



# Towards Real-Time Detection of Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances using the VARION Algorithm with GNSS and Geostationary Satellites

**Giorgio Savastano**<sup>1,\*</sup>, Attila Komjathy<sup>1</sup>, Esayas Shume<sup>1</sup>, Olga Verkhoglyadova<sup>1</sup>, Panagiotis Vergados<sup>1</sup>, Anthony J. Mannucci<sup>1</sup>, Yoaz Bar-Sever<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ionospheric and Atmospheric Remote Sensing Group,  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology*

**\*giorgio.savastano@jpl.nasa.gov**

Michela Ravanelli<sup>2</sup> and Mattia Crespi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> *Department of Civil, Building and Environmental Engineering,  
University of Rome "La Sapienza"*

Copyright 2018. All rights reserved. Government sponsorship acknowledged.



# Outline



## Objectives

Improve tsunami-TIDs detection  
Separate time/space ionospheric variability

## Introduction

Introduction to tsunami-induced TIDs detection from the ionosphere

## Methodology

Details of the VARION Algorithm  
Differences between Medium Earth Orbit and Geostationary Orbits

## Results

SAWs detected in the ionosphere – Aug 24, 2017 event  
SAWs detected from real-time solutions - May 22, 2018 event

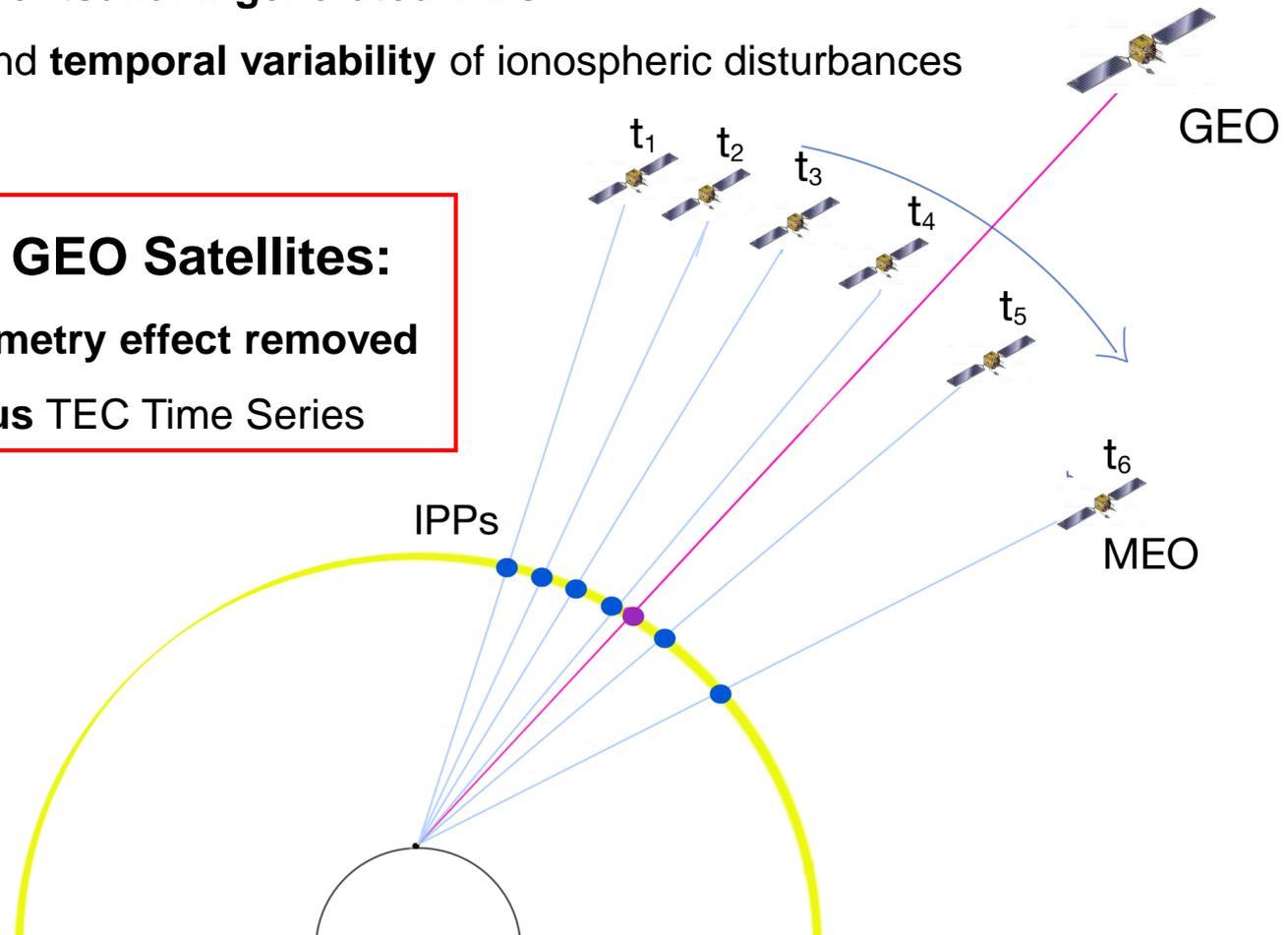
## Conclusions and Prospects

## Motivation for using geostationary (GEO) satellite to:

- Improve detection of tsunami-generated TIDs
- **Separate spatial and temporal variability** of ionospheric disturbances

### Advantages of using GEO Satellites:

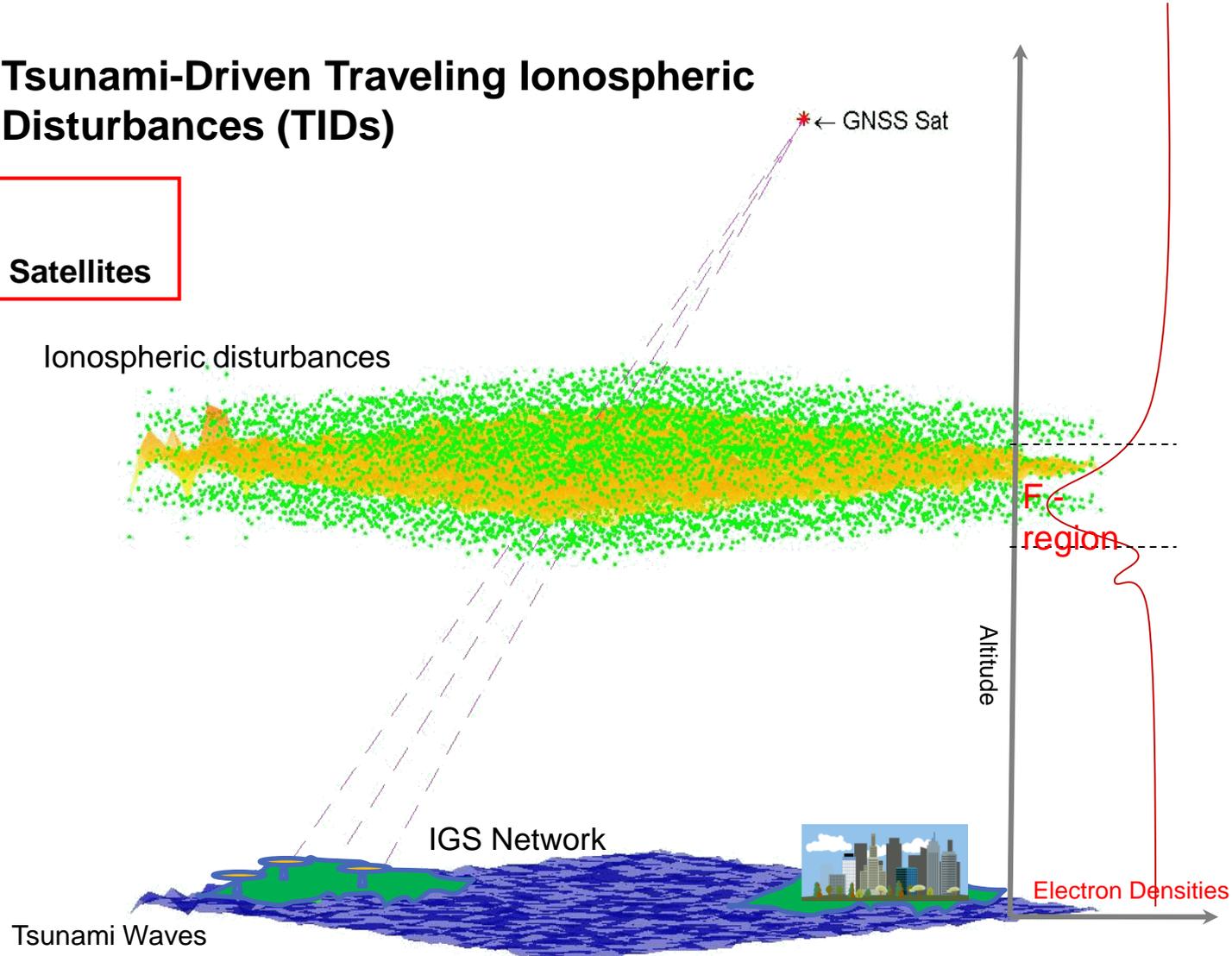
- GNSS satellite **geometry effect removed**
- Provides **continuous** TEC Time Series



## Tsunami-Driven Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances (TIDs)

**Tsunamis produce TIDs**

**TIDs detectable with GNSS Satellites**





# Methodology



## **VARION** Algorithm for Real-Time TIDs Detection

### Idea

- ▶ designed in 2015 at **University of Rome “La Sapienza”**, **VADASE** team
- ▶ validated in 2016 in collaboration with the **Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, Ionospheric and Atmospheric Remote Sensing Group**

### Methodology

- ▶ **Variation of sTEC**
  - ▶ **dual-frequency phase observations** (1s, 15s, 30s)
  - ▶ **geometry-free combination** to remove geometry, clocks and all **non-dispersive effects**
  - ▶ **time single-differences of geometry-free observations** (**phase ambiguity** removed as for **IFB**, assuming a constant for a given time period)
  - ▶ **cycle slips** can be detected as **outliers**
- ▶ **Total sTEC determination**
  - ▶ **integration** of sTEC variations

## Algorithm (1/2)

### Carrier-Phase observation

$$L_{iR}^S(t) = \rho_R^S(t) + c(\delta t_R(t) - \delta t^S(t)) + T_R^S(t) - I_{iR}^S(t) + \lambda_i N_{iR}^S(t) + p_R^S(t) + m_{iR}^S(t) + \epsilon_R^S(t) \quad (1)$$

### Geometry-free Combination Equation

$$L_{4R}^S(t) = L_{1R}^S(t) - L_{2R}^S(t) = -I_{1R}^S(t) + I_{2R}^S(t) + \lambda_1 N_{1R}^S(t) - \lambda_2 N_{2R}^S(t) \quad (2)$$

### Geometry-free Time Single-Difference Observation Equation

$$L_{4R}^S(t+1) - L_{4R}^S(t) = \frac{f_1^2 - f_2^2}{f_2^2} \left[ I_{1R}^S(t+1) - I_{1R}^S(t) \right] \quad (3)$$

## Algorithm (2/2) - sTEC Estimation

sTEC variations between two consecutive epochs

$$\delta sTEC(t+1, t) = \frac{f_1^2 f_2^2}{A(f_1^2 - f_2^2)} \left[ L_{4R}^S(t+1) - L_{4R}^S(t) \right] \quad (4)$$

Total derivative of sTEC with respect to  $t$

$$\frac{d sTEC(t, s)}{dt} = \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial t} \quad (5)$$

sTEC time series  $\Rightarrow$  Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances (TIDs)

$$\Delta sTEC(t_f, t_0) = \int_{sTEC_0}^{sTEC_f} d sTEC(t, s) \quad (6)$$

- VARION Algorithm for **MEO** satellites:

Total derivative of sTEC with respect to  $t$

$$\frac{d sTEC(t, s)}{dt} = \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial t} \quad (5)$$

- VARION Algorithm for **GEO** satellites:

Total derivative of sTEC with respect to  $t$

$$\frac{d sTEC(t, s)}{dt} = \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial sTEC(t, s)}{\partial s} \frac{\partial s}{\partial t} \quad (5)$$



# Results No. 1

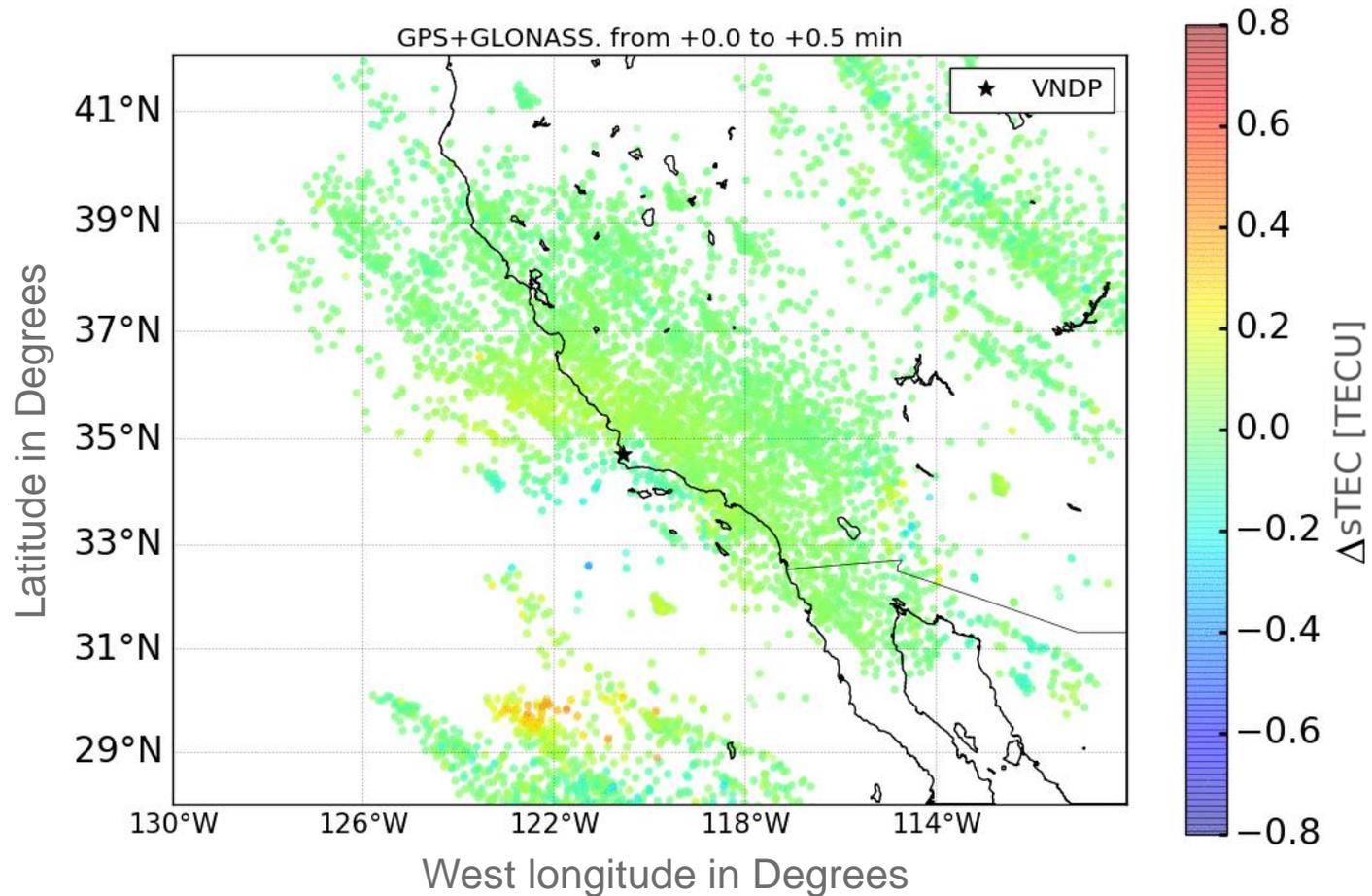


## Shock Acoustic Waves Detected in the Ionosphere

- Launch date: 24 August 2017, **11:51 a.m. PDT** (daytime)
- Launch site: **Vandenberg Air Force Base**, California
- Rocket: **Falcon 9**
- **Trajectory** of the Rocket almost **Vertical**

- **GPS+GLONASS (MEOs)**
- **731 GNSS stations**

**Falcon 9 produced SAWs detectable from MEO Satellites**



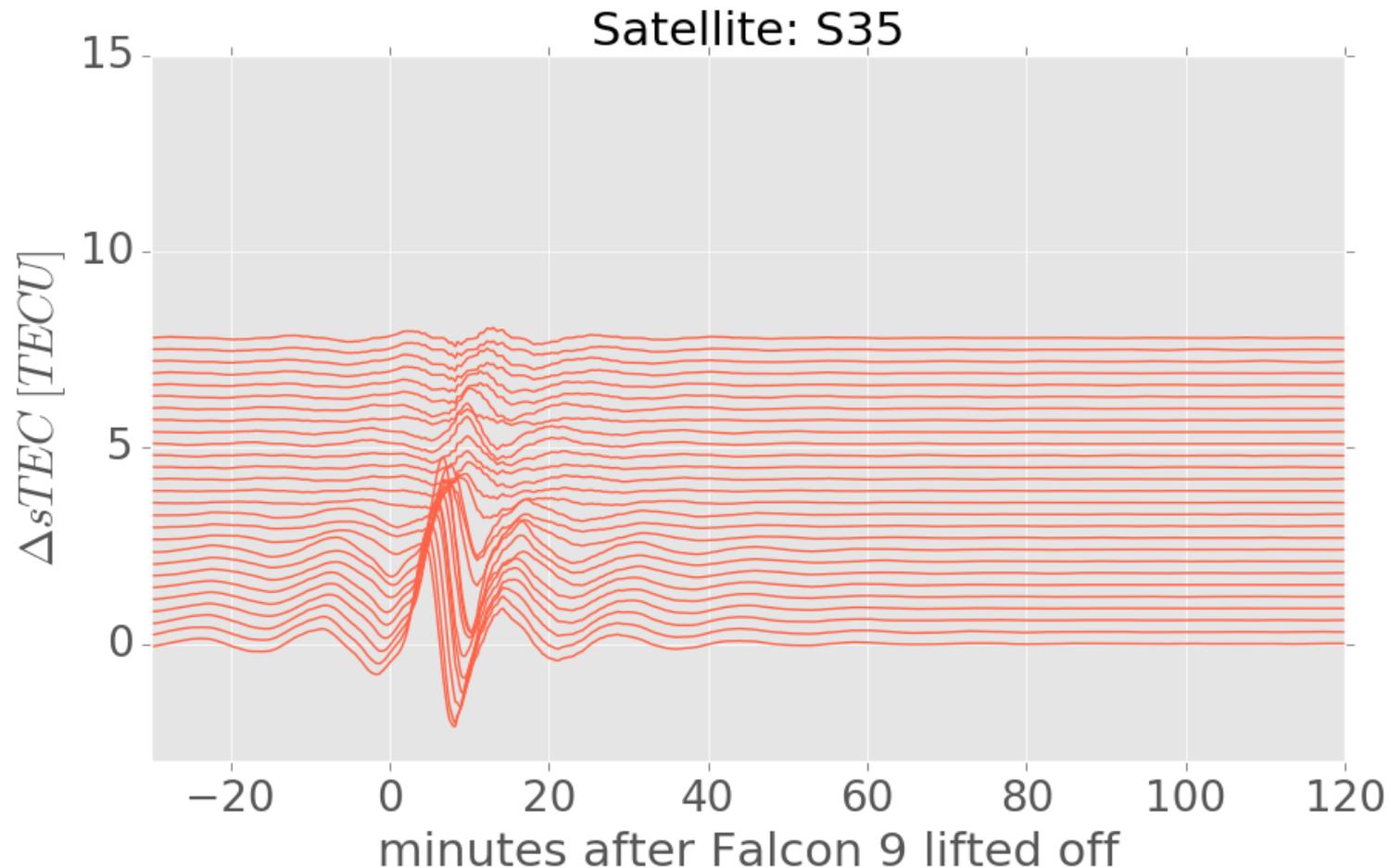


# Shock Acoustic Waves



- **WAAS (GEO). PRN: 135**
- **29 GNSS stations**

**SAWs detected from GEO Satellite**



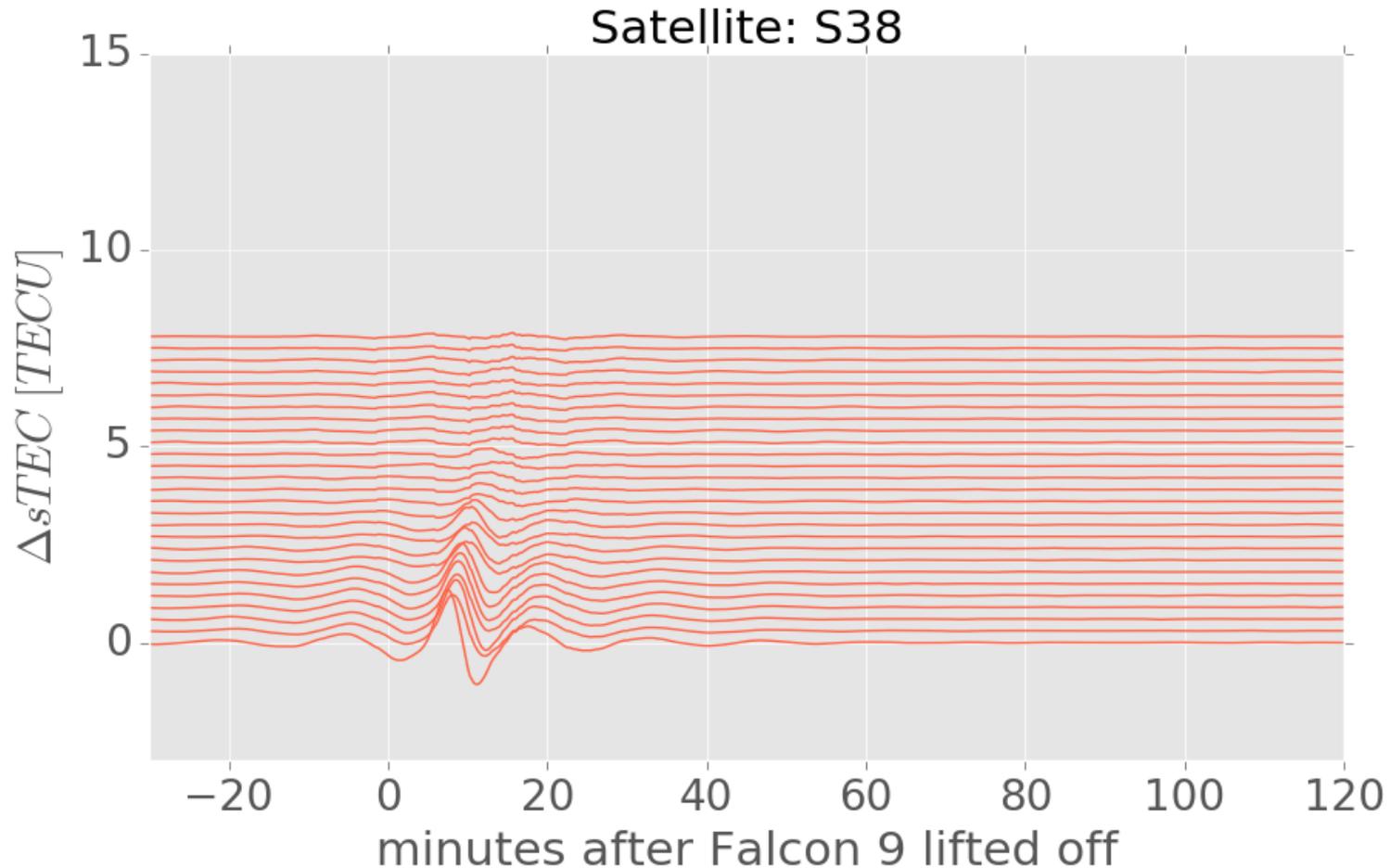


# Shock Acoustic Waves



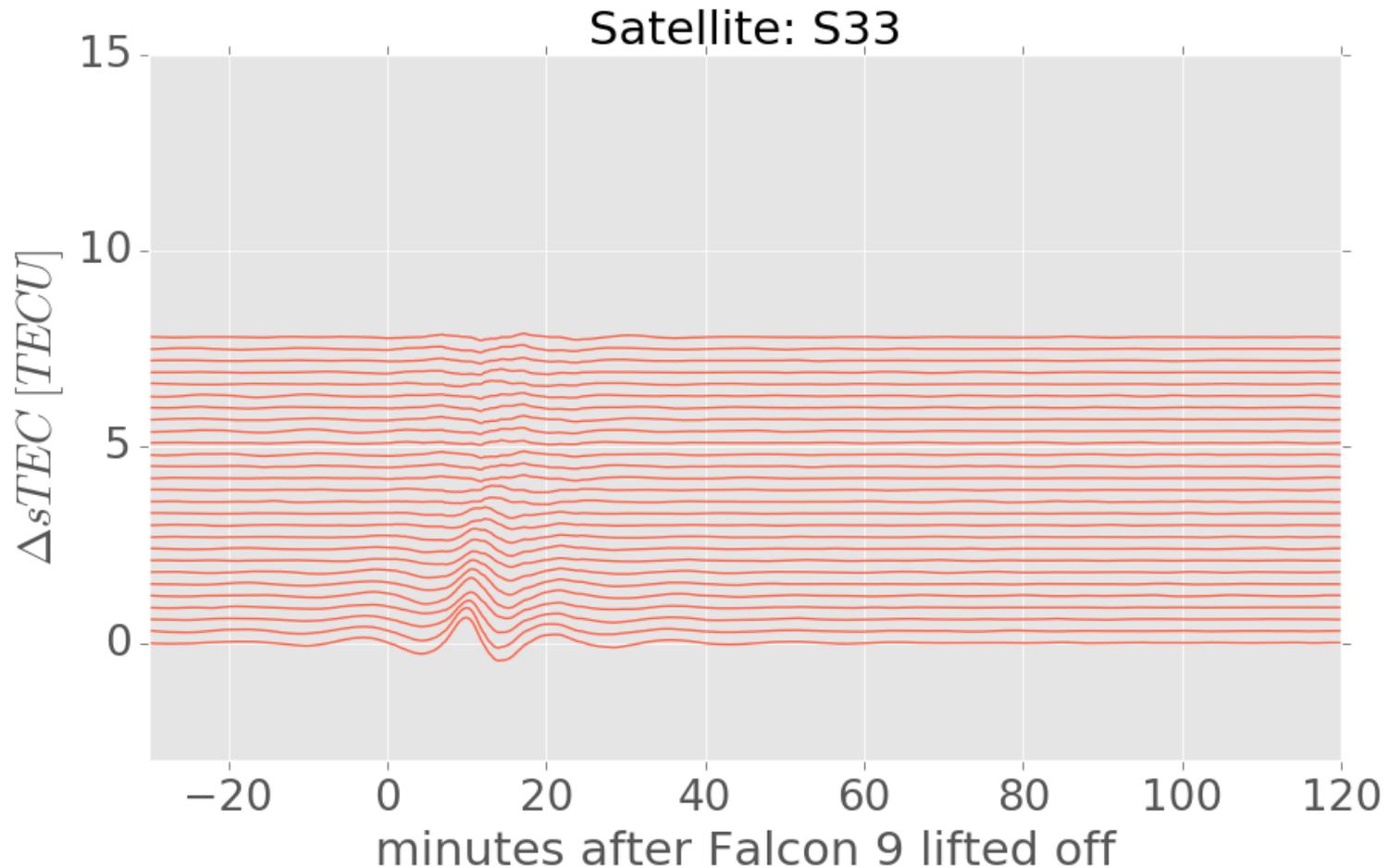
- **WAAS (GEO). PRN: 138**
- **29 GNSS stations**

**SAWs detected from GEO Satellite**



- **WAAS (GEO). PRN: 133**
- **29 GNSS stations**

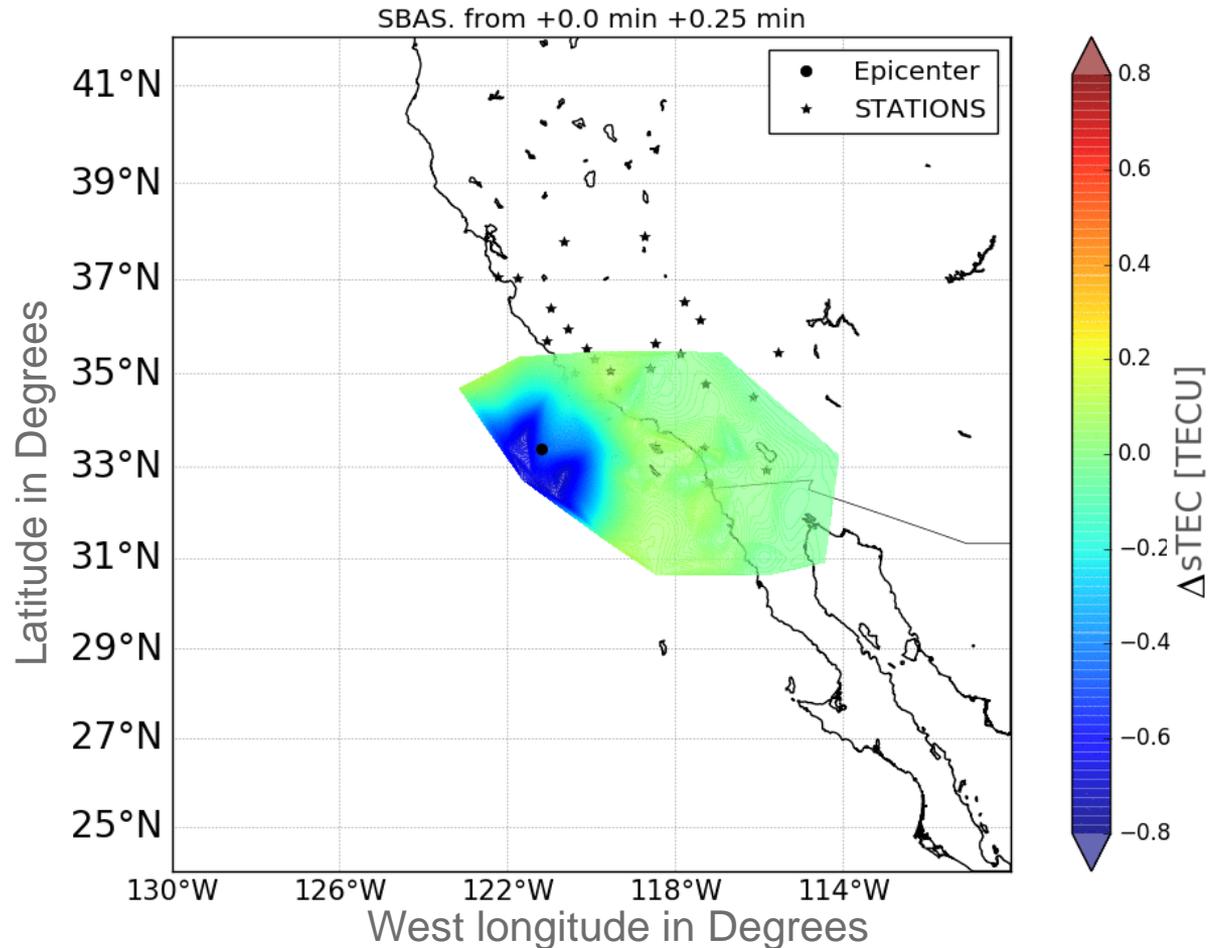
**SAWs detected from GEO Satellite**



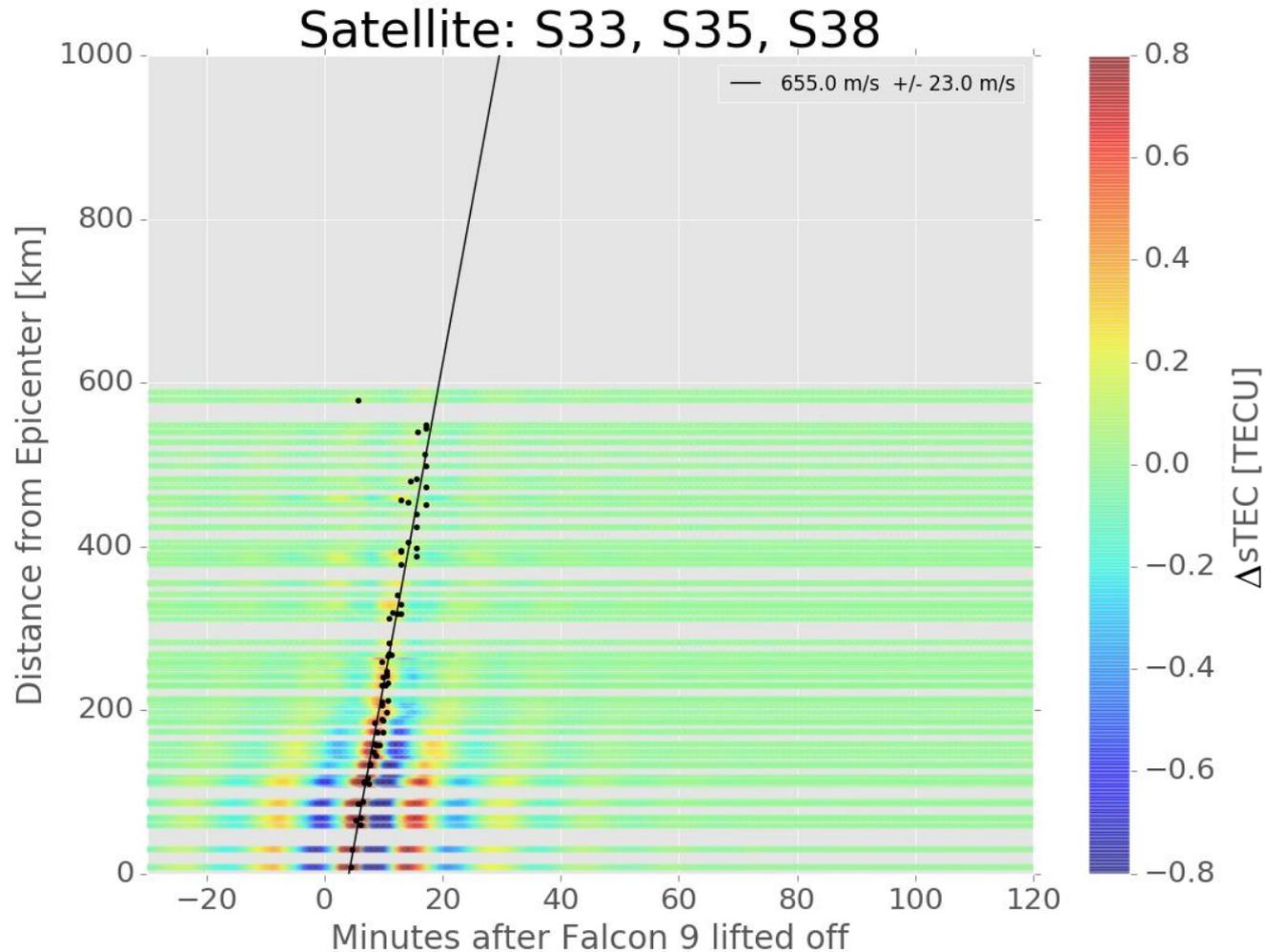
- **WAAS (GEOs). PRN: 133, 135, 138**
- **29 GNSS stations**



**Estimation Source Location**  
**Computation TEC Gradients**



## Estimation of **Horizontal Phase Velocity** using GEO Satellites



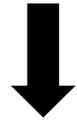


## Shock Acoustic Waves Detected in the Ionosphere from Real-Time Solutions

- Launch date: 22 May 2018, **12:47 p.m. PDT** (daytime)
- Launch site: **Vandenberg Air Force Base**, California
- Rocket: **Falcon 9**
- **Trajectory** of the Rocket almost **Vertical**

- GPS+GLONASS 20 minutes IPP tracks

- Raw [TECU/s] and Filtered [TECU] Solutions



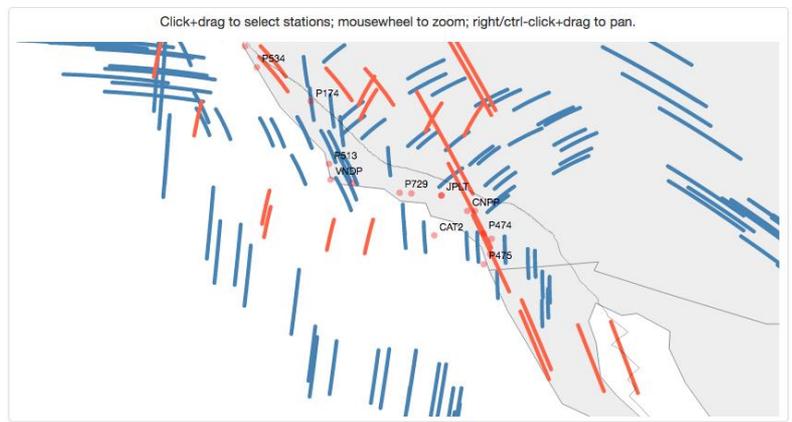
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

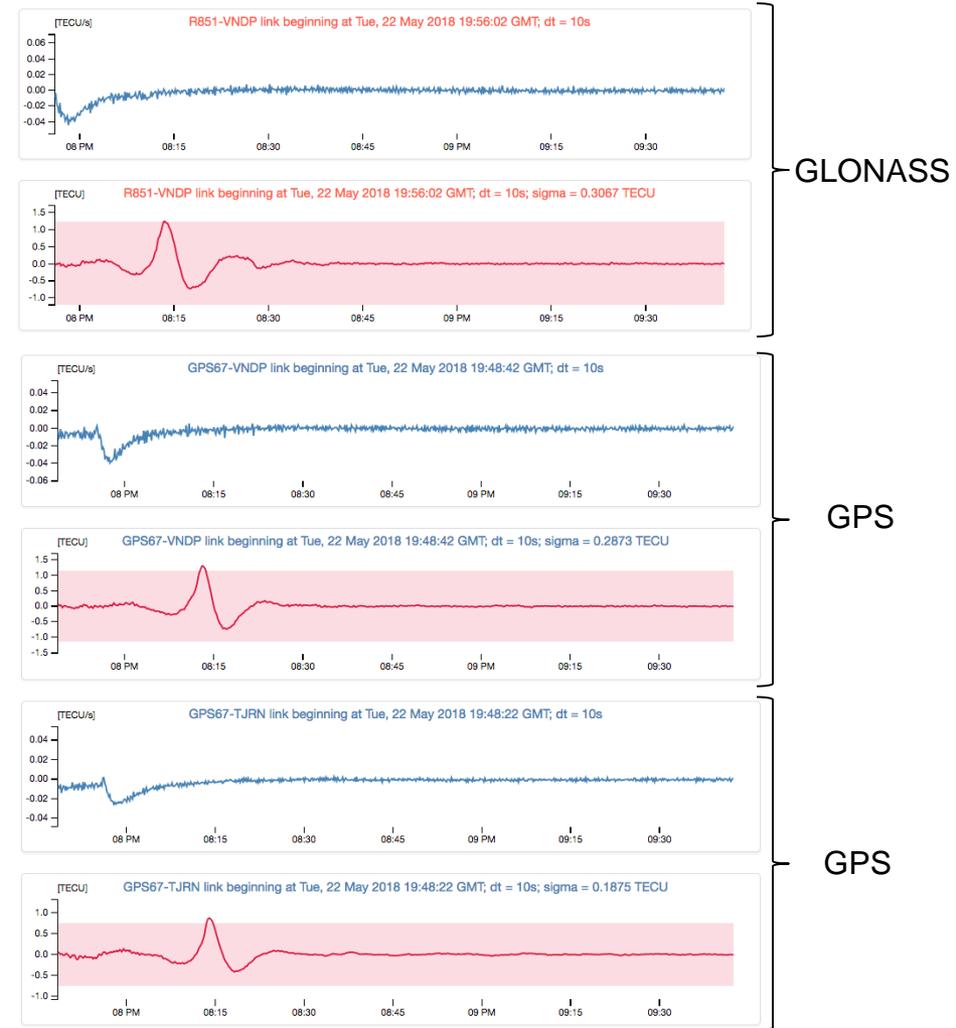


## Real-Time Detection of Tsunami Ionospheric Disturbances with Stand-Alone GNSS Receivers

Author: Giorgio Savastano e-mail: [giorgio.savastano@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:giorgio.savastano@jpl.nasa.gov)

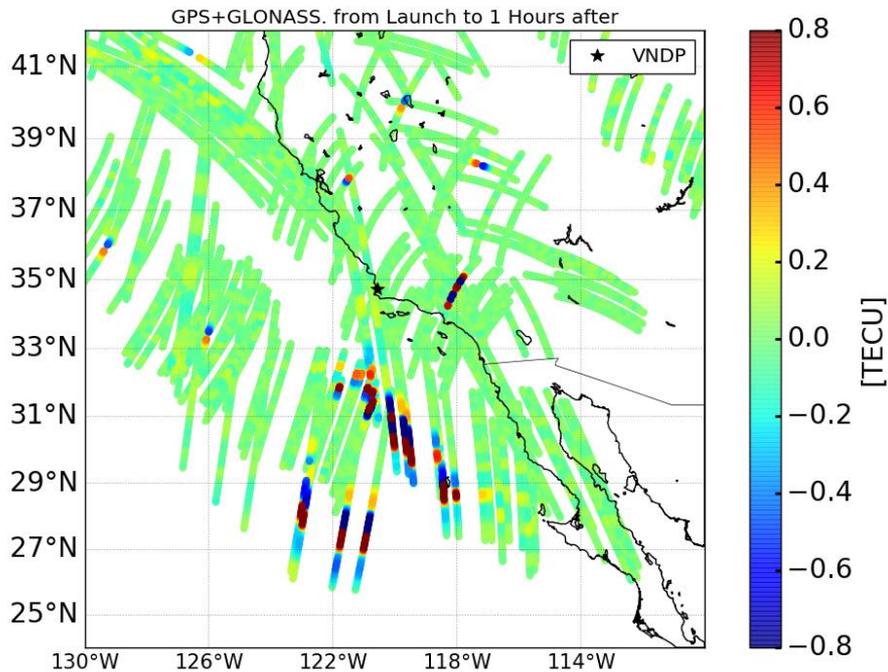


[ALL|NONE]  
mousewheel/click-drag inside plot to alter y range; click-drag on x range to zoom



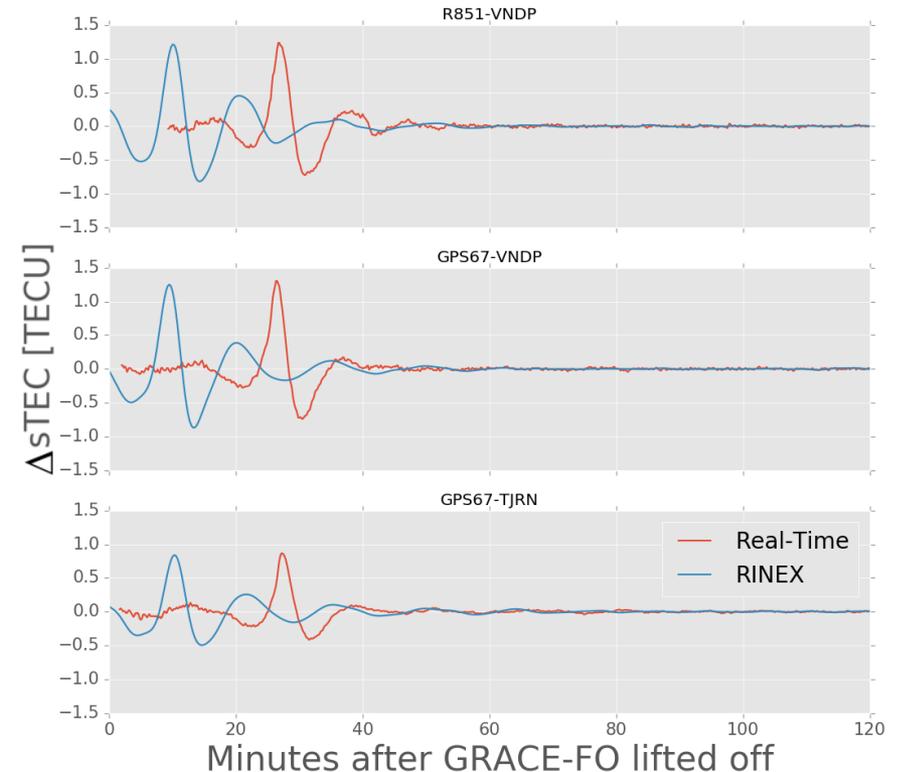
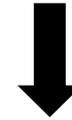
## 1 Hour of Real-Time IPP tracks:

- **TEC Perturbations** localized in the **South**



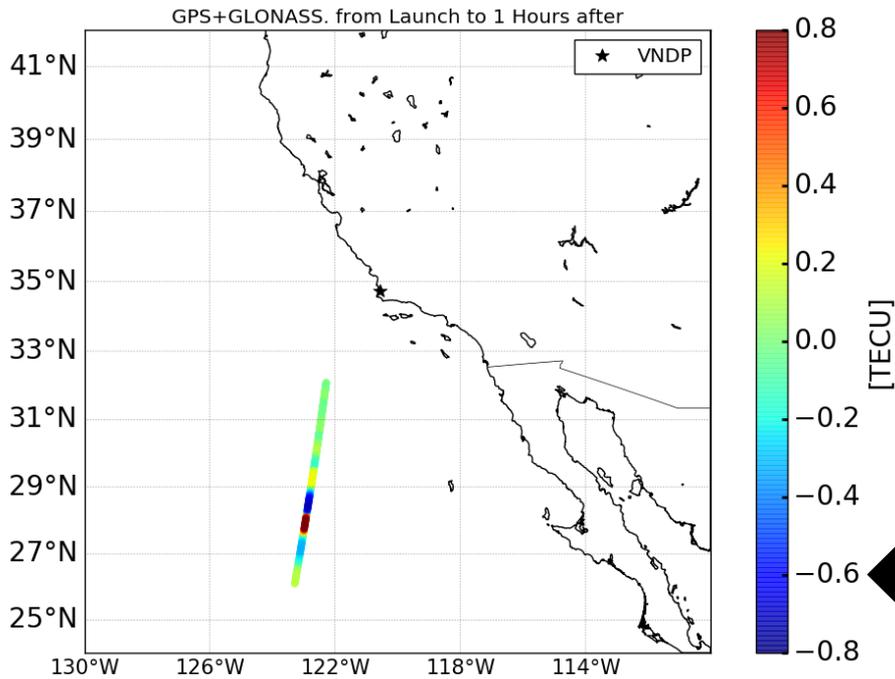
## Real-Time vs RINEX TEC Solutions:

- Correlation in **Amplitude** and **Period**
- **Phase** shifted (15 min time delay)



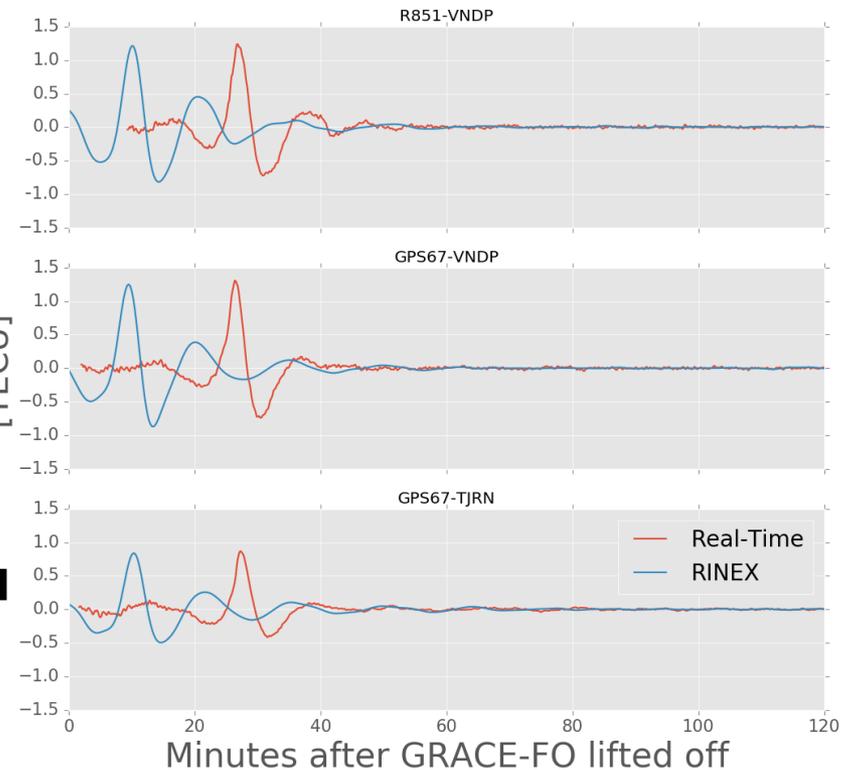
## 1 Hour of Real-Time IPP tracks:

- **TEC Perturbations** localized in the **South**



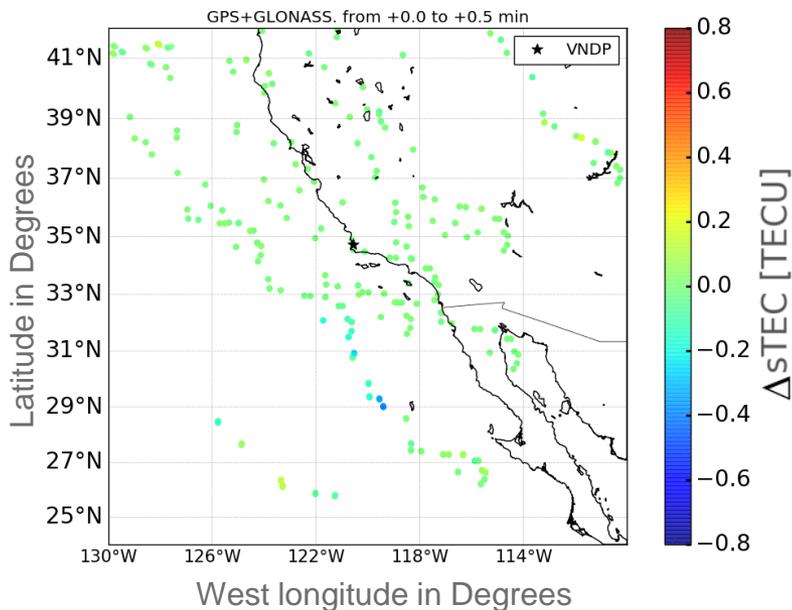
## Real-Time vs RINEX TEC Solutions:

- Correlation in **Amplitude** and **Period**
- **Phase** shifted (15 min time delay)



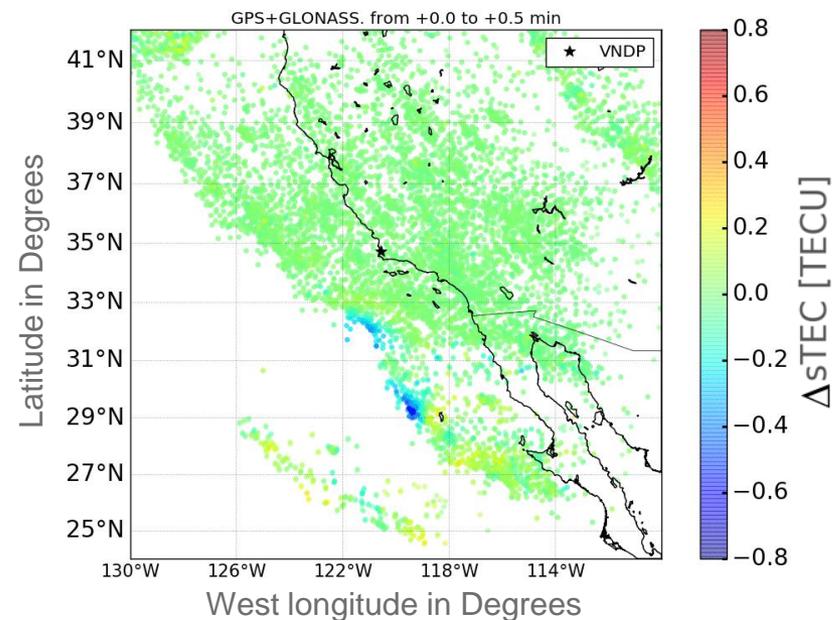
- **TEC Perturbations Detected from Real-Time TEC Solutions**
  - **Correlation in Time, Space and Amplitude**

## Real-Time Solutions



- **GPS+GLONASS**
- **17 Stations**

## Post-Processed Solutions



- **GPS+GLONASS**
- **900 Stations**



# Conclusions and Prospects



## Conclusions

- Demonstrated ability to **detect Shock Acoustic Waves (SAWs)** using GEO Satellites
- Demonstrated possibility to **estimate source location** and **horizontal phase velocity** of SAWs using GEO Satellites

## Future Work

- Detect **Tsunami-TIDs** from the Ionosphere using **GEO** and **MEO Satellites**



# Acknowledgments



- **NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP)** and **USRA**
- **JPL's GDGPS System** for providing access to the **real-time GNSS data** for this analysis
- **Michele Vallisneri** for his great help in implementing the **VARION Webpage**
- **Byron Iijima** and **Larry Romans** for their help with the **real-time stream of data**