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Electrons on closed field lines of lunar crustal fields in the solar wind wake

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Lunar crustal magnetic fields





What happens in the solar wind wake ?

- Plasma cavity? (Cavity in the plasma void?)
- Mini-magnetosphere filled with plasma?





Our data

- Kaguya (SELENE) observations
- PACE+LMAG
- 14-15 km over Crisium Antipode Y
- Longitude = 126° in SSE (night side)
- 80 nT, 0.1 keV \rightarrow r_{e_gyro} = 0.42 km





SELENE orbit (1h)

SELENE orbit 2009-05-29 21:15-22:15 UT



Plasma and magnetic field over CA



Enhancement of electron flux (21:37 UT)



Bi-directional low-energy beams



Loss cone angle

- 300 nT at the footprints, 80 nT at 15 km altitude
- Loss-cone angle (at 15 km alt.) = 31 degrees
- Double loss-cone in the middle energy range
- Electron beams in the loss-cone angle are fresh electrons from the lunar night side surface



Electron energy flux (about 100 eV)



*1 An order-of-magnitude density drop near the terminator (SZA~81 deg) (Halekas+2008, PSS)

Gradient B drift

- grad B = 10 nT/km
- 100 eV electron
- Gradient drift speed of 100 km/s
- Quick loss into the lunar surface
- How are electrons there? Supply??



 $B(r) \propto r^{-3}$



Summary & Discussion

- Trapped electrons 15 km over CA anomaly in the wake
- Bi-directional low-energy electron beams (<100eV)
- Double loss cones (medium energy)
- \rightarrow Closed magnetic fields
- Loss into lunar surface by grad B drift at 100 km/s
- How are hot electrons supplied to the closed field lines?
 - Do electrons move around the surface to come to CA?
 - Direct supply of SW electrons along Parker-spiral IMF?
- What can we see at different altitudes (e.g. 50 km)?
- Comparison between observed and model fields