

Reply to Reviewer 3:

We thank the reviewer for his constructive comments.

The required changes made on the original MS are shown in blue in the submitted pdf-file.

These are as follows:

Page 2, line 21 : « Here we demonstrate .. » should be replaced by « Here we suggest .. »

done (thanks very much)

Page 9, line 17 : « being somewhat shorter in parallel wavelength ... » should be replaced by « being somewhat longer in parallel wavelength ... »

done (thanks again)

Page 13, line 8 : « ...has no effect at all on the global level of anisotropy ... » this statement seems to be a little bit exaggerated and contradictory with the statement written page 12, line 15 « A low level of bulk pressure/temperature anisotropy will always be retained even quasilinearly ». The authors could attenuate and/or discuss their statement and quote for instance Sydora et al., GRL, 2007. Indeed using PIC simulations, these authors showed that the initial electron temperature anisotropy is reduced (but not cancelled) due to the parallel heating of the electrons by the wave/particle interaction.

thanks again. We reworded this sentence such that it does not contradict to the former statement. We also cited the paper by Sydora et al. which indeed fits perfectly in what we intended. The new sentence is in blue in the MS, where we wrote:

“Depletion of the latter by quasilinear saturation of the whistler instability has little effect on the global temperature anisotropy which drives mirror modes unstable; it partially quenches the emission of whistlers (or in a similar way also ion-cyclotron waves). Since, however, quasilinear saturation never completely depletes the initial resonant anisotropy, some amount of anisotropy will even in this case remain [the reader may consult the related simulations of Sydora et al{2007} which apply to the whistler case]. Such a rudimentary anisotropy which is located in velocity space around the resonant population may, if large enough, nonetheless contribute to a global anisotropy which then affects the evolution of the mirror instability.”

Page 13, line 15 : replacing « exhausting » by « exhaustive » would be more appropriate and unambiguous.

done. thanks very much.

Page 14, line 24 : « for in any weak turbulence»

changed. thanks again.