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Refinement of Rapid UT1 Estimation Derived from Tsukuba VLBI Measurements after 2011 Earthquake

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The Tsukuba station in Japan is an essential station in the IVS Intensive series for rapid UT1 estimation. The use of this station in rapid UT1 estimation requires a set of best-predetermined station coordinates but the consequences of the Earthquake in Japan in March 2011 were such that the previously known velocity rates of the station Tsukuba were unusable.

Since 2012, the VLBI group at BKG uses a method, which solves this problem. This procedure was refined with respect to a newly developed extrapolation to get most probable station positions of Tsukuba for the epochs of the Intensive sessions. The procedure is explained and could be successfully integrated into the technological process of operational analysis of post-quake Intensive sessions with station Tsukuba.

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