

Impurity transport in stellarator plasmas

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***For the Wendelstein 7-X Team see author list of
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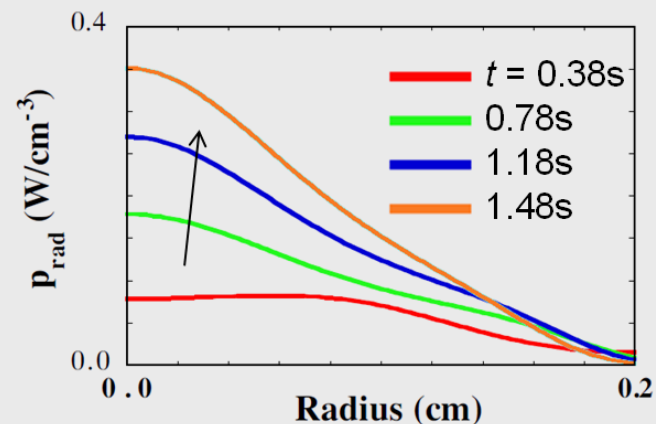
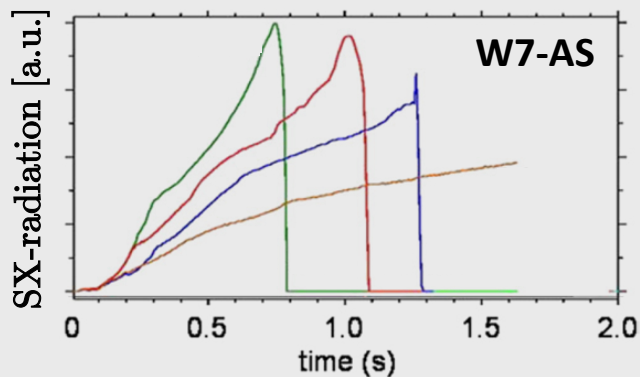
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- Introduction to impurity transport in 3D plasmas
- Numerical tools and the SFINCS code
- Experimental observations of impurity transport
- Linear gyrokinetic modelling of impurity transport with equilibrium electrostatic potential variations
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- Impurity accumulation is a concern for stellarators,

e.g. \Rightarrow **radiation collapse.**



[Burhenn et al., Nucl. Fusion (2009)]

[Giannone et al., Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion (2000)]

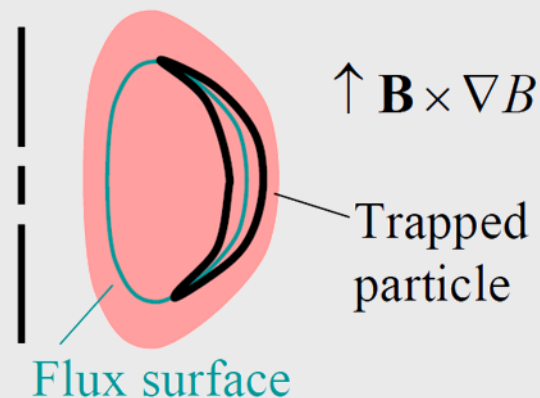
- Neoclassical impurity accumulation predicted to be worse in stellarators than tokamaks:
Radial electric field E_r often points inwards \Rightarrow impurity accumulation.

- No Greenwald limit in stellarators, but density is limited by radiation from impurities.

In a tokamak (toroidal symmetry)

- ▶ The Lagrangian is independent of the toroidal angle.
Additional constant of motion.
- ▶ The neoclassical particle fluxes are intrinsically ambipolar \Rightarrow cross-field transport not affected by $E_r = -d\Phi/dr$ (except centrifugal and Coriolis forces if strong rotation).

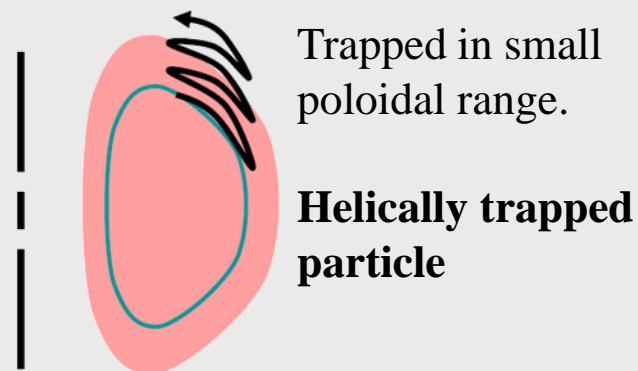
Tokamak



In a stellarator (broken toroidal symmetry)

- ▶ Helically trapped particles can drift out of the plasma \Rightarrow collisionless trajectories can leave the confined region.
- ▶ $1/\nu$ -, $\sqrt{\nu}$ - regimes with enhanced neoclassical transport.
- ▶ Radial electric field E_r restores ambipolarity.
- ▶ E_r often points radially inwards \Rightarrow

Stellarator



Impurity accumulation.

- The radial impurity flux can be written

$$\langle \Gamma_z \cdot \nabla r \rangle = L_{11}^{zz} A_{1z} + L_{11}^{zi} A_{1i} + L_{12}^{zz} A_{2z} + L_{12}^{zi} A_{2i}$$

“Thermodynamic forces”

$$A_{1a} = d(\ln p_a)/dr + (Z_a e/T_a) d\Phi/dr$$

$$A_{2a} = d(\ln T_a)/dr \quad (\text{note: } T_z = T_i)$$

- **In a tokamak** $E_r = -d\Phi/dr$ has no effect on radial neoclassical transport.

$$\langle \Gamma_i \cdot \nabla r \rangle \simeq -Z \langle \Gamma_z \cdot \nabla r \rangle$$

Temperature screening of the impurities by the bulk ion temperature gradient can arise.

- **In a stellarator** E_r has a strong impact on the radial transport.

E_r determined from ambipolarity.

► Conventional wisdom in stellarators

(from pitch-angle scattering models)

Intra-species terms (L_{11}^{zz}, L_{12}^{zz}) dominate over inter-species terms (L_{11}^{zi}, L_{12}^{zi}), i.e.

$$\langle \Gamma_z \cdot \nabla r \rangle \simeq L_{11}^{zz} d(\ln p_z) / dr + L_{11}^{zz} (Ze / T_z) d\Phi / dr + L_{12}^{zz} d(\ln T_z) / dr .$$

In ion root E_r is determined by ambipolarity from bulk-ion transport:

$$(e / T_i) d\Phi / dr = - d(\ln p_i) / dr - (L_{12}^{ii} / L_{11}^{ii}) d(\ln T_i) / dr .$$

Substitute into impurity transport equation

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Gamma_z \cdot \nabla r \rangle = & L_{11}^{zz} [d(\ln p_z) / dr - Z \{d(\ln p_i) / dr + (L_{12}^{ii} / L_{11}^{ii}) d(\ln T_i) / dr\}] \\ & + L_{12}^{zz} d(\ln T_z) / dr . \end{aligned}$$

Coefficient in front of $d(\ln T_i) / dr$: $-Z L_{11}^{zz} (1 + L_{12}^{ii} / L_{11}^{ii})$ is always positive \Rightarrow

No temperature screening.

- ▶ **Conventional picture (all plasma species at low collisionality + pitch-angle scattering) successful in explaining experimental observations, with some notable exceptions:**
 - The carbon impurity hole in Large Helical Device. [Ida et al., Phys. Plasmas (2009)]
 - The high-density H-mode in Wendelstein 7-AS. [McCormick et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2002)]

- ▶ **In recent years a revived interest in neoclassical impurity physics, advances in analytical and numerical modeling:**
 - In high-collisionality regime $\nu_{*ii} = \nu_{ii}/\omega_{ti} \sim \nu_{ii}/v_{Ti} \gg 1$ (all ion species)

the impurity transport is independent of E_r . [Braun & Helander, PoP (2010)]
 - Experimentally relevant mixed-collisionality transport regime, $\nu_{*zz} \gg 1$; $\nu_{*ii} \ll 1$, weak drive of impurity transport by E_r , ∇T_i -screening possible also in stellarators. [Helander et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2017)]
 - Effect of flux-surface potential variations $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) = \Phi - \langle \Phi \rangle$. [García-Regaña et al., PPCF (2013); Nucl. Fusion (2017); PPCF (2018)], [Mollén et al., PPCF (2018)], [Buller et al., J. Plasma Phys. (2018)]
 - Φ_1 + tangential magnetic drifts. [Velasco et al., PPCF (2018)], [Calvo et al., PPCF (2017); Nucl. Fusion (2018)]

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- ▶ **DKES** [[Hirshman et al., Phys. Fluids \(1986\)](#)] (Drift Kinetic Equation Solver)
 - The main workhorse for neoclassical calculations in stellarators.
 - Radially local; mono-energetic, speed is a parameter \Rightarrow 3D.
 - Pitch-angle scattering (momentum correction can be applied afterwards).

New codes start to explore extended physics (these are a few of them):

- **FORTEC-3D** [[Satake et al., Plasma Fusion Res. \(2008\)](#)]

5D, radial coupling is retained.
- **EUTERPE** [[García-Regaña et al., PPCF \(2013\)](#); [Nucl. Fusion \(2017\)](#)]

Radially local particle in cell Monte Carlo code. Pitch-angle scattering + momentum correction.
Flux surface variations of electrostatic potential $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) = \Phi - \langle \Phi \rangle$.
- **SFINCS** [[Landreman et al., Phys. Plasmas \(2014\)](#), [Mollén et al., PPCF \(2018\)](#)]

Radially local 4D, continuum code. Eulerian uniform grid in θ, ζ .
Linearized Fokker-Planck collisions + Φ_1 + additional effects.
- **KNOSOS** [[Velasco et al., PPCF \(2018\)](#)]

Orbit-averaged equation. Pitch-angle scattering. Φ_1 + tangential magnetic drifts.

Solves the time-independent radially local δf 4D drift-kinetic equation and calculates flows and radial fluxes,

e.g.
$$\langle \Gamma_s \cdot \nabla r \rangle = \langle \int d^3v f_{1s} (\mathbf{v}_{ds} + \mathbf{v}_E) \cdot \nabla r \rangle.$$

SFINCS can simultaneously take into account:

► Arbitrary number of kinetic species (non-trace impurities, non-adiabatic electrons).

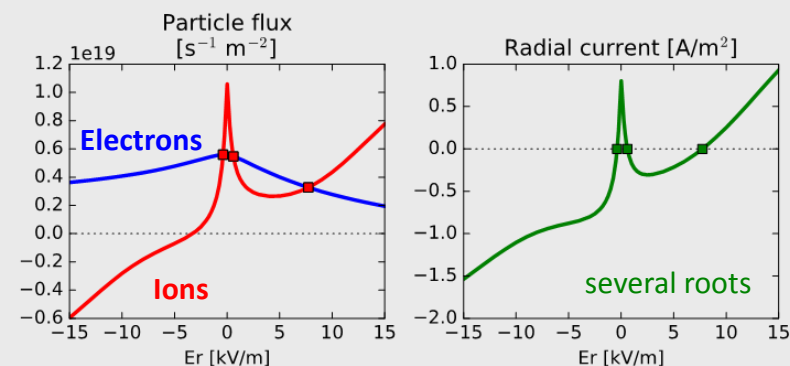
► Full linearized Fokker-Planck collision operator.

► Self-consistent calculation of ambipolar E_r
found by iterating until $\langle \mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla r \rangle = \sum_s Z_s e \langle \Gamma_s \cdot \nabla r \rangle = 0$.

► Flux-surface potential variations

$$\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) = \Phi - \Phi_0(r); \quad \Phi_0(r) = \langle \Phi \rangle; \quad \Phi_1 \ll \Phi_0$$

$$f_{1s}(\theta, \zeta, \xi, x), \Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) \text{ unknowns} \quad \Rightarrow$$



⇒

nonlinear system of equations.

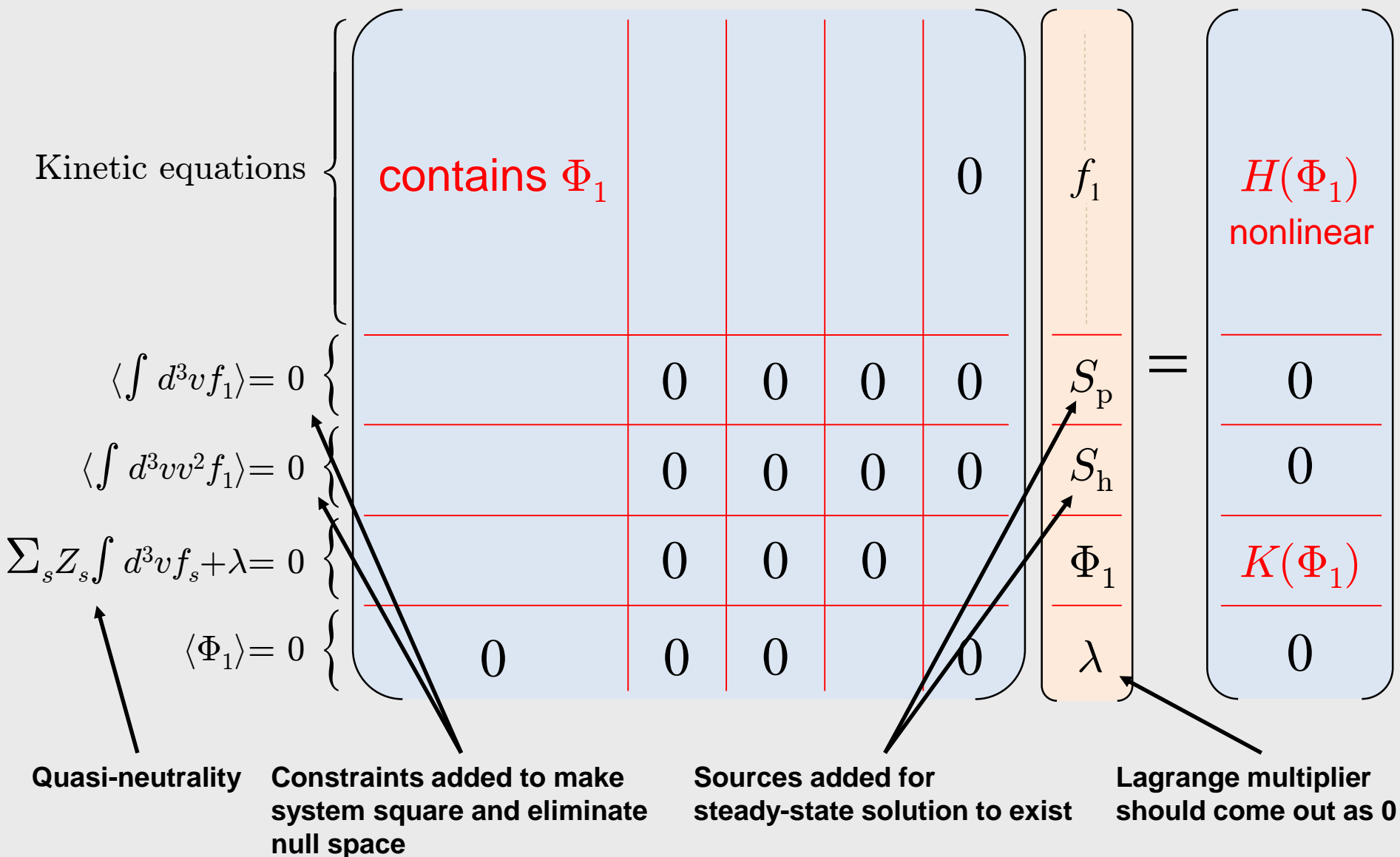
SFINCS available on: <https://github.com/landreman/sfincs>

[Landreman, Smith, Mollén & Helander, Phys. Plasmas (2014)]

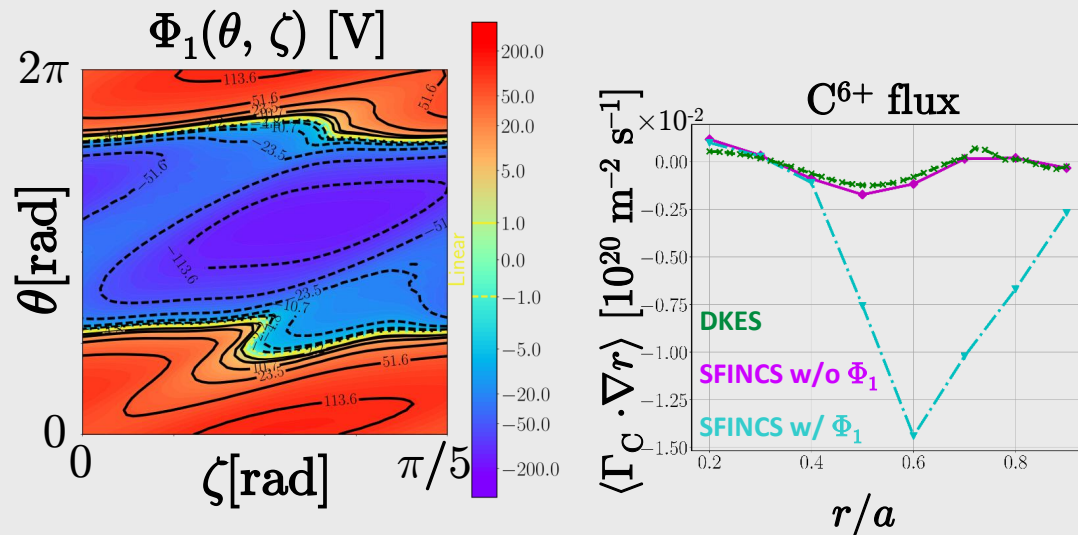
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\mathbf{R}} = v_{\parallel} \mathbf{b} - (\nabla \Phi_0 \times \mathbf{b}) / B \\ \dot{v}_{\parallel} = - Z_s e \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \Phi_1 / m_s - \mu \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla B - v_{\parallel} (\mathbf{b} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \Phi_0 / B^2 \\ \dot{\mu} = 0 \\ f_{0s} = f_{Ms} \exp(-Z_s e \Phi_1 / T_s) \end{array} \right.$$

occurrence of Φ_1 in red

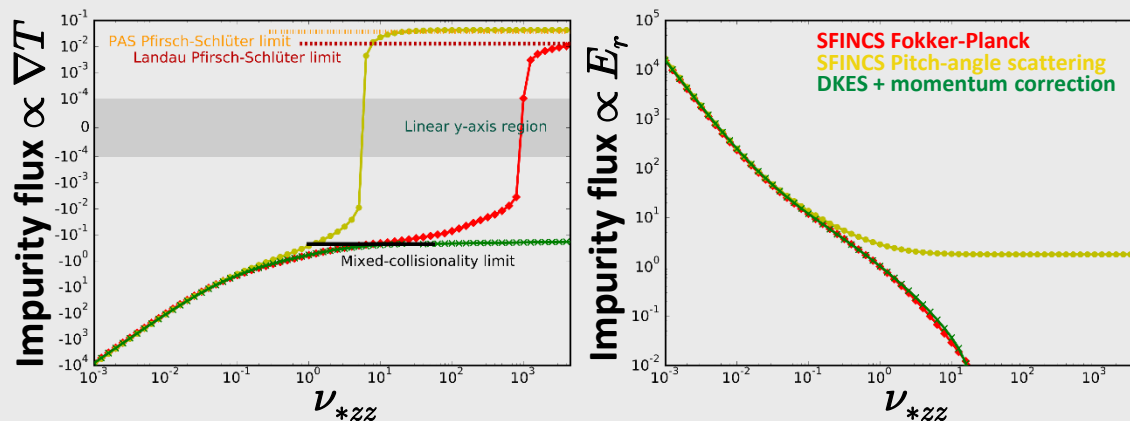
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \nabla f_{1s} + \dot{v}_{\parallel} (\partial f_{1s} / \partial v_{\parallel}) - C_{\text{linear}}[f_{1s}] = \\ = - f_{0s} \left[n_s^{-1} dn_s / dr + Z_s e T_s^{-1} d\Phi_0 / dr + \right. \\ \left. + (m_s v^2 / 2T_s - 3/2 + Z_s e T_s^{-1} \Phi_1) T_s^{-1} dT_s / dr \right] (\mathbf{v}_{ds} + \mathbf{v}_E) \cdot \nabla r \end{aligned}$$



- Calculation of C^{6+} -fluxes for the LHD impurity hole plasmas.



- Verify mixed-collisionality transport regime with advanced collision operator.

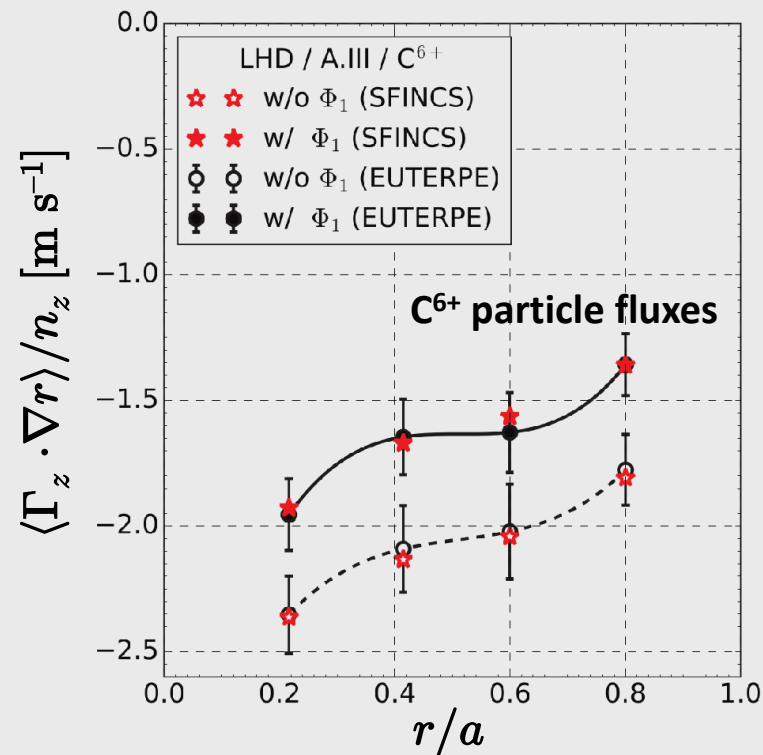
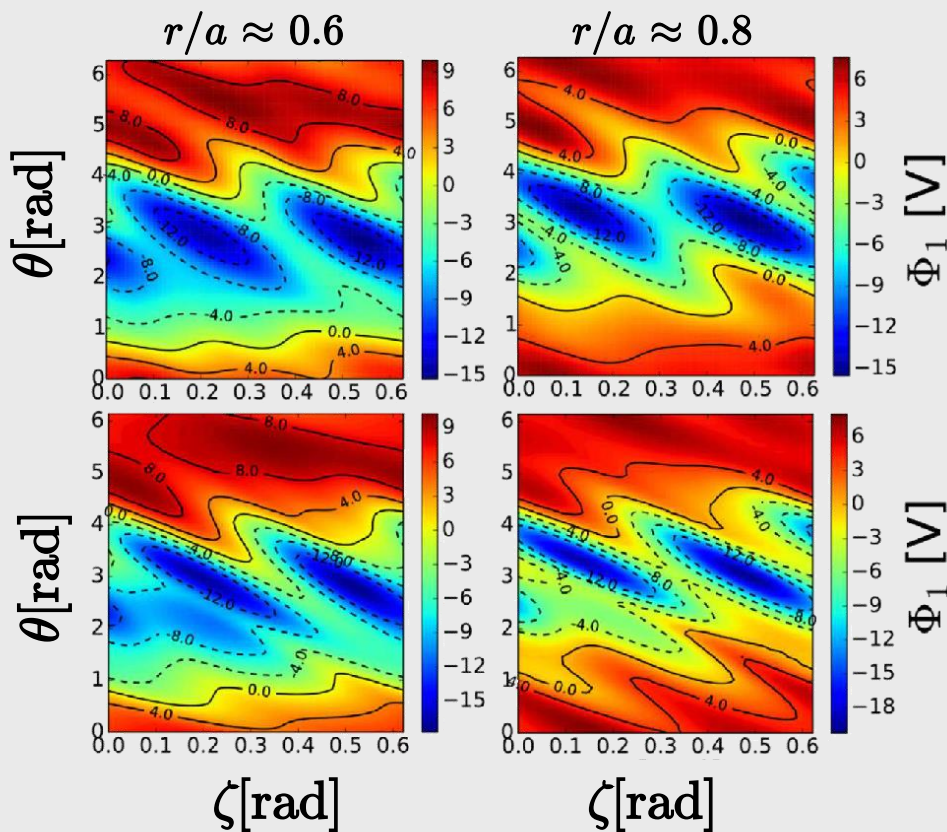


- SFINCS is more suitable than DKES in an optimization loop where equilibrium and transport calculations have to be reiterated.

- Pitch-angle scattering collisions (no momentum correction).
- Large Helical Device equilibrium (10-fold symmetry in ζ) [García-Regaña et al., Nucl. Fusion (2017)].

EUTERPE

SFINCS



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- ▶ No accumulation of C^{6+} -impurities in LHD although all predictions of both neoclassical and turbulent transport point towards accumulation. (Inward pointing E_r).

[Ida et al., Phys. Plasmas (2009)], [Yoshinuma et al., Nucl. Fusion (2009)].

Assuming that external source/sink is zero (or negligible) steady density profiles should be sustained by balanced fluxes;

$$\Gamma_c^{(\text{turb})} + \Gamma_c^{(\text{neo})} = 0$$

- ▶ **Still an open problem.**

Is outward $\Gamma_c^{(\text{neo})}$ or $\Gamma_c^{(\text{turb})}$ compatible

with a hollow impurity profile?

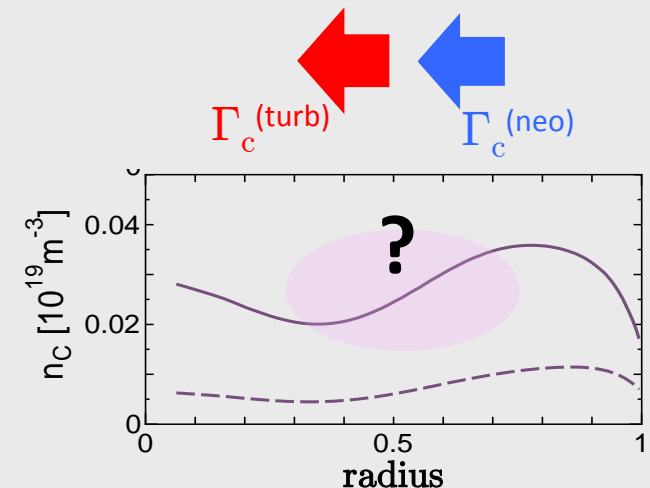
[Nunami et al., International Stellarator-Heliotron Workshop (2017)]

- ▶ LHD deuterium experiment started March 2017.

C^{6+} -profile more peaked in deuterium plasmas than in hydrogen plasmas.

[Morisaki et al., International Stellarator-Heliotron Workshop (2017)]

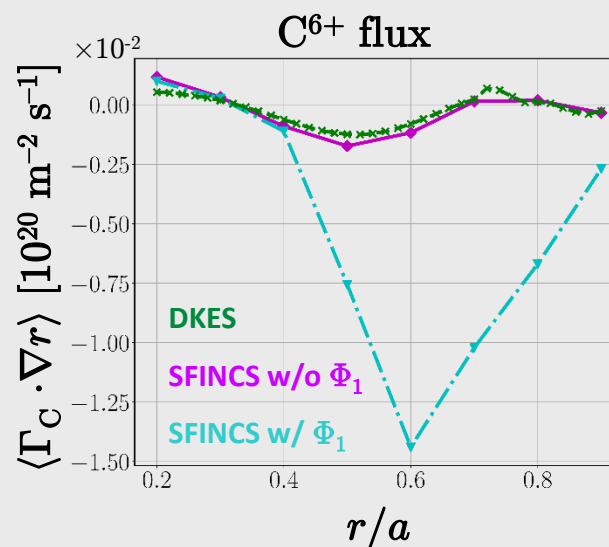
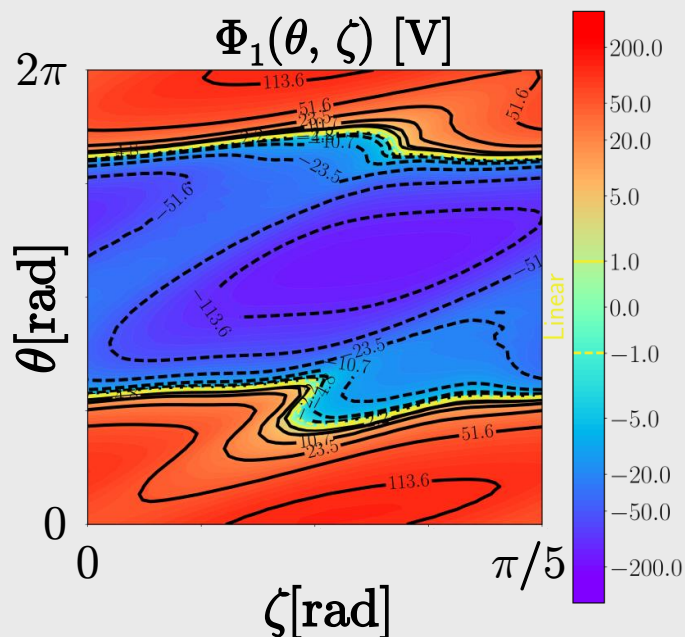
Isotope effect on C^{6+} transport. *Suggests that turbulent impurity transport dominates?*



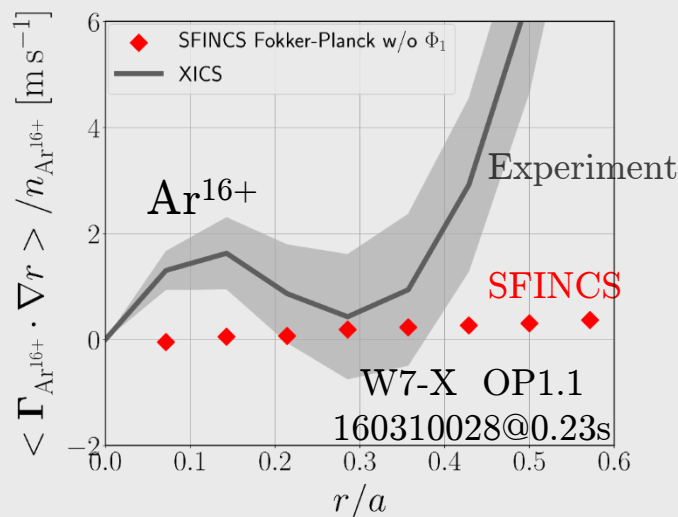
Φ_1 in neoclassical transport does not seem to explain the impurity hole in LHD

- ▶ Large Helical Device discharge 113208 at $t = 4.64\text{s}$ studied in [Nunami et al., IAEA conference (2016)], [Mikkelsen et al., Phys. Plasmas (2014)], [Velasco et al., Nucl. Fusion (2017)].
- ▶ Neoclassical particle fluxes compared to turbulent particle fluxes at steady-state.
- ▶ Direction of e^- , H^+ - and He^{2+} -fluxes match; C^{6+} -fluxes do not match!
- ▶ Can Φ_1 in neoclassical calculation explain the discrepancy in the C^{6+} -fluxes?
- ▶ **SFINCS calculations:**
 - Φ_1 can vary strongly on flux-surface: $\pm 200\text{ V}$.
 - Φ_1 has large impact on C^{6+} -fluxes, but in wrong direction to explain hollow C^{6+} -profile.

[Mollén et al., PPCF (2018)]



- ▶ Wendelstein 7-X OP1.1 →
Ongoing work to analyze OP1.2 plasmas.
- ▶ Wendelstein 7-X OP1.2a:
Iron analyzed by VUV and x-ray spectrometers.
STRAHL + DKES modelling.



“Anomalous diffusion profile two orders of magnitude larger than the neoclassical”.

[\[Geiger et al., Nucl. Fusion \(2019\)\]](#)

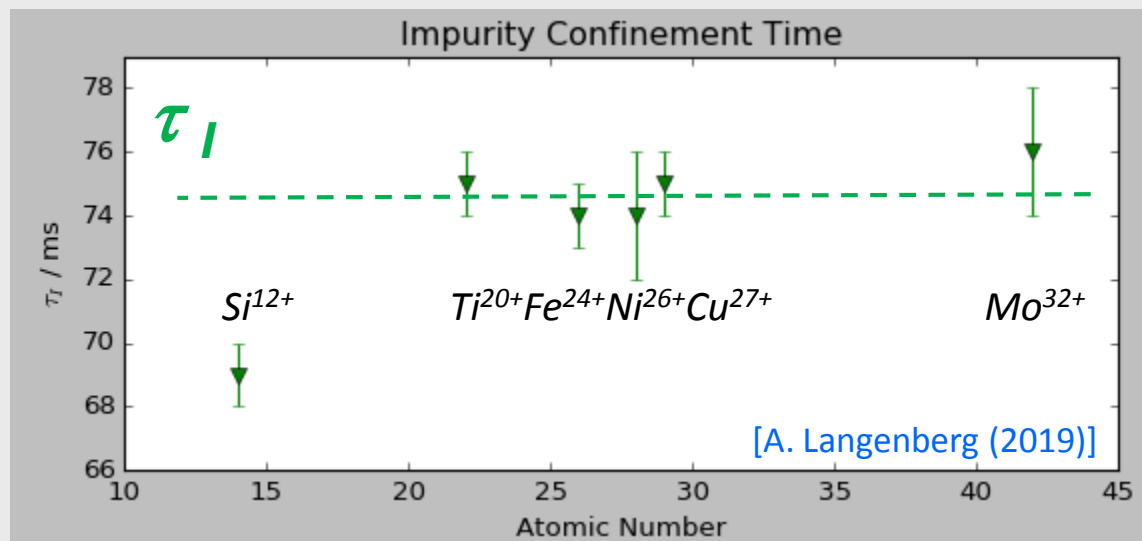
- ▶ Nonlinear gyrokinetic flux-tube simulations in LHD with the GKV code find an order of magnitude larger C^{6+} -fluxes than neoclassical calculations. [\[M. Nunami & M. Nakata\]](#)
- ▶ Only a few gyrokinetic studies of turbulent impurity transport in stellarators exist:
[\[Mikkelsen et al., PoP \(2014\)\]](#), [\[Nunami et al., IAEA \(2016\)\]](#), [\[Helander & Zocco, PPCF \(2018\)\]](#)
- ▶ Perhaps Φ_1 can play a role also in turbulent impurity transport.

Radial impurity flux

$$\langle \Gamma_z \cdot \nabla r \rangle = - D_z \frac{dn_z}{dr} + V_z n_z$$

- Size of the convective velocity V_z is consistent with neoclassical calculations for W7-X, but neoclassical diffusion D_z is orders of magnitude too low to explain experimental observations.

- Impurity confinement time τ_I independent of Z within experimental uncertainties.



- Hypothesis: The radial impurity transport is dominated by turbulent transport, which to lowest order is
 - independent of Z and m_z ,
 - independent of E_r ,
 - dominated by diffusion.

[Helander & Zocco, PPCF (2018)]
- Neoclassical analysis with EUTERPE and SFINCS is ongoing.

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- ▶ Non-fluctuating potential $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) = \Phi - \Phi_0(\psi); \quad \Phi_0(\psi) = \langle \Phi \rangle; \quad \Phi_1 \ll \Phi_0$

- ▶ Energy is $\varepsilon = m_s v^2/2 + Z_s e \Phi_1(\theta, \zeta) + Z_s e \phi(t, \theta, \zeta)$

$\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta)$ - equilibrium potential

$\phi(t, \theta, \zeta)$ - fluctuating potential

Note: Turbulent transport automatically ambipolar to lowest order, independent of $E_r = -d\Phi_0/dr$

$\Rightarrow \Phi_0$ can be transformed away.

- ▶ Lowest order distribution $f_{0s} = f_{Ms} \exp(-Z_s e \Phi_1/T_s)$

$$f_{Ms} = n_{0s}(\psi) (m_s v^2/2\pi T_s)^{3/2} \exp(-m_s v^2/2T_s) \quad \text{Maxwellian.}$$

- ▶ $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta)$ is obtained from a neoclassical calculation with a code like SFINCS.

In our gyrokinetic model $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta)$ is an input.

- Linear gyrokinetic equation for the non-adiabatic distribution g_s

$$f_s = f_{0s} (1 - Z_s e \phi / T_s) + g_s$$

$$v_{\parallel} \nabla_{\parallel} g_s - i (\omega - \omega_E - \omega_{ds}) g_s = C[g_s] - i (Z_s e \phi / T_s) J_0(k_{\perp} v_{\perp} / \Omega_s) f_{0s} (\omega - \omega_{*s}^T)$$

$$\omega = \omega_r + i\gamma \quad \text{mode frequency}$$

$$\alpha = q(\psi) \theta - \zeta$$

$$\mathbf{k}_{\perp} = k_{\alpha} \nabla \alpha + k_{\psi} \nabla \psi \approx k_{\alpha} \nabla \alpha$$

$$\omega_E = \mathbf{v}_{\Phi_1} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{\perp} = (k_{\alpha} / B) (\mathbf{b} \times \nabla \Phi_1) \cdot \nabla \alpha \quad (\text{usually ignored because small for } i, e)$$

$$\omega_{ds} = \mathbf{v}_{ds} \cdot \mathbf{k}_{\perp} = k_{\alpha} [\mathbf{b} \times (v_{\perp}^2 \nabla \ln B / 2 + v_{\parallel}^2 \boldsymbol{\kappa}) / \Omega_s] \cdot \nabla \alpha$$

$$\omega_{*s}^T = - (T_s / Z_s e B) f_{0s}^{-1} (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{k}_{\perp}) \cdot \nabla (f_{0s})_{\varepsilon} = \omega_{*s} q [1 + \eta_s (m_s v^2 / 2 T_s - 3/2 + Z_s e T_s^{-1} \Phi_1)]$$

$$\omega_{*s} = (k_{\alpha} T_s / Z_s e) d \ln n_{0s} / d\psi; \quad \eta_s = (d \ln T_s / d\psi) / (d \ln n_{0s} / d\psi)$$

We neglect parallel streaming $v_{\parallel} \nabla_{\parallel} g_s$ and collisions $C[g_s]$.

- The $E \times B$ drift frequency ω_E usually neglected because it is small, unless $Z_s e \Phi_1 / T_s \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$.

- Note that ω_E independent of Z_s , whereas

$$\omega_{ds} \sim 1/Z_s$$

$$\omega_{*s}^T \sim 1/Z_s.$$

\Rightarrow for high- Z impurities ω_E could play a role.

- The flux-surface-averaged quasilinear impurity flux is given by

$$\Gamma_z = - k_\alpha \text{Im} \left[\left\langle \int g_z J_0 \phi^* d^3v \right\rangle \right]$$

and we find that

$$\Gamma_z = - (Ze/T_z) k_\alpha \gamma \left\langle |\phi|^2 \int (\omega_{*z}^T - \omega_E - \omega_{dz}) |\omega - \omega_E - \omega_{Dz}|^{-2} J_0^2 f_{0z} d^3v \right\rangle$$

which implies that Φ_1 can only change the sign of Γ_z if it can change the sign of

$$(\omega_{*z}^T - \omega_E - \omega_{dz}).$$

- To perform the velocity integral we assume:

- Low- β plasma \Rightarrow simplify ω_{dz} using $\kappa \approx \nabla_{\perp} B / B$:

$$\omega_{dz} = \omega_B (v_{\perp}^2 / 2 + v_{\parallel}^2) / v_z^2$$

- Ion-scale turbulence $\Rightarrow k_{\perp}^2 \rho_z^2 / 2 \ll 1$.
- High- Z trace impurities so ω obtained from bulk species gyrokinetic equations.
- Order ω_E / ω , ω_{dz} / ω , ω_{*z}^T / ω and $J_0(k_{\perp} v_{\perp} / \Omega_z) - 1$ as $1/Z$ small quantities.

- Use Boozer coordinates $\mathbf{B} = H(\psi, \theta, \zeta) \nabla \psi + I(\psi) \nabla \theta + G(\psi) \nabla \zeta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_z \simeq & - (Ze/T_z) k_{\alpha} [\gamma / (\omega_r^2 + \gamma^2)] n_{0z}(\psi) q \omega_{*z} \langle |\phi|^2 \exp(-Z_s e \Phi_1 / T_s) \{1 + \eta_z Ze T_z^{-1} \Phi_1 \\ & - \omega_E / (q \omega_{*z}) - \omega_B / (q \omega_{*z})\} \rangle = \\ & - k_{\alpha}^2 [\gamma / (\omega_r^2 + \gamma^2)] (dn_{0z}/d\psi) q \langle |\phi|^2 \exp(-Z_s e \Phi_1 / T_s) \{1 + \eta_z Ze T_z^{-1} \Phi_1 \\ & + (Ze/T_z) (d \ln n_{0z} / d\psi)^{-1} (q G + I)^{-1} [H (q d\Phi_1 / d\zeta + d\Phi_1 / d\theta) + \theta dq / d\psi (G d\Phi_1 / d\theta - I d\Phi_1 / d\zeta)] \\ & + (2/B) (d \ln n_{0z} / d\psi)^{-1} (q G + I)^{-1} [H (q dB / d\zeta + dB / d\theta) + \theta dq / d\psi (G dB / d\theta - I dB / d\zeta)] \\ & - (2/B) (d \ln n_{0z} / d\psi)^{-1} dB / d\psi \} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Dominant terms

- ▶ Using $\mathbf{B} = H(\psi, \theta, \zeta) \nabla\psi + I(\psi) \nabla\theta + G(\psi) \nabla\zeta$ with $G \gg I$ (poloidal current outside flux-surface \gg toroidal current inside flux-surface).
 $|H \nabla\psi|/(G|\nabla\psi|) \sim (\beta\Delta B/B)/(r/R_0) \ll 1 \Rightarrow$ neglect H/G terms.

$$\Gamma_z \simeq -k_\alpha^2 [\gamma/(\omega_r^2 + \gamma^2)] (dn_{0z}/d\psi) q \left\langle |\phi|^2 \exp(-Z_s e \Phi_1/T_s) \left\{ 1 + \eta_z Ze T_z^{-1} \Phi_1 + (d\ln n_{0z}/d\psi)^{-1} \theta q^{-1} dq/d\psi (Ze/T_z) d\Phi_1/d\theta + (2/B)(d\ln n_{0z}/d\psi)^{-1} \theta q^{-1} dq/d\psi dB/d\theta - (2/B)(d\ln n_{0z}/d\psi)^{-1} dB/d\psi \right\} \right\rangle.$$

- ▶ What is the physics behind the $\eta_z Ze T_z^{-1} \Phi_1$ term?

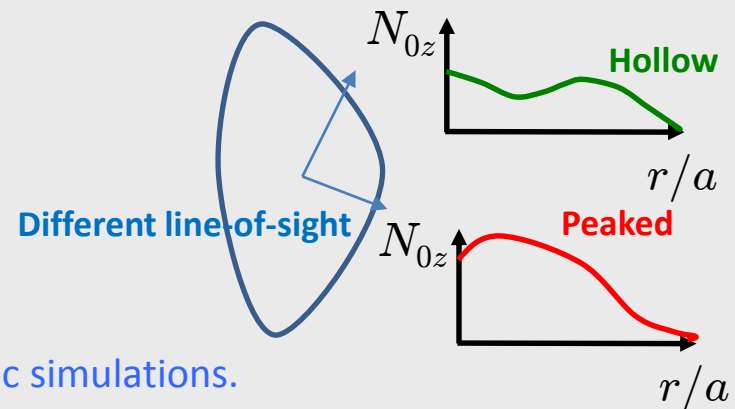
Real lowest-order density $N_{0z}(\psi, \theta, \zeta) = n_{0z}(\psi) \exp(-Z_z e \Phi_1/T_z) \Rightarrow$

$$d\ln N_{0z}/d\psi = (d\ln n_{0z}(\psi)/d\psi) (1 + \eta_z Ze T_z^{-1} \Phi_1)$$

varies over the flux-surface with Φ_1 .

- ▶ The most important is $d\ln N_{0z}/d\psi$ where the turbulence is located!

- ▶ Next step: Attempt to include $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta)$ in linear gyrokinetic simulations.



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- ▶ Collisional (neoclassical) transport predictions for stellarators have long been based on simplified models, but numerical tools start appear that can advance our understanding.
- ▶ The SFINCS code can simultaneously investigate several new effects:
 - Multi-species calculations with non-adiabatic electrons and non-trace impurities.
 - Full linearized Fokker-Planck-Landau operator.
 - Self-consistent calculation of the ambipolar radial electric field.
 - Calculations including electrostatic potential variations $\Phi_1(\theta, \zeta)$.
- ▶ These effects can be important in calculations of impurity transport.
- ▶ Initial analysis of Wendelstein 7-X plasmas indicate that the impurity transport is dominated by anomalous diffusion.
- ▶ Gyrokinetic modelling/calculations of turbulent impurity transport in stellarators is at an early stage, but will hopefully make progress in the coming years.

Extra slides

- ▶ Eulerian uniform grid in θ, ζ .

MPI parallelization with PETSc library + MUMPS.

- ▶ Spectral discretization in $\xi = v_{\parallel}/v$: Legendre polynomials $P_n(\xi)$.

- ▶ Spectral collocation discretization for $x = v/v_{Ts}$, non-standard orthogonal polynomials
[Landreman & Ernst, J Comput. Phys. (2013)].

Collocation: function is known on a set of grid points rather than explicitly expanded in a set of modes \Rightarrow integration/differentiation weight matrices.

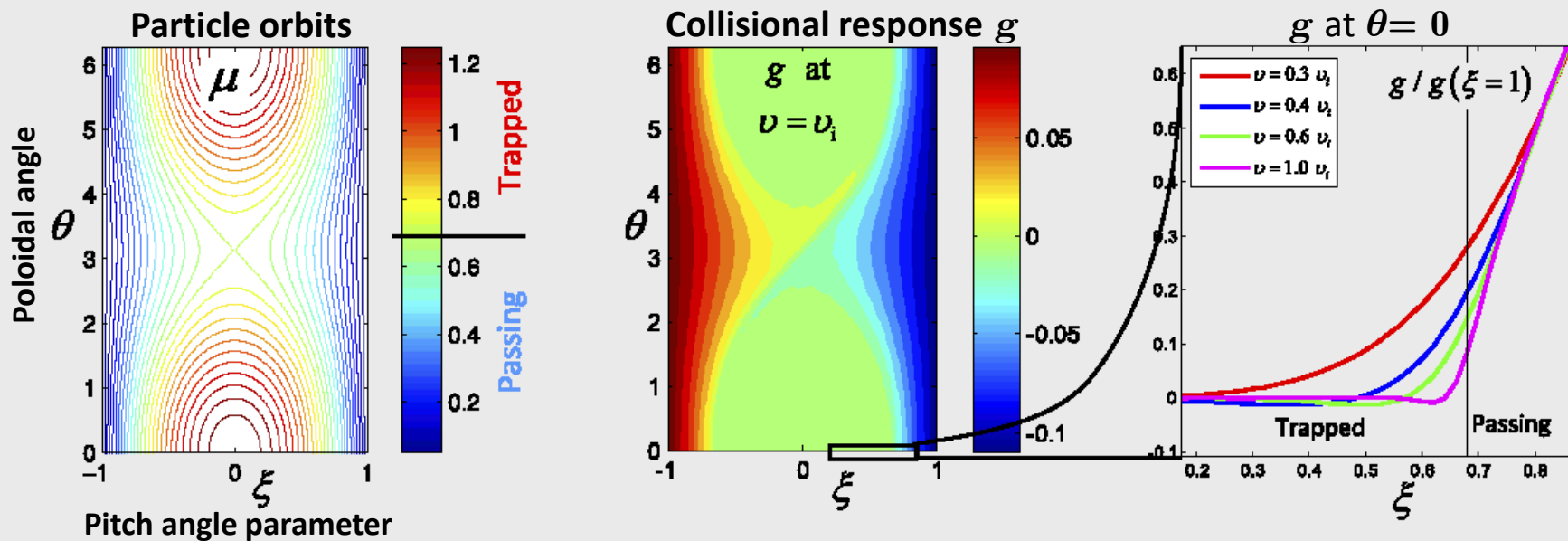
- ▶ Non-linear system solved with Newton method:

$$\mathbf{x} = (f_1, \Phi_1) \quad \text{Residual } R(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{Jacobian } R' = \delta R(\mathbf{x}) / \delta \mathbf{x}$$

State-vector updated as $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n - R(\mathbf{x}_n) / R'(\mathbf{x}_n)$.

- ▶ System solved using preconditioned GMRES.
- ▶ Code written in Fortran (also MATLAB version).

- ▶ Trapped-passing boundary (tokamak example):



- ▶ Simulations typically become more demanding at low collisionality (small ν_{ss}/v_{Ts}). Thinner trapped-passing boundary layer harder to resolve.
- ▶ Resolution in SFINCS runs for W7-X OP1.1:
 $(N_{\text{species}} \times N_{\theta} \times N_{\zeta} \times N_x \times N_{\xi}) \times (N_{\text{species}} \times N_{\theta} \times N_{\zeta} \times N_x \times N_{\xi}) \sim 10^7 \times 10^7$
 Runs on IPP Draco cluster ≤ 32 nodes (128GB) in ≤ 20 min (often ≤ 5 min).
- ▶ Most time consuming activities:
 - find numerical convergence,
 - find ambipolar E_r .

SFINCS can perform calculations that no other code can (to my knowledge).

Benchmark of linear calculations

- ▶ Comparison to analytic limits at high-collisionality $\nu_{*ii} \sim \nu_{ii}/v_{Ti} \gg 1$.
Comparison to analytic theory at mixed-collisionality $\nu_{*zz} \gg 1$; $\nu_{*ii} \ll 1$.
- ▶ Comparison to DKES and EUTERPE for transport calculations.
Note: A wider benchmark activity would be desirable.

Benchmark of nonlinear calculations including Φ_1

- ▶ Comparison between Fortran version of SFINCS with Φ_1 (equations included by me) and Matlab version (written by Matt) .
- ▶ Some sanity checks in the output of SFINCS, e.g. $\langle \Gamma_s \cdot \nabla r \rangle = \langle \int d^3v f_{0s} (\mathbf{v}_{ds} + \mathbf{v}_E) \cdot \nabla r \rangle = 0$.
- ▶ Benchmark with EUTERPE, KNOSOS for several plasmas.

- Φ_1 in collision operator.

$$C_{ab}^{\text{linear}}[f_s] = C_{ab}[f_{Ma}, f_{Mb}] \exp(-Z_a e \Phi_1 / T_a - Z_b e \Phi_1 / T_b) + \\ + C_{ab}[f_{1a}, f_{Mb}] \exp(-Z_b e \Phi_1 / T_b) + C_{ab}[f_{Ma}, f_{1b}] \exp(-Z_a e \Phi_1 / T_a)$$

- Linear version with Φ_1 .

Version of the code where Φ_1 is an input instead of an output.

Could be useful e.g. for studying effect of plasma heating or using Φ_1 from another code.

- Φ_1 + tangential magnetic drifts.

Found to be important for some plasmas.

[\[Velasco et al., PPCF \(2018\)\]](#), [\[Calvo et al., PPCF \(2017\); Nucl. Fusion \(2018\)\]](#)

Drift-kinetic equation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\mathbf{R}} = v_{\parallel} \mathbf{b} - (\nabla \Phi_0 \times \mathbf{b})/B + \mathbf{v}_{ds} \cdot \nabla f_{1s} \\ \dot{v}_{\parallel} = -Z_s e \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \Phi_1 / m_s - \mu \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla B - v_{\parallel} (\mathbf{b} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \Phi_0 / B^2 \end{array} \right.$$

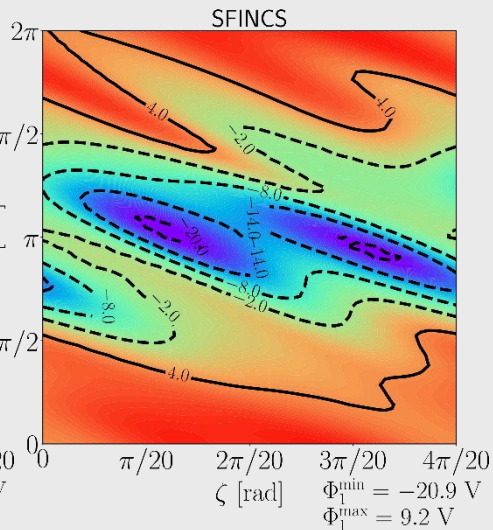
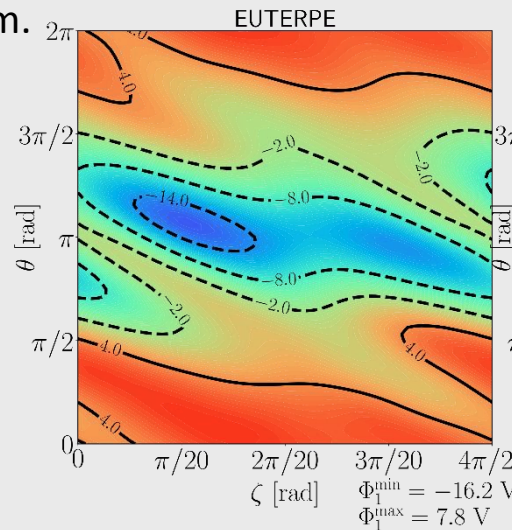
extra term containing tangential magnetic drifts,
drop terms with radial coupling to keep locality

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \nabla f_{1s} + \dot{v}_{\parallel} (\partial f_{1s} / \partial v_{\parallel}) - C_{\text{linear}}[f_{1s}] = \\ = -f_{0s} [n_s^{-1} dn_s / dr + Z_s e T_s^{-1} d\Phi_0 / dr + \\ + (m_s v^2 / 2T_s - 3/2 + Z_s e T_s^{-1} \Phi_1) T_s^{-1} dT_s / dr] (\mathbf{v}_{ds} + \mathbf{v}_E) \cdot \nabla r \end{aligned}$$

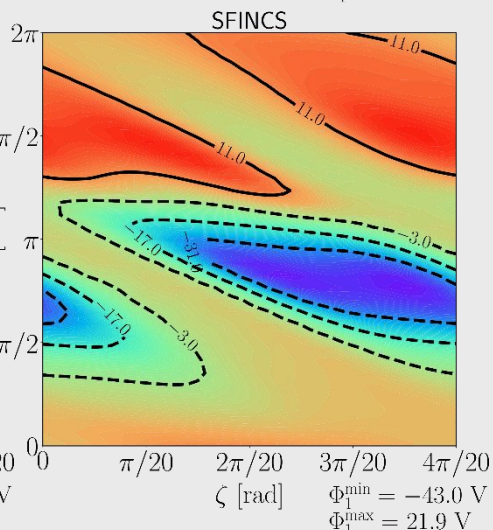
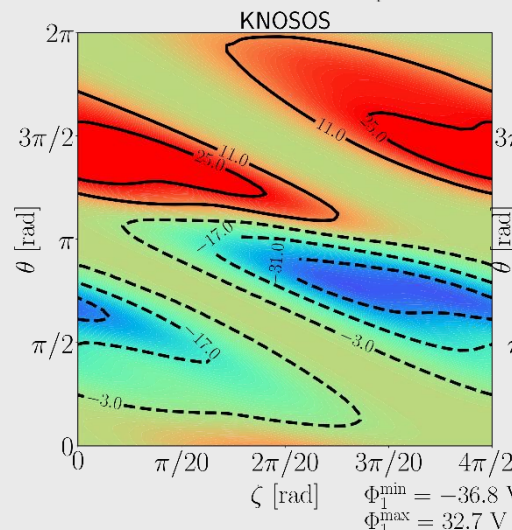
- ▶ Magnetic drifts implemented in SFINCS [Paul et al., Nucl. Fusion (2017)].
- ▶ To include tangential magnetic drifts in a numerical solver is somewhat ambiguous.
Example: Approximation $df_{1s}/dr = 0$ in $\mathbf{v}_{ds} \cdot \nabla f_{1s}$ different in different coordinate systems.
- ▶ 9 different versions implemented in SFINCS.
- ▶ SFINCS calculations with Φ_1 + tangential magnetic drifts very numerically challenging.
- ▶ KNOSOS significantly faster. [Velasco et al., PPCF (2018)]

- Pitch-angle scattering collisions (no momentum correction).
- Large Helical Device equilibrium.
- Tangential magnetic drifts.

Without tangential magnetic drifts



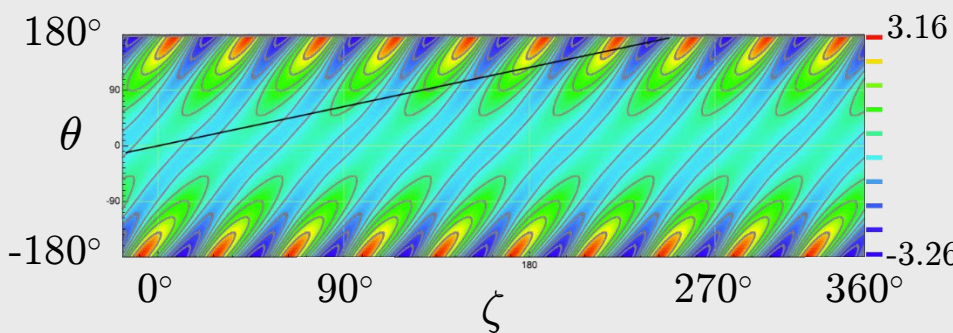
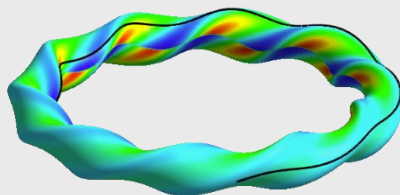
With tangential magnetic drifts



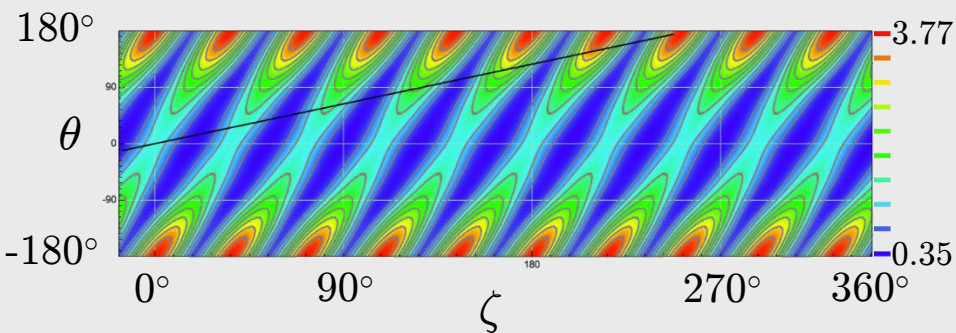
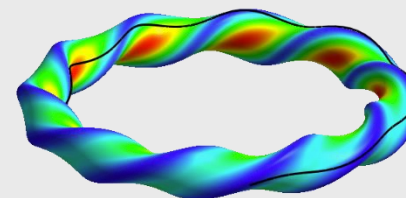
Large Helical Device

10-periodic in toroidal direction

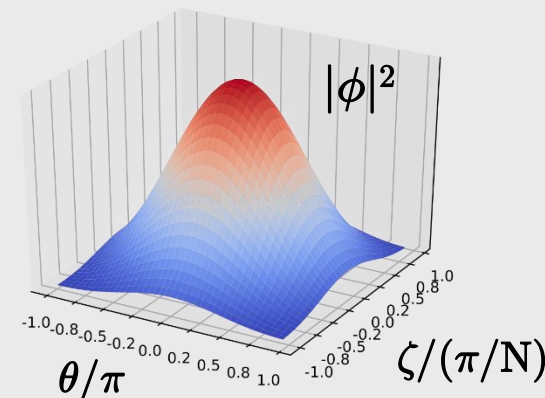
Bad curvature $L2$



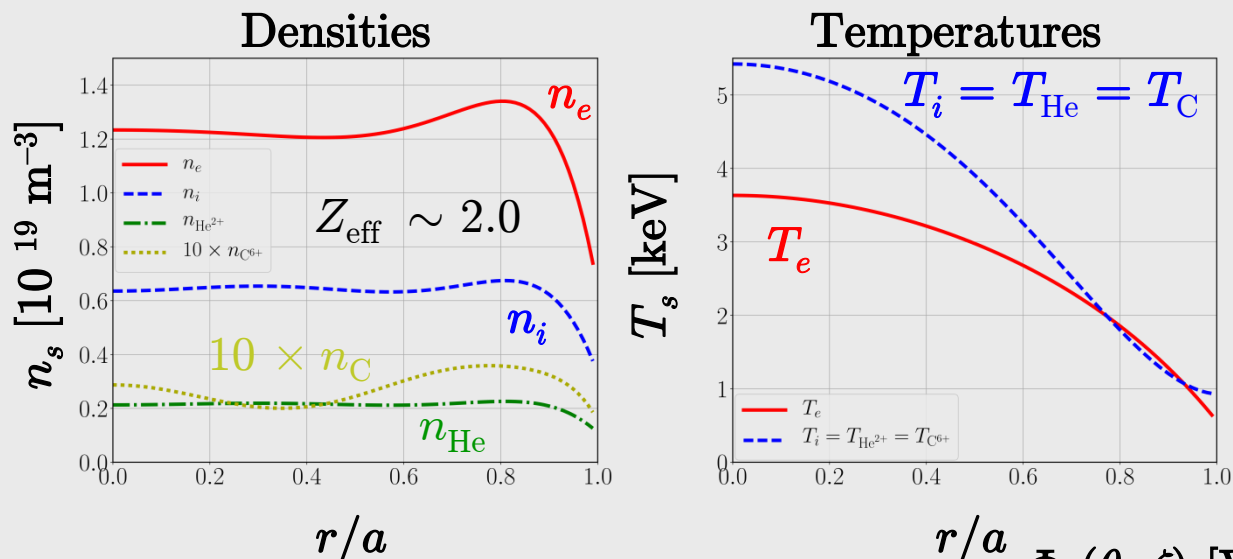
Metric coefficient $g^{11} = |\nabla\psi|^2$



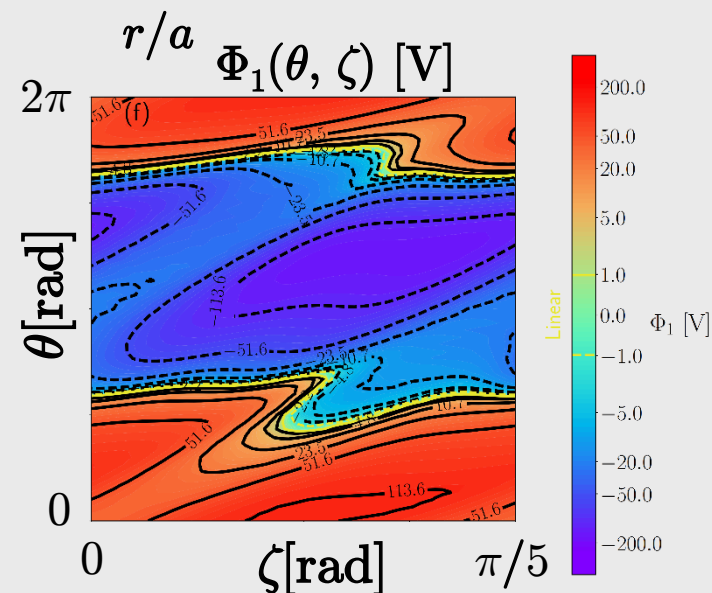
- Most probable location for turbulence is areas on outboard side between ridges (around $\theta = 0$, $\zeta = 0$). There $L2 < 0$ (bad curvature) and g^{11} is maximized \Rightarrow optimal conditions for turbulence.
- Approximate $|\phi|^2$ with 2D parabola around $\theta = 0$, $\zeta = 0$.



- Large Helical Device discharge 113208 at $t = 4.64s$



- Look at $r/a = 0.7$, hollow density profile,
 $\eta_z = (d \ln T_z / d\psi) / (d \ln n_{0z} / d\psi) = -3.5$,
 $\Phi_1(0, 0) = 34.5 \text{ V}$,
 $\eta_z Z e T_z^{-1} \Phi_1(0, 0) = -0.29$.
- $\eta_z Z e T_z^{-1} \Phi_1$ seems to contribute to outward Γ_z .
- Maybe not enough to explain impurity hole but a more careful analysis is needed.



Effect of Φ_1 could possibly change by:

- ▶ Tangential magnetic drifts included in the SFINCS calculations (or Φ_1 from KNOSOS).
- ▶ Including effects of plasma heating.
- ▶ Include parallel streaming term.

Axisymmetry: Trapped Electron Modes \Rightarrow outwards transport,

Ion Temperature Gradient modes \Rightarrow inwards transport.

- ▶ Including radial variation $\Phi_1(\psi, \theta, \zeta)$, requires radially global neoclassical code but including $d\Phi_1/d\psi$ in the quasilinear model should be straightforward.