

# Spectral Methods for Time Delay Estimation of MSTIDs Signal

Heng Yang<sup>1</sup>, Enrique Monte-Moreno<sup>\*1</sup>, and Manuel Hernandez-Pajares<sup>2</sup>

Deb. 14, 2015

## Abstract

The primary goal of this work is to summarize spectral methods to estimate the time delay variations of the detrended Medium Scale Traveling Ionospheric Disturbances (MSTIDs) signals and preliminarily discuss the potential influence of the Doppler effects. The MSTIDs signals are assumed as the planar waves with the wavelength between 10-100 kilometers, which are measured from a local high-dense receivers Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) network for a given satellite. The signals show strong correlation with each others in the whole observation time series. The time delay of the detrended MSTIDs signals preprocessed with a specific overlapped sliding window can be estimated by several techniques. The data consisted on two detrended MSTIDs signals measured from the GNSS data on the day 1, 2011 obtained from the small area network in California. In this paper we have implemented the following methods in order to estimate the time delay between signals: (1) Generalized

---

\*Corresponding author: [enric.monte@upc.edu](mailto:enric.monte@upc.edu)

<sup>1</sup>Departament de Teoria del Senyal i Comunicacions, TALP, Universitat Politcnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain.

<sup>2</sup>Departament Matemtica Aplicada IV, IonSAT, Universitat Politcnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain.

cross correlation method, which estimates the time delay in time domain after the inverse Fourier transform of appropriately weighted cross power spectrum density, (2) generalized phase spectrum method directly measured from the appropriately weighted cross power spectrum density, (3) phase spectrum difference method calculated approximately from the fundamental waves of the signals. The results with different methods show the similar variation of time delay of two MSTIDs signals. In addition, with the phase spectrum method, the results can present the clear frequency variation of MSTIDs signals which may be influenced by potential Doppler effect. Note that the correct estimate of the delays required of a preprocessing of the data. The first difference of the Vertical Total Electron Contents (dVTEC) signal was preprocessed by modeling the effect of the displacement of the satellite by means of a parabolic component, which is subtracted, following by detrend of 60-second intervals, decimation and a further low pass filtering process.