

Interactive comment on “Space Weather Forecasting: What We Know Now and What Are the Current and Future Challenges?” by Bruce T. Tsurutani et al.

Anonymous Referee #1 Received and published: 21 August 2019

The manuscript “Space Weather Forecasting: What we know now and what are the current and future challenges” submitted to NPG, 2019, by Tsurutani et al., represents overall an excellent summary of the physics background of geomagnetic storms and substorms, solar energetic particle fluxes, enhanced energetic magnetospheric electron fluxes and radiation belt formation, as well as ionospheric TEC changes. The focus is placed on the physics of the different space processes and the interplanetary causes and solar origins.

It is very understandable that a summary on space weather cannot easily cover all aspects (incl. the glossary), ranging from new solar observations from SDO, 3D CME modelling results based on STEREO observations, new heliospheric imaging results for ICMEs also from STEREO, CME/ICME kinematics and new projects (e.g., FLARECAST, HESPERIA, AFFECTS, HELCATS, etc. and also other US and int. projects). However, before publication I suggest to state this in the paper and to add ref. about ongoing projects and literature covering those issues. I am not pointing out special references because they are easy to find through the internet or by browsing the Space Weather Journals of AGU and Int. Journal on Space Weather and Climate. I suggest adding clarifications of the focus and limitations of the paper at the beginning and end of the manuscript, see also the specific comments below. I also suggest to name some books on space weather (e.g., Hanslmeier: The Sun and space weather; Koskinen: The physics of space storms, etc.). Eventually even the title maybe modified to these suggestions to be more specific.

I further suggest adding more specific details on how new missions (PSP, SO) will help answer the addressed questions, or if it is not possible, to leave it out.

With these modifications the paper will certainly be a very good overview on space weather processes, written in a clear way.

We thank the referee for his/her helpful comments. Based on your comments and that of the other referee, we now reduce the usage of the word “forecasting” and speak mainly of the physics of space weather, a point that you have emphasized. This is now in the title of the paper. This was our original intent. We thank you for the references to the Hanslmeier and Koskinen books. We have mentioned those, some earlier ones and one more very recent publication (Buzulukova, 2018) in the Introduction section and state that Space Weather is an extremely broad field and that even those many books have not covered all areas of importance. Our present effort is not only to fill in the cracks but to give a different slant to the topic of Space Weather and what fruitful research can be done today and in the next 10 to 25 years. This is now explicitly stated in the paper.

We now give more specific ideas on how current and future missions could help solve outstanding questions.

Minor comments:

- 1) p.1, l.11: Since also the solar wind speed plays a role because of $E = -v \times B_z$, I suggest to add the word “major” at the beginning, i.e., “Major geomagnetic storms are caused by ...”. Or some similar clarification.
-

Yes, Corrected.

- 2) Same p., l.17: I suggest adding a sentence on SEPs because the topic start a little abrupt.
-

Done. A phrase was added.

- 3) p.2, l.35: I suggest removing the word “old” by a more elegant sentence stating an evolution of space weather from solar terrestrial research over the years, or something similar. Several space missions over the last decades have made significant progress in terms of interdisciplinary research (SOHO, Cluster, ACE, STEREO, etc.) between the solar, magnetospheric, ionospheric disciplines and space physics in general. And the new data have led to fundamental new insights into solar storms (e.g., CME 3D structure and propagation to Earth).
-

Okay. Done. The main point that we wanted to make to the reader is that many of the physical phenomena have already been discovered and much of the future work is fine tuning, and understanding of the detailed physics.

- 4) p. 3, l. 70: I suggest adding “that occur more frequent during ...”.
-

Corrected. Thank you.

- 5) Same p., next lines: I suggest to rephrase “ We will explain to solar scientists ...”. There are also solar scientists knowledgeable of space physics.
-

Yes, corrected. We now address this “to the reader”. Sorry. This phrase came when one of us gave a talk on space weather at a meeting and afterwards he was collared by a very prominent solar physicist who thanked the speaker for defining why space weather people talk about ICMEs. This person in the audience did not know.

- 6) p.6, 1st par.: I suggest to not completely neglect the role of v solar wind here. I see it is addressed later on.
-

Yes, okay. Done. It should be mentioned to the referee that the variation in V typically ranges from ~ 400 km/s to 1,000 km/s, a factor of about 2. However the B_{south} component varies from

about 0 nT to say -60 nT for a major magnetic storm. The variation in B_{south} is the greater of the two.

- 7) P.7, l.180: LASCO has observed by now far more than 10,000 CMEs, but only about 5% are faster than 700 km/s in the plane of sky. Only a very few have speeds of $>2,000$ km/s and these are coming preferentially from coronal regions above enhanced photospheric fields, so that higher field strengths and compression effects are pronounced. That means only a subset of CMEs produces strong fields in ip space. Please add some clarifications.
-

Thank you very much for the information. We have paraphrased your comments in quotation marks and have added it to the paper. We did not know this. Very important.

- 8) p.8, 2nd par.: Results from STEREO observations are missing here. It is also pointed out that new missions will provide new insights, but do they really do for these research topics? And if so, how?
-

Corrected. Thank you. It is obvious that STEREO should have addressed this issue already (but haven't). In our initial writeup we were only focusing on future missions. A reference to STEREO has been added.

- 9) p.11, l. 268-272: There are results that relate MC magnetic field structures back to their solar source regions. I suggest including a few sentences.
-

Corrected.

- 10) Same p., next par.: Again, how do PSP and SO help specifically?

Corrected. We now mention that they would have to study the same ICME at different distances from the Sun.

- 11) p.17, l.414: Only "intensities that some MC fields do". Many MCs have weaker fields.
-

Corrected.

- 12) Same p., l.422: "having said"?
-

Corrected.

- 13) p.18, caption Fig.7: I suggest to write: "A large coronal hole at the ..."

Thank you. Corrected.

- 14) p.19, l.442-444: LASCO C2 is also included.
-

Now corrected.

- 15) p.21, l.480: How will these missions be useful? Be specific.
-

Amplified and corrected.

16) p.23, l.533: same as 15).

Corrected.

17) p.32, l.724: “stronger”

Corrected.

18) same p., l.727: wording of sentence

Corrected.

19) p.35, l.805-812: I missed some results from STEREO in this context.

Corrected.

20) Same p., 816-824: I suggest including here some sentences on the established drag modelling for CME propagation in the heliosphere.

Corrected.

21) p.37, l.865: “have shown”

Corrected.

22) p.38, l. 887: wording of sentence

Corrected.

23) p.39, caption Fig.18: I suggest adding clarifying text about the shock creation.

Corrected. We have added more explanation of the figure in both the figure caption and within the text.

24) p.42, l.962: I suggest removing the word “poor”. Either there is connection or not.

Corrected.

25) p.50, l.1100: Why is the magnetic profile unlike those of other ICMEs? Please explain.

Corrected. We now mention that the profile is discussed later in the paper. We have expanded that discussion (later in the paper).

26) p.53, caption Fig.29: Please add the date.

Done.

27) p.54, l.1196: Please explain what the averaging time for Bz was to avoid averaging out negative time intervals.

Done. We have also added a comment on magnetospheric reaction timescales.

28) p.55, l. 1225: What is meant by a solar filament in this context? Please explain.

Corrected. This filament is the interplanetary manifestation of the Illing and Hundhausen (1986) CME filament. We now mention this in the text.

29) p.31, caption Fig. 31: Please add the year.

Done.

30) p.57, l.1257-1260: I suggest elaborating things not addressed a little bit, see major comments.

Amended. The details follow.

31) Same p., next par.: I suggest adding the role of V, also for CME arrival time predictions.

Yes. Okay. Very important. Done.

32) p.58, first 2 lines: But what about forecasting with ENLIL?

To address the issue of using physics based computer codes, data based computer codes and machine learning algorithms, we have made some “Final Comments” at the end of the paper. We have added references to many ENLIL based codes but remark that different codes have different strengths in predicting plasma properties and timing, but they do not address the MC magnetic field direction and intensity, the prime point of this paper. The sheath fields are also not well specified nor tested.

33) Same p., last par.: I suggest adding drag modelling here.

Some references had been added in the Final Comments. Basically one of the ENLIL references states that one has to have imaging data to do real-time studies of deceleration and acceleration. We think the eventual goals would be to model the slow solar wind upstream of the CME so that the slow solar wind can be modeled. This has not been done to our knowledge.

34) p. 59, last lines: I suggest to add some more concluding remarks and references to books on space weather, including recently established forecast models and new projects.

Done. We have added a “Final Comments” section at the very end of the paper. Rather than address details on forecasting models and new space projects, we thought it more important to emphasize model predictions of MC fields at 1 AU and testing which has not been done yet. Also many of the space projects typically do not address the fundamental physical problems mentioned here.

35) p.60, l. 1338: wording of sentence

Thank you. Done.

36) p.67, l. 1530: I suggest adding a statement on GNSS. 37) P.75, l. 1746: Solar activity includes many other phenomena, e.g., CMEs, jets, etc. but here only flares are addressed.

Corrected. We changed the title of ‘Solar activity’ to ‘Solar Flares’. CMEs are discussed separately. We have added a section on GNSS.

Interactive comment on “Space Weather Forecasting: What We Know Now and What Are the Current and Future Challenges?” by Bruce T. Tsurutani et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

[Main comments]

In this review paper, the authors summarized observations of space weather phenomena and their physical interpretations. The main topic is about geomagnetic storms and magnetospheric phenomena, which is based on the authors’ previous studies, ranging from the arrival of ICMEs and solar wind plasma at the Earth to the resulting geomagnetic and ionospheric storms. Phenomenological understanding is broadly explained, and questions about unresolved problems are described in each section, leading to what to reveal by new space missions like PSP, Solar Orbiter, MMS, Arase and SWARM.

This paper is written not only for space plasma physicists but for non-space plasma readers, like solar physicists and ionospheric scientists. It looks that the authors hope lots of people to read this article and try the unresolved problems with the interdisciplinary cooperation. The terminologies are summarized at the end of the main text, and in each section, histories of the studies are explained, which are useful for beginners and young researchers.

On the other hand, though the title is "Space Weather Forecasting", the manuscript does not cover predictions of solar flares, CMEs, SEPs, GICs and plasma bubbles, as well as social impacts on the infrastructures. The methods using numerical simulations and machine-learning techniques are not well introduced in this paper. It would be more useful for readers if the authors can include the current prediction models and their prediction accuracy in this review paper.

Especially, with a new approach using machine-learning algorithms, probabilistic predictions can be done even if the physical mechanisms are not fully revealed. For accurate forecasting, the full understanding of physical processes are really necessary? If we understand all the nonlinear processes in space weather phenomena, can we forecast them perfectly? It would be also useful for readers if the authors can answer these questions.

We thank the referee for his/her helpful comments in improving this paper. The points that you have raised above are very pertinent and are indeed topics that have not been covered well. To address your specific comment about discussing predictions of solar, interplanetary, magnetospheric and ionospheric phenomena, we have decided to change the tone of the paper to indicate that we are addressing only the knowledge of the physical causes of such phenomena. Our original thought was that we need to know the physical causes before making forecasts/predictions. However the words “forecast/predictions” mean other things to other people (see comments from referee #1) and this can be confusing. We have therefore changed the title of the paper and part of the text to reflect this.

To address some of your other questions about “forecasting” using computer codes and machine learning algorithms, we address it here in detail in a Final Comments section at the end of the paper. Many physics-based codes have been constructed over tens of years.

However most of them have not been tested even using data from past magnetic storms. People has simply assumed that with all the major “physics” put into the codes, that one would be able to predict observations. One of us (BTT) has been involved with a NASA funded project to test the codes for ionospheric total electron content (TEC) data. We have been at this for the last 5 years. We have been using the well-established codes with measured solar wind input and have had the CCMC personnel of the Goddard Space Flight Center run the codes for us. The results have not been good. Basically we are not able to get accurate reproductions of the observations from any of the codes. At this time, we have no idea why we are not getting the predicted results, especially with solar wind, solar and geomagnetic activity index inputs. We have submitted two papers on this topic and as one would expect, the referees are not happy. Well, we are not happy either, but we simply want to report our results so improvements can be made. So to answer one of your questions, the independent reporting on the accuracy of codes in predicting so far is essentially non-existent.

The other referee has mentioned the ENLIL code and related codes. We now reference many of these works. People have tested MC propagation from the Sun to 1 AU but only the solar wind plasma properties and arrival times. The MC itself has not been modelled and tested. This is now stated in the paper.

Concerning machine learning algorithms, that too can be a red herring. Some of us have been studying such applications. Although great claims of success by proponents have been made, actual space weather successes are rare to none. What if the ionosphere is dominated by chaos? Then machine learning will not help. We have added several references to this topic in the Final Comments section (a new section at the end of the paper).

From the above one can see that neither we nor anyone else is really qualified to talk about “forecasting” using computer codes or machine learning algorithms. There have been no tests for the topics addressed in this paper to the knowledge of the authors. On the other hand, we do not wish to put such future studies in a negative light. Perhaps someone will be able to make a verifiable breakthrough. We wish to be positive on this subject. To address the topic of “forecasting”, we have made some short comments near the end of the paper.

We are very interested in what atmospheric weather people do and have been following their work closely. They have been diligently working at their problem far longer than space weather people have been. It is interesting to know how they make their predictions. They have many codes at their disposal. They down-select to say the ~25 best ones and then take the mean value! This seems to work well. But why it works leaves a big question? Maybe that is the answer for space weather as well.

We have passed our section of “Final Comments” to the other NASA funded JPL researchers (Xing Meng, Tony Mannucci (P.I.) and Olga Verkhyagladova). They are in agreement with the wording of this section. As mentioned before, we have been examining existing ionospheric TEC codes for the last 5 years.

[Minor comments]

- 1) [Fig. 7] It looks that the solar image is not from SDO but Yohkoh. SDO does not have a soft X-ray telescope.

We apologize for the error! Thank you very much for the correction. This has been fixed.

- 2) [Fig. 8] The inner solar image was not taken by a soft X-ray telescope but an EUV telescope of EIT (195A Fe XII). The inner coronal image in the black circle was taken by Mauna Loa coronagraph, while the outer one was by SOHO/LASCO-C2.

Corrected. Thank you. We did not mention the outer coronagraph image previously. We do now.

- 3) [section 2.4.1] There is a sentence that to determine IMF-Bz component in the sheaths, we need more effort on predicting the slow solar wind plasma and magnetic field, but this statement is obscure. What will be the key to predict the slow solar wind plasma?

Corrected. Thank you. Right now we have no idea on how to determine the properties of the slow solar wind, but as you note this is key to predicting the IMF Bz in sheaths. We have reemphasized this point near the end of the paper.

- 4) [General comments] There are so many abbreviations like MC, ICME, IMF, CIR, HSS, HCS, HPS, HILDCAA, AE, EIA, EMIC wave, PC wave, RED, PPEF, SSW, SSS, which are difficult for non-space plasma readers to understand.

Yes, we have no solution to this problem other than to put in a Glossary so the reader can go back and forth. Putting in the full spelling of the acronyms will lengthen the paper by a lot.

- 5) It's better to show the definition of L value.

Corrected. We have inserted a definition in the text and also added this to the Glossary.

The Physics of Space Weather: What We Know Now and What Are the Current and Future Challenges?

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ABSTRACT

Major geomagnetic storms are caused by unusually intense solar wind southward magnetic fields that impinge upon the Earth's magnetosphere (Dungey, 1961). How can we predict the occurrence of future interplanetary events? Do we currently know enough of the underlying physics and do we have sufficient observations of solar wind phenomena that will impinge upon the Earth's magnetosphere? We view this as the most important challenge in Space Weather. We discuss the case for magnetic clouds (MCs), interplanetary sheaths upstream of interplanetary coronal mass ejections (ICMEs), corotating interaction regions (CIRs) and solar wind high-speed streams (HSSs). The sheath- and CIR-related magnetic storms will be difficult to predict and will require better knowledge of the slow solar wind and modeling to solve. For interplanetary space weather, there are challenges for understanding the fluences and spectra of solar energetic particles (SEPs). This will require better knowledge of interplanetary shock properties as they propagate and evolve going from the Sun to 1 AU (and beyond), the upstream slow solar wind and energetic "seed" particles. Dayside aurora, triggering of nightside substorms, and formation of new radiation belts can all be caused by shock and interplanetary ram pressure impingements onto the Earth's magnetosphere. The acceleration and loss of relativistic magnetospheric "killer" electrons and prompt penetrating electric fields in terms of causing positive and negative ionospheric storms are reasonably well understood, but refinements are still needed. The forecasting of extreme events (extreme shocks, extreme solar energetic particle events, and extreme geomagnetic storms ("Carrington" events or greater)) are also

31 discussed. Energetic particle precipitation [into the atmosphere](#) and ozone destruction is
32 briefly discussed. For many of the studies, the Parker Solar Probe, Solar Orbiter,
33 Magnetospheric Multiscale Mission (MMS), Arase, and SWARM data will be useful.

34

35 **1. INTRODUCTION**

36 **1.1. Some Comments on the History of [the Physics of Space Weather](#)**

37

38 Space Weather is a new term for a topic [that actually began over a century and a half ago](#). It is just
39 [that with the space age beginning in 1957 \(with the launch of Sputnik\) and soon thereafter, many](#)
40 [scientifically instrumented satellites led to an explosion of knowledge of the physics of Space](#)
41 [Weather. However it is useful to review some of the early scientific studies that occurred prior to](#)
42 [1957](#). Prior to the space age (where we have satellites orbiting the Earth, probing interplanetary
43 space and viewing the Sun in UV, EUV and X-ray wavelengths), it was clearly realized that solar
44 phenomena caused geomagnetic activity at the Earth. For example, Carrington (1859) noted that
45 there was a magnetic storm that followed ~17 h 40 min after the well-documented optical solar
46 flare which he reported. This storm (Chapman and Bartels, 1940) was only more recently studied
47 in detail by Tsurutani et al. (2003) and Lakhina et al. (2012), but the hints of a causal relationship
48 was there in 1859. [After Carrington \(1959\) published his seminal paper](#), Hale (1931), Newton
49 (1943) and others showed that magnetic storms were delayed by several days from intense solar
50 flares. These types of magnetic storms are now known to be caused by [either their associated](#)
51 [interplanetary coronal mass ejections \(ICMEs\) or their upstream sheaths](#). Details will be discussed
52 later in this review.

53

54 Maunder (1904) showed that geomagnetic activity often had a ~27 day recurrence. [This periodicity](#)
55 [was associated with some mysteriously unseen \(by visible light\) feature on the Sun](#). Chree (1905,
56 1913) showed that these data were statistically significant, thus inventing the Chree “superposed
57 epoch analysis”, a [scientific data analysis](#) technique which is [still](#) used today. The mysteriously
58 unseen solar features responsible for the geomagnetic activity were called “M-regions” by Bartels
59 (1934) where the “M” stood for “magnetically active”. It is now known that M-regions are coronal
60 holes (Krieger et al., 1973), solar regions from which [solar wind high-speed streams \(HSSs\)](#)
61 emanate, causing geomagnetic activity at the Earth (Sheeley et al., 1976, 1977; Tsurutani et al.

62 1995). The current status of geomagnetic activity associated with HSSs and the future work
63 needed to better understand and to predict the various facets of Space Weather events will be
64 discussed later.

65

66 With the advent of rockets and satellites, the near-Earth interplanetary medium has been probed
67 by magnetic field, plasma, and energetic particle detectors. The Sun has been viewed in many
68 different wavelengths. The Earth's auroral regions have recently been viewed by UV imagers
69 giving a global view of auroras including the dayside. The ionosphere has been probed by global
70 positioning system (GPS) dual frequency radio signals, allowing a global map of the ionospheric
71 total electron content (TEC) in relatively high spatial and temporal resolution. The purpose of this
72 review article will be to give a reasonably thorough review of some of the major Space Weather
73 effects in the magnetosphere, ionosphere and atmosphere and in interplanetary space, in order to
74 explain what the solar and interplanetary causes are or are expected to be. The most useful part of
75 this review will be to focus on what future advances in Space Weather might be in the next 10 to
76 25 years. In particular we will mention what outstanding problems the Parker Solar Probe, Solar
77 Orbiter, MMS, Arase, ICON, GOLD, and SWARM data might be useful in solving.

78

79 Our discussion will first start with phenomena that occur most frequently during solar maxima
80 (flares, CMEs and ICME-induced magnetic storms). We will explain to the reader what is meant
81 by an ICME and why we distinguish this from a CME. Next, phenomena associated with the
82 declining phase of the solar cycle will be addressed. These include corotating interaction regions
83 (CIRs) and HSSs, which cause high-intensity long-duration continuous AE activity (HILDCAA)
84 events, and the acceleration and loss of magnetospheric relativistic electrons. We will then return
85 to the topic of interplanetary shocks and their acceleration of energetic particles in interplanetary
86 space and also their creating new radiation belts inside the magnetosphere. Interplanetary shock
87 impingement onto the magnetosphere create dayside auroras and also trigger nightside substorms.
88 Prompt penetration electric fields during magnetic storm main phases will be discussed in terms
89 of the consequences of positive and negative ionospheric storms, depending on the local time of
90 the observation and the phase of the magnetic storm. Two relatively new topics, that of
91 supersubstorms (SSSs) and the possibility of precipitating magnetospheric relativistic electrons

92 affecting atmospheric weather will be discussed. A glossary will be provided to give definition of
93 the terms used in this review article.

94
95 There have been some recent books/articles that touch on the many topics of the physics of Space
96 Weather, however not in the same way that we will attempt to do here. We recommend the
97 interested reader: “*From the Sun: Auroras, Magnetic Storms, Solar Flares, Cosmic Rays*” by Suess
98 and Tsurutani (1989), “*Magnetic Storms*” by Tsurutani, Kamide, Gonzalez, Arballo (1997a),
99 “*Storm-Substorm Relationship*” by Sharma, Kamide, Lakhina (2004), “*Recurrent Magnetic*
100 *Storms: Corotating Solar Wind Streams*” by Tsurutani, McPherron, Gonzalez, Lu, Sobral,
101 Gopalswamy (2006a), “*The Sun and Space Weather*” by Hanslmeier (2007), “*Physics of Space*
102 *Storms: From the Solar Surface to the Earth*” by Koskinen (2011), and “*Extreme Events in*
103 *Geospace: Origins, Predictability and Consequences*” by Buzulukova (2018). Because Space
104 Weather is an enormous field/topic, not all facets of it have ever been covered in one book. The
105 present authors are active researchers in the field and will attempt to introduce new viewpoints and
106 topics not covered in the above works.

107 108 **1.2. Organization of Paper**

109
110 The concept of magnetic reconnection is introduced first for the non-space plasma reader.
111 **Magnetic reconnection** is the physical process responsible for transferring solar wind energy into
112 the magnetosphere during magnetic storms. We have organized the rest of the paper by discussing
113 **Space Weather** phenomena by solar cycle intervals. However it should be mentioned that this is
114 not totally successful since some phenomena span all parts of the solar cycle.

115
116 Solar maximum phenomena such as **CMEs**, **ICMEs**, fast shocks, sheaths, and the forecasting of
117 geomagnetic storms associated with the above are covered in **Subsections 2.1 to 2.4**. The **Space**
118 **Weather** phenomena associated with the declining phase of the solar cycle are discussed in **Section**
119 **3.0**. Topics such as CIRs, CIR storms, **HSSs**, embedded Alfvén wave trains **within HSSs**,
120 **HILDCAA** events, relativistic magnetospheric electron acceleration and loss, and electron
121 precipitation and ozone depletion are discussed in **Subsections 3.1 to 3.6**. Although interplanetary
122 shocks are primarily features associated with fast ICMEs and thus **primarily** a solar maximum

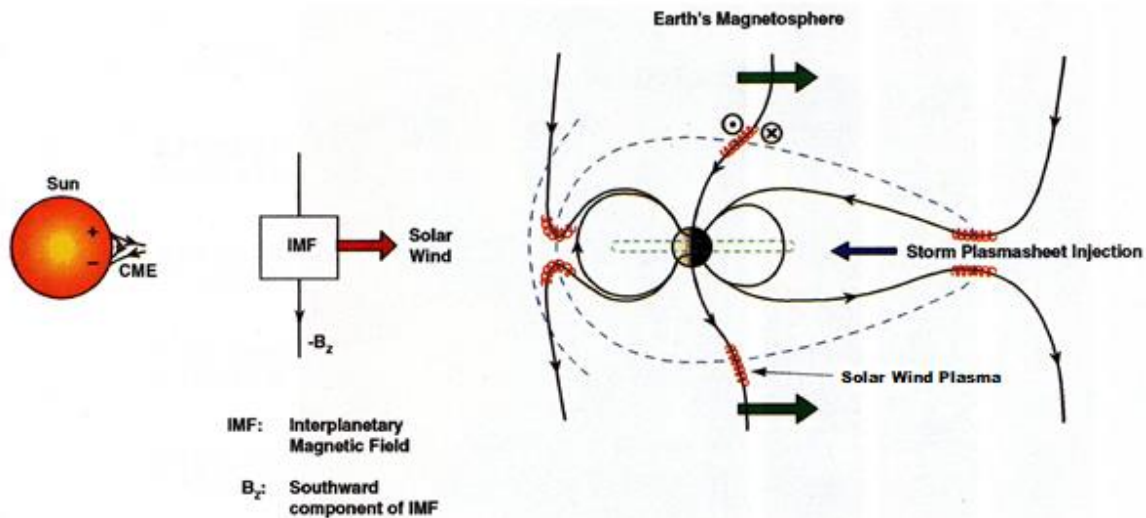
123 phenomenon, shocks can also bound CIRs (~20% of the time) at 1 AU during the solar cycle
124 declining phase as well. Shocks and the high density plasmas that they create can input ram energy
125 into the magnetosphere. Topics such as solar cosmic ray particle acceleration, dayside auroras,
126 triggering of nightside substorms and the creation of new magnetospheric radiation belts are
127 covered in Subsections 4.1 to 4.4. Solar flares and ionospheric TEC increases is another Space
128 Weather effect causing direct solar-ionospheric coupling not involving interplanetary space nor
129 the magnetosphere. This is briefly discussed in Section 5.0. Prompt penetration electric fields
130 (PPEFs) and ionospheric TEC increases (and decreases) occurs during magnetic storms. Although
131 the biggest effects are observed during ICME magnetic storms (solar maximum), effects have been
132 noted in CIR magnetic storms as well. This is discussed in Section 6.0. The “Carrington” magnetic
133 storm is the most intense magnetic storm in recorded history. The aurora associated with the storm
134 reached 23° from the geomagnetic equator (Kimball, 1960), the lowest in recorded history. Since
135 this event has been used as an example for extreme Space Weather and events of this type are a
136 problem for the U.S. Homeland Security, we felt that there should be a separate section on this
137 topic, Section 7.0. We also discuss the possibility of events even larger than the Carrington storm
138 occurring. In Section 8.0 auroral SSSs are discussed. Why is this topic covered in this paper? It
139 is possible that SSSs which occur within superstorms are the actual causes for the extreme
140 ionospheric currents, geomagnetically induced currents (GICs), that are responsible for potential
141 power grid failures and not the geomagnetic storms themselves. Section 9.0 gives our
142 summary/conclusions for the physics and the possibility of forecasting Space Weather events.
143 Section 10.0 is a glossary of Space Weather terms used by researchers in the field. Most of the
144 definitions were carefully constructed in a previous book (Suess and Tsurutani, 1998). These
145 should be useful for an ionospheric person looking up solar terms, etc. It could be particularly
146 useful for the non-space plasma readership as well.

147

148 **2. RESULTS: Solar Maximum**

149 **2.1. Southward Interplanetary Magnetic Fields, Magnetic Reconnection and Magnetic** 150 **Storms**

151



152
 153 Figure 1. Magnetic reconnection powering geomagnetic storms and substorms. Adapted from
 154 Dungey (1961).

155
 156 Figure 1 shows the Dungey (1961) scenario of magnetic reconnection. A one-to-one relationship
 157 between southward **interplanetary** magnetic fields (**IMFs**) and magnetic storms has been shown by
 158 Echer et al. (2008a) for 90 **intense** ($Dst < -100$ nT) magnetic storms that occurred during **solar**
 159 **cycle 23**. If the **IMF** is directed southward, it will interconnect with the Earth's magnetopause
 160 northward magnetic fields (the Earth's north magnetic pole is located in the southern hemisphere
 161 near the south rotational pole). The solar wind drags the interconnected magnetic fields and plasma
 162 downstream (in the antisunward direction). The open magnetic fields then reconnect in the tail.
 163 Reconnection leads to strong convection of the plasmasheet into the nightside magnetosphere.

164
 165 What is known by theory and verified by observations is that the stronger the southward
 166 component of the **IMF and the stronger the solar wind velocity convecting the magnetic field**, the
 167 stronger the solar wind-magnetospheric system is driven (e.g., Gonzalez et al., 1994). Intense IMF
 168 B_{south} in MCs (and sheaths) drive intense magnetic reconnection at the dayside magnetopause
 169 and intense reconnection on the nightside. Strong nightside magnetic reconnection leads to strong
 170 inward convection of the plasmasheet. The stronger the magnetotail reconnection, the stronger the
 171 inward convection. Via conservation of the first two adiabatic invariants (Alfvén, 1950), the
 172 greater the convection, the greater the energization of the radiation belt particles.

173

174 As the midnight sector plasmashet is convected inward to lower L, the initially ~100 eV to 1 keV
175 plasmashet electrons and protons are adiabatically compressed (kinetically energized) so that the
176 perpendicular (to the ambient magnetic field) energy becomes greater than the parallel energy.
177 This leads to plasma instabilities, wave growth and wave-particle interactions (Kennel and
178 Petschek, 1966). The resultant effect is the “diffuse aurora” caused by the precipitation of the ~10
179 to 100 keV electrons and protons into the upper atmosphere/lower ionosphere. At the same time
180 double layers are formed just above the ionosphere, giving rise to ~1 to 10 keV “monoenergetic”
181 electron acceleration and precipitation in the formation of “discrete auroras” (Carlson et al., 1998).

182

183 If the IMF southward component is particularly intense, this can lead to a magnetic storm with Dst
184 < -100 nT. The Dst decrease is caused by strong convection of the plasmashet into the inner part
185 of the magnetosphere and the formation of an intensified ring current. This ring current produces
186 a diamagnetic field which causes the reduced field strength at surface of the Earth. This is the
187 magnetic storm main phase.

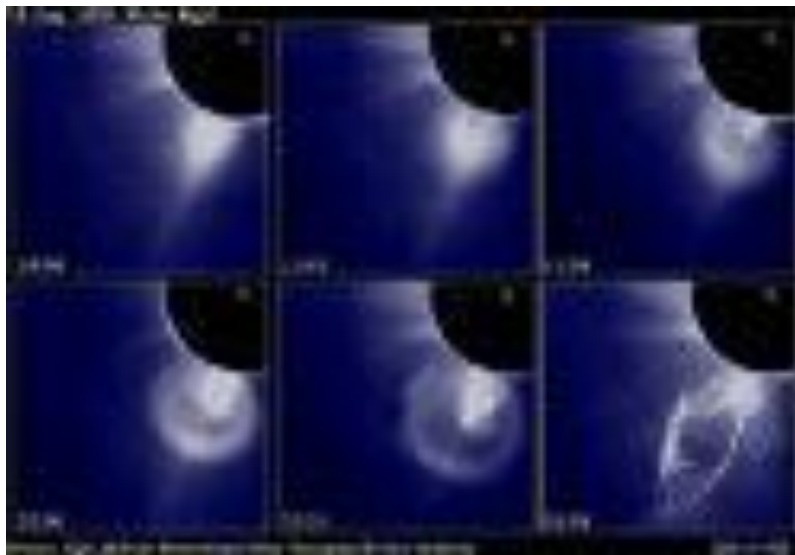
188

189 After the southward field decreases or changes orientation to northward fields, the magnetic storm
190 recovers. The recovery is associated with a multitude of physical processes associated with the
191 loss of the energetic ring current particles: charge exchange, Coulomb collisions, wave-particle
192 interactions and convection out the dayside magnetopause (West et al., 1972; Kozyra et al. 1997,
193 2006a; Jordanova et al., 1998; Daglis et al. 1999). A typical time for storm recovery is ~10 to 24
194 h (Burton et al., 1975; Hamilton et al., 1988; Ebihara and Ejiri, 1998; O’Brien and McPherron,
195 2000; Dasso et al., 2002; Kozyra et al., 2002; Wang et al., 2003; Weygand and McPherron, 2006;
196 Monreal MacMahon and Llop, 2008).

197

198 **2.2. Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs), Interplanetary Coronal Mass Ejections (ICMEs) and**
199 **Magnetic Storms**

200



201
 202 Figure 2. A sequence of images showing the emergence of parts of a CME coming from the Sun.
 203 The time sequence starts at the upper left and ends at the lower right. Taken from Illing and
 204 Hundhausen (1986).

205
 206 What are the solar and interplanetary sources of intense IMFs that lead to magnetic reconnection
 207 at Earth and intense magnetic storms? What we know from space age observations is that these
 208 magnetic fields come from parts of a CME, a giant blob of plasma and magnetic fields which are
 209 released from the Sun associated with solar flares and disappearing filaments (Tang et al., 1989).
 210 Figure 2 shows the emergence of a CME from behind a solar occulting disc. The time sequence
 211 starts at the upper left, goes to the right and then to the bottom left, and ends at the bottom right.
 212 The three parts of a CME are best noted in the image on the bottom left. There is a bright outer
 213 loop most distant from the Sun, followed by a “dark region”, and then closest to the Sun is the
 214 solar filament.

215 216 **2.3. Forecasting Magnetic Storms and Extreme Storms Associated with ICMEs**

217
 218 We will precede ourselves and state here that for the limited number of cases studied to date, the
 219 most geoeffective part of the CME is the “dark region”. Interplanetary scientists (Burlaga et al.,
 220 1981; Choe et al., 1982; Tsurutani and Gonzalez, 1994) have identified this as the low plasma beta
 221 region called a magnetic cloud (MC), first identified by Burlaga et al.(1981) and Klein and Burlaga
 222 (1982) in interplanetary space by magnetic field and plasma measurements. When there are

223 southward component magnetic fields within the MC (thought to typically be a giant fluxrope), a
224 magnetic storm results (Gonzalez and Tsurutani, 1987; Gonzalez et al. 1994; Tsurutani et al.,
225 1997b; Zhang et al., 2007; Echer et al. 2008a).

226
227 It should be noted that fast CMEs and intense MC fields are relatively rare. The SOHO LASCO
228 instrument has observed > 10,000 CMEs but only ~5% have speeds faster than ~700 km/s. Only
229 very few have speeds > 2,000 km/s and these are coming from coronal regions associated with
230 Active Regions (ARs) (personal communications with referee, 2019).

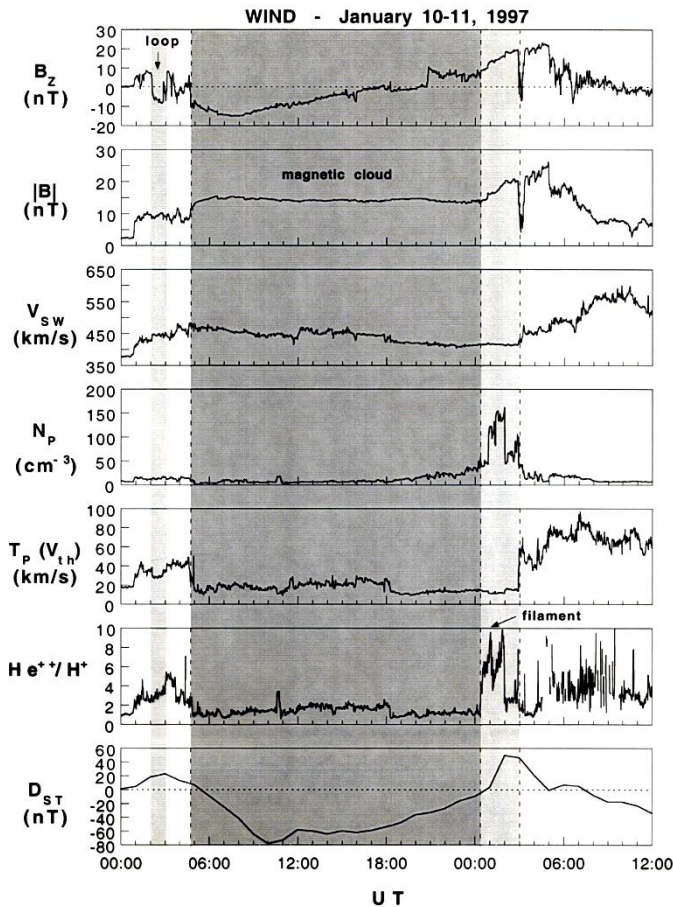
231
232 Interplanetary and magnetospheric scientists have developed the term ICME or interplanetary
233 CME because it is not currently known (for individual events) how the CME evolves as it
234 propagates from the Sun to the Earth and beyond. Leamon et al. (2004) in comparing interplanetary
235 MCs to associated solar active regions found that there was little or no relationship, compelling
236 the authors to conclude that “MCs are formed during magnetic reconnection and are not simple
237 eruptions of preexisting coronal structures”. Yurchyshyn et al. (2007) in a similar study found that
238 “for the majority of interplanetary MCs, the fluxrope axis orientation changed less than 45° going
239 from the Sun to 1 AU”. Palmerio et al. (2018) found “for the majority of cases, the flux rope tilt
240 angles rotated several tens of degrees (between the Sun and the Earth) while 35% changed by more
241 than 90°”. 3D MHD simulations have shown that CMEs can be severely distorted as they interact
242 with different types of interplanetary structures as they propagate through interplanetary space
243 (Odstrcil and Pizzo, 1999a,b). The latter authors have shown that the CME distortion is
244 substantially different when it interacts with the streamer belt (heliospheric plasma sheet/HPS)
245 than with an HSS. The distortion of the CME can make the ICME unrecognizable at a distance
246 further away from the Sun.

247
248 More detailed topics not covered in Palmerio et al. (2018) or in Odstrcil and Pizzo (1999a,b) are
249 the topics of the fate of the principal features of CMEs as discussed by Illing and Hundhausen
250 (1986). For example, the bright outer loops are seldomly identified at 1 AU (one rare case was
251 identified by Tsurutani et al., 1998) and the filaments are typically not found within the ICME at
252 1 AU. The first filament detection at 1 AU was not reported until 1998 (Burlaga et al., 1998). For
253 more recent observations of filaments at 1 AU, we direct the reader to Lepri and Zurbuchen (2010).

254 Where have the bright outer loops and filaments gone to? Have they simply detached only to
255 impinge onto the magnetosphere at a later time, or do they go back into the Sun? [Or is it possible](#)
256 [that many CMEs do not have filaments at their bases?](#) [Remote imaging observations from](#)
257 [STEREO should be able to answer these questions.](#) [New in situ results from](#) Parker Solar Probe,
258 Solar Orbiter and ACE plus ground-based solar observations could perhaps [help address the](#)
259 [plasma physics of why typical ICMEs do not have attached filaments.](#)

260
261 It should be remarked that the high density solar filaments could be extremely geoeffective if they
262 collided with the Earth's magnetosphere (this is covered later in Section 3.2.5). Is it possible for
263 the MC to rotate so that initially southward magnetic fields become northward components? Can
264 the MC fields be compressed or expanded by interplanetary interactions? Can magnetic
265 reconnection be taking place within the ICME between the solar corona and 1 AU as suggested by
266 Manchester et al. (2006) and Kozyra et al., (2013)? If so, how often does this occur and can it be
267 predicted? [Modeling and examining the Parker Solar Probe and Solar Orbiter data \(for studies on](#)
268 [the same ICME\) could help us understand whether the MCs evolve as they propagate through](#)
269 [interplanetary space.](#)

270
271 Of course the most important goal for [Space Weather](#) is predicting the southward magnetic fields
272 within the ICME. This extremely difficult task is the holy grail of [Space Weather](#). It is more
273 important than predicting the time of the release of a CME, its speed and its direction.



274

275

276 Figure 3. An ICME detected at 1 AU just upstream of the Earth.

277

278 Figure 3 shows a rare case of an ICME at 1 AU where all three parts of a CME are detected. The
 279 MC is indicated by the shaded region in the figure. The outer loop was identified by Tsurutani et
 280 al. (1998) and the filament by Burlaga et al. (1998).

281

282 From top to bottom are the IMF B_z component (in geocentric solar magnetospheric/GSM
 283 coordinates), the field magnitude, the solar wind velocity, density, temperature and the $\text{He}^{++}/\text{H}^+$
 284 ratio. The bottom panel gives the ground based Dst index whose amplitude is used as an indicator
 285 of the occurrence of a magnetic storm. Dst becomes negative when the Earth's magnetosphere is
 286 filled with storm-time energetic $\sim 10\text{-}300$ keV electrons and ions (Williams et al., 1990). Dessler
 287 and Parker (1959) and Sckopke (1966) have shown that the amount of magnetic decrease is linearly
 288 related to the total kinetic energy of the enhanced radiation belt particles. This is because the

289 energetic particles which comprise the storm-time ring current, through gradient drift of the
290 charged particles, form a diamagnetic current which decreases the Earth's magnetic field inside
291 the current. We refer the reader to Sugiura (1964) and Davis and Sugiura (1966) for [further](#)
292 discussions of the Dst index. The Dst index is a one hr index. More recently a 1 min SYM-H index
293 (Iyemori, 1990; Wanliss and Showalter, 2006) has been developed. This is more useful for high
294 time resolution studies. Both indices are produced by the Kyoto Data Center.

295
296 In this example (top panel of Figure 3) the MC fields start with a strong southward ($B_z < 0$ nT)
297 component and then later turns northward. In the bottom panel, the magnetic storm Dst index
298 becomes negative with very little delay from the southward magnetic fields. The energy transfer
299 mechanism is magnetic reconnection, as discussed [earlier](#) in Section 2.1. The high density filament
300 (fourth panel from the top) is present after the MC passage. Values as high as $\sim 160 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ have been
301 detected. These values are extreme values ([the](#) nominal solar wind density [is](#) ~ 3 to 5 cm^{-3} :
302 Tsurutani et al., 2018a). The high densities impinging on the magnetosphere in this case caused
303 [compression of the magnetosphere and](#) the Dst index to reach $\sim +55$ nT.

304
305 The stronger the southward component of the MC fields, the more intense the magnetic storm at
306 the Earth. In extreme cases storms with intensities of $\text{Dst} < -250$ nT can occur (Tsurutani et al.
307 1992a; Echer et al. 2008b). An empirical relationship between the speed of the MC at 1 AU and
308 its magnetic intensity has been shown by Gonzalez et al. (1998). A hypothetical explanation is the
309 “melon seed model”: squeezing a melon seed will cause it to squirt out, squeezing it harder will
310 make it come out fast. A larger magnetic field will require greater pressure to release it. However
311 a [substantial](#) MHD or plasma kinetic model is [needed](#) to explain [the physics of](#) this empirical
312 relationship [in more detail](#).

313
314 Because extremely strong MC magnetic fields are needed to produce extreme magnetic storms
315 like the “Carrington” event (Tsurutani et al., 2003; Lakhina and Tsurutani, 2017), one should focus
316 on extremely fast events for forecasting purposes. The geoeffective interplanetary dawn-to-dusk
317 electric field is $V_{\text{sw}} \times B_{\text{south}}$. Because Gonzalez et al (1998) have shown that $|B|$ is empirically
318 proportional to V_{sw} , the dawn-to-dusk interplanetary electric field has a V_{sw}^2 dependence. The
319 Carrington ICME took ~ 17 hr 40 min to go from the Sun to Earth (Carrington, 1859), causing the

320 largest magnetic storm in history. The minimum Dst has been estimated to be -1760 nT. However
321 the August 1972 event was even faster, taking only ~14 h 40 min to go from the Sun to Earth
322 (Vaisberg and Zastenker 1976; Zastenker et al. 1978). Although the 1972 MC was indeed extreme
323 in speed and magnetic field intensity, the direction of the magnetic field was northward and thus
324 there was geomagnetic quiet following the MC impingement onto the magnetosphere (Tsurutani
325 et al. 1992b). So again, predicting the ICME magnetic field direction is paramount in importance
326 for Space Weather applications.

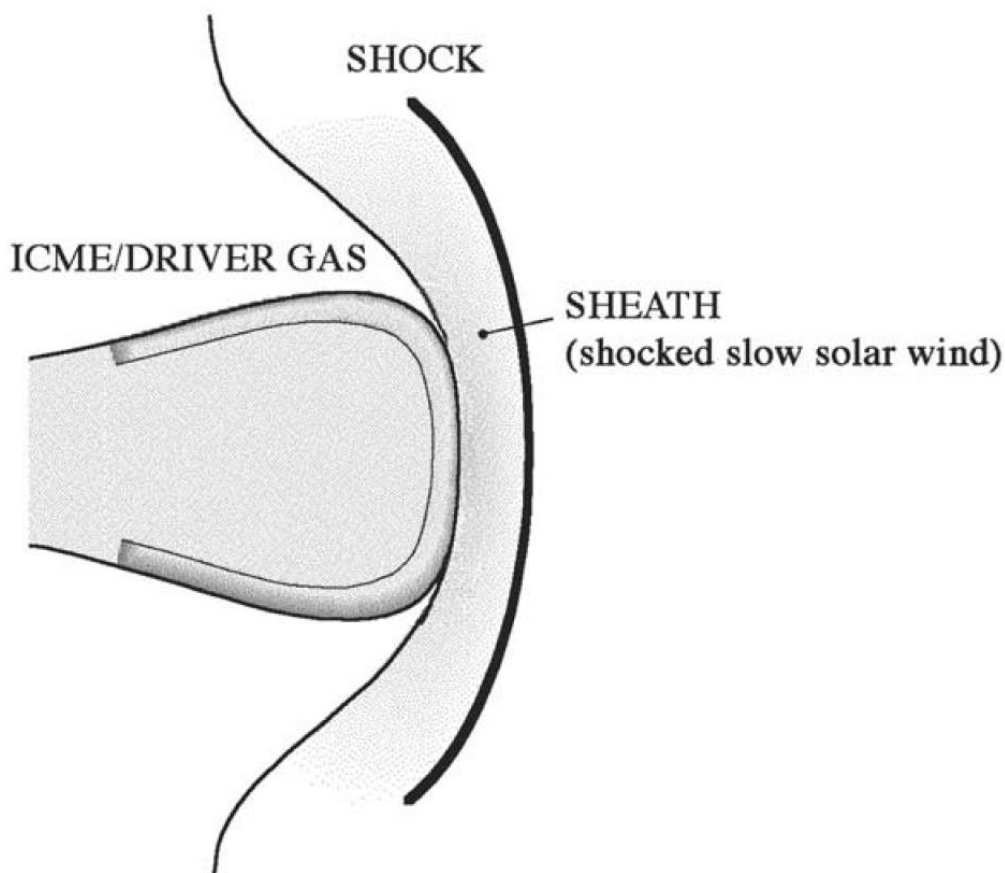
327

328 Modeling ICME propagation in interplanetary space during disturbed AR periods has met only
329 limited success (Echer et al., 2009; Mostl et al., 2015; Hajra et al., 2019). Sometimes it is difficult
330 to even identify to which flare or disappearing filament a detected ICME is related (see Tang et
331 al., 1989; Hajra et al., 2019). Hajra et al. (2019) have noted a halo CME event that did not reach
332 the Earth. The propagation times from the Sun to 1 AU has often been in error by days (Zhao and
333 Dryer, 2014). The additional information provided by the Parker Solar Probe and Solar Orbiter
334 and examination of present ICME propagation codes could help improve the ability to make more
335 accurate forecasts.

336

337 **2.4. Fast Shocks, Sheaths and Magnetic Storms**

338



339
 340 Figure 4. A schematic of an interplanetary sheath antisunward of an ICME. In this diagram the
 341 Sun is on the left (not shown).

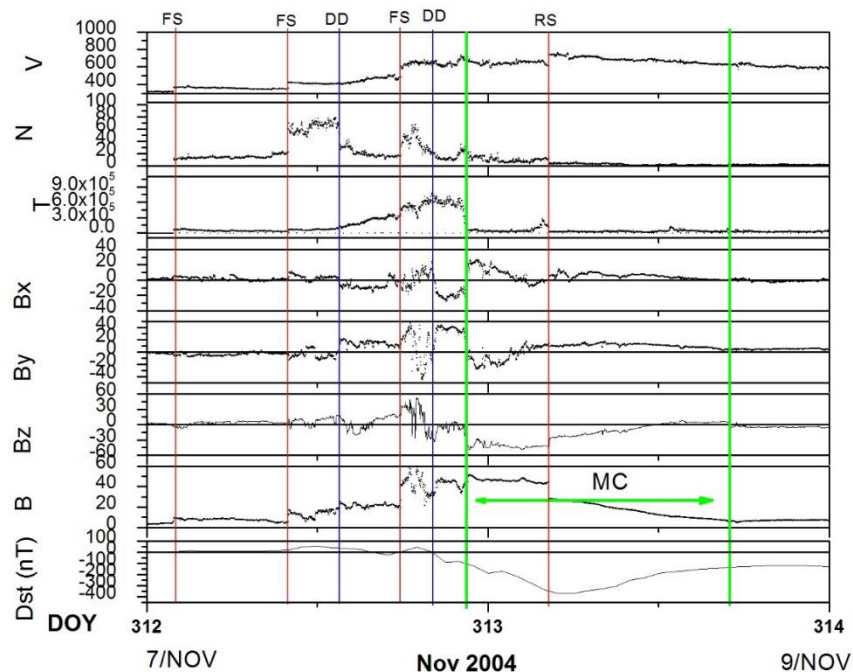
342
 343 Figure 4 shows a schematic of a shock and sheath upstream of an ICME. “Fast” CMEs/ICMEs can
 344 create upstream fast forward shocks (Tsurutani et al., 1988). By “fast” it is meant that the
 345 CME/ICME is moving at a speed higher than the upstream magnetosonic (fast wave mode) speed
 346 relative to the upstream plasma and by “forward” we mean that the shock is propagating in the
 347 same direction as the “driver gas” or the CME/ICME, antisunward. When a shock is formed, it
 348 compresses the upstream plasma and magnetic fields. In this terminology, the upstream direction
 349 is the direction in which the shock is propagating (antisunward in this case) and the downstream
 350 direction is towards the Sun (see Kennel et al., 1985 and Tsurutani et al., 2011 for details on
 351 shocks). The compressed plasma and magnetic fields downstream of the shock is the “sheath”.
 352 The shock and sheath are not part of the CME/ICME. The origin of this plasma and magnetic
 353 fields is the slow solar wind altered by shock compression. This is important to [understand](#) if one

354 wishes to predict magnetic storms caused by interplanetary sheath southward magnetic fields. It
 355 should be noted that “slow” ICMEs have been detected at 1 AU (Tsurutani et al., 1994a). These
 356 phenomena do not have upstream shocks and sheaths, as expected. However the southward MC
 357 magnetic fields still cause magnetic storms.

358

359 Kennel et al. (1985) used MHD simulations to show that the plasma densities and magnetic field
 360 magnitudes downstream of shocks are roughly related to the shock magnetosonic Mach numbers.
 361 This [theoretical](#) relationship holds up to a Mach number of ~ 4 . For higher Mach numbers MHD
 362 predicts that the compression will remain at a factor of ~ 4 . Since interplanetary shocks detected
 363 at 1 AU typically have Mach numbers only of 1 to 3 (Tsurutani and Lin, 1985; Echer et al., 2011;
 364 Meng et al. 2019a), 1 to 3 are the typical shock magnetic field and density compression [ratios](#)
 365 detected at 1 AU. One question for future studies is “does the MHD relationships of magnetic
 366 field magnitude and density jumps hold for extreme shocks?” If not, there will be important
 367 consequences for extreme [Space Weather](#).

368



369

370 Figure 5. An example of three fast forward shocks pumping up the interplanetary magnetic field
 371 intensity. Taken from Tsurutani et al. (2008a).

372
373 Figure 5 shows a complex interplanetary event that was selected by the CAWSES II team to study
374 in detail. The full information on this event from the Sun to the atmosphere can be found in the
375 special issue: Large Geomagnetic Storms of Solar Cycle 23
376 ([https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1944-8007.CYCLE231](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1944-8007.CYCLE231)). What
377 is important is that this event was associated with a solar active region (AR) and the results are
378 quite important in terms not only for interplanetary disturbance phenomena but also for
379 geomagnetic activity at the Earth.

380
381 From top to bottom in Figure 5 are the solar wind speed, density, and temperature, the IMF B_x,
382 B_y and B_z components and the magnetic field magnitude in solar magnetospheric (GSM)
383 coordinates. In this coordinate system, \mathbf{x} points in the direction of the Sun, \mathbf{y} is $(\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{x})/|\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{x}|$
384 where $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ is the Earth's south magnetic pole and \mathbf{z} completes the right hand system. The magnetic
385 storm Dst index is given at the bottom. Fast forward shocks are denoted by the three vertical red
386 lines on 7 November 2004. There are sudden increases in the velocity, density, temperature and
387 magnetic field magnitude at all three events. The Rankine-Hugoniot relationships have been
388 applied to the plasma and magnetic field data and the analysis did determine that they are indeed
389 fast shocks.

390
391 The point of showing this interplanetary event is to indicate that each shock pumps up the
392 interplanetary sheath magnetic field by factors of ~2 to 3. The initial magnetic field magnitude
393 started with a value of ~4 nT and at the peak value after the three shocks, it reached a value of ~60
394 nT. This final value was higher than the MC magnetic field, which was ~45 nT. Details
395 concerning the shocks and compressions can be found in the original paper for readers who are
396 interested. What is important here is how intense interplanetary magnetic fields are created. They
397 can come from the MCs themselves or the sheaths, as shown here. However, in this case the
398 southward magnetic fields that caused the magnetic storm came from the MC and not the sheath.

399
400 In the above example it is believed that three fast forward shocks were associated with three ICMEs
401 released from the AR. The longitudinal extent of shocks are, however, wider than the MCs, so

402 only one MC was detected in the event. A similar situation was found for the August 1972 event
403 discussed earlier.

404
405 It should be noted that a fast reverse wave (here by “reverse” we mean that the wave is propagating
406 in the solar direction) was detected during the Figure 5 event. It is identified as the red vertical line
407 on 8 November. In detailed examination of the Rankine-Hugoniot conservation equations, this
408 wave was found to propagate at a speed below the upstream magnetosonic speed and thus was a
409 magnetosonic wave and not a shock. This reverse wave caused a decrease in the MC magnetic
410 field (and the southward component) and thus the start of the recovery phase of the magnetic storm.
411 The reader should note that fast reverse waves and shocks are also important for geomagnetic
412 activity. A detailed discussion of shock and discontinuity effects on geomagnetic activity can be
413 found in Tsurutani et al. (2011).

414

415 **2.4.1. Forecasting ICME sheath magnetic storms**

416

417 Determination of the IMF Bz component in the sheaths will be a difficult task. To do this, more
418 effort [in understanding](#) the slow solar wind plasma, magnetic fields [and their variations](#) will be
419 required. To date, there has been little effort expended in this area. This is, however easy for us to
420 hope for, but in practice is far more difficult to do. Use of data from Solar Probe, Solar Orbiter and
421 a 1 AU spacecraft such as ACE [could](#) help in these analyses.

422

423 This problem has recently been emphasized by results from Meng et al. (2019a). Meng et al. have
424 shown that superstorms ($Dst < -250$ nT) that occurred during the space age (1957 to present) are
425 mostly driven by sheath fields or a combination of sheath plus a following magnetic cloud (MC).

426

427 Substorms are generated by lower intensity southward magnetic fields with the process of
428 magnetic reconnection being the same as above. However substorm plasmashet injections only
429 go in to $L \sim 4$, the outer part of the magnetosphere (Soraas et al., 2004). The auroras associated
430 with substorms appear in the “auroral zone”, 60° to 70° magnetic latitude (MLAT). Magnetic
431 storms associated with much larger IMF B_{south} are detected at subauroral zone latitudes.

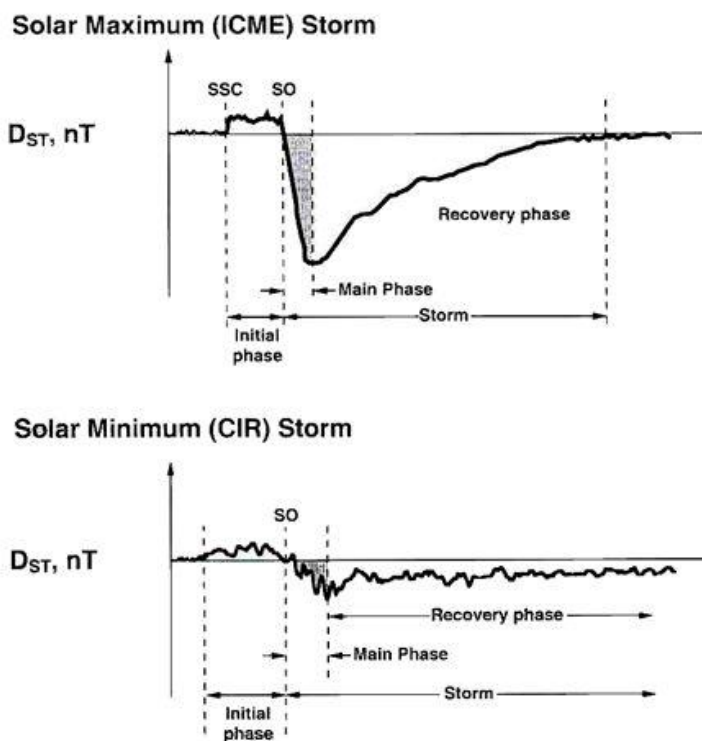
432

433

3.0. RESULTS: Declining Phase of the Solar Cycle

434

3.1. Corotating Interaction Region (CIR) Magnetic Storms



435

436 Figure 6. The magnetic Dst profiles of a CIR magnetic storm (bottom) and an ICME magnetic
 437 storm (top). Taken from Tsurutani (2000).

438

439 During the declining phase of the solar cycle a different type of solar and interplanetary activity
 440 dominates the [physical](#) cause of magnetic storms, that of Corotating Interaction Regions (CIRs).
 441 [HSSs emanating from coronal holes \(CHs\) interact with the slow solar wind and form CIRs at their](#)
 442 [interaction interfaces](#). The magnetic storms caused by CIRs are quite different from storms caused
 443 by ICMEs and/or their sheaths. Figure 6 shows the difference in profiles of two different types of
 444 magnetic storms. The profile of a CIR magnetic storm is shown on the bottom and that of a shock
 445 sheath ahead of an ICME MC magnetic storm on top.

446

447 The ICME MC magnetic storm Dst profile, discussed briefly earlier (see Figure 3), is reasonably
 448 easy to identify (top panel). There is a sudden, ~tens of second duration positive increase in Dst
 449 which is caused by the sudden increase in solar wind ram pressure [due to](#) the passage of the sheath

450 high density jump downstream of the shock. This compresses the magnetosphere, creating the
451 sudden impulse (SI⁺: see Joselyn and Tsurutani, 1990) detected everywhere on the ground (Araki
452 et al., 2009). Later, in either the sheath or the MC there may be a southward IMF which causes
453 the magnetic storm. If there is a southward component in the MC, it is usually smoothly varying
454 in intensity and direction. This leads to a smooth monochromatic storm main phase as seen in the
455 Dst index (and illustrated in [Figures 3 and 6](#)). The loss of the ring current particles is [the cause of](#)
456 [the](#) storm recovery phase. The details of storm recovery phase durations and causative mechanisms
457 will be an interesting topic for magnetospheric scientists to study in the near future. The Arase
458 mission data will be quite useful for these studies.

459
460 The bottom panel of Figure 6 shows the typical profile of a CIR magnetic storm. It is quite different
461 from a [sheath-MC](#) magnetic storm profile. There is no SI⁺ associated with the beginning of the
462 geomagnetic disturbance. This is because CIRs detected at 1 AU typically are not led by fast
463 forward shocks (Smith and Wolf, 1976; Tsurutani et al. 1995). The positive increase in Dst is
464 associated with the impact of a high density region near the heliospheric current sheet (HCS)
465 (Smith et al., 1978; Tsurutani et al. 2006b) called the heliospheric plasmashet ([HPS](#); Winterhalter
466 et al., 1994) and/or associated with the compressed plasma at the leading edge of the CIR. These
467 are slow solar wind plasma densities. The most distinguishing feature of the CIR storm main phase
468 is the lack of smoothness, in sharp contrast to the MC magnetic storm. This irregular Dst storm
469 main phase is caused by large Bz fluctuations within the CIR.

470
471 CIR magnetic fields have magnitudes of ~20 to 30 nT and typically do not reach the much higher
472 intensities that MC fields [typically](#) do. For this reason and also because of the [IMF](#) Bz fluctuations,
473 CIR magnetic storms [usually](#) have intensities $Dst \geq -100$ nT ([small or no](#) magnetic storms).
474 Extreme magnetic storms with $Dst < -250$ nT caused by CIRs are rare, if they occur at all (none
475 [were](#) found in the Meng et al. 2019a study). However it is clear that compound events involving
476 both CIRs, [sheaths ahead of ICMEs](#) and ICMEs could certainly cause extreme magnetic storm
477 events.

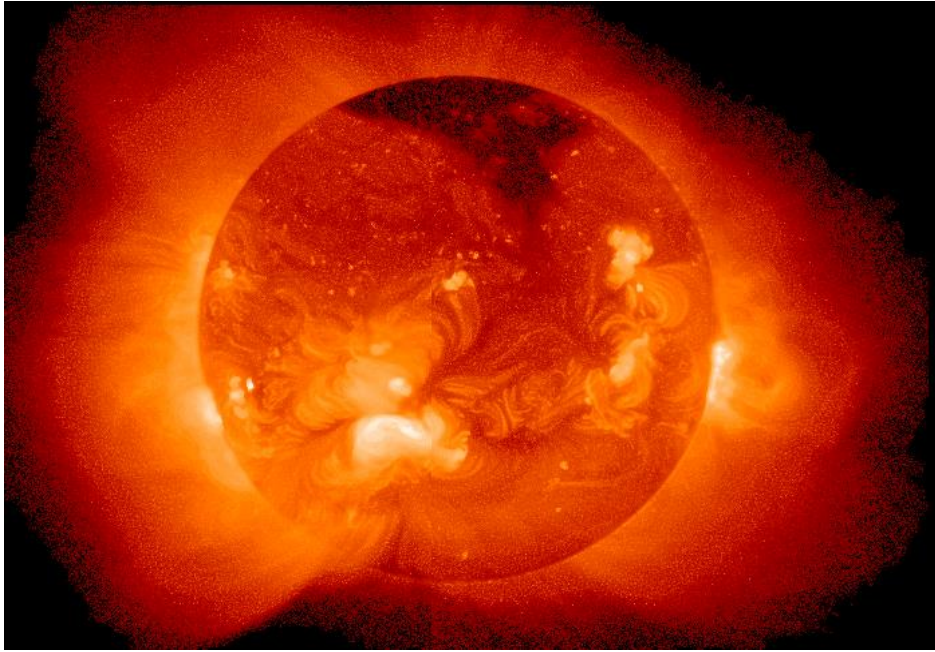
478
479 CIR related magnetic storms occur most frequently during the declining phase of the solar cycle
480 and ICME magnetic storms typically occur near the maximum phase of the solar cycle. However,

481 it should be noted that both CIR storms and sheath and/or ICME MC magnetic storms can occur
482 during any phase of the solar cycle. We have simply ordered things by solar cycle so that it will
483 be easier to give the reader the general picture of Space Weather.

484

485 3.2 Coronal Holes, High Speed Solar Wind Streams and Geomagnetic Activity

486 3.2.1. Coronal holes and high speed solar wind streams



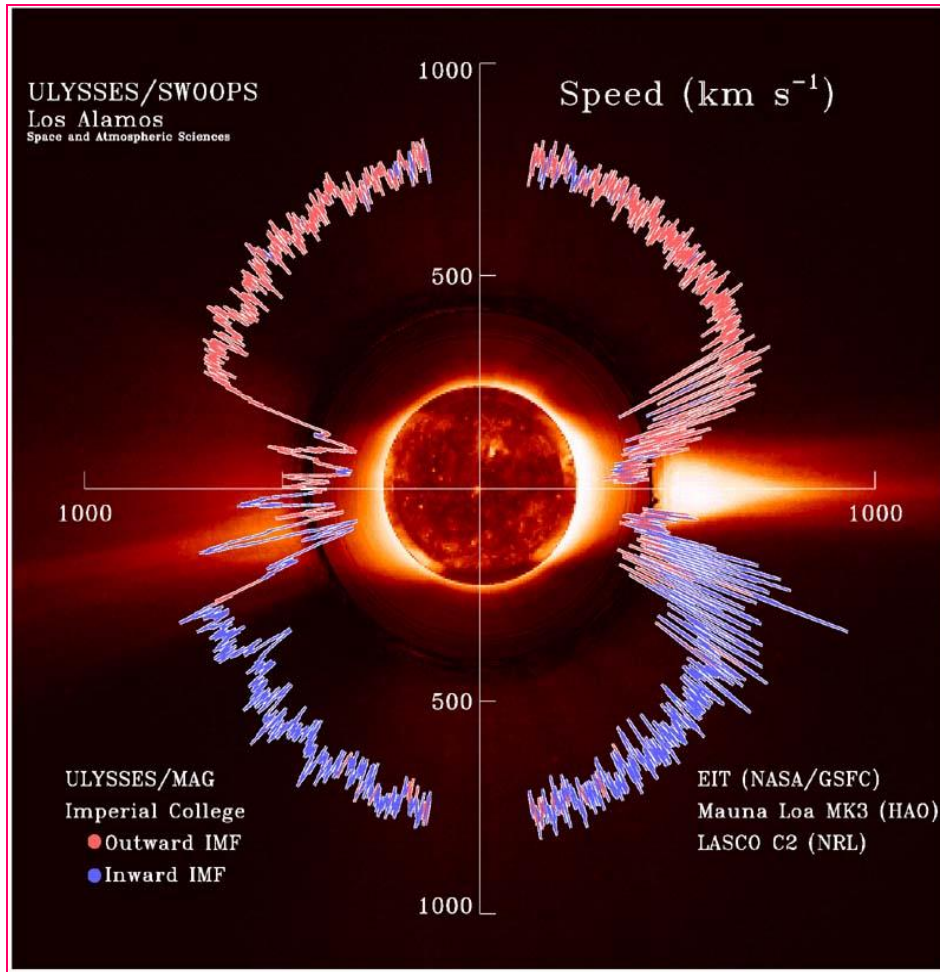
487

488 Figure 7. A large coronal hole (the dark region) near the north pole of the Sun. The figure was
489 taken by the soft X-ray telescope (STX) onboard the Yohkoh satellite in 1992.

490

491 Figure 7 shows a polar coronal hole at the north pole of the Sun. This image was taken by the soft
492 x-ray telescope (STX) onboard the Yohkoh satellite
493 (http://www.spaceweathercenter.org/swop/Gallery/Solar_pics/yohkoh_060892.html). The dark
494 (low temperature) region at the pole is the coronal hole. Large polar coronal holes occur typically
495 in the declining phase of the solar cycle (Bravo and Otaola, 1989; Bravo and Stewart, 1997; Zhang
496 et al., 2005).

497



498

499 Figure 8. High speed solar wind streams emanating from coronal holes in the north and south
 500 solar poles. The figure was taken from Phillips et al. (1995) and McComas et al. (2002).

501

502 Figure 8 gives a “dial plot” of the solar wind speed for the first traversal of the Ulysses spacecraft
 503 over the Sun’s poles. The radius from the center of the Sun to the trace indicates the solar wind
 504 speed. The magnetic field polarity is indicated by the color of the trace, red for outward IMFs and
 505 blue for inward IMFs. A SOHO EIT soft x-ray image of the Sun is placed at the center of the figure
 506 and a High Altitude Observatory Mauna Loa coronagraph image [shows the inner corona at that](#)
 507 [time. The outer corona is an image taken by the SOHO C2 coronagraph.](#)

508

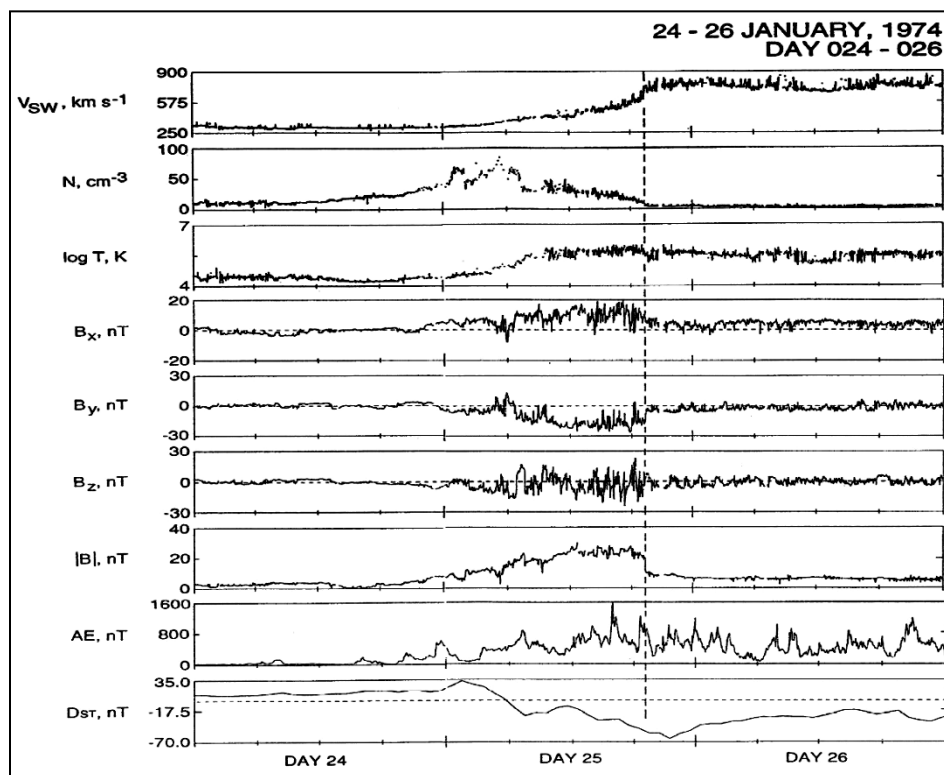
509 Two large polar coronal holes are detected at the Sun, one at the north pole and the other at the
 510 south pole. It is noted that HSSs of ~750 to 800 km/s are detected at Ulysses when over the polar
 511 coronal hole regions. When Ulysses was near the solar equatorial region where helmet streamers

512 are present, the solar wind speeds are of the slow solar wind variety, $V_{sw} \sim 400$ km/s. The reader
 513 should note that it took years for Ulysses to make this polar orbit while the solar and coronal
 514 images were taken at one point in time. However this composite figure is useful to illustrate the
 515 main points about the origins of HSSs.

516

517 3.2.2 High speed solar wind streams and the formation of CIRs

518



519

520 Figure 9. A high speed solar wind stream-slow solar wind interaction and the formation of a CIR
 521 during January 1974. The format is the same as in Figure 4 except that the AE index is given in
 522 the next to bottom panel. The figure is taken from Tsurutani et al. (2006b).

523

524 Figure 9 shows a HSS-slow speed stream interaction during January 1974. The right portion of the
 525 top panel on day 26 shows a HSS with speeds of 750-800 km/s at 1 AU. On day 24, the top panel
 526 left indicates a solar wind speed of ~ 300 km/s, or the slow solar wind. The effects of the stream-
 527 stream interaction occurs on day 25. This is best seen in the IMF magnitude panel, 7th from the
 528 top. The stream-stream interaction creates intense magnetic fields of ~ 25 nT. The 6th from the top
 529 panel is the IMF B_z component (in GSM coordinates). The B_z is highly fluctuating. Magnetic

530 reconnection between the IMF southward components and the magnetopause magnetic fields leads
531 to the irregularly shaped storm main phase shown in the bottom (Dst) panel.

532

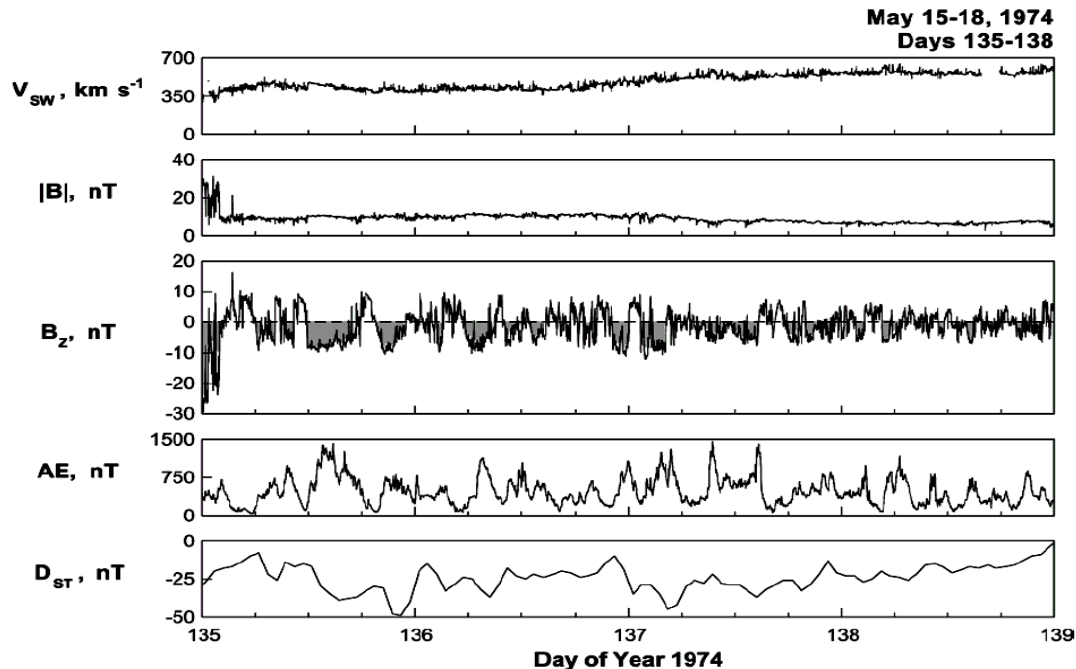
533 To be able to forecast a CIR magnetic storm, one would have to first understand the sources of the
534 IMF Bz fields. For example are they compressed upstream Alfvén waves (Tsurutani et al. 1995,
535 2006c)? Or could they be waves generated by the shock interaction with upstream waves in the
536 slow solar wind? That would be only the first step for forecasting, of course. Then with knowledge
537 of the properties of the slow speed stream, the details of the wave compression/interaction would
538 then have to be calculated/modeled.

539

540 Another approach would be to determine if there is an underlying southward component of the
541 IMF within the CIR. This would most likely be caused by the geometry of the HSS-slow speed
542 stream interaction and may be predictable from MHD modeling. If this is correct, then the wave
543 fluctuations can be modeled as being superposed on top of these DC magnetic fields. In (rare)
544 cases of radial alignment, Solar Probe closest to the Sun could characterize sheath fields. The
545 evolution of those fields would be detected by Solar Orbiter. Simulation of further evolution could
546 be applied and predictions of the fields at 1 AU could be tested by ACE data. If there are waves
547 generated by the shock, then the above scenario would not work as well as expected, or at least
548 would be more complicated to apply in a useful manner.

549

550 **3.2.3. High speed solar wind streams, Alfvén waves and HILDCAAs**



551
 552 Figure 10. A high-intensity, long-duration continuous AE activity (HILDCAA) event during 1974.
 553 Taken from Tsurutani et al. (2006c).

554
 555 The schematic in Figure 6 showed a long “recovery phase” that trails the CIR magnetic storm main
 556 phase (see Tsurutani and Gonzalez, 1987). However we now know that the storm wasn’t
 557 “recovering” as in the case of an MC magnetic storm recovery but that something else was
 558 occurring. This “recovery” can last from days to weeks. Thus processes of charge exchange,
 559 Coulomb collisions, etc. for ring current particle losses are not tenable to explain such long
 560 “recoveries”.

561
 562 Figure 10 shows the interplanetary cause of this extended geomagnetic activity. It occurs primarily
 563 during HSSs independent of whether a CIR magnetic storm occurred prior to it or not (Tsurutani
 564 and Gonzalez, 1987; Tsurutani et al., 1995, 2006b; Kozyra et al. 2006b; Turner et al. 2006; Hajra
 565 et al. 2013, 2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2017). From top to bottom are the solar wind speed, the IMF
 566 magnitude, the IMF Bz component (in GSM coordinates) and the auroral electrojet (AE) index.
 567 The bottom panel is the Dst index.

568

569 The interplanetary data were taken from the IMP-8 spacecraft, an Earth orbiting satellite that was
570 located upstream of the magnetosphere in the solar wind at this time. The location was inside 40
571 Re, where an Re is an Earth radius. The magnetic Bz fluctuations have been shown to be Alfvén
572 waves which are of large nonlinear amplitudes in HSSs (Belcher and Davis, 1971; Tsurutani and
573 Gonzalez, 1987; Tsurutani et al., 2018b). What is apparent from this figure is that every time the
574 IMF Bz is negative (southward), there is an AE increase and a Dst decrease. This has been
575 interpreted as being due to magnetic reconnection between the southward components of the
576 Alfvén waves and the Earth magnetopause. The AE is enhanced by the same magnetic
577 reconnection process that occurs during substorms, and a small parcel of plasmashet plasma is
578 injected into the nightside magnetosphere causing the Dst index to decrease slightly. It is noted
579 that there are many southward IMF Bz dips in this four day interval of data shown in Figure 10.
580 There are also many corresponding AE increases and Dst decreases. Thus the interpretation of the
581 constant/average Dst value of ~ -25 nT for four days is that continuous plasma injection and decay
582 is occurring. This is clearly not a “recovery phase” where the ring current particles are simply
583 lost, it only appears as a recovery from the Dst trace. Soraas et al. (2004) have shown that particles
584 are injected during these events but only to L values of 4 and greater (The L =4 magnetic field line
585 is the dipole magnetic field that crosses the magnetic equator a distance 4 Earth radii from the
586 center of the Earth). These are shallow injections as suggested above.

587
588 These geomagnetic activity events have been named High-Intensity, Long-Duration Continuous
589 AE events or HILDCAAs (Tsurutani and Gonzalez, 1987). This name is simply a description of
590 the events without an interpretation. In 2004 when a detailed examination using Polar EUV auroral
591 imaging was applied, it was found that many phenomena besides simple isolated substorms
592 occurred (Guarnieri, 2006; Guarnieri et al., 2006). Although substorms occur during HILDCAA
593 events, there are AE increases (injection events?) that are not well-correlated with substorm onsets
594 (Tsurutani et al., 2004b). The full extent of HILCAAs is not well understood (see also Souza et
595 al., 2016, 2018; Mendes et al., 2017). By using IMAGE auroral observations and geomagnetic
596 indices to identify convection events which are not classical Akasofu (1964) substorms, the fields
597 and particle data from SWARM, MMS and Arase could be used to characterize the physics
598 properties of these “convection” events.

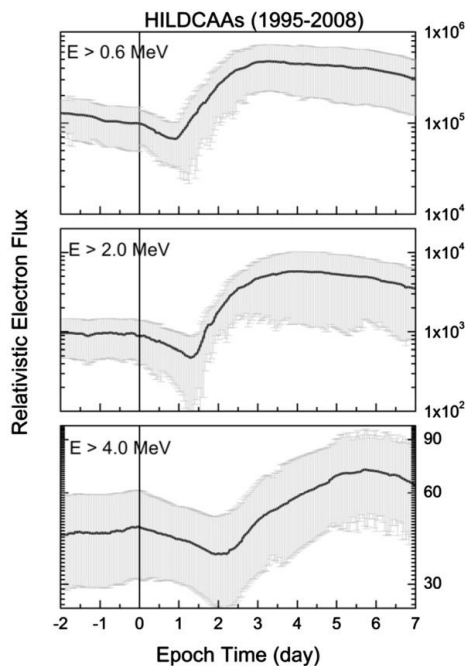
599

600 There is also the question of the origin of the interplanetary Alfvén waves? Do they originate at
 601 the Sun caused by supergranular circulation, or is that mechanism untenable as argued by Hollweg
 602 (2006)? Could the waves be generated locally between the Sun and Earth as speculated by Matteini
 603 et al. (2006, 2007) and Hellinger and Travnicek (2008)? [Parker Solar Probe could identify Alfvén](#)
 604 [waves within high speed streams and Solar Orbiter \(when radially aligned\) could determine the](#)
 605 [wave evolution.](#)

606
 607 The original requirement for identifying a HILCAA event was quite strict. The event had to occur
 608 outside of a magnetic storm main phase (Dst was required to be > -50 nT: Gonzalez et al. 1994),
 609 the peak AE intensity had to be greater than 1,000 nT (high-intensity), the event had to last longer
 610 than 2 days (long-duration), and there could not be any dips in AE less than 200 nT for longer than
 611 two [hours](#) (continuous). Clearly there are [events](#) with the same interplanetary causes and
 612 geomagnetic effects as for the strict definition. However the strict definition is useful for further
 613 studies using different data sets.

614

615 3.2.4. HILDCAAs and the Acceleration of Relativistic Magnetospheric Electrons



616
 617 Figure 11. The relationship between HILDCAAs and relativistic electron acceleration. The figure
 618 is [taken](#) from Hajra et al. (2015a).

619

620 One of the consequences of HSSs and HILDCAAs is the acceleration of relativistic (~MeV)
621 electrons. These energetic particles can damage orbiting satellite electronic components (Wrenn,
622 1995), and thus are known as “killer electrons”. Figure 11 shows the relationship between the onset
623 of HILCAA events (vertical line) and relativistic electron fluxes. From top to bottom are the $E >$
624 0.6 MeV, the $E >$ 2.0 MeV and the $E >$ 4.0 MeV electron fluxes detected by the GOES-8 and
625 GOES-12 satellites located at $L = 6.6$. This figure is a superposed epoch analysis (Chree, 1913)
626 result of 35 HILDCAA events in solar cycle 23, from 1995 to 2008, which are not preceded by
627 magnetic storms. This was done to avoid contamination by storm-time particle acceleration (by
628 intense convection/compression). The zero epoch time (vertical line) corresponds to the
629 HILDCAA onset time. Here the “strict” definition of HILDCAAs was used to define the onset
630 times.

631

632 The figure shows that the flux enhancement of $E >$ 0.6 MeV electrons is statistically delayed by
633 ~1.0 day from the onset of the HILDCAAs. The $E >$ 4.0 MeV electrons are statistically delayed
634 by ~2.0 days from the HILDCAA onset. It is thus possible that HILCAAs may be used to forecast
635 relativistic electron flux enhancements in the magnetosphere (see Hajra et al., 2015b; Tsurutani et
636 al., 2016a; Hajra and Tsurutani, 2018a; Guarnieri et al., 2018). This however has not been done
637 yet and could be implemented by scientists today.

638

639 The physics for electron acceleration to relativistic (~MeV) energies has been well-developed by
640 magnetospheric scientists. Two competing acceleration mechanisms have been developed. In one
641 mechanism, with each injection of plasmashet particles on the nightside magnetosphere, the
642 anisotropic ~10 to 100 keV electrons generate electromagnetic whistler mode chorus waves
643 (Tsurutani and Smith, 1974; Meredith et al. 2002) by the loss cone/temperature anisotropy
644 instability (Brice, 1964; Kennel and Petschek, 1966; Tsurutani et al., 1979; Tsurutani and Lakhina,
645 1997). The chorus then interacts with the ~100 keV injected electrons to energize them to ~0.6
646 MeV energies (Inan et al., 1978; Horne and Thorne, 1998; Thorne et al., 2005, 2013; Summers et
647 al., 2007; Tsurutani et al., 2010; Reeves et al., 2013; Boyd et al., 2014). The lower-frequency part
648 of the chorus in turn interact with the ~0.6 MeV electrons to accelerate them to ~2.0 MeV energies,
649 etc. This bootstrapping mechanism has been suggested by several authors (Baker et al., 1979,

650 1998; Li et al., 2005; Turner and Li, 2008; Boyd et al., 2014, 2016; Reeves et al., 2016) and has
651 been confirmed by Hajra et al. (2015a) during HILDCAA events.

652

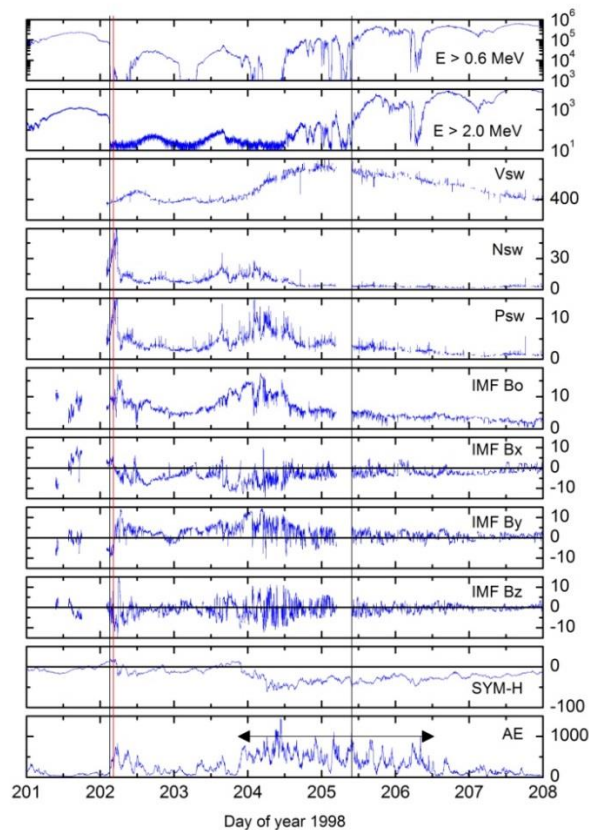
653 An alternative scenario is that relativistic electrons are created through particle radial diffusion
654 driven by micropulsations (Elkington et al., 1999, 2003; Hudson et al., 1999; Li et al., 2001,
655 O'Brien et al., 2001; Mann et al., 2004; Miyoshi et al., 2004). However the same general scenario
656 would hold as for chorus acceleration. The substorms and convection events within HILDCAAs
657 would be the sources for the micropulsations and the micropulsations would last from days to
658 weeks in duration. Bootstrapping of energy would still take place.

659

660 A few important questions for researchers to ask are: “How high can the relativistic
661 magnetospheric electron energy get?”. If there are two HSSs, one from the south pole and another
662 from the north pole so that Earth’s magnetosphere is bathed in HSSs for years, as happened during
663 1973-1975 (Sheeley et al., 1976, 1977; Gosling et al. 1976; Tsurutani et al. 1995), will the energies
664 go above ~10 MeV? What will physically limit the energy range? This answer is important for
665 keeping Earth-orbiting satellites safe during such events.

666

667 **3.2.5. Solar wind ram pressure pulses and the loss of relativistic electrons**



668

669 Figure 12. A relativistic electron decrease (RED) event and later acceleration. Taken from
 670 Tsurutani et al. (2016b).

671

672 Figure 12 shows a relativistic electron decrease (RED) event [occurring during 1998](#). From top to
 673 bottom are the $E > 0.6$ MeV electron fluxes, the $E > 2.0$ MeV electron fluxes, the solar wind speed,
 674 density and ram pressure, and the IMF magnitude, Bx, By and Bz component in the GSM
 675 coordinate system. The bottom two panels are the 1 min SYM-H index (a high time resolution
 676 Dst index) and the AE index. The relativistic electron measurements were taken at $L = 6.6$.

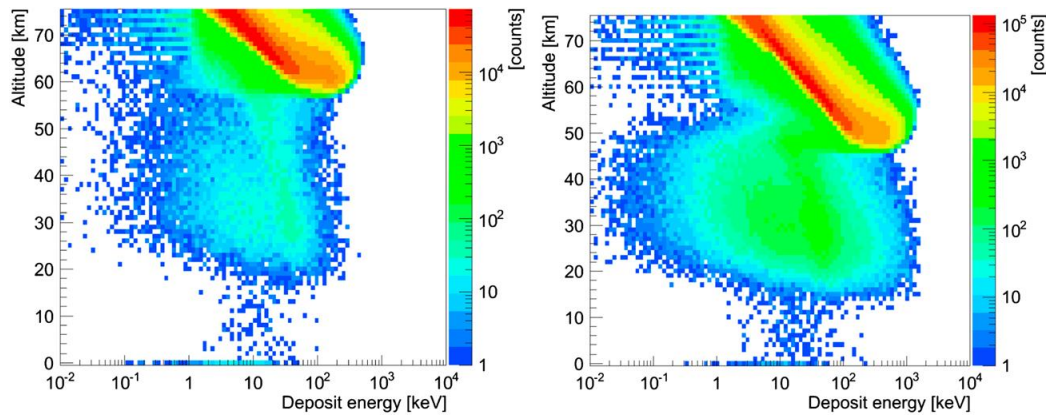
677

678 At the beginning of day 202, a vertical black line indicates the onset of a high density HPS [crossing](#)
 679 [\(Winterhalter et al., 1994\)](#) that is identified in the fourth panel from the top. The HPS is by
 680 definition located adjacent to the HCS (Smith et al. 1978). The HCS is noted by the reversal in the
 681 signs of the IMF Bx and By components (seventh and eighth panels from the top). The onset of
 682 the HPS is followed within one [hour](#) by the vertical red line, the sudden disappearance of the $E >$
 683 0.6 MeV (first panel) and $E > 2.0$ MeV (second panel) relativistic electron [fluxes](#). Tsurutani et al.

684 (2016b) has shown that for 8 relativistic electron [flux](#) disappearance events during solar cycle 23
685 all of the disappearances were associated with HPS impingements onto the magnetosphere.

686
687 Where have the relativistic electrons gone? There are two primary possibilities. One is that the
688 energetic electrons have gradient drifted out of the magnetosphere through the dayside
689 magnetopause, a feature that has been called “magnetopause shadowing” by West et al. (1972).
690 However a second possible mechanism is electron pitch angle scattering by electromagnetic ion
691 cyclotron (EMIC) waves. We think that this second possibility is more intriguing and has far more
692 interesting consequences, if correct. One might ask where the EMIC waves come from and why is
693 pitch angle scattering particularly important? It has been shown by Remya et al. (2015) that when
694 the magnetosphere is compressed, both electromagnetic chorus (electron) waves (Thorne et al.,
695 1974; Tsurutani and Smith, 1974; Meredith et al. 2002) and EMIC (ion) waves (Cornwall, 1965;
696 Kennel and Petschek, 1966; Olsen and Lee, 1983; Anderson and Hamilton, 1993; Engebretson et
697 al., 2002; Halford et al. 2010; Usanova, 2012; Saikin, 2016) are generated. The compression of
698 the magnetosphere causes betatron acceleration of remnant ~10 to 100 keV electrons and protons,
699 and thus plasma instabilities associated with both particle populations occur. What is particularly
700 important is that the EMIC waves are coherent (Remya et al., 2015), leading to extremely rapid
701 pitch angle scattering of ~ 1 MeV electrons by the waves. The scattering rate has been shown to
702 be three orders of magnitude faster than that with incoherent waves (Tsurutani et al., 2016b).

703
704 Another possible loss mechanism is associated with possible generation of PC waves by the HPS
705 impingement followed by radial diffusion of the relativistic electrons. Wygant et al. (1998) and
706 Halford et al. (2015) have mentioned that larger loss cone sizes at lower L could be a source of
707 loss to the ionosphere. [Rae et al. \(2018\)](#) has shown that superposition of compressional PC waves
708 and the conservation of the first two adiabatic invariants could enhance particle losses. However
709 one should mention that there are not observations of PC wave generation during HPS
710 impingements and this needs to be tested. It is also uncertain how rapidly the relativistic electrons
711 would be lost by the above processes. It has been shown that the total loss of L >6.6 relativistic
712 electrons occurs in ~1 [hour](#) (Tsurutani et al., 2016b).



713
 714 Figure 13. The GEANT4 code run results for the precipitation of $E > 0.6$ MeV electrons (left
 715 panel) and $E > 2.0$ MeV electrons (right panel). The vertical scale is altitude above the ground and
 716 the horizontal scale is energy deposition. The color scheme (legend on the right) gives the amount
 717 of counts. Taken from Tsurutani et al. (2016b).

718
 719 Why can the loss of relativistic electrons to the atmosphere be important? Figure 13 shows the
 720 results of the GEometry ANd Tracking 4 (GEANT4) code developed by the European
 721 Organization for Nuclear Research (Agostinelli et al., 2003) applied to the relativistic electron
 722 disappearance problem. The GEANT4 code takes into account Rayleigh scattering, Compton
 723 scattering, photon absorption, gamma ray pair production, multiple scattering, ionization,
 724 bremsstrahlung for electrons and positrons and annihilation of positrons (positron formation is not
 725 germane for these “low energy” relativistic particles, but the code includes it anyway). A standard
 726 atmosphere was used.

727
 728 Figure 13 shows the GEANT4 Monte Carlo results for the electron shower for $E > 0.6$ MeV
 729 electrons on the left and for $E > 2.0$ MeV electrons on the right. Two important features should be
 730 noticed. First the bulk of energy deposition (the red areas) descends down to ~ 60 km for the $E >$
 731 0.6 MeV electron simulation and down to ~ 50 km for the $E > 2.0$ MeV electron simulation. This
 732 portion of the energy from the incident electrons is due to direct ionization and particle energy
 733 cascading. However there is a second region which might be extremely important. That is the
 734 blue-green area that goes down to ~ 20 km for the $E > 0.6$ MeV simulation and ~ 16 km for the $E >$
 735 2.0 MeV simulation. There are also “hits” seen on the ground. This lower altitude energy
 736 deposition is due to the relativistic electrons interacting with atmospheric atomic and molecular

737 nuclei creating bremsstrahlung X-rays and γ -rays. X-rays and γ -rays have very large mean free
738 paths and thus can freely propagate through the dense atmosphere without interactions. They
739 propagate to much lower altitudes where they interact and [continue the energy cascading process](#)
740 [further](#).

741
742 The reason why this process may be quite an important [Space Weather](#) topic is that it might relate
743 to atmospheric weather as well. Wilcox et al. (1973) discovered a correlation between
744 interplanetary HCS crossings and high atmospheric vorticity winds at 300 mb altitude. Over the
745 years a number of different explanations for the physics of the trigger has been offered (Tinsley
746 and Deen, 1991; Lam et al., 2013). Tsurutani et al. (2016b) presented the above relativistic
747 electron [precipitation](#) scenario (instead of HCS crossings) for the possible triggers of high
748 atmospheric vorticity winds. Quantitative estimates of potential energy deposition at different
749 atmospheric altitudes were provided in the original paper.

750
751 It is noted that the energy deposition should occur in a limited spatial region of the globe (just
752 inside the auroral zone and a small region of the dayside atmosphere) which is more geoeffective
753 than either cosmic ray energy or solar flare particle deposition. The fact that it is [relativistic](#)
754 electron precipitation gives an additional advantage that substantial energy is deposited at quite
755 low altitudes.

756
757 Advances to this problem can be made in a number of different ways. Simultaneous ground-
758 detected EMIC waves, γ -rays and atmospheric heating/[cooling](#) could be sought. Correlation with
759 such events with solar wind pressure pulses like the HPSs or interplanetary shocks (see Hajra and
760 Tsurutani, 2018b) would advance our knowledge of the details of such events.

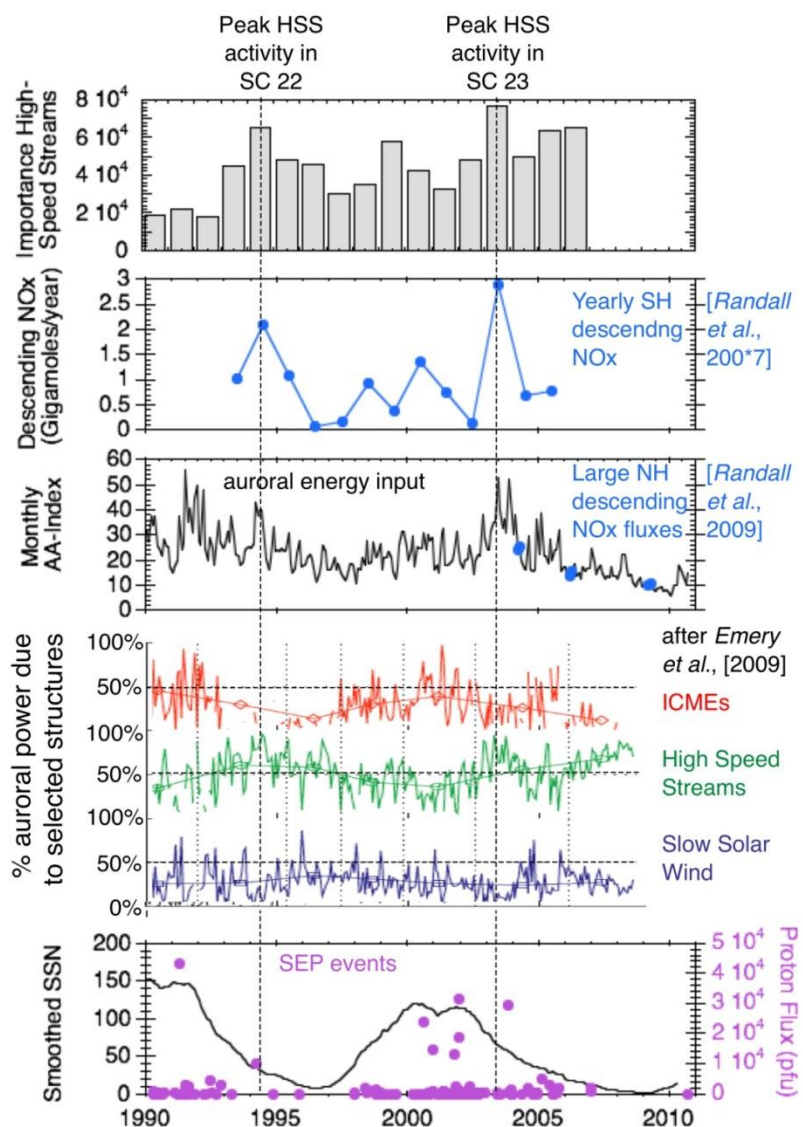
761
762 Atmospheric heating events known as Sudden Stratospheric Warmings (SSWs) (Scherhag, 1960;
763 Harada et al., 2010) occur at subauroral latitudes by unknown causes. They are known to be related
764 to atmospheric wind system changes, perhaps the same phenomenon as the Wilcox et al. (1973)
765 effect. Atmospheric scientists generally assume that SSWs are created by gravity waves
766 propagating from lower atmosphere upward, but so far no one-to-one correlated case has been
767 found. Thus it would be quite interesting to see if [Space Weather](#) can have a major impact on

768 atmospheric weather. The connection between these two disciplines **could** be quite interesting for
 769 the next generation of **Space Weather** scientists.

770

771 3.2.6. Energetic particle precipitation and ozone depletion

772



773

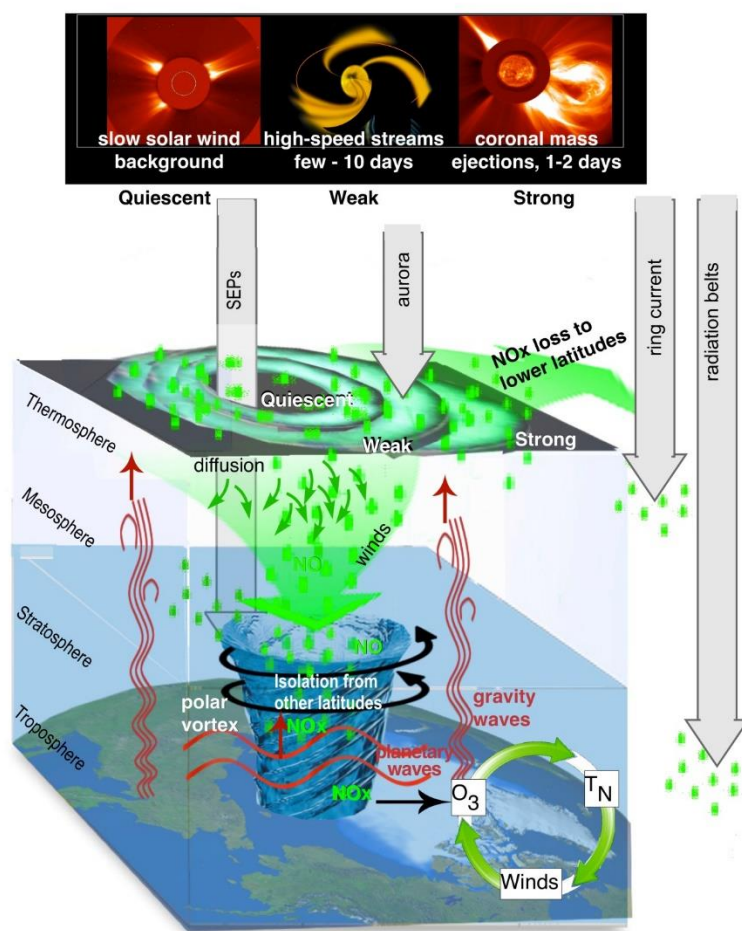
774 Figure 14. The dashed vertical lines show the peaks in solar wind high speed streams during SC
 775 22 and SC23. These are coincident with the peaks in auroral energy input and the peaks in yearly
 776 NOx descent. **The authors** thank J.U. Kozyra for **providing** this unpublished figure.

777

778 Figure 14 shows two solar cycles of data, SC22 and SC23. From top to bottom are the
 779 “importance” of high speed streams, the descending NO_x, the monthly AA index, the percent
 780 auroral power due to three types of solar wind phenomena (ICMEs, HSSs and slow solar wind),
 781 and the bottom panel solid line trace is the sunspot number (SSN). Also shown in the bottom panel
 782 is the solar energetic particle (SEP) flux.

783
 784 There are two vertical dashed lines. They correspond to the peaks in HSS activity for SC22 and
 785 SC23 (top panel), peaks in auroral energy input (third panel from the top), and peaks in the yearly
 786 descending NO_x (second panel from the top). It is noted that all three peaks are aligned in time.
 787 The bottom panel shows that both dashed vertical lines correspond to times in the descending
 788 phase of the solar cycle.

789



790

791 Figure 15. The scenario for polar cap ozone destruction using the observations shown in Figure
792 14. The authors thank J.U. Kozyra and her colleagues (personal communication, 2019) for this
793 unpublished figure.

794
795 Figure 15 shows the Kozyra et al. (2019) scenario for ozone destruction over the polar cap. The
796 top of the Figure shows the various types of solar wind (and associated energetic particles) that
797 can affect atmospheric ozone. The quiet solar wind will lead to quiescence. HSSs lasting a few to
798 ten days have weak effects and ICMEs (and of course shock acceleration of energy particles) can
799 have much stronger effects.

800
801 Energetic particles from different sources will precipitate in different regions of the ionosphere.
802 The energetic particles associated with interplanetary CME shock acceleration will be deposited
803 in the polar regions of the both the north and south ionospheres. If the particles are energetic
804 enough with sufficient gyroradii, they can reach to as low latitudes as $\sim 50^\circ$ magnetic latitude.
805 Precipitating substorm/HILDCAA ~ 10 - 100 keV magnetospheric charged particles will deposit
806 their energy on closed auroral zone ($\sim 60^\circ$ to 70°) magnetic field lines.

807
808 The energetic particle entering the atmosphere lose a portion of their energy in the dissociation of
809 N^2 into $N + N$. The nitrogen atoms will attach to oxygen atoms to form NO_x . Auroral HILDCAA
810 ~ 10 - 100 keV energy particles will only penetrate to depths of ~ 75 km above the surface of the
811 Earth. Solar energetic particles with greater kinetic energies can penetrate lower into the
812 atmosphere to ~ 50 to 60 km. If there is a polar vortex, this vortex can “entrain” the NO_x molecules
813 and atmospheric diffusion can bring them down to lower altitudes over months time duration. The
814 NO_x can act as a catalyst in the destruction of ozone.

815
816 One interesting consequence of extreme ICME shocks is that one would expect extreme Mach
817 numbers to lead to both extreme SEP fluences and also extremely high energies. The former will
818 lead to greater production of NO_x at the polar regions and the latter to deeper penetration and thus
819 less loss of NO_x as they diffuse downward. Alternatively there is a scenario where radiation belt
820 “killer” relativistic electrons can play an important role. If there are large solar polar coronal holes
821 like in 1973-1975, HSSs could produce extremely intense and energetic relativistic electrons.

822 Shocks and HPS impingements on the magnetosphere could cause loss of the electrons to the lower
 823 atmosphere. This magnetospheric energy pumping and dumping may have important
 824 consequences for NO_x production. The topic of shock acceleration of energetic particles will be
 825 discussed in more details in Section 4.1.

826

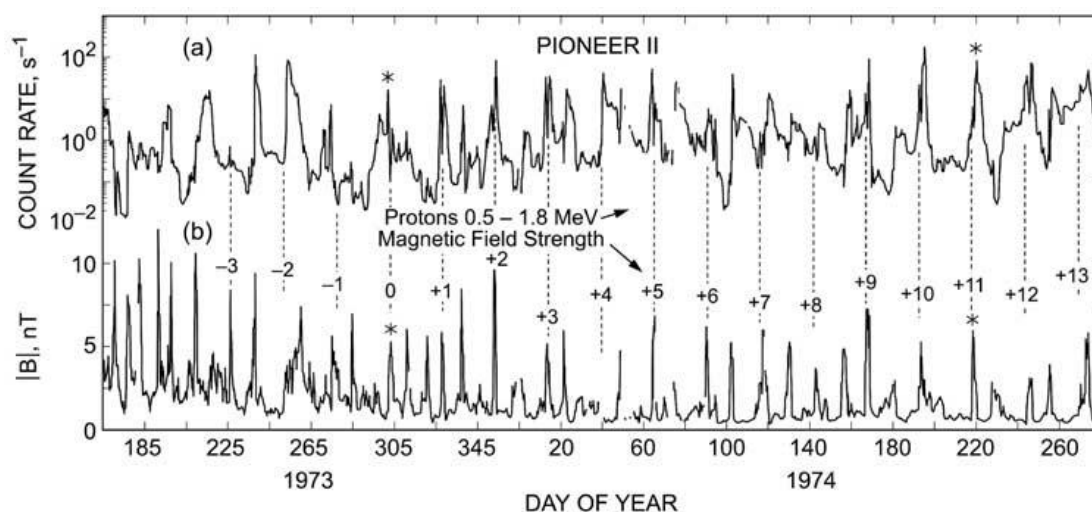
827 4.0. RESULTS: Interplanetary Shocks

828 4.1. Interplanetary Shocks and Energetic Charged Particle Acceleration

829

830 Interplanetary shocks have a variety of effects both in interplanetary space and to the Earth's
 831 magnetosphere. It is important for the reader to note that these Space Weather phenomena can
 832 occur with or without the occurrence of magnetic storms. Shock and magnetic storm intensities
 833 are related but only in a loose sense. The physical mechanism for energy transfer for different
 834 phenomena is different. As one example, interplanetary shock acceleration of energetic charged
 835 particles (called "solar cosmic rays") are due to an ICME ram energy driving the fast shocks which
 836 then transfers energy to the charged particles. Solar cosmic ray events can occur with or without
 837 magnetic storms (Halford et al. 2015, 2016; Mays et al., 2015; Foster et al. 2015). Some of the
 838 major extreme Space Weather topics will be addressed below.

839



840

841 Figure 16. Energetic ~0.5 to 1.8 MeV protons accelerated by interplanetary fast forward and fast
 842 reverse shocks. Taken from Tsurutani et al. (1982).

843

844 Acceleration of energetic particles in deep space was discovered by Pioneer 11 energetic particle
845 scientists (McDonald et al., 1976; Barnes and Simpson, 1976; Pesses et al., 1978, 1979; Van
846 Hollebeke et al., 1978; Christon and Simpson, 1979). As the Pioneer 11 spacecraft traveled away
847 from the Sun, it was found that the particle fluences kept increasing, contrary to the concept of
848 adiabatic deceleration. The interplanetary magnetic field magnitude decreases with increasing
849 distance from the Sun, so one would expect energetic particle deceleration with distance. Thus it
850 was clear to scientists that something must be accelerating these particles in the interplanetary
851 medium. Figure 16 shows one channel of the Pioneer 11 energetic proton count rate, ~0.5 to 1.8
852 MeV (see Simpson et al., 1974). The bottom panel is the Pioneer 11 magnetic field (Smith et al.,
853 1975). Some of the peak magnetic fields are numbered, corresponding to a ~25 day recurrence of
854 these magnetic structures. The magnetic magnitude structures are identified as well-developed
855 CIRs (see Smith and Wolfe, 1976), bounded by fast forward and fast reverse shocks.

856
857 Tsurutani et al. (1982) identified the shocks and showed statistically that both forward and reverse
858 shocks were related to proton peak count rates. One of the results, which still remains to be solved,
859 is that the proton peaks were generally higher at the reverse shocks. What is the mechanism for
860 greater particle acceleration at fast reverse shocks? This has received little attention and should be
861 addressed in the future.

862
863 Reames (1999) has argued that fast forward shocks upstream (anti-solarward) of ICMEs are the
864 most important [phenomenon for the acceleration of](#) “solar flare” particle events. Particle
865 acceleration occurs throughout interplanetary space from near the Sun (where the shocks first
866 form) to 1 AU and beyond as the shocks propagate through the heliosphere. Studies of this
867 acceleration as a function of longitudinal distance away from magnetic connection to the flare site
868 (this gives the variations in the shock normal angle and thus dominant mechanism for
869 acceleration—see Lee (2017) and references therein) have been done by Lario (2012). The
870 features of the energetic particles in space have different characteristics depending on these
871 distances and the portion [and characteristics](#) of the shock that the particles are being accelerated
872 from.

873

874 Forecasting the solar flare/interplanetary shock features such as the fluence, energy, spectra and
875 composition will require knowledge of the upstream seed population, upstream (and downstream)
876 waves, and shock properties such as the magnetosonic Mach number and shock normal angle.
877 This is a very difficult task since knowledge of the entire slow solar wind plasma from the Sun to
878 1 AU will be required for accurate forecasting. But again, the Parker Solar Probe and Solar Orbiter
879 may help in developing two points of measurements for modeling of specific events.

880
881 A more fundamental problem is why [measured](#) interplanetary fast forward shock Mach numbers
882 [at 1 AU are](#) so low? As previously mentioned, Tsurutani and Lin (1985) from ISEE-3
883 measurements have found that at 1 AU, the measured magnetosonic Mach numbers were typically
884 only 1 to 3. Tsurutani et al (2014) have identified a shock with Mach number ~ 9 and Riley et al.
885 (2016) has identified an event with magnetosonic Mach number ~ 28 . The latter event was
886 associated with the SOHO 2012 extreme ICME which did not impact the Earth's magnetosphere.
887 The above are extreme events and little or no events have been detected with intermediate values.
888 [A study that is needed is to determine shock Mach numbers at different distances from the Sun.](#)
889 [These will give clues as to why 1 AU shock Mach numbers are so low. Is the acceleration of](#)
890 [energetic particles causing the dissipation of shock energy as they propagate from the Sun to 1](#)
891 [AU? Data from Parker Solar Probe, Solar Orbiter and ACE could be useful in this regard.](#)

892
893 [In a related issue, the use of STEREO imaging and MHD modeling could be useful to determine](#)
894 [the mass loading of ICME sheaths in causing the deceleration of the ICMEs. This deceleration](#)
895 [will also lower the Mach number of the shocks.](#)

896
897 **4.2. Extreme Interplanetary Shocks and Extreme Interplanetary Energetic Particle**
898 **Acceleration**

899
900 Tsurutani and Lakhina (2014) have shown from simple calculations that [for CMEs have extreme](#)
901 [speeds of 3,000 km/s \(Yashiro et al., 2004; Gopalswamy, 2011\), shock Mach numbers of \$\sim 45\$ are](#)
902 [possible. These Mach numbers are getting close to \[expected\]\(#\) supernova shock \[values\]\(#\).](#) Why haven't
903 such strong shocks been observed at 1 AU? If such events are possible, what would the energetic
904 particle fluences be? Experts on shock particle acceleration will hopefully answer this complex

905 question. It is well known that such solar flare particles enter the polar regions of the Earth's
906 atmosphere and cause radio blackouts. Will extreme solar flare particle fluence precipitation cause
907 different ionospheric effects other than those known today? This latter question might be addressed
908 by ionospheric modelers.

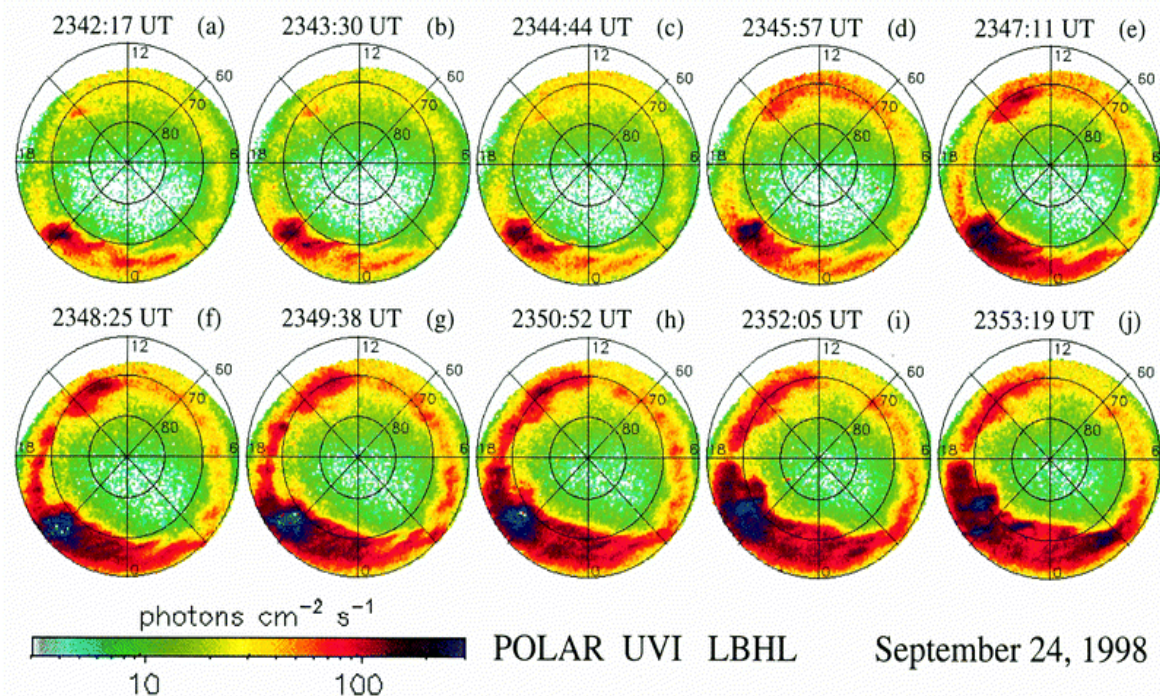
909
910 It should be noted that although Space Weather is a chain of events/phenomena going from the
911 Sun to interplanetary space to the magnetosphere, ionosphere and atmosphere, there is often not a
912 direct link between different facets of Space Weather. Each feature of Space Weather should be
913 examined separately and it should not be assumed that an extreme flare will cause extreme
914 cascading Space Weather phenomena. We use solar flare particles as an example for the reader.
915 The largest solar flare particle event in the space age occurred in August 1972 (Dryer et al., 1976
916 and references therein). However there was no magnetic storm caused by the MC impact onto the
917 Earth's magnetosphere (the MC field was directed almost entirely northward, leading to
918 geomagnetic quiet: Tsurutani et al. 1992b). On the other hand, the largest magnetic storm on
919 record is the "Carrington" storm. The storm intensity will be discussed further in Section 7.0.
920 There is little or no evidence of large solar flare particle fluences in Greenland ice core data from
921 that event (Wolff et al., 2012; Schrijver et al., 2012). Usoskin and Kovfaltsov (2012) examining
922 historical proxy data (^{14}C and ^{10}Be) also find a lack of any signature associated with the Carrington
923 flare. Although this is an extreme example, it is useful to mention it to illustrate the point: **different**
924 **facets of Space Weather may have only loose correlations with other facets.**

925
926 An area that has received a lot of attention lately is ancient solar flares. Miyake et al. (2012)
927 discovered an anomalous 12% rapid increase in ^{14}C content from 774 to 775 AD in Japanese cedar
928 tree rings. Usoskin et al. (2013) have argued that such an extreme radiation event could be
929 associated with an extreme solar energetic particle event (or a sequence of events). The latter
930 authors estimated that the fluence of > 30 MeV particles was $\sim 4.5 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Could such an
931 extreme particle event be associated with an extremely strong interplanetary shock or **instead** series
932 of **strong** shocks? Space Weather scientists are currently working on this problem.

933

934 **4.3. Interplanetary shocks, dayside aurora and nightside substorms**

935



936
 937 Figure 17. Interplanetary shocks cause dayside auroras and trigger nightside substorms. [The](#)
 938 [images show the](#) northern polar views of polar cap and auroral zones taken in UV wavelengths.
 939 [Local noon is at the top in each image.](#) The Figure is taken from Zhou and Tsurutani (2001).

940
 941 Interplanetary shocks can trigger the precipitation of energetic ~10 to 100 keV electrons into the
 942 auroral ionosphere (Halford et al. 2015). In fact, low energy ($E < 10$ keV) electron precipitation
 943 can occur as well. Figure 17 shows interplanetary shock impingement auroral UV effects for an
 944 event on September 23, 1998. Each image has the north pole at the center and 60° magnetic
 945 latitude (MLAT) shown at the outer edge. Noon is at the top and dawn is at the right. The cadence
 946 between images is ~1min 13 s. From ACE measurements and propagation calculations it is known
 947 that the fast forward shock arrived the magnetosphere between the images c), 2344:44 UT and d),
 948 2345:47 UT. What is apparent in panel d) is the sudden appearance of aurora on the dayside (Zhou
 949 and Tsurutani et al., 1999). From further analyses of these shock auroral events, Zhou et al. (2003)
 950 [have](#) shown that magnetospheric compression of preexisting ~10 to 100 keV electrons and protons
 951 will generate both electromagnetic electron and proton plasma waves and diffuse auroras (as
 952 discussed previously). Also noted were the generation of field-aligned dayside currents.
 953 Compression of the magnetosphere will generate Alfvén waves (Haerendel, 1994) which will

954 propagate along the magnetic [field](#) lines down to the ionosphere. Wave damping could provide
955 substantial ionospheric heating.

956
957 The mechanism for energy transfer from the solar wind to the magnetosphere is the absorption of
958 the solar wind ram energy. Dayside auroras occur with shock impingement irrespective of the
959 interplanetary magnetic field Bz direction. Another possible mechanism for the dayside aurora
960 not mentioned above are double layers above the ionosphere (Carlson et al., 1998) with the
961 acceleration of ~1 to 10 keV electrons and the formation of discrete dayside auroras. What is the
962 relative importance of these three different auroral energy mechanisms? This would be an
963 excellent topic for the SWARM and Arase satellite missions. Coordinated ground measurements
964 would be useful.

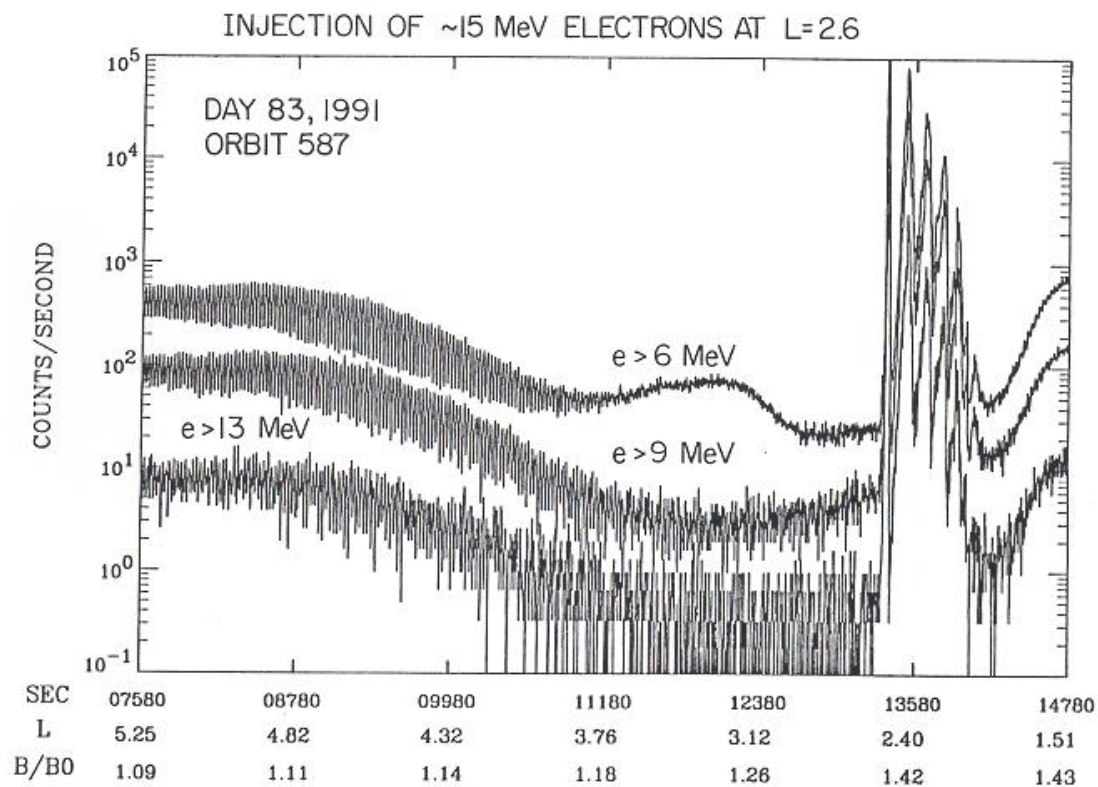
965
966 Returning back to Figure 17 panel e) 2347:11UT, there is a substorm intensification centered at
967 ~2100 magnetic local time (MLT). The substorm further intensification and expansion can be
968 noted in the sequence of images. Interplanetary shock triggering of substorms has been known to
969 occur before the advent of imaging polar orbiting spacecraft (Heppner, 1955; Akasofu and Chao,
970 1980). The AE index had been used to identify these events.

971
972 [An important fundamental question for substorm physics that has existed for a long time, is](#) where
973 in the tail/magnetosphere does the substorm get initiated and by what physical mechanism? Is it
974 reconnection or plasma instabilities (Akasofu, 1972; Hones, 1979; Lui et al., 1991; Lui, 1996;
975 Baker et al., 1996; Lakhina, 2000)? Where does the energy come from, recent [percursor](#) solar
976 wind inputs as suggested by Zhou and Tsurutani (1999), or stored tail energy or even possibly
977 solar wind ram energy (see Hajra and Tsurutani, 2018b)? The rapid response of the magnetosphere
978 to the shock should limit the downstream location of the substorm initiation point. It should be
979 noted that there are probably several different mechanisms for causing substorms. Although this
980 is only the shock triggering case, knowledge of this may help understand other cases, [if they are](#)
981 [indeed different](#). The MMS mission will be ideally suited for addressing this question in the tail
982 phase of the mission.

983

984 **4.4. Interplanetary shocks and the formation of new radiation belts**

985



986

987 Figure 18. Shock creation of a new [relativistic electron](#) radiation belt in the magnetosphere. [The](#)
 988 [three energy channel plots](#) show an abrupt increase in flux at the same time. [Recurrence of the flux](#)
 989 [with decreasing amplitude occurs at least 4 more times](#). Figure taken from Blake et al. (1992).

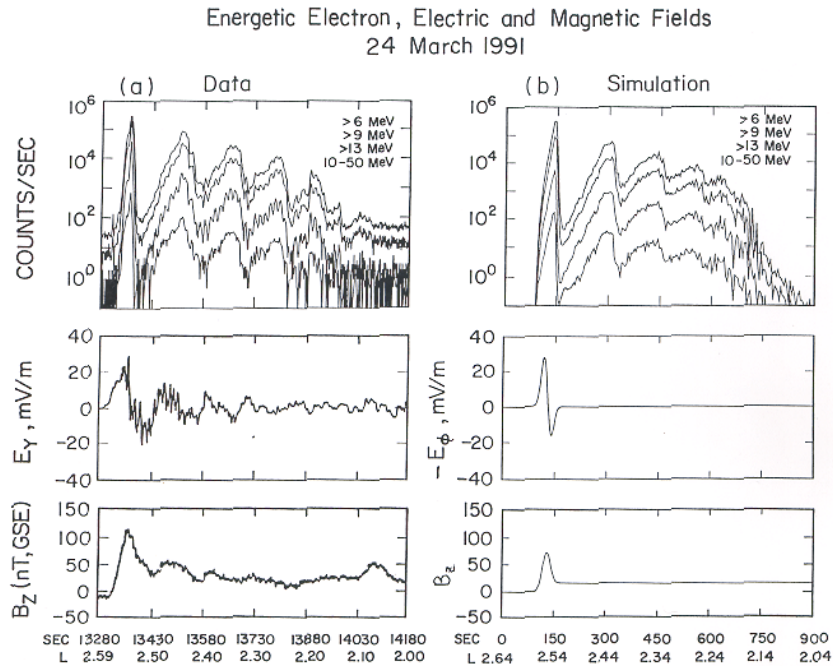
990

991 Figure 18 shows evidence of a new “radiation belt” triggered by a strong interplanetary shock. The
 992 Figure shows three traces, $E > 6$ MeV, > 9 MeV and > 13 MeV fluences. At the time of the strong
 993 [and sudden](#) increase in all energy fluxes, the spacecraft was at $L = 2.6$. [This is time-coincident](#)
 994 [with the shock impingement upon the magnetosphere \(not shown\)](#). With increasing time, a second,
 995 then third, etc., [electron flux](#) pulse appear. These are “drift echoes” where the energetic electron
 996 [“cloud” have gradient drifted](#) around the magnetosphere to return to the [satellite](#) location [once](#)
 997 [again](#).

998

999 **4.4.1. What is the mechanism to create this new radiation belt?**

1000



1001
 1002 Figure 19. An expanded version of the relativistic electron pulse and measured magnetospheric
 1003 electric field and magnetic field B_z on the left and simulation results on the right. Taken from Li
 1004 et al. (1993).

1005
 1006 The left hand column of Figure 19 shows an expanded version of Figure 16 on the top with the
 1007 addition of the ~10 to 50 MeV count rate channel included. Next is the d.c. electric field in the Y
 1008 direction, and magnetospheric B_z on the bottom. The right hand column bottom shows a magnetic
 1009 pulse input into the system. This generates a time varying azimuthal electric field (right middle)
 1010 and the relativistic electron flux at the top right.

1011
 1012 Using the input of a single magnetospheric magnetic pulse into the magnetosphere, Li et al. (1993)
 1013 simulated the acceleration and injection of $E > 40$ MeV electrons. What is interesting is that the
 1014 origin of the electrons was $L > 6$ with energies of only a few MeV. The reader should read Li et
 1015 al. (1993) for more details concerning the simulation and results. Related works on acceleration of
 1016 magnetospheric electrons by shock impact on the magnetosphere can be found in Wygant et al.
 1017 (1994), Kellerman and Shprits, 2012; Kellerman et al., 2014; Foster et al. (2015).

1018

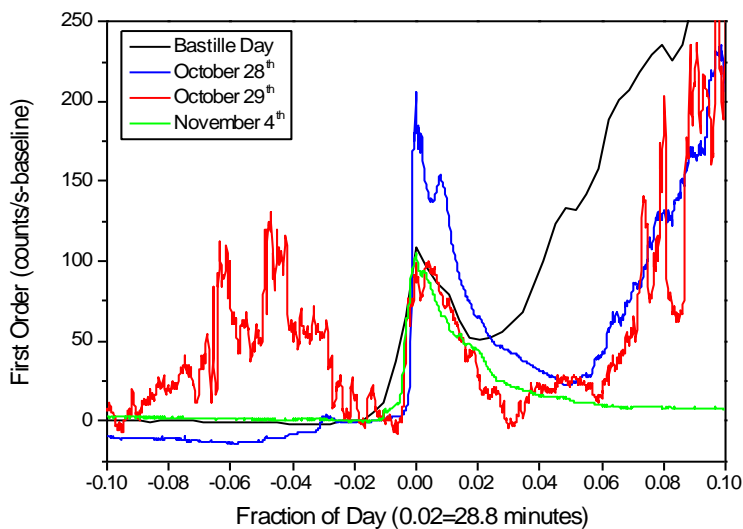
1019 How strong was the interplanetary shock? **There** were not any spacecraft upstream of the Earth at
 1020 the time of the event, **so no measurements of shock strength can be made**. However Araki (2014)
 1021 has noted that this shock caused a SI^+ of magnitude 202 nT. This is the second largest SI^+ in
 1022 recorded history. In Tsurutani and Lakhina (2014) with the assumption of a 3,000 km/s CME and
 1023 only a 10% deceleration from the Sun to 1 AU, they estimated a maximum SI^+ of 234 nT under
 1024 normal conditions. Could this 1991 shock **strength** have been close to the $M = 45$ estimate
 1025 mentioned earlier? **One** cannot really tell **for sure** because the shock **Mach** number strongly
 1026 depends on the upstream plasma conditions, which can only be estimated **in this case**.

1027
 1028 Tsurutani and Lakhina (2014) estimated a dB/dt six times larger than the one used in the Li et al.
 1029 (1993) modeling. What would a maximum dB/dt cause in a new radiation belt formation? **How**
 1030 **much greater could the relativistic electron energy and flux become?**

1031

1032 5.0. RESULTS: Solar Flares and Ionospheric Total Electron Content

1033



1034
 1035 Figure 20. The largest solar EUV flare in recorded history, October 28, 2003. Taken from
 1036 Tsurutani et al. (2005b).

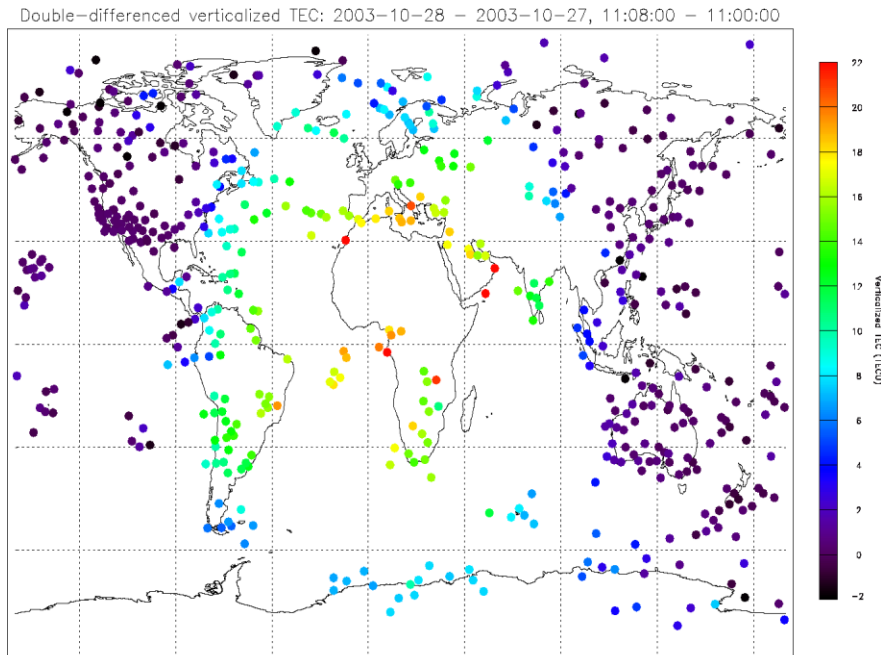
1037

1038 Figure 20 shows four well-known solar X-ray flare events taken in a narrow band 26-34 nm EUV
1039 spectrum. The four flare events are the Bastille day (July 14, 2000) flare and three “Halloween”
1040 flares occurring on October 28, 29 and November 4, 2003. The narrow band EUV spectrum is
1041 shown because some of the flare X-ray and EUV fluxes were so intense that most spacecraft
1042 detectors became saturated (all except the SOHO SEM narrowband EUV detector). The X-ray
1043 flare intensities could only be estimated from fitting techniques for the saturated data. Here we
1044 use the narrow band channel of the SOHO SEM detector where the four above mentioned flares
1045 were not saturated. The four flare count rate profiles were aligned so that they start at time zero.
1046 What is particularly remarkable is that the October 28, 2003 flare has the highest EUV peak
1047 intensity of all four events and was greater by a factor of ~2. This is the most intense EUV solar
1048 flare in recorded history.

1049
1050 After each flare reached a peak intensity and then decreased in count rate, there was often a
1051 following increase in count rate. This is particularly notable in the Bastille day (black trace) flare.
1052 This increase is contamination due to delayed energetic electrons propagating through space along
1053 interplanetary magnetic field lines reaching the spacecraft later in time. The November 4 flare
1054 (green) did not have such contamination because it was a limb flare and presumably (magnetic)
1055 connection from the flare site to the spacecraft did not occur.

1056
1057 NOAA personnel have estimated the November 4 flare had an intensity of ~X28. This event
1058 saturated the detector so this is a conservative estimate. Thomson et al. (2004) using a different
1059 technique estimated a value of X45 for this event. NOAA has estimated that the October 28 flare
1060 as ~X17. However in EUV fluxes, the October 28 flare was the most intense by far.

1061



1062

1063 Figure 21. The global TEC during the October 28, 2003 solar flare. The scale is given on the right.

1064 The figure is taken from Tsurutani et al. (2005b).

1065

1066 Figure 21 shows the global total electron content (TEC) in the ionosphere after the October 28,

1067 2003 solar flare. The map has been adjusted so Africa, the subsolar point, is in the center of the

1068 Figure. The top and bottom of the plot correspond to the [Earth's polar regions](#) and the left side

1069 and right side edges local midnight. The enhanced TEC area corresponds to the sunlit hemisphere.

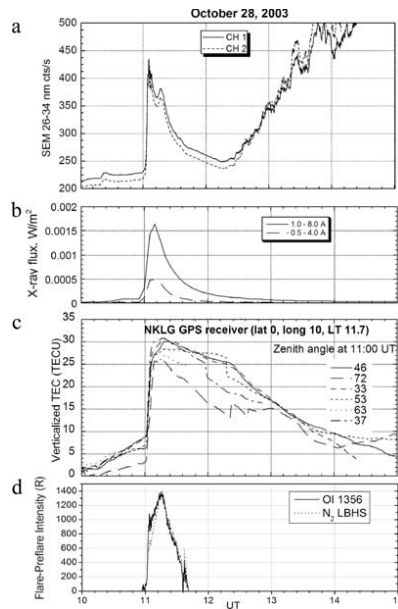
1070 [At the subsolar point the TEC enhancement was ~30%. This is the record for flare-induced](#)

1071 [ionospheric TEC \(Tsurutani et al., 2005b\).](#) The nightside hemisphere shows no TEC enhancement,

1072 as expected. The TEC enhancement is due to ionization by X-rays, EUV photons and UV photons,

1073 all part of the solar flare spectrum.

1074



1075
1076 Figure 22. The ionospheric and atmospheric effects of the October 28, 2003 solar flare.

1077
1078 Figure 22 shows the effects of the October 28 solar flare. From top to bottom are the SOHO SEM
1079 EUV count rate, the GOES X-ray flux, the Libreville, Gabon TEC data and the GUVI O and N²
1080 dayglow data. It is noted that the flare profiles in EUV and X-rays last ~tens of mins and are similar
1081 in profile to each other. However the TEC over Libreville last hours. This is due to the EUV
1082 portion of the solar flare. These photons deposit their energy at ~170 to 220 km altitude where the
1083 recombination time scales are ~ 3 to 4 hours. Thus EUV photon ionization has longer lasting
1084 ionospheric TEC effects. The X-ray portion of the solar flare spectrum deposit their energy in the
1085 ~80 to 100 km altitude range where the recombination time scale is tens of min (Thomson et al.,
1086 2005, and references therein). [This solar flare example is one where solar energy goes directly](#)
1087 [from the Sun to the Earth's ionosphere. There is no transfer of energy to interplanetary space and](#)
1088 [then to the magnetosphere.](#)

1089
1090 Some future [Space Weather](#) problems are to understand if the solar flare [photon](#) spectrum varies
1091 [often](#) and why this happens? We have indicated that the 28 October 2003 and the 4 November
1092 2003 flares were significantly different [spectra-wise](#). The question is why and how often does this
1093 happen? Ionospheric satellites like the Constellation Observing System for Meteorology,
1094 Ionosphere and Climate-2 (COSMIC II) and SWARM can probe for detailed altitude dependence
1095 of ionization to work backwards to attempt to identify what spectrum would cause the layered

1096 ionization detected. Solar flare data taken by instrumentation onboard the *SORCE* and *TIMED*
 1097 spacecraft would be useful to understand the details of flare spectral differences but solar physicists
 1098 are needed to explain what the causes are. Other questions are how large can X-ray and EUV
 1099 flares become? What will their ionospheric effects be?

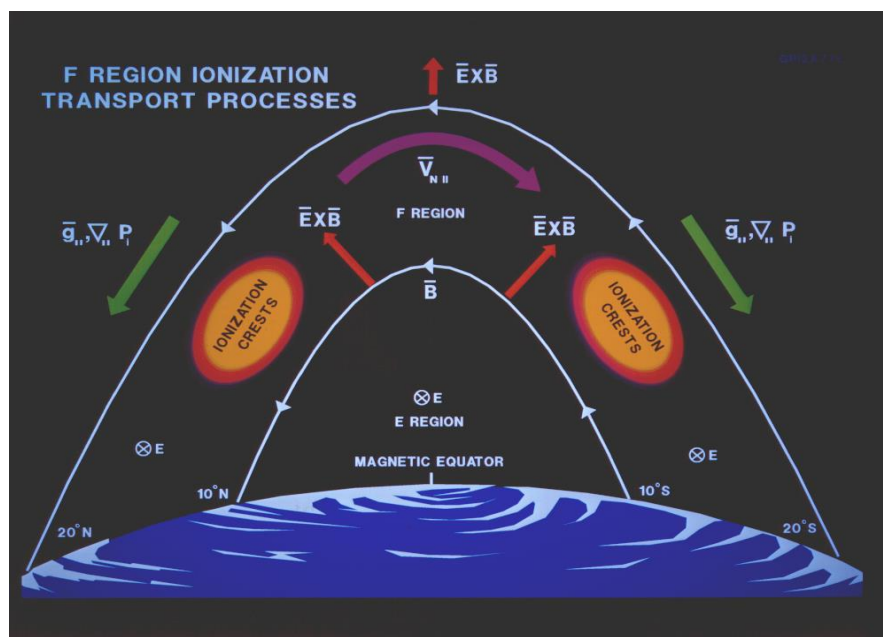
1100

1101 **6.0. RESULTS: Magnetic Storms and Prompt Penetrating Electric Fields** 1102 **(PPEFs)**

1103

1104 For substorms, PPEFs occurring in the ionosphere have been known for a long time, [since the](#)
 1105 [beginning of the space age](#) (Nishida and Jacobs, 1962; Obayashi, 1967; Nishida, 1968; Kelley et
 1106 al. 1979, 2003). In the last 10 years lots of work [has been](#) done on PPEFs during magnetic storms.
 1107 Why didn't people look at storms earlier? Because it was theoretically predicted that the PPEFs
 1108 would be shielded out. Why doesn't shielding happen? This is a very good question for [workers](#)
 1109 [in the field](#). [Right now we don't know the answer.](#)

1110

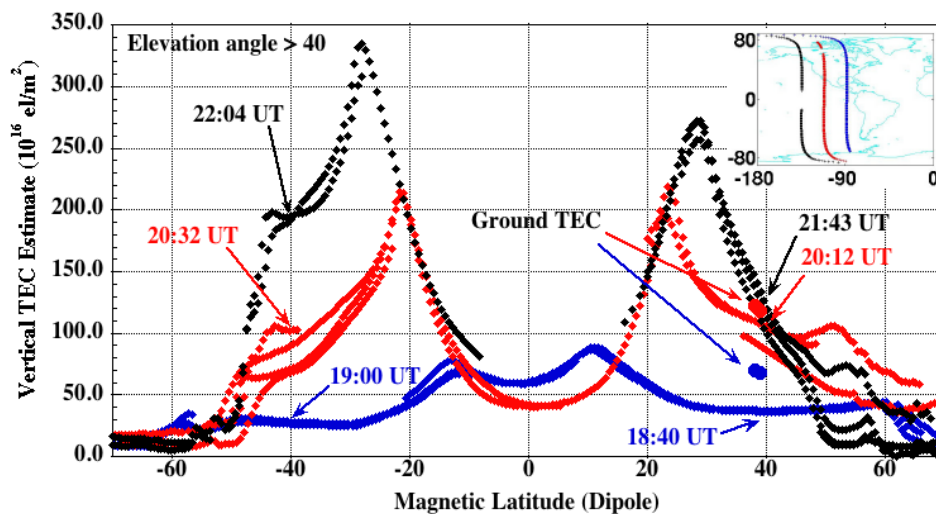


1111

1112 Figure 23. Dayside (near) equatorial ionization anomalies (EIAs) located $\sim \pm 10^\circ$ on both sides of
 1113 the magnetic equator. The local Earth magnetic field is shown in this schematic. The figure is
 1114 taken from Anderson et al. (1996).

1115

1116 Figure 23 show the geometry of the Earth’s magnetic field near the magnetic equator. It is parallel
 1117 to the Earth’s surface at the equator but where the equatorial ionization anomalies (EIAs) are
 1118 located, the magnetic field is slanted. The EIAs are standardly located at $\sim\pm 10^\circ$ MLAT in the
 1119 dayside [ionosphere](#). With red arrows, the figure also shows the direction of $E \times B$ convection. At
 1120 exactly the magnetic equator, $E \times B$ is in a purely upward direction. At the positions of the EIAs,
 1121 the $E \times B$ direction is both upward and to higher [absolute](#) magnetic latitudes.
 1122



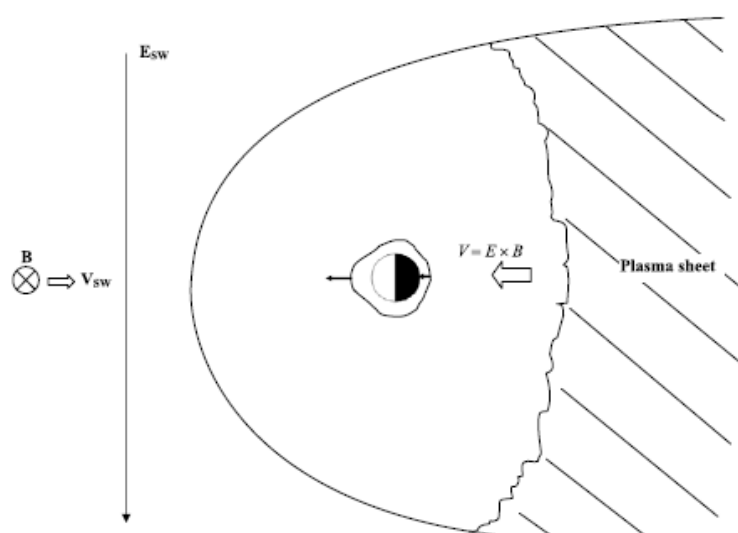
1123
 1124 Figure 24. Three passes of the CHAMP satellite measuring the near equatorial and midlatitude
 1125 TEC during October 30, 2003. CHAMP was at an altitude of ~ 430 km, so the TEC measured was
 1126 the [total](#) thermal electron [column density](#) above that altitude. The figure is taken from Mannucci
 1127 et al. (2005).
 1128

1129 Figure 24 shows three passes of the CHAMP satellite in polar orbit with an altitude of ~ 430 km at
 1130 the near equatorial crossings. The three orbits are given in the upper right hand portion of the
 1131 Figure. The first TEC trace shown in blue is before the onset of the October 30-31 magnetic storm.
 1132 The two EIAs are identified by the TEC enhancements at $\sim \pm 10^\circ$ with peak intensities of ~ 80 TEC
 1133 units. In the next pass (red trace), the EIAs are located at $\sim \pm 21^\circ$ MLAT and the peak intensities
 1134 are ~ 210 TEC units. During the next satellite pass, the EIAs are located near $\pm 30^\circ$ and the TEC
 1135 values become as high as ~ 330 TEC units. This “movement” of the EIAs to higher magnetic

1136 latitudes can be explained by a convective electric field (PPEF) in the east-west direction causing
 1137 an uplift to both EIAs by $E \times B$ convection as explained earlier associated with Figure 23. One
 1138 might ask why does the TEC increase to such high values?

1139
 1140 The answer is as the PPEF removes the plasma from the ionospheric lower F region and brings it
 1141 to higher altitudes where the recombination time scale is longer (hours), the Sun's EUV photons
 1142 replace the plasma by photoionization of the upper atmosphere, replacing the lost plasma and thus
 1143 increasing the "total electron content" of the ionosphere. This is one cause of a "positive
 1144 ionospheric storm".

1145



1146
 1147 Figure 25. The interplanetary, magnetospheric and equatorial ionospheric electric fields during a
 1148 PPEF event. The Figure is taken from Tsurutani et al. (2004c; 2008b).

1149
 1150 Figure 25 shows the interplanetary motional electric field for southward interplanetary B_z . The
 1151 electric field will be in the dawn-to-dusk direction. When magnetic reconnection takes place in
 1152 the nightside plasmashet, the convective electric field will be in the same direction but with a
 1153 reduced amplitude. This electric field brings the plasmashet plasma into the nightside low L
 1154 region magnetosphere during magnetic storms. The PPEFs penetrate into the dayside equatorial
 1155 ionosphere (shown in Figure 24) and also the nightside equatorial ionosphere. However
 1156 significantly different from the dayside case, the $E \times B$ convection on the nightside will bring the
 1157 ionospheric plasma to lower altitudes, leading to recombination and reduction in TEC. This is one

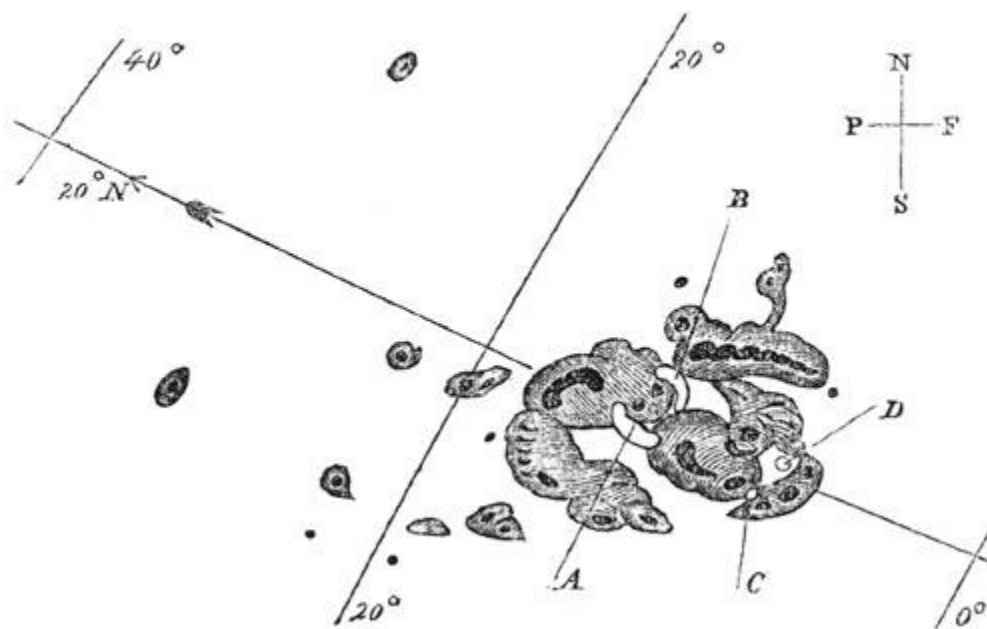
1158 form of a “negative ionospheric storm”. See Mannucci et al. (2005, 2008) for discussions of
 1159 positive and negative ionospheric storms.

1160
 1161 There are many important questions about PPEFs which are almost always present during major
 1162 magnetic storms. As previously mentioned, “why aren’t the electric fields shielded out?” What is
 1163 the mechanism for generating PPEFs, wave propagation from the polar ionosphere as suggested
 1164 by Kikuchi and Hashimoto (2016) or a more global picture as Figure 25 and Nishida and Jacobs
 1165 (1962) suggest? Figure 25 is a simple schematic. What are the real local time dependences of the
 1166 PPEF? Does this vary from storm to storm, and if so, why? Why does the [relative](#) PPEF magnitude
 1167 vary from one storm to the next? Again future spacecraft and ground based studies will be able to
 1168 help answer these questions.

1169

1170 7.0 RESULTS: The Carrington Storm

1171



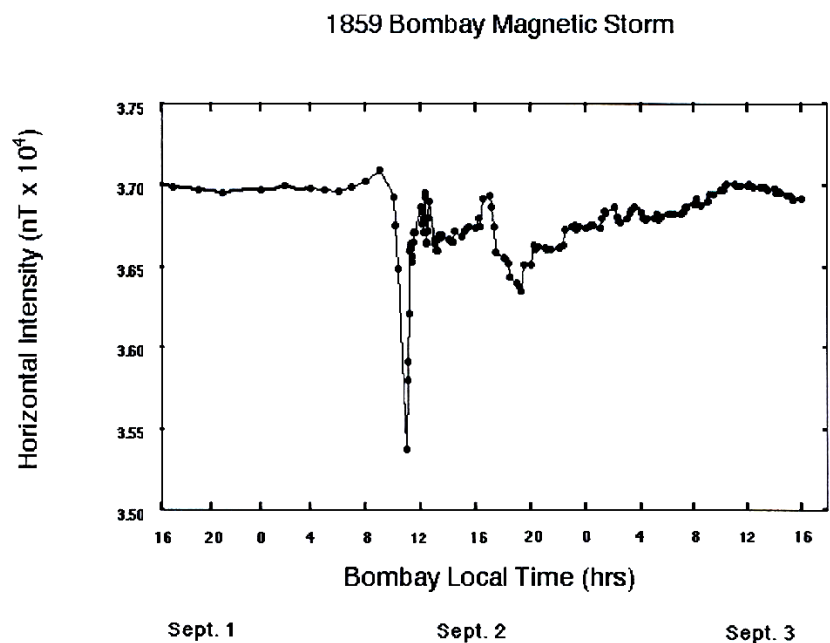
1172
 1173 Figure 26. The solar active region during the Carrington 1 September 1859 optical solar flare. The
 1174 figure is taken from Carrington (1859).

1175

1176 Figure 26 is the active region (AR) that was hand-drawn by Richard Carrington. This was the
 1177 source of the optical solar flare that he and Hodgson (1859) saw and reported on 1 September

1178 1859. See Cliver (2006) for a nice accounting of the observational activity taken during 1859 flare
 1179 interval and Kimball (1960) for an accounting of the aurora during the storm. The optical part of
 1180 the flare lasted only ~ 5 min. Some ~ 17 hr 40 min later a magnetic storm occurred at Earth
 1181 (Carrington, 1859).

1182



1183

1184 Figure 27. The Carrington storm detected in the Colaba, India magnetometer. The Figure is taken
 1185 from Tsurutani et al. 2003 and Lakhina et al. 2012.

1186

1187 Figure 27 shows the H-component magnetic field taken by the Colaba magnetic observatory during
 1188 the “Carrington” magnetic storm. The SI^+ is estimated to be ~ 110 nT and the magnetic decrease
 1189 ~ 1600 nT at Colaba (Mumbai, India). The SI^+ and storm main phase has been recently shown to
 1190 be most likely caused by an upstream solar wind density of 5 particles cm^{-3} and a MC with intensity
 1191 ~ 90 nT (pointed totally southward) by Tsurutani et al. (2018a). No particularly unusual solar wind
 1192 conditions are believed to have been necessary (in contrast to the [original](#) conclusions of Ngwira
 1193 et al., 2014). [Ngwira et al. \(2018\) is now in accord with this more recent assessment of a normal](#)
 1194 [upstream solar wind.](#)

1195

1196 The intensity of the “Carrington” storm was estimated as $Dst = -1760$ nT (Tsurutani et al., 2003)
 1197 based on observations of the lowest latitude of red auroras being at $\pm 23^\circ$ (Kimball, 1960). The

1198 storm intensity was calculated using recent theoretical expressions of magnetospheric potentials
1199 needed to convect plasma into such low latitudes. Siscoe (1979) basing his estimate on a model
1200 that treats the pressure as a constant along the magnetic flux tube came up with a value of Dst = -
1201 2000 nT.

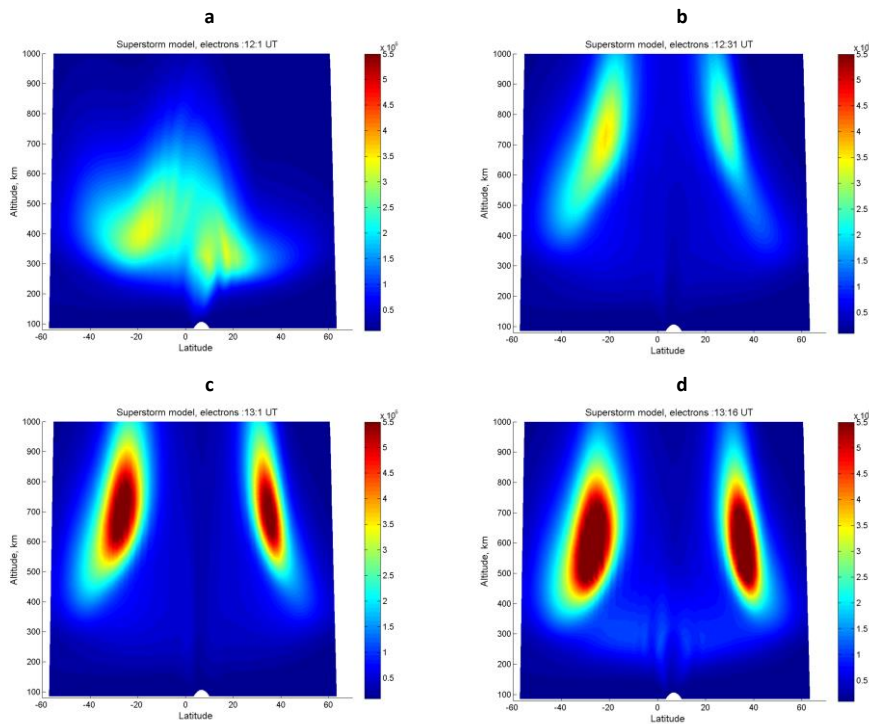
1202
1203 It should be mentioned that some researchers have taken exception with the Colaba magnetogram
1204 as an indication of ring current effects (see Comment by Akasofu and Kamide (2005) and Reply
1205 by Tsurutani et al. (2005a)). The Colaba magnetic profile is unlike those of ICME magnetic storms
1206 discussed in Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.1 of this paper. Several researchers have estimated the storm
1207 intensity based on the Colaba magnetogram (see articles in a special journal edited by Clauer and
1208 Siscoe, 2006; Acero et al. 2018). The Colaba data clearly show that the storm had exceptionally
1209 large geomagnetic effects, irregardless of the interpretation of the Colaba data. Possible
1210 interpretations of the Colaba profile will be discussed later in the paper.

1211
1212 The most accurate method of estimating a magnetic storm intensity is by using the latitude of the
1213 aurora. Red auroras (Stable Auroral Red or SAR arcs) are presumably an indication of the location
1214 of the plasmopause (R.M. Thorne, private communication, 2002). Kimball (1960) noted that “red
1215 glows” were detected at $\pm 23^\circ$ from the geomagnetic equator during the Carrington event. In 1960
1216 the term “SAR arc” was not in use, but we can assume that this was what he was reporting. At the
1217 present time, this is the most equatorward SAR arcs that have been observed (thus the most intense
1218 magnetic storm). That is until researchers find records of even lower latitude red auroras!

1219
1220 Comments on the short duration of the recovery phase has been made by Li et al. (2006). A high
1221 density filament was used to explain this unusual feature of the magnetic storm profile. Tsurutani
1222 et al. (2018a) have recently proposed another possibility. During extreme events when the storm
1223 time convection brings the plasmashet into very low L, all of the standard ring current loss process
1224 rates will be enhanced. There will be greater Coulomb scattering, greater charge exchange loss
1225 rates and greater plasma wave growth with consequential greater wave-particle pitch angle
1226 scattering and losses to the atmosphere. In Tsurutani et al. (2018a) the authors focused particularly
1227 on wave-particle interactions because the size of the loss cone will increase dramatically with
1228 decreasing L. This, plus greater energetic particle compression due to the extreme inward

1229 convection, will lead to stronger loss cone/temperature anisotropy instabilities, greater wave
 1230 growth and thus greater losses. This hypothesis can be easily tested by magnetospheric spacecraft
 1231 observations during large magnetic storms and by magnetospheric modeling perhaps bringing
 1232 some light to the unusual Colaba magnetic signature.

1233



1234

1235 Figure 28. A model of the PPEF effects of the Carrington 1859 storm on the dayside ionosphere.
 1236 The input electric field was taken from Tsurutani et al. (2003) and the simulation was performed
 1237 using the Huba et al. (2000, 2002) SAMI2 code. The figure is taken from Tsurutani et al. (2012).

1238

1239 7.1. The Carrington PPEF

1240

1241 One of the concerns for extreme Space Weather in the ionosphere are extremely intense PPEFs
 1242 and the daytime superfountain effect on the uplift of O^+ ions (positive ionospheric storms). Higher
 1243 ion densities in the exosphere will lead to the possibility of enhanced low altitude satellite drag.
 1244 In Tsurutani et al. (2003), the authors used modern theories of the electric magnetospheric potential
 1245 given by Volland (1973), Stern (1975) and Nishida (1978) to determine the electric field during

1246 the Carrington storm main phase. The former authors obtained an estimate of ~ 20 mV/m. They
1247 then applied this electric field in the SAMI2 model with the results shown in Figure 28.

1248
1249 Figure 28 shows the SAMI2 results of the modeled dayside ionosphere with a ~ 20 mV/m added
1250 to the diurnal variation electric field. The quiet ionosphere is shown at the upper left. The uplift
1251 of the O^+ ions both in altitude and MLAT after ~ 30 min is given on the upper right panel. The
1252 maximum time that the electric field was applied was 1 hr. The ionosphere at that time is shown
1253 on the lower left. The storm time equatorial ionospheric anomalies (EIAs) are located at $|MLAT|$
1254 $\sim 30^\circ$ to 40° and an altitude of ~ 550 to 900 km for the most dense portion of the EIAs. The bottom
1255 right panel shows that the EIAs have come down in altitude but to higher latitudes ~ 15 min after
1256 the termination of the PPEF application. Parts of the still intense EIAs are now beyond $|MLAT| >$
1257 40° and now the bulk of the maximum density portion is at ~ 400 to 800 km altitude.

1258
1259 It was found that at altitudes of ~ 700 to $1,000$ km, the O^+ densities are predicted to be ~ 300 times
1260 that of the quiet time neutral densities. It has been also been shown by Tsurutani and Lakhina
1261 (2014) that in extreme cases, the magnetospheric/ionospheric electric field can be twice as large
1262 as the Carrington storm and six times as large as the 1991 event. Even if the magnetospheric
1263 radiation belt is saturated (there are other scientific papers that state that magnetospheric beta can
1264 be greater than one: Chan et al. 1994; Saitoh et al. 2014; Nishiura et al., 2015), this is a different
1265 facet of Space Weather and the electric field may not be saturated. What will be the ionospheric
1266 effects of these even larger electric fields?

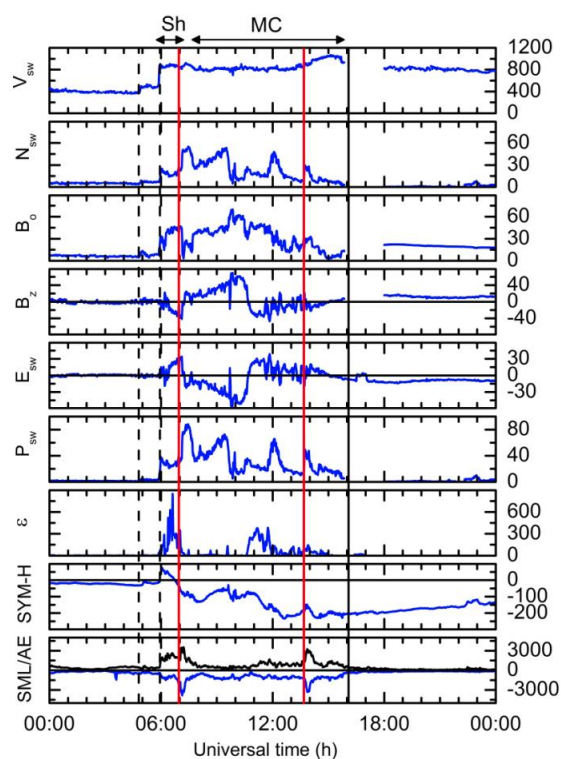
1267
1268 A fundamental question for the future is “can the upward O^+ ion flow drag sufficient numbers of
1269 oxygen neutrals upward so that the oxygen ions plus neutral densities are even higher still?” A
1270 short time interval analytic calculation done by Lakhina and Tsurutani (2017) and a mini-
1271 Carrington event modeled by Deng et al. (2018) have indicated that the answer is “yes”. However
1272 a full code needs to be developed and run to answer this question quantitatively. This is an
1273 interesting future problem for computer modelers.

1274

1275 **8.0 RESULTS: Supersubstorms**

1276

1277 **Super intense** substorms (supersubstorms: SSSs) appear to be externally (solar wind) triggered.
 1278 Why are they important? They might be the feature within extreme magnetic storms that cause
 1279 geomagnetically induced currents (GICs)/power outages. This hypothesis needs to be tested.
 1280



1281
 1282 Figure 29. Two supersubstorms (SSSs) that occur during a two-phase magnetic storm on 20
 1283 November 2001. The onsets of the supersubstorms are indicated by the vertical red lines. The
 1284 figure is taken from Tsurutani et al. (2015).

1285
 1286 Figure 29 shows the solar wind data during an intense magnetic storm and two SSSs. From top to
 1287 bottom are the solar wind speed and density, the magnetic field magnitude and Bz component, and
 1288 the interplanetary motional electric field, ram pressure and Akasofu epsilon parameter (Perreault
 1289 and Akasofu, 1978). The bottom two parameters are the SYM-H index and the SML index (blue)
 1290 and AE index (black). An initial forward shock is indicated by a vertical dashed line at ~0500 UT,
 1291 a second shock at ~0600 UT, and the two SSS onsets by red vertical lines. The criterion for a SSS
 1292 event was a SML peak value < -2500 nT (an arbitrary number, but chosen to be an extremely high
 1293 value). At the top of the diagram, the sheath region is indicated by a “Sh” and the magnetic cloud
 1294 region by “MC”. The first storm main phase is caused by southward Bz in the sheath and the

1295 second, more intense main phase by southward Bz in the MC. The interplanetary magnetic field
1296 measurement cadence is 1 min. It has been noted that the magnetosphere typically reacts to
1297 southward Bz with durations > 10 to 15 min (Tsurutani et al., 1990), so this high rate of cadence
1298 is sufficient to identify any causes of geomagnetic response.

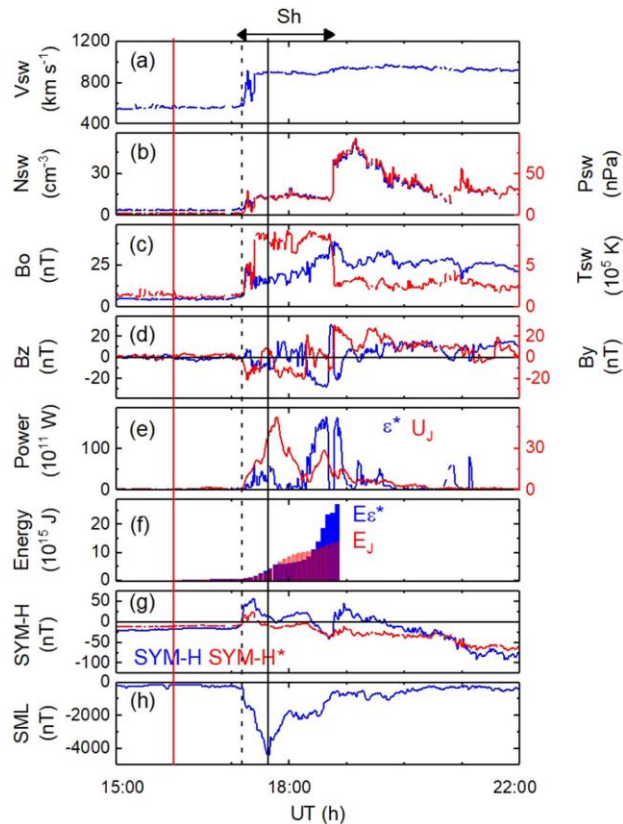
1299

1300 It is noted that the SSS events in this case are not triggered at either of the two shocks nor do they
1301 occur during the peak negative SYM-H values of the storm main phases. However the first SSS
1302 event is collocated with a peak Esw and a peak southward Bz of the sheath plasma. The SSS event
1303 is also collocated with a large solar wind pressure pulse which is caused by an intense solar wind
1304 density feature. The second SSS event occurred in the recovery phase of the second magnetic
1305 storm. The IMF Bz was ~0 nT. The second SSS event was associated with a solar wind pressure
1306 pulse associated with a small density enhancement.

1307

1308 A study of SSSs from 1981 to 2012 was conducted by Hajra et al. (2016). In that study a variety
1309 of solar wind features were found to be associated with SSS onsets. In that survey it was noted
1310 that two SSS events were triggered by fast forward shocks. One of these events will be discussed
1311 below.

1312



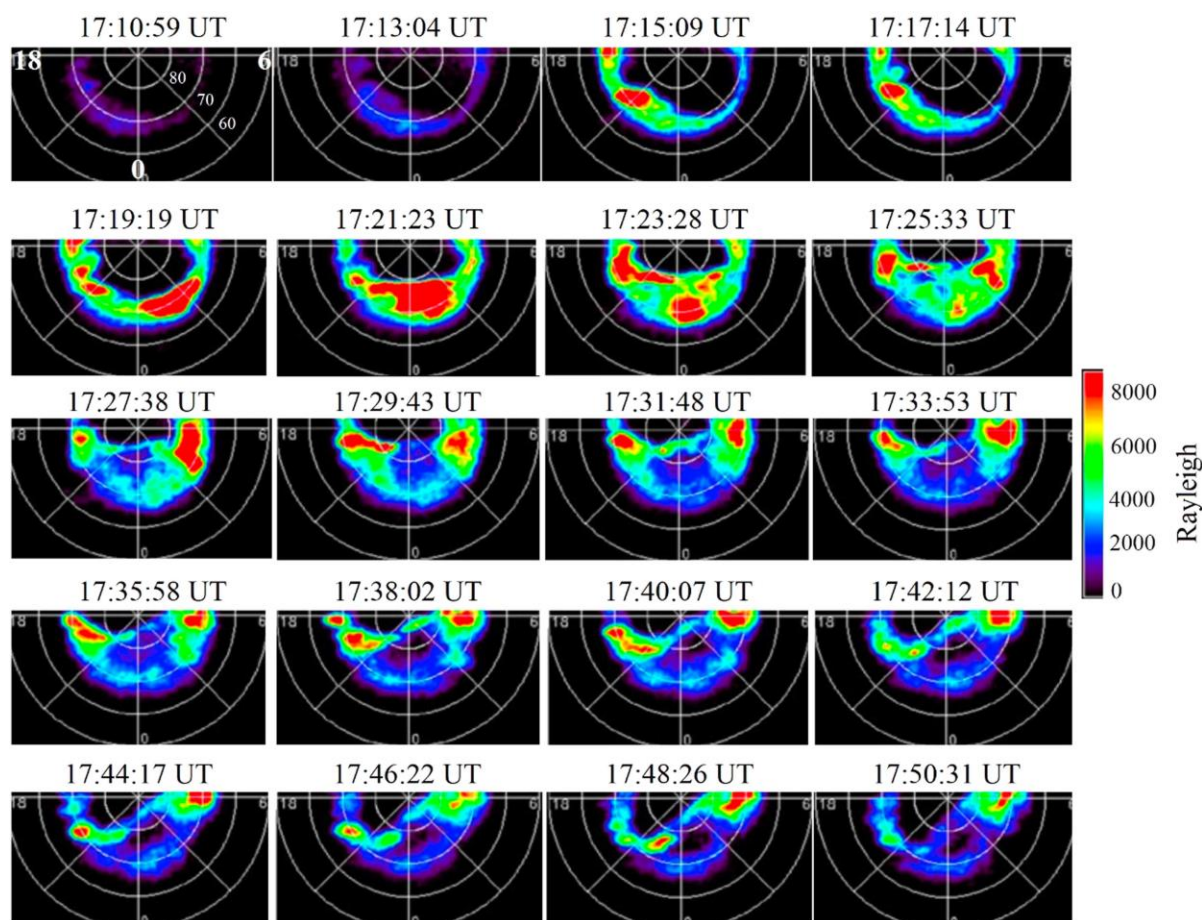
1313
 1314 Figure 30. A SSS triggered by an interplanetary shock on 21 January 2005. The dashed vertical
 1315 line indicates a fast forward shock and the solid black line the peak intensity of the SSS event. The
 1316 figure is taken from Hajra and Tsurutani (2018b).

1317
 1318 Figure 30 shows solar wind/interplanetary parameters and geomagnetic parameters during a SSS
 1319 event on 21 January 2005. From top to bottom are the solar wind speed, density and ram pressure,
 1320 the magnetic field magnitude and solar wind temperature (in the same panel), the IMF Bz and By
 1321 components (GSM coordinates), Joule energy and the Akasofu epsilon pressure corrected
 1322 parameter ϵ^* , the time-integrated energy input into the magnetosphere and time-integrated joule
 1323 energy. The next to the bottom panel contains the [SYM-H index](#) and the pressure corrected SYM-
 1324 H index ([SYM-H*](#)). The bottom panel is the SML index. A dashed vertical line denotes the
 1325 occurrence of a fast forward shock. A vertical solid line indicates the peak of the SSS event.

1326
 1327 The SSS event onset at 1711 UT coincided with a shock with magnetosonic Mach number of ~ 5.5
 1328 with a shock normal angle of 81° . The high density sheath sunward of the shock causes a SI^+ of
 1329 ~ 57 nT. The solar feature associated with this event was an X7 class flare that occurred at ~ 0700

1330 UT January 20 (Bombardieri et al., 2008; Saldanha et al., 2008; Pérez-Peraza et al., 2009; Wang
 1331 et al., 2009; Firoz et al., 2012; Bieber et al., 2013; Tan, 2013). The IMF Bz turned abruptly
 1332 southward at the time of the shock so this is part of the energy driving the event. When the IMF
 1333 Bz turned abruptly northward at ~1738 UT, the SSS began a recovery phase. This was followed
 1334 by an interplanetary solar filament (Kozyra et al., 2013), but the latter was not geoeffective in this
 1335 case. This high plasma density, high magnetic field intensity feature was interpreted by Kozyra et
 1336 al. (2013) as the interplanetary manifestation of the Illing and Hundhausen (1986) most sunward
 1337 portion of the 3 parts of a CME discussed earlier.

1338



1339

1340 Figure 31. IMAGE-FUV images taken from ~1711 UT to ~1751 UT on January 21, 2005. These
 1341 selected auroral images correspond to the SSS event in Figure 30.

1342

1343 Figure 31 contains the Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora global Exploration (IMAGE) far
 1344 ultraviolet images for the SSS event in Figure 30. At ~1713 UT there was a small brightening at

1345 ~68° MLAT, which was a very small substorm or pseudobreakup (Elvey, 1957; Tsurutani et al.,
1346 1998; Aikio et al., 1999). At ~1715 UT, 2 min later there was a ~2100 MLT premidnight
1347 brightening of the aurora at ~68° to 75°. At ~1719 UT the most intense aurora was located at ~68°
1348 to 72° in the postmidnight/morning sector, ~0000 to 0400 MLT. The aurora moved from a
1349 dominant premidnight location to a postmidnight location in ~4 min.

1350
1351 By ~1726 UT there was almost no aurora of significant intensity at local midnight. At the peak of
1352 the SML value at ~1738 UT until ~1751, there were both intense premidnight and postmidnight
1353 auroras.

1354
1355 The SSS event did not exhibit the Akasofu (1964) standard model of a substorm with an
1356 intensification at midnight and then expansion to the west, east and north. The changes in the
1357 location of intense auroras were too rapid to track with the IMAGE cadence of ~2 min.

1358
1359 The SSS events display rapid auroral movements which may entail the appearance of sudden local
1360 field-aligned currents. Even smooth motion of auroral forms will cause strong dB/dt effects over
1361 local ground stations. SSS events may be features that can cause GIC effects that have been
1362 attributed to “magnetic storms”. Thus it might be the SSS events within magnetic storms which
1363 are the real cause. SWARM satellites are excellently instrumented spacecraft that can study the
1364 SSS events in detail and possible resultant GIC effects. However as noted in the auroral images,
1365 there is a need for even higher time resolution global images than is present today. **Therefore, it is**
1366 **important to development and fly auroral UV imagers that can be operated at ~1 s cadence in**
1367 **intense auroral substorm events.**

1368
1369 **8.0. CONCLUSIONS: The Physics of Space Weather and Possible Forecasting**

1370
1371 We have discussed the current knowledge about various facets of **the physics of Space Weather**.
1372 There are others which we have not touched upon because of limited time and knowledge. The
1373 reader should know that other areas of **Space Weather** exist which may be equally important.

1374

1375 The most critical area for forecasting magnetic storms, either during solar maximum or the
1376 declining phase of the solar cycle is the prediction of the magnetic field B_z and the speed of the
1377 convected fields at 1 AU. For CME/MC storms (primarily during solar maximum), this is
1378 identifying MC B_z fields near the Sun and understanding the evolution of the MC as it propagates
1379 from the Sun to Earth. This major challenge will be applicable for the prediction of extreme
1380 magnetic storms and hopefully great progress will be made in the next 5 to 10 years. It was shown
1381 that for simple MCs for extreme storms one need to focus on events where the transit time from
1382 the Sun to the Earth is less than ~ 24 hours.

1383
1384 For sheaths upstream of ICMEs during solar maximum and CIRs during the declining phase (CIRs
1385 are double sheath structures), the problem is different. Detailed knowledge of the slow solar wind
1386 in the space between the Sun and Earth are needed to accurately describe and predict the IMF B_z
1387 that impacts the Earth. So far little work has been applied towards predicting the slow solar wind
1388 (plus verification). Effort needs to be placed in this area to be able to forecast intense to moderate
1389 magnetic storms. It was shown that sheath magnetic fields are extremely important for the
1390 generation of super intense ($Dst < -250$ nT) magnetic storms (Meng et al., 2019b).

1391
1392 A great deal of knowledge presently exists for establishing SEP events, those energetic particles
1393 associated with acceleration at ICME shock fronts (see Luhmann et al., 2017). What is needed for
1394 better forecasting is to understand the Mach number of the shocks, the shock normal angles and
1395 possibly upstream “seed” particles. The upstream seed particle population is similar to the sheath
1396 B_z problem in that this component of the slow solar wind needs to be modeled carefully and
1397 accurately. Three spacecraft in the solar wind at different distances from the Sun should help a
1398 lot.

1399
1400 The appearance of HSSs at 1 AU is a very tractable problem. That is if the coronal hole boundaries
1401 in the photosphere can be established firmly and the HSS propagation to 1 AU can be done
1402 accurately. However the most difficult task again is the IMF B_z . If Alfvén waves are generated
1403 in the interplanetary medium, this will make the task even more difficult. One solution is to
1404 measure the interplanetary magnetic field at 1 AU and use filtering techniques (Guarnieri et al.
1405 2018) or again have large apogee Earth orbiters like the IMP-8 spacecraft again. Another

1406 possibility is developing some type of statistical IMF Bz generator. Of course this technique will
1407 only give a ~30 min to 1 hour advanced warning.

1408
1409 Predicting the interplanetary shock Mach numbers and ram pressure jumps will allow
1410 foreknowledge of new radiation belt formation, SI⁺ effects and magnetospheric and ionospheric
1411 dB/dt effects. Dayside auroral intensities and nightside substorm triggering will also be enhanced
1412 by predicting incoming shocks.

1413
1414 Several spacecraft missions have been mentioned in relationship to some forecasting problems.
1415 However the reader should note that the missions and/or their data alone will not solve these
1416 problems. It will be the scientists either on these missions or perhaps totally independent scientists
1417 who will make the most progress on these problems. An example is magnetic storms caused by
1418 interplanetary shocks/sheaths and CIRs. How long will it take scientists to be able to accurately
1419 forecast the time of occurrence of the storm (the easiest part) and the intensity (the hardest part)?
1420 Here we will not make an estimate of how long this will take. Shock acceleration of solar flare
1421 particles is clearly a fundamental part of Space Weather. How long will it scientists to be able to
1422 predict the fluence and spectral shape at a variety of distances away from the Sun? This is a
1423 fundamental problem which space agencies are not currently directly addressing.

1424

1425 **Final Comments**

1426

1427 A great amount of effort has been put into developing Space Weather models with the appropriate
1428 physics and chemistry included. Some models even use solar and solar wind data and geomagnetic
1429 indices that might be useful for short time-duration predictions (Gopalswamy et al., 2001;
1430 Srivastava, 2005; Cho et al., 2010; Kim et al., 2010; Kim et al., 2014; Schrijver et al., 2015; Savani
1431 et al., 2015). However in most cases, the usefulness of such models for predictive purposes has
1432 not been independently and objectively tested. This needs to be done so that missing physics and
1433 chemistry can be applied. When done (testing), surprises might result. Meng et al. (2019b) have
1434 tested the applicability of two well-known ionospheric codes to predict ionospheric TEC. It was
1435 found that the predictability was not so good, even though interplanetary plasma and field data,
1436 the solar F10.7 flux, and the geomagnetic Kp indices were used. The causes of this lack of good

1437 representation of the ionospheric TEC data is not understood at this time. It is now being realized
1438 that not only the predictability of various models need improvement, but also the level of
1439 uncertainty of prediction needs to be assessed as well (Knipp et al., 2018; Savani et al., 2017).

1440
1441 CME propagation through the interplanetary medium using ENLIL-based codes are making good
1442 progress in estimating arrival times of ICMEs at 1 AU and have had varying success in predicting
1443 the solar wind parameters as well (Falkenberg et al., 2010; Davis et al., 2011; Pizzo et al. 2015;
1444 Jackson et al., 2015; Jian et al. 2015, 2016). However the fundamental issue of space weather
1445 prediction for magnetic storms is the direction and intensity of the magnetic field both in the MC
1446 and upstream sheath. These topics still remain a challenge.

1447
1448 Another new approach, the application of machine learning algorithms, is quite hopeful. For this
1449 application, the physics and chemistry need not be known to be applied. Rather the reverse, finding
1450 good correlations between solar and interplanetary parameters and magnetospheric observations
1451 (for magnetic storms as an example) could lead to the understanding of the physics, the topic of
1452 this paper. But again one should test these approaches and carefully and objectively assess their
1453 accuracy and reliability in making predictions (see Wing et al., 2005, 2016; Reikard, 2015, 2018).

1454
1455 We have one final comment on a third type of approach at predicting Space Weather. For
1456 atmospheric weather forecasts, the experts downselect to ~25 of their best codes, and run each of
1457 the codes with the same input data. The codes produce ~25 different predictions. The weather
1458 service uses the average of the values. Why this scheme works reasonably well is not understood.
1459 This may be the final path of Space Weather forecasting.

1460
1461 Our hope is that the paper is stimulating to the reader in a positive sense: that they will be energized
1462 to attack some of the interesting problems in our field of Space Weather. On the other hand if the
1463 reader finds statements/topics that they disagree with, please send us email comments and we will
1464 try to answer them the best that we can. And if you have disagreements that should see print,
1465 Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics has a “Comment” and “Reply” format for discussions of this
1466 type.

1467

1468

10.0 GLOSSARY

1469 **Partially taken from:** “*From the Sun: Auroras, Magnetic Storms, Solar Flares, Cosmic*
1470 *Rays*” (Suess and Tsurutani, 1998, AGU Press)

1471

1472 **Adiabatic Invariant:** In a nearly collisionless, ionized gas, electrically charged particles orbit
1473 around magnetic lines of force. Certain physical quantities are approximately constant for
1474 slow (adiabatic) changes of the magnetic field in time or in space and these quantities are
1475 called *adiabatic invariants*. For example, the magnetic moment of a charged particle,
1476 $\mu = mV_{\perp}^2 / (2B)$, is such a constant where V_{\perp} is the velocity of the particle perpendicular to
1477 the magnetic field, B is the magnetic field strength, and m is the particle mass. In a
1478 converging field such as in approaching the pole of a dipole magnetic, the field strength
1479 increases and therefore V_{\perp} increases as well because μ has to remain constant.

1480 **Aeronomy:** The science of the (upper) regions of atmospheres, those regions where dissociation
1481 of molecules and ionization are present.

1482 **Alfvén Wave** (magnetohydrodynamic shear wave): A transverse wave in magnetized plasma
1483 characterized by a change of direction of the magnetic field with no change in either the
1484 intensity of the field or the plasma density.

1485 **Anisotropic Plasma:** A Plasma whose properties vary with direction relative to the ambient
1486 magnetic field direction. This can be due, for example, to the presence of a magnetic or
1487 electric field. See also Isotropic Plasma; Plasma.

1488 **Arase satellite, formerly called Exploration of energization and Radiation in Geospace** or
1489 **ERG:** a scientific satellite developed by the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science
1490 (ISAS) of the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to study the Van Allen
1491 radiation belts.

1492 **Astronomical Unit (AU):** The mean radius of the Earth's orbit, 1.496×10^{13} cm.

1493 **Aurora:** A visual phenomenon that occurs mainly in the high-latitude night sky. Auroras occur
1494 within a band of latitudes known as the auroral oval, the location of which is dependent

1495 on the intensity of geomagnetic activity. Auroras are a result of collisions between
 1496 precipitating charged particles (mostly electrons) and atmospheric atoms and molecules,
 1497 exciting the atmospheric constituents. The charged particles come from the outer parts of
 1498 the magnetosphere and guided by the geomagnetic field. Each gas (oxygen and nitrogen
 1499 molecules and atoms) emits its own characteristic radiation when bombarded by the
 1500 precipitating particles. Since the atmospheric composition varies with altitude, and the
 1501 faster precipitating particles penetrate deeper into the atmosphere, certain auroral colors
 1502 originate preferentially from certain heights in the sky. The auroral altitude range is 80 to
 1503 500 km, but typical auroras occur 90 to 250 km above the ground. The color of the
 1504 typical aurora is yellow-green, from a specific transition line of atomic oxygen. Auroral
 1505 light from lower levels in the atmosphere is dominated by blue and red bands from
 1506 molecular nitrogen and molecular oxygen. Above 250 km, auroral light is characterized
 1507 by a red spectral line of atomic oxygen. To an observer on the ground, the combined light
 1508 of these three fluctuating, primary colors produces an extraordinary visual display.
 1509 Auroras in the Northern Hemisphere are called the aurora borealis or “northern lights”.
 1510 Auroras in the Southern Hemisphere are called aurora australis. The patterns and forms of
 1511 the aurora include quiescent “arcs”, rapidly moving “rays” and “curtains,” “patches,” and
 1512 “veils.”

1513 **Auroral Electrojet (AE):** See Electrojet.

1514 **Auroral Oval:** An elliptical band around each geomagnetic pole ranging from about 75 degrees
 1515 magnetic latitude at local noon to about 67 degrees magnetic latitude at midnight under
 1516 average conditions. It is the locus of those locations of the maximum occurrence of
 1517 auroras, and widens to both higher and lower latitudes during the expansion phase of a
 1518 magnetic substorm.

1519 **Beta** (e.g., low-beta plasma): The ratio of the thermal pressure to the magnetic ‘pressure’ in a
 1520 plasma - $p / (B^2 / (8\pi))$ in centimeter-gram-second (c.g.s.)

1521 **Bow Shock** (Earth, heliosphere): A collisionless shock wave in front of the magnetosphere
 1522 arising from the interaction of the supersonic solar wind with the Earth's magnetic field.
 1523 An analogous shock is the heliospheric bow shock which exists in front of the

1524 heliosphere and is due to the interaction of the interstellar wind with the solar wind and
1525 the interplanetary magnetic field.

1526 **Charge Exchange:** An interaction between a charged particle and a neutral atom wherein the
1527 charged particle becomes neutral and the neutral particle becomes charged through the
1528 exchange of an electron.

1529 **Cloud** (magnetic): see Magnetic Cloud.

1530 **Collisional (de-) Excitation:** Excitation of an atom or molecule to a higher energy state due to a
1531 collision with another atom, molecule, or ion. The higher energy state generally refers to
1532 electrons in higher energy around atoms. Deexcitation is the reduction of a higher
1533 electron energy state to a lower one, usually accomplished by a collision with another
1534 atom, molecule or ion.

1535 **Convection** (magnetospheric, plasma, thermal): The bulk transport of plasma (or gas) from one
1536 place to another, in response to mechanical forces (for example, viscous interaction with
1537 the solar wind) or electromagnetic forces. Thermal convection, due to heating from below
1538 and the gravitational field, is what drives convection inside the Sun. Magnetospheric
1539 convection is driven by the dragging of the Earth's magnetic field and plasma together by
1540 the solar wind when the magnetic field becomes attached to the magnetic field in the
1541 solar wind.

1542 **Coriolis Force:** In the frame of a rotating body (such as the Earth), a force due to the bodily
1543 rotation. All bodies that are not acted upon by some force have the tendency to remain in
1544 a state of rest or of uniform rectilinear motion (Newton's First Law) so that this force is
1545 called a "fictitious" forces. It is a consequence of the continuous acceleration which must
1546 be applied to keep a body at rest in a rotating frame of reference.

1547 **Corona:** The outermost layer of the solar atmosphere, characterized by low densities ($<10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
1548 or 10^{15} m^{-3}) and high temperatures ($>10^6 \text{ K}$).

1549 **Coronal Hole:** An extended region of the solar corona characterized by exceptionally low
1550 density and in a unipolar photospheric magnetic field having "open" magnetic field
1551 topology. Coronal holes are largest and most stable at or near the solar poles, and are a

1552 source of high speed (700-800 km/s) solar wind. Coronal holes are visible in several
 1553 wavelengths, most notably solar x-rays visible only from space, but also in the He 1083
 1554 nm line which is detectable from the surface of the Earth. In soft x-ray images (photon
 1555 energy of ~0.1-1.0 keV or a wavelength of 10-100 Å), these regions are dark, thus the
 1556 name "holes".

1557 **Coronal Mass Ejection (CME):** A transient outflow of plasma from or through the solar
 1558 corona. CMEs are often but not always associated with erupting prominences,
 1559 disappearing solar filaments, and flares.

1560 **Corotation** (with the Earth): A plasma in the magnetosphere of the Earth is said to be corotating
 1561 with the Earth if the magnetic field drags the plasma with it and together they have a 24
 1562 hour rotation period.

1563 **Cosmic Ray** (galactic, solar): Extremely energetic (relativistic) charged particles or
 1564 electromagnetic radiation, primarily originating outside of the Earth's magnetosphere.
 1565 Cosmic rays usually interact with the atoms and molecules of the atmosphere before
 1566 reaching the surface of the Earth. The nuclear interactions lead to formation of daughter
 1567 products, and they in turn to granddaughter products, etc. Thus there is a chain of
 1568 reactions and a "cosmic ray shower". Some cosmic rays come from outside the solar
 1569 system while others are emitted from the Sun in solar flares. See also Anomalous Cosmic
 1570 Ray; Energetic Particle; Solar Energetic Particle (SEP) Event.

1571 **Constellation Observing System for Meteorology, Ionosphere and Climate-2 (COSMIC II):**
 1572 A joint Taiwan National Space Organization (NSPO)-U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric
 1573 Administration (NOAA) mission of six satellites in low-inclination orbit to study the Earth's
 1574 ionosphere.

1575

1576 **Corotating Interaction Region (CIR):** An interplanetary region of high magnetic fields and
 1577 plasma densities created by the interaction of a high speed solar wind stream with the upstream
 1578 slow solar wind. The antisunward portion of the CIR is compressed slow solar wind plasma and
 1579 magnetic fields, and the sunward portion is compressed fast solar wind plasma and magnetic
 1580 fields. The two regions of the CIR are separated by a tangential discontinuity.

- 1581
- 1582 **Cyclotron Frequency:** When a particle of charge q moves in a magnetic field B , the particle
1583 orbits, or gyrates around the magnetic field lines. The cyclotron frequency is the
1584 frequency of this gyration, and is given by $\omega_c = q|B|/mc$, where m is the mass of the
1585 particle, and c is the velocity of light (in centimeter-gram-second (c.g.s.) units).
- 1586 **Cyclotron Resonance:** The frequency at which a charged particle experiences a Doppler-shifted
1587 wave at the particle's cyclotron frequency. Because the particle and wave may be
1588 traveling at different speeds and in different directions, there is usually a Doppler shift
1589 involved.
- 1590 **D Region:** A daytime region of the Earth's ionosphere beginning at approximately 40 km,
1591 extending to 90 km altitude. Radio wave absorption in this region can be significantly
1592 increased due to increasing ionization associated with the precipitation of solar energetic
1593 particles through the magnetosphere and into the ionosphere.
- 1594 **Diffusion:** The slow, stochastic motion of particles.
- 1595 **Diffusive Shock Acceleration:** Charged particle acceleration at a collisionless shock due to
1596 stochastic scattering processes caused by waves and plasma turbulence. See also Shock
1597 Wave (collisionless).
- 1598 **Dipole Magnetic Field:** A magnetic field whose intensity decreases as the cube of the distance
1599 from the source. A bar magnet's field and the magnetic field originating in the Earth's
1600 core are both approximately dipole magnetic fields.
- 1601 **Drift** (of ions/electrons): As particles gyrate around magnetic field lines, their orbits may "drift"
1602 perpendicular to the local direction of the magnetic field. This occurs if there is a force
1603 also perpendicular to the field - e.g. an electric field, curvature in the magnetic field
1604 direction, or gravity.
- 1605 **Driver Gas:** A mass of plasma and entrained magnetic field that is ejected from the Sun, that has
1606 a velocity higher than the upstream plasma, and which "drives" a (usually collisionless)
1607 shock wave ahead of itself. The magnetic cloud within an ICME is the same thing as a
1608 driver gas.

- 1609 **Dst Index:** A measure of variation in the geomagnetic field due to the equatorial ring current. It
1610 is computed from the H-components at approximately four near-equatorial stations at
1611 hourly intervals. At a given time, the Dst index is the average of variation over all
1612 longitudes; the reference level is set so that Dst is statistically zero on internationally
1613 designated quiet days. An index of -50 nT (nanoTesla) or less indicates a storm-level
1614 disturbance, and an index of -200 nT or less is associated with middle- latitude auroras.
1615 Dst is determined by the World Data Center C2 for Geomagnetism, Kyoto University,
1616 Kyoto, Japan.
- 1617 **Dynamo** (solar magnetospheric): The conversion of mechanical energy (rotation in the case of
1618 the Sun) into electrical current. This is the process by which magnetic fields are amplified
1619 by the induction of plasmas being forced to move perpendicular to the magnetic field
1620 lines. See also Mean Field Electro-Dynamics.
- 1621 **E-Region:** A daytime region of the Earth's ionosphere roughly between the altitudes of 90 and
1622 160 km. The E-region characteristics (electron density, height, etc.) depend on the solar
1623 zenith angle and the solar activity. The ionization in the E layer is caused mainly by x-
1624 rays in the range 0.8 to 10.4 nm coming from the Sun.
- 1625 **Ecliptic Plane:** The plane of the Earth's orbit about the Sun. It is also the Sun's apparent annual
1626 path, or orbit, across the celestial sphere.
- 1627 **Electrically Charged Particle:** Electrons and protons, for example, or any atom from which
1628 electrons have been removed to make it into a positively charged ion. The elemental
1629 charge of particles is 4.8×10^{-10} esu. An electron and proton have this charge. Combined (a
1630 hydrogen atom), the charge is zero. Ions have multiples of this charge, depending on the
1631 number of electrons which have been removed (or added).
- 1632 **Electrojet:** (1) Auroral Electrojet (AE): A current that flows in the ionosphere at a height of
1633 ~100 km in the auroral zone. (2) Equatorial Electrojet: A thin electric current layer in the
1634 ionosphere over the dip equator at about 100 to 115 km altitude.
- 1635 **Electron Plasma Frequency/Wave:** The natural frequency of oscillation of electrons in a
1636 neutral plasma (e.g., equal numbers of electrons and protons).

- 1637 **Electron Volt (eV):** The kinetic energy gained by an electron or proton being accelerated in a
 1638 potential drop of one Volt.
- 1639 **ESA:** European Space Agency
- 1640 **Extreme Ultraviolet (EUV):** A portion of the electromagnetic spectrum from approximately 10
 1641 to 100 nm.
- 1642 **Extremely Low Frequency (ELF):** That portion of the radio frequency spectrum from 30 to
 1643 3000 Hz.
- 1644 **Fast Mode (wave/speed):** In magnetohydrodynamics, the fastest wave speed possible.
 1645 Numerically, this is equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the Alfvén speed
 1646 and plasma sound speed.
- 1647 **Field Aligned Current:** A current flowing along (or opposite to) the magnetic field direction.
- 1648 **Filament:** A mass of gas suspended over the chromosphere by magnetic fields and seen as dark
 1649 ribbons threaded over the solar disk. A filament on the limb of the Sun seen in emission
 1650 against the dark sky is called a prominence. Filaments occur directly over magnetic-
 1651 polarity inversion lines, unless they are active.
- 1652 **Flare:** A sudden eruption of energy in the solar atmosphere lasting minutes to hours, from which
 1653 radiation and energetic charged particles are emitted. Flares are classified on the basis of
 1654 area at the time of maximum brightness in H alpha.
- 1655 Importance 0 (Subflare): < 2.0 hemispheric square degrees
- 1656 Importance 1: 2.1-5.1 square degrees
- 1657 Importance 2: 5.2-12.4 square degrees
- 1658 Importance 3: 12.5-24.7 square degrees
- 1659 Importance 4: \geq 24.8 square degrees
- 1660 [One square degree is equal to $(1.214 \times 10^4 \text{ km})^2 = 48.5$ millionths of the
 1661 visible solar hemisphere.] A brightness qualifier F, N, or B is generally appended

1662 to the importance character to indicate faint, normal, or brilliant (for example,
1663 2B).

1664 **Flux Rope:** A magnetic phenomenon which has a force-free field configuration.

1665 **Force Free Field:** A magnetic field which exerts no force on the surrounding plasma. This can
1666 either be a field with no flowing electrical currents or a field in which the electrical
1667 currents all flow parallel to the field.

1668 **Free Energy** (of a plasma): When an electron or ion distribution is either non-Maxwellian or
1669 anisotropic, they are said to have free energy" from which plasma waves can be
1670 generated via instabilities. The waves scatter the particles so they become more isotropic,
1671 reducing the free energy.

1672 **Frozen-in Field:** In a tenuous, collisionless plasma, the weak magnetic fields embedded in the
1673 plasma are convected with the plasma. i.e., they are "frozen in."

1674 **Galactic Cosmic Ray (GCR):** See Cosmic Ray.

1675 **Gamma Ray:** Electromagnetic radiation at frequencies higher than x-rays.

1676 **Geomagnetic Storm:** A worldwide disturbance of the Earth's magnetic field, distinct from
1677 regular diurnal variations. A storm is precisely defined as occurring when D_{ST} becomes
1678 less than -50 nT (See geomagnetic activity).

1679 Main Phase: Of a geomagnetic storm, that period when the horizontal magnetic field at
1680 middle latitudes decreases, owing to the effects of an increasing magnetospheric ring
1681 current. The main phase can last for hours, but typically lasts less than 1 day.

1682 Recovery Phase: Of a geomagnetic storm, that period when the depressed northward field
1683 component returns to normal levels. Recovery is typically complete in one to two days.

1684 **Geomagnetically Induced Currents (GICs):** Currents flowing along electric power
1685 transmission systems and other electrically conducting infrastructures are produced by
1686 naturally induce geoelectric fields during geomagnetic disturbances.

1687 **Geosynchronous Orbit:** Term applied to any equatorial satellite with an orbital velocity equal to
1688 the rotational velocity of the Earth. The geosynchronous altitude is near 6.6 Earth radii

1689 (approximately 36,000 km above the Earth's surface). To be geostationary as well, the
1690 satellite must satisfy the additional restriction that its orbital inclination be exactly zero
1691 degrees. The net effect is that a geostationary satellite is virtually motionless with respect
1692 to an observer on the ground.

1693 **GeV:** 10^9 electron Volts (Giga-electron Volt).

1694 **Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS):** GNSS receivers use the orbiting satellite Global
1695 Positioning System (GPS) transmitted signals to obtain the geographic location of a
1696 user's receiver anywhere in the world.

1697 **Global Positioning System (GPS):** is a global navigation satellite system that provides
1698 geolocation and time information to a GPS receiver anywhere on or near the Earth where
1699 there is an unobstructed line of sight to four or more GPS satellites.

1700 **Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk (GOLD):** a NASA mission to “ investigate
1701 the dynamic intermingling of space and Earth's uppermost atmosphere”

1702 **Heliosphere:** The magnetic cavity surrounding the Sun, carved out of the galaxy by the solar
1703 wind.

1704 **Heliospheric Current Sheet (HCS):** This is the surface dividing the northern and southern
1705 magnetic field hemispheres in the solar wind. The magnetic field is generally one polarity
1706 in the north and the opposite in the south so just one surface divides the two polarities.
1707 However, the Sun's magnetic field changes over the 11-year solar sunspot cycle and
1708 reverses polarity at solar maximum. The same thing happens in the magnetic field carried
1709 away from the Sun by the solar wind so the HCS only lies in the equator near solar
1710 minimum. It is called a "current sheet" because it carries an electrical current to balance
1711 the oppositely directed field on either side of the surface. It is very thin on the scale of the
1712 solar system - usually only a few proton gyroradii, or less than 100,000 km.

1713 **Helmet Streamer:** See Streamer.

1714 **High Frequency (HF):** That portion of the radio frequency spectrum between 3 and 30 MHz.

1715 **Heliospheric Plasma Sheet (HPS):** A high density slow solar wind region that is located
1716 adjacent to the heliospheric current sheet (HCS).

- 1717 **High Speed Solar Wind (HSS):** A solar wind with speeds of 750 to 800 km/s emanating from
1718 solar coronal holes. The HSS is characterized by embedded, particularly large amplitude
1719 Alfvén waves. At the edges of HSSs, the velocities can be less due to superradial
1720 expansion effects.
- 1721 **Instability:** When an electron or ion distribution is sufficiently anisotropic, it becomes unstable
1722 (instability), generating plasma waves. The anisotropic distribution provides a source of
1723 free energy for the instability. A simple analog is a stick, which if stood on end is
1724 "unstable," but which if laid on its side is "stable." In this analog, gravity pulls on the
1725 stick and provides a source of free energy when the stick is stood on end.
- 1726 **Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF, Parker spiral):** The magnetic field carried with the solar
1727 wind and twisted into an Archimedean spiral by the Sun's rotation.
- 1728 **Interplanetary Medium:** The volume of space in the solar system that lies between the Sun and
1729 the planets. The solar wind flows in the interplanetary medium.
- 1730 **Interplanetary Coronal Mass Ejection (ICME):** The evolutionary part of a CME as it propagates
1731 through interplanetary space. Typically after the CME has propagated 1 AU from the Sun,
1732 the ICME only contains the magnetic cloud (MC) portion of the initial three parts of a
1733 CME. The MC may also have been compressed/expanded or rotated by the time it reaches
1734 1 AU.
- 1735 **Interplanetary Shock:** A fast forward shock is characterized by a sharp increase in solar wind
1736 speed, plasma density, plasma temperature and magnetic field magnitude. The shock
1737 reduces the upstream plasma from a supermagnetosonic state to a subsonic state, much as
1738 an airplane wing sonic shock reduces the relative flow of air from a supersonic speed
1739 (relative to the airplane) to a subsonic speed. A fast (magnetosonic) forward (propagating
1740 in the direction of the "piston", in this case the propagation of the ICME in the antisolar
1741 direction) shock is detected upstream (antisolarward) of fast ICMEs. A reverse shock
1742 propagates in the direction of the Sun. Planetary bow shocks are reverse shocks. There
1743 are other types of shocks not discussed in this paper: slow shocks and intermediate shocks.

- 1744 **Interstellar** (gas, neutral gas, ions, cosmic rays, wind, magnetic field, etc.) Literally, between
1745 the stars. In practical terms, it is anything beyond the outer boundary of the solar wind
1746 (the "heliopause") yet within the Milky Way.
- 1747 **Ion:** (1). An electrically charged atom or molecule. (2). An atom or molecular fragment that has
1748 a positive electrical charge due to the loss of one or more electrons; the simplest ion is the
1749 hydrogen nucleus, a single proton.
- 1750 **Ionization State:** The number of electrons missing from an atom.
- 1751 **Ionosphere:** The region of the Earth's upper atmosphere containing free (not bound to an atom
1752 or molecule) electrons and ions. This ionization is produced from the neutral atmosphere
1753 by solar ultraviolet radiation at very short wavelengths (<100 nm) and also by
1754 precipitating energetic particles.
- 1755 **Ionospheric Storm:** A positive ionospheric storm is where the ionospheric total electron content
1756 (TEC) increases. A negative ionospheric storm is an event where the ionospheric TEC
1757 decreases.
- 1758 **Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON):** is a NASA 2-year mission that will give new views
1759 of the boundary between our atmosphere and space, where planetary weather and **Space**
1760 **Weather** meet.
- 1761 **Irradiance:** Radiant energy flux density on a given surface (e. g. $\text{ergs cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$).
- 1762 **keV:** 1000 electron Volts (kiloelectron Volt). See electron Volt. See also Anisotropic Plasma;
1763 Plasma.
- 1764 **L value:** For a dipole magnetic field, the field line that crosses the magnetic equator at a L value
1765 equal to the number in Earth radii.
- 1766 **Loop** (solar-loop prominence system): A magnetic loop is the flux tube which crosses from one
1767 polarity to another. A loop prominence bridges a magnetic inversion line across which
1768 the magnetic field changes direction. See also Magnetic Foot Point; Prominence.
- 1769 **Loss Cone:** A small cone angle about the ambient magnetic field direction where
1770 magnetospheric charged particles with velocity vectors within the cone will mirror at

1771 sufficiently low altitudes such that the particle will have collisions with atmospheric
1772 atoms and molecules and will be “lost” from returning to the magnetosphere.

1773 **Loss Cone Instability:** An instability generated by a plasma anisotropy where the temperature
1774 perpendicular to the magnetic field is greater than the temperature parallel to the field.
1775 This instability gets its name because this condition exists in the Earth's magnetosphere
1776 and the "loss cone" particles are those that are lost into the upper atmosphere.

1777 **Magnetic Cloud:** A region in the solar wind of about 0.25 AU or more in radial extent in which
1778 the magnetic field strength is high and the direction of one component of the magnetic
1779 field changes appreciably by means of a rotation nearly parallel to a plane. Magnetic
1780 clouds may be parts of the driver gases (coronal mass ejections) in the interplanetary
1781 medium.

1782 **Magnetic Foot Point:** For the Earth's magnetic field lines, where the magnetic field enters the
1783 surface of the Earth.

1784 **Magnetic Mirror:** Charged particles moving into a region of converging magnetic flux (as at the
1785 pole of a magnet) will experience "Lorentz" forces that slow the particles and "mirror"
1786 them by eventually reversing their direction if the particles are initially moving slowly
1787 enough along the field line. See also Mirror Point.

1788 **Magnetic Reconnection:** The act of interconnection between oppositely directed magnetic field
1789 lines. [Magnetic reconnection is recognized as a basic plasma process, which converts
1790 magnetic energy into plasma kinetic energy accompanied by topological changes in the
1791 magnetic field configuration. It does not allow an excessive buildup of magnetic energy
1792 in the current sheets.](#)

1793 **Magnetic Storm:** see Geomagnetic Storm.

1794 **Magnetopause:** The boundary surface between the solar wind and magnetosphere, where the
1795 pressure of the magnetic field of the object effectively equals the ram pressure of the
1796 solar wind plasma.

1797 **Magnetosheath:** The region between the bow shock and the magnetopause, characterized by
1798 very turbulent plasma. This plasma has been heated (shocked) and slowed as it passed

1799 through the bow shock. For the Earth, along the Sun-Earth axis, the magnetosheath is
1800 about 3 Earth radii thick.

1801 **Magnetosonic Speed** (acoustic speed): The speed of the fastest low frequency magnetic waves
1802 in a magnetized plasma. It is the equivalent of the sound speed in a neutral gas or non-
1803 magnetized plasma.

1804 **Magnetosphere**: The magnetic cavity surrounding a magnetized planet, carved out of the
1805 passing solar wind by virtue of the planetary magnetic field, which prevents, or at least
1806 impedes, the direct entry of the solar wind plasma into the cavity.

1807 **Magnetospheric Multiscale Mission (MMS)**: A NASA mission designed to spend extensive
1808 periods in locations where magnetic reconnection at the magnetopause/magnetotail is
1809 expected to occur. The critical electron diffusion region will be studied. The mission
1810 consists of 4 spacecraft flown in a tetrahedron configuration.

1811 **Magnetotail**: The extension of the magnetosphere in the anti-sunward direction as a result of
1812 interaction with the solar wind. In the inner magnetotail, the field lines maintain a
1813 roughly dipolar configuration. But at greater distances in the anti-sunward direction, the
1814 field lines are stretched into northern and southern lobes, separated by a plasmashet.
1815 There is observational evidence for traces of the Earth's magnetotail as far as 1000 Earth
1816 radii downstream, in the anti-solar direction.

1817 **Maxwellian Distribution**: The minimum energy particle distribution for a given temperature. It
1818 is also the equilibrium distribution in the absence of losses due to radiation, collisions,
1819 etc.

1820 **Mean Free Path**: The statistically most probably distance a particle travels before undergoing a
1821 collision with another particle or interacting with a wave.

1822 **Mesosphere**: The region of the Earth's atmosphere between the upper limit of the stratosphere
1823 (approximately 30 km altitude) and the lower limit of the thermosphere (approximately
1824 80 km altitude).

1825 **MeV**: One million electron Volts (Megaelectron Volt). See also Electron Volt.

- 1826 **Mirror Point:** The point where the charged particles reverse direction (mirrors). At this point, all
1827 of the particle motion is perpendicular to the local ambient magnetic field. See also
1828 Magnetic Mirror.
- 1829 **Parker Solar Probe:** a NASA robotic spacecraft to probe the outer corona of the Sun. It will
1830 approach to within 9.9 solar radii (6.9 million kilometers or 4.3 million miles from the
1831 center of the Sun and will travel, at closest approach, as fast as 690,000 km/h
1832 (430,000 mph).
- 1833 **Photosphere:** The lowest visible layer of the solar atmosphere; corresponds to the solar surface
1834 viewed in white light. Sunspots and faculae are observed in the photosphere.
- 1835 **Pickup Ion:** An ion which has entered the solar system as a neutral particle and then becomes
1836 ionized either through charge exchange or photoionization. It is called a pickup ion
1837 because as soon as the neutral atom is ionized, it becomes attached to the magnetic field
1838 carried by the solar wind and so is "picked up" by the solar wind.
- 1839 **Pitch Angle:** In a plasma, the angle between the instantaneous velocity vector of a charged
1840 particle and the direction of the ambient magnetic field.
- 1841 **Plasma** (ions, electrons): A gas that is sufficiently ionized so as to affect its dynamical behavior.
1842 A plasma is a good electrical conductor and is strongly affected by magnetic fields. See
1843 also Anisotropic Plasma; Isotropic Plasma.
- 1844 **Plasma Instability** (ion, electron): When a plasma is sufficiently anisotropic, plasma waves
1845 grow, which in turn alter the distribution via wave-particle interactions. The plasma is
1846 "unstable."
- 1847 **Plasma Sheet:** A region in the center of the magnetotail between the north and south lobes. The
1848 plasma sheet is characterized by hot, dense plasma and is a high beta plasma region, in
1849 contrast to the low beta lobes. The plasma sheet bounds the neutral sheet where the
1850 magnetic field direction reverses from Earthward (north lobe direction) to anti-Earthward
1851 (south lobe direction).
- 1852 **Plasma Wave** (electrostatic/electromagnetic): A wave generated by plasma instabilities or other
1853 unstable modes of oscillation allowable in a plasma. "Chorus" and "Plasmasheric Hiss"

1854 are whistler wave modes. These are electromagnetic waves with frequencies below the
1855 electron cyclotron frequency. Electromagnetic ion cyclotron (EMIC) waves are ion
1856 cyclotron waves with frequencies below the proton cyclotron frequency.

1857 **Polar Cap Absorption Event (PCA):** An anomalous condition of the polar ionosphere whereby
1858 HF and VHF (3-300 MHz) radio waves are absorbed, and LF and VLF (3-300 kHz) radio
1859 waves are reflected at lower altitudes than normal. The cause is energetic particle
1860 precipitation into the ionosphere/atmosphere. The enhanced ionization caused by this
1861 precipitation leads to cosmic radio noise absorption and attenuation of that noise at the
1862 surface of the Earth. PCAs generally originate with major solar flares, beginning within a
1863 few hours of the event (after the flare particles have propagated to the Earth) and
1864 maximizing within a day or two after onset. As measured by a riometer (relative
1865 ionospheric opacity meter), the PCA event threshold is 2 dB of absorption at 30 MHz for
1866 daytime and 0.5 dB at night. In practice, the absorption is inferred from the proton flux at
1867 energies greater than 10 MeV, so that PCAs and proton events are simultaneous.
1868 However, the transpolar radio paths may still be disturbed for days, up to weeks,
1869 following the end of a proton event, and there is some ambiguity about the operational
1870 use of the term PCA.

1871 **Prominence:** A term identifying cloud-like features in the solar atmosphere. The features appear
1872 as bright structures in the corona above the solar limb and as dark filaments when seen
1873 projected against the solar disk. Prominences are further classified by their shape (for
1874 example, mound prominence, coronal rain) and activity. They are most clearly and most
1875 often observed in H alpha. See also Loop.

1876 **Radiation Belt:** Regions of the magnetosphere roughly 1.2 to 6 Earth radii above the equator in
1877 which charged particles are stably trapped by closed geomagnetic field lines. There are
1878 two belts. The inner belt's maximum proton density lies near 5000 km above the Earth's
1879 surface. Inner belt protons (10s of MeV) and electrons (100s of keV) and originate from
1880 the decay of secondary neutrons created during collisions between cosmic rays and upper
1881 atmospheric particles. The outer belt extends on to the magnetopause on the sunward side
1882 (10 Earth radii under normal quiet conditions) and to about 6 Earth radii on the nightside.
1883 The altitude of maximum proton density is near 16,000-20,000 km. Outer belt protons

1884 and electrons are lower energy (about 200 eV to 1 MeV). The origin of the particles
1885 (before they are energized to these high energies) is a mixture of the solar wind and the
1886 ionosphere. The outer belt is also characterized by highly variable fluxes of energetic
1887 electrons. The radiation belts are often called the “Van Allen radiation belts” because
1888 they were discovered in 1958 by a research group at the University of Iowa led by
1889 Professor J. A. Van Allen. See also Trapped Particle.

1890 **Ram Pressure:** Sometimes called “dynamic pressure”. The pressure exerted by a streaming
1891 plasma upon a blunt object.

1892 **Reconnection:** A process by which differently directed field lines link up allowing topological
1893 changes of the magnetic field to occur, determining patterns of plasma flow, and resulting
1894 in conversion of magnetic energy to kinetic and thermal energy of the plasma.
1895 Reconnection is invoked to explain the energization and acceleration of the
1896 plasmas/energetic particles that are observed in solar flares, magnetic substorms and
1897 storms, and elsewhere in the solar system.

1898 **Relativistic:** Charged particles (ions or electrons) which have speeds comparable to the speed of
1899 light.

1900 **Ring Current:** In the magnetosphere, a region of current that flows near the geomagnetic
1901 equator in the outer belt of the two Van Allen radiation belts. The current is produced by
1902 the gradient and curvature drift of the trapped charged particles of energies of 10 to 300
1903 keV. The ring current is greatly augmented during magnetic storms because of the hot
1904 plasma injected from the magnetotail and upwelling oxygen ions from the ionosphere.
1905 Further acceleration processes bring these ions and electrons up to ring current energies.
1906 The ring current (which is a diamagnetic current) causes a worldwide depression of the
1907 horizontal geomagnetic field during a magnetic storm.

1908 **Solar Energetic Particle (SEP):** An energetic particle of solar flare/interplanetary shock origin.

1909 **Sheath:** The plasma and magnetic fields in the downstream subsonic region after collisionless
1910 shocks. See Shock Wave.

1911 **Shock Wave:** A shock wave is characterized by a discontinuous change in pressure, density,
 1912 temperature, and particle streaming velocity, propagating through a compressible fluid or
 1913 plasma. Fast collisionless shock waves occur in the solar wind when fast solar wind
 1914 overtakes slow solar wind with the difference in speeds being greater than the
 1915 magnetosonic speed. Collisionless shock thicknesses are determined by the proton and
 1916 electron gyroradii rather than the collision lengths. See also Diffusive Shock
 1917 Acceleration; Solar Wind Shock.

1918 **Solar Corona:** See Corona.

1919 **Solar Cycle:** The approximately 11 year quasi-periodic variation in the sunspot number. The
 1920 polarity pattern of the magnetic field reverses with each cycle. Other solar phenomena,
 1921 such as the 10.7-cm solar radio emission, exhibit similar cyclical behavior. The solar
 1922 magnetic field reverses each sunspot cycle so there is a corresponding 22 year solar
 1923 magnetic cycle.

1924 **Solar Energetic Particle (SEP) Event:** A high flux event of solar (low energy) cosmic rays.
 1925 This is commonly generated by larger solar flares or CME shocks, and lasts, typically
 1926 from minutes to days. See also Cosmic Ray.

1927 **Solar Flares:** Transient perturbations of the solar atmosphere as measured by enhanced x-ray
 1928 emission (see x-ray flare class), typically associated with flares. Five standard terms are
 1929 used to describe the activity observed or expected within a 24-h period:

1930 Very low - x-ray events less than C-class.

1931 Low - C-class x-ray events.

1932 Moderate - isolated (one to 4) M-class x-ray events.

1933 High - several (5 or more) M-class x-ray events, or isolated (one to 4).

1934 M5 or greater x-ray events.

1935 Very high - several (5 or more) M5 or greater x-ray events.

1936

- 1937 **Solar Maximum:** The month(s) during the sunspot cycle when the smoothed sunspot number
1938 reaches a maximum.
- 1939 **Solar Minimum:** The month(s) during the sunspot cycle when the smoothed sunspot number
1940 reaches a minimum.
- 1941 **Solar Orbiter:** A European Space Agency-led (ESA) mission intended to perform detailed
1942 measurements of the inner heliosphere and nascent solar wind to answer the question "How does
1943 the Sun create and control the heliosphere?" The mission will make observations of the Sun from
1944 an eccentric orbit moving as close as ~60 solar radii (R_S), or 0.284 astronomical units (AU) from
1945 the Sun.
- 1946 **Solar Wind:** The outward flow of solar particles and magnetic fields from the Sun. Typically at
1947 1 AU, solar wind velocities are 300-800 km/s and proton and electron densities of 3-7 per
1948 cubic centimeter (roughly inversely correlated with velocity). The total intensity of the
1949 interplanetary magnetic field is nominally 3-8 nT.
- 1950 **SORCE: Solar Radiation and Climate Experiment.** A NASA mission that measures
1951 electromagnetic radiation produced by the Sun and the power per unit area of that energy
1952 on the Earth's surface.
- 1953 **Space Weather:** Dynamic variations at the Sun, in interplanetary space, in the Earth's and
1954 planetary magnetospheres, ionospheres and atmospheres associated with space
1955 phenomena.
- 1956 **Stratosphere:** That region of the Earth's atmosphere between the troposphere and the
1957 mesosphere. It begins at an altitude of temperature minimum at approximately 13 km and
1958 defines a layer of increasing temperature up to about 30 km.
- 1959 **Streamer:** A feature of the white light solar corona (seen in eclipse or with a coronagraph) that
1960 looks like a ray extending away from the Sun out to about 1 solar radius, having an arch-
1961 like base containing a cavity usually occupied by a prominence.
- 1962 **Substorm:** A substorm corresponds to an injection of charged particles from the magnetotail into
1963 the nightside magnetosphere. Plasma instabilities lead to the precipitation of the particles

1964 into the auroral zone ionosphere, producing intense aurorae. Potential drops along
 1965 magnetic field lines lead to the acceleration of ~1 to 10 keV electrons with brilliant
 1966 displays of aurora as the electrons impact the upper atmosphere. Enhanced ionospheric
 1967 conductivity and externally imposed electric fields lead to the intensification of the
 1968 auroral electrojets.

1969 **Sudden Impulse (SI):** An abrupt (10s of seconds) jump in the Earth's surface magnetic field.
 1970 The positive sudden impulses (SI⁺s) are caused by fast forward shock impingement onto
 1971 the magnetosphere.

1972 **Sunspot:** An area seen as a dark spot, in contrast with its surroundings, on the photosphere of the
 1973 Sun. Sunspots are concentrations of magnetic flux, typically occurring in bipolar clusters
 1974 or groups. They appear dark because they are cooler than the surrounding photosphere.
 1975 Larger and darker sunspots sometimes are surrounded (completely or partially) by
 1976 penumbrae. The dark centers are umbrae. The smallest, immature spots are sometimes
 1977 called pores.

1978 **Supersubstorm:** Defined as an event with SML < -2500 nT. These auroral zone events appear
 1979 to have different evolutionary properties than the standard (Akasofu, 1964) auroral
 1980 substorms.

1981 **SWARM:** A European Space Agency (ESA) mission originally instrumented to study the Earth's
 1982 magnetic field. The current goals are to study magnetospheric-ionospheric coupling and
 1983 auroral Space Weather problems.

1984 **Telsa:** A unit of magnetic flux density (Weber/m²). A nanoTesla (nT) is 10⁻⁹ Teslas.

1985 **Termination Shock:** The shock wave in the solar wind which is caused by the abrupt
 1986 deceleration of the solar wind as it runs into the local interstellar medium (LISM). It is
 1987 thought to lie somewhere between 70 and 150 AU from the Sun.

1988 **Thermal Speed** (ion, electron): The random velocity of a particle associated with its
 1989 temperature.

1990 **Thermosphere:** That region of the Earth's atmosphere where the neutral temperature increases
 1991 with height. It begins above the mesosphere at about 80-85 km and extends upward to the
 1992 exosphere.

1993 **TIMED:** Thermosphere Ionosphere Mesosphere Energetics and Dynamics (TIMED). A NASA
 1994 mission to investigate and understand the energetics of the Earth's mesosphere and lower
 1995 thermosphere/ionosphere.

1996 **Total Electron Content (TEC):** The column density of electrons in the Earth's ionosphere.

1997 **Trapped Particle:** Particles gyrating about magnetic field lines (e.g., in the Earth's
 1998 magnetosphere). See also Magnetic Mirror and Pitch Angle.

1999 **Troposphere:** The lowest layer of the Earth's atmosphere, extending from the ground to the
 2000 stratosphere, approximately 13 km altitude. In the troposphere, temperature decreases
 2001 with height.

2002 **Ultraviolet (UV):** That part of the electromagnetic spectrum between 5 and 400 nm.

2003 **Ultra Low Frequency (ULF):** 1 milliHertz to 1 Hertz.

2004 **Very High Frequency (VHF):** That portion of the radio frequency spectrum from 3 to 300
 2005 MHz.

2006 **Very Low Frequency (VLF):** That portion of the radio frequency spectrum from 3 to 300 kHz.

2007 **Van Allen Radiation Belt:** See Radiation Belt.

2008

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