



International Reference Ionosphere – Status, Plans and Potential Benefits to and from Geodetic Observing Techniques

D. Bilitza

Raytheon IIS, GSFC, Space Physics Data Facility, USA (bilitza@pop600.gsfc.nasa.gov / Fax: 301-286-1771 / Phone: 301-286-0190)

The International Reference Ionosphere (IRI) a joint project of URSI and COSPAR is the defacto standard for a climatological specification of ionospheric parameters. This talk presents a status report about the IRI effort with special emphasis on the presentations and results from the most recent IRI Workshops (Paris, 2004; Tortosa, 2005) and on the most important ongoing IRI activities. Several IRI teams are working on specific aspects of the IRI modeling effort including an improved representation of the topside ionosphere with a seamless transition to the plasmasphere, a new effort to represent the global variation of F2 peak parameters using the Neural Network (NN) technique, and the inclusion of several additional parameters in IRI, e.g., spread-F probability and ionospheric variability.

The latest version, IRI-2006, will be discussed highlighting the most recent changes and additions. Most importantly, the talk will review some of the applications of the IRI related to geodetic observing techniques and will indicate how these techniques can help to improve the IRI model.