

# Global Simulations of Wave-Particle Interactions in the Radiation Belts: March 17, 2018 Acceleration Event

Scot R. Elkington<sup>1</sup>, Anthony A. Chan<sup>2</sup>,  
Liheng Zheng<sup>1</sup>, Shah Alam<sup>2</sup>, Jay Albert<sup>4</sup>,  
Allison Jaynes<sup>5</sup>, Dan Baker<sup>1</sup>

1 LASP, University of Colorado

2 Rice University

3 University of Texas

4 Air Force Research Laboratory

5 University of Iowa

AGU Chapman Conference  
Particle Dynamics in the Radiation Belts  
Cascais, Portugal  
March 9, 2018

# Global simulations of the radiation belts

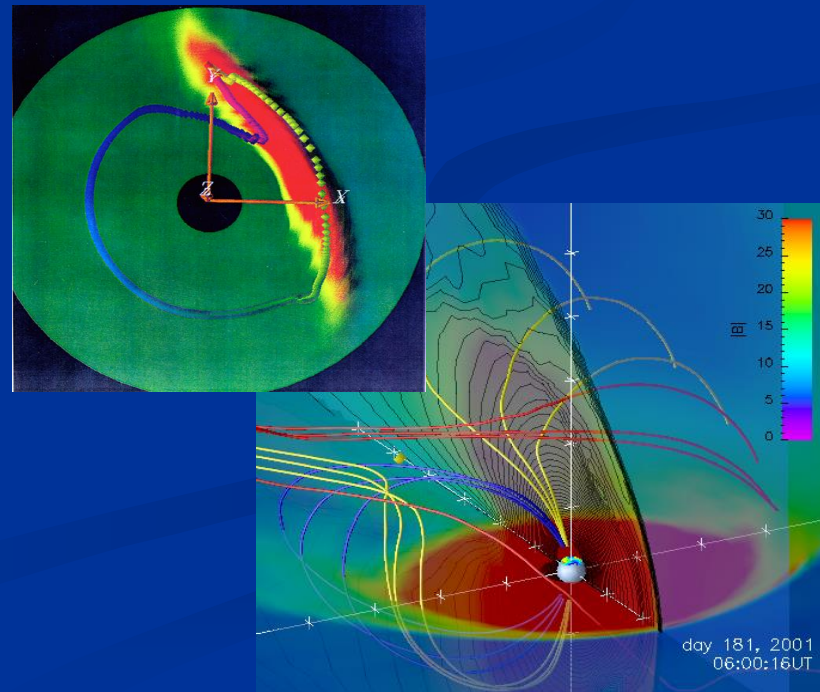
- Fokker-Planck simulations

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{V}} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial}{\partial J_i} \left( \mathfrak{S} D_{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial J_j} \right) - \frac{f}{\tau} + S$$

- Requires empirical specification of stochastic transport coefficients based on theory and observations
- Generally cannot model nondiffusive effects (e.g. advection/injection)

- MHD/particle simulations

- Global MHD model provides time-evolving electric and magnetic fields.
- Handles radial transport self-consistently
- Generally cannot model high frequency wave effects, e.g. energy and pitch angle scattering due to chorus, EMIC, etc.



# Non-MHD effects via SDE methods

- Every diffusion equation is mathematically equivalent to a set of stochastic differential equations (SDEs; e.g., *Tao, Chan, and Albert, [JGR, 2008]*):

$$dX = b dt + \sigma dW$$

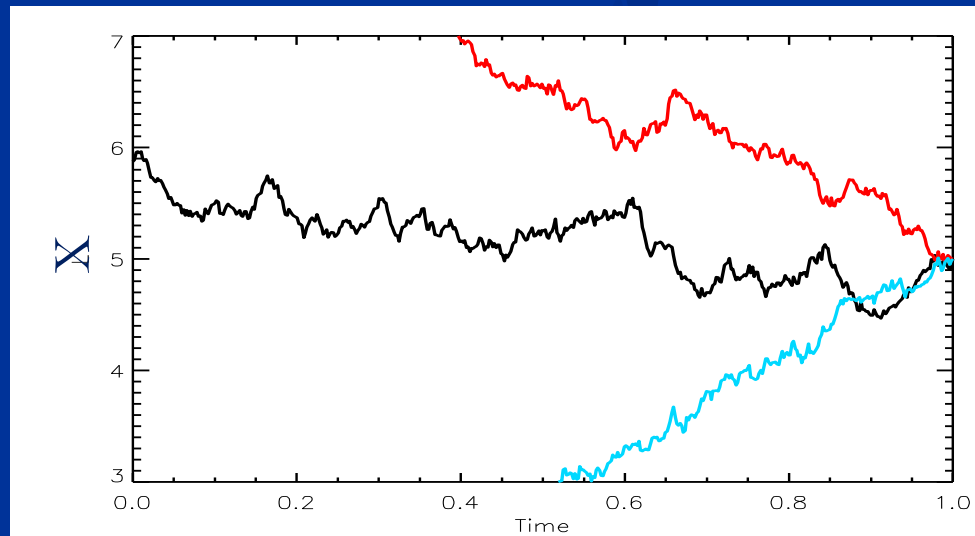
- $dX$  is a change in a stochastic variable  $X$  over a time  $dt$  (e.g.  $X$  may be a pitch angle, energy, or an adiabatic invariant).
- $dW = \sqrt{dt} N(0,1)$ , where  $N$  is a Gaussian random variable  $\in [0,1]$ .
- $b(X,t)$  and  $\sigma(X,t)$  are coefficient functions. e.g., for a 1-dimensional diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial D}{\partial x} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

$$b = \partial D / \partial x$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{2D}$$

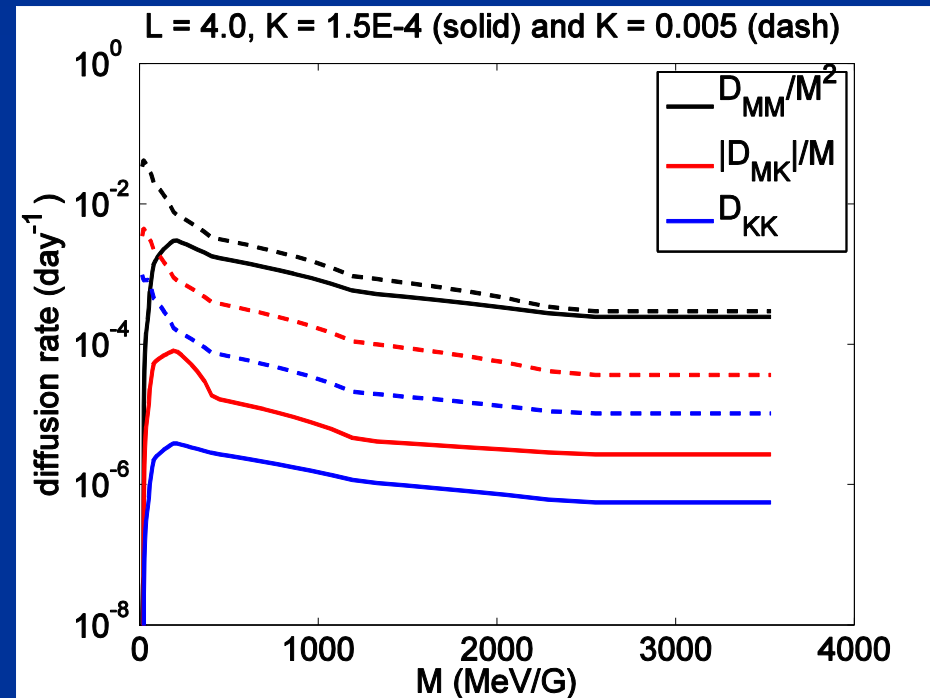
- Monte Carlo solution of the SDE yields random-walk trajectories in  $X$ .



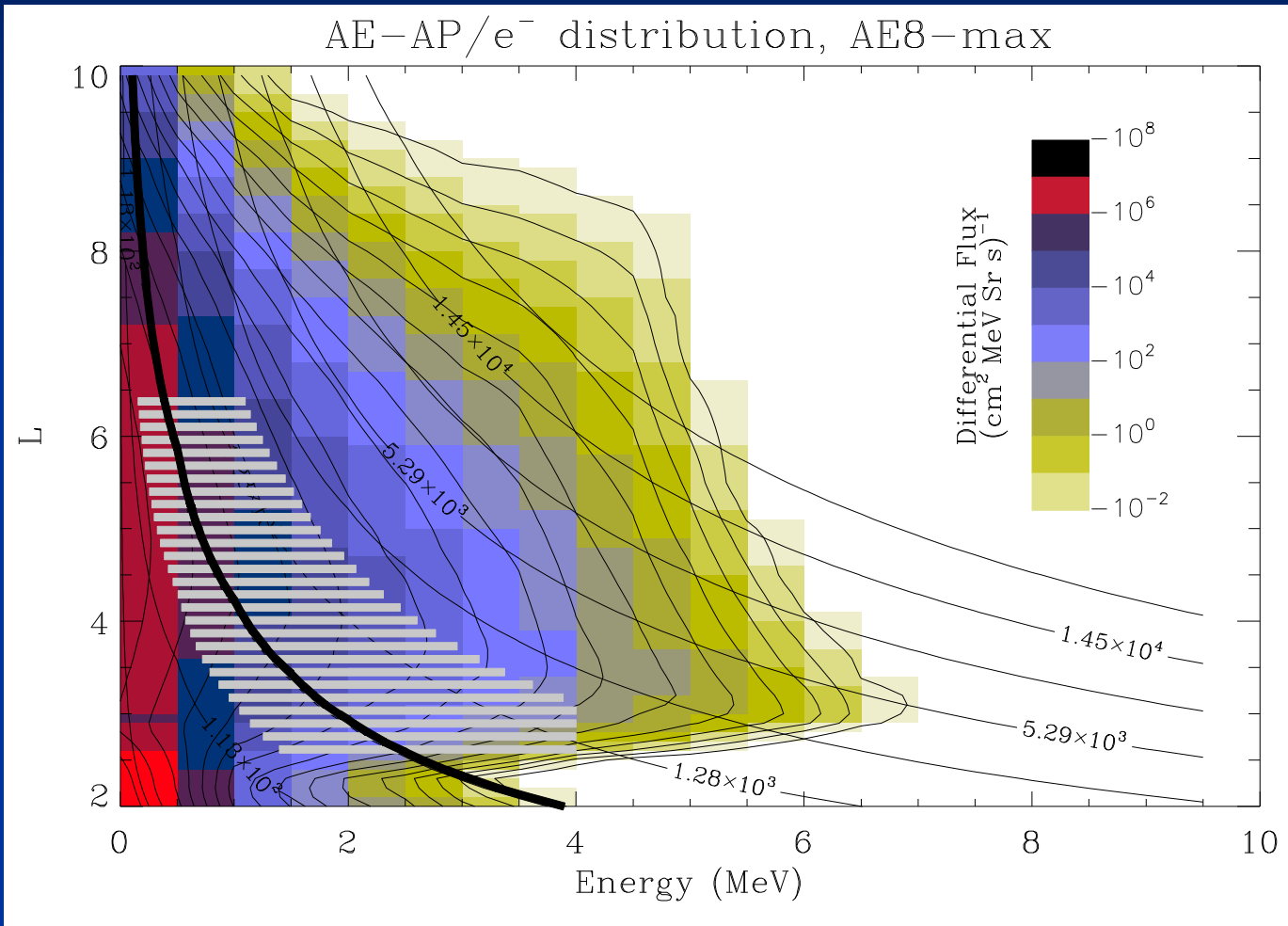
# 2d sims: Energy diffusion coefficients

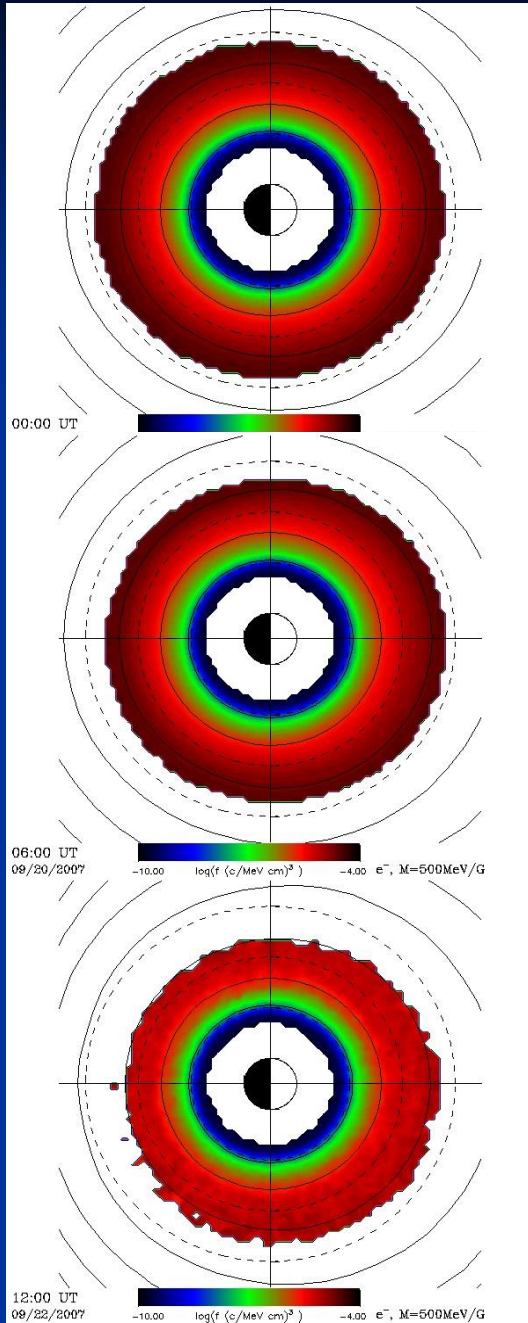
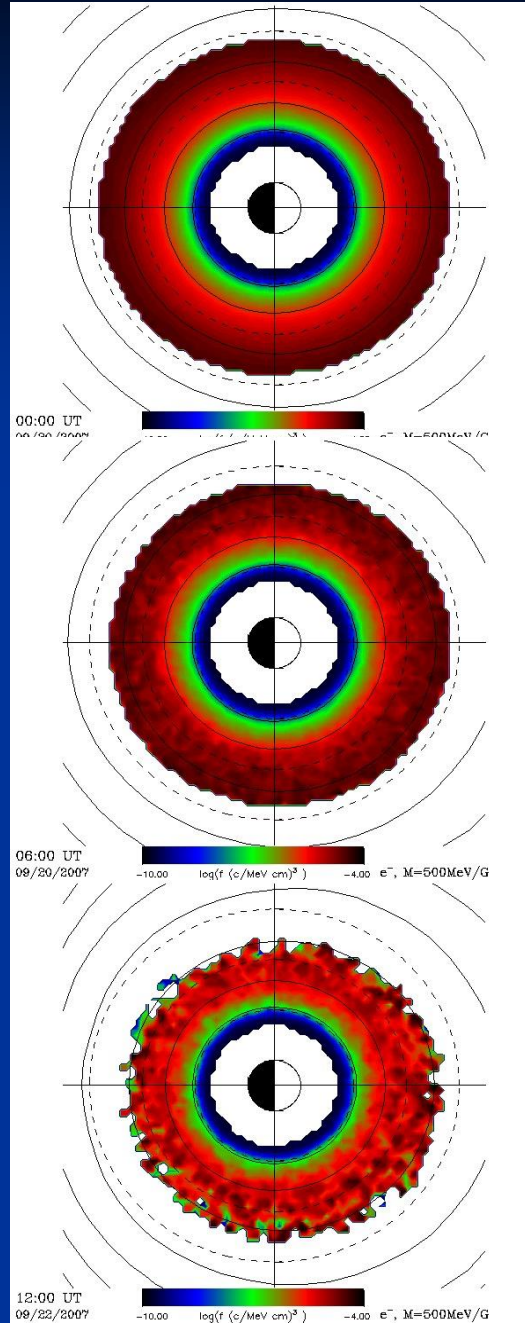
We use diffusion coefficients calculated by the PADIE code (R. Horne, S. Glauert, BAS; *J. Geophys. Res.* 110, 2005).

- Diffusion in energy and pitch angle, including cross terms.
- Converted to diffusion in  $M$ - $K$  space assuming dipole background field.
- Covers the effect of magnetospheric chorus waves on energetic particles
- $L$  and  $Kp$ -dependent:  $Kp < 2$ ,  $2 < Kp < 4$ , and  $Kp > 6$

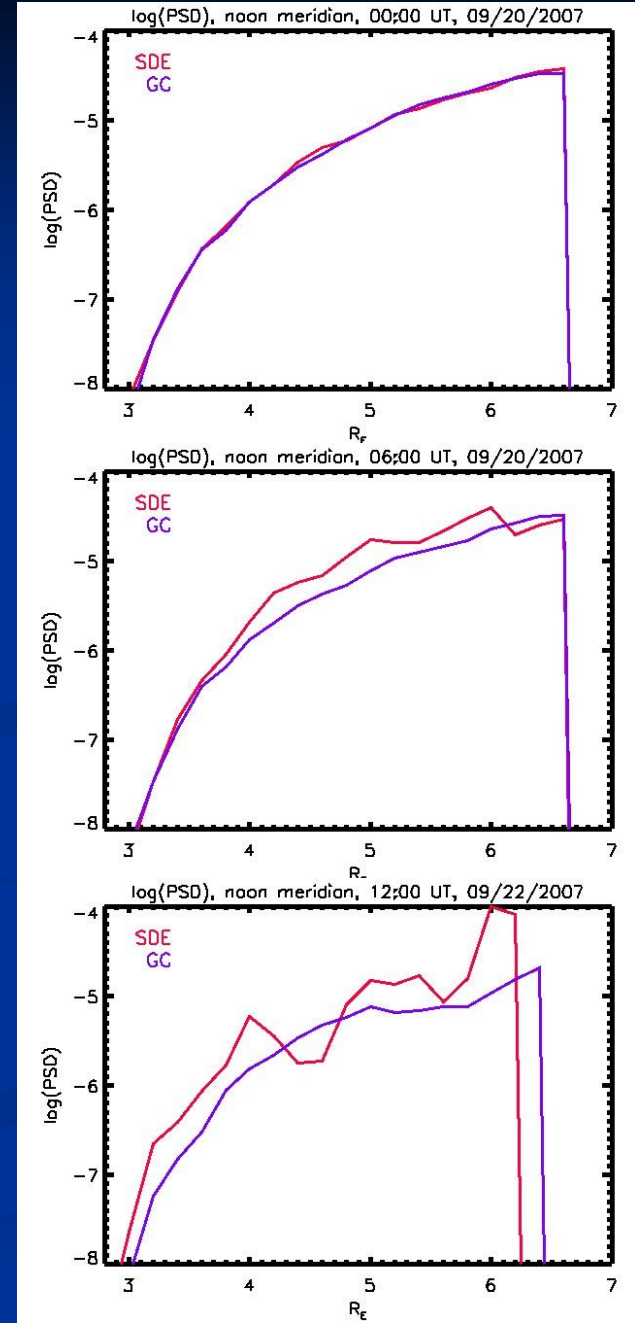


# 2d simulation domain

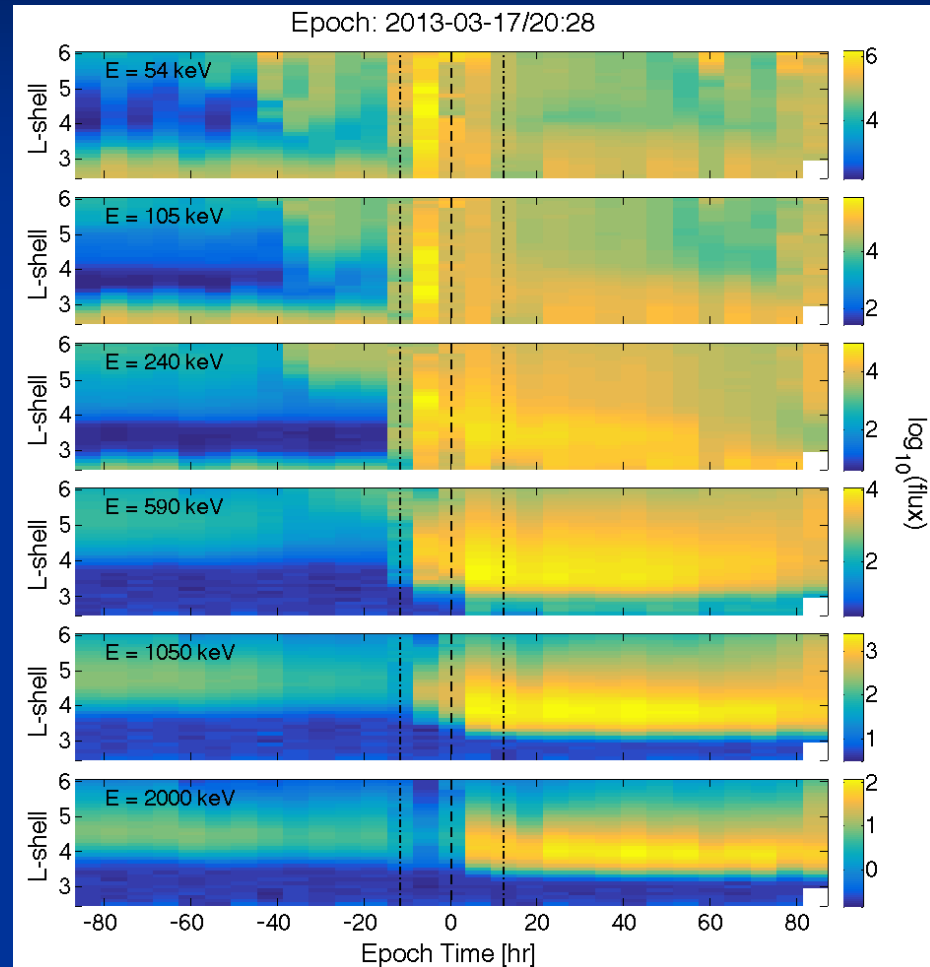
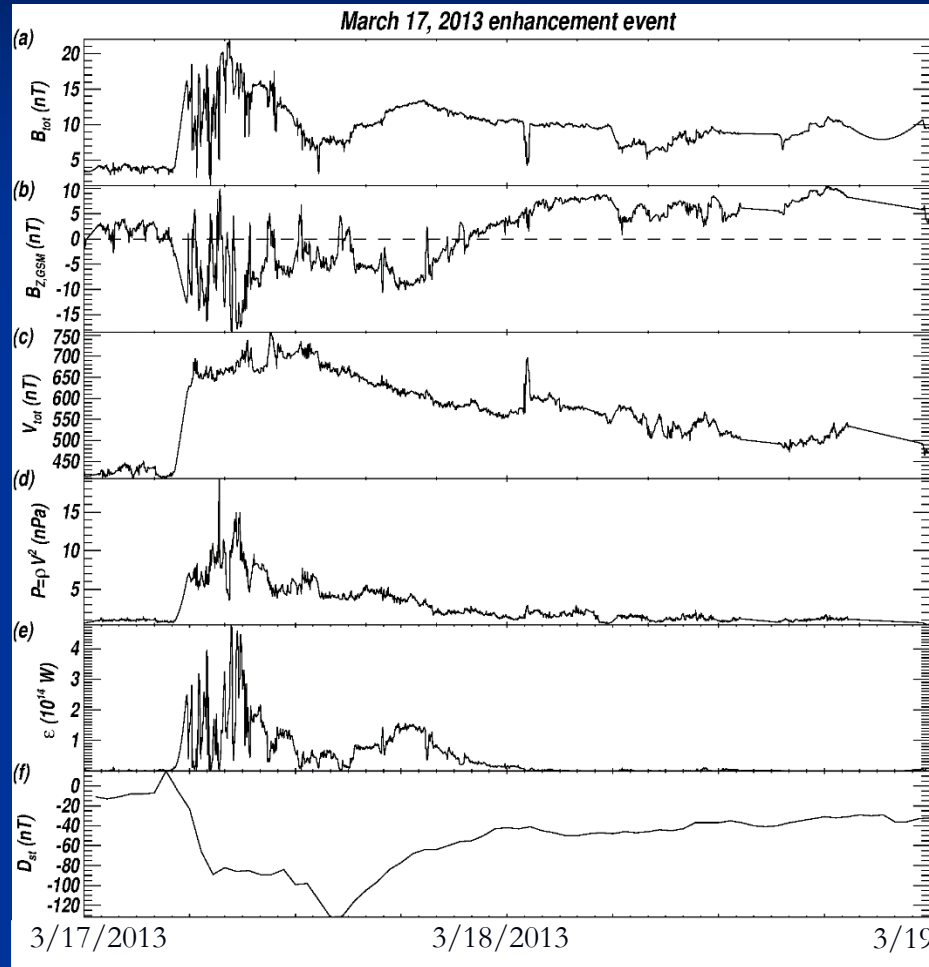


$D_{MM} = 0$  $D_{MM} \neq 0$ 

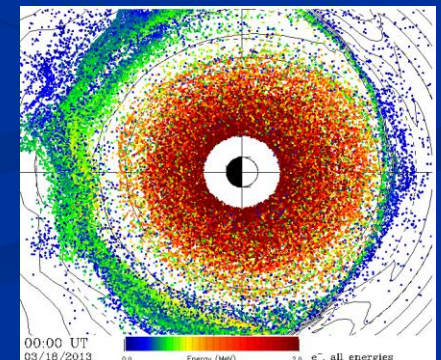
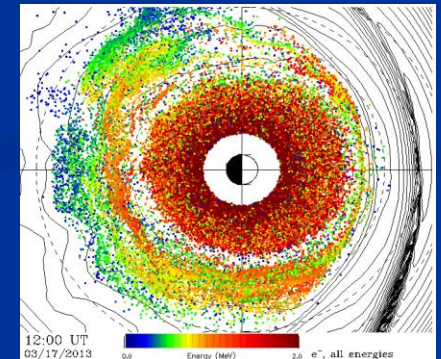
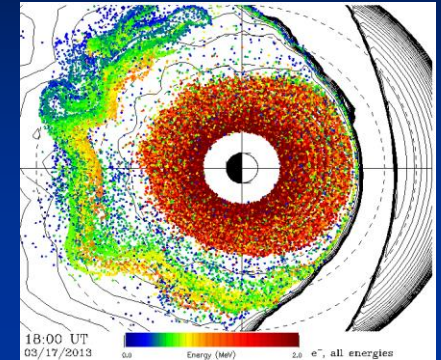
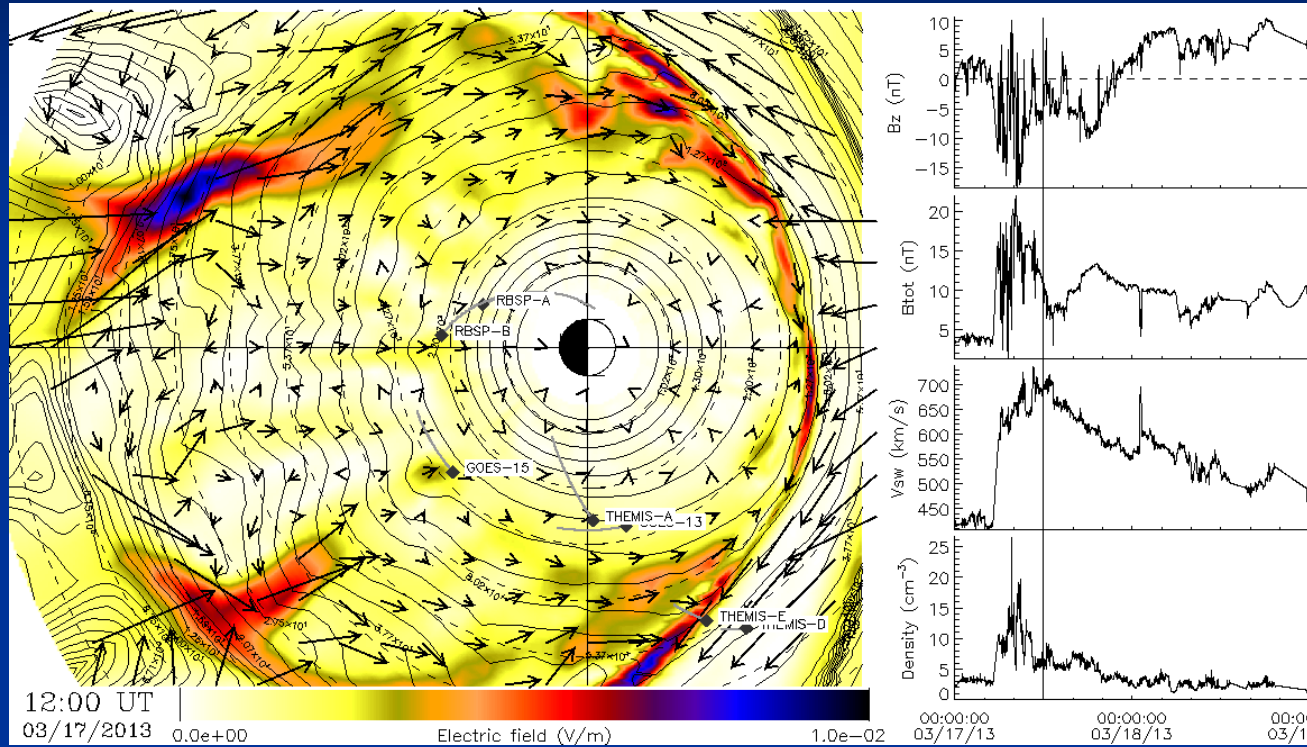
Radial profile



# 3d Sims: 3/17/2013 QARBM 'Storm Enhancement Event'



# 3d Sims: 3/17/2013 QARBM 'Storm Enhancement Event'

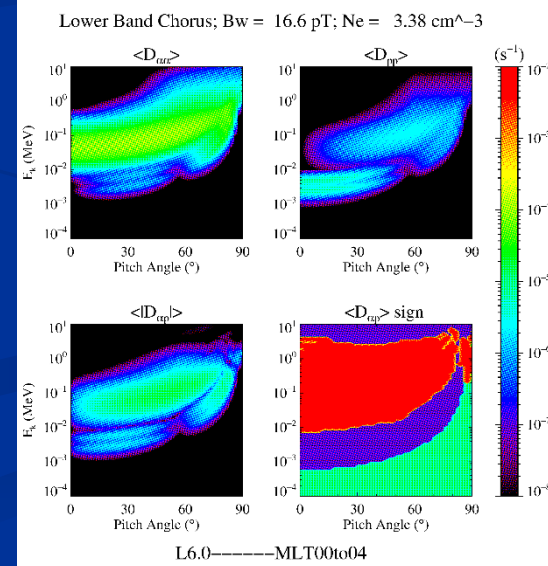
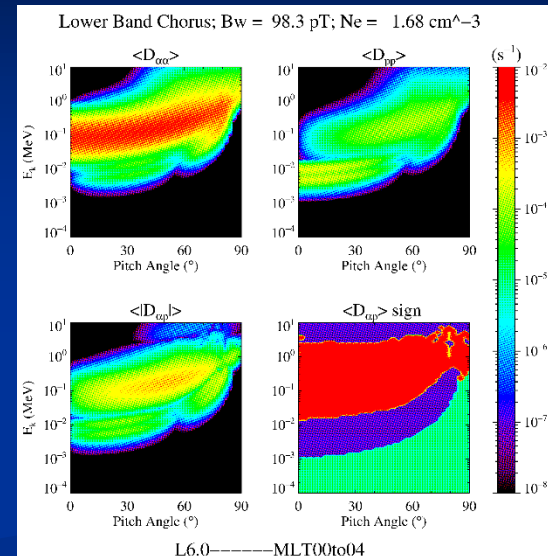
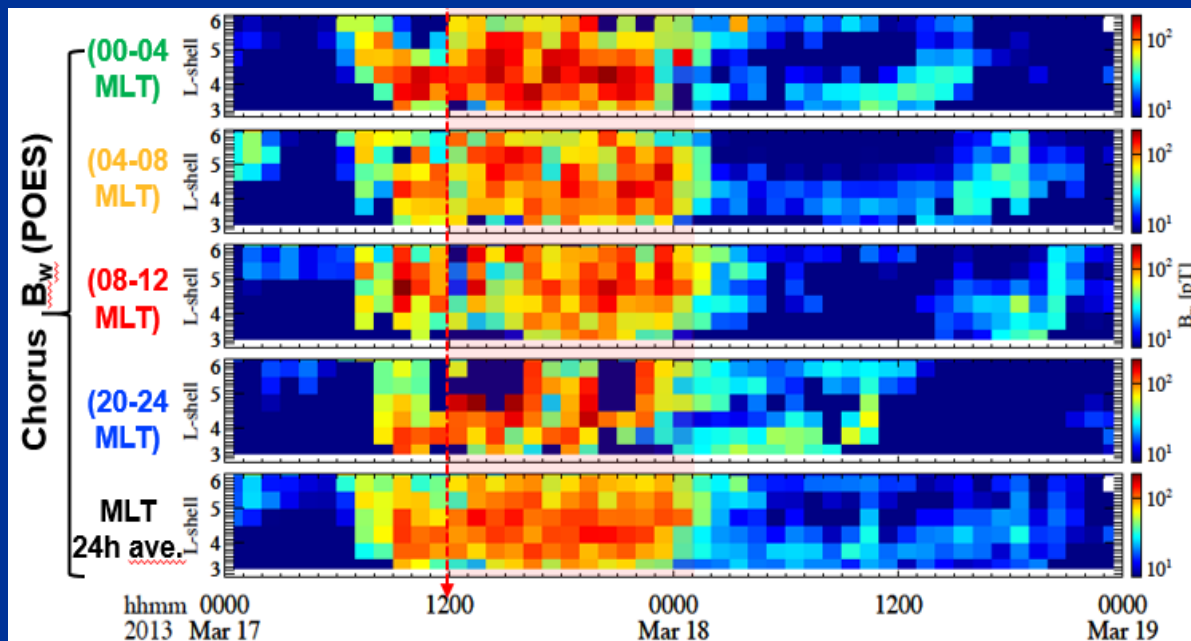


We have undertaken global 3d LFM-MHD simulations of the 3/17/2013 storm period, and used these results to drive test particle simulations of energetic particle populations in the inner magnetosphere and plasmasheet.



# 3d Sims: 3/17/2013 QARBM 'Storm Enhancement Event'

- Provided by Wen Li and Qianli Ma (Boston U.)
- Upper and Lower band chorus waves as a function of L, MLT, and UT inferred from POES electron measurements.
- $D_{\alpha\alpha}$ ,  $D_{pp}$ , and  $D_{\alpha p}$  calculated as a function of particle energy and pitch angle.
- Coefficients converted to  $M$  and  $p_{\parallel}$  for particle code.



3/17/2013

3/18/2013

# 3d simulations: K2-GC

- K2-GC is a 3d guiding-center test particle code adapted to include diffusive effects of VLF activity (chorus, hiss, etc).
- Each particle is periodically “kicked” in  $M$  and  $p_{\parallel}$  in the B-min surface in accordance with specified diffusion coefficients.

$$M_{j+1} = M_j + b_M \delta t + \sigma_{MM} \sqrt{\delta t} N_M + \sigma_{Mp_{\parallel}} \sqrt{\delta t} N_{p_{\parallel}}$$

$$p_{\parallel j+1} = p_{\parallel j} + b_{p_{\parallel}} \delta t + \sigma_{p_{\parallel}M} \sqrt{\delta t} N_M + \sigma_{p_{\parallel}p_{\parallel}} \sqrt{\delta t} N_{p_{\parallel}}$$

with

$$\sigma_{MM} = \sqrt{2D_{MM}}, \quad \sigma_{Mp_{\parallel}} = \sqrt{2D_{p_{\parallel}M}} / \sqrt{D_{p_{\parallel}p_{\parallel}}}$$

$$\sigma_{p_{\parallel}M} = \sqrt{2D_{Mp_{\parallel}}} / \sqrt{D_{MM}}, \quad \sigma_{p_{\parallel}p_{\parallel}} = \sqrt{2D_{p_{\parallel}p_{\parallel}}}$$

and

$$b_M(t, M, p_{\parallel}) = \frac{1}{G} \frac{\partial}{\partial M} (GD_{MM}) + \frac{1}{G} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{\parallel}} (GD_{Mp_{\parallel}})$$

$$b_{p_{\parallel}}(t, M, p_{\parallel}) = \frac{1}{G} \frac{\partial}{\partial M} (GD_{p_{\parallel}M}) + \frac{1}{G} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{\parallel}} (GD_{MM})$$

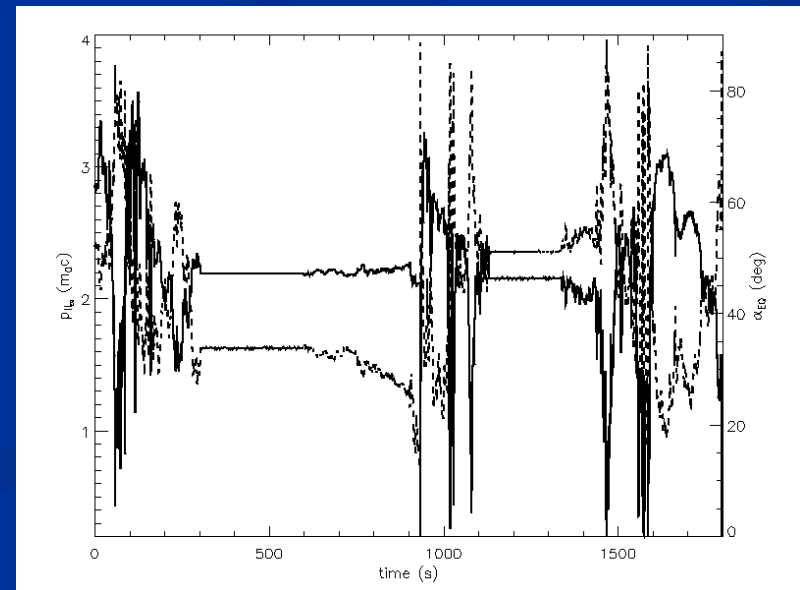
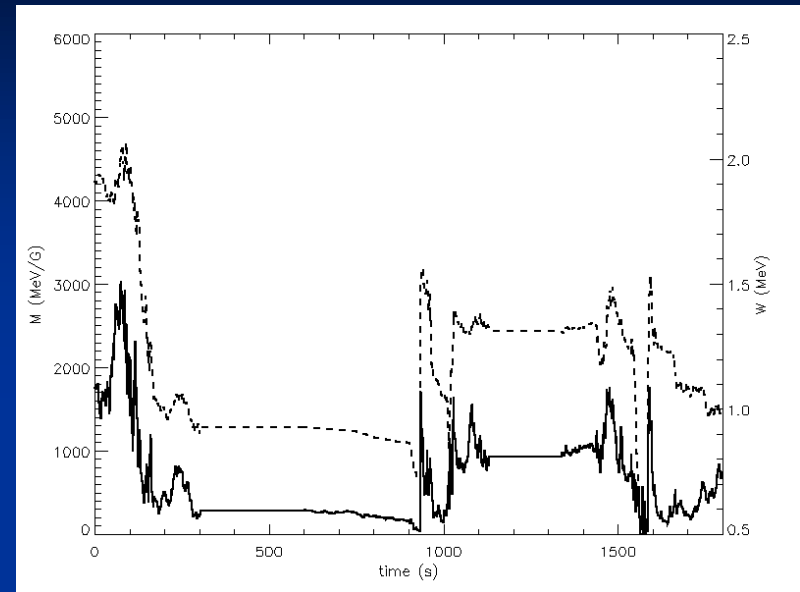
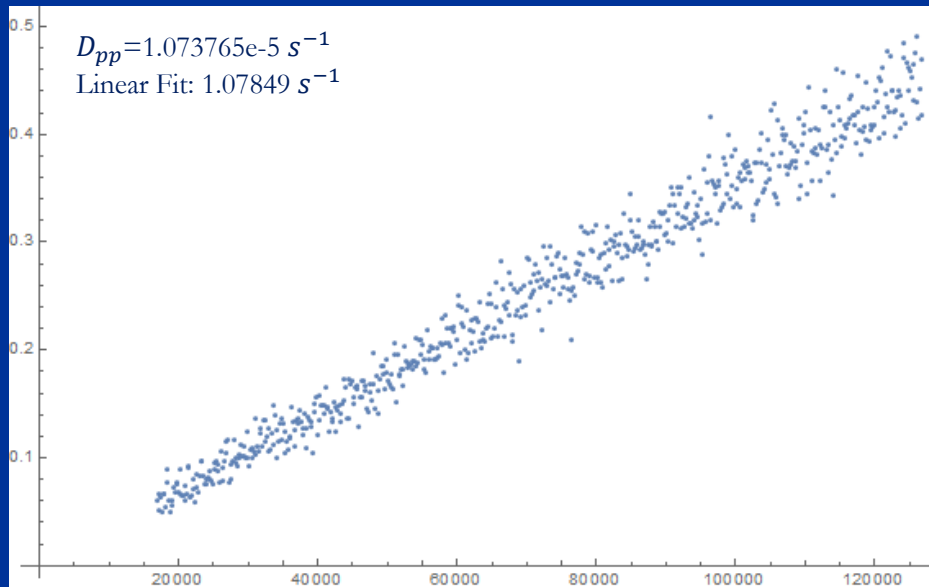
where  $G$  is the Jacobian scale factor that results from the conversion of  $D_{pp}$ ,  $D_{\alpha\alpha}$  to  $D_{MM}$ ,  $D_{p_{\parallel}p_{\parallel}}$  (dipole approximation).

# $D_{xx}$ validation, single-particle tests

SDE results were validated against given diffusion coefficients.

- Kick multiple particles, calculate  $\langle(\Delta x)^2\rangle$  as a function of time.
- $D_{xx}$  inferred from slope of fit.

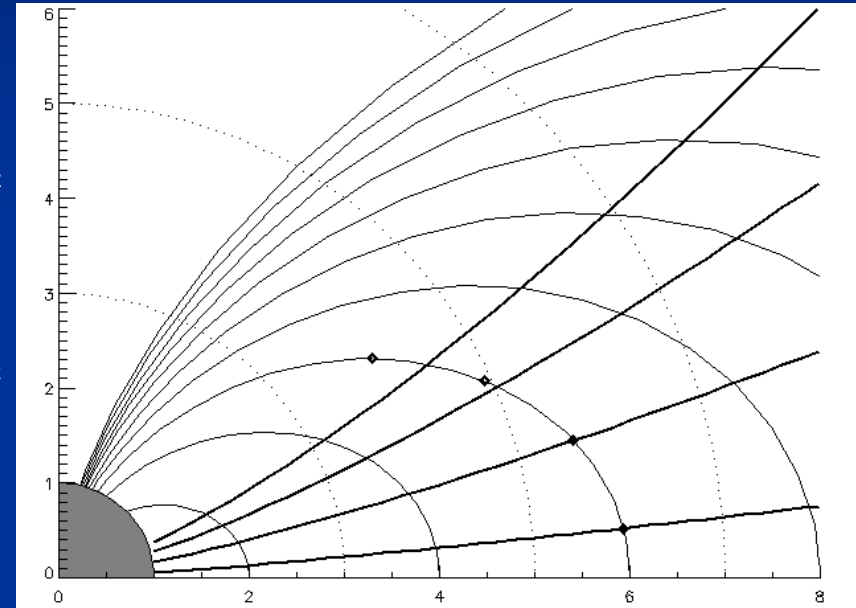
Test particle simulations were then conducted to validate correct behavior as function of  $L$ ,  $W$ , and  $MLT$ .



# Proof of concept: test particle simulations at constant $M$ , $K$

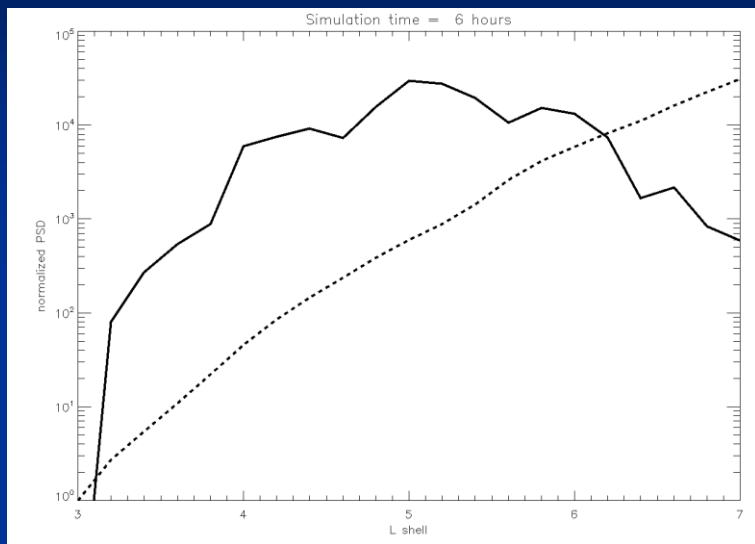
Test simulations were undertaken for the March 17-18, 2013 GEM “Storm-time acceleration event” (<http://bit.ly/28UnLpw>).

- Constant- $K$  surface calculation, a la *Schulz and Lanzerotti (1974)*.
  - Reference field line and mirror latitude selected.
  - $K$  calculated for reference point
  - $B_m$  calculated for other field lines based on calculated  $K$ .
  - Latitude on other  $L$  shells calculated for given  $B_m$ .
- Time-backwards test particle/SDE simulations
  - Particles of constant  $M$  distributed at points along constant  $K$  surface
  - Each particle run backwards until it encounters a boundary or initial condition
  - Phase space density inferred from AE-8 fluxes at IC/BC.
  - PSD and Liouville’s theorem used to construct snapshots of evolving PSD profiles as function of time.

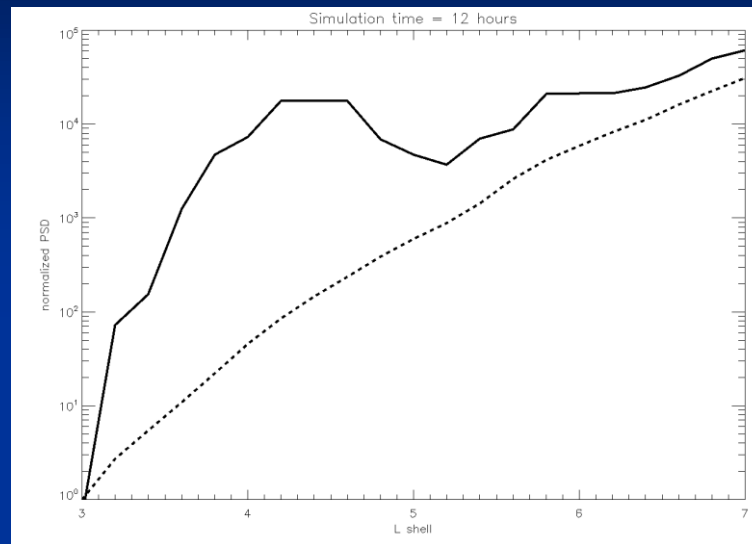


# Initial results: 3/17/2013 event-specific diffusion coefficients

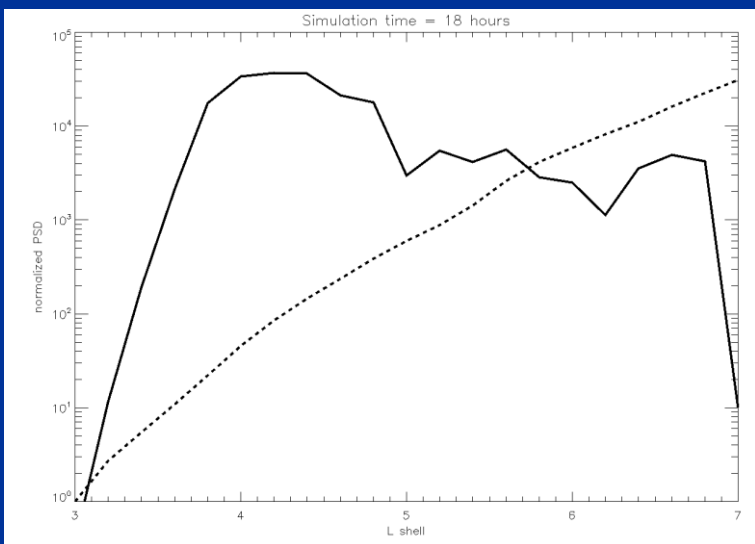
3/17/2013, 6UT



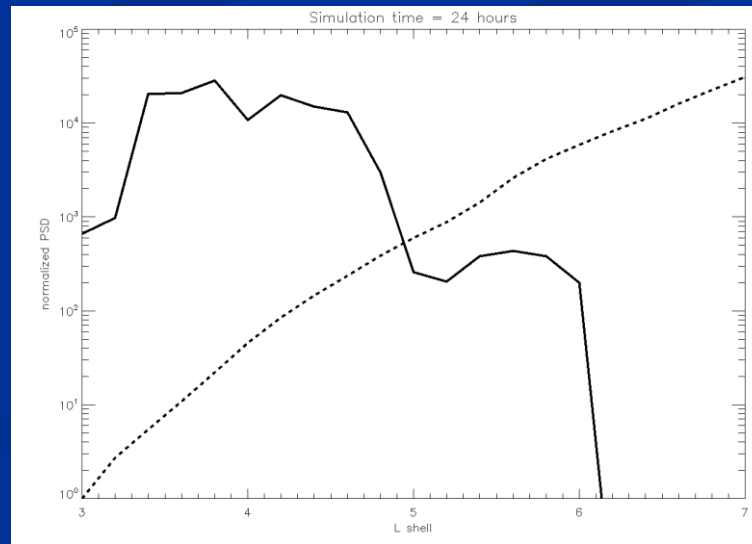
3/17/2013, 12UT



3/17/2013, 18UT

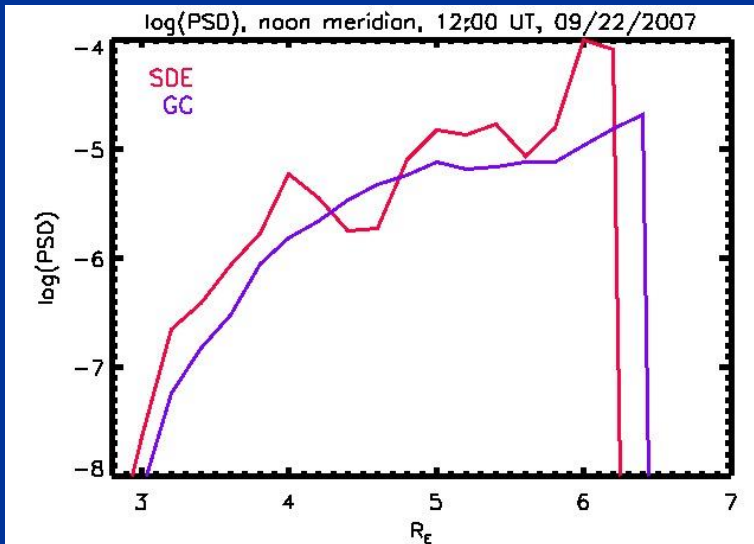
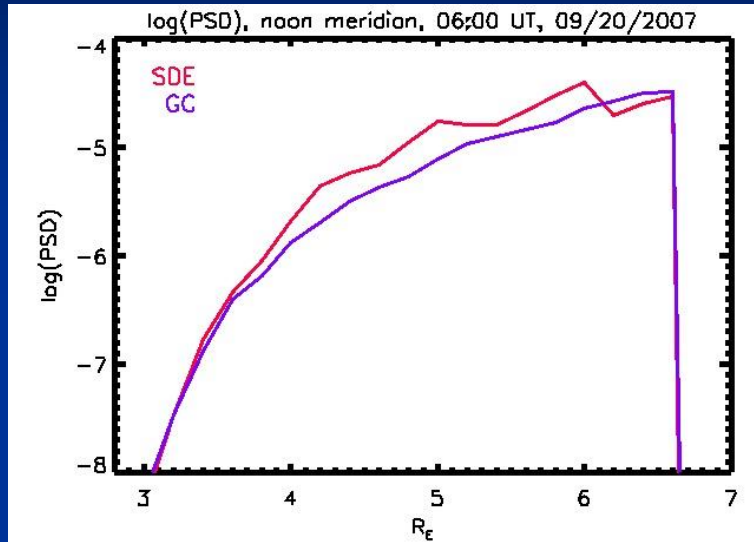


3/17/2013, 24UT



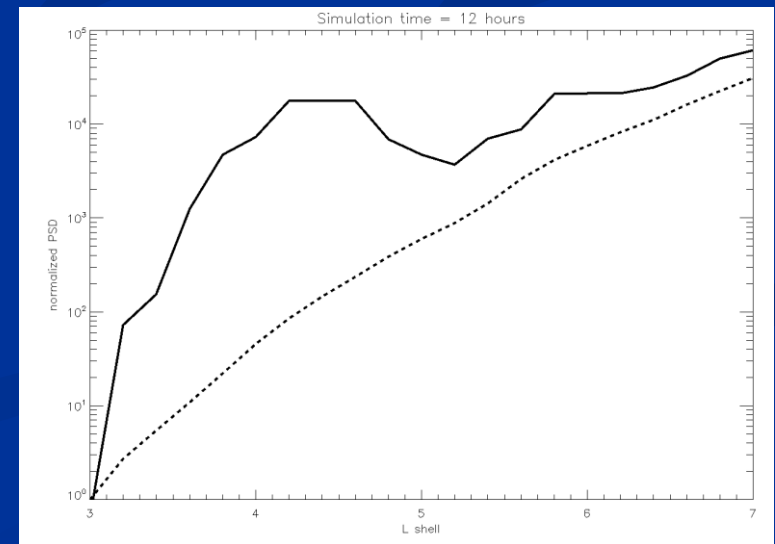
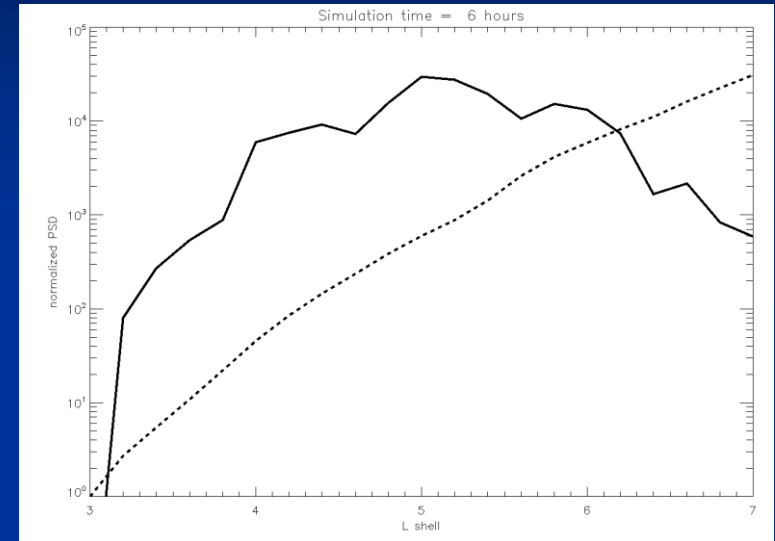
## 9/20/2007 ISSI event

- 2d simulation
- Diffusion in  $M$  only
- BAS (averaged) diffusion coefficients



## 3/17/2013 ISSI event

- 3d simulation
- Diffusion in  $M$  and  $K$
- Event-specific diffusion coefficients



# Remarks/Conclusions

- K2-GC is a framework for comprehensive simulations of energetic particle dynamics in the inner magnetosphere
  - Radial transport (diffusion, advection) handled self-consistently via Test Particle/Global MHD simulations
  - Energy and pitch angle diffusion via empirical or event-specific coefficients (ESCARGOT!)
- Remarks:
  - Thus far, relatively computationally-expensive.
    - Obtaining event-specific coefficients is fairly involved.
    - Best-suited to time-backward simulations from a grid or point of interest (e.g. Van Allen probes)
    - On the other hand, its an embarrassingly-parallel problem
  - Long-time simulations suffer from reduced statistics due to bounce cone losses
- To Do (Too Due?):
  - Implementing existing 3d MHD/Test particle approaches to K2-GC
  - Optimizing computational efficiency
  - Quantitative Assessment of (this) Radiation Belt Model
  - More events! (e.g. QARBM storm-time loss, non-storm acceleration, etc)

Thank you.



Stuff. And also Things.

# K2-BA: a comprehensive radiation belt simulation method

- Global transport simulations accomplished via an efficient bounce-averaged test particle code (*Roederer 1970*):

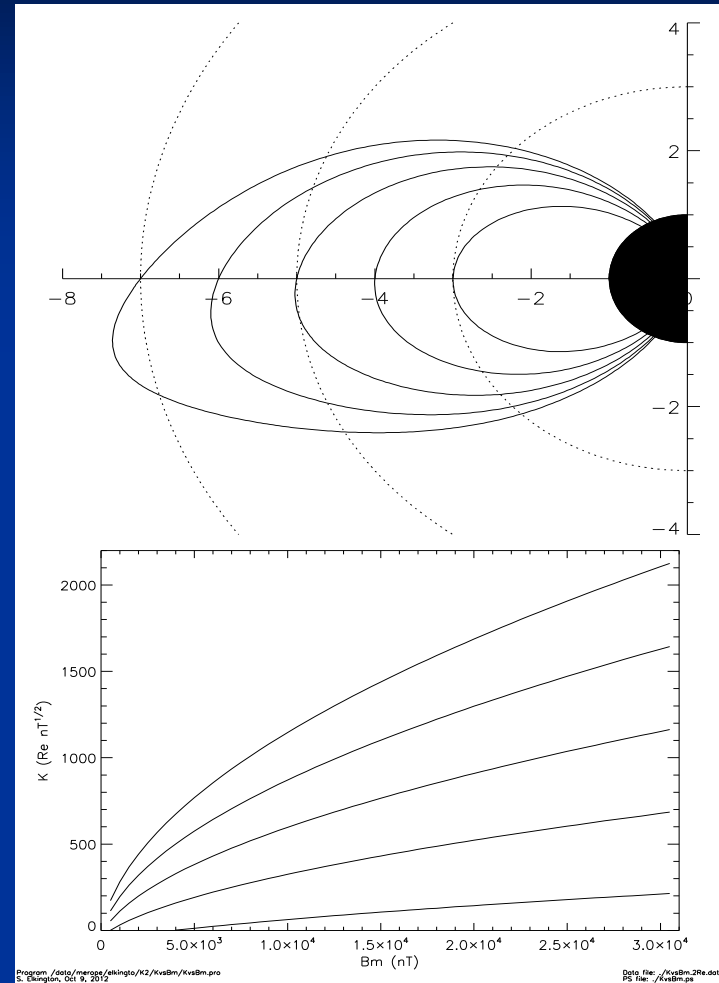
$$\langle \mathbf{v}_0 \rangle = \frac{\vec{E}_0 \times \vec{B}_0}{B_0^2} + \frac{2p}{qT_B B_0^2} \nabla_0 I \times \vec{B}_0,$$

$$I = \int_{S_m}^{S'_m} \sqrt{1 - \frac{B(s)}{B_m}} ds,$$

$$T_B = \frac{2}{v} \int_{S_m}^{S'_m} \left(1 - \frac{B(s)}{B_m}\right)^{-1/2} ds$$

$$\begin{aligned} K &= \sqrt{B_m} I = \int_{S_m}^{S'_m} \sqrt{B_m - B(s)} ds \\ &= J / 2 \sqrt{2m_0 M}, \end{aligned}$$

$$p = \sqrt{2mMB_m} = \gamma m v$$

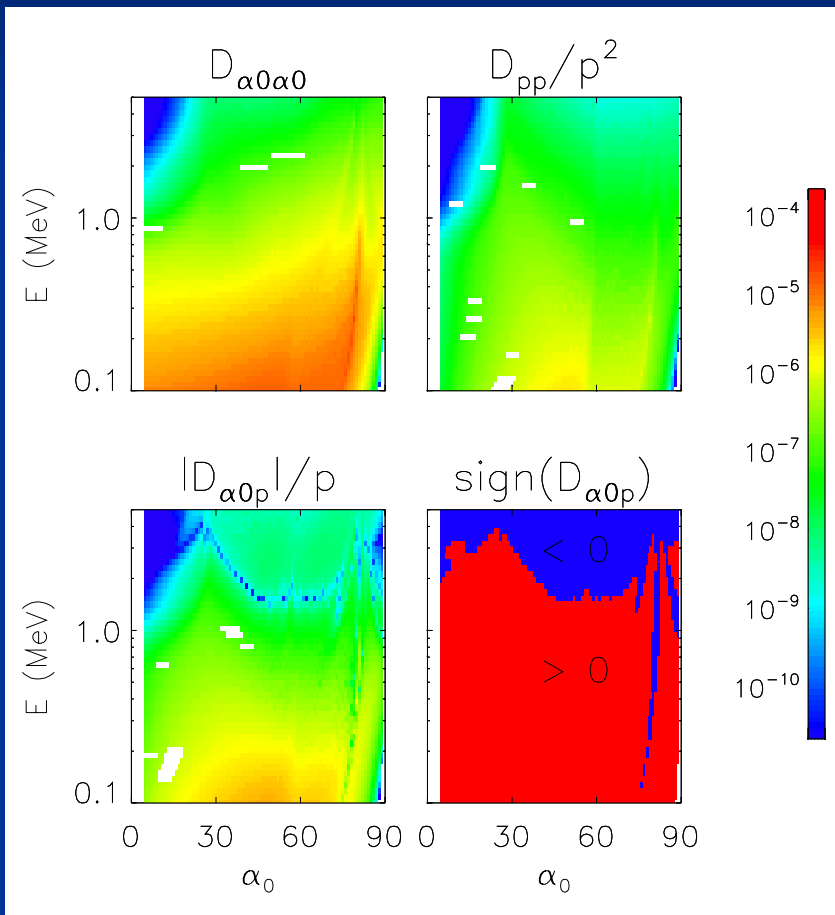


Procedure: pick first and second invariants and equatorial crossing point, calculate field geometry integrals and bounce period. From results, interpolate to find  $V$  for arbitrary  $M$ ,  $K$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$  and solve for time-evolving position.

# Advantages of SDE methods

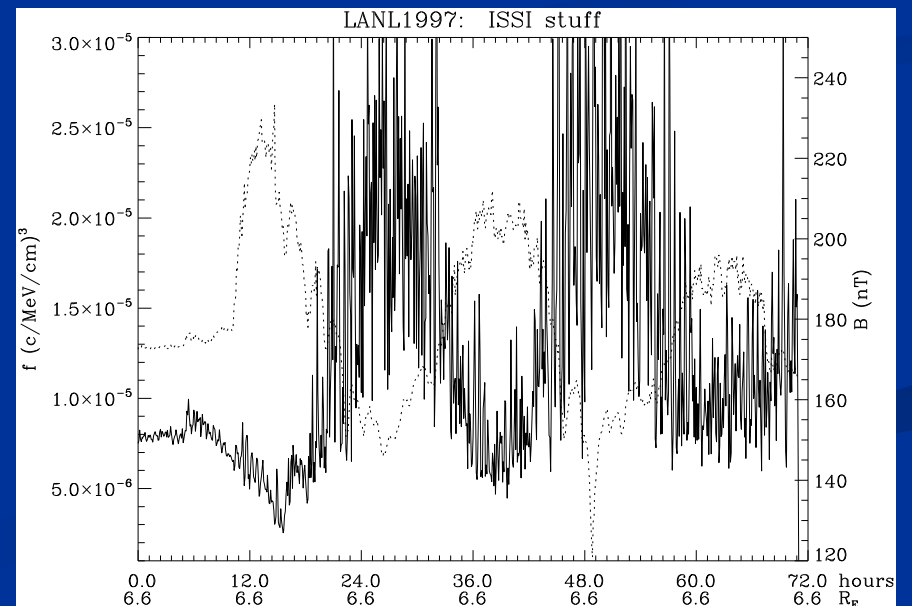
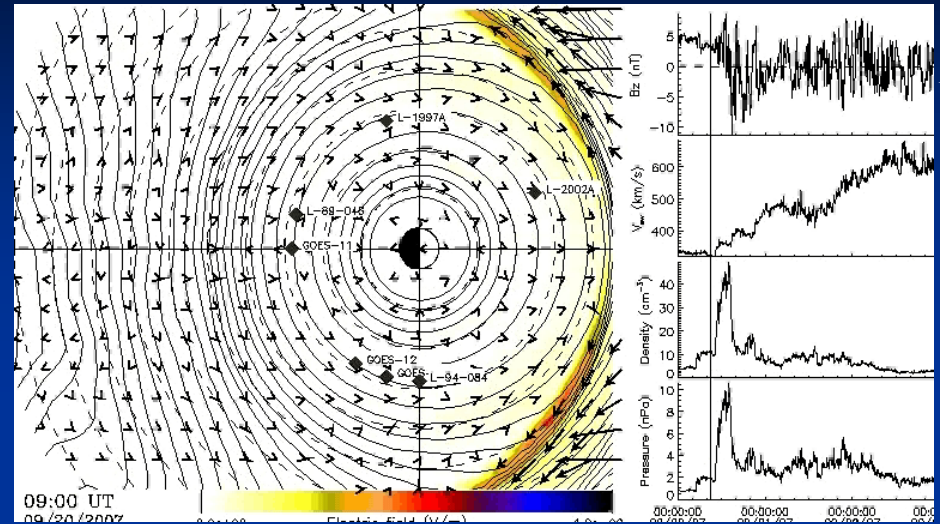
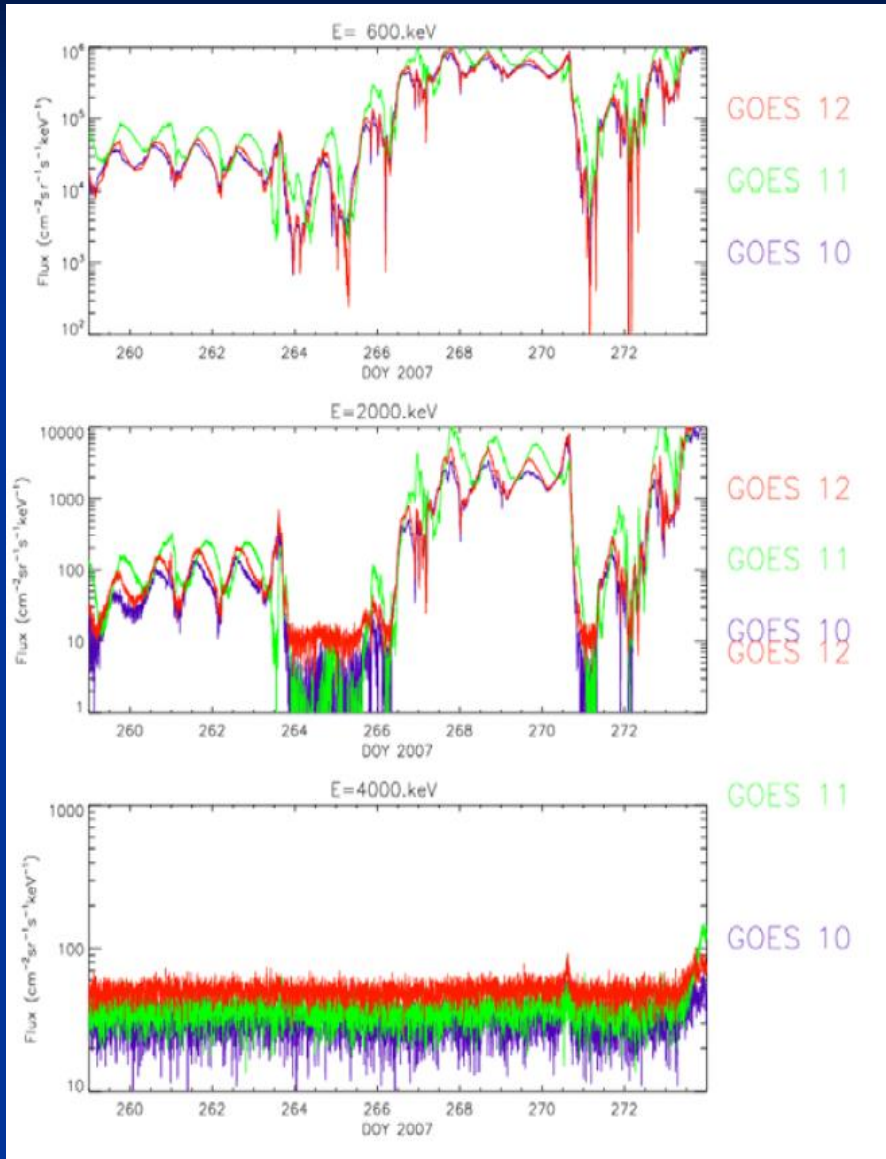
- Unlike the finite-difference-like methods, the SDE method does not need a grid. Complicated boundary conditions are handled easily.
- The SDE method is very efficient when solutions are only required at a limited number of points in the phase space.
- For solutions at many points, SDE codes can be parallelized very efficiently.
- The SDE method easily handles off-diagonal diffusion terms in 2D and 3D (full 3D).
- The SDE method is very robust: it can tolerate several orders of magnitude difference in the solution.

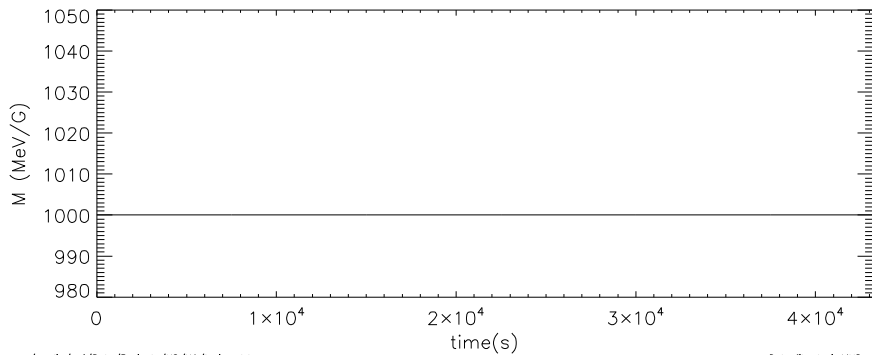
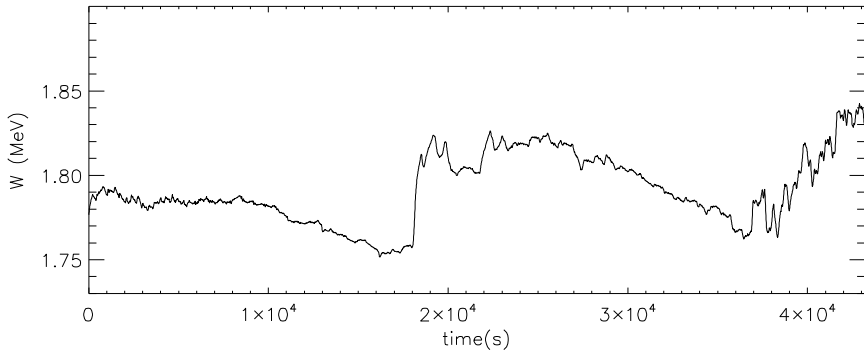
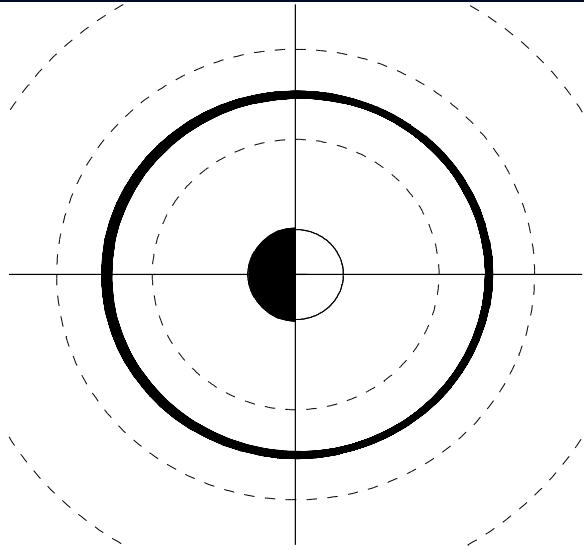
# Simulation of a simplified HSS storm (Oct. 2002): SDE + F/P



- $D_{LL}$  uses *Brautigam and Albert [2000]*  
 $D_{LL} = 10^{0.506Kp-9.325} L^{10}$ ,  $Kp = 3$   
 which is comparable in magnitude to  $D_{LL}$  from LFM simulations.
- Chorus wave diffusion coefficients are converted from  $\alpha_0$ - $p$  diffusion coefficients assuming no  $L$ -dependence.
- $D_{uL}$  and  $D_{KL}$  are set as zero.

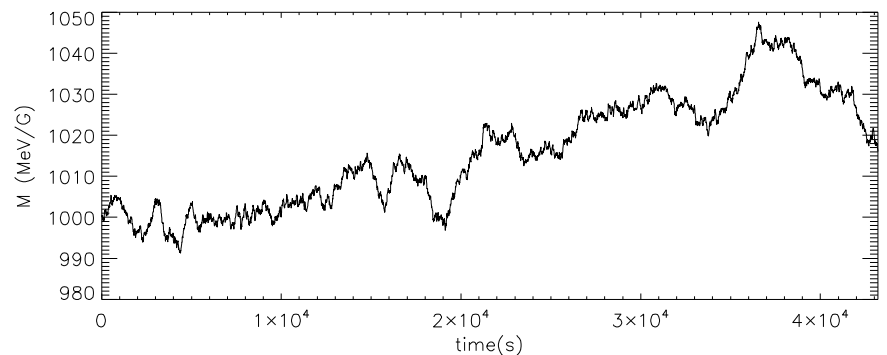
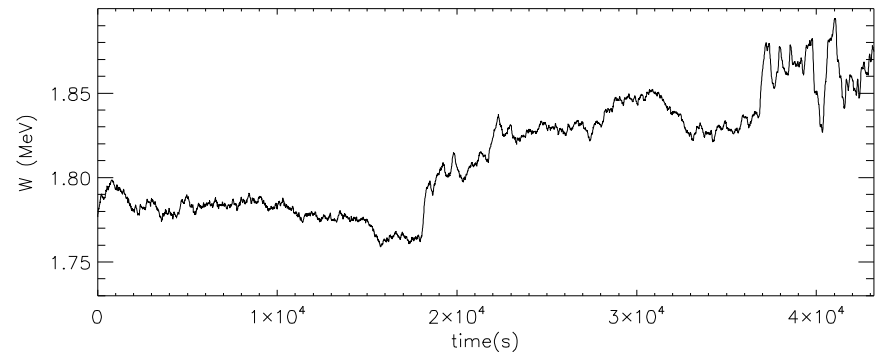
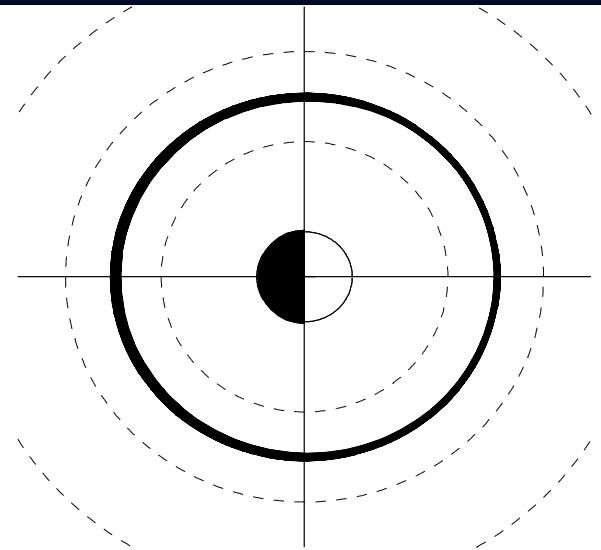
# 9/20/2007 flux dropout/recovery





Program /media/psf/Data/Projects/K2/K1/traj-eqtri.pro  
Jun 8 18:05:51 2013

Data file: traj-MHD.noKickM.dot  
PS file: traj-MHD.noKickM.eps



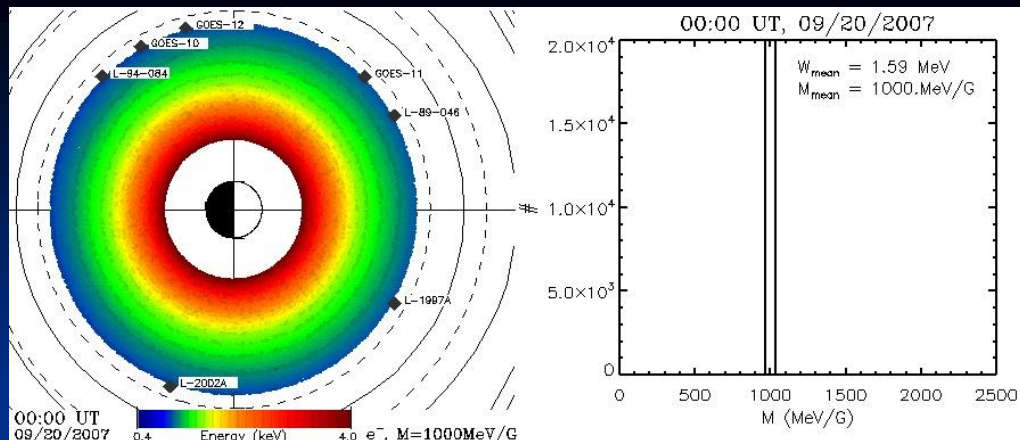
Program /media/psf/Data/Projects/K2/K1/traj-eqtri.pro  
Jun 8 18:05:57 2013

Data file: traj-MHD.KickM.dot  
PS file: traj-MHD.KickM.eps

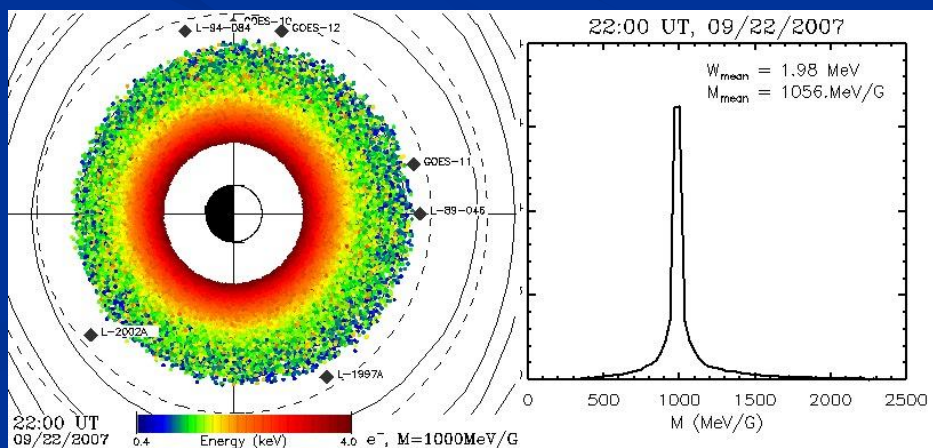
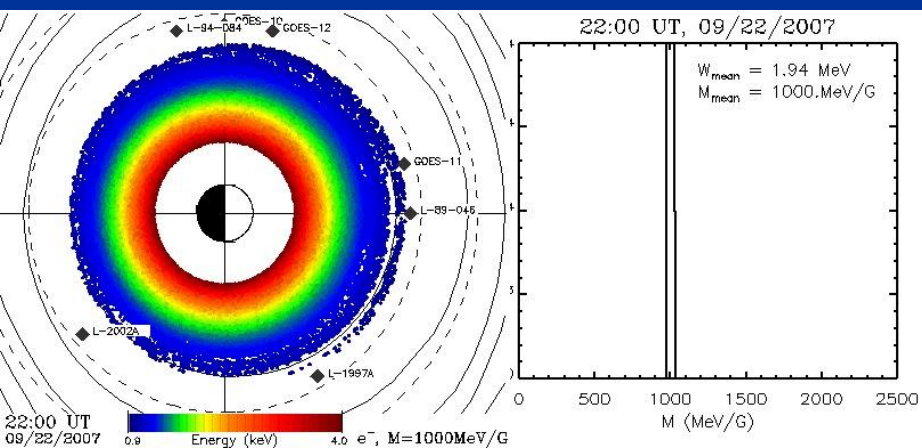
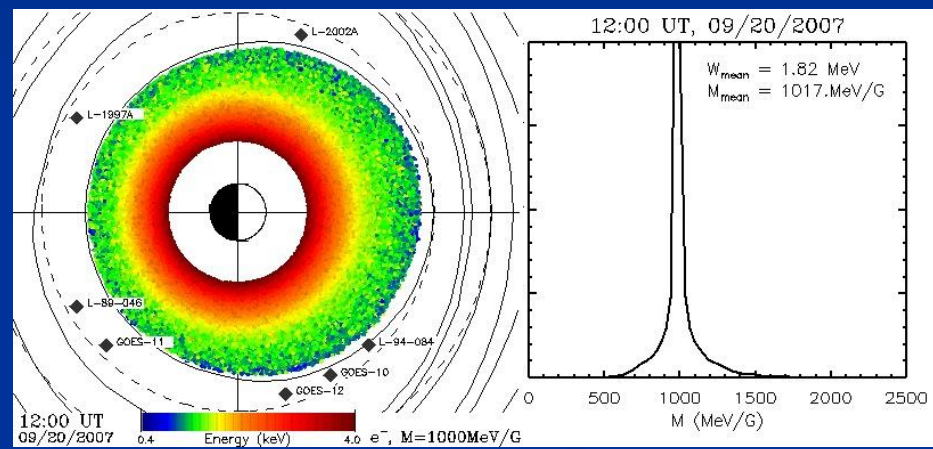
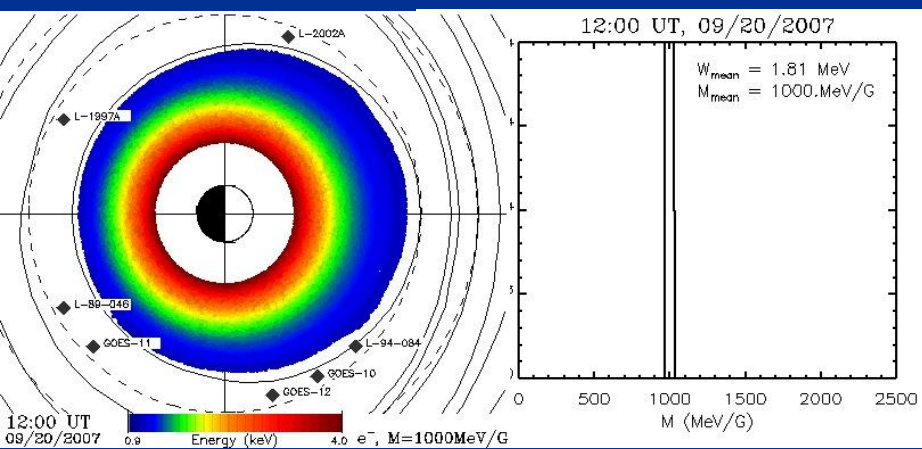
# FIRST RESULTS:

HSSW storm  
9/20/2007;  
1000 MeV/G

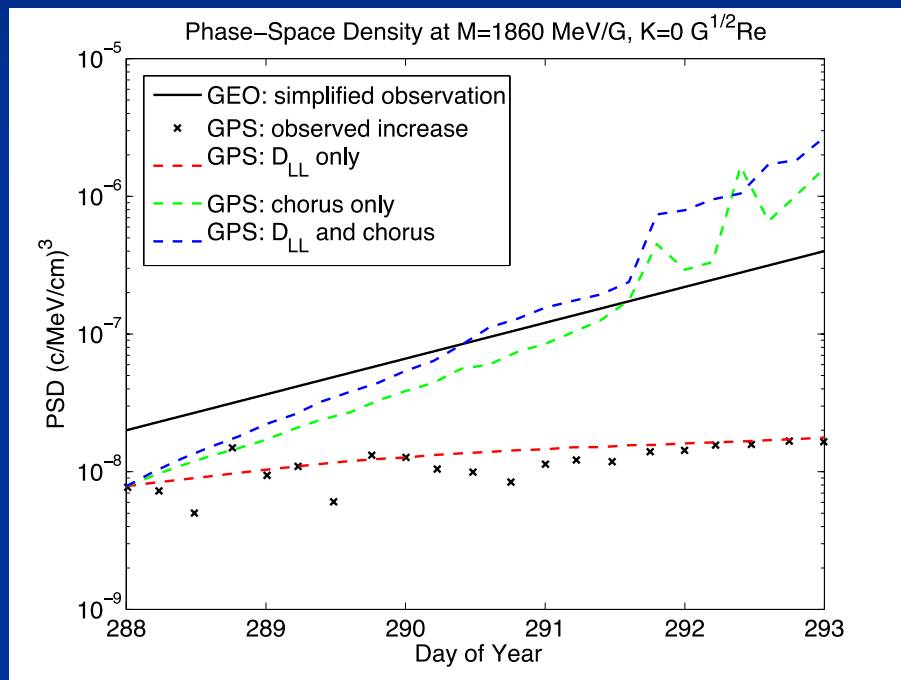
Conserving M



BAS Chorus  
Diffusion



# Simulation of a simplified HSS storm (Oct. 2002): SDE + F/P



- Three simulations were made:
  - radial diffusion only;
  - chorus wave diffusion only;
  - both.
- Though with simplified initial and boundary conditions, radial diffusion reproduces the observed increase.
- Chorus wave diffusion is too strong to explain the PSD change in this HSS at this  $M$  and  $K$ .