



Ionospheric Detection of the 2022 Tonga Event Using Real-Time GDGPS Observations

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Outline

- Motivation and objective
- GDGPS capabilities relevant for natural hazards detection
 - GNSS networks
 - GDGPS Operation Centers (GOCs)
 - Redundancy and robustness
- Ionospheric detection of Tonga eruption using GDGPS measurements
- Validation using high-resolution JPL GIM processing
- Development of GUARDIAN
 - GNSS-based Upper Atmospheric Realtime Disaster Information and Alert Network
- Conclusions

Motivation and Objective

- **Motivation:** Use existing GNSS technologies to augment tsunami early warning systems
- **Objective:** show the current technical capability that GDGPS brings to enhance detection of natural hazards using recent Tonga eruption in January 2022.

Washington Post, Mar 13, 2022

CAPITAL WEATHER GANG




U.S. tsunami warning system needs major overhaul, report says

Current system is rife with outdated software, delayed alerts and poor communication to the public, according to expert panel

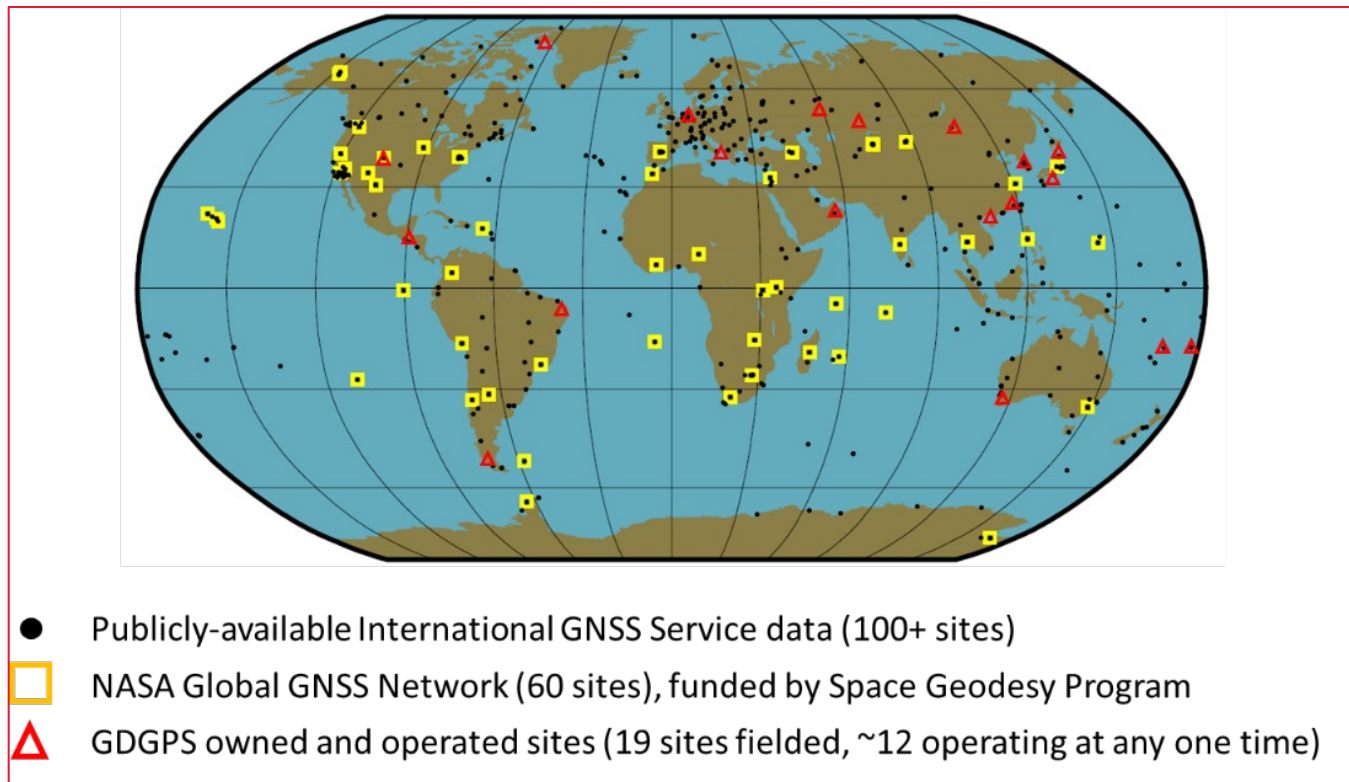
By Diana Leonard

March 13, 2022 | Updated March 13, 2022 at 11:57 a.m. EDT

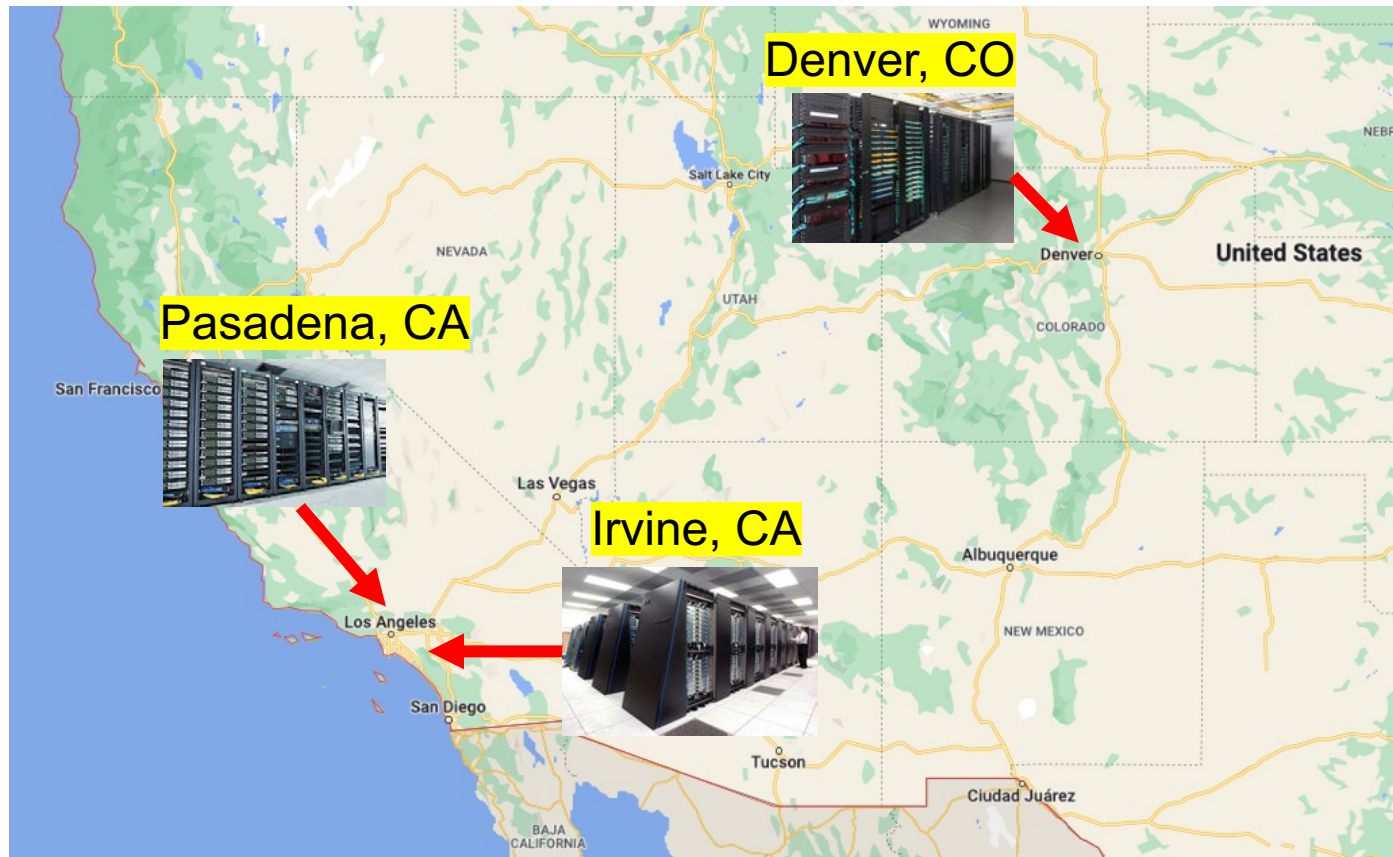
Network of GDGPS-Processed GNSS Receivers

- GDGPS uses and supports NASA-owned JPL-operated GNSS receivers (GGN) 
- Network also augmented by a smaller set of GDGPS-operated sites 
- Publicly available IGS streaming data supplementing the global network 

The available global tracking network undergoes continual review and upgrading.



Maintaining GDGPS Operations Centers (GOCs)



- Operational data processing is carried out in **three** independent GDGPS Operations Centers (GOCs) with **separate ISPs**.
- **Geographic separation** provides resiliency to single points of failure considering outages or natural hazards.

Natural Hazards Detection Science Application

- Natural hazards (tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, meteor impacts, *etc.*) **generate atmospheric waves**
- Atmospheric waves **propagate up to the ionosphere**, and cause electron density fluctuations
- Perturbations in total electronic content (TEC) can be **detected using GNSS observations** for each satellite-station pair
- Goal: use real-time GNSS-derived TEC data to **augment natural hazard early warning systems**
- **Key infrastructure:** JPL's real-time GDGPS-processed network

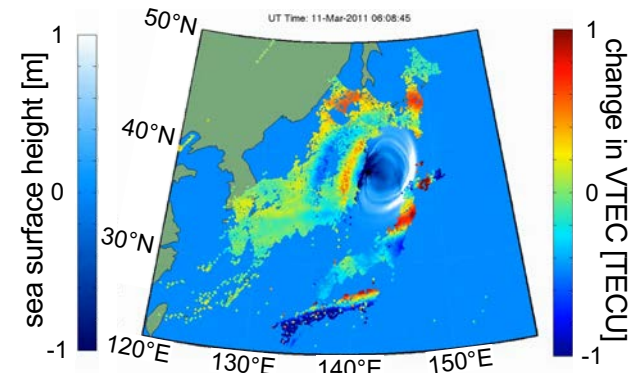
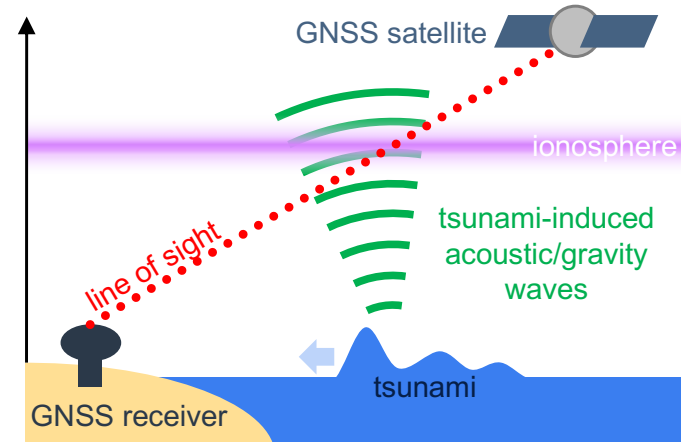
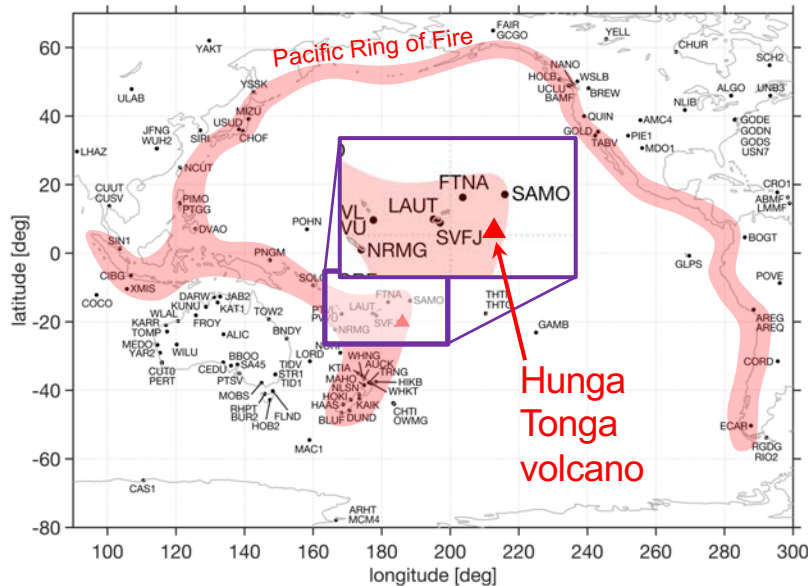


Figure: Ionospheric TEC and sea surface height map for the 2011 Tōhoku-Oki event (Galvan *et al.*, 2012).

Post-Processing vs. Real-Time Processing



*60 NASA GGN sites; 12 GDGPS-operated sites;
100+ IGS public sites

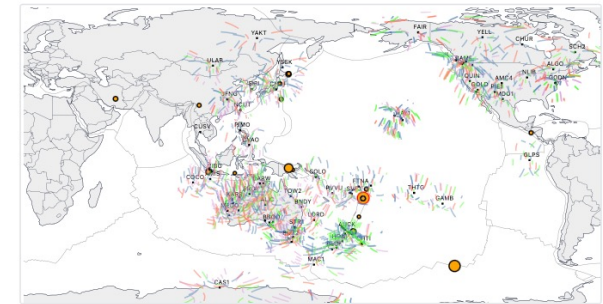
- Real-time stations: TEC-based analysis available **minutes after the event**
- JPL is currently developing the **GUARDIAN** system: a near-real-time early warning system for natural hazards in the Pacific region (Martire *et al.*, AGU FM 2021; Martire *et al.*, IEEE, in prep)




GNSS-based Upper Atmospheric Realtime Disaster Information and Alert Network

- GPS — GLONASS — GALILEO — BEIDOU
- Earthquake ● USGS Tsunami Watch ■ GDGPS Station

Click and drag on to select stations (use mousewheel to zoom), then click on the station in the sidebar to see realtime slant TEC.





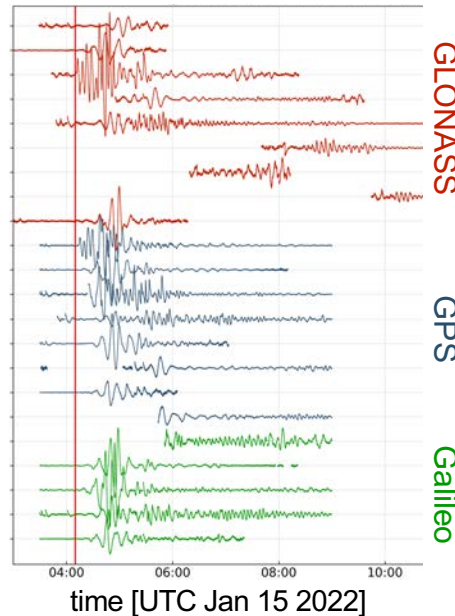
Powered by the JPL Global Differential GPS (GDGPS) System
 GUARDIAN Contact: Siddharth Krishnamoorthy, Léo Martire
 GDGPS Contact: Attila Komjathy

- Real-time processing of GNSS data
- Real-time analysis of TEC data
- Prototype automatic detection of TEC signals generated by tsunamis and volcanic eruptions under development

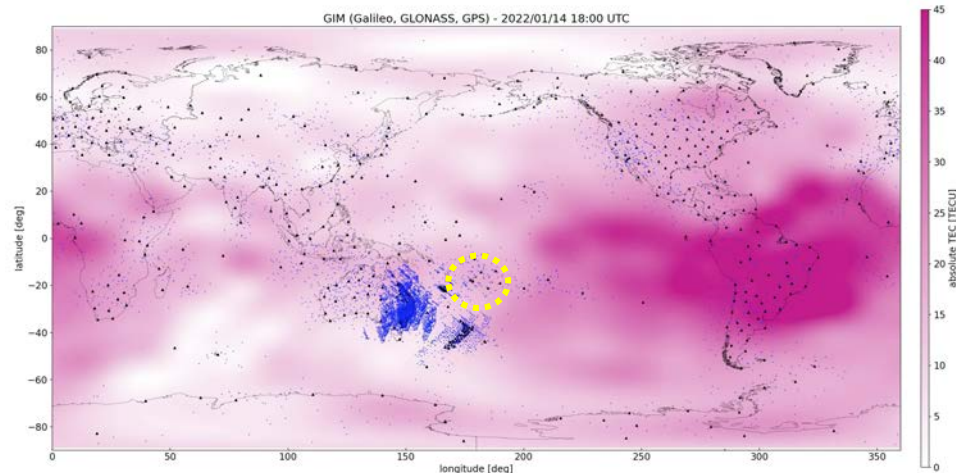
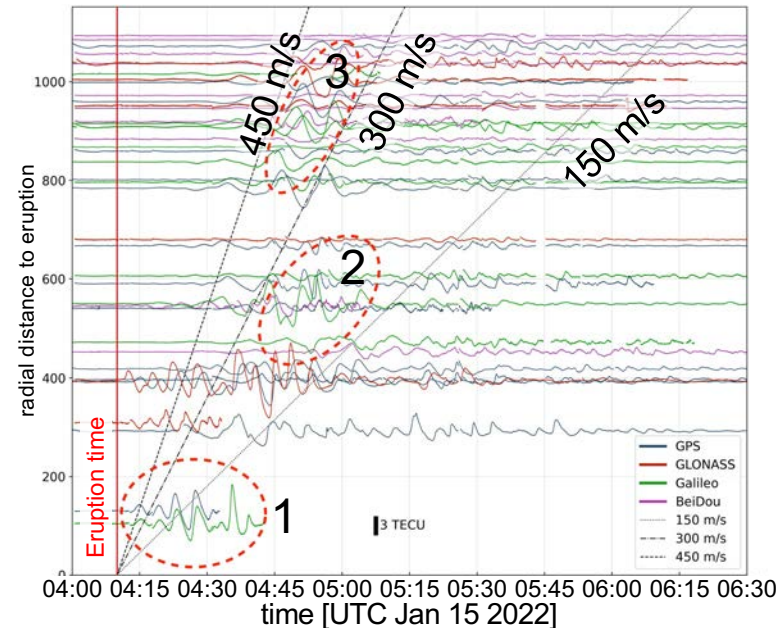
Ionospheric Signals of the 2022 Tonga Eruption

- Multi-constellation GNSS signals **capture the strong ionospheric perturbations** due to the acoustic wave from the volcanic eruption
- **Simple signal processing methods** (e.g., ordering data by radial distance) allows the identification of various signatures
- A **single ground-GNSS station** is sufficient to capture **signatures** up to ≈ 1000 km away


Raw Ionospheric Signals for station SAMO



Ordered Ionospheric Signals for stations FTNA, LAUT, SAMO



GUARDIAN Observing Tonga Eruption



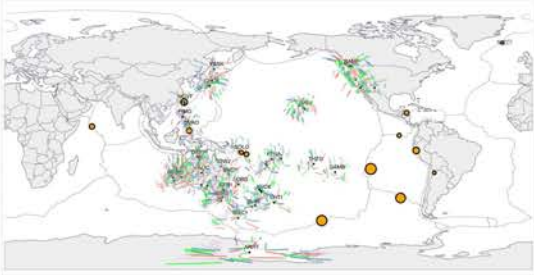
GUARDIAN

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GUARDIAN Contact: [Siddharth Krishnamoorthy](#), [Leo Martini](#)
GDGPS Contact: [Abhis Komjathy](#)



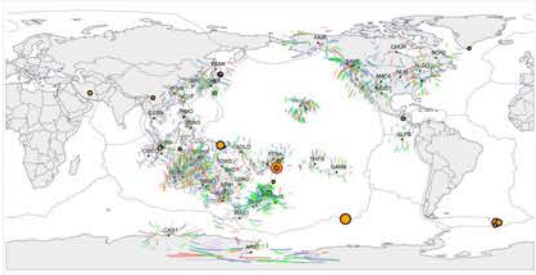
GUARDIAN

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GUARDIAN Contact: [Siddharth Krishnamoorthy](#), [Leo Martini](#)
GDGPS Contact: [Abhis Komjathy](#)

Movie to Play During Talk

Conclusions

- GDGPS was demonstrated to provide high-accuracy GNSS ionospheric TEC measurements generated by the Tonga volcano eruption and ensuing tsunami in real time
 - Global network of GDGPS-processed sites available (~200)
 - GNSS-based Upper Atmospheric Realtime Disaster Information and Alert Network (GUARDIAN) is under development
 - Current real-time precision of GDGPS-processed TEC measurements are shown to be at the 0.03 TECU level; signal-to-noise ratio is between 10 to 100
- Challenge: installing new real-time GDGPS stations at key locations around the Pacific Ring of Fire
- GDGPS-measured TEC observations has a unique potential for effective early warning of impending natural hazards within ~15 min and for augmenting existing tsunami early warning systems

Acknowledgements

- Contributions were made possible by research carried out with support from GDGPS funds at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Contributions from Group members of the Near Earth Tracking Systems are gratefully acknowledged

The development of **ionospheric natural hazard early warning systems** is an international collaboration in geodesy:

- NASA's Science Mission Directorate
- International GNSS Service
- IAG Global Geodetic Observing System
- ITU Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management
- Group on Earth Observations Geodesy4Sendai Pilot Initiative.



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IGS INTERNATIONAL
GNSS SERVICE



The GNSS data is made available by various international operators, science/space agencies, and educational institutions.

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