



FIG. 3. 4a–4c.—Spatial distributions along the z -axis of the perpendicular magnetic field (B_y , dotted line), vertical velocity (v_z , solid line), and neutral-point electric field (E_y , broken line): (a) at $t = 3$, (b) at $t = 6$, and (c) at $t = 12$. The position of an O-point is also represented by a vertical thick solid line, while the position of a fast MHD shock is shown by a vertical thick broken line.