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SIGNATURES OF SOLAR EVENT AT MIDDLE AND LOW
LATITUDES IN THE EUROPE-AFRICAN SECTOR, DURING
GEOMAGNETIC STORMS, OCTOBER 2013.



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3 March 2015



OUTLINE



Introduction

GNSS & Magnetometers Data
Methods (Processing)

Results

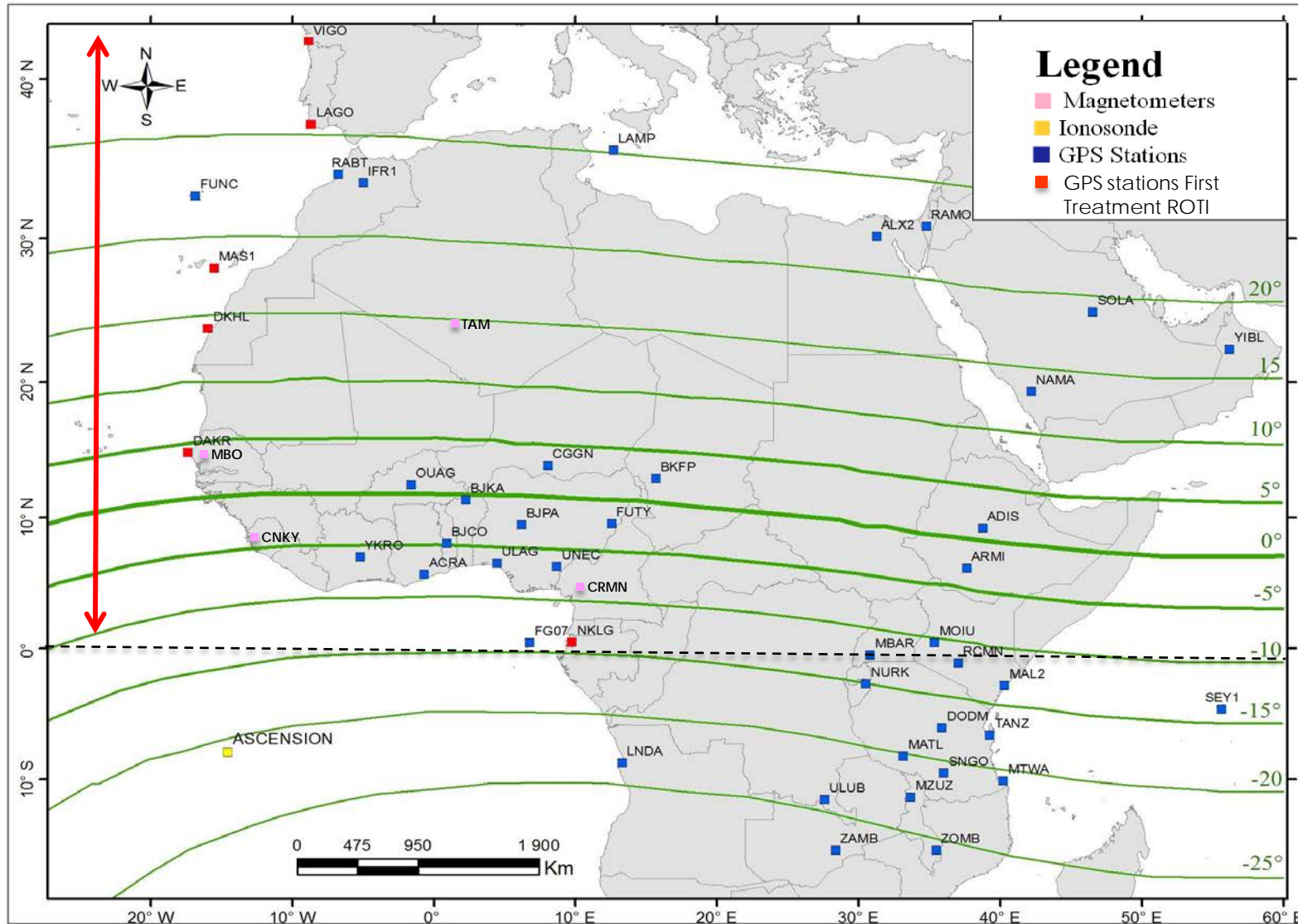
Discussion

Conclusion

GPS Stations Geographic and Geomagnetic coordinates



- ISWI dual GPS frequency's stations
- ISWI Magnetometers (AMBER)



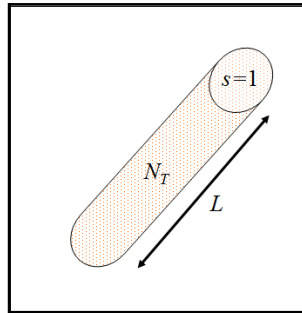
$$P_u^s(f) = \rho_u^s + c[b_u^s(f) - b^s(f)] + T_u^s + I_u^s(f) + \alpha_u^s(f)$$

ROTI Index

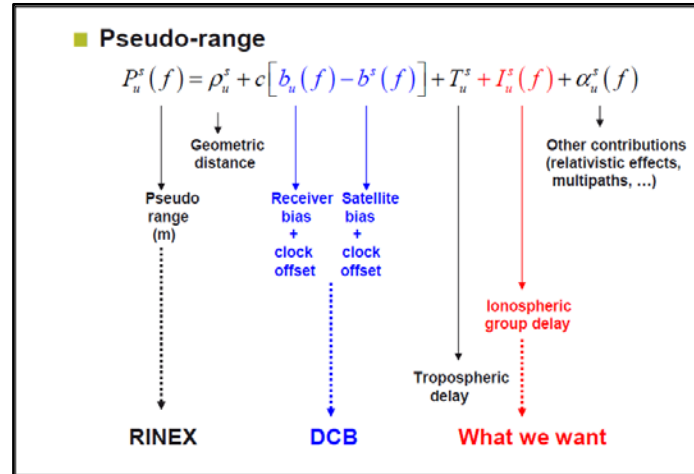


Total Electron Content

$$N_T = \int_L N_e dl$$



1 TECU = 10^{16} electrons m^{-2}



$$I_r^s(f) = \frac{a \cdot STEC}{f^2}$$

ROTI (tecu/min): **R**ate of change **O**f **T**EC **I**ndex

ROTI is computed each 30s by using phase measurements

It is a proxy of scintillation index

Scintillations disturb GPS signal

$$STEC = a \frac{f_1^2 f_2^2}{f_1^2 - f_2^2} (L_1 - L_2) \quad 1$$

$$ROT = \frac{STEC_{k+1} - STEC_k}{time_{k+1} - time_k} * 60 \quad 2$$

$$ROTI = \sqrt{\langle ROT^2 \rangle - \langle ROT \rangle^2} \quad 3$$

(Pi et al., 1997)

ROTI and Kp indices October 2013



ROTI Green / Kp : geomagnetic activity -red

Geographic Latitude

Geomagnetic Latitude (IGRF) (Inclination)

42.18 N

+30.18

37.09 N

+25.74

27.76 N

+18.59

23.68 N

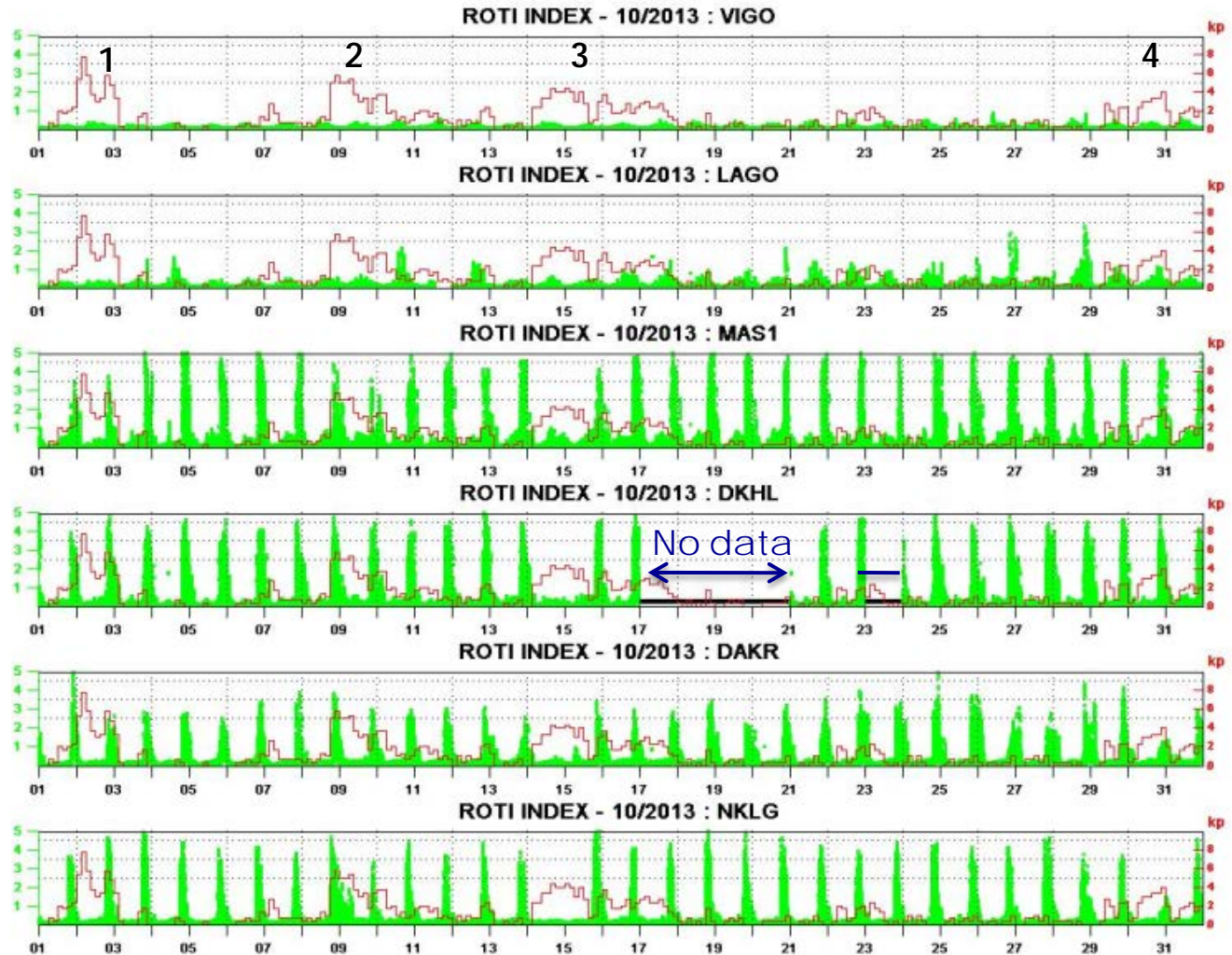
+14.85

14.68 N

+04.92

0.35 N

-5.68

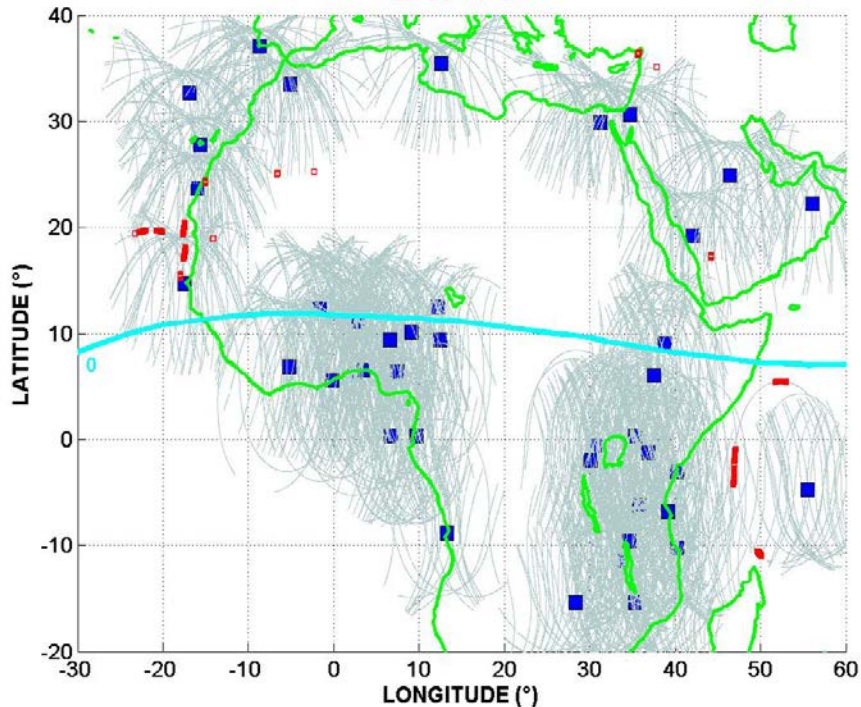


Disappearance of scintillations only on October 14

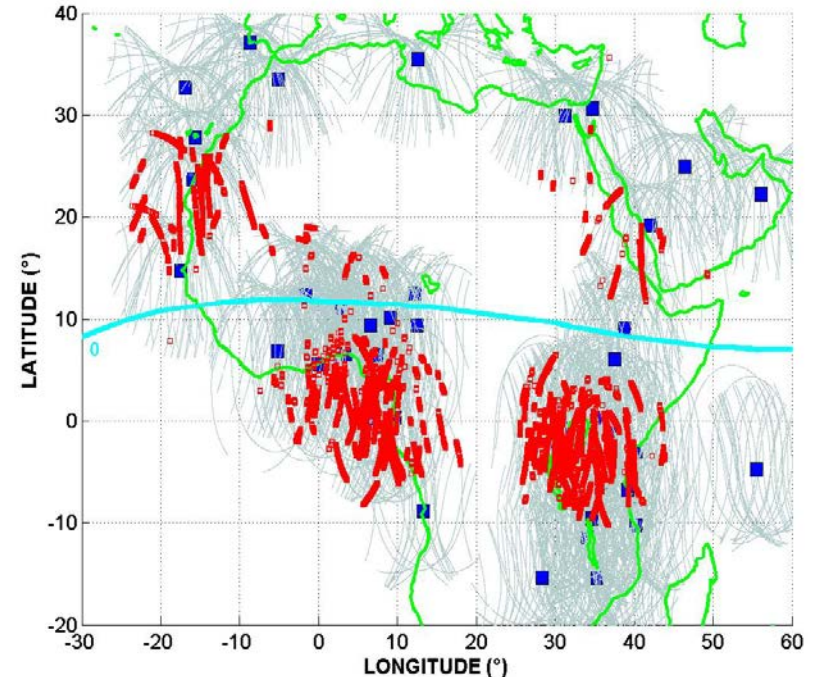
Maps of ROTI Index over the observing stations



2013-10-14

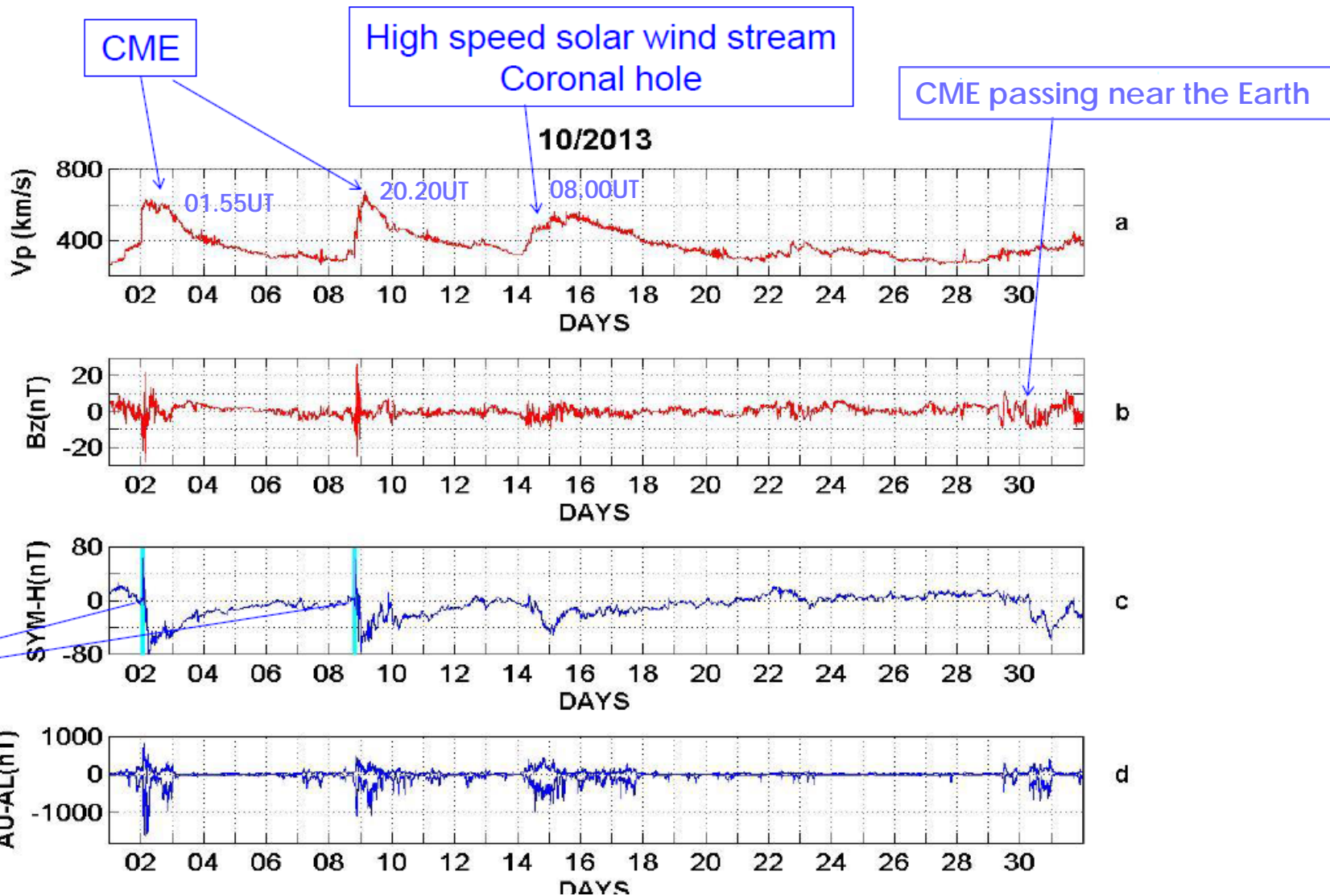


2013-10-15



- Maps of Tracks of GNSS satellite with Pseudorandom noise (PRN) codes and scintillation timing.
- Scintillation ($ROTI > 1.5 \text{ tecu/min}$) are provided for each track (read color).

The solar wind parameters and geomagnetic indices October 2013



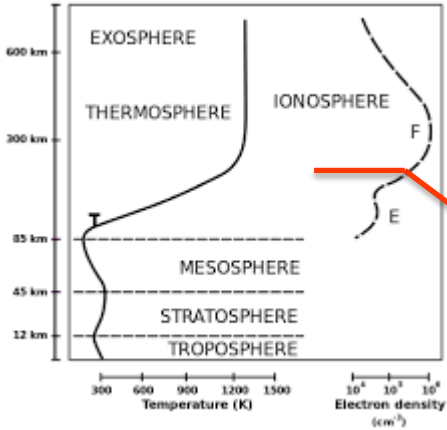
Variations of virtual height h' of the F₂ layer during October 2013, between 15h and 24h, every 15 min at 4 MHz.

Ionosonde "Ascension Station" Geographic Coordinates (14.5 W, 7.95 S)

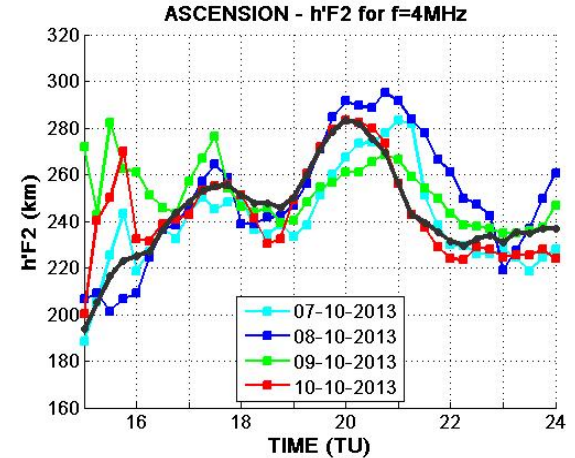
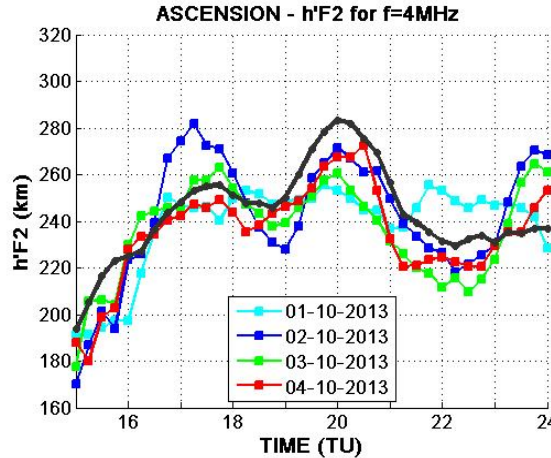


CME with SSC on October 2 at 01.55UT

CME with SSC on October 8 at 20.22 UT

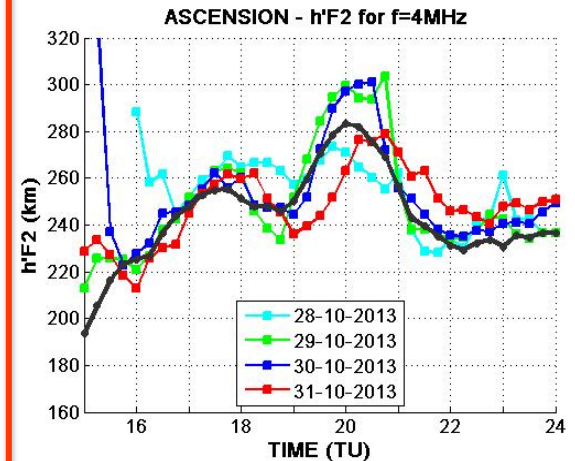
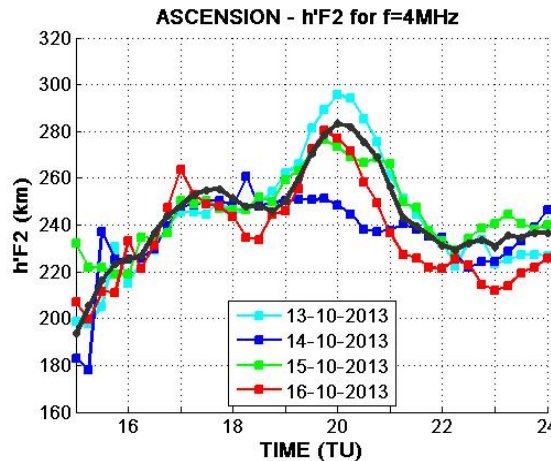


Atmospheric and Ionospheric layers



High speed solar wind on October 14 at 08.00UT

CME passing near the Earth

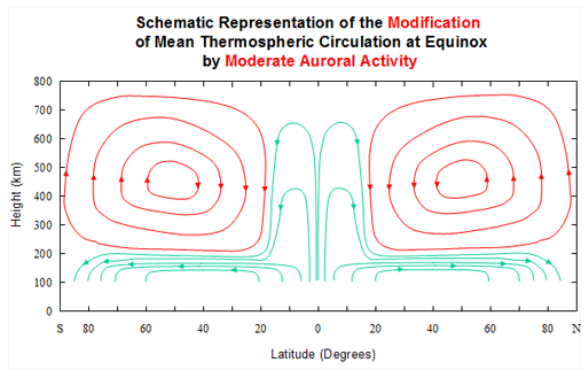
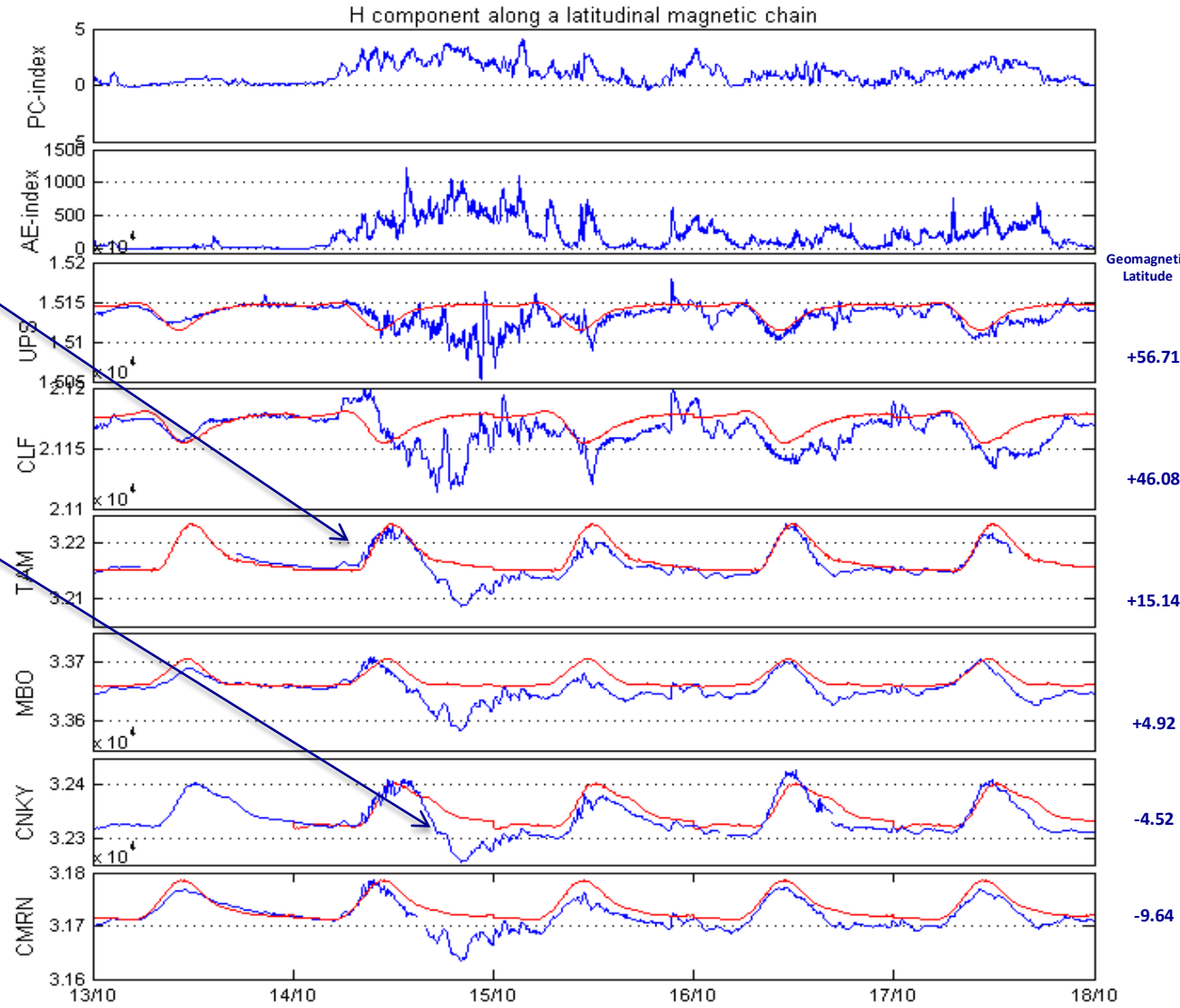


PC and AE indices and H component of the Earth's magnetic field along a latitudinal magnetic chain



Prompt Penetration of Electric Field effect (PPEF)
 The disturbance is simultaneously observed at all latitudes at the beginning of the storm.

Disturbance Dynamo Electric Field Effect (DDEF)
 The disturbance is observed several hour after the beginning of the storm at low latitudes



Equatorial Ionosphere during magnetic quiet time (post Sunset)

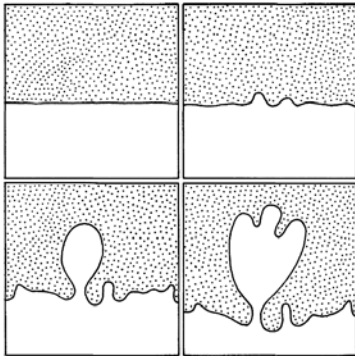
PRE : Pre reversal enhancement

Intense uplift of the eastward electric field + Height increase in the equatorial ionosphere

Growth rate of the Rayleigh Taylor instability => Irregularities in plasma



Plasma Bubble (Kelley 2009)



depletion of electronic density
Gradient of electronic density
=> Spread F, Scintillations

Scintillations Phase

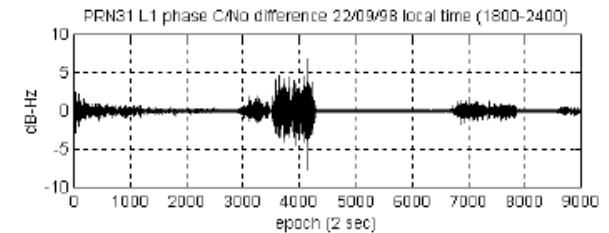


Figure 4.9b Sequential sketches made from photos of the hydrodynamic Rayleigh-Taylor instability. A heavy fluid is initially supported by a transparent lighter fluid.

during October 14th 2013

DDEF (D_{dyn})

Disturbance Dynamo Electric Field
associated to the high speed solar
wind → westward electric field



no uplift of the F2 layer



inhibition of scintillation over
whole Africa

Conclusion



- The inhibition of scintillations over Africa only on October 14 is due to DDEF (Disturbance Dynamo electric field associated to the high speed solar wind).
- This process creates a westward electric field opposite to the regular eastward electric field at the origin of the lift up of the F layer and at the origin of scintillations.

Perspective

- A statistical study of correlation between inhibitions of scintillations (no uplift of the F2 layer) and solar event (high speed solar wind stream and Coronal Holes) .



Thank you for your attention

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