

Butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons driven by parallel propagating lower band whistler chorus waves

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Abstract

We report results from a test particle simulation to reveal that electron scattering driven by lower band whistler chorus waves propagating along a magnetic field line plays an important role to produce the butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons. The results show that two nonlinear scattering processes, which are the phase trapping and the dislocation process, contribute to the formation of the butterfly distribution within a minute. We confirm that the quasilinear diffusion estimated from the whistler chorus waves are too slow to reproduce the butterfly distribution within a minute. The simulation results also show that there is the upper limit of rapid electron acceleration. We expect that the upper limit of the rapid flux enhancement is an evidence that the phase trapping process contributes to relativistic electron acceleration in the heart of the outer radiation belt.

1 Butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons driven by 2 parallel propagating lower band whistler chorus waves

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7 **Key Points:**

- 8 • A test particle simulation of electron scattering induced by lower band whistler
9 chorus waves along a magnetic field line is carried out.
- 10 • The electron scattering with nonlinear properties produces butterfly distribution
11 of relativistic electrons within a minute.
- 12 • The upper limit of electron acceleration for the butterfly distribution appears due
13 to the upper limit of the nonlinear scattering.

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Abstract

We report results from a test particle simulation to reveal that electron scattering driven by lower band whistler chorus waves propagating along a magnetic field line plays an important role to produce the butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons. The results show that two nonlinear scattering processes, which are the phase trapping and the dislocation process, contribute to the formation of the butterfly distribution within a minute. We confirm that the quasilinear diffusion estimated from the whistler chorus waves are too slow to reproduce the butterfly distribution within a minute. The simulation results also show that there is the upper limit of rapid electron acceleration. We expect that the upper limit of the rapid flux enhancement is an evidence that the phase trapping process contributes to relativistic electron acceleration in the heart of the outer radiation belt.

Plain Language Summary

Radiation belt electrons have various pitch angle distributions in response to global/local processes arising in the magnetosphere. Butterfly pitch angle distribution is a characteristic feature of the electron pitch angle distribution, which has the maximum flux intensity at a pitch angle lower than 90 degrees. Wave-particle interactions have been proposed as a driver for the butterfly distribution in the heart of the radiation belt. However, it is in debate how the wave-particle interactions contribute to the formation of the butterfly distribution of multi-megaelectron (MeV) volt electrons that is "killer electrons". In this Letter, we report that lower band whistler chorus waves play an important role for the electron butterfly distribution at MeV energies. A numerical simulation was carried out and showed that electrons nonlinearly scattered by the whistler chorus waves produce the butterfly distribution at MeV energies. The simulation also showed the upper limit of the rapid electron acceleration in the formation of the butterfly distribution. The simulation results advance our understanding of a formation mechanism of MeV electron butterfly distribution driven by whistler chorus waves.

1 Introduction

Dynamics in earth's magnetosphere causes variety of electron pitch angle distribution. One of characteristic features of electron pitch angle distribution in the magnetosphere is the butterfly distribution, which has the flux minimum at a pitch angle lower

45 than 90° . A well-known cause of the butterfly distribution is the drift shell splitting (Roederer,
46 1967; Pfitzer et al., 1969; Sibeck et al., 1987; Selesnick & Blake, 2002). The day-night
47 asymmetric magnetosphere is responsible for the butterfly distribution. Here, the drift
48 shell is a closed surface on which trapped electrons travel around the Earth, and it ex-
49 pands more outward in the local noon in the case that electrons have higher equatorial
50 pitch angles. In the case that the drift shell is in contact with the magnetopause bound-
51 ary, electrons in the drift shell may escape into the interplanetary space, which is known
52 as the magnetopause shadowing (MPS) process (Wilken et al., 1986; Matsumura et al.,
53 2011). Following that leaking process of the electrons from the magnetosphere, the MPS
54 contributes to the butterfly formation (West Jr. et al., 1973) by reducing the electron
55 flux at high equatorial pitch angles. As another cause of the butterfly formation, it is
56 proposed that electrons with high pitch angles are scattered due to large magnetic field
57 curvature (Artemyev et al., 2015). The drift shell splitting, MPS, and the field curva-
58 ture scattering are responsible for the butterfly distribution only in the outer edge of the
59 outer radiation belt. However, Van Allen Probes observations have found butterfly dis-
60 tributions of relativistic electrons well inside the outer radiation belt (Ni et al., 2016).
61 It suggests the butterfly distributions driven by some other physical mechanisms.

62 One of the mechanisms is quasilinear scattering process by wave-particle interac-
63 tions. Xiao et al. (2015); Li et al. (2016) proposed a quasilinear diffusion process by mag-
64 netosonic (MS) waves with wavenumber almost perpendicular to magnetic field lines. The
65 MS waves accelerate electrons at pitch angle of about 90° along the direction parallel
66 to the magnetic field line by Landau resonant interactions. The scattering reduces the
67 electron flux at about 90° pitch angle and increases the flux lower than 90° pitch angle,
68 which results in the formation of the butterfly distribution. Another driver for the elec-
69 tron scattering is whistler chorus waves, which are intense, coherent, and right handed
70 polarized electromagnetic waves naturally generated outside the plasmopause near the
71 magnetic equator (LeDocq et al., 1998; Lauben et al., 2002; Parrot et al., 2003; Santolík
72 et al., 2003; Miyoshi et al., 2003, 2013). In the case that energetic electrons are scattered
73 at high magnetic latitudes, the whistler chorus waves could be responsible for the for-
74 mation of the butterfly distribution (Horne & Thorne, 2003). On the other hand, the
75 quasilinear diffusion model suggests that its contribution to the formation of butterfly
76 distribution is low, and rather, the parallel propagating whistler chorus waves prevent
77 the butterfly formation of relativistic electrons (Yang et al., 2016). Note that the quasi-

78 linear model does not include nonlinear scattering processes by intense whistler chorus
79 waves. Test particle simulations (Gan et al., 2020; Saito et al., 2021) demonstrated that
80 the nonlinear phase trapping by upper band whistler chorus waves causes pitch angle
81 distributions of tens keV electrons to be butterfly shape in half a minute as observed by
82 Van Allen Probes (Fennell et al., 2014) and Arase (Kurita et al., 2018). It suggests that
83 the nonlinear scattering processes can be responsible for the formation of the butterfly
84 distribution of radiation belt electrons. The test particle simulations demonstrated the
85 contribution of the nonlinear scattering of the upper band whistler chorus waves to the
86 butterfly distribution of tens keV electrons, but its contribution of the lower band whistler
87 chorus (LBC) waves to MeV electrons has not been verified.

88 In order to investigate a formation process of the butterfly PAD of relativistic elec-
89 trons, we have conducted a test particle simulation for the relativistic electron scatter-
90 ing by LBC waves propagating along a magnetic field line in the heart of the outer ra-
91 diation belt. The simulation results showed that the LBC waves produce the butterfly
92 distribution of relativistic electrons. We found that electrons satisfying the nonlinear scat-
93 tering condition dominantly is responsible for the formation of the butterfly distribution
94 of relativistic electrons. We evaluated that quasilinear diffusion coefficients derived from
95 the LBC waves are insufficient for the flux enhancement in relativistic energies. There-
96 fore, we conclude that the nonlinear scattering processes of LBC is important for the but-
97 tterfly formation of relativistic electrons. The butterfly distribution could have a key in-
98 formation to identify whether the nonlinear scatterings contribute to the relativistic elec-
99 tron acceleration in the heart of the outer radiation belt.

100 **2 Simulation model and parameters**

101 The test particle simulation model used in this study is GEMISIS-RBW model Saito
102 et al. (2012). The model solves the guiding center equation of motion for the adiabatic
103 motion along a magnetic field line and the equation of motion for the nonadiabatic mo-
104 mentum change in time by whistler waves. The whistler waves propagate along the mag-
105 netic field line, satisfying the dispersion relation of the cold plasma. The details are de-
106 scribed in Saito et al. (2012, 2016). The application to pulsating aurora and microbursts
107 are found in Miyoshi et al. (2015, 2020, 2021).

108 The GEMSIS-RBW simulation demonstrates adiabatic and nonadiabatic motion
 109 of 10^6 electrons along the dipole magnetic field line at $L = 4$. The electrons are sup-
 110 posed to be lost at 100 km altitude, which corresponds to the equatorial loss cone an-
 111 gles of 5.47° . As the initial condition, test particles as electrons are uniformly distributed
 112 in the logarithm of energy E ranging from 10 keV to 10 MeV and the equatorial pitch an-
 113 gles α_{eq} ranging from the loss cone to 90° . The random bounce and gyrophase are also
 114 given to each electron.

115 A particle weight is given to each electron using the particle weight method (Saito
 116 et al., 2021). The weights are given to reproduce the initial electron flux distribution cor-
 117 responding to

$$j(E, \alpha_{eq}, t = 0) = j_0 \left(\frac{E}{E_0} \right)^{-p} \sin \alpha_{eq}, \quad (1)$$

118 where $j_0 = 10^4/\text{cm}^2/\text{str}/\text{keV}/\text{s}$ and $E_0 = 100$ keV. The index p is set as 2 and 4 at
 119 energies less and greater than E_0 , respectively.

120 At $L = 4$, the electron gyrofrequency on the equatorial plane $f_{ce,eq}$ is 13.6 kHz.
 121 An ambient density of electron-proton pairs is supposed to be $N = 36.3$ cm^{-3} along
 122 the magnetic field line, which gives the electron plasma frequency f_{pe} of 54.0 kHz, so
 123 the frequency ratio $f_{pe}/f_{ce,eq}$ is given as 3.96 at the equator. Note that the ambient plasma
 124 density is set to be constant, so the frequency ratio becomes smaller at higher latitudes
 125 where the magnetic field becomes stronger. The dispersion relation of whistler waves ap-
 126 plied in the test particle simulation depends on the ambient plasma condition along the
 127 magnetic field line.

128 The whistler waves in the simulation propagate parallel to the magnetic field line.
 129 We consider a lower band whistler chorus element with duration of 1 s and the frequency
 130 sweep rate $0.2f_{ce,eq}$ Hz/s at the equator. Each element is generated every 1 s, and prop-
 131 agates away from the equator up to the latitude of 50 degrees in both the northern and
 132 southern hemisphere. Each chorus element is coherent in this simulation model. Here
 133 the coherent means that the wave phase ϕ_w in the chorus element at the equator is con-
 134 tinuous in time, which is described as $\phi_w = 2\pi f(t-t_0)$, where t is time, t_0 is the start
 135 time of the wave generation, and f is the frequency of the whistler chorus element which
 136 increases from $0.2f_{ce,eq}$ to $0.4f_{ce,eq}$ in 1 s. The magnetic wave amplitude δB_w is 300 pT,
 137 which is a kind of intense whistler chorus waves (e.g. Santolík et al., 2014). In this sim-
 138 ulation, we calculated the electron scattering including nonlinear processes by cyclotron

139 resonant interactions with the lower band whistler chorus elements propagating along
 140 the magnetic field line.

141 **3 Results**

142 Figure 1 shows the simulation results of electron flux distributions at the magnetic
 143 equator. Two panels in the left column are the flux distributions at (Upper panel) $t=0$
 144 and (Lower panel) $t = 60$ s. The initial flux distribution corresponds to the flux distri-
 145 bution defined in Equation (1). The flux distribution at 60 s has a little change below
 146 400 keV, but a significant increase of the flux is found at higher energies especially in
 147 the pitch angle ranging from 50° to 80° . The right panel shows the temporal variation
 148 of equatorial pitch angle distributions at four energy channels. The most efficient flux
 149 enhancement appears at energy of 2 MeV in the pitch angle ranging from 50° to 80° . In
 150 this pitch angle range, the flux at 2 MeV is about 20 times higher than the initial one,
 151 while the flux at 3.9 MeV is only about 2 times higher. It indicates that the energy spec-
 152 trum becomes harder than the initial energy spectrum between 500 keV and 2 MeV, while
 153 the energy spectrum becomes softer between 2 MeV and 3.9 MeV. At pitch angles higher
 154 than 80° , the flux at energies less than 4 MeV decreases in 60 s.

155 Linear and nonlinear cyclotron resonant scatterings by whistler chorus waves de-
 156 pend on the energy and pitch angle of resonant electrons. Bortnik et al. (2008) classi-
 157 fied the scattering process into three types by the parameter ρ . In the case of $\rho < 1$,
 158 the scattering becomes diffusive, which can be approximated by quasilinear diffusion pro-
 159 cess. In the case of $1 < \rho < 5$, the scattering satisfies a necessary condition for the
 160 nonlinear phase trapping which efficiently increases energy and pitch angle of electrons
 161 by the coherent whistler wave. In the case of $\rho > 5$, the scattering is the "dislocation"
 162 process which reduces the electron energy and the pitch angle. Except for the case of
 163 $\rho < 1$, the electron scattering is nonlinear, which cannot be described by conventional
 164 quasilinear diffusion models. After Bortnik et al. (2008) that defined ρ for nonrelativis-
 165 tic electrons, Saito et al. (2016) defined ρ_γ for relativistic electrons. The GEMSIS-RBW
 166 simulations (Saito et al., 2016, 2021) have confirmed that the parameter of ρ_γ can clas-
 167 sify the scattering of relativistic electrons into the three types. Figure 2 shows the dis-
 168 tribution of ρ_γ at three frequencies of whistler wave with the amplitude of 300 pT as a
 169 function of the pitch angle and energy. Here, the ρ_γ is calculated at magnetic latitudes
 170 where the first-order cyclotron resonant condition is satisfied along the magnetic field

171 line. The solid and dashed lines show $\rho_\gamma = 1$ and $\rho_\gamma = 5$, respectively. Based on Bortnik
 172 et al. (2008), the region with $\rho_\gamma < 1$, $1 < \rho_\gamma < 5$, and $\rho_\gamma > 5$ are classified into the
 173 diffusion, the phase trapping, and the dislocation region, respectively. As an overall trend,
 174 the ρ_γ monotonically increases as the pitch angle increases. Thus, the region with pitch
 175 angle lower than the solid line's is the quasilinear diffusion region, the region with pitch
 176 angle higher than the dashed line's is the dislocation region, and the region between the
 177 solid and dashed lines is the phase trapping region.

178 The left panel of Figure 3 shows the increase rate of the electron flux in 60 s as a
 179 function of the equatorial pitch angle and energy. The solid and dashed line represent
 180 the $\rho_\gamma = 1$ and 5 contours with $f = 0.3f_{ce,eq}$, respectively. Note that the shape of the
 181 phase trapping region is similar to that with $f = 0.2f_{ce,eq}$ and $f = 0.4f_{ce,eq}$ as shown
 182 in Figure 2. The increase rate indicates that the electron flux increases within the flux
 183 distribution ranges from 1 MeV to 3 MeV in energy and ranges from 50° to 80° in pitch
 184 angle. The maximum of the rate appears around the $\rho_\gamma = 1$ line, suggesting the con-
 185 tribution of the phase trapping process. On the other hand, the right side of the $\rho_\gamma =$
 186 5 line shows the flux decrease, indicating the contribution of the dislocation process. The
 187 right panel of Figure 3 shows the initial electron flux distribution of electrons respon-
 188 sible for the flux enhancement of the butterfly distribution in the green square at 60 s,
 189 where the green square ranges from 1.5 MeV to 3 MeV in energy and ranges from 56°
 190 to 70° in equatorial pitch angle. Here, to clarify the origin of electrons coming from out-
 191 side the region of the enhanced butterfly distribution, electrons initially distributed in
 192 the green square are excluded in plotting the right panel. The lower limit of the initial
 193 distribution in energy is about 400 keV and that in pitch angle is about 20° . It indicates
 194 that a part of electrons gains energy over 1.1 MeV and its pitch angle changes over 36° .
 195 The integral omnidirectional electron flux of 2837.92 [cm^2/s] is transported into the
 196 green square from outside. Here, the amount of the flux is integrated in the distribution
 197 shown in the right panel of Figure 3. The flux transported from the diffusion region ($\rho_\gamma <$
 198 1), from the phase trapping ($1 < \rho_\gamma < 5$), and from the dislocation region ($\rho_\gamma > 5$)
 199 are 712.13 [cm^2/s] (25.1%), 2016.59 [cm^2/s] (71.1%), and 109.19 [cm^2/s] (3.8%),
 200 respectively. The electrons transported from the phase trapping region are dominant in
 201 the flux enhancement of the butterfly distribution at relativistic energies. The electrons
 202 initially distributed in the quasilinear diffusion region also contribute to the flux enhance-
 203 ment. We discuss the role of pitch angle diffusion process for the flux enhancement in

204 the discussion and summary section. The electrons in the dislocation region have little
 205 impact on the flux enhancement, whereas it can be responsible for the formation of the
 206 butterfly distribution at relativistic energies by reducing the flux at the pitch angle of
 207 90° .

208 Figure 4 shows bounce averaged diffusion coefficients of $\langle D_{EE} \rangle$ and $\langle D_{\alpha_{eq}\alpha_{eq}} \rangle$ by
 209 the parallel propagating whistler waves with the wave amplitude of 300 pT and with the
 210 frequencies between $0.2f_{ce,eq}$ and $0.4f_{ce,eq}$. The diffusion coefficients are calculated ac-
 211 cording to Shprits et al. (2006). The black solid and dashed line represent the $\rho_\gamma = 1$
 212 and 5 contour lines with $f = 0.3f_{ce,eq}$, respectively. The top panels show the diffusion
 213 coefficients at the cyclotron resonance with $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} > 0$ and the middle panels show those
 214 with $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} < 0$, where v_{\parallel} is the resonant electron velocity and k_{\parallel} is the wavenumber of
 215 the whistler wave. Note that the cyclotron resonance condition with $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} > 0$ can be
 216 satisfied in relativistic energies. The boundary between the two resonance conditions crosses
 217 the line of $\rho_\gamma = 1$. The crossing area is in the green square same as in Figure 3 where
 218 the electron flux has the maximum increase rate. Lower panels in Figure 4 show the elec-
 219 tron diffusion coefficients at 512.5 keV as a function of the pitch angle. In the quasilinear
 220 diffusion region ($\alpha_{eq} < 60^\circ$ at 512.5 keV), the diffusion coefficients $\langle D_{EE} \rangle/E^2$ and
 221 $\langle D_{\alpha_{eq}\alpha_{eq}} \rangle$ are less than 5×10^{-4} and 10^{-3} , respectively. The diffusion coefficients are
 222 considered as

$$\langle D_{\alpha_{eq}\alpha_{eq}} \rangle = \frac{\Delta\alpha_{eq}^2}{2\Delta t}, \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\langle D_{EE} \rangle}{E^2} = \frac{\Delta E^2}{2\Delta t E^2}, \quad (3)$$

224 where ΔE and $\Delta\alpha_{eq}$ are variation in energy and equatorial pitch angle during the time
 225 of Δt . As electrons have $\langle D_{EE} \rangle/E^2 = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ and $\langle D_{\alpha_{eq}\alpha_{eq}} \rangle = 10^{-3}$, the variations
 226 can be estimated as $\Delta E = 125\text{keV}$ and $\Delta\alpha_{eq} = 19.8^\circ$ with $\Delta t = 60$ s, respectively.
 227 Considering that electrons with the initial energy of 512.5 keV and with the equatorial
 228 pitch angle of 40° ($\rho_\gamma = 1$), these electrons are necessary to have the energy gain $\Delta E =$
 229 $987.5\text{--}2487.5$ keV and the equatorial pitch angle change $\Delta\alpha_{eq} = 16\text{--}30^\circ$ to produce the
 230 butterfly formation that appears in the green square shown in Figure 3. Here, the green
 231 square ranges from 1.5 MeV to 3 MeV in energy and 56° to 70° in equatorial pitch an-
 232 gle. The variation in equatorial pitch angle obtained from the GEMSIS-RBW simula-
 233 tion is comparable to that estimated from the quasilinear model ($\Delta\alpha_{eq} = 19.8^\circ$). How-
 234 ever, the energy gain estimated from the quasilinear model ($\Delta E = 125\text{keV}$) is insuf-

235 efficient to contribute to the butterfly formation, which indicates that quasilinear diffu-
 236 sion is too slow to produce the butterfly distribution in the short time.

237 4 Discussion and summary

238 It has been argued that magnetosonic (MS) waves with wavenumber almost per-
 239 pendicular to magnetic field lines play an important role for the formation of the but-
 240 tterfly pitch angle distribution of relativistic electrons (Xiao et al., 2015; Li et al., 2016).
 241 On the other hand, whistler chorus waves are considered to suppress the formation of
 242 the butterfly distribution (Yang et al., 2016). However, our simulation results showed
 243 that lower band whistler chorus waves (LBC) propagating parallel to the magnetic field
 244 line produce the butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons (Figure 1) by the contri-
 245 bution of the phase trapping and the dislocation process (Figure 2 and 3). Our simu-
 246 lation results also showed that the quasilinear diffusion process is insufficient to produce
 247 relativistic electrons responsible for the formation of the butterfly distribution within a
 248 minute (Figure 4). We conclude that nonlinear scattering processes (the phase trapping
 249 and the dislocation) by LBC play a key role to rapidly produce the butterfly distribu-
 250 tion of relativistic electrons.

251 The maximum of the flux increase rate appears in energy of about 2 MeV and in
 252 pitch angle of about 60° (Figure 3). The flux increase rate becomes lower at energies higher
 253 than 2 MeV (Figure 3), and the butterfly formation is less pronounced (Figure 1). It in-
 254 dicates that the efficient transport of electrons from lower energies is terminated. The
 255 terminal region is located in the crossing area between the $\rho_\gamma = 1$ line and the bound-
 256 ary where sign of $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel}$ is inverted (Figure 4). In the case of the cyclotron resonance with
 257 $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} < 0$, the equatorial pitch angle of the resonant electron increases with increasing
 258 the energy according to diffusion curves (e.g. Summers et al., 1998). The phase trap-
 259 ping also show the same trend, as in the case of the Relativistic Turning Acceleration
 260 (RTA) before the turning process (Omura et al., 2008). The phase trapping region shifts
 261 to higher pitch angles at higher energies, so that the electron tends to remain within the
 262 phase trapping region during acceleration. However, in the case of the cyclotron reso-
 263 nance with $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} > 0$ at relativistic energies, the pitch angle decreases with increasing
 264 the energy (e.g. Summers et al., 1998). The phase trapping at relativistic energies also
 265 decreases the pitch angle while increasing the energy, as in the case of the Ultra Rela-
 266 tivistic Acceleration (URA) process (Summers & Omura, 2007) and the RTA after the

267 turning process (Omura et al., 2008). Thus, the relativistic electron in the phase trap-
 268 ping region move into the quasilinear diffusion region ($\rho_\gamma < 1$) by reducing its pitch an-
 269 gle. Therefore, the efficient acceleration through the phase trapping is terminated due
 270 to changes of ρ_γ , that makes the upper limit in energy and the peak position in pitch
 271 angle of the butterfly distribution. We expect that the presence of the upper limit of the
 272 flux enhancement in energy is a nonlinear signature of the electron acceleration. Ni et
 273 al. (2016) showed that relativistic electron butterfly distributions are likely to peak be-
 274 tween 58° and 79° in pitch angle on $L = 4$ from the Van Allen Probes observations.
 275 Our simulation result is consistent with the observation. We need more case studies to
 276 examine whether the formation of the butterfly distribution of relativistic electrons seen
 277 in the observations is controlled by the crossing area between the $\rho_\gamma = 1$ line and the
 278 boundary where the sign of $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel}$ is inverted.

279 The simulation results show that electrons initially distributed in the diffusion re-
 280 gion ($\rho_\gamma < 1$) are also responsible for the flux enhancement of the butterfly distribu-
 281 tion (Figure 3). The plausible scenario is that these electrons are scattered into the phase
 282 trapping region through the quasilinear diffusion in pitch angle, and then efficiently ac-
 283 celerated through the phase trapping. We have confirmed that diffusion curves of the
 284 electrons are along the pitch angle direction with the almost constant energy in this case
 285 (Summers et al., 1998). Also, the quasilinear pitch angle diffusion coefficients indicate
 286 that the electrons can change the pitch angle by about 20° in 60 s (Figure 4). There-
 287 fore, the electrons located about 20° away from the pitch angle of $\rho_\gamma = 1$ line can come
 288 into the phase trapping region, and then contribute to the formation of the butterfly dis-
 289 tribution in relativistic energies. We conclude that the quasilinear diffusion process has
 290 an important role in the preconditioning to supply electrons into the phase trapping re-
 291 gion from low pitch angles.

292 Electrons with energies less than about 400 keV are not efficiently accelerated into
 293 relativistic energies even within the phase trapping region (Figure 3). The simulation
 294 result suggests that the efficient acceleration by the phase trapping requires additional
 295 conditions depend on electron energy. Detail studies for the acceleration process of lower
 296 energy electrons is necessary as a future work.

297 The initial flux distribution at relativistic energies is supposed to have the power
 298 law index of -4 in the simulation shown here, whose gradient in energy is relatively steep.

299 The butterfly formation could be more prominent at relativistic energies in the case of
 300 steeper flux gradients in energy, because more electron flux can be supplied to the rel-
 301 ativistic energies. Thus, the electron distribution with harder energy spectrum may pro-
 302 duce more relaxed butterfly distributions than that shown in the simulation. The de-
 303 pendence of the initial energy spectrum on the formation of the butterfly distribution
 304 is also required as a future work.

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443 **Figure captions**

444 **Figure 1**

445 (The left panels) Equatorial electron flux distributions as a function of the equa-
 446 torial pitch angle and the energy at $t = 0$ and 60 s. (The right panel) The electron pitch
 447 angle distributions at four energy channels (491.1 keV, 1.1 MeV, 2 MeV, and 3.9 MeV)
 448 at $t=0, 20, 40,$ and 60 s.

449 **Figure 2**

450 The distribution of ρ_γ as a function of the equatorial pitch angle and the energy
 451 with whistler wave frequency of $0.2f_{ce,eq}$, $0.3f_{ce,eq}$, and $0.4f_{ce,eq}$. The solid and dashed
 452 lines correspond to contour lines of $\rho_\gamma = 1$ and 5, respectively.

453 **Figure 3**

454 (Left panel) The ratio of the electron fluxes at $t=0$ and $t=60$ s. (Right panel) The
 455 distribution of the origin of electrons scattered into the green square region ranging from
 456 1.5 MeV to 3 MeV in energy and from 56° to 70° in equatorial pitch angle at $t = 60$ s.

457 The solid and dashed lines in both panels corresponds to the contour lines of $\rho_\gamma = 1$
 458 and 5 with whistler wave frequency of $0.3f_{ce,eq}$, respectively.

459 **Figure 4**

460 (The left panels) The bounce averaged diffusion coefficients in equatorial pitch an-
 461 gle. (The right panels) The bounce averaged diffusion coefficients in energy. (The top
 462 panels) The bounce averaged diffusion coefficients in the cyclotron resonance condition
 463 satisfying $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} > 0$. (The middle panels) The bounce averaged diffusion coefficients in
 464 the cyclotron resonance condition satisfying $k_{\parallel}v_{\parallel} < 0$. The solid and dashed lines cor-
 465 respond to the lines of $\rho_\gamma = 1$ and 5 with whistler wave frequency of $0.3f_{ce,eq}$, respec-
 466 tively. (The bottom panels) The bounce averaged diffusion coefficients at energy of 512.5
 467 keV.

Figure 1.

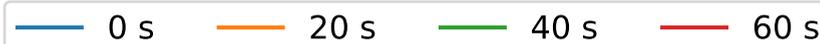
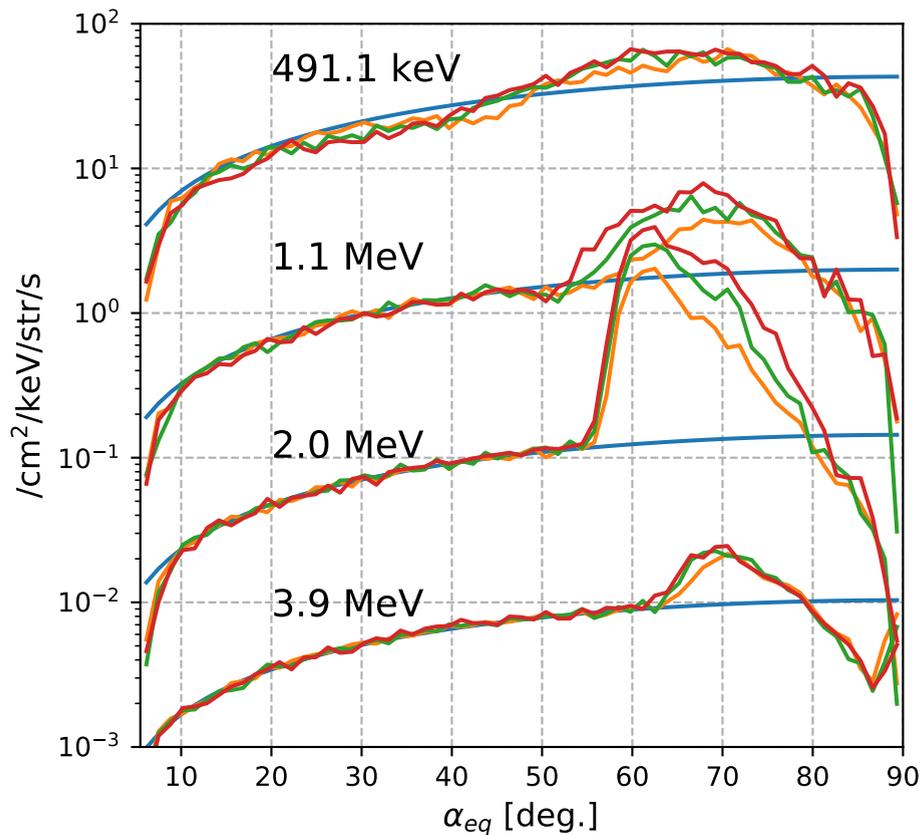
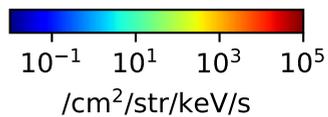
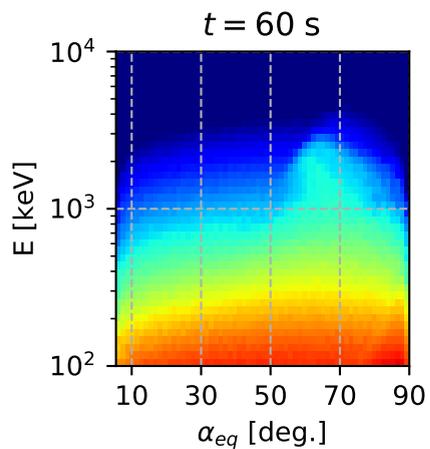
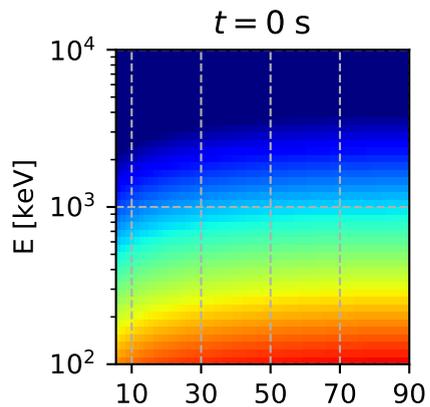


Figure 2.

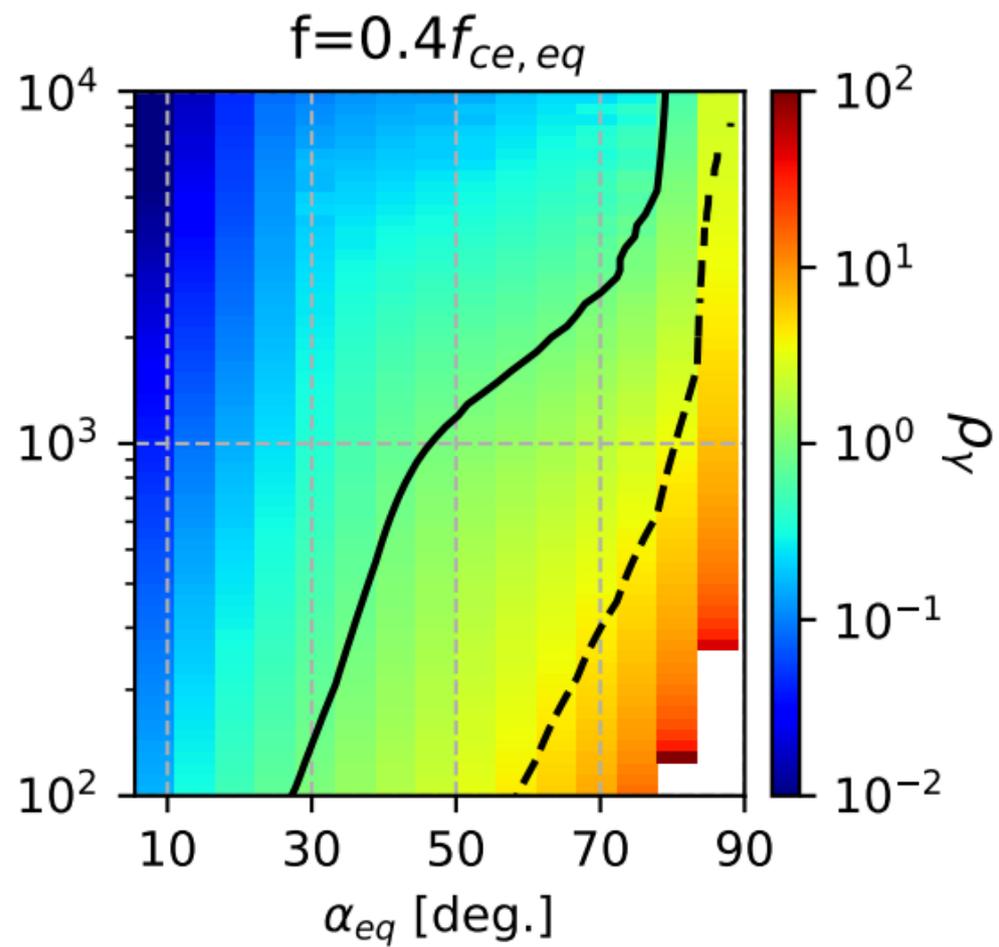
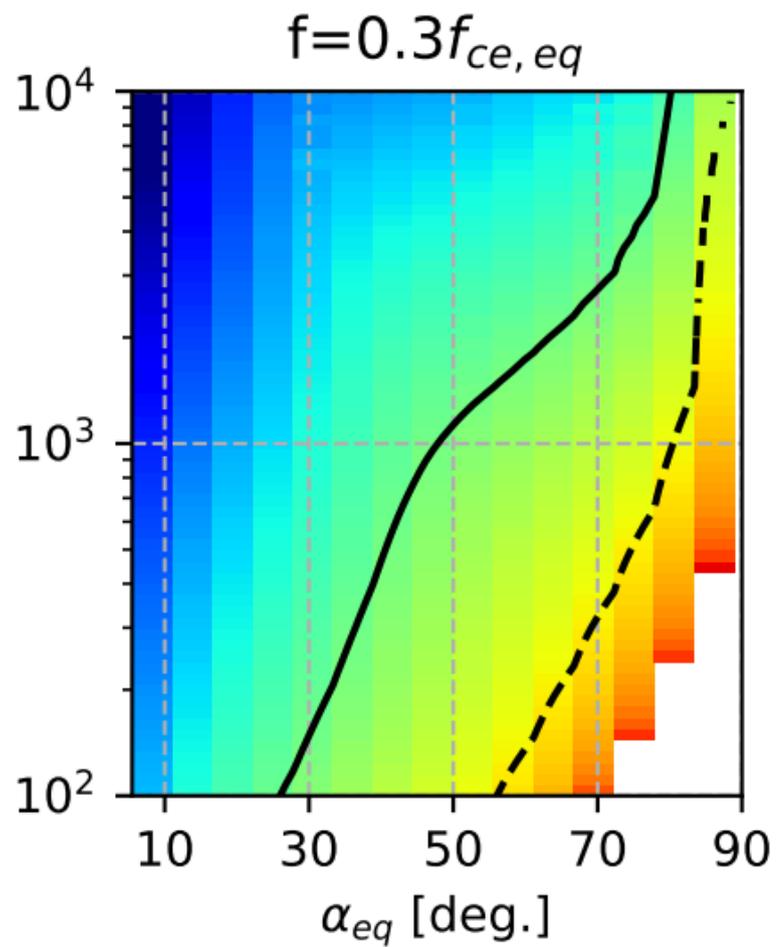
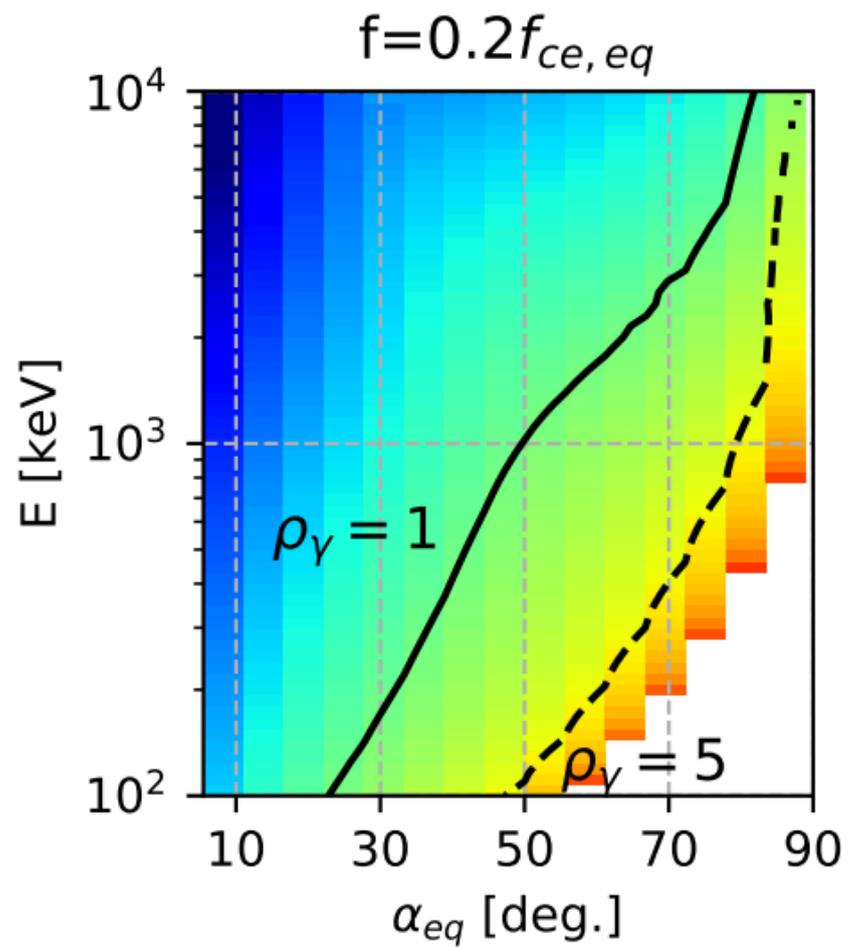
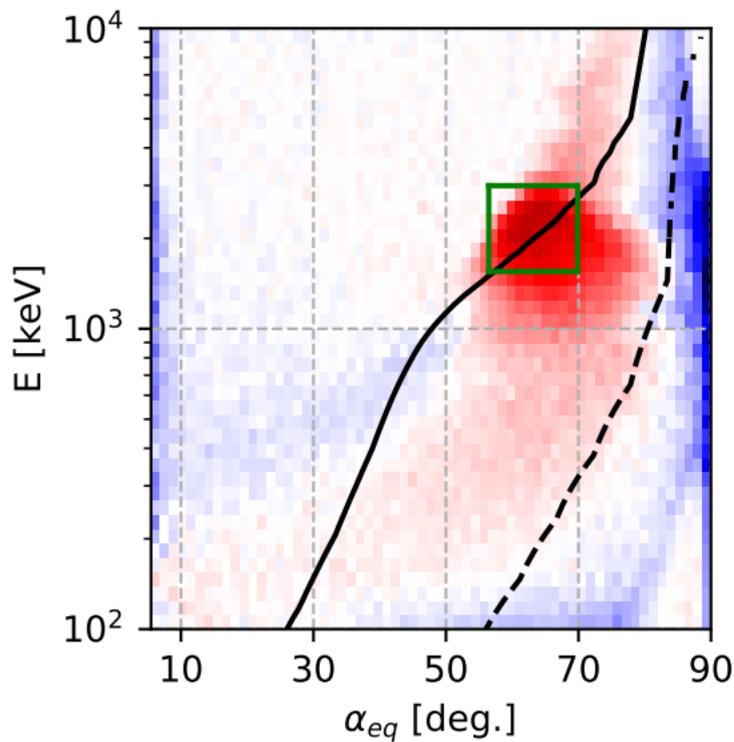
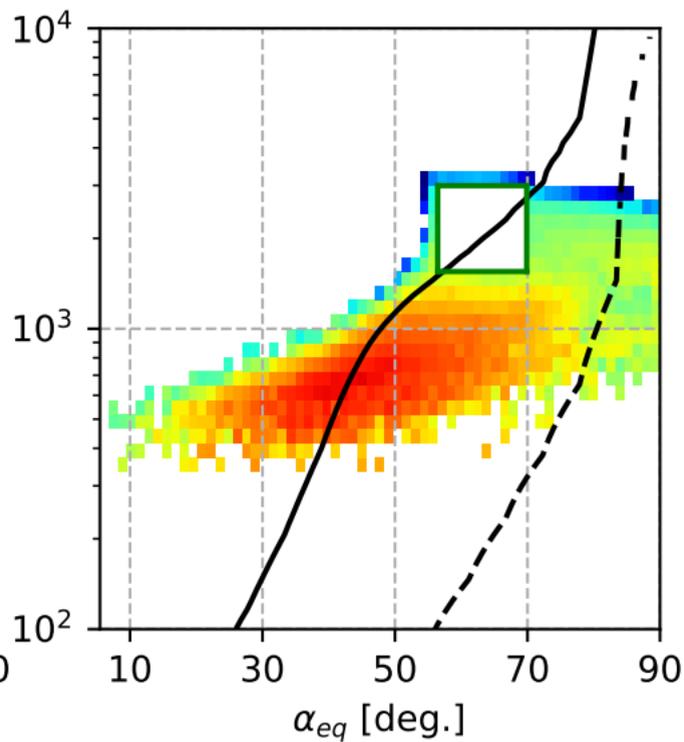


Figure 3.



10^{-2} 10^{-1} 10^0 10^1 10^2

$j(E, \alpha_{eq})_{t=60s} / j(E, \alpha_{eq})_{t=0s}$



10^{-4} 10^{-3} 10^{-2} 10^{-1} 10^0 10^1

$/\text{cm}^2/\text{str}/\text{keV}/\text{s}$

Figure 4.

