Real-Time Implementation of an Ionospheric Model for Galileo HAS, SL2. Results and validation with single epoch navigation test

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1. Introduction: Galileo HAS

Galileo High Accuracy Service (HAS)

Enabling Precise Point Positioning (PPP) on a global scale



GALILEO HAS	Service Level 1	Service Level 2
Coverage	Global	European Coverage Area
Corrections	Orbit, clock, biases (code and phase)	Orbit, clock, biases (code and phase), <u>ionospheric</u> <u>corrections</u>
Constellations	GPS, Galileo	GPS, Galileo
Hor. Accuracy (95%)	< 20 cm	< 20 cm
Ver. Accuracy (95%)	< 40 cm	< 40 cm
Convergence Time	< 300 s	< 100 s

Service Level 1 (SL1) comprises satellite orbit and clock corrections (i.e. non-dispersive effects), and dispersive effects such as code and phase biases. Service Level 2 (SL2) incorporates ionospheric corrections for Fast-PPP navigation (at least over Europe).

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2. The IONO4HAS CPF:

In the context of the ESA project ESA Real-Time Ionospheric Continental Caster (eRTICC) project, gAGE/UPC has developed and deployed the IONO4HAS CPF.

A Real-Time Implementation of an Ionospheric Model for Galileo High Accuracy Service, SL2.



IONO4HAS CPF is not only generating the ionospheric corrections, but also precise satellite and receiver clocks, code and carrier phase biases, among other parameters, which would correspond to the HAS SL1 corrections data, allowing to navigate the user receiver in PPP, and in Fast-PPP (i.e. SL2) mode with the ionosphere corrections data.

2. The IONO4HAS CPF: Measurements Modelling



2. The IONO4HAS CPF: Geodetic Filter





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2. The IONO4HAS CPF: Ionospheric Filter



A two-layer model of the ionosphere mainly feed with unambiguous carrier phases



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Second layer plasmaspheric content

MOdied DIP latitude (MODIP) (related to geomagnetic field)

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2. The IONO4HAS CPF: Ionospheric Modelling

Measurements Modelling

✓ Outliers removal✓ Cycle slip detection✓ Modelling (cm level)

Geodetic Filter

- ✓ Satellite clocks
- ✓ Station clocks
- ✓ Tropospheric Residuals
- ✓ Phase Biases for Ambiguity Fixing

The STEC is

grid model

decorrelated for DCBs with a two layers ionospheric

✓VTEC✓DCBs

The unambiguous carrier-phase measurements ($L_{GF}_{rec}^{sat} - B_{GF}_{rec}^{sat}$) are separated in the ionospheric delay term (STEC) and hardware biases (DCBs).

$$L_{GF}_{rec}^{sat} - B_{GF}_{rec}^{sat} = STEC_{rec}^{sat} + DCB_{rec} + DCB^{sat}$$

were:

$$STEC_{rec}^{sat} = M_1(\epsilon) \sum_{i=1}^4 \alpha_i \cdot V_i + M_2(\epsilon) \sum_{j=1}^4 \beta_j \cdot V_j$$

2. The IONO4HAS CPF: Ionospheric Modelling

Monitoring the ionosphere during the geomagnetic storm on May 10, 2024

The IONO4HAS CPF has been operating continuously since January 1st 2022 and the processing results are stored in a database. This historical data includes the last geomagnetic storm on May 10, 2024.

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Monitoring the ionosphere during the geomagnetic storm on May 10, 2024

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At the end of Friday 10th, there is an strong enhancement of electron content in the upper layer, with a plumb around north pole. On Saturday 11th, the upper layer and also the lower layer appear more emptied.

3. Ionospheric corrections assessment tests

Different tests to assess the performance of the computed corrections in both Signal-In-Space (SIS) and User Domain (UD).

• Signal-in-Space (SIS) Test:

This test is based in using <u>unambiguous geometry-free combinations of carriers</u> L_{GF} . These unambiguous carrier combinations (L_{GF}) should be equal to the ionospheric model prediction (STEC) except for two hardware biases, one for the satellite and other for the receiv<u>er</u>.

$$L_{GF_{rec}}^{sat} - \alpha \, STEC_{rec}^{sat} = k_{rec} + k^{sat}$$

The test consists on estimating these code biases (k_{rec}, k^{sat}) and analyzing the residuals of the fitting (see Rovira et al. 2021). The smaller the better!

- User Domain (UD) tests:
 - Wide-lane Instantaneous positioning test:

This single epoch test is based on navigating with <u>unambiguous wide-lane</u> <u>combinations of carrier phases</u>. Thus, the positioning error is linked to the STEC accuracy (see Timote et al. 2024).

• **Fast-PPP navigation** (Kalman filter navigation test).

This test consist in applying the Fast-PPP positioning technique, and asses the convergence time. <u>The Fast-PPP solution is compared with the PPP one</u>.

Signal-in-Space (SIS) Test:

Data set of 100 days in 2023, from day of the year 200 up to 300

KOS1 in central Europe at around 100 km from the nearest reference receiver. RIO1 in Spain, at more than 100 km from the nearest reference receiver. SONS in Spain, at more than 300 km from the nearest reference receiver. CACE in Spain at more than 400 km from the nearest reference receiver (at East). MET3 in the Finland Gulf at less than 100 km from the nearest reference receiver.

Rovira-Garcia A, Juan JM, Sanz J, González-Casado G, Ibáñez-Segura D (2016) "Accuracy of ionospheric models used in GNSS and SBAS: methodology and analysis" Journal of Geodesy 90(3):229-240. DOI 10.1007/s00190-015-0868-3

User Domain test: Wide-lane Instantaneous positioning test

Once wide-lane ambiguities are fixed:

$$\Delta L_{wrcw}^{sat} - \alpha (STEC_{rcv}^{sat} + DCB^{sat}) = G \Delta r + cT_{rcv} + \epsilon_{Lw}$$

Direct link between ionospheric corrections and rover positioning error.

- ΔL_w: Residuals of <u>unambiguous wide-lane combination</u> after modelling all non-dispersive effects
 G: Geometry matrix
 Δr: positioning error
 T_{rcv}: receiver clock
- ϵ_{L_w} : noise term

Timoté CC, Juan JM, Sanz J, Rovira-Garcia A, González-Casado G, Orús-Pérez R, Fernández-Hernández I, Blonski D (2024) "Ionospheric corrections tailored to Galileo HAS: validation with single-epoch navigation", GPS Solutions 28(2):A93:1-12

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User Domain test: Wide-lane Instantaneous positioning test

A period with nominal ionosphere was selected to test the prototype: Data window: from DoY 140 up to 200 (2023)

 $\Delta L_{w_{rcv}}^{sat} - \alpha (STEC_{rcv}^{sat} + DCB^{sat}) = G \Delta r + cT_{rcv} + \epsilon_{L_w}$

Real-time Position error due strictly to ionospheric mismodelling

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Performance comparison with other products:

95 th percentile horizontal error (m)			95 th percentile vertical error (m)		
	IGRG	IONO4HAS		IGRG	IONO4HAS
RIO1	0.58	0.19	RIO1	0.91	0.32
TERU	0.61	0.21	TERU	1.07	0.41
ZARA	0.60	0.19	ZARA	1.00	0.32
ALBA	0.56	0.23	ALBA	0.95	0.37
COBA	0.61	0.25	COBA	1.06	0.41
VALA	0.57	0.22	VALA	0.90	0.37
YEBE	0.65	0.22	YEBE	1.15	0.46
SONS	0.62	0.25	SONS	1.10	0.45
CACE	0.71	0.32	CACE	1.22	0.52

95 th percentile horizontal error (m)			95 th percentile vertical error (m)		
	IGRG	IONO4HAS		IGRG	IONO4HAS
WARE	0.56	0.12	WARE	0.92	0.18
VLIS	0.54	0.13	VLIS	0.85	0.20
DENT	0.57	0.14	DENT	0.94	0.21
KOS1	0.59	0.12	KOS1	1.00	0.19

th percentile horizontal error (m)			95 th percentile vertical error (m)			
	IGRG	IONO4HAS		IGRG	IONO4HAS	
METG	0.37	0.18	METG	0.59	0.26	
MET3	0.61	0.19	MET3	1.08	0.29	

IGRG: Post-Process ; IONO4HAS: Real-Time

 $\Delta L_{w_{rcv}}^{sat} - \alpha (STEC_{rcv}^{sat} + DCB^{sat}) = G \Delta r + cT_{rcv} + \epsilon_{L_w}$

navigation with unambiguous W

single-epoch

(snapshot) Instantaneous positioning error

Example of performance at the user level of kinematic positioning for DENT station with Classical PPP (red), Fast-PPP (blue) and Single-Epoch positioning (Snapshot) with Wide-Lane fixed (black squares). Left hand plot shows the Horizontal component error as a function of time, resetting navigation filter every two hours. Right hand plot shows 95th percentile of horizontal error, as a function of elapsed time from the cold start filter reset, computed over one-week solutions (25 May to 1 June 2024).

Only IONO4HAS CPF products are used for the data processing

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MODIP

4.- The selected ionospheric model for Galileo HAS SL2

Thanks to the successful results of IONO4HAS project, the IONO4HAS ionospheric model has been selected for the Galileo HAS SL2 (see Galileo High Accuracy Service E6-B Signal-In-Space Message Specification for Phase 2, Issue/ver. 1.0, 25/04/2024, EC/EUSPA/ESA). Minor upgrades were introduced, due to limitations in infrastructure and bandwidth:

- **The distribution of the reference stations** for computing the HAS corrections
 - (close to 200 from public servers in IONO4HAS worldwide distributed).
- The grid step for MODIP:
 - IONO4HAS baseline : 2.5° (1st layer) and 5.0° (2nd layer)
 - Galileo HAS SL2: 3.0° (1st layer) and 6.0° (2nd layer)

IGPs of layer 2 are a subset of layer 1 IGPs

5.- Conclusions:

• The Galileo High Accuracy Positioning Service (HAS) is an existing capability of Galileo, the European Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), to offer user positioning with decimeter-level accuracy, employing multiple constellations.

Available since January 2023, Galileo HAS is a global precise point positioning (PPP) service, to be deployed in two service levels:

- Service Level 1 (SL1) comprises satellite orbit and clock corrections (i.e. nondispersive effects), and dispersive effects such as code and phase biases.
- Service Level 2 (SL2) incorporates ionospheric corrections for Fast-PPP navigation (at least over Europe).
- In the context of the ESA project ESA Real-Time Ionospheric Continental Caster (eRTICC) project, gAGE/UPC has developed and deployed the IONO4HAS CPF: *A Real-Time Implementation of an Ionospheric Model for Galileo High Accuracy Service, SL2.*
- Thanks to the successful results of IONO4HAS project, the IONO4HAS ionospheric model has been selected for the Galileo HAS SL2.

IONO4HAS CPF is not only generating the ionospheric corrections, but also precise satellite and receiver clocks, code and carrier phase biases, among other parameters, which would correspond to the HAS SL1 corrections data, allowing to navigate the user receiver in PPP, and in Fast-PPP (i.e. SL2) mode with the ionospheric corrections.

More details in:

- Timoté CC, Juan JM, Sanz J, Rovira-Garcia A, González-Casado G, Orús-Pérez R, Fernández-Hernández I, Blonski D (2024) "<u>Ionospheric corrections tailored to Galileo HAS:</u> <u>validation with single-epoch navigation</u>", GPS Solutions 28(2):A93:1-12, <u>DOI</u> <u>10.1007/s10291-024-01630-w</u>
- Rovira-Garcia A, Timoté CC, Juan JM, Sanz J, Gonzalez-Casado G, Fernández-Hernández I, Orus R, Blonski D (2021) "<u>Ionospheric corrections tailored to the Galileo High Accuracy</u> <u>Service</u>" Journal of Geodesy 95(12):A130:1-14. <u>DOI 10.1007/s00190-021-01581-x</u>
- Rovira-Garcia A, Ibánez D, Orus R, Juan JM, Sanz J, González-Casado G (2020) "<u>Assessing</u> the quality of ionospheric models through GNSS positioning error: Methodology and <u>Results</u>" GPS Solutions 24(1):A4:1-12. <u>DOI 10.1007/ s10291-019-0918-z</u>
- Rovira-Garcia A, Juan JM, Sanz J, González-Casado G, Ibáñez-Segura D (2016) "<u>Accuracy of ionospheric models used in GNSS and SBAS: methodology and analysis</u>" Journal of Geodesy 90(3):229-240. <u>DOI 10.1007/s00190-015-0868-3</u>
- Rovira-Garcia A, Juan JM, Sanz J, Gonzalez-Casado G (2015) "<u>A Worldwide Ionospheric</u> <u>Model for Fast Precise Point Positioning</u>" IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing 53(8):4596-4604. <u>DOI 10.1109/ TGRS.2015.2402598</u>

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Thank you !!

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Back up slides

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IONO4HAS Central Processing Facility SIS Ionosphere Test: Slant Total Electron Content (STEC) error for the rover receiver KOS1 (100 km from the nearest sta.) and VALA (around 300 km), in TECUs for 24 hours in 1st June 2024. In green are depicted the STEC residuals for elevation high than 30 deg. Top row plots show the residuals as a function of time. Bottom row plots are as a function of elevation.

2024	May storm IONO4HAS	Spanish subnetwork
1	VALA: Single epoch positioning (LW snapshot)	35 -10 -5 Longitude (degrees) 0
1	Thursday Friday Horizontal Error	Iberian Peninsula
0.8		300km
6.0		
Ē 0.4		
0.2		
0	0 4 8 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40 44 48 52 56 60	64 68 72
	hours from OUT of May 9 2024	Requirement Galileo <u>HAS (in 100s)</u> <u>hor. 20 cm</u> <u>ver. 40 cm</u>

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20	24 M	ay storm			62 61 -	reference stations rover receivers ORIV MIK3 OLK2
			IONO4HA	S	– 00	TUO2 VIR2
	1	METG	: Single epoch positio	oning (LW snap	oshot)	SUR4 TOIL 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
		Thursday May 9	Friday May 10	Horizor	ntal Error 0.4 0.2	Finish 90km
	0.8			•	• *	
itres	0.6				•	
me	0.4					
	0.2					
	01	4 8 12 16	20 24 28 32 36 ²	40 44 48 52	56 60 64 68	72
			hours from 0UT of	May 9 2024		Requirement Galileo <u>HAS (in 100s)</u> hor. 20 cm ver. 40 cm

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2024 May storm navigation results

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2024 May storm

Day before Storm (Thursday, May 9)

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ude (degrees)

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ver. 40 cm

reference stations rover receivers

TIT2

KOS1

WARE

BORJ WSRT

Storm day (Friday, May 10)

55

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ver. 40 cm

reference stations rover receivers

TERS

WARE EUS

KOS1

BORJ

WSRT

TIT2

55

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reference stations rover receivers

BORJ

20	24 M	ay storm			62 OLK2	reference stations rover receivers ORIV MIKS
			IONO4HAS	5	Latitude (degrees)	
		METG:	SUR4 TOIL 22 23 24 25 26 27 28			
		Thursday May 9	Friday May 10	Horizonta	l Error 0.4 0.2	Finish 90km
	0.0			• •	• •	
etres	0.6				•	
Ű	0.4					
	0.2	an in the second				
	0	4 8 12 16 2	20 24 28 32 36 4	0 44 48 52 5	56 60 64 68 72	
			hours from OUT of N	/lay 9 2024		Requirement Galileo HAS (in 100s) hor. 20 cm ver. 40 cm

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rover receiver MIK3

Storm day (Friday, May 10)

rover receiver

TOIL

МІКЗ

rover receiver

МІКЗ

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Test4₀: C1C: BRUX: Cloks [C1W-C2W-->C1C-C2W]: CNS]: Reset 7200s G12-E15: Using Orbits, Clocks from each centre, but DCBs and IONO from gAGE

with I the true magnetic inclination, or *dip* in the ionosphere (usually at 300 km), and φ the geographic latitude of the receiver.

 $V_{IPP} = (1 - y)(1 - x_1) \cdot V_1 + y \cdot (1 - x_2) \cdot V_2 + (1 - y)x_1 \cdot V_4 + y \cdot x_2 \cdot V_3$

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Example of the percentage of geometry-free combinations of carriers (L_{GF}) used in the Ionospheric filter with ambiguities fixed (green colour), with floated ambiguities (blue colour). In red the percentage of measurements corresponding to non-consolidated carrier arcs. In this case the code (P_{GF}) is used (red colour). The data set is for 29 of May2024.

Real-time estimates of satellite clocks. Detrended clocks

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Galileo HAS testing: Orbits and clocks.

Using the correction message transmitted over NTRIP

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2. IONO4HAS tool

Ionospheric monitoring indexes: MSTID index

$$MSTID_{IDX}^{2}(t) = \frac{1}{20} \sum_{i=t-2\tau}^{n} (\Delta^{2}STEC(i) / M(\epsilon))^{2}$$

 $\Delta^2 STEC(t)$: 0.5 • $(STEC(t + \tau) + STEC(t - \tau) - 2 \cdot STEC(t))$ τ : tuning parameter (MSTID periods of 10 min) $M(\epsilon)$ is an obliquity factor for mitigating larger values of $\Delta^2 STEC$

2. IONO4HAS tool

Ionospheric monitoring indexes: **AATR index**

Thursday (May 9th) From 12:00 to 23:59 (UTC) From 12:00 to 23:59 (UTC) AATR index value at 77700 seconds of the day 10 - 05 - 2024 AATR index value at 77700 seconds of the day 9 - 05 - 2024 12 100 Longitud

Friday (May 10th)

Along-Arc TEC Ratio is defined as:

$$AATR_i^j(t) = \frac{1}{\left(M(\epsilon)\right)^2} \frac{\Delta STEC_i^j(t)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Delta STEC_i^j(t) = (LGF_i^j(t) - LGF_i^j(t - \Delta t))$$

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User Domain test: Wide-lane Instantaneous positioning test

Positioning error related with distance of the user receiver to nearest ref. receiver

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1. Introduction: Galileo HAS Architecture

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The linear observation model y = G x for the code and carrier measurements in PPP can be written as follows:

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How the ionosphere helps the filter convergence in Fast-PPP?

- →In the classical PPP, the navigation filter convergence is driven by the convergence of the floated iono-free ambiguity (B_C), which, at the beginning, depends on the code noise.
- 1) There is a constraint between the <u>wide-lane</u> ambiguity (B_{ν}) , the <u>iono-free</u> ambiguity (B_{c}) and the <u>ionospheric refraction</u> (*STEC*) and *DCB*.

 $B_C = B_W - 1.98 (L_1 - L_2 - STEC - DCB)$

- 2) The <u>wide-lane</u> ambiguity ($B_{\nu\nu}$) is estimated/fixed quickly (less than 1 minute with 2-freq and in <u>single epoch</u> with 3-freq. signals).
- 3) The ionosphere (*STEC*) is the bridge (through the mentioned constraint) to transfer the quick accuracy achieved in the <u>wide-lane ambiguity</u> (B_{W}) computed value to the <u>iono-free ambiguity</u> (B_{C}) estimation, accelerating in this way the filter convergence.
- →Thence, in Fast-PPP the convergence time is strongly reduced thanks to the quick wide-lane ambiguity fixing and the accurate ionospheric corrections. It allows to achieve High Accuracy quickly (< 1 minute with 2-freq & single epoch with 3-freq).</p>

The ionosphere helps provided that its quality (noise/error) is better than the code

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