# HAARP-induced Ionospheric Ducts

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#### Motivation

• Naturally induced field aligned irregularities of the plasma density exhibit enhanced refractive indices and act as ducts that guide waves in the whistler range between the two hemispheres.

• HF heating of the ionosphere creates density perturbations that may propagate into the plasmasphere, thus produce artificial ducts.

#### **Objectives**

- To present the observations of the density perturbations caused by the HF-heating of the ionosphere by HAARP and detected by Demeter and DMSP satellites.
- To check the observations against a model of the artificial ducts due to HF-heating of the ionosphere.

#### The model of artificial ducts in the ionosphere

•It is based on the SAMI2 model of the ionosphere [Huba, et al., 2000] which describes evolution of the ionospheric plasma confined by a bunch of the geomagnetic field lines.

•We use the latest version of the code (release 0.99) which describes high latitudes, and includes effects from ExB drift.

•The SAMI2 model was modified, namely a flexible local source of the electron HF-heating was introduced in the form of the localized heating rate per electron:

$$q = \mu P / V n_e \approx 2 \times 10^4 \,\mu \,(K / s)$$

## Model of HF-heating effects due to HAARP (low ERP)



Variations of the electron temperature & density along the DEMETER orbit at 700 km. The "HF-heating" was conducted during 20:00 – 20:30 LT (drift is not included).

## Model of HF-heating effects due to HAARP (moderate ERP)



Variations of the electron temperature & density along the DEMETER orbit at 700 km. The "HF-heating" was conducted during 20:00 – 20:30 LT (drift is not included).

## Model of HF-heating effects due to HAARP (high ERP)

h=702.9 km, heat end; drift effect with heating; hg=270 km, q=0e4.

h=7029 km, heat end; drift effect with heating; h,=270km, q=3e4.



Variations of the electron temperature & density along the DEMETER orbit at 700 km. The "HF-heating" was conducted during 20:00 – 20:30 LT (drift is not included).

#### Model of HF-heating effects due to HAARP



Variations of the ion velocity along the DEMETER orbit. "HF-heating" was conducted during 20:00 – 20:30 LT (q=2e3 K/s and 5e3 K/s at the left and right panel).

# Analysis of the Demeter Observations

- Demeter over-flies HAARP twice a day, at nighttime and daytime. The ionospheric ducts were detected only during the nighttime passes.
- Altogether about 20 observations of the ionospheric ducts were made.
- We separate them into three group:
  - (a) Over-dense ionosphere

$$f < f_0 F_2$$

- (b) Under-dense ionosphere  $f > f_0 F_2$
- (c) A weak ionosphere

 $f > f_0 F_2$  $f_0 F_2$  is not available

Three following DEMETER observations represent each of these groups



04/24/07 f=3.2 MHz O-mode 0.1 Hz Magn. Zen. No electrojet

DEMETER pass projected along  $B_0$  ( $r_{circles} = 100, 200, 300... \text{ km}$ )









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08/02/07 F=2.83MHz O-mode 1.4 Hz Mag. Zen.







04/29/08 F=3.3MHz O-mode CW Mag. Zen.







## HAARP & DMSP F16 Experiments



02/25/08 f=2.85 MHz, O-mode, Magn. Zen. No electrojet



02/26/08 F=2.85 MHz, O-mode, Magn. Zen., No electrojet



Measurements by DMSP F16 during the HAARP winter 2008 campaign, made 02/25 (top) and 02/26 (bottom). Zero time corresponds to the shortest distance from the F16 foot point to HAARP which is 500 km (02/25) and 300 km (02/26).

# Recent observations of ducts by DMSP



Zero time corresponds to F17 flied over HAARP. It is a daytime (2 UT or 17 LT), and pretty dense ionosphere.

# Magnetic field fluctuations observed 10/27/08 by F15



 $B_{y'}$   $B_z$  fluctuations lasted for about 40 s which corresponds to 300 km.

#### Mid-latitude Experiments SURA-DEMETER

The artificial ducts were detected at nighttime, at orbit less than 50 km from the center of the heated region, lasted for 20-30 s, f=foF2 - (0.5-1)MHz, ERP<100MW. On one occasion ducts correlated with increased electron precipitation (30-110 keV). VLF waves were trapped by the ducts.



#### Conclusions

- Artificial ducts due to the ionospheric heating was detected by Demeter & DMSP F15, F16, F17 during nighttime.
- Modified SAMI2 model provides qualitative predictions of the outflows amplitude.
- The best conditions for generation of ducts occurred when matching F2 peak in the absence of the electrojet. The worst case scenario occurs when the radio wave is strongly absorbed in the E-layer.

#### Duct production in the auroral ionosphere require some help from the Almighty. Like what Moses transport company received.

