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## Spatial and temporal variation of the "transparency" of Es layers over Europe

P. Bencze (1), J. Kalmár (1), A. Poór (1)

(1) Geodetic and Geophysical Research Institute, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary (bencze@ggki.hu / Phone: +36-99-508 376)

Considering the frequency parameter foEs of ionospheric sporadic E layers as a quantity proportional to the mean electron density of "patches" with increased electron density in this layer and fbEs as a quantity proportional to the background electron density of the layer, the difference foEs-fbEs has been defined characterizing the "transparency" of Es layers. Maps showing the spatial distribution of this transparency have been constructed for different times (hour of the day, month, solar minimum and maximum). Maps indicate details interesting from the point of view of ionospheric and transionospheric radiowave propagation.