





# Polarization Status of Magnetic Fluctuations at Proton Scales

<sup>1</sup>Roberto Bruno in collaboration with <sup>2</sup>Daniele Telloni, <sup>1</sup>Raffaella D'Amicis, <sup>1</sup>Rossana DeMarco, <sup>1</sup>Federica Marcucci

> 1-INAF-IAPS, Roma, Italy 2-INAF-OATO, Torino, Italy



# Spectral radial evolution in the inner heliosphere

merging low and high frequency mag field spectra in the ecliptic



Low and high frequency breaks move to lower frequencies with increasing radial distance form the Sun

Low frequency break has a faster radial evolution

[adapted from Telloni et al., 2015]

EGU General Assembly, Vienna, Austria 17-22 April, 2016



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Rough estimates:  $\lambda_c \sim R^{-1.5}$  $\lambda_T \sim R^{-1.1}$ 

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$$\operatorname{Re}_{m}^{eff} = \left(\frac{\lambda_{C}}{\lambda_{T}}\right)^{2}$$

<u>Effective Reynolds number</u> (rough estimate from breaks locations)				
(0.85/0.005)^2 =3E4 .34 A	۱U			
(0.53/0.0015) <sup>2</sup> =1.1E5 .67 A	۱U			
(0.38/0.001)^2 =1.5E5 .9-1 /	٩U			
(0.192/0.00034)^2 =3.2E5 1.44	AU			
(0.065/0.00005)^2 = 1.7E6 4.8-5.3/	AU			
Mattheous et al 2005: 2 255 1 A	11			



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Looking for the radial dependence of the high frequency break



 $(\mathbf{i})$ 

(cc)

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 $(\mathbf{i})$ 

(cc)

Looking for the radial dependence of the high frequency break

Considering that:

 $\Box$  we are sampling along the radial direction at an angle  $\theta_{BR}$  (see table)

 $\Box \quad \underline{\kappa} \text{ is along the mean field}$ 

$$\kappa_b \to \kappa_b / \cos \theta_{BR}$$

(where  $K_b$  corresponds to the observed break)



Interval	$\rm s/c$	R(AU)	$\theta_{BR}[^{\circ}]$
2011, 100.87-101.03	MESS	0.42	11.8
2010, 182.04-182.65	MESS	0.56	24.7
2010, 182.83-183.95	WIND	0.99	46.3
2011, 102.65-102.78	WIND	0.99	20.7
2007, 239.12-240.24	WIND	0.99	38.7
2007, 241.77-243.29	ULYSS	1.4	27.0
2000, 192.96-193.34	ULYSS	3.2	49.0
1992, 235.92-236.30	ULYSS	5.3	52.2

Best agreement shown by the wavenumber  $k_r$  associated to the resonant condition

A

Bruno & Trenchi, ApJL, 2014

Normalized reduced magnetic helicity to study the nature of the fluctuations right beyond the frequency break



- Large scale background magnetic field inward oriented
- Iocal magnetic field direction scale by scale
- left-handed Alfvén-cyclotron waves with positive magnetic helicity propagating antiparallel to B
- right-handed KAW waves with negative magnetic helicity propagating at large angles wrt B
- results similar to He et al., 2011 and Podesta & Gary, 2011

Normalized reduced magnetic helicity to study the nature of the fluctuations right beyond the frequency break



#### Messenger & Wind radial alignment [0.56-0.99AU]

 Clear shift in k for the two populations towards smaller k's with increasing distance confirming that they are related to the frequency break





### Further details on fluctuations





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### Further details on fluctuations



### Further details on fluctuations



# Instabilities plot

Selecting fluctuations with  $\sigma_m {<} 0$ 





# Instabilities plot

### Selecting fluctuations with $\sigma_m{<}0$ and $\sigma_m{>}0$









(cc)



The maximum value coincides with the core of the KAW population which is at slightly higher frequency with respect to the core of the ICW population. (see also Podesta 2009)

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#### Summary and conclusions

- Proton cyclotron-resonant mechanism for parallel propagating Alfvén waves strongly related to the frequency break. We need to understand why since we know that turbulence proceedes for K<sub>1</sub>
- □ KAWs and ICWs occupy different areas in the instability plot.
- Inverse correlation between temp anisotropy and β<sub>//</sub> confirmed for left\_handed ICWs. We need to understand why proton cyclotron instability curve goes through the ion-cyclotron population. Including other effects might move this curve upwards [Hellinger et al., 2006].
- □ We need to understand the link between the turbulence status in the inertial range and the different populations observed in the "dissipation" range.
- □ We need to understand why fluctuations polarization is depleted moving from fast to slow wind.
- □ We do need a better description of plasma kinetics



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### We do need THOR!







# Power anisotropy and intermittency (work in progress)



#### intermittency



