Properties of the field line draping in the magnetosheath based on Geotail, IMP-8, and Wind: Bifurcation plane

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The draped magnetic field line enters from one side of the tail, bifurcates at the tail boundary, rejoins at the opposite side, and exists, as projected onto a plane perpendicular to the sun-earth line. We have identified properties of the plane formed by the bifurcation point and the X-axis by using Geotail, IMP-8, and Wind magnetic field data. It was found that the X component of the magnetic field is strong in the "bifurcation" plane, and that the total field is also strengthened in this plane.

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