

Machine-/Deep-Learning Applications to Space Science

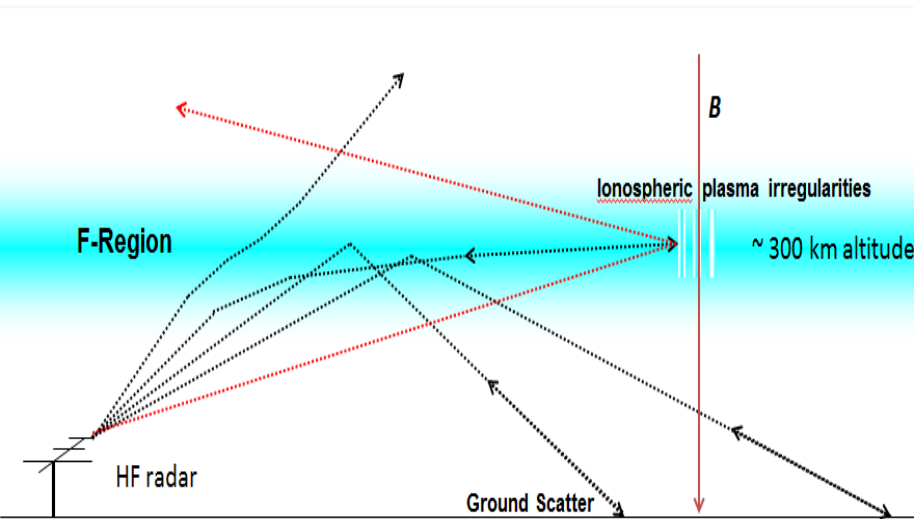
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Virginia Tech

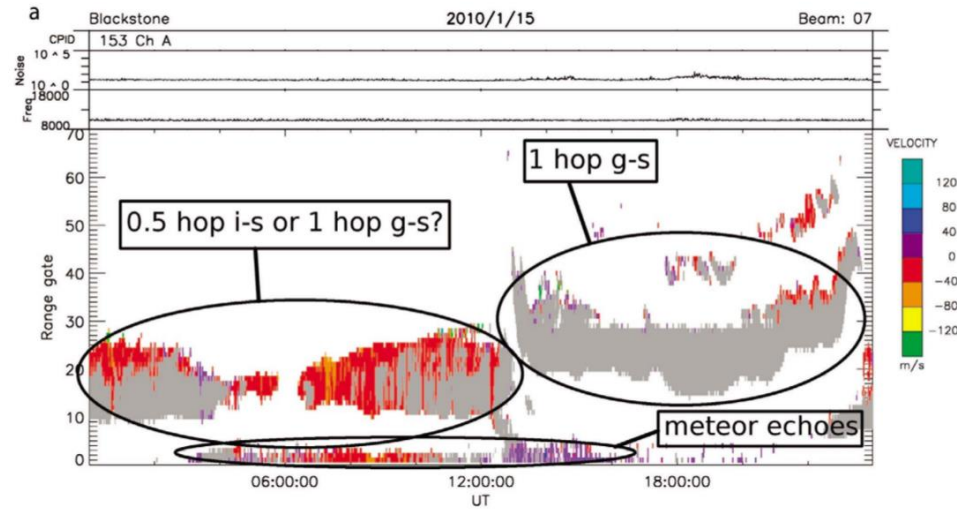
Presentation Outline

- **Project I**: Characterizing SuperDARN Backscatter Echoes using Machine Learning Algorithm (*manuscript in preparation*)
- **Project II**: A Deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast GPS TEC over the North American Sector (*manuscript in preparation*)
- **Project III**: A deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast the Onset of Magnetic Substorms (*manuscript submitted to Space Weather*)

Project I: Characterizing SuperDARN Backscatter Echoes using Machine Learning Algorithm – Background



HF rays are refracted in the ionosphere as they encounter gradients in electron density



RTI Plot showing SuperDARN Blackstone Radar Data

- Separating different types of scatters (ionospheric, ground, meteor and mixed) is one of the major challenges [Riberio et al. 2011; Burrell et al. 2018] and still an open area of research in SuperDARN.
- **Problem statement:** Use unsupervised machine learning (Gaussian Mixture Model – GMM) to improve SuperDARN ground/ionospheric scatter classification.

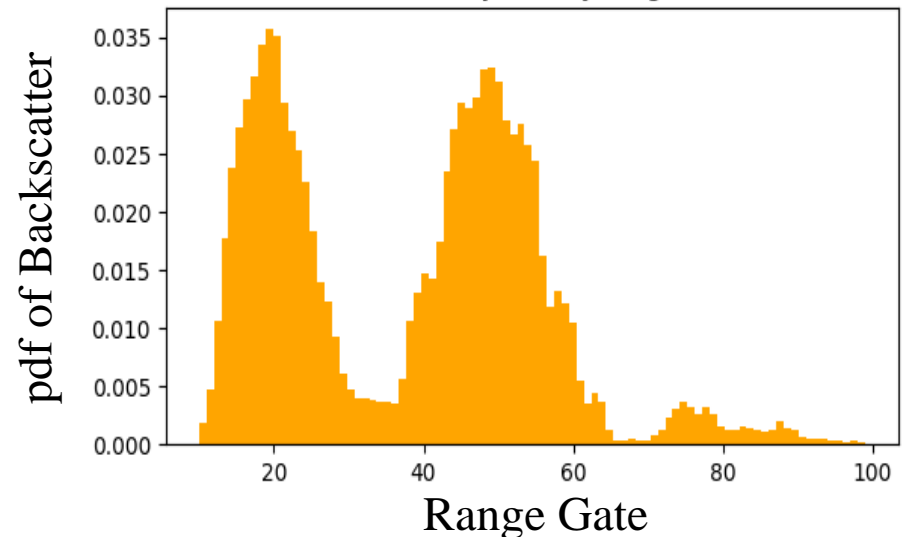
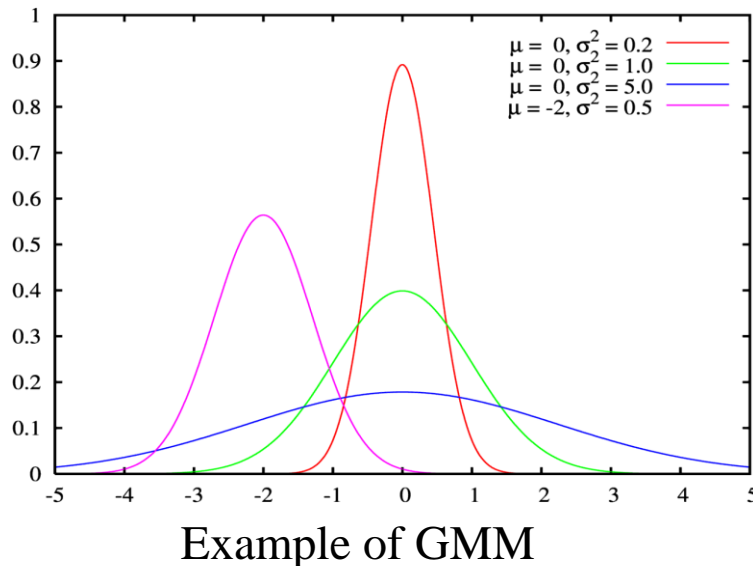
Project I: Characterizing SuperDARN Backscatter Echoes using Machine Learning Algorithm – Dataset & Algorithms

Dataset: SuperDARN high latitude Saskatoon and mid latitude Christmas Valley radars.

Features: Doppler Velocity, Spectral Width, Range Gate, Beam Number, Time of day.

Gaussian Mixture Model: GMM is a probabilistic model that assumes all the data points are generated from a mixture of a finite number of Gaussian distributions with unknown parameters.

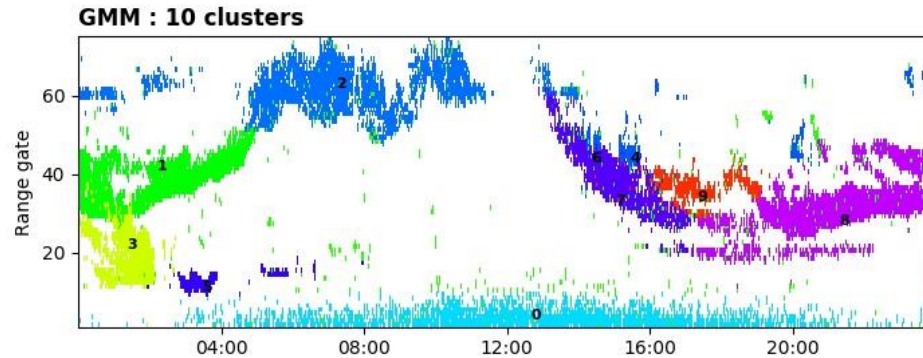
- Useful for non-spatial feature clustering (**Advantage**).
- Can create clusters with arbitrarily high variance, which often don't make physical sense (**Disadvantage**).
- Have to tune number of clusters (hyper parameter) for each day (**Limitation**).



Project I: Characterizing SuperDARN Backscatter Echoes using Machine Learning Algorithm – Sample Results

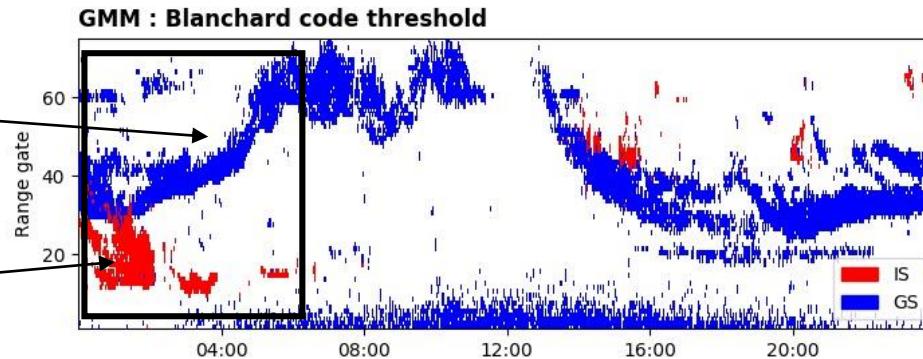
SAS Beam 8 05/Apr/2018

GMM:10 Clusters

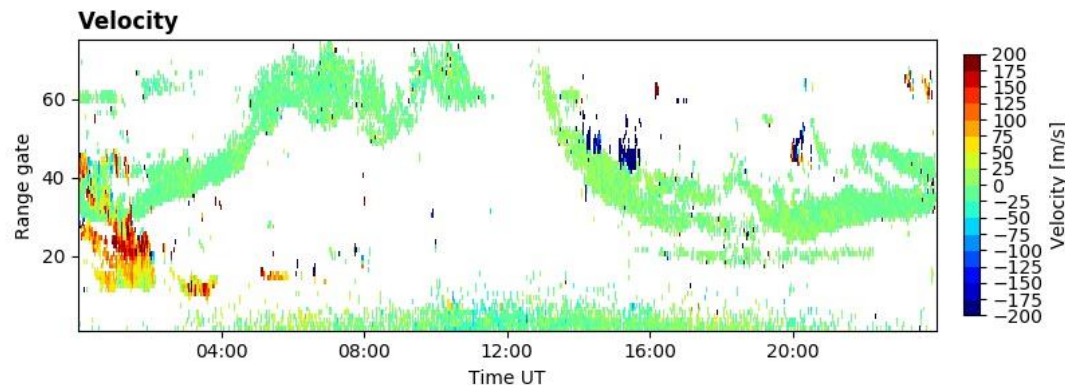


Ground Scatter

Ionospheric Scatter



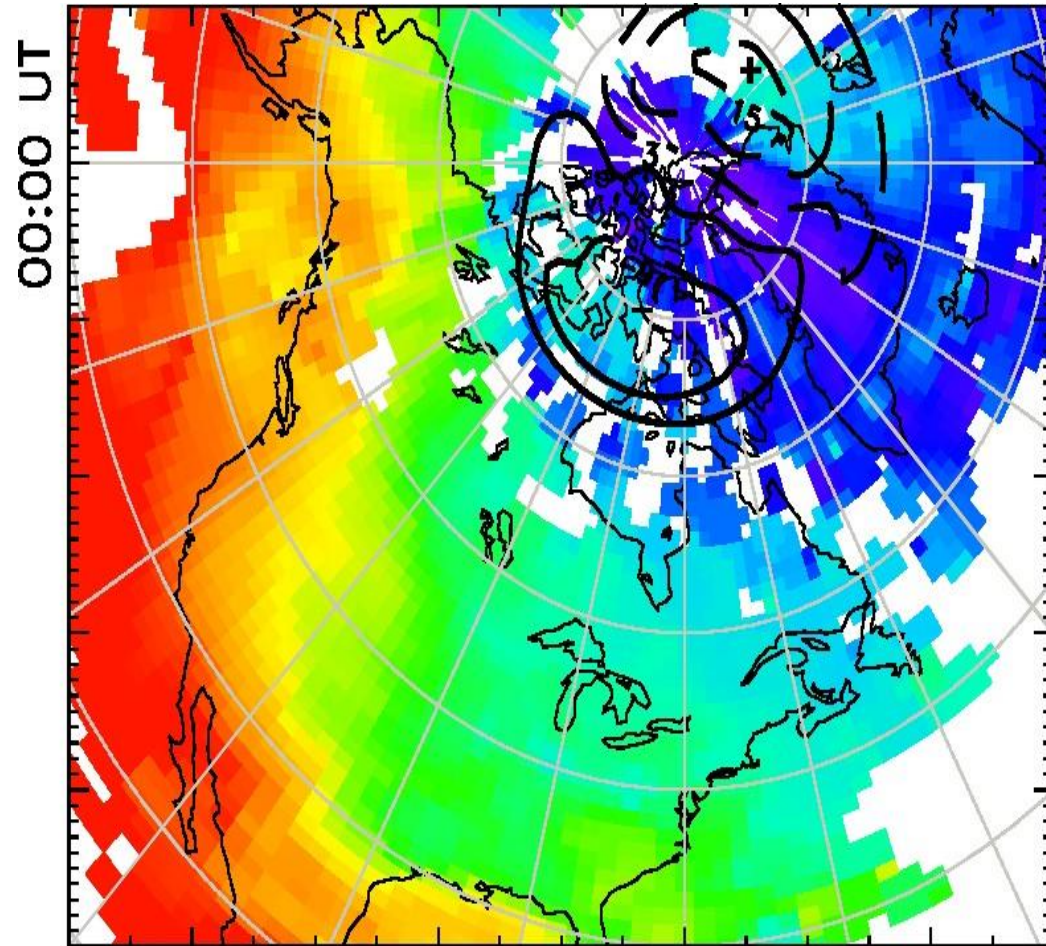
Line-of-Sight Velocity



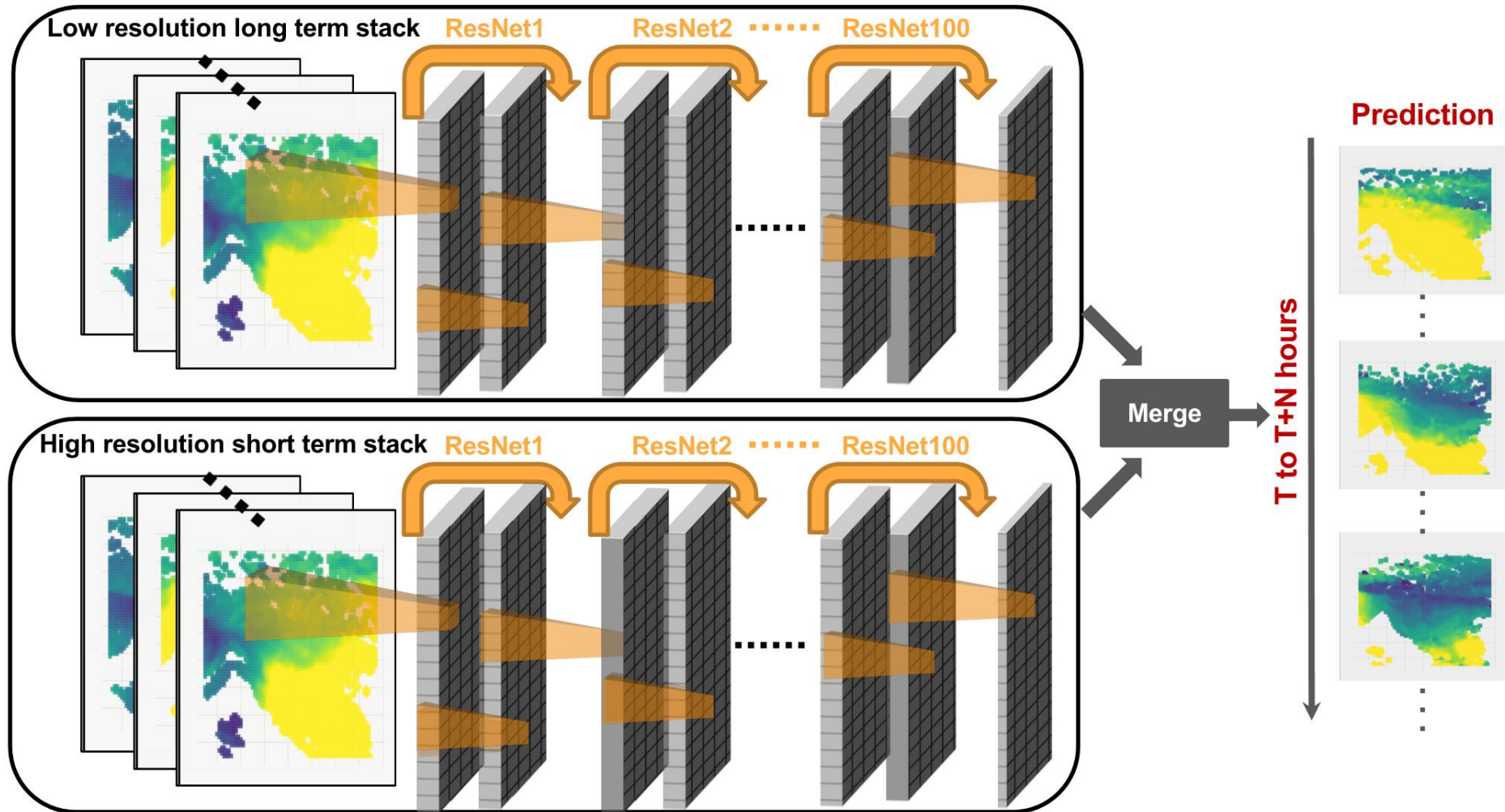
Project II: A Deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast GPS TEC over the North American Sector – Background

GPS TEC map

- Total Electron Content (TEC): the integral of electron density in a 1 m^2 column along the signal transmission path.
- 1×2 (MLAT, MLON) bins of GPS TEC values.
- Median filtered GPS TEC values over the North American Sector are used.
- **Problem statement**: Given a history of GPS TEC values (maps), predict TEC values over the entire North American continent for the next 1, 2 and 4 hours.



Project II: A Deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast GPS TEC over the North American Sector – Model Architecture



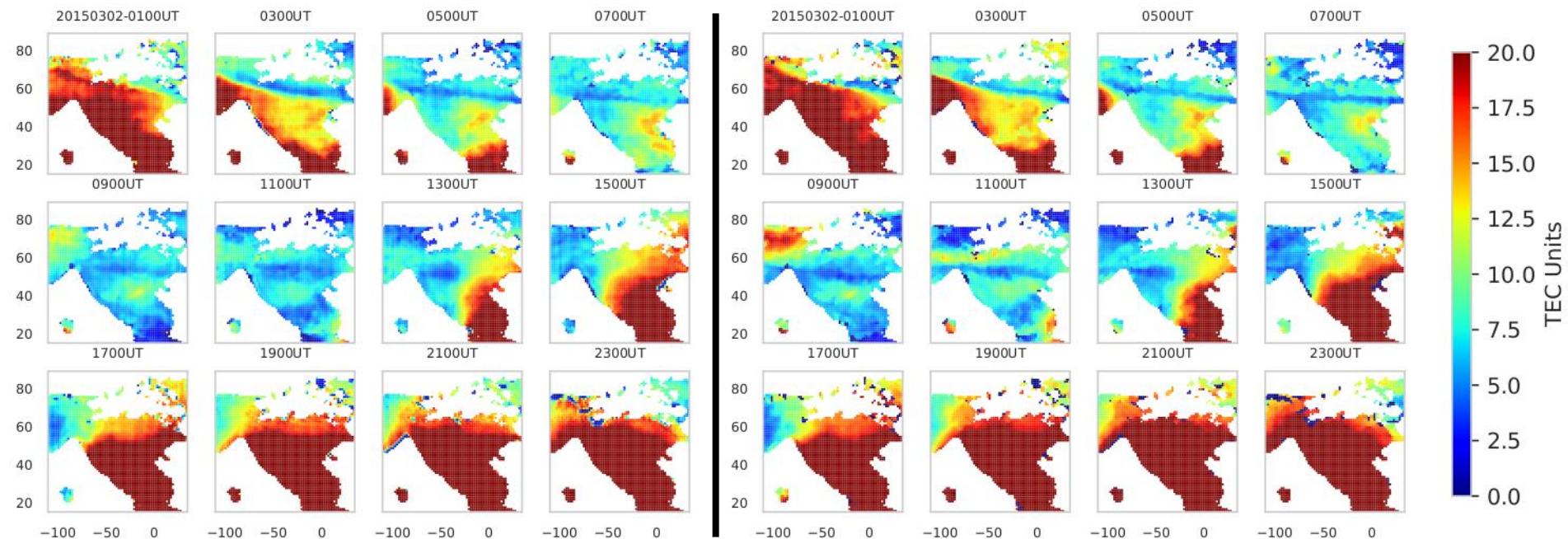
Architecture of the deep-learning model used for GPS TEC prediction.

Project II: A Deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast GPS TEC over the North American Sector – Sample Predictions

Model prediction on Mar-02-2015

Predicted TEC Maps

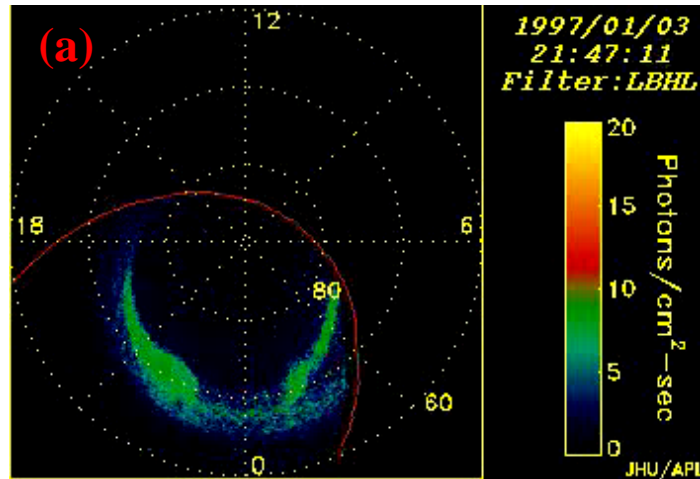
True TEC Maps



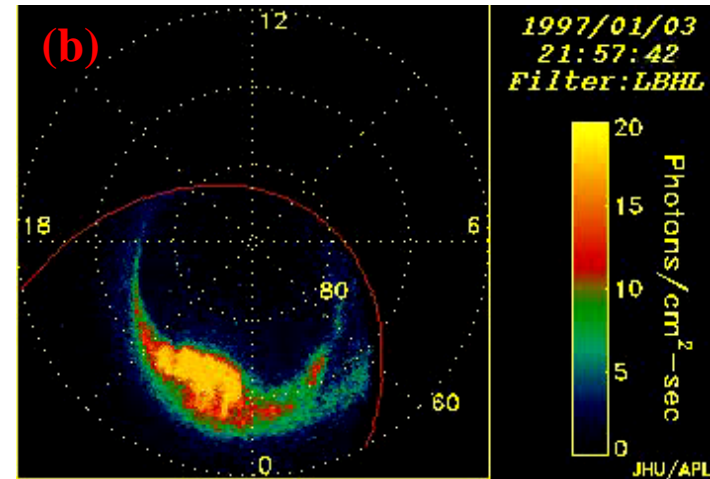
B. Kunduri, M. Maimaiti, J. B. H. Baker, J. M. Ruohoniemi (2019). A deep learning based approach to forecast the onset of magnetic substorms. *Space Weather*. ([In preparation](#))

Project III: A deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast the Onset of Magnetic Substorms – Background

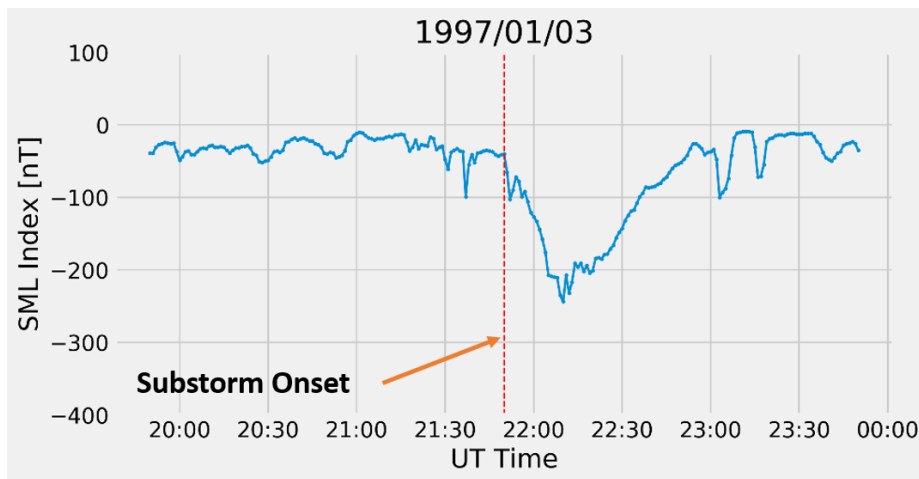
Substorm Onset



10 Minute after Substorm Onset



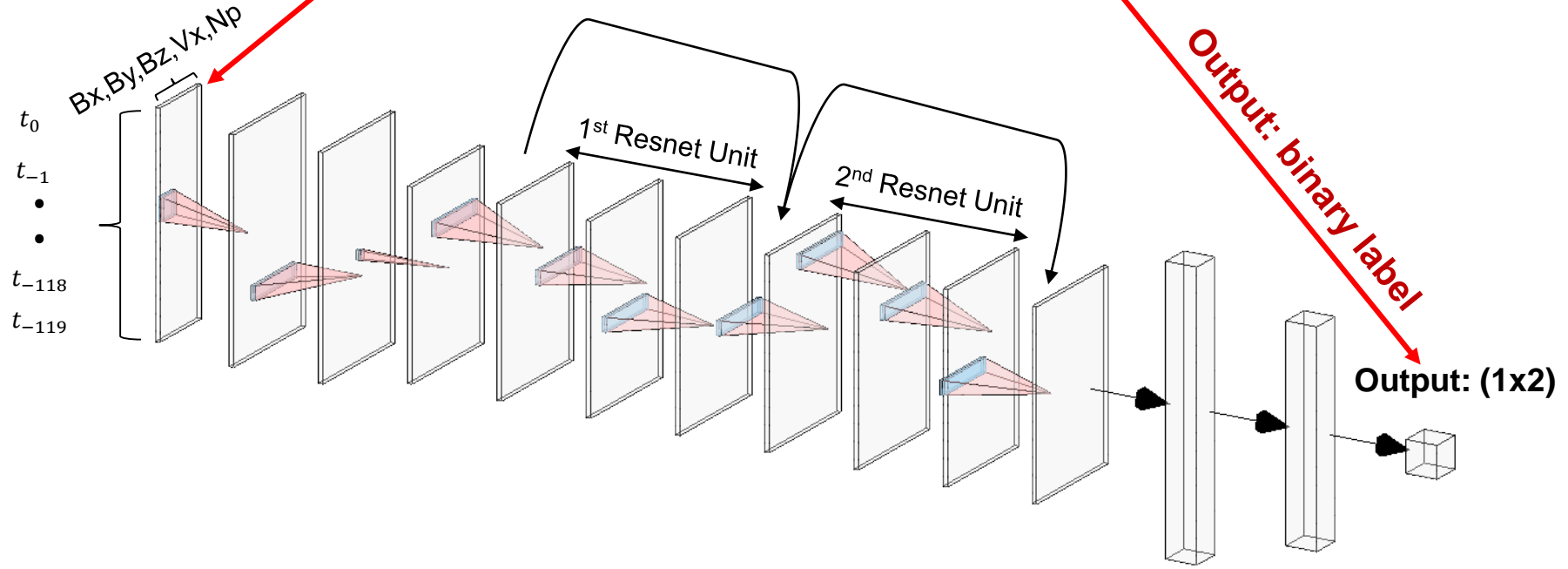
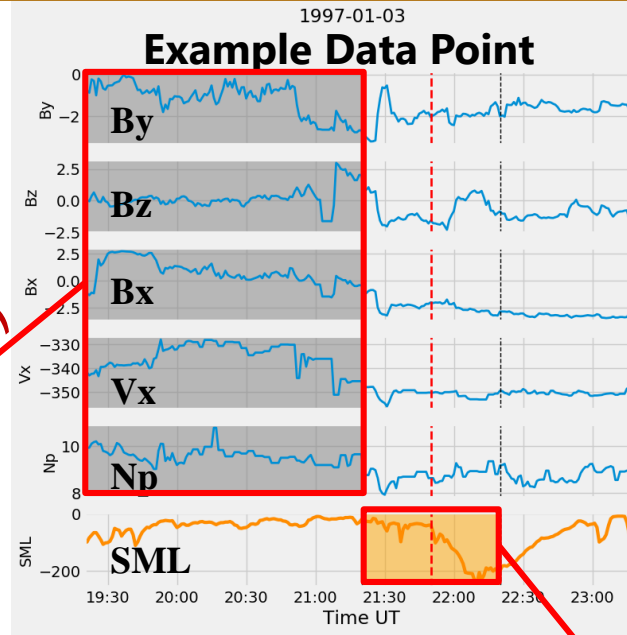
An example of an auroral substorm occurred at **21:47 UT** on January 3rd, 1997, captured by cameras onboard of Polar UVI satellites.



An example of a magnetic substorm occurred at **21:50 UT** on January 3rd, 1997, as seen from SML index.

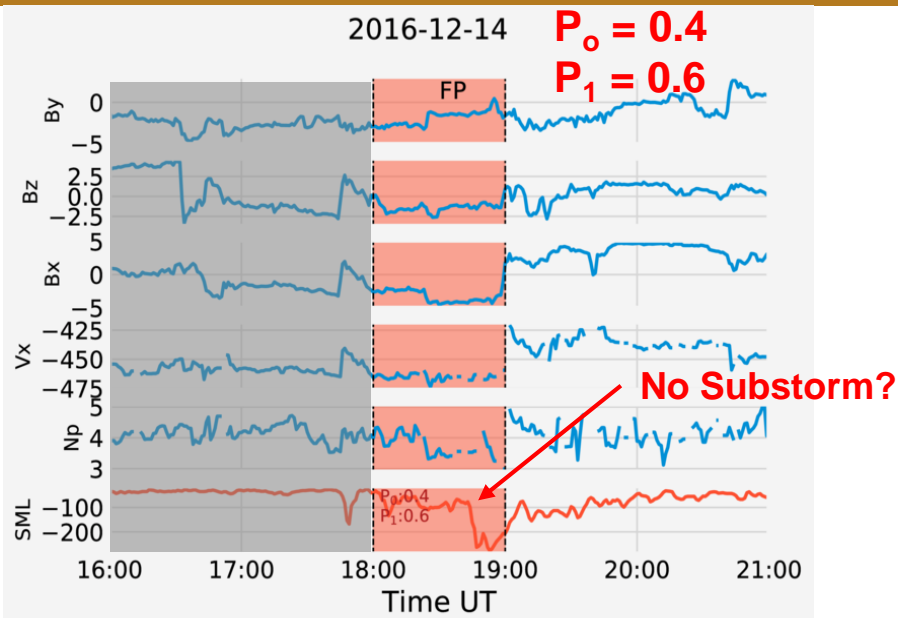
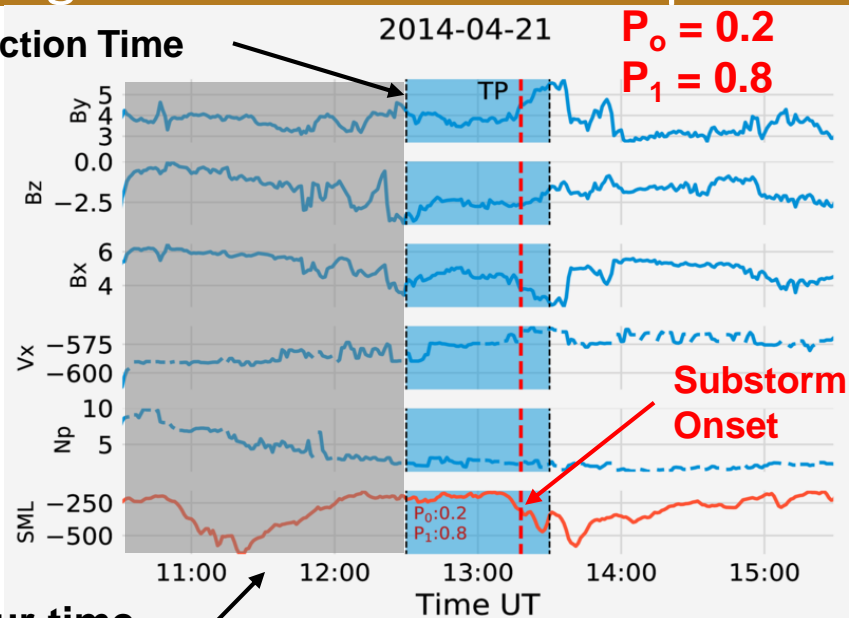
Problem Statement: Use 120-minute time history of solar wind bulk speed (V_x), proton number density (N_p), and interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) components (B_x , B_y , B_z) to predict the occurrence probability of a magnetic substorm onset.

Project III: A deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast the Onset of Magnetic Substorms – Model Architecture

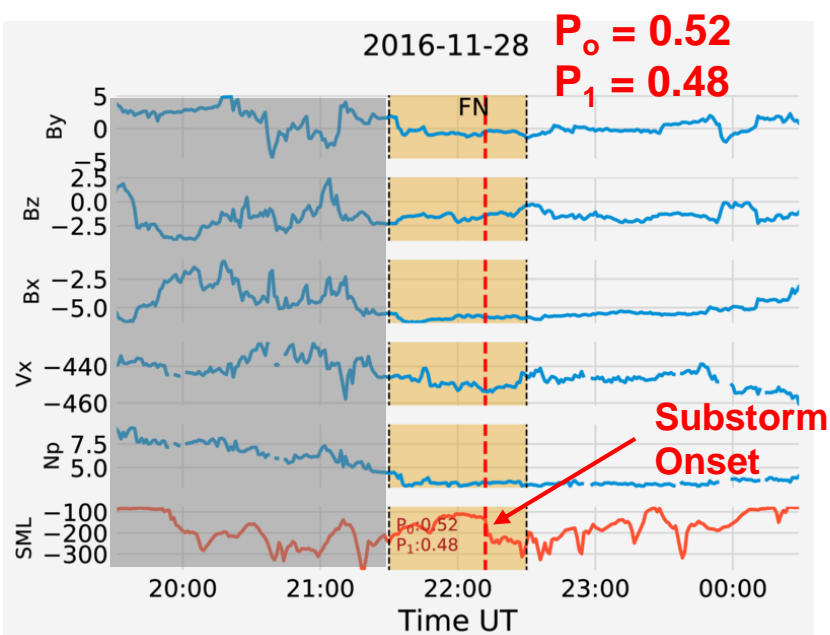
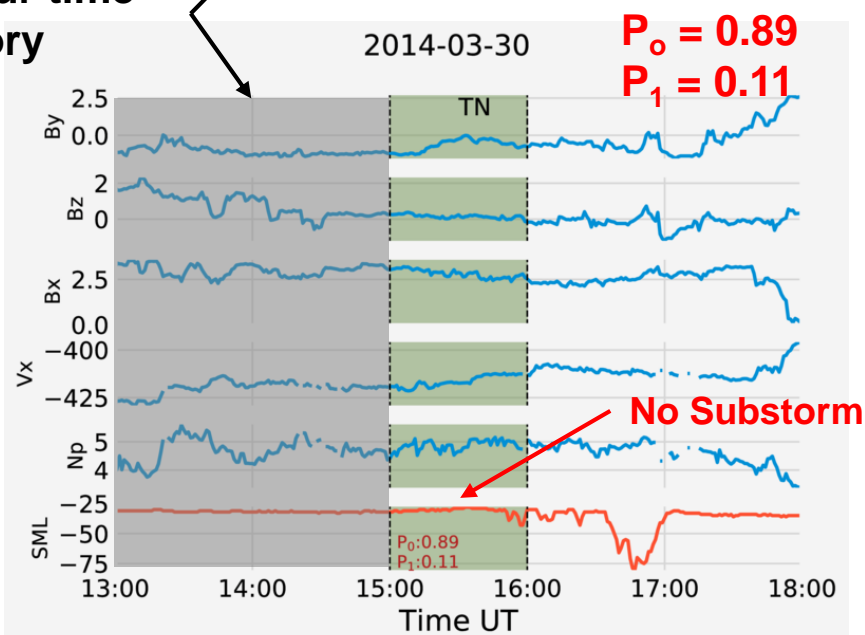


Project III: A deep Learning Based Approach to Forecast the Onset of Magnetic Substorms – Sample Predictions

Prediction Time



2-hour time history



Applications of Data Science and Engineering to Magnetospheric Physics and Aeronomy

SPA-Magnetospheric Physics (SM005)

Space science is a data-rich field, comprising data from many space- and ground-based instruments developed over the last several decades. This dataset is made up of numerous important parameters measured in the **near Earth space environment** and provide crucial information required to answer important questions in the field. However, working with such massive datasets comes with its own set of challenges, both in terms of **data engineering and analysis**. Recently there has been a remarkable advancement in the field of **data science** which can be attributed to better infrastructure and availability of many **open source libraries**. This session solicits contributions describing applications of **data science and engineering, data mining, and machine learning to space science**. We particularly welcome contributions focusing on applications of tools and techniques that provide **real time analysis**, assist scientific operation and discovery, or contribute to the advancement of science in general.

AGU Fall Meeting 2019



AGU Fall Meeting 2019

American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting

Date: 12/9/2019 - 12/13/2019

Venue: Moscone Center, San Francisco CA, United States

Abstracts due: July 31, 2019

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Thank You!