Dynamics of Relativistic Electrons During Non-Storm Times Colorado Student Space Weather Experiment (CSSWE), Van Allen Probes, BARREL, and THEMIS



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Launched: 9/13/12, NRO (Atlas V) under NASA's ELaNa program Orbit: ~480 km x 780 km, inclination 65^o



CSSWE: Colorado Student Space Weather Experiment

(Spring of 2010)







Measurements of electrons & protons from REPTile provide a clear picture of energetic particles (electrons and protons) in the near Earth environment (10/5-25/2012) (Li et al., JGR, 2013)





Solar Energetic Particle (SEP) Event



Clear separation of species during a SEP event



REPTile electron measurements for the first five months



Daily Average Electron Flux: 1.63-3.8 MeV



Concurrent measurements with NASA/Van Allen Probes (orbits: 605km x 30410km and 635km x 30540km, inclination: 10⁰)



Evolution of relativistic outer belt electrons during an extended quiescent period (Jaynes et al., JGR, accepted, 2014)



The electron populations measured by REPTile (at LEO):

Trapped, Quasi-trapped (DLC), and Untrapped (BLC)





REPTile electron measurements for first five months



Daily Average Electron Flux: 1.63-3.8 MeV





(1) over 2.5 orders of magnitude enhancement in 13 hr
→ geomagnetic storms are not necessary
(2) PSD peaked at L~5.5, then fast inward transport
(3) Up to 16% more actual enhancement to account for the precipitation loss





CSSWE - BARREL Conjunction: Jan 18-19, 2013





Nature-Extended Data Fig 2 (Baker et al., accepted, 2014) REPTile Data – September 1-23, 2013



Conclusions

Our CubeSat has been in space for over 24 months, providing <u>clean measurements</u> of energetic electrons and protons → a success in education, engineering, and science!

Combined measurements with other missions such as NASA/Van Allen Probes, BARREL, THEMIS have resulted in better understanding of the Dynamics of Relativistic Electrons During Non-Storm Times, such as,

 (1) Quantified the precipitation loss of outer belt electrons
 (2) Detailed demonstration of non-storm enhancements of relativistic electrons

Data analysis and modeling of our CubeSat measurements continue ...

CubeSat Mission Website: *http://lasp.colorado.edu/home/csswe/*