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P. E. SANDHOLT Auroral oval dynamics in relation to solar wind-magnetosphere interaction

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# Auroral oval dynamics in relation to solar wind-magnetosphere interaction

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Photometric observations of dayside auroras are compared with simultaneous measurements of geomagnetic disturbances from meridian chains of observatories on the dayside and on the nightside, to document the dynamics of dayside auroras in relation to local and global disturbances. These observations are related to measurements of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) from the satellites ISEE-1 and 3.

It is shown that dayside auroras shift equatorward and poleward with the growth and decay of circum-oval/polar cap geomagnetic disturbance and with negative and positive changes in the north-south component of the interplanetary magnetic field. The geomagnetic disturbance associated with auroral shift is identified as the DP2 mode. In the post-noon sector the horizontal disturbance vector of the geomagnetic field changes from southward to northward with decreasing latitude, thereby changing sign near the center of the oval precipitation region. Discrete auroral forms are observed close to or equatorward of the  $\Delta H = 0$  line which separates positive and negative H-component deflections, thus in the region of sunward-convecting field lines. The reversal moves in latitude with the aurora, and it probably reflects a transition of the electric field direction at the polar cap boundary.

A model is proposed to explain the equatorward and poleward movements of the dayside oval in terms of a dayside current system which is intensified by a southward movement of the IMF vector. According to this model, the Pedersen component of the ionospheric current is connected with the magnetopause boundary layer via field-aligned current (FAC) sheets. Enhanced current intensity, corresponding to southward auroral shift, is consistent with increased energy extraction from the solar wind.

In this way the observed association of DP2 current system variations and auroral oval expansion/contraction are explained as an effect of a global, 'direct' response of the electromagnetic state of the magnetosphere due to the influence of the solar wind. The functional dependence on solar wind parameters of the transfer of electromagnetic energy to the magnetosphere is derived from a dimensional analysis. Similarly, estimates of electric field, current, and the rate of Joule heat dissipation in the polar cap ionosphere are obtained.

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#### **PREFACE**

The report that follows is a result of my participation in an international project to make optical observations of the polar upper

atmosphere. The experimental basis for the work was provided when I took part in the data collection from the field station in

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The dayside aurora has received increasing attention during the last decade. This is primarily due to its association with the cusp in the magnetic field configuration of the magnetosphere. The location, extent, dynamics, and energy distribution of magnetosheath particles entering the upper atmosphere along the magnetospheric cusp can be determined by monitoring the optical signatures of the interaction between these particles and atmospheric constituents. The same optical emissions also yield information on the F-region dynamics and the characteristics of atmospheric species.

Studies of the cusp region relate to fundamental questions concerning the interaction between the solar wind and the magnetosphere. Some important topics are: Effects of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) on the topology and stability of magnetospheric boundary layers and the mechanisms of transfer of plasma and electromagnetic energy from the solar wind to the magnetosphere. Furthermore, how much of the energy released during magnetospheric substorms comes from energy previously stored in the magnetotail and how much is directly extracted from the solar wind? Related to the above questions is the response of the dayside aurora to magnetospheric substorms and to IMF variations. In this report primary attention is focused on latitudinal shifts of the dayside aurora in relation to substorm perturbations and IMF variations.

The experimental part of the report is based on photometric observations of day-side auroras from Svalbard, Norway. These observations are compared with simultaneous measurements of geomagnetic disturbances, to document the auroral dynamics in relation to local and global dis-

turbances. This is based on a close examination of geomagnetic records from meridian chains of observatories on the dayside and on the nightside. The auroral and geomagnetic variations are related to measurements of the interplanetary magnetic field from the satellites ISEE-1 and 3.

Equatorward movements of the dayside aurora can be regarded as indicating a transfer of geomagnetic flux from the dayside to the nightside. Customarily, this erosion of the dayside magnetosphere is seen as a consequence of increased merging of interplanetary and magnetospheric field lines. The dual description is in terms of day and nightside current systems that are partly on the magnetopause and in part internal to the magnetosphere. An alternative interpretation of the shift of the dayside aurora is in terms of a reconfiguration of the magnetotail current circuit associated with magnetospheric substorms (cf. Eather et al. 1979). According to this model the substorm is a driven process, resulting directly from an enhanced efficiency of the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo. This theory is at variance with the widely accepted substorm picture that describes the mechanism as an unloading process, whereby excess magnetic field energy that has accumulated in the magnetotail is rapidly released, with some of the energy transferred to particle kinetic energy (i.e. the 'growth phase' model). The understanding of details of the timesequence and phenomenology of the magnetospheric substorm is still one of the most important and urgent tasks of magnetospheric physics (Roederer, 1977). Only data from a worldwide network of geophysical observatories and onboard the satellites can provide a consideration of the substorm as a global phenomenon. This is one of the main objectives of the extended geophysical investigations during the period of International Magnetospheric Study (Roederer, 1977).

It has been questioned whether it is possible to determine the separate roles played by IMF variations and substorms as they cannot be regarded as independent phenomena. Nevertheless, there have been claims of separating the dependence of cusp and dayside aurora location on IMF and substorm perturbations. Burch (1973) found that he could predict the latitude of the poleward and equatorward sides of the cusp with rms errors of 1.34° and 1.16°, respectively from a knowledge of the average Z-component of IMF for the previous 45 min., independent of the substorm activity. Eather et al. (1979) claimed to show that the equatorward motion of midday auroras is directly connected with substorm activity and not with the north-south component of the IMF. They specifically noted that a southward turning of the IMF, without concurrent substorm activity, does not cause equatorward motion of the dayside aurora.

A synthesis between these two opposite positions is represented by Kamide et al. (1976). They concluded, on the basis of a statistical study of polar satellite data, that both IMF and substorms have about the same amount of influence in terms of the latitudinal shift of the dayside aurora.

For the purpose of separating the IMF and substorm effects on the dayside aurora we try to separate the directly IMF related and the substorm related components of geomagnetic disturbances. In order to do this, simultaneous observations from different meridian chains of observatories are necessary. Special attention is placed on the local geomagnetic disturbances observed to be associated with latitudinal movements of the dayside aurora. As far as the author knows, the temporal and spatial relationships between dayside auroral dynamics and day-

side geomagnetic disturbances are not documented in earlier studies.

Observations by satellite-borne magnetometers (Sugiura and Potemra 1976; Iijima and Potemra 1976a, b) showed the overall field-aligned current system of the cusp region. From combined satellite- and ground-based observations Wilhjelm et al. (1978) investigated the relationship between ionospheric and field-aligned currents in the dayside cusp.

Studies of dayside currents including satellite-data on convection electric fields and energetic particles are reported by Saflekos et al. (1979) and Bythrow et al. (1981). Thus, measurements from polar orbiting spacecrafts have provided valuable information on the gross features of electric fields and currents in and above the dayside polar ionosphere. However, the spatial extent, the dynamics, and the relationship to the dayside aurora are not well known.

As this study is part of a multinational project for optical observations of the day-side cusp atmosphere, the presentation starts with a brief overview of the observation program and the experimental techniques which are used (Chapter 2).

As a background for the presentation of the experimental data in Chapter 4, theoretical and experimental information on the more general aspects of the electrodynamics of solar wind-magnetosphere interactions are given in Chapter 3. Chapter 5 contains a review of later work with special relevance to the discussion of the experimental data in Chapter 6. Summary and conclusions are found in Chapter 7.

- 2. THE OBSERVATION PROGRAM AND EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES
- 2.1 Introduction
  Owing to the inaccessibility of suitable

ground observatories, the morphology of the dayside aurora has been documented almost exclusively by satellite and aircraft measurements. Optical observations of midday auroras from the ground set requirements both to the geographic latitude to avoid scattered sunlight and to the geomagnetic latitude to be under the dayside auroral oval. The only accessible stations in the northern hemisphere which satisfy these requirements

are seen in Fig. 2.1 to be on Svalbard, at the edge of the polar sea north of Norwar (near latitude 79° N, longitude 15° E).

During the winter of 1978–79 a multinational, cooperative project for optical observations of the dayside upper atmosphere was undertaken at Svalbard. The observation-program/technics were up-dated during the following three winters. Researchers from the Universities of Tromsø and Oslo (Nor-

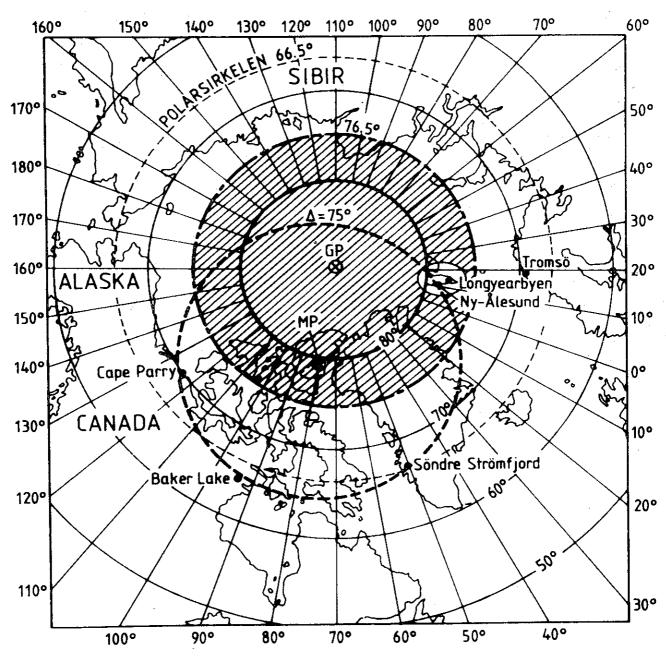


Fig. 2.1. Map showing the northern polar cap where the sun is more than 10° below horizon during midwinter (shaded). The 75° invariant latitude circle indicates the typical location of the midday aurora.

way), the University of Alaska (United States), Ulster Polytechnic and the University of Southampton (United Kingdom), and the University of Saskatchewan (Canada) participated in this project.

The observatory buildings and larger pieces of equipment were assembled in Longyearbyen, on the island group West Spitsbergen. The major instruments deployed for the program are listed in Table 2.1. A short description of four major objectives of the project and the related experimental technics are given in the following subsections. The finer spectroscopy of dayside emissions

(Sect. 2.4) and F-region neutral winds (Sect. 2.5) will not be further discussed in this report. For more information on these subjects, cf. Deehr et al. (1980), Sivjee et al. (1982), and Smith and Sweeney (1980).

# 2.2 Latitude and local time variations of dayside auroral emissions

The location, altitude and brightness of dayside auroral forms as function of time were monitored by using two sets of multichannel meridian-scanning photometers (MSP), one at Longyearbyen and the other at Ny Ålesund. Longyearbyen and Ny Ålesund are

TABLE 2.1

Instrument Type, Deployment, and Purpose for the Svalbard Expedition 1978-1979

Instrument	Institution	Location	Purpose
All-sky camera (35 mm, black and white) All-sky camera (16 mm, color)	GI UT	LYR NYA	Location and orientation of auroral arcs and bands.
Meridian-scanning photometer Meridian-scanning photometer Meridian-scanning photometer Meridian-scanning photometer	GI US NIKF GI	LYR LYR NYA PKR, FYU	Mapping of local time position of red (6300 Å) cusp and discrete bands and associated characteristic energy of precipitating particles.
Zenith LLLTV	NIKF	LYR	Morphology of fast-moving bands
Fabry-Perot interferometer (6300 Å)	UP	LYR	Doppler wind and temperature of neutral F region.
I-m spectrophotometer (3000–8700 Å) <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -m spectrophotometer	GI GI	LYR LYR	Spectroscopic studies of various atmospheric emissions.
Magnetometer Magnetometer Magnetometer Magnetometer chain (seven instruments in Alaskan Chain)	UT UT UT GI	NYÅ BJØ TOS AK	Determination of substorn-related effects.

	Symbol	
Geophysical Institute	GI	•
Norwegian Institute of Cosmic Physics	NIKF	
Ulster Polytechnic	UP	
University Saskatchewan	US	
University of Tromsø	UT	
Ny Ålesund	NYÅ	
Longyearbyen	LYR	
Bjørnøya	BIØ	-
Tromsø	TOS	
Alaskan Chain	AK	
Poker Flat	PKR	
Fort Yukon	FYU	

All meridian-scanning photometers include 4278-A N2+, 6300-A O I, 5577-A O I, and 4861-A H beta.

located approximately along the same meridian with a separation of 117 km (cf. Table 4.3). The Ny Ålesund equipment consisted of a six-channel, rotating-filter-wheel photometer with a single photomultiplier while the former had four independent photometers. Both systems employed a single rotating mirror and a 1° field of view for each channel. The photometers were equipped with ~20 Å filters. The complete magnetic meridian scan took about 20 s. The photometer system at Longyearbyen was coupled to a real-time digital data handling system consisting of a 64 k byte mini-computer, a 9-track, digital magnetic tape recorderreproducer, an interactive graphics unit and an electrostatic copier.

One example of typical noon-time single-photometer scans obtained simultaneously from Longyearbyen and Ny Ålesund, on Dec. 19, 1979, is shown in Fig. 2.2. No corrections have been applied to these data. Peak intensities above background are given on the Longyearbyen traces. This type of data will be presented and analysed in Chapters 4 and 6.

The MSP systems were placed at both stations for the purpose of extending the latitude coverage and to determine the spatial extent of auroral emissions by triangulation.

An example illustrating the triangulation technic used to estimate the altitude and latitude position of luminosity is shown in Fig. 2.2b. Assuming that the auroral form is aligned along the magnetic field (indicated by the dashed line in the Figure), the zenith angles at which the emission reaches maximum intensity, half max. intensity, and background level were used to draw parallelogram boundaries for the cross-section of the auroral arc. This is considered a first approximation to the spatial extent of light emission.

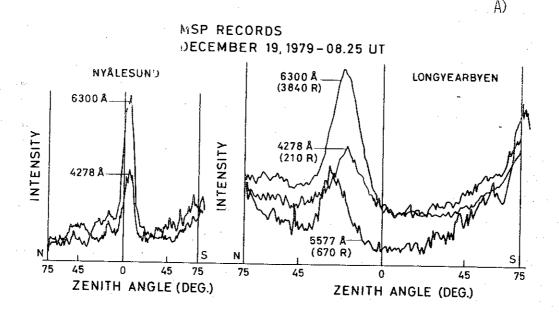
It is known that the luminosity across the width of the arc increases gradually from the edges to the center (cf. Romick and Belon 1967a, b). In order to determine the profile of the volume emission rate within the arc, a more refined analysis is needed. The procedure used by Romick and Belon was as follows: Starting with approximate assumptions of horizontal (H) and vertical (V) distributions of luminosity (trial functions) the functional form of the volume emission  $\rho(h, \lambda)$  was obtained. From  $\rho(h, \lambda)$  intensity versus zenith angle curves for both stations could be generated. Then the various parameters in the H and V functions were adjusted until agreement with the observed data was reached at both stations.

The latitude position of auroral forms is a key parameter for the main discussion of this report. To obtain that information, the graphical technic shown in Fig. 2.2b was used. When information from both stations was not available, maximum emissions heights were estimated from absolute intensities and intensity ratios of auroral emissions (cf. Rees and Luckey 1974).

2.3 Dayside emissions in relation to substorm perturbations and interplanetary magnetic field

The prime objective of this part of the observation program and of this report is to document the nature of the response of dayside emissions to substorm perturbations and to changes in the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF).

The study is based on photometric observations of auroras in the midday and postnoon sectors of the auroral oval from the two stations on Svalbard. The observed emission height and zenith angle were used to calculate the geographical position of the dayside aurora in the meridian as a function of local time (cf. Sect. 2.2). By this method



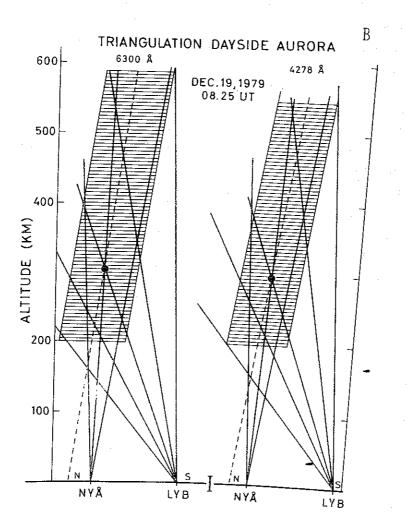


Fig. 2.2. (a) Two station meridian scanning photometer records of a typical midday auroral arc. (b) Showing the graphical technic used in estimating parallelogram boundaries of auroral luminosity from the traces in Fig. A).

the location of the aurora can be determined within the range  $\sim$ 69–80° geomagnetic latitude (cf. Fig. 4.18). During midwinter sunlight is no problem.

Local magnetic activity was monitored at six stations along the Norway–Kola meridian chain covering the range of geomagnetic latitude 62.8–75.4° (from Apatity to Ny Ålesund).

Along this chain of observatories local magnetic noon corresponds to ~09 UT. Observations of simultaneous nightside activity were obtained from the Alaska IMS chain of stations as well as a net of observatories in Canada operated by University of Alberta. Together the Alaskan/Canadian and Norway/Kola observatories constitute a transpolar net of stations which is well suited as a basis for study of day-nightside relationships in magnetic/auroral behavior. The simultaneous evening sector of the auroral oval is covered by the Russian arctic stations Dixon Island and Tixie Bay. The location of the geomagnetic observatories used is shown in Fig. 2.3.

Professor Leiv Harang based his pioneering work on polar geomagnetic storms on observations from a Scandinavian net of observatories. But he was aware of the limitations of this data base. As Harang (1946) states:

'For a closer examination along the entire auroral zone, especially of the discontinuities and the "positive" and "negative" sections, the material is not sufficient. In order to solve this question one ought to have a similar dense net of recording stations along a meridian lying on the American side of the polar region, say along geomagnetic longitude 260°, similar to the line from Spitzbergen over Bear Island and the Scandinavian peninsula.' Thus, for a close investigation of substorm behavior, separating space and time variations, simultaneous observations

from different meridian chains are necessary.

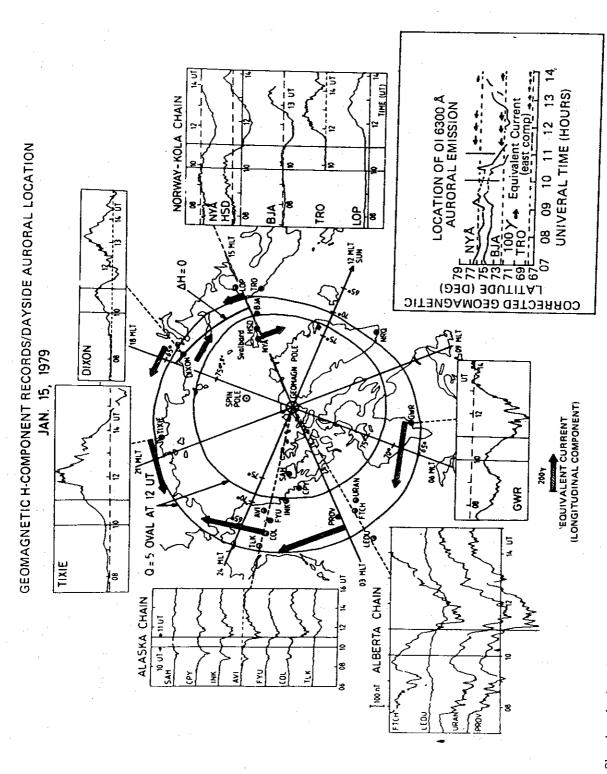
Information on the interplanetary magnetic field was obtained from the two satellites ISEE (International Sun-Earth Explorer) 1 and 3. ISEE-3 was launched into a halo orbit about the libration point more than 200 earth radii upstream of the earth. The orbit of ISEE-1 had an apogee of 23 earth radii and a perigee of 280 km with a period of ~58 hours.

## 2.4 Spectrophotometric observations

To reveal the finer details of the spectrum of atmospheric emissions associated with dayside auroras, two Ebert-Fastie spectrophotometers were operated from Longyearbyen. One of the spectrometers has a focal employs meter and length of 1  $25.6 \times 15.4 \,\mathrm{cm}^2$  grating and 15 cm long curved slits. The second spectrometer has a focal length of  $\frac{1}{2}$  meter and is fitted with a  $12 \times 7 \text{ cm}^2$  grating and curved slits, each 7 cm long. Both spectrometers are mounted in an insulated spherical shell and aligned to view the same region of the sky. Remotely controlled elevation-azimuth drive of the housing facilitates the pointing of the spectrometers in any desired direction. Spectroscopic measurements are made in the second or third order using broad-band, glass filters to isolate the desired wavelength region. Examples of ultraviolet spectrograms from the 1 meter spectrometer which was pointing into different auroral forms near zenith in the noon and post-noon sectors, respectively, are shown in Fig. 2.4.

2.5 Neutral F-region winds from optical interferrometric observations of the 6300  $\mbox{\normalfont\AA}$  OI emission

High-resolution interferometric measurements of the OI 6300 Å line were made with a Fabry-Perot interferometer using 127-mm



the Norway-Kola chain, the Alaska chain and some Canadian stations are given for 12 UT. The location of post-noon sector aurora is shown in the lower Fig. 2.3. Showing the location of geomagnetic observatories with corresponding magnetometer traces. The instantaneous position in magnetic local time of right panel

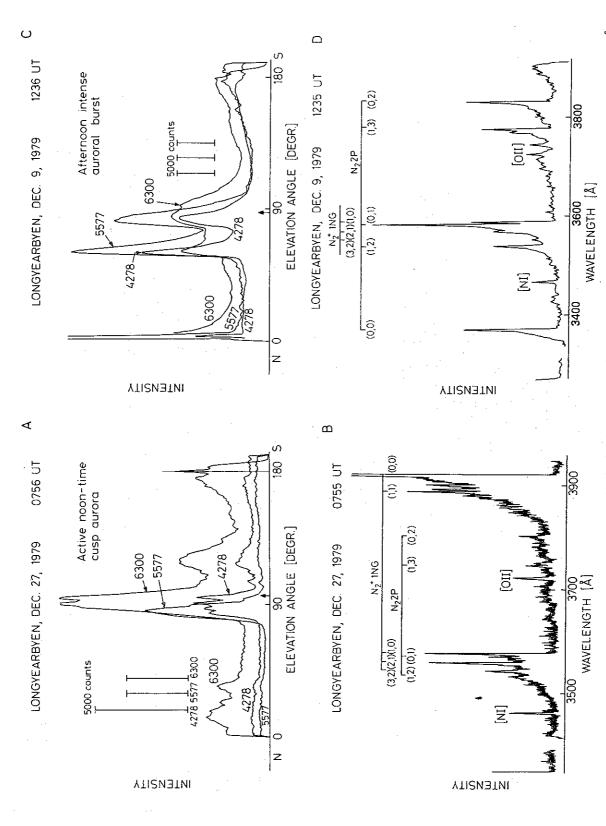


Fig. 2.4. Meridian scanning photometer and spectrometer records obtained at Longyearbyen, Svalbard. Photometer calibration factors are: 4278 Å-0.3 R/C; 5577 Å-0.9 R/C, and 6300 Å-0.93 R/C. The arrow on the abscissa axes marks the elevation angle of the spectrometer obtaining the simultaneous spectrogram. Panels A and C. MSP records of active midday cusp and post-noon sector intensification of the aurora, respectively. Panels B and D. Near ultraviolet spectrograms of the two auroras shown in A and C.

diameter plates spaced 8,9 mm apart and modulated piezoelectrically. The long-term stability of this instrument was such that it was possible to make relative measurements of wavelength to a precision of  $4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Å}$ with a typical integration time of 6-12 minutes. The instrument was used to measure the Doppler-shift of the 6300 Å line in the auroral spectrum and hence to obtain determinations of the neutral air velocity at the height of emission, to find its diurnal variation and its response to individual auroral events (cf. Fig. 2.5). A continuous record of winds to be used in the study of neutral atmospheric dynamics was obtained (cf. Smith and Sweeney 1980).

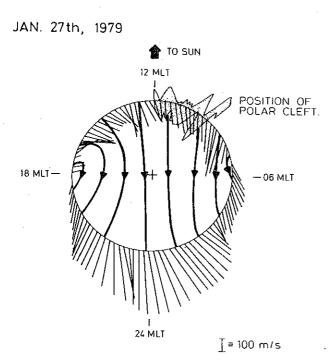


Fig. 2.5. A 24 h plot of the thermospheric wind for 27 January 1979 drawn with the geomagnetic pole at the center and the path of the observing site shown as a circle. The wind vector interpolated measurements are shown in azimuth and magnitude by light lines. The thick black lines show the kind of wind patern which is consistent with these measurements. Magnetic local time, used in this figure, is 3 h ahead of universal time (Smith and Sweeney 1980).

# 3. ELECTRODYNAMICS OF SOLAR WIND-MAG-NETOSPHERE INTERACTIONS

## 3.1 Introduction

The description of solar wind-magnetosphere interactions can be grouped into essentially different approaches. approach is based on the magnetic flux tube description, another on the electric current description. Dungey (1961) and others describe the interaction in terms of a cutting and 're' connection of geomagnetic field lines when they make contact with the interplanetary magnetic field. According to Alfvén (1977) the coupling between the solar wind and the magnetosphere is mediated by current systems on the interface between the two media, the magnetopause. A third approach was put forward by Axford and Hines (1961). The energy transfer to the magnetosphere was explained by viscous interactions along the magnetopause.

In Sect. 3.2. the solar wind-magnetosphere energy coupling is illustrated by the application of Poynting's theorem to an idealised, open model of the magnetosphere. The functional dependence of the energy transfer on solar wind parameters is derived on the basis of a dimensional analysis. Implications of the reconnection hypothesis are discussed. Viscous- and diffusion models of the low-latitude magnetopause boundary layer are reported in Sect. 3.3. Sect. 3.4 is a review of the main features of the magnetospheric substorm.

# 3.2 The open magnetosphere

3.2.1 The solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo When geomagnetic field (GMF) lines, emanating from the earth's polar cap, are directly inter-connected with interplanetary field (IMF) lines, the magnetosphere is said to be 'open'. Interconnected field lines will give the solar wind an easy means to transfer flow

momentum to the magnetospheric plasma.

The solar wind exerts a magnetic shear stress on the lateral surface of the magnetotail. The work done by this surface stress constitutes an energy input to the magnetosphere. The interaction along the magnetopause is a dynamo process which converts kinetic energy from the solar wind to electrical energy which is dissipated inside the magnetosphere This energy transfer to the magnetosphere can be expressed by the application of Poynting's theorem.

The conservation of energy within a finite volume V of a medium with current density  $\vec{j}$  and electromagnetic fields  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  reads:

$$\int_{V} - \nabla \cdot \vec{S} d^{3}x = \int_{V} \left[ \vec{j} \cdot \vec{E} + \frac{\delta}{\delta t} \right]$$

$$\times \left( \frac{B^{2}}{2\mu_{0}} + \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_{0}E^{2} \right) d^{3}x \qquad (3.1)$$

where  $\vec{S} = \mu_0^{-1} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$  is the Poynting vector. The energy influx through the surface of the volume equals the time rate of change of electromagnetic energy plus the total work done by the  $\vec{E}$ -field on the sources within the volume (cf. Jackson 1962 p. 190).

An idealized model of the magnetospheric tail is a cylinder with length  $L_T$  and radius  $R_T$  as is shown in Fig. 3.1. Applied to this geometry Eq. 3.1 is reduced to:

$$\iint_{A} \vec{S} \cdot \vec{n} \, da = 2\mu_{0}^{-1} L_{T} \int_{abc} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}_{T} \, dl$$

$$= L_{T} \iint_{P} (\vec{j} \cdot \vec{E}) \, dy \, dz + 2L_{T} \iint_{abcda} \frac{\delta}{\delta t}$$

$$\times \left(\frac{B_{T}^{2}}{2\mu_{0}}\right) \, dy \, dz, \tag{3.2}$$

where A represents the surface area of the magnetotail of the length  $L_T$ ,  $\vec{n}$  is a unit

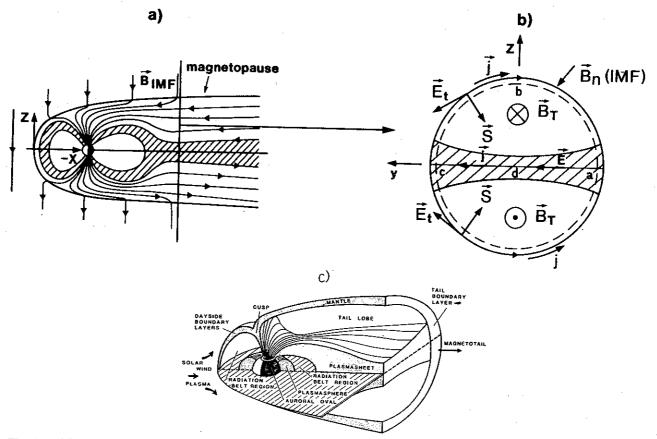


Fig. 3.1. (a) A sketch of magnetotail topology. (b) A cross-section of the magnetotail showing the current system and the geometry used in the Poynting theorem analyses. (c) Showing the principal magnetospheric plasma regions and how they are connected via magnetic field lines with the upper atmosphere.

vector normal to the magnetopause and B<sub>T</sub> is the magnetotail field. The electromagnetic energy transferred to the magnetosphere is converted to magnetic field energy and/or dissipated as particle heating and fluid acceleration within the plasma sheet (PS).

Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction applied to our system, is expressed by

$$\int_{abc} E_t dl = \int_{adc} E_y^{PS} dy$$

$$-\iint_{abcda} \frac{\delta \vec{B}_t}{\delta t} \cdot \vec{n} da$$
(3.3)

During steady state conditions (no macroscopic changes of the magnetic field) the energy transfer to the magnetosphere is expressed by

$$Q = 2\mu_0^{-1} L_T B_T \phi_{CT};$$
  

$$\phi_{CT} = \int_{abc} E_t dl = \int_{adc} E_{PS} dy$$
(3.4)

In the absence of magnetic energy changes the energy influx can be totally dissipated in the plasmasheet. The dissipation rate is controlled by the induced potential difference  $\phi_{CT}$  across the magnetotail which is determined by the solar wind parameters  $u_I$  and  $B_I$  (see Fig. 3.1):

$$\phi_{CT} = -\int_{abc} \vec{\mathbf{u}}_{I} \times \vec{\mathbf{B}}_{n} \, d\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{u}_{I} \int_{abc} \mathbf{B}_{n} \, d\mathbf{l}$$
$$= \mathbf{u}_{I} \vec{\mathbf{B}}_{n} \cdot \pi \mathbf{R}_{T} \tag{3.5}$$

and

$$Q = I_T \phi_{CT}; I_T = 2\mu_0^{-1} B_T L_T$$
 (3.6)/(3.7)

where  $I_T$  is the magnetotail dynamo current induced on the magnetopause by a polarization of the solar wind driven by the Lorentz force  $\vec{qu_I} \times \vec{B}_I$ .

The amount of open flux emanating from the earth's polar cap is expressed by the magnetotail parameters R<sub>T</sub> and B<sub>T</sub>,

$$\psi = \frac{1}{2}\pi R_T^2 \cdot B_T \tag{3.8}$$

 $B_T$  is assumed to be rather homogeneous across the tail.

Combining Eqs (3.7) and (3.8) we have the following relationship between the magnetotail dynamo current  $I_T$  and the amount of open geomagnetic flux  $\psi$ :

$$I_{T} = \mu_{0}^{-1} \frac{4L_{T}}{\pi R_{T}^{2}} \cdot \psi \tag{3.9}$$

We notice the direct proportionality between  $I_T$  and  $\psi$  at the time of a steady state magnetic field configuration in the magnetosphere.

Intending to express the power input to the magnetosphere (Q) in terms of solar wind parameters u<sub>I</sub> and B<sub>I</sub>, we use the following Eqs:

$$u_{I}\bar{B}_{n} \cdot \pi R_{T}(=\phi_{CT})$$

$$= l_{R}u_{I}B_{I}\sin^{2}\frac{\theta}{2}(=\phi_{PC})$$
(3.10)

$$\frac{1}{2}\pi R_{T}^{2}B_{T} = \pi R_{T}L_{T}\bar{B}_{n} \tag{3.11}$$

where  $\phi_{pc}$  is the polar cap potential drop and  $\theta$  is the polar angle of the component of the interplanetary field perpendicular to the sun-earth line measured from the northward geomagnetic axis (cf. Eq. 3.22 and Fig. 3.6) and  $l_R$  is the length of the reconnection line on the frontside magnetopause (cf. Sect. 3.2.2.).

Equation 3.10 relates the tangential electric field as being mapped from the voltage across the polar cap ( $\phi_{CT} = \phi_{pc}$ ). Equation 3.11 expresses the conservation of open flux as it is swept from the polar cap into a tail lobe and eventually goes across the magnetopause in receding to the interplanetary space (Yeh et al. 1981). From Eqs 3.5, 3.6,

3.10, 3.11 we have:

$$Q = \frac{4}{\mu_0} \frac{L_T^2}{\pi R_T^2} u_I B_I^2 \sin^4 \frac{\theta}{2} l_R^2$$
 (3.12)

expressed in watts. According to Perrault and Akasofu (1978) an empirical expression for the total energy coupling between the solar wind and the magnetosphere is:

$$\varepsilon(t) = \frac{4\pi}{\mu_0} u_I B_I^2 \sin^4 \frac{\theta}{2} l_0^2, \qquad (3.13)$$

where  $l_0$  is a length parameter which is related to the size of the magnetosphere and set equal to  $7R_E$ .  $\varepsilon(t)$  has the physical unit of watts. We note that the expression for the energy transfer given in Eq. 3.12 corresponds to the empirical relation 3.13 if  $l_0$  can be expressed by

$$l_0 = \frac{L_T}{\pi R_T} \cdot l_R \tag{3.14}$$

Here  $L_T$  is the effective length of the tail current sheet.

The solar wind values  $u_I = 500 \text{ km/s}$ ,  $B_I = 5\text{nT}$  and  $\theta = 180^\circ$  (southward directed IMF) give for the total power of the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo:

$$\varepsilon = 2.5 \times 10^{11} \,\mathrm{W}.$$

This is  $\sim 0.01\%$  of the energy flux in the solar plasma flow over the cross-sectional area of the magnetosphere in a plane perpendicular to the sun-earth line.

In analogy to (3.1) the conservation of linear momentum within the volume reads (cf. Jackson 1962 p. 193):

$$\frac{d}{dt} (P_{\text{mech}} + P_{\text{field}}) = \int_{V} (\rho \vec{E} + \vec{j} \times \vec{B})^{n}$$

$$\times d^{3}x + \varepsilon_{0} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V} \vec{E} \times \vec{B} d^{3}x$$

$$= \iint \vec{n} \cdot \vec{T} da, \qquad (3.15)$$

where  $\varepsilon_0 \ \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$  is the linear momentum of the electromagnetic field and  $\tilde{T}$  is the Max-

well's stress tensor. The elements of the tensor are

$$T_{ij} = \mu_0^{-1} [E_i E_j + B_i B_j - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} (E^2 + B^2)]$$

The product  $\vec{n} \cdot \tilde{T}$  in (3.15) represents the normal flow of momentum per unit area into the volume V through the surface A. Applied to our system  $\vec{n} \cdot \tilde{T}$  is the force per unit area transmitted across the surface A of the magnetotail, i.e. the magnetopause. It can be shown that

$$\vec{n} \cdot \tilde{T} da \cong \mu_0^{-1} B_t B_n \cdot A$$
 (3.16)

where  $B_t$  and  $B_n$  are the tangential and normal components of the magnetic field on the magnetopause. Equation (3.16) expresses the transfer of flow momentum of the solar wind to the magnetospheric plasma by magnetic shear stresses exerted on the magnetotail surface.

For a recent theoretical discussion of the solar wind-magnetosphere energy transfer, considering the magnetopause as a rotational discontinuity ( $B_n \neq 0$ ), cf. Lee and Roederer (1982).

# 3.2.2 Reconnection at the dayside magnetopause

Reconnection in the sub-solar region. In the following we will describe the coupling between the interplanetary medium and the magnetosphere in terms of reconnection models, applied to the dayside magnetopause.

When they make contact with interplanetary field lines on the dayside magnetopause geomagnetic field lines (having both feet on the earth) are cut and 're' connected. The locus of points where the reconnection occurs are considered to form a line, called the reconnection line (cf. Figs 3.2 and 3.3).

The interplanetary electric field  $(\vec{E}_I = -\vec{u}_I \times \vec{B}_I)$  can penetrate into the magnetosphere via connected field lines. The potential

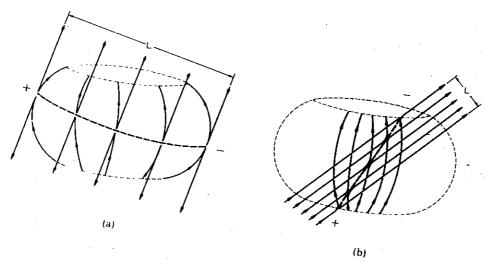


Fig. 3.2. Schematic drawing illustrating the reconnection line (---) passing the nose of the magnetopause. IMF is supposed to be oriented south-west in (a) and north-east in (b). The polarity of the electric field is indicated by + and - signs (Nishida and Maezawa 1971).

difference thus introduced into the magnetosphere is proportional to the lateral width (L) of the reconnecting IMF field lines, and it will vanish if the reconnection line is reduced to a point.

The magnetic fields on interplanetary and geomagnetic sides of the magnetopause are denoted by  $\vec{B}_1$  and  $\vec{B}_2$ . If the ratio  $B_1/B_2$  and the angle  $\alpha$  between  $\vec{B}_1$  and  $\vec{B}_2$  do not vary much on the entire magnetopause, the electric potential drop along the reconnection

line is estimated by

$$\phi = E_1 \sin(\alpha - \beta) l_R$$

$$= u_1 B_1 l_R F_1 \left(\frac{B_1}{B_2}, \alpha\right)$$
(3.17)

or equivalently

$$\phi = E_2 \sin \beta l_R = u_2 B_2 l_R F_2 \left(\frac{B_1}{B_2}, \alpha\right)$$
 (3.18)

where  $l_R$  is the length of the reconnection line and  $\beta$  is the angle characterizing the

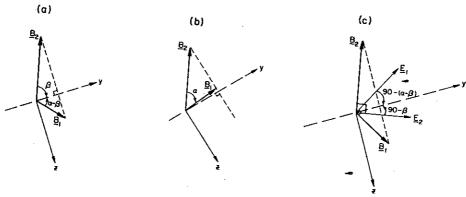


Fig. 3.3. The orientation of the reconnection lines with respect to magnetic fields  $(\vec{B}_1 \text{ and } \vec{B}_2)$  and electric fields  $(\vec{E}_1 \text{ and } \vec{E}_2)$ . Subscript 1 and 2 refer to different sides of the interface. The reconnection occurs in (a) but not in (b), and (c) illustrates the electric fields for (a) (Gonzales and Mozer 1974).

local direction of the reconnection line relative to the local GMF B<sub>2</sub> (cf. Nishida 1978 p. 69).

Making the required corrections to Eqs (3.17) and (3.18) by taking into account the spatial variations of  $\vec{B}_1$  and  $\vec{B}_2$ , Gonzales and Mozer (1974) derived the following expression:

$$\phi = \frac{2u_{I}B_{I,t}RF_{1}\left(\frac{KB_{I,t}}{B_{G}}, \alpha_{0}\right)}{\sin(\alpha_{0}/2)}$$
(3.19)

where  $B_{I,t}$  is the tangential component of the IMF, R is the radius of the dayside magnetopause,  $KB_{I,t}/B_G$  is the ratio of interplanetary and geomagnetic fields at the nose of the magnetopause (K being the amplification factor of the field at the bow shock), and  $\alpha_0$  is the value of the  $\alpha$  angle at the nose of the magnetopause.

Figure 3.4 is a comparison of the electric field calculated from formula (3.19) with that observed in the polar cap. The measured field is the dawn-dusk component of the electric field observed by balloons at the polar cap stations Resolute Bay and Thule. The calculation of  $\phi$  is made by using the following parameters and simultaneous IMF

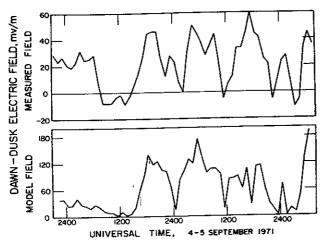


Fig. 3.4. Comparison of electric fields measured by balloons in the polar cap (top) and calculated (see text) (Gonzales and Mozer 1974).

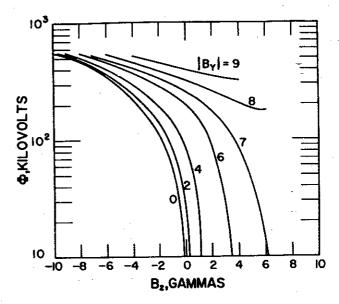


Fig. 3.5. A model calculation of electric potential difference produced along the reconnection-line. B<sub>Y</sub> and B<sub>Z</sub> are components of IMF (Gonzales and Mozer 1974).

observations:  $B_G = 70 \gamma$ ,  $R = 15 R_E$ , K = 5,  $u_I = 300 \text{ km/s}$  and the diameter of the polar cap is estimated to be 3000 km.

The factor  $\sim 1/3$  between the measured E-field and the model field is interpreted to represent the fraction of the interplanetary field lines that can reach the reconnection line. Only 1/3 can make it, the remaining are deflected and pushed aside to the flanks of the magnetosphere without even touching the reconnection line.

Equation (3.19) can be rewritten in terms of the components of  $B_I$ :

$$\phi = \frac{2^{3/2} u_{I} B_{I,t}^{\frac{1}{2}} R(K B_{I,t}^{2} - B_{G} B_{I,z})}{(B_{I,t} - B_{I,z})^{\frac{1}{2}}} \times (K^{2} B_{I,t}^{2} + B_{G}^{2} - 2K B_{G} B_{I,z})^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$
(3.20)

where  $B_{I,t} = (B_{I,y}^2 + B_{I,z}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $B_{I,t} \cos \alpha_0 = B_{I,z}$ .  $\phi$  is plotted in Fig. 3.5 versus  $B_z$  (=  $B_{I,z}$ ) using  $B_y$  (= $B_{I,y}$ ) as a parameter. From Fig. 3.5 it seems possible that the observed correlations between southward  $B_z$  and the DP2 mode of geomagnetic activity (cf. Sect. 5.2) are reflections of the IMF- $\phi$  relationship expressed by Eq. (3.20).

For two magnetic fields of equal magni-

tude ( $|B_1| = |B_2|$ ), the reconnection electric field can be written as

$$E_{R} = u_{I}B_{I}\sin\frac{\theta}{2} \tag{3.21}$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle between the two fields (see Fig. 3.6a) (cf. Sonnerups 1974). This means that only the field components perpendicular to the X-line are allowed to reconnect. The electric field  $\vec{E}_R$ , parallel to the X-line, is the only component of the magnetosheath electric field to penetrate into the open magnetosphere (Kan and Lee 1979). The potential difference across the polar cap,  $\phi_{pc}$  is due to the perpendicular component of  $\vec{E}_R$ , i.e.  $E_R \sin \theta/2$  as shown in Fig. 3.6b. The polar cap potential can

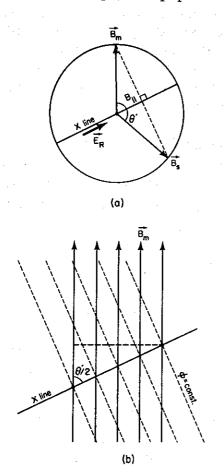


Fig. 3.6. A schematic illustration of the field line reconnection geometry for equal magnitude of the fields inside and outside the interface  $(\vec{B}_m \text{ and } \vec{B}_s)$ . (b) is an illustration of the equipotentials (dashed lines) of the reconnection electric field (Kan and Lee 1979).

then be written

$$\phi_{\rm pc} = \mathbf{u}_{\rm I} \mathbf{B}_{\rm I} \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \mathbf{1}_{\rm R} \tag{3.22}$$

where  $l_R$  is the effective length of the reconnection line.

The Joule heat dissipation in the polar cap ionosphere is given by

$$P = \frac{\phi_{pc}^2}{R} = u_I^2 B_I^2 \sin^4 \frac{\theta \, l_R^2}{2 \, R}$$
 (3.23)

where R is the ionospheric resistance.

Recently, Reiff et al. (1981) have computed the convection potential drop across the polar cap from data obtained on low altitude satellites and correlated with parameters measured simultaneously in the upstream solar wind. They found that the bulk of the potential drop and its variations with IMF parameters are successfully predicted by merging theory. A significant 'background' drop (~35 kV) does not depend on IMF parameters and was tentatively attributed to closed model processes such as viscosity and pressure gradient forces (cf. Sect. 3.3). The potential drop was found to be better correlated with IMF parameters than with geomagnetic activity indices. This was found reasonable because the latter are affected by non-linear responses of the magnetosphere to the polar cap input (cf. Sect. 3.4).

Concerning the spatial distribution of the potential inside the polar cap, the IMF  $B_Y$  component is considered an important parameter. When  $B_Y$  differs from zero the reconnection-line is inclined with respect to the equatorial plane. Thus the Lorentz force acting on the open field lines ( $\vec{F} = \vec{J} \times \vec{B}_N$ , where  $\vec{J}$  is the surface current flowing on the magnetopause and  $B_N$  is the component of the magnetic field normal to the magnetopause) has a longitudinal component which will produce zonal flow of field lines on the

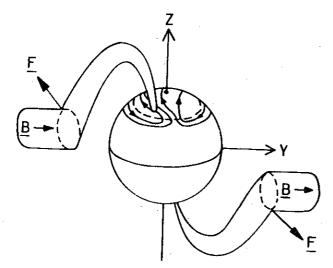


Fig. 3.7. Sketch illustrating the E-W forces F exerted on open flux tubes in the presence of an IMF B<sub>Y</sub> field, resulting in a torque being exerted on the magnetosphere about the earth-sun line. The view is from the direction of the sun. Also illustrated is the resulting azimuthal flow in the dayside cusp region (Svalgaard-Mansurov effect) which implies asymmetric addition of flux tubes to the tail lobes under the action of the torque. The dashed line is the open field line boundary (Cowley 1981).

dayside edge of the polar cap (cf. Fig. 3.7). Reconnection with eastward IMF ( $B_Y > 0$ ) causes field lines to be convected toward the west. Westward (eastward) convection will drive an eastward (westward) Hall current producing geomagnetic signatures denoted DPY (cf. Friis-Christensen and Wilhjelm 1975). When  $B_Y > 0$  ( $B_Y < 0$ ) the size of the convection vortex (and equally the equipotential vortex and the equivalent current vortex) is expected to be enlarged (reduced) on the dawn side. Ionospheric convection should be stronger on the afternoon side in the northern polar cap for  $B_Y < 0$ .

An important property of the open model of the magnetosphere is that the radius of the dayside magnetosphere (R) and the size of the polar cap will vary with IMF. According to observations (Aubry et al. 1970) the magnetopause shrinks without a significant

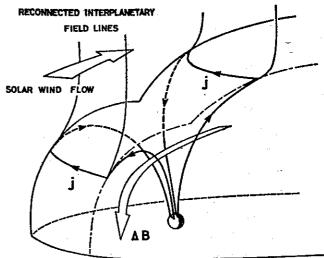


Fig. 3.8. Schematic illustration of the current system of the time of southward interplanetary magnetic field. When the reconnection of magnetic field lines occurs on the dayside magnetopause, magnetosheath plasma adjacent to the magnetopause is decelerated as its momentum is transferred to the ionospheric plasma. The corresponding polarization current flows along the magnetopause, which closes its circuit in the ionosphere via reconnected field lines. The resultant current circuit reduces the dayside magnetic flux as shown by a curved white arrow (Maezawa 1974).

change in the magnetic field jump ( $\Delta B$ ) across it. Consequently, the reduction of the total magnetopause current,  $\delta I_M$ , stems from a change in the meridional length of the magnetopause:

$$\delta I_{M} = \frac{\Delta B}{2\mu_{0}} \, \delta R \tag{3.24}$$

where  $\delta R$  is the change in the nose radius. Coroniti and Kennel (1973) take  $\delta I_M$  as an estimate of the decrement of the Chapman-Ferrago current (depicted as  $\vec{j}$  in Fig. 3.8). It is suggested that this current diminution provides the dominant current feeding the ionospheric Pedersen current. The magnetic field produced by this current system acts to reduce the geomagnetic field in the vicinity of the dayside magnetopause. The circuit may be regarded as a shunt introduced into the interplanetary electric field due to the contact with the ionosphere

through open field lines. The dissipation of the electric field energy by the shunting circuit is to be compensated by the deceleration of the solar wind flow. In the region where the deceleration occurs there exists an inertia current density given by:

$$\vec{j} = \frac{\rho}{B^2} \vec{B} \times (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v}$$
 (3.25)

During slightly disturbed conditions the total current intensity is about 10<sup>6</sup> A. Since the scale of the dayside current loop is approximately 10 R<sub>E</sub>, the magnetic flux produced by the circuit is estimated to be of the order of 108 Wb. An erosion of magnetic flux of the order of 108 Wb taking place with constant efficiency over the sunward half of a circular belt of the dayside magnetosphere corresponds to inward/equatorward displacements of the magnetopause/cusp by  $\sim 2.5 \, \text{R}_{\text{E}} / 5 \, \text{degrees}.$ 

Response-times of the magnetosphere to variations of the IMF condition are briefly considered (cf. Nishida 1978, p. 79). The time in which the change of state of the dayside reconnection line is communicated to the ground,  $\tau_1$ , is given roughly by  $s/v_A$ , where s is the length of the geomagnetic field line reaching the reconnection line and vA is the Alfvén speed.  $\tau_1$  is thus comparable to the transmission time of SI signals from the magnetopause to the ground, and is estimated to be around 1 min. A second characteristic time,  $\tau_2$ , arises from the motion of the magnetopause in response to IMF variations. The interplanetary electric field seen by the reconnection line is  $(\vec{u}_I \vec{u}_b)\times \vec{B}_I$  where  $\vec{u}_b$  is the velocity of the magnetopause. Thus the electric field applied on the reconnection line differs from  $\vec{E}_I = -\vec{u}_I \times \vec{B}_I$  until the magnetopause current reaches the equilibrium intensity and the motion of the dayside magnetopause stops. According to Coroniti and Kennel (1973)

 $\tau_2 \sim 400 \, \Sigma_p$  where  $\Sigma_p$  is the Pedersen conductivity (in mhos), and is estimated to be around ten minutes. This is comparable tothe delay-time of  $\sim$ 15 min. found between IMF and its geomagnetic effects.

In recent years data from the frontside of the magnetopause which allow quantitative checks of the predictions of the macroscopic theory of reconnection have become available. The International Sun-Earth Explorers, ISEE-1 and -2, were the first satellites with the right orbits and instruments to observe effects of reconnection at the dayside magnetopause. Paschmann et al. (1979) have reported an event in which changes of flow momentum at the magnetopause near noon was consistent with a rotational discontinuity. According to this model the magnetic field changes direction by a large angle and has a finite component normal to the discontinuity. This is illustrated in Fig. 3.9

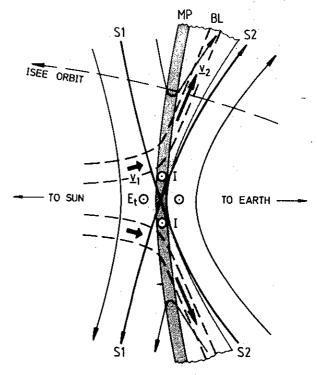


Fig. 3.9. Reconnection situation at the dayside magnetopause with southward pointing interplanetary field. The shaded area shows a layer of accelerated plasma flow after transition of the solar wind through the rotational discontinuity (Paschmann et al. 1979).

for the simple case of almost antiparallel fields. The plasma that transits through the discontinuity should be accelerated by an amount that is related to the balance of magnetic and mechanical stresses which (in an isotropic plasma) reads:

$$[\rho \vec{\mathbf{v}}_{\mathsf{t}} \mathbf{v}_{\mathsf{n}}] = \frac{1}{\mu_{\mathsf{0}}} [\vec{\mathbf{B}}_{\mathsf{t}} \mathbf{B}_{\mathsf{n}}] \tag{3.26}$$

Index n and t refer to the normal and tangential components, respectively. Square brackets indicate the jump across the discontinuity. Since  $B_n = \text{const.}$  and  $\rho \cong \text{const.}$ , we have the simple relations:

$$[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_{\mathbf{t}}] = \frac{[\vec{\mathbf{B}}_{\mathbf{t}}]}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \rho}} \tag{3.27}$$

$$v_{n} = \frac{B_{n}}{\sqrt{\mu_{0}\rho}} \tag{3.28}$$

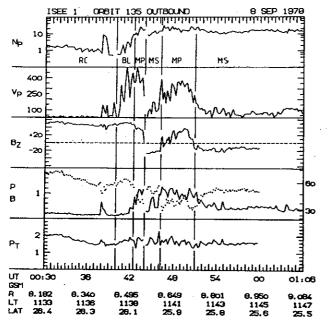


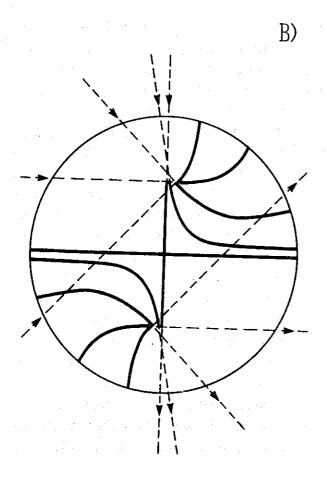
Fig. 3.10. Plasma and magnetic field data from a transition of ISEE 1 through the magnetopause near local noon. N<sub>P</sub>, V<sub>P</sub>, B<sub>Z</sub>, P, B, and P<sub>T</sub> are plasma density, flow speed, component of B normal to the ecliptic, gas and magnetic pressures and the total pressure, respectively. The units are cm<sup>-3</sup>, km/s, nT, and 10<sup>-7</sup> Nm<sup>-2</sup>. The symbols RC, BL, MP, MS designate the different plasma regimes encountered, namely ring current, boundary layer, magnetopause layer, magnetosheath (i.e. shocked solar wind) (Paschmann et al. 1979).

In several studies of plasma flow at the magnetopause (Heikkila 1975; Paschmann et al. 1976; Haerendel et al. 1978) it was quite disturbing that the predictions of Eq. (3.27) were not encountered even when the magnetic fields inside and outside the magnetopause were almost oppositely directed. It evident that if reconnection occurred at all in the explored regions it must be transient and small-scale in nature and thus escape detection. The measurement of Paschmann et al. (1979) was sufficiently fast to cope with this difficulty. Figure 3.10 shows a set of data on three subsequent transitions through the magnetopause along a pass as sketched by the dashed line in Fig. 3.9. The most important feature is the large increase of plasma flow velocity by several 100 km/s just inside the magnetopause. Via density measurements and the magnetometer data, Eq. (3.27) was checked. Agreement was found within 10%, which was considered rather good in view of several sources of experimental error. About 10 events of this kind have been identified, which is  $\sim 30\%$ of the total number of cases in which the orientation of the IMF was favorable for reconnection. Thus, strong antiparallel field components are apparently not sufficient for the process to occur. What a sufficient condition could be, is not known yet (Haerendel 1980).

Reconnection near the cusps. Geometrical considerations presented by Crooker (1979) show that dayside magnetic merging, when constrained to regions where the fields are antiparallel, results in two separate reconnection lines that converge at the polar cusps (cf. Fig. 3.11a). From Fig. 3.11a we also note that for IMF  $B_Y \neq 0$ , closed field lines constitute the subsolar region of the magnetopause. Reconnection in this region is restricted to IMF due south. For all other cases, no reconnection occurs in a lune-like

Z

A)



area centred on the noon-midnight meridian. The width of the region not subject to erosion increases with increasing deviationof the IMF from due south (Fig. 3.11). According to this model the cusp region seems to be the primary site of the reconnection process. This is consistent with the referred lack of observations of accelerated flow along the dayside magnetopause (as predicted for merging near the subsolar point). The dayside merging configurations proposed by Crooker (1979) predict polar cap convection patterns (cf. Fig. 3.12) which are confirmed by observations. Among these are the asymmetric double cells where the strongest convection occurs on the side of the polar cap opposite to the direction of the IMF By component (Heppner 1972; Mozer et al. 1974; Berthelier et al. 1974). The convection gaps shaded in Fig. 3.11 are consistent with the sense of field-aligned cusp currents observed by Iijima and Potemra (1976).

# 3.3 The closed magnetosphere—the lowlatitude boundary layer

A different mode of solar wind-magnetosphere interaction, based on a closed model of the magnetosphere, is discussed by Heikkila (1978). A closed magnetosphere means that there is no direct interconnection between the interplanetary and the earth's magnetic field. In such a situation the mag-

Fig. 3.11. Schematic view from the sun of the dayside magnetopause. (a) Earth field lines (solid) converge in a cusp-like configuration. Merging lines (heavy solid) are the locus of points where the interplanetary field lines (dashed) are antiparallel to the earth field lines. The shaded area contains no points where the interplanetary and earth fields are antiparallel. (b) Merging lines (solid) for various orientations of the interplanetary magnetic field (dashed lines). Merging lines are constructed according to the method illustrated in (a) (Crooker 1979).

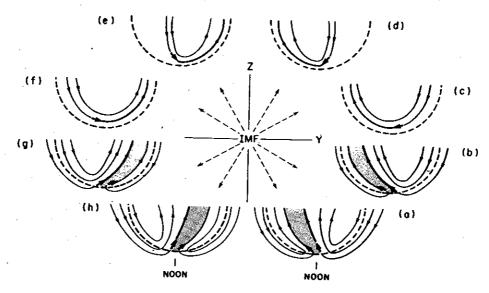


Fig. 3.12. Predicted polar cap convection patterns in the dayside northern hemisphere, viewed from above, for various orientations of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) in the Y–Z plane, perpendicular to the earth–sun line. The short heavy arrows represent the direction of flow initiated by dayside merging near the cusp. Note the pattern of rotation of the arrows around the figure in response to the rotation of the IMF. The heavy streamlines in each pattern indicate the position of maximum convection. Those streamlines which cross the polar cap boundary (the heavy dashed line) effect a transfer of flux from closed dayside field lines to open tail lobe field lines. The shaded regions are convection gaps (Crooker 1979).

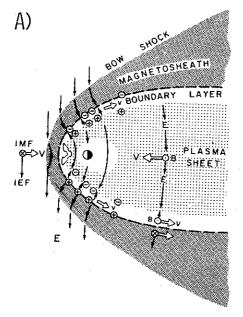
netopause will be an equipotential surface. Observations from satellite-crossings of the magnetopause indicate that the low-latitude region of the magnetopause often is a nearly equipotential surface. Electric field components tangential to the dayside magnetopause are seldom observed (cf. Heikkila 1978).

For the magnetopause to be an equipotential surface in the presence of an external electric field, within the magnetosheath, a surface charge distribution as shown in Fig. 3.13a, for a southward IMF, is necessary. Negative charges are needed on the dawnside to provide terminations for the magnetosheath field, and similarly, positive changes are needed on the duskside as sources for the continuation of the external field.

Inside an equipotential surface there can be no electric field unless there exist separate

sources for the internal field. Thus, the dawn-dusk magnetosphere field must be due to positive charges somewhere near, but inside the magnetopause on the morning side and negative charges toward the dusk side. The resulting polarized boundary-layer can transfer the external magnetosheath electric field into the magnetosphere. As indicated in Fig. 3.13, the flow of plasma inside the boundary layer is tangential to the frontside magnetopause. This requires a  $\tilde{J} \times \tilde{B}$ -force pointing inward on both the dawnside and the duskside, and thus a westward current. Near the throat region on the dayside this current flows against the electric field owing to the inner charge layer; this region therefore has a negative  $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}$  and acts as a generator (cf. Heikkila 1978).

Since field-aligned currents  $(J_{\parallel})$  are required along any boundary where the horizontal ionospheric current diverges, the



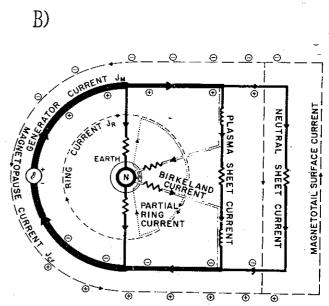


Fig. 3.13. (a) With an equipotential magnetopause an electric field inside the magnetosphere can exist only if separate sources exist owing to charges placed as shown. The sheet densities need not all be the same; thus the boundary layer and magnetopause region can be viewed as a combination of a charge sheet and a dipole sheet. (b) Geometry and circuit aspects of important magnetospheric currents. Flow of the boundary layer plasma around the curved magnetopause implies a westward current. In the dayside region this current opposes the electric field and thus acts as a generator (Heikkila 1978).

polarized layer has been suggested as a source of  $J_{\parallel}$  (e.g. Bostrøm 1977):

$$J_{\parallel} = \nabla \cdot \vec{J}_{\perp}$$

$$= \Sigma_{p} \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_{\perp} + \vec{E}_{\perp} \cdot \nabla \Sigma_{p}$$

$$+ \vec{B} \times \vec{E} \cdot \nabla \Sigma_{H}$$
(3.29)

According to Eastman et al. (1976) some of the forward momentum of the boundary layer plasma flow is converted to the electrical load in the ionosphere when the polarization charge is drained by depolarizing current flow along field lines. Thus, the boundary layer constitutes a magneto-hydrodynamic generator (see Fig. 3.14).

When traversing the boundary layer from the magnetosheath to the magnetosphere, the bulk plasma velocity decreases from the antisunward solar wind velocity at the magnetopause to zero at the inner edge and reverses to sunward flow in the magnetosphere. If we assume frozen-in field lines, we can map this flow to the ionosphere, resulting in the familiar two-cell convection pattern. The ion convection reversal in the ionosphere then maps to the inner surface of the equatorial boundary layer.

An idealistic model description of the low latitude boundary layer (LLBL) is given by Sonnerup (1980). A one-dimensional version of the law of conservation of x-momentum in the boundary layer can be written (see Fig. 3.15):

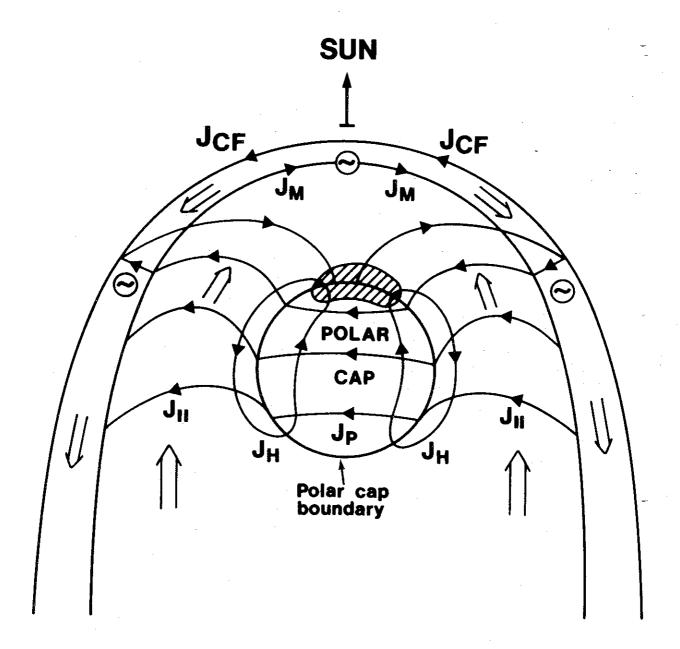
$$\rho \frac{dv_x}{dt} = \rho v_y \frac{dv_x}{dy}$$

$$= (\vec{j} \times \vec{B})_x + \mu \frac{d^2 v_x}{dy^2}$$
(3.30)

where  $\mu$  and  $\rho$  are the viscosity and density, respectively. The term on the left represents convective momentum transfer caused by a mass diffusion flux  $\rho v_y$  across the layer:

$$\rho v_{y} = -D \frac{d\rho}{dy}$$
 (3.31)

where D is the diffusion coefficient and  $\rho$  is



- Magnetopause boundary layer dynamo (Ê⋅J̄<0)
  </p>
- Polar cusp "midday gap"
- -- Electric currents
- ⇒ Plasma flow

Fig. 3.14. Sketch view of a proposed current system based on models by Heikkila (1978) and Eastman et al. (1976). It consists of Pedersen  $(J_p)$  and Hall  $(J_H)$  components in the polar ionosphere as well as field-aligned currents  $(J_{\parallel})$  connecting the ionosphere with currents flowing along the inner and outer edges of the magnetopause boundary layer  $(J_M, J_{CF})$ . For simplicity the ring current and the 'Region 2' field aligned current are not included. The figure is not in scale.

the density of diffusing magnetosheath-like plasma. The first term in the right side of (3.30) is given by  $-\sigma v_x B^2$  where  $\sigma$  is an effective electrical conductivity. The last term represents the viscous force per unit volume.

Viscous model of the low-latitude boundary layer

A simple, purely viscous model with no mass diffusion (vanished left-hand side of (3.30)) gives the velocity-profile:

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{x}} = -\mathbf{v}_0 \, \mathbf{e}^{-\mathbf{y}/\delta_{\mathbf{v}}} \tag{3.32}$$

where  $v_0$  is the maximum boundary layer speed (y = 0) and  $\delta_v$  is a characteristic viscous length defined by  $\delta_v = (\mu/\sigma B^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

With a kinematic viscosity  $v_k = \mu/\rho_0$  =  $10^9$  m<sup>2</sup>/s, a boundary layer density  $\rho_0$  = 10 protons cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $v_0 = 200$  km/s,  $\sigma = 5.96 \times 10^{-8}$  mho/m, and B =  $30 \gamma$ , one finds  $\delta_v = 558$  km. This value is a few times smaller than observed boundary layer thicknesses on the magnetospheric flanks (Eastman and Hones 1979). The velocity profile is a decaying exponential in which the flow speed falls to 14% of  $v_0$  in a distance of  $2\delta_v$ . The total voltage across the boundary layer

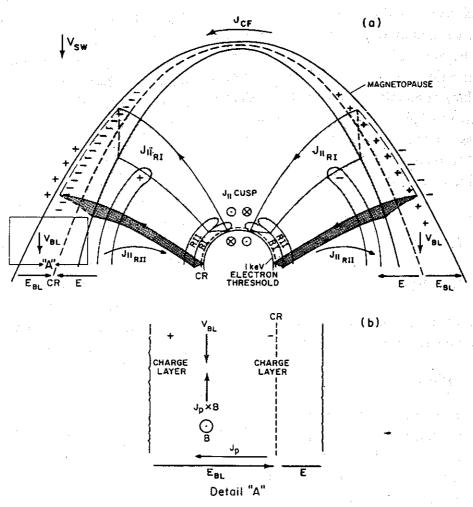


Fig. 3.15. (a) A schematic diagram of the dayside magnetosphere showing 'Region 1' currents flowing to and from the boundary layer. The dashed line locates the plasma convection reversal in the ionosphere and the magnetosphere. The poleward solid line indicates the 1-keV electron limit in the ionosphere and is mapped to the outer edge of the boundary layer. (b) An expanded view of the boundary layer region in Fig. a (Bythrow et al. 1981).

is:

$$\Delta \phi_{\rm BL} = v_0 B \, \delta_{\rm v} = 3.3 \, \rm k \, V$$

In this numerical example only 10–15% of the total potential drop across the magnetosphere occurs in the boundary layers; the remainder occurs across the open polar cap field lines.

Diffusion model of the boundary layers
Published equatorial boundary layer profiles
(Eastman et al. 1976; Haerendel et al. 1978)
indicate that the plasma density usually tends
to fall off to the background level at approximately the same place as that where the
plasma flow speed becomes insignificant. A
purely viscous model does not produce such
a result. Secondly, there is direct evidence
of a certain amount of interpenetration of
boundary layer plasma and hot low-density
'ring current' plasma (Haerendel et al. 1978).

Mass conservation in a two-dimensional model leads to the following formulas when combined with Eq. (3.31) (cf. Sonnerup 1980):

$$\rho/\rho_0 = (1 - y/\delta_p)^{\frac{2}{m+1}}; \quad m \neq -1$$
 (3.33)

$$v_{y0} = (2D_0/\delta_p)/(m+1)$$
 (3.34)

where it has been assumed that the diffusion coefficient depends on density as follows:

$$D = D_0(\rho/\rho_0)^m$$

 $D_0$  is the value of D at y = 0, where  $\rho = \rho_0$ . The quantity  $\delta_p$  is referred to as the 'precipitation length' because on this scale length particles are removed from the equatorial regions by flow-along field lines toward higher latitudes.

Omitting the viscous term and with  $\rho v_y$  replaced by

$$\rho v_{y} = \rho_{0} v_{y0} (1 - y/\delta_{p})$$
 (3.35)

Equation (3.30) is integrated to yield:

$$v_{x}/v_{0} = -(1 - y/\delta_{p})^{\alpha^{2}}$$
 (3.36)

where

$$\begin{split} \alpha &= (\sigma B^2 \delta_p / \rho_0 v_{y0})^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \delta_p \left( \frac{\sigma B^2 / (m+1)}{2\rho_0 D_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left( \frac{\delta_p}{\delta_d} \right) \end{split}$$

The quantity  $\delta_d$  is called the 'diffusive length' and is defined by

$$\delta_{\rm d} = \left(\frac{2}{m+1} \frac{\rho_0 D_0}{\sigma B^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

From (3.33) and (3.36) it is seen that  $\rho$  and  $v_x$  drop to zero at the same place  $(y = \delta_p)$ . Theoretical information concerning the m value can be obtained only by a study of the microprocesses responsible for the diffusion, but on the basis of observed density profiles a value of m near unity appears reasonable (Sonnerup 1980).

On the IMF control of electric coupling through the low-latitude boundary layer. The boundary layer processes described above are generally thought to be independent of IMF and thus may constitute the principal transfer mechanism during northward IMF when magnetic reconnection does not exist. According to Eastman et al. (1976) it is not clear how LLBL processes are affected by a southward IMF.

Piddington (1979) has a qualitative explanation for the IMF control of geomagnetic activity in terms of the boundary layer model. According to him, the region of transition from the IMF to the magnetosphere has very different properties for parallel and antiparallel magnetic fields. In the latter case there is a layer of non-magnetic plasma whose particles are not trapped in either of the two magnetic structures, but bounce back and forth, penetrating each in turn. These motions are likely to provide momen-

tum transfer and hence frictional interaction. A southward interplanetary magnetic field, with its associated dawn-to-dusk electric field, means that the interplanetary medium is electrically connected to the magnetosphere through magnetic neutral sheets. In the case of parallel IMF and magnetosphere magnetic fields their respective plasma particles are trapped and isolated from one another. There is little frictional interaction and a poor electrical connection. Thus, when the external electrical field is reversed (northward IMF), it is simultaneously disconnected from the magnetosphere.

Following these arguments of Piddington (1979), it seems reasonable that both the diffusion- and viscosity terms of Eq. (3.30) are enhanced by a southward turning of the IMF. Consequently, the momentum-transfer to the boundary layer is increased  $(\Delta |v_x| > 0)$  and so is the efficiency of the boundary layer dynamo. This means an increased electrical energy input to the polar ionosphere with associated geomagnetic effects.

As described in Sect. 3.2, the enhanced solar wind-magnetosphere coupling due to magnetic reconnection is another very important mechanism for transfer of plasma, momentum and energy for southward IMF.

The boundary layer and field aligned currents According to the model of Eastman et al. (1976), any point near the outer edge of the boundary layer projects along field lines to the polar ionosphere near noon. Points deeper within the boundary layer project to nearly the same latitude, but to positions that are displaced increasingly from local noon with increasing inward penetration into the boundary layer (see Fig. 3.14). The energies of the particles producing these field-aligned currents should be characteristic of the boundary layer and should

increase with increasing distance from local noon (corresponding to the observations of increasing thermal energy during inboundsatellite-crossings of the layer) (cf. Eastman and Hones 1979—their Figs. 2 and 6). The cusp precipitation region is regarded to be the ionospheric projection of the outer part of the boundary layer. This conclusion is supported by the similarity of boundary layer and low altitude cusp electron spectra (cf. Eastman et al. 1976).

Field-aligned currents (FAC's) are considered an important channel of energytransfer between the boundary layers and the high-latitude ionosphere. The global morphology of the two major high-latitude field-aligned current systems, 'Region 1' and 'Region 2', is now well established (Iijima and Potemra 1976a). The field aligned current system associated to the low-latitude boundary layer dynamo should lie along the auroral oval sunward of the Birkeland-current associated with the magnetotail dynamo (Roederer 1980).

Bythrow et al. (1981) observed 'Region 1' currents to span the convection reversal associated with the polar cap boundary and to extend approximately 0.5 degrees poleward of the reversal. The poleward edge of the 'Region 1' currents are observed to be nearly coincident with the 1 keV threshold level in the satellite particle spectrograms. It has been argued that this marks a lowlatitude limit of open field lines; hence the 'Region 1' currents flow along closed field lines and extend about 0.5° into a region of antisunward plasmaflow (see Fig. 3.15). The observations reported by Bythrow et al. (1981) are consistent with a model in which the dayside 'Region 1' currents have a source that is at least partially due to 'viscous-like' interaction in the low-latitude boundary layer.

The total 'Region 1' FAC between

1200 MLT and 1800 MLT ( $I_{\parallel}$ ) must be equal to the total polarization current across the corresponding section of the boundary layer. Observations of the ionosphere show that  $I_{\parallel}$  is of the order of  $10^6$  A, which requires electrons to flow out of the boundary layer or be replaced at its surface at the rate of  $10^{25}$  s<sup>-1</sup>. This is only 1% of the flow rate of particles through a cross-section of the boundary layer. Therefore, no significant reduction in the bulk flow velocity in the boundary layer would result if it were the source of 'Region 1' currents (Bythrow et al. 1981).

The 'Region 2' FAC's are entirely equatorward of the convection reversal and are thus associated with sunward convecting plasma on closed field lines.

# 3.4 Non-linear responses of the magnetosphere to solar wind energy input-magnetospheric substorms

The stationary and quasi-stationary processes discussed in Sects. 3.2 and 3.3 describe a rather continuous energy dissipation providing the quiet time auroral oval and the associated ionospheric current system  $S_q^p$ . The quiet time oval is caused by precipitating particles with a total power of  $\sim 5 \times 10^9$  W (Murphree and Anger 1978). A typical value of the energy dissipated in the polar ionosphere by the  $S_q^p$  current (cf. Sect. 5.2) is  $\sim 5 \times 10^{10}$  W corresponding to the current intensity  $5 \times 10^5$  A, the polar cap electric field 20 mv/m and 3000 km as the diameter of the polar cap (cf. Akasofu 1977 p. 52).

The amount of transfer of energy and momentum to the magnetosphere is controlled by solar wind conditions (cf. Sect. 3.2). Increased efficiency of the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo results in increased intensity in the magnetosphere-ionosphere current circuits. Akasofu (1980) summarizes the following responses of the

magnetosphere to the so-called 'sharp southward turning' of the IMF vector:

- a) Inward shift of the dayside magnetopause,
- b) Equatorward shift of the cusp,
- c) Changes of the radius of the magnetotail cross-section,
- d) Changes of the thickness of the plasma mantle,
- e) Changes of the high latitude lobe field,
- f) Changes of the thickness of the plasma sheet,
- g) Equatorward expansion of the auroral oval,
- h) Increase of the electric field across the polar cap,
- i) Enhancement of the  $S_q^p$  variations,
- j) Enhancement of plasma convection,
- k) Occurrence of a magnetospheric substorm,
- 1) Occurrence of a magnetospheric storm.

In spite of these magnetospheric responses, the correlation coefficient between the IMF B<sub>Z</sub> and the auroral electrojet index AE is only of the order of 0.4–0.5 (Akasofu 1980). This indicates that the geomagnetic activity as reflected by the AE index does not respond linearly to IMF variations.

When the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo efficiency increases above a certain critical value, the quasi-stationary mechanisms for the energy-transfer cannot dissipate the increased power fast enough. As a result, the magnetosphere develops suddenly an efficient mode of energy dissipation which is identified as the magnetospheric substorm. One way of increasing the energy-dissipation is to bring the cross-tail current to the ionosphere, where Joule-heat dissipation can take place.

A schematic illustration of a postulated topological magnetotail development during

substorms is shown in Fig. 3.16. The formation of a new X-line at some place in the magnetotail and the related transition from a tail-like to a more dipole-like field configuration are associated with a reduction of the cross-tail electric current.

This is seen if one considers the Ampèrean integral  $\oint \vec{B} \, d\vec{l}$  around a rectangular loop enclosing the X-line (cf. Fig. 3.16) and note that the formation of the X-line produces

non-zero  $B_Z$  and thus negative contributions from both side segments, while to first order it has little effect on the positive contributions from the top and bottom segments.

To maintain continuity as the current across the magnetotail is reduced, it is widely assumed that the current has been diverted along field lines and flow through the ionosphere, most likely as the westward auroral electrojet (Vasyliunas 1980). To drive the

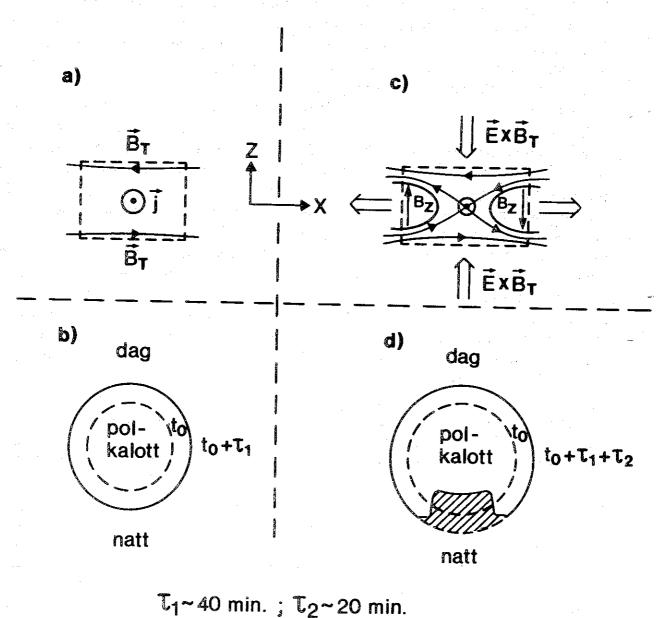


Fig. 3.16. Magnetotail magnetic field topologies. The stretching towards more tail-like field lines (a) corresponds to the expansion of the auroral oval (b). The transition to more dipolar field (c) corresponds to the poleward expansion of nightside auroral forms (d).

current through the ionospheric resistance, an electric field is needed, which may in turn be mapped out along field lines—the ionosphere becomes a voltage source for the magnetotail. This electric field has a dawn-to-dusk component and is therefore associated with plasma flow toward the X-line from above and below, as shown in Fig. 3.16c.

The possibility of a positive feedback mechanism thus becomes apparent, whereby the diversion of current from the plasma sheet to the ionosphere enhanced the plasma flow, leading to larger B<sub>Z</sub> and a further reduction of cross-tail current (Vasyliunas 1980). A threshold value of the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo (cf. Sect. 3.2) of the order of 10<sup>11</sup> watt has been related to the onset of this chain of positive feedback processes (i.e. the magnetospheric substorm) (cf. Akasofu 1980).

A magnetospheric substorm is defined as 'a transient process, initiated on the night-side of the earth in which a significant amount of energy derived from the solar wind-magnetosphere interaction is deposited in the auroral ionosphere and in the magnetosphere' (Rostoker et al. 1980). The onset of this process is most clearly signalled by explosive increases in auroral luminosity in the midnight sector. The level of energy dissipation is determined by the combination of auroral luminosity/ionization and electric fields (both primary and polarization fields).

The magnetotail development (Fig. 3.16) accounts qualitatively for several observed properties of auroral and geomagnetic activity during substorms (cf. Vasyliunas 1980). However, a main controversy still exists concerning the substorm. Is it initiated primarily by a local instability in the magnetotail or is it driven directly by an external solar wind variation?

According to McPherron (1979) a regular magnetospheric substorm appears to have

three phases: a 'growth phase' in which energy is extracted from the solar wind and eventually stored in the magnetotail; an expansion phase in which energy is explosively released; and a recovery phase in which the magnetosphere relaxes to a quiet state. Presently there is general agreement on the sequence of events, but not the name. The primary objection is that it has not been conclusively demonstrated that the expansion phase is a causal consequence of the 'growth phase' processes. Thus, Akasofu (1975a) and Kamide and Matsushita (1978) refer to these processes as the 'IMF effect' not to be included in the description of the cyclic evolution of the substorm.

In this report we will use the substorm concept as it was defined by Rostoker et al. (1980), which 'represents a consensus reached by nine magnetospheric physicists active in the field of substorm research'. Following that definition, neither the so-called 'convection bay' nor the 'growth phase', both characterized by enhanced quiet-time processes with no impulsive activity in the midnight sector, is to be included in the substorm concept. For details on the geomagnetic signatures of magnetospheric substorms, cf. Sect. 5.2.

#### 4. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

4.1 Morphology and spectral characteristics of dayside auroral emissions

The photometer observations of midday aurora shown in Fig. 2.2 differ considerably from those taken on the nightside (e.g. Romich and Belon 1967a, b), where the 4278 Å traces follow almost exactly those of the 5577 Å emission. In Fig. 2.2 we observe that the 6300 Å and the 4278 Å traces peak towards the zenith from the 5577 Å peak. The observed separation between the different photometer traces indicate different

Table 4.1

List of observations of dayside auroras from Longyearbyen

									-	-								
Event No.	Time (UT) Date/hour/min/sec	Position (el.from r	Position peak intensity (el.from north horizon)	Solar depr. angle (deg.)	Geom.shac peak inte	Geom.shadow height ~ peak intensity (km)	Height of intensity	of pe	peak (km)	Spatial of luminal	Spatial extension of luminosity (km) alt.extension/width	Sunlight	Peak i	Peak intensity	<u></u>	Inte	Intensity	
		Wavele	Wavelength (A)		Wavele	ingth (Å)	Wavelength	ngth	(F)	Wavelength	eth (A)	d: dark	Louis 1	(¥)	1	ratios	ſ	
		6300	4278		6300	4278	6300	4278	5577	6300	4278	s; sunlit s; partly sunlit	6300	6300 4278	7,29	38	5577	к <sub>3</sub> 6300
	Dec.10-05-08-15	16		7 16-	02.7		9		-	210-400					_	+-	4278	5577
-		; ;			?	-	7		1	70	-	P	1970	40	350	20	6	5,6
•	Dec.10-05-08-37	36	32	-21,4	806	1258	180	150	150   7	140-270 70	130-170		2050	125	920	16	. ^	,
en	Dec.10-05-10-30	37	30	-21,4	926	1459	190	160	160 1	130-280	130-220	q	1750	105	1200			
4	Dec.10-05-10-30	98		-21,4	484		260	<del></del>	-!	180-420	}	70	3075	6	93		<u> </u>	1 1
<b>س</b>	Dec.10-05-11-20	82		-21,4	498		250			170-400			0440	3 :			4	
9	Dec.10-05-11-20	35	28	-21,4	1063	1780	190	170	170 1	150-270	140-240		200		ر پ		٠, د	7,9
^	Dec.17-07-01-15	125	125	-16.9	737	237	9			60 70-800	30		0007	8	1080	20	10,8	1,8
∞	Dec.17-07-05-40	123	112			7	<u>,</u>	07#		260	120	Ŋ	5880	195	<b>4</b> 100	. <u>v</u> 유		>55
			/11	7,01-	<b>5</b> 27	301	510	580	ור	330	260	ss	4540	135	×100	33	-	>45
<u> </u>	Dec.1/-0/-30	130	130	-15,7	200	200	450	450	71 ×	270-730 190	350-700	on .	3400	120	190	78	1.6	18
ន 	Dec.17-07-35	120	118	-15,5	207	509	350	300	۲۲۱	170-440	180-470	s	8000	470	880	- 21		
=	Dec.19-07-22-40	100	66	-16,0	234	235	260	310	٦ľ	90-500	200-500	u,	06.38		2 000	: ;		h .
12	Dec.19-108-20-29	92	81	-14,0	205	203	315	325	15	50-500	2	) ., u	2 0		000	3 8	٠,٠	n :
13	Dec.19-08-20-59	77	79	-14,0	207	205	350	350	ค์ใ	300-500			0.02	133	007	7 7	7,7	9
14	Dec.19-08-23-53	72	7.3	-13,9	209	208	320	320	12	260-460	250-500	) u	25.35	0 0	0 1	<b>?</b> ?	2,0	<u> </u>
15	Dec.19-08-24-16	207	73	-13,9	211	208	300	325	21		55 230-400	) w	2 6	6 5	000	7 .	7,1	음 :
16	Dec.19-08-25-20	69	20	-13,9	211	208	300	300	2		200-550	) on	3840	2	5 6 6		0,0	
17	Dec.18-11-54-55	06	06	-12,0	142	142	220		<u></u> ≍I		6		3300		2 5	2 ~	7, 7	, ,
38	Dec. 9-12-13-35	62	54	-11,7	151	159	190	140	140	150-350	120-360	w o	0627		0800	1 4	, ,	۰, ۰
61	Dec. 9-12-14-37	65	59	-11,7	149	154	200	140	140		120-400	, (g			2080	, u	, r	1,1
20	Dec. 9-12-45	73	89	-12,4	163	167	165	140	140		125-250				3 6			,
						7		_	-1	4	55	r.	2000	930 /	,38U	4.4	1,6	0,5

emission altitudes. Since the geometric shadow height in the direction of maximum luminosity at 6300 and 4278 Å is 210 km for the event shown in Fig. 2.2, both these emissions come from the sunlit part of the ionosphere. Thus, most of the 200 R of the 4278 Å emission is sunlight resonantly scattered from  $N_2^+$  ions. Other examples of completely and partly sunlit midday auroras are shown in Fig. 4.1.

Table 4.1 gives an overview of 20 triangulated auroral forms observed in Dec. 1979 with information on position, geometrical shadow height, absolute intensities, and intensity ratios. The events are arranged from 1 to 20 according to the local time of observation, extending from the morning to the post-noon sector covering an interval of  $\pm 4$  hours around local magnetic noon (09 UT). The solar depression angle varies between  $-11.7^{\circ}$  and  $-21.4^{\circ}$ . The geometrical shadow height corresponding to the

direction of maximum luminosity at 6300 Å varies between 142 and 1063 km with the darkness extending to larger altitudes at smaller elevations from the north horizon in the morning sector. Local solar noon is at 11 UT.

The uncertainty of the measured emission-altitudes, which depends on the altitude and the position of the auroral form relative to the observing sites, is estimated to be generally within ±20 km. We notice that the maximum emission rate of the red line changes between 165 and 510 km. During sunlit conditions the altitude of the 4278 Å emission follows the red line fairly well. In cases of discrete forms in a dark atmosphere the nitrogen band as well as the green line are emitted lower down than the red line. Typical altitudes of maximum emission are between 140 and 160 km. The listed intensity ratios correspond to peak intensities uncorrected for atmospheric extinction.

Table 4.2
Characteristics of dayside auroras

Dayside auroral category	Observations (events)	Local time (geomagnetic)	I <sub>max</sub> (6300) (kR)	I (5577) max (R)	$R_3 = \frac{6300}{5577}$	Characteristic energy E'(keV)
II II	1 - 6 7 - 16 18 - 20	pre-noon midday post-noon	2 - 3 2,5 - 8 3,5 - 6	300 - 1000 <100 - 900 4000 - 7500	1 - 5 ~ 10 0,5-1	< 0,5 ≈ 0,1 0,2< E <sub>0</sub> < 0,7

	H <sub>max</sub> (6300)	Width of 6300 Å emission (km)	Sunlight condition
III I	180 - 260 300 - 510 165 - 200	60 - 70 75 - 330 70 - 120	dark sunlit partly sunlit

We note a large increase of the ratio  $R_3 =$ 6300 Å/5577 Å at high altitudes.

The essential information in Table 4.1 is extracted and given in Table 4.2. Estimates of characteristic energy levels of the precipitating particles, assumed to be Maxwellian, are included. This is based on the intensity ratio R<sub>3</sub> combined with absolute intensities and applied to the model of Rees and Luckey (1974).

We are aware that general conclusions concerning the local time variation of spectral characteristics cannot be drawn from only 20 selected events. However, we have the general impression that the presented data illustrate some typical variations of the auroral condition at 75° latitude when the observing site rotates with the earth from the morning through midday and into the post-noon sector.

The highest altitude of auroral emissions corresponding to the softest particle spectrum (low E<sub>0</sub>) is observed around geomagnetic noon. In this period the light emission takes the form of a quiet  $\sim$ 100-300 km broad belt of subvisual intensity (category II in Table 4.2). The auroral spectrum is dominated by the red oxygen lines at 6300/6364 Å. In the morning and afternoon hours more short-lived narrower discrete arcs and bands of visual intensity (mainly the green line) are superimposed on the red belt (categories I and II in Table 4.2).

It should be noted that, occasionally, individual or sequences of transient intensifications also appear within the midday period (cf. Fig. 4.1b and event 11 in Table 4.1). Hence, the term 'midday gap' (cf. Cogger et al. 1977), frequently used to express the general low intensity of the green line near midday, is not absolute, but of statistical nature. As an atypical event, case 11 of Table 4.1 is not included in category II of Table 4.2.

The events listed in Table 4.1 are selected according to certain criteria such as stable position and distinct form. These requirements set by the triangulation technique (cf. Sect. 2.2). In consequence, the selected forms are more intense than the average intensity of dayside auroras. Thus, the emission altitudes given in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are generally somewhat lower than the altitude of the most common dayside auroras.

4.2 Dynamics of dayside aurora in relation to solar wind variations and geomagnetic disturbances

In the following we will concentrate on coordinated observations of dayside auroras and geomagnetic disturbances. Primary emphasis is placed on the latitudinal position of auroral luminosity. These observations will be related to information on the orientation and intensity of the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF). The physical interpretation of the experimental findings is given in Chapter 6.

The orientation of the IMF vector is expressed in the geocentric sun-earth (GSE) coordinate system with positive X, Y, and Z-axes pointing towards the sun, the dusk side and the north, respectively. IMF variations were detected by the satellites ISEE-1 and 3 (International Sun-Earth Explorer 1 and 3). ISEE-3 was near the libration point to monitor the condition at about  $250\,R_E$  upstream from the earth. The position of ISEE-1 is shown in Fig. 4.2 for different auroral events which will be discussed in the following presentation. For information on the correlation between ISEE-1 and 3 IMF measurements cf. Russell et al. (1980) and Crooker et al. (1982).

December 25, 1978

On Dec. 25, 1978 similar main features of IMF variations are observed from both

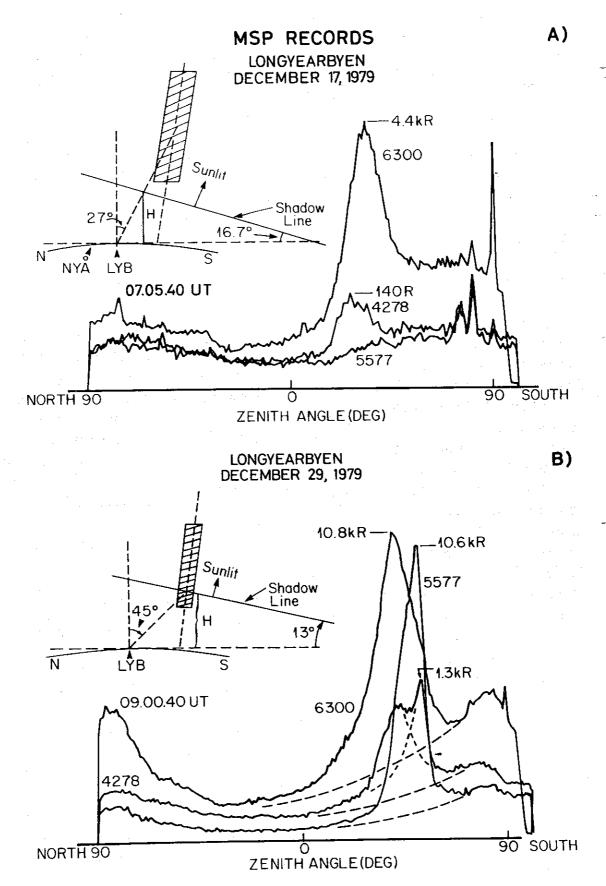


Fig. 4.1. Meridian scanning photometer (MSP) records of different, sunlit midday auroras. An illustration showing the location of parallelogram boundaries for the auroral emissions and the geometric shadow line is inserted. The time of the scan from north to south horizon was 12 sec.

spacecrafts ISEE-1 and 3. The time delay between onset at each satellite is around 1 hour. Plasmaprobe data from ISEE-3 show that the solar wind speed at the spacecraft was nearly constant at ~370 km/s between 08 and 11 UT. At 11.20 UT, jumps occurred both in plasma speed and ion density simultaneously with a sharp B-field increase. The solar wind speed increased ~420 km/s. These observations are confirmed by similar changes at ISEE-1. This indicates that the main feature of the magnetic structure is kept invariable during the expansion of the solar wind from ISEE-3 to ISEE-1. A solar wind speed of 400 km/s corresponds to a time delay between the two satellites of  $\sim$ 65 min.

Near the bowshock (ISEE-1 location)  $B_Z$ 

was negative from 0730 UT. Between  $\sim$ 1030 and 1130 UT the Z-component decreased smoothly from  $-4\gamma$  to  $-7\gamma$  before the IMF again turned northward. A new southward shift started around 1220 UT. Notice the close correlation between variations of IMF Bz, dayside auroral location and local geomagnetic activity (see Figs-4.4b and 4.5).

From Fig. 4.4A we observe sharp jumps in the B-field amplitude detected by ISEE-1 at  $\sim$ 0630 and 14 UT with no counterpart in the ISEE-3 magnetograms. In both cases the amplitude changed by a factor of three; at 0630 UT it decreased from  $\sim$ 20 to  $\sim$ 5  $\gamma$ ; at 14 UT B<sub>T</sub> increased from  $\sim$ 15  $\gamma$  to  $\sim$ 45  $\gamma$ . Both these shifts are accompanied by corresponding jumps in the plasma density. They are probably due to satellite-crossings

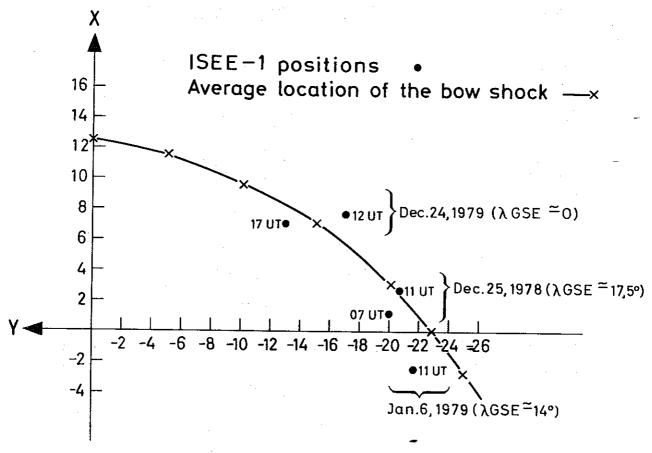


Fig. 4.2. Location of the ISEE-1 satellite at the time of different auroral events discussed in the text. The average shape of the bow shock (in GSE coordinates) is shown for a solar wind density of 10 cm<sup>-3</sup> and speed  $U_{I} = 450 \ km/s \ \text{as given by the equation} \ 0.45 \ X^{2} + Y^{2} + 1.11 \ Z^{2} + 0.18 \ XY + 46.6 \ X - 4.16 \ Y - 618 = 0 \ (from \ X - 4.16 \ Y - 618 = 0) \ (from \ Y - 61$ Formisano 1981). The latitude of the satellite position  $(\lambda_{GSE} = tg^{-1}(Z/(X^2 + Y^2)^i))$  is given in parentheses.

TABLE 4.3
List of Geomagnetic Observatories

Station	Station	Geographic		Geoma	Computed Geomagnetic mag. dip			UT of Magnetic
Name	Code	Lat.	Long. (east		Long.		L-Value	midday (12 MLT)
				<u>,                                      </u>				······································
Norway-Kola						1		
<u>chain</u>		=						
Ny-A Tesund	NYA	79.00	12.00	75.44	131.45	81.5	16.5	08.30
Longyearbyen	LYR	78.20	15.70	74.36	130.94		14.4	08.30
Hornsund	HSD	77.0	15.6	73.54	127.8	81.3	13.1	08.30
Bjørnøya	BJA	74.50	19.20	71.08	124.55	79.6	9.5	08.40
Tromsø	TRO	69.20	19.00	67.14	116.80	77.6	6.3	09.10
Loparskaya	LOP	68.25	33.08	63.47	125.78	77.5	5.3	09.30
Apatity	APY	67.55	33.30	62.80	125.28	77.2	5.0	09.20
						<u> </u>		UT of
								Magnetic
					•			midnight (24 ML)
Alaska Chain	a	70.00		(75.06)	(00.00)			10.00
Sachs Harbor	SHH	72.00	234.70		(28.82)			10.29
Cape Parry	CPY	70.20	235.30	(74.37)			0 22	10.11
Inuvik	INK	68.35	226.20	70.41	264.63	81.2	9.32	10.38
Arctic	ALL T	co 12	214 42					11.28
Village	AV I	68.13	214.43	66 63	256.84	78.2	6.41	11.28
Fort Yukon	FYU	66.57 64.9	214.75 212.2	66.63 64.6	256.5	76.6	5.4	11.23
College	COL TLK	62.30	209.90	61.88	257.00	74.5	4.39	11.25
Talkeetna	ILK	02.30	209.90	01.00	237.00	/4.3	4.33	11.25
575 - mt -								
Alberta Fort								
Providence	PROV			67.5	292.0			09.08 UT
Uranium		•						
City	URAN	59.50	251.40	67.4	304.3	81.8	7.25	08.18 -
Hay Řiver	HAYR			67.3	294.3			08.58
Ft. Smith	SMIT			67.3	300.0			08.36
Ft. Chipeway	an FTCH			66.3	302.1			08.27
Ft McMurray				64.2	303.5			08.22
Leduc	LEDU			60.6	302.9			08.24
Great Whale								
River	GWR	55.28	282.17	66.54	347.29	81.00	6.93	05.00
Tixie Bay	TIXIE	71.60	128.90	60.45	191.35	82.9	5.64	15.50
Dixon Island	DIXON	73.50	80.40	62.98	161.40	83.6	6.95	16.30
Godhavn	GH	69.3	306.5	79.9	32.6	81.6	20.62	02.26
Churchill	CHUR	58.80	265.8	68.69	322.6	83.4	8.59	06.40
Jiidi Cii i i i	QO.I				• -			

of the bow-shock. At the bow-shock the solar wind is compressed so that the plasma density and the magnetic field intensity is higher on the downstream side of the discontinuity. Thus, the 0630 UT transition is consistent with an outbound pass of the satellite. The satellite is estimated to be near the apogee of the orbit at 14 UT.

As observed from the geomagnetic rec-

ords in Fig. 4.5, a significant substorm occurred on the nightside with a maximum disturbance around 09 UT. A distinct auroral breakup was seen at 0847 UT on all sky camera film from the Alaskan sector. The maximum of the H-component deflection at Inuvik was more than  $500 \gamma$ . Signatures of the substorm are also seen from the Canadian array of stations (midnight sector)

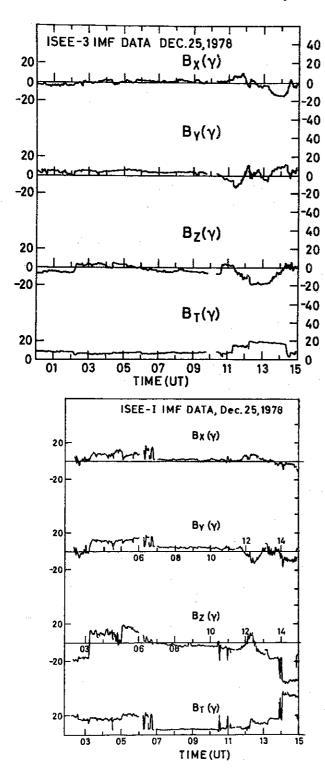


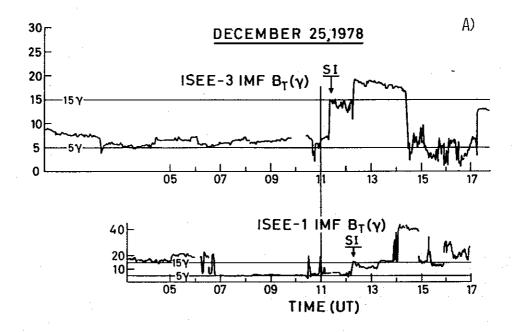
Fig. 4.3. Interplanetary/magnetosheath magnetic fields as observed from the satellites ISEE 1 and 3 for Dec. 25, 1978. The field components are shown in the geocentric sun-earth (ecliptic) (GSE) coordinate system.

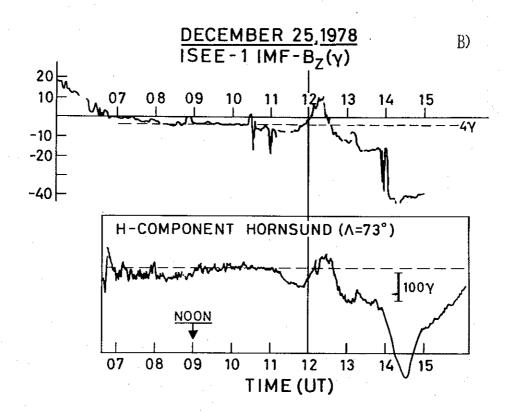
and at Godhavn, Greenland; at that time in the dawn sector of the polar cap.

From Svalbard we observed a character-

istic quiet midday period from 0750 to 09 UT with auroral luminosity moving slowly southward towards the zenith of Longyearbyen. At 0902 UT discrete auroral forms appeared (Fig. 4.6). From 09 to 11 UT a sequence of discrete arcs was observed in a rather stable position near zenith. The steady, slow equatorward movement of about 1.5° (lat.) of the cusp aurora between 08 and 09 UT, as well as a slow change in the H-component, may be more closely related to a smooth southward turning of the IMF vector between 0730 and 0830 UT (Fig. 4.4B) rather than the isolated substorm on the nightside. However, the nightside activity sometimes correlates with the dayside motion, as may be seen from the Alberta array or the Alaskan chain of stations, where a maximum of the magnetic disturbance field of  $370 \gamma$  at  $\sim$ 1150 UT was observed at College. The corresponding local magnetic disturbance on the dayside amounted to 70  $\gamma$  at Hornsund station (HSD), near the poleward edge of the belt of luminosity. As can be seen from the photometer traces in Fig. 4.6 and from the all sky camera pictures in Fig. 4.7 an enhanced equatorward shift of the auroral arc started around 11 UT associated with the growth of the magnetic disturbance field. The position of maximum auroral intensity moved from 74° at 1100 UT to  $\sim$ 71° geom. lat. at 1140 UT.

From 1210 to 1235 the dayside aurora moved poleward at the time of decreasing disturbance field at many stations around the oval. These auroral and geomagnetic variations followed distinct changes of the direction of the IMF vector as reported above. The movement towards southeast of the IMF vector after 1220 UT (ISEE-1) was followed by a new equatorward expansion of auroral luminosity and another increase of magnetic activity. From 1315 UT the aurora was completely beyond the southern horizon at





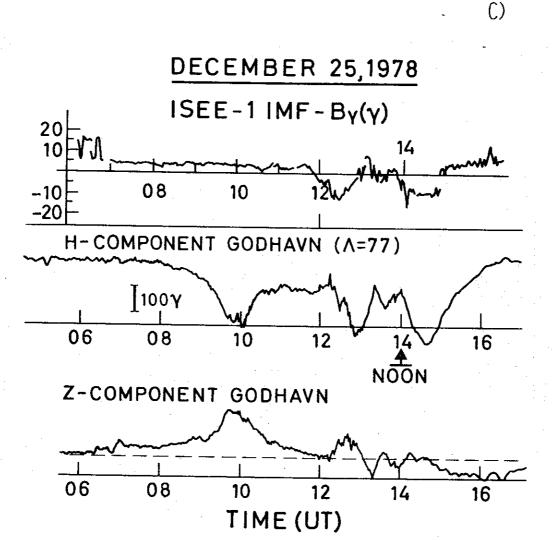


Fig. 4.4. (a) Showing the total magnetic field as detected by the two satellites ISEE 1 and 3. (b) Showing correlated variations of ISEE-1 IMF  $B_{\rm Z}$  component and the horizontal component of the geomagnetic field at Hornsund, when Hornsund was to the north of the main auroral form in the post-noon sector (see Fig. 4.5). (c) Showing correlated variations of ISEE-1 IMF By component and the horizontal and vertical components of the geomagnetic field at Godhavn, when Godhavn was in the noon sector of the polar cap.

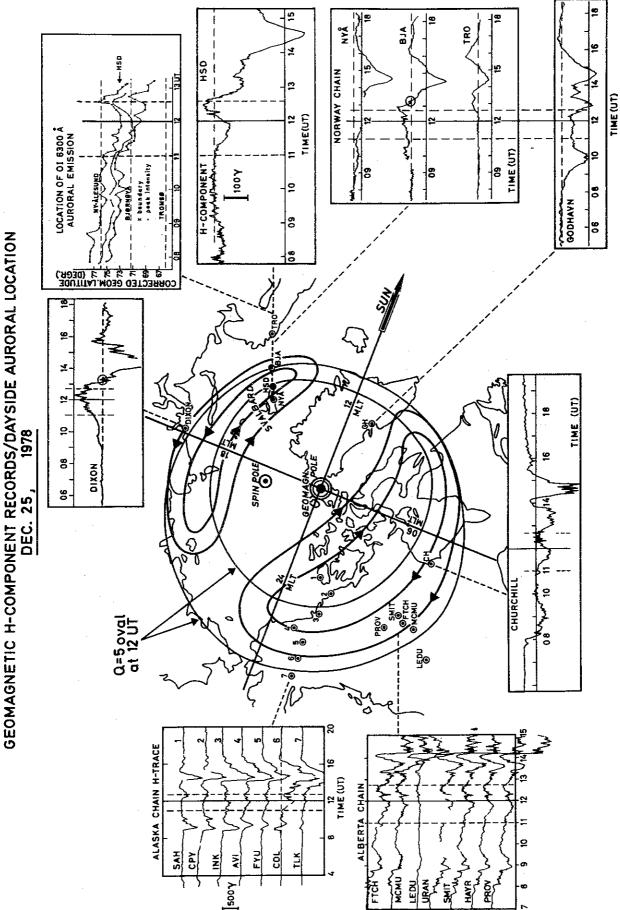


Fig. 4.5. Overview of geomagnetic and auroral post-noon sector conditions for a moderately disturbed period on Dec. 25, 1978. The latitude position of the auroral luminosity at 6300 Å is shown by the solid curves in the upper right panel. Vertical lines in the magnetograms illustrate the global simultaneity of geomagnetic activity and the time relationships to the auroral latitude shifts. The crescent-shaped curves are drawn to illustrate a proposed equivalent current system for 12 UT. The statistical Q = 5 auroral oval is shown for 12 UT.

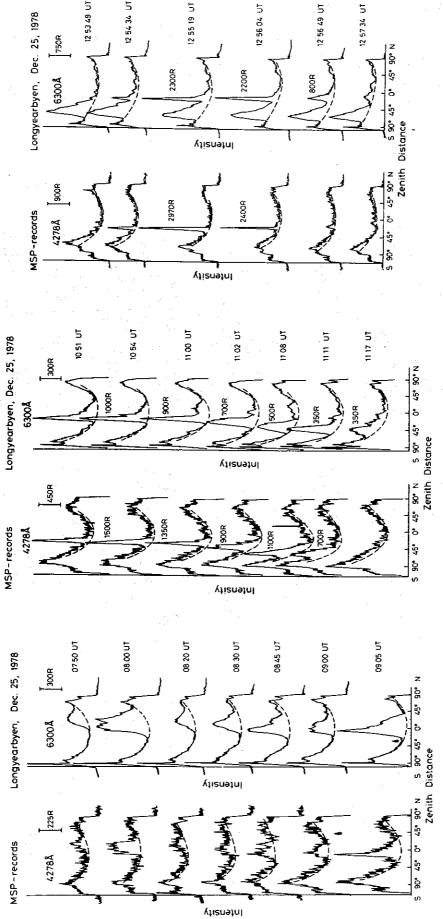
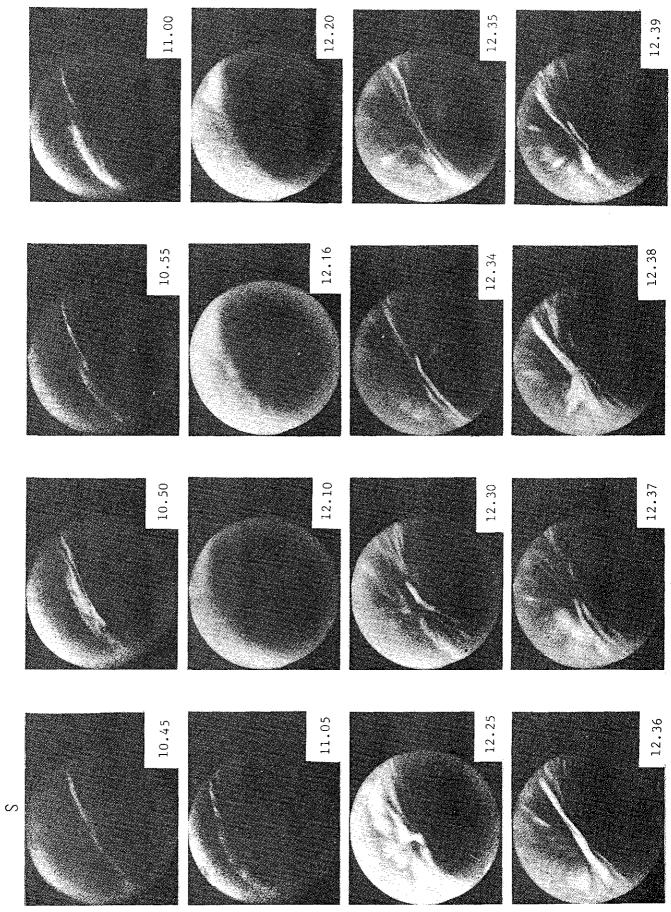


Fig. 4.6. Longyearbyen MSP records for Dec. 25, 1978. The two wavelength channels are 4278 Å N2 ING (to the left) and 6300 Å OI (to the right). Background intensity including scattered light and airglow is indicated by the dashed curves.



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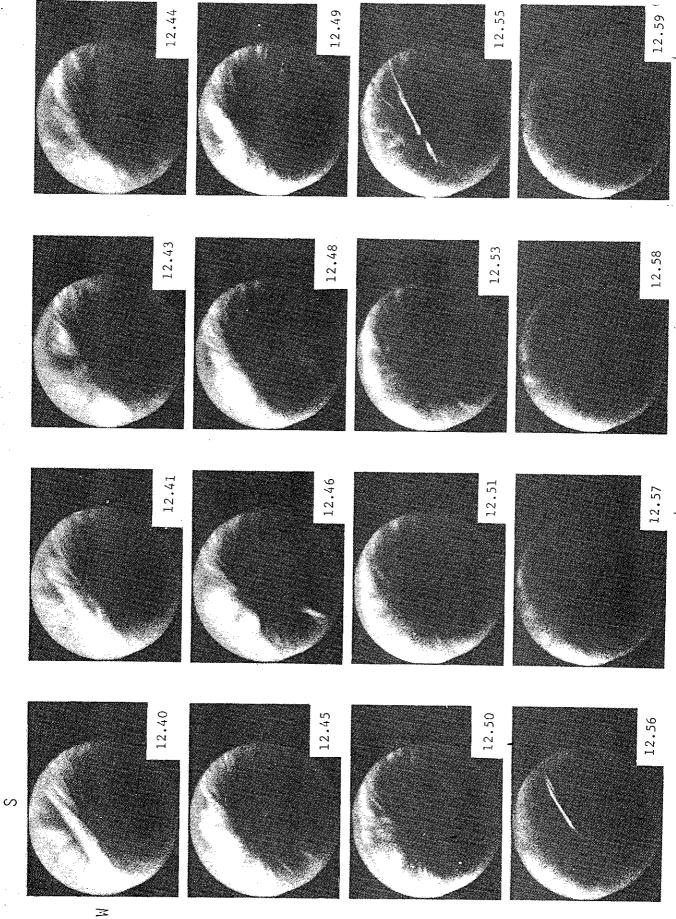


Fig. 4.7. Longyearbyen all-sky camera pictures of dayside auroral forms for Dec. 25, 1978. South is towards the top, west to the left. The time of the recordings in UT is shown to the right of each picture.

Longyearbyen. Between ~1330 and 1530 UT a strong red aurora was observed from Loparskaya, USSR (geom. lat. 63.5°) (Fedorova, 1982).

We notice that, during the poleward shift of the aurora,  $\Delta H$  at Hornsund changed from negative to positive value when it passed the latitude of the station. When the aurora returned to lower latitudes,  $\Delta H$ shifted back to negative value. The H-component deflections at Hornsund were  $-70 \gamma$ and  $-130 \gamma$  at 1150 and 1310 UT. The corresponding values of the IMF Z-component were  $-7 \gamma$  and  $-13 \gamma$  at 1130 and 1300 UT, respectively. The correlations between IMF Bz variations and latitude shifts of auroral location and H-component deflections at Hornsund are illustrated in Figs 4.4B and 4.5. A similar good correlation is observed between variations of the east-west component of IMF (By) and H-component variations at the polar cap station Godhaven, when Godhaven is near the noon meridian (12-16 UT) (cf. Fig. 4.4C). Local magnetic noon at Godhaven is at 14 UT.

The crescent-shaped curves in Fig. 4.5 are deduced on the basis of the magnetograms to illustrate the main feature of the equivalent overhead current system at 12 UT. Lack of data in the central polar cap prevents more detailed analysis in this region.

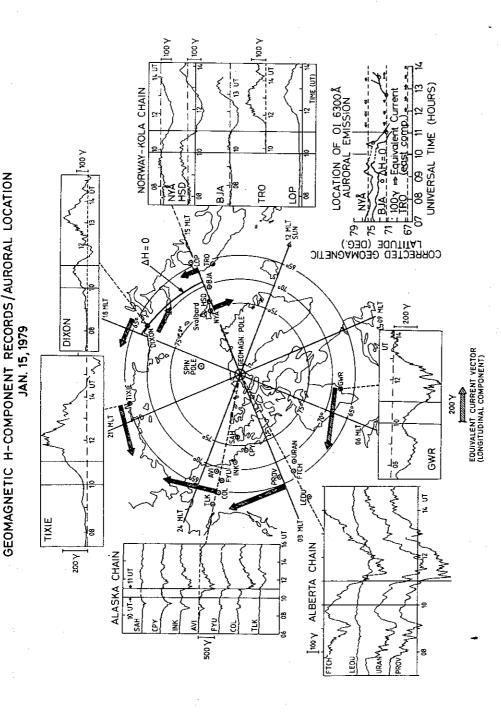
### January 15, 1979

The main event occurred between 10 and 14 UT. An overview of the geomagnetic conditions for this event is presented in Fig. 4.8. The Kp index was 4<sup>+</sup> and 3<sup>-</sup>, respectively, during the periods 09–12 and 12–15 UT. In Fig. 4.8 the time interval 10–11 UT is marked by vertical lines in the magnetograms. The period is characterized by a smooth enhancement of the geomagnetic disturbance field, coherent on global scale. Magnetograms from the auroral zone, in the late evening

to morning sector, show a negative trend in the H-component. A similar signature, although weaker, occurs at high latitudes in the early post-noon sector (Ny Ålesund-Hornsund, Svalbard), but at lower latitudes significant perturbations were not observed. In the evening sector of the auroral zone the H-component variations were positive, corresponding to an eastward equivalent current. During this period a subvisual, broad arc-like auroral form, dominated by the red oxygen line at 6300 Å, moved equatorward from 75 to 71 degr. geom. latitude (see lower right panel of Fig. 4.8).

ISEE-3 IMF data were available from 0940 UT. From 0940 to 1030 UT  $B_Z$  was between -8.5 and  $-6.5 \gamma$ . A steady northward movement occurred between 1030 and 1120 UT;  $B_Z$  was positive from 1100 UT. Assuming the magnetic structure to prevail during the expansion of the solar wind from ISEE-3 to the earth (the solar wind speed measured by ISEE-3 was 365 km/s) the time delay should be  $\sim$ 75 min. ISEE-1 (within the magnetosheat in the dawn sector) measured a steady  $B_Z$  decrease from  $+8 \gamma$  to  $-4 \gamma$  between 10 and 11 UT. From 1120 to 1250 UT  $B_Z$  (ISEE-1) fluctuated around zero.

The level of geomagnetic disturbance steadily increased until  $\sim$ 12 UT. Between 12 and 14 UT the activity recovered to the pre-disturbance level. The aurora, observed from Svalbard, was beyond or near the southern horizon until the start of the recovery of geomagnetic activity. Then it returned poleward (Fig. 4.8). We notice an impulsive intensification of the geomagnetic perturbation in the midnight sector at 11 UT, covering the latitude range from 65 to 71 degrees. At auroral zone latitudes in the post-noon sector an increasing positive disturbance ( $\Delta$ H > 0) occurred from  $\sim$ 12 UT. From that time a reversal exists in the H-



15, 1979. The coordinates of the frame of reference are corrected geomagnetic latitude and magnetic local time (MLT) (at 12 UT). The solid curves in the Fig. 4.8. Global-scale overview of geomagnetic conditions and location of red-dominated aurora in the post-noon sector as observed from Svalbard on Jan. lower panel to the right mark the poleward and equatorward boundaries of the aurora versus local time as identified from meridian scanning photometer (6300 Å) records. Three meridian chains of H-component magnetic records are shown, one in Alaska, one in Canada, and one in Norway-Kola. Additional magnetograms from the auroral zone stations Great Whale River (GWR), Canada as well as from Dixon Island and Tixie Bay, USSR, are given. Horizontal dashed lines in the magnetograms represent the quiet-day level. From H- and Z-component records along the Norway chain and from Dixon Island the position of the geomagnetic reversal ( $\Delta H = 0$ ) is estimated. The zonal component of equivalent current vectors at the latitude of estimated maximum intensity is marked by arrows for 12 UT.

component disturbance recorded along the Norway-Kola meridian chain of stations. This reversal ( $\Delta H = 0$ ) in the post-noon sector coincides fairly well with the poleward edge of the main belt of auroral luminosity. It moves in latitude with the aurora—equatorward and poleward at the time of growth and decay of geomagnetic activity. A relationship between auroral shift and the local geomagnetic disturbance is illustrated by this event. When the aurora had moved to the south of Bjørnøya (BJA), after 11 UT, a negative H-component appeared in the local magnetogram (BJA) (Fig. 4.9). During the poleward return of auroral luminosity, a transition from negative to positive H-component deflection occurred at Bjørnøya when the arc passed over the station (at 12.45 UT). From 1315 UT discrete forms were seen on the photometer recordings at 6300 Å and 4278 Å ( $N_2^+$  1 NG), moving poleward, out from the belt of more diffuse luminosity. One of these forms reached the zenith of Longvearbyen at 1345 UT, which was the instantaneous location of the geomagnetic reversal ( $\Delta H = 0$ ,  $\Delta Z$ negative—see Fig. 4.9).

The latitudinal variation of the H- and Z-components of the magnetic disturbance field along the Norway-Kola meridian is presented in Fig. 4.10. At the time of maximum activity (12 UT-15 MLT) H-component deflections were increasing from 40  $\gamma$  at 63° to 85  $\gamma$  at 67°. To the north of the peak of auroral luminosity,  $\Delta H$  was negative, decreasing with latitude from  $-85 \gamma$  at  $71^{\circ}$ to  $-120 \gamma$  at 75°.  $\Delta Z$  was zero at 67° and at 75° with negative values in between. South of 67°  $\Delta Z$  was positive. It is noticed that the location of  $\Delta Z = 0$  corresponds approximately to the location of maximum in Hcomponent deflection, both in the positive and the negative regimes. A similar pattern is seen at 1245 UT (~16 MLT). By that time

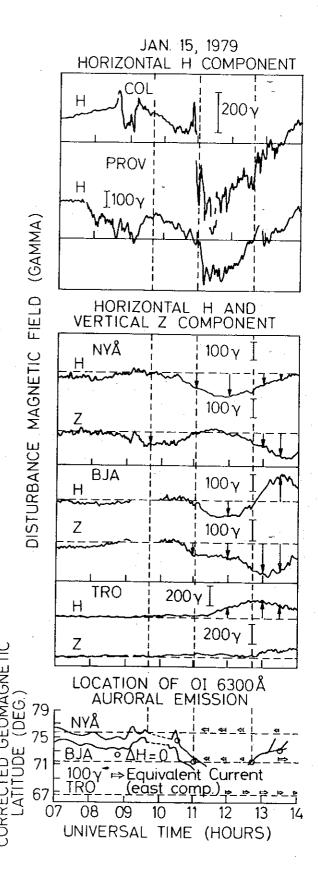


Fig. 4.9. Illustrating the latitudinal movements of dayside aurora (lower panel) in relation to night- (upper panel) and daytime (middle panel) magnetic activity.

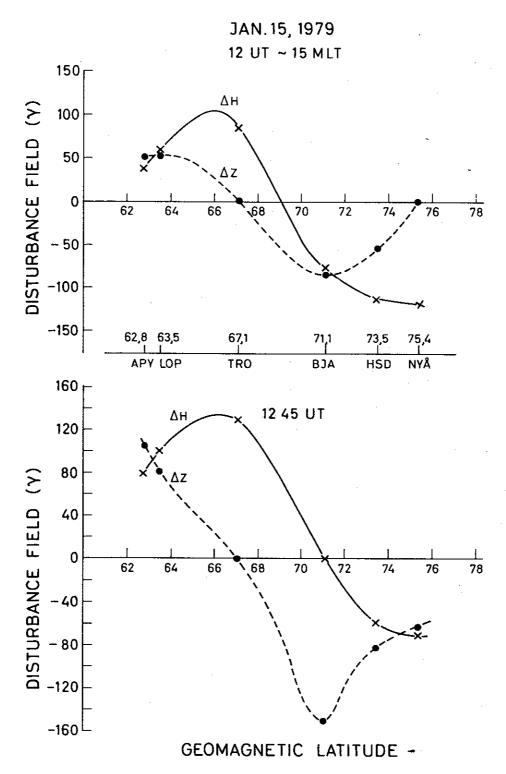


Fig. 4.10. H- and Z-component disturbance fields versus geomagnetic latitude along the Norway-Kola chain of observatories for two times during the substorm event of Jan. 15, 1979.

the transition region ( $\Delta H = 0$ ) had shifted northward, to the latitude of Bjørnøya. The relative amplitude of deflection in the positive and negative zones had changed. Maximum positive  $\Delta H$  had increased from +85  $\gamma$ to 130  $\gamma$  (66°) while peak negative  $\Delta H$  had changed from  $-120 \gamma$  to  $-70 \gamma$ . In Figs 4.8 and 4.9 the latitude position of the  $\Delta H = 0$ 

transition is marked for different times. It is interesting to note the coincidence of  $\Delta H = 0$  transition and the poleward edge of auroral luminosity.

Figures 4.8 and 4.11 show that the amplitude variations of the H- and D-components follow each other. At the time of maximum disturbance around 12 UT,  $\Delta D$  is positive

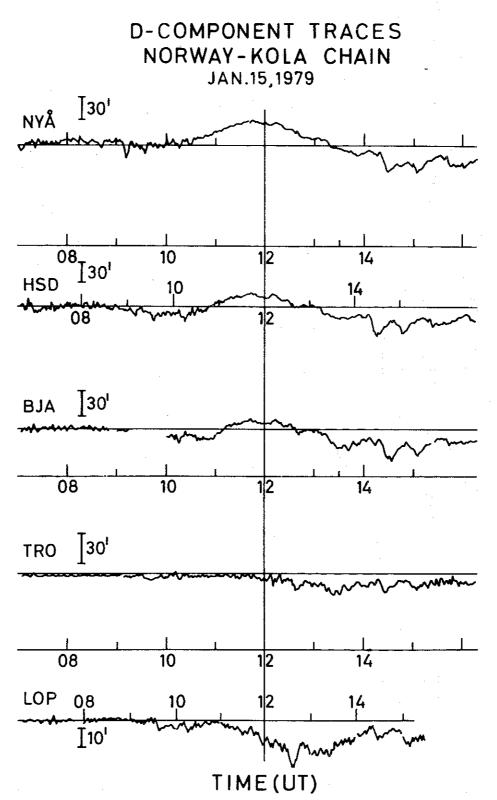


Fig. 4.11. D-component records from the Norway-Kola chain of observatories for Jan. 15, 1979. An eastward deflection is shown upward in the diagram.

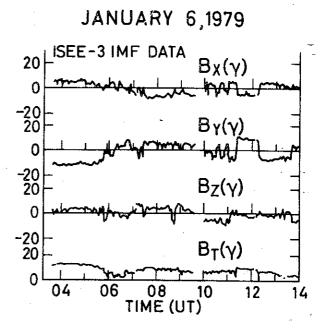
(eastward deflection) at Ny Ålesund, Hornsund and Bjørnøya where  $\Delta H$  is negative. Thus, the horizontal disturbance vector points in the south-east quadrant and the corresponding equivalent current vector in the south-west direction. Further south, at Tromsø and Loparskaya,  $\Delta D$  is negative and  $\Delta H$  positive, which means that  $\Delta \vec{B}$  is in the north-west quadrant, and the equivalent current vector points towards north-east.

The simultaneous H- and D records from Dixon Island show a similar pattern of variation as those from the Norway–Kola chain. The H-component transition between negative and positive values at Bjørnøya occurred at the time of similar variations at Dixon Island. At both stations,  $\Delta H$  went from positive to negative value when  $\Delta D$  changed from negative to positive. Thus, both stations are located near the geomagnetic transition line. Small shifts in latitude of the equivalent current system mean that the stations are transferred from one regime to the other.

### January 6, 1979

IMF observations for Jan. 6, 1979 are shown in Fig. 4.12. The interval of interest for the following discussion is between 09 and 14 UT. At ISEE-3 the IMF vector turned from north-east towards south-west at  $\sim 09.40$  UT. Between 10 and 11 UT, Bz fluctuated around a mean value of  $-5 \gamma$ . From 1100–1110 UT, Bz increased towards zero, where it remained for more than two hours. In the ISEE-1 recordings a data gap occurred between 0930 and 1030 UT. From 1030 to  $\sim 1215$  we observe Bz to be negative. A shift is observed in the B-field amplitude at  $\sim 11$  UT. This is probably due to a crossing of the bow-shock (cf. Fig. 4.2).

Geomagnetically, this was a moderately disturbed day with  $\Sigma Kp = 25$ . As observed from several stations around the auroral



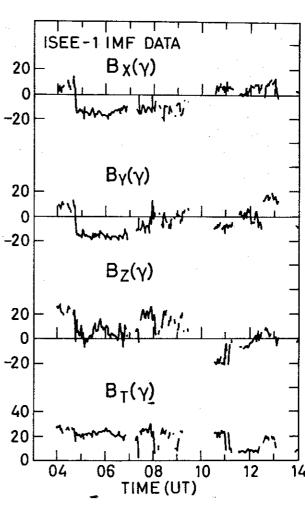


Fig. 4.12. Interplanetary/magnetosheath magnetic field components for Jan. 6, 1979 (cf. Fig. 4.3 for the location of the site of measurement).

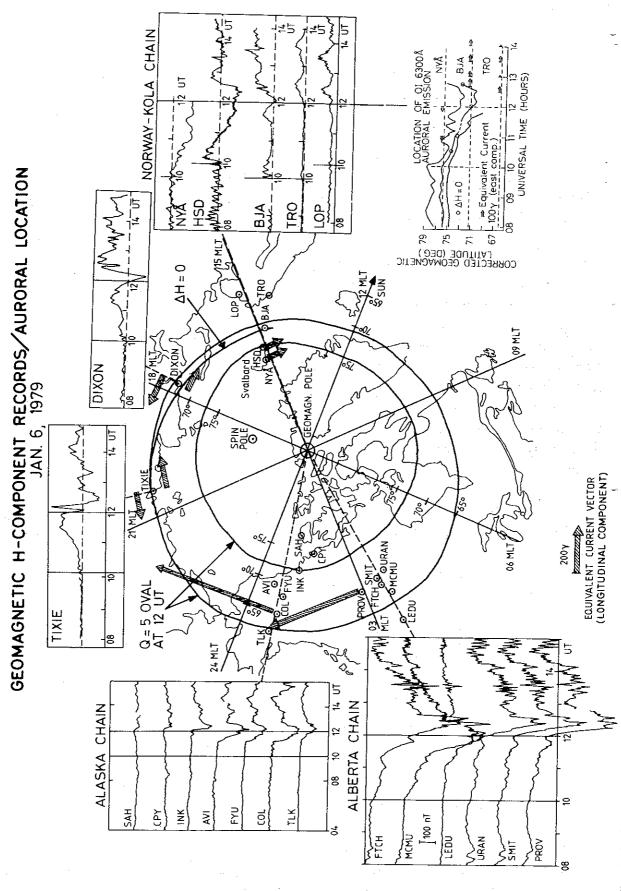


Fig. 4.13. Overview of geomagnetic and auroral conditions for a disturbed period on Jan. 6, 1979 (Similar to Fig. 4.8). The statistical Q = 5 auroral oval (adapted to the actual observations in the day sector) is shown for 12 UT.

oval, a geomagnetic disturbance was in slow progress during the time interval 10–12 UT (Kp = 2; see Fig. 4.13). This is a similar signature as was observed from 10 to 11 UT on Jan. 15 (cf. Fig. 4.8). Near the midnight meridian, in the Alaskan sector, a clear substorm intensification occurred at  $\sim$ 1110 UT within the range of latitudes 61–67°. At 12 UT a similar activity was initiated at higher latitudes (68–76°) (Figs 4.13 and 4.14).

On the dayside, a weak negative H-component disturbance was in progress from 10 UT (cf. Ny Ålesund magnetogram in Fig. 4.13). This activity occurred on the poleward side ( $\Delta Z < 0$ ) of a characteristic red (subvisual), diffuse, arc-like auroral structure. Between 10 and 12 UT the center of the auroral luminosity moves from 76° to 71° geom. lat. This auroral shift was strongly correlated to the growth of local magnetic activity (Fig. 4.13). At Hornsund (HSD),  $1.9^{\circ}$  south of Ny Ålesund,  $\Delta H$  was first positive before it turned to negative values from 11 UT. According to the auroral plot in the lower right panel of Fig. 4.13, the center of luminosity was just passing above the station (HSD  $-73.5^{\circ}$ ) at 11 UT. At lower latitudes (Tromsø-Loparskaya) no magnetic activity occurred before the maximum epoch of the nightside substorm, then weak positive disturbances were detected in the H-component. At 12 UT we observe signatures of a 'reversal line', separating zones of positive and negative H-component disturbances  $(\Delta H = 0, \Delta Z \text{ maximum negative})$  within the extending auroral oval from (~20 MLT) through Dixon (~18 MLT) to Bjørnøya (~15 MLT) (see Fig. 4.13). The records from these Russian arctic stations show signatures of the Harang discontinuity. The latitudinal movement of the reversal  $(\Delta H = 0)$ , as observed from the Norway chain of stations, was well correlated to the

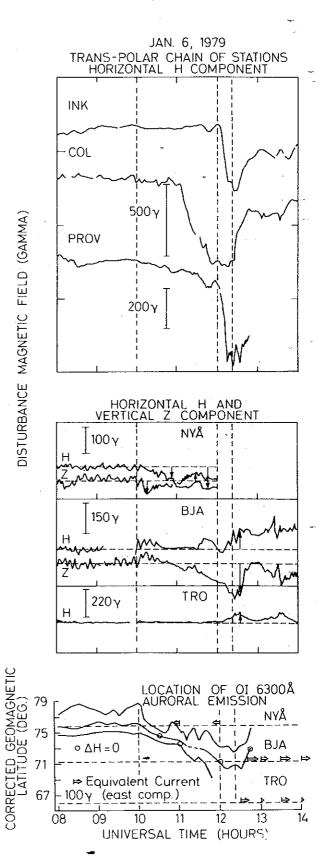


Fig. 4.14. Latitudinal movements of dayside aurora (lower panel) in relation to night- (upper panel) and daytime (middle panel) magnetic activity.

auroral shift with  $\Delta H = 0$  corresponding to the location of maximum light intensity.

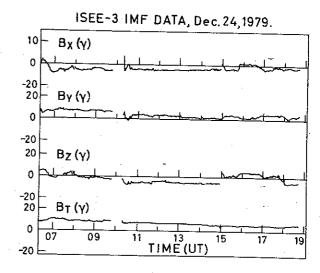
## December 24, 1979

On Dec. 24, 1979 similar variations of the interplanetary magnetic field were again measured from both spacecrafts. The time delay was between 1.5 and 2 hours. The solar wind velocity was ~530 km/s. The ISEE-3 location in GSE coordinates (X, Y, Z) was  $(214.6\,R_E,\ 102\,R_E,\ 1.5\,R_E)$ . Sharp, short southward and northward transitions of the IMF were observed from ISEE-3 at 10.20 and 1500 UT (see Fig. 4.15A). During the interval in between, the IMF vector was nearly stationary, with  $B_Z$  near  $-5 \gamma$ . From the ISEE-1 traces (cf. Fig. 4.15B) we observe sharp southward and northward transitions at  $\sim$ 12.15 and  $\sim$ 1630 UT, respectively. The observed shift of the  $B_T$  level at  ${\sim}1650\,UT$ has no correspondence in the ISEE-3 traces. It is interpreted as the effect of an inbound crossing of the bow-shock (cf. Fig. 4.2).

The interval between 1217 and 1630 is characterized by an increased level of the geomagnetic disturbance field all around the auroral oval. The response of geomagnetic activity and the dayside aurora to the sharp IMF  $B_Z$  variations were nearly instantaneous in this case (see Figs 4.15 and 4.16).

Between 1050 and 1130 UT magnetic substorm signatures were detected along the Alaskan chain of observatories, near the midnight meridian and from the Alberta array of stations farther east. At that time, the geomagnetic conditions in the post-noon sector (Norwegian and Russian stations) were completely quiet. IMF B<sub>Z</sub> (ISEE-1) was zero. Kp for the interval 09–12 UT was 2<sup>+</sup>. ΣKp for Dec. 24 was 14.

During the first  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours of the post-noon period (09–1130) the emission of auroral light above Svalbard was dominated by the



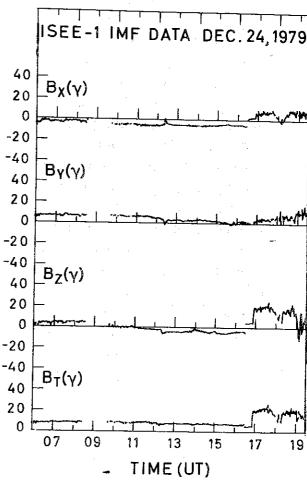


Fig. 4.15. Interplanetary/magnetosheath magnetic field components for Dec. 24, 1979 (see text).

red oxygen doublet at  $6300/6364 \,\text{Å}$ , i.e. 16300/15577 > 1, in the form of a quiet, diffuse arc to the north of zenith (Fig. 4.17). From 1130 UT bursts of more discrete forms appeared as transient enhancements in the

# GEOMAGNETIC H-COMPONENT RECORDS / AURORAL LOCATION

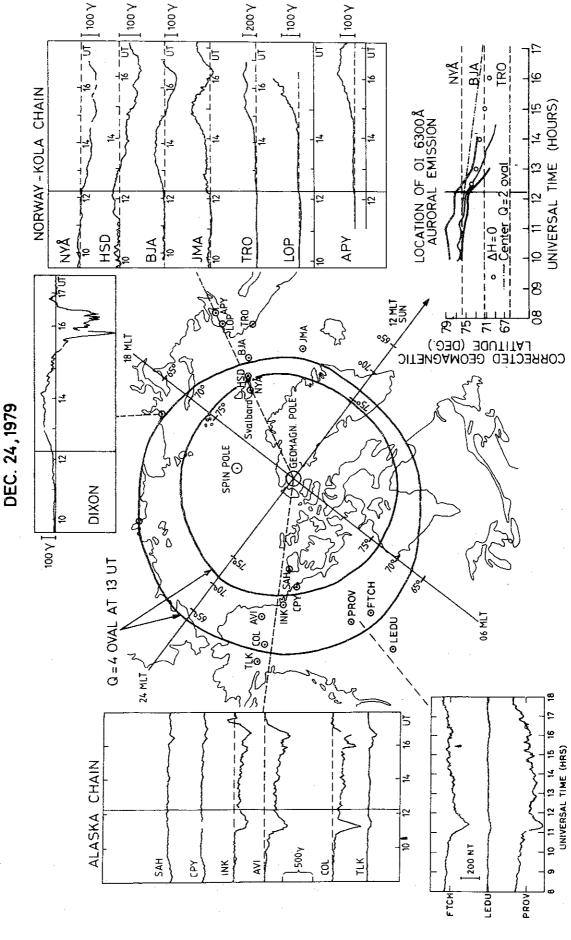


Fig. 4.16. Meridian chain observations of geomagnetic activity in the post-noon and post-midnight sectors and the location of auroral luminosity (6300 Å) as observed from Svalbard on Dec. 24, 1979 (cf. Figs. 4.17 and 4.18). The northern and southern borders as well as maximum intensity are marked by solid lines. The vertical lines at ~1215 UT mark the start of a significant equatorward shift of auroral luminosity and the growth of local magnetic activity. The statistical Q = 4 oval is shown for 13 UT.

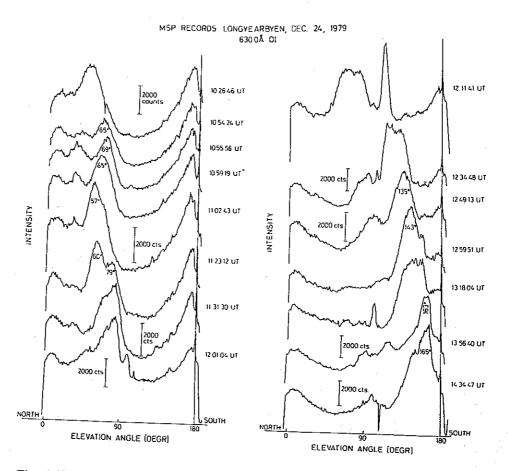


Fig. 4.17. Stacked Longyearbyen MSP records for Dec. 24, 1979. The intensity calibration factor is 0.9 R/C (6300 Å OI).

photometer channels at 4278 Å ( $N_2^+$  1 NG), 5577 Å (0I), and 6704 Å ( $N_2$  1 PG). This increased activity marks an often observed transition from a quiet auroral condition around local magnetic noon to more active after-noon auroras. At 1215 UT the main auroral arc was observed near zenith of Longyearbyen extending from south-east to north-west. The angle of alignment relative to the geomagnetic east-west direction was  $\sim 30^\circ$ .

At ~1220 UT a marked southward shift of the aurora started simultaneously with the slow growth of the magnetic disturbance field as observed in the time sector 13–18 MLT (Figs 4.16 and 4.17). The local geomagnetic disturbance shows a characteristic pattern. Along the Norway–Kola meridian chain we observe a transition in the hori-

zontal component, from southward (negative) perturbation in the north (Ny Ålesund) to northward (positive) perturbation further south (Hornsund, Bjørnøya). Between 13 UT and 15 UT the location of the geomagnetic reversal ( $\Delta H = 0$ ) shifted from Hornsund (73.5°) to Bjørnøya (71.1°).

The spatial location of the main auroral form is shown for different times in Fig. 4.18. The altitude of maximum emission was estimated from the spectral ratio 6300/5577 and the absolute intensities by comparing with the triangulated forms listed in Table 4.1. The spectral information used in the altitude estimates is listed in Table 4.4. The parallelogram boundaries of auroral luminosity were determined from photometer traces as shown in Fig. 4.17 (cf. Sect. 2.2). The center of the main auroral form moved

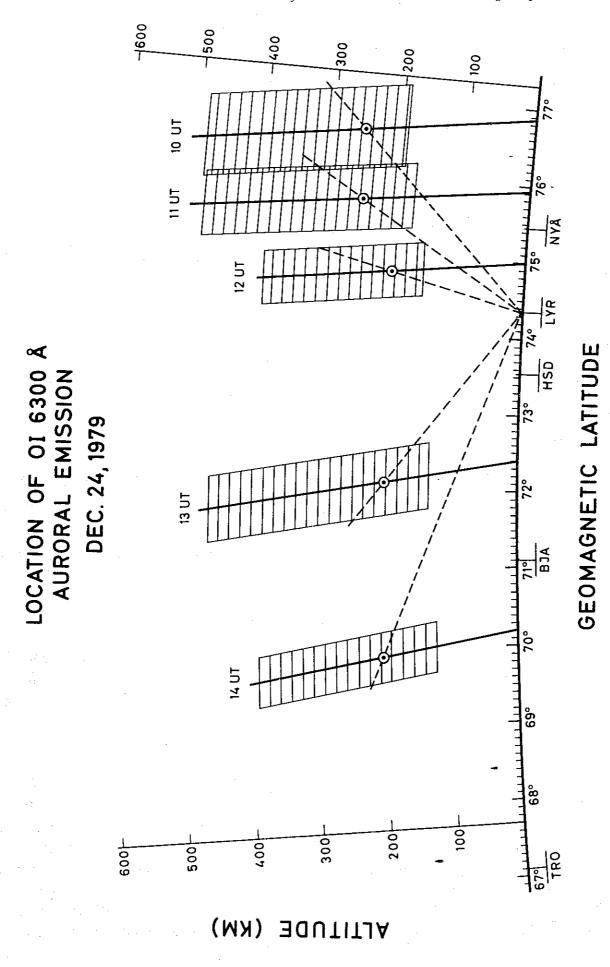


Fig. 4.18. Parallelogram boundaries for the cross-section of the main auroral arcs drawn from meridian scanning photometer traces assuming that the luminosity is aligned along the geomagnetic field. Altitudes of maximum emission were estimated from the spectral information listed in Table 4.4.

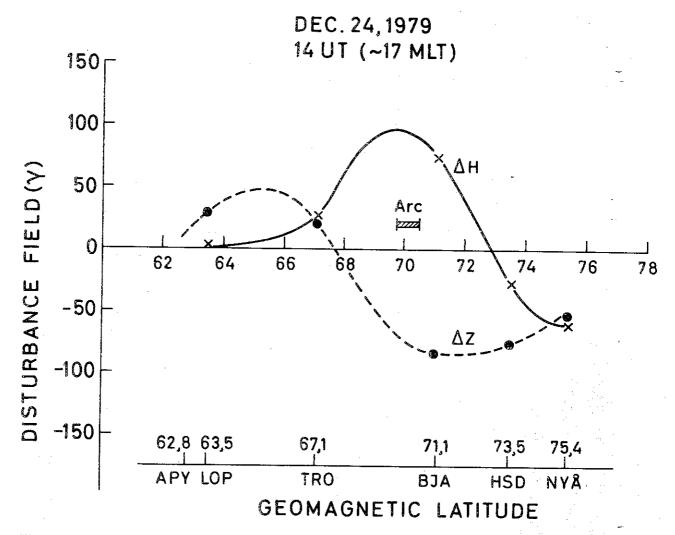


Fig. 4.19. H- and Z-component disturbance fields versus geomagnetic latitude along the Norway-Kola chain of observatories. The instantaneous location of the main auroral form is indicated (see Fig. 4.18).

from  $\sim$ 75° to  $\sim$ 72.5° between 12 and 13 UT (Fig. 4.18). We notice that in this case the auroral form is well to the south of the geomagnetic reversal (near 73.5° at 13 UT). At 14 UT the aurora, a clearly visible homogeneous arc extending from horizon to horizon, was located near 70°. From Fig. 4.19 this is seen to be near the center of the eastward ( $\Delta$ H > 0) equivalent current. At  $\sim$ 1445 ( $\sim$ 18 MLT) substantial growth of positive H-component deflection started at lower latitudes (Tromsø–Loparskaya–Apatity). At 15 UT the signature of the 'reversal line' ( $\Delta$ H = 0) is observed both at Bjørnøya ( $\sim$  18 MLT) and Dixon Island ( $\sim$ 21 MLT).

### Summary of observations

Based on 10 events (mainly from the postnoon sector) the following characteristics of daytime auroral morphology are observed:

Motion of the aurora in relation to geomagnetic activity

a) Significant latitudinal shifts (from a few to more than five degrees) of the dayside aurora are observed to be associated with a rather smoothly varying geomagnetic disturbance recorded at stations all around the instantaneous oval and within the polar cap. This differs from the impulsive disturbances associated with

TABLE 4.4

Some Maximum Intensities of Auroral Emissions

Observed on Dec. 24, 1979 from Longyearbyen

Time (UT)	I(6300) (R)	I (5577) (R)	I(6300) I(5577)	Max I(6300) on MSP trace (elev. from N. horizon)
1000	2000	~ 300	6.7	44°
1100	3420	1050	3.2	58°
1201	4100	4200	~1	75°
1233	8700	12200	0.7	132°
1300	4100	4450	0.9	142°
1303	6130	11050	0.6	150°
1401	4920	6650	0.7	160°
1500	4140	2830	1.5	164°
1600	3100	1400	2.2	169°
1700	5200	12200	0.4	167°

the substorms expansion which is usually observed at only a few stations in one portion of the oval.

- b) In the cases of equatorward shift involving substorms, the shift of dayside auroras and the related geomagnetic activity sometimes starts ~1 hour before the onset of the poleward expansive phase on the nightside (see Fig. 4.13).
- c) On December 24, 1979 (onset ~ 1050 UT) and December 25, 1978 (onset ~0847 UT) significant geomagnetic substorms were observed to occur on the nightside with little effect on the position of the dayside aurora. Furthermore, geomagnetic activity was not observed on the dayside.
- d) When the dayside aurora moves equatorward in latitude over a particular station, a reversal in the direction of the local

disturbance magnetic field is observed: the horizontal perturbation vector changes from southward (negative deflection) to northward (positive deflection). On the poleward side of  $\Delta H = 0$  the H-component disturbance is negative. The positive and negative deflections are of similar intensity.

e) The peak of the auroral luminosity occurs close to the region of  $\Delta H = 0$  or just to the equatorward of it. This region moves in latitude with the optical aurora: equatorward at the time of increasing geomagnetic disturbance and back to higher latitudes during the recovery of activity.

Relation to interplanetary magnetic field variations

Close correlation is observed between changes in the direction of the interplanetary

magnetic field vector, dayside auroral shifts and circum-oval geomagnetic variations. This correlation was observed on several days when distinct IMF variations were detected from both satellites ISEE-1 and 3.

- a) The equatorward shift of dayside auroral forms and the growth of associated geomagnetic activity are directly related to southward movement of the IMF vector (increasing negative B<sub>Z</sub>). The amplitude of perturbations in the post-noon sector of the polar cap is observed to change linearly with IMF B<sub>Z</sub> (see Table 4.5): ΔH<sub>pc</sub> ≈ 10 B<sub>Z</sub><sup>IMF</sup> (γ).
- b) The poleward return of auroral forms accompanied by decreasing amplitude of the associated magnetic activity corresponds to a northward shift of the inter-

- planetary magnetic field vector (December 25, 1978 is a good example).
- c) The response of dayside auroras and the associated geomagnetic disturbance to IMF variations impinging at the bow-shock (ISEE-1 location) is observed to occur typically within 10–20 minutes.
- d) On Dec. 25, 1978 we observed from both spacecrafts ISEE-1 and 3 distinct variations of the Y-component of the IMF vector to be highly correlated to substantial variations of the horizontal and vertical components of the geomagnetic disturbance at the polar cap station Godhavn, near local magnetic noon. A turning of the IMF-By from positive to negative value is followed by negative H-component deflection (westward equivalent current) in the midday polar cap.

TABLE 4.5
Solar Wind Data for the Periods of Interest to this Study

Date	IMF-B <sub>Z</sub> (γ) (Time, UT)	V <sub>s</sub> km/s	ΔH <sub>pc</sub> (Υ) Time, UT)	Polar Cap Station	h (km)	
Dec. 25, 1978	-7 (1130)*	390*	-70 (1150)	HSD	115	
10	-13 (1300)*	410*	-130 (1310)	HSD		
Jan. 6, 1979	-7 (10-11)	470	-75 (1200)	NYA		
Jan. 15, 1979	-8 (1030)	360	-120 (1200)	н	105	
Dec. 22, 1979	-11 (0850-0920)		-100 (1050)	u .		
Dec. 24, 1979	-5 (1300)	530*	-50 (1400)	"	185	

Vs; solar wind velocity

 $<sup>\</sup>Delta H_{\text{pc}}$ ; H-component magnetic disturbance at polar cap station listed in column 5

h; geometrical shadow height at polar cap station listed in column 5 at the time of  $\Delta H$  measurement (given in column 4)

 $<sup>\</sup>star$  ISEE-1 measurement, others are from ISEE-3 with time delay indicated.

MAGNETOSPHERIC/IONOSPHERIC DIS-TURBANCES WITH POSSIBLE INFLUENCE ON DAYSIDE AURORAL DYNAMICS—A REVIEW

### 5.1 Introduction

Section 5.2 contains a general overview of the different modes of geomagnetic variations. The geomagnetic detection of magnetospheric substorm phases is also discussed. Observations and theoretical models relationship between electric currents/convection patterns and dayside auroras are presented in Sect. 5.3. An overview of different magnetospheric cusp signatures is found in Sect. 5.4. Attention is focused on some recent observations and theories of latitudinal shifts of the cusp and the dayside aurora.

5.2 High latitude geomagnetic disturbances When discussing geomagnetic perturbations, it is important to be aware that magnetic variations detected on the earth's surface are not only effects of electric currents confined to the ionosphere. Field-aligned currents flowing between the ionosphere and the magnetosphere, the magnetospheric ring current, magnetopause currents as well as currents induced within the earth contribute to the observed deflection. However, as a continuous indicator of magnetosphericionospheric activity including substorm perturbations, ground-based observations of geomagnetic disturbances are considered highly relevant information. This is particularly true for the polar regions where larger scientific instruments are very expensive to install and maintain. In fact, recent progress in elucidating the three-dimensional current system by using magnetic field data acquired from the International Magnetosphere Study (IMS) Alaska meridian chain of observatories has made it possible to obtain the average global distribution of the Pedersen

current, the Hall currents and field-aligned currents (cf. Akasofu et al. 1981b and Fig. 5.6). This was accomplished by mapping the geomagnetic variations in local time from observations in one meridian chain of magnetometer stations operated as an azimuthscan radar when rotating with the earth. To include substorm variations in time and space on a time scale less than 24 hours, simultaneous observations from different meridian chains are necessary.

A recent critical review of the use of geomagnetic data in the study of time development of substorms and substorm related phenomena is found in Rostoker et al. (1980). Figure 5.1 is a schematic illustration of the signatures found in magnetograms from various sites placed at different positions with respect to the high-latitude substorm current systems. Magnetograms from such an array of recording stations can be used to define (1) the time of onset, (2) the location of the disturbed region, and (3) the recovery time of the substorm.

During the time between onset and the beginning of the recovery phase several quasiperiodic intensifications are shown. This emphasizes that a substorm can encompass many electrojet intensifications (with their associated auroral surge forms) that occur over a time span of several minutes to more than an hour. According to Rostoker et al. (1980) the following perturbation trends should be used as indicators of the position of the substorm-disturbed region.

1. At auroral oval stations, positive (negative) Z indicates an observatory to the north (south) of the centre of the westward electrojet. A positive spike in D indicates the presence of surge forms close to the observatory. Observations of significant negative H and negative D with no discernible positive D spike indicate

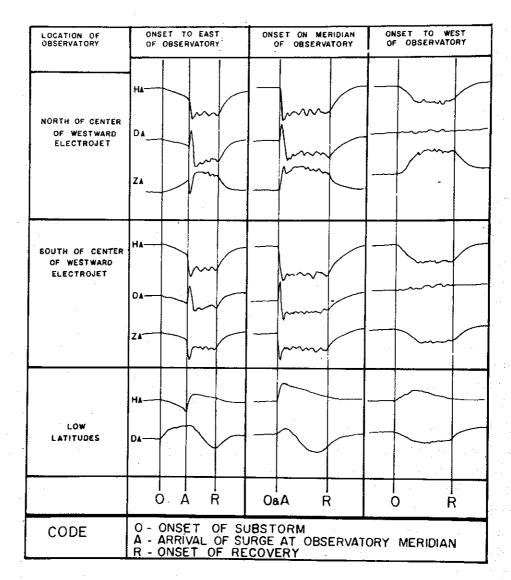


Fig. 5.1. Schematic representation of magnetograms from various sites placed at different positions with respect to the high-latitude substorm current systems. These synthetic records can be compared with real data to establish the position and time sequence of events for an interval of substorm activity. Typical deflections at high-latitude observatories range from ~100 to 1000 nT, while typical deflections at low-latitude stations range from a few nanoteslas to a few tens of nanoteslas (Rostoker et al. 1980).

that the substorm onset took place just to the west of the observatory. A significant negative H with little response in D indicates that the substorm onset took place well to the west of the observatory.

2. At low latitudes a positive (negative) excursion in H indicates that the observatory is near, but to the east (west) of, the field-aligned currents associated with the western edge of the substorm-dis-

turbed region. Positive (negative) D indicates that the observatory is to the west (east) of the western edge of the substorm-disturbed region. As regards the determination of the onset time of the substorm from auroral zone magnetograms, it should only be pointed out that at stations to the west of the initial position of the surges, the substorm onset cannot usually be unambiguously defined given

the present array of observatories. However, one can be reasonably sure that an auroral oval observatory is observing the true substorm onset if the sharp positive D spike is not preceded by a slowly developing negative H bay (see Fig. 5.1). Otherwise great care must be exercised to ensure that sharp negative H bays (presently used to define substorm onsets) do not simply reflect local intensifications of the substorm westward electrojet rather than the onset of the substorm. Insofar as identification of substorm onsets from low-latitude magnetograms is concerned, the D component generally provides the best indicator of the earliest detectable onset time. The H component signature depends on the position of the observatory with respect to the meridian to which the westward edge of the westward electrojet extends; one can detect the passage of the western edge of the westward electrojet from east to west across the meridian of the observatory by the transition from a negative-going to a positive-going H component signature.

Finally, we note that it is presently customary to use the AE index (synthesized from auroral zone magnetograms) to determine onsets and identify recovery of substorm activity. While AE is useful to establish the gross level of magnetospheric activity, it should not be used for the study of the time development of substorms. This is because the distribution of stations used to derive AE has too many gaps to permit accurate identifications of the substorm onset and the end of the expansion phase and because much useful information is lost through ignoring the D and Z components and considering the H component only. We recommend that researchers studying the time development of substorms and substorm-related

phenomena utilize the original magnetograms from as many relevant observatories as possible for obtaining information on the development of the substorm (Rostoker et al. 1980).

Below we will mention some characteristics of current systems which do not necessarily vary in concert with the electrojets.

Analysis of the polar cap current system has been performed extensively by several groups. Nagata and Kokubun (1962) derived an equivalent overhead current system in the polar region. After making a subtraction of the Sq current system, believed to arise from the dynamo action associated with solar heating, they deduced the so-called SqP current system (Fig. 5.2). This equivalent current system consists of two vortex-like currents centered about 75° dipole latitude, the cell on the evening side reaching lower latitudes than the morning side cell. The current pattern across the polar cap is, according to this system, a relatively uniform sunward

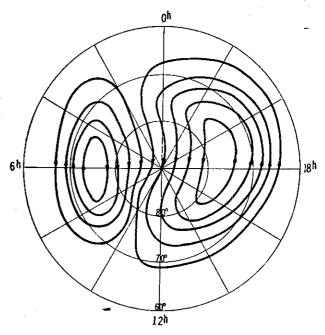


Fig. 5.2. The S<sub>q</sub><sup>p</sup> current system in the dipole latitudetime coordinates, showing a well developed two vortices system centered on the dawn-dusk meridian (Nagata and Kokubun 1962),

current. Unlike the current in the atmospheric dynamo, it is thought to be driven by the convection electric field arising in the magnetosphere (Ratcliffe 1972 p. 88).

When assuming a uniform conductivity distribution across the polar cap region, and that the magnetic fluctuations are caused by Hall currents only (cf. Sect. 6.4), the ionospheric plasma convection will then be opposite to the current flow direction. Thus, the equivalent overhead current pattern would correspond to a uniform antisunward flow of plasma across the polar cap, and a return flow in the sunward direction at lower latitudes, in good agreement with the convection model of Axford and Hines (1961).

Obayashi (1967) proposed a classification of high latitude disturbances into two groups—DP1 and DP2. DP1 refers to auroral electrojet fluctuations while DP2

involves an equivalent current which is global in character. Nishida (1968a) carried out a detailed study of DP2 variations and reported that they were coherent on a global scale and involved a twin vortex equivalent current at high latitudes and a zonal current component at low latitudes. A typical equivalent current system for DP2 is shown in Fig. 5.3. Nishida (1968b) and Nishida and Maezawa (1971) have shown that DP2 variations show a high degree of correlation with the B<sub>Z</sub> component of the IMF. On the other hand, Nishida and Maezawa found that DP2 did not correlate well with the dynamic pressure of the solar wind. In this respect DP2 does have something in common with DP1, although their equivalent current systems as well as the character of their time variations are quite dissimilar.

Since Nishida proposed the DP2 disturb-

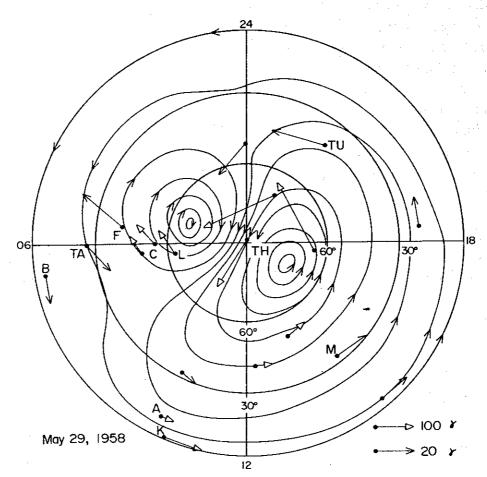


Fig. 5.3. Typical equivalent current pattern for DP2 disturbances (Nishida 1968a).

ance characteristics, there has been some controversy as to whether or not these variations are merely a variant of the existing known currents or whether they stem from an independent current system. Akasofu et al. (1973) and Leont'yev and Lyatskiy (1974) claimed to show that a significant part, if not all, of the DP2 variation can reasonably be explained by the combined effect of the enhancement and equatorward expansion of the permanent current system Sq<sup>P</sup>. They concluded that the DP2 variation arises from a modulation of the Sq<sup>P</sup> system by the IMF. rather than by an intermittent growth of a new type of current system (Akasofu 1977 p. 245).

The By-component of the interplanetary magnetic field is shown to regulate a separate component of the polar cap current system, named the DPY current (cf. Friis-Christensen and Wilhjelm 1975). The origin of this current was discussed in Sect. 3.2.2.

# 5.3 Dayside auroras and the ionospheric convection pattern

Akasofu and Kan (1980) report a discussion of day- and nightside auroral arc systems and their relation to the two different dynamoprocesses in the magnetosphere which were discussed in Sects. 3.2 and 3.3. Auroral photographs taken from satellites indicate that discrete auroral arcs in the afternoon and evening sectors are not connected. An afternoon arc which extends from the midday sector to the early evening sector is frequently observed to be separated by a distinct gap from an evening arc extending from the midnight sector to the late afternoon sector (cf. Akasofu 1976). The brightness of both arc systems is related to the level of geomagnetic activity, but the dayside arc system is a little less sensitive to it (Lassen 1970; 1972 and 1973).

In this connection it is interesting to note that the low-latitude boundary layer is expected to be less sensitive to the orientation of the interplanetary magnetic field compared to the magnetotail dynamo (cf. Sect. 3.3). The referred observations support the hypothesis that the two arc systems are fed by different dynamos.

Two other striking features from dayside satellite-observations of auroral forms are lack of visible arcs near noon, and occasional fan shaped arcs radiating away from noon on both the morning and afternoon sides of the auroral oval. A simple model which includes these two features as a consequence of a dayside convection pattern is presented by Reiff et al. (1978).

At the afternoon polar cap boundary the electric field points toward the boundary. Current continuity requires a net upward Birkeland current at the boundary where the  $\vec{E} \times \vec{B}$ -drift velocity undergoes a simple shear reversal. The remaining step of logic is to associate sheets of Birkeland currents with auroral arcs. This association has been demonstrated both on small scale (~km) (e.g. Casserly and Cloutier 1975) and on larger scale (tens of km) (Kamide and Akasofu 1976). It is further assumed that the brightness of the arc increases with increasing current intensity.

On the morning side the electric field away points from the convection boundary-hence the current is downward and should therefore not necessarily be associated with visible arcs. Two important results predicted by this model are listed below:

a) No arcs, or only weak sun-aligned arcs in the throat of the convection pattern near noon. This feature is confirmed by satellite (DMSP) photographs (Snyder and Akasofu 1976; Dandekar and Pike 1977),

and in the 5577 Å data of the ISIS scanning auroral photometer (Cogger et al. 1977); all these showed a minimum of auroral emission near noon. Shepherd et al. (1976) reported a noon time enhancement in the 6300 Å emission. Taken together, this implies that the 6300/5577 ratio is higher in the throat than in the neighboring auroral oval; thus, the average energy of the electrons (Rees and Luckey 1974) precipitating near noon is lower. This is confirmed by McDiarmid et al. (1976) and Potemra et al. (1977), who showed from particle data that the near-noon cusp electrons are considerably cooler than those on the morning and afternoon sides.

- b) The most intense upward currents, and therefore the brightest arcs, should occur on the convection reversal in the afternoon. It is noted that Potemra et al. (1977) associated the afternoon energetic electron precipitation with the 'Region 1' field-aligned current region.
- 5.4 Equatorward shift of the magnetospheric cusp related to solar wind variations and magnetospheric substorms

Extensive studies of the influence of magnetospheric substorms and related current systems as well as IMF variations on the cusp location, have been carried out during the last decade. The location of the cusp has been identified or inferred from various phenomena. Akasofu (1977 p. 583) lists the following signatures:

- a) The location of the region where the magnetosheath-like plasma is found by polar orbiting satellites.
- b) The location of the auroral oval in the midday sector, that is, of midday auroras.
- c) The location of the F-layer irregularity zone (FLIZ).

- d) The equatorward boundary of the oval area in the polar cap where solar electrons impinge.
- e) The location where the daytime magnetic agitation is intense.

Kamide et al. (1976) concluded, from a statistical study of polar satellite data, that the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) and the substorm activity (AE index) have the same influence in terms of the latitudinal shift of the dayside aurora. The cusp location was observed to be shifted southward by substorm effects. Similar results are presented by Horwitz and Akasofu (1977). Burch (1973) found that he could predict the latitude of the poleward and the equatorward side of the cusp with r.m.s. errors of 1.34° and 1.16° respectively, from a knowledge of the average Z-component of IMF for the previous 45 minutes, independent of substorm activity.

Based on photometric observations made at South Pole station, Antarctica Eather et al. (1979) investigated the response of dayside auroras to substorm activity as monitored by H-component magnetograms from auroral zone stations in the northern hemisphere. For the purpose of detecting local dayside geomagnetic disturbances the only recording site was South Pole station.

An excellent correlation was found between displacements of the dayside aurora from the position of the quiet time oval (Q=0) and substorm activity. Sometimes individual H-component magnetograms gave closer agreement with South Pole auroral movements than did the auroral electrojet (AE) index. However, statistical results did show that on short time scale  $(\sim 5 \text{ min})$ , dayside auroral position was related much more closely to AE than to the Z-component of the interplanetary magnetic field  $(B_Z)$ . Some of their main results are

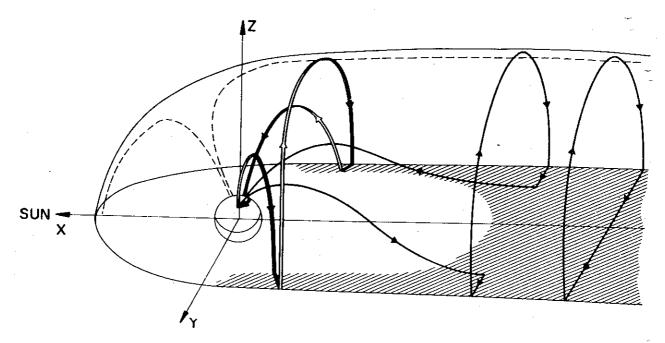


Fig. 5.4. Schematic representation of a model of the substorm current circuit (Eather et al. 1979).

### listed below:

- a) All southward turning  $B_Z$  events result in substorms provided the average  $B_Z$  remains southward for a long enough period,  $\sim 1$  hour (two years of published IMF and AE-data was scanned and no event contradicting this statement was found).
- b) All substorms result in equatorial shifts of dayside aurora and the magnitude of the shift is quantitatively related to substorm strength.
- c) No dayside auroral shifts were observed in association with southward-turning IMF without simultaneous substorm activity.
- d) During the cusp movements associated with substorms, magnetic perturbations at South Pole station were of the order of 25  $\gamma$  or less as the aurora passed overhead, compared to  $\sim 500 \gamma$  fluctuations in the midnight sector. Thus, compared to the night-time electrojet, there was no significant enhancement of any dayside auroral electrojet current associated with substorms.

These observations lead Eather and his co-workers to the conclusion that dayside auroral movements result directly from substorm processes within the magnetosphere, and that any connection between IMF Bz changes and dayside auroral shifts is not direct, but occurs via the substorm process.

They postulated a magnetospheric current system accounting for the high degree of correlation between nightside electrojet intensity and dayside auroral movements (see Fig. 5.4). Due to the lack of observations of dayside magnetic signatures, no current system is included on the dayside of the magnetosphere in their model. As a physical basis for their model current system it is suggested that increased ionospheric conductivity resulting from auroral substorm precipitations could create a new least-resistance return path for the near-earth magnetopause currents closing through the westward electrojet in the morning sector. It is argued that the near-earth magnetopause current will distort the magnetospheric shape consistent with southward cusp movements.

Akasofu (1977 p. 583) pointed out that

the equatorward shift of the cusp during the expansive phase of magnetopheric substorms contradicts the idea that substorm expansive phase is a manifestation of enhanced reconnection of magnetic field lines in the magnetotail and of subsequent transfer to the dayside magnetosphere; if this was the case the cusp region should shift poleward during the expansive phase.

Yasuhara et al. (1975) demonstrated that the growth of a particular three-dimensional loop current in the dayside magnetosphere during the magnetospheric substorm can account for the equatorward shift of the cusp, but they could not offer the generation mechanism of such a current system.

Akasofu et al. (1981a) showed by semiquantitative model calculations that the magnetic field of an enhanced dynamo current in the dayside low-latitude boundary layer and the connected circuit can account for the observed equatorward shift of the cusp region. The position of the cusp, as defined by their model of the magnetic field configuration, shifted equatorward by  $1.8^{\circ}$  in latitude, from  $77.2^{\circ}$  to  $75.4^{\circ}$ , when a dayside current system of  $6 \times 10^{5}$  A total current

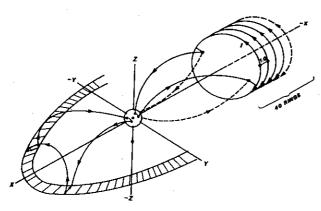


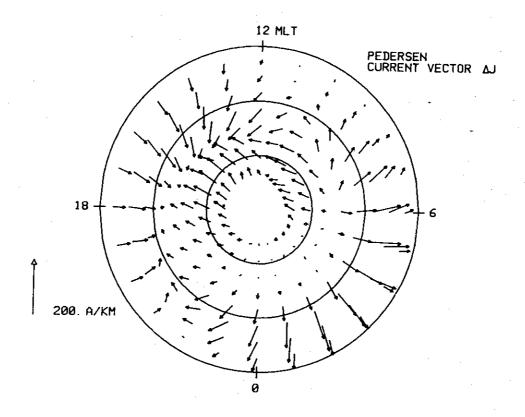
Fig. 5.5. Schematic illustration of the dayside current system associated with the dynamo process in the dayside boundary layer. Only one loop in the northern hemisphere is shown for simplicity. It shows the night-side current system when the crosstail current is totally disrupted and diverted to the nightside auroral oval (Akasofu et al. 1981a).

intensity was added to their previous model without the dayside currents.

When the total current was increased to  $1.8 \times 10^6 \,\mathrm{A}$ , the cusp location shifted to 72.0°, i.e. by more than 5°. The dayside current system was represented by 6 current loops separated by 15° in longitude. Each current loop consists of the dynamo region (the boundary layer) of thickness of 1.0 R<sub>E</sub> in the equatorial plane (see Fig. 5.5). Field-aligned currents are generated at the inner boundary of the boundary layer in the morning sector and flow to the polar ionosphere. After flowing through the dayside ionosphere, the currents leave the ionosphere to the inner boundary of the dynamo region in the afternoon sector. The closure of the current system along the dayside magnetopause represents a reduction of the Chapman-Ferraro current. The presence of such a dayside current system was demonstrated by Akasofu et al. (1981b) by using magnetic records from the IMS Alaska meridian chain of observatories. Their Fig. 1 is reproduced here as Fig. 5.6A which shows the distribution of the Pedersen current in the entire polar region. The distribution of Hall currents is shown in Fig. 5.6B (their Fig. 2).

Akasofu et al. (1981a) also investigated the effect on the cusp location of an increased intensity of the nightside magnetotail dynamo currents and found this to be much smaller than that of the dayside current system. In fact, an increased magnetotail dynamo-current-from 0.01 to 0.15 Am<sup>-2</sup> effected a poleward shift of the cusp by 0.2°. Finally we note that in their interpretation of their model calculations Akasofu et al. (1981) still related the intensification of the dayside current system and the consequent shift of the cusp to the substorm expansive phase.

One event of observations of the F-region



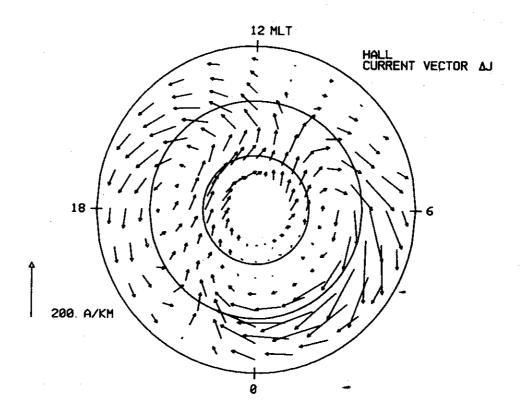


Fig. 5.6. (a) The distribution of Pedersen current over the entire polar region. (b) The distribution of the Hall current. Coordinates are magnetic latitude—M.L.T. (Akasofu et al. 1981b).

ionospheric density and temperature signatures of the cleft (cusp) by the incoherent back-scatter radar technic is reported by Foster et al. (1980). The Chatanika Radar detected a rapid equatorward excursion of the cleft signature (~4° /\/)hour) in response to a southward turning of the IMF well before the occurrence of a major substorm intensification at Tromsø, Norway (late evening sector). The cusp location was observed to be steady at low magnetic latitude

(~70° ∧) during substorm expansion and retreated poleward to ~73.5° ∧ during substorm recovery in response to northward turning of the IMF (see Fig. 5.7). We note a good correlation between the equatorward cusp movement and the smooth enhancement of local geomagnetic activity. The reported event occurred when Chatanika was in the late pre-noon sector.

In a recent paper by Brown et al. (1981) equatorward cusp movement in response to

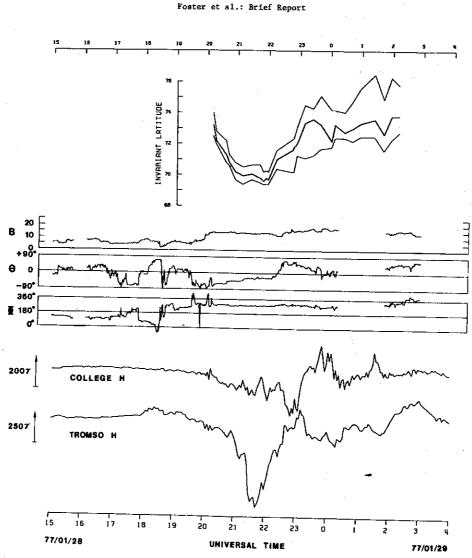


Fig. 5.7. (Top) Latitudinal spread and center position (heavy curve) of the cleft-enhanced ionospheric density perturbation observed by the Chatanika radar. (Middle) Interplanetary magnetic field parameters in solar ecliptic coordinates observed up-stream from the magnetosphere by Imp-J. (Bottom) Noon sector (College) and midnight sector (Tromsø) magnetograms. Local magnetic noon occurs at ~23 UT (Foster et al. 1980).

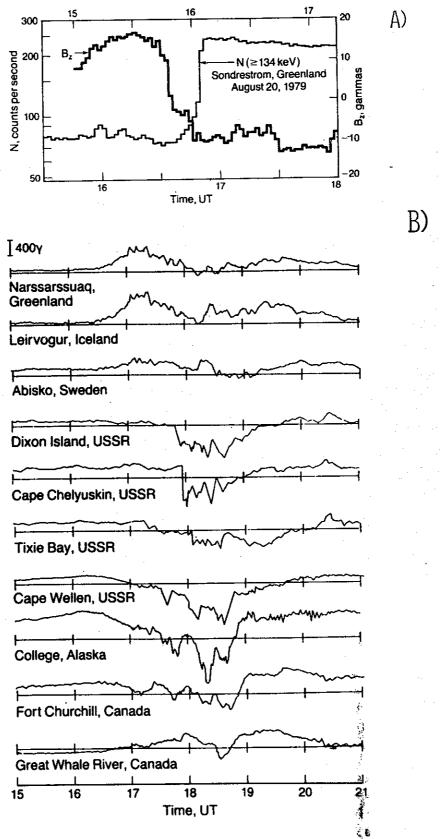


Fig. 5.8. (a) Time variations of energy losses >134 keV at balloon altitude and the IMF at the front of the magnetosphere, as inferred from magnetometer and plasma probe recordings on the ISEE 3 spacecraft at  $X_{SE} = 264.5 R_E$ . (b) High-latitude magnetograms showing the magnetosphere-wide H disturbance from the southward shift of the IMF on August 20, 1979 (Brown et al. 1981).

a sharp southward turning of the IMF vector is inferred from X-ray observations from a balloon-borne detector above Søndre Strømfjord, Greenland ( $\wedge = 74.8$ ). about 1635 UT on August 20, 1979 the radiation began to rise accompanied by a marked softening of the photon spectrum (see Fig. 5.8A). This change was interpreted to be caused by a reduction of the cutoff energy for the entry of solar protons due to a change of the detectors position from a region of the dayside (~14 MLT) of the magnetosphere to one within the polar cap. Such a shift would result from an equatorward displacement of the polar cusp past the balloon-borne detector. The magnetometer data from the spacecraft ISEE-3 located at a distance  $265\,R_E$  upstream from the earth showed a strong southward turning, starting around 1540 UT, remaining southward for almost 2 hours. The solar wind speed at the spacecraft was about 650 km/s. The southward turning of the IMF would thus have been expected to begin at the front of the magnetosphere at 1625 UT, assuming that the magnetic regime remained intact and continued to advance at the rate recorded by the plasma probe on ISEE-3. Using a 45-min travel time to the front of the magnetosphere the time variations in the vertical component  $B_Z$  are shown in Fig. 5.8A. The magnetograms from the dayside show that the response to the IMF change was quite prompt (see Fig. 5.8B), starting at 1630 UT all the way from the dawn sector (~0500 MLT) at College, through the midday region (~1420 MLT) at Narssarssuaq, to the dusk sector (~1930 MLT) at Abisko. The magnetograms from the midnight sector (Dixon Island, Cape Chelyuskin, and Tixie Bay) indicate that the response of the magnetotail to the IMF change was delayed, first showing the onset of weak negative bay activity around 1710 UT, followed by strong

negative surges around 1750-1830 UT.

From this review it is understood that the latitudinal variation of the polar cusp and the dayside aurora is not a simple process. No general agreement exists on the relative influence of substorm perturbations and IMF variations. In addition to the mechanisms discussed above, the possible influence of the magnetospheric ring current should also be considered (cf. Meng 1982).

# 6. DISCUSSION OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

6.1 Optical signatures of magnetospheric boundary layers

Some morphological and spectroscopic characteristics of dayside auroras were presented in Sect. 4.1. Their implications concerning the precipitating particles are briefly discussed below.

The high I(6300)/I(5577) ratio in the midday period implies a source of low energy electrons, presumably the magnetospheric cusp where particles can penetrate directly from the magnetosheath (cf. Heikkila and Winningham 1971). The onset of 5577 Å emission on either side of the 'gap' suggests an onset of acceleration, or the entry of more energetic particles from another source region in the magnetosphere. According to the model of Eastman et al. 1976 (see Sect. 3.3), the cusp precipitation region was regarded to be the ionospheric projection of the outer part of the magnetopause boundary layer. Points deeper within the boundary layer were projected to ionospheric positions displaced increasingly from local noon with increasing inward penetration. This model was based on observations of increasing thermal energy of plasma particles during inbound satellite-crossings of the layer. It could explain the increasing energy of the

precipitating particles with increasing distance from magnetic noon.

From examination of the HEOS-2 low energy electron data, Formisano (1980) could identify a separate boundary layer electron population with most particles having energies  $100-300\,\mathrm{eV}$ . The boundary layer was observed to extend along the magnetopause up to  $5-7\,\mathrm{R_E}$  above equator; at higher latitudes it followed the magnetic lines of force down to the ionosphere.

Another theory did explain some morphological features of dayside auroras in terms of plasma convection patterns (cf. Reiff et al. 1978; see Sect. 5.3). Discrete auroras in the post-noon sector were related to the 'Region 1' upward field-aligned currents with a postulated maximum on the convection-reversal. No arcs or only weak arcs were predicted in the throat of the convection pattern.

According to our observations the center of the dominating auroral forms in the post-noon sector was either located very near the geomagnetic reversal or to the south of it. On Dec. 24, 1979 (see Fig. 4.19) the auroral form was observed near the center of the eastward overhead equivalent current. Consequently, this visual aurora should be located in the region of sunward convection. This indicates that the plasma sheet could be the source region for the auroral particles. In other cases, when the auroral form is located close to the magnetic reversal (see Fig. 4.14), the low-latitude boundary layer is an actual source region. Ratios of auroral emission intensities for the post-noon sector (see Tables 4.1-4.2) indicate particle spectra comparable with those of the low-latitude boundary layer. For further morphological/spectroscopic details on structures of dayside auroras and related magnetospheric processes, cf. Sivjee et al. (1982).

6.2 The separation of DP1 and DP2 components of geomagnetic disturbances
Introduction

As a background for the following presentation we refer to the general review of different components of geomagnetic perturbations and the discussion of physical mechanisms involved, which were given in Sect. 5.2.

To investigate the separate roles of IMF variations and substorm perturbations on the latitudinal shift of dayside auroras, we will distinguish between the directly IMF-related and substorm-related components of geomagnetic disturbances. The disturbances of main interest in this respect are the DP1 and DP2 components, where DP1 is the impulsive nightside activity during substorms and DP2 is the coherent, more slow and large scale variations regulated by the southward component of the IMF. Despite these different characteristics, the problem of separating the two contributions from magnetograms alone is not a trivial one. This is partly due to the fact that the two modes of disturbance do not change quite independently. It is known that the occurrence and the intensity of substorm perturbations are modulated by the north-south component of the IMF.

Another factor of concern is the spatial evolution of substorms at ionospheric level. As detected from an observing site on the ground, the main intensification occurs when the activated area is passing overhead or very near the observatory. If the onset of the substorm is localized some hundred kilometers away and expands further from the observatory, the geomagnetic signature is smoothed out as illustrated schematically in Fig. 5.1. Thus a main problem is to define the onset of the expansive phase from a limited set of geomagnetic records. In order to distinguish between DP1 and DP2 dis-

turbances, a large array of geomagnetic observatories is needed. In fact, the most unambiguous signatures of substorm onset are the optical auroral break up and Pi2 geomagnetic pulsations.

# Case study

If we compare the H-component signatures from the Alberta array of stations with that from Great Whale River (GWR) for the time interval 10-11 UT on Jan. 15, 1979 (Fig. 4.8), we would, according to the schematic representation in Fig. 5.1 say that the onset occurred at ~10 UT somewhere between Alberta and GWR with the arrival of the surge at the Alberta meridian close to 11 UT. According to this interpretation, the main intensification should be further delayed when observed from the Alaska sector. But this is not the case. The major intensification is observed just before 11 UT, in fact AVI indicates an onset closer to 1030 UT. The inspection of Z- and D-component records from the respective stations adds nothing to clarify the situation.

According to Rostoker et al. (1980), a positive spike in D indicates the presence of surge forms close to the observatory. This signature is not observed. Thus, we may conclude that we have not enough stations to clearly and unambiguously assign the onset time. However, the disturbance between 10-11 UT has the typical character of the DP2 mode, i.e. coherent slowly growth of activity on 'global' scale. Unfortunately, ISEE-3 IMF data were not available until 0940 UT (remember ~1-1.5 hour time delay from ISEE-3 to earth). From 0940 to 1030 UT IMF Bz was between -8.5–6.5  $\gamma$ . A tentative interpretation is: Between 10 and 11 UT the geomagnetic disturbance was mainly DP2. From 11-13 UT a superposition of DP1 and DP2 contributions occurred, also in the post-noon sector.

This is supported by the unusual high  $\Delta H_{pc}/IMF$  B<sub>Z</sub> ratio observed at 12 UT (see Table 4.5).

On Jan 6, 1979 (Fig. 4.13) a slowly increasing DP2 disturbance was observed between 10 and 1130 UT. From  $\sim$ 11 to 1250 UT DP1 activity was also present. The interpretation in terms of DP2 is supported by satellite observations of the IMF (see ISEE-3 data on IMF  $B_Z$  in Fig. 4.12).

On Dec. 25, 1978 a very clean signature of DP2 disturbance was observed between 11 13 UT (Figs. 4.4B and 4.5). The geomagnetic perturbation was clearly regulated by the IMF B<sub>Z</sub> component with a time delay in the range 10–20 min. (related to IMF just outside the earth's bow shock, i.e. ISEE-1 location). Notice the coherent oscillation of the geomagnetic perturbation all around the oval.

A clear DP1 event occurred around 09 UT on the nightside (AE  $\cong$  600  $\gamma$ ). This was a substorm with its center on rather high latitude (max.  $\Delta$ H within Alaska chain was at Inuvik). A delayed and smoothed signature of this substorm perturbation was detected at Godhavn, then in the dawn sector of the polar cap. Negligible geomagnetic effect was observed near noon (Norway chain).

On Dec. 24, 1979 a substorm with the onset near 1050 UT occurred on the night-side when the DP2 disturbance was zero (IMF B<sub>z</sub> stable at zero level).

At 1217 UT the IMF shifted southward  $(B_Z = -6 \gamma)$  with an instantaneous response in the geomagnetic disturbance field. The activity did not recover until IMF  $B_Z$  turned positive at ~1630 UT. Thus, the main disturbance in the period 1220–1630 UT is a clear DP2 mode, although a transient event (DP1) is seen close to 16 UT.

Positive geomagnetic bays in the post-noon sector

To clarify the physical meaning of the pos-

itive H-component deflections observed to the south of or close to the center of auroral forms in the post-noon sector, some general characteristics of positive bays are discussed below.

Several types of positive H-disturbances are identified in the auroral zone. Not all the positive bays are necessarily attributable to a concentrated eastward electrojet. The physical mechanism involved can be quite different from case to case depending on local time, geomagnetic latitude and also on the substorm stage. Three main categories are (cf. Kamide and Fukushima 1972):

- i) A return current from an extended westward electrojet along the auroral oval.
- ii) An ionospheric Hall current under the electric field originating from magnetospheric convection.
- iii) An eastward electrojet connected with the partial ring current.

Types ii) and iii) are the most relevant to explain the observed positive bays in the post-noon sector (see Figs 4.8, 4.13, 4.16). The growth and decay of the positive bays are not synchronized with the westward electrojet in night hours. The maximum deviation of category (ii) bays appear during the recovery stage of the westward electrojet in the midnight region. The current center of the positive bay in the developing stage of a substorm shifts equatorward with a speed of 100-150 m/sec. This equatorward shift is explained by an inward diffusion of the ring current belt in the magnetosphere. The eastward electrojet is attributable mainly to protons drifting westward from the nightside region. Some characteristics of category ii) bays are:

a) Broad positive bays producing a gradual augmentation H-component of the related to the vortex-mode current system in the polar cap.

b) The intensity and the time evolution is highly correlated with that of the polar cap current.

From these characteristics we observe that the positive H-disturbance seen from ~1220 UT on Dec. 24, 1979 (see Fig. 4.16) is a typical example of a category ii) event. The increasing delay of the maximum disturbance towards lower latitudes illustrates the strong dependence of the electric conductivity of the ionosphere along the auroral region.

The positive bays observed in the afternoon sector of the auroral zone (Tromsø and Loparskaya) during the recovery phase of nightside electrojet activity on Jan. 6 and 15, 1979 show signatures of type iii) events. On the other hand, the gradual increasing positive deflections at Tixie and Dixon between 10 and 11 UT (~16-19 MLT sector) are identified as category ii) events. The sharp increase of positive H-deflection observed at Tixie  $\sim$ 11.40 UT on Jan. 15, 1979 is interpreted as a signature of a westward expanding substorm perturbation.

# 6.3 Response of dayside auroras to substorm perturbations

On Jan. 15, 1979 an equatorward shift of the dayside aurora by more than 4° was observed within 1 hour. As was concluded in the preceding Section, in this case we cannot distinguish between the relative importance of the IMF related influence and the substorm perturbation.

On Jan. 6, 1979 the first signature of a main substorm intensification, detected by the available array of stations, occurred at 1110 UT. By that time the aurora above Svalbard had already moved 3° southward, in response to IMF variation, from a stable position near 76° latitude. This aurora was observed to continue equatorward with nearly constant velocity until after 12 UT.

The onset of the substorm intensifications on the nightside seemed to have negligible effect on the drift velocity of the aurora.

Further events showing negligible shift of dayside auroras during substorm perturbations were observed on Dec. 24, 1979— 11 UT. A steady slow equatorward movement by about 1.5° of a typical cusp aurora (high I(6300 Å)/I(5577 Å) ratio) between 08 and 09 UT (Dec. 25, 1978) is more likely an effect of a smooth southward turning of the IMF vector between 0730 and 0830 UT (see ISEE-1 data in Fig. 4.4B). According to Eather et al. (1979), a typical response of dayside auroras is 1° southward shift per 150  $\gamma$  electrojet intensity on the nightside. Applied to the actual case this would imply a shift of  $\sim 3-4^{\circ}$  which is definitely not observed (see Figs 4.5 and 4.6). The only change of the midday auroral condition that could be related to the substorm was an increase in the incidence of discrete auroras at Longyearbyen from 09 UT. This activity continued for a few hours after the substorm first began on the nightside.

The equatorward shift between 11 and 1140 UT on Dec. 25, 1978 can be explained as an IMF effect due to the close correlation with a southward turning of the IMF (cf. Sect. 6.4). After allowance for expected diurnal variation of auroral location, the southward shift is 2-2.5°. In this case the previous association of the rate of southward shift and nightside substorm activity is satisfied. A maximum disturbance field of 370  $\gamma$ was observed at College at 1150 UT. But this does not imply a causal relationship between these phenomena. The driving mechanism for the southward auroral shift could as well be the IMF as the substorm perturbation. The hypothesis that equatorward auroral shift is mainly an IMF effect is strengthened by the Dec. 24, 1979-11 UT event. A clear DP1 disturbance with no DP2 activity occurred. No dayside auroral shift was observed.

From these observations the following corrections to Eather et al. (1979) (cf. Sect. 5.4) are necessary:

- a) Not all substorms result in the equatorward shift of dayside auroras.
- b) Dayside auroral shift in association with southward turning IMF without simultaneous substorm activity is observed.

6.4 Geomagnetic and auroral dynamics in relation to solar wind—magnetosphere coupling—A dimensional analysis

From the characteristics of that geomagnetic disturbance observed to be associated with equatorward shifts of dayside auroras, listed in the summary of Sect. 4.2, it is identified as the DP2 (or DPZ) mode of geomagnetic activity. The physical interpretation of the DP2 disturbance (cf. Sect. 5.2) given below is based on discussions found in Bostrøm (1977 p. 257) and Nishida (1978 p. 38). According to Nishida DP2 disturbances result from ionospheric currents driven by an electric field which has penetrated from interplanetary space. This electric field is directed from dawn to dusk across the polar cap with a sharp reversal at the polar cap boundary. By the Hall effect the electric field will give rise to two cells of circulating currents as shown in Fig. 3.14. In a homogeneously conducting ionosphere these currents will produced most of the magnetic perturbation seen on the ground (the two cell DP2 type). Theoretical reasons for this are found in a theorem by Fukushima (1969) which shows that the magnetic effects produced by the ionospheric Pedersen currents flowing across the polar cap are cancelled by the distant effect of field aligned currents, provided the ionospheric conductivity is homogeneous. Experimental evidence for the theorem is provided by Maezawa 1976,

Troshichev et al. (1979), and Primdahl et al. (1979). The Pedersen current is connected to Birkeland current sheets directed into the ionosphere in the morning sector and out from the evening sector (Fig. 3.14).

In models of Heikkela (1978) and Coroniti and Kennel (1973), the driving circuit is a westward dynamo current on the frontside magnetopause (cf. Sect. 3.2.2). Intensification of this current system is considered an effect of enhanced electrodynamic coupling between the solar wind and magnetosphere-ionosphere system associated with southward movement of the IMF vector. Different models for the coupling are discussed in Sections 3.2.2 and 3.3. The interplanetary electric field  $(\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathsf{T}} = -\vec{\mathbf{U}}_{\mathbf{I}} \times \vec{\mathbf{B}}_{\mathbf{I}}$ ) can be communicated to the magnetosphere/ionosphere via connected field lines (open model) or transferred by the low-latitude boundary layer (closed model). It is argued by Piddington (1979) that the low latitude boundary layer has very different properties for northward and southward directed IMF. However, the observed close response of the DP2 disturbance on IMF variations (see Fig. 4.4B) may be more easily explained by the reconnection hypothesis involving interconnected field lines.

The influence of solar wind velocity and IMF B<sub>Z</sub> on dayside polar cap (Resolute Bay, Canada) H-component disturbances in the summer hemisphere has been investigated quantitatively by Sergeev and Kuznetsov (1980). A linear regression analysis was used to calculate the response to IMF B<sub>Z</sub> under different ranges of solar wind velocity. Their result was:

$$\Delta H_{pc}(\gamma) = 19(U_I/300)^2$$

$$-36 B_Z(\gamma) + 13$$
(6.1)

The two separated contributions are related to two components of the geomagnetic disturbance field, called  $DP_0$  and DPZ, respectively. We notice that this geomagnetic response to IMF  $B_Z$  is stronger by a factor—3.5 compared to the reported observations from the winter polar cap (listed in Table 4.5).

If we assume that  $\Delta H_{pc}$  stems from an ionospheric Hall current related to the polar cap electric field ( $E_{pc}$ ), the relation between  $E_{pc}$  and  $\Delta H_{pc}$  is

$$E_{pc}(mV/m) = J/\Sigma_{H}$$

$$= k/d \cdot \Sigma_{H} \frac{10}{2\pi} \Delta H_{pc}(\gamma)$$
(6.2)

where  $k \sim (0.5-1)$  and d are the coefficients taking into account the influence of the induced currents in the earth and the finite width of the current region, and  $\Sigma_H$  is the integrated Hall conductivity of the polar cap ionosphere in mho. For d=0.9 (Kamide and Brekke 1975) and the typical value of k=2/3 we have

$$E_{pc}(mV/m) = \frac{1,2}{\Sigma_H} \Delta H_{pc}(\gamma)$$
 (6.2')

which gives the relation between  $E_{pc}$  and the solar wind parameters  $U_{\rm I}$  and IMF  $B_{\rm Z}$  when combined with a relation like (6.1). That response is a strong indication for the simultaneous operation of two E-field generation mechanisms in the magnetosphere, related to boundary layer processes and magnetic field reconnection.

A typical value of the local Hall conductivity (70–75° geom. lat.) for the DP2 events discussed here is estimated to be  $\Sigma_{\rm H}=2$  mho. This estimate is obtained from relation (6.2') applied to several events of coordinated E-field measurements from the satellite DE-II above Svalbard (Maynard 1982 priv. com.) and ground-based observations of  $\Delta H$  in December 1981. For general information on conductivities of the winter hemisphere high latitude ionosphere

(including the polar cap) see Wallis and Budzinski (1981).

Using  $\Sigma_{\rm H}=2$  mho and 3000 km as the distance across the polar cap (lpc), we have for the IMF-related part of the dawn-dusk polar cap electric field and the associated potential drop:

 $E_{pc}^{IMF}(mV/m)$ 

$$= 0.6 \Delta H_{pc}(\gamma) \cong -6 B_{Z}(\gamma) \tag{6.3}$$

$$\phi^{\text{IMF}}(kV) = l_{pc}E_{pc}^{\text{IMF}} = -18 B_{Z}(\gamma)$$
 (6.4)

having used the observed relation  $\Delta H_{pc} \approx 10 \, B_Z(\gamma)$ . For the local time variation of this relation, cf. Maezawa 1976—his Fig. 2. Typically, a southward shift of IMF  $B_Z$  by 5  $\gamma$  was observed to be associated with a polar cap magnetic disturbance  $(\Delta H)_{pc}$  of  $\sim$ 50  $\gamma$  and  $\sim$ 2° equatorward movement of auroras in the post-noon sector. These values correspond to  $E_{pc}^{IMF} = 30 \text{ mV/m}$  and  $\phi^{IMF} =$ 90 kV. The electric resistance of an infinite-plane ionosphere of uniform conductivity is given by  $1/2\pi\Sigma_p$  irrespective of the distance between the points of in- and outflow of electric current along the magnetic field lines, where  $\Sigma_p$  is the height-integrated Pedersen conductivity of the ionosphere (Fukushima 1969). If  $\Sigma_p = 1$  mho, according to Wallis and Budzinski (1981) a typical value for the central polar cap of the winter hemisphere, the electric resistance of the infinite-plane ionosphere is about  $0.15 \Omega$ . If the potential difference is 90 kV, an electric current of about  $6 \times 10^5$  A flows along magnetic field-lines and spreads over the polar cap ionosphere (cf. Fig. 5.6A). The corresponding Joule heat dissipation amounts to  $\sim 5 \times 10^{10}$  W. The above estimate of polar cap current intensity (associated with the observed auroral shift) is in perfect agreement with the model calculations of the response of the cusp location to

a dayside current system as was presented by Akasofu et al. (1981a) (see Sect. 5.4).

According to Akasofu (1980a) a Joule heat dissipation of  $5 \times 10^{10}$  W corresponds to AE =  $500 \, \gamma$ . This value is in reasonable agreement with the dayside polar cap amplitude of  $50 \, \gamma$ . On Dec. 25, 1978—11.30 UT,  $\Delta H_{pc}$  reached a minimum of  $-70 \, \gamma$  (Hornsund station). The corresponding value of the AE index was  $700 \, \gamma$ .

The solar wind parameters  $B_Z^{IMF} = -5 \gamma$ ,  $U_I = 500 \text{ km/s}$  correspond to an interplanetary electric field (as observed from the magnetospheric frame of reference)  $E_I \sim 2.5 \text{ mV/m}$  ( $\vec{E}_I = -\vec{U}_I \times \vec{B}_I$ ). If the magnetosheat electric field is set equal to its solar wind value (cf. Yeh et al. 1981), we have for the polar cap potential drop:

$$\phi_{\rm pc} = E_{\rm pc} \cdot l_{\rm pc} \cong E_{\rm I} \cdot l_{\rm R} \tag{6.5}$$

where  $l_R$  is the effective length of the reconnection line (cf. Sect. 3.2ii) and  $l_{pc}$  is the diameter of the polar cap. The estimated values  $\phi_{pc} = 90 \text{ kV}$ ,  $E_{pc} = 30 \text{ mV/m}$  and  $l_{pc} = 3000 \text{ km}$  then give  $l_R \approx 7 \text{ R}_E$ .

In Section 3.2 we derived an expression for the power of the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo in terms of the cross-tail potential drop ( $\phi_{CT}$ ) and the magnetotail current amplitude ( $I_T$ ). This expression was related to an empirically determined energy coupling function through the relation (3.14) which gives  $L_T$  (length of tail current sheet) in terms of  $R_T$  (radius of magnetotail),  $l_0 = 7 R_E$  (magnetospheric length parameter) and  $l_R$  (just estimated in case of the given solar wind parameters). Thus, we have:

$$\begin{split} L_T &= \pi R_T \frac{l_0}{l_R} \cong \pi R_T \\ &\cong 30 \ R_E \ (\text{for } R_T = 10 \ R_E) \end{split}$$

The insertion of  $B_T = 15 \text{ nT}$  (cf. Semenov

and Sergeev 1981) and  $L_T = 30 R_E$  into Eq. 3.7 gives

$$I_T = 3 \times 10^6 \,\mathrm{A}.$$

Taking the cross-tail potential  $(\phi_{CT})$  to be equal to the polar cap potential ( $\phi_{pc}$  =  $90 \, kV$ ) (Eq. 3.10) we have

$$Q = \phi_{\rm CT} \cdot I_{\rm T} \cong 2.5 \times 10^{11} \,\rm W$$

We note that, according to Reiff et al. (1981) a background potential drop across the polar cap of ~35 kV (not depending on IMF-related processes) should be added to the above estimate. Thus, the corrected values for the potential drop, the Pedersen current and the Joule heat dissipation should be 125 kV,  $\sim 8 \times 10^5 \text{ A}$  and  $\sim 1 \times 10^{11} \text{ W}$ , respectively. Other energy sinks besides the Joule heat dissipation are the magnetospheric ring current, the auroral particles and magnetospheric plasma convection.

Energetics of a stationary convection event The notation stationary convection describes the situation in which the electromagnetic influx to the magnetosphere is significant, but there are no macroscopic changes of the magnetic field in the magnetosphere. Thus, the energy dissipation is directly driven by the solar wind-magnetosphere dynamo without accumulation and subsequent impulsive release of energy. The energy influx is totally dissipated in the plasmasheet and the potential difference across the magnetotail controls the dissipation rate in there (cf. Sect. 3.2). During prolonged (several hours) stationary convection periods, when the IMF Bz component is stable and southwardoriented, the energy flux of precipitated auroral electrons can be similar to that during the preceding expansion phase. Characteristic features of such periods are the twin-vortices equivalent current system with developed eastward- and westward currents,

both partial and ring current parts of DRcurrent, the large scale system of sheet-like field aligned currents, the equatorward drift of discrete auroras etc. (Semenov and Sergeev 1981).

On Dec. 24, 1979, from 1220 to 1630 UT, the IMF vector was stable with component values  $B_X = -4 \gamma$ ,  $B_Y = 2 \gamma$ ,  $B_Z = -5 \gamma$ ,  $B_T = 7 \gamma$  (in GSE coordinates). In order to compute the value of the energy coupling function  $(\varepsilon)$ , given in Eq. 3.13, we had to transform to GSM coordinates.

The resulting value of  $\varepsilon$  was  $4.3 \times 10^{11}$  W. In the actual period, equatorward drifting visible auroral arcs were observed from Longyearbyen, Svalbard (post-noon sector). The geomagnetic field signatures were typical for a stationary convection event (cf. Fig. 4.16). The Dst hourly mean values from 12 to 17 UT were 14, 15, 11, 8, 3, -1. No substorm activity was observed between 12 and 15 UT. According to Akasofu (1980) the rate of energy consumption in the form of auroral particles and ring current injection rate can be expressed by the following empirical relations:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{U}_{\mathrm{A}} &= 1.5 \times 10^{7} \, \mathrm{AE}(\gamma) \, [\mathrm{W}] \\ \mathbf{U}_{\mathrm{R}} &= 4.0 \times 10^{13} \\ &\times \left\{ \frac{\partial \mathrm{Dst}(\gamma)}{\partial t} + \frac{\mathrm{Dst}(\gamma)}{\tau_{\mathrm{R}}} \right\} [\mathrm{W}] \end{aligned}$$

 $\tau_{\rm R}$ ; the lifetime of the ring current particles [s]. Burton et al. (1975) reported an empirical relation between the ring current injection rate and the interplanetary electric field.

Thus,  $\frac{\partial Dst}{\partial t}$  in our case is  $\sim -10 \, \gamma/hr$ . Inserting the following observed or estimated values:

AE = 400 
$$\gamma$$
, Dst = 10  $\gamma$ ,  $\tau_R$  = 3 hr,  
we have for  $U_A \sim 6 \times 10^9 \,\mathrm{W}$  and  $U_R \sim 1.3 \times 10^{11} \,\mathrm{W}$ .

The rate of Joule heat dissipation in the polar cap ionosphere  $U_3^{pc}$  was estimated in the preceding Section to be  $\sim 1 \times 10^{11} \,\mathrm{W}$ . The Joule heat dissipation in the auroral oval ionosphere is estimated as follows (cf. Akasofu 1977 p. 274):

$$\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{J}}^{0} = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{W}} \cdot \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{S}$$

where  $E_W$  is the westward electric field, J is the height-integrated current density and S is the horizontal area over which the current flows. The following values are used:

$$J(A/km) \cong AE(\gamma) = 400$$
  
 $S \sim 600 \text{ km} \times 6000 \text{ km (cf. Fig. 4.16)}$   
 $= 3.6 \times 10^{12} \text{ m}^2; E_W \sim 10 \text{ mV/m}$ 

Then  $U_J^0 \sim 10^{10}\,\mathrm{W}$ . The energy consumption rate in the form of auroral particles, ring current and Joule heat then adds to  $\sim 3.5 \times 10^{11}\,\mathrm{W}$ . This is somewhat less than the estimated rate of energy transfer from the solar wind to the magnetosphere (the value of the energy coupling function). If our numbers are correct some 80% of the energy extracted from the solar wind is dissipated in the ring current and polar ionosphere. This is in agreement with similar calculations by Pellinen et al. (1981). However, we should be careful to draw conclusions from the numerical values since they are obtained from rough estimates.

The event discussed above showed a continuous level of energy dissipation, illustrated by the DP2 mode of geomagnetic activity during an interval of steady southward solar wind magnetic field, and thus favors the 'direct' model of magnetospheric response to IMF variations. The 'growth phase' model suggests that a sequence of substorms would occur. This is not observed. The observations indicate that during this event a global, steady state magnetic reconnection was in operation (Yahnin, 1982).

Comments on polar cap conductivity and electric field

Two critical assumptions which were used in the estimate of the configuration and the amplitude of the polar cap currents are:

- a) The magnetic H-component fluctuations which were interpreted as due to Hall currents. This assumption is satisfied only if the ionospheric conductivity is homogeneous.
- b) Values of Pedersen and Hall conductivities of the polar cap ionosphere.

Since no measurements of ionospheric plasma parameters or E-fields are available for the events studied, earlier observations are considered of some importance. Primdahl et al. (1979) have investigated sunlit cleft and polar cap ionospheric currents from rocket-borne B-field, plasma and E-field observations during an event of large southward IMF (Kp was between 6- and 5). The was launched from Strømfjord ( $\wedge = 75^{\circ}$ ) during a  $\sim 300 \, \text{nT}(\gamma)$ perturbation. The inferred values of  $\Sigma_{H}$  and  $\Sigma_p$  for the polar cap ionosphere, just to the north of the cleft, were 14 and 7.6 ( $\Sigma_{H}/$  $\Sigma_p = 1.8$ ). The corresponding height integrated Hall and Pedersen current intensities were 0.92 A/m and 0.52 A/m, respectively. Assuming a latitudinal width of the polar cap Pedersen current flow of ~2000 km, we get for the total current intensity  $\sim 10^6$  A. The authors concluded that only the Hall current was reflected in the ground-based magnetic disturbance and assumed that the magnetic effect of the Pedersen current was cancelled by the effect of the field-aligned currents.

Heppner et al. (1971) investigated the relationship between electric field and local magnetic disturbances within the polar cap. Twelve Ba<sup>+</sup> clouds were released at invariant latitude 76° to 78° under conditions charac-

terized by  $Kp \cong 3$ .  $\vec{E}$  was typically between 20 and 40 mV/m (volts/km), directed roughly from dawn to dusk, and was more uniform in space and time than E-field observed in the auroral belt. The measurements showed a large angular difference between the directions of  $\vec{E}$  and the horizontal polar cap magnetic disturbance ( $\Delta \vec{H}$ ) indicating that  $\Delta H$ could not be caused solely by ionospheric Hall currents in the form of a sheet current across the polar cap.

Observed relationships between ionospheric conductivities and magnetic disturbances are found in Van'yan and Osipova (1976) (their Fig. 3). The conductivity was observed to increase with disturbance, but its growth slowed down for large  $\Delta H$ .  $\Delta H = 50~\gamma$  corresponded to  $\Sigma_H \sim 5$  mho and  $\Sigma_{\rm p} \sim 3$  mho.

In summary, we recognize that the different measurements do not point to a unique source for the polar cap H-component perturbations. However, usually a considerable part of it can be related to ionospheric Hall currents. This is confirmed by the earlier mentioned coordinated satellite (DE-II) and ground measurements from December 1981.

Information on the character of ionization in the polar cap in the dark hemisphere is very scant. Our assumptions in the above calculations are based on the available relevant information (cf. postscript).

## 7. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In the present study we have investigated the separate roles of IMF and substorm variations in relation to dayside auroral dynamics. We were motivated by the fundamental importance to understand whether movements of the dayside aurora, and its intensity variations, are direct consequences of interaction between the interplanetary

and geomagnetic fields or whether the measured effects are caused less directly via the substorm process (Eather et al. 1979).

According to spectral and morphological characteristics. we have distinguished between different categories of dayside auroras. The diffuse, subvisual midday aurora is considered one manifestation of particles penetrating from the magnetosheath through the magnetospheric cusp. The more discrete, visual forms in the preand post-noon sectors can be ionospheric projections of the low-latitude boundary layer or the plasma sheet. Since the two categories of auroras show similar responses to the IMF variations, we use the term dayside aurora with no further specification.

In order to separate the influences played by the IMF and substorm perturbations we have distinguished between the directly IMF related and substorm related components of geomagnetic perturbations. This is based on a close examination of geomagnetic records from meridian chains of observatories on the dayside and the nightside as well as IMF data from two satellites.

The observations show that the relationship between dayside auroral shift and substorm perturbation is not that direct as was earlier assumed (Eather et al. 1979; Sandholt et al. 1980). The main points are:

- a) Not all substorms result in an equatorward shift of dayside auroras.
- b) Dayside auroral shifts are observed in association with variations in the northsouth component of the IMF without simultaneous substorm activity.
- c) Dayside auroras are observed to shift equatorward and poleward with the growth and decay of the DP2 mode of geomagnetic activity. During these events the amplitude of the polar cap H-component deflection is linearly related to

- variations of the IMF north-south component.
- d) In the postnoon sector the horizontal disturbance vector of the geomagnetic field changes from southward to northward with decreasing latitude, thereby changing sign near the center of the oval precipitation region. The northward and southward components are of similar intensity. Discrete auroral forms are observed close to or equatorward of the  $\Delta H = 0$  line. One reason for the failure of previous studies of the dayside auroral motion to recognize the character of the associated circum-oval geomagnetic disturbance (DP2 mode) is the paucity of observatories at high latitudes.
- e) On Dec. 24, 1979, during an interval of steady southward solar wind magnetic field, bright discrete auroral arcs and magnetic disturbances (on a global scale) were observed for several hours without substorm expansion signatures on the ground. These observations can be explained as the manifestation of global, steady state magnetic reconnection.

A model is proposed to explain the equatorward and poleward movement of the dayside oval and the associated geomagnetic disturbances following variations of the IMF north-south component. The model consists of a dayside current system which is partly on the magnetopause and in part internal to the magnetosphere. The current amplitude is sensitive to the orientation of the IMF vector. An increase in the current amplitude, corresponding to the southward shift of the dayside cusp, means an enhancement of the energy extraction from the solar wind. According to the model, a magnetopause boundary layer current (the generator part of the circuit) is connected with Pedersen current flowing in the polar cap ionosphere

(the dissipative part of the circuit) via field-aligned current (FAC) sheets. When the ionospheric conductivity is homogeneous, the magnetic effect produced by Pedersen currents is mainly cancelled by the FAC's distant effect in accordance with Fukushima's theorem. When this condition is satisfied, the magnetic disturbance detected on the ground inside the dayside polar cap is mainly due to primary Hall currents (the DP2 component).

Thus, the characteristic reversal of the H-component of the geomagnetic deflection at high latitudes is explained as the convection reversal associated with the transition of the ionospheric electric field at the boundary of the polar cap.

The position of the convection reversal is observed by Bythrow et al. (1981) to overlap with the location of 'Region 1' field aligned currents (cf. Fig. 3.15). According to their data, the BPS precipitation and 'Region 1' current poleward of the convection reversal are ionospheric signatures of the low-latitude boundary layer. On December 24, 1979-discrete auroras were observed equatorward of the convection reversal (cf. Fig. 4.19) and thus located within the region of sunward convecting plasma.

It is suggested that the observed slowly-varying global scale dynamics in auroral and geomagnetic signatures are directly produced by an electrodynamic coupling between the solar wind and the magnetosphere, along interconnected field lines (open magnetosphere) and/or via the low-latitude boundary layer dynamo (closed magnetosphere). Both coupling mechanisms can operate at separate times over the entire magnetosphere or simultaneously in different regions. The more explosive substorm activity restricted to the nightside is probably triggered by some local instabilities within the plasma sheet.

The substorm intensity depends on the efficiency of the energy transfer between the solar wind and the magnetosphere. The equatorward shift of the dayside aurora is also controlled by the solar wind conditions. However, in the reported observations, there is no evidence for a causal relationship between the magnetospheric substorm and the IMF-related equatorward shift of the dayside aurora. They are independent processes, but dependent in a different manner on the same solar wind conditions.

Nightside impulsive phenomena such as the auroral breakup and the associated DP1 magnetic disturbance are manifestations of the localized nonlinear response of the magnetosphere and ionosphere system to solar wind modification of the electromagnetic conditions across the plasma sheet and tail lobes. The equatorward expansion of the auroral oval associated with the DP2 component disturbance exemplifies a response to the solar wind of the electromagnetic state of the whole magnetosphere (cf. Fig. 7.1).

# Principal electromagnetic coupling channels

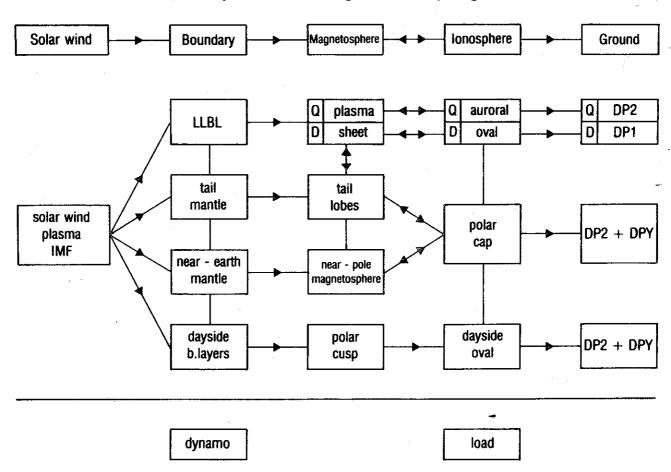


Fig. 7.1. Showing the principal channels of electromagnetic coupling between the solar wind and the magnetosphere/ionosphere system. The geometry and amplitude of current systems transferring energy from the magnetopause boundary layers to the ionosphere are strongly dependent upon the interplanetary magnetic field and the topology of its interaction with the terrestrial field. Two different modes of coupling between the plasma sheet and the nightside auroral ionosphere are indicated. The substorm mode is marked by D (disturbed conditions). Three modes of geomagnetic variations detected on the ground, with their relation to the different coupling channels are shown. LLBL represents the low-latitude boundary layer of the tail magnetosphere.

### **POSTSCRIPT**

In the present work observations and discussions of phenomena related to the dynamics of the dayside aurora have been presented. The experimental part of the report was concentrated on four events showing latitudinal shifts of the dayside aurora associated with variations in the amplitude of circum-oval/polar cap geomagnetic deflections, independent of substorm processes.

Among the earlier reported observations on dayside auroral phenomena those in Eather et al. (1979) are of most relevance to the present work (cf. Sect. 5.4). Their observations are partly deviating from ours and in part show different aspects. Both Eather et al.'s and the present interpretation of the equatorward shift of the dayside aurora agree that this phenomenon is accompanied by enhanced extraction of energy from the solar wind. However, different current systems are suggested as providing the auroral shift and the energy dissipation in the ionosphere. The presentation of Eather et al. (1979) has attained the status of high authority among many leading auroral physicists/geomagnetists. According to Samson and Rostoker (1981), Eather et al. 'have shown definitely that the equatorward motion of the midday auroras is directly connected with substorm activity and not with the north-south component of the IMF'. The observations reported in this work are considered as clear evidence against the above statement as well as Eather et al.'s own statements on the influence of substorms and IMF variations on the dayside aurora.

With this background, it could be of some interest to refer some passages by a few leading representatives of today's philosophy of science on the nature of scientific work, its motives and practice.

According to Karl R. Popper (1963) 'scientists aim at a true description of the world, or of some of its aspects'. But 'theories cannot be logically verified'. 'Scientists can never know for certain whether their findings are true. The actual procedure of science is to operate with conjectures (i.e. tentative hypotheses): to jump conclusions-often after one single observation. Repeated observation and experiments function in science as tests of our conjectures, i.e. as attempted refutations'. But 'our tests can never be exhaustive'.

To illustrate from geophysics: A lack of geomagnetic effects on the dayside, as detected by one single magnetometer placed at South Pole Station, Antarctica was used by Eather et al. (1979) as evidence against the existence of a dayside current system related to dayside auroral shifts. But this observation does not satisfy the requirements for a severe test. It is highly inexhaustive.

According to Thomas R. Kuhn (1962) and Paul K. Feyerabend (1975), the process of refutation is not logically certain. Feyerabend describes the position of Popper on this point as naive falsificationism. That attitude 'takes it for granted that the laws of nature are manifest and not hidden beneath disturbances of considerable magnitude'. On the practice of science, Kuhn says: 'When confronted by anomaly scientists devise numerous articulations and ad hoc modifications of their theory in order to eliminate any apparent conflict'. Thus, puzzle-solving is considered to constitute the progress of normal science because 'no paradigm ever completely resolves all its problems'. 'Normal science does not aim at novelties of fact or theory and, when successful, finds none. New and unsuspected phenomena are, however, repeatedly uncovered by scientific

research and radical new theories have again and again been invented by scientists'. Thus 'research under a paradigm must be a particularly effective way of inducing paradigm change'. Kuhn portrays scientific development as a 'succession of tradition-bound periods punctuated by non-cumulative breaks'. Examples of breaks are the Copernican revolution in astronomy, the transitions in physics from Newtonian mechanics to the theories of relativity and quantum mechanics. 'Copernicus saw as counterinstances what most of Ptolemy's other successors had seen as puzzles in the match between observation and theory. And Einstein saw as counterinstances what Lorentz, Fitzgerald, and others had seen as puzzles in the articulation of Newton's and Maxwell's theories'.

From Feyerabend (1975) is quoted: 'A scientist who wishes to maximise the empirical content of the views he holds and who wants to understand them as clearly as he possibly can must introduce other views; that is he must adopt a pluralistic methodology. He must compare ideas with other ideas rather than with "experience" and he must try to improve rather than discard the views that have failed in the competition..... Neither blatant internal inconsistencies, nor obvious lack of empirical content, nor massive conflict with experimental results should prevent us from retaining and elaborating a point of view that pleases us for some reason or other. It is the evolution of a theory over long periods of time and not its shape at a particular moment that counts in our methodological appraisals'.

Turning back to the present work, it is evident that the model current system that was suggested in Sect. 6.4 (as well as that presented by Eather et al. (1979)) must be tentative (an informative conjecture in Popper's terminology). When their preliminary

status is recognized hypotheses like these are considered legitimate steps along the path of scientific progress.

In order to obtain a better understanding of the polar cap current system, more exact knowledge on conductivity and electric field distributions of the polar cap ionosphere is needed. These are crucial parameters to which one should focus a future research (Brekke 1982). With better models of these parameters, the global network of groundbased magnetometers could be used more effectively in order to deduce a realistic current system and further articulate the paradigms of magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling. Thus, it is with great interest we now enter the beginning of the EISCAT era and witness the move of the Chatanika incoherent scatter radar to Søndre Strømfjord, Greenland ( $\wedge = 75$ ). When these two installations are in full operation, the ability to study the polar cap ionospheric dynamics and thus to test the models described above should be considerably improved. The possibility of coordinated observations from Svalbard further adds to the expectation of new findings which will contribute to the solution of still existing fundamental problems concerning the electrodynamics of solar wind-magnetosphere interactions and their manifestations in the dynamics of the dayside aurora.

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