

6.7. Propagation perpendicular to \vec{B}_0 ($\theta = \pi/2$)

Condition for non-trivial solution becomes

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -N^2 + \epsilon_1 & -i\epsilon_2 & 0 \\ i\epsilon_2 & \epsilon_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -N^2 + \epsilon_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (-N^2 + \epsilon_3) \cdot [\epsilon_1(-N^2 + \epsilon_1) - \epsilon_2^2] = 0$$

→ two families of solutions

Ordinary mode (OM)

$$(-N^2 + \epsilon_3) = 0$$

In this case, $\vec{E} \parallel \vec{B}_0$ and the dispersion relation reads

$$\frac{k^2 c^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \sum \frac{\omega_{pa}^2}{\omega^2} \approx 1 - \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega^2}$$

and therefore

$$\underline{\omega^2 \approx \omega_{pe}^2 + k^2 c^2} \rightarrow \text{Electromagnetic wave in vacuum } (\omega^2 = k^2 c^2)$$

modified by the presence of the plasma ($\omega^2 = k^2 c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2$) ω_{pe} is a cut-off frequency

Extraordinary mode (XM)

$$[\epsilon_1 (-N^2 + \epsilon_1) - \epsilon_2^2] = 0$$

In this case, $E_x \neq 0$, $E_y \neq 0$, $E_z = 0$, and the dispersion relation reads

$$N^2 = \frac{\epsilon_1^2 - \epsilon_2^2}{\epsilon_1} = \frac{(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2)}{\epsilon_1} = \frac{\epsilon_L \epsilon_R}{\epsilon_1}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_1 &= 1 + \sum \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega_c^2 - \omega^2} = 1 + \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{\omega_c^2 - \omega^2} + \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega_i^2 - \omega^2} \\ &= \frac{(\omega_c^2 - \omega^2)(\omega_i^2 - \omega^2) + \omega_{pe}^2(\omega_i^2 - \omega^2) + \omega_{pi}^2(\omega_c^2 - \omega^2)}{(\omega_c^2 - \omega^2)(\omega_i^2 - \omega^2)} \\ &= \dots \\ &\dots \omega_c \gg \omega_i; \omega_{pe} \gg \omega_{pi} \\ &\dots \\ &\approx \frac{\omega^4 + \omega^2(-\omega_c^2 - \omega_{pe}^2) + \omega_c^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pe}^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pi}^2 \omega_c^2}{(\omega_c^2 - \omega^2)(\omega_i^2 - \omega^2)} \end{aligned}$$

the numerator has the following roots

$$\omega_{1,2}^2 = \frac{\omega_c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\omega_c^4 + 2\omega_c^2 \omega_{pe}^2 + \omega_{pe}^4 - 4(\omega_c^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pe}^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pi}^2 \omega_c^2)}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \omega_c \gg \omega_i \\ \omega_{pe} \gg \omega_{pi} \end{matrix} \rightarrow \approx \omega_c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2 = \omega_{UH}^2 \quad (\text{upper hybrid resonance})$$

$$= \frac{(\omega_c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2)}{2} \left[1 - \sqrt{1 - 4 \frac{(\omega_c^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pe}^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pi}^2 \omega_c^2)}{(\omega_c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2)^2}} \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{(\omega_c^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pe}^2 \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pi}^2 \omega_c^2)}{(\omega_c^2 + \omega_{pe}^2)} = \frac{(\omega_i^2 \frac{\omega_c^2}{\omega_{pe}^2} + \omega_i^2 + \omega_{pi}^2 \frac{\omega_c^2}{\omega_{pe}^2})}{1 + \omega_c^2 / \omega_{pe}^2}$$

Use:
 $1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x}$
 $\rightarrow 2x$ if $x \rightarrow 0$

$$= \frac{\Omega_i \Omega_e \left(\frac{\Omega_i}{\Omega_e} \frac{\Omega_e^2}{\omega_{pe}^2} + \frac{\Omega_i}{\Omega_e} + \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega_{pe}^2} \frac{\Omega_e}{\Omega_i} \right)}{1 + \Omega_e^2 / \omega_{pe}^2}$$

$$\approx \frac{\Omega_i |\Omega_e| \left(1 + \frac{m_e}{m_i} \left(\frac{\Omega_e}{\omega_{pe}} \right)^2 \right)}{1 + \Omega_e^2 / \omega_{pe}^2} = \omega_{LH} \text{ (Lower hybrid resonance)}$$

therefore:

$$\epsilon_1 = \frac{(\omega^2 - \omega_{LH}^2)(\omega^2 - \omega_{UH}^2)}{(\Omega_e^2 - \omega^2)(\Omega_i^2 - \omega^2)}$$

the dispersion relation for the XM becomes

$$N^2 = \frac{\epsilon_L \epsilon_R}{\epsilon_1} \stackrel{\substack{\text{see expressions for} \\ \epsilon_R \text{ and } \epsilon_L \text{ found in Ch. 6.6}}}{=} \frac{(\omega^2 - \omega_R^2)(\omega^2 - \omega_L^2)}{(\Omega_i^2 - \omega^2)(\Omega_e^2 - \omega^2)} \cdot \frac{(\cancel{\Omega_e^2 - \omega^2})(\cancel{\Omega_i^2 - \omega^2})}{(\omega^2 - \omega_{LH}^2)(\omega^2 - \omega_{UH}^2)} = 1/\epsilon_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{N^2 = \frac{(\omega^2 - \omega_R^2)(\omega^2 - \omega_L^2)}{(\omega^2 - \omega_{LH}^2)(\omega^2 - \omega_{UH}^2)}}$$

→ the resonances of the XM are: $\omega^2 = \omega_{LH}^2$; $\omega^2 = \omega_{UH}^2$

→ the cutoffs of the XM are: $\omega^2 = \omega_R^2$; $\omega^2 = \omega_L^2$