

Local Emission of Whistler Waves by Landau Resonance As a Signature of a Converging Magnetic Hole

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What is the origin of magnetic holes?

- Candidates: **mirror-mode instability**, nonlinear Alfvén waves, solitons, decaying turbulence ...
- In Earth's magnetosheath: **high-Mach** and **quasi-perpendicular** shock favors the growth (e.g., Soucek et al. 2015)

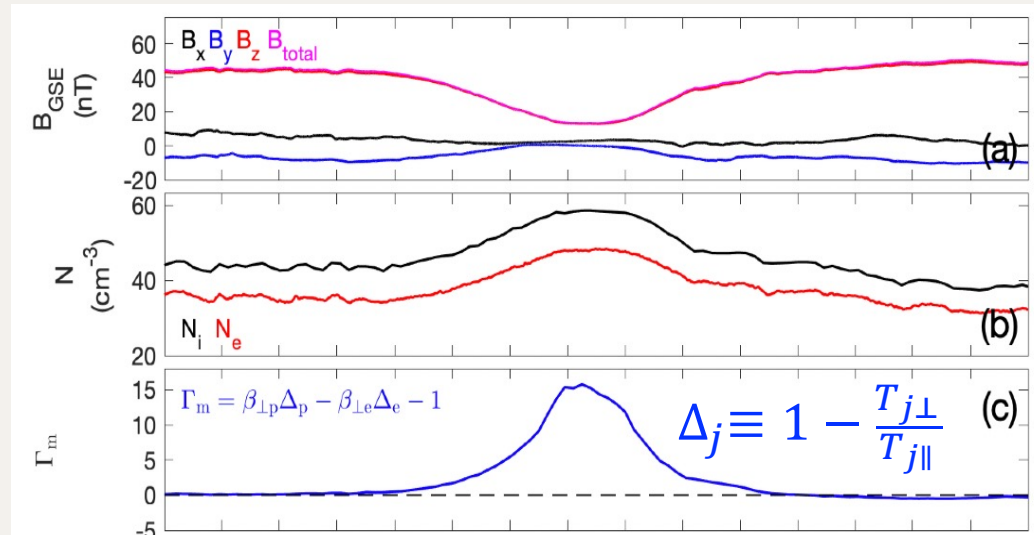
Baumgartel [1999]; Li et al. [2016];
Tsurutani et al. [2002]; Haynes et al. [2015]

➤ Mirror-mode instability

➤ Quasi-steady structure

$$t_{trap} \ll 1/\gamma_m$$

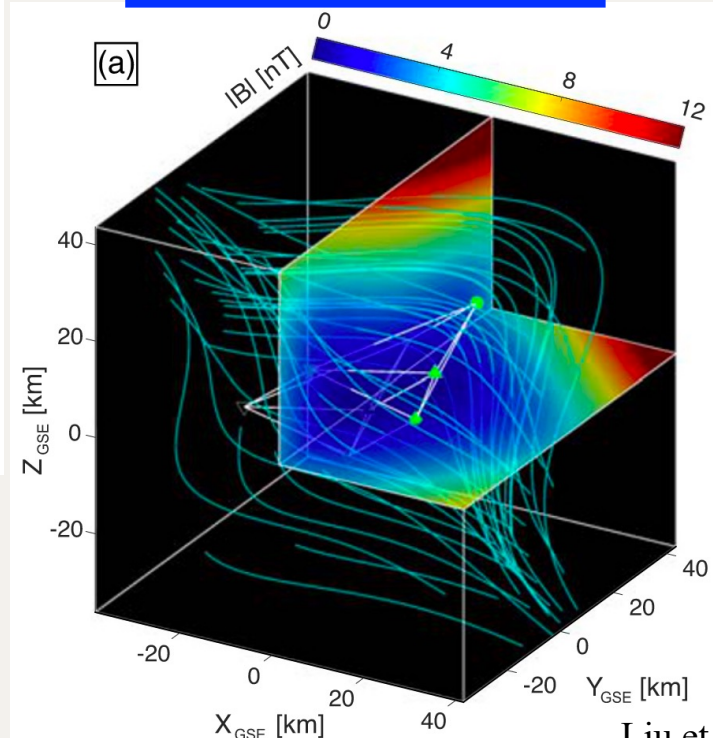
➤ Magnetosheath



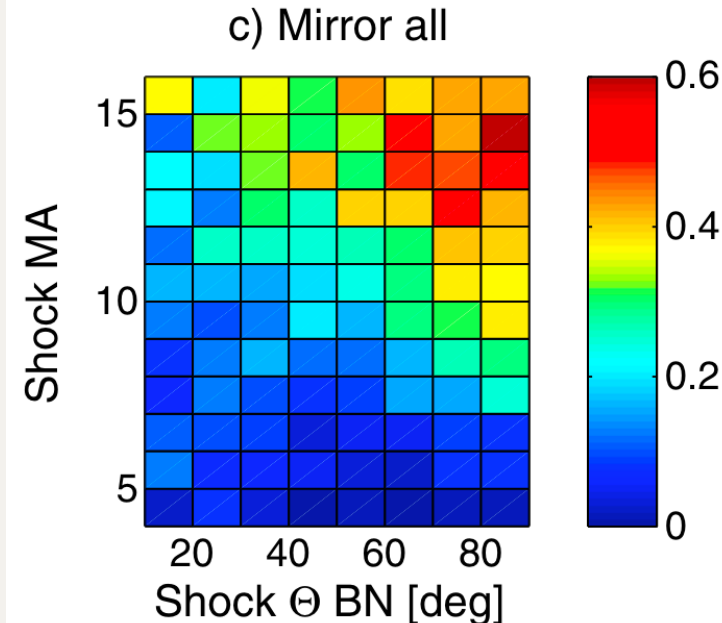
$$\gamma \simeq -\frac{|k_{\parallel}|v_A}{R_p^2 \sqrt{\pi\beta_{\parallel p}}} (1 - \beta_{\perp p} \Delta_p - \beta_{\perp e} \Delta_e)$$

$$\Gamma_m = \beta_{\perp p} \Delta_p - \beta_{\perp e} \Delta_e - 1 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Gamma_m > 0: \text{growing} \\ \Gamma_m < 0: \text{damping} \end{array} \right.$$

Verscharen et al. [2017]



Liu et al. [2020]



Soucek et al. [2015]

What is the evolution of magnetic holes?

➤ In velocity space, particles response to the field and structure variations differently:

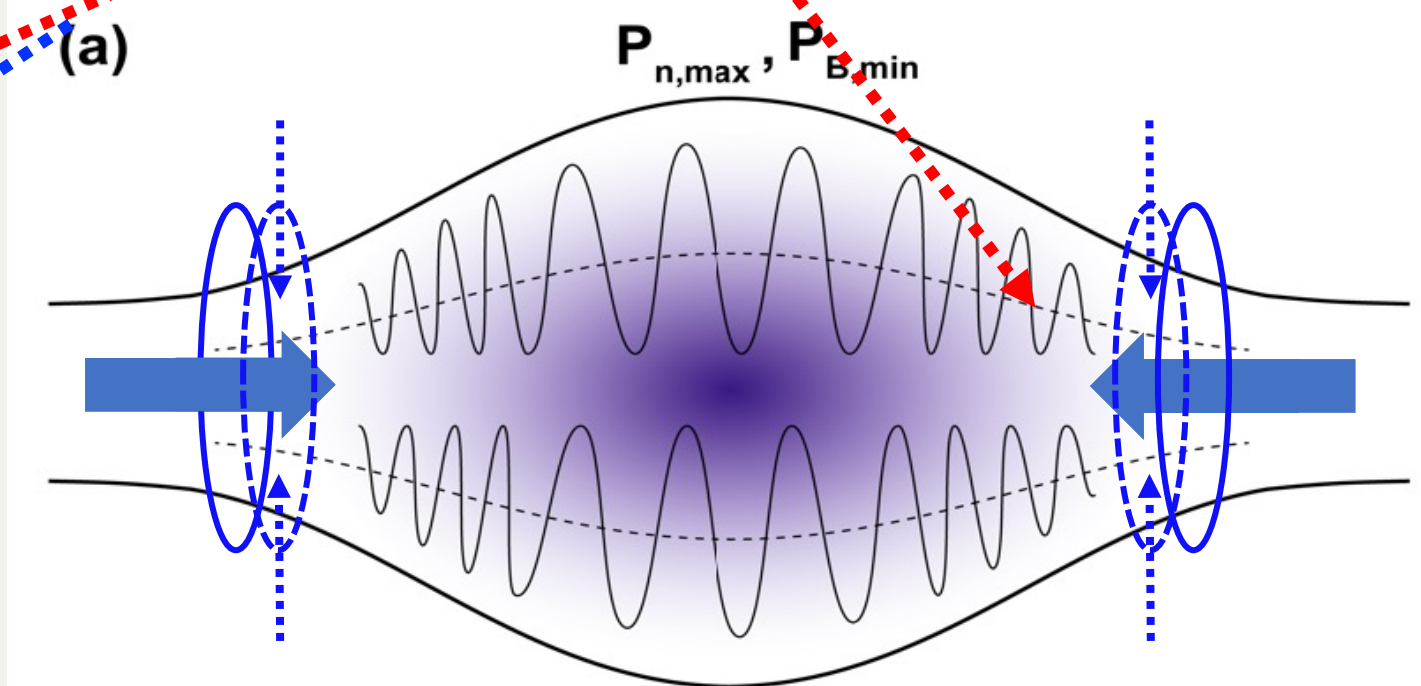
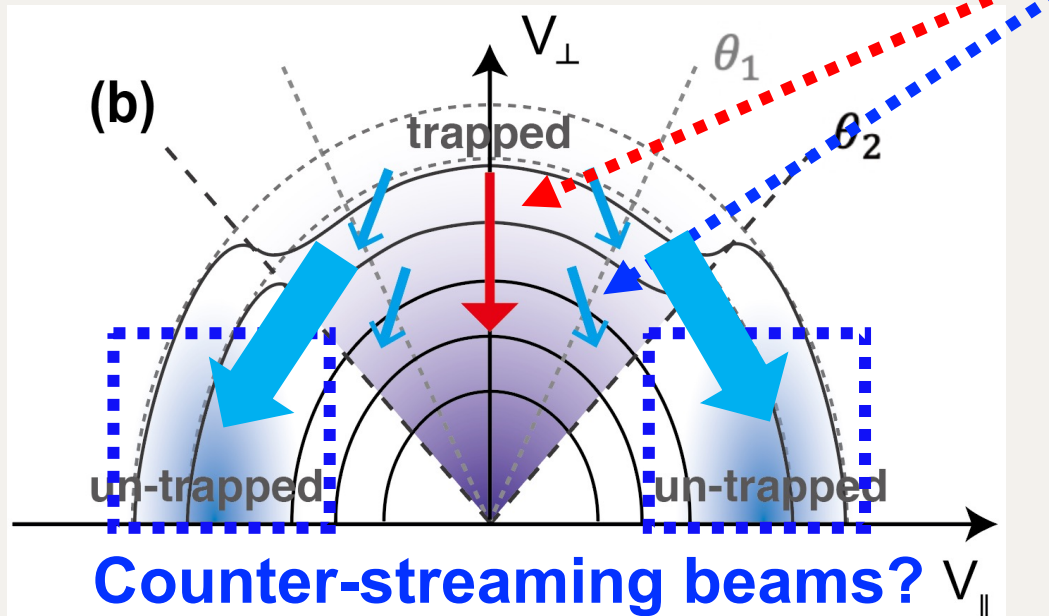
a) Betatron effect with slow temporal variation of field:

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} \equiv 0 \rightarrow \frac{dv_{\perp}}{dt} = \frac{v_{\perp}}{2B} \frac{dB}{dt} < 0 \rightarrow v_{\perp} \text{ decreases}$$

Southwood&Kivelson [1993]
Kivelson&Southwood [1996]

b) Fermi effects possibly due to structural convergence:

- ✓ Mirror points moving apart $\rightarrow v_{\parallel}$ decreases
- ✓ Mirror points moving together $\rightarrow v_{\parallel}$ increases

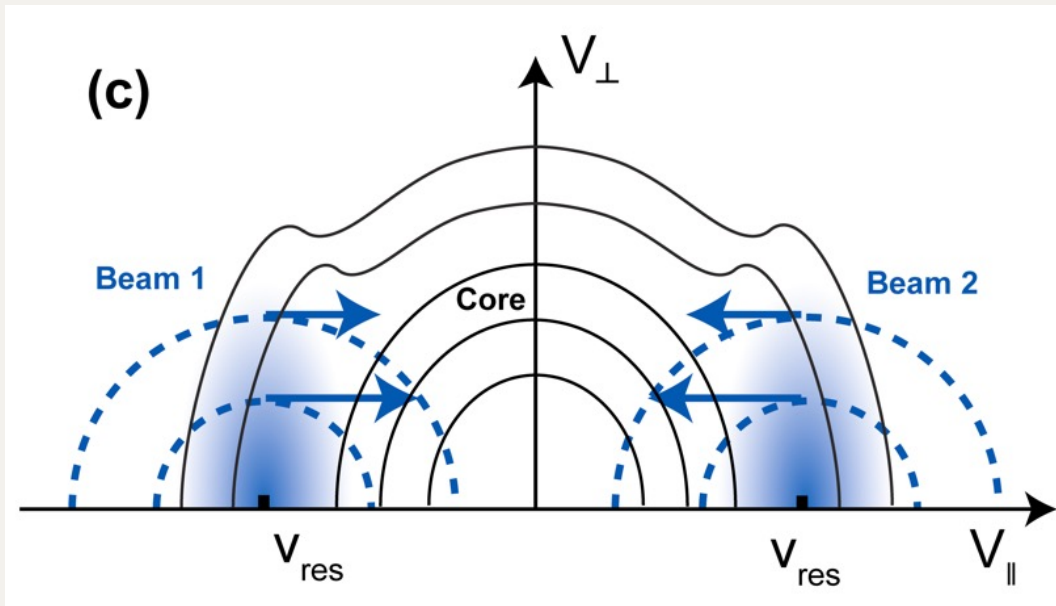


What is the evolution of magnetic holes?

- In velocity space, the energy of electrons changes due to betatron and fermi effects → **electron kinetic instabilities to grow?**
- Final stage of magnetic holes? **Kinetic evolution?**

Counter-streaming beams?

After betatron cooling + Fermi acceleration



Quasi-linear diffusion via Landau resonant wave-particle

$$\frac{\partial f_e}{\partial t} = \frac{q_e^2}{8\pi^2 m_e^2 V} \int \left(\frac{k_{\parallel}}{\omega_w} \right)^2 \tilde{G} \frac{1}{|v_{\parallel}|} \delta(\omega_w - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}) |\psi^*|^2 \tilde{G} f_e d^3 k,$$

$$\frac{\partial f_e}{\partial t} \sim v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial}{\partial v_{\parallel}} \left(\nu_d v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_{\parallel}} \right)$$

Multi-scale process?

$$\gamma_m \ll \nu_d \lesssim 1/\tau_t \ll \gamma_w \ll \omega_w$$

mirror-mode
growth

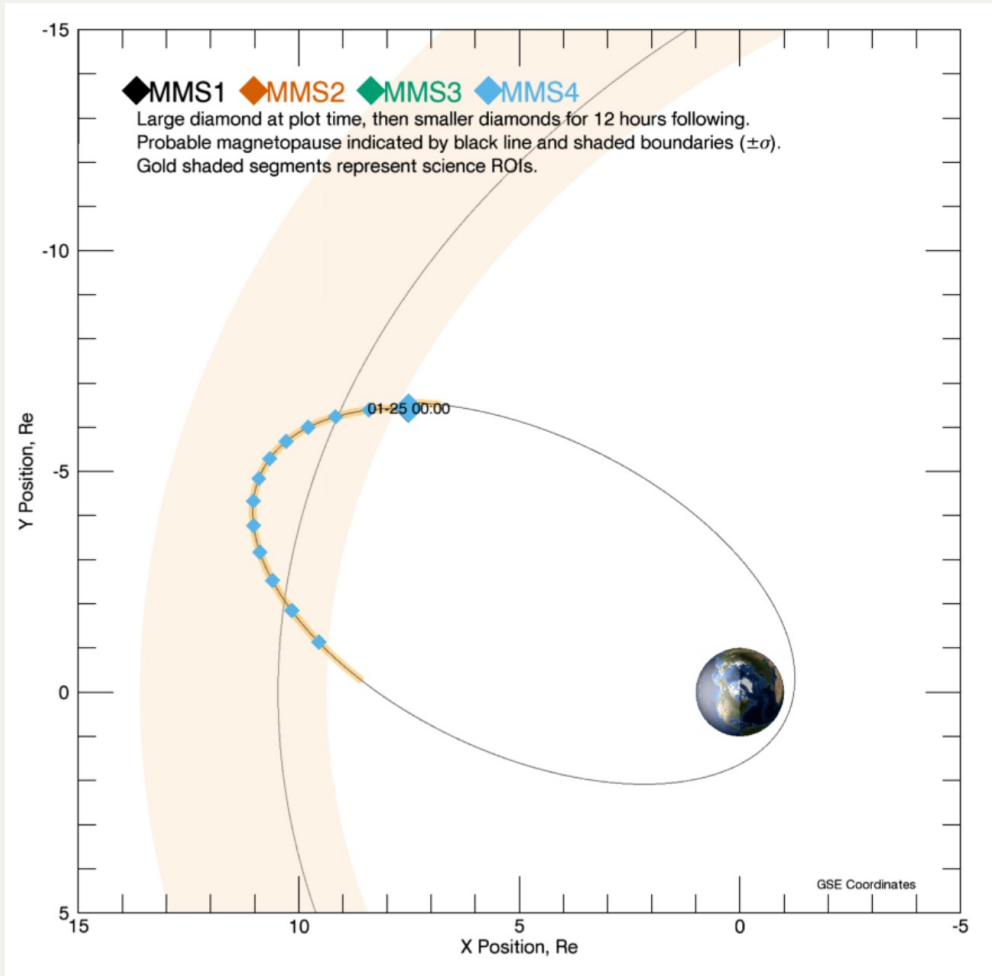
Wave-particle
diffusion

Electron
trapping

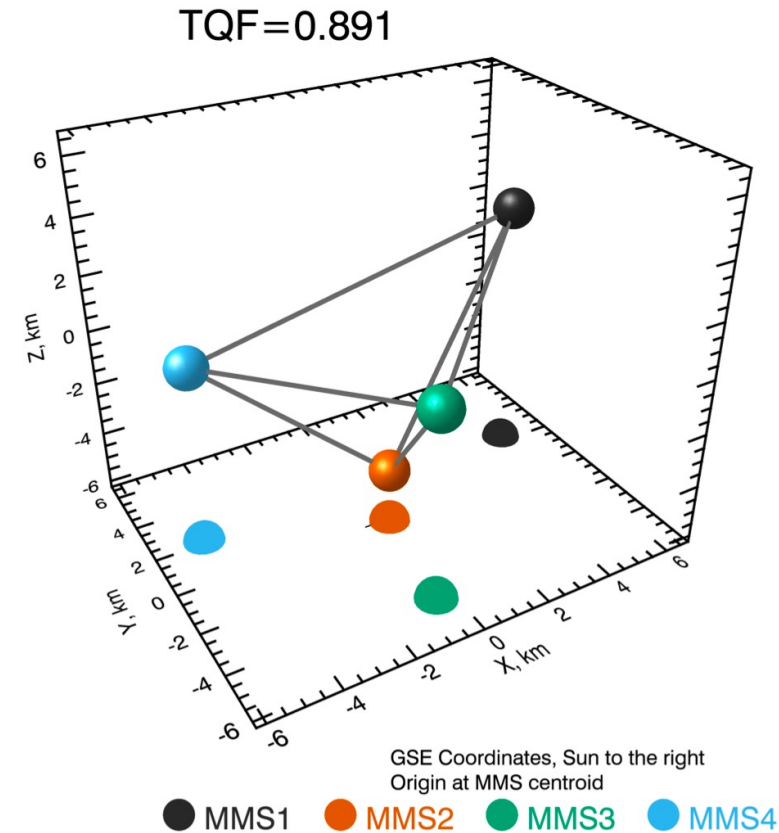
Whistler waves
growth Freq.

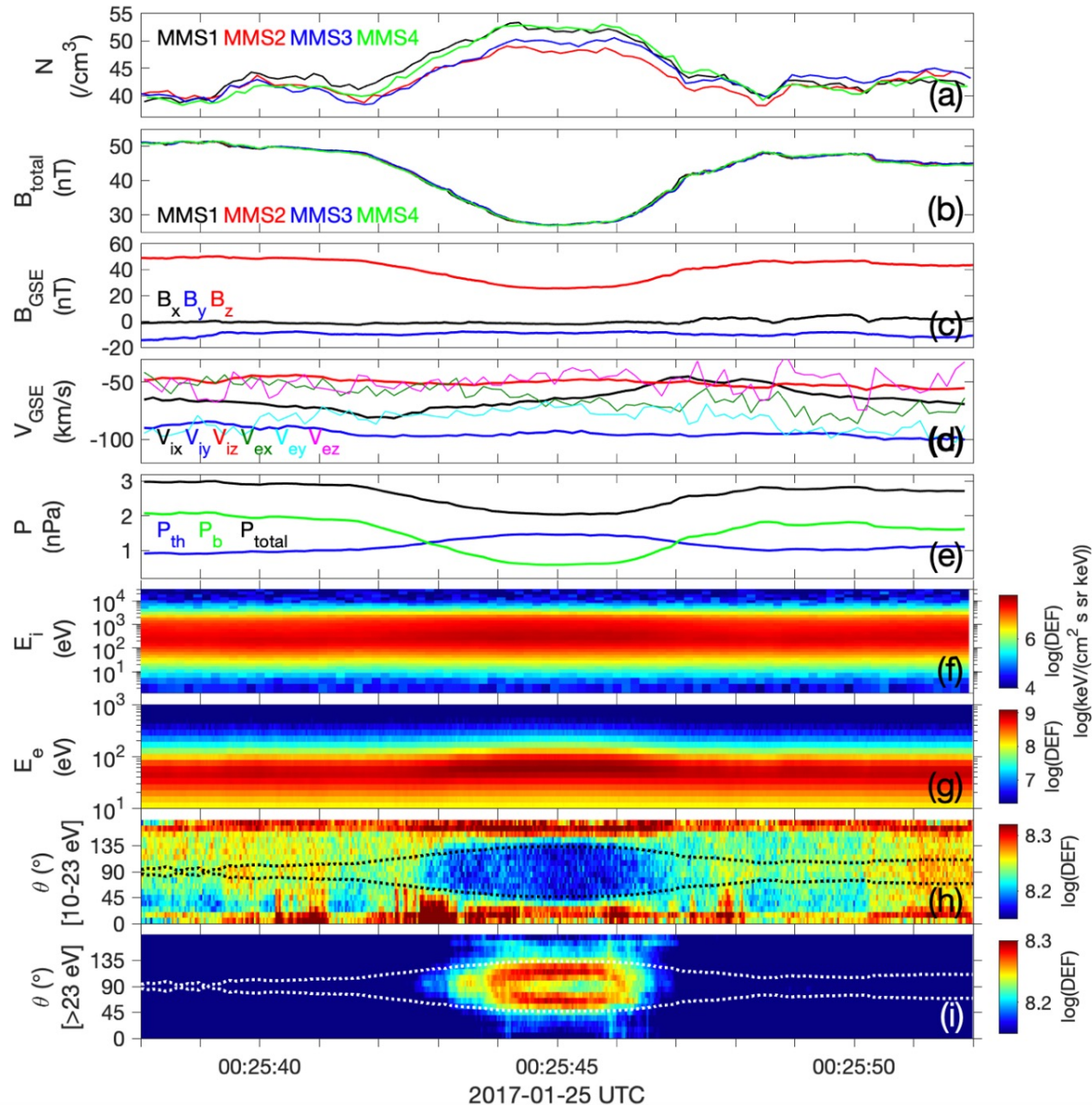
Magnetic hole case: 2017-01-25/00:25:45 \pm 5 seconds

➤ A case near the sub-solar MP

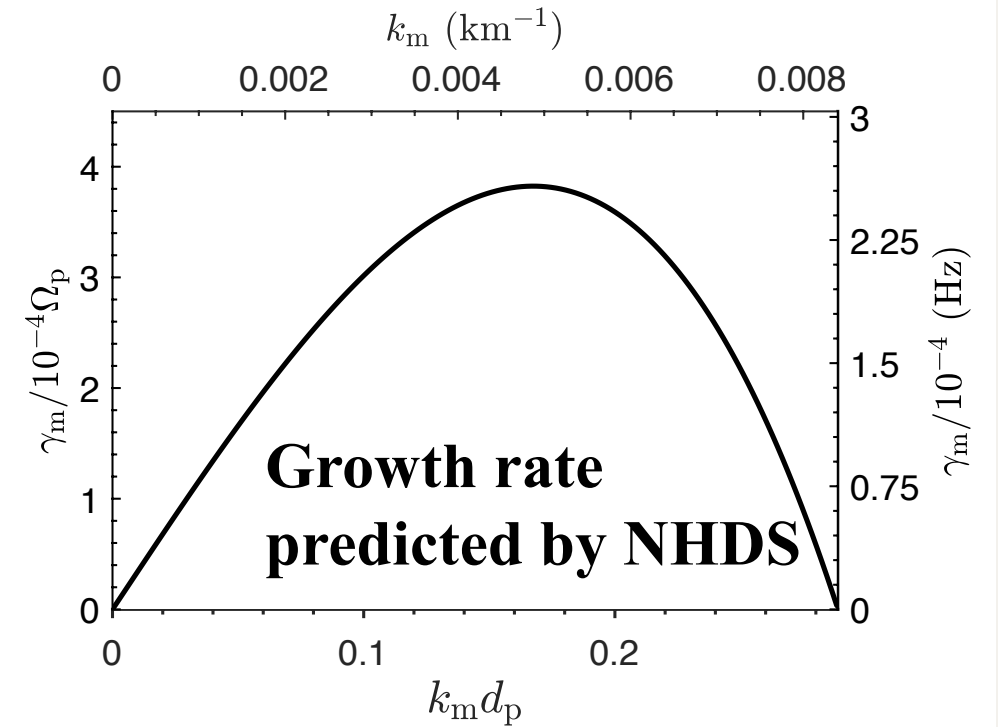


➤ MMS tetrahedral formation



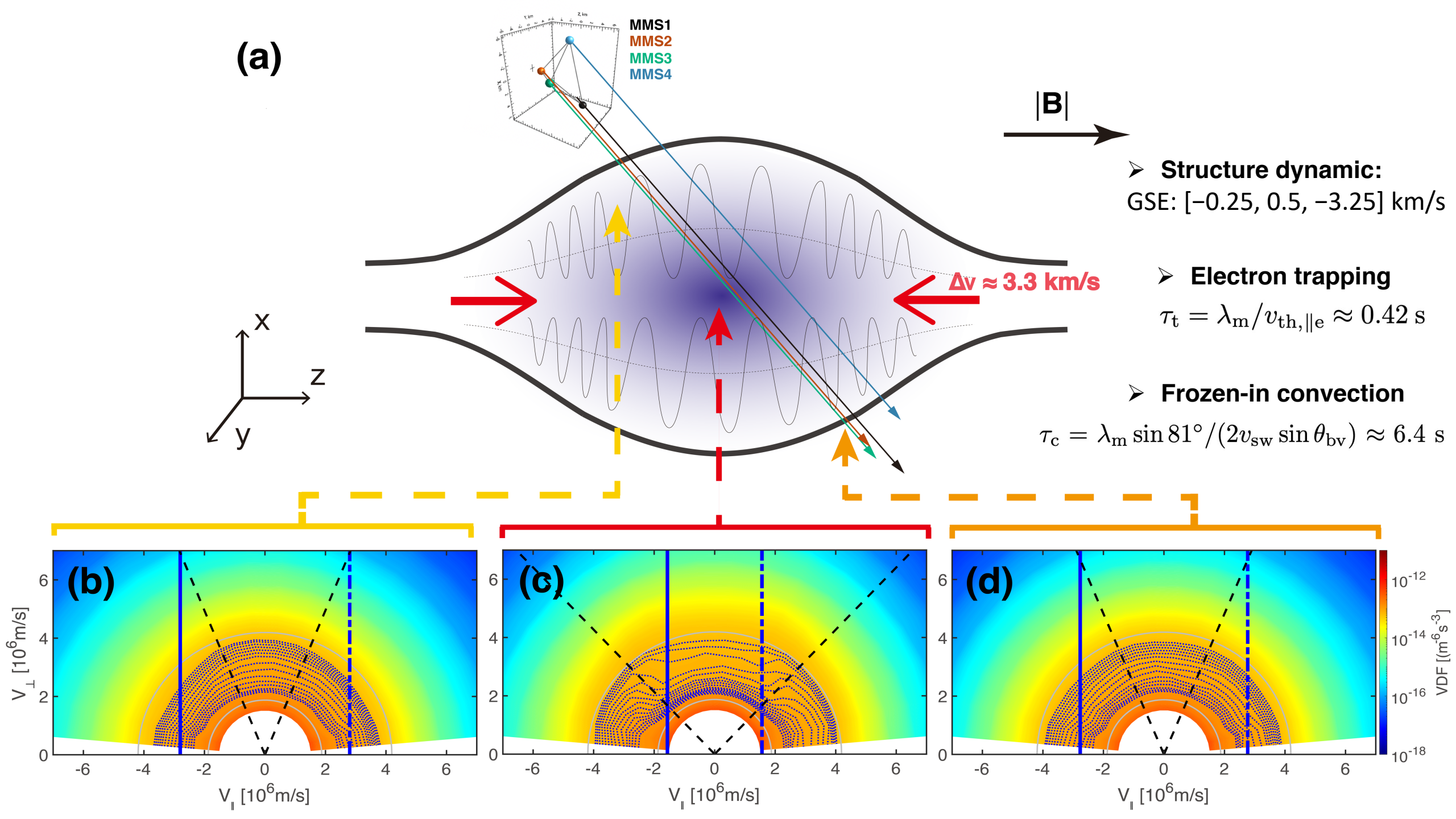


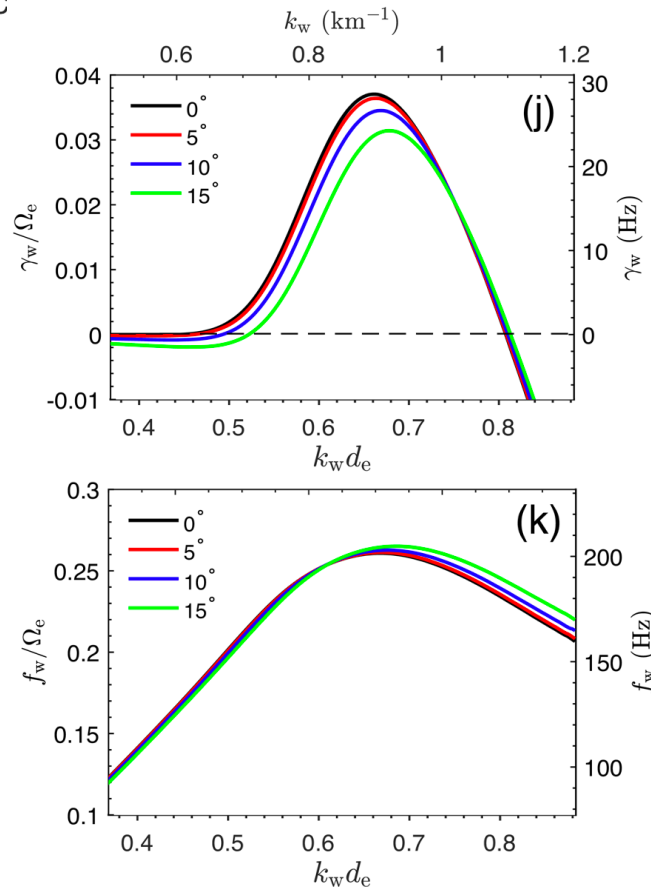
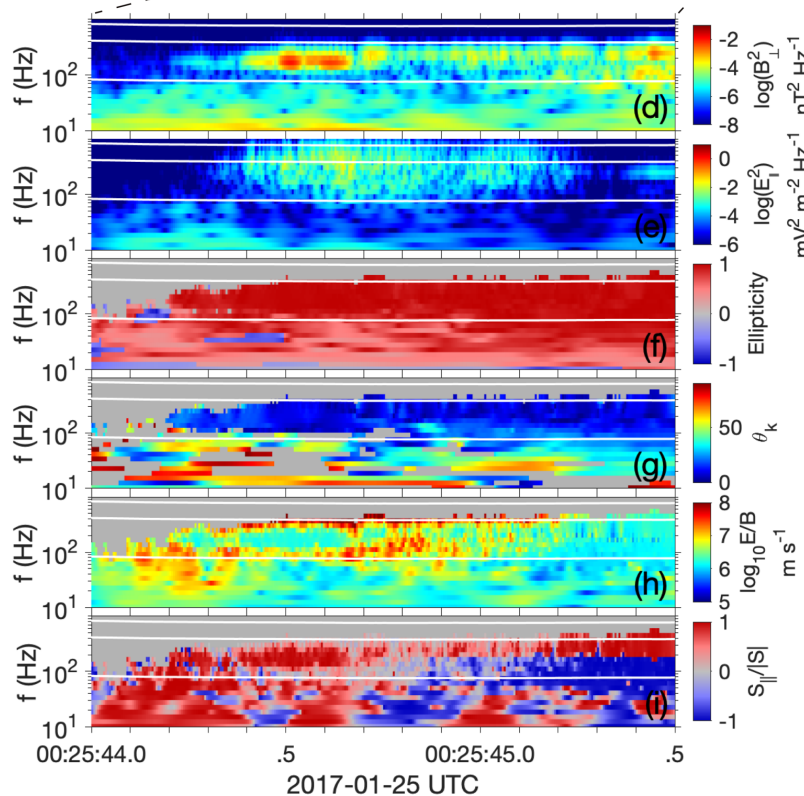
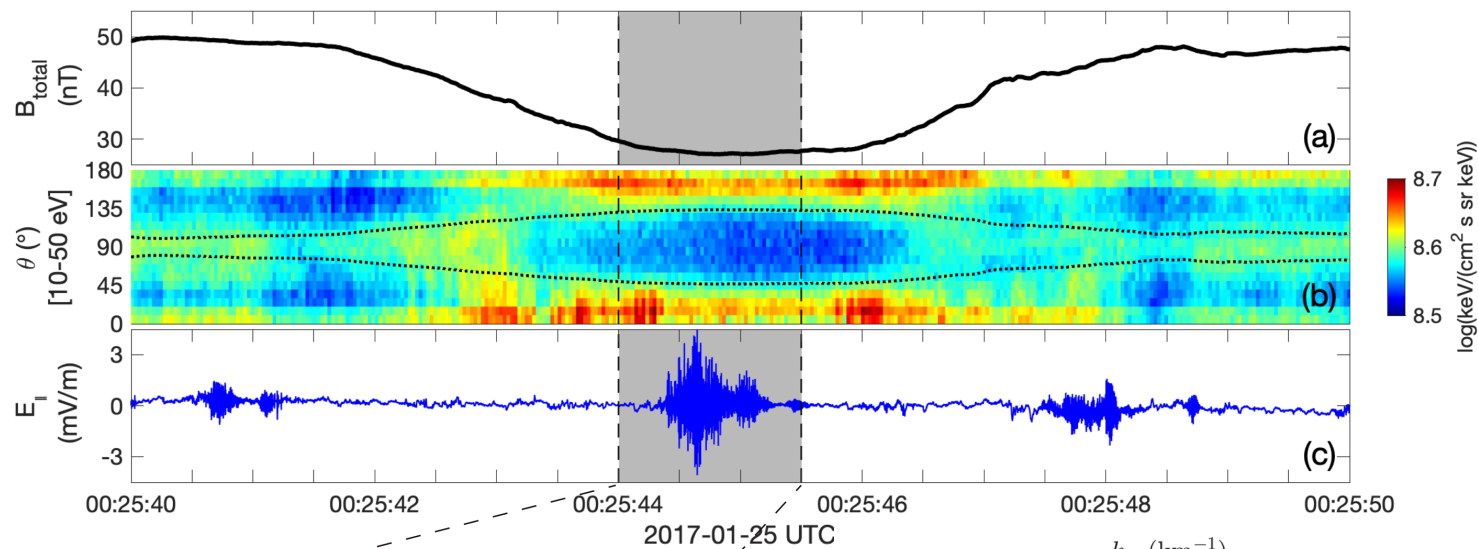
Mirror-mode unstable plasma: slowly decreasing B



$$\theta_{critical} = \arcsin\left(\sqrt{\frac{|B|}{|B_{max}|}}\right)$$

- Maximum growth rate of 2.6×10^{-4} Hz at $k=0.005 \text{ km}^{-1}$ ($\lambda = 1257 \text{ km}$)





MMS observations

- Enhanced **parallel** electric field fluctuations $|\delta E_{\parallel}| \sim 3 \text{ mV/m}$.
- Enhanced magnetic field fluctuations at $f \sim 203 \text{ Hz}$.
- Ellipticity ~ 1 : **right-handed polarization**.
- Slightly-oblique whistler waves $\sim 10^\circ$
- Phase speed: $\sim 1.58 \times 10^3 \text{ km/s}$.



Theory predictions

- **Non-Maxwellian VDF model**
- Frequency: $\sim 202 \text{ Hz}$ ($\sim 0.26 \omega_e$).
- Growth rate: 30 Hz
- Phase speed: $\sim 1.56 \times 10^3 \text{ km/s}$.
- $k = 0.9 \text{ km}^{-1}$ ($\lambda \sim 10 \rho_e \sim 0.65 d_e$)

$$\nu_d \sim \frac{c^2 \Omega_e^2}{2B_0^2} \frac{v_{sw} k_w^3}{\omega_w^3} \tilde{E}_{\parallel}^2(\omega_w) \cos \theta_{bv} \approx 0.25 \text{ Hz},$$

A consistent ordering of multi-scale processes in the magnetic hole



$$\gamma_m \ll \nu_d \lesssim 1/\tau_t \ll \gamma_w \ll \omega_w$$

0.0003 Hz 0.25 Hz 2.38 Hz 30 Hz 203 Hz

Theory

Observations

- ✓ the maximum growth rate of the mirror-mode instability is $\gamma_m \approx 0.0003$ Hz at a wavelength of ~ 1257 km.
- ✓ the estimated quasi-linear diffusion rate for the Landau resonant wave-particle interaction of electrons is 0.25 Hz.
- ✓ the typical trapping frequency of electrons is 2.38 Hz.
- ✓ the growth rate of the unstable whistler waves is 30 Hz.
- ✓ the frequency of the unstable whistler waves is about 203 Hz.

Conclusion: resonant wave-particle interactions transfer energy from electrons to waves, lead to isotropic electrons and possibly stabilize the magnetic holes.

Thank you!

Photo taken at Shoreham-by-sea, England

Any comments or suggestions are welcome: joe.jiang@ucl.ac.uk/jiangwence@swl.ac.cn