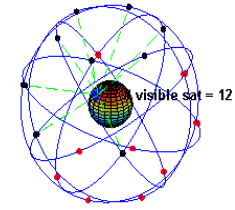


## Briefs on **AFREF**

African Reference Frame

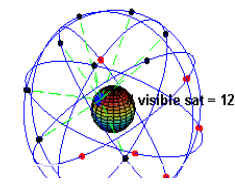


**Babatunde RABIU**  
Associate Director, CESRA, Federal University of  
Technology, Akure, Nigeria  
Email: [tunderabiu@yahoo.com](mailto:tunderabiu@yahoo.com)



# Outline

- About Africa
- AFREF
- Status quo
- Potentials of AFREF
- Ionospheric Studies Using SCINDA GPS



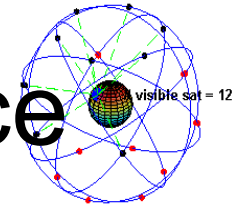
# Africa !

- A continent
- 54 individual nations
- Multi-lingual structure
- English, French, Portuguese, Arabic, Spanish
- ~ 30 billion km<sup>2</sup>
- ~ 850 million people
- ~14% of the World population



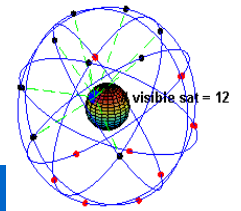


# The African Geodetic Reference Frame AFREF



- a unified geodetic reference frame for Africa
- fundamental basis for the national & regional three-dimensional reference networks
- fully consistent and homogeneous with the International Terrestrial Reference Frame ITRF
- Densification of GNSS networks with its products in Africa
- Full implementation will include a unified vertical datum and support for efforts to establish a precise African geoid

<http://geoinfo.uneca.org/afref/>



Organisational Structure of AFREF

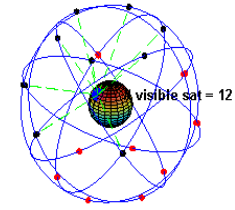
# Organizational Structure



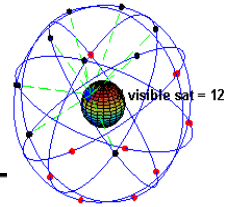
W.K. Ottichilo and H.O. Farah



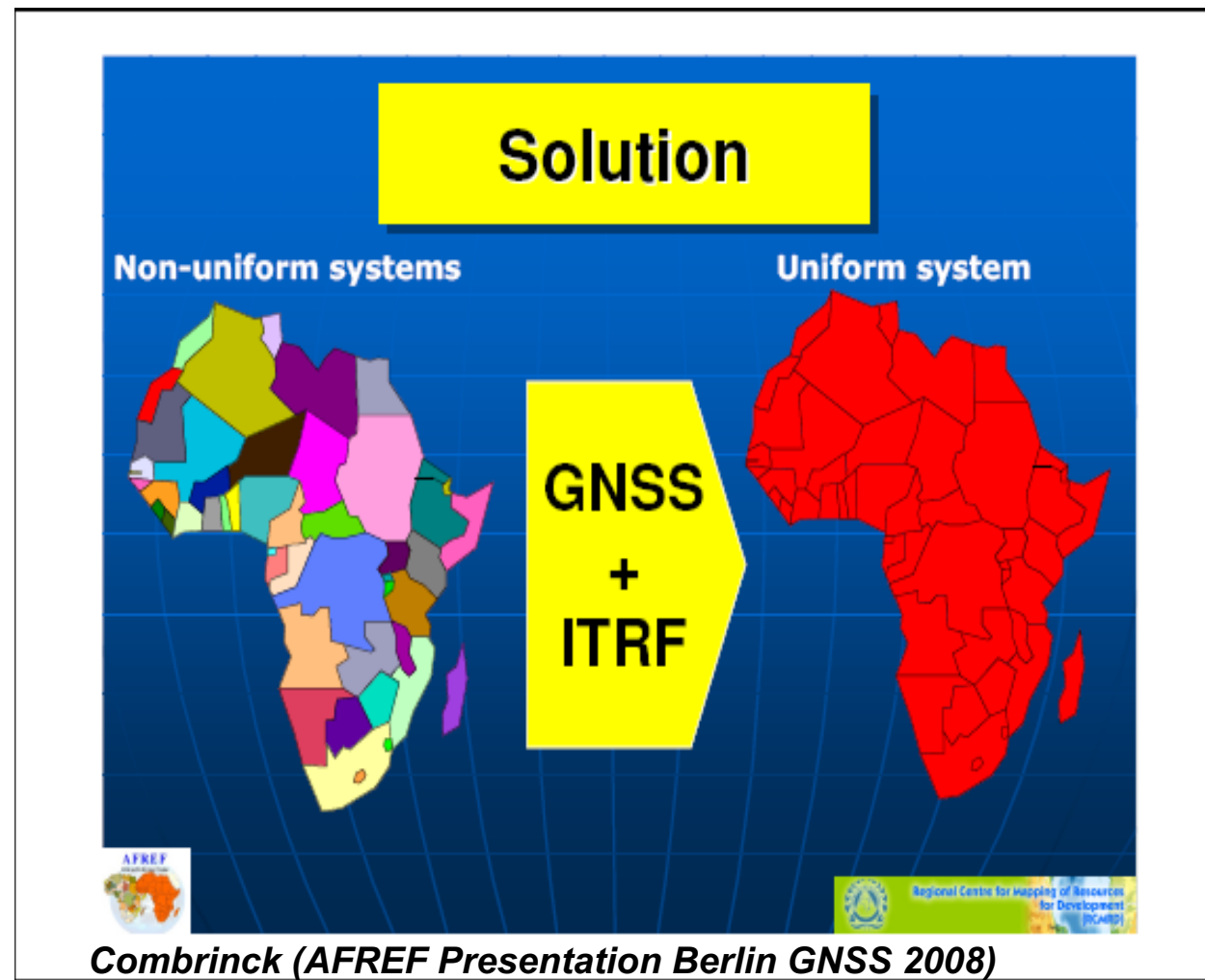
# AFREF: African solution

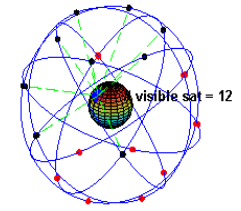


- ✓ each African country has its national geodetic reference system for producing maps and other geoinformation products - some countries even have more than one
- ✓ representation of cross-border features on maps cannot be done accurately
- ✓ For example, roads, watershed and ecosystem boundaries and wildlife reserves appear disconnected when national maps are joined together for regional planning and decision analysis
- ✓ Work on large infrastructure projects is normally undertaken in sections
- ✓ a uniform mapping surface is required to ensure that the sections join up.
- ✓ To unify the reference systems, parameters of the best fitting surface for map projections need to be determined and used by all countries.

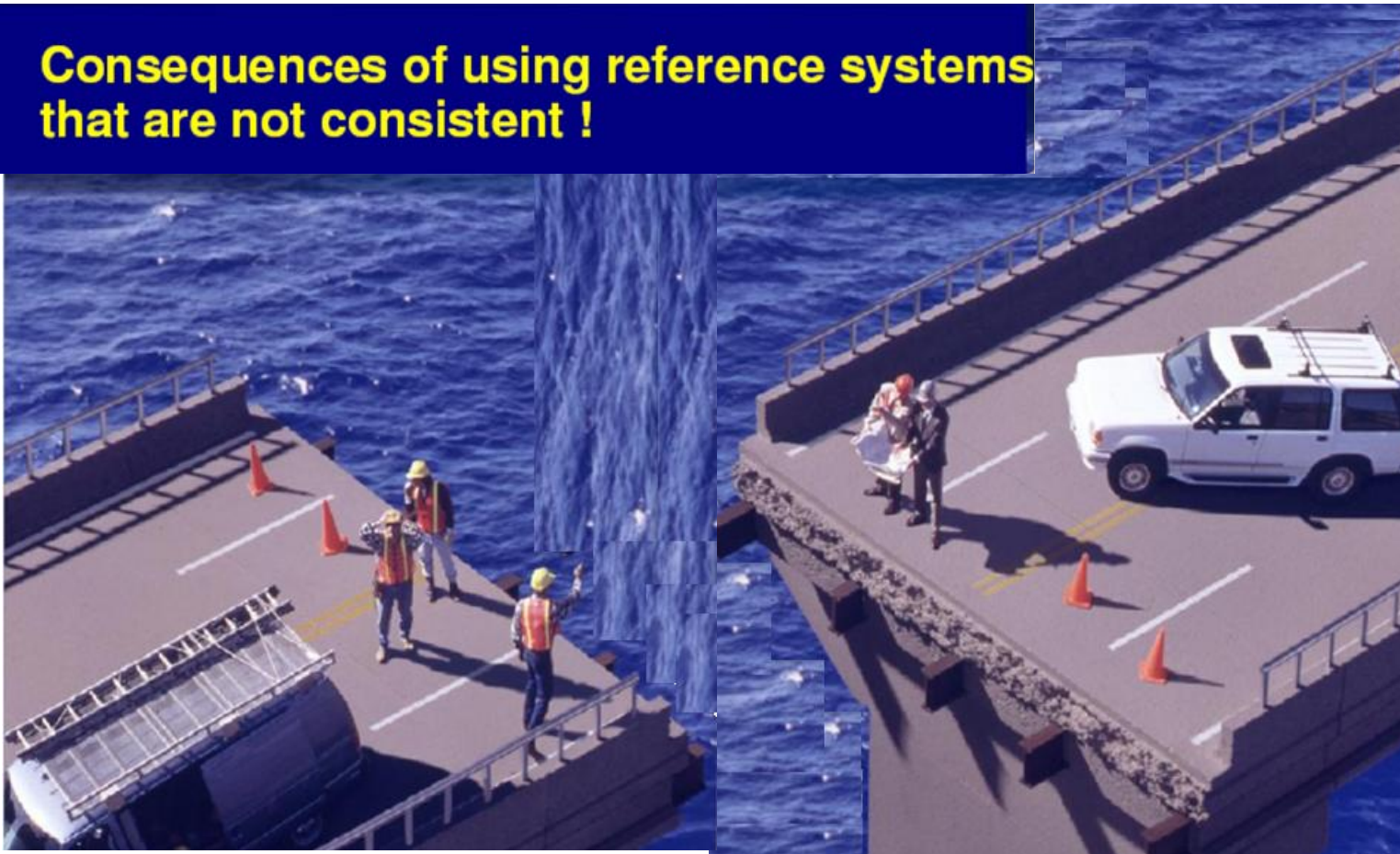


Reducing  
54  
Reference  
frames to  
1

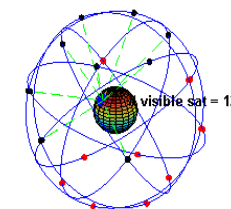




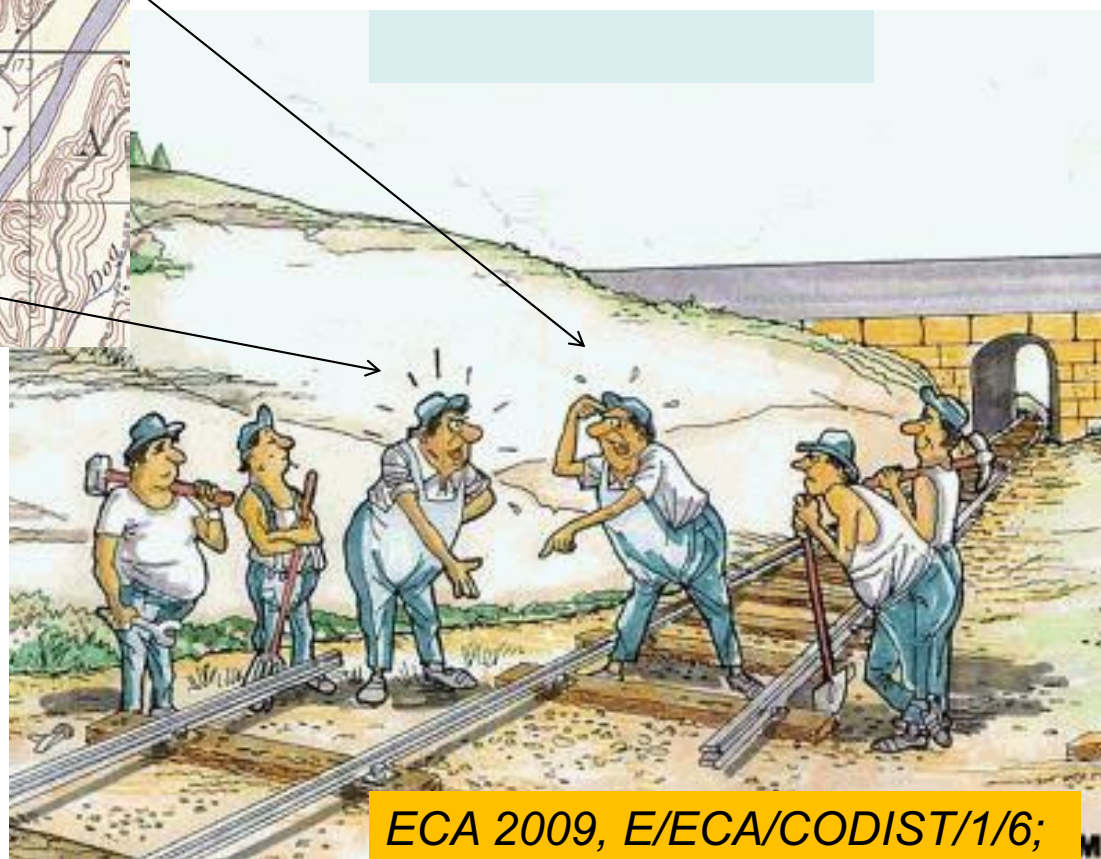
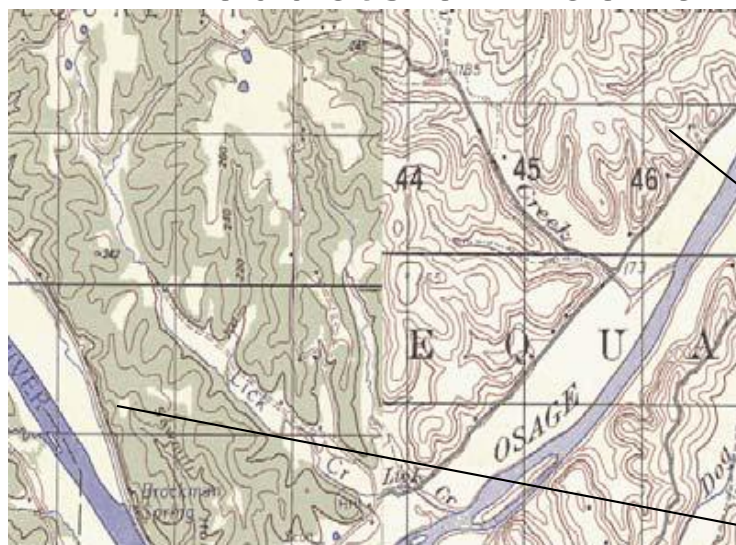
## Consequences of using reference systems that are not consistent !



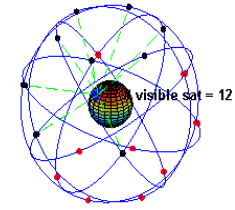




# Products of incoherent maps - confusion

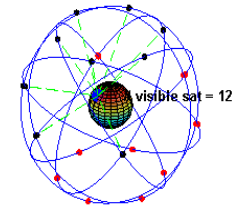


ECA 2009, E/ECA/CODIST/1/6;

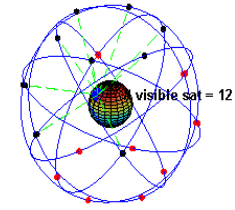


# Strategy

- Densification of GNSS CORS
- Central processing of data

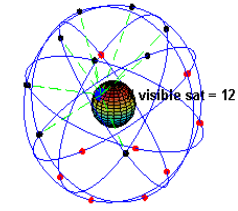


# Status Quo



# status

- More than 5 countries have established a network of CORS
  - Ghana
  - Tanzania
  - South Africa
  - Nigeria
  - Egypt
  - (???)
- About 20 countries now have at least one CORS



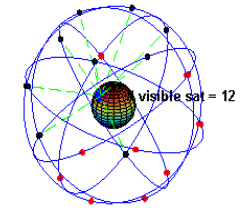
# A typical AFREF CORS



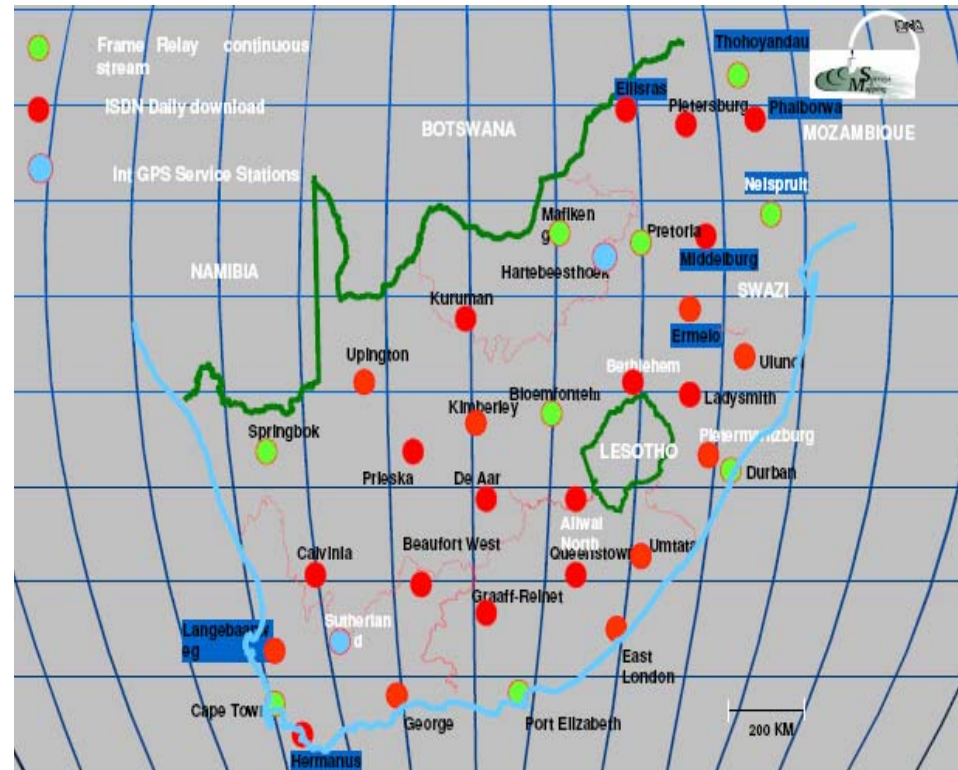
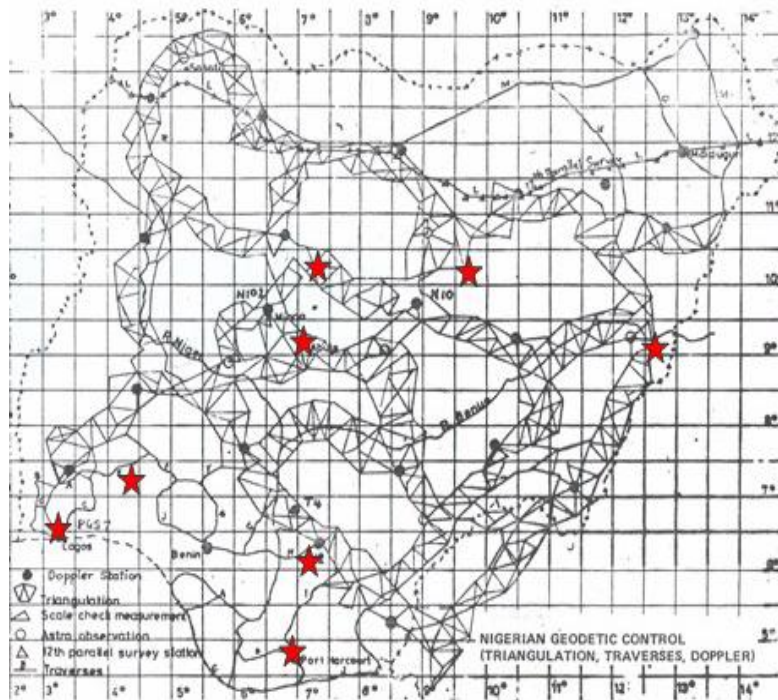
***Pemba, Mozambique***  
***Established: 08<sup>th</sup> November 2007***

*Courtesy: Fernandez 2007.*



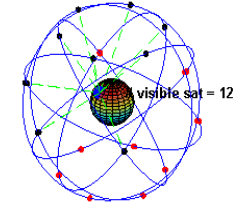


# Densification of National networks



*Ottichilo and Farah*

2nd SNSTA Abdus Salam ICTP, Trieste, Italy



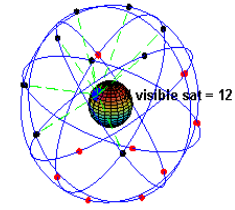
# NIGNET: NIGerian GNSS Reference NETwork

- ✓ Promoted by OSGoF (Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation)
- ✓ to implement a new reference frame for Nigeria in line with the recommendation of the United Nation Economic commission of Africa (UNECA) through its Committee on Development, Information Science & Technology (CODIST).
- ✓ The installation is being done in collaboration with SEGAL, a collaborative project between University of Beira Interior and Institute Geophysical Infante D. Luíz in Portugal.
- ✓ The core of NIGNET is formed by a network of GNSS CORS
- ✓ NIGNET will contribute to ITRS through AFREF

*(Jatau et al, 2010, Sydney, Australia)*

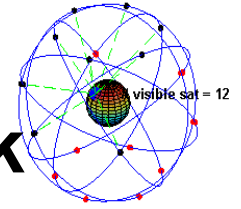


# 1<sup>st</sup> AFREF Stakeholders Forum



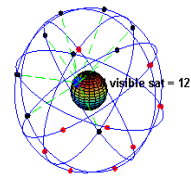
- ✓ on 26th September 2007 in Abuja, Nigeria
- ✓ Nigeria constitutes 25% of African Population.
- ✓ organized by the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation (OSGOF)
- ✓ More than 100 stakeholders took part in the forum.
- ✓ Nigerian Institution of Surveyors (NIS)
- ✓ Surveyors Council of Nigeria (SURCON)
- ✓ States Surveyors-General, National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA)
- ✓ Nigeria Association of Geodesy (NAG), the Armed Forces
- ✓ the Academia, Aviation industry, National Universities Commission,
- ✓ National Space Research and Development Agency
- ✓ (NASRDA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS)
- ✓ Chevron Nigeria Ltd, Shell Petroleum Development Company and other private sector organization.





# Benefits of Good national geodetic network

- ✓ Provides foundation for all geo-referencing activities.
- ✓ It is the base for coherent multipurpose Land Information System (cadastre) and its subsequent maintenance.
- ✓ positioning services,
- ✓ surveying & mapping,
- ✓ Community-Boundary mapping
- ✓ food security, disaster management,
- ✓ air, land & sea navigation,
- ✓ Effective land administration, registration & taxation
- ✓ emergency response, management of resources
- ✓ promotion of Good Governance
- ✓ revenue planning and collection.
- ✓ Checkmating corrupt practices



## Chronology of Nigerian Reference Frame

- ✓ The first geodetic surveys of Nigeria were performed by the British Royal Engineers in 1910-1912
- ✓ Observation of existing geodetic networks (horizontal and vertical networks) started in the late 1920's
- ✓ Most of the network was materialized between the late 1940's and early 1960's
- ✓ OSGoF - the National Mapping Agency of Nigeria, initiated NIGNET in 2008



(Jatau et al, 2010, Sydney, Australia)

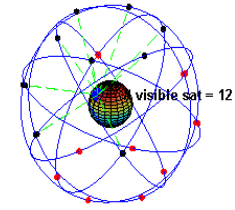


# NIGNET

- **Top – OSGF station installed at OSGoF headquarters, Abuja**
- **Middle – UNILAG station installed at the campus of University of Lagos.**
- **Bottom Left –FUTY station installed at Federal University of Technology of Yola**
- **Bottom Right - location at Toro.**



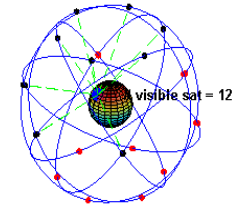
*(Jatau et al, 2010, Sydney, Australia)*



# NIGNET Equipment & Operations

- NIGNET is served by state-of-art geodetic equipment, namely the latest version of Trimble CORS stations, NetR8 with Choke-ring antennas.
- The complete system is composed of the receiver/antenna plus a USB modem (the communications with the Centre of Control will be done using the GSM cellular network), a router (to manage the communications), and a solar panel system (the systems are completely independent of the national electricity grid).
- The optimization of the power consumption was a priority in the design of the system. The solar panels have 160W of power (charging a battery with 100AH) that permit to support consumptions up to 20W for an expected constant consumption of 11W.

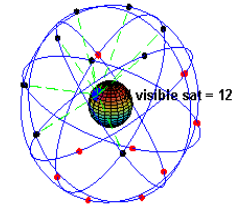
*(Jatau et al, 2010, Sydney, Australia)*



# NIGNET equipment and operations

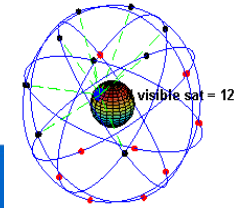
- located at Universities and Research Centers in order to also link NIGNET to the scientific community and foster the use of this network by more applications
- The NIGNET network is being installed with capabilities to support RTK positioning, both in single and network modes.
- The data from the permanent stations will be collected at a central station in Abuja where corrective data for the location of rover stations will be computed and will be provided to the users.

*(Jatau et al, 2010)*



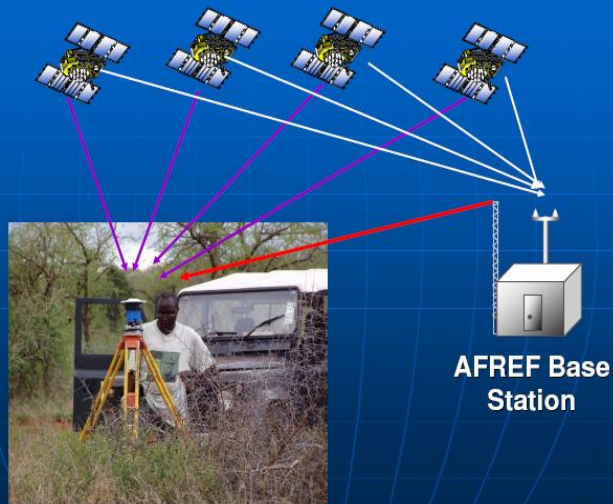
# NASRDA GNSS program

- ✓ The National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA) is a research & development institution established in May, 1999
- ✓ Mission - to vigorously pursue the development and application of space science and technology for the socio-economic development and enhancement of the quality of life of Nigerian people
- ✓ NASRDA is at moment collaborating with OSGoF to densify the GNSS CORS in Nigeria.
- ✓ More CORS will be installed by the end of 2010
- ✓ The target is 200 CORS (Personal Communication with SGoF, 2010)

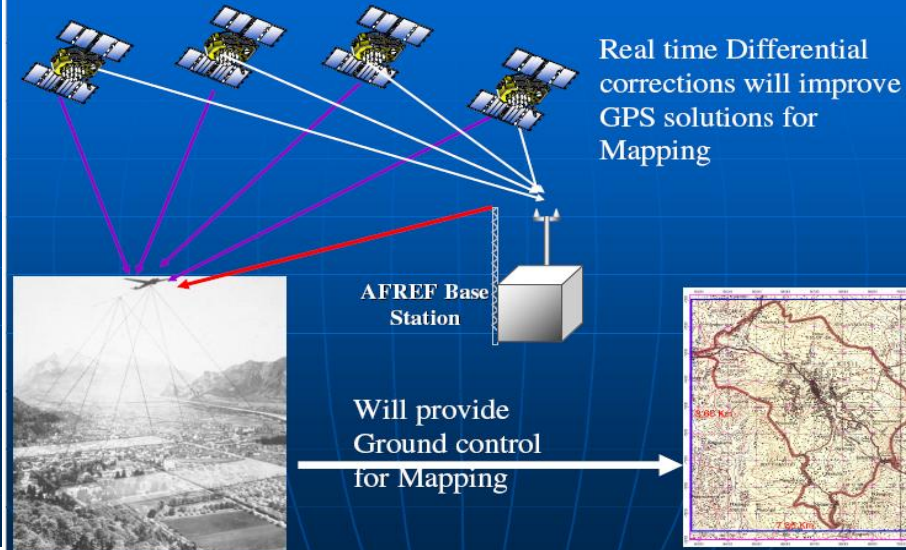


# Capabilities of AFREF (Combrinck, 2008)

## Applications in Land Surveys

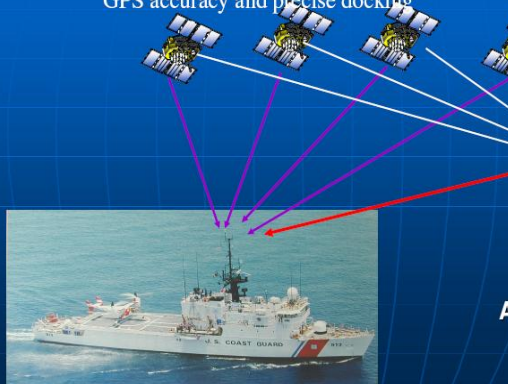


## Applications in Mapping



## Applications in Water Navigation

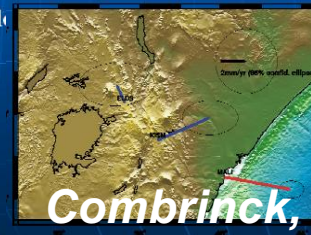
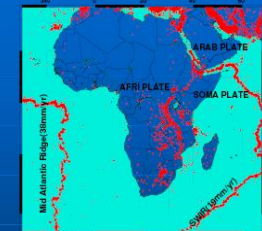
Real time Differential corrections will improve GPS accuracy and precise docking



## Applications in Air Navigation

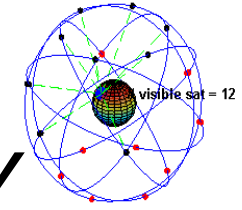


## Applications in Crustal dynamics



GPS data from AFREF base stations will be used to continuously monitor earth crustal movements.

**Combrinck, 2008, Berlin**



# International Heliophysical Year IHY

- A major program, which has facilitated increase of stations that can serve as CORS in Africa in recent time
- IHY activity has increased the CORS in Africa by more than 12

✓ **Nairobi**

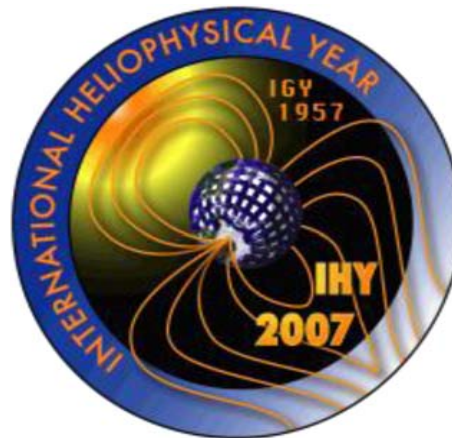
✓ **Lagos**

✓ **Addis Ababa**

✓ **Sal, Cape Verde**

✓ **Thika**

✓ **Kampala**



[www.ihy2007.org](http://www.ihy2007.org)

✓ **Abidjan**

✓ **Akure**

✓ **Ilorin**

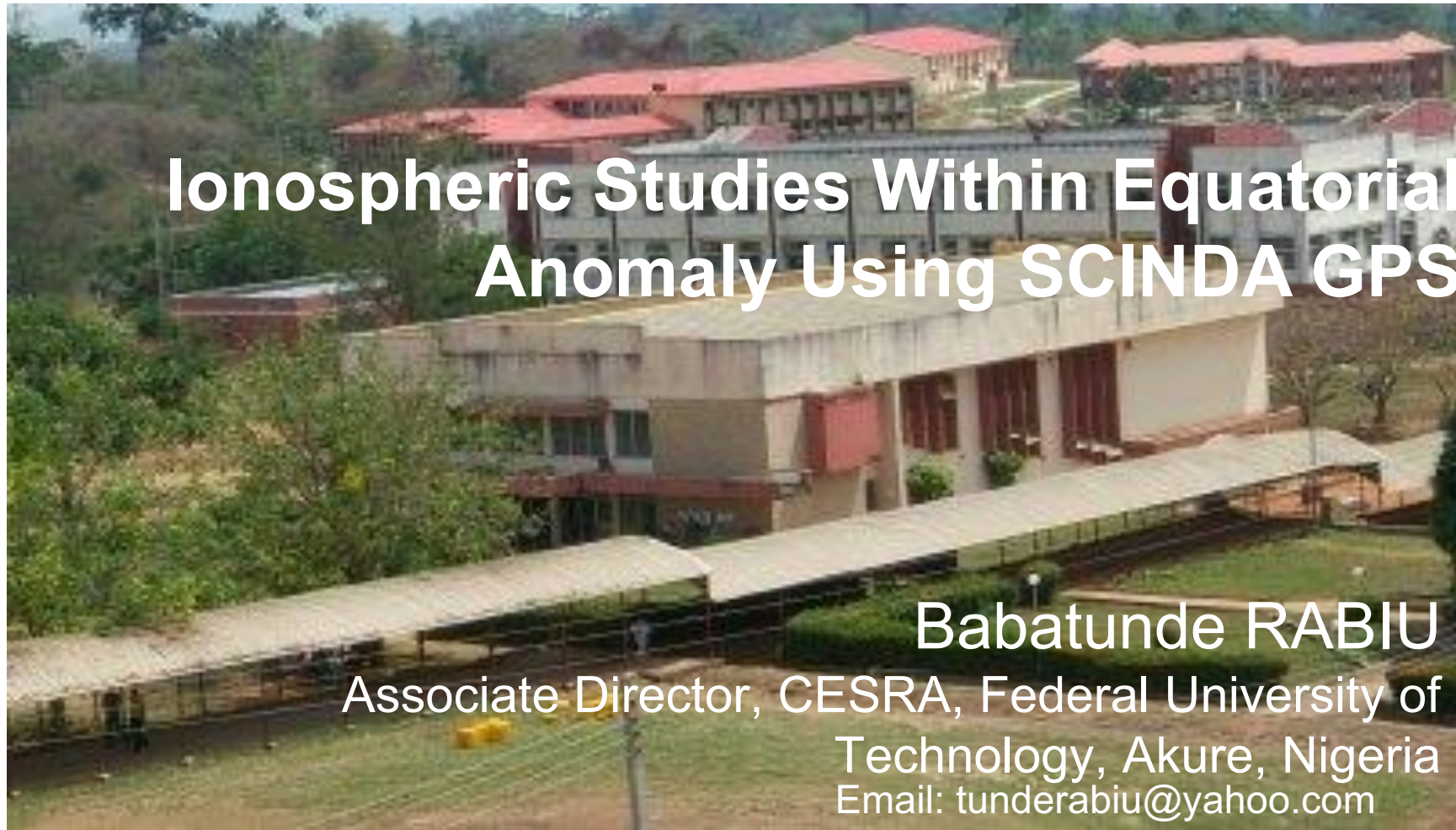
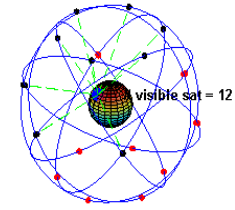
✓ **Lusaka**

✓ **Nsukka**

✓ **Cairo**

✓ **???**

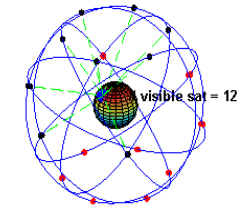




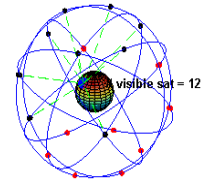
## Ionospheric Studies Within Equatorial Anomaly Using SCINDA GPS

**Babatunde RABIU**

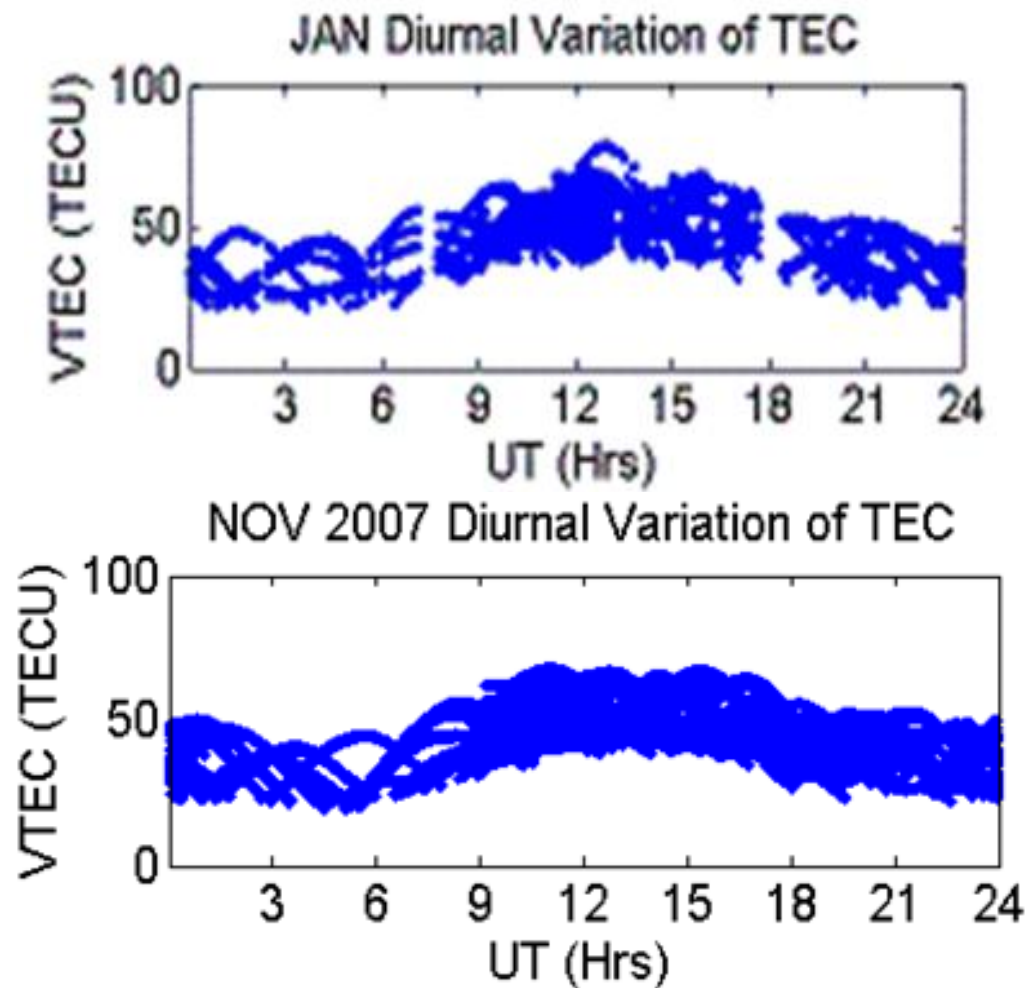
Associate Director, CESRA, Federal University of  
Technology, Akure, Nigeria  
Email: [tunderabiu@yahoo.com](mailto:tunderabiu@yahoo.com)

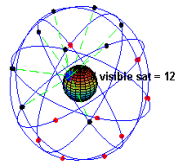


## SCINDA facility at Akure, Nigeria



*Mass plots  
of the  
Diurnal  
Variation of  
VTEC as  
observed  
from the  
data from all  
the visible  
PRN  
over Akure*

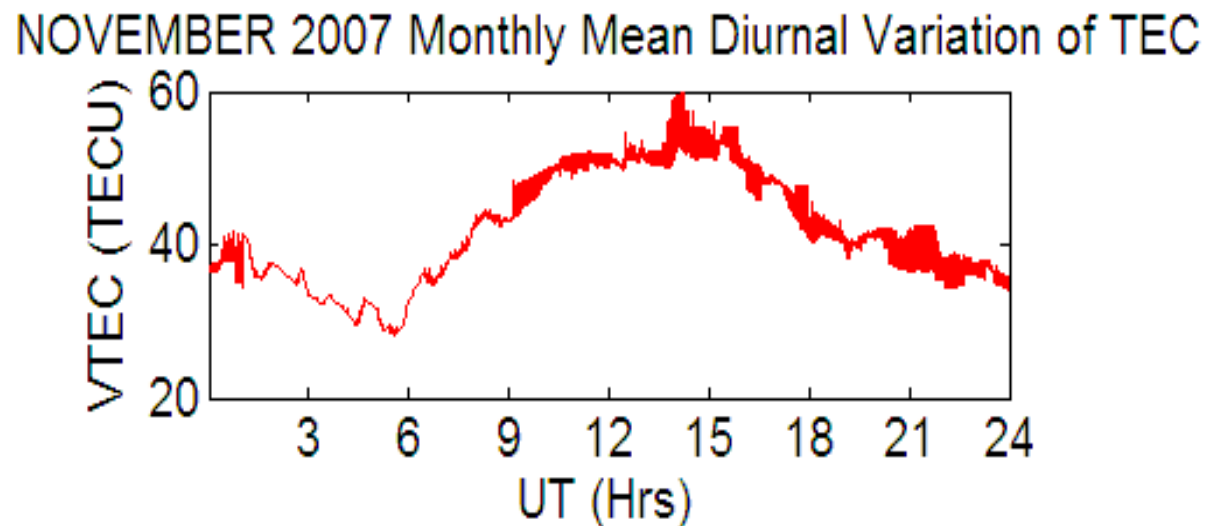
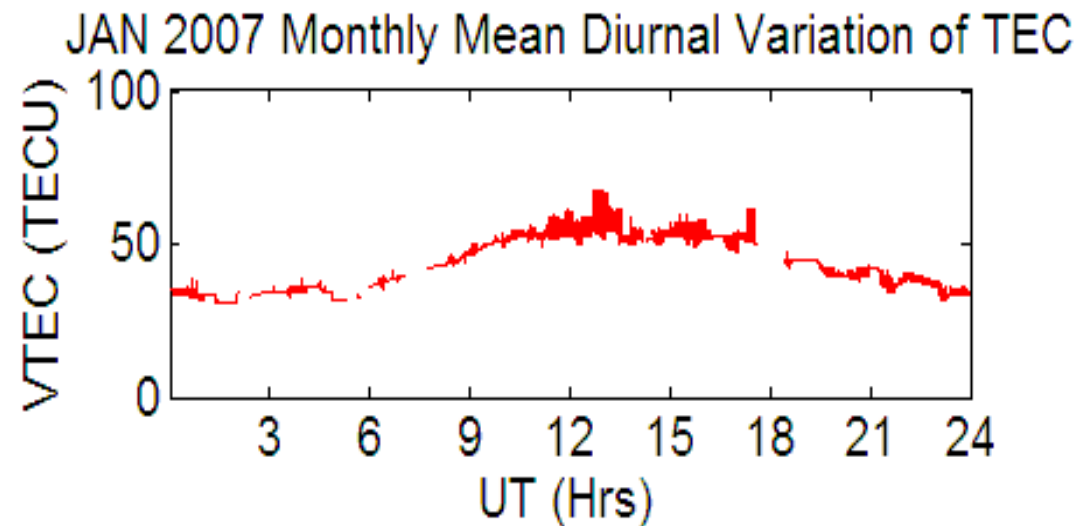


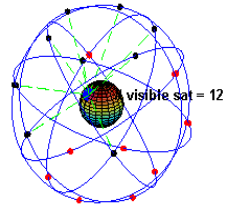


## Diurnal Variation of VTEC over Akure

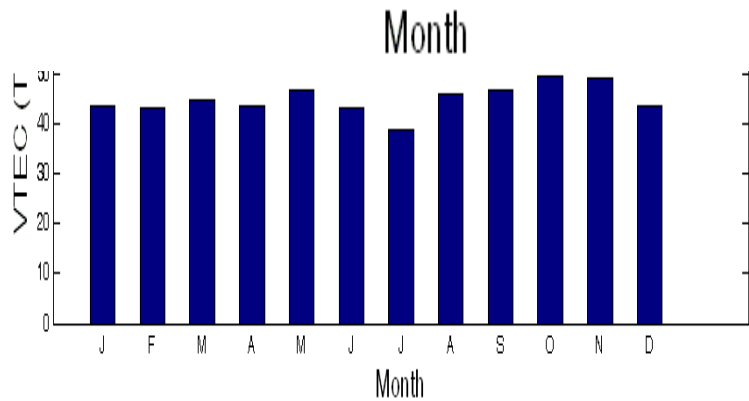
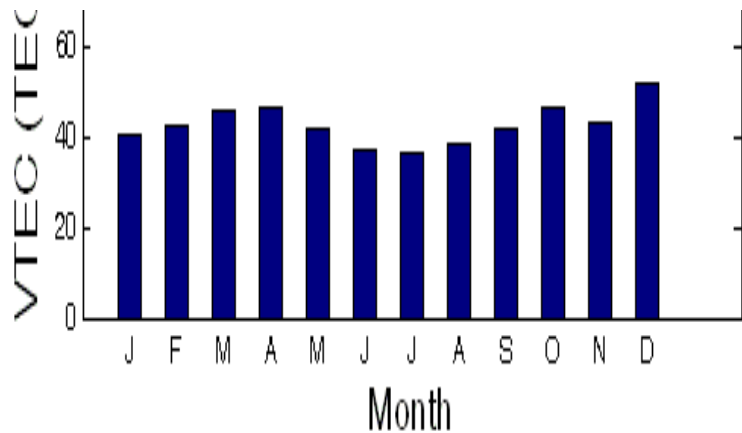
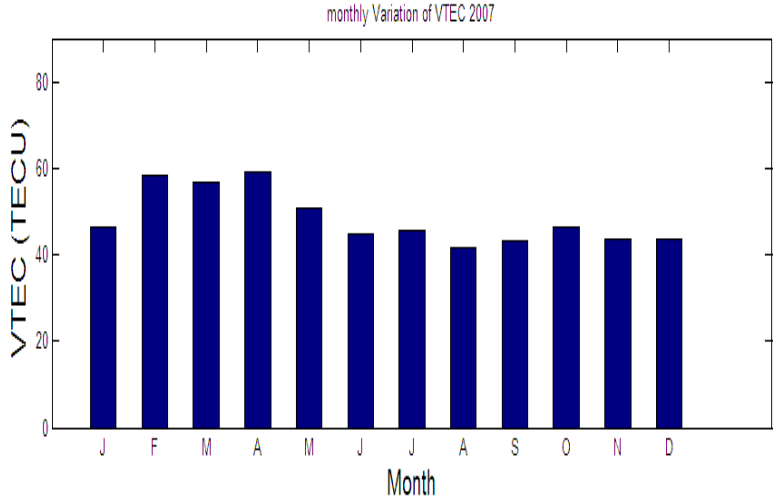
✓ *pre-dawn minimum for a short period of time followed by steep early morning increase.*

✓ *TEC reaches maximum value between 1300UT (1400LT) & 1400UT (1500LT)*

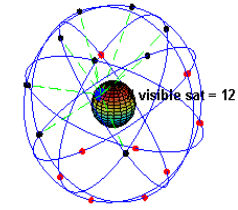
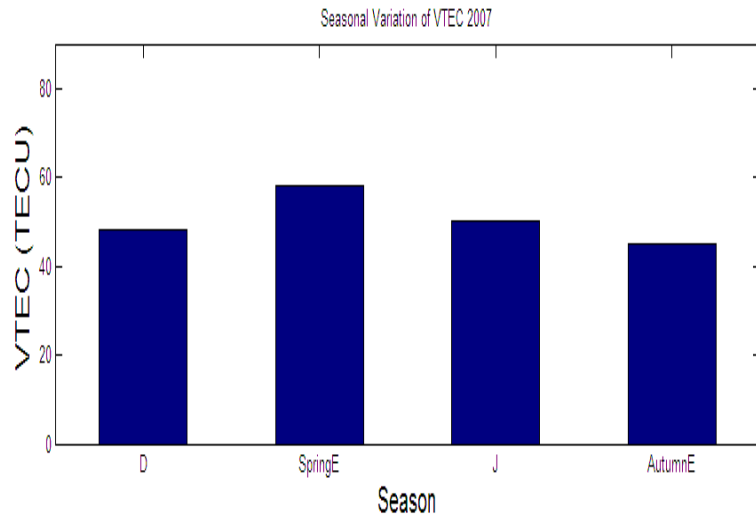




# Monthly variation of TEC

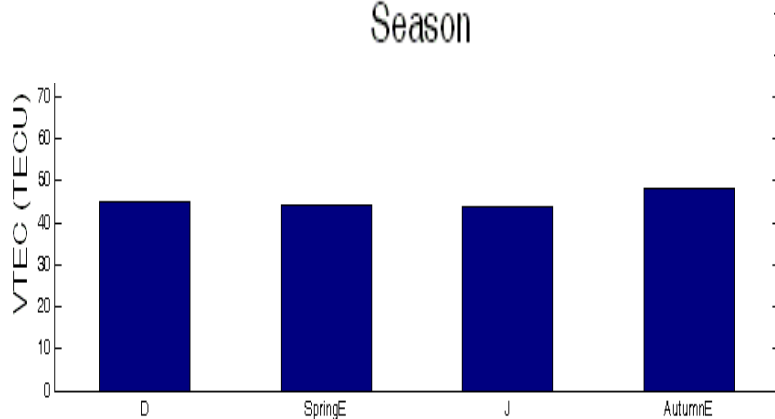
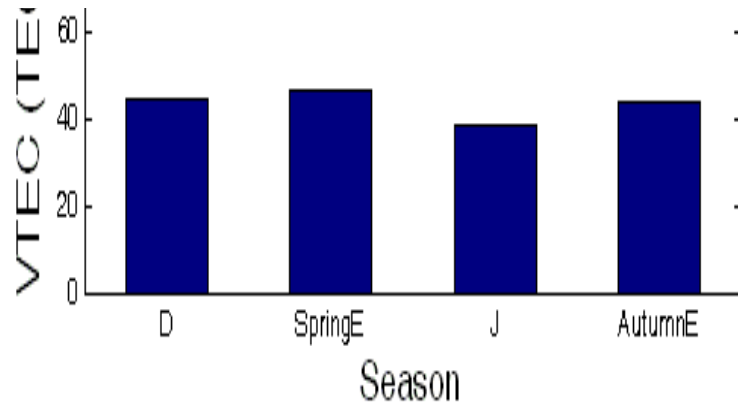


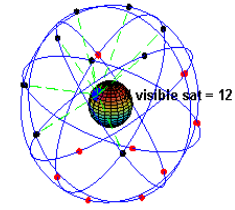
- TEC maximizes during Equinoctial months and minimizes during winter months
- intermediate values during summer months
- The average values for TEC in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are respectively 48.34, 42.89 and 45.64 TECU.



## Seasonal variation of TEC

- The semiannual variation of TEC is asymmetry with maximum in spring Equinox.

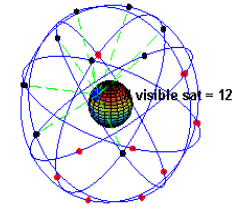




# Concluding Note

If you want to go quickly go alone;  
If you want to go far go with someone

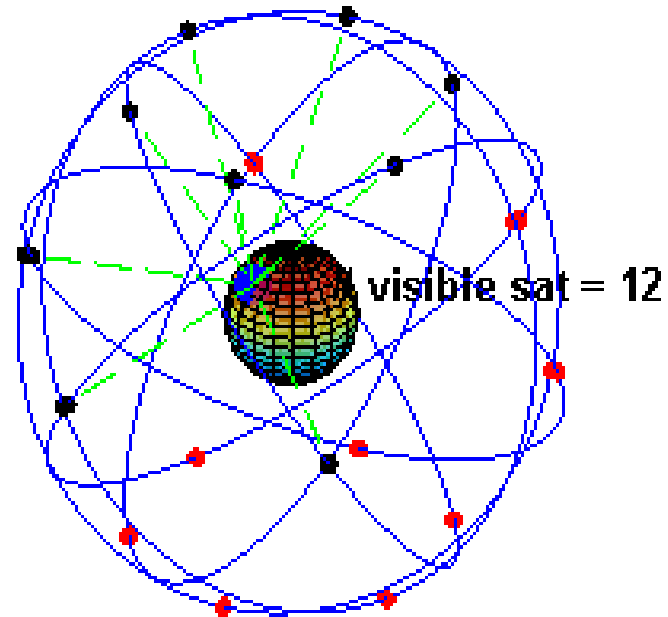
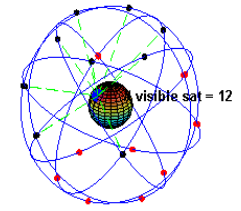
*A Chinese Adage*



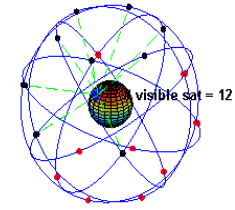
# ***Acknowledgements***

- Boston College
- Abdus Salam ICTP
- United Nations office for Outer Space  
Affairs UNOOSA, Vienna, Austria





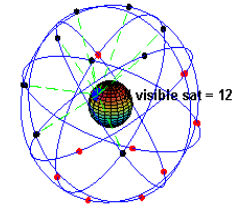
# Thank You



# A new approach ...

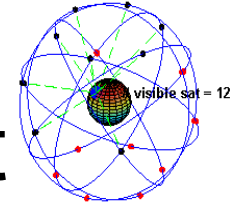
## *R & D Approach*

- **Intensify complimentary efforts at densifying the GNSS ground infrastructures**
- **University based National GNSS Network**
- **Continental GNSS Network**



## GNSS products are capable of

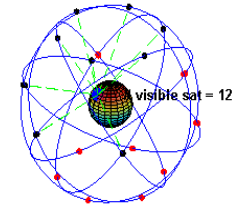
- producing **good governance**
- **inhibits corruption**
- **create job opportunities**
- **advance wealth creation**
- **promote quality of living**
- **Secure society**
- provide platform for **sustainable manpower** and **economic development**



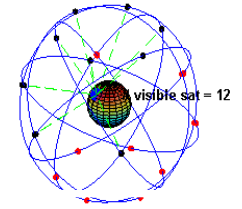
# U.S. Supports AFREF Development

- AFREF is an African initiative
- ICG Working Group D addresses reference frame issues, including AFREF
- In 2008 through the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)/ICG, the U.S. facilitated the travel of twenty Africans to an AFREF workshop at the Africa Array Conference held at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, RSA
- U.S. plans to continue to support AFREF development through Africa Array, the UNOOSA and other existing international initiatives

*Ray Clore, 3rd International Satellite Navigation Forum, Moscow, Russia, May 12-13, 2009.*

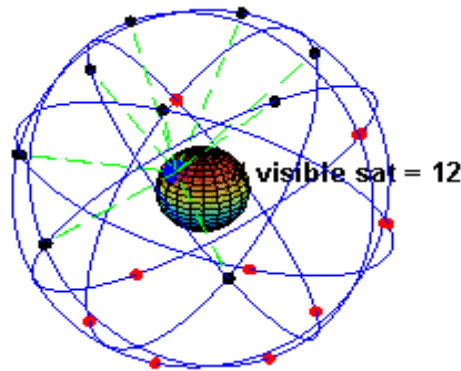


- ITRS (International Terrestrial Reference System) using the latest realization (currently



## Benefits of IHY

# Capacity Building in GNSS



**Knowledge & technological transfer**

**International collaboration**

**Availability of teaching & research facilities**

**internationally competitive research**

**Windows of postgraduate opportunities**

**Control of brain drain**

**Development of Research in BSS**

**intra–continental partnerships**