



Abstract ID : 3

Verification and validation of gyrokinetic and kinetic-MHD simulations for the internal kink instability in the DIII-D tokamak

Content

Verification and validation of the internal kink instability in tokamak have been performed for both gyrokinetic (GTC) and kinetic-MHD codes (GAM-solver, M3D-C1-K, NOVA, XTOR-K). Using realistic magnetic geometry and plasma profiles from the same equilibrium reconstruction of the DIII-D shot #141216, these codes exhibit excellent agreements for the growth rate and mode structure of the $n=1$ internal kink mode in ideal MHD simulations by suppressing all kinetic effects. The simulated radial mode structure agrees quantitatively with the electron cyclotron emission measurement after adjusting, within the experimental uncertainty, the $q=1$ flux-surface location in the equilibrium reconstruction. Equilibrium plasma pressure gradient and compressible magnetic perturbation strongly destabilize the kink, while poloidal variations of the equilibrium current density stabilize the kink. Furthermore, kinetic effects of thermal ions are found to decrease the kink growth rate in kinetic-MHD simulations, but increase the kink growth rate in gyrokinetic simulations, possibly due to the additional drive of the ion temperature gradient and parallel electric field. Kinetic thermal electrons are found to have negligible effects on the internal kink instability.

Primary author: BROCHARD, Guillaume (University of California, Irvine)

Co-authors: BAO, Jian (Chinese Academy of Sciences); LIU, Chang (Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory); GORELENKOV, Nikolai; DONG, Ge (Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory); MC.CLENAGHAN, Joseph (Oak Ridge National Laboratory); WEI, Xishuo (University of California, Irvine); CHOI, Gyungjin (University of California, Irvine); NICOLAU, Javier (University of California, Irvine); LIU, Pengfei (University of California, Irvine); ZHANG, Z. L. (Chinese Academy of Sciences); LÜTJENS, Hinrich (Ecole Polytechnique, Institut Polytechnique de Paris); HEIDBRINK, William (University of California, Irvine); LIN, Zhihong (University of California, Irvine)

Presenter: BROCHARD, Guillaume (University of California, Irvine)

Track Classification: 2. Macro-instabilities, operational limits and disruptions; 8. Experimental validation of theoretical models and diagnostics development; 9. Computational plasma physics

Contribution Type: Oral

Submitted by **BROCHARD, Guillaume** on **Thursday 17 June 2021**