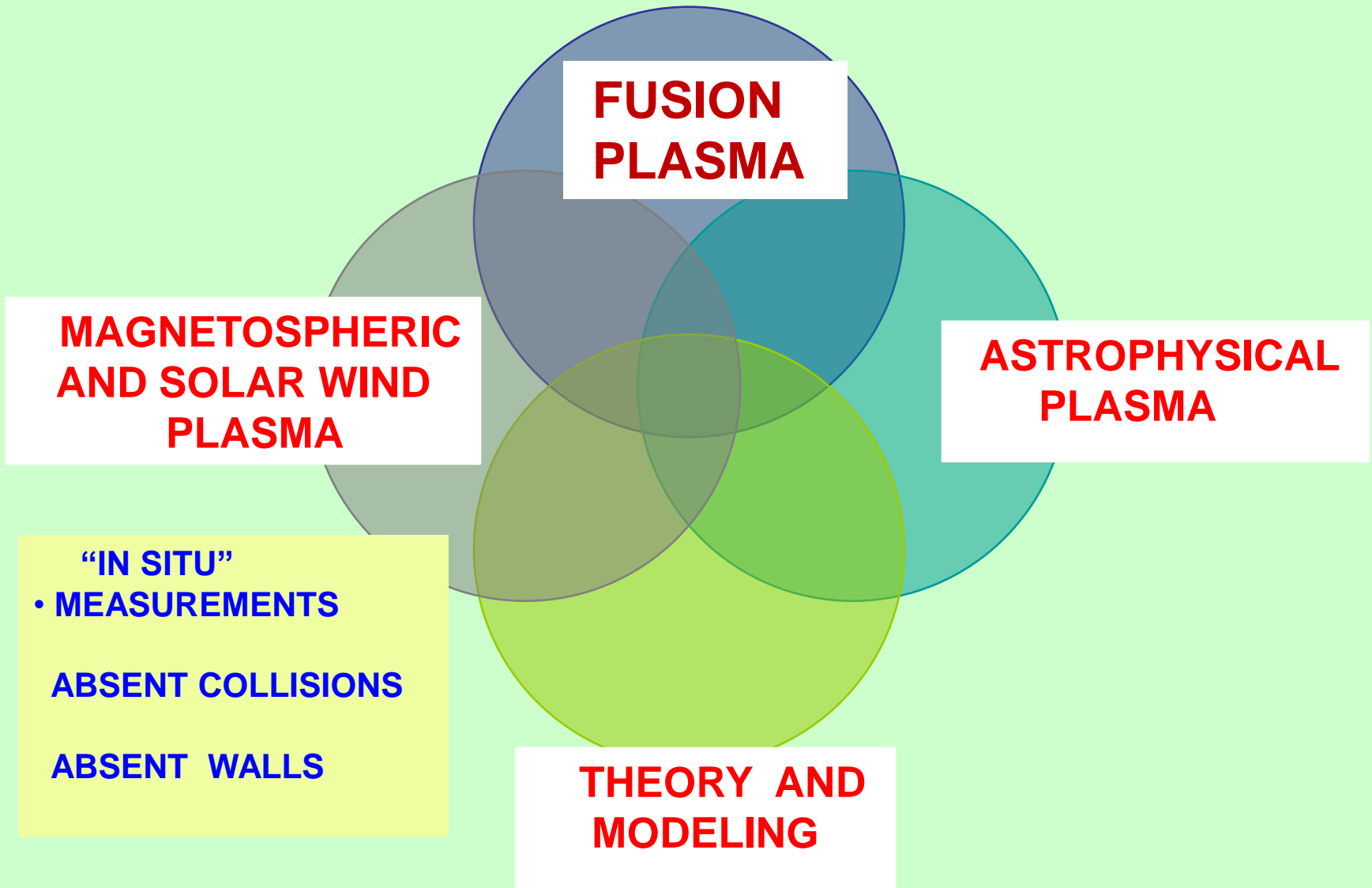
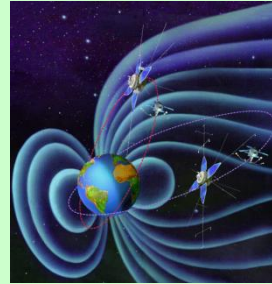
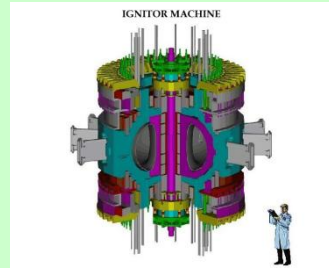
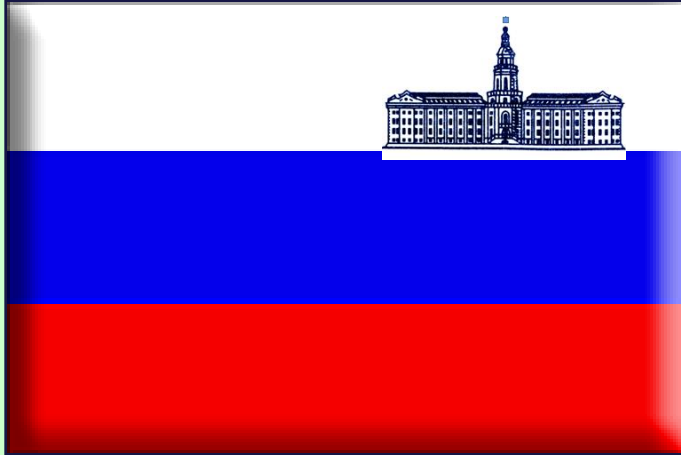


# Plasmas in Astrophysics and in the Laboratory:



# Plasmas in Astrophysics and in the Laboratory:



## CURRENT SHEETS

*LESSONS LEARNED FROM "IN SITU" MEASUREMENTS*

**LEV ZELENYI**

*Space Research Institute RAS*

# Space missions

Geotail

Polar

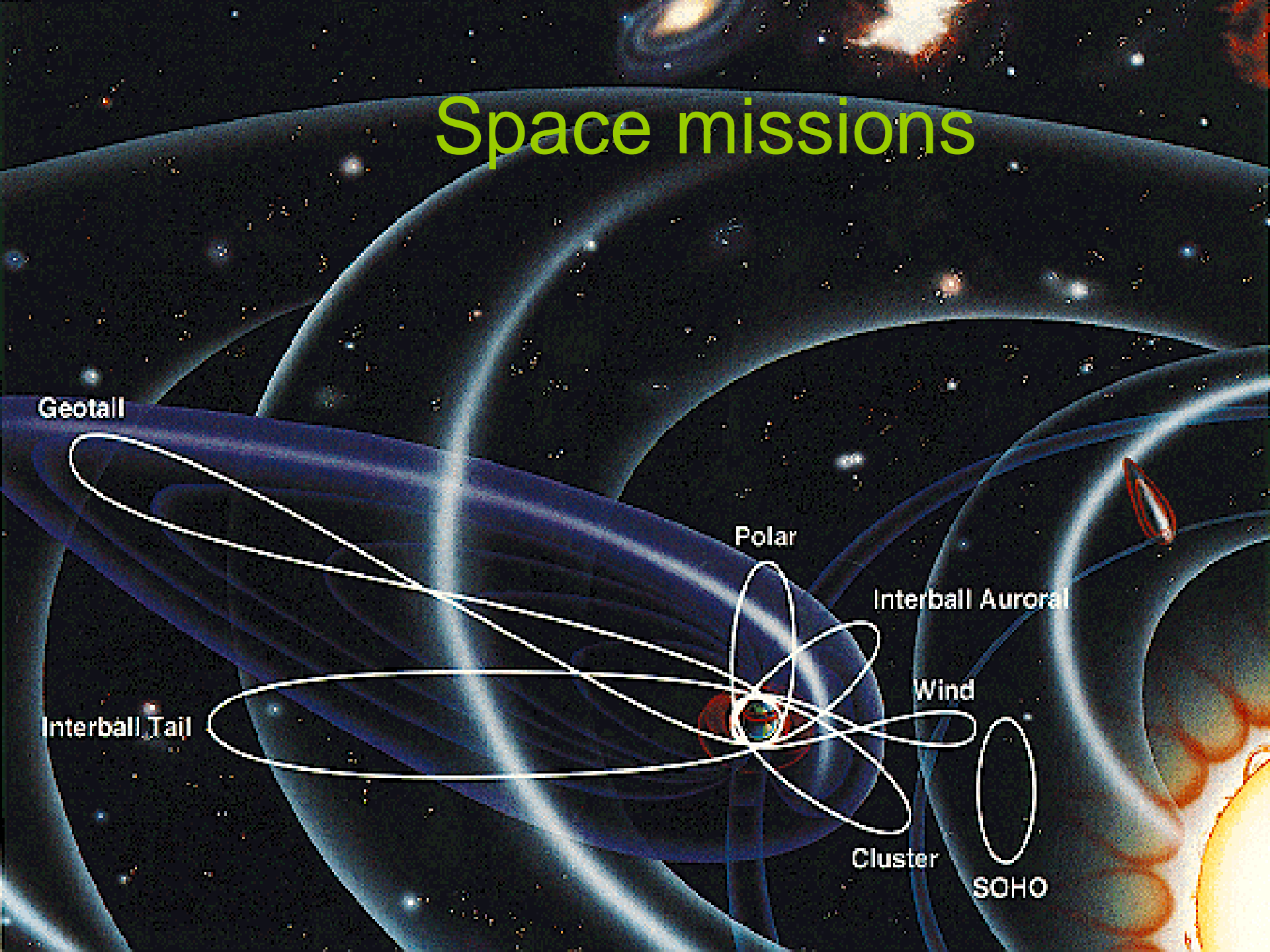
Interball Auroral

Wind

Interball Tail

Cluster

SOHO



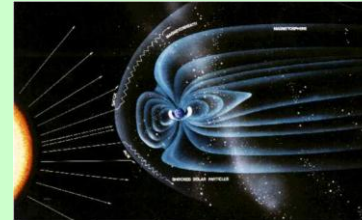
# WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE MAGNETOSPHERE ?

*Charles F. KENNEL*

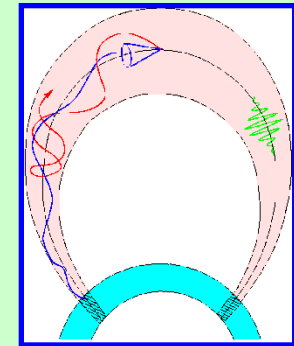


SSB CHAIR

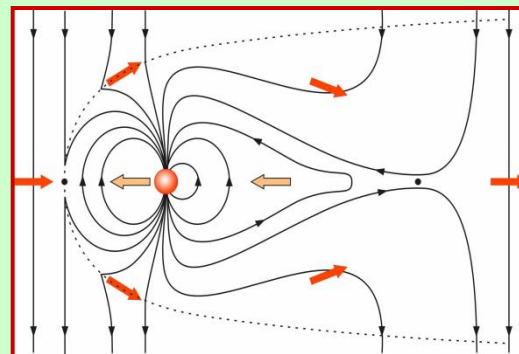
- **COLLISIONLESS SHOCKS**



- **WAVE-PARTICLE INTERACTIONS IN RAD. BELTS & PLASMASPHERE**

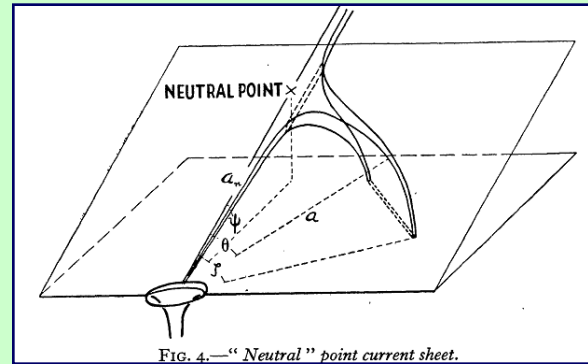


- **RECONNECTION**

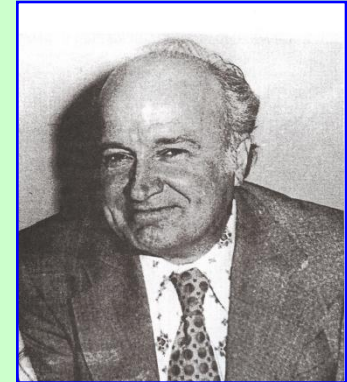
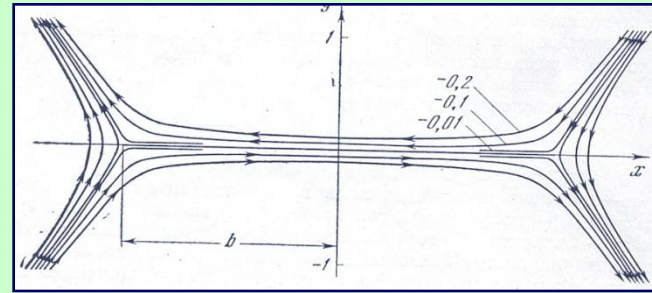


# Solar plasma

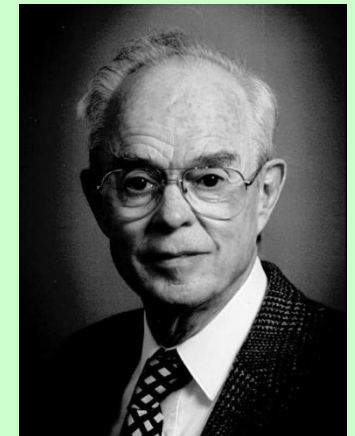
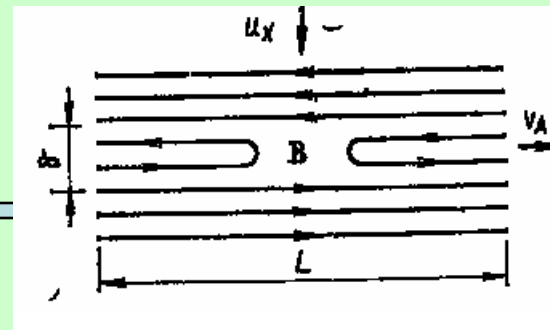
•**1946** - R.Giovanelli, A theory of chromospheric flares, Nature, 1946



•**1956**— S.Syrovatsky, MHD theory of thin current sheets in Solar corona



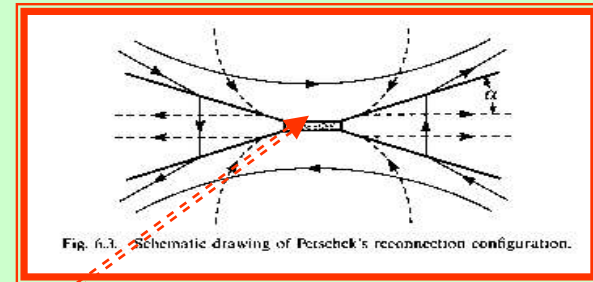
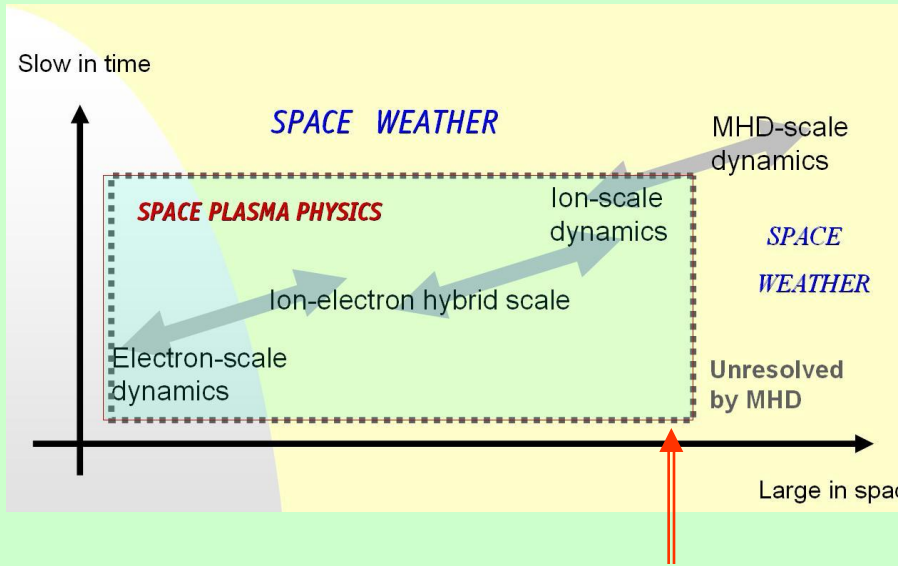
**1957** – E. Parker, Sweet’s mechanism for merging magnetic fields in conducting fluids, 1957



1958 – P. Sweet, The neutral point theory of solar flares,

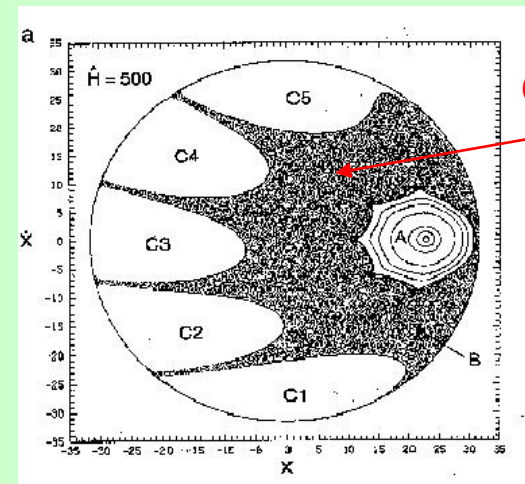
# MHD & KINETIC RECONNECTION

MHD\_PETSCHEK



$$R_{Li} \sim 6-7 Re$$

EQUATIONS OF PARTICLE MOTION ARE  
NON-INTEGRABLE EVEN IN A SIMPLEST  
TAIL-LIKE GEOMETRIES AND **PARTICLE  
DYNAMICS IS GENERALLY  
CHAOTIC !**



**CHAOS**

**IMPORTANCE OF HALL EFFECT !!!**

Chen, Palmadesso. 86

# What we have learned else ??

after 9 ICS conferences, tens Chapman conferences, thousands of meetings ( AGU, EGU, COSPAR, IAGA..... )

\*Electrostatic solitary waves

\*\* Nonadiabatic resonant beamlets

Speiser orbits

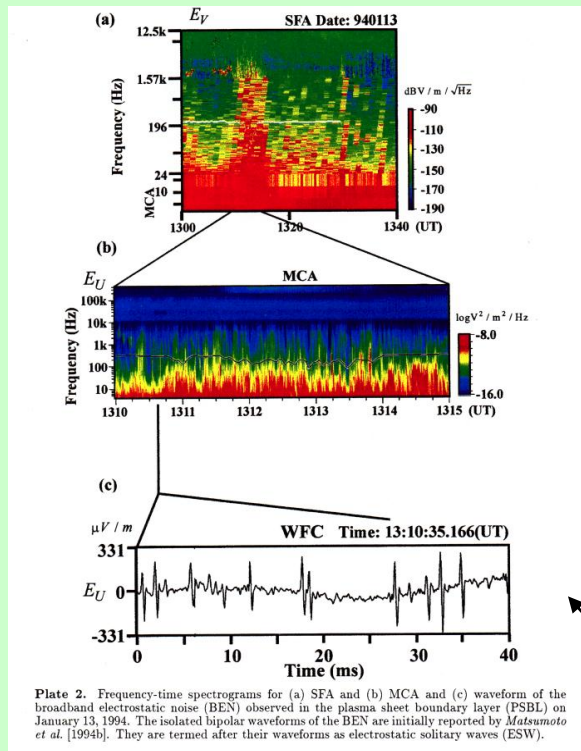
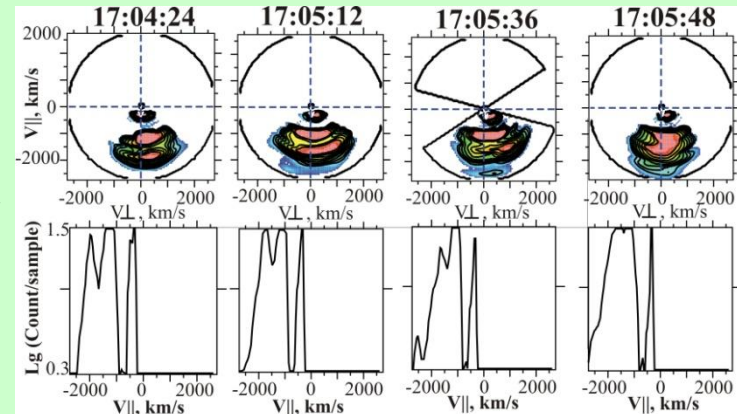
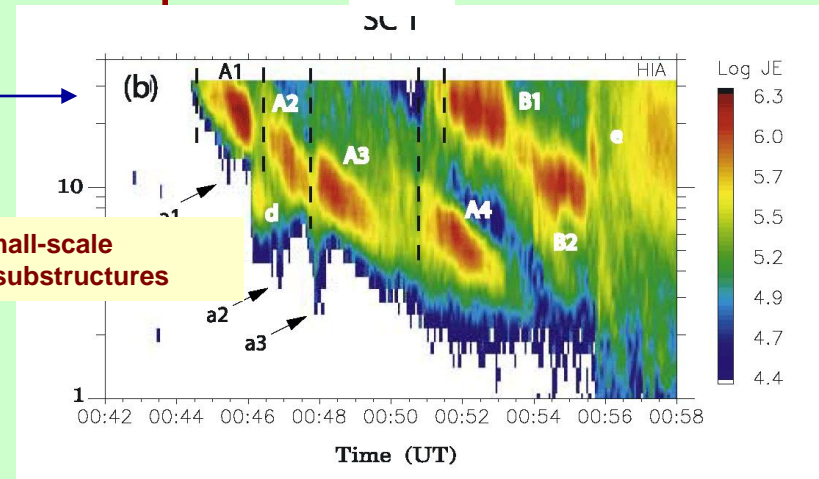


Plate 2. Frequency-time spectrograms for (a) SFA and (b) MCA and (c) waveform of the broadband electrostatic noise (BEN) observed in the plasma sheet boundary layer (PSBL) on January 13, 1994. The isolated bipolar waveforms of the BEN are initially reported by *Matsumoto et al.* [1994b]. They are termed after their waveforms as electrostatic solitary waves (ESW).

CLUSTER

PSBL

GEOTAIL



# Earth Current sheet

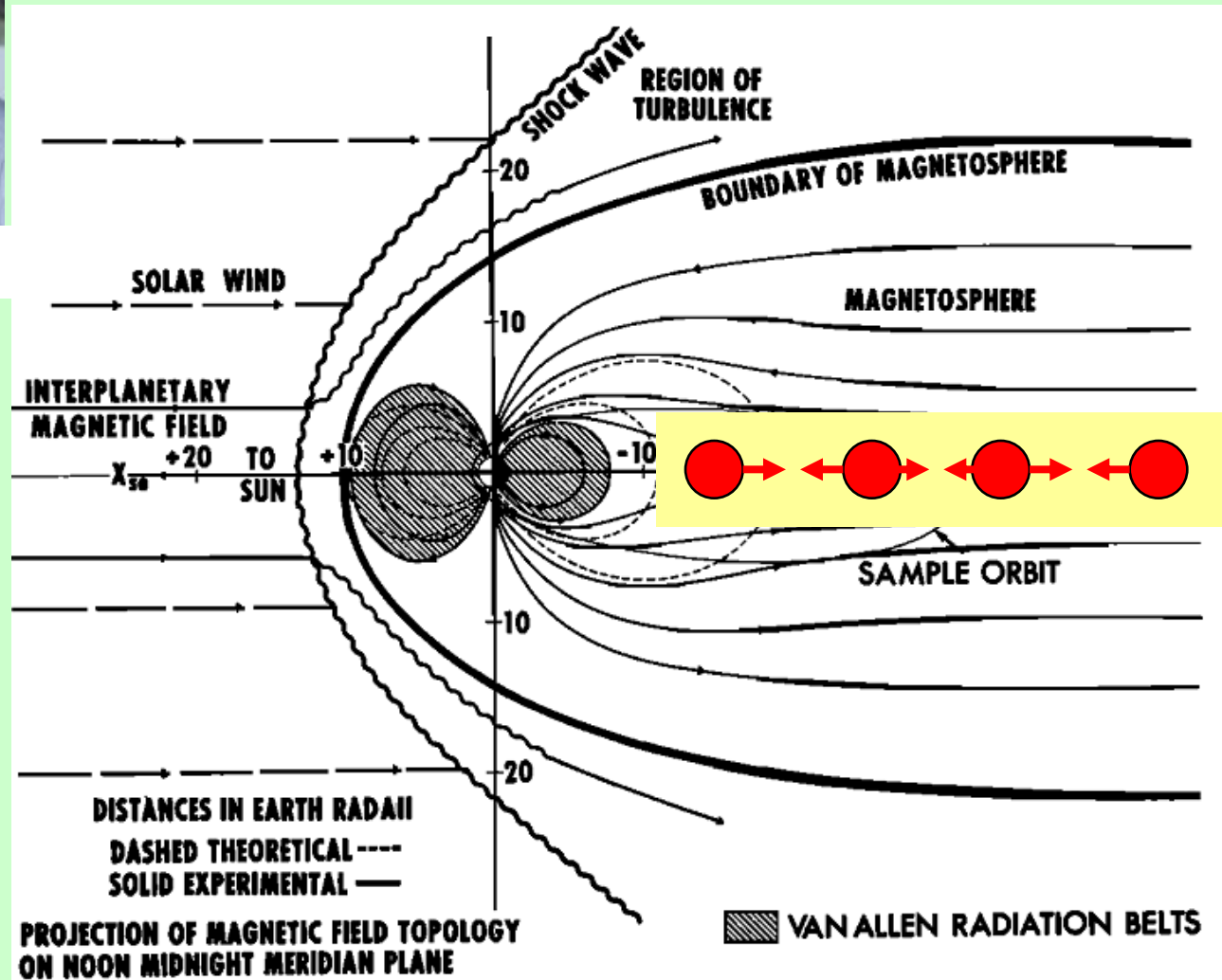


Norman F. Ness

## The Earth's Magnetic Tail<sup>1</sup>

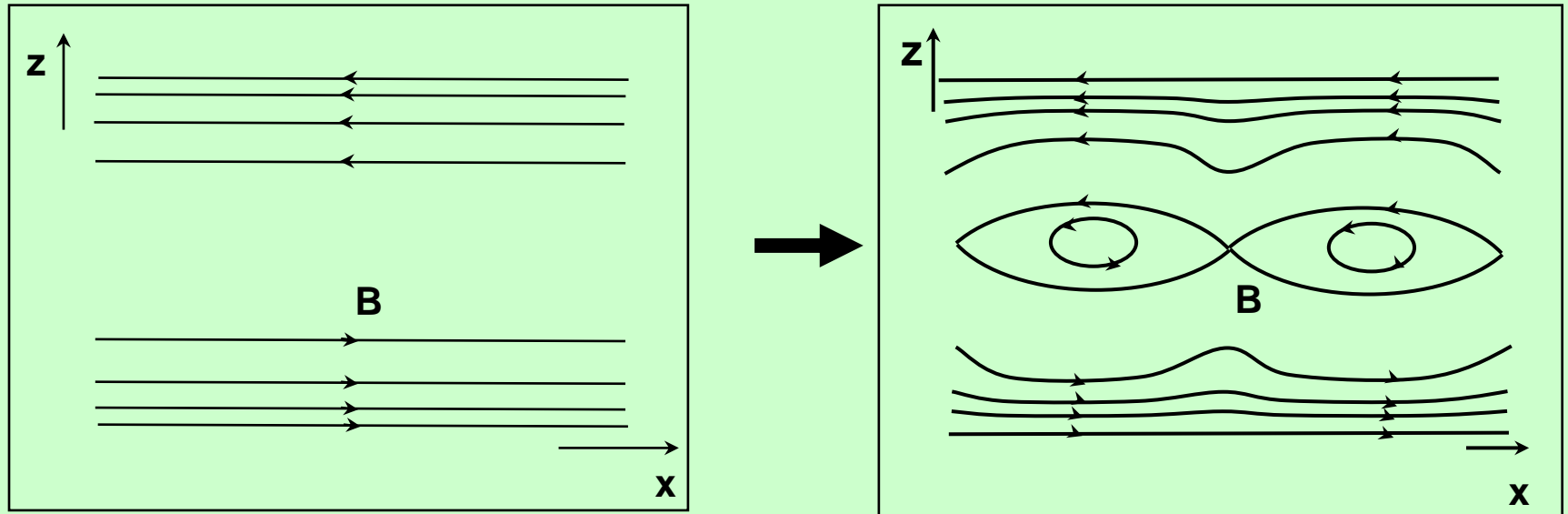
NORMAN F. NESS

1965





# SPONTANEOUS RECONNECTION IN COLLISIONLESS PLASMA



Spontaneous Reconnection == TEARING MODE

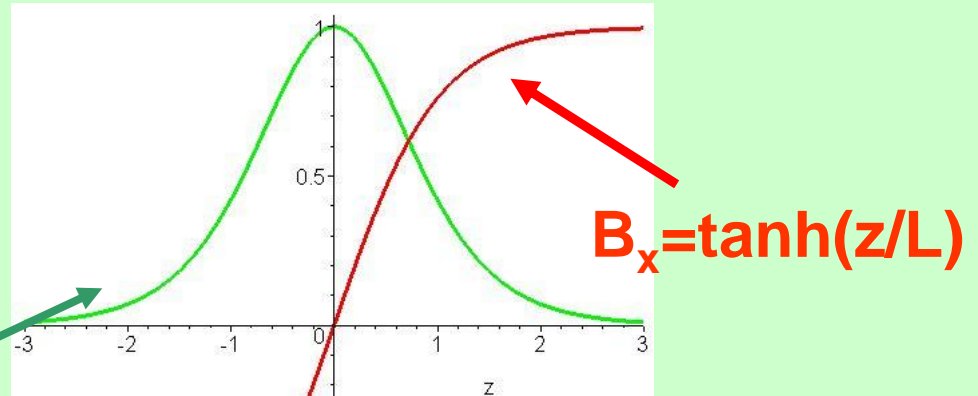
# Harris model

On a plasma sheath separating regions of oppositely directed magnetic fields.

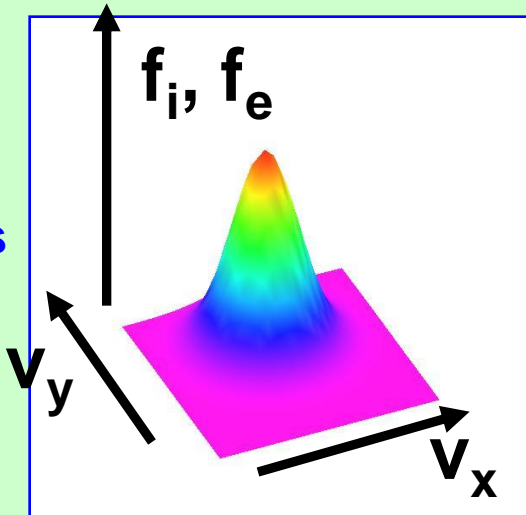
Harris E.G., Nuovo Chimento, 23, 115–119, 1962

**MATHEMATICALLY ELEGANT  
SIMPLE 1D KINETIC MODEL**

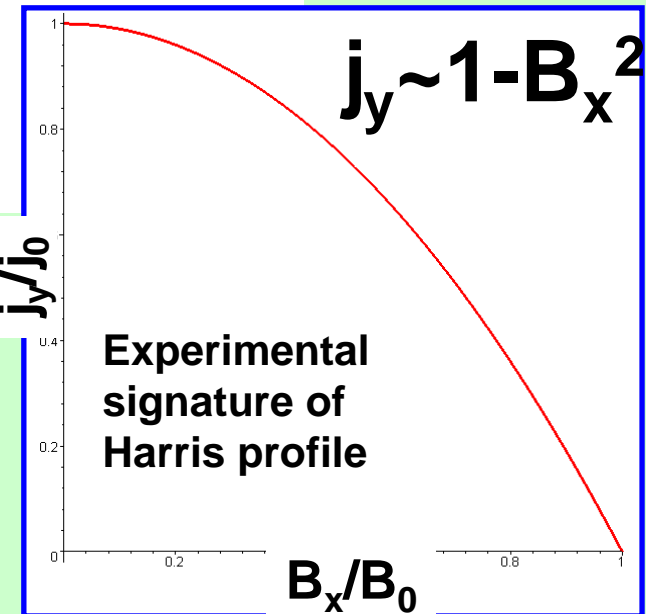
Erroneously used  
by everybody  
and everywhere



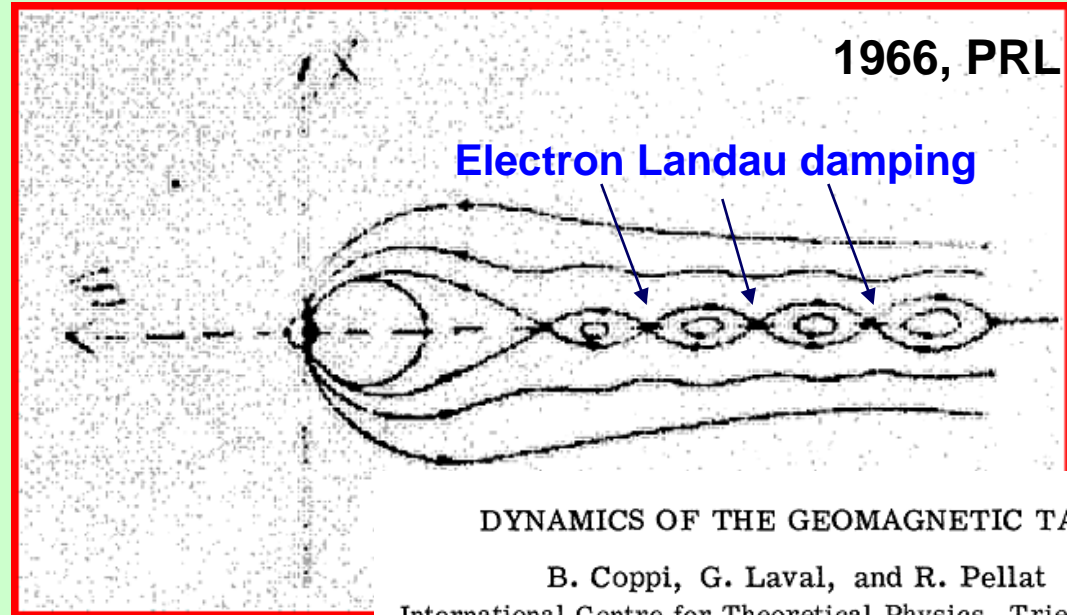
$$j_y \sim n \sim \text{cosh}^{-2}(z/L)$$



Shifted  
maxwellians



# First steps in theory of CS stability.



DYNAMICS OF THE GEOMAGNETIC TAIL

B. Coppi, G. Laval, and R. Pellat

International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy

(Received 13 January 1966)

The “Mirror Instability” for finite particle gyro-radius.

Harold P. Furth, Nuclear Fusion, 1962

$$f_0 = \frac{n_0}{(2\pi)^{3/2} a v^3} \exp \left[ -\frac{v^2}{2} \left( \frac{v_x^2}{a^2} + v_y^2 + v_z^2 \right) \right] \quad (1)$$

are subjected to the perturbation

$$B_x = b e^{\omega t} \sin k_{\parallel} x \sin k_{\perp} z \quad (2)$$

$$B_x = B + (k_{\perp}/k_{\parallel}) b e^{\omega t} \cos k_{\parallel} x \cos k_{\perp} z \quad (3)$$

$$E_y = (\omega/c k_{\parallel}) b e^{\omega t} \cos k_{\parallel} x \sin k_{\perp} z \quad (4)$$

$$f = f_0 + f_1 e^{\omega t},$$



Bruno Coppi



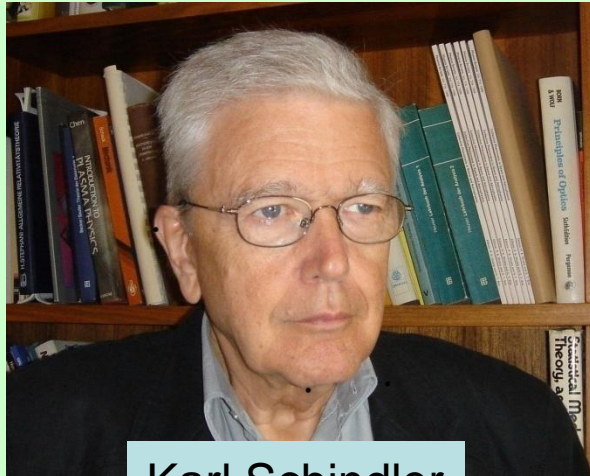
Guy Laval



Rene Pellat

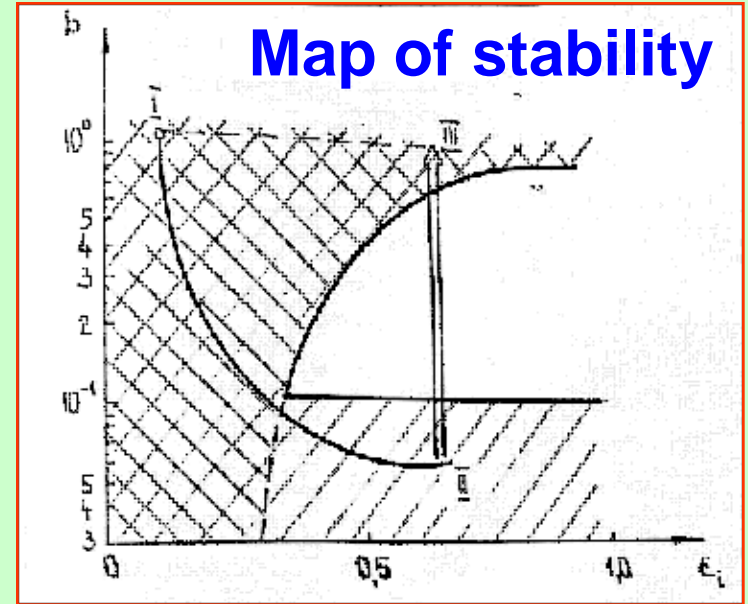
Bz - destruction of electron  
Landau damping.

Electron stabilization.



Karl Schindler

**ION  
MODE**



A Theory of the Substorm Mechanism

K. SCHINDLER

**Tearing instability in plasma configurations**

Galeev, A. A., Zelenyi, L. M. JETP, 1976

1974, JGR

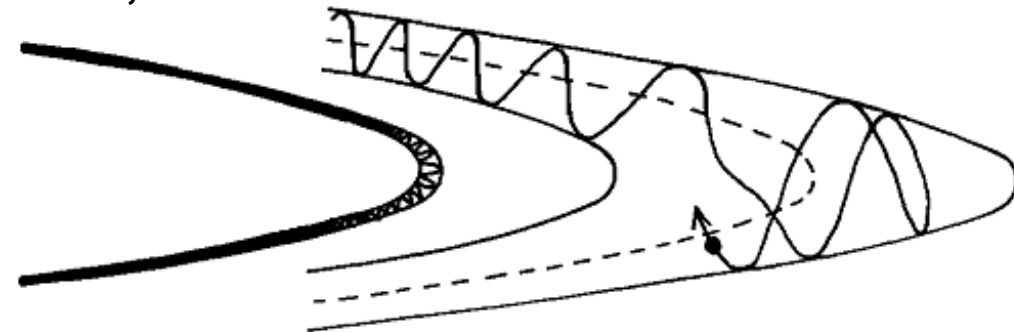
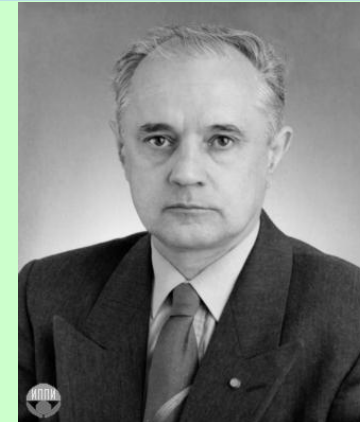
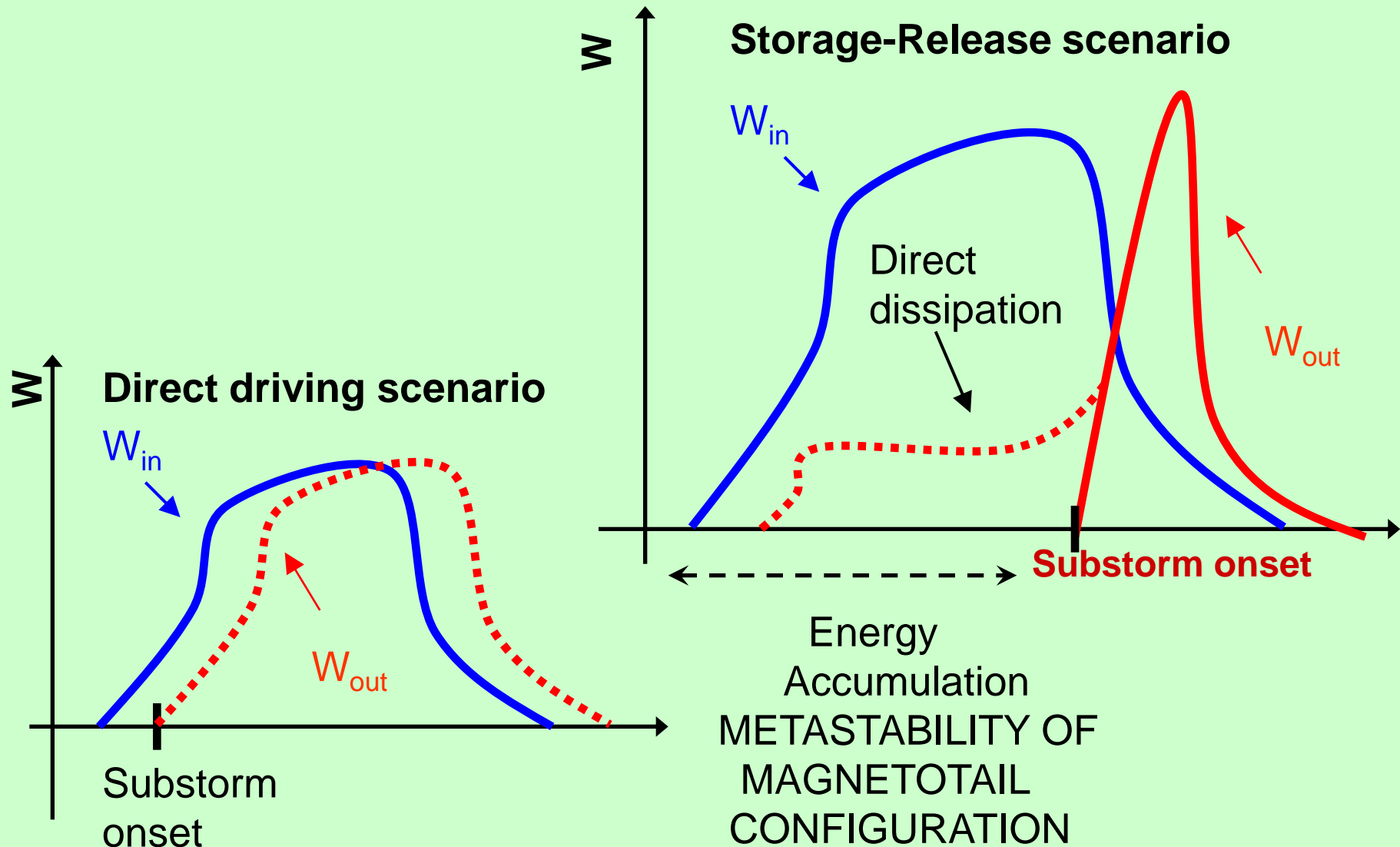


Fig. 4. Regime of ion tearing: the electrons are gyroscopic, and the ions see a neutral sheet. The ion motion perpendicular to the plane shown is unidirectional on either side of the broken line.



Albert Galeev

# Two scenarios of magnetospheric activity



# SPONTANEOUS RECONNECTION::

- CHANGE OF MAGNETIC TOPOLOGY (Formation of X/O lines)

*Non trivial problem in collisionless plasma  
(only LANDAU damping)*

- **Observational constraints:**

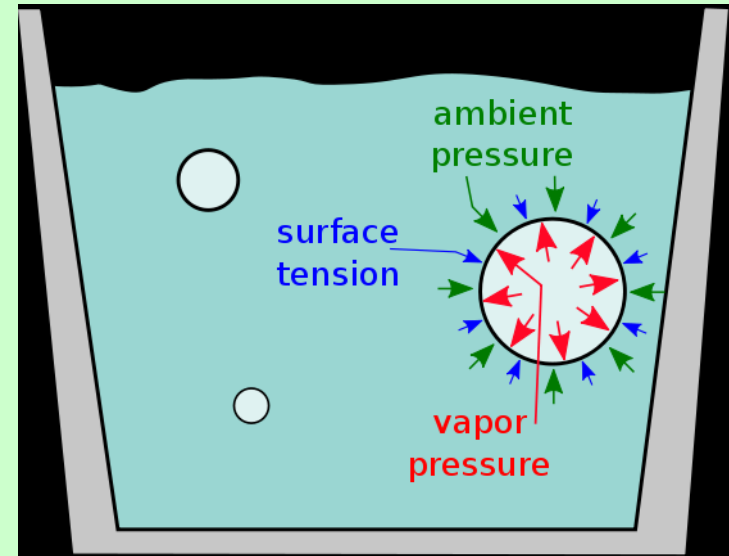
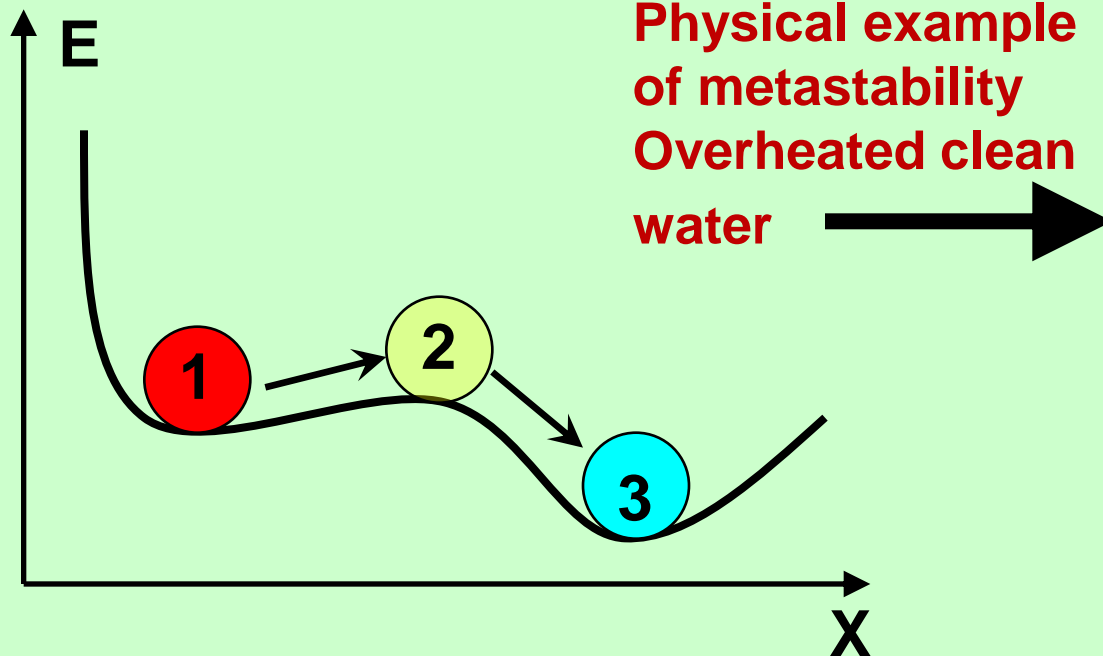
possibility to accumulate magnetic flux –  
possibility quickly release stored energy—

## METASTABILITY

- HARRIS SHEET PARADIGMA- OVERSTABILITY
- Realistic models of CS – anisotropy , bifurcations , steepening
- Stability properties of anisotropic CS- and their free energy reservoirs
- Overlapping of tearing/kink/sausage modes
- ACCELERATION

# Metastability

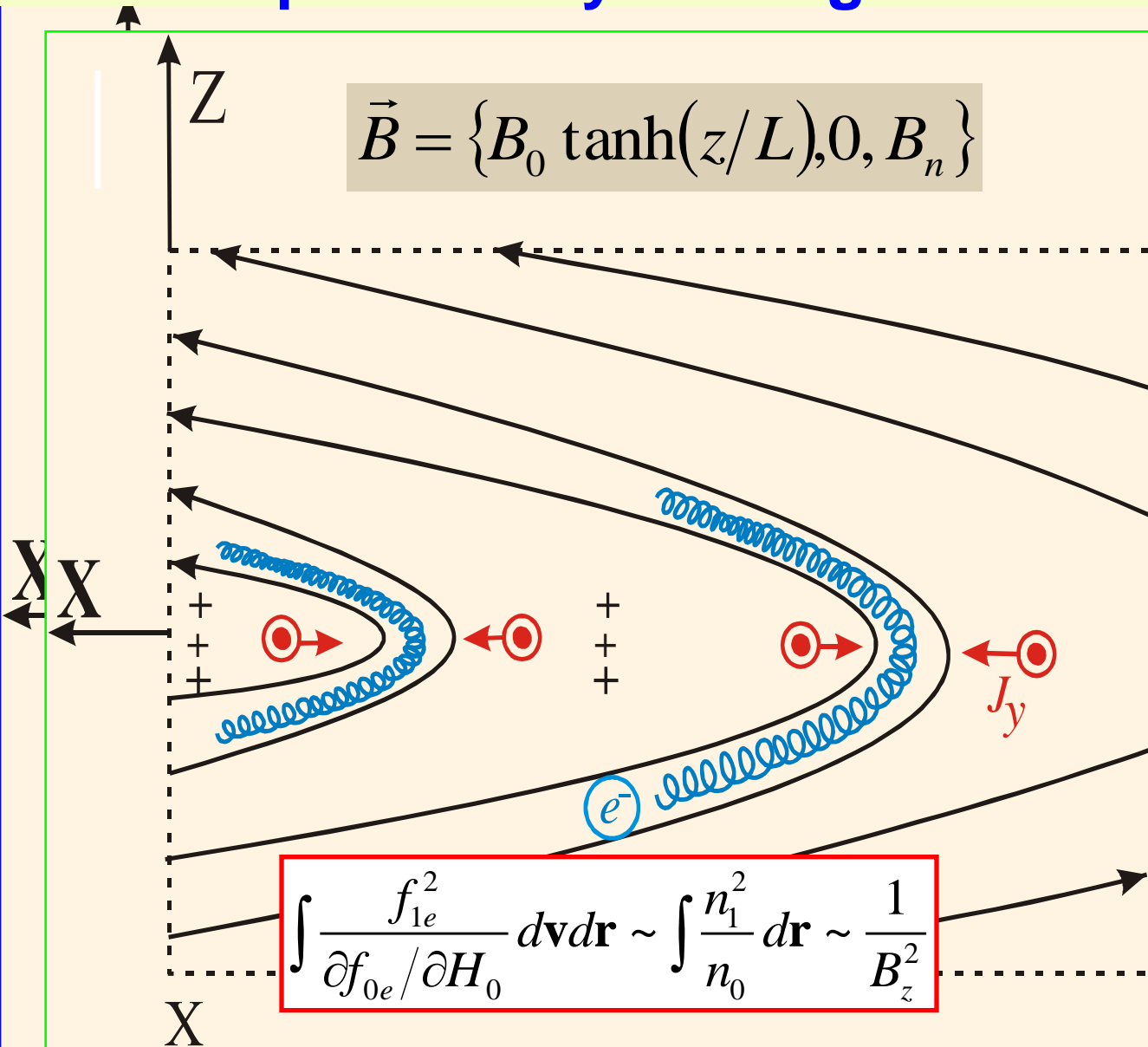
Metastability is a general scientific concept which describes states of delicate equilibrium. A system is in a metastable state when it is in equilibrium (not changing with time) but is susceptible to fall into lower-energy states with only slight interaction.



A metastable system with a weakly stable state (1), an unstable transition state (2) and a strongly stable state (3)

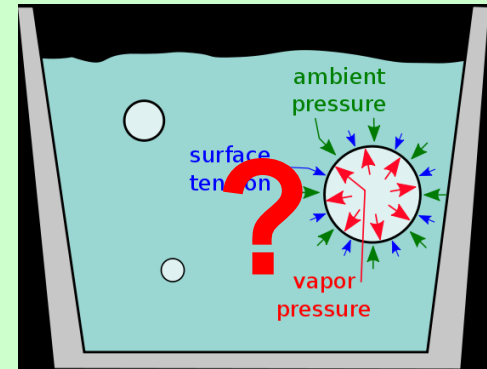
In order for boiling to occur, the vapor pressure must exceed the ambient pressure plus a small amount of pressure induced by the surface tension

# Stabilization of ion tearing mode by the compressibility of magnetized electron



**ABSOLUTE STABILITY OF HARRIS TYPE FIELD REVERSAL with  $|B_z| > 0$**

**$B_z$  effects = OVERSTABILITY for HARRIS model**





## DOES ION TEARING EXIST?

R. Pellat, F.V. Coroniti<sup>1</sup>, and P.L. Pritchett<sup>2</sup>

Department of Physics, University of California



In conclusion, neither pitch-angle diffusion nor stochastic orbit diffusion removes the stabilizing effect of electron compressibility. Cross-field spatial diffusion can result in an unstable electron tearing mode, but to reach the ion tearing regime requires diffusion rates which are inconsistent with the initial assumed equilibrium. Thus, within our present state of knowledge, there is no parameter space for an ion tearing mode.

## MAGNETIC RECONNECTION IN COLLISIONLESS FIELD REVERSALS THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE ION TEARING MODE

M.M. Kuznetsova and L.M. Zelenyi  
Space Research Institute, Moscow, U.S.S.R.



Concluding this paper we would like to summarize all possible mechanism of the destabilization of the tearing mode (spontaneous reconnection) which exists according to our present understanding of the problem:

- 1) Pitch angle diffusion (external or intrinsic), studied in this paper.
- 2) Magnetic shear ( $B_y$  field).
- 3) Collisions even very weak
- 4) Violation of the WKB approach for long-wavelength perturbations ( $kL < B_z/B_0$ ).

**DEAD END !**

**For HARRIS CS MODEL**

# INTENSE DISPUTES OF 1990-ies

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Department of Physics, University of California



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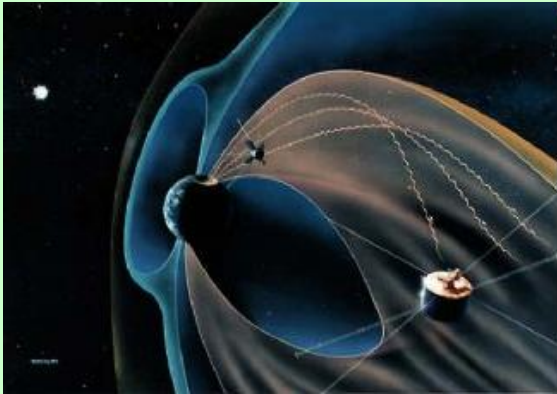
**DEAD END !**

**For HARRIS CS MODEL**

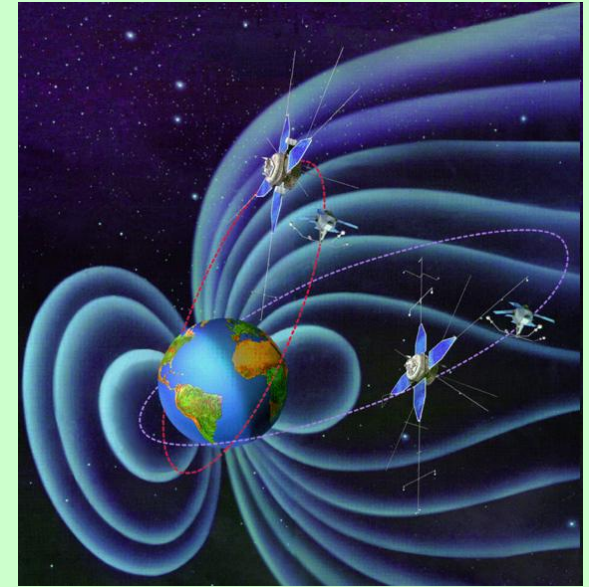
It is necessary to develop a new model of realistic current sheet compatible with 4-point **CLUSTER** observations of real current profiles and recalculate its stability properties

# MULTIPOINT spacecraft observations of magnetotail processes

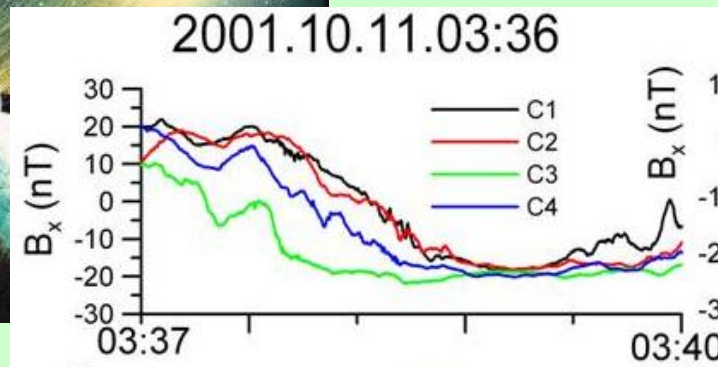
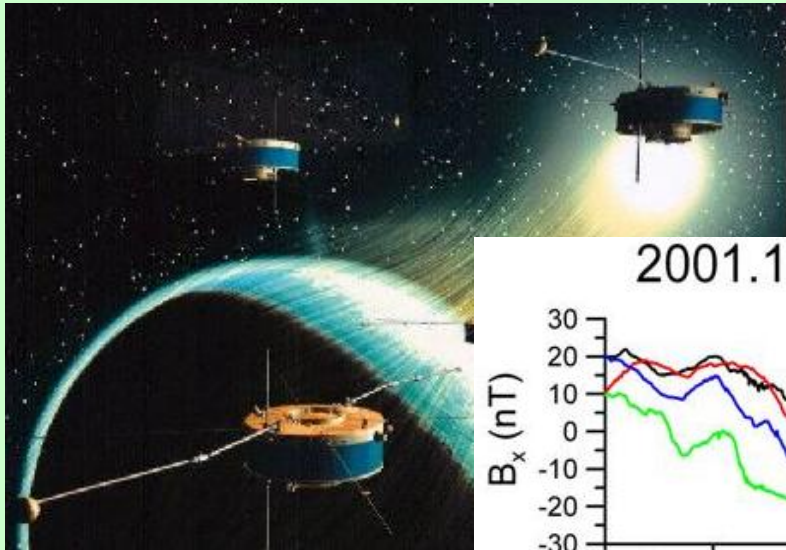
Geotail (1)



Interball (2+2)



Cluster (4) + Double Star (2)

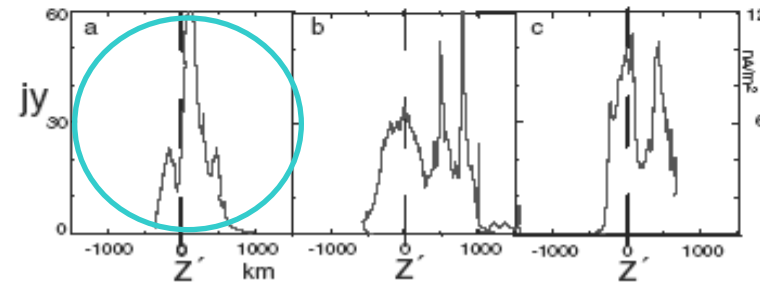
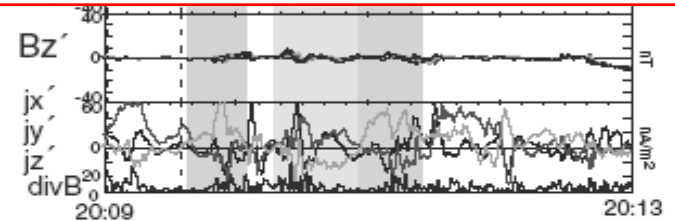
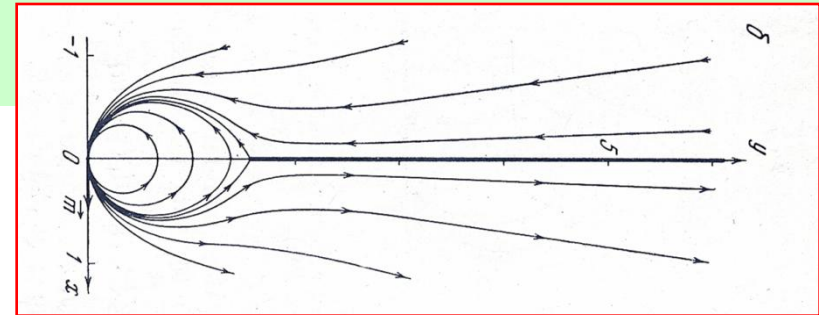
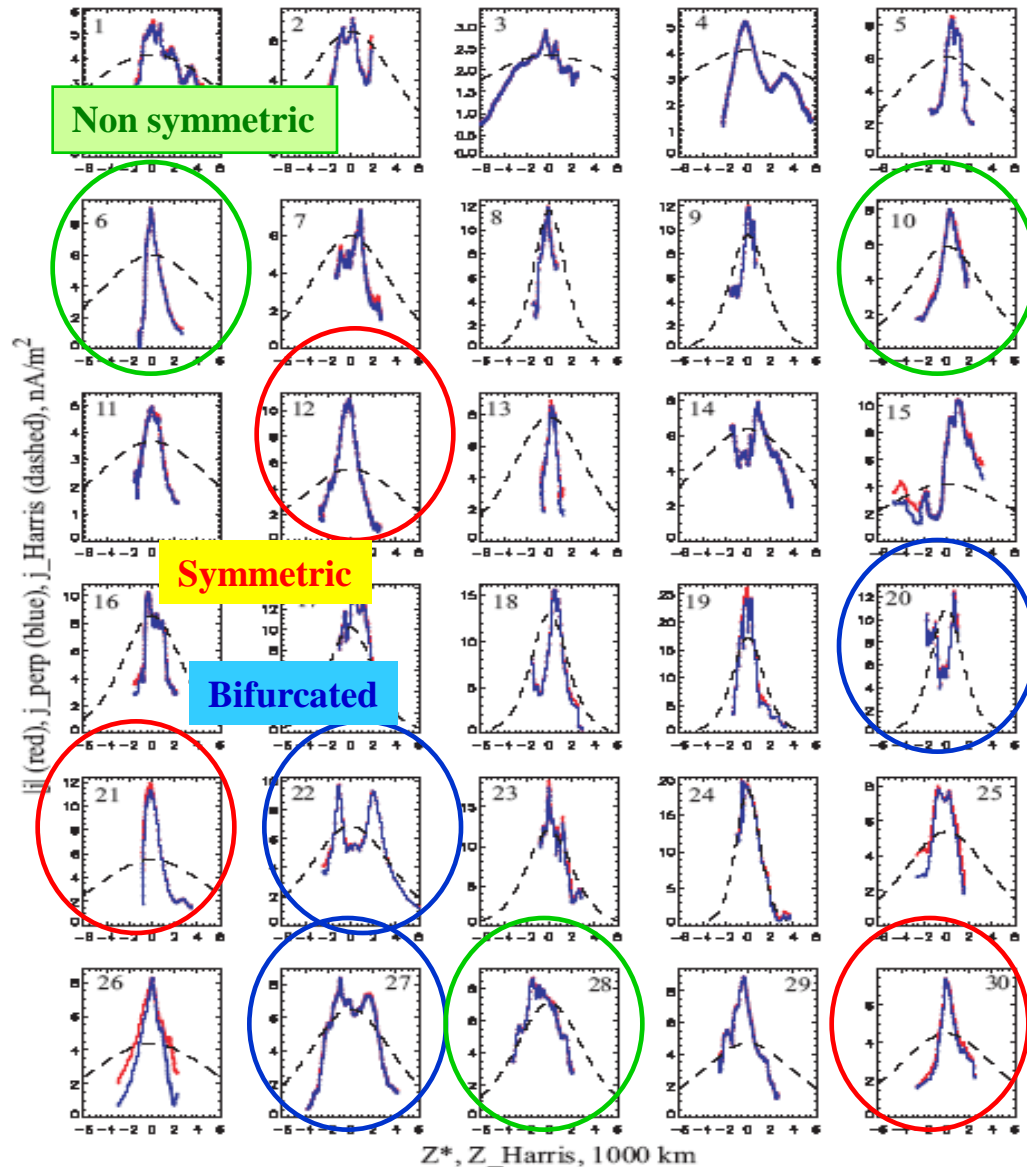


**THEMIS(5)**

# CLUSTER CS OBSERVATIONS

Runov et al., 2006 collection  
Nakamura et al., 2006

Super thin (<1000km)  
current sheet predicted  
by Syrovatsky

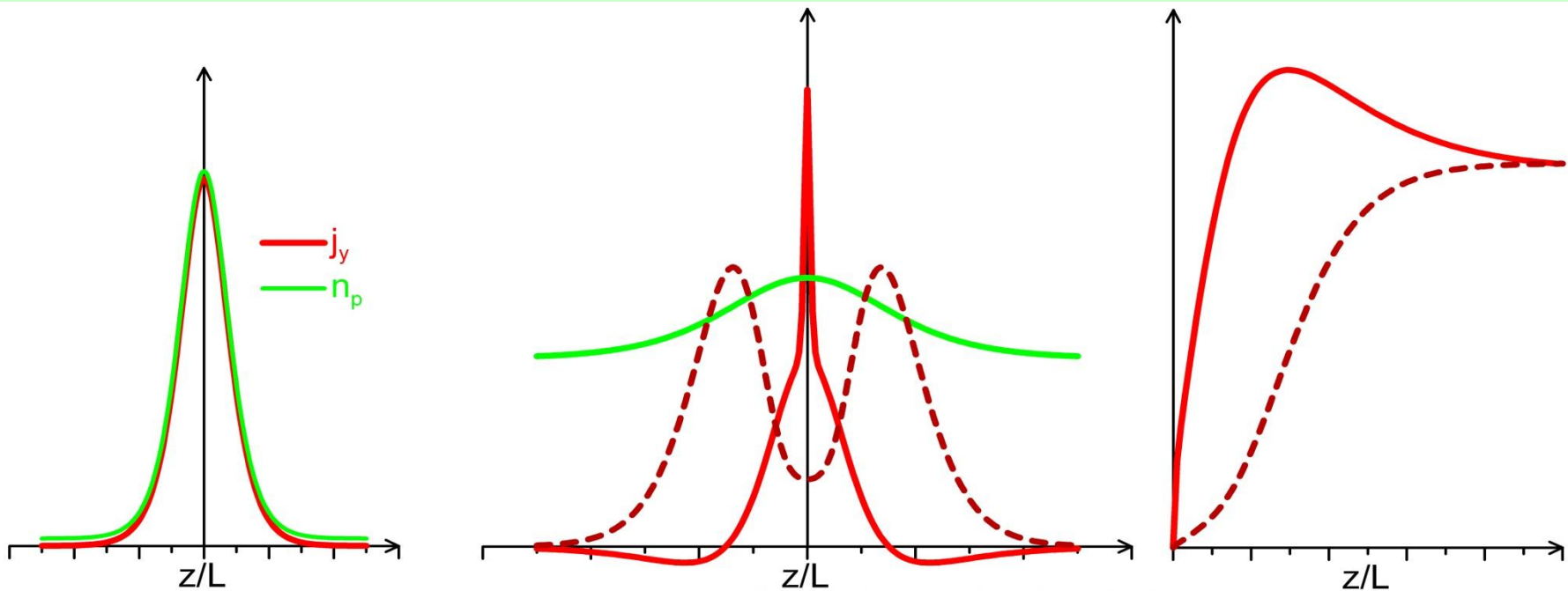


Profiles of absolute values of the current densities  $j$  (blue) and  $j_{\perp}$  (red) versus the effective vertical coordinate  $Z^*$ , calculated as  $Z^* = Z_{\text{Harris}} \sqrt{1 + \beta}$ . Dashed lines show the corresponding Harris profiles.

Nakamura et al. SSR, 2006

# Thin current sheets

## ROLE OF ANISOTROPY



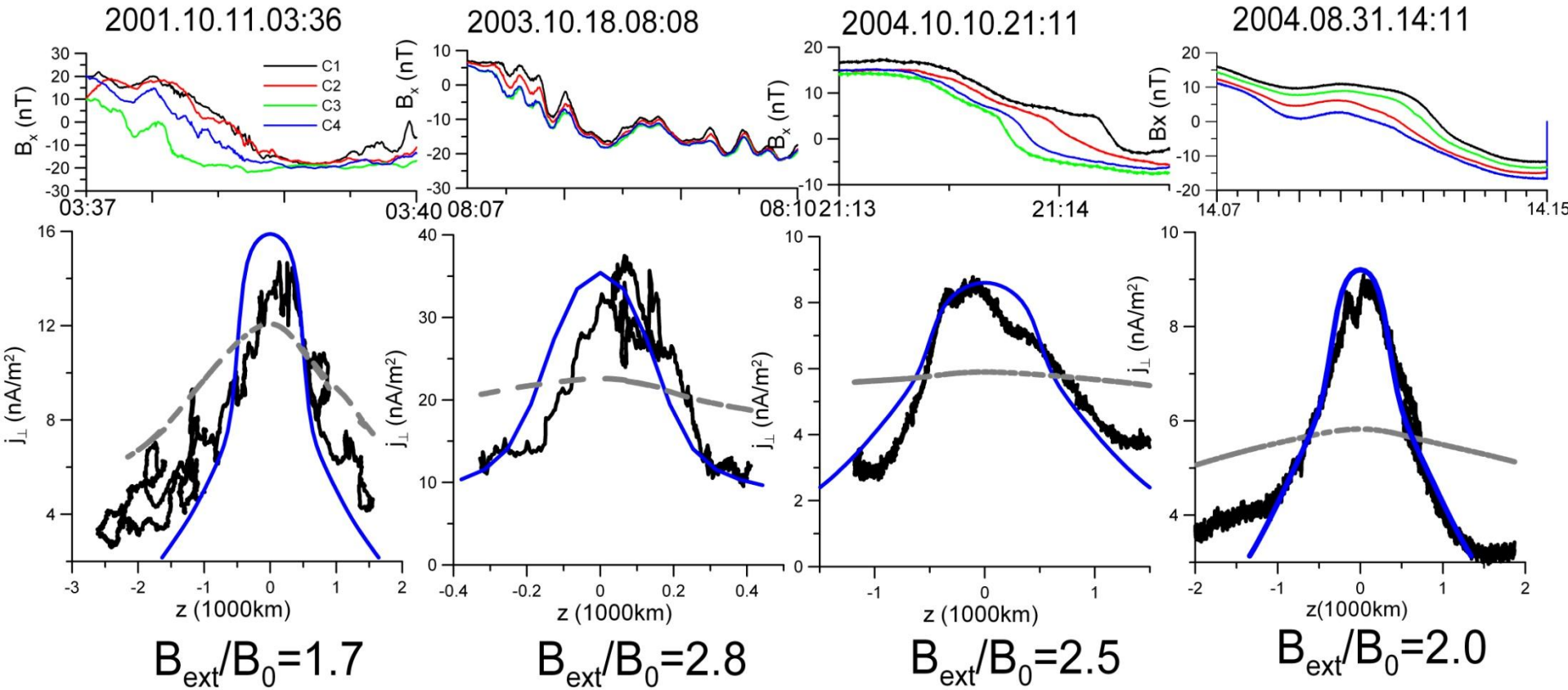
Harris-like current density profile coincides with plasma density profile

Double-humped and peaked current sheets are embedded inside plasma sheet

Realistic features of TCS: embedding, bifurcation, overshoots, steepening

# Fast CS crossing and the model of thin current sheet

## Observations approximated by **Thin CS model** and Harris CS



**Difference between experimental  $N_p$ ,  $T_p$ ,  $B_L$  and TCS model parameters <30%**

**Spatial scale ~ 200 km**

**Spatial scale < 1000 km**

**Artemyev et al. 2008**

# Energy principle for tearing mode.

Marginal stability.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\vec{B}_1^2 + \vec{E}_1^2}{8\pi} d\tau = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\vec{j}_1 \vec{E}_1) d\tau$$

$$f_j = \frac{\partial f_{0j}}{\partial A_0} A_1 + \tilde{f}_{1j}$$

$W_{\text{current}}$   
= free energy

deltaW

Wb

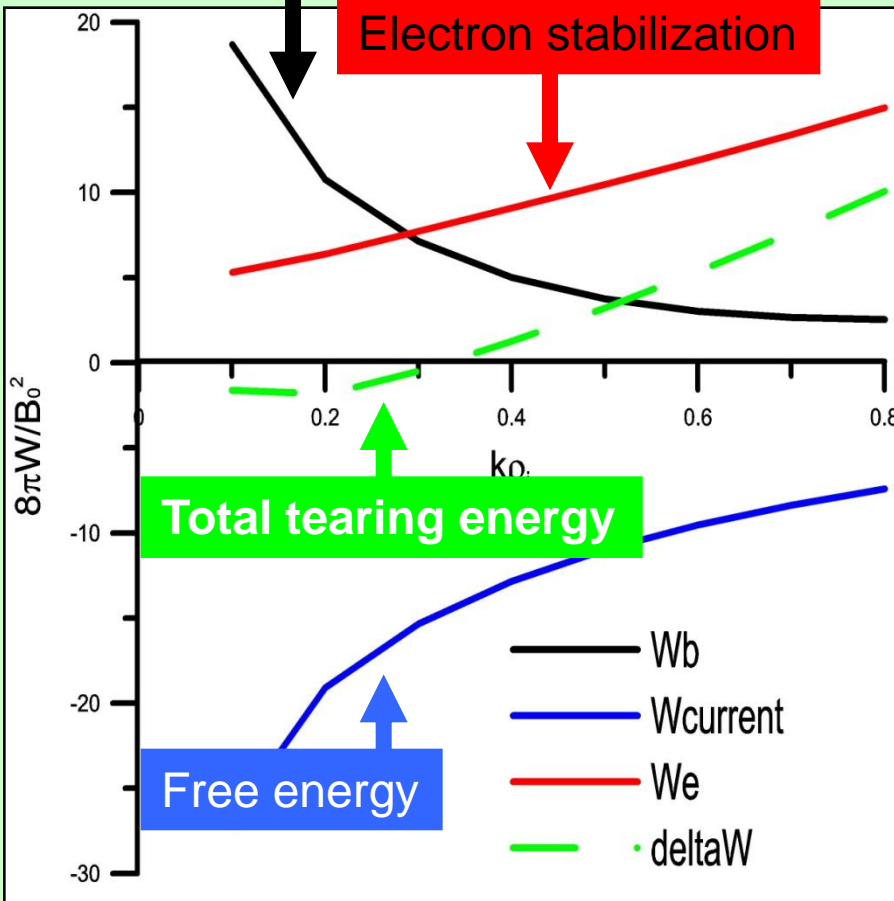
We

$$W_{\text{tearing}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left\{ \left[ |\nabla \times A_1|^2 + |\nabla \varphi_1|^2 \right] + \frac{4\pi}{c} \frac{\partial j_y}{\partial A_0} |A_1|^2 + 4\pi e \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{f}_{1e}^2}{\partial \tilde{f}_{0e} / \partial \varphi_0} d\vec{v} \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} e \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{f}_{1e}^2}{\partial \tilde{f}_{0e} / \partial \varphi_0} d\vec{v} \leq \frac{1}{2} T_e \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}_{1e}^2 d\vec{v} / \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_0 d\vec{v} = \frac{1}{2} T_e n_{0e} \frac{k^2 |A_1|^2}{B_z}, \quad \frac{n_1}{n_0} = \frac{k A_1}{B_z}$$

# Different components of tearing mode energy sufficient criteria of instability.

Perturbation of magnetic field

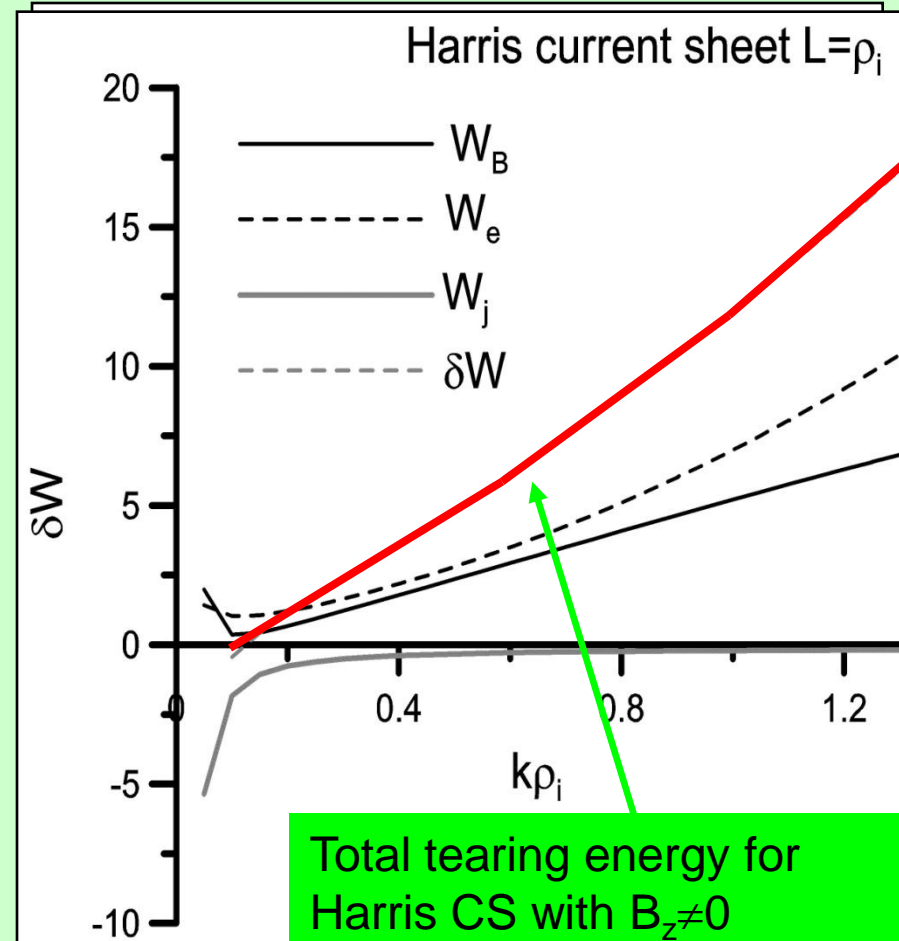


components of energy  $L = 0.7\rho_i$   $b_n = 0.1$

$T_i/T_e=3$

$$\delta W < 0$$

total tearing mode energy





# Embedding of observed CS and their sources of Free energy

$$k = W_{\text{free}}(\text{observed CS}) / W_{\text{free}}(\text{Harris CS})$$

$$W_F = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\partial j}{\partial A_y} A_1^2 dz$$

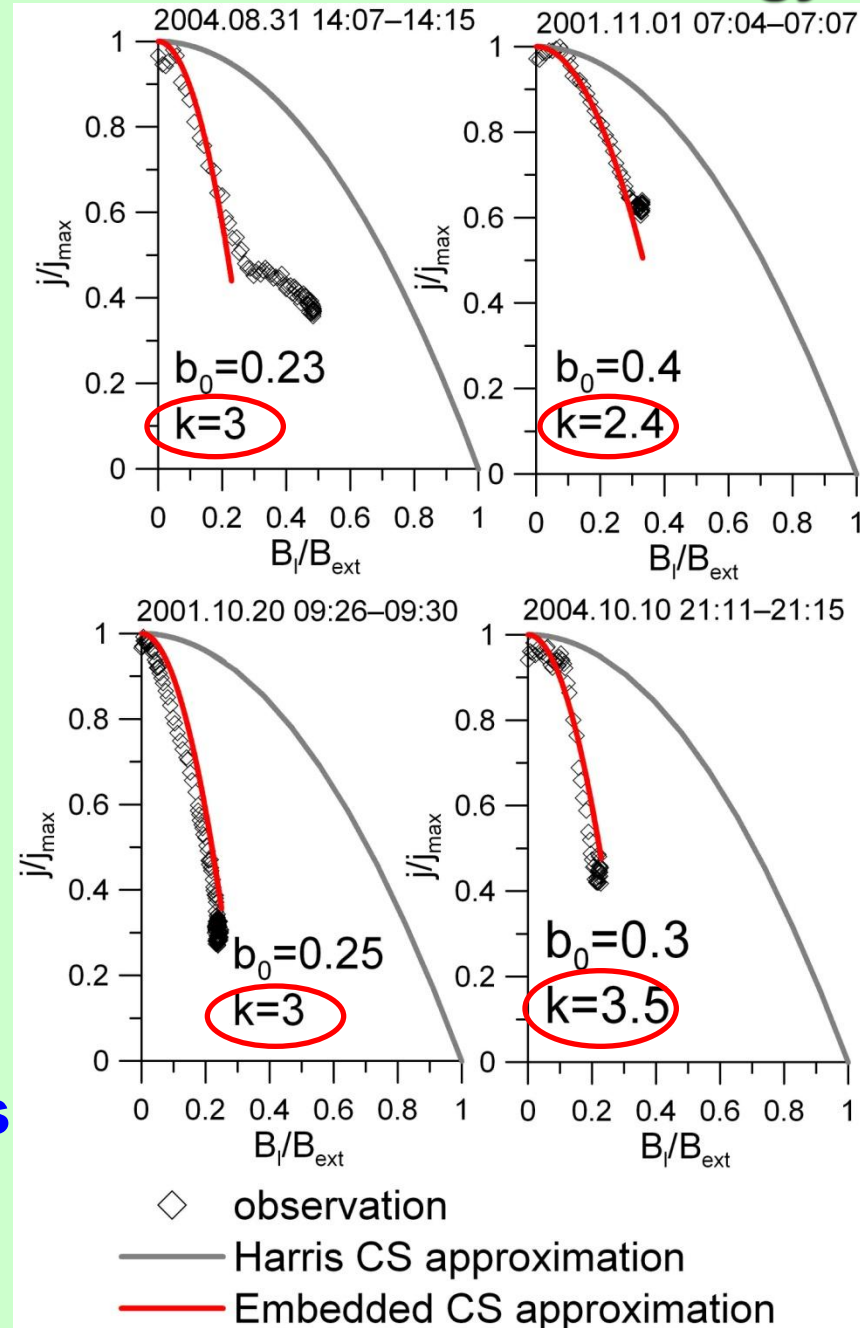
$$= \frac{j_{\text{max}}}{c} \int_0^{B_0} \frac{\partial(j/j_{\text{max}})}{\partial B_x} \frac{1}{B_x} A_1^2 dB_x +$$

$$\frac{j_{\text{max}}}{c} \int_{B_0}^{B_{\text{ext}}} \frac{\partial(j/j_{\text{max}})}{\partial B_x} \frac{1}{B_x} A_1^2 dB_x$$

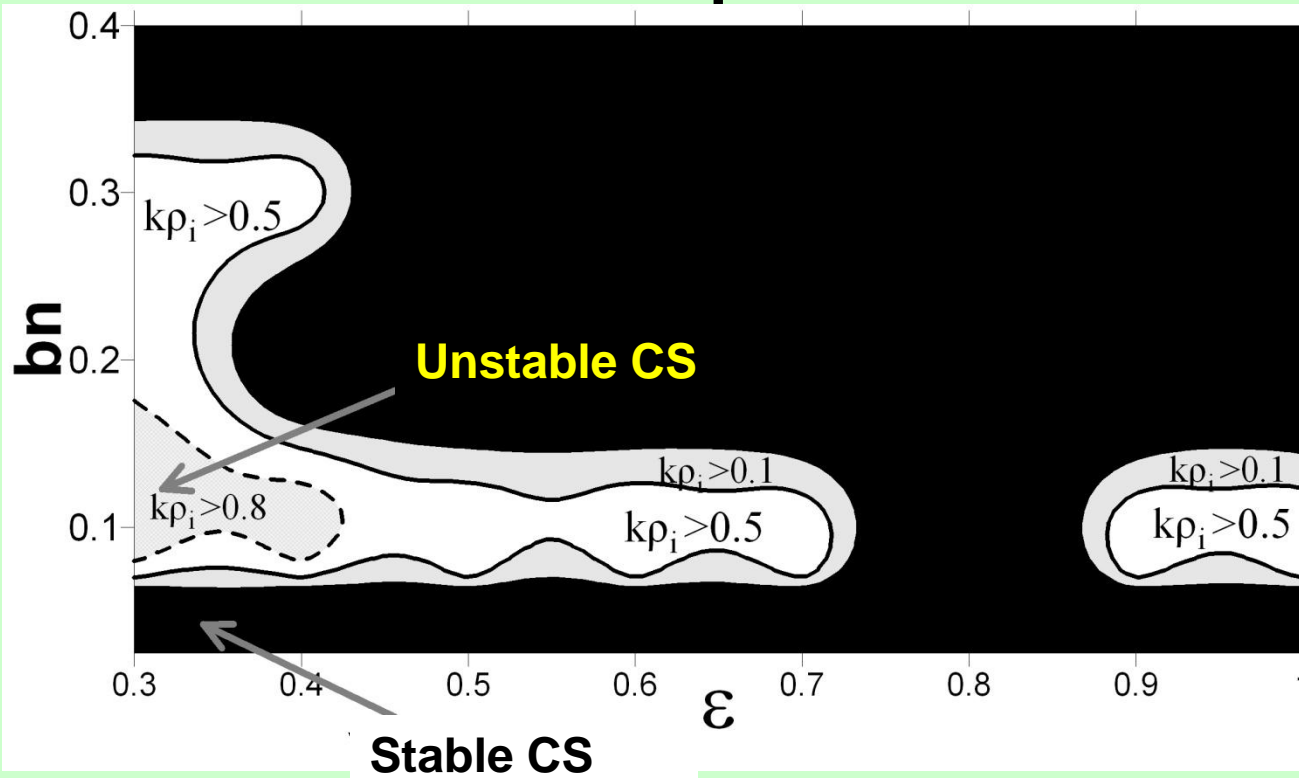
$$b_0 = B_0 / B_{\text{ext}}, \quad \mu = j_{\text{min}} / j_{\text{max}}$$

$$k = (1 - \mu) / b_0 + (1 - b_0)$$

“Free” energy of observed CSs is 2-3 larger than the one of corresponding Harris sheet



# Parameter space of TCS instability

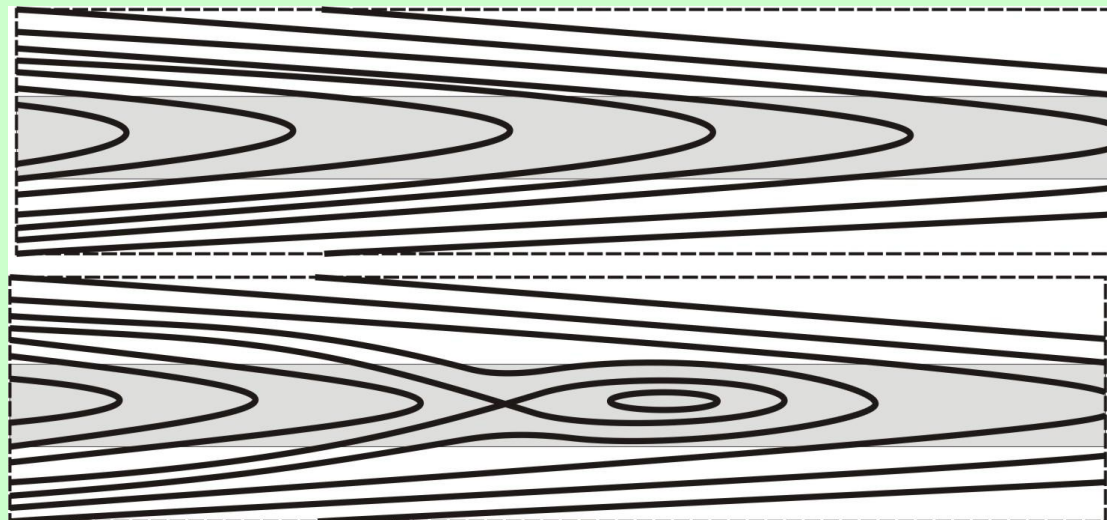


$$T_i/T_e=3$$

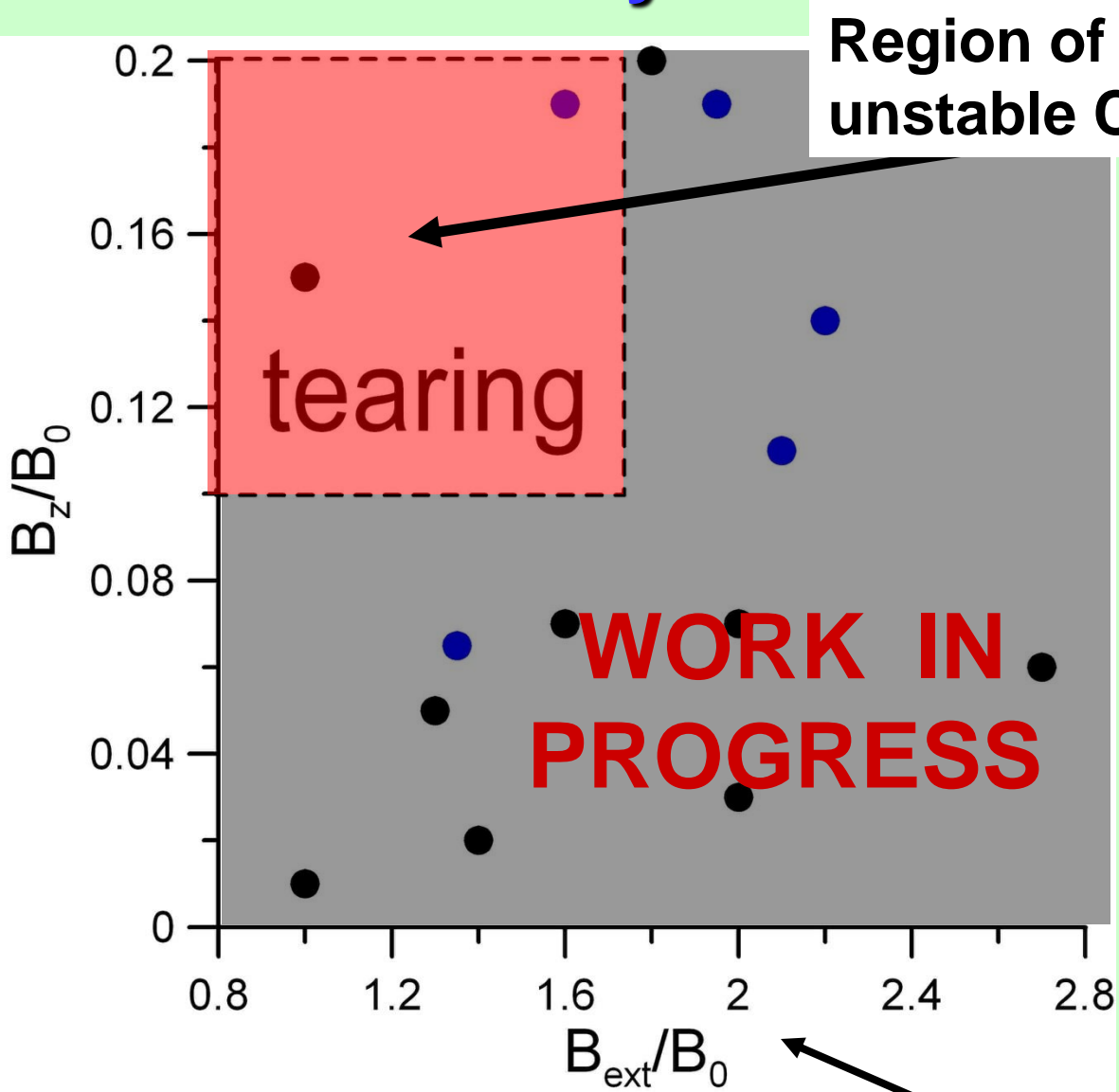
Integral  
instability  
window for all  
 $0 < kL < 3$

Initial moment

NL mode growth

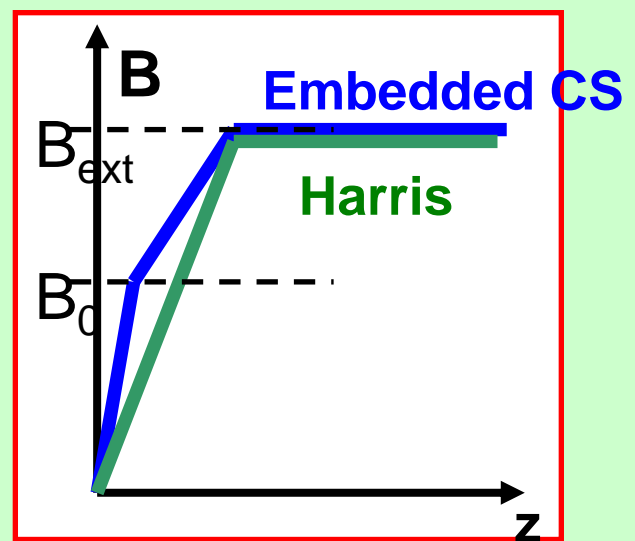


# Linear theory and Cluster observations



Region of unstable CS.

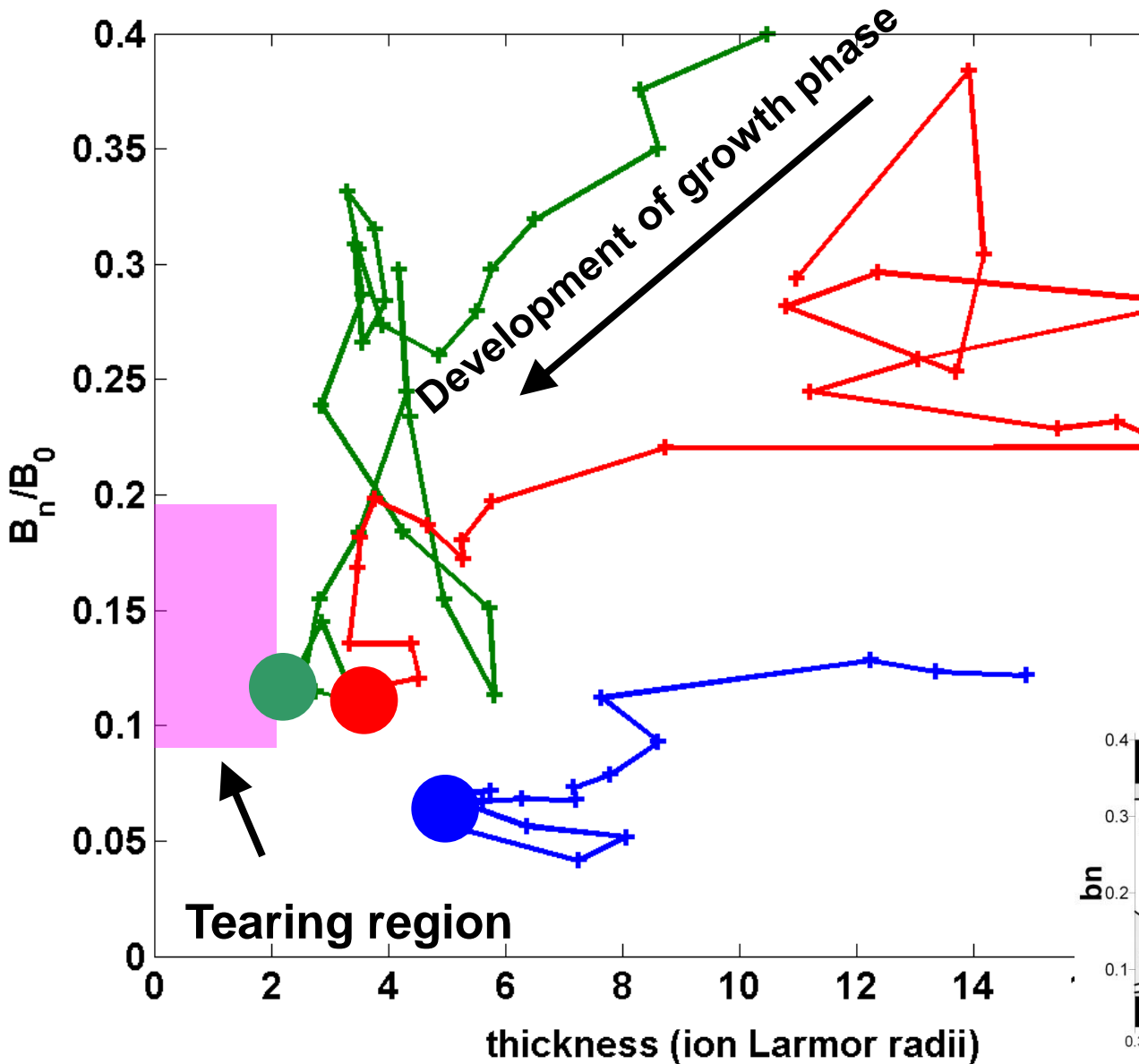
Measure of CS embedding can be presented as  $B_{ext}/B_0$ .  
 For Harris CS  $B_{ext}/B_0=1$ .  
 For TCS  $B_{ext}/B_0 > 1$



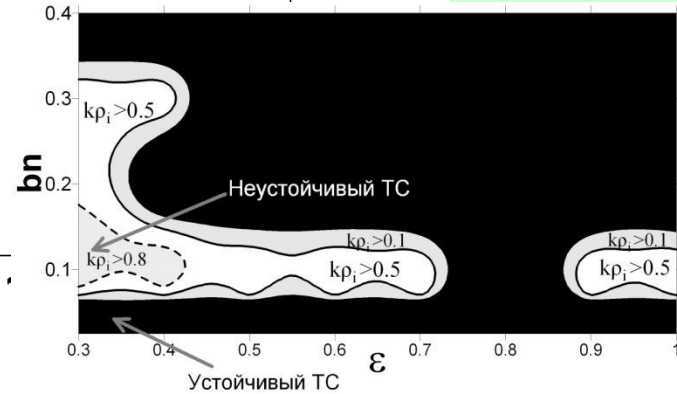
- Thin current sheet
- Current sheet with  $L > 0.5R_E$

$$B_{ext}^2 = B_0^2 + \mu_0 p(z=L)$$

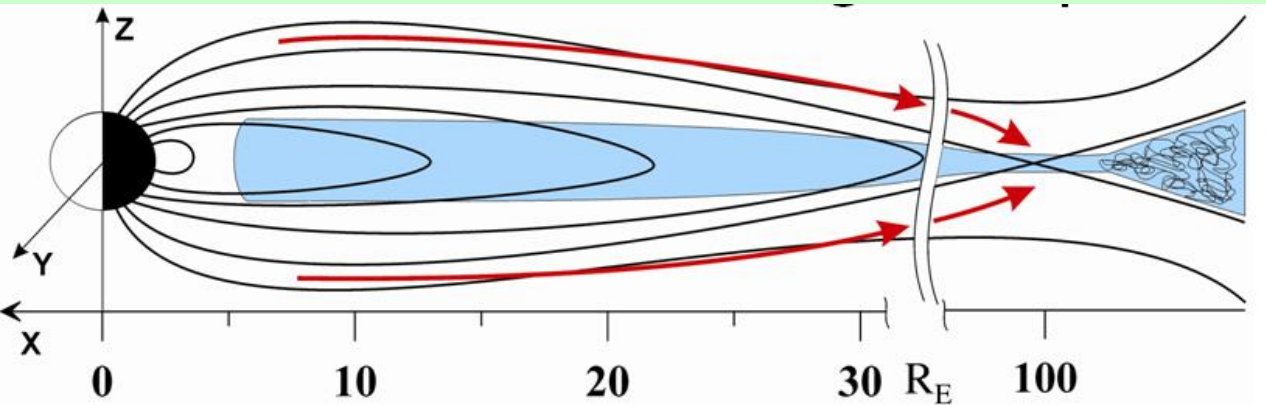
# Evolution of metastable CS during the growth phase. Thinning & stretching towards instability.



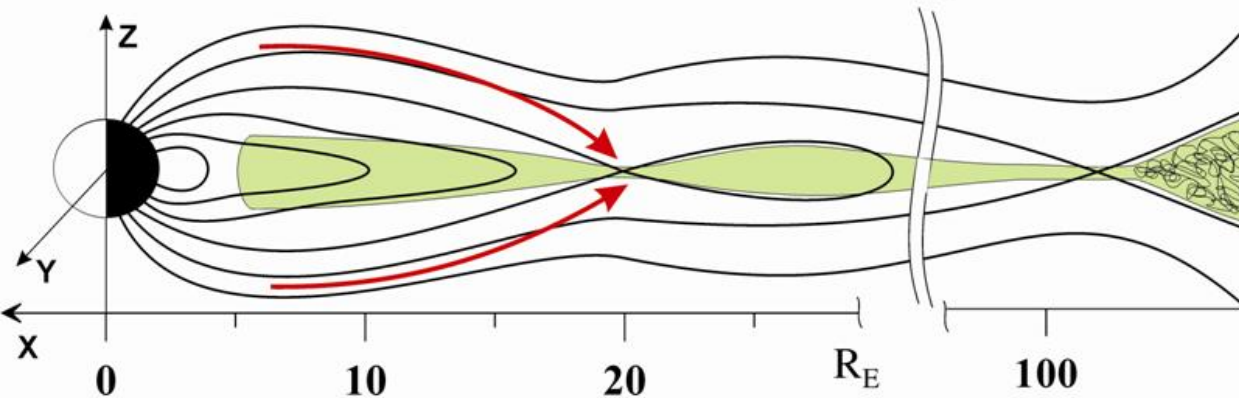
Petrukovich et al., 2007



# Where reconnection could occur in the Earth's magnetosphere ?

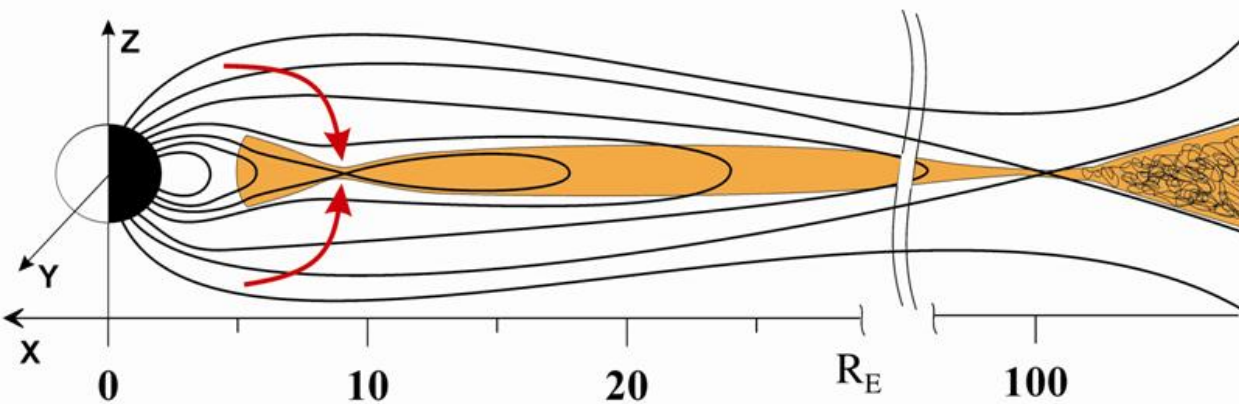


Quiet conditions  
Topological distant  
tail reconnection



Middle tail  
reconnection

Baker et al. 1996  
Petrukovich et al. 1998  
Phan et al. 2000



Near Earth  
initiation

Lui 1991  
Kan 1998

# Tail Reconnection Triggering Substorm Onset

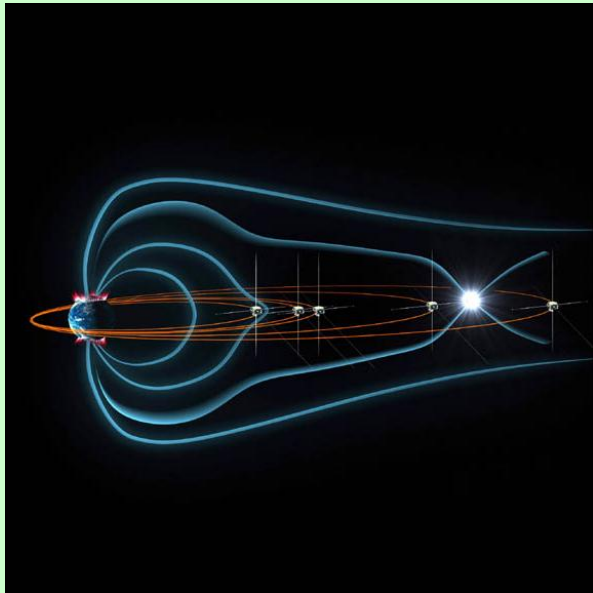
Science 2008

Vassilis Angelopoulos,<sup>1\*</sup> James P. McFadden,<sup>2</sup> Davin Larson,<sup>2</sup> Charles W. Carlson,<sup>2</sup> Stephen B. Mende,<sup>2</sup> Harald Frey,<sup>2</sup> Tai Phan,<sup>2</sup> David G. Sibeck,<sup>3</sup> Karl-Heinz Glassmeier,<sup>4</sup> Uli Auster,<sup>4</sup> Eric Donovan,<sup>5</sup> Ian R. Mann,<sup>6</sup> I. Jonathan Rae,<sup>6</sup> Christopher T. Russell,<sup>1</sup> Andrei Runov,<sup>1</sup> Xu-Zhi Zhou,<sup>1</sup> Larry Kepko<sup>7</sup>

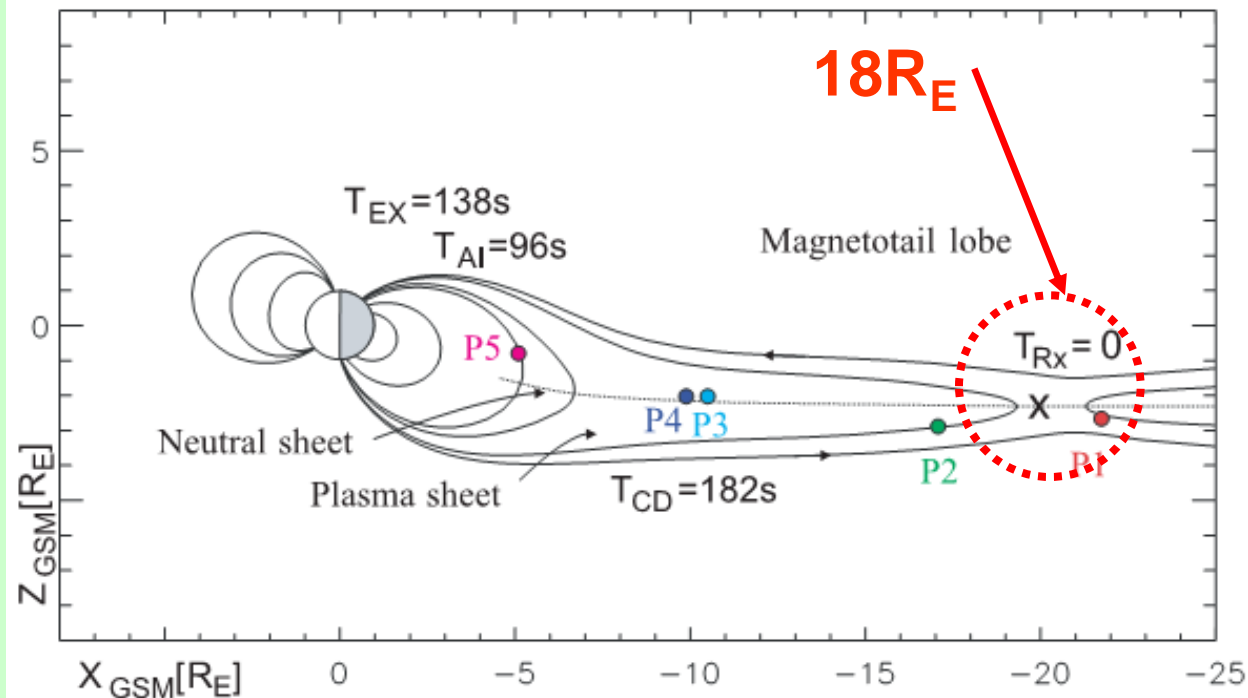
5 spacecraft



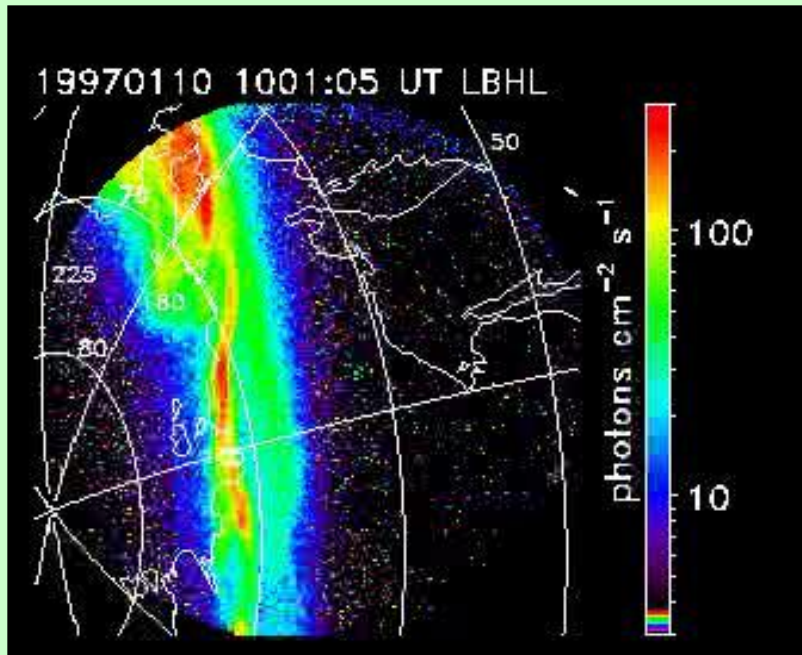
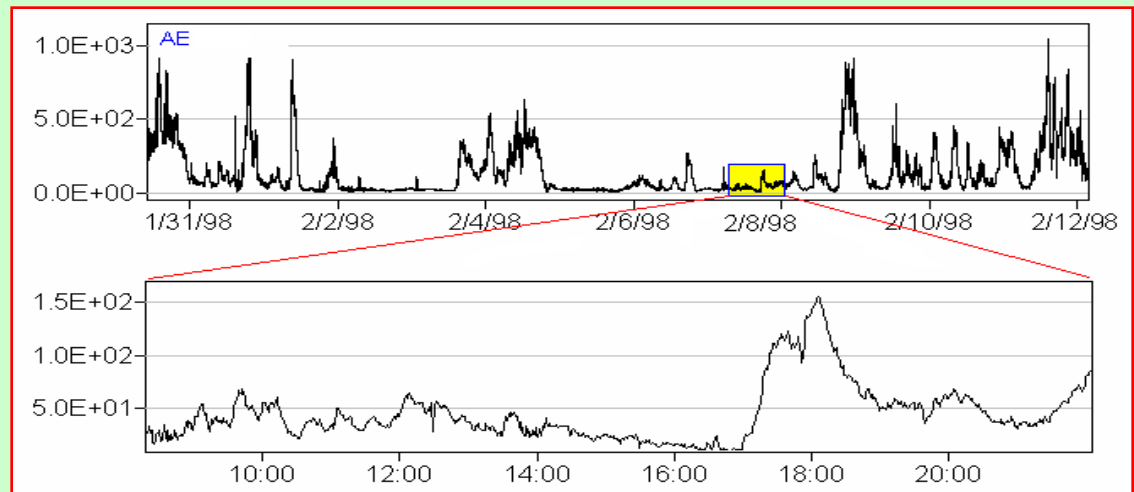
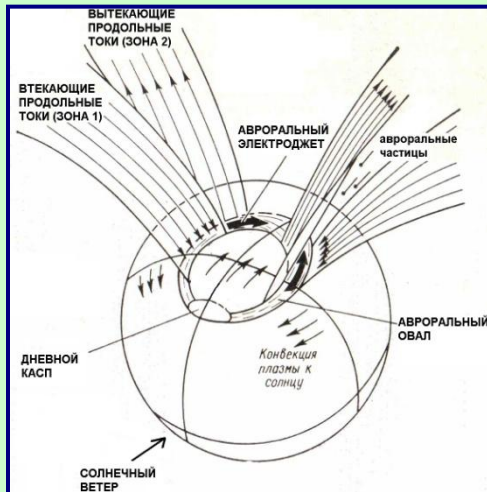
## THEMIS PROJECT



Hopes for breakthrough  
in understanding  
substorm initiations



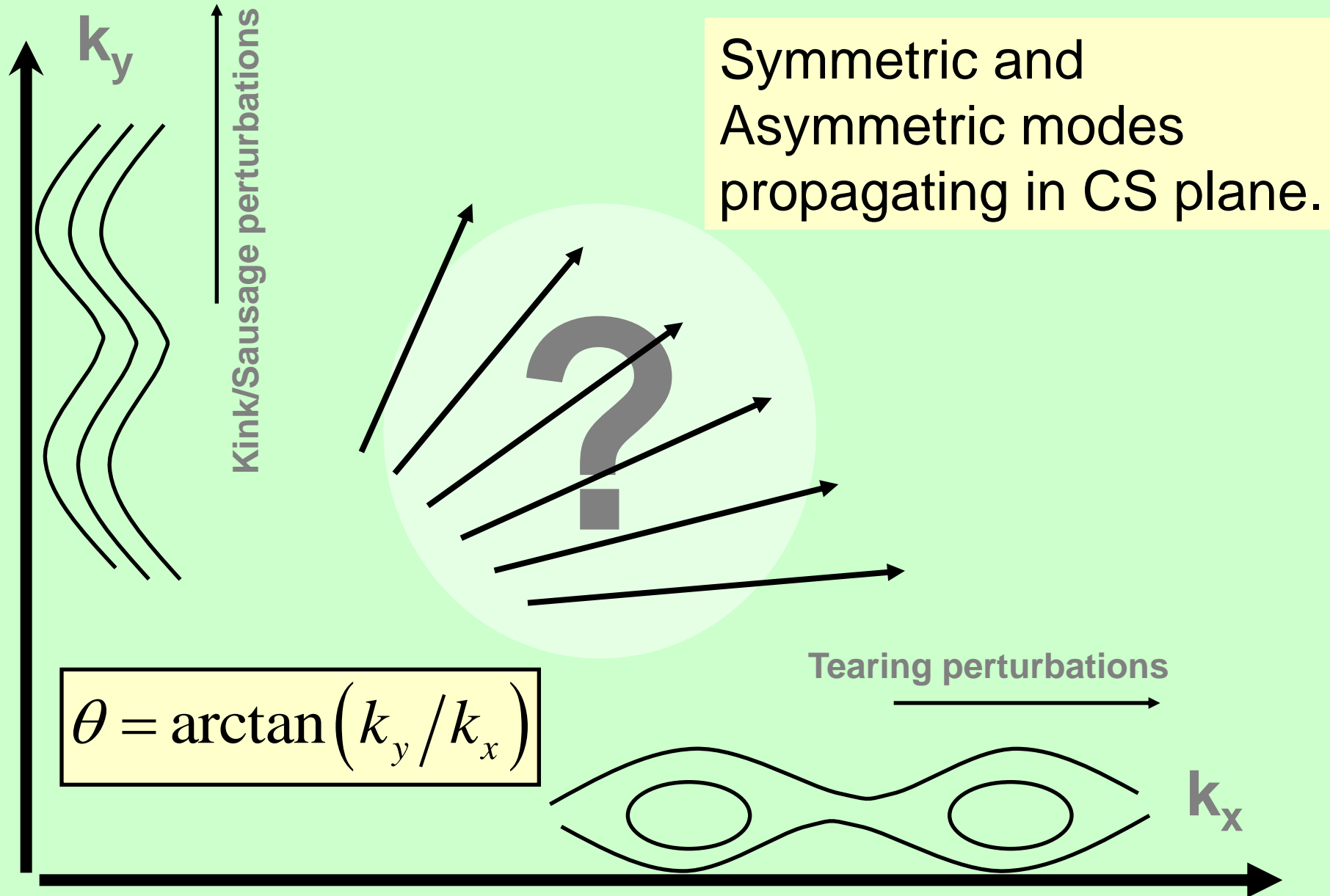
# Multiscale organization of geomagnetic activity



## Hierarchy of magnetospheric disturbances

- Geomagnetic storms
- Full-size substorms
- Substorm activations
- Pseudo-breakups
- Bursty bulk flows (BBFs)
- Impulsive structure of BBF events
- Plasma turbulence

# Eigenmodes of TCS





# Two modes of low frequency EM perturbations.

$$\mathbf{A}_1 \sim \exp(ikr - i\omega t)$$

$$\mathbf{k} = k \cos \theta \mathbf{e}_x + k \sin \theta \mathbf{e}_y$$

$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{A}_1}{dz^2} - 4\pi \left( \frac{k^2}{4\pi} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}_0}{\partial A_0} \right) \mathbf{A}_1 - 4\pi p_0 \frac{k_x^2}{B_z^2} A_{1y} \mathbf{e}_y = -\frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{j}^{res}$$

Coulomb calibration

$$\text{div} \mathbf{A} = 0$$

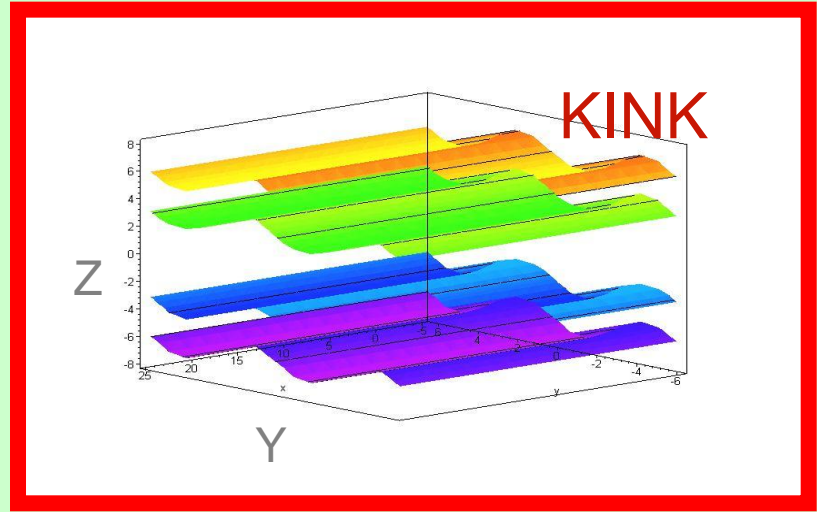
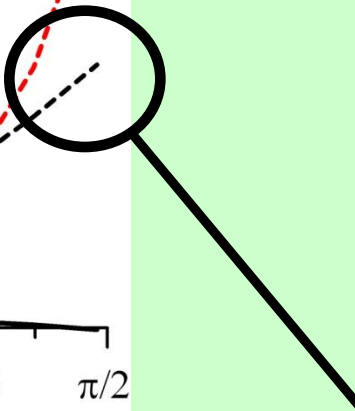
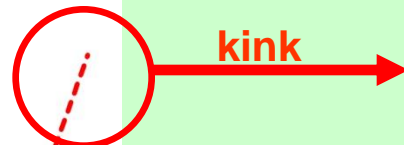
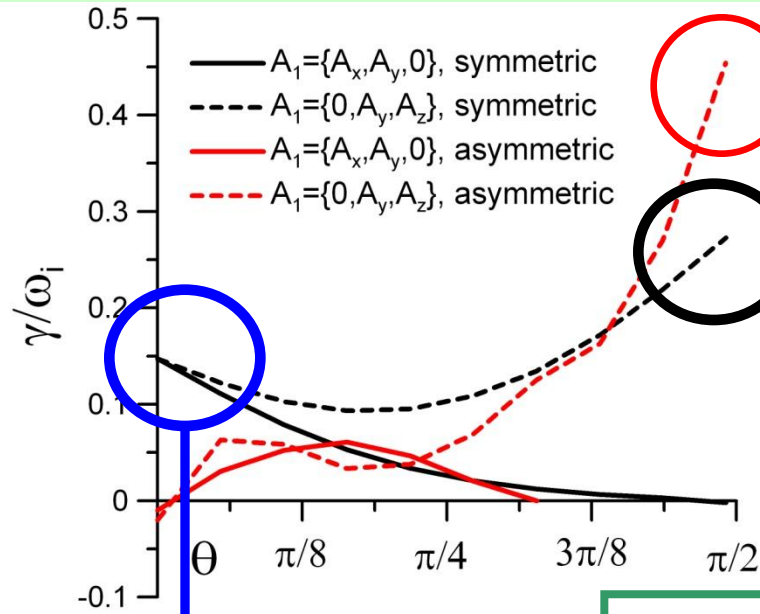
$$\mathbf{A}_1 = A_{1x} \mathbf{e}_x + A_{1y} \mathbf{e}_y$$

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = A_{1z} \mathbf{e}_z + A_{1y} \mathbf{e}_y$$

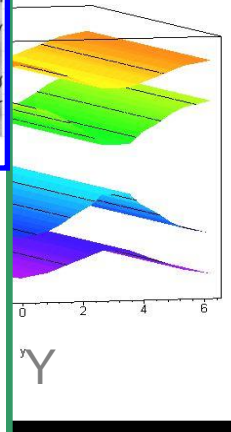
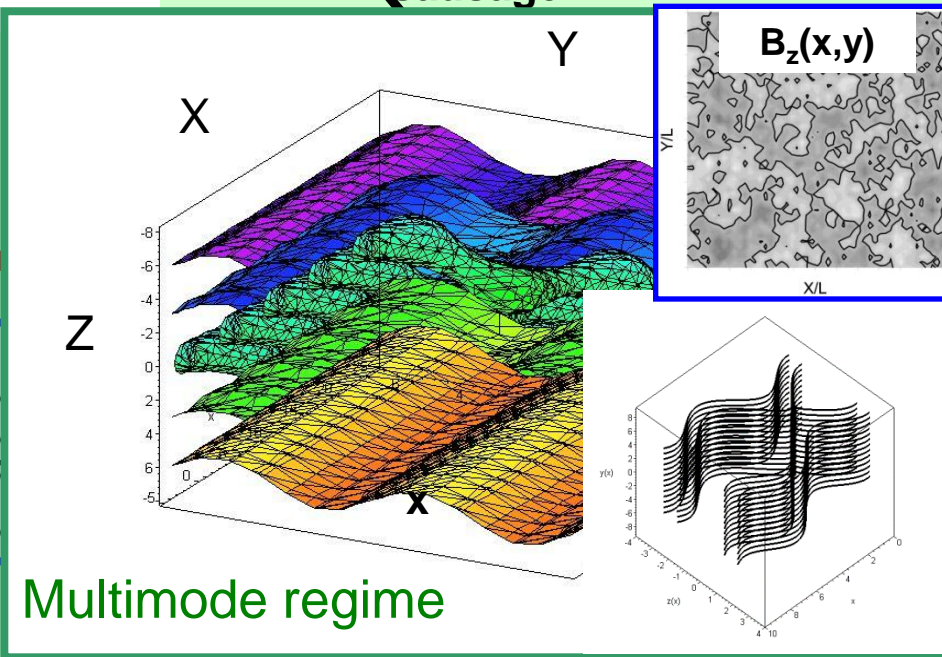
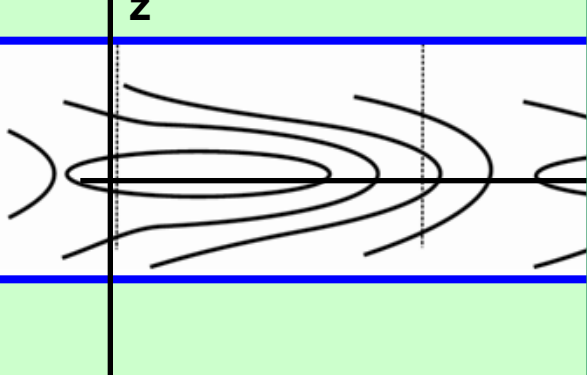
$$\begin{aligned} & d^2 A_1 / dz^2 \\ & -k^2 \left( 1 + 0.5 p_0 B_z^{-2} \cos^4 \theta \right) A_1 \\ & + 0.5 c^{-1} \left( \partial j_y / \partial A_0 \right) \cos^2 \theta A_1 \\ & = -j^{res} (z, \theta, A_1, t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & d^2 A_{1y} / dz^2 \\ & -k^2 \left( 1 + 0.5 p_0 B_z^{-2} \cos^2 \theta \right) A_{1y} \\ & + 0.5 c^{-1} \left( \partial j_y / \partial A_0 \right) A_{1y} \\ & = -j^{res} (z, \theta, A_{1y}, t) \end{aligned}$$

# Multimode structure of TCS perturbations



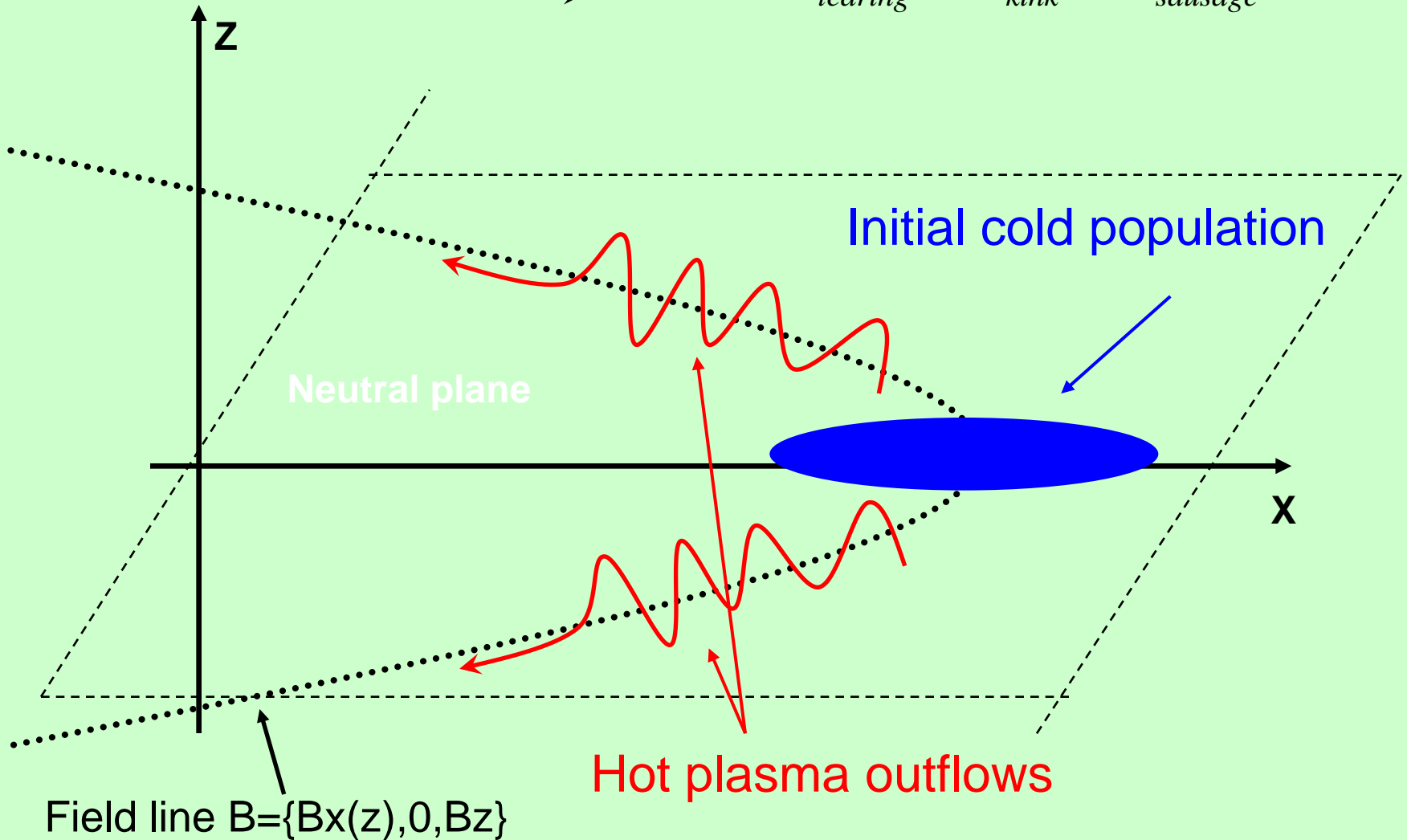
**Tearing - Critical for top**



# Geometry of the system

Stationary field  $\longrightarrow \mathbf{B}_0 = B_0 \tanh(z/L) \mathbf{e}_x + B_n \mathbf{e}_z$

Turbulent field  $\longrightarrow \delta \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}_{tearing} + \mathbf{B}_{kink} + \mathbf{B}_{sausage}$



# Turbulent field

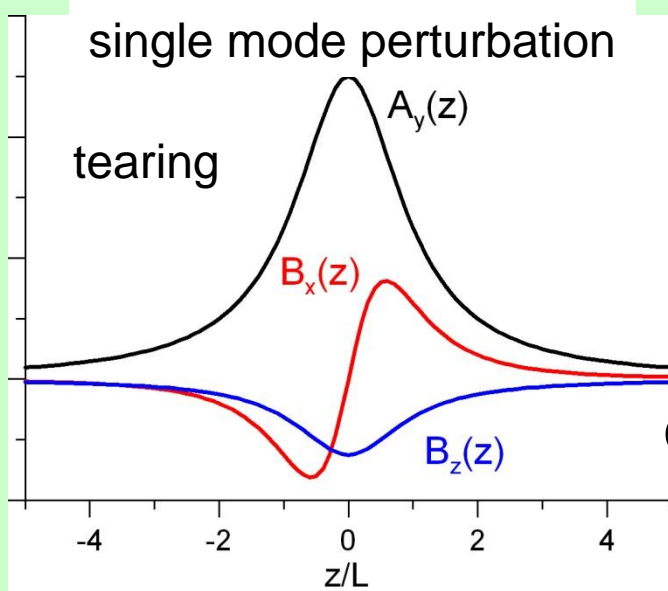
System parameters:  $\delta \mathbf{B}_{\text{kink}}/B_0$ ,  $\delta \mathbf{B}_{\text{tearing-sausage}}/B_0$

**Tearing**

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{tearing-sausage}} = \sum_{k_x, k_y} A_y(z, k) \cos(k_x x + k_y y - t\omega) \mathbf{e}_y + \sum_{k_x, k_y} A_z(z, k) \sin(k_x x + k_y y - t\omega) \mathbf{e}_z$$

**Kink**

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{kink}} = \sum_{k_x, k_y} A_y(z, k) \cos(k_y y - t\omega) \mathbf{e}_y + \sum_{k_x, k_y} A_z(z, k) \sin(k_y y - t\omega) \mathbf{e}_z$$

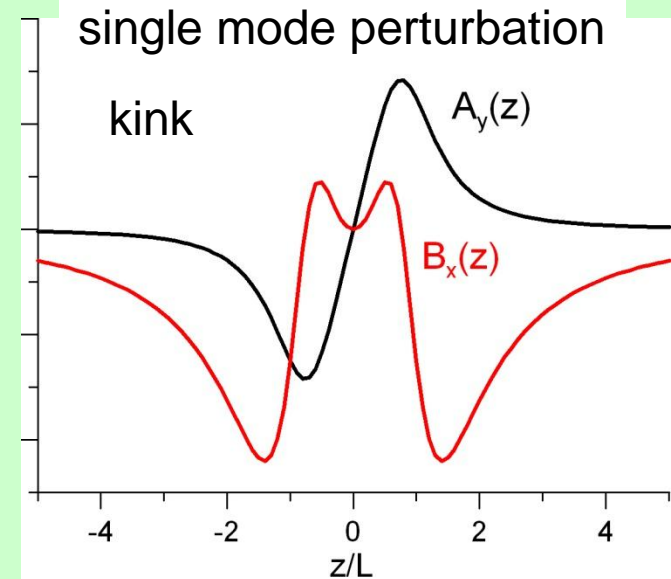


$$-A_y k_y + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\text{Re } \omega = k_y v_D$$



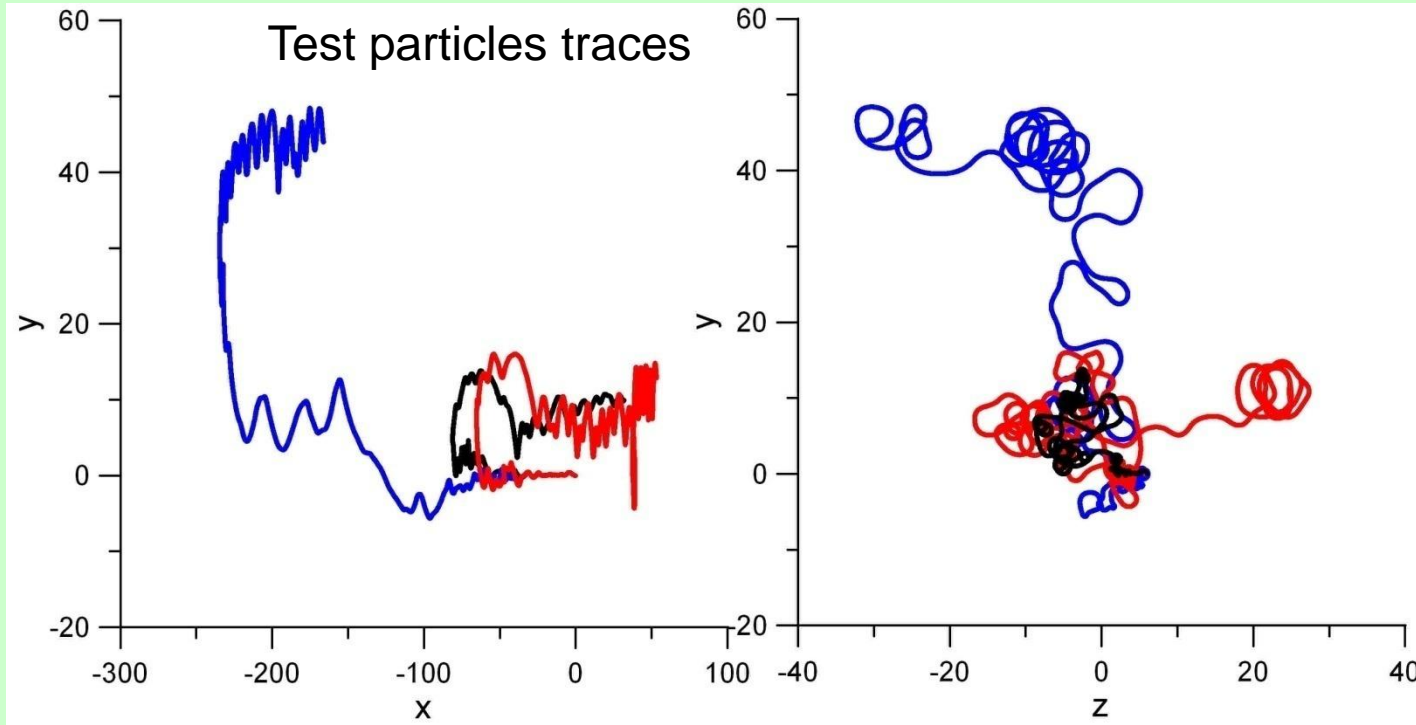
equal for all modes



$$\text{spectrum } A \sim (1 + k^2)^{-1}$$

$$E_z = -\partial_t A_z, \quad E_y = -\partial_t A_y$$

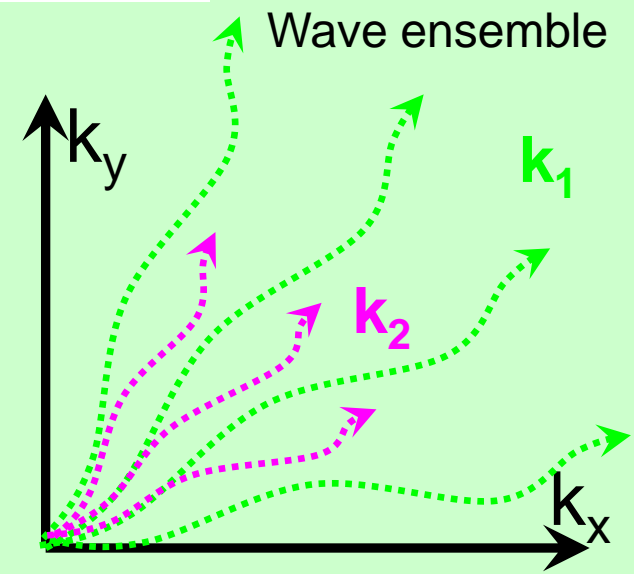
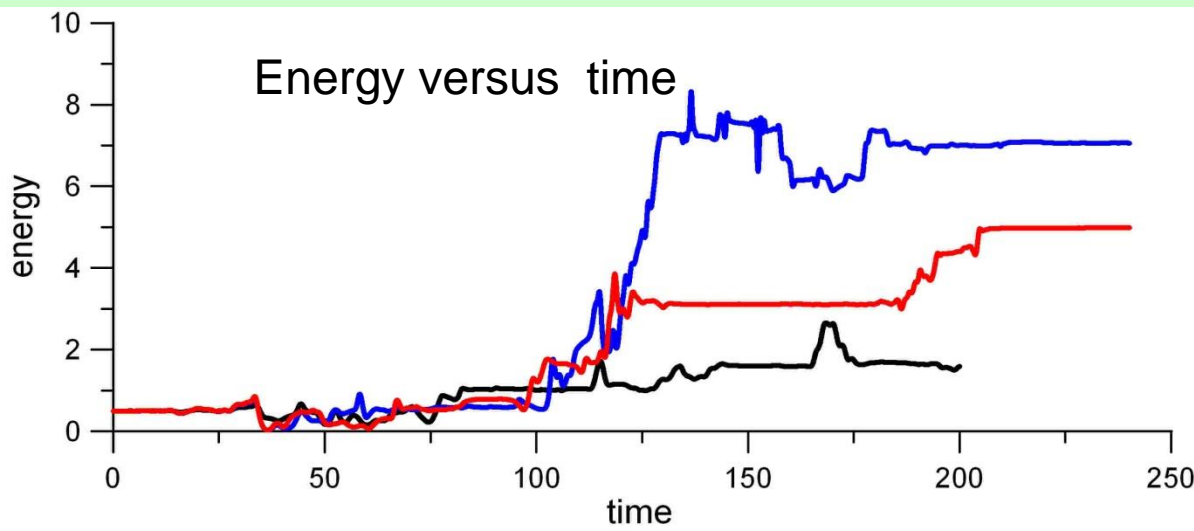
# Particle dynamics



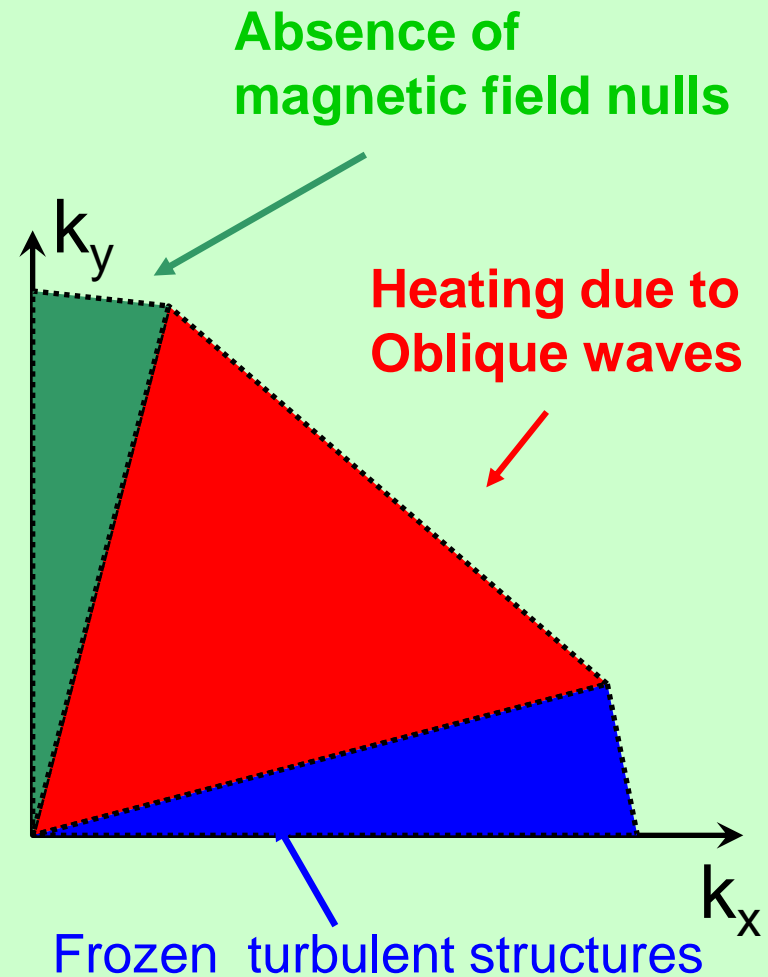
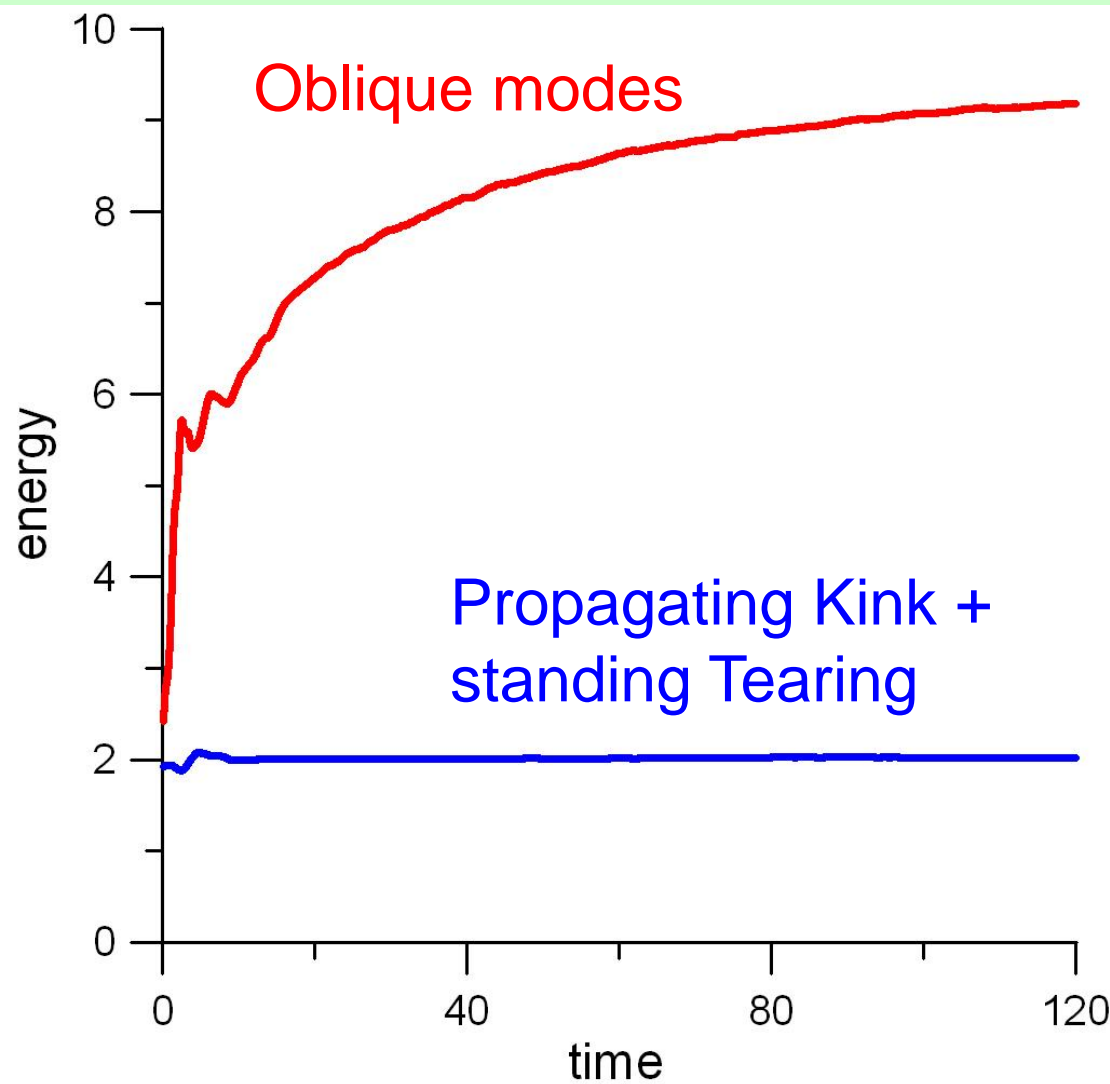
$$\delta \mathbf{B}/B_0 = 0.3$$

$$\delta \mathbf{B}/B_0 = 0.5$$

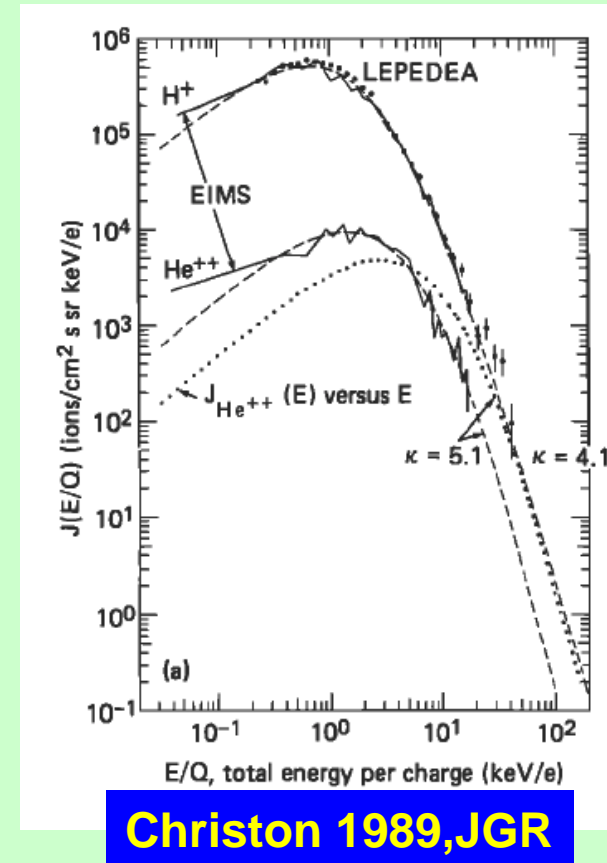
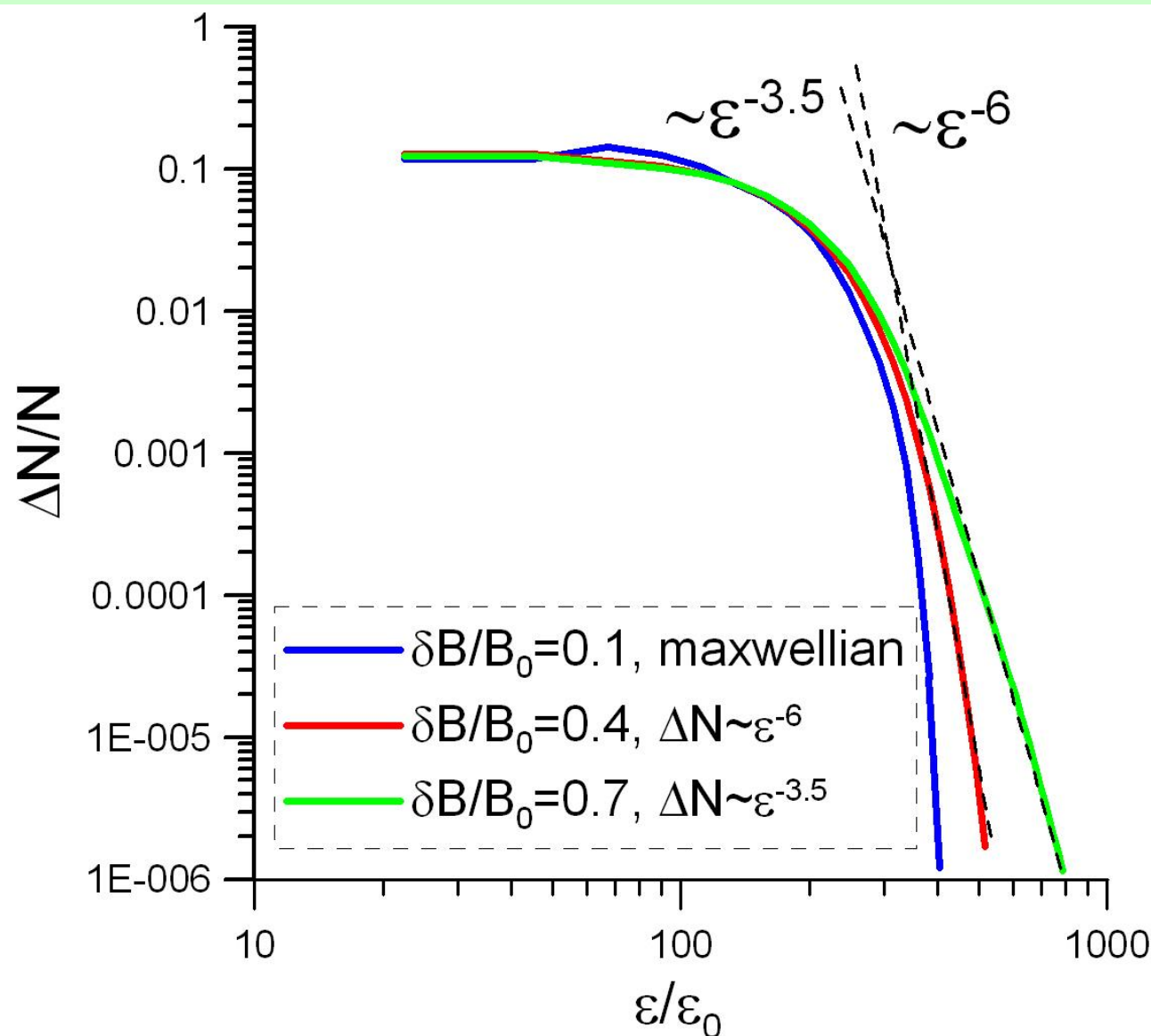
$$\delta \mathbf{B}/B_0 = 0.7$$



# Oblique propagation



# Formation of nonmaxwellian spectra

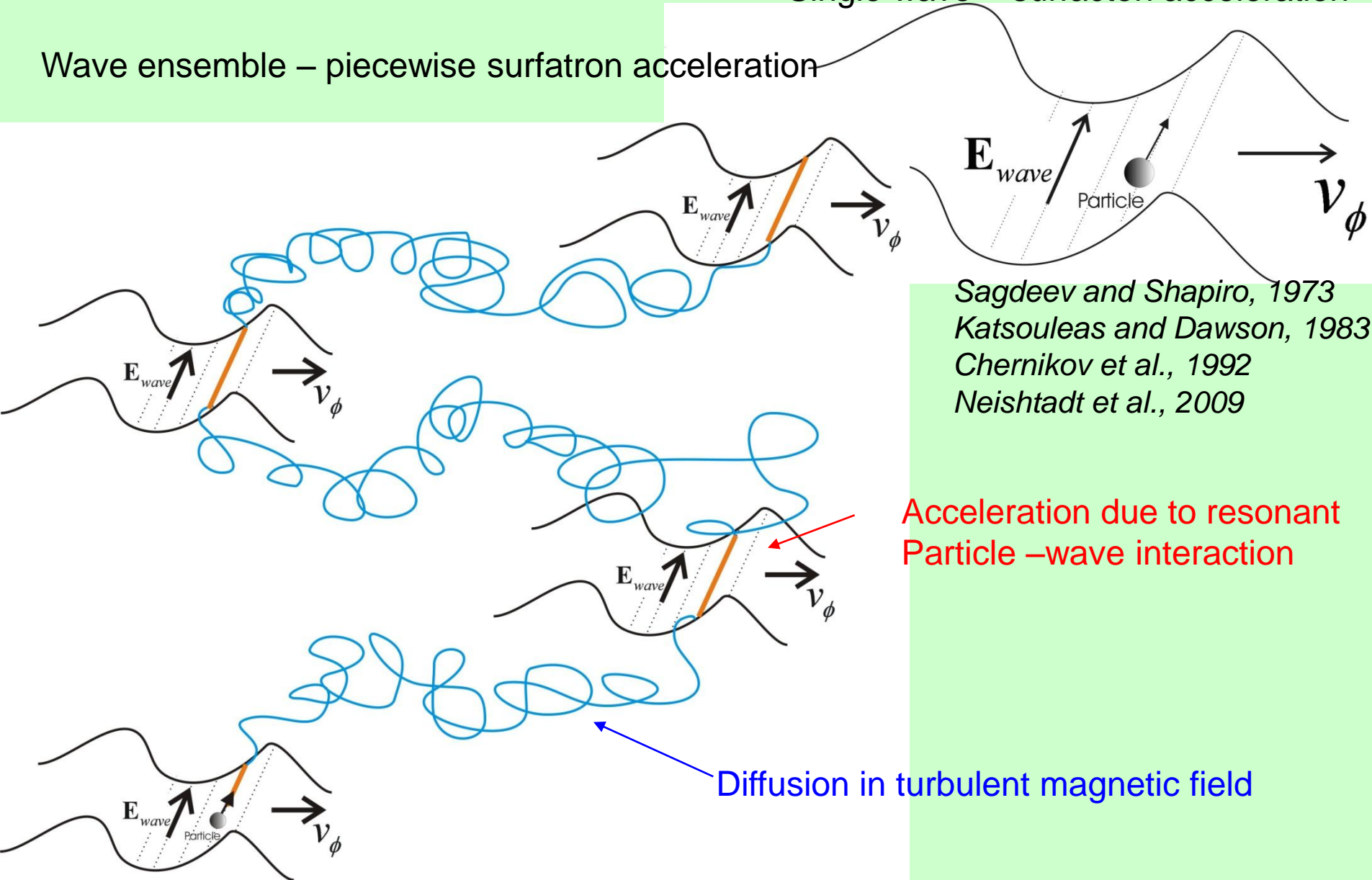


**Average spectra of energetic ions in the plasma sheet**

# Acceleration mechanism

Single wave – surfatron acceleration

Wave ensemble – piecewise surfatron acceleration



*Sagdeev and Shapiro, 1973*  
*Katsouleas and Dawson, 1983*  
*Chernikov et al., 1992*  
*Neishtadt et al., 2009*

Acceleration due to resonant  
Particle – wave interaction

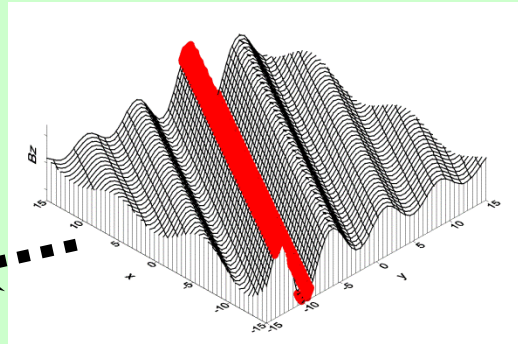
Diffusion in turbulent magnetic field



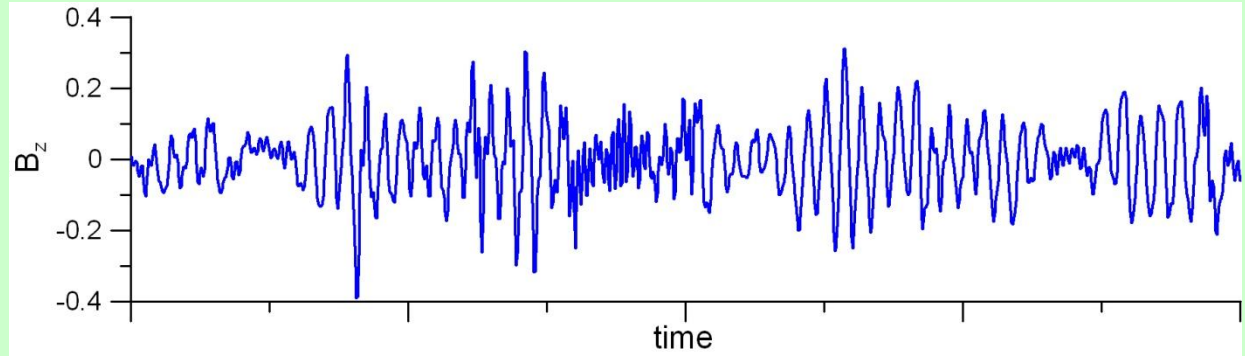
# Intermittent wave structure

$$A \sim J_0(k_x x + k_y y - t\omega) \Rightarrow \delta B \sim J_1$$

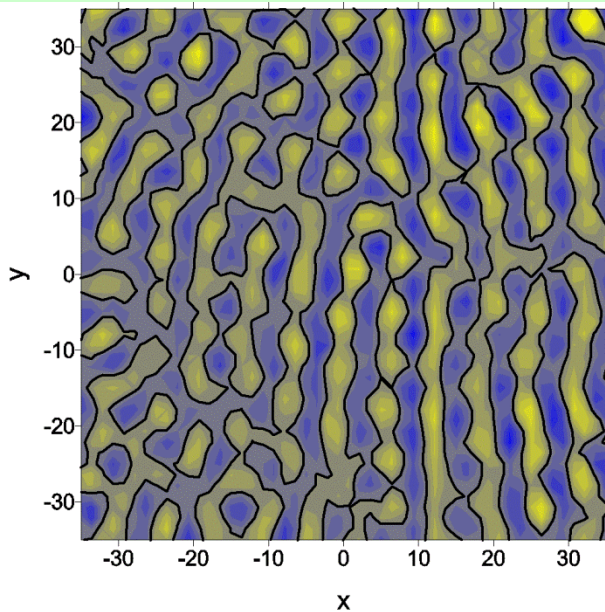
elementary wave mode



Ensemble of propagating NL structures



B\_z field at z=0



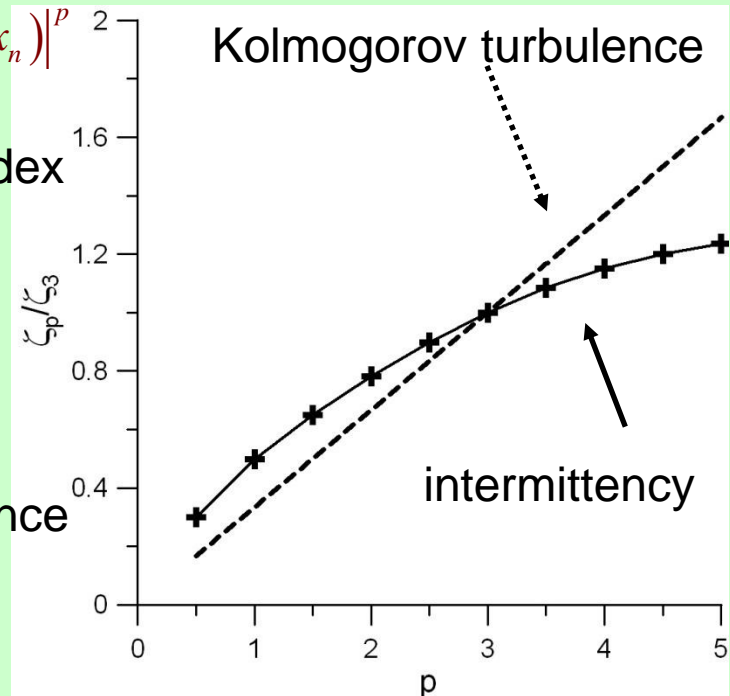
$$S_p(\Delta) = \sum_n |B(x_n + \Delta) - B(x_n)|^p$$

Structure function index

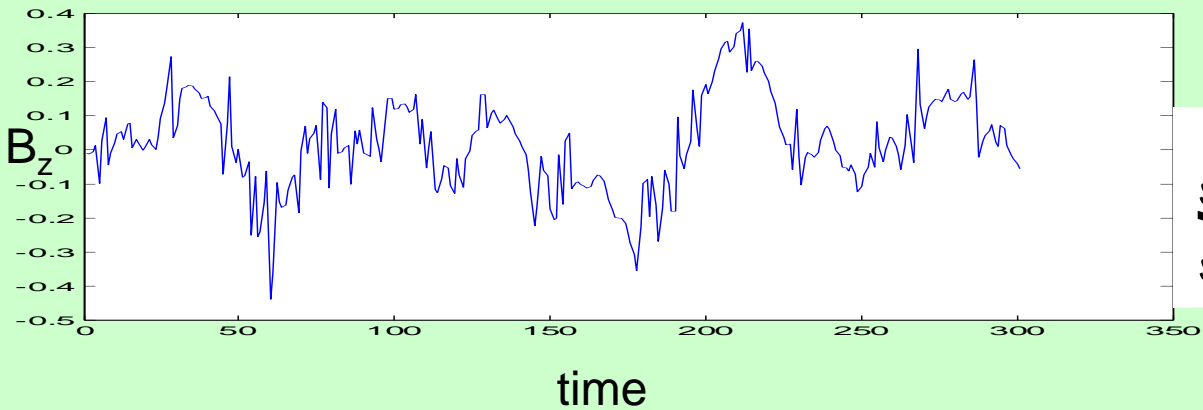
$$\zeta_p : S_p(\Delta) \sim \Delta^{\zeta_p}$$

Kolmogorov turbulence

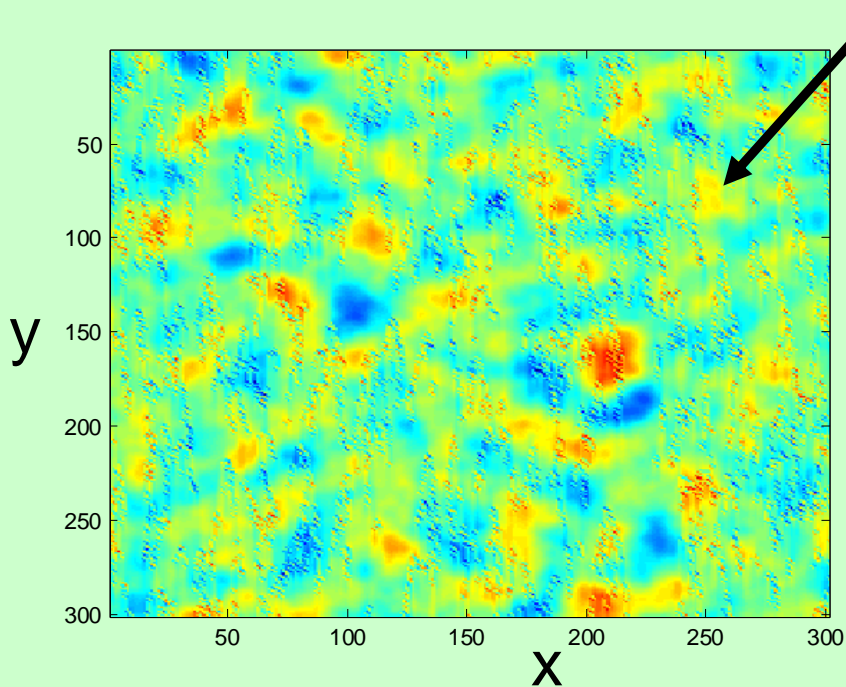
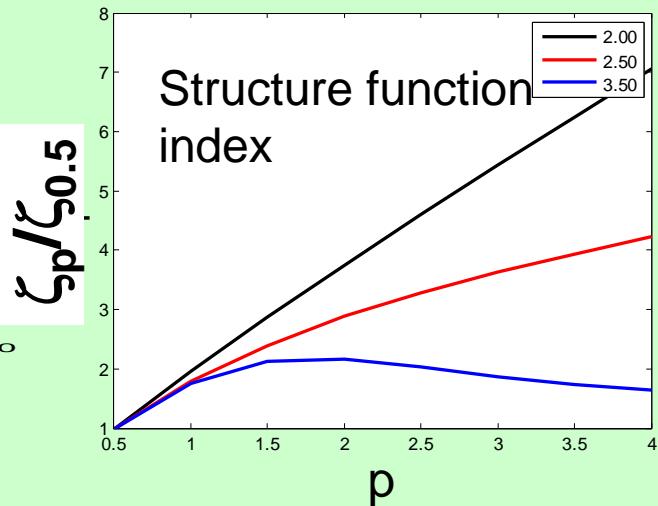
$$\zeta_p = p/3$$



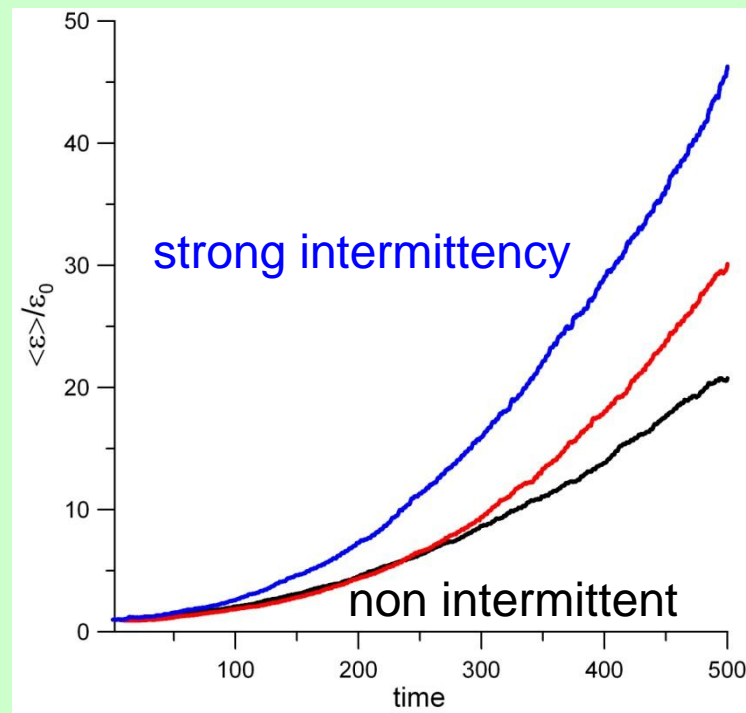
# Intermittency



$B_z$  field at  $z = 0$

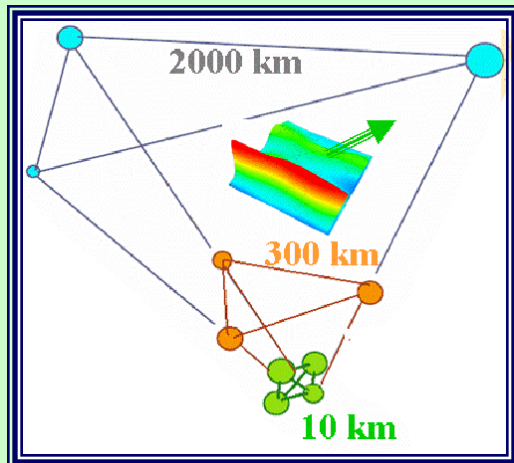
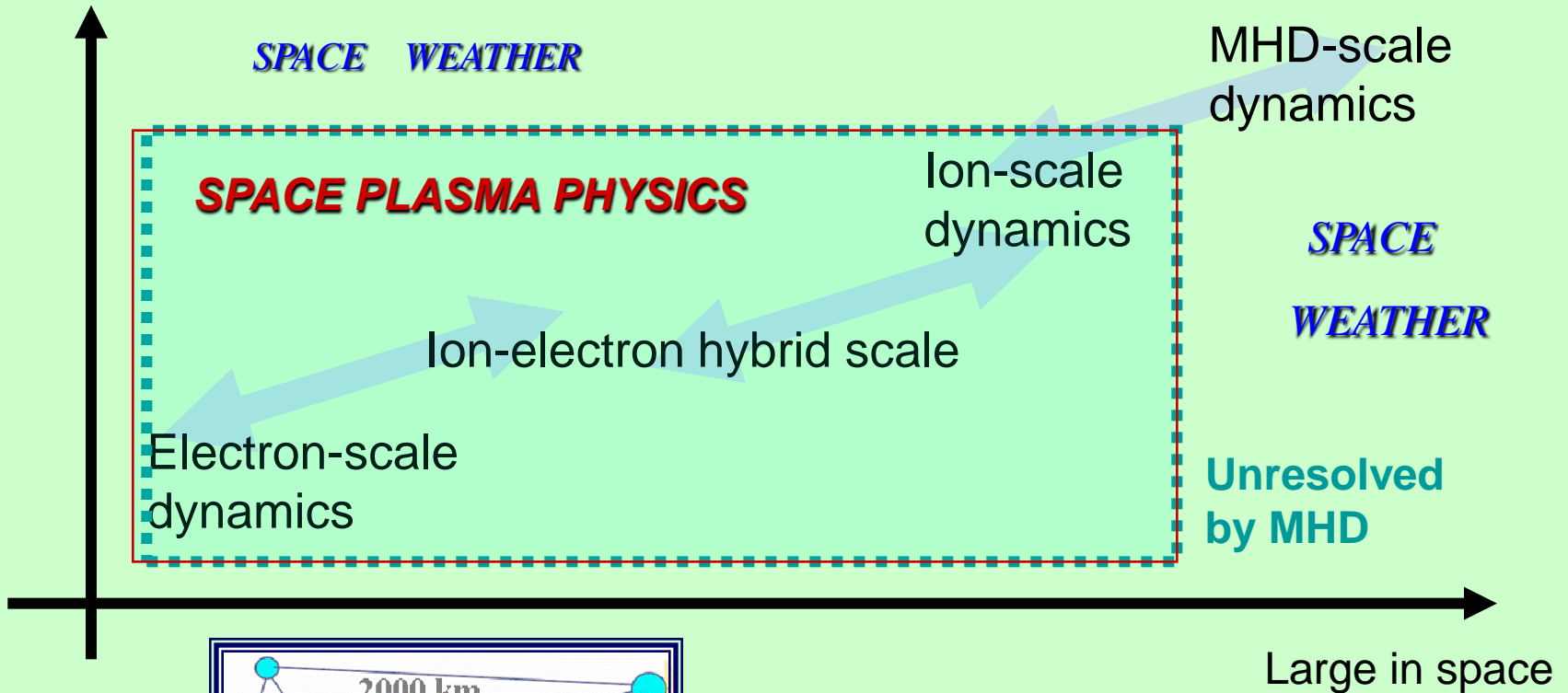


Nonlinear structures can be localized and form intermittent magnetic field affecting particle acceleration



# Cross-Scale Coupling

Slow in time

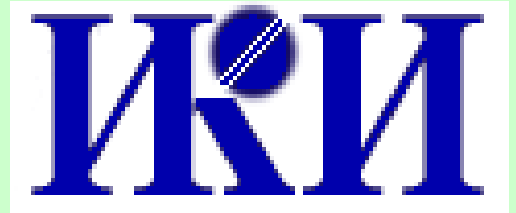


**MULTISCALE SPACECRAFT SYSTEM**  
**JAXA – ESA - RSA**

# Conclusions:

- Configurations with magnetic field reversals (current sheets) are **intrinsically metastable**.
- For certain (quite narrow narrow region of parameters  $L$ ,  $B_n$ ) TCS can become unstable to tearing perturbation (contrary to the Harris one), which drives the spontaneous reconnection
- CS wave modes are effective particle accelerators by “piecewise surfatron” mechanism
- Tearing mode ingredient is necessary for particle acceleration. Importance of oblique modes

- More data (CrossScale+Scope+ROI) are needed
- Electron scales are still not resolved



- **LEV ZELENYI**
- **ANTON ARTEMIEV**
- **HELMI MALOVA**
- **ANATOLYI PETRUKOVICH**
- **VICTOR POPOV**
- **SERGEI RUBALKO**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

**GRAZIE PER  
L'ATTENZIONE**

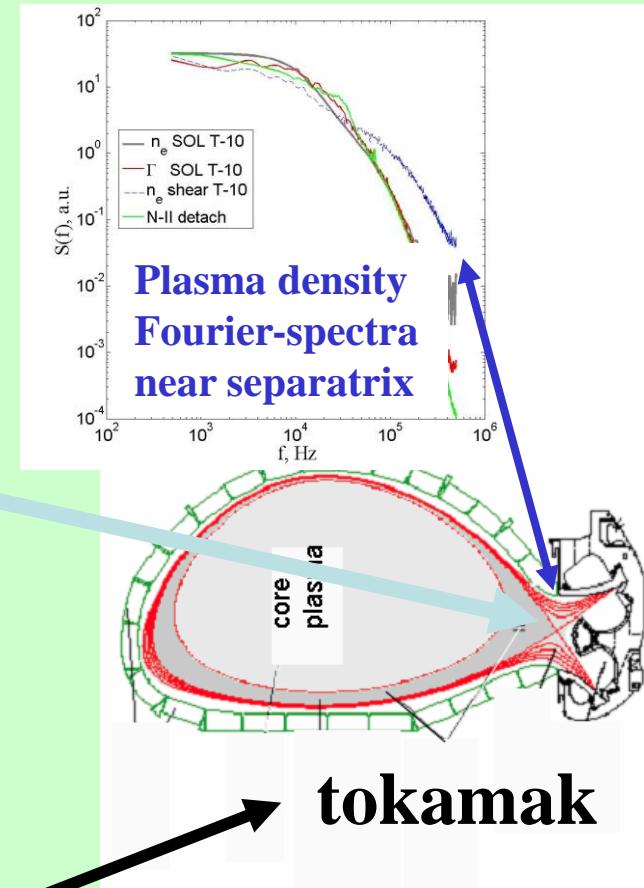
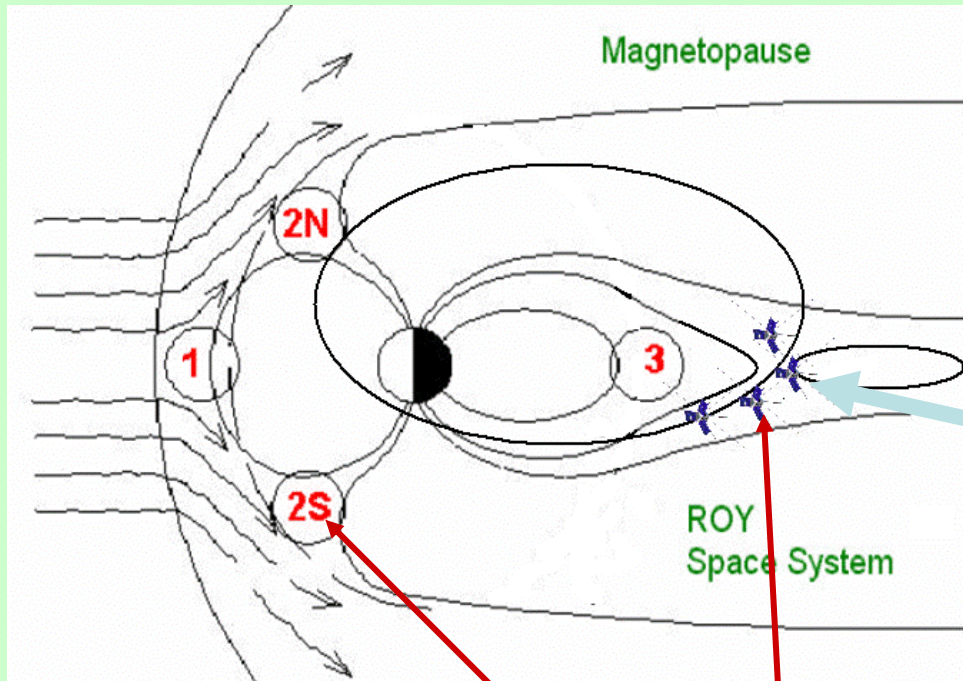
**Moscow Kremlin-  
Outstanding example  
of Russian-Italian  
Cooperation**



# Earth's Magnetosphere Studies Related to the Fusion Problems

- Coupling of Alfvénic turbulence with electrostatic drift-wave turbulence
- Dynamics of Alfvénic cascade below the ion Larmor scale: mode conversion, dissipation, cascade termination?
- Anomalous transport caused by long-range correlation due to generalized scale invariance
- Transport barrier physics - improvement confinement regimes in tokamaks
- Reconnection and stochastic layers in the vicinity of X-point and separatrix
- Strong MHD turbulence

# Critical problem of confinement in the vicinity of X-point and separatrix: transport problem and test of 2D/3D phenomenologies of strong MHD turbulence.



Plasma density  
Fourier-spectra  
near separatrix

tokamak

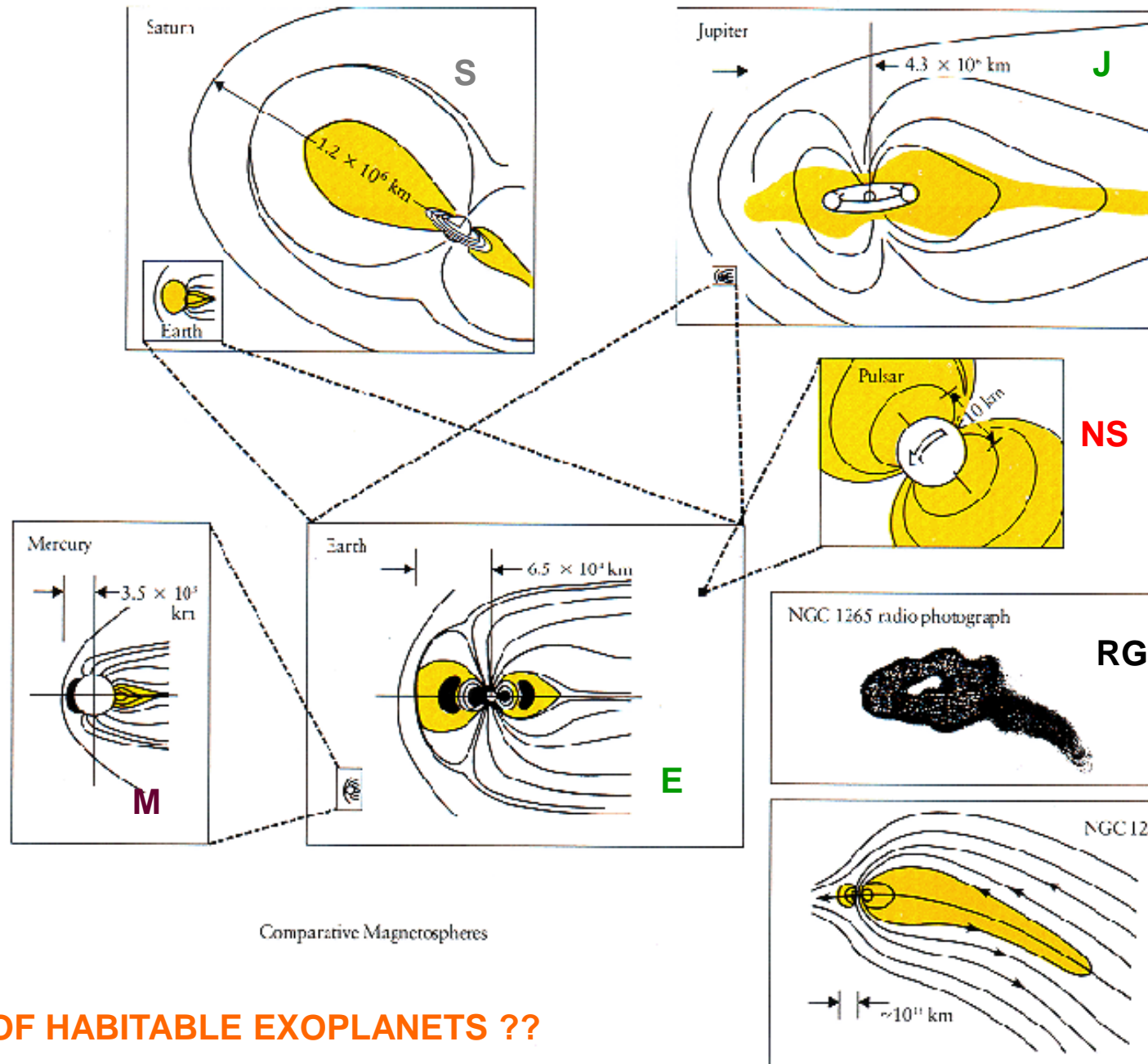
**X-point small-scale magnetic topology  $< 1$  cm : impossible to measure in tokamaks**

**Measurements in neutral points (X-line, “sash”, cusps) of Earth’s magnetosphere as a test region. Reconnection physics.**



UNIVERSALITY OF  
MAGNETOSPHERIC  
TYPE INTERACTIONS  
+SCALING FACTOR

HIERARCHY  
OF  
MAGNETOSPHERIC  
SCALES



MAGNETOSPHERES OF HABITABLE EXOPLANETS ??