

Analyzing MMS Data with SPEDAS

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Overview

- What's New / Plug-in Status
- Getting Started
- Loading and Plotting Data
- Analysis Tools
- Getting Help

What's New / Plug-in Status

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What's New / Plug-in Status

New features

- Create MMS orbit plots (mms_orbit_plot.pro)
- Create a series of images with line/spectra plots + 2D/1D cuts of distributions (mms_flipbookify.pro)
- Send MMS data to CDF files and Autoplot
- MMS wrapper for 2D slices (mms_part_slice2d.pro)
- Updates to mms_part_getspec
 - Bulk velocity subtraction
 - Subtract FPI distribution error, spin-tone
 - Add B-field / spacecraft RAM direction to phi/theta spectrograms
 - 'multipad' option, with mms_part_getpad (create a PAD for different energy ranges very quickly)
- mirror_data_dir keyword in mms_init (load data from a local network mirror instead of SDC/SPDF)
- flatten_spectra (quickly create line plots of spectra at specific times by clicking time varying spectra plots)

New example scripts

- Poynting flux crib sheet (mms_poynting_flux_crib.pro)
- Plasma beta crib sheet (mms_plasma_beta_crib.pro)
- Webinar scripts now in mms/examples/webinars folder

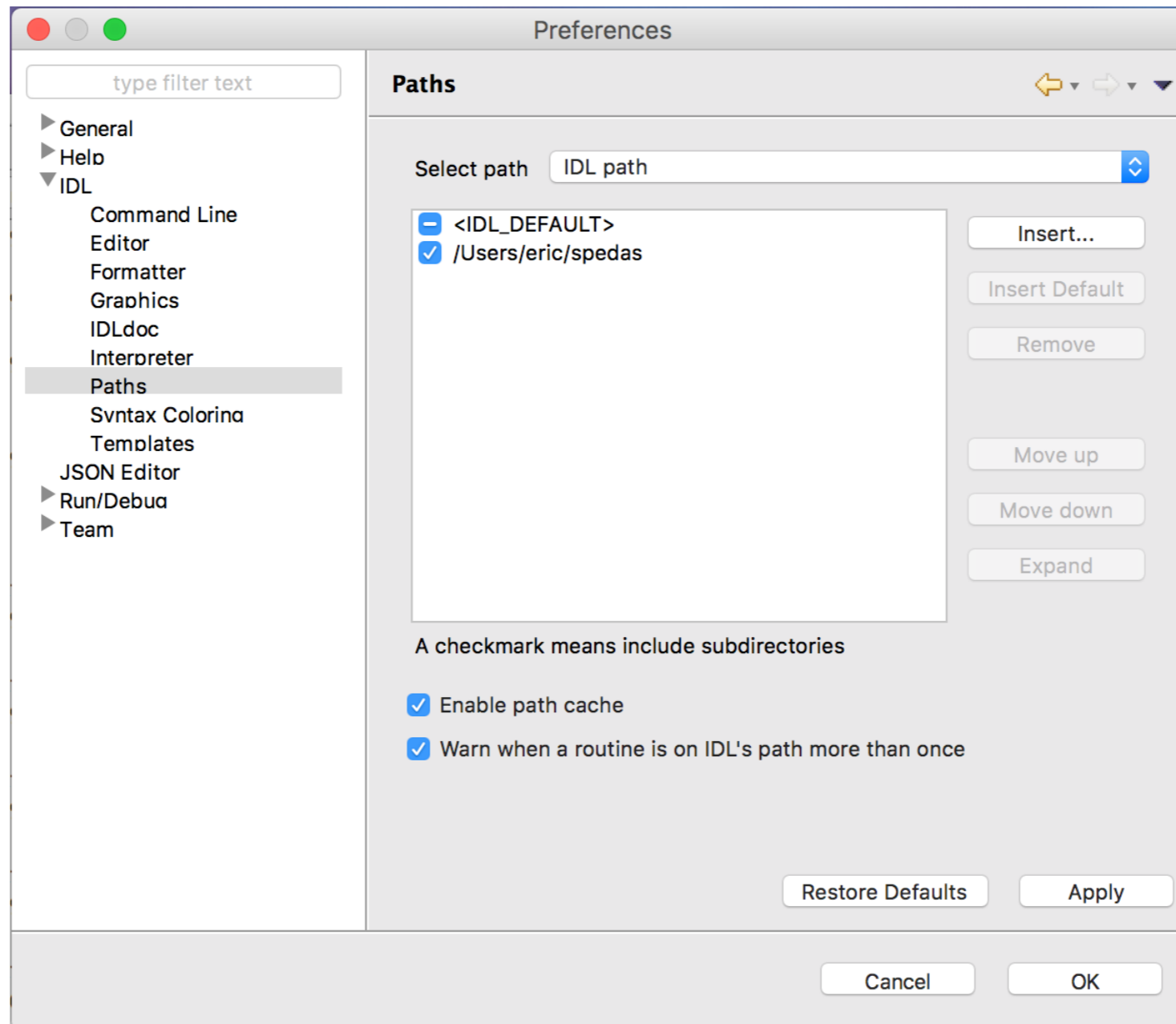
Getting Started

Requirements

- Windows, Linux, OS X, or Solaris
- IDL 8.4+
- IDL CDF Library 3.6.3+

Getting Started Installing SPEDAS

http://spedas.org/wiki/index.php?title=Downloads_and_Installation



Getting Started Organization

spedas_gui: Components of the SPEDAS Graphical User Interface (GUI)

external: Code developed externally, but distributed with SPEDAS (CDAWeb, Geopack, etc.)

projects: Mission specific code

general: General science analysis tools

Getting Started

MMS Load Routines

mms_load_fgm	Fluxgate Magnetometer
mms_load_scm	Search-coil Magnetometer
mms_load_fsm	L3 combined FGM+SCM data products
mms_load_mec	Ephemeris and Coordinates
mms_load_fpi	Fast Plasma Investigation
mms_load_hpca	Hot Plasma Composition Analyzer
mms_load_eis	Energetic Ion Spectrometer
mms_load_feeps	Fly's Eye Energetic Particle Sensor
mms_load_edp	Electric-field Double Probe
mms_load_edi	Electron Drift Instrument
mms_load_dsp	Digital Signal Processor
mms_load_aspoc	Active Spacecraft Potential Control
mms_load_tqf	Tetrahedron Quality Factor
mms_load_fast_segments	Fast survey intervals
mms_load_brst_segments	Burst intervals

See folder: /projects/mms/

Getting Started

Standard Keywords

- `trange` `trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17']`
- `probes` `probes=[1, 2, 3, 4]`
- `level` `level='12'`
- `data_rate` `data_rate='srvy'`
- `datatype` `datatype=['des-moms', 'dis-moms']`

Getting Started

Standard Keywords

- suffix `suffix='_burst_mode'`
- time_clip `/time_clip`
- no_update `/no_update`
- spdf `/spdf`
- tplotnames `tplotnames=tvarnames`

Getting Started

Standard Keywords

- local_data_dir local_data_dir=' /Users/eric/mydata/ '
- mirror_data_dir mirror_data_dir=' /path/to/network/drive/ '
- cdf_filenames cdf_filenames=data_file_list
- cdf_version cdf_version='3.0.0'
- min_version min_version='3.0.0'
- latest_version /latest_version
- major_version /major_version

Getting Started

Standard Keywords

For a complete list of keywords and their descriptions, see the header for the load routine you're interested in, e.g.,

```

; PROCEDURE:
;     mms_load_fpi
;
; PURPOSE:
;     Load data from the Fast Plasma Investigation (FPI) onboard MMS
;
; KEYWORDS:
;     trange:      time range of interest [starttime, endtime] with the format
;                 ['YYYY-MM-DD', 'YYYY-MM-DD'] or to specify more or less than a day
;                 ['YYYY-MM-DD/hh:mm:ss', 'YYYY-MM-DD/hh:mm:ss']
;     probes:     list of probes, valid values for MMS probes are ['1', '2', '3', '4'].
;                 If no probe is specified the default is probe '3'
;     level:      indicates level of data processing. FPI levels currently include 'l2',
;                 'l1b', 'sitr', 'ql'.
;     datatype:   valid datatypes are:
;                 Quicklook: ['des', 'dis']
;                 SITL: '' (none; loads both electron and ion data from single CDF)
;                 L1b/L2: ['des-dist', 'dis-dist', 'dis-moms', 'des-moms']
;     data_rate:  instrument data rates for MMS FPI include 'fast', 'brst'.
;     local_data_dir: local directory to store the CDF files; should be set if
;                 you're on *nix or OSX, the default currently assumes Windows (c:\data\mms\)
;     source:     specifies a different system variable. By default the MMS mission system
;                 variable is !mms
;     get_support_data: load support data (defined by support_data attribute in the CDF)
;     tplotnames: returns a list of the names of the tplot variables loaded by the load routine
;     no_color_setup: don't setup graphics configuration; use this keyword when you're
;                 using this load routine from a terminal without an X server running
;     time_clip:  clip the data to the requested time range; note that if you do not use
;                 this keyword you may load a longer time range than requested
;

```

Getting Started

SDC Data Availability

Browse the status of the data:

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/about/processing/>

Browse the data files:

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/data/>

Search for data files:

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/search/>

Browse the quicklook plots at the SDC:

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/quicklook/>

Getting Started

Simple Example

```
; load the MMS1 FGM data for October 16, 2015
mms_load_fgm, probe=1, data_rate='srvy', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17']

; list the tplot variables loaded
tplot_names

; get the data out of a tplot variable
get_data, 'mms1_fgm_b_gsm_srvy_l2_bvec', data=bgsml_vec, dlimits=bgsml_metadata

; get basic info on the IDL vars that hold the B-field data
help, bgsml_vec ; structure, x: times, y: data (x, y, z)
help, bgsml_metadata ; plotting and file metadata

; store the data into a different tplot variable
store_data, 'new_var_with_b_gsm', data=bgsml_vec, dlimits=bgsml_metadata

; plot the newly created variable
tplot, 'new_var_with_b_gsm'
```

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FGM

```
; load 10 minutes of burst-mode FGM data for probe 1 on October 16, 2015
mms_load_fgm, probe=1, data_rate='brst', trange=['2015-10-16/13:00', '2015-10-16/13:10'], /time_clip

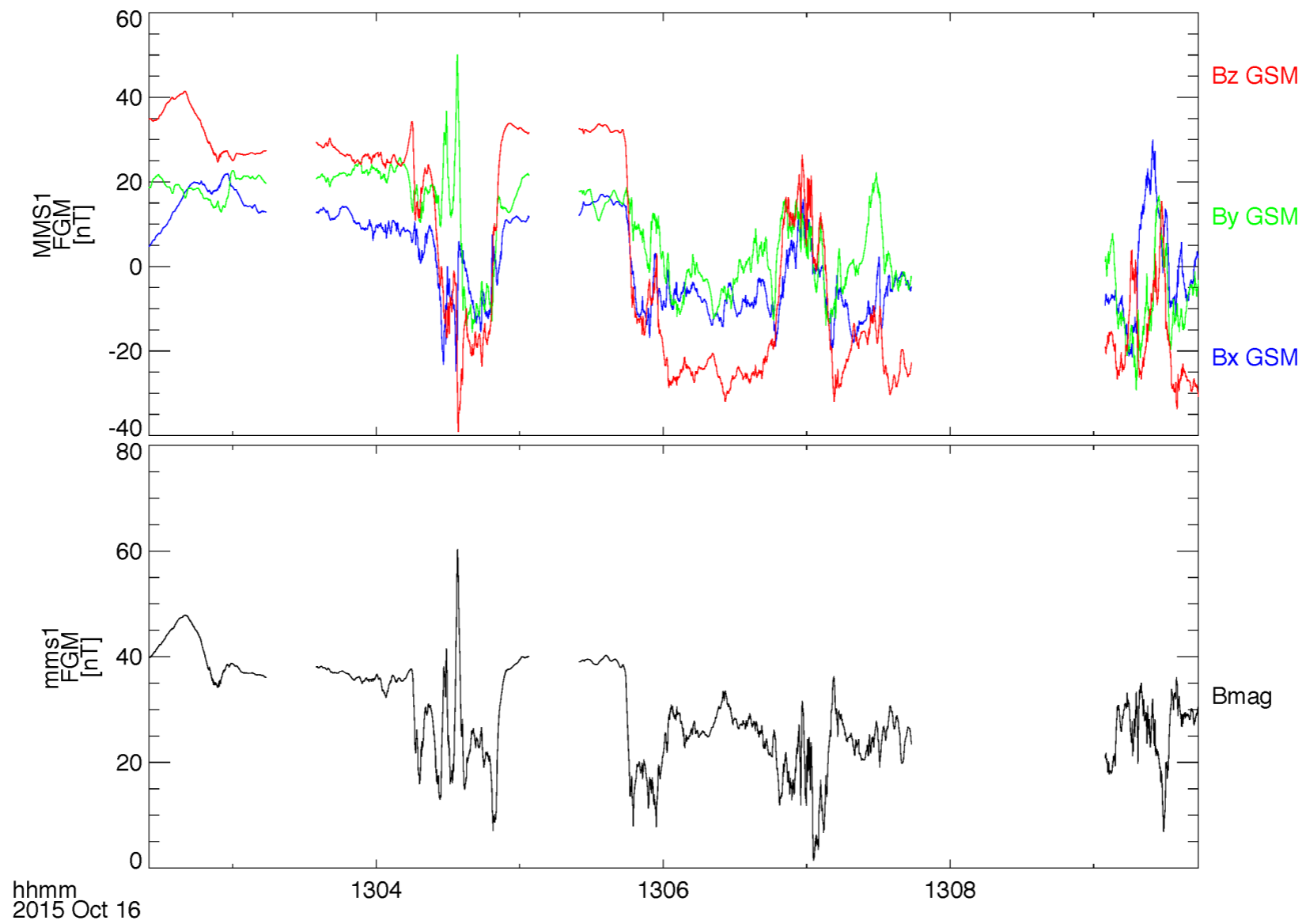
; remove gaps
tdegap, ['mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2_bvec', 'mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2_btot'], /overwrite

; plot the vector and magnitude
tplot, ['mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2_bvec', 'mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2_btot']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/fields/>

Loading and Plotting Data FGM



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FGM

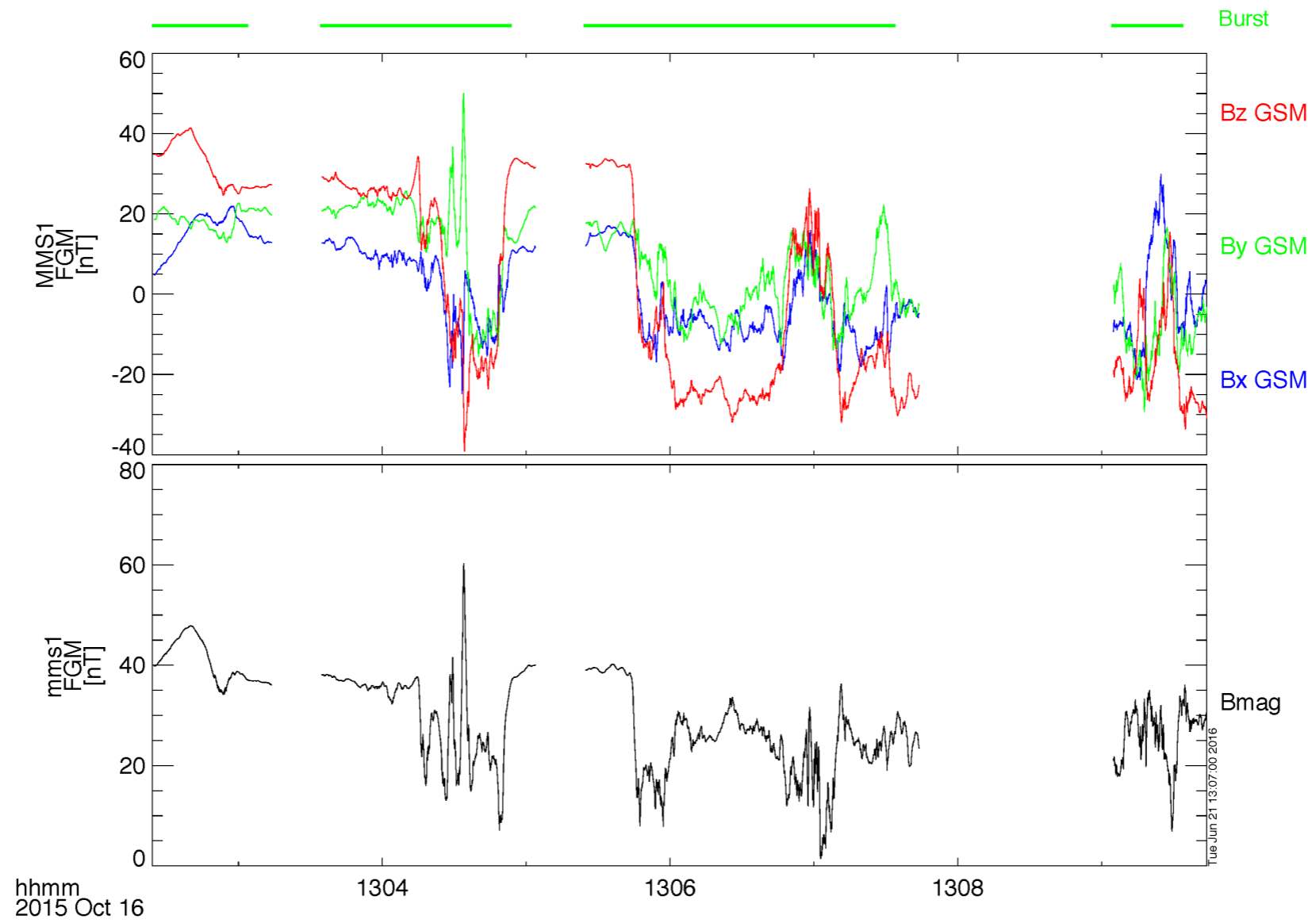
```
; add burst segments bar to the top of the figure  
mms_load_brst_segments, trange=['2015-10-16/13:00', '2015-10-16/13:10']
```

```
tplot, 'mms_bss_burst', /add
```

```
; save the plot as a postscript file
```

```
tprint, 'mms1_fgm_b_gsm_brst_l2_with_burstbar', /landscape
```

Loading and Plotting Data FGM



Loading and Plotting Data SCM

```
; load 10 minutes of burst-mode SCM data for probe 2 on October 16, 2015
mms_load_scm, probe='2', data_rate='brst', trange=['2015-10-16/13:00', '2015-10-16/13:10'], /time_clip

; plot the data
tplot, 'mms2_scm_acb_gse_scb_brst_l2'

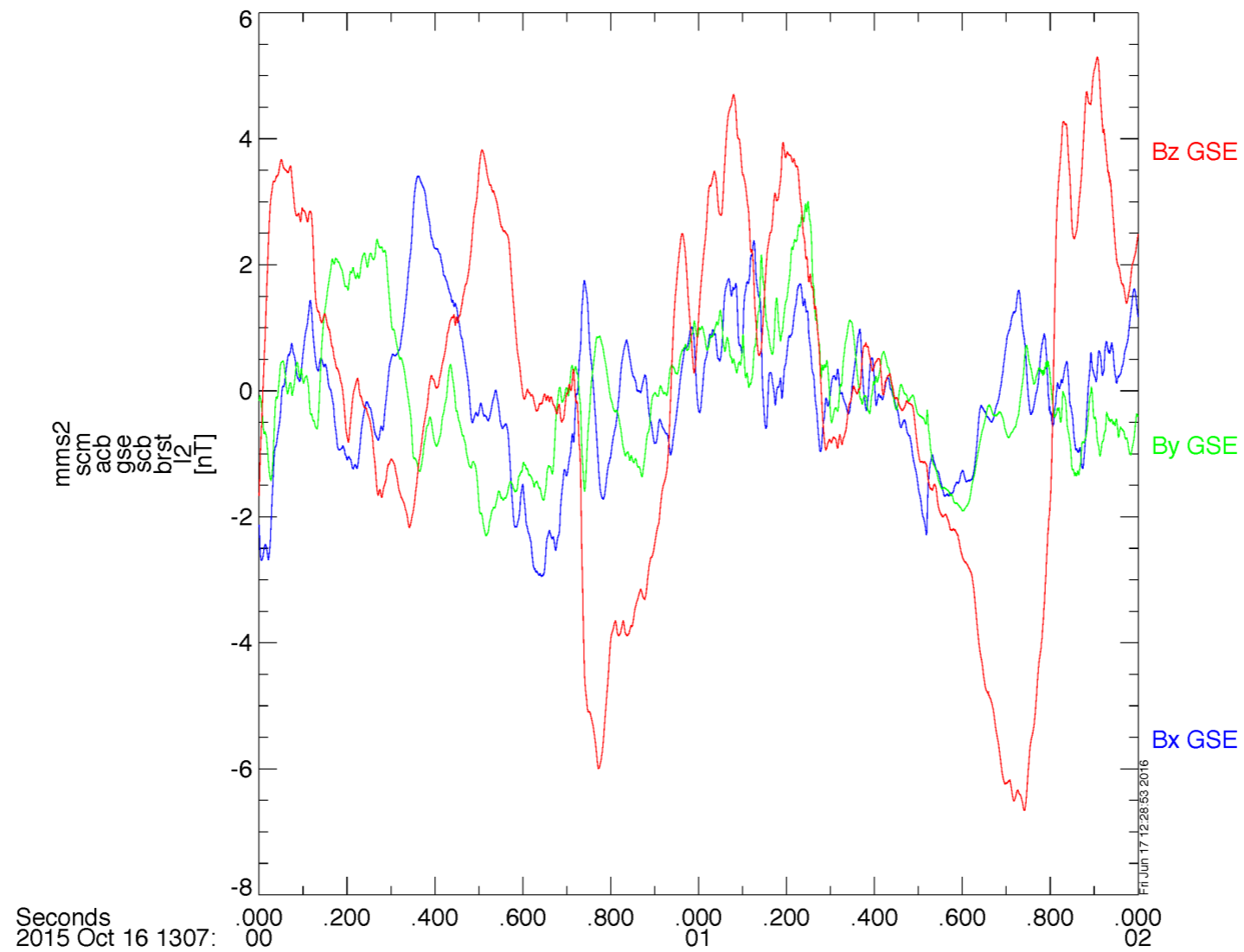
; zoom into a few seconds after 13:07
tlimit, ['2015-10-16/13:07:00', '2015-10-16/13:07:02']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms2_scm_acb_gse_scb_brst_l2', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/fields/>

Loading and Plotting Data

SCM



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EDP

```
mms_load_edp, probe=1, level='l2', datatype='dce', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], /latest_version
```

```
; plot the E-field data
```

```
tplot, 'mms1_edp_dce_gse_fast_l2'
```

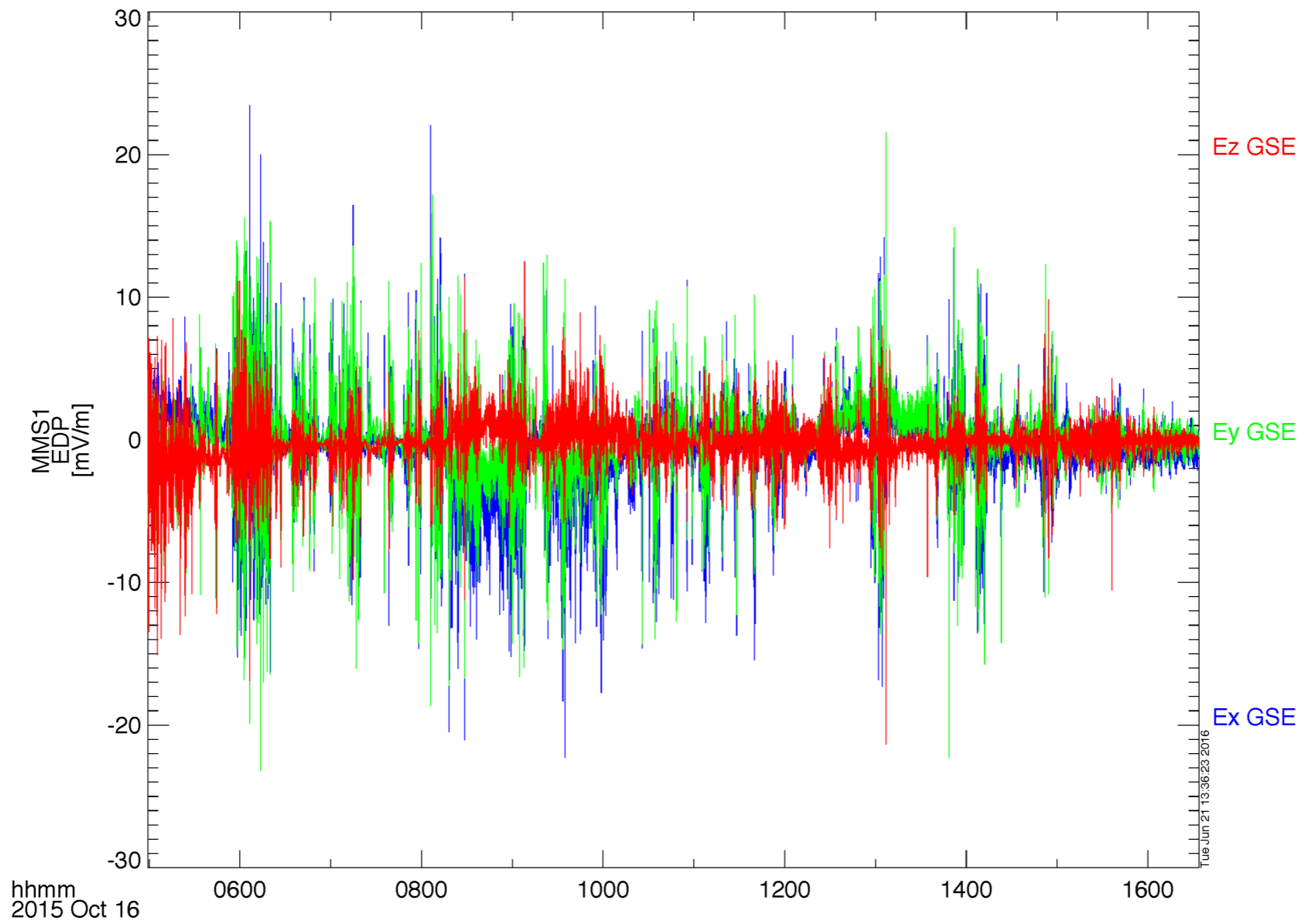
```
; save the plot to a postscript file
```

```
tprint, 'mms1_edp_dce_gse_fast_l2', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/fields/>

Loading and Plotting Data

EDP



Loading and Plotting Data

FPI

```
; load the FPI electron moments data for October 16, 2015
mms_load_fpi, probe=3, data_rate='fast', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], datatype='des-moms'

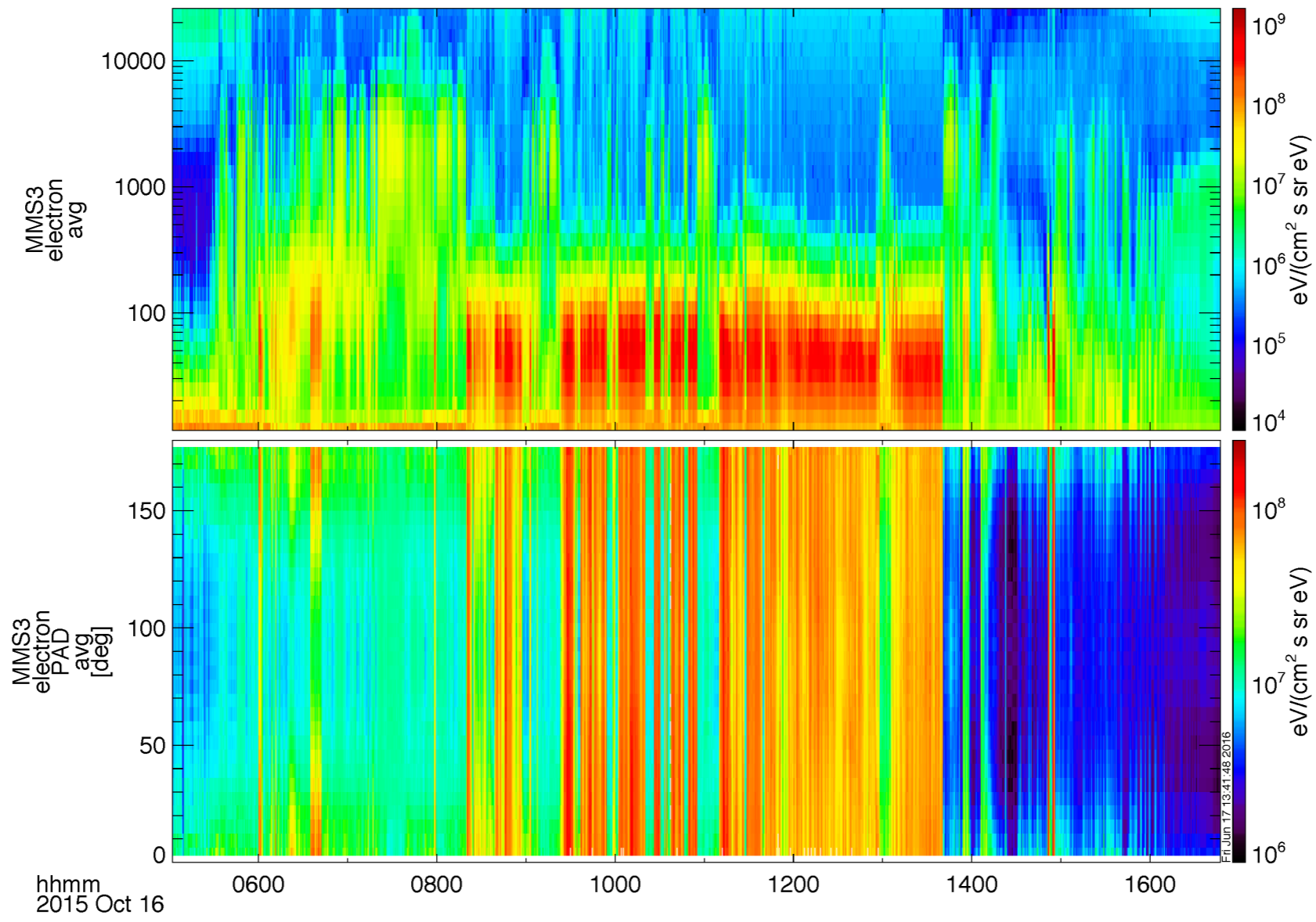
; plot the omni-directional electron energy spectra and pitch angle distribution
tplot, ['mms3_des_energyspectr_omni_avg', 'mms3_des_pitchangdist_avg']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms3_des_spec_and_pad', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/fpi/>

Loading and Plotting Data

FPI



Loading and Plotting Data

FPI

```
; we can also plot the FPI density, bulk velocity
; first, we need to combine the velocity into a single tplot variable (Vx, Vy, Vz)
join_vec, ['mms3_des_bulkx_dbcs_fast', 'mms3_des_bulky_dbcs_fast', 'mms3_des_bulkz_dbcs_fast'],
'mms3_des_bulk_vel_dbcs_fast'

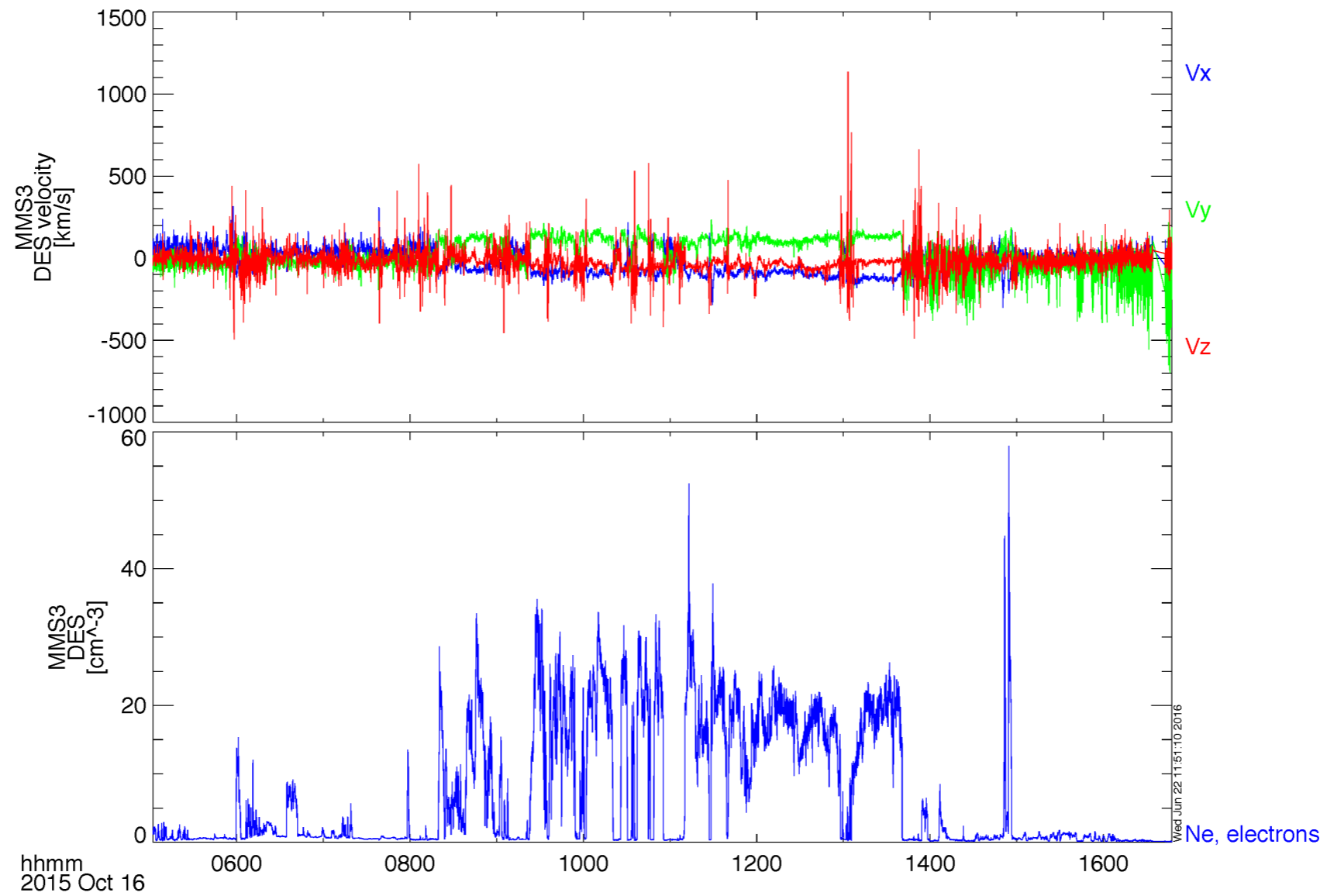
; plot the electron density and flow velocity
tplot, ['mms3_des_bulk_vel_dbcs_fast', 'mms3_des_numberdensity_dbcs_fast']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms3_des_vel_density', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/fpi/>

Loading and Plotting Data

FPI



Loading and Plotting Data

HPCA

```
; load the HPCA moments data for October 16, 2015
mms_load_hpca, probe=4, data_rate='srvy', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], datatype='moments'

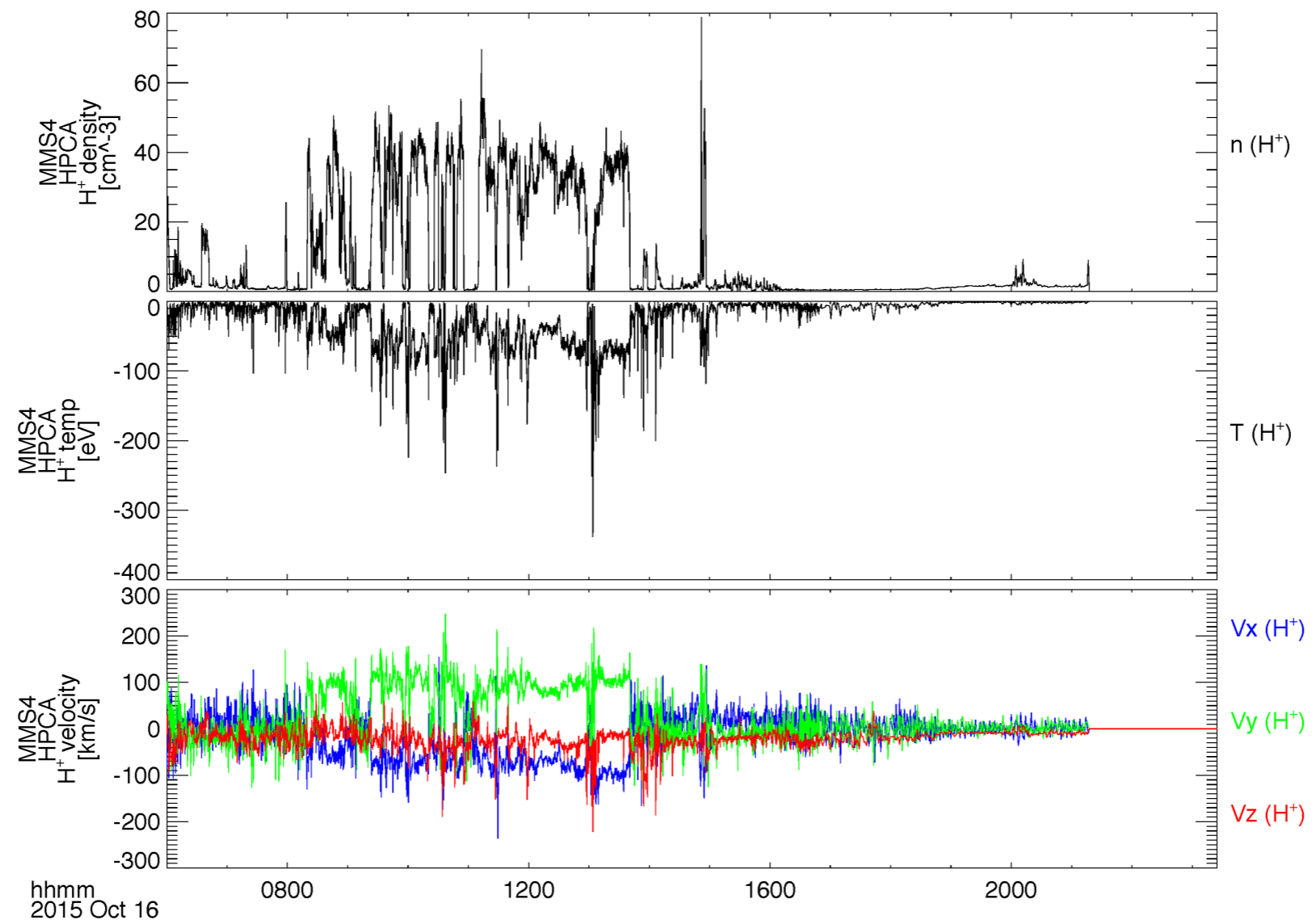
; plot the H+ density, temperature and bulk velocity
tplot, ['mms4_hpca_hplus_number_density', 'mms4_hpca_hplus_scalar_temperature',
'mms4_hpca_hplus_ion_bulk_velocity']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms4_hpca_hplus_moments', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/hpca/>

Loading and Plotting Data

HPCA



Loading and Plotting Data

HPCA

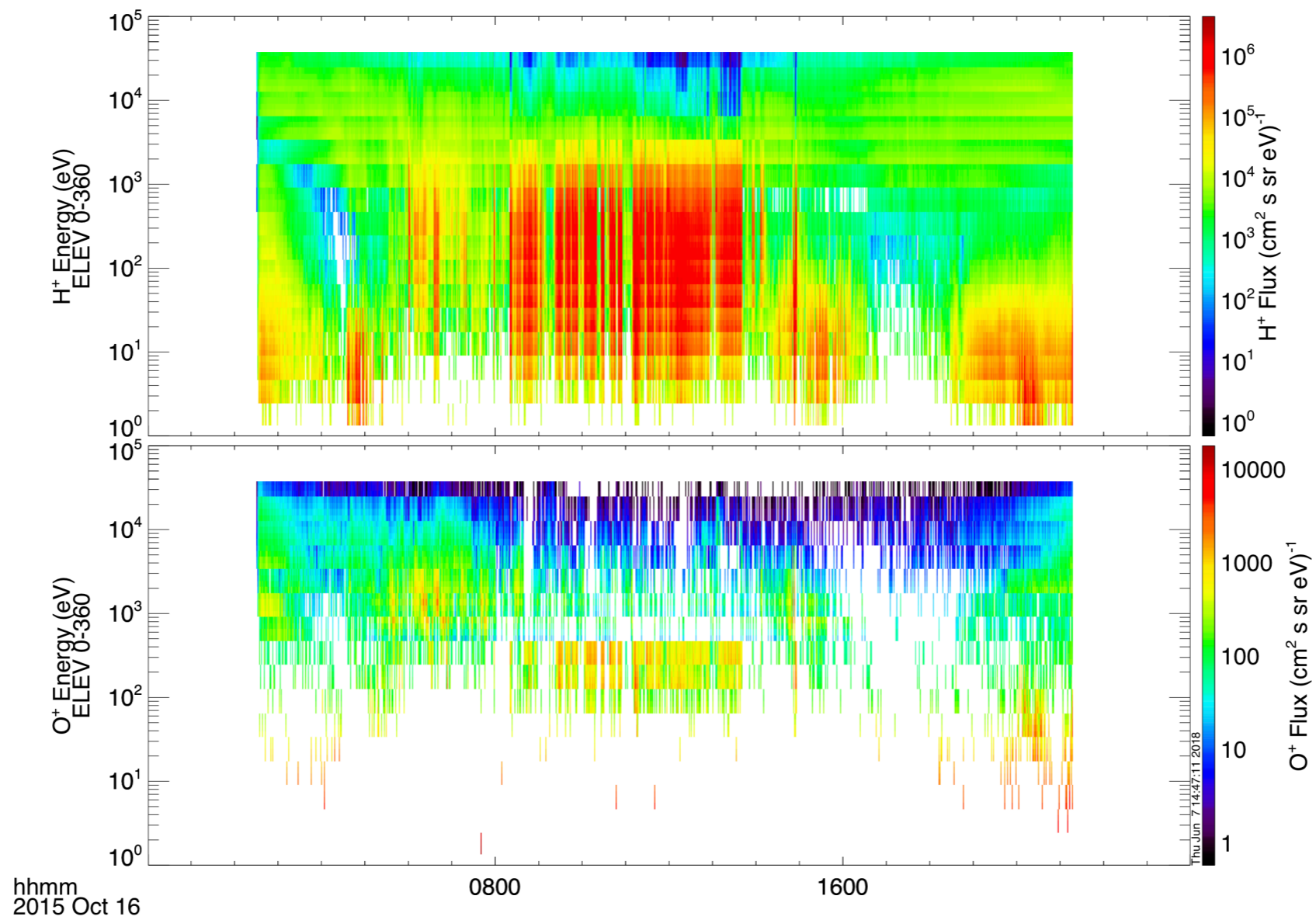
```
; load the HPCA ion data for October 16, 2015
mms_load_hpca, probe=4, data_rate='srvy', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], datatype='ion'

; calculate the omni-directional flux by averaging over the anodes for the full field of view
mms_hpca_calc_anodes, fov=[0, 360]
mms_hpca_spin_sum, probe=4

; plot the H+ and O+ spectra
tplot, ['mms4_hpca_hplus_flux_elev_0-360_spin', $
       'mms4_hpca_oplus_flux_elev_0-360_spin']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms4_hpca_hplus_flux_fullFoV', /landscape
```


Loading and Plotting Data HPCA



Loading and Plotting Data

EPD EIS

```
; load the EIS energy x time of flight (ExTOF) ion data for MMS1
mms_load_eis, probe=1, data_rate='srvy', datatype='extof', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17']

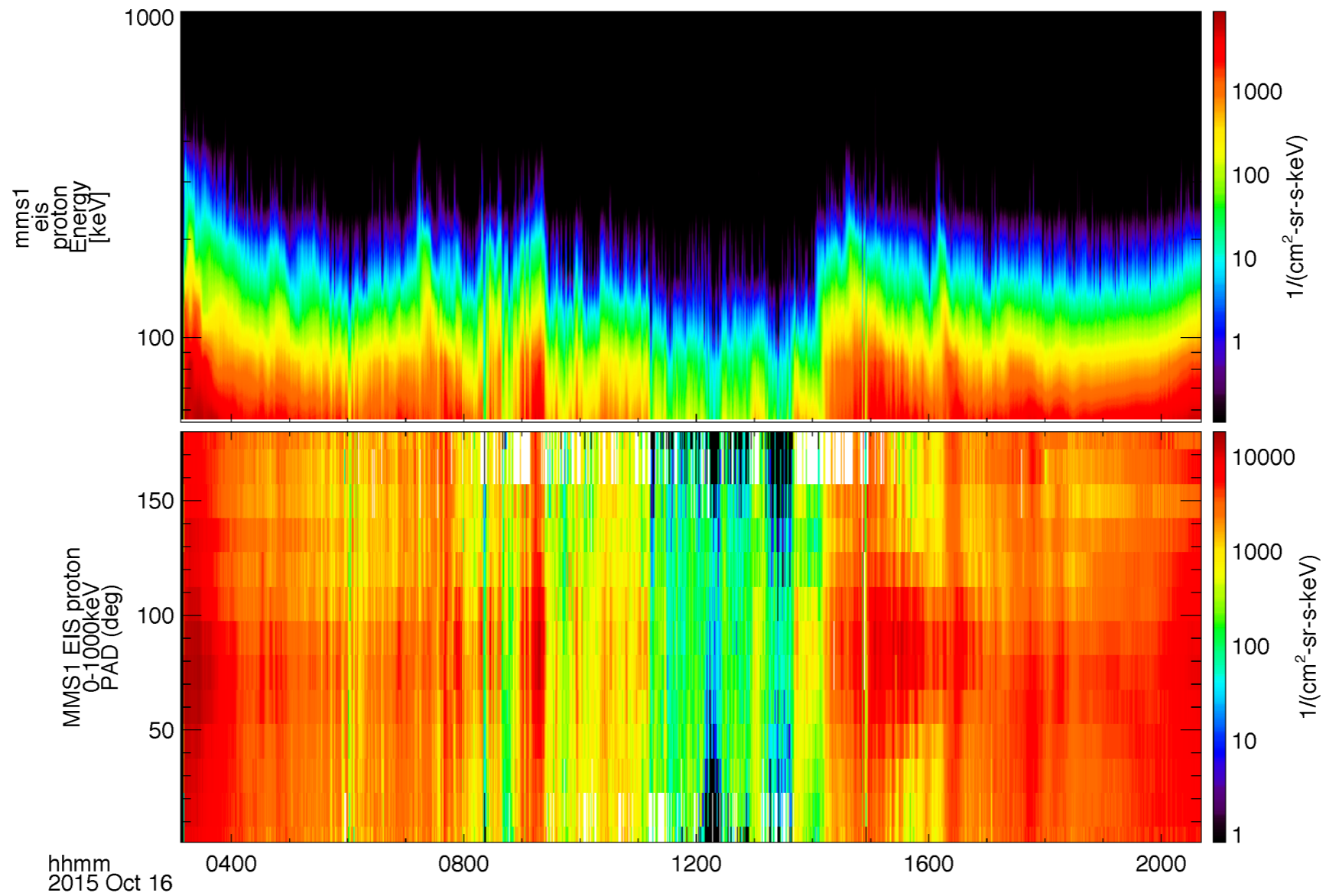
; calculate the EIS pitch angle distribution
mms_eis_pad, probe=1, data_rate='srvy', datatype='extof'

; plot the spin-averaged energy spectra and pitch angle distribution
tplot, ['mms1_epd_eis_extof_proton_flux_omni_spin',
'mms1_epd_eis_extof_0-1000keV_proton_flux_omni_pad_spin']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms1_epd_eis_extof_protons', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/epd/>

Loading and Plotting Data EPD EIS



Loading and Plotting Data

EPD FEEPS

```
; load the FEEPS electron data for MMS2
mms_load_feeps, probe=2, data_rate='srvy', datatype='electron', trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17']

; calculate the FEEPS pitch angle distribution
mms_feeps_pad, probe=2, data_rate='srvy', datatype='electron'

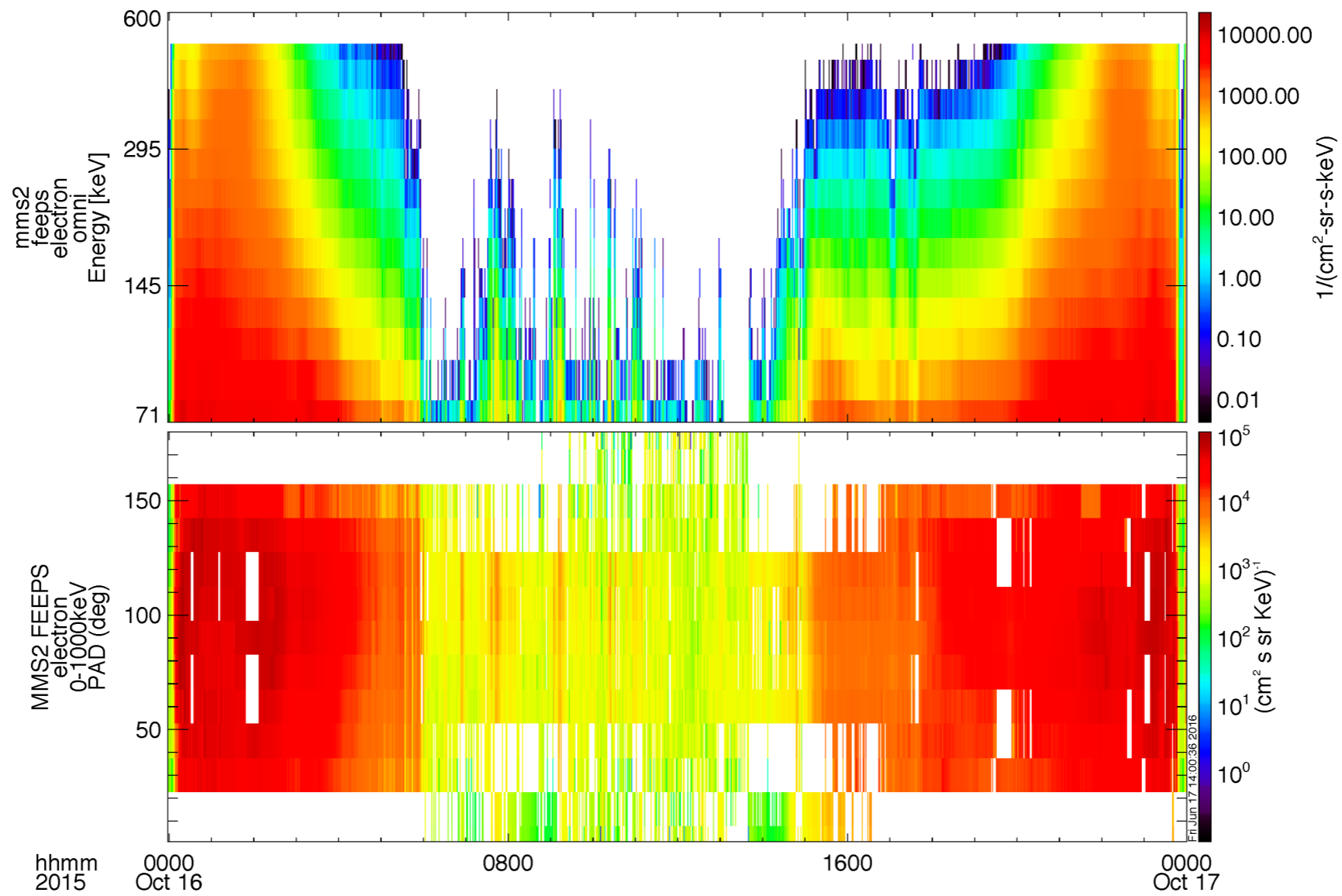
; plot the spin averaged electron spectra and pitch angle distribution
tplot, ['mms2_epd_feeps_electron_intensity_omni_spin', 'mms2_epd_feeps_0-1000keV_pad_spin']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms2_epd_feeps_electrons', /landscape
```

<https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/datasets/epd/>

Loading and Plotting Data

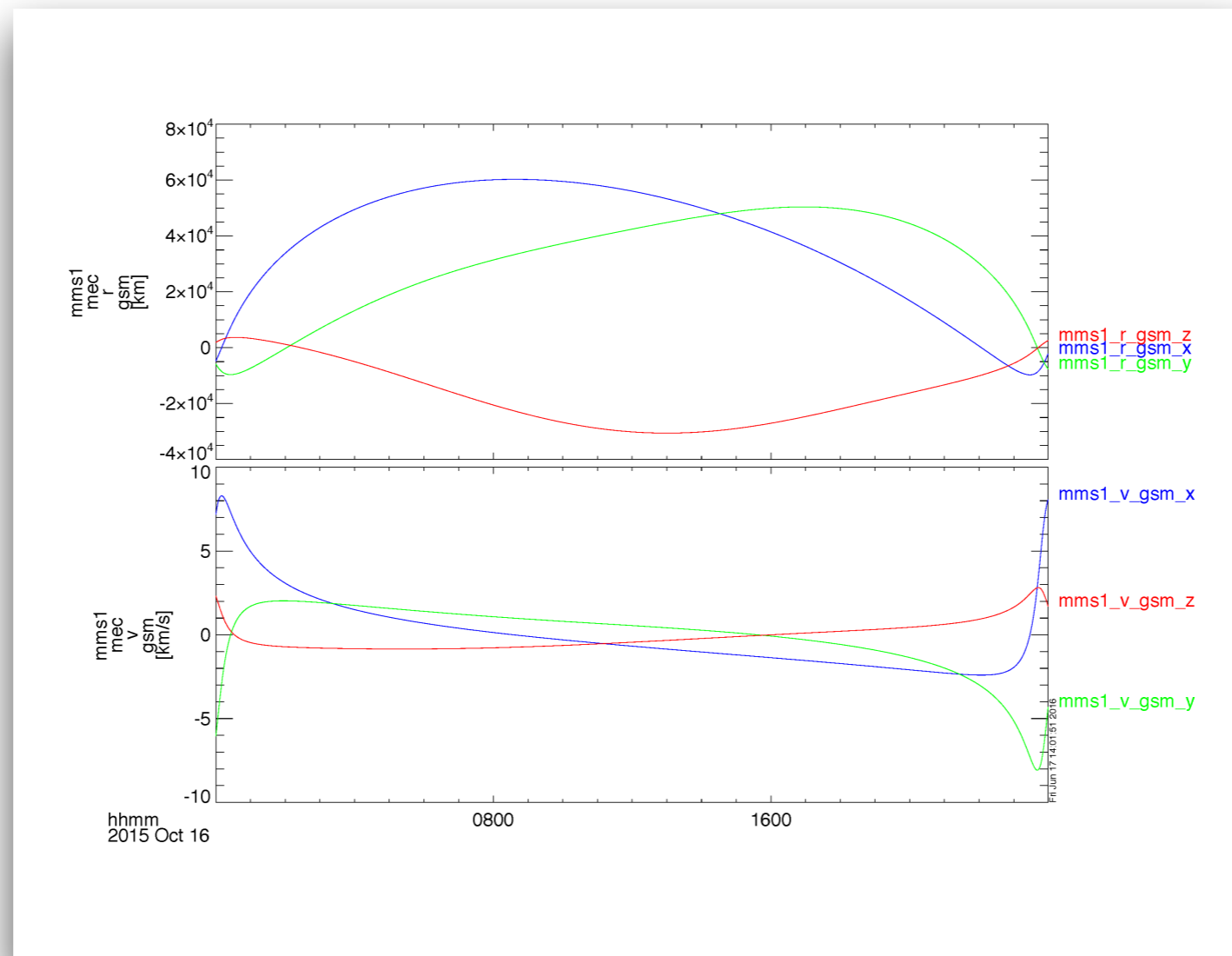
EPD FEEPS



Loading and Plotting Data MEC

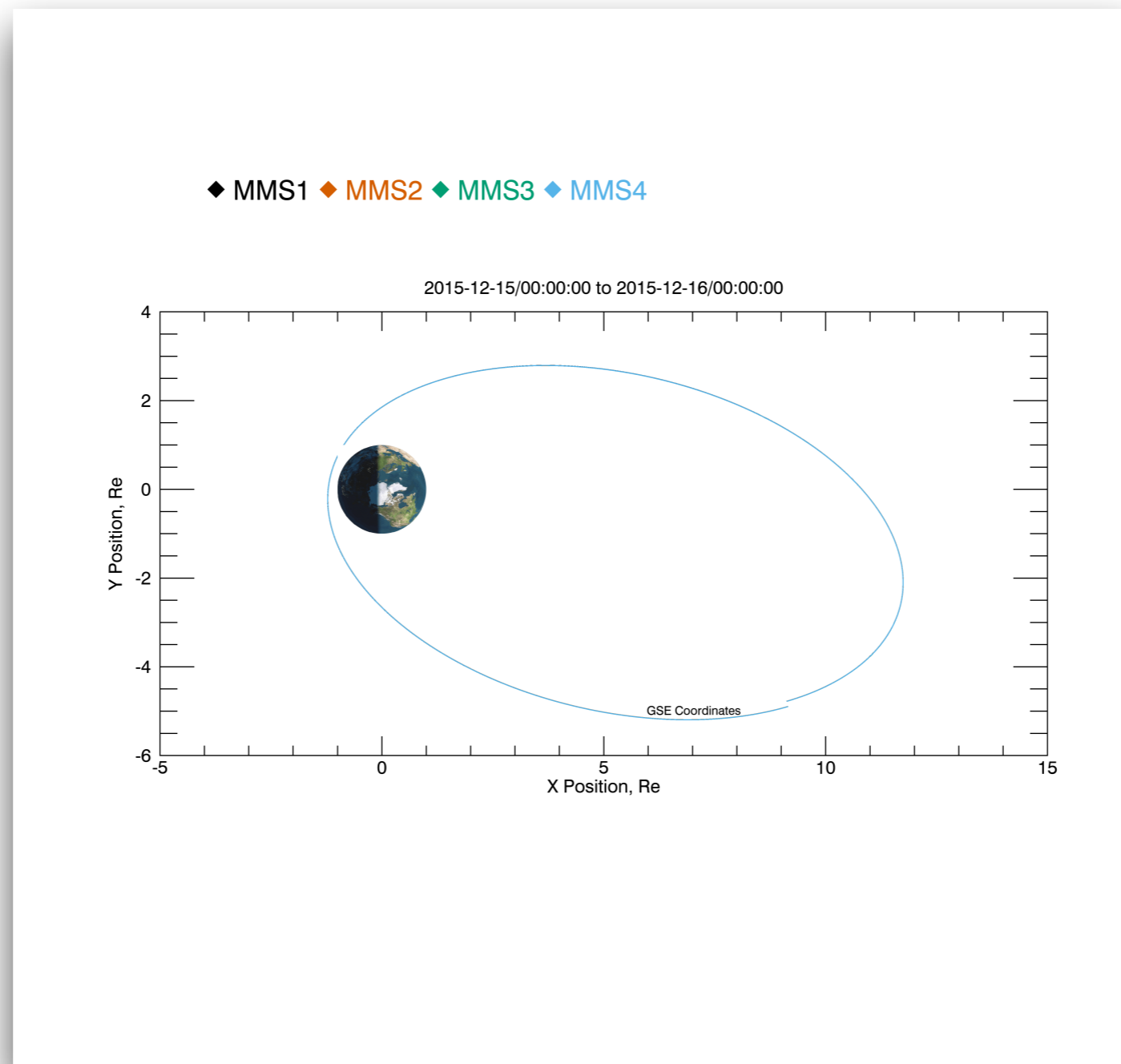
```
; load the ephemeris and coordinates data for October 16, 2015  
mms_load_mec, probe=1, trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17']
```

```
; plot the spacecraft position and velocity in GSM coordinates  
tplot, ['mms1_mec_r_gsm', 'mms1_mec_v_gsm']
```



Loading and Plotting Data Orbits

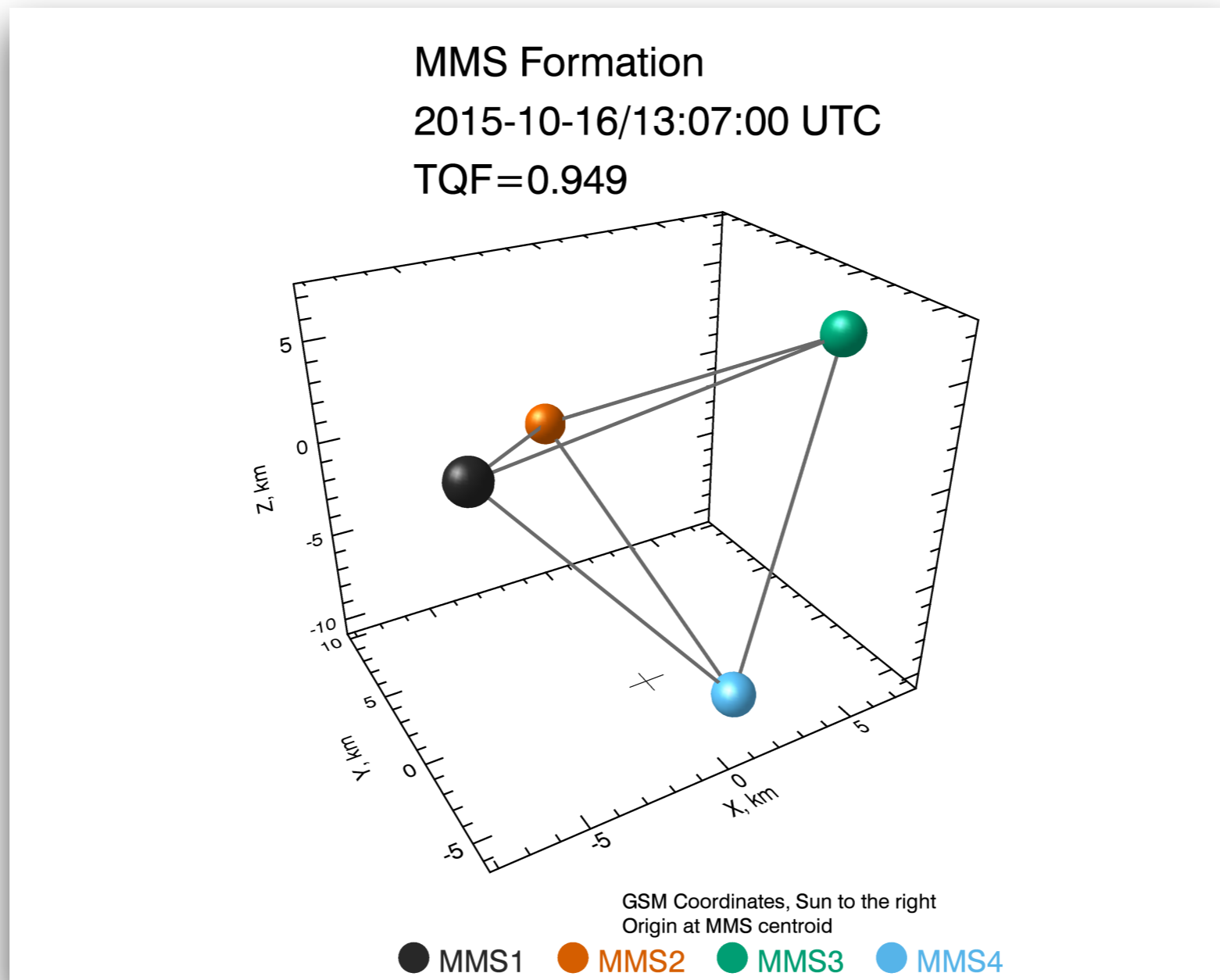
```
; create a plot of the spacecraft orbits for December 15, 2015  
mms_orbit_plot, probe=[1, 2, 3, 4], trange=['2015-12-15', '2015-12-16']
```



Loading and Plotting Data

Tetrahedron Formation

```
; create the formation plot in GSM coordinates, including the tetrahedron quality factor  
mms_mec_formation_plot, '2015-10-16/13:07', coord='gsm', /quality_factor
```

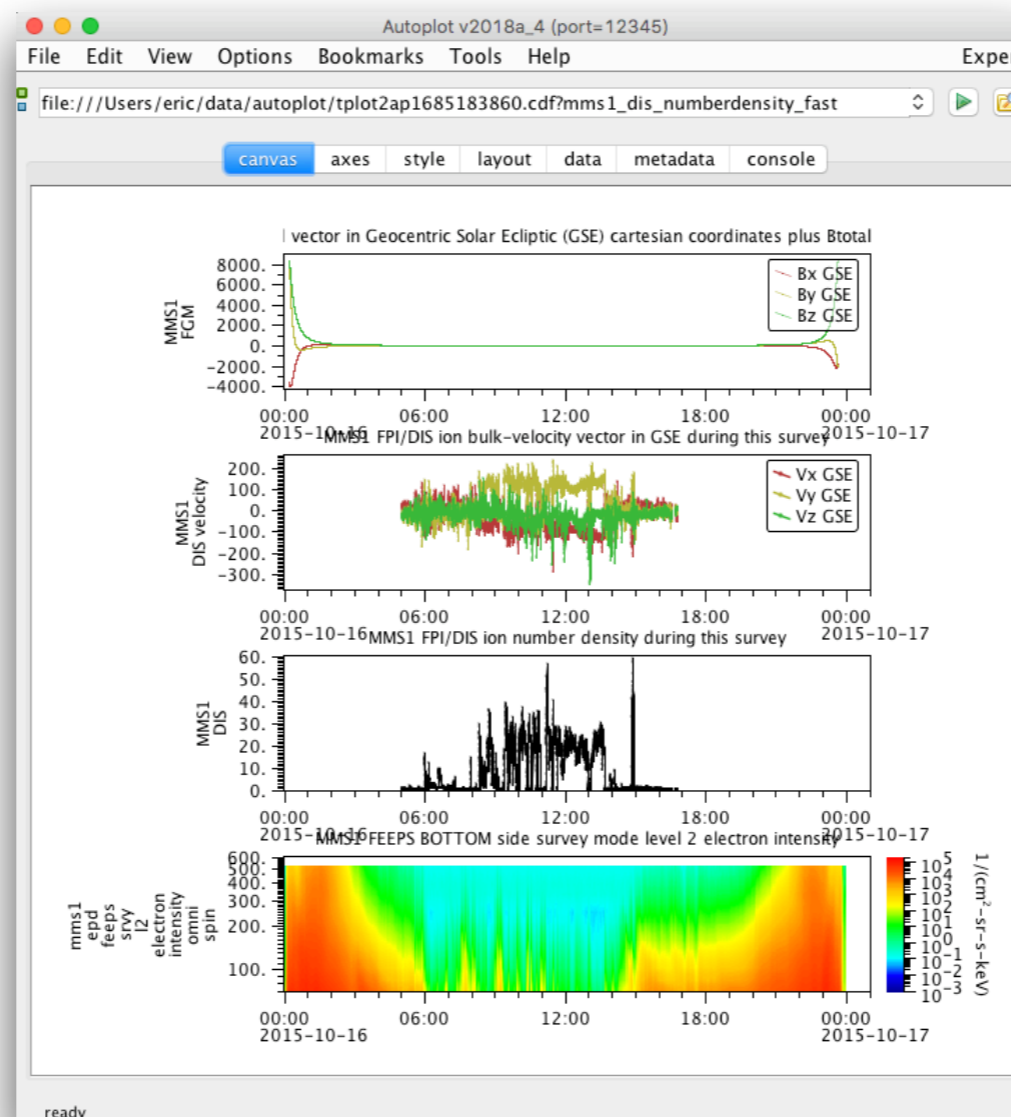


Loading and Plotting Data

Send data to Autoplot

```
mms_load_fgm, trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], probe=1  
mms_load_feeps, trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], probe=1  
mms_load_fpi, trange=['2015-10-16', '2015-10-17'], datatype='dis-moms', probe=1
```

```
tplot2ap, ['mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec', 'mms1_dis_bulkv_gse_fast', 'mms1_dis_numberdensity_fast',  
'mms1_epd_feeps_srvy_l2_electron_intensity_omni_spin']
```



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Analysis Tools

- Coordinate Transformations
- Minimum Variance Analysis
- Curlometer Technique
- Dynamic Power Spectra
- Spectra from Particle Distributions
- 2D Particle Slices
- Flipbook-style figures/movies with 2D Particle Slices
- Visualizing the Distributions in 3D
- EIS angle-angle Plots
- FPI angle-angle Plots

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Coordinate Transformations

```
; load the quaternions from the MEC file
mms_load_mec, probe=3, trange=['2015-10-16/08:00', '2015-10-16/16:00'], /time_clip

; we're going to transform some FGM data
mms_load_fgm, probe=3, trange=['2015-10-16/08:00', '2015-10-16/16:00'], /time_clip

; Cotrans the FGM data from GSM to SM coordinates
mms_qcotrans, 'mms3_fgm_b_gsm_srvy_l2_bvec', 'mms3_fgm_b_sm_srvy_l2_bvec', out_coord='sm'

; plot the data in both GSM and SM coordinates
tplot, ['mms3_fgm_b_gsm_srvy_l2_bvec', 'mms3_fgm_b_sm_srvy_l2_bvec']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms3_fgm_gsm_sm_coords', /landscape
```

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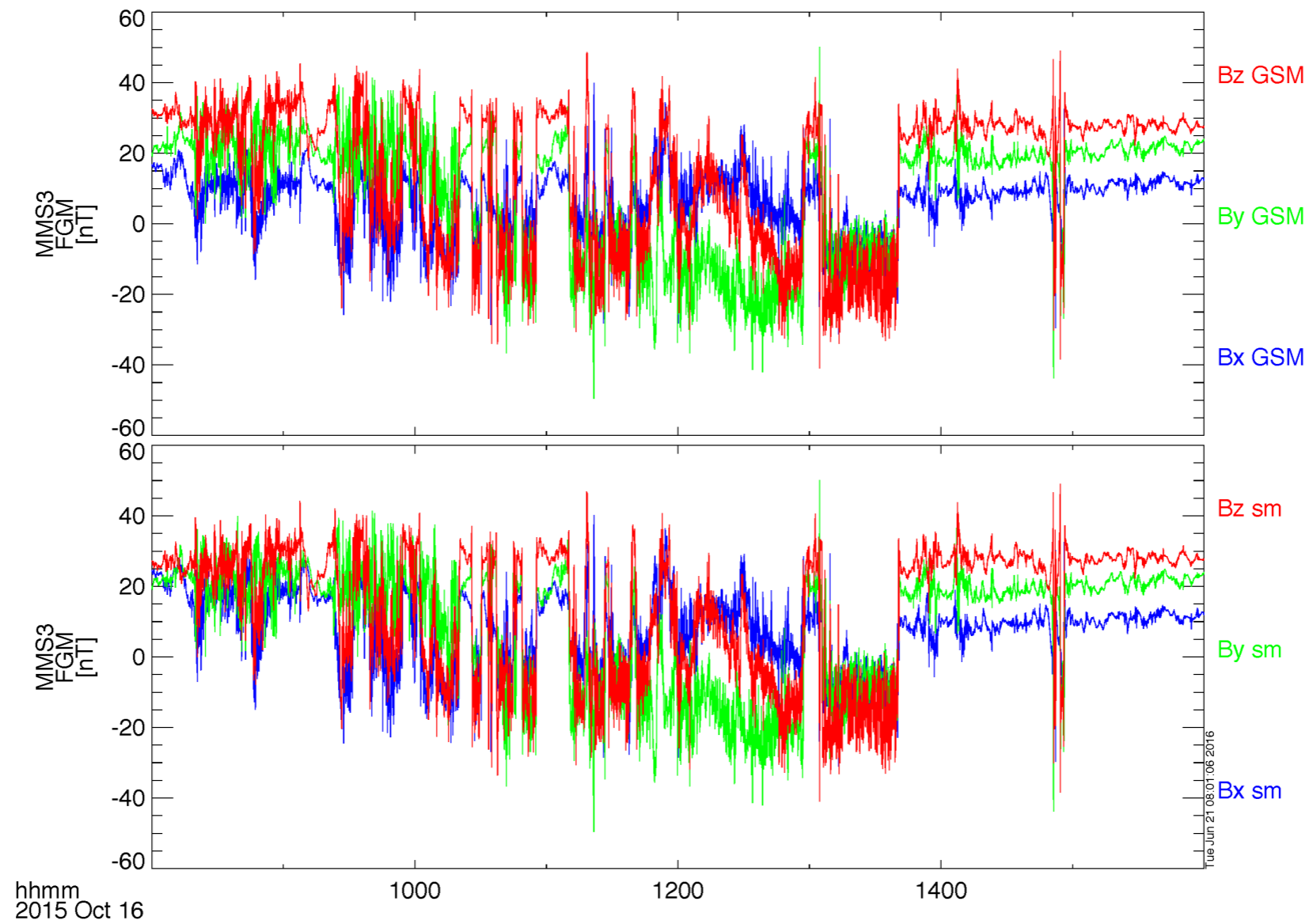
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Coordinate Transformations



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Minimum Variance Analysis

```
; load some FGM data
mms_load_fgm, probe=1, trange=['2015-10-16/08:00', '2015-10-16/16:00'], /time_clip

; create the minimum variance transformation matrix
minvar_matrix_make, 'mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec', newname='mva_matrix', $
  tstart='2015-10-16/13:00', tstop='2015-10-16/13:10'

; rotate the B-field
tvector_rotate, 'mva_matrix', 'mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec', newname='mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec_mva'

; plot the vector in MVA coordinates
tplot, 'mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec_mva'

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec_mva', /landscape
```

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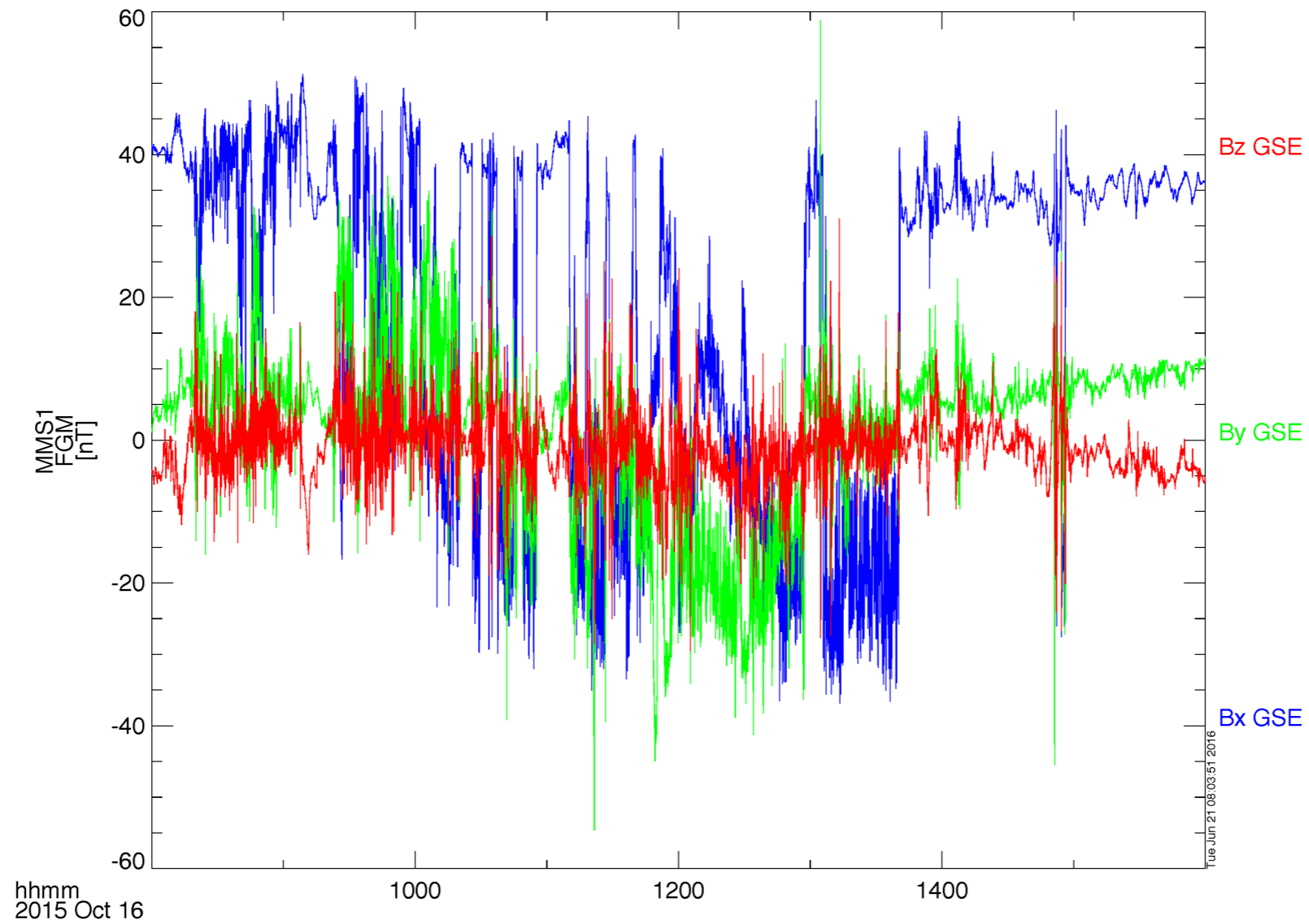
Loading and Plotting Data

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Minimum Variance Analysis



Analysis Tools

Curlometer Technique

```
trange = ['2015-10-30/05:15:45', '2015-10-30/05:15:48']
```

```
mms_load_fgm, trange=trange, /get_fgm_ephemeris, probes=[1, 2, 3, 4], data_rate='brst'
```

```
fields = 'mms'+['1', '2', '3', '4']+ '_fgm_b_gse_brst_l2'
```

```
positions = 'mms'+['1', '2', '3', '4']+ '_fgm_r_gse_brst_l2'
```

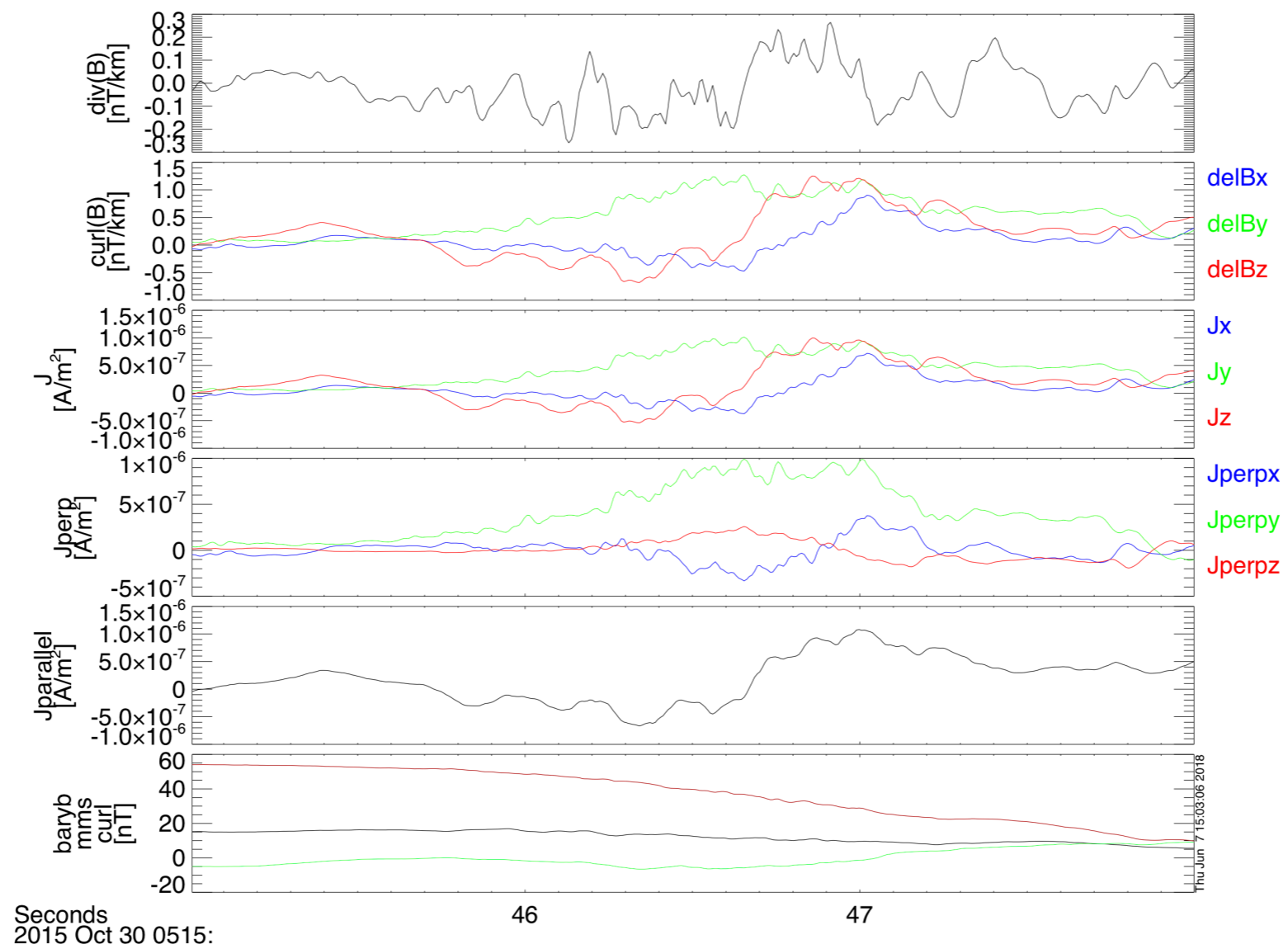
```
; method #1: mms_curl
```

```
mms_curl, trange=trange, fields=fields, positions=positions, suffix='_mms_curl'
```

```
tplot, ['divB', 'curlB', 'jtotal', 'jperp', 'jpar', 'baryb']+ '_mms_curl'
```

Analysis Tools

Curlometer Technique



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Dynamic Power Spectra

```
; load some SCM data
mms_load_scm, probe=1, trange=['2015-10-16/00:00', '2015-10-16/04:00']

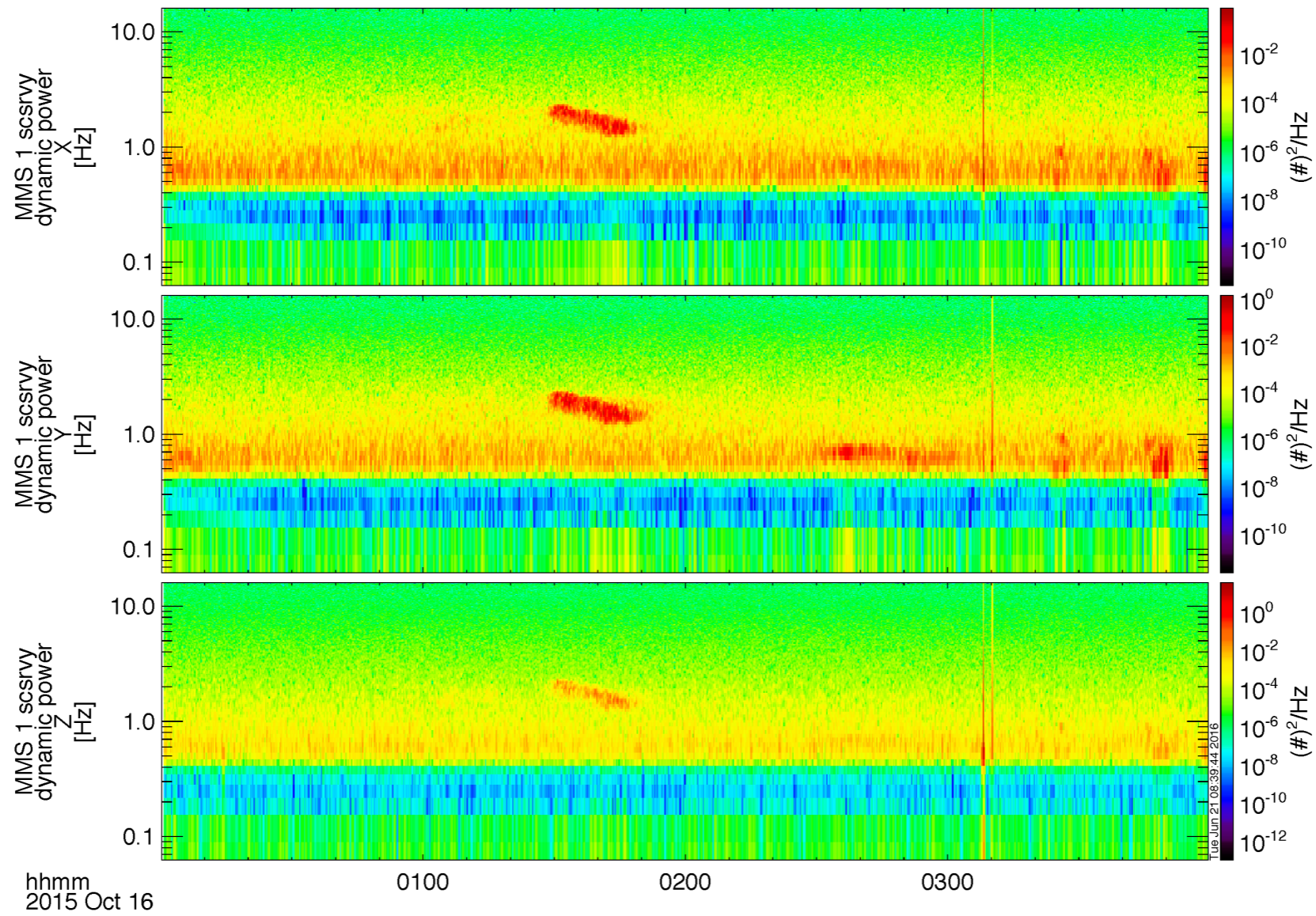
; calculate the dynamic power spectra
tdpwrspc, 'mms1_scm_acb_gse_scsrvy_srvy_l2', nboxpoints=512,nshiftpoints=512,bin=1

; plot the dynamic power spectra
tplot, ['mms1_scm_acb_gse_scsrvy_srvy_l2_x_dpwrspc', $
        'mms1_scm_acb_gse_scsrvy_srvy_l2_y_dpwrspc', $
        'mms1_scm_acb_gse_scsrvy_srvy_l2_z_dpwrspc']

; save the plot to a postscript file
tprint, 'mms1_scm_acb_gse_scsrvy_l2_dpwrspc', /landscape
```

Analysis Tools

Dynamic Power Spectra



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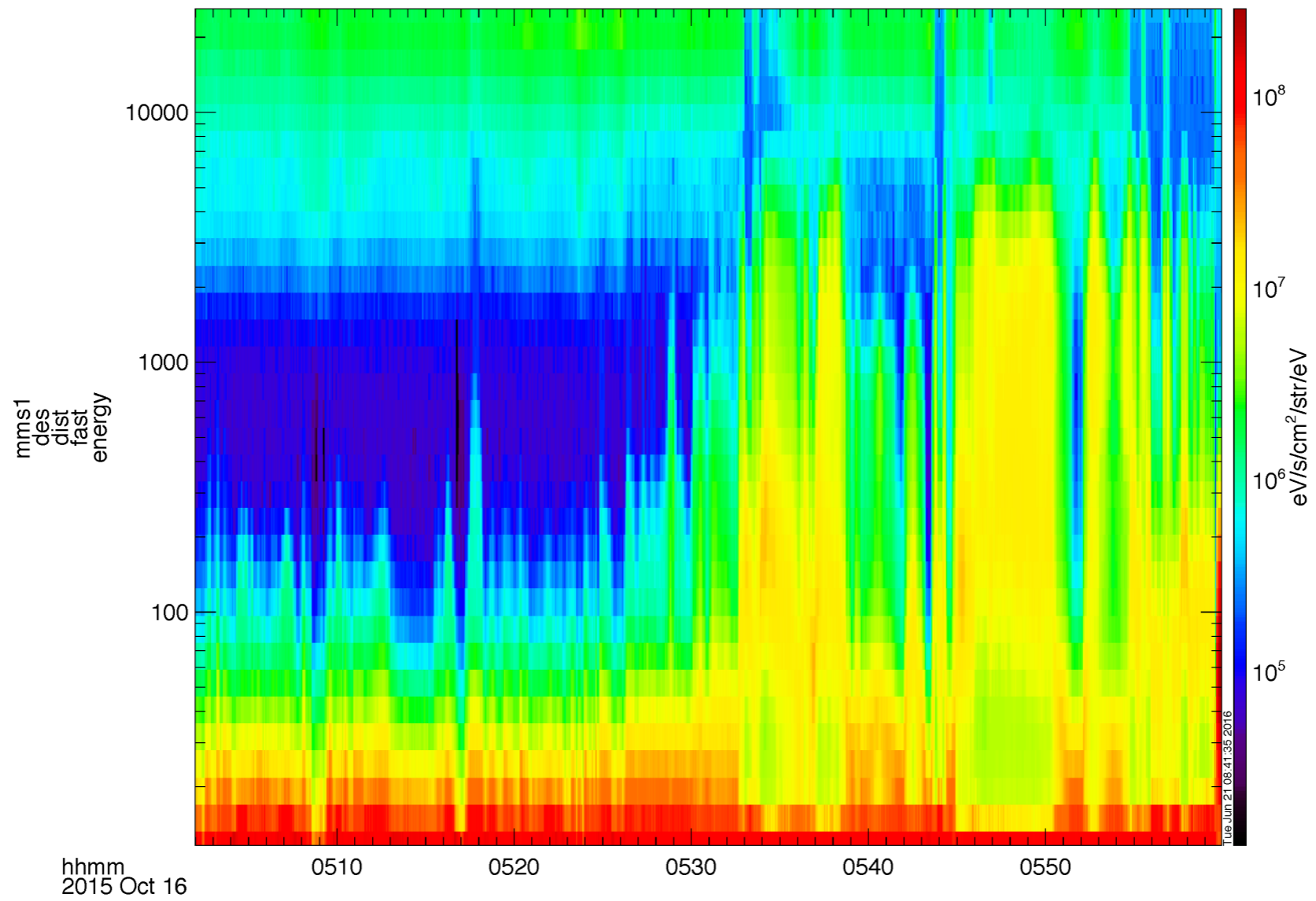
Analysis Tools

Spectra from FPI Distributions

```
mms_part_getspec, probe=1, species='e', trange=['2015-10-16/04:00', '2015-10-16/06:00'], output='energy'  
  
; plot the spectra  
tplot, 'mms1_des_dist_fast_energy'  
  
; save the plot to a postscript file  
tprint, 'mms1_des_dist_fast_energy', /landscape
```

Analysis Tools

Spectra from FPI Distributions



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Spectra from HPCA Distributions

```
mms_part_getspec, instrument='hpca', probe=2, species='hplus', trange=['2015-10-16/04:00',  
'2015-10-16/06:00'], output='energy'
```

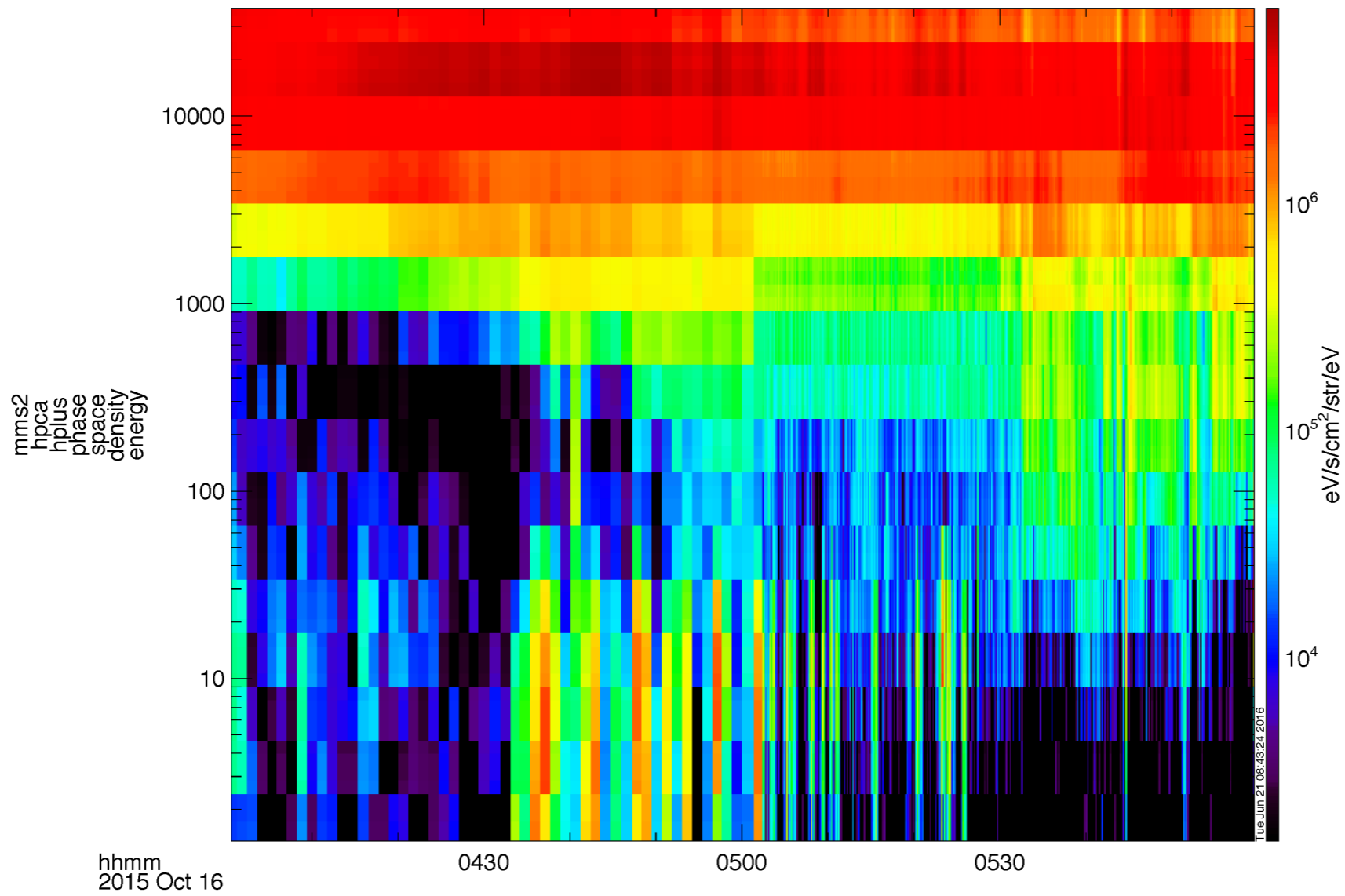
```
tplot, 'mms2_hpca_hplus_phase_space_density_energy'
```

```
; save the plot to a postscript file
```

```
tprint, 'mms2_hpca_hplus_phase_space_density_energy', /landscape
```

Analysis Tools

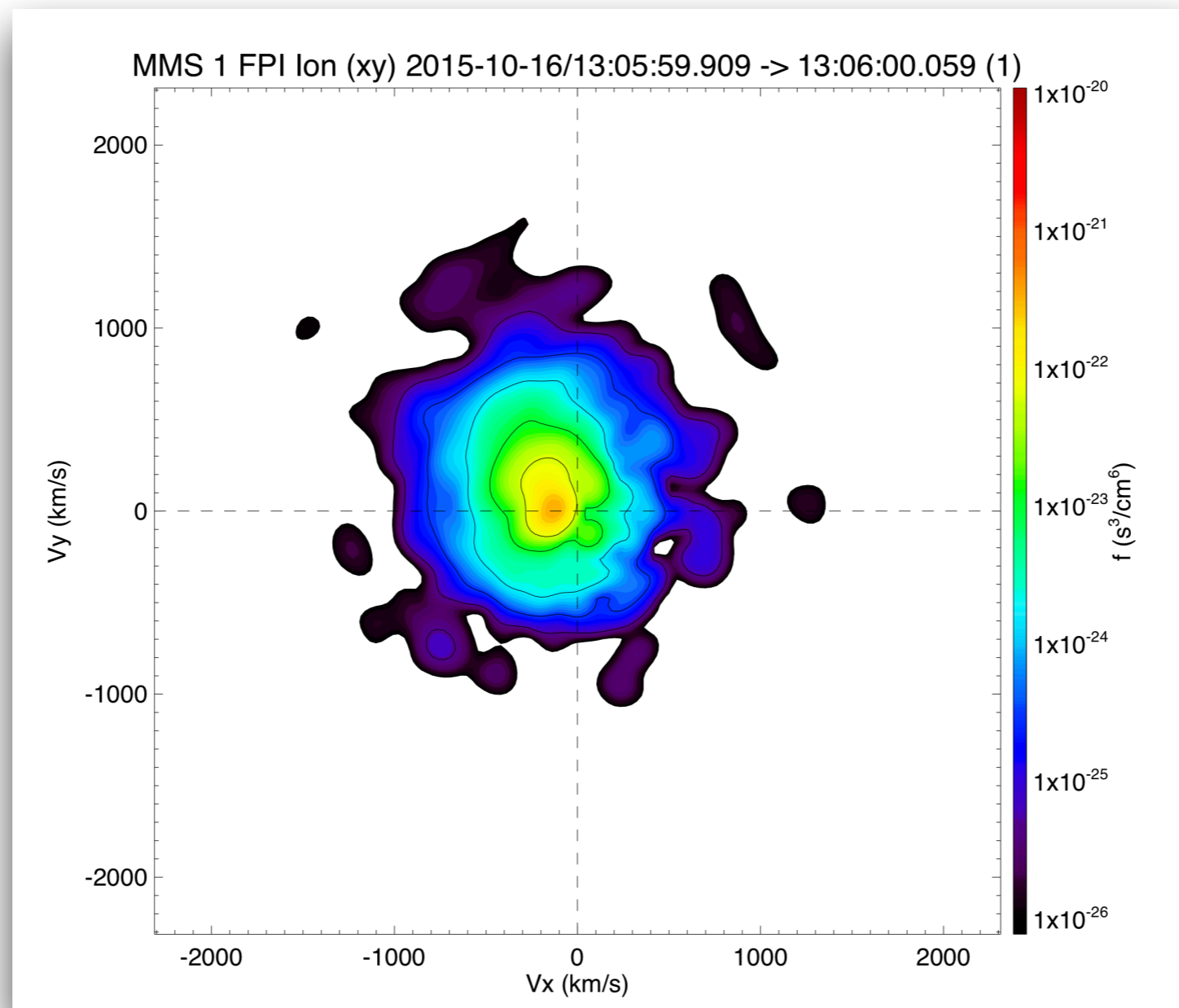
Spectra from HPCA Distributions



Analysis Tools

2D Particle Slices

`mms_part_slice2d`, `data_rate='brst'`, `species='i'`, `probe=1`, `time='2015-10-16/13:06'`, `export='2dslice'`, `/eps`



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mms_flipbookify

```
trange=['2015-10-16/13:06:00', '2015-10-16/13:06:30']
probe=1
data_rate = 'brst'
species = 'i'

mms_load_fgm, trange=trange, probe=probe, /time_clip
mms_load_fpi, trange=trange, probe=probe, datatype='d'+species+'s-moms', /time_clip, data_rate=data_rate

; be sure to make the window large enough in the x-direction for the slices
window, xsize=1000, ysize=650

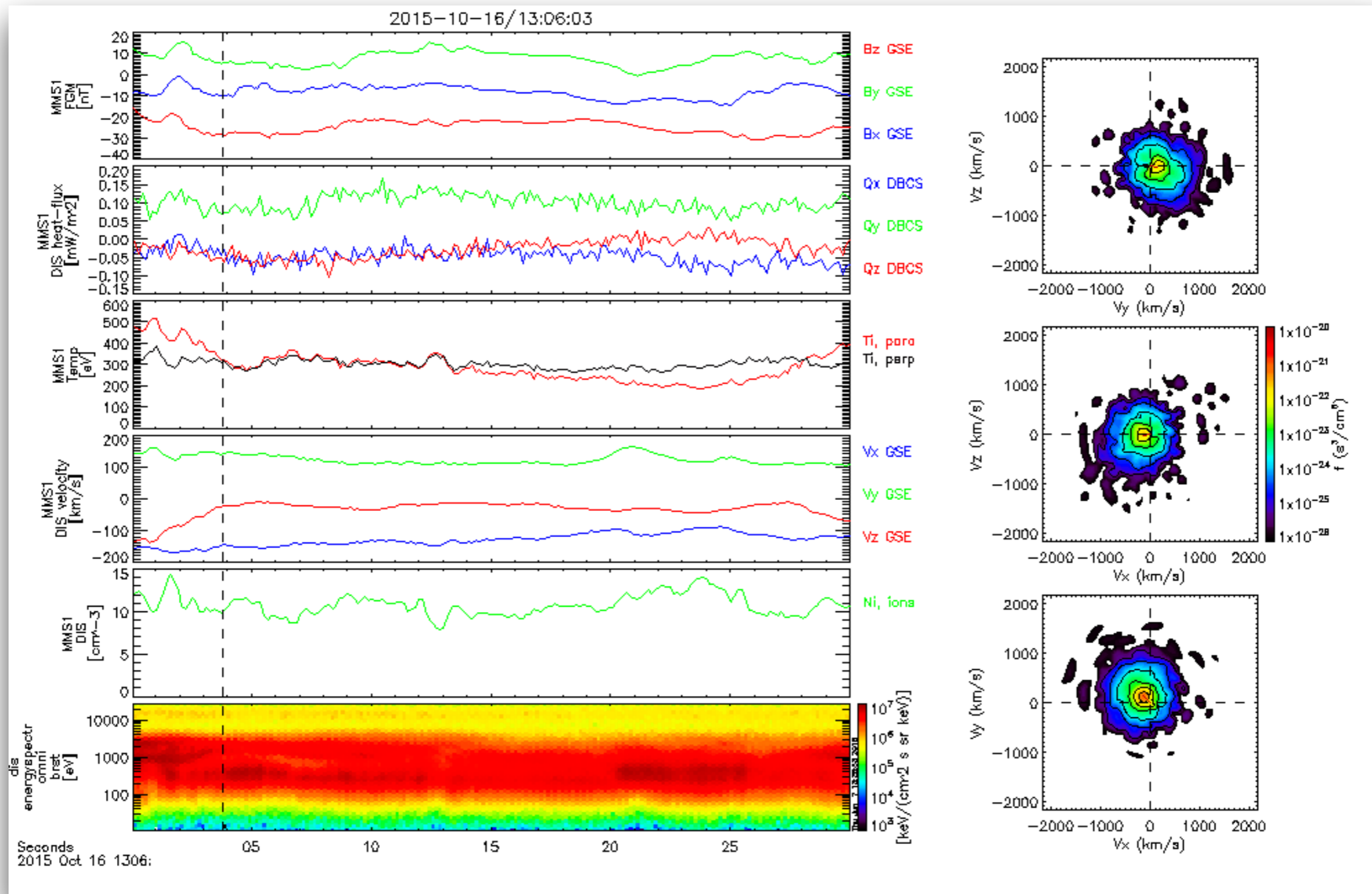
; store the temperature in the same panel
store_data, 'temp', data='mms1_d'+species+'s_temppara_brst mms1_d'+species+'s_tempperp_brst'

tplot, ['mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec', 'mms1_d'+species+'s_heatq_dbcs_brst', 'temp',
'mms1_d'+species+'s_bulkv_gse_brst', $
'mms1_d'+species+'s_numberdensity_brst', 'mms1_d'+species+'s_energyspectr_omni_brst']

mms_flipbookify, time_step=10, probe=1, species=species
```


Analysis Tools

mms_flipbookify



Analysis Tools

Visualizing the Distributions in 3D

```
trange = ['2015-10-20/05:56:30', '2015-10-20/05:56:34']
```

```
;get +/- 60 seconds of support data (FGM and FPI velocity)
```

```
support_trange= time_double(trange) + [-60,60]
```

```
; load the FPI electron distribution data
```

```
mms_load_fpi, probe=1, trange=trange, data_rate='brst', datatype='des-dist'
```

```
; load data into standard structures
```

```
dist = mms_get_fpi_dist('mms1_des_dist_brst', trange=trange)
```

```
; convert structures to isee_3d data model
```

```
data = spd_dist_to_hash(dist)
```

```
; load B-field (cyan vector) and velocity (yellow vector) support data
```

```
mms_load_fgm, probe=1, trange=support_trange
```

```
mms_load_fpi, data_rate='brst', datatype='des-moms', probe=1, trange=support_trange
```

```
; combine separate velocity components into a vector
```

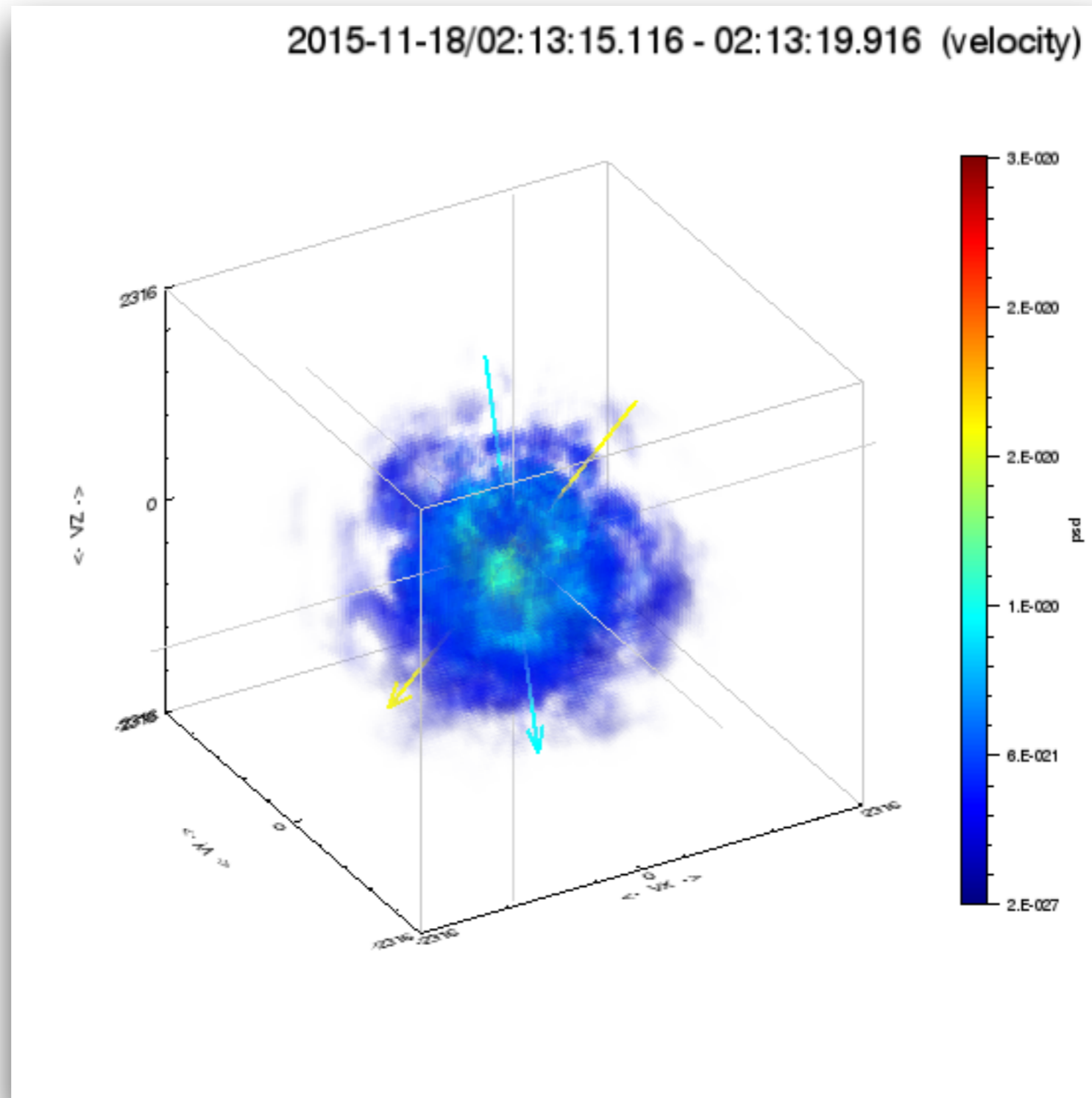
```
join_vec, 'mms1_des_bulk' + ['x','y','z'] + '_dbcs_brst', 'mms1_des_bulk'
```

```
; Once GUI is open select PSD from Units menu
```

```
isee_3d, data=data, trange=trange, bfield= 'mms1_fgm_b_gse_srvy_l2_bvec', velocity='mms1_des_bulk'
```

Analysis Tools

Visualizing the Distributions in 3D



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EIS angle-angle plots

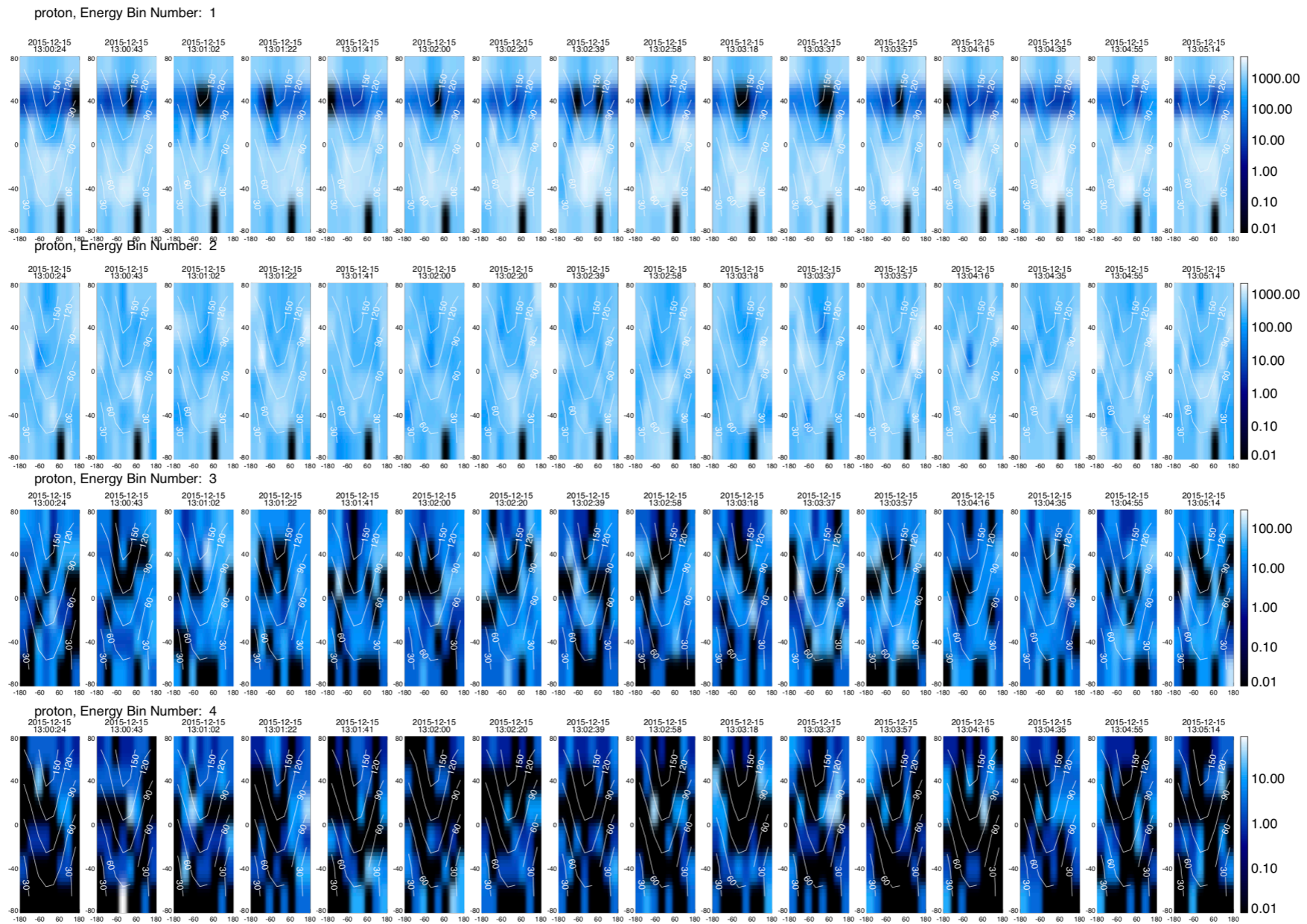
; to plot the angle-angle plots for EIS, use the following tool

; developed by Ian Cohen and Joe Westlake at JHU/APL

```
eis_ang_ang, probe='1', trange=['2015-12-15/13:00', '2015-12-15/13:10'], energy_chan=[1, 2, 3, 4]
```

Analysis Tools

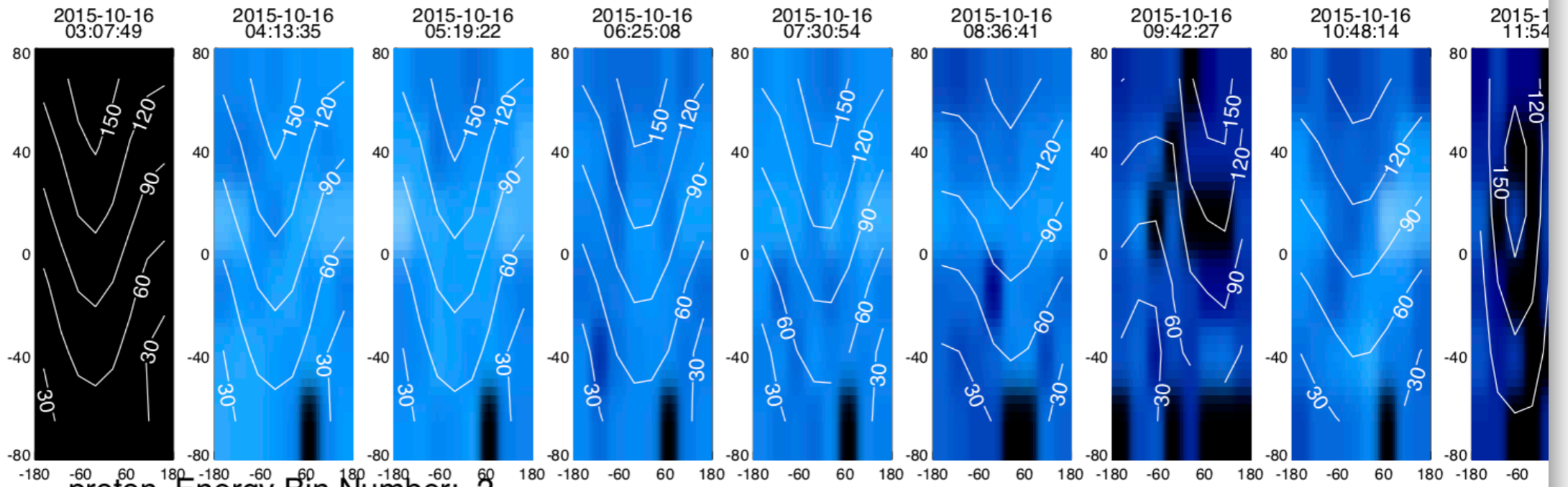
EIS angle-angle plots



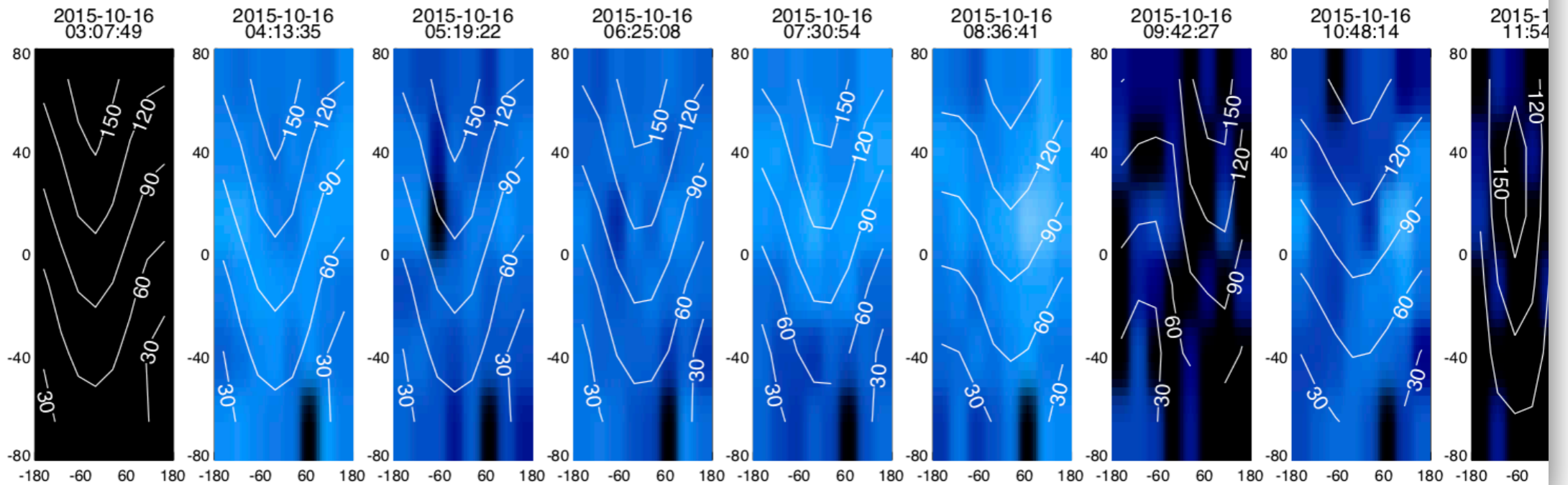
Analysis Tools

EIS angle-angle plots

proton, Energy Bin Number: 1



proton, Energy Bin Number: 2



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FPI angle-angle plots

; to plot the angle-angle plots for FPI, use the following tool

```
mms_fpi_ang_ang, '2015-10-16/13:06:59.985', /postscript, species='i', data_rate='brst'
```

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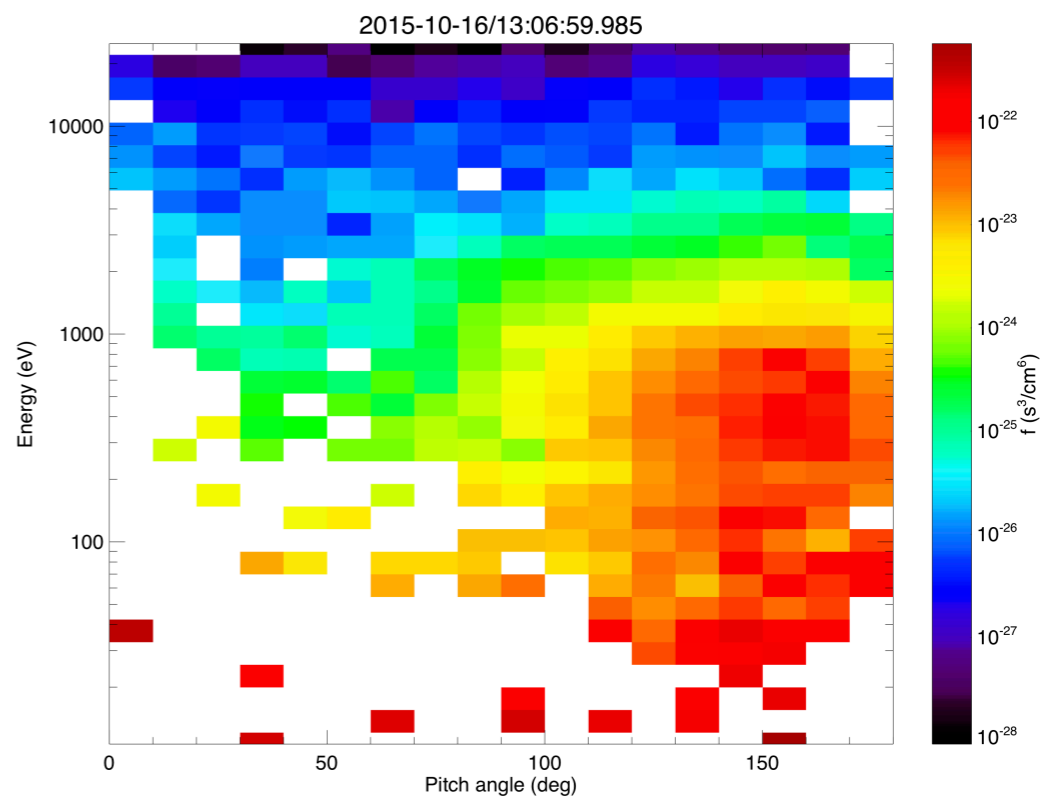
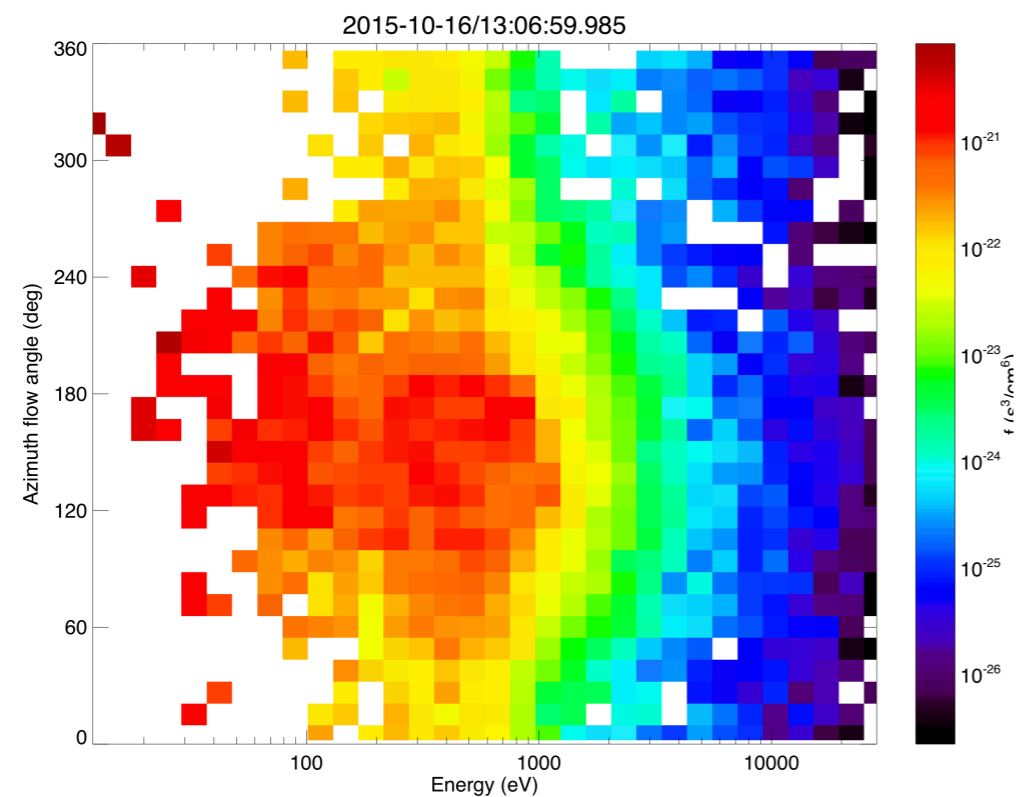
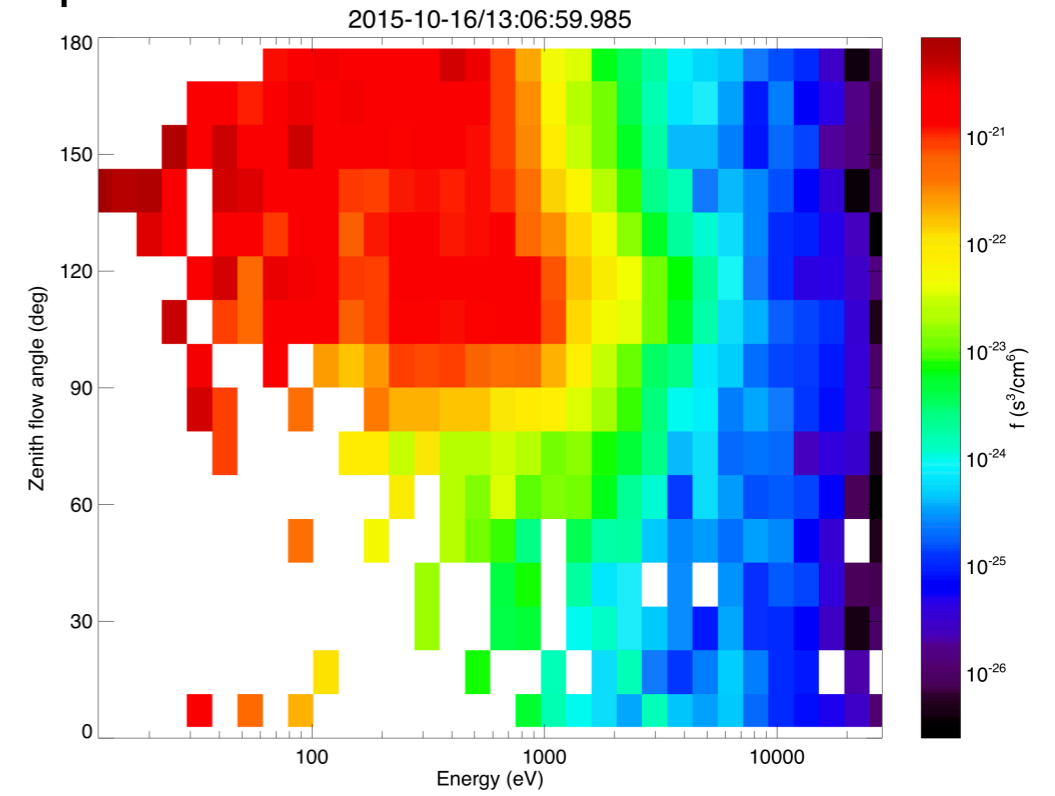
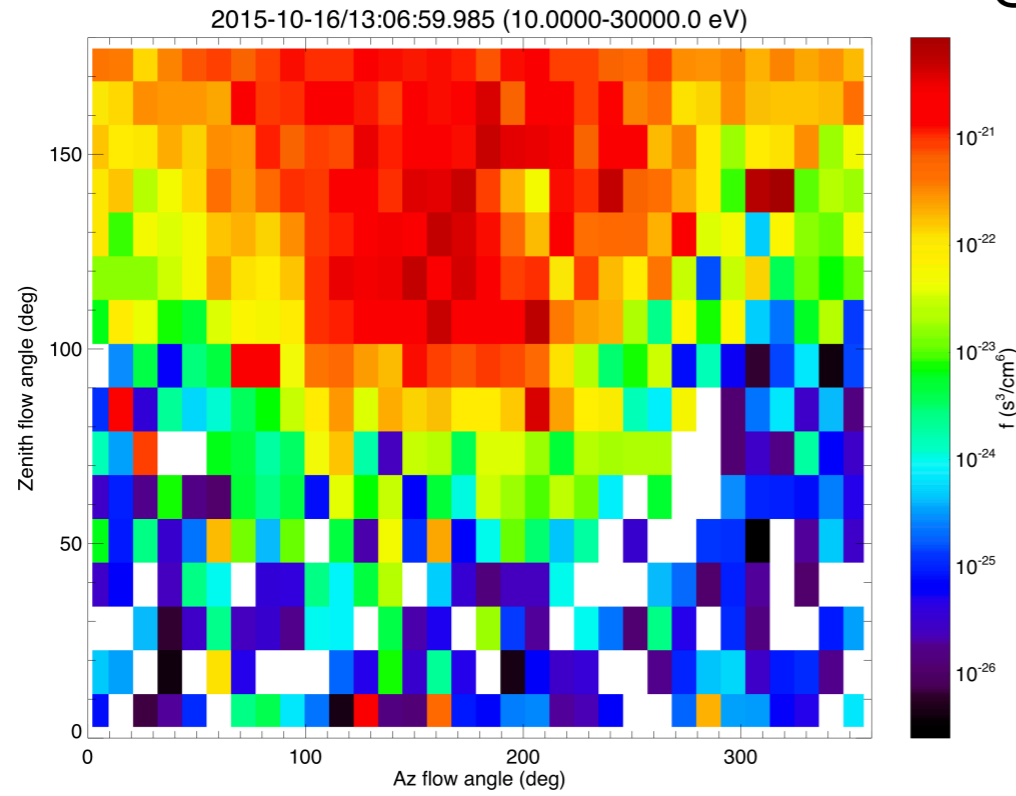
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FPI angle-angle plots



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Examples

Where to find more examples?

[/projects/mms/examples/basic/](#)

Basic examples for each load routine; this is a good place for new users to start

[/projects/mms/examples/advanced/](#)

Examples showing more advanced functionality of the plugin

[/projects/mms/examples/quicklook/](#)

Scripts that create the QL plots at the SDC; note: these require MMS team member access to the SDC to run

[/projects/mms/examples/webinars/](#)

Scripts created to showcase plug-in functionality during webinars

Getting Help

- SPEDAS Forum

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/spedas>

- SPEDAS Wiki

<http://spedas.org/wiki/>

- Ask Eric

egrimes@igpp.ucla.edu

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Download this presentation:

http://spedas.org/mms/mms_gem_2018.pdf

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Other Useful Crib Sheets

[general/examples/crib_tplot.pro](#)

[general/examples/crib_tplot_annotation.pro](#)

[general/examples/crib_tplot_layout.pro](#)

[general/examples/crib_tplot_range.pro](#)

[general/examples/crib_tplot_ticks.pro](#)

[general/examples/crib_dproc.pro](#)