

Comparative magnetospheric study: Now the time

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It has been a slogan for a long time that we learn a lot about magnetospheric physics by comparing processes from different magnetospheres. Now, with good viewpoints set by in-depth study on rich terrestrial magnetospheric observations, and with new data coming from planetary exploration missions (especially, Cassini and MESSENGER) revealing how known processes behave differently once they are set in a different parameter regime, it is the time not to leave it as just a slogan but to truly perform a study in the style. In this talk, reviewed are some nice recent examples in which thinking in the comparative style made our eyes open to the real faces of plasma processes that we had thought to know well enough.