



Study on the radial diffusion of protons in the inner magnetosphere

Wenlong Liu and Xingzhi Lyu

Beihang University, Beijing, China (liuwenlong@buaa.edu.cn)

We study the characteristics of energetic protons up to hundreds of keV in the inner magnetosphere and their interaction with ULF waves through radial diffusion process. The phase space density of proton is calculated based on the MagEIS instrument onboard Van Allen Probes for the time period of March 2013, and is simulated with 1-D Fokker Planck simulation. Overall, simulation results are in good agreement with observations, suggesting radial diffusion dominates the transport of energetic protons in the region of $L^* < 5.5$. Protons can be transported to $L^* \sim 4.2$ for $\mu = 200$ MeV/G and to $L^* \sim 3.6$ for $\mu = 100$ MeV/G, respectively. During the main phases of March 15, 2013 and March 29, 2013 geomagnetic storms, large differences are shown between simulation and observation with simulation overestimating proton PSD. This signature happens outside the plasmopause, suggesting non-adiabatic loss mechanism, likely EMIC wave scattering, is important during storm main phase.