

1 Energy-Banded Ions in Saturn's Magnetosphere

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16  
17 Key Points

- 18 • First observation of energy-banded ions at Saturn
- 19 • Banded ions are H<sup>+</sup> but can not tell if other species are similarly banded
- 20 • Band energies are consistent with a bounce-resonant interaction with the standing  
21 wave of a field-line resonance

22

23

## 24 Abstract

25           Using data from the Cassini/CAPS ion mass spectrometer, we report the first  
26 observation of energy-banded ions at Saturn. Observed near midnight at relatively high  
27 magnetic latitudes, the banded ions are dominantly H<sup>+</sup>, and they occupy the range of  
28 energies typically associated with the thermal pick-up distribution in the inner  
29 magnetosphere ( $L < 10$ ), but their energies decline monotonically with increasing radial  
30 distance (or time or decreasing latitude). Their pitch angle distribution suggests a source  
31 at low (or slightly southern) latitudes. The band energies, including their pitch-angle  
32 dependence, are consistent with a bounce-resonant interaction between thermal H<sup>+</sup> ions  
33 and the standing wave structure of a field line resonance. There is additional evidence in  
34 the pitch-angle dependence of the band energies that the particles in each band may have  
35 a common time of flight from their most recent interaction with the wave, which may  
36 have been at slightly southern latitudes. Thus, while the particles are basically bounce-  
37 resonant, their energization may be dominated by their most recent encounter with the  
38 standing wave.

39

## 40 Introduction

41           The inner magnetosphere of Saturn is characterized by several different plasma  
42 populations [e.g., Young et al., 2005], including a dense, cool component that is locally  
43 produced by ionization of neutral water vapor vented by Saturn's moon Enceladus [e.g.,  
44 Porco et al., 2006; Waite et al., 2006; Sittler et al., 2008], and a suprathermal, more-  
45 tenuous component that is primarily injected from the outer magnetosphere in discrete,  
46 centrifugally-driven interchange events [e.g., Burch et al., 2005; Hill et al., 2005]. The

47 cool ion population is dominantly composed of water-group ions ( $O^+$ ,  $OH^+$ ,  $H_2O^+$ , and  
48  $H_3O^+$ , commonly denoted “ $W^+$ ”) and  $H^+$ , with a lesser contribution of  $H_2^+$  [e.g., Sittler et  
49 al., 2005; Thomsen et al., 2010], plus other minor ions such as  $N^+$  and  $O_2^+$ .

50 Saturn’s strong magnetic field, combined with good ionospheric conductivity,  
51 couples the rapid planetary rotation to the magnetospheric plasma, which is observed to  
52 flow with nearly the rigid corotational azimuthal velocity in the inner magnetosphere  
53 ( $L \lesssim 10$ ) [e.g., Sittler et al., 2005; Wilson et al., 2008, 2009; Thomsen et al., 2010; Livi et  
54 al., 2014]. Ionization of neutrals in this environment results in new “pick-up” ions, which  
55 occupy a ring in velocity space that convects with the near-corotational bulk flow speed  
56 and has a ring speed equal to that bulk flow speed [e.g., Tokar et al., 2008]. Such  
57 distributions thermalize rather quickly, resulting in a population with a thermal speed  
58 comparable to the bulk flow speed, still convecting with the flow. The average energy-  
59 per-particle of a pick-up ion population should thus be approximately twice  $0.5m_iV_c^2$ ,  
60 where  $m_i$  is the mass of the ion, and  $V_c$  is the bulk flow speed of the plasma. Voyager  
61 and typical Cassini observations [e.g., Bridge et al., 1981; Young et al., 2005] do indeed  
62 show two peaks in energy-per-charge space, located just above the corotational energy  
63 for  $H^+$  and  $W^+$ , and rising with increasing radial distance as  $V_c$  itself rises (since  $V_c \sim r\Omega_S$ ,  
64 where  $\Omega_S$  is Saturn’s angular velocity).

65 While the relative fractions of thermal  $W^+$  and  $H^+$  vary with latitude because the  
66 heavy ions tend to be centrifugally confined more closely toward the equatorial plane  
67 than are the light ions [e.g., Thomsen et al., 2010], the two-peaked structure of the ion  
68  $E/q$  spectrum (with the energy of the peaks increasing with radial distance) is seen during  
69 almost every Cassini pass through the inner magnetosphere. In this paper we report

70 observations from one of the rare exceptions to this rule: On 3 May 2005, as Cassini was  
71 outbound through the near-midnight sector at a magnetic latitude  $\sim 20^\circ$ , the cool ion  
72 distribution was observed to consist of  $\sim 3$ -4 discrete bands in  $E/q$ . The band energies  
73 uniformly decreased with increasing radial distance, but they appeared superimposed on a  
74 background thermal population that followed the expected general increase with  $r$ . The  
75 bands persisted over at least 4 hours, as Cassini covered the radial range from  $L \sim 5.6$  to  
76  $7.5$  (where  $L$  is the equatorial crossing point in Saturn radii,  $R_s$ , of a dipole field line  
77 through Cassini's position) and the latitude range from  $\sim 21.8^\circ$  to  $18.1^\circ$ .

78 Energy-banded ions have been seen under a number of different circumstances in  
79 the Earth's magnetosphere [see Colpitts et al., 2016, for a review]. They have been  
80 reported during both quiet and geomagnetically active intervals; in the auroral zone, at  
81 subauroral latitudes, and near the dayside magnetopause; and at ion energies of  $10$ 's of  
82 eV to  $10$ 's of keV. In some cases composition measurements show that  $O^+$  and  $H^+$  bands  
83 have the same energy, while other occurrences show  $O^+$  and  $H^+$  having the same  
84 velocities. Still other studies show that  $O^+$  and  $H^+$  have different occurrence probabilities  
85 and locations. In some observations the ions are peaked at  $90^\circ$  pitch angles, whereas in  
86 others they appear dominantly field-aligned. Events can be very long-lasting, up to 12  
87 hours, and often are extensive in both latitude and magnetic local time.

88 A number of possible generation mechanisms for energy-banded ions at Earth  
89 have been proposed [also reviewed by Colpitts et al., 2016], including convective drift  
90 dispersion or time-of-flight dispersion from either an ionospheric or an equatorial heating  
91 event. The different generation scenarios have different implications for the properties of

92 the banded ions, and some observational support seems to exist for essentially all of the  
93 mechanisms.

94 While energy-banded ions of various properties are well-documented in the  
95 Earth's magnetosphere, no such phenomena have yet been reported in the giant  
96 magnetospheres of Jupiter and Saturn. The purpose of the present paper is to report the  
97 observation by Cassini of such an event in Saturn's inner magnetosphere and to examine  
98 the properties of the banded ions.

99

## 100 Observations

101 The observations presented in this study come primarily from the Cassini Plasma  
102 Spectrometer (CAPS) instrument on the Cassini spacecraft, which has been in orbit  
103 around Saturn since mid-2004. CAPS consists of three separate sensors: the ion beam  
104 spectrometer (IBS), the electron spectrometer (ELS), and the ion mass spectrometer  
105 (IMS) [see Young et al., 2004, for details on the instrumentation]. In this report we focus  
106 on data from the IMS, which is a top-hat electrostatic analyzer to measure the energy per  
107 charge of incident ions, followed by a time-of-flight (TOF) section to determine their  
108 speed and hence their mass per charge. The instantaneous field of view (FOV) of the  
109 IMS is segmented into 8 separate angular channels viewing different directions in  
110 velocity space. Under normal operating conditions, a physical actuator on CAPS sweeps  
111 the FOV across the sky, resulting in solid-angle coverage of  $\sim 2\pi$  sr for the full actuation  
112 cycle.

113 The IMS produces several different data products with different cadences that are  
114 determined by the telemetry rate. "Singles" data (SNG) are obtained from the start

115 signals in the TOF section, so they yield only the energy per charge of the ions and not  
116 their mass. They do, however, provide information about the angular distribution of the  
117 particles. SNG data cover 64 contiguous, logarithmically spaced energy channels  
118 between  $\sim 1$  eV and  $\sim 50$  keV for each of the 8 IMS anodes, summed over an actuation-  
119 angle range that depends on the telemetry.

120         The TOF data provide mass determination, but because of the lower efficiency for  
121 this measurement, the TOF data product is summed onboard over all look directions (all  
122 8 detectors and all actuation angles) for either 512 s or 256 s, depending on the telemetry.  
123 The ion distribution is further summed in energy, reducing the native 64 channels to 32.  
124 A TOF data product therefore consists of counts in a matrix of 32 E/q levels by 256 time-  
125 of-flight channels, enabling identification of the m/q of the various particles but no  
126 information about their angular distribution.

127         Whenever a TOF data product is reported, CAPS also reports an ION data  
128 product, which involves an onboard sorting of the counts into m/q bins based on the  
129 measured E/q and TOF, much as is done on the ground with the TOF data product [e.g.,  
130 Thomsen et al., 2014]. The ION data product is similar to the SNG product in that the  
131 energy spectrum is reported for each of the 8 anodes, providing information on the  
132 angular distribution of each species, but the count rates are typically quite low unless the  
133 fluxes are very high. We are able to make only limited use of this capability in the  
134 present study.

135         In addition to the CAPS data, we will present corresponding observations from  
136 the Cassini magnetometer (MAG) [Dougherty et al., 2004] and the Radio and Plasma  
137 Wave Investigation (RPWS) [Gurnett et al., 2004].

138           Figure 1a shows IMS observations for a typical low-latitude, nightside pass  
139 through Saturn's inner magnetosphere. The panel shows the color-coded SNG count rate  
140 from IMS anode 1 for 3.5 hours during an inbound pass on 16 Oct 2010. Between 0900  
141 and 1300 UT, Cassini moved from  $L \sim 7.00$  to  $L \sim 5.25$ , at a magnetic latitude  $\sim -1^\circ$  to  $-2^\circ$   
142 and a local time of  $\sim 01-03$  LT (c.f., Figure 2, black curve). The count rate is shown as a  
143 function of the ion  $E/q$  on the vertical axis and time on the horizontal axis. The solid  
144 black line superimposed on the spectrogram shows the local corotational energy of a  
145 proton ( $0.5m_p\rho^2\Omega_S^2$ ), where  $\rho=r\cos\lambda$ , with  $\lambda$  the latitude of the spacecraft and  $r$  its radial  
146 distance from Saturn. The  $W^+$  corotational energy would be a factor of  $\sim 16$  above the  $H^+$   
147 value shown in the figure. The ion spectra in Figure 1a exhibit a double-peaked character  
148 in  $E/q$ . As described above, the two peaks correspond to  $H^+$  (below  $\sim 100$  eV/e) and  $W^+$   
149 (above  $\sim 100$  eV/e). As expected for thermalized pick-up ion distributions observed with  
150 an electrostatic analyzer, the peak count rates (proportional to the energy flux) are found  
151 near 4 times the corotational energy of each species, decreasing as the spacecraft  
152 approaches Saturn. The periodic variations in the count rate are produced as the actuator  
153 scans the FOV of the instrument through different look directions.

154           During the interval in Figure 1a, CAPS was able to view the corotational direction  
155 of motion, so the bulk of the trans-sonic distribution lies within the FOV, accounting for  
156 the high count rates. At these low latitudes,  $W^+$  dominates the  $E/q$  spectra because it is  
157 more confined to the magnetic equator by centrifugal force than is the  $H^+$  [e.g., see the  
158 species-dependent scale heights derived by Thomsen et al., 2010]. But the two-peak  
159 character of the  $E/q$  distribution is quite clear.

160 Figure 1b shows a similar spectrogram for a typical higher-latitude inbound pass  
161 near dawn on 9 Sep 2006, in this case from anode 7. During the interval shown, the  
162 spacecraft moved from (L, $\lambda$ ,LT) of (7.0, -18.9°,5.5) to (5.5,-23.4°,7.0) (see Figure 2, blue  
163 curve). Again the viewing was favorable for seeing the corotating trans-sonic  
164 distribution, with periodic variations due to the actuation of the instrument. Due to the  
165 higher latitude,  $W^+$  is no longer the dominant ion in the spectrogram, with the  $H^+$  peak  
166 (lower energies) as intense or even more intense than the  $W^+$  (upper energies). As in  
167 Figure 1a, it is clear that the ion populations peak at  $E/q$  near and above their  
168 corresponding corotational energies, decreasing with declining distance from the planet.  
169 (The spectral event near 1020 UT is an example of the centrifugally-driven interchange  
170 injection events mentioned in the introduction and is not relevant to the present  
171 discussion.)

172 Figure 1c shows a third spectrogram, from anode 1 for an outbound pass on 21  
173 May 2005, during which Cassini moved from (L, $\lambda$ ,LT) of (5.5, 22°,23.8) to (6.9,19°,1.3)  
174 (see Figure 2, green curve). For this interval, CAPS was not actuating and did not view  
175 directly into the corotational direction. There are numerous interchange injections, but  
176 the cool plasma is still visible between events. There is little cool  $W^+$  observed due to the  
177 high latitude and poor viewing, but the energy of the cool  $H^+$  tracks the corotational  
178 energy quite well, increasing with increasing radial distance, as was the case for the other  
179 intervals shown in Figures 1a and 1b (in this case, since the instrument was looking  
180 essentially perpendicular to the flow, the peak count rate is seen at less than four times  
181 the corotational energy, as one would expect).

182           Finally, Figure 1d shows a spectrogram from anode 1 obtained on 3 May 2005,  
183 during which Cassini was outbound through the same general L range as the other panels  
184 in Figure 1, moving from (L, $\lambda$ ,LT) of (5.4, 22°,23.7) to (7.7,17°,2.0) (see Figure 2, red  
185 curve). On this pass, which immediately preceded the pass shown in Figure 1c and had  
186 very similar orbital parameters, the ion E/q distribution looks quite different from that  
187 seen on the previous orbit. CAPS was again not actuating, but prior to 0630 UT, anode 1  
188 was looking only slightly off the corotation direction, and strong fluxes were seen in both  
189 the H<sup>+</sup> and W<sup>+</sup> populations, with H<sup>+</sup> dominating at this high latitude. During this interval,  
190 the E/q distribution showed two peaks, corresponding to corotating pick-up H<sup>+</sup> and W<sup>+</sup>,  
191 as in the other panels. After 0630 UT, the spacecraft executed a roll such that neither  
192 anode 1 nor any of the other anodes was viewing near the corotation direction, and the  
193 fluxes dropped accordingly. Further, with the anodes now looking well away from  
194 corotation, a different energy structure appears in the distribution: There are now 3  
195 distinct bands of ions, with energies that decrease with increasing radial distance instead  
196 of increasing in correspondence with the corotational energy. Moreover, at ~0800 UT  
197 the bottom energy band disappears and is replaced by an additional band above 100 eV.  
198 This disappearance of the lowest-energy band and replacement with a new highest-  
199 energy band was repeated at least once more before ~1040 UT, when another spacecraft  
200 roll moved the IMS FOV into the direction opposite corotation, and the fluxes became  
201 quite low. All of these bands occupy the same general range of energies occupied by the  
202 thermal plasma at lower latitudes (c.f., Figures 1a and 1b), but the band energies clearly  
203 decrease with time and increasing radial distance. The bands seem to disappear when the

204 band energy falls below the local corotational energy (black line). The peak-to-trough  
205 flux amplitudes of the bands are ~few-20%.

206 Figure 3 focuses on this interval from 3 May 2005 in more detail, with views from  
207 4 anodes presented in 4 separate panels. As shown there, the level of the fluxes  
208 decreased for progressively higher anode numbers, which correspond to view directions  
209 closer to the magnetic field. Anodes 5-8 likewise saw the bands, but at even lower  
210 fluxes. A detailed examination of the count-rate  $E/q$  spectra (not shown) reveals that the  
211 peaks are not seen at exactly the same energy in the various anodes; rather, there is a  
212 slight but systematic and progressive shift in energy from anode 1 to the other anodes.  
213 We will return to this point below when we discuss the pitch-angle distribution of the  
214 banded ions, but we bring it up here because it has implications for analysis of the  
215 composition of the bands, to which we turn next.

216 As described above and in greater detail by Thomsen et al. [2014], the TOF data  
217 product enables determination of the composition of the ions measured by CAPS, albeit  
218 with no angular information and with reduced energy resolution. Figure 4 shows the  
219 energy distribution of the counts in the three main ion species ( $H^+$ ,  $H_2^+$ ,  $W^+$ ) for a  
220 representative interval during the banded ion event, computed following the procedure  
221 described in Thomsen et al. [2014]. The two vertical bars span the range of energies of  
222 the highest-energy clear peak in the SNG spectrum for all the anodes over this time  
223 range. The other clear peaks were all at lower energies than these bars, and it is clear  
224 from the figure that in the range of energies where the bands are observed  $H^+$  is by far the  
225 dominant contributor to the counts. There is a small peak between the vertical bars in  
226 Figure 4, but the band structure is far from obvious, first because the TOF product sums

227 over two adjacent energy channels, so the energy resolution is intrinsically lower than for  
228 SNG data, and second because the TOF product sums over all the anodes, which as noted  
229 above see the band peaks at slightly different energies, further smearing the structure in  
230 energy. Nonetheless, from Figure 4 it is clear that the bands that are seen in SNG are  
231 primarily in the  $H^+$  population. There may also be bands in the other species, but the  
232 energy resolution of the TOF data product is not adequate to say definitively whether or  
233 not this is the case. Examination of the ION data product mentioned above (not shown)  
234 confirms that the onboard-sorted  $H^+$  does in fact display the same peaks as the SNG  
235 spectra, but with much lower count rates. The count rates in the ION  $W^+$  and  $H_2^+$  spectra  
236 are too low to draw meaningful conclusions about whether or not bands exist in those  
237 species.

238         Returning to the energies of the bands, it is important to realize that these are the  
239 particle energies as seen in the frame of the spacecraft. Since the plasma is  
240 approximately corotating with Saturn, it is necessary to transform into the corotating  
241 frame to examine the true band energies and pitch angles. Ideally, one would transform  
242 into the plasma rest frame, but because the actuator was not operating during this interval,  
243 we are unable to obtain bulk flow moments of the distribution [e.g., Thomsen et al.,  
244 2010] and have simply assumed full corotation to do the transformation. While several  
245 studies have shown that the flow speed in this region of the magnetosphere is actually  
246 more typically ~60-90% of full corotation [e.g., Wilson et al., 2008, 2009; Thomsen et  
247 al., 2010; Holmberg et al., 2012], the assumption of full corotation as opposed to 60%  
248 makes only a small quantitative difference (few degrees in pitch angle, few percent in  
249 energy). The SNG measurements have accordingly been transformed to the corotating

250 frame, and the energies of the peaks in that frame have been tabulated at 15-minute  
251 intervals during the 3-h period from 0630 to 0930 UT.

252 Figure 5 summarizes the resulting band energies in the corotating frame. Panel a  
253 shows the band energies for the four anodes with the highest counting rates, plotted as a  
254 function of time during the 3-h interval. Even in the corotating frame, it is clear that the  
255 band energies vary with look direction. The solid line in Figure 5a is the H<sup>+</sup> corotation  
256 energy over the same time range, showing the increase with time that contrasts clearly  
257 with the decrease seen in the band energies. Figure 5b shows the band energies as a  
258 function of time for just anode 1, which has the highest count rates. The bands show a  
259 very clear and near-exponential decrease with time during the interval. Because of the  
260 nature of Cassini's orbit at this time, both the L value and the latitude of the spacecraft  
261 varied monotonically with time, and Figures 5c and 5d show the anode 1 band energies  
262 plotted as a function of L and latitude, respectively. These also yield nearly exponential  
263 dependences of the band energies, decreasing with L and increasing with latitude. The  
264 coupling of these parameters makes it impossible to determine which dependence is  
265 primary (t, L, or  $\lambda$ ). Table 1 provides the coefficients of exponential fits to the three  
266 parameters for the three anode-1 bands highlighted in Figures 5b-5d. Based on these fits  
267 for anode 1, the average ratio of the band 2 (middle) energy to the band 1 (lowest) energy  
268 is  $\sim 2.0$ , and the average band 3 (highest) to band 2 ratio is  $\sim 2.5$ .

269 In addition to calculating the band energies in the corotating frame, we have also  
270 calculated the pitch angles seen by each of the anodes in this frame. We have then  
271 binned the observed counts into energy and pitch angle bins for 5-min intervals during  
272 the pass. Panels a, b, and c of Figure 6 show the count rate as a function of energy and

273 pitch angle bin for three different 5-min intervals during the time when the ion bands  
274 were seen. The bands can be seen in each panel; moreover, all three panels show that the  
275 energy of the bands appears to decrease with increasing pitch angle, even across  $90^\circ$ .  
276 This is confirmed by Figures 6d, 6e, and 6f, which show the band energies vs pitch angle  
277 for three of the individual spectra summarized in Figure 5a. In Figures 6d, 6e, and 6f, we  
278 have connected points corresponding to the same apparent band in order to guide the eye,  
279 but the bands clearly follow the same behavior seen in the 5-minute summed pitch-angle  
280 plots in Figures 6a, 6b, and 6c. Note that for Cassini's location at northern latitudes at  
281 this time, particles with pitch angles less than  $90^\circ$  are moving toward the equator,  
282 whereas those with pitch angles greater than  $90^\circ$  are moving away from the equator.

283 Further, Figures 6a, 6b, and 6c show that the energy flux (proportional to the  
284 color-coded counts) is greater for particles coming from the equator ( $\text{p.a.} > 90^\circ$ ) than for  
285 those coming from high latitudes ( $\text{p.a.} < 90^\circ$ ) at the same  $|\text{p.a.} - 90^\circ|$ .

286

287 Discussion

288 *Other events*

289 We have not conducted a comprehensive survey for additional such banded-ion  
290 events, but Table 2 lists the few intervals where we have seen banding while surveying  
291 the data for other purposes. None of these additional intervals shows the bands quite as  
292 clearly as the 3 May 2005 event described above, nor have we done such a complete  
293 analysis of the band properties in those events. For the remainder of this paper, we focus  
294 on the 3 May 2005 event, but the other events may yield additional relevant information  
295 in the future.

296

297 *Transport of banded ions*

298           In addition to the observational features described above regarding the banded  
299 ions, consideration of the band energies (in the corotating frame) provides additional  
300 insight. We focus first on locally mirroring particles (i.e., with pitch angles of  $90^\circ$ ). We  
301 obtain the band energies for those particles by interpolating along energy-vs-pitch-angle  
302 curves such as those shown in Figure 6d, 6e, and 6f. Using a dipole approximation for  
303 the magnetic field, which is valid within the radial range of interest [Burton et al., 2010],  
304 we estimate the equatorial pitch angle corresponding to locally mirroring particles.  
305 Combining the equatorial pitch angle and the inferred band energy for locally mirroring  
306 particles, we estimate the travel time from the equator to the observation point for  $H^+$  ions  
307 at each of the 15-minute intervals shown in Figure 5. For locally mirroring particles this  
308 is just  $\frac{1}{4}$  bounce period, where the latter is calculated according to Thomsen and Van  
309 Allen [1980]. The results are shown in Figure 7a for four identifiable bands, with Band 1  
310 being the lowest-energy one.

311           Subtracting this direct travel time from the time of observation, we find the most  
312 recent time at which particles in each band would have left the equator on their way to  
313 the spacecraft. These equatorial departure times (in sec of the day) are shown in Figure  
314 7b. This calculation reveals that the slowest particles seen by Cassini at 0645 UT (band  
315 1) left the equator at  $\sim 0530$  UT, while particles in the most energetic band seen at 0645  
316 (band 3) left the equator at  $\sim 0608$  UT. Assuming full corotation (and ignoring gradient  
317 and curvature drifts, which are negligible in this energy range), the direct travel times  
318 combined with the local time of observation also determine the local time at which the

319 banded ions left the equatorial plane. These are shown in Figure 7c. Note that although  
320 the energy-banded ions were observed by Cassini near local midnight, the travel time  
321 from the equator is so long for these energies that the original departure from the equator  
322 actually occurred near LT~21 for the lowest-energy band.

323 Finally, Figure 7d shows the difference in the equatorial departure time between  
324 pairs of adjacent bands. At least for the lowest 3 bands (1-3), the inferred departure times  
325 are separated by ~1200-1700 s, apparently increasing with time or radial distance.

326 The solid line shown in Figure 7d is the travel time for an Alfvén wave to  
327 propagate along the field line from the equator to a high-latitude mirror point and back to  
328 the equator. To find this time, we combined the radial dependence of the equatorial  
329 densities of the three main ion species determined by Thomsen et al. [2010] and shown in  
330 their Figure 7c with the scale heights also given in that figure to calculate the plasma  
331 mass density as a function of latitude along a given dipole magnetic field line in the inner  
332 magnetosphere. The corresponding Alfvén speed as a function of L and  $\lambda$  was then  
333 calculated, and the travel time was integrated over one half the bounce period, yielding  
334 the curve shown in Figure 7d.

335

336 *Possible scenario: Field Line Resonance*

337 The half-bounce Alfvén time in Figure 7d is of the same order as the time  
338 difference between successive equatorial departure times for the banded ions, and it has  
339 the same radial dependence. This suggests that the bands may be produced by  
340 acceleration/deceleration within a large-scale field line resonance (FLR). FLRs are  
341 standing shear Alfvén waves with parallel wave numbers that are quantized by the

342 ionospheric boundary conditions [e.g., Chen and Hasegawa, 1974; Southwood, 1974;  
343 Kivelson and Southwood, 1985; Hughes, 1994]. The fundamental mode ( $n=1$ ) has one  
344 half wavelength between ionospheric boundaries, and the second harmonic ( $n=2$ ) has a  
345 full wavelength between ionospheric boundaries. The corresponding eigenfrequencies  
346 are therefore approximately  $f=nV_A/2S$ , where  $V_A$  is the Alfvén speed near the equator and  
347  $S$  is the length of the field line. Thus, the period of the fundamental mode is the Alfvén  
348 bounce period on the field line, while the second harmonic period is half that bounce  
349 period. FLRs are commonly observed at Earth, and a large literature exists in which their  
350 properties, causes, and consequences have been explored. Recently, Yates et al. [2016]  
351 showed Cassini magnetic field observations that provide persuasive evidence that field  
352 line resonances occur in Saturn’s outer magnetosphere and may be responsible for the  
353 ~1-hour periodicities that have been reported in a number of magnetospheric properties at  
354 Saturn, including energetic particle fluxes, magnetic field, plasma wave emissions, and  
355 the aurora [see Palmaerts et al., 2016, and references therein]. Yates et al. [2016]  
356 concluded that their high-latitude magnetic field observations were most consistent with  
357 second harmonic Alfvén waves on closed outer magnetospheric field lines with plasma  
358 density concentrated near the equator.

359       Charged particles interacting with the wave fields of FLRs can gain or lose energy  
360 depending on the wave phase, the energy distribution of the particles, and spatial  
361 gradients in the phase space density. The theoretical basis for such particle energization  
362 was explored by Southwood and Kivelson [1981, 1982], and recent test-particle  
363 simulations for conditions at Earth confirm the expected energization [Rankin et al.,

364 2016]. The concept has also been successfully applied to particle observations at Earth  
 365 [e.g., Yang et al., 2011a,b; Zong et al., 2012; Ren et al., 2016].

366 In the Southwood and Kivelson analysis, there are two modes of energization: 1)  
 367 a resonant or near-resonant acceleration/deceleration of particles gradient/curvature  
 368 drifting parallel to the wave electric field, and 2) an adiabatic acceleration/deceleration of  
 369 particles displaced in L by ExB drifts in the wave electric field. The effect on the flux of  
 370 particles of a given energy of these two processes can be expressed as

$$371 \quad \frac{\delta f}{f} = \frac{1}{f} \frac{\partial f}{\partial E} \Big|_L \Delta E + \frac{1}{f} \frac{\partial f}{\partial L} \Big|_\mu \Delta L \quad 1)$$

372 where

$$373 \quad \Delta E = qv_D \mathcal{E}_\varphi \Delta t \quad 2)$$

$$374 \quad \Delta L = c \frac{\mathcal{E}_\varphi}{BR_s} \Delta t \quad 3)$$

375 Here  $f$  is the phase space density of the particle distribution (proportional to flux/energy),  
 376  $\mathcal{E}$  is the wave electric field,  $v_D$  is the gradient/curvature drift speed of a particle,  $B$  is the  
 377 ambient (presumed dipole) magnetic field strength,  $R_s$  is the radius of Saturn, and  $\Delta t$  is  
 378 the time the particle is exposed to the wave.

379 The energization and radial transport indicated by Equations 2 and 3 depend on  
 380 the sign of the azimuthal component of the electric field [e.g., Southwood and Kivelson,  
 381 1981] and in general tend to average to zero as particles bounce in a time-varying field.  
 382 However, for certain resonant bounce frequencies, the particles repeatedly encounter the  
 383 wave field in the same orientation, leading to accumulated acceleration (or deceleration).  
 384 Since the phase space density of the particles decreases with energy, there are more  
 385 particles available to gain energy than to lose energy, so particles with a resonant bounce

386 frequency will exhibit a flux enhancement over multiple bounces. The resonant bounce  
387 periods are integer multiples of the wave period. Hence, for particles interacting with  
388 field line resonances, we would expect flux enhancements at energies corresponding to  
389 bounce periods of

$$390 \quad T_b = mT_w = mT_{Ab}/n \quad 4)$$

391 where  $m$  is the order of the particle resonance,  $n$  is the field-line resonant mode number,  
392 and  $T_{Ab}$  is the Alfvén wave bounce period.

393 Figure 8 shows a comparison of the bounce periods computed for locally  
394 mirroring protons at the observed band energies and various harmonics of the Alfvén  
395 bounce period as given by Equation 4 for  $n=1$  and  $n=2$ . The Alfvén bounce times were  
396 computed as described above. Allowing for uncertainties in the equatorial density  
397 distribution and the plasma scale heights, the left-hand side of Figure 8 ( $n=1$ ) shows  
398 fairly good agreement between the band-ion bounce periods and low orders of the Alfvén  
399 bounce period. The right-hand side of Figure 8 shows that it would require rather high  
400 orders ( $m$ ) to match the observed particle bounce periods in  $n=2$  and that a number of  
401 orders would be missing. However, there are uncertainties in both the equatorial  
402 densities and scale heights used above that would probably allow a longer Alfvén bounce  
403 period, so we can not rule out a match for  $n=2$ . Similarly, even at these relatively low L  
404 values there is significant field-line stretching due to Saturn's ring current, which also  
405 tends to increase  $T_{Ab}$ . Thus, we conclude that the band-ion bounce periods are consistent  
406 with the fundamental or second harmonic FLR.

407 Assuming a Maxwellian hydrogen distribution with density and temperature as  
408 determined by Wilson et al. [2008], we can estimate the magnitude of the terms in  
409 Equation 1. For an Alfvén wave,

$$410 \quad \mathcal{E}_\varphi = (v_A / c) \cdot \delta B \quad 5)$$

411 where  $\delta B$  is the magnetic perturbation of the wave, and the equation relates only the  
412 amplitudes of the electric and magnetic field perturbations, which are actually  
413 orthogonal. Guided by the measurements of Yates et al. [2016], we adopt  $\delta B=0.3$  nT and  
414  $\Delta t=1800$  s and find that for an H<sup>+</sup> energy of 30 eV at L=6, Equation 1 gives

$$415 \quad \frac{\delta f}{f} = 0.009 + 0.018 = 0.027 \quad 6)$$

416 Thus, a very crude estimate of the effect a field line resonance might have on the  
417 hydrogen flux is  $\pm 3\%$  for a single encounter with the wave. Multiple encounters by  
418 resonant particles would increase this energization. Given that we don't actually know  
419 the wave amplitude encountered by the particles, nor its latitude dependence, this is  
420 plausibly close to the value of  $\pm$ few-20% observed between the band peaks and the  
421 troughs between them.

422

### 423 *Pitch Angle Dependence*

424 One prediction of such a scenario is that the band energies seen at Cassini should  
425 vary with pitch angle since it is the parallel component of the particle velocity that  
426 determines the bounce frequency. Assuming conservation of particle energy and  
427 magnetic moment as ions travel along the magnetic field from the equator to the  
428 observation point, one can calculate the energy as a function of local pitch angle for

429 which the bounce periods are equal to those shown for locally mirroring particles in  
430 Figure 5a. The result is given in Figure 9a for the CAPS observation at ~0700 UT  
431 ( $L \sim 5.9$ ,  $\lambda \sim 21^\circ$ ), overlaid on the observed pitch angle dependence of the band energies  
432 shown in Figure 6d. While there are clear quantitative discrepancies between the model  
433 pitch angle dependence and the observed variation, the qualitative tendency for the band  
434 energy to decrease with increasing pitch angle is reproduced.

435         The one qualitative discrepancy in Figure 9a is that above  $90^\circ$ , the observed band  
436 energies continue to decrease, whereas the energies for constant bounce period begin to  
437 increase again. This decrease in the band energies across  $90^\circ$  pitch angle is a persistent  
438 feature of the banded ions, as shown in Figure 6. As noted above, particles with pitch  
439 angles greater than  $90^\circ$  are those that are moving away from the equator, whereas those at  
440 pitch angles less than  $90^\circ$  have mirrored at latitudes above the spacecraft and are  
441 returning toward the equator. Thus, the particles with pitch angles greater than  $90^\circ$  have  
442 travelled a shorter distance since their last equatorial encounter than have particles on the  
443 descending part of their bounce (pitch angles less than  $90^\circ$ ). They have also more  
444 recently passed through the latitude range below the spacecraft, and it is possible that  
445 they have encountered the wave there in a different phase, leading to deceleration rather  
446 than acceleration.

447         On the other hand, the discrepancy in the behavior of the band energy across  $90^\circ$   
448 shown in Figure 9a might be an indication that, while the particles are resonant with the  
449 wave, what counts most in determining their current state of acceleration/deceleration is  
450 the phase of the wave when the particles most recently encountered it. Thus, at any given  
451 time the spacecraft will see enhanced fluxes only for particles whose time of flight was

452 such that they encountered the wave region at the right phase, i.e., there will be a discrete  
453 energy band corresponding to particles with the right time of flight. This possibility  
454 suggests that the bands may correspond to constant times of flight, rather than just  
455 constant bounce period. Figure 9b shows the pitch-angle dependence of the observed  
456 band energies for the same interval as Figure 9a, overlaid on the energy as a function of  
457 local pitch angle for which the times of flight from the equator to the spacecraft are equal  
458 to those for locally-mirroring band particles. Again there are clear quantitative  
459 discrepancies between the model pitch angle dependence and the observed variation, but  
460 the qualitative tendency for the band energy to decrease with increasing pitch angle is  
461 reproduced, including across  $90^\circ$ .

462         The agreement between the observed pitch angle dependence of the band energies  
463 and the modeled dependence can be improved by changing the presumed origin of the  
464 accelerated particles (i.e., the region along the field where the particles encountered large  
465 wave amplitudes in the correct direction). Figure 9c shows the same calculation as  
466 Figure 9b, except that the ions are assumed to be traveling from a magnetic latitude of  
467  $-20^\circ$ . (Note that in order to yield particles that mirror locally at Cassini, the launch  
468 latitude must be less than or equal to the spacecraft latitude.) The energy/pitch angle  
469 dispersion in the modeled bands now matches the observations much better than for an  
470 equatorial origin.

471         The possibility that the energization of the resonant or near-resonant particles  
472 might be dominated by their most recent encounter with the wave is not unreasonable in  
473 light of the very long bounce periods of the resonant particles ( $>2$  h, see Figure 7d). To  
474 be truly “bounce resonant”, particles would need to encounter the wave on multiple

475 bounces, always in the right wave phase. For such long bounce periods, this would  
476 require that the wave properties stay stable over close to a planetary rotation. Thus, any  
477 local time dependence to the plasma or field properties would tend to wash out some of  
478 the earlier resonant behavior, but would leave the most recent wave encounter intact.

479 Figure 10 is similar to Figure 7 but is constructed under the assumption that the  
480 prime acceleration point for the particles was at a latitude of  $-20^\circ$ . From this location, the  
481 travel times would be considerably longer, the prime acceleration times considerably  
482 earlier ( $\sim 4.6$  UT vs  $\sim 5.7$  UT for an equatorial source), and the local time of origin  
483 considerably earlier (near dusk vs  $\sim 21$  LT for an equatorial source). The difference in  
484 departure times for the subsequent energy bands is also longer, now somewhat greater  
485 than half the Alfvén wave bounce time. We have not attempted to optimize the match to  
486 the wave bounce time, but it is clear from Figures 7d and 9d that a source location  
487 between the equator and  $\lambda \sim -20^\circ$  would probably bring them fairly close together.

488 The problem with attributing the bulk of the particle energization to the most  
489 recent wave encounter is that the few percent increase in flux estimated above in  
490 Equation 6 would not be adequate to give the observed flux modulation based on a single  
491 wave encounter. To get enough energization in a single encounter, the wave amplitude  
492 would have to be much larger than assumed above. Since we don't actually know what  
493 the wave amplitude is in the prime acceleration region, we simply leave this as a puzzle  
494 for future consideration.

495

496 *Possible Sources of FLR: Dynamic Pressure Impulse*

497           In the terrestrial magnetosphere, field line resonances not uncommonly originate  
498 from a dynamic pressure impulse imparted by the solar wind, such as an interplanetary  
499 shock [e.g., Southwood and Kivelson, 1990]. The initial impulse propagates through the  
500 magnetosphere as a fast-mode compressional wave, which couples to shear mode Alfvén  
501 waves that form the field line resonances [e.g., Tamao, 1964; Chen and Hasegawa, 1974;  
502 Southwood, 1974; Lysak and Lee, 1992; Chi et al., 2006]. Such conversion occurs  
503 primarily in regions of strong gradients of the Alfvén velocity (such as the Earth’s  
504 plasmopause).

505           If the banded ions seen by Cassini on 3 May 2005 are due to the passage of a  
506 compressional wave front and energization by the standing waves it produces by coupling  
507 to a field-aligned wave mode, then we need to ask if there is other observational evidence  
508 for the passage of such a compressional wave or the existence of the field-line resonance.  
509 Figure 11 presents three types of data that are potentially useful for this question: a) the  
510 magnetic field magnitude and azimuthal component measured by Cassini in the hours  
511 before and during the banded ion observations [Dougherty et al., 2004]; b) the electric  
512 wave spectra observed by the RPWS instrument during the 2-day interval encompassing  
513 the banded ion event, plus 2-day intervals from the previous and subsequent periapsis  
514 passes [Gurnett et al., 2004]; and c) a 50-day interval of solar wind properties projected  
515 to Saturn’s location via the mSWIM MHD model [Zieger and Hansen, 2008].

516           In Figure 11a, the interval corresponding to the backward projected departure  
517 times of the lowest energy band of ions is shown as the solid black bar above the panel.  
518 The range of this bar covers the range of ion departure times both for an assumed  
519 equatorial encounter with the wave and one at  $-20^\circ$  latitude, and any passing

520 compressional wave would presumably be found somewhere near this time. The dashed  
521 bar just to the right of the solid bar indicates the range of times over which field line  
522 resonances would be expected.

523 Examination of the upper panel of Figure 11a reveals no indication of a magnetic  
524 field compression occurring near the solid bar or any other time during the 10-hour  
525 interval displayed. Subtraction of a dipole model to examine residual field (not shown)  
526 also does not show significant evidence of compression. Any variations in the field  
527 strength are at less than the 1% level throughout. Magnetic compression signatures have  
528 previously been reported in Saturn's lobes [e.g., Jackman et al., 2010; Thomsen et al.,  
529 2015] but not within the inner magnetosphere (other than those associated with  
530 interchange injection events). However, observations of compressional pulses launched  
531 into Earth's magnetosphere suggest at least three possible considerations that might make  
532 it difficult to detect compressions at Cassini's location at this time: The first is that  
533 Cassini was located near midnight local time during the interval when a compressional  
534 signal might have been propagating through the region (c.f., Figure 11a), and numerous  
535 studies at the Earth (particularly at geosynchronous orbit,  $L=6.6$ ) have shown that the  
536 geomagnetic field response to sharp solar wind dynamic pressure variations is typically  
537 very weak to nonexistent on the night side [e.g., Borodkova et al., 2005; Wang et al.,  
538 2007; Villante and Piersanti, 2008; Jackel et al., 2012]. The second consideration is that  
539 Cassini was at very low  $L$  values ( $\sim 4$ ) at the time a compression might have been  
540 expected. Since the magnetic field there is quite large, one might not expect to observe a  
541 significant compressional signature. Finally, the third consideration is that Cassini was  
542 also at a relatively high latitude ( $\sim 20^\circ$ ); information about the latitude dependence of the

543 compressional signals at Earth doesn't seem to be available in the literature (except at  
544 ionospheric altitudes), but it seems possible that the compressional signature may be  
545 largely confined to the near-equatorial region. Moreover, measurements from a global  
546 MHD simulation of Saturn's magnetospheric response to a solar wind dynamic pressure  
547 enhancement [Jia et al., 2012] show a compressive signal less than 1% of the ambient  
548 magnetospheric magnetic field at L=6, LT=23 and latitude =20° (X. Jia, unpublished  
549 analysis). The small amplitude of the signature, combined with the decreasing relative  
550 amplitude as the background field increases between L=6 and L=4, suggests that Cassini  
551 may well not have been able to detect a tiny compression this deep in the magnetosphere  
552 at a latitude of 20°.

553         The lower panel in Figure 11a shows the azimuthal component of the magnetic  
554 field observed at Cassini through this time period. High-frequency fluctuations visible in  
555 the figure after ~05:30 UT may be electromagnetic ion cyclotron waves, which are  
556 ubiquitous in the ion-pickup region of Saturn's inner magnetosphere [e.g., Leisner et al.,  
557 2006; Russell et al., 2006]. Between about 00:30 and 05:30 UT the instrument was  
558 operating in a higher dynamic range, and the interval of sharply higher fluctuation  
559 amplitudes then is due to the digitization level in that range. In addition to these high-  
560 frequency signals, there are 3-4 enhancements in  $B_\phi$  separated by ~40 minutes, as  
561 indicated by the vertical bars in the panel. It seems possible that these could be the  
562 signature of the field line resonances left behind on these field lines by the passage of a  
563 compressional signal at an earlier local time (closer to 18 LT, see Figure 9).

564         While the magnetic field data of Figure 11a do not show any direct evidence of  
565 the occurrence of a sudden compression of the magnetosphere, we can also look for a

566 signature in the observations of the RPWS instrument. Previous work has shown that  
567 solar wind dynamic pressure enhancements characteristically lead to sudden brightenings  
568 of Saturn Kilometric Radiation (SKR) emissions and the extension of SKR to lower  
569 frequencies than its normal range [e.g., Desch, 1982; Kurth et al., 2005; Bunce et al.,  
570 2005; Mitchell et al., 2005; Jackman et al., 2009, 2010; Thomsen et al., 2015]. Figure  
571 11b presents RPWS electric field spectra for the two days surrounding the periapsis pass  
572 on which the banded ions were seen (marked by the solid bars above and below the  
573 center panel), as well as the two-day intervals surrounding the two periapsis passes  
574 immediately preceding and following the one of interest here (upper and lower panels).  
575 In these spectrograms, SKR emissions are seen as wave power above a few tens of  
576 kilohertz, except in a “shadow zone” near periapsis where such waves are excluded [e.g.,  
577 Galopeau et al., 1989; Lamy et al., 2008]. In comparing the inbound versus outbound  
578 RPWS observations surrounding periapsis on day 123 (center panel), we find no evidence  
579 for an enhancement in SKR intensity, nor an extension to lower frequencies, during the  
580 time when our analysis above would predict the passage of the compressional wave  
581 (~few hours after midnight on day 123). Indeed, comparison of the center panel in  
582 Figure 11b with the upper and lower panels does not reveal any distinctive plasma wave  
583 signature that might be attributed to the passage of a solar wind dynamic pressure  
584 enhancement on day 123. There exists a possibility that if the SKR during the interval of  
585 interest was dominantly from the southern source, the so-called shadow zone [Lamy et  
586 al., 2008] might have prevented Cassini at relatively high northern latitudes from seeing  
587 the emissions, but this should not have affected SKR observations beyond  $L \sim 7$ . Thus,

588 SKR data do not appear to support the occurrence of a global compression early on day  
589 123.

590 Finally, Figure 11c explores the possibility of a solar wind dynamic pressure  
591 increase by reference to the solar wind parameters predicted at Saturn's orbit by the  
592 MHD model mSWIM, constrained by 1 AU observations [Zieger and Hansen, 2008].  
593 Figure 11c presents the predicted density, speed, and dynamic pressure at Saturn's  
594 location between days 100 and 150 of 2005. The three periapsis intervals shown in  
595 Figure 11b are indicated by the vertical dashed lines. The model predicts that early on  
596 day 123 Saturn would have been in the low-speed, low-density rarefaction region  
597 preceding the arrival of a high-speed stream early on day 124. The year 2005 was a good  
598 one for mSWIM predictions in that it featured a high recurrence index of solar wind  
599 properties [Zieger and Hansen, 2008], but unfortunately the interval of interest around  
600 day 123 was quite far removed from the optimum near-opposition of Earth and Saturn,  
601 for which the model predictions are most accurate (days 13-41 in 2005 [mSWIM  
602 webpage <http://mswim.engin.umich.edu/validation.php>]). In Zieger and Hansen's 2008  
603 study, for intervals ~100 days after near-opposition, there is considerable uncertainty in  
604 the modeled shock arrival time, with both positive and negative time lags (prediction  
605 later/earlier than actual arrival, respectively) up to 40 hours or so. Thus, it is possible that  
606 the shock predicted by mSWIM on day 124 could have arrived early on day 123 at the  
607 time expected according to the hypothesis we have advanced. RPWS saw no strong  
608 enhancement of SKR or any low-frequency extensions on day 124 (not shown),  
609 suggesting that the predicted pressure enhancement did not arrive on that day.

610 In summary, we find possible evidence for a field line resonance in a few  $B_\phi$   
611 enhancements seen in the same time frame as the banded ions, with time separations  $\sim 40$   
612 min, comparable to  $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 times the Alfvén bounce period (c.f., Figure 10d). However,  
613 while the mSWIM model predicts a solar wind dynamic pressure enhancement on the  
614 following day, which would be within the uncertainty of the modeling, the observations  
615 in Figure 11 provide no clear magnetospheric evidence supporting the passage of a global  
616 compressional event early on day 123. Nonetheless, because compressional waves  
617 propagate in all directions relative to  $B$ , compressional perturbations are so  
618 spatially dispersed that even a small amplitude compression can have a significant  
619 effect on a global scale. A resonant flux tube extracts energy all along its extent from  
620 ionosphere to ionosphere and the locally small compressional perturbations can  
621 thus be a significant energy source for the standing wave resonance. So we can not  
622 fully rule out the possibility of a solar wind impulse as the stimulus for the FLR.

623

#### 624 *Possible Sources of FLR: Magnetopause Fluctuations*

625 Another possible source for the inferred field line resonances is ongoing Kelvin-  
626 Helmholtz (KH) activity at the magnetopause or pulsed magnetopause reconnection, as  
627 have been found at Earth [e.g., Singer et al., 1977; Anderson et al., 1991; Engebretson et  
628 al., 1998; Le et al., 2004]. Evidence for KH waves at Saturn’s magnetopause has  
629 certainly been reported in Cassini in situ data [e.g., Masters et al., 2009, 2010, 2012;  
630 Cutler et al., 2011; Wilson et al., 2012] and in small-scale structure in auroral emissions  
631 [Grodent et al., 2011]. A survey of magnetic signatures of KH at Saturn found that the  
632 occurrence frequency is highest on the dusk flank, contrary to previous expectations

633 [Delamere et al., 2013], but subsequent theoretical exploration of the KH instability at  
634 Saturn confirmed that the dusk magnetopause should often be KH-unstable and that KH  
635 is inhibited on the dawn side [Desroche et al., 2013]. The banded-ion observations  
636 presented here seem to imply field line resonances on the dusk side, consistent with this  
637 dusk preference for KH.

638         A number of recent Cassini observations have reported quasi-periodic variations  
639 with periods  $\sim 1$  hour in magnetospheric properties, especially the fluxes of energetic  
640 particles, auroral broadening, auroral hiss, and the magnetic field [Roussos et al., 2016;  
641 Mitchell et al., 2016; Palmaerts et al., 2016; Yates et al., 2016]. The statistical  
642 occurrence of the quasi-periodic phenomena suggests a high-latitude source [Palmaerts et  
643 al., 2016], and several authors have suggested that they originate in KH instability of the  
644 magnetopause [Roussos et al., 2016; Mitchell et al., 2016]. Thus, it seems possible that  
645 KH waves at the magnetopause, especially at dusk, could drive field line resonances  
646 throughout the dusk magnetosphere.

647

#### 648 *Possible Sources of FLR: Planetary Period Oscillations*

649         Finally, as mentioned above, Yates et al. [2016] have presented high-latitude  
650 observations of  $\sim 1$ -hour periodicities in the magnetic field, primarily transverse to the  
651 average field. They have identified these fluctuations as second harmonic Alfvén waves  
652 standing on closed outer-magnetospheric field lines. The fluctuations analyzed by Yates  
653 et al. persisted for 6 days, from day 338 (4 Dec) through day 343 (9 Dec) of 2006. From  
654 Table 2 we note that one of the banded-ion events we have found occurred on the day  
655 preceding the Yates interval, while Cassini was outbound through the inner

656 magnetosphere. This close proximity in time provides yet another link between banded  
657 ions and FLRs. Further, the long duration of the Yates interval suggests that stimulation  
658 of the waves by a passing solar wind dynamic pressure enhancement is unlikely.

659         Most intriguingly, Yates et al. [2016] found that the 1-hour magnetic fluctuations  
660 were temporally modulated, occurring in wave packets that in the northern hemisphere  
661 recur periodically at the northern magnetic oscillation period [e.g., Gurnett et al., 2009;  
662 Andrews et al., 2012; Provan et al., 2012]. They attributed the wave packet structure to a  
663 rocking of the magnetosphere due to whatever dynamical process is responsible for the  
664 much-studied planetary period oscillations (PPO) (see Carbary and Mitchell [2013] for a  
665 review of PPO observations and models and Cowley et al. [2016a] for a recent update).  
666 As for the source of the Alfvén waves themselves, Yates et al. [2016] suggested that they  
667 “are probably generated by some dynamical process occurring in the outer  
668 magnetosphere or in the central plasma sheet”.

669         The PPOs observed in magnetic field measurements have been very successfully  
670 modeled by a dual corotating field-aligned current system [e.g., Southwood and  
671 Kivelson, 2007; Andrews et al., 2010, 2012; Provan et al., 2012; Cowley et al., 2016b].  
672 These field-aligned currents emerge naturally from the atmospheric vortex model of  
673 PPOs, which imposes a rotating pattern of flow in the ionosphere that results in periodic  
674 modulation of the magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling currents [Jia et al., 2012; Jia and  
675 Kivelson, 2012]. While it is well beyond the scope of this paper to investigate the  
676 possibility, we offer the speculation that it may be these time-varying field-aligned  
677 currents associated with the planetary period oscillations that periodically power the  
678 Alfvén waves that form the field line resonances in the magnetosphere. Kivelson and Jia

679 [2014] showed how compressional fronts are launched by these ionospheric current  
680 sources of planetary period oscillations. Since any compressional disturbance has the  
681 possibility of coupling into a field line resonance, generation of FLRs might be a nearly  
682 continuous process, modulated at the planetary period.

683         Such an internal source would account for the wide distribution of  $\sim$ 1-hour  
684 periodic phenomena throughout Saturn's magnetosphere. In particular, field line  
685 resonances would not be confined to the outer magnetosphere, but could potentially be  
686 produced in the inner magnetosphere where we observe the banded ions. Moreover,  
687 FLRs would be expected to be a rather common occurrence throughout the  
688 magnetosphere, not requiring the relatively infrequent dynamic pressure events in the  
689 solar wind, nor any particular KH activity at the magnetopause. Indeed, as pointed out  
690 above, the Yates et al. observations showed the 1-h waves persisting for at least 6 days,  
691 which is quite unlikely for FLRs created by a single solar wind pressure pulse. Further,  
692 this would require relatively stable solar wind properties over that time scale if Kelvin-  
693 Helmholtz waves are to be the source, but such long intervals would easily be consistent  
694 with a repeating internal source.

695

## 696 Summary

697         1. On 3 May 2005 (day 123) the cool ion distribution observed by Cassini exhibited  
698  $\sim$ 3-4 discrete bands in  $E/q$ . The band energies uniformly decreased with  
699 increasing radial distance, but they appeared superimposed on a background  
700 thermal population that followed the expected general increase with  $r$ .

- 701 2. The banded ions were a globally coherent feature, lasting at least ~4 hours, and  
702 covering at least the L range from 5.7 to 7.5, the local time region from pre-  
703 midnight to ~2 LT, and ~106° of SLS2 longitude [e.g., Kurth et al., 2007].
- 704 3. The fact that the energy flux was larger for particles coming from the equator than  
705 for particles coming from high latitudes points to a more equatorial source of the  
706 population or possibly one in the southern hemisphere.
- 707 4. The energy of the bands appeared to decrease with increasing pitch angle, even  
708 across 90°.
- 709 5. The bands that CAPS saw were dominantly H<sup>+</sup>, and we are unable to determine  
710 whether or not the heavier species (H<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> and W<sup>+</sup>) were similarly banded,  
711 preventing the type of species comparisons (e.g., common energy or common  
712 time of flight) that have proven valuable at Earth [e.g., Colpitts et al., 2016].
- 713 6. Projecting backwards in time, the banded ions seen by Cassini would have  
714 departed the equator in the premidnight region ~0.5-1.5 hours prior to their  
715 observation (the shorter travel times corresponding to the higher-energy bands).  
716 The times between the projected departures of the various energy bands would  
717 have been ~1000-2000 s, comparable to the estimated half bounce period of  
718 Alfvén waves on these field lines. Departure from a southern magnetic latitude of  
719 20° rather than the equator would have resulted in roughly twice that travel time  
720 and twice the difference times, but again the difference times would be  
721 comparable to the Alfvén wave half bounce period.
- 722 7. We hypothesize that the banded ions are formed by a bounce-resonant interaction  
723 between magnetospheric H<sup>+</sup> ions and the standing wave structure of a field-line

724 resonance. The observed band energies are consistent with the expectation that  
725 the bounce period of resonant particles would be related to the Alfvén bounce  
726 period by Equation 4. For the plasma and field parameters we have adopted for  
727 the calculation, the  $n=1$  FLR (with a peak wave amplitude near the equator) seems  
728 to provide a better match to the band energies in that it allows a frequency match  
729 for relatively low orders of the bounce resonance ( $m=1,2,\dots$ ), but with reasonable  
730 variations of the plasma and field properties, the  $n=2$  FLR might also give a  
731 satisfactory match.

732 8. The pitch-angle dependence of the band energies is generally consistent with the  
733 bounce resonance hypothesis, except that the band energies decrease rather than  
734 increase with pitch angle above  $90^\circ$ . This feature is robust throughout much of  
735 the interval of the bands. It may indicate that these particles, which are traveling  
736 away from the equatorial plane, have been less effectively accelerated during their  
737 interaction with the wave. Alternatively, we raise the possibility that the banded  
738 ions all encountered the wave most recently when and where it was at its most  
739 effective magnitude and direction for ion acceleration, so that they share a  
740 common time of flight from that region. This hypothesis reproduces well the  
741 pitch-angle dependence of the band energies, including the continued decrease  
742 across  $90^\circ$ , especially if the effective acceleration region is taken to be at  $-20^\circ$   
743 latitude.

744 9. Estimates of the amplitude of flux modulation that might be expected from  
745 interaction of magnetospheric plasma with FLRs are plausibly in range of the  
746 observed flux variations in the bands.

747 10. One possible source of such FLRs is the coupling of a fast-mode compressional  
748 wave propagating through the inner magnetosphere, perhaps as the  
749 magnetospheric response to a sudden solar wind dynamic pressure enhancement.  
750 However, we find no evidence in the magnetic field or SKR observations to  
751 support the occurrence of such a large-scale compression in the required time  
752 frame, although we do find possible evidence for the magnetic fluctuations arising  
753 from a field line resonance.

754 11. Other possible FLR sources might be Kelvin-Helmholtz waves generated at the  
755 magnetopause or possibly the variable field-aligned current system and  
756 compressional disturbances associated with planetary period oscillations.

757

758 Conclusion

759 While energy-banded ions are observed not uncommonly in Earth's  
760 magnetosphere, we have reported here the first observation of banded ions at Saturn.  
761 Observed near midnight at relatively high magnetic latitudes within the inner  
762 magnetosphere, the banded ions are dominantly H<sup>+</sup>, and they occupy the range of  
763 energies typically associated with the thermal pick-up distribution in the inner  
764 magnetosphere. The observed energies of the bands, including their pitch angle  
765 variation, are consistent with a bounce-resonant interaction between thermal H<sup>+</sup> ions and  
766 the standing wave structure of a field line resonance. There is evidence in the pitch-angle  
767 dependence of the band energies that the particles in each band may have a common time  
768 of flight from their most recent interaction with the wave, which may have been at  
769 slightly southern latitudes. While it is beyond the scope of this paper to determine

770 definitively the process(es) producing these energy bands, we hope that it will stimulate  
771 further attention to mechanisms of thermal ion acceleration in Saturn's magnetosphere, as  
772 well as studies of field line resonances there.

773

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1041 Table 1. Exponential fits to Anode 1 band energies:  $E=a \cdot \exp(-bx)$   
 1042

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
x=t			
a(eV)	316	631	1438
b(s <sup>-1</sup> )	-1.13x10 <sup>-4</sup>	-1.13x10 <sup>-4</sup>	-1.11x10 <sup>-4</sup>
R	0.980	0.991	0.982
x=L			
a(eV)	3426	7212	15755
b(R <sub>s</sub> <sup>-1</sup> )	-0.885	-0.896	-0.881
R	0.981	0.991	0.982
x=λ			
a(eV)	1.60x10 <sup>-3</sup>	6.20x10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.67x10 <sup>-2</sup>
b(deg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.441	0.409	0.403
R	0.970	0.990	0.982

1043  
 1044

1045 Table 2. Other candidate banded-ion events  
1046

Date	Time Range	Latitude	Local Time	L range	Notes
25 Jul 2006	0800-1110	11°	18	7.8-9.4	Weak
9 Nov 2006	0630-0800	26°	16	7.1-8.8	
3 Dec 2006	0430-0700	28°	15	7.5-11	
24 Nov 2008	0400-0540	29°	22	6.6-9.1	High telem rate

1047

1048 Figure Captions

- 1049 1. Color-coded count rate (proportional to energy flux) for ions observed by the  
1050 Cassini/CAPS IMS on several passes through the inner magnetosphere: a) 16 Oct 2010;  
1051 b) 9 Sep 2006; c) 21 May 2005; and d) 3 May 2005. Periodic structure seen in panels a  
1052 and b is due to the actuation of the instrument, allowing the detectors to view different  
1053 directions in space. CAPS was not actuating during the two intervals in panels c and d.  
1054 The solid black line in each panel gives the local corotational energy of a proton. Panel d  
1055 shows a set of discrete energy bands, with band energies that decrease with increasing  
1056 radial distance. The spacecraft location in L, magnetic latitude ( $\lambda$ ), and local time is  
1057 indicated below the time axis.
- 1058 2. KSM (Kronocentric solar magnetospheric) X-Z and X-Y projections of Cassini orbits  
1059 for the days shown in Figure 1. Each trajectory segment covers a full day (00-24 h).  
1060 Heavy portions of each curve correspond to the actual time ranges from Figure 1. The  
1061 sun is to the right of the figure. Plus markers on each curve do not indicate specific times  
1062 (e.g., hours of the day), but are simply present to help identify the curves.
- 1063 3. Color-coded count rate spectrograms from four different CAPS/IMS anodes with  
1064 different look directions for the 3 May 2005 interval shown in Figure 1d.
- 1065 4. Thirty-minute sum of counts in the TOF data product, sorted into species bins  
1066 according to the procedure described in Thomsen et al. [2014]. Vertical bars span the  
1067 range of energies of the first clear banded-ion peak in the SNG spectrum for all the  
1068 anodes over this time range.
- 1069 5. a) Energy of the peak count rate in each of the ion bands seen in the four anodes  
1070 shown in Figure 3, plotted versus time on 3 May 2005; b) same as Figure 5a for only

1071 anode 1; c) same band energies from anode 1 plotted as a function of L, which increased  
1072 monotonically with time during the interval; d) same band energies from anode 1 plotted  
1073 as a function of magnetic latitude, which decreased monotonically during the interval.  
1074 All band energies have been computed in the corotating frame of reference. The line in  
1075 Figure 5a is the H<sup>+</sup> corotation energy over the same time range. Lines in the other three  
1076 panels are drawn to guide the eye in recognizing the discrete energy bands. Table 1  
1077 provides the coefficients of exponential fits to the three highlighted bands.

1078 6. Five-minute accumulations of color-coded counts from SNG data, sorted into energy  
1079 and pitch angle bins in the corotating frame: a) 0700-0705 UT, b) 0730-0735 UT, and c)  
1080 0800-0805 UT. Panels d, e, and f show the energy in the corotating frame of the  
1081 identified bands at times corresponding to panels a, b, and c, respectively, plotted as a  
1082 function of pitch angle in the corotating frame. For the spacecraft located at northern  
1083 latitudes, pitch angles less than 90° correspond to particle moving southward toward the  
1084 equator, whereas pitch angles greater than 90° correspond to particles moving northward  
1085 away from the equator. Particles moving away from the equator show larger count rates  
1086 and lower band energies than those moving toward it.

1087 7. a) Quarter bounce period (i.e., travel time from the equator to the spacecraft) of locally  
1088 mirroring band particles; b) time of day (in seconds) at which locally mirroring band  
1089 particles would have had to leave the equator in order to arrive at the spacecraft at the  
1090 observation time; c) local time at which locally mirroring band particles seen at Cassini  
1091 would have left the equatorial plane, assuming full corotation; d) time separation between  
1092 departure times of successive bands. For comparison, the solid curve shows one half of  
1093 the bounce period of an Alfvén wave, computed based on the densities and scale heights

1094 determined by Thomsen et al. [2010]. Band 1 corresponds to the lowest-energy band  
1095 seen in the ion spectra.

1096 8. Bounce periods of locally mirroring protons at the observed band energies as a  
1097 function of L, compared with harmonic multiples of the Alfvén wave bounce period, as  
1098 expected for the fundamental mode of a field line resonance (left) and the first harmonic  
1099 (right).

1100 9. Observed band energies (solid circles) as a function of local pitch angle at ~0700 UT,  
1101 compared to calculated energies for which a) the bounce periods, b) the times of flight  
1102 from the equator, or c) the times of flight from a latitude of  $-20^\circ$  are equal to those for  
1103 observed locally mirroring band particles.

1104 10. Same as Figure 7, except for a source location at  $-20^\circ$  latitude.

1105 11. a) Magnetic field magnitude and azimuthal component observed by Cassini for the  
1106 ten hours encompassing and preceding the banded ion observations. The solid bar above  
1107 the upper panel indicates the range of backward-projected departure times of the lowest  
1108 energy band of ions, both for an assumed equatorial source and for an assumed source at  
1109  $-20^\circ$  latitude. If the initial energization of the ions were associated with a compressional  
1110 wave propagating through the magnetosphere, its signature would presumably occur  
1111 during this time interval. The dashed bar following the solid bar shows the time range  
1112 over which subsequent field line resonances would be expected. The vertical bars in the  
1113  $B_\phi$  panel indicate semi-periodic enhancements observed above the background  $B_\phi$ . b)  
1114 RPWS electric field spectra for 2-day intervals encompassing three consecutive periapsis  
1115 passages by Cassini. The outbound passage on which the banded ions were observed is  
1116 covered in the center panel. The time interval of the banded ion observation is indicated

1117 by the solid bars above and below that panel. c) Solar wind density, speed, and dynamic  
1118 pressure at Saturn's location predicted by the mSWIM MHD model [Zieger and Hansen,  
1119 2008] for a 50-d interval encompassing the three periapsis passes shown in Figure 11b  
1120 (vertical dashed lines).

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1123

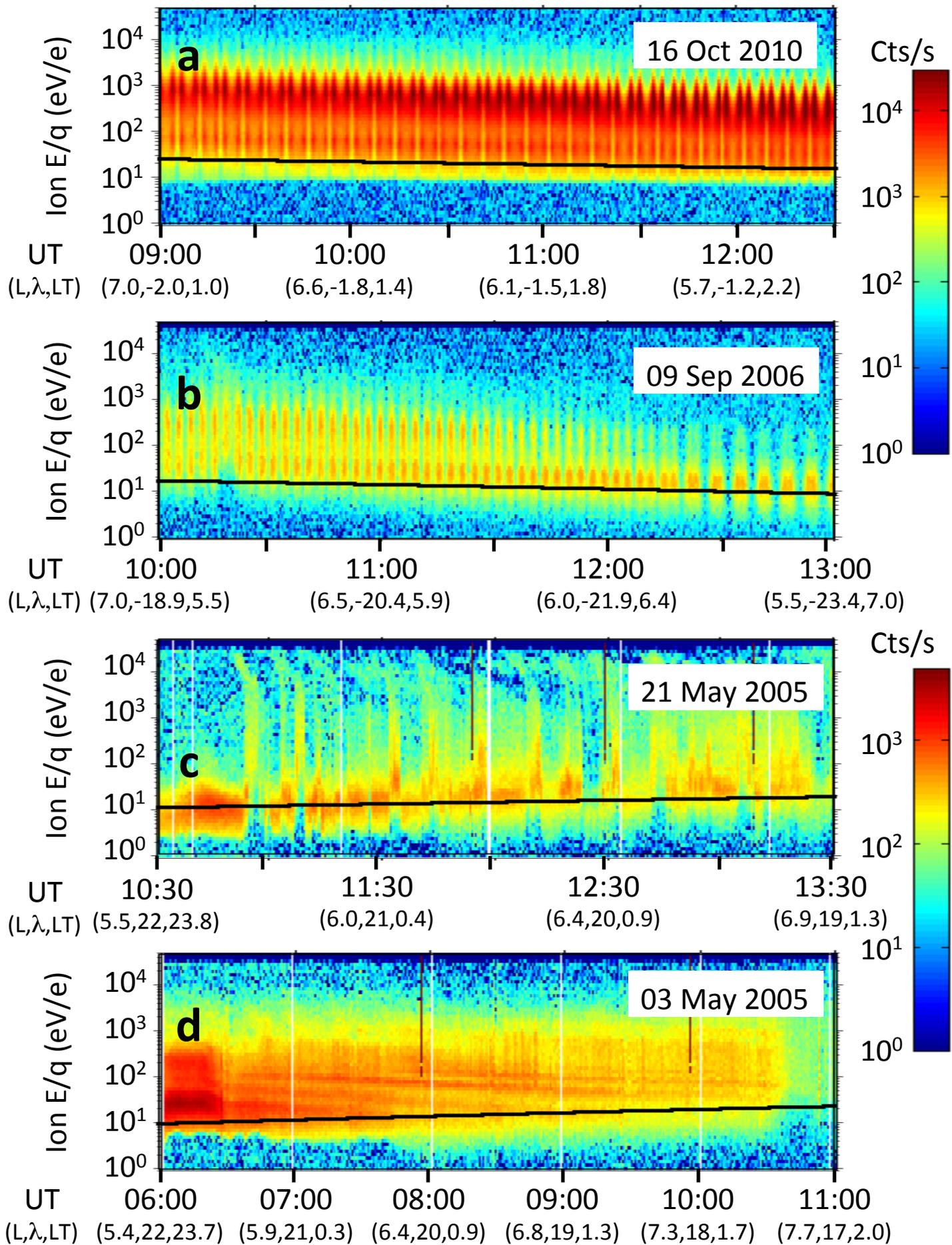
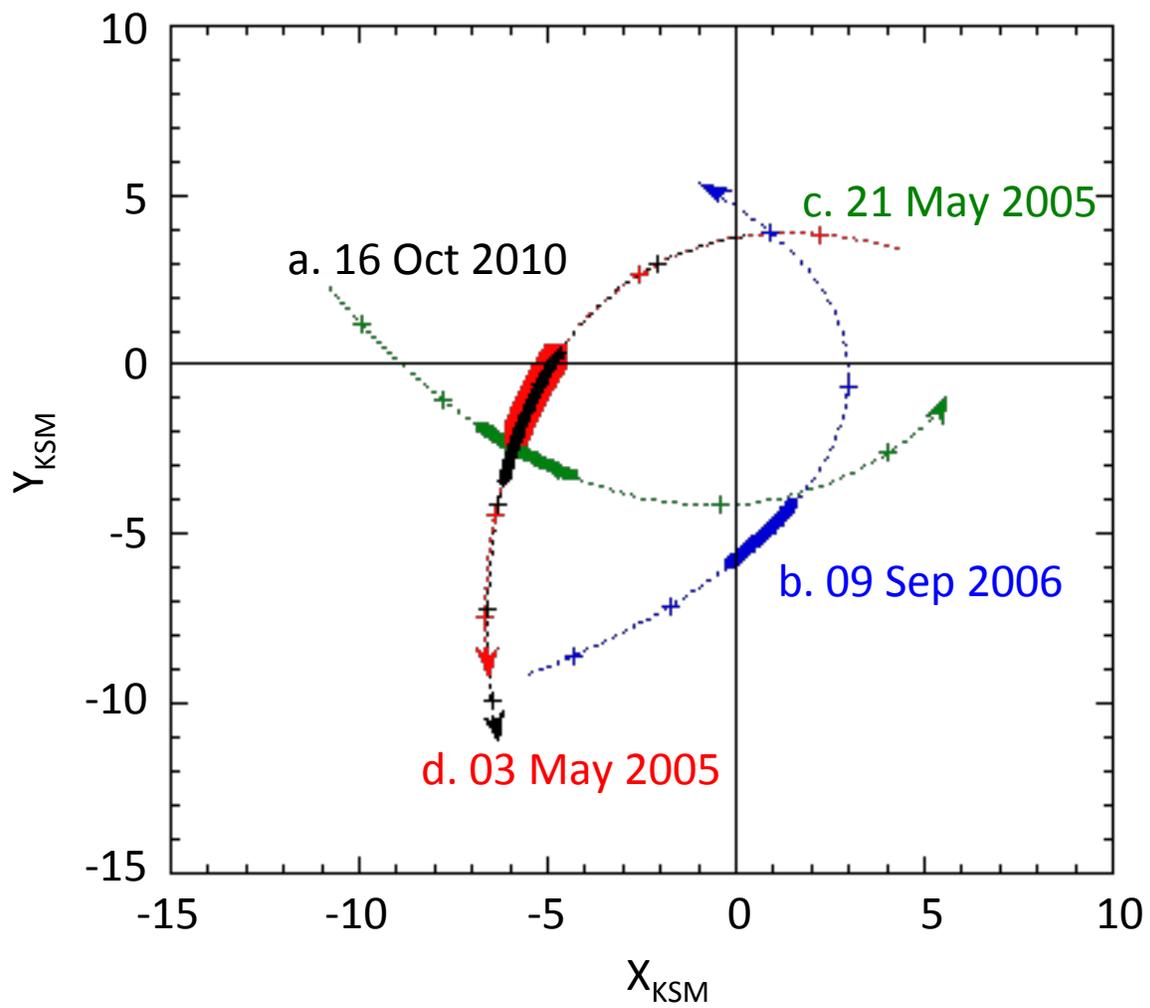
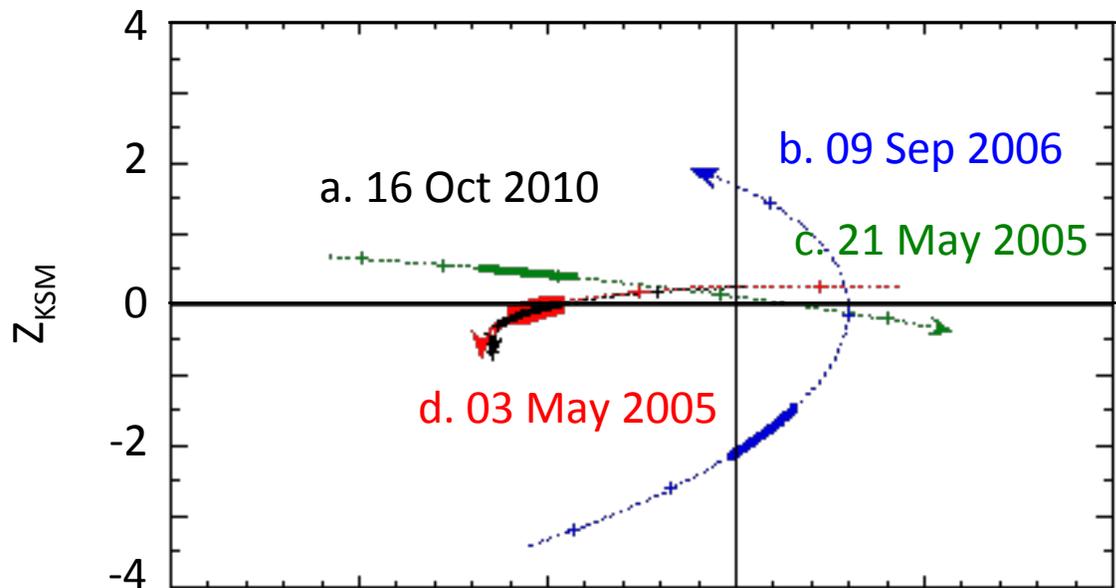
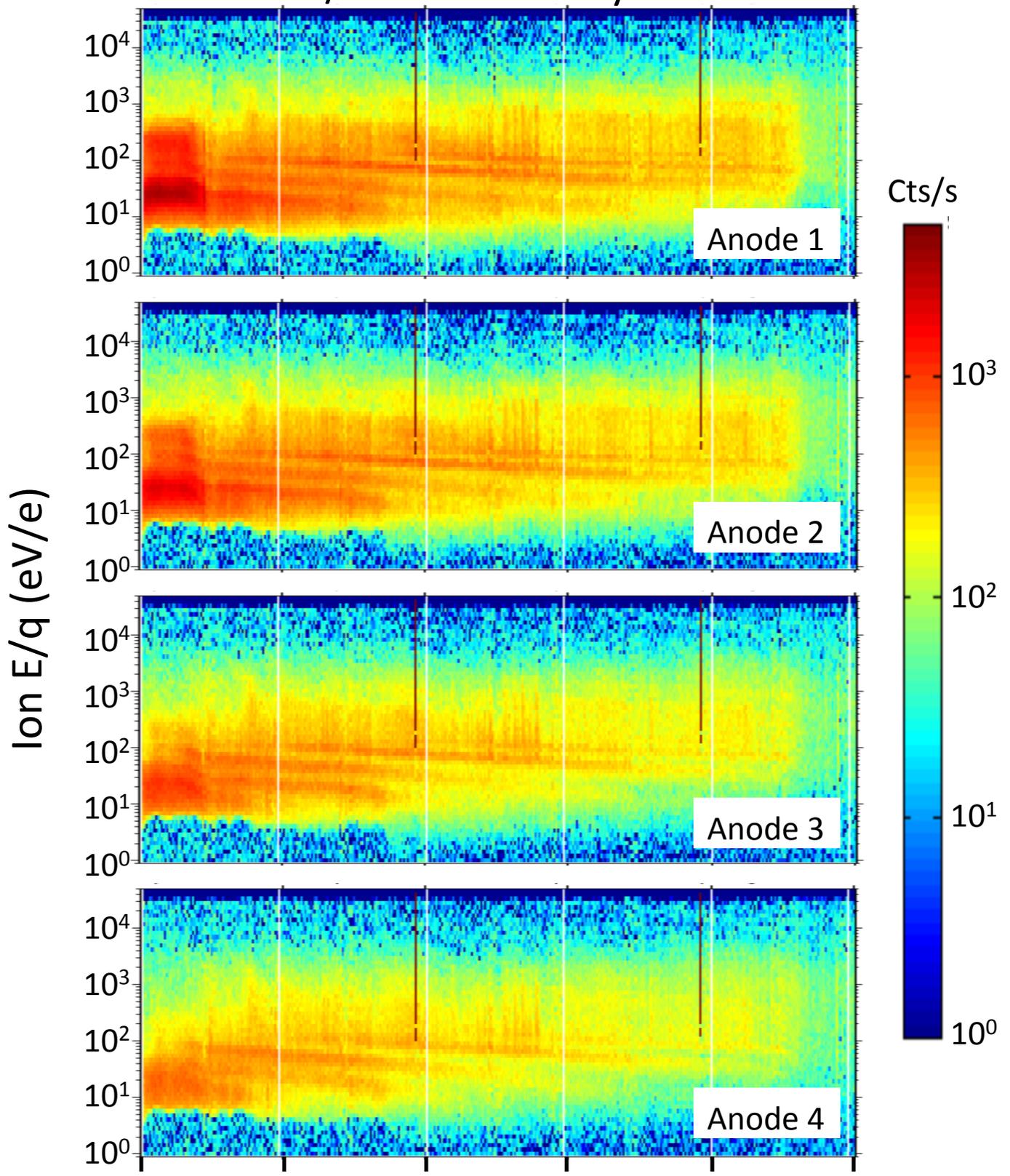


Figure 1



CAPS/IMS 03 May 2005



UT	06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00
L	5.4	5.9	6.4	6.8	7.3	7.7
$\lambda$	22	21	20	19	18	17
LT	23.7	0.3	0.9	1.3	1.7	2.0

Figure 3

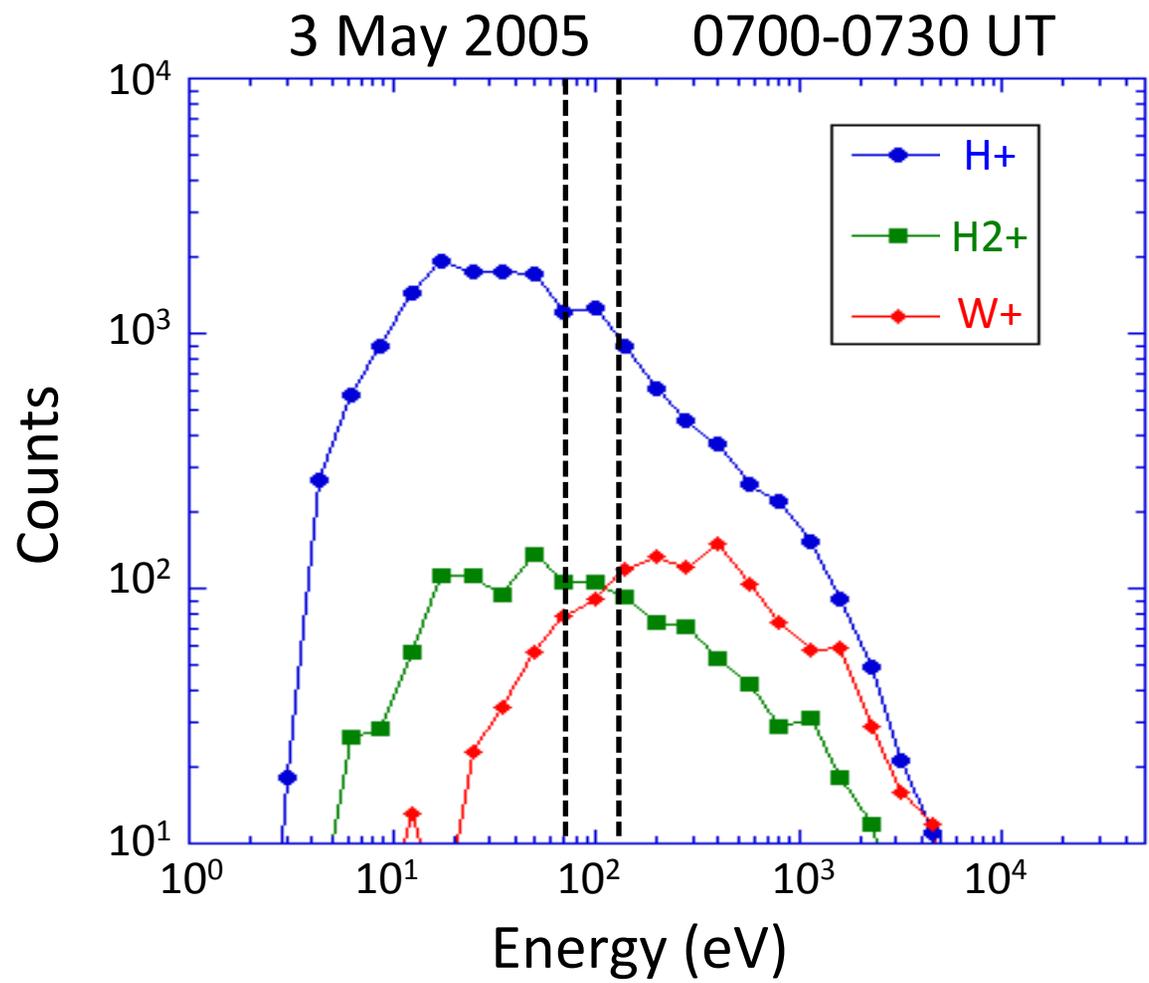


Figure 4

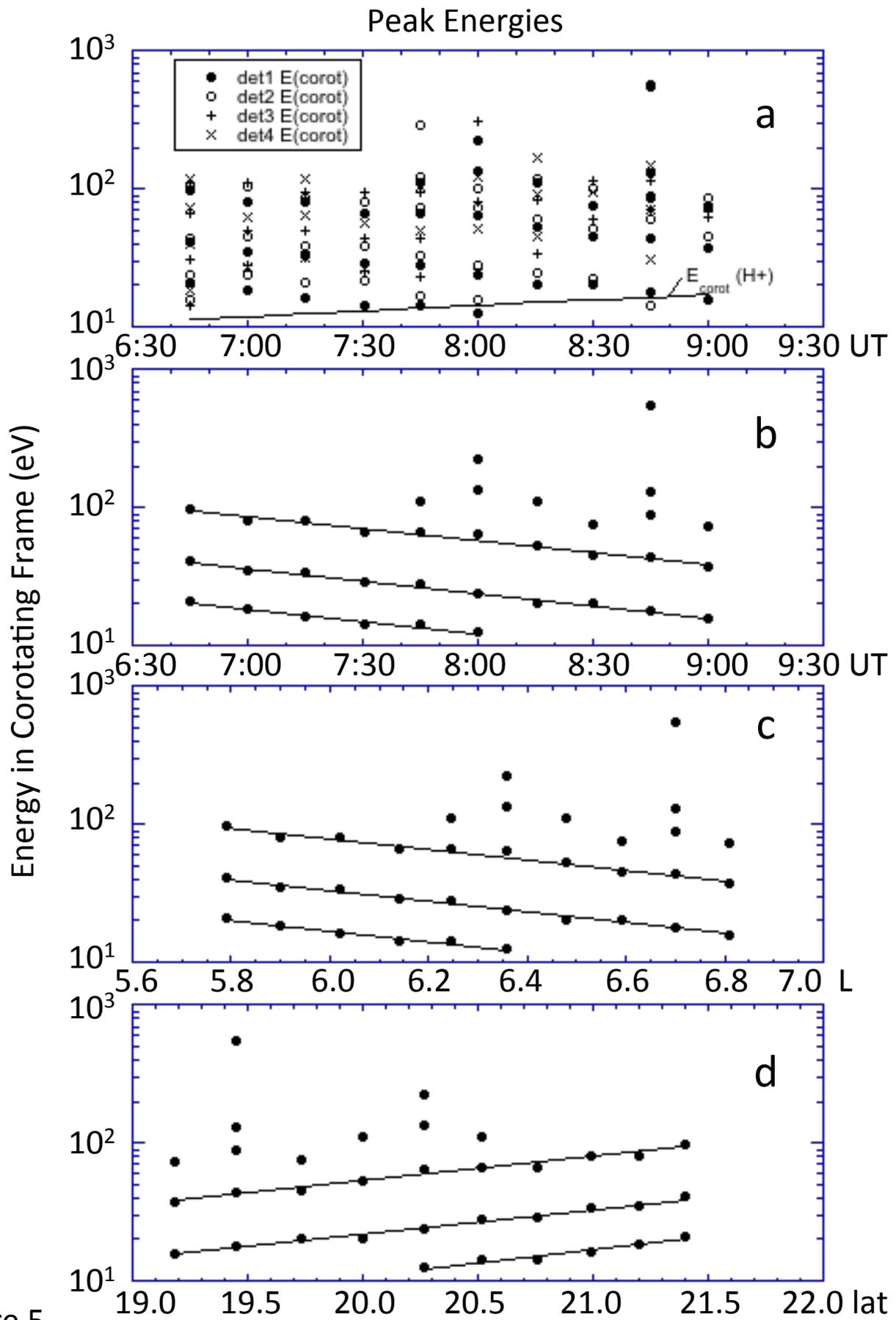


Figure 5

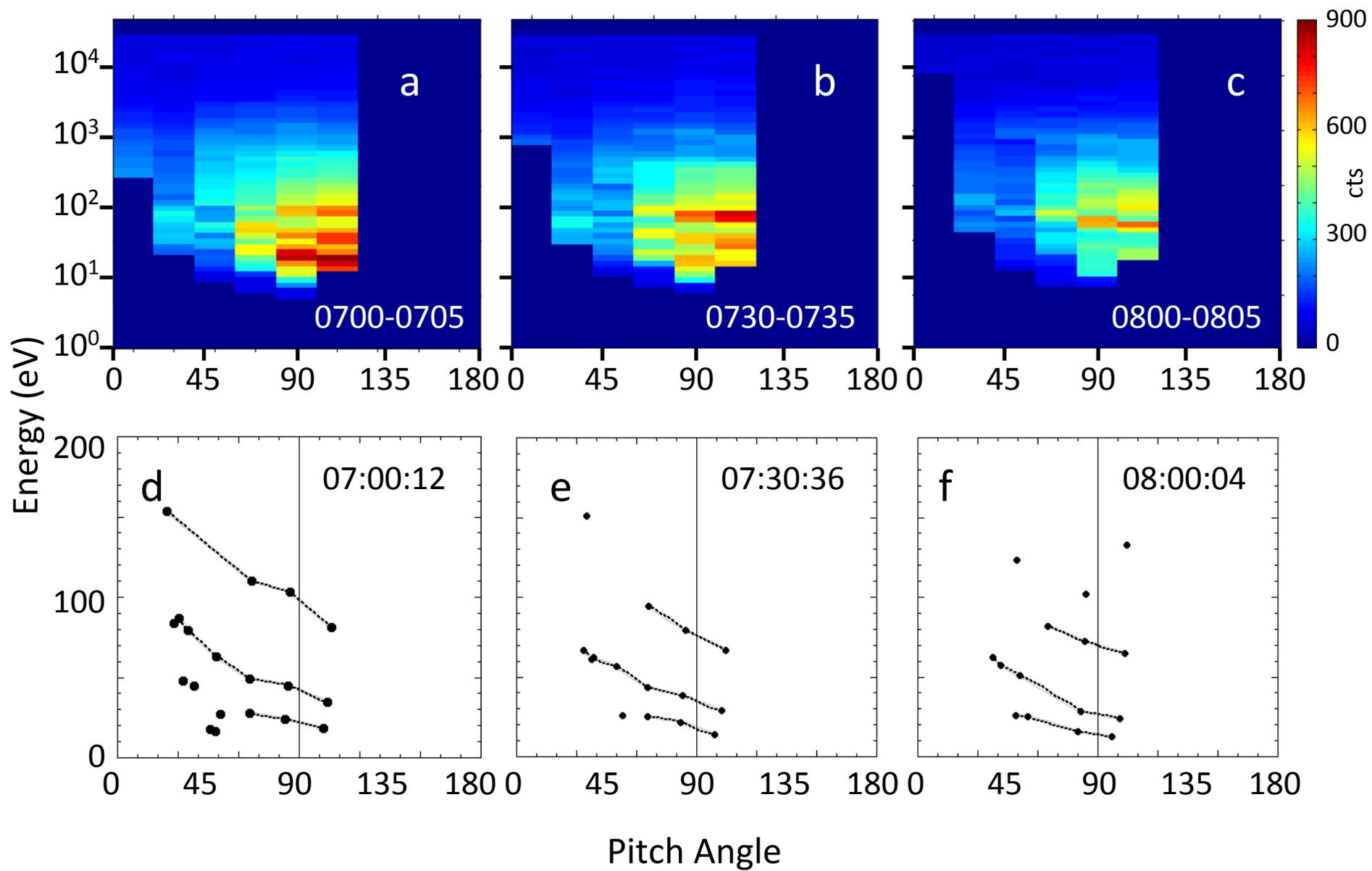


Figure 6

### Locally Mirroring H+

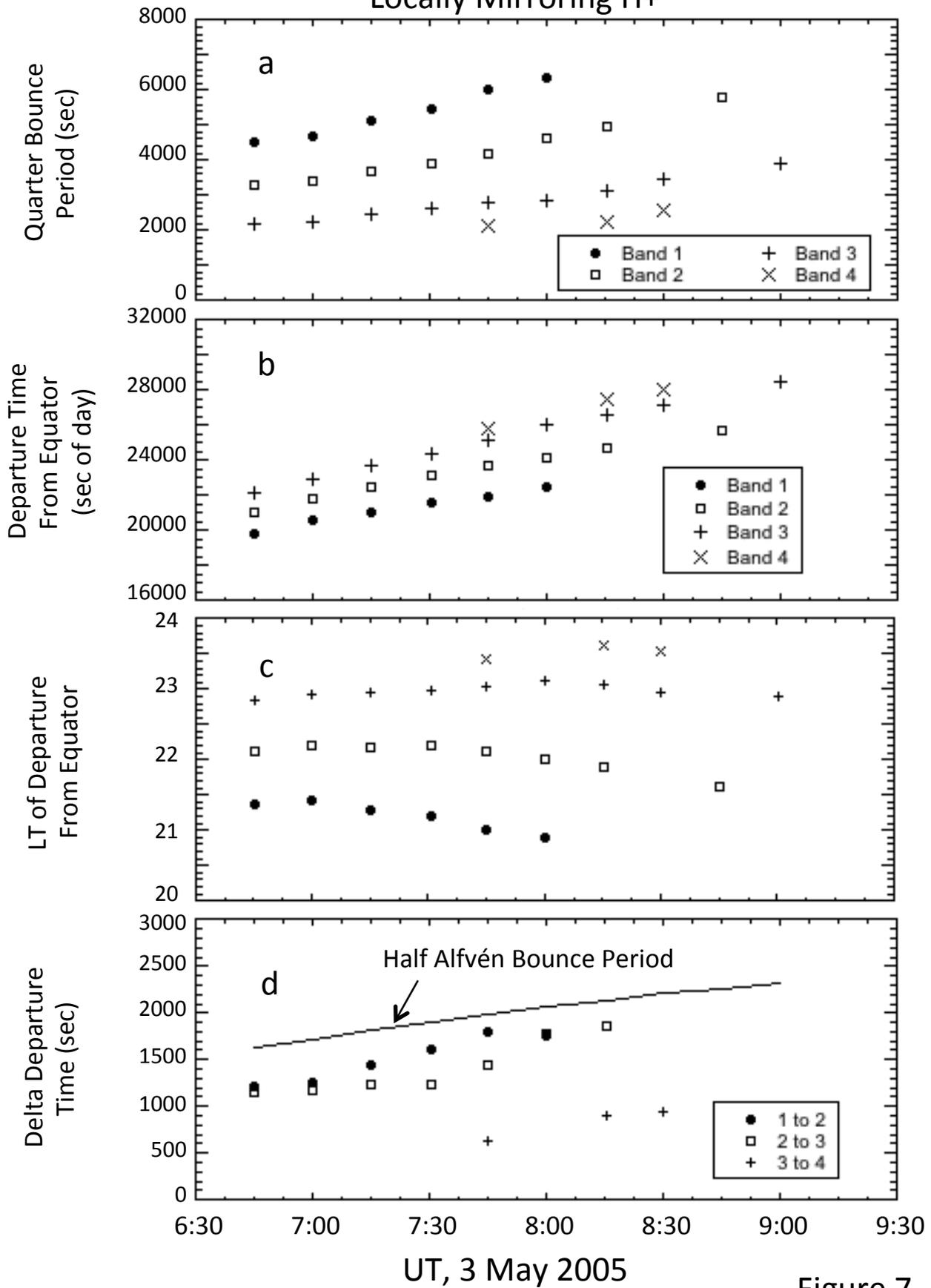


Figure 7

### Band and Alfvén Bounce Periods

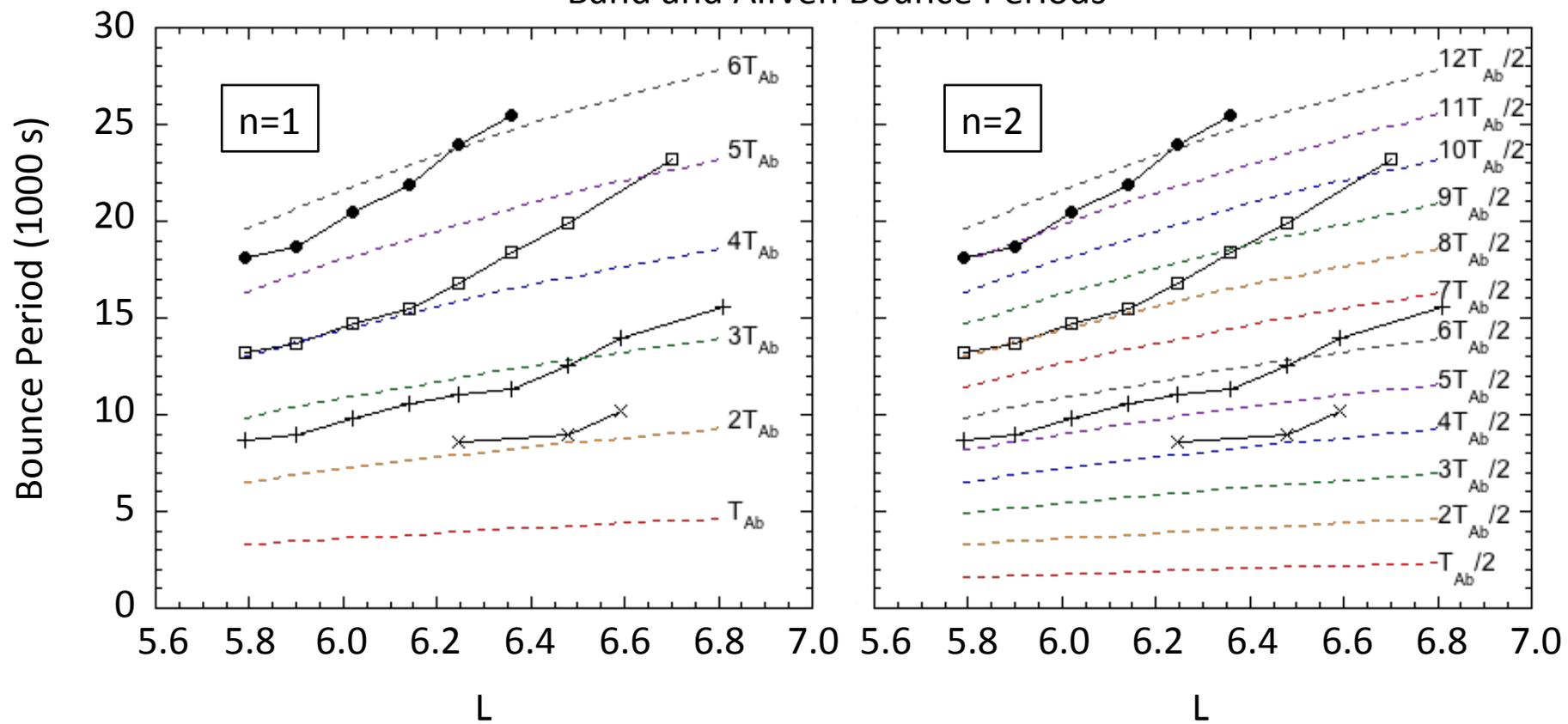


Figure 8

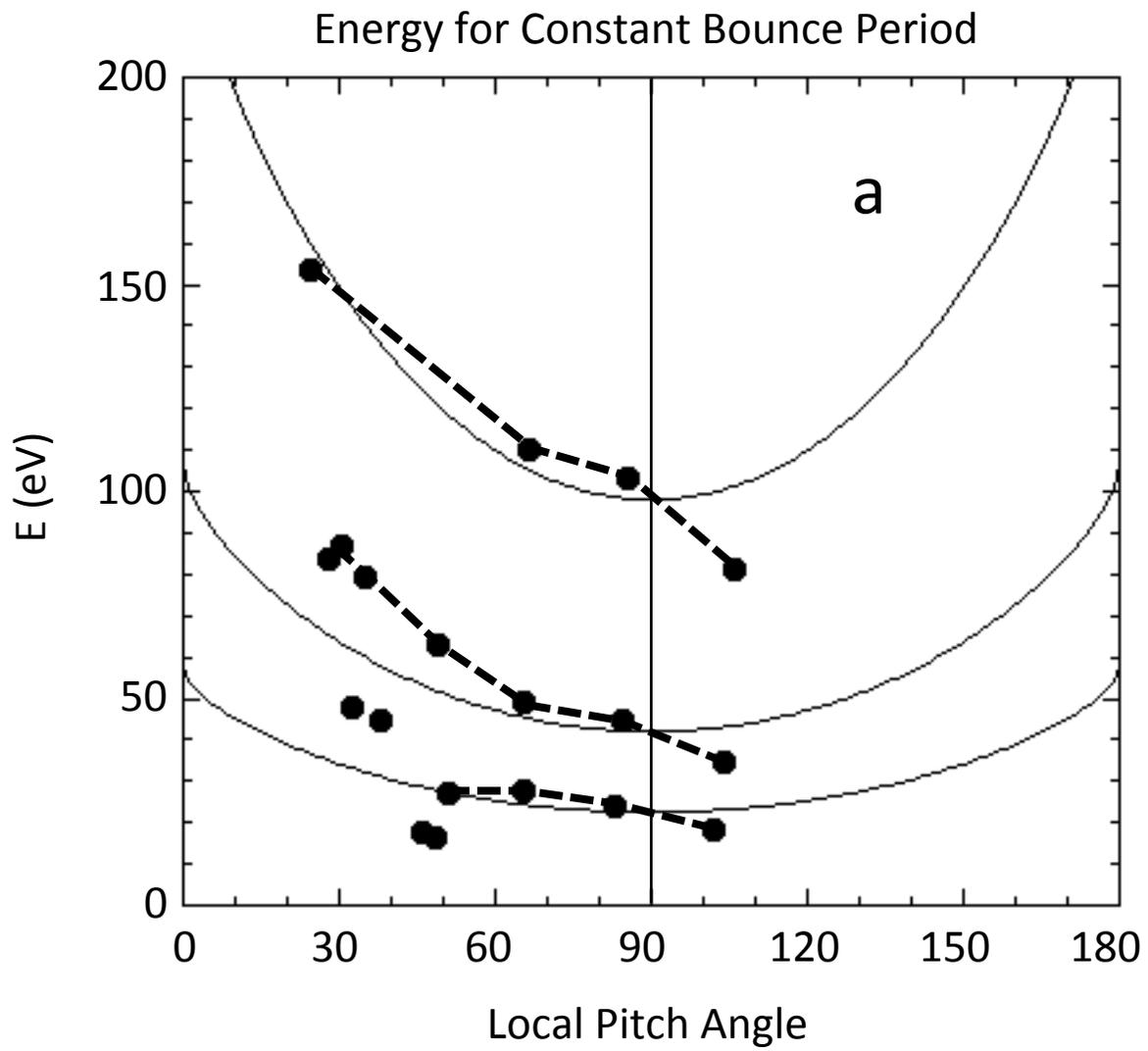


Figure 9a

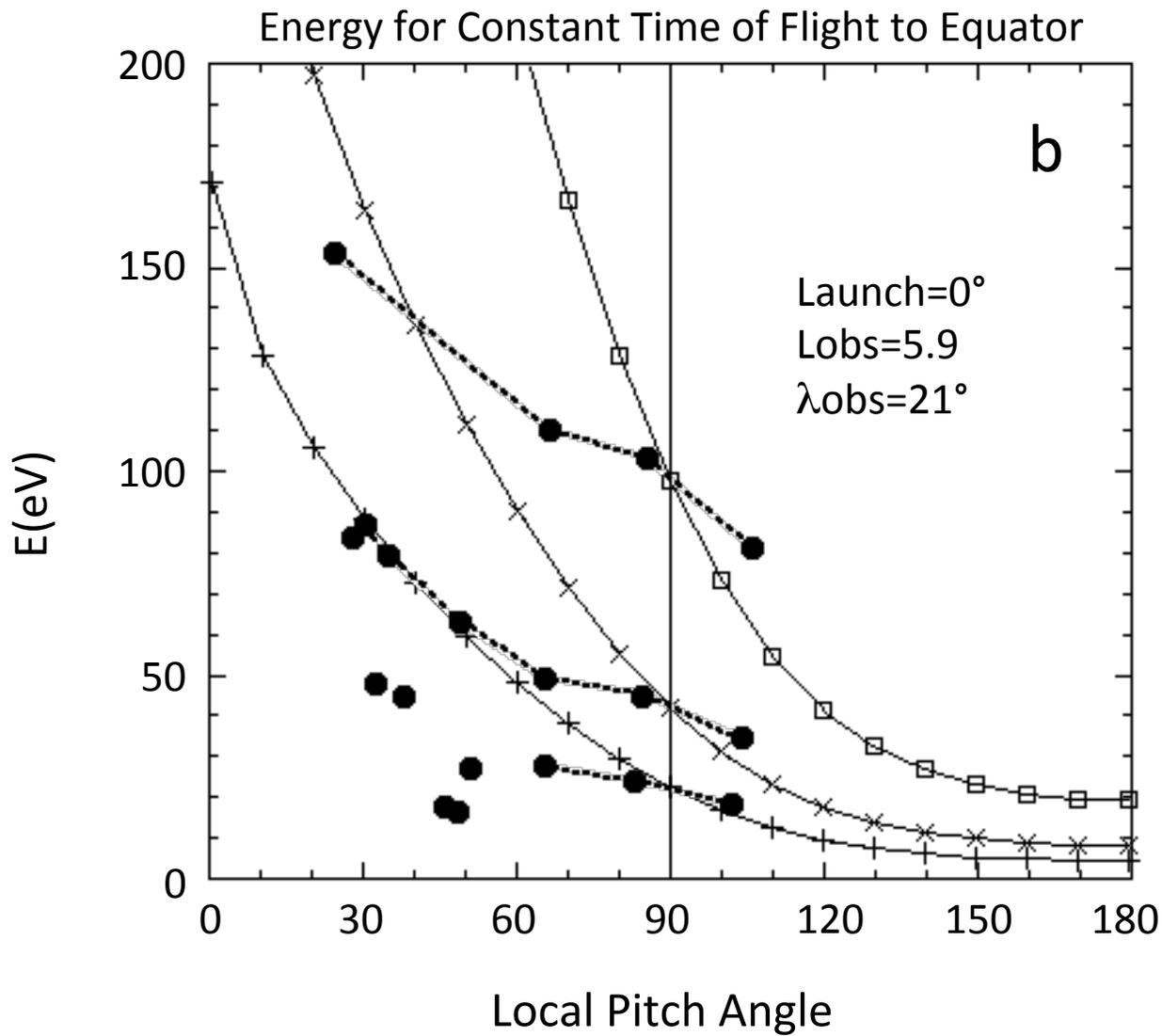


Figure 9b

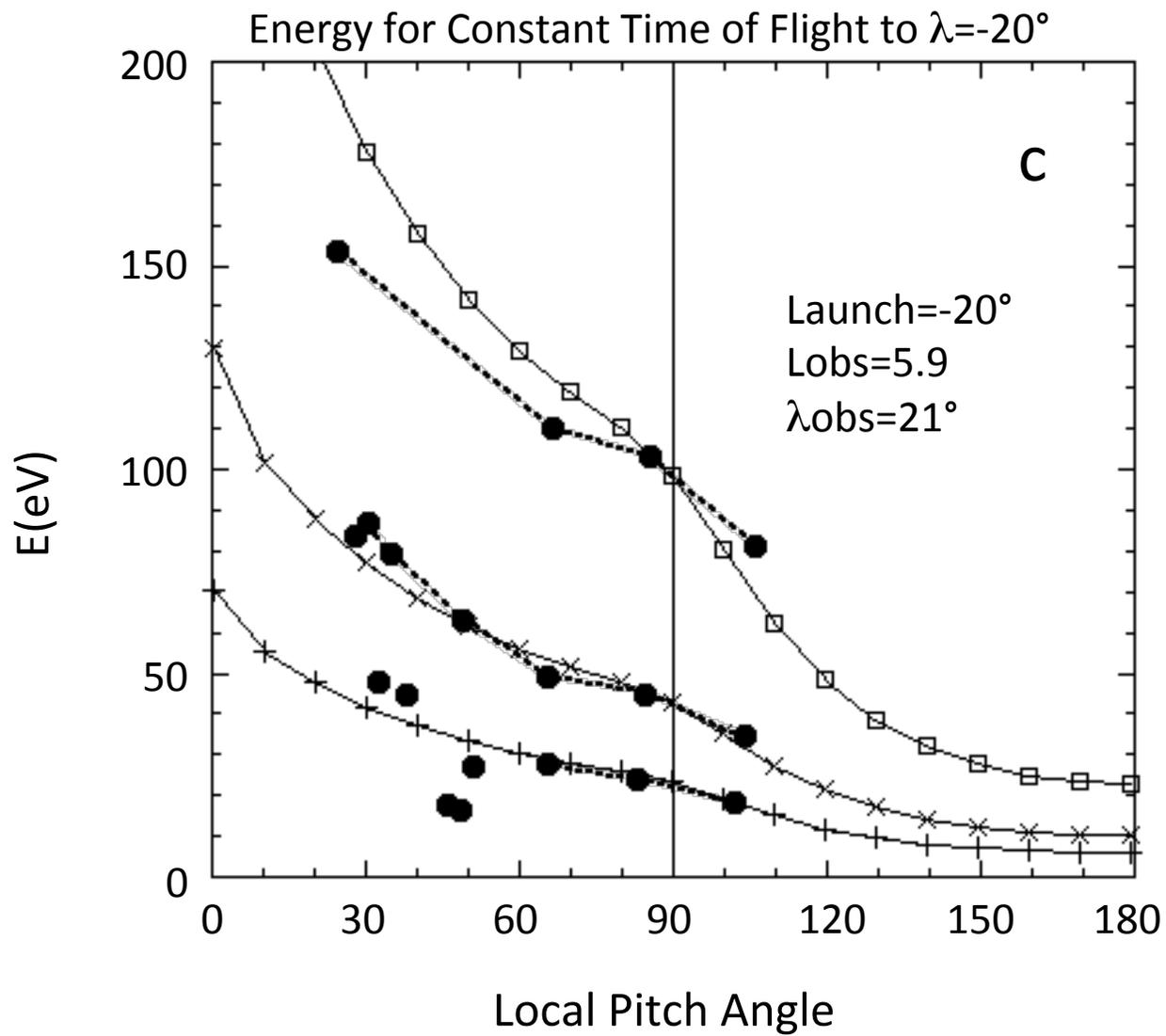


Figure 9c

Source at  $\lambda = -20^\circ$

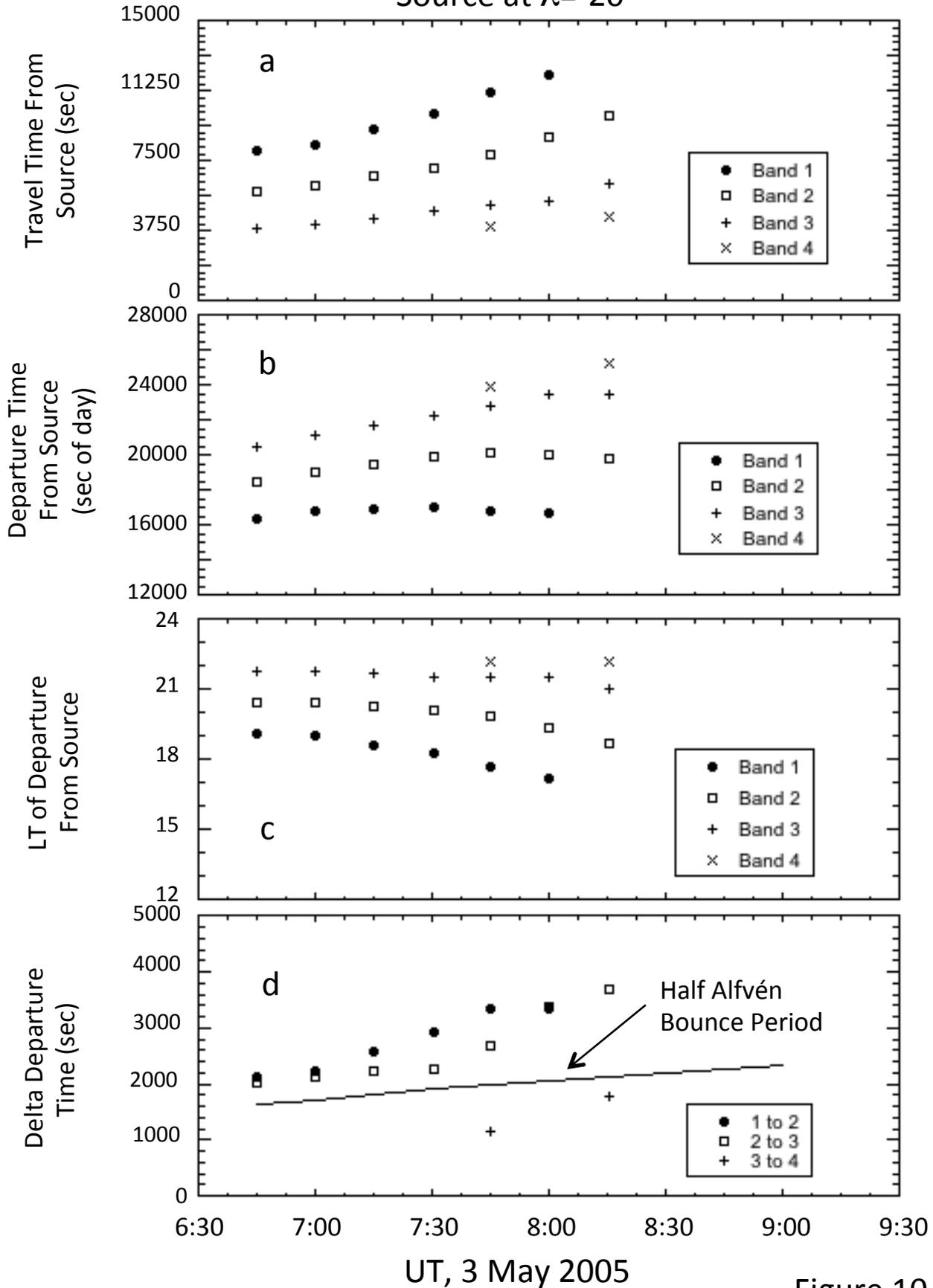


Figure 10

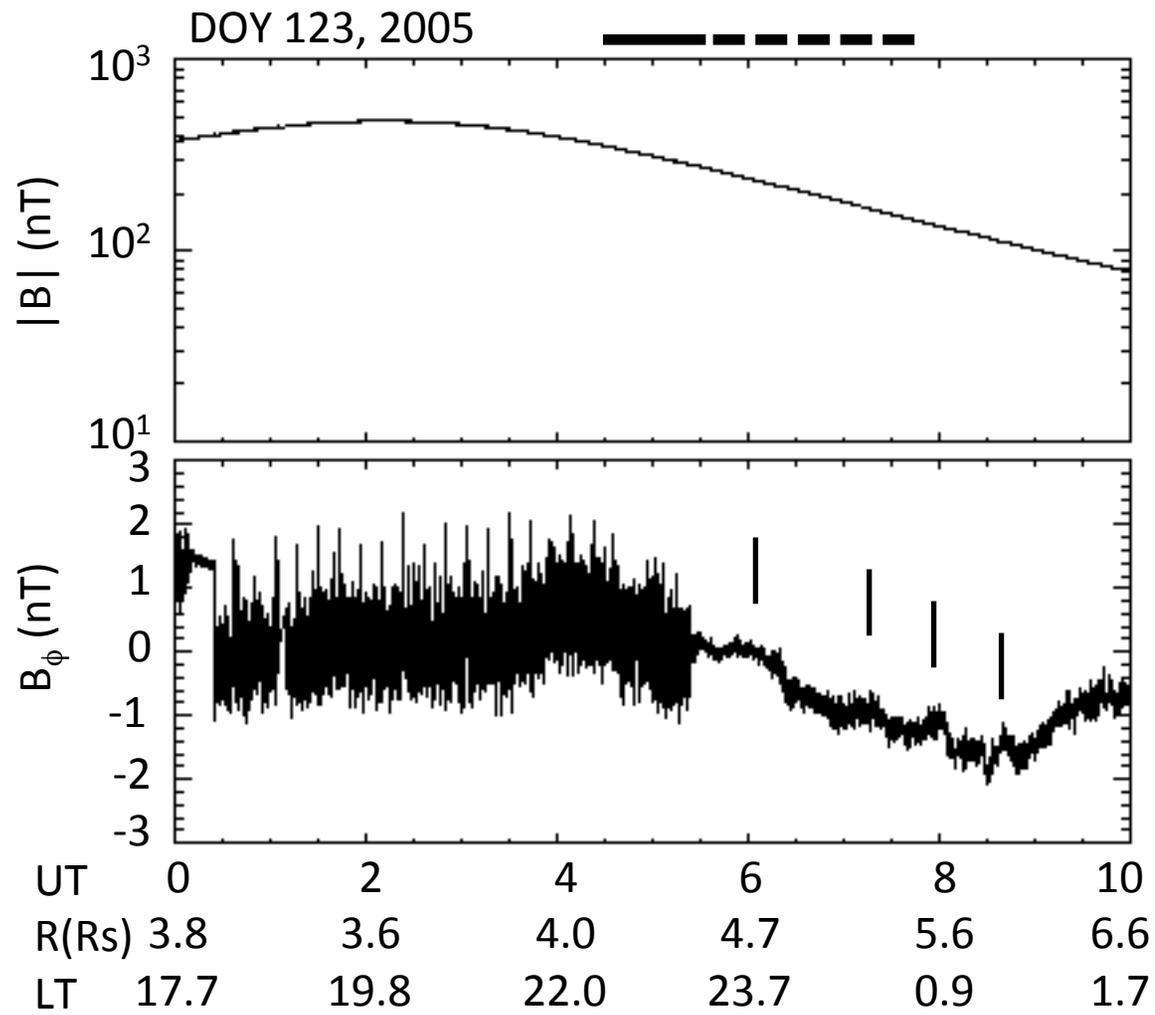


Figure 11a

# Cassini RPWS Electric Field

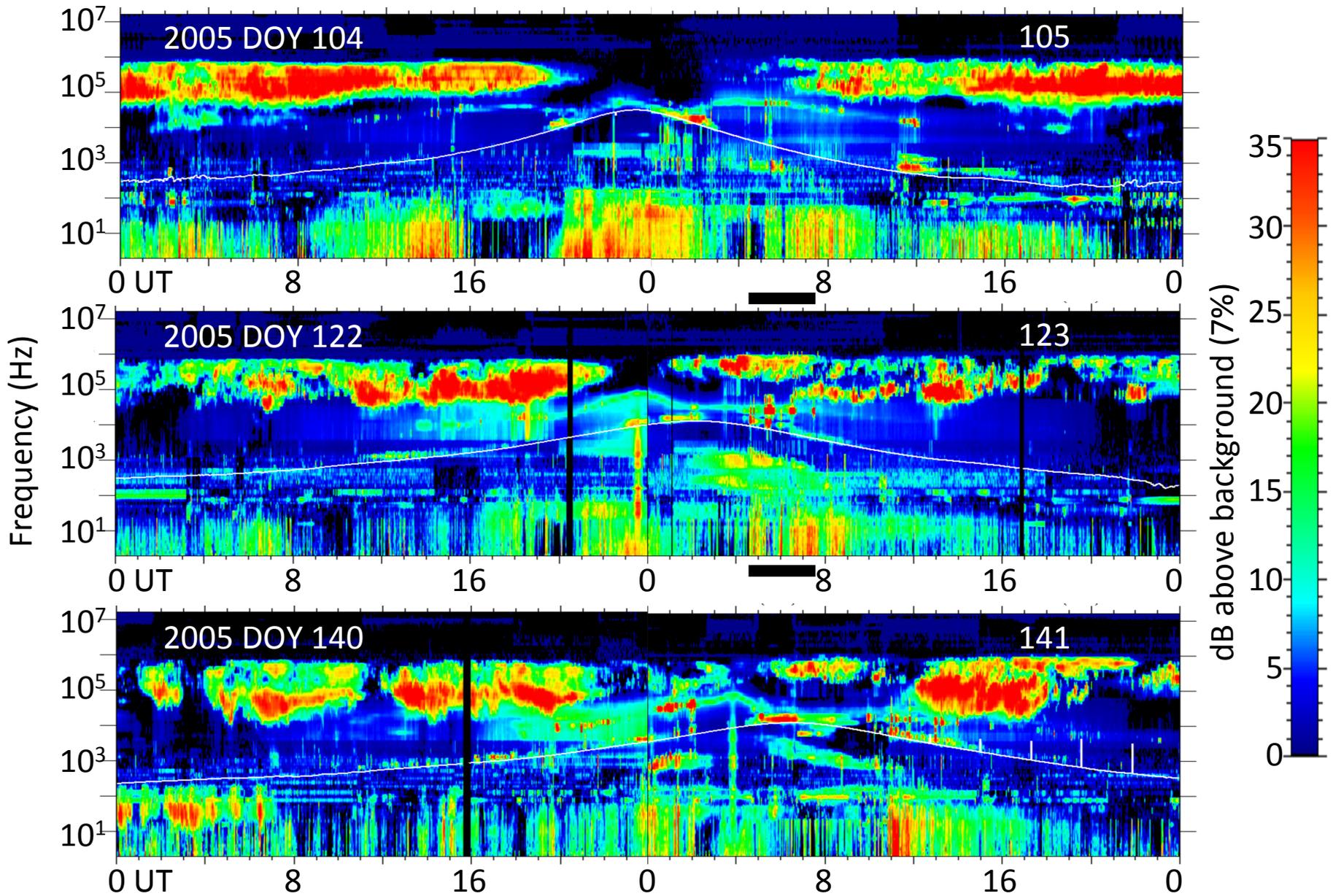


Figure 11b

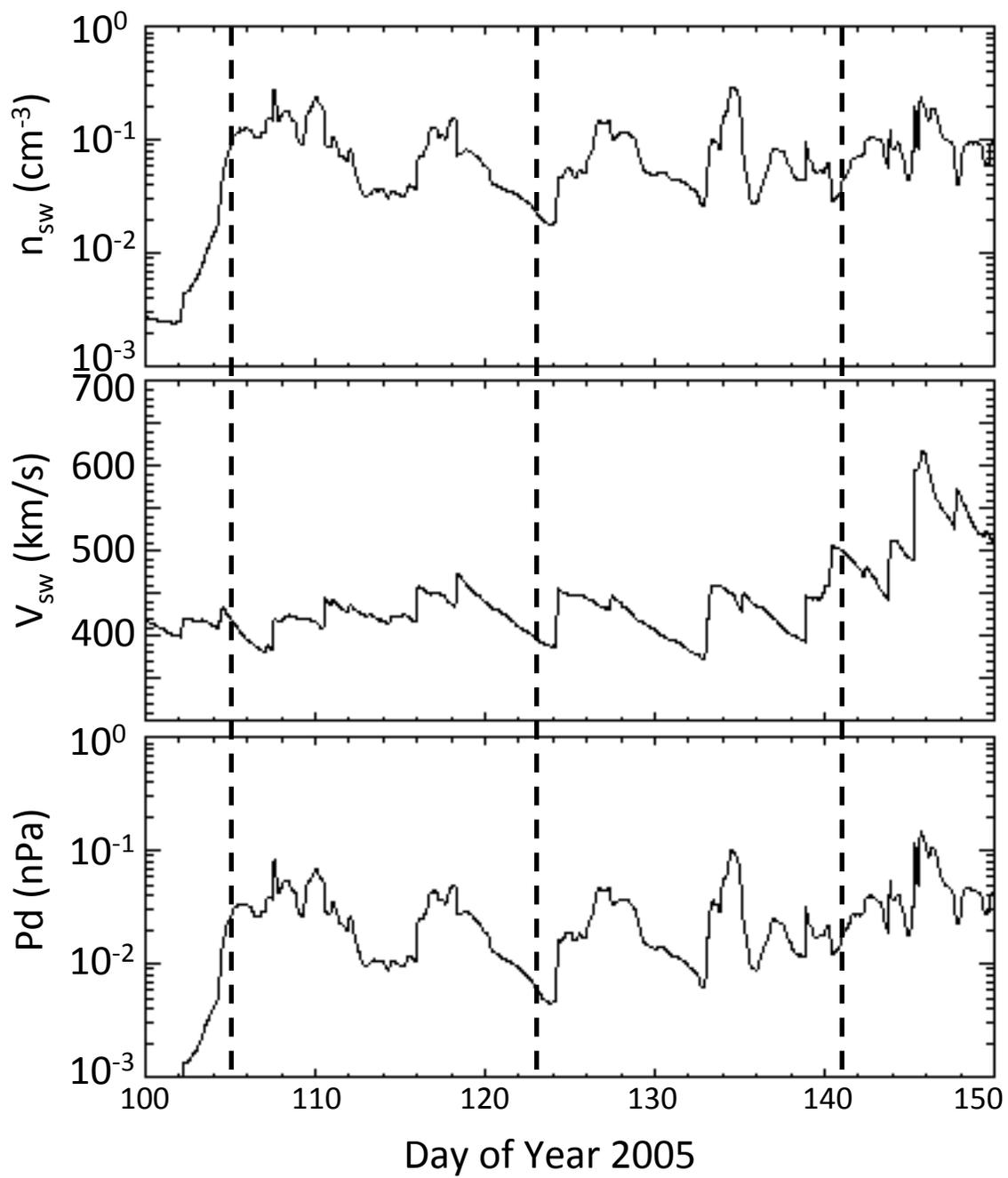


Figure 11c