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Towards the improvement of the consistency between the ITRF and the IERS EOPs

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Up to now, the determinations of the ITRF and IERS Earth Orientation Parameters (EOPs) are independently performed, leading to small inconsistencies between both products. With the availability of the ITRF2005, rigorously and consistently integrating EOPs, the IERS EOP Product Center will use these new results in order to improve the consistency of the IERS EOP operational series with the ITRF. The new procedure developed for the ITRF2005 will likely replace several of the current determination of EOPs within the IERS in the future. Using CATREF software implemented at the EOP Product Center, various procedures, strategies and analyses are being tested with the objective to ensure the consistency of the ITRF2005 and the IERS EOP over time. For that purpose, analyses of time series of station positions and EOPs derived from space geodesy techniques (VLBI, SLR, GPS, DORIS) are being developed in order to routinely achieve combined weekly solutions (TRF+EOP) fully consistent with the ITRF2005.