

1 **Lower-hybrid wave structures and interactions with electrons observed in**
2 **magnetotail reconnection diffusion regions**

3 Shan Wang^{1,2}, Li-Jen Chen², Naoki Bessho^{1,2}, Jonathan Ng^{1,2}, Michael Hesse³, Daniel B.
4 Graham⁴, Olivia Le Contel⁵, Daniel Gershman², and Barbara Giles²

5 ¹Astronomy Department, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA 20742

6 ²NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, USA 20771

7 ³NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, CA, USA 94043

8 ⁴Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Uppsala SE-75121, Sweden

9 ⁵Laboratoire de Physique des Plasmas, CNRS/Sorbonne Université/Université Paris-
10 Saclay/Observatoire de Paris/ Ecole Polytechnique Institut Polytechnique de Paris, Paris, France

11 *swang90@umd.edu

12

13 **Key points**

- 14 • A dozen of magnetotail EDR with near-zero to 30% guide field are analyzed to
15 establish lower-hybrid wave properties therein
16 • Electron temperature fluctuations due to electron acceleration and current sheet
17 corrugation are correlated with the wave potential
18 • The electron pressure gradient contribution to the wave field and electron vortices
19 correlated with field line twisting are demonstrated

20 **Abstract**

21 We investigate waves close to the lower-hybrid frequency in 12 magnetotail reconnection
22 electron diffusion region (EDR) events with guide field levels of near-zero to 30%. In
23 about half of the events, the wave vector has a small component along the current sheet
24 normal, consistent with known lower-hybrid drift wave properties, but the perpendicular
25 magnetic field fluctuations can be comparable or greater than the parallel component, a
26 feature unique to the waves inside and adjacent to EDRs. Another new wave property is
27 that the wave vector has a significant component along the current sheet normal in some
28 events and completely along the normal for one event. In 1/4 of the events, the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$
29 term has a significant contribution to the wave electric field, possibly a feature of lower-
30 hybrid waves more likely to exist in the diffusion region than further away from the X-
31 line. Electron temperature variations are correlated with the wave potential, due to wave
32 electric field acceleration and crossings at the corrugated separatrix region with different
33 amounts of mixing between reconnection inflowing and outflowing populations. The
34 latter also leads to the anti-correlation between parallel and perpendicular temperature
35 components. Using four-spacecraft measurements, the magnetic field line twisting is
36 demonstrated by the correlated fluctuations in $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$. The lower-
37 hybrid wave in the EDR of weak guide field reconnection may be generated near
38 separatrices and penetrate to the mid-plane or locally generated, and the latter possibility
39 is beyond the prediction of previous reconnection simulations.

40 **1. Introduction**

41 Lower-hybrid waves at frequencies between the ion and electron cyclotron frequencies
42 are commonly observed in current sheets (e.g., Norgren et al., 2012; Graham et al., 2019).
43 One possible wave generation mechanism is the lower-hybrid drift instability (e.g.,
44 Davidson et al., 1977), where a pressure gradient exists along the current sheet normal
45 direction. Ions are mostly demagnetized. In the spacecraft or current sheet frame, the ion
46 diamagnetic drift has comparable amplitudes and an opposite sign with the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift.
47 Electrons mostly follow the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift with modifications from the electron diamagnetic
48 drift. The corresponding waves have near-perpendicular propagation with respect to the
49 magnetic field. The wave that often develops at the boundary of the current sheets is
50 mostly electrostatic, though the electron $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ current induces non-zero magnetic field
51 fluctuations (Norgren et al., 2012). The wavelength is relatively short with $k_{\perp}\rho_e \sim 1$,
52 where ρ_e is the electron thermal gyro-radius. The short-wavelength mode is shown to be
53 suppressed in the current sheet center, where a long-wavelength mode with $k_{\perp}\sqrt{\rho_i\rho_e} \sim 1$
54 develops, where ρ_i is the ion thermal gyro-radius (Daughton, 2003). The long-
55 wavelength mode tends to be more electromagnetic than the short-wavelength mode. In
56 addition to the lower-hybrid drift instability, the relative drift between two ion
57 populations (Graham et al., 2017) or between ions and electrons (Graham et al., 2019)
58 without the effect of the pressure gradient can also induce lower-hybrid waves.

59

60 The lower-hybrid wave that develops in regions with a strong magnetic field and low
61 plasma β is typically the short-wavelength mode, in which the wave number $k\rho_e$ is a
62 fraction of unity. Examples include waves at the boundary of the current sheet (e.g.,

63 Norgren et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2009; Le Contel et al., 2017), in the separatrix region of
64 magnetic reconnection far away from the electron diffusion region (EDR) (the satellite
65 does not encounter the EDR during the current sheet crossing) at the magnetotail (e.g.,
66 Holmes et al., 2021), at dayside magnetopause on the magnetospheric side (Graham et al.,
67 2019), and at dayside magnetopause on the magnetosheath side (Tang et al., 2020). The
68 wave propagates mainly in the L-M plane roughly perpendicular to the magnetic field,
69 where L is along the reversing magnetic field direction, N is along the current sheet
70 normal, and M is along the current direction to form the right-hand orthogonal LMN
71 coordinate system. The magnetic field fluctuation is mainly along the background
72 magnetic field at boundary layers with large amplitudes of the magnetic field (e.g., Zhou
73 et al., 2009).

74

75 In the short-wavelength mode wave, the electron bulk motion mostly follows the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$
76 drift, and the diamagnetic drift provides limited modifications, such as the case in the
77 separatrix region of a particle-in-cell simulation of symmetric reconnection with zero
78 guide field (Wang et al., 2021a). Electron vortices in the background flow frame develop
79 in the short-wavelength mode wave, due to the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift associated with the alternating
80 diverging and converging electric fields (e.g., Chen et al., 2020; Ng et al., 2020). In the
81 zero guide field simulation, the long-wavelength mode wave develops at the X-line,
82 where electrons perform the demagnetized meandering motion not following the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$
83 drift (Wang et al., 2021a). In observations, deviations between the electron bulk velocity
84 and the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift are observed, but usually the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift is able to account for most

85 of the electron bulk velocity, including the fluctuations in the wave (e.g., Graham et al.,
86 2017, 2019; Holmes et al., 2021).

87

88 Electron vortices in the short-wavelength mode wave have comparable scales with the
89 electron gyro-radius; consequently, electrons are accelerated/decelerated by the wave
90 potential, leading to temperature variations, e.g., discussed in the EDR observation (Chen
91 et al., 2020) and in a particle-in-cell simulation study of symmetric reconnection (Wang
92 et al., 2021a). The vortices are also associated with twisting of the field lines, which may
93 potentially change the magnetic field connectivity and lead to secondary reconnection.
94 Such a picture was discussed based on observations at the dayside magnetopause (e.g.,
95 Ergun et al., 2019) and magnetotail (Chen et al., 2020). The field line twisting was later
96 examined in the simulation by plotting the perpendicular magnetic field patterns and
97 tracing field lines (Wang et al., 2021a), as well as in magnetotail observations by
98 reconstructed magnetic field structures (Holmes et al., 2021).

99

100 For the magnetotail, lower-hybrid waves are reported in two EDRs. Chen et al. (2020)
101 reported lower-hybrid waves inside the EDR in the electron outflow jet for an event with
102 a guide field of $\sim 30\%$ of the reconnecting component. The wave propagates mainly
103 perpendicular to the background field in the L-M plane, which is mainly along the
104 outflow direction in this case. The electron gyro-scale vortices lead to preferential
105 perpendicular heating with nongyrotropic distribution functions. Cozzani et al. (2021)
106 studied lower-hybrid waves observed in an event with a guide field of $\sim 13\%$. The wave
107 extends from the EDR to the separatrix region outside, the electric field has electron-scale

108 gradients, and the wave has a significant electromagnetic component. Lower-hybrid
109 waves in EDRs with lower guide field than 10%~20% have not been reported in
110 observations, and it is not clear whether all lower-hybrid fluctuations close to the EDR
111 exhibit similar properties. We are thus motivated to conduct a survey to first identify all
112 magnetotail EDRs, and then perform analysis of lower-hybrid waves inside and adjacent
113 to the EDRs.

114

115 In this paper, we report properties of lower-hybrid wave (defined as waves close to the
116 lower-hybrid frequency) in 12 reconnection EDR crossings in the magnetotail during the
117 Magnetospheric Multiscale (MMS) mission in 2017-2020. The EDR events are identified
118 by features that V_{ix} (in GSM) has reversals or changes from above a few hundred km/s to
119 near-zero values, while V_e (especially along Y_{GSM}) has a much larger amplitude than V_i .
120 In each event, the ion bulk motion is small and far from the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift; the large-
121 amplitude electron flow along the M direction supports the current sheet, and the L
122 component of the velocity is significant with deviations from the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift (by more
123 than 30%) close to the mid-plane. The Hall electric field E_N exists and mostly points
124 towards the current sheet mid-plane, though the E_N reversal may not occur exactly at the
125 current sheet mid-plane due to the guide field effect. We have also confirmed that
126 nongyrotropic electron distributions exist during the current sheet crossing. Thus, at least
127 part of each crossing can be considered as the EDR, and the satellite remains close to the
128 EDR, though it may not be exactly inside the EDR during the entire crossing. We survey
129 the EDR events using data from MMS 1. The spacecraft separation is typically 20~40 km,
130 and the electron inertia length (d_e) corresponding to a density of $0.01\sim 1\text{ cm}^{-3}$ is 5~50 km.

131 Thus, the spacecraft separation is a few d_e , comparable to the thickness of the electron
132 current layer, and usually all four spacecraft cross the EDR with similar features. The
133 wave properties we examine are: whether electrons follow the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift in the wave
134 field, whether the electron temperature is modulated, and whether magnetic field line
135 twisting features exist in the lower-hybrid vortices.

136

137 **2. Data**

138 The observational data are from the MMS measurements in the burst mode. The magnetic
139 fields are from the Flux Gate Magnetometer (FGM) at 128 samples/s (Russell et al., 2016)
140 and Search Coil Magnetotail (SCM) at 8192 samples/s (Le Contell et al., 2016). Electric
141 fields are from the double probes at 8192 samples/s (Ergun et al., 2016; Lindqvist et al.,
142 2016; Torbert et al., 2016). Plasma data are from the Fast Plasma Investigation (FPI),
143 where the ion measurements have the time resolution of 0.15 s, and electron
144 measurements have the time resolution of 0.03 s. The electron moments are from the
145 ‘partial moments’ data files, where only data in energy channels above a certain threshold
146 are used in the moments calculation, to avoid spurious numbers related to uncertainties
147 such as in the process of photo-electron removal at lower energies. The lower energy
148 limit is selected by requiring the densities to be positive, and the electron speed to be
149 lower than 3×10^4 km/s. A typical lower energy limit is 10~30 eV, while for low-density
150 events, the lower-energy limit can be up to 100 eV. We have confirmed that the
151 agreement between the electron perpendicular velocity and the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift outside of the
152 EDR justifies the validity of using the partial moments data.

153

154 The events analyzed in this study are listed in Table 1. The intervals are for the wave
155 property analysis. The first twelve events are waves inside the current sheet approaching
156 the mid-plane. The last four events are wave packets near the separatrix with a large
157 magnetic field, to be compared with those penetrating all the way to the mid-plane. These
158 four events belong to the same current sheet with one of the above twelve events, but the
159 wave packet is clearly separate from the wave near the mid-plane. They are still inside
160 the ion diffusion region, judged by the clear Hall electric field, small ion outflow speed,
161 and clear deviation of the ion perpendicular velocity from the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift. The guide field
162 is estimated using $|B_M|$ either at the B_L reversal or at the asymptotic B_L region, divided by
163 the asymptotic B_L . For the guide field level lower than 10%, we may just consider the
164 guide field to be small, as the exact guide field level is uncertain due to B_M variations. In
165 the following sections, we will analyze the wave properties, the electron force balance,
166 electron heating, and field line twisting, in order to establish general properties of lower-
167 hybrid waves in magnetotail reconnection diffusion regions.

168

169 We also present the electron bulk velocity along L from a 2D and a 3D particle-in-cell
170 simulation using the VPIC code (Bowers et al., 2008). The 2D simulation has a guide
171 field level of 10%, and data are just used for illustrating the spacecraft trajectories. The
172 3D simulation has zero guide field, where lower-hybrid waves develop with a dominant
173 propagation along the M direction. The 2D simulation is in the L-N plane and does not
174 allow for the variation along M, so lower-hybrid waves do not develop. The wave
175 structures in this simulation are investigated in detail and published in Wang et al.

176 (2021a), and some key results are mentioned in section 1. The plot of the 3D simulation
177 data is used to illustrate where lower-hybrid waves are present in section 7.

178

179 **3. Wave properties**

180 We will examine the ratio between the electric and magnetic wave fields in wave power
181 spectrograms, the dominant wave field components, and the wavenumber and
182 propagation directions.

183 **3.1 Properties consistent with known lower-hybrid waves**

184 **3.1.1 L-M plane propagation with dominant B_L fluctuations**

185 An electron current layer is encountered on 2018-08-27 around 12:15:43 UT (Figure 1,
186 No.10 in Table 1), where the wave properties are consistent with the known lower-hybrid
187 waves. During a longer interval of about 2 min, the GSM x component of V_i reverses
188 from negative to positive values (not shown), indicating a transition from the tailward to
189 Earthward (along the +L \sim +x direction) of a reconnection X-line. The interval shown in
190 Figure 1 has $V_{eL} \ll V_{iL} < 0$, and a large-amplitude negative V_{eM} associated with the bipolar
191 E_N , demonstrating the location to be in the diffusion region. A clear deviation between
192 $V_{e\perp L}$ and $V_{E\times B,L}$ exists during 12:15:42.8-12:15:43.8 UT, while the agreement between
193 the two is relatively good at other time, which suggests that the spacecraft crossed the
194 demagnetized electron outflow jet. The lower-hybrid wave power at around f_{lh} (Figures
195 1f-1g) is strong throughout the interval, and is particularly enhanced at f_{lh} to $f_{ce}/2$ around
196 12:15:41.3-12:15:42.7 UT (clearest if starting from 12:15:41.9 UT). During this time the
197 B_L amplitude is large and nongyrotropic electron distributions exist (Figure 10),
198 indicating that MMS1 is close to the separatrix while electrons are not completely

199 magnetized. MMS4 measures $B_L \sim 0$ (Figure 2b), and $V_{E \times B, L}$ filtered at below 1 Hz is up to
200 -9000 km/s (not shown), similar to but with a larger amplitude than that from MMS1 later
201 near the mid-plane (-6000 km/s). Therefore, the spacecraft stayed within the electron
202 outflow jet of the EDR during 12:15:41.3-12:15:42.7 UT, and we will analyze the wave
203 properties during this interval. The trajectory is illustrated with a black arrow in Figure
204 1h on top of the V_{eL} profile of a 2D particle-in-cell simulation of symmetric reconnection
205 with the 10% guide field, which is just for the illustration purpose.

206

207 The wave property analysis is shown in Figure 2. A peak of the wave power is around 3-
208 11 Hz, slightly above f_{ih} (0.5-3.3 Hz during the interval with an average of 1.9 Hz). The
209 magnetic field variation is dominant in B_L , mainly parallel to the background magnetic
210 field, and E_N dominates the electric field variation, consistent with the typical lower-
211 hybrid drift wave features.

212

213 The wave penetrates to the close vicinity of the current layer mid-plane, as seen from B_L
214 of four spacecraft (Figure 2b). B_L at MMS 4 reverses the sign during the wave interval,
215 where fluctuations exist most of the time, except for a plateau right at $B_L=0$.

216

217 The wave propagation is determined using two methods, and the first one is based on the
218 wavelet phase correlation between the measurements of four spacecraft. We obtain the
219 Morlet wavelet transformation as a function of time and frequency for B_L at each
220 spacecraft, and calculate the phase difference ($\Delta\Psi_{t,f,j1}$) for MMS-j (j=2,3,4) relative to
221 MMS1 using the phase angle of the cross spectrum (e.g., equations 1-2 described in

222 Graham et al. (2016)). The phase difference is then translated to the time lag as $\Delta t_j =$
223 $\Delta\Psi_{t,f,j1}/(2\pi f)$. With the time lag and the relative spacecraft positions, we calculate
224 the amplitude and direction of the phase velocity at each time and frequency in the same
225 way with the typical timing analysis (Harvey, 1998). Figures 2c-2f show the result at the
226 selected frequency range of 5-11 Hz, where the red-blue curves represent increasing
227 frequencies. During the marked interval of 12:15:41.3-12:15:42.7 UT, it shows relatively
228 steady amplitudes and directions of \mathbf{V}_{ph} . The average direction over all the shown
229 frequencies over the marked interval is [-0.318, -0.911, -0.262] LMN. The phase speed
230 for the shown frequency range varies in the range of 3000-4000 km/s with an average of
231 3413 km/s. The wave propagation is mainly along the -M direction, and the significant
232 E_N fluctuation is an indication of the formation of electron vortices with alternating
233 diverging and converging electric fields in the M-N plane.

234

235 We also examine the importance of the electromagnetic component using $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$
236 (magenta curve in Figure 2a) (e.g., Cozzani et al., 2021). For a pure electrostatic mode,
237 the ratio goes to infinity. Using the above-deduced V_{ph} and taking the average value in
238 the range of 5-11 Hz, $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is about 4 for this event. Thus, a significant
239 electromagnetic component exists.

240

241 The second method to determine the wave propagation is $\mathbf{k}(\omega) = i\mu_0\mathbf{J}(\omega) \times \mathbf{B}^*$
242 $(\omega)/|\mathbf{B}|^2$, based on Ampere's law (Bellan, 2016). The average magnetic field over four
243 spacecraft and the current density from the curlometer method (Robert et al., 1998) are
244 used for calculation. Figures 2g-2h show that the amplitude and direction of \mathbf{k} is

245 relatively steady at 5-11 Hz. The average \mathbf{k} over this frequency range is $0.017 \times [-0.344, -$
246 $0.853, -0.393]$ LMN km^{-1} . The standard deviation of the amplitude and direction of \mathbf{k}
247 over the selected frequency range is $\sigma_k = 0.006 \times [0.16, 0.09, 0.28]$ km^{-1} , and the standard
248 deviation of angles between each pair of the \mathbf{k} direction for different frequency bins is
249 $\sigma_{\hat{k}} = 14^\circ$. During the wave interval, the minimum ρ_e at the maximum $|\mathbf{B}|$ is 29 km, so that
250 $k\rho_e = 0.49$. We use the minimum ρ_e because the wave penetrates to the current layer
251 mid-plane where ρ_e diverges, and the 3D particle-in-cell simulation analyzed in Wang et
252 al. (2021a) suggests that lower-hybrid wave tends to develop off the mid-plane at the
253 density gradient and gradually penetrates to the mid-plane (details not shown). Using the
254 \mathbf{k} values at each frequency bin in the 5-11 Hz frequency range, the corresponding V_{ph} is
255 2033~5685 km/s, roughly consistent with the wavelet correlation method. The difference
256 of the \mathbf{k} directions between the two methods is also small (8°). Therefore, we consider the
257 wave propagation property of this event as being reliably determined. The $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method
258 shows rather consistent results at different frequencies, while the wavelet method still
259 shows moderate variations in k_N and V_{ph} . The standard deviation of k_N is 0.42, greater
260 than the variation of \mathbf{k} components from the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method. Thus, the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method is
261 considered to be better and used in the follow-up analysis (e.g., calculating the wave
262 potential)

263

264 For this event near the end of the electron outflow jet, the dominant B_L fluctuation mainly
265 parallel to the background magnetic field, the dominant perpendicular propagation, and
266 the wavenumber of $k\rho_e$ smaller than but not far from unity are consistent with the typical
267 lower-hybrid drift wave in the electron current layer (e.g., Chen et al., 2020).

268 3.2 New wave properties

269 3.2.1 L-M plane propagation with dominant B_N fluctuations

270 The event on 2018-08-21 around 11:01:04 UT is likely a crossing of the central EDR
271 (Figure 3, No. 8 in Table 1). The electron current layer has a large-amplitude negative
272 V_{eM} across the B_L reversal, and V_{eL} and B_N also reverse the sign. When B_N reverses, B_L is
273 positive and V_{eM} remains a large amplitude, indicating that the spacecraft stays within the
274 electron current layer. The E_N Hall field clearly exists, while V_{eLL} and V_{eLM} exhibit
275 deviations from the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift in the current layer. Two separate wave packets exist: one
276 packet is in the positive B_L region around 11:01:01 UT, likely near the separatrix (marked
277 with '1'); the other is near the current layer mid-plane (marked with '2'). The MMS
278 trajectories of the wave intervals are illustrated with black arrows in Figure 3h.

279

280 The properties of the wave near the mid-plane during 11:01:03.3-11:01:04.5 UT are
281 analyzed as follows. From the plot for magnetic field components (Figure 3a), we can
282 already see that the dominant fluctuating component is B_N , mainly perpendicular to the
283 background magnetic field, unlike the first event on 2018-08-27, which has the dominant
284 fluctuation in B_L . The 1D FFT power spectrum (Figure 4a) further shows the dominant
285 B_N at 8~10 Hz. $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is around 2, suggesting the presence of a significant
286 electromagnetic component. The $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method gives a good estimate of the wave
287 number at 6-9 Hz, a frequency range with steady results, and the average \mathbf{k} is
288 $0.024 \times [0.278, -0.953, -0.123]$ LMN km^{-1} . With the minimum $\rho_e=25$ km during the wave
289 interval, $k\rho_e=0.60$. The corresponding V_{ph} at 6-9 Hz is 1428~1878 km/s. The wavelet
290 phase correlation result is fine in providing a steady result of V_{ph} over 6-9 Hz, but the

291 variation in k_L is significant. The average \mathbf{V}_{ph} is 3715 km/s along [-0.503, -0.818, 0.279]
292 LMN, with a standard deviation of $\sigma_V = 846 \times [0.37, 0.25, 0.28]$. The dominant -M
293 component of propagation and V_{ph} not far from the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method result roughly provide
294 a justification of the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method result. Although B_N that is mainly perpendicular to the
295 background magnetic field dominates the fluctuation, the properties of the wave
296 propagation as mainly along -M and the wave number amplitude of $k\rho_e = 0.60$ are still
297 consistent with the typical lower-hybrid drift wave.

298

299 The wave packet near the separatrix around 11:01:01 UT (No. 16 in Table 1) is mainly
300 electrostatic, as seen from the large-amplitude electric field variation (Figure 3b) and the
301 wave power spectrograms (Figures 3f-3g). $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is about 12, so the
302 electromagnetic contribution still exists but is less important than that closer to the
303 current sheet mid-plane. The propagation determined by the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method is mainly
304 along -M with $\mathbf{k} = 0.027 \times [-0.055, -0.997, -0.063]$ LMN km^{-1} , corresponding to $k\rho_e = 0.46$
305 and $V_{ph} = 1094 \sim 1498$ km/s. The result is justified by another method of determining \mathbf{V}_{ph}
306 by fitting the wave potential between the electric field and magnetic field measurements
307 (Norgren et al., 2012), which gives $\mathbf{V}_{ph} = 1500 \times [-0.241, -0.924, 0.297]$ LMN km/s.

308 **3.2.2 propagation mainly along N**

309 The event on 2017-06-17 is an electron-only reconnection event (R. Wang et al., 2018),
310 where the large negative V_{eM} supports the current layer, a significant V_{eL} outflow jet
311 exists (Figure 5c, No. 1 in Table 1), while ions do not have variations in either the bulk
312 velocity or the temperature (not shown).

313

314 Wave fluctuations around f_{ih} exist across the B_L reversal, and the trajectories of the wave
315 interval are illustrated in Figure 5h. The magnetic field fluctuations are dominant in B_M ,
316 and the electric field fluctuations are dominant in E_N (Figure 6a). $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is around
317 3, indicating the importance of the electromagnetic component. The $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ and the
318 wavelet phase correlation analysis give consistent results that the wave mainly propagates
319 along N away from the mid-plane, different from the expected propagation of lower-
320 hybrid waves mainly in the L-M plane. The results are shown in Figure 6 and listed in
321 Table 1. The propagation along N can also be judged by looking at the time delay in
322 magnetic field measurements from four spacecraft (Figure 6b-6c). MMS 1 is away from
323 the other spacecraft mainly along the N direction, as can be seen from the clear time
324 delay in B_L (Figure 6b). From the B_M fluctuations (Figure 6c), MMS 1 is clearly lagged
325 from the other 3 spacecraft at $B_L < 0$ between the black vertical dashed lines, and ahead of
326 other spacecraft at $B_L > 0$ between the blue vertical dashed lines (e.g., around the dip
327 marked by the black arrow). The time delay is consistent with the wave propagation
328 along N away from the mid-plane.

329

330 One notable feature is that the current sheet normal direction determined from the
331 Minimum Variance Analysis is $[-0.286, 0.952, 0.110]$ GSM, mainly along Y_{GSM} . Using
332 the Maximum Directional Derivative (MDD, Shi et al. (2005)) method with four-
333 spacecraft measurements of the magnetic fields, we obtain the consistent normal direction
334 mainly along Y_{GSM} that is steady during the current sheet crossing. One possibility is that
335 the large-scale (with the wavelength of a few d_i) current sheet flapping, e.g., related to the
336 kink mode with a wavelength of a few ion gyro-radii (e.g., Karimabadi et al., 2003;

337 Sergeev et al., 2003; Wang et al., 2019; Richard et al., 2021), leads to variations of the
338 current sheet orientations. The lower-hybrid wave originally generated along the current
339 direction propagates to locations with tilted current sheets and appears to propagate along
340 the normal direction of the local current sheets.

341 **3.2.3 comparable fluctuations in all magnetic components and L-M plane** 342 **propagation**

343 The event on 2017-07-26 is in the electron outflow jet, where $V_{e\perp L}$ deviates from $V_{E\times B,L}$
344 near the mid-plane (Figure 7, No. 6 in Table 1). Two separate wave packets exist at $B_L < 0$
345 and across the B_L reversal (mainly on the $B_L > 0$ side), respectively, illustrated by the
346 black arrows in Figure 7h.

347

348 The wave packet across the mid-plane during 00:03:54-00:04:02 UT exhibits comparable
349 fluctuations in all three components of the magnetic field (Figure 8a). The comparable
350 fluctuations are further supported by the Minimum Variance Analysis of 5-8 Hz magnetic
351 field, where the eigenvalue ratio between the maximum and the intermediate variance
352 directions is 1.8 and the ratio between the intermediate and minimum variance directions
353 is 1.5 (both are small). $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is around 10. Neither of the two methods provides
354 unambiguously results of the wave propagation, where the results exhibit significant
355 variations across frequencies and times (Figures 8d-8i). Nevertheless, both methods do
356 indicate a rough propagation direction with a positive L and negative M direction. For the
357 $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method, $\mathbf{k}=0.024 \times [0.663, -0.746, 0.067]$ LMN km^{-1} with a standard deviation of
358 $\sigma_k=0.017 \times [0.51, 0.38, 0.51]$ km^{-1} corresponding to $k\rho_e=0.24$ and V_{ph} at 512~4639 km/s,
359 where $\rho_e=10$ km is the minimum value during the interval. For the wavelet phase

360 correlation method, the average \mathbf{V}_{ph} is $1908 \times [0.669, -0.689, 0.277]$ LMN km/s and the
361 standard deviation is $\sigma_V = 562 \times [0.34, 0.26, 0.24]$ km/s. Thus, although the magnetic field
362 fluctuation amplitudes are comparable in all three components, there is still a dominant
363 propagation direction.

364

365 Let us summarize the wave properties of the waves close to the lower-hybrid frequency.
366 The wave propagation properties obtained from two methods are listed in Table 1. The
367 two methods typically result in consistent results. As shown in the examples, results with
368 the standard deviation of the \mathbf{k} direction smaller than 0.3 and $\sigma_{\hat{k}}$ smaller than 20° are
369 steady over frequencies and time in visual inspection (like event No. 10), while some
370 events may have more significant scattering of the \mathbf{k} direction (like event No. 6), though
371 it still indicates a preferential direction of propagation. For the 12 EDR current sheet
372 crossings, the waves all penetrate to the current layer mid-plane. $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$ is in the
373 range of 2~21, suggesting the presence of an electromagnetic component, while the
374 electromagnetic component is rather significant for those with the value below 10,
375 typically close to the current sheet mid-plane. The dominant wave propagation direction
376 in 4 out of 12 events near the mid-plane is mainly in (within 20° from) the L-M plane
377 ($|k_N| < 0.35$) and mainly perpendicular to the background \mathbf{B} , though the dominant magnetic
378 field fluctuation is not always in B_L or B_M along the background \mathbf{B} . The other events have
379 a significant propagation component along the current sheet normal direction ($|k_N| > 0.35$).
380 One event has the propagation almost entirely along the N direction, while N is mainly
381 along Y_{GSM} . For 4 events, a separate wave packet exists far from the mid-plane, possibly
382 near the separatrix further downstream of the EDR. These events all have the propagation

383 mainly in the L-M plane. For all the events, $k\rho_e$ is in the range of 0.1~1, which is similar
384 to those reported in the previous observations mentioned in the introduction section. It
385 may appear unexpected that waves with a significant electromagnetic component do not
386 have $k\rho_e$ too much smaller than unity. We will discuss in section 7 that the normalization
387 plays a role, so that the conventional ‘short’- and ‘long’-wavelength modes may not be
388 well distinguished by the $k\rho_e$ value, but the contribution of the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term in the wave
389 electric field may be a better diagnostic.

390 **4. Electron force balance in the wave**

391 We next examine the electron pressure balance to see whether the wave electric field is
392 mainly supported by $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ as expected for typical lower-hybrid waves. Figure 9 (left)
393 shows the E_N balance for the 2018-08-27 event No. 10. The comparison at MMS1
394 (Figure 9b) shows a clear DC offset between E_N and $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ before 12:15:42.2 UT,
395 while the agreement between the two is better later where the E_N amplitude is smaller.
396 The offset indicates the contribution of non-ideal terms (possibly the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term) to the
397 DC E_N . The fluctuations of E_N are together with those of $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$. We further plot
398 dE_N by subtracting the 1-s sliding average for MMS 1, 2, and 3 (Figures 9c-9e). The
399 electric field measurement and $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ mostly track with each other, while sometimes
400 discrepancies exist, such as MMS1 at 12:15:42.0-12:15:42.2 UT. (The instrumental
401 uncertainty of E_N is about 3 mV/m, smaller than the discrepancy.) Thus, we conclude that
402 the wave field is dominated by $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$, while non-ideal terms like the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term
403 provide modifications.

404

405 In contrast, the 2017-08-10 EDR event (Zhou et al., 2019, No. 7 in Table 1) (Figure 9
406 right) has a more significant contribution from $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$. Waves are mainly at the $B_L > 0$ side
407 after 12:18:33. Figure 9g shows the analysis at the spacecraft barycenter (Harvey, 1998).
408 The sum (green) of the $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ (blue) and $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ terms (red) agrees well with the
409 electric field measurement (black), indicating the reliability of the calculation. For the DC
410 component, the $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ and $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ terms have comparable amplitudes. For the
411 fluctuations, the contribution mainly comes from the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term, while $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ does
412 not have many fluctuations. We further examine the comparison between E_N and
413 $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ at each spacecraft. In the measurements of MMS3 and MMS4, and part of
414 MMS1, $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ more or less tracks E_N . The most significant discrepancy occurs at
415 MMS2, and such discrepancy is consistent with the four-spacecraft calculation result.

416

417 Table 1 lists whether the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term has a significant contribution to the lower-hybrid
418 wave field. For the events where measurements from four spacecraft are available, the
419 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term is considered to be significant if the four-spacecraft calculation of the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$
420 term has comparable or dominant fluctuation levels with $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ (marked by ‘Y’ in the
421 table). For events with only available measurements at three spacecraft, the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term is
422 considered to be significant if the difference between the fluctuation levels of E_N and
423 $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ is comparable to the fluctuation amplitude of $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ like Figure 9i
424 (marked by ‘y’ in the table). There are 4 out of 16 events where the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term has a
425 significant contribution.

426 **5. Electron temperature modulation**

427 The electron temperature is expected to be modulated in the lower-hybrid wave since the
428 wavelength ($k\rho_e$ of 0.1~1) is not significantly greater than ρ_e . We investigate the electron
429 heating by examining the correlation between T_e and the wave potential $\phi = \int E_k V_{ph} dt$,
430 where E_k is the bandpass electric field along the optimized \mathbf{k} direction. For the typical
431 lower-hybrid drift wave, the perpendicular current fluctuation is mainly contributed by
432 the electron $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift, which is associated with B_{\parallel} fluctuations according to the
433 Faraday's law, and it results in $\phi \propto dB_{\parallel}$ (e.g., Norgren et al., 2012), so we also look at
434 dB_{\parallel} patterns.

435

436 Figure 10 shows the result for the 2018-08-27 event No. 10 measured at MMS1.
437 Correlated fluctuations exist in dB_{\parallel} , ϕ , and T_e , but sometimes there are phase offsets, and
438 $T_{e\parallel}$ and $T_{e\perp}$ components are not always varying together. The correlation coefficient
439 between ϕ and total T_e during the shown interval is 0.59. The pure expected effect of ϕ
440 in modulating T_e is through inflating and compressing the velocity distributions, as
441 particles are accelerated and decelerated through the potential. If \mathbf{k} is exactly
442 perpendicular to the background magnetic field, ϕ only modulates $T_{e\perp}$ with a positive
443 correlation. As \mathbf{k} has a small difference from the perpendicular direction, electrons can be
444 accelerated/decelerated along both parallel and perpendicular directions, so that both $T_{e\parallel}$
445 and $T_{e\perp}$ are modulated with ϕ with the same phase relationship (e.g., shown in Wang et
446 al. (2021a)). The v_{\parallel} and $v_{\perp 2}$ spectrograms indeed show inflations and compressions
447 along with the variations of v_{th} (overplotted black curves), where $v_{\perp 2}$ is along the local
448 $\mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})$ direction. For example, the v_{\parallel} spectrogram has a local minimum extension
449 of the yellow-colored part at location 5, collocating with the local $T_{e\parallel}$ minimum; the $v_{\perp 2}$

450 spectrogram has a local minimum extension of the yellow-colored part as well as a
451 minimum $T_{e\perp}$ at location 4. The 2D reduced distributions in the $v_{\parallel} - v_{\perp 1}$ plane at six
452 selected locations are shown on the right, where $v_{\perp 1}$ is along the local $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ direction.
453 The inflation in the perpendicular plane can also be seen in distributions 5 and 6, where
454 the contour between the yellow and green colors is expanded (e.g., from $\sim 3 \times 10^4$ to
455 $\sim 3.5 \times 10^4$ km/s along the positive $v_{\perp 2}$ direction).

456

457 However, additional effects of mixing different electron populations also contribute to
458 changing the temperature. For example, compared to location 2, the region around
459 location 4-6 has an additional intense population at $v_{\parallel} > 0$ smaller than $v_{th,\parallel}$, which leads to
460 a smaller $T_{e\parallel}$. Distributions are often not symmetric between the positive and negative
461 $v_{\perp 1}$ sides relative to the bulk velocity of a few thousand km/s, with more energetic
462 particles extending to the large positive $v_{\perp 1}$ side, e.g., at locations 1, 3 and 4, indicating
463 nongyrotropy of the distribution and partial demagnetization of electrons. The presence
464 of the intense low-energy population can also be more clearly seen in the 2D distributions
465 than in the spectrograms. The parallel electron heating is a typical feature in the
466 reconnection inflow region within the ion diffusion region, whereas the low-energy
467 intense $v_{\parallel} > 0$ electrons are probably in the reconnection exhaust moving away from the X-
468 line. The large $T_{e\parallel}$ locations (2 and 3) without much mixture of low-energy intense
469 populations are associated with larger $|B_L|$, i.e., at larger distances from the current layer
470 mid-plane, consistent with the expectation of being closer to the inflow side than
471 locations 5 and 6 with smaller $T_{e\parallel}$ and $|B_L|$. The lower-hybrid wave fluctuation is
472 associated with the corrugation of the current sheet so that the spacecraft alternatively

473 sample the inflow (like locations 2- 3) and outflow (like locations 5-6) sides of the
474 separatrix, leading to variations of the temperature due to different amounts of the
475 mixture between the inflowing and outflowing populations. The corrugation is similar to
476 that observed in fluctuations near the lower-hybrid frequency close to the magnetopause
477 reconnection EDR (Ergun et al., 2017, 2019; Wilder et al., 2019).

478

479 Another example for electron temperature modulation on 2017-07-26 is shown in Figure
480 11 (No. 15), where the corrugation effect is more significant. The correlation coefficient
481 between ϕ and total T_e is 0.46. $T_{e\parallel}$ and $T_{e\perp}$ are anti-correlated. The corrugation effect
482 associated with different amount of mixing of different electron populations can be seen
483 in the v_{\parallel} spectrogram where low-energy intense populations contribute to the decrease of
484 $T_{e\parallel}$, e.g., around 00:03:49.0 UT, and can be seen in the $v_{\perp 2}$ spectrogram where the loss of
485 particles with $|v_{\perp 2}| > \sim 2 \times 10^4$ km/s contributes to the decrease of $T_{e\perp}$, e.g.,
486 00:03:48.8-00:03:49.0 UT. Five selected 2D distributions are shown on the right.
487 Location 1 has a clear asymmetry between the positive and negative v_{\parallel} sides, indicating
488 the location to be on the outflow side of the separatrix. The $v_{\parallel} < 0$ part is intense with a
489 low $T_{e\perp}$, which is the inflow population moving towards the X-line. The $v_{\parallel} > 0$ part has a
490 broader distribution along v_{\perp} , which is the outflowing population away from the X-line.
491 Distributions like at locations 2 and 3 have relatively symmetric distributions along v_{\parallel} for
492 the inflow populations at small v_{\perp} , indicating the locations to be on the inflow side of the
493 separatrix. Comparing distributions 3 and 5, the addition of the hotter outflowing
494 population is consistent with the $T_{e\perp}$ increase. The mixture between the $T_{e\parallel} > T_{e\perp}$
495 inflow population and the $T_{e\parallel} < T_{e\perp}$ outflowing population leads to the anti-correlation

496 between $T_{e\parallel}$ and $T_{e\perp}$. In addition to the effect of the current sheet corrugation, the wave
497 potential also plays a role in modulating the temperature in this event. The temperature
498 variations are associated with the spectrogram inflation and compression (Figures 11e-
499 11f). For example, the modulation along v_{\parallel} is clear at the velocities near v_{th} from
500 locations 3 to 4; the modulation along v_{\perp} can be seen between locations 4 and 5.

501

502 The correlation between ϕ and the total T_e for each event is listed in Table 1. We find
503 that when the correlation coefficient is greater than 0.3, the correlation is clearly visible.
504 There are 6 out of 14 events that have such good correlations. The correlation is a
505 demonstration of acceleration/deceleration by the wave potential as well as the
506 alternating sampling of inflow and outflow sides of the corrugated separatrix region. We
507 examined the simulation data published in Wang et al. (2021a), and found that the ϕ - T_e
508 correlation becomes unclear at the later stage of the wave development (not shown),
509 which is one possible reason why not all the events exhibit clear correlations.

510 **6. Twists of electron flows and magnetic fields**

511 Inside the lower-hybrid wave field, vortices in the background flow frame can form,
512 together with twisting of magnetic field lines. The simulation result (Figure 5 in Wang et
513 al., 2021a) shows that the twist directions of the electron flow ($(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_e)_{\parallel} \sim (\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$)
514 and magnetic fields ($(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel} \sim J_{\parallel}$) are not always the same, where the parallel direction
515 is relative to the background \mathbf{B} . The vortex structures are mostly on the exhaust side of
516 the X-line, where both the DC and fluctuating J_{\parallel} are mainly carried by the electron
517 population with a bulk velocity away from the X-line in the exhaust region. The
518 dominance of the bulk velocity by the outflowing population is related to its larger

519 density than the inflowing population, since overall the density is increased from the
520 inflow to the outflow region. Figure 12a illustrates how J_{\parallel} is modulated in the wave field,
521 for an example region with $B_L > 0$. The illustrated situation has a diverging electric field.
522 The left panel has the angle (θ_{kB}) between \mathbf{k} and the background magnetic field slightly
523 smaller than 90° , so E_{\parallel} due to the projection of the wave electric field along the magnetic
524 field points towards -L (+L) in the upper (lower) half of the region, as marked by light
525 blue arrows. For typical lower-hybrid drift instabilities, the wave V_{ph} is smaller than the
526 electron drift speed in the ion frame, so electrons around the bulk velocity move towards
527 the \mathbf{k} direction relative to the wave field. When electrons move towards the center of the
528 diverging E field region in the upper half, they experience E_{\parallel} towards the -L direction, so
529 electrons away from the X-line (towards +L) are accelerated and those towards the X-line
530 (towards -L) are decelerated, as illustrated by the red arrows. Therefore, the motions of
531 electrons both moving away from and towards the X-line contribute to enhancing $V_{e\parallel}$
532 around the center of the diverging E field region, and $J_{\parallel} \sim (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ (opposite to $V_{e\parallel}$) is
533 enhanced towards the -L direction. Meanwhile, dB_{\parallel} that is proportional to ϕ is positive.
534 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ is opposite to dB_{\parallel} since the vortical electron $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ current induces dB_{\parallel} at
535 the vortex center. Thus, $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ is enhanced towards the -L direction, same with
536 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$. When θ_{kB} is greater than 90° as illustrated in the right panel, the projected E_{\parallel}
537 has opposite signs at the upper and lower halves of the structure compared to the left
538 panel. The resulting $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ is towards the +L direction, opposite to $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$.
539 Similarly, if in the left panel the magnetic field is reversed to have $B_L < 0$ ($\theta_{kB} > 90^\circ$),
540 $dB_{\parallel} > 0$ in the vortex center would lead to the reversal of $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$, while $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$
541 remains the same, and hence $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ are anti-correlated.

542 Summarizing different situations, we conclude that $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ are
543 correlated when $\theta_{kB} < 90^\circ$ and anti-correlated when $\theta_{kB} > 90^\circ$.

544

545 With four-spacecraft MMS measurements, we calculate $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$, $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ and $\text{dB}_{||}$
546 at the barycenter, where the parallel direction is along the four-spacecraft average of <1
547 Hz magnetic field, and the bandpass filtered $\mathbf{V}_{E \times B}$ and \mathbf{B} are used in calculations. Figure
548 12 shows two examples on 2017-08-10 (No. 7) and 2018-08-27 (No. 10), where the three
549 variables exhibit clear correlating variations.

550

551 The 2017-08-10 event exhibits the expected correlation. The presented interval on the
552 2017-08-10 event is at the +L, $B_L > 0$ side of the X-line, and the angle between \mathbf{k} and the
553 background magnetic field is greater than 90° ($\sim 108^\circ$), so $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ are
554 expected to have opposite signs. Figure 12c shows that $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $\text{dB}_{||}$ are mostly
555 anti-correlated as expected, indicating that the ‘curl’ calculations are reliable. Figure 12d
556 shows that $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ are indeed mostly anti-correlated as expected.

557

558 In contrast, the presented interval on 2018-08-27 shows opposite correlations between the
559 two quantities from the expectation. The interval is at the -L, $B_L < 0$ side of the X-line, and
560 the angle between \mathbf{k} and the background magnetic field is smaller than 90° , so $(\nabla \times$
561 $\mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ are expected to have the same sign. The anti-correlation between
562 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $\text{dB}_{||}$ (Figure 12f) also indicates the reliability of the calculation.
563 However, $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ are mainly anti-correlated (Figure 12g).

564

565 Out of the 16 events, 7 events exhibit clear correlations between $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and
566 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$, where 5 events have the signs consistent with the expectation. As explained
567 above, the sign expectation between $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$ is for the region where
568 outflowing electrons dominate and carry the parallel current. In the simulation (Figure 5
569 in Wang et al. (2021a)), the sign is different from the above expectation around the
570 vortex boundary on the large $|N|$ distance side from the mid-plane, at the main mixing
571 interface between inflow and outflow electrons. For the 2018-08-27 event, the spacecraft
572 transits between the inflow-dominant and outflow-dominant regions around 12:15:42.0
573 UT (Figure 10). The alternating sampling between the two regions partially contributes to
574 the temperature variation, and may also cause unexpected correlations between $(\nabla \times$
575 $\mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{||}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||}$. The distributions shown in Figure 10 confirm such an effect:
576 locations 4-5 near 12:15:42.0 UT have $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{||} < 0$ corresponding to enhancement of
577 $V_{e||} > 0$, and the $V_{e||}$ is contributed by the addition of intense outflowing population at $v_{||} > 0$
578 in the distribution compared to locations 2-3. The simulation (Wang et al., 2021a) also
579 shows that as the vortices develop into the later stage, they become more and more
580 irregular, and correlations of these quantities become less clear, which may be a possible
581 explanation for the events without clear correlations between the two.

582

583 **7. Discussions about the presence of lower-hybrid waves in the EDR**

584 We find the presence of lower-hybrid waves in all 12 EDR events with wave power
585 enhancements close to f_{lh} , and the wave extends to the current sheet mid-plane. The
586 events have guide field levels from near-zero to $\sim 30\%$. What is the nature of these waves,
587 and how and where are they generated?

588

589 The first possibility is the lower-hybrid drift instability triggered by the local EDR
590 condition. For strong guide field cases, it was demonstrated with the linear instability
591 analysis and a particle-in-cell simulation that the conditions associated with a density
592 gradient in the EDR can be unstable to the lower-hybrid drift instability and generate the
593 short-wavelength mode wave, since the guide field enables the plasma beta to remain low
594 to facilitate the instability (Chen et al., 2020; Ng et al., 2020).

595

596 For low guide field cases, e.g., below 10%, we have tested the linear instability analysis
597 for the lower-hybrid drift instability, based on the plasma and field conditions derived
598 from the observation. For an example event of No. 5 on 2017-07-11 (Torbert et al., 2018),
599 the result shows positive growth rates with the maximum at $k\rho_e=0.60$ (not shown), not
600 far from the observed $k\rho_e=0.41$. The instability analysis suggests the peak growth at 1.03
601 f_{lh} . The observed wave property is derived from signals at a few Hz, higher than $f_{lh}\sim 1$ Hz,
602 because the short wave observation duration of ~ 1 s cannot provide reliable information
603 about the wave property at lower frequencies. The limitation in our observation analysis
604 makes it impossible to have more detailed comparisons with the linear instability analysis;
605 however, the instability analysis indicates that the conditions at low guide field EDR can
606 be unstable to the lower-hybrid drift instability. We do not get positive growth rates from
607 the instability analysis for other events with $<10\%$ guide field. The failure of getting the
608 instability could be partly due to the uncertainties in deriving EDR plasma and field
609 conditions (especially the pressure gradient) and the fact that the conditions unstable to
610 the instability are already changed after the wave is excited.

611

612 The second possibility for the wave presence at a position (e.g., current sheet mid-plane
613 within the EDR) is that the wave is propagated/penetrated from other locations. Figure 13
614 shows the profile of V_{eL} from a 3D particle-in-cell simulation of reconnection with zero
615 guide field analyzed in Wang et al. (2021a). The fluctuations marked by an oval
616 correspond to short-wavelength mode lower-hybrid waves. By examining the time
617 evolution, the wave is first generated at the separatrix region, and the wave coverage
618 along N expands towards both positive and negative N directions. Close to the X -line
619 ($L=3\sim 6 d_i$), the wave structure penetrates all the way to the mid-plane. In terms of the L
620 extent, the wave starts at separatrices far from the X -line ($>8 d_i$), and the closer locations
621 develop the wave later. The entire intense outflow jet up to $L\sim 4.5 d_i$ exhibits clear
622 deviations from the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift, so we can roughly regard it as the EDR. However, the
623 closest location for the short-wavelength mode wave is at $L\sim 3 d_i$, where the reconnection
624 exhaust opening angle starts to become larger, forming separatrices with the density
625 gradient much further away from the mid-plane. The same scenario also exists in the
626 simulation of 10% of the guide field (not shown). Such a simulation result provides
627 supporting explanations for the lower-hybrid waves observed in the EDR inside the
628 electron outflow jet, e.g., event No. 10 on 2018-08-27 around 12:15:43 UT. In the event
629 (Figure 1a), the wave exists from the separatrix region with large B_L amplitudes to the
630 mid-plane, while the V_{eL} jet only exists close to the mid-plane (Figure 1c), so the location
631 is analogous to that at L of $3\sim 4.5$ in Figure 13. Therefore, it is likely that the wave is
632 generated near the separatrix and penetrates to the mid-plane.

633

634 In the zero guide field simulation (Wang et al., 2021a), only the long-wavelength mode
635 wave exists further closer to the mid-plane within $\sim 3 d_i$. We note that there may be
636 uncertainties when comparing properties like $k\rho_e$ for the short- and long-wavelength
637 modes. The $k\sqrt{\rho_i\rho_e}\sim 1$ condition for the long-wavelength mode in theoretical and
638 simulation studies (e.g., Daughton, 2003) is based on the temperature at the current sheet
639 mid-plane and the upstream asymptotic magnetic field. In our simulation, the wave at the
640 X-line has $k\sqrt{\rho_i\rho_e}=0.8$ using the same normalization, but $k\rho_e=1.0$ if using the
641 parameters at the edge of the EDR, which is also the edge of the wave region. The latter
642 way of normalization is similar to what we do in the observation. A more distinguishing
643 feature for the ‘long-wavelength’ mode wave at the X-line in the simulation is that the
644 fluctuating electric field is almost entirely supported by the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term, with little
645 contribution from $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ (details not shown). In observation events, we see that about
646 1/4 events have significant $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ contribution, which may indicate that the properties of
647 these waves have some similarities with the ‘long-wavelength’ mode, instead of exactly
648 the short-wavelength mode. On the other hand, the well-established 2017-07-11 event has
649 measurements at $L\sim 0$, but the lower-hybrid fluctuations in E_N are almost balanced with
650 those in $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ (not shown). Together with the linear instability analysis, it suggests
651 that the short-wavelength mode wave is excited in the central EDR region ($L\sim 0$), which
652 is beyond our simulation prediction.

653

654 Besides the typical lower-hybrid drift waves, we also find events with the dominant
655 propagation along N (event No. 1, unlike typical properties) and broadband fluctuations
656 with comparable amplitudes in all electric and magnetic field components like part of the

657 turbulence spectra (No. 6). Such cases also lead to fluctuations near the lower-hybrid
658 frequency in the EDR, and future efforts are needed to better understand them.

659

660 **8. Conclusions and discussions**

661 In this paper, we investigate waves close to the lower-hybrid frequency (loosely defined
662 as lower-hybrid waves) inside and immediately outside the magnetotail reconnection
663 EDR. The wave fluctuations are observed in all the identified EDR with the guide field
664 level from nearly zero to $\sim 30\%$

665

666 For about half of the events, the wave propagation is mainly in the L-M plane, consistent
667 with known lower-hybrid drift waves. However, about half of the events have the wave
668 number direction deviating from the L-M plane by more than 20° , and one event has the
669 propagation almost along N, but the reasons are not yet well understood. Although we do
670 not find a pattern for all events with a significant N component of the wave vector, the
671 case that is presented in section 3.2.2 is special. It has the propagation almost entirely
672 along the current sheet normal, while the normal is mainly along Y_{GSM} , indicating that the
673 propagation of the lower-hybrid wave may couple with the large-scale (ion gyro-radius
674 scale) current sheet corrugation possibly associated with the kink instability and the
675 lower-hybrid wave appears to propagate along the normal direction of the local tilted
676 current sheet.

677

678 Regarding the fluctuating magnetic field components, the dominant component is not
679 always along the background magnetic field as in waves at the current sheet boundary

680 layer with strong background magnetic fields far from the reconnection diffusion region,
681 e.g., events 7 and 8 (listed in Table 1). The perpendicular magnetic field fluctuations can
682 be generated due to oblique propagation (e.g., Graham et al., 2019). In addition, field-line
683 twisting in the vortex structures is another way to produce perpendicular magnetic
684 fluctuations, which is explicitly observed in multiple events of this study with the
685 quantity of $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$. Event No. 6 has comparable fluctuations in all three components,
686 and the wave power spectrograms have enhanced wave powers in a large frequency range
687 up to ~ 100 Hz (Figures 7f-7g). It is possible that turbulence is developing in the current
688 sheet (e.g., Ergun et al., 2018), and the wave fluctuations close to the lower-hybrid
689 frequency are part of the turbulence field.

690

691 Usually the electron motion is dominated by the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift in the lower-hybrid wave
692 field. However, we find that about 1/4 of the events have a significant contribution of the
693 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term for the wave electric field, comparable or greater than the $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ term.
694 Such significant demagnetization may be a feature for the lower-hybrid waves close to
695 the EDR, possibly related to the ‘long-wavelength’ mode. The greater contribution of
696 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ close to the EDR is also consistent with the simulation result.

697

698 Similar to Chen et al. (2020), we find cases where the wave potential and the electron
699 temperature exhibit correlating fluctuations. The temperature fluctuation is contributed by
700 two factors: (1) the wave potential leads to the acceleration/deceleration of electrons, so
701 that distributions are inflated/compressed; (2) crossings at the corrugated layer near the
702 separatrix makes the spacecraft alternatively sample distributions on the inflow and

703 outflow sides of the separatrix. Comparing the temperature components, the event No. 4
704 (discussed in Chen et al. (2020)) has $T_{e\perp}$ modulation much greater than that in $T_{e\parallel}$, while
705 other events with good correlations like No. 10 shown in Figure 10 have comparable
706 modulation amplitudes in $T_{e\parallel}$ and $T_{e\perp}$. One main difference is that No. 4 is almost along
707 the current sheet mid-plane, while No. 10 is away from the mid-plane near the separatrix.
708 The corrugation effect could also lead to anti-correlation between $T_{e\parallel}$ and $T_{e\perp}$, such as in
709 event No. 15 (Figure 11), since the inflowing electrons tend to have larger $T_{e\parallel}$ and
710 smaller $T_{e\perp}$ than outflowing electrons.

711

712 We use the direct calculation of $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ to examine the magnetic
713 field line twisting in the lower-hybrid waves. Understood with the simulation in Wang et
714 al. (2021a), the fluctuating parallel current is mainly carried by the bulk motion of
715 outflowing electrons, which determines the patterns of the correlation (if $\theta_{kB} < 90^\circ$) or
716 anti-correlation (if $\theta_{kB} > 90^\circ$) between $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$. In observations, most
717 of the events with a good correlation between these two quantities have consistent signs
718 with the prediction, but exceptions exist such as in event No. 10, likely due to the
719 alternating sampling of the inflow and outflow regions due to the current sheet
720 corrugation.

721

722 The observation of waves close to the lower-hybrid frequency in the weak-guide field
723 EDR encourages further investigations. The zero-guide field simulation suggests that
724 inside the electron outflow jet but at sufficient distances from the X-line where the
725 separatrices are well away from the jet near the mid-plane, short-wavelength mode waves

726 can be excited near the separatrix and penetrates to the mid-plane. The simulation does
727 not show short-wavelength mode wave right around the L location of the X-line as MMS
728 observed, but the linear instability provides hints that the observed EDR condition may
729 be unstable to the wave.

730

731 **Acknowledgments**

732 The research was supported in part by DOE Grant No. DESC0016278, NSF Grant No.
733 AGS-2010231, NASA 80NSSC18K1369, NASA 80NSSC21K1795 and the NASA MMS
734 mission. The French LPP involvement for the SCM instrument is supported by CNES
735 and CNRS. MMS data are available at <https://lasp.colorado.edu/mms/sdc/public/>. The
736 simulation data presented in the figures are available online at Wang et al. (2021b). The
737 simulations are performed and archived on Frontera of Texas Advanced Computing
738 Center.

739

740 **References**

741 Bellan, P. M. (2016), Revised single-spacecraft method for determining wave
742 vector k and resolving space-time ambiguity, *J. Geophys. Res. Space*
743 *Physics*, 121, 8589– 8599, doi:10.1002/2016JA022827.

744 Bowers, K. J., Albright, B. J., Bergen, B., Yin, L., Barker, K. J., & Kerbyson, D. J.
745 (2008). 0.374 pflop/s trillion-particle kinetic modeling of laser plasma interaction on
746 roadrunner. In *Proceedings of the 2008 ACM/IEEE Conference on Supercomputing*
747 (pp. 63:1–63:11). SC '08. Piscataway, NJ, USA: IEEE Press.

748 Chen, L.-J., Wang, S., Le Contel, O., Rager, A., Hesse, M., Drake, J., et al. (2020).
749 Lower-hybrid drift waves driving electron nongyrotropic heating and vortical flows in
750 a magnetic reconnection layer. *Physical Review Letters*, 125.
751 <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.125.025103>

752 Cozzani, G., Yu. V. Khotyaintsev, D. B. Graham, M. André, J. Egedal, A. Vaivads, et al.
753 (2021), The structure of a perturbed magnetic reconnection electron diffusion region,
754 <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2103.12527.pdf>

755 Daughton, W. (2003). Electromagnetic properties of the lower-hybrid drift instability in a
756 thin current sheet. *Physics of Plasmas*, 10(8), 3103–3119.
757 <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1594724>

758 Davidson, R. C., Gladd, N. T., Wu, C. S., and Huba, J. D. (1977), “Effects of finite
759 plasma beta on the lower-hybrid-drift instability,” *Phys. Fluids* 20(2), 301–310.

760 Ergun, R. E., Tucker, S., Westfall, J., Goodrich, K. A., Malaspina, D. M., Summers, D.,
761 et al. (2016). The Axial Double Probe and Fields Signal Processing for the MMS
762 Mission. *Space Science Reviews*, 199, 167–188. [https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-0115-x)
763 [0115-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-0115-x)

764 Ergun, R. E., Chen, L. J., Wilder, F. D., Ahmadi, N., Eriksson, S., Usanova, M. E., et al.
765 (2017). Drift waves, intense parallel electric fields, and turbulence associated with
766 asymmetric magnetic reconnection at the magnetopause. *Geophysical Research*
767 *Letters*, 44, 2978–2986. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2016GL072493>

768 Ergun, R. E., Goodrich, K. A., Wilder, F. D., Ahmadi, N., Holmes, J. C., Eriksson, S., et
769 al. (2018). Magnetic reconnection, turbulence, and particle acceleration: Observations

770 in the Earth ' s magnetotail. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 45, 3338 – 3347.
771 <https://doi.org/10.1002/2018GL076993>

772 Ergun, R. E., Hoilijoki, S., Ahmadi, N., Schwartz, S. J., Wilder, F. D., Drake, J. F., et al.
773 (2019). Magnetic reconnection in three dimensions: Modeling and analysis of
774 electromagnetic drift waves in the adjacent current sheet. *Journal of Geophysical*
775 *Research: Space Physics*, 124, 10085-10103. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JA027275>

776 Graham, D. B., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., Vaivads, A., and André, M. (2016), Electrostatic
777 solitary waves and electrostatic waves at the magnetopause, *J. Geophys. Res. Space*
778 *Physics*, 121, 3069– 3092, doi:10.1002/2015JA021527.

779 Graham, D. B., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., Norgren, C., Vaivads, A., André, M., Toledo-
780 Redondo, S., & Burch, J. L. (2017). Lower hybrid waves in the ion diffusion region
781 and magnetospheric inflow regions. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*,
782 122, 517–533. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JA023572>

783 Graham, D. B., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., Norgren, C., Vaivads, A., André, M., Drake, J. F., et
784 al. (2019). Universality of lower hybrid waves at Earth's magnetopause. *Journal of*
785 *Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 124, 8727–
786 8760. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JA027155>

787 Harvey, C. C. (1998), Spatial Gradients and the Volumetric Tensor, in *Analysis methods*
788 *for multi-spacecraft data*, International space science institute, 307-322.

789 Holmes, J. C., Nakamura, R., Schmid, D., Nakamura, T. K. M., Roberts, O., & Vörös,
790 Z. (2021). Wave activity in a dynamically evolving reconnection separatrix. *Journal of*
791 *Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 126,
792 e2020JA028520. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020JA028520>

793 Karimabadi, H., Daughton, W., Pritchett, P. L., & Krauss-Varban, D. (2003). Ion-ion
794 kink instability in the magnetotail: 1. Linear theory. *Journal of Geophysical Research*,
795 108(A11), 1400. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2003JA010026>

796 Le Contel, O., Leroy, P., Roux, A., Coillot, C., Alison, D., Bouabdellah, A., et al. (2016).
797 The search-coil magnetometer for MMS. *Space Science Reviews*, 199, 257–282.
798 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-0096-9>

799 Le Contel, O., Nakamura, R., Breuillard, H., Argall, M. R., Graham, D. B., Fischer,
800 D.,... Jaynes, A. N. (2017). Lower hybrid drift waves and electromagnetic electron
801 space-phase holes associated with dipolarization fronts and field-aligned currents
802 observed by the Magnetospheric Multiscale mission during a substorm. *Journal of*
803 *Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 122, 12,236–
804 12,257. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2017JA024550>

805 Lindqvist, P.-A., Olsson, G., Torbert, R. B., King, B., Granoff, M., Rau, D., et al. (2016).
806 The spin-plane double probe electric field instrument for MMS. *Space Science*
807 *Reviews*, 199, 137–165. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-0116-9>

808 Ng, J., Chen, L.-J., Le, A., Stanier, A., Wang, S., & Bessho, N. (2020). Lower-hybrid-
809 drift vortices in the electron-scale magnetic reconnection layer. *Geophysical Research*
810 *Letters*, 47, e2020GL090726. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL090726>

811 Norgren, C., Vaivads, A., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., & Andre, M. (2012). Lower hybrid drift
812 waves: Space observations. *Physical Review Letters*, 109(5), 055001.
813 <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.109.055001>

814 Pollock, C., Moore, T., Jacques, A., Burch, J., Gliese, U., Saito, Y.,...Zeuch, M. (2016).
815 Fast plasma investigation for magnetospheric multiscale. *Space Science Reviews*, 199,
816 331–406. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-016-0245-4>

817 Richard, L., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., Graham, D. B., Sitnov, M. I., Le Contel, O., &
818 Lindqvist, P.-A. (2021). Observations of short-period ion-scale current sheet flapping.
819 *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 126,
820 e2021JA029152. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2021JA029152>

821 Robert, P., Dunlop, M. W., Roux, A., & Chanteur, G. (1998). Accuracy of current density
822 determination. *ISSI Scientific Reports Series*, 1, 395-418.

823 Russell, C. T., Anderson, B. J., Baumjohann, W., Bromund, K. R., Dearborn, D., Fischer,
824 D.,...Richter, I. (2016). The magnetospheric multiscale magnetometers. *Space Science*
825 *Reviews*, 199, 189–256. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11214-014-0057-3>

826 Sergeev, V., Runov, A., Baumjohann, W., Nakamura, R., Zhang, T. L., Volwerk, M., et
827 al. (2003). Current sheet flapping motion and structure observed by Cluster.
828 *Geophysical Research Letters*, 30, 1327. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2002GL016500>

829 Shi, Q. Q., Shen, Z. Y., Pu, M. W., Dunlop, Q.-G., Zong, H., Zhang, C. J., Xiao, Z. X.,
830 Liu, and A. Balogh (2005), Dimensional analysis of observed structures using
831 multipoint magnetic field measurements: Application to Cluster, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*,
832 32, L12105, doi:10.1029/2005GL022454.

833 Tang, B.-B., Li, W. Y., Graham, D. B., Wang, C., Khotyaintsev, Y. V., Le, A., et al.
834 (2020). Lower hybrid waves at the magnetosheath separatrix region. *Geophysical*
835 *Research Letters*, 47, e2020GL089880. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2020GL089880>

836 Torbert, R., et al. (2014), The fields instrument suite on MMS: Scientific objectives,
837 measurements, and data products, *Space Sci. Rev.*, 199, 105–135,
838 doi:10.1007/s11214-014-0109-8.

839 Torbert, R. B., Phan, T. D., Hesse, M., Argall, M. R., Shuster, J., Burch, J. L., et al.
840 (2018). Electron-scale dynamics of the diffusion region during symmetric magnetic
841 reconnection in space. *Science*, 362(6421), 1391–1395.
842 <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aat2998>

843 Wang, S., Chen, L.-J., Bessho, N., Hesse, M., Giles, B. L., & Moore, T. E. (2019). Ion
844 behaviors in the reconnection diffusion region of a corrugated magnetotail current
845 sheet. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 46. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019GL082226>

846 Wang, S., Chen, L.-J., Ng, J., Bessho, N., and Hesse, M. (2021a), Lower-hybrid drift
847 waves and their interaction with plasmas in a 3D symmetric reconnection simulation
848 with zero guide field, *Phys. Plasmas*, 28, 072102, <https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0054626>

849 Wang, S., Chen, L.-J., Bessho, N., Ng, J., Hesse, M., Graham, D. B., Le Contel, O.,
850 Gershman, D., and Giles, B. (2021b), Lower-hybrid wave structures and interactions
851 with electrons observed in magnetotail reconnection diffusion regions: simulation
852 dataset, doi: 10.5281/zenodo.5651243

853 Wilder, F. D., Ergun, R. E., Hoilijoki, S., Webster, J., Argall, M. R., Ahmadi, N., et al.
854 (2019). A survey of plasma waves appearing near dayside magnetopause electron
855 diffusion region events. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics*, 124 .
856 <https://doi.org/10.1029/2019JA027060>

857 Wu, C. S., Winske, D., Papadopoulos, K., Zhou, Y. M., Tsai, S. T., & Guo, S. C. (1983).

858 A kinetic cross-field streaming instability. *Physics of Fluids*, 26, 1259–1267.

859 <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.864285>

860 Zhou, M., et al. (2009), Observation of waves near lower hybrid frequency in the

861 reconnection region with thin current sheet, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 114, A02216,

862 doi:10.1029/2008JA013427

863

864

No.	^a Time	B _g	$\frac{ E }{ B V_{ph}}$	^b dominant B comp	^c significant $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$	^d cc ϕ -T _e	^e $\nabla \times V_{E \times B} - \nabla \times B$
1	20170617/ 202406.0-202409.0	0.04	3	M		MMS4 0.19	exp. -+, obs. --
2	20170619/ 094323.0-094325.5	0.13	8	-		MMS2 0.15	
3	20170703/ 052649.7-052650.4	0.14	12	M		MMS1 0.21	
4	20170703/ 052707.2-052707.8	0.30	8	M		MMS2 0.65	
5	20170711/ 223402.0-223403.0	0.01	9	L, M		MMS1 0.20	
6	20170726/ 000354.0-000402.0	0.33	10	-		MMS4 0.15	exp. +, obs. +
7	20170810/ 121830.0-121838.0	0.25	8	M	Y	MMS3 0.39	exp. -, obs. -
8	20180821/ 110103.3-110104.4	0.25	2	N	y	MMS2 0.43	
9	20180827/ 114122.0-114126.0	0.07	4	L, M	y	MMS2 0.23	
10	20180827/ 121541.3-121542.7	0.06	4	L		MMS1 0.59	exp. +, obs. -
11	20190906/ 043858.6-043859.6	0.09	16	L		MMS3 0.03	exp. +-, obs. +-
12	20200803/ 010643.2-010645.1	0.03	21	L, M	y	MMS2 0.14	
13	20170619/ 094325.7-094327.7		45	L		MMS3 0.44	exp. +, obs. +
14	20170711/ 223401.2-223401.7		7	N		MMS4 0.05	
15	20170726/ 000347.0-000351.8		4	M, N	Y	MMS1 0.46	exp. -, obs. -
16	20180821/ 110100.5-110101.4		12	L		MMS1 0.23	

866

No.	Frequency	^f $J \times B$ method result	^g Wavelet method result
1	2-10Hz	B _L <0, k=0.029×[-0.038,0.013, -0.999]km ⁻¹ , σ _k =0.004×[0.15,0.19,0.01] km ⁻¹ , σ _{k̂} =10°, kρ _e =0.25; Good B _L >0, k=0.034×[0.214,-0.189, 0.958]km ⁻¹ , σ _k =0.015×[0.19,0.16,0.08] km ⁻¹ , σ _{k̂} =11°, kρ _e =0.13; V _{ph} =666~1518km/s. Good	B _L <0, <V _{ph} >=1198 × [-0.004,-0.163,-0.987]km/s; σ _V =615×[0.12,0.26,0.08]; B _L >0, <V _{ph} >=966km/s × [0.124,-0.501,0.856]km/s; σ _V =620×[0.15,0.19,0.15].
2	3-7Hz	k=0.017×[0.649,-0.498,0.575]km ⁻¹ ,	

		$\sigma_k=0.012 \times [0.30, 0.37, 0.24] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=24^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.48$, $V_{\text{ph}}=546\sim 3733 \text{ km/s}$.	
3	4-10Hz	$k=0.104 \times [0.622, -0.295, \mathbf{0.726}] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.003 \times [0.08, 0.25, 0.26] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=19^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.4$, $V_{\text{ph}}=247\sim 829 \text{ km/s}$. Good	
4	3-8Hz	$k=0.024 \times [-\mathbf{0.982}, -0.174, 0.070] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.001 \times [0.17, 0.13, 0.22] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=23^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.19$, $V_{\text{ph}}=1102\sim 1945 \text{ km/s}$.	
5	4-10Hz	$k=0.024 \times [-0.259, -0.700, 0.665] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.007 \times [0.28, 0.17, 0.26] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=16^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.41$, $V_{\text{ph}}=979\sim 2225 \text{ km/s}$. Good	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1481 \times$ $[0.060, -0.524, 0.849] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 562 \times [0.34, 0.26, 0.24]$.
6	5-8Hz	$k=0.024 \times [\mathbf{0.663}, -\mathbf{0.746}, 0.067] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.017 \times [0.51, 0.38, 0.51] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=37^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.24$, $V_{\text{ph}}=512\sim 4639 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1908 \times$ $[0.669, -0.689, 0.277] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 1819 \times [0.29, 0.37, 0.42]$.
7	1-8Hz	$k=0.021 \times [0.139, -\mathbf{0.897}, 0.419] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.018 \times [0.48, 0.36, 0.50] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=33^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.25$, $V_{\text{ph}}=147\sim 4094 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 930 \times$ $[0.257, -0.920, 0.296] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 626 \times [0.39, 0.35, 0.70]$.
8	6-9Hz	$k=0.024 \times [0.278, -\mathbf{0.953}, -0.123] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.0008 \times [0.09, 0.11, 0.35] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=21^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.60$, $V_{\text{ph}}=1428\sim 1878 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 3715 \times$ $[-0.503, -0.818, 0.279] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 846 \times [0.37, 0.25, 0.28]$.
9	2-6Hz	$k=0.011 \times [-\mathbf{0.820}, -0.292, 0.492] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.007 \times [0.48, 0.47, 0.49] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=39^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.25$, $V_{\text{ph}}=810\sim 3419 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1539 \times$ $[-0.885, -0.025, 0.464] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 988 \times [0.38, 0.52, 0.47]$.
10	5-11Hz	$k=0.017 \times [-0.344, -\mathbf{0.853}, -0.393] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.006 \times [0.16, 0.09, 0.28] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=14^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.49$, $V_{\text{ph}}=2033\sim 5685 \text{ km/s}$. Good	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 3413 \times$ $[-0.318, -0.911, -0.262] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 1067 \times [0.25, 0.16, 0.42]$.
11	4.5-7Hz	$k=0.016 \times [\mathbf{0.805}, -0.333, 0.491] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.006 \times [0.25, 0.18, 0.36] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=21^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.29$, $V_{\text{ph}}=1636\sim 3235 \text{ km/s}$.	
12	2-6.5Hz	$k=0.011 \times [-0.368, -\mathbf{0.910}, 0.190] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.004 \times [0.26, 0.49, 0.51] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=39^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.31$, $V_{\text{ph}}=962\sim 2234 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1798 \times$ $[-0.367, -0.869, 0.336] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 1198 \times [0.19, 0.31, 0.45]$.
13	5-12Hz	$k=0.068 \times [0.555, -\mathbf{0.823}, -0.118] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.018 \times [0.15, 0.15, 0.15] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=11^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.61$, $V_{\text{ph}}=467\sim 1244 \text{ km/s}$. Good	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 753 \times$ $[0.634, -0.739, -0.226] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 1198 \times [0.19, 0.31, 0.45]$.
14	5-13Hz		$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1366 \times$ $[-0.510, -\mathbf{0.860}, -0.010] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 428 \times [0.14, 0.11, 0.25]$.
15	3-5Hz	$k=0.022 \times [-\mathbf{0.823}, -0.562, 0.068] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.012 \times [0.55, 0.25, 0.38] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_{\hat{k}}=40^\circ$, $k\rho_e=0.11$, $V_{\text{ph}}=532\sim 1754 \text{ km/s}$.	$\langle V_{\text{ph}} \rangle = 1713 \times$ $[-0.667, -0.718, 0.200] \text{ km/s}$. $\sigma_V = 999 \times [0.20, 0.23, 0.40]$.
16	5-7Hz	$k=0.026 \times [-0.140, -\mathbf{0.968}, -0.206] \text{ km}^{-1}$, $\sigma_k=0.003 \times [0.25, 0.11, 0.57] \text{ km}^{-1}$,	

		$\sigma_{\hat{k}}=51^\circ, k\rho_e=0.46, V_{ph}=1094\sim 1498$ km/s.	
--	--	---	--

868 ^aThe time interval is used for the wave propagation analysis. The last four events belong
869 to the same current sheets as one of the top ones, while they are additional wave packets
870 away from the mid-plane. ^bThe dominant magnetic field fluctuation component is judged
871 by the FFT spectrogram. Events that list two components mean that they have
872 comparable amplitudes; events with ‘-’ means that all three components have comparable
873 amplitudes. ^cA significant contribution is from the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term for the fluctuating E_N judged
874 by the four-spacecraft force balance terms (‘Y’) or by deviations between \mathbf{E} and $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ at
875 single spacecraft measurements. ^dThe correlation coefficient between the potential of the
876 filtered electric field and the electron temperature at the spacecraft with the highest
877 coefficient is listed. Events with a coefficient higher than 0.3 have visible correlations.
878 ^eExpected (exp.) and observed (obs.) correlation between the parallel component of
879 $\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B}$ and $\nabla \times \mathbf{B}$. Events without a clear correlation between the two are left blank. ^f ρ_e is the
880 minimum value during the analysis interval, and V_{ph} is obtained from the frequency and $|\mathbf{k}|$ in the
881 frequency range. The standard deviation of the $|\mathbf{k}|$ amplitude and each component of the \mathbf{k} unit
882 vector over frequencies is evaluated as σ_k , and the $\sigma_{\hat{k}}$ represents the standard deviation of angle
883 between each pair \mathbf{k} directions. When the uncertainties of all \mathbf{k} components are smaller than 0.3
884 and $\sigma_{\hat{k}}$ is smaller than 20° , the result is considered as very reliable (marked as ‘Good’). ^gThe
885 wave propagation from the wavelet method. $\langle V_{ph} \rangle$ represents the average result over time and
886 frequencies, and σ_V represents the standard deviation of V_{ph} amplitude and direction. If the
887 method does not give a consistent result over frequencies or times, or the method is not applicable,
888 it is left blank.
889

890 **Figure Captions**

891 **Figure 1.** Overview of the electron current layer on 2018-08-27 around 12:15:43 UT with
892 MMS1 measurements (event No. 10). (a) magnetic field. (b) electric field. (c) electron
893 bulk velocity. (d) ion bulk velocity. (e) L and M components of V_{\perp} comparison between
894 $V_{E \times B}$ and V_e . (f)-(g) wavelet power spectrograms of the electric and magnetic fields
895 overplotted with f_{lh} , $f_{ce}/2$, and f_{ce} . (h) The V_{eL} profile from a simulation, where the black
896 arrow illustrates the MMS trajectory during the lower-hybrid wave interval around
897 12:15:42 UT.

898 **Figure 2.** The wave property analysis of the event on 2018-08-27 during 12:15:41.3-
899 12:15:42.7 UT. (a) FFT wave power spectra for the electric field in dashed curves in unit
900 of $(\text{mV/m})^2/\text{Hz}$ and the magnetic field in solid curves in unit of nT^2/Hz . The magenta
901 curve is $|\mathbf{E}|/(|\mathbf{B}|V_{ph})$. The two vertical dashed lines are the average and maximum f_{lh}
902 during the interval. (b) B_L at four spacecraft. (c)-(f) the L, M and N components of the
903 wave propagation direction and the amplitude of V_{ph} obtained from the wavelet phase
904 correlation analysis of B_L . Each curve represents a frequency band in the 5-11 Hz range.
905 (g)-(h) The wave number obtained from the $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ method. The magnetic field wave
906 power spectrum (black) and the amplitude of \mathbf{k} (red) are shown in (g), and the
907 components of the \mathbf{k} unit vector are shown in (h).

908 **Figure 3.** Overview of the event on 2018-08-21 (event No. 8). The format is the same as
909 in Figure 1.

910 **Figure 4.** The wave property analysis of the 2018-08-21 event during 11:01:03.3-
911 11:01:04.4 UT, between the vertical dashed lines marked in (b)-(g). The format is mostly

912 the same with Figure 2, except that B_L and B_N from four spacecraft are shown in (b)-(c),
913 and the wavelet phase correlation analysis result in (d)-(g) is performed for B_N .

914 **Figure 5.** Overview of the event on 2017-06-17 (event No. 1). The format is the same as
915 in Figure 1.

916 **Figure 6.** The wave property analysis of the 2017-06-17 event during 20:04:06-20:04:09
917 UT. The format is similar to Figure 4. The wavelet phase correlation analysis is
918 performed for B_M . The $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$ analysis is performed for $B_L < 0$ (h-i) and $B_L > 0$ (j-k) parts
919 separately.

920 **Figure 7.** Overview of the event on 2017-07-26 (event No. 6). The format is the same as
921 in Figure 1.

922 **Figure 8.** The wave property analysis of the 2017-07-26 event during 00:03:54-00:04:02
923 UT. The format is the same as in Figure 4.

924 **Figure 9.** The contribution of $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ and the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$ term to the DC and fluctuating
925 components of E_N , for the 2018-08-27 event No. 10 around 12:15:43 UT (left) and 2017-
926 08-10 event No. 7 (right). (a), (f) B_L at and average over four spacecraft. (b) E_N and
927 $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ at MMS1. (c)-(e), (h)-(k) E_N and $(-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B})_N$ after subtracting the 1-s
928 sliding average values to represent the fluctuations, at individual spacecraft. (g) Terms in
929 the N component of the electron momentum equation calculated at the spacecraft
930 barycenter. \mathbf{E} (black) well agrees with the sum (green) of $-\mathbf{V}_e \times \mathbf{B}$ (blue) and the $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_e$
931 term (red).

932 **Figure 10.** Electron heating in the lower-hybrid wave field for the event on 2018-08-27
933 around 12:15:43 UT (event No. 10), with MMS1 measurements. (a) magnetic field. The
934 2-8 Hz dB_{\parallel} (red in panel b), electric potential of 2-8 Hz electric fields (c), and the

935 electron temperature (d) exhibit correlating fluctuations. (e)-(f) reduced 1D spectrograms
 936 along v_{\parallel} and $v_{\perp 2}$, where $v_{\perp 2}$ is along the local $\mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})$ direction. The overplotted
 937 black curves mark the electron thermal speed. Vertical dashed lines mark the times for
 938 2D electron distributions in the $v_{\parallel} - v_{\perp 1}$ (g) and $v_{\perp 1} - v_{\perp 2}$ (h) planes, where $v_{\perp 1}$ is
 939 along the local $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ direction. The distributions show the inflation along with the
 940 temperature increase and nongyrotropic features.

941 **Figure 11.** Electron heating in the event on 2017-07-26 around 00:04:48 UT (event No.
 942 15). The format is the same with Figure 10. The parallel and perpendicular components
 943 of T_e exhibit anti-correlations.

944 **Figure 12.** Twist of flow and magnetic field lines in the event of 2017-08-10 (event No. 7,
 945 left) and 2018-08-27 around 12:15:43 UT (right, event No. 10). (a) Illustration of the
 946 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ and $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ correlation associated with the electron field-aligned
 947 acceleration or deceleration for the bulk population moving along \mathbf{k} relative to the wave
 948 field. The region with diverging electric fields is illustrated, and the left and right panels
 949 correspond to $\theta_{kB} < 90^\circ$ and $\theta_{kB} > 90^\circ$, respectively. (b), (e) the magnetic field
 950 averaged over four spacecraft. (c), (f) $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ (black) anti-correlated with dB_{\parallel} (red),
 951 consistent with the electron $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ current inducing dB_{\parallel} . (d), (g) $(\nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{E \times B})_{\parallel}$ (black) and
 952 $(\nabla \times \mathbf{B})_{\parallel}$ (blue).

953

954 **Figure 13.** V_{eL} profile from a 3D particle-in-cell simulation of reconnection with zero
 955 guide field, cut at an M location. $L=0$ is at the X-line. The electron outflow jet extends to
 956 $L \sim 4.5 d_i$. The short-wavelength mode lower-hybrid wave (oscillations marked by the oval)
 957 develops near the separatrix and penetrates to the mid-plane. The wave exists at L

958 locations as close to $\sim 3 d_i$ inside the range of the electron outflow, where the
959 reconnection exhaust opening angle starts to be large and separatrices are well away from
960 the mid-plane. No short-wavelength mode wave exists further closer to the X-line.

Figure 1.

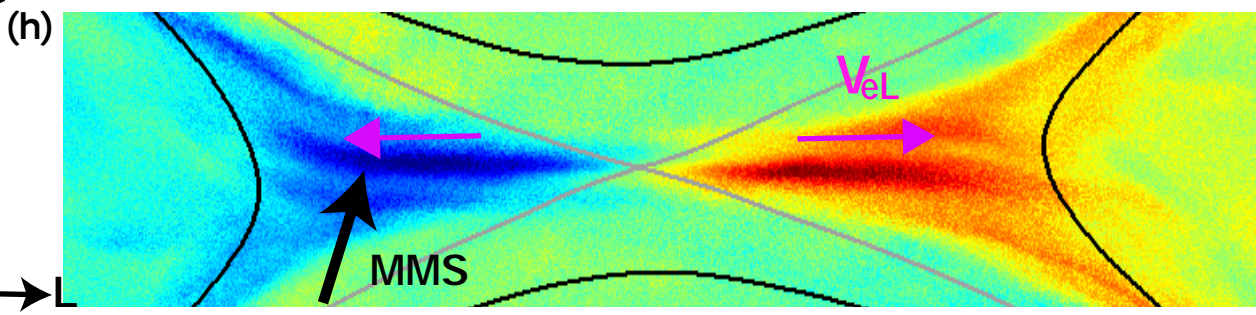
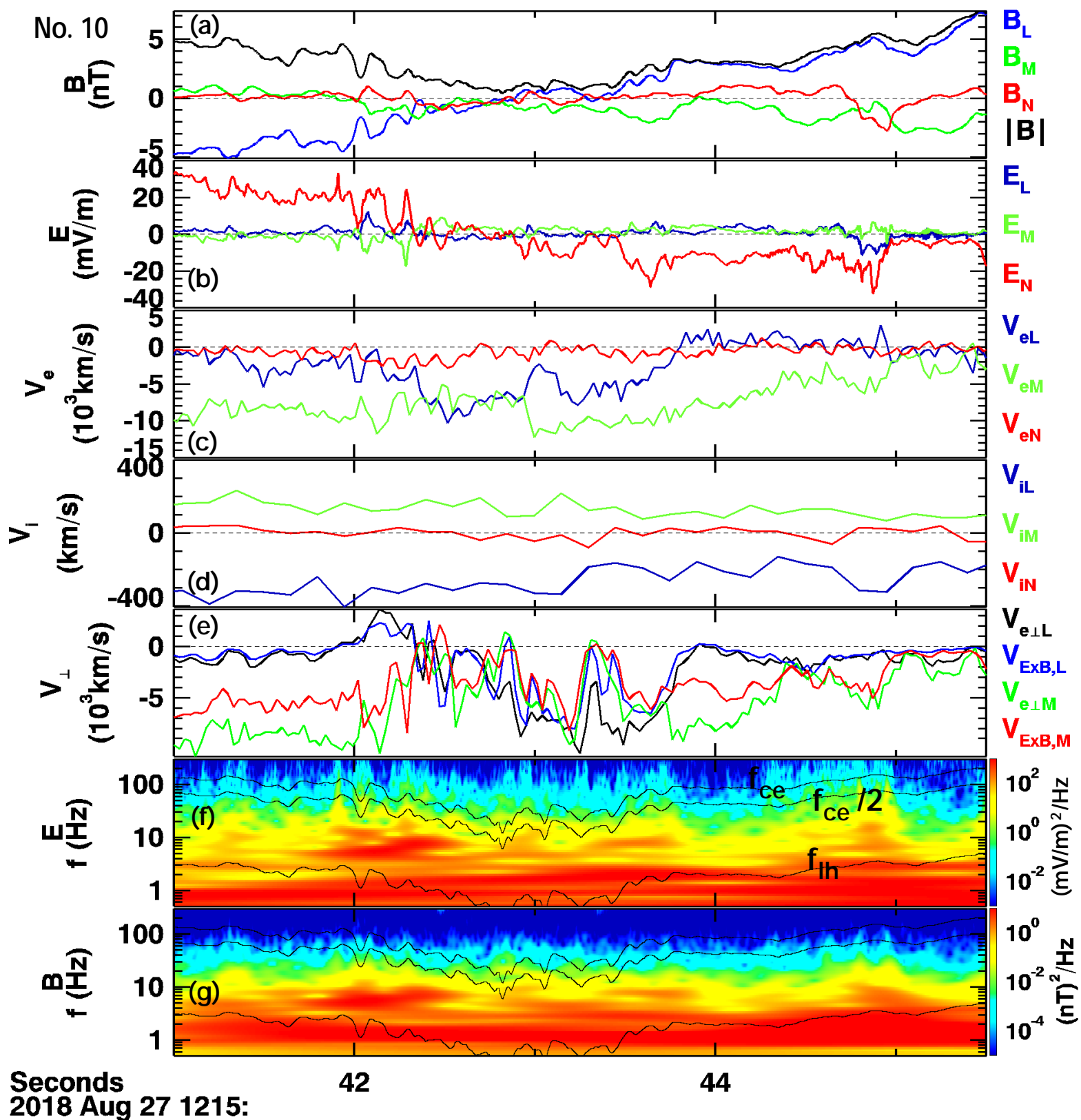
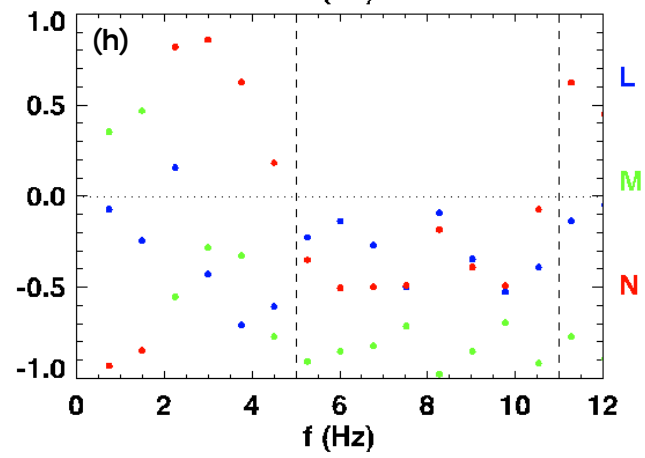
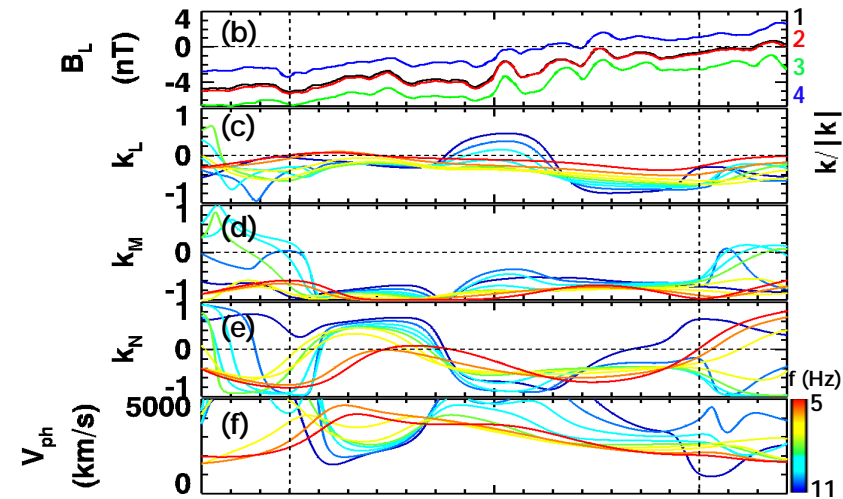
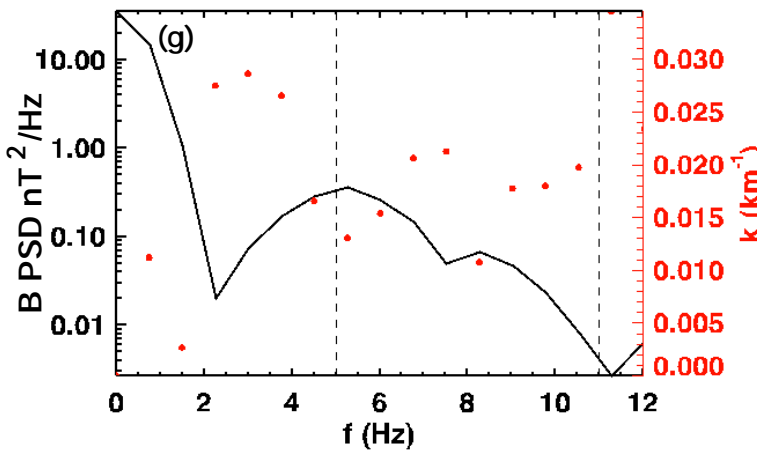
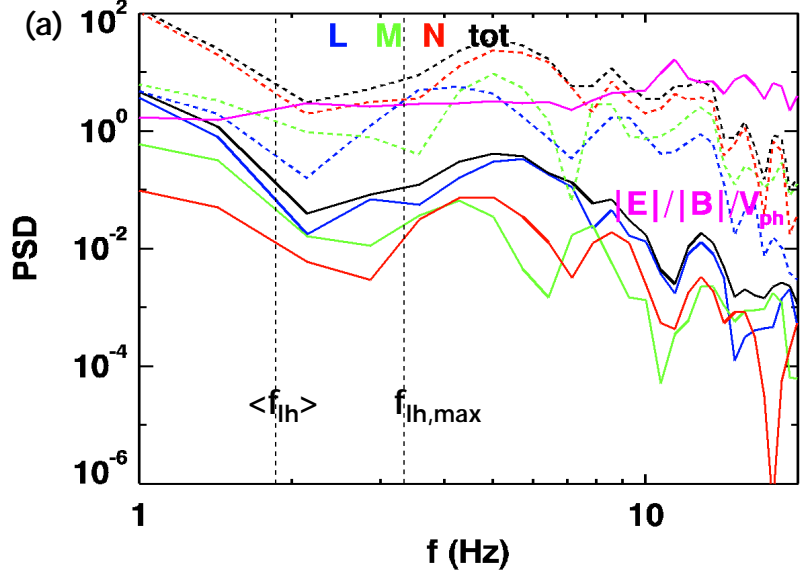


Figure 2.

2018-08-27/12:15:41.3-12:15:42.7



Seconds 41 42 43
 2018 Aug 27 1215:

Figure 3.

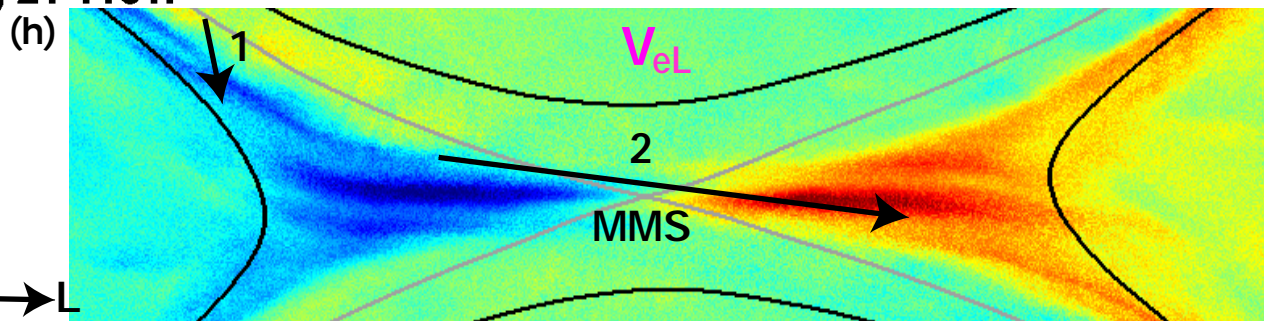
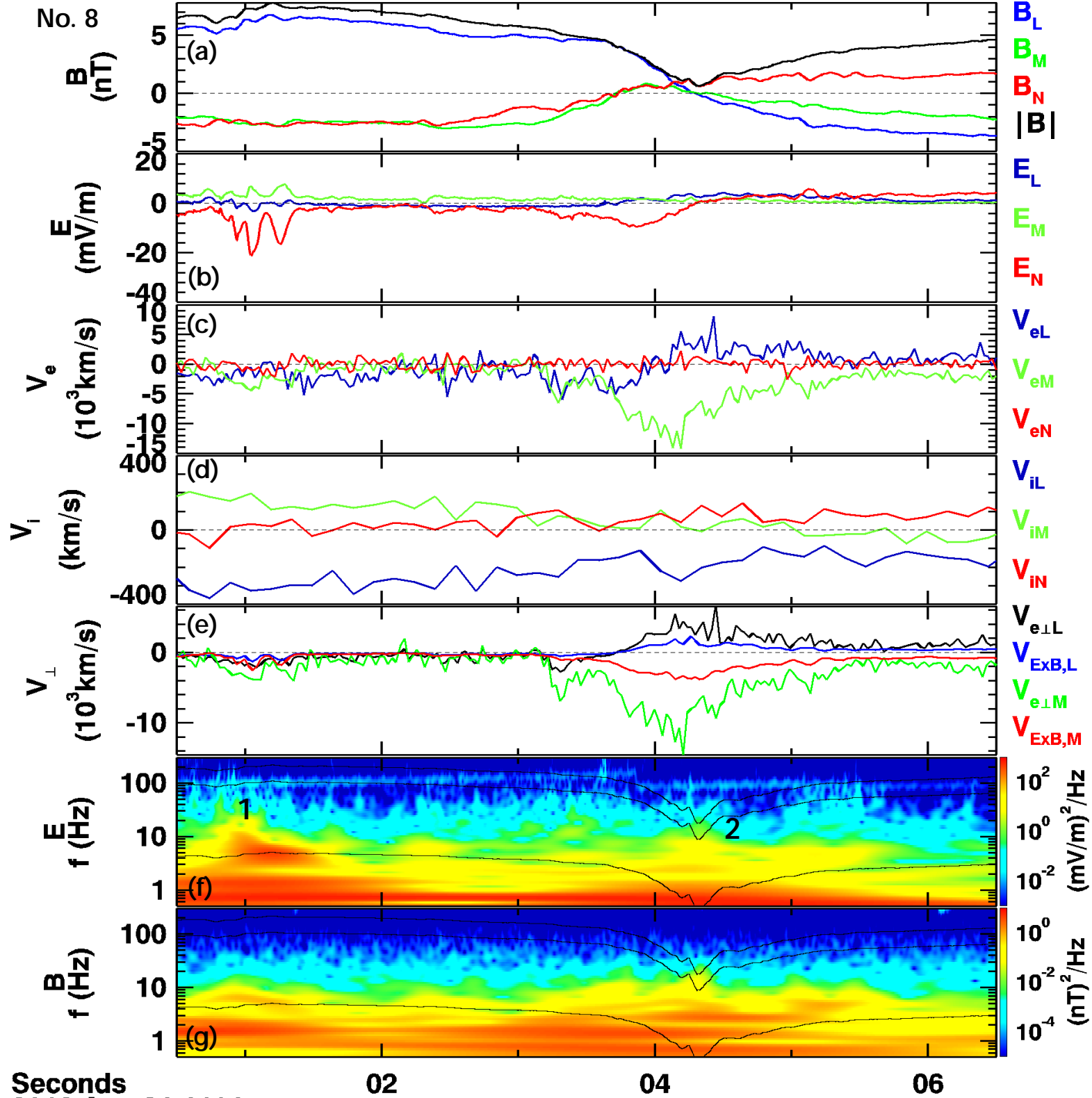
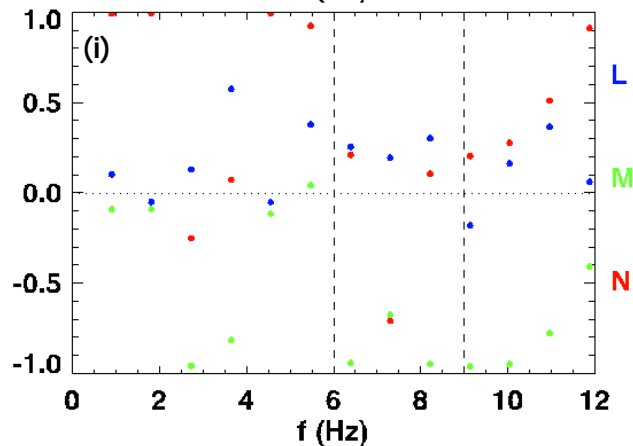
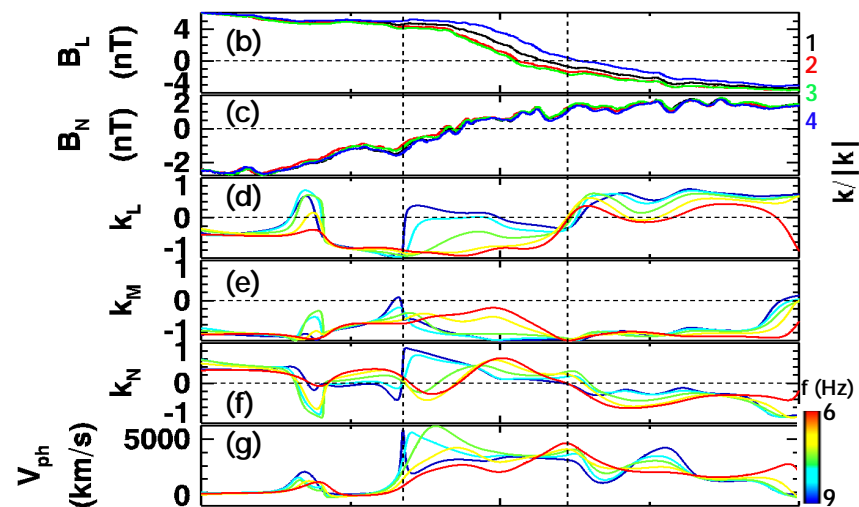
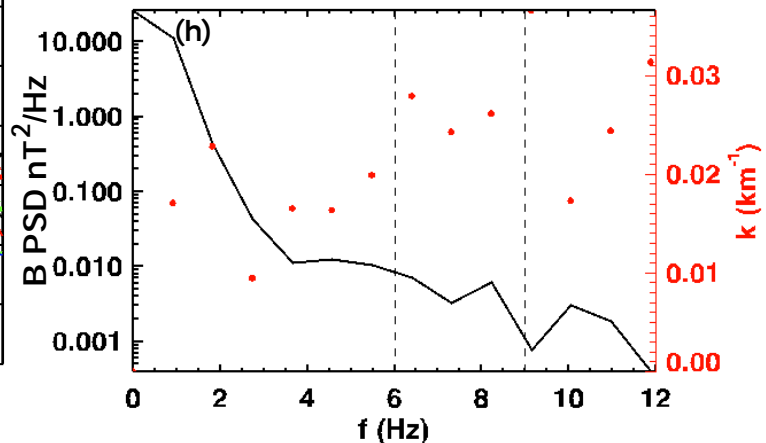
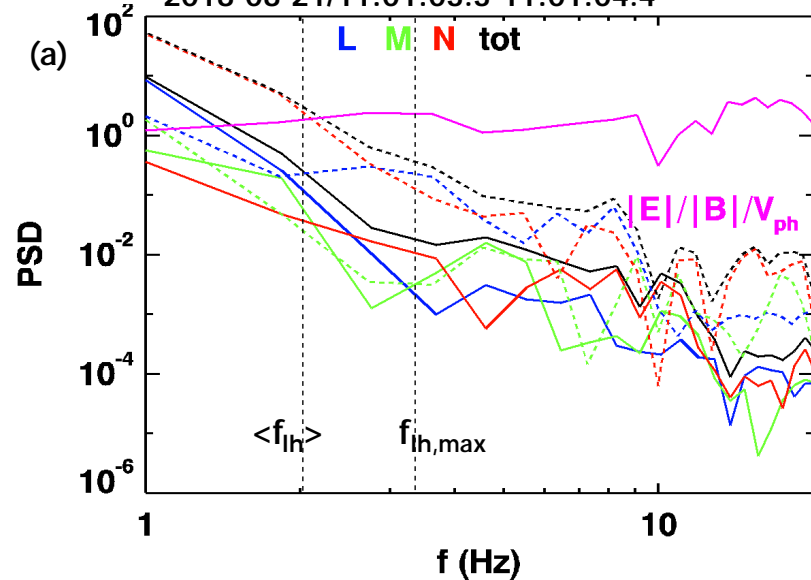


Figure 4.

2018-08-21/11:01:03.3-11:01:04.4



Seconds 02 04 06
2018 Aug 21 11:01:

Figure 5.

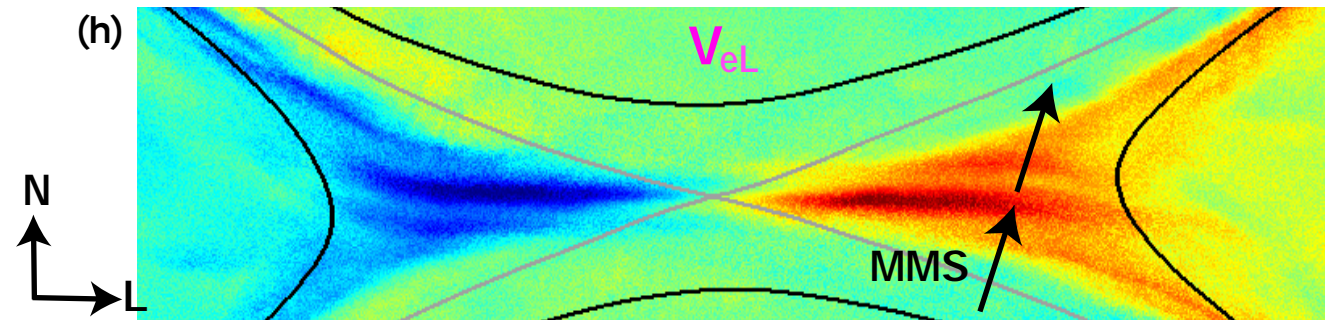
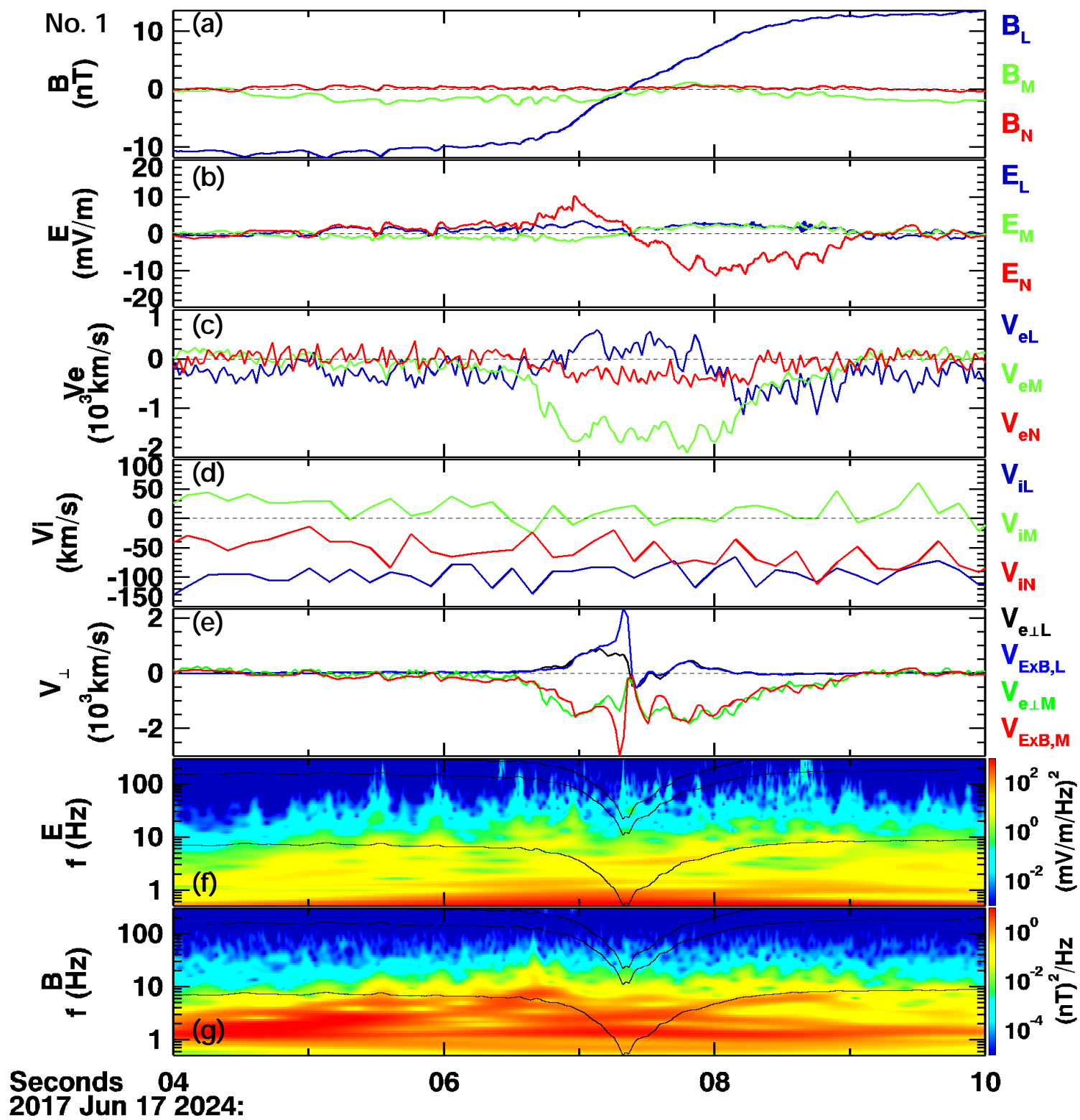
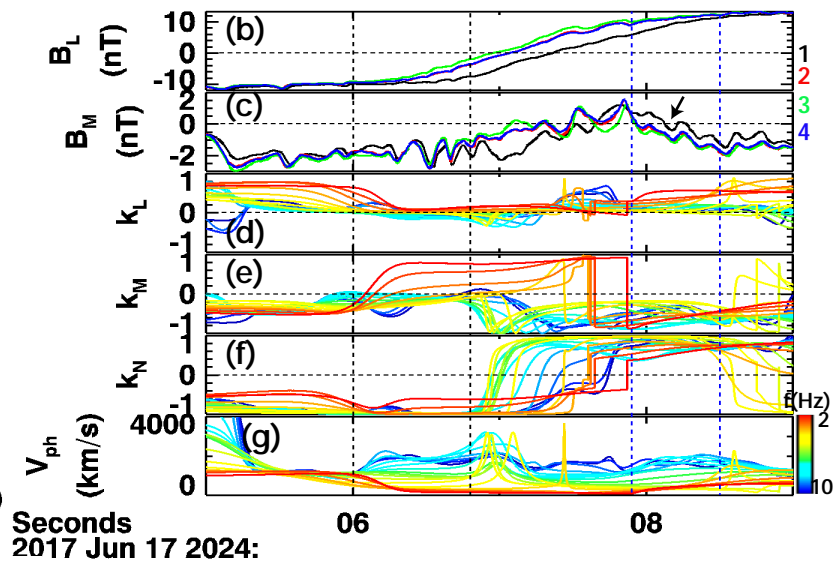
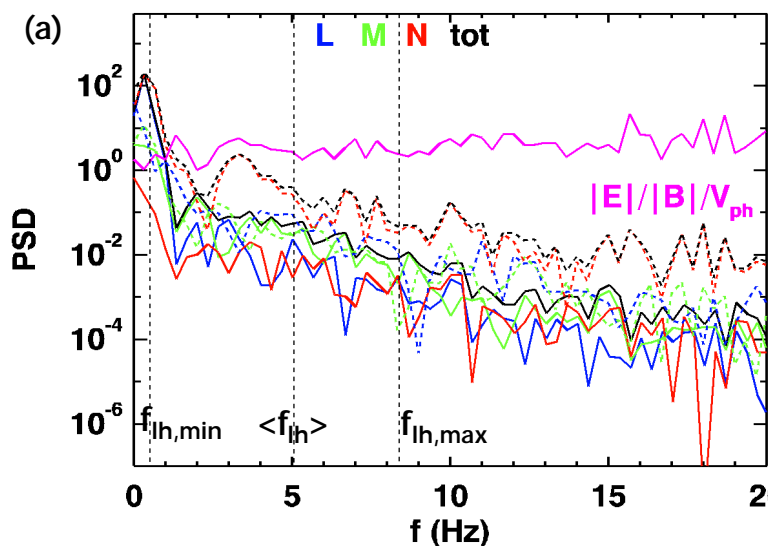
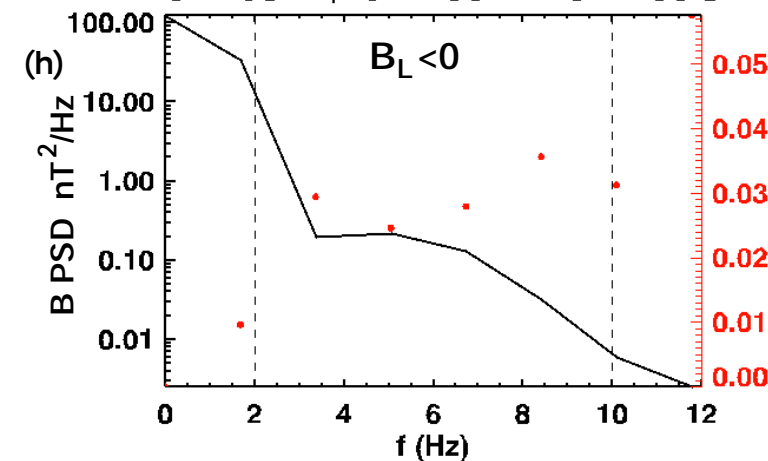


Figure 6.

2017-06-17/20:24:06-20:24:09



2017-06-17/20:24:06.2 - 20:24:06.8



2017-06-17/20:24:07.2 - 20:24:07.9

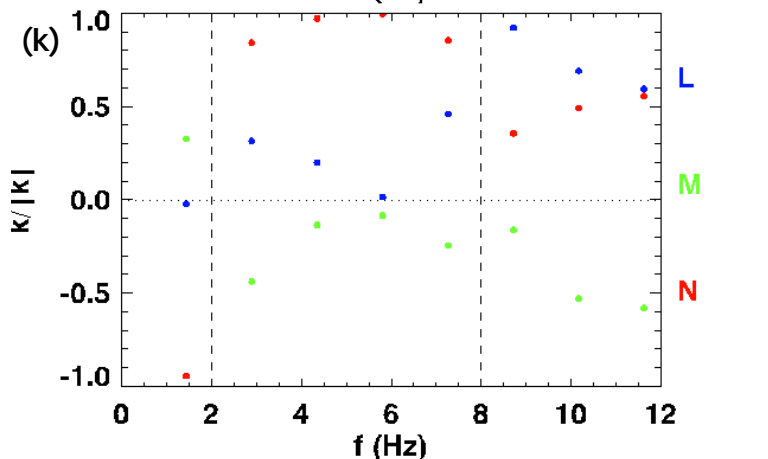
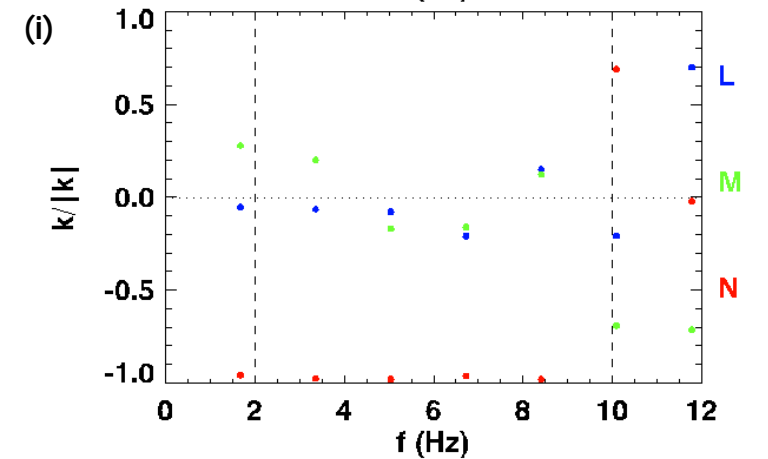
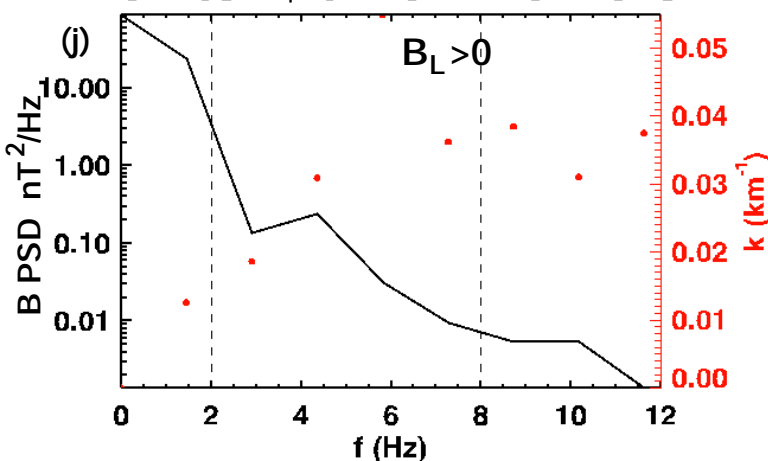


Figure 7.

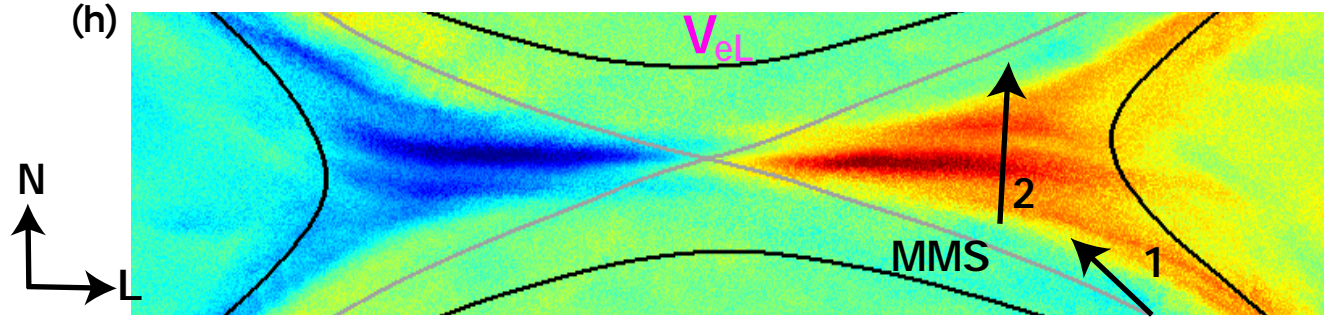
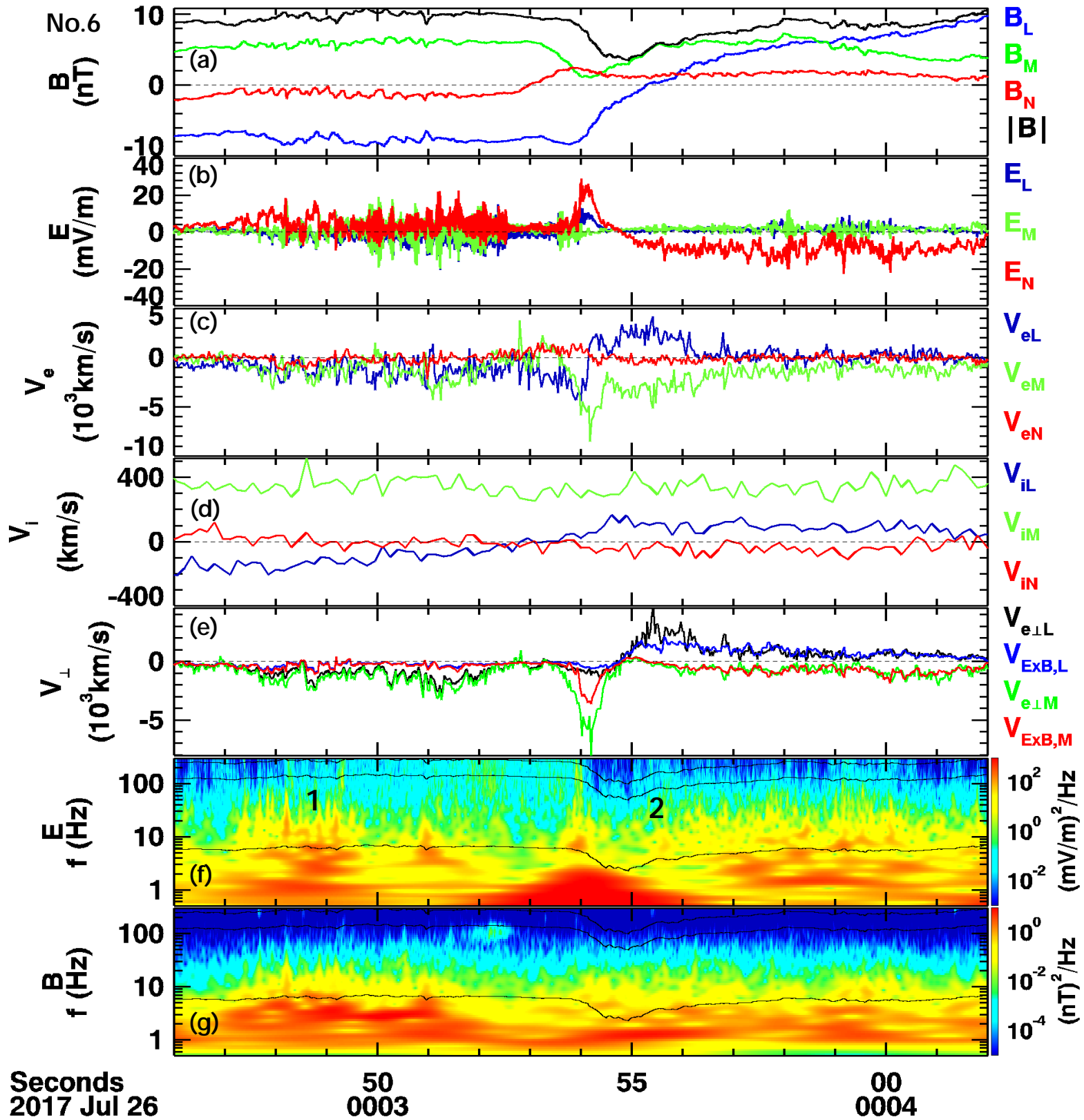


Figure 8.

2017-07-26/00:03:54-00:04:02

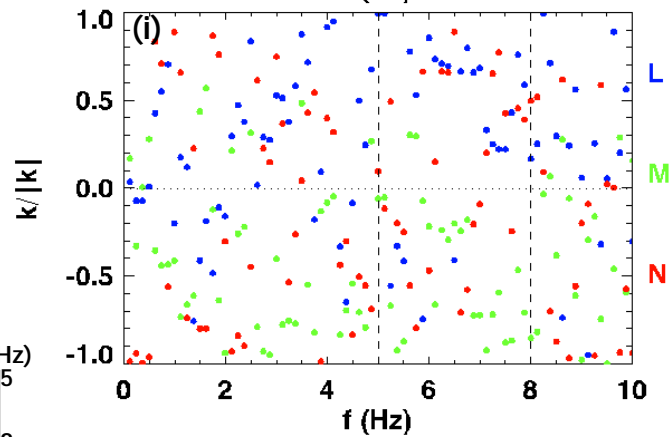
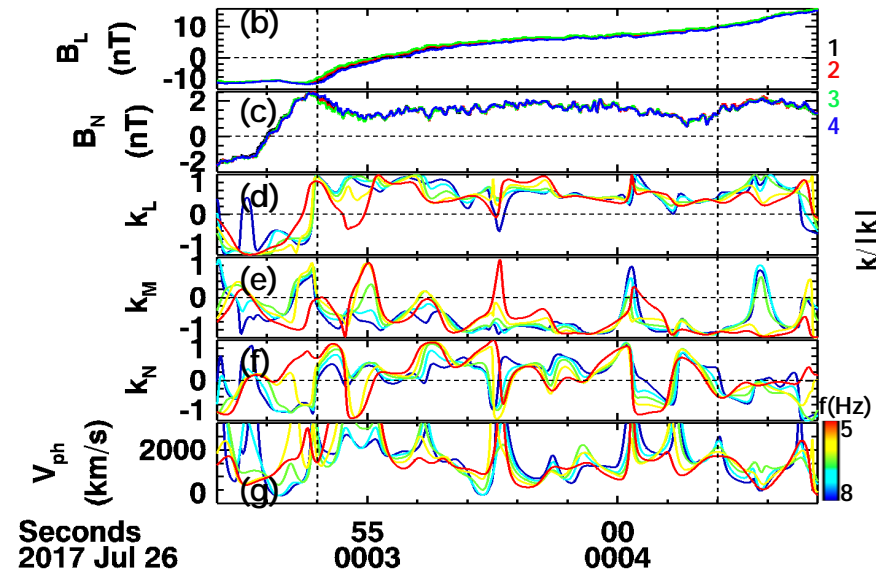
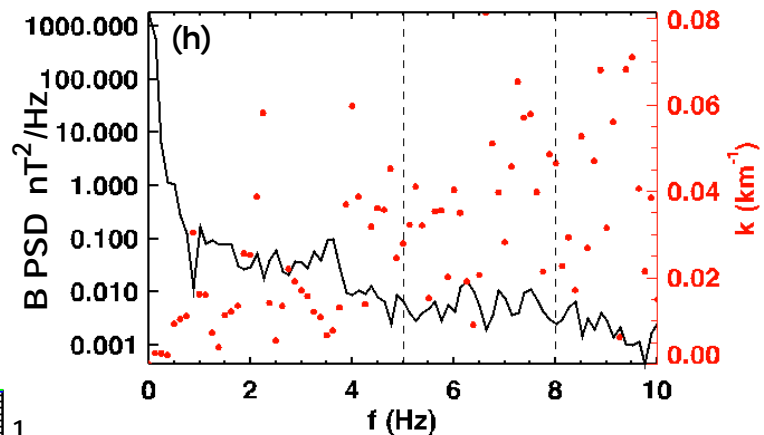
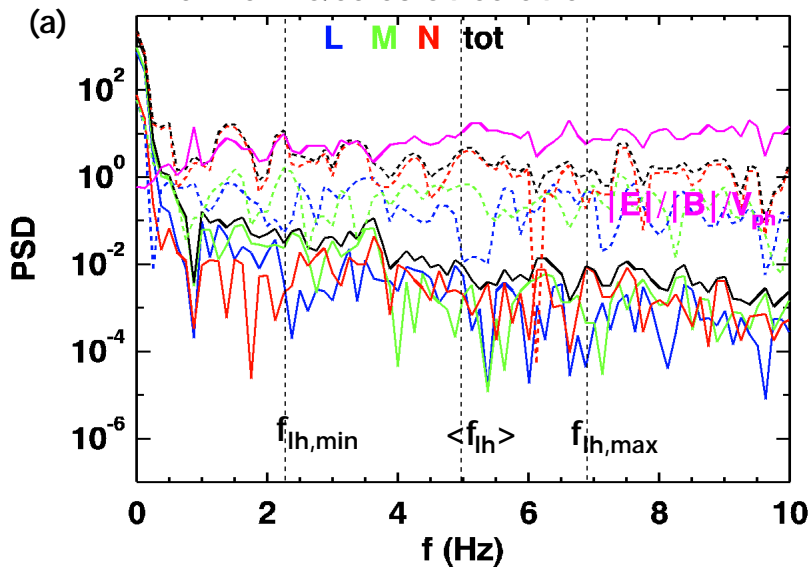


Figure 9.

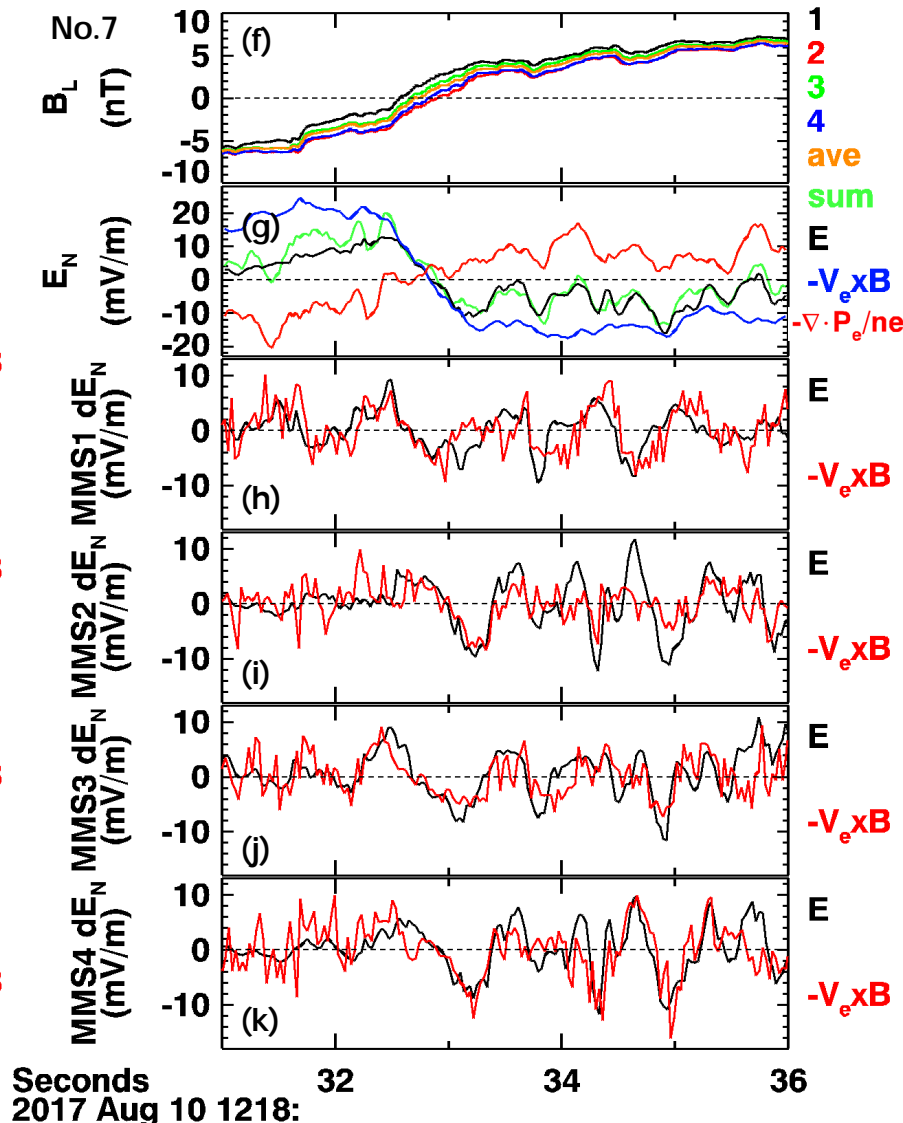
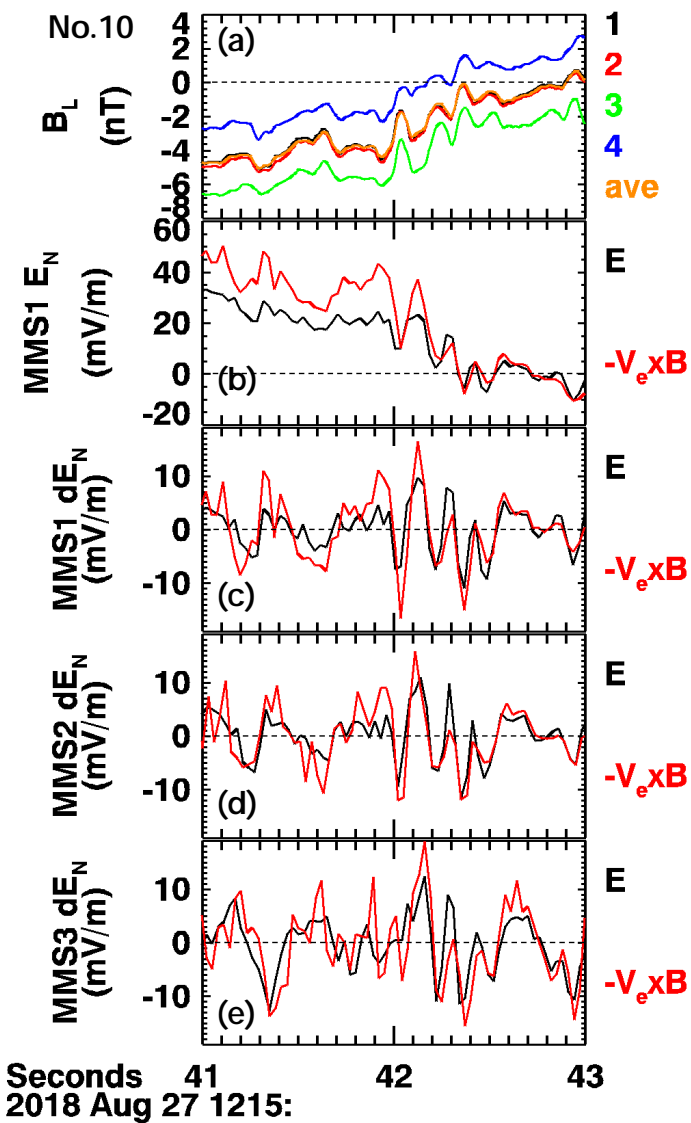


Figure 10.

No.10

MMS1

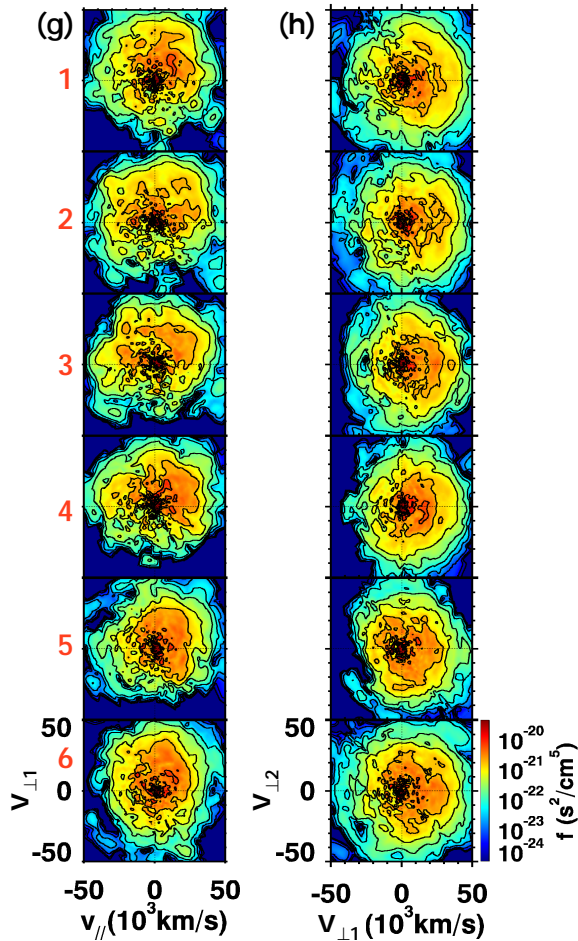
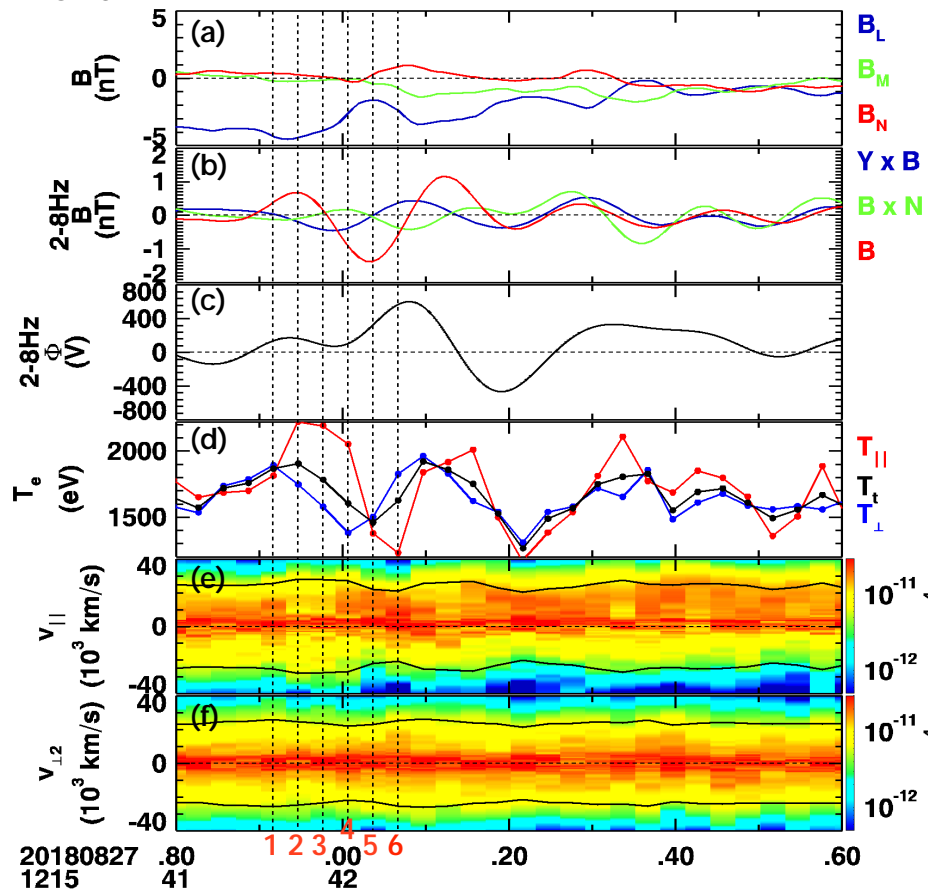


Figure 11.

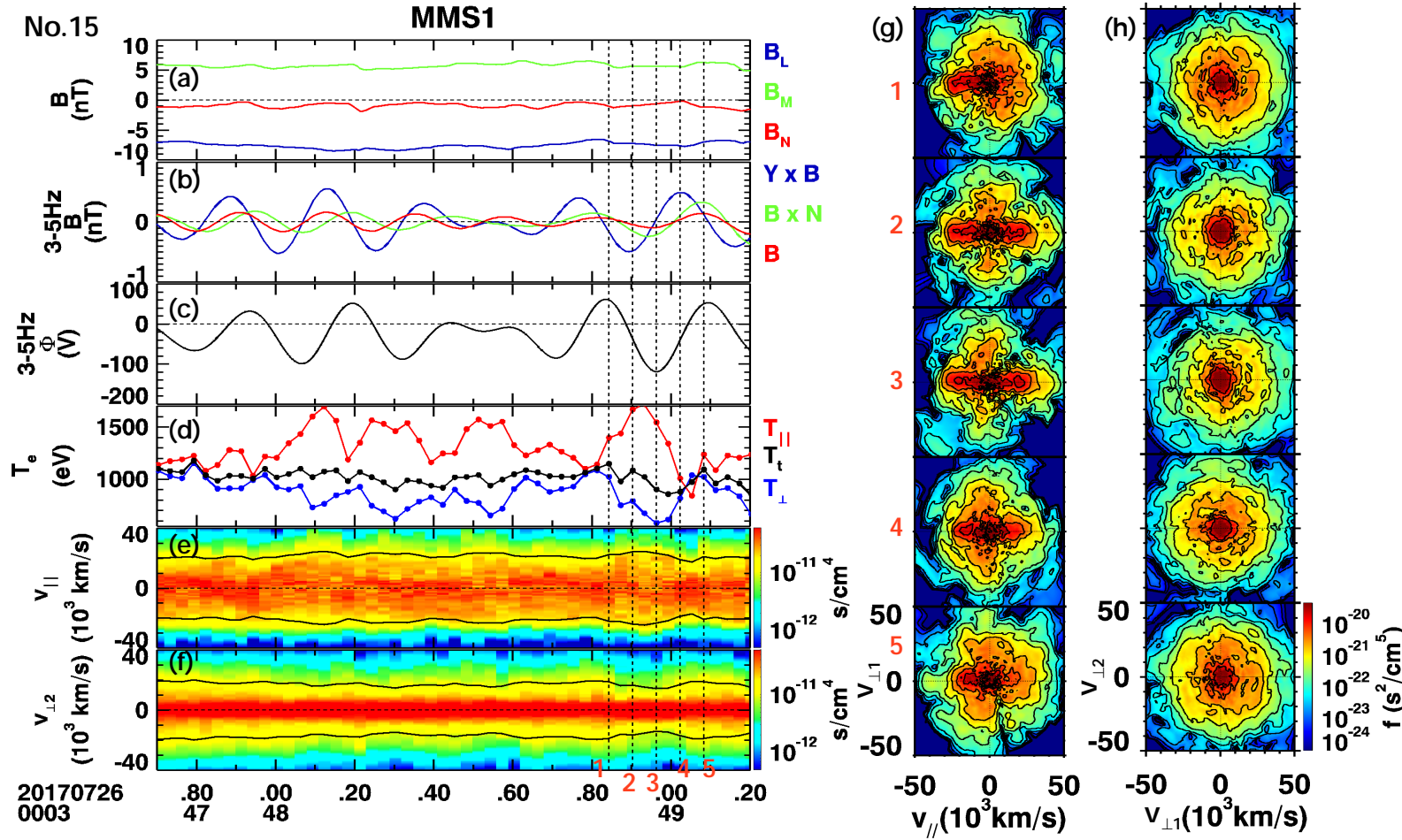


Figure 12.

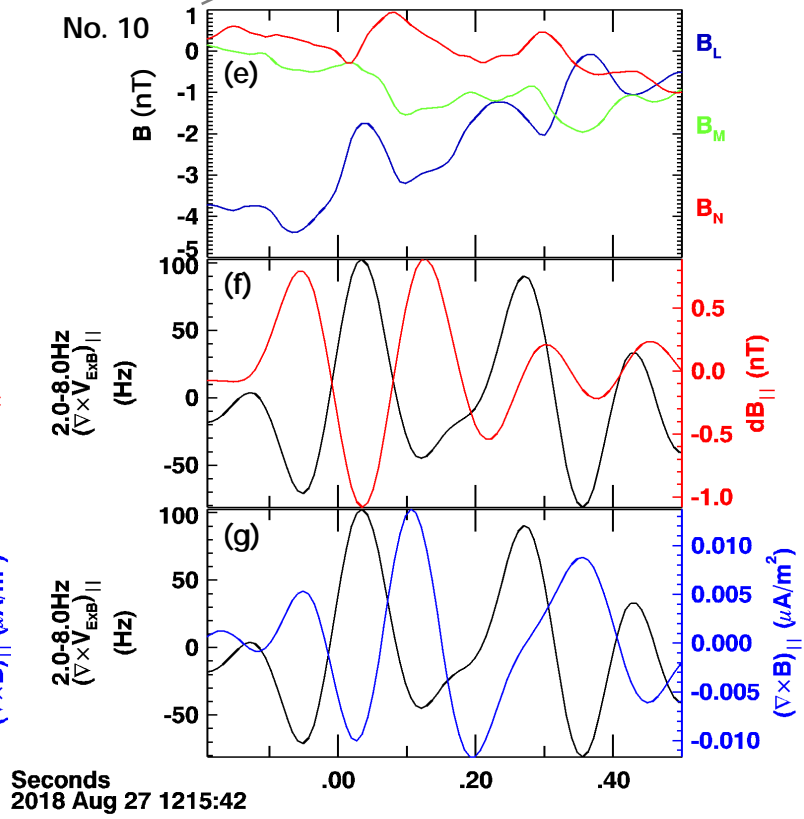
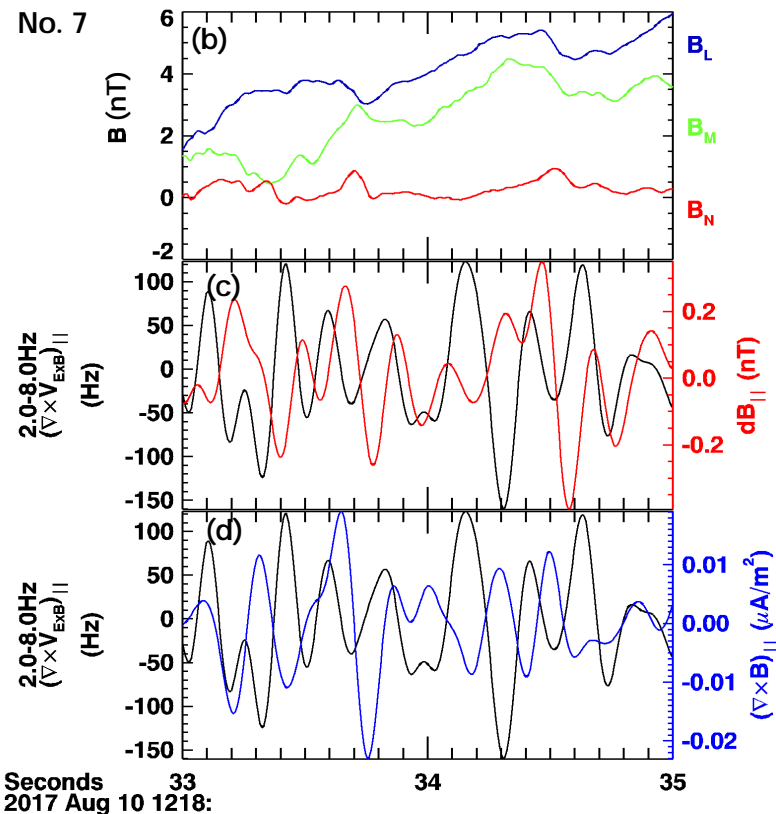
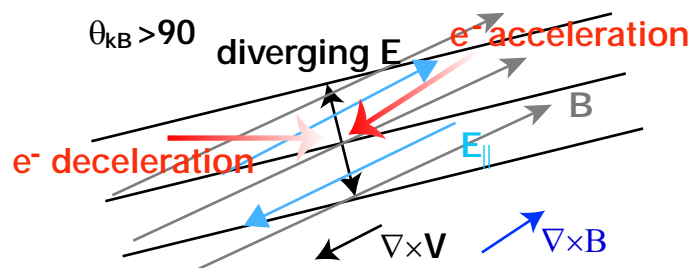
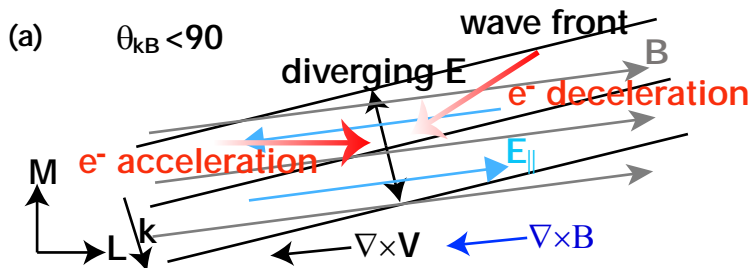


Figure 13.

