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Ionospheric response during the geomagnetic storm events on 24-27 July 2004: Long-duration positive storm effect

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Ionospheric storms represent large global disturbances in the ionospheric F2 region electron density in response to geomagnetic storms. The mechanisms for generation of negative storms are well understood and accepted. In contrast, positive storms show different characteristics and have not been fully understood. In this study, we investigate the ionospheric response during the geomagnetic storm events on 24-27 July 2004 using a multi-instrument approach. The period was characterised by strong geomagnetic activity that produced a positive ionospheric total electron content (TEC) effect over a four day period, but the most significant enhancements (with respect to the quiet day reference) were observed on 25 and 27 July and are presented here. It is noted that the enhancement on 25 July (40 TECU) was about twice as high as that observed on 27 July lasted over 9 hours and that on 27 July lasted about 7 hours, thus can both be classified as long-duration positive storm effects. Also, IMF Bz had a southward orientation for more than 15 hours on 25 July and could have been the mean by which energy was continuous fed into the magnetosphere. The DMSP F15 satellite which flew over the region of positive storm also observed the enhancement. In addition, the F-region critical frequency (foF2) values observed at two ionosonde stations showed marked positive responses and were associated with increase in ionospheric height.

Level (Hons, MSc,
 PhD, other)?

PhD

Consider for a student
 award (Yes / No)?

yes

Would you like to
 submit a short paper
 for the Conference
 Proceedings (Yes / No)?

yes

Primary author: Mr NGWIRA, Chigomezyo (Rhodes University/SANSA Space Science)

Co-authors: Dr MCKINNELL, Lee-Anne (SANSA Space Sceince); Dr CILLIERS, Pierre (SANSA Space Sceince)

Presenter: Mr NGWIRA, Chigomezyo (Rhodes University/SANSA Space Science)

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