

## I. EFFECTS IN THE MAGNETOSPHERE

The equation for the EM modes in a plasma coupled to a dilaton field is

$$\frac{(n^2 - 1) (\omega_p^2 (n^2 \cos^2(\theta) - 1) - (n^2 - 1) \omega^2 \gamma_c^3 (n v \cos(\theta) - 1)^2)}{\omega^2 \gamma_c^3 (n v \cos(\theta) - 1)^2} - g^2 B^2 \frac{(n^2 - 1) (n^2 \cos(2\theta) + n^2 - 2)}{2 (m^2 + (n^2 - 1) \omega^2)} = 0 \quad (1)$$

The interior of the magnetosphere, at  $r \ll r_A$  has

$$A_p = \frac{\omega_p^2 \gamma_c}{\omega^2} \gg 1, \quad (2)$$

while the exterior, at  $r \gg r_A$  has

$$A_p \ll 1. \quad (3)$$

Among the modes, solutions of Eq. (1), one must chose the ones that propagate as transverse at larger angles. The trivial mode that is always transverse and always a solution is

$$n_1 = 1. \quad (4)$$

Since we already know this solution, we can divide the Eq. (1) by  $(n^2 - 1)$  and look for the other ones. We work in the small angles approximation  $\theta \ll 1$ . Moreover, the velocity of the plasma is close to  $c = 1$ ,  $\gamma_c \gg 1$  and  $v \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2\gamma_c}$ .

### A. Magnetosphere interior

In the magnetosphere exterior, where  $A_p \gg 1$  we can take  $v = 1$ . We pick the mode that becomes transverse when  $\theta \gg \theta_* = (\frac{\omega_p^2 \gamma_c^{-3}}{\omega^2})^{1/4}$  [LS: there's a typo in the definition of this quantity in the draft] ,

$$n_2 = 1 + \frac{\theta^2}{4} - \sqrt{\theta^4 + \theta_*^4} + F(g, \omega, \theta, \theta_*, m). \quad (5)$$

In the expression above, the function  $F$  is zero in the absence of the coupling  $g$ , and was introduced to find the coupled solution perturbatively. At first order in  $F$  and  $g^2$ , we obtain [LS: different from the draft]

$$F(g, \omega, \theta, \theta_*, m) = \frac{B^2 g^2 (G(\theta, \theta_*) + \theta^2)^2 (\theta^2 G(\theta, \theta_*) + \theta^4 + 8\theta_*^4)}{2 ((G(\theta, \theta_*) + \theta^2)^2 + 16\theta_*^4) (\theta_*^4 \omega^2 (G(\theta, \theta_*) - \theta^2 - 8) + m^2 (G(\theta, \theta_*) + \theta^2))} \quad (6)$$

### B. Magnetosphere exterior

In the magnetosphere exterior, where  $A_p \ll 1$  and  $|1 - n| \ll \gamma^{-2}$ , the transverse modes at zero coupling  $g = 0$  are  $n_1 = 1$  and [LS: different from the draft]

$$n_2 = 1 - 2A_p \theta^2 + O(\theta^4, A_p^2). \quad (7)$$

With the same approximations, we arrive, for  $g \neq 0$ , at

$$n_2 = 1 + \frac{B^2 g^2}{2(B^2 g^2 + m^2)} \theta^2 + O(\theta^4, A_p) \quad (8)$$

The new mode is bigger than the  $g = 0$  contribution, which was therefore discarded [LS: Are we so sure about this?] .