Space Environment

## **Space Environment**



**Aurora** 



Βόρειο Σέλας excited oxygen glows green (55 nitrogren atom glows blue ionized nitrogen molecules glow crim



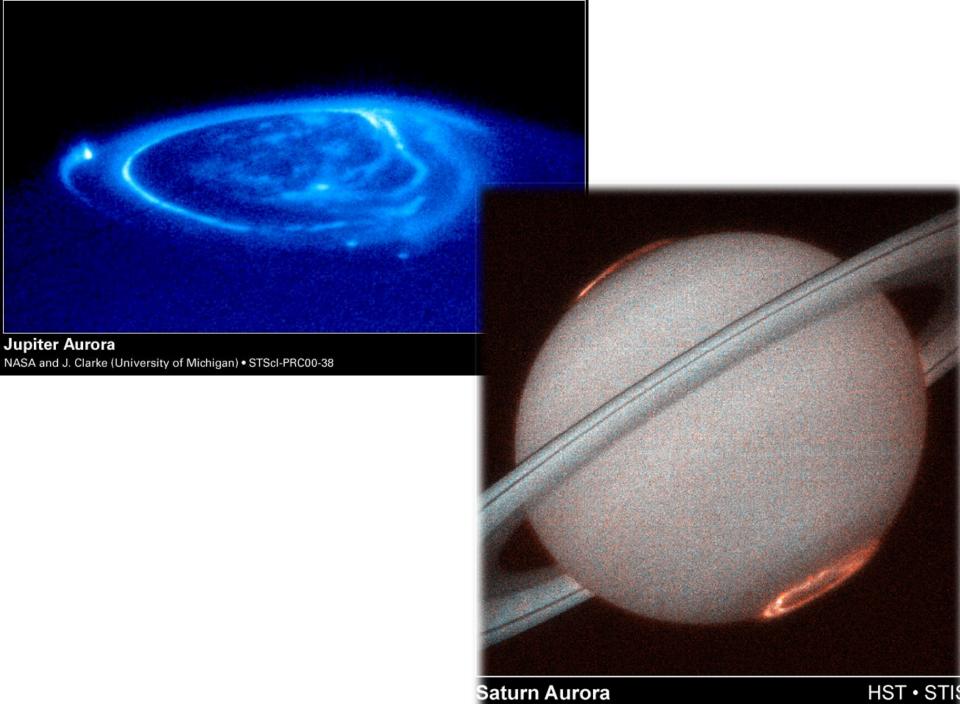




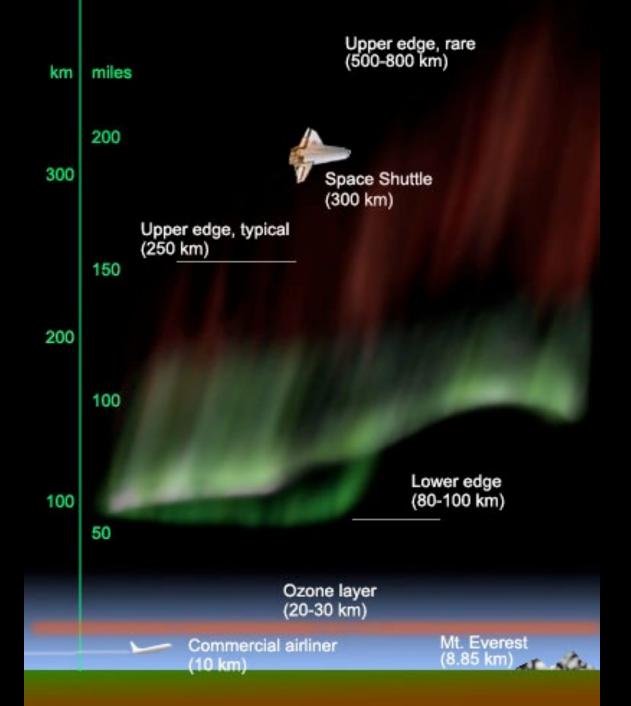
## όταν χορεύουν οι ουρανοί

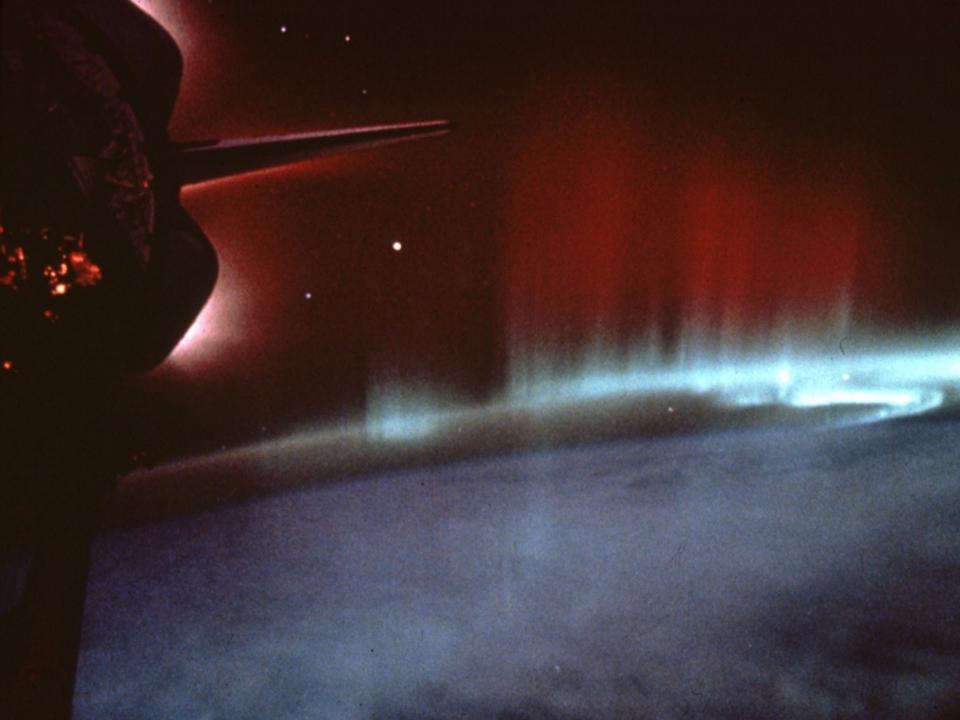


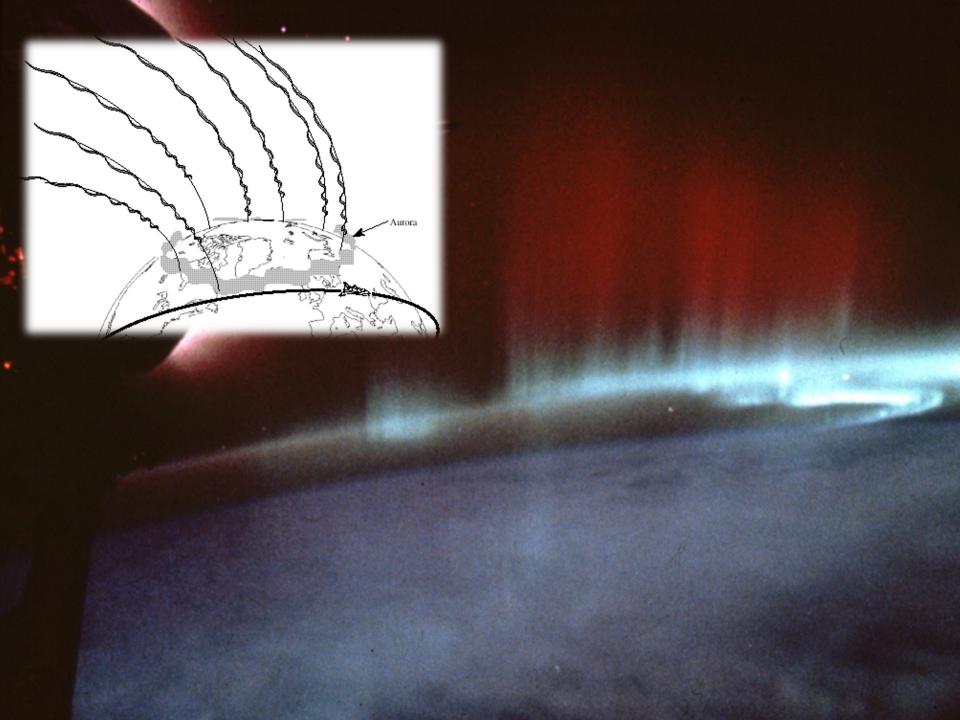




Saturn Aurora HST • STIS PRC98-05 • ST ScI OPO • January 7, 1998 • J. Trauger (JPL) and NASA



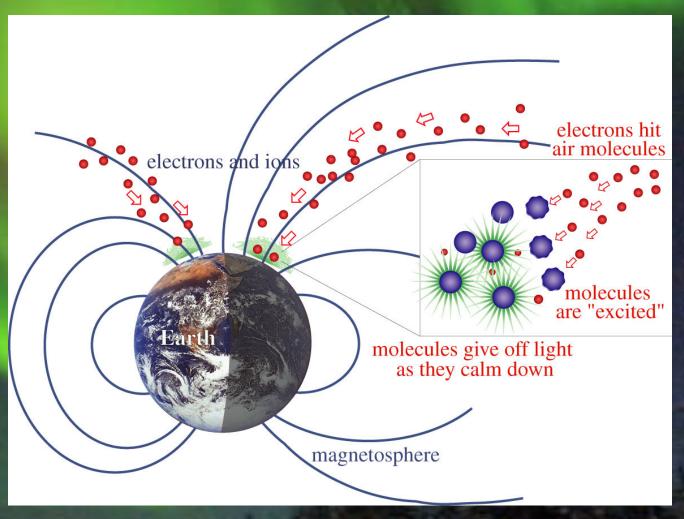






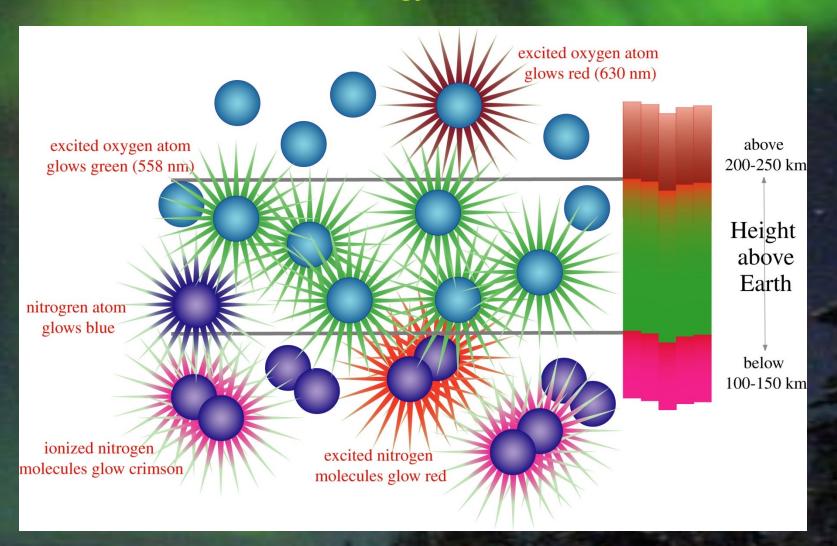
## Πώς δημιουργείται το σέλας;

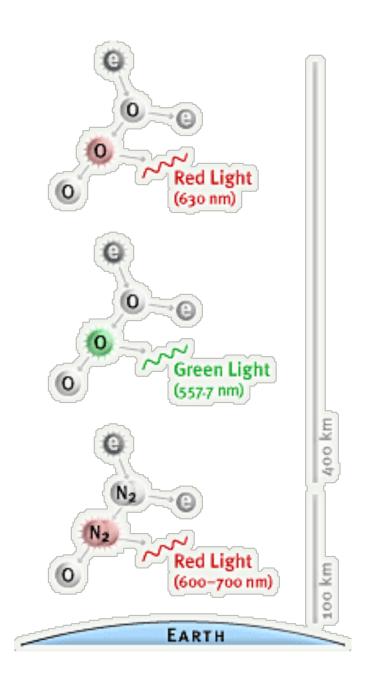
Hot magnetospheric electrons ionize and excite atoms and molecules of the atmosphere, which give off light when they calm down

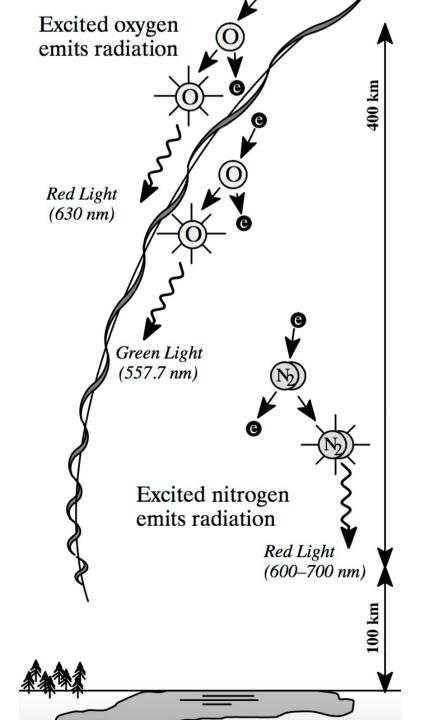


#### What Causes the Aurora?

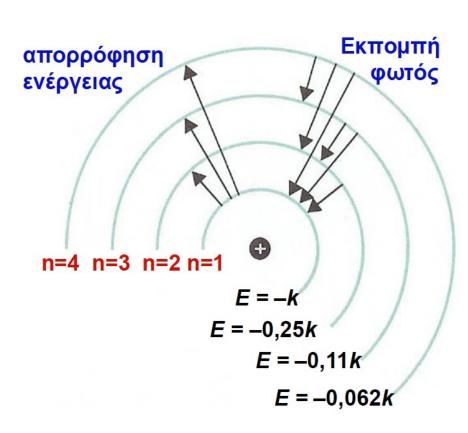
The color of the light depends on what type of particle is hit and to what energy level it is excited







#### Το ατομικό πρότυπο του Bohr



Απορρόφηση ενέργειας και εκπομπή φωτός από το άτομο Η.

Στην τροχιά με  $n = 1 \Rightarrow$  θεμελιώδης κατάσταση, ελάχιστη ενέργεια.

 $α_o$  = 53 pm (ακτίνα του Bohr)

Επιτρεπόμενες τροχιές (ή ενεργειακά επίπεδα): ακτίνα τροχιάς:  $r_n = n^2 a_o$ 

### Μύθος και ιστορία

Κίνα Ασσυφία Παλαιστίνη Ελλάδα (Ινουίτ Αμεφικής, Σάμι Σκανδιναβίας)

#### Ησίοδος (Θεογονία, 8ος αι. πΧ): φλεγόμενοι ουρανοί



Ησίοδος (Θεογονία, 8°ς αι. πΧ): φλεγόμενοι ουρανοί Ιεζεκιήλ (6°ς αι. πΧ): φλεγόμενος τροχός (σέλας, κομήτης, ή UFO;)





Erfchectliche Bunderweret, fo abermal den s. Octoberitm 1501. Jar im der Nacht in Nitriburg ift gefeben worden.



# Γιατί αναφερόμαστε (σχεδόν) πάντα στο ΒΟΡΕΙΟ σέλας;



#### L-shell contours

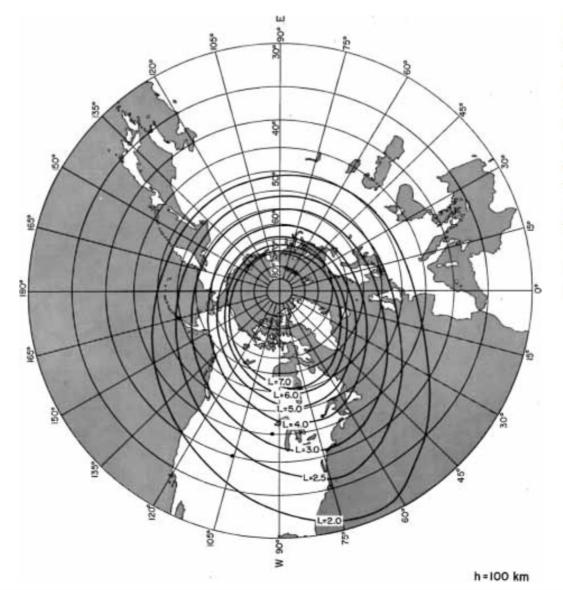
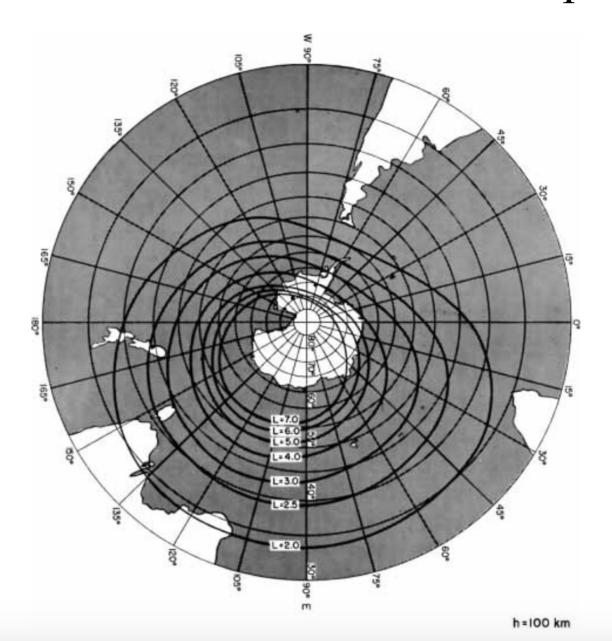
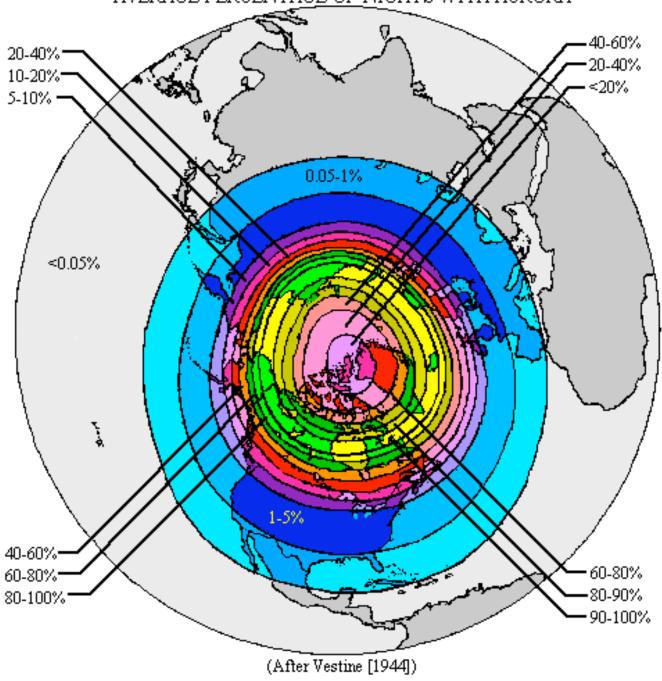


Figure 1.10. *L*-shell contours, computed for 100-km altitude, in the Northern (top) and Southern (bottom)
Hemisphere regions.
Geographic east and west radial longitude lines and circles of latitude (from 30° to the pole) are shown. These *L*-values were computed for the extremely quiet year, 1965, when there was a minimum distortion of the polar contours by solar wind.

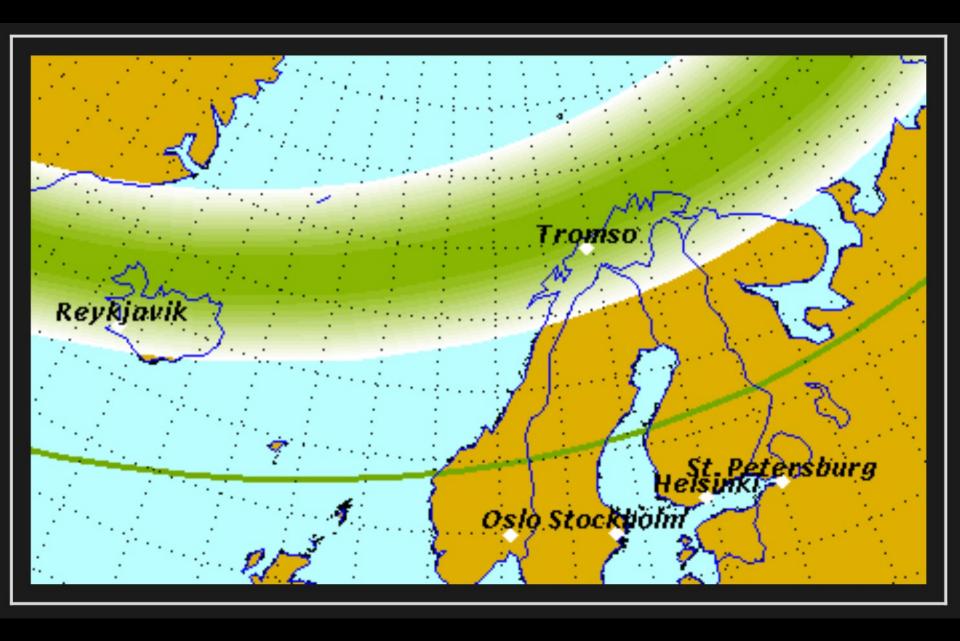
## L-shell contours southern hemisphere

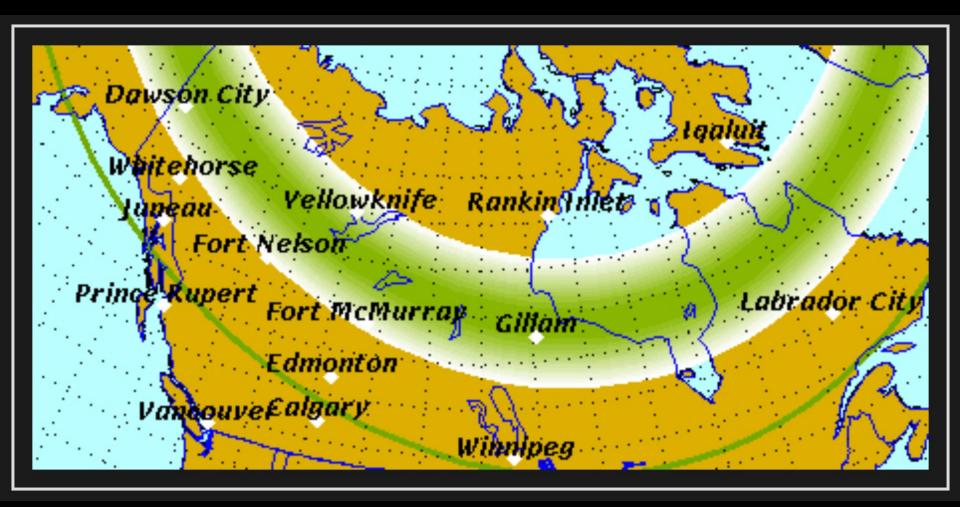


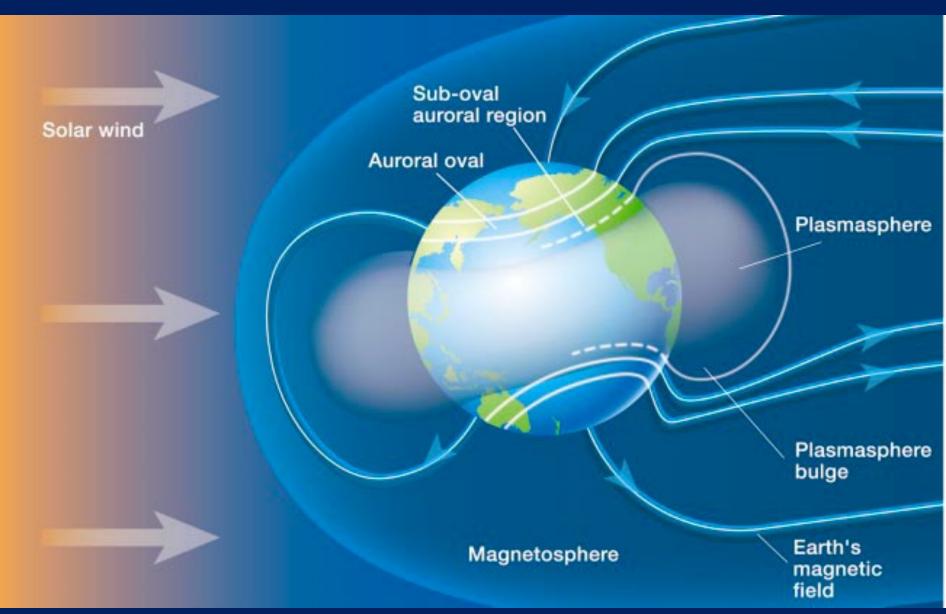
#### AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF NIGHTS WITH AURORA

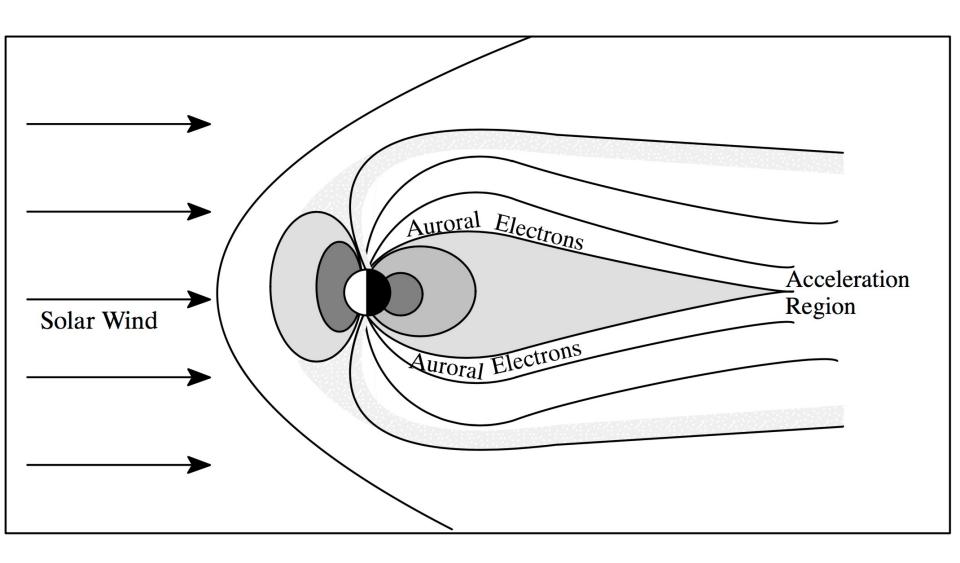


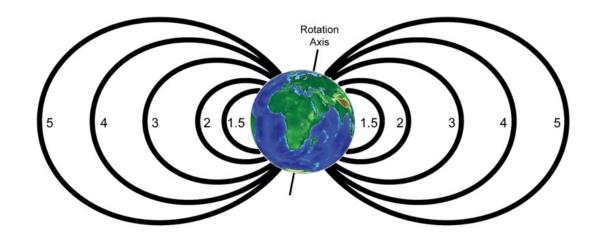
## **SWPC**







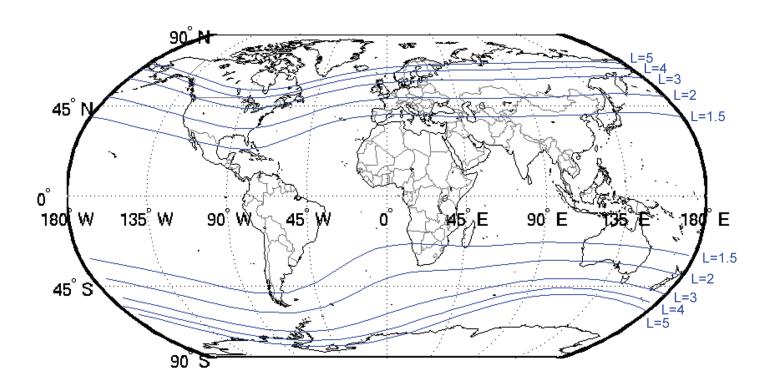




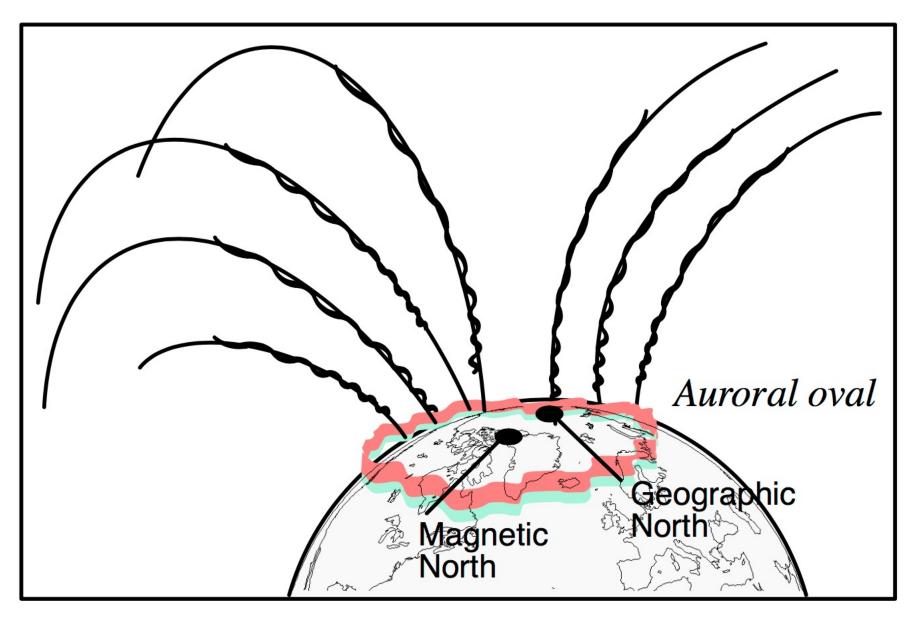
$$r = L \cos^2 \lambda$$

Από πού έρχονται τα ηλεκτρόνια του σέλαος;

## Προβολή φλοιών L



Σέλας: Σκανδιναβία, Αλάσκα



### Comparison of Auroral Boundaries from Kp and Auroral Activity Level at Local Midnight

Magnetic Latitude	Кр	Magnetic Latitude	NOAA POES Auroral Activity Level
66.5	0	67.5	1
64.5	1	66.5	2
62.4	2	65.6	3
60.4	3	63.9	4
58.3	4	62.5	5
56.3	5	60.7	6
54.2	6	58.6	7
52.2	7	56.7	8
50.1	8	54.6	9
48.1	9	51.0	10
		48.5	10+
		45.0	10++

# Aurora in Greece

Rare, but impressive (blood-red)



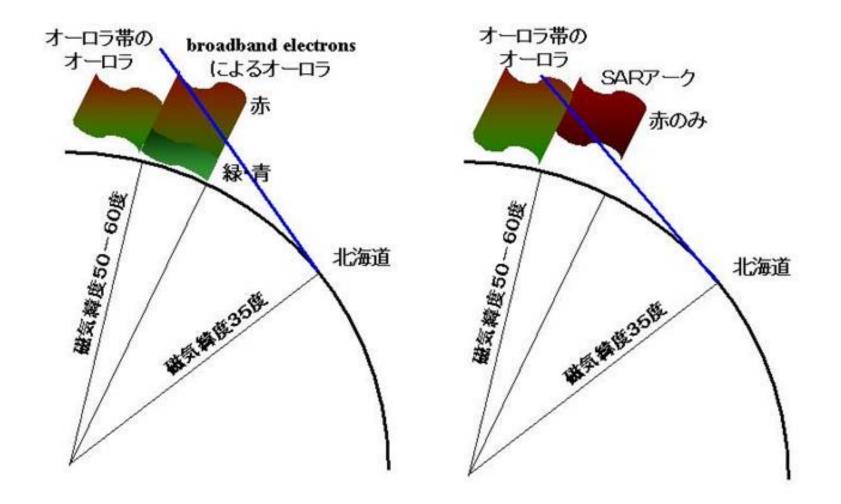
















If an oxygen atom is excited to the energy level corresponding to green...

... and it has no collisions...

... then it will emit light after 1 second.

If an oxygen atom is excited to the energy level corresponding to red...

... and it has no collisions...

... then it will emit light after 110 seconds.

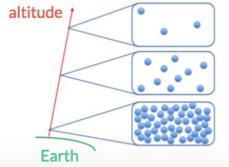




110 seconds

It may seem short to you, but 110 seconds is a long time for an excited oxygen atom to avoid collisions!

Because it takes so long, red light is only emitted in the higher regions of the atmosphere (above 200 km) where atoms and molecules rarely collide.



The 630 nm emission, the "red line", is sometimes seen in the upper border of auroral arcs. It is emitted by atomic oxygen in its transition from the lowest excited electronic state  $O(^{1}D)$  to the atomic ground state  $O(^{3}P_{2})$ . The **metastable O(^{1}D) state** has a radiative lifetime of 107 s. The main sources of  $O(^{1}D)$  are direct electron impact excitation of atomic oxygen:

$$O(^{3}P_{2}) + e \rightarrow e + O(^{1}D)$$

Metastable state: a particular excited state of an atom or nucleus that has a longer lifetime than the ordinary excited states and that generally has a shorter lifetime than the lowest, often stable, energy state, called the ground state. A metastable state may thus be considered a kind of temporary energy trap or a somewhat stable intermediate stage of a system the energy of which may be lost in discrete amounts. In quantum mechanical terms, transitions from metastable states are "forbidden" and are much less probable than the "allowed" transitions from other excited states. Metastable atoms often lose their stored energy by collision with other atoms before they can radiate it, but in the rarefied upper atmosphere of Earth, in which atoms travel a longer time before collision, radiation from metastable oxygen atoms accounts for the aurora.

Due to the 107s radiative lifetime of  $O(^{1}D)$ , the emission of the 630nm line competes with collisional de-excitation, quenching, as a cause of energy loss of  $O(^{1}D)$ , where the excitation energy is lost as kinetic, vibrational or rotational energy of the colliding particles without emission of photons.

http://www2.irf.se/~bjorn/thesis/node5.html

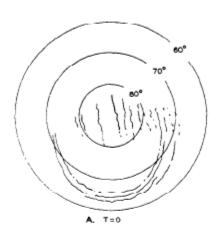
### THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AURORAL SUBSTORM

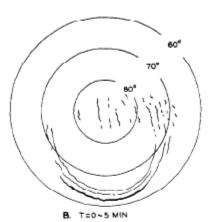
#### S.-I. AKASOFU

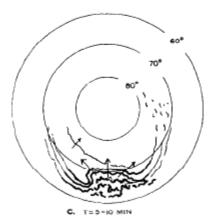
Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska, College, Alaska

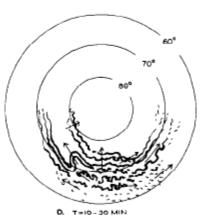
(Received 13 January 1964)

Abstract—A working model of simultaneous auroral activity over the entire polar region is presented in terms of the auroral substorm. The substorm has two characteristic phases, an expansive phase and a recovery phase. Each phase is divided into three stages, and characteristic auroral displays over the entire polar region during each stage are described in detail. Further, all the major features seen at a single station are combined into a consistent picture of large-scale auroral activity.

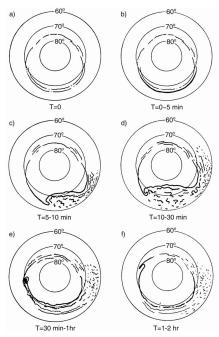




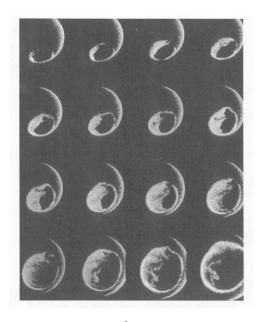




### Φάσεις της μαγνητοσφαιρικής υποκαταιγίδας



Model based on ground observations



Pictures from space

- Growth phase energy stored
- Onset energy begins to be released
- Expansion activity spreads

## Εξέλιξη μαγνητοσφαιρικής υποκαταιγίδας

