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Link quality parameters in VSAT networks for effective operation and for weather monitoring

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VSATs (very small aperture terminals)







Motivation

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- The business of Satellite- and Satellite-Network-Operators is challenged by the competition with terrestrial services and by the trend in TV consumption towards streaming
- SatcomWeather was initiated to support VSAT operators optimizing service and network operation
- Hundreds of millions of measured VSAT signals and throughput records are available





Benefits

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- Classification of individual stations
- Evaluation of network problems
- Weather monitoring or complementing weather measurements





VSAT network

Data from the broadband network of Avanti plc

Downlink	Frequency	Range
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Forward	19.7 - 20.2 GHz
Return	18.1 - 19.7 GHz
Active Return Transponders	2
Return Channel Bandwidth	120 MHz per beam
Polarisation	Circular



VSAT with 74 cm dish size: the typical ground terminal antenna

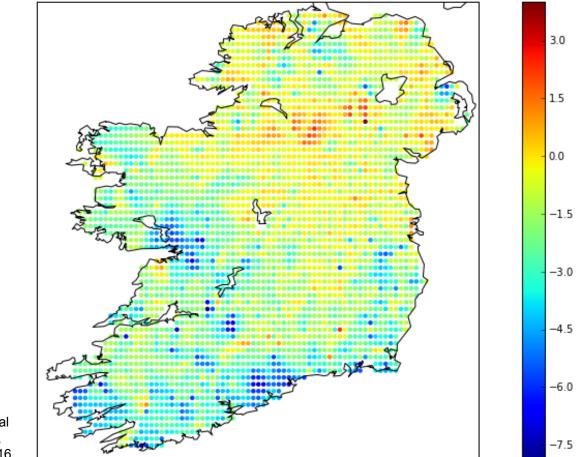


Indoor modem



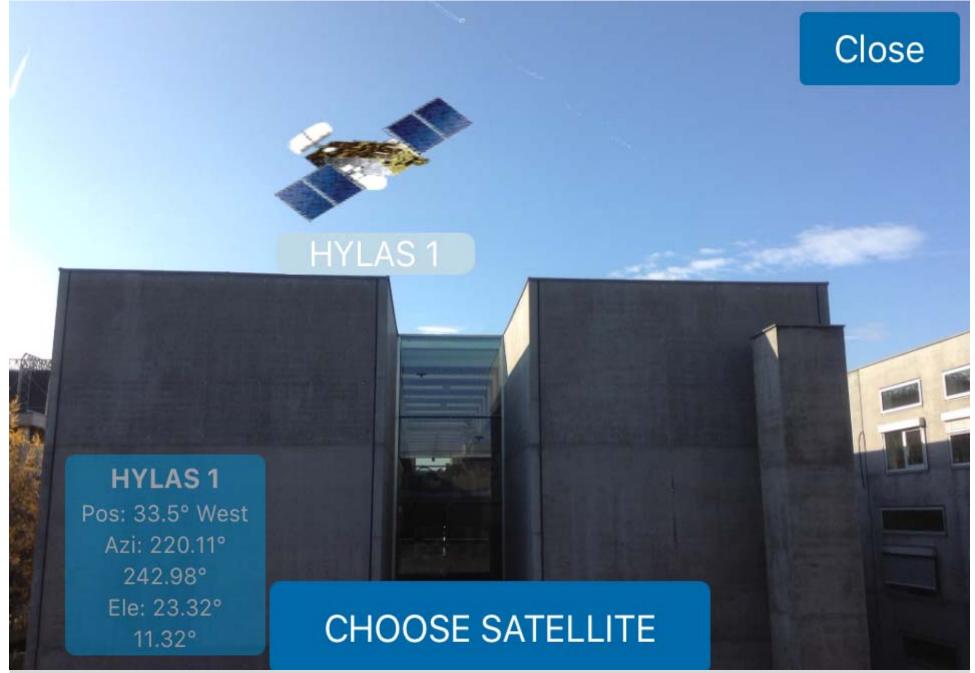


Signal- / Weather maps



Source: F. Teschl, V. Eder, L. Costa, S. Amberger, O. Koudelka 67th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), Guadalajara, Mexico, 26-30 September 2016









Conclusions

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- The pointing of each station needs to be understood and is - in combination with the daily satellite movement - the dominant clear-sky signal effect
- The analyses have the potential to provide not only useful information to VSAT operators but also for weather monitoring or for operationally complementing radar or rain gauge measurements







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