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Pc4-5 poloidal ULF wave observed in the dawnside plasmaspheric plume

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Key points:

- The high-m poloidal waves in the dawnside plume were observed by THEMIS-E.
- The inward radial gradient of ~57 keV and higher plasma density enable the second harmonic poloidal wave to occur in the dawnside plume.
- Three types of particle flux modulations are observed simultaneously along with the wave in different energy bands.

Abstract:

A localized Pc4-5 ultra-low-frequency (ULF) wave event associated with a plasmaspheric plume was observed by THEMIS-E on the dawnside near L=6, which was identified as a second harmonic poloidal wave. The plume was identified as a sudden density enhancement during an outbound pass. The charged particle populations in the plume have a variety of periodic modulation characteristics at different energies. Firstly, there is an anti-phase relationship between magnetic field Br and particle flux across a wide energy range both for ions and electrons (~50 keV-1 MeV). Secondly, there is a 180° phase shift in the modulated ion flux within an energy range of $\sim 2-6$ keV, with negative slope dispersions of ion pitch angle distributions at ~2-6 keV and ~50-75 keV, which are characteristic of drift-bounce resonances. Thirdly, the lower energy (<32 eV) ion flux is modulated at double the wave frequency which are the result of $E \times B$ effect. Considering the generation mechanism of this poloidal mode wave within the plume, we find that it is likely generated by drift-bounce resonance from an unstable population of ions, due to an inward radial phase space density gradient. We suggest that the localization of waves to the plume is because the high plasma density reduces the local poloidal mode eigenfrequency, enabling a match to the drift-bounce frequencies of these ions, and resonant energy transfer from these particles to the eigenfunction at this location. This

generates the Pc4-5 second harmonic poloidal waves at a much lower L region than would otherwise be expected.

1 Introduction

The Earth's plasmasphere consists of cold, dense plasma from the ionosphere. The dynamics of the plasmasphere can be understood by considering the balance between source and loss processes, due to ion outflow from the ionosphere and transport to the magnetopause, respectively. This transport is in turn understood by a balance of competing processes, namely co-rotation with the Earth's rotational motion, and magnetospheric convection, driven by day and night side magnetic reconnection rates. During intervals of strong convection during geomagnetic storms, the dayside outer plasmasphere surges outward by enhanced sunward convection, forming a plasmaspheric drainage plume in the dusk sector, which transports the cold plasma from the plasmasphere to the dayside magnetopause. Under sustained strong convection this structure can become increasingly narrow and localized to the afternoon sector as the remnant of the outer plasmasphere is gradually lost to the magnetopause. Then, as sunward convection weakens during the storm recovery phase, the remnant plume, now a narrow filamentary structure, co-rotates eastward with the Earth and becomes wrapped around nightside and morning sector (e.g., Fu et al., 2016; Goldstein et al., 2005; Spasojević et al., 2003). The plasmaspheric plume is usually detected as a "detached plasma" region, which is a distinctly isolated region with sudden and significant increase in the total plasma density (e.g., Chappell, 1970, 1974).

The Pc4-5 ultra-low-frequency (ULF) waves are electromagnetic oscillations in the Earth's magnetosphere with frequency between ~1 mHz and 22.2 mHz. According to whether the magnetic field perturbations are in the radial or azimuthal directions, they are classified as toroidal or poloidal mode. Pc4-5 Toroidal waves with low m are usually considered to be caused by external sources, such as Kelvin–Helmholtz instability (KHI) along the magnetopause (e.g., Claudepierre et al., 2008; Ling et al., 2018; Rae et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2018), solar wind dynamic pressure impulse (e.g., Allan et al., 1986; Degeling et al., 2014; Lee et al., 1989; Shen et al., 2015, 2017; Shi et al., 2013, 2014; Tian et al., 2016; Zong et al., 2012), and foreshock transients (e.g., Hartinger et al., 2013; Shen et al., 2018). Pc4-5 Poloidal waves with high wave number are usually driven by localized kinetic plasma instabilities such as the

drift-bounce resonance instability (e.g., Southwood, 1976; Yang et al., 2010; Oimatsu et al., 2018), the free energy could be generally provided by bump-on-tail distribution at low-energy (~1–10 keV) (e.g., Liu et al., 2013; Shi et al., 2018; Takahashi et al., 2018) or inward gradient of ion phase space density at high-energy (tens to hundreds keV) (e.g., Dai et al., 2013; Min et al., 2017; Yamamoto et al., 2018).

Alfvénic standing waves are characterized by a 90° phase difference between the electric field and magnetic field components (e.g., Singer et al., 1982). The sign of phase delay can be used to diagnose the harmonics mode of Pc4-5 ULF waves, for instance, the poloidal mode could be second harmonic (fundamental) wave if the phase of the radial magnetic field *Br* leads (lags) the azimuthal electric field *Ea* by 90°, if measured slightly south of the magnetic equator (e.g., Hao et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2013; Takahashi et al., 2011, 2014; Zhang et al., 2018). For poloidal mode waves, the second harmonic mode is the most common phenomenon in the Earth's magnetosphere, which is usually observed on the duskside near L~5–6 with frequency in Pc4 band (6.7–22.2 mHz) (e.g., Dai et al., 2015). Occasionally, fundamental poloidal waves are also observed in the dawnside magnetosphere near L~5–6 with frequency in Pc4 and Pc5 bands (1–6.7 mHz), and have been identified as giant pulsations on the ground (e.g., Glassmeier et al., 1999; Rostoker et al., 1979; Takahashi et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2018).

In this paper, we present a 6.7 mHz (the boundary between the Pc4 and Pc5 bands) second harmonic poloidal ULF wave event near L~6 in the dawnside plasmaspheric plume. We find that the observed poloidal oscillations are associated with a variety of periodic particle modulations at different energies, and are likely generated by drift-bounce resonance of ions with an inward radial gradient of the phase space density. In addition, we also confirmed the controlling effect of the plasmaspheric plume in the generation of Pc4-5 ULF wave.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we introduce the data set and the satellite orbits used in this study. In section 3, we present the satellite observations. In section 4, we discuss the wave-particle modulations and generation mechanism of the wave. Section 5 gives the main conclusions.

2 Data Set and Orbit

The magnetospheric measurements used in this study are mainly from the

THEMIS mission, which consists of five identical satellites (TH-A, B, C, D, and E) with orbital inclination of about 10° (Angelopoulos, 2008). We use ~3 s resolution spin-fit magnetic field data from the fluxgate magnetometer (Auster et al., 2008), ~3 s resolution ion (5 eV-25 keV) and electron (6 eV-30 keV) data from the electrostatic analyzer (ESA; McFadden et al., 2008), ~3 s resolution ion (25 keV-6 MeV) and electron energy fluxes (25 keV-900 keV) from the solid state telescope (SST; Larson et al., 2008), and electric field data and spacecraft potential data from the electric field instrument (EFI; Bonnell et al., 2008). The ESA provides 22.5° ×11.25° inherent angular resolution (~22.5° pitch angle resolution) over 4π str. The SST provides 30° $\times 11.25^{\circ}$ inherent angular resolution (~22.5° pitch angle resolution) over 3π str (Angelopoulos, 2008). Figure 1 shows the orbits of TH-A, D, E in the GSM X-Y plane. The waves in the plume are observed by TH-E, whose orbit was outbound in the morning sector (the radial distance R \approx 5.3-7 R_E, MLT \approx 5.3-6.1 h, MLAT \approx -11°) during 01:00–02:10 UT on 22 March 2013. The results of the test particle code by Goldstein et al. (2014), showing the simulated plasmapause location during this event used and were in Figure 1 are publicly available at http://enarc.space.swri.edu/PTP/. These results provide an estimate of the time-varying global plasmapause location in 15 minutes time steps over a time range from 2012 to 2015, based on the solar wind data and Kp geomagnetic index.

A local field-aligned-cartesian (FAC) coordinate system with parallel (z), azimuthal (a) and radial (r) components is used to study waves, which is defined by:

$$\mathbf{z} = \frac{\boldsymbol{B}_0}{|\boldsymbol{B}_0|}; \boldsymbol{a} = \frac{\boldsymbol{z} \times \boldsymbol{R}}{|\boldsymbol{z} \times \boldsymbol{R}|}; \boldsymbol{r} = \boldsymbol{a} \times \boldsymbol{z} \quad (1)$$

where B_{θ} is derived by taking a 20-min running average of the magnetic field data, **R** is the outward position vector from Earth's center to the satellite.



Figure 1. Orbits of TH-A (grey), TH-D (purple), TH-E (red) in the GSM X-Y plane during 01:00–02:10 UT on 22 March 2013 are marked by the thick solid lines. The dashed curves represent the orbits of the whole day. The magnetopause is plotted based on the Shue et al. (1998) model with the averaged solar wind dynamic pressure = 1.37 nPa and IMF B_Z = 5.8 nT; The green region indicates the plasmapheric plume region at 01:00 UT on 22 March 2013, derived from the plasmapause test particle simulations of Goldstein et al. (2014).

3 Observation

3.1 The Pc4-5 Poloidal Wave in the Dawnside Plume

Figure 2 is an overview of this wave event. Figure 2a shows the electron density derived from spacecraft potential measurements. A density enhancement over the radial distance range from 5.3 to 7 R_E is observed, suggesting the presence of a plasmaspheric plume, which is also in good morphological agreement with the plume model shown in Figure 1. Figures 2b-2j show the magnetic field, velocity, and electric field components in the FAC coordinate system, all these components show clear wave characteristics. Figures 2k-2s show the power spectral density (PSD) of the components in corresponding left Figures 2b-2j, which are derived by the fast Fourier transform (FFT) analysis. We can see that there is an obvious single spectral peak at 6.7 mHz for each panel, and the PSD of the wave component *Br*, *Vr* and *Ea* dominate

over the other components. Therefore, this event is considered a quasi-monochromatic poloidal Pc4-5 wave event. One of the interesting features is that this wave exists after the TH-E enters into the plume region (two black vertical lines in left panels), which suggests the ULF wave event is likely associated with the plasmaspheric plume. Furthermore, a minor geomagnetic storm with a minimum Dst value of -54 nT occurred about 1.5 days before this event, which may be the reason why the plume was observed in the dawnside as introduced in section 1.



Figure 2. Observations by TH-E on 22 Mar 2013: (a) Electron density derived from the spacecraft potential measurement; (b–d) magnetic field components, (e–g) velocity components, and (h–j) electric field components in the FAC coordinate system; (k–s) FFT analysis to the components in corresponding left panels b-j.

3.2 Energy Spectrum and Particle Flux

Figures 3a and 3b show the omnidirectional ion energy spectrum measured from the SST (25 keV to 6 MeV) and ESA (5 eV to 25 keV) at 01:00–02:10 UT, respectively. We can see that there are three different modulations in higher, middle and lower energies. The line plot in Figures 3e, 3f, and 3g show the omnidirectional ion flux at different energies, providing more clear information for these modulations as follows. Figure 3e shows anti-phase modulations between *Br* and higher energy ions (>50 keV); the characteristics of drift-bounce resonance (180° phase shift) at ~2–6 keV are shown in Figure 3f (Southwood and Kivelson, 1981; Zhou et al., 2016); and double peaks at lower energy (<32 eV) are shown in panel g, which could be the result of *E* cross *B* effect (Hirahara et al.,2004; Sakurai et al., 2014). In addition, Figures 4c and 4d show the electron energy spectrum measured by SST (30 keV to 900 keV) and ESA (6 eV to 30 keV), respectively. There is also an anti-phase modulation between *Br* and higher energy electrons (30 keV to 700 keV), although the line plots are not shown here. Additionally, there are no clear modulations at ~8-25 keV (as shown in Figure 3b).





Figure 3. The omnidirectional energy spectrum and particle flux of ions and electrons. Panels a and b (c and d) are the energy spectrum for ions (electrons) measured by SST and ESA, respectively. Panels e-g show the ion flux at different energies. Panels h and i show the perturbation of total and radial magnetic field strength Bt and Br, respectively. The black lines in panels e-i indicate the location of the troughs in Br.

3.3 Pitch Angle Spectrogram

Figure 4 shows the pitch angle distribution of ion energy flux in six different energy channels. We can see that there are steady periodic flux modulations and clear pitch angle dispersions with negative slope in these energy channels (~2–6 keV and ~ 50–75 keV). In each wave cycle, the peak (or valley) of flux have the largest time lag at 0° pitch angle, and decrease with increasing pitch angle. This is another characteristic of drift-bounce resonance, which may be caused by the time of flight effect to the satellite in the southern hemisphere (MLAT \approx -11°; Ren et al., 2017; Yang et al., 2011).



Figure 4. Pitch angle spectrogram for ions with different energies. The color indicates the residual flux $(J-J_0)/J_0$ (Hao et al., 2017), where *J* is the original energy flux measured by TH-E and J_0 is the 20-min running average of *J*.

3.4 Azimuthal Wave Number

Azimuthal wave number can be estimated by two methods: one is to analyze the phase delay between multiple satellites or ground magnetometers and radars (Shi et al., 2018; Takahashi et al., 2013; Tian et al., 2012), the other is to use finite Larmor radius effects of energy flux at one satellite (Min et al., 2017; Takahashi et al., 2018). In this study, we use the second method, because only a single satellite (TH-E) detected this wave event and no ground signal response was observed. This may be due to the highly localized wave structure and the ionospheric screening effect (Hughes & Southwood, 1976).

An observable gyro phase dependence in particle flux can develop at energies where the particle gyroradius ρ_L is comparable with the perpendicular wavelength λ_{\perp} (Kivelson and Southwood, 1983). As shown in Figure 5a, the gyrocenter of measured particles are located away from spacecraft by ρ_L , and they will be located in different phases of the wave for different gyro phases. Therefore, the spin modulation of the measured particle flux *j* can be expressed as (Min et al., 2017):

$$j \sim \exp(i\mathbf{k}_{\perp} \cdot \overline{\boldsymbol{\rho}_{L}} - i\omega t)$$
 (2)

where k_{\perp} is the perpendicular wave number, $\overrightarrow{\rho_L}$ is the vector form the spacecraft to the gyrocenter of measured particle, and ω is the wave frequency.

Figure 5b shows the energy flux as a function of gyro phase near 90° pitch angle for ions with energy ~57 keV. We can see that there are clear periodic modulations, and the flux modulations are earlier at 90° (270°) than 180°, which indicates that the wave is propagating westward. Figure 5c shows the line plot of energy flux at 90° and 180° in Figure 5b, respectively. Figure 5d shows the band-pass filtered results for the measurements in Figure 5c, and we can see that the average phase delay between the energy flux at 90° and 180° is $\tau \approx -38.6$ s. From equation (2), we can estimate the wave number by calculating the phase delay τ in the 90° and 180° as $\tau \omega = k_{\perp} \cdot \rho_L$. Finally, assuming that the resonance ions are protons, the azimuthal wave number is calculated to be m= $k_{\perp} \cdot R \approx$ [-257, -216], where R is the distance from Earth's center to the spacecraft (as shown in supplementary Figure S1a-c). Moreover, it is clear that the fluxes are higher in the 90° -180° sector than in 180° -270° sector, which means there is an inward radial gradient of ions of ~57 keV.



Figure 5. The finite Larmor radius effects shown in ion energy fluxes. (a) Illustration of measured particle from different look directions. The four lines represent the trajectories of particles with the guiding center located at 0° , 90° , 180° , and 270° . (b) Energy flux in different gyro phase for ions with 57 keV. (c) Energy flux of ions with the guiding center located at 90° (red) and 180° (blue). (d) Band-pass-filtered signals of energy flux in panel c.

4 Discussion

4.1 Harmonic Mode

Figure 6 shows the process of analyzing harmonic mode of this poloidal wave event. In Figure 6b, the 5.7–7.7 mHz band-pass-filtered signals of radial magnetic field Br and azimuthal electric field Ea are plotted for this wave event. The phase differences between the band-pass-filtered Br and Ea are shown in the Figure 6c. We can find that the phase of Br leads Ea by ~90°. Because the satellite is located slightly south of the magnetic equator (MLAT \approx -11°), this event can be identified as an even harmonic standing wave, as discussed in the introduction. Furthermore, we also compare the observed wave frequency with the numerically calculated field line eigenfrequency (calculated following the method of Rankin et al. (2006) and Degeling et al. (2010)), as shown in Figure 6d. In the numerical calculation, the background ions are considered as protons, and the mass density on the equatorial plane is retrieved from satellite measurements. We can see that the wave frequency of 6.7 mHz (dashed line) is close to the simulated second harmonic eigenfrequency (red line). Therefore, we confirm that the observed ULF waves in the plume are second harmonic poloidal oscillations. In addition, it is noteworthy that the second harmonic poloidal eigenfrequency decreases rapidly to the wave frequency at the beginning of Figure 6d. This is attributed to the sudden increase of the plasma density when TH-E enters the plume. Moreover, TH-A and TH-D detected 17.1 mHz second harmonic poloidal waves and 3.6 mHz fundamental toroidal waves, respectively. Their frequencies and wave modes are different from the wave detected by TH-E. This implies that the waves observed by TH-E may occur only in the plume and are localized second harmonic poloidal wave.



Figure 6. (a) The radial magnetic field Br (black) and azimuthal electric field Ea (red). (b) Band-pass-filtered (5.7 to 7.7 mHz) signals of Br and Ea in Panel a. (c) The phase differences between the band-pass-filtered Br and Ea. The three black dashed lines indicate the 60°, 90°, and 120° phase differences, respectively. (d) The simulated fundamental poloidal eigenfrequency (blue) and second harmonic poloidal eigenfrequency (red), respectively.

4.2 Wave-particle Modulation

As shown in section 3.2-3.3 (Figure 3f and 4), There are three different modulations between the wave and ions, including: (1) the double peaks at lower energy ions (<32 eV); (2) the drift-bounce resonance at $\sim2-6$ keV and $\sim50-75$ keV; and (3) an anti-phase modulation between *Br* and higher energy particles (>75 keV). The first two modulations will be discussed in the following section, and the third modulation could be the result of the radial oscillation of the field line carrying particles with large inward flux gradient.

4.2.1 E cross B Effect

Figure 7a shows the ion fluxes of lower energy ions (6 eV and 11 eV) in Figure 3g at 01:00–02:10 UT. It is clear that there are double peaks in each wave cycle, which are indicated by the vertical dashed lines. We calculated the increased particle energy produced by accounting for *E* cross *B* drift motion, as shown in Figure 7b. We can see that the trend in Figure 7b is in good agreement with that in Figure 7a, which means that the double peaks are the results of the cold plasma in the plume being modulated by the observed wave through the *E* cross *B* effect.



Figure 7. (a) Ion flux for energy of 6 eV and 11 eV, which is the same as that of Figure 3g during 01:00-02:10 UT, (b) the calculated ion energy by *E* cross *B* effect. The black lines are the same as that in Figure 3.

4.2.2 Drift-bounce Resonance

The theory of interaction between charged particles and ULF waves via the

drift-bounce resonance has been well developed (Southwood, 1976; Southwood and Kivelson, 1981; Zhou et al., 2016). The condition of drift-bounce resonance can be expressed as

$$\omega - m\omega_d = N \,\omega_b \tag{3}$$

where ω is the wave angular frequency, ω_d is the particle drift angular frequency, ω_b is the particle bounce angular frequency, m is the azimuthal wave number, and N is an integer (e.g. N= ±1 representing the second harmonic mode; Southwood, 1969). The proton angular drift frequency ω_d and bounce frequency ω_b can be calculated based on the following equations (Chisham et al., 1996; Hamlin et al., 1961; Li et al., 1993):

$$\omega_b = \frac{\pi \sqrt{\frac{W}{2m_i}}}{LR_E(1.3 - 0.56sin\alpha)} \tag{4}$$

$$\omega_d = -\frac{3LWR_E(0.7+0.3sin\alpha)}{qk_0} + \frac{90(1-0.159K_P+0.0093K_P^2)^{-3}L^3R_Esin\theta}{k_0} + \Omega_E$$
(5)

where W is particle energy, m_i is the ion mass, α is the particle's equatorial pitch angle, q is electric charge of particle, k_0 is the magnetic moment of Earth's dipole, R_E is the Earth's radius, Kp is the geomagnetic activity index, θ is the azimuthal angle ($\theta = MLT/24 \times 360$), and Ω_E is the angular frequency of the Earth's rotation.

Therefore, we can calculate the drift-bounce resonance energy of ions for the observed 6.7 mHz second harmonic poloidal wave with m-number range of [-257, -216] at $L \approx 6.6$ and MLT ≈ 6 from equation (3–5). The calculated resonant energy is ~4.9 keV for N = 1 resonance of protons, and 59.5-76 keV for N = -1 resonance of protons (as shown in supplementary Figure S1d). In this work, both the energy spectrum and the pitch angle distribution show that the drift-bounce resonance occurs at ~2–6 keV, which is consistent with the calculated resonant energy 4.9 keV for N = 1 proton resonance. The pitch angle distribution in Figure 4 also shows the drift-bounce resonance exists at ~50–75 keV, which are also consistent with the calculated resonance. Unfortunately, we can't prove the type of resonance particles more precisely because THEMIS satellite cannot distinguish the composition of particles.

4.3 Source of Free Energy

Several generation mechanisms can produce second harmonic Pc4-5 poloidal mode waves. Poloidal waves generated by an external source are usually global waves with a low m number, and a strong compressional component (Dai et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2013), which are different from the observations in this paper. We also checked the solar wind data (e.g. from the GEOTAIL satellite), and found no evidence supporting the excitation of the observed waves by an external source. For internal sources, it has been well accepted that second harmonic poloidal waves are frequently generated by the drift-bounce resonance. Whether a given drift-bounce resonance contributes to wave generation depends on the ion phase space density and whether free energy in the particle distribution exists that can be transferred to the wave. The condition for instability is given by (Southwood and Hughes, 1983):

$$\frac{dF}{dW} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial W}\Big|_{M,L} + \left(\frac{dL}{dW}\right)\frac{\partial F}{\partial L}\Big|_{M,W} > 0, \ \frac{dL}{dW} \approx \frac{mR_E L^2}{q\omega k_0} \tag{6}$$

where F is the particle phase space density, W is particle energy, M is the magnetic moment, q is electric charge of a particle, k_0 is the magnetic moment of Earth's dipole, and R_E is the Earth's radius. This equation indicates that both the bump-on-tail structure distribution (the first term) and a radial inward gradient of particles (the second term) could provide free energy to the generation of wave.

Figure 8a shows the phase space density (PSD) distribution of ions for different energies and pitch angles at L~6.18. The thick black (red) lines in the figure are contours of constant magnetic moment for the resonant protons (Mres1 = 57 (keV) $\sin^2(90^\circ)/137$ (nT), Mres2 = 4 (keV) $\sin^2(90^\circ)/137$ (nT)). Figures 8b show the relationship between the phase space density and energy along the thick black and red lines of Figure 8a. We can see that there are no obvious positive phase space density gradients ($\partial F/\partial W|_{M, L} \sim -118 \text{ s}^3 \text{ km}^{-6} \text{ keV}^{-1}$) for 4 keV, which means this wave event could not be generated by bump-on-tail distribution at low energy. Figure 8c-8d shows the phase space density (PSD) distribution of 57 keV and 4 keV ions for different L and pith angles. The thick red lines in the figure also are contours of constant magnetic moment. Figure 8e-8f shows the relationship between the phase space density and *L*-shell along the red thick lines of Figure 8c-8d. A significant inward gradient ($\partial F/\partial L|_{M, W} \sim -4.11 \text{ s}^3 \text{ km}^{-6}$) in the plume for 57 keV is shown in Figure 8e, which is consistent with the results of Figure 5. From equation (6), we find

For 57 keV:
$$\frac{dF}{dW} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial W}\Big|_{M,L} + \left(\frac{dL}{dW}\right)\frac{\partial F}{\partial L}\Big|_{M,W} \sim -0.2 - 0.18 \times (-4.11)$$

$$\sim 0.54 \ (s^3 km^{-6} keV^{-1}) > 0$$

For 4 keV: $\frac{dF}{dW} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial W}\Big|_{M,L} + \left(\frac{dL}{dW}\right)\frac{\partial F}{\partial L}\Big|_{M,W} \sim -118 - 0.18 \times 200$
 $\sim -154 \ (s^3 km^{-6} keV^{-1}) < 0$

This suggests that the free energy for wave generation could be provided by the inward radial gradient of \sim 57 keV.



Figure 8. (a) Phase space density for different energy and pitch angle. (b-c) Phase space density as a function of energy (c-d) Phase space density of 57 keV and 4 keV ions for different L and pitch angle. (e-f) Phase space density as a function of L for

ions with 57 keV and 4 keV.

4.4 The Effect of the Plume

Figure 9 shows the overviews of TH-D (left), TH-E (middle) and TH-A (right) in the region of this wave event. The top three panels show the orbits of TH-A (sienna), TH-D (purple), TH-E (red) at different times. The green regions indicate the simulated plasmaspheric plume regions. Figures 9a-9j display the electron density, magnetic field, velocity and electric field components in the same format as Figures 2a-2j. We can see that TH-D and TH-A traversed through the same region 2h before and 3h later when there is no plume, and neither satellite observed waves. We also checked the phase space density distributions of TH-D and TH-A, and found that both of them detected similar radial inward gradient distribution near 57 keV with that of TH-E. These suggest that the existence of the ULF wave is likely associated with the observed plasmaspheric plume. The possible reason is that the standing ULF waves can only be observed at the locations where the drift-bounce resonance frequency matches the local eigenfrequency. In this study, we suggest that the high plasma density in the plasmaspheric plume plays a role in reducing the local eigenfrequency (as shown in Figure 6d) to match the drift-bounce frequency and excite the second harmonic poloidal oscillations in the dawnside.



Figure 9. Orbits of TH-A (grey), TH-D (purple), TH-E (red) and observations by TH-D, E, A. (a) Electron density derived from the spacecraft potential measurement; (b–d) magnetic field components, (e–g) velocity components, and (h–j) electric field components in the FAC coordinate system.

5 Conclusion

High-m localized second harmonic poloidal oscillations were observed in a dawnside plasmaspheric plume. We find that the observed waves are likely generated by drift-bounce resonance with an inward radial gradient distribution at higher energy (~50-75 keV). These waves can also modulate particles through drift-bounce resonance at 2–6 keV and $E \times B$ effect at lower energy (<32 eV). In addition to the duskside plasmaspheric plume, this study confirms that the dense and cold plasma in the plasmaspheric plume controls the generation of Pc4-5 poloidal ULF waves on the dawnside by reducing the local field line eigenfrequency to the resonant frequency.

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