大振幅地磁気急始変化(SC)の考察

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Consideration of large amplitude geomagnetic sudden commencement(SC)

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A peculiar sudden commencement(SC) occurred in March 24, 1991. It was characterized by a large and short duration positive pulse in the very beginning part of the SC.

The 1 sec H-component data at Kakioka showed 202 nT amplitude and about 1 min duration for this pulse. This is an abnormally large SC because the amplitude of usual SCs is less than 50 nT at Kakioka. The SC produced instantaneously a strong inner radiation belt and clarified the importance of magnetospheric compression for acceleration of high energy particles.

Being stimulated by this SC, we examined all SCs at Kakioka since 1924 and made a list of large amplitude SCs. The list showed that the March 24, 1991 SC is the second largest and the largest SC occurred in March 24 (the same day!), 1940. The H-component amplitude was larger than 273 nT. This SC seems to be the historically largest SC since 1867.

The 1991 SC raises several questions.

(1) It is difficult to make such a large and

short duration pulse in the magnetosphere. It should exist as a dynamic pressure pulse in the solar wind. We can not consider, however, that the pulse was formed near the sun because such a big pulse will be deformed during long distance propagation. We have to seek the mechanism producing the pulse near the earth.

- (2) Since Siscoe [1968] reported first, several authors discussed the experimental linear relationship between SC amplitude and difference in square root of the dynamic pressure (Pd) of the solar wind. When Pd is much larger, however, the relation will not be linear.
- (3) As the peak of the large short pulse is well defined, the ionospheric propagation of the fast mode HM wave can be studied accurately.
- (4) As the onset time of the pulse is clearly determined, the propagation of the onset under the ionosphere can be studied accurately.
 - (5) Did such a anomalous SC occur in the past?
 - (6) What is the difference between large and usual SCs?

Answers to these questions lead to better understanding of the solar wind-magnetosphere interaction.

1991年3月24日,大振幅・短継続時間のH成分パルスを初期に持つ特異な波形のSCが観測された.柿岡の一秒値で測定されたパルスの振幅・継続時間は202nT・約1分であった.柿岡のSC振幅は普通50nT以下であり,202nTは異常な大きさであった.このパルスの約2分後に約70nTの増加が続いており,この後続増加だけで十分に大きなSCと言える.このSCは強い放射線帯(内帯)を瞬間的に作り,磁気圏圧縮の荷電粒子加速への寄与の重要さを明確に示した.Liet al.[1993] は計算機シミュレーションにより,磁気圏界面 15hLT に始まる強く短い圧縮が夜側に伝搬し,その電場が磁気圏電子を加速したことを示した.

この SC に刺激されて 1924 年以降の柿岡の大振幅 SC のリストを作った結果,これは 2 番目の大きさで,最大振幅 SC (273 nT) は 1940 年 3 月 24 日(同じ日!)に生じていることが判った.他のデータから,この SC は 1867 年以降最大の歴史的 SC であると推察される.

この 1991SC は,下記の問題点を示唆する.

- (1) 最初のパルスを磁気圏内で作ることは困難で、大陽風に起源を求めざるを得ない、しかし、このような大パルスが、大陽付近で出来て形を変えずに地球まで伝搬してきたとは考えられない、地球近傍で形成されたとするとその機構は何か? stream-stream interaction か? あるいは、後続変化を作ったピストンが blast wave を前面に作ったのか?
- (2) 太陽風動圧増加 (V**2) **0.5 と SC 振幅 H の関係は, Siscoe et al.[1968] 以来, 幾つかの線形実験式が出されている. 大振幅では非線形になる筈だが, どのような関係か?.
- (3) このパルスは鋭いピークを持つので、地上各点でのピークの到達時刻を精度良く決めることが出来、fast mode HM 波の電離層伝搬を論じることが出来る.
 - (4) 大振幅・短時間のパルスの立ち上がりが明確で, onset の電離層下伝搬を議論できる.
 - (5) このような特異波形の SC は,過去にもあったのか.
 - (6) 大振幅 SC と普通の SC の違いは何か.
 - これらのことの解明は,大陽風-磁気圏関係の物理の理解を深める筈である.