

# The mechanism of efficient electron acceleration at parallel non-relativistic shocks

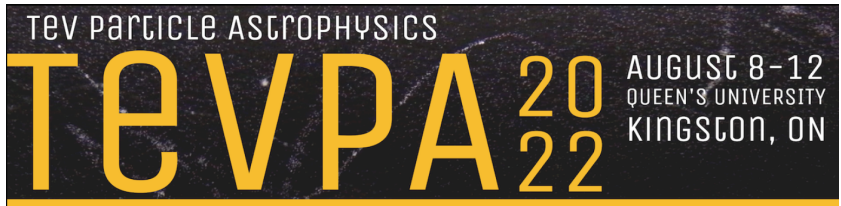
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Leibniz Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam

Collaborators: Rouven Lemmerz, Timon Thomas and Christoph Pfrommer

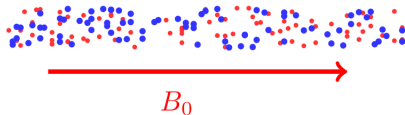
**August 10, 2022**

Based on: Shalaby+2021 (ApJ 908 206) & Shalaby+2022 (ApJ 932 86)



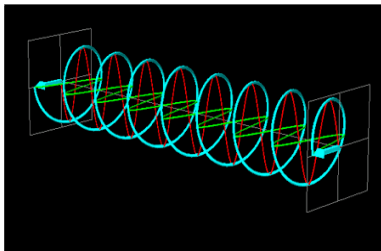
# Electron-ion magnetized plasma

background  
plasma

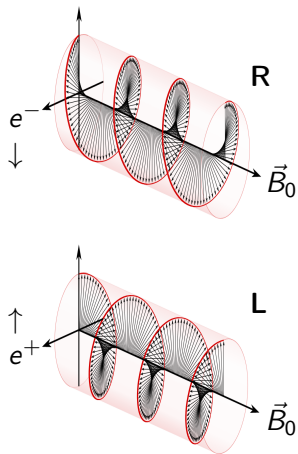
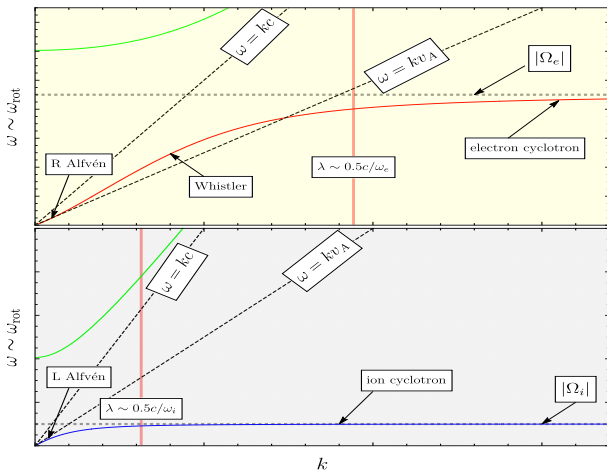


Waves along  $B_0$ :

- Electrostatic
- Electromagnetic  
Circularly (R & L)  
polarized waves



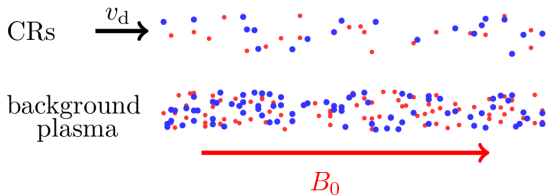
# electron-ion magnetized plasma



R Alfvén wave: compressional with  $v_{\text{ph}} \gtrsim v_A$

L Alfvén wave: shear with  $v_{\text{ph}} \lesssim v_A$

# CR driven instability



$\uparrow v_{\perp}$  Gyrotropic CRs

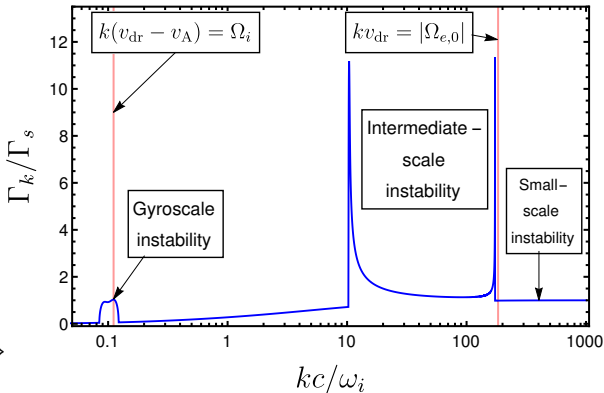
Shalaby+2021; ApJ 908 206

gyroscale: Alfvén Waves

$$\frac{kc}{\omega_i} = \frac{1}{(v_{dr}/v_A) - 1}$$

intermediate-scale:  
ion-cyclotron waves  
(2-peaks)

$$\frac{kc}{\omega_i} \sim \left\{ \frac{v_{dr}}{v_A}, \frac{m_r v_A}{v_{dr}} - \frac{v_{dr}}{v_A} \right\}$$

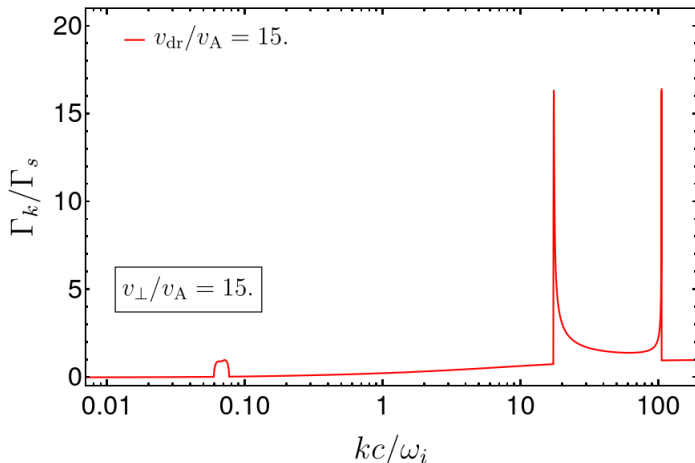


# Condition for instability growth

Intermediate-scale: two peaks

Shalaby+2021; ApJ 908 206

$$\frac{kc}{\omega_i} \sim \left\{ \frac{v_{dr}}{v_A}, \frac{m_r v_A}{v_{dr}} - \frac{v_{dr}}{v_A} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{merge} \Rightarrow \frac{v_{dr}}{v_A} = \sqrt{m_r}/2$$

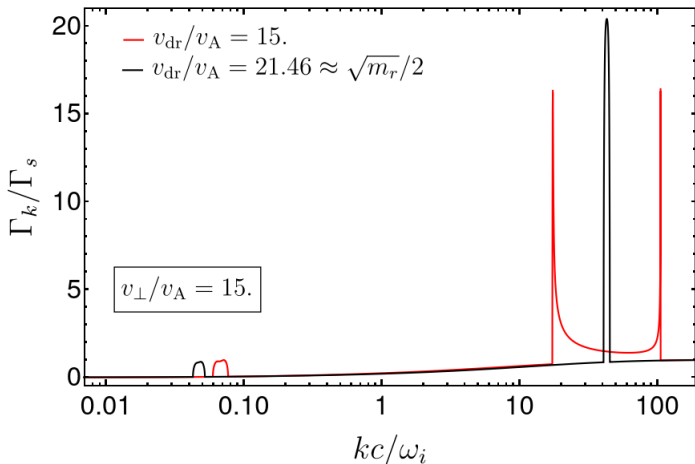


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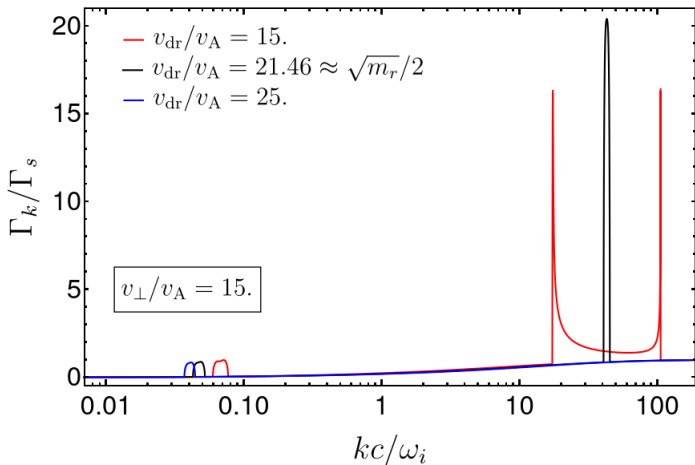


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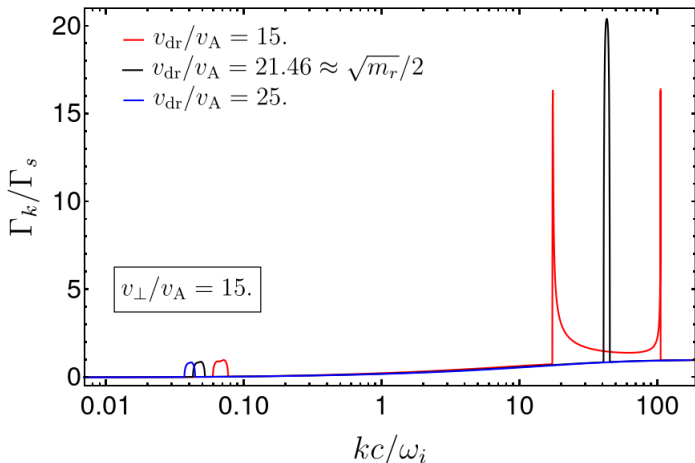


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Condition:

$$\frac{v_{dr}}{v_A} < \frac{\sqrt{m_r}}{2}$$



- Impact of the new instability on momentum distribution?

Electromagnetic wave with  $v_{\text{ph}}$  + a particle with velocity  $(v_x, v_y, v_z)$

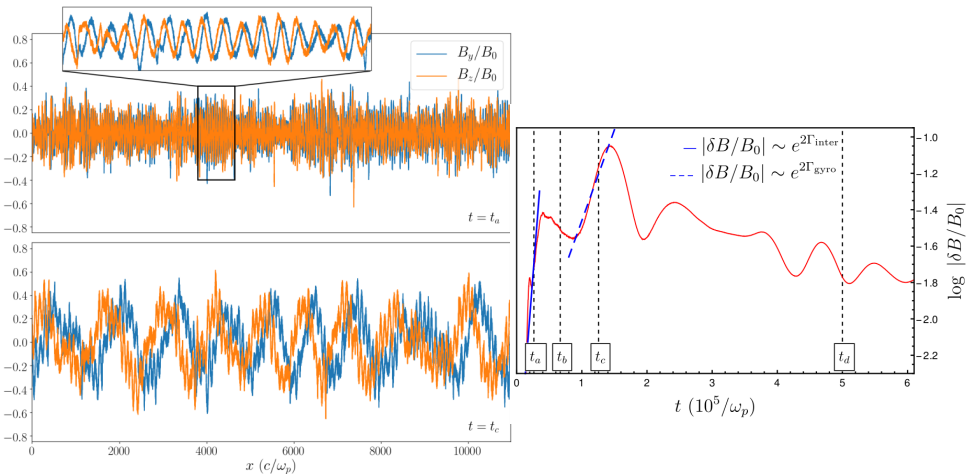
$$\dot{K}_{\parallel} = \frac{m_s}{2} \frac{dv_x^2}{dt} = q_s v_x (v_y B_z - v_z B_y),$$

$$\dot{K}_{\perp} = \frac{m_s}{2} \frac{dv_{\perp}^2}{dt} = -q_s \left[ (v_x - v_{\text{ph}}) v_y B_z - (v_x - v_{\text{ph}}) v_z B_y \right]$$

- $v_x \approx v_{\text{ph}} \Rightarrow \dot{K}_{\perp} \approx 0$ , parallel scattering only
- $v_{\text{ph}} \approx 0 \Rightarrow \dot{K}_{\perp} = -\dot{K}_{\parallel}$ , energy-conserving scattering

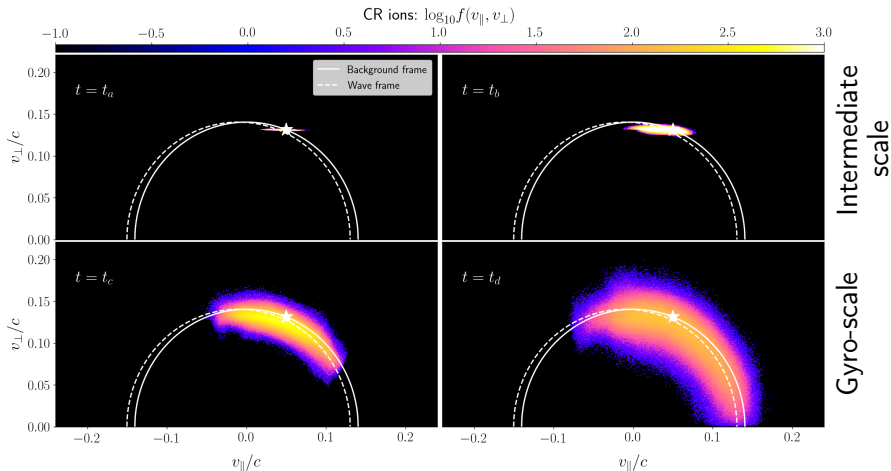
# Impact of the intermeidate-scale instability

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  1. Fast magnetic field amplification at scales  $< d_i$



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- Impact of the new instability on momentum distribution?
  1. Fast magnetic field amplification at scales  $< d_i$
  2. decrease average drift speed of ions



Found a new instability

- Drives comoving ion-cyclotron waves
- Growth only if  $v_{\text{dr}}/v_A < \sqrt{m_i/m_e}/2$
- Typically much faster growth compared to gyro-scale growth

$$\Gamma/\Omega_i = \alpha^{3/4} + \left(\frac{\alpha}{3}\right)^{1/3} \left(\frac{v_{\text{dr}}v_{\perp}}{v_A^2}\right)^{2/3} \quad (1)$$

• Impacts

- ① Fast magnetic field amplification on scales  $< d_i$ .
- ② Decrease average drift speed of ions

Potential implications: **\*\*remains to be shown/quantified\*\***

- ① Impacts on  $\Rightarrow$  CR injection and propagation models @ ISM & galaxy sims, i.e., on the distribution of gas, magnetic field amplification, star formation ect.)
  - Increase ( $\times 10-20$ ) pressure gradients due to streaming CR.
  - Increase the scattering frequency and thus substantially impacting  $\kappa_{\parallel}$
- ② For ions,  $v_{dr}$  decreases  $\Rightarrow$  impact the confinement near sources, i.e., could enhance the Grammage and thus emission near sources
- ③ Coupling of CR ions in partially ionized medium (clouds); impact ionization of (emission from) partially ionized clouds

**Today's talk \*\*Shown implication\*\***

Role of the new instability in the e-acceleration at non-relativistic shocks

arXiv:2202.05288 & ApJ 932 86

## Today's talk/application

Role of the new instability in the acceleration of electrons at non-relativistic shocks

electron injection Problem:

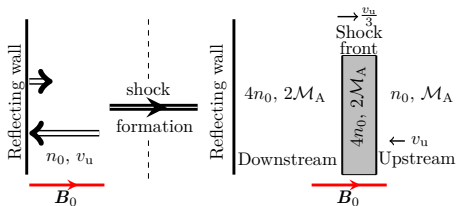
- gyro-radii:  $r_e = (m_e/m_i)r_i$ .
- $\Rightarrow$  electrons can not scatter at shock front
- $\Rightarrow$  Intermediate-scale instability provide large-amplitude magnetic perturbation at sub ion-gyroscale  
 $\Rightarrow$  a solution? let's check with PIC

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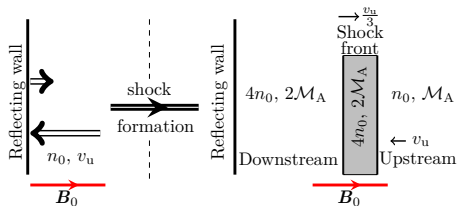


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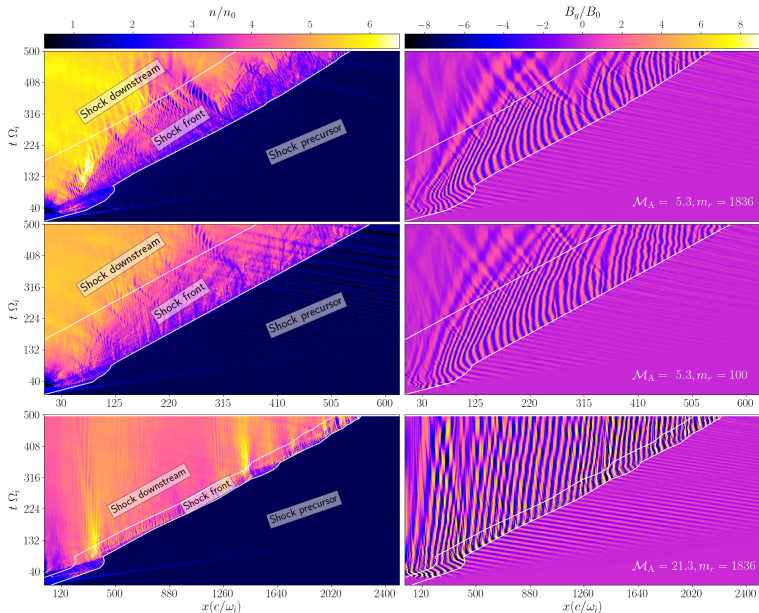
**Table 1**  
Parameters of our electron-ion parallel shock simulations

Name	$v_u/c^a$	$\mathcal{M}_A^b$	$\mathcal{M}_s^c$	$m_i/m_e$	Condition <sup>d</sup>
Ma5Mr1836	-0.1	5.3	365	1836	✓
Ma5Mr100	-0.1	5.3	365	100	×
Ma21Mr1836	-0.1	21.3	365	1836	×

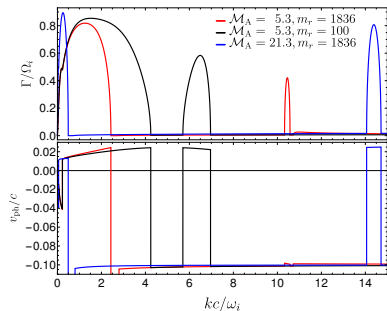
$$\text{Condition : } 2\mathcal{M}_A < \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{m_e}}$$



# Magnetic field amplification

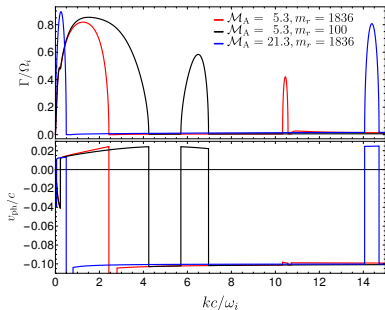


# Impacts of Intermediate-scale instability

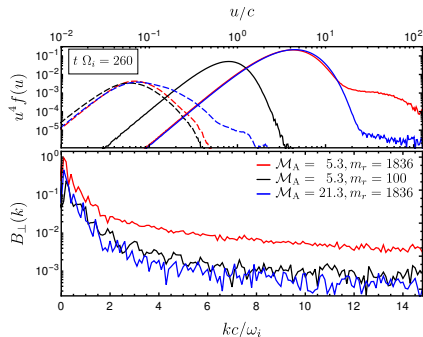


Solution of Disp. rel. at  
shock front (CD rest frame)

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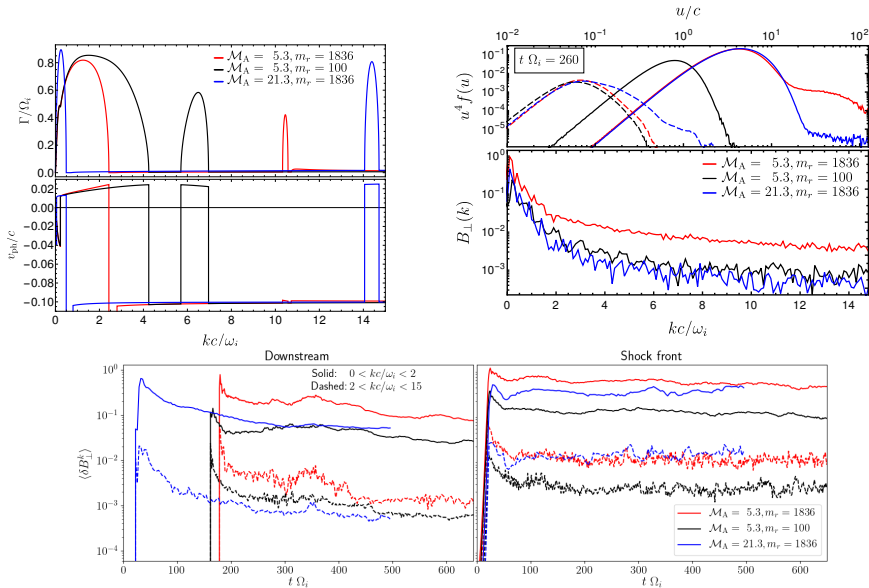


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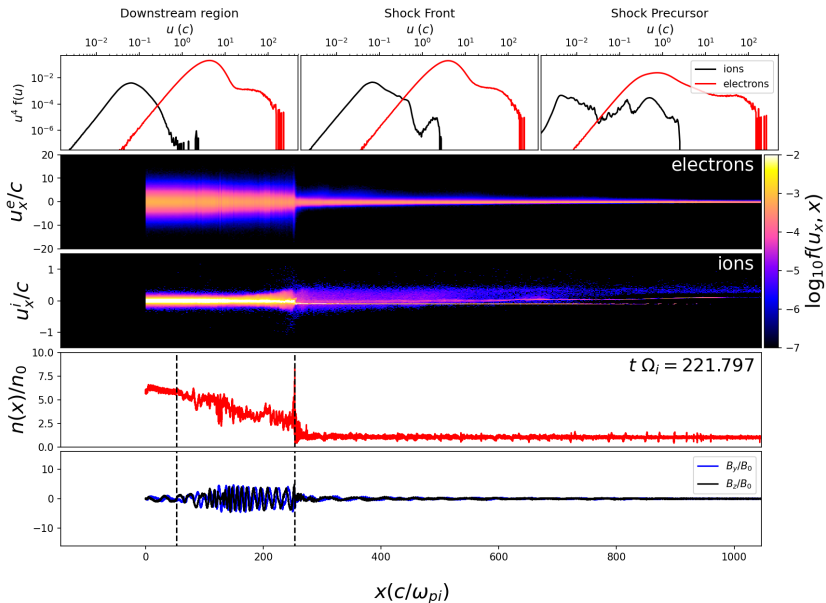


Simulation results

# Impacts of Intermediate-scale instability



# Where/how e-acceleration



### Conclusions:

- new CR-driven dominant instabilities at scales  $< c/\omega_i$
- The driven waves facilitates a new mechanism for very efficient electron acceleration
- e acc. occurs at the shock fronts and also throughout shock downstream region.
- more potential impacts so stay tuned for more papers to come!

**Thank you for your attention**