

#301

OGO-6

PLANAR ION TRAP

ION DENSITY, FLUX + TEMP. SUMMARIES

69-051A-03C

30 TAPES

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## Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Errata/Change Log
3. LINKS TO RELEVANT INFORMATION IN THE ONLINE NSSDC INFORMATION SYSTEM
4. Catalog Materials
  - a. Associated Documents
  - b. Core Catalog Materials

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## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

The documentation for this data set was originally on paper, kept in NSSDC's Data Set Catalogs (DSCs). The paper documentation in the Data Set Catalogs have been made into digital images, and then collected into a single PDF file for each Data Set Catalog. The inventory information in these DSCs is current as of July 1, 2004. This inventory information is now no longer maintained in the DSCs, but is now managed in the inventory part of the NSSDC information system. The information existing in the DSCs is now not needed for locating the data files, but we did not remove that inventory information.

The offline tape datasets have now been migrated from the original magnetic tape to Archival Information Packages (AIP's).

A prior restoration may have been done on data sets, if a requestor of this data set has questions; they should send an inquiry to the request office to see if additional information exists.

## 2. ERRATA/CHANGE LOG:

NOTE: Changes are made in a text box, and will show up that way when displayed on screen with a PDF reader.

*When printing, special settings may be required to make the text box appear on the printed output.*

Version	Date	Person	Page	Description of Change
01				
02				

3 LINKS TO RELEVANT INFORMATION IN THE ONLINE NSSDC INFORMATION SYSTEM:

<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/nmc/>

[NOTE: This link will take you to the main page of the NSSDC Master Catalog. There you will be able to perform searches to find additional information]

4. CATALOG MATERIALS:

- a. Associated Documents      To find associated documents you will need to know the document ID number and then click here.  
<http://nssdcftp.gsfc.nasa.gov/miscellaneous/documents/>

- b. Core Catalog Materials

## ION DENSITY, FLUX &amp; TEMP. SUMMARIES

69-051A-03C

SPIO-00055

THIS DATA SET HAS BEEN RESTORED. ORIGINALLY IT CONTAINED 30 9-TRACK, 800 BPI TAPES, WRITTEN IN BINARY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAST TAPE, WHICH IS A BCD INDEX TAPE. THERE ARE FOUR RESTORED TAPES WRITTEN IN BINARY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAST 29 FILES OF THE FOURTH TAPE (DR02520), WHICH IS WRITTEN IN EBCDIC. THE DR AND DS TAPES ARE 9-TRACK, 6250 BPI. THE ORIGINAL TAPES WERE CREATED ON AN IBM 360/75 COMPUTER. THE DR AND DS NUMBERS ALONG WITH THE CORRESPONDING D NUMBERS AND THE TIME SPANS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

DR#	DS#	D#	FILES	TIME SPAN
DR02502	DS02502	D20504	1	06/07/69 - 08/01/69
		D20503	2	08/01/69 - 08/15/69
		D20502	3	08/16/69 - 08/30/69
		D20501	4	08/30/69 - 10/10/69
		D20500	5	10/10/69 - 10/20/69
		D20499	6	10/20/69 - 10/29/69
		D20498	7	10/29/69 - 11/08/69
		D20497	8	11/08/69 - 11/20/69
		D20496	9	11/20/69 - 12/01/69
		D20495	10	12/01/69 - 12/11/69
		D20510	11	12/11/69 - 12/21/69
		D20511	12	12/21/69 - 12/31/69
		D20512	13	12/31/69 - 01/11/70
DR02503	DS02503	D20513	1	01/11/70 - 01/23/70
		D20514	2	01/23/70 - 02/05/70
		D20505	3	02/05/70 - 02/21/70
		D20506	4	02/21/70 - 03/08/70
		D20507	5	03/08/70 - 04/01/70
		D20508	6	04/01/70 - 04/15/70

DR#	DS#	D#	FILES	TIME SPAN
DR02504	DS02504	D20509	1	04/15/70 - 04/29/70
		D20515	2	04/29/70 - 05/10/70
		D20516	3	05/10/70 - 05/24/70
		D20517	4	05/24/70 - 07/11/70
		D20518	5	07/11/70 - 07/24/70
		D20519	6	07/24/70 - 08/06/70
DR02520	DS02520	D20520	1	08/06/70 - 08/26/70
		D20521	2	10/03/70 - 11/21/70
		D20522	3	11/21/70 - 01/27/71
		D20523	4	01/27/71 - 04/23/71
		D20524	5-33	06/07/69 - 04/23/71

REQ. AGENT

CMT  
ROP

RAND NO.

RC3207  
RC4167

ACQ. AGENT

LLD

OGO-6

PLANAR ION TRAP

ION DENSITY, FLUX & TEMP. SUMMARIES

69-051A-03C

This data set consists of 30 data tapes and 1 Index tape. The data tapes are 800 BPI, Binary, 9-track, and have 1 file. The Index tape is 800 BCD, even, 9-track, and has 29 files. The tapes were created on an IBM 360/75 computer. The time spans are as follows:

<u>D#</u>	<u>C#</u>	<u>ORBITS</u>	<u>TIME SPAN</u>
D-20504	C-16933	20 - 814	06/07/69 - 08/01/69
D-20503	C-16934	815 - 1031	08/01/69 - 08/15/69
D-20502	C-16935	1032 - 1242	08/16/69 - 08/30/69
D-20501	C-16936	1243 - 1839	08/30/69 - 10/10/69
D-20500	C-16937	1840 - 1979	10/10/69 - 10/20/69
D-20499	C-16938	1980 - 2115	10/20/69 - 10/29/69
D-20498	C-16939	2116 - 2259	10/29/69 - 11/08/69
D-20497	C-16940	2260 - 2423	11/08/69 - 11/20/69
D-20496	C-16941	2424 - 2582	11/20/69 - 12/01/69
D-20495	C-16942	2583 - 2727	12/01/69 - 12/11/69
D-20510	C-16943	2728 - 2878	12/11/69 - 12/21/69
D-20511	C-16944	2879 - 3013	12/21/69 - 12/31/69
D-20512	C-16945	3014 - 3183	12/31/69 - 01/11/70
D-20513	C-16946	3184 - 3358	01/11/70 - 01/23/70
D-20514	C-16947	3359 - 3542	01/23/70 - 02/05/70
D-20505	C-16948	3543 - 3771	02/05/70 - 02/21/70
D-20506	C-16949	3771 - 3989	02/21/70 - 03/08/70



<u>D#</u>	<u>C#</u>	<u>ORBITS</u>	<u>TIME SPAN</u>
D-20507	C-16950	3990 - 4334	03/08/70 - 04/01/70
D-20508	C-16951	4335 - 4549	04/01/70 - 04/15/70
D-20509	C-16952	4550 - 4739	04/15/70 - 04/29/70
D-20515	C-16953	4740 - 4905	04/29/70 - 05/10/70
D-20516	C-16954	4906 - 5114	05/10/70 - 05/24/70
D-20517	C-16955	5115 - 5803	05/24/70 - 07/11/70
D-20518	C-16956	5804 - 5989	07/11/70 - 07/24/70
D-20519	C-16957	5990 - 6176	07/24/70 - 08/06/70
D-20520	C-16958	6177 - 6476	08/06/70 - 08/26/70
D-20521	C-16959	7020 - 7738	10/03/70 - 11/21/70
D-20522	C-16960	7739 - 8719	11/21/70 - 01/27/71
D-20523	C-16961	8720 - 9978	01/27/71 - 04/23/71
D-20524	C-16962	20 - 9978	06/07/69 - 04/23/71

MAGNETIC TAPE DESCRIPTION  
OGO-6 F-03 Retarding Potential Analyzer  
Dr. W. B. Hanson  
The University of Texas at Dallas

The magnetic tapes are unlabeled 9-track, 800 bpi and odd parity. Each magnetic tape consists of one file of fixed length physical records which are 3168 bytes (792 words) long. Each physical record contains 12 fixed length logical records which are 264 bytes (66 words) long. The last physical record is normally short.

There will be a total of approximately <sup>30</sup> 35 magnetic tapes, each consisting of approximately 2200 feet (approximately 5600 physical records; 67200 logical records) of information. The information on these magnetic tapes is strictly chronological and contains no overlapping information; orbits are not split across magnetic tape boundaries.

For each magnetic tape, there is a printed summary giving each orbit number; the logical record number in which that orbit started; the year, day and time information started in that orbit; the year, day and time information stopped in that orbit; and a summary of sweeps for that orbit (S/N implies slow sweeps which were not analyzed; F/N implies fast sweeps which were not analyzed; S/A implies slow sweeps which were analyzed; F/A implies fast sweeps which were analyzed; ALL implies total sweeps).

A description and units for each word in the logical record is shown on the attached logical record layout. Some of the items will be further delineated.

## OGO VI RPA DATA

OGO VI was launched on June 5, 1969 into an  $82^\circ$  inclination prograde orbit, with nominal apogee and perigee of 1100 km and 400 km. The initial orbit plane was in a near dawn-dusk configuration, and it rotated approximately two degrees local time each day. After nearly two weeks of normal operation a malfunction in the solar power system caused the vehicle potential,  $\psi_s$ , to have a large negative value ( $|\psi_s| > 20$  volts) when the spacecraft was sunlit. Subsequently, the daytime magnitude of  $\psi_s$  changed discontinuously on several occasions, and during late 1969 and early 1970 it did not exceed 14 volts. Gradually the vehicle system lost capability and it became increasingly unreliable to read out the tape recorders. The spacecraft was finally turned off as a fiscal expediency in late 1971, with several of its instruments, including the Retarding Potential Analyzer, still in perfect working order.

OGO VI proved to be an excellent scientific spacecraft. It provided in excess of 5000 complete orbits of data during its lifetime. The principal devices that supplied aeronomical data were the RPA, a neutral mass spectrometer, a Bennett ion mass spectrometer, a single axis electric field experiment, 6300 Å and 5577 Å airglow photometers, and a 6300 Å interferometer for measuring the neutral atmospheric temperature. Some langmuir probe data are also available, as are some energetic particle data ( $E > 20$  Kev), and some electromagnetic wave intensity data over wide frequency ranges. Very limited syntheses of data from the various instruments have been carried out to date.

The RPA data that is available in the World Data Center comprises nearly all the data that could be analyzed for ion temperature. In addition, much more data is included that provides an irregularity index for the total ion concentration,  $N_1$ , as well as a parameter that closely characterizes  $N_1$  itself. During the first 240 orbits when  $\psi_s$  was well behaved the ion temperature was measured over the complete orbits. After  $\psi_s$  became large in sunlight the Retarding Potential could no longer repel ions from the collector and current voltage characteristic curves could not be obtained except when the spacecraft was in eclipse. During a four month period at the end of 1969 and the beginning of 1970  $|\psi_s|$  decreased to below 14 volts and it was possible to analyze the sunlit data for  $T_1$ , and for  $H^+$ ,  $He^+$ , and  $O^+$  ion concentrations. We call this "good-bad" data; it is of variable quality, but always less reliable than the sunlit data from orbit numbers less than 240. Not all of the "good-bad" daytime data was analyzed.

The RPA data appears in three different plot forms, only two of which exist for all the data analyzed, and only these two are available from the World Data Center. All of the data in these two summary film plots, called SAT plots and Sigma plots, are also available on a set of 30 800 bpi magnetic tapes. The other plot format, called OGO plots, is a plot of the individual ion characteristic curves and the essentially raw irregularity data. This primary data plot format was essential for developing confidence in the data analysis techniques employed and for resolving questions that arise from peculiar behavior observed in the summary data plots. Many such questions continue to arise as we examine new summary data, but unfortunately OGO plots do not exist for most of the data because of economic considerations.

Any prospective user of the RPA data would be well advised to examine at least one roll of OGO plot film in order to obtain a feel for the raw data, and for the curve fitting that provides most of the summary plot numbers.

OGO 6 RPA BIBLIOGRAPHY

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SUMMARY OF MAGNETIC TAPE FORMATION  
 OGO-6 F-03 Retarding Potential Analyzer

Dr. W. B. Hanson  
 The University of Texas at Dallas

Tape Number	Started				Stopped			
	Orbit	Year	Day	Time	Orbit	Year	Day	Time
WDB001	20	1969	158	2825	814	1969	213	796
WDB002	815	1969	213	1635	1031	1969	227	83279
WDB003	1032	1969	228	3594	1242	1969	242	53655
WDB004	1243	1969	242	53665	1839	1969	283	78824
WDB005	1840	1969	283	78833	1979	1969	293	51020
WDB006	1980	1969	293	51029	2115	1969	302	85521
WDB007	2116	1969	302	85531	2259	1969	312	81220
WDB008	2260	1969	312	81229	2423	1969	324	23373
WDB009	2424	1969	324	23382	2582	1969	335	21940
WDB010	2583	1969	335	21950	2727	1969	345	23198
WDB011	2728	1969	345	23208	2878	1969	355	60171
DB012	2879	1969	355	60180	3013	1969	365	1594
WDB013	3014	1969	365	1603	3183	1970	011	65349
WDB014	3184	1970	011	65359	3358	1970	023	72426
WDB015	3359	1970	023	72435	3542	1970	036	46585
WDB016	3543	1970	036	46595	3770	1970	052	23616
WDB017	3771	1970	052	23625	3989	1970	067	32886
WDB018	3990	1970	067	32895	4334	1970	091	14919
WDB019	4335	1970	091	14929	4549	1970	105	86114
WDB020	4550	1970	105	86124	4739	1970	119	4014
WDB021	4740	1970	119	9200	4905	1970	130	46005
WDB022	4906	1970	130	46015	5114	1970	144	79678
WDB023	5115	1970	144	82060	5803	1970	192	31179
WDB024	5804	1970	192	31189	5989	1970	205	13591
WDB025	5990	1970	205	13600	6176	1970	218	1691
WDB026	6177	1970	218	1700	6476	1970	238	56263
WDB027	7020	1970	276	392	7738	1970	325	31024
DB028	7739	1970	325	33644	8719	1971	027	59359
WDB029	8720	1971	027	59368	9978	1971	113	80041
WDB030	INDEX							

Logical Record Layout

OGO-6 F-03 Retarding Potential Analyzer

Word	Description	Units
01	I Tape Number	1,2,...
02	I Record Number	1,2,...
03	I Meaningful Words in Record	47,66
04	I Orbit Number	20,21,....,9978
05	I Gregorian Year	Year
06	I Julian Day of Year	Days
07	I Second of the Day (GMT)	Seconds
08	I Local Apparent Solar Time	Hours
09	I Local Apparent Solar Time	Minutes
10	I Local Apparent Solar Time	Seconds
11	R Satellite Altitude	Km
12	R Satellite Velocity	Km/Second
13	I Satellite Sunlit Flag (1 => Sunlit)	0,1
14	R Geodetic Latitude	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
15	R Geodetic Longitude	Degrees ( $\pm 180$ )
16	R Attack Angle	Degrees
17	R Sun Angle	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
18	R Zenith Angle	Degrees
19	R North Height	Km
20	R South Height	Km
21	R Egress Geodetic Latitude	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
22	R Egress Geodetic Longitude	Degrees ( $\pm 180$ )
23	R Ingress Geodetic Latitude	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
24	R Ingress Geodetic Longitude	Degrees ( $\pm 180$ )
25	R Geomagnetic Dip Angle	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
26	R Dip Latitude	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
27	R Dipole Latitude	Degrees ( $\pm 90$ )
28	R Geomagnetic Field Strength	Gauss
29	R McIlwain Shell Parameter	Earth Radii -
30	I Sweep Number	1,2,...
31	I Fast/Slow Sweep Mode Flag (1 => Fast)	0,1
32	I Normal/Abnormal Sweep Flag (1 => Normal)	0,1
33	R Trap Mode Start Time	Seconds
34	R Trap Mode Period	Seconds
35	I Electrometer Range at Saturation	1,2,....,8
36	R Trap Mode Sweep Slope	Volts/Second
37	R Plasma Drift Velocity	Km/Second
38	R Suprathermal Electron Current	Amps
39	R Electron Flux	$\#/Cm^2/Second$
40	R Total Ion Current at Saturation	Amps
41	R Duct Mode Start Time	Seconds
42	R Duct Mode Period	Seconds
43	R Duct Mode Starting Electrometer Voltage	Volts
44	R Total Ion Concentration Deviations	$\#$ (Filler=999.0)
45	R Offset Duct Mode Start Time	Seconds
46	R Offset Duct Mode Starting Electrometer Voltage	Volts
47	I Offset Duct Mode Starting Electrometer Range	1,2,....,8
48	I Number of Ions in Least Squares Analysis	1,2,....,5
49	R Standard Deviation of Least Squares Analysis	$\#$
50	R Ion Temperature	Degrees Kelvin
51	R Satellite Potential	Volts
52	R Plasma Drift Velocity	Km/Second
53	R Ion Concentration - 1+	$\#/Cm^3$
54	R Ion Concentration - 4+	$\#/Cm^3$
55	R Ion Concentration - 16+	$\#/Cm^3$
56	R Ion Concentration - 30+	$\#/Cm^3$
57	R Ion Concentration - 56+	$\#/Cm^3$
58	R Ion Concentration - Total	$\#/Cm^3$
59	R Error - Ion Temperature	Degrees Kelvin
60	R Error - Satellite Potential	Volts
61	R Error - Plasma Drift Velocity	Km/Second
62	R Error - 1+	$\#/Cm^3$
63	R Error - 4+	$\#/Cm^3$
64	R Error - 16+	$\#/Cm^3$
65	R Error - 30+	$\#/Cm^3$
66	R Error - 56+	$\#/Cm^3$

The information is in the internal format for IBM 360/370 computers. Information is full word binary fixed point denoted by I or is full word hexadecimal floating point denoted by R.



## OGO 6 Ion Concentration and Ion Irregularity Data

W. B. Hanson

The Retarding Potential Analyzer Data from OGO 6 constitute the only proven reservoir of satellite ion temperature data prior to Atmosphere Explorer. Similarly, the most sensitive and comprehensive body of data on ionospheric irregularities is available from the same instrument. Because of the unique nature and excellent quality of these results it is important to have the data reduced to useful forms and to have it generally available.

The data analysis and presentations have been refined over a period of years and the data bank has now been completely processed, insofar as this seems fiscally responsible. All of the data output has now been summarized on 30 magnetic tapes and several rolls of microfilm in different formats. These are now in the process of being sent to the NASA World Data Center. With the completion of this effort we can now examine the large body of data in an orderly manner for morphological characteristics, as well as make comparisons with data from other OGO 6 measurements.

A rather elaborate data key has been written to supplement the magnetic tape and film that are being shipped to the World Data Center. The description of the tapes fills a volume that is too large to append here, but the summary page for the tapes and a description of the data included are attached. The film description is more modest and has been appended in its entirety.

## RPA SAT PLOTS

Each frame of these plots displays a set of reduced RPA data acquired between  $\pm 82^\circ$  geographic latitude. The quantities plotted are ion temperature, ion concentrations and electron fluxes. Several orbital parameters are printed out at the bottom, and the dip latitude at which these values apply are indicated by tic marks on both the top and bottom scales.

The density of points plotted is variable and depends on the mode of the instrument, the quality of the telemetry data, the variation of dip latitude with time, and the fraction of data properly analyzed. Bad data fits\* are rejected by an arbitrary criterion; if the mean square deviation of the experimental points from the theoretical curve is  $> 10\%$  the  $N_i$  and  $T_i$  values shown in OGO PLOTS are not plotted in SAT PLOTS. This criterion is not perfect and occasionally values are plotted which are obviously incorrect, usually because of an electrometer ranging error. In these cases the major ion concentrations will appear a factor of  $(10)^{n/2}$  above or below the correct value.

The ion temperature values are plotted as a small dot with a vertical bar centered on this dot whose length corresponds to the statistical error in  $T_i$ . Much of the time these error bars lie entirely within the dots. Three different temperature scales are available, 500 K to 2000 K, 500 K to 3500 K, and 0 K to 6000 K. The appropriate scale is determined by an algorithm that examines the data set to be plotted.

The "photo-flux" values at the bottom of the  $T_i$  plots correspond to electron fluxes of energy greater than 10 ev, unless  $Fe^+$  is present.

\* See OGO plots discussion

In the latter case the plotted values are nearly proportional to the  $\text{Fe}^+$  concentration. We cannot simultaneously determine both an electron flux and the  $\text{Fe}^+$  concentration. Usually this is no problem since  $\text{Fe}^+$  is confined to dip latitudes  $< \pm 30^\circ$  and conjugate photo electrons and auroral electrons generally occur at higher latitudes. In the daytime, photoelectrons mask the presence of  $\text{Fe}^+$ .

The magnitude of the electron flux is obtained by dividing the negative current to the collector by the effective area of the aperture (i.e., including grid transmission). The flux is then  $2.9 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  per bit (1 bit =  $6 \times 10^{-13}$  amps). A full geometrical calculation shows that for an isotropic maxwellian photoelectron gas with a temperature of 7 ev, the ambient flux above 10 ev (+ spacecraft potential) is approximately  $10^6 \text{ electrons/cm}^2 \text{ sec ster bit}$ .

The zero level of the electrometer drifts between the zero and 3 bit levels though the noise level is small compared to one bit. Most of the data plotted has been corrected for this effect, except when  $\text{Fe}^+$  is present. Unfortunately, some of the plots erroneously show the zero level plotted as an electron flux.

The derivation of the various ion concentrations assumes that the plasma is at rest in the earth's frame of reference, and that the molecular ions have a mass of 30 AMU. Often this leads to an incorrect ratio of ( $\text{H}^+/\text{He}^+$ ) ions near the equator when the inter-hemisphere plasma velocity is large. This same plasma motion causes the derived values of  $T_i$  to be too large or too small, depending on

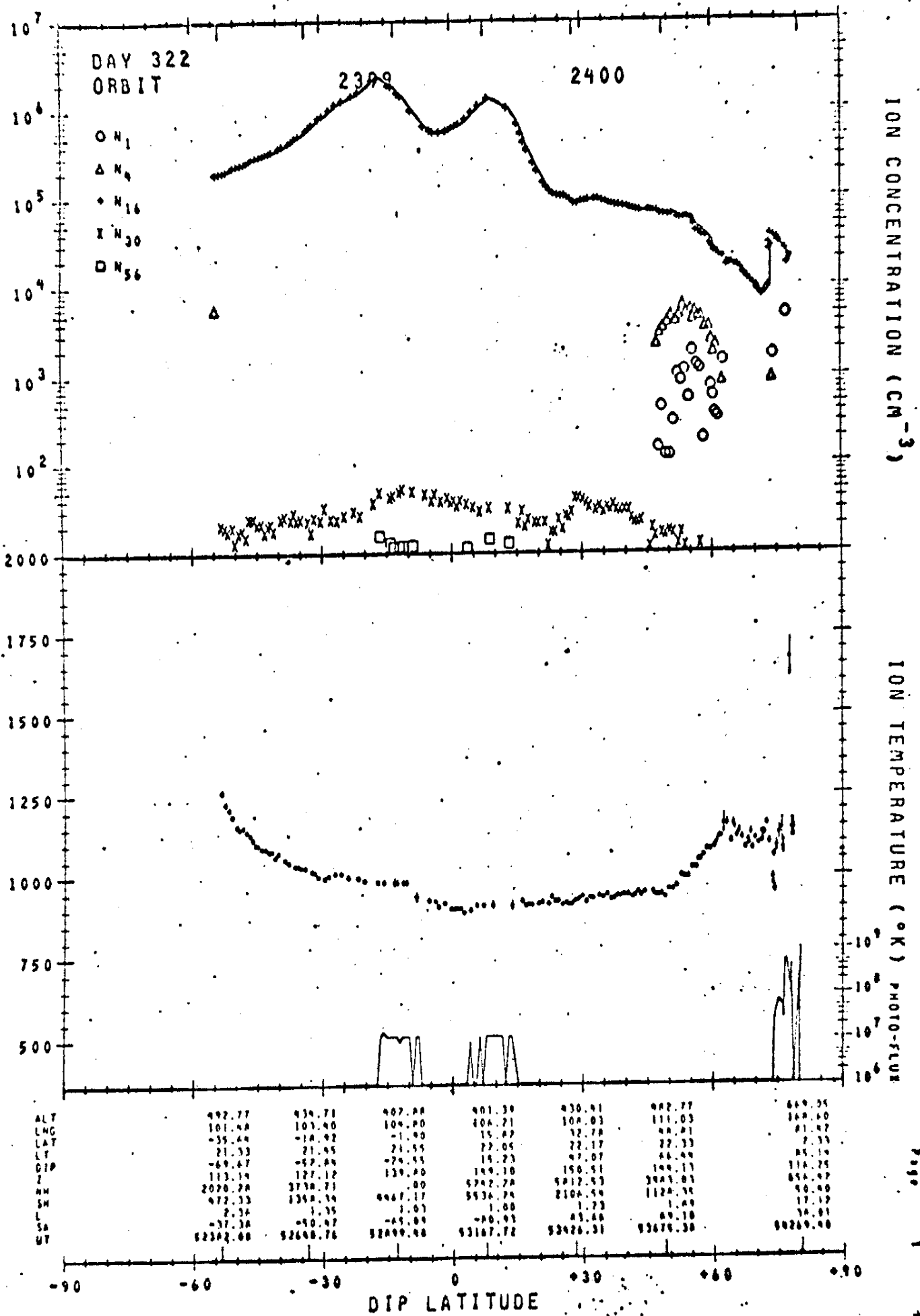
whether the plasma motion is toward or away from the satellite, respectively.

The statistical errors in  $T_1$  are normally quite small when  $n(0^+) > 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , but if the Stanford antenna on the spacecraft is being positively biased in pulses a periodic structure in  $T_1$  can be observed, whose amplitude is rather larger than the error bars. These are not real changes in  $T_1$  induced by the transmitter, but faulty ion curves distorted by the antenna pulses. This condition can only be confirmed by examining the OGO plots. Orbit numbers 3029 to 8330 were flown in 1970; smaller orbit numbers refer to 1969 and larger numbers to 1971. New orbits are commenced when the satellite traverses the equatorial plane from South to North.

On some orbits the OPEP (orbital plane experimental package) on which the RPA is mounted is scanned continuously through ram and into the wake and back again. The data from these orbits is not very useful, but is easily recognized by the periodic disappearance of the plasma. The values taken near the ram have some validity if taken in the fast mode.

### Definition of Parameters

- ALT - satellite altitude in km
- LNG - geographic longitude
- LAT - geographic latitude
- LT - local time in hours and minutes
- DIP - magnetic dip angle in degrees
- Z - solar zenith angle in degrees
- NH - solid earth (solar) screening height at north conjugate point
- SH - solid earth (solar) screening height at south conjugate point
- L - McIlwain L parameter
- SA - angle between normal to sensor face and the sun
- UT - universal time in seconds of the day



## RPA SIGMA PLOTS

Each frame of SIGMA PLOTS displays up to 60 minutes of reduced Ogo 6 RPA data, starting at middle latitudes ( $\Lambda \geq +35^\circ$  or  $\leq -35^\circ$ ) and crossing the polar cap and the subsequent middle, low and middle latitude regions. The quantities plotted are the total ion (electron) concentration, the ionospheric irregularity index ( $\Sigma = \Delta N_1/N_1, \text{RMSZ}$ ), the satellite altitude, the altitude of the earth's shadow at the northern and southern end of the satellite's geomagnetic field tube, the size of the ionospheric irregularities (km/peak), and, where available, the ion temperature, the ion concentrations [ $16^+$ ], [ $30^+$ ], [ $56^+$ ] and [ $4^+ + 1^+$ ], and the photoelectron flux. These latter parameters (temperature, ion composition data and flux) are usually available only during satellite eclipse.

Blocks of orbital parameters are provided at the bottom, and the dip latitudes where these data blocks apply (2 to 10 data blocks are provided) are indicated by the numbers 1 through 10 shown on the lower scale. Parameters provided are invariant latitude, magnetic dipole local time, local time, longitude, latitude, solar zenith angle, sun angle (angle between the sun and the normal to the RPA aperture plane), universal time, and satellite altitude.

The polar plot in the lower left corner gives the value of  $\Sigma(\Delta N_1/N_1, \text{RMSZ})$  versus invariant latitude and dipole local time along the satellite track. The smallest dots indicate  $\Sigma < 1\%$ ; the medium dots,  $1\% < \Sigma < 10\%$ ; and the large dots,  $\Sigma > 10\%$ . The dots plotted are obtained from the 5-point running means, which are the circles connected by a heavy line on the plot at the top of the frame.

Just below the  $L$  plot the satellite altitude is indicated by the sinusoidal curve (perigee  $\sim 400$  km, apogee  $\sim 1100$  km). The symbols N and S give the altitude of the earth's geometrical shadow, assuming no screening by the earth's atmosphere, at the northern and southern intersection of the earth's surface and the geomagnetic field line through the satellite. The determination of these screening heights, which are significant for anticipating the presence of conjugate photoelectrons, is often faulty, but even the nonsense values have been plotted. Superimposed on the altitude plots is a plot of electron flux ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{sec}^{-1}$ ) of energy greater than 10 eV, unless  $\text{Fe}^+$  is present. In the latter case the plotted values are nearly proportional to the  $\text{Fe}^+$  concentration. Because of a 20 volt limit on the retarding potential we cannot simultaneously determine both the electron flux and the  $\text{Fe}^+$  concentration, but usually this is no problem because  $\text{Fe}^+$  is observed only for dip latitudes  $< \pm 30^\circ$  and auroral electrons or conjugate photoelectrons generally occur only at higher latitudes.

The size parameter plotted next is of limited utility because of inadequacies in the algorithm used to calculate it. In particular, the upper limit occurring between 30 and 40 km is set by the distance the satellite travels during the fast "duct" or irregularity-measuring operation,\* and has no geophysical significance.

Ion temperatures are plotted as a small dot with a vertical error bar whose length corresponds to the statistical error in  $T_1$ . These error bars often lie entirely within the dot. The density of  $T_1$  points plotted is variable, depending on the instrument mode, on the quality of the data and on the fraction of data properly interpreted by the analysis algorithms.

\* See the OGO Plots write-up



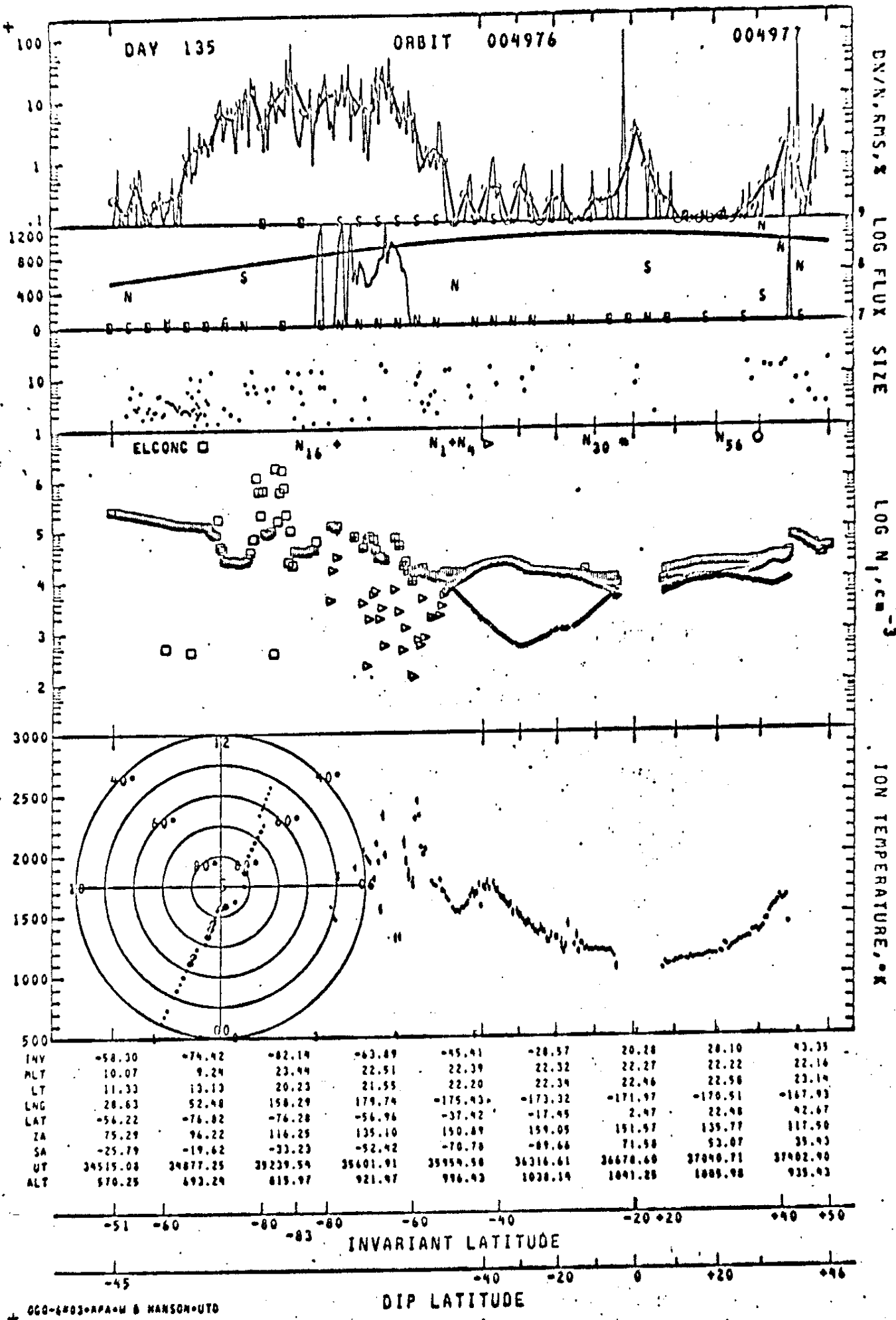
Bad fits\* are rejected by an arbitrary criterion: if the RMS deviation between the best-fitting theoretical curve and the experimental points exceeds 10%, the  $N_1$  and  $T_1$  values derived are not plotted. Occasional values are plotted which are obviously incorrect, usually because of an electrometer ranging error. In these cases  $N_1$  will be one or more factors of  $\sqrt{10}$  above or below the correct value of  $N_1$ .

When the satellite is not in eclipse (and after orbit 240) the total  $N_1$  value and the  $E$  values can still be obtained, even though the (-) satellite potential is usually too large to measure  $T_1$ . The derived  $N_1$ , however, is somewhat larger than the ambient value, owing to the ion focussing of the very negative spacecraft. The magnitude of this overestimate is larger the greater the proportion of light ions ( $H^+$  and  $He^+$ ) present. Factors of order 2 are involved. From day 297/69 to day 055/70 it is still possible to deduce daytime  $T_1$  values, though with lower accuracy, because the satellite potential is smaller than 14 volts when the satellite is in sunlight during this period.

The total  $N_1(N_e)$  value often shows a great deal of randomness when the satellite is not eclipsed because of faulty algorithms used for the determination of this quantity. Very often the eye can follow the actual changes in  $N_1$ , despite this weakness, but we apologize for this failure. Whether the satellite is or is not eclipsed, the derivation of the various ion concentrations assumes that the plasma is at rest in the earth's frame of reference, and that the molecular ions have a mass of 30 AMU. Often this leads to an incorrect ratio of ( $H^+/He^+$ ) ions near the equator when the

\* See the OGO Plots write-up

interhemisphere plasma velocity is large. This same plasma motion causes the derived values of both  $N_1$  and  $T_1$  to be too large or too small, depending on whether the plasma motion is toward or away from the satellite, respectively.



## RPA OGO PLOTS

Each frame of this plot shows four separate data sequences, each having one "sweep" and one "duct" operation. The left hand side shows a logarithmic plot of ion current versus retarding potential, where the plotted points are experimental and the line is a theoretical fit to the data (see Hanson et al., 1970, for details). The right side contains the "duct" data and reveals the changes in ion concentration observed along the satellite flight path. Various geophysical coordinates are printed out between the data plots. Data can be recorded in either the fast or slow mode. In the fast mode the ion sweep and the duct operation each take approximately 5 seconds, whereas in the slow mode they are allotted 20 seconds each. So many points are plotted in the slow ion sweeps that one cannot usually see the theoretical curve plotted through them.

The derived values of ion temperature and ion concentrations are printed out in the middle for each sweep that is analyzed, together with their statistical error bars. Also given are the vehicle potential and  $\sigma$ , the mean square fractional deviation of the measured points from the least-squares best-fit theoretical curve. The Julian day number is given, but the year must be inferred from the Orbit number. Orbits 3029 to 8330 were flown in 1970; smaller numbers refer to 1969 and larger orbit numbers to 1971. The quantity called electron flux is derived from the currents observed at large retarding potentials. When the value ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{sec}^{-1}$ ) is followed by an asterisk it is proportional to the electron flux (greater than  $\sim 10$  eV) that is observed and the ion currents plotted have been corrected by an appropriate amount. The

absolute magnitude assigned to the flux is somewhat arbitrary and is based on the measured electron current per unit effective aperture area. The numbers are of qualitative value for satellite eclipse data (most of the data) in that they reveal the presence of conjugate photoelectrons when moving toward the magnetic equator and reflected conjugate photoelectrons when moving away from the magnetic equator. An estimate of the absolute electron flux of electrons with energy greater than 10 eV in particles/cm<sup>2</sup> sec ster assuming an isotropic flux can be obtained by dividing the printed number by  $\pi$ , if the "temperature" of these electrons is approximately 7 eV.

In addition, the presence of secondary electron fluxes at high latitudes (usually >60° dip) is commonly observed. This invariably signifies the presence of diffuse aurora in the absence of sunlight or conjugate electrons. The auroral fluxes are usually much more variable than photoelectron fluxes. When the flux value is greater than  $9 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  but not followed by an asterisk this usually signifies the presence of Fe<sup>+</sup> ions (if the dip latitude is less than ~30°). For most of the data (but not all) the flux number is of the order  $10^{-12}$  and in this case the number refers to a zero correction (in amperes) that has been made to the electrometer data before curve fitting or plotting ( $6 \times 10^{-13}$  amps corresponds to a one bit correction; the electrometer noise level is of order  $10^{-13}$  amp.).

The logarithmic ion current values have been obtained from an automatic ranging linear electrometer, and occasionally the deranging algorithm incorrectly adds or deletes a range change (a gain change of  $\sqrt{10}$ ) resulting in an invalid ion characteristic curve. These curves are analyzed along with the rest, though they usually give larger  $\sigma$  values and error bars.

When the electrometer output is sampled while the electrometer is ranging the resulting data can be faulty. The program does not include the first point after a range change in the least squares analysis but does plot them with circles around them. For various reasons the data reduction program sometimes uses the wrong ion masses in the analyses, or incorrectly identifies an ion current region with the wrong ion mass. This results in invalid  $T_i$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $N_i$  values. Most of the time these errors are readily recognized and the points are usually not plotted in SAT or SIGMA PLOTS because  $\sigma > 10\%$ .

There are two signals plotted during the duct period, the electrometer output and the duct amplifier output. The dots give the electrometer output, which is proportional to the total ion flux entering the RPA ( $N_i V_g$ ). The magnitudes of the dot values have been normalized to unity at the beginning of each duct frame and fractions from 0 to 2 are plotted, though occasionally the actual values can exceed twice the initial value. Very large amplitude small scale structure is encountered where the instrument is completely aliased; changes in the electrometer sensitivity probably occur during these times but it is difficult to prove this. The continuous line joins points from the duct amplifier which have 1/3 the separation of the dots; this line shows variations from the initial ion concentration that can vary from +5% to -5%. Depending on the initial electrometer output voltage the duct amplifier may saturate at percentage changes smaller than +5%. This saturated condition is easily recognized.

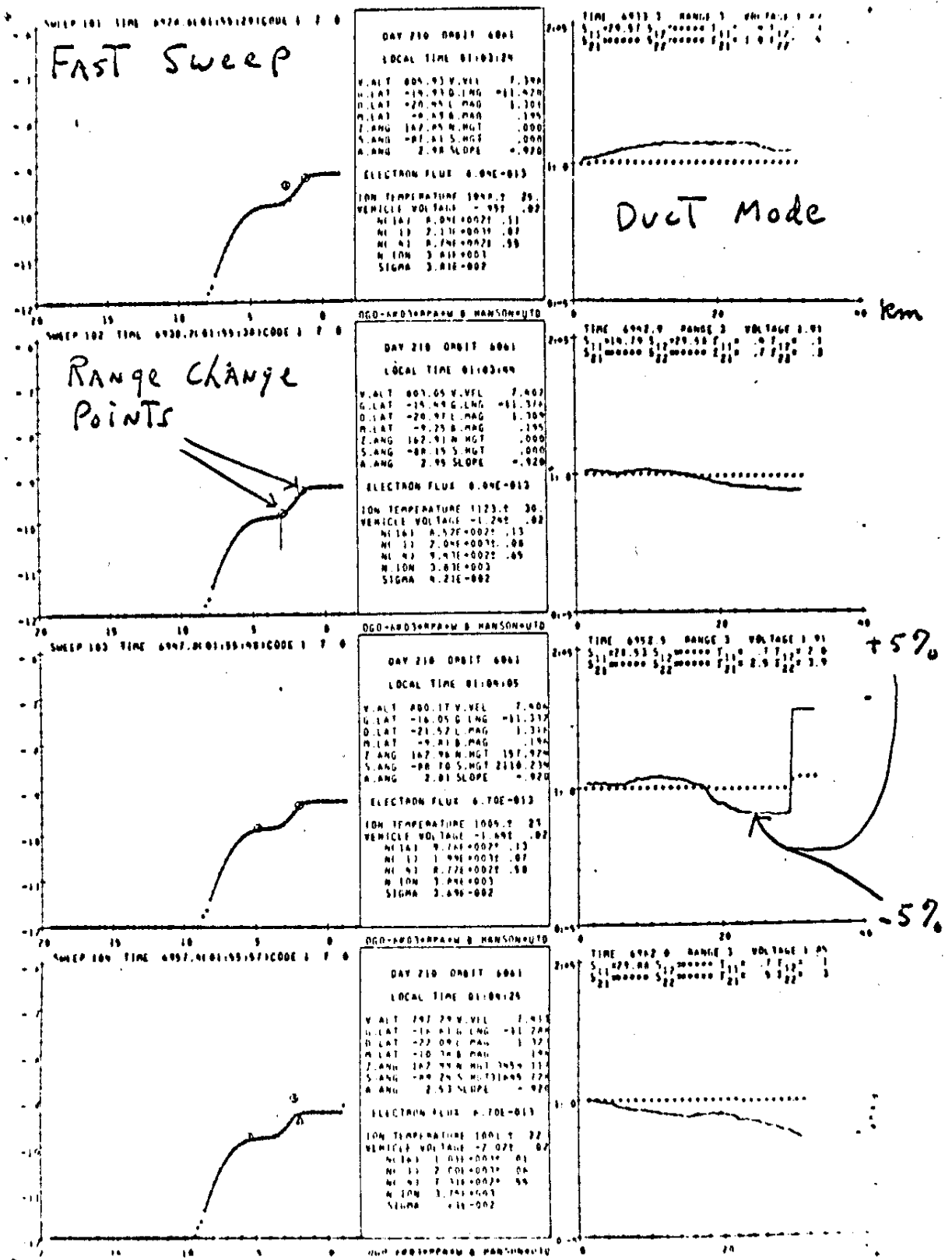
The numbers (S's and  $\Sigma$ 's) written at the top of the duct frames are derived values of irregularity scale size (S) and amplitude ( $\Sigma$ ). The scale size S is derived from an algorithm which detects and counts peaks whose amplitude exceeds a certain threshold value above the previous minimum. The S values are given in units of km/peak. The parameters  $S_{11}$  and  $S_{12}$  are

derived from the amplifier output (continuous line) and refer to peaks  $>.3\%$  and  $1.0\%$ , respectively. The parameters  $S_{21}$  and  $S_{22}$  are derived from the electrometer output and refer to peaks  $>3\%$  and  $10\%$ , respectively. In practice, the  $S$  values have not been very meaningful, or useful.

The  $\Sigma$  values are given in dimensionless units corresponding to the RMS value of  $\Delta N_1/N_1(\%)$ . The parameters  $\Sigma_{11}$  and  $\Sigma_{12}$  are derived from the amplifier output, and refer to RMS percentage deviations from a horizontal straight line and a straight line joining the first and last points (before saturation), respectively. The parameters  $\Sigma_{21}$  and  $\Sigma_{22}$  are derived from the electrometer output (dots), and as before, refer to the RMS percentage deviations from a horizontal straight line and a straight line joining the first and last points, respectively. These  $\Sigma$  values are very useful in characterizing the relative smoothness (or roughness) of the ionosphere and they constitute the principal parameters of the Sigma plots.

At the top of each duct frame are given the electrometer sensitivity range for the maximum ion current in the previous ion sweep, together with the saturation electrometer voltage on that range at the start of the duct period. These quantities specify the ion current to which the duct electrometer plots have been normalized.

# OGO PLOT





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