

1 **Pre-flight Calibration and Near-Earth Commissioning**  
2 **Results of the Mercury Plasma Particle Experiment**  
3 **(MPPE) onboard MMO (Mio)**

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43 **Abstract** BepiColombo Mio (previously called MMO: Mercury Magnetospheric  
44 Orbiter) was successfully launched by Ariane 5 from Kourou, French Guiana on  
45 October 20, 2018. The Mercury Plasma/Particle Experiment (MPPE) is a compre-  
46 hensive instrument package onboard Mio spacecraft used for plasma, high-energy  
47 particle and energetic neutral atom measurements. It consists of seven sensors

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including two Mercury Electron Analyzers (MEA1 and MEA2), Mercury Ion Analyzer (MIA), Mass Spectrum Analyzer (MSA), High Energy Particle instrument for electron (HEP-ele), High Energy Particle instrument for ion (HEP-ion), and Energetic Neutrals Analyzer (ENA). Significant efforts were made pre-flight to calibrate all of the MPPE sensors at the appropriate facilities on the ground. High voltage commissioning of MPPE analyzers was successfully performed between June and August 2019 and in February 2020 following the completion of the low voltage commissioning in November 2018. Although all of the MPPE analyzers are now ready to begin observation, the full service performance has been delayed until Mio's arrival at Mercury. Most of the fields of view (FOVs) of the MPPE analyzers are blocked by the thermal shield surrounding the Mio spacecraft during the cruising phase. Together with other instruments on Mio including Magnetic Field Investigation (MGF) and Plasma Wave Investigation (PWI) that measure plasma field parameters, MPPE will contribute to the comprehensive understanding of the plasma environment around Mercury when BepiColombo/Mio begins observation after arriving at the planet Mercury in December 2025.

**Keywords** Mercury · Magnetosphere · Solar Wind · Exosphere · Ion · Electron · Energetic Neutral Atom

## 1 Introduction

Our knowledge of Mercury's plasma environment has significantly increased during the past decade owing to new observations made by the Mercury orbiter MESSENGER. However, many questions remain. To provide greater detail on this plasma environment, BepiColombo Mio was successfully launched by Ariane 5

71 from Kourou, French Guiana on October 20, 2018 as part of a joint mission be-  
72 tween European Space Agency (ESA) and Institute of Space and Astronautical  
73 Science/Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (ISAS/JAXA).

74 When BepiColombo Mission began about 15 years ago, Mercury was one of  
75 the least explored planets of our solar system. No spacecraft had visited Mercury  
76 since Mariner 10 made three fly-bys past the planet in 1974 and 1975. Mariner  
77 10 discovered that Mercury possesses an intrinsic magnetic field with very weak  
78 intensity compared with that of other magnetized planets in our solar system (Ness  
79 et al., 1974; Ogilvie et al., 1974). About 30 years after Mariner 10 visited Mercury,  
80 MESSENGER made its first fly-by observation in 2008. In 2011, MESSENGER  
81 was inserted into Mercury’s orbit to become the world’s first Mercury orbiter,  
82 which continued observation for more than four years.

83 Mariner 10 discovered the dominance of the dipole term in the spherical har-  
84 monic expansion of Mercury’s magnetic field. This suggests that the interaction  
85 between the solar wind and Mercury’s magnetosphere should be “ Earth-like ”,  
86 in contrast to the cases of Mars and Venus in which the planetary magnetic fields  
87 have negligible intensity or have only local effects on the interaction. The MES-  
88 SENDER observation revealed that the dipole moment of Mercury is deviated  
89 from its center northward by about 20% of the planet’s radius (Anderson et al.,  
90 2011). Because the magnetic field reflects the internal structure and its dynam-  
91 ics, detailed observation of Mercury’s magnetic field is one of the most important  
92 targets of BepiColombo.

93 Mercury’s small size and low gravity result in environmental characteristics  
94 that differ significantly from those of Earth. MESSENGER clearly showed the ex-  
95 tremely dynamic behavior of Mercury’s magnetosphere where substorm-like phe-



96 nomena repeat with very short time scales (Imber and Slavin, 2017). MESSEN-  
97 GER also proved the existence of large amounts of heavy elements in the magne-  
98 tosphere (Zurbuchen et al., 2011). BepiColombo/Mio will make exhaustive mea-  
99 surements of Mercury’s magnetosphere including comprehensive measurements of  
100 plasma and particles. Such observation of plasma and particles from spinning  
101 spacecraft covering a  $4\pi$  FOV with a time resolution as high as a few seconds  
102 will reveal the mechanism of the substorm-like phenomena occurring in Mercury’s  
103 magnetosphere to clarify similarity and difference between Earth and Mercury. In  
104 addition, the ion energy mass spectrometer on Mio has high mass resolution that  
105 can distinguish between the species of planetary heavy ions. This will help to ex-  
106 plain the contribution of heavy ions on the magnetospheric processes in Mercury’s  
107 magnetosphere.

108 The Mercury Plasma/Particle Experiment (MPPE) is a comprehensive instru-  
109 ment package used for plasma, high-energy particle and energetic neutral atom  
110 measurements. It consists of seven sensors including two Mercury Electron Ana-  
111 lyzers (MEA1 and MEA2), Mercury Ion Analyzer (MIA), Mass Spectrum Analyzer  
112 (MSA), High Energy Particle instrument for electron (HEP-ele), High Energy Par-  
113 ticle instrument for ion (HEP-ion), and Energetic Neutrals Analyzer (ENA).

114 Together with other instruments onboard Mio including Magnetic Field In-  
115 vestigation (MGF) and Plasma Wave Investigation (PWI) that measure plasma  
116 field parameters, MPPE will contribute to the comprehensive understanding of the  
117 plasma environment around Mercury when BepiColombo/Mio begins observation  
118 after arriving at the planet Mercury in December 2025.

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## 119 **2 Science Objectives of MPPE**

### 120 2.1 Structure, dynamics, and physical processes occurring in Mercury's 121 magnetosphere

122 Because the intrinsic magnetic field is weaker and the dynamic pressure of the so-  
123 lar wind is stronger at Mercury than at Earth, solar wind can sometimes directly  
124 interact with the dayside planetary surface in the low-latitude region. Recent MES-  
125 SENDER observations indicate that the high dynamic pressure of the solar wind  
126 causes the compression and magnetic flux transfer by reconnection, which can  
127 completely erode the dayside magnetosphere (Slavin et al., 2019). Even when the  
128 solar wind dynamic pressure is not so strong, the solar wind plasma can directly  
129 penetrate until reaching the planetary surface through the cusp regions. Another  
130 important characteristic of Mercury's magnetic field is the offset of the dipole. The  
131 fly-bys by Mariner 10 suggested the possibility of northward offset of the magnetic  
132 dipole by  $0.2 R_M$  (Whang, 1977), which was confirmed by MESSENGER obser-  
133 vations (Anderson et al., 2011). This means that the planetary magnetic field at  
134 the surface is stronger at the northern pole than at the southern pole, and that  
135 the solar wind plasma can more easily access the planetary surface in the southern  
136 polar region. In addition, heavy ions and neutrals sputtered from the planetary  
137 surface are major observation targets of MPPE. The effects of the direct inter-  
138 action of the space plasma and the planetary surface on the remaining planetary  
139 processes can be investigated only in Mercury's environment.

140 Despite the qualitative similarities of the global structures of the Mercury  
141 and Earth magnetospheres, many differences remain between them. The small  
142 dimensions of Mercury's magnetosphere imply short time scales of the dynamic

143 phenomena occurring therein. The magnetospheric convection, potentially driven  
144 by dayside reconnection, is expected to complete its circulation within just a few  
145 minutes, which is only 1/30 of the corresponding time scale at Earth (e.g., Slavin  
146 (2004)). Flux transfer events (FTEs) are frequently detected in rapid succession at  
147 Mercury's magnetopause with much shorter time scales than those at Earth (Slavin  
148 et al., 2012; Imber et al., 2014). The small magnetosphere also implies that kinetic  
149 behavior of plasma is particularly important. Because the typical scale of Mercury's  
150 magnetospheric structures are on the order of the proton Larmor radius, the ideal  
151 magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) approximation could be inadequate for describing  
152 the global dynamics of the magnetosphere. This is exemplified by MESSENGER  
153 observations, which showed that a typical proton gyroradius in Mercury's plasma  
154 sheet is  $\sim 380$  km (DiBraccio et al., 2015) and that the thickness of the plasma sheet  
155 is comparable to the proton gyroradius (Sun et al., 2017). For zero or weak guide  
156 magnetic fields, ion scale current sheets with a thickness comparable to the ion  
157 inertia length or the ion Larmor radius are predicted to become highly unstable  
158 for the current driven instabilities, which lead to quick triggering of magnetic  
159 reconnection (Shinohara and Fujimoto, 2005).

160 Many questions remain about the substorms in Mercury's magnetosphere. Be-  
161 cause the concept of storage and sudden release of energy is likely universal, efforts  
162 to answer these questions enable us to examine the ubiquitous problems of mag-  
163 netized plasmas. One of these questions is related to the dawn-dusk asymmetry  
164 in the plasma sheet associated with substorm activities (Sun et al., 2017). In par-  
165 ticular, proton energization and heating through substorm activities occur more  
166 often on the dawnside than on the duskside, which is opposite that occurring  
167 in Earth's magnetosphere. The cause of the dawn-dusk asymmetry remains to be

168 studied using BepiColombo data. The questions related to the Mariner 10 observa-  
169 tion events such as drift echoes have been considered in the context of substorms.  
170 These particle phenomena need to be studied with an unbiased attitude and a  
171 complete field of view. Specifically, all substorm-like events at Mercury should be  
172 studied in the context of solar wind-magnetosphere interaction and particle accel-  
173 eration processes. In this context, measurements such as those by MPPE will be  
174 of paramount importance.

175 Recent theoretical studies suggest that efficient plasma transport can be achieved  
176 within highly rolled-up vortices that form owing to the velocity shear at the tail-  
177 flank boundary (Hasegawa et al., 2004; Nakamura et al., 2017). It is widely ac-  
178 cepted that Kelvin-Helmholtz (K-H) instability operates at Earth’s magnetopause  
179 and plays a significant role in transporting mass and energy from the solar wind to  
180 the magnetosphere. MESSENGER observations showed that K-H vortices develop  
181 predominantly on the duskside (Gershman et al., 2015). K-H waves as sources of  
182 these vortices are also detected mainly at dusk (Liljeblad et al., 2014). A possible  
183 contribution of heavy ions to K-H instability will be explored by analyzing the  
184 BepiColombo data.

185 The study of large amplitude electromagnetic waves around the magnetopause  
186 is also important in terms of particle transport, diffusion and acceleration. Anisotropic  
187 particle distribution and accelerated particle beams can excite various electromag-  
188 netic waves. The mapping of characteristic waves and particle velocity distribution  
189 functions, and their comparison with those found on other planets are also impor-  
190 tant.

191 The existence of Na ions in Mercury’s magnetosphere is another interesting fac-  
192 tor. The heavy mass of these ions combined with the weak magnetic field result in

193 large Larmor radii in the Mercury magnetosphere. The turbulence discussed here  
194 is basically of MHD nature but the large Larmor radius is comparable to the scale  
195 of the vortices and efficient heating of Na ions by turbulence is expected. Heated  
196 Na ions carry non-negligible pressure and thus play a role in determining the shape  
197 and dynamics of the magnetosphere (Gershman et al., 2014). Such a significant  
198 contribution of heavy ions would be an analog to large storms in Earth's magne-  
199 tosphere although this could be the average state of the Mercury magnetosphere.  
200 Comprehensive observations of both the tail-flank turbulence and the large-scale  
201 convection powered by the reconnection in the small-scale magnetosphere are thus  
202 quite interesting from the perspectives of basic magnetohydrodynamics and mag-  
203 netospheric physics. MPPE includes required plasma detectors with good time  
204 resolution and a mass spectrometer with sufficiently wide energy coverage.

205 The energization mechanism of magnetospheric plasma at Mercury has been  
206 unsolved since the Mariner 10 era. Although intense bursts of energetic charged  
207 particles  $>35$  keV likely associated with substorm activities have been detected  
208 by Mariner 10 (Simpson et al., 1974), their species, flux, and energy spectrum for  
209 the events were not precisely determined owing to instrument limitations. Recent  
210 observations by EPS onboard MESSENGER revealed that the bursts of energetic  
211 charged particles are composed of high-energy electrons (Ho et al., 2011). This  
212 finding combined with the indications of MESSENGER/GRNS data suggest that  
213 the major components of the energetic bursts are electrons of several tens to  $\sim 100$   
214 keV (Slavin et al., 2018). Although the most plausible mechanism of the electron  
215 energization is magnetic reconnection in Mercury's magnetotail associated with  
216 substorm activities, the lack of low-energy electron observations by MESSENGER  
217 prevents us from making a conclusion on this topic. However, observations of

218 electrons in a wide energy range by MPPE and other instruments will enable us to  
219 identify the generation mechanisms of the high-energy electrons around Mercury.

## 220 2.2 Interaction among magnetosphere, exosphere, surface, and interior of 221 Mercury

222 The Mercury environment can be characterized by complicated interaction among  
223 the surface, exosphere, and magnetosphere (Milillo et al., 2005). The lack of a  
224 thick atmosphere allows the space plasma to directly reach the surface. The sur-  
225 face materials are then ejected into space to form the exosphere, part of which  
226 is ionized and governed by the electro-magnetic environment of Mercury or mag-  
227 netosphere. This complex system occurs in all objects in the Solar System with  
228 no atmosphere. In particular, the Moon provides an appropriate environment for  
229 understanding this coupling (e.g., Futaana et al. (2018)). Although it does not  
230 have a global magnetic field, the Moon's lacks of atmosphere and strong iono-  
231 sphere affects the plasma-surface interaction, exosphere formation, and interaction  
232 with the upstream plasma. However, part of the Moon is magnetized where the  
233 dynamic plasma physics is in operation. Recent measurements of the Moon by  
234 several orbiters and fly-bys (e.g., Nozomi, Lunar Prospector, Kaguya, Chang'E,  
235 Chandrayaan-1, Artemis, and LADEE) have significantly increased our knowl-  
236 edge of the lunar environment, part of which can be applied to understand these  
237 interactions at Mercury.

238 Mercury's surface releases Na, O, H, He, K, Ca, and possibly other compo-  
239 sitions by photon-stimulated desorption, thermal desorption, micrometeoritic im-  
240 pacts, chemical sputtering, and ion sputtering, to form a highly extended tenuous

241 atmosphere or exosphere. The exosphere of Mercury will be investigated by instru-  
242 ments on MPO with a relatively lower orbiting altitude. However, the exospheric  
243 ions circulate along the convection of the magnetosphere and then partially re-  
244 enter Mercury's surface-exosphere system to further sputter the surface material.  
245 Conversely, the exospheric ions affect the magnetospheric convection. These facts  
246 indicate that Mercury's exosphere is not a single system, rather it strongly inter-  
247 acts with other regions, constituting a surface-exosphere-magnetosphere system.  
248 Among the release processes, ion sputtering is mostly related to magnetospheric  
249 processes. As a result of magnetospheric dynamics, the magnetospheric and solar  
250 wind ions precipitate on Mercury's surface resulting in atom and ion sputtering  
251 (Killen et al., 2001). The sputtered ions and exospheric photoions feed the mag-  
252 netosphere, which affects its dynamics.

253 Ions originating directly from solar wind, those accelerated in the tail, and  
254 energized planetary ions, all precipitate onto Mercury's surface, which results in  
255 extensive sputtering (Grande, 1997; Wurz and Lammer, 2003; Mura et al., 2009).  
256 No reservoir of trapped particles exists near Mercury because the planet occupies  
257 a large portion of its inner magnetosphere; in this case, accelerated energetic par-  
258 ticles hit the surface easily and become lost quickly (Delcourt et al., 2003; Yagi  
259 et al., 2017). The Mercury magnetosphere does not include a ring current region  
260 such as that present in Earth's inner magnetosphere which enables quasi-trapped  
261 Na ions to exist in the low-latitude region near the planet as indicated by simu-  
262 lation (Yagi et al., 2010) and MESSENGER observation (Schriver et al., 2011).  
263 The energetic particles in the magnetosphere should precipitate to the planetary  
264 surface/exosphere directly through pitch angle scattering by wave-particle interac-  
265 tions and field line curvature. The sputtering by particle precipitation is an escape

266 process of heavy ions from the planetary surface: the direct interaction of precipi-  
267 tating particles with the planetary surface is important for the evolution of particle  
268 circulation in the Mercury magnetosphere (Ip, 1986). Therefore, investigation of  
269 the loss processes of high-energy particles and the relationship between the ener-  
270 getic particle and the planetary surface is also an important objective of the MPPE  
271 observations. The integrated energy spectrum of the sputtered products falls off  
272 as  $E^{-2}$ , reflecting the Thompson-Sigmund formula (e.g., Sigmund et al. (1982))  
273 and results in relatively high fluxes at energies greater than 10 - 100 eV (Massetti  
274 et al., 2003). Measuring these low-energy neutral atoms (LENA) by MPPE-ENA  
275 while monitoring precipitating ions by MPPE-MSA and MPPE-MIA are crucial  
276 for understanding the contribution of sputtering to the formation of Mercury's  
277 exosphere, which reveals dynamical and spatial variations of the sputtering source  
278 (Fatemi et al., 2020).

279 In addition to magnetosphere-exosphere coupling, MESSENGER observation  
280 revealed a possible magnetosphere-exosphere-interior system. The MESSENGER/MAG  
281 observation provided evidence of field aligned currents (FACs) at Mercury, where  
282 a weak Region 1 current system exists but no Region 2 current does (Anderson  
283 et al., 2014). The existence of a Region 1 current system suggests the possibility  
284 of electric current closure through conductive material at the depth of the outer  
285 core, which strongly depends on the electric conductivity at the planet's surface  
286 and interior region. Direct measurement of FAC carriers by MPPE is highly antic-  
287 ipated. In addition, the balance between the magnetic reconnection and induction  
288 at the dayside magnetopause could provide clues for understanding the planetary  
289 interior (Heyner et al., 2016).



290 The dynamic response of the Mercury magnetosphere to solar wind variation  
291 is sometimes regarded as a possible explanation for the variability in the Na exo-  
292 sphere both spatially and temporally on timescales less than one day as observed  
293 by ground-based remote sensing measurement. Model calculations show that so-  
294 lar wind ions and the exospheric ions energized in the magnetosphere very non-  
295 uniformly affect Mercury's surface, which includes various impact regions such  
296 as auroral impact, cusp impact, and nose impact regions (Kallio and Janhunen,  
297 2003; Delcourt et al., 2003). However, such calculations also indicate that the im-  
298 pact regions and the effects of ion flux are rather sensitive to the magnetospheric  
299 dynamics and particle environment. MESSENGER discovered an X-ray aurora  
300 accompanied by electron precipitation (Lindsay et al., 2016; Dewey et al., 2017).  
301 Observation of precipitating electrons by MPPE-MEA and MPPE-HEP-ele will  
302 also contribute to understading the magnetosphere-exosphere coupling.

303 The highly eccentric orbit of Mercury generates significant variation in the  
304 planetary environment between the perihelion and aphelion. Recent MESSEN-  
305 GER observations have shown that the Na exosphere is surprisingly constant in  
306 terms of annual variation, with no strong episodic variation or surface dependence  
307 noted (Cassidy et al., 2015). However, the Na intensity showed a strong seasonal  
308 variation that contradicts previous ground-based observation reported by Leblanc  
309 and Johnson (2010). The ionization frequencies of the exospheric neutrals by pho-  
310 toionization, electron impact ionization, and charge exchange interaction, which  
311 depend on the solar flux and the solar wind density and velocity, vary by a fac-  
312 tor of two. These differences can cause a significant alteration of the dynamics of  
313 Mercury's magnetosphere-exosphere-surface-interior system. To understand this

314 system, it is necessary to observe the planet's particle environment by MPPE  
315 observation for at least a few Mercury years.

### 316 2.3 Shocks and the inner heliosphere

317 A new era of inner heliosphere exploration began with the launch of the Parker  
318 Solar Probe in 2018 (Fox et al., 2016), followed by that of the Solar Orbiter in  
319 2020 (Müller et al., 2013). Mio will play an important role in this heliosphere-  
320 wide, multi-mission exploration by its placement in Mercury's orbit. Following the  
321 successes of other missions such as Helios 1 and 2 in the 1980s, MESSENGER  
322 in 2008 - 2015, and the recent Parker Solar Probe, Mio is expected to achieve  
323 comprehensive in-situ measurement of plasmas in the inner-heliosphere by taking  
324 advantage of the spin-stabilized configuration of the spacecraft and a suite of  
325 modern instruments. Mio is expected to make a wide range of discoveries regarding  
326 collisionless shocks, solar wind, pickup ions of interstellar-origin, solar energetic  
327 particles (SEPs), the modulation of galactic cosmic rays and other phenomena.

328 Particles are accelerated to very high, non-thermal energies at astrophysical  
329 shocks, as evidenced by emission from astrophysical sources such as supernova  
330 remnants, extragalactic jets, and galaxy clusters. Particles are also accelerated  
331 at shocks in space such as planetary bow shocks and interplanetary shocks. In-  
332 situ measurement of shocks in various plasma environments is thus crucial for  
333 understanding of the generality and scaling-law of particle acceleration at shocks.  
334 Mercury is unique in that it is closer than any other planet to the sun. Thus  
335 its orbit offers the greatest chance of detecting very fast interplanetary shocks  
336 particularly in extreme cases of solar eruptive events such as coronal mass ejection

337 (CME) and solar flares. The shock speed can reach up to 4000 km/s and the  
338 Alfvén Mach number can exceed several tens in value, as demonstrated combined  
339 observations and modeling (Smart and Shea, 1985; Cliver et al., 1990). In fact,  
340 statistical analysis of MESSENGER data has confirmed that the shock transit  
341 speed is substantially higher in Mercury’s orbit (Winslow et al., 2015) than that  
342 of Earth, which is consistent with earlier reports (Wang et al., 2005). Therefore,  
343 MPPE data combined with information obtained from other instruments on Mio  
344 will likely provide opportunities to study high-speed and/or high-Mach-number  
345 shocks well before they are substantially decelerated.

346 A key point in this research is that previously observed features of particle  
347 acceleration at shocks are often inconsistent with the standard diffusive shock ac-  
348 celeration (DSA) scenario. In DSA, the particle flux increases exponentially prior  
349 to the arrival of the shock, reaches its maximum at the shock front, and exhibits a  
350 power law with the power-law index as a function of the compression ratio only. In  
351 reality, however, shocks often do not exhibit a significant flux increase and, even  
352 if they are present, the power-law index does not match that predicted from the  
353 observed compression ratio. Such discrepancies have been reported for both ion  
354 acceleration (e.g., van Nes et al. (1984); Lario et al. (2003); Desai et al. (2004);  
355 Lario (2005); Fisk and Gloeckler (2012)) and electron acceleration (Shimada et al.,  
356 1998; Ho et al., 2008). Moreover, for electrons, pre-energizing to non-thermal en-  
357 ergies is required for the DSA process to begin, although the precise mechanism of  
358 such a process remains unclear (e.g., Tsurutani and Lin (1985); Oka et al. (2019);  
359 Amano et al. (2020)). To address these problems, MPPE will provide compre-  
360 hensive analyses of ion/electron velocity and pitch-angle distributions, associated

361 waves and turbulence, ion composition, and ion charge states before, during and  
362 after shock/CME passages.

363 The bow shock and magnetosheath signatures in Mercury’s orbit are impor-  
364 tant targets of BepiColombo. The solar wind flow in Earth’s orbit is usually super-  
365 Alfvénic with typical Alfvén Mach numbers of  $5 < M_A < 10$ . According to the  
366 standard solar wind model by Parker (1958), the Alfvén Mach number in Mercury’s  
367 orbit is statistically lower than that in Earth’s orbit (e.g., Slavin et al. (2018)).  
368 We expect to detect super-Alfvénic solar wind with very low  $M_A$  ( $1 < M_A < 2$ )  
369 and sub-Alfvénic solar wind ( $M_A < 1$ ) in Mercury’s orbit because BepiColombo  
370 will arrive at Mercury in 2025 when the solar activity is likely to be at its peak  
371 in Solar Cycle 25. For the bow shock under the lower but still super-Alfvénic so-  
372 lar wind ( $M_A > 1$ ), the MESSENGER mission has already revealed significantly  
373 smaller magnetic “overshoots” (i.e., intensifications of the magnetic field magni-  
374 tude within the shock transition layer) at Mercury’s bow shock compared with  
375 that at Saturn (Masters et al., 2014). The differences in overshoot structure of  
376 the bow shocks is consistent with the expectations, which demonstrates the appli-  
377 cability of the scaling law based on the solar wind model. In addition, the lower  
378  $M_A$  solar wind yields unusual interaction between the magnetosheath and the  
379 magnetosphere, that depends strongly on the direction of the interplanetary mag-  
380 netic field (IMF) (Lavraud and Borovsky, 2008; Nishino et al., 2008). If the solar  
381 wind becomes sub-Alfvénic, the bow shock will alter to a slow-mode shock, and  
382 its shape and structure could differ significantly from that normally expected for  
383 a fast-mode bow shock (Hundhausen et al., 1987). An irregular bow shock can be  
384 detected by comparing the data with the typical shape/location of the bow shock  
385 established by MESSENGER (Winslow et al., 2013). Another candidate for sub-

386 Alfvénic interaction of Mercury’s magnetosphere with the extreme solar wind is  
387 the formation of Alfvén wings (Sarantos and Slavin, 2009), which can be compared  
388 with sub-Alfvénic interaction of the Galilean moons with Jupiter’s magnetosphere.

### 389 **3 Instrument Description and Pre-flight Calibration**

#### 390 **3.1 Overview of MPPE Instrument Suite**

##### 391 *3.1.1 MPPE Instrument Suite for Plasma/Particle Measurements*

392 As illustrated in Figure 1, the MPPE suite is a comprehensive instrument package  
393 developed to achieve the scientific objectives described in section 2. As previously  
394 discussed, it consists of seven sensors including MEA1, MEA2, MIA, MSA, HEP-  
395 ele, HEP-ion, and ENA (Saito et al., 2010a). These sensors measure plasma, high-  
396 energy particles and energetic neutral atoms with sufficiently high time resolution,  
397 wide energy and dynamic ranges, wide angle coverage, and high mass resolution.

398 Specifically, MEA1 and MEA2 measure the 3D phase space density of low  
399 energy electrons between 3 eV and 26 keV and were developed by the Research  
400 Institute in Astrophysics and Planetology (IRAP) in France. MIA measures 3D  
401 phase space density of low energy ions between 15 eV/q and 29 keV/q and was  
402 developed by ISAS/JAXA in Japan. MSA measures the mass identified 3D phase  
403 space density of low energy ions between 1 eV/q and 38 keV/q and was developed  
404 by the Laboratory of Plasma Physics (LPP) in France, the Max Planck Institute  
405 for Solar System Research (MPS) and Institute of Computer and Network Engi-  
406 neering (IDA)/Technical University of Braunschweig in Germany and ISAS/JAXA  
407 in Japan. HEP-ele and HEP-ion measure the energy spectra of high energy elec-

408 trons between 30 keV and 700 keV and the mass identified ion energy spectra of  
409 high energy ions between 30 keV and 1.5 MeV, respectively, and were developed  
410 by Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE)/Nagoya University  
411 and ISAS/JAXA in Japan. ENA measures the mass identified energetic neutral  
412 atoms between 10 eV and 3.3 keV and was developed by the Swedish Institute  
413 of Space Physics (IRF)-Kiruna in Sweden, University of Bern in Switzerland and  
414 ISAS/JAXA in Japan.

415 Figure 2 shows the locations of the MPPE sensors on Mio. The four low-  
416 energy sensors MEA1, MEA2, MIA, and MSA are referred to as low-energy particle  
417 (LEP) sensors. The LEP sensors have ring shaped FOVs in which the center axis is  
418 perpendicular to the spin axis of the spinning Mio spacecraft. The LEP sensors are  
419 installed on the four diagonal corners of the octagonal Mio spacecraft to minimize  
420 the interference of the spacecraft body in measuring low energy charged particles.  
421 MEA1 and MEA2, the two electron sensors, and MIA and MSA, the two ion  
422 sensors, are installed  $90^\circ$  apart to fulfill the requirements of the high time resolution  
423 measurements. The other MPPE sensors, including HEP-ion, HEP-ele and ENA  
424 are installed on the side panels of the Mio spacecraft. HEP-ion has a conical FOV,  
425 whereas HEP-ele and ENA have radial FOVs. To minimize the thermal input  
426 under the severe thermal conditions of Mercury's orbit, all the MPPE sensors  
427 are equipped with individual thermal shields in which the surface is coated with  
428 electrically conductive white paint.

429 A commonly used data processor Mission Data Processor 1 (MDP1) (Kasaba  
430 et al., 2020) controls all of the MPPE sensors and is responsible for processing  
431 the data sent from them. In addition, it formats the telemetry data, calculates  
432 the velocity moments (VMs), and reduces the quantity of data by adding, select-

433 ing, or compressing the data. Depending on the total telemetry rate of the Mio  
434 spacecraft, three different data rates of high, medium, and low are defined. The  
435 MPPE sensors are allocated to 72.5, 5.5, and 0.8 kbps as high, medium, and low  
436 data rates, reflected by H-mode, M-mode, and L-mode, respectively. The L-mode  
437 data are continuously available during the orbital period of about 9.4 h. The LEP  
438 sensors produce VMs of electrons and ions (density, velocity, temperature), and  
439 compressed E-t spectrograms with limited angle, mass, energy, and time resolu-  
440 tion as L-mode data. The HEP sensors also produce count data with limited angle,  
441 mass, and energy resolution as L-mode data. ENA produces only L-mode data.  
442 The M-mode data are available during only about 25% of the entire observation  
443 period. The LEP and HEP sensors produce 3D counts with selected angle and time  
444 resolution or 2D counts as M-mode data. Although full 3D counts are produced  
445 as H-mode data, this mode is available only during limited periods.

## 446 3.2 MEA

### 447 3.2.1 *Instrument Description of MEA*

448 The MEA instrument is composed of two sensors MEA1 and MEA2, which com-  
449 bine the selection of incoming electrons according to their energies by electrostatic  
450 deflection in symmetrical toroidal analyzers. These instruments provide a uniform  
451 angle energy response with a fast imaging particle detection system (Sauvaud  
452 et al., 2010). MEA2 is illustrated in Figure 3. One of the key and novel features  
453 of the MEA sensors is the implementation of an electronic device that enables  
454 the geometrical factor (G-factor) to vary by a factor of 1000 in the top-hat elec-

455 trostatic analyzer to measure the solar wind and magnetospheric electron fluxes  
456 within more than six decades.

457 Figure 4 illustrates the identical electron optic design of MEA1 and MEA2  
458 except for the entrance aperture, which is discussed subsequently. The electrostatic  
459 analyzer (ESA) consists of a  $95^\circ$  toroidal deflector with two concentric electrodes  
460 and a spherical top section. Whereas the outer electrode and the top-hat are at  
461 signal ground, the two parts of the inner electrode can be set at the same voltage  
462 ( $U_{an} = U_{top}$ ) as for a classical top-hat analyzer with an analyzer constant  $k$   
463  $= E/V = 9.6$ . When the central part of the inner electrode ( $U_{top}$ ) is biased  
464 with voltages lower than those applied to the toroidal part ( $U_{an}$ ), the energy  
465 and angular acceptance are both reduced leading reduction of the G-factor.

466 Figure 5 shows the microchannel plate (MCP) in a chevron stack configuration,  
467 which are used to multiply the incident electrons. Figure 6 shows the 16 discrete  
468 anodes of  $22.5^\circ$  each of which is used for position encoding that are connected  
469 to amplifiers/discriminators followed by Amptek A111F counters with a detection  
470 threshold of  $10^5$  electrons.

471 Figure 7 shows the entrance of the electrostatic analyzer of MEA, which in-  
472 cludes four baffles for reducing the penetration of ultraviolet light (UV) in the  
473 hemispherical spheres. The generation of photoelectrons inside the instrument is  
474 further limited by the use of golden, polished parts that also serve to decrease the  
475 heat flux into the instrument.

476 Figure 8 illustrates the use of scalloping on the outer and inner plates of the  
477 toroidal deflector and the top-hat, for reducing the transmission of secondary elec-  
478 trons and UV photons. The analyzer plates are further coated with  $Cu_2S$  black to  
479 efficiently absorb stray light, as obtained from Collini (<https://www.collini.eu>).



480 Figure 9 shows the high voltage board which provides two sweeping voltages  
481 of 0 - 3000 V for the analyzer, and a static power supply from 0 - 3400 V for the  
482 MCPs. To select the energy of incident electrons, we vary the deflection voltages  
483 of the inner plates of the electrostatic analyzer logarithmically with 128 equally  
484 spaced steps in synchronization with the spacecraft spin period. MEA measures  
485 the full  $4\pi$  electron distributions with a single analyzer in 1/2 of the spacecraft  
486 spin period or with the two analyzers in 1/4 of the period.

487 Figure 10 shows the field-programmable gate array (FPGA) board with two Ac-  
488 tel RT54SX72SU components used to control all functionalities of the instrument.  
489 The first controls the sensor head and accumulates the counting rates, and the  
490 second transmits/receives data/commands from the data processing unit (MDP1)  
491 shared by all MPPE instruments using the spacewire protocol.

492 A multi-layer insulator (Figure 11) and a thermal shield (Figure 12) coated  
493 with white paint are used to ensure the thermal protection of the sensors. The  
494 peak temperatures near Mercury reach  $140^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the thermal shield,  $85^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the  
495 spheres, and  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the MCPs and electronic boards when operating.

496 Table 1 summarizes the key parameters of the MEA sensors, and Figure 13  
497 shows a block diagram of the instrument.

### 498 *3.2.2 Operation Mode and Data Products of MEA*

499 MEA includes versatile and easily programmable operating modes and data pro-  
500 cessing routines for optimizing the data collection for specific scientific studies  
501 and widely varying plasma regimes. Depending on the telemetry mode, MEA can  
502 transmit several MDP1 data products, including those listed below.

- 503 1. Electron omnidirectional fluxes (Et-OMN).

- 504 2. Electron VM. The instrument transmits the temperature, heat flux vector,  
505 and number density calculated in several energy bands. The position of the  
506 boundaries of each energy band is defined by commands.
- 507 3. Electron pitch angle distribution for four selected energies (Et-PAP). MEA uses  
508 the magnetic field vector as the external input for this mode and transmits the  
509 2D angle-energy distribution.
- 510 4. Full 3D electron distribution. The instrument transmits a complete angular-  
511 energy spectrum accumulated for a minimum of 1/4 of the spacecraft spin.

512 MEA uses different energy tables to adapt to the various space environment  
513 conditions encountered by the Mio spacecraft. The choice of energy table used is  
514 defined by commands. The four energy tables available for MEA include

- 515 1. 3–300 eV
- 516 2. 3–25000 eV
- 517 3. 3–3000 eV
- 518 4. 3000–25000 eV

519 In addition, MEA has unique data modes that can be defined by commands,  
520 depending on the number of channels (16 or 32) and energies (16, 32 or 64).

521 Table 2 shows the various MPPE data mode names and the corresponding data  
522 products of MEA1 and MEA2 together with the time resolution depending on the  
523 telemetry mode of the Mio spacecraft. Tables 3, 4, and 5 detail the properties of  
524 MEA data products for each Mio telemetry mode.

525 All MEA data products will be available in Common Data Format (CDF,  
526 <https://cdf.gsfc.nasa.gov>) files.

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### 527 3.2.3 Pre-Flight Calibration of MEA

528 The calibration of the two MEA sensors and a flight spare model was conducted  
529 at the IRAP Toulouse vacuum facilities. The parameters shown in Table 6 will be  
530 used to describe the various calibration setups, procedures, and results.

531 The pre-flight calibration of the MEA sensors consisted of full calibration of the  
532 sensors, the characterization of the MCP detectors of the sensors, and sensor test-  
533 ing for UV contamination. To derive the calibration parameters for a configuration  
534 as close as possible to that of the sensors in space, full calibration was performed  
535 with a realistic simulator of the instrument thermal shield and with the magnetic  
536 field of Earth inside the vacuum chamber compensated by Helmholtz coils. Figure  
537 14 shows the MEA1 sensor installed in the setup and its simulator for the thermal  
538 shield, the beam monitor, and the magnetometer, which continuously measures  
539 the residual magnetic field in the vicinity of the sensor. The measurements of the  
540 magnetometer are automatically used to adjust the residual magnetic field below  
541 a maximum value of  $0.5 \mu\text{T}$ . For each calibration step, absolute measurements of  
542 the properties of the employed electron beam were taken.

543 The counts for each MCP anode as a function of MCP HV are shown in Figure  
544 15. The working point of both MCP detectors for MEA1 and MEA2 was set to  
545 2750 V as delineated by the red vertical line in the figure. The working point is  
546 defined here by the bias voltage applied to the MCP needed for reaching a plateau  
547 in the MCP counts.

548 The UV contamination test results are shown in Figure 16. The strong count  
549 at the small energies show the photoelectrons emitted inside the instrument and

550 the vacuum chamber. The maximal background was less than 1 per second per  
 551 anode.

552 Full calibration of the MEA1 and MEA2 sensors was conducted in the coordi-  
 553 nate frame shown in Figure 17. The electron beam properties are given below.

- 554 – For each azimuth angle  $\Phi$ , a scan was made over elevation angle  $\Theta$ .
- 555 – For each angular position, the set of G-factors was tested.
- 556 – For each value of G-factor, the analyzer voltage was scanned.

557 Figures 18 and 19 show the energy, elevation and azimuthal responses for  
 558 different anodes and G-factor levels. The dashed curves in these plots show the  
 559 polynomial fit that enabled definition of  $\Delta E/E$  and  $\Delta\Omega$  with high accuracy. When  
 560 the central part of the inner electrode (Utop) is biased with voltages lower than  
 561 those applied to the toroidal part (Uan), the analyzer accepts particles coming from  
 562 a slightly higher azimuth. The energy and angular acceptance are both reduced  
 563 leading to a reduction of the G-factor. The G-factor for each anode versus the value  
 564 of Utop/Uan is shown in Figure 20, where the theoretical profile obtained from  
 565 the numerical simulation is represented by a dashed curve. MEA2 has a maximum  
 566 GF0/GF ratio of 1000, whereas that of MEA1 is only 60 because it includes a  
 567 grid attenuator with 5% transparency at its entrance. Table 7 summarizes the  
 568 calibration results for MEA1 and MEA2.

### 569 *3.2.4 Near-Earth Commissioning Results of MEA*

570 On July 1 and 2, 2019, the two MEA sensors were turned on, respectively, when  
 571 the BepiColombo spacecraft was about 29 million km from Earth. MEA1 and  
 572 MEA2 have perfectly responded to our commands up to their nominal working

573 point of 2750 V applied to their MCPs. Hence, the very first electron spectra  
574 in the solar wind have been successfully obtained, even though Mio is behind  
575 the MOSIF thermal shield. Figures 21 and 22 show the MEA1 and MEA2 data,  
576 respectively. The solar wind electron moments were estimated from MEA1 3D  
577 data after noise removal (Figure 23). The density calculated from the MEA1 data  
578 when integrated over all energies, including both core and halo (above 100 eV)  
579 solar wind electrons ( $1.9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ), and the first eleven energies for the core solar  
580 wind electrons ( $0.9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ), and the temperature (13 eV), agree well with expected  
581 values at the location of the Mio spacecraft as well as those with a Maxwellian  
582 distribution with a density of  $0.6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and temperature of 10 eV.

583 The very first data obtained during the near-Earth orbit phase commissioning  
584 of the MEA instrument confirm that both MEA1 and ME2 are working normally.  
585 In the near future the MEA instrument will be turned on again during Earth,  
586 Venus, and Mercury fly-bys and during the cruise phase to enable multipoint  
587 measurements of electrons in the solar wind together with electron spectrometers  
588 onboard the Solar Orbiter and Parker Solar Probe missions.

### 589 3.3 MIA

#### 590 3.3.1 *Instrument Description of MIA*

591 MIA as shown in Figure 24 was developed to understand the structure and plasma  
592 dynamics of Mercury's magnetosphere; Mercury – solar wind interaction; atmo-  
593 spheric abundances, structures, and generation/loss processes; and the solar wind  
594 between 0.3 and 0.47 AU (Miyake et al., 2009). To achieve these research objec-  
595 tives, MIA should be able to measure both the 3D distribution function of solar

596 wind ions around Mercury (0.3 – 0.47 AU) and the planet’s magnetospheric ions.  
597 Figure 25 shows a block diagram of MIA, which consists of the (A)spacecraft  
598 interface board, (B)positive high volatge board, (C)negative high voltage board,  
599 and (D)analyzer. As shown in Figure 25(D), MIA is a top-hat type electrostatic  
600 analyzer with toroidal deflectors (Saito et al., 2010a). Figure 26 shows the “top-  
601 cap” and upper part of the entrance collimator (panel (a)) and inner sphere and  
602 lower part of the entrance collimator (panel (b)). The surface of the analyzer is  
603 gold plated or blackened by copper sulfide black. The blackening process “Ul-  
604 traviolet Absorbing Black plating” was developed by Mitsuya Co. Ltd. in Japan  
605 (<https://www.mitsuya-plating.com>). In addition, the inner and outer spheres are  
606 serrated with the tip-to-root length and tip angle of the sawtooth serrations at 0.5  
607 mm and  $60^\circ$ , and the light traps are placed at the top part of the outer sphere to  
608 minimize the solar UV entering the detector(MCP). MIA measures 3D ion distri-  
609 bution function utilizing the spin motion of the spacecraft. The diameters of the  
610 inner and outer toroidal electrodes are 32 mm and 35 mm, respectively, with the  
611 center shifted 5mm toward the radial direction. The resultant analyzer constant  
612 is 5.66.

613 Stepping high voltage between 0 V and -5 kV is applied to the inner toroidal  
614 electrode. Figure 27 shows the spacecraft interface board. On the rear side (panel  
615 (a)), two MDM connectors are shown including a 9-pin checkout connector and  
616 a 25-pin SpaceWire/power supply interface connector. On the front side (panel  
617 (b)), two Hypertac connectors are placed including one connected to the high  
618 voltage boards and the other connected to the application specific integrated cir-  
619 cuit (ASIC) on the MCP anode. Figure 28 shows the negative high voltage board  
620 installed in the chassis of MIA (Figure 25(C)). Among the three electronics boards

621 (Figure 25(A)-(C)) shielding plates are installed to reduce the electrical noise and  
622 the risk of electrical discharge among the electronics boards. Ions enter the ana-  
623 lyzer by passing through the collimator and are attracted down toward the inner  
624 electrode by receiving Coulomb force from the electric field between the “top-cap”  
625 and the inner electrode. Ions with specific energy ranges determined by the high  
626 voltage applied to the inner electrode can pass through the troidal analyzer, enter  
627 the Z-stack MCP and become multiplied to generate detectable amounts of charge  
628 clouds. A grid having the same voltage as the input surface of the MCP is placed  
629 between the MCP and the troidal analyzer.

630 The charge clouds from the MCP are detected by a 63-channel discrete anode  
631 (Saito et al., 2017). The incident azimuthal directions of the ions correspond to  
632 the positions at which the charge clouds are detected. The detected charge clouds  
633 are fed into a newly developed ASIC of which the bare chip is installed at the back  
634 side of the discrete MCP anode. The ASIC consists of 64-channel discriminators,  
635 64-channel fast preamplifiers, and 64-channel counters (Saito et al., 2017).

636 MIA should measure both intense solar wind ions and tenuous Mercury magne-  
637 tosppheric ions. Therefore, the required dynamic range for detecting low-energy ion  
638 flux is as wide as  $10^6$  (Mukai et al., 2004). To measure both solar wind ions with-  
639 out saturation and Mercury magnetospheric ions with sufficient counting statistics,  
640 MIA includes an attenuation grid with 10% transmission placed at limited chan-  
641 nels (one of the two  $\pm 60^\circ$  angular ranges centered at the spin plane) of the entrance  
642 part of the analyzer. Figure 29 shows a schematic diagram of the attenuation grid  
643 pattern.

644 In addition, MIA includes a function for reducing the geometrical factor elec-  
645 trically for solar wind ion measurement. The sensitivity of the analyzer can be

646 reduced by applying positive high voltage to the “top-cap” insulated from the  
647 surrounding structures. By applying stepping high voltage between 0 V and +5  
648 kV and synchronizing with the inner sphere voltage, the G-factor can be reduced  
649 to  $\sim 1/50$  (Miyake et al., 2009).

650 To reduce the strong thermal input to MIA on Mercury orbit, MIA is equipped  
651 with its own thermal shield (Figure 30). The thermal shield is composed of tita-  
652 nium and the surface is painted with electrically conductive white paint.

653 According to our knowledge of Earth’s magnetosphere, full 3D measurements  
654 of low-energy ions with high time resolution are indispensable for understanding  
655 the structure and dynamics of the magnetosphere. Because no full 3D low-energy  
656 ion data have been obtained around Mercury, the low-energy ion data obtained by  
657 MIA together with MSA on Mio will provide unique opportunity for understanding  
658 the detailed structure and dynamics of the Mercury magnetosphere.

### 659 *3.3.2 Operation Mode and Data Products of MIA*

660 After its insertion into Mercury’s orbit, MIA will continue its observation during  
661 all orbital phases except for periods in which MIA should be turned off owing  
662 to thermal/power constraints. Because the operation of all science instruments  
663 on Mio should be synchronized, the scientific operation of MIA obeys that of  
664 the Mio instrument suite. MIA has three operational modes: solar wind (SW),  
665 magnetospheric ion high angular resolution (MIHAR), and magnetospheric ion  
666 low angular resolution (MILAR) modes. The SW mode is used for fine angular  
667 resolution measurement of the solar wind around Mercury; the MIHAR mode  
668 is used for high angular resolution measurements of the Mercury magnetospheric  
669 ions; and the MILAR mode is used for low angular resolution measurements of the



670 Mercury magnetospheric ions. These modes are changed depending on the satellite  
671 position and telemetry data rate by real-time commanding or stored commands.  
672 The MDP1 onboard software can also be used to change the mode. Table 8 shows  
673 the MIA operation mode and the data rate sent from MIA to MDP1. MIA always  
674 acquires data with a fixed sampling time of  $\sim 2$  ms, a fixed spin angular sector of  
675  $5.625^\circ$  (64 equally divided spin sectors:  $360^\circ/64$  sectors =  $5.625^\circ$ ), and 64 ASIC  
676 channels. The 64 ASIC channels are connected to the 62-channel discrete anode  
677 that detects the position of the energy analyzed ions and an annular anode that is  
678 used for monitoring the high-energy particle background (Saito et al., 2017). One  
679 ASIC channel is left open to monitor the electrical background noise (Figure 36).  
680 Therefore MIA always acquires 64 channels  $\times$  64 spin sectors  $\times$  32 energy steps  
681 = 131072 data for 1 spin.

682 Since this data quantity is too large for processing by MDP1, the FPGA in  
683 MIA will add adjacent counts (spin sectors and ASIC channels) depending on  
684 the MIA's data mode (modes 0, 1 and 2). The data sent from MIA to MDP1  
685 are processed by MDP1 and the telemetry data are transmitted to the ground  
686 according to the MPPE data mode described in Section 4.

687 Table 9 shows six different MIA energy sweep modes. Mode 0 and 1 are used  
688 mainly for solar wind ion observation. The energy range between  $\sim 100$  eV/q and  
689  $\sim 10$  keV/q is exponentially divided into 128 energy steps. To cover the full energy  
690 range, four spin-periods (nominally 16 s) are necessary. The difference between  
691 energy sweep modes 0 and 1 is that the sensitivity control function is either OFF  
692 or ON. For mode 1, the sensitivity is controlled by applying positive high voltage  
693 to the "top-cap" to reduce the G-factor. Energy sweep mode 2 is referred to as the  
694 MCP protection mode, which is used for protecting part of the MCP that detects

ions from the analyzer azimuthal sector with no mechanical attenuation grid. The energy range is determined not to measure intense main component of the solar wind. Energy sweep modes 3, 4, and 5 are used mainly for magnetospheric ion observation. Energy sweep mode 3 is a “wide energy range mode” that covers the full energy range between  $\sim 20$  eV/q and  $\sim 25$  keV/q with 32 exponentially divided steps. Energy sweep mode 4 is a low energy range mode that covers the low energy range between  $\sim 20$  eV/q and  $\sim 5$  keV/q with 32 exponentially divided steps. Energy sweep mode 5 is a high energy range mode that covers the high energy range between  $\sim 5$  keV/q and  $\sim 25$  keV/q with 32 exponentially divided steps. Different energy sweep modes can be selected for eight spin sector groups, where spin sector group 0 is from spin sector 0 to 7, group 1 is from spin sector 8 to 15, ..., and group 7 is from spin sector 56 to 63. Spin sector 0 occurs when the axis of rotational symmetry of MIA is pointing away from the Sun (Figure 31). In this case, the solar wind channel with the mechanical attenuation grid observes solar wind at spin sector groups 1 and 2. Table 10 shows examples of the energy sweep mode allocated to the spin sector group. Numbers from 0 to 5 in the “waveform allocation” correspond to energy sweep modes 0 to 5 in Table 9.

The energy sweep of MIA is as follows: (1) 1 spin (4 s) is equally divided into 64 spin angle sectors; (2) 32 energy steps are swept in each spin angle sector resulting in a sampling time of  $4 \text{ s}/64 \text{ spin sectors}/32 \text{ energy steps} = \sim 2 \text{ ms}$ ; and (3) 128 energy steps are swept by accumulating 4-spin sets of 32 energy steps/spin. Figure 32 (left) shows an energy sweep waveform of MIA, specifically the voltage applied to the inner sphere for solar wind observation (energy sweep mode 0 or 1). In the solar wind, 4 spins are necessary to cover the full energy range with 128 steps. The full energy range with 32 steps is covered in each spin (energy coverage has

720 some gaps). In this case, 32 steps in 4 different spins are slightly shifted so that 64  
 721 energy steps are covered with 2 consecutive spins, and 128 energy steps are covered  
 722 with 4 consecutive spins. Concerning the attenuation factor, only one pre-defined  
 723 “top-cap” voltage/inner sphere voltage ratio ( $V_t/|V_i| = 1.0$ ) is used because the  
 724 G-factor varies too rapidly when the ratio exceeds 1.0. When we use energy sweep  
 725 mode 1, the attenuation is applied to all energy steps to reduce the flux of the  
 726 solar wind ions. Figure 32 (right) shows the voltage applied to the inner sphere  
 727 and the “top-cap” for solar wind observation (energy sweep mode 1). Electrical  
 728 attenuation is enabled by applying the same voltage to the inner sphere and the  
 729 “top-cap”.

730 According to the MIA mode (modes 1-3; Table 8), the MIA application in the  
 731 MDP1 continuously computes the VM data and energy spectra (Et) for the mis-  
 732 sion packets of the L-mode, whereas medium-resolution 3D distribution functions  
 733 (3D-L2 or SW-L2) are generated for the M-mode. The L-mode mission packets also  
 734 contain 3D distribution functions (3D-LL), although they are provided in long in-  
 735 tervals of (600-3600 s) (Table 11). For the H-mode mission packets, high-resolution  
 736 3D distribution functions (SW-L, 3D-L2, or 3D-H) are generated each spin (4 s).  
 737 The VM consists of the density ( $n$ ), net flux vector ( $nV$ ), and pressure tensor ( $P$ ),  
 738 which are computed using a lookup table. The detailed format, size and rate of  
 739 each data product shown in Table 11 are shown in Table 12. For the 3D count data  
 740 products in the M-mode mission packets, 3D-L2-M1 and 3D-L2-M3, and in the  
 741 H-mode mission packets, 3D-L2-M1, 89 directions (DIR) are selected from eight  
 742 spin sectors (SC)  $\times$  17 channel (CH) directions. The VM consists of density  $n$ ; net  
 743 flux vectors  $nV_x$ ,  $nV_y$ ,  $nV_z$ ; and pressure tensors  $P_{xx}$ ,  $P_{yy}$ ,  $P_{zz}$ ,  $P_{xy}$ ,  $P_{yz}$ ,  $P_{xz}$ .  
 744 EN in the table represents energy.

### 745 3.3.3 Pre-Flight Calibration of MIA

746 Pre-flight calibration of the MIA sensor was performed at a calibration facility  
747 at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science/Japan Aerospace Exploration  
748 Agency (Wüest et al., 2007). MIA was installed in a vacuum chamber and nitrogen  
749 ions were injected. Figure 33 shows schematic diagram of the calibration experi-  
750 ment configuration. The sensor under calibration was installed on a rotation table  
751 1, which had a rotation axis parallel to the sensor's axis of rotational symmetry.  
752 This rotation table was installed on another rotation table rotation table 2 in  
753 which the rotation axis was perpendicular to both the beam line and the rotation  
754 axis of rotation table 1. Most of the data were obtained using 6 keV nitrogen ion  
755 beams because the beam profile was uniform and stable.

756 Table 13 gives a summary of MIA performance data determined by pre-flight  
757 calibration. The definition for the quantities in this table is general and is the  
758 same as that used by Wüest et al. (2007). Figure 34(a) and (b) compares the  $E$ - $\alpha$   
759 characteristics of MIA with and without electrical attenuation. When electrical  
760 attenuation is enabled, both the angular spread and energy spread become nar-  
761 rower and the measured ion energy increases. Since angular resolution and energy  
762 resolution become higher, electrical attenuation is appropriate for solar wind ion  
763 observation. The G-factor is reduced to about 1/50 where the mechanical atten-  
764 uation grid is installed. Figure 34(b) and (c) compares the  $E$ - $\alpha$  characteristics of  
765 MIA with and without a mechanical attenuation grid. It is clear that part of the  
766  $E$ - $\alpha$  contour with large  $\alpha$  angle is reduced by the mechanical attenuation grid.  
767 Because the attenuation grid is placed only at the bottom part of the entrance  
768 aperture and the upper part is closed as shown in Figure 29, the ions entering

769 MIA with large  $\alpha$  angles are blocked. Consequently, the center of the measured  $\alpha$   
770 angle becomes smaller and that of the measured energy becomes lower compared  
771 to those without a mechanical attenuation grid.

772 Figure 35(a) shows the  $\theta$  (azimuthal angle) resolution of MIA. The  $\theta$  angle  
773 coverage of all anode channels are shown when electrical attenuation is OFF (left  
774 panel) and ON (right panel). It is clear that the sensitivity is reduced where the  
775 mechanical attenuation grid is installed at the entrance of the analyzer (CH38 –  
776 CH57). Figure 35(b) and (c) shows the  $\theta$  angle coverage in greater detail. When  
777 the electrical attenuation is ON (panel (c)), the  $\theta$  angular resolution becomes much  
778 higher than that when the electrical attenuation OFF (panel (b)).

779 Figure 36 shows the G-factor of MIA for all 64 channels. MIA has physical  
780 supports across the entrance aperture every  $120^\circ$ . The light and thick blue boxes  
781 indicate the channels affected by these physical supports (CH15, CH16, CH36,  
782 CH37, CH58 and CH59). The G-factor is reduced to about  $1/50$  where the me-  
783 chanical attenuation grid is installed (CH38 – CH57). Although the geometrical  
784 attenuation factor of the mechanical grid is  $1/10$  (Figure 29(c)), the G-factor re-  
785 duction is  $\sim 1/50$  because the mechanical grid also changes the angular and energy  
786 characteristics of MIA as shown in Figure 34. Slight variation of the G-factor also  
787 exists among the different channels without the mechanical attenuation grid with  
788 large values around CH0 and small values around CH31. The variation of the ana-  
789 lyzer constant was also occurred simultaneously with the variation of the G-factor.  
790 This variation can be explained by the slight inclination of the inner sphere with  
791 respect to the outer sphere where the inclination angle was as small as  $0.2^\circ$  that  
792 is within the manufacturing tolerance.

---

### 793 3.3.4 Near-Earth Commissioning Results of MIA

794 The low voltage part of MIA was turned on for the first time on November 25,  
795 2018, about one month after the launch. No problems were identified during the low  
796 voltage function tests, which included calibration pulse injection into all channels  
797 of the pre-amplifier.

798 The high voltage tests were performed on July 3 and 4, 2019, about eight  
799 months after the launch when Mio was in the solar wind. High voltage up to +2500  
800 V, -3610 V, and -2471 V were successfully tested for stepping high voltage power  
801 supply connected to the “top-cap” (SVG), stepping high voltage power supply  
802 connected to the inner sphere (SVS), and high voltage power supply connected to  
803 the MCP detector (MHV), respectively. Dark counts of the MCP were observed  
804 indicating that the detector part of MIA was functioning normally. Because Mio is  
805 surrounded by the MMO Sunshield and Interface Structure (MOSIF) during the  
806 cruise phase, most parts of the MIA’s FOV is blocked by MOSIF. Although all of  
807 the high voltage necessary for observation were successfully applied to MIA, no  
808 solar wind ion signature was observed because the solar wind ion thermal velocity  
809 was much lower than its bulk velocity, and MOSIF blocked the solar wind ions to  
810 enter MIA.

811 Because MIA is able to measure hot plasmas in the magnetospheres of Earth  
812 and Mercury and near-Venus when the plasma thermal velocity is higher than its  
813 bulk velocity, MIA will be turned on during the Earth fly-by and the Venus/Mercury  
814 fly-bys before arriving at Mercury in December 2025.

## 815 3.4 MSA

### 816 3.4.1 Instrument Description of MSA

817 MSA, part of the MPPE particle consortium, is dedicated to plasma composition  
818 measurement onboard Mio (Delcourt et al., 2016). The main objectives of this  
819 instrument are (1) to study the role and efficiency of the solar wind and plane-  
820 tary surface as sources of plasma for the Hermean magnetosphere; (2) to study  
821 the transport, acceleration and loss of plasma in the Hermean magnetosphere,  
822 particularly for investigating the dynamics of heavy ions of planetary origin that  
823 have large gyroradii and large gyroperiods as compared to the characteristic scales  
824 of the magnetosphere; (3) to contribute to the understanding of magnetosphere  
825 electrodynamics, substorms, and the nature of current carriers; (4) to analyze the  
826 interaction of magnetospheric plasma with the planetary surface and to study the  
827 processes by which particles escape from the surface and access the magnetosphere;  
828 (5) to provide data that will help to identify Mercury's surface composition; (6)  
829 to monitor the solar wind and to study interstellar pick-up ions. To achieve these  
830 issues, MSA will provide 3D distribution functions in one Mio spin (4 s). In ad-  
831 dition, in contrast to Earth where ions of planetary origin are essentially  $O^+$  and  
832  $He^+$ , a wide variety of species populate Mercury's magnetosphere owing to vari-  
833 ous interaction processes with the planet surface (such as solar wind sputtering,  
834 micro-meteoritic bombardment, and thermal desorption). To characterize these  
835 populations, a spectrometer with enhanced mass resolution capability is neces-  
836 sary; hence, the "reflectron" design was adopted for MSA.

837 As summarized in Figure 37, MSA is the result of collaboration of four differ-  
838 ent teams : (1) ISAS (Sagamihara, Japan; PI), which provided the amplifier board

839 and spacewire interface; (2) LPP (Palaiseau, France; Co-PI), which provided the  
840 electrostatic optics; (3) MPS (Göttingen, Germany), which provided the high volt-  
841 age power supplies; and (4) IDA (Braunschweig, Germany), which provided the  
842 dedicated central processing unit (CPU) board. A block diagram of MSA is shown  
843 in Figure 38. MSA has dimensions of 325 mm  $\times$  287 mm  $\times$  232 mm, a weight of  
844 4.46 kg, and medium telemetry mode power of 9.1 W.

845 This instrument, which is derived from CAPS-IMS onboard CASSINI (Young  
846 et al., 2004), consists of a 2D mass spectrometer of cylindrical symmetry with  
847 respect to the main axis as illustrated in Figure 39. It operates over a large energy  
848 range of  $\sim 1$  eV/q to  $\sim 38$  keV/q with an instantaneous FOV of  $5^\circ \times 260^\circ$ . The  
849 MSA entrance (blackened for UV rejection) features 32 angular sectors of  $11.25^\circ$ ,  
850 9 of which are blinded by the Mio magnetometer mast. After MSA entrance, a  
851 spherical analyzer enables measurement of the full range of ion energies in 1/32  
852 of Mio spin. The grounded external electrode of this analyzer is designed in three  
853 mechanical parts, including polarization of the central one leading to de-focusing  
854 (thus, effective control) of the incoming ion flux. After the energy analysis, ions  
855 are accelerated ( $\pm 12$  kV in maximum operation voltage) toward a time of flight  
856 (TOF) chamber polarized with a linear electric field (LEF) along the instrument's  
857 main axis. This leads to isochronous (independent of energy) TOF for reflected  
858 ions up to  $\pm 12$  keV for maximum operation voltage (Delcourt et al., 2016), hence,  
859 enhanced mass resolution ( $m/\Delta m > 40$ ) over a large range of masses up to 60  
860 amu. The straight-through (ST) particles are collected at the bottom end of the  
861 MSA TOF chamber, and a lower mass resolution is obtained that is somewhat  
862 improved using the central detector with reduced path lengths rather than the



863 external one (Figure 39). Details of the TOF signal of MSA has been described by  
864 Saito et al. (2017).

865 Figure 40 shows the thermal shield of MSA. Some selected parts of the MSA  
866 electrostatic optics are shown in Figures 41 and 42. In particular, Figure 42 shows  
867 the 21 angular sectors of entry equipped with carbon foils at the TOF chamber  
868 entrance. This figure also shows the bi-metallized Hamamatsu MCP at the back  
869 of the energy analyser, which enables differentiation of the MCP gain on the outer  
870 edge, where START electrons are collected, from that in the inner part, where  
871 LEF counts are obtained.

872 The MSA high voltage power Supply (HVPS Figures 43 and 44) has 10 dif-  
873 ferent sub-units supplying voltages of 30 V to +/- 12 kV. These voltages can be  
874 individually modified by commands during flight. A radiation hard Actel RTSX  
875 FPGA controls the output-voltage of each sub-unit, whereas monitoring and com-  
876 manding of the voltages are performed by the MSA CPU. The sub-units comprise  
877 the power supplies for (i) the 2 MCP stacks of MSA, (ii) the adjustable MCP  
878 anode-voltages, (iii) the two flux spoilers, (iv) MSA reflectron with an operational  
879 voltage range up to +/-12 kV, and (v) a stepping voltage for the energy analyzer  
880 with a dynamic range between 0.1 V and 5.6 kV and a settling time <1 ms.

881 The CPU (Figures 45 and 46) performs instrument control and dedicated data  
882 processing. The advanced design is based on the AT697, a 48 MHz LEON2-FT  
883 fault tolerant SPARC processor architecture implemented in radiation hard ASIC,  
884 including Triple Modular Redundancy(TMR) and advanced Error Detection And  
885 Correction(EDAC) against SEU errors. Together with a radiation hardened, one-  
886 time programmable FPGA (Microsemi RTAX), the processor is employed for high-  
887 level instrument control and monitoring, control of sensor electronics and compres-

888 sion of scientific data. All internal interfaces and glue logic are embedded in the  
889 radiation hardened RTAX system FPGA to achieve the highest reliability. Pro-  
890 gram code images can be uploaded to the non-volatile memory and executed in  
891 the EDAC protected SDRAM module.

892 Figure 47 shows the top view (panel (a)) and bottom view (panel (b)) of  
893 the amplifier board and spacewire interface. Five charge signals from the MCP  
894 anodes are fed into five fast transistor amplifiers and the amplified signals are  
895 discriminated by constant fraction discriminators. A custom gate array with a  
896 titanium radiation shield calculates and buffers the signal timing with a time  
897 resolution of 781.25 ps. An FPGA Actel RTAX2000 that communicates with the  
898 CPU interfaces with MDP1, controls the custom gate array, and processes the  
899 signal timing calculated by the custom gate array.

900 The performance of the MSA instrument are given in Table 14. Its capability  
901 is summarized as follows. (1) ST data: high temporal resolution, high sensitivity  
902 measurements and medium mass resolution ( $m/\Delta m$  up to  $\sim 10$ ) to focus on major  
903 ion species and allow rapid analysis of magnetospheric phenomena, which makes  
904 MSA appropriate for plasma analysis. (2) LEF data: high mass resolution measure-  
905 ments with  $m/\Delta m$  up to 60 for ions with energies smaller than the MSA operation  
906 voltage, up to a maximum of 12 kV because ions with larger energies cannot be  
907 turned around by the LEF and are detected on the ST MCP. This process focuses  
908 on ions of planetary origin and enables precise composition measurement, which  
909 demonstrates the appropriateness of MSA for planetology studies.

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910 *3.4.2 Operation Mode and Data Products of MSA*

911 MSA energy sampling features 32 energy steps over the full energy range (1 eV/q  
912 to 38 keV/q) of the instrument during one spin sector:  $1/32$  spin = 125 ms. To  
913 more effectively cover the wide energy range of MSA, two distinct sets of in-  
914 terleaved energy steps are used during two consecutive spins. At the exit of the  
915 energy analyzer, ions enter the TOF chamber, and secondary electrons collected as  
916 START pulses are emitted upon crossing the carbon foils. Upon impact of the ions  
917 on either the LEF or ST detectors, STOP pulses are recorded and the resulting  
918 coincidences (i.e., the given STOP signal associated with the given START signal)  
919 provide information on the particle TOF or, equivalently, on their mass to charge  
920 (m/q) ratio.

921 Owing to the differences in ST and LEF spectra, two different approaches are  
922 implemented. For LEF particles, TOF spectra with  $2 \times 32$  energies (corresponding  
923 to the two distinct sets of interleaved steps described above) are produced every 16  
924 spins (64 s). For ST particles, once the STOP-START calculations are completed,  
925 allocation of the ion mass is performed onboard using fixed mass groups. In total,  
926 15 count rate matrices are built. The first four are “all ions” or “all START  
927 counts”,  $H^+$ ,  $He^{2+}$ , and heavy ions including all ions with m/q ratios larger than  
928 2. These matrices are produced at each 4 s interval and only these first four count  
929 rate matrices are transmitted in the Mio low telemetry mode. The next 11 count  
930 rate matrices relate to  $He^+$ ,  $C^-$ ,  $O^-$ , C, N, O, Na, Si, S, K, and Fe ions and  
931 are produced at each 16 spins (64 s). Please note that negative ions here are not  
932 external ions (the voltage configuration of MSA energy analyzer does not admit  
933 negative ions) but ions produced via charge exchange during crossing of the carbon

934 foil (e.g., Funsten et al. (2001)). Using this mass identification, the moments are  
935 subsequently calculated by MSA DPU (assuming Na mass for heavy ions because  
936 this latter group of ions corresponds to all ions with  $m/q$  ratios larger than 2).

937 MSA internal products thus contain two types of count rate matrices : (i)  
938 TOF matrices with no angular information for LEF data, and (ii) mass matrices  
939 as described above for ST data. These internal matrices are then transformed to  
940 external matrices for telemetry. In the latter matrices, energy sampling is reduced  
941 to eight steps in the LEF data. For ST data, angular resolution is reduced to 36  
942 view directions per spin. These external matrices are then transmitted according  
943 to different modes selected on a scientific basis; normal mode (default mode) as  
944 described in Table 15, high angular resolution mode (Table 16), and high time  
945 resolution mode (Table 17). Other modes (not shown) include event mode and  
946 burst mode (similar to Table 17 but with a higher production frequency).

947 The data downlink includes three distinct telemetry rates for Mio data: L-mode  
948 (L) available most of the time, M-mode (M) during  $\sim 25\%$  of the time, and H-mode  
949 (H) in some very limited portions of the Mio orbit. MSA is part of the MPPE  
950 particle consortium; thus, the data modes are defined for specific MPPE science  
951 research targets (e.g., survey mode, solar wind or exosphere dedicated modes,  
952 reconnection mode) which is consistent with the modes adopted for the other  
953 particle instruments. Table 18 shows the MSA data that will be transmitted in  
954 the various Mio telemetry regimes depending upon the targeted research (Medium  
955 A for survey, Medium C for solar wind or exosphere analysis). Since the MSA  
956 possesses a CPU board that processes the mission data into the mission products  
957 such as moment data, the MSA application in the MDP1 relays them to the data

958 recorder. The MSA application removes the dummy data and packs only effective  
959 data into the mission packets.

### 960 *3.4.3 Pre-Flight Calibration of MSA*

961 Because the MSA instrument is a collaborative effort between four different teams,  
962 both the Flight Model and the Spare Model were assembled at the PI institute  
963 (ISAS, Sagamihara, Japan). Numerous test campaigns including pre-flight calibra-  
964 tion were subsequently conducted at this institute. The present section provides a  
965 summary of the calibration results.

966 Downstream of the MSA entrance, ions travel through the spherical energy  
967 analyser, which has an external electrode at ground potential. On the inner elec-  
968 trode of the analyzer, the voltage applied varies up to a maximum value of -5.6 kV,  
969 which enables selection of ions with specific energy per charge ( $E/q$ ) ratios. This  
970 is illustrated in Figure 48, which shows the voltage applied to this inner electrode  
971 for a 2 keV  $N^+$  beam. In the figure, the voltage median value is approximately  
972 -292 V, yielding an analyzer constant  $k$  of  $\sim 6.85$ . With minimum and maximum  
973 voltages of -0.2 V and -5.6 kV, respectively, MSA can thus operate from a few  
974 electron volts per charge (eV/q) up to  $\sim 38$  keV/q. The figure also shows a mod-  
975 ulation of the ion count rate within each of the 21 entrance windows owing to  
976 the partition walls at each  $11.25^\circ$  step. Further analysis of the energy analyzer  
977 response revealed energy resolution of  $\sim 8.5\%$ . Finally, the figure shows the MSA  
978 response as a function of azimuth or, equivalently, the entrance windows. In the  
979 other dimension (i.e., elevation or polar angle), the MSA FOV is centered at  $\sim 5^\circ$   
980 with an angular resolution (full width at half maximum, FWHM) of  $\sim 5^\circ$ . This

981 is illustrated in Figure 49, which shows particle counts versus voltage and polar  
982 angle (elevation).

983 At exit of the energy analyzer, ions are accelerated toward the entrance of  
984 the TOF chamber with nominal operation voltages of  $\pm 11$  kV corresponding to  
985 85% of the MSA qualification voltages; the maximum operation voltages are  $\pm 12$   
986 kV. Notably a grid, effectively acting as an electrostatic lens polarized at 1 kV  
987 located near the exit of the energy analyzer prevents the large accelerating electric  
988 field from penetrating deep into this analyzer and has a detrimental effect on ion  
989 trajectories. Upon entry to the TOF chamber, ions interact with thin ( $\sim 1 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ )  
990 carbon foils, which leads to emission of one or several secondary electrons in both  
991 forward and backward directions. With the help of an electrode tailored for this  
992 purpose, forward electrons are deflected toward the outer part of the LEF MCP  
993 (Figure 39). At the back of this MCP, electrons are collected on a delay line and  
994 the START pulse obtained is used to trigger TOF measurement. That is, the  
995 START pulse opens a TOF window of  $\sim 1560$  ns during which a STOP pulse  
996 is expected; in practice, up to three STOP pulses can be recorded. Moreover,  
997 the position of the electron impact on the delay line provides information on  
998 the azimuthal sector of the incoming ion. This is illustrated in Figure 50, where  
999 the color map shows data obtained between the 60 delay line sectors and the 21  
1000 entrance windows (or azimuth). Similar to that shown in Figure 48, the modulation  
1001 of the ion count rate is attributed to the regularly spaced partition walls at the  
1002 entrance of the instrument. Measurements of the START rate in the different delay  
1003 line sectors yield the 3D angular and energy distributions of the ions without mass  
1004 identification but with high temporal resolution.

1005 To protect MCP from the potentially intense solar wind flux, a "spoiler" ca-  
1006 pability has been included in the design of the energy analyzer. As previously  
1007 mentioned, the external electrode of this analyzer has been designed in three me-  
1008 chanical parts, with the capability to polarize the central one independently from  
1009 the other two for de-focusing or spoiling the incoming ion beam. When the ion  
1010 count rate over one spin exceeds  $10^3$  START events in one energy bin and one  
1011 entrance window, the voltage on the central electrode is increased by one step at  
1012 the end of the spin. Conversely, when the count rate drops below  $5 \times 10^2$  START  
1013 events, the spoiler voltage is decreased by one step. At the first switch-on of the  
1014 spoiler, the voltage value used is that corresponding to 10% efficiency (56% of the  
1015 inner electrode voltage) to effectively protect the MCP. Subsequently, the spoiler  
1016 voltage is further increased (decreased) if the count rate is excessively high (low).

1017 After crossing the carbon foils, the ions travel inside the TOF chamber and  
1018 impact either the LEF MCP or ST MCP depending on their charge state; hence, a  
1019 STOP pulse can be associated with the corresponding START to derive the particle  
1020 TOF and its  $m/q$  ratio. As previously mentioned, LEF data are characterized by  
1021 low count rates owing to the small fraction of ions that remain positively charged  
1022 after crossing the carbon foils but a high mass resolution, which is of primary  
1023 interest for planetology science. In contrast, ST data are characterized by high  
1024 count rates (owing to the large fraction of ions neutralized during carbon foil  
1025 crossing) but lower mass resolution, although this mass resolution can be improved  
1026 to some degree by considering a small collection area at the center of the ST MCP.  
1027 An example of the TOF data obtained is provided in Figure 51. The top panel  
1028 in the figure shows LEF data for different ion species of  $N^+$ ,  $O^+$ ,  $Na^+$  and  $K^+$ .  
1029 Notably, the width of the measured spectra is narrow regardless of the ion mass.

1030 The bottom panel of the figure shows ST data for conditions similar to those in the  
1031 top panel. These ST spectra, which resemble those of MESSENGER FIPS, clearly  
1032 contrast with those of LEF (top panel) with larger count rates and much lower  
1033 mass resolution. In particular, the spectrum achieved for  $K^+$  ions that spreads  
1034 over a large TOF interval, owing to large angular diffusion and energy straggling  
1035 upon crossing the carbon foils, cannot be clearly identified in the long TOF tail.  
1036 As expected, the center panel of Figure 51 that shows the TOF spectra obtained  
1037 on the central ST exhibits a somewhat enhanced mass resolution and lower count  
1038 rates. Moreover, different ghost peaks appearing in the figure are attributed to  
1039 secondary emissions inside the TOF chamber (Figure 10 of Delcourt et al. (2016)).  
1040 Generally, these ghost peaks are less pronounced at larger operation voltages.

1041 Tables 19 and 20 provide a more quantitative view of the results obtained  
1042 from TOF chamber calibration. As an example, Table 19 shows the TOF param-  
1043 eters obtained for two different energies and two different operation voltages for  
1044  $He^+$ ,  $Na^+$  and  $K^+$  ions. For a given operation voltage ( $\pm 8$  kV or  $\pm 11$  kV), the  
1045 isochronous nature of the LEF spectra is clearly apparent with similar  $T_m$  values  
1046 regardless of the ion energy. In addition, the narrow width of the spectra led to  
1047 enhanced mass resolution (computed as  $T_m/\Delta T$ ) of at least 100.

1048 In contrast to that in Table 19, the ST results in Table 20 clearly exhibit  $T_m$   
1049 values that decrease with increasing energy, regardless of ion species ( $He^+$  or  $K^+$ )  
1050 or operation voltage ( $\pm 8$  or  $\pm 11$  kV). Moreover, the TOF spectra width increased  
1051 significantly for  $K^+$ , exemplifying the poor mass resolution capability of ST for  
1052 heavy ions.



1053 A global view of the MSA TOF-mass mapping is provided in Figure 52, which  
1054 shows the TOF intervals used to identify the ion species depending upon their  
1055 energy.

#### 1056 *3.4.4 Near-Earth Commissioning Results of MSA*

1057 In contrast to MPO, the Mio spacecraft will spin (4 s) during the orbit phase at  
1058 Mercury. During the seven-year cruise, Mio is hidden behind the MOSIF thermal  
1059 shield to avoid harsh solar radiation. As a result, MPPE particle instruments  
1060 have narrow FOVs pointing along the Mio spin axis; thus, very limited data are  
1061 expected throughout the cruise phase. In contrast to electrons that are nearly  
1062 isotropic, the highly collimated solar wind ions cannot be recorded in the cruise  
1063 phase configuration, because the solar wind direction is obstructed by MOSIF; only  
1064 dark counts can be obtained. To simulate ions entering the energy analyzer, MSA  
1065 features a calibration pulse that can be parameterized with different frequencies  
1066 and delay line sectors. This START-like calibration pulse was used during near-  
1067 Earth commissioning to check the MSA status and data flow.

1068 Similar to that for other MPPE instruments, near-Earth commissioning of  
1069 MSA has been organized in two sequences, with the first in November 2018 to check  
1070 basic functionalities, and the second in June 2019 to check high voltages. Owing to  
1071 the transmission of data via the MPO spacecraft during the cruise, only the L-mode  
1072 telemetry regime is available. A problem was encountered during the first MSA  
1073 commissioning sequence that appeared nominal until a calibration pulse triggered  
1074 was not followed by L-mode data reception. Debriefing was performed and possible  
1075 causes including hardware failure were explored according to fault tree analysis  
1076 scheme. The second MSA commissioning sequence provided new information on

1077 this problem because the L-mode data acquisition was successful in June 2019  
1078 but was contingent upon rebooting of MDP1, the MPPE dedicated DPU, before  
1079 operating MSA. Although this rules out a hardware failure, the reason for this  
1080 faulty behavior is not yet understood and still is under investigation.

1081 Throughout the commissioning and operations, voltages are monitored through  
1082 MSA dedicated CPUs via comparison of HK values with the command values. If  
1083 both values are not consistent (with 15% margin) after one spin, an error message  
1084 is produced in the corresponding Mission Data packet, if such an error message  
1085 is obtained during four consecutive spins, an emergency MSA shutdown is issued.  
1086 HV monitoring is initiated via upload of the On-board Command Language (OCL)  
1087 procedure from EEPROM. When this HV monitoring is correctly enabled, the  
1088 HK return value is "ON". Prior to HV setup, nine commands are sent to enable  
1089 measurements and to set thresholds for START and STOP signals. The HV setup  
1090 procedure is then conducted according to six different procedures corresponding to  
1091  $\pm 8$  kV,  $\pm 10$  kV and  $\pm 11$  kV in normal or safe modes with execution times varying  
1092 among the procedures. As a general rule, safe mode is used during preliminary  
1093 MSA operations. In chronological order, MSA HVs are set on LEF MCPs, ST  
1094 MCPs, TOF chamber, and floating MCP. The TOF chamber and floating MCP  
1095 voltages are then adjusted before triggering the energy analyzer sweep. During  
1096 the second MSA commissioning sequence in June 2019, the following results were  
1097 obtained.

- 1098 – Nominal voltage (1500 V) on the LEF MCP stack
- 1099 – Nominal voltage (2250 V) on the ST MCP stack
- 1100 – Nominal voltage (450 V) on the floating MCP

1101 – Half-initial operation voltage ( $\pm 4$  kV) in the TOF chamber

1102 – Fixed voltage (500 V) in the energy analyzer

1103 To finalize the MSA HV tests, delta commissioning was scheduled in August 2019,  
1104 but was postponed until early 2020. Delta HV commissioning of MSA was per-  
1105 formed at ESOC on February 4 and 5, 2020. All nominal voltages were successfully  
1106 applied, including TOF chamber VHV ( $\pm 8$  kV), which will be used in the first  
1107 phase of MSA operations. The energy analyzer sweep was also successfully trig-  
1108 gered, making MSA ready for operations, although L-mode data transmission issue  
1109 still is under investigation.

### 1110 3.5 HEP-ele and HEP-ion

#### 1111 *3.5.1 Instrument Description of HEP*

1112 The high-energy particle instruments for electrons and ions onboard Mio consist  
1113 of two sensor heads, HEP-electron(HEP-ele) and HEP-ion. Figure 53 shows pho-  
1114 tographs of these instruments in a clean bench in the calibration facility at Nagoya  
1115 University. Non-flight items(blue) protected the flight models during transporta-  
1116 tion before the final calibrations in April-May, 2014, as will be discussed in section  
1117 3.5.3. The specifications of HEP-ele and HEP-ion are summarized in Tables 21  
1118 and 22, respectively.

1119 Both instruments are based on the new high-energy particle detection technol-  
1120 ogy developed in Japanese research communities, for the X-ray astrophysics and  
1121 space physics groups for space missions. The newest space exploration satellite  
1122 in Japan, the ERG satellite, is also carrying a similar type of high-energy parti-  
1123 cle detection system using a single-sided strip silicon solid-state detector(SSSD)

1124 and an ASIC (VA32TA, IDEAS, Norway: Mitani et al. (2018)) as well as the  
1125 Japanese X-ray Astrophysics mission, Astro-H(Hitomi) (Watanabe et al., 2014).  
1126 In the HEP instruments onboard Mio, the strip system is not used for position de-  
1127 tection, rather, it is used for noise reduction of SSDs owing to the small capacitance  
1128 and dark current in each strip. In the case of the flight-model HEP-ele onboard  
1129 Mio, similar to HEP onboard ERG, the SSSD-ASIC system is applied to obtain  
1130 angular directions of incident electrons used together with a pinslit type aper-  
1131 ture. The SSSD-ASIC system reduces the noise level(dark currents) by separating  
1132 into 158 strip-shaped areas with small capacitance connected and controlled by 5  
1133 ASICs. Figure 54 depicts two sections of HEP-ele, in which two separate assem-  
1134 blies of this combination of an SSSD and five ASICs cover up- and down-looking  
1135 FOVs from the spacecraft spin plane, respectively. Each SSSD-ASIC assembly has  
1136 a rectangular SSSD forming a one-layered stack with 158 strips and 5 ASICs to  
1137 cover  $18^\circ \times 57^\circ$  in total, and an angular resolution of  $18^\circ \times 11^\circ$  is achieved by  
1138 binning these 158 strips into 5 directions according to their ASIC connections.  
1139 The accumulated pulse height levels corresponding to the deposited energies in  
1140 the neighboring three strips are used to calculate the incident particle energy.  
1141 These slow-shaped pulse height signals from the 10 total ASICs are processed in  
1142 an analogue-digital converter(ADC) board and an FPGA in the HEP-ele sensor  
1143 head electronics. Another FPGA is designated for the space-wire interface to the  
1144 mission data processor (MDP). The analogue-digital conversion of the pulse height  
1145 for the neighboring three strips is conducted sequentially by the ADC, and their  
1146 accumulation for the total energy analysis is performed in the FPGA. The in-  
1147 cidence direction for each particle detection is also identified and tagged in the  
1148 FPGA using the ASIC fast-shaped signals. Figure 55 shows the SSSD-ASIC as-

1149 assemblies for HEP-ele in which 158 strips on the SSSDs and 5 ASICs are connected  
1150 by wire bonding. To avoid contamination by heavier space particles with energies  
1151 less than several hundreds of kilo electronvolts for protons and stray solar photons,  
1152 the incident areas of SSSD are coated by Al with an appropriate thickness of 100  
1153  $\mu\text{m}$ . The inner walls of the detector section are blackened with conductive paint for  
1154 decreasing the reflected stray photons(Figure 56). This black carbon painting was  
1155 developed by Nishiura Paint Industry in Japan (<https://www.nishiura-p.com>) and  
1156 was also applied to the plasma particle instruments in the previous Japanese space  
1157 exploration missions, e.g., PSA-ESA on Nozomi(Planet-B) (Machida et al., 1998)  
1158 and MAP-PACE on Kaguya(SELENE) (Saito et al., 2010b). The entire sensor  
1159 head of HEP-ele contains high-voltage supply and front-end processing boards be-  
1160 hind the detector section that consists of the pinslit aperture and two SSSD-ASIC  
1161 assemblies. These components and data/signals are controlled/processed by two  
1162 FPGAs, as schematically illustrated in the block diagram in Figure 57. The on-  
1163 board calibration signals and the bias voltages for the pulse discrimination in each  
1164 ASIC are also issued via DACs from the FPGA. For preventing the intense solar  
1165 irradiation near the Mercury orbit from entering the detector section through the  
1166 pinslit aperture, a rectangular thermal shield is equipped in the Mio spin plane in  
1167 the overall FOV of HEP-ele at the outside of the aperture(Figure 58). Therefore,  
1168 the angular area of  $\pm 4^\circ$  from the spin plane is blocked from the effective HEP-ele  
1169 FOV by two SSSD-ASIC assemblies as a dead angle range.

1170 The HEP-ion sensor has two measurement capabilities for energy and TOF  
1171 analyses for the incident ions. These measurement principles, as schematically  
1172 given in Figure 59, are essentially the same as those introduced by Saito et al.  
1173 (2010a). Some structures and performances have been simplified and omitted ac-

1174 cording to the weight reduction requirement from the viewpoint of the overall  
1175 spacecraft mission management. The energy/TOF measurement section of the  
1176 flight-model HEP-ion has five types of components: a conic-shaped collimator, an  
1177 ultra-thin carbon foil with  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  put on electroformed mesh folder with trans-  
1178 mission of 66%, two assemblies consisting of three SSSD-ASIC pairs and electron  
1179 leading meshes, an electrostatic mirror as one of outer structures of the sensor, an  
1180 MCP assembly with an electron attracting mesh, a TOF start-signal anode and  
1181 six TOF stop-signal anodes. The optimal voltages in the TOF analysis unit are  
1182 also shown in Figure 59 by red. The SSSD incident surface of the engineering-type  
1183 model is presented in Figure 60, in which the electron leading meshes are not set  
1184 up. As illustrated in Figure 61, the number of the HEP-ion FOV directions is six,  
1185 each of which corresponds to one of six SSSD-ASIC pairs for the energy analysis  
1186 measurement mode or TOF stop-signal anodes of the MCP assembly for the TOF  
1187 analysis measurement mode. Similar to the data processing in the HEP-ele sensor  
1188 head, the energy/TOF analysis results are sorted into eight steps. Different from  
1189 the collimator of HEP-ele, the collimator system of HEP-ion is more complicated  
1190 because the total FOV configuration of HEP-ion is nearly half of a conical shape  
1191 rather than a planar type. The closure of the inner conical part of the collima-  
1192 tor is designed to protect the ultra-thin carbon foil with a 2-cm diameter from  
1193 the acoustic vibrations/shocks during the spacecraft launch operation. A biphenyl  
1194 block sublimable in vacuum is loaded in the cylinder to keep the inner conical  
1195 collimator closed before the launch operation. Several days after the spacecraft  
1196 launch, the biphenyl block is sublimated in space to release the inner conical col-  
1197 limator to the measurement position by the extension of a mechanical spring(not  
1198 shown in Figure 61). The collimator and the measurement section of HEP-ion are

1199 also blackened with the same black paint as that used for HEP-ele(Figure 62).  
1200 Because the aperture size of the conical collimator of HEP-ion is much larger than  
1201 that of HEP-ele, as shown in Figures 54 and 61, the large thermal shield for HEP-  
1202 ion is installed on Mio(Figure 63). The dead angle range is  $\pm 12.5^\circ$  with respect  
1203 to the spin plane because a side stay blocks the center of the effective HEP-ion  
1204 FOV between two SSSD-ASIC assemblies. Figure 64 illustrates a block diagram of  
1205 HEP-ion, in which the TOF analysis circuit is added to the HEP-ele diagram. It  
1206 should also be noted that the numbers of the high-voltage supply units(three for  
1207 HEP-i, one for HEP-e) and the ASICs(six for HEP-i, ten for HEP-e) are different  
1208 from those of HEP-ele.

### 1209 *3.5.2 Operation Modes and Data Products of HEP-ele and HEP-ion*

1210 Because of the severe restriction of the telemetry data allocation to HEP-ele and  
1211 HEP-ion observations, the energy/TOF analysis data need to be compressed by  
1212 using accumulation over several FOV directions and observational intervals. The  
1213 measurements themselves are quite simple compared with those of other instru-  
1214 ments of MPPE such as MPPE-MSA. As described in section 3.5.1, HEP-ele orig-  
1215 inally had 10 FOV directions in the spinning spacecraft frame, corresponding to  
1216 the polar angles in the direction perpendicular to the spin plane, and eight energy  
1217 steps. However, the spin motion is divided into 16 sectors, which indicates that  
1218 the raw count data in  $10(\text{polar angle}) \times 8(\text{energy}) \times 16(\text{sector})$  bins are produced  
1219 with every spin motion. Whereas HEP-ion has a similar raw count data structure,  
1220 the number of FOVs is six. The measurement modes of HEP-ion could be switched  
1221 between the energy and TOF analyses by changing the high voltages applied in  
1222 the measurement section. These count data could be compressed in MDP1 ac-

1223 cording to three spacecraft operation modes, e.g., L- and M-modes. The H-mode  
1224 of HEP-i is not allocated in the current observational plan for reducing the total  
1225 HEP data because the HEP-e observations and their data with the high data rates  
1226 are considered to be more important. Tables 23 and 24 show the data modes for  
1227 HEP-ele and HEP-ion, respectively, in which the values in round brackets indicate  
1228 the angle resolutions for the polar(FOV) and sector directions. The energy chan-  
1229 nels for HEP-ele and HEP-ion and the TOF channels of HEP-ion depend on the  
1230 energy/TOF binning tables selectable by operation commands.

### 1231 *3.5.3 Pre-Flight Calibration of HEP*

1232 The standalone SSSD-ASIC systems of HEP-ele and HEP-ion were calibrated with  
1233 a radioactive source( $^{137}\text{Cs}$ ) emitting high-energy electrons with energies of more  
1234 than 600 keV to check the basic performance including the readout capabilities of  
1235 the ASIC. Figure 65 presents the pulse-height analysis results obtained with 2 of  
1236 the 158 strips in the SSSD-ASIC assembly for HEP-ele. Two separate peaks are  
1237 clear near the uppermost channels corresponding to electric charges produced in  
1238 the depletion layer of the SSSD by the incident electrons with 624 keV and 656  
1239 keV, respectively. Broad distributions spreading over lower channels are caused by  
1240 contaminations by a continuum component composed of high-energy photons(X-  
1241 rays and gamma rays) and scattered electrons in a wide range of energy originating  
1242 from the radioactive source used for the calibration. This type of readout signal  
1243 from SSSD by ASIC could be analyzed according to the pulse heights for all 158  
1244  $\times 2 = 316$  strips in the 2 SSSD-ASIC assemblies and determines the total energy  
1245 and incident direction for each of the incident electrons.



1246 The electron/ion beamlines in the calibration facility at Nagoya University(Figure  
1247 66) were also used to check the performance in the lower-energy ranges of the HEP-  
1248 ele and HEP-ion measurements. The energy ranges used for the HEP instruments  
1249 were 40-100 keV for electrons and 60-140 keV for protons, and ions of He and N.  
1250 To check the instrumental response according to the incident angles, we rotated  
1251 the HEP-ele or HEP-ion instrument around three independent axes in the vacuum  
1252 chamber during the beamline calibrations. Using a multi-axial turntable system,  
1253 the FOV direction was set parallel to or oblique by aimed angle with respect to the  
1254 charged particle beam with diameters of a few tens of millimeters at a given energy.  
1255 Figure 67 shows the HEP-ion instrument with the harness set on the turntable  
1256 system in the vacuum chamber.

1257 The histograms showing the pulse height distributions produced by irradiat-  
1258 ing electrons with the energy of 100 keV are given in Figure 68, in which six  
1259 plots are correspondent to incident (polar) angles identified by the strip and  
1260 ASIC numbers of HEP-ele. In each plot, two distinct peaks present a so-called  
1261 pedestal(background noise level) owing to the SSSD-ASIC characteristics and an  
1262 actual signal distribution for the 100-keV electron energy deposits in the depletion  
1263 layer of the SSSD(e.g., Mitani et al. (2018); Kasahara et al. (2009)). The channel  
1264 numbers of the peak distributions in the abscissa are not always identical for all six  
1265 plots because the dark current levels measured in the 10 ASICs could be different.  
1266 These level differences among the 10 ASICs are subtracted after the pulse height  
1267 analyses in the HEP-ele FPGA procedures to achieve sufficient energy discrimina-  
1268 tion capability over the entire energy range of HEP-ele. Similar calibrations have  
1269 been performed for two SSSD-ASIC assemblies in HEP-ion by emitting typical  
1270 types of ion species with several levels of energies. Figure 69 shows examples of

1271 the pulse height analyses for 140-keV protons, in which six panels correspond to  
1272 six FOV directions, each of which is detected by the corresponding ASIC. The  
1273 lower portions of the energy distributions for the 140-keV proton beams overlap  
1274 with the pedestal distributions at lower channels than the proton distributions,  
1275 which is different from the distributions in Figure 68. This occurred because the  
1276 energies of ions injected into the solid state detectors with a certain thickness  
1277 of the dead layer can be reduced more significantly than those of electron cases.  
1278 Similar to the HEP-ele energy distributions in Figure 68, the energy and pedestal  
1279 peaks are not identical for six ASICS of HEP-ion regarding the energy channels  
1280 in the abscissas. These channel discrepancies among the ASICs can be reduced  
1281 by the onboard routine process for channel difference subtraction in the FPGA of  
1282 HEP-ion, which is also similar to the HEP-ele procedures.

1283 The HEP-ion instrument has the capability to measure the velocities of the in-  
1284 jected particles by using the TOF unit, as described in the previous subsection. We  
1285 also checked the TOF performance with the ion beamlines at Nagoya University  
1286 and JAXA. Figure 70 summarizes the TOF experimental results for four different  
1287 energies(60, 120, 250, 1000 keV) and three ion species(proton, singly-charged He  
1288 and N). Because the heavy ion beams were not applicable beyond 150 keV owing  
1289 to the JAXA high-energy beamline facility performance, the TOF distributions  
1290 were measured only for  $H^+$ . The incident FOV directions were changed in these  
1291 measurements so that the maximum peaks were obtained in the different ASIC  
1292 assemblies as indicated by different colors in the histograms.

### 1293 3.5.4 Near-Earth Commissioning Results of HEP

1294 The first in-flight operations for HEP-ele and HEP-ion were conducted during the  
1295 near-Earth commissioning phase of the BepiColombo mission. High-voltage up to  
1296 98.2 V was supplied to two SSSD assemblies of HEP-ele. We confirmed the normal  
1297 HK status including the instrument currents and significantly low dark counts.  
1298 The six HEP-ion SSSDs were also checked to be activated by the operation with  
1299 the high-voltage up to 99.7 V, in which the instrument currents and HK status  
1300 were confirmed to be normal. The activation of the TOF unit of HEP-ion was  
1301 performed safely to obtain the normal HK status with the high-voltages supplied  
1302 up to 990 V and 2271 V to the mesh system deriving the start/stop electrons  
1303 and the MCP assemblies, respectively. The dark counts were measured steadily as  
1304 constant MCP noise.

## 1305 3.6 ENA

### 1306 3.6.1 Instrument Description of ENA

1307 The ENA instrument is based on the surface conversion/reflection technique and  
1308 consists of four subsystems, including an ion rejection system, ionization surface,  
1309 photon rejection system that also performs crude energy analysis, and velocity  
1310 analysis section (Kazama et al., 2009). Figures 71, 72, 73, and 74 show the concept,  
1311 schematic view, flight model of the instrument, and sun shield mounted on the  
1312 spacecraft, respectively.

1313 Neutrals enter the sensor through an electrostatic charged particle deflector,  
1314 which rejects ambient charged particles by a static electric field. The incoming

1315 neutrals are then converted to positive ions on an ionization surface and then  
1316 pass through an electrostatic analyzer of a specific (wave) shape that effectively  
1317 blocks photons. The electrostatic analyzer also provides crude energy analysis. The  
1318 “wave” electrostatic analysis design is similar to that used in the MTOF sensor of  
1319 the CELIAS instrument on the SOHO spacecraft (Hovestadt et al., 1995), which  
1320 provides a photon rejection factor of  $2 \times 10^{-8}$ . Because the instrument must be  
1321 capable of measuring masses up to Fe, no foils can be used in the following TOF  
1322 section. To measure the particle velocity (mass), we used the particle reflection  
1323 principle developed for and utilized in the Neutral Particle Detector (NPD) of  
1324 the ASPERA-3 and - 4 experiments (Barabash et al., 2006, 2007) for ESA’s Mars  
1325 and Venus express missions. After exiting the electrostatic analyzer, ions originally  
1326 neutrals that were converted to ions by the ionization surface are post accelerated  
1327 up to an energy of 1.5 keV and impact the START surface under a grazing angle  
1328 of  $15^\circ$ . During the impact, kinetic secondary electrons are emitted and the parti-  
1329 cles are reflected toward the STOP MCPs, where they are detected and produce  
1330 a STOP pulse. The secondary electrons from the START surfaces are guided to  
1331 the START MCPs and produce a START pulse. The START and STOP timing  
1332 gives the particle velocity. Combining the TOF measurements and electrostatic  
1333 analyzer settings one determines the LENA energy and mass. Measuring the ra-  
1334 dius and azimuth of the neutral hit on the START surface by position sensitive  
1335 START MCPs enables accurate determination of the TOF length and the arrival  
1336 azimuth of the incoming neutrals. Figure 75 shows the ENA block-diagram. The  
1337 instrument electronics include two boards, interface electronics (IFE ) and HVPS.  
1338 The DC/DC converters and digital processing are provided externally. The ENA  
1339 sensor characteristics are summarized in Table 25.

1340 The ENA sensor comprises six key elements: (1) conversion surface, (2) photon  
1341 absorbing surfaces, (3) START and STOP MCP assemblies, (4) START surface,  
1342 (5) IFE, which provides front-end-electronics functions, sensor control, and inter-  
1343 face with the MPPE DPU (MDP1), and (6) HVPS.

### 1344 (1) Conversion surface

1345 After passing the electrostatic analyzer, LENAs hit a conversion surface under  
1346 a grazing angle of  $15^\circ$ , where they are converted to positive ions. The surface is  
1347  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (alumina) deposited on a polished (highly smooth) substrate, such as a  
1348 silicon wafer. A photograph of the conversion surface is shown in Figure 76. The  
1349 temperature of the conversion surface is controlled to stay above  $+50^\circ\text{C}$  through-  
1350 out the mission to avoid a stack of contaminating materials that would decrease  
1351 the efficiency of neutral to ion conversion. The conversion surface element has two  
1352 heater systems. One is operated by the heater control system onboard MMO. The  
1353 other is powered by MPO and is controlled by the ENA heater control and tem-  
1354 perature monitoring system (ENA HCS) installed in the ENA instrument. This is  
1355 necessary because MMO is turned off most of the time during the cruising phase  
1356 to Mercury. The power for ENA HCS is separated from the other ENA electronics.

### 1357 (2) Photon absorbing surfaces

1358 The large electrodes in the wave electrostatic analyzer are specially designed  
1359 coated plates with high photon absorbing surfaces. The grooves on the plates  
1360 follow the design for the PLASTIC instrument on SOHO (Galvin et al., 2008).  
1361 The coating is CuS. This structure serves as a very efficient trap for photons. The  
1362 total UV transmittance of the system before the TOF section is  $< 10^{-9}$ .

### 1363 (3) START and STOP MCP assemblies

1364 The START MCPs are used for both START timing and the determination of  
1365 the START hit position (radius and azimuth). A chevron of annular MCP plates  
1366 with an outer diameter 100 mm is used. The electron cloud exiting the back of  
1367 the MCP is split between a grid and a plate discrete anode. The grid is divided  
1368 into seven decoupled sectors to give seven azimuths and seven START timings.  
1369 The plate anode is divided into four concentric rings to provide determination of  
1370 the TOF length, where the TOF path length range is from 34 mm to 60 mm. For  
1371 each individual case, uncertainty of about  $\pm 5$  mm is present owing to the different  
1372 orientations of the START surface and the STOP MCP front planes. The STOP  
1373 MCPs are used for STOP timing and determination of the STOP hit position  
1374 (only azimuth), with four identical assemblies used. The anode behind each MCP  
1375 assembly is divided into two parts, giving eight independent outputs. Figure 77  
1376 shows the channel definition of the MCP anodes.

#### 1377 (4) START surface

1378 The START surface provides effective reflection of the particles (high reflection  
1379 coefficient, narrow scattering angle) and high secondary electron yield. The sec-  
1380 ondary electron yield can be optimized by increasing the post acceleration voltage,  
1381 and the reflection coefficient can be increased by choosing materials for the START  
1382 surface with high atomic numbers. The START surface is mono-crystalline tung-  
1383 sten. Figure 78 shows a photograph of the START surface installed in the electrode  
1384 structure of the TOF section.

#### 1385 (5) Interface electronics

1386 The IFE has the following functions:

- 1387 – Amplification of MCP output signals

- 1388 – Measurement of the time between START and STOP signals
- 1389 – Generation of calibration pulse
- 1390 – HVPS control and monitoring its output levels
- 1391 – Communication with MDP1 (reception of commands and transmission of mea-  
1392 sured data)

1393 IFE has 19 charge sensitive preamplifiers – shapers including seven fast pream-  
1394 plifiers for seven START sectors, eight fast preamplifiers for eight STOP plates and  
1395 four slow preamplifiers for four START rings. One TOF unit accepts START sig-  
1396 nals from any of the seven START sectors and STOP signals from any of the eight  
1397 STOP plates. IFE also contains the necessary ADC and DAC (analog-to-digital  
1398 and digital-to-analog converters) needed for HVPS control.

#### 1399 **(6) HVPS**

1400 One double (positive/negative) supply provides the high voltages applied to  
1401 the sensor electrodes and bias voltages for MCPs, which is then regulated by  
1402 optocouplers to the nominal values. Figure 79 shows a photograph of the assembled  
1403 configuration of HVPS, the STOP MCP assembly, and the preamplifier/digital  
1404 processing electronics boards.

#### 1405 *3.6.2 Operation Mode and Data Products of ENA*

##### 1406 **Operation mode of the ENA sensor**

1407 The ENA sensor has mostly full solid angle coverage (12.0 sr FOV) for ENA  
1408 detection by using spacecraft spin motion. To obtain angular resolution for the  
1409 spinning direction, the spin period ( $T_s$ : nominally 4 s) is divided into 16 spin  
1410 sectors, where the energy scan of 8 steps is performed for each spin sector. ENA

1411 sends a data packet with fixed size (3,072 byte = 384 byte  $\times$  8 energy steps) to  
1412 MDP1 every spin sector.

1413 The ENA sensor has four operation modes: (1) coincidence mode, (2) counter  
1414 mode, (3) engineering mode, and (4) table read mode. The coincidence mode  
1415 provides the count and TOF values shown in Table 26. When the ENA sensor  
1416 detects ENA signals, it gets four types of information such as ID of sectors (START  
1417 SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR), which detect the signals, and  
1418 TOF value for the time interval between the signal detection at START and STOP  
1419 sectors. The ENA sensor generates raw data that contain this information in 20  
1420 bits (TOF event data, Table 27) for each event of particle detection. However, if  
1421 the occurrence rate of the particle detection events is too high, the sensor cannot  
1422 send all of them to MDP1, where the reported data are the first 136 events per  
1423 energy step. Therefore, the data packet of the coincidence mode contains counter  
1424 values in which all of the corresponding events are counted. The counter mode  
1425 provides the detailed counter data shown in Table 28, although the maximum  
1426 number of TOF event data sent to MDP1 is limited to 100 for each energy step.

1427 When the ENA sensor is in the engineering mode, housekeeping (HK) and  
1428 status data are sent to MDP1. On the other hand, the reference table of sweeping  
1429 high voltages (SVs) for the energy scan is sent via the table read mode.

### 1430 **Data processing in MDP1**

1431 The MDP1 receives 24576 bit = 3072 byte/read cycles, which includes scientific  
1432 data but excludes HK data. The contents of the scientific data change according  
1433 to the sensor mode. After receiving the data, MDP1 decodes and reformats both  
1434 types of data. The format of the data is dependent on the telemetry mode. All



1435 telemetry data transferred to the S/C must have timing information added. The  
1436 time-tagging provides the acquisition time of the data.

1437 The instrument has four telemetry modes that define the data format and data  
1438 processing before transmission to ground. The MDP1 processes the data collected  
1439 from the sensor and generates data sets compatible with one of the four telemetry  
1440 modes. The data sets are either down-linked to ground or are stored in temporary  
1441 memory on the S/C side. The telemetry modes are given below.

1442 a) Mass accumulation mode

1443 b) TOF accumulation mode

1444 c) Count accumulation mode

1445 d) Non process mode (The sensor data are downlinked with no processing in  
1446 MDP1)

1447 e) Idle mode (No telemetry data are generated)

1448 There are limitations for possible combinations of the telemetry mode and the  
1449 sensor mode. Table 29 summarizes the allowable combinations.

1450 In the Mass, TOF, and Count accumulation modes, the memory in the MDP1  
1451 is allocated for count data accumulation. Data originating from the sensor is sorted  
1452 by look-up tables and is categorized into two types of accumulation matrices during  
1453 a time period specified by commands. One is the accumulation matrix as described  
1454 below.

1455 Contents:

1456 Event data integrated during a sampling period

1457 Dimensions:

1458 Four dimensions (E, P, C, M) for the mass accumulation mode,

1459 Two dimensions (E, TOF) for the TOF accumulation mode,

1460 Three dimensions (E, P, X) for the count accumulation mode,

1461 where E is the energy group, C is the channel group, P is the phase group, M is the  
1462 mass group, TOF is time of flight, and X is the type of counters, namely START  
1463 ring, START sector, STOP plate, STOP coincidence, or START coincidence count.

1464 The other matrix is the accumulation scaling matrix, as described below.

1465 Contents:

1466 Counter data summed during a sampling period

1467 Dimensions:

1468 Three dimensions (E, P, Y) for the mass accumulation mode,

1469 Two dimensions (E, Y) for TOF accumulation mode,

1470 Not needed for the count accumulation mode,

1471 where Y is the type of counters, namely total START count, total STOP count,  
1472 coincidence STOP count, coincidence START and STOP counters (seven + eight).

1473 The numbers of bins in each element can be set by commands. Possible numbers  
1474 of bins are given below.

1475  $n(C)$  1 or 7;

1476  $n(E)$  1, 2, 4, or 8;

1477  $n(P)$  1, 2, 4, 8, 16, or 32;

1478  $n(M)$  1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 or 128;

1479  $n(\text{TOF})$  1024;

1480 where  $n(\text{XX})$  means the number of bins for XX. The numbers of bins in E and P  
1481 are coupled and are not independent:

1482 If  $n(E) = 1, 2$  or  $4$  then  $n(P) = 1, 2, 4, 8, 16,$  or  $32$

1483     If  $n(E) = 8$      then  $n(P) = 1, 2, 4, 8$  or  $16$

1484     The total number of elements in the accumulation matrix should not exceed 8192  
1485     owing to memory space limitations. Any mode requiring a larger accumulation  
1486     matrix is invalid.

#### 1487     **Mass accumulation mode**

1488     This mode is used to obtain ENA data with mass information and will com-  
1489     monly be used in the orbit. This telemetry mode requires the coincidence mode  
1490     as the sensor mode. Coincidence data from the sensor are sorted and accumu-  
1491     lated into a matrix. The accumulation matrix has four dimensions: E (energy), C  
1492     (channel), P (phase), and M (mass). An accumulation is made during a specified  
1493     time interval, which is defined by a command. To compensate for high count rates,  
1494     where not enough space is available to transmit all coincidence events, the total  
1495     number of START, STOP, and coincidence STOP counts is added up for each  
1496     combination of  $n(P)$  and  $n(E)$  in the accumulation scaling matrix. This matrix  
1497     enables scaling of the accumulation matrix during the data analysis on ground.  
1498     When the mass accumulation mode is set, the coincidence mode is always needed  
1499     as the sensor mode. In this case MDP1 receives event entries of coincidence counts  
1500     in each energy step. It then obtains its mass group (M), incoming direction (C),  
1501     and energy (E) for every coincidence event and accumulates them into the accumu-  
1502     lation matrix. This accumulation is made over a certain time set by a command.  
1503     Finally, MDP1 sends to S/C the contents of the accumulation matrix and other  
1504     information after the accumulation.

1505     A schematic data calculation flow diagram of the mass accumulation mode is  
1506     shown in Figure 80. A mass group M is calculated from the START ring, START

1507 sector, STOP plate and TOF by using look-up tables. The energy group E as well  
 1508 as the phase group P are calculated from the slot number of each sensor data  
 1509 packet. The channel group C corresponds directly to START sector. For every  
 1510 event obtained, the MDP1 increments the counters specified by E, P, C and M in  
 1511 the accumulation matrix. The numbers of bins for each parameter can be set by  
 1512 commands. The total counter data included in sensor data are accumulated in the  
 1513 accumulation scaling matrix. This matrix only has two dimensions; energy group  
 1514 E and phase group P.

#### 1515 **MDP1 Data processing method on the mass accumulation mode**

1516 Data processing on MDP1 for each event consists of five steps, as given below.

#### 1517 **Step 1 Obtain index of energy depending on sweep pattern**

1518 This index will later be used to obtain the actual value of the energy from the  
 1519 SVE table

1520 Energy-index:

$$1521 \quad E\text{-index} = \text{SVM-Table}[\text{SV-index}, \text{Energy-step}],$$

1522 where SV-index is selected from table ID for the SV reference table during the  
 1523 observation.

#### 1524 **Step 2 Obtain derived data for mass calculation by look-up tables**

$$1525 \quad \text{a) Square root of energy:} \quad E_n = \text{SVE-Table}[E\text{-index}] \text{ (10 bit values)}$$

$$1526 \quad \text{b) Inv. of path length:} \quad L_{\text{INV}} = \text{LT}[\text{sector}, \text{ring}, \text{plate}, E\text{-index}] \text{ (12 bit values)}$$

$$1527 \quad \text{c) Flight time:} \quad t_1 = \text{TT}[\text{tof}] \text{ (10 bit values)}$$

1528 The SVE-table returns the actual particle energy corresponding to an Energy-  
 1529 index. Consequently, the values returned from the SVM- and SVE- tables must

1530 reflect the particle energy selected in the SV table. If  $L_{\text{inv}}$  is zero, it is regarded as  
 1531 an invalid event by the onboard software. When an anomaly is found on a specific  
 1532 START SECTOR – START RING – STOP SECTOR pair at a specific energy, it  
 1533 can be rejected from the onboard calculation by setting  $L_{\text{inv}} = 0$  on the LT-table.  
 1534 Therefore, the LT-table is designed as energy dependent. The LT-table can also  
 1535 compensate for a possible energy dependent energy loss on the START surface.  
 1536 In this case, the tof-path-length used in the mass calculation would be artificially  
 1537 extended for energies that have a higher relative energy loss. This was not used,  
 1538 however, based on the calibration results. Therefore all the path lengths used from  
 1539 the LT-table were the same for all energies. The TT-table returns the tof value  
 1540 only when  $\text{tof} \leq 0x3ef$ . If  $\text{tof} \geq 0x3f0$ , it returns 0 which is regarded as invalid  
 1541 event in the onboard calculation (Table 27).

### 1542 **Step 3 Calculate mass**

1543 Mass calculation is accomplished using 32 bit unsigned integer operations. The  
 1544 values of the tables in step 2 guarantee that no overflow occurs.

$$\text{mass}_{0.5} = \{(\text{En} \times t_1 \times L_{\text{inv}}) / 65536\} \times \text{Factor} / 65536 \quad (1)$$

1545 where  $\text{Factor} = 3340$ . If the calculated value for  $\text{mass}_{0.5}$  is larger than 255, a  
 1546 value of 255 must be assigned to  $\text{mass}_{0.5}$  prior to further processing. The value  
 1547 calculated here is actually proportional to the square root of the mass.

### 1548 **Step 4 Bin the data according to the binning parameters set**

$$\text{a) mass group } M = \text{MT}[\text{mass\_0\_5}]/\{128/n(M)\} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{b) channel group } C = \text{sector}/\{7/n(C)\} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{c) energy group } E = \text{Energy\_step modulo } n(E) \quad (4)$$

$$\text{d) phase group } P = (\text{phase} - \text{phasemin})/\{32/n(P)\} \quad (5)$$

1549 Where phasemin contains the first spin phase value to be considered, whereas  
 1550 phasemax is the last phase value to be considered. To use all phase values, phasemin  
 1551 = 0, phasemax = 31. All divisions in equations (2) ? (5) are integer divisions.

#### 1552 **Step 5 Update the accumulation and the accumulation scaling matrix**

1553 Accumulation matrix (M, C, E, P) = Accumulation matrix (M, C, E, P) + 1

1554 Accumulation scaling matrix (E, P, Y) = Accumulation matrix (E, P, Y) + 1

1555 This calculation is required for all events in a packet.

#### 1556 **Count accumulation mode**

1557 This mode is used to obtain the detailed signal count at each MCP plate and is  
 1558 similar to the mass accumulation mode, except that counter data are summed.

1559 When count accumulation mode is set, the sensor always needs to be set to the  
 1560 counter mode. In this mode, instead of receiving coincidence events, MDP1 receives  
 1561 detailed total counts on each MCP anode during one energy step. Then the total  
 1562 count data are summed as the accumulation matrix. This accumulation is made  
 1563 over a particular time set by a command, and the contents of the accumulation  
 1564 matrix are sent to S/C.

#### 1565 **TOF accumulation mode**

1566 This mode is used to obtain raw TOF distributions without mass information.  
1567 The primary uses of the raw TOF data are to analyze the performance of the  
1568 instrument and to calibrate the on-board mass calculations. This mode is similar  
1569 to the mass accumulation mode, except that TOF data are accumulated instead  
1570 of mass data. In TOF accumulation mode, the mass is not calculated, and the  
1571 raw TOF data are directly used for the accumulation instead of the mass. The  
1572 accumulation matrix in this mode has two dimensions: E (energy) and T (TOF).  
1573 MDP1 does not use the other parameters of P (phase) and C (channel). Because  
1574 TOF data have 10 bits, the number of TOF bins is always 1024.

### 1575 *3.6.3 Pre-Flight Calibration of ENA*

1576 The instrument was calibrated at the Messkammer für Flugzeitinstrumente und  
1577 Time-of-flight (MEFISTO) calibration facility (Marti et al., 2001) at the University  
1578 of Bern. The facility produces an energetic neutral atom beam by neutralizing a  
1579 collimated ion beam on a conversion surface (Wieser and Wurz, 2005). The beam  
1580 neutralizer is an integral part of the MEFISTO facility and produces a neutral  
1581 beam of known composition, well-characterized in angle and energy. For the in-  
1582 strument calibration, neutral H, neutral He and neutral O beams were produced in  
1583 an energy range from 30 – 3000 eV per particle. During the calibration the instru-  
1584 ment was mounted on the MEFISTO hexapod turntable, which enabled rotation  
1585 and translation of instrument relative to the fixed energetic neutral atom beam.  
1586 An additional thermal heating/cooling plate enabled performance investigation at  
1587 different temperatures (Figure 81).

1588 The calibration was split into four phases between 2012 and 2014 with inter-  
1589 spersed calibration data analysis phases. This approach enabled to repeat measure-

1590 ments that had insufficient statistics and other quality problems detected during  
1591 the data analysis. The calibration tasks were separated into establishing energy  
1592 response, angular response and mass response.

### 1593 **Energy response**

1594 The energy response of ENA is determined by the electrostatic wave energy  
1595 analysis system and the energy loss function on the conversion surface. The latter  
1596 strongly depends on species and energy, which makes the energy response species  
1597 and energy dependent. To simplify operations, only 16 different energy settings  
1598 were characterized, with each identified by an index and nominal center energy  
1599 for bookkeeping purposes. The actual peak energy of each energy bin is species  
1600 dependent (Table 30). The actual energy sweep in the instrument consisted of eight  
1601 energy settings selected from this table. The width of the energy pass band  $\Delta E$  for  
1602 hydrogen is energy independent with  $\Delta E/E = 100\%$ , with  $E$  as the nominal center  
1603 energy. The energy pass bands for oxygen have a tail toward higher energies owing  
1604 to the more prominent energy loss at the conversion surface. The quantitative  
1605 extent of this effect needs further analysis.

### 1606 **Angular response**

1607 The angular response was determined by rotating the instrument relative to an  
1608 incident neutral hydrogen beam in a grid like pattern. The count rates obtained  
1609 from each START sector were then fitted with 2D angular Gaussian profiles. Table  
1610 31 shows the bore sight directions and widths of each of the seven viewing direc-  
1611 tions corresponding to the seven START sectors.  $\theta_0$  denotes the center in azimuth,  
1612  $\beta_0$  is the center in the elevation direction, and  $\Delta\theta$  and  $\Delta\beta$  are the FWHM val-  
1613 ues of the fitted peak widths. The coordinate system used is shown in Figure 72.



1614 The azimuthal resolution  $\Delta\theta$  varies linearly between  $32.5^\circ$  at sector 0 and  $22.9^\circ$   
1615 at sector 6, and the elevation resolution  $\Delta\beta$  decreases linearly between  $11.6^\circ$  at  
1616 sector 0 and  $7.1^\circ$  at sector 6. We believe this trend to be a result of a mechanical  
1617 misalignment between the wave system and the TOF cell. The angular response  
1618 is in first order not energy dependent.

### 1619 **Mass response**

1620 The TOF values measured onboard are converted to a nearly energy indepen-  
1621 dent mass number  $M$  in the range from 0 – 255. Before reporting to telemetry,  
1622  $M$  is converted to a mass group number compatible with the selected binning pa-  
1623 rameters by using a mass lookup table and possible further division by using a  
1624 constant, as shown in Figure 80. For calibration data analysis the mass number  
1625  $M$  was used to establish the shapes of the different mass peaks in the mass spec-  
1626 trum. The shape of the hydrogen mass peak is shown in Figure 82(a). Owing to  
1627 its larger mass, oxygen might generate hydrogen recoils at the conversion surface,  
1628 which can result in an additional hydrogen peak even when the conversion surface  
1629 is hit by oxygen only (Figure 82(b)). The intensity of the additional hydrogen  
1630 signal depends mainly on the amount of water absorbed on the conversion surface.  
1631 The mass spectrum to neutral helium is more complicated because both recoil  
1632 hydrogen and recoil oxygen atoms appear. For the case of incident neutral oxy-  
1633 gen, a mass comprehensive cross-talk matrix could be generated, which enables  
1634 separation of the individual recoil contributions. The matrix for incident neutral  
1635 helium is sparser owing to limited calibration time available for helium.

### 1636 **Geometric factor**

1637 In its simplest form the geometric factor  $G$  is expressed as

$$G = \Delta E/E \times \Delta\Omega \times \Delta A \times \epsilon \quad (6)$$

1638 where  $\Delta E/E$  is the energy resolution,  $\Delta A$  is the effective aperture area,  $\Delta\Omega =$   
 1639  $\Delta\theta \times \Delta\beta$  is the angular acceptance, and  $\epsilon$  is the detection probability. The first two  
 1640 factors energy response and angular response are well established. The detection  
 1641 probability for both START and STOP detectors is obtained from the START  
 1642 and STOP rates in the TOF cell (Funsten et al., 2005). Typical observed values  
 1643 for hydrogen are 1% at 100 eV increasing to 30% at 1000 eV. The best estimates  
 1644 for the geometric factor for neutral hydrogen are listed in Table 32:

#### 1645 *3.6.4 Near-Earth Commissioning Results of ENA*

1646 The temperature of the conversion surface is controlled to remain above  $+50^\circ\text{C}$   
 1647 throughout the mission to avoid a stack of contaminating materials which would  
 1648 decrease the efficiency of neutral to ion conversion. So far, the temperature has  
 1649 been successfully maintained above  $+50^\circ\text{C}$ , except for some cases of short duration  
 1650 that did not affect the conversion performance because the temperature was still  
 1651 greater than that of the surrounding structures. The power for the ENA heater  
 1652 control and temperature monitoring system (ENA HCS) is separated from the  
 1653 other ENA electronics.

1654 Except for a high-voltage unit, ENA was activated on November 25, 2018 for  
 1655 the first time after the launch. No problems were found during the test. The ENA  
 1656 function tests with the HVPS were conducted on June 27 and 28, 2019; August 20  
 1657 and 22, 2019; and February 6 and 7, 2020. These tests were conducted when the  
 1658 spacecraft was in the solar wind. During the testing, all of the high-voltage outputs

1659 were gradually increased up to their nominal settings for the actual observation.  
1660 For the input surface of START and STOP MCPs, -2300 V and -2600 V were  
1661 applied, respectively, where dark counts were successfully detected by all input  
1662 channels of the pre-amplifiers. For the other electrodes, voltage sweeping for energy  
1663 analysis was also tested with no problems detected. However, no valid ENA counts  
1664 were identified during the testing, because the FOV of ENA is mostly blocked by  
1665 MOSIF during the cruising phase. Although part of the FOV of ENA is not blocked  
1666 by MOSIF, the unblocked direction is not pointed toward the Sun. In this case,  
1667 faint ENA flux is expected in the solar wind.

1668 ENA will be activated during the Earth and Venus fly-bys before the Mer-  
1669 cury orbit insertion to measure ENAs generated by charge-exchange interactions  
1670 between hot ions and cold atmospheric neutrals.

#### 1671 **4 Data Products of MPPE**

1672 To conduct coordinated observation between the MPPE sensors and to control  
1673 the total telemetry data rate, the MPPE data mode is defined. The operation  
1674 mode of LEP and HEP sensors are determined so that they generate the data  
1675 products depending on the MPPE data mode. Because ENA generates only L-  
1676 mode data with fixed data rates, it is operated independently of the MPPE data  
1677 mode. Six MPPE data modes are defined: default observation mode, exospheric  
1678 mode, solar wind mode/IP shock local mode, IP shock macro mode/bow shock  
1679 mode, reconnection mode, and magnetospheric mode. Figures 33 – 35 show the  
1680 MPPE data mode and the corresponding data products of LEP and HEP sensors  
1681 for L-mode, M-mode, and H-mode data, respectively.

## 1682 5 Conclusion

1683 All of the MPPE analyzers have concluded initial commissioning with no signifi-  
1684 cant problems reported. Because MOSIF blocks most of the FOVs of the MPPE  
1685 sensors, it will be difficult for the ion sensors (MIA, MSA, and HEP-ion) to mea-  
1686 sure the solar wind during the cruise phase before arriving at Mercury. Only the  
1687 low energy electron sensors MEA1 and MEA2 can measure part of the solar wind  
1688 electron phase space density because the thermal speed of electrons is higher than  
1689 the solar wind bulk velocity. During the Earth, Venus, and Mercury fly-bys, we ex-  
1690 pect most of the MPPE sensors to be turned on. If BepiColombo will pass through  
1691 magnetosphere, the ion sensors might also be able to measure natural counts.  
1692 Therefore, events provide good opportunities to check the analyzer functions in-  
1693 cluding the data processing software using natural data.

1694 During the Venus fly-bys scheduled in October 2020 and August 2021, we plan  
1695 to use MEA1, MEA2, MIA, MSA, HEP-ele, and ENA to make observations. MEA1  
1696 and MEA2 will be able to observe electrons in the solar wind and around Venus,  
1697 and ENA might be capable of measuring the energetic neutral atoms from Venus.  
1698 Although it may be difficult for MIA and MSA to obtain meaningful ion data,  
1699 activating the instrument and operating the analyzers will refresh the instrument  
1700 operation skills and facilitate observation immediately after arriving at Mercury.  
1701 During the Mercury fly-bys scheduled in October 2021, June 2022, June 2023,  
1702 September 2024, December 2024 and January 2025, the MPPE sensors will be  
1703 activated; detailed observation plans will be considered in the future. After arriving  
1704 at Mercury in December 2025, all of the MPPE analyzers will make continuous

1705 observations except for periods in which the operations are limited owing to the  
1706 thermal constraints of the spacecraft.

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1709 fications and operations of payload instruments including our MPPE sensors.

#### 1710 **Conflict of interest**

1711 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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**Table 1** Summary of MEA performance.

Field of view	$8^\circ \times 360^\circ$
Angular resolution	$22.5^\circ \times 11.25^\circ$
Energy range	3 eV–25,500 eV (Mercury mode) 3 eV–3000 eV (solar wind mode)
Energy resolution	$\Delta E/E \sim 10\%$ (at full G-factor)
Stepping energies and cadence	Full energy sweep with 64 contiguous energy channels every 16 or 32 times per 4 s spin
Time resolution	Half a spin period, 2 s (using a single analyzer)
to obtain the full 3D velocity distribution function	Quarter of a spin period, 1 s (using the two analyzers)
Geometrical factor	
MEA1 max./min.	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}/6.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$
MEA2 max./min.	$2.0 \times 10^{-4}/4.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$
Mass	2.598 kg for MEA1+MEA2 + 0.460 kg for their thermal shields
Power	2.260 W (average for MEA1+MEA2) 3.460 W (peak for MEA1+MEA2) 1.880 W (stand-by for MEA1+MEA2)
Dimensions	177 mm $\times$ 120 mm $\phi$ (MEA1, MEA2)
Data rate	0.1 kbits/s (L-mode) 2.5 kbits/s (M-mode) 11 kbits/s (H-mode) after factor 3 compression for MEA1+MEA2

**Table 2** MEA data products with time resolution as a function of MPPE mode and Mio telemetry mode.

MPPE MODE NAME	L-mode data products	M-mode data products	H-mode data products
	<b>MEA1</b>	<b>MEA1</b>	
1. Default Observation Mode	Et-OMN (4s) Et-PAP (16s) VM (16s) 3D-LL (640s)	Et-OMNm (4s) Et-PAP (4s) VM (4s) 3D-M (8s) or 3D-M (4s)	N.A.
	<b>MEA2</b>	<b>MEA2</b>	
	Et-OMN (4s) Et-PAP (16s) VM (16s)	Et-OMNm (2s) Et-PAP (2s) VM (2s)	
	<b>MEA1</b>	<b>MEA1</b>	<b>MEA1</b>
2. Exospheric Mode	Et-OMN (4s)	Et-OMNm (4s)	3D-H (4s)
3. Solar Wind Mode	Et-PAP (16s)	Et-PAP (16s)	
/IP Shock Local Mode	VM (16s)	VM (4s)	
4. IP Shock Macro Mode	3D-LL (640s)	3D-M (8s) or 3D-M (4s)	
/Bow Shock Mode			
5. Reconnection Mode			
6. Magnetospheric Mode	<b>MEA2</b>	<b>MEA2</b>	<b>MEA2</b>
	Et-OMN (4s) Et-PAP (4s) VM (16s)	Et-OMNm (2s) Et-PAP (2s) VM (2s)	3D-H (2s)

**Table 3** MEA1 and MEA2 data products for the low-resolution telemetry mode (L-mode).

<b>L-mode</b>			
<b>MEA1</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
Et-OMN	E-t count data 16 energy	4	
Et-PAP	E-t pitch angle data 4 energy $\times$ 16 pitch angle	16	
VM	velocity moment n (density) nVx, nVy, nVz (velocity) Pxx, Pyy, Pzz Pxy, Pyz, Pzx (pressure) qx, qy, qz (heat flux)	16	6 energy ranges  0: all energy steps above satellite potential * 2; 1-5: 5 energy steps below satellite potential * 2
3D-LL	3D count data 88 direction $\times$ 16 energy	640	
<b>MEA2</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
Et-OMN	E-t count data 16 energy	4	
Et-PAP	E-t pitch angle data 4 energy $\times$ 16 pitch angle	16	
VM	velocity moment n (density) nVx, nVy, nVz (velocity) Pxx, Pyy, Pzz Pxy, Pyz, Pzx (pressure) qx, qy, qz (heat flux)	16	6 energy ranges  0: all energy steps above satellite potential * 2; 1-5: 5 energy steps below satellite potential * 2

**Table 4** MEA1 and MEA2 data products for the medium-resolution telemetry mode (M-mode).

<b>M-mode</b>			
<b>MEA1</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
Et-OMNm	E-t count data 32 energy	4	
Et-PAP	E-t pitch angle data 4 energy $\times$ 16 pitch angle	4	4 starting energy steps and width are selectable by commanding
VM	velocity moment n (density) nVx, nVy, nVz (velocity) Pxx, Pyy, Pzz Pxy, Pyz, Pzx (pressure) qx, qy, qz (heat flux)	4	6 energy ranges  0: all energy steps above satellite potential * 2; 1-5: 5 energy steps below satellite potential * 2
3D-M (8s)	3D count data 88 direction $\times$ 16 energy	8	(MPPE mode = 0 1 2 3 5)
3D-M (4s)	3D count data 88 direction $\times$ 16 energy	4	(MPPE mode = 4 6 7 8)
<b>MEA2</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
Et-OMNm	E-t count data 32 energy	2	
Et-PAP	E-t pitch angle data 4 energy $\times$ 16 pitch angle	2	
VM	velocity moment n (density) nVx, nVy, nVz (velocity) Pxx, Pyy, Pzz Pxy, Pyz, Pzx (pressure) qx, qy, qz (heat flux)	2	6 energy ranges  0: all energy steps above satellite potential * 2; 1-5: 5 energy steps below satellite potential * 2

**Table 5** MEA1 and MEA2 data products for the high-resolution telemetry mode (H-mode).

<b>H-mode</b>			
<b>MEA1</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
3D-H	3D count data 88 direction $\times$ 32 energy	4	16 sectors, 8 channels
<b>MEA2</b>			
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>Product</b>		<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>(s)</b>	
3D-H	3D count data 88 direction $\times$ 32 energy $\times$ 2	2	16 sectors, 8 channels + 16 sectors, 8 channels

**Table 6** Parameters used to describe the various calibration setups, procedures, and results.

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E	Incident electron energy, eV
$\Theta$	Elevation angle
$\Phi$	Azimuth angle
Uan	Analyzer voltage
Utop	Top part of analyzer voltage
K	$E=U_{an} \cdot K$
K0	Best K for the current $\Theta$ and $\Phi$
$\Delta E/E$	Energy resolution of the analyzer
$P_{\text{BEAM}}$	Electron beam flux $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ as a function of the elevation angle
$\Omega_i$	One azimuthal sector aperture, $\text{cm}^2$ for fixed $\Theta$ , $\Phi$ , Uan and Utop
Ci	Count rate, $\text{s}^{-1}$ of one azimuthal sector
Gi	One sector G-factor, $\text{cm}^2 \text{sr eV/eV}$
G	Total G-factor of the instrument, $\text{cm}^2 \text{sr eV/eV}$ (used for numerical simulation)
$HV_{\text{MCP}}$	MCP high voltage, V, measured at the HV unit level

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**Table 7** Summary of MEA1 (top) and MEA2 (bottom) calibration. GF corresponds to the geometrical factor of the instrument ( $\text{cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ ), and GF0 corresponds to the GF when  $U_{\text{top}} = U_{\text{an}}$ .  $\Delta\theta$  is the elevation FWHM. The remaining parameters are defined in Table 6.

<b>MEA1</b>				
$U_{\text{top}}/U_{\text{an}}$	0.8	0.42	0.34	0.27
GF $\text{cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$	4e-3	6.7e-3	2.0e-3	6.7e-5
GF0/GF	1	6	20	60
$\Theta$ deg	1.8	7.0	8.2	9.0
$\Delta\Theta$ deg	5.9	4.5	3.0	3.6
K	8.67	8.48	8.57	8.51
$\Delta E/E$	0.11	0.16	0.11	0.09
<b>MEA2</b>				
$U_{\text{top}}/U_{\text{an}}$	0.8	0.52	0.37	0.28
GF $\text{cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$	2e-4	6.7e-5	1.6e-5	4.0e-6
GF0/GF	20	60	250	1000
$\Theta$ deg	1.8	6.3	7.5	9.0
$\Delta\Theta$ deg	5.9	5.0	3.0	3.5
K	8.67	8.62	8.57	8.51
$\Delta E/E$	0.11	0.13	0.11	0.08

**Table 8** MIA operation mode.

Mode	Produced data	Raw data rate
Solar Wind Mode	Count data	Max. 245760 bps
(DATA MODE 1)	1) $(8 + 8^{*1}(22.5^\circ)$ polar sectors +2 background counters) $\times 8(22.5^\circ)$ equatorial sectors $\times 32$ energy steps/spin	Average 98304 bps
	2) $(8 + 8^{*1}(22.5^\circ)$ polar sectors +2 background counters) $\times 8(11.25^\circ)$ equatorial sectors $\times 32$ energy steps/spin	16 bits/data
	3) $(8 + 4^{*2}(22.5^\circ)$ polar sectors +2 background counters) $\times 16(5.625^\circ)$ equatorial sectors $\times 32$ energy steps / spin (excluding 90deg. $\times 90$ deg. solar wind sector)	
	4)16 polar sectors $\times 16$ equatorial sectors $\times 128$ energy steps/4spins (90deg. $\times 90$ deg. solar wind sector)	
Magnetospheric Ion	count data	139264 bps
High Angular	$(16 + 16^{*3}$ polar sectors +2 background counters)	16 bits/data
Resolution Mode	$\times 32$ equatorial sectors $\times 32$ energy steps/spin	
(DATA MODE 2)		
Magnetospheric Ion	count data	36864 bps
Low Angular	$(8 + 8^{*1}$ polar sectors +2 background counters)	16 bits/data
Resolution Mode	$\times 16$ equatorial sectors $\times 32$ energy steps/spin	
(DATA MODE 3)		

\*<sup>1</sup>Sensitivity of about  $120^\circ$  in the eight polar sectors is reduced down to  $1/50$  with mechanical attenuation grid.

\*<sup>2</sup>Sensitivity of about  $30^\circ$  in the four polar sectors is reduced down to  $1/50$  with mechanical attenuation grid.

\*<sup>3</sup>Sensitivity of about  $120^\circ$  in the 16 polar sectors is reduced down to  $1/50$  with mechanical attenuation grid.



**Table 9** MIA energy sweep.

Mode	Measurement	Sensitivity control	Spin/cycle	Energy range
0	Solar wind	OFF	4 (128 steps)	107 eV/q – 10.3 keV/q
1	Solar wind	ON	4 (128 steps)	123 eV/q – 11.6 keV/q
2	Solar wind	OFF	2 (64 steps)	28.0 eV/q – 300 eV/q (32 steps)
			2 (64 steps)	3.10 keV/q – 25.8 keV/q (32steps)
3	Magnetosphere	OFF	1 (32 steps)	24.0 eV/q – 25.8 keV/q
4	Magnetosphere	OFF	1 (32 steps)	21.0 eV/q – 5.15 keV/q
5	Magnetosphere	OFF	1 (32 steps)	5.17 keV/q – 25.8 keV/q

**Table 10** Examples of energy sweep – sector allocation of MIA.

Sector group	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Sector	0-7	8-15	16-23	24-31	32-39	40-47	48-55	56-63
No.	Measurement	Waveform allocation* <sup>1</sup> (Mode)							
1	Solar wind	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
2	Solar wind	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	0
3	Magnetosphere	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	Magnetosphere	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	Magnetosphere	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

\*<sup>1</sup> One spin is divided equally into 64 sectors. Half of the MIA with (without) the mechanical attenuation grid faces the solar wind direction in sectors 8-23 (40-55).

**Table 11** MIA mission data products in the L-mode, M-mode, and H-mode mission packets.

Format of each product is shown in Table 12.

MIA operation mode			
	MIA Mode 1	MIA Mode 2	MIA Mode 3
L-mode	Et-M1 (32s), VM-M1 (4s, 16s) 3D-LL-M1 (3600s)	Et-M2 (4s), VM-M2 (4s) 3D-LL-M2 (3600s)	Et-M3 (4s), VM-M3 (4s) 3D-LL-M3 (600s)
M-mode	3D-L2-M1 (8s) (MPPE mode = 0-5)	3D-L2-M2 (8s)	3D-L2-M3 (4s) (MPPE mode = 0-5)
M-mode	SW-L2-M1 (4s) (MPPE mode = 6-8)	3D-L2-M2 (8s)	3D-L2-M3 (8s) (MPPE mode = 6-8)
H-mode	SW-L-M1 (4s), 3D-L2-M1 (4s)	3D-H-M2 (4s)	3D-H-M3 (4s)

**Table 12** Format, size and rate of the MIA data products. For the 3D count data products, 89 directions (DIR) are selected from 8 spin sectors (SC)  $\times$  17 channel (CH) directions. Velocity moments (VM) consist of density (n), net flux (nV)(x, y, z), and pressure (P)(xx, yy, zz, xy, yz, xz). EN represents energy.

Products	Format (16bits)	Size/Rate
Et-M1 (32s)	8 bits $\times$ 128 (EN) (Solar wind direction)	640 B/160 bps
	8 bits $\times$ 128 (EN) $\times$ 4 (4-divided Omni direction)	
Et-M2, 3 (4s)	8 bits $\times$ 16 (EN) $\times$ 4 (4-divided Omni direction)	64 B/128 bps
VM-M1 (4s)	16-bit float $\times$ 10 (VM) $\times$ 2 (Solar wind and Omni)	40 B/80 bps
VM-M2,3 (4s)	16-bit float $\times$ 10 (VM)	20 B/40 bps
3D-LL-M1 (3600s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 16 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	17 kB/39 bps
3D-LL-M2 (3600s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 32 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	35 kB/77 bps
3D-LL-M3 (600s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 16 $\times$ 9 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	8 kB/110 bps
3D-L2-M1 (8s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 89 $\times$ 32 (DIR, EN) (Omni)	6 kB/6 kbps
SW-L2-M1 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 4 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN) (Solar wind)	4 kB/9 kbps
3D-L2-M2 (8s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 16 $\times$ 9 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	9 kB/9 kbps
3D-L2-M3 (8s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 89 $\times$ 32 (DIR, EN)	6 kB/6 kbps
3D-L2-M3 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 89 $\times$ 16 (DIR, EN)	3 kB/6 kbps
SW-L-M1 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 16 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	17 kB/35 kbps
3D-L2-M1 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 89 $\times$ 32 (DIR, EN)	6 kB/11 kbps
3D-H-M2 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 32 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	35 kB/70 kbps
3D-H-M3 (4s)	16-bit counter $\times$ 16 $\times$ 17 $\times$ 32 (SC, CH, EN)	17 kB/34 kbps

**Table 13** Summary of MIA performance.

Field of view	$3.8^\circ \times 90^\circ$ (high G-factor, solar wind)
	$5.1^\circ \times 90^\circ$ (low G-factor, solar wind)
	$9.6^\circ \times 270^\circ$ (high G-factor, Mercury ion)
	$6.4^\circ \times 270^\circ$ (low G-factor, Mercury ion)
Angular resolution	$5.625^\circ \times 5.625^\circ$ (solar wind)
	$22.5^\circ \times 22.5^\circ$ (Mercury ion)
Energy range	15 eV/q - 29 keV/q
Energy resolution	$\Delta E/E \sim 8.3\%$ (FWHM, high G-factor, solar wind)
	$\Delta E/E \sim 2.2\%$ (FWHM, low G-factor, solar wind)
	$\Delta E/E \sim 12.7\%$ (FWHM, high G-factor, Mercury ion)
	$\Delta E/E \sim 3.6\%$ (FWHM, low G-factor, Mercury ion)
Time resolution	(32 energy steps) 4 s/3D distribution function
	(128 energy steps) 16 s/3D distribution function
Geometrical factor	
High G-factor mode	$3.39 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (solar wind)
	( $5.625^\circ$ :SW $22.5^\circ$ :MI) $4.64 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (Mercury ion)
Low G-factor mode	$2.81 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (solar wind)
	( $5.625^\circ$ :SW $22.5^\circ$ :MI) $1.23 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (Mercury ion)
Mass	1.57 kg
Power	2.96 W
Dimensions	180 mm $\times$ 254 mm $\times$ 146 mm
Data rate	0.11 kbits/s (L-mode)
	2.5 kbits/s (M-mode)
	17 kbits/s (H-mode)
	after factor 3 compression

**Table 14** Summary of MSA performance.

Field of view	$5^\circ \times 260^\circ$
Angular resolution	$5^\circ \times 11.25^\circ$
Energy range	1 eV/q – 38 keV/q
Energy resolution	$\Delta E/E = 8\%$
k-factor	6.85
Mass range	1–60 amu
Mass resolution	$m/\Delta m > 40$ (< 13 keV/q) $m/\Delta m = 10$ (> 13 keV/q)
Time resolution	3D distribution function in 4 s (32 energy steps) 3D distribution function in 8 s (64 energy steps)
Geometrical factor (21 windows)	$7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (ST) $5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr eV/eV}$ (LEF)
Mass	4.46 kg
Power	9.1 W
Dimensions	325 mm $\times$ 287 mm $\times$ 232 mm
Data rate	0.15 kbits/s (L-mode) 1.4 kbits/s (M-mode) 25 kbits/s (H-mode) after factor 10 compression

**Table 15** MSA normal operation mode. M#: count rate matrix of given ion species; A: anode (or entrance window); S: spin sector (32 in one spin); E: energy step (32 in one spin sector); V: velocity direction (36 view directions); T: time of flight.

Name	Content	Internal (32 bit)		External (16 bit)		Time resolution	
		Dimension	kbit	Dimension	kbit	Int	Med
M0	Starts	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×64E	37	4 s	24 s
A0	Starts			21A×32S	11	64s	256 s
M1	Protons	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×64E	37	4 s	24 s
M2	He <sup>++</sup>	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×64E	37	4 s	48 s
M3	HeavyIons	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×64E	37	4 s	48 s
M4	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M5	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M6	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M7	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M8	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M9	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M10	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M11	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M12	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M13	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M14	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
M15	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×64E	37	64 s	256 s
TSTC	STC TOF	64E×1024T	2097	32E×1024T	524	64 s	256 s
TSST	STE TOF	64E×1024T	2097	32E×1024T	524	64 s	256 s
TLEF	LEF TOF	64E×2048T	4194	8E×2048T	262	64 s	256 s
<b>SUM</b>			<b>27652</b>		<b>1913</b>		

**Table 16** MSA high spatial resolution mode.

Name	Content	Internal (32 bit)		External (16 bit)		Time resolution	
		Dimension	kbit	Dimension	kbit	Int	Med
M0	Starts	32S×32E×21A	688	21A×32S×2E	21	4 s	16 s
M1	Protons	32S×32E×21A	688	21A×32S×4E	43	4 s	16 s
M2	He <sup>++</sup>	32S×32E×21A	688	21A×32S×4E	43	4 s	48 s
M3	HeavyIons	32S×32E×21A	688	21A×32S×4E	43	4 s	48 s
M4	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M5	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M6	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M7	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M8	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M9	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M10	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M11	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M12	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M13	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64s	256 s
M14	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
M15	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	21A×32S×4E	43	64 s	256 s
TSTC	STC TOF	64E×1024T	2097	32E×1024T	524	64 s	256 s
TSST	STE TOF	64E×1024T	2097	32E×1024T	524	64 s	256 s
TLEF	LEF TOF	64E×2048T	4194	8E×2048T	262	64 s	256 s
<b>SUM</b>			<b>27652</b>		<b>1976</b>		

**Table 17** MSA high time resolution mode.

Name	Content	Internal (32 bit)		External (16 bit)		Time resolution	
		Dimension	kbit	Dimension	kbit	Int	Med
M0	Starts	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×32E	18	4 s	8 s
A0	Starts			21A×32S	11	64 s	64 s
M1	Protons	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×32E	18	4 s	8 s
M2	He++	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×16E	9	4 s	12 s
M3	HeavyIons	32S×32E×21A	688	36V×16E	9	4 s	12 s
M4	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M5	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M6	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M7	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M8	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M9	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M10	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M11	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M12	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M13	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M14	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
M15	OtherIons	32S×64E×21A	1376	36V×16E	9	64 s	64 s
TSTC	STC TOF	64E×1024T	2097	4E×1024T	65	64 s	64 s
TSST	STE TOF	64E×1024T	2097	4E×1024T	65	64 s	64 s
TLEF	LEF TOF	64E×2048T	4194	2E×2048T	65	64 s	64 s
<b>SUM</b>			<b>27652</b>		<b>368</b>		



**Table 18** MSA data for the different Mio telemetry regimes.

Mode	Products	bits/spin	bits/64 s	/64 s(TBC)	Compressed /spin	/s
<b>Low</b>	P0L-P3L,SP	357	5712	5712		
	M1L-M3L	192	3072	300 (L10)		
	TSTL	2048	32768	3300 (LL-10)		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>9312</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>Med A</b>	P0-P3, SP	645	10320	10320		
	P4-P15	60	960	960		
	M0,M1	12288	196608	19700 (L10)		
	A0	184	2944	290 (L10)		
	M2,M3	6144	98304	9800 (L10)		
	M4-M15	7135	114160	11400 (L10)		
	TSTC		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TSTE		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TLEF		65536	6500 (LL-10)		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>85190</b>	<b>5324</b>	<b>1331</b>
<b>Med C</b>	P0-P3, SP	645	10320	10320		
	P4-P15	60	960	960		
	M0,M1	17664	282624	28300 (L10)		
	M2,M3	8832	141312	14100 (L10)		
	M4-M15	8832	141312	14100 (L10)		
	TSTC		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TSTE		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TLEF		65536	6500 (LL-10)		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>100480</b>	<b>6280</b>	<b>1570</b>
<b>Med D</b>	P0-P3, SP	645	10320	10320		
	P4-P15	60	960	960		
	M0,M1	18432	294912	29500 (L10)		
	A0	736	11776	1200 (L10)		
	M2,M3	6144	98304	9800 (L10)		
	M4-M15	7135	114160	11400 (L10)		
	TSTC		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TSTE		131072	13100 (LL-10)		
	TLEF		65536	6500 (LL-10)		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>96280</b>	<b>6017</b>	<b>1504</b>
<b>Med E</b>	P0-P3, SP	645	10320	10320		
	P4-P15	60	960	960		
	M0,M1	14592	233472	23500 (L10)		
	M2,M3	6144	98304	9800 (L10)		
	TLEF		69905	3500 (L20)		
	Events	2618	41900	41900		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>86480</b>	<b>5405</b>	<b>1351</b>
<b>High B</b>	P0-P3, SP	645	10320	10320		
	P4-P15	60	960	960		
	M0,M1	29184	466944	46700 (L10)		
	M2,M3	18432	294912	29500 (L10)		
	M4-M15		442370	44200 (L10)		
	TSTC		1048576	52500 (L20)		
	TSTE		1048576	52500 (L20)		
	TLEF		1048576	52500 (L20)		
	Events	26187	419000	419000		
	<b>DataOut</b>			<b>708180</b>	<b>44261</b>	<b>11065</b>

**Table 19** Selected parameters of MSA LEF spectra. The mass resolution is derived from  $T_m/\Delta T$  where  $T_m$  is the median value and  $\Delta T$  is the TOF spectra FWHM.

He <sup>+</sup>				
TOF voltage	Energy	$T_m$ (ns)	$\Delta T$ (ns)	$T_m/\Delta T$
$\pm 8$ kV	1–2 keV	398.1	27.1	14.7
	4–6 keV	394.9	33.4	11.8
$\pm 11$ kV	1–2 keV	336.3	5.5	61.4
	4–6 keV	335.2	27.2	12.3
Na <sup>+</sup>				
TOF voltage	Energy	$T_m$ (ns)	$\Delta T$ (ns)	$T_m/\Delta T$
$\pm 8$ kV	1–2 keV	957.6	5.8	166.0
	4–6 keV	955.4	4.3	222.4
$\pm 11$ kV	1–2 keV	810.7	6.8	118.7
	4–6 keV	809.7	4.7	172.7
K <sup>+</sup>				
TOF voltage	Energy	$T_m$ (ns)	$\Delta T$ (ns)	$T_m/\Delta T$
$\pm 8$ kV	1–2 keV	1249.4	11.1	112.5
	4–6 keV	1247.2	11.2	111.1
$\pm 11$ kV	1–2 keV	1057.5	7.2	146.5
	4–6 keV	1055.5	9.3	113.3

**Table 20** Sam as Table 19 but for central ST and total ST.

He <sup>+</sup>					
TOF voltage	ST	Energy	T <sub>m</sub> (ns)	ΔT (ns)	T <sub>m</sub> /ΔT
±8 kV	central	4 keV	193.7	8.6	22.4
		10 keV	154.9	7.8	19.8
	total	4 keV	195.5	14.1	13.9
		10 keV	158.2	12.8	12.3
±11 kV	central	4 keV	171.3	7.6	22.5
		10 keV	142.5	7.4	19.4
	total	4 keV	173.2	12.4	14.0
		10 keV	144.6	9.6	15.0
K <sup>+</sup>					
TOF voltage	ST	Energy	T <sub>m</sub> (ns)	ΔT (ns)	T <sub>m</sub> /ΔT
±8 kV	central	4 keV	662.5	322.7	2.1
		10 keV	581.3	342.2	1.7
	total	4 keV	681.8	261.4	2.4
		10 keV	609.5	268.2	2.3
±11 kV	central	4 keV	620.4	173.0	3.6
		10 keV	525.0	116.1	4.5
	total	4 keV	644.7	236.7	2.7
		10 keV	556.5	251.1	2.2

**Table 21** Summary of HEP-ele performance.

Field of view	$(18^\circ \times 57^\circ) \times 2$
Angular resolution	$18^\circ \times 12^\circ$
Energy range	30 - 700 keV
Energy resolution	20 keV ( $\leq 20^\circ\text{C}$ ) $\Delta E/E = 50\%$
Time resolution	4 s (1spin) (normal mode) 100 ms (burst mode)
Geometrical factor	$0.036 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr}$
Mass	0.27 kg
Power	3.04 W
Dimensions	$82 \text{ mm} \times 134 \text{ mm} \times 115 \text{ mm}$
Data rate	0.0064 kbits/s (L-mode) 1.3 kbits/s (M-mode) 5.1 kbits/s (H-mode)

**Table 22** Summary of HEP-ion performance.

Field of view	$11^\circ \times 110^\circ$
Angular resolution	$11^\circ \times 20^\circ$
Energy range	30 - 1500 keV
Energy resolution	20 keV ( $\leq 20^\circ\text{C}$ ) $\Delta E/E = 50\%$
Time resolution	4 s (1spin) (normal mode) 100 ms (burst mode)
Geometrical factor	$0.36 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ sr}$
Mass	1.71 kg
Power	4.81 W
Dimensions	$212 \text{ mm} \times 169.2 \text{ mm} \times 180 \text{ mm}$
Data rate	0.0085 kbits/s (energy), 0.0064 kbits/s (TOF) (L-mode) 0.77 kbits/s (energy), 0.19 kbits/s (TOF) (M-mode)

**Table 23** Observation Mode of HEP-ele

L-mode	Polar FOV( $57^\circ$ ):2 $\times$ Sector( $90^\circ$ ):4	48 bytes/15 spin
	$\times$ Energy Step:3	48 bytes/15 spin
M-mode	Polar FOV( $11^\circ$ ):10 $\times$ Sector( $45^\circ$ ):8	640 bytes/1 spin
	$\times$ Energy Step:4	640 bytes/1 spin
H-mode	Polar FOV( $11^\circ$ ):10 $\times$ Sector( $22.5^\circ$ ):16	5120 bytes/1 spin
	$\times$ Energy Step(95 keV):8	5120 bytes/1 spin

**Table 24** Observation Mode of HEP-ion

Energy Analysis Mode		
L-mode	Polar FOV(60°):2 × Sector(90°):4	64 bytes/15 spin
	× Energy step(440 keV):4	64 bytes/15 spin
M-mode	Polar FOV(20°):6 × Sector(45°):8	384 bytes/1 spin
	× Energy step(220 keV):8	384 bytes/1 spin
TOF Analysis Mode		
L-mode	Polar FOV(60°):2 × Sector(90°):4	48 bytes/15 spin
	× TOF(300 ns):3 bin	48 bytes/15 spin
M-Mode	Polar FOV(20°):2 × Sector(45°):4	96 bytes/1 spin
	× TOF(150 ns):6 bin	96 bytes/1 spin

**Table 25** Summary of ENA performances.

Field of view	$15^\circ \times 160^\circ$
Angular resolution	$9^\circ \times 25^\circ$ (FWHM)
Energy range	10 eV – 3.3 keV
Energy resolution	0.5 ( $\Delta E/E$ )
Mass resolution	H, O and heavy particles
Geometric factor	$10^{-2} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ str eV/eV / sector}$
Total efficiency	$\sim 0.01$
Mass	2.13 kg
Power	4.42 W (secondary side)
Dimensions	258 mm $\times$ 127 mm $\times$ 223 mm (w/o thermal shield)
Data rate	0.5 kBytes/s (nominal) after factor 4 compression

**Table 26** Format of coincidence mode packet of ENA.

TI		48 bit
packetID		8 bit (0x00)
slotID		8 bit
TOTAL COINCIDENCE COUNT	Incremented when signals from START SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR are detected and TOF is calculated.	16 bit
TOTAL START COUNT		16 bit
TOTAL STOP COUNT		16 bit
COINCIDENCE START SECTOR COUNT	Incremented when signals from START SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR are detected and TOF is calculated.	112 bit = 7 ch x 16 bit
COINCIDENCE STOP SECTOR COUNT	Incremented when signals from START SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR are detected and TOF is calculated.	128 bit = 8 ch x 16 bit
TOF event data		N x 20 bit
Remainder		Filled with zero
TOTAL ( = (1/128) * Ts)		3072 bit

TI: Time indicator

slotID: Incremented every energy step ( = (1/128)\*Ts). Cleared by spin pulse

\*1 This table shows a format for 1 energy step.

\*2 MDP1 will read the data every 8 energy steps.



**Table 27** TOF event data.

START	3 bit	0: ring1, 1: ring2, 2: ring3, 3: ring4
RING		7: none
START	3 bit	0: sect1, 1: sect2, 2: sect3, 3: sect4
SECTOR		4: sect5, 5: sect6, 6: sect7
		7: none
STOP	1 bit	1: Difference detected in stop pulse
SECTOR		numbers deduced from TDC output and FPGA count.
		0: No difference detected (normal)
	3 bit	0: sect1, 1: sect2, 2: sect3, 3: sect4
		4: sect5, 5: sect6, 6: sect7, 7: sect8
TOF	10 bit	0x000: This value is not generated (*). 0x001-0x3ef: TOF 0x3f0-0x3fc: spare 0x3fd: No signal on START SECTOR 0x3fe: No signal on STOP SECTOR 0x3ff: No signal on both START SECTOR and STOP SECTOR

\*TOF = 0x000 is dealt with no data marker by MDP1.

If it appears, MDP1 will not process the data  
appeared afterward in the packet.

**Table 28** Format of counter mode packet of ENA.

TI		48 bit
packetID		8 bit (0x01)
slotID		8 bit
START RING and START SECTOR COUNT		448 bit = 4 ch x 7 ch x 16 bit
START RING COUNT		64 bit = 4 ch x 16 bit
START SECTOR COUNT		112 bit = 7 ch x 16 bit
STOP SECTOR COUNT		128 bit = 8 ch x 16 bit
COINCIDENCE START SECTOR COUNT	Incremented when signals from START SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR are detected and TOF is calculated.	112 bit = 7 ch x 16 bit
COINCIDENCE STOP SECTOR COUNT	Incremented when signals from START SECTOR, START RING, and STOP SECTOR are detected and TOF is calculated.	128 bit = 8 ch x 16 bit
TOF event data		N x 20 bit
Rest		Filled with zero
TOTAL ( = (1/128) * Ts)		3072 bit

\*1 Above table shows a format for 1 energy step.

\*2 MDP1 will read the data every 8 energy steps.

**Table 29** Possible combinations of the telemetry mode with the sensor mode of ENA.

Telemetry Mode	Sensor Mode
Mass Accumulation Mode	Coincidence Mode
TOF Accumulation mode	Coincidence Mode
Count Accumulation Mode	Counter Mode
Non-Process Mode	Any
Idle Mode	Any

**Table 30** Calibrated energy bin centers for hydrogen and oxygen.

E-Index	Nominal center energy (eV)	Hydrogen (eV)	Oxygen (eV)
0	0	0	0
1	10	20	8
2	20	37	15
3	40	67	29
4	80	120	54
5	160	215	103
6	320	387	196
7	640	693	370
8	1280	1243	699
9	2560	2228	1321
10	56	89	39
11	112	159	74
12	224	286	141
13	448	513	267
14	896	920	504
15	1792	1650	953

**Table 31** Calibrated angular response.

Start sector	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$\theta_0(^{\circ})$	67.1	40.8	16.9	-3.0	-24.2	-46.3	-68.1
$\beta_0(^{\circ})$	-5.4	-5.8	-6.5	-5.3	-5.8	-5.6	-5.2
$\Delta\theta(^{\circ})$	32.8	28.9	25.8	27.0	21.8	21.5	22.9
$\Delta\beta(^{\circ})$	11.6	10.5	9.9	9.0	7.7	7.8	7.1

**Table 32** Selected estimated geometric factors not including detection probability for neutral hydrogen. Values indicated with n/a are not yet available.

E-Index	Nominal center energy (eV)	G for hydrogen without detection probability (cm <sup>2</sup> sr eV/eV)
0	0	n/a
1	10	n/a
2	20	n/a
3	40	$0.9 \times 10^{-7}$
4	80	$1.2 \times 10^{-7}$
5	160	$1.9 \times 10^{-7}$
6	320	$2.5 \times 10^{-7}$
7	640	$0.5 \times 10^{-6}$
8	1280	n/a
9	2560	n/a
10	56	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$
11	112	n/a
12	224	n/a
13	448	$3.6 \times 10^{-7}$
14	896	n/a
15	1792	n/a

**Table 33** MPPE data mode and L-mode data products of LEP and HEP sensors.

MPPE MODE NAME	L-mode data products
1. Default Observation Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M1, VM-M1, 3D-LL-M1 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode
2. Exospheric Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M2, VM-M2, 3D-LL-M2 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode
3. Solar Wind Mode/ IP Shock Local Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M1, VM-M1, 3D-LL-M1 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode
4. IP Shock Macro Mode/ Bow Shock Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M1, VM-M1, 3D-LL-M1 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode
5. Reconnection Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M3, VM-M3, 3D-LL-M3 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode
6. Magnetospheric Mode	MEA1: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-LL MEA2: Et-OMN, Et-PAP, VM MIA: Et-M3, VM-M3, 3D-LL-M3 MSA: Low [Moments, Omni E-t, TOF] HEP: L-mode

**Table 34** MPPE data mode and M-mode data products of LEP and HEP sensors.

MPPE MODE NAME	M-mode data products
1. Default Observation Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M1 or SW-L2-M1 MSA: Med A [Moment, 3D-VDF(A), AD(A), TOF(A)] HEP: M-mode
2. Exospheric Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M2 MSA: Med D [Moment, 3D-VDF(D), AD(D), TOF(D)] HEP: M-mode
3. Solar Wind Mode/ IP Shock Local Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M1 or SW-L2-M1 MSA: Med C [Moment, 3D-VDF(C), AD(C), TOF(C)] HEP: M-mode
4. IP Shock Macro Mode/ Bow Shock Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M1 or SW-L2-M1 MSA: Med C [Moment, 3D-VDF(C), AD(C), TOF(C)] HEP: M-mode
5. Reconnection Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M3 MSA: Med C [Moment, 3D-VDF(C), AD(C), TOF(C)] HEP: M-mode
6. Magnetospheric Mode	MEA1: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM, 3D-M MEA2: Et-OMNm, Et-PAP, VM MIA: 3D-L2-M3 MSA: Med D [Moment, 3D-VDF(D), AD(D), TOF(D)] HEP: M-mode

**Table 35** MPPE data mode and H-mode data products of LEP and HEP sensors.

MPPE MODE NAME	H-mode data products
1. Default Observation Mode	N.A.
2. Exospheric Mode	MEA1: 3D-H MEA2: 3D-H MIA:3D-H-M2 MSA: High B [Moment, 3D-VDF(B), TOF(B) , EVENT(B)] HEP: H-mode
3. Solar Wind Mode/ IP Shock Local Mode	MEA1: 3D-H MEA2: 3D-H MIA: SW-L-M1, 3D-L2-M1 MSA: High B [Moment, 3D-VDF(B), TOF(B) , EVENT(B)] HEP: H-mode
4. IP Shock Macro Mode/ Bow Shock Mode	MEA1: 3D-H MEA2: 3D-H MIA: SW-L-M1, 3D-L2-M1 MSA: High B [Moment, 3D-VDF(B), TOF(B) , EVENT(B)] HEP: H-mode
5. Reconnection Mode	MEA1: 3D-H MEA2: 3D-H MIA: 3D-H-M3 MSA: High B [Moment, 3D-VDF(B), TOF(B) , EVENT(B)] HEP: H-mode
6. Magnetospheric Mode	MEA1: 3D-H MEA2: 3D-H MIA: 3D-H-M3 MSA: High B [Moment, 3D-VDF(B), TOF(B) , EVENT(B)] HEP: H-mode

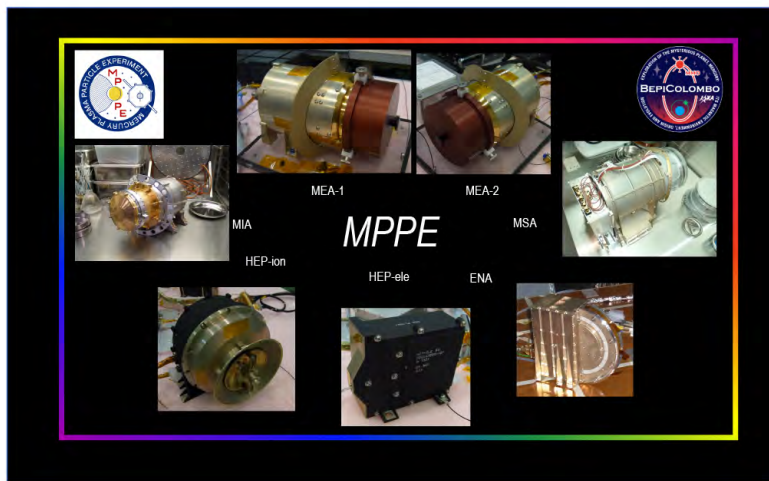


Fig. 1 Photo of the seven MPPE sensors.

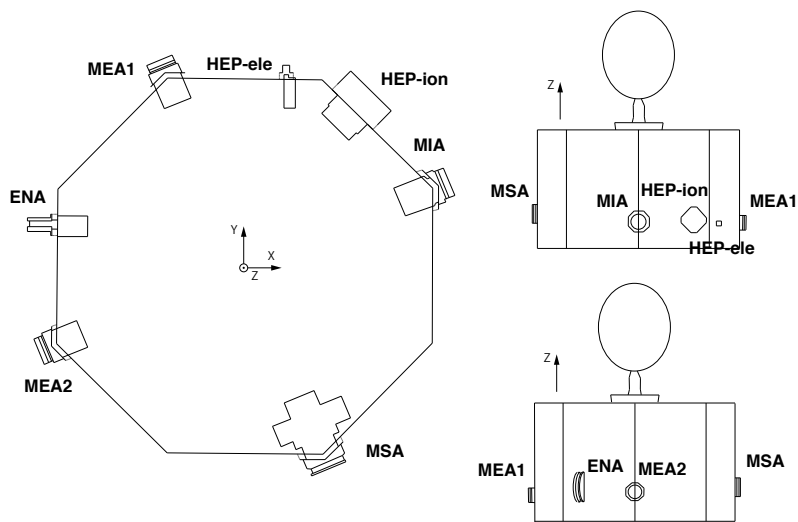


Fig. 2 Locations of the seven MPPE sensors.



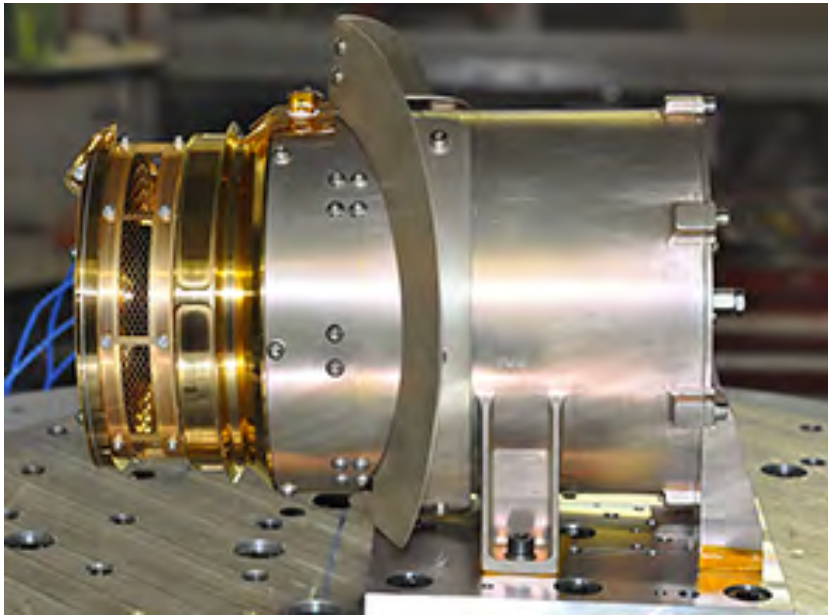


Fig. 3 View of the MEA2 sensor during vibration tests.

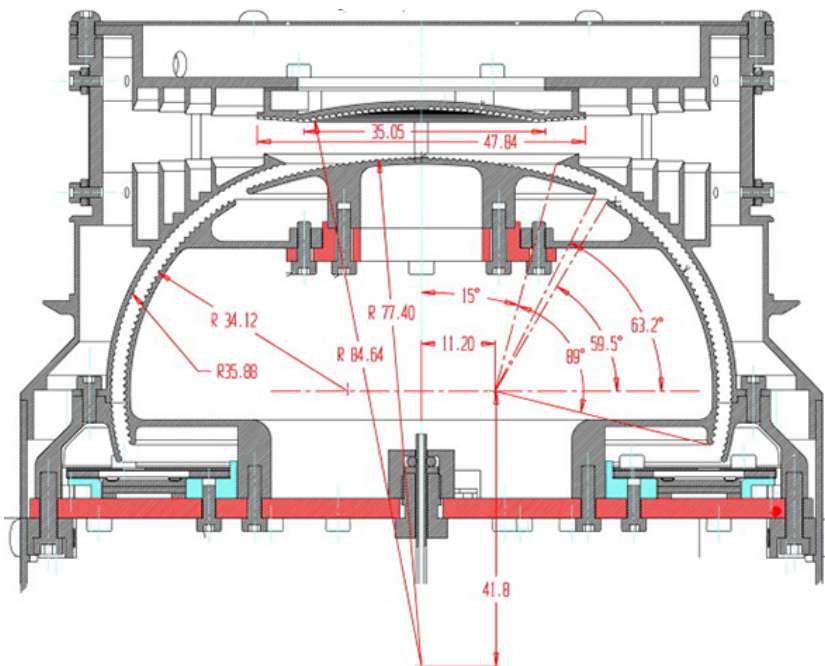
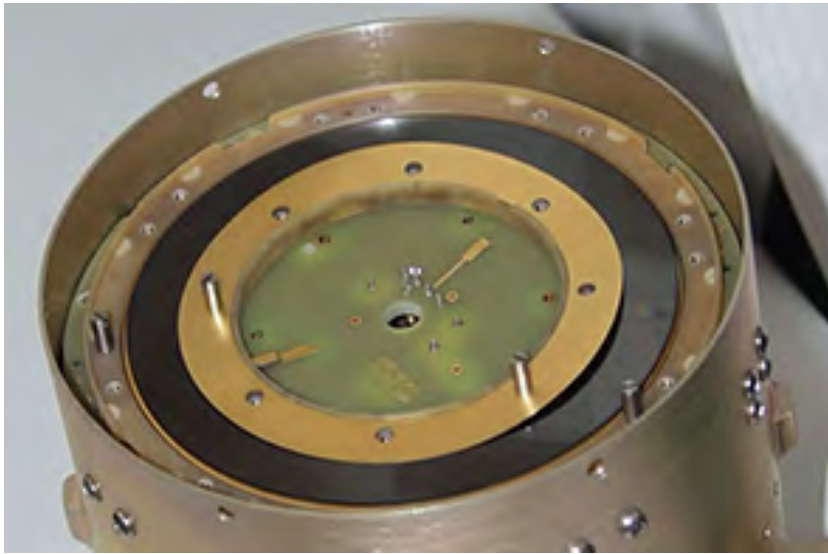


Fig. 4 Electron optic design of MEA.



**Fig. 5** View of the MCPs located inside the MEA2 sensor head.

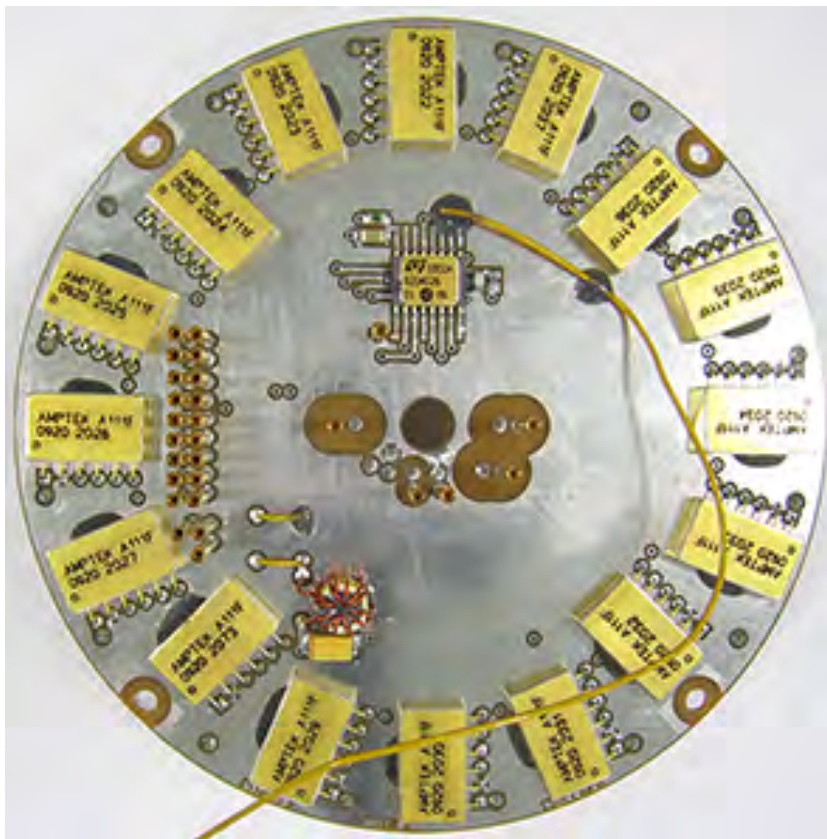
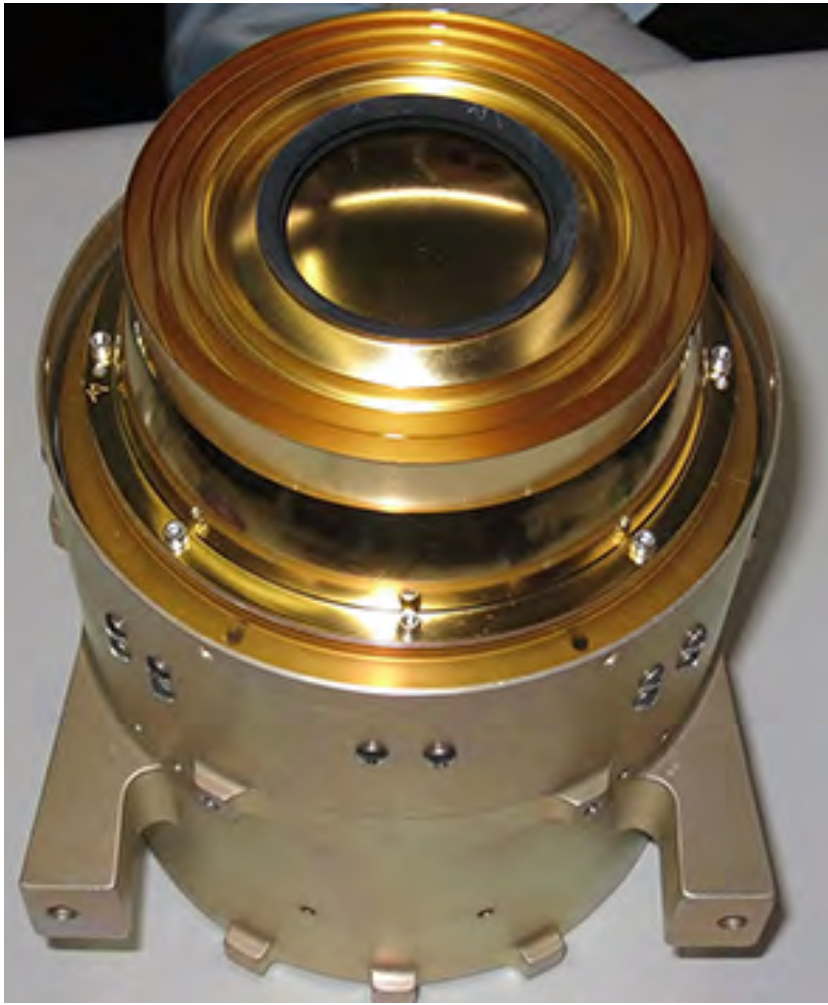
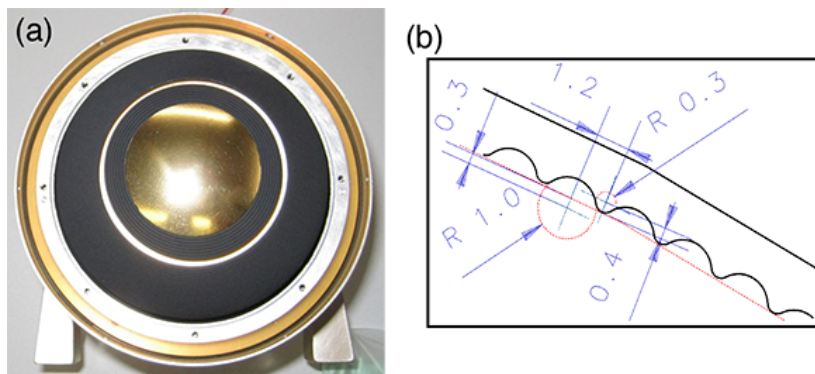


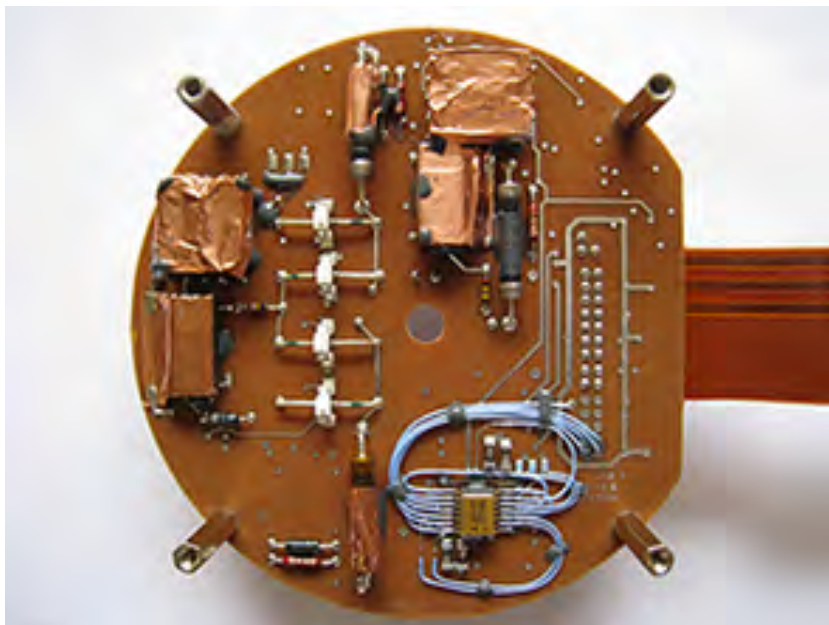
Fig. 6 Anode board of MEA2.



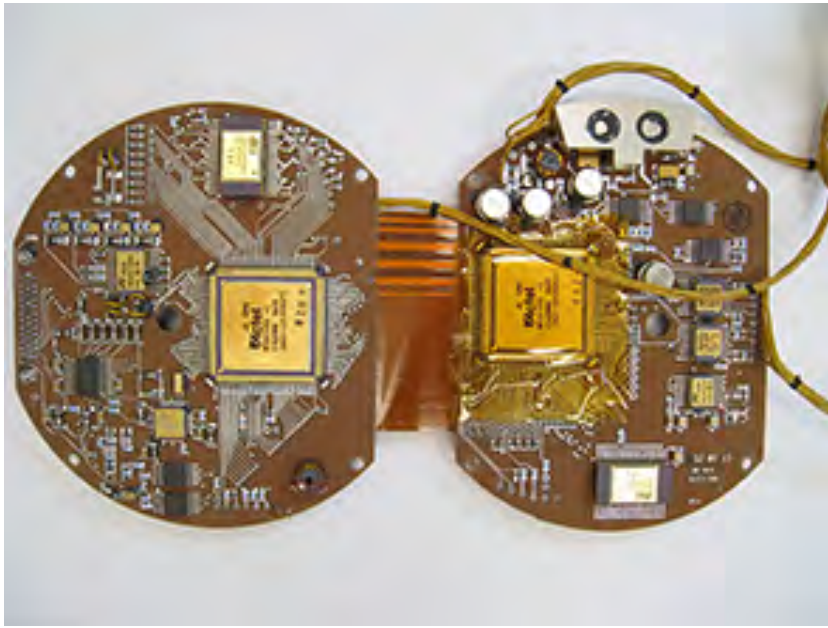
**Fig. 7** View of the entrance of the electrostatic analyzer of MEA.



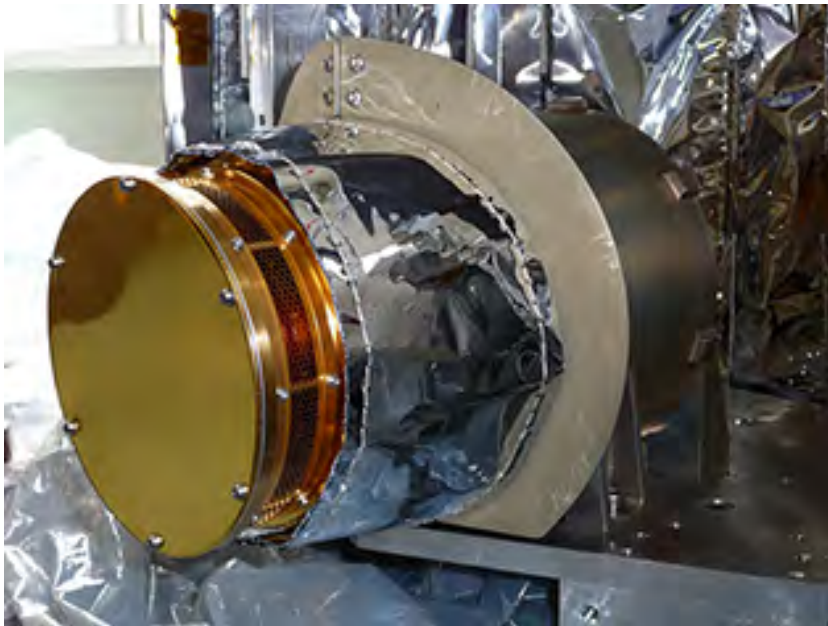
**Fig. 8** (a) View of the toroidal inner sphere of MEA2. (b) Dimensions of the scalloping used.



**Fig. 9** High-voltage board of MEA2.



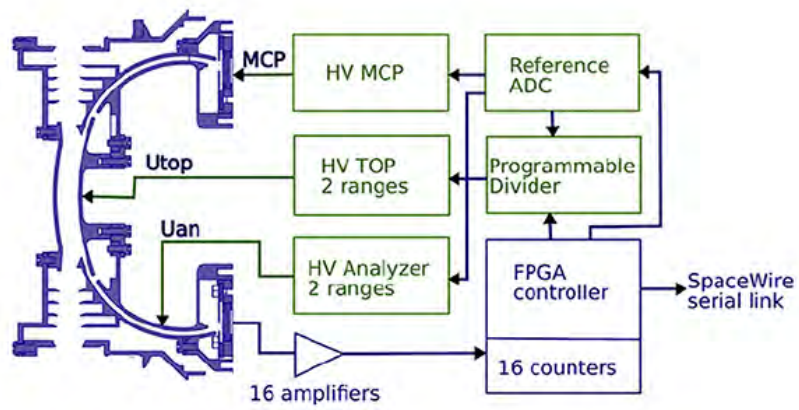
**Fig. 10** FPGA board of MEA2.



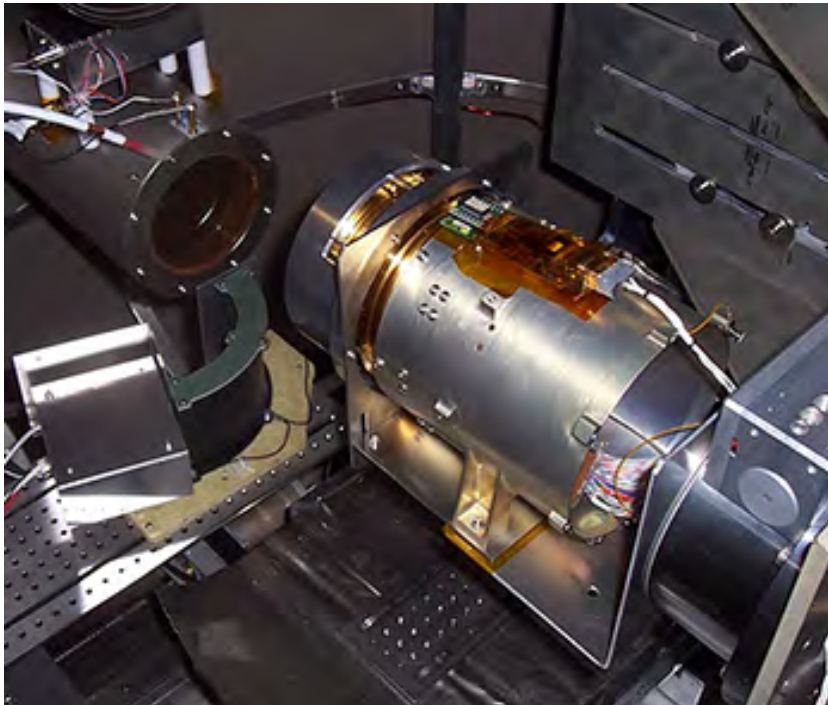
**Fig. 11** MEA2 with its multi-layer insulator integrated with the Mio spacecraft.



**Fig. 12** Thermal shield of MEA2.

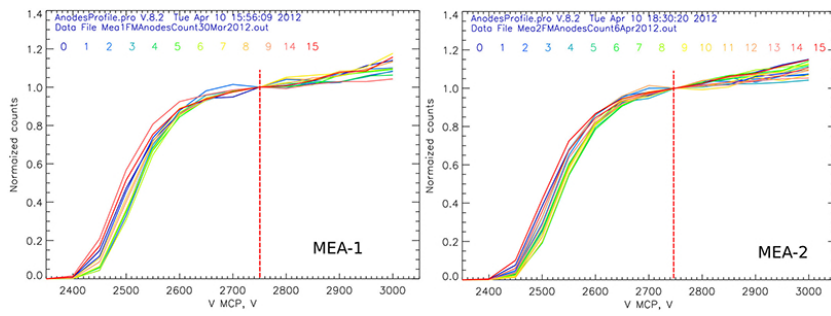


**Fig. 13** Block diagram of MEA.

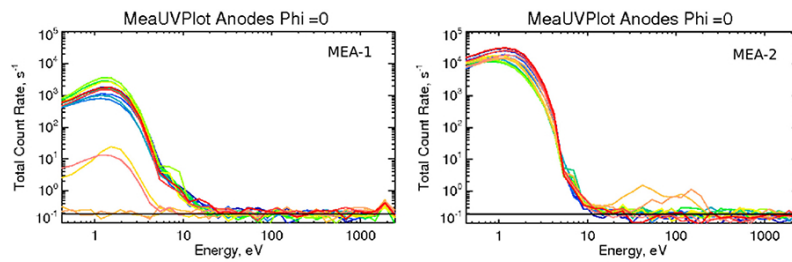


**Fig. 14** MEA1 installed in the vacuum chamber. A magnetometer is glued to the sensor housing. The instrument is turned by 90° in elevation. The simulator for the thermal shield of the sensor is shown above the aperture of the sensor.

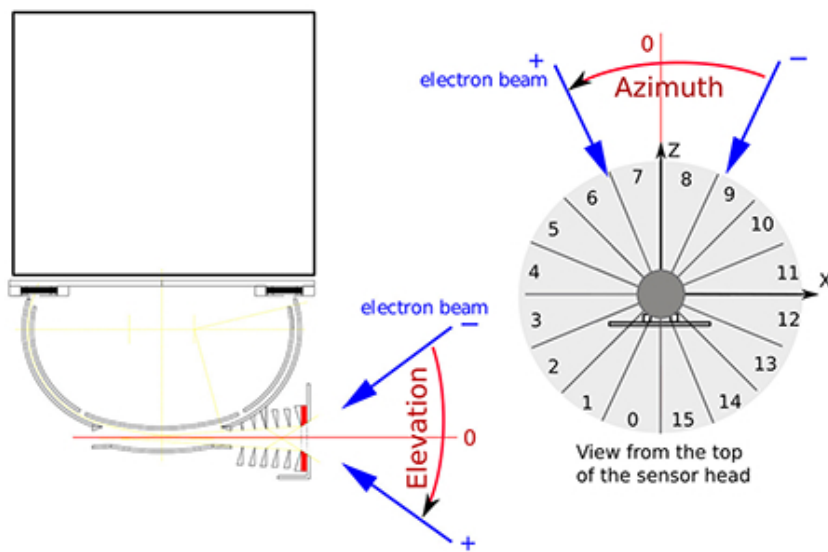




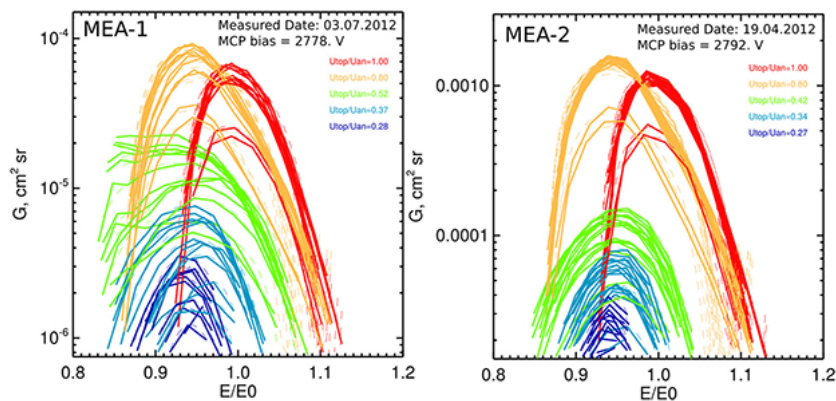
**Fig. 15** MCP counts as a function of MCP bias voltage. Each of the 16 anodes is represented by a different color, with the anode number printed in the same color at the top of the plot.



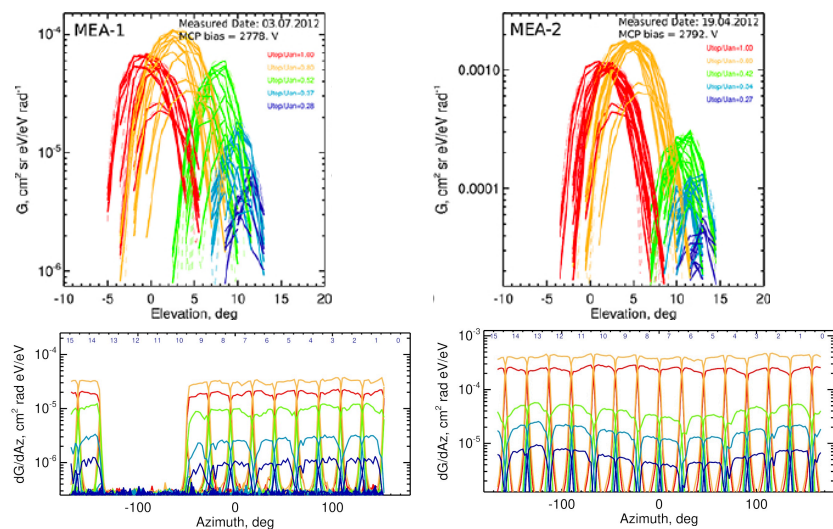
**Fig. 16** UV contamination test results for MEA1 and MEA2. Each of the 16 anodes is represented by a different color as described in Figure 15.



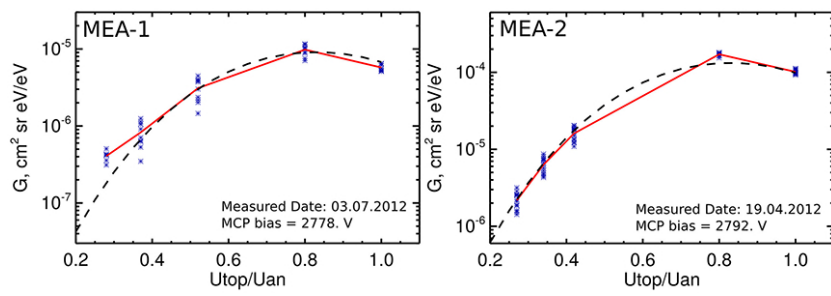
**Fig. 17** Definition of the elevation and azimuth angles for full calibration of the MEA sensors.



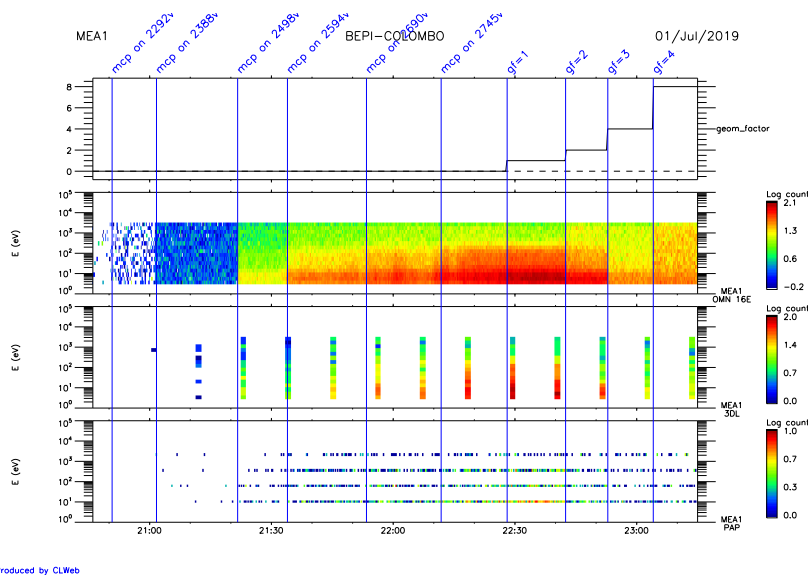
**Fig. 18** Energy responses of different anodes for various G-factor levels. Each of the 16 anodes is represented for each G-factor level.



**Fig. 19** Top: Elevation response of the 16 anodes for various G-factor levels (in color). Each of the 16 anodes is represented for each G-factor level. Bottom: azimuthal response of the 16 anodes for various G-factor levels (in color, same color code as used on the top panel)

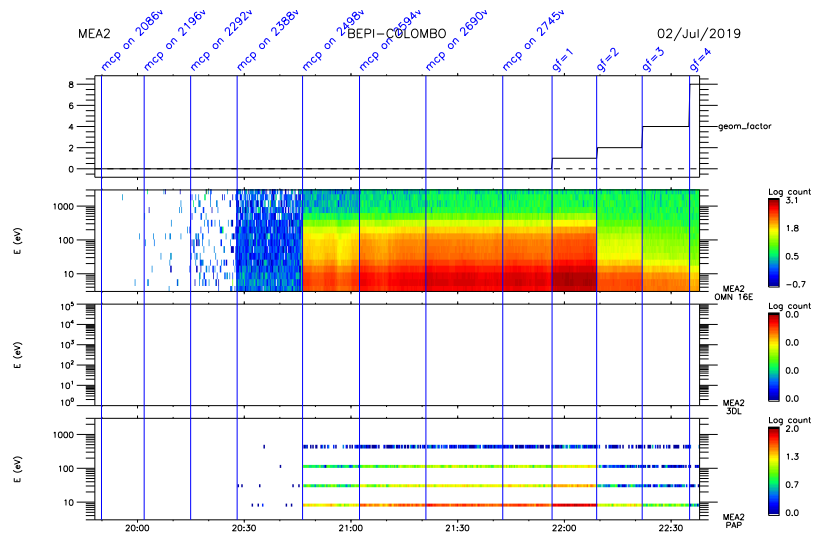


**Fig. 20** Anodes G-factors as a functions of  $U_{top}/U_{an}$ . The dashed lines show the theoretical profile scaled with the appropriate factor.



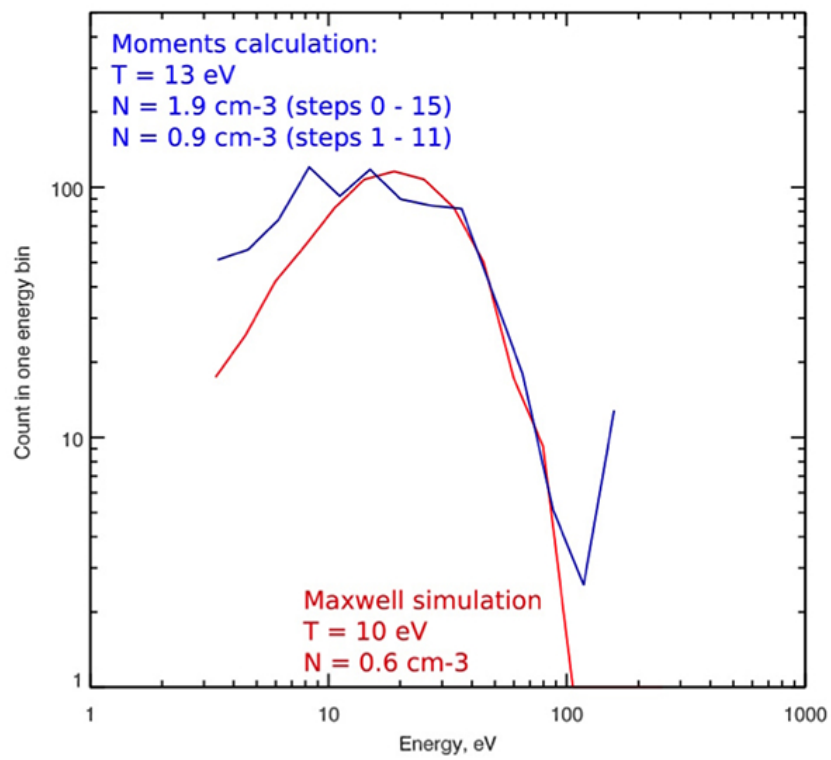
Produced by CLWeb

**Fig. 21** First MEA1 data obtained in the solar wind on July 1, 2019. The first panel is the GF of the sensor that was varied by decreasing the ratio  $U_{top}/U_{an}$  from 1 to its lowest value at the end of the interval (for corresponding values of the GF see Figure 20 from right to left). The vertical lines delineate the commands sent to MEA1 during the time period, particularly when the HV was raised to nominal values of 2750 V. The three following panels indicate the energy-time spectrogram of Et-OMN data (in counts), 3D data, and pitch-angle distributions for four selected energies, in L-mode.



Produced by CLWeb

**Fig. 22** First MEA2 data obtained in the solar wind on July 2, 2019. The description is presented in Figure 21.



**Fig. 23** MEA1 moment (density, temperature) estimated from 3D data (blue) and compared with a Maxwellian distribution function (red), after noise removal. The spike observed above 100 eV corresponds to part of the halo solar wind electron distribution function.



Fig. 24 MIA flight model delivered to the Mio system in June 2014.

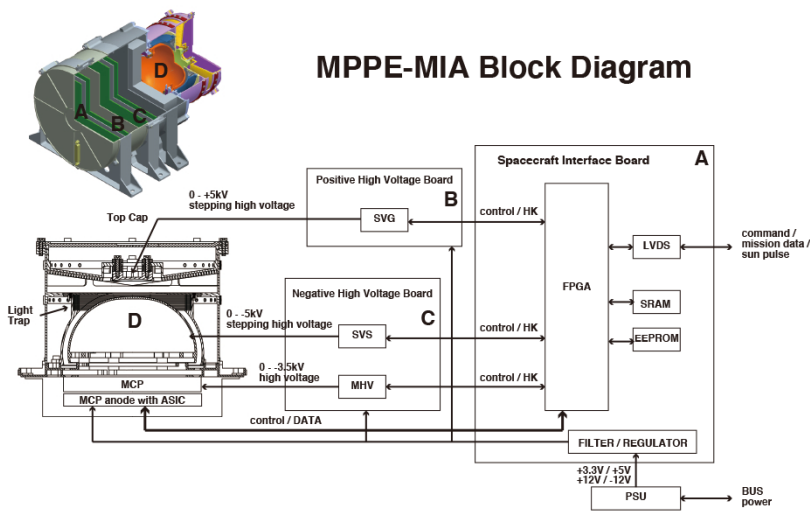
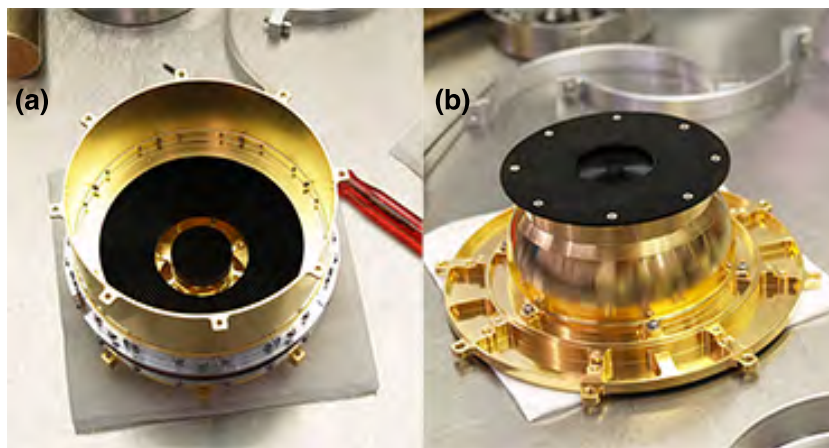
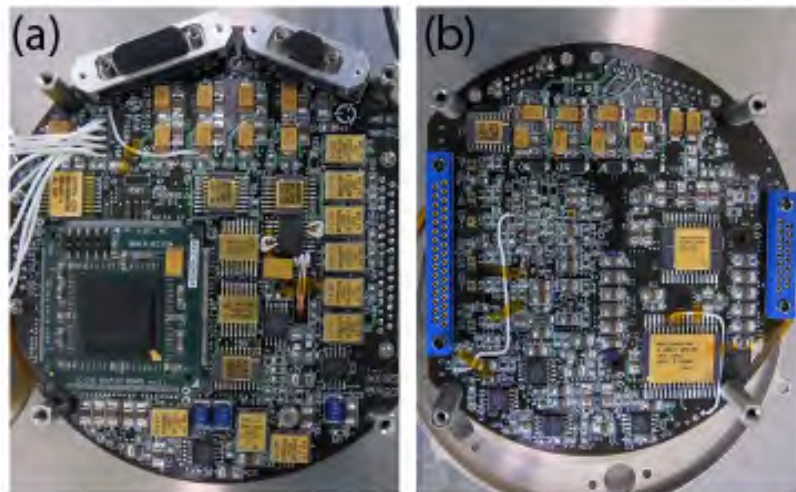


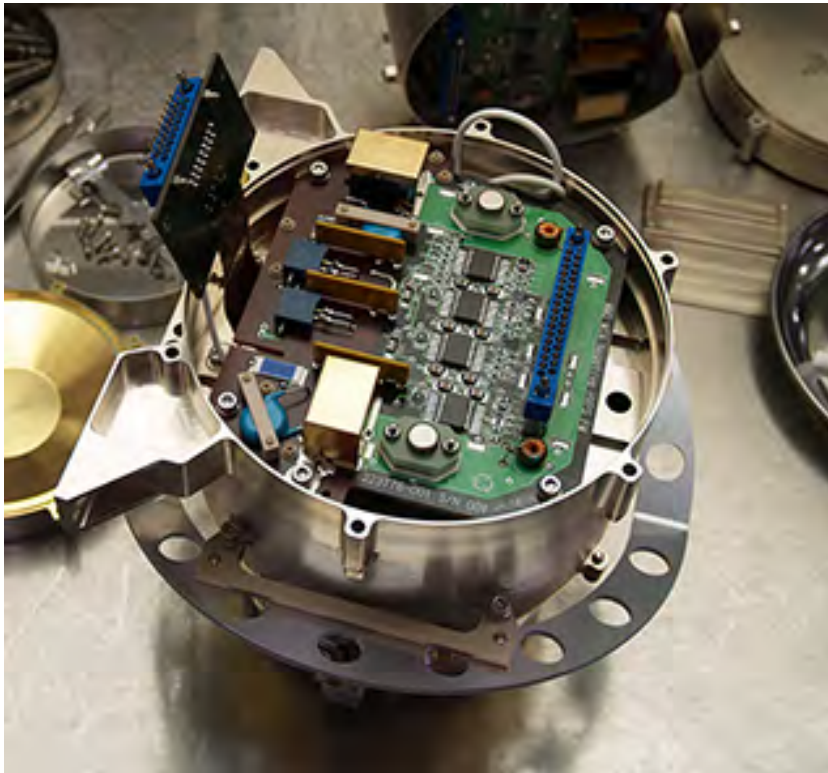
Fig. 25 MIA block diagram.



**Fig. 26** (a)“Top-cap” and upper part of the entrance collimator of MIA. (b)Inner sphere and bottom part of the entrance collimator of MIA. The parts are gold plated or blackened by copper sulfide black.

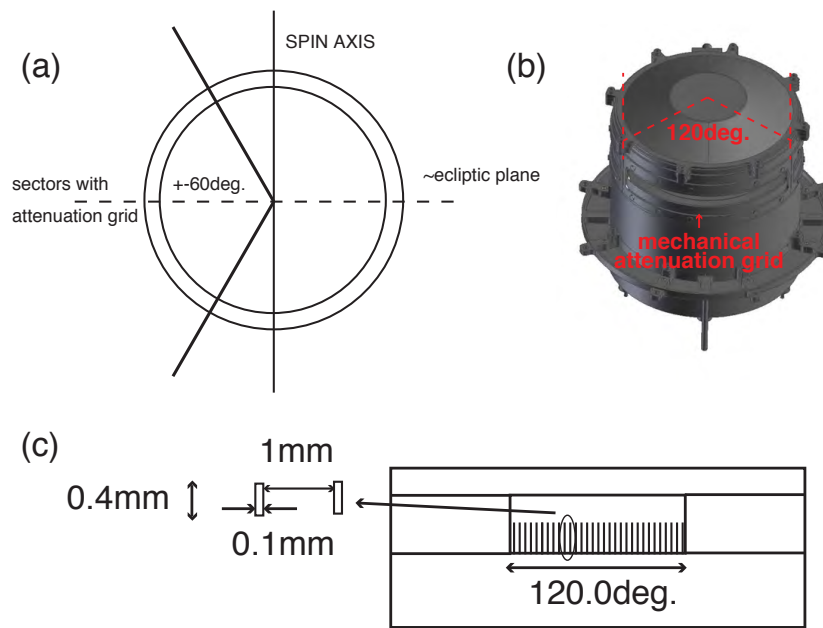


**Fig. 27** Digital interface board of MIA. (a) Rear side, (b) front side.

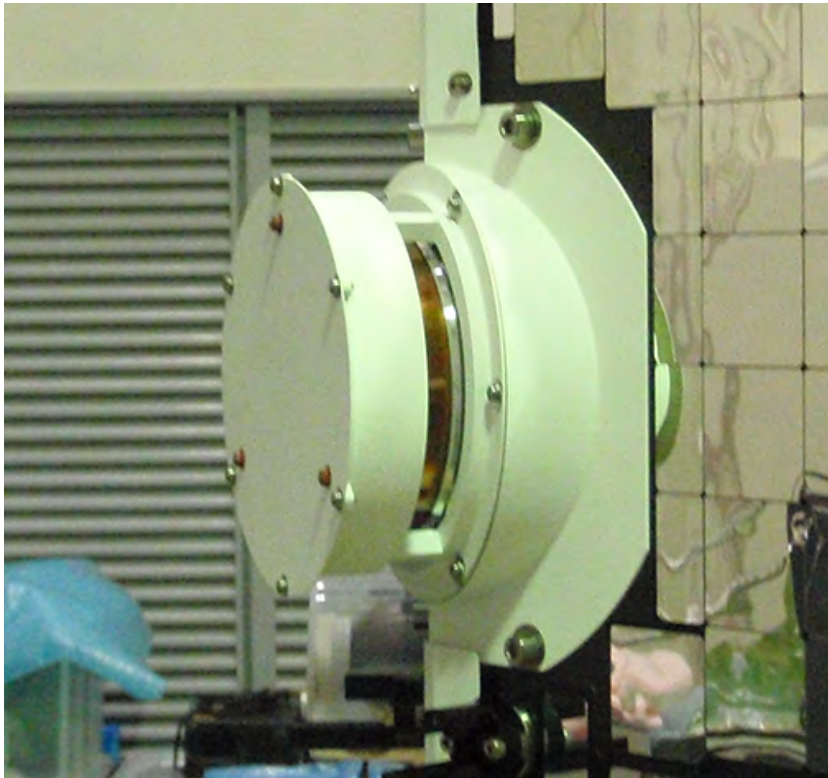


**Fig. 28** Negative high voltage board installed in the chassis of MIA. A Hypertac connector from ASIC on the MCP anode is also shown.

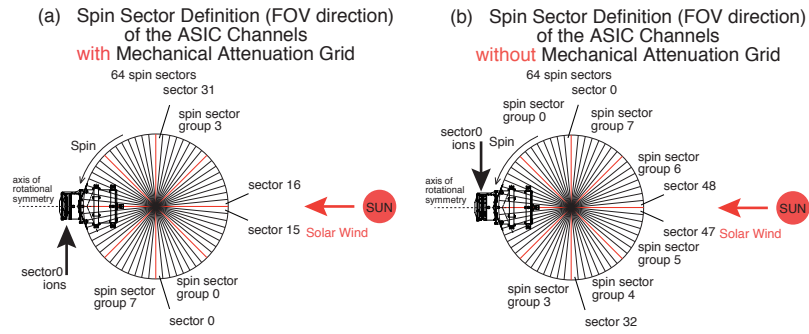




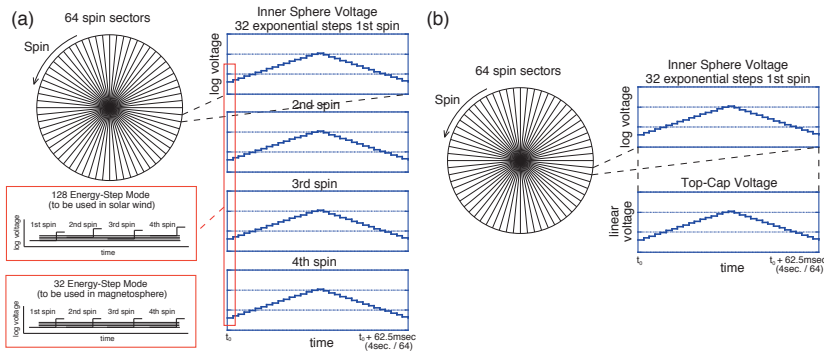
**Fig. 29** Attenuation grid of MIA. (a)The relationship between the spin axis and the entrance of MIA with the mechanical attenuation grid.(b)Ion entrance of MIA with the mechanical attenuation grid. (c) Pattern of attenuation grid.



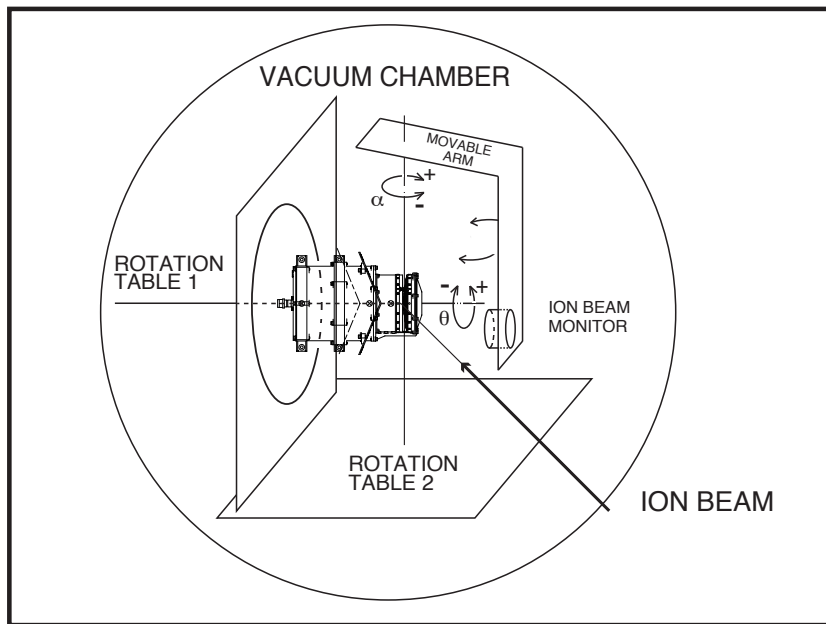
**Fig. 30** MIA with thermal shield installed on one of the eight corners of the Mio spacecraft. The entrance aperture is covered by a Kapton sheet that was removed before the launch.



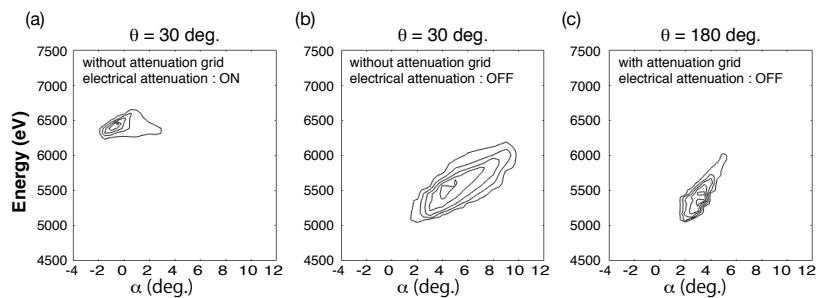
**Fig. 31** Definition of the spin sector 0. Spin Sector 0 is defined when the axis of the rotational symmetry of MIA (dashed line) is pointing away from the Sun. The ion flow direction observed at Spin Sector 0 is indicated by a black arrow and the solar wind ion flow direction is indicated by a red arrow. (a) The solar wind channel with mechanical attenuation grid observes solar wind at spin sector group 1 (from spin sector 8 to 15) and spin sector group 2 (from spin sector 16 to spin sector 23). (b) The other channels without the mechanical attenuation grid observe solar wind at spin sector group 5 (from spin sector 40 to 47) and spin sector group 6 (from spin sector 48 to spin sector 55).



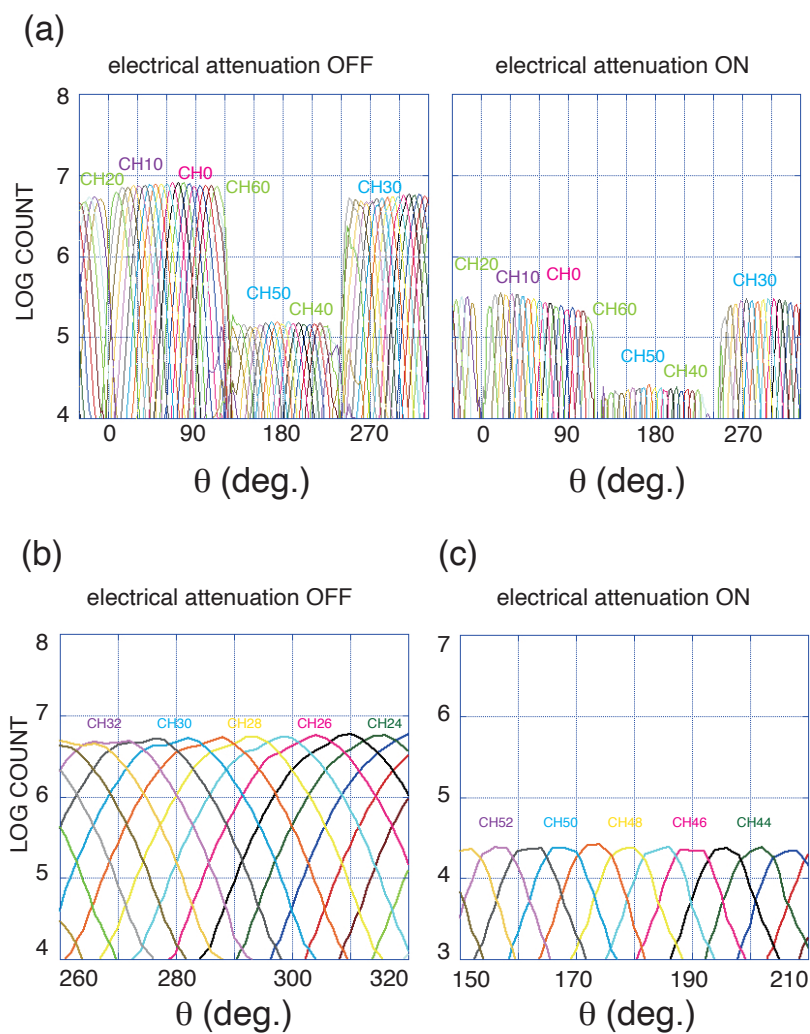
**Fig. 32** Energy sweep waveform of MIA. (a) When observing solar wind ions, 128 energy steps are swept by using 4 different 32 energy steps during 4 consecutive spins. (b) When electrical attenuation is enabled, the same voltages are applied to the inner sphere and the top-cap part.



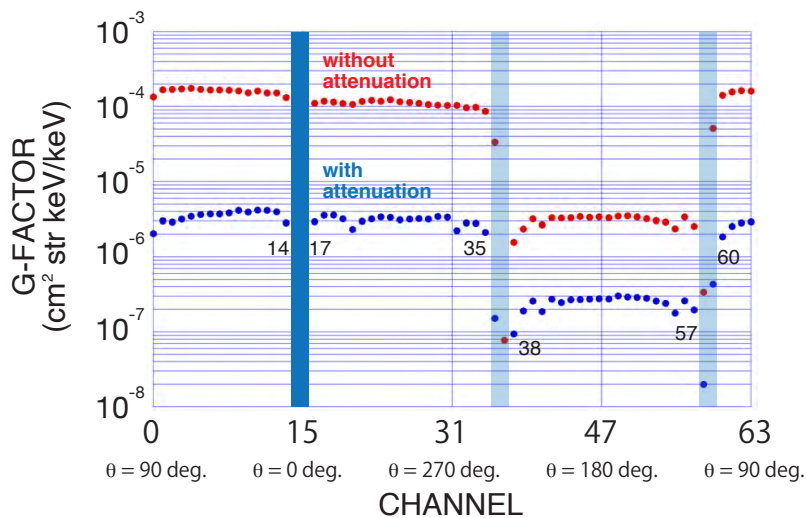
**Fig. 33** Schematic diagram showing the configuration of MIA calibration. Rotation Table 1 is installed on Rotation Table 2. The ion entrance angles  $\alpha$  and  $\theta$  with the definitions of their positive and negative directions are shown.



**Fig. 34** Examples of E- $\alpha$  contour. An ion beam with a sufficiently large area was injected at  $\theta=30^\circ$  for panels (a) and (b) and  $\theta=180^\circ$  for panel (c). The counts are normalized by the maximum count in each E- $\alpha$  contour; five contour lines with levels of 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7 and 0.9 are shown. (a) Without the mechanical attenuation grid; the electrical attenuation is ON. (b) Without the mechanical attenuation grid; the electrical attenuation is OFF. (c) With the mechanical attenuation grid; the electrical attenuation is OFF.



**Fig. 35**  $\theta$  (azimuthal angle) resolution of MIA. (a) The  $\theta$  angle coverage of each anode channel is shown (left panel: electrical attenuation OFF; right panel: electrical attenuation ON). (b) The  $\theta$  angle coverage of anode channels CH23 – CH34 without the mechanical attenuation grid and the electrical attenuation is OFF. (c) The  $\theta$  angle coverage of anode channels CH42 – CH53 with the mechanical attenuation grid and the electrical attenuation is ON.



**Fig. 36** Geometrical factor of MIA. Red dots show G-factor without electrical attenuation. Blue dots show G-factor with electrical attenuation (energy sweep mode 1). The light and thick blue boxes indicate the channels affected by the physical supports across the entrance aperture. Channel 15 is connected to an annular anode where no ions from the analyzer are expected to enter for monitoring the background count (Saito et al., 2017). Channel 16, which is not connected to an anode is used to monitor the electrical background noise. The relationship between the ion entrance angle  $\theta$  (Figure 33) and the corresponding ASIC channel is also shown.

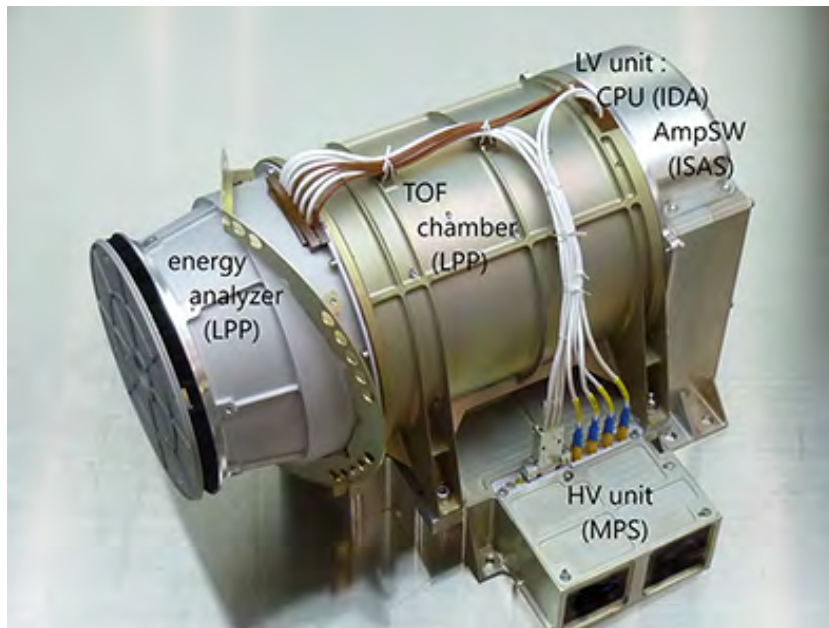


Fig. 37 MSA flight model delivered to Mio system in June 2014.

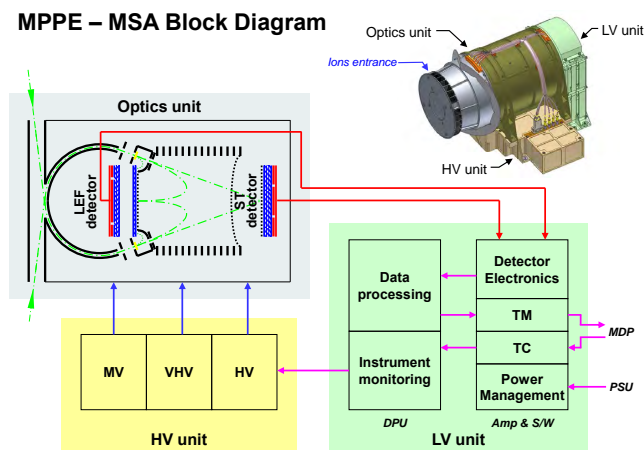


Fig. 38 Block diagram of MSA.

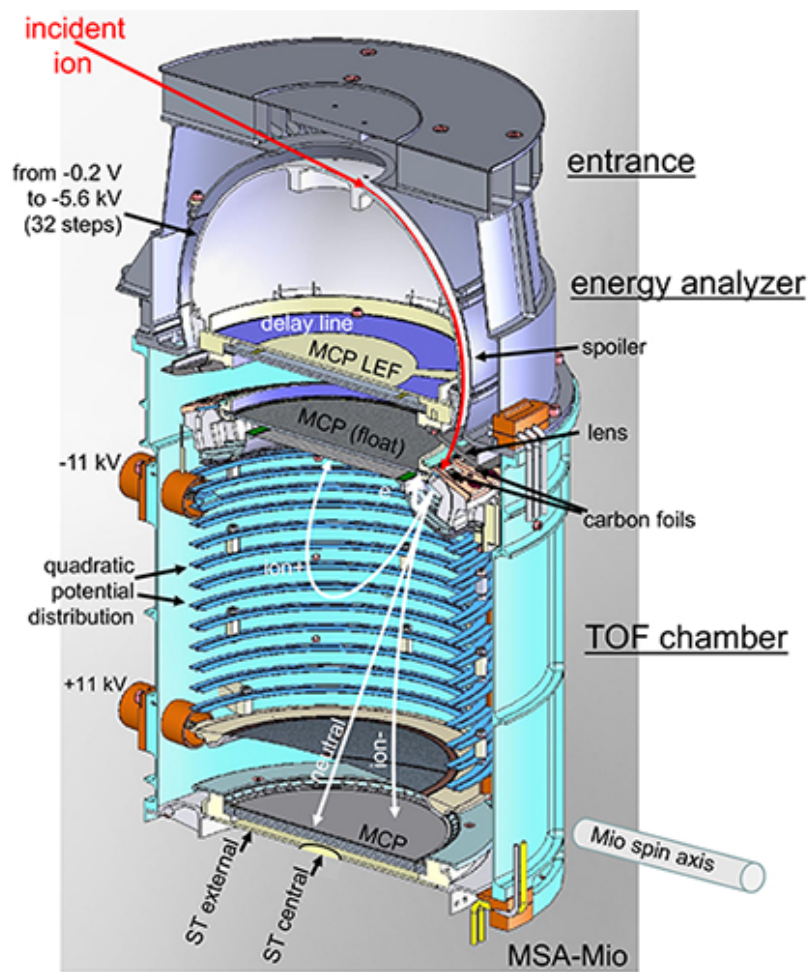


Fig. 39 Schematic illustration of MSA principles.



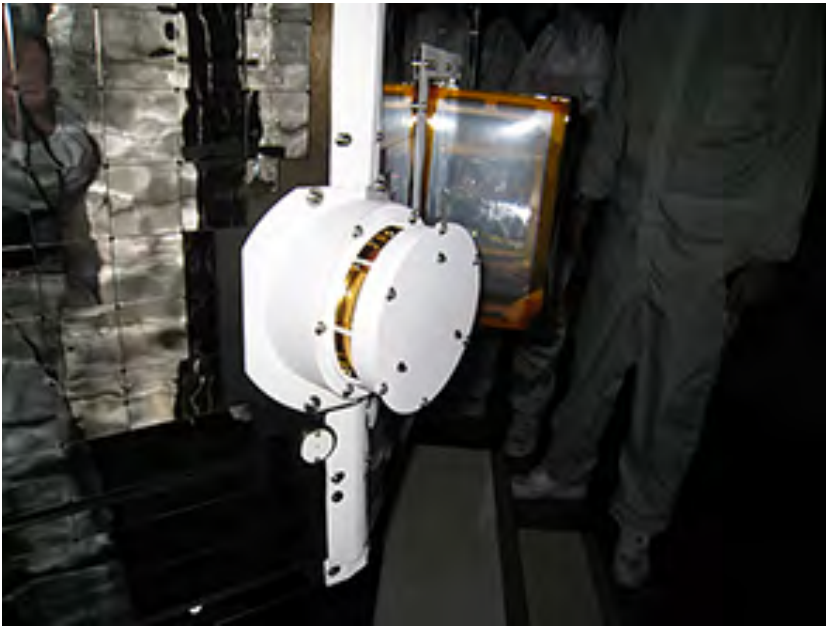


Fig. 40 Thermal shield of MSA.

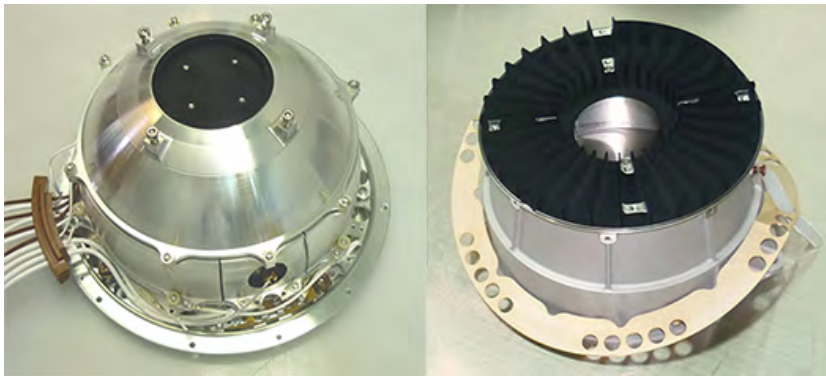
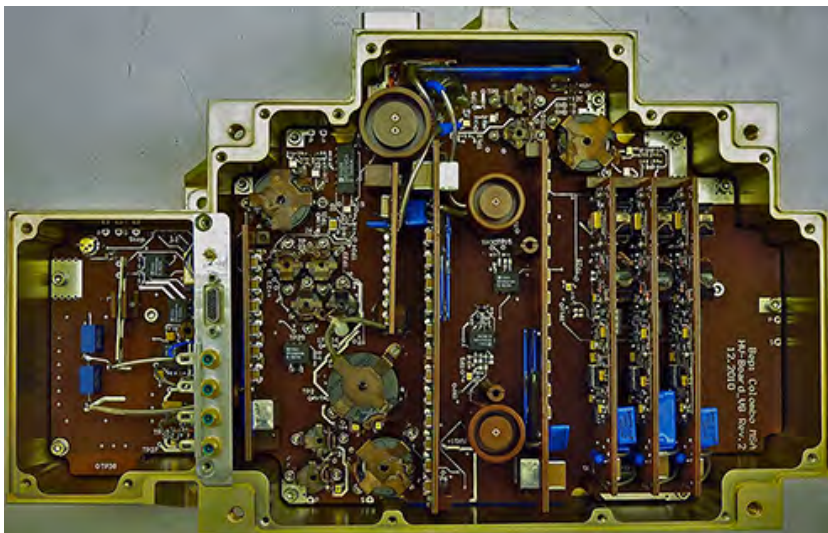


Fig. 41 Copper sulfide blackened energy analyzer (left) and entrance section (right).



**Fig. 42** Energy analyzer (left, viewed from the back), and TOF chamber (right, view from top).



**Fig. 43** MSA HPVS (top view).

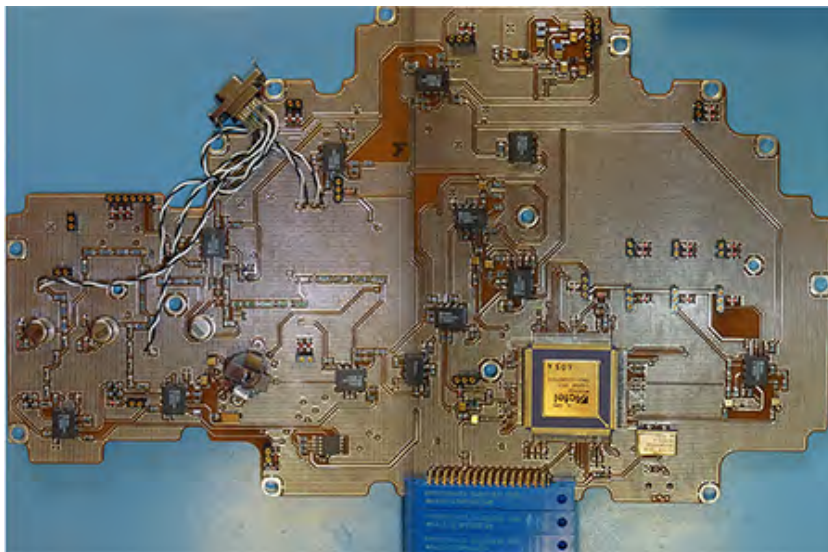


Fig. 44 MSA HVPS (bottom view).

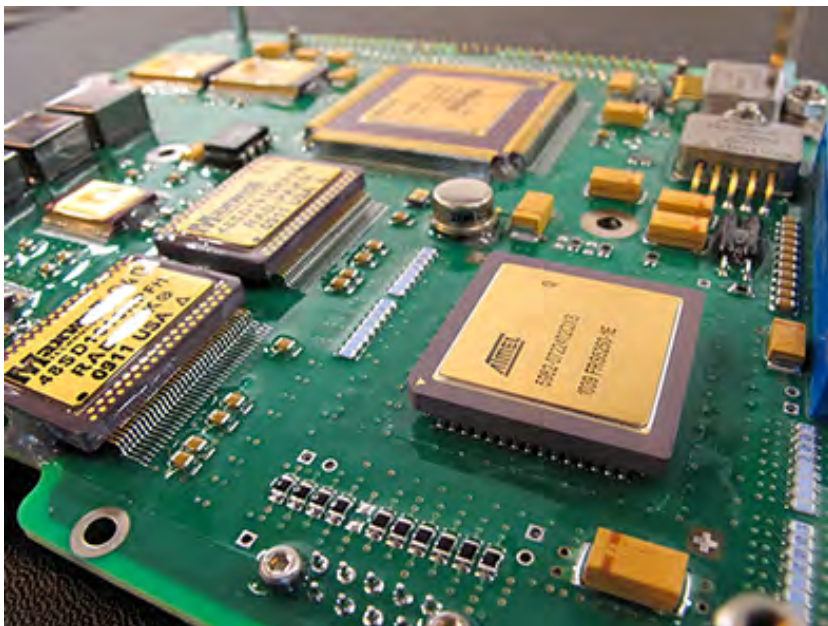


Fig. 45 MSA CPU (top view).

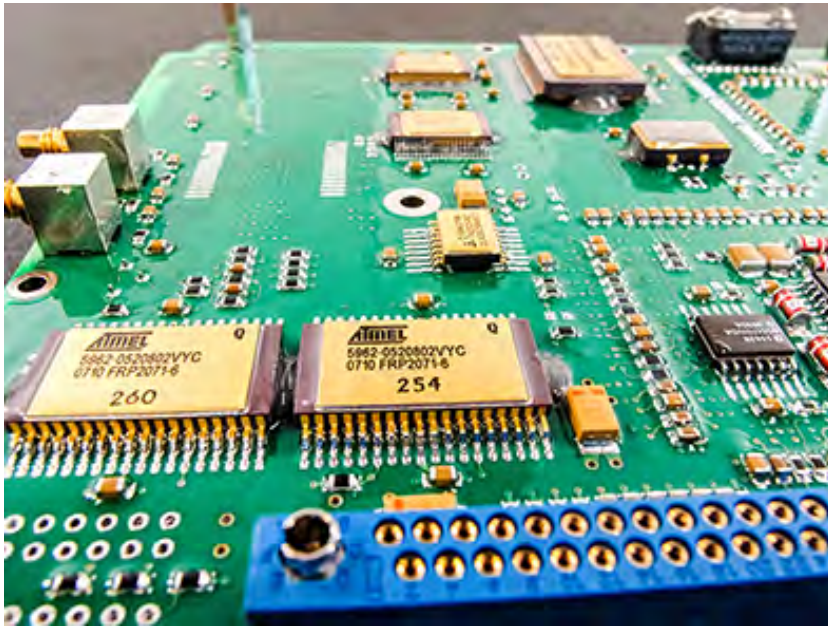


Fig. 46 MSA CPU (bottom view).

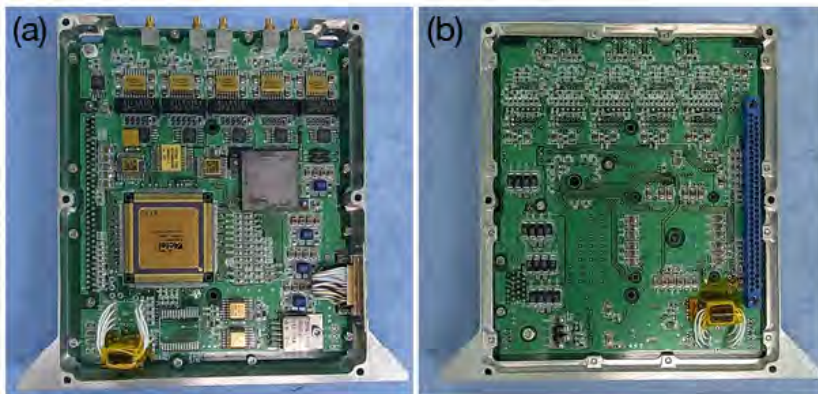
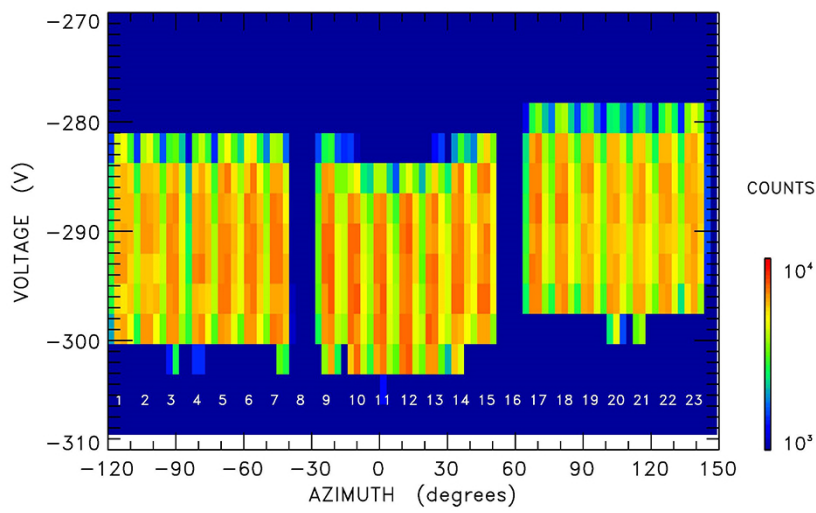
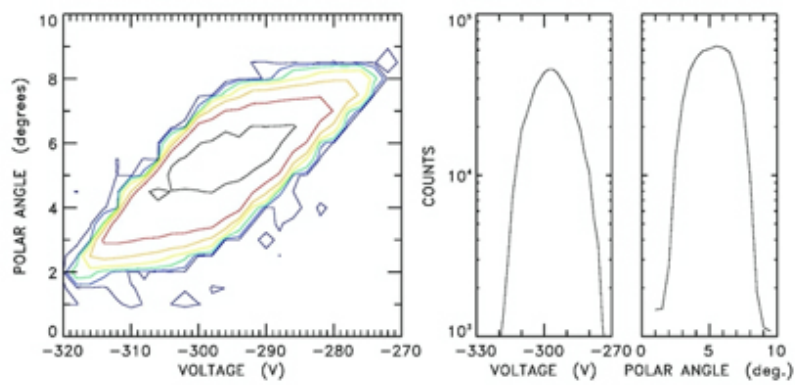


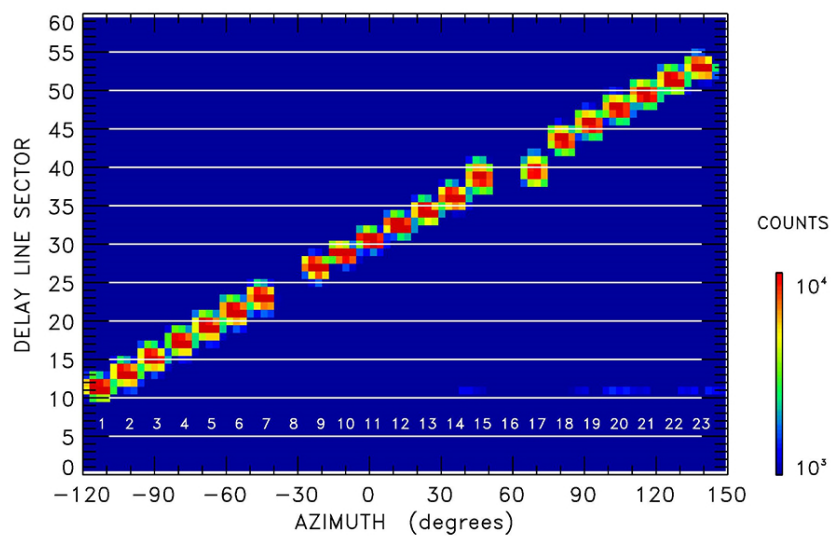
Fig. 47 MSA TOF signal amplifiers and SpaceWire interface. (a) top view (b) bottom view.



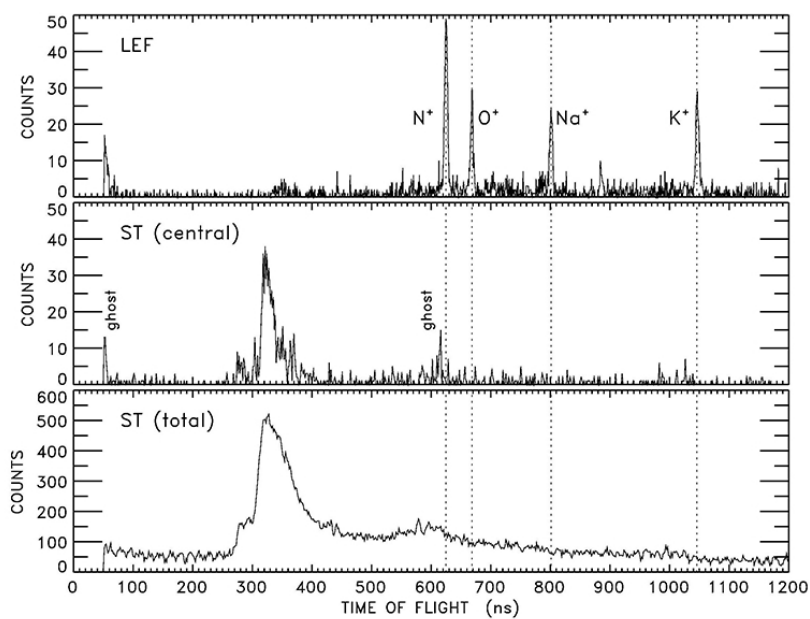
**Fig. 48** Color-coded count rate as functions of azimuth and voltage applied on the inner sphere of the energy analyzer for a 2 keV  $N^+$  beam.



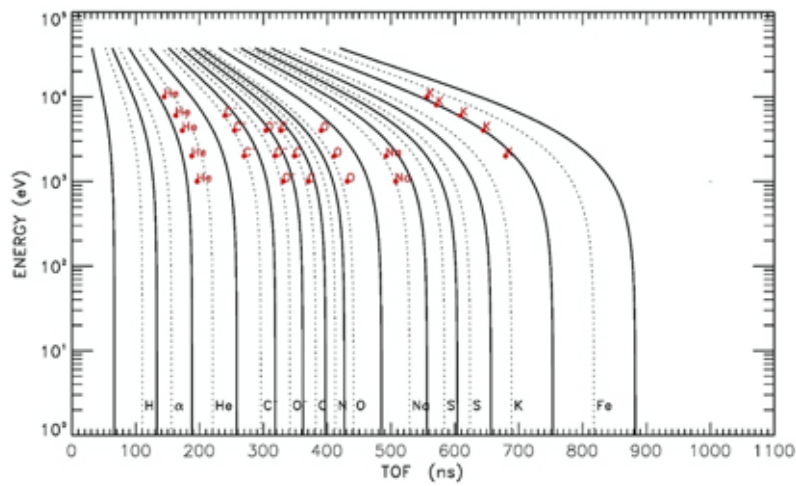
**Fig. 49** Count rate contours as functions of the polar angle (elevation) and voltage (energy) for MSA entrance window No. 11 using a 2 keV  $N^+$  beam (left). Integrated counts versus voltage and integrated counts versus elevation (right) (after Delcourt et al. (2016)).



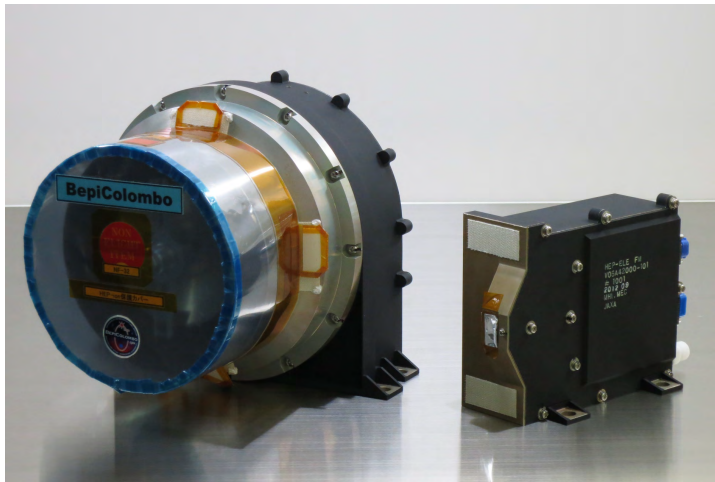
**Fig. 50** Color-coded count rate as functions of azimuth and delay line sector for a 2 keV  $N^+$  beam.



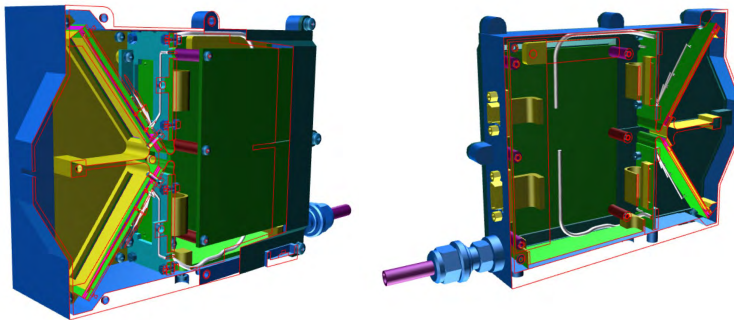
**Fig. 51** TOF spectra for a 5 keV beam of  $N^+$ ,  $O^+$ ,  $Na^+$  and  $K^+$  ions with TOF chamber high voltage set to  $\pm 11$  kV. From top to bottom : LEF, central ST and total ST (after Delcourt et al. (2016)).



**Fig. 52** TOF variation versus energy for different ion species (dotted lines) as obtained from equation (3) of Delcourt et al. (2016) with  $L = 16$  cm. The solid lines depict the TOF intervals attributed to each species and the red dots show the results of MSA FM calibration. The TOF chamber voltage is set to 11 kV.

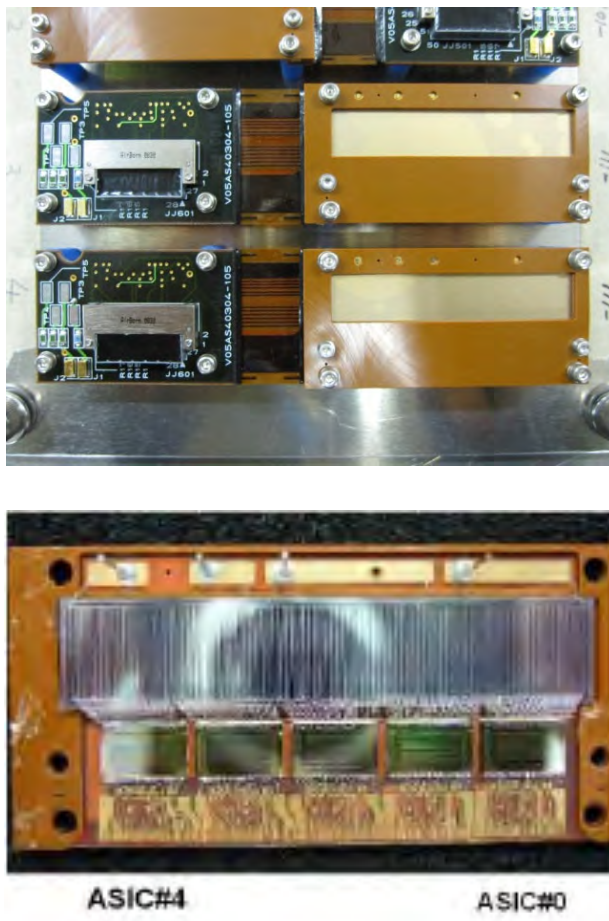


**Fig. 53** HEP-ele and HEP-ion with some non-flight items(blue) in a clean bench.



**Fig. 54** Cross sections with slightly oblique cutaway of 3D drawing of HEP-ele from two directions.





**Fig. 55** SSSD-ASIC assembly of HEP-ele.

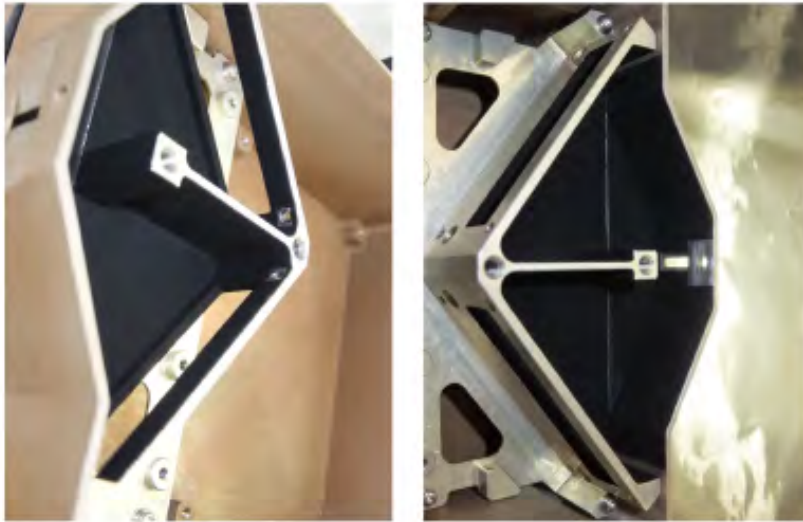


Fig. 56 HEP-ele detector section structures blackened with conductive paint.

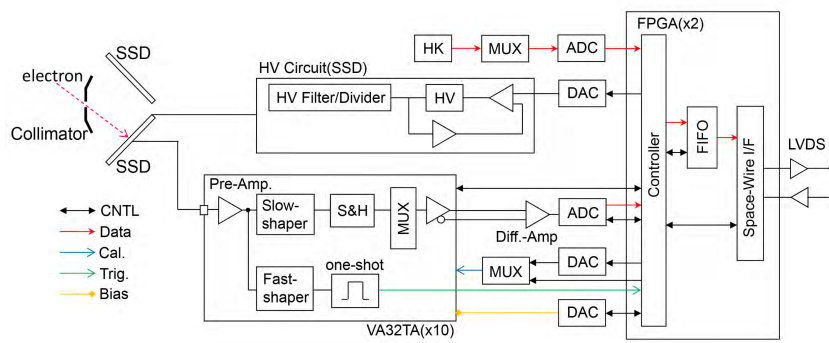


Fig. 57 Block diagram of HEP-ele.

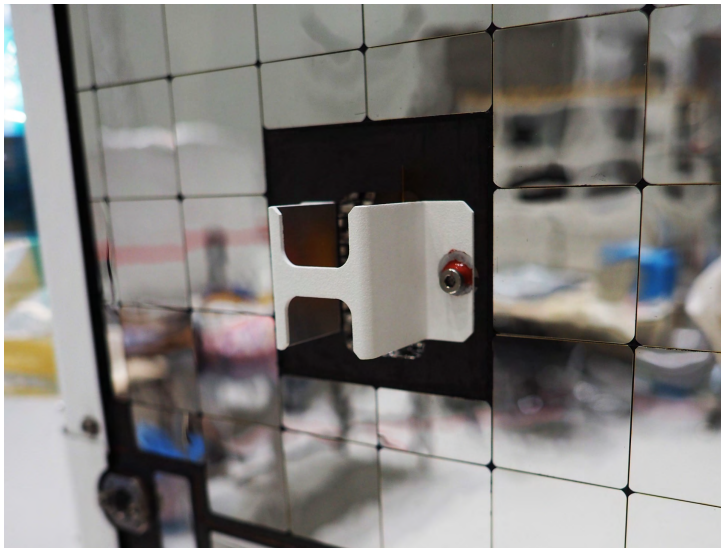


Fig. 58 HEP-ele onboard BepiColombo-Mio photographed during the final works before launch.

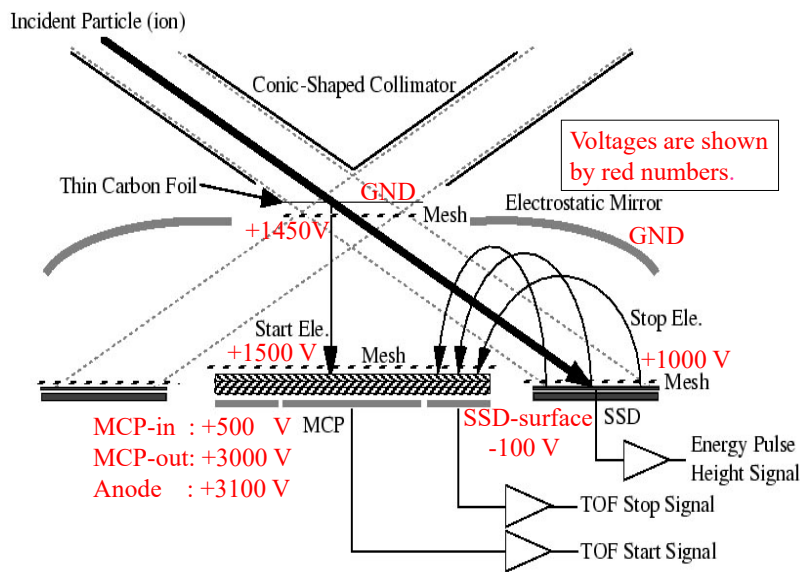
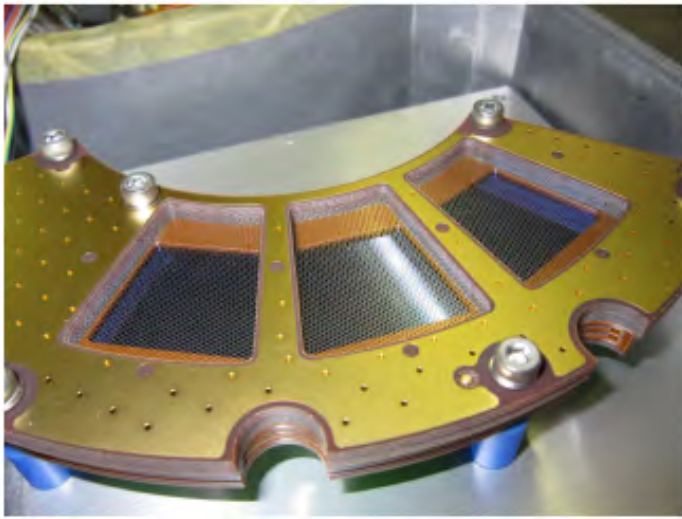
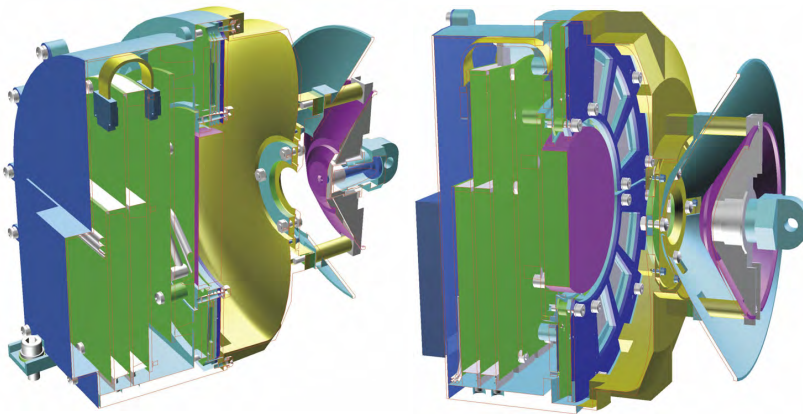


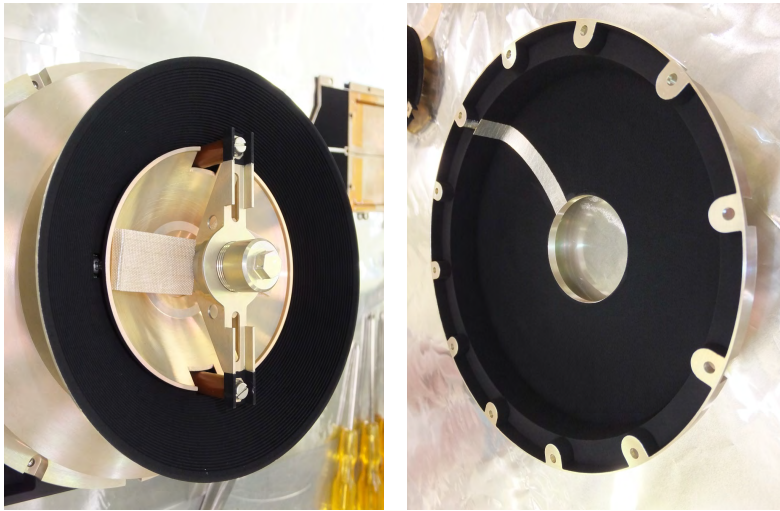
Fig. 59 Measurement principles illustrated on a cross-section of HEP-ion.



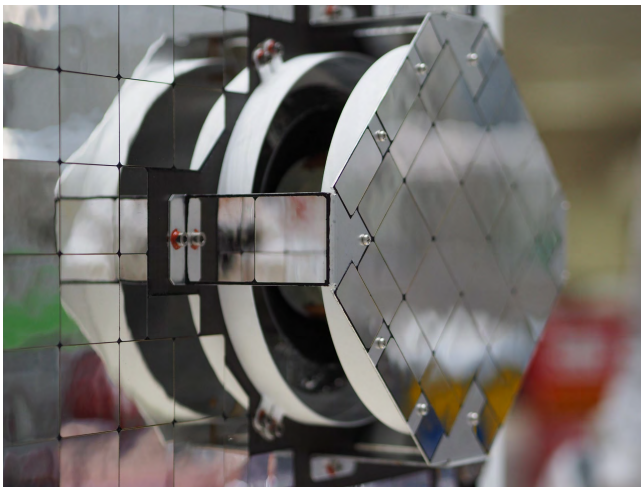
**Fig. 60** Proto-type SSSD-ASIC assembly for HEP-ion, which is similar to that of the flight model.



**Fig. 61** Cross sections with slightly oblique cutaway of 3D drawings of HEP-ion from two directions.



**Fig. 62** HEP-ion collimator(left) and electrostatic mirror(right) of the TOF unit blackened with conductive paint.



**Fig. 63** HEP-ion onboard BepiColombo-Mio photographed during the final works before launch.

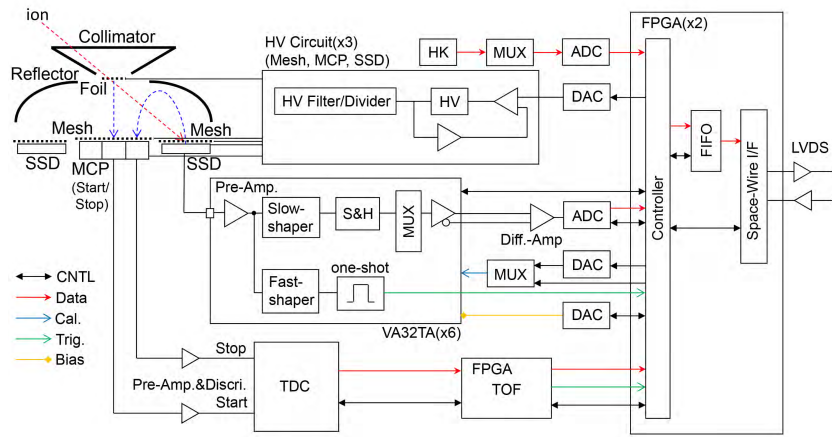


Fig. 64 Block diagram of HEP-ion.

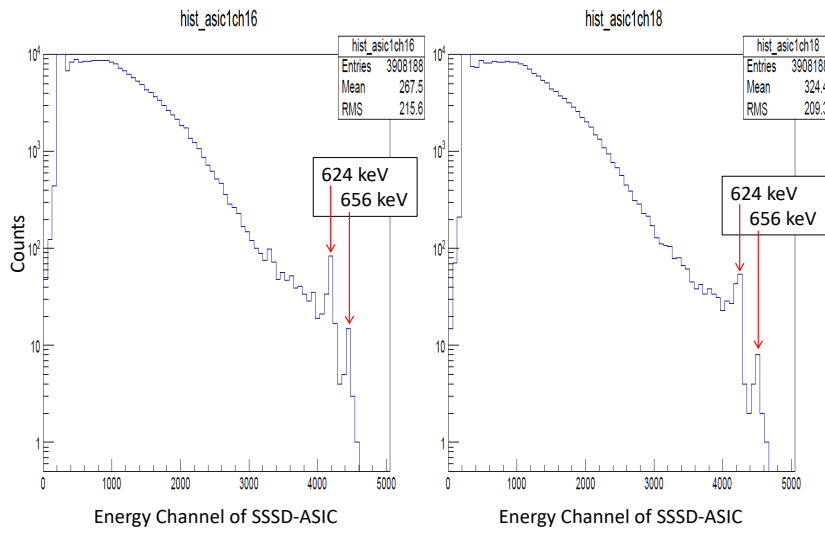
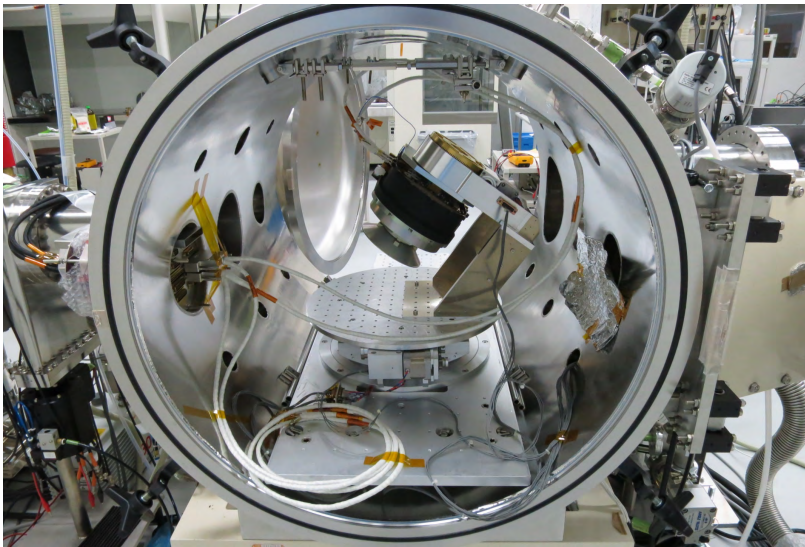


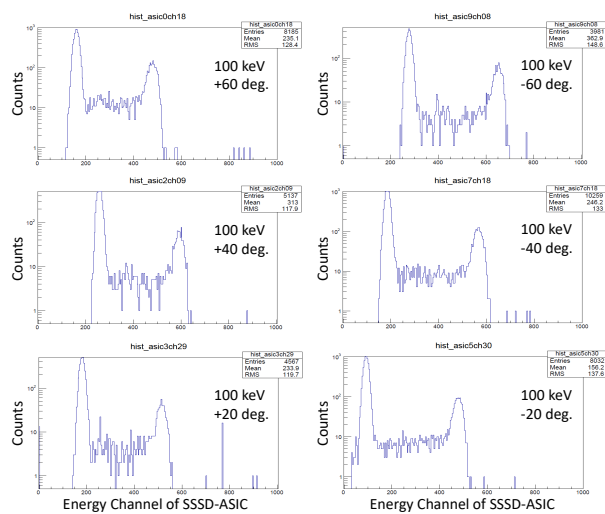
Fig. 65 Examples of pulse height analysis obtained for two strips of the SSSD-ASIC assemblies in HEP-ele.



**Fig. 66** Calibration facility at the Solar-Terrestrial Environment Laboratory(currently the Institute for Space-Earth Environmental research, ISEE) at Nagoya University.

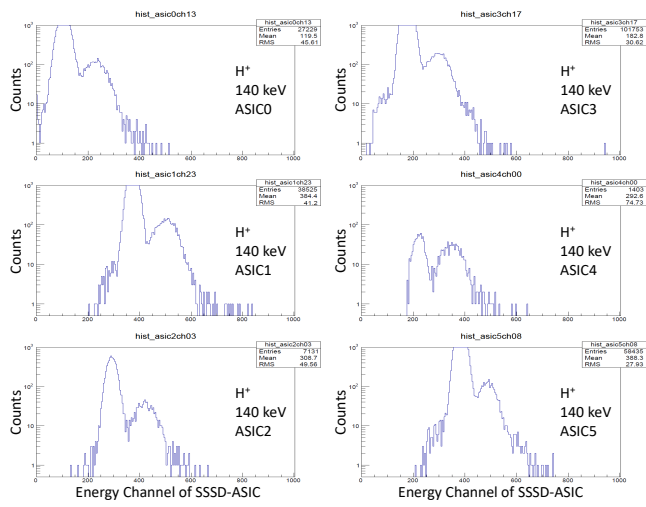


**Fig. 67** HEP-ion set on the multi-axial turntable system in the vacuum chamber at the beamline calibration facility.

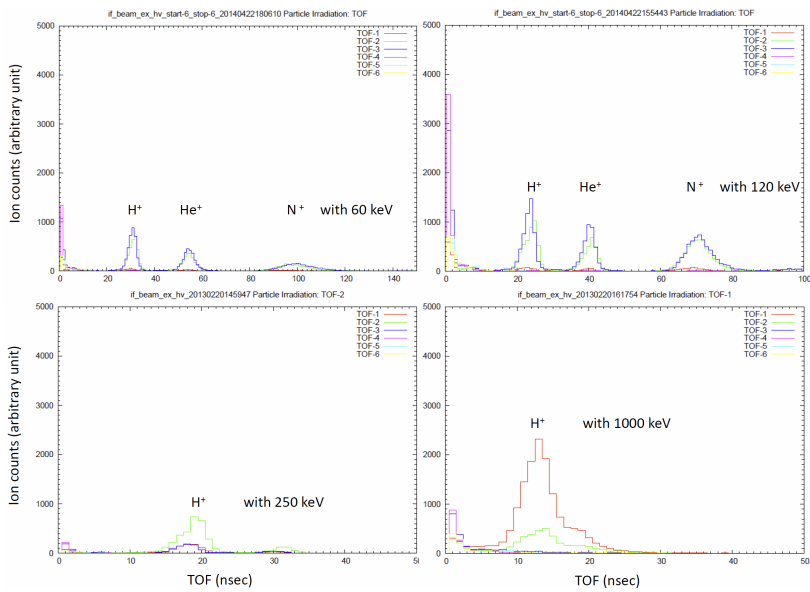


**Fig. 68** Examples of pulse height analysis for six incident (polar) angles obtained in the correspondent strips of two SSSD-ASIC assemblies in HEP-ele.





**Fig. 69** Examples of pulse height analysis for six incident (polar) angles corresponding to the SSSD-ASIC pairs in HEP-ion.



**Fig. 70** TOF profiles for ions with energies of 60, 120, 250, and 1000 keV. Only protons were available for energies beyond 150 keV because of the beamline facility performance.

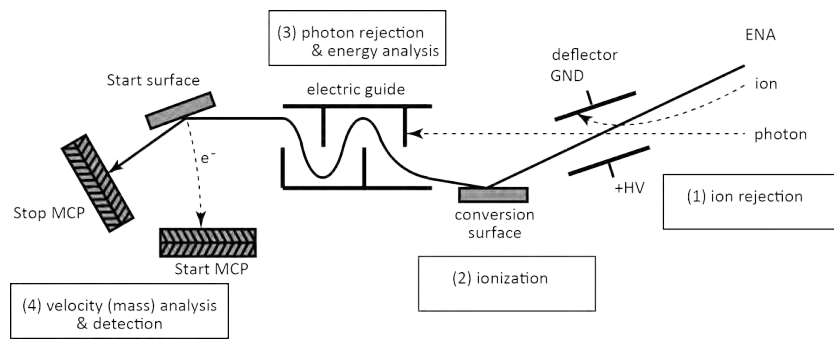


Fig. 71 ENA measurement concept.

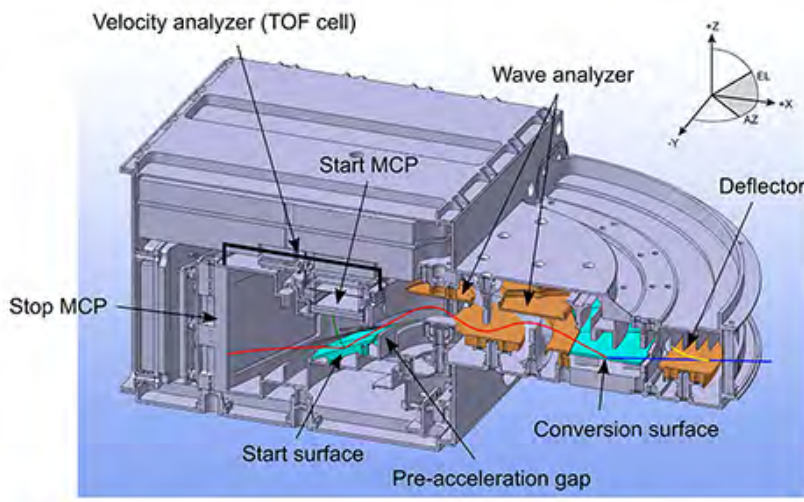


Fig. 72 Sectional view of the ENA sensor.



**Fig. 73** ENA flight model. The sensor is wrapped by MLI, when ENA is installed in the spacecraft.



**Fig. 74** ENA sun shield.

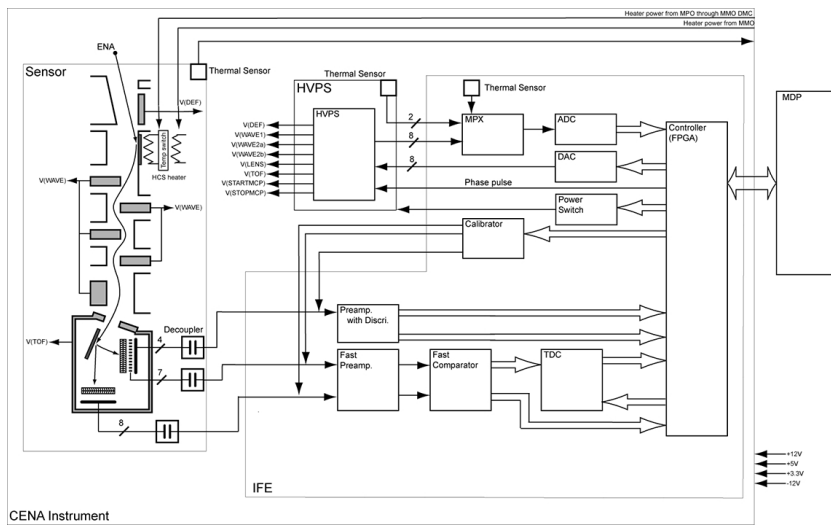


Fig. 75 ENA block diagram.

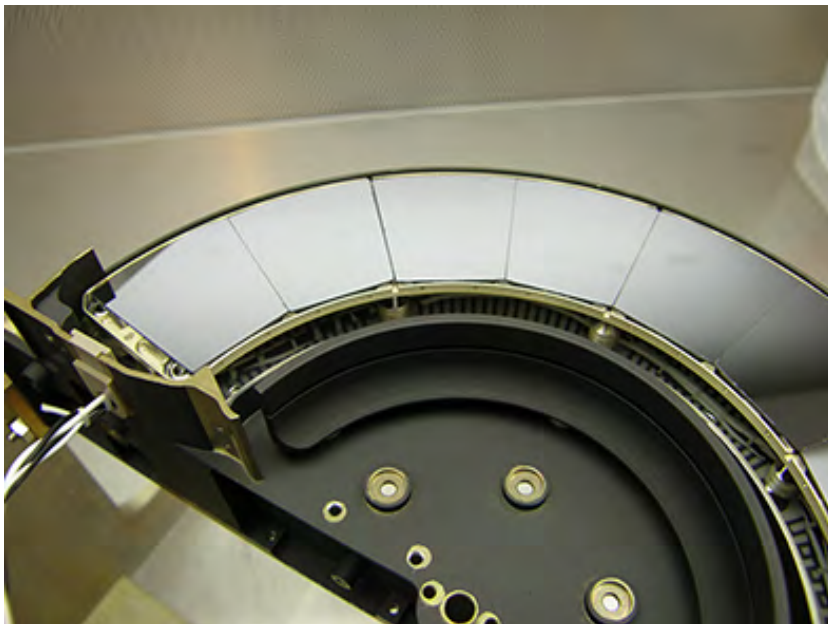
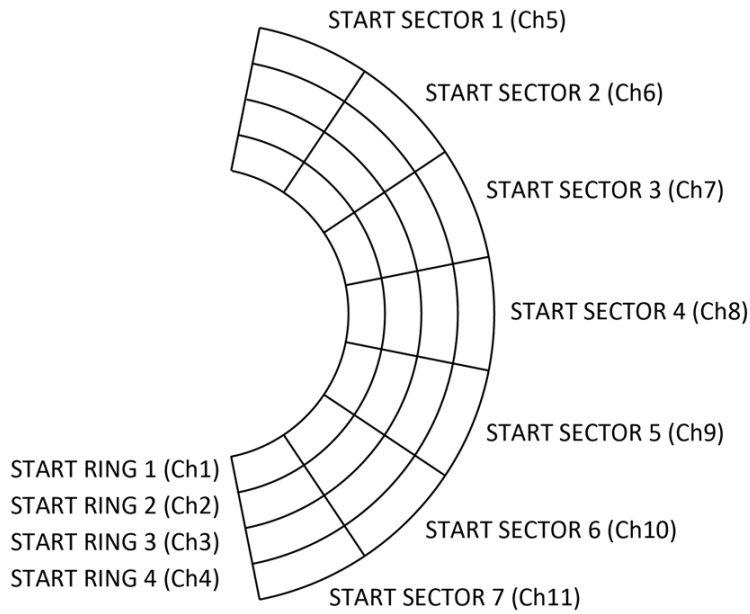
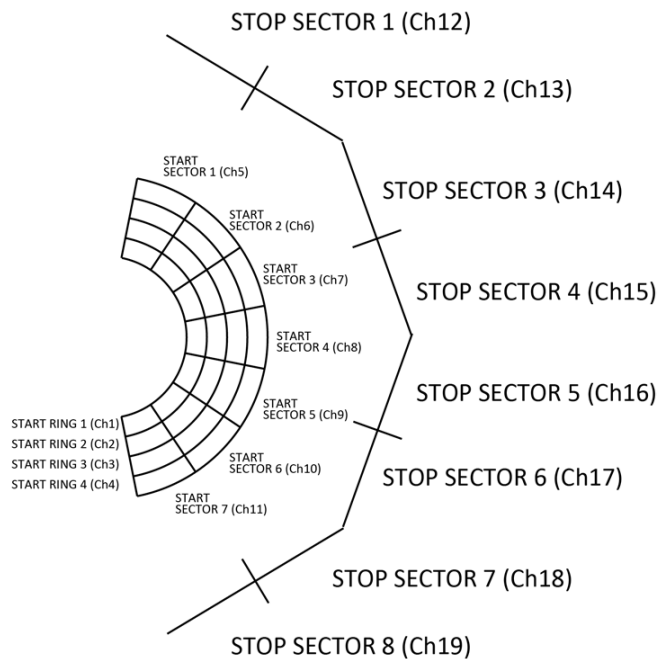


Fig. 76 Conversion surfaces of ENA.

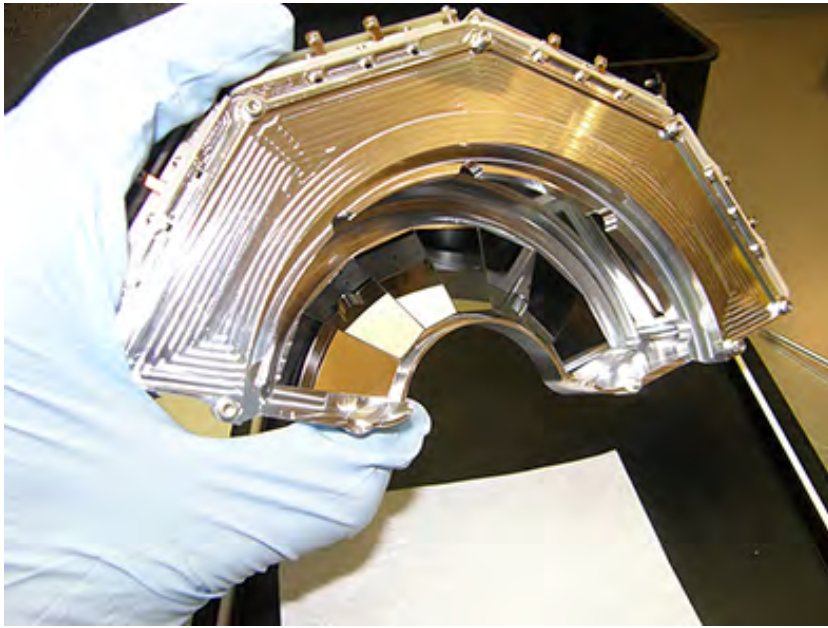
MMO MPPE ENA  
 START MCP Anode Channel Definition  
 (View from START MCP input surface)



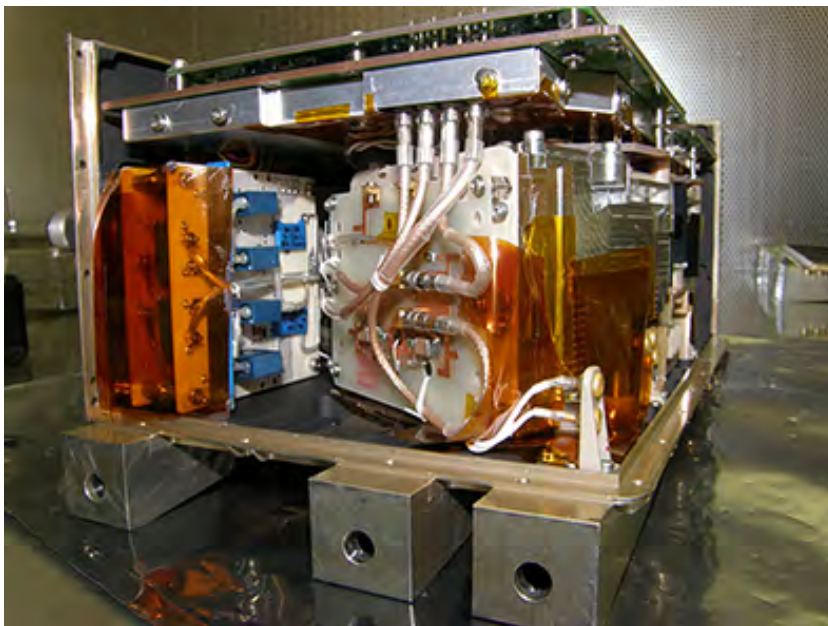
STOP MCP Anode Channel Definition



**Fig. 77** Channel definition of the MCP anodes of ENA. The lower panel showing the channel definition of the STOP MCP anodes includes the channel definition of the START MCP anode which is the same as that in the upper panel.



**Fig. 78** START surface installed in the electrode structure of the TOF section.



**Fig. 79** Assembled configuration of the HVPS, STOP MCP assembly, and preamplifier/digital processing electronics boards.

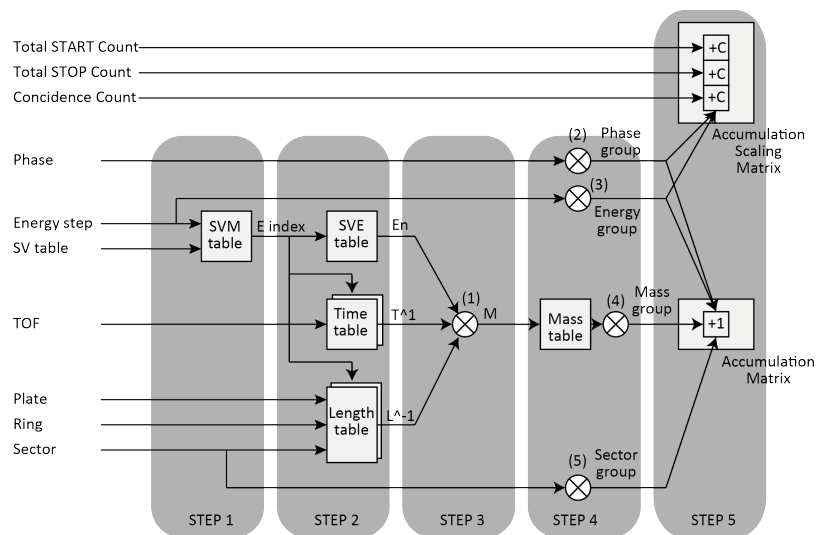
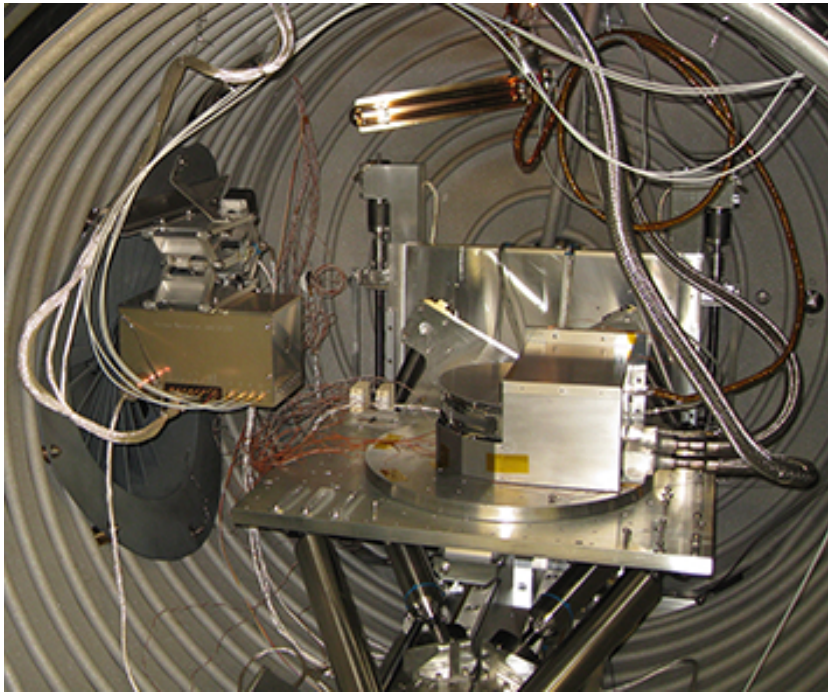
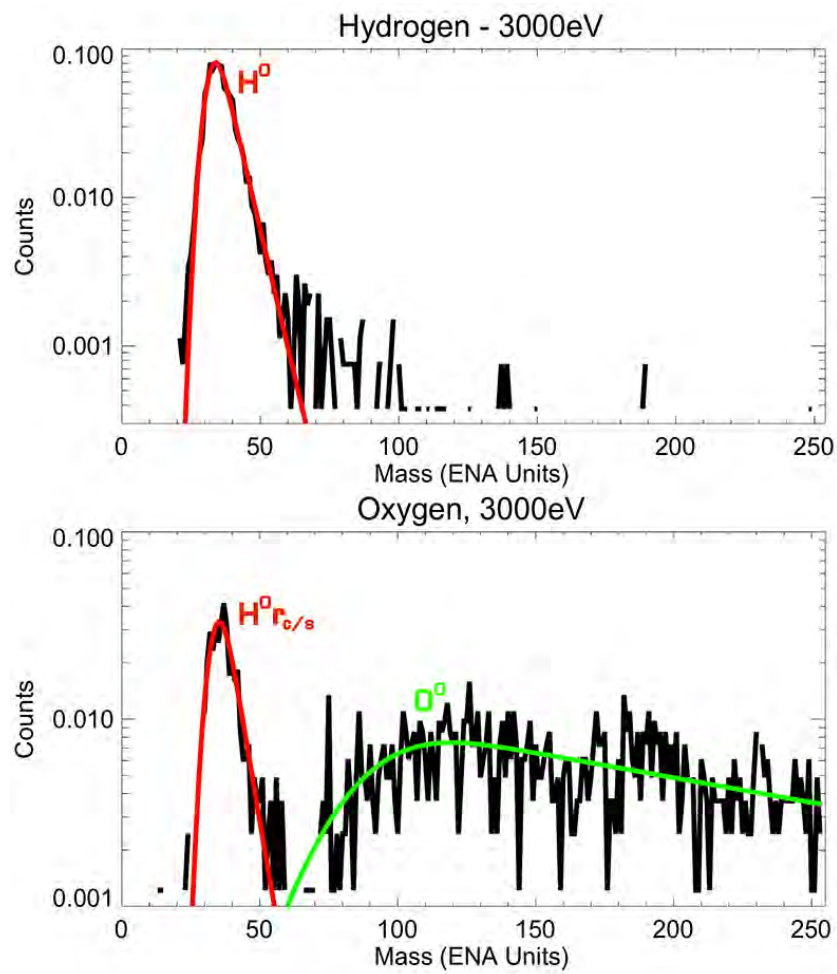


Fig. 80 Schematic diagram of the calculation flow in mass accumulation mode.





**Fig. 81** ENA at the MEFISTO calibration facility. The neutral beam is emitted from the beam neutralizer on the left (gold box). ENA (center) is encapsulated in thermal insulation sheets to facilitate temperature control. The entire instrument setup can be moved and rotated relative to the incoming neutral beam with 6° of freedom.



**Fig. 82** Typical mass spectra for incident neutral hydrogen (top) and oxygen (bottom). The black lines show the measured data, the colored lines are fitted curves.  $H^0$ : hydrogen peak,  $O^0$ : oxygen peak,  $H^0_{r_e/s}$ : hydrogen signal owing to a recoil process at the conversion surface. The X-axis in both plots is in mass bin units  $M$  as shown in Figure 80 and the Y-axis is in arbitrary units.