Hybrid simulation study of *highfrequency* H-band EMIC waves in the Earth's magnetosphere

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EMIC Waves in the Magnetosphere



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Typical vs. High-frequency EMIC Waves



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Throughout dayside

Within ±5° *magnetic latitude*



Observations

 Relatively rare, recently discovered

•LH polarized, quasiparallel propagation







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- -Low ($\lesssim 500~{\rm eV}$) energy proton enhancement



- •Relatively rare, recently discovered
- •LH polarized, quasiparallel propagation
- -Low (≤ 500 eV) energy proton enhancement
- •90°-peaked, very anisotropic low-energy proton pitch-angle distribution











Free Energy Source of HFEMIC

Growth Rate ~
$$\omega_p^2 \left(A_p + \frac{\omega_r}{\omega_r - \Omega_p} \right) \sqrt{\pi} x_p e^{-x_p^2}$$

(Kennel & Petschek, 1966)



• The HFEMIC instability requires a large temperature anisotropy.

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• The HFEMIC instability requires very small proton beta, equivalent to $T_{\parallel} \sim 1-10$ eV in the magnetosphere.

Theoretical Anisotropy Threshold

Gary+ 1994

$$\frac{T_{\perp p}}{T_{\parallel p}} - 1 = \frac{0.43}{\beta_{\parallel p}^{0.42}} \qquad (\gamma_m = 10^{-3}\Omega_p)$$
$$\frac{T_{\perp p}}{T_{\parallel p}} - 1 = \frac{0.65}{\beta_{\parallel p}^{0.40}} \qquad (\gamma_m = 10^{-2}\Omega_p)$$



Typical EMIC wave

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High-frequency EMIC wave

Typical EMIC wave

Can HF-EMIC waves by ion cyclotron instability grow in a realistic environment?



Q. Given a plasma condition at L = 5.5 with a reasonable proton distribution that gives rise to wave growth at f = 0.95 fcp according to theory, can we prove wave growth with saturation amplitude commensurate with the observed wave amplitudes?

Earth's Dipole Magnetic Field





Liouville's theorem:

density & anisotropy
$$\propto \left[\left(1 - \frac{B_{0,eq}}{B_0(\lambda)} \right) (A_{eq} + 1) + \frac{B_{0,eq}}{B_0(\lambda)} \right]^{-1}$$
 (bi-Maxwellian)

The more anisotropic the initial distribution is,

the narrower the equatorial source region becomes.

Initial distribution



 $\begin{array}{ll} \textit{Heavy ion density} & : 20\% \quad (\text{extreme case scenario}) \\ \textit{Hot proton density} & : 20\% \\ \textit{Hot proton beta} & : \beta_{\parallel hot} = 10^{-4} \quad (\leftarrow f_{\text{peak}} \approx 0.95 f_{cp}) \\ \textit{Hot proton anisotropy} : \frac{T_{\perp hot}}{T_{\parallel hot}} \approx 31 \quad (\leftarrow \text{Teng+ 2019 estimate}) \end{array}$

Convective growth rate



Wave group velocity

$$:\frac{dx}{dt} = v_g \equiv \frac{\partial\omega}{\partial k_{\parallel}}$$

Convective growth rate



1D Hybrid PIC Model



- Usual hybrid PIC approach (kinetic ions + massless electron fluid)
- •1D domain along the field line (parallel propagation only)

$$B_{\rm dip} \approx B_{0,\rm eq} \left(1 + \frac{4.5}{L^2} \frac{s^2}{R_E^2} \right)$$
 with $L = 5.5$ (realistic scale)

• Similar models by Katoh & Omura (2007) and Shoji & Omura (2011)

Simulation Results



Simulation Results



Dispersion Relation



Simulation Results



Theory, Simulation, Observation (1)



Saturation amplitudes within the range of observation

Theory, Simulation, Observation (2)



Because of very small $T_{\parallel} \sim 1 - 10$ eV, determination of β_{\parallel} (and anisotropy) is difficult (likely overestimated).

Theory, Simulation, Observation (2)



On the other hand, measurements of β_{\perp} and f_{peak} are more accurate. The data points seem to line up closely to the curves by the theoretical predictions.

Conclusions

• New type of EMIC (HFEMIC) waves: $f_{\rm peak} \sim 0.95 f_{cp}$, $\Delta f \lesssim 0.1 f_{cp}$

→ Left-hand polarized, quasi-parallel propagating electromagnetic ion cyclotron mode

- Rare in occurrence (mostly outside the plasmasphere), but the anisotropic, low-energy proton population is quite prevalent
 → How the latter comes about is an unanswered question!
- The very anisotropic, low-energy proton population is likely the source of free energy
 - → Qualitative agreement btw/ data and predicted anisotropy threshold
 - \rightarrow Hybrid PIC simulations support HFEMIC wave growth wi saturation amplitudes commensurate with the observational

