

Electromagnetic Waves in a cold, magnetized plasma

We have discussed the propagation of electromagnetic waves in an unmagnetized plasma using a kinetic approach. In the case of a magnetized plasma such a treatment quickly becomes very complicated due to the gyration of particles around the local magnetic field.

Instead we will carry out a ^{fluid} treatment. This approach is typically valid if

$$\frac{\omega}{\Omega} \gg v_t \nabla$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega \gg kv_t$$

Assume that there is a uniform magnetic field.

$$\underline{B}_0 = B_0 \hat{z}$$

and uniform ρ_0 , p_0 etc. with $\underline{u}_0 = 0$

Assume linear perturbations of the form

$$\underline{u}_1 = \text{Re} \left(\underline{u}_m e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x} - i\omega t} \right) \Rightarrow \text{both species}$$

Momentum eqn is

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_m + \mathbf{u}_m \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_m = \frac{q}{m} \mathbf{E}_m + \frac{q}{mc} \mathbf{u}_m \times \mathbf{B}_0$$

non-linear

$$-i\omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_m = \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_m + \Omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_m \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \Omega = \frac{q B_0}{mc}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_m = \hat{u}_{||} \hat{\mathbf{z}} + \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp}$$

$$\boxed{-i\omega \hat{u}_{||} = \frac{q}{m} \hat{E}_{||}} \Rightarrow \text{not affected by } B_0$$

$$-i\omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} = \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} + \Omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} = \frac{1}{-i\omega} \left(\frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} + \Omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} \right)$$

$$-i\omega \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} = \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} + \frac{\Omega}{-i\omega} \left(\frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} + \Omega \underbrace{(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}}_{-\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp}} \right)$$

$$(\Omega^2 - \omega^2) \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} = -i\omega \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} + \Omega \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} = \frac{1}{\omega^2 - \Omega^2} \left[i\omega \frac{q}{m} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} - \frac{q}{m} \Omega \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} \right]$$

limits

$$\Omega \rightarrow 0 \quad \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} \approx \frac{q}{m} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp}}{-i\omega}$$

$$\Omega \gg \omega \quad \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\perp} \approx \frac{c}{B_0} \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} - \frac{i\omega c \hat{\mathbf{E}}_{\perp}}{\Omega B_0} \Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{E}} \times \hat{\mathbf{B}} \text{ drift} + \text{pol. drift}$$

Ampere's Law

$$i k \times \vec{B} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J} - \frac{i\omega}{c} \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{J} = \sum_{\alpha} n_0 q_{\alpha} \vec{v}_{\alpha}$$

$$4\pi \vec{J} = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{4\pi n_0 q_{\alpha}^2}{m_{\alpha}} \left[\frac{1}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} \left(i\omega \vec{E}_{\perp} - \Omega_{\alpha} \vec{E}_{\perp} \times \hat{z} \right) - \frac{1}{i\omega} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \vec{E}_{\parallel} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha} \omega_{p\alpha}^2 \left[\frac{i\omega}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} \vec{E}_{\perp} - \frac{\Omega_{\alpha}}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} \vec{E}_{\perp} \times \hat{z} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \vec{E}_{\parallel} \right]$$

$$i k \times \vec{B} = -\frac{i\omega}{c} \left[\vec{E} - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} \vec{E}_{\perp} - i \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2 \Omega_{\alpha}}{\omega} \frac{1}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} \vec{E}_{\perp} \times \hat{z} - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{z} \vec{E}_{\parallel} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{i\omega}{c} \hat{\epsilon} \cdot \vec{E} \quad \Rightarrow \hat{\epsilon} = \text{dielectric tensor}$$

$$\hat{\epsilon} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{\perp} & -i\epsilon_x & 0 \\ i\epsilon_x & \epsilon_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_{\parallel} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\epsilon_{\perp} = 1 - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2 - \omega_{\alpha}^2}$$

$$\epsilon_{\parallel} = 1 - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$\epsilon_x = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2 - \omega_{\alpha}^2} \frac{\omega_{\alpha x}}{\omega}$$

note that $(\epsilon_{\alpha\beta}^t)^* = \epsilon_{\beta\alpha}^t$
 \Rightarrow Hermitian

Faraday's Law

$$-\frac{\mu\omega}{c} \vec{B} + \vec{k} \times \vec{E} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{B} = \frac{c}{\omega} \vec{k} \times \vec{E}$$

from Ampere's Law

$$\vec{k} \times \frac{c}{\omega} (\vec{k} \times \vec{E}) = -\frac{\omega}{c} \epsilon_{\alpha} \vec{E}$$

$$\left(\frac{c^2}{\omega^2} k^2 - \frac{c^2}{\omega^2} k_k k_k - \epsilon_{\alpha} \right) \cdot \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\det \left[\frac{c^2 k^2}{\omega^2} \mathbf{I} - \frac{c^2}{\omega^2} \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} - \epsilon_{\alpha} \right] = 0$$

\Rightarrow determines $\omega(k)$

Easiest to consider the two special cases of the dispersion relation for k_{\parallel} parallel and perpendicular to the magnetic field.

Case I: k_{\parallel} parallel to B_{\parallel}

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} & i\epsilon_x & 0 \\ -i\epsilon_x & \frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\epsilon_{\parallel} \end{array} \right] = 0$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} & i\epsilon_x & 0 \\ -i\epsilon_x & \frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\epsilon_{\parallel} \end{array} \right] = 0$$

~~Three solutions~~

~~$\epsilon_{\parallel} = 0$~~

$$\epsilon_{\parallel} \left[\left(\frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} \right)^2 - \epsilon_x^2 \right] = 0$$

\Rightarrow three solutions

$$\epsilon_{\parallel} = 0$$

e.s. wave

$$\frac{k_{\parallel}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} = \pm \epsilon_x$$

em waves

~~Equation~~
polarization \Rightarrow what is the direction of \hat{E}_m ?

$$\left(\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} \right) \hat{E}_x + i \epsilon_x \hat{E}_y = 0$$
~~$$\epsilon_x \hat{E}_x + i \epsilon_x \hat{E}_y = 0$$~~

$$\epsilon_{||} \hat{E}_z = 0$$

① $\epsilon_{||} = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{E}_z \neq 0, \hat{E}_x, \hat{E}_y = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{\omega p_d^2}{\omega^2} = 0$$

\Rightarrow electrostatic wave $\Rightarrow \hat{E}_m$ parallel to $k_{||}$

\Rightarrow no dependence on B_m since motion is along B_m . \Rightarrow same as $B_m = 0$ case.

② $\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} = \pm \epsilon_x, \hat{E}_z = 0$

$$\pm \epsilon_x \hat{E}_x + i \epsilon_x \hat{E}_y = 0$$

~~$$\epsilon_x \hat{E}_x + i \epsilon_x \hat{E}_y = 0$$~~

$$\frac{\hat{E}_y}{\hat{E}_x} = \pm i$$

\Rightarrow circularly polarized wave

$$E_x = \text{Re}(\hat{E}_x e^{i(kz - \omega t)})$$

$$= \hat{E}_x \cos(kz - \omega t) \quad \text{take } \hat{E}_x \text{ real}$$

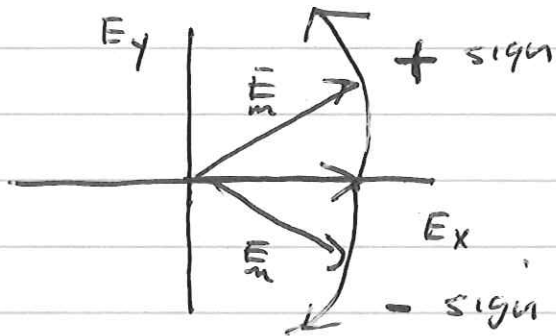
$$E_y = \text{Re}(\pm i \hat{E}_x e^{i(kz - \omega t)})$$

$$= \mp \hat{E}_x \sin(kz - \omega t)$$

look at $z=0$

~~$E_x \sim \cos \omega t$~~ $E_x \sim \cos \omega t$

~~$E_y \sim \pm \sin \omega t$~~ $E_y \sim \mp \sin \omega t$



Compare with electron/ion notation in B_z

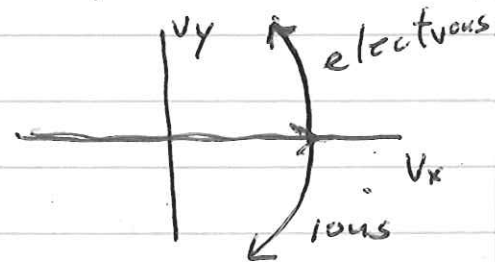
$$m \frac{d}{dt} v_x = q \frac{1}{c} v_y B_0 \Rightarrow \dot{v}_x = \Omega v_y$$

~~$$m \frac{d}{dt} v_y = -q \frac{1}{c} v_x B_0 \Rightarrow \dot{v}_y = -\Omega v_x$$~~

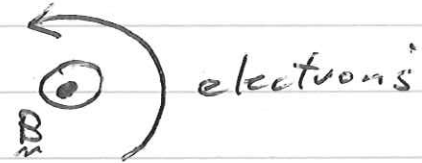
$$v_x = v_0 \cos \Omega t$$

$$v_y = -v_0 \sin \Omega t$$

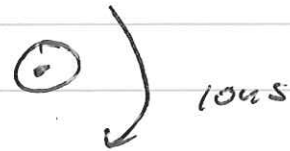
$\Omega > 0$ ions
 $\Omega < 0$ electrons



Electrons rotate in the "right hand" sense with respect to B_z .



Ions rotate in the "left hand" sense.



\Rightarrow wave with $+$ rotates in electron direction

\Rightarrow wave with $-$ rotates in ion direction

~~Dispersion~~

~~Electromagnetic~~

$$\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\Omega_{\alpha}}{\omega} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_{\alpha}^2}$$

$$= 1 - \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{p\alpha}^2}{\omega(\omega \pm \Omega_{\alpha})}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega(\omega \pm \Omega_i)} - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega \mp \Omega_e)}$$

Ω_i, Ω_e now positive

$+$ resonates with electrons

$-$ resonates with ions

Consider + root \rightarrow right hand wave

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega(\omega + \gamma_i)} - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega - \gamma_e)}$$

$\omega \ll \gamma_i, \gamma_e$

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega \gamma_i} \left(1 - \frac{\omega}{\gamma_i}\right) + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega \gamma_e} \left(1 + \frac{\omega}{\gamma_e}\right)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\gamma_i^2} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\gamma_e^2} \quad \omega_{pe} \sim \gamma_e$$

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} \sim \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\gamma_i^2} \sim \frac{m_i}{m_e} \omega^2 = k_{||}^2 \frac{B^2}{4\pi n_i} \frac{m_i}{m_e} = k_{||}^2 c^2$$

\Rightarrow Alfvén waves

$\gamma_i \ll \omega \ll \gamma_e, \omega_{pe}$

~~$\frac{m_e \gamma_e^2}{m_i \omega^2} \sim \frac{\gamma_e}{\omega} \ll 1$~~

$\omega_{pe} \sim \gamma_e$

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega \gamma_e}$$

~~$\frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2} \sim \frac{\gamma_e}{\omega} \ll 1$~~

$$\frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega \gamma_e} \sim \frac{\gamma_e}{\omega} \gg 1$$

$$\frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega^2} \sim \frac{m_e}{m_i} \frac{\gamma_e^2}{\omega^2} \sim \frac{\gamma_e \gamma_i}{\omega^2} \ll \frac{\gamma_e}{\omega}$$

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega - \omega_e)}$$

$$\frac{\omega}{\omega_e} \sim k_{||}^2 \frac{c^2}{\omega_{pe}^2}$$

whistler wave

⇒ this is a dispersive wave in which only electrons contribute

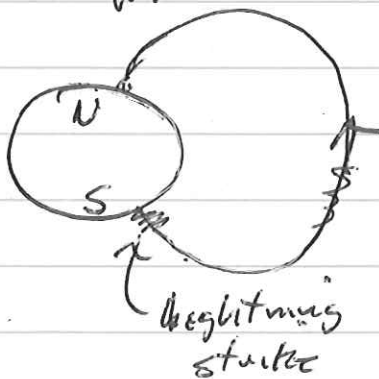
⇒ rotates in electron sense.

⇒ short wavelengths have higher group and phase velocities.

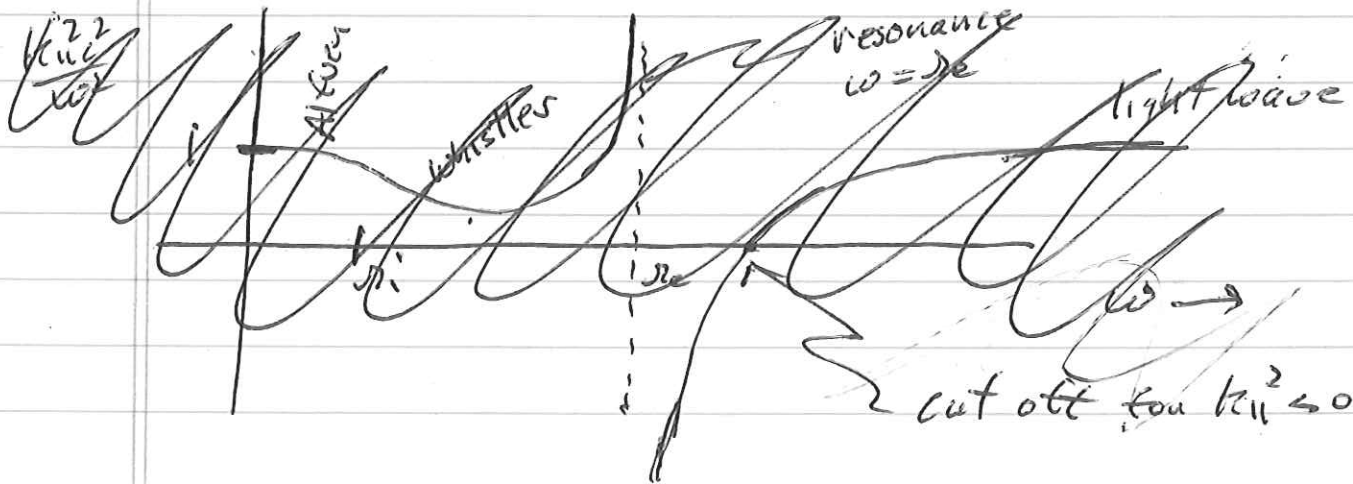
~~sound~~

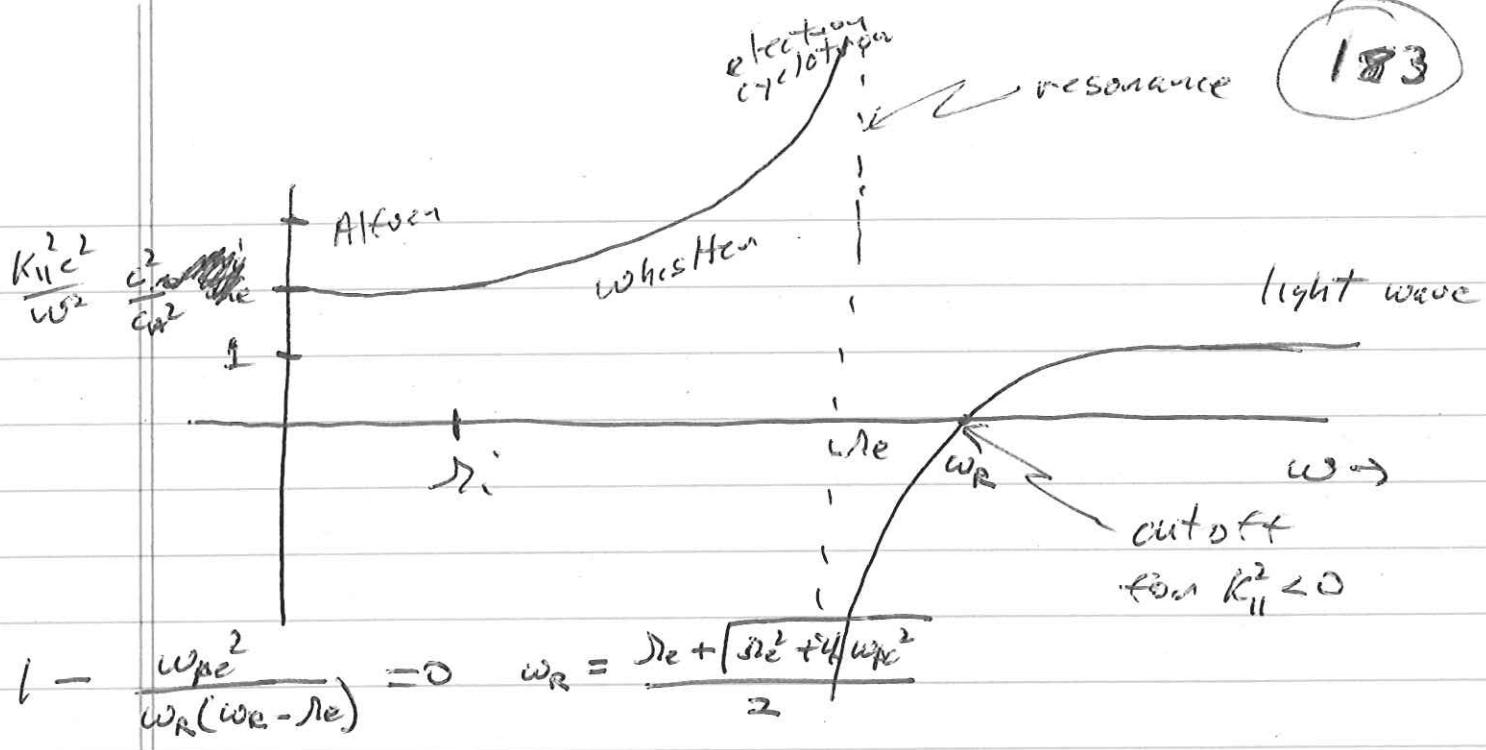
high freq. first.

⇒ high freq then low freq. sounds like whistler



$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega + \omega_e)} - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega - \omega_e)}$$

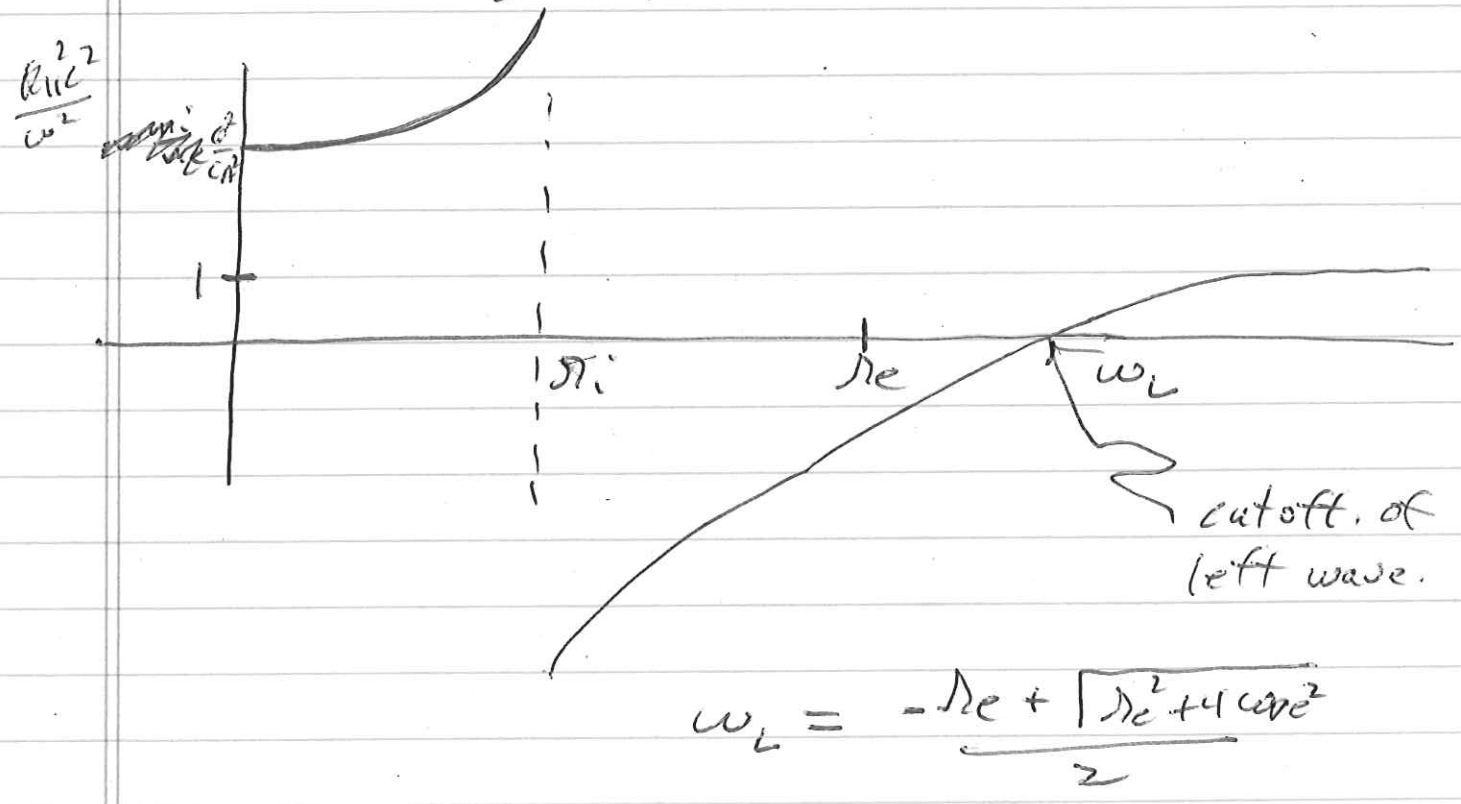




Consider - root \Rightarrow left hand wave

$$\frac{k_{||}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega - \omega_{pe})} - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega(\omega + \omega_{pe})}$$

\Rightarrow again have Alfvén wave at low frequency



Case II: Propagation \perp to $B_m \Rightarrow$ Let $k = k_x$

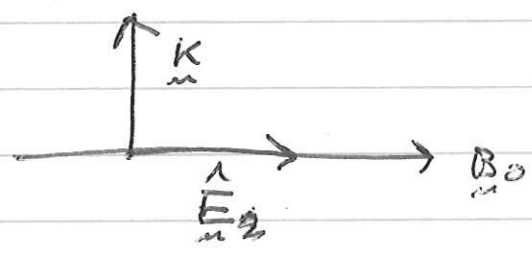
$$\begin{vmatrix} -\epsilon_{\perp} & i\epsilon_x & 0 \\ -i\epsilon_x & \frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} & \frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\parallel} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\parallel} \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\parallel} \right) \left(-\epsilon_{\perp} \left(\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} \right) - \epsilon_x^2 \right) = 0$$

①

$$\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}, \quad E_z \neq 0, \quad E_x, E_y = 0$$

$$\omega^2 = k_{\perp}^2 c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2$$



\hat{E}_m points along B_m so motion unaffected by B_m .

\Rightarrow "ordinary mode"

②

$$\epsilon_{\perp} \left(\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} - \epsilon_{\perp} \right) = -\epsilon_x^2$$

$$\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = \frac{(\epsilon_{\perp} - \epsilon_x)(\epsilon_{\perp} + \epsilon_x)}{\epsilon_{\perp}}$$

~~extra ordinary mode~~
x-mode

low frequency limit $\omega \ll \Omega$

$$\epsilon_{\perp} \approx 1 + \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\Omega_i^2} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\Omega_e^2}$$

$$\approx \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\Omega_i^2}$$

$$\epsilon_x = -\frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\Omega_e} \frac{1}{\omega} = \left(-\frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\Omega_i} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\Omega_e} \right) \frac{1}{\omega}$$

$$= 0$$

$$\frac{k_{\perp}^2 c^2}{\omega^2} \approx \epsilon_{\perp} = \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\Omega_i^2} \Rightarrow \omega^2 = k_{\perp}^2 c^2$$

cold plasma limit
of magnetosonic
wave (fast mode).

Resonances $\epsilon_{\perp} = 0$
 Cutoffs $\epsilon_{\perp} = \pm \epsilon_x$

Resonances $\epsilon_{\perp} = 0$

$$1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_i^2} - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_e^2} = 0$$

high freq. root ~~$\omega \gg \Omega_i$~~ $\omega \sim \Omega_e, \omega_{pe}$

$$1 - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_e^2} = 0 \Rightarrow \omega^2 = \Omega_e^2 + \omega_{pe}^2$$

upper hybrid
resonance

low freq. root $\omega \ll \Omega_e, \omega_{pe}$

$$1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega^2 - \Omega_i^2} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2} = 0$$

for ω_{pe} $\omega_{pe} \sim \Omega_e$, have $\omega_{pi} \gg \Omega_i$

$$\omega \sim \omega_{pi} \gg \Omega_i$$

$$1 - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega^2} + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2} = 0$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{1 + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\Omega_e^2}}$$

lower hybrid resonance.

for $\omega_{pe} \gg \Omega_e \Rightarrow \sqrt{\Omega_e \omega}$

ions behave like unmagnetized ($\omega \gg \Omega_i$)

electrons are strongly magnetized.

(E x B and pol. drift)

~~Re~~ Wave polarization near a resonance.

In general have

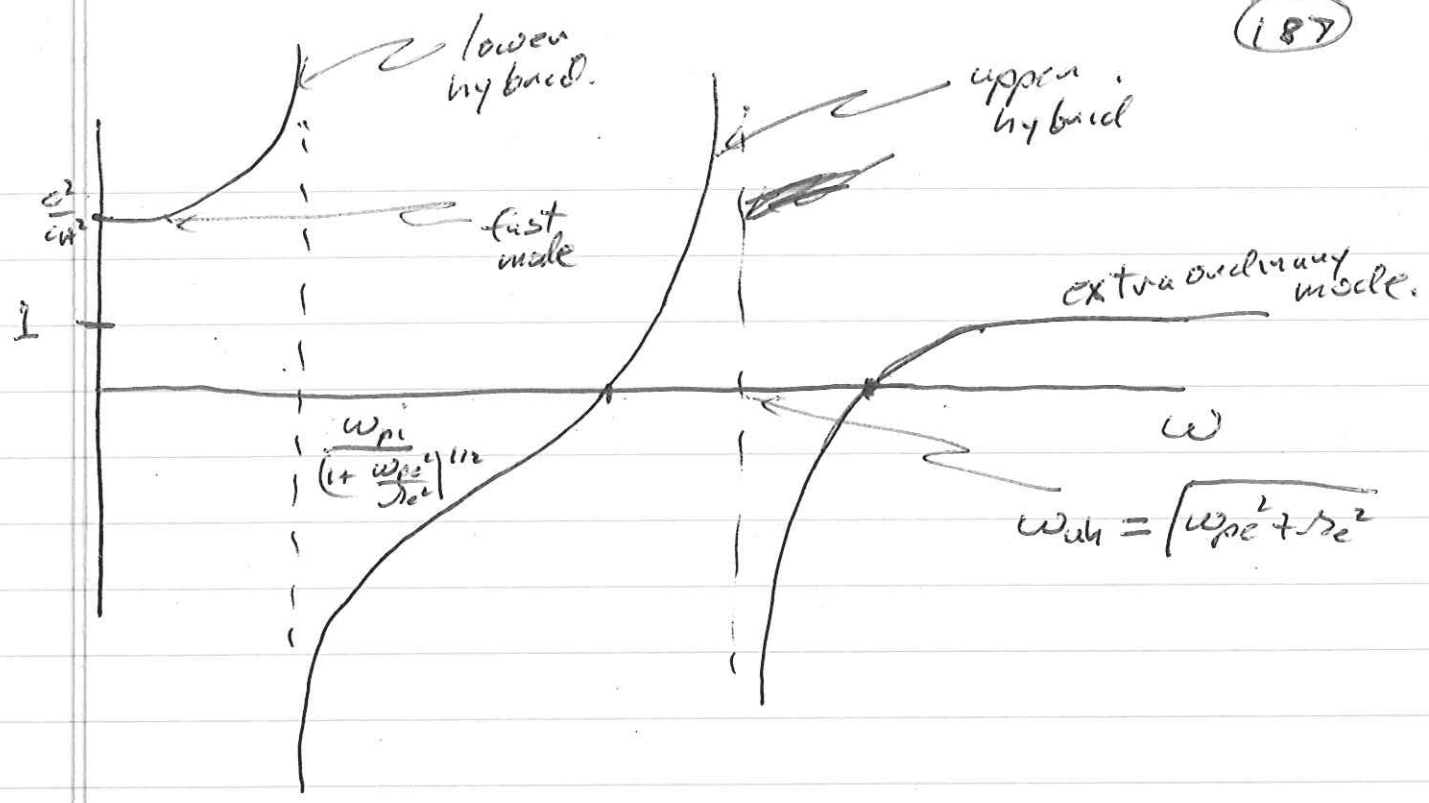
$$-\epsilon_{\perp} \hat{E}_x + i \epsilon_x \hat{E}_y = 0$$

$$\hat{E}_y = + \frac{\epsilon_{\perp} \hat{E}_x}{i \epsilon_x} \rightarrow 0 \text{ at a resonance}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E} \approx 0 \text{ since } \mathbf{k} = k_{\perp} \hat{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{B} \rightarrow 0 \text{ at resonance}$$

\Rightarrow waves become electrostatic



At a cutoff. $E_{\perp} = \pm E_x$

$$\hat{E}_y = \frac{E_{\perp}}{iE_x} \hat{E}_x = \pm i \hat{E}_x$$

\Rightarrow circularly polarized.