AC field measurements and wave analysis tools

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Outline:

- Introduction
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 - Cold plasma theory CMA diagram
 - Examples of waves in the Earth's magnetosphere
- Analysis methods for multi-component measurements.
 - STAFF-SA and WBD instruments onboard Cluster
 - Plane wave methods
 - Wave distribution function
 - Backward ray tracing
- Examples of measurements of different types of waves in space plasmas
 - Auroral hiss
 - Auroral kilometric radiation
 - Electron and proton whistlers
 - Equatorial noise
 - Whistler mode chorus
 - Magnetosheath "lion roar" emissions

Waves in plasmas



Equation of motion: COLD PLASMA approximation

$$\vec{\mathcal{J}} = \sum_{s} n_{s} q_{s} \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{s} \qquad m_{s} \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{s} i\omega = q_{s} \left(\vec{\mathcal{E}} + \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{s} \times \vec{B}_{0}\right)$$

$$\underbrace{\text{Dielectric tensor}}_{\epsilon \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}}} = \begin{pmatrix} S & -iD & 0 \\ iD & S & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{E}_{x} \\ \mathcal{E}_{y} \\ \mathcal{E}_{z} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \underbrace{\text{Cartesian}}_{coordinates}$$

$$\vec{B}_{0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ B_{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2}(R+L) \qquad R = 1 - \sum_{s} \frac{\Pi_{s}^{2}}{\omega(\omega + \Omega_{s})}$$

$$D = \frac{1}{2}(R-L) \qquad L = 1 - \sum_{s} \frac{\Pi_{s}^{2}}{\omega(\omega - \Omega_{s})}$$

$$plasma frequency$$

$$\Omega_{s} = \frac{q_{s}B_{0}}{m_{s}} \qquad \Pi_{s}^{2} = \frac{n_{s}q_{s}^{2}}{m_{s}\varepsilon_{0}} \qquad P = 1 - \sum_{s} \frac{\Pi_{s}^{2}}{\omega^{2}}$$



Dispersion relation

 $AN^4 + BN^2 + C = 0$

Examples of solutions

R-mode

$$\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$
 : $N^2 = \frac{RL}{S}$ X-mode
 $N^2 = P$ O-mode







STAFF Instrument

(Spatio Temporal Analysis of Field Fluctuations)

- search coil sensors (tri-axial, 0.1 Hz- 4 kHz)
- waveform analyzer (0.1 -180 Hz)
- spectrum analyzer

<u>On-board analysis</u>

- 3 magnetic (STAFF) and 2 electric signals (EFW)
- 27 frequency channels 8-4000 Hz, 26% bandwidth
- complex amplitudes: $\mathcal{B}_x, \mathcal{B}_y, \mathcal{B}_z, \mathcal{E}_x, \mathcal{E}_y$
- spectral matrices 5x5: $\hat{S}_{ij} = \langle \xi_i \xi_j^* \rangle$
 - power-spectral densities (time resolution 0.125s-2s)



relative phase shifts, mutual coherency (1s-4s)



- high-resolution measurements of electric or magnetic fields
- digitized waveforms
- selected frequency bands from 25 Hz to 577 kHz.

Instrument mode used for common WBD-STAFF studies :

- continuous waveforms
- single electric field component
- pass-band filtered between 50 Hz and 9.5 kHz
- sampled at 27.44 kHz



Spearman's rank correlation coefficients





Parameters of the model of moving structures : Normal direction



Parameters of the model of moving structures : Drift velocity and convection electric field



Duration: 30-100 s Diameter of field aligned depletions: 100-500 km scales down to <u>10-50 km</u> in the ionosphere 1.3 mV/m duskward convection field in the polar cap <u>50 kV potential</u> across the polar cap

Plane wave methods

Faraday's law $\vec{k} \times \vec{\mathcal{E}} = \omega \vec{\mathcal{B}} \implies \vec{\mathcal{E}} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{B}} = 0 \quad (\vec{\mathcal{E}} \perp \vec{\mathcal{B}})$ $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{B}} = 0 \quad (\vec{k} \perp \vec{\mathcal{B}})$

<u>Spectral matrix of analytic magnetic components</u> $S_{ij} = \langle \mathcal{B}_i \mathcal{B}_j^* \rangle$

Overdetermined set of equations

 $\mathsf{A} \cdot \vec{k} = \begin{pmatrix} \Re S_{11} & \Re S_{12} & \Re S_{13} \\ \Re S_{12} & \Re S_{22} & \Re S_{23} \\ \Re S_{13} & \Re S_{23} & \Re S_{33} \\ 0 & -\Im S_{12} & -\Im S_{13} \\ \Im S_{12} & 0 & -\Im S_{23} \\ \Im S_{13} & \Im S_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

6 equations
2 unknowns

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ k_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



Axes of the polarization ellipse

$$\hat{\vec{a}} = (w_3V_{13}, w_3V_{23}, w_3V_{33})$$

$$\hat{\vec{b}} = (w_2V_{12}, w_2V_{22}, w_2V_{32})$$
Ellipticity
$$L_p = w_2/w_3 \leftarrow \qquad \text{Ratio of}$$
the axes of the polarization ellipse:
1 for the circular polarization
0 for the linear polarization
$$F = 1 - \sqrt{w_1/w_3}$$
Ratio of
$$\frac{\text{Ratio of}}{\text{standard deviations of}}$$
1 for a planar polarization
0 for unpolarized signals

Wave distribution function (WDF) methods

<u>WDF</u>: continuous distribution G of wave energy with respect to the wave-vector directions.

$$S_{ij} = \sum\limits_m \, \int \, a_{mij}(heta, \, \phi) \, G_m(heta, \, \phi) \; d^2(heta, \, \phi)$$

 S_{ij} ... theoretical prediction of the spectral matrix;

 $a_{mij}(\theta, \phi) \dots$ matrix of integration kernels: theoretical predictions of normalized spectral matrices for plane waves with different wave-normal directions;

m . . . wave mode

- Dispersion relation theoretical polarization integration kernels
- Least squares methods to find the WDF which is most consistent with the experimental spectral matrix.

Inverse ray tracing

Following the ray backward from the point of observation.
Initialization by a wave normal direction found experimentally.
Basic equations: Given the dispersion relation

$$\omega = \omega(\vec{r}, \vec{k}, t),$$

we have

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \frac{\partial\omega}{\partial\vec{k}}$$
$$\frac{d\vec{k}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial\omega}{\partial\vec{r}}$$

Basic limitations:

- Wentzel-Krammers-Brillouin (WKB) approximation or limit of geometric optics: dispersive properties of the medium are slowly varying functions of space and time compared to the wavelength and wave period. Fails: sharp gradients and/or rapid changes of the refractive index
- Need of realistic description of the medium

Auroral region



Propagation of auroral hiss











Whistlers and proton whistlers





March 31, 2001

- Major interplanetary disturbance.
- Pushing the bow shock inside the geosynchronous orbit [Ober *et al.*, 2002].
- Producing geomagnetic activity, $K_p = 9-$, Dst = -360 nT [Skoug *et al.*, 2003].
- Dispersionless injection of energetic electrons in the pre-midnight sector, AE = 1200 nT
 [Baker *et al.*, 2002].

Whistler-mode chorus **Cluster 3**



Multipoint measurements

Parallel component of the Poynting vector normalized by its standard deviation.

 Z_{SM} coordinate (perpendicular to the geomagnetic equatorial plane) of all the four spacecraft.







Analysis of wave packets of the whistlermode chorus

- FIR filter 2-4 kHz
- Amplitude envelope of the signal
- Local maxima of the sub-structure



Amplitudes of local maxima and time delays between the neighboring maxima



Fine structure

Separate elements

18th April 2002 Cluster 4



Detailed spectrograms 18th April 2002





Simulation of the source region



SUMMARY

- Different types of waves propagate in plasmas in the Earth's magnetosphere and in the solar wind. Their propagation and polarization properties can often be explained using the cold plasma theory.
- Wave instruments onboard scientific spacecraft (for example, the STAFF and WBD instruments onboard Cluster) provide us with high-resolution multi-component measurements. These data require special analysis techniques.
- Several examples of such measurement and analysis, in different regions, have been shown:
 - auroral hiss
 - auroral kilometric radiation
 - electron and proton whistlers (*)
 - equatorial noise (*)
 - whistler mode chorus (*)

(*) will be analyzed during the computer session