)	Type of casting	Refresh rate (min's)	Coverage	Spatial Resolution (lat x long)
Proxy scintillation indices (PSI)	Nowcasting	15	Global	2.5° x 5°

# Long-term prediction of scintillation (24 hours)

Mean ROTI – 2017.02.02 01:04 UT

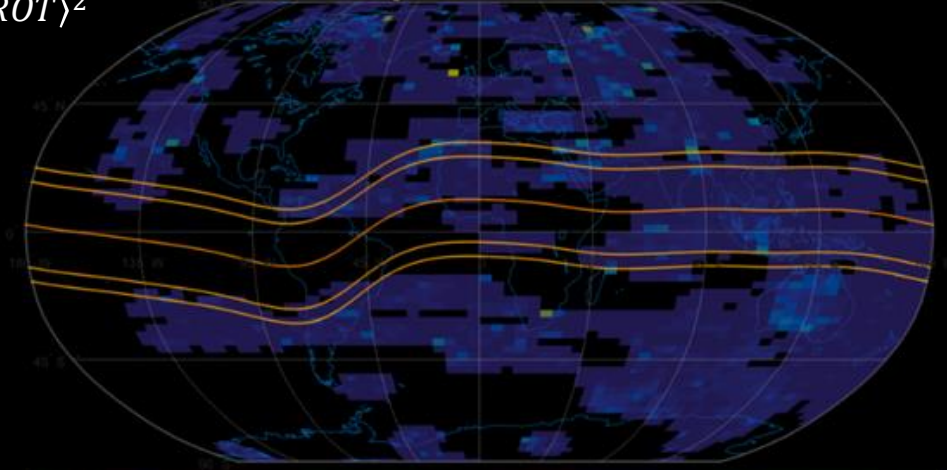


0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9

TECu/min

$$ROTI = \sqrt{\langle ROT^2 \rangle - \langle ROT \rangle^2}$$

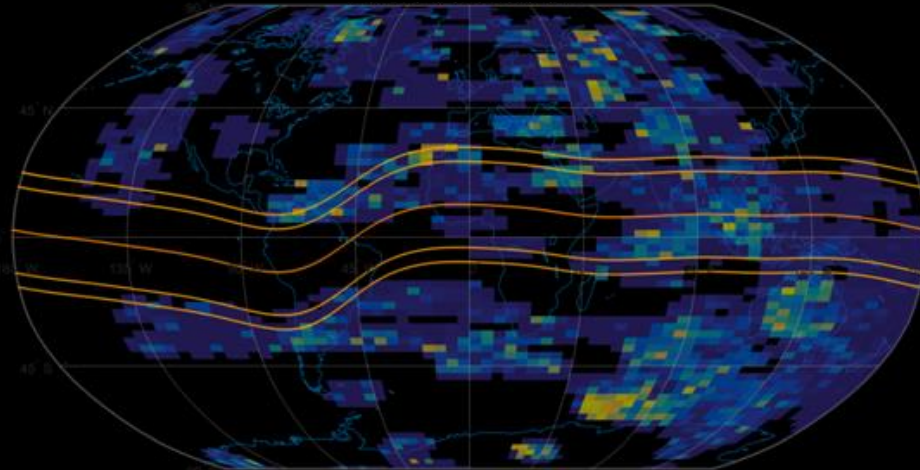
Sigma ROTI – 2017.02.02 01:04 UT



0 0.5 1 1.5 2

TECu/min

Maximum ROTI – 2017.02.02 01:04 UT



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

TECu/min

Occurrence ROTI > 1 TECu – 2017.02.02 01:04 UT

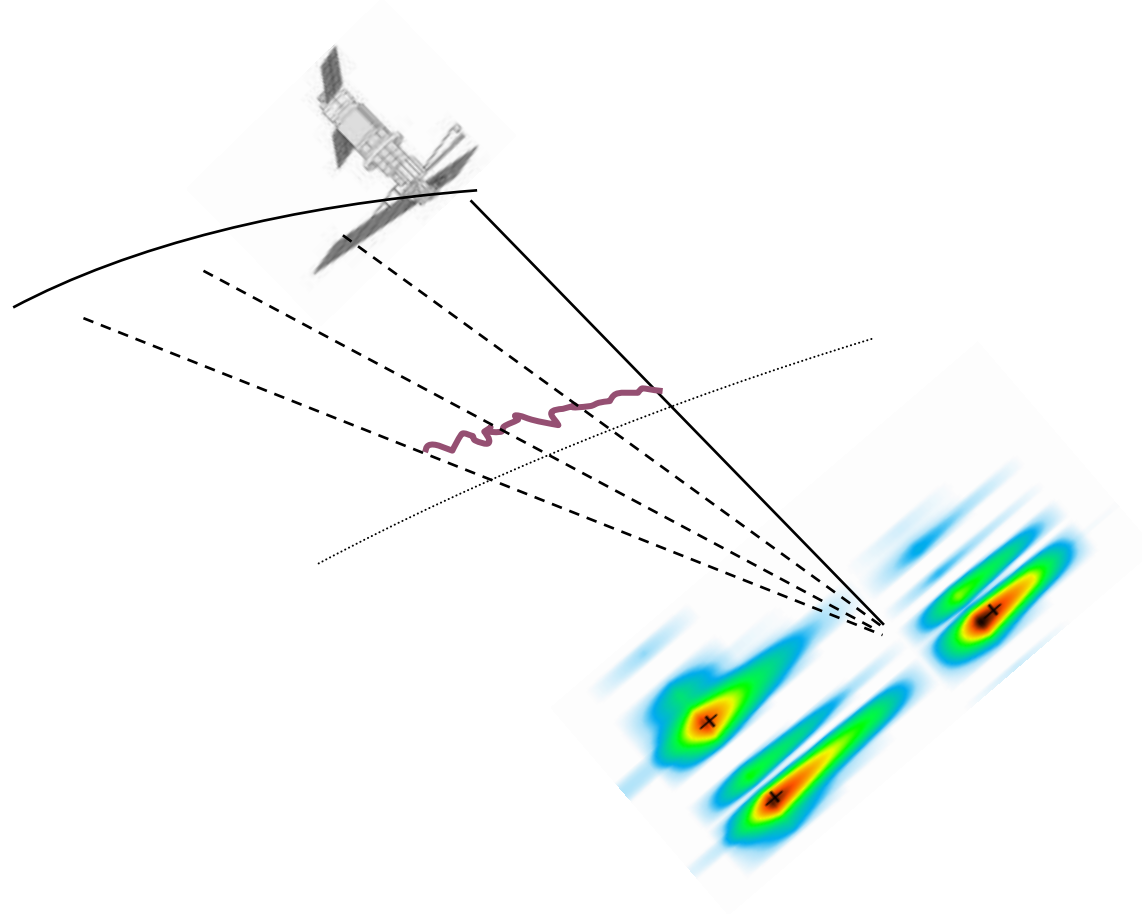


0 0.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 0.1 0.12 0.14 0.16

Occurrence ROTI > 1 TECu/min

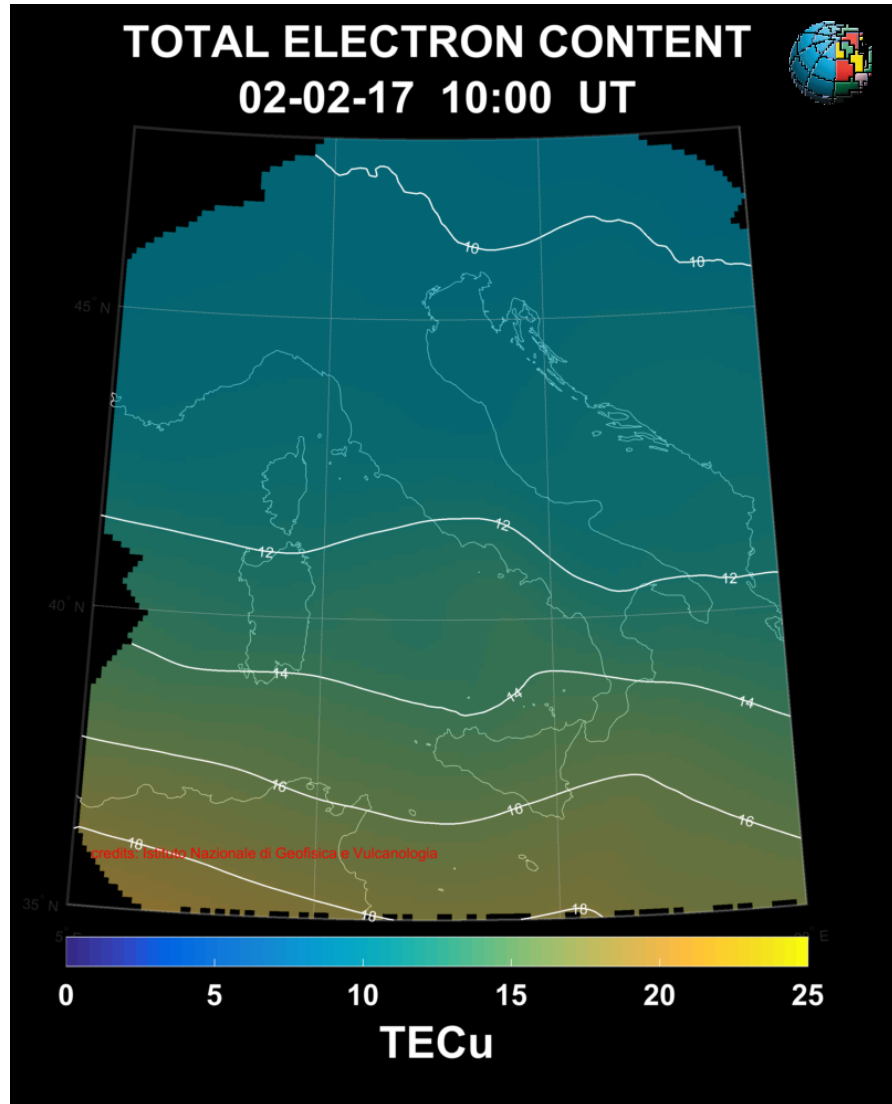


# Validation



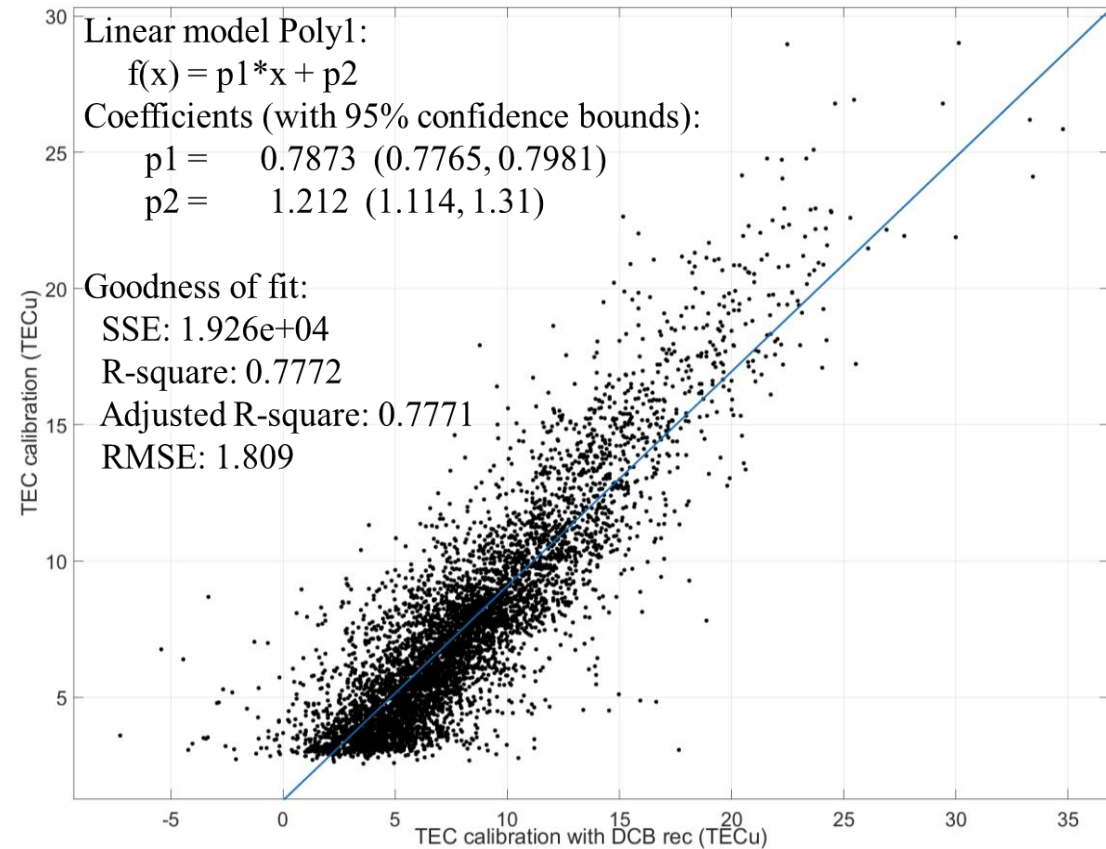


# Validation of TEC nowcasting over Italy



Validation (offline) of the TEC measurement:  
Comparison against Ciruolo calibration technique

Ciraolo et al., 2007

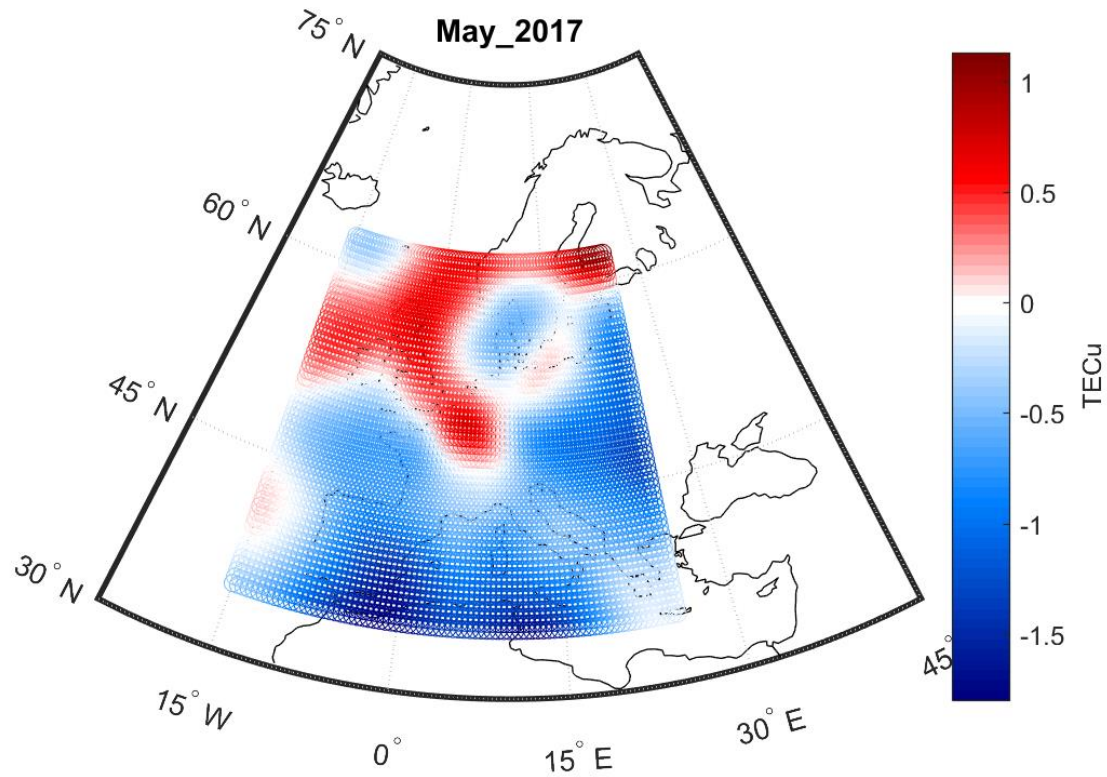


1 day of data

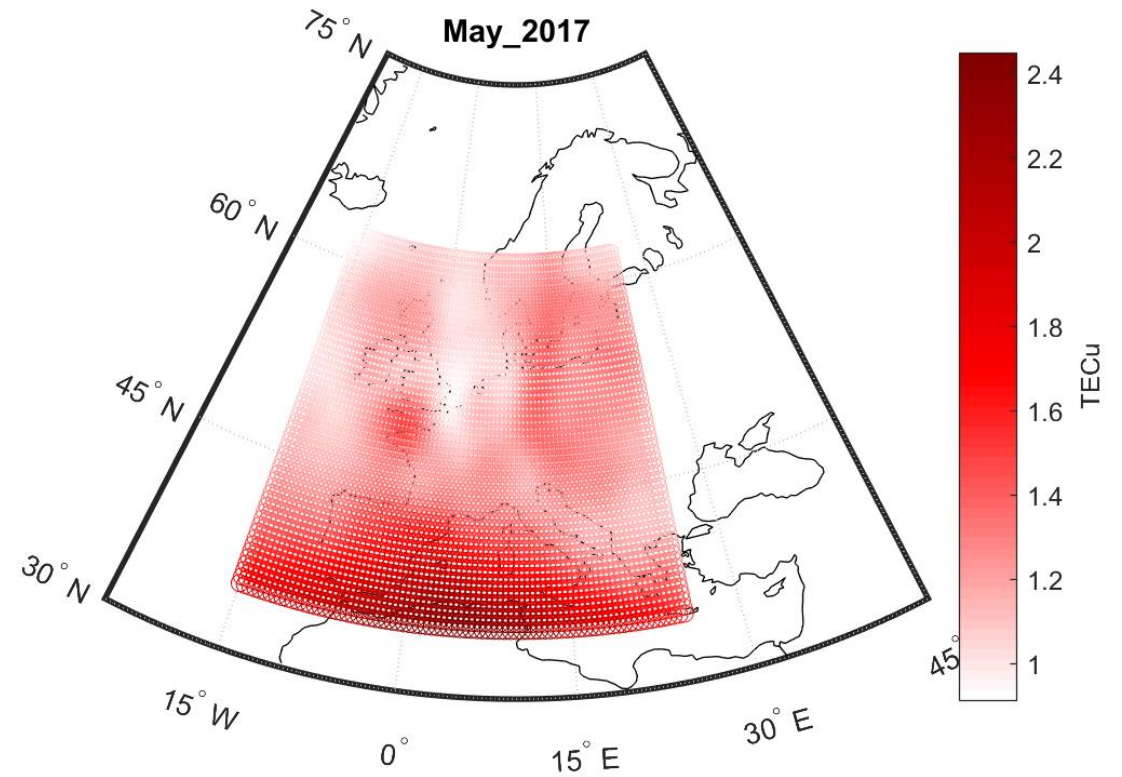
# Validation of TEC nowcasting over Europe

Validation of the TEC measurement: Comparison against ROB TEC maps

INGV TEC– ROB TEC  
Mean

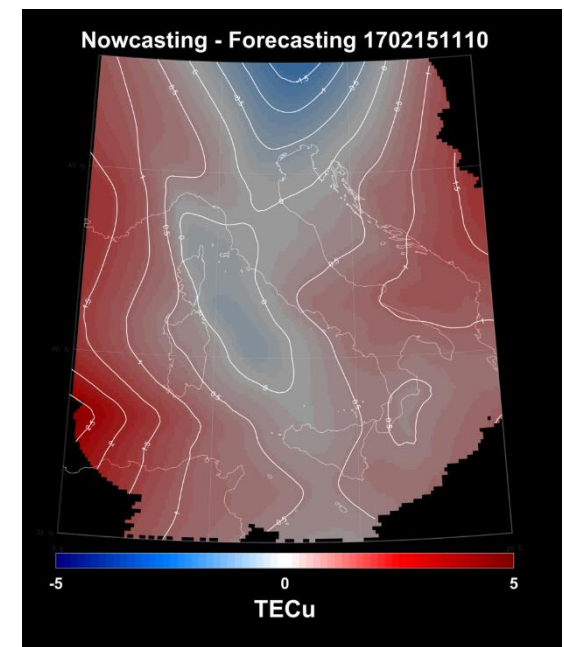
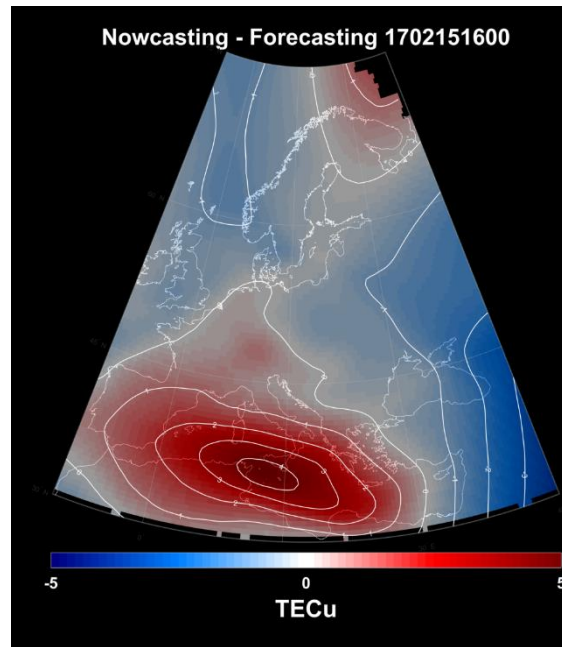
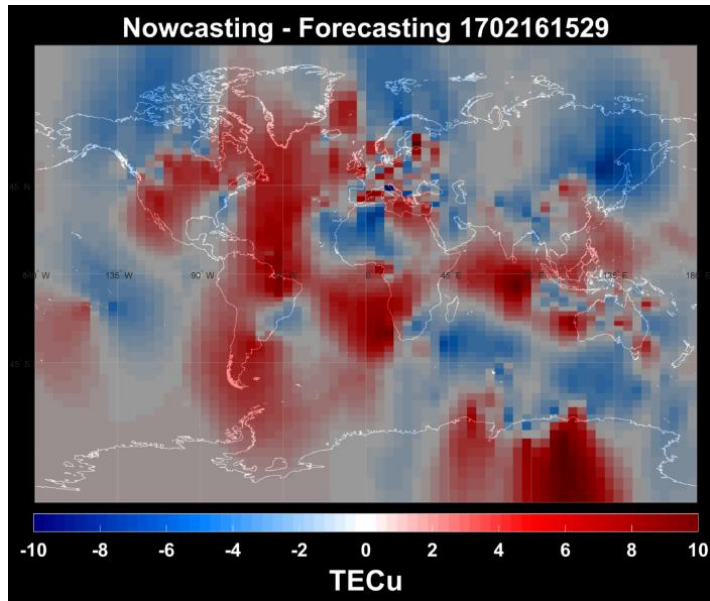
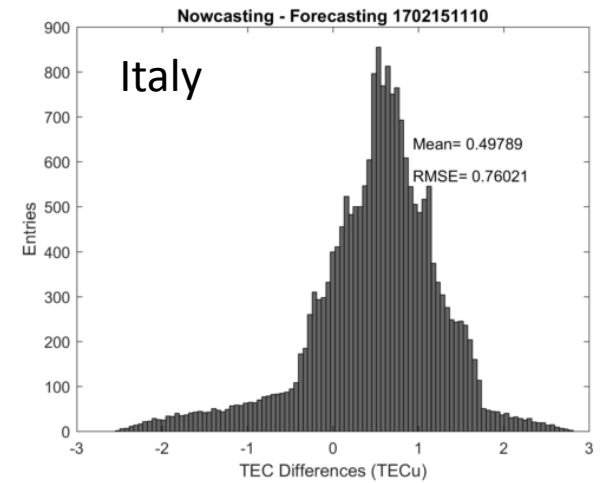
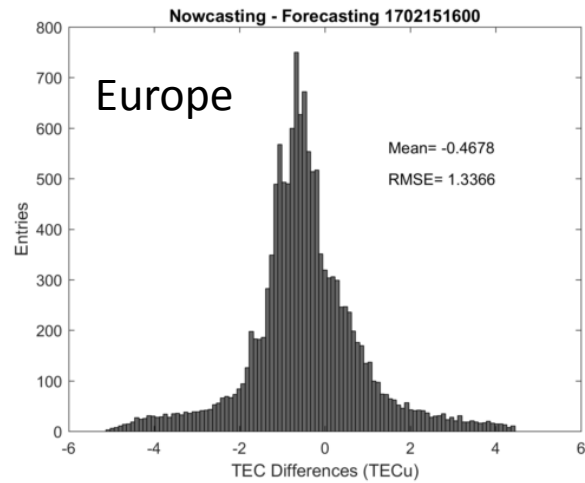
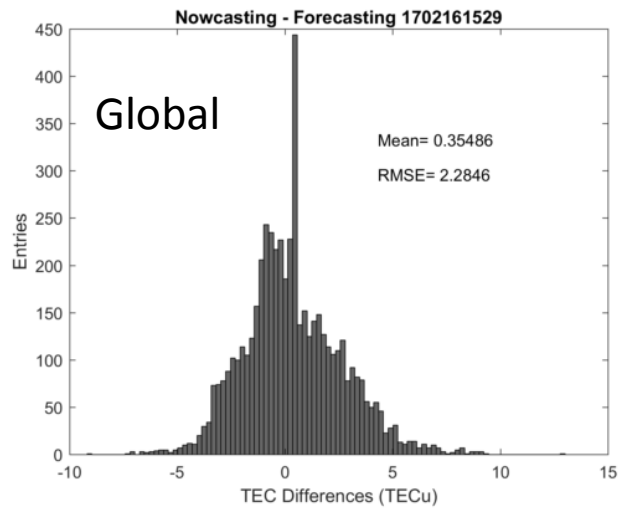


INGV TEC– ROB TEC  
Std



1 month of data (May 2017)

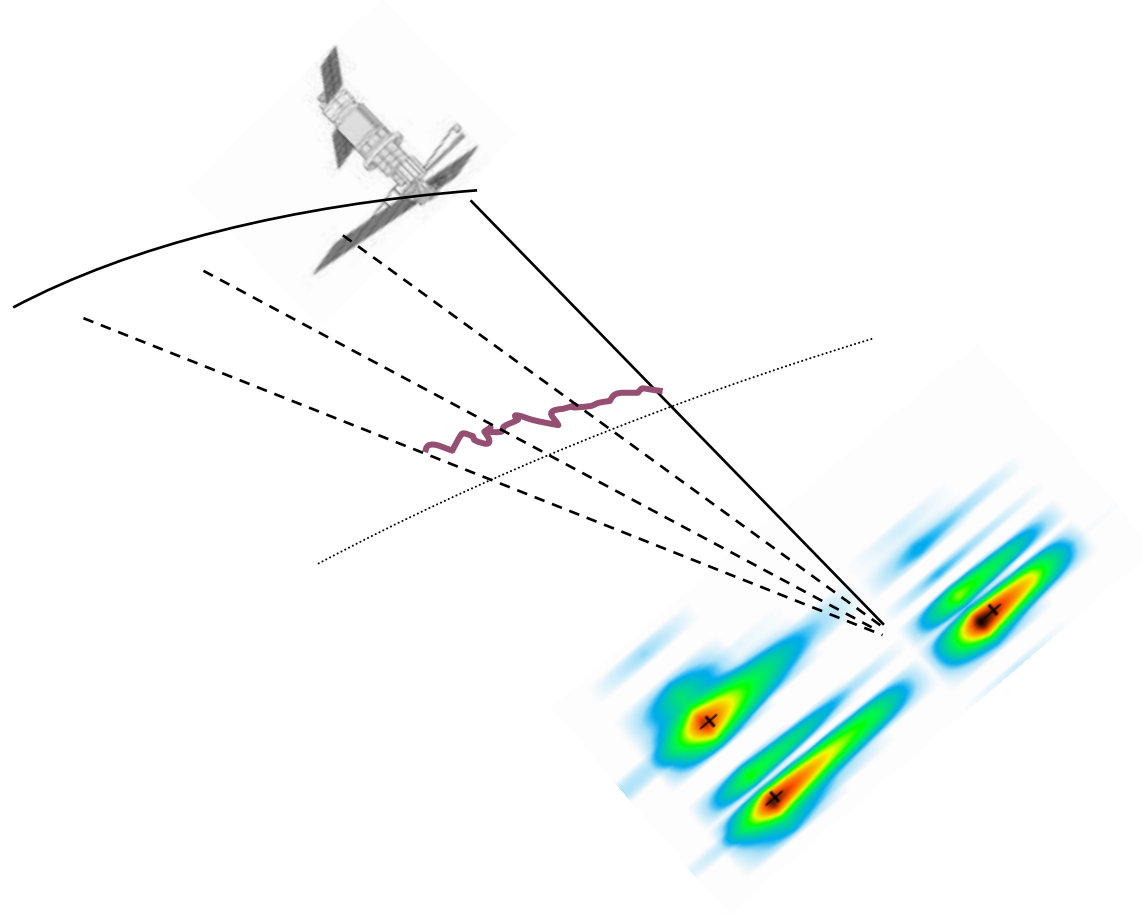
# Validation of TEC forecasting products



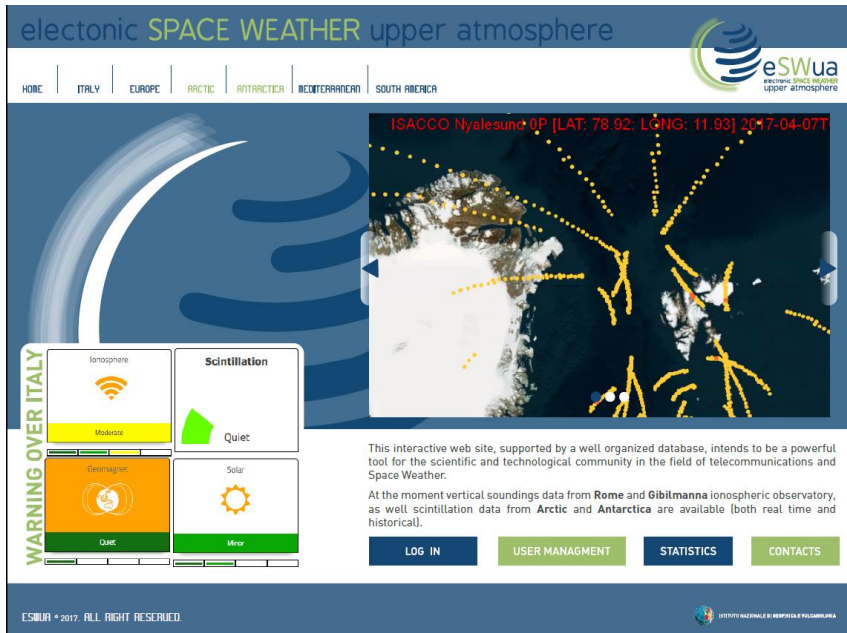
15-16 February 2017



# Tools in operation



# IONOSPHERIC WEATHER SERVICE



electronic SPACE WEATHER upper atmosphere

HOME ITALY EUROPE ARCTIC ANTARCTICA MEDITERRANEAN SOUTH AMERICA

ISACCO Nyalesund OP [LAT: 78.92; LONG: 11.93] 2017-04-07T

WARNING OVER ITALY

- Ionosphere: Moderate
- Scintillation: Quiet
- Geomagnetic: Quiet
- Solar: Minor

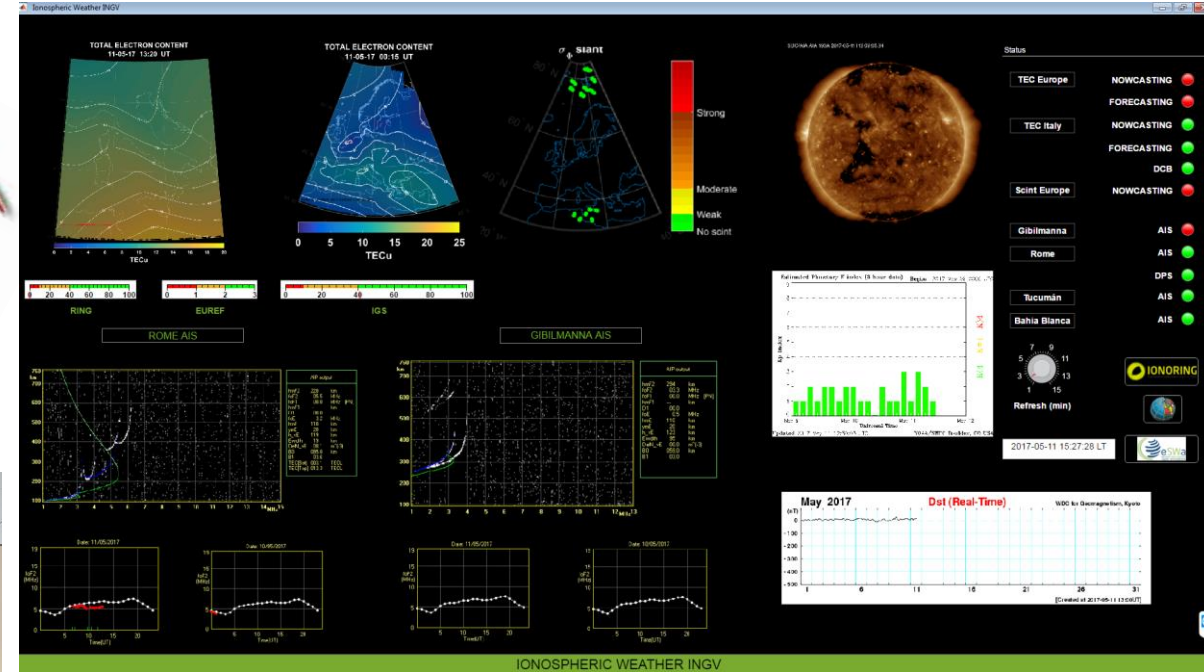
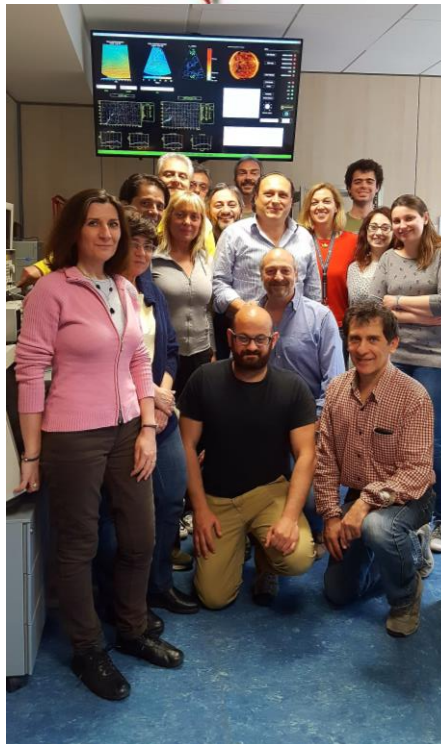
This interactive web site, supported by a well organized database, intends to be a powerful tool for the scientific and technological community in the field of telecommunications and Space Weather.

At the moment vertical soundings data from Rome and Gibilmanna ionospheric observatory, as well scintillation data from Arctic and Antarctica are available (both real time and historical).

LOG IN USER MANAGEMENT STATISTICS CONTACTS

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[www.eswua.ingv.it](http://www.eswua.ingv.it)  
[www.spaceweather.it](http://www.spaceweather.it)



The ionospheric weather service at ionolab at INGV

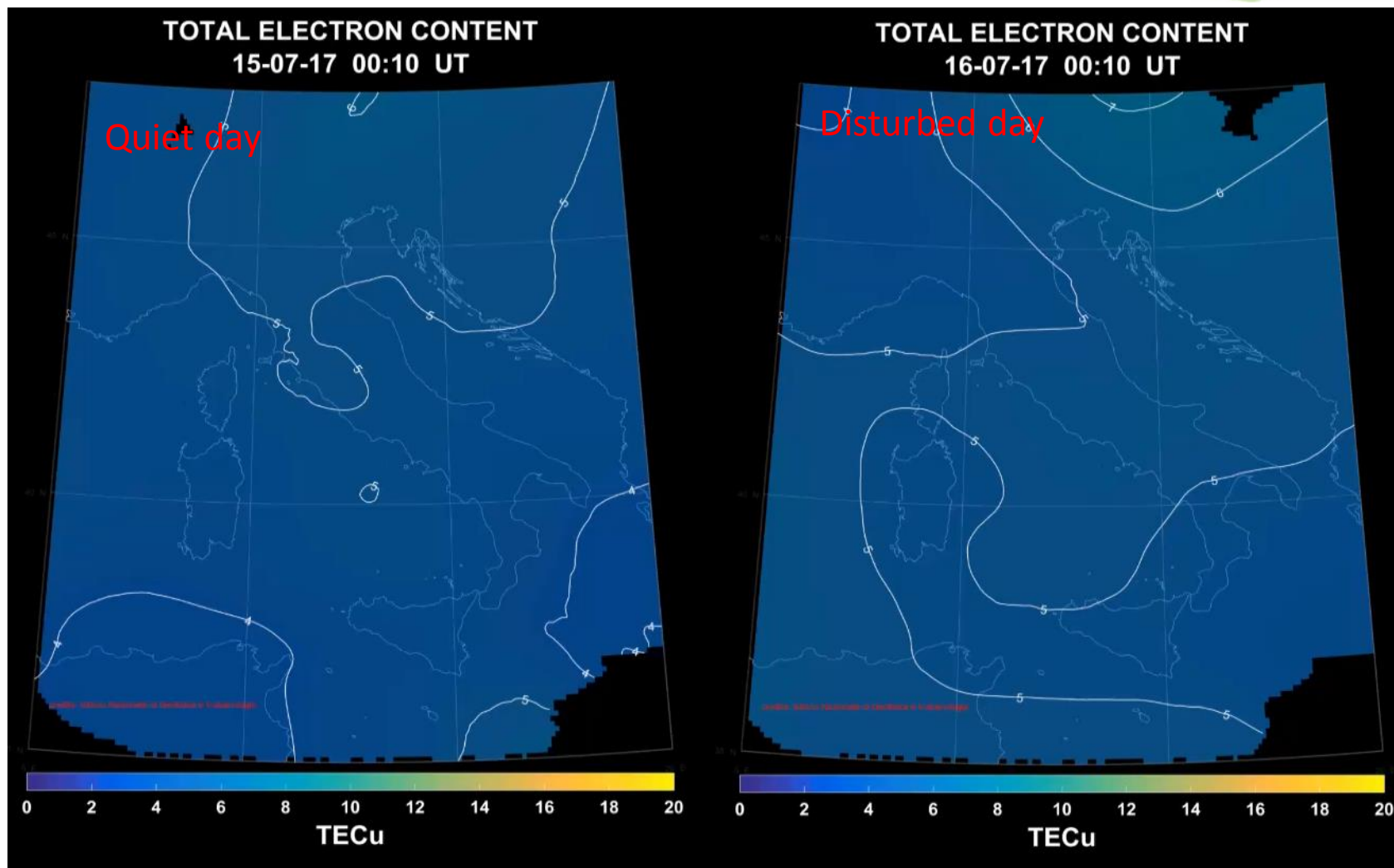


# IONORING - Real-time Total Electron Content over Italy

by Upper Atmosphere Physics research group

The main goal of the IONORING (IONOspheric RING) project is to exploit data from the RING (Rete Integrata Nazionale GPS) network to obtain ionospheric Total Electron Content (TEC) maps with very fine spatial resolution (0.1°x0.1° lat x long). These maps will be useful to support ionospheric error mitigation in precise positioning and to study the ionosphere morphology and dynamics during strong solar and geomagnetic storms affecting the mid-latitude ionosphere. This page reports the TEC maps generated in real-time every 10 minutes collecting data from about 40 RING stations.

<http://ionos.ingv.it/Ionoring/ionoring.htm>

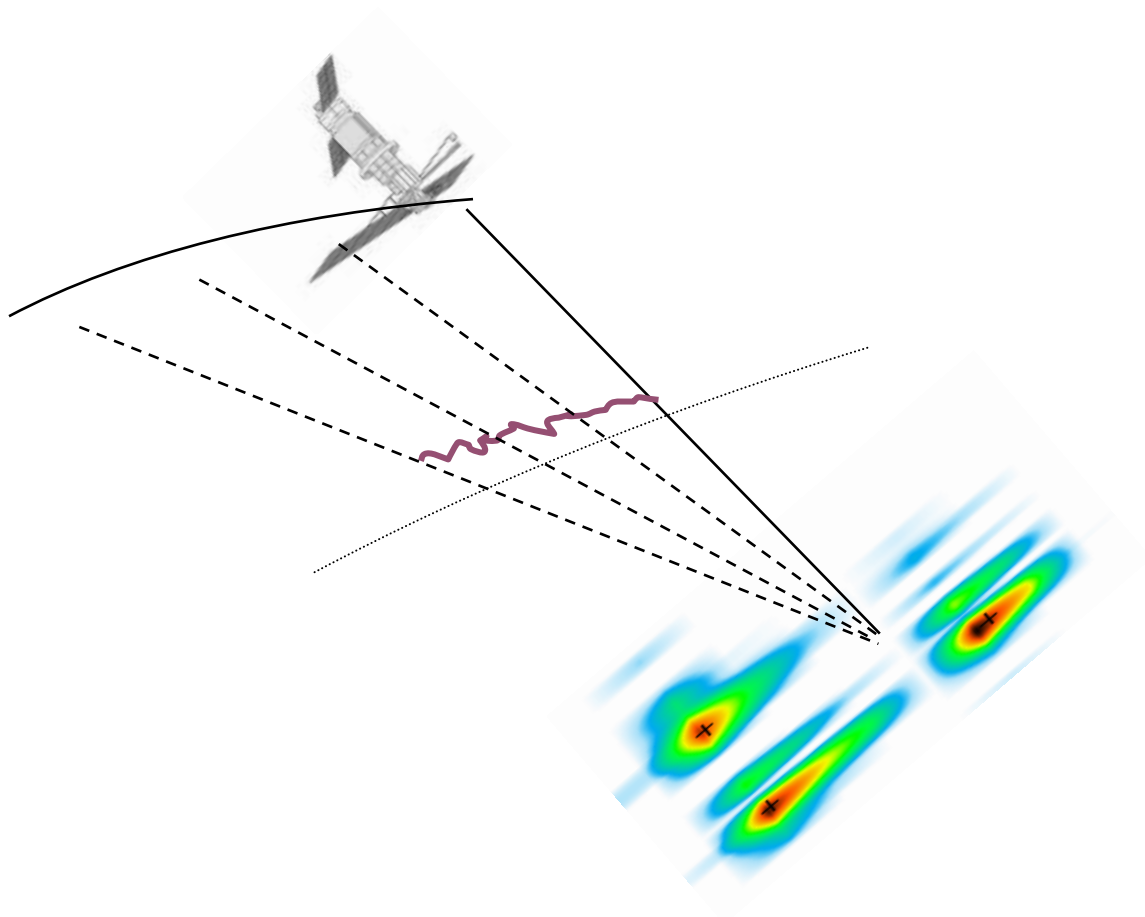




- INGV has a large community involved in investigation of ionosphere and Space Weather
- INGV and Italy have a consolidated international role in several Space Weather projects and initiatives
- Several scientific results became innovative tools and services to operation
- INGV is happy to start the collaboration with ISWI and to reinforce the Italian contribution to the community



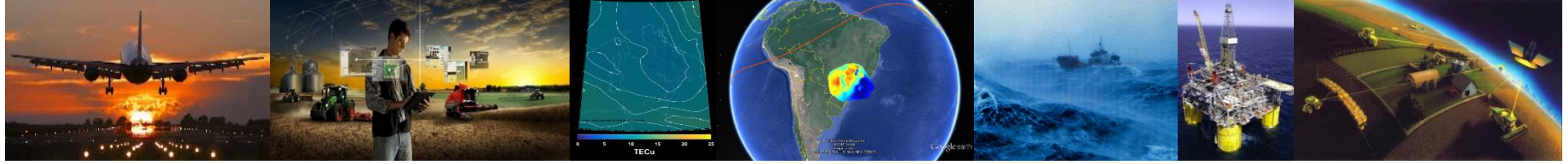
**Thank you!**



[vincenzo.romano@ingv.it](mailto:vincenzo.romano@ingv.it)



**Backup slides**



## Potential users

- GNSS service providers
  - Aviation
  - Maritime
  - Agriculture
  - High precision
- Space weather centres
- Research centres

## Most relevant on-going projects/initiatives

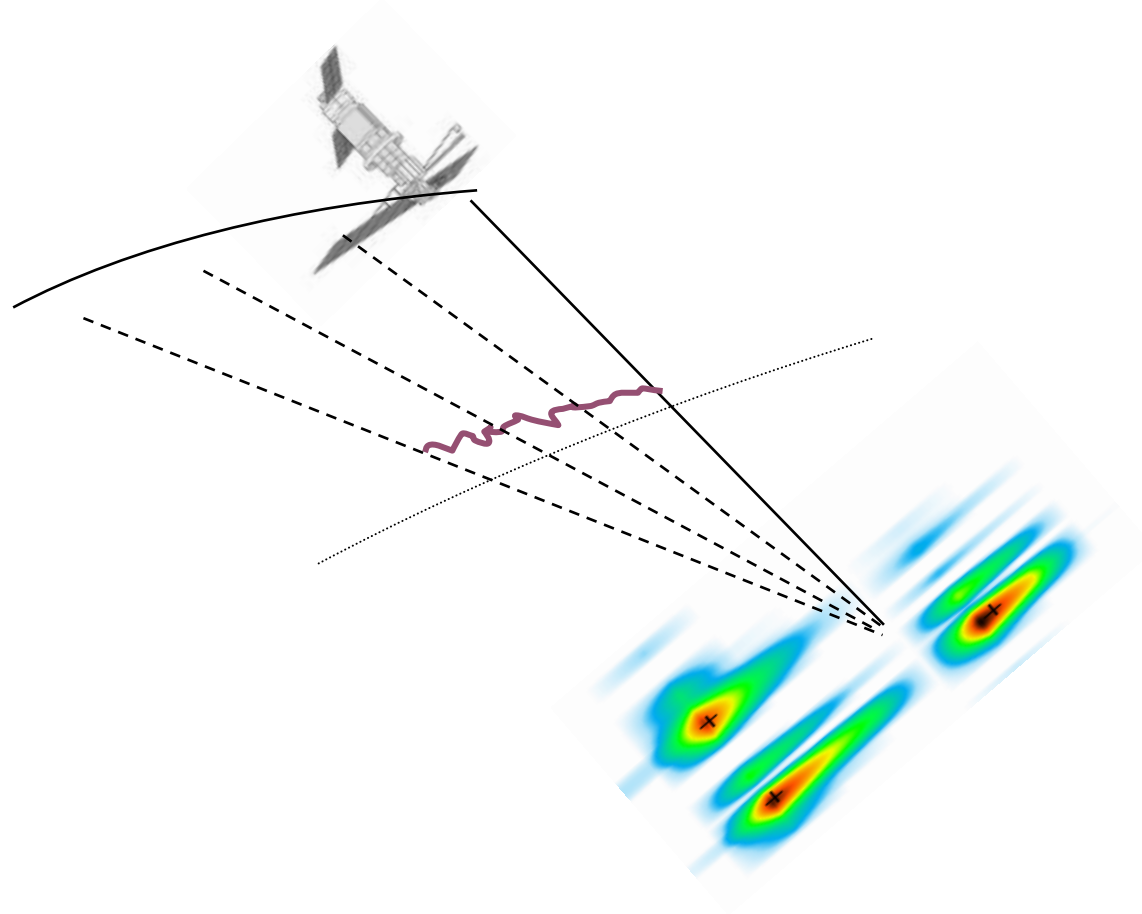
- **DemoGRAPE:** Demonstrator of GNSS Research and Application for Polar Environment, PNRA
- **GRAPE:** GNSS Research and Application for Polar Environment, SCAR
- **TREASURE:** Training, REsearch and Applications network to Support the Ultimate Real time high accuracy EGNSS solution, H2020-ITN Marie Curie
- **IRIS:** Ionospheric Research for Biomass in South America, ESA
- **IBISCO:** Ionospheric environment characterization for Biomass Calibration over South East Asia, ESA
- **IPS:** Ionospheric Prediction Service, EC
- **Arctic Table at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.** Task Force on Telecommunication Infrastructures in the Arctic (TFTIA) within the Arctic Council
- **PNRA** "Geomagnetic Observatory at Mario Zucchelli station".
- **PNRA** "Geomagnetic Observatory at Concordia station - Dome C, Antarctica".
- **PNRA** "Italian magnetometer network for longitudinal and latitudinal monitoring in Antarctica".
- **PNRA** "Upper atmosphere observations and Space Weather"
- **PNRA** "Bipolar Ionospheric Scintillation and TEC"
- **COPUOS** - Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space – SW expert group
- **ISWI** – International Space Weather Initiative



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- Grzesiak M et al., Regional short-term forecasting of ionospheric TEC and scintillation, submitted to RS, 2017
- Lepidi S. et al., A study of geomagnetic field variations along the 80°S geomagnetic parallel, AG, 2017.
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- Olwendo O. J. and Cesaroni C., Validation of NeQuick 2 model over the Kenyan region through data ingestion and the model application in ionospheric studies, JASTP, 2016.
- Piersanti M. et al. Does TEC react to a sudden impulse as a whole? The 2015 Saint Patrick's day storm event, ASR, 2017.
- Prikryl P et al., GPS phase scintillation at high latitudes during geomagnetic storms of 7–17 March 2012–Part 2: Interhemispheric comparison, AG, 2015.
- Prikryl P. et al., An interhemispheric comparison of GPS phase scintillation with auroral emission observed at the South Pole and from the DMSP satellite, AoG, 2013.
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- Romano, V. et al., The IDIPOS project: is a multidisciplinary data infrastructure for weather and space weather feasible? AoG, 2013.
- Spogli L. et al. Formation of ionospheric irregularities over Southeast Asia during the 2015 St. Patrick's Day storm. JGR, 2016.
- Spogli L. et al., GPS scintillations and total electron content climatology in the southern low, middle and high latitude regions, AoG, 2013.
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- Zolesi, B and L. R. Cander. Ionospheric Prediction and Forecasting, Springer , Geophysics, DOI:10.1007/978-3-642-38430-1 Springer Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 2014 pp240



# Ionospheric observations





# Ionospheric Observatories

Space Weather forecast

**Achievement of forecasting and nowcasting three dimensional (3-D) electron density mapping of the ionosphere.**

**Real-Time Alert of Ionospheric Storm based on HF methods**

## Gibilmanna (Italy)



Rhombic Antennas (TX and RX)



AIS - INGV



## Rome (Italy)

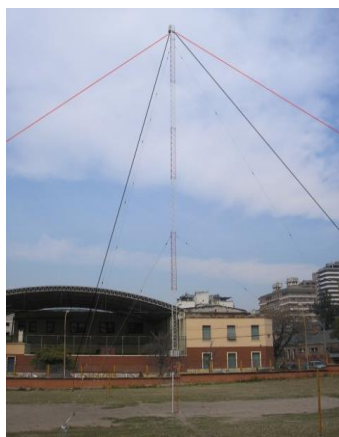


AIS - INGV



Antennas (TX and RX)

## S. Miguel de Tucumán and Bahia Blanca (Argentina)



Delta Antennas (TX and RX)



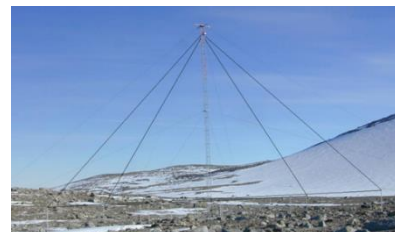
AIS - INGV with AUTOSCALING



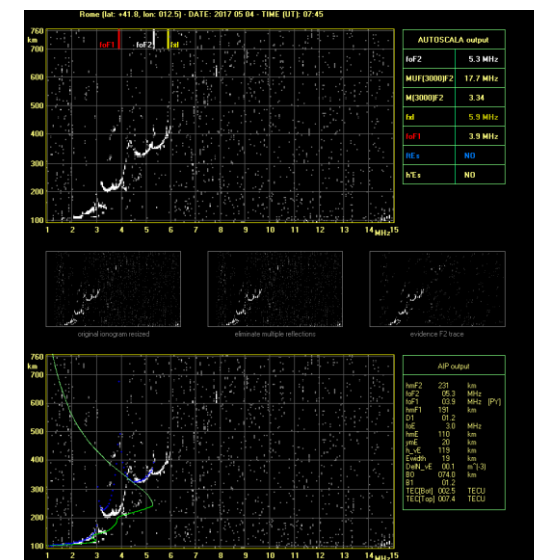
## Mario Zucchelli Station (Antarctica)



AIS - INGV



Antennas (TX and RX)



**Real-time autoscaling**

# GNSS receivers network for ionospheric scintillation and TEC (including Galileo)

- First receiver installed at Ny-Alesund (Svalbard)
- Polar ionosphere
  - Svalbard islands (4)
  - Antarctica (5)
- Mid latitude ionosphere
  - Chania (Crete)
  - Huelva (Spain) – stopped
  - Huelva station moved to Lampedusa (Sicily, Italy)
- Equatorial Ionosphere
  - Tucuman (Argentina)



Data are accessible at the *electronic Space Weather upper atmosphere* website

**eSWua**

[www.eSWua.ingv.it](http://www.eSWua.ingv.it)

[www.spaceweather.it](http://www.spaceweather.it)