



Ionospheric monitoring and modelling in project COST296

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The COST296 project terminated in February 2009. Its WG-1 Ionospheric Monitoring and Modelling covered four broad topics: (1) Near Earth space plasma monitoring. (2) Data ingestion and assimilation in ionospheric models. (3) Near Earth space plasma modelling and forecasting. (4) Climate of the upper atmosphere. Main results achieved during the four-year project will be summarized. They include among others development of databases and various ionospheric products and web-based systems of data dissemination, development and testing various ionospheric models, particularly NeQuick, development and testing various forecasting and predicting models for radio propagation users, investigations of ionospheric variability, disturbances and changes on various time scales, and investigations of ionospheric response to space weather and atmospheric forcing. All these development and investigations have been done for the sake of better predictions and mitigation of effects of the ionosphere on radio systems.