Automatic Whistler Detector and Analyzer Network (AWDANet):

Real-time monitoring of plasmaspheric electron densities



Dávid KORONCZAY^{1,2}, János LICHTENBERGER^{2,1}, Balázs HEILIG³, Anders JØRGENSEN⁴, Lilla JUHÁSZ², Péter STEINBACH^{2,5}, Csaba FERENCZ², Mark CLILVERD⁶, Craig RODGER⁷

(1) Geodetic and Geophysical Institute, RCAES HAS, Sopron, Hungary

(2) Department of Geophysics and Space Sciences, Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary

(3) Geological and Geophysical Institute of Hungary, Earth Physics Dept, Tihany, Hungary

(4) Electrical Engineering Department, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, USA

(5) MTA-ELTE Research Group for Geology, Geophysics and Space Sciences, Budapest, Hungary

(6) British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK.

(7) Department of Physics, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

AWDANet (PLASMON) stations around the world

as of June 2016



Whistlers

 Whistlers are VLF (3-30 kHz) impulses generated by lightning, traveling along magnetic field lines, observable on the ground and/or in space



- Through propagation in the plasma content of the magnetosphere, they acquire a frequency-time signal with a characteristic shape
 x10⁴ Durredin, 2006-02-04 11:50:23UT
- The time delay depends on the plasma density along the propagation path
- ⇒ Whistler measurements tell us about the plasma density in the plasmasphere



Automatic Whistler Analysis*

- Benefits:
 - 1. **fully automated** (unlike previous inversion algorithms)

2. also handles whistler groups (multiple propagation path whistler traces) consistently

* Lichtenberger, J. (2009), A new whistler inversion method, J. Geophys. Res., 114, A07222.

Implementation on GPU's

- Speed critical (+parallel) parts in C/CUDA
- 2 GeForce GTX 590 cards = 4 GPU cores per host
- one such host can process a MP whistler group in ~ 60 seconds
 → real time processing is achieved!

Disturbed period I. Magnetic Storm on 15 July 2012 (DOY=196)

10535 whistler events recorded at Rothera (Antarctica)



12-21 July 2012



Assimilative Run for 2012 July Event

1. Initial model conditioning, then storm onset and shrinking plasmasphere



2. Recovery phase, plasmasphere refilling

no assimilation assimilation

Plasma density maps. (DGCPM model. Data assimilation inputs from AWDANet and EMMA/McMAC)

AWDANet - Conclusion



- Automatic Whistler Detector and Analyzer Network
- Covering low, medium and high magnetic latitudes (40°-60°) (+ sometimes conjugates)
- Completion with 15 stations @ middle of 2014, in real-time operation since
- Archive data since 2002 (currently being processed)

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