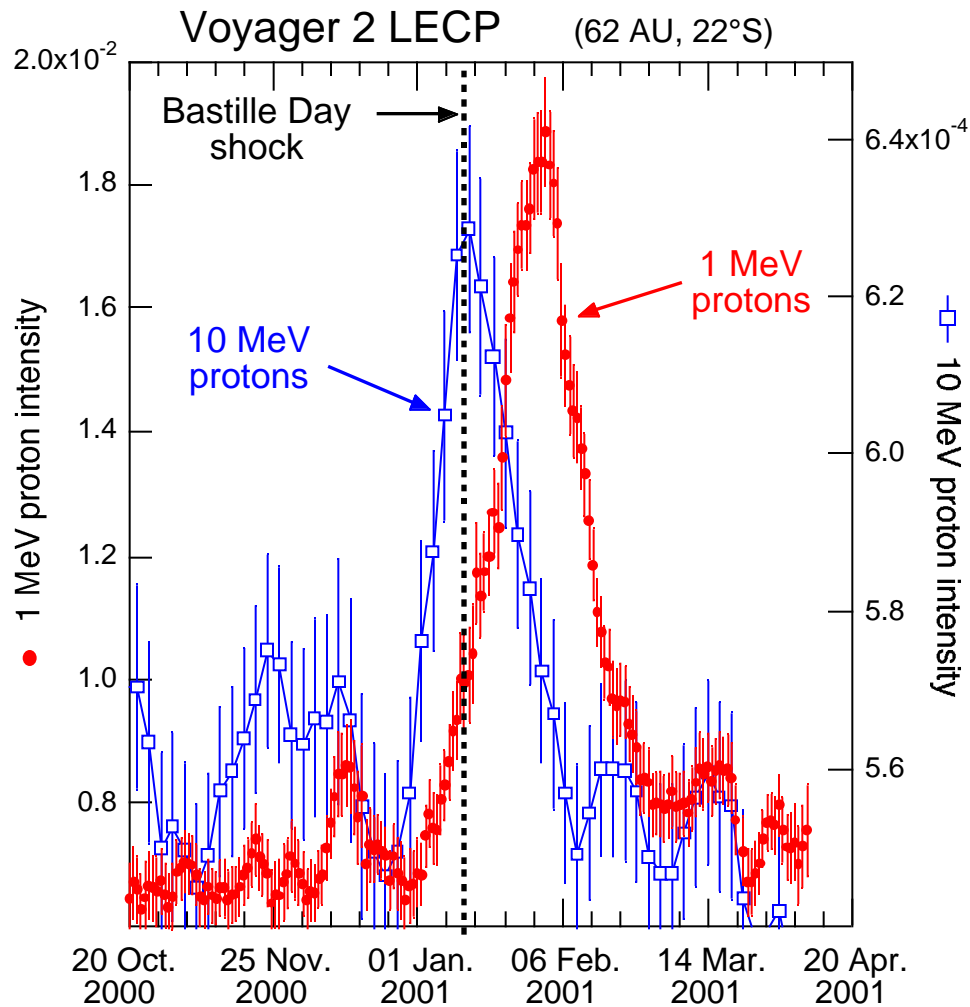
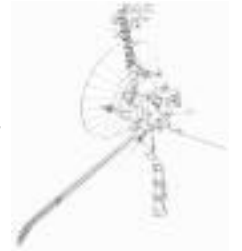




High-Energy Ions Energized by Bastille Day 2000 Shock Bombard Voyager 2 at 62 AU



- An immense shock wave, blasted into the outer heliosphere during the Bastille Day (July 14) 2000 solar storm, struck Voyager 2 (62 AU) on January 12, 2001.
- During its six-month journey, the shock wave (average speed = 600 km/s) plowed through the solar wind, continually sweeping up and accelerating charged particles.
- High-energy, shock-energized ions bombarded Voyager 2 for over two months in early 2001 (see figure).
- Curves show intensities at Voyager 2 of protons with energies of about 1 (red) and 10 (blue) million electron volts (MeV). A 10 MeV proton has a speed of 44,000 km/s.