AMISR experiment design

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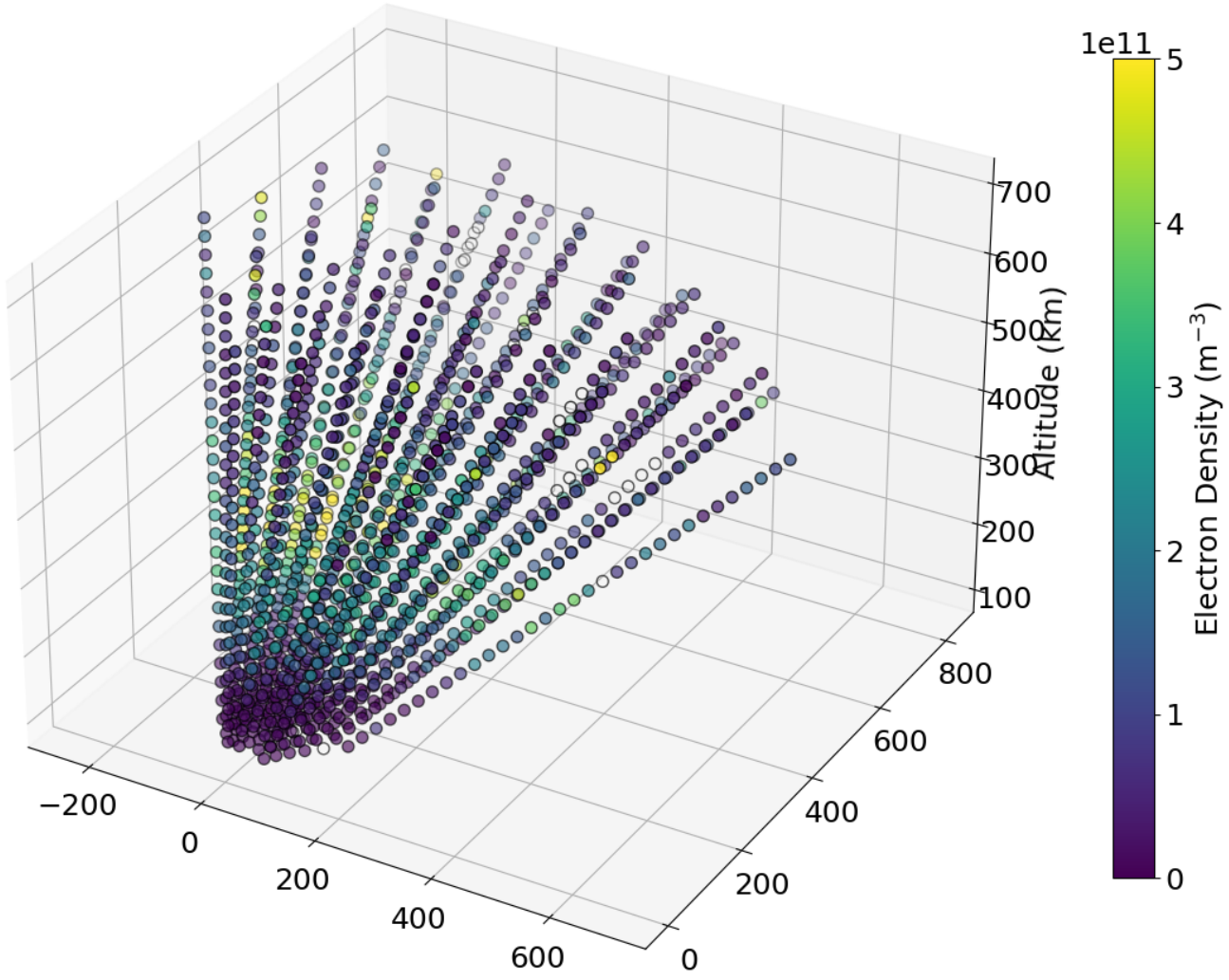
AMISR can volumetrically image the ionosphere



Key things to keep in mind

- What region are you interested in?
- What is the time resolution you need?
- What is the spatial extent and resolution?
- Do you want to look in a specific direction?

Types of pulses

Long Pulse (LP):

- a long transmit pulse that is correlated against itself to resolve range
- low range resolution, high sensitivity

Alternating Code (AC):

- phase modulated pulses designed to avoid range ambiguity,
- high range resolution, medium sensitivity

Barker Code (BC):

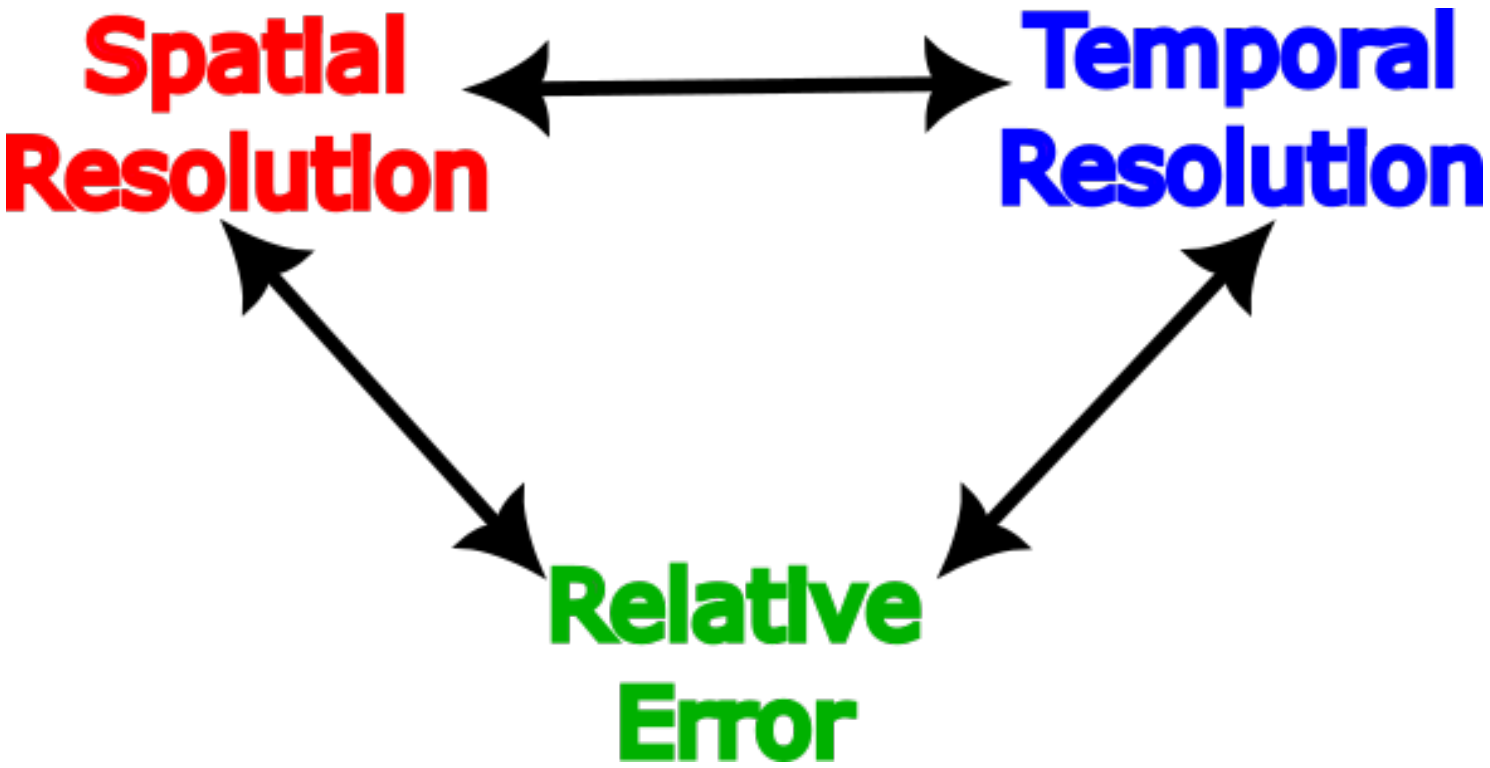
- similar to AC but applicable in D-region due to –
- highest range resolution, high sensitivity

Modes can be interleaved

Regions and pulse types

- F-region only
  - Long pulse (range resolution ~5km)
- E- and F-regions
  - Alternating code (range resolution ~1.5-6km)
  - Long pulse
- D-region focus, sporadic E, E- and F-region context
  - Barker code (range resolution ~700m)
  - Alternating code
  - Long pulse

Trade space for mode design



Trade space for mode design

Temporal resolution == integration period

- Long integration period means lower temporal resolution, less noisy data and less error
- Short integration period means higher temporal resolution, relatively higher errors

Spatial resolution == Beam positions

- More beam positions give higher spatial resolution, each beam is revisited less frequently, meaning longer integration time
- Fewer beam positions give better statistics but lower spatial resolution
- Option to revisit a single beam more often during the cycle

Signal-to-Noise ratio

- Time of the day is important when denser plasma may give higher SNR, allowing for lower integration times, better statistics

Mode menu

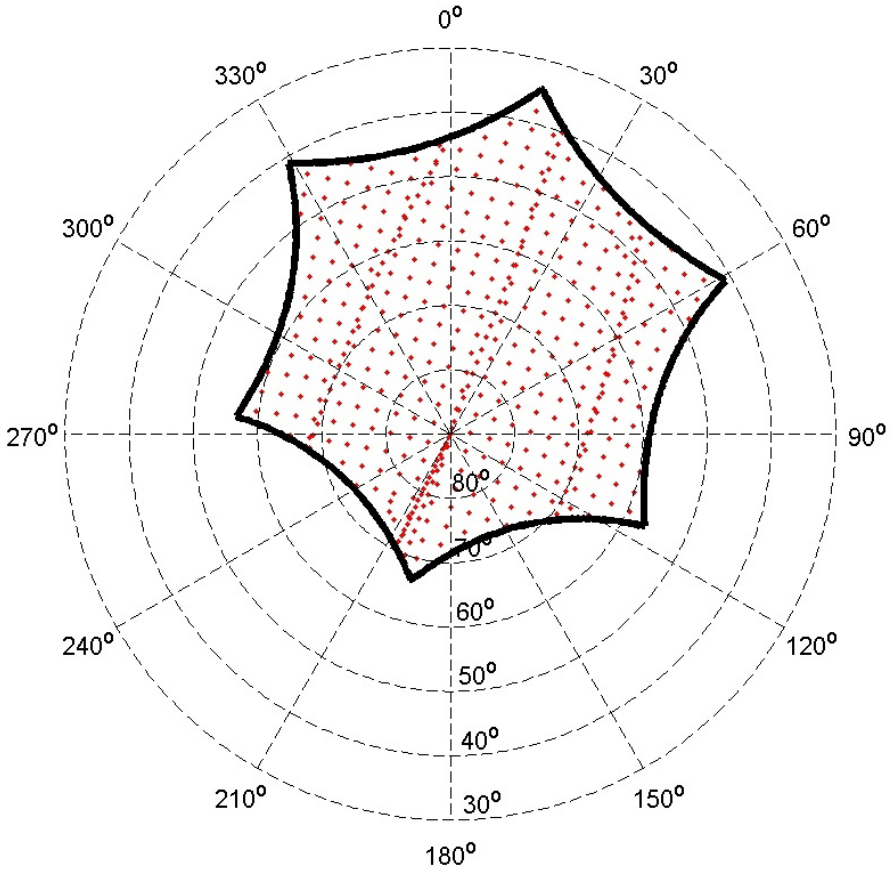
1. Tri-Frequency Long Pulse
    - 330 us long pulse with multiple frequencies to improve statistics
    - Good mode for F-region studies needing high time resolution
2. World Day 35
    - 330 us long pulse + alternating code
    - Good mode for studies spanning E- and F-regions

2a. World Day 35 with a privileged beam

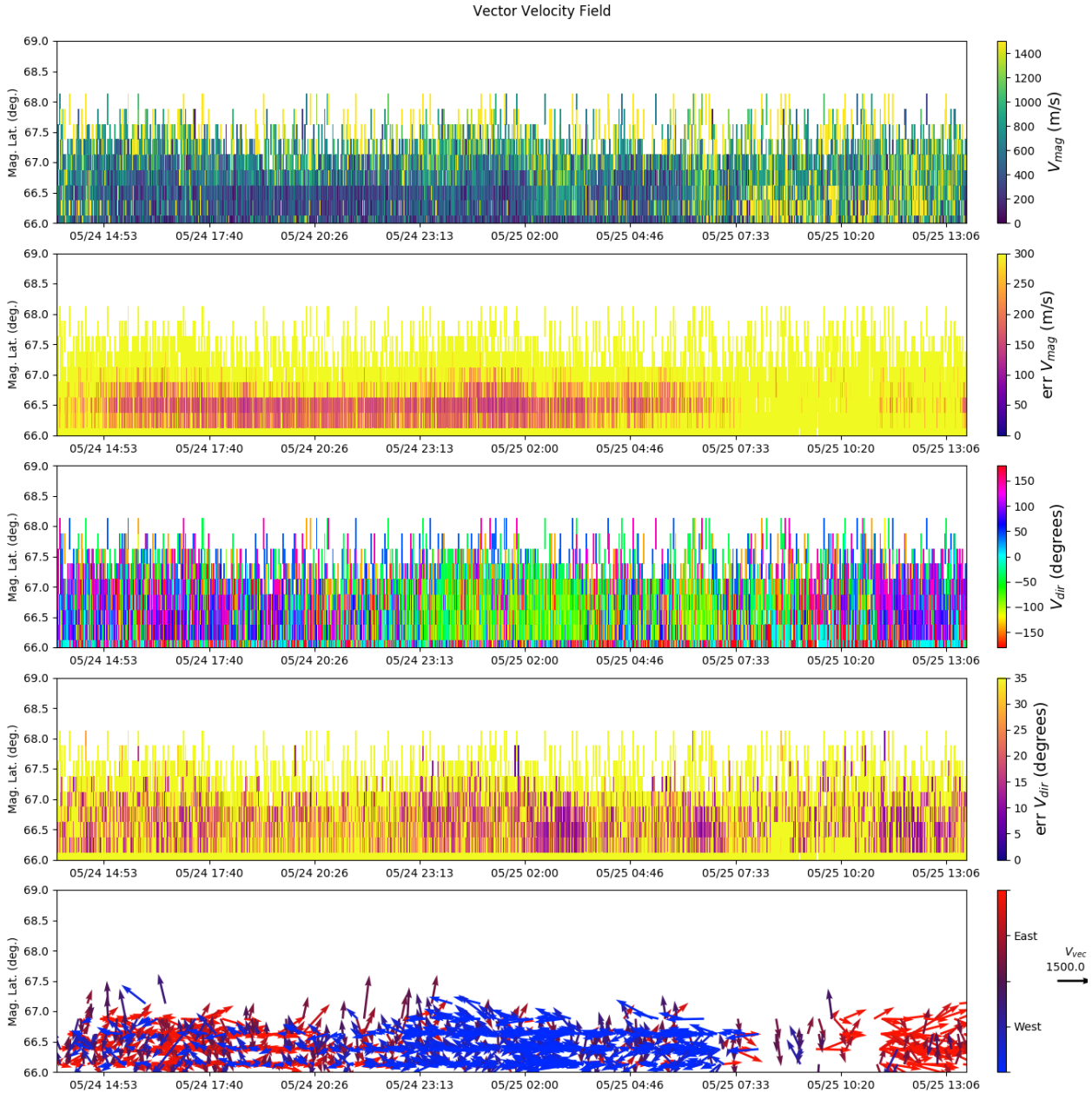
- Same as 2, but revisits a single beam multiple times in a cycle

3. MSWinds26
    - 330 us long pulse + alternating code + barker code
    - Good mode for studies needing D-region measurements with E- and F-regions for context

Beam positions and vector velocities



https://amisr.com/amisr/media/pfisr/bcotable.txt



You can get resolved vector velocities from any experiment with 3 or more beam positions