



Observations of patchy reconnection signatures in the solar wind

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Magnetic reconnection is an important process that changes a magnetic field configuration and converts a magnetic energy to the flow energy and plasma heating. Reconnection events were documented in the magnetosphere as well as in the solar wind at 1 AU. In the set of 485 observed exhausts in the solar wind, we identified a portion of the exhausts accompanied by side jets that are oriented in the same direction as the main exhaust jet but they are spatially separated from it. These side jets can be a signature of patchy magnetic reconnection. We suppose that a source of such side jets is probably multiple reconnection occurring in the vicinity of the main X-line. This structure could give us an additional information about the X-line length which is otherwise hard to estimate. The paper presents characteristics of side jets and their properties.