

1 **Reconnection acceleration in Saturn’s dayside magnetodisc: a multicase study with**  
2 **Cassini**

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22  
23 **Abstract**

24 Recently, rotationally driven magnetic reconnection was firstly discovered in  
25 Saturn’s dayside magnetosphere (Guo et al. 2018). This newly confirmed process  
26 could potentially drive bursty phenomena at Saturn, i.e., pulsating energetic particles  
27 and auroral emissions. Using Cassini’s measurements of magnetic fields and charged  
28 particles, we investigate particle acceleration features during three magnetic  
29 reconnection events observed in Saturn’s dayside magnetodisc. The results suggest  
30 that the rotationally driven reconnection process plays a key role in producing  
31 energetic electrons (up to 100 keV) and ions (several hundreds of keV). In particular,  
32 we find that energetic oxygen ions are locally accelerated at all three reconnection  
33 sites. Isolated, multiple reconnection sites were recorded in succession during an  
34 interval lasting for much less than one Saturn rotation period. Moreover, a secondary  
35 magnetic island is reported for the first time at the dayside, collectively suggesting  
36 that the reconnection process is not steady and could be ‘drizzle-like’. This study  
37 demonstrates the fundamental importance of internally driven magnetic  
38 reconnection in accelerating particles in Saturn’s dayside magnetosphere, and  
39 likewise in the rapidly rotating Jovian magnetosphere and beyond.

40  
41 **Introduction**

42 Magnetic reconnection is a fundamental physical process that converts energy

43 and accelerates charged particles in cosmic, laboratory, and space plasma  
44 environments (Zweibel & Yamada 2009). Magnetic reconnection changes the  
45 magnetic topology of a system and can couple different plasma populations (Hesse  
46 et al. 2017). This process plays a pivotal role in driving the interaction between  
47 external interplanetary magnetic fields and internal planetary magnetic fields  
48 (Dungey 1961), as well as driving the plasma dynamics inside planetary  
49 magnetospheres (e.g., in the nightside planetary magnetotails (Arridge et al. 2016;  
50 Hones 1979)).

51 Direct evidence of magnetopause reconnection has been reported at Earth  
52 (Paschmann et al. 1979) and other planets such as Mercury (Slavin et al. 2009) and  
53 Saturn (McAndrews et al. 2008). In the nightside magnetotail of Earth and Mercury,  
54 magnetic reconnection is considered to release the nightside magnetic energy that is  
55 accumulated via dayside magnetopause reconnection and plasma circulation.  
56 Magnetic reconnection and its consequent production of plasmoids and secondary  
57 islands also play important roles on magnetic flux closure in the nightside of Saturn's  
58 magnetosphere (Arridge et al. 2016; Jackman et al. 2011).

59 The kronian and jovian magnetospheres are, however, significantly different  
60 from the terrestrial and hermean magnetospheres for two major reasons: 1) their  
61 magnetospheres rotate much more rapidly, 2) they have internal plasma sources  
62 from their rings and moons, which inject hot plasmas into the magnetosphere  
63 system. Internally produced plasma in rapidly rotating magnetic environments is  
64 radially transported outward (Bagenal et al. 2016), and causes the magnetosphere to  
65 attain a stretched magnetic field configuration, termed the magnetodisc. Similar to  
66 the terrestrial and hermean magnetospheres, magnetic reconnection at Jupiter and  
67 Saturn has also been identified at their magnetopauses and the magnetotails  
68 (Arridge et al. 2016; Badman et al. 2013; Huddleston et al. 1997; Masters 2017).  
69 Moreover, the magnetic reconnection process on the nightside of the giant planetary  
70 magnetospheres can be driven not only by solar wind energy, but also by internal  
71 energy, known as internally driven magnetic reconnection (Jackman et al. 2011;  
72 Kronberg et al. 2007; Vasylunas 1983). By surveying magnetic measurements from  
73 Cassini-MAG instrument, Delamere et al. (2015) revealed that the reconnection  
74 indicator (i.e., negative signature of the  $B_\theta$  magnetic component in Kronographic  
75 Radial-Theta-Phi (KRTP) coordinates, a spherical polar coordinates) could exist at all  
76 local times, including high probabilities of occurrence at the unexpected pre-noon  
77 sectors, and suggested that the reconnection processes were 'drizzle-like' that occur  
78 at small patchy regions. Plasma injection into Saturn's inner magnetosphere is also  
79 revealed to exist at all local times (Azari et al. 2018). Guo et al. (2018) directly  
80 confirmed the existence of magnetic reconnection in Saturn's dayside magnetodisc  
81 (i.e., well inside the magnetopause) by examining the reconnection-associated Hall  
82 current system and the reconnection acceleration plasma features (including  
83 electrons and ions). They showed that heavy ions were accelerated up to 600 keV by  
84 the dayside magnetodisc reconnection (DMR). Following the DMR signature, 1-hour

85 pulsating energetic electrons were observed, while it is unclear whether the  
86 coexistence of DMR and pulsating energetic electrons is a coincidence or if the two  
87 processes are physically connected. The quasi-periodic energetic electron pulsation  
88 signatures have been reported in many studies at many local times (Mitchell et al.  
89 2009; Palmaerts et al. 2016a; Roussos et al. 2016; Yates et al. 2016), and have been  
90 suggested to be relevant to the pulsating auroral emissions (Badman et al. 2015;  
91 Palmaerts et al. 2016b).

92 In this study, we identify three DMR events, and investigate the associated  
93 energetic particle features by using Cassini's multi-instrument measurements. We  
94 report details of energetic oxygen ions and electrons in the reconnection region.  
95 Pitch angle features of hot electrons are also analyzed for each reconnection process.

96

### 97 **Cassini observations of reconnection events**

98 We analyze magnetic field observations from the Cassini-MAG instrument  
99 (Dougherty et al. 2004), thermal ion and electron measurements with energy range  
100 up to 28 keV (electrons) and 50 keV (ions) from Cassini-CAPS/IMS/ELS (Young et al.  
101 2004), and energetic (>18 keV (electrons) and > 27 keV (ions)) particle data from the  
102 Low-Energy Magnetospheric Measurements System (LEMMS) and the Ion and  
103 Neutral Camera (INCA) of the Magnetosphere Imaging Instrument (MIMI) (Krimigis et  
104 al., 2004). Hot electron pitch angle information is available by combining the *in-situ*  
105 magnetic field and particle data.

106 Reconnection diffusion region is the key region of the magnetic reconnection  
107 domain. However, this region is very small and dynamic, and it is very difficult to  
108 explore this with a spacecraft. From a realistic perspective, the negative  $B_\theta$  signature  
109 is usually adopted as a simplified indicator of the magnetic reconnection, which can  
110 also effectually expose the reconnection diffusion region. We surveyed the Cassini  
111 data that collected from 2005 to 2012, and obtained 139 events that contains  
112 negative  $B_\theta$  signatures inside the magnetosphere at the noon sector from 9 LT (Local  
113 Time) to 15 LT, with latitude inside 30 degrees. There are 33 events showing  
114 correlations between the negative  $B_\theta$  signatures and the flux increases of the  
115 energetic oxygen ion, which is one of the most important species at Saturn. In this  
116 work, we identify 3 reconnection diffusion events from the 33 events, and investigate  
117 their Hall magnetic signatures and their ambient plasma features.

118

### 119 **Event 1: 25 November 2005**

120 Figure 1a shows magnetic field components in Kronographic Radial-Theta-Phi  
121 coordinates for 25 November 2005 between 11:40 UT and 13:40 UT. Figure 1b shows  
122 the magnetic field components in the X-line coordinate system (Arridge et al. 2016),  
123 which is a rectangular coordinate system that removes the bend-back effect of the  
124 magnetic field lines in magnetodisc. Figure 1c shows energetic electron differential  
125 flux from 18 keV to 832 keV measured by the MIMI-LEMMS instrument. Figure 1d  
126 shows the energy spectrogram of omni-directional hot electron flux measured by the

127 CAPS-ELS instrument, and Figures 1e-1g shows pitch angle distribution for electrons  
128 within three different energy ranges, i.e., from 50 eV to 500 eV, 500 eV to 3 keV, and  
129 3 keV to 28 keV. As shown in Figure 1e-1g, the coverage of pitch angles during the  
130 whole period was poor, which is a common situation in Cassini's CAPS-ELS dataset,  
131 due to the limited field-of-view of the instrument. Figure 1h shows energetic ion  
132 (generally protons) differential flux from 27 keV to 4 MeV from MIMI-LEMMS  
133 instrument. Figure 1i shows the energy spectrogram for omnidirectional ion flux  
134 from CAPS-IMS instrument. Figure 1j shows the energetic oxygen differential flux  
135 from 46 keV to nearly 1 MeV from MIMI-INCA instrument.

136 Following the negative  $B_\theta$  signature in Figure 1a (or positive  $B_z$  component in  
137 Figure 1b) at  $\sim 12:13$  UT and  $\sim 13:10$  UT, two magnetic reconnection sites  
138 (highlighted in pink) were detected by Cassini in the pre-noon sector (at 9 LT) at a  
139 radial distance of  $\sim 21 R_S$  (Saturn's Radius,  $1R_S = 60,268$  km) from Saturn's center.  
140 Moreover,  $B_r$  changes sign when  $B_z$  reverses, which is consistent with reconnection-  
141 produced Hall magnetic fields (Arridge et al. 2016; Guo et al. 2018). As suggested by  
142 the correspondingly small  $|B_r|$ , the spacecraft was in the outflow part of the  
143 reconnection region when the negative  $B_\theta$  was detected.

144 The electron spectrograms (Figure 1d) in the reconnection regions are featured  
145 by higher than the ambient plasma energies. The background region (before the  
146 highlighted intervals) where electrons have a wide energy region from 10s of eV to  $\sim$   
147 1 keV, while electrons in the reconnection sites are mostly from 100s to a few keV.  
148 The pitch angle distributions in Figure 1e-1g showed that the electrons in these  
149 reconnection sites are approximately isotropic, but are field-aligned outside the  
150 reconnection regions. The isotropic pitch angle distribution of electrons is a typical  
151 feature of magnetic reconnection outflow region (e.g., Wang et al. (2016)).

152 The energetic electron flux (in Figure 1c) is enhanced during the two negative  $B_\theta$   
153 intervals and is also correlated to the magnitude of the  $B_r$  component. When  $|B_r| >$   
154 3 nT, the electron flux in both Figure 1c and 1d minimizes, suggesting that the  
155 spacecraft was away from the current sheet center. Before the second highlighted  
156 region, the energetic electron flux is also increased when  $|B_r|$  decreases, suggesting  
157 that the reconnection processes have been proceeding for a while and the  
158 accelerated electrons have filled in the current sheet. In addition, as shown in Figure  
159 1d, the central energy of the electron flux in the second reconnection site is higher  
160 than that in the first one. Moreover, the fluxes of energetic protons (tens of keV  
161 to  $>100$  keV, shown in Figure 1h) and energetic oxygen ions ( $> 200$  keV, shown in  
162 Figure 1j) are mainly enhanced in the second reconnection site. The enhancement of  
163 thermal ions ( $<10$  keV) in the first reconnection site can be clearly seen in the ion  
164 spectrogram in Figure 1i. The two reconnection events detected nearby have  
165 significantly different accelerating features might suggest that they are two individual  
166 reconnection sites, and therefore it is consistent with the "drizzle-like" reconnection  
167 picture.

168

169 **Event 2: 15 September 2008**

170 Figure 2 shows the second event occurred on 15 September 2008 between  
171 11:00 UT and 16:00 UT, in the near-noon sector (at 11.2 LT) and at a radial distance of  
172  $\sim 18 R_S$ . The large magnitude of the  $B_r$  component was expected since Cassini was at  
173 high latitudes, similar to the case in Guo et al. (2018), implying that the spacecraft  
174 was in the outer layer of the current sheet. The negative  $B_\theta$  signature in Figure 2a  
175 lasted for more than 2 hours from  $\sim 11:43$  UT to  $\sim 14:24$  UT and is followed by a  
176 bipolar  $B_\theta$  signature around 14:53 UT.

177 The distinct structure at around 14:53 UT is likely a secondary island  
178 (highlighted in pink) inside the long-lasting negative  $B_\theta$  interval. Additionally, in the  
179 X-line coordinates (Figure 2b), the bipolar signature of  $B_r$  component is consistent  
180 with the Hall magnetic fields. The perpendicular flux of hot electrons is enhanced in  
181 the positive  $B_\theta$  region of the secondary island (Figures 2e and 2f), while it is field-  
182 aligned in the rest of the long-lasting negative  $B_\theta$  region. There is no signature in  
183 Figure 2d to show that electrons are substantially accelerated inside the secondary  
184 island, suggesting that this secondary island is not contracting. This is because that  
185 contracting secondary island would strongly energize electrons (Drake et al. 2006).  
186 The energetic oxygen flux (Figure 2j) enhances ahead of the encounter with the  
187 secondary island, while the energetic electron flux (Figure 2c) increases after the  
188 encounter with the positive  $B_\theta$  region of the secondary island and keeps a high level  
189 outside the secondary island, which might be originated from other nearby  
190 secondary reconnection sites that generated the secondary island.

191 Besides the secondary island region, the energetic oxygen flux also enhances at  
192 the onset of the long-lasting negative  $B_\theta$  region (marked by the first arrow in Figure  
193 2a) and at the end of the negative  $B_\theta$  region (marked by the second arrow in Figure  
194 2a). After  $\sim 15:30$  UT, while the energetic electrons flux increases sharply (marked by  
195 the black arrow in Figure 2c), the electron spectrogram in Figure 2d broadens to  
196 contain electrons with energy less than 100 eV. The pitch-angle for the broadband  
197 electron spectrogram is largely enhanced at perpendicular (Figures 2e and 2f),  
198 opposite to the bi-directional feature during the negative  $B_\theta$  interval. The pitch-angle  
199 distributions of this event are different to those of the first event where the electrons  
200 showed much isotropic features in the negative  $B_\theta$  region while bi-directional in the  
201 background. In the event of Figure 2, bi-directional electrons are seen also in the  
202 negative  $B_\theta$  region. The difference between the two events might be due to the  
203 relative positions between Cassini and the current sheet, as the spacecraft's latitude  
204 in the second event was much higher than that in the first event. Hence, Cassini may  
205 be detecting the outer edge of the current sheet, which could have different plasma  
206 characteristics compared to the current center. It could also be due to aperiodic short  
207 time scale dynamics that often dominate locally.

208

209 **Event 3: 15 April 2008**

210 The third reconnection event was also observed in the near-noon sector (at 11.5

211 LT) with a radial distance of  $\sim 23 R_S$ . Figure 3 is organized in same manner as Figure 1  
212 and 2, and shows data from 14 April 2008 21:40 UT to 15 April 2008 01:40 UT. There  
213 is a short negative  $B_\theta$  region (transient 1) around 14 April 2008 23:15 UT (dashed  
214 vertical line). After transient 1, the  $B_\theta$  component shows a significant bipolar  
215 signature (transient 2) with oscillations between 14 April 23:47 UT to 15 April 00:33  
216 UT (highlighted in pink).

217 In transient 2, the corresponding Hall magnetic field is obvious in Figure 3b  
218 where the  $B_Y$  component reverses from positive to negative. In Figure 3f, the  
219 electrons with energies from 500 eV to 3 keV in this interval are enhanced both in  
220 the perpendicular and antiparallel directions (we lack parallel information due to the  
221 instrument's limited field of view), suggesting that this could be the electron exhaust  
222 region, which is the inner part of the reconnection region and is filled by energized  
223 electrons that have been accelerated by both the X-line and a parallel potential near  
224 the separatrix region (e.g., Egedal et al. (2012) and Wang et al. (2016)).

225 The energetic electron flux in Figure 3c is enhanced when  $B_\theta$  attained large  
226 positive values during transient 2. The energetic oxygen flux increases on both sides  
227 of the  $B_\theta$  bipolar interval and drops at the same time that the energetic electrons are  
228 suddenly enhanced. Considering that the electron diffusion region is much smaller  
229 than and is surrounded by the oxygen diffusion region, the features of energised  
230 plasma can suggest that the spacecraft moved from the oxygen diffusion region on  
231 the outer part of the reconnection region (the first oxygen flux enhancement during  
232 the transient 2), to the electron exhaust further inside the reconnection region (the  
233 oxygen flux decrease and meanwhile electron flux enhancement during the transient  
234 2), and then back to the oxygen diffusion region (the second Oxygen flux  
235 enhancement during the transient 2).

236 In transient 1, the  $B_\phi$  component was nearly zero before  $B_\theta$  becomes negative,  
237 suggesting the azimuthal bend-back configuration of the magnetodisc (Vasyliunas  
238 1983) is mostly eliminated by the reconnection process in this region. Revealed by  
239 the plasma properties, the reconnection signatures observed at transient 1 can be  
240 divided into three regions, which are indicated above Figure 3d with three horizontal  
241 arrows.

242 The first region is where the energetic oxygen and proton fluxes were enhanced,  
243 in Figures 3j and 3h, respectively. The electron spectrogram (Figure 3d) shows a  
244 cavity in the low energy range. Electrons with energy around 1 keV display a bi-  
245 directional pitch angle distribution (Figure 3f), but they are more isotropic above 3  
246 keV (Figure 3g). The second region is after the cold electron cavity and before the  
247 peak of  $B_\theta$  component. The energetic electron flux in Figure 3c was sharply enhances  
248 in this region. The electron spectrogram has two bands. The low energy band is  
249 associated with bi-directional features (Figure 3e), and the high-energy band is  
250 roughly isotropic (Figure 3f). The third region is where the  $B_\theta$  component sharply  
251 drops to negative. The electron spectrogram here is again bimodal. The flux of low  
252 energy electron band is enhanced in the perpendicular direction (Figure 3e).

253 The double electron bands in transient 1 are likely the mixture of reconnection  
254 accelerated population and ambient population. Enhancements in the low energy  
255 electron band are correlated with the dips in  $B_r$ . The four groups of colored arrows  
256 above Figures 3a and 3d show the correspondence between the  $B_r$  dips and  
257 intensifications in the low energy electron bands. This correlation strongly indicates  
258 that the low energy electron population could only exist in the inner current sheet,  
259 while high energy electron population could reach to distances farther from the  
260 current sheet center (Sergis et al. 2011). The electron population in this event  
261 appeared to have different characteristics compared to the other two events  
262 presented in this work. A further statistical study of the electron properties at  
263 different radial distances, local times and latitudes is required to systematically  
264 understand the variable behavior of electrons in different events.

265

## 266 **Discussion and conclusion**

267 As suggested by Delamere et al. (2015), magnetic reconnection can be expected  
268 to occur at any local time and not only in the midnight sector. The unambiguous ion  
269 diffusion region reported by Guo et al. (2018) and the three reconnection cases in  
270 this study, provide additional and direct evidence of the existence of the dayside  
271 magnetodisc reconnection processes, which locally produce energetic electrons and  
272 ions with energies of 100s of keV at the dayside magnetosphere.

273 Figure 4 shows the line plots and the energy spectrograms for the flux of  
274 energetic hydrogen (top two panels) and oxygen (bottom two panels) during the  
275 enhancement in the first event studied here (the second highlighted region in Figure  
276 1). The flux peaks across all the energies of the hydrogens and oxygens ions at the  
277 same time, eliminating the possibility that our signatures were generated by an  
278 injection event and suggesting that the ions were locally accelerated. The  
279 spectrograms is similar to that reported in Angelopoulos et al. (2008) for a terrestrial  
280 magnetotail reconnection event. It is readily expected that the flux would enhance  
281 (drop) when moving towards (away from) the reconnection region, since the  
282 magnetic reconnection domain is the source region of energetic particles.

283 Observational features from the three events support the concept of ‘drizzle-like’  
284 reconnection process, i.e. reconnection on global scales facilitated through  
285 numerous, small-scale reconnection channels (Delamere et al. 2015). For the event  
286 on November 25, 2005 (Figure 1), the energy of the hot electrons in the second  
287 reconnection site is higher than the first one (Figure 1d). Furthermore, the >10 keV  
288 energetic ions prominently appear in the second reconnection site, while it was  
289 much quiet in the first one (Figures 1h and 1j). These difference between the  
290 accelerated particles suggests that the two detected reconnection signatures are not  
291 from the same reconnection site, indicating that Cassini sampled adjacent but  
292 independent reconnection channels, a signature consistent with the ‘drizzle’ concept  
293 that suggested by Delamere et al. (2015). In addition, the separation of the two  
294 reconnection sites in the azimuthal direction was  $\sim 12 R_s$ , if considering that they co-

295 rotate with the magnetosphere (Yao et al. 2017) in the duration over one hour (the  
296 time gap of the two reconnection events). The large separation between the two  
297 reconnection regions may exclude the possibility that they come from different  
298 evolution stages of the same event. For the event on 15 September 2008 (Figure 2),  
299 there is a long-lasting negative  $B_\theta$  interval. However, because of the lack of the  
300 information on the magnetic structure near the current sheet center, it is hard to  
301 determine whether the aforementioned negative  $B_\theta$  signature is caused by one or  
302 more reconnection sites. The  $B_Y$  signatures are not consistent with the Hall magnetic  
303 field signatures outside the negative  $B_\theta$  regions. This could either be due to the  
304 disturbed current sheet, that can result in the X-line coordinates failing to adequately  
305 represent the magnetic geometry near the reconnection region, which is very  
306 possible near the current sheet center where the magnetic strength is small; or be  
307 due to the interference from the nearby reconnection site if the reconnection  
308 process was ‘drizzle-like’.

309 The three events show very diverse forms of plasma acceleration, which is  
310 naturally expected due to the temporal variations and differences along the Cassini  
311 trajectories in crossing the complex magnetic reconnection sites in giant planetary  
312 magnetospheres. The presence of oxygen ions throughout the magnetosphere  
313 introduces an additional layer to the reconnection site, forming an oxygen diffusion  
314 region outside the proton diffusion region. This added layer makes the ion diffusion  
315 region enlarged and more complex, as particles exhibit different behavior across  
316 diffusion regions. For instance, the energetic oxygen ions concentrate in a narrow  
317 angular range within the 90 x 120 degree field-of-view of MIMI-INCA and peak at the  
318 pitch angles neither parallel nor perpendicular, while protons present more isotropic  
319 features (not shown, informed from MIMI-INCA). The non-gyrotropic and anisotropic  
320 feature of the oxygen ions may be due to their non-frozen-in behavior during the  
321 acceleration in the diffusion region for their larger gyro-radii (Sergis et al. 2013)  
322 comparing to the protons. The efficient perpendicular acceleration on heavy ions has  
323 been revealed by Galileo in Jovian magnetotail reconnection region (Radioti et al.  
324 2007). Combining with reconnection's parallel acceleration, it is therefore possible to  
325 have accelerated energetic heavy ions at a pitch angle between parallel and  
326 perpendicular as observed in our events. Additionally, the existence of the secondary  
327 island in the second event, suggests the reconnection process is not steady, which  
328 will increase the diversity in particle behavior. The reason for the double bands in the  
329 electron spectrogram in Figure 3d and their variation might be very complex as the  
330 reconnection can couple different populations (Hesse et al. 2017). We expect this  
331 coupling to be more pronounced for ‘drizzle’ reconnection, where multiple plasma  
332 populations can be mixed on small spatial scales over a broad magnetospheric region.

333 In summary, we detailed characteristics of plasma acceleration for three  
334 magnetic reconnection events located in the dayside magnetodisc of Saturn. The  
335 heavy ions have strong influence on the evolution of the magnetic reconnection  
336 (Liang et al. 2017). Since the content of heavy ions are fundamentally different in



337 giant planets and Earth (Blanc et al. 2015), we would expect a different role of the  
338 heavy ions in triggering reconnection process at Saturn and the Earth's  
339 magnetospheres. Unsteady and 'drizzle-like' DMR processes at Saturn can energize  
340 particles and provide an energy source for exciting auroral emissions connected to  
341 Saturn's dayside polar region. Furthermore, if these processes are common and more  
342 energetic in Jupiter's magnetosphere, they may offer a crucial means for energizing  
343 the heavy ions that precipitate into Jupiter's atmosphere, generating X-ray and UV  
344 auroral flares.

345

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409 Figure 1. Dayside magnetodisc reconnection event on 25 November 2005. (a) Three  
410 magnetic field components in KRTP coordinates ( $B_r$  in blue,  $B_\theta$  in green and  $B_\phi$  in  
411 red), and (b) in reconnection coordinates ( $B_x$  in blue,  $B_y$  in green and  $B_z$  in red). (c)  
412 Energetic electron differential flux from MIMI-LEMMS. (d) Energy spectrogram of  
413 omni-directional electron flux from CAPS-ELS. (e-g) Pitch angle distribution for  
414 electrons within energy ranges of from 50 eV to 500 eV, 500 eV to 3 keV, and 3 keV to  
415 28 keV. (h) Energetic proton differential flux from MIMI-LEMMS. (i) Energy  
416 spectrogram for omni-directional ion flux from CAPS-IMS. (j) Energetic oxygen  
417 differential flux from MIMI-INCA. The pink regions highlighted the two reconnection  
418 regions that are identified by combining the signatures of negative  $B_\theta$  component,  
419 Hall magnetic field, and the heated electrons.

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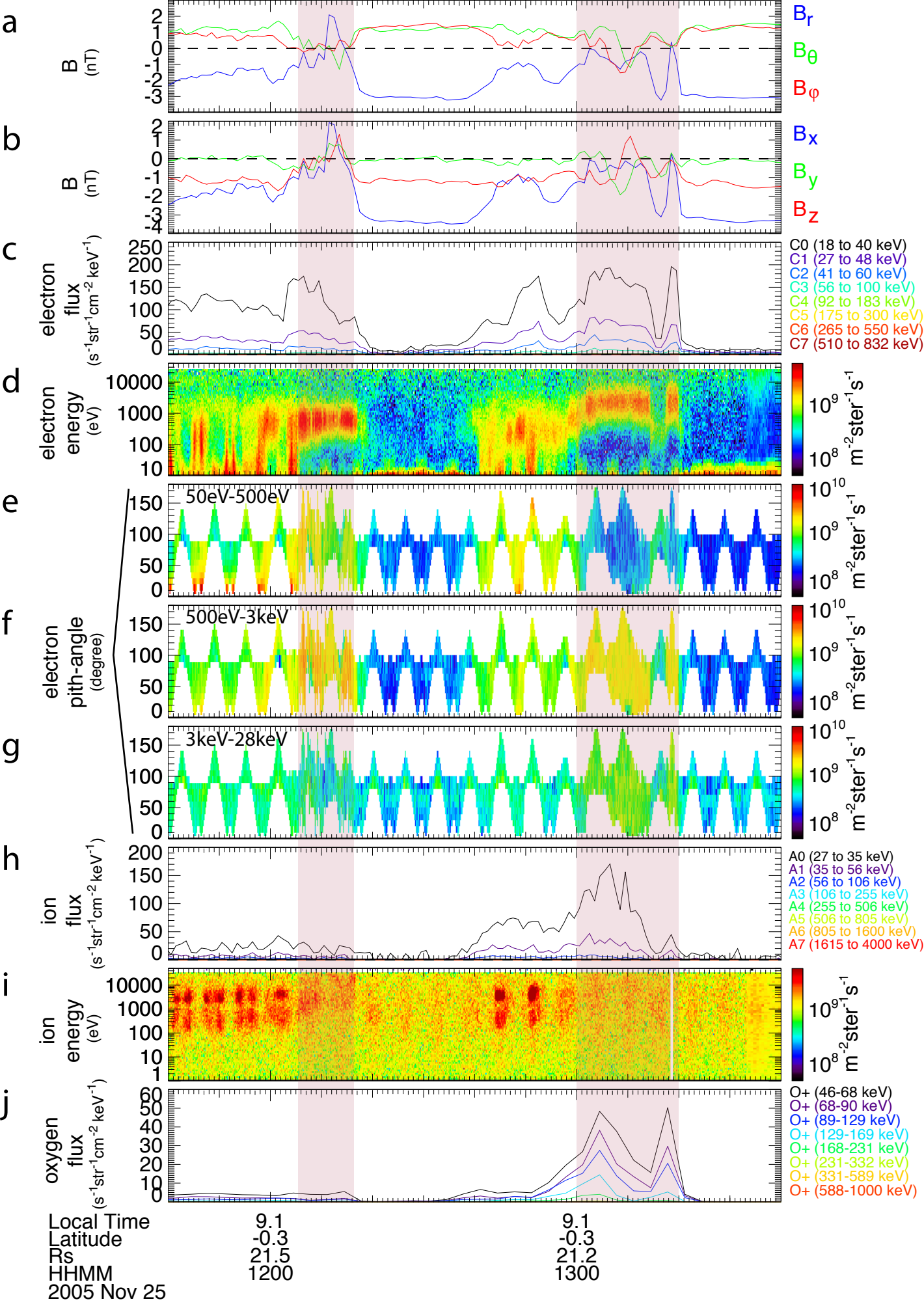
421 Figure 2. Dayside magnetodisc reconnection event on 15 September 2008. The  
422 panels are arranged as the same format as Figure 1. The high electron/ion fluxes  
423 from C0/A0 channel at the beginning of Figure 2c/2h are due to light contamination.

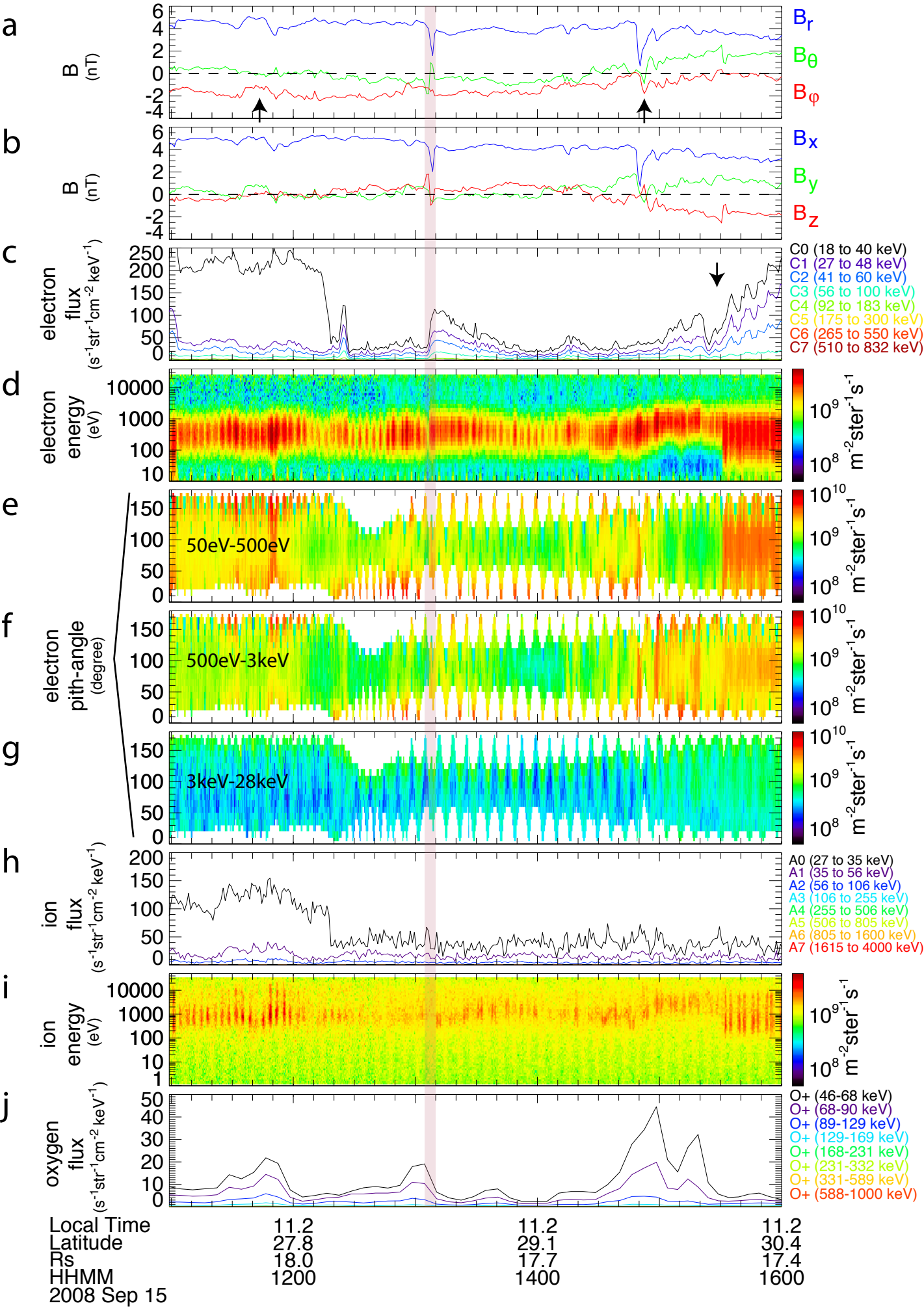
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425 Figure 3. Dayside magnetodisc reconnection event on April 14th and April 15th in  
426 2008. The panels are arranged as the same format as Figure 1 and Figure 2. The four  
427 coloured arrows show the correspondence between the  $B_r$  dips and the low energy  
428 electron bands.

429

430 Figure 4. Differential flux and energy spectrogram for the energetic protons (a-b) and  
431 energetic oxygen (c-d) from MIMI-INCA on November 25, 2005, i.e., the first event.  
432 There are two major peaks for both protons and oxygen. The fluxes across all  
433 energies are enhanced at 13:04 and 13:18 simultaneously.





# Transient 1      Transient 2

