

PERUSING EARTH'S MAGNETOSPHERE

Earth's magnetosphere (MS): efficient trapping device for energetic particles. Its inner portion includes:

- **Radiation belts (RBs):** Magnetically-trapped relativistic electrons and high-energy ions. Relatively stable inner belt (IRB) at $L \sim 1 - 2$, and more dynamic outer belt (ORB) at $L > 3$. Ring-current (RC) torus inside the ORB, peaking at $L \sim 4$ in quiet time.
- **Slot region (SR):** Normally devoid of energetic electrons at $L \sim 2 - 3$, due to precipitation by wave-particle interactions.
- **Plasmasphere (PS):** Torus of cold plasma ($\sim eV$) at a few R_E . Predominantly H^+ in quiet time. Highly dynamic outer boundary (plasmopause) in response to enhanced magnetic activity. PS overlapping with ORB, with generation of favored locations for wave growth.

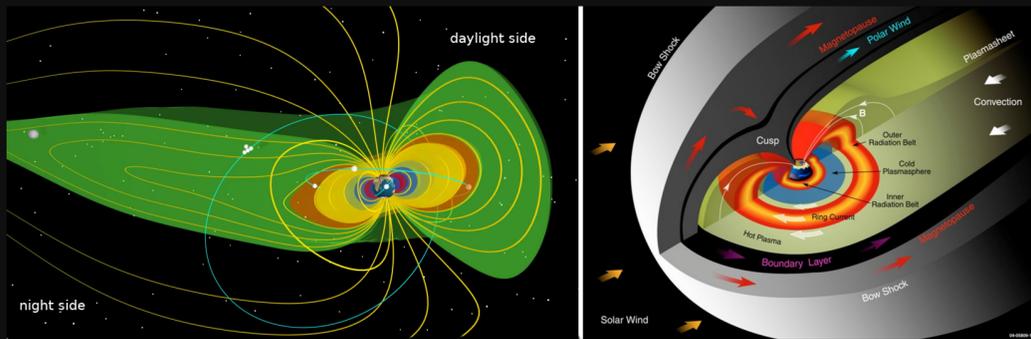


Figure 1: Left: magnetosphere (yellow lines); plasmasphere (blue region); ring current (yellow region); radiation belts (orange region); plasma sheet (green region). Credits: UCL-MSSL/Chris Arridge (Cluster II Mission). Right: A more detailed view of magnetosphere regions.

THE AUG 2018 STORM

- Strong G3-class geomagnetic storm ($DST_{min} \sim -190$ nT). Main phase from Aug 25 (17:47:00 UTC) to Aug 26 (07:11:00 UTC), 2018. Minor CME, no SEPS emitted as confirmed by GOES and ACE instrumentation, great asymmetry of planetary impact.
- Rare occurrence at the minimum of the currently ongoing 24th solar cycle.
- Compared to the super solar quiet (SSQ) period of Aug 9-11, 2018 (-10 nT $< DST < 10$ nT).

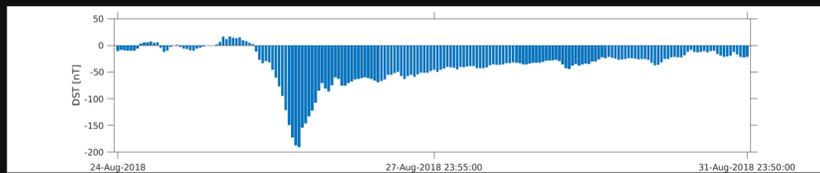


Figure 2: The DST trend over the period Aug 24-31, 2018.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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FOLLOWING RB POPULATION REARRANGEMENTS IN L

HEPP-H high-energy particle detector [W. Chu et al., 2018] monitoring electrons and protons in the lowest portion of its energy range.

- **1-5 MeV electrons:** Two pre-existent belts in the ORB ($L \sim 4.5, L \sim 6$), seemingly overlapped with the PS, in the SSQ period. Expected e^- dropouts during main phase, with sharpening of belt boundaries; complementary PS erosion confirmed by data from Langmuir Probe on board CSES [M. Candidi, EGU 2019, poster no. X3.203]. During recovery, severe buildup of e^- count rates due to multiple re-circulation and radial-transport mechanisms [Friedel et al., 2002], and e^- injection into the SR ($L < 3$). Data consistent with older results from the Van Allen Probes [Goldstein et al., 2016] and EPT/PROVA-B missions [Pierrard et al., 2016].
- **10-40 MeV protons:** Fairly stable protons in the IRB ($L \sim 2$) under SSQ conditions, expectedly going lost during main phase [Engel et al., 2015], with new, long-lived belt appearing near the inner boundary of the ORB ($L \sim 4.5$). Data consistent with older results from Polar + SAMPEX [Lorentzen et al., 2002], and EPT/PROVA-B [Pierrard et al., 2016]. Beyond-dipolar-approx refinement needed to fix anomalous results at high latitudes.

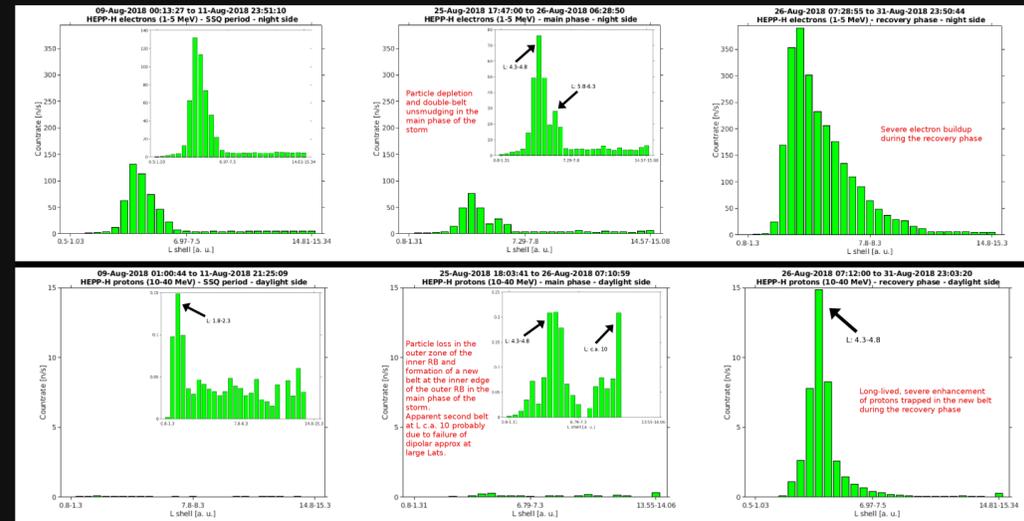


Figure 3: Top: 1-5 MeV e^- CRs vs L (no SAA included) under SSQ conditions, and in the main and recovery phases of Aug 2018 storm (night side); zoomed trends in the insets. Bottom: Same plots for 10-40 MeV protons (daylight side).

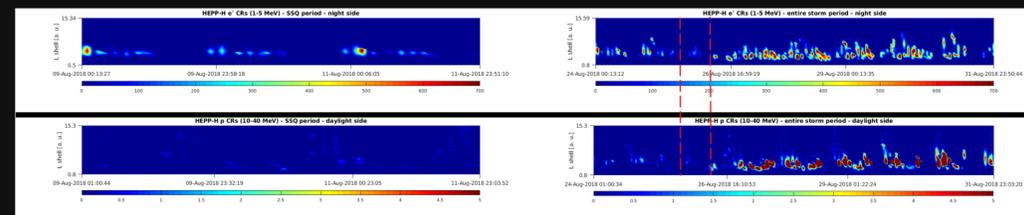


Figure 4: Top: L-vs-UTC colormap of 1-5 MeV e^- CRs (no SAA included) under SSQ conditions, and over the entire duration of Aug 2018 storm (night side). Vertical red dashed lines enclosing main phase. Bottom: Same plots for 10-40 MeV protons (daylight side).

THE GEOGRAPHIC OUTLOOK

SSQ CR maps consistent with SPENVIS model [https://www.spennis.oma.be/] and SAMPEX data [http://lasp.colorado.edu/home/sampex]. Comparison of main+recovery and recovery data consistent with corresponding L and L -vs-UTC maps.

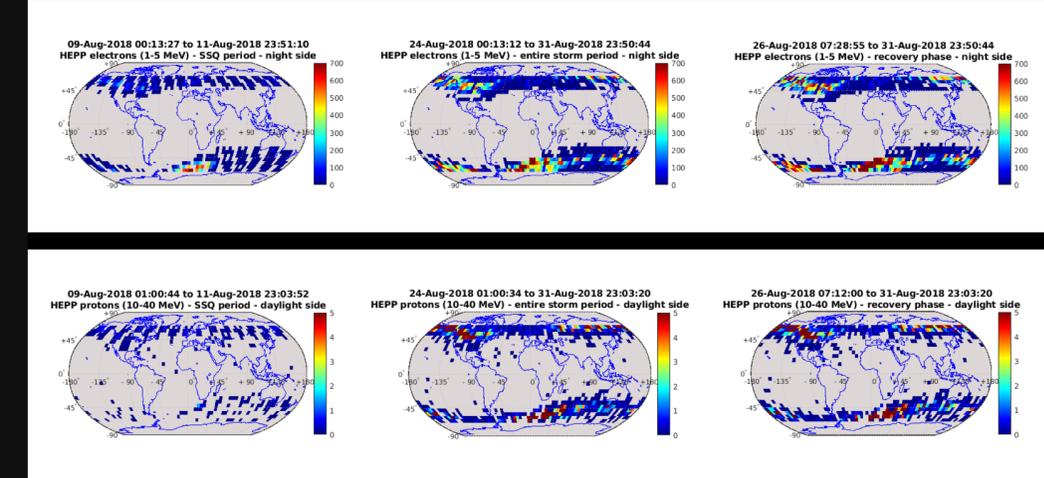


Figure 5: Top: Geomaps of 1-5 MeV e^- CRs (no SAA included) under SSQ conditions, and over the entire duration and recovery phase of Aug 2018 storm (night side). Bottom: Same plots for 10-40 MeV protons (daylight side).

AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW: SOLAR MAGNETIC REFERENCE SYSTEM

Long-lived packing down of e^- and p CR distributions on the xy plane after the arrival of the storm, with enhancement of the "plume" along the z axis and approximately annular enhancement around the Earth (possible proxy of storm-induced current-system rearrangement). Sun along positive x direction, after rotation around y axis by dipole tilt angle.

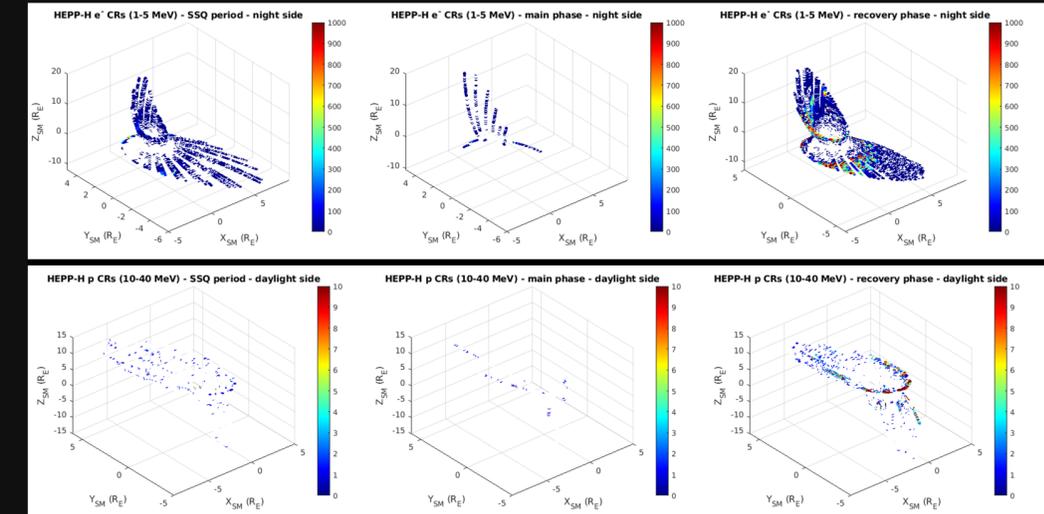


Figure 6: Top: 1-5 MeV e^- CR in the SM reference system (no SAA included) under SSQ conditions, and in the main and recovery phases of Aug 2018 storm (night side). Bottom: Same plots for 10-40 MeV protons (daylight side).