

# 3D modeling of the density distribution in the plasmasphere using the Interball-1 data base.

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The data of the Alpha-3/INTERBALL-1 (1995-2000) are collected into a data base including:

coordinates of the satellite,

density of protons,

temperature of protons,

SC potential,

solar activity indices,

solar wind parameters.

The SC crossed the plasmasphere once per 4 days (when the perigee was low enough).

Ion spectra were measured during 2 s. Frequency of spectra measurements changed from ~18 s to ~2 min. depending on telemetry mode.

The data base contains ~10 000 spectra.

# Field aligned density distribution of protons as a function of geomagnetic latitude: J.F. Lemaire et al.

For modeling plasma density distribution on a fixed  $L$  – shell  $N(L, \lambda)$  depending on geomagnetic latitude  $\lambda$  the following expression was used:

$$N(L, \lambda) = N_0(L) e^{-q(L, \lambda)} \left\{ 1 - (1 - \alpha) \sqrt{1 - \eta(L, \lambda)} e^{-\frac{\eta(L, \lambda) q(L, \lambda)}{1 - \eta(L, \lambda)}} \right\}$$

$$q(L, \lambda) = \frac{m_p g_e R_e}{2kT_p L} \left[ \frac{1}{\cos^2 \lambda_0} - \frac{1}{\cos^2 \lambda} + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{L}{L_R} \right)^3 (\cos^6 \lambda_0 - \cos^6 \lambda) \right]$$

$L_R = 5.78$  – Roshe limit,  $N_0(L)$  – proton density at exobase,

$$\lambda_0 = \arccos \sqrt{\frac{R_e + h_{ex}}{L R_e}}, \quad h_{ex} - \text{exobase height}, \quad \eta(L, \lambda) = \frac{B(L, \lambda)}{B(L, \lambda_0)} = \sqrt{\frac{4 - 3 \cos^2 \lambda}{4 - 3 \cos^2 \lambda_0}} \frac{\cos^6 \lambda_0}{\cos^6 \lambda}$$

Instead of  $N_0(L) = N_0(L, \lambda_0)$ , equatorial density was used:

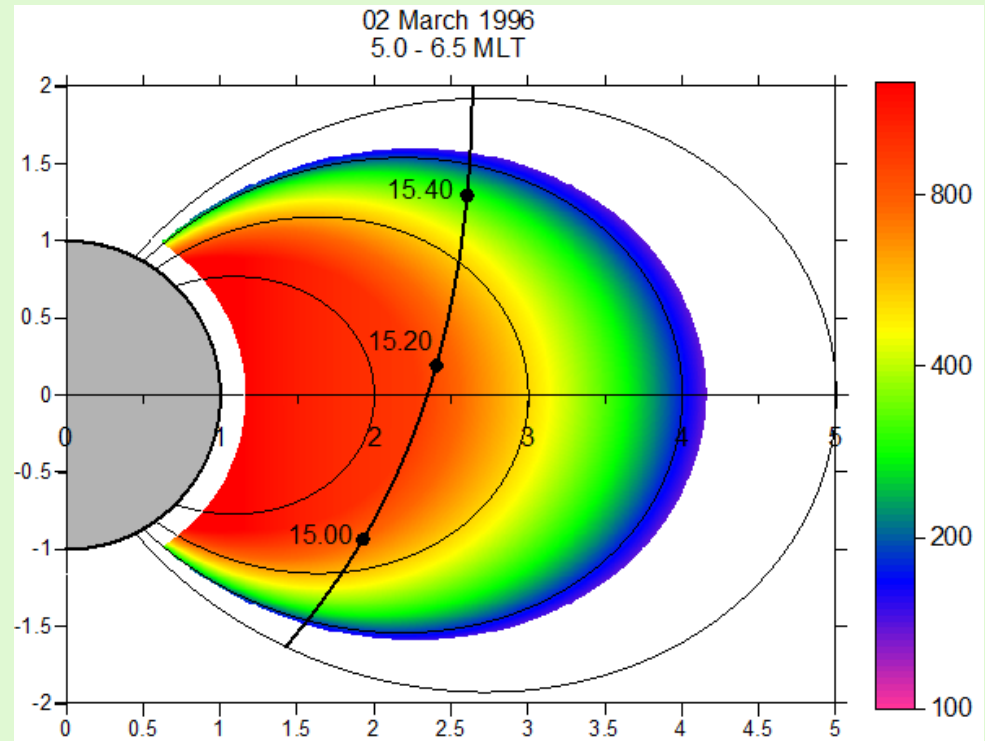
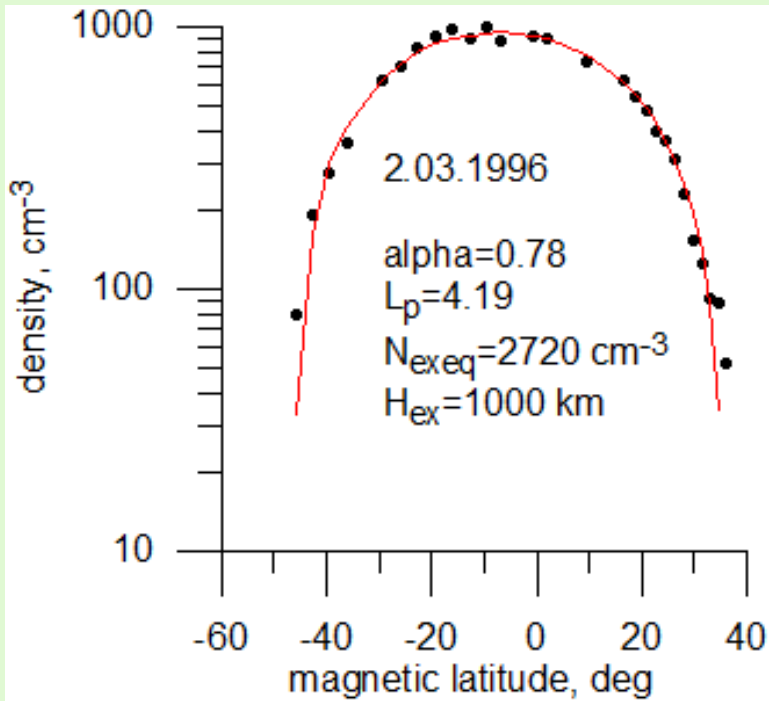
$$N_{eq}(L) = N(L, 0) = A \left( \frac{1}{L} - \frac{1}{B} \right) \text{ (Huang et al., 2004)}$$

Parameter  $A$  can be expressed via plasma density at exobase on the equator  $N_{ex}$

Parameter  $B$  is a function of plasmopause position, e.g., defined as L-shell where the number density dropped by a factor of 5 or more within  $\Delta L \leq 0.5$  (Carpenter & Anderson, 1992).

3 parameters for approximation:  $N_{ex}$ ,  $B$ ,  $\alpha$

# Reconstruction of proton density distribution in the meridional plane using the data of one plasmasphere crossing by INTERBALL 1.



M.I. Verigin et al., *Geomagnetism and Aeronomy*,  
**52(6)**, 725–729, 2012.

## The 2D model was tested with IMAGE data

The proposed model based on physical equations of plasmasphere filling (Lemaire & Scherer, Sp.Sci.Rev., 591, 1974) with 4 free parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $L_p$ ,  $N_{eq}$ ,  $\Delta\lambda$  well describes the data of IMAGE too.

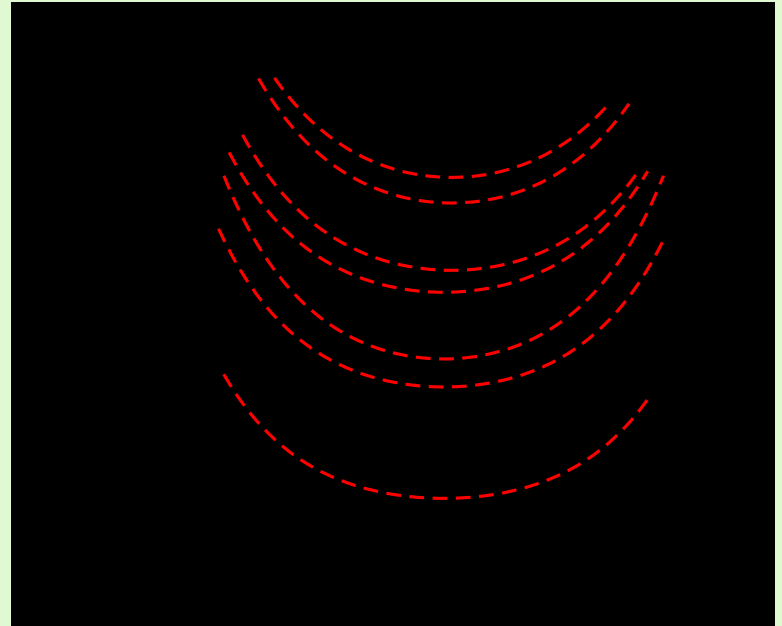
The original model proposed by Reinisch et al. (Sp.Sci.Rev., 231, 2009):

$$N_e(L, \lambda) = N_{e0}(L) \left(1 + \gamma \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_{inv}}\right) \sec^{\beta(L)} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\alpha \lambda}{\lambda_{inv}}\right)$$

$$N_{e0}(L) = A(B/L - 1)$$

$$\beta(L) = C + D \cdot L$$

includes **6 fitting parameters: A, B, C, D,  $\gamma$ ,  $\alpha$**



# 3D modeling of plasma distribution inside the plasmasphere

In the equatorial plane:

$$\Phi_{conv}(L, \varphi) = E_0 R_E L^a \sin(\varphi - \varphi_0), \quad \varphi = MLT * 15^\circ$$

$$\Phi_{corr}(L, \varphi) = -\frac{\omega_E B_0 R_E^2}{L}$$

Flow lines:  $\Phi = \Phi_{corr} + \Phi_{conv} = \Phi_c$

$$E_0 R_E L^a \sin(\varphi - \varphi_0) - \frac{\omega_E B_0 R_E^2}{L} = \Phi_c$$

'Stagnation' point:  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial L} = 0, \quad \varphi - \varphi_0 = -\frac{\pi}{2}$

$$L_s^{a+1} = \frac{\omega_E B_0 R_E}{a E_0}$$

$$L^a \sin(\varphi - \varphi_0) - a \frac{L_s^{a+1}}{L} = -a \frac{L_s^{a+1}}{L_{\varphi_0}}$$

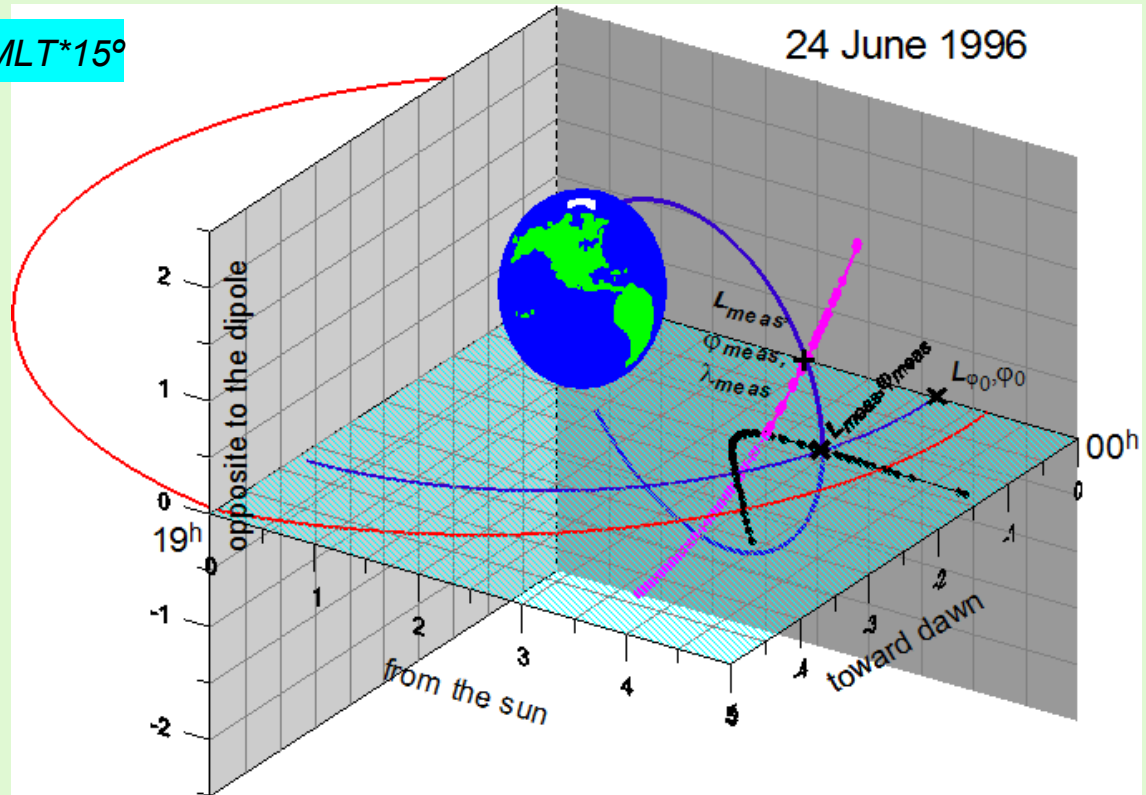
Plasmapause (passing through  $L_s$ ):

$$\left(\frac{L}{L_s}\right)^{a+1} \sin(\varphi - \varphi_0) + (a+1) \frac{L}{L_s} - a = 0$$

Model density distribution in the equatorial plane

for  $\varphi = \varphi_0$   $N_{eq0}(L_{\varphi_0}, \varphi_0) = A \left( \frac{1}{L_{\varphi_0}} - \frac{1}{B} \right)$ ,

and for  $\varphi = \varphi_{meas}$ :  $N_{eq}(L_{meas}, \varphi_{meas}) = N_{eq0} \left( \frac{L_{\varphi_0}}{L_{meas}} \right)^4$



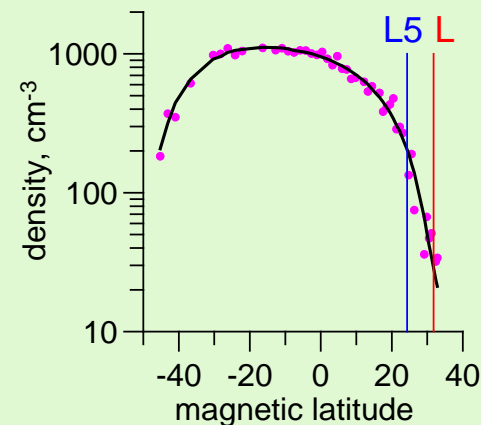
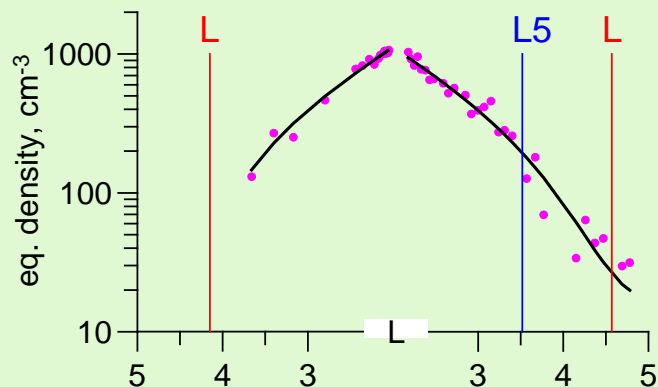
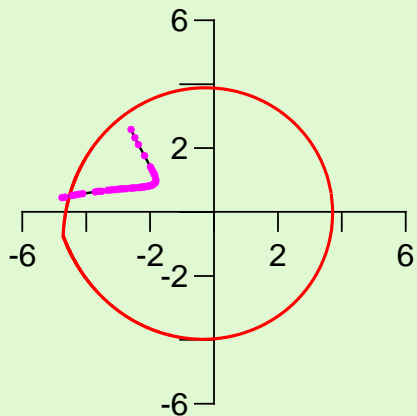
At the point of measurement:

$$N_{mod}(L_{meas}, \varphi_{meas}, \lambda_{meas}) = N_{eq} e^{-q(L, \lambda)} \left\{ 1 - (1 - \alpha) \sqrt{1 - \eta(L, \lambda)} e^{-\frac{\eta(L, \lambda) e^{-q(L, \lambda)}}{1 - \eta(L, \lambda)}} \right\}$$

parameters for approximation:  $N_{ex}, B, \alpha, L_s, a, \varphi_0$

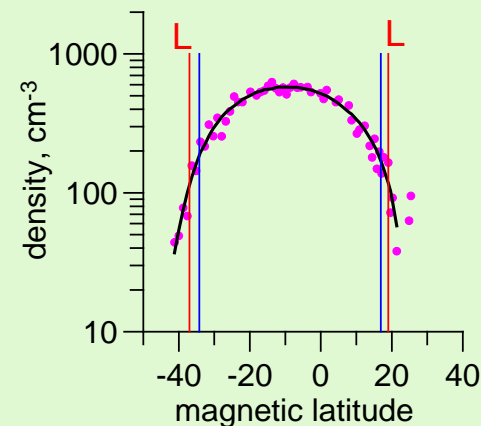
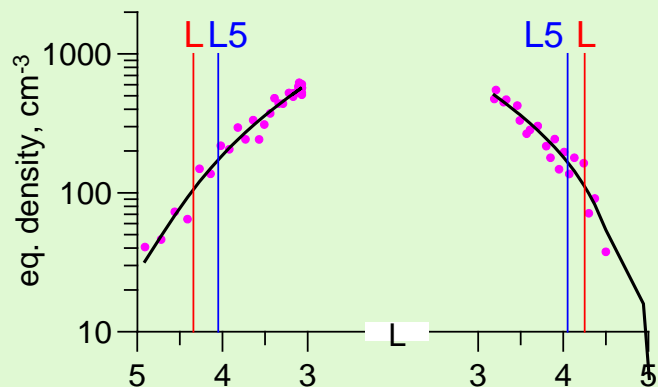
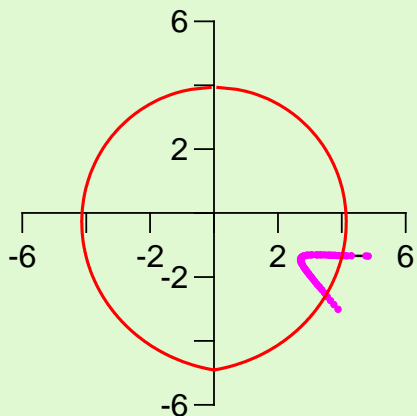
# Reconstruction of proton density distribution in the whole plasmasphere using the data of one crossing by INTERBALL 1.

29 December 1995



$N_{\text{ex}} = 2740 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $B=4.1$ ,  $\alpha=0.4$ ,  $L_S=4.78$ ,  $\varphi_0=279^\circ$ ,  $a=4.56$

24 June 1996



$N_{\text{ex}} = 3440 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $B=4.6$ ,  $\alpha=1.0$ ,  $L_S=4.9$ ,  $\varphi_0=0^\circ$ ,  $a=5.29$

## Conclusion

The cold plasma data obtained in 1995-2000 on the INTERBALL 1 spacecraft were used for the development of semi-empirical model of the Earth's plasmasphere.

- The 2D physics-based model was developed, which used data on a single pass of the satellite through the plasmasphere to restore the plasma distribution in the entire meridional plane.
- This model is now expanded into 3D one using a simple equation for plasmopause position. 6 parameters with clear physical sense are used to describe cold plasma distribution in the whole plasmasphere.



**Thank you!**