





Direction Finding for Saturn Drifting Burst Emissions

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Saturn Drifting Bursts (SDBs)

- spectrum: bursty & drifting negative (90%) & positive (10%) drift
- drift rate 0.5 2 kHz/minute
- burst duration 1 10 minutes
- burst frequ.-extension ... 1 7 kHz
- frequ. range 3 50 kHz
- fundamental (at $f = f_0$) and 1st harmonic (at $f = 2*f_0$) emissions
- fundamental O-mode (LH)
- 1st harmonic X-mode (RH)
- degree of polarization $\ldots \sim 0.75$
- ellipticity ~ ± 0.9
- generation by linear mode conversion of Z-mode \rightarrow O-mode at $f \approx f_{pe}$
- harmonic X-mode from nonlinear conversion



Cassini RPWS/HFR 2007/02/13 (DOY 44.14 - 44.35)



Saturn Drifting Bursts (SDBs)

• little spectral fine structure visible in RPWS/WBR



Cassini RPWS/HFR - Direction Finding

Unknown parameters:

- direction of wave incidence (wave vector k)
 - \rightarrow 2 direction angles ... θ , ϕ
- 2D-Stokes parameters ... S, Q, U, V (size & shape of polariz. ellipse)

radio source θ true pol. ellipse projected pol. ellipse g antenna plane

Cassini RPWS antennas:

- 3 electric monopoles ... u , v , w (10 m long)
- 1 (virtual) dipole D (= u v)
- 2-antenna survey mode ... 3 signals $\langle V_D V_D^* \rangle$, $\langle V_w V_w^* \rangle$, $\langle V_D V_w^* \rangle$
- 3-antenna mode ... 5 signals

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{u}} \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{u}}^* \rangle & \cdot & \langle \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{u}} \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{w}}^* \rangle \\ \cdot & \langle \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{v}} \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{v}}^* \rangle & \langle \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{v}} \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{w}}^* \rangle \\ \cdot & \cdot & \langle \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{w}} \mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{w}}^* \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

 \rightarrow product $\langle V_u V_v^* \rangle$ is missing for a complete spectral matrix J \rightarrow no Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) analysis possible

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Direction Finding (Goniopolarimetry) [Cecconi and Zarka, 2005]

- assumptions:
 - $_{\circ}$ plane wave
 - $\circ E \perp k$
- solution by analytical inversion
- data selection:
 - high signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)
 - $_{\circ}$ $\,$ stable radio source during switching of antennas from

 $< V_u V_w^* >$ to $< V_v V_w^* >$ (45 - 2000 ms)

◦ *k*-vector far above antenna plane ($β ≥ 20^\circ$)





- Spectral scanning of single SDBs
- DF-analysis with selected spectral points
- direction angles toward source $\rightarrow \phi_s, \theta_s$
- selection of sources by data quality (β , ww_{diff}, intensity)



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- direction angles toward source $\rightarrow \varphi_{s}, \, \theta_{s}$
- selection of sources by data quality (β , ww_{diff}, intensity)
- average source direction and standard deviation (error-ellipse)
- follow straight ray until $f \approx f_{pe}$ (O-mode fund.) or $f \approx 2f_{pe}$ (X-mode harm.)
 - $_{\circ}~$ yields average source location for SDB
 - $_{\circ}~$ source = region of mode conversion Z \rightarrow O/X



SDB Direction Finding - Summary

- 386 analyzed SDBs from year 2008 (in 3-antenna mode, "good" quality for DF)
- source regions along northern/southern edge of Enceladus plasma torus
- 343 with negative drift / 43 with positive drift
- positive drifting SDBs are at higher frequencies \rightarrow sources are located deeper inside the torus



Z [R_s] (KG)



SDB Direction Finding - Summary

- 386 analyzed SDBs from year 2008
- 136 fundamental / 250 harmonic SDBs
- harmonic emission can escape more easily from source region?
- harmonic emission is produced along the entire edge of the plasma torus

SDB Source Crossing Event

- SDB #1 ... RH Z-mode at $f_{pe} < f < f_{uh}$
- SDB #2 ... LH Z-mode at $f_{L=0} < f < f_{pe}$
- SDB #3 ... RH Z-mode or LH O-mode at f_{pe} < f < f_{uh}

 \rightarrow observational evidence for SDBs propagating in the Z-mode

 \rightarrow for escaping the plasma torus, they must first mode-convert into 0 or X mode

Cassini RPWS/HFR

SDB Source Crossing Event - The linear mode conversion Scenario

Plasma Frequency [kHz]

Conclusions

- Direction Finding with Cassini RPWS/HFR confirms that Saturn Drifting Bursts (SDBs) are generated by linear (O-mode fundamental) and nonlinear (X-mode harmonic) mode conversion mechanisms
- SDB source regions are found along the northern and southern edges of the Enceladus plasma torus, between 3 < L-shell < 15
- The emissions are usually beamed at an oblique angle to the local magnetic field, out of the meridional plane
- 3D ray tracing is needed for reconstructing the exact ray path and for a refinement of source locations
- Which mechanism is responsible for initiating the drifting Z-mode SDB in the first place?

