

Iterative Method of Evaluating  
Local Electron Density in  
Asymmetrical Plasma Distributions

N. Gottardi<sup>+</sup>

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Abstract

Obtaining electron density profiles from integrated measurements (e.g. those made with a multi-channel interferometer), in the case of asymmetrical plasma distributions often entails serious difficulties. This report describes a method of obtaining good results when the profiles have only one maximum, possibly shifted along the equatorial plane. It is then extended to more complicated density profiles.

## Table of Contents

	Page
I. Introduction	1
II. General remarks on electron density measurements by interferometry	1
III. Basic assumptions	3
IV. Establishment of the method	7
V. Testing with assigned density distributions with only one maximum	16
VI. Testing with assigned density distribution with several maxima	
VI.a Two-hill model	21
VI.b Crater model	25
VII. Practical application	28
VIII. Concluding remarks	32
References	33
APPENDIX I	34
APPENDIX II	36



## I. Introduction

In the following, we shall consider the problems of deriving the electron density profile of a plasma column from a set of integrated measurements (e.g. those obtained with a multi-channel interferometer).

We shall assume that the set of experimental data is interpolated, e.g. by a spline fit, to give a curve; in the case of microwave interferometry, as in Fig.2, the curve would be the phase shift of the waves  $\Delta\varphi$  as a function of  $x$ .

In order to determine the mathematical problem, some assumptions about the form of the isodensity level lines (hereafter simply called "contour lines") or equivalent assumptions are needed.

The resulting integral equation for the unknown density profile is generally analytically unsolvable; a solution is in fact only possible when the contour lines are concentric circles. After general information about the problem and the presentation of the required hypotheses (Sects. II and III), a simple computer iteration method is described (Sect. IV) and then tested in various situations (Sect. V, VI and VII). The report finishes with a short criticism of the method (Sect. VIII).

## II. General remarks on electron density measurements by interferometry

The use of interferometry to measure the electron density is a well-known plasma diagnostics method /1/, /2/. In Fig.1 only an application scheme is shown. Here it should be remembered that:

- a) an interferometer gives the total phase shift of a wave travelling through a plasma, with respect to the phase

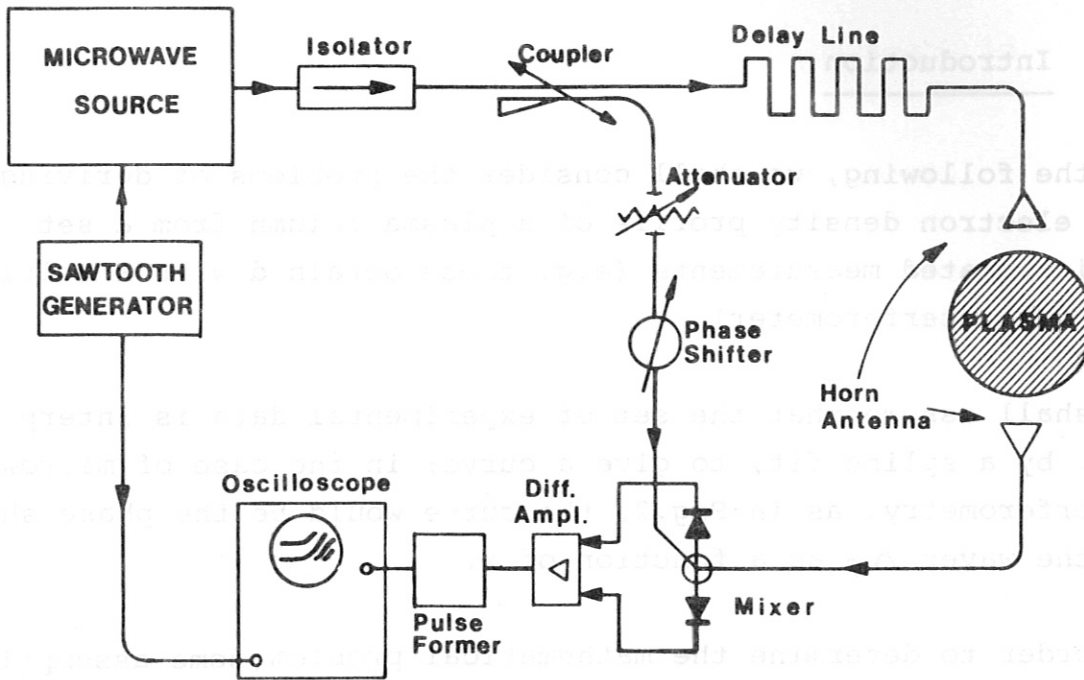


Fig.1: Application scheme of microwave interferometer.

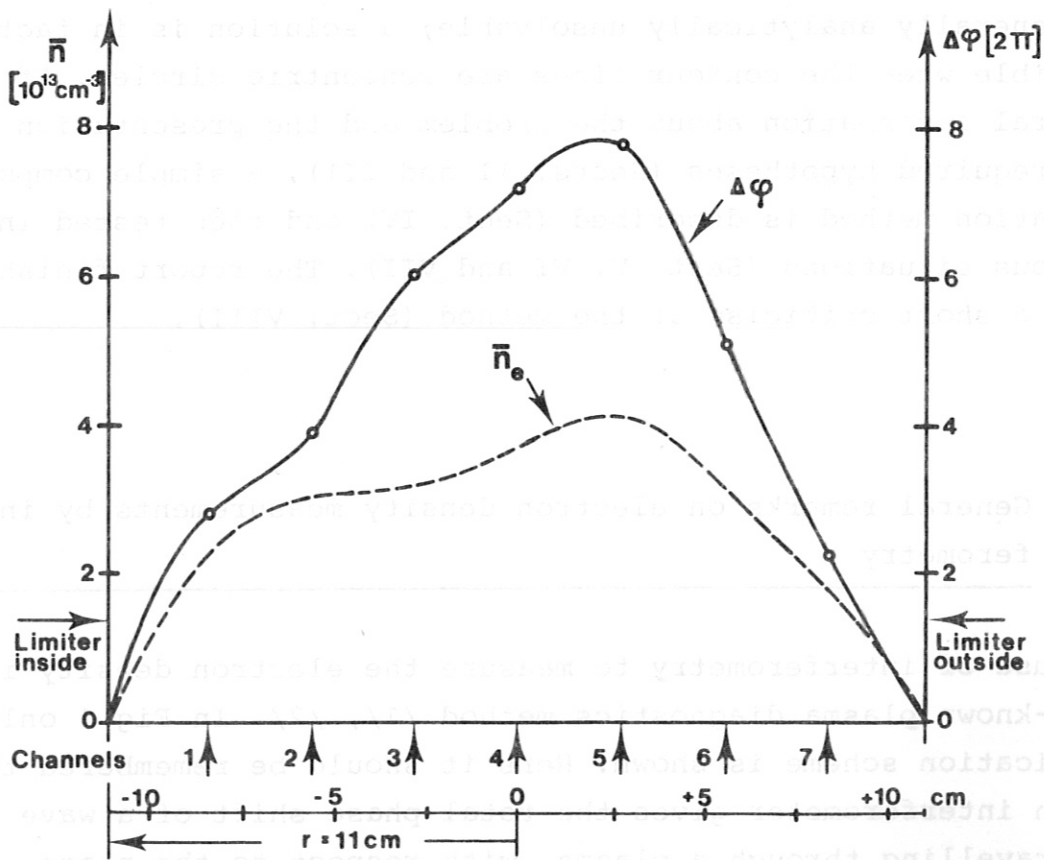


Fig.2: Phase shift and relative mean density of discharge N.10.585 of the Pulsator tokamak 50 ms after the neutral gas puffing.



- of a wave that travels along an unperturbed path;
- b) except for special cases, only information on the mean density is obtained;
  - c) in order to obtain some more detail, multi-channel interferometers are used.

In Fig.2, a typical multi-channel interferometer output /3/ is represented. This is the total phase shift and the mean density profile in a Pulsator tokamak discharge.

### III. Basic assumptions

If we use an electromagnetic wave of wavelength  $\lambda$  to scan a plasma in the hypothesis that the dielectric properties of the plasma do not appreciably change over a length  $\lambda$ , the total phase shift  $\Delta\varphi_s$  that the wave undergoes on passing through the plasma along a path S is given in the adiabatic approximation /1/, /4/ by

$$\Delta\varphi_s = (2\pi/\lambda) \cdot \int_s \left\{ 1 - \left[ 1 - \frac{n(s)}{n_c} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\} ds, \quad (\text{III.1})$$

where  $n(s)$  is the local electron density and  $n_c$  is the critical density for the wave:

$$n_c = \epsilon_0 m \omega^2 / e^2.$$

Here  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of the free space;  $m$  and  $e$  are the mass and the charge of the electron respectively, and  $\omega = 2\pi c/\lambda$  is the angular frequency of the wave.

Equation (III.1) can be considered as an integral equation for the unknown density profile. One usually takes for the measurements wave whose frequency, while allowing good sensitivity at low densities, is such that the associated critical density  $n_c$  is sufficiently greater than the plasma density  $n(s)$ . Under this assumption, we can expand the root in Eqn.(III.1), thus obtaining

$$\Delta\varphi_s \approx \frac{\omega}{2cn_c} \int_s n(s) ds . \quad (\text{III.2})$$

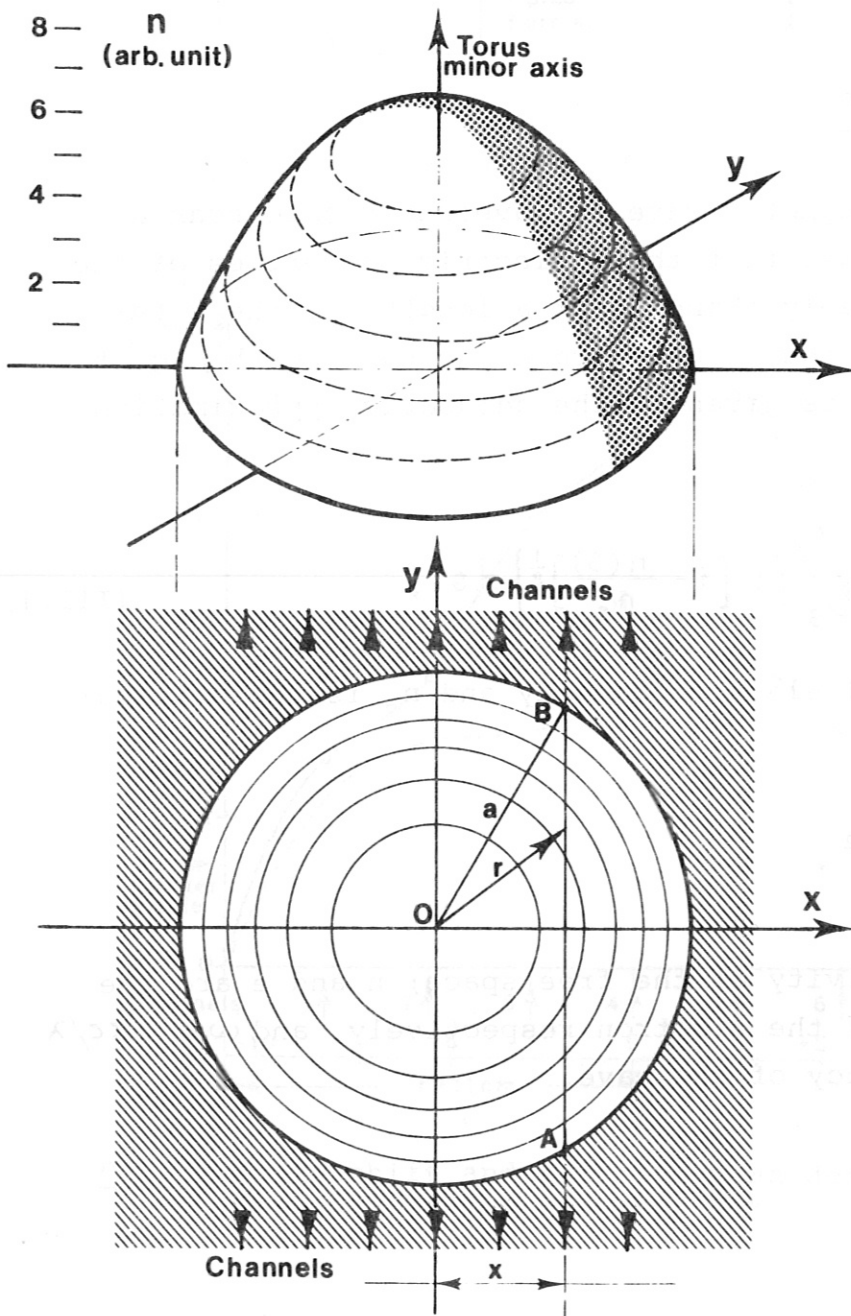


Fig.3: Three-dimensional representation and contour lines of a plasma with cylindrical symmetry.



If the plasma has cylindrical symmetry as in Fig.3, Eqn.(III.2) can be rewritten as

$$\Delta\varphi(x) \cong \frac{\omega}{cn_c} \int_x^a \frac{n(r)r}{\sqrt{r^2-x^2}} dr . \quad (\text{III.3})$$

This is an Abel integral equation; it can be solved /5/ to yield

$$n(r) = - \frac{2cn_c}{\pi\omega} \int_r^a \frac{\Delta\varphi'(x)}{\sqrt{x^2-r^2}} dx .$$

This is, of course, a rather special situation, in most cases the plasma column is asymmetrical and then the only information that we can obtain without further hypotheses is the mean value of the density. In fact, if we know the total path S of the wave inside the plasma, the mean density  $\bar{n}_S$  is

$$\bar{n}_S = (\int_S n(s) ds) / S ,$$

and from Eqn.(III.2) we obtain

$$\bar{n}_S = (2cn_c/\omega) \Delta\varphi_S/S . \quad (\text{III.4})$$

However, as the most interesting quantity is the density profile, in the event of asymmetrical plasma configurations one makes assumptions about the most probable spatial displacement, either introducing appropriate modifications to Eqn.(III.2) /5/ or suitably handling the mean density values obtained from Eqn.(III.4) /6/.

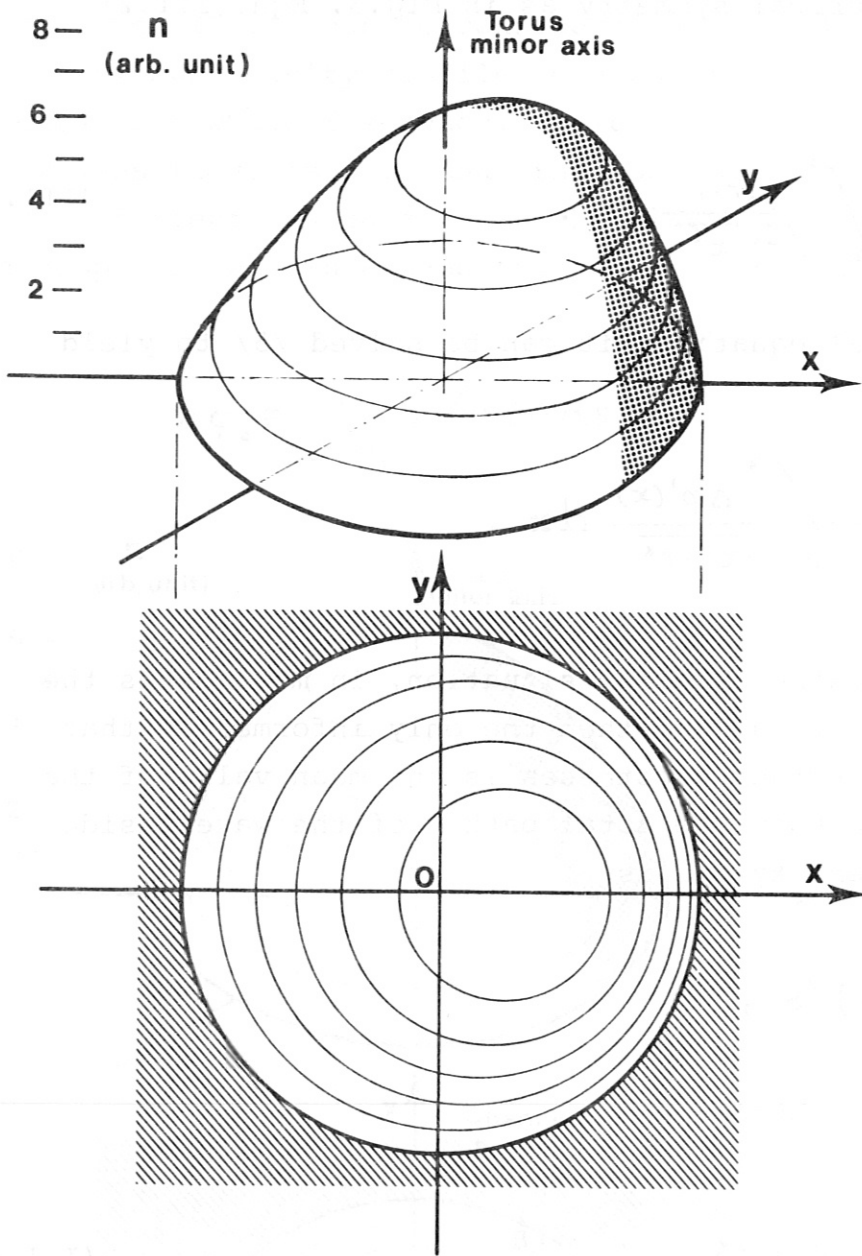


Fig.4: Three-dimensional representation and contour lines of a shifted plasma.

A frequently used hypothesis, justified by the shape of the confining magnetic field, is that the lines of equal electron density are circles, not necessarily with the same centre (see Fig.4). With a simple computer program the numerical iteration method described below allows one to get information sufficiently accurate in comparison with the intrinsic total error induced by the basic hypotheses.



The following assumptions are made:

- a) Adiabatic approximation;
- b) Plasma density much lower than the critical density:  $n \ll n_c$ ;
- c) The isodensity curves are symmetric with respect to the X-axis, as shown in Fig.4.

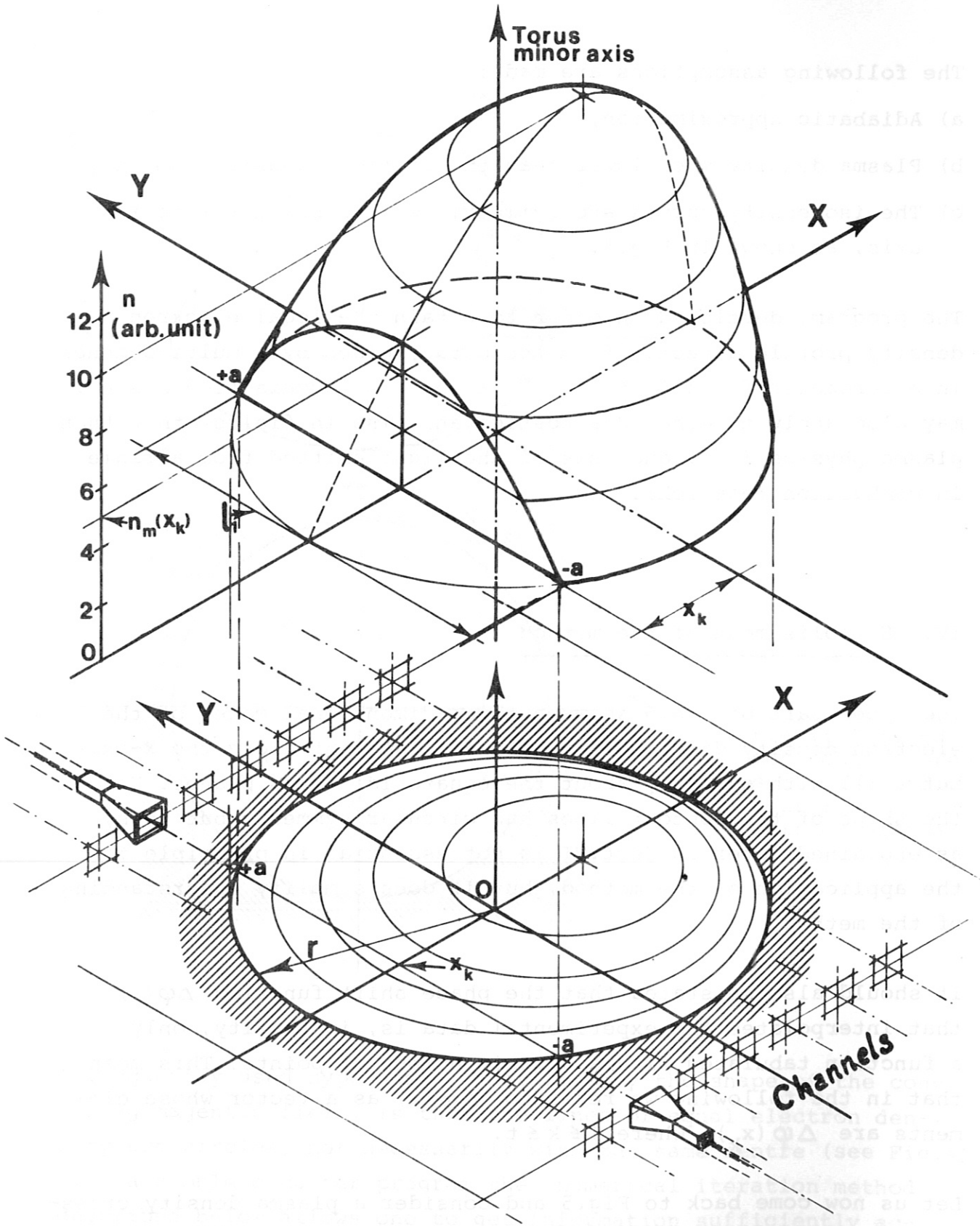
The program, developed in order to obtain the local electron density profile directly from the data yielded by a multi-channel interferometer for a fast plasma diagnostics acquisition system, may also apply to other diagnostics and also in fields other than plasma physics (e.g. analysis of the light emitted from a flame in combustion research).

#### IV. Establishment of the method

The upper part of Fig.5 shows a three-dimensional model of the electron density distribution with displacement along the X-axis but still with symmetry about the equatorial torus planes. Here the shape of the contour lines has circular symmetry but this, as explained later in Sect.VI is not essential in principle to the application of the method, but it does simplify understanding of the method.

It should also be stated that the phase shift function  $\Delta\varphi(x)$  that interpolates the experimental data is, in reality, only a function tabulated with a certain number of points. This means that in the following we refer to  $\Delta\varphi(x)$  as a vector whose elements are  $\Delta\varphi(x_k)$ , where  $1 \leq k \leq t$ .

Let us now come back to Fig.5 and consider a plasma density cross-section perpendicular to both the equatorial and interferometer planes and passing through an interferometric channel line with abscissa  $x_k$ . Let us apply Eqn.(III.2) to the path  $(-a, +a)$  in the y direction:



**Fig.5:** Cross section of a shifted density distribution (top) corresponding to an interferometric channel path (bottom).

$$\Delta\varphi(x_k) = (\omega/2cn_c) \cdot \int_{-a}^a n(y) dy . \quad (\text{IV.1})$$

The cross-sectional area, but for a constant, represents the total phase shift of the wave for that path.

Approximating this with a figure in steps as shown in Fig.6 and remembering that for the above hypotheses, the shape of the density function  $n(y)$ , although unknown, is symmetric, we can re-write Eqn.(IV.1) as

$$\Delta\varphi(x_k)/h \approx \Delta\Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k) \equiv 2 \sum_{i=1}^m n_i \Delta l_i , \quad (\text{IV.2})$$

where  $\Delta\Phi$  is the area of the approximating figure in steps and  $h \equiv \omega/2cn_c$ . We can also write (see Fig.6)

$$\Delta\Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k) = \sum_{i=1}^m l_i \Delta n_i \quad (\text{IV.3})$$

and, in addition,

$$n_i = \sum_{j=1}^i \Delta n_j . \quad (\text{IV.4})$$

In Eqn.(IV.3), the left-hand side is experimentally known; about the quantities on the right-hand side we observe that, since for definition the  $\Delta n_i$  are arbitrary, they are chosen very small to yield a good approximation, and all of the same height  $\Delta n$  except, possibly, the last upper  $\Delta n_m$ . Then Eqn.(IV.4), written at the point of maximum density, becomes

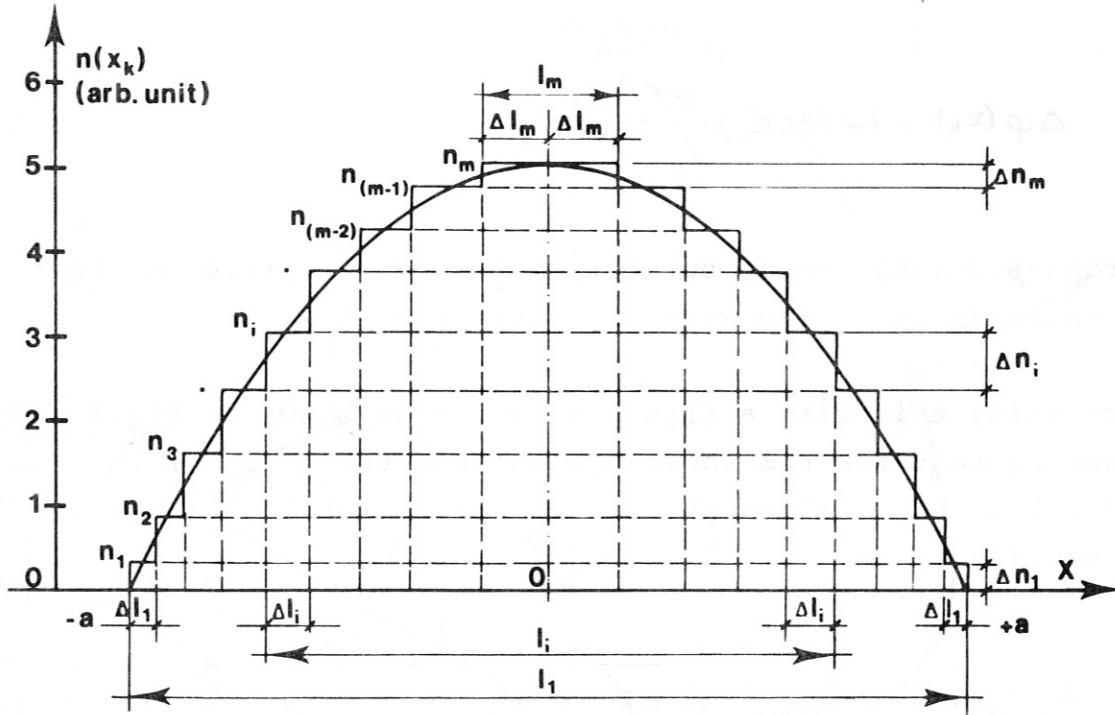


Fig.6: Step approximation of the cross-sectional area of Fig.5

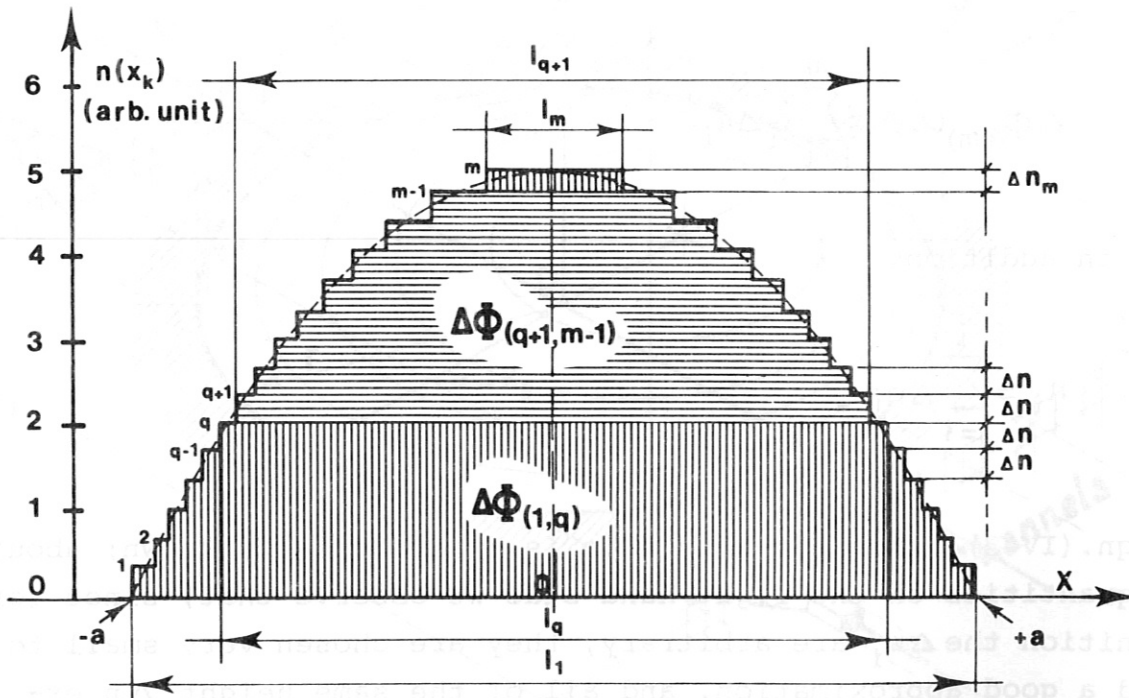


Fig.7: Approximation of the cross sectional area of Fig.5 with steps of equal height  $\Delta n$ .



$$n_m = \sum_{i=1}^m \Delta n_i = (m-1)\Delta n + \Delta n_m, \quad (\text{IV.5})$$

where  $\Delta n_m \leq \Delta n$ .

We define  $\Delta n$  as a very small fraction of the mean density:

$$\Delta n \equiv \varepsilon [\bar{n}(x_k)], \quad (\text{IV.6})$$

where  $\bar{n}$  is derived from Eqn. (III.4), and  $\bar{n} \leq n_m$ . For the following it will be useful to think of the area of the approximating figure in steps (see Fig.6) as if it were divided in three parts (see. Fig.7);

$$\Delta \Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k) = \Delta \Phi_{(1,q)}(x_k) + \Delta \Phi_{(q+1,m-1)}(x_k) + \ell_m \cdot \Delta n_m, \quad (\text{IV.7})$$

where

$$\Delta \Phi_{(1,q)}(x_k) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^q \ell_i \Delta n \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta \Phi_{(q+1,m-1)}(x_k) \equiv \sum_{i=q+1}^{m-1} \ell_i \Delta n;$$

particularly for  $q = 1$  Eqn. (IV.7) becomes

$$\Delta \Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k) = \Delta \Phi_{(1,1)}(x_k) + \Delta \Phi_{(2,m-1)}(x_k) + \ell_m \Delta n_m \quad (\text{IV.8})$$

From Fig.8, which represents the density distribution in Fig.5, approximated by a solid with step-like structure, we see that  $\ell_1$  is the total path of the wave into the plasma:

$$\ell_1 = 2a \quad (\text{IV.9})$$

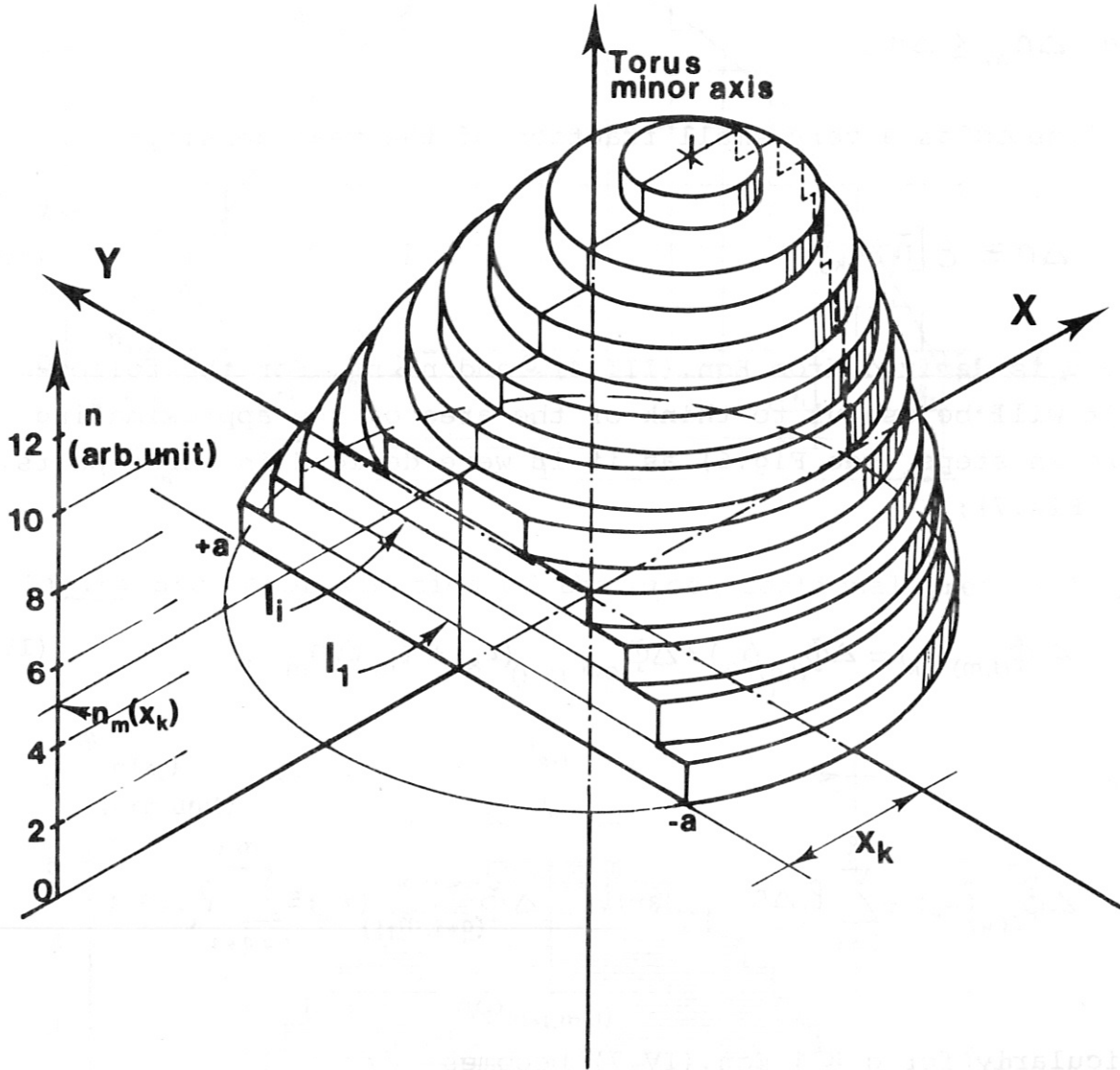


Fig.8: Schematic representation of the electron density distribution of Fig.5 approximated by a solid with step-like structure.

The elements of the cross-section corresponding to abscissa  $x_k$  have the same significance as in Figs.6 and 7.

The value of the first term on the right-hand side of Eqn.(IV.8) is easily determined from Eqns.(IV.9) and (IV.6):

$$\Delta \Phi_{(1,1)}(x_k) = \ell_1 \Delta n . \quad (\text{IV.10})$$

We thus write

$$\Delta \Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k) - \Delta \Phi_{(1,1)}(x_k) = \Delta \Phi_{(2,m-1)}(x_k) + \ell_m \Delta n_m \quad (\text{IV.11})$$

or

$$\Delta \Phi_{(2,m)}(x_k) = \Delta \Phi_{(2,2)}(x_k) + \Delta \Phi_{(3,m-1)}(x_k) + \ell_m \Delta n_m . \quad (\text{IV.12})$$

From Eqn.(IV.10) and from the above considerations we know the value of the left-hand side of Eqn.(IV.12), which is of the same form as Eqn.(IV.8). Because of

$$\Delta \Phi_{(2,2)} = \ell_2 \Delta n ,$$

if we know the value of  $\ell_2$  it is possible, with a process similar to that leading from Eqn.(IV.8) to Eqn.(IV.12), to deduce the value of  $\Delta \Phi_{(3,m)}(x_k)$ .

By induction we rewrite Eqn.(IV.11) in the form

$$\Delta \Phi_{(p,m)}(x_k) - \Delta \Phi_{(p,p)}(x_k) = \Delta \Phi_{(p+1,m-1)}(x_k) + \ell_m \Delta n_m , \quad (\text{IV.13})$$

where

$$\Delta \Phi_{(p,p)}(x_k) = \ell_p \Delta n \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \leq p \leq m .$$

If we suppose that we have a method of finding the value of all the other chords  $l_3 \dots l_m$ , Eqn.(IV.13) is an iterative expression whose left-hand side, which represents the area of Fig.7 from which one subtracts every time the area of the lowest step, is known at every step.

The iteration is terminated when the whole step-shaped area is exhausted. At this point the left-hand side of Eqn.(IV.13) assumes a negative or a zero value since  $\Delta n_m \leq \Delta n$ . By means of Eqn.(IV.5), truncated at the  $(m-1)^{th}$  term, we now obtain the value of  $n_m(x_k)$  with an error of about  $\Delta n_m$ . The problem of deriving the electron density in the equatorial plane of the torus is now reduced to that of finding the chords  $l_i$ . As already stated, this problem is not solvable without some assumption about the form of the contour lines.

We shall, however, show in the following that two conditions must always be satisfied, at every plane of our step model, for every form of the contour lines. Let us show this first in the very simple case of a two-step model, as in Fig.9 (the cylindrical form of the disks is not essential, as will be seen).

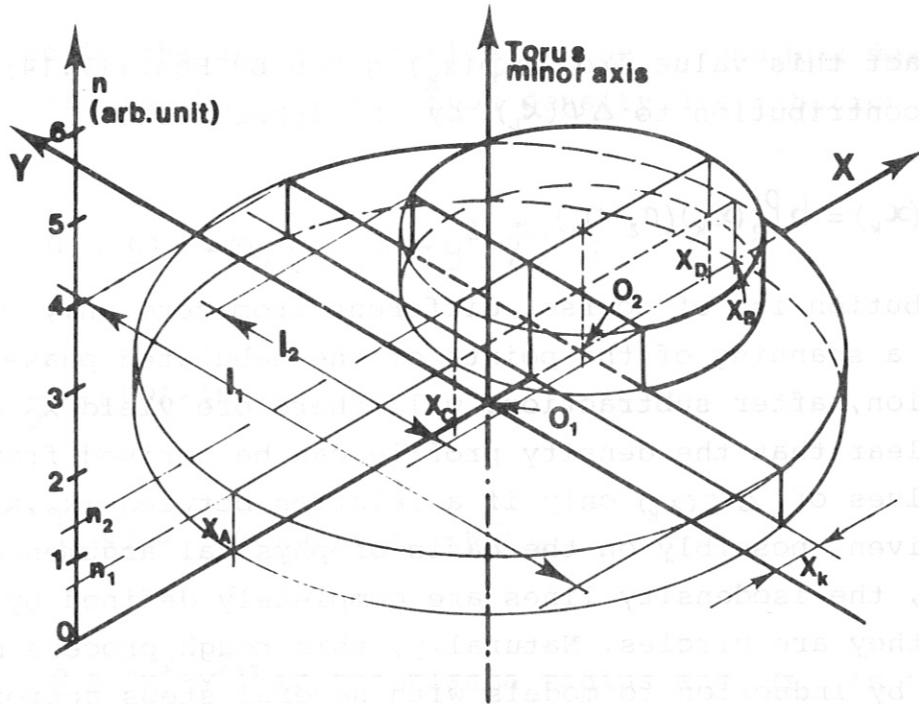
The lower part of Fig.10, shows an equatorial section of Fig.9, while the upper part shows the corresponding total phase shift profile. The tabulated total phase shift profile can be written as

$$\Delta\varphi(x_k) = h[l_1(x_k)n_1 + l_2(x_k)(n_2 - n_1)] \equiv \Delta\varphi_1(x_k) + \Delta\varphi_2(x_k), \quad (IV.14)$$

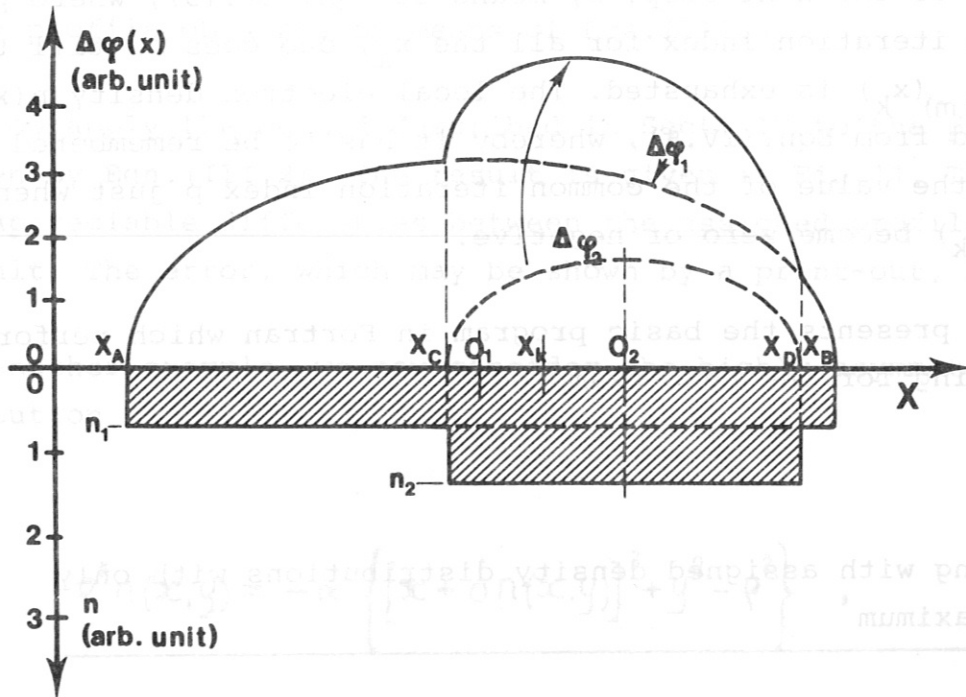
where  $l_1(x_k)$  and  $l_2(x_k)$  are the chords through the points  $x_k$ . It should now be noted that the phase shift due to the lower disk is

$$\Delta\varphi_1(x_k) = h l_1(x_k) n_1 ;$$





**Fig.9:** Electron density distribution model with two cylindrical steps.



**Fig.10:** Cross section (bottom) of the cylindrical two-step model of Fig.9 and corresponding phase shift (top).

if we subtract this value from  $\Delta\varphi(x_k)$  given by Eqn. (IV.14), we get the contribution to  $\Delta\varphi(x_k)$  by the upper disk:

$$\Delta\varphi_2(x_k) = h l_2(x_k) \cdot (n_2 - n_1) .$$

This contribution is, of course, different from zero only when  $x_C < x_k < x_D$ ; a scanning of the points of the tabulated phase shift function, after subtraction, will therefore yield  $x_C$  and  $x_D$ . It is now clear that the density profile can be derived from the measured values of  $\Delta\varphi(x_k)$  only if a relation between  $(x_C, x_D)$  and  $l_2(x_k)$  is given, possibly on the basis of physical arguments; for example, the isodensity lines are completely defined by  $(x_C, x_D)$  if they are circles. Naturally, this rough process may be extended by induction to models with several steps approximating the true electron density distributions. In the general case we also scan the tabulated values as already described to eliminate all those which are zero or negative and to fix the new extremes. The latter give the necessary parameters for determining the chords of the next step. By means of Eqn. (IV.13), where  $p$  is the common iteration index for all the  $x_k$ , one goes on till the whole  $\Delta\Phi_{(1,m)}(x_k)$  is exhausted. The local electron density  $n(x_k)$  is obtained from Eqn. (IV.5), whereby it has to be remembered that  $m$  assumes the value of the common iteration index  $p$  just when the  $\Delta\Phi_{(p,m)}(x_k)$  become zero or negative.

Appendix I presents the basic program in Fortran which performs the foregoing for the next examples.

#### V. Testing with assigned density distributions with only one maximum

It is assumed that the electron density distribution is given; we then evaluate the phase shift and finally deduce from the

phase shift the density profile by the method just described. Let us assume that the electron density distribution is

$$n(x,y) = -(\alpha/\rho^2) \cdot (x^2 + y^2 - \rho^2) ; \quad (V.1)$$

hence the profile is

$$n(x) = -(\alpha/\rho^2) \cdot (x^2 - \rho^2) , \quad (V.2)$$

where  $\rho \geq (x^2 + y^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is the plasma radius and  $\alpha$  is the maximum of  $n(x)$ .

The corresponding phase shift is given by Eqn. (III.2). The function  $\Delta\varphi(x)$  is then tabulated with 1000 points, and  $\Delta n$  (see Eqn. IV.6) is chosen as 1/500 of the maximum of the mean density profile obtained by means of Eqn. (III.4).

We now apply the method described in Sect. IV to the phase shift given by Eqn. (III.2). The result is given in Fig. 11. There are no appreciable differences between the assigned profile and the result. The error, which may be shown by a print-out, is  $< 0.1\%$ .

As another example, we now consider the highly asymmetric distribution

$$\rho^2 n(x,y) = -\alpha \left\{ [x + \delta n(x,y)]^2 + y^2 - \rho^2 \right\} , \quad (V.3)$$

SHOT NUMBER:

00000

TIME: 00 MS

ELECTRON DENSITY UNIT:

$[10^{13} \text{CM}^{-3}]$

PHASE SHIFT UNIT:

$[2\pi \text{ RAD}]$

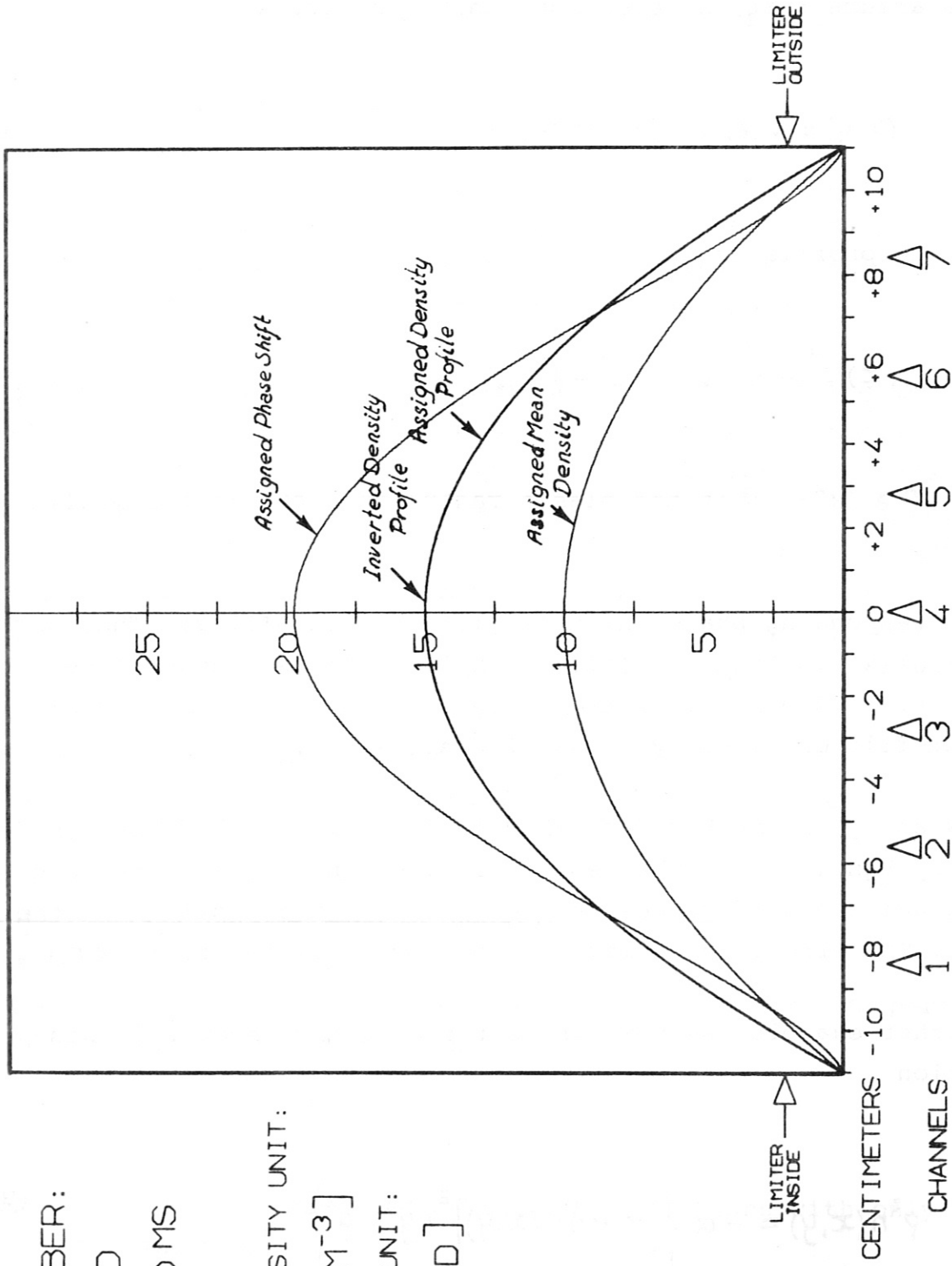


Fig.11: Assigned density profile as given by Eqn.(V.2) with:  $\alpha = 1.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\rho = 11 \text{ cm}$ . The inverted profile practically coincides with the assigned profile.



SHOT NUMBER:

00000

TIME: 00 MS

ELECTRON DENSITY UNIT:

$[10^{13} \text{CM}^{-3}]$

PHASE SHIFT UNIT:

$[2\pi \text{ RAD}]$

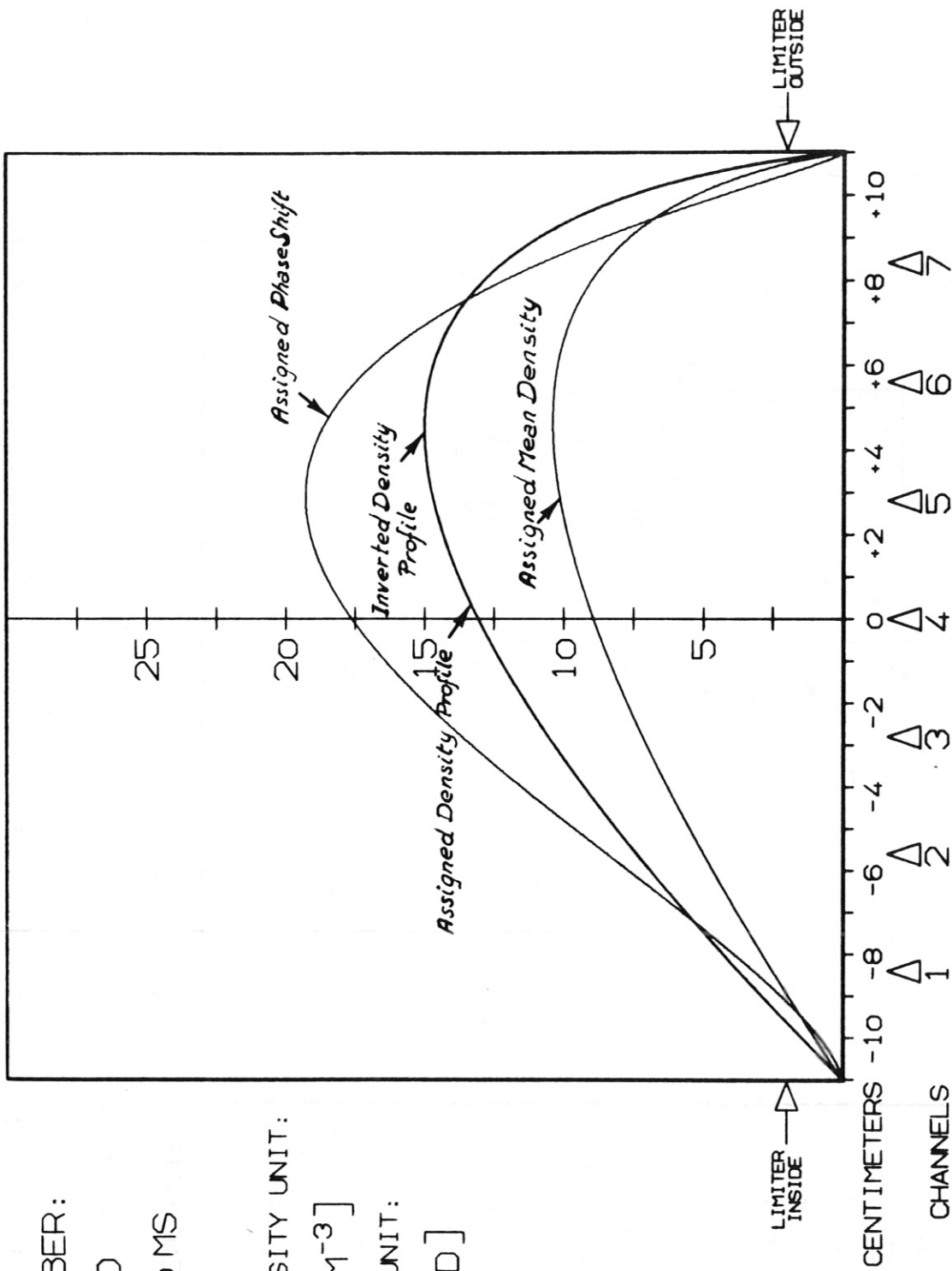


Fig.12: Assigned density profile as given by Eqn. (V.4) with:  $\alpha = 1.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\rho = 11 \text{ cm}$  and  $\delta = 0.3 \text{ cm}^4$ . As in the symmetrical case, the inverted profile practically coincides with the assigned profile.

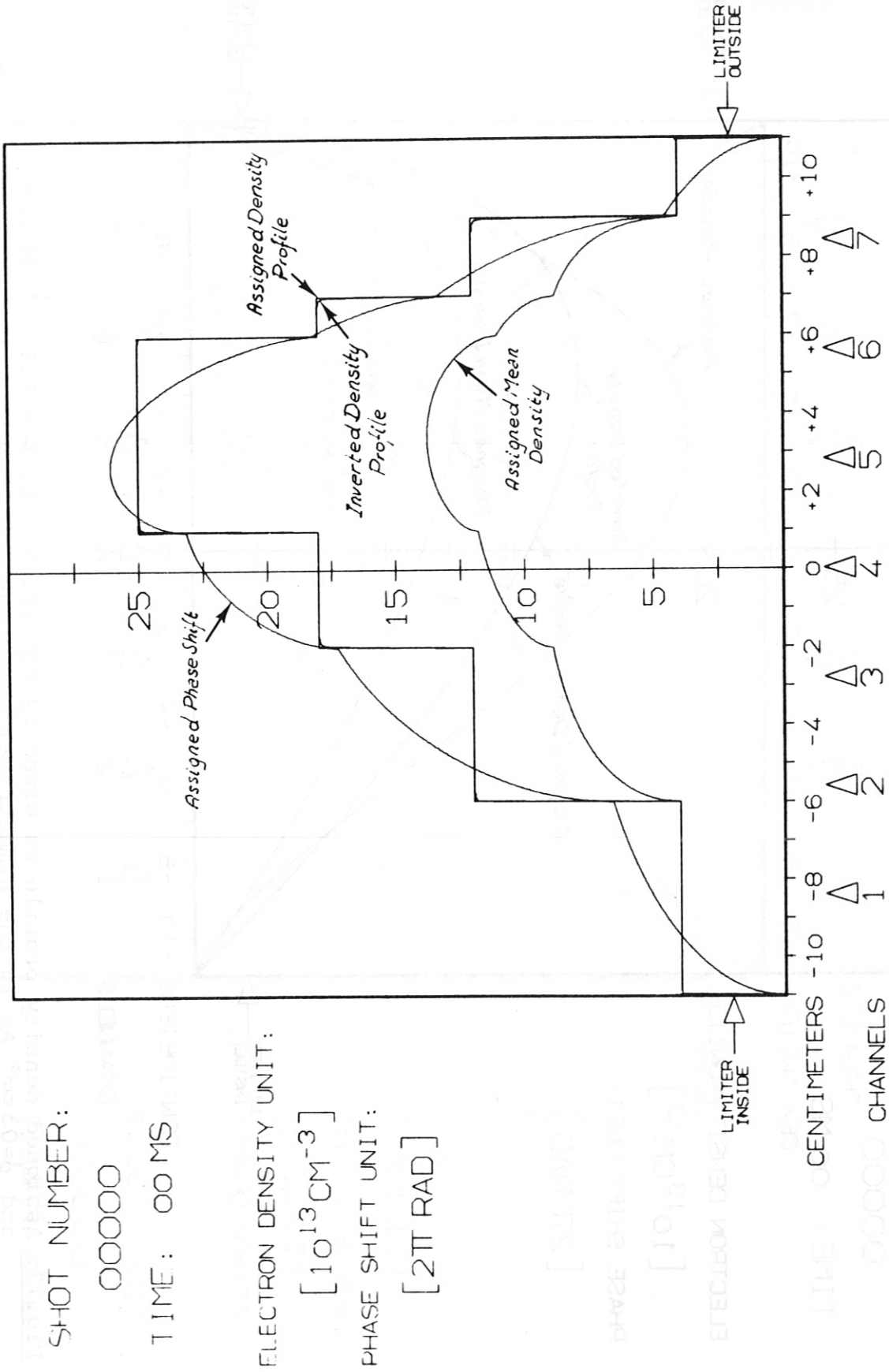


Fig. 13: The assigned density profile is step-like. The inverted profile exhibits a little erosion only at the step corners.

where  $\delta$  is a shift parameter; the corresponding profile in the equatorial plane is

$$\rho^2 n(x) = -\alpha \left\{ [x + \delta n(x)]^2 - \rho^2 \right\} . \quad (\text{V.4})$$

In Fig.12 one sees the assigned profile compared with results obtained again with 1000 points. The error is  $< 0.1\%$ .

Finally, to test the method in a very abnormal situation, we start with a step-like distribution. The given density profile, the phase shift and the evaluated profile are drawn in Fig.13: only the step corners have undergone a little erosion.

#### VI. Testing with assigned density distribution with several maxima

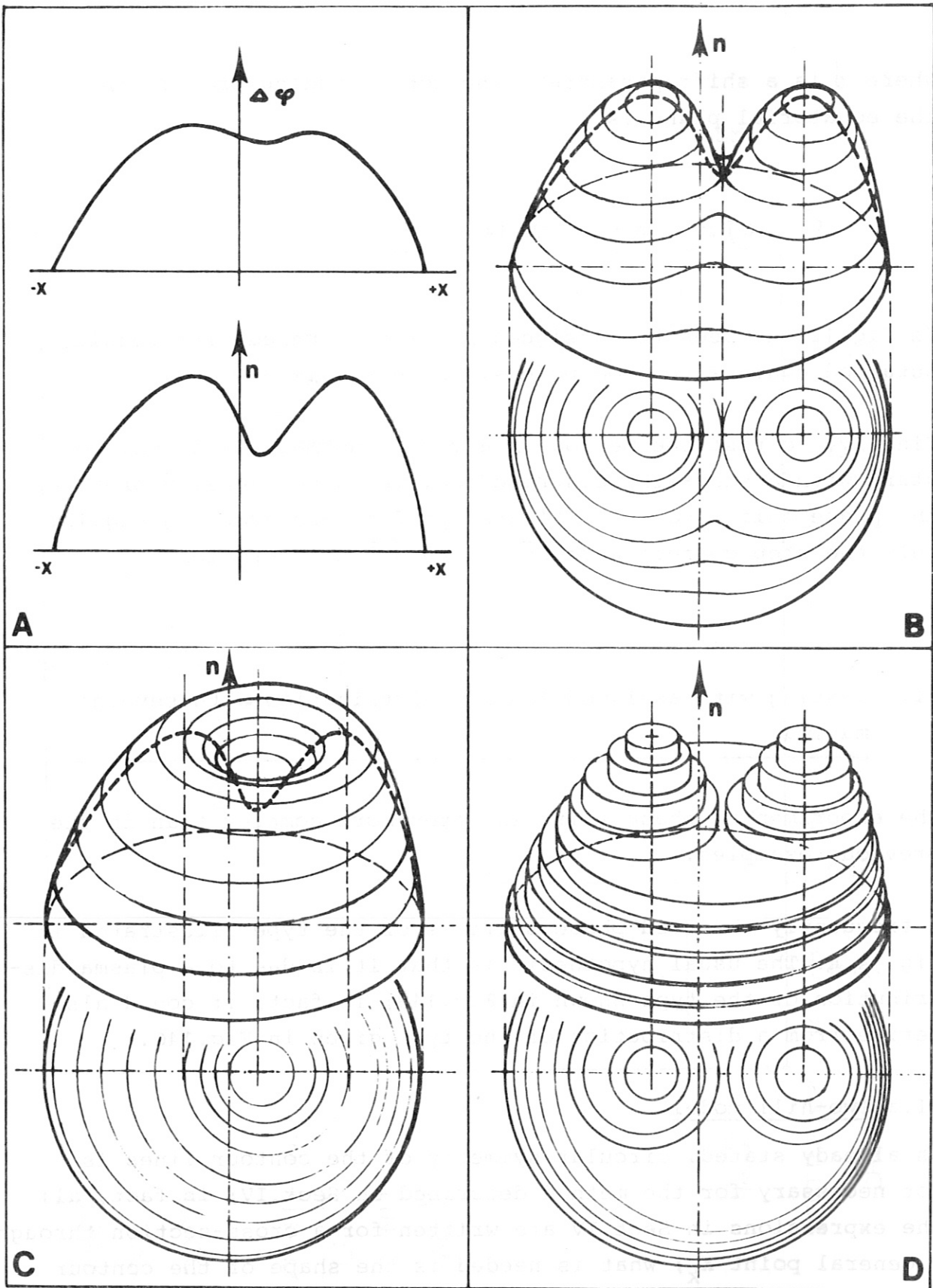
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The experimental phase shift is often more complex than in the previous examples.

A frequently observed phase shift is of the type illustrated in Fig.14 A. The usual hypothesis is that it is due to a plasma distribution of the type shown in Fig.14B; in fact, it could also derive from a distribution of the type given in Fig.14C.

##### VI.a Two-hill model

As already stated, circular symmetry of the contour lines is not necessary for the method described in Sect.IV; in fact, all the expressions in Sect.IV are written for a cross-section through a general point  $X_k$ ; what is needed is the shape of the contour lines.



**Fig.14:** The density profile sketched in (A) may give rise to ambiguous interpretation: in fact it may belong to both distributions sketched in (B) and (C). The representation (D) is the approximation assumed in the case of hill-shaped distribution of (B).



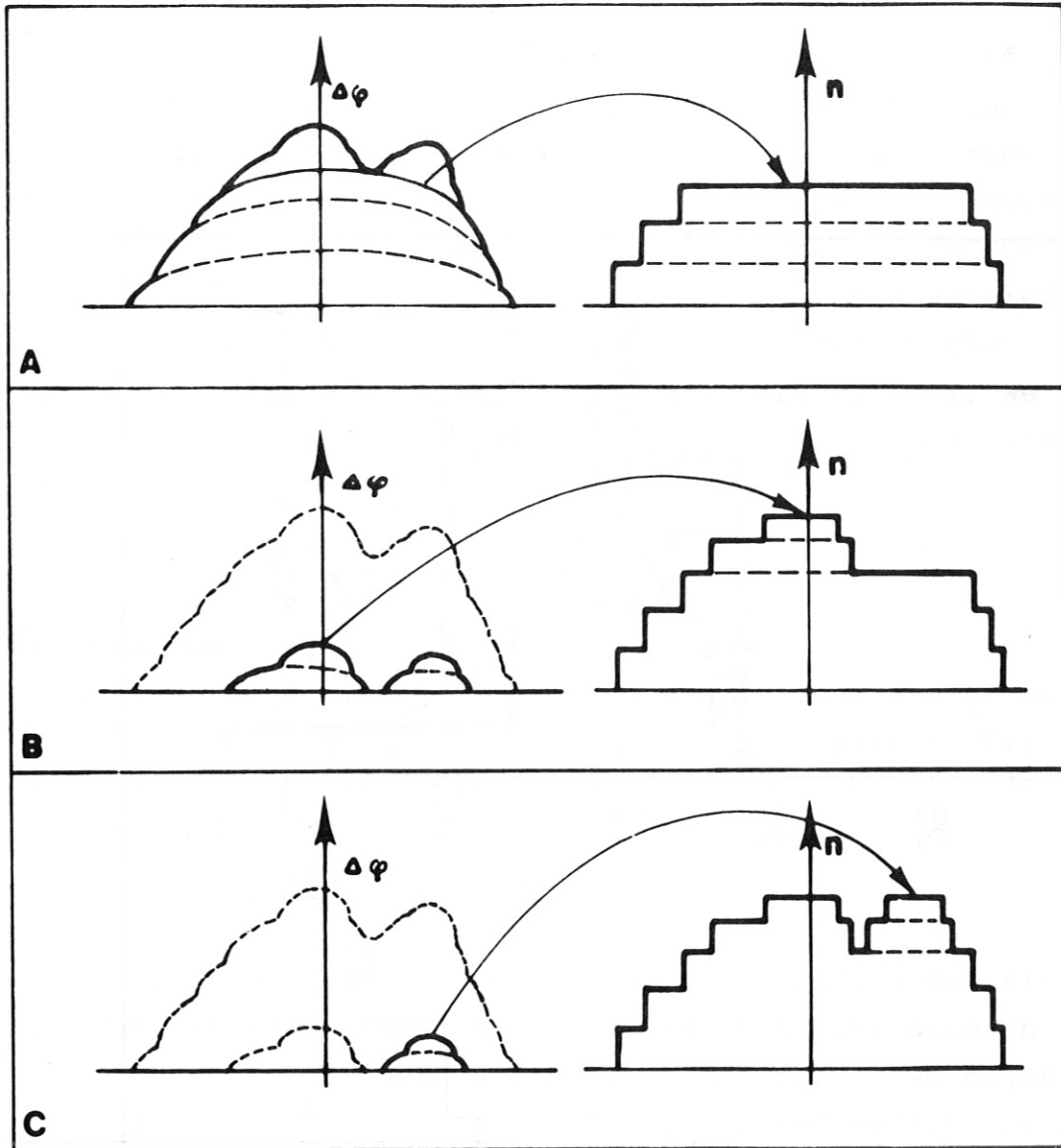


Fig.15: Application scheme of the proposed method for a two-hill shaped distribution.

It is assumed that the two-hill model in Fig.14B can be approximated with a step-like solid such as sketched in Fig.14D we then apply the same method as for the one-maximum distribution, but with the difference that after subtraction of the contribution of a step we scan all the points (not only the

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ELECTRON DENSITY UNIT:

$[10^{13} \text{CM}^{-3}]$

PHASE SHIFT UNIT:

$[2\pi \text{ RAD}]$

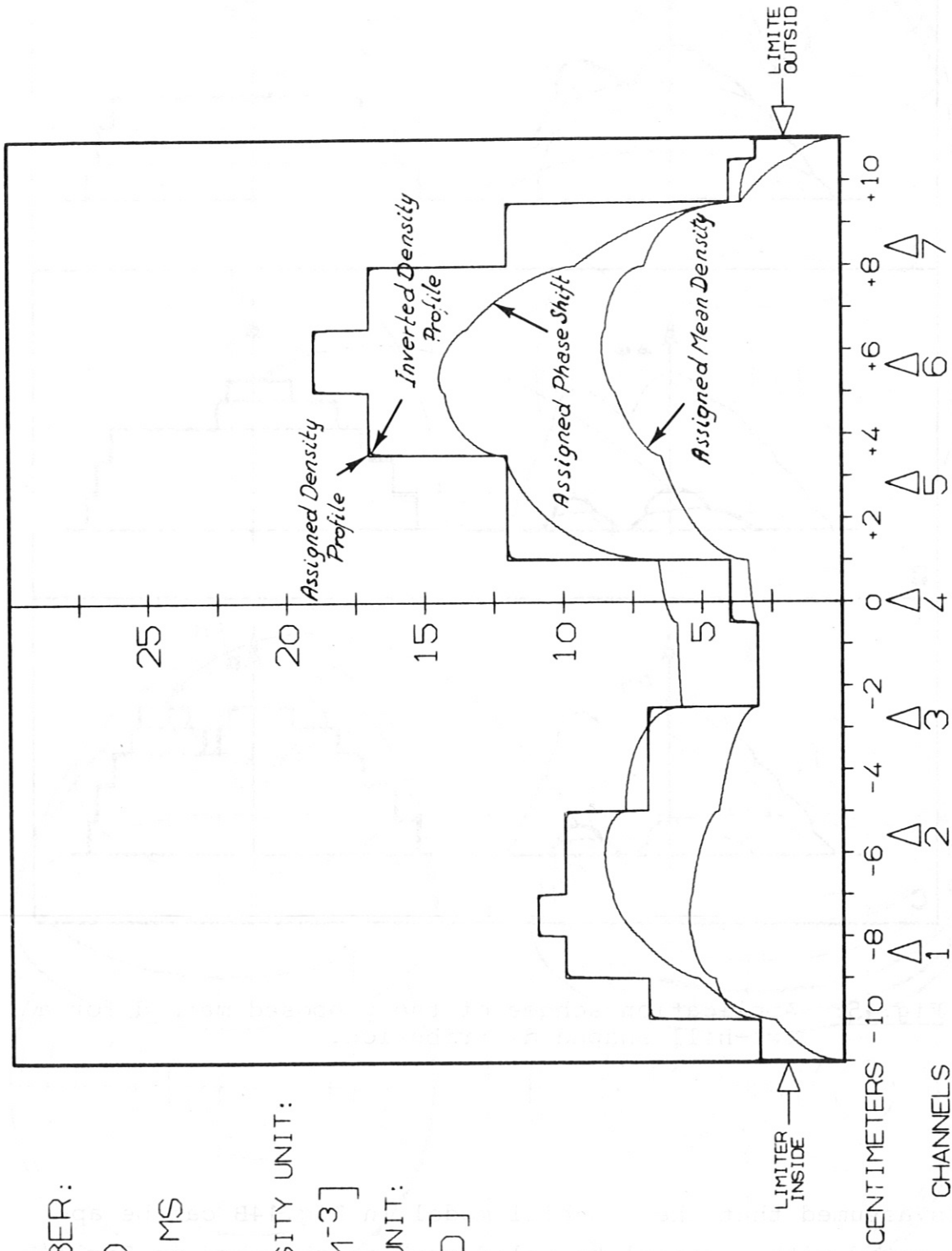


Fig.16: Except for the shape this is a case analogous to that of Fig.13. Here also the inverted profile exhibits a little erosion at the step corners.

lateral ones) to find a possible "valley" (see Fig.15A); if we find one, we proceed to exhaust the first area shown in Fig.15B, and then the other one too (see Fig.15C). An extension to distributions with more than two maxima is easy; however, it must then be remembered, and anyhow cases where the valleys are too deep, that the intrinsic error of the assumed step model becomes much larger than that introduced by the iteration method. Since a two-hill model is very complex, we consider the model shown in Fig.14D; the results are presented in Fig.16

#### VI.b Crater model

Let us imagine a very simple "crater" distribution: a disk with a hole whose cross-section is shown in the lower part of Fig.17. We rewrite Eqn.(IV.14) for this case:

$$\Delta \varphi(x_k) = \Delta \varphi_1(x_k) - \Delta \varphi_2(x_k). \quad (\text{VI.1})$$

To find the points  $X_C$  and  $X_D$ , we use the same process described after Eqn.(IV.14), noting that, for the negative sign in Eqn.(VI.1), we must terminate scanning at the first two negative points; after this, we restore the original cross-section by subtracting from the right place in the whole disk the step corresponding to the hole. The general case is given in Fig.18: the profile is restored till all the points of the tabulated phase shift function become negative (see Fig.18A); one then subtracts from it the profile due to the negative area (Fig.18B) treated as in the model described in Sect.V.

As an example we start from the following distribution model:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^2(1+\gamma\{[x+\delta n(x,y)]^2+y^2\})n(x,y) = & -\alpha\gamma\{[x+\delta n(x,y)]^2+y^2\}^2 + \\ & +(\alpha\gamma\rho^2+\beta-\alpha)\{[x+\delta n(x,y)]^2+y^2\} + \rho^2(\alpha-\beta), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{VI.2})$$

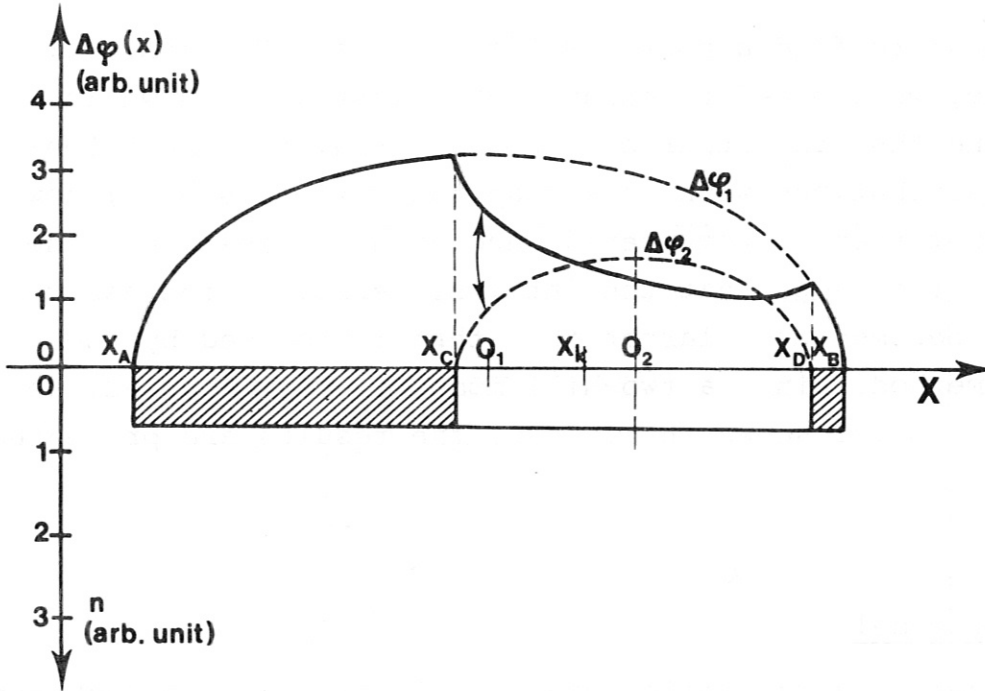


Fig.17: Cross section of a single step "crater" (bottom) and corresponding phase shift profile (top)

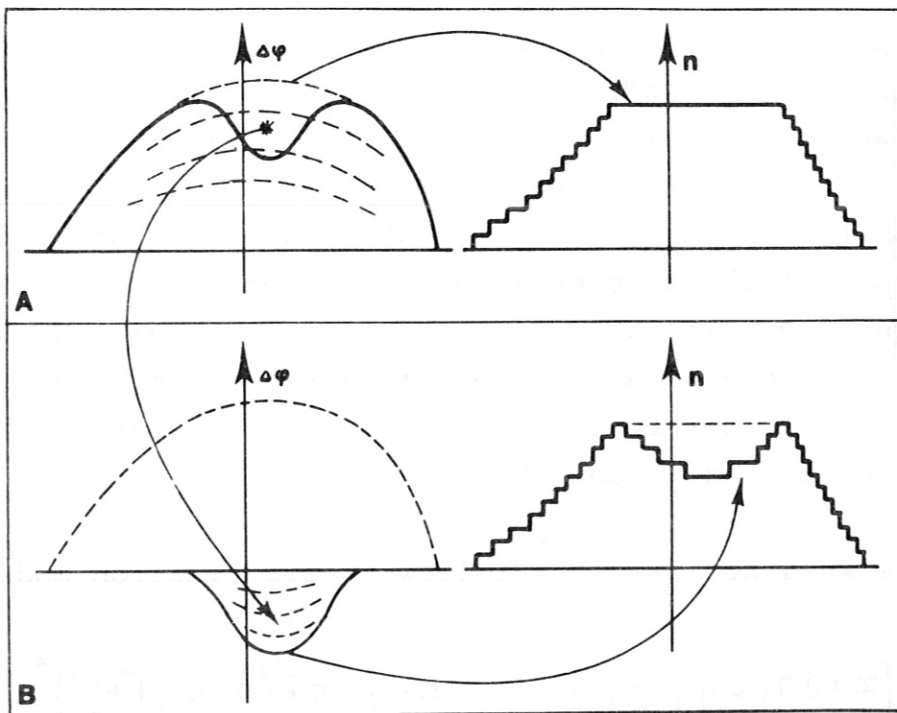


Fig.18: Application scheme of the proposed method for a crater-shaped distribution.

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00000

TIME: 00 MS

ELECTRON DENSITY UNIT:

$[10^{13} \text{CM}^{-3}]$

PHASE SHIFT UNIT:

$[2\pi \text{RAD}]$

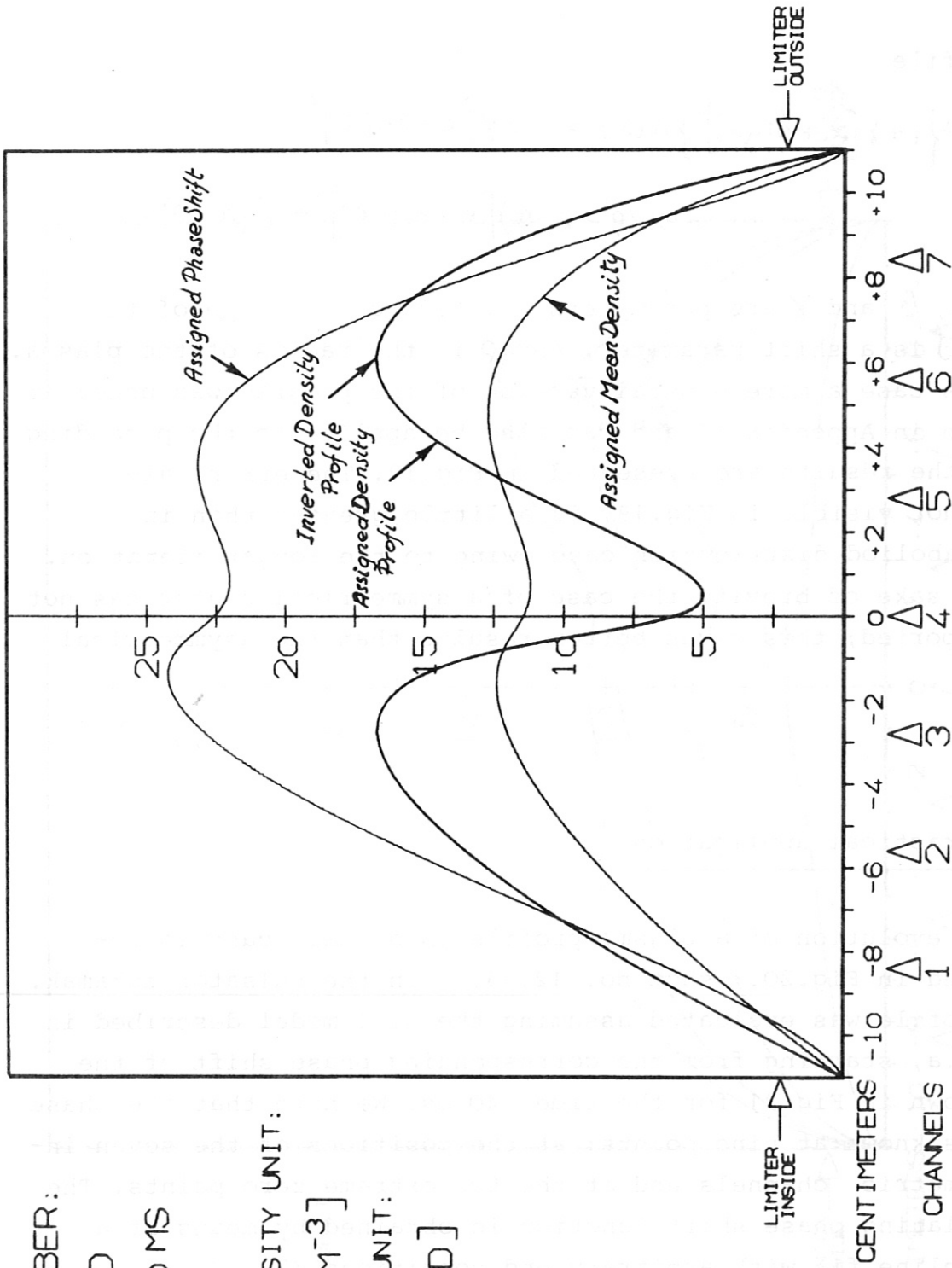


Fig. 19: Assigned density profile as given by Eqn. (IV.3) with:  $\alpha = 2.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\beta = 2 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\gamma = 15 \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ,  $\delta = -1 \text{ cm}^4$  and  $\varphi = 11 \text{ cm}$ .  
 As in the paraboloid distribution case, the inverted density profile practically coincides with the assigned profile.

and profile

$$\rho^2 \left\{ 1 + \gamma [x + \delta n(x)]^2 \right\} n(x) = -\alpha \gamma [x + \delta n(x)]^4 + (\alpha \gamma \rho^2 + \beta - \alpha) [x + \delta n(x)]^2 + \rho^2 (\alpha - \beta), \quad (\text{VI.3})$$

where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are parameters related to the shape of the crater,  $\delta$  is a shift parameter, and  $\rho$  is the radius of the plasma. For this case a more general version of the program was used; it is given in Appendix II and can also be applied to the preceding cases. The results are presented in Fig.19. The error, although not visible in Fig.19, is a little greater than in the paraboloid distribution case owing to the longer iteration. For the sake of brevity the case of a symmetrical crater has not been reported; this gives better results than the asymmetrical case.

## VII. Practical application

The time evolution of a plasma profile in a real case is represented in Fig.20.; shot no. 12.792 in the Pulsator tokamak. Each profile was evaluated assuming the hill model described in Sect.IV.a, starting from the corresponding phase shift of the type shown in Fig.21 for the time 40 ms. We note that the phase shift is known at nine points: at the positions of the seven interferometric channels and at the two extreme zero points. The interpolating phase shift function is obtained by means of a cubic spline fit with arbitrary end conditions /7/.

Owing to the small number of experimental values, the interpolation introduces errors which are comparable with the errors due to the choice of the form of the contour lines. In the case of Fig.22, the proposed method was applied with two different heights of the steps (see Eqn.(IV.6)). It is found that in the



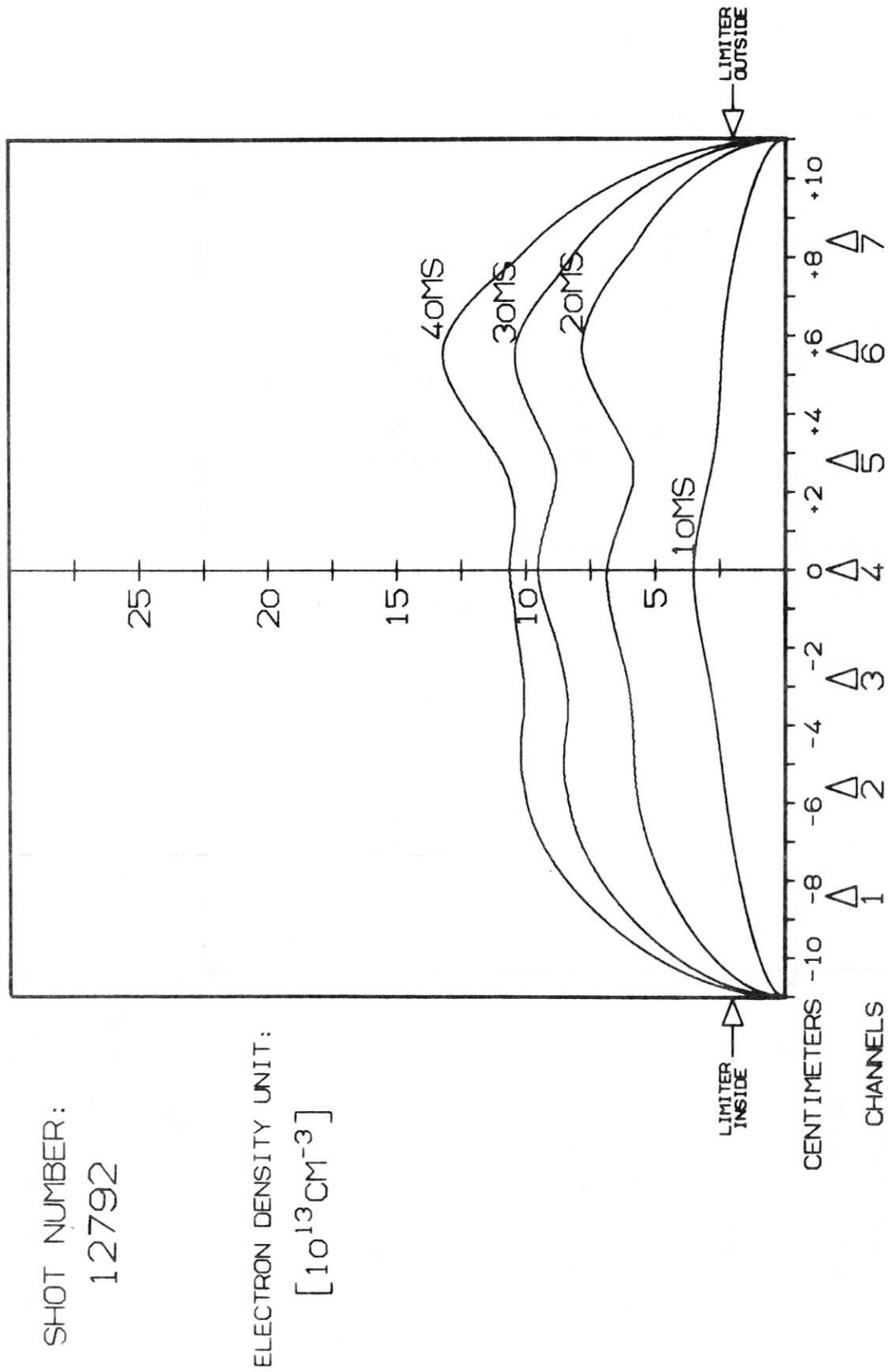


Fig.20: Time evolution of the plasma profile of discharge No.12.792 of the Pulsator tokamak. The time is counted after the neutral gas puffing.

SHOT NUMBER:

12792

TIME: 40 MS

ELECTRON DENSITY UNIT:

[ $10^{13} \text{CM}^{-3}$ ]

PHASE SHIFT UNIT:

[ $2\pi \text{RAD}$ ]

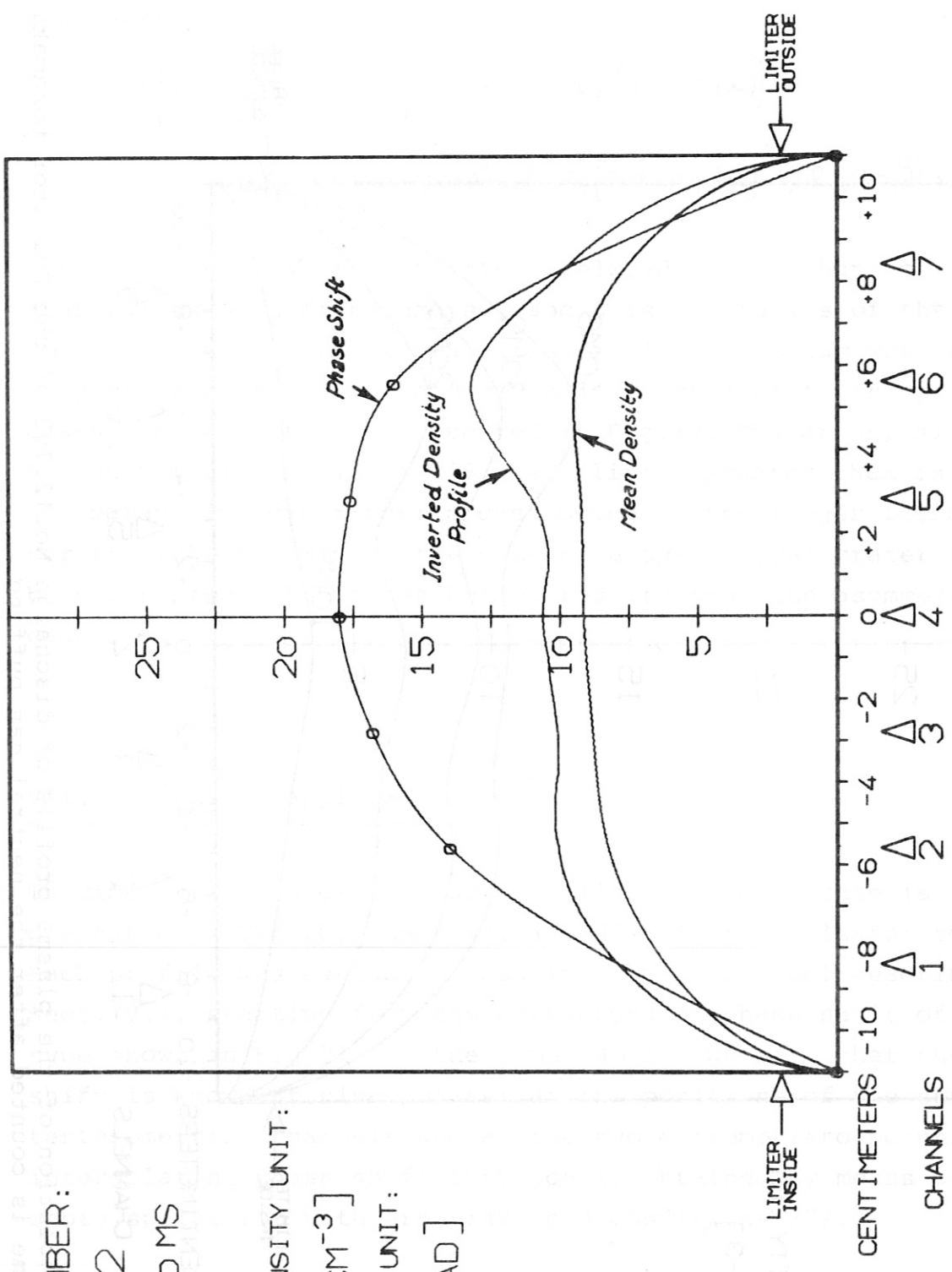


Fig.21: Detail of the process for obtaining the plasma profiles of Fig.20. Unlike in the text, there are only 7 experimental points: the information relating to the channels 1 and 7 was lost owing to diffraction problems.

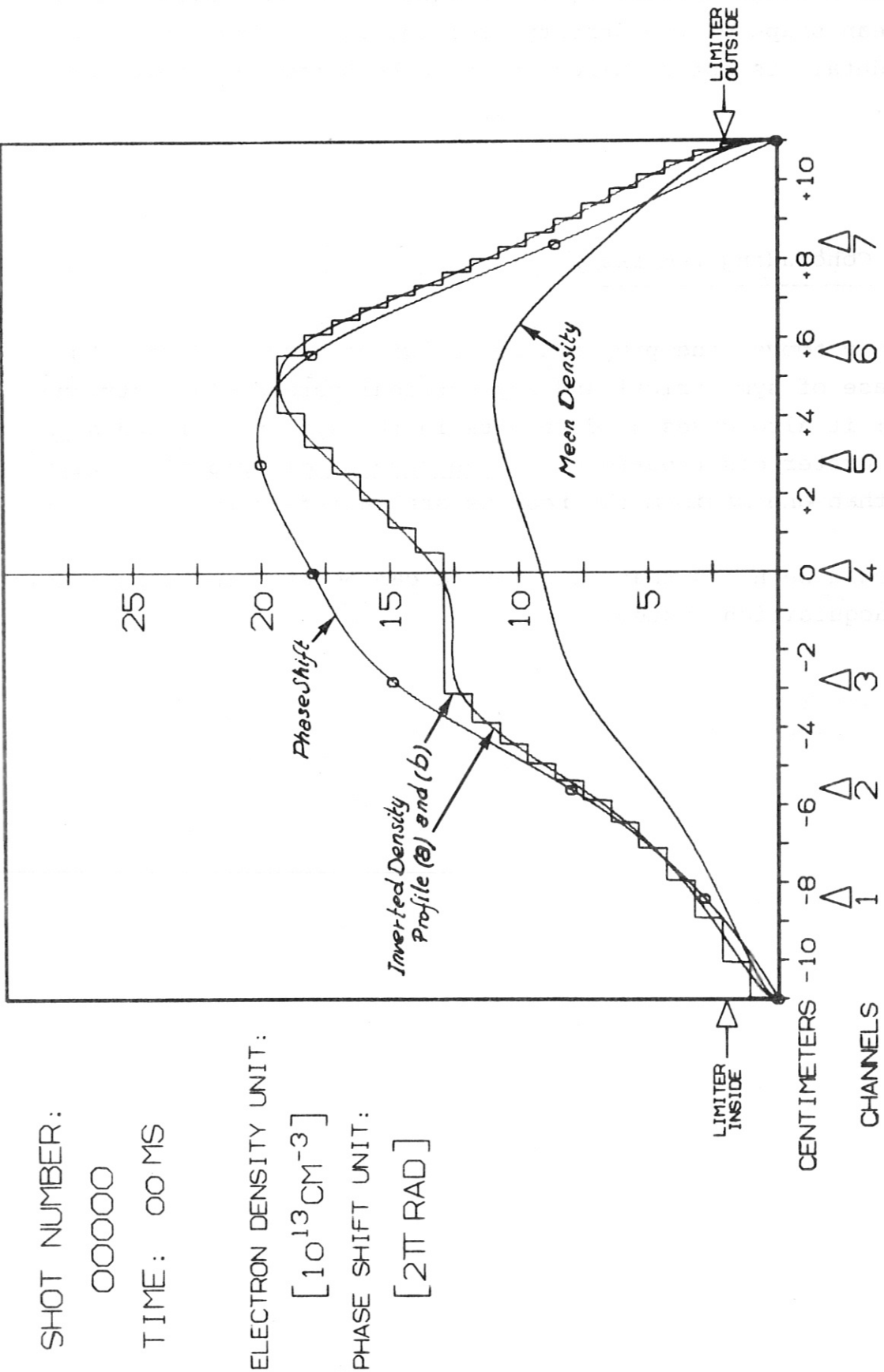


Fig. 22: Inverted density profiles obtained with two different amplitudes of  $\Delta n$ :  
(a) with  $1/500$  of the maximum of the mean density and (b) with only  $1/10$ .

case of a rough approximation we also get good reliability in the mean shape of the density profile. This allows us, when good detail is not required, to save both time and computer space.

#### VIII. Concluding remarks

As shown above, the proposed method gives very good results in the case of symmetrical and asymmetrical paraboloid distributions; it also gives good results in the symmetrical and asymmetrical crater distributions. In the case of distributions with more than one maximum the results are satisfactory.

It should be noted that this method can be used in an automatic data acquisition system.

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APPENDIX I

```
1      SUBROUTINE INVERS(X,Y,N,AK,YNVERS)
2 C***** INVERSION OF HILL-SHAPED DENSITY PROFILES *****
3      DIMENSION X(1000),Y(1000),YNVERS(1000)
4 C      **(X,Y): TABULATION OF THE PHASE SHIFT.
5 C      **N: NUMBER OF THE TABULATION POINTS.
6 C      **AK: NORMALISATION CONSTANT.
7 C      **YNVERS: INVERTED DENSITY.
8      Y(1)=0.
9      Y(N)=0.
10     YMAX=0.
11     XMAX=0.
12 C     **YMAX: MAXIMUM OF THE PHASE SHIFT.
13 C     **XMAX: ABSCISSA OF THE MAXIMUM.
14     DO 1 I=1,N
15     YNVERS(I)=0.
16     IF(YMAX.LT.Y(I)) GO TO 2
17     GO TO 1
18 2     YMAX=Y(I)
19     XMAX=X(I)
20 1     CONTINUE
21 C     **DETERMINATION OF THE STEP THICKNESS "AN".
22 C*****
23     NSTEP=500
24 C*****
25 C     **NSTEP: "MINIMUM" NUMBER OF STEPS.
26 C     **AN: THICKNESS OF LOCAL DENSITY DISK.
27     PROD=X(1)*X(N)
28     SUMM=X(1)+X(N)
29     AN=YMAX/(NSTEP*AK*SQRT(-XMAX**2-PROD+XMAX*SUMM))
30     AN2=YMAX/10000.
31 C*****
32 C     **BEGINNING OF THE "SLICING".
33     IBEG=1
34     IEND=N
35 C     **IBEG,IEND: FIRST AND LAST POINT OF A SINGLE SLICE.
36 C*****
37     KBREIT=10
38 C*****
39 C     ** KBREIT: WIDTH OF THE THE SMALLEST AREA TO BE CONSIDERED; I.E.IF
40 C     ** AFTER A NUMBER OF POINTS .LT. "KBREIT" A VALUE OF THE PHASE
41 C     ** SHIFT LT. "AN2" IS FOND, ALL THE PRECEDING POINTS ARE IGNORED.
42 C     ** KBREIT WILL BE DEFINED TIME BY TIME.
43 C     ** KBREIT CANNOT BE .LT. 3.
44 4     I2BEG=IBEG
45     NVAL=0
46 C     **NVAL: COUNTER FOR KBREIT.
47     I3END=IEND-1
48     DO 5 I3=IBEG,I3END
49     IF (Y(I3+1).LE.AN2) GO TO 6
50     NVAL=NVAL+1
51     GO TO 5
52 6     IF(NVAL.LT.KBREIT) GO TO 7
53     I2END=I3+1
54     GO TO 8
55 7     I2BEG=I3+1
56     NVAL=0
57 5     CONTINUE
```



```
58     IF(NVAL.GE.KBREIT) GO TO 9
59     IF(IEND.EQ.N) GO TO 14
60     IBEG=IEND
61     GO TO 10
62     8   IEND=I2END
63     9   IBEG=I2BEG
64     CALL SLICE(X,Y,AK,AN,IBEG,IEND,YNVERS)
65     10  IEND=N
66     GO TO 4
67     14  CONTINUE
68     PRINT 11
69     WRITE(6,12)(X(K),Y(K),K=1,N,10)
70     PRINT 3
71     WRITE(6,12)(X(K),YNVERS(K),K=1,N,10)
72     11  FORMAT(1X/1X,'RESIDUAL')
73     12  FORMAT(1X,10F11.5)
74     3   FORMAT(1X/1X,'INVERTED DENSITY')
75     RETURN
76     END
```

```
1     SUBROUTINE SLICE(X,Y,AK,AN,IBEG,IEND,YNVERS)
2 C**** TO BE CALLED BY INVERSION SUBROUTINE FOR HILL-SHAPED PROFILES ****
3     DIMENSION X(1000),Y(1000),YNVERS(1000)
4     PROD=X(IBEG)*X(IEND)
5     SUMM=X(IBEG)+X(IEND)
6     IBEG1=IBEG+1
7     IEND1=IEND-1
8 C     ** TRUNCATION OF THE DO LOOP TO AVOID SQUARE ROOT NEGATIV VALUE.
9 C     ** FOR THE ABOVE STATEMENTS "KBREIT" CANNOT BE .LT. 3.
10    DO 1 I=IBEG1,IEND1
11    AROOTH=-X(I)**2-PROD+X(I)*SUMM
12    Y(I)=Y(I)-AN*AK*SQRT(AROOTH)
13    YNVERS(I)=YNVERS(I)+AN
14    1   CONTINUE
15    RETURN
16    END
```

APPENDIX II

```
1      SUBROUTINE INVERS(X,Y,N,AK,YNVERS)
2 C***** INVERSION OF CRATER-SHAPED DENSITY PROFILES *****
3      DIMENSION X(1000),Y(1000),YNVERS(1000)
4 C      **(X,Y): TABULATION OF THE PHASE SHIFT.
5 C      **N: NUMBER OF THE TABULATION POINTS.
6 C      **AK: NORMALISATION CONSTANT.
7 C      **YNVERS: INVERTED DENSITY.
8      LOGICAL REVERT
9      REVERT=.TRUE.
10     Y(1)=0.
11     Y(N)=0.
12     YMAX=0.
13     XMAX=0.
14 C     **YMAX: MAXIMUM OF THE PHASE SHIFT.
15 C     **XMAX: ABSCISSA OF THE MAXIMUM.
16     DO 1 I=1,N
17     YNVERS(I)=0.
18     IF(YMAX.LT.Y(I)) GO TO 2
19     GO TO 1
20 2    YMAX=Y(I)
21     XMAX=X(I)
22 1    CONTINUE
23 C     **DETERMINATION OF THE STEP THICKNESS "AN".
24 C*****
25     NSTEP=500
26 C*****
27 C     **NSTEP: "MINIMUM" NUMBER OF STEPS.
28 C     **AN: THICKNESS OF LOCAL DENSITY DISK.
29     PROD=X(1)*X(N)
30     SUMM=X(1)+X(N)
31     AN=YMAX/(NSTEP*AK*SQRT(-XMAX**2-PROD+XMAX*SUMM))
32     AN2=YMAX/10000.
33 C*****
34 C     **BEGINNING OF THE "SLICING".
35     IBEG=1
36     IEND=N
37 C     **IBEG,IEND: ARE THE EXTREMES OF A SINGLE DISK.
38 C*****
39     J3= 3
40 C*****
41 C     ** J3: WIDTH OF THE THE SMALLEST AREA TO BE CONSIDERED; I.E.IF
42 C     ** AFTER A NUMBER OF POINTS .LT. "J3" A VALUE OF THE PHASE SHIFT
43 C     ** LT. "AN2" IS FOND, ALL THE PRECEDING POINTS ARE IGNORED.
44 C     ** J3 WILL BE DEFINED TIME BY TIME.
45 C     ** J3 CANNOT BE .LT. 3.
46 4    IBETRI=0
47     IENTRI=0
48 C     ** IBETRI,IENTRI: OPERATIONAL PARAMETERS; THEY INDICATE THE FORM
49 C     ** OF THE SLICE: IF(IBETRI.EQ.0.AND.IENTRI.EQ.0) A CILINDER OF
50 C     ** HEIGHT "AN" IS ADDED;
51 C     ** IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.0) A CILINDER WITH TIANGULAR
52 C     ** CROSS SECTION (THE FULL HEIGHT IS ON THE RIGHT HAND) IS ADDED;
53 C     ** IF(IBETRI.EQ.0.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) A CILINDER WITH TIANGULAR
54 C     ** CROSS SECTION (THE FULL HEIGHT IS ON THE LEFT HAND) IS ADDED;
55 C     ** IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) A CILINDER WITH HEIGHT "AN"/2
56 C     ** IS ADDED; IN THIS CASE THE TOP OF A PARALLEL CRATER IS FOND.
57 C     ** THEY OPERATE IN SUBROUTINE "SLICE".
```

```
58 5  IBEG1=IBEG
59  IEND1=IEND
60  I2BEG=IBEG
61  I2END=IEND
62  IA=0
63  IB=0
64  IA1=0
65  IB1=0
66  IA2=0
67  IB2=0
68  IA3=0
69 C*****
70  J50=50
71 C*****
72 C  ** J50: MAXIMUM FORSEEN AMPLITUDE OF THE CRATER EDGE TOP.
73 C  ** IT WILL BE DEFINED TIME BY TIME BUT ALLWAYS .GT. J3.
74 C  ** IA,IB: LEFT AND RIGHT COUNTERS FOR J3.
75 C  ** IA1,IB1: LEFT AND RIGHT COUNTERS FOR J50.
76 C  ** IA2,IB2,IA3: PARAMETERS FOR LOGICAL BRANCHING.
77  DO 6 I=IBEG1,IEND1
78  KSTOP=INT(FLOAT(I2END-I2BEG)/2.)
79 C  ** KSTOP: PARAMETER TO AVOIDING THE OVERLAP OF THE TWO EXTREMES.
80  IF(KSTOP.LE.J50) J50=KSTOP
81  IF(KSTOP.LE.(J3+2)) J50=J3+2
82  IF(IA2.EQ.1.OR.IBETRI.EQ.1) GO TO 7
83  IF(Y(I).GT.AN2) GO TO 8
84  IA=0
85  9  IA1=IA1+1
86  IF(IA1.GE.J50) GO TO 10
87  IA3=1
88  GO TO 7
89  10 I2BEG=IBEG
90  IBETRI=1
91  IA=0
92  IA1=0
93  IA2=0
94  IA3=0
95  GO TO 7
96  8  IA=IA+1
97  IF(IA.EQ.1) I2BEG=I-1
98  IF(IA.LT.J3) GO TO 9
99  IBETRI =0
100  IA=0
101  IA1=0
102  IA3=0
103  IA2=1
104  7  KI=IEND1-I+IBEG1
105  IF(IB2.EQ.1) GO TO 11
106  IF(IENTRI.EQ.1) GO TO 12
107  IF(Y(KI).GT.AN2) GO TO 13
108  IB=0
109  IB1=IB1+1
110  IF(IB1.GE.J50) GO TO 14
111  IF(IA3.EQ.1) GO TO 21
112  22 IF(KI.LE.(I2BEG+J3)) GO TO 16
113  GO TO 6
114  21 IF(KI.LE.(I+J3)) GO TO 16
```

```
115      GO TO 6
116  16   I2END=I2BEG
117      GO TO 17
118  14   I2END=IEND
119      IENTRI=1
120      IB=0
121      IB1=0
122      IB2=0
123      IF(IA3.EQ.1) GO TO 15
124      GO TO 18
125  13   IB=IB+1
126      IF(IB.EQ.1) I2END=KI+1
127      IF(IB.GT.J3) GO TO 20
128      IB1=IB1+1
129      IF(IA3.EQ.1) GO TO 21
130      GO TO 22
131  20   IB=0
132      IB1=0
133      IB2=1
134      IENTRI=0
135      IF(IA3.EQ.1) GO TO 15
136      GO TO 18
137  12   IF(IA3.EQ.1) GO TO 15
138      IF(IA2.EQ.1) GO TO 18
139      IF(I2END.LE.(I2BEG+J3)) GO TO 16
140      GO TO 19
141  11   IF(IA2.EQ.1.OR.IBETRI.EQ.1) GO TO 18
142  15   IF(I.GE.(I2END-J3)) GO TO 16
143      GO TO 6
144  18   IF(KI.LE.(I2BEG+J3)) GO TO 16
145      GO TO 19
146  6    CONTINUE
147  19   IBEG=I2BEG
148      IEND=I2END
149      IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) GO TO 23
150      GO TO 24
151  23   REVERT=.NOT.REVERT
152      CALL SLICE(X,Y,AK,AN,IBEG,IEND,IBETRI,IENTRI,YNVERS)
153      IBEG=IBEG+1
154      IEND=IEND-1
155      DO 25 K=1,N
156          Y(K)=-Y(K)
157          YNVERS(K)=-YNVERS(K)
158  25   CONTINUE
159      GO TO 4
160  24   CONTINUE
161      CALL SLICE(X,Y,AK,AN,IBEG,IEND,IBETRI,IENTRI,YNVERS)
162      IF(IBETRI.EQ.0) IBEG=IBEG+1
163      IF(IENTRI.EQ.0) IEND=IEND-1
164      GO TO 5
165  17   IF(REVERT) GO TO 26
166      DO 27 K=1,N
167          Y(K)=-Y(K)
168          YNVERS(K)=-YNVERS(K)
169  27   CONTINUE
170  26   CONTINUE
171      PRINT 28
```

```
172 28  FORMAT(1X/1X,'RESIDUAL')
173      WRITE(6,29)(X(K),Y(K),K=1,N)
174      PRINT 3
175 3    FORMAT(1X/1X,'INVERTED DENSITY')
176      WRITE(6,29)(X(K),YNVERS(K),K=1,N)
177 29   FORMAT(1X,10F11.5)
178      RETURN
179      END
```

```
1      SUBROUTINE SLICE(X,Y,AK,AN,IBEG,IEND,IBETRI,IENTRI,YNVERS)
2 C*** TO BE CALLED BY INVERSION SUBROUTINE FOR CRATER-SHAPED PROFILES ***
3      DIMENSION X(1000),Y(1000),YNVERS(1000)
4      PROD=X(IBEG)*X(IEND)
5      SUMM=X(IBEG)+X(IEND)
6      IBEG1=IBEG+1
7      IEND1=IEND-1
8 C    ** TRUNCATION OF THE DO LOOP TO AVOID SQUARE ROOT NEGATIV VALUE.
9      DO 1 I=IBEG1,IEND1
10     AROOTH=-X(I)**2-PROD+X(I)*SUMM
11     IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.0) GO TO 2
12     IF(IBETRI.EQ.0.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) GO TO 3
13     IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) AN=AN/2.
14     Y(I)=Y(I)-AN*AK*SQRT(AROOTH)
15     YNVERS(I)=YNVERS(I)+AN
16     IF(IBETRI.EQ.1.AND.IENTRI.EQ.1) AN=AN*2.
17     GO TO 1
18 2    TRI10=(X(I)-X(IBEG))/(X(IEND)-X(IBEG))
19     Y(I)=Y(I)-AK*AN*TRI10* SQRT(AROOTH)
20     YNVERS(I)=YNVERS(I)+AN*TRI10
21     GO TO 1
22 3    TRI01=(X(I)-X(IEND))/(X(IBEG)-X(IEND))
23     Y(I)=Y(I)-AK*AN*TRI01* SQRT(AROOTH)
24     YNVERS(I)=YNVERS(I)+AN*TRI01
25 1    CONTINUE
26     RETURN
27     END
```