

Professor Allison N. Jaynes
University of Iowa
@spacesci4life

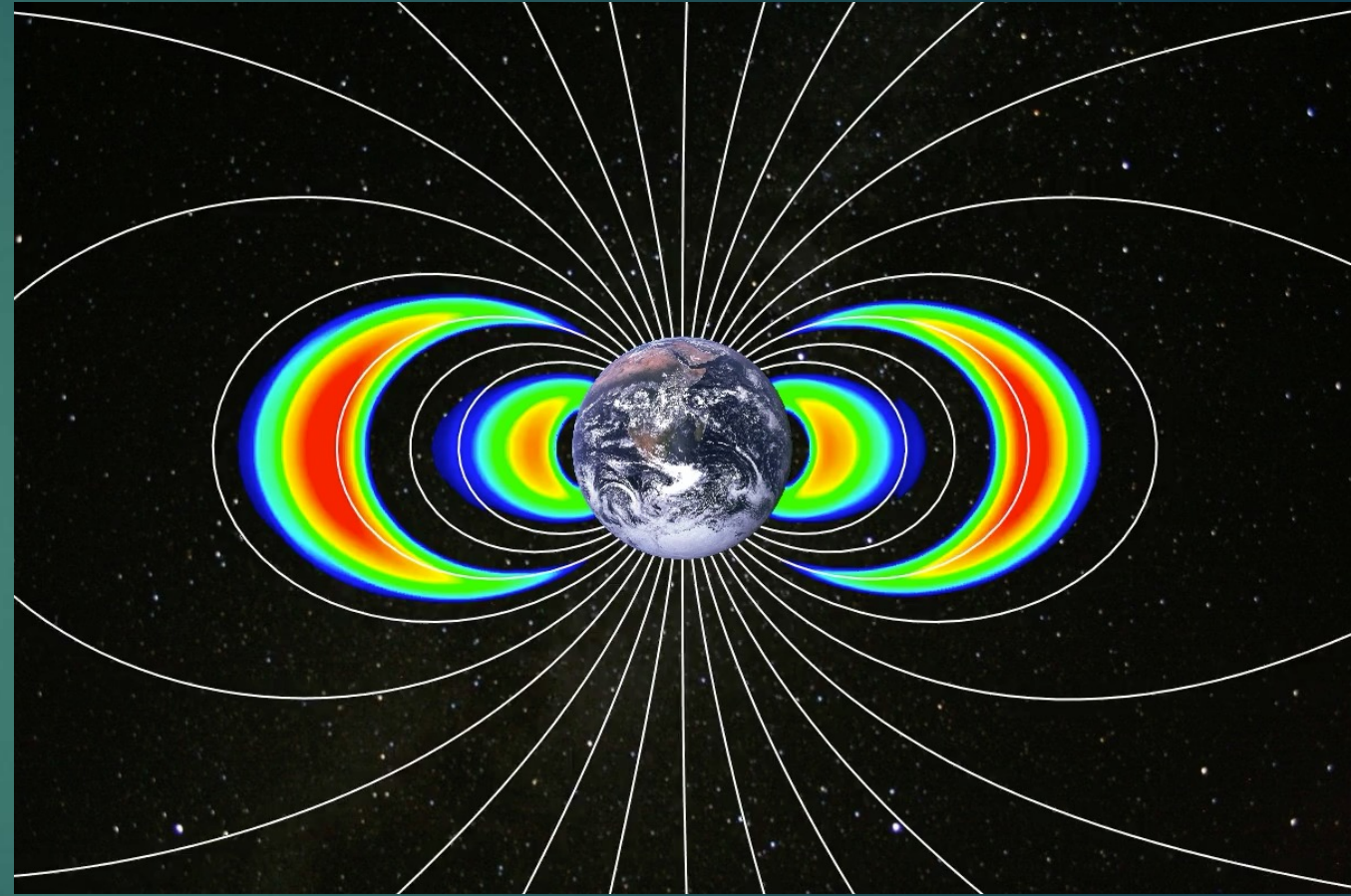
Energetic Particle Dynamics in Planetary Magnetospheres



The fundamental questions

- Where do the highest energy (ultrarelativistic) particles come from?
- How are they transported through the inner magnetosphere?
- What happens to them?

Where can energetic particles be created outside of planetary magnetospheres?

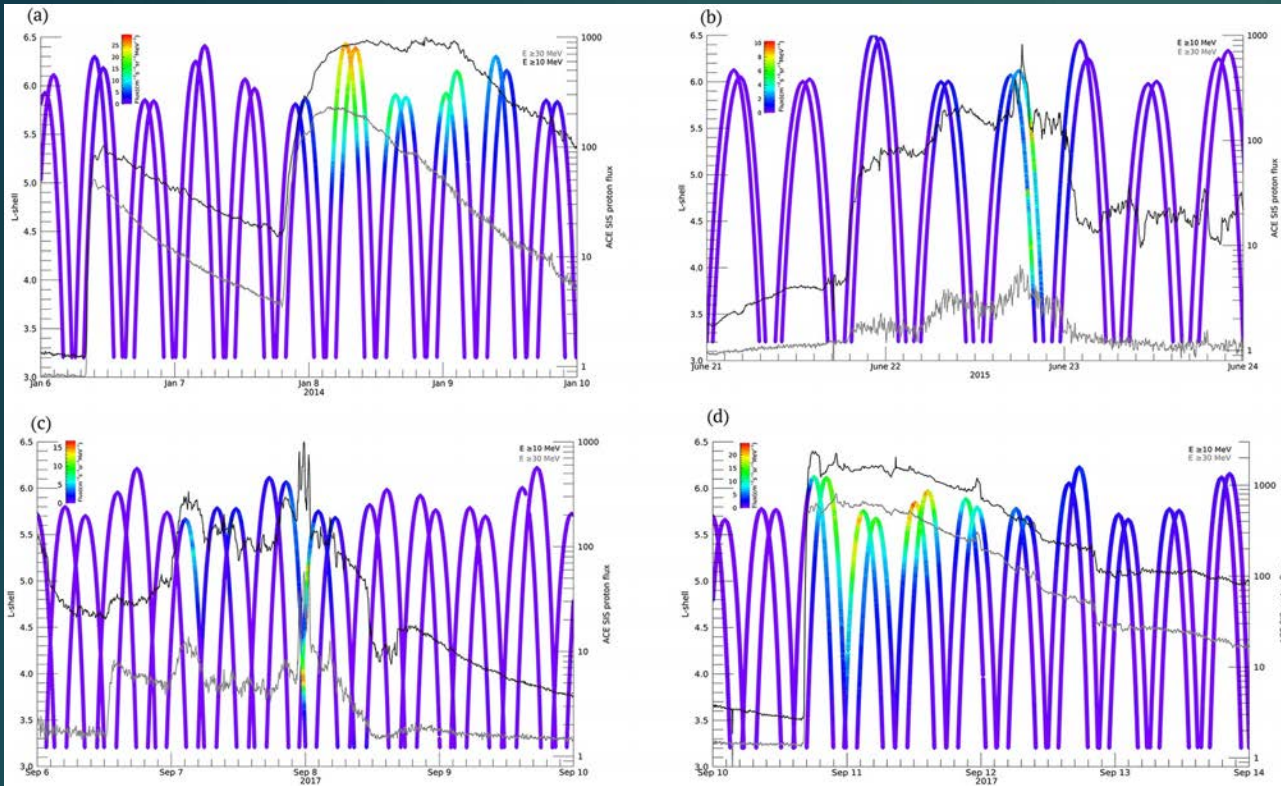


- Evolution of the 'long-lived storage ring' or three-belt structure first reported on in Baker+ 2013

(Movie courtesy of Dan Baker)

Solar Energetic Particles

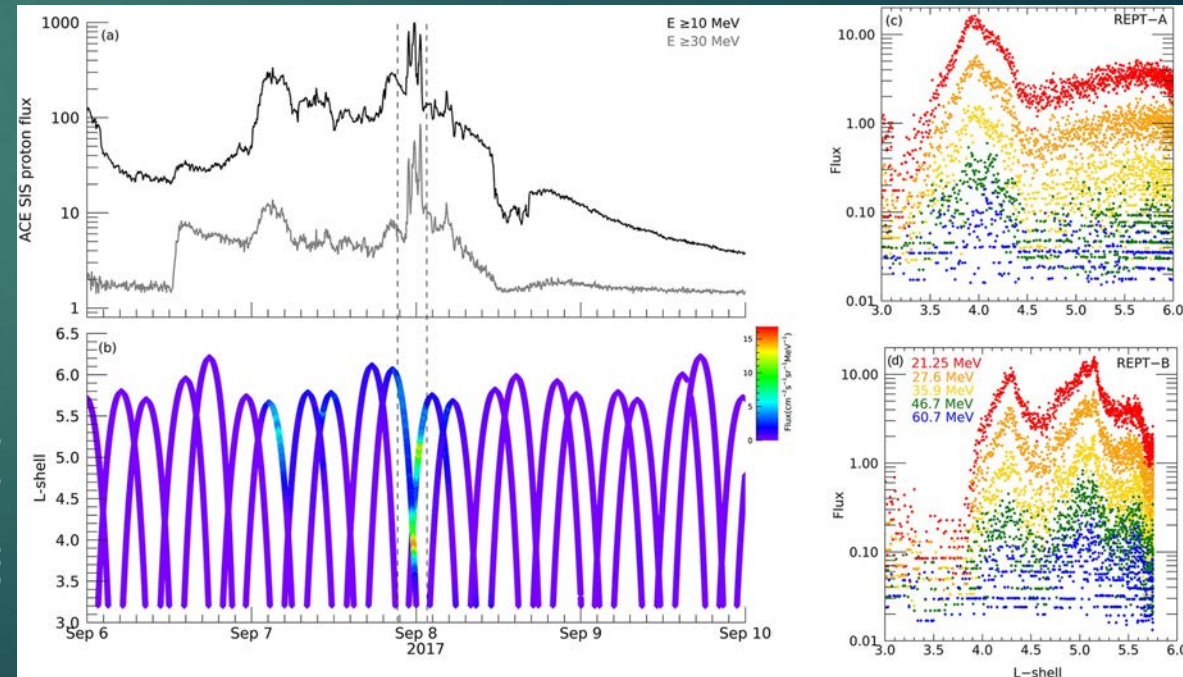
- SEP events are primarily made up of highly energetic protons accelerated either at a flare site or within a CME
- Not many good observations of SEP events during RBSP lifetime
- Filwett+ 2020 studied several events:
 - Remarkable correlation with solar proton observations out at L1
 - Cutoffs don't align with theory



Filwett+ 2020

We don't yet understand the access of SEPs to the inner magnetosphere!

SEPs can get trapped close to Earth and end up concentrated in the inner radiation belt



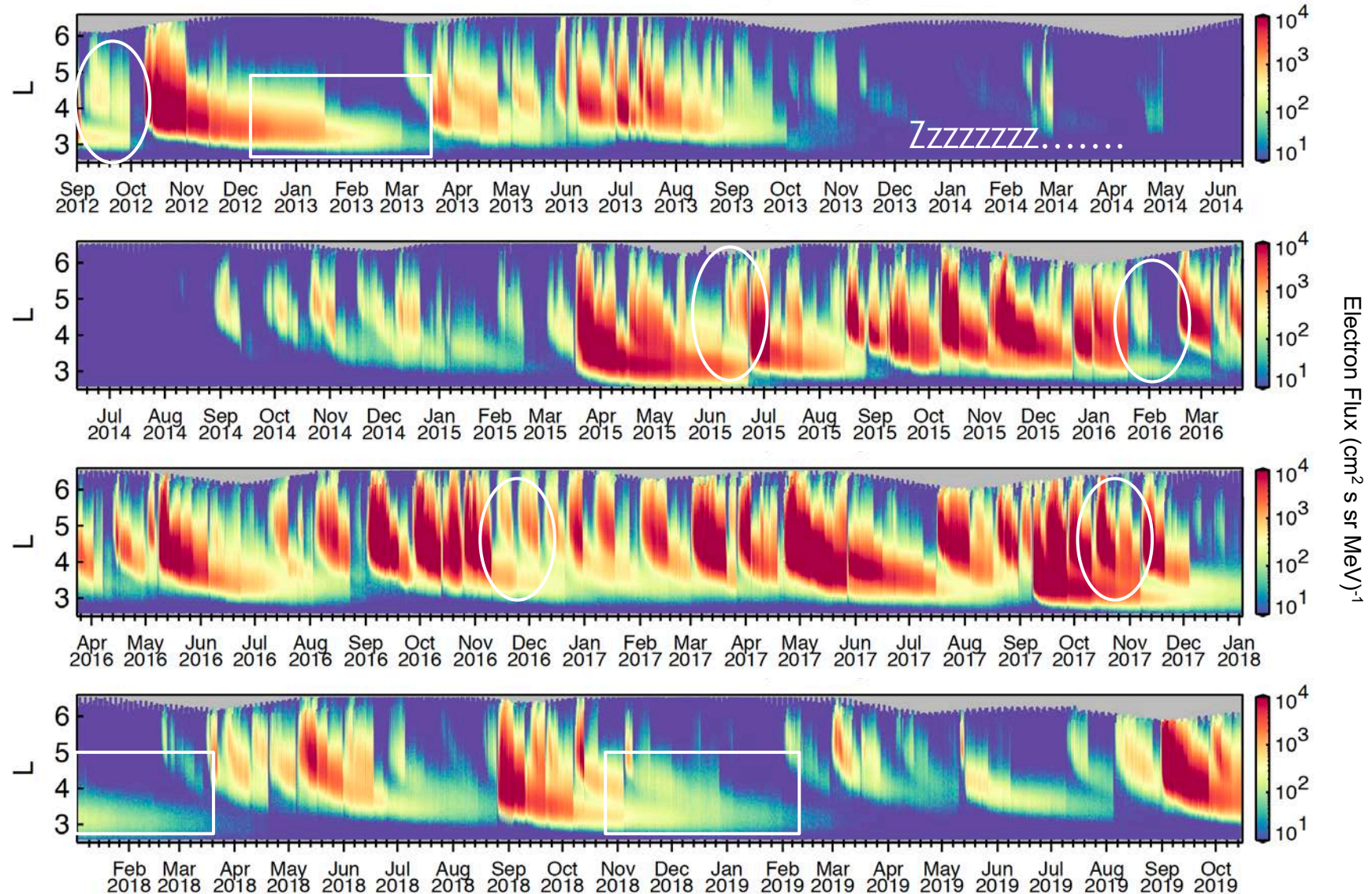
Filwett+ 2020

Electron radiation belts at Earth

Seven years of data show amazing variability of high-energy electrons

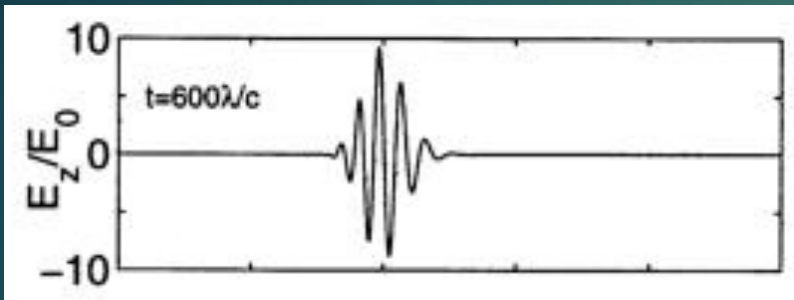
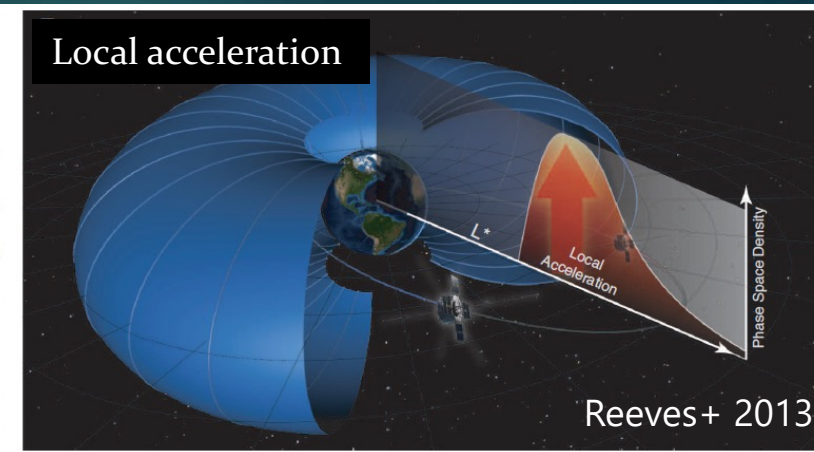
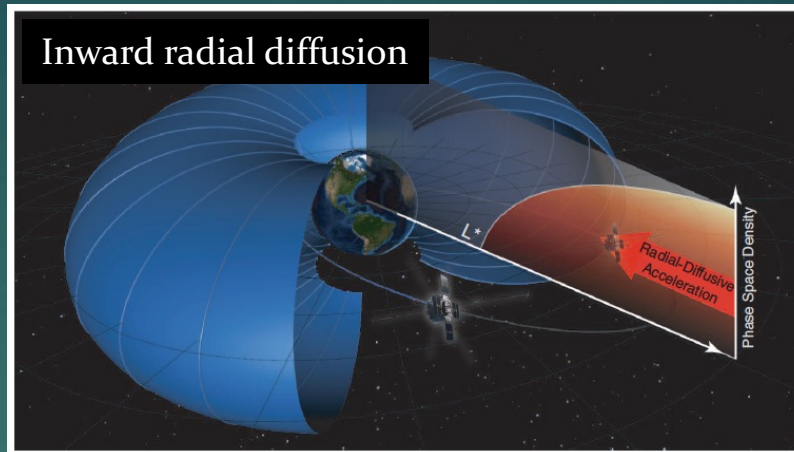
- Extremely quiet through 2013-2014
- Remnant belts appear regularly (double outer belt), Baker+ 2013
- Quiet periods of slow decay make great tests of diffusion rates
- HSS activity picked up in declining phase (2015 - now), with noticeable repeat enhancements from coronal holes

REPT A & B 4.2 MeV Electrons



What is the dominant mechanism behind acceleration to ultrarelativistic energies?

Wave-particle interactions!



Shvets and Tushentsov (2005)

Inward radial diffusion:

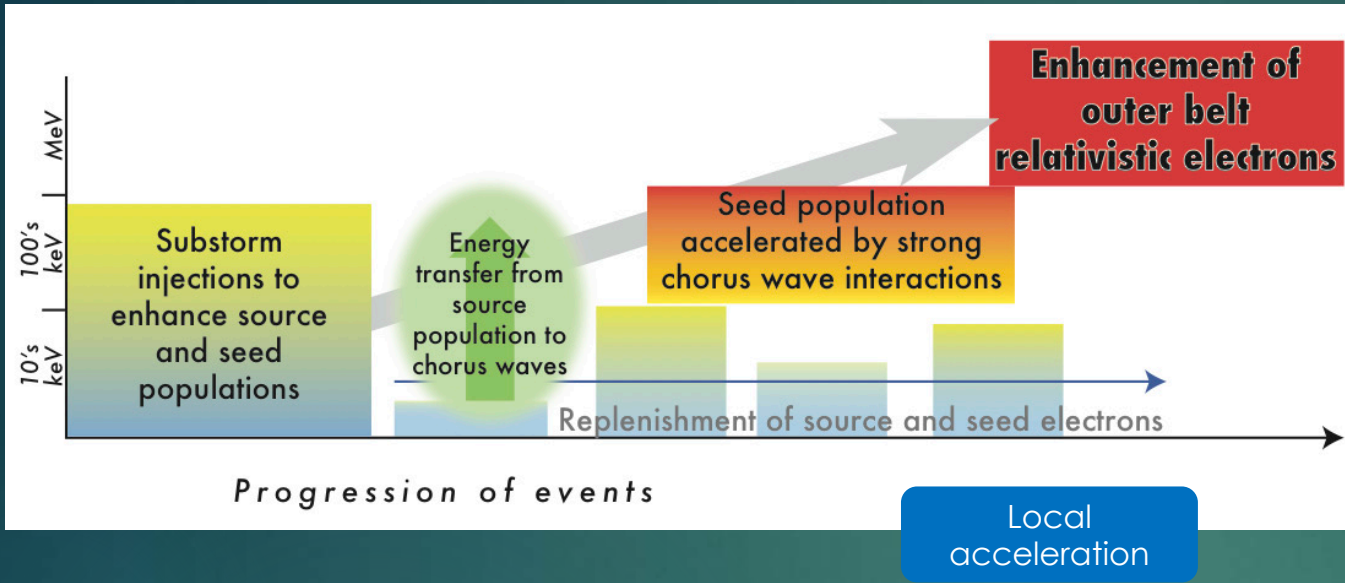
- Driven by ULF waves
- Stochastic changes in L-shell, result in changes in energy
- Source is from outward location to more inner location

Local acceleration

- Driven by VLF (chorus) waves
- Stochastic changes in energy
- Source is in place (e.g. "local")

New question: When and under what conditions is one mechanism or the other the dominant factor?

Different events show evidence of each mechanism



Jaynes + 2015

In September, 2014 a storm period failed to produce high-energy electrons in the radiation belts

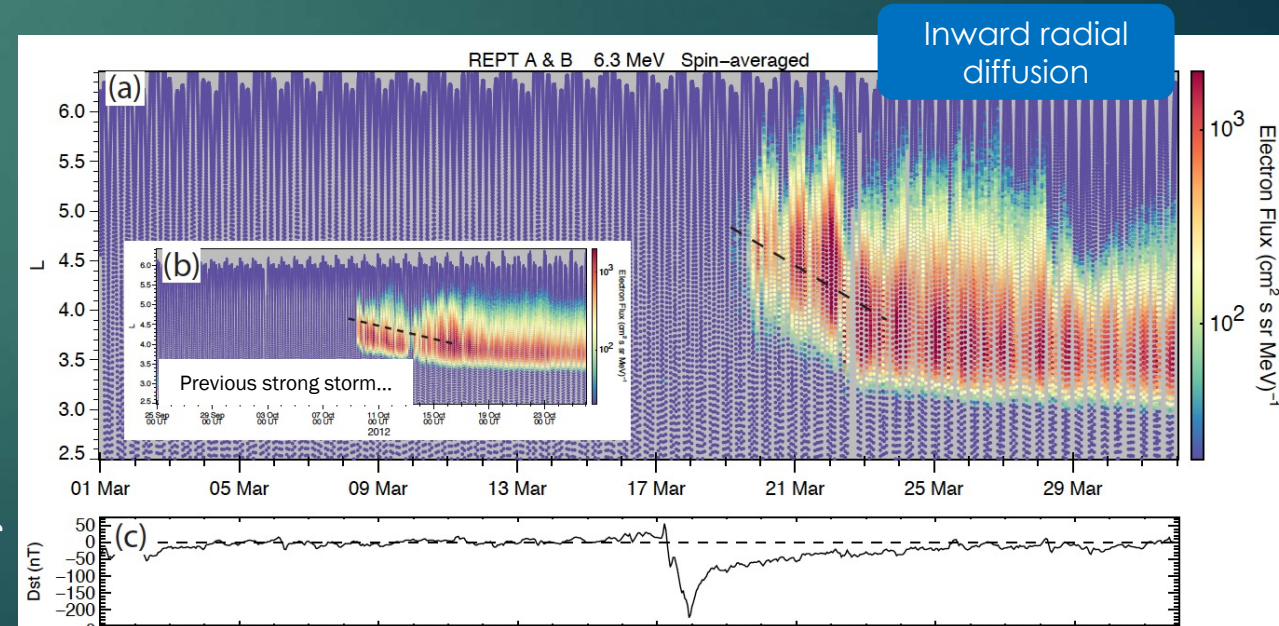
- No low-energy particles to drive VLF waves
- Local acceleration could not take place

In March, 2015 a storm period produced ultrarelativistic electrons during recovery period

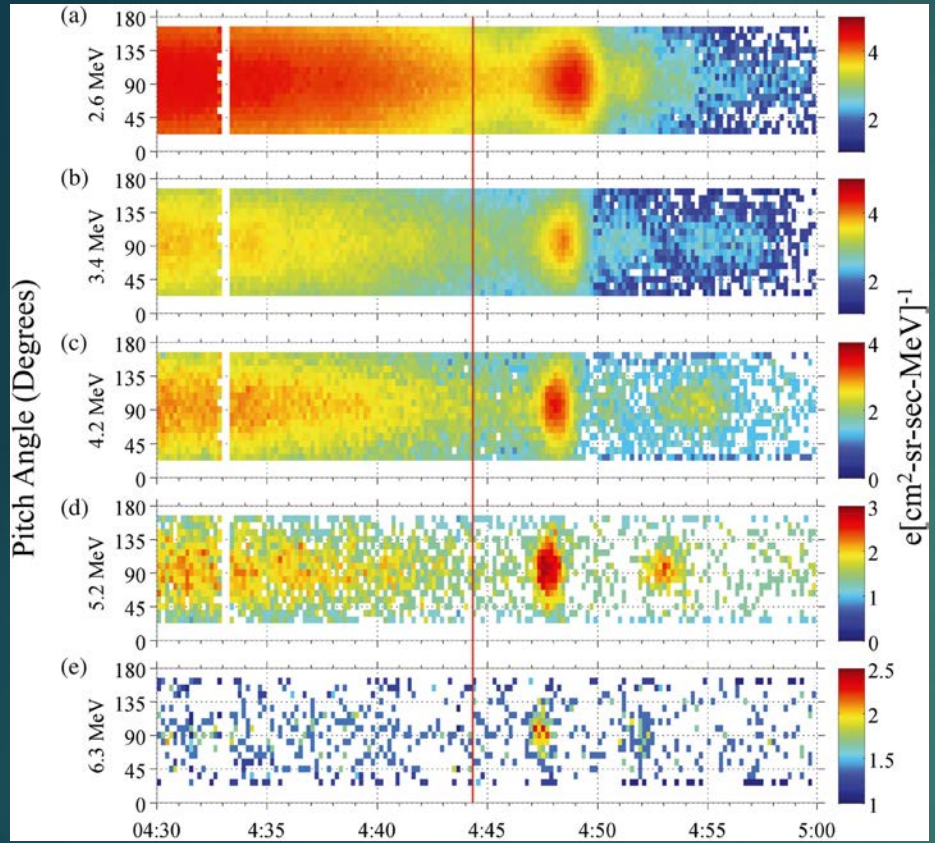
- VLF waves were absent
- Acceleration was due to strong inward radial diffusion

The emerging picture is one where BOTH mechanisms operate, often at the same time, potentially acting on different energies.

Jaynes + 2018



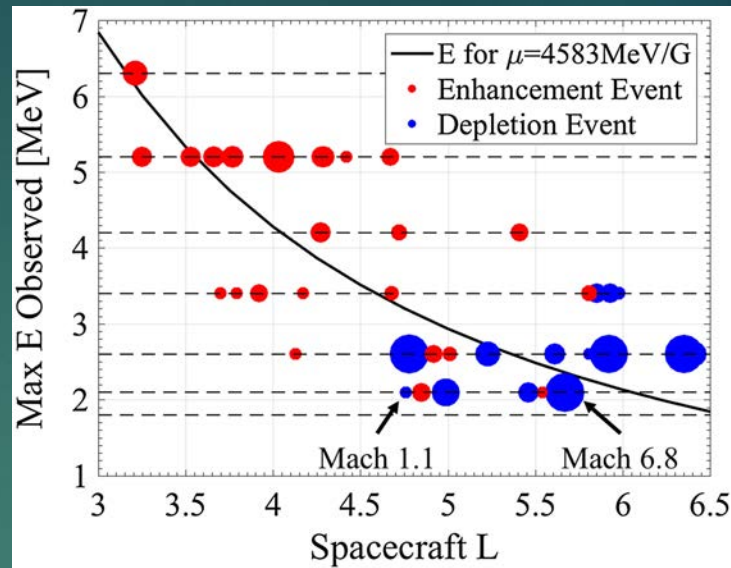
Shock-induced acceleration



Kanekal + 2016

March 17, 2015 storm

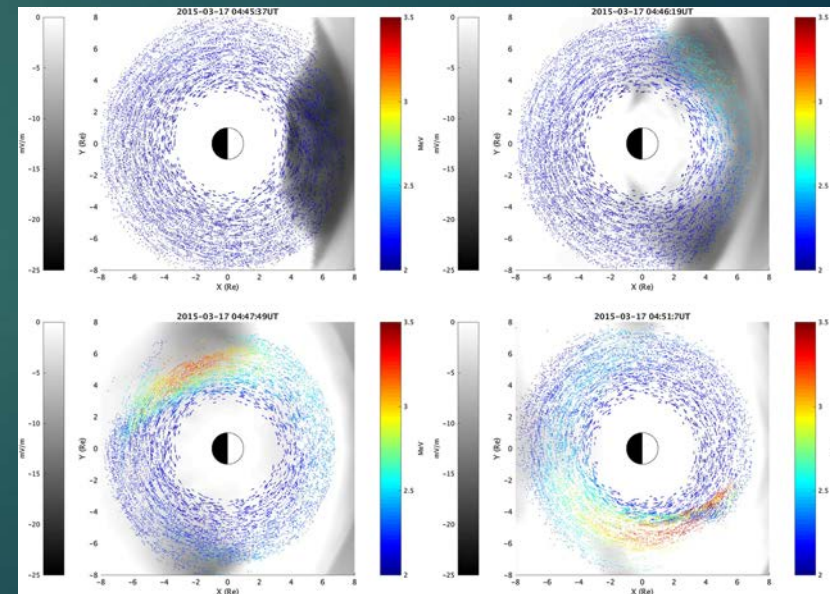
- Prompt appearance of ultrarelativistic electrons within two minutes of IP shock impact
- In this case, up to 6.3 MeV (Cf. Foster+ 2015)



Schiller+ 2016

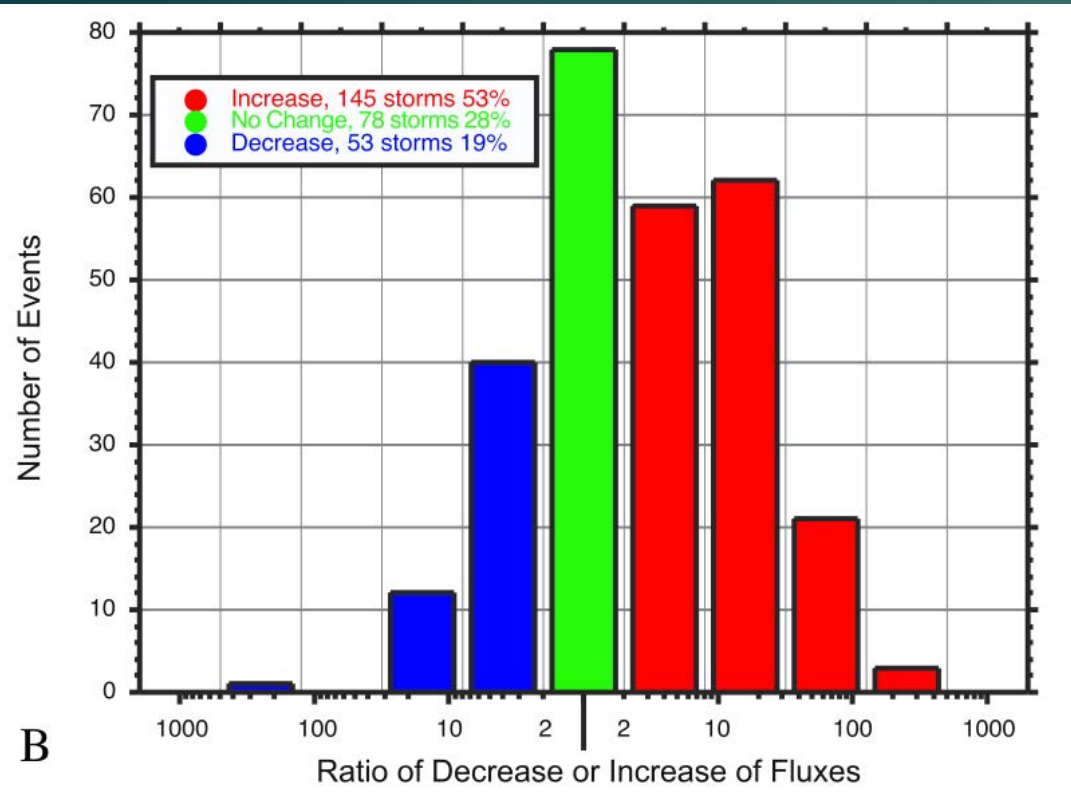
- 25% of IP shock impacts produce shock-induced enhancements
- 14% produce sudden depletions (at higher L)

- The March 2015 case was reproduced with MHD test particle simulations using a strong azimuthal electric field to produce prompt injection



Hudson+ 2017

How are geomagnetic storms related to radiation belt changes?



B

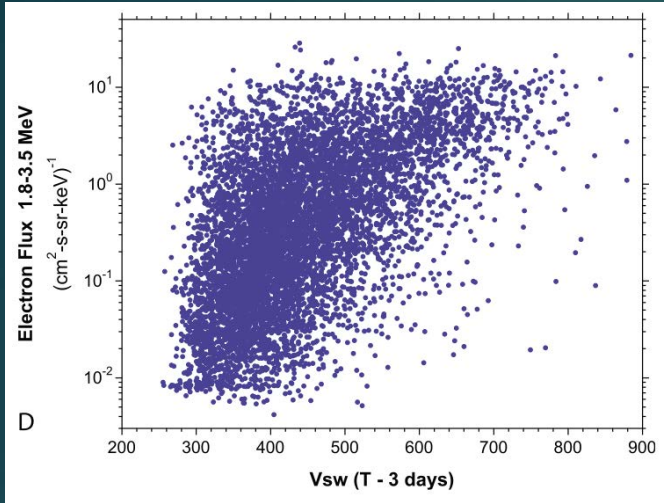
Reeves+ 2003

Response of 1-3 MeV electrons in outer radiation belt over 11 years (276 storms!)

What does this plot tell you?

- A given storm can increase or decrease relativistic flux
- Almost no correlation between pre- and post-storm fluxes
- No relation to Dst, slight relation to solar wind speed
- “If you’ve seen one storm, you’ve seen one storm”

Substorms (not storms) are critical

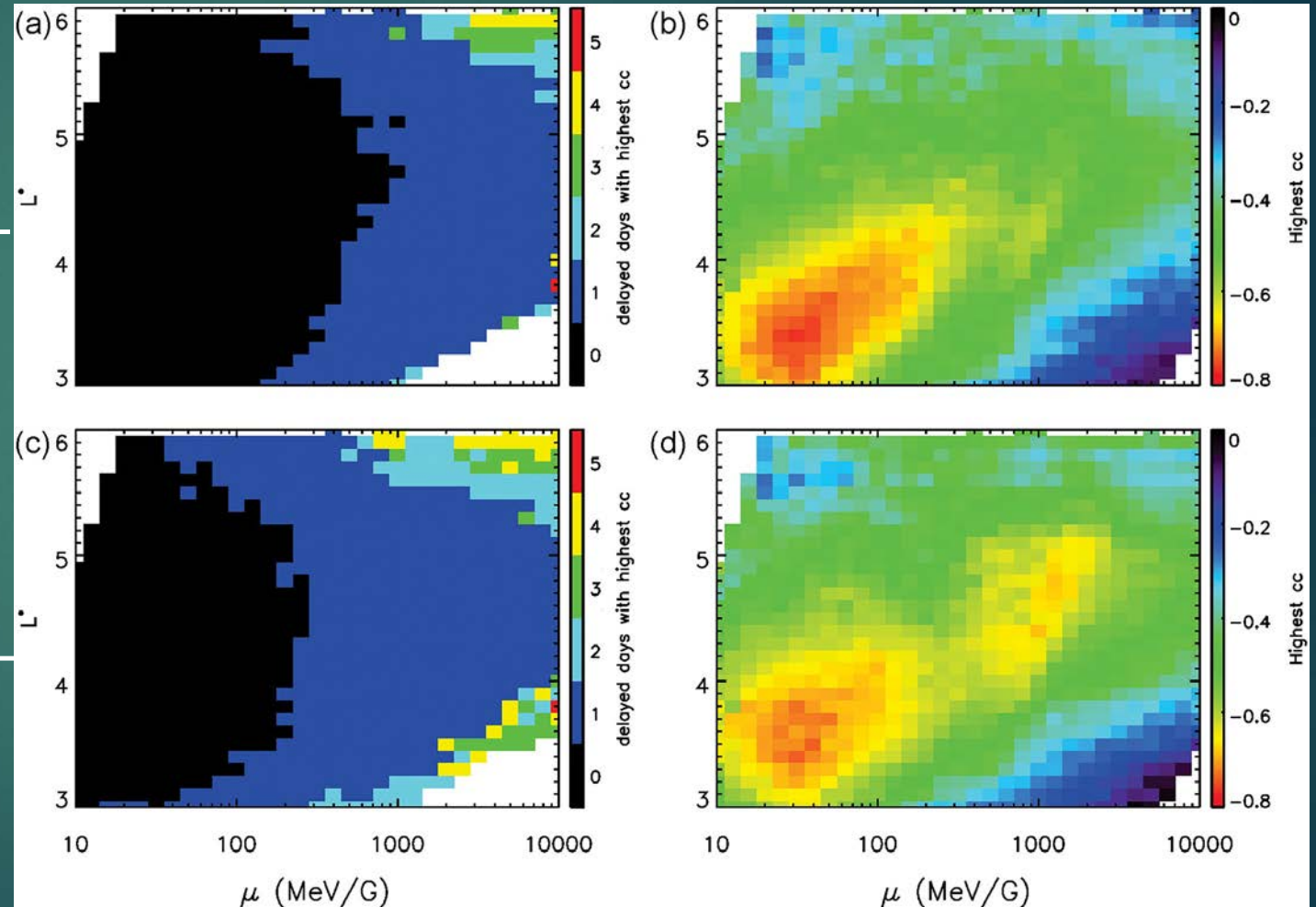


Reeves + 2017

SYM-

Corresponding time lag

Highest correlation coefficient



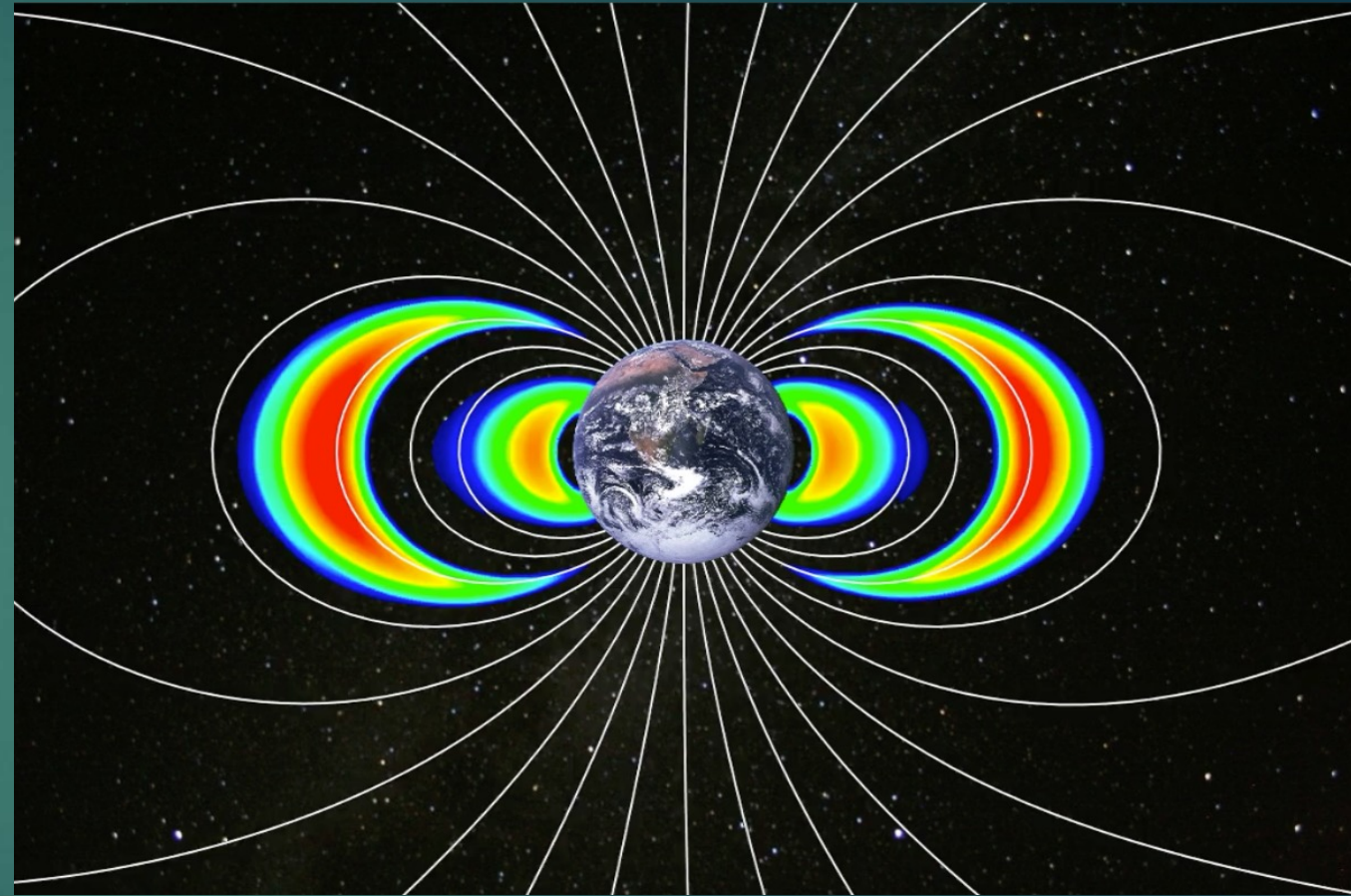
AL

Zhao+ 2017

- For high energies (μ), substorm index has higher correlation than storm index (Zhao+ 2017)
- Substorms can contribute to increased power in both VLF waves (local acceleration) and ULF waves (inward radial diffusion)

The fundamental questions

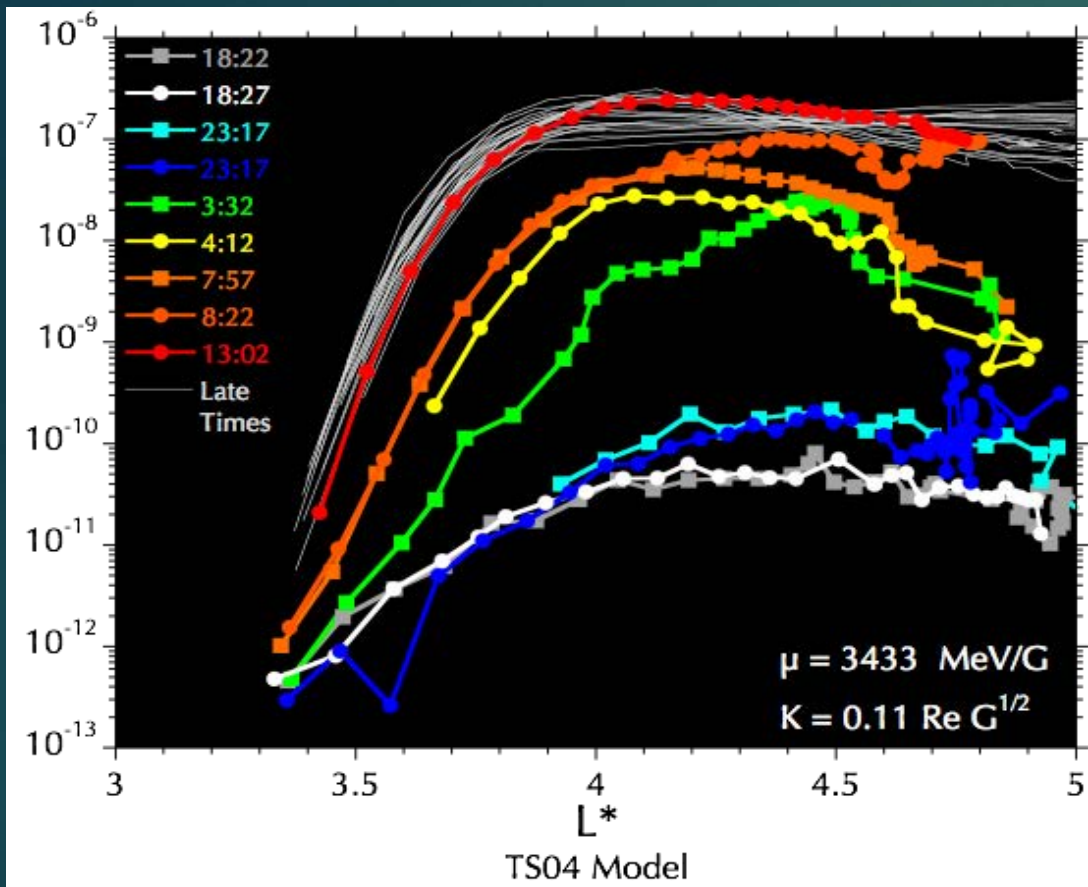
- Where do the highest energy (ultrarelativistic) electrons come from?
- How are they transported through the inner magnetosphere?
- What happens to them?



- Evolution of the 'long-lived storage ring' or three-belt structure first reported on in Baker+ 2013

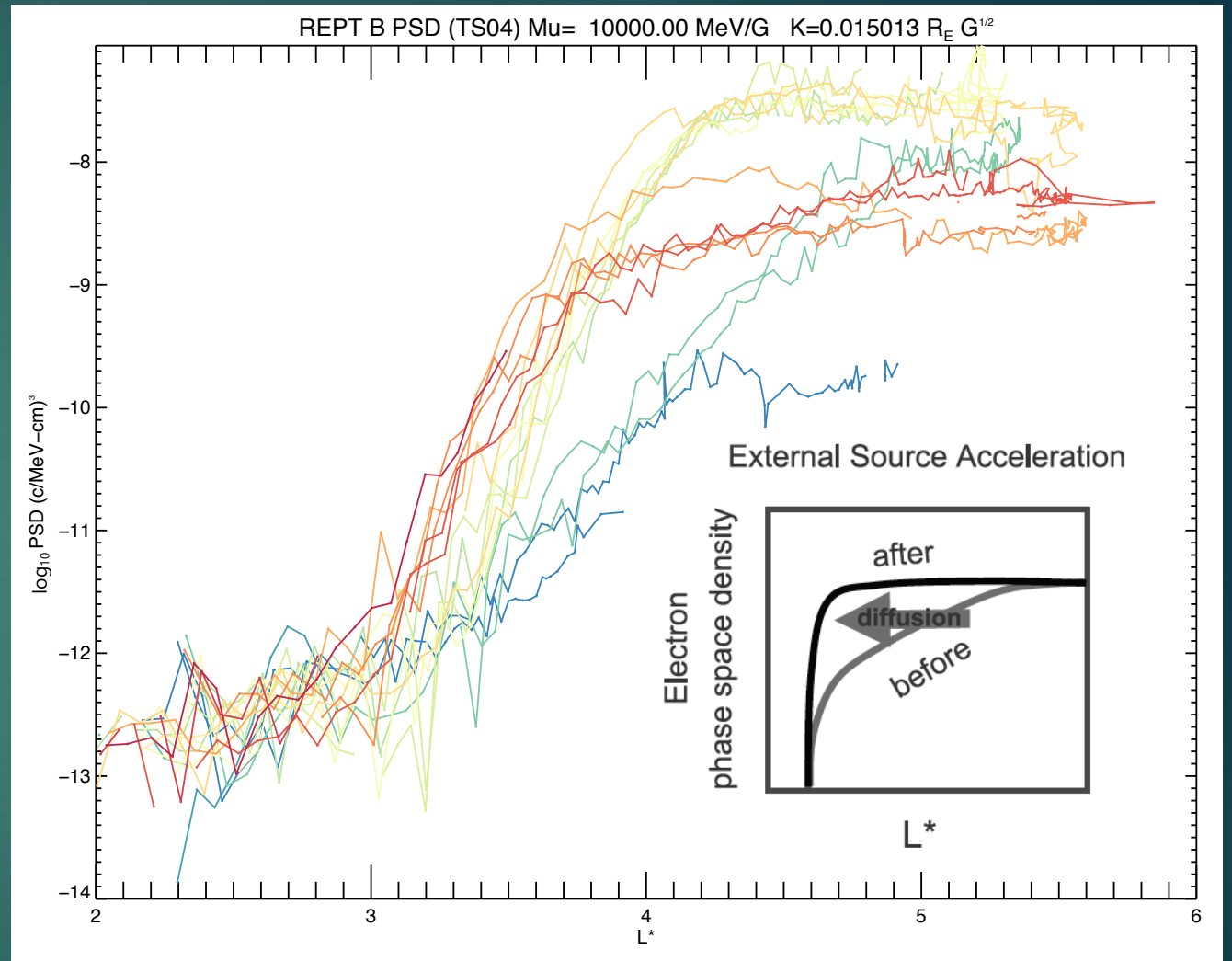
(Movie courtesy of Dan Baker)

Inward and outward radial diffusion



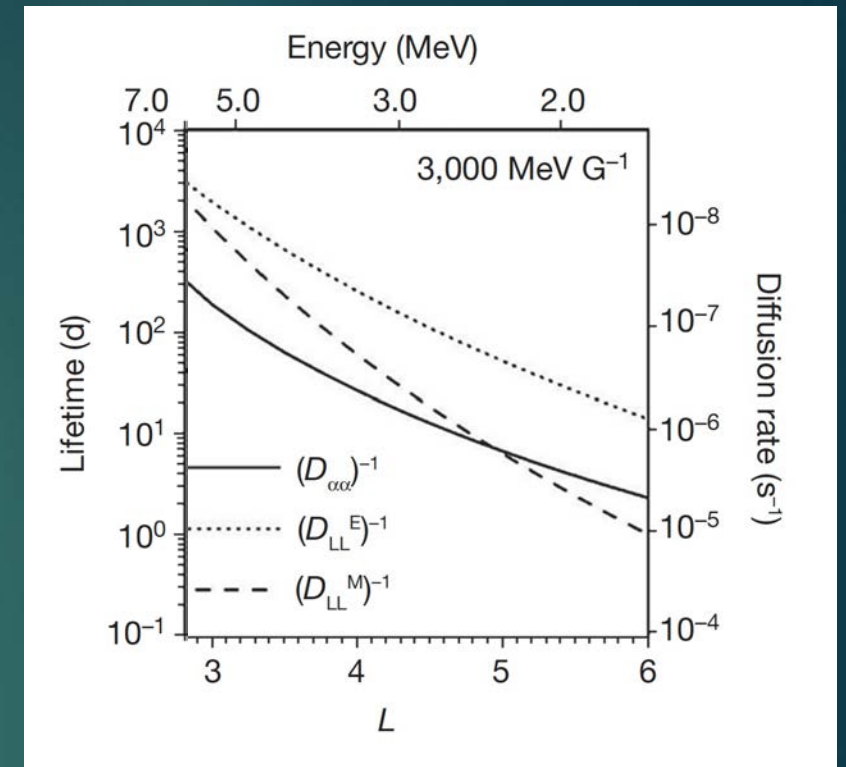
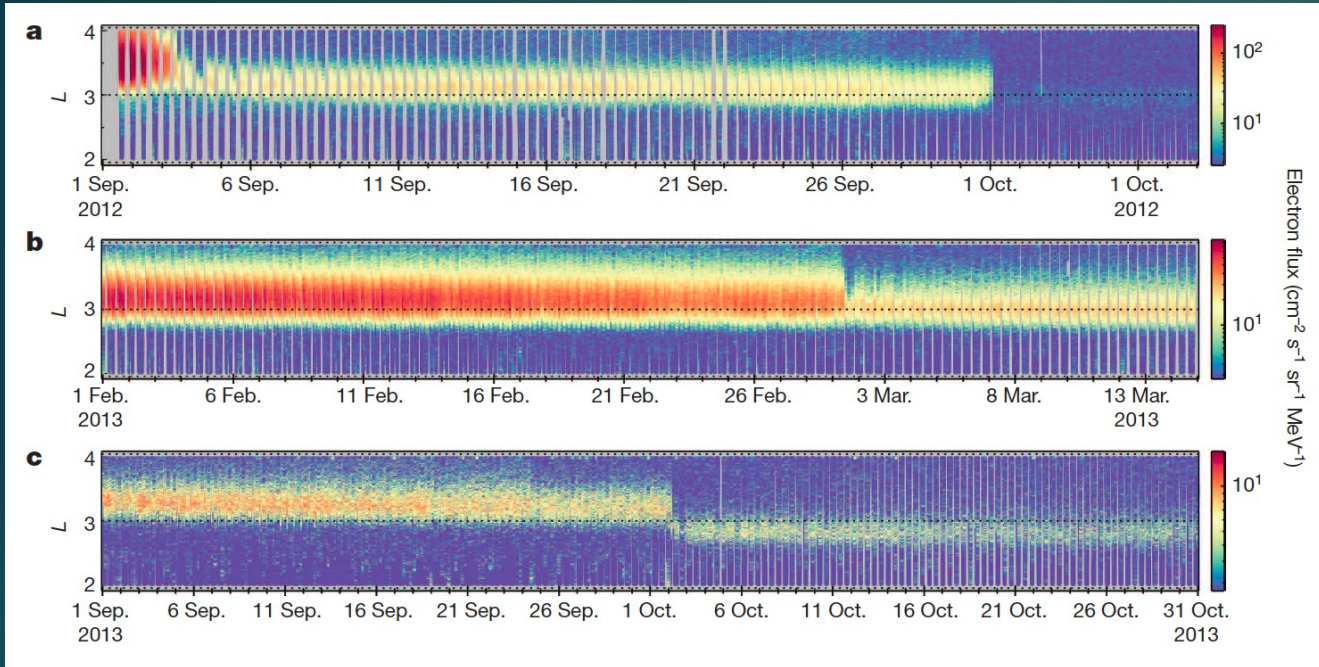
Reeves+ 2013

- Outward: intersect the magnetopause → open field lines
- Inward: ?

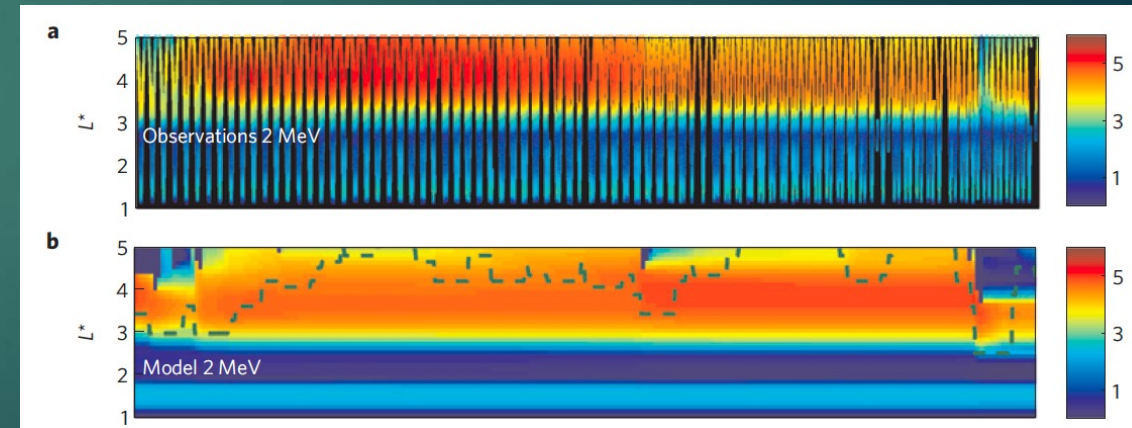


Jaynes+ 2018

The "Impenetrable Barrier"



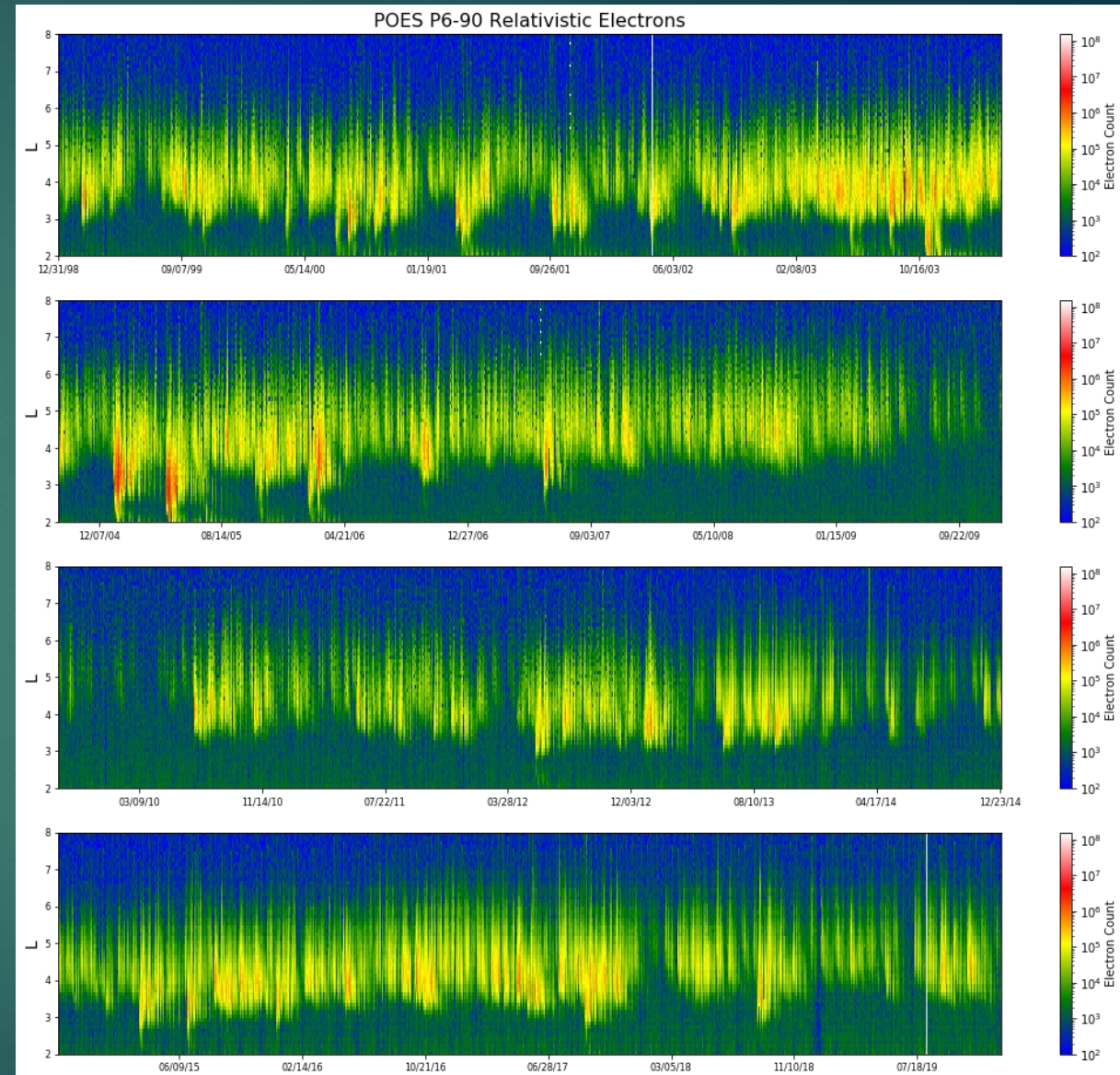
- There exists an effective barrier to ultrarelativistic electrons almost all the time at $L \sim 2.8$ (Cf. Li+ 2015)
- Strong solar driving can breach this barrier
- Originally, the only cause was thought to be a balance of inward radial diffusion and pitch angle diffusion driven by hiss waves, both with very high lifetimes



Shprits+ 2013

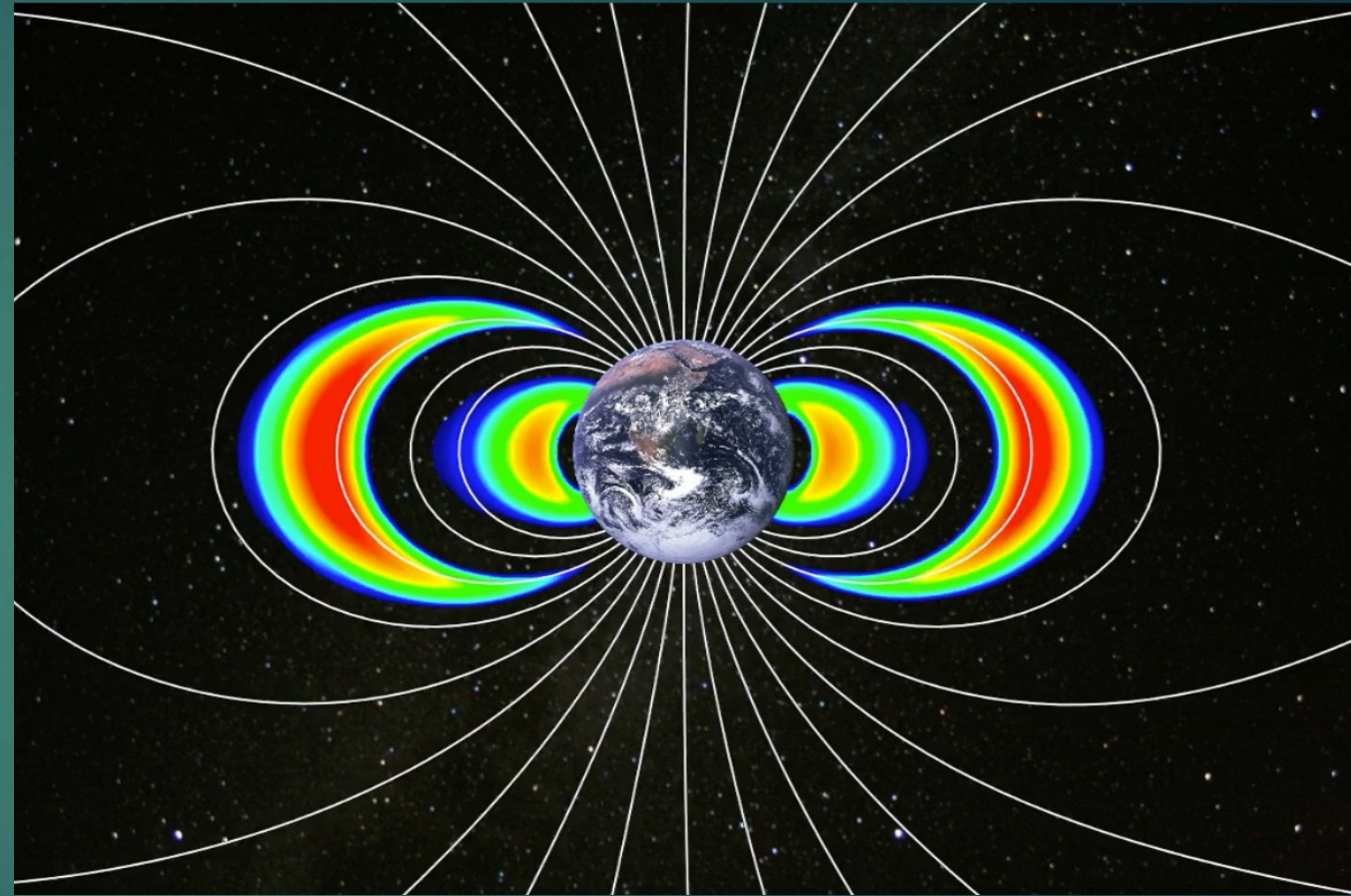
Long-term observations of the barrier

- Long-term continuous POES observations allow us to see the times when the barrier has been breached (for >1 MeV electrons)
- What solar wind conditions are necessary for this to occur?
- This is not a very common feature – happening only a couple dozen times over the past 20 years



The fundamental questions

- Where do the highest energy (ultrarelativistic) electrons come from?
- How are they transported through the inner magnetosphere?
- What happens to them?



- Evolution of the 'long-lived storage ring' or three-belt structure first reported on in Baker+ 2013

(Movie courtesy of Dan Baker)

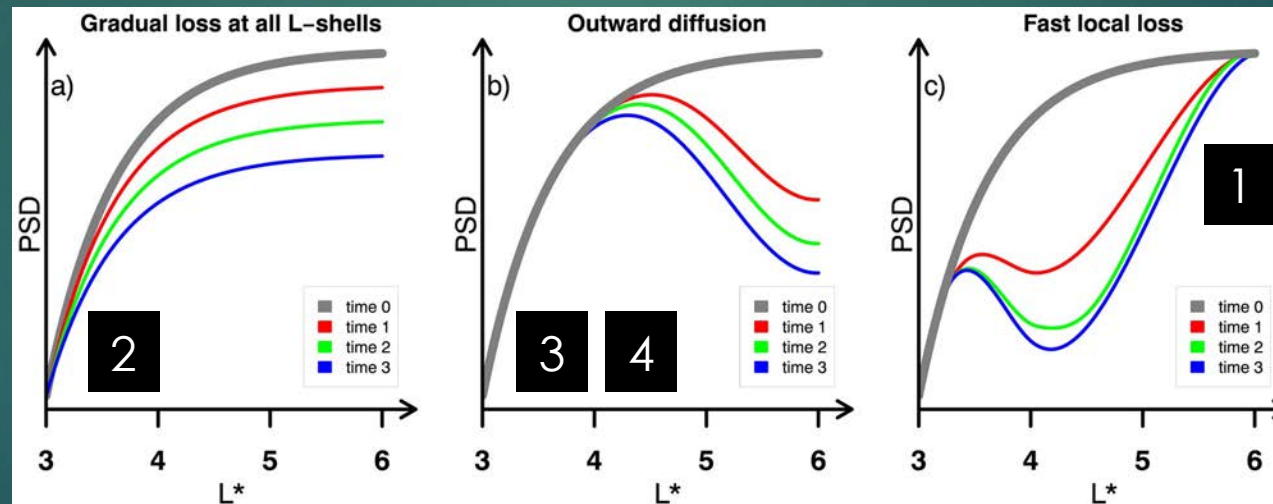
Loss mechanisms

Loss to the atmosphere

- 1 Pitch angle scattering by EMIC waves
- 2 Pitch angle scattering by VLF hiss waves

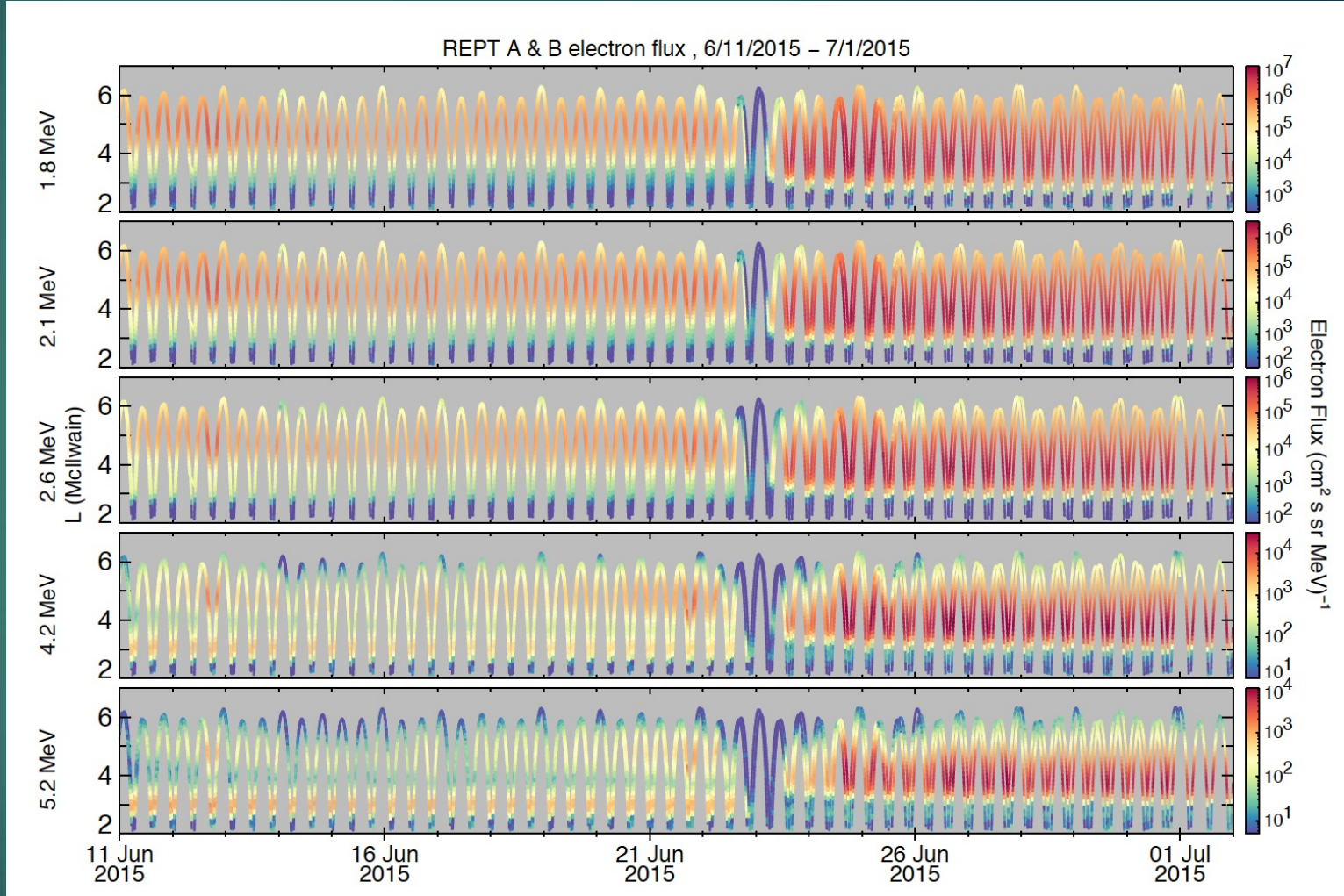
Loss to the magnetopause

- 3 Outward radial diffusion
- 4 Sudden magnetosphere compression

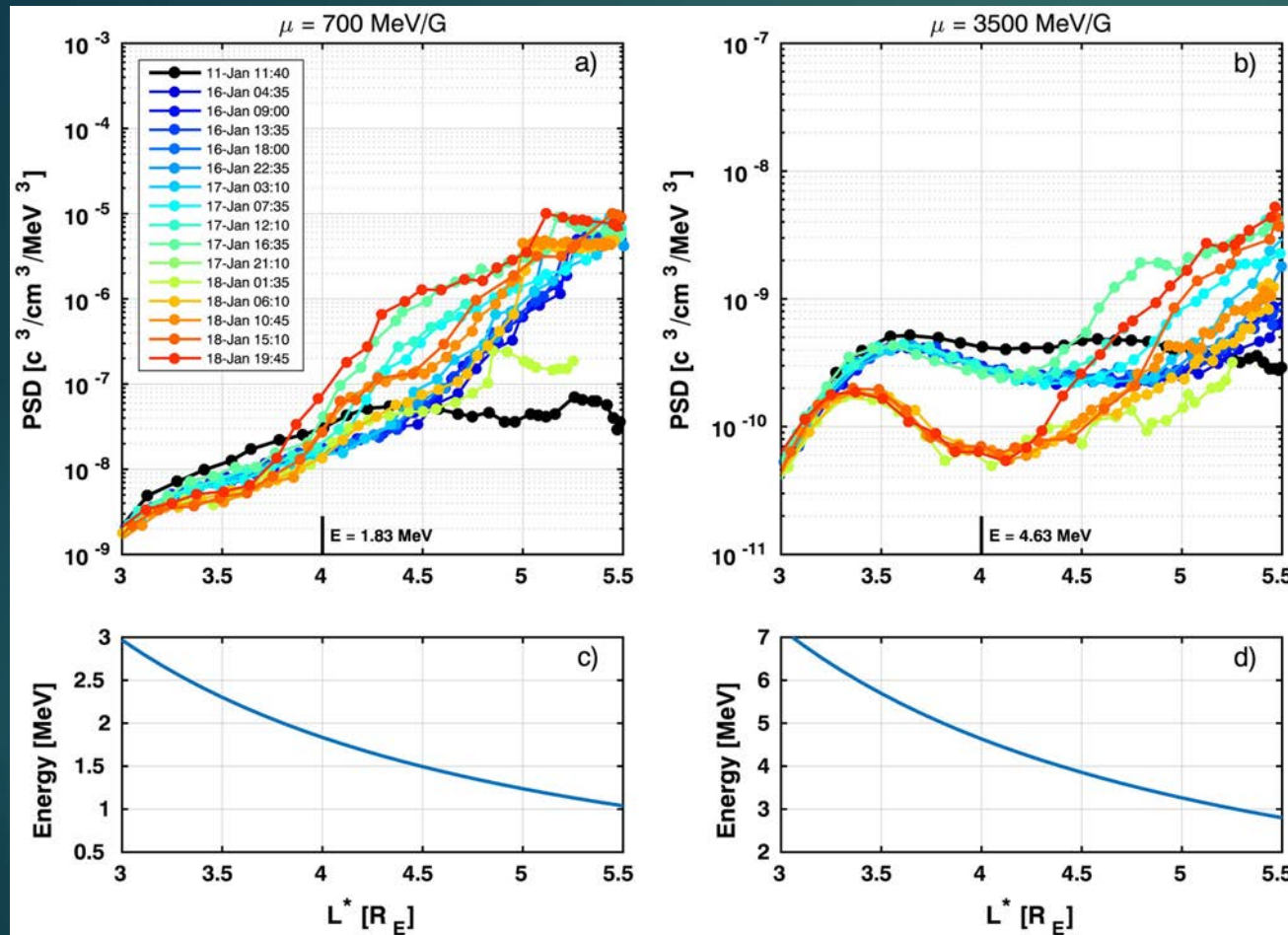


The mystery

- Sudden losses across wide range of Lshells and energies ("dropout events")
- Magnetopause is often compressed, but we either have outward diffusion rates wrong or there is something else at play



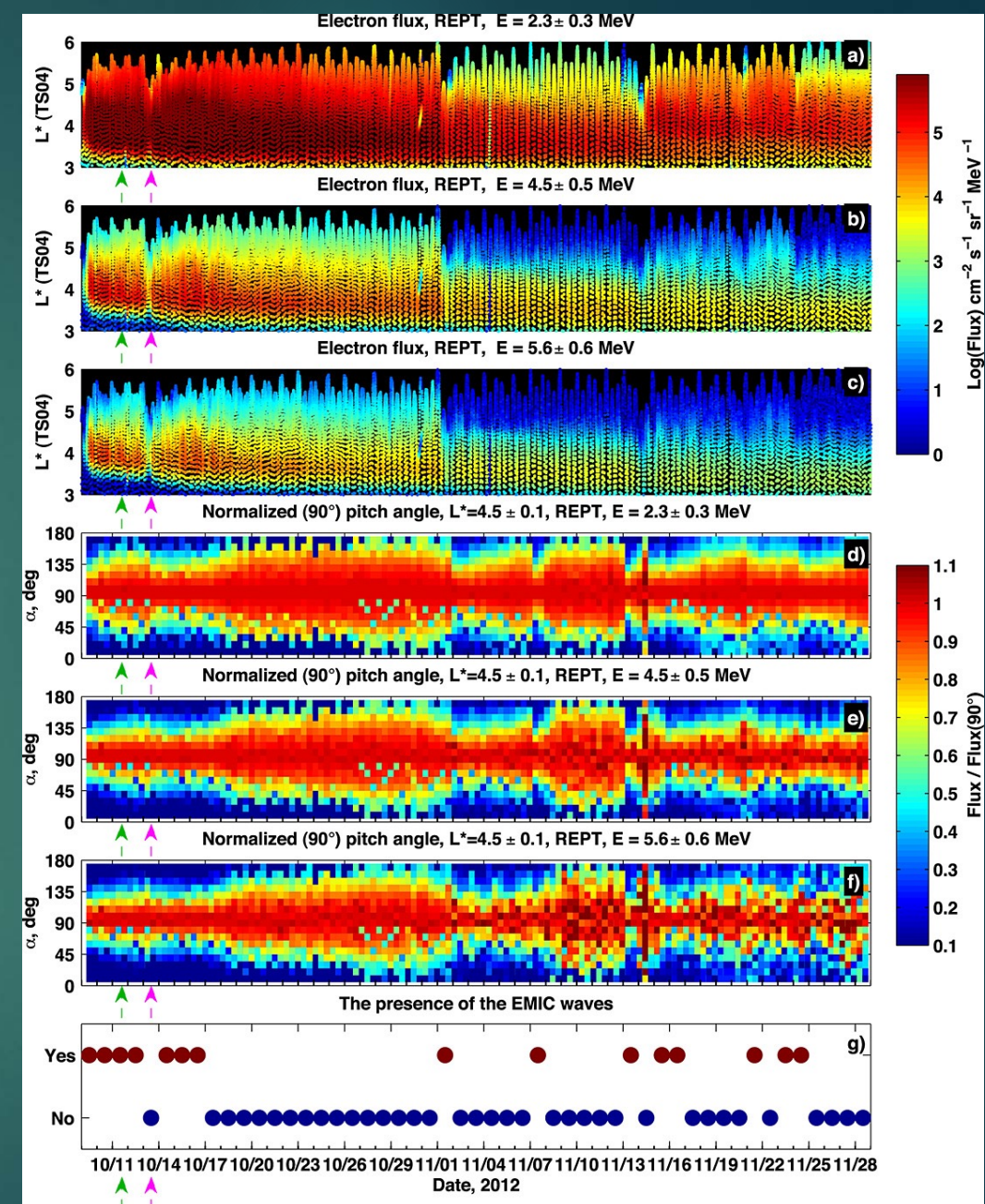
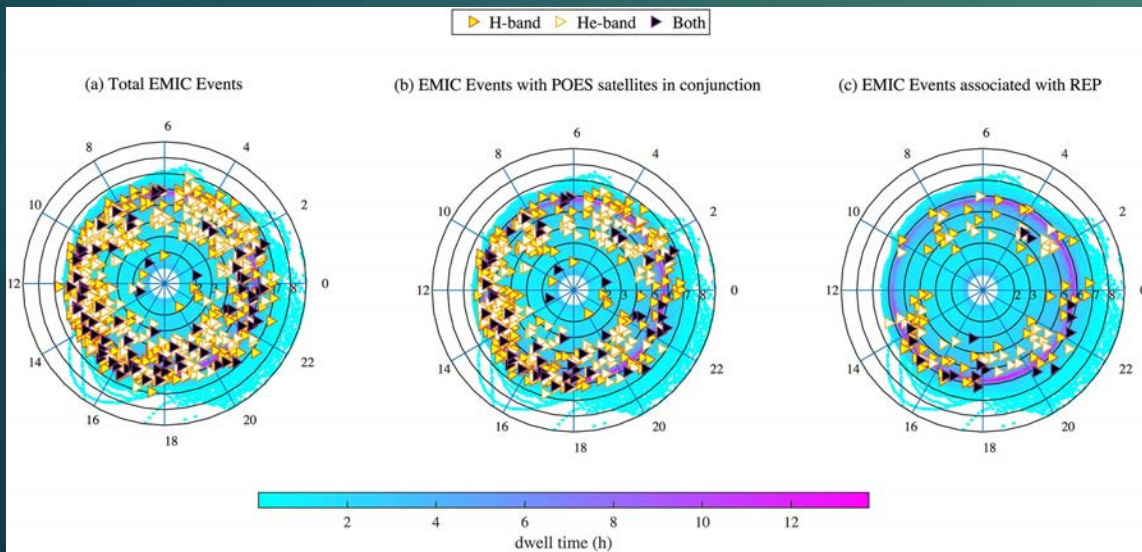
EMIC wave loss



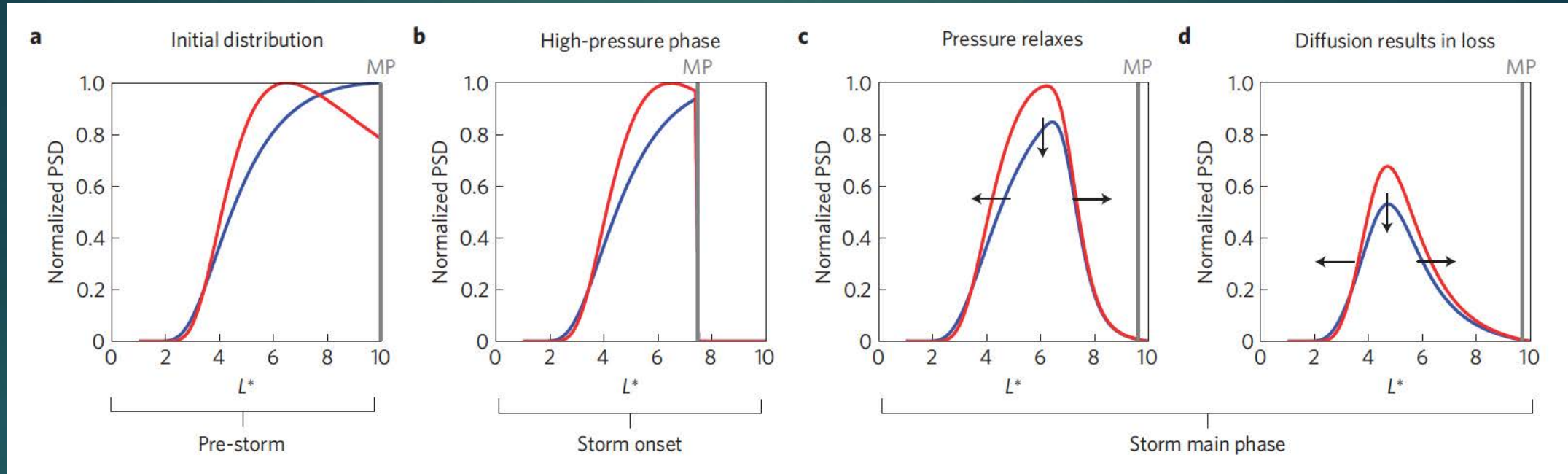
- EMIC waves: do they significantly affect $>\text{MeV}$ electrons?
- Evidence shows 'bite-outs' of PSD profile – can only be explained by fast loss due to EMIC waves
- How common is this?

EMIC wave loss

- EMIC waves certainly cause losses at low pitch angles (Usanova+ 2014)
- But comparing Relativistic Electron Precipitation (REP) with EMIC waves shows only a weak relationship
- Open question: can EMIC losses account for a substantial part of total radiation belt loss?



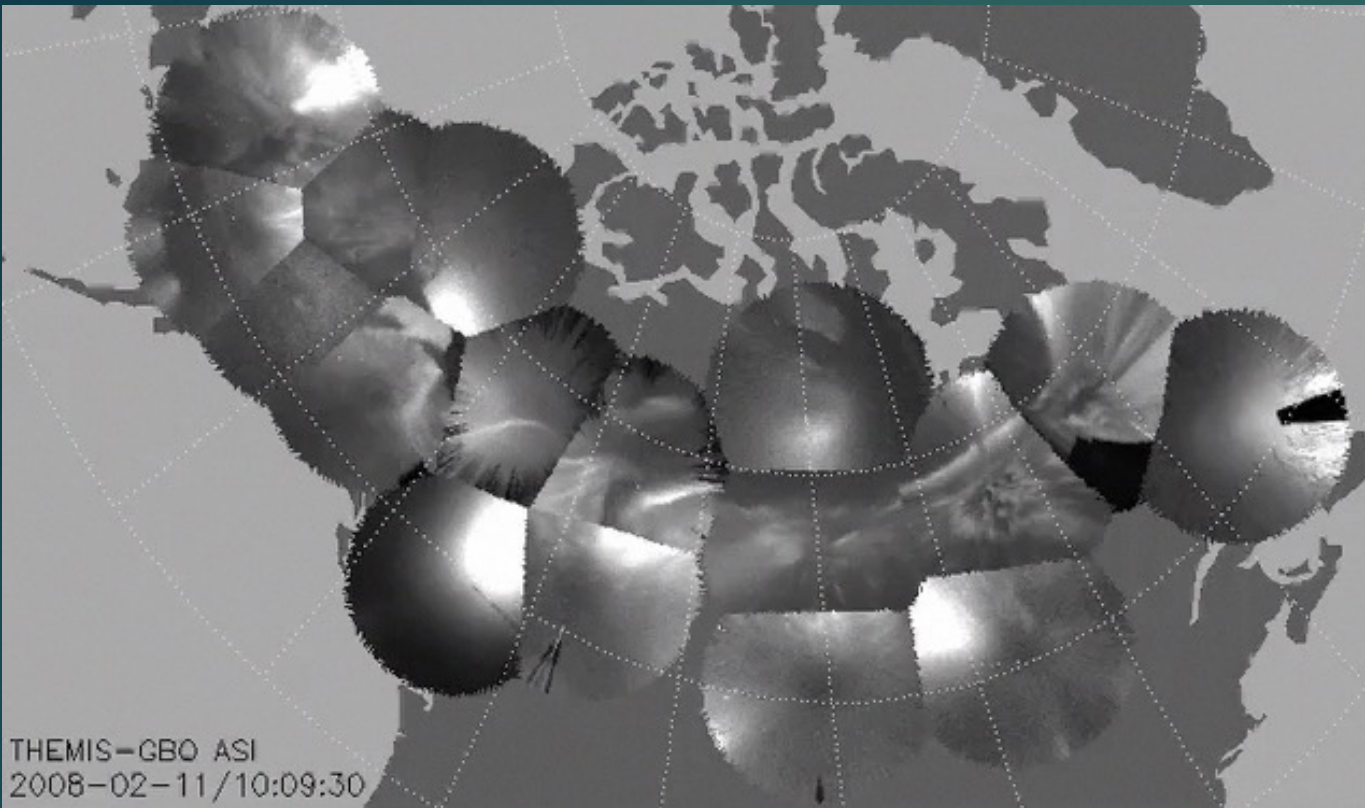
MP compression + outward radial diffusion



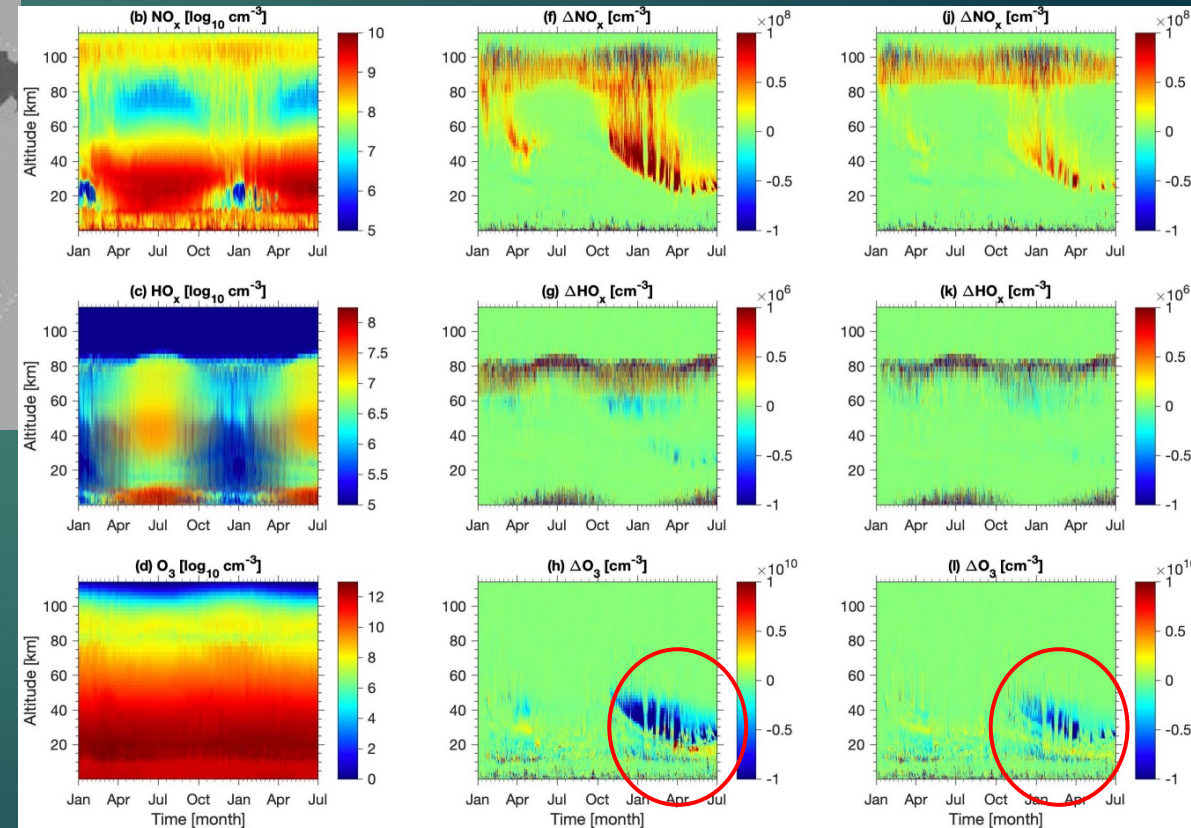
Turner+ 2012

- This describes some events very well but those that effectively empty the radiation belts are more tricky
- Ring current expansion is likely very involved
- Just MP shadowing incursion + outward diffusion does not explain emptying of radiation belts down to low L-shells (diffusion rates are not quick enough)

Energetic precipitation associated with aurora



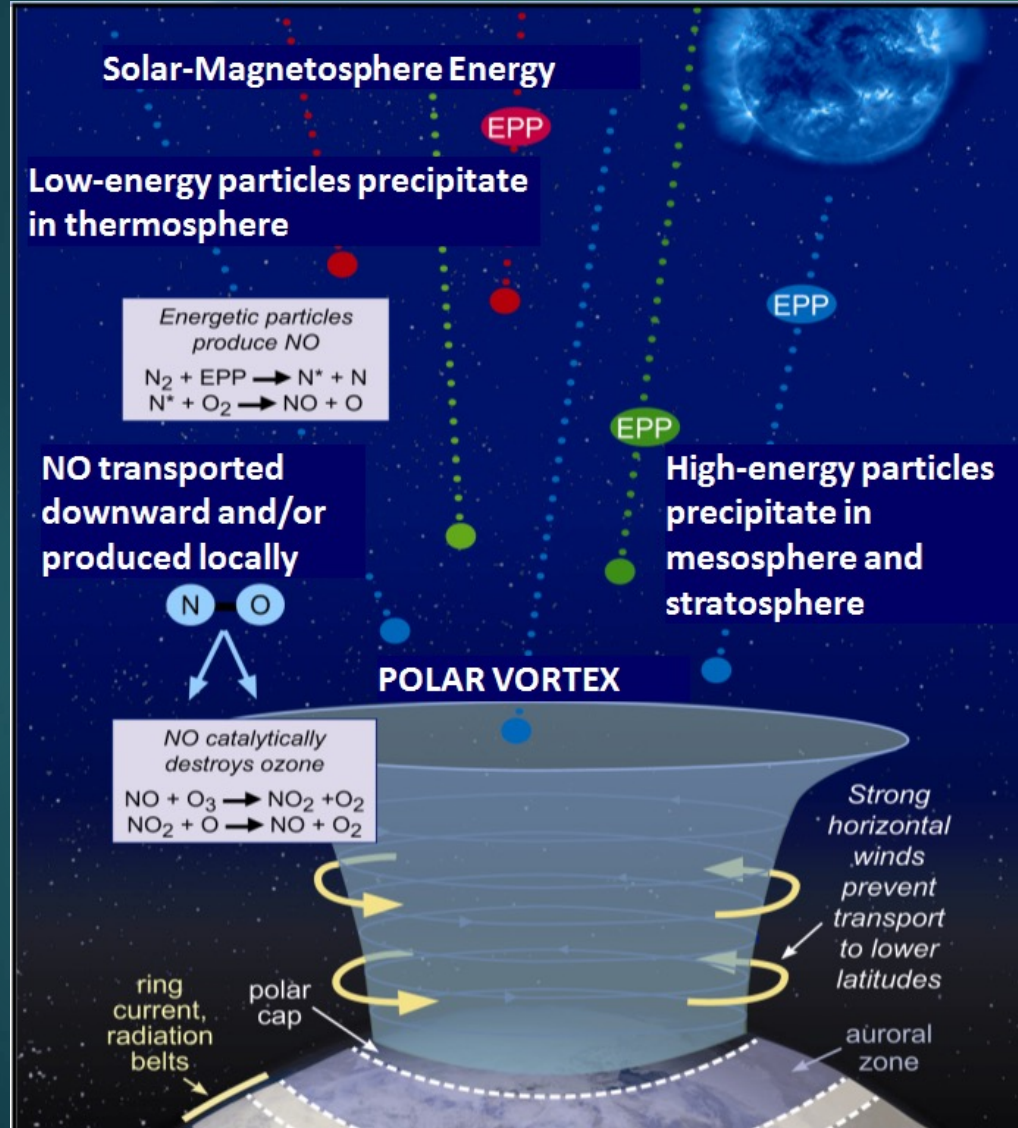
Pulsating aurora driven NO_x can be circulated down to lower altitudes and drive long-term ozone loss



Jones+ 2013

Pulsating aurora contains a high energy tail up to >100 keV and likely constitutes a significant amount of the total energy dumped from the magnetosphere to our

Energetic particle precipitation impacts long-term weather & climate



Direct Effect

e-

e-

Indirect Effect

thermosphere

mesosphere

stratosphere

troposphere

NO

NO

Destroys ozone!

Calculating Quantities

Solid state detector instruments

How do we get from count rate to particle flux?

$$R = \Omega \int_0^{\infty} J_0 E^{-\gamma} \eta(E) dE$$

Count rate

Geometry factor

Flux

Energy spectrum

Efficiency

The tricky part is getting the efficiency for your instrument!

We use what is called bow-tie analysis, with examples from the REPT instrument on Van Allen Probes

Bow-tie Method #1: Van Allen/Baker method

$$R = \Omega \int_0^{\infty} J_0 E^{-\gamma} \eta(E) dE = \Omega \langle \eta \rangle \int_{E_1}^{E_2} J_0 E^{-\gamma} dE$$

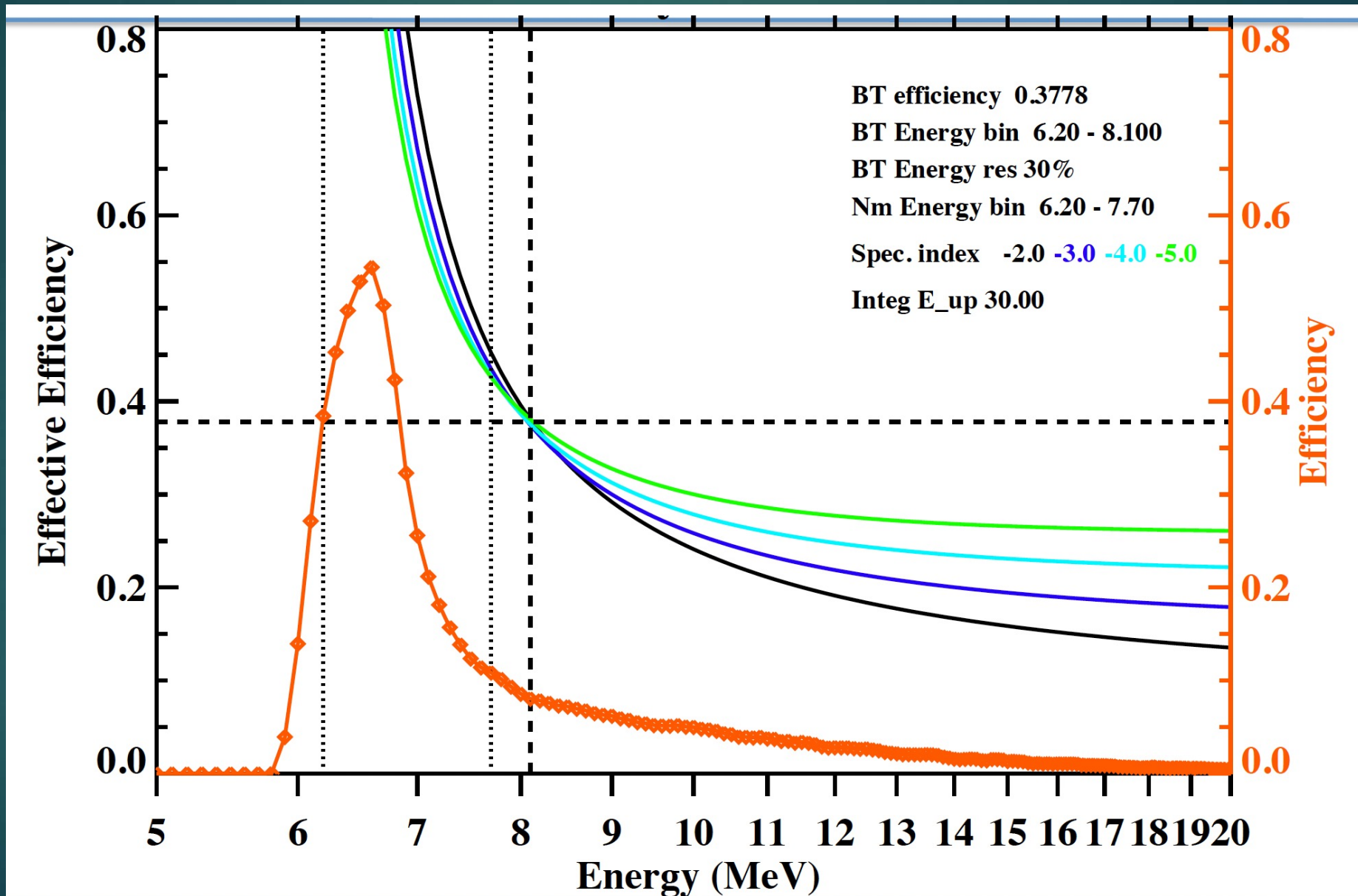
Where R is the count rate (number of particles/sec) observed and $\eta(E)$ is the detection efficiency as a function of energy of the incident electron and $\Omega = 0.2 \text{ cm}^2\text{-sr}$, the REPT geometry factor

$$\langle \eta \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} E^{-\gamma} \eta(E) dE}{\int_{E_1}^{E_2} E^{-\gamma} dE}$$

Keeping E_1 fixed to the nominal value and integrating up to different values of E_2 , we obtain a curve for $\langle \eta \rangle$ vs. E_2 for each $J(E) = J_0 E^{-\gamma}$

The point where curves for a set of γ values intersect then gives E_2 (x-axis) and $\langle \eta \rangle$ on (y-axis)

Example: e- 6.2-7.7 MeV



Bow-tie Method #2: Selesnick/Blake method

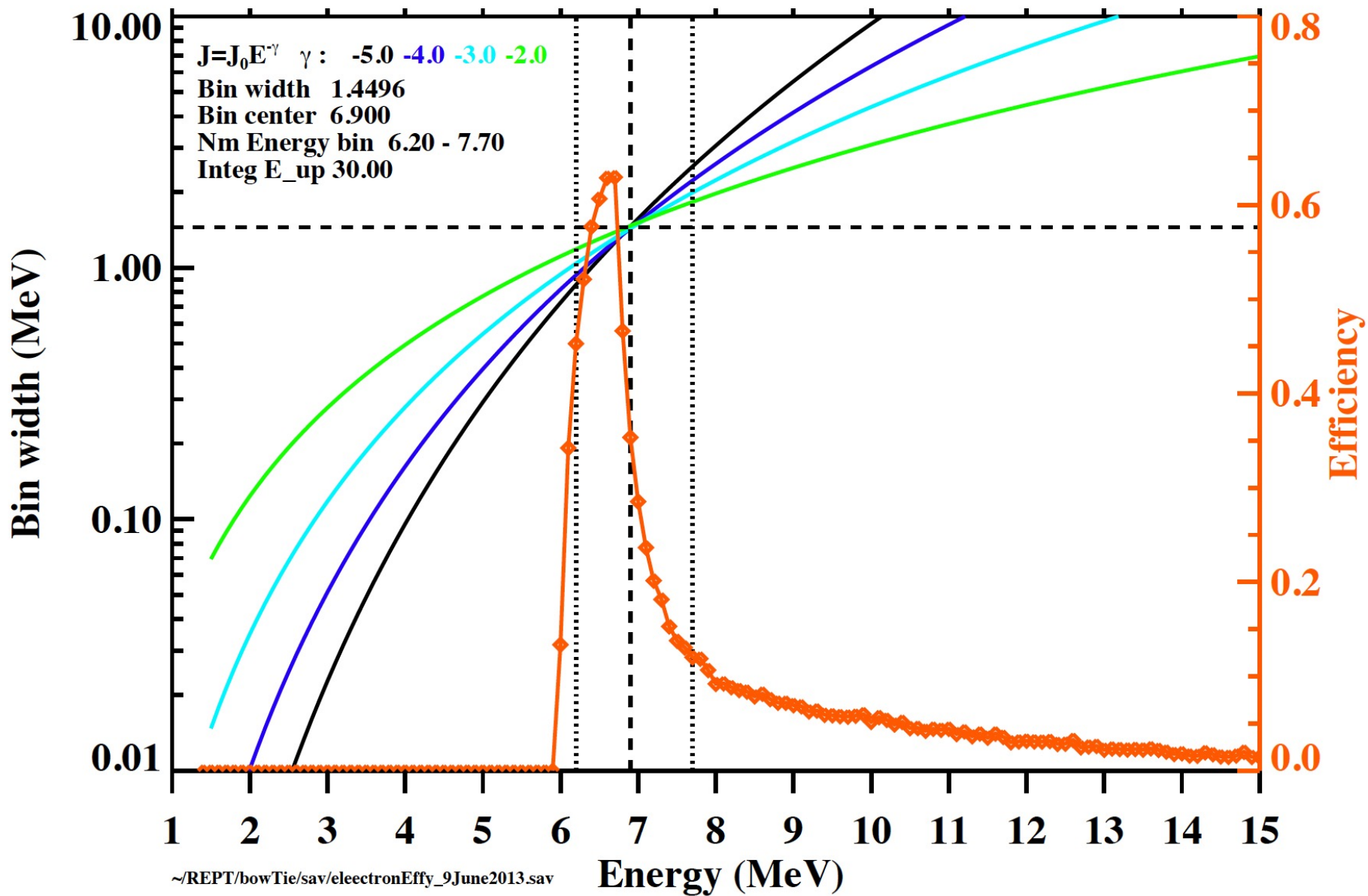
$$R = \Omega \int \eta(E) J_0 E^{-\gamma} dE = \Omega \delta E J_0 \bar{E}^{-\gamma}$$

$$\delta E = \bar{E}^{\gamma} \int \eta(E) J_0 E^{-\gamma} dE$$

Plotting right hand side of second equation vs. E for various values of γ , we obtain a curve for δE vs. E for each $J(E) = J_0 E^{-\gamma}$

The point where curves for a set of γ values intersect then gives E (x-axis) and δE on (y-axis)

Example: e- 6.2-7.7 MeV



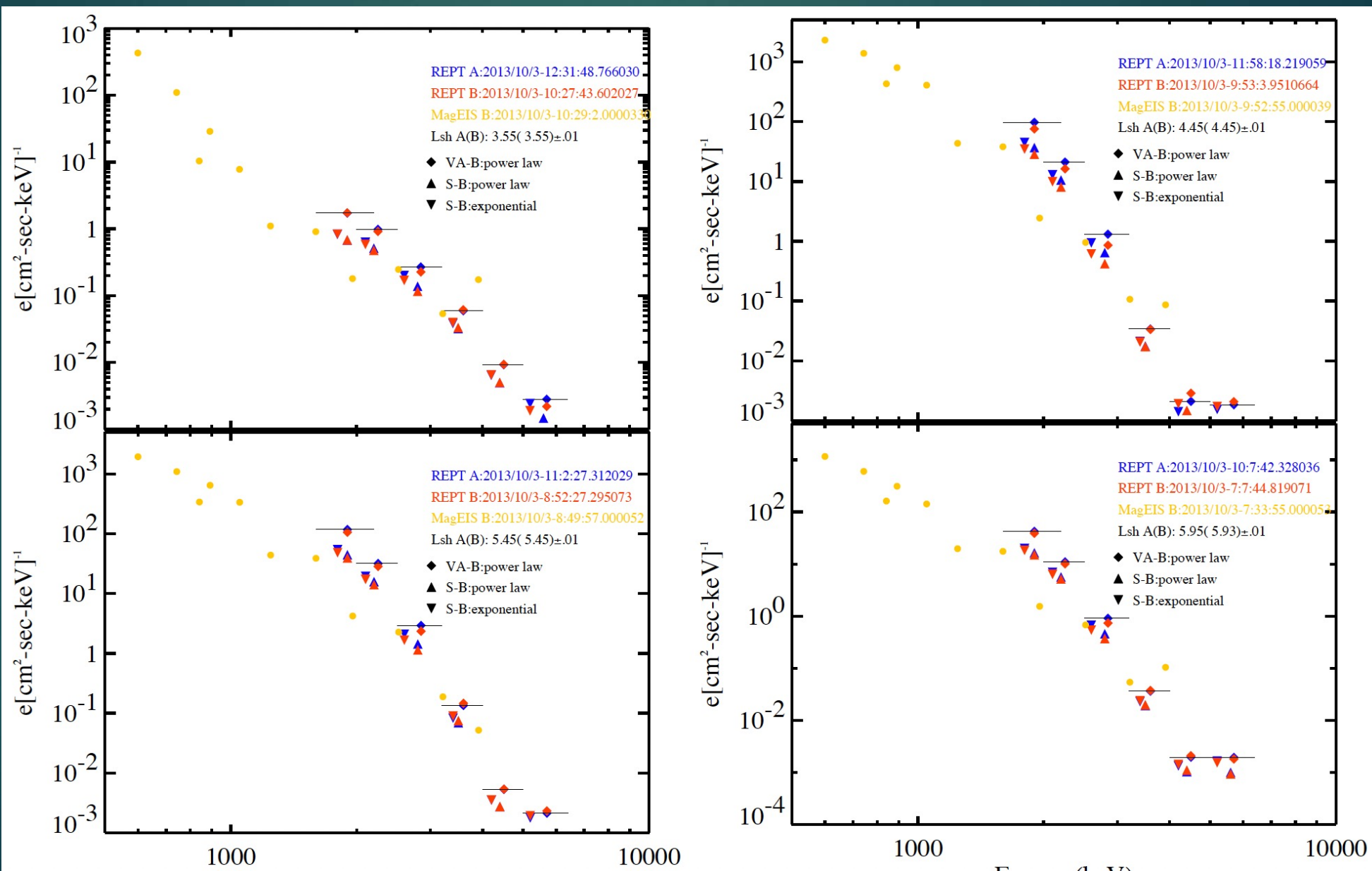
$$J=J_0E^{-\gamma} \quad \gamma = -2, -3, -4, -5 \quad J=J_0\exp(-E/E_0) \quad E_0=0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0$$

Method 1 (power law)			Method 2 (power law)		Method 2 (exponential)	
Nominal channel	Effective efficiency $\langle \eta \rangle$	Bow tie bin (MeV)	Bow tie Energy $\langle E \rangle$ (MeV)	Bin width δE (MeV)	Bow tie Energy $\langle E \rangle$ (MeV)	Bin width δE (MeV)
1.6-2.4	0.070	1.6-2.2	1.9	0.11	1.8	0.09
2.0-2.5	0.162	2.0-2.5	2.2	0.16	2.1	0.13
2.5-3.2	0.364	2.5-3.2	2.8	0.51	2.6	0.35
3.2-4.0	0.322	3.2-4.0	3.5	0.49	3.4	0.41
4.0-5.0	0.574	4.0-5.0	4.4	1.10	4.2	0.85
5.0-6.2	0.450	5.0-6.4	5.6	1.24	5.2	0.75
6.2-7.7	0.380	6.2-8.1	6.9	1.45	6.3	0.70
7.7-9.7	0.265	7.7-9.9	8.5	1.16	7.7	0.52
9.7-12.1	0.132	9.7-13.6	11.2	0.97	9.9	0.30
12.1-15.1	0.079	12.1-18.6	14.1	0.93	12.3	0.17

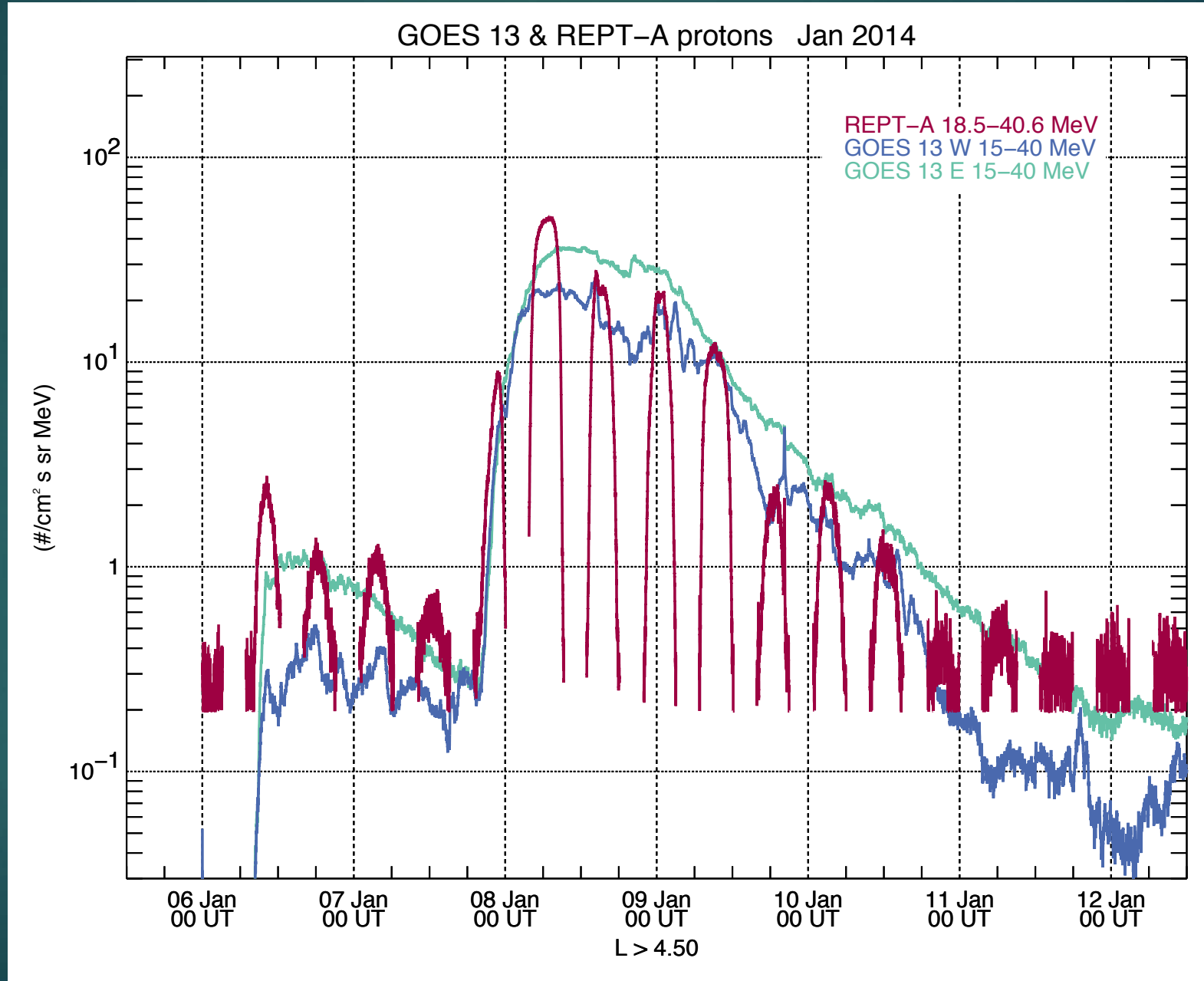
How can we check the fluxes we calculate to be sure they are correct?

Cross-calibrate with another instrument

REPT & MagEIS – both on board Van Allen Probes



Cross-calibrate with another spacecraft



Additional Slides

Plasma waves in the magnetosphere

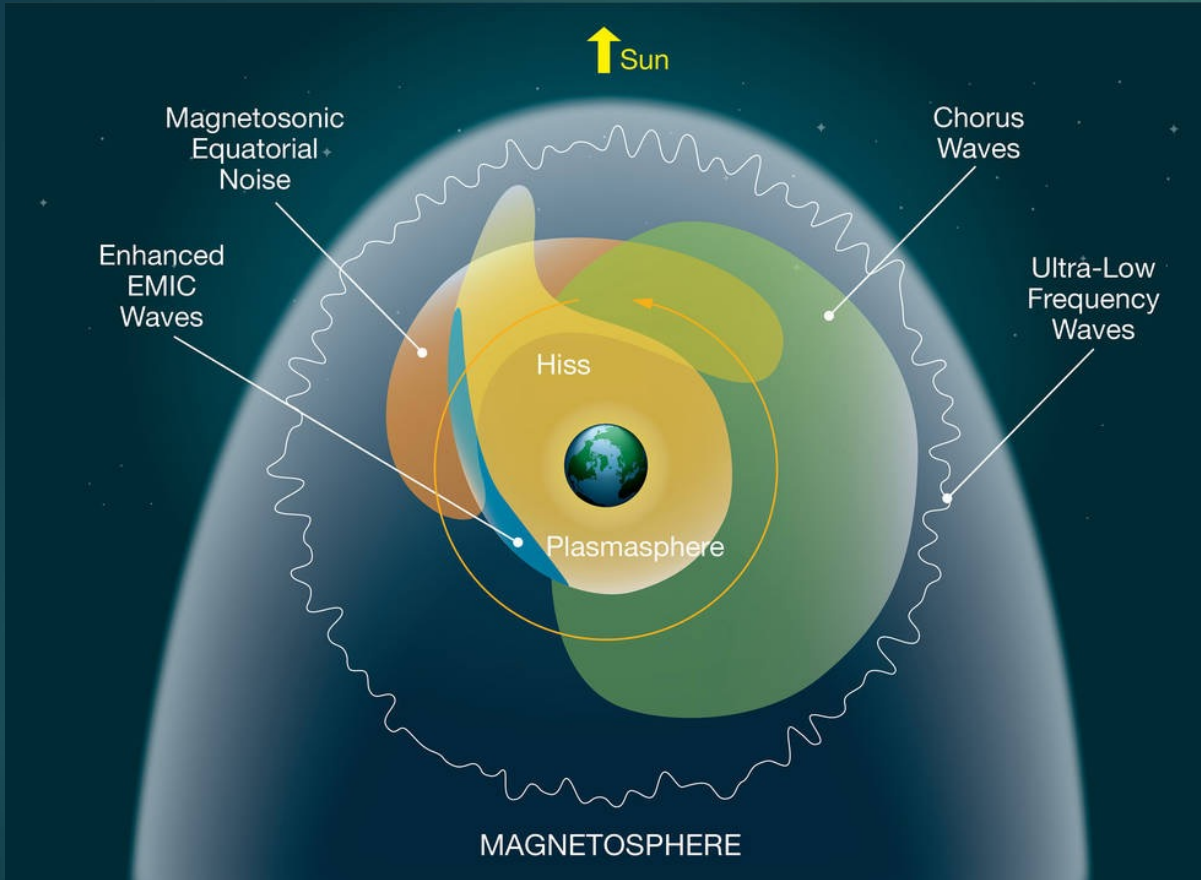
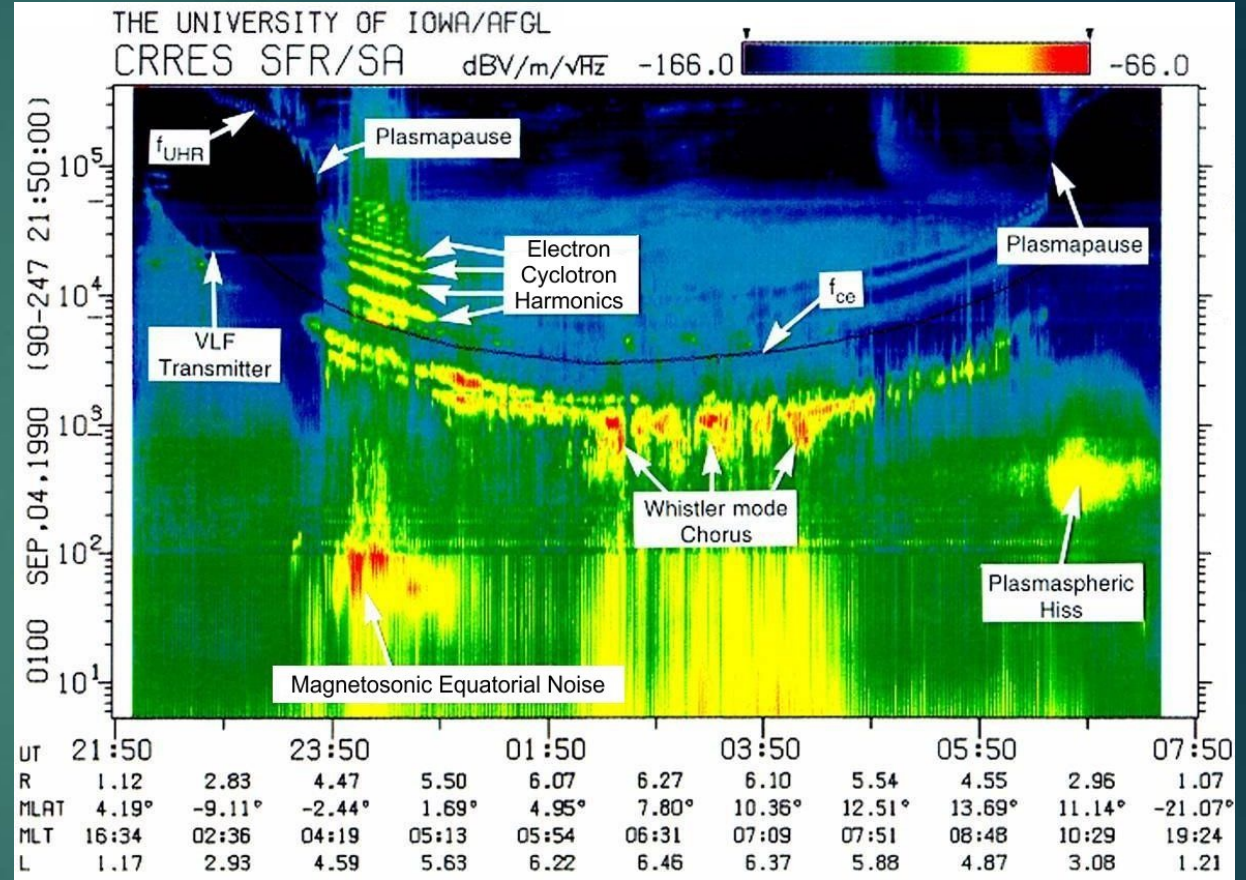
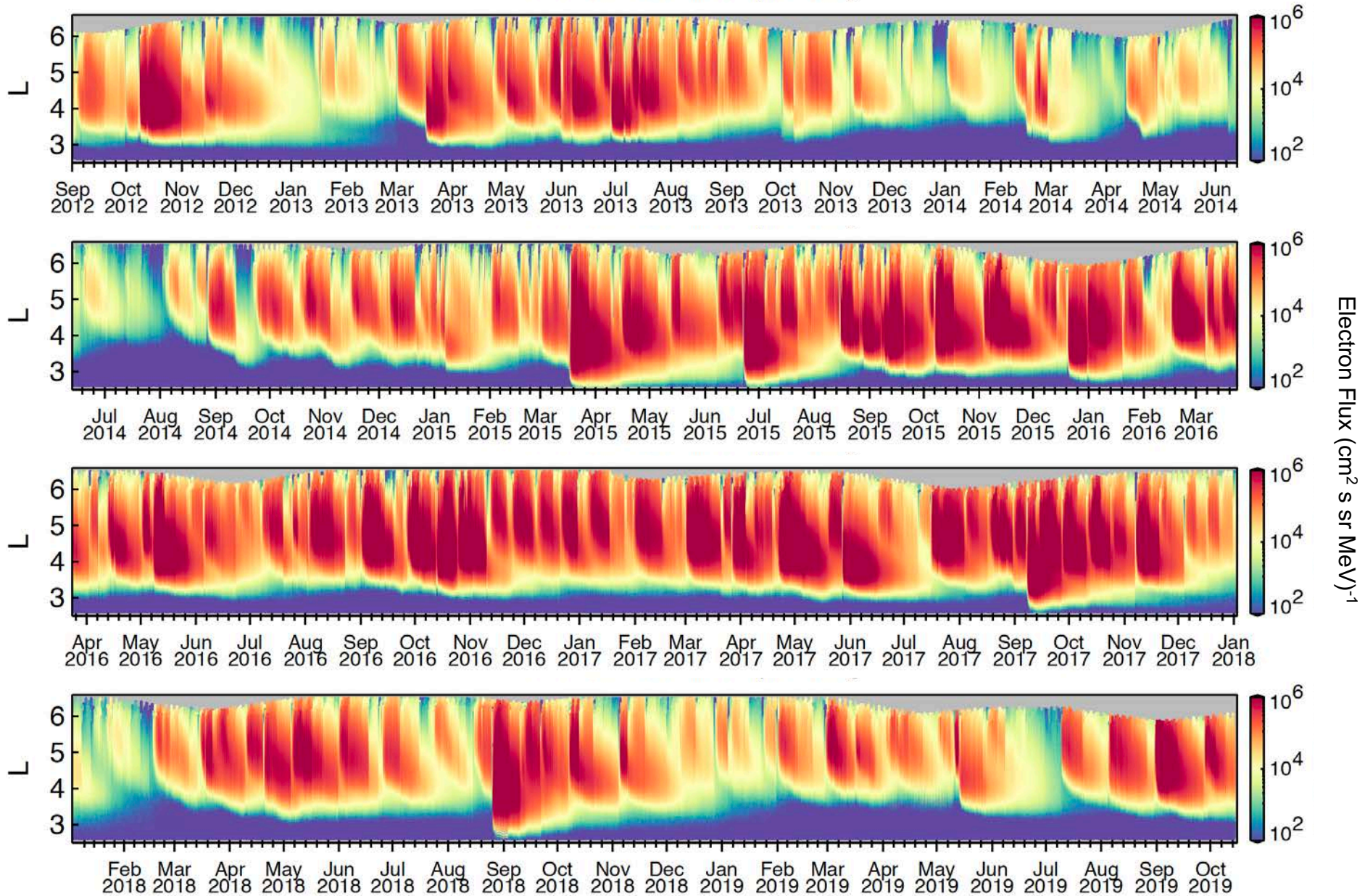


Figure from NASA GSFC, adapted from Thorne et al. 2005

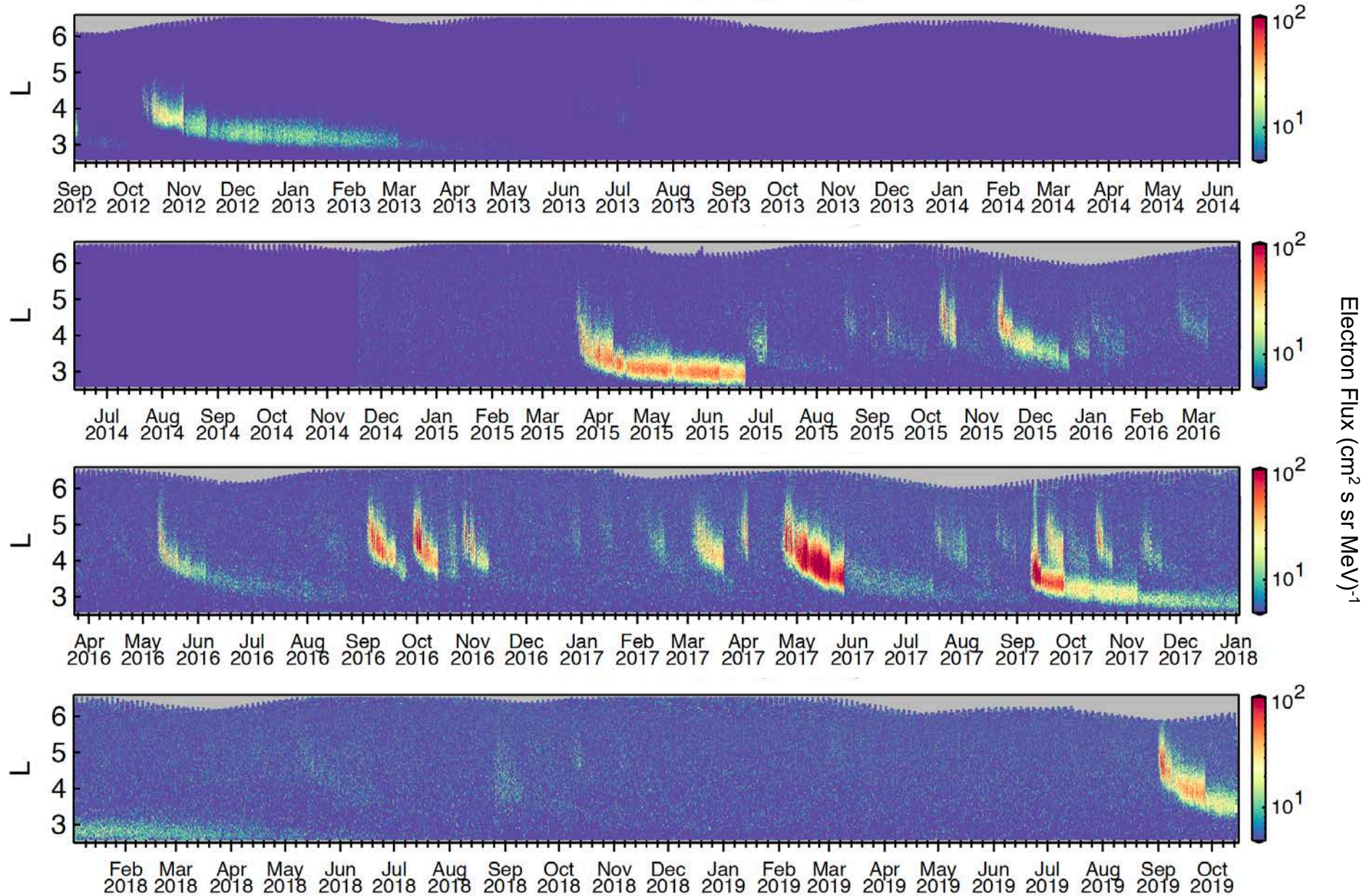


Tsurutani and Smith, 1974

REPT A & B 1.8 MeV Electrons



REPT A & B 7.7 MeV Electrons



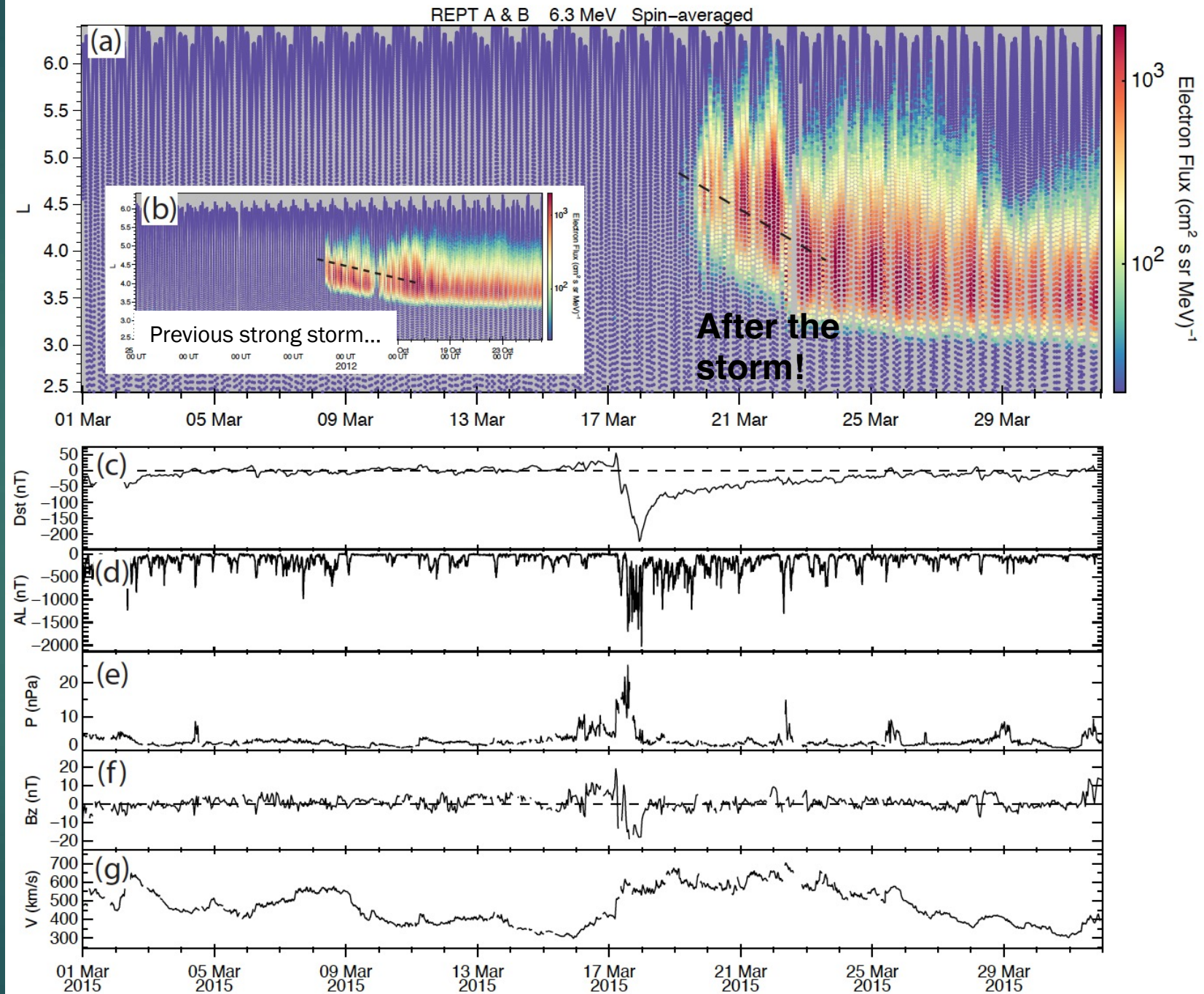
17 March 2015 storm event: fast diffusion of ultra-relativistic electrons

Inward radial diffusion that results in multi-MeV electrons at $L \sim 4$ is apparent in both flux and PSD data

Almost no chorus waves by the time ultra-relativistic energies start to appear in the outer belt

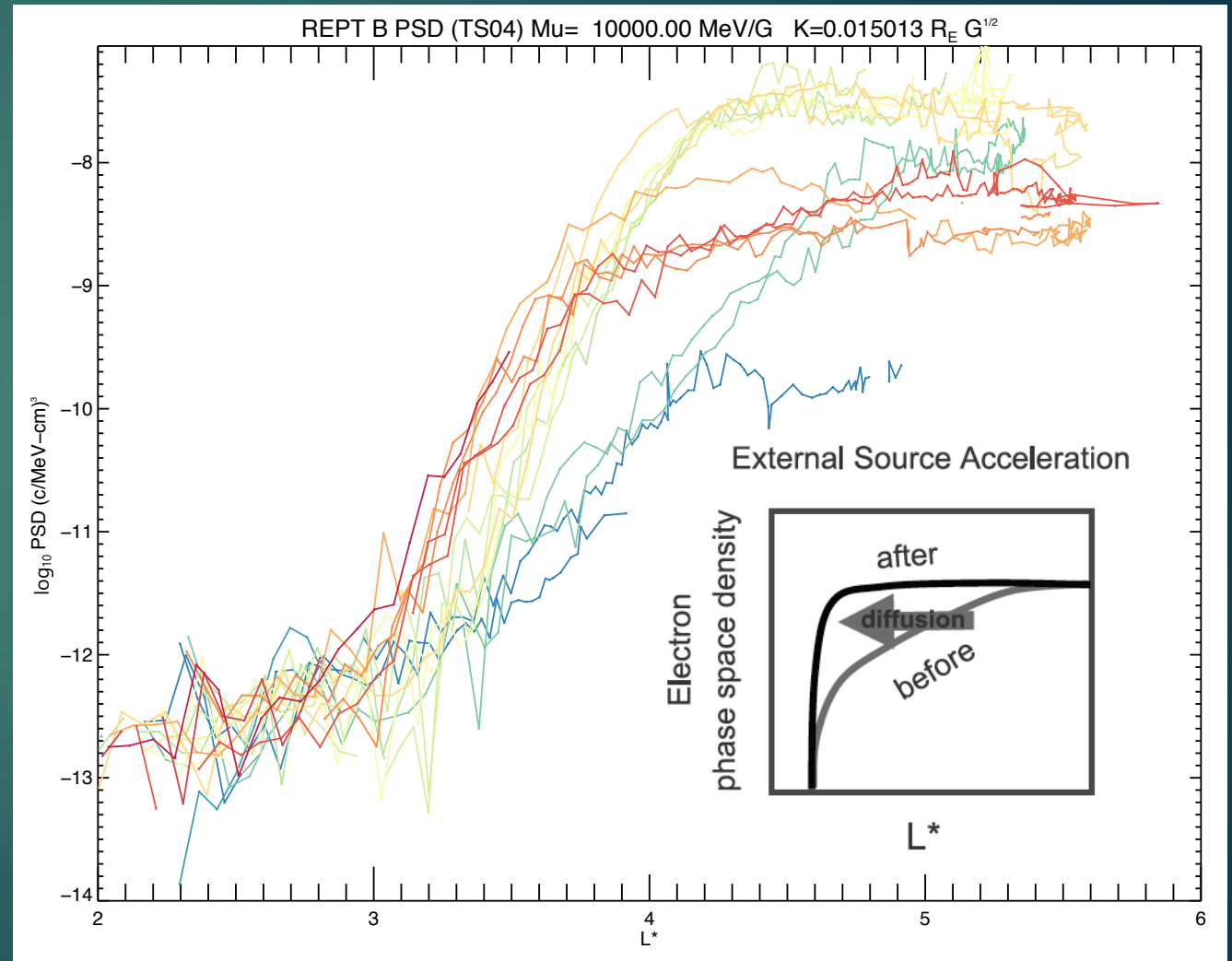
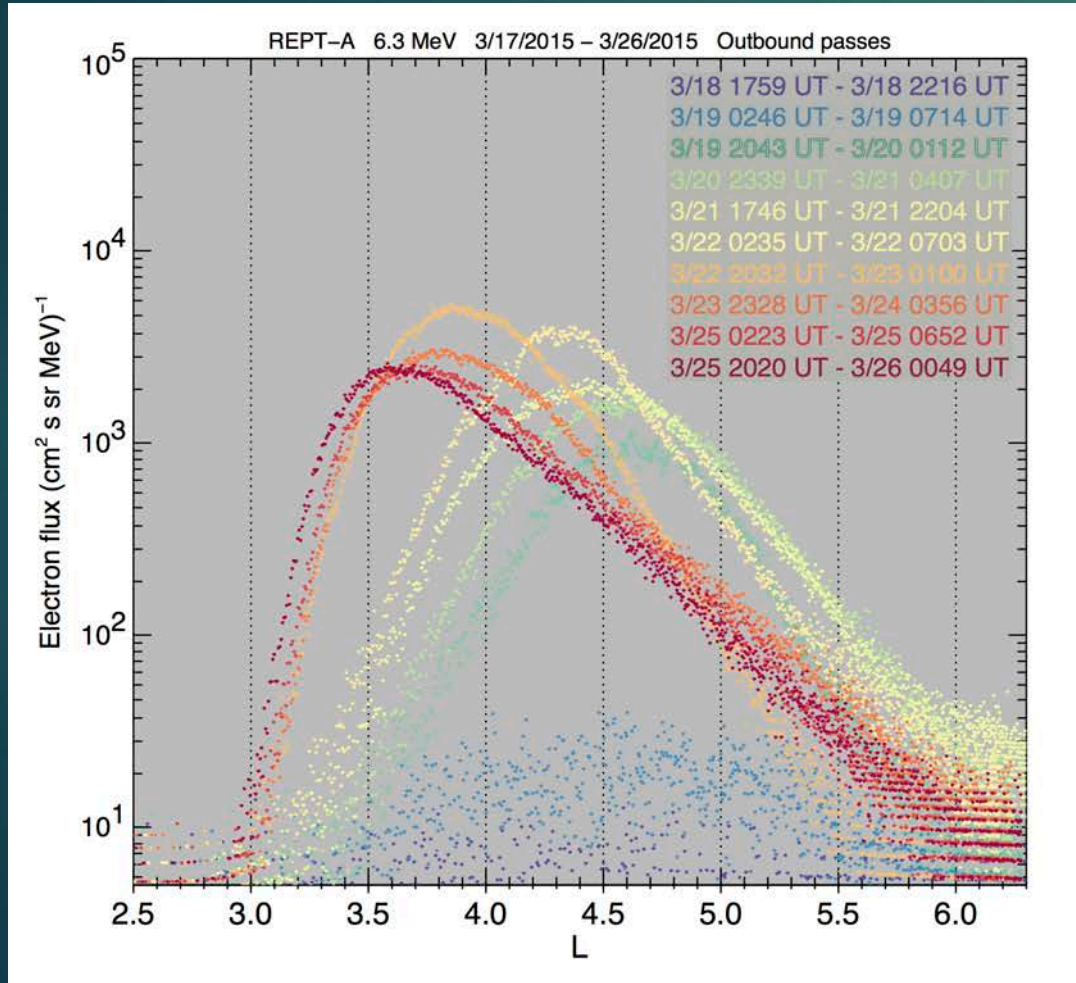
Acceleration occurs after the storm, well into the recovery phase

Jaynes + 2018, GRL



Fast radial diffusion

- Flux peak rises and shifts to lower L, phase space density increases by 2 orders of magnitude
- Acceleration from external source is clear in PSD data (right panel)

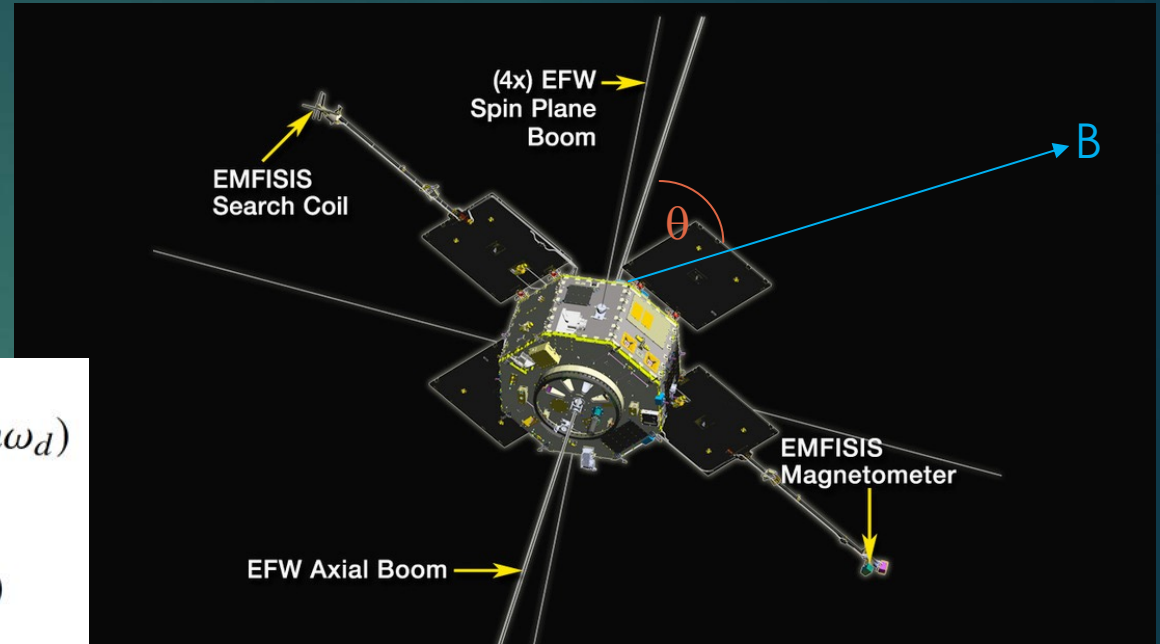


ULF wave power

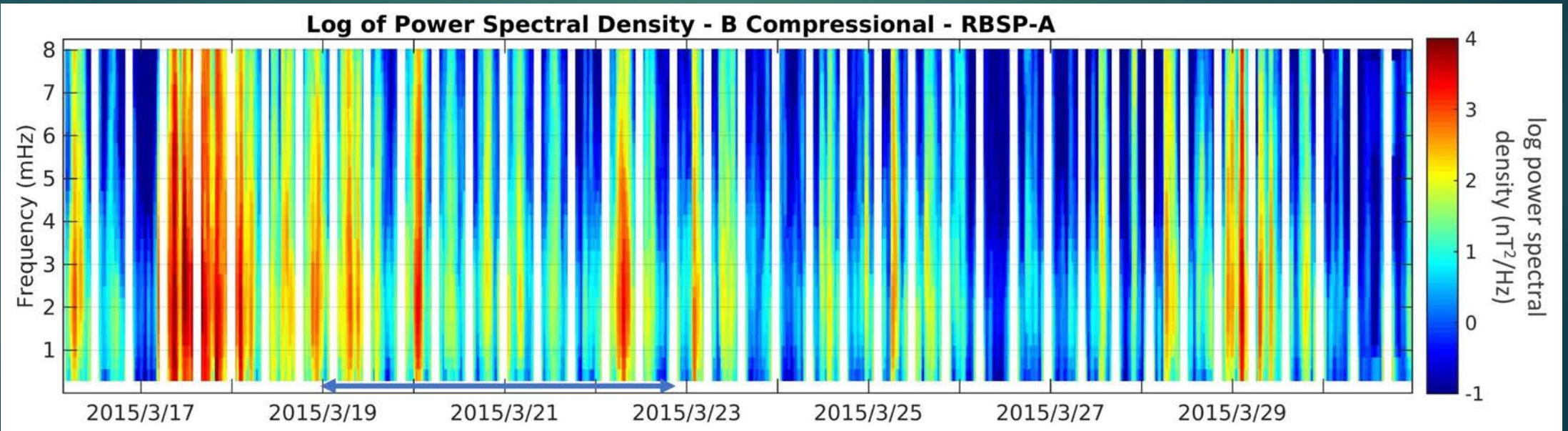
- EFW axial E field derived from $E \cdot B = 0$
 - If B is greater than $\sim 6^\circ$ from spacecraft spin axis
- Components of E and B used to obtain B_{\parallel} and E_{ϕ}
- Method detailed in Ali+ 2016
- Diffusion coefficients from Fei+ 2006 formulation

$$D_{LL}^B = \frac{M^2}{8q^2 \gamma^2 B_E^2 R_E^4} L^4 \sum_m m^2 P_m^B(m\omega_d)$$

$$D_{LL}^E = \frac{1}{8B_E^2 R_E^2} L^6 \sum_m P_m^E(m\omega_d)$$

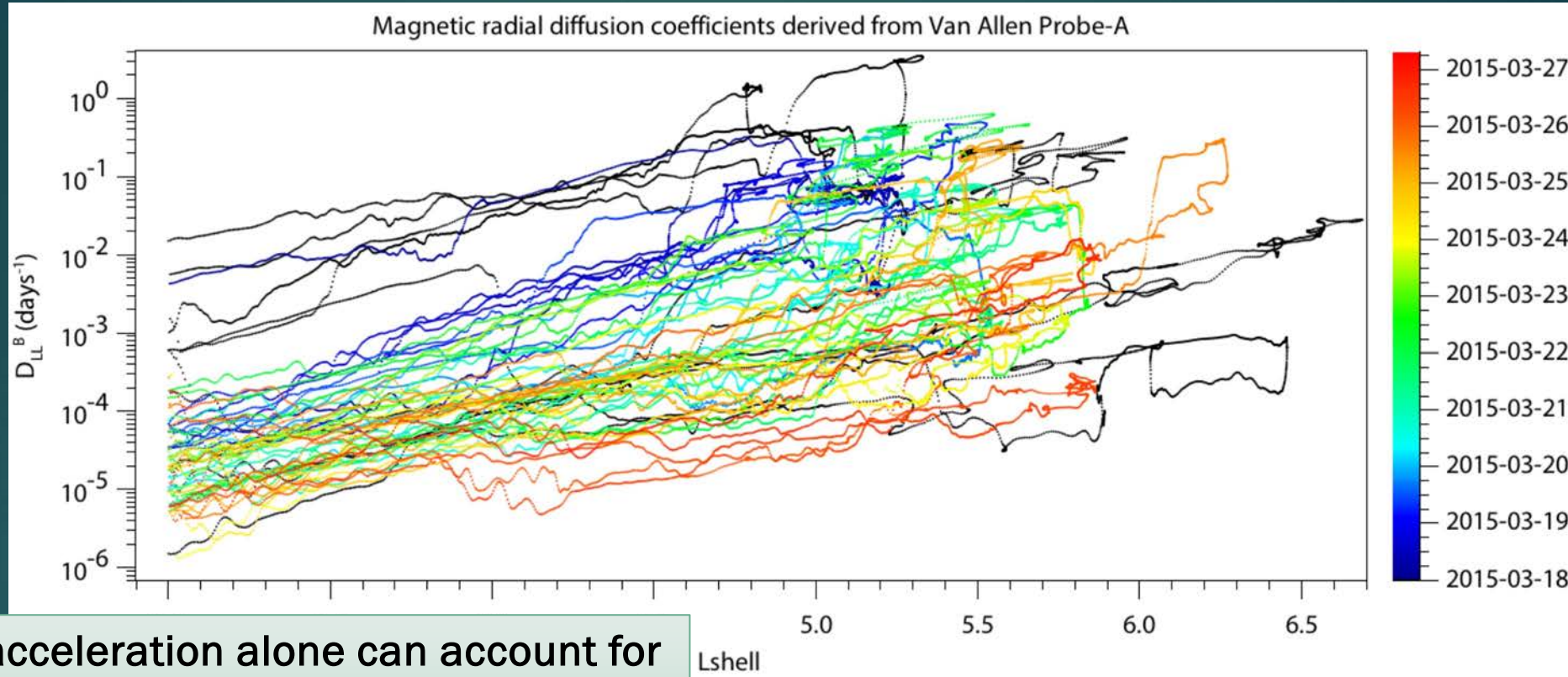


March 17, 2015 storm ULF wave power



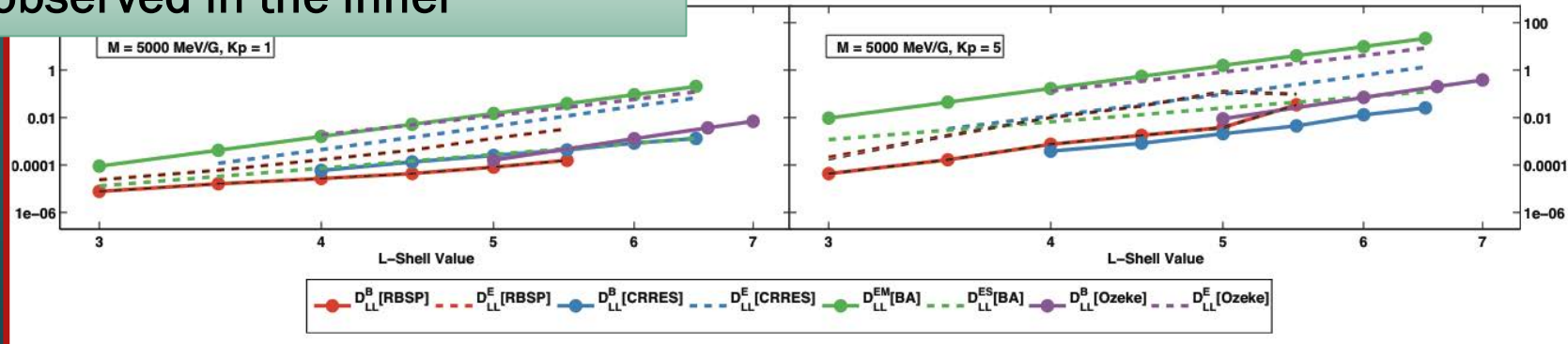
Radial diffusion rates are event-specific

(and magnitudes change throughout)



ULF-driven acceleration alone can account for intense ultra-relativistic particle enhancements observed in the inner magnetosphere

Continuous Diffusion Coefficient Estimates (days⁻¹)



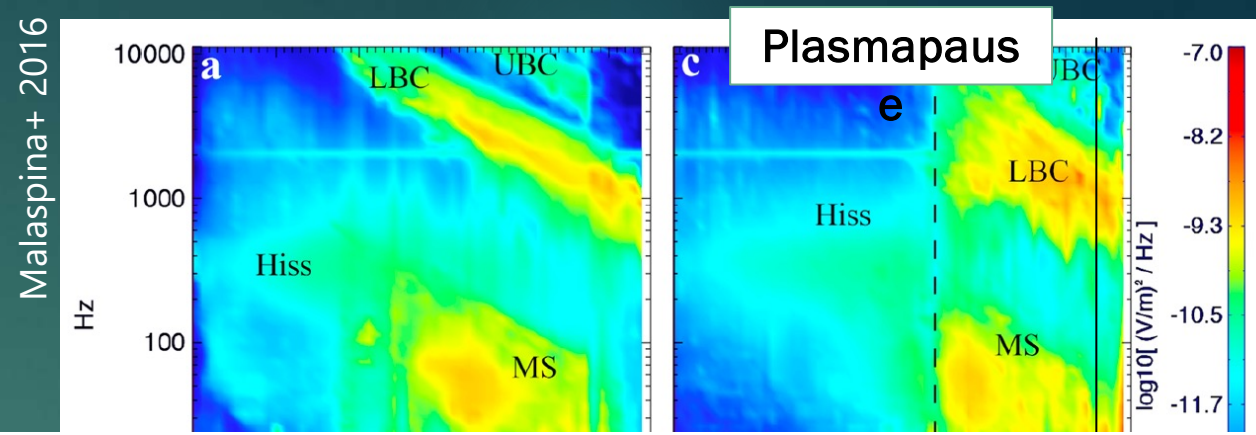
Back to VLF chorus waves...

Tasked an REU undergraduate summer student with sorting through and aggregating all wave power over 3+ years of the Van Allen Probes mission

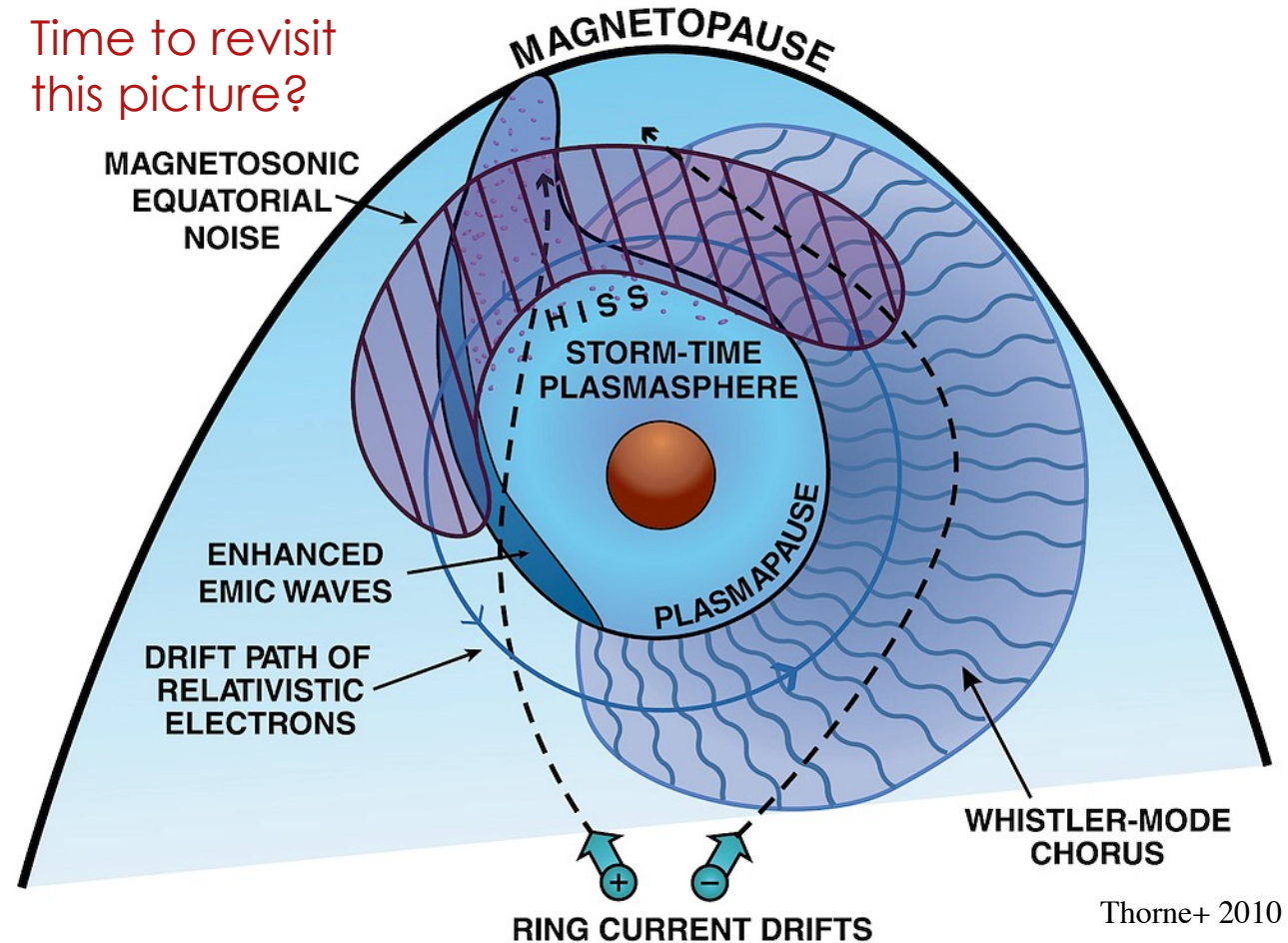
Mean electric and magnetic field spectra covering 3 years for the dawn MLT sector

Waves are highly organized with respect to the plasmapause! (right panels)

VLF chorus exhibits a ~1 L-shell stand-off distance outside the plasmasphere boundary



Time to revisit this picture?



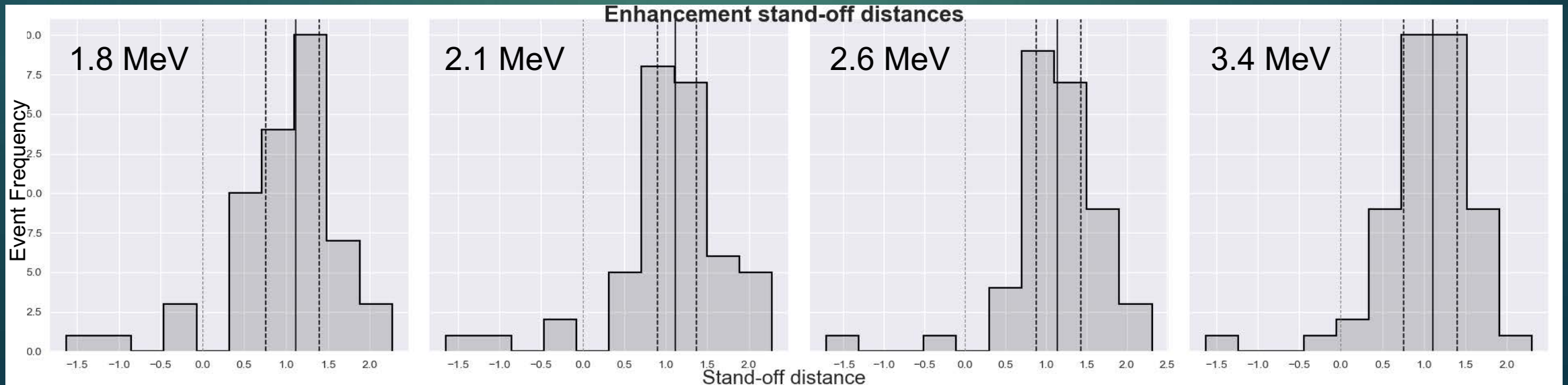
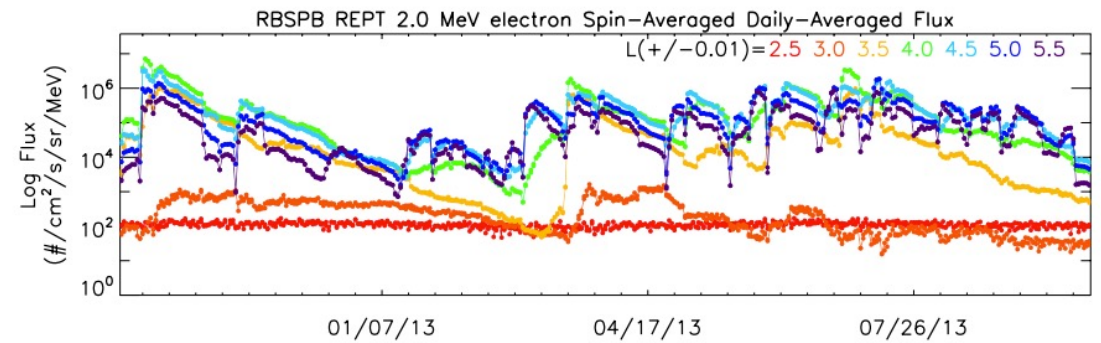
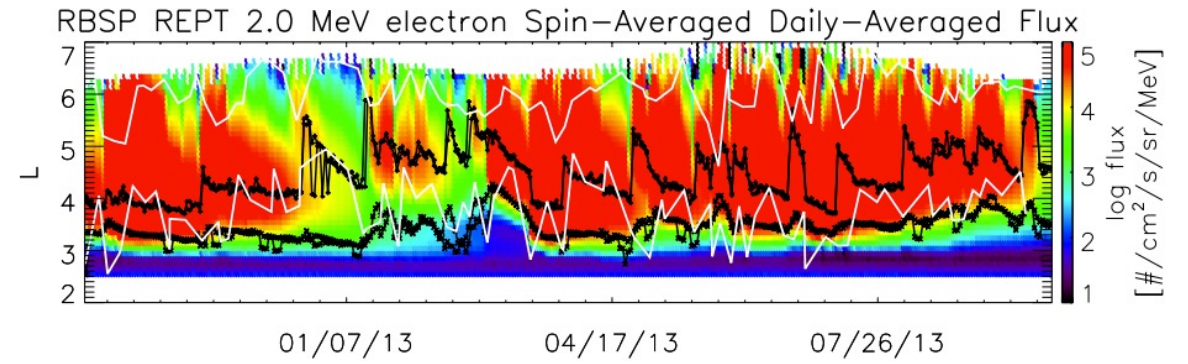
Thorne+ 2010

Connection to ultra-relativistic enhancements

Next year, a different REU undergraduate summer student found the locations of peak flux following enhancement events – and their distance from the local plasmopause

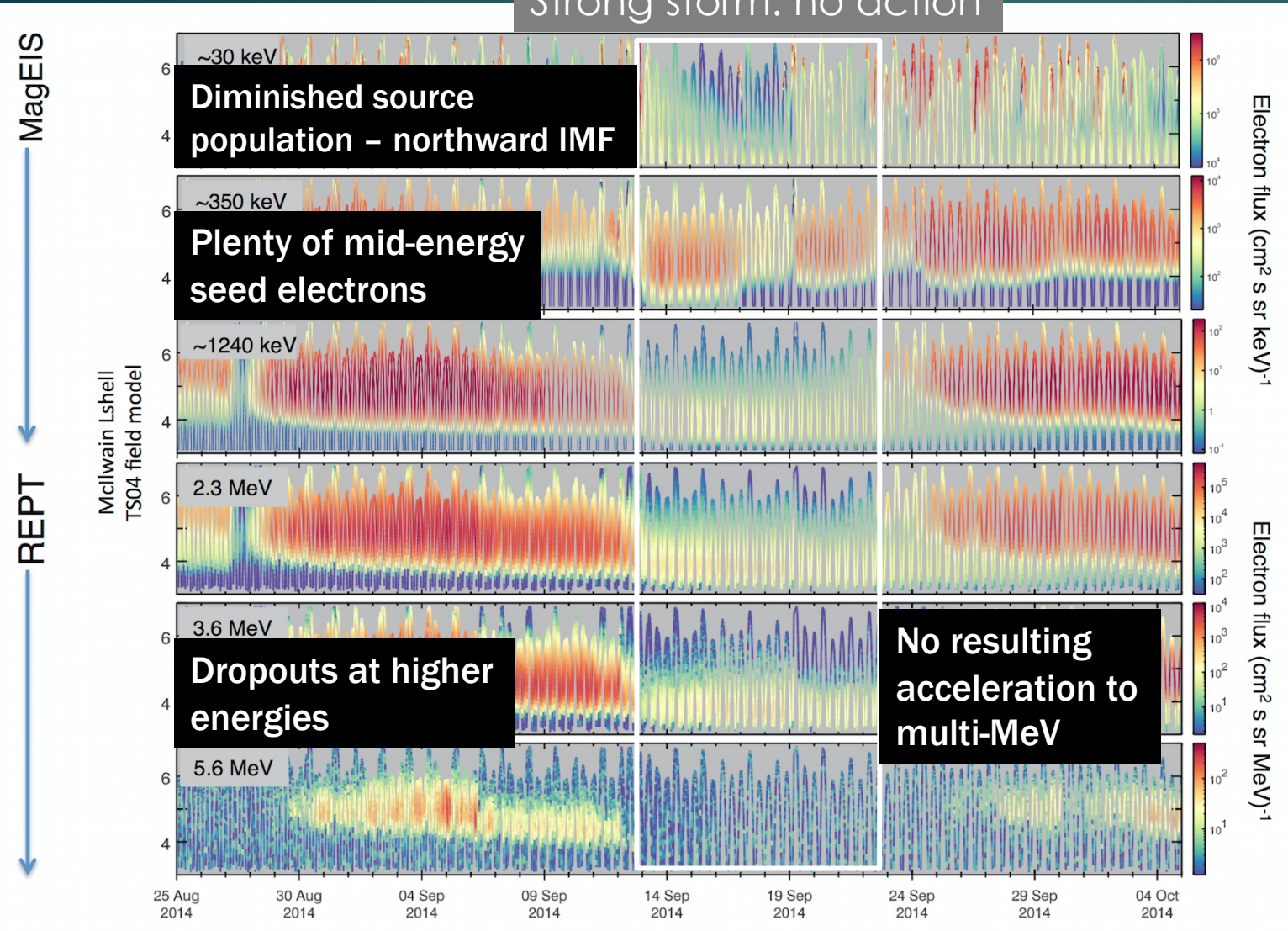
Spatial distribution of relativistic electron enhancements is very similar to VLF chorus wave distribution: stand-off of ~ 1 L-shell from the plasmopause

Hints that local acceleration by VLF chorus may *usually* be the dominant mechanism



The case for local acceleration

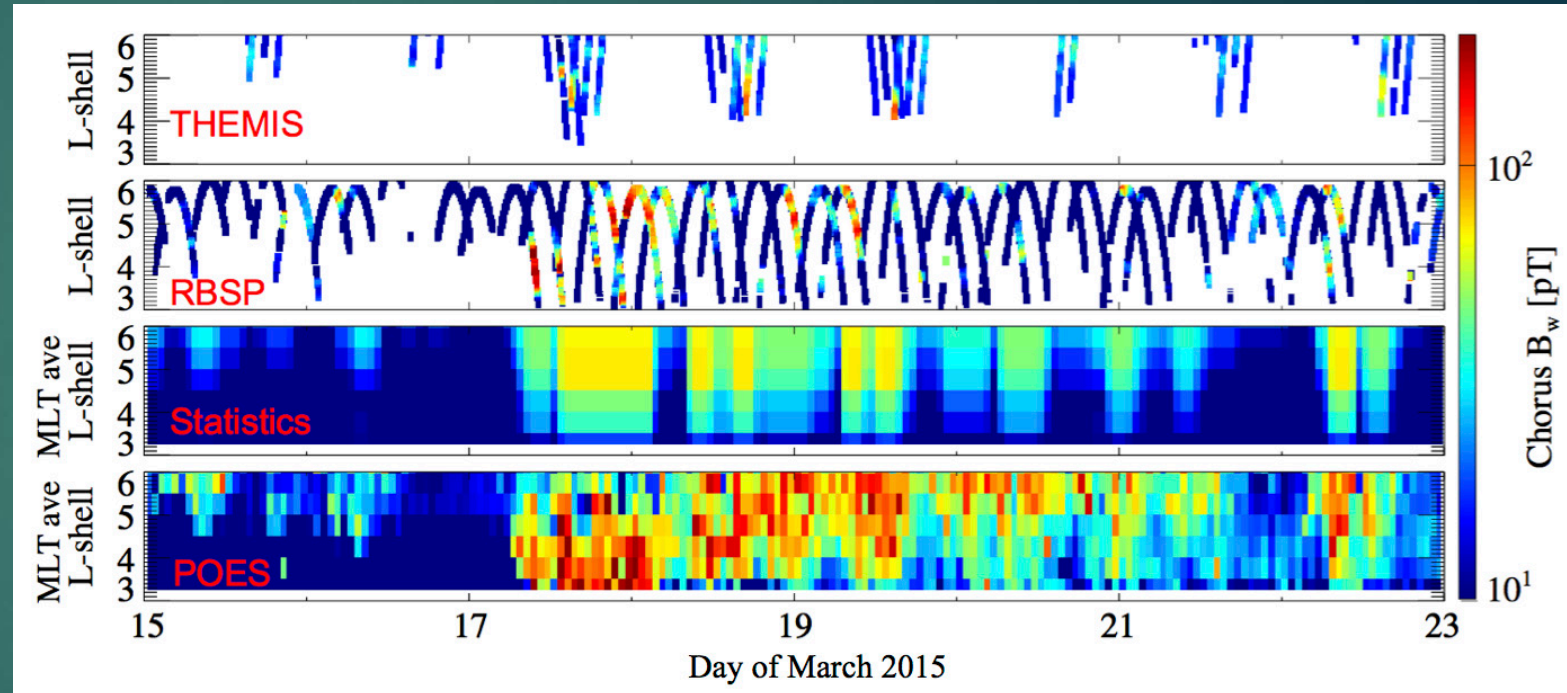
Strong storm: no action



September 2014 storm event
(Dst = -100 nT) with no
enhancement of relativistic
electron populations

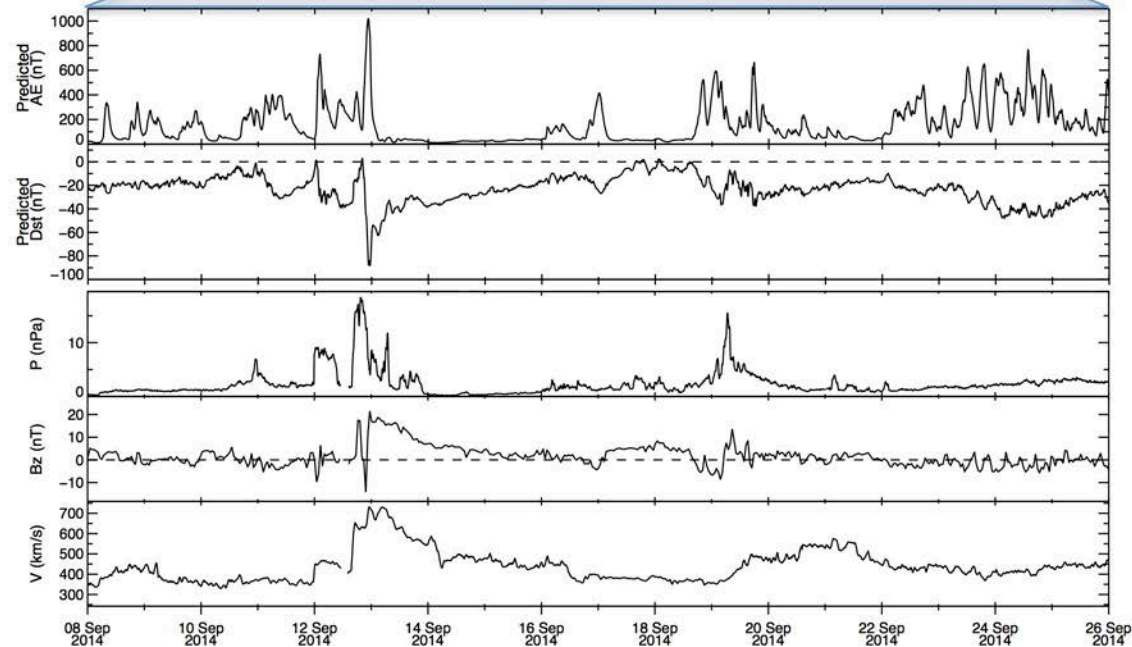
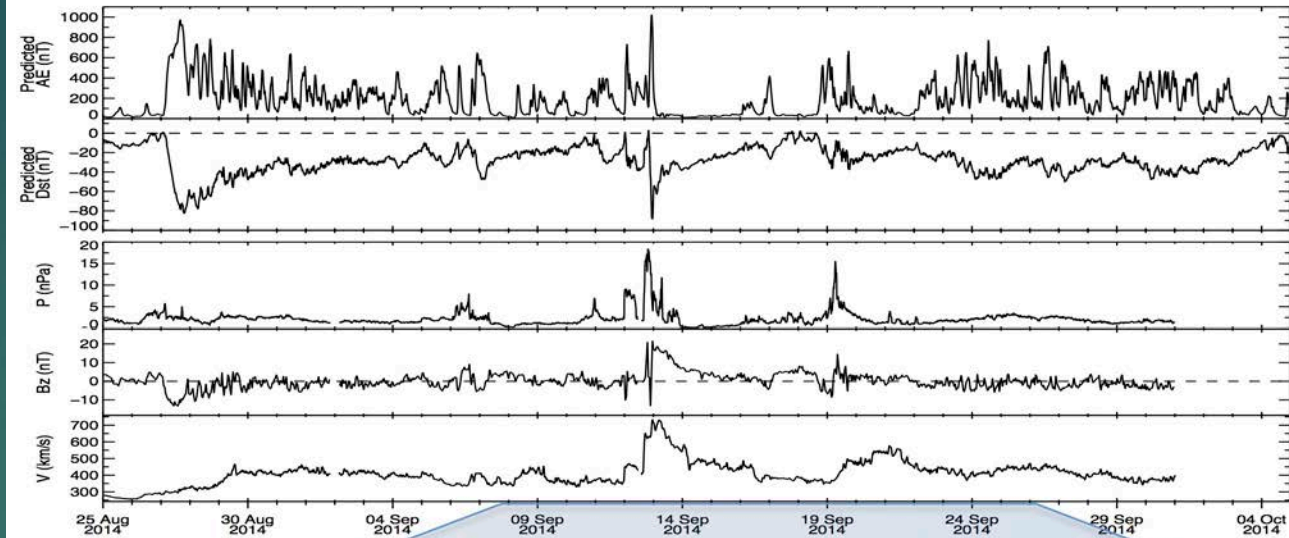
Response to storm

- Acceleration of lower relativistic energies (~ 800 keV) started within <1 day
- Higher energies showed up later and later, with the 7.7 MeV electrons appearing on March 20 (3 days after storm commencement)
- Lower energies are accelerated in the heart of the outer belt; higher energies are driven inward from higher L-shells
- Chorus waves have subsided by the time ultra-relativistic energies appear in the outer belt

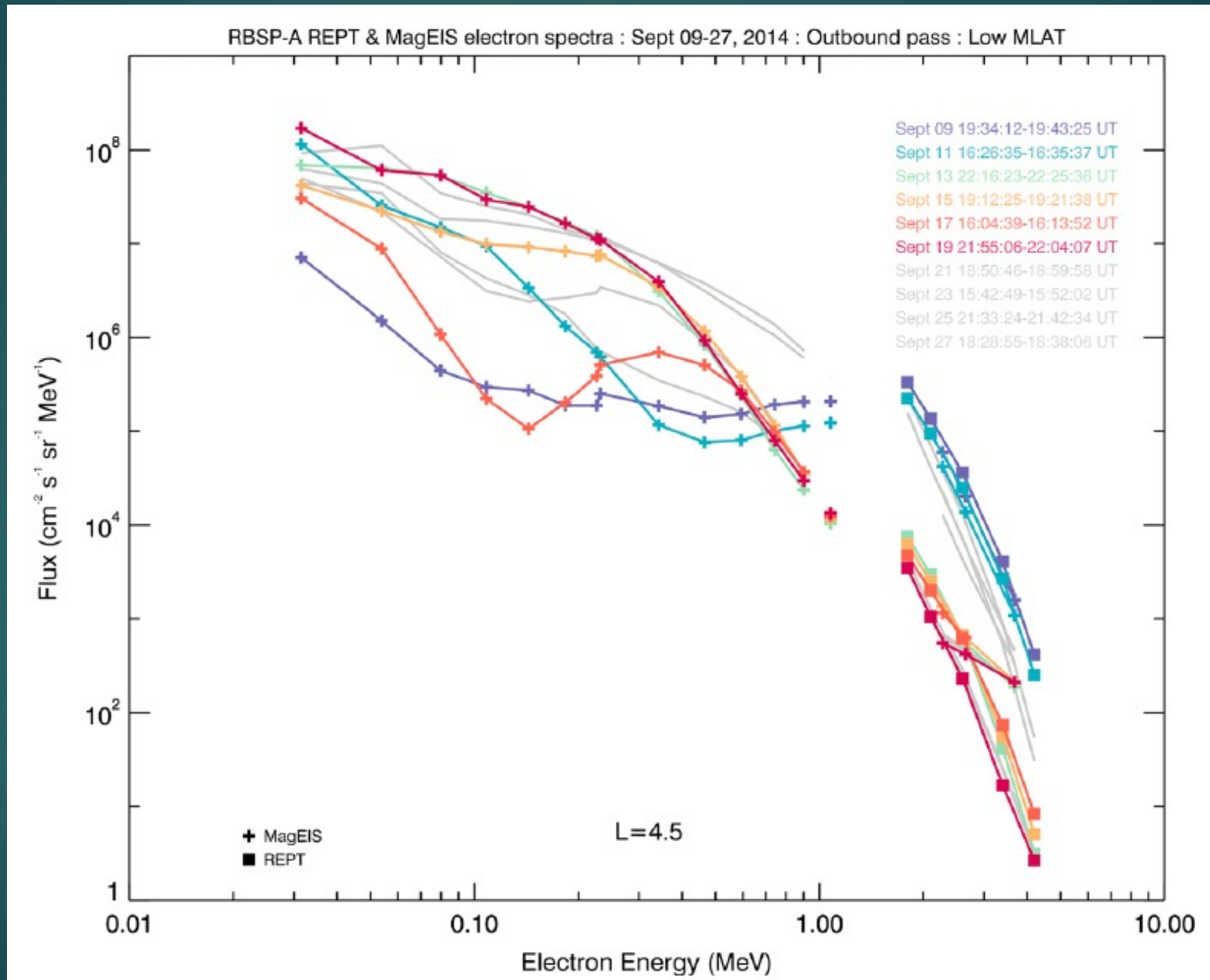


Solar wind driving

September 2014 storm event
with little/no enhancement of
relativistic electron populations



"Pivoting" electron spectrum



Response to storm

- Acceleration of lower relativistic energies (~ 800 keV) started within <1 day
- Higher energies showed up later and later, with the 7.7 MeV electrons appearing on March 20 (3 days after storm commencement)
- Lower energies are accelerated in the heart of the outer belt; higher energies are driven inward from higher L-shells
- Chorus waves have subsided by the time ultra-relativistic energies appear in the outer belt

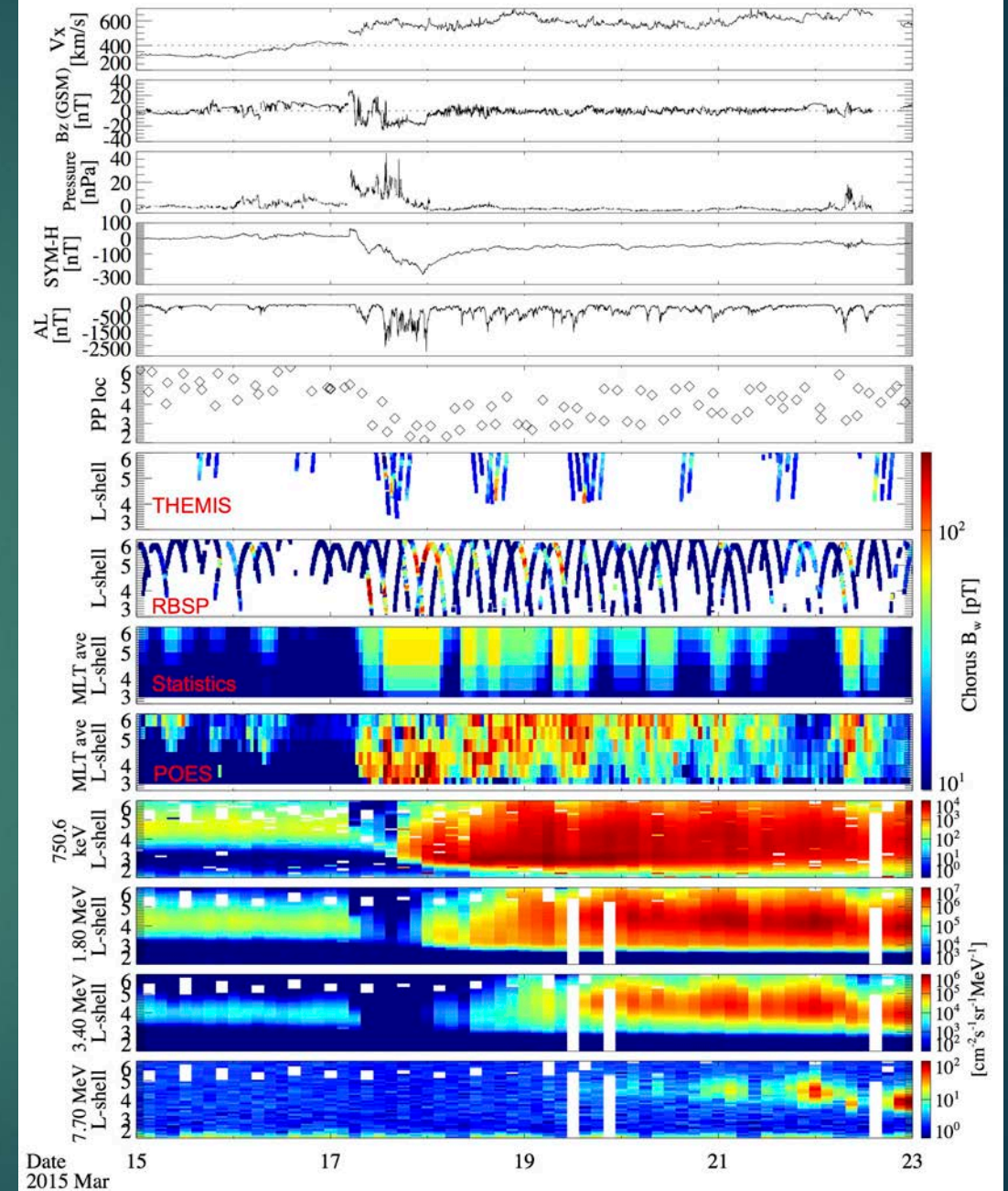
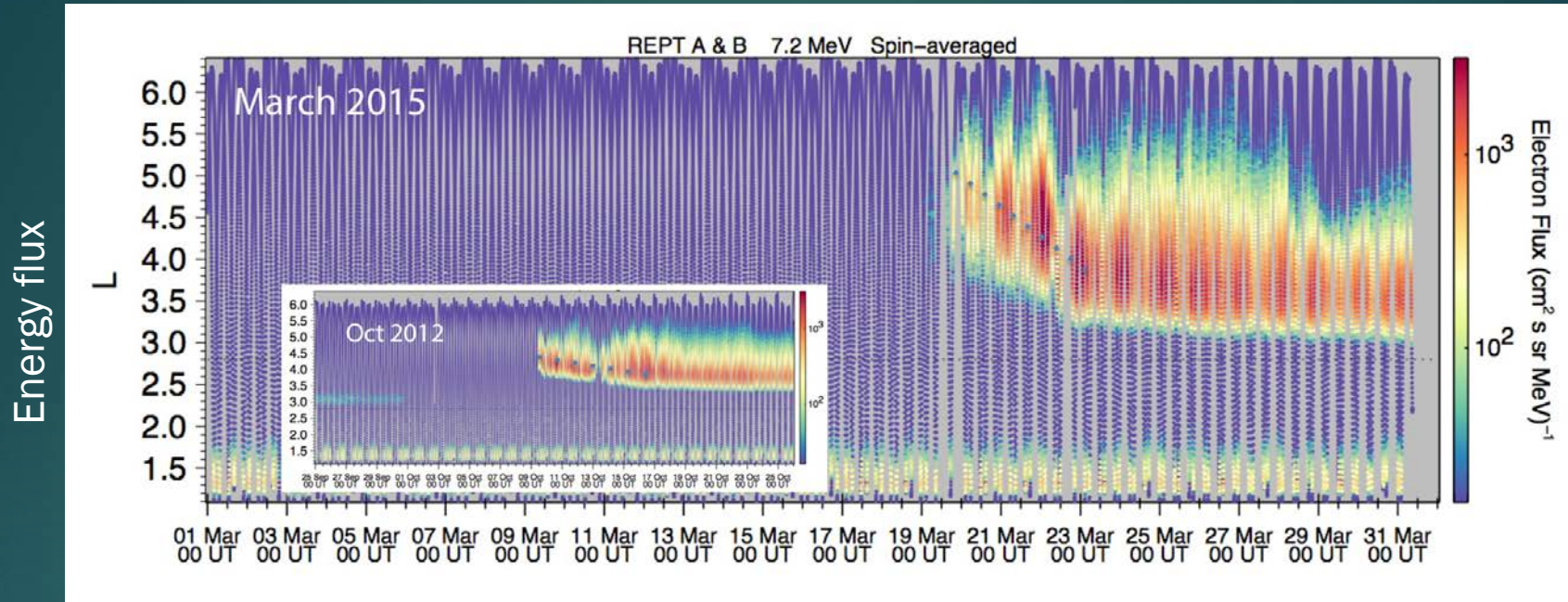


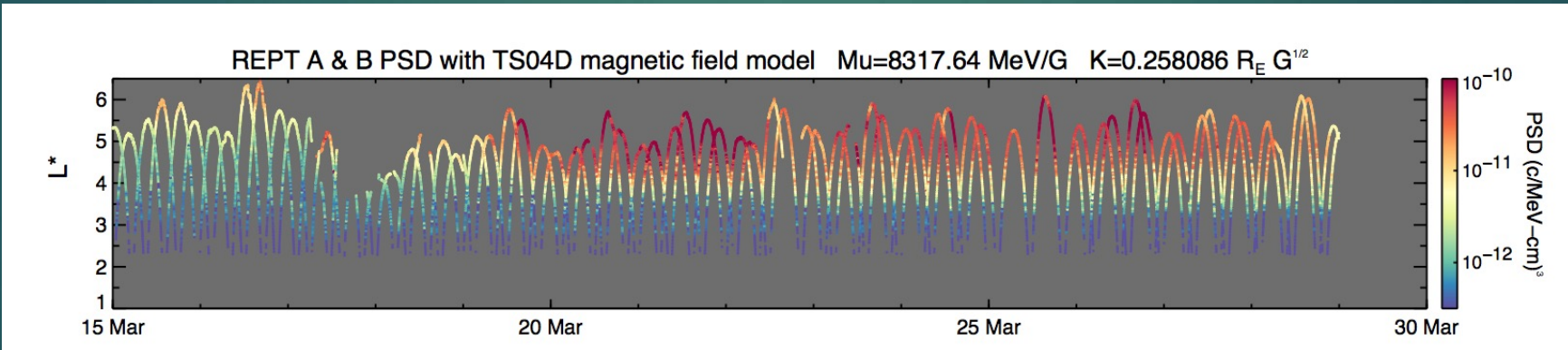
Figure courtesy of Wen Li

Fast radial diffusion



Jaynes+ 2018, to be submitted

Phase space density



Inward radial diffusion that results in multi-MeV electrons at $L \sim 4$ is apparent in both flux and PSD data.

Modeling the September 2014 event

- ULF wave-driven radial diffusion may be sufficient to simulate extended dropout of September 2014 and subsequent enhancement
- No local acceleration or ongoing hiss/chorus loss was included in this work
- The initial dropout still unexplained
- ULF wave contribution should clearly be considered during dynamic events– need to disentangle the role of VLF vs. ULF

