

What Would Happen to the Ionosphere and Atmosphere if an 1859-Carrington Storm Occurred Today?

What Would Happen to the Ionosphere and Atmosphere if an 1859-Carrington Storm Occurred Today?

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The September 1-2, 1859 magnetic storm following the Carrington solar flare (Carrington, MNRAS, 1859) was the largest storm in recorded history (Tsurutani et al., JGR, 2003). The calculated Dst magnitude was ~ -1760 nT, more than three times larger than anything most of us have experienced in our lifetimes. Well-documented fires were triggered in both the United States and Europe due to storm-induced electric fields (Loomis, AJS, 1861). In 1859, telegraph communications was the high technology of the day. If a similar storm occurred now, it is reasonably certain that major electrical power grids would go down. Thus, many governmental agencies are presently studying this to determine how to mitigate the damage. However, a little studied area is what would happen to the ionosphere and atmosphere during such a storm? Would there be problems for humankind? This will be the topic of the present talk.

キーワード: extreme magnetic storms, 1859 Carrington storm, extreme ionosphere, atmosphere

Keywords: extreme magnetic storms, 1859 Carrington storm, extreme ionosphere, atmosphere

太陽でスーパーフレアは起きるか？ Will Superflares Occur on Our Sun ?

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スーパーフレアとは、最大級の太陽フレア (3×10^{32} エルグ) よりずっと大きなエネルギーを解放する超巨大フレアのことである。1859年に発生した有名なキャリントン・フレアは最大級のフレアであり、200年間で最大の磁気嵐を起こしたことが知られている。もし、スーパーフレアが太陽で発生したら、極端宇宙天気現象が発生し、地球環境や我々の文明はひどい被害を受けることになるだろう。天文観測によれば、若い星や高速自転星でスーパーフレア ($10^{34} \sim 10^{38}$ エルグ) が起きていることが知られている。したがって、我々の太陽は若くて自転が早かったころは、スーパーフレアを起こしていたと想像される。しかし、現在の太陽は年老いており、自転速度も遅くなっているため、スーパーフレアは起きないと思われていた。ところが、ケプラー衛星による太陽類似星の観測から、太陽と同程度の自転をもつ星で、 $10^{34} - 10^{35}$ エルグのスーパーフレアが起きる可能性が約 500-5000 年に一回あることが判明した。講演では、太陽で実際にこれくらいのスーパーフレアが理論的に起きうるかどうか検討した結果を報告する。

キーワード: フレア, 宇宙天気, 極端現象

Keywords: flares, space weather, extreme events

スーパーフレアが地球大気に及ぼす影響について Effects of super solar flare on the Earth's atmosphere

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It is well known that solar flares are frequently observed. Observational and theoretical studies have revealed impacts of solar flares on the general circulation of the thermosphere/ ionosphere. On the other hand, there are only few studies concerning the effects of solar flares on the general circulation of the lower and middle atmosphere. Some theoretical studies suggest that super solar flare whose energy is larger than the energy of the normal solar flare by a factor of 10,000 is rare, but can occur. The solar constant during the super solar flare event is estimated to be 2-4 times larger than the present solar constant. This means that the super solar flare affects significantly the climate of the Earth. Using a general circulation model (GCM) we examine the response of the temperature to sudden increase of the solar constant due to the super solar flare. A GCM that contains the region from the ground surface to the exobase is used to estimate the effect of solar super flare on the general circulation of the Earth's atmosphere. The schemes for the boundary layer processes, the solar radiation and the infrared radiative transfer are included in the GCM. Our simulation results indicate that abrupt temperature increase of 10 K near the surface in low latitudes occurs when the solar constant is doubled. Moreover, the temperature near the surface increases abruptly up to 30-50 K when the solar constant is quadrupled. The solar super flare produces significant impacts on the temperature near the surface. Thus, the effect of the solar super flare on the Earth's atmosphere is one of the important problems in space weather.

キーワード: 太陽スーパーフレア, 地球大気変動, 数値シミュレーション

Keywords: solar super flare, variation of the Earth's atmosphere, numerical simulation

極端にマイクロ波放射の強い太陽フレア Extremely microwave-rich solar flare

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High-energy particle from the sun is one of the important issues of space weather research. Usually the amount of accelerated particles depends on the size of a solar flare like GOES X-ray class. However, this is not always true. In this presentation, we report an extremely microwave-rich flare which particle acceleration effectively work rather than plasma heating.

A compact flare was observed with Nobeyama Radio Heliograph (NoRH) near the west limb around 2:56 UT on 10 March 2011. Its duration was only one minute. The peak values of microwave flux at 17GHz and 34GHz were 210 and 133 SFU, respectively. This level corresponds to the 11th intense flare observed with NoRH in this solar cycle as of the end of January, 2012. All of the ten flares which are more intense than this event are M- or X-class flares. In this event, however, any significant enhance was not found in the GOES X-ray light curve during the flare period. Since the GOES background level was around C1 at that time, so at least we can say the upper limit of this flare was C1. From microwave images, this flare might occur slightly behind the west limb. We check STEREO-A SECCHI EUV images during the flare period. There was almost no signature of a flare. Only in SDO/AIA 131A images, a small loop-brightening was observed. Summarizing these observations, although thermal emissions were very small in this flare, intense microwave emissions were detected. In terms of hard X-ray observations, unfortunately RHESSI was in the shadow of the earth during this flare.

What causes the relatively intense microwave emissions? Considering that the brightness temperature was about 19 MK, the microwave emissions should be gyro-synchrotron emissions by high-energy electrons. Fleishman et al. (2011) reported a cold tenuous flare with acceleration, but without heating. This flare seems to be similar. However, footpoint regions, i.e., strong magnetic field regions, were occulted in the case of this flare. Additionally, in a higher-frequency range like 34GHz, intense microwave emissions were detected in this case. These features are different from the event reported by Fleishman et al. and make more difficult to understand these observational results. We summarize the characteristics of this unique flare and discuss what kind of process/situation produced it.

Keywords: solar flare, particle acceleration, microwave

宇宙天気事象における太陽風エネルギーのグローバル電離圏と内部磁気圏への伝送過程

Energy transmission from the solar wind to the global ionosphere and inner magnetosphere during space weather events

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When the IMF turns southward, the Region-1 field-aligned currents (R1 FACs) are generated by a dynamo composed of high pressure plasma around the dayside cusp, providing the dawn-to-dusk convection electric field in the polar ionosphere. The convection electric field drives ionospheric Hall currents in high latitudes and Pedersen currents at the daytime geomagnetic equator where the Pedersen current is amplified by the Cowling effect, resulting in the coherent magnetic perturbations at high latitude and dayside dip equator. The convection electric field is transmitted near-instantaneously from the polar to equatorial ionosphere via the Earth-ionosphere waveguide and further transmitted to the inner magnetosphere. The Poynting flux is transported by the Alfvén wave propagating upward from the ionosphere, driving the plasma convection in the inner magnetosphere immediately after the enhancement of the polar cap potential. As a result, the ring current develops a few minutes after the increase in the polar cap potential during the substorm growth phase and storm main phase. During the substorm expansion phase, on the other hand, the ionospheric current at mid-equatorial latitudes reverses its direction, that is, the overshielding occurs while the auroral electrojet intensifies. The current reversal is particularly significant at the dayside equator, appearing as the counterelectrojet (CEJ). The CEJ should be connected to the R2 FACs which are driven by the partial ring current associated with the enhanced convection electric field and/or dipolarization in the near-Earth magnetotail. At the onset of geomagnetic storms, the increase in the solar wind dynamic pressure causes the enhancement of the magnetospheric convection. The succeeding southward IMF further intensifies the convection electric field, which penetrates to low latitude and drives the stormtime ring current. In the beginning of the recovery phase, overshielding occurs due to the decrease of the southward IMF. The auroral ionospheric currents associated with major storms are so strong as to cause the power outage like in Canada on 13 March 1989. The penetration electric field moves the ionospheric F-region plasma at low latitude and causes anomalous enhancement of the total electron content responsible for the serious GPS positioning errors. The satellite charging due to the auroral electrons during major substorms causes the fatal damage of the satellites, e.g., the damage of the Earth observation satellite, Midori on 25 October 2003. There remain quite a few issues to be addressed in the energy production and transmission in the magnetosphere-ionosphere coupled system. In particular, the physics of the dynamos in the outer and inner magnetosphere should be clarified in the future studies.

キーワード: 対流電場, 過遮蔽電場, 地面電離層導波管, 赤道カウンターエレクトロジェット, 磁気嵐, サブストーム

Keywords: convection electric field, overshielding electric field, Earth-ionosphere waveguide, equatorial counterelectrojet, geomagnetic storms, substorms

太陽フレアの予測可能性について On the predictability of solar flares

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太陽フレアは太陽コロナにおける大規模な爆発現象であり、様々な宇宙天気擾乱の源として地球周辺環境と社会基盤にも影響を与える。太陽フレアは磁気エネルギーの突発的な解放過程であることが広く知られているが、その発生メカニズム、特にトリガ機構に関しては未だに十分な理解に達していない。そのため、太陽フレアの予測性は依然として低いままである。この研究において我々はフレア発生の物理条件を明らかにするため、200以上の異なる条件のもとで3次元電磁流体シミュレーションを実施した。その結果、2つの異なる磁場構造がフレア発生に関係していることをつきとめた。すなわち、大規模な捻じれをもつ磁気アーケード内部に、異なる2つの水平角を持つ磁場が現れた場合にフレアが発生することが見出された。さらに、ひので衛星によって観測された大規模フレアが発生した領域において同様の磁場構造が存在していたことも見出した。これらの結果は精密な磁場観測によってフレア予測が可能であることを強く示唆している。しかし、フレア発生のトリガとなる小規模領域の成長時間より、決定論的なフレア予測は発生の数時間程度前にならなければ実現できないと考えられる。一方、それよりも予測時間の長い予測は決定論的には困難であり、確率的に実施されるべきであろう。

キーワード: 太陽フレア, 太陽コロナ, 電磁流体力学, シミュレーション, ひので, 予測

Keywords: solar flares, solar corona, magnetohydrodynamics, simulation, Hinode, prediction

Empirical Space Weather Forecast Models Based on Solar Data Empirical Space Weather Forecast Models Based on Solar Data

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We are developing empirical space weather (solar flare, solar proton event, and geomagnetic storm) forecast models based on solar data. In this talk we will review their main results and recent progress. First, we have examined solar flare (R) occurrence probability depending on sunspot McIntosh classification, its area, and its area change. We find that sunspot area and its increase (a proxy of flux emergence) greatly enhance solar flare occurrence rates for several sunspot classes. Second, a solar proton event (S) forecast method depending on flare parameters (flare strength, duration, and longitude) as well as CME parameters (speed and angular width) has been developed. We find that solar proton event probability strongly depends on these parameters and CME speed is well correlated with solar proton flux for disk events. Third, we have developed an empirical storm (G) forecast model with its probability and strength based on halo CME ? Dst storm data. For this we use storm probability maps depending on CME parameters such as speed, location, and earthward direction. We are also looking for geoeffective CME parameters such as cone model parameters and magnetic field orientation. We find that all superstorms (less than -200 nT) occurred in the western hemisphere with southward field orientations. Finally, we summarize several ongoing works for space weather applications.

キーワード: space weather, flare, solar proton event, geomagnetic storm

Keywords: space weather, flare, solar proton event, geomagnetic storm

太陽フレアに伴う噴出現象と粒子加速の3次元構造ダイナミクス 3D dynamics of Eruptive phenomena and Particle acceleration In a Solar flare

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Solar flares show intermittent time variability in nonthermal emissions, that means impulsive acceleration of particles in small regions of a fragmented current sheet. We performed 3D MHD simulation of a solar flare and investigated particle behaviors with test particle simulation. A flux rope ejection in 3D simulation generates a current sheet below, in which multiple small-scale plasmoids are formed and ejected upward and downward. These ejections play a role in making a current sheet turbulent and locally enhancing inflow and E-field inside the current sheet. Test particles move in several current sheets and are stochastically accelerated by enhanced E-field. Furthermore, we also found that both reconnection outflow and the additional force by kink instability, i.e. 3D effect, force a flux rope upward harder, resulting in larger ejection speed, larger inflow, larger E-field and harder acceleration of particles. Finally we compared our simulation result with recent Hinode and SDO observations of Solar Flares.

キーワード: 太陽フレア, 粒子加速, 磁気リコネクション, コロナ質量放出, ひので衛星, SDO衛星

Keywords: Solar Flare, Particle Acceleration, Magnetic Reconnection, Coronal Mass Ejection, Hinode satellite, SDO satellite

Nonlinear spatio-temporal evolution of magnetospheric whistler-mode waves Nonlinear spatio-temporal evolution of magnetospheric whistler-mode waves

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Radiation belt dynamics play an important role in space weather science since, for instance, highly energetic radiation belt electrons generated during magnetic storms are potentially hazardous to orbiting spacecraft. In turn, whistler-mode chorus waves are an important ingredient in electron radiation belt physics since chorus waves are considered a prime candidate for generating relativistic electrons in Earth's inner magnetosphere. Whistler-mode chorus waves are generated at the magnetic equator, and here we examine their nonlinear spatio-temporal evolution along a magnetic field line. We solve numerically the wave evolution equations off the equator for the wave magnetic field and wave frequency, subject to boundary conditions at the equator comprising model "chorus equations" that define the generation of a seed chorus element. We assume that the electron distribution function evolves adiabatically off the equator. We find that the adiabatic variation of the distribution function plays an essential role

in the saturation process of nonlinear wave growth. Our study is valuable because wave saturation and dispersion effects cannot currently be monitored by particle simulations. In future extensions of this study, electron energization by wave trapping and associated wave energy loss should be included.

キーワード: nonlinear whistler-mode waves, magnetospheric chorus

Keywords: nonlinear whistler-mode waves, magnetospheric chorus

太陽面大規模噴出現象をもたらす磁場構造 Magnetic configuration responsible for solar global eruptions

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The emergence process of the magnetic field into the solar atmosphere plays an essential role in determining the configuration of the magnetic field and its activity on the Sun. This talk is focused on how much the magnetic flux contained by a flux tube emerges into the solar atmosphere, which is key to understanding the physical mechanism of solar eruptions. By comparing a kinematic model of an emerging flux tube to a series of magnetohydrodynamic simulations, we derive the characteristics of the emergence process, showing how it depends on the pre-emerged state of the magnetic field such as the radius of a flux tube, field strength, field-line twist and wavelength of undulation assumed by the flux tube. We also discuss the relationship between magnetic configurations and their stability on the Sun.

東南アジア及びアフリカの衛星ビーコン観測から明らかにされた赤道スプレッドF現象の性質

Characteristics of Equatorial Spread-F (ESF) observed with GNU Radio Beacon Receiver (GRBR) in southeast Asia and Africa

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Equatorial spread F (ESF) is intense ionospheric irregularity that occurs around the geomagnetic equator. It can cause intense scintillation to satellite-ground communications, and serious error in the GPS measurements. The ESF has been a hot research topic of the equatorial/low-latitude ionosphere for long time. However, its day-to-day variability is not well understood. Now we deploy a very wide network of GNU Radio beacon receivers (GRBR) at low latitudinal regions over east Africa, southeast Asia, and Pacific region, and observe 150MHz/400MHz beacon signal from C/NOFS and other polar-orbiting satellites. In this paper, we use data from Bac Lieu, Vietnam (9.29N, 105.71E, Dip Lat. 1.67N, observations started in January 2009) and Bahirdar, Ethiopia (11.56N, 37.38E, Dip Lat. 3.93N, observations started in March 2011). We discuss relationships between day-to-day variability of ESF with ionospheric structures, i.e., large-scale wave structure (LSWS), meridional symmetry of the ionosphere density distribution, and VHF/UHF scintillation intensity. Occurrence of ESF is well correlated with enhanced LSWS events in the evening time. At Bahirdar, scintillation level is high, and very intense LSWS events are found. From statistical comparison between Africa and southeast Asia, we found that scintillation level is higher in Africa than in southeast Asia, inferring more enhanced occurrence of the ESF over African region.

キーワード: 衛星ビーコン観測, 赤道スプレッドF現象, 低緯度電離圏, アフリカ, 東南アジア

Keywords: Satellite beacon experiment, Equatorial spread-F, Low-latitude ionosphere, Africa, Southeast Asia

Statistical Analyses of White-Light Flares Observed by Hinode/SOT Statistical Analyses of White-Light Flares Observed by Hinode/SOT

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ひのでフレアカタログ (http://st4a.stelab.nagoya-u.ac.jp/hinode_flare/; Watanabe et al., 2012) を用いて、白色光フレア現象の統計研究を行っている。

太陽フレアに伴って可視連続光が観測される「白色光フレア」は、その起源や発生機構が現在でもよく理解されていないが、過去の衛星などでの観測から、白色光放射と硬 X 線放射の間に時間的にも空間的にも関連性が見られることがわかっており、その起源は加速粒子、特に非熱的電子であると考えられている。

そこでまず、2006年12月14日に発生した X-class の太陽フレアについて、「ひので」衛星搭載の可視光望遠鏡で観測された G-band (4305Å) のデータ (白色光放射とみなす) と、RHESSI 衛星で観測された硬 X 線のデータを用いて、詳しい比較研究を行った。白色光放射と硬 X 線放射、それぞれについて黒体放射と thick-target model を仮定することにより、白色光放射と加速電子のエネルギー量を直接比較したところ、あるエネルギー以上の加速電子のエネルギーと白色光の放射エネルギーとの間に良い相関関係があることが分かった。また、白色光の放射エネルギーは非熱的な加速電子のエネルギーを用いて説明できることも分かった (Watanabe et al., 2010)。

2011年以降における白色光フレアの観測は可視連続光 (青: 4505Å, 緑: 5550Å, 赤: 6684Å) を用いて行われているため、白色光放射の温度を詳細に導出することができる。そこで、2011年2月15日に発生した X-class の太陽フレアについて、白色光放射の温度を導出したところ、その温度は 5000~6000K 程度であることが分かった。過去の研究では、白色光放射の温度は 10000K 程度 (Kretzschmar 2011, 等) と見積もられており、今回の観測はそれよりも低い温度であった。

今回の発表では、白色光フレアイベントについて統計的な解析を行うことにより、白色光放射と非熱的加速電子の関連性など、太陽フレア時における粒子加速についての議論を行う。

キーワード: 太陽フレア, 白色光

Keywords: solar flare, white-light

negative SIの数値シミュレーション

A numerical simulation of a negative solar wind impulse

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Response of the magnetosphere-ionosphere system to the negative impulse of the solar wind dynamic pressure (the negative SI) are studied again with foci of periodic variations of the ionospheric convection and appearance of the overshielding potential. When the negative impulse impinges on the magnetopause, the Region 1 (R1)-type field-aligned current (FAC) and R2-type FAC appears alternatively in the lower-latitudes (~ 70 deg) of the dayside ionosphere (~10hLT and 14hLT). These current systems shift nightward and poleward. This alternative appearance of FACs invokes positive and negative ionospheric potential patterns switching alternatively. In addition, the R2-type FAC induced by the negative SI and that by the positive SI tend to yield the shielding electric potential in the ionosphere. This shielding potential has short duration than that for the northward turn of the interplanetary magnetic field does. The duration is longer for the negative SI than for the positive SI.

キーワード: negative SI, 数値シミュレーション, 磁気圏電離圏複合系, 対流変動

Keywords: negative SI, numerical simulation, magnetosphere-ionosphere compound system, convection oscillation

Remote Sensing Space Weather Events Through Ionospheric Radio: The AARDDVARK Network Remote Sensing Space Weather Events Through Ionospheric Radio: The AARDDVARK Network

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The Antarctic-Arctic Radiation-belt (Dynamic) Deposition - VLF Atmospheric Research Consortium (AARDDVARK) provides a network of continuous long-range observations of the lower-ionosphere, principally in the polar regions. The network of sensors detect changes in ionisation levels from ~30-90 km altitude, globally, continuously, and with high time resolution, with the goal of increasing the understanding of energy coupling between the Earth's atmosphere, Sun, and Space. We use the upper atmosphere as a gigantic energetic particle detector to observe and understand changing energy deposition from space weather events. AARDDVARK has contributed to the scientific understanding of a growing list of space weather science topics including solar proton events, solar flares, relativistic electron precipitation, the descent of NO_x into the middle atmosphere, substorms, plasmaspheric hiss and EMIC-driven precipitation, CME's, and microbursts. Our recent work has focused strongly on measuring the flux magnitude of energetic electron precipitation from the radiation belts over long time periods. In this talk I will review previous ground based studies our team has undertaken to characterise some space weather impacts on the lower ionosphere. In particular, I will focus on solar proton events and solar flares.

A combination of observations from AARDDVARK and riometers have been used to test our modelling of solar proton event produced ionisation increases in the upper atmosphere and also the way geomagnetic rigidity screens solar protons from accessing mid- and low- geomagnetic latitudes. This is necessary for determining the impact of solar proton events upon the polar ionosphere, communication and navigation systems, and describing the coupling of solar proton events to the neutral chemistry of the polar atmosphere.

Mid-latitude AARDDVARK observations have been used to characterise solar flares, measuring both the solar X-flux and the change in the electron number density in the lower ionosphere. While a mature experimental technique, such observations can still lead to unexpected results. In particular, the subionospheric VLF observations led by Neil Thomson produced one of the few measurements of the great X45 solar flare of 4 November 2003, where the X-ray detectors on the GOES spacecraft saturated. However, the ionospheric D-region will not saturate, allowing a wider dynamic range than existing spaceborne instruments.

キーワード: space weather, solar flares, solar proton events, ionospheric remote sensing

Keywords: space weather, solar flares, solar proton events, ionospheric remote sensing

Investigation of filament eruptions and related coronal disturbances associated with solar flares using data of CHAIN

Investigation of filament eruptions and related coronal disturbances associated with solar flares using data of CHAIN

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Coronal mass ejection (CME) is one of very important sources of disturbances in geospace. The knowledge of structures, velocities and their evolutions of CMEs are crucial for understanding variations of space weather.

On the other hand, coronal disturbances associated with solar flares, such as H-alpha Moreton waves, X-ray waves, EIT/EUV waves, have been discussed in relation to MHD fast mode waves or shocks in the corona. Therefore, it is also very important for space weather researches.

To solve the mechanism of occurrences of CMEs and coronal disturbances, full disk observations with high temporal resolutions in multi-wavelengths are required.

For the purpose of forming the international ground-based solar observation network and enhancing space weather researches, we are promoting "Continuous H-Alpha Imaging Network (CHAIN)" project that is led by Kwasan and Hida Observatories, Kyoto University.

Under the international collaboration of the CHAIN project, the Flare Monitoring Telescope (FMT) was relocated from Hida Observatory to Ica University in Peru.

We selected two typical filament eruptions associated with solar flares that occurred on 2011 March 8 at the active region NOAA11165 and on 2011 February 16 at NOAA11158. The H-alpha full disk images of the flares were taken by the FMT at Ica, Peru.

As for the first event, we obtained 3-D velocity field of erupting filament on the solar limb. According to images obtained with the SoHO/LASCO, a few hours after the flare occurred, a clear CME also appeared.

The time-evolution of the velocity of the filament shows a large change of the direction of the eruption. Just after the change, coronal loops that can be seen in images obtained with the Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA) on board the Solar Dynamic Observatory (SDO) also begin to expand to higher atmosphere.

For the second event, we obtained 3-D velocity field of erupting filament on the solar disk and its time-evolution. Though the Moreton wave was not detected in H-alpha images, we identified oscillations/activations of H-alpha filaments (winking filaments) at distant locations. In the extreme ultraviolet data taken by the SDO/AIA, we could indeed see coronal waves clearly as well as the filament eruption.

In this paper we present the results of the detailed examination of the filament eruptions, expanding coronal loops, winking filaments and the coronal waves.

キーワード: 宇宙天気, 太陽: 彩層, フレア, フィラメント噴出, コロナ質量放出 (CME), 衝撃波

Keywords: Space weather, solar chromosphere, solar flare, filament eruption, coronal mass ejection (CME), shock wave

電離圏における宇宙天気現象とそのGNSSへの影響 Space weather phenomena in the ionosphere and their effect on GNSS

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The Earth's atmosphere at altitudes from 60 km to 1,000 km is partially ionized by solar EUV, forming the ionosphere. The ionosphere causes group delay, phase advance, and scintillation to space-to-ground radio propagations. The severe ionospheric disturbances can degrade precise Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) positioning or navigation. Because the use of GNSS prevails these days, A study of the severe ionospheric disturbances and their effect on GNSS is one of important topics in the space weather. The ionospheric conditions largely vary under the influence of solar, geomagnetic, and lower atmospheric activities. Intense solar flares cause sudden ionospheric disturbance (SID) in the sunlit hemisphere through the ionization process. Geomagnetic storms induce various ionospheric disturbances, such as storm enhanced density (SED), positive and negative ionospheric storms, and large-scale traveling ionospheric disturbances (LSTID). At low latitudes, plasma density depletion region, called plasma bubble, are frequently observed after the sunset during high solar activity period. These severe ionospheric disturbances have been observed with wide-coverage high-resolution total electron content (TEC) maps derived from dense ground-based GNSS receiver networks since mid-1990s. The two-dimensional GNSS-TEC observations have revealed some new aspects of such ionospheric disturbances. We will review severe space weather phenomena in the ionosphere and discuss their effect on GNSS.

キーワード: 宇宙天気, 電離圏, GPS, GNSS, 全電子数, 電離圏嵐

Keywords: space weather, ionosphere, GPS, GNSS, TEC, ionospheric storm

太陽フレアの硬X線・ガンマ線観測 Hard X-ray and Gamma-ray observations of solar flares

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Most of the high-energy particles in the solar system are accelerated in the Sun, and these particles affect space and terrestrial environments. The detailed properties of the energy release processes in solar flares, as well as the mechanisms that accelerates particles, are currently not well understood. Accelerated electrons and ions emit hard X-rays (HXRs) and gamma-rays, therefore HXR and gamma-ray observations provide important information about the energy release process in solar flares. HXR imaging observations reveal the spatial structure of particle acceleration in solar flares, including where flare-accelerated energetic electrons are stopped by the high density of the chromosphere (flare footpoints) and where flare-heated plasmas fill magnetic loops. Thermal SXR represent magnetic flare loops filled with thermal plasma. In addition to footpoints, a coronal HXR source above the flare loop top was observed by the hard X-ray telescope (HXT) onboard the Yohkoh satellite (operated in 1991-2001). This event is well known as the Masuda flare. This above-the-loop-top source suggests that the origin of solar flares is magnetic reconnection.

In 2002, the RHESSI satellite, providing imaging spectroscopy from 3 keV up to 10 MeV, started to observe solar flares. Simultaneous wide-range HXR imaging and spectroscopy of solar flares can be done for the first time by RHESSI. RHESSI observed solar flares down to the scale of microflares, and the presence of HXRs from accelerated electrons in microflares is shown. In addition, RHESSI observed many coronal HXR sources so far, and their spatial and spectroscopic features are investigated. RHESSI's imaging spectroscopy capability allows us to study the timing and energetics of the above-the-loop-top source relative to the footpoints with much better accuracy than before. In the currently best example of a RHESSI flare that resembles the Masuda flare geometry, the above-the-loop-top source is observed to peak ~ 10 s earlier than the footpoint sources and decays afterwards while the footpoint source stays bright. This suggests that the above-the-loop-top source provides the precipitating electrons that feed the footpoint source.

To improve the dynamic range for future observations, grazing-incidence HXR focusing optics are a promising new technology for future solar observations. A new sounding rocket mission, the Focusing Optics X-ray Solar Imager (FOXSI, to be launched in March, 2012), will test out grazing-incidence HXR focusing optics combined with position-sensitive focal plane detectors for solar observations. FOXSI will show the presence and energy content of accelerated electrons in the quiescent region nanoflares.

キーワード: 太陽フレア, 太陽コロナ, 粒子加速, 硬X線, ガンマ線

Keywords: solar flare, solar corona, particle acceleration, hard X-ray, gamma-ray

Hindcasting, nowcasting and forecasting with the Dynamic Radiation Environment Assimilation Model (DREAM)

Hindcasting, nowcasting and forecasting with the Dynamic Radiation Environment Assimilation Model (DREAM)

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The penetrating radiation environment in Earth's Van Allen radiation belts is highly dynamic and highly orbit-dependent. Los Alamos National Laboratory has developed the Dynamic Radiation Environment Assimilation Model (DREAM) to study this environment and a version has been developed for real-time space weather applications. Real-time applications impose some constraints on DREAM but the assimilation of data in physics-based models produces information that has significantly more spatial coverage, accuracy, and utility than either the data or model alone. The minimum data input for DREAM is real-time electron fluxes from a single satellite but data from multiple satellites can improve the model accuracy – particularly when different orbits are included. Data from different sources and different data latencies can also be assimilated asynchronously. Even data that is several days old can affect the real-time assimilated state so, when new data become available, DREAM reprocesses the intervening time period, updating both past and current forecasts. Unlike simple time series of particle fluxes or geomagnetic indices, assimilative models like DREAM produce multi-dimensional data products that require innovations in user interfaces. One example is output that specifies the space environment along a user-selected orbit and time interval. More sophisticated applications can determine the relationship of the current environment to known statistics and extremes in order to quickly flag environments that have known (or suspected) correlations with anomalies. We will discuss the underlying framework of DREAM, the user interface that we have developed and its use for both hindcasting and nowcasting. We will also discuss future development plans for DREAM and how the same paradigm can be applied to integrating other space environment information into operational systems.

キーワード: space weather, modelling, radiation belt

Keywords: space weather, modelling, radiation belt

地磁気誘導電流の電力網への影響について Effects of geomagnetically induced current on power grids

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大きな地磁気嵐に伴って電力設備に誘導電流が流れ、その影響で電力網に障害を起こすことがある。Dst 指数の大きさを 1957 年以降最大の地磁気嵐に伴って、1989 年 3 月には、カナダのケベック州で停電が発生した。これを機に米国、カナダ、北欧などで、地磁気誘導電流による電力網の障害について多くの研究がなされるようになった。米国では、1859 年に発生したカーリントンフレアに伴う地磁気嵐のように非常に大きな地磁気嵐の際の電力網への影響について検討が行われている。また、地磁氣的に低緯度に位置するブラジル、南アフリカ、オーストラリアなどでも電力網への地磁気誘導電流の測定が行われている。日本でも、2005 年から 2007 年 2 月にかけて、北海道電力の協力を得て女満別で電力網への地磁気誘導電流の測定が行われた。本発表では、地磁気誘導電流の電力網への影響に関する最近の研究状況について報告する。

キーワード: 地磁気誘導電流, 地磁気嵐, 電力網, 宇宙天気

Keywords: geomagnetically induced current, geomagnetic storm, power grids, space weather

黒点出現の前駆現象としての太陽水平湧き出し流観測

Observing the horizontal divergent flow of the sun as a precursor of sunspot emergence

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黒点を含む太陽活動領域は、フレア活動や CME の原因である。活動領域が対流層深部から磁束が上昇した結果であることは広く受け入れられており、これを浮上磁場という。

本研究では、我々は太陽光球で磁場の出現に先んじて生じた水平湧き出し流 (HDF) の検出について報告する。この水平流は 2010 年 6 月 11 日に活動領域 NOAA 11081 で見られた。HDF は我々がこれまでに行ってきた浮上磁場数値計算により理論的に予想されている。その発生メカニズムは、浮上磁場に押し上げられたプラズマが太陽表面付近を水平方向に逃げ出すというものである。

観測に際しては、SDO/HMI のドップラーグラムとマグネトグラムを用い、対象領域におけるドップラー・磁場分布と静穏領域における各分布との残差を調べた。HDF や磁束出現の時刻は、それぞれの残差が静穏領域分布の標準偏差 (1 シグマ) を超える時刻として定義した。その結果、HDF は磁束出現の約 100 分前に起きたことが分かった。すなわち、HDF は磁束浮上や黒点形成の前駆現象と見なすことができる。HDF 観測によって直近の将来に発生する磁束出現を予測できる可能性がある。また、そのことによって宇宙天気研究に寄与できる可能性がある。

キーワード: 太陽, 磁場, 太陽内部, 光球, 宇宙天気

Keywords: sun, magnetic field, solar interior, photosphere, space weather

ポテンシャル場としての対流の励起

Excitation of convection as a potential field and consequential restraint to the substorm mechanism

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Whereas the region 1 FAC is the most important point of issue to construct convection system, its origin and magnetospheric closure are the most poorly understood problem in the magnetospheric physics. In this paper we research this problem based on four natural principles governing in the convection system. They are (1) force balance must be maintained in the convection system among gradient P force, $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ force, and acceleration force, (2) energy conversion process to form a dynamo must work in the magnetosphere to supply the FAC, (3) shear motion must co-exist with the FAC to twist the magnetic field, and (4) electric field equivalent to the magnetospheric convection must coincide with electric field that promotes the ionospheric closure of FAC. The understanding of region 1 FAC generation is also inevitable for the substorm research. Since it is difficult from the observation to confirm the above four principles over the whole M-I system, observational substorm studies tend to attribute the cause of substorm to the local process. On the contrary, we try to understand the substorm as the development and transition of the convection system.

キーワード: 対流

Keywords: convection

フレア領域における磁場とプリフレア発光の時間的空間的相関関係 Spatio-temporal Correlation between Pre-flare Brightening and Magnetic Structure in Flare Productive Active Regions

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太陽フレアは、太陽コロナ中に蓄積された磁場のエネルギーがプラズマの運動及び熱エネルギーとして突発的に解放される現象である。近年の衛星観測により、その主な磁気エネルギー解放機構は磁気リコネクションであることが明らかにされたが、フレアの発生過程についての定量的な理解は未だ不十分であり、いくつかのフレアトリガ機構に関する定性的モデルが提案されている段階にある。本研究では、Kusano et al. (2012) で提案されたモデルの定量的な検証を目指し、複数の活動領域における磁場構造とプリフレア発光の関係について解析した。本研究では、ひので/SOT が 2011 年 7 月までに観測した M5 クラス以上のフレアイベント (2006 年 12 月 13 日/X3.4 クラス、12 月 14 日/X1.5 クラス、2011 年 2 月 13 日/M6.6 クラス、2 月 15 日/X2.2 クラス) を全て解析した。SOT によって得られたマグネトグラムに、Ca 線画像の輪郭をプロットすることにより、磁場構造とプリフレア発光の時間的・空間的相関関係を調べ、モデルと比較した。その結果、それぞれのフレアのトリガとなりうる領域を、特定することが出来た。このうち、特に 2006 年の X3.4 クラス、2011 年の M6.6 クラスフレアについては、Kusano et al. (2012) で提案された「反極性タイプ」及び「逆シアタイプ」のモデルにそれぞれ一致することが分かった。

キーワード: 太陽, 太陽フレア, 太陽活動領域, 磁場

Keywords: Sun, Solar-flare, Solar active region, Magnetic field

Characteristics of trapping boundary of outer radiation belt during geosynchronous electron flux dropout

Characteristics of trapping boundary of outer radiation belt during geosynchronous electron flux dropout

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Geosynchronous electron flux dropouts are most likely due to fast drift loss of the particles to the magnetopause (or equivalently, the magnetopause shadowing effect). A possible effect related to the drift loss is the radial diffusion of PSD due to gradient of PSD set by the drift loss effect at an outer L region. This possibly implies that the drift loss can affect the flux levels even inside the trapping boundary. We recently investigated the details of such diffusion process by solving the diffusion equation with a set of initial and boundary conditions set by the drift loss. Motivated by the simulation work, we have examined observationally the energy spectrum and pitch angle distribution near trapping boundary during the geosynchronous flux dropouts. For this work, we have first identified a list of geosynchronous flux dropout events for 2007-2010 from GOES satellite electron measurements and solar wind pressures observed by ACE satellite. We have then used the electron data from the Time History of Events and Macroscale Interactions during Substorms (THEMIS) spacecraft measurements to investigate the particle fluxes. The five THEMIS spacecraft sufficiently cover the inner magnetospheric regions near the equatorial plane and thus provide us with data of much higher spatial resolution. In this paper, we report the results of our investigations on the energy spectrum and pitch angle distribution near trapping boundary during the geosynchronous flux dropout events and discuss implications on the effects of the drift loss on the flux levels at inner L regions.

キーワード: Radiation belt, geosynchronous flux dropout, THEMIS SST, energy spectrum, pitch angle distribution, RBSP
Keywords: Radiation belt, geosynchronous flux dropout, THEMIS SST, energy spectrum, pitch angle distribution, RBSP

Magnetic Field Evolution in the Solar Polar Regions Magnetic Field Evolution in the Solar Polar Regions

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The magnetic field of the polar region of the Sun reverses its polarity near solar maximum. We have been monitoring the polar region of the Sun since 2008 with extremely high spatial resolution and high-sensitivity spectropolarimetric observations taken with the Solar Optical Telescope aboard *Hinode*. Then, we have investigated the yearly variation of the distribution of the vertical and horizontal magnetic flux density in the polar regions. We have found that the decrease of total signed flux density in the polar region mainly results from the attenuation of the flux density in vertical, large flux concentrations (more than 10^{18} Mx) with a dominant polarity in each polar region. The flux decrease is first observed in the North polar region. We also found that the flux distribution of vertical, small field concentrations (of both polarities) and of horizontal field concentrations does not vary with solar cycle. Small-scale, mixed polarity flux concentrations pervade the quiet Sun at disk center. These fields are found in the solar polar regions as well, suggesting that an ubiquitous physical mechanism generates and maintains them.

キーワード: 磁場, 光球

Keywords: Magnetic field, photosphere

平均 Dst 指数を用いた電子放射線帯モデル

The electron radiation belt model depending on the mean Dst index

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Electron radiation belt models are important for spacecraft designs to evaluate the total radiation dose. The Akebono satellite has been in the highly elliptical orbit since 1989 and measured almost whole region of the inner radiation belt and the high latitude region of the outer radiation belt over a period of 22 years which is the 2 solar cycles. From the long-term Akebono satellite observation, we find that the logarithm of the annual mean high energy (>2.5MeV) electron flux shows a good correlation with the annual mean Dst index in the slot region and the outer belt. We propose the electron radiation model depending on the mean Dst index.

キーワード: 電子放射線帯モデル, あけぼの衛星, Dst 指数

Keywords: Electron radiation belt model, Akebono satellite, Dst index

観測結果に基づいた太陽静穏領域磁極の磁気化学方程式数値計算

Numerical calculation of magneto-chemistry equation based on the observational results in quiet regions of the Sun

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We report the results of numerical calculation of magneto-chemistry equation (Schrijver et al., 1997) based on the observed frequencies of merging, splitting, emergence, and cancellation of photospheric magnetic patches in a quiet regions on the Sun.

Parnell et al. (2009) reports the power-law frequency distribution of flux content in magnetic patches with an index of -1.85, which spans from sunspots in active regions to small patches in quiet regions. Two ideas for the explanation of this distribution were suggested: One is that the distribution reflects dependence of flux supply from below the photosphere. Another is that surface magnetic processes maintain the distribution.

The surface processes of the photospheric magnetic field consist of merging, splitting, emergence and cancellation of magnetic patches. We investigated frequencies of these processes by observations of two quiet regions and suggest a qualitative picture of the flux maintenance. It is: 1) Frequency distribution of flux content is dominantly maintained by merging and splitting. 2) Cancellation occurs owing to the random motion of the convection. 3) The flux submerged through a cancellation re-emerges and is recycled to the surface.

The next step is a quantitative investigation for finding a stable equilibrium solution based on these observations, which is our topic in this study. We solve numerically the magneto-chemistry equation, which is suggested by Schrijver et al. (1997) and describe relationship among frequency distribution of flux content and those of magnetic processes. It should be noted that we use an assumption of flux recycling of submerged flux.

We obtain the results that: 1) The frequency distribution reaches a stable equilibrium, which is a power-law distribution with an index of -1.7. 2) The equilibrium solution strongly depends on the input values of the frequencies of magnetic processes. 3) The equilibrium is independent of initial conditions. These results indicate that the observed surface processes can make and maintain the observed frequency distribution of flux content with recycling of magnetic flux in a quantitative sense.

キーワード: 太陽, 光球, 磁気対流

Keywords: sun, photosphere, magneto-convection

地上磁場観測とGPS TEC観測からのプラズマ圏密度推定に向けて Toward estimating the plasmaspheric density using data of ground magnetometers and GPS TEC

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The plasmasphere is the region in space, close to the Earth. It is a part of the magnetosphere (region filled with the Earth-origin magnetic field). The plasmasphere is filled with ionosphere-origin plasma, and the shape of the plasmasphere changes in response to the activity of the magnetosphere. It is important to monitor three-dimensional plasma distribution in and near the plasmasphere; for example, the plasmasphere can affect the progress of magnetic storms via plasmasphere-ring current interactions (the ring current is another region in which strong electric currents, carried by plasma there, flow in the shape of a ring surrounding the Earth).

Measures to monitor the three-dimensional density distribution in and near the plasmasphere include ground magnetometers and GPS satellites, as follows. From ground magnetometer data one can identify the eigenfrequency of the field line running through the magnetometer. From thus identified frequency (so-called FLR frequency, where FLR stands for "field line resonance"), one can obtain information on the plasma mass density distribution along the field line. Ground coverage by magnetometers is getting thicker day by day toward two-dimensional ground coverage, from which one can obtain information on three-dimensional plasma density distribution in the region threaded by the field lines running through the ground magnetometers.

Each GPS satellite provides TEC (total electron contents) along the line of sight from the satellite to a GPS receiver; from the TEC one can obtain information on the electron density distribution along the line of sight. There are 24 GPS satellites, and the coverage by GPS receivers (located on the ground and in space) is getting thicker day by day, from which one can obtain information on three-dimensional electron density distribution in the region threaded by the line of sights from the GPS satellites to the GPS receivers.

In this paper we present a method to evaluate the ground-magnetometer information and the GPS-TEC information at the same time and obtain a unified plasmaspheric plasma density distribution. In essence, the method calculates the differences between the observations and the corresponding quantities calculated from the estimated plasma distribution, and minimizes the sum of the differences for the two types of observations. Details will be given at the presentation. We first realize this method in an iterative manner by using the quasi-Newton method. Tests with simulated data are ongoing, and we will show the results at the meeting. Some sample observational data will also be shown.

2011年8月9日の太陽フレアに伴うコロナ擾乱現象について Coronal disturbances associated with the 2011 August 9 solar flare

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私たちは、2011年8月9日に活動領域 NOAA 11263 で発生した X6.9 の巨大フレアに伴うコロナ擾乱現象の詳細について報告する。このフレアの H-alpha 線太陽全面画像が、京都大学飛騨天文台 SMART 望遠鏡により高い空間・時間分解能で取得されており、その中でフレア領域から南方に速度約 760km/s で伝播する H-alpha 線モートン波が確認できた。また、SDO 衛星搭載の観測装置 AIA による極端紫外線太陽全面画像からは、極端紫外線でのコロナ擾乱現象も詳細に観測された。それらによると、H-alpha 線モートン波波面に一致する速い(速度約 700km/s)EUV 波の伝播が観測された一方で、モートン波の伝播を伴わない方向に明くて遅い(速度約 340km/s の)EUV 波の伝播が見られた。後者は、古典的に「EIT 波」と呼ばれる現象であると考えられる。加えてこの EIT 波の前面に、放射強度は格段に弱い速い(速度約 600km/s)EUV 波の伝播も確認できた。今回のフレアはこれらのように、衝撃波面、速い EUV 波、遅い EUV 波(EIT 波)が同時に観測された初めての例である。

またコロナ擾乱の伝播により、フレア領域から遠方にあるプロミネンスやフィラメントが振動する様子も観測された。この振動を励起するには、速度 570-800km/s のコロナ擾乱の伝播が必要である。これらの速度は上記の H-alpha 線モートン波や速い EUV 波の速度に相当しており、典型的なコロナの速い MHD 波の速度と考えられる。

キーワード: 太陽フレア, 太陽コロナ, フィラメント噴出, フィラメント振動, 衝撃波, 電磁流体力学

Keywords: solar flare, solar corona, filament eruption, filament oscillation, shock waves, magnetohydrodynamics

Ionospheric Weather of S4 Index Observed by FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC during 2006-2011

Ionospheric Weather of S4 Index Observed by FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC during 2006-2011

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The FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC (F3/C) constellation launched on 15 April 2006, which consists of six micro-satellites in the low-earth orbit, is capable of monitoring the troposphere and ionosphere by using the powerful technique of radio occultation. With more than 2000 observations per day, it provides an excellent opportunity to monitor three-dimensional structures and dynamics of the ionospheric scintillations during 2006-2011. The global F3/C S4 index are subdivided and examined in various latitudes, longitudes, altitudes, and seasons. The F-region scintillations in the equatorial and low-latitude ionosphere start around post-sunset period and often persist till post-midnight hours (0300 MLT, magnetic local time) during the March and September equinox as well as December Solstice seasons. The E-region scintillations reveal a clear solar zenith effect and yield pronounced intensities in mid-latitudes during the Summer Solstice seasons, which are well correlated with occurrences of the sporadic E-layer. There is no obvious scintillation activity observed in the high-latitude ionosphere.

キーワード: Ionospheric Weather, S4 Index, FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC

Keywords: Ionospheric Weather, S4 Index, FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC

今サイクルにおける太陽フレアの地上観測 Ground-based observations of solar flares; current status

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現在 SDO、ひので、RHESSI 等をはじめとする飛翔体からのフレア観測が全盛期を迎えている。一方高い時間分解能や分光観測が可能である地上からの観測も、フレア現象の解明において重要な役割を担うものである。H 線ではフレア初期に小さな輝点（フレアカーネル）が次々と増光し、磁気中性線に沿って爆発的に広がることにより、フレアの2リボンを形成する。1秒オーダーの時間スケールで変化する個々のカーネルは、コロナで加速された非熱的粒子が彩層に突入する場所と考えられ、これを高分解能で観測することにより、コロナにおけるフレアループ（磁場構造）の発達過程や、フレア現象の根幹である粒子加速の情報を得ることができる。白色光で増光するカーネルはとくに高いエネルギーをもつ粒子と関係していると考えられ、その観測は重要である。また、H 線のドップラー観測からはフレアに伴うフィラメント放出の速度ベクトルを求めることができ、フレアの発生や惑星間空間の擾乱予測などの観点から重要な情報を提供するものである。さらに地上で得られる光球面のベクトル磁場の高い時間分解能による観測は、コロナへのエネルギー蓄積過程やフレアのトリガ機構の解明にとって重要である。

本講演では京都大学飛騨天文台が推進するフレア観測を中心に、地上フレア観測の現状と最近の成果について報告する。

キーワード: 太陽, フレア, H α , 地上観測, 粒子加速

Keywords: sun, flare, h-alpha, ground based observation, particle acceleration

太陽風-外帯電子結合

Solar wind ? radiation belt coupling during the high-speed solar wind

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We investigate the solar wind-radiation belt coupling process during high speed solar wind streams (HSS). Flux enhancements of the outer belt depend on the IMF Bz; the large flux enhancements tend to occur during the HSS with the predominantly southward interplanetary magnetic field (IMF). We consider the internal acceleration process by whistler mode wave-particle interactions as a working model. We show clear differences of key parameters of the internal acceleration process between the southward and northward dominant IMF in HSS; hot electrons for the free-energy source for whistler mode waves, thermal plasma distribution, sub-relativistic electrons for the seed population of MeV electrons, and convection/substorms. Considering these observational results, a model of solar-wind radiation belt coupling is proposed, in which whistler mode wave-particle interactions driven by continuous hot electron injections play an important role for the flux enhancements.

キーワード: 放射線帯, 太陽風磁気圏相互作用, 高速太陽風

Keywords: outer radiation belt, solar wind - magnetosphere coupling, High speed streams

電波観測による今太陽周期のフレア現象と宇宙天気研究 Radio observation of solar flares on this solar cycle and space weather

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太陽コロナ中では 100 万度を越える高温プラズマと強力な磁場が相互作用して多様な粒子加速現象が発生する。コロナ中の粒子加速現象によって非熱的に加速された電子の一部はメートル波帯域で電波を発生させる。これが地上では電波バーストとして観測される。メートル波帯域の太陽電波バーストの主な発生過程の一つにプラズマ放射が挙げられる。プラズマ放射が原因で発生する電波バーストは、放射域のプラズマ周波数に相当する電波が放射される。そのため、非熱的電子の運動に伴い、その経路に沿ってプラズマ密度が変化する場合、バーストの発生周波数が時間と共に変化する周波数ドリフト構造が出現することになる。例えばフレアによって加速された電子が磁力線に沿って運動する場合には Type-III バーストが、コロナ中のショックで加速された粒子がショックと共に移動する場合には Type-II バーストが観測される。このようなことから太陽電波のスペクトル観測は宇宙天気に関する太陽現象を観測し、それらの到来を予報する上で重要である。

東北大学が所有する電波望遠鏡 (IPRT) の太陽電波観測系 (AMATERAS) は 150 から 500MHz における電波の高分解偏波スペクトル観測が可能であり太陽電波バーストの観測に有効である。本研究グループでは 2010 年より太陽電波の連続観測を実施してきた。その結果、今太陽周期で発生したフレアのうち、2 回の X クラスフレアを含む多数のフレアに伴う電波現象の観測に成功している。本発表では観測された代表的なフレアについて、関連する電波現象の観測結果を報告するとともに、宇宙天気研究における電波観測の有用性を議論する。

キーワード: 太陽, フレア, 電波バースト, 地上観測, 宇宙天気

Keywords: Sun, flare, radio burst, ground-based observation, space weather

宇宙天気予報のための放射線帯予測モデルの開発 Development of Radiation Belt Prediction Models for Space Weather Forecast

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Dynamic changes of the Earth's Radiation belt is one of the well known but still unsolved issue of solar terrestrial physics. This is also important for the practical point of view because relativistic electron can penetrate into a satellite body and causes deep dielectric charging. This phenomenon is one of the major reasons of satellite anomaly. For prediction of space environment around GEO, we will proceed to develop 1) near real time prediction model of relativistic electron environment, 2) high precision global MHD simulation in this 5-year term from 2011. As for the prediction model of relativistic electron environment, we plan to develop two types of models. One is near real time prediction model based on the AR model that is a kind of the parametric analysis methods for the time-series data. The product of this model is for daily operation of geosynchronous satellite. The other is high time and spatial resolution numerical forecast model based on combination between global MHD simulation code and particle tracing code and others. The product of this model is for post analysis of satellite anomalies. We will introduce an overview and current status of our project.

キーワード: 宇宙天気予報, 放射線帯予測

Keywords: Space Weather Forecast, Radiation Belt Prediction

次期太陽観測衛星 SOLAR-C 計画 SOLAR-C: the planned next solar observing satellite mission

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The solar chromosphere, 10,000 K partially ionized atmosphere, covers above the photosphere of 5,800 K and the fully ionized 1,000,000 K solar corona extends further from the height of a few thousand km above the photosphere. The hot coronal plasma is finally flowing out from the Sun as the solar wind beyond the Earth orbit toward the boundary of the heliosphere. Explosive events on the Sun, solar flares and coronal mass ejections, are the source of disturbance to the space weather.

The solar magnetic field plays the central role in the presence of the hot atmosphere, and it is the energy source of highly dynamic phenomena occurring there. Hinode (SOLAR-B) has revealed the presence of new small-scale structures and dynamic events by high-resolution observations. They are not independent phenomena to the other solar activity, but are key ingredients to understand the presence of hot atmosphere (chromosphere and corona) and the trigger of large-scale explosive events. Major lack of information in Hinode observations is the magnetic field in the chromosphere and the magnetic connectivity from the chromosphere to the corona due to insufficient spatial resolution in coronal observations.

The JAXA SOLAR-C Working Group is planning the next solar observing satellite SOLAR-C that follows Hinode in orbit. SOLAR-C will observe the chromospheric magnetic field as well as the photospheric magnetic field from the high-resolution and high-precision spectro-polarimetric measurements, and realistically connects magnetic structures in the outer atmospheres by coronal imaging and spectroscopy of sub-arcsec resolution. This enables us to observe the entire magnetic coupling among the photosphere, chromosphere, and corona for the first time. In order to obtain such observing capabilities, a large-aperture optical telescope, high-resolution coronal imagers, and a high-resolution spectrometer are to be on-board SOLAR-C. We introduce the science goals and the observing platform of the SOLAR-C mission.

キーワード: 太陽, 衛星観測

Keywords: Sun, Satellite Observation

宇宙天気 of 最新動向

A Report of World-Wide, Regional, and Domestic Activities of Space Weather Operations and Researches

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Space environment, where satellites and international space stations (ISS) are located, dynamically change due to the effect of solar activities. Disturbances in space occasionally cause satellite malfunctions, tele-communication problems, and error of navigations. The role of space weather forecast is to monitor the current conditions and to predict the future conditions of space environment. As our daily life tend to depend on a variety of electric and electronic devices and systems, the role of the space weather would be inevitable.

NICT is a part of ISES (International Space Environment Service: 14 nations have participated) space weather forecast centers (regional warning centers: RWC). We have been routinely carrying out daily space weather forecast services and provide information on the forecasts of solar flare, geomagnetic disturbances, solar proton event, and condition of radio-wave propagation to public.

As known well, the solar activity changes periodically with 11 years. Now we are at the developing phase of the cycle 24, and the peak of the phase will be around 2013 or 2014. Practical space weather forecast is expected, but unfortunately, our forecasting is not yet perfect. For example, our solar-flare prediction score and geomagnetic disturbance prediction are between 50% and 90% respectively.

For more accurate and practical space weather forecasting, international collaborations would play an important role. During these few years, new international activities have started: One is in UN (United Nations) and the other is in WMO (World Meteorological Organization). Regional collaboration is also necessary, especially for the ionospheric researches and observations in space weather operations. NICT and other 13 organization have kicked off a new alliance for space weather: the Asia-Oceania Space Weather Alliance (AOSWA).

In the present talk, we first review what the space weather is, with focusing on the effect of disturbances in space to our social systems, from spacecraft to GPS navigation systems. We next introduce recent world-wide, regional and domestic activities of space weather.

Keywords: Space Weather, AOSWA, ISES, UN, WMO

GEMSIS 計画現状報告：ジオスペースにおける粒子加速と領域間結合機構の理解を目指して

Current Status of the GEMSIS Project: Particle acceleration and regional couplings during geospace storms

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Human activities in geospace (near-Earth space) have become important since the 20th century. The geospace storms, which often take place during the solar maximum, are drastic variation of the space environment caused by dynamic solar activities such as CMEs. During the geospace storms, enhanced regional couplings in the solar-terrestrial system and dynamic energy and mass transport, resulting in change of Earth's radiation belt and various space weather phenomena, are known to take place. Researches into geospace storms, which can cause various natural and artificial phenomena, such as active auroras, satellite communication blackouts, and spacecraft malfunctions, are getting more international focus in preparation for the solar maximum around 2013. International program CAWSES-II (climate and weather of Sun-Earth System, Part 2) is now underway. RBSP (Radiation Belt Storm Probes) and Resonance missions are being conducted in the US and Russia, respectively, aiming at the launch of geospace exploration satellites around 2013. Japan is also preparing for the ERG (Energization and Radiation in Geospace) project. One of characteristics of the ERG project is close collaboration between three task teams, namely, the satellite, ground-based observation, and theory/simulation/modeling teams.

Aiming at understanding of physical mechanisms of the particle acceleration and regional couplings in solar-terrestrial system during the geospace storms as well as providing efficient study environment for the trinity collaboration in the ERG project, we have conducted the GEMSIS (Geospace Environment Modeling System for Integrated Studies) Phase 2 project from FY2010 at STEL, Nagoya University. The project is based on studies conducted in the GEMSIS phase 1 project in FY2007-2009 that focuses on understanding the high-energy particle environment in geospace and developing basic technologies for geospace modeling. In the GEMSIS project, we develop physics-based as well as empirical models using satellite measurements and global ground-based measurements. Comparisons between models and observational results are essential to improve the models and to eventually understand the dynamics of the geospace. In order to understand physical mechanisms of dynamic phenomena taking place in the complicated Sun-Earth system, the GEMSIS project is carried out by three working teams (WTs): The "GEMSIS-Sun" WT, aiming at understanding of whole processes (energy-storage, trigger, energy-release, and particle acceleration) of solar flare, have developed flare-trigger and particle acceleration models, and carried out researches through comparing them with various kind of observations. Aiming at understanding the dynamics of the inner magnetosphere during the geospace storms, the "GEMSIS-Magnetosphere" WT has addressed the development of new physics-based models for the global dynamics of the ring current (GEMSIS-RC model) and radiation belt (GEMSIS-RB model). Integrated data analysis studies on such as topics as supply mechanisms of ring current ions and relativistic electron accelerations are also conducted using various types of geospace observations from space and from the ground. The "GEMSIS-Ionosphere" WT has implemented models of global distribution of the ionospheric electric potential in order to understand the Sun-Earth system. Combined with observations, the ionospheric electric field as well as energy flow is examined.

Another important task of the GEMSIS Phase 2 project is contribution to the ERG Science Center that facilitates the close collaboration between the satellite, ground-based observation, and theory/simulation/modeling for geospace studies by providing integrated data analysis tools and combined database. Contribution to the Hinode Science Center at STEL has also been made by the project. In this paper, research highlights and strategy of the GEMSIS project will be reported.

キーワード: ジオスペース環境, 太陽活動, 粒子加速, 内部磁気圏, 磁気嵐

Keywords: Geospace Environment, Solar Activity, Particle Acceleration, Inner Magnetosphere, Magnetic Storm

Highlights of Space Weather Services/Capabilities at NASA/GSFC Space Weather Center

Highlights of Space Weather Services/Capabilities at NASA/GSFC Space Weather Center

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The importance of space weather has been recognized world-wide. Our society depends increasingly on technological infrastructure, including the power grid as well as satellites used for communication and navigation. Such technologies, however, are vulnerable to space weather effects caused by the Sun's variability.

NASA GSFC's Space Weather Center (SWC) (http://science.gsfc.nasa.gov/674/swx_services/swx_services.html) has developed space weather products/capabilities/services that not only respond to NASA's needs but also address broader interests by leveraging the latest scientific research results and state-of-the-art models hosted at the Community Coordinated Modeling Center (CCMC: <http://ccmc.gsfc.nasa.gov>).

By combining forefront space weather science and models, employing an innovative and configurable dissemination system (iSWA.gsfc.nasa.gov), taking advantage of scientific expertise – both in-house and from the broader community – as well as fostering and actively participating in multilateral collaborations both nationally and internationally, NASA/GSFC space weather Center, as a sibling organization to CCMC, is poised to address NASA's space weather needs (and needs of various partners) and to help enhancing space weather forecasting capabilities collaboratively. With a large number of state-of-the-art physics-based models running in real-time covering the whole space weather domain, it offers predictive capabilities and a comprehensive view of space weather events throughout the solar system. In this paper, we will provide some highlights of our service products/capabilities. In particular, we will take the 23 January and the 27 January space weather events as examples to illustrate how we can use the iSWA system to track them in the interplanetary space and forecast their impacts.

キーワード: Space Weather, Community Coordinated Modeling Center
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