Recent scientific findings based on high-resolution core plasma imaging of the ionosphere with Swarm and ePOP



David Knudsen 6 May 2020 EGU Online





# **Ionospheric Electron heating to > 10<sup>6</sup> K**



UNIVERSITY OF

EPOP SEI: First direct observation of electron heating perpendicular to B to 100's eV (> 10<sup>6</sup> K)

Outer radius: 325 eV e-



- Shen and Knudsen,
- Suprathermal electron
- acceleration
- perpendicular to the
- magnetic field in the topside ionosphere, JGR, published, Feb 2020



## **Electron acceleration in the IAR**



# Swarm survey of Alfvenic Fluctuations



Wu et al., Swarm survey of Alfvenic fluctuations and their relation to nightside field-aligned current and auroral arcs systems, JGR, Feb 2020

https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JA027220



➔ No single source region evident; no consistent relation with auroral arcs



Olifer, L., C. Feltman, R. Ghaffari, S. Henderson, D. Huyghebaert, J. Burchill, A. Jaynes, D. Knudsen, K. McWilliams, J. Moen, A. Spicher, J. Wu, Swarm Observations of Dawn-Dusk Asymmetries Between Pedersen Conductance in Upward and Downward Field-Aligned Current Regions, submitted to Earth and Space Science, March 2020





Canada-Norway-US PhD school, Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada June/July 2019.



### Earth and Space Science March 2019

#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

10.1029/2018EA000546

#### Validity Study of the Swarm Horizontal Cross-Track Ion Drift Velocities in the High-Latitude Ionosphere

#### Key Points:



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# Data availability and acknowledgements

### Cross-track flow velocity data

New release (Feb 2020):

• Dec 2013 – Dec 2019

→ See esa.int/Swarm

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