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Wave-particle interactions associated with Io's auroral footprint: Evidence of Alfvén, ion cyclotron, and whistler modes

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Abstract

The electrodynamic coupling between Io and Jupiter gives rise to wave-particle interactions across multiple spatial scales. Here we report observations during Juno's 12th perijove (PJ) high-latitude northern crossing of the flux tube connected to Io's auroral footprint. We focus on plasma wave measurements, clearly differentiating between MHD, ion, and electron scales. We find (i) evidence of Alfvén waves undergoing a turbulent cascade, suggesting Alfvénic acceleration processes together with observations of bi-directional, broadband electrons; (ii) intense ion cyclotron waves with an estimated heating rate that is consistent with the generation of ion conics reported by Clark et al. (*in prep*); and (iii) whistler-mode auroral hiss radiation excited by field-aligned electrons. Such high-resolution wave and particle measurements provide an insight into satellite interactions in unprecedented detail. We further anticipate that these spatially well-constrained results can be more broadly applied to better understand processes of Jupiter's main auroral oval.

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1. Introduction

Juno is the first spacecraft dedicated to exploring Jupiter's aurora and polar magnetosphere (Bagenal et al., 2017). A payload of high-resolution instruments and the unique spatial coverage enabled by polar orbits afford *in-situ* measurements suited to probe satellite-magnetosphere interactions by sampling magnetic field lines connected to the orbits of the Galilean moons.

First models of the Io footprint assumed that Alfvén waves generated at Io would propagate to Jupiter and back at a timescale lower than that of the plasma convection across Io, thereby establishing a steady-state interaction (Goldreich & Lynden-Bell, 1969). However, the discovery of the dense Io plasma torus suggested that the Alfvén waves propagate too slowly to return back to Io after partial reflections at the density gradients of the torus boundaries on the Jovian ionosphere (Goertz, 1980; Neubauer, 1980). Analyses of the Io UV footprint morphology indicated that the electron acceleration leading to the aurora should be both bidirectional and broadband (Bonfond et al., 2008; 2009) and subsequent theoretical modelling by Hess et al. (2010) demonstrated that such acceleration occurs at high latitudes by a turbulent cascade of Alfvén waves. Moreover, broadband energy distributions found in the Io footprint tail (Szalay et al., 2018; 2019) suggested continued Alfvénic interaction downstream of Io (Jacobsen et al., 2019; Bonfond et al., 2017; Mura et al., 2018). Similar distributions in Ganymede's footprint tail further reinforce the conclusion that Alfvénic interactions sustain satellite-magnetosphere coupling well into the downstream region (Szalay et al., 2020).

More broadly, recent works have brought the role of Alfvén, as well as whistler-mode, waves to the fore by invoking their activity to explain the widely observed broadband, precipitating electron energy distributions and accelerated ion populations linked to Jupiter's main auroral emissions (Gershman et al., 2019; Allegrini et al., 2017, 2020; Damiano et al., 2019; Elliott et al., 2020; Mauk et al., 2017a, 2017b, 2018; Kurth et al., 2018). In this letter, we report high-resolution wave and particle observations during Juno's northern transit of Io's auroral flux tube – likely the Main Alfvén Wing (MAW) - on 01 April 2018 (Szalay et al., *submitted*). Plasma waves associated with multiple physical scales are detected and we identify them as Alfvén, ion cyclotron, and whistler modes. The emissions were captured for the first time at Jupiter's high-latitude environment, revealing the large spatial extent of Io's influence in the context of wave-particle processes operating in Jupiter's magnetosphere. We further provide evidence of magnetic turbulence, bi-directional and broadband electrons, and demonstrate how the observed waves and satellite auroral particles are intimately linked.

2. Wave and Particle Observations

The primary dataset was recorded by the Juno/Waves instrument which measures an electric field component, E_y , using a 4.8 m tip-to-tip electric dipole antenna oriented along the spacecraft's *y*-axis and contained in its spin (*x*-*y*) plane. A magnetic search coil, B_z , has a single sensor parallel to the spacecraft's spin (*z*) axis. We utilize data provided by the Low Frequency Receivers which cover frequency ranges of 50 Hz – 20 kHz (E and B) and 10 kHz – 150 kHz (E only) with sample rates of 50 and 375 kilosamples per second, respectively. This ensemble further provides the capability of differentiating between electrostatic ($\delta E \gg c\delta B$) and electromagnetic ($\delta E \sim c\delta B$) waves. More details on the Waves instrument, particularly a schematic of the sensors' arrangements, can be found in Kurth et al. (2017).

Juno's position during the PJ12 northern transit of the Io flux tube is illustrated in Figure 1 with the M-shell associated with Io's orbit overlaid in a) ρ_{MAG} - Z_{MAG} space and b) projected onto the northern polar region as viewed from above using the JRM09 magnetic field model (Connerney et al., 2018) with a current sheet model (Connerney et al., 1981). The longitudinal separation between magnetic field lines connected to Juno and Io was <1° - the smallest

separation thus far in the mission (Szalay et al., *submitted*). This event was at the ionospheric end of the flux tube at an altitude of 0.39 R_J (1 R_J = 71,492 km; Jovian equatorial radius) above the 1-bar level surface. Figure 2 presents a set of time-series during this event: 2a-b are stacked electric field frequency-time spectrograms from two channels covering continuously a frequency range of 50 Hz – 80 kHz; 2c-d are stacked (transverse) magnetic field frequencytime spectrograms from the magnetic search coil and fluxgate magnetometer (MAG) (Connerney et al., 2017), respectively, covering a frequency range of 0.2 Hz to 20 kHz (not continuous across instruments); 2e-f are the energy-time and pitch angle-time electron differential energy flux, respectively, recorded by the Jovian Auroral Distributions Experiment (JADE-E) (McComas et al., 2017) covering an energy range of 50 eV – 100 keV for 49 seconds during the flux tube crossing; 2g compares the pitch angle distributions during the Io flux tube crossing at 09:20:44 and the background. Calculated from MAG and overlaid on the frequencytime spectrograms is the proton cyclotron frequency, f_{cH+} , revealing that the Waves instrument is sensitive to plasma wave phenomena well within sub-proton scales by virtue of Jupiter's strong magnetic field.

3. Interpretation and Discussion

Plasma waves below f_{cH+} : *Alfvénic turbulence and ion cyclotron heating*

We begin with waves in the lower frequency range below f_{cH+} . The emissions in this range are the most intense both in electric and magnetic field spectral densities, as shown in Figures 2b-c. Using MAG, Gershman et al. (2019) transformed magnetic field fluctuations into compressive and non-compressive (transverse) components. During passes of Jupiter's aurora, they found the power of the fluctuations predominantly in the transverse component between 0.2 and 5 Hz (frequency range was limited by the instrument's noise levels). These were identified as Alfvénic turbulence and their activity was pronounced during Io footprint tail crossings at longitudinal separations up to 90°.

On first inspection of the magnetic search coil data, it appears that the "stem" between 50 and ~800 Hz and at 09:20:35-09:20:54 in Figure 2c is an extension of the Alfvénic activity identified by MAG in Figure 2d. This can be tested by exploiting the orientation of the Waves instrument on the spacecraft with respect to the background magnetic field. The effective axis of the electric field antenna in the spin plane induces modulations in E_{y} at half the spacecraft spin period of 30 seconds. The spacecraft attitude was such that the spin axis was approximately perpendicular to a Jovian magnetic meridian plane. This fortuitous configuration meant that the Ey axis measured electric field fluctuations parallel and perpendicular to the background magnetic field, $\overrightarrow{B_0}$, and therefore the twice-per-spin peaks can be correlated with projections of E_y on $\overrightarrow{B_0}$. At the same time, the B_z axis of the search coil measured magnetic field fluctuations purely perpendicular to $\overrightarrow{B_0}$. Figure 3a show the modulations of E_v spectral densities in the range below f_{cH+} (f = 0.15 kHz and 3.71 kHz), where Alfvén and ion cyclotron waves can propagate, and Figure 3b shows the angles of E_y (blue) and B_z (red) with respect to $\overrightarrow{B_0}$. It is clear that the E_y spectral density peaks near $E_y \perp \overrightarrow{B_0}$ and depresses near $E_y \parallel \overrightarrow{B_0}$. This pattern holds for any frequency in this range and is consistent with transverse electric field fluctuations of Alfvén and ion cyclotron waves. Furthermore, we have continuous $B_z \perp \overrightarrow{B_0}$ meaning that the wave emissions from the search coil (Figure 2c) can indeed be interpreted as an extension of the transverse MAG fluctuations (Figure 2d) in frequency space. Based on the spacecraft speed, transit time, and correcting for the oblique angle at which Juno crosses the flux tube, the estimated transverse length scale of the flux tube is $\sim 1,000 \pm 50$ km.

Figure 3c combines power spectral densities of the measured transverse magnetic field fluctuations from both MAG and Waves. Interestingly, both frequency ranges can be connected

by a power law of spectral index -2.35 ± 0.07 up to ~800 Hz. The semi-relativistic Alfvén speed at high latitudes compared to the spacecraft speed of 51 km/s makes the effect of Doppler shift negligible, therefore the measured fluctuations can be considered to be in the plasma frame. As indicated by Gershman et al. (2019), the dispersion relation in the semi-relativistic Alfvén wave limit, i.e. $\omega/k_{\parallel} \sim c$, means that the spectral index is equivalent to a turbulent cascade in k_{\parallel} , rather than in k_{\perp} which is typically discussed in the context of Alfvénic turbulence (e.g. Chaston et al., 2008; Saur et al., 2018), where *k* is the wavenumber and $\omega = 2\pi f$ is the angular frequency. That said, Gershman et al. (2019) invoked partially-developed critically balanced Kolmogorov cascade as a possible explanation for their resolved scaling of $k_{\parallel}^{-2.29 \pm 0.09}$ (0.2-5 Hz) associated with the main auroral emission at Jupiter's high latitudes. This type of cascade exhibits perpendicular and parallel spectral indices of -5/3 and -2, respectively. The resolved scaling of $k_{\parallel}^{-2.35 \pm 0.07}$ for the Io auroral flux tube is consistent with that of the main auroral emission suggesting a similar auroral mechanism.

Further, the calculated Poynting flux was ~3,000 mW/m² associated with the frequency range of 0.2–5 Hz (Gershman et al., 2019). We bandpass-filtered multiple waveform snapshots between 50–800 Hz and the calculated root mean squares, δB , were in the range ~1–2 nT. This corresponds to Poynting fluxes, $\delta B^2 c/\mu_0$, of ~0.2–1 mW/m² associated with magnetic field fluctuations that cascaded to scales in the range 50–800 Hz. Using this relation, for the frequency range between 0.2 - 800 Hz, the corresponding parallel wavelengths are cascaded from ~20 to 10⁻³ R_J. These Alfvénic magnetic signatures together with measurements of broadband precipitating electron fluxes in Figure 2e are also a characteristic feature of Alfvénic acceleration associated with footprint tail aurorae (Szalay et al., 2018; 2020).

Since the MHD Alfvén wave propagates parallel to the magnetic field, it follows that the time of its detection is coincident with the time of the Io flux tube transit at 09:20:35–09:20:54. A dispersive feature becomes present above ~800 Hz and up to f_{cH+} , where higher frequencies

are detected at times before and after the Io flux tube crossing, thereby displaying a "funnel" spectral feature. This is characteristic of plasma wave propagation along the resonance cone.

Figure 3d plots the indices of refraction, ck/ω , as a function of frequency for parallelpropagating right-hand and left-hand polarized modes as

$$\left(\frac{ck}{\omega}\right)_{R,L}^2 = 1 - \sum_s \frac{f_{ps}^2}{f(f \pm f_{cs})} \tag{1}$$

where f_p and f_c are the plasma and cyclotron frequencies, respectively, and the subscript s denotes the species. The right-hand (R) and left-hand (L) polarized modes take the '+' and '-' signs, respectively, noting that f_c is negative for electrons (Gurnett and Bhattacharjee, 2017). For each mode, the dispersion relations are derived for an electron-proton plasma and another with added 10% S^{2+} and 10% O^{+} by composition. Note that these compositions are not derived from data as their same mass-to-charge ratios makes it difficult to separate their time-of-flight effects. They are merely to show that the inclusion of heavies changes the spectral character and yields an additional resonance at a lower cyclotron frequency for the left-handed mode, where $(ck/\omega)^2$ goes to infinity. However, this frequency is the same for S²⁺ and O⁺ at ~270 kHz and does not explain the distinct spectral feature at ~800 Hz. It is worth noting that the lower frequencies in the Alfvén range do not necessarily continuously connect through to f_{cH+} . Since a characteristic frequency existing below f_{cH+} (e.g. an ion hybrid frequency) requires additional species to an electron-proton plasma, we conclude that the distinct feature at ~800 Hz and the resonance cone above is strongly suggestive of the presence of heavies. Modelling efforts will be required (Santolík et al., 2016) once the heavy ions compositions are available to fully resolve the spectral significance at ~800 Hz.

For both plasmas, the left-handed modes undergo resonance at f_{cH+} , indicating that the observed intense plasma waves exhibiting a significant drop in power at f_{cH+} are left-handed. This

signifies strong interactions with protons as they rotate in the same left-hand sense as the wave electric field. These emissions are consistent with the ion cyclotron mode and can, in theory, set up a resonance leading to efficient ion energization at a Doppler-shifted frequency that matches the cyclotron frequency of an ion (e.g. André et al., 1998; Chang et al., 1986; Lysak, 1986). This wave-particle interaction is likely responsible for the anti-planetward transport of thermal ions along diverging magnetic field lines, resulting in an ion conic distribution in velocity space observed during this Io event (Clark et al., *in prep*), representing the first observation of this kind in a moon-magnetosphere context. Such distributions are commonly observed at Earth (Carlson et al., 1998) and have been reported at Saturn (Mitchell et al., 2009).

Assuming all the wave power in this frequency range up to f_{cH+} resides in the left-hand mode, the maximum ion cyclotron heating rate can be estimated, as derived by Chang et al.

(1986),

$$\frac{dW_{\perp, \rm res}}{dt} = \frac{S_E q^2}{2m_n} \tag{2}$$

where q and m_p are the charge and mass of a proton, respectively. A (maximum) electric field spectral density, S_E, at f_{cH+} measured at ~10⁻⁵ V²m⁻²Hz⁻¹ will yield a heating rate of ~500 eV/s. Note that an exact calculation of the heating rate would require knowledge of the fraction of waves near f_{cH+} that are both left-handed and resonating with ions, therefore this may be considered as an upper limit. Together with the high-energy particle observations reported by Clark et al. (*in prep*), there appears to be a causal link between these observed ion cyclotron waves and the ion conic distributions since: (i) the observed ion energies on the order of 10– 100 keV at low altitudes are consistent with the estimated heating rate along their travel path between the source and the spacecraft, suggesting that a large fraction of these waves are in resonance with the ions, and (ii) both the waves and the ions are found to be propagating upward from Jupiter (the wave propagation direction is shown in Figure S1 in Supplementary Material).

Plasma waves above f_{cH+} : Beam-plasma instability

Next, we explore the higher frequency range belonging to the electron scale. The most apparent emission is the larger V-shaped spectral feature between 09:13–09:22, between f_{cH+} and a sharp upper frequency cutoff marked by the white trace and labelled f_{pe} , in Figures 2a-c. This is characteristic of a whistler-mode auroral hiss emission. This class of plasma wave emissions is understood to be generated by a coherent beam-plasma instability (Maggs, 1976) at the Landau resonance. Here, the parallel phase speed of the wave almost matches the electron beam speed, $\omega/k_{\parallel} \approx v_{\text{beam}}$. Since electron beams provide the free energy for their growth, they are typically observed in the presence of field-aligned currents such as in the auroral regions of Earth (James, 1976), Saturn (Gurnett et al., 2011), and Jupiter (Tetrick et al., 2017). Auroral hiss emissions are therefore diagnostics of electrodynamic coupling between conductive bodies and have been observed widely in Saturn's magnetosphere. The Cassini spacecraft observed their presence on magnetic flux tubes connected to Enceladus (Gurnett et al., 2011; Sulaiman et al., 2018a) coincident with field-aligned currents, and, surprisingly, connected to Saturn's main rings (Xin et al., 2006; Sulaiman et al., 2018b, 2019).

The propagation of whistler-mode auroral hiss along the resonance cone has a dispersion relation that goes as $\sin \psi_{res} \simeq f/f_{pe}$ (Gurnett et al., 1983). This is a special case in a highly magnetized regime descriptive of the near-Jupiter environment, i.e. $f_{ce}^2 \gg f_{pe}^2$, where f_{ce} and f_{pe} are the electron cyclotron and plasma frequencies, respectively. It follows that at lower frequencies, f, the ray path (or group velocity) angles, ψ_{res} , are more parallel to the magnetic field and become monotonically more perpendicular with higher frequencies. This explains the V-shaped "funnel" feature on the spectrograms in Figures 2a-c as higher frequencies are detected farther away from the Io flux tube. The dispersion relation holds up to a maximum $f = f_{pe}$, which corresponds to the upper frequency cutoff in Figure 2a. Using this technique, the electron number density, n_e , can be derived as f_{pe} [Hz] = 8980 $\sqrt{n_e}$ [cm⁻³]. This yields a density in the range of 8-40 cm⁻³.

We next examine the lower frequency cutoff for the whistler mode, which is the lower hybrid frequency, f_{LH} . This is achieved by numerically solving for the hybrid resonances at S =0, where *S* is the appropriate element in the cold magnetized plasma dielectric tensor as defined by Stix [1992]. This is given by

$$S = 1 - \sum_{s} \frac{f_{ps}^2}{f^2 - f_{cs}^2} = 0$$
(3)

with the subscript *s* denoting the species. Assuming a quasi-neutral plasma of electrons and protons, in this highly magnetized regime where $f_{ce}/f_{pe} \sim O(10^2)$, the solution yields $f_{LH} \approx f_{cH+}$. Contributions from O⁺ and S²⁺ are negligible as their comparatively large mass-to-charge ratios will act to only slightly reduce f_{LH} . Note this regime is exceptionally highly magnetized and in contrast to the magnetized regimes considered near Earth and Saturn, commonly approximated as $f_{LH} \approx f_{pH+}$, where f_{pH+} is the proton plasma frequency (e.g. Sulaiman et al., 2017). The significance of identifying f_{LH} is that it represents the surface at which the wave normal angles of the whistler mode rotate through 90° and are reflected. In other words, the frequencies are not continuous across $f_{cH+} (\approx f_{LH})$ thereby decoupling the whistler mode from the intense wave emissions below f_{cH+} in Figures 2b and c.

For the whistler-mode auroral hiss to grow, an electron beam is required to provide the free energy and this explains the contemporaneous observations with field-aligned electrons as detected by JADE (Figures 2f-g). The waves are amplified via Landau resonance where the parallel phase speed ω/k_{\parallel} almost matches the beam speed v_{beam} . The JADE-E instrument measured upward and downward field-aligned electron populations in the range 50 eV to 30 keV. To relate these energies to the observed whistler-mode auroral hiss, we consider the dispersion relation for waves in a cold collisionless plasma [Stix, 1992]. The special case for electron scales is known as the Appleton-Hartree equation and is given by

$$\left(\frac{ck}{\omega}\right)^{2} = 1 - \frac{X(1-X)}{1-X-\frac{1}{2}Y^{2}\sin^{2}\theta \pm \left(\left(\frac{1}{2}Y^{2}\sin^{2}\theta\right)^{2} + (1-X)^{2}Y^{2}\cos^{2}\theta\right)^{1/2}} \qquad (4)$$
$$X = \frac{f_{pe}^{2}}{f^{2}} \text{ and } Y = \frac{f_{ce}}{f}$$

where θ is the angle between the magnetic field and the wave vector \vec{k} . The reciprocal of the calculated index of refraction from Eq. 4 can be related to electron energy via the Landau resonance condition, i.e. $\omega/ck_{\parallel} \equiv v_{p\parallel}/c \approx v_{\text{beam}}/c$, where v_p is the phase speed. Figure 3e shows the set of solutions in phase velocity space for which the whistler mode can exist, given the plasma properties during the Io flux tube crossing. The solutions can be classified into two parts: (i) points that lie on the quasi-electrostatic limit (low $v_{p\parallel}/c$) characterized by higher indices of refraction and (ii) points that depart from this limit are in the electromagnetic branch (high $v_{p\parallel}/c$). Taking the electron energy measured at 1 keV yields $v_{\text{beam}}/c = 0.063$ and the equivalent $v_{p\parallel}/c$ on Figure 3e intersects a solution on the curve that just departed from the quasielectrostatic limit. Higher electron energies, such as 10 keV and above, place the solution well within the electromagnetic branch. Measured $\delta E/c\delta B \gtrsim 1$ of the whistler-mode auroral hiss (Figures 2a-c) imply an electromagnetic nature and this is therefore consistent with their generation by electron beams most likely in the 1-30 keV range. Furthermore, quasiparallel propagation of whistler-mode waves excited by a cyclotron resonance could partly account for the observed electromagnetic, as observed in the flux tube of Saturn's moon Rhea (Santolík et al., 2011). However, the observed electron distribution and the funnel-shaped feature of the spectrogram make this unlikely.

In contrast, auroral hiss emissions observed by Cassini on the Enceladus flux tube were purely electrostatic (i.e. $\delta E/c\delta B \gg 1$) and observed in the presence of electron beams up to 10 eV (= very low $v_{p\parallel}/c$) thus placing the solution well within the quasi-electrostatic limit (Gurnett et al., 2011; Sulaiman et al., 2018a). By this association, auroral hiss observations may be used to constrain electron energies where particle observations are not available.

The Landau resonance condition, for the generation of whistler-mode auroral hiss, requires both waves and particles traveling in the same direction. Since the observed Poynting flux is upgoing (Figure S1), we can then infer that the whistler-mode auroral hiss emissions are associated with the upgoing electron population, i.e. pitch angle $\approx 0^{\circ}$ (Figure 2f). Enhanced whistler-mode radiation has been reported in Io's wake by Paranicas et al. (2019) where they suggested, consistent with modelling, that wave-particle interaction plays a key role in the simultaneously observed depletions of energetic ions and electrons. Such signatures were not observed during this pass, and this highlights the complexity of wave-particle processes on satellite flux tubes.

4. Conclusions

Fluid-scale perturbations near the satellites give rise to Alfvén waves, which act to transmit the field-aligned currents driven by the motion of Io through the dense magnetized plasma of Jupiter's magnetosphere. Wave-particle interaction is understood to be achieved when these Alfvén waves nonlinearly interact with their reflected counterparts, undergoing a turbulent cascade from large to small spatial and temporal scales (Hess et al., 2010; Saur et al., 2002). At sufficiently small scales, the waves and particles are able to exchange energy, thereby accelerating and heating auroral particles fuelled by converted electromagnetic energy (Saur et al., 2018). Since particle energization is characterized by distortions in phase space, the particle distributions become unstable to plasma waves which can, in turn, act to scatter particles. We have presented field and particle observations during Juno's PJ12 crossing of the Io's flux tube and showed how they are related in the context of wave-particle processes of a moon-magnetosphere interaction. Our conclusions are the following:

Identification of Alfvénic magnetic turbulence across a large frequency range. This observation, in concert with broadband precipitating electron fluxes, underlines Alfvénic acceleration as Jupiter's primary auroral mechanism, as observed throughout the main and satellite footprint tail aurorae by numerous works.

A commonly proposed mechanism for ion energization is the ion cyclotron resonance. Left-hand polarized ion cyclotron waves were identified and it is likely that these are responsible for transversely heated upwelling ions that develop into ion conic distributions, as reported by Clark et al. (*in prep*).

A field-aligned electron population is unstable to the generation of whistler-mode auroral hiss. From the Landau resonance condition, we relate the electromagnetic nature of the whistler-mode with observed upward electron beams in the order of 1 keV. In contrast, an analogous quasi-electrostatic observation on the Saturn-Enceladus flux tube by Cassini was shown to be associated with energies in the order of 1 eV (Sulaiman et al., 2018a).

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Figure 1 – a) Position of Juno during the PJ12 northern pass with the M-shell connected to Io's orbit overlaid on ρ_{MAG} - Z_{MAG} space; where ρ_{MAG} = $(X_{MAG}+Y_{MAG})^{1/2}$, Z_{MAG} is aligned with Jupiter's magnetic dipole, Y_{MAG} is aligned with the intersection of the magnetic and jovigraphic equators, and X_{MAG} completes the right handed system. An M-shell is the magnetic shell for non-dipolar magnetic fields (McIlwain, 1961) b) Polar plot illustrating the magnetic footprints of Juno (blue), Io (red), and the statistical location of Jupiter's main auroral emission (black) [Bonfond et al., 2012] projected onto the northern hemisphere as viewed from above.



Figure 2 – Field and particle observations during Juno's PJ12 northern pass. a-b) Stacked electric field frequencytime spectrograms. The white trace labelled f_{pe} is the electron plasma frequency as the upper cutoff of the broadband whistler-mode waves, noting the electron cyclotron frequency is much higher, i.e. upper cutoff frequency equals min{ f_{pe}, f_{ce} }. c-d) Stacked magnetic field frequency-time spectrograms recorded by Waves and MAG, respectively. The black solid line represents the proton cyclotron frequency derived from MAG. e) Electron differential energy flux (DEF) energy-time and f) pitch angle-time spectrograms. g) Electron DEF vs pitch angles during the tail crossing at 09:20:44 (black) and before (blue).

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Figure 3 – Plasma wave diagnosis across different scales. a) E_y spectral densities at 0.15 kHz and 3.71 kHz, modulated by the spacecraft spin period. b) Angle between E_y and $\overrightarrow{B_0}$ (blue) and angle between B_z and $\overrightarrow{B_0}$ (red). c) Combined power spectral densities of the measured transverse magnetic field fluctuations by MAG (black) and Waves (blue) covering a large range in Alfvén frequency space. d) Dispersion relations of left-hand and right-hand polarized modes plotted as index of refraction vs frequency up to f_{cH+} . The hatched area is the region of evanescence and outside is the region of propagation. e) Solutions of the whistler-mode dispersion relation on phase velocity space color-coded by their corresponding index of refraction, ck/ω . The parallel phase speeds of the whistler-mode wave (left *y*-axis) can be related to the electron beam speed (right *y*-axis) through the Landau resonance condition $v_{p\parallel} \approx v_{beam}$.

