

# SWARM

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YEAR ANNIVERSARY SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Swarm 10 Year Anniversary & Science Conference 2024

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## GNSS SCINTILLATION AND SWARM

- There has been a growing interest in using Swarm data as a proxy for the GNSS scintillation activity.
- This in view also to exploit present and future LEO missions to model the effect of small-scale irregularities on L-band signals in the critical areas



**GPS PRN number** 

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Swarm A

2015-03-07

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#### THE BIG PICTURE OF SCINTILLATION MODELLING

- Inspired by WAM, we have the capability to <u>model the S4 index based on</u> <u>Swarm FP</u>
  - Significantly longer dataset w.r.t. DE2 (sol max conditions only)
  - Swarm carries other instruments which assist the interpretation and validation
  - More ground-based observations are now available for model validation
- The 16 Hz sampling rate, combined with the Swarm orbital features, allows modelling the effect of spatial scales with scale size of ~ 500 m along the Swarm flight direction (roughly N-S), which are slightly above the Fresnel's scale relevant for L-band scintillations (few hundreds of metres) affecting the propagation of GNSS signals.

Swarm: in situ Electron Density at 16Hz.

WAM: Phase screen **model** 

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#### MODEL OUTPUT – SWARM A – 01.07.2023-31.01.2024



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### MODEL OUTPUT VALIDATION

- S4 from Swarm is validated against S4 from GNSS receivers.
- $\rightarrow$  eSWua GNSS scintillation network (7+ low latitude stations) Sep 2021 Apr 2023



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#### SWARM A - ESWUA GNSS CONJUNCTIONS 09.2021-04.2023



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## SWARM A-MALINDI (KENYA) CONJUNCTIONS 01.07.2023-31.01.2024



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### REMARKS

- We developed a Swarm amplitude scintillation index (S4) for measuring irregularities that affect L-band Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) signals.
- Such an index from Swarm measurements is important for **filling** ground-based GNSS scintillation **measurement gaps**.
- We **validate** the model inputs and outputs using Swarm's conjunctions with GNSS and ionosondes.
- This S4 data product has the potential to be used **for space weather applications** and for near real-time specification of the ionosphere.

your attention!



Thank you for

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