Vary-Chap specification of the topside ionosphere and extension to plasmasphere



Bodo Reinisch, Patrick Nsumei, Xueqin Huang

- /(

XIV INTERNATIONAL GIRO FORUM · 20-23 MAY

Lowell Digisonde International, LLC & University of Massachusetts Lowell, CAR

The Vary-Chap Model

- Represent measured ISIS topside profiles as Vary-Chap functions
- **Parameterize the shape function S(h)** in the Vary-Chap function
- Model S(h) as function of local time, latitude, and season





Represent every measured ISIS-2 Profile as a Vary-Chap Function

$$\frac{N(h)}{N_m} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{S(h)}} \exp\left[\frac{1}{2}(1-y-\exp(-y))\right] \qquad y(h) = \frac{1}{h_m} \int_{h_m}^h \frac{dh}{S(h)}$$

[see Nsumei et al., RS 2012]

Solve for S(h):

$$S(h) = \left(\frac{N(h)}{N_{m}}\right)^{-2} X \cdot (1 - \ln X) \quad \text{Note that} \quad S(h_{m}) = 1$$
where $X(h) = 1 + \frac{1}{h_{m}} \int_{h_{m}}^{h} \left(\frac{N(h)}{N_{m}}\right)^{2} dh$



Starting with the measured ISIS-2 Ne profile





Profile Modeling

- S(H) is modeled as function of local time, latitude, and season.
- A parametric presentation of S(h) is selected: S*(h; α, β, h_T)

 h_T is determined for each N(h) profile as the height where N_e = 2 N(O⁺) [Marinov and Kutiev, 2004]

 α and β are determined by least squares fitting S^{*}(h) to S(h)



Find h_T for each Ne profile



[Marinov, Kutiev, et al., 2004]



Parameterizing the S(h) function

Each S(h) profile is represented by an analytical function S^{*}(h) which depends on parameters α , β , and h_{τ} :







Validation

Compare N/N_m model with measured ISIS-2 profiles























Reinisch et al., Modeling the F2 topside and plasmasphere for IRI using IMAGE/RPI and ISIS data, Adv. Space Res., 39, 731-738, 2007

Nsumei et al., New Vary-Chap profile of the topside ionosphere electron density distribution for use with the IRI Model and the GIRO real time data, *Radio Sci.*, 2012

SUMMARY

- Measured topside profiles are expressed as Chapman functions with continuously varying plasma scale height using shape function S(h)
- The shape function S(h) is represented by a parameterized function S*(h) which allows analytical integration for the calculation of N(h)/N_m
- Model parameters (α , β , h_T) are determined as means of (α_i , β_i , h_{Ti}) for each lat/LT/season bin
- S* does not depend on foF2 and hmF2, therefore
 - The topside profile can be constructed for any measured bottomside profile



