

elfin_energy_flux

April 23, 2025

1 How much did the > 50 keV electrons contribute to the atmospheric energy flux?

```
[1]: import string

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.axes_grid1.axes_divider import make_axes_locatable
import matplotlib.colors
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd

import elfinasi
```

```
c:\Users\shumkms1\AppData\Local\anaconda3\envs\asilib_dev_20241108\Lib\site-
packages\pandas\core\arrays\masked.py:60: UserWarning: Pandas requires version
'1.3.6' or newer of 'bottleneck' (version '1.3.5' currently installed).
    from pandas.core import (
```

```
[2]: time_range = ('2022-09-04T04:18:00', '2022-09-04T04:23:00')
kev_erg_factor = 1.6E-9 # The conversion factor from KeV to ergs.
precipitation_solid_angle = 2*np.pi
```

1.1 Load ELFIN and ASI inversion data

```
[3]: pad_obj_eflux = elfinasi.EPD_PAD(
    'a', time_range, start_pa=0, min_counts=None, accumulate=1,
    spin_time_tol=(2.5, 12),
    lc_exclusion_angle=10, nflux=False
)
```

```
C:\Users\shumkms1\Documents\research\elfinasi\src\elfinasi\elfin.py:839:
UserWarning: The BLC/DLC ratios are all NaNs. This could be due to the
lc_exclusion_angle excluding all pitch angles sampled.
    warnings.warn(
```

The THEMIS ASI inversion values were derived using the [Gabrielse+2021](#) algorithm.

```
[4]: themis_asi_eflux = pd.read_csv(
    elfinasi.data_dir / '20220904_themis_asi_inversion.csv', index_col=0,
    parse_dates=True, na_values=('NaN', "-1"))
)
```

```
[5]: themis_asi_eflux.head()
```

```
[5]:
```

	PINALat	GILLlat	ClosestStation	Elevation [deg]	\
date/time					
2022-09-04 04:17:00	61.1741	67.0371	pina	NaN	
2022-09-04 04:17:01	61.1741	67.0371	pina	NaN	
2022-09-04 04:17:02	61.1741	67.0371	pina	NaN	
2022-09-04 04:17:03	61.1741	67.0371	pina	NaN	
2022-09-04 04:17:04	61.1741	67.0371	pina	NaN	

	ELFINeflux [erg/cm^2/s]	ELFINenergy [keV]
date/time		
2022-09-04 04:17:00	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:17:01	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:17:02	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:17:03	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:17:04	NaN	NaN

1.2 Plot the ELFIN BLC and ABLC energy fluxes

Let's compare the amount of energy flux that dissipated in the atmosphere vs the amount that made it back out.

```
[6]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(3, 1, sharex=True, figsize=(10, 6))
p = ax[0].pcolormesh(
    pad_obj_eflux.pad.time,
    pad_obj_eflux.energy,
    pad_obj_eflux.blc.T,
    shading='nearest',
    norm=matplotlib.colors.LogNorm(vmin=1E2, vmax=1E9)
)
p2 = ax[1].pcolormesh(
    pad_obj_eflux.pad.time,
    pad_obj_eflux.energy,
    pad_obj_eflux.ablc.T,
    shading='nearest',
    norm=matplotlib.colors.LogNorm(vmin=1E2, vmax=1E9)
)
p3 = ax[2].pcolormesh(
    pad_obj_eflux.pad.time,
    pad_obj_eflux.energy,
    pad_obj_eflux.blc.T/pad_obj_eflux.ablc.T,
    shading='nearest',
```

```

        norm=matplotlib.colors.LogNorm(vmax=10**2)
    )

pad_obj_eflux.plot_position(ax[-1])

labels = ('BLC Eflux', 'ABLC Eflux', 'BLC/ABLC Eflux ratio')
for ax_i, label in zip(ax, labels):
    ax_i.set_yscale('log')
    ax_i.set_ylabel('Energy [keV]')
    _text = ax_i.text(0.01, 0.99, label, transform=ax_i.transAxes, va='top')
    _text.set_bbox(dict(facecolor='white', linewidth=0, pad=0.1, edgecolor='k'))

fig.subplots_adjust(left=0.25, right=0.8)
cbar_ax0 = fig.add_axes([0.85, 0.5, 0.02, 0.3])
cbar_ax1 = fig.add_axes([0.85, 0.1, 0.02, 0.3])
fig.colorbar(p, cax=cbar_ax0, label=pad_obj_eflux._flux_units)
fig.colorbar(p3, cax=cbar_ax1, label='BLC/ABLC')

ax[-1].xaxis.set_major_locator(plt.MaxNLocator(7))
ax[-1].xaxis.set_label_coords(-0.04, -0.007*7)
ax[-1].xaxis.label.set_size(10)

```

C:\Users\shumkms1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_28796\1964764843.py:19:

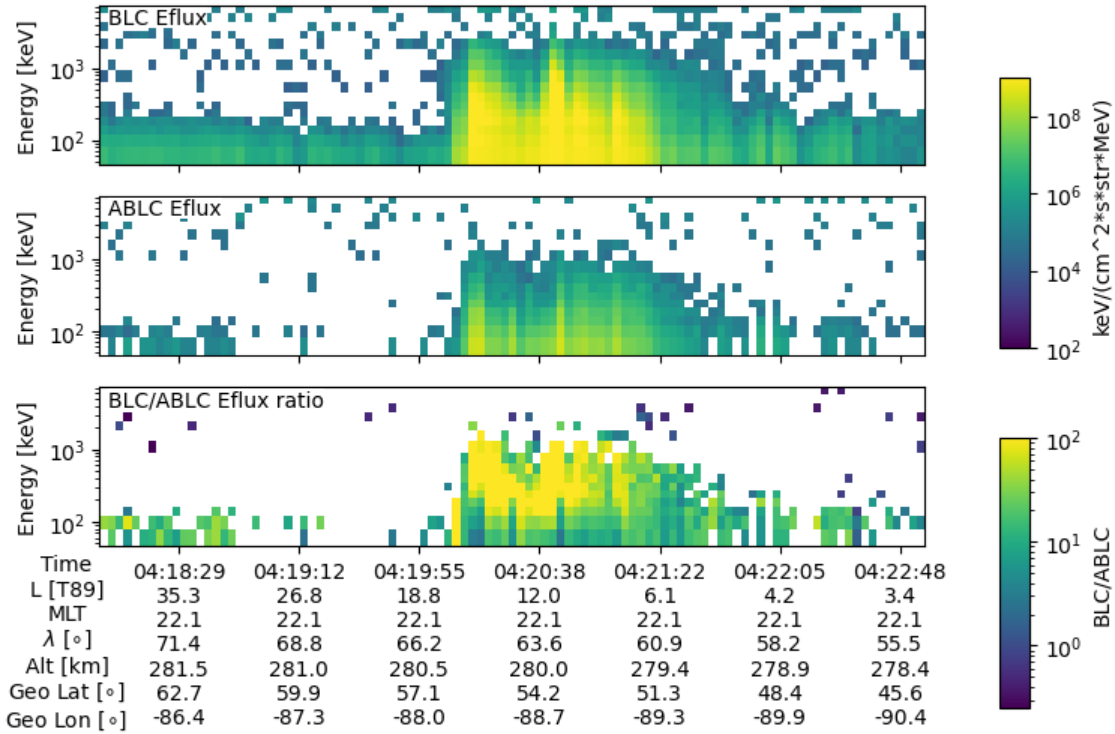
RuntimeWarning: divide by zero encountered in divide

pad_obj_eflux.blc.T/pad_obj_eflux.ablc.T,

C:\Users\shumkms1\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_28796\1964764843.py:19:

RuntimeWarning: invalid value encountered in divide

pad_obj_eflux.blc.T/pad_obj_eflux.ablc.T,

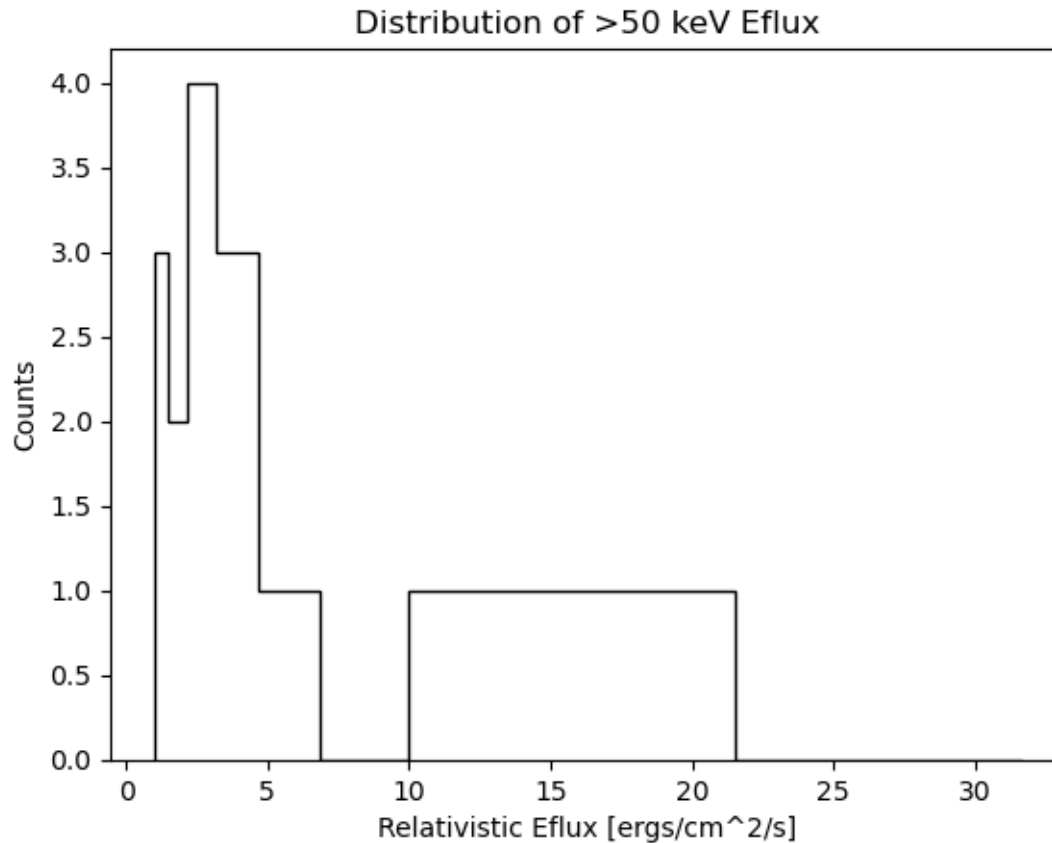


The bottom panel shows us that typically the precipitating energy flux was 10x-100x of the energy flux going back up. In other words, the > 50 keV energy flux was mostly deposited into the atmosphere.

1.3 What was the integrated > 50 keV energy flux that ELFIN observed?

```
[7]: energy_widths_mev = (pad_obj_eflux.energy_widths[:, 1]-pad_obj_eflux.
    ↪energy_widths[:, 0])/1E3
eflux_ergs = kev_erg_factor*precipitation_solid_angle*(pad_obj_eflux.blc -
    ↪pad_obj_eflux.ablc)*energy_widths_mev
relativistic_eflux = np.nansum(eflux_ergs, axis=1)

[8]: plt.hist(relativistic_eflux, bins=np.logspace(0, 1.5, 10), histtype='step',
    ↪color='k')
plt.title('Distribution of >50 keV Eflux')
plt.xlabel('Relativistic Eflux [ergs/cm^2/s]')
plt.ylabel('Counts');
```



Looks good! Now let's merge the ELFIN and THEMIS-ASI Eflux values on the same time stamps and calculate the percentage contribution of the >50 keV electrons to the total energy flux

```
[9]: elfin_eflux = pd.DataFrame(relativistic_eflux, index=pad_obj_eflux.pad.time,
    ↪ columns=['energetic'])
auroral_eflux = pd.DataFrame(themis_as1_eflux['ELFINeflux [erg/cm^2/s]']).
    ↪ rename(columns={'ELFINeflux [erg/cm^2/s]': 'auroral'})

merged_eflux = pd.merge_asof(
    elfin_eflux,
    auroral_eflux,
    left_index=True,
    right_index=True,
    direction='nearest',
    tolerance=pd.Timedelta('1s')
)
merged_eflux['energetic_contribution'] = 100*merged_eflux['energetic']/
    ↪ (merged_eflux['auroral'] + merged_eflux['energetic'])
```

```
[10]: merged_eflux
```

```
[10]:
```

	energetic	auroral	energetic_contribution
2022-09-04 04:18:01.896945	0.006678	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:18:04.762952	0.001689	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:18:07.659442	0.001947	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:18:10.525450	0.002996	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:18:13.421940	0.004960	NaN	NaN
...
2022-09-04 04:22:44.012952	-0.003151	0.099598	-3.267087
2022-09-04 04:22:46.887953	0.002618	0.133913	1.917585
2022-09-04 04:22:49.784443	0.001415	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:22:52.650450	-0.002075	NaN	NaN
2022-09-04 04:22:55.525450	-0.000581	NaN	NaN

[103 rows x 3 columns]

```
[11]: merged_eflux.dropna().describe().round(3)
```

```
[11]:
```

	energetic	auroral	energetic_contribution
count	64.000	64.000	64.000
mean	1.131	6.393	8.783
std	2.937	9.894	13.560
min	-0.005	0.044	-5.728
25%	0.002	0.133	1.053
50%	0.013	0.493	4.266
75%	0.924	13.337	10.810
max	18.236	30.025	68.381

Note: the negative min energetic EFlux is a result of the space-time aliasing, with higher fluxes in the ABLC than the BLC during the ELFIN half-spin period

```
[12]: fig, bx = plt.subplots(3, 1, sharex=True, figsize=(8, 6))
pad_obj_eflux.plot_omni(bx[0], labels=True, colorbar=True, vmin=1E2, vmax=1E9,
    ↪pretty_plot=False, fraction=0.05)
bx[1].plot(
    merged_eflux.index,
    merged_eflux['energetic'],
    label='>50 keV Eflux (BLC-ABLC)',
    color='r',
    linestyle='--'
)
bx[1].plot(
    merged_eflux.index,
    merged_eflux['auroral'],
    label='THEMIS ASI Eflux', color='k'
)

bx[2].plot(merged_eflux.index, merged_eflux['energetic_contribution'],
    ↪color='k')
```

```

pad_obj_eflux.plot_position(bx[-1])
bx[-1].xaxis.set_major_locator(plt.MaxNLocator(7))
bx[-1].xaxis.set_label_coords(-0.04, -0.007*7)
bx[-1].xaxis.label.set_size(10)

for bx_i in bx[[1, 2]]:
    divider = make_axes_locatable(bx_i)
    cax = divider.append_axes("right", size="10%", pad=0.08)
    cax.remove()

bx[1].set_yscale('log')
bx[1].set_ylabel(f'Energy Flux\n${\rm ergs/cm^{2}s}$')
bx[1].set_yticks([1E-2, 1E-1, 1E0, 1E1])
bx[1].set_ylim(1E-3, 1E2)

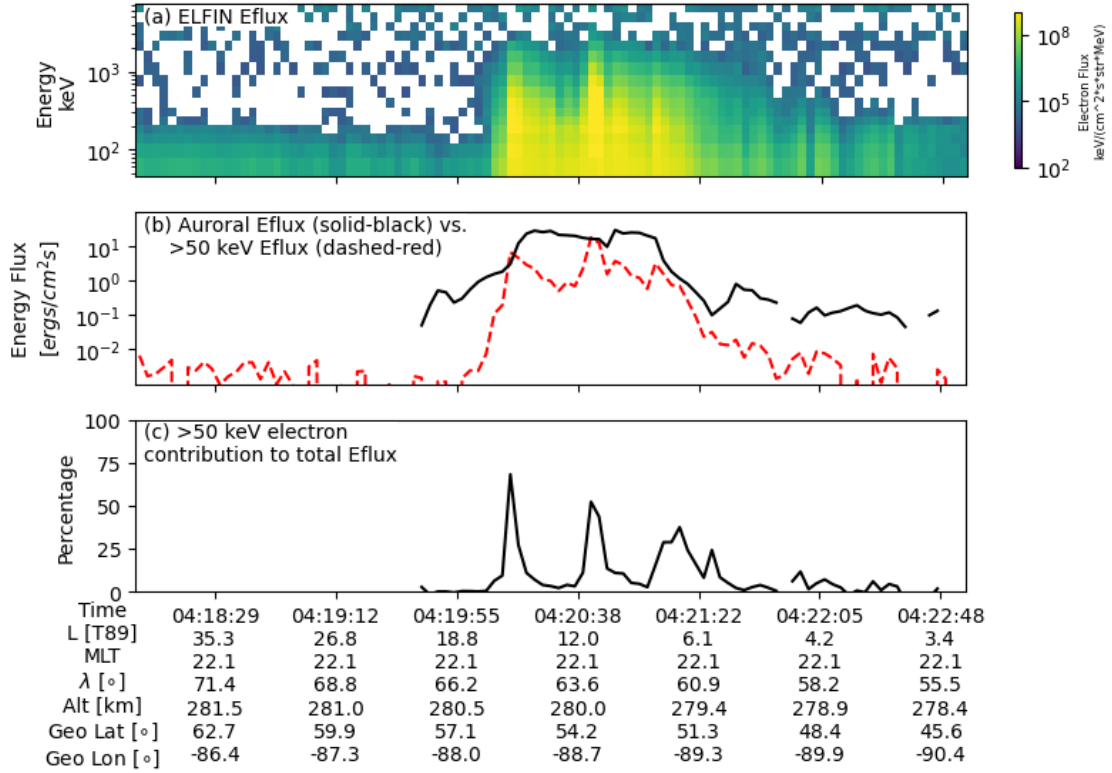
bx[2].set_ylabel(f'Percentage')
bx[2].set_ylim(0, 1E2)

labels = (
    'ELFIN Eflux',
    'Auroral Eflux (solid-black) vs.\n    >50 keV Eflux (dashed-red)',
    '>50 keV electron\ncontribution to total Eflux'
)

for ax_i, label, letter in zip(bx, labels, string.ascii_lowercase):
    _text = ax_i.text(0.01, 0.99, f'({letter}) {label}', transform=ax_i.
        ↪transAxes, va='top')
    _text.set_bbox(dict(facecolor='white', linewidth=0, pad=0.1, edgecolor='k'))
plt.suptitle('ELFIN - THEMIS ASI Electron Flux Comparison', fontsize=14)
plt.tight_layout()

```

ELFIN - THEMIS ASI Electron Flux Comparison



Not a bad comparison considering that the [Gabrielse+2021](#) inversion for this event did not include the MSP data (those instruments stopped operating then). We should compare this with Calgary's inversion.

Two lessons learned from this first comparison: 1. Typically the energetic energy fluxes make up a small portion (4% median and 8% percent mean), and 2. Occasionally the energetic energy fluxes can make up as much as 68% of the energetic+auroral energy flux.