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ICTP-COST-USNSWP-CAWSES-INAF-INFN
International Advanced School
on
Space Weather
2-19 May 2006

*Thermosphere-Ionosphere-Electrodynamics
General Circulation Model
TIEGCM*

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These lecture notes are intended only for distribution to participants



Exploring the Sun and its effects on the
Earth's atmosphere and physical environment...

HIGH ALTITUDE OBSERVATORY

Thermosphere-Ionosphere-Electrodynamics General Circulation Model TIEGCM

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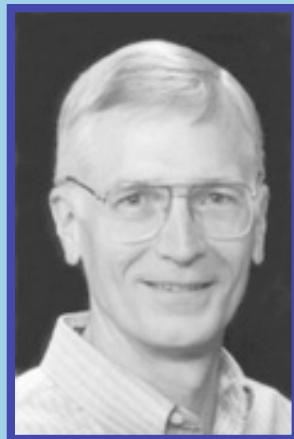
TIEGCM Objectives

- **Describe** the chemistry, dynamics and electrodynamics of the Earth's upper atmosphere within a mathematical framework
- **Diagnose** the Earth's upper atmosphere; develop understanding by comparing model results with observations
- **Predict** future conditions of the Earth's upper atmosphere (e.g., thermospheric cooling associated with increased CO₂)
- Strategies:
 - 1-D: column model (global mean)
 - 2-D: zonal averages (height & latitude)
 - 3-D: global

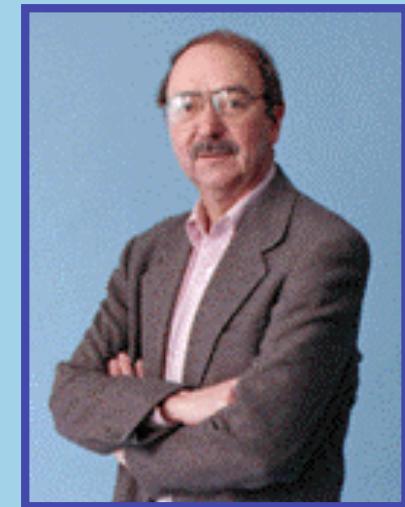


Historical Development of TIEGCM

- TGCM; an adaptation of the NCAR climate model (ca.1970)
 - 97 to 500 km (solar minimum)
 - solar EUV heating
 - thermospheric composition
 - molecular diffusion
 - parameterized ionosphere
- TIGCM (ca. 1988)
 - added ionospheric chemistry and dynamics
 - parameterized electric fields
- TIEGCM (ca. 1992)
 - added self-consistent low and middle latitude electrodynamics
 - parameterized high-latitude electrodynamics



Art Richmond



Ray Roble





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Thermosphere-Ionosphere-Electrodynamics General Circulation Model TIEGCM

Part 1: Model Overview

- functional description
- references
- select formulations and numerical schemes



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TIEGCM Functional Description

- comprehensive, first-principles, three-dimensional, non-linear representation of the coupled thermosphere and ionosphere system, including a self-consistent solution of the middle and low-latitude dynamo field,
- solves the 3-D momentum, energy and continuity equations for neutral and ion species at each time step (typically 120–180s),
- employs a semi-implicit, fourth-order, centered finite difference scheme on each pressure surface in a staggered vertical grid,
- runs in either serial or parallel mode on a variety of platforms, including Linux workstations and supercomputers.

The standard low-resolution grid parameters are:

- Latitude: -87.5° to 87.5° in 5° increments
- Longitude: -180° to 180° in 5° increments
- Altitude: 29 pressure levels from -7 to +6.5 in increments of 2 grid points per scale height
- Lower boundary: ~ 97 km
- Upper boundary: $\sim 500\text{--}700$ km depending on solar activity



NCAR TIEGCM Development

References:

- Dickinson, R. E., E. C. Ridley and R. G. Roble, A three-dimensional general circulation model of the thermosphere, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 86, 1499-1512, 1981.
- Dickinson, R. E., E. C. Ridley and R. G. Roble, Thermospheric general circulation with coupled dynamics and composition, *J. Atmos. Sci.*, 41, 205-219, 1984 .
- Richmond, A. D., E. C. Ridley and R. G. Roble, A Thermosphere/Ionosphere General Circulation Model with coupled electrodynamics, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 19, 601-604, 1992.
- Roble, R. G., and E. C. Ridley, An auroral model for the NCAR thermospheric general circulation model (TGCM), *Annales Geophys.*, 5A, 369-382, 1987.
- Roble, R. G., E. C. Ridley and R. E. Dickinson, On the global mean structure of the thermosphere, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 92, 8745-8758, 1987.
- Roble, R. G., E. C. Ridley, A. D. Richmond and R. E. Dickinson, A coupled thermosphere/ionosphere general circulation model, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 15, 1325-1328, 1988.
- Roble, R. G., and E. C. Ridley, A thermosphere-ionosphere-mesosphere-electrodynamics general circulation model (time-GCM): equinox solar cycle minimum simulations (30-500 km), *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 21, 417-420, 1994.
- Roble, R. G., Energetics of the mesosphere and thermosphere, AGU, *Geophysical Monographs*, eds. R. M. Johnson and T. L. Killeen, 87, 1-22, 1995.



Thermodynamic equation - general form

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -(\Gamma + \frac{\partial T}{\partial Z})\omega - \underline{U} \cdot \nabla T + \frac{(Q_{tot} - L_{tot})}{C_p}$$

adiabatic heating

diabatic
heating & cooling

heat advection

T

temperature

Γ

atmospheric stability

Z

vertical coordinate $\ln(P_o/P)$

ω

vertical velocity = $\partial Z / \partial t$

\underline{U}

horizontal velocity vector

Q_{tot}

total heating rate

L_{tot}

total cooling rate

C_p

specific heat per unit mass



TIEGCM Thermodynamic equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{ge^Z}{P_o C_p} \frac{\partial}{\partial Z} \left\{ \frac{K_T}{H} \frac{\partial T}{\partial Z} + K_E H^2 C_p \rho \left[\frac{g}{C_p} + \frac{1}{H} \frac{\partial T}{\partial Z} \right] \right\}$$
$$-\underline{U} \cdot \nabla T - \omega \left[\frac{\partial T}{\partial Z} + \frac{RT}{C_p m} \right] + \frac{(Q - L)}{C_p}$$

g	gravitational acceleration
P_o	reference pressure; 5×10^{-4} µbar
K_T	molecular thermal conductivity
H	scale height
K_E	eddy diffusion coefficient = eddy thermal conductivity
ρ	total mass density
m	mean molecular mass
Q	heating rate
L	total cooling rate



TIEGCM Thermodynamic equation

diabatic heating

- absorption of solar radiation - UV and EUV
- absorption of energetic particles
- chemical heating - exothermic reactions
- ion - neutral collisions; Joule heating

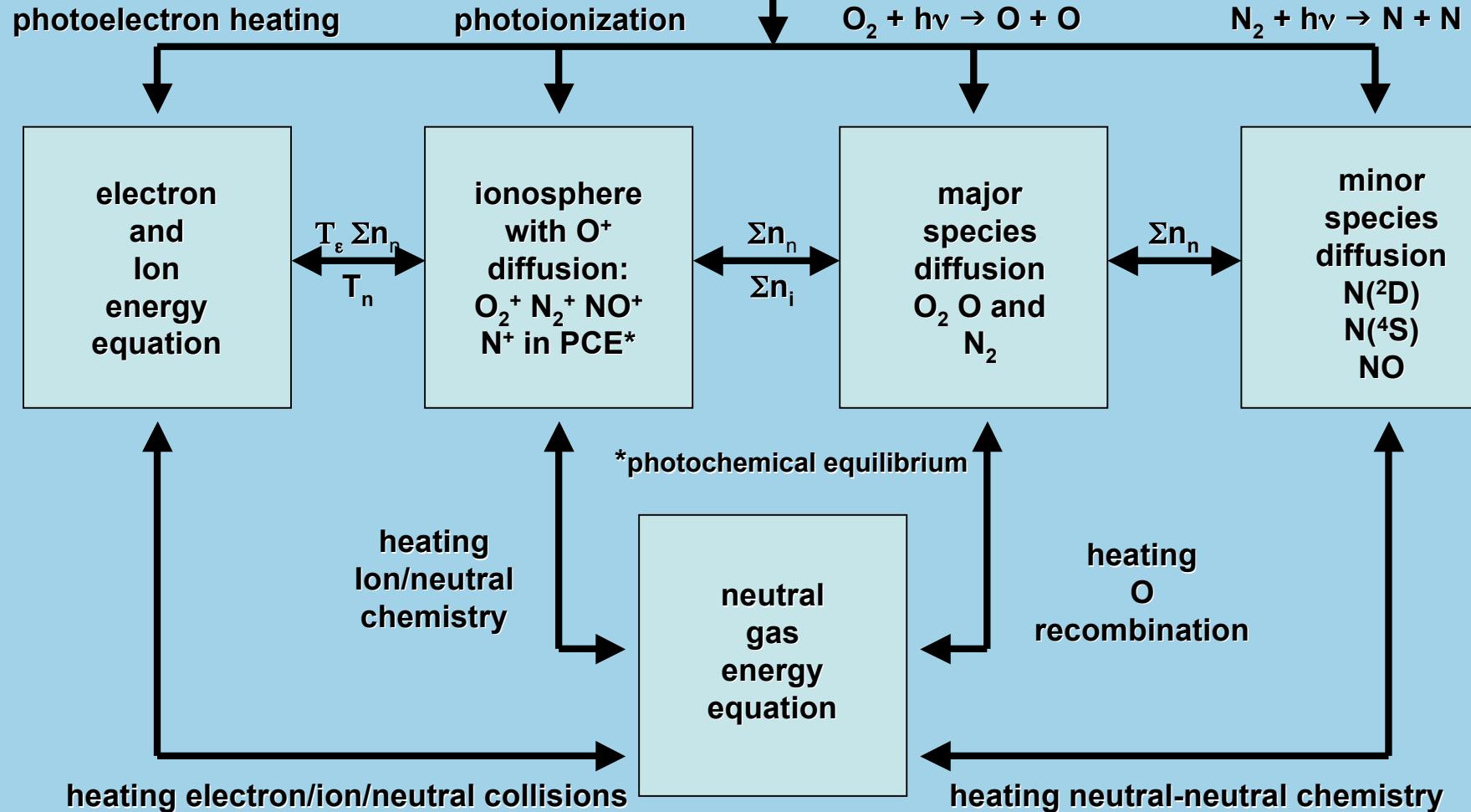
diabatic cooling

- airglow
- CO₂ infrared cooling
- nitric oxide (NO) infrared cooling

Schematic absorption
of
UV and EUV....
up next



Solar UV & EUV



Continuity Equation - general form

$$\frac{\partial \rho_n}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_n \underline{U}) = CS_n - CR_n$$

transport

chemical
production & loss

ρ_n mass density of species, n

\underline{U} wind velocity vector

CS_n mass source of minor species, n

CR_n mass sink of minor species, n

$\Psi_n = \frac{\rho_n}{\rho}$ mass mixing ratio of species, n , for total mass density, ρ

$$\frac{\partial \Psi_n}{\partial t} + \underline{U} \cdot \nabla \Psi_n = S_n - R_n$$

S_n source of minor species, n

R_n sink of minor species, n

$$S_n - R_n = \frac{CS_n - CR_n}{\rho_n}$$



TIEGCM Minor Neutral Species Transport:

$$\frac{\partial \Psi_n}{\partial t} = -e^{-Z} \frac{\partial}{\partial Z} D_n \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial Z} - E_n \right] \Psi_n + S_n - R_n$$

$$-\left[\underline{V} \cdot \nabla \Psi_n + \omega \frac{\partial \Psi_n}{\partial Z} \right] + e^Z \frac{\partial}{\partial Z} e^{-Z} K_E(Z) \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial Z} + \frac{1}{m} \frac{\partial \bar{m}}{\partial Z} \right] \Psi_n$$

Ψ_n

mass mixing ratio of minor species, n

D_n

molecular diffusion coefficient

E_n

gravitational, thermal diffusion, and frictional interaction
with the major species; $\left[1 - \frac{m_n}{\bar{m}} - \frac{1}{m} \frac{\partial \bar{m}}{\partial Z} \right] - \alpha_n \frac{1}{T} \frac{\partial T}{\partial Z} + \underline{F} \Psi_n$

$\frac{m_n}{m}$

mass of the minor species, n

average mass of the major species



TIEGCM Solution - Continuity Equations - 1

derivatives become finite differences at model grid points

- for each species, i
- at every grid point, x grid spacing, Δx
- at every time, t time step, Δt

Chemistry

$$\frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial t} = S_i - R_i$$

Sufficiently small time step - explicit:

$$\Psi_i^{m+1} = \Psi_i^m + \Delta t \cdot [S_i(t_m, \Psi_i^m) - R_i(t_m, \Psi_i^m)]$$

Otherwise - implicit:

$$\Psi_i^{m+1} = \Psi_i^m + \Delta t \cdot [S_i(t_{m+1}, \Psi_i^{m+1}) - R_i(t_{m+1}, \Psi_i^{m+1})]$$



TIEGCM Solution - Continuity Equations - 2

derivatives become finite differences at model grid points

- for each species, i
- at every grid point; grid spacing, Δx
- at every time step, Δt

Eulerian Transport

$$\frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x} = 0 \quad \text{for flux, } F_i = c\Psi_i$$

leap-frog method:

$$\Psi_{i,j}^{m+1} = \Psi_{i,j}^{m-1} - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \cdot [F_{i,j+1}^m - F_{i,j-1}^m]$$

if $|c| \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1$ (CFL stability condition)



TIEGCM Solution - Continuity Equations - 3

derivatives become finite differences at model grid points

- for each species, i
- at every grid point; grid spacing, Δx
- at every time step, Δt

Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(K \frac{\partial \Psi_i}{\partial x} \right) \text{ for diffusion coefficient, } K > 0$$

explicit:

$$\frac{\Psi_{i,j}^{m+1} - \Psi_{i,j}^m}{\Delta t} = \frac{K}{(\Delta x)^2} \left(\Psi_{i,j+1}^m - 2\Psi_{i,j}^m + \Psi_{i,j-1}^m \right) \text{ stable if } 2K \frac{\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \leq 1$$

implicit:

$$\frac{\Psi_{i,j}^{m+1} - \Psi_{i,j}^m}{\Delta t} = \frac{K}{(\Delta x)^2} \left(\Psi_{i,j+1}^{m+1} - 2\Psi_{i,j}^{m+1} + \Psi_{i,j-1}^{m+1} \right)$$



Equations of Neutral Motion

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} U_\theta = -\frac{U_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} U_\theta - \frac{U_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} U_\theta - \omega \frac{\partial}{\partial p} U_\theta - \frac{g}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} Z + \left(2\Omega + \frac{U_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) V_\phi \cos \theta + g \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[(\mu_m + \mu_T) \frac{p}{H} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} U_\theta \right] - v_{ni} (U_\theta - V_\theta)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} U_\phi = -\frac{U_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} U_\phi - \frac{U_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} U_\phi - \omega \frac{\partial}{\partial p} U_\phi - \frac{g}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} Z - \left(2\Omega + \frac{U_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \right) U_\theta \cos \theta + g \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[(\mu_m + \mu_T) \frac{p}{H} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} U_\phi \right] - v_{ni} (U_\phi - V_\phi)$$

advection

**pressure
gradient**

Coriolis

viscosity

ion drag

$$\frac{1}{p} \frac{\partial p}{\partial Z} = -\frac{g}{RT}$$

$$U_z = \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial t} \right)_p - \frac{\omega}{\rho g}$$

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial p} = -\nabla_p \cdot \underline{U}$$

r

radius of the Earth

Ω

rotation rate of the Earth

v_{ni}

ion-neutral collision frequency

V_k

k component of ion velocity, V

μ_m

molecular viscosity coefficient

μ_T

thermal viscosity coefficient

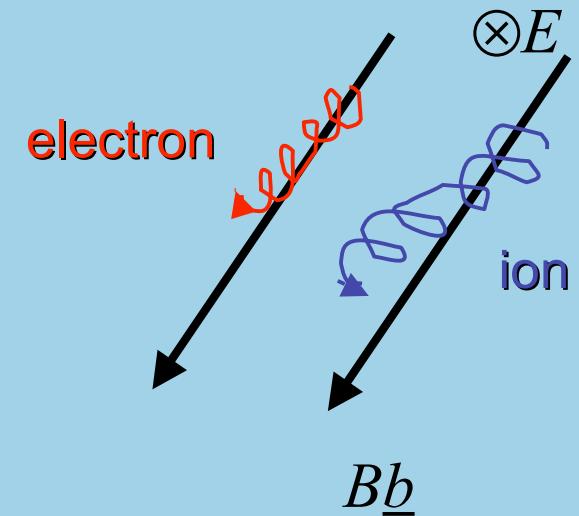


TIEGCM Ionosphere

Continuity Equation

$$\frac{\partial[n]}{\partial t} = q - l - \nabla \cdot [n]V$$

$$q_e = \sum_i q_i \quad n_e = \sum_i n_i$$



$\underline{V} = \underline{V}_{\parallel} + \underline{V}_{\perp}$ where $\underline{V}_{\parallel}, \underline{V}_{\perp}$ are the parallel, perpendicular components of \underline{V}

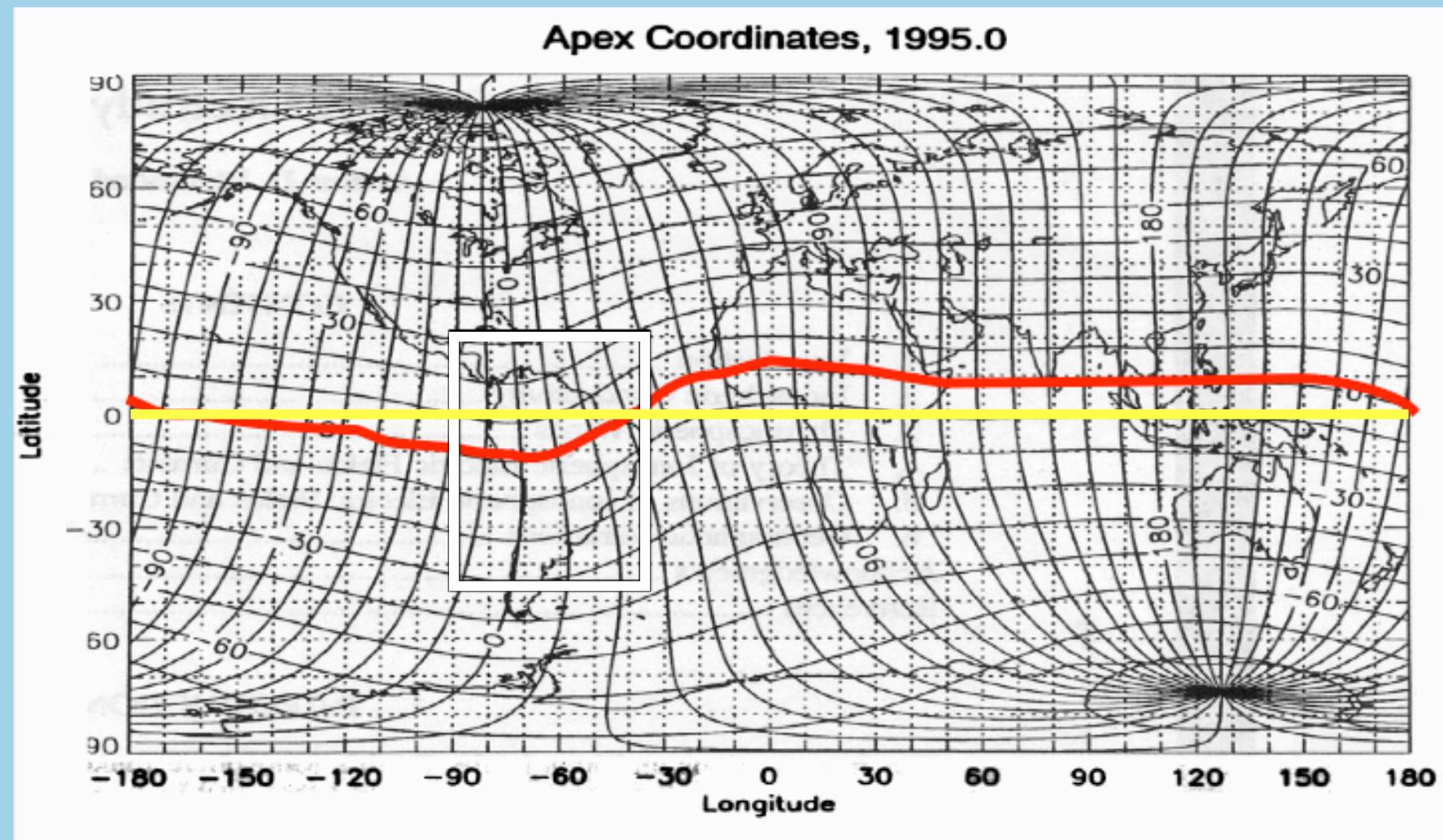
For example, O⁺

$$\underline{V}_{\parallel} = \left\{ \underline{b} \cdot \frac{1}{\nu} \left[g - \frac{1}{\rho_i} \nabla(p_i + p_e) \right] + \underline{b} \cdot \underline{U} \right\} \underline{b}$$

$$\underline{V}_{\perp} = \frac{1}{|B|} \underline{E} \times \underline{b}$$

Need a global specification of \underline{B} in order to solve for \underline{E} and \underline{V}

TIEGCM Geomagnetic Coordinates



Note the offset between the geographic and geomagnetic poles.

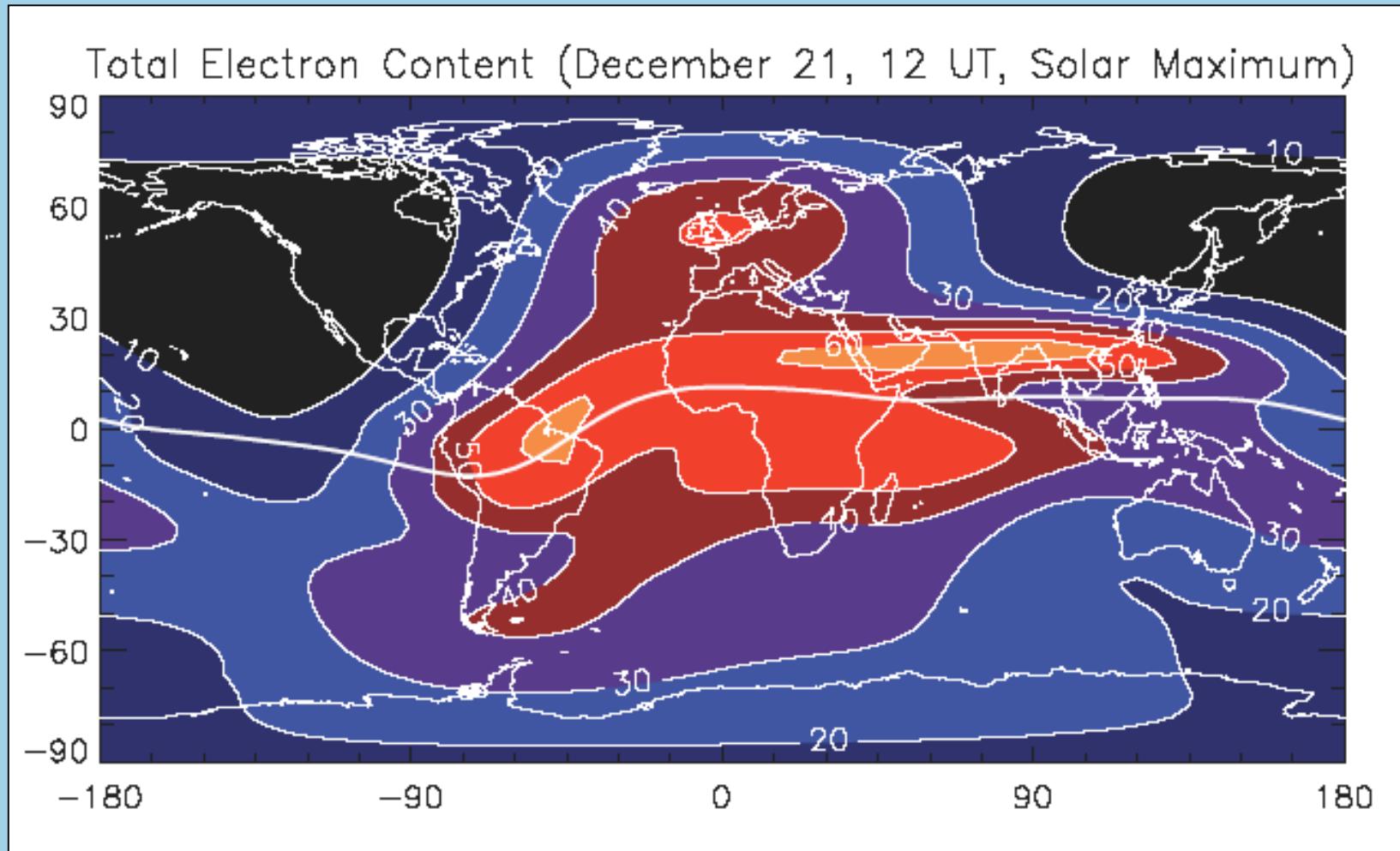


TIEGCM Calculations

- **Upper Boundary - specify**
 - solar flux
 - aurora
 - high latitude convection electric field
(cross-cap potential drop)
- **Lower Boundary - specify**
 - tides coming from the lower atmosphere
- **specify some initial state of the T-I system**
- **on the geographic grid**
 - calculate composition (neutral and ion)
 - solve the thermal energy equations
 - solve the neutral equation of motion
- **on the geomagnetic grid**
 - solve the dynamo equation (low-mid latitudes)
 - solve the ion and electron equations of motion



TIEGCM Ionosphere-Thermosphere Coupling



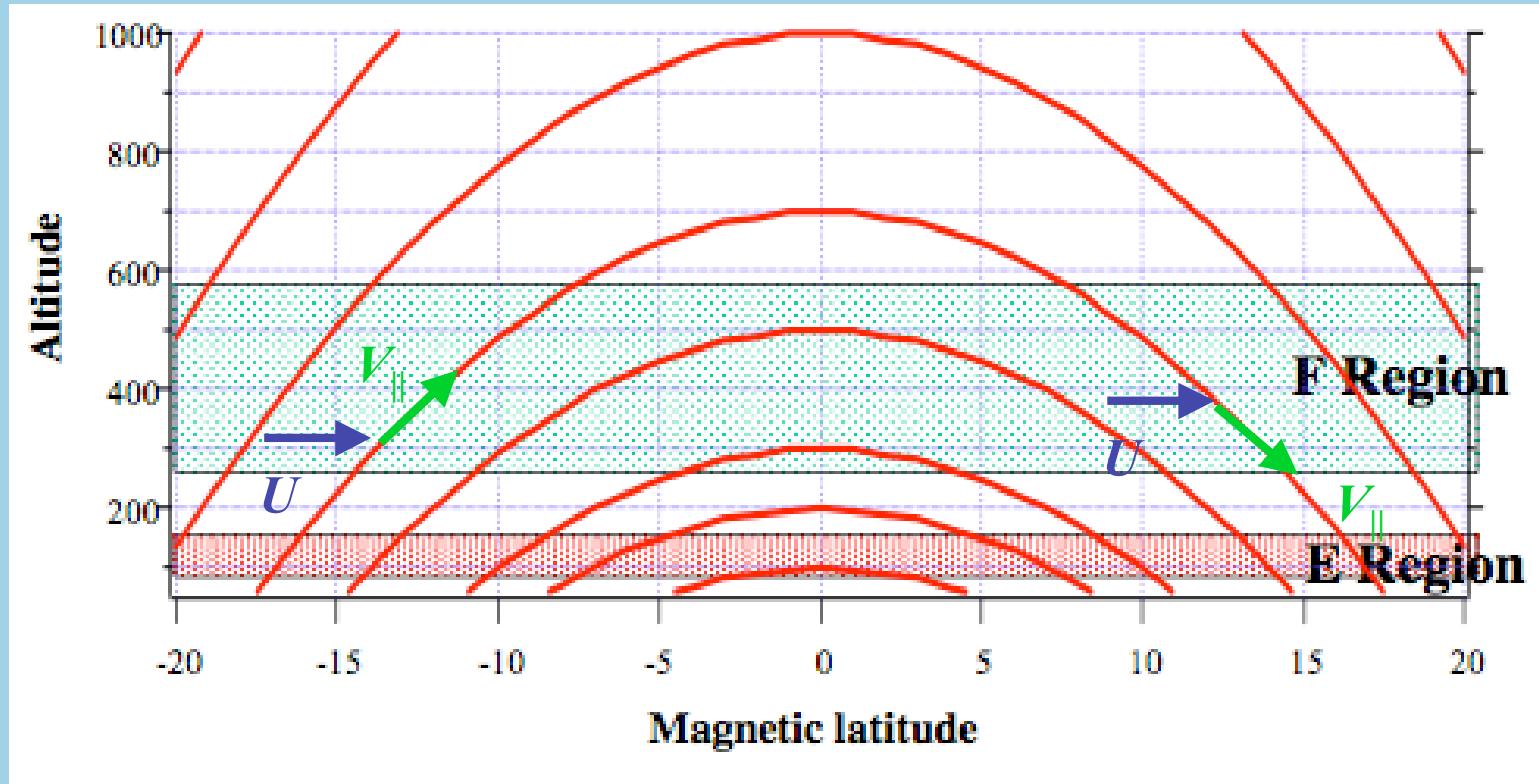
Why is TEC largest near 0° longitude?

Why is TEC comparatively larger in the summer hemisphere?



TIEGCM Ionosphere-Thermosphere Coupling

The sub-solar point is at 0° longitude at 12UT; in the Southern hemisphere during December.



Thermospheric winds blow from “hot” to “cold” (pressure gradient-ion drag balance) \Rightarrow decreased (increased) Recombination in the Southern (Northern) hemisphere



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Thermosphere-Ionosphere-Electrodynamics General Circulation Model TIEGCM

Part 2: Model Validation

- exemplary effort
- highlights of a recent study
- a set of 1-D assessments
- climatologies of Incoherent Scatter Radar (ISR) data
- led by Jiuhou Lei
- HAO/ASP Postdoctoral Fellow
- PhD 2005, Chinese Academy of Sciences



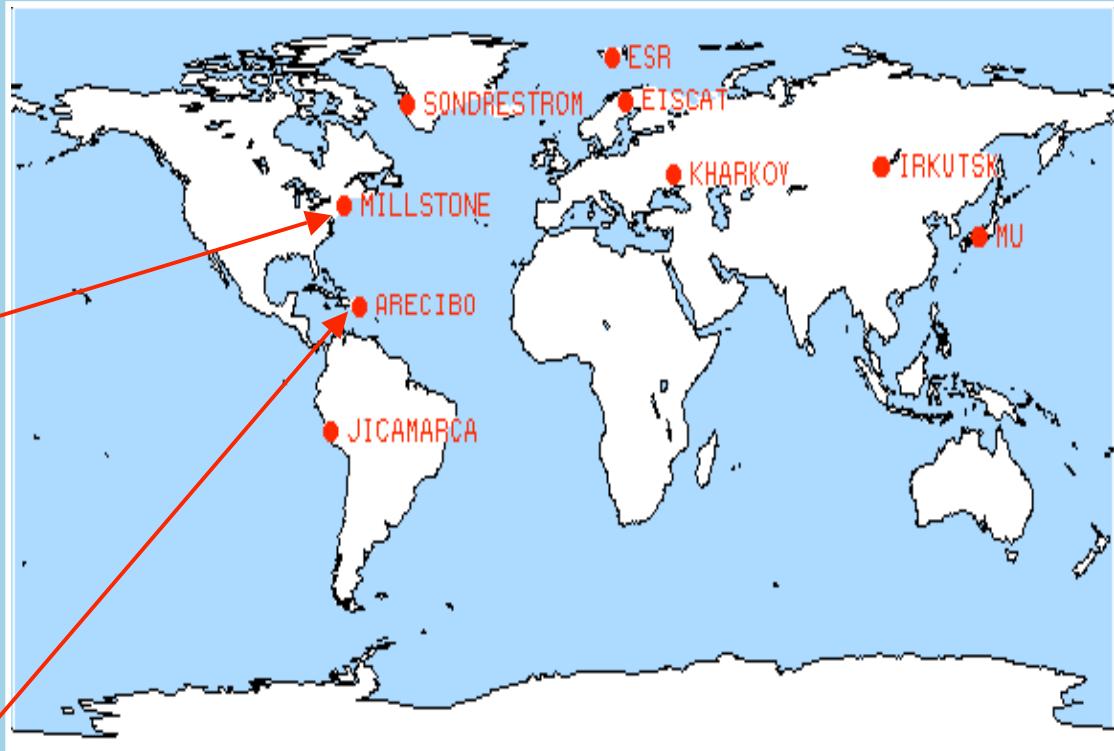
Global Incoherent Scatter Radar Network



Millstone Hill, Massachusetts, USA



Arecibo, Puerto Rico



Primary measurements:

- electron density, N_e
- electron temperature, T_e
- ion temperature, T_i
- line-of-sight ion velocity, V_i

Sample ISR Climatologies

- electron density (N_e)
- electron temperature (T_e)
- ion temperature (T_i)
 - Millstone Hill: 1976-2002
 - Arecibo: 1966-2000
- geomagnetically undisturbed
 - $Ap < 30$
- solar cycle
 - minimum: $F_{10.7} < 100$
 - maximum: $F_{10.7} > 170$
- season
 - equinox: March & April
 - summer: June & July
 - winter: December & January



TIEGCM Validation

Objective: account for ionosphere - plasmasphere coupling

1- Assess Upper Boundary Conditions using ISR data

- electron heat flux **before**:

$$F_{\text{day}} = -6 \times 10^7 (F_{10.7} A(\theta)) - 4.8 \times 10^7 (F_{10.7})$$
$$A(\theta) = 1 \quad \text{for } \theta > 45^\circ \text{ latitude}$$
$$= \sin\theta \text{ for } \theta < 45^\circ$$

$$F_{\text{night}} = F_{\text{day}}/2 \text{ at night}$$

- electron heat flux **after**:

$$F_{\text{day}} = -4 \times 10^7 (F_{10.7} A(\theta)) - 2 \times 10^7 (F_{10.7})$$
$$A(\theta) = 1 \quad \text{for } \theta > 45^\circ \text{ latitude}$$
$$= \sin\theta \text{ for } \theta < 45^\circ$$

$$F_{\text{night}} = F_{\text{day}}/B(\theta) \text{ at night}$$

$$B(\theta) = 5 \text{ for } \theta = 45^\circ$$
$$= 10 \text{ for } \theta = 0^\circ$$

after *Lei et al., 2006*



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TIEGCM Validation

2 - Assess Upper Boundary Conditions using ISR data

- O⁺ flux before:

$$\Phi_{\text{day}} = 2 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ during daytime (out)}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{night}} = -2 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ at night (in)}$$

- no seasonal or solar cycle dependence

- O⁺ flux after:

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{\text{day}} &= [1 + F_{10.7}r - (.25 + .25F_{10.7}r)\beta] \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \\ &= [1 + F_{10.7}r - .1\beta] \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{\text{night}} &= -[.5 + .7F_{10.7}r - (.5 + .8F_{10.7}r)\beta] \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \\ &= -[.5 + .7F_{10.7}r - .1\beta] \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\beta = 1 + \sin(\pi[(\varphi - \pi/8)/(\pi/4)]) \quad \varphi = (d - 171.25)/(\pi/365)$$

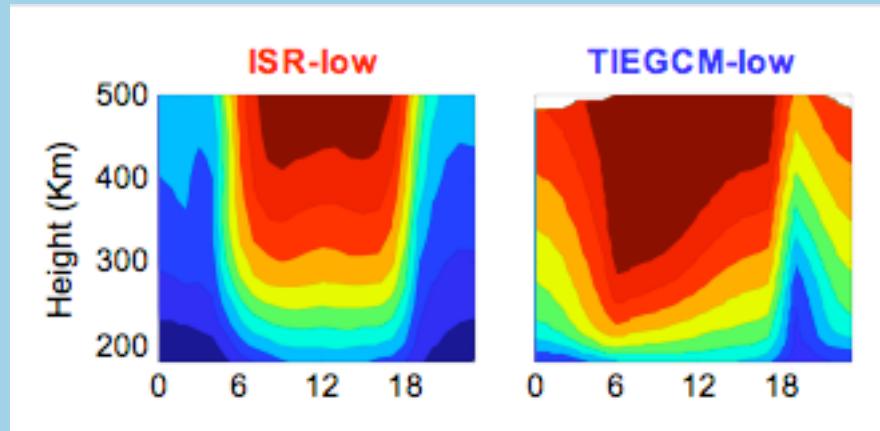
$$F_{10.7}r = 8.3 \times 10^{-3}F_{10.7} - 0.67$$

after *Lei et al., 2006*

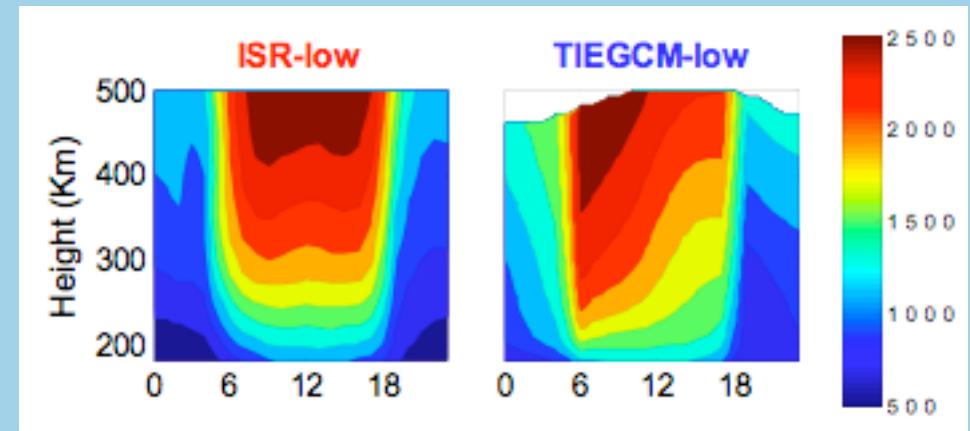


Improving the TIEGCM Upper Boundary Condition

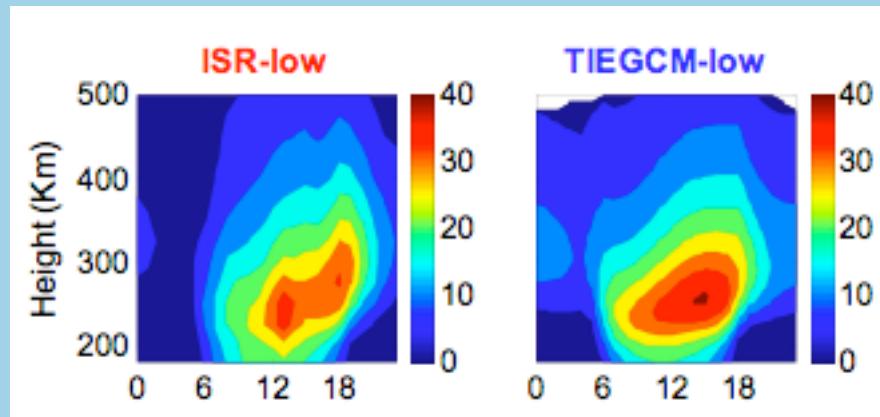
T_e before



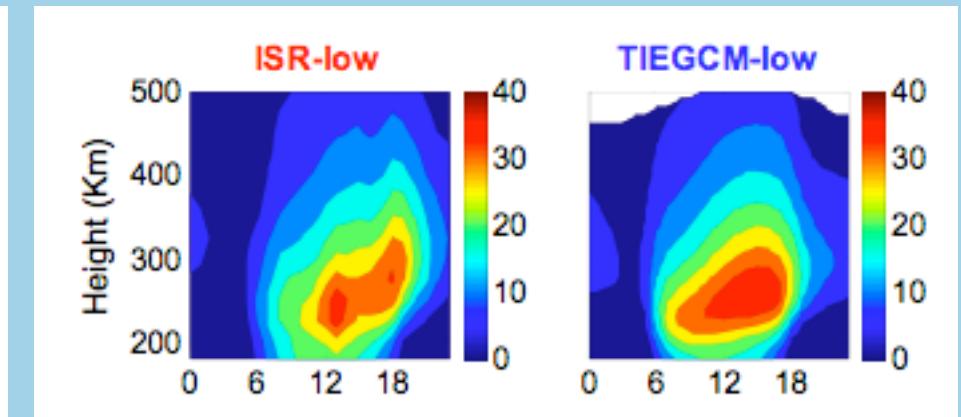
T_e after



N_e before



N_e after



after *Lei et al.*, 2006



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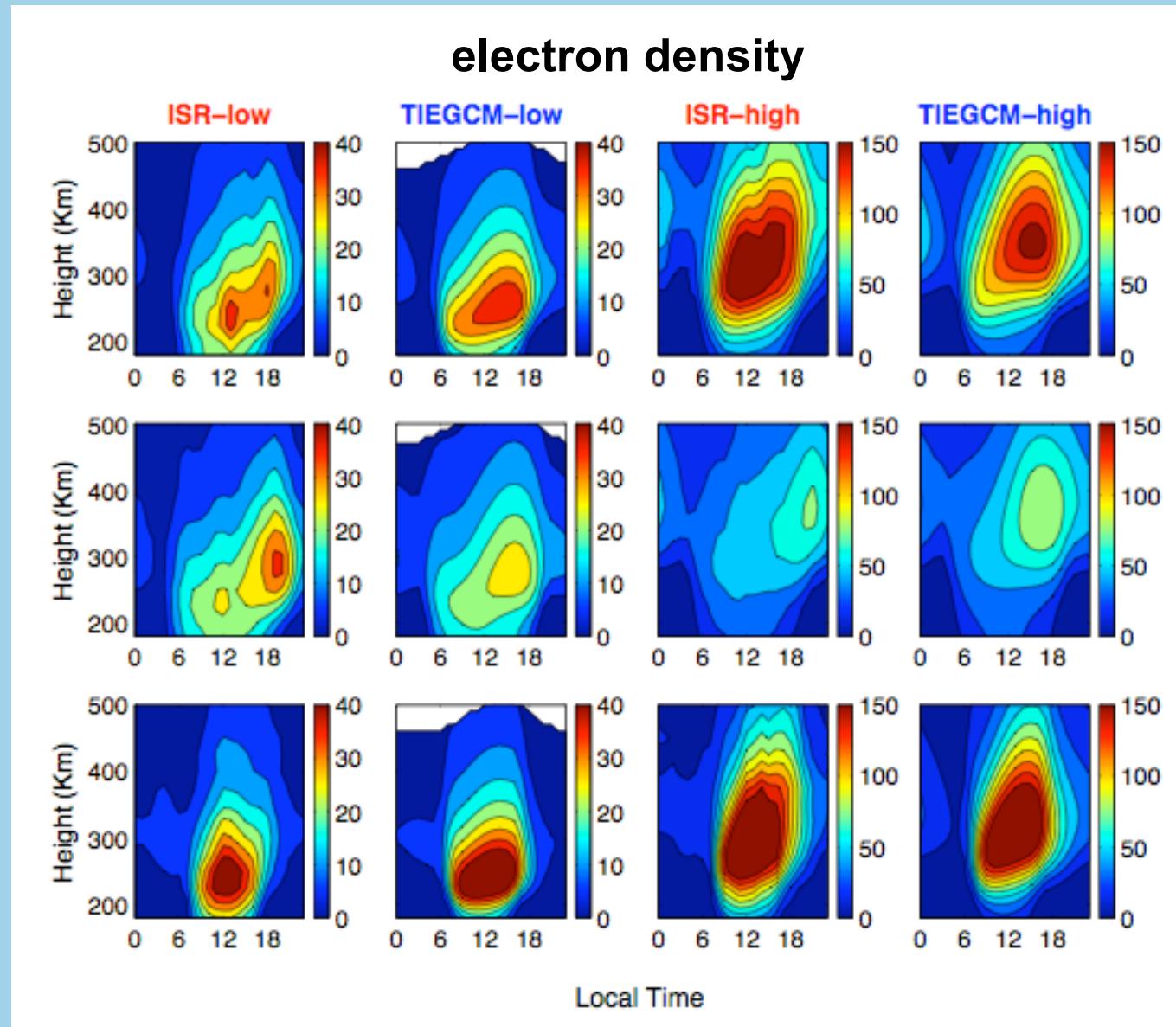
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TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Millstone (42.6°N, 71.5°W)

equinox

June
solstice

December
solstice



after Lei et al., 2006



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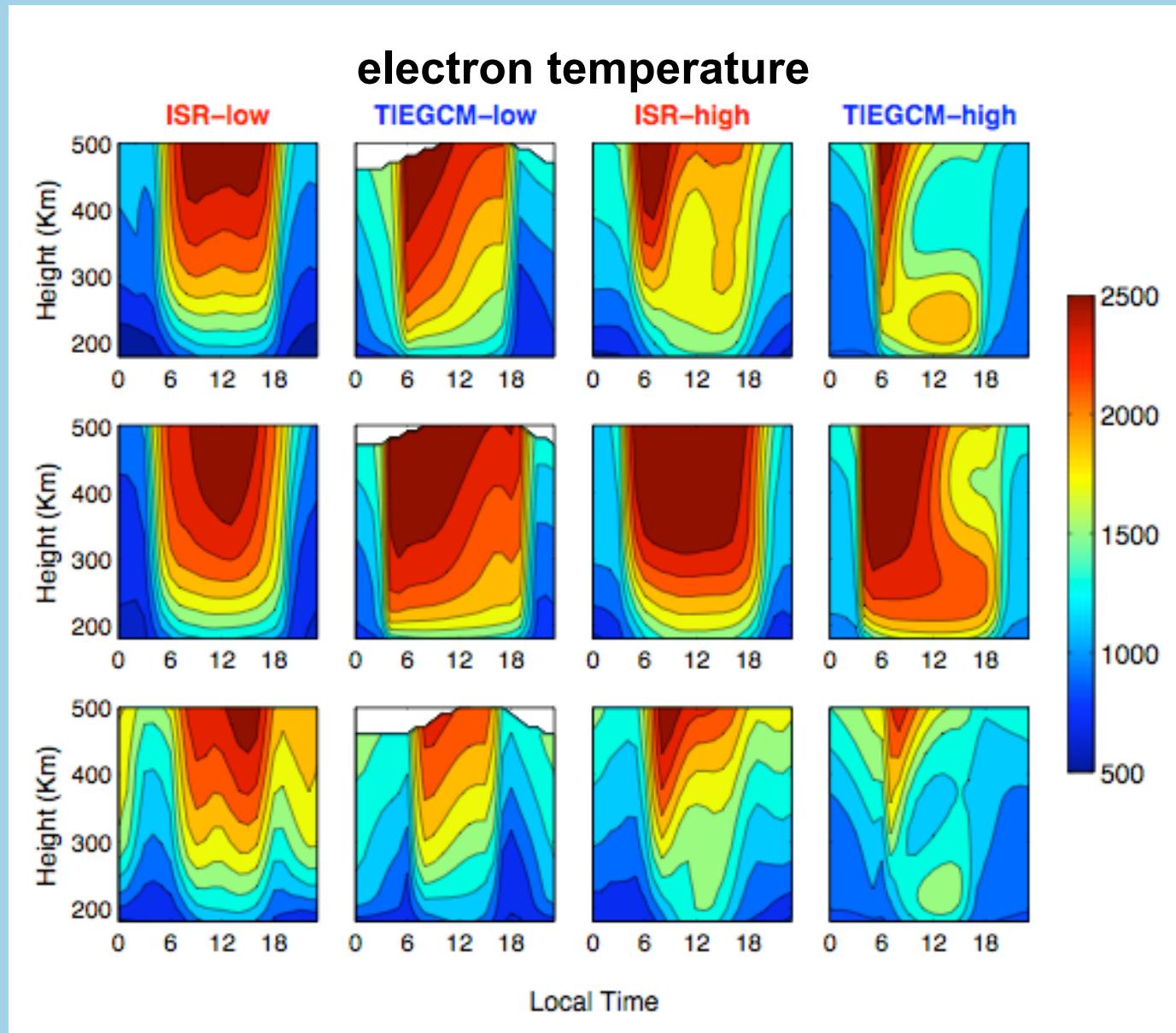
TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Millstone (42.6°N, 71.5°W)

equinox

June
solstice

December
solstice

after *Lei et al.*, 2006



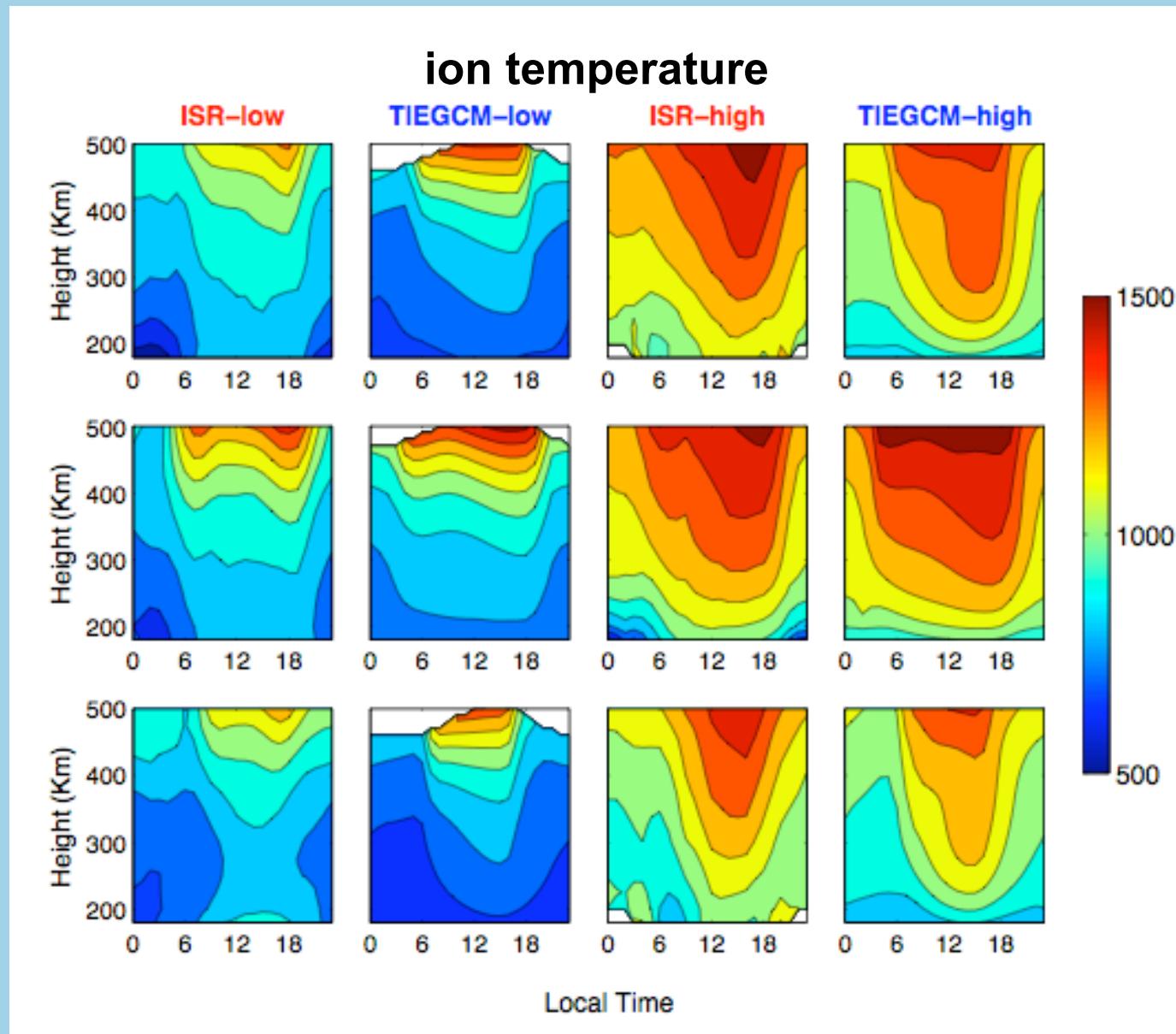
TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Millstone (42.6°N, 71.5°W)

equinox

June
solstice

December
solstice

after *Lei et al.*, 2006



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TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Arecibo (18.3°N, 66.7°W)

equinox

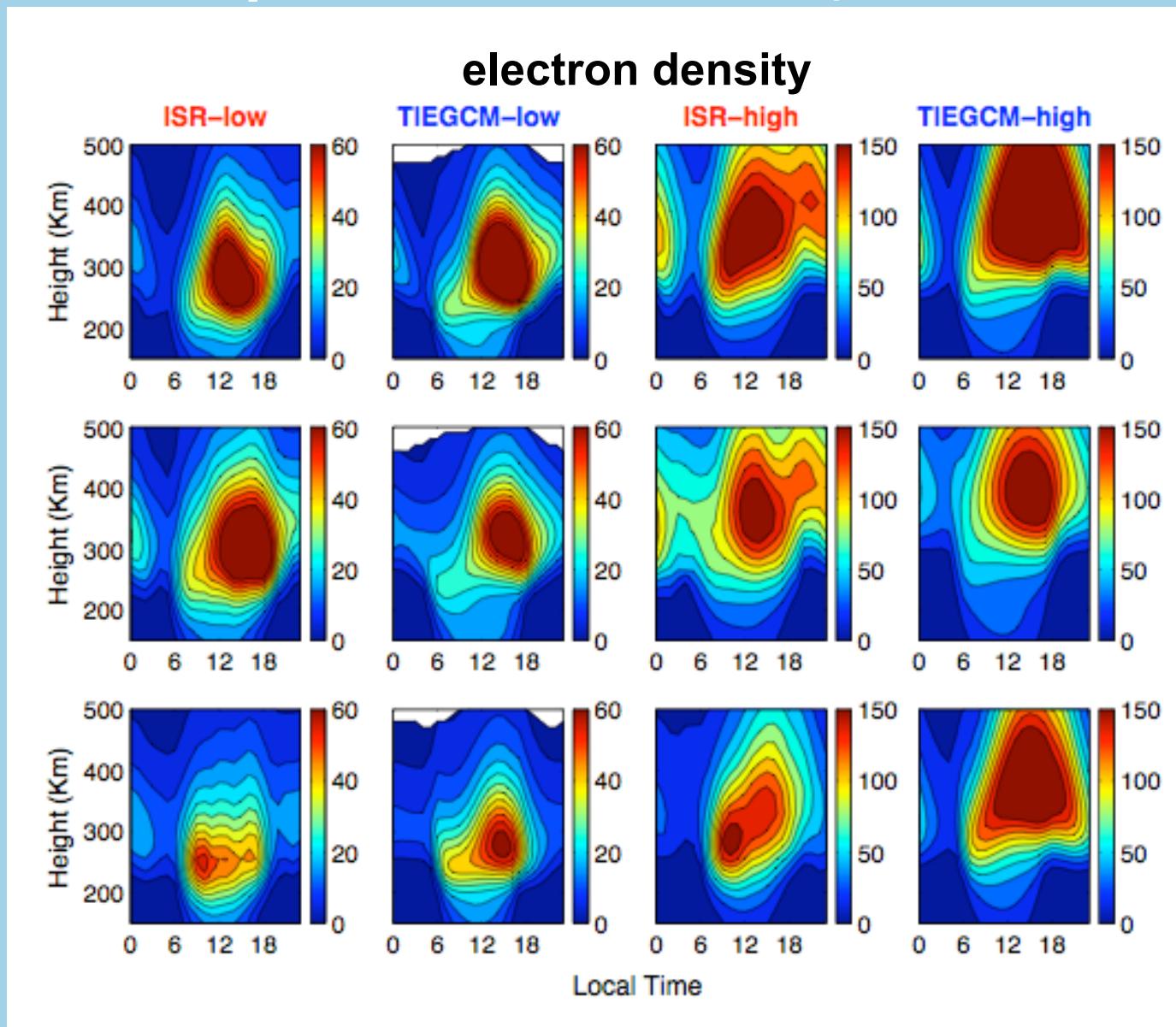
June
solstice

December
solstice

after Lei et al., 2006



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TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Arecibo (18.3°N, 66.7°W)

equinox

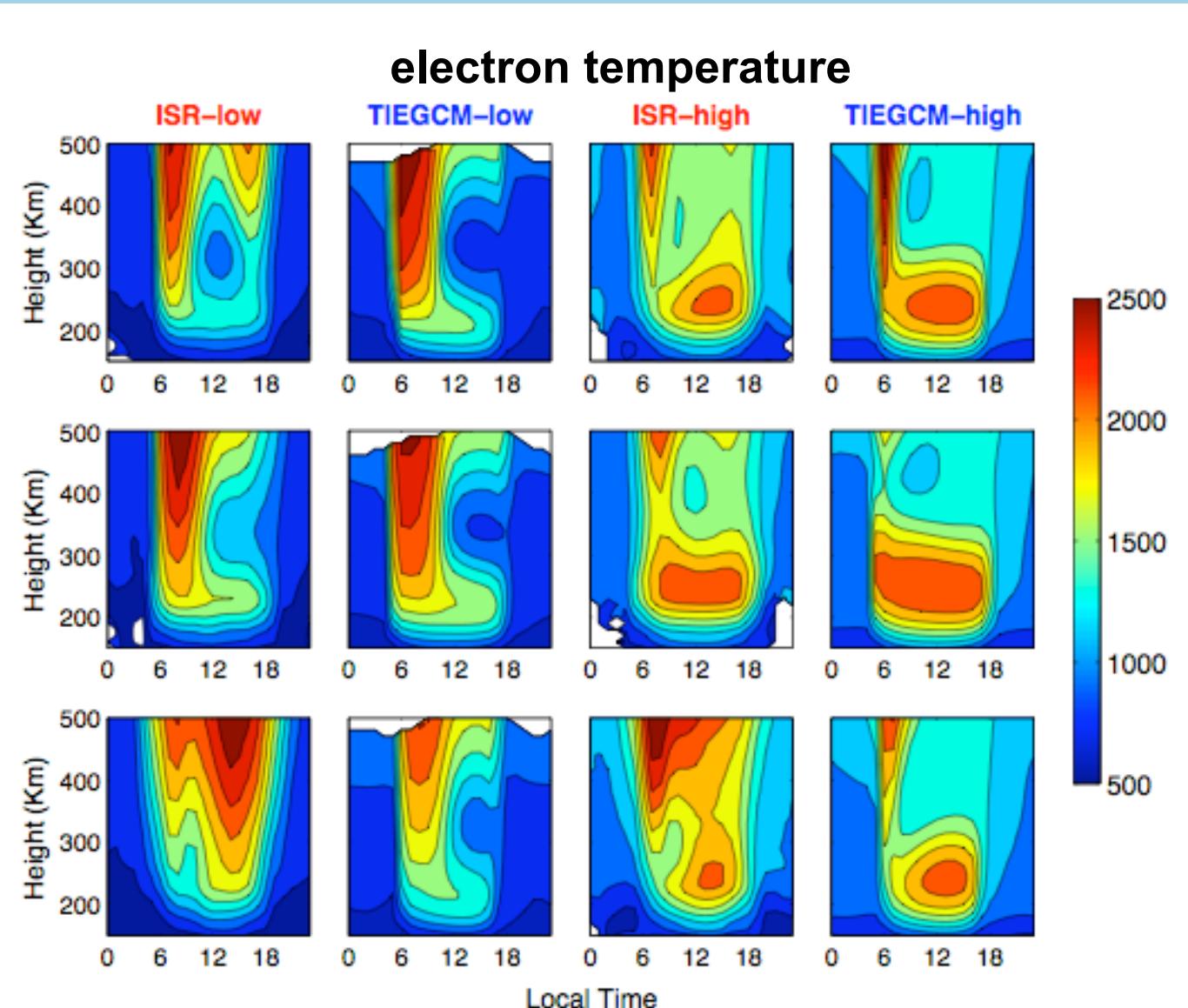
June
solstice

December
solstice

after Lei et al., 2006



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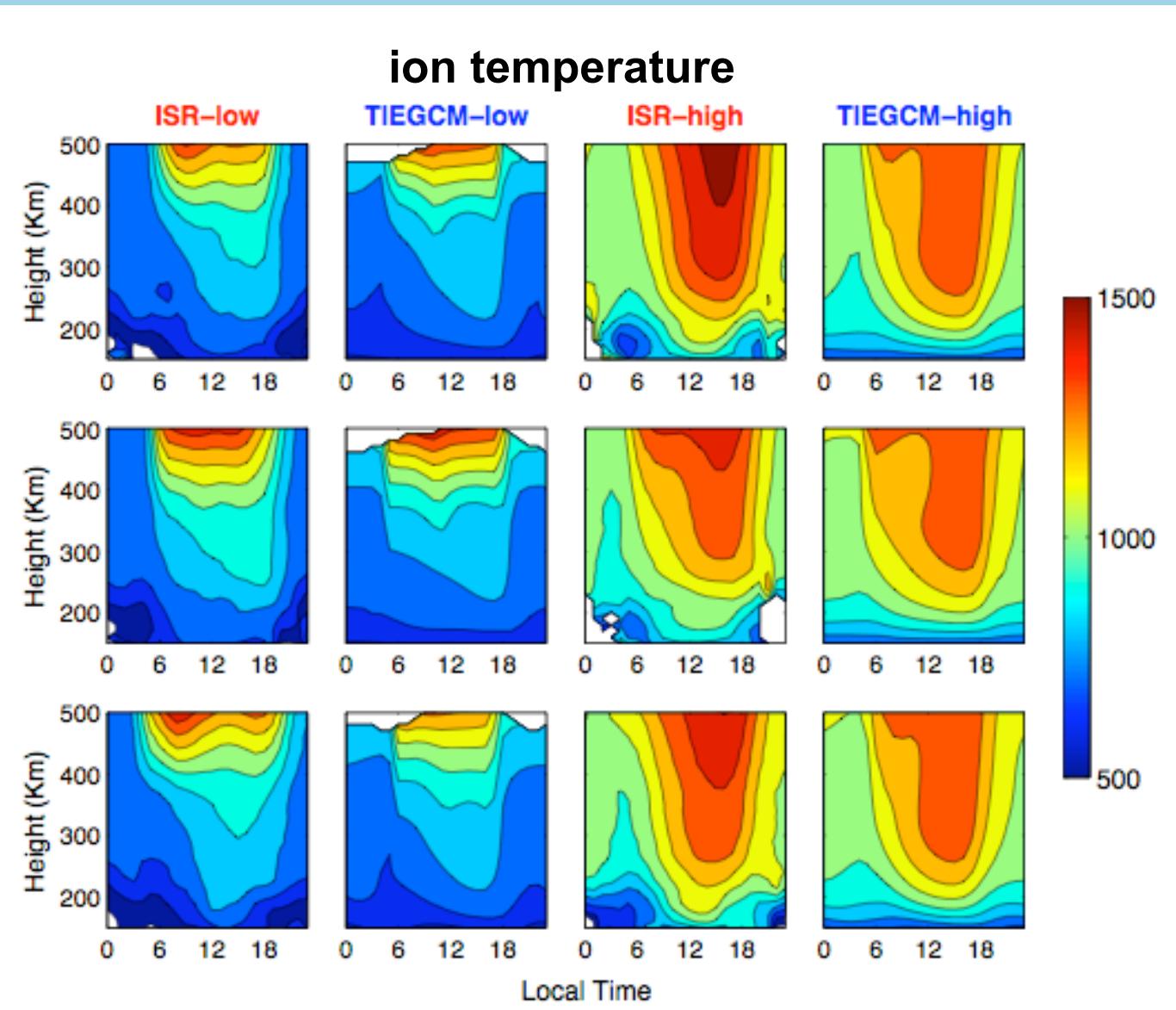
TIEGCM/ISR Comparisons - Arecibo (18.3°N, 66.7°W)

equinox

June
solstice

December
solstice

after Lei et al., 2006

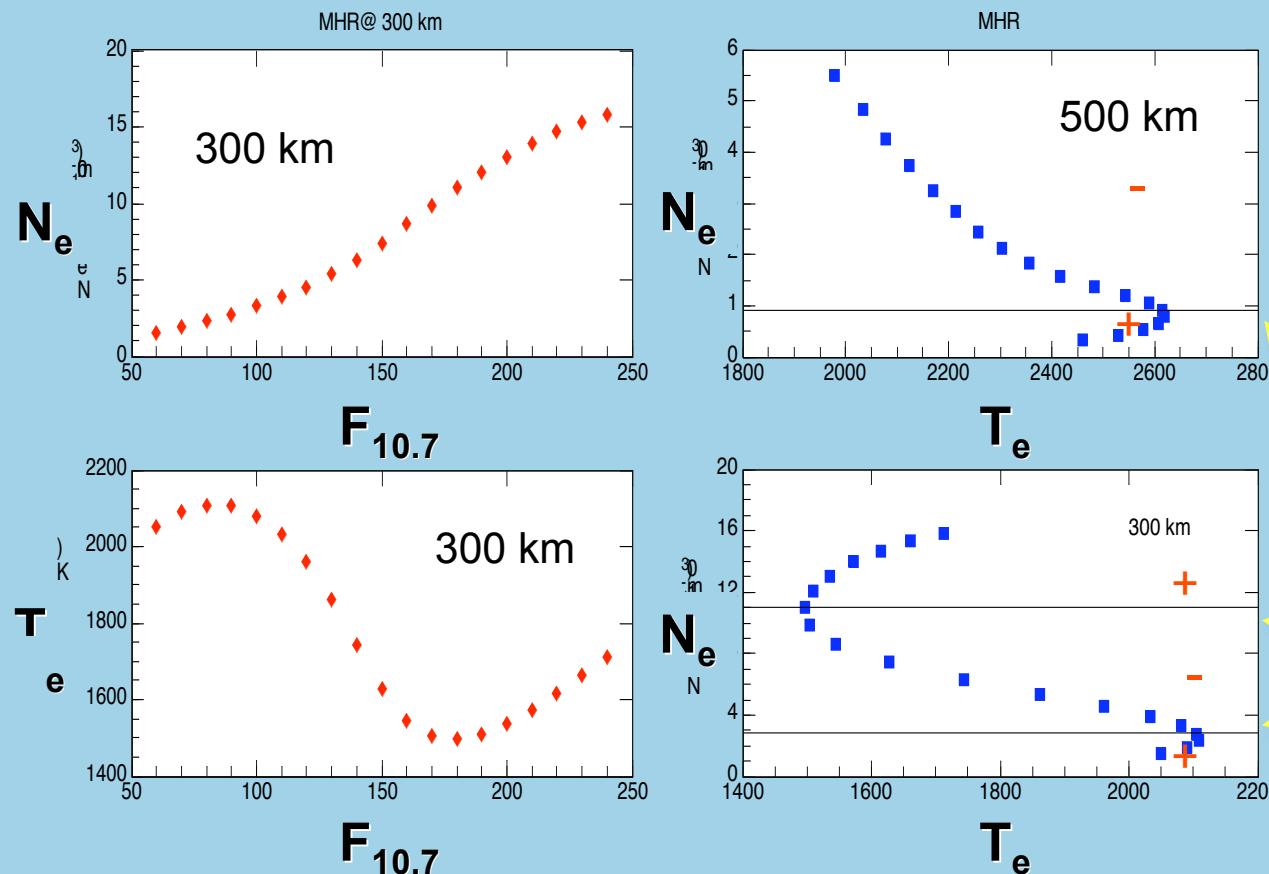


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TIEGCM T_e - N_e Relationship over Millstone



Heating $\propto N_e^2$

Cooling $\propto N_e$

competing processes

threshold

Electron temperature, T_e , is expected to decrease with solar activity, as electron density, N_e , increases. But, *Lei et al.* (2006) show that ..

after *Lei et al.*, 2006





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HIGH ALTITUDE OBSERVATORY

Thermosphere-Ionosphere-Electrodynamics General Circulation Model TIEGCM

Part 3: Case Studies

- October-November 2003 Halloween Storms
- community effort - realistic drivers - assimilated data
- led by Gang Lu

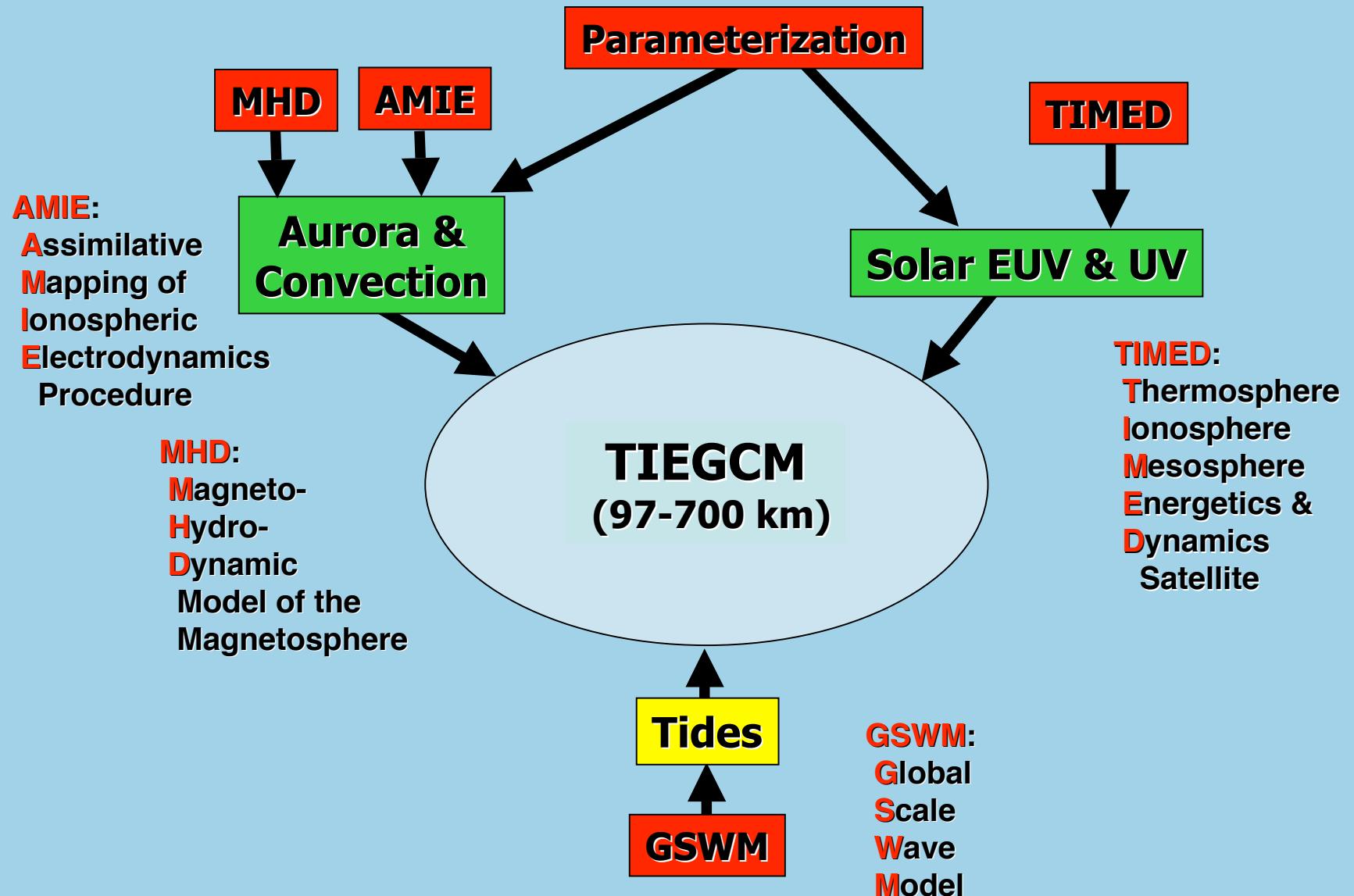
HAO Scientist



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Case Studies with the NCAR/HAO GCMs

High-Latitude Forcing

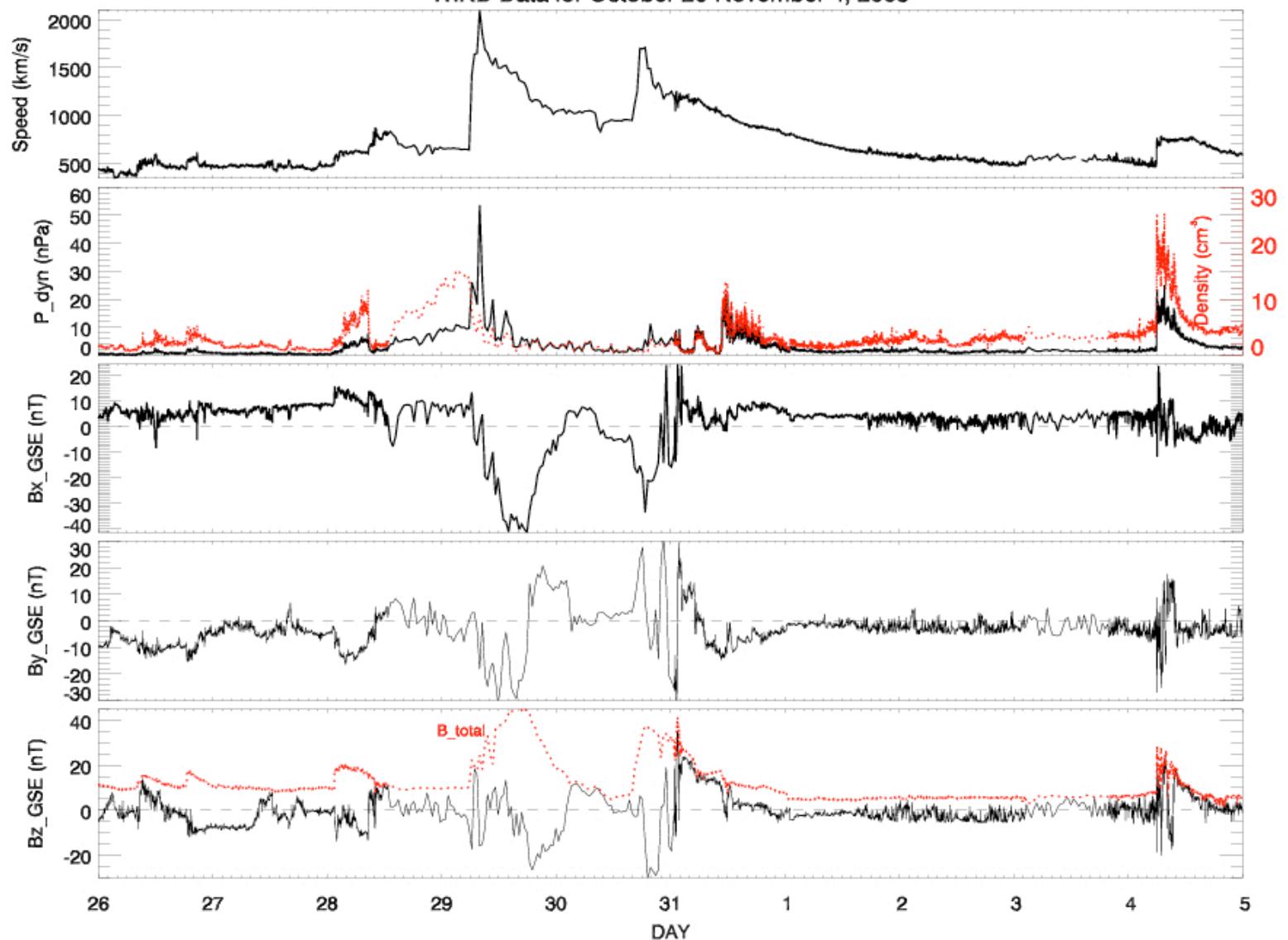
- **GPI forcing:**
GeoPhysical Indices \Rightarrow Kp & F_{10.7}
empirical convection electric fields,
aurora and solar irradiance forcing
- **SPE forcing:**
Solar Proton Event \Rightarrow energetic particle
observations (TIME-GCM)
- **AMIE forcing:**
convection electric fields and auroral forcing from
assimilated ground-based and satellite observations

October - November 2003
Halloween Storms



Prevailing Space Weather: Solar Wind and IMF

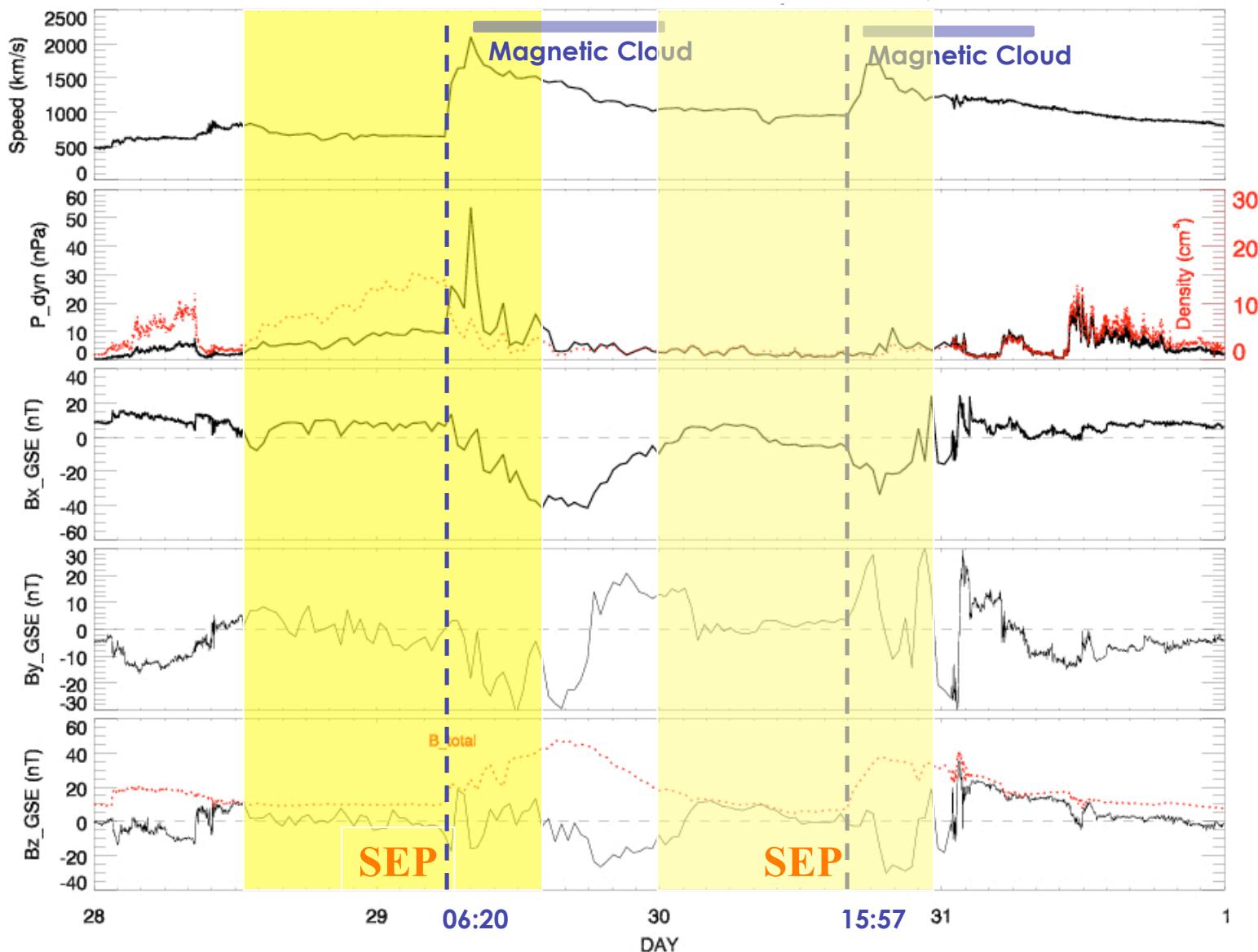
WIND Data for October 26-November 4, 2003



Prevailing Space Weather: Solar Wind and IMF

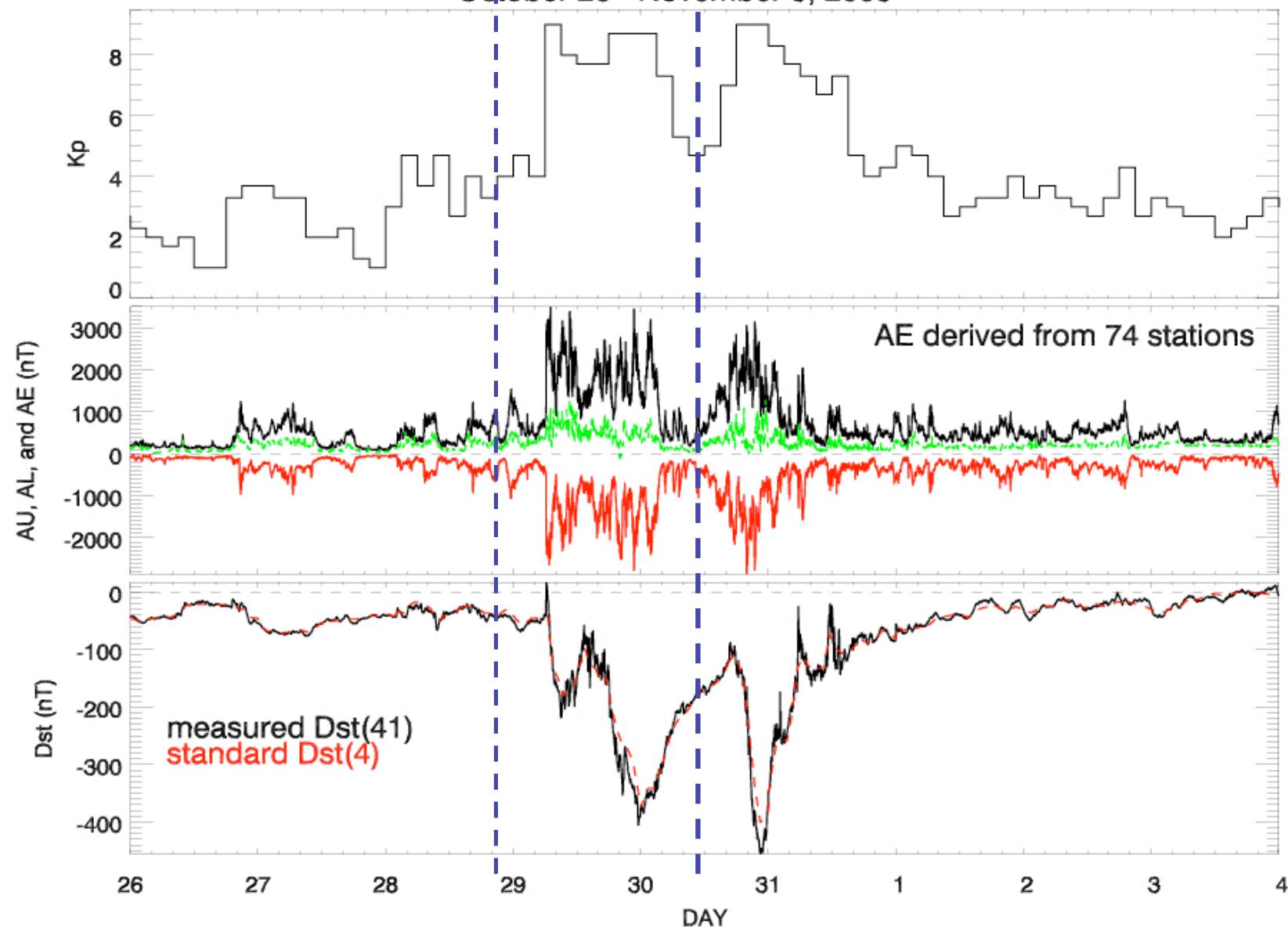
ACE Data for October 28 – November 1, 2003

...a
closer
look



Prevailing Space Weather: Geomagnetic Activity

October 26 - November 3, 2003

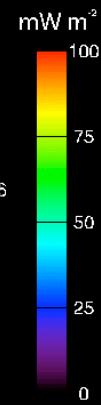
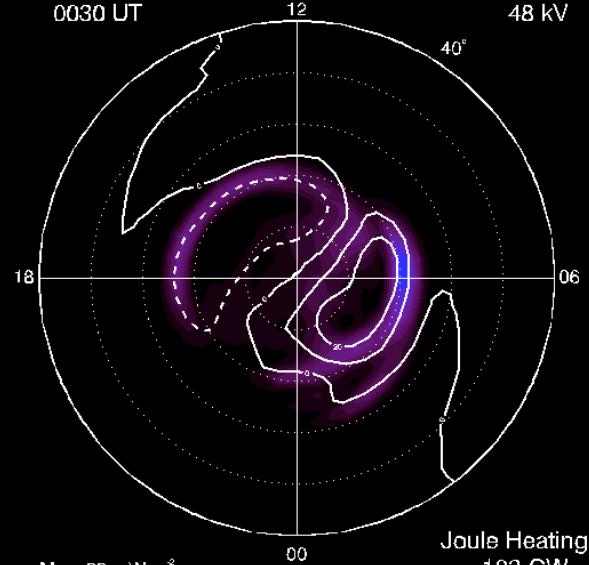


AIME Forcing

Quiet Time

2003 OCT 29
0030 UT

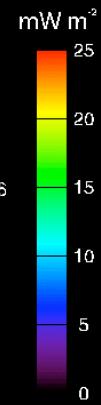
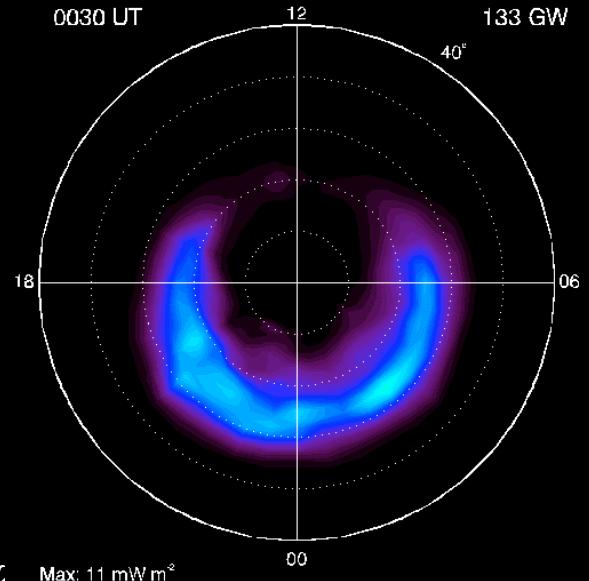
Potential Drop
48 kV



Max: 22 mW m²
2003 OCT 29
0030 UT

Joule Heating
123 GW

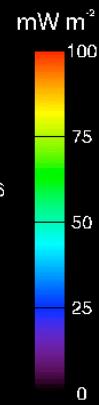
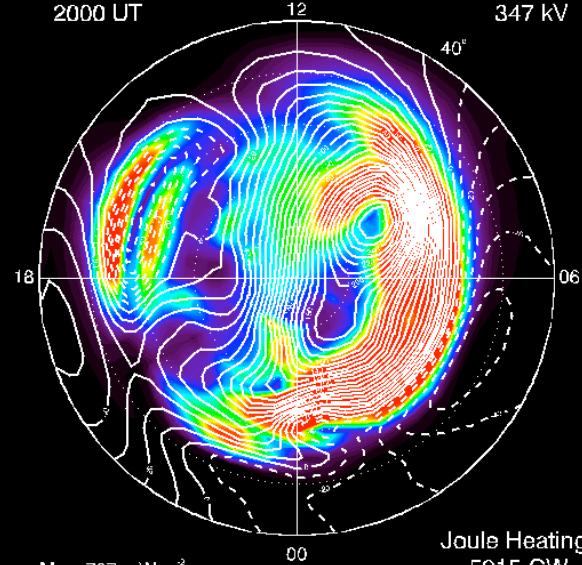
Energy Flux
133 GW



Storm Time

2003 OCT 29
2000 UT

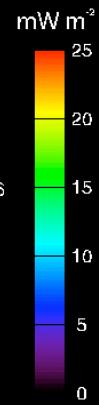
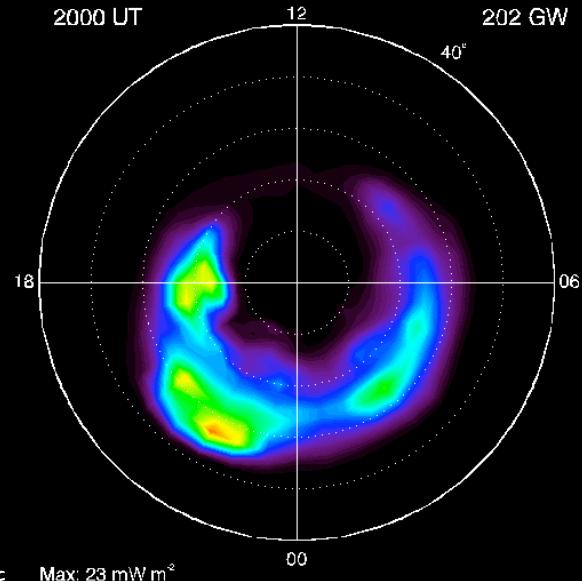
Potential Drop
347 kV



Max: 707 mW m²
2003 OCT 29
2000 UT

Joule Heating
5215 GW

Energy Flux
202 GW



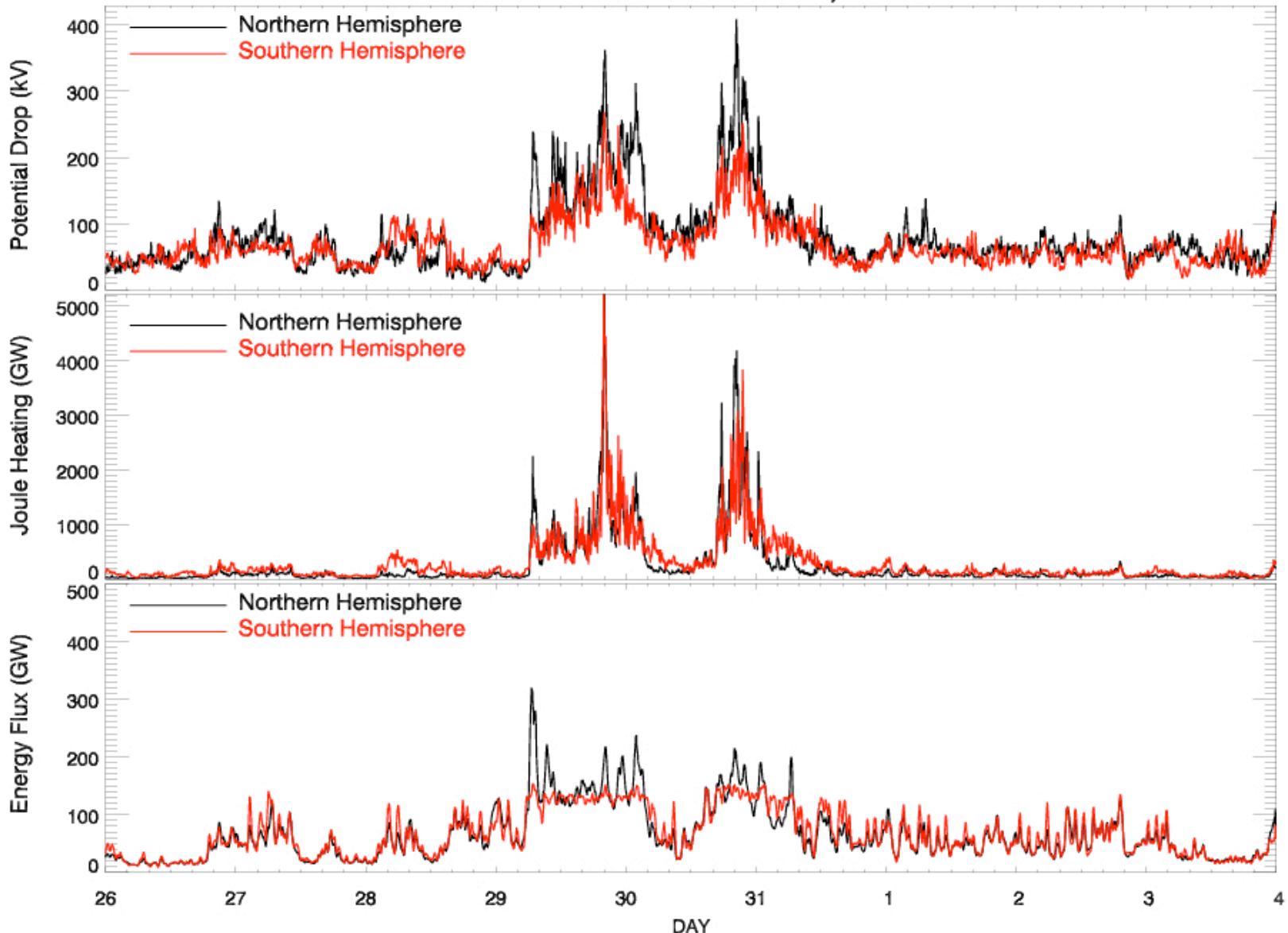
Max: 11 mW m²

Max: 23 mW m²

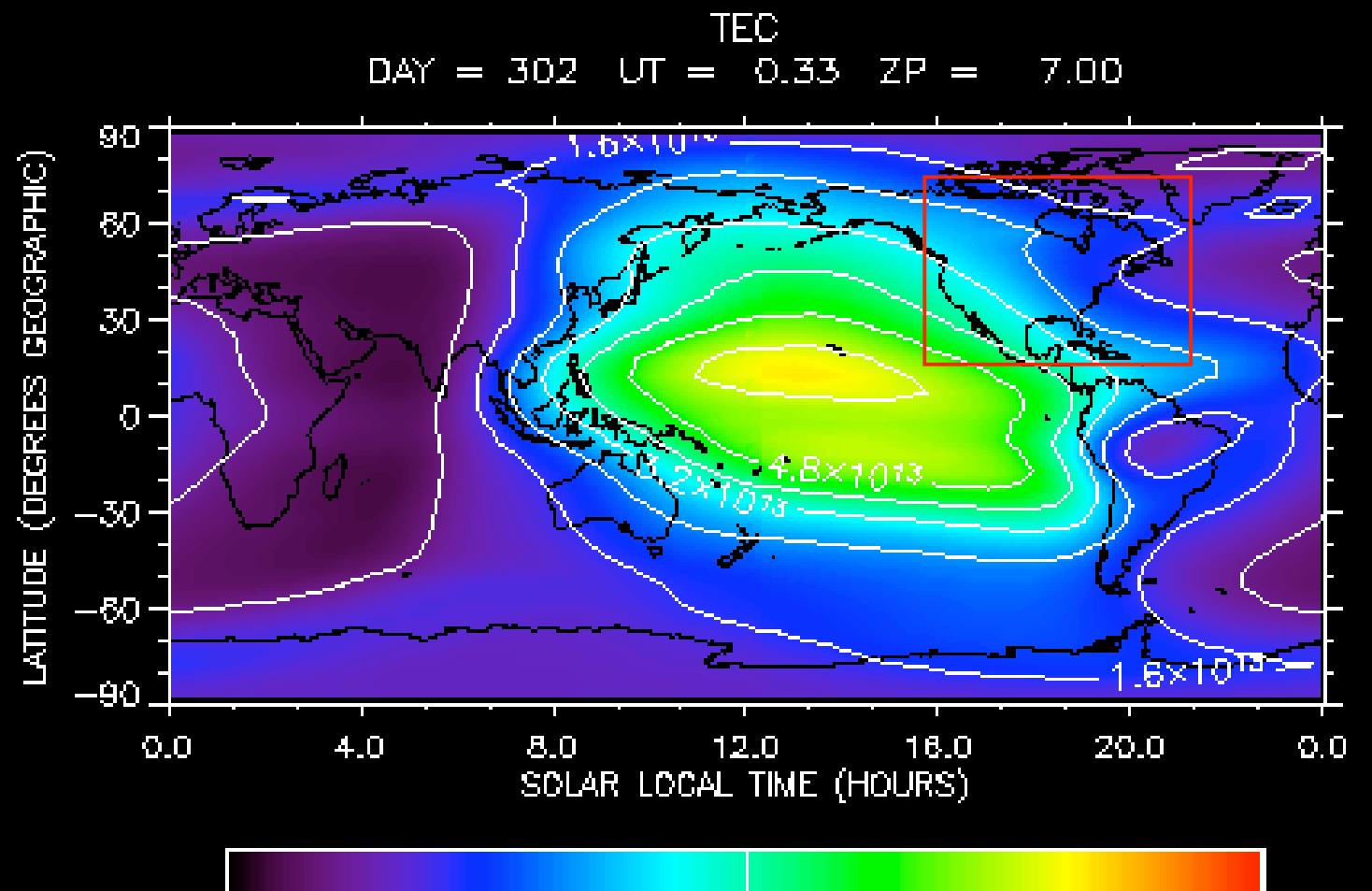
Max: 23 mW m²

AIME Forcing

October 26-November 3, 2003



TIEGCM Electron Column Densities on 29 October 2003



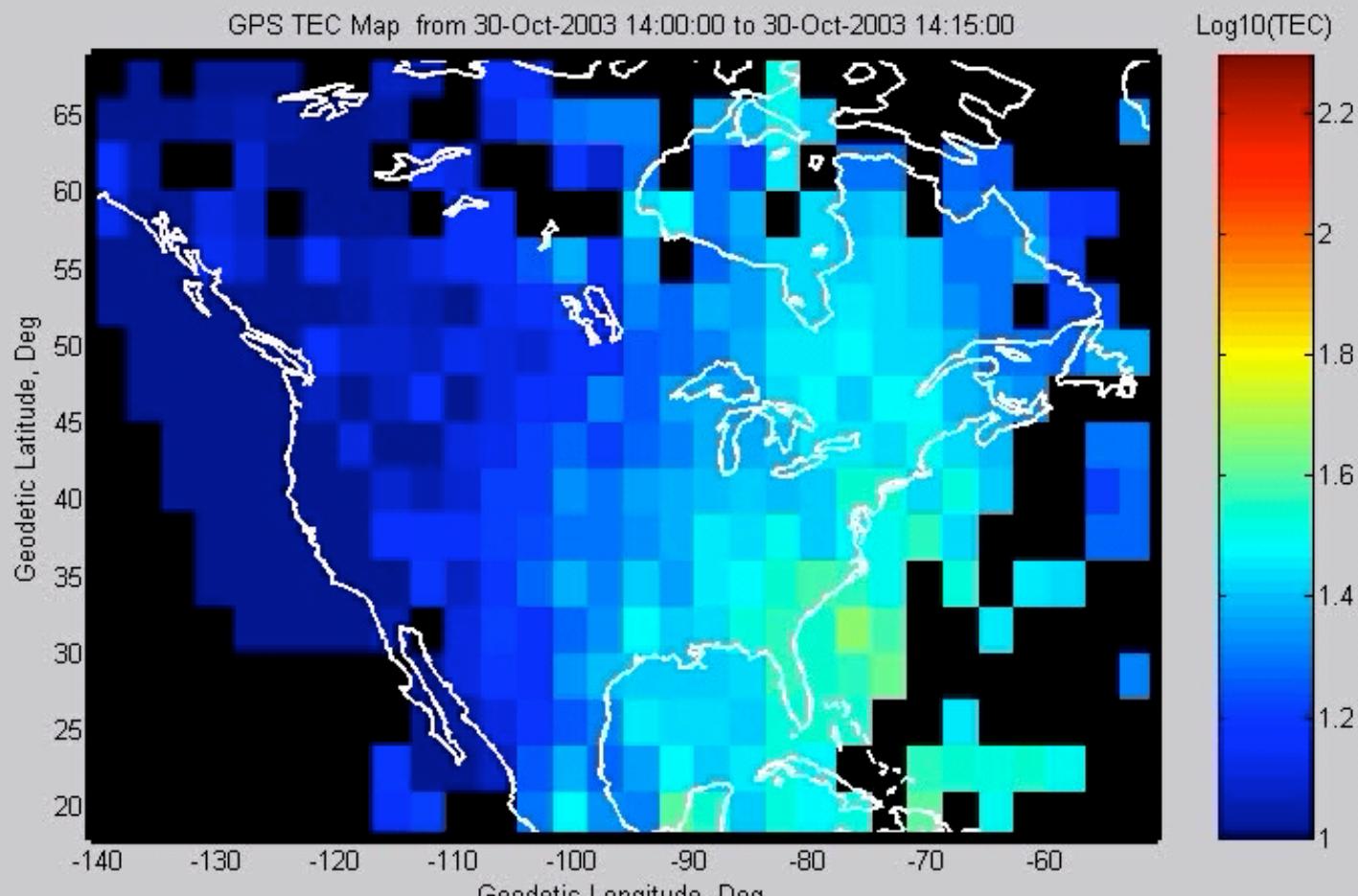
MIN,MAX = 3.325e+12, 5.984e+13 INTERVAL = 8.000e+12
[/ptmp/ganglu/tgcmproc/tgcmproc.nc](http://ptmp/ganglu/tgcmproc/tgcmproc.nc)

GPS Total Electron Content

Day303  PM



MIT Haystack Observatory



12 May 2006

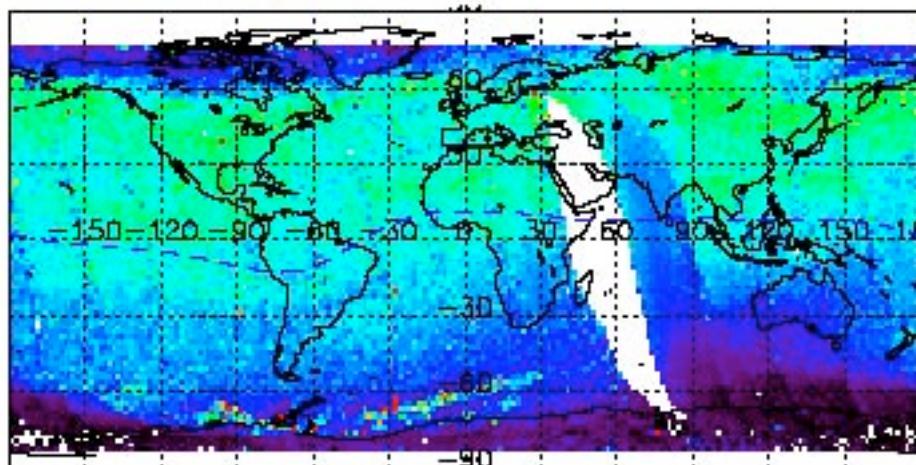
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TIMED-GUVI Observations of Neutral Composition

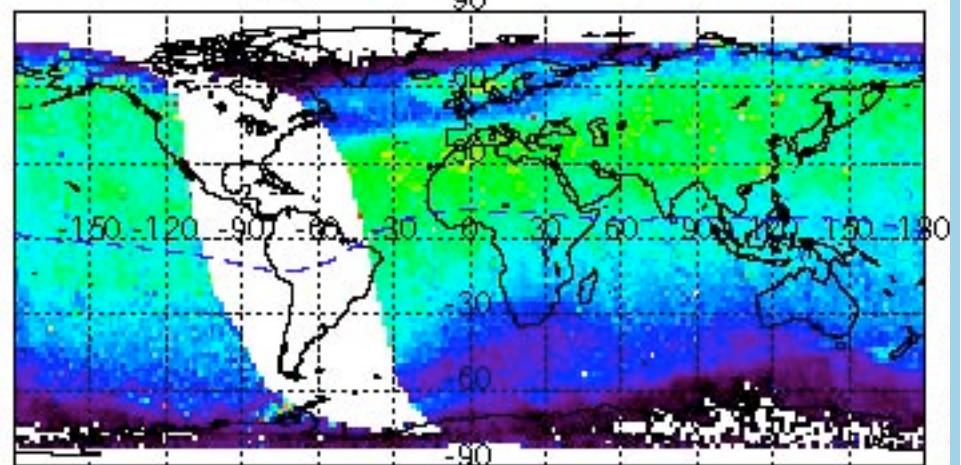
GUFI O/N₂ Ratio

Oct 28, 2003



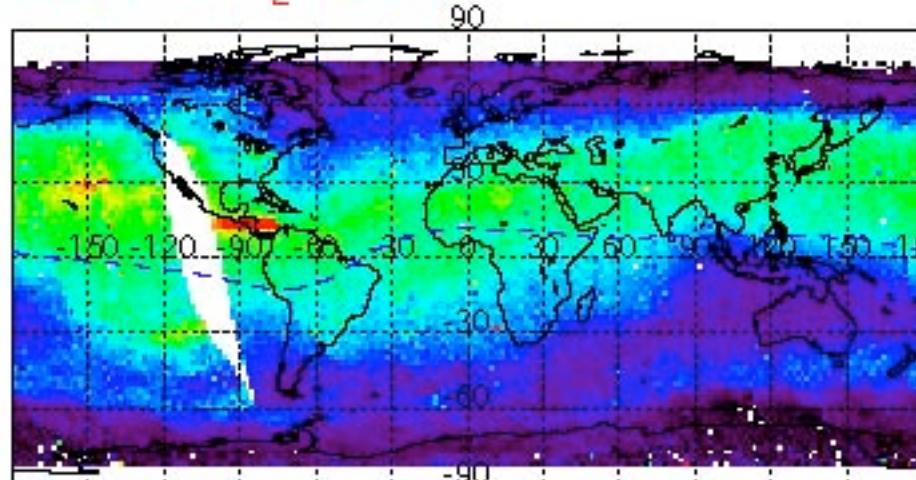
GUFI O/N₂ Ratio

Oct 29, 2003

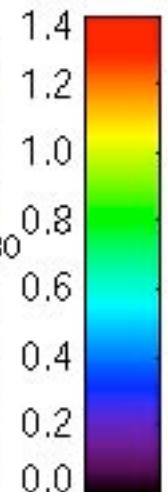


GUFI O/N₂ Ratio

Oct 30, 2003



Ratio



Note increase in N₂ at high latitudes as the storm progresses, in response to auroral heating and associated thermospheric upwelling

courtesy of Larry Paxton

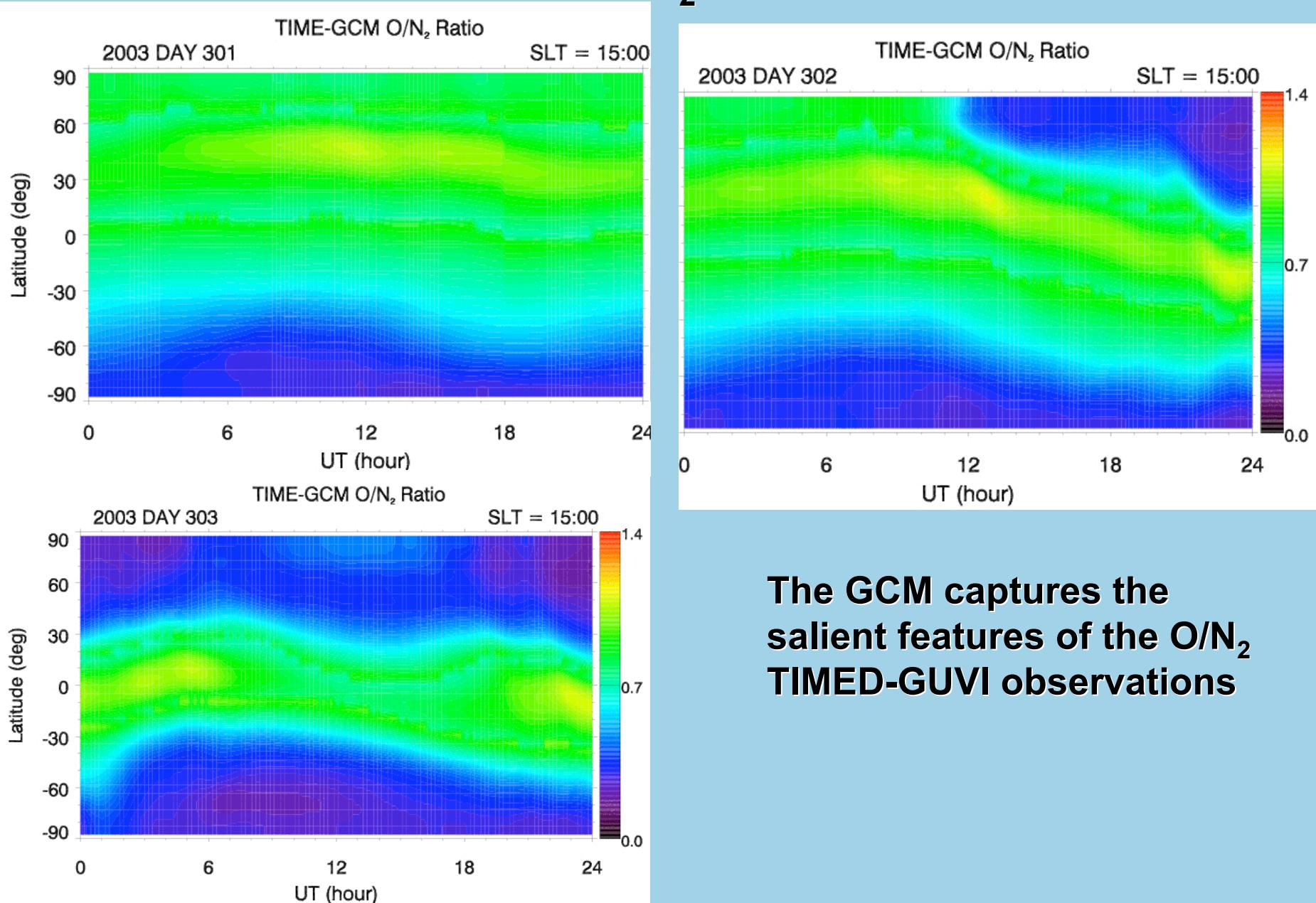


12 May 2006

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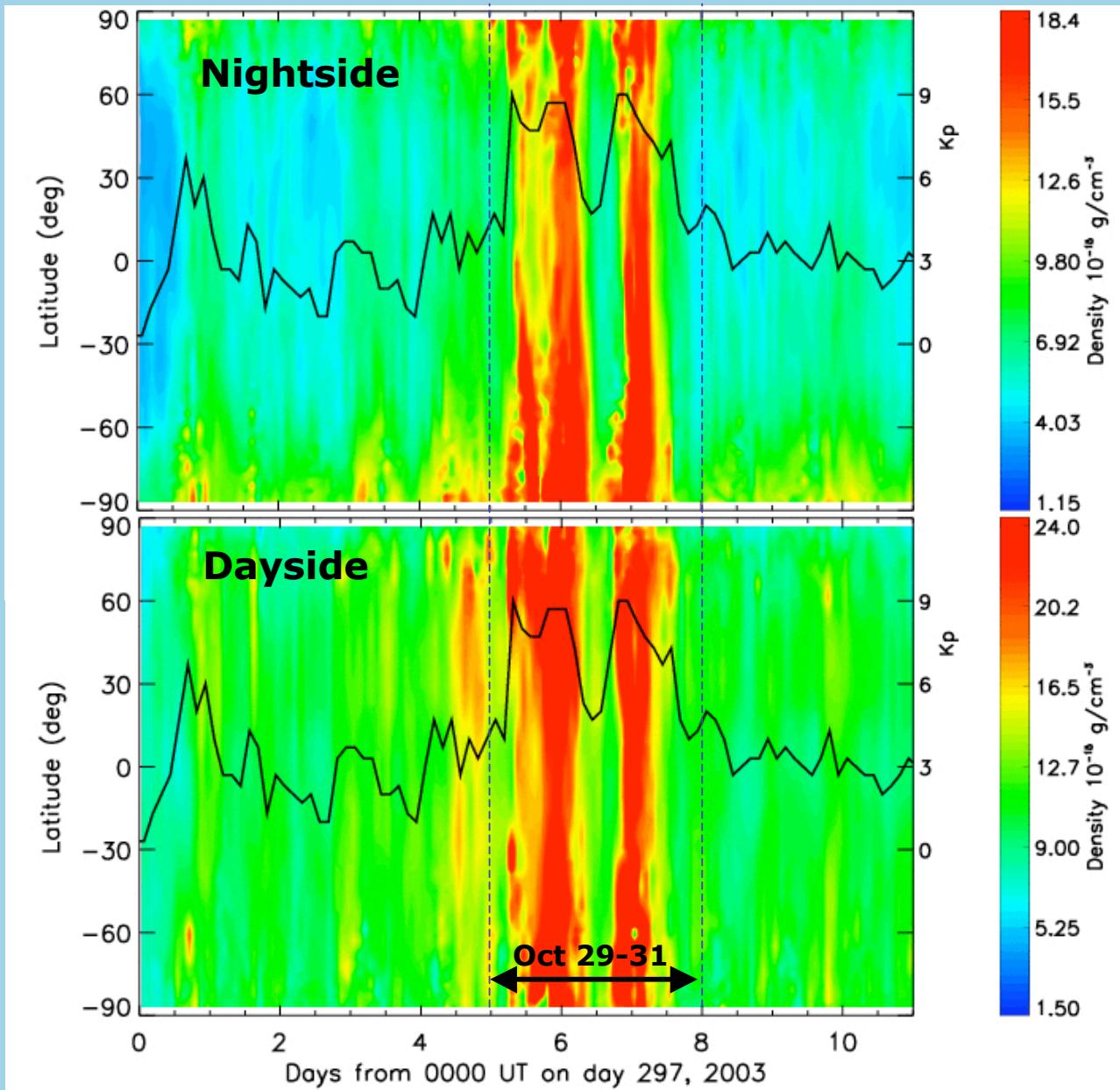
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Simulated O/N₂ Ratios



**The GCM captures the
salient features of the O/N₂
TIMED-GUVI observations**

CHAMP Neutral Density Observations at 400km



Note,
comparisons
with TIEGCM
in notes from
Jeff Forbes'
lecture on
11 May 2006

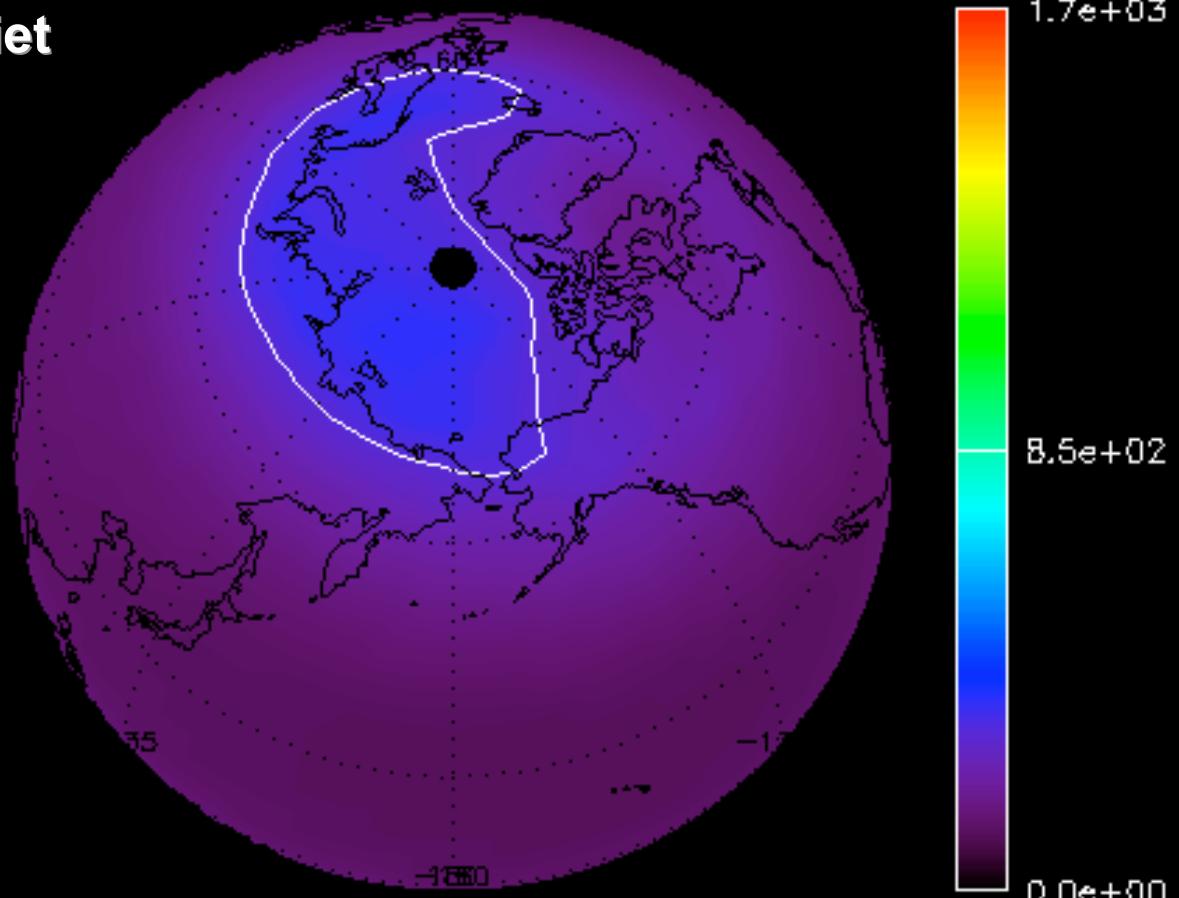
courtesy of
Jeff Forbes
and
Xiaoli Zhang



Neutral Temperature Difference at ~400 km

NEUTRAL TEMPERATURE (DEGS DEGK)
DAY = 302 UT = 0.00 ZP = 2.50

Disturbed - Quiet



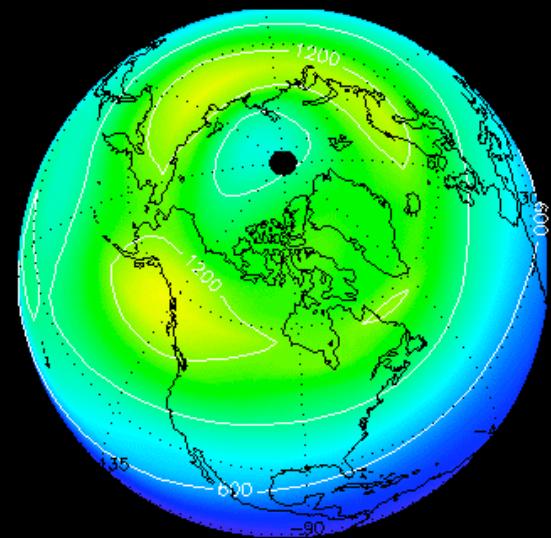
12 May 2006

MIN,MAX = 102.6, 372.4 INTERVAL = 300.0
/hao/ganglu/tgcm24.tn_diff_oct29.nc

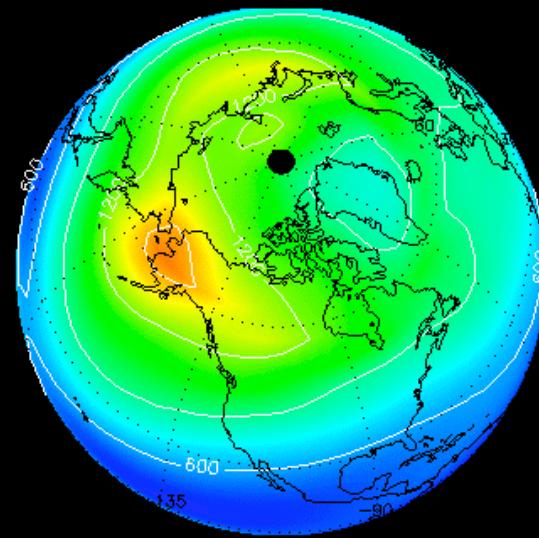
- 43 -

TIEGCM Neutral Temperature Difference at ~400 km

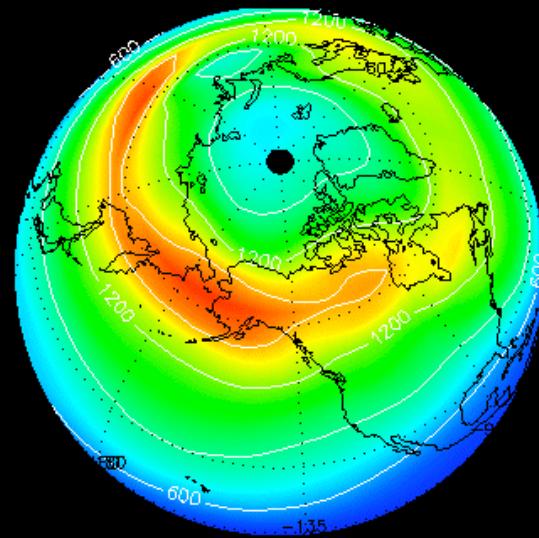
Oct 30 1820UT



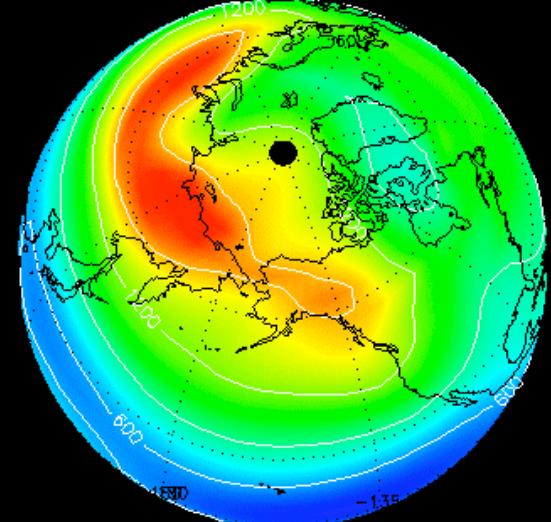
Oct 30 1920UT



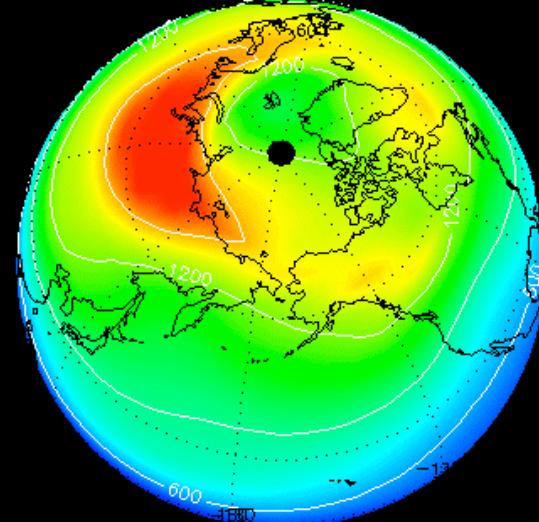
Oct 30 2120UT



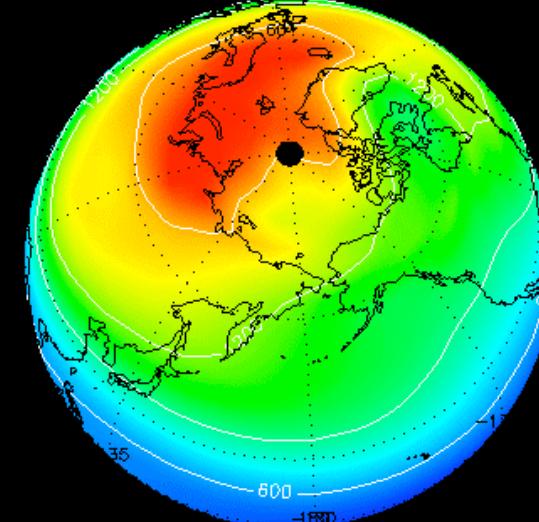
Oct 30 2220UT



Oct 30 2320UT



Oct 31 0020UT



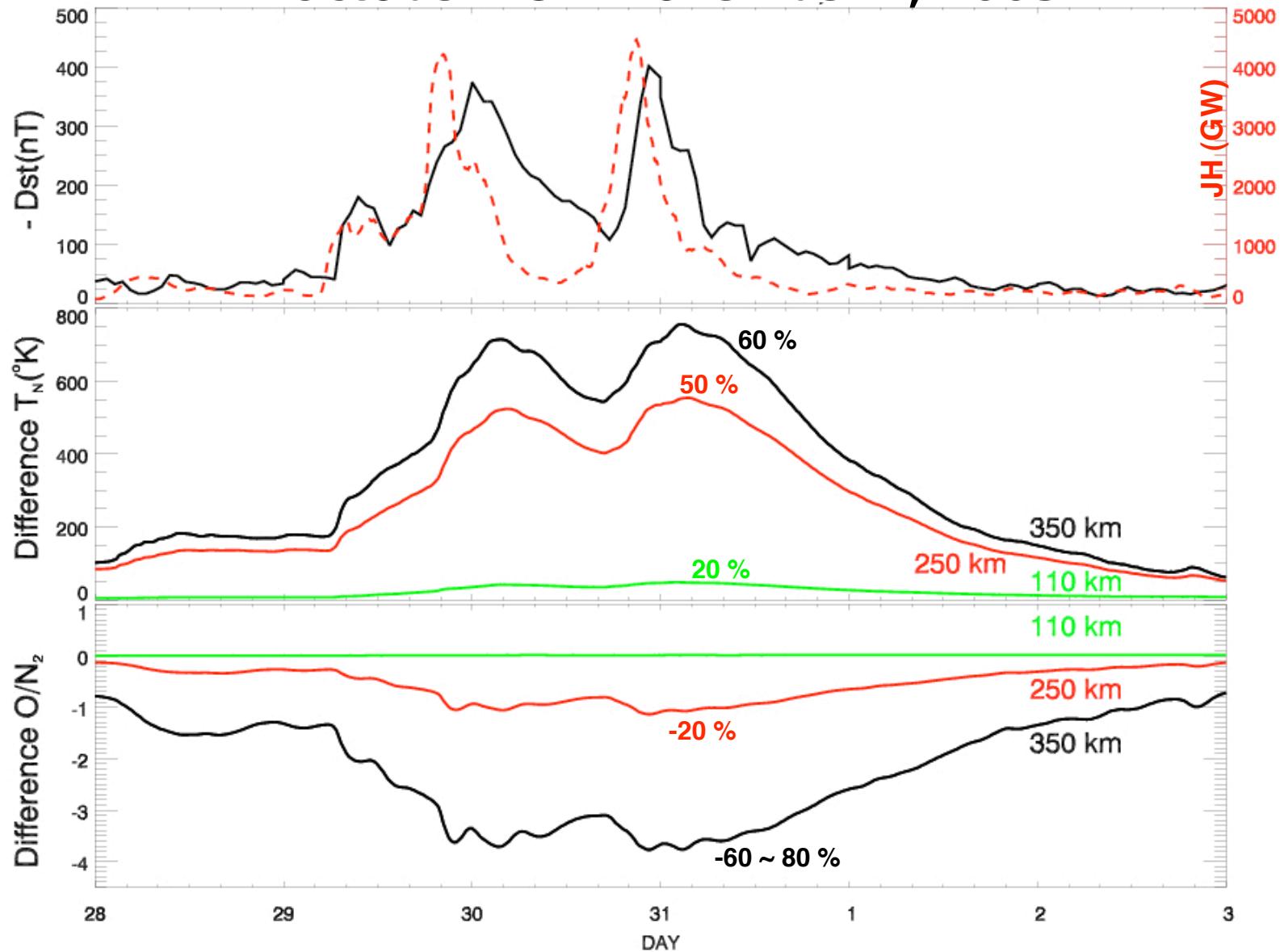
12 May 2006

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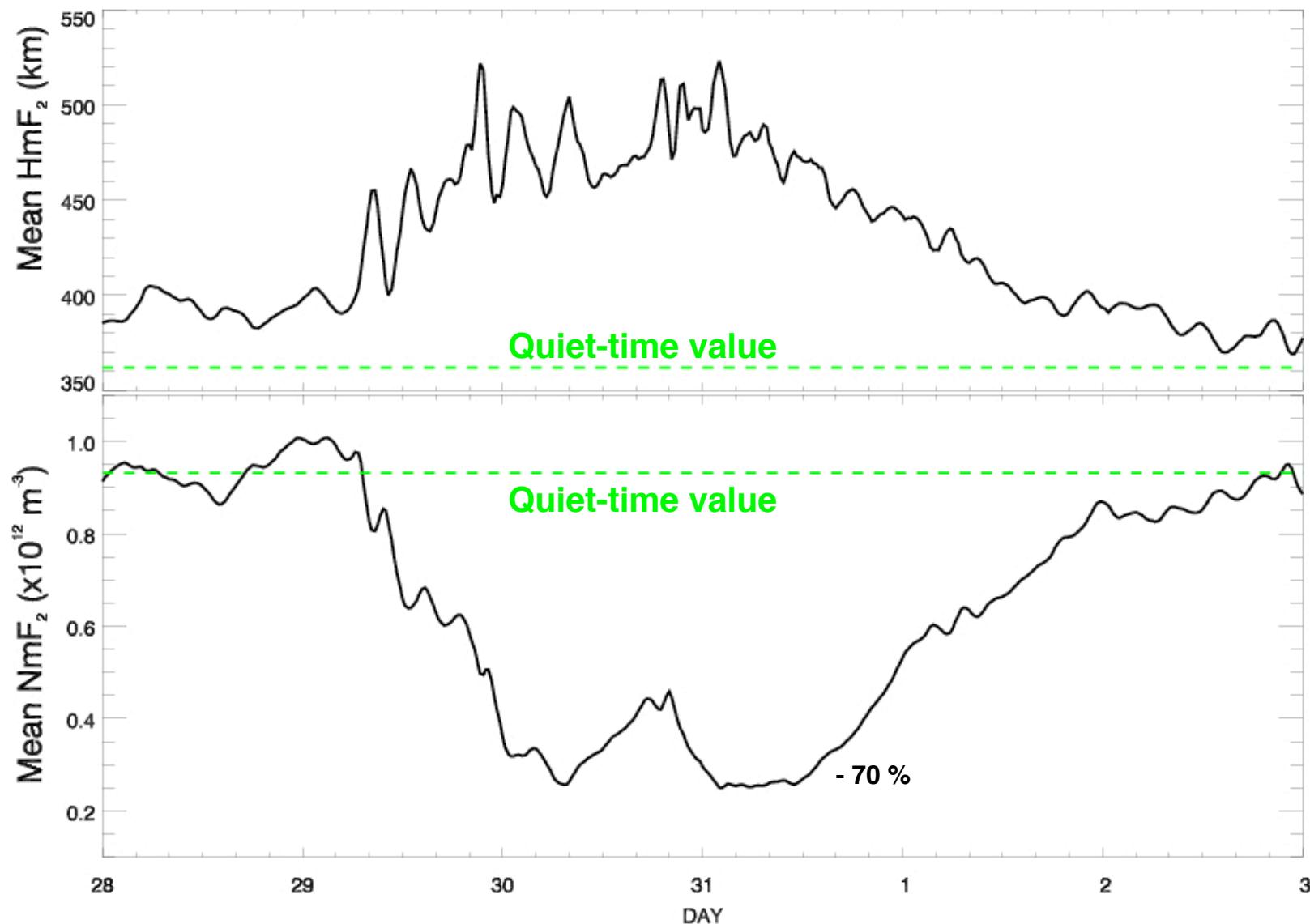
TIEGCM Diagnostics - Thermosphere

October 28 – November 2, 2003



TIEGCM Diagnostics - Ionosphere

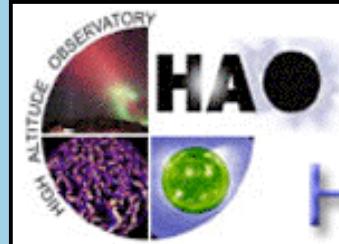
October 28 – November 2, 2003



Recap - Halloween Storm Simulation

- Strong geomagnetic activity with $Dst \sim -450$ nT, $AE \sim 3500$ nT; cross-polar-cap potential drop reaches $350 \sim 400$ kV, and Joule heating peaks ~ 5000 GW
- Solar energetic protons produce significant ionization in the D-region, causing enhanced riometer absorption in both northern and southern polar regions in TIME-GCM
- Large Joule heating dissipation increases T_N in the thermosphere by 700°K (global average), and reaches $\sim 1700^\circ\text{K}$ in local regions
- Significant decrease of O/N₂ ratio in the middle latitude region and auroral and subauroral zones
- The global average HmF_2 increased by more than 100 km and NmF_2 decreased by 70%





Exploring the Sun and its effects on the
Earth's atmosphere and physical environment...

HIGH ALTITUDE OBSERVATORY

Other GCM Development Efforts

- TIME-GCM (ca. 1992)
 - moved lower boundary down to 30km
 - added stratospheric and mesospheric constituents and chemistry
 - added parameterized gravity wave effects
- Ongoing
 - adding a self-consistent plasmasphere
 - contributing to the Center for Integrated Space Weather Modeling (CISM) effort
 - working with other NCAR scientists to extend the Whole Atmosphere Community Climate Model (WACCM) into the thermosphere

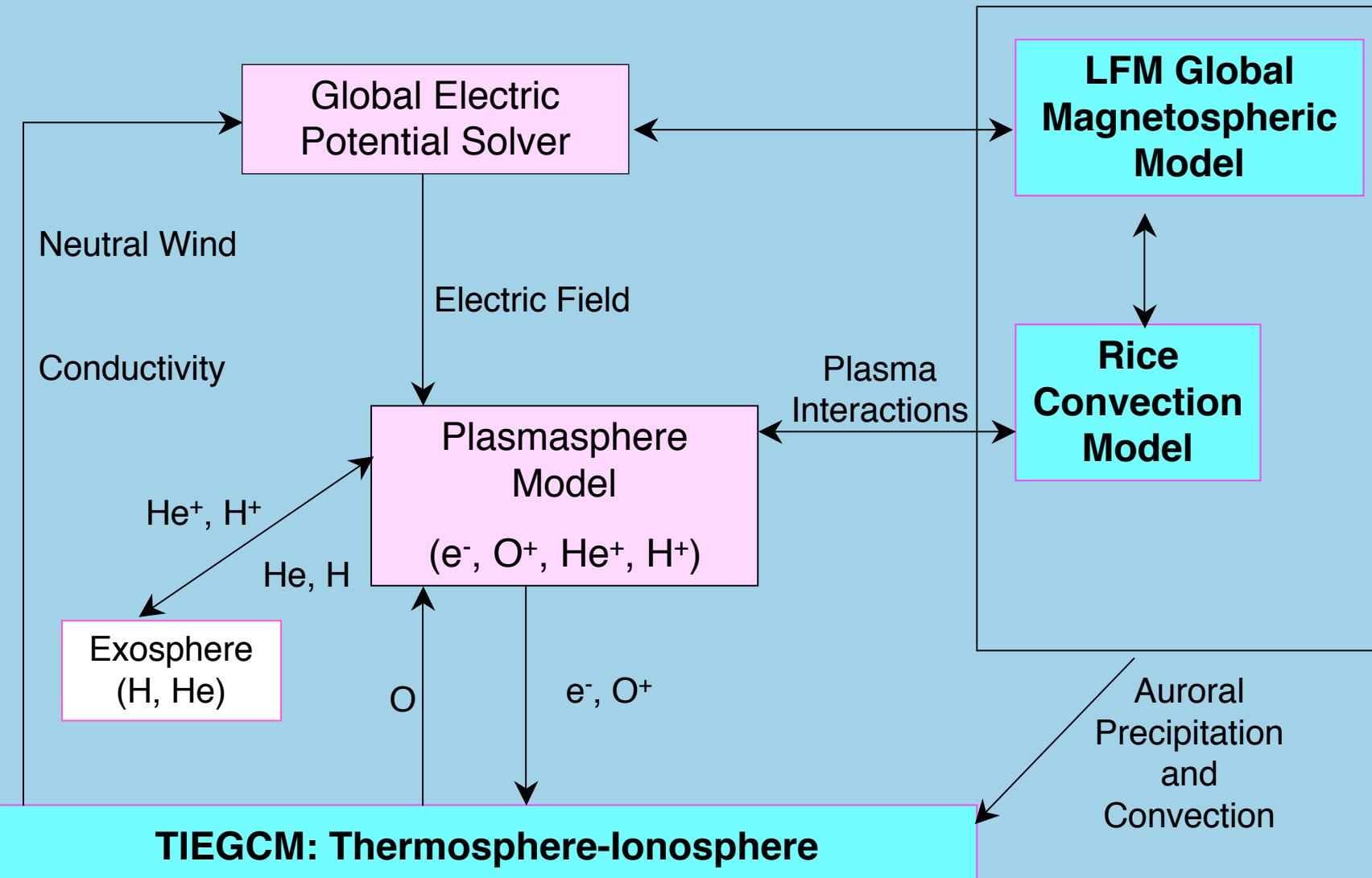


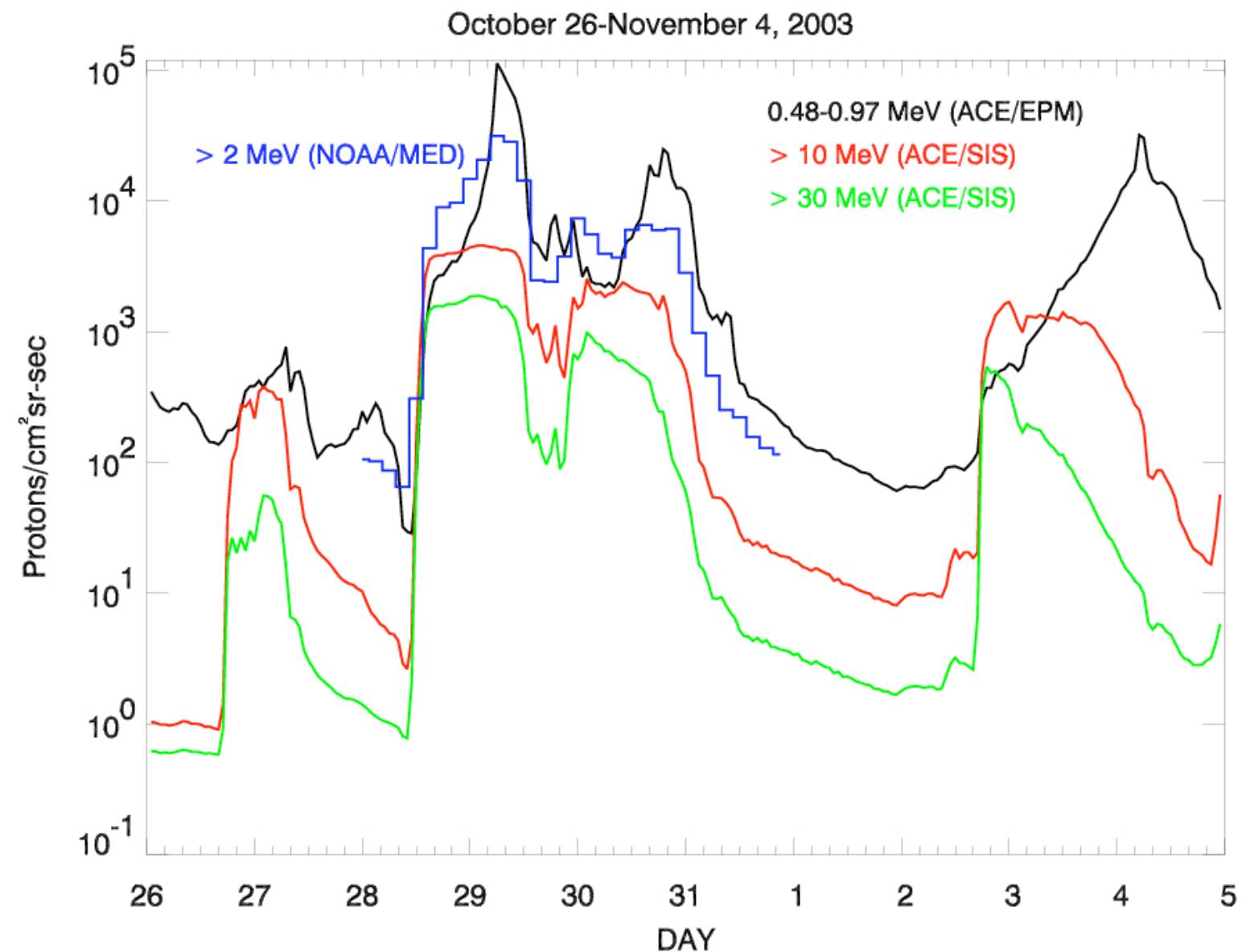
Extra Slides:

**Plasmaspheric Model Development
SEP during Halloween Storms**



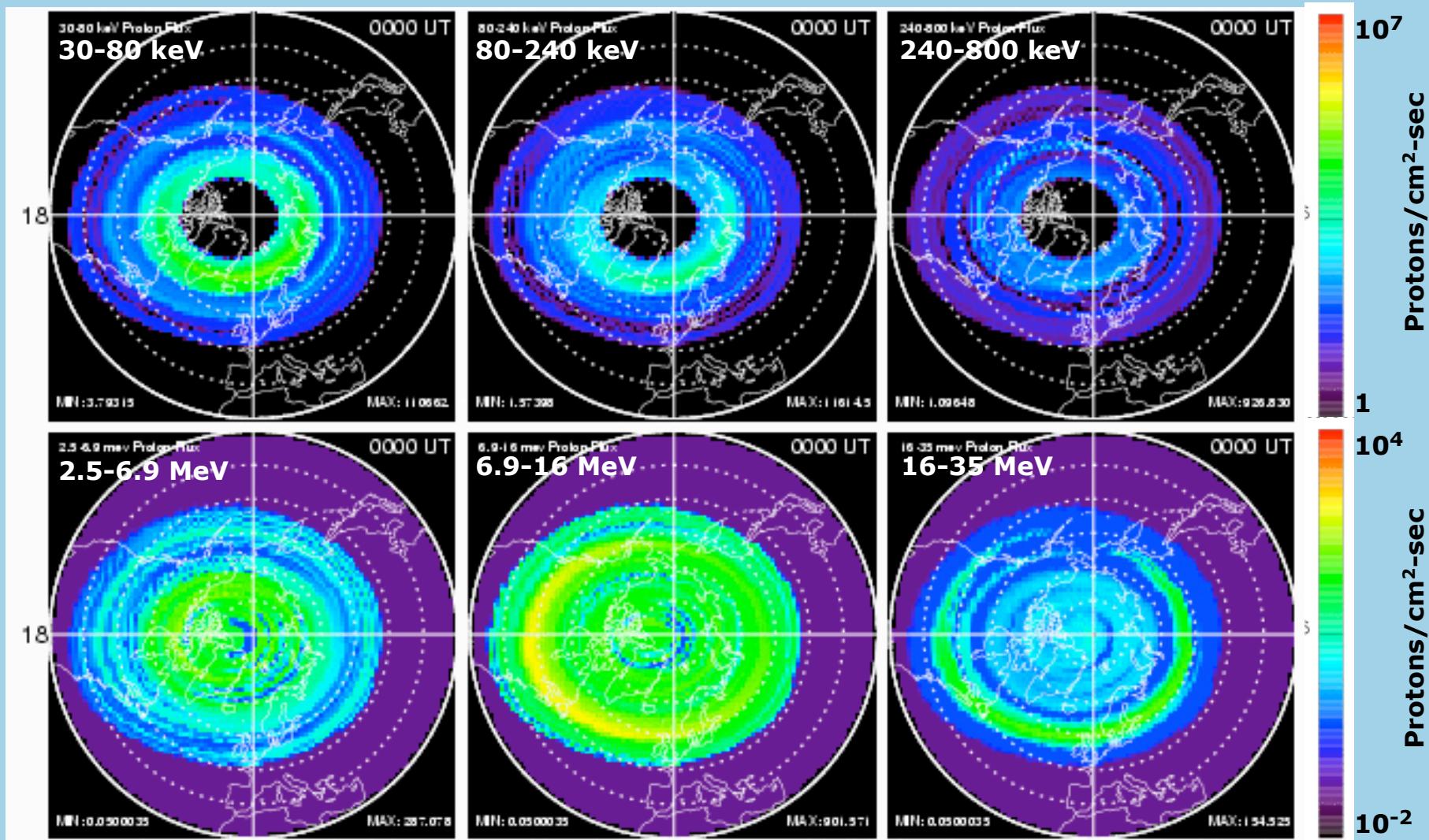
Plasmasphere Model Development Plan





Solar Energetic Protons Observed by NOAA-POSE

00 UT, 28 October 2003



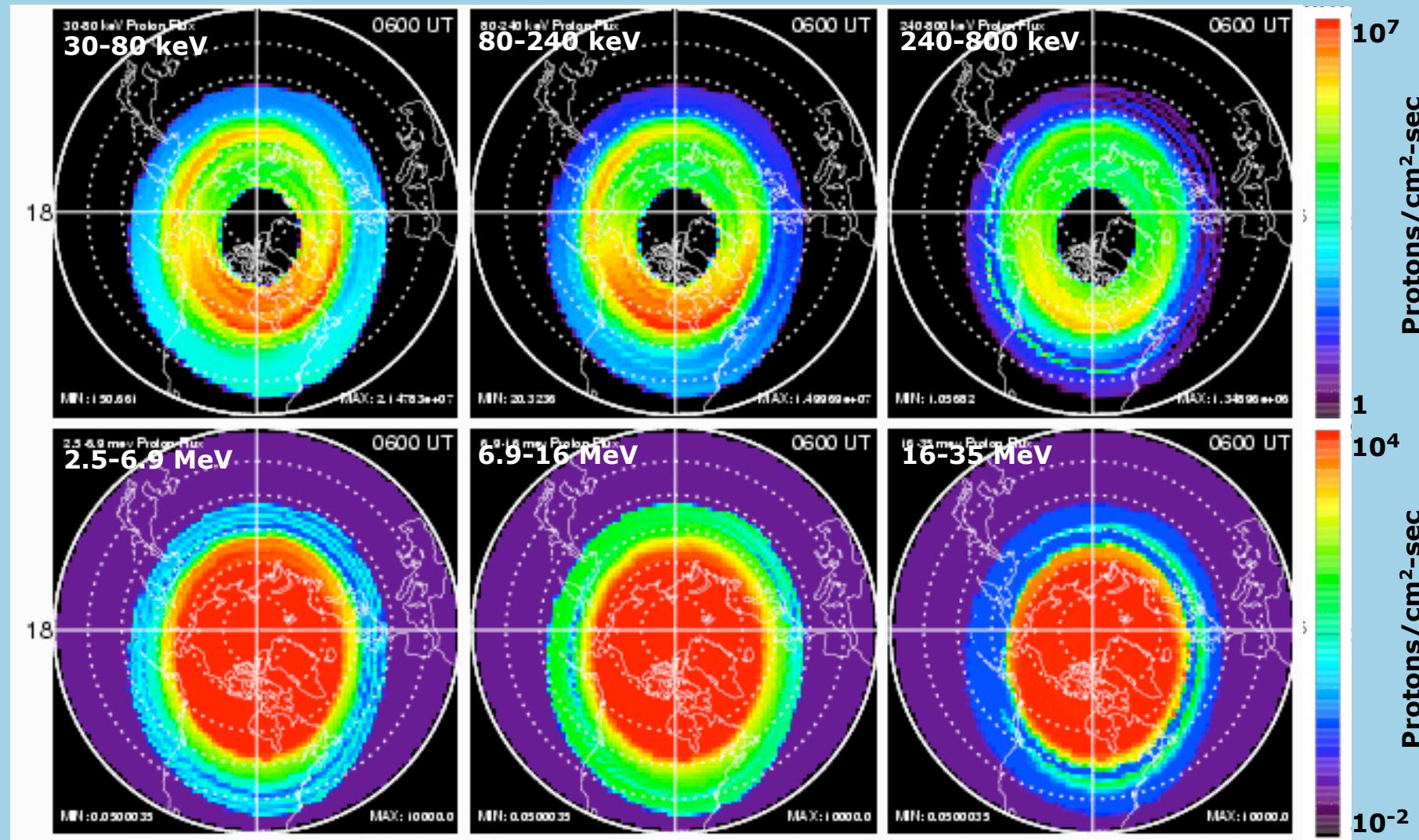
12 May 2006

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Solar Energetic Protons Observed by NOAA-POSE

06 UT, 29 October 2003



Electron Density Enhancement due to SEP

