

The "Key Players" of Space Weather



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GWF Players of Space Weather



magnetic field





GWF Earth's Magnetosphere

Magnetosphere: terrestrial magnetic field populated with plasma

- Solar wind/IMF cannot enter magnetosphere
- Supersonic stream decelerated at bow shock
- Magnetopause is boundary between two plasmas
- Pressure equilibrium: dipolar magnetic field is deformed





GWF SW – Magnetosphere Interaction

Input: 10⁴ GW of solar wind hit magnetopause

• $D \approx 15 R_E$, $\rho \approx 5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $\upsilon \approx 400 \text{ km/s} \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2} \rho \upsilon^3 D^2 \approx 10^4 \text{ GW}$

Output: ~500 GW are dissipated in magnetosphere (5%):

- Polar ionosphere (Joule heating)
- Radiation belt (charge exchange)







X RF

- Solar wind momentum, energy, & plasma can enter magnetosphere
- Magnetic energy converted to particle energy (acceleration)







European Cluster Assimilation Technology

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GWF ESA Cluster mission





GWF The Role of ECLAT

- ECLAT provides context for the Cluster observations
- How do Cluster observations relate to other observations of the magnetosphere, made from the ground or other space-borne observatories?
- The Cluster Ground-based Working Group has provided contextual information for the duration of the Cluster mission to date on an ad hoc basis
- This will be formalized, improved, and combined with a data-serving functionality within ECLAT















GWF What is needed?

- 1) A knowledge of the magnetospheric regions and boundaries Cluster is encountering
 - Region and boundary identification (OEAW)

- 2) An ability to know where Cluster is relative to other observatories in space or on the ground
 - Magnetic field tracing (SPSU)













GwF What is needed?

- 3) The ionospheric conditions at the mapped footprint of the Cluster spacecraft
 - Miracle equivalent current mapping (FMI)
- 4) Knowledge of the largescale magnetospheric state and behaviour
 - SuperDARN ionospheric flow patterns and global auroral imagery (ULEIC)











GWF What is needed?

- 5) Physics-based modelling of the magnetosphere as context and as reanalysis
 - GUMICs long runs and re-analysis development (FMI)
- 6) Archive validation, science exploitation, and out-reach
 - Science and validation workshops, networking with science community, public out-reach (IRF)

→ Workshop planned in April 2013 in IWF, Graz















