Magnetically Self-Consistent Ring-Current Simulations for the Storm of 19 October 1998

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Simulation Model

Magnetic field lines: r = La [1 + 0.5(r/b)³] sin²θ where b is a stretching factor that varies with L and φ. These field lines lie in meridional planes. Electric potential function:

$$\Phi_E(L,\phi) = q \left[-\frac{V_{cor}}{L} + V_0 \left(\frac{L}{L^*}\right)^2 \sin\phi + \Delta V \left(\frac{L}{L^*}\right) \sin\phi \right]$$

where $V_{cor} = 90.3 \text{ kV}$; $V_0 = 25 \text{ kV}$, $\Delta V = \Delta V(t)$



Simulation Model, cont.

- Trace drifts of equatorially-mirroring ions & electrons, conserving *M* & *J*
- Initial conditions: solution to steady state transport equation
- Boundary conditions based on time-averaged LANL/MPA data at GEO [Korth et al., 1999]
- Proton loss: charge exchange
- Electrons loss: weak diffusion inside the plasmasphere [*Albert*, 1994]; enhanced scattering (due to ECH waves) outside [*Lyons*, 1974]
- Map phase-space density by Liouville's theorem, modified to account for losses
- Compute near-equatorial plasma pressure at each major time step
- Compute resulting $\Delta B(\mathbf{r})$ normal to equatorial plane
- Update **B**(**r**) at each major time step ($\Delta t = 20$ min)
- Do the guiding-center simulation again for the updated **B**(**r**)
- Iterate until convergence to desired self-consistent model (plasma and B field) is achieved

PERPENDICULAR PRESSURE







- Consistency of B field with hot-plasma population tends to mitigate energization of plasma during transport into the ring current, as compared to simulations that lack a self-consistent magnetic field. This confirms findings of RCM-E simulations [Lemon et al., 2004].
- Our model qualitatively reproduces features seen in statistically averaged observations of ring current [e.g., *Le et al.*, 2004].



Comparison of the Simulated Pressure and Current Density



Comparison of simulated pressure and current density in self-consistent magnetic field model (SCM) and Dungey model (dipole plus a uniform southward field).

- Pressure in Dungey model is much larger.
 Note the scale is logarithmic.
- Westward current in Dungey model is larger, while eastward current in SCM is larger.

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Comparison of $\Delta B(0)$



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