

Abstract Submitted
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Ion Sound Turbulence¹ REINER STENZEL, J. MANUEL URRUTIA,
Physics & Astronomy, UCLA — The turbulence created by streaming ions through
a stationary plasma is studied. The velocity of the streaming ions is selected via
a biasing voltage. In situ probes are used to measure the local and time-varying
plasma parameters, ion distribution functions, and the turbulence itself. Density
fluctuations are recorded in time and space, Fourier transformed into frequency
space, and cross-correlated in space. The fluctuations are identified as ion sound
modes and their growth rate is shown to depend on the beam energy. The interaction
of density fluctuations with electromagnetic waves is investigated. Strong scattering
of electromagnetic signals is observed when the wave is guided by a transmission
line through a turbulent plasma. The effect is enhanced by forming a transmission
line resonator and applying frequencies on the slope of the resonance curve. This
suggests a possible method to eliminate the modulation of a high frequency signal
by plasma turbulence.

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Reiner Stenzel
Physics & Astronomy, UCLA

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