



MINISTÉRIO DA CIÊNCIA E TECNOLOGIA  
**INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE PESQUISAS ESPACIAIS**

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GPS SIGNAL SCINTILLATIONS DURING IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES AND THEIR EFFECTS OVER THE GPS SYSTEM**

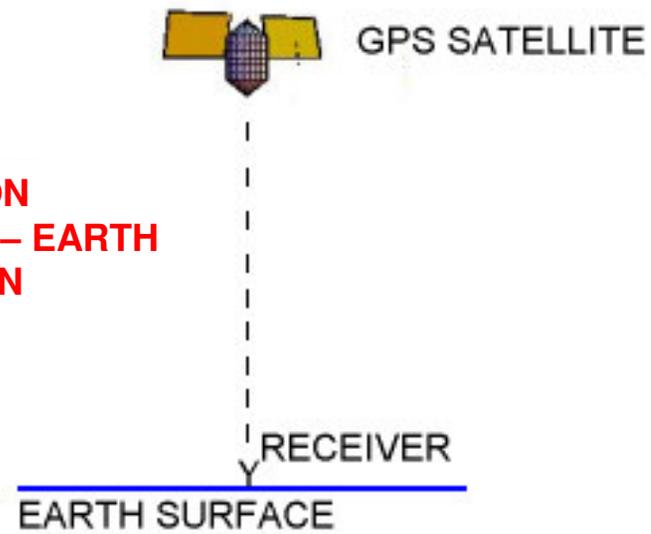
**Eurico R. de Paula, I.J.Kantor, L.F.C. de Rezende**  
AERONOMY DIVISION – NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SPACE RESEARCH ( INPE)



**IV SIMPÓSIO BRASILEIRO DE ENGENHARIA INERCIAL**  
**INPE – 17 – 19 DE NOVEMBRO DE 2004**



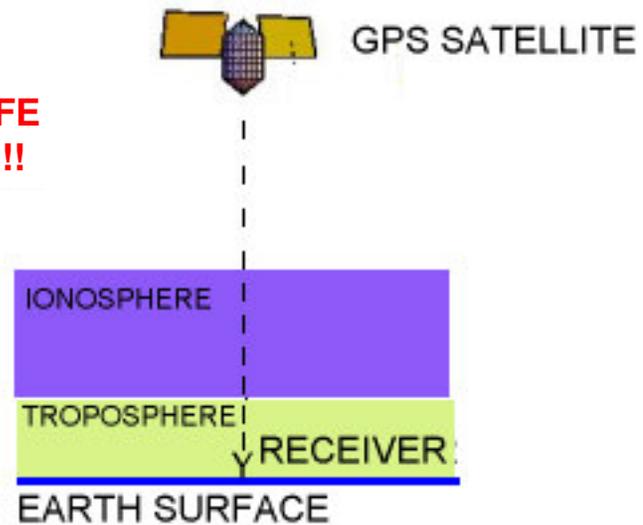
**IDEAL CONDITION  
FOR SATELLITE – EARTH  
COMMUNICATION**





## INTERFERENCES FROM ATMOSPHERIC LAYERS

**HOWEVER REAL LIFE  
IS NOT THAT EASY !!**





## OUTLINE





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- **PHYSICAL MECHANISM THAT GIVE ORIGIN TO THE IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES AND THEIR CHARACTERISTICS.**





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- **DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH:**
  - SEASON**
  - LOCAL TIME**
  - SOLAR ACTIVITY**
  - MAGNETIC ACTIVITY**





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- PHYSICAL MECHANISM THAT GIVE ORIGIN TO THE IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES AND THEIR CHARACTERISTICS.
- DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH:
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- **THE EFFECTS OF THE IONOSPHERIC TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT (TEC) OVER GPS SIGNAL**





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- **POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES:**
  - LOSS OF LOCK**
  - DILUTION OF PRECISION INCREASE ( DEGRADATION )**
  - DECREASE ON AVAILABLE NUMBER OF GPS SATELLITES**
  - EFFECTS ON THE SBAS ( SPACE BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM )**
  - EFFECTS ON THE DGPS (DIFFERENTIAL GPS )**



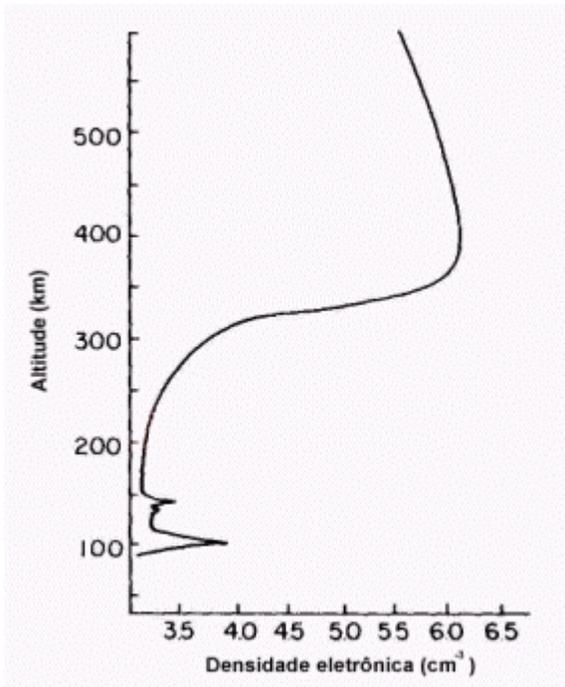


# PHYSICAL MECHANISM THAT GIVE ORIGIN TO THE IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES

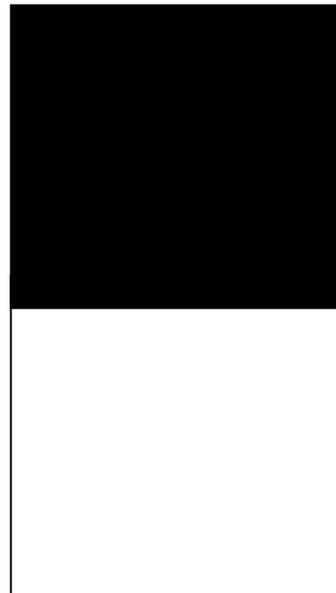


## IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITY GENERATION MECHANISM

Rayleigh - Taylor (RT) instability Dungey (1956)



Kelley (1989, pag. e 122)



Animação gentilmente cedida  
por C. M. Denardini



# IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS





## IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS



- IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES ARE ELECTRON DENSITY DEPLETED REGIONS OF THE IONOSPHERIC PLASMA



## IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS



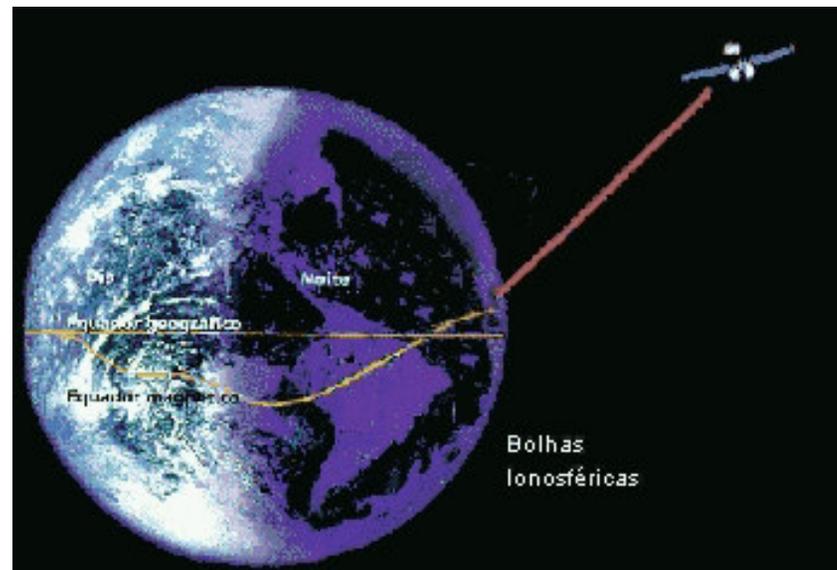
- IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES ARE ELECTRON DENSITY DEPLETED REGIONS OF THE IONOSPHERIC PLASMA
- **GENERATED AT THE EQUATORIAL REGION AFTER SUNSET ( UP TO MIDNIGHT DURING QUIET MAGNETIC CONDITIONS ) AND THEY CAN EVOLUTE TO LARGE DEPLETED STRUCTURES CALLED BUBBLES.**



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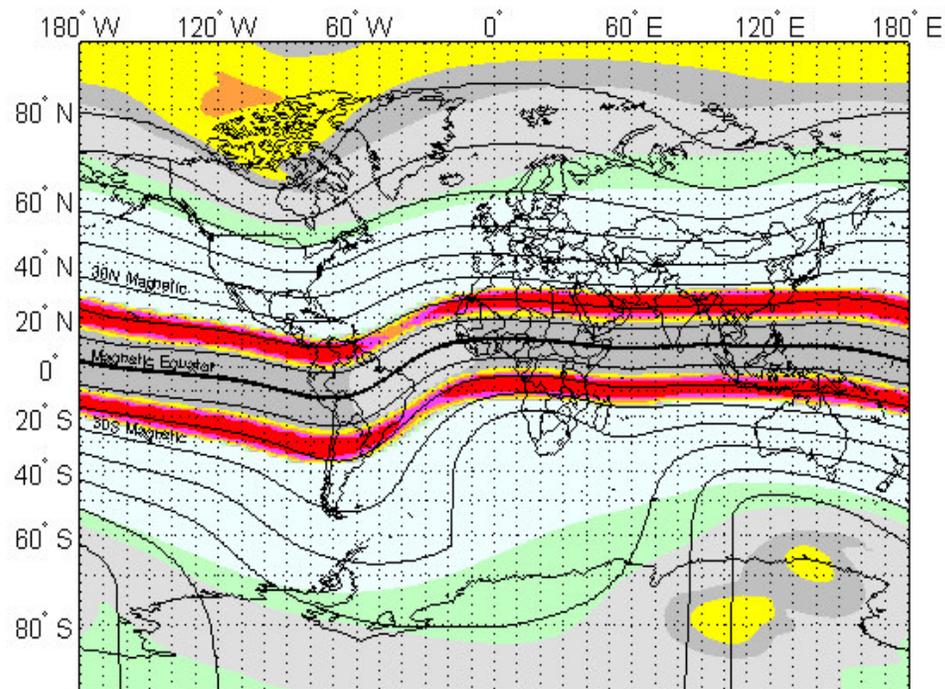




# IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS



- THE EFFECTS ARE IN THE TROPICAL REGION ALL OVER THE WORLD WITH LARGEST INCIDENCE OVER BRAZIL ( LARGE MAGNETIC DECLINATION ).





## IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS



- **THE IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES HAVE MANY SCALE SIZES (cms. to Kms. ) SO THEY AFFECT SEVERAL TRANSMISSION FREQUENCIES ( HF TO SEVERAL GHz ).**



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- **THEY HAVE A LARGE DAY-TO-DAY VARIABILITY.**



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- THEY HAVE A LARGE DAY-TO-DAY VARIABILITY.
- **DURING MAGNETICALLY QUIET PERIODS THEY DRIFT FROM WEST TO EAST WITH A VELOCITY OF ABOUT 150 m / s. ( SHOWED AT NEXT SLIDE ).**

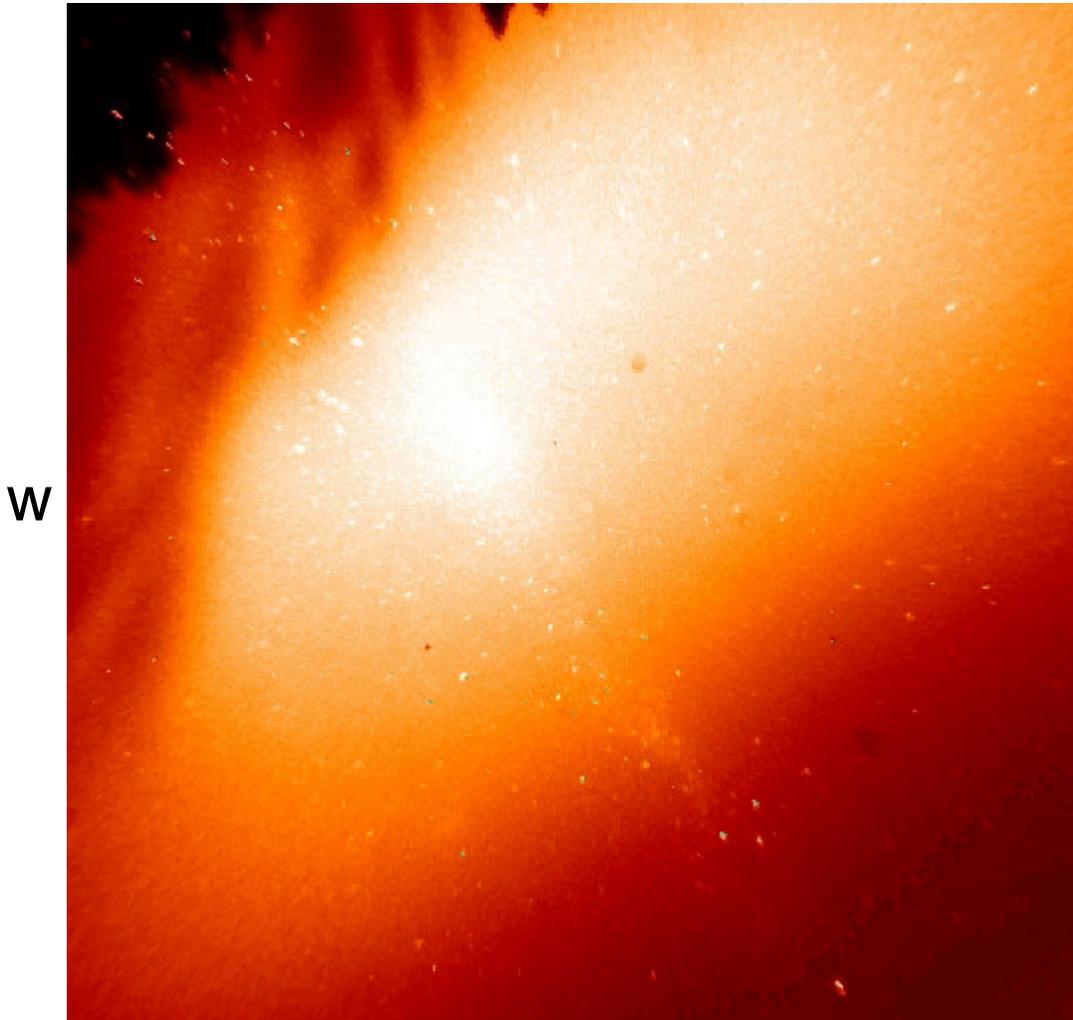


# IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CHARACTERISTICS



BUBBLE EASTWARD DISPLACEMENT ( 21 – 01 LT )

N



ALL SKY PHOTOMETER  
6300 Å, MARCH 18 1999,  
CACHOEIRA PAULISTA.

BUBBLES ARE ELECTRON  
DENSITY DEPLETED REGIONS  
AND CONSEQUENTLY THERE IS A  
DRASTIC REDUCTION IN THE  
AEROLUMINESCENCE INTENSITY  
OVER THESE REGIONS.

W

E

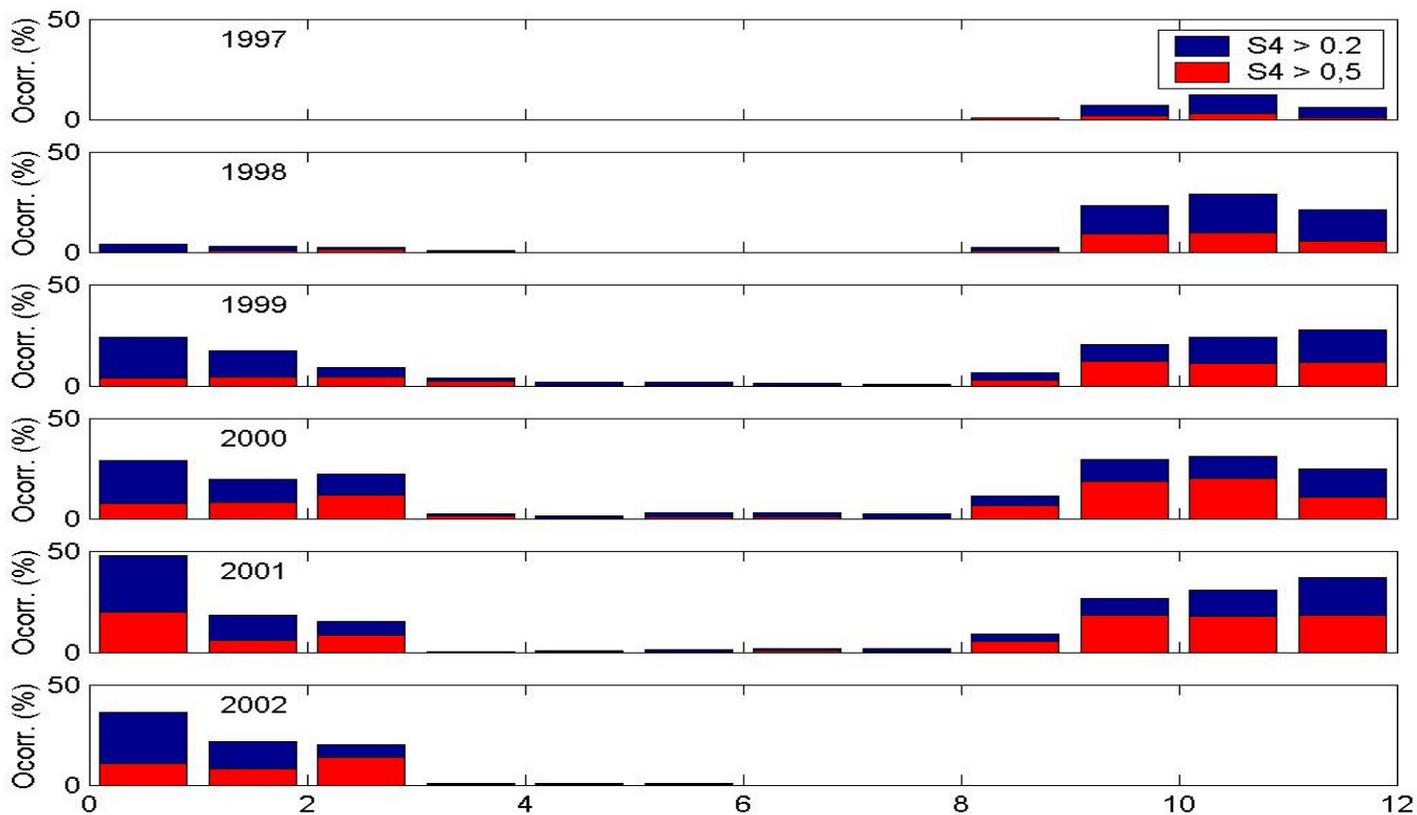
S



# DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH LOCAL TIME



## SEASONAL EFFECTS



IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES OCCURRENCES FROM SEPTEMBER TO MARCH



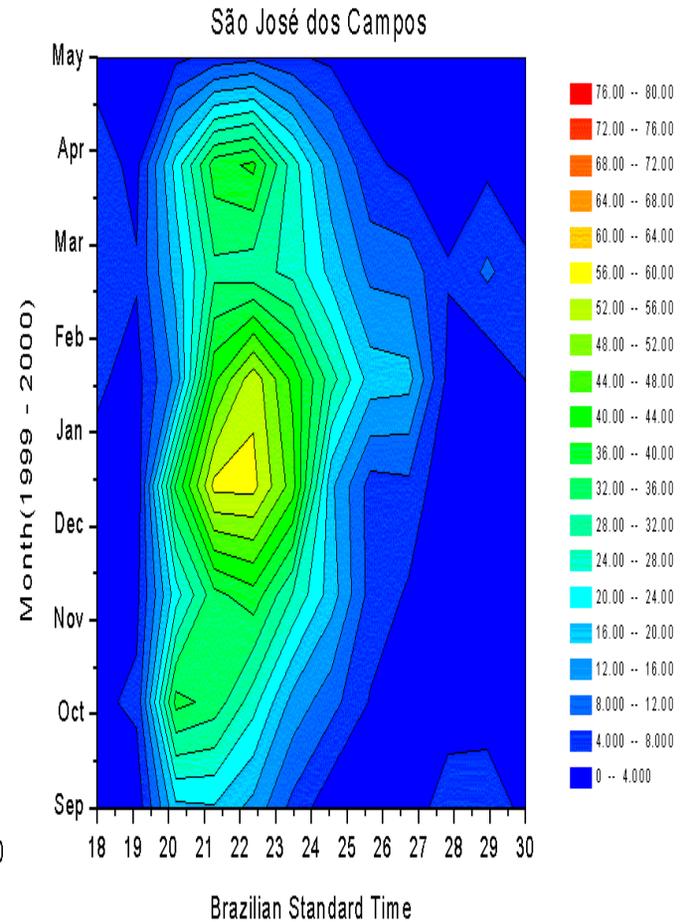
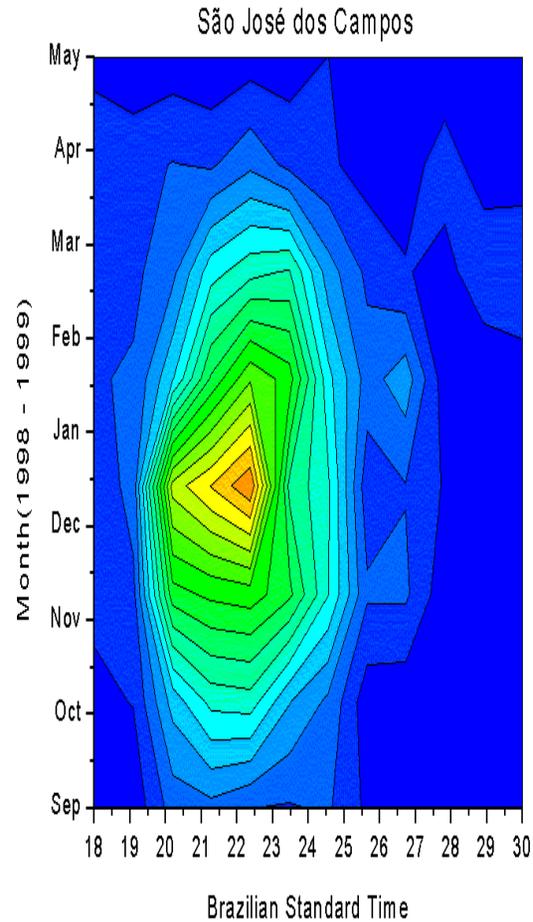
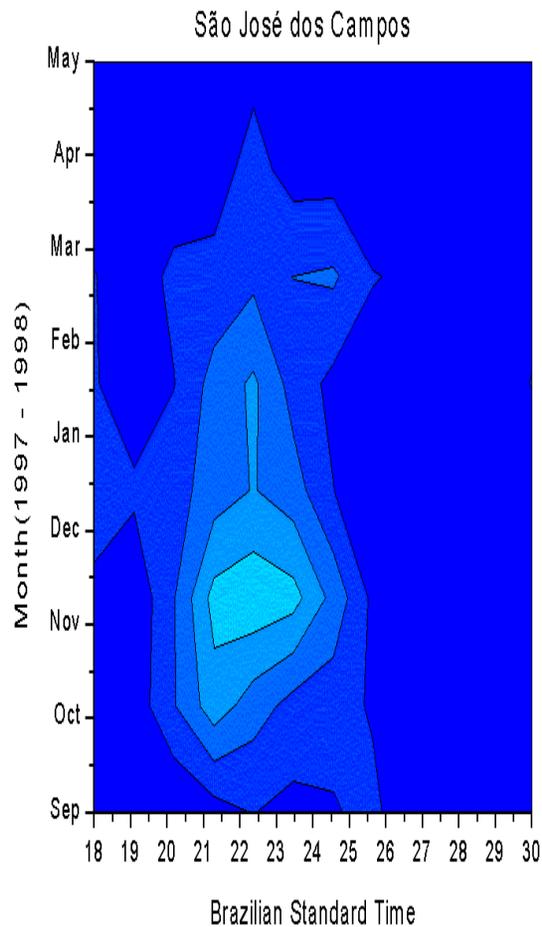
# DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH LOCAL TIME AND SOLAR ACTIVITY



F10.7=96 1997-1998

F10.7=134 1998-1999

F10.7=173 1999-2000



Occurrence of L-band scintillation versus time and month for three years of increasing solar activity.



# DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH MAGNETIC ACTIVITY





## DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH MAGNETIC ACTIVITY



- THE MAGNETIC STORM CAN INHIBIT THE IRREGULARITIES DURING THEIR OCCURRENCE PERIOD.



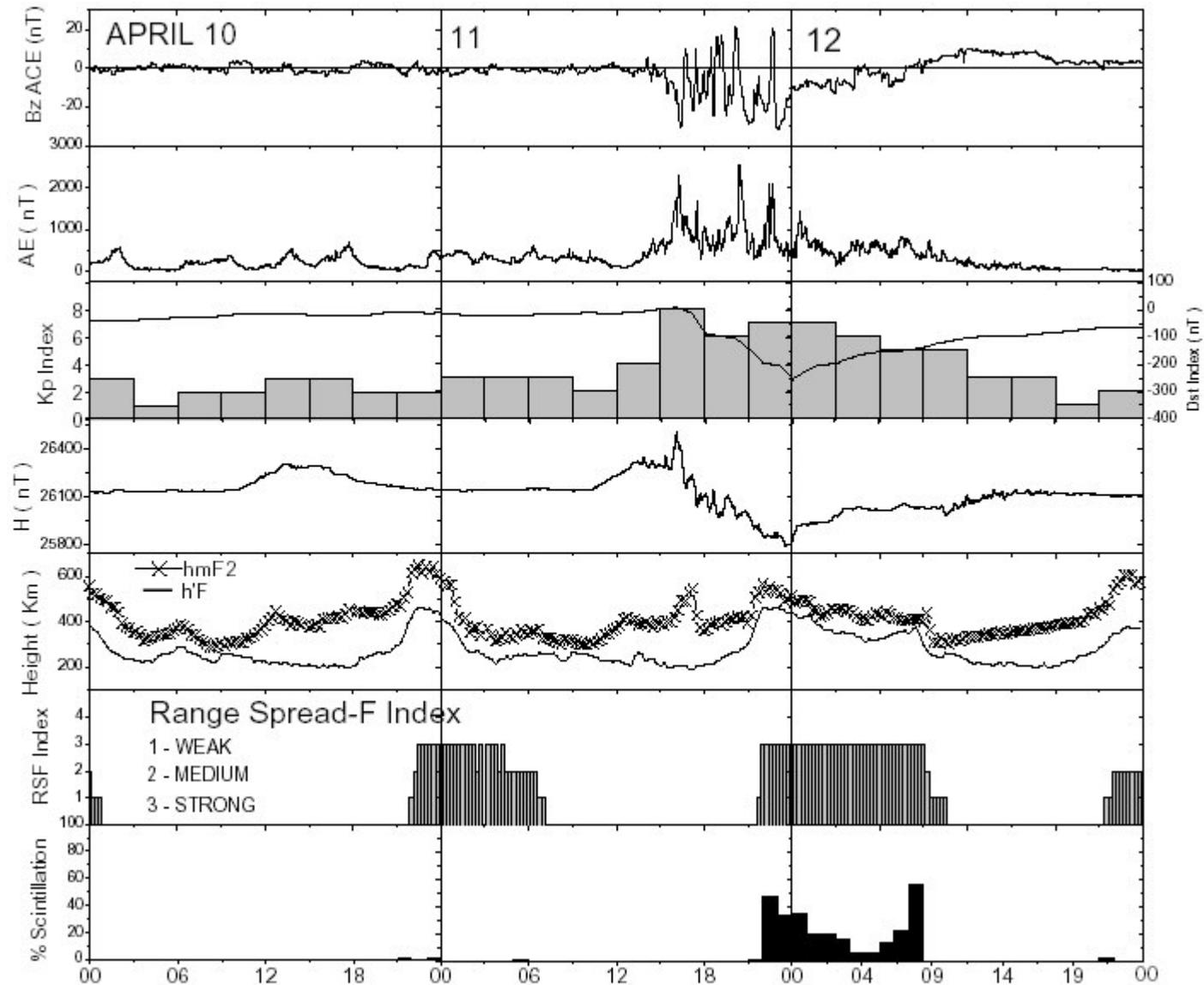
## DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH MAGNETIC ACTIVITY



- THE MAGNETIC STORM CAN INHIBIT THE IRREGULARITIES DURING THEIR OCCURRENCE PERIOD.
- OTHERWISE THE MAGNETIC STORM CAN TRIGGER IRREGULARITIES AT ANY MONTH OF THE YEAR (EVEN DURING PERIOD OF NON OCCURRENCE ). ONE EXAMPLE FOLLOWS AT NEXT SLIDE:



# DEPENDENCE OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES WITH MAGNETIC ACTIVITY



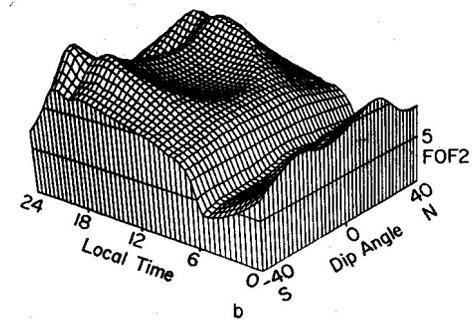
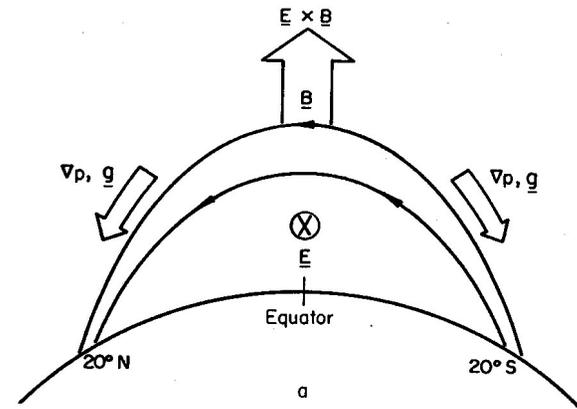


# THE EFFECTS OF THE IONOSPHERIC TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT (TEC) OVER GPS SIGNAL





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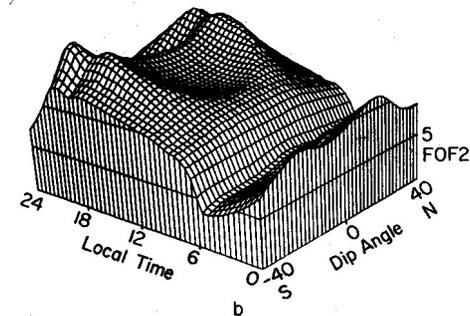
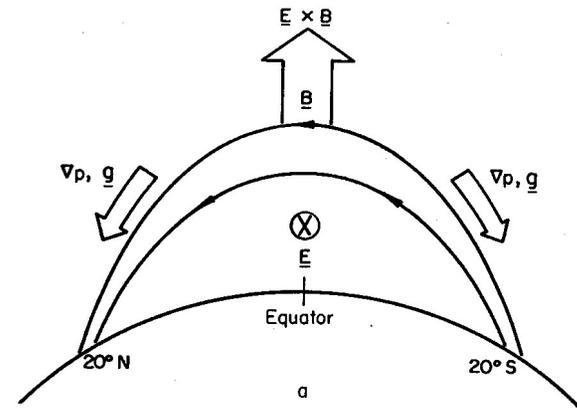




# THE EFFECTS OF THE IONOSPHERIC TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT (TEC) OVER GPS SIGNAL



- THE EARTH IONOSPHERE, THAT IS AN IONIZED ATMOSPHERIC LAYER, CAUSES A DELAY IN THE GPS SIGNAL THAT PROPAGATES WITH THE GROUP VELOCITY ( $V_g$ ) THAT IS SMALL THAN LIGHT VELOCITY.

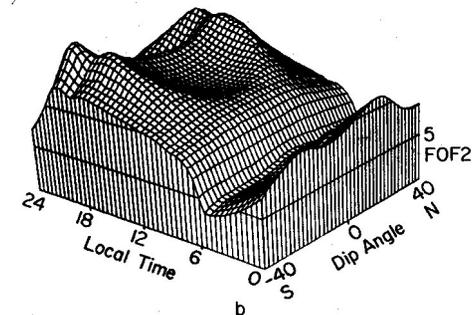
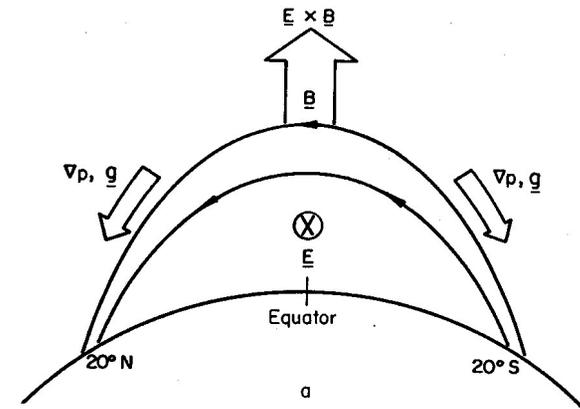




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- **THIS IONOSPHERIC DELAY IS PROPORTIONAL TO THE TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ALONG THE GPS SIGNAL.**

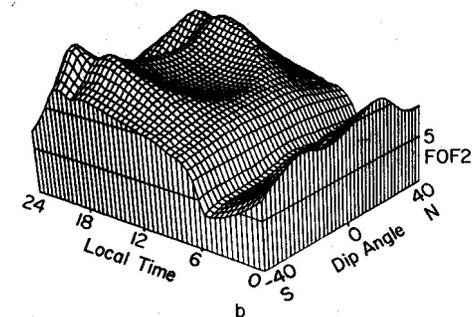
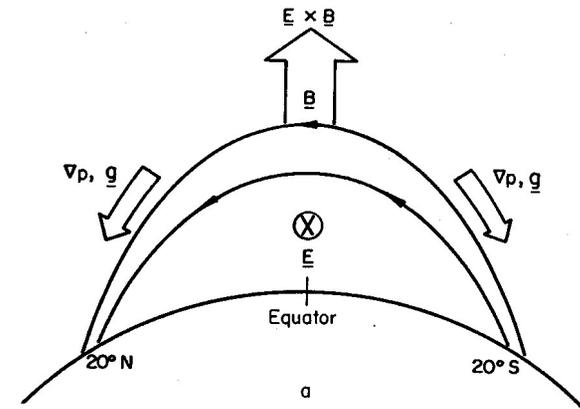




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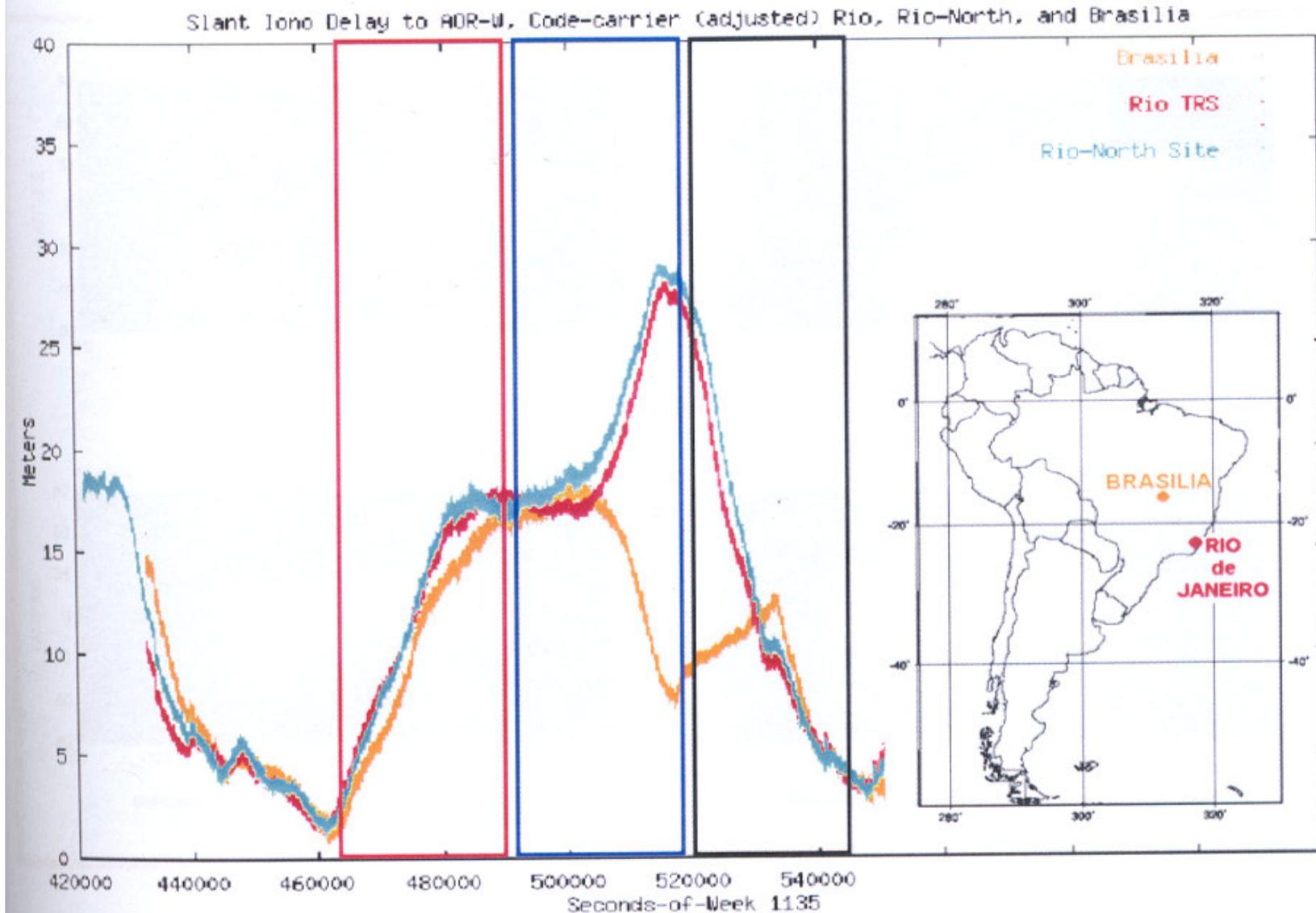


- THE EARTH IONOSPHERE, THAT IS AN IONIZED ATMOSPHERIC LAYER, CAUSES A DELAY IN THE GPS SIGNAL THAT PROPAGATES WITH THE GROUP VELOCITY ( $V_g$ ) THAT IS SMALL THAN LIGHT VELOCITY.
- THIS IONOSPHERIC DELAY IS PROPORTIONAL TO THE TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ALONG THE GPS SIGNAL.
- **OVER LOW MAGNETIC LATITUDES ( BRAZIL FOR EXAMPLE) THE IONOSPHERE PRESENTS THE EQUATORIAL IONOSPHERIC ANOMALY THAT CONSTITUTES OF HIGHER ELECTRON DENSITIES PEAKS AT ABOUT 15 MAGNETIC DEGREES (NORTH AND SOUTH) COMPARED TO EQUATORIAL REGION.**





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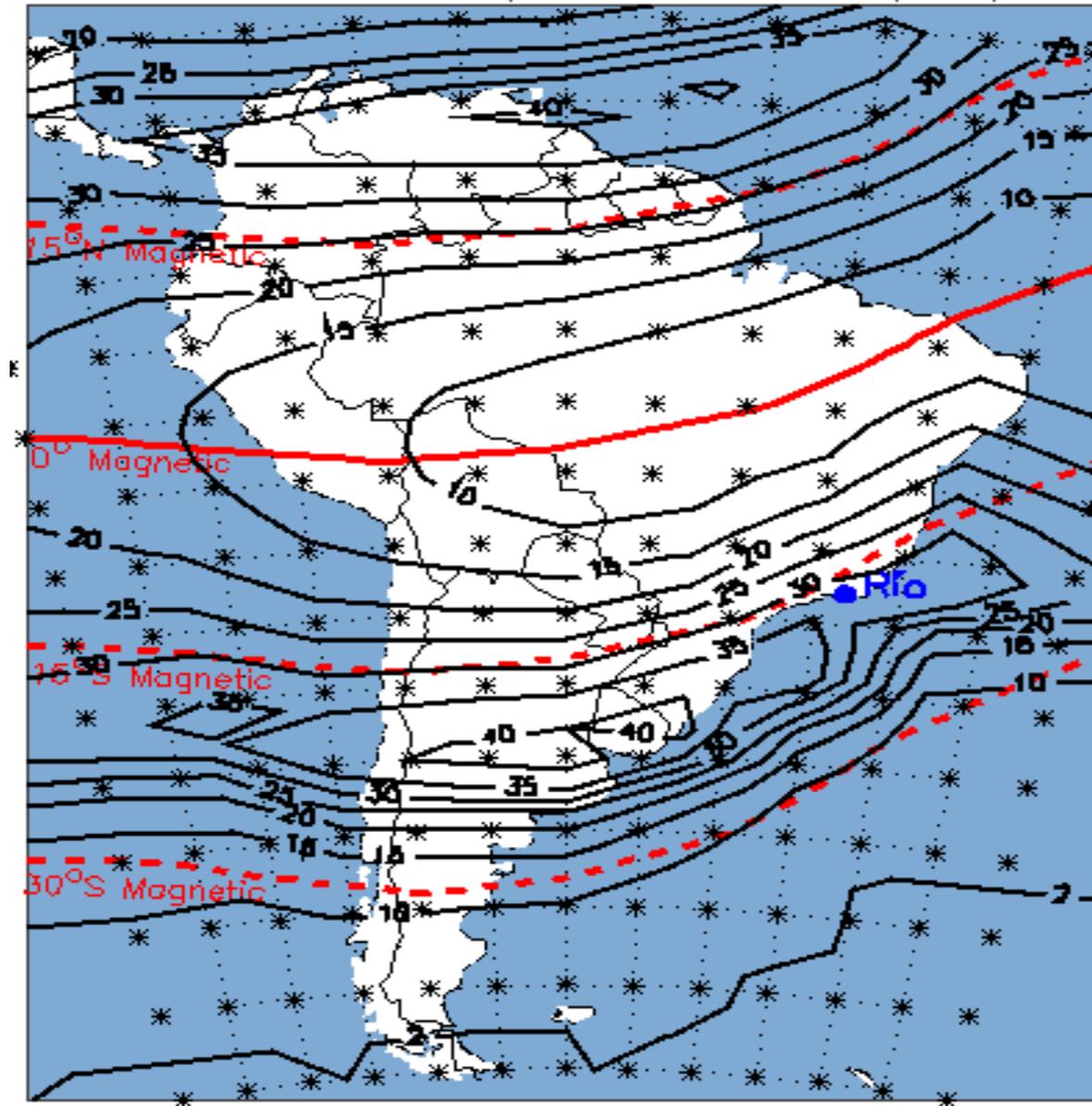
PLOTTED FROM TOM DEHEL (FAA - FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION - USA), 2002



# THE EFFECTS OF THE IONOSPHERIC TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT (TEC) OVER GPS SIGNAL



Lowlat Model at 60W (F10.7=210 March Equinox)

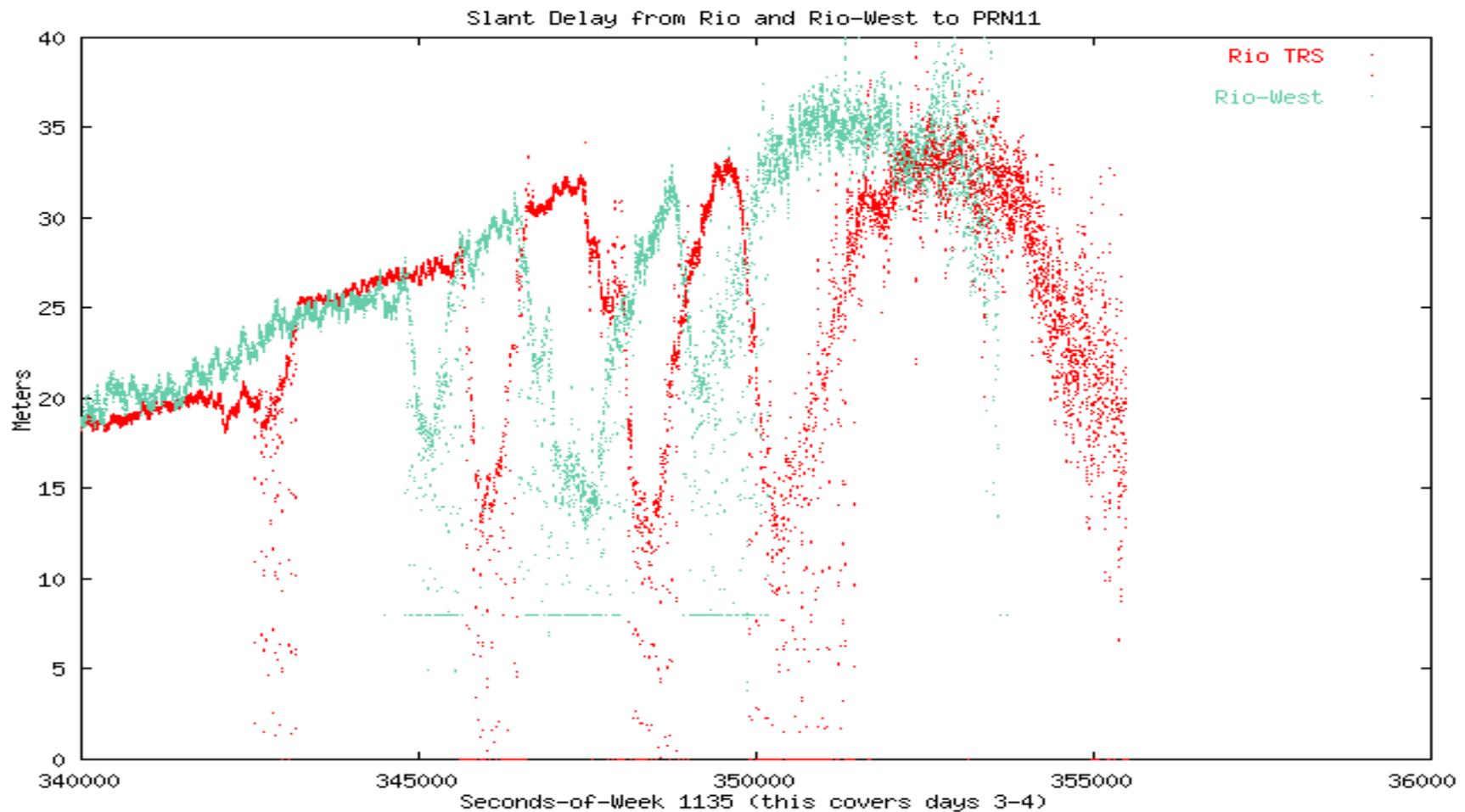




# THE EFFECTS OF IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES OVER TEC



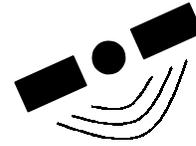
- IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES CAUSE LARGE DEPLETION ON THE TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT.



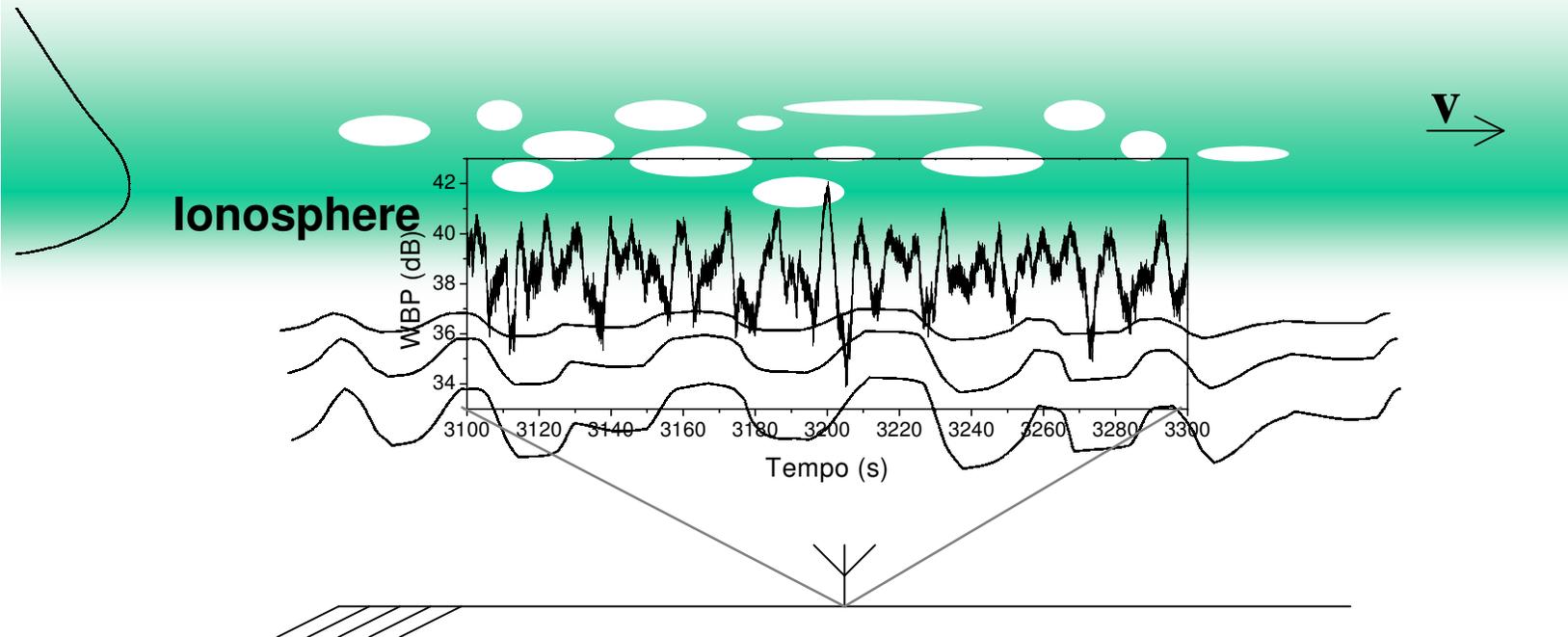
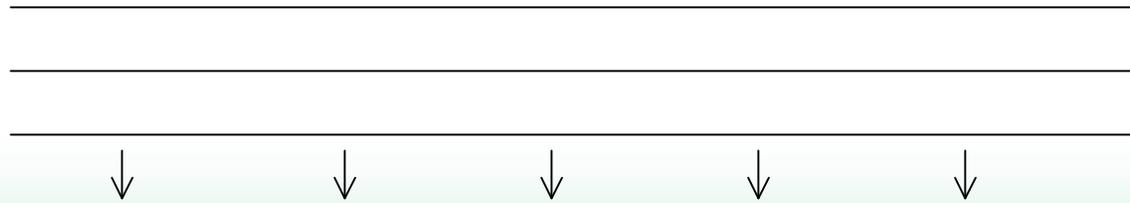
PLOT FROM TOM DEHEL (FAA – FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION – USA), 2002



# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



## ▶ IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATION





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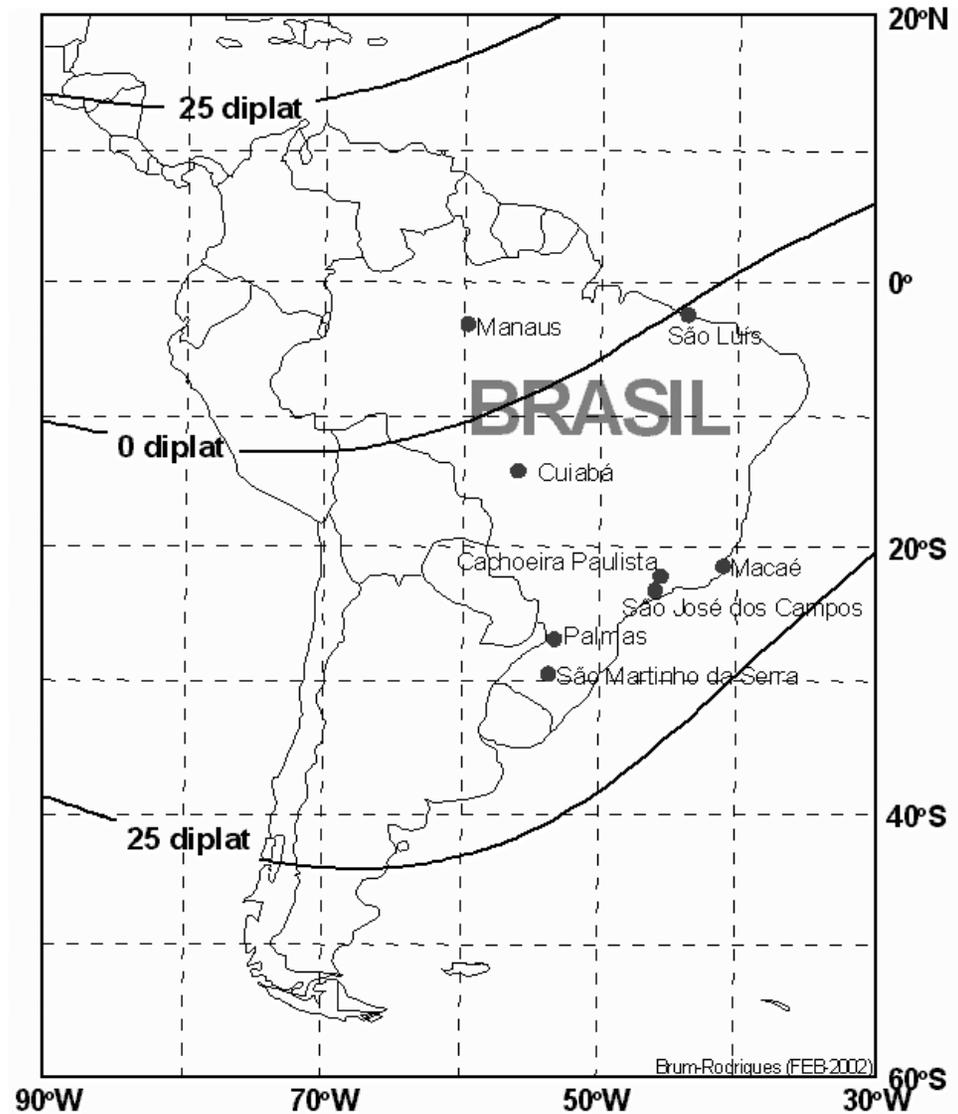




# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



## SCINTMON RECEIVERS SITES OVER BRAZIL



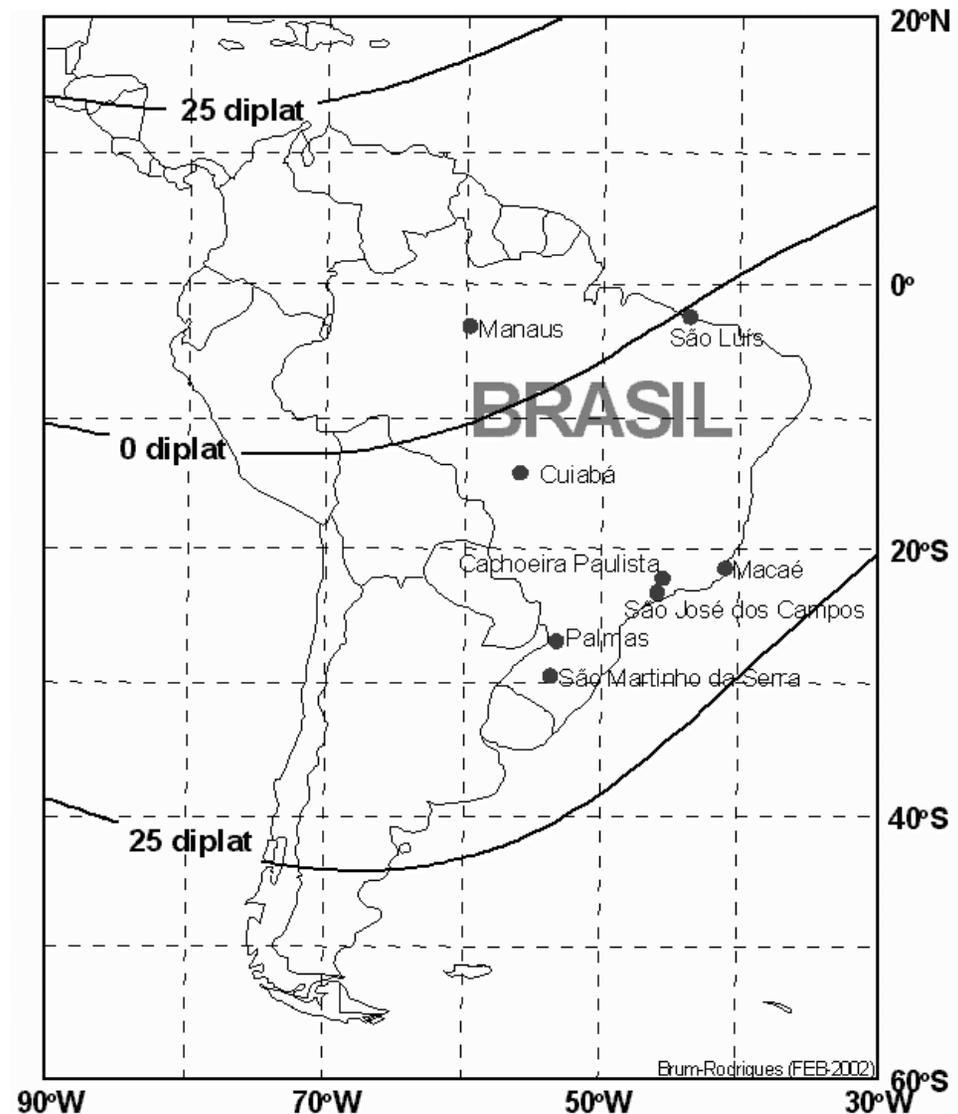


# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



## SCINTMON RECEIVERS SITES OVER BRAZIL

TO ANALYSE THE GPS SCINTILLATIONS OVER BRAZIL, WE USE AN ARRAY OF 12 SCINTILLATION MONITORS ( L1 BAND AT 1.575 GHz ) LOCATED AT 8 SITES.





# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES

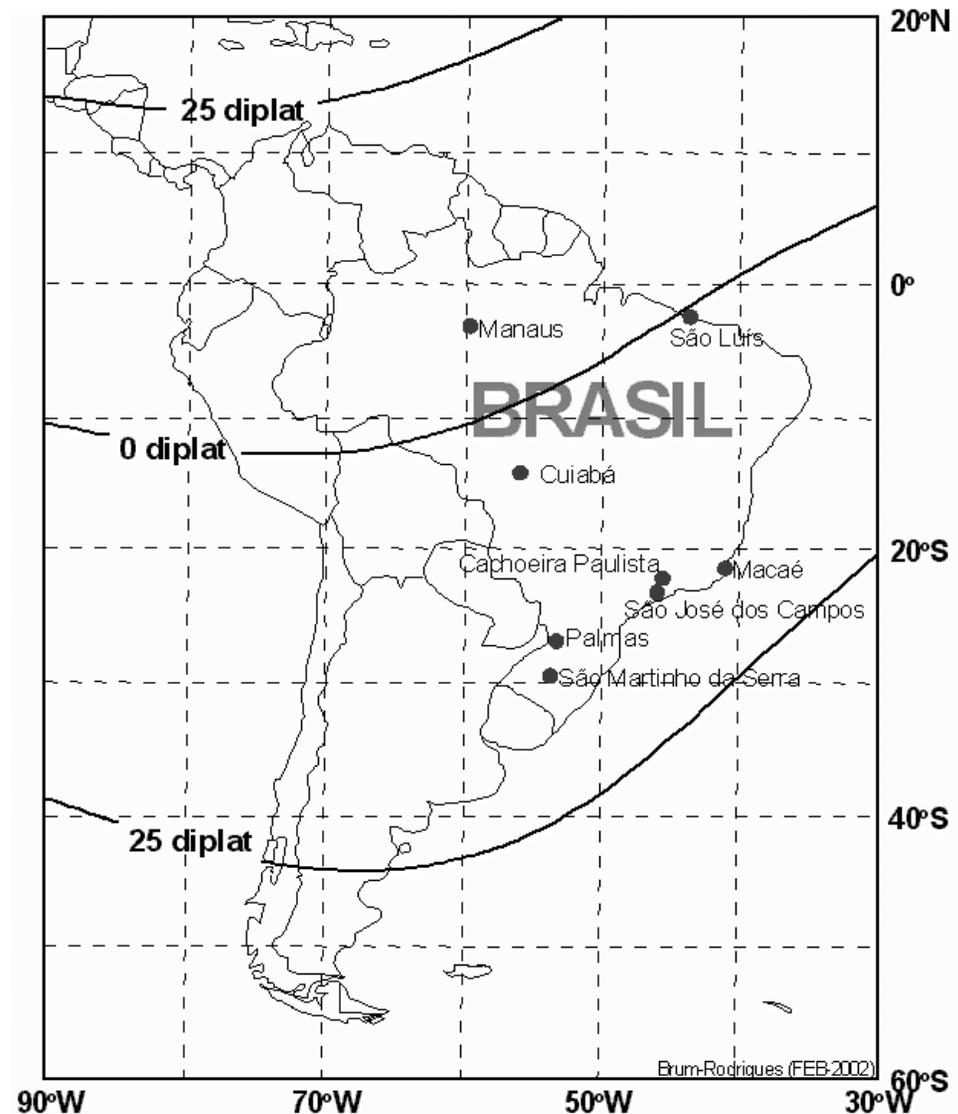


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TO ANALYSE THE GPS SCINTILLATIONS OVER BRAZIL, WE USE AN ARRAY OF 12 SCINTILLATION MONITORS ( L1 BAND AT 1.575 GHz ) LOCATED AT 8 SITES.

TO QUANTIFY THE AMPLITUDE SCINTILLATION, WE USE THE **S4 INDEX** THAT IS THE STANDARD DEVIATION OF THE SIGNAL INTENSITY RELATIVE TO THE AVERAGE CALCULATED AT EACH MINUTE:

$$S_4^2 = \frac{\langle I^2 \rangle - \langle I \rangle^2}{\langle I \rangle^2}$$

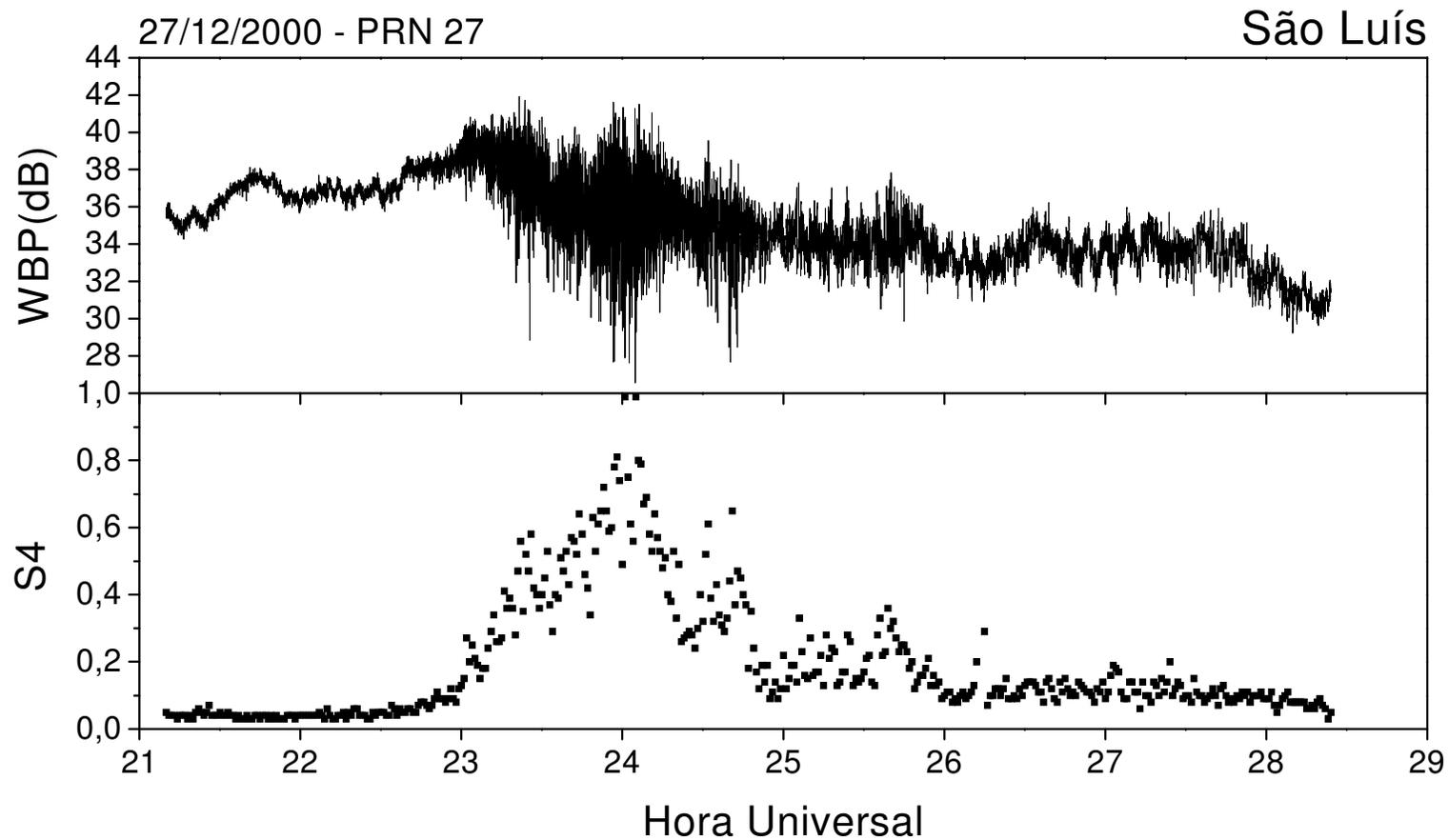




# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



EXAMPLE OF GPS IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATION:



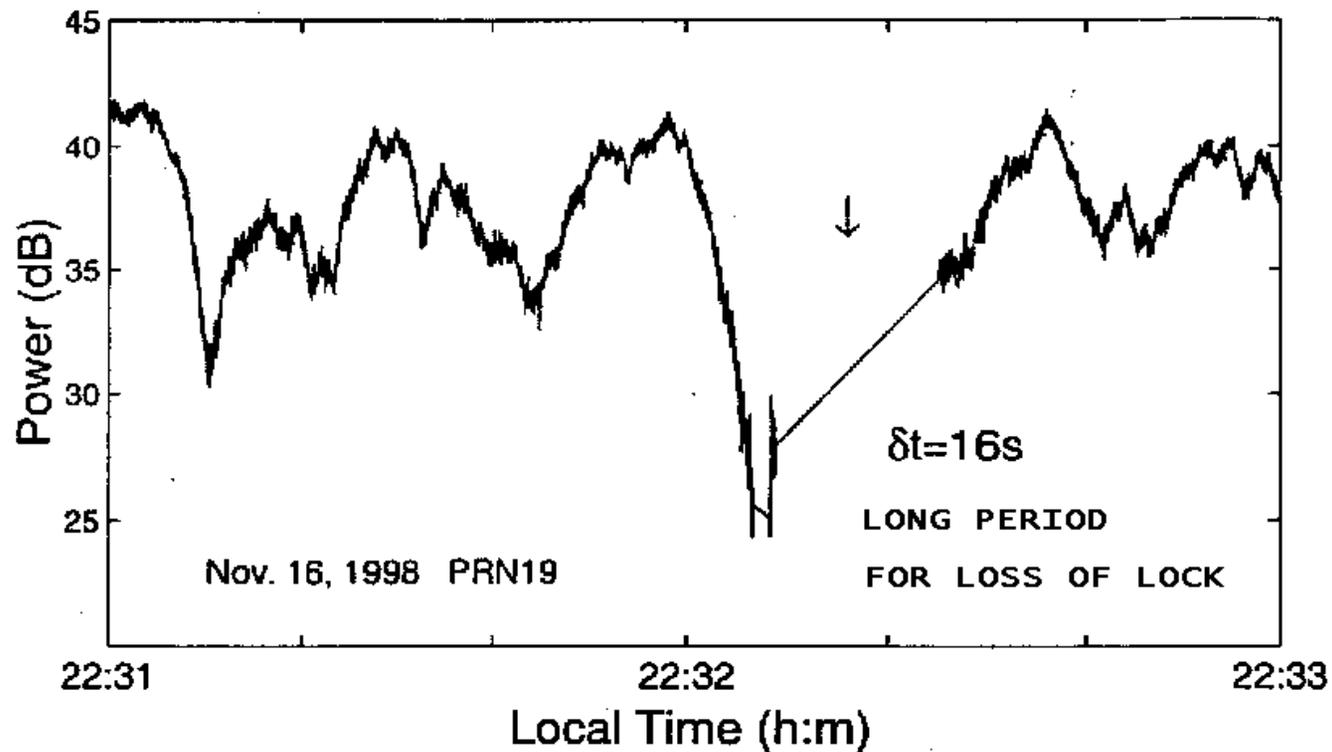


# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



## LOSS OF LOCK

- Navigation and positioning information are affected during loss of lock.



Source: Paul Kintner et al.: GPS FADING TIMESCALES AND CONSEQUENCES, Radio Science, 2001

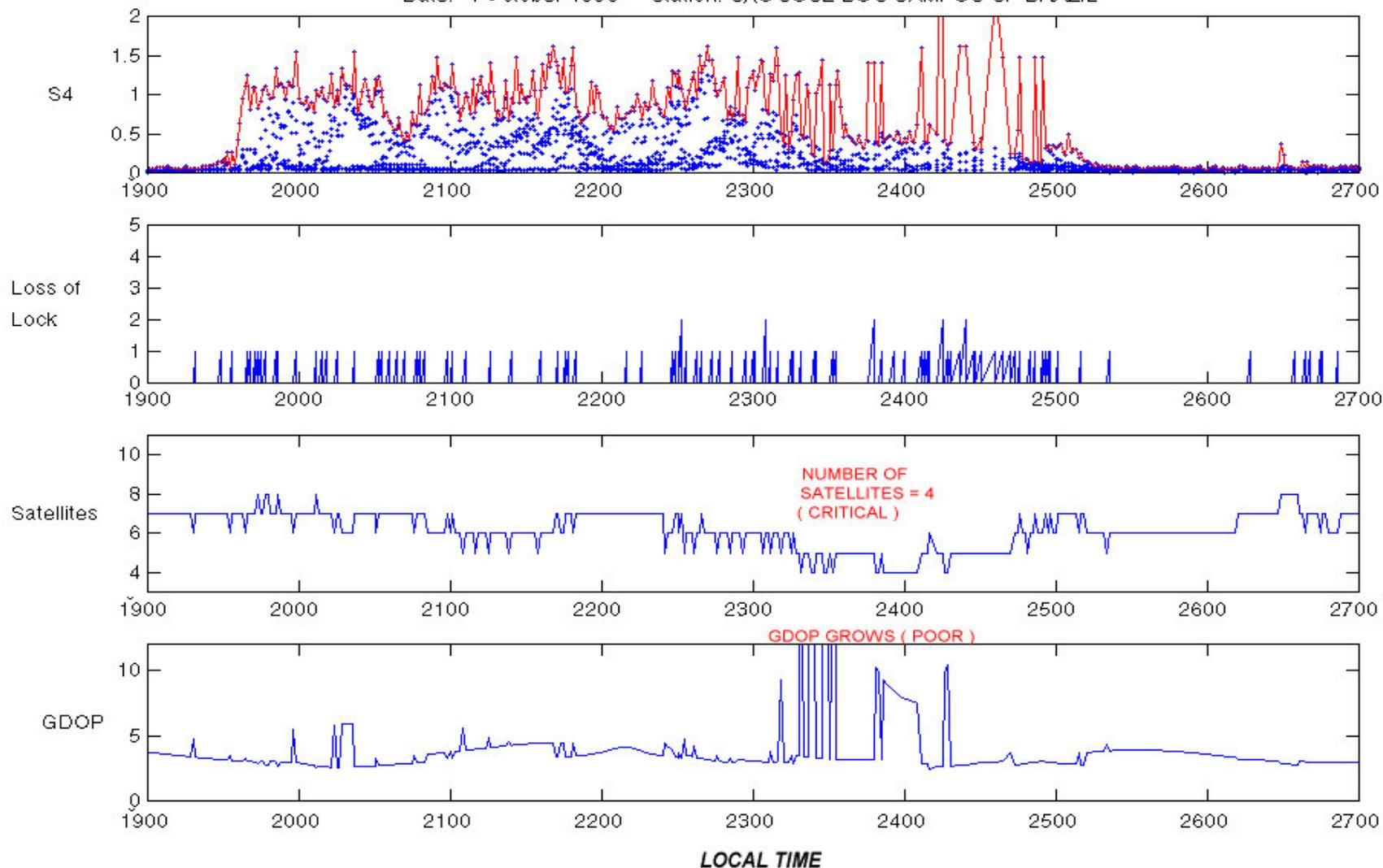


# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



## DILUTION OF PRECISION INCREASE ( DEGRADATION ) AND DECREASE ON AVAILABLE NUMBER OF GPS SATELLITES

Date: 4 October 1998 - Station: SÃO JOSÉ DOS CAMPOS-SP BRAZIL

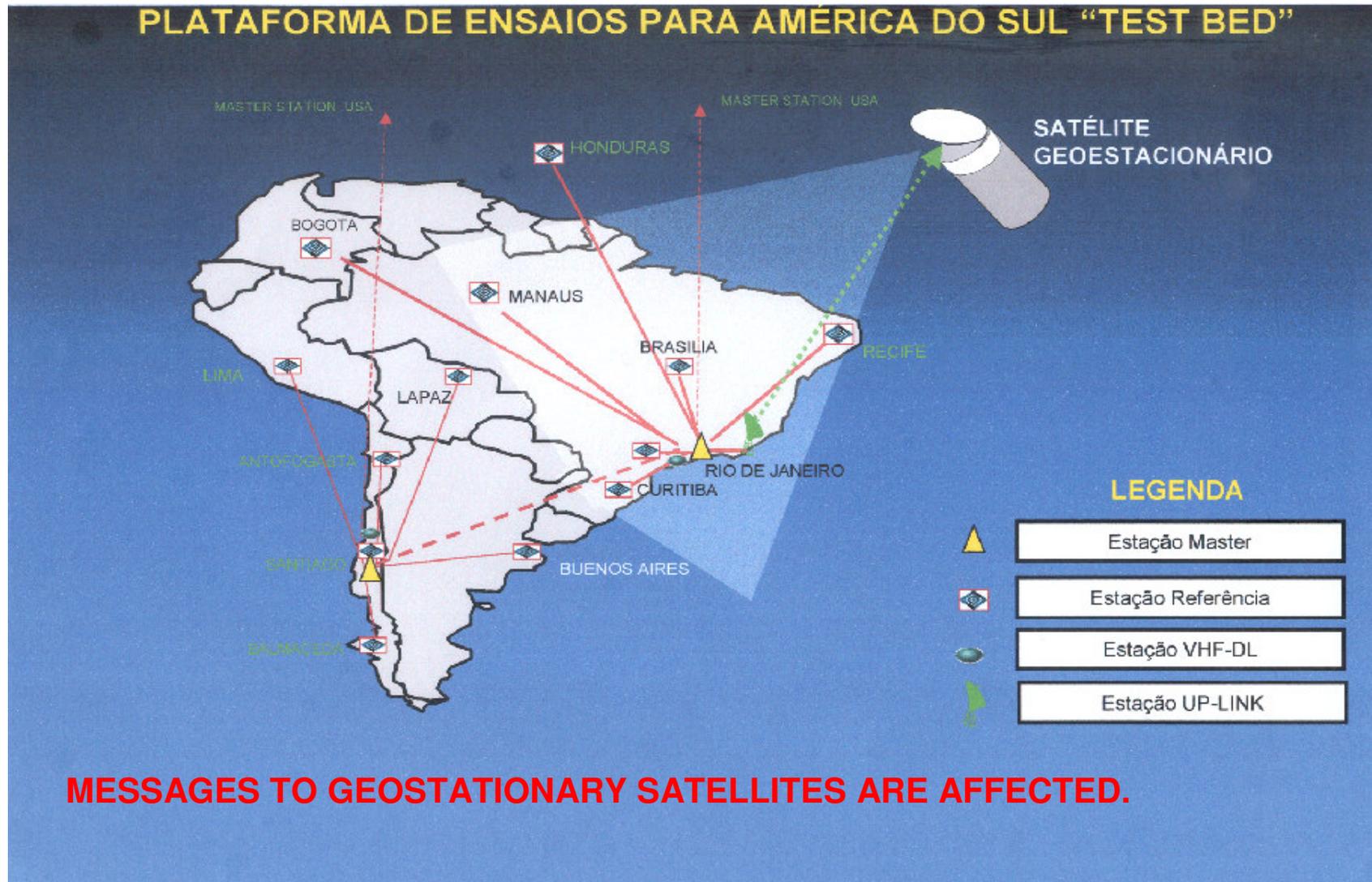




# POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF SCINTILLATIONS ON GPS CAUSED BY IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES



EFFECTS ON THE SBAS ( SPACE BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM )





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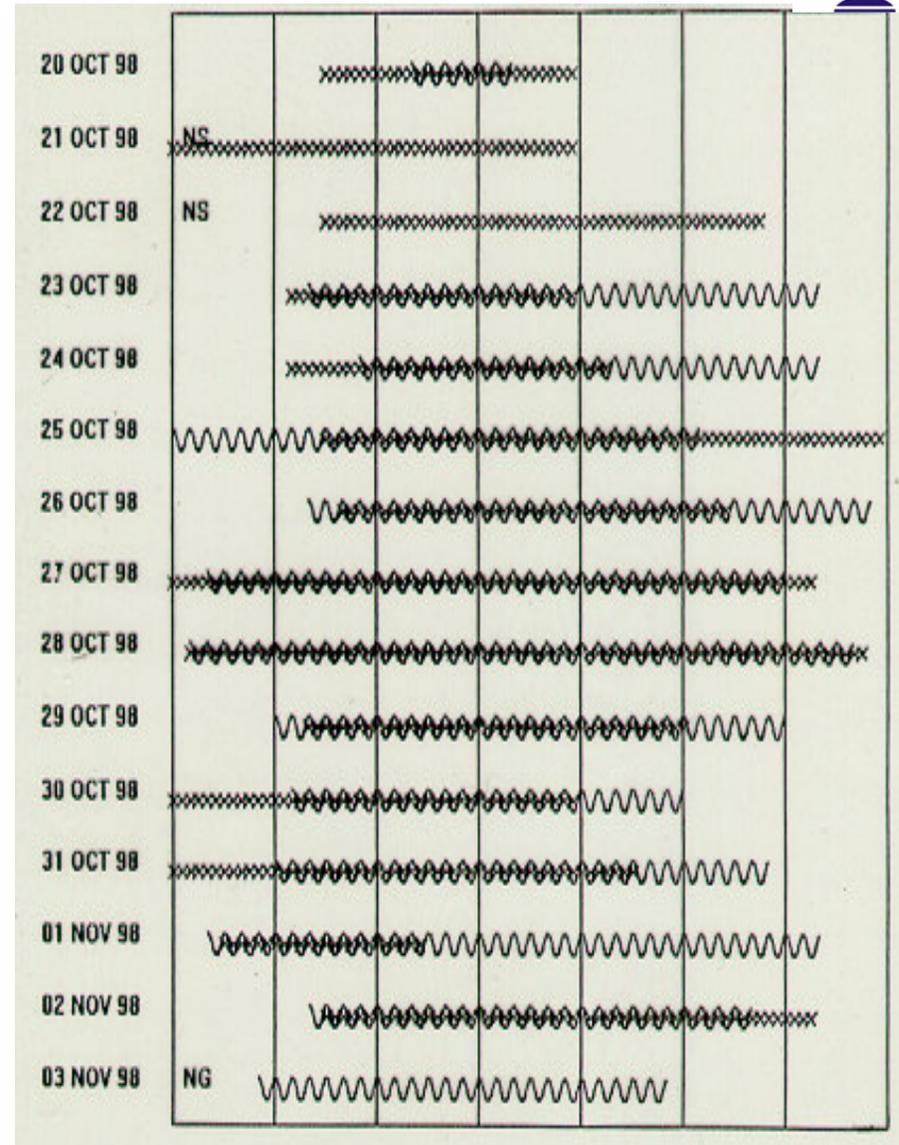


## EFFECTS ON THE DGPS (DIFFERENTIAL GPS)

LT 19 21 23

0:

 = IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATION AT SJCAMPOS  
 XXXX = NO DGPS IN PETROBRÁS DYNAMIC POSITION VESSELS PERFORMING DEEP WATER PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AT CAMPOS BASIN (RJ)  
**( INMARSAT BAND SIGNAL PROBLEMS DUE TO IONOSPHERIC IRREGULARITIES )**





## SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GPS PERFORMANCE DUE TO:





## SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GPS PERFORMANCE DUE TO:



TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ( WITHOUT SCINTILLATIONS )



## **SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GPS PERFORMANCE DUE TO:**



**TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ( WITHOUT SCINTILLATIONS )**

**TO USE DUAL FREQUENCY RECEIVERS ( EXPENSIVE SOLUTION )**



## **SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GPS PERFORMANCE DUE TO:**



**TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ( WITHOUT SCINTILLATIONS )**

**TO USE DUAL FREQUENCY RECEIVERS ( EXPENSIVE SOLUTION )**

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TO USE DUAL FREQUENCY RECEIVERS ( EXPENSIVE SOLUTION )

TO IMPLEMENT SPACE BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM ( SBAS )

**IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATIONS**



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TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ( WITHOUT SCINTILLATIONS )

TO USE DUAL FREQUENCY RECEIVERS ( EXPENSIVE SOLUTION )

TO IMPLEMENT SPACE BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM ( SBAS )

**IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATIONS**

**TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE SATELLITES ( GALILEO )**



## **SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GPS PERFORMANCE DUE TO:**



TOTAL ELECTRON CONTENT ( WITHOUT SCINTILLATIONS )

TO USE DUAL FREQUENCY RECEIVERS ( EXPENSIVE SOLUTION )

TO IMPLEMENT SPACE BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM ( SBAS )

### **IONOSPHERIC SCINTILLATIONS**

TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE SATELLITES ( GALILEO )

**TO BUILD MORE ROBUST RECEIVERS, DECREASING THE BANDWIDTH OF GPS CARD ( HOWEVER THIS PROCEDURE CAUSE INCREASE THE NUMBER OF LOSS OF LOCK ).**