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# Optimizing high-resolution troposphere estimates using PPP method and Benchmark data set

**Presentation** · March 2016

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# Optimizing high-resolution troposphere estimates using PPP method and Benchmark data set

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*Geodetic Observatory Pecný, RIGTC, Czech Republic*

*COST ES1206/GNSS4SWEC 3rd Workshop*

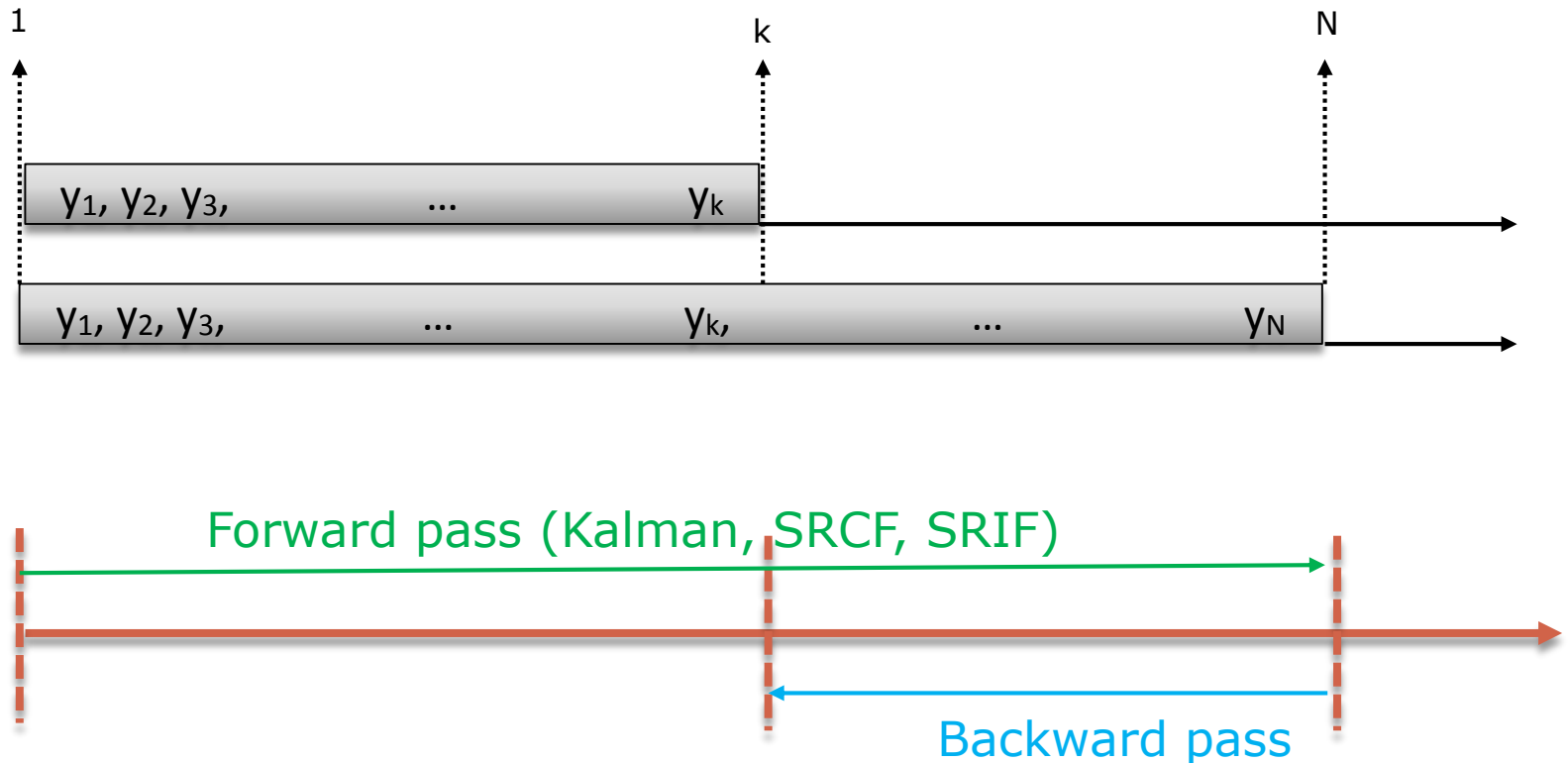
*March 8-10, 2016, Reykjavik, Iceland*

# Outline

- Our new approach for NRT estimates using Kalman filter + backward smoother
- Using GLONASS in the Benchmark campaign

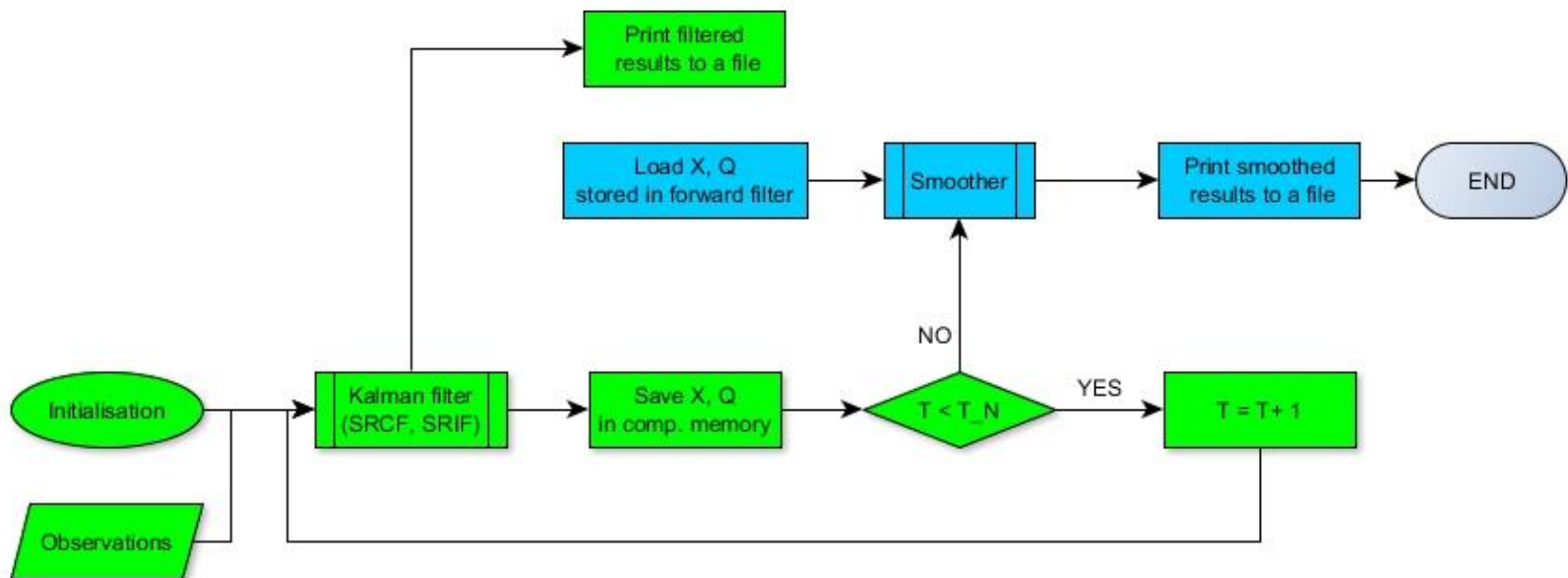
# Principle of the forward-backward filter

- Filtering:  $X_{k|k} = E(X | y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_k)$
- Smoothing :  $X_{k|N} = E(X | y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_k, \dots, y_N)$



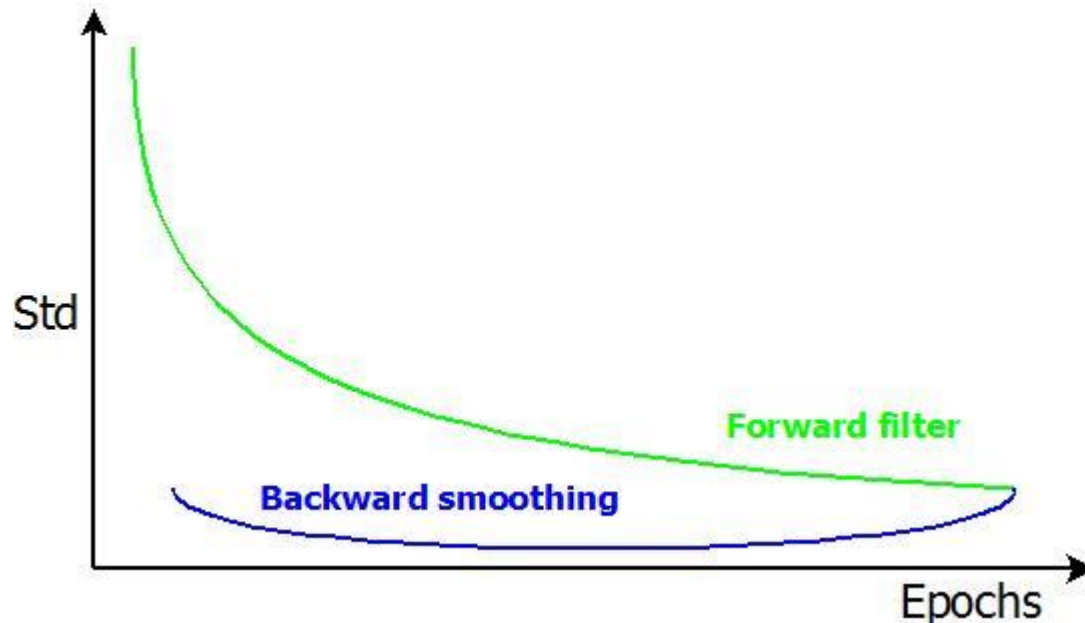
# Principle of the forward-backward filter

## Flow chart of the algorithm



# Principle of the forward-backward filter

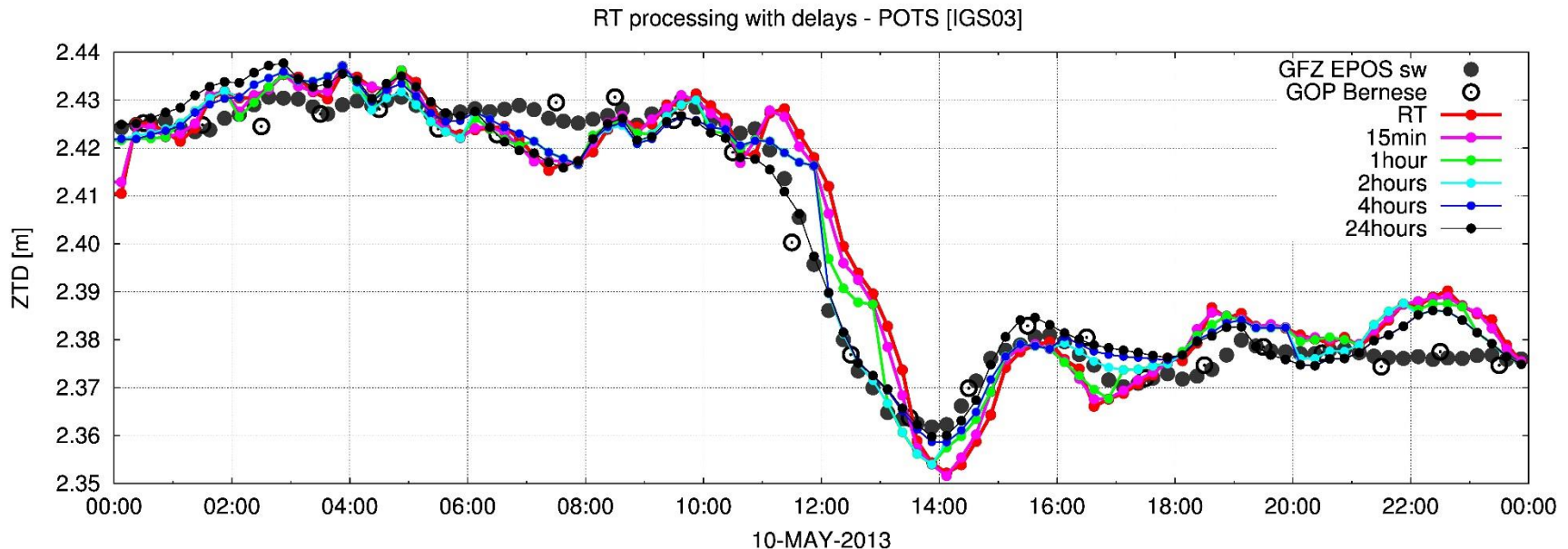
- Smoothing always improves precision w.r.t. filtering
- Almost the same precision in all epochs
- Observations from whole period contribute to all estimates - similar to LSQ, however with support for high-resolution estimates



# RT/NRT estimates

## Kalman filter + backward smoother

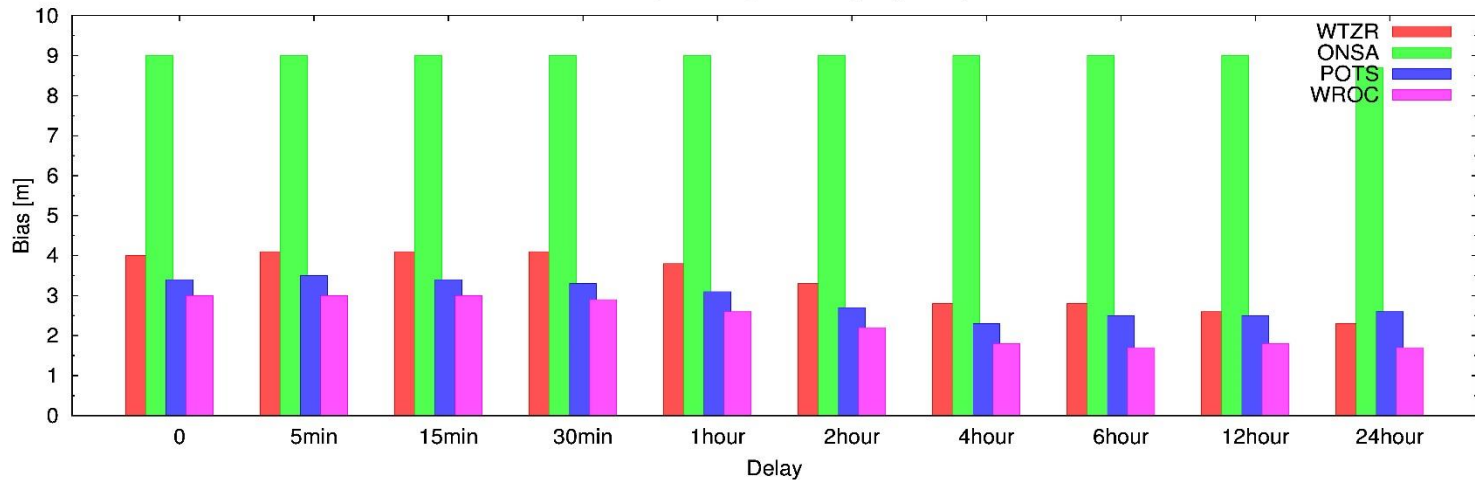
- Reference ZTDs: GOP's Bernese (1h, network solution) and GFZ's (15min, PPP)
- Simulated RT ZTDs (IGS03 from IGS RTS): GOP's G-Nut/Tefnut software (30 s, PPP)
- NRT simulation (Kalman+smoother): different smoothing update: 15min, 1h, 2h, 4h, 24h



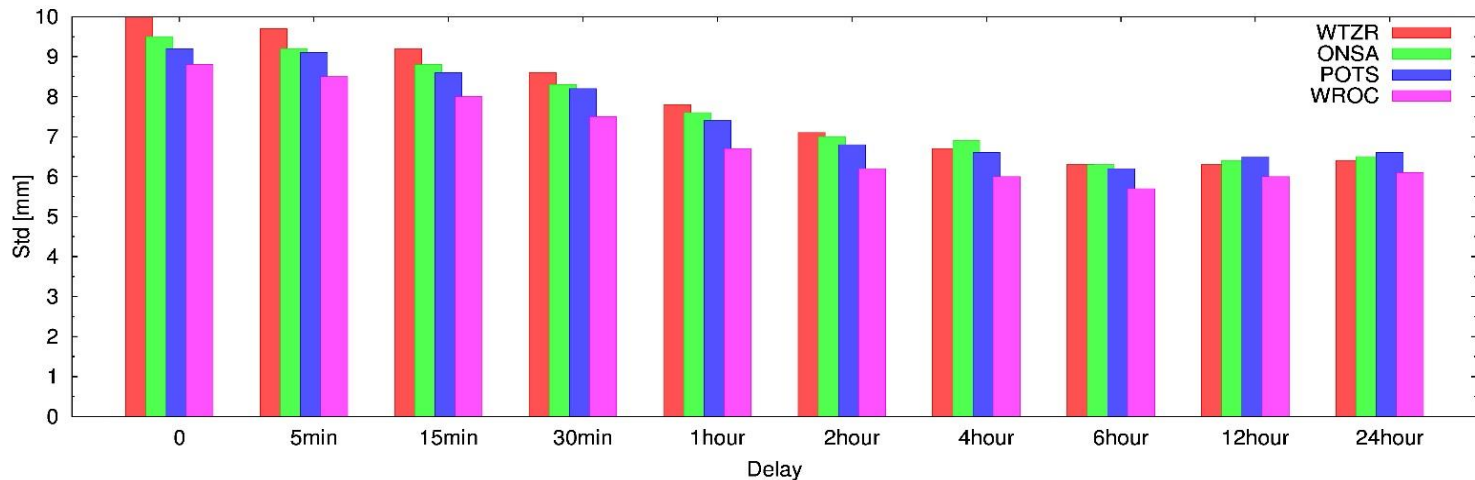
# RT/NRT estimates

## Kalman filter + backward smoother

Real-time processing with delays - [IGS03]



Real-time processing with delays - [IGS03]





# RT/NRT estimates

## Kalman filter + backward smoother

- The precision of high-resolution ZTDs has been improved by smoother with delays up to 6 hours (up to 35% - from 10 mm to 6,5 mm)
- Backward filter optimizes an estimate if any parameter changes very rapidly – it uses not only previous observations but also subsequent
- Based only on matrix operation => very fast (e.g. forward: 21 s; backward 2 s)
- If real-time estimates are not necessary delayed results can be provided with better precision
- Smoothed parameters over the whole period have been estimated with the same precision

# Using GLONASS in the Benchmark campaign

- How to optimally set up GLO observation weighting
- Five solutions
  - Sol 1: GPS only:  $\sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
  - Sol 2: GPS+GLO:  $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 2 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
  - Sol 3: GPS+GLO:  $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 3 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
  - Sol 4: GPS+GLO:  $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 4 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
  - Sol 5: GPS+GLO:  $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 5 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
- RT: PPP, forward filter, 5min, IGS03 RTS
- PP: PPP, forward filter, 5min, ESA final
- Reference ZTDs: GOP's Bernese (1h, network solution)
- First two hours of a day are not included in the evaluation => no convergence

# Using GLONASS in the Benchmark campaign

## Sol 1

- GPS

## Sol 2

- GPS + GLO
- $\sigma_{GLO} = 2 \sigma_{GPS}$

## Sol 3

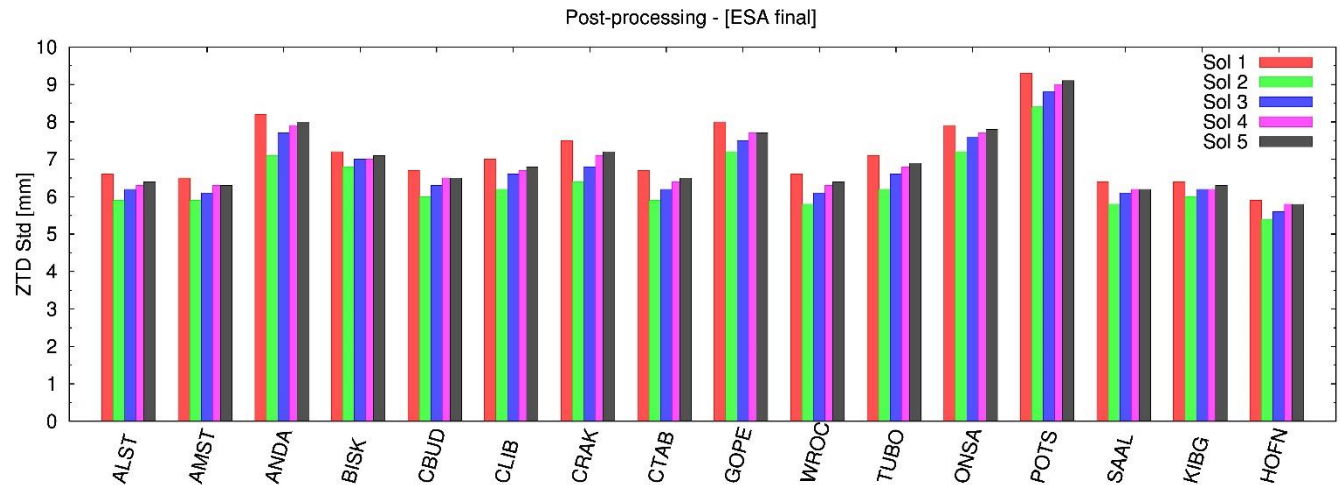
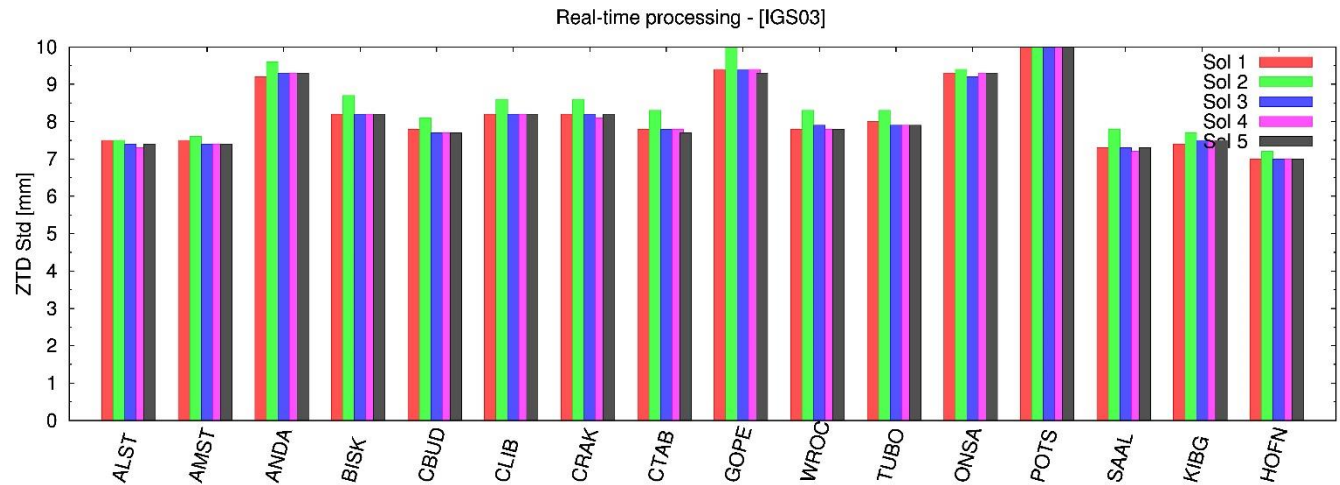
- GPS + GLO
- $\sigma_{GLO} = 3 \sigma_{GPS}$

## Sol 4

- GPS + GLO
- $\sigma_{GLO} = 4 \sigma_{GPS}$

## Sol 5

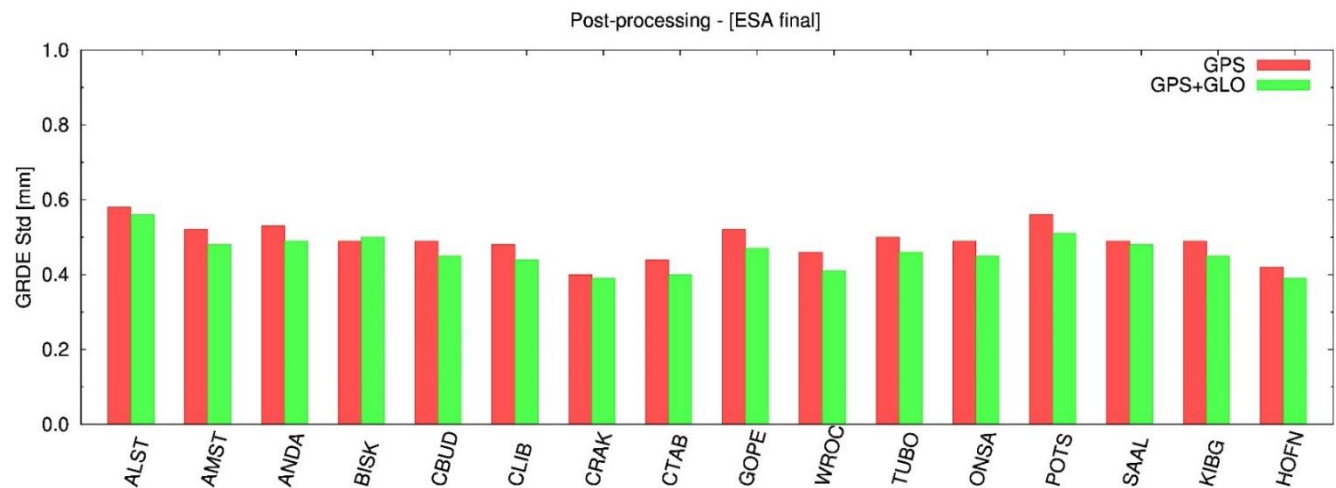
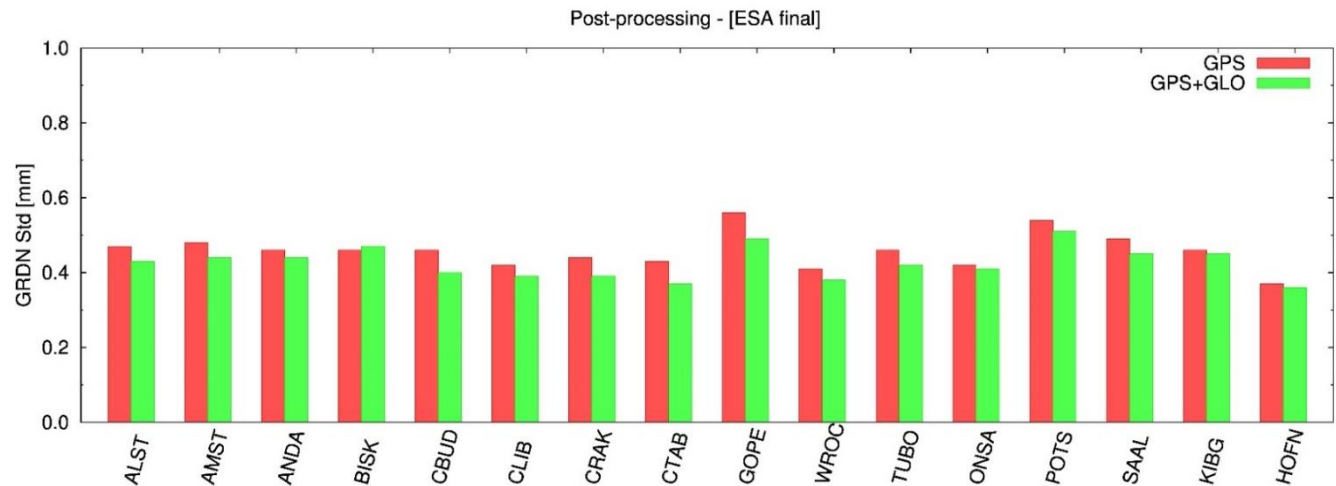
- GPS + GLO
- $\sigma_{GLO} = 5 \sigma_{GPS}$



# Impact of GLONASS on tropo gradients

## GPS + GLO

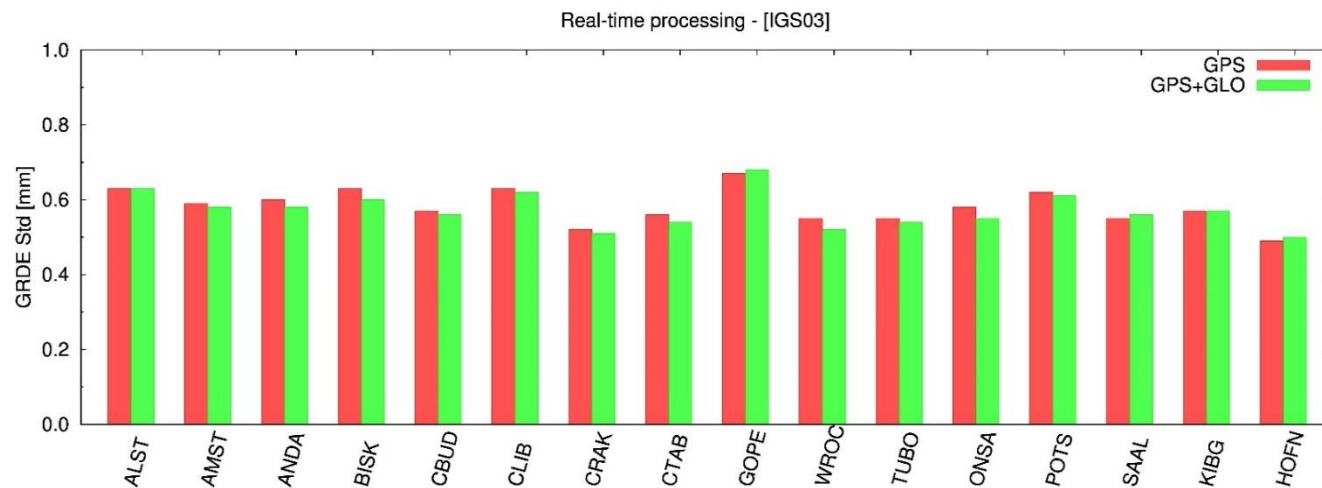
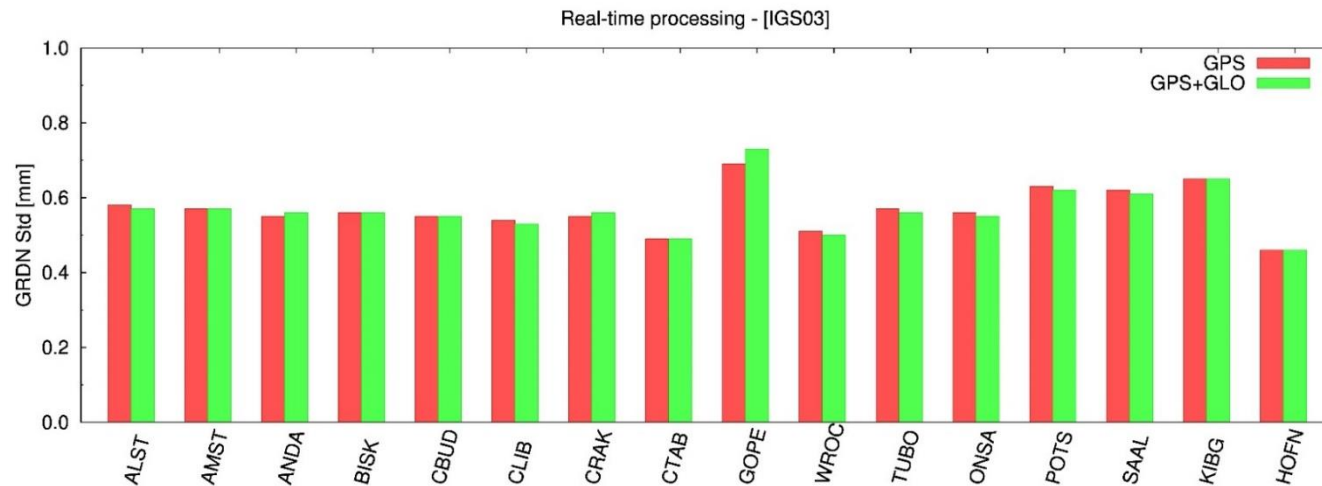
- $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 2 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
- Products:  
ESA final



# Impact of GLONASS on tropo gradients

GPS + GLO

- $\sigma_{\text{GLO}} = 3 \sigma_{\text{GPS}}$
- Products:  
IGS03 RTS



# Conclusion

- 'Ultra-fast' troposphere estimates should be balanced for the delay & accuracy targeting the application
- PPP with bi-directional filter are powerful approach for estimation large dense network in high-resolution
- PPP provides full exploiting of multi-GNSS data
- Our approach for NRT can be immediately applied in RT-Demo campaign - traditional hourly estimates with LSQ can be replaced by bi-directional filter with one hour delay
- GLONASS improved troposphere estimates only when final products were used => low quality of RT products. (The same analysis should be done in 2016 for application in RT-Demo)

# Thank you for your attention

## Acknowledgements:

- IGS for data and products - RTS, MGEX, Final
- Benchmark GNSS data from EPOSA, SAPOS, ASG-EUPOS, CZEPOS, VESOG, GEONAS, Trimble

**The work has been supported by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Science (LD14102)**

## Related publications:

**Václavovic P, Douša J (2015)**, Backward smoothing for precise GNSS applications, *Advances in Space Research*, Volume 56, Issue 8, 15 October 2015, Pages 1627-1634

**Douša J, Václavovic P (2014)** Real-time zenith tropospheric delays in support of numerical weather prediction applications. *Advances in Space Research* (2014), Vol 53, No 9, pp 1347-1358

**Douša J, Dick G, Kačmařík M, Brožková R, Zus F, Brenot H, Stoycheva A, Möller G, Kaplon J (2016)**, Benchmark campaign and case study episode in Central Europe for development and assessment of advanced GNSS tropospheric models and products, *Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss.*, discussion paper, 2016

**Ahmed F, Václavovic P, Teferle FN, Douša J, Bingley R, Laurichesse D (2015)**, Comparative analysis of real-time precise point positioning zenith total delay estimates, *GPS solut, FirstOnline*, pp. 1-13