

HF-START web tool

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To improve communication between space weather research groups and radio propagation users, the radio propagation subgroup was started in the A01 group (Space Weather Forecast System) under the PSTEP (Project for Solar-Terrestrial Environment Prediction) umbrella in early 2016. Day-to-day bottom side variation of ionosphere has great influence on availability and integrity of radio waves in high frequency (HF, 3-30 MHz) band. We, therefore, developed the HF propagation simulator that is capable with the realtime realistic ionospheric information. The simulator name is HF-START (HF Simulator Targeting for All-users' Regional Telecommunications).

Recently, the HF-START web tool has been being prepared for public users. We have been working toward a development of a near realtime service. No prerequisite on space weather knowledge is required to use the HF-START web tool. The HF-START web tool will have a closed test service within NICT from March 2020. Its service will be opened to the public later. We open for international collaboration to gain global competitiveness on the service.

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