

# Study of High-Latitude Ionospheric Behavior During Post Sunset Time

Group-2

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Physical Research  
Laboratory (PRL)

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY



# Outline

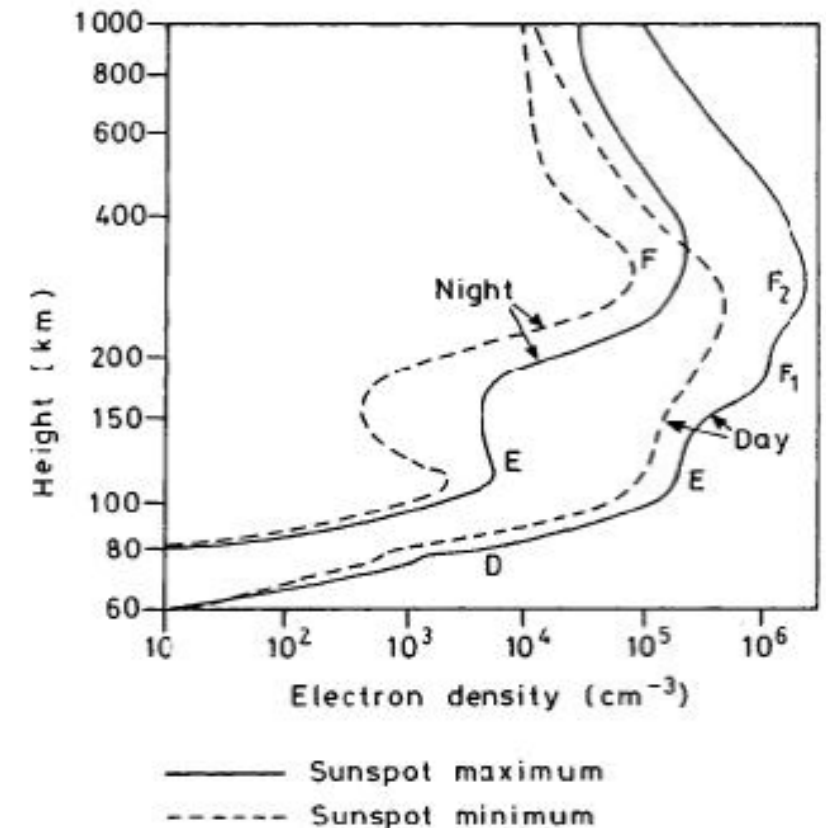
- Background
- Experimental data
- Observations: E and F region
  - ISR
  - GPS
- Summary

## Objectives:

- Study of high-latitude ionospheric behavior during post sunset time.
  1. To observe the variation in electron densities in both ionospheric E and F regions.
  2. If there is generation of any ionospheric irregularities.
  3. To see the velocity pattern through different beams from PFISR
  4. Electron density gradients from the irregular structures may cause scintillations of radio signals.

# Background

- In the daytime, sun is the source of ionization
- After the sunset, production stops, charge recombination starts
- Upward flayer movement
- Geomagnetic condition like, interplanetary magnetic field, solar wind plays important role in the high latitude ionospheric dynamics



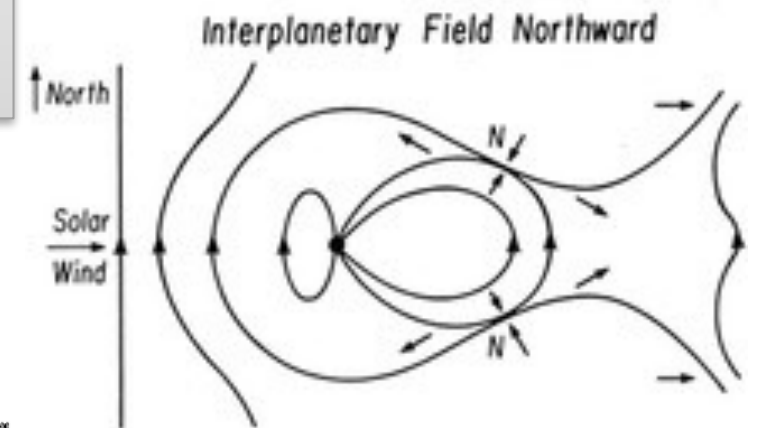
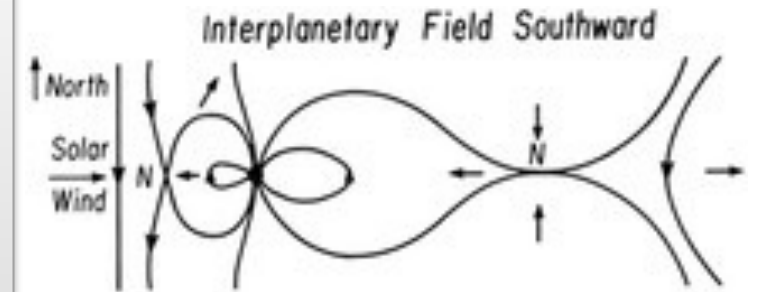
After W. Swider, Wallchart Aerospace Environment, US Airforce Geophysical Laboratory

# Background

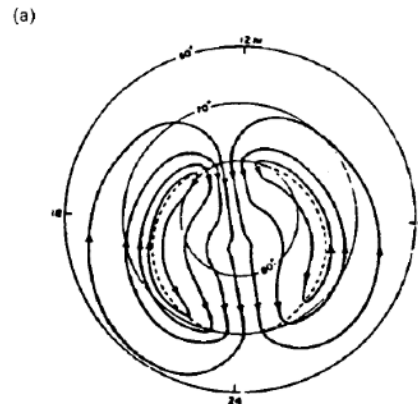
- Electric field generated due to solar wind and space weather effect:

$$E_{sw} = -V_{sw} \times B_{IMF}$$

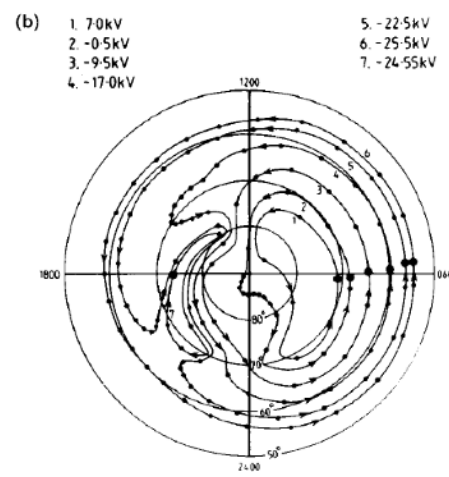
- Auroral convection
- Irregularities and scintillation



Northward  
IMF  
[Dungey, 1964]



(a) R. W. Spiro et al., 1978  
(b) S. Quegan et al., 1982



# Experimental data

## Poker Flat Incoherent Scatter Radar (PFISR):

Location:

Latitude: 65° N

Longitude: 147° W

## Date and Time of Observation:

29 Jul 2020

07:00 UT- 09:00 UT

**Beam used:** Themis36

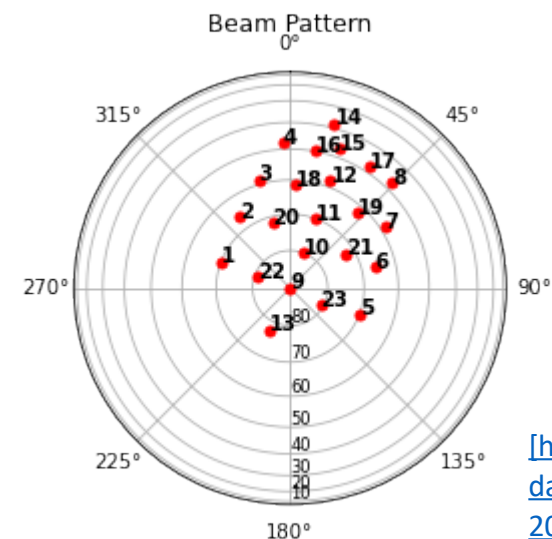
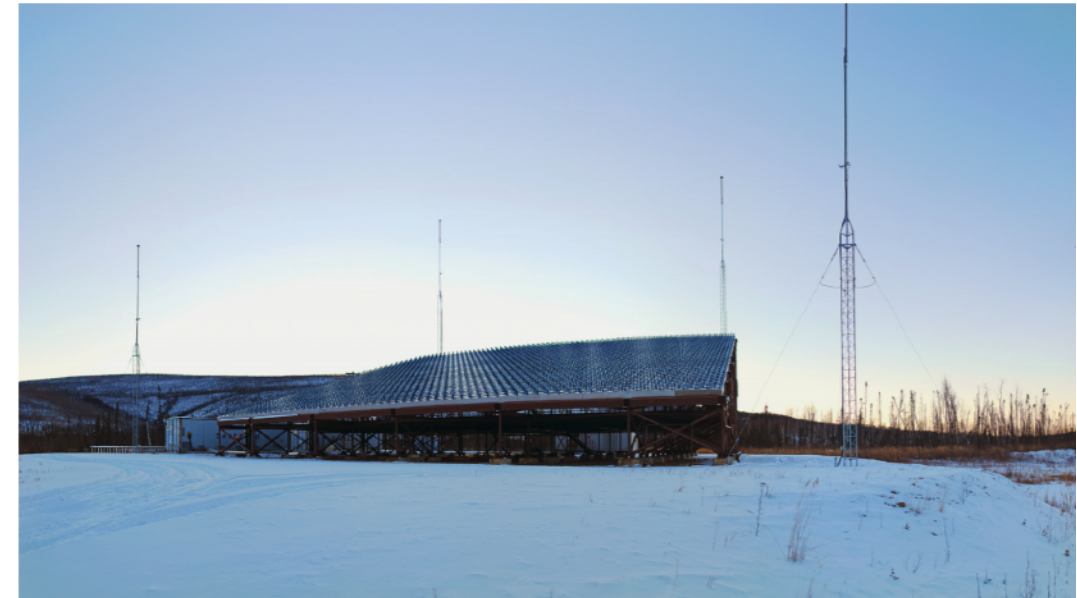
No. of beams: 23

## Data Taking Computer (DTC) used in PFISR

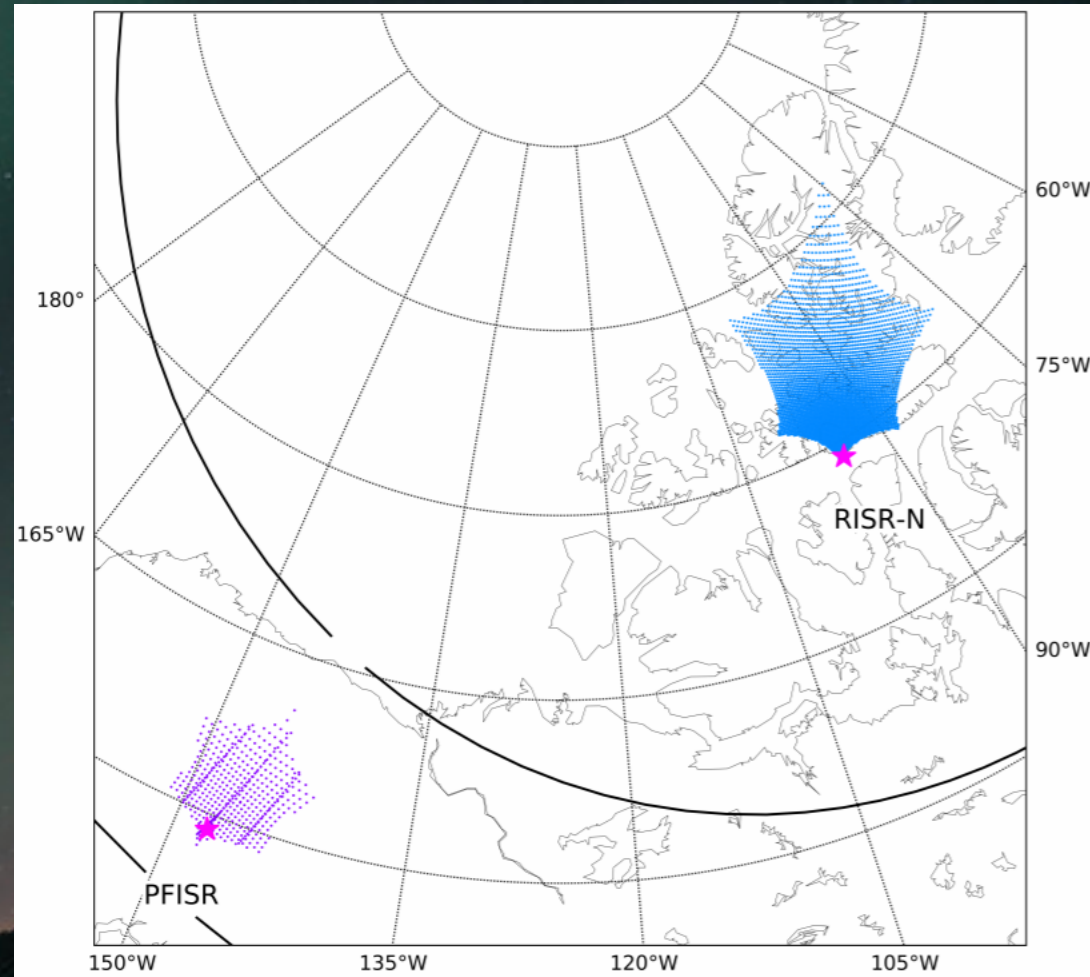
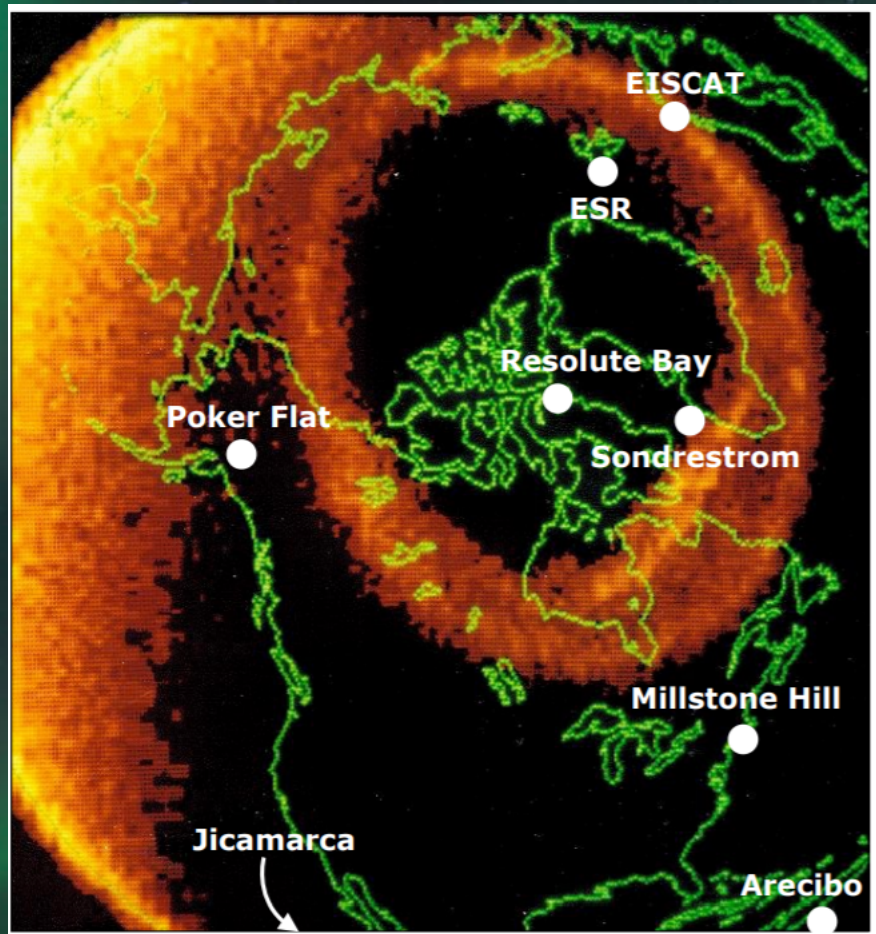
DTC0-Alternating code

DTC1, DTC2- Long Pulse

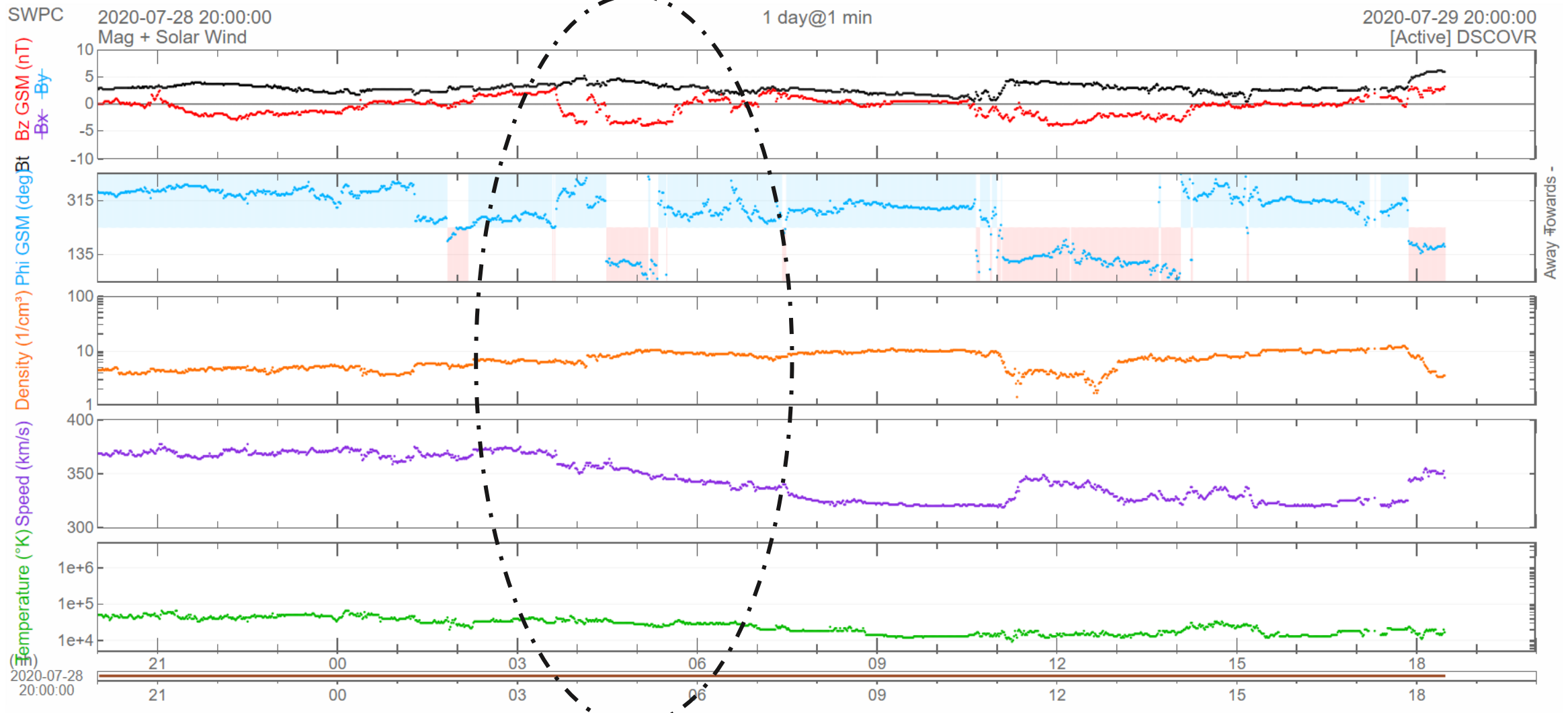
DTC3- Single pulse 330 sec long pulse



[\[https://data.amisr.com/database/61/experiment/20180310.001/3/1\]](https://data.amisr.com/database/61/experiment/20180310.001/3/1)



# Space weather condition:



<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/ace-real-time-solar-wind>



# Poker Flat ●

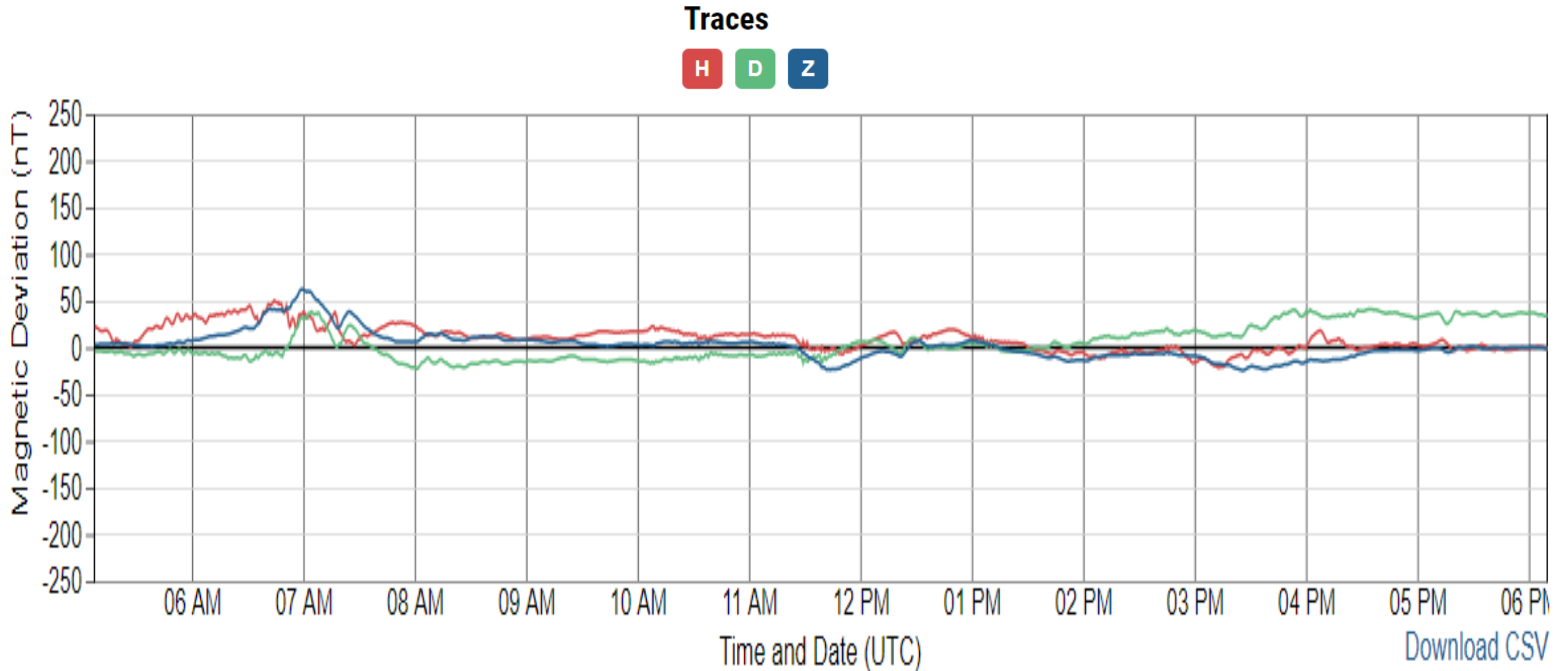
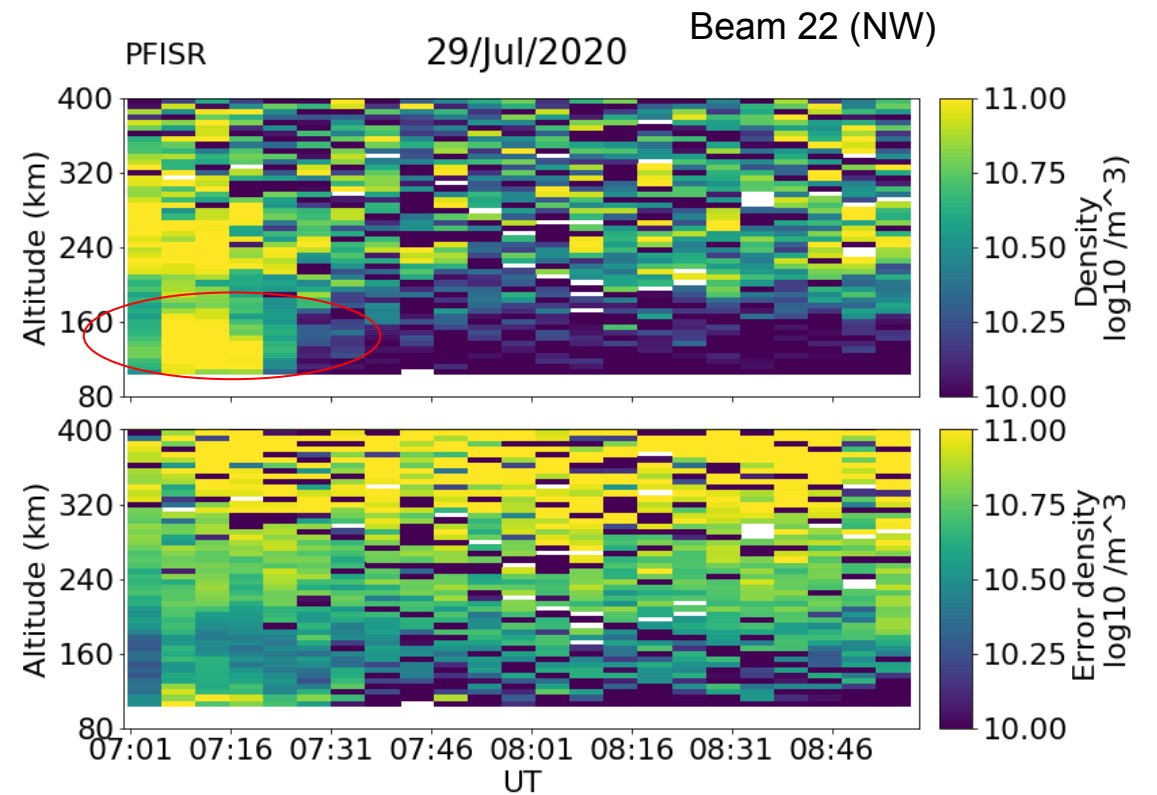
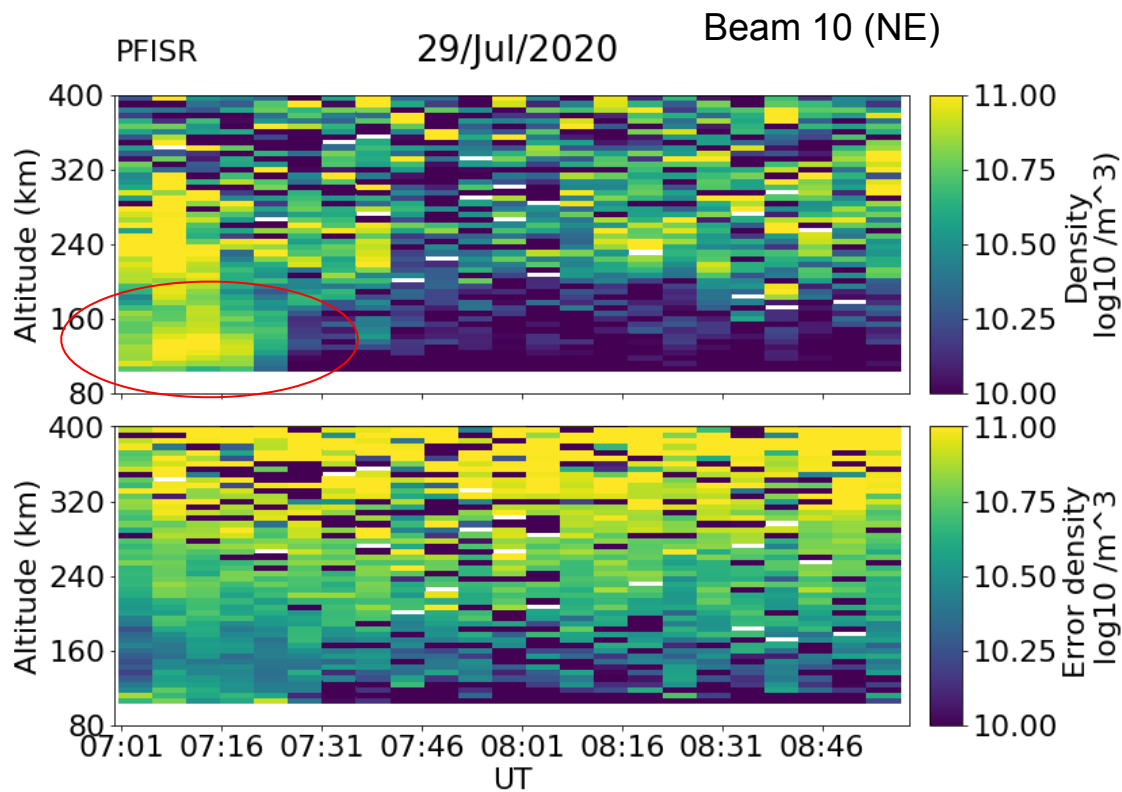
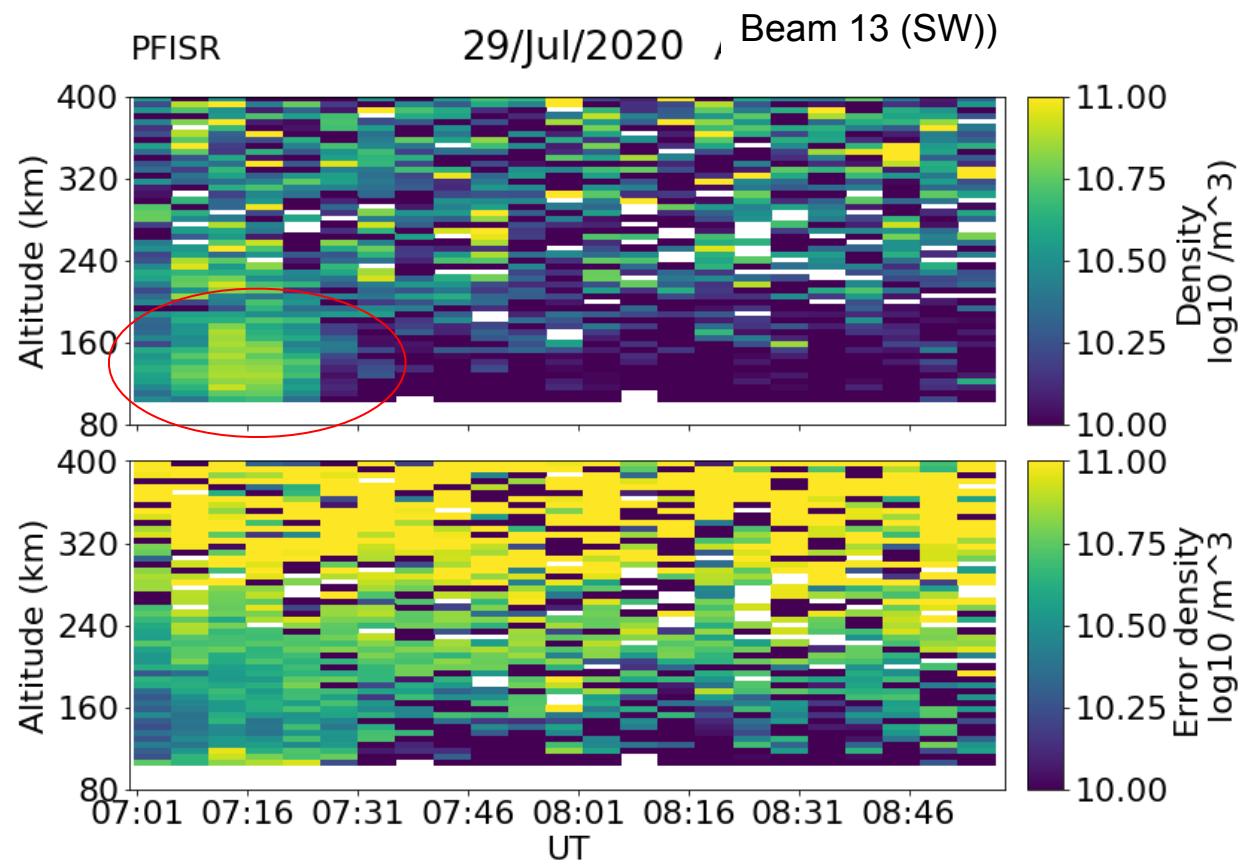
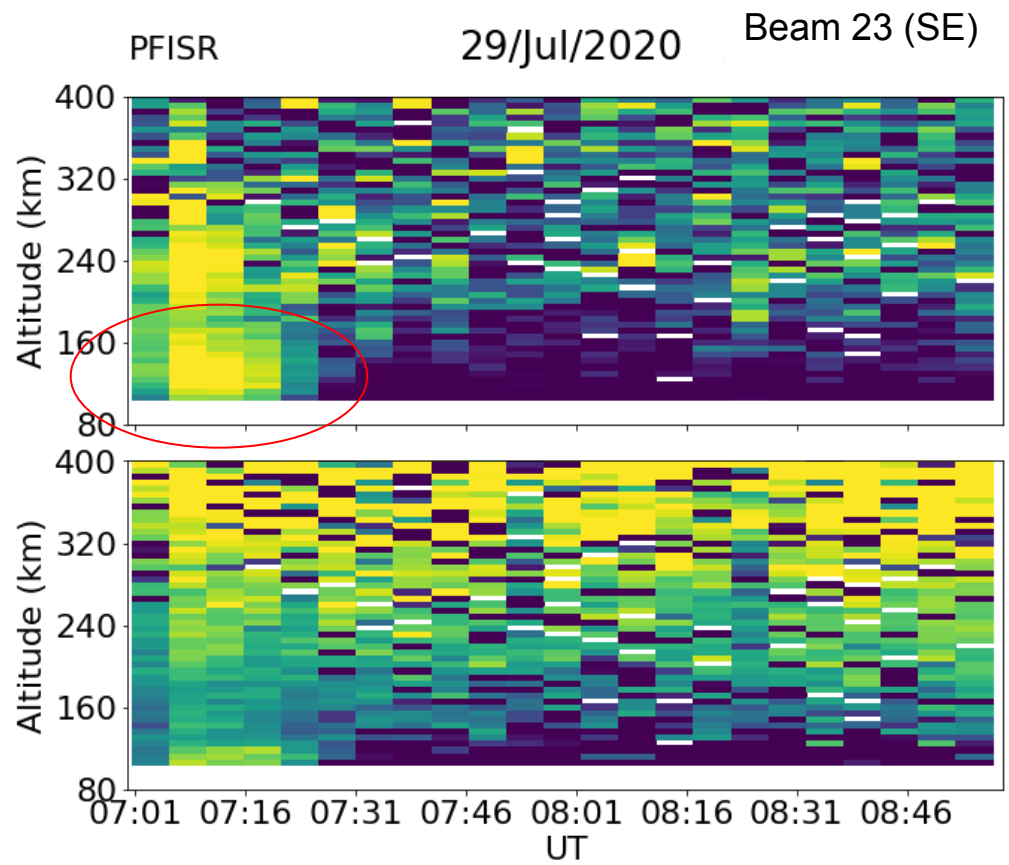


Figure: Variation in Magnetic Deviations during our experiment measured by Poker Flat magnetometers.

# Observations: ISR

## Long pulse 5min uncorrected electron density





# E region 7:00-7:20UT

Enhancement of Ne

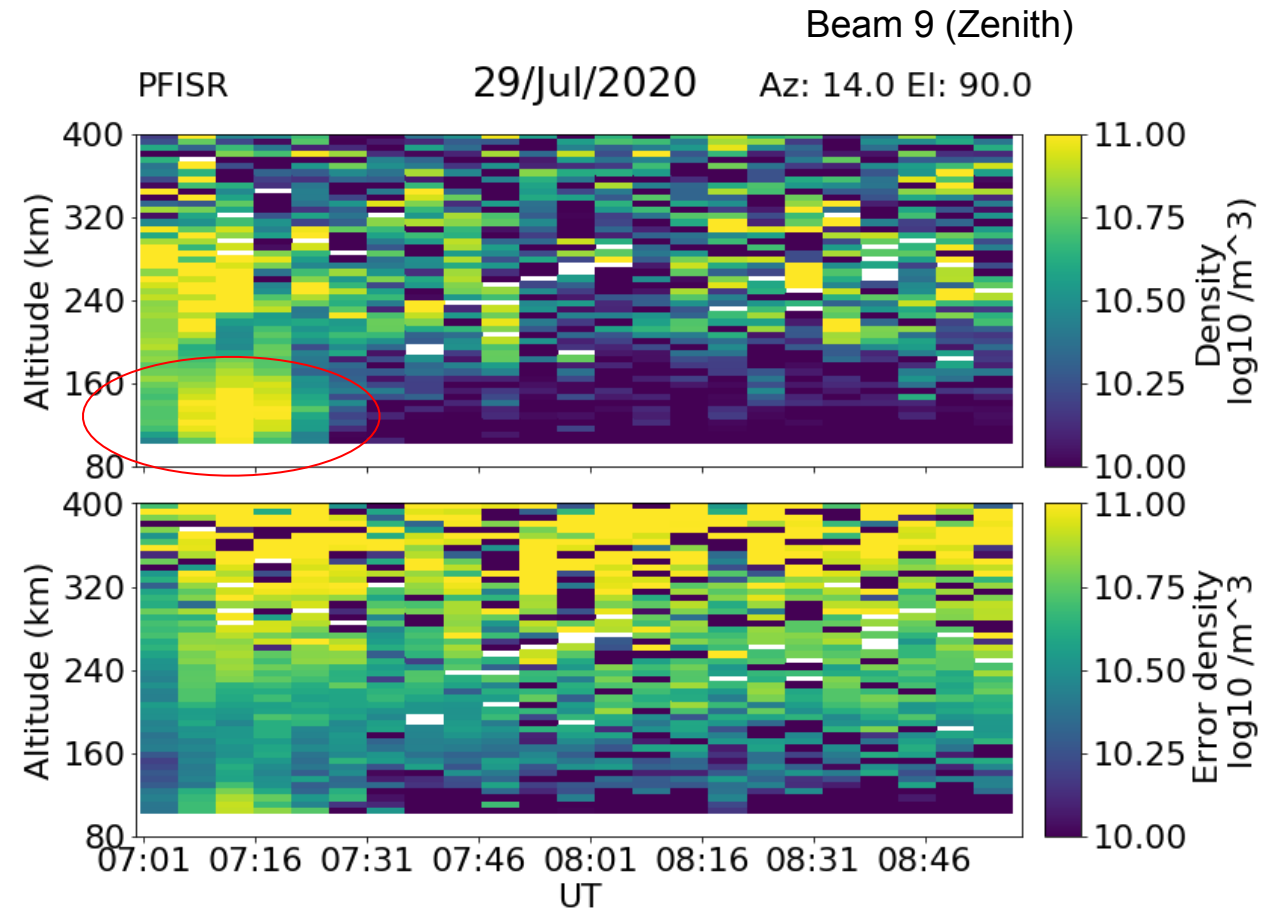
Aurora precipitation around 110km

No F region detected

Altitude precipitation depends on the electron energy [Fang et al.]

High density error specially in F region

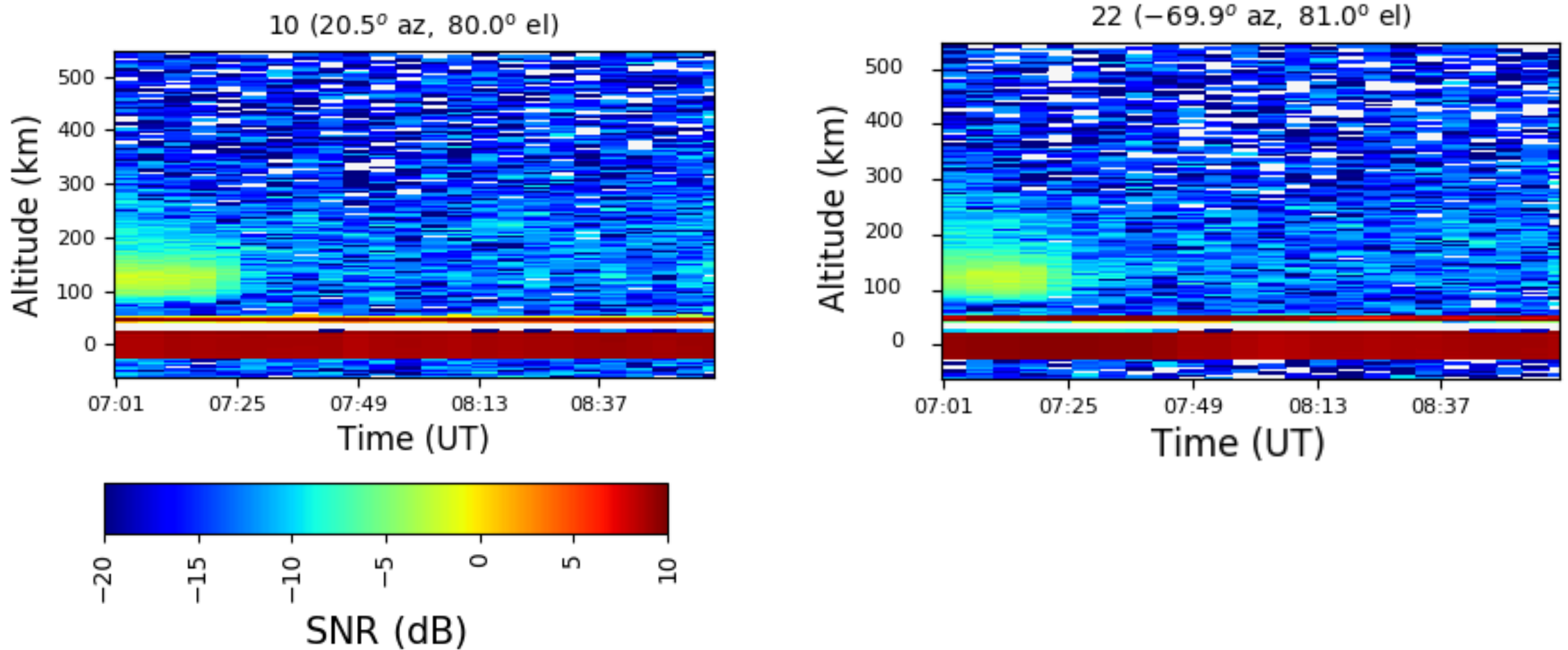
Not enough electron density to scatter the signal

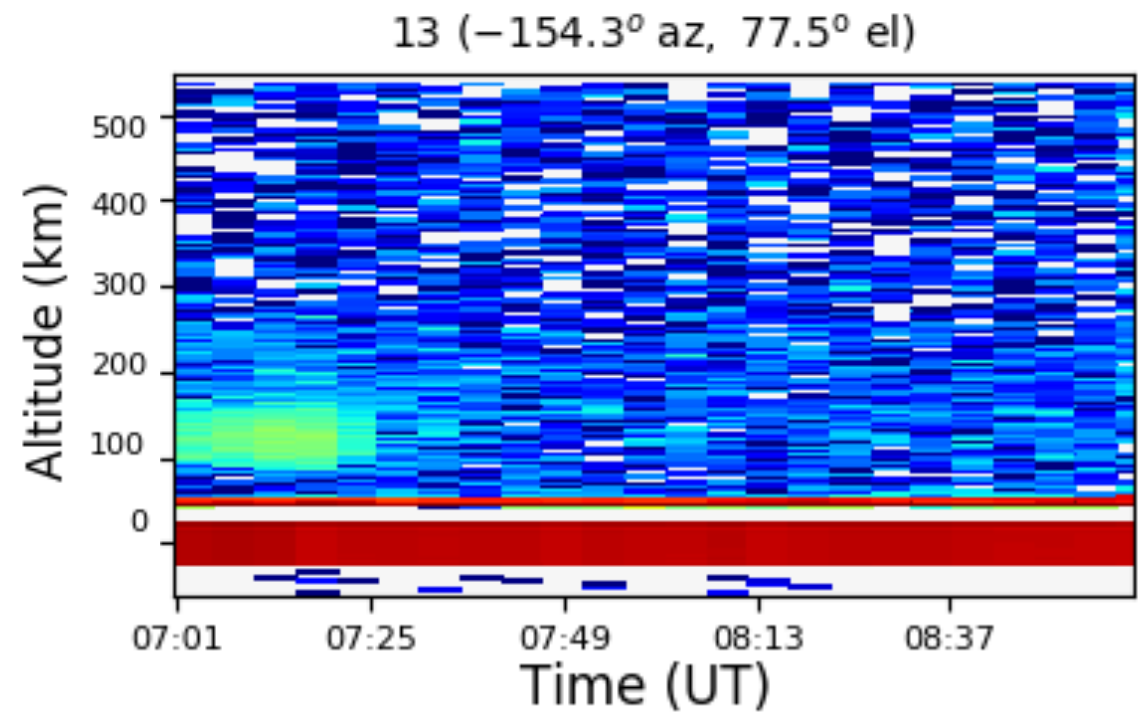
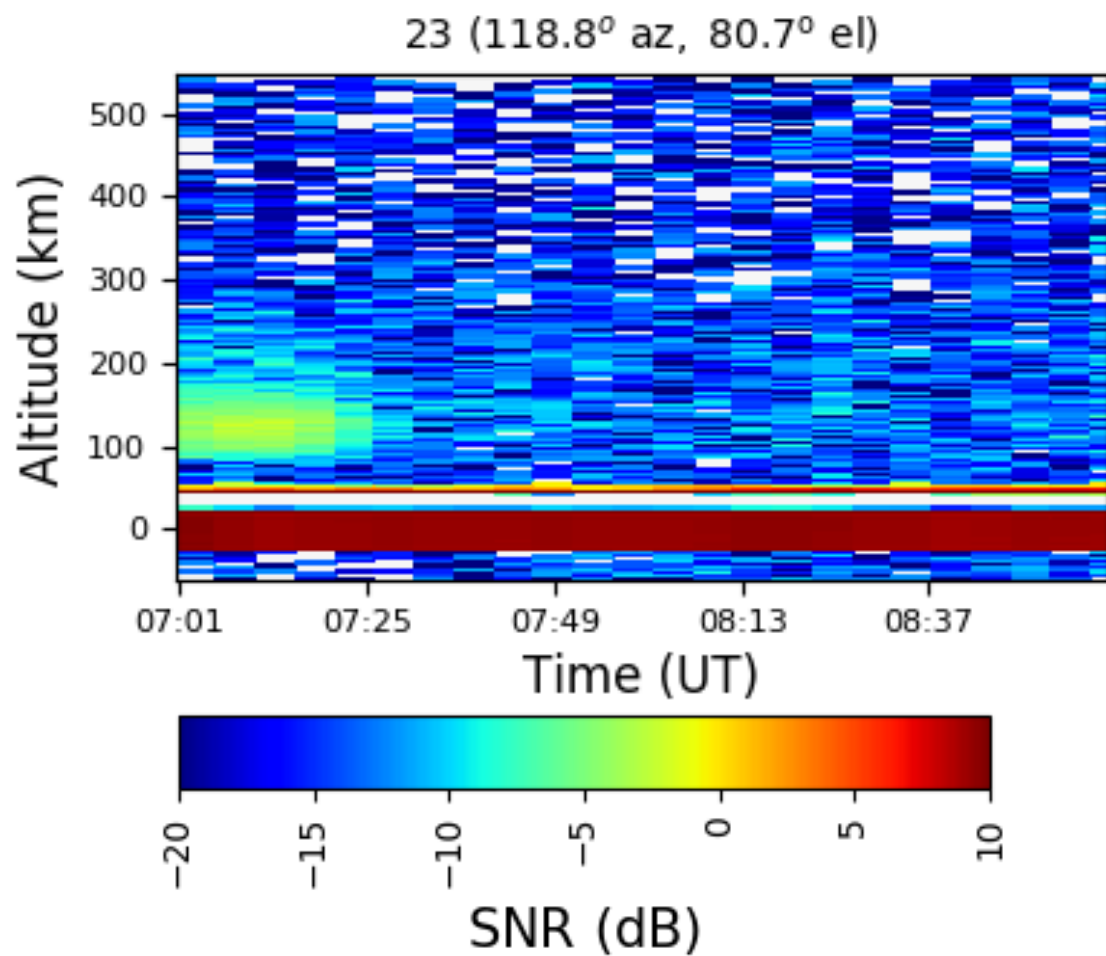


Fang, Xiaohua, et al. "Electron Impact Ionization: A New Parameterization for 100 eV to 1 MeV Electrons." *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, vol. 113, no. A9, 2008, doi:10.1029/2008ja013384.

# Observations: ISR

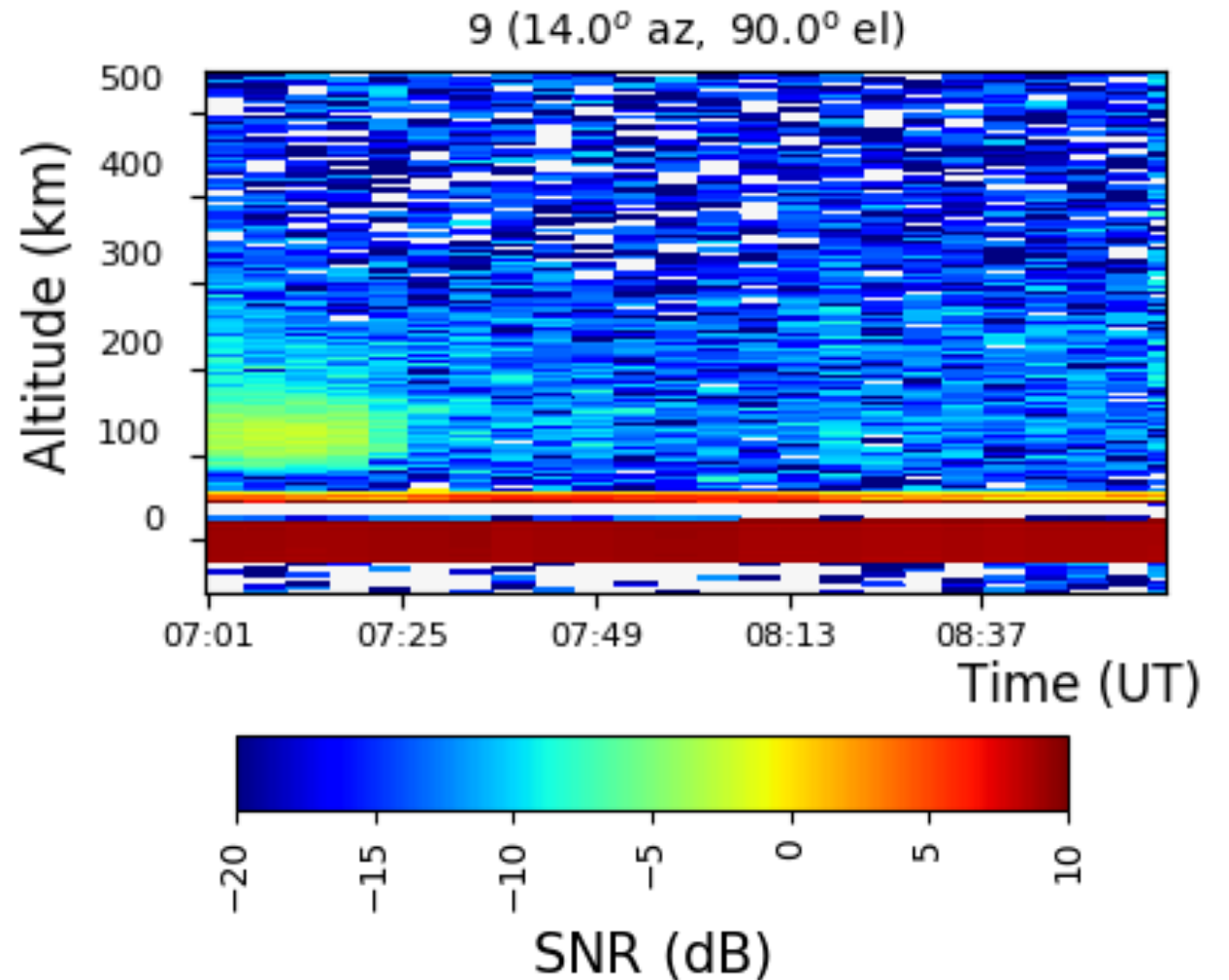
## Long pulse 5min uncorrected SNR





Increase of SNR between  
7:00UT-7:20UT  
Around 115 km SNR  $\sim$ -1dB

Relative error?



# Observations: ISR

## Derivation of relative error of Ne during aurora precipitation in E region (7:00-7:20UT at ~115km)

K number of samples:

Long pulse: ~64 pulses per ~14.6 seconds per beam.

Integration time 5 min=300 seconds

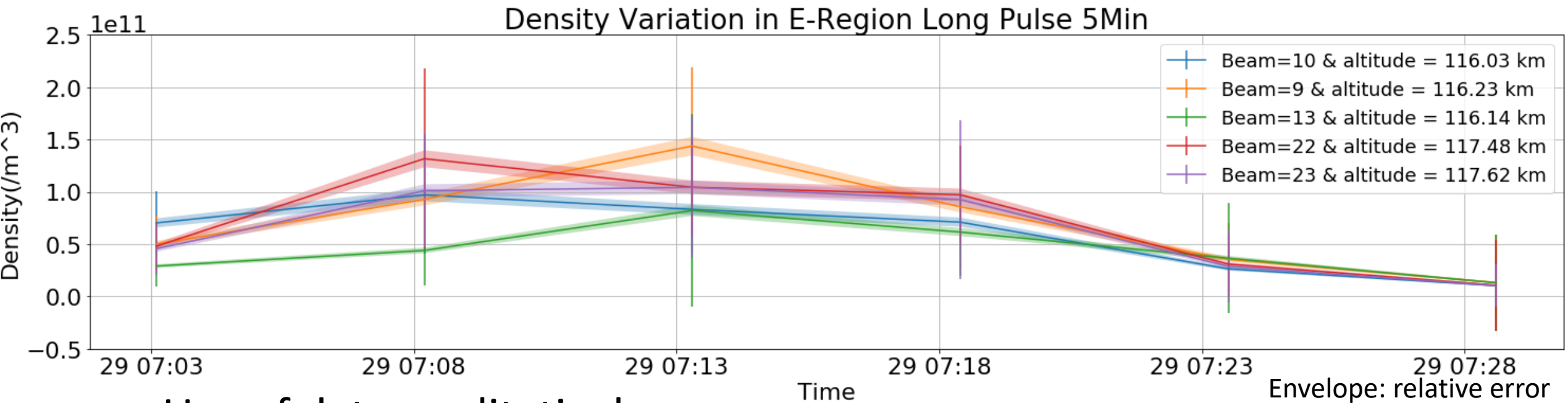
$K \sim 1344$

SNR - 1dB=0.794

Relative error =

$$= 1/\sqrt{K} (1+1/\text{SNR}) \sim \sim 6.2\%$$





Use of data qualitatively

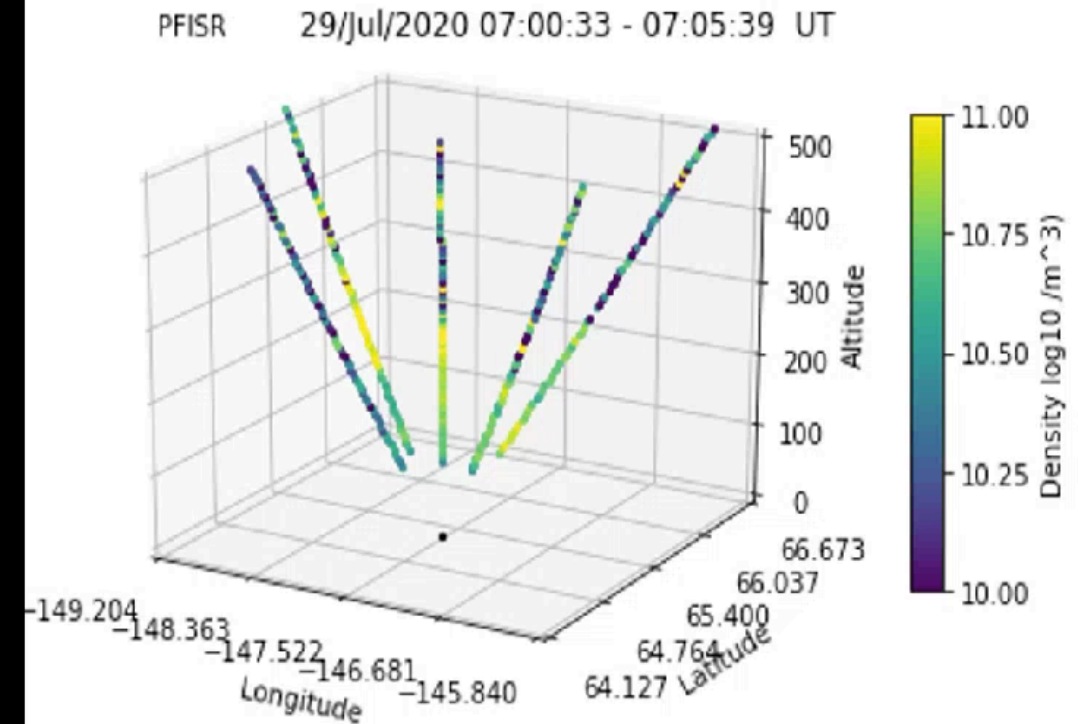
# Observations: ISR

## Long pulse 5 min Electron Density along beams in 3D

Electron density enhancement in all directions during 7:00UT-7:20UT

1 or 2 Kev electrons, Auroral precipitation

Behavior in each direction?

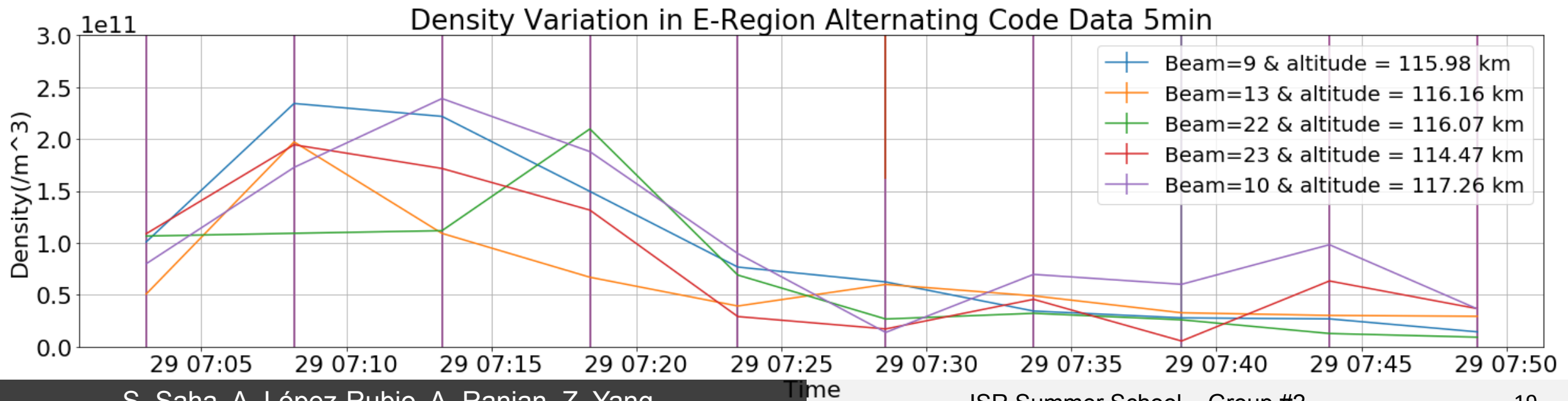
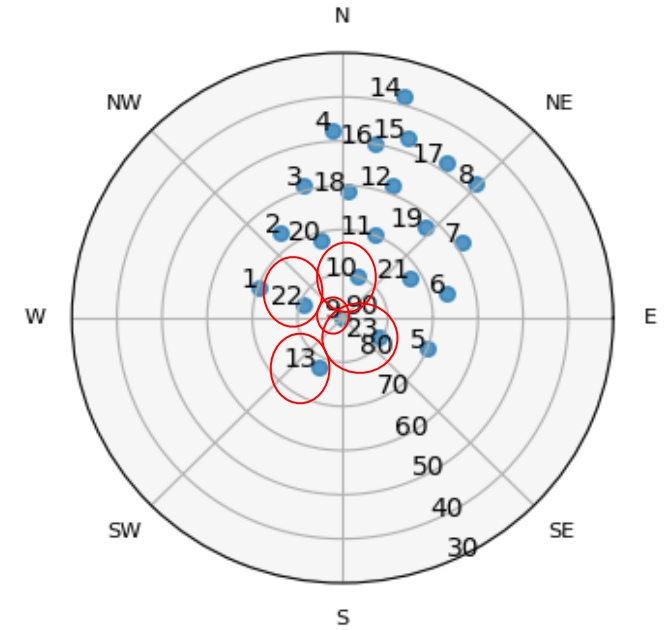


# Observations: ISR

## Alternating code Electron Density at 115km

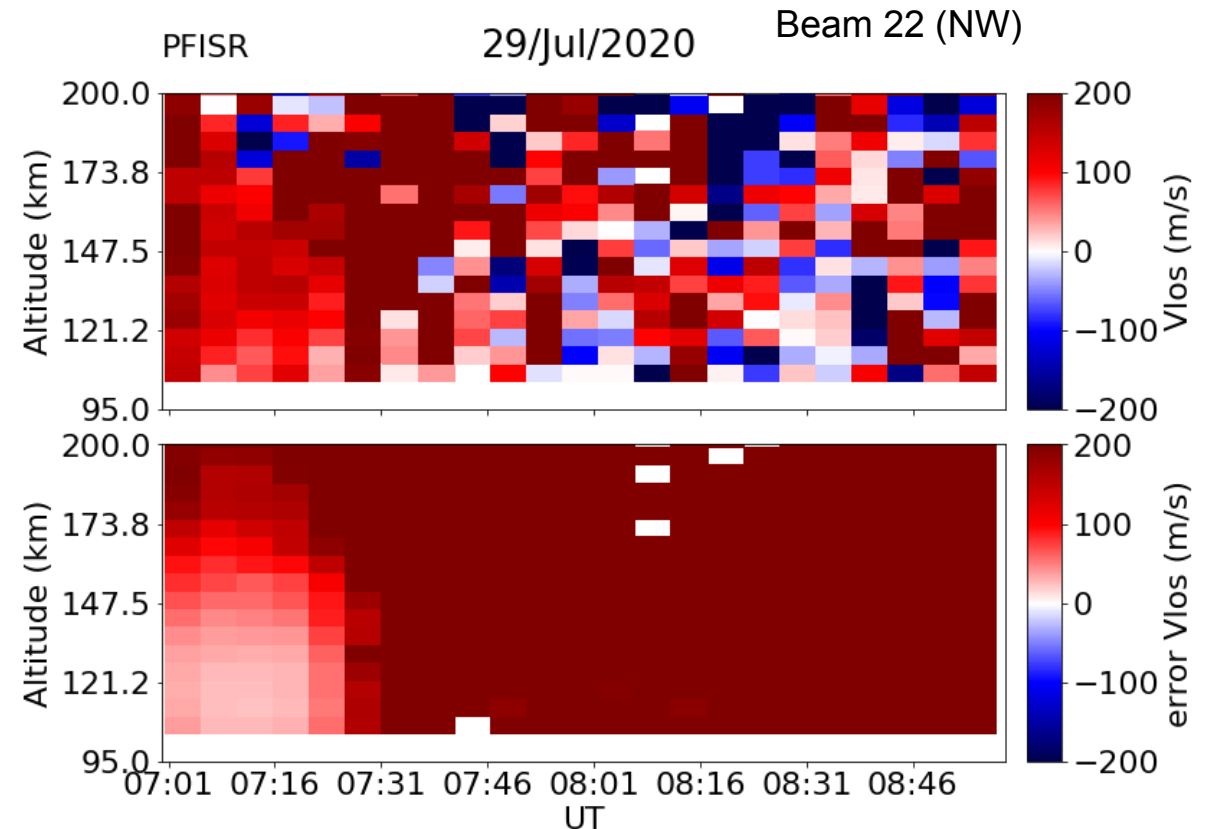
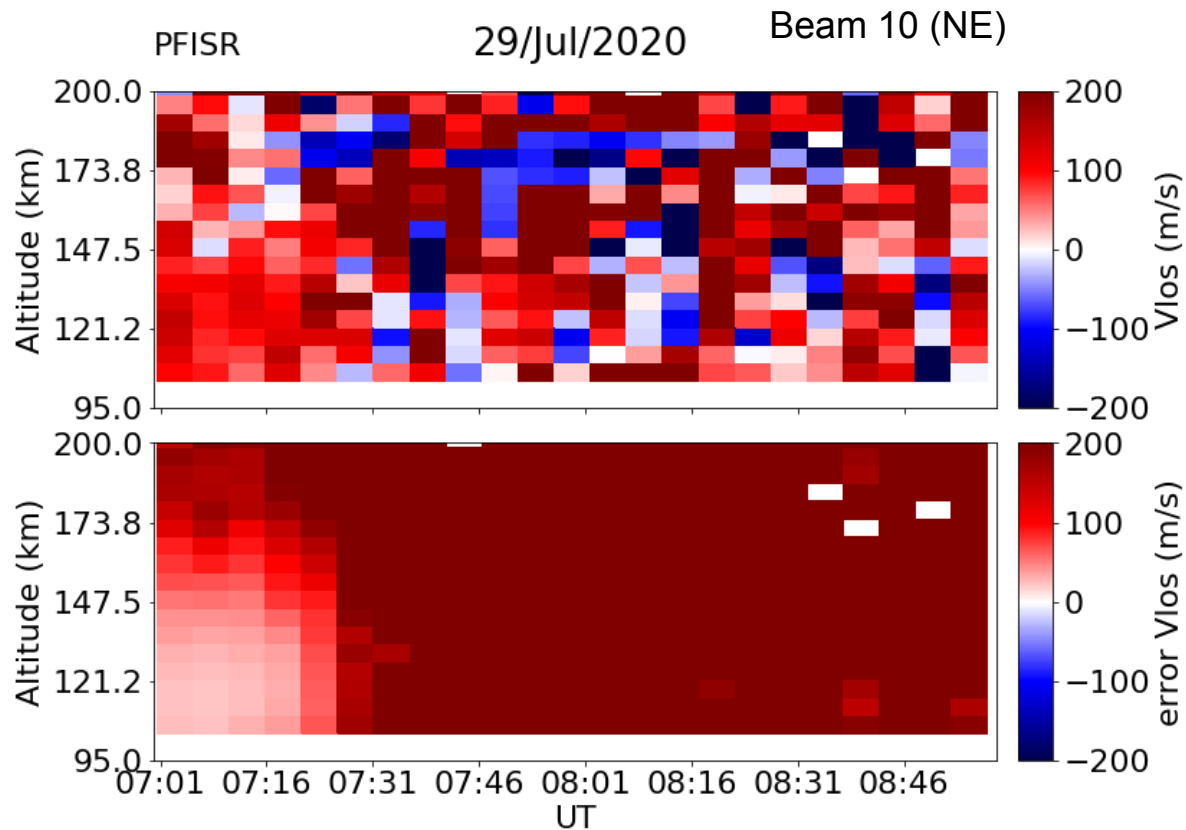
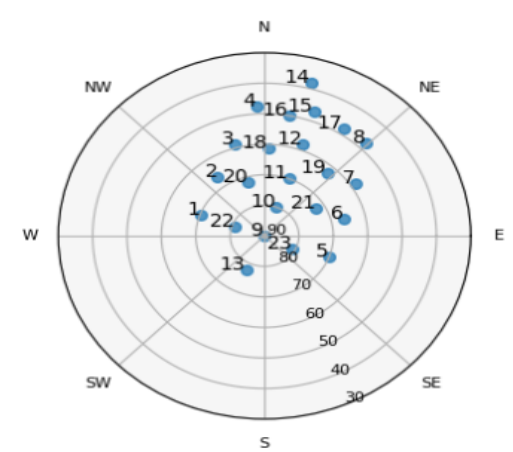
Ne enhancement: 9,13,23 (south west) +10 (north)+22(east)

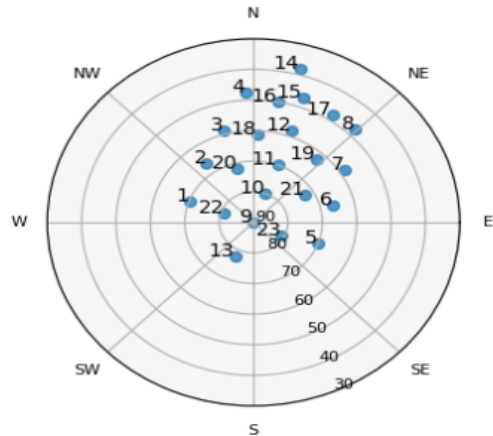
Auroral arc moving northwest ward



# Observations: ISR

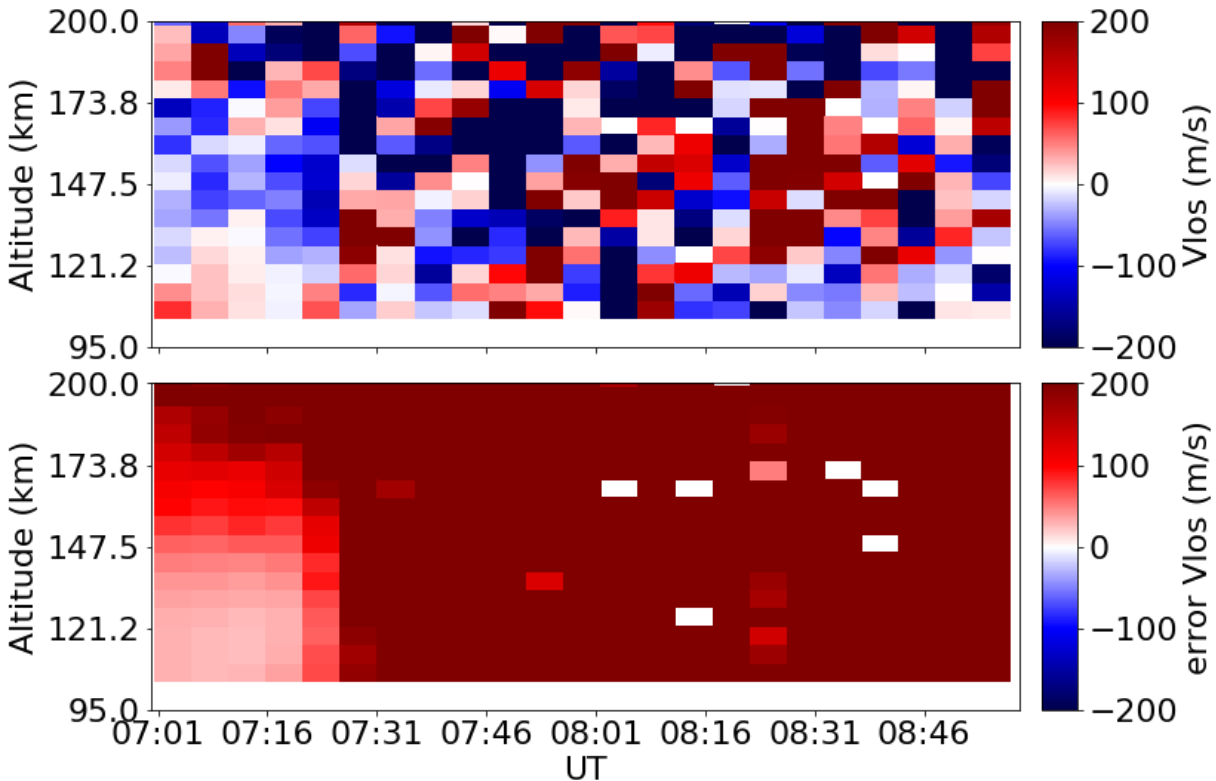
## Long pulse 5 min velocity LOS per beams





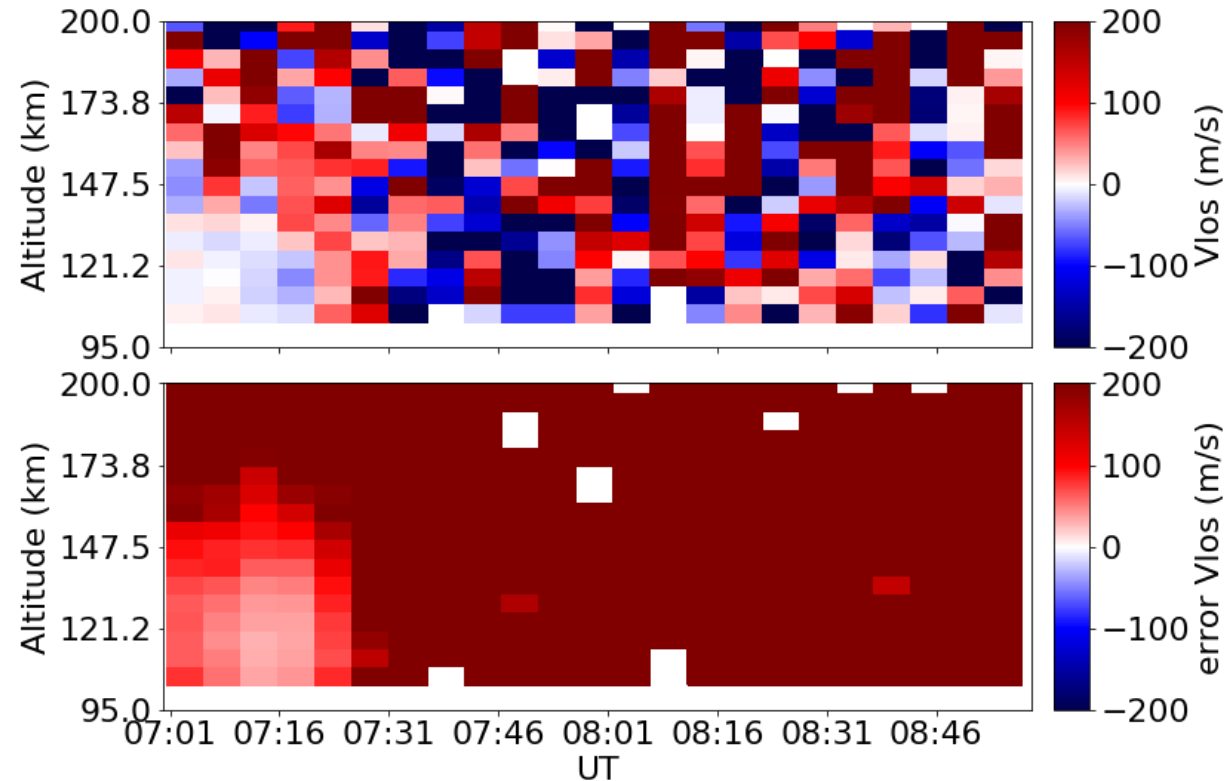
Beam 23 (SE)

PFISR 29/Jul/2020 Az: 118.8 El: 80.7



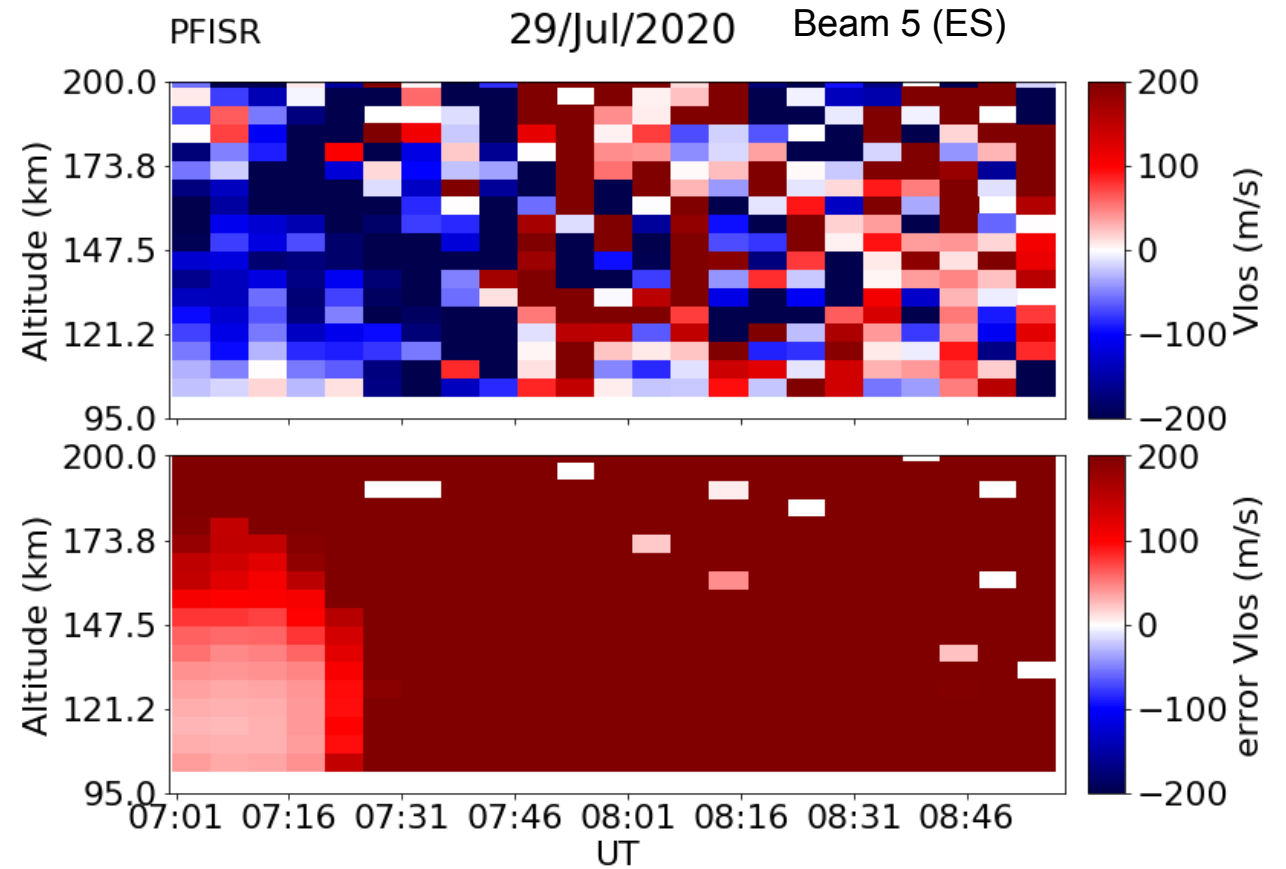
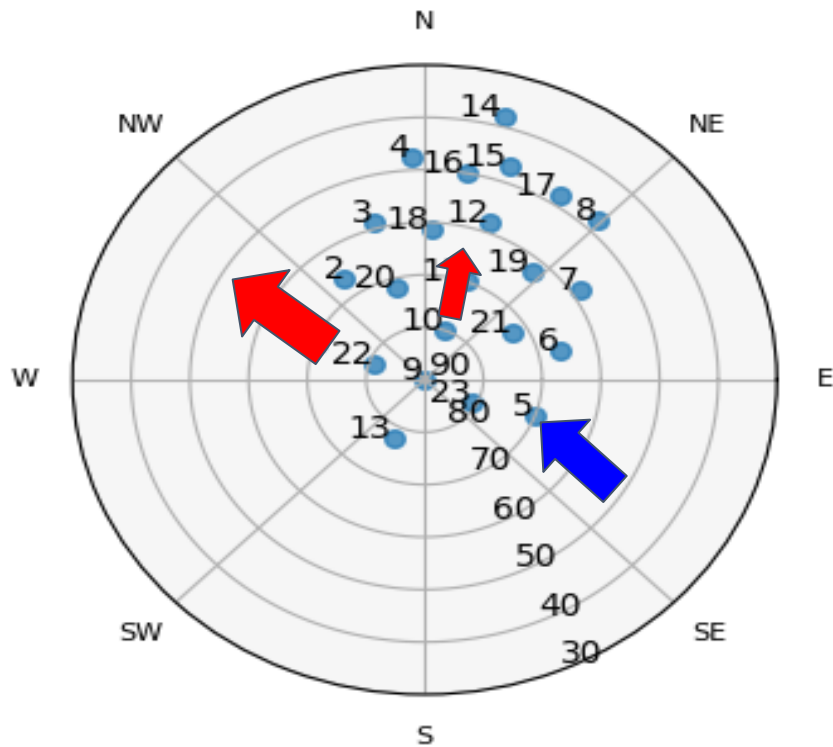
Beam 13 (SW)

PFISR 29/Jul/2020 Az: -154.3 El: 77.5



# Velocity drift during auroral precipitation:

## North westward drift

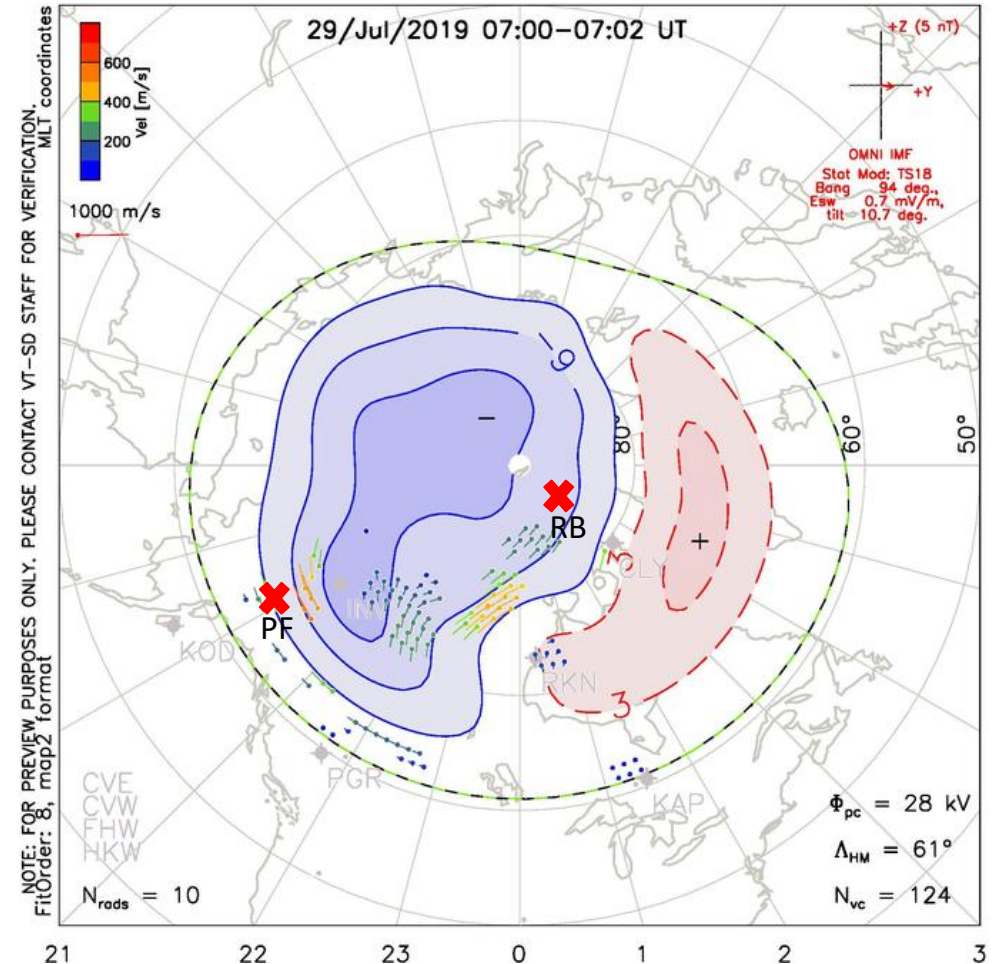


# Comparison to SuperDARN data

Data from last year (similar conditions)

Conductivity indicates northwest drifts

PFISR data agrees with what was expected



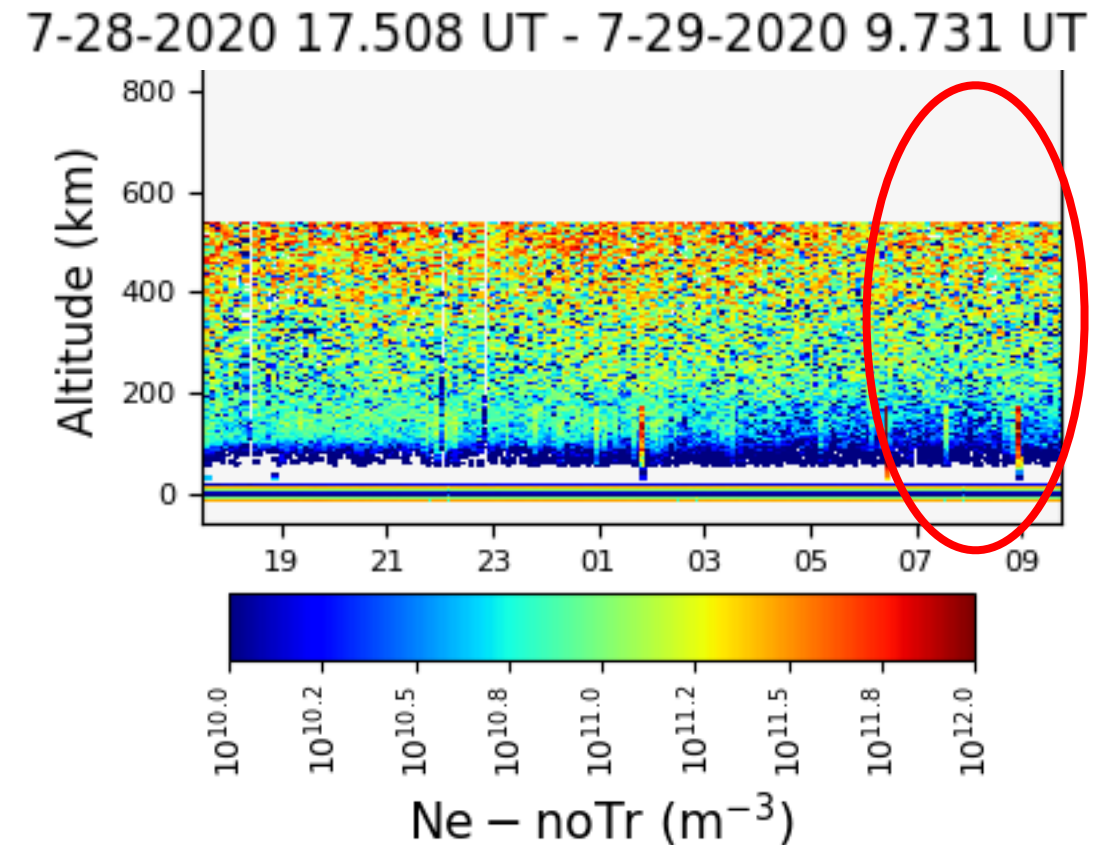
<http://vt.superdarn.org/tiki-index.php?page=Conv+map+overview>

# Observations: ISR

## Resolute Bay North ISR Longe pulse 5 min

No significant change in Ne during 7:00-7:20UT (just showing one of the beams)

RB-N inside polar cap



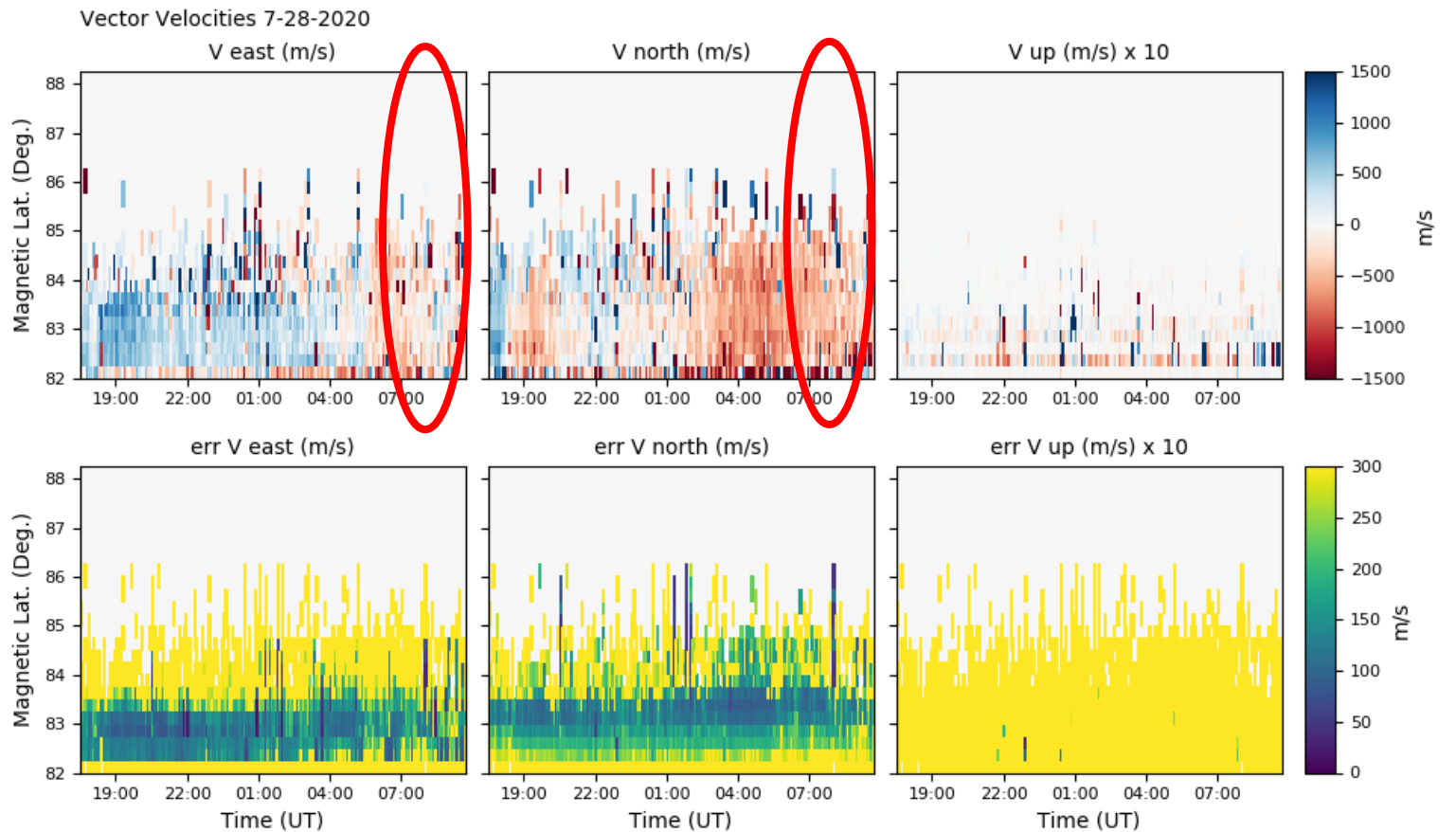


# Observations: ISR

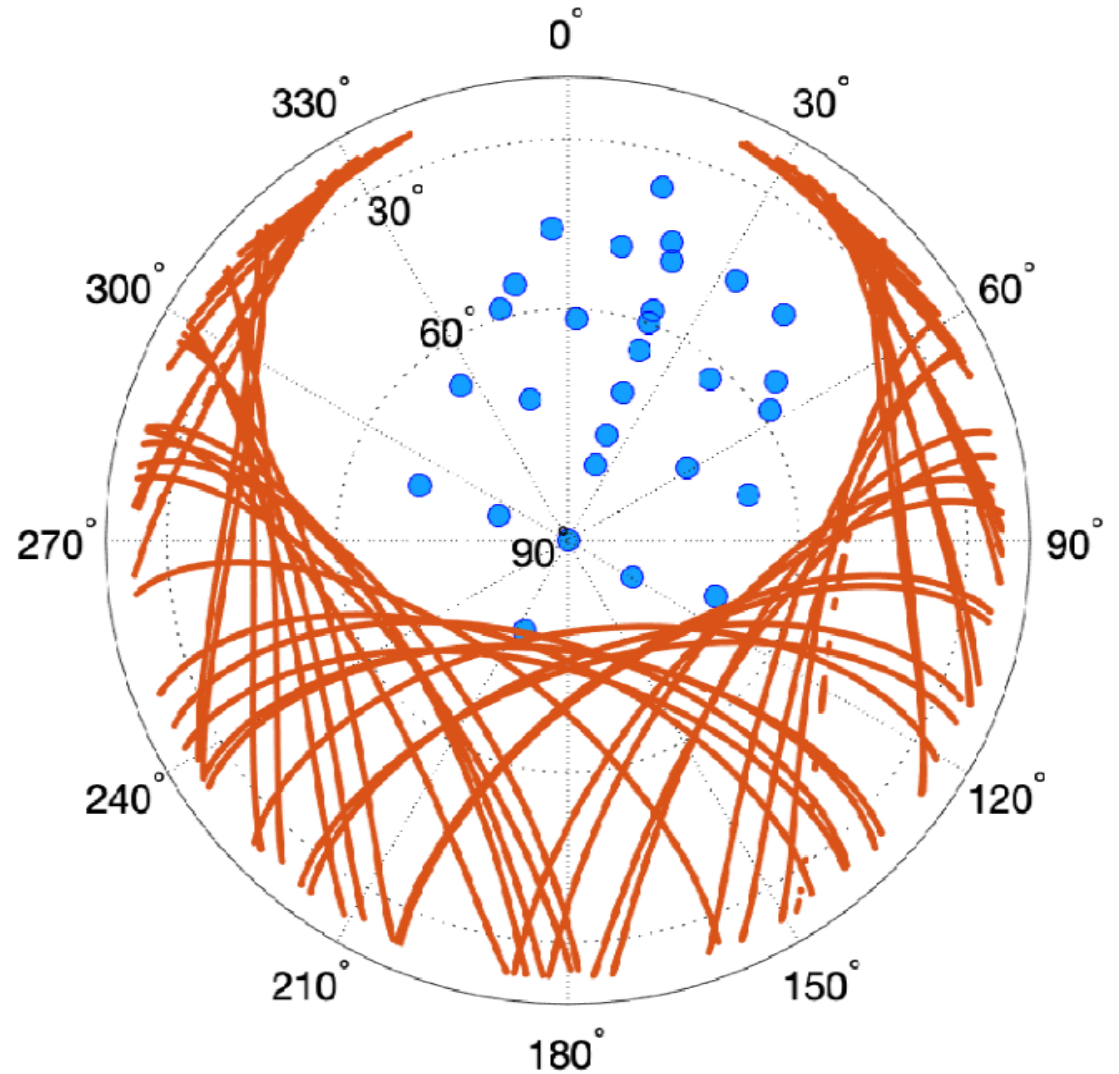
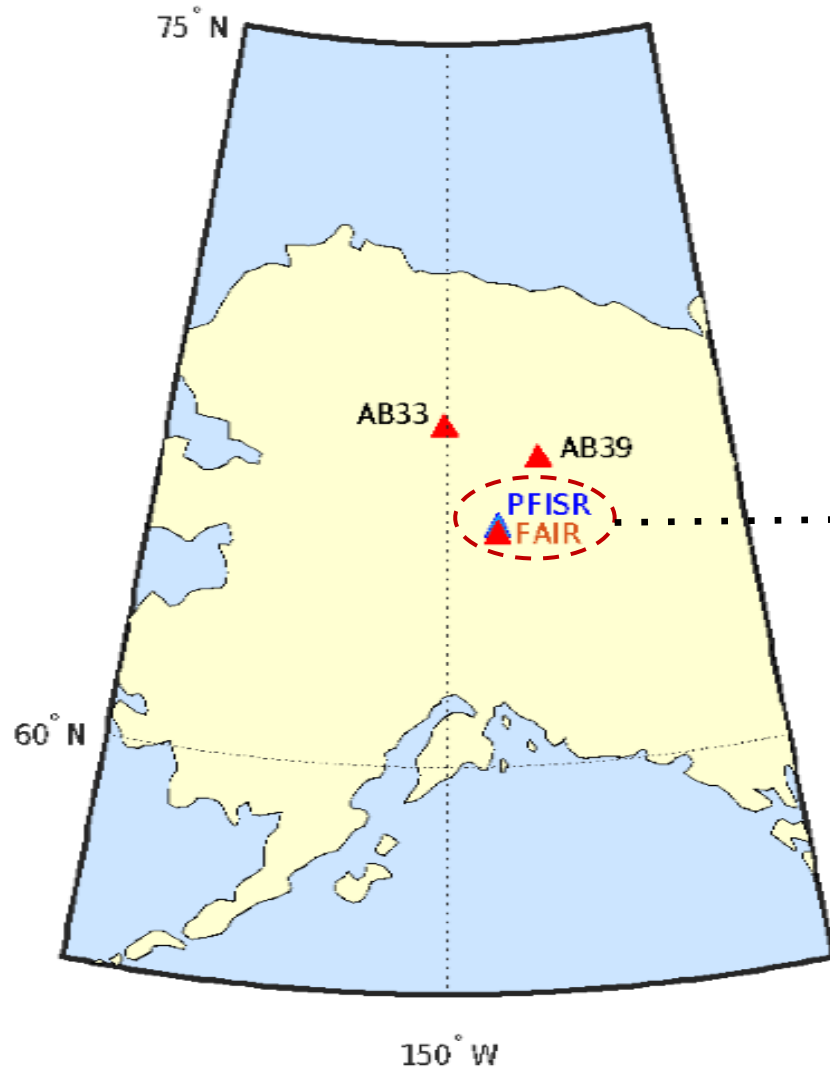
## Resolute Bay North ISR

Velocity  
southwards

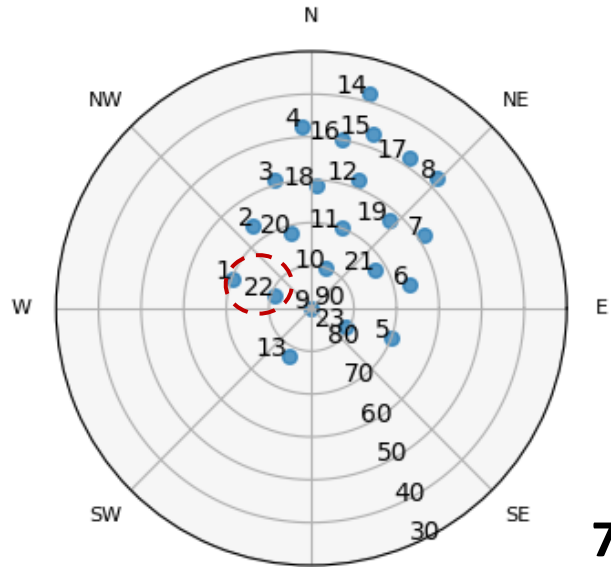
Agrees with  
SuperDARN data



# Observations: GPS

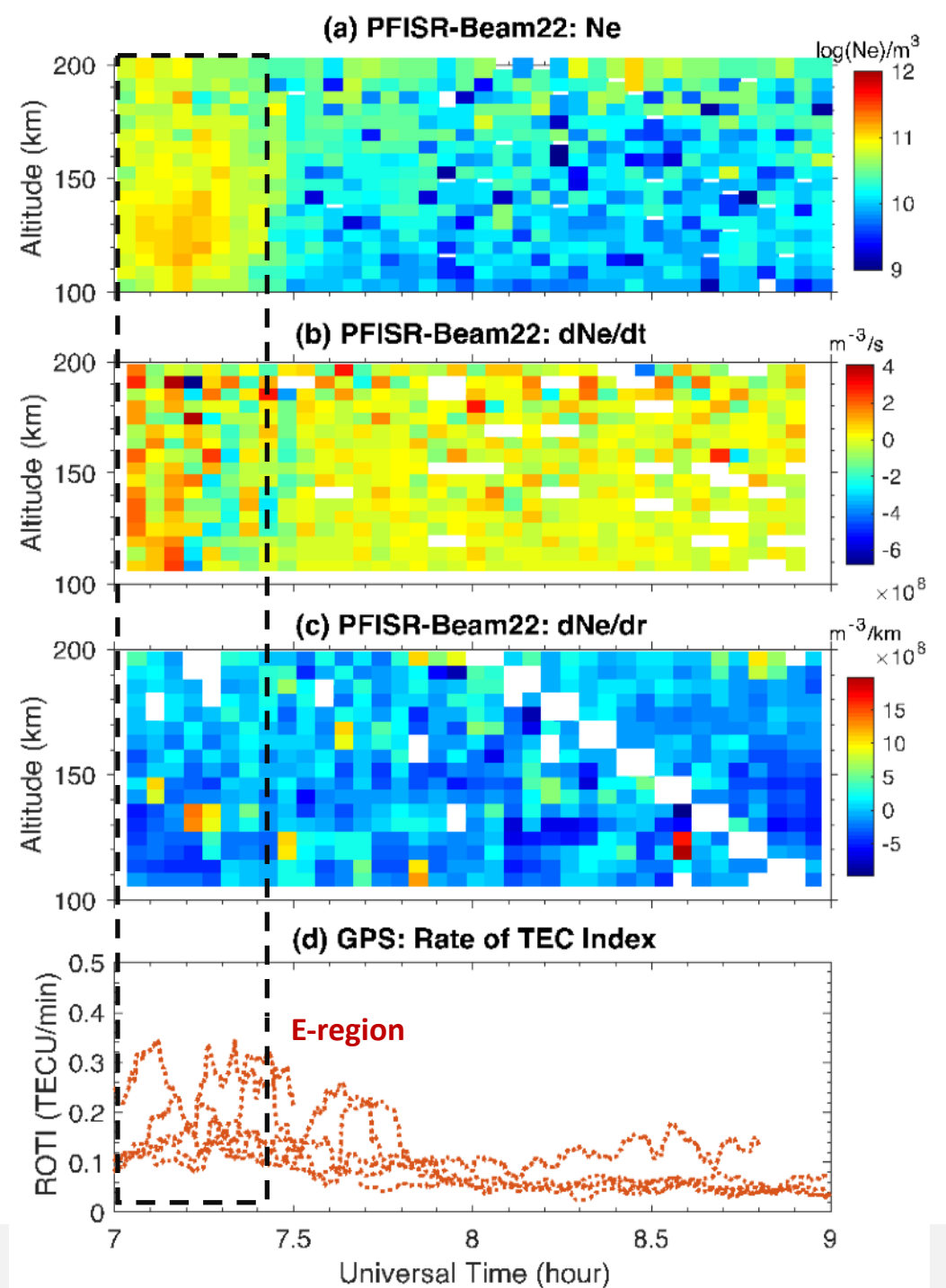


# Case 1: Postsunset Irregularities

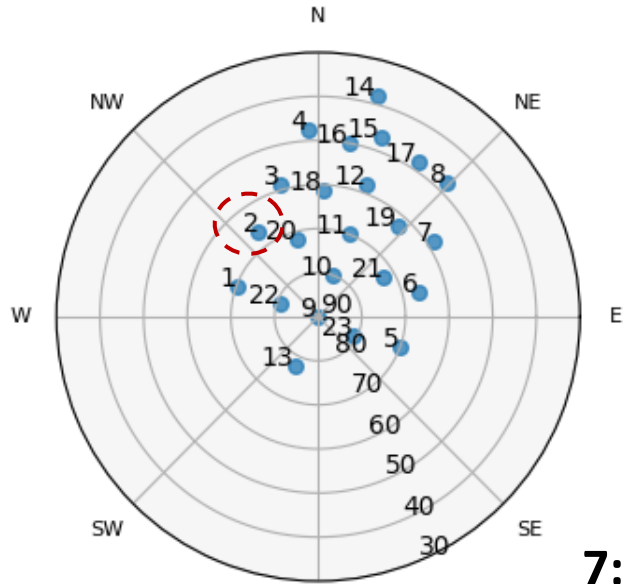


7:00UT-7:20UT  
07/29/2020

CORS GPS station  
15s sampling rate

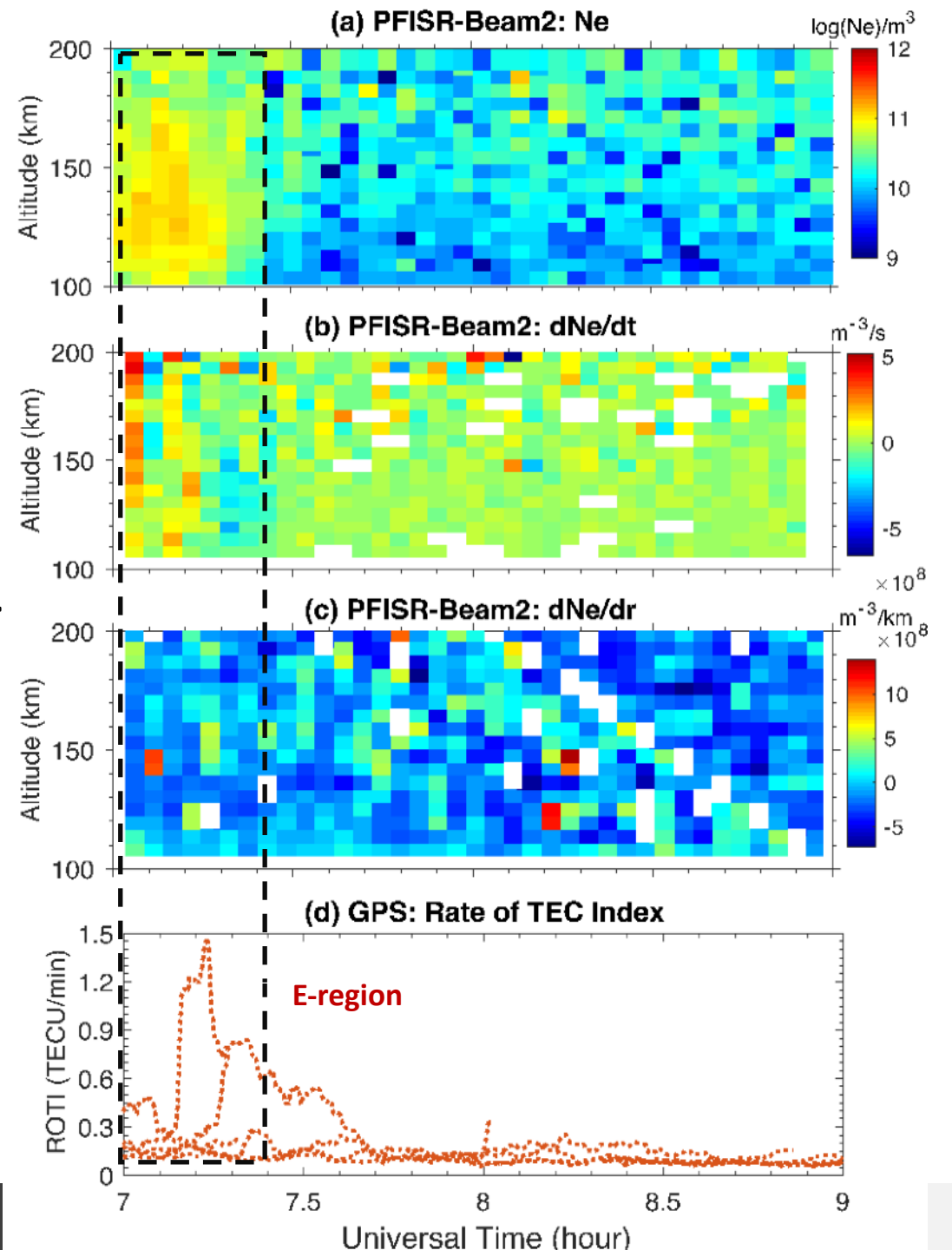
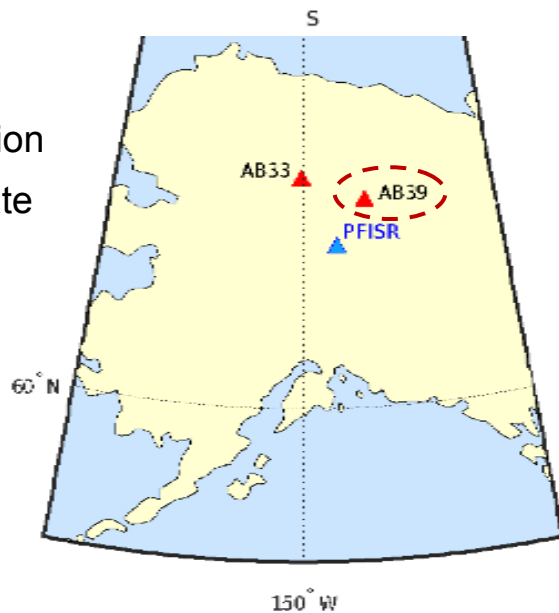


# Case 2: Postsunset Irregularities

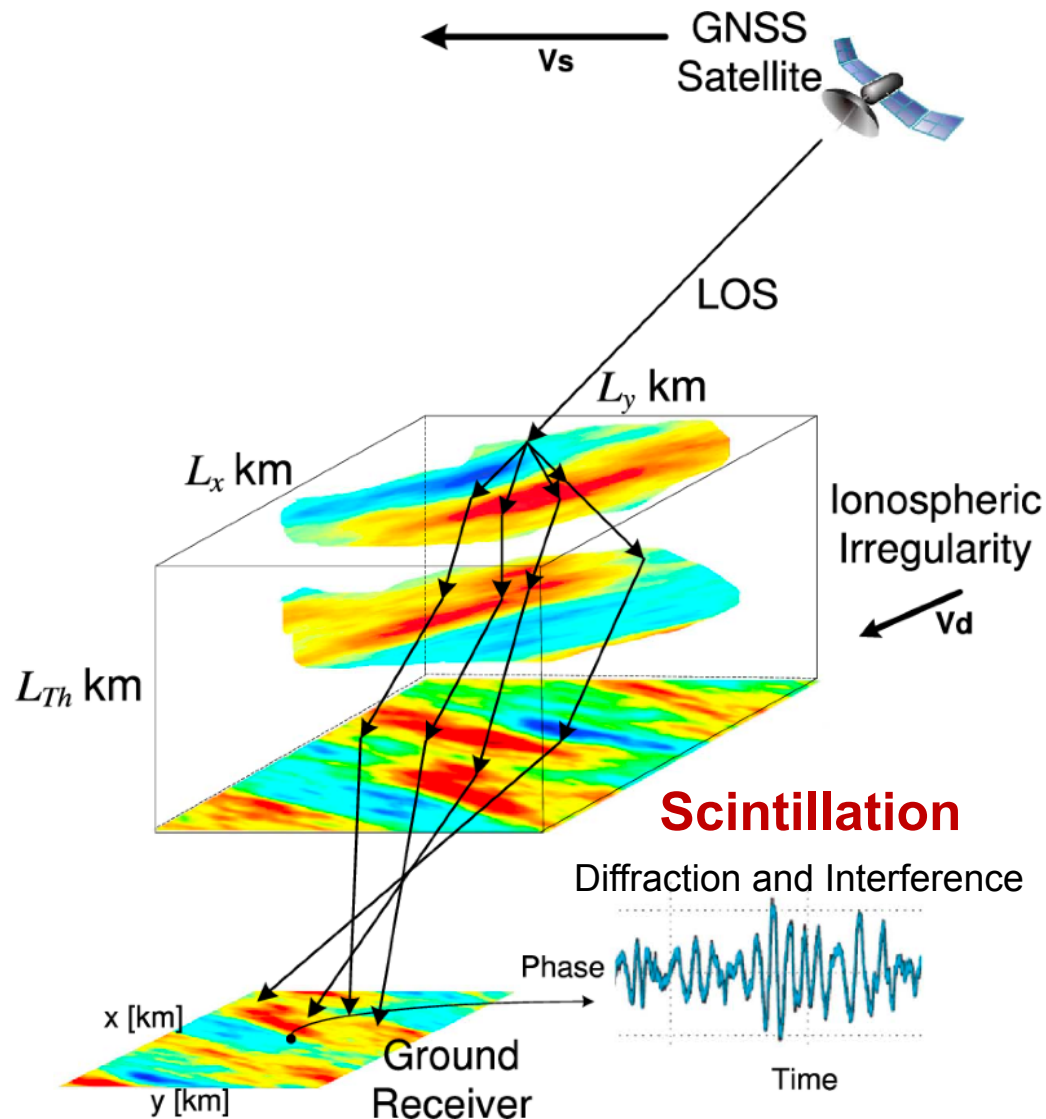


7:00UT-7:20UT  
07/29/2020

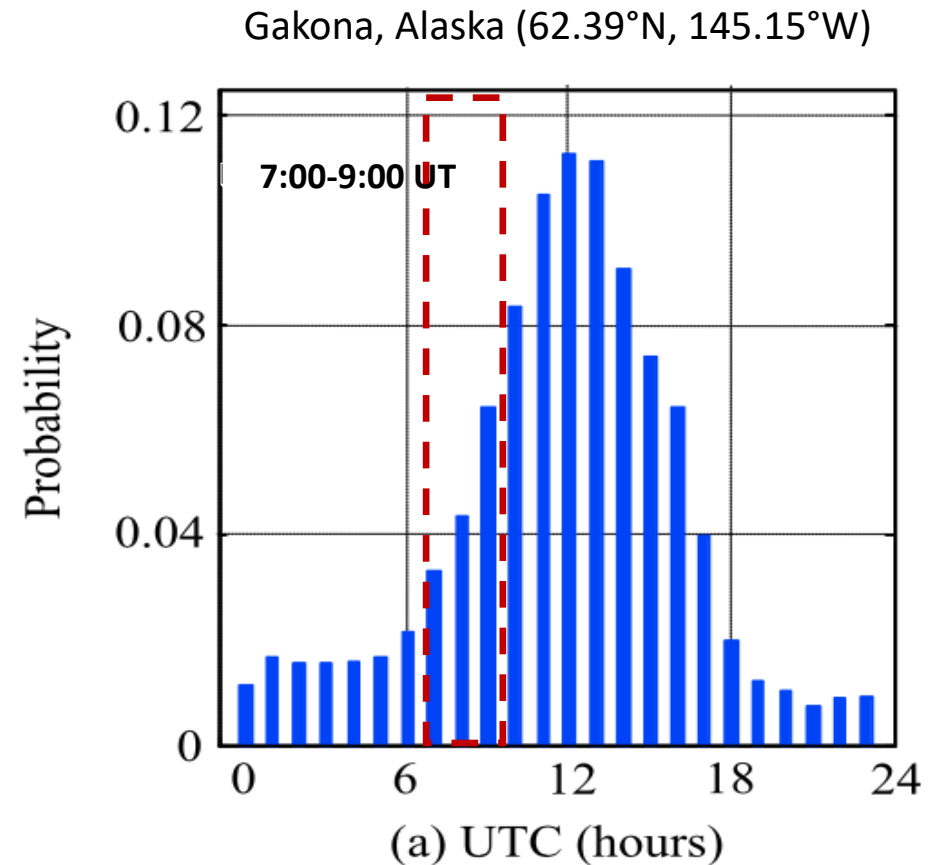
CORS GPS station  
15s sampling rate



# Impacts of E-region ionospheric behavior: Scintillation



Deshpande, K.B., et al., JGR, 2014



Jiao, Yu, et al. "Characterization of high-latitude ionospheric scintillation of GPS signals." *Radio Science* 48.6 (2013): 698-708.

# Summary

- ❑ Solar activity detected around 4:30 UT
- ❑ Observation of PFISR data
  - Auroral precipitation enhancement of electron density in E region in all directions from 7:00 UT to 7:20 UT
  - No significant change in electron density in F region
- ❑ Observation of GPS
  - Irregularities in total electron density observed at 7-8UT
  - Related to the auroral precipitation effects in E region
  - Scintillations may occur with large density gradient

# Acknowledgements

ISR Summer School 2020 has been very informative for us, thanks for organizing it online in this pandemic situation.

Thanks to all the speakers.

# Thank you!

# Questions and Suggestions