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Kinematic MHD Models of Collapsing Magnetic Traps

T. Neukirch and K. J. Grady

University of St. Andrews, School of Mathematics and Statitics, St. Andrews, United Kingdom (thomas@mcs.st-and.ac.uk, +44 1334 463748)

During solar flares a large number of charged particles are accelerated to high energies, but the exact mechanism responsible for this is still unclear. Acceleration in collapsing magnetic traps is one of the mechanisms proposed. In this contribution we discuss analytic kinematic MHD models for collapsing magnetic traps. Particle orbits are calculated using the guiding centre approximation. A few illustrative examples of collapsing trap models will be presented together with some preliminary studies of particle orbits.