Ion Temperature Anisotropies across Magnetotail Reconnection Jets

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Magnetic reconnection

magnetic energy

particle energies

fast flows
heating
energetic particles



background: NASA/GSFC

Questions & Methods

temperature anisotropies?
 firehose instability?
 ion dynamics?

ARTEMIS dual-spacecraft observations large 2.5D PIC simulation



In situ observations: heating in different parameter regimes?



available magnetic energy per particle: $B_{in}^2/\mu_0 n_{in} = m_i V_{A,in}^2$ 10¹ - 10² eV 10² - 10⁴ eV 10⁴ - 10⁵ eV

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Anisotropy: firehose instability?



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Ion dynamics: Speiser motion?



Speiser, JGR (1965)

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ARTEMIS observations: anti-parallel, symmetric



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ARTEMIS observations: overview



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Where are we? \rightarrow Hall magnetic field



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Hall magnetic field profiles: comparison



 \rightarrow we're **more than 100** d_i downstream



Temperature profiles: good agreement



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Firehose condition: good agreement



 \rightarrow firehose *not fast enough* to limit anisotropy

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Ion dynamics: reconnection plane





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Ion dynamics: reconnection plane edge \rightarrow mid-plane



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Ion dynamics: reconnection plane edge \rightarrow mid-plane



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Ion dynamics: current sheet plane

orientation of the loop defines the orientation of the Speiser-like distribution



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Conclusions on anisotropy and dynamics



(1) varying anisotropies

(2) firehose unstable (3) Speiser-like

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Additional material

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Other events: T_{\parallel}/T_{\perp} profiles



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