

Dusk Observations at Millstone Hill

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**ISR Summer School
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Outline

- Experiment
 - Observations
 - Conditions
- Results
- Conclusions

Experiment

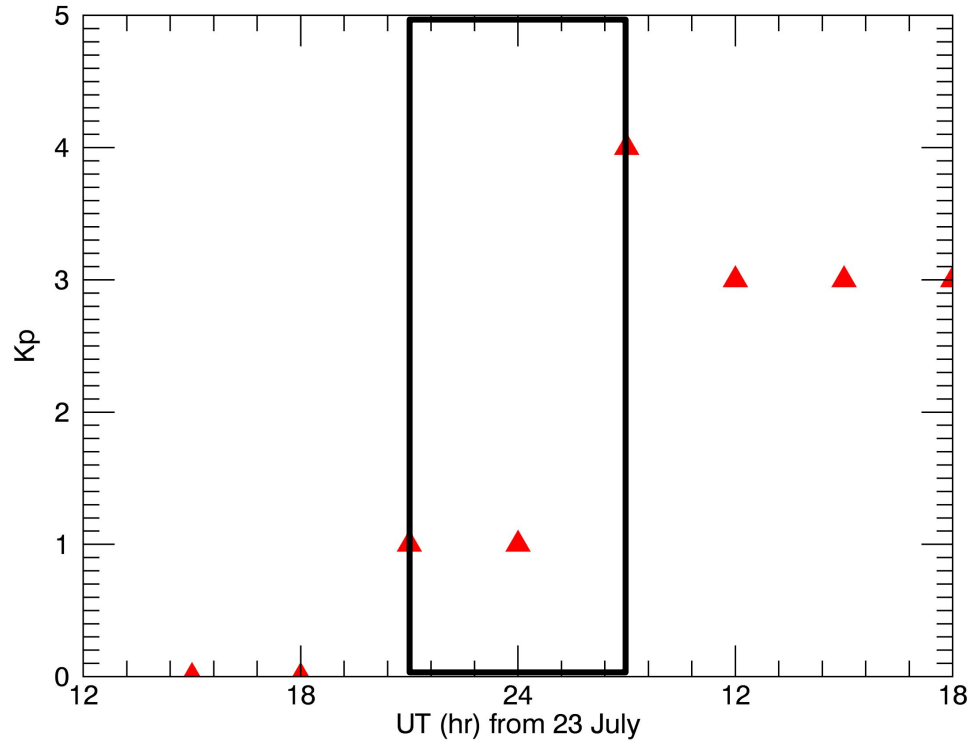
Mode: Wide Field Scanning

- Four 16 minute scans
- Fixed observations at zenith and either side of the meridian

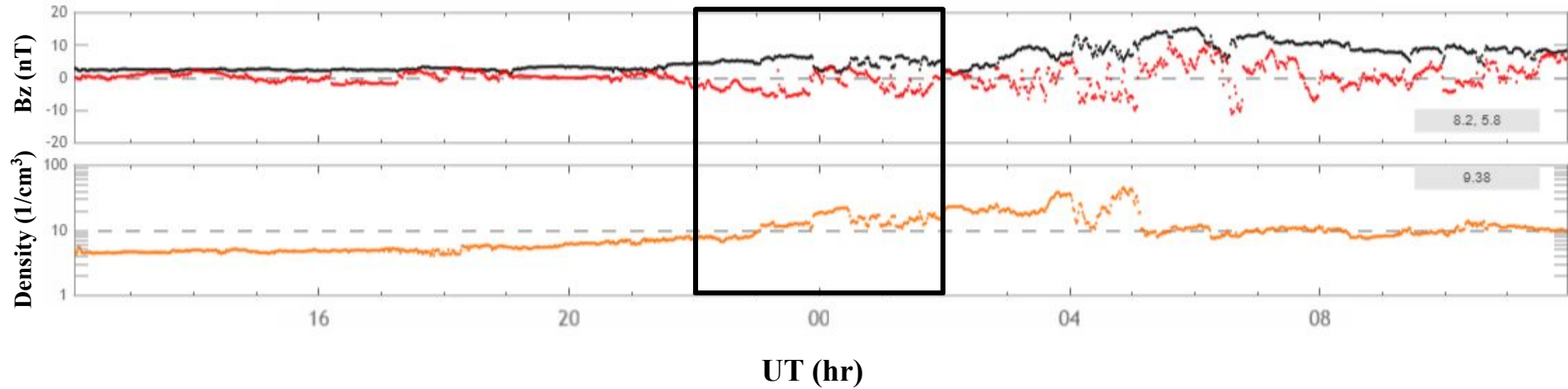
Time: 19-21 LT (23-01 UT)



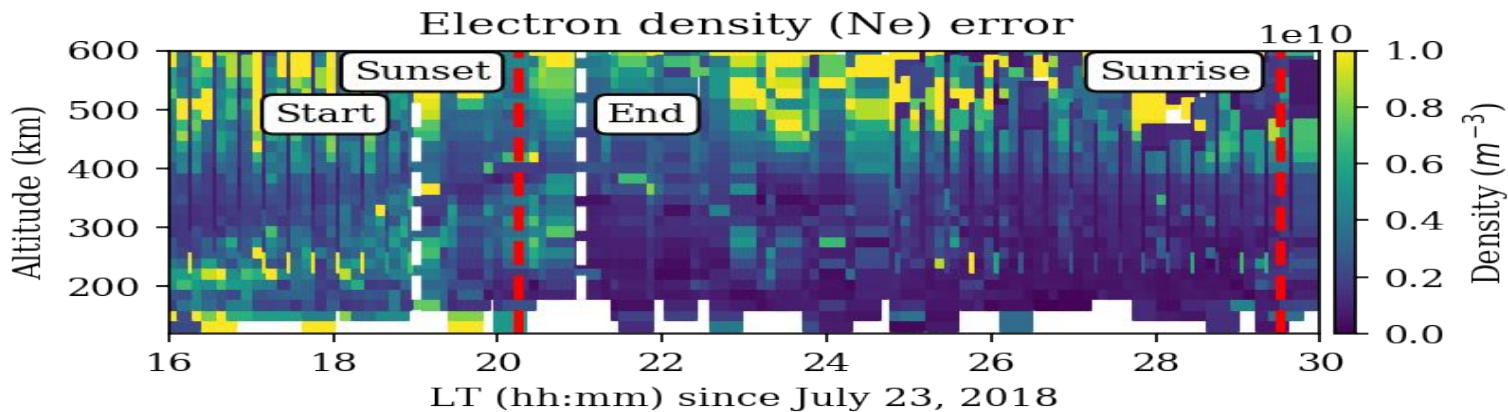
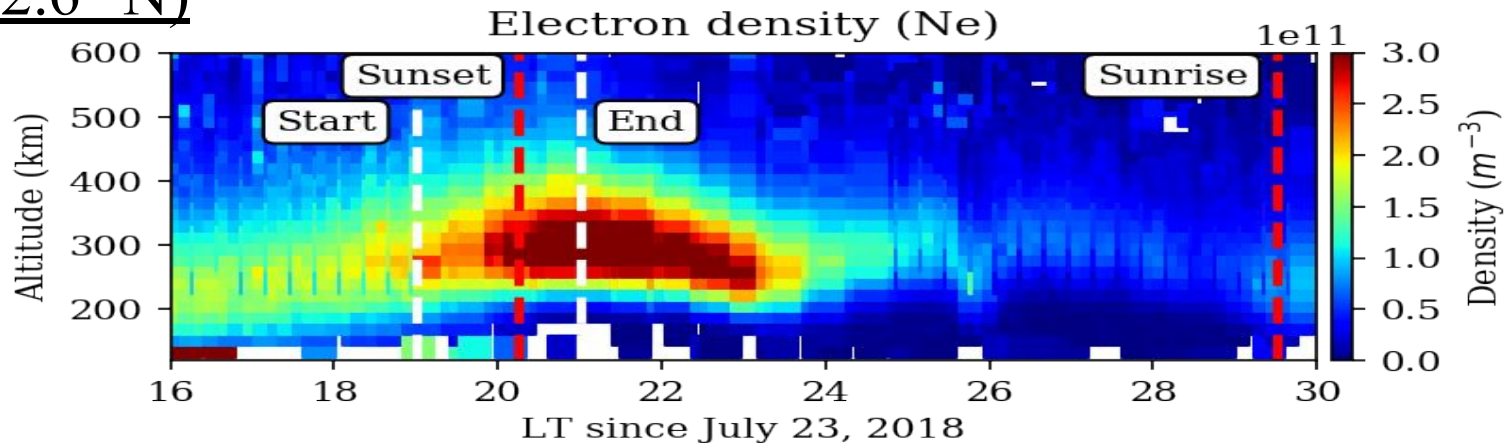
Space Weather Conditions



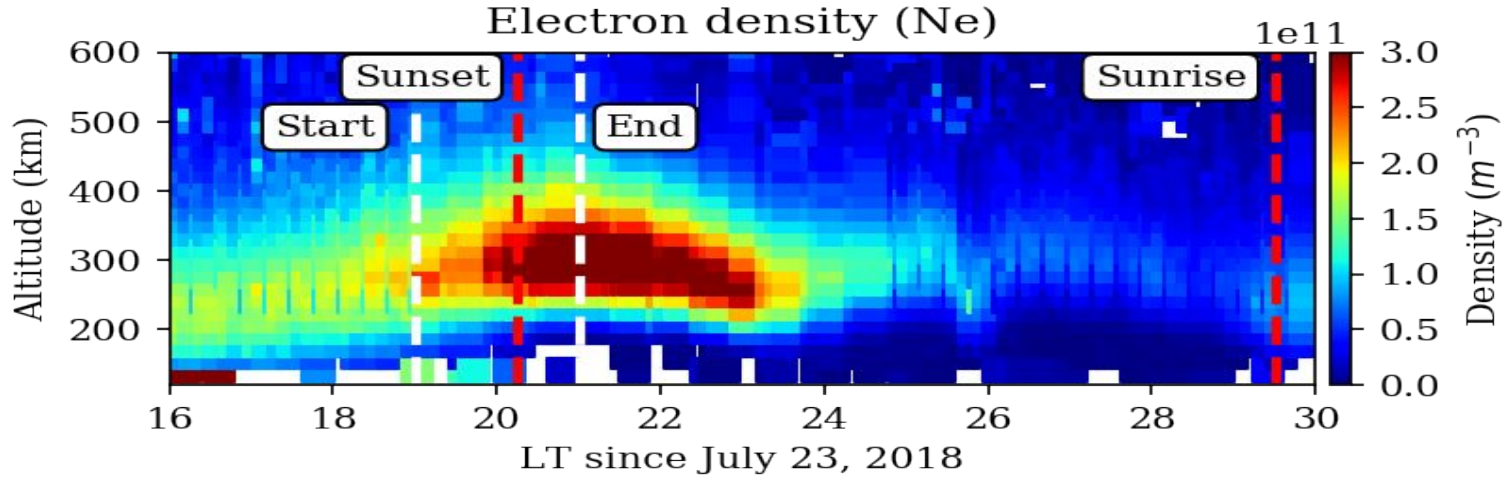
Space Weather Conditions



Electron Density Variation over Millstone Hill (Long : 71.5°W, lat : 42.6° N)

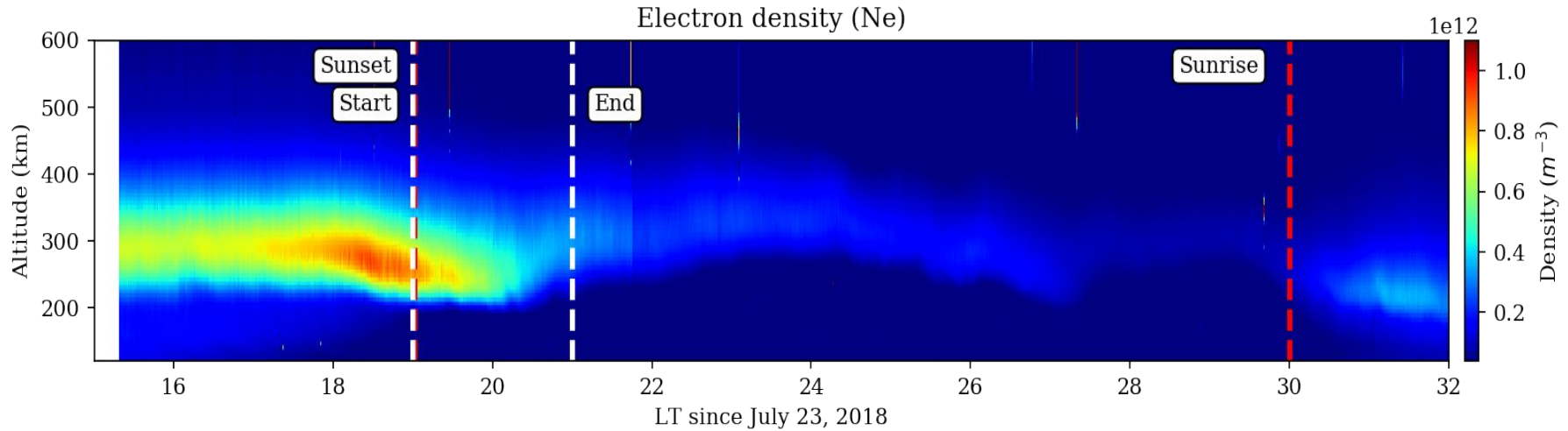


Electron Density Variation over Millstone Hill (Long : 71.5°W, lat : 42.6° N)



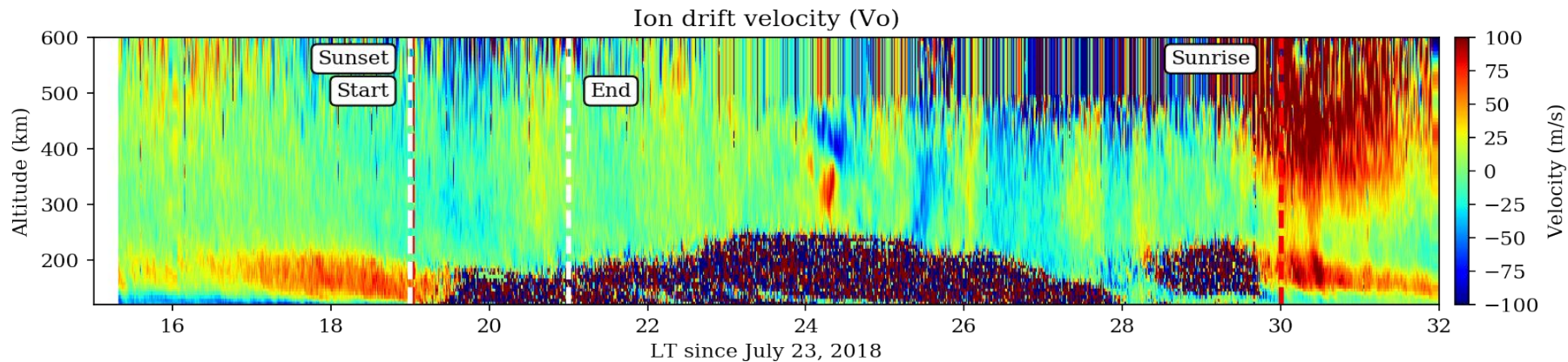
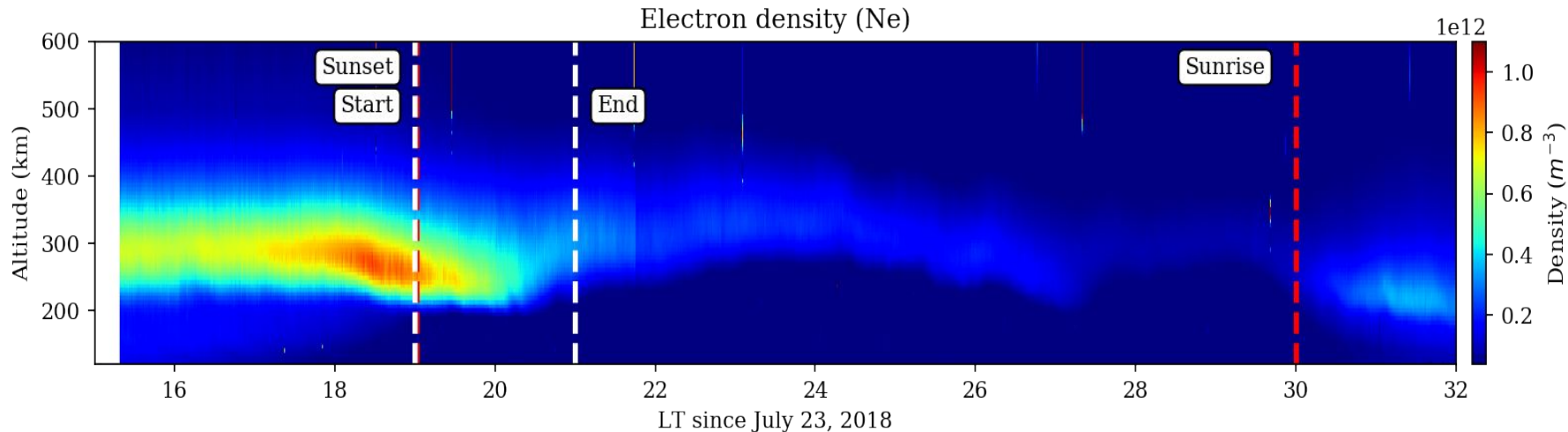
- ❖ The F-layer is moving up (Will be described by Liane)
- ❖ The electron density enhancement in post sunset hours (Will be described by Kiwook)

Electron Density Variation over Arecibo (Long : 66.6°W, lat : 18.4° N)



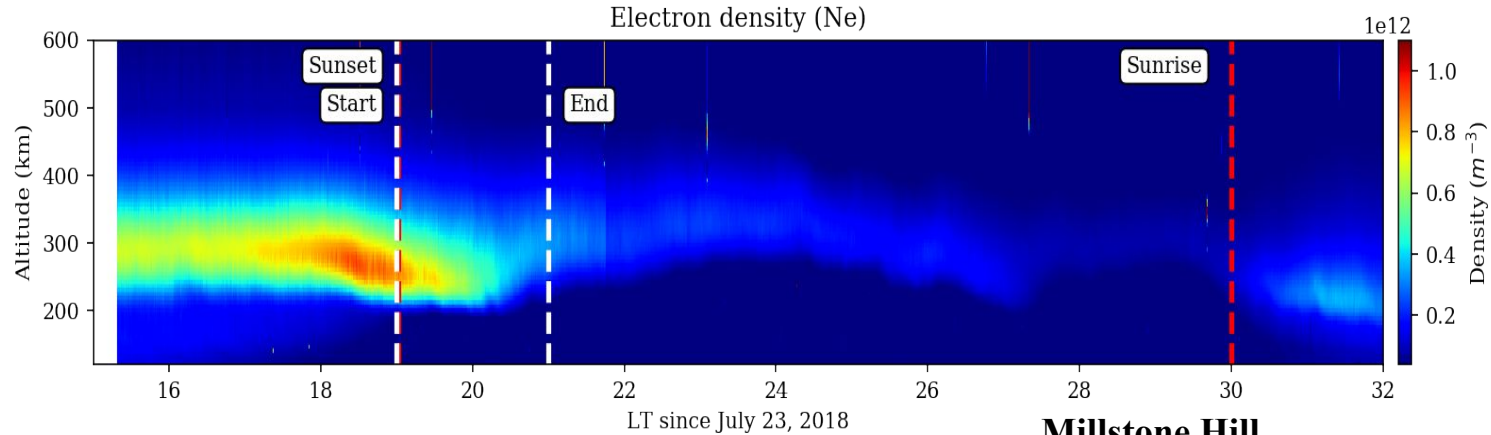
- ❖ Downward movement of F-layer
- ❖ Density decreases very fast.

Electron Density Variation over Arecibo (Long : 66.6°W, lat : 18.4° N)

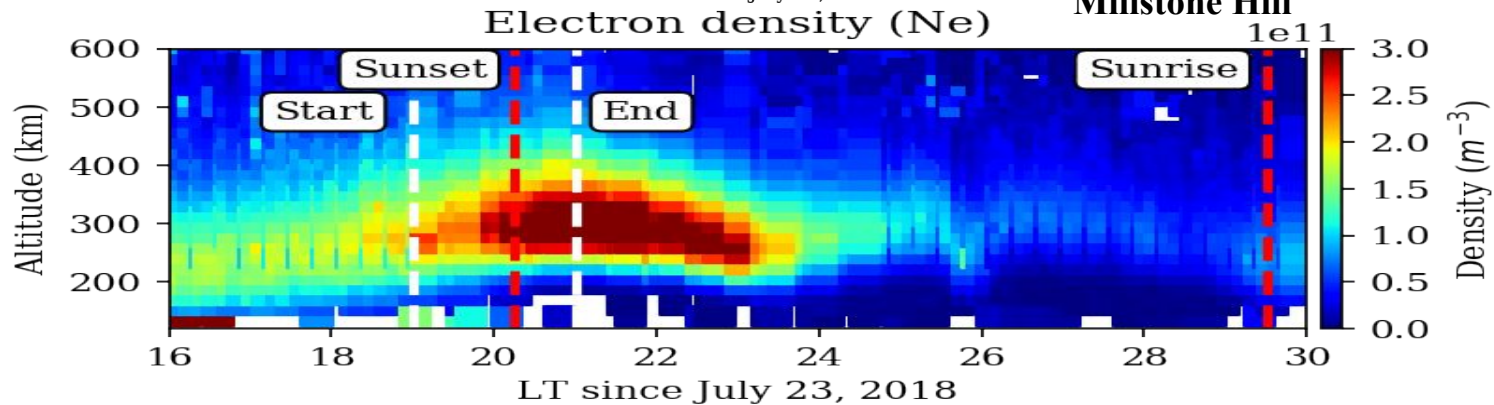


- ❖ Peak electron density values over Arecibo are an order of magnitude higher than over Millstone Hill

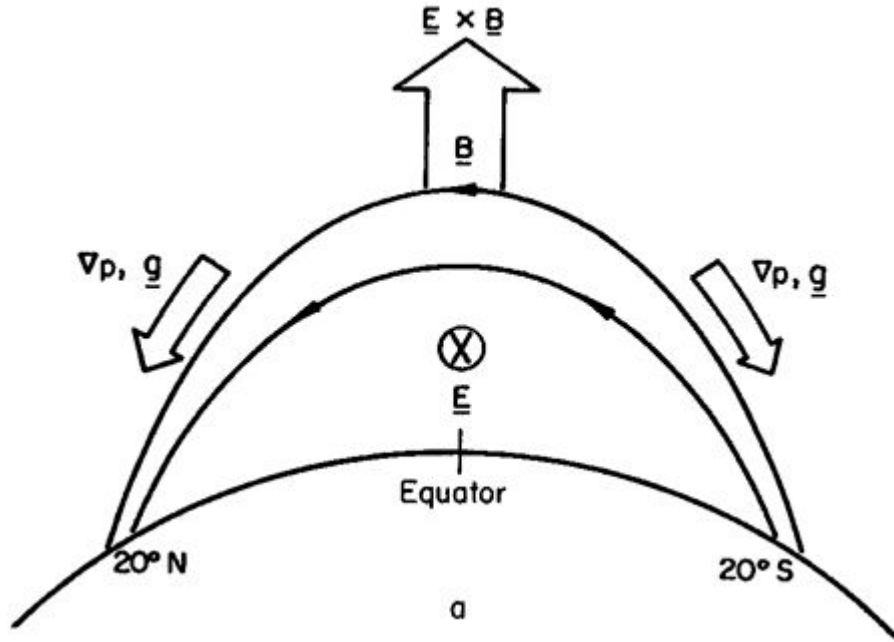
Arecibo



Millstone Hill



- ❖ Equatorial Ionization Anomaly causes enhancement in increment in electron density over low latitudes

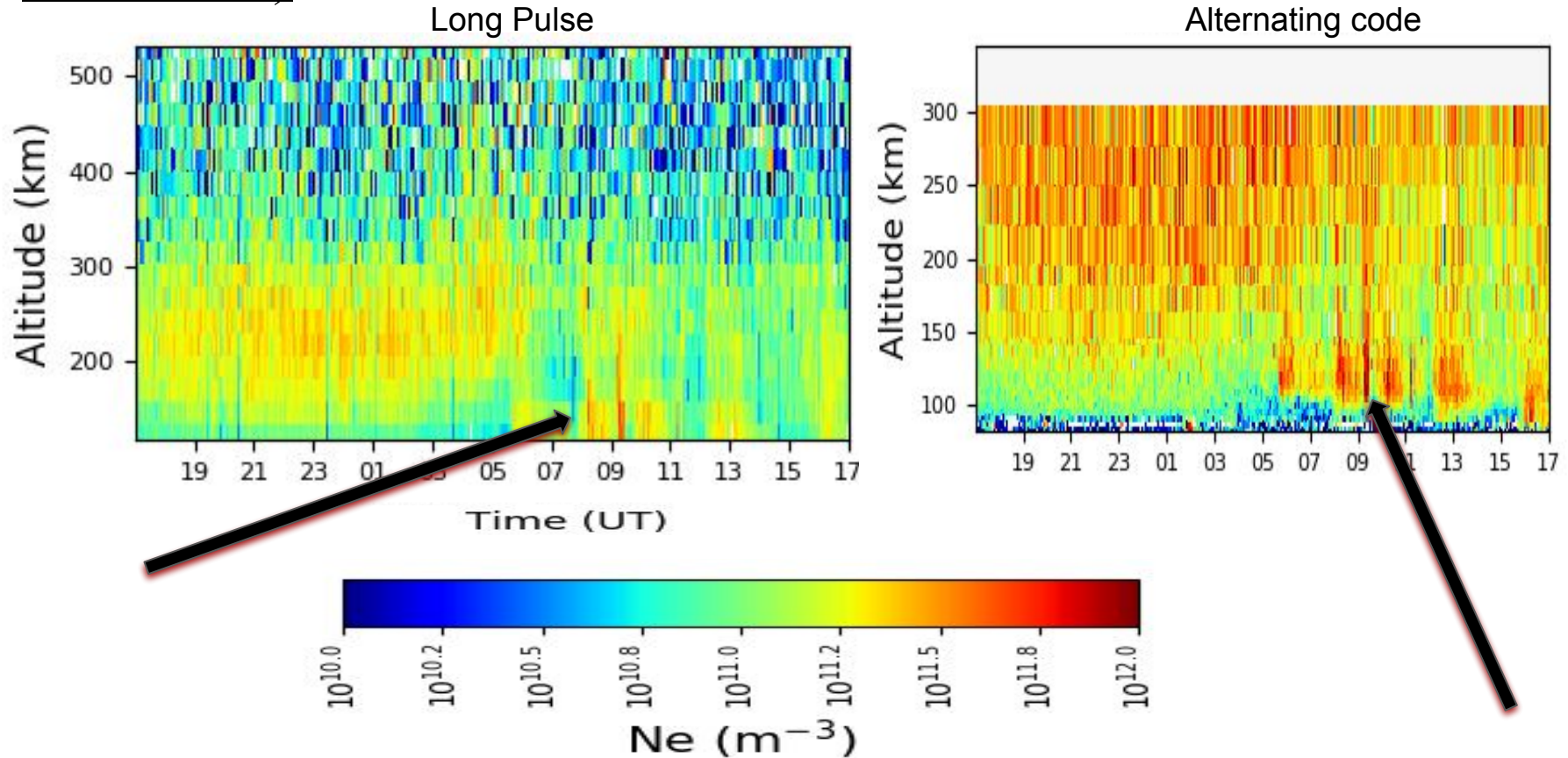


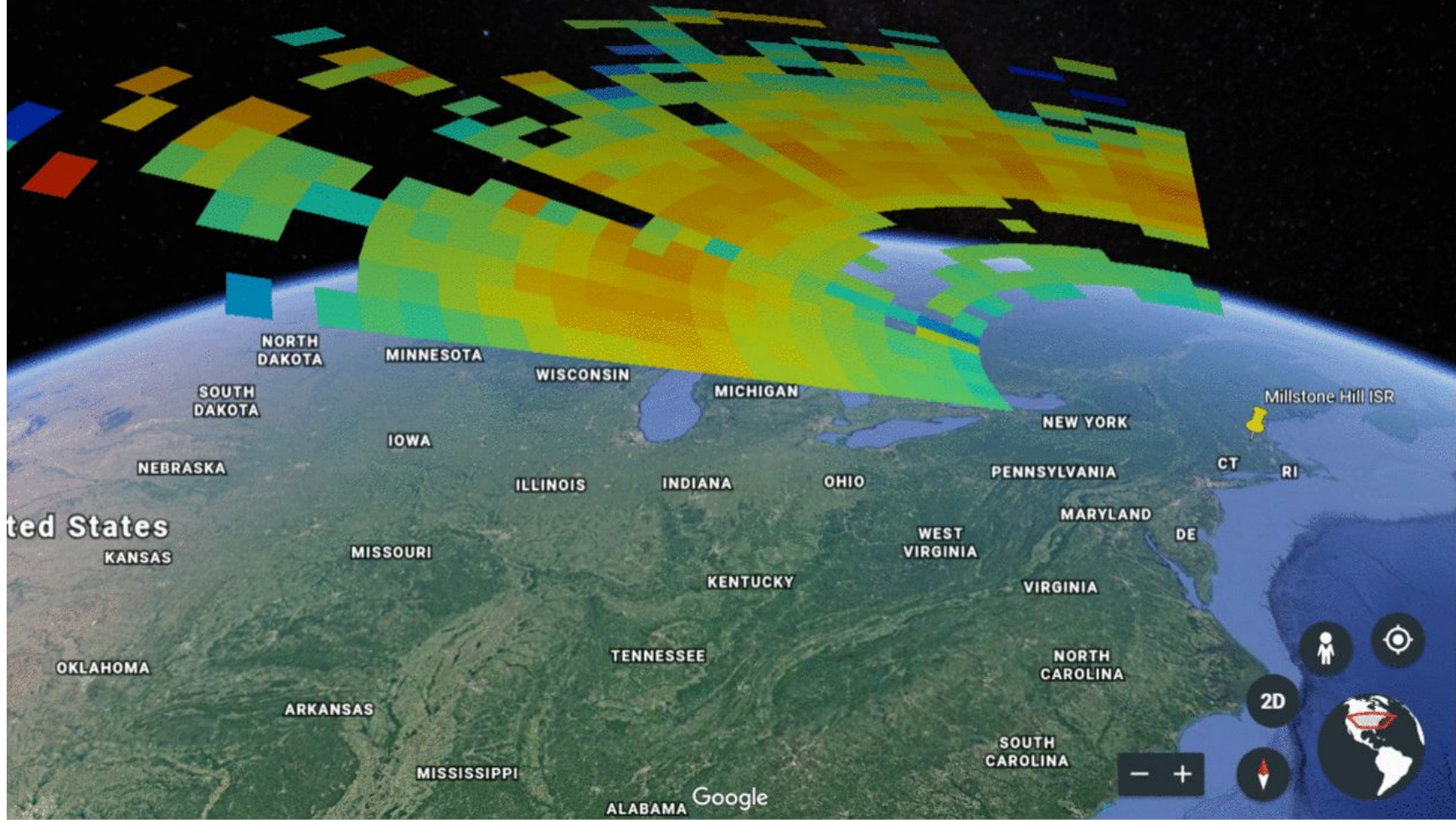
Latitudes:

Millstone Hill : 42.6° N

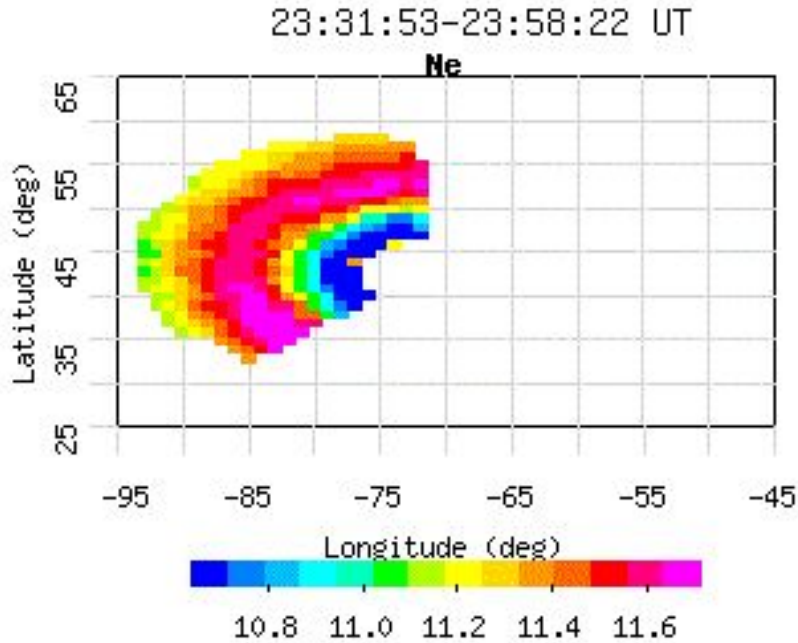
Arecibo Observatory : 18.4° N

Electron Density Variation over PFISR over Alaska (Long : 147° W, Lat : 65° N)





Electron Density - Sunset N_e increase



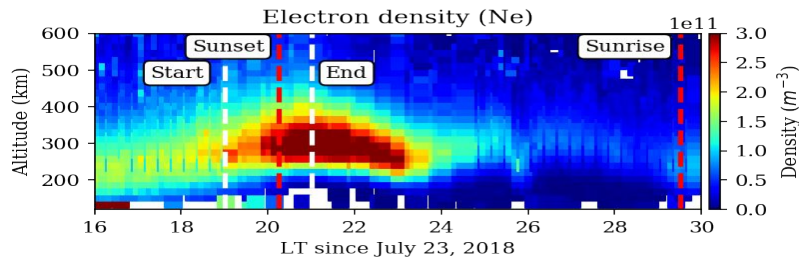
Characteristics

- Increased at solar minimum
- Latitudinally dependent
- Interhemispheric asymmetric

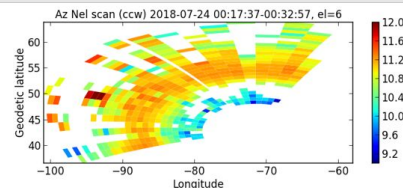
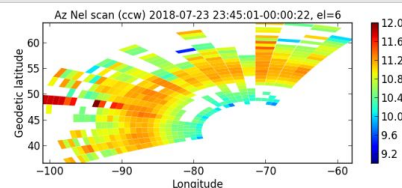
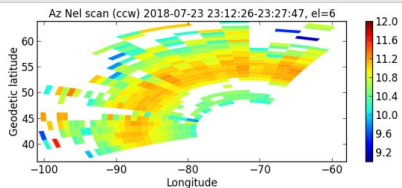
Possible Causes

- T_e decrease at sunset collapses the F region
- Lifting due to equatorward winds reduces the recombination rate + long-lasting sunlight

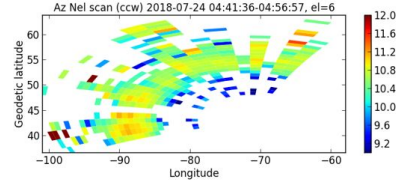
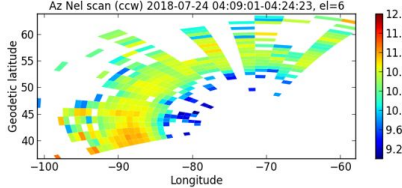
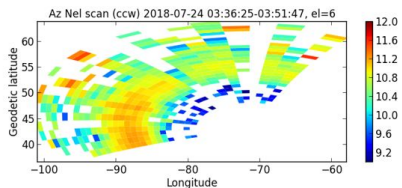
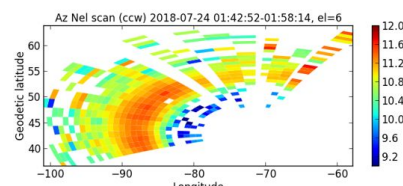
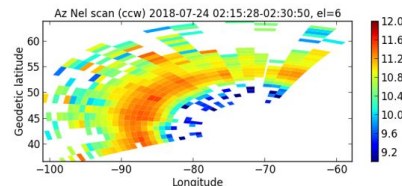
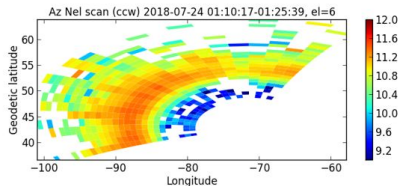
Post sunset enhancement in Ne



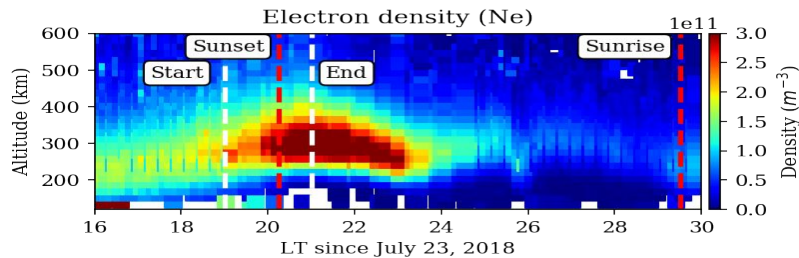
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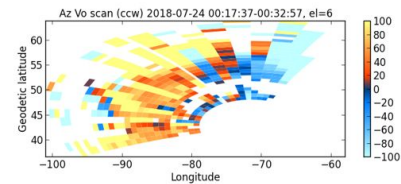
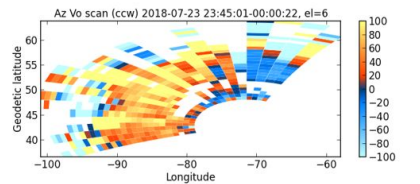
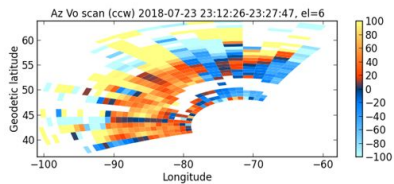
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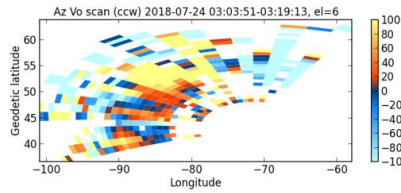
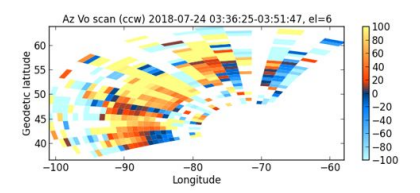
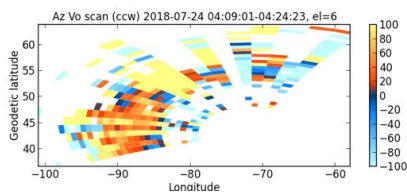
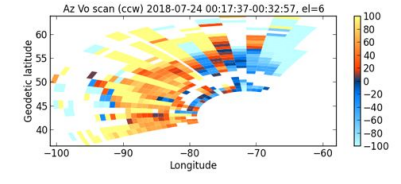
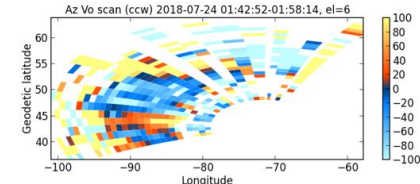
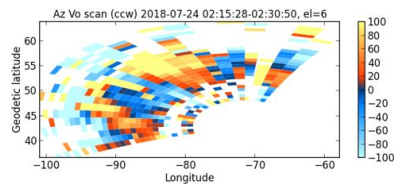
Post sunset enhancement in Ne



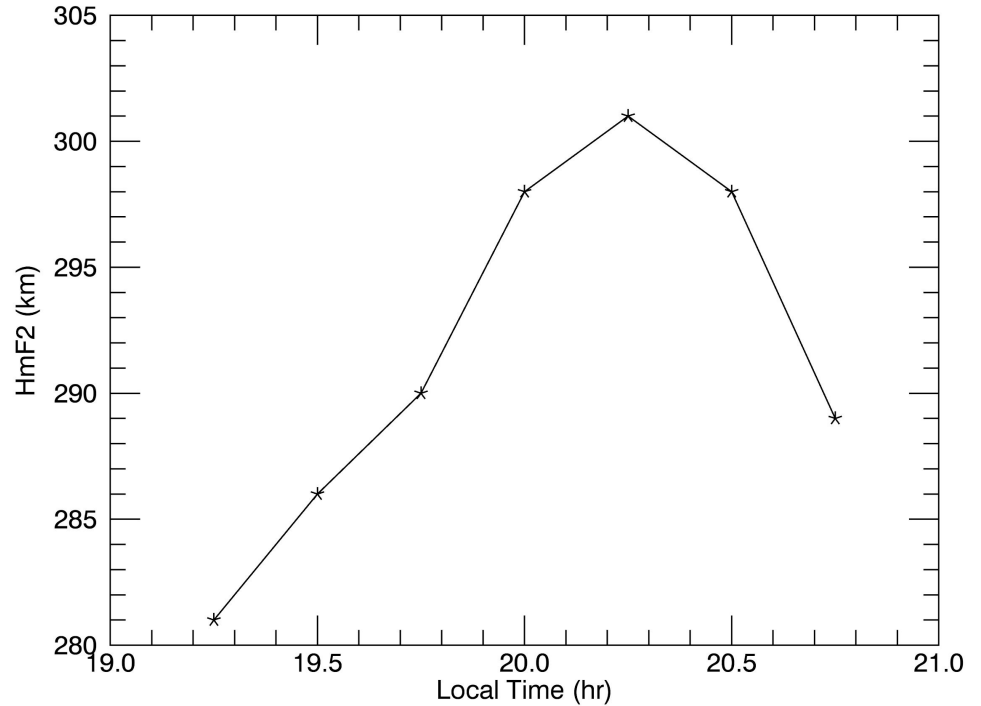
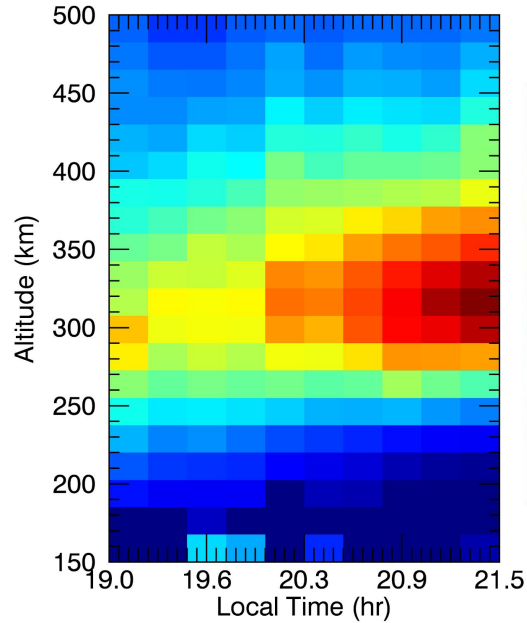
Start



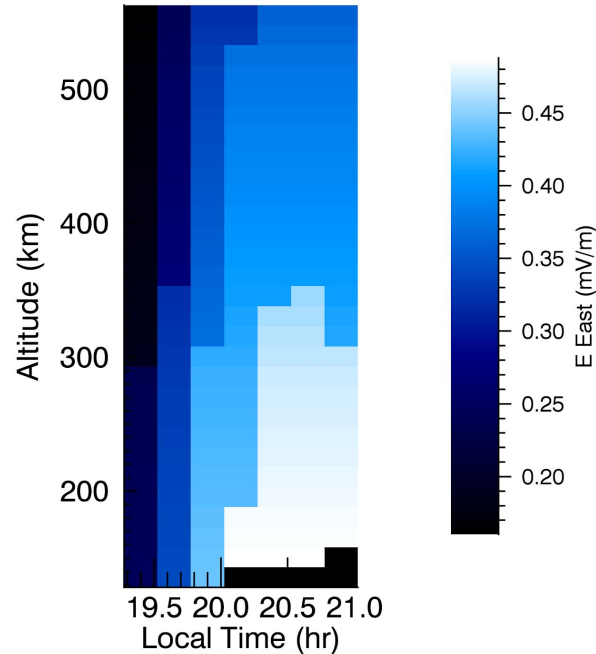
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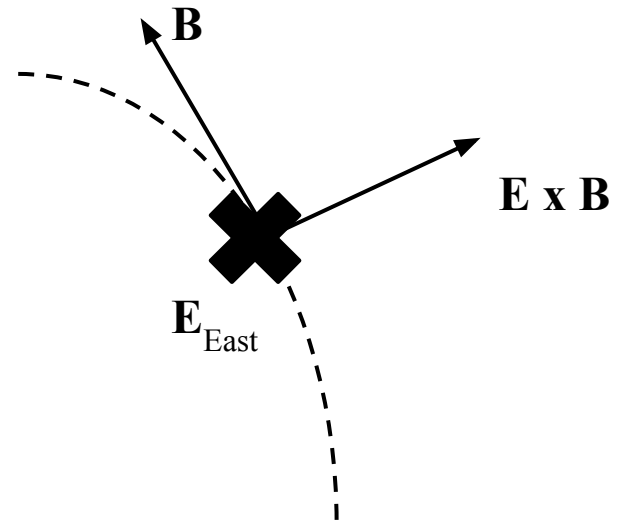
Electron Density - HmF2 Variation



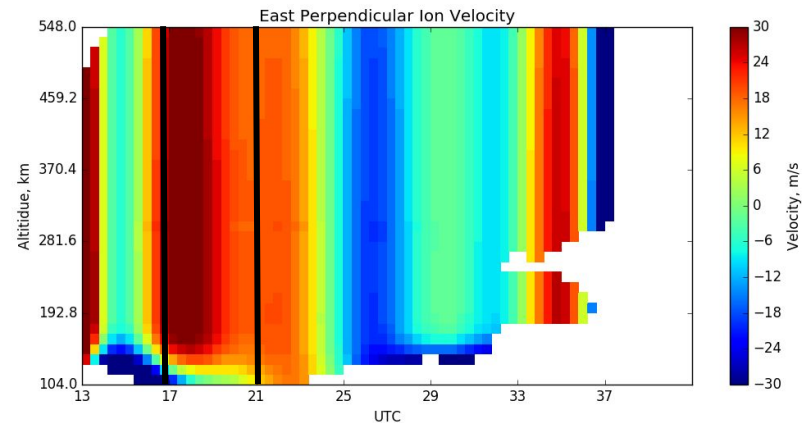
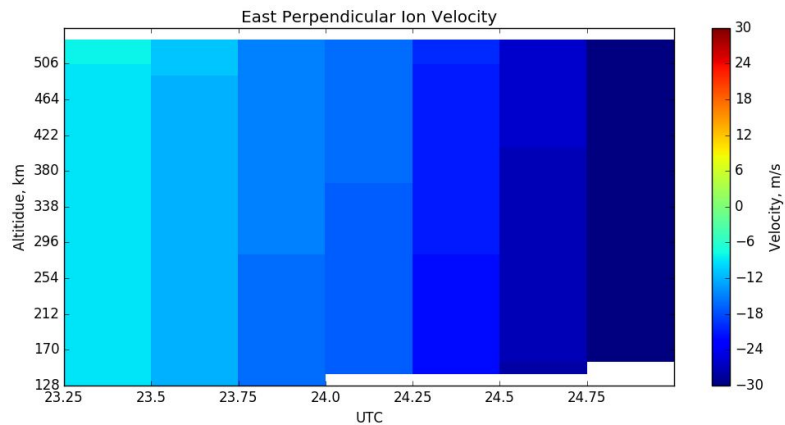
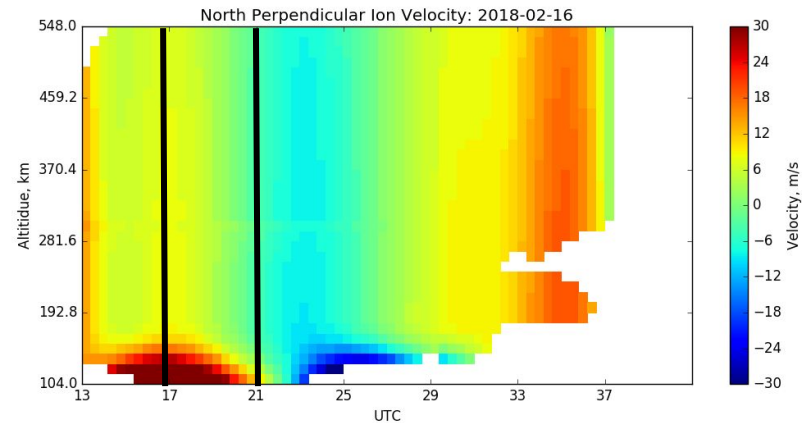
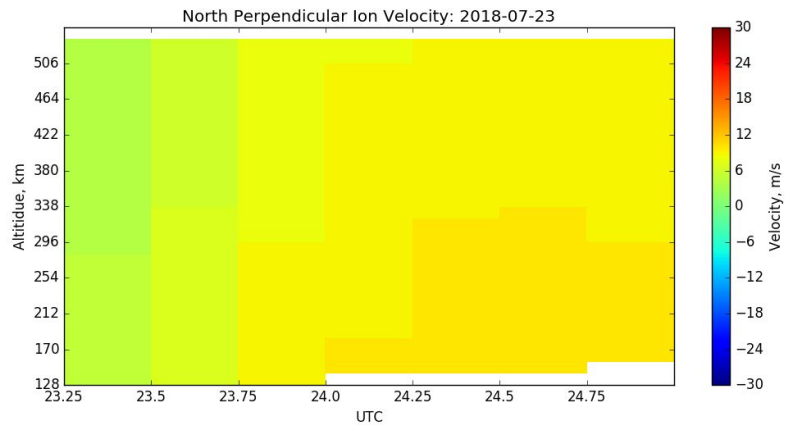
Electron Density - F2 Variation



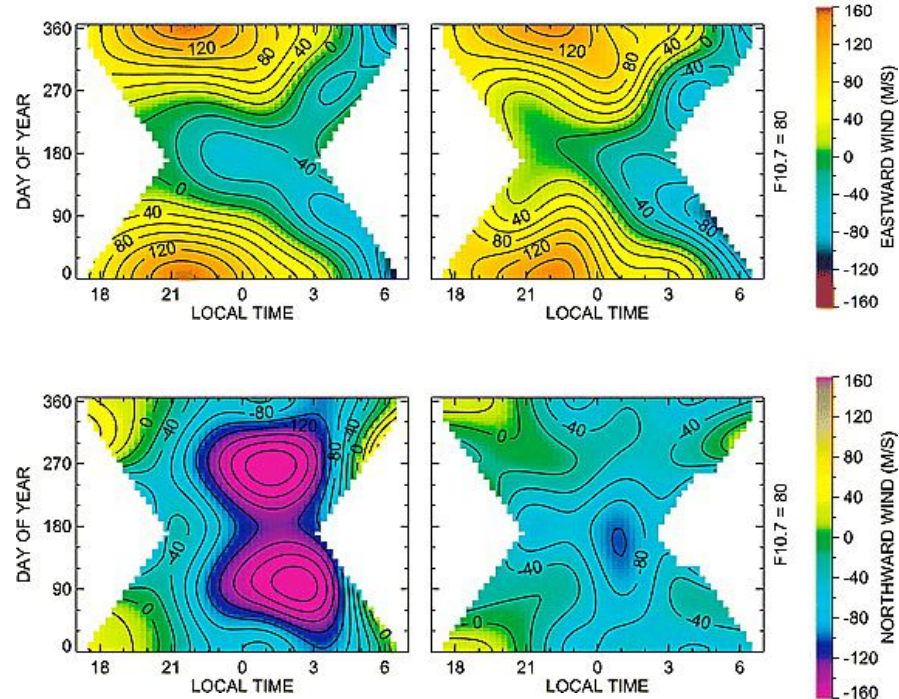
- Eastward electric fields cause vertical/northward $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drifts



Ion Velocity



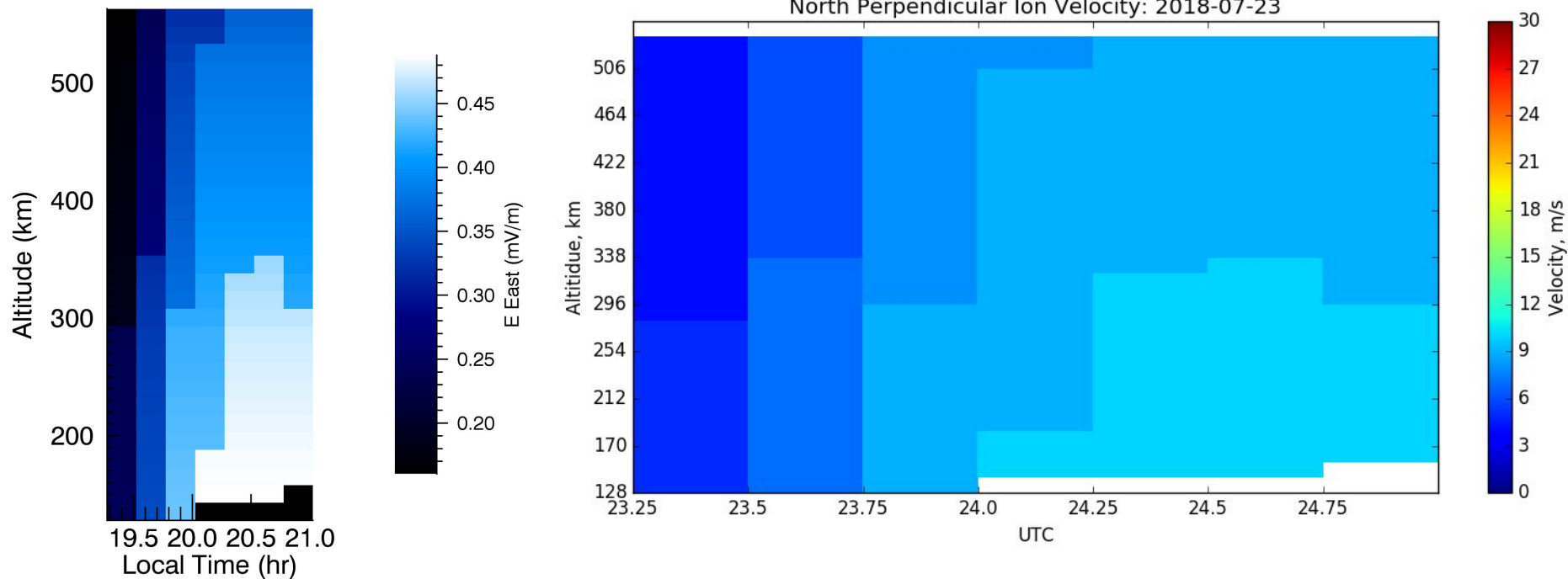
Neutral Wind Model Over Millstone Hill



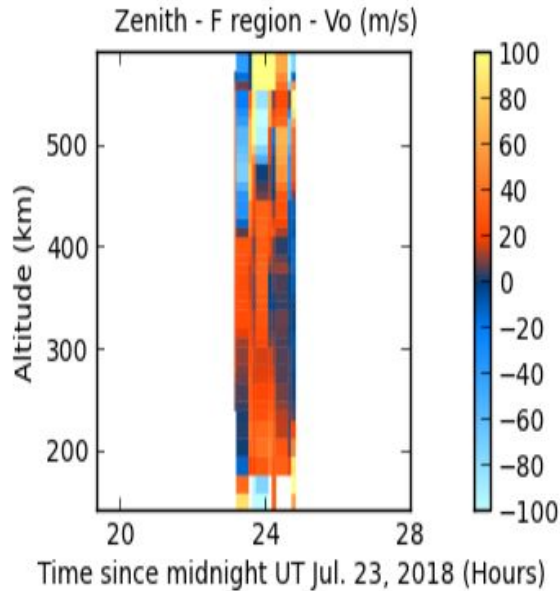
- J.T. Emmert et al. (2003) analyzed Millstone Hill Fabry-Perot neutral wind data at quiet times and developed an empirical model of eastward and northward neutral winds
- June 23 ~ 203rd day of the year
- February 16 ~ 47th day of the year
- Attempted to model neutral winds with HWM model, however model predicted flow in a direction opposite to observations

J.T. Emmert, 2003, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*

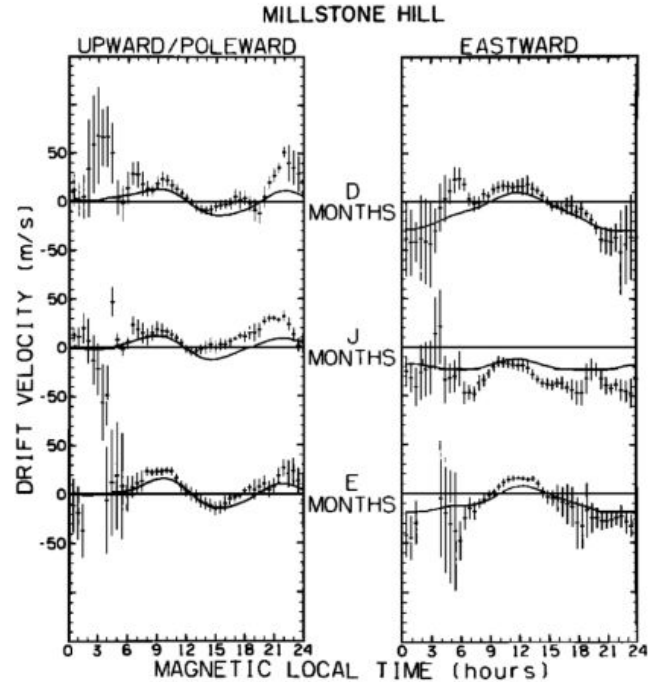
Eastward Electric Field vs Northward Ion Velocity



Observed Zenith Ion Velocity



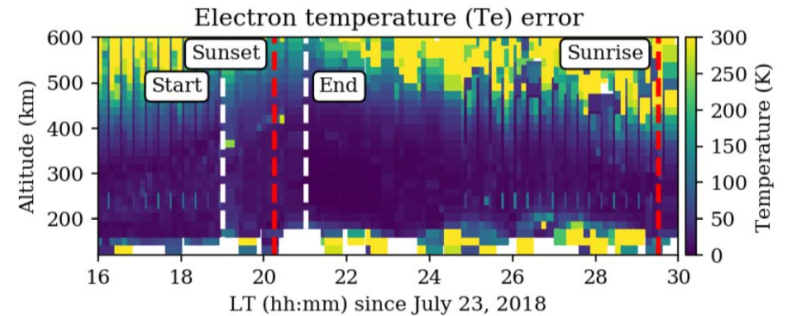
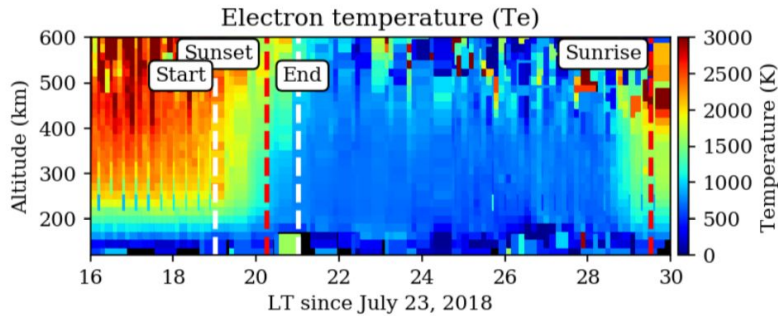
Phil Erickson, 2018, Mit/Haystack Observatory



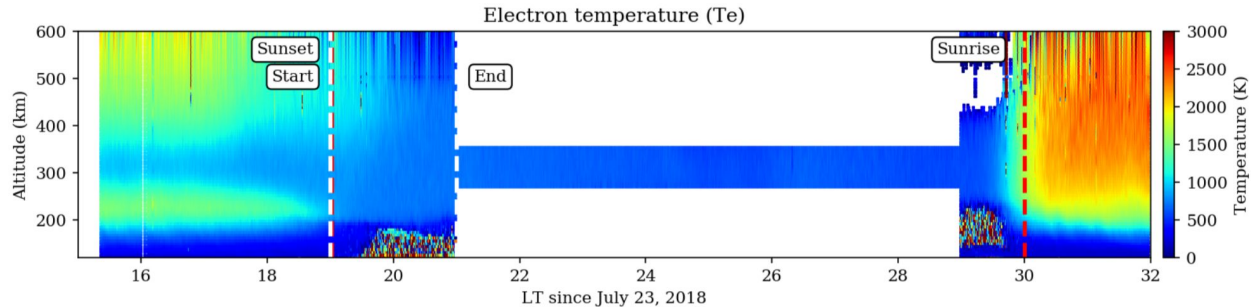
A.D. Richmond, 1980, Journal of Geophysical Research

- Observe increased upward velocity at local sunset time
- Follows empirical model prediction by Richard (1980)
- Possible cause - enhanced eastward E field
- Related to increase in F-peak altitude

Electron Temperature - Te

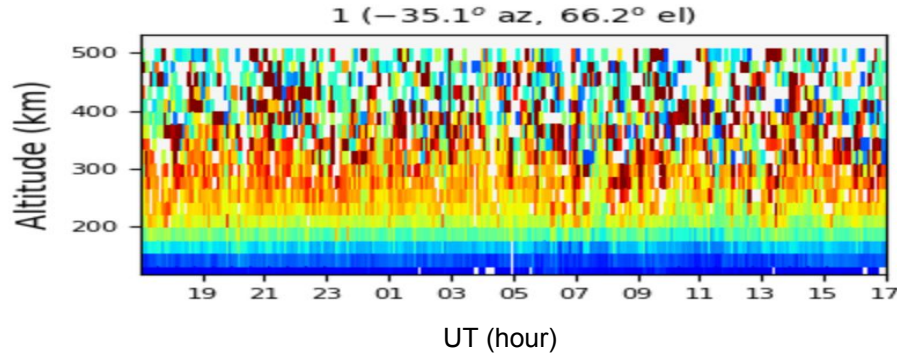


Millstone Hill (lon: 71°W, lat: 42.6°N) magnetic field: 67.2097° downward (WMM)

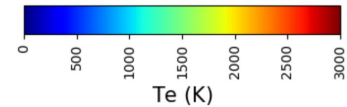


Arecibo (lon: 66.6°W, lat: 18.4°N) magnetic field: 43.1342° downward (WMM)

Electron Temperature - Te



Poker Flat: (lon: 147.45°W, lat: 65.14°N) magnetic field: 63.1404° downward



- Heat conduction causes changes in temperature gradients in different latitudes.
- Arecibo bulge (300~400 km) is created by different electron density in altitudes and low heat conduction.

Conclusions

- Low latitude electron density is higher than mid latitude during post sunset hours due to the equatorial ionization anomaly.
- Post-sunset density enhancements are common in the summer hemisphere at solar minimum, possibly caused by neutral wind transport or collapse of the F layer
- HmF2 increases after sunset due to $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drifts from eastward electric fields
- Northward perpendicular ion velocity increases with the eastward electric field
- Vertical ion velocity increases for a short time before post-sunset density enhancement
- Due to dip angle difference, temperature gradients vary in different latitudes.