

# Estimating the daytime vertical $E \times B$ drift velocities in the equatorial F-region ionosphere using the IEEY and AMBER magnetic data in West Africa

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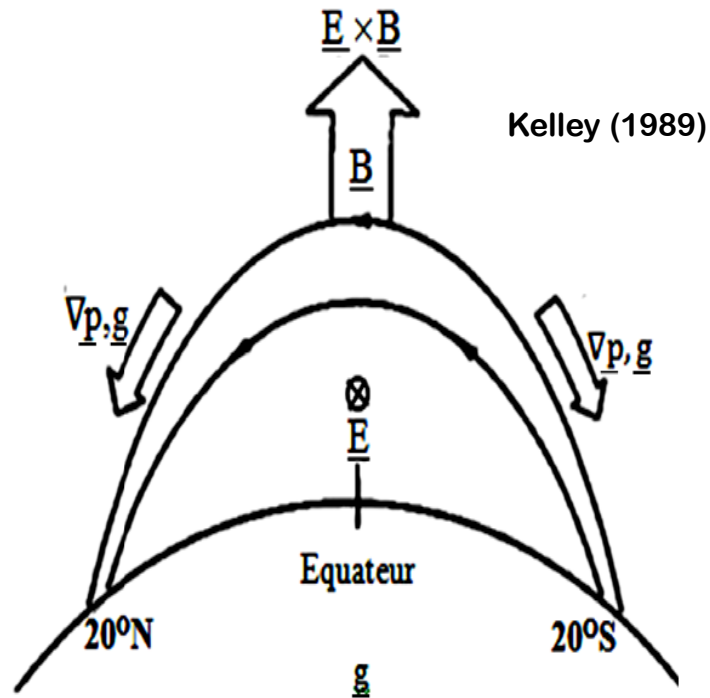
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# Introduction

- Equatorial  $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$  drift velocity is a significant input parameter used in many ionospheric models, to describe vertical plasma motions near the magnetic equator.
- At low / equatorial magnetic latitudes, ionosphere presents the Equatorial Ionization Anomaly that consists of two crests of high electron densities (and TEC) around 20 degrees (North and South) of magnetic latitude.



# Methodology

- The EEJ is a narrow band of intense eastward ionospheric current flowing at 100-120 km altitude within  $\pm 3^\circ$  latitude of the geomagnetic dip equator
- The H field measurements from a pair of magnetometer stations near dip equator and another located at 6–9° off dip equator provide an estimate of EEJ and thus daytime  $\vec{\mathbf{E}} \times \vec{\mathbf{B}}$  drift (Anderson et al., 2004)
- Anderson et al. (2004) have established an empirical drift velocity formula as shown below:

$$V_d = 1989,51 + 1,002 \times \text{Year} - 0,00022 \times \text{DOY} - 0,0222 \times F10,7 - 0,0282 \times F10,7A - 0,0229 \times A_p + 0,0589 \times K_p - 0,3661 \times LT + 0,1865 \times \Delta H + 0,00028 \times \Delta H^2 - 0,00000 \times \Delta H^3$$

- This relationship was suggested to be applicable at all equatorial latitudes as has been demonstrated in Peruvian, Indian and African sectors (e.g. Anderson et al., 2004; Anghel et al., 2007; Yizengaw et al., 2012)

# Data sets and processing

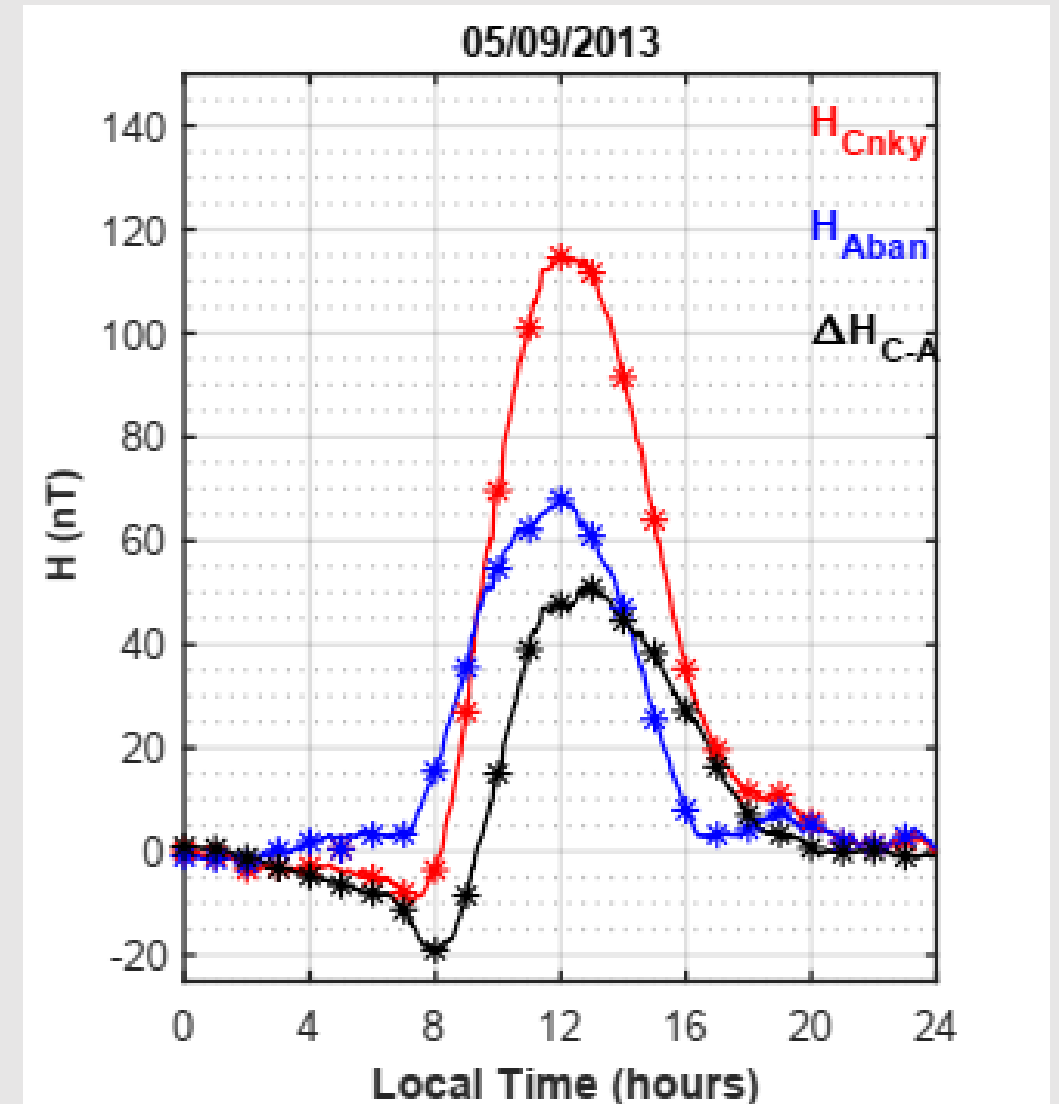
- Sikasso (0,12° Dip), Lamto (-6,27° Dip) and Tombouctou (6,76° Dip) from the International Equatorial Electrojet Year (IEEY) for year 1993 (SC22)
- Conakry (-0.46°, 60.37°) and Abidjan (-6°, 65.82°) from the African Meridian B-field Education and Research (AMBER) network for year 2013 (SC24)
- The night-time baseline  $H_0$  was obtained for each day and then subtracted from  $H$  to give the daytime value. This produce daytime  $H$  component at each station.

$$H_0 = (H_{23} + H_{00} + H_{01}) / 3$$

$$\Delta H_{S-T} = H_{SIK} - H_{TOM}$$

$$\Delta H_{S-L} = H_{SIK} - H_{LAM}$$

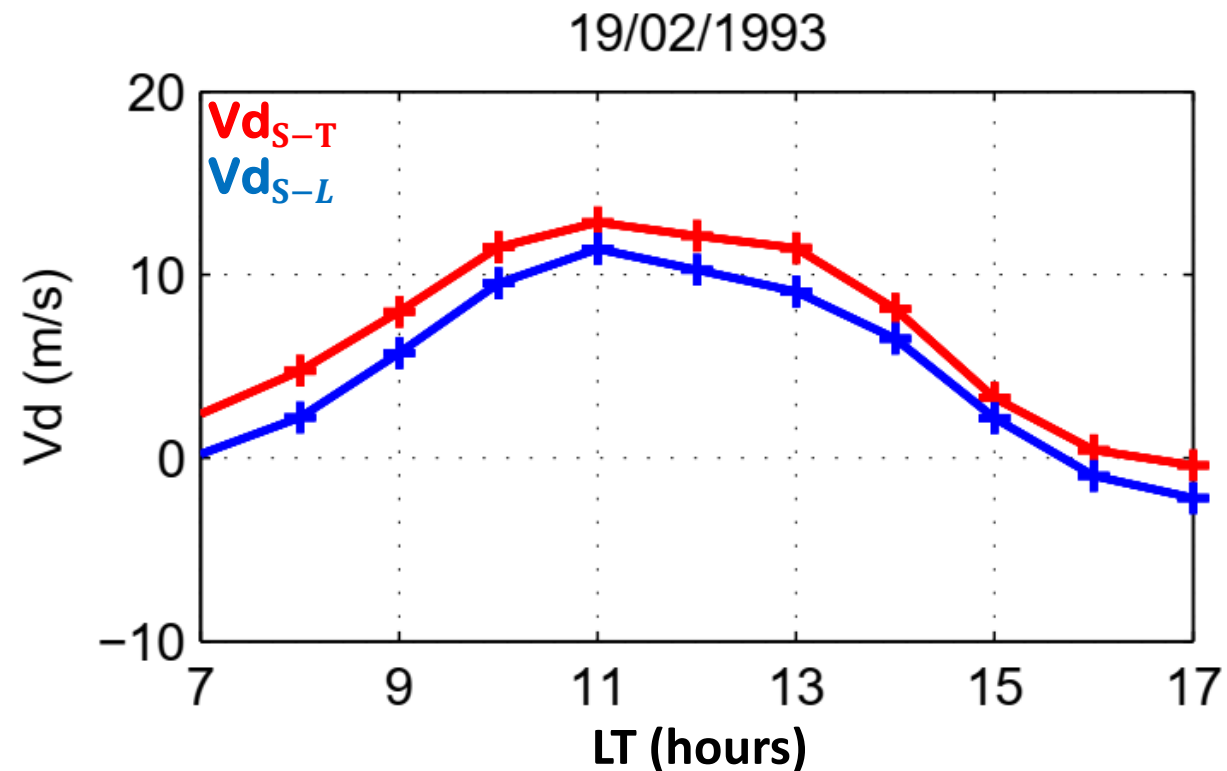
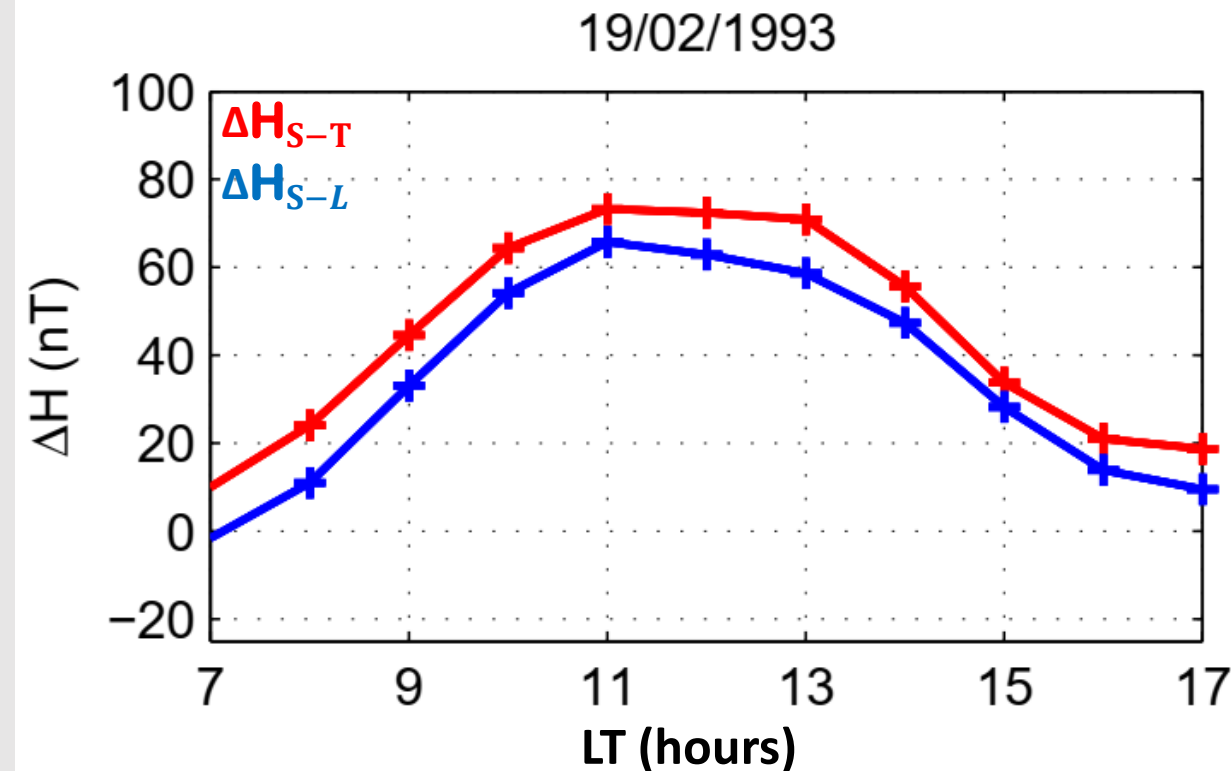
$$\Delta H_{C-A} = H_{CNKY} - H_{ABAN}$$



Daily variations of the EEJ magnetic effect

# Some results

- Diurnal variation of EEJ and its related drift velocity



19/02/1993 noon peak values

$\Delta H_{S-T} = 73.35 \text{ nT}$   $\longrightarrow$   $Vd_{S-T} = 13 \text{ m/s}$   
 $\Delta H_{S-L} = 65.80 \text{ nT}$   $\longrightarrow$   $Vd_{S-L} = 11,5 \text{ m/s}$

SIK-LAM latitudinal separation is about  $6.18^\circ$  latitudes while SIK-TOM is  $6.64^\circ$  latitudes.

## Conclusion

- The values of  $\Delta H_{S-T}$  and its corresponding  $Vd$  are slightly higher than those of  $\Delta H_{S-L}$  and its related  $Vd$ .
- The pair with the largest latitudinal separation exhibits the strongest EEJ while, the one with the smallest latitudinal separation presents the weakest EEJ.

Thank you