Grand Challenge Tutorial Concert: Coordinated Ground and Space-based Observations of the Ionosphere-Thermosphere System

Katelynn Greer

Alan Burns, Scott England, Iurii Cherniak, Carlos Martinis, Wenbin Wang









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Grand Challenge:

Integrate Different Views to Get A Comprehensive Understanding

What's our Elephant?



What We Know: It's a Complex System



What We Know: Climatology

• Temperatures



What We Know: Climatology

Composition



What We Know: Climatology

• Winds & Plasmas



Grand Challenge: Concert

What We Don't Know...

- Weather vs Climate
- Separating Spatial and Temporal Variability
- Develop locally or drift into view



What We Don't Know...

- Composition
 - How does O and N2 vary and what is their relationship to the ionosphere?
 - How does total neutral density vary?
 - How do minor species in the thermosphere vary and what are their roles in cooling the thermosphere?
 - How do total solar eclipses affect the composition?
 - How does the thermosphere respond to variations in EUV?
 - What is the influence of composition changes on the ionospheric F2 peak and the topside ionosphere?
 - How does the transition from a mixed to a heterogeneous atmosphere occur?
- Storms
 - What is the composition change during geomagnetic storms?
 - How can we forecast the impact of flares, CME's and coronal holes on Earth's thermosphere and ionosphere?

See Rishbeth, 2004; Prölss, 2006; Burns et al., 2007

What We Don't Know...

- Lower Atmospheric Forcing
 - What gravity waves make it into the thermosphere? What momentum do they contribute to the thermosphere?
 - What are the tides in the thermosphere?
 - What role do Solar Terminator Waves play in agitating the thermosphere and ionosphere?
 - Are there planetary waves in the thermosphere?
- Plasma Structures
 - What seeds plasma bubbles? And can we develop a method of forecasting them?
 - What influences the formation and evolution of the Equatorial Ionospheric Anomaly?
 - What causes the asymmetry in the Equatorial Ionospheric Anomaly?
 - Is there longitudinal variability in the thermosphere and ionosphere?
 - How well are the night electron density and conductivity really known?
- Aurora
 - How is the phenomena "Steve" related to our understanding of auroral activity?
 - How is energy from the high-latitude regions transferred to other parts of the globe?

See Rishbeth, 2004; Prölss, 2006; Burns et al., 2007

What Elephant "Investigators" Do We Have? Ground-Based





Lidar



Instruments

- Alomar
- McMurdo
- USU
- CU-Boulder
- Cerro Pachon
- Arecibo
- Many stations around the world

Data

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 Point Profiles of temperature, densities, winds

What Elephant "Investigators" Do We Have? Incoherent Scatter Radar



Millstone Hill



- Instruments
 - Millstone
 - Jicamarca
 - Arecibo
 - AMISR
 - Resolute Bay
 - EISCAT

• Data

- Ion velocities, plasma density profiles, electron and ion temperatures
- Electric field, winds

Fabry-Perot Interferometer

Instruments

Ground-based FPI sites below 45° latitude





• Data

Status Good

Unknown Needs Repair

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- Nighttime Temperature 200-270km
- Wind

updated July 2018



BOSTON UNIVERSITY AII-SKY IMAGERS at McDonald Obs., TX and Millstone Hill, MA McDonald Obs. 85° FOV, 400km 6300 Å ●Millstone Hill 85° FOV, 400km 6300 Å

C. Martinis

All-Sky Imagers



Instruments

- THEMIS
- REGO
- BU
- SRI
- INPE
- UNIVAP

• Data

- Gravity waves
- Auroral features
- Particle precipitation
- Equatorial Ionization Anomaly

Ionosondes Digisondes





Instruments



- Data
 - NmF2
 - HmF2
 - Vertical drifts
 - Bottomside profiles

GNSS

• Instruments

• Networks of scientific grade receivers







• Data

- TEC
- Scintillation

What Elephant "Investigators" Do We Have? Data Assimilation & Models



- General Circulation Models
 - TIE-GCM
 - WAM
 - WACCM-X
 - GITM
- Data Assimilation Schemes
 - Fusion of model and data

- MIGHTI
 - Temperature and velocity of thermosphere
- IVM
 - Ion Velocity
- EUV
 - Height and density of daytime ionosphere
- FUV
 - Thermosphere composition and nighttime density of ionosphere



- Joint Taiwan/US Mission
- Radio Occultations
 - 6 satellites with JPL TriG receivers and high-gain antennas
 - 5000 soundings per day
 - Low and mid-latitudes
- TEC Measurements
- IVM and RF Beacon Payloads



Host Mission

 SES-14, in geostationary orbit over mouth of the Amazon River (47.5°W)

GOLD Instrument

- Two identical, independent imagers
- Each observes disk and limb in UV

• Data

- Earth's disk images
 - Daytime: Radiance, temperature and composition of thermosphere
 - Nighttime: Density of ionosphere
- Earth's limb
 - Temperature and densities in the thermosphere

http://gold.cs.ucf.edu/

GOLD 2019–080

GOLD

2019.03.21

(0.0N, 47.5W)



1700 GOLD LT

2010 UT

slit width: $1.00 \times \text{original LR}$ width

Grand Challenge: Concert

CHALLENGE CALL

Coordinated Ground and Space-based Observations of the lonosphere-Thermosphere System

Year 1 Objectives: Initial sharing of current observation capabilities



- Survey of current
 - ground-based instruments
 - space-based assets
 - models/data assimilations

Year 1 Objectives: Development and dissemination of a timeline of planned activities

- Total Eclipses
 - July 2, 2019
 - Co-incident with international campaign
 - December 14, 2020
- Gravity wave experiments
 - Atlantic hurricane season
 - SouthTrack campaign
- Whole Heliosphere & Planetary Interactions
- Madrigal Database ISR campaigns







Year 1 Objectives: Theoretical support of observational campaigns



Year 1 Objectives: Access to both data taken and time lines of upcoming events

- Webpage detailing campaigns
 - Where to find data!
- Madrigal (?)



Grand Challenge will only be successful with CEDAR community participation

CONCERT A/B

- Monday TODAY 13:30-15:30
 - Mesa-A
 - Update on COSMIC-2
- Tuesday TOMORROW 10:00-12:00
 - Mesa-A
 - Updates on GOLD & ICON
- katelynn.greer@lasp.colorado.edu
- <u>aburns@ucar.edu</u>





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