

# Energy partition of ions and electrons in the course of magnetic reconnection

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#### Observations of Ti/Te in Magnetosphere



Hot ions in Earth's magnetotail are believed to be generated during magnetic reconnection

$$T_i / T_e = 5 \sim 10$$

(cf. Baumjohann+ JGR 1989; Eastwood+ PRL 2013; Phan+ GRL 2013)



Wang+ JGR 2012

## $T_i \& T_e$ Heating in PIC simulation



cf. Simulation study of plasma heating: Wu+ PRL 2013; Shay+ PoP 2014; Haggerty+ GRL 2015

#### How can we understand the preferential ion heating?

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Distinguish adiabatic heating and  
non-adiabatic heating  
$$\frac{D}{Dt}\left(\frac{p}{\gamma-1}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{\gamma-1}\right)\frac{\gamma}{\varrho}\frac{D\varrho}{Dt} + Q_{heat}$$
Adiabatic Nonadiabatic  
$$Q_{heat} = \eta J^2 + \text{others}$$
Ohmic/Joule Heating Slow Shock, Turbulence...

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If adiabatic heating,  $PV^{\gamma} = const$ 

t=t, t=t2 t= t3

V is the volume of flux tube

## Evolution of Magnetic Flux Tube



## Time History & T-V Relation



Adiabatic process after B-flux tube merging/re-connection

#### Ti/Te during B-flux merging stage



#### Thermodynamics of Reconnection



## Nonadiabatic heating during B-flux merging



collisionless/inertia conductivity

$$\sigma_j = \frac{ne^2}{m_j \nu_{c,j}} \propto \frac{\Delta_j}{\left(m_j T_j\right)^{1/2}}$$

(e.g. Coppi+ 1966; Hoh 1966; Galeev & Zeleny 1976)

meandering length

$$d_j = \sqrt{\frac{v_{th,j}\lambda}{\Omega_{cj}}} \propto \left(m_j T_j\right)^{1/4}$$

(e.g., Sonnerup 1971)

width of reconnection region

$$\Delta_j \propto \left( m_j T_j \right)^{1/4}$$

(e.g., Coroniti 1985)

 $\frac{\Delta T_i}{\Delta T_e} = \frac{\text{ion Joule heating}}{\text{ele. Joule heating}} = \frac{\sigma_i E^2 \Delta_i d_i}{\sigma_e E^2 \Delta_e d_e}$ 

$$\frac{\Delta T_i}{\Delta T_e} = \frac{(m_i T_i)^{1/4}}{(m_e T_e)^{1/4}}$$



## initial temperature dependence



### Thermodynamics of Reconnection



### Summary

- Energy Partition of Ion & Electron during Magnetic Reconnection
- Two distinct heating stages:
  Effective Ohmic/Joule Heating

$$\frac{\Delta T_i}{\Delta T_e} = \left(\frac{m_i}{m_e} \frac{T_{i0}}{T_{e0}}\right)^{1/4}$$

- Adiabatic Compression (for anti-parallel reconnection)  $\frac{D}{Dt}(TV^{\gamma-1}) = 0$
- **I** Ion heating is less effective with increasing  $B_G$  field