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Changes in the High-Latitude Topside Ionospheric Vertical Electron-Density Profiles in Response to Solar-Wind Perturbations During Large Magnetic Storms

Robert F. Benson (<u>robert.f.benson@nasa.gov</u>) NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, Geospace Physics Laboratory, Code 673, Heliophysics Science Division, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Joseph Fainberg (fainberg@ieee.org) NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center Emeritus, Geospace Physics Laboratory, Code 673, Heliophysics Science Division, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Vladimir Osherovich (vladimir.osherovich@gmail.com) CUA/Goddard Space Flight Center, Geospace Physics Laboratory, Code 673, Heliophysics Science Division, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Vladimir Truhlik (<u>vtr@ufa.cas.cz</u>) Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Academy of Science Czech Republic, Praha, Czech Republic

Yongli Wang (<u>yongli.wang-1@nasa.gov</u>) UMBC/GPHI/Space Weather Laboratory, Code 674, Heliophysics Science Division, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Becca Arbacher (becca.arbacher@gmail.com)

National Space Club Scholars Summer Intern (Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, Maryland)/Goddard Space Flight Center, Geospace Physics Laboratory, Code 673, Heliophysics Science Division, Greenbelt, MD 20771

The latest results from an investigation to establish links between solar-wind and topsideionospheric parameters will be presented including a case where high-latitude topside electron-density Ne(h) profiles indicated dramatic rapid changes in the scale height during the main phase of a large magnetic storm (Dst < -200 nT). These scale-height changes suggest a large heat input to the topside ionosphere at this time. The topside profiles were derived from ISIS-1 digital ionograms obtained from the NASA Space Physics Data Facility (SPDF) Coordinated Data Analysis Web (CDAWeb). Solar-wind data obtained from the NASA OMNIWeb database indicated that the magnetic storm was due to a magnetic cloud. This event is one of several large magnetic storms being investigated during the interval from 1965 to 1984 when both solar-wind and digital topside ionograms, from either Alouette-2, ISIS-1, or ISIS-2, are potentially available.