



Current Results of the Earth Orientation Parameters Prediction Comparison Campaign

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The precise transformation between the celestial (ICRF) and terrestrial (ITRF) reference frames is needed for many advanced geodetic and astronomical tasks. To perform this transformation for the time moment of observation the precise EOP data and their predictions have to be known. This paper presents the current status of the Earth Orientation Parameters Prediction Comparison Campaign (EOP PCC), which started in October 2005 under the umbrella of the IERS (International Earth rotation and Reference systems Service). The ultra-short term, short term and medium term EOP predictions submitted since then by different groups/algorithms were evaluated by means of the same statistical analysis. The mean prediction errors of the EOP for each group/algorithm were computed with respect to IERS C04 data to show the performance in each prediction category. In October 2006 the EOP PCC rules were slightly changed however all prediction results before this moment were transformed according to the new conventions. Due to gaps in the prediction results submitted by some of the groups the statistical analysis is showing the prediction errors in time. A possible explanation of the prediction errors by comparing them with irregular EOP variations caused by irregular variations of the atmospheric and ocean angular momentum is also given.