# IonoMoni Users Manual

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# 1. Introduction

The ionosphere has a significant impact on Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) signals, introducing refraction and diffraction effects that can severely degrade positioning performance. With the current peak of Solar Cycle 25, increasingly prominent ionospheric space weather events and disturbances have further intensified adverse effects on GNSS applications. On the other hand, dual-frequency GNSS observations enable effective monitoring of ionospheric conditions, serving as a crucial foundation for the mitigation of ionospheric effects on GNSS positioning and the advancement of research into the physical mechanisms of ionospheric variability. The extraction and analysis of ionospheric parameters are essential for both scientific research and practical applications.

In this context, we developed the IonoMoni ionospheric parameter computation software, based on the secondary development of the GREAT-PVT software within the Visual Studio 2022 environment. The IonoMoni program offers multiple functionalities, including:

- 1. It supports STEC extraction using the dual-frequency Carrier-to-Code Leveling (CCL) method.
- 2. It supports STEC extraction based on the undifferenced and uncombined precise point positioning (UCPPP) method.
  - 3. It supports VTEC conversion based on ionospheric mapping function and STEC.
- 4. It supports the calculation of the Rate of TEC Index (ROTI), which is a widely used indicator for detecting ionospheric irregularities of ionospheric diffractive effects.
- 5. It supports the estimation of the Along Arc TEC Rate (AATR), an effective metric for monitoring ionospheric disturbances, especially during geomagnetic storms or in equatorial and polar regions.

IonoMoni is able to process multi-GNSS observation data, including GPS, BDS, Galileo, and GLONASS constellations, and is compatible with both Rinex 2.x and Rinex 3.x file formats.

Furthermore, IonoMoni features batch processing and plotting capabilities, enabling efficient extraction and visualization of ionospheric parameters across multiple stations and multiple days.

# 2. Mathematical models

#### 2.1 Basic Observation Equations

The original GNSS pseudorange  $(P_{r,n}^s)$  and phase  $(L_{r,n}^s)$  observations can be expressed as:

$$P_{r,n}^{s} = \rho_r^{s} + t_r - t^{s} + I_{r,n}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + b_{r,n} - b_n^{s} + e_{r,n}^{s}$$
(1)

$$L_{r,n}^{s} = \rho_{r}^{s} + t_{r} - t^{s} - I_{r,n}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + \lambda_{n} (N_{r,n}^{s} + B_{r,n} - B_{n}^{s}) + \phi_{r,n}^{s} + \varepsilon_{r,n}^{s}$$
(2)

 $P_r^s$ : Geometric distance from the satellite antenna phase center (s) to the receiver antenna phase center (r), in meters;

n: frequency of observation (such as 1, 2);

t<sub>r</sub> and t<sup>s</sup>: Receiver and satellite clock biases, in meters.

Z<sub>r,w</sub>: Zenith wet delay of the troposphere, in meters.

ms.w: Mapping function for the zenith wet delay.

 $I_{r,n}^s$ : Ionospheric delay at the frequency n, in meters.

N<sub>r,n</sub>: Integer carrier phase ambiguity, in cycles.

 $b_{r,n}$  and  $b_n^s$ : Receiver and satellite pseudorange hardware delays, in meters, typically stable over a day or a continuous arc.

 $B_{r,n}$  and  $B_n^s$ : Receiver and satellite phase bias, in cycles, which can be divided into constant and time-varying parts. The constant part can be fully absorbed by the ambiguity parameter.

 $\phi_{r,n}^s$ : wind-up effects of carrier phase.

 $e_{r,n}^s$  and  $\epsilon_{r,n}^s$ : Sum of observation noise and multipath effects for pseudorange and phase observations, respectively.

It is worth noting that the tropospheric delay, whether wet or dry, can be expressed as the product of the zenith tropospheric delay and the corresponding mapping function. The dry component is usually corrected using a priori models (e.g., the Saastamoinen model), while the wet component, due to its high uncertainty, is typically estimated as a parameter. Other errors, such as satellite and receiver antenna phase center offsets (PCO) and variations (PCV), relativistic effects, solid and ocean tides, and phase wind-up, can be corrected using existing error models.

#### 2.2 Dual-frequency carrier-to-code leveling method

The Geometry-Free (GF) combination of dual-frequency pseudorange and carrier phase measurements can be expressed as:

$$P_{r,4}^{s} = P_{r,1}^{s} - P_{r,2}^{s} = I_{r,1}^{s} - I_{r,2}^{s} + DCB_{r} - DCB^{s} + e_{r,1}^{s} - e_{r,2}^{s}$$
(3)

$$L_{r,4}^{s} = L_{r,1}^{s} - L_{r,2}^{s} = -I_{r,1}^{s} + I_{r,2}^{s} + \lambda_{1} \left( N_{r,1}^{s} + B_{r,1} - B_{1}^{s} \right) - \lambda_{2} \left( N_{r,2}^{s} + B_{r,2} - B_{2}^{s} \right) + \phi_{r,1}^{s} - \phi_{r,2}^{s} + \varepsilon_{r,1}^{s} - \varepsilon_{r,2}^{s}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

where  $DCB_r = b_{r,1} - b_{r,2}$ , and  $DCB^s = b_1^s - b_2^s$ .

And the Smoothed  $\widetilde{P_{r,4}^s}$  at epoch t can be expressed as follows:

$$\widetilde{P_{r,4}^s}(t) = w_t P_4^s(t) + (1 - w_t) (\widetilde{P_4^s}(t - 1) + [L_4^s(t) - L_4^s(t - 1)]) \quad (t > 1)$$
(5)

where t is the epoch,  $w_t$  is the weight factor. Cycle slips and gross errors in the carrier phase observations should be removed before using the carrier phase observations to smooth the pseudorange observations. Here, both dual-frequency pseudorange code observations and ionospheric residual observations are used to detect cycle slips and gross errors.

And the slant total electron content (STEC) can be extracted from GNSS dual-frequency observations as follow:

$$STEC(t) = \frac{f_1^2 f_2^2}{40.3(f_2^2 - f_1^2)} \left( \widetilde{P}_{r,4}^{s}(t) + DCB^{s}(t) - DCB_{r}(t) \right)$$
 (6)

#### 2.3 Uncombined Precise Point Positioning method

The basic functional model for pseudorange and phase in the undifferenced and uncombined model is as follows:

$$\begin{cases} P_{r,n}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + t_{r} - \overline{t}_{IF}^{s} + \gamma_{n} \cdot I_{r,1}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + b_{r,n} - b_{n}^{s} \\ + \left(\alpha_{ij} b_{i}^{s} + \beta_{ij} b_{j}^{s}\right) + e_{r,n}^{s} \\ L_{r,n}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + t_{r} - \overline{t}_{IF}^{s} - \gamma_{n} \cdot l_{r,1}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + \lambda_{n} \left(B_{r,n} - B_{n}^{s} + N_{r,n}^{s}\right) \\ + \left(\alpha_{ij} b_{i}^{s} + \beta_{ij} b_{j}^{s}\right) + \varepsilon_{r,n}^{s} \end{cases}$$

$$(7)$$

It is important to note that the hardware delay terms depend on the frequencies used. Specifically, when using the frequencies corresponding to the ionosphere-free clock products (n = i or n = j):

$$\begin{cases} P_{r,i}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + \hat{t}_{r} - \bar{t}_{IF}^{s} + \hat{t}_{r,i}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + e_{r,i}^{s} \\ P_{r,j}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + \hat{t}_{r} - \bar{t}_{IF}^{s} + \gamma_{ij} \hat{t}_{r,i}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + e_{r,j}^{s} \\ L_{r,i}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + \hat{t}_{r} - \bar{t}_{IF}^{s} - \hat{t}_{r,i}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + \widehat{N}_{r,i}^{s} + \varepsilon_{r,i}^{s} \\ L_{r,j}^{s} = \mu_{r}^{s} \cdot x + \hat{t}_{r} - \bar{t}_{IF}^{s} - \gamma_{ij} \cdot \hat{I}_{r,i}^{s} + m_{r,w}^{s} Z_{r,w} + \widehat{N}_{r,j}^{s} + \varepsilon_{r,j}^{s} \end{cases}$$

$$(8)$$

where  $\hat{t}_r$  is the estimated receiver clock bias parameter,  $\hat{I}_{r,i}^s$ ,  $\hat{N}_{r,i}^s$  and  $\hat{N}_{r,j}^s$  are the estimated ionospheric parameter and ambiguity parameters for the two frequencies, respectively, expressed as:

$$\begin{cases}
\hat{I}_{r,i}^{s} = I_{r,i}^{s} + \beta_{ij} (b_{r,i} - b_{r,j}) - \beta_{ij} (b_{i}^{s} - b_{j}^{s}) \\
\hat{N}_{r,i}^{s} = N_{r,i}^{s} + \left[ (B_{r,i} - B_{i}^{s}) - (b_{r,i} - b_{i}^{s}) \right] + 2\beta_{ij} \left[ (b_{r,i} - b_{i}^{s}) - (b_{r,j} - b_{j}^{s}) \right] \\
\hat{N}_{r,j}^{s} = N_{r,j}^{s} + \left[ (B_{r,j} - B_{j}^{s}) - (b_{r,j} - b_{j}^{s}) \right] + 2\beta_{ij} \left[ (b_{r,j} - b_{j}^{s}) - (b_{r,i} - b_{i}^{s}) \right]
\end{cases} \tag{9}$$

It is important to note that when using the same frequencies as the ionosphere-free clock products, the satellite pseudorange hardware delay  $(b_i^s - b_i^s)$  can be absorbed by the ionospheric parameter.

If different frequencies are used, the satellite pseudorange hardware delay must be corrected using corresponding pseudorange bias products (e.g., differential code bias). The parameters to be estimated in the dual-frequency undifferenced and uncombined model include:

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x & \hat{t}_r & Z_{r,w} & \hat{I}_{r,i}^s & \widehat{N}_{r,i}^s & \widehat{N}_{r,j}^s \end{pmatrix}^T \tag{10}$$

The corrected ionospheric delay can be expressed as:

$$I_{r,1}^{s} = \hat{I}_{r,1}^{s} - \beta_{ij} (b_{r,i} - b_{r,j}) + \beta_{ij} (b_{i}^{s} - b_{j}^{s})$$
(11)

Since the estimated quantity is the slant ionospheric delay on the first frequency, the corresponding STEC can be extracted as:

$$STEC = \frac{f_1^2 \cdot I_{r,1}^s}{40.3} \tag{12}$$

## 2.4 VTEC conversion from STEC and mapping function

The function for converting STEC to VTEC can be expressed as:

$$VTEC = \frac{STEC}{M(\varepsilon)}$$
 (13)

where,  $M(\epsilon)$  is the mapping function dependent on the satellite elevation angle  $\epsilon$ .

The Single-Layer Model mapping function can be expressed as:

$$M(\varepsilon) = \left(1 - \left(\frac{R_E \cos \varepsilon}{R_E + h}\right)^2\right)^{-1/2} \tag{14}$$

where R<sub>E</sub> is the mean radius of the Earth, h is the assumed ionospheric shell height.

The Modified Single-Layer Model mapping function can be expressed as:

$$M_{MSLM}(\epsilon) = \left[1 - \left(\frac{R_{E}\sin(\alpha z)}{R_{E} + h}\right)^{2}\right]^{-1/2}$$
(15)

where z is the zenith angle, and  $\alpha$  is an empirical correction factor.

The F&K mapping function can be expressed as:

$$M_{\text{F&K}}(\varepsilon) = \frac{1 + \frac{R_E + h}{R_E}}{\sin \varepsilon + \sqrt{\left(\frac{R_E + h}{R_E}\right)^2 - \cos^2 \varepsilon}}$$
(16)

The Ou mapping function can be expressed as:

$$mf_{temp} = \frac{1}{\cos\left[\arcsin\left(\frac{R_{E}\cos\epsilon}{R_{F}+h}\right)\right]}$$
(17)

where mf<sub>temp</sub> is an intermediate variable representing the obliquity factor.

$$M_{0u}(\epsilon) = \begin{cases} \sin(\epsilon + 50^{\circ}) \cdot mf_{\text{temp}}, & \epsilon < 40^{\circ} \\ mf_{\text{temp}}, & \epsilon \ge 40^{\circ} \end{cases}$$
(18)

The Fanselow mapping function can be expressed as:

$$M_{Fanselow}(\epsilon) = \frac{\sqrt{(R_E \sin \epsilon)^2 + 2R_E h_2 + h_2^2} - \sqrt{(R_E \sin \epsilon)^2 + 2R_E h_1 + h_1^2}}{h_2 - h_1}$$
(19)

where  $h_1=h-35000, h_2=h+70000$  are the lower and upper boundaries of the ionospheric layer, respectively.

#### 2.4 ROTI Index

ROTI is defined as the standard deviation of the ROT (Rate Of TEC) over some time interval. It is calculated as follows, where Ln,  $\lambda_n$ , and  $f_n$  are the phase measurement, wavelength, and frequency for the nth frequency.

 $L_4^S(i)$  is the geometry-free phase combination at time i:

$$L_4^S(i) = L_{r,1}^S(i) - L_{r,2}^S(i)$$
(20)

ROT (in TECU/minute) is calculated as:

$$ROT(i) = \frac{L_4^S(i) - L_4^S(i-1)}{\Delta t \times 10^{16} \times 40.3 \times \left(\frac{1}{f_1^2} - \frac{1}{f_2^2}\right)}$$
(21)

TECU (TEC Unit) is defined as  $10^{16}$ electrons per  $m^2$ .  $\Delta t$  is the time difference between the epochs, in minutes. Finally, ROTI, calculated over N epochs, is

$$ROTI(i) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=i-N}^{i} \left( ROT(j) - \overline{ROT} \right)^2}$$
 (22)

#### 2.5 AATR Index

The variation of the STEC between two consecutive observations can be computed for a given epoch, i, as:

$$\Delta STEC_r^s(i) = L_{4,r}^s(i) - L_{4,r}^j(i-1)$$
(23)

where r denotes the receiver and s the satellite.

For a given transmitter-receiver pair, the variation over time of the STEC (Along Arc STEC Rate,  $AASR_r^s$ ) can be computed as:

$$AASR_r^s(i) = \frac{\Delta STEC_r^s(i)}{\Delta T}$$
 (24)

where i indicates the observation epoch,  $\Delta STEC_r^s(i)$  corresponds to the difference of STECs between two consecutive observations in the same satellite-receiver arc and  $\Delta T$  is the elapsed time between these consecutive observations (typically 30 or 60 seconds). We apply this mapping squared in order to mitigate the effect of low elevation rays (instead of applying a cut-off angle). Then

$$AATR_{r}^{s}(i) = \frac{1}{M(\varepsilon)} \cdot \frac{AASR_{r}^{s}(i)}{M(\varepsilon)} = \frac{\Delta STEC_{r}^{s}(i)}{\left(M(\varepsilon)\right)^{2} \cdot \Delta T}$$
(25)

Finally, based on the previous equation (20), the AATR indicator is defined as the hourly weighted RMS of the instantaneous AATR values, computed over a predefined period for all satellites in view from a particular station, resulting in the AATR index for a given receiver.

$$RMS_{AATR,r}(I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=I}^{I+\Delta I} \sum_{s=1}^{n_{sat}(i)} \left( AATR_r^s(i) \right)^2}$$
 (26)

where N is total number of observations during the selected interval  $\Delta I$  (typically one hour), after having summed all satellites in view,  $n_{sat}(i)$ , at every epoch i.

# 3. Environmental Requirements

#### 3.1 Environmental Requirements

The executable CUI AP for Windows in the package was built using Microsoft Visual Studio 2022 on Windows 11 (64-bit), with the ReleaseWithXml configuration. All required dynamic link libraries are included in the directory.

#### 3.2 License

IonoMoni is released as open-source software under the GNU General Public License, version 3 (GPLv3). This license permits anyone to use, modify, and redistribute the software, provided that the same license terms are preserved and the source code remains accessible.

For detailed information, please refer to the full license text at: https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.html.

## 3.3 Python Environment

IonoMoni includes several auxiliary Python scripts that require a Python environment and a set of dependencies listed in the requirements.txt file. For optimal compatibility, Python version 3.13 is recommended. It is further advised to use a virtual environment manager, such as Conda or venv, to ensure reproducibility and isolate dependencies.

#### 4. Installation

Extract the software package *IonoMoni.zip* to a suitable directory <install\_dir>. The directory structure of IonoMoni is as follows:

IonoMoni ./src IonoMoni Source Code ./include IonoMoni Header Files ./lib Static Libraries and Export Files ./build\_resources Dynamic Link Libraries and Sample data ./batch\_process Python Batch Processing Script ./plot Python Plotting Script ./poleut1 Earth Orientation Parameters Generation Program ./doc User manual and Sample XML ./CMakeLists.txt CMake Build Configuration File ./CMakePresets.json CMake Build Preset Settings

Table 4.1 IonoMoni Directory Structure

The following instructions show how to build IonoMoni on Windows.

(1) Using Visual Studio 2022, open the IonoMoni root folder as a CMake project. In the configuration menu, select "Release with XML", and wait for CMake to configure and generate the build system automatically, as shown in Figures 4.1 and 4.2.

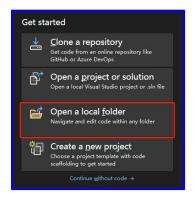


Figure 4.1 open the IonoMoni root folder



Figure 4.2 select "Release with XML"

- (2) Copy all contents from the ./build\_resources directory to ./out/build/release-with-xml/.
- (3) In Visual Studio 2022, click Build → Build All (or press Ctrl + Shift + B) to compile and generate the IonoMoni.exe executable in the ./out/build/release-with-xml/ directory, as shown in Figures 4.3.

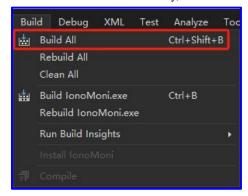


Figure 4.3 generate the IonoMoni.exe executable

# 5. Execution of the sample data

The input files for the sample case are located in the build\_resources folder and should be copied to ./out/build/release-with-xml/ during the installation process. (Different modes of IonoMoni require different input files. Details about data preparation can be found in section 8.Data Acquisition.) The folder structure is shown as follows:

Table 5.1 Sample Data Folder Structure

Sample data	
./gnss	GNSS data folder
./obs	Observation data folder
./model	System folder
./xml	XML configuration folder

We selected GNSS observation data from stations HKWS and ABPO on November 30, 2023, as the sample dataset. IonoMoni is configured and executed through XML files that define both the processing mode and associated parameters. In the following sections, we provide a detailed explanation of XML configuration usage. By making minor adjustments to the provided example XML templates, users can quickly and effectively begin using IonoMoni. The configuration elements are as follows:

Table 5.2 XML Configuration Elements and Corresponding Descriptions

Item	Descriptions	Element in	
	Descriptions	XML File	
	General Settings (First Level Element)	<gen></gen>	
Function	Set the operation mode: CCL_STEC, PPP_STEC, ROTI, and AATR.	<function></function>	
Begin Time	Set begin time in form of GPS time. The format is "YYYY-MM-DD	 beg>	
Begin Time	hh:mm:ss".	\oeg>	
End Time	Set end time in form of GPS time. The format is "YYYY-MM-DD	<end></end>	
End Time	hh:mm:ss".	<end></end>	
Station List	Set the list of stations participating in the solution (4-character string).	<rec></rec>	
Satellite System	Set the satellite systems to be used in the solution.	<sys></sys>	
C1: I41	Set the sampling frequency of the observations. (Currently, only	<:A	
Sampling Interval	30-second intervals are supported.)	<int></int>	
Estimation Method	Default is filtering.	<est></est>	
	Input File Settings (First Level Element)	<inputs></inputs>	
DDIEV ODG E'I	RINEX observation file for processing. Note that it supports RINEX		
RINEX OBS File	2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 3.00, 3.01, 3.02, 3.03, 3.04, 3.05 OBS.	<rinexo></rinexo>	
DINES/ALAS/E'I	RINEX navigation file for processing. Note that it supports RINEX		
RINEX NAV File	2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 3.00, 3.01, 3.02, 3.03, 3.04, 3.05.	<rinexn></rinexn>	
Precise Clock File	Precise clock file for PPP_STEC processing.	<ri>rinexc&gt;</ri>	
3Days Precise		<three_sp3></three_sp3>	
Clock File	Precise clock file for CCL_STEC ROTI AATR processing.		
Precise Orbit File	Precise orbit file for processing.	<sp3></sp3>	
DCB File	DCB file for differential code bias correction.	 bias>	
Antenna File	Satellite antenna information file for phase center correction.	<atx></atx>	
Ocean Tide File	Ocean tide file for tide correction.	<bl></bl> <bl></bl>   	
Planetary			
Ephemeris File	Planetary ephemeris file for calculating planetary parameters.	<de></de>	
EOP Parameter File	Earth Orientation Parameters file for rotation matrix calculation.	<eop></eop>	
	Output File Settings (First Level Element)	<outputs></outputs>	
Log File	Log file for recording output information.	<log></log>	
Results	Output file for PPP calculation results.	<flt></flt>	
	Processing Settings (First Level Element)	<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
Sliding window for			
ROTI	Sliding window size used in ROTI computation (in epochs).	<roti_window></roti_window>	
	Unit of ROT, used for AATR and ROTI processing:		
Unit of ROT	-sec:TECU/sec -min:TECU/min	<rot_unit></rot_unit>	
Computation		_	
interval for AATR	Generate one AATR every specified number of epochs.	<aatr_interval></aatr_interval>	
Minimum arc		<arc_min_lengt< td=""></arc_min_lengt<>	
length	Minimum arc length threshold (in epochs).	h>	
Ionospheric Height	Height of the ionospheric layer (in meters)	<ion_height></ion_height>	

Item	Descriptions	Element in XML File
Mapping Function	Type of mapping function used for VTEC conversion (0=SLM, 1=MSLM, 2=F_K, 3=Ou, 4=Fanselow)	<mapping_funct< td=""></mapping_funct<>
Cutoff Elevation Angle	Minimum elevation angle for satellite observations.	<minimum_elev< td=""></minimum_elev<>
Phase Observations	Whether to use carrier phase observations: - true: yes - false: no	<phase></phase>
Tropospheric Parameters	Whether to estimate tropospheric parameters: - true: yes - false: no	<tropo></tropo>
Ionospheric Parameters	Whether to estimate ionospheric parameters: - true: yes - false: no	<iono></iono>
Doppler Observations	Whether to use Doppler observations: - true: yes - false: no	<doppler></doppler>
Tropospheric Model	Tropospheric model to be used.	<tropo_model></tropo_model>
	A priori sigma for station coordinates.	<sig_init_crd></sig_init_crd>
	A priori sigma for station velocity.	<sig_init_vel></sig_init_vel>
. D : : G:	A priori sigma for tropospheric parameters.	<sig_init_ztd></sig_init_ztd>
A Priori Sigma of	A priori sigma for ambiguities.	<sig_init_amb></sig_init_amb>
Estimated	A priori sigma for Galileo inter-system and inter-frequency biases.	<sig_init_gal></sig_init_gal>
Parameters	A priori sigma for GLONASS inter-system and inter-frequency biases.	<sig_init_glo></sig_init_glo>
	A priori sigma for BDS inter-system and inter-frequency biases.	<sig_init_bds></sig_init_bds>
	A priori sigma for ionospheric parameters.	<sig_init_iono></sig_init_iono>
Observation Combination	Observation combination method for processing: - IONO_FREE : IF, supports dual-frequency - RAW ALL : UC, supports dual-frequency and multi-frequency	<obs_combinati< td=""></obs_combinati<>
Maximum Posterior Residual	Threshold for posterior residual editing.	<max_res_norm< td=""></max_res_norm<>
Coordinate Constraint	Coordinate constraint method: - est: estimated constraint - fix: fixed constraint - kin: kinematic constraint	<crd_constr></crd_constr>
Kinematic Mode	Whether to enable kinematic mode: - true: yes - false: no	<pos_kin></pos_kin>
Minimum Number of Satellites	Minimum threshold for the number of satellites in the solution.	<min_sat></min_sat>
Observation Weighting	Method for determining observation weights.	<obs_weight></obs_weight>
BDS Code Bias	Whether to correct BDS satellite code biases:	 bds_code_bias
Correction	- true: yes - false: no	_corr>
Cycle Slip Detection	Cycle slip detection model: - default: default model	<slip_model></slip_model>

Item	Descriptions	Element in XML File
Observation Frequency	Number of observation frequencies used in the solution.	<frequency></frequency>
	Filter Settings (First Level Element)	<filter></filter>
Filter Algorithm	Filter algorithm to be used:	mathod flt
Filter Algorithm	- srcf: square-root filter - kalman: Kalman filter	method_flt
	White noise for station coordinates.	noise_crd
	White noise for station velocity.	noise_vel
	White noise for receiver clock drift.	noise_dclk
	White noise for receiver clock offset.	noise_clk
A Priori Noise of	White noise for ionospheric parameters.	noise_vion
Estimated	Random walk noise for tropospheric parameters.	rndwk_ztd
Parameters	Random walk noise for ambiguities.	rndwk_amb
	Random walk noise for GLONASS ISB/IFB.	rndwk_glo
	Random walk noise for Galileo ISB/IFB.	rndwk_gal
	Random walk noise for BDS ISB/IFB.	rndwk_bds
	Random walk noise for GPS IFB.	rndwk_gps
A	mbiguity Resolution Settings (First Level Element)	<ambiguity></ambiguity>
	Whether to perform ambiguity resolution:	<i>a</i>
Fixing Mode	- NO: float - SEARCH: fix	<fix_mode></fix_mode>
UPD Mode	Use UPD products for ambiguity resolution.	<upd_mode></upd_mode>
Partial Ambiguity	Whether to perform partial ambiguity fixing:	
Fixing	- YES: yes - NO: no	<pre><part_fix></part_fix></pre>
Minimum Number	No. 1 00 1 1: 22 2 2 1 1: 26 6	
of Fixed	Minimum number of fixed ambiguities in partial ambiguity fixing	<pre><part_fix_num></part_fix_num></pre>
Ambiguities	mode.	
Ratio Value	Ratio test value for ambiguity resolution using the LAMBDA method.	<ratio></ratio>
D - f C - 4 - 11 : 4 -	Whether to set a reference satellite:	<
Reference Satellite	- YES: yes - NO: no	<set_refsat></set_refsat>
Minimum Common	Minimum and a state of the formula in the state of the st	<min_common_< td=""></min_common_<>
Time	Minimum common observation time for ambiguity resolution.	time>
Extra		Courtmo residadama
Wide-Lane	C.44: C Li	<extra_widelane< td=""></extra_widelane<>
Observations	Settings for ambiguity resolution with different observation combinations:	_decision>
Wide-Lane	- alpha&maxdev: confidence interval parameters	<widelane_deci< td=""></widelane_deci<>
Observations	- maxsig: maximum sigma value	sion>
Narrow-Lane	- manig. manmum sigma value	<narrowlane_de< td=""></narrowlane_de<>
Observations		cision>
Satellite Settings (First Level Element)		<gps>/<bds>/</bds></gps>
		<gal>/ <glo></glo></gal>
A Priori Sigma	Sigma for pseudorange observations.	sigma_C
of Observations	Sigma for carrier phase observations.	sigma_L

Item	Descriptions	Element in XML File
Frequency	Satellite frequency, corresponding to the frequency band (options: 1/2/3/4/5).	<freq></freq>
Satellite	Satellite PRN number.	<sat></sat>
Frequency Band	Observation frequency bands for different satellite systems:  - GPS: 1->L1, 2->L2, 5->L5 (Currently, only L1 and L2 frequencies are supported.)  - GAL: 1->E1, 5->E5a, 7->E5b, 8->E5, 6->E6 (Currently, only E1 and E5a frequencies are supported.)  - BDS: 2->B1I, 7->B2I, 6->B3I, 1->B1C, 5->B2a, 9->B2b, 8->B2a+b (Currently, only B1I B2I and B3I frequencies are supported.)  - GLO: 1->G1, 2->G2	<band></band>

# 5.1 Running Example for CCL\_STEC Method

Figure 5.1.1 XML configuration example for the CCL\_STEC mode

Figure 5.1.2 XML configuration example for the CCL\_STEC mode

Figure 5.1.3 XML configuration example for the CCL STEC mode

Figure 5.1.4 XML configuration example for the CCL STEC mode

Figure 5.1.5 XML configuration example for the CCL\_STEC mode

#### 5.2 Running Example for PPP STEC Method

The settings for each satellite system are specified in Figures 5.1.3 and 5.1.4.

Figure 5.2.1 XML configuration example for the PPP\_STEC mode

Figure 5.2.2 XML configuration example for the PPP STEC mode

Figure 5.2.3 XML configuration example for the PPP\_STEC mode

Figure 5.2.4 XML configuration example for the PPP\_STEC mode

Figure 5.2.5 XML configuration example for the PPP\_STEC mode

# 5.3 Running Example for ROTI Index

The settings for each satellite system are specified in Figures 5.1.3 and 5.1.4.

Figure 5.3.1 XML configuration example for the ROTI mode

Figure 5.3.2 XML configuration example for the ROTI mode

<pre><pre>process&gt;</pre></pre>		
<roti_window></roti_window>	10	sliding window size (in epochs)
<rot_unit></rot_unit>	min	
<aatr_interval></aatr_interval>	60	AATR calculation interval (in epochs)
<arc_min_length></arc_min_length>	10	
<ion_height></ion_height>	350000	
<pre><mapping_function></mapping_function></pre>	0	<pre><!----> type of mapping function used for VTEC conve</pre>
<minimum_elev></minimum_elev>		<pre><!----> cut-off satellite elevation(deg) <!--<!--></pre>

Figure 5.3.3. XML configuration example for the ROTI mode

#### 5.4 Running Example for AATR Index

The settings for each satellite system are specified in Figures 5.1.3 and 5.1.4.

Figure 5.4.1 XML configuration example for the AATR mode

```
⟨inputs⟩
⟨rinexo⟩ ⟨!→ rinex obs file ⟨!→⟩
obs\hrao1000.23o
obs\CORD00ARG_R_20231000000_01D_30S_MO.rnx
obs\POTSODEU_R_20231000000_01D_30S_MO.rnx
⟨/rinexo⟩
⟨rinexo⟩ gnss\BRDC00IGS_R_20231000000_01D_MN.rnx ⟨/rinexn⟩ ⟨!→⟩ rinex nav file ⟨!→⟩
⟨rinexo⟩ gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231000000_01D_30S_CLK.CLK ⟨/rinexc⟩ ⟨!→⟩ precise satellite clock offset file ⟨!→⟩
⟨sp3⟩ gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231000000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3 ⟨/sp3⟩ ⟨!→⟩ precise orbit file ⟨!→⟩

gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231000000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3
gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231000000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3
gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231000000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3
gnss\COD0MGXFIN_20231010000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3

⟨/THREE_SP3⟩
⟨de⟩ model\jpleph_de405_great ⟨/de⟩ ⟨!→⟩ Planetary ephemeris file ⟨!→⟩
⟨atx⟩ model\igs20_2290.atx ⟨/atx⟩ ⟨!→⟩ Antenna correction file ⟨!→⟩
⟨blq⟩ model\ceanload ⟨/blq⟩ ⟨!→⟩ oceanload file ⟨!→⟩
⟨blq⟩ model\poleut1 ⟨/cop⟩ ⟨!→⟩ ERP file ⟨!→⟩
⟨bias⟩ gnss\CAS0MGXRAP_20231000000_01D_0DD_DCB.BSX ⟨/bias⟩ ⟨!→⟩ DCB file ⟨!→⟩
⟨/inputs⟩
```

Figure 5.4.2 XML configuration example for the AATR mode

Figure 5.4.3 XML configuration example for the AATR mode

#### 5.5 Execution and Results

After configuring the input files and XML, set *IonoMoni.cpp* as the startup item and run the program, as shown in Figures 5.5.1 and 5.5.2. The output files will be automatically saved in the result folder, which will be created under the *./out/build/release-with-xml/* directory.

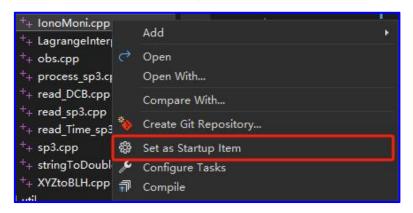


Figure 5.5.1 Set IonoMoni.cpp as the start



Figure 5.5.2 Run the IonoMoni program

The ROT, ROTI, and STEC results are saved in a matrix format to text files named after the corresponding station and satellite system. Each row represents one epoch, and each column corresponds to one satellite. Figure 5.5.3 shows an example of the ROT, ROTI, and STEC results.

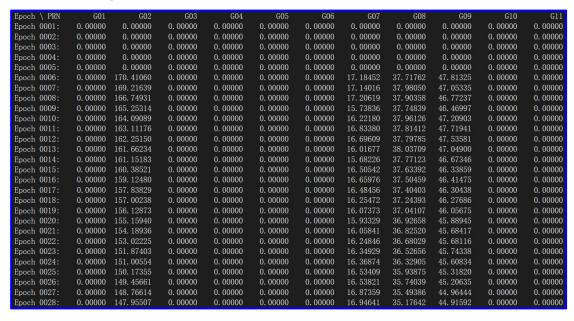


Figure 5.5.3 Example of output format for ROT, ROTI, and STEC results

The AATR results are saved in a list format to text files named after the corresponding station and satellite

system. Each row represents one time block, and the number of epochs spanned by each block depends on the settings in the XML file. Figure 5.5.4 shows an example of the AATR results.

Block		AATR
Block	01:	0.41920
Block	02:	0.25623
Block	03:	0.25531
Block	04:	0.17505
Block	05:	0.20425
Block	06:	0.22489
Block	07:	0.19512
Block	08:	0.17170
Block	09:	0.17960
Block	10:	0.17544
Block	11:	0.32271
Block	12:	0.24659
Block	13:	0.12649
Block	14:	0.20507
Block	15:	0.25380
Block	16:	0.16091
Block	17:	0.17800
Block	18:	0.21411
Block	19:	0.11007
Block	20:	0.06791
Block	21:	0.07264
Block	22:	0.04325
Block	23:	0.13730
Block	24:	0.17746

Figure 5.5.4 Example of output format for AATR results

# 6. Visualization

The Python plotting scripts provided with IonoMoni support multi-station plotting for a single day. The directory structure under the plot folder is as follows:

plot./data\_aatrInput folder for AATR plot data./data\_cclInput folder for CCL\_STEC plot data./data\_pppInput folder for PPP\_STEC plot data./data\_rotiInput folder for ROTI plot data./outputOutput folder for plot results./PythonScriptsPlot script folder

Table 6.1 Plot Folder Structure

# 6.1CCL\_STEC and PPP\_STEC Results Plotting

To plot the STEC results, the text output files generated by IonoMoni in either CCL\_STEC or PPP\_STEC mode must be used as input data. Fanyi1 These files should be placed in the ./data\_ccl or ./data\_ppp folder.

The following takes the processing of CCL STEC mode results as an example:

Open the *ccl\_stec\_plot.py* script located in the *./PythonScripts* folder, and modify the parameters in the main function as shown in Figure 6.1.1. The *site\_list* should include all stations to be plotted. The *year* and *doy* should correspond to the year and day of year of the input data, and site\_list should include all station names corresponding to the input data in the *./data\_ccl* folder.

```
# ======= Main entry point =======
if __name__ == "__main__":
    site_list = ["CORD","POTS","HRAO"]
    input_path = "../data_stec"  # Relative input path
    output_path = "../output"  # Relative output path
    year = 2023
    doy = 100

batch_plot(site_list, input_path, output_path, year, doy)
```

Figure 6.1.1 Example of the main function in ccl stec plot.py

After running the script, the generated plotting results will be saved in PNG format to the ./output/c cl\_stec\_plot/<year>\_<doy>/<site> directory.

## **6.2VTEC Map Plotting**

To plot the VTEC map, the text output files generated by IonoMoni in either CCL\_STEC or PPP\_STEC mode must be used as input data. These files should be placed in the ./data\_vtec folder. (The data for one station on a single day should include text output files for IPP longitude and latitude, as well as a text output file for VTEC.).

Open the *vtec\_map\_plot.py* script located in the ./*PythonScripts* folder, and modify the parameters in the main function as shown in Figure 6.2.1. The *site\_list* should include all stations to be plotted. The system selected should match the input text files (GPS, BDS, GAL, GLO). The *year* and *doy* should correspond to the year and day of year of the input data, and site\_list should include all station names corresponding to the input data in the ./data vtec folder.

```
# ====== Main entry point =======
if __name__ == "__main__":
    input_folder = r"../data_vtec" # Input data directory
    output_base = r"../output" # Output root directory
    sitelists = ["GANP", "PENC", "SULP"]
    year = 2023
    doy = 100
    system = "GPS"
    plot_multi_station_vtec(
        input_folder, sitelists, system,
        output_base=output_base, year=year, doy=doy
)
```

Figure 6.2.1 Example of the main function in vtec\_map\_plot.py

After running the script, the generated plotting results will be saved in PNG format to the ./output/v tec\_map\_plot/<year>\_<doy>/directory. The output file is named following the convention VTEC\_<system>\_ map\_lon<lon\_min><E/W>-<lon\_max><E/W>\_lat<lat\_min><N/S>-<lat\_max><N/S>.png, where lon\_min and lon\_max represent the minimum and maximum longitudes with E or W denoting east or west, and lat\_min and lat\_max represent the minimum and maximum latitudes with N or S denoting north or south.

### 6.3ROTI and AATR Results Plotting

To plot the results of ROTI or AATR, the text output files generated by IonoMoni in ROTI or AATR mode must be used as input data and placed in the ./data\_roti or ./data\_aatr folder, respectively.

The following takes the processing of ROTI mode results as an example:

Open the *roti\_plot.py* script located in the *PythonScripts* folder, and modify the parameters in the main function as shown in Figure 6.3.1. The *year* and *doy* should match the year and day of year of the input data,

rot\_unit should be consistent with the unit setting used in the XML configuration when the input data was generated, and site\_list should include all station names corresponding to the input data in the ./data\_ccl folder.

```
# ======= Main entry point =======
if __name__ == "__main__":
    base_input_path = "../data_roti"
    base_output_path = "../output"

year = 2023
    doy = 100
    rot_unit = "min"  # "sec" means R0" unit is TECU/sec; "min" means TECU/min
    site_list = ["CORD", "POTS","HRAO"]  # Add your station names here

batch_plot_roti_rot(base_input_path, base_output_path, year, doy, rot_unit, site_list)
```

Figure 6.3.1 Example of the main function in roti\_plot.py

After running the script, the generated plotting results will be saved in PNG format to the ./output/r oti\_plot/<year>\_<doy>/<site> directory.

# 6.4Example of Plotting Results

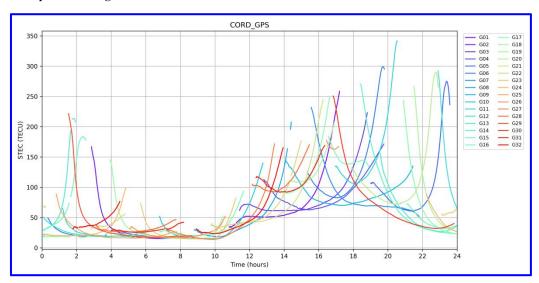


Figure 6.4.1 Plotting Example Based on CCL\_STEC Results

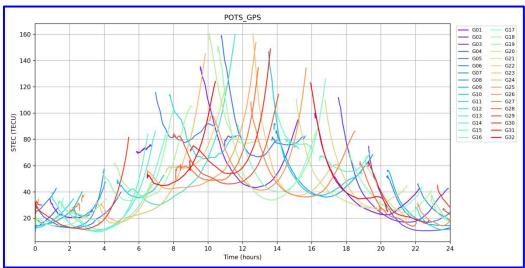


Figure 6.4.2 Plotting Example Based on PPP\_STEC Results

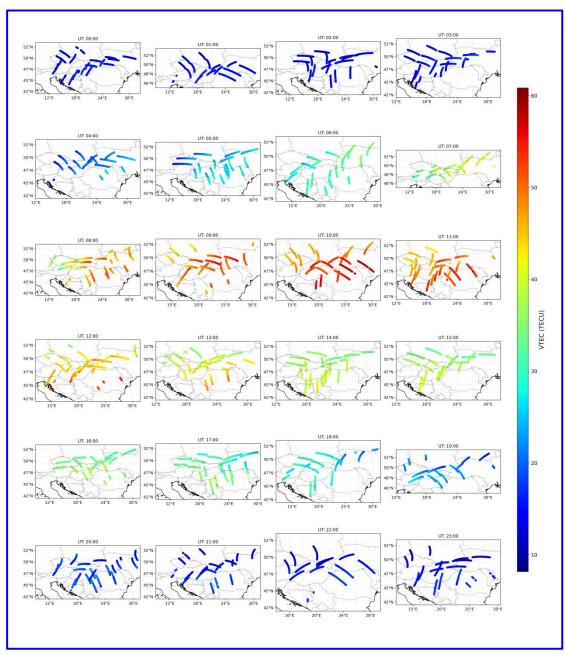


Figure 6.4.3 VTEC Map Plotting Example Based on CCL\_STEC Results

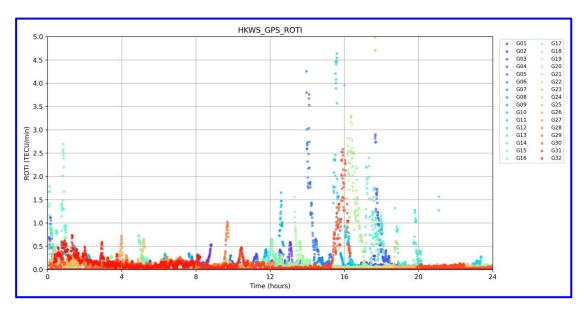


Figure 6.3.3 Plotting Example Based on ROTI Results

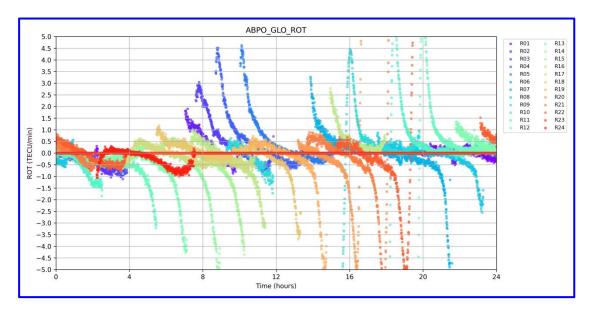


Figure 6.3.4 Plotting Example Based on ROT Results

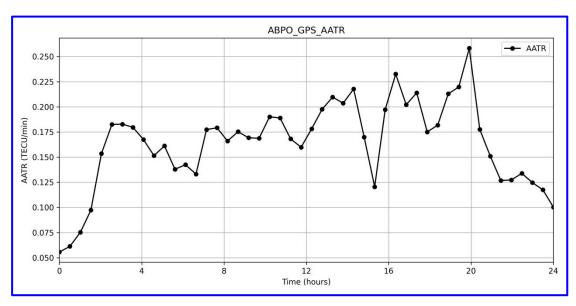


Figure 6.3.4 Plotting Example Based on AATR Results

# 7. Batch Processing

The Python batch processing scripts provided with IonoMoni support multi-day and multi-station data processing. The directory structure under the batch\_process folder is as follows:

Table 7.1 Directory Structure of the batch\_process Folder

batch_process	
./data	Input data folder
./ini	INI configuration folder
./project	Output results folder
./PythonScripts	Python batch processing scripts folder
./sitelist	Station list folder
./xml	XML folder

Descriptions of the scripts in the PythonScripts folder are as follows:

Table 7.2 Directory Structure of the batch\_process Folder

Python Script	Description	
run_cmd_IonoMoni_multi.py	Main script for IonoMoni batch processing	
gnss_sitelist_io.py	Provides a general interface for reading GNSS station files	
gnss_ini_tool.py	Manages the data pool and reads input data	
gnss_print_tool.py	Outputs key information to the terminal	
gnss_run_tool.py	Provides command-line operation and execution functions	
gnss_timestran_tool.py	tool.py Handles time format conversion and calculation in processing	

The batch processing Python scripts of IonoMoni use INI files to configure corresponding XML files for each station on each day, enabling automated data processing. The *run\_IonoMoni.ini* configuration file is described as follows:

Table 7.3 Directory Structure of the batch\_process Folder

<b>Configuration Node</b>	_Description	
function	CCL_STEC PPP_STEC ROTI AATR	
beg_time	Start time <yyyy doy=""></yyyy>	
end_time	End time <yyyy doy=""></yyyy>	
int_time	Calculation interval (in days)	
site_path	Path to the station list file	
project_path	Path to the output result files	
IonoMoni	Path to the IonoMoni executable program	
IonoMoni_xml	Path to the batch processing template XML file	
rinexo_name	Observation file name, e.g., <site><doy>0.<yy>0</yy></doy></site>	
	Precise clock offset file name,	
rinexc_name	e.g., COD0MGXFIN_ <yyyy><doy>0000_01D_30S_CLK.CLK</doy></yyyy>	
rinexn_name	Broadcast ephemeris file name, e.g., brdc <doy>0.<yy>p</yy></doy>	
bia name	DCB file name,	
Dia_name	e.g., CAS0MGXRAP_ <yyyy><doy>0000_01D_01D_DCB.BSX</doy></yyyy>	
sp3 name	Precise ephemeris file name,	
эрэ_пашс	e.g., COD0MGXFIN_ <yyyy><doy>0000_01D_05M_ORB.SP3</doy></yyyy>	
three_sp3_name	3Days Precise ephemeris file name,	
e.g., COD0MGXFIN_ <yyyy><doy>0000_01D_05M_ORB.S</doy></yyyy>		
ifcb_name	IFCB file name, e.g., ifcb_ <yyyy><doy></doy></yyyy>	
upd_name	UPD file name, e.g.,	
	upd_wl_ <yyyy><doy>_GREC upd_nl_<yyyy><doy>_GREC</doy></yyyy></doy></yyyy>	
systerm_de	Planetary ephemeris file, e.g., jpleph_de405_great	
systerm_atx	Antenna file, e.g., igs20_2290.atx	
systerm_blq	Ocean tide loading file, e.g., oceanload	
systerm_eop	Earth orientation parameters file, e.g., poleut1	
systerm_path	Path to system files	
rinexo_path	Path to observation files	
rinexc_path	Path to precise clock offset files	
rinexn_path	Path to broadcast ephemeris files	
bia_path	Path to differential code bias files	
sp3_path	Path to precise ephemeris files	
three_sp3_path	Path to 3days precise ephemeris files	
upd_path	Path to uncalibrated phase delay files	

After preparing the data in the ./data folder, configure the run\_IonoMoni.ini file as shown in Figure 7.3. To perform multi-day data processing, users need to enter the command:

```
>> cd/d <install_dir>\IonoMoni\batch_process\PythonScripts
>> python run_cmd_IonoMoni_multi.py ^
    -year <YYYY> -beg <DOY_START> -end <DOY_END> ^
    -ini ..\ini\run_IonoMoni.ini
```

After the batch processing is completed, a corresponding output directory will be automatically created, and the batch processing results will be saved in the ./project/<function>/<YYYY>\_<DOY> folder, which contains the daily XML configuration files and text result files (PPP\_STEC mode will additionally include FLT result files).

```
[IonoMoni]
function = PPP_STEC
beg_time = 2023 305
end time = 2023 306
# interval (day)
int_time = 1
site_path = ../sitelist/site_list.txt
project_path = ../project/PPP_STEC
# program path
IonoMoni = ../../out/build/release-with-xml/IonoMoni.exe
IonoMoni_xml = ../xml/IonoMoni.xml
[data_pool]
# input files and path
systerm_de = jpleph_de405_great
systerm_atx = igs20_2290.atx
systerm_blq = oceanload
systerm_eop = poleut1
systerm_path = ../data/sys
rinexo_name = <SITE><DOY>0. <YY>o
rinexc_name = CODOMGXFIN_<YYYY><DOY>0000_01D_30S_CLK.CLK
rinexn_name = brdc<DOY>0.<YY>p
bia_name = CASOMGXRAP_<YYYYY><DOY>0000_01D_01D_DCB. BSX
sp3_name = CODOMGXFIN_<YYYY><DOY>0000_01D_05M_ORB. SP3
three_sp3_name = CODOMGXFIN_<YYYYY><DOY>0000_01D_05M_0RB.SP3
ifcb_name = ifcb_<YYYY><DOY>
upd_name = upd_wl_<YYYY>CDOY>_GREC~upd_nl_<YYYY>CDOY>_GREC
rinexo_path = ../data/obs/<YYYY>/<DOY>
rinexc_path = ../data/clk
rinexn_path = ../data/rinexn
bia_path = ../data/bia
sp3_path = ../data/sp3
three_sp3_path = ../data/sp3
ifcb_path = ../data/ifcb
upd_path = ../data/upd
```

Table 7.3 Directory Structure of the batch\_process Folder

# 8. Data preparation

Different modes of IonoMoni require different input files.

For CCL\_STEC mode, the required input files include: observation data, precise orbit data, and Differential Code Bias (DCB) files.

For **PPP\_STEC** mode, the required input files include: observation data, broadcast ephemeris, precise orbit data, precise clock products, Differential Code Bias (DCB), IGS antenna files, planetary ephemeris files, ocean tide loading files, and Earth Orientation Parameters (EOP) files.

For **ROTI** and **AAT**R modes, the required input files include: observation data and precise orbit data. The detailed format descriptions and acquisition methods for these input files are listed in Table 8.1.

Table 8.1 Format Descriptions and Acquisition Methods for Input Files

Input files	File Description	Format Description and Acquisition Methods
RINEXO	GNSS	https://files.igs.org/pub/data/format/rinex304.pdf
	Observations	https://cddis.nasa.gov/archive/gnss/data/daily/
RINEXN	Broadcast	https://files.igs.org/pub/data/format/rinex304.pdf
	Ephemeris	https://cddis.nasa.gov/archive/gnss/data/daily/2024/brdc/
SP3	Precise Orbit	https://files.igs.org/pub/data/format/sp3d.pdf
		https://cddis.nasa.gov/archive/gnss/products/
RINEXC	Precise Clock	https://files.igs.org/pub/data/format/rinex_clock304.txt
	Products	https://cddis.nasa.gov/archive/gnss/products/
DCB	Differential Code	https://files.igs.org/pub/data/format/sinex_bias_100.pdf
	Bias	https://cddis.nasa.gov/archive/gnss/products/bias/
jpleph_de405	Planetary	https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/planets/eph_export.html
	Ephemeris	https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/ftp/eph/planets/Linux/
oceanload	Ocean Tide	http://holt.oso.chalmers.se/loading/example_blq.html
		http://holt.oso.chalmers.se/loading
poleut1	Earth Orientation	Refer to the GREAT-PVT_manual_1.0.pdf located in the ./poleut1 folder
	Parameters	under the IonoMoni root directory.
atx	Antenna	https://files.igs.org/pub/station/general/antex14.txt
		https://files.igs.org/pub/station/general/pcv_archive/