# On the Physics of Intrinsic Flow in Plasmas Without Magnetic Shear

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# Outline

- Merits of weak magnetic shear + rotation for confinement
- Question: intrinsic rotation with weak shear?
- CSDX: a test bed for intrinsic flows in unsheared magnetic fields
  - Intrinsic axial flow
- New mechanism for intrinsic flows
  - No requirement for magnetic symmetry breaking
  - Builds on electron drift wave turbulence
- Broader lesson for tokamaks
  - Not limited to weak shear regimes
  - Outcome: enhanced  $\nabla \langle v_{\phi} \rangle$
- Future work: flow boundary layer ↔ ion-neutral coupling

#### Why "weak shear" profile?

- Long known:
- weak or reversed shear beneficial for confinement (ERS, NCS, WNS, ...)
  - B.W. Rice (DIII-D), PPCF, 1996;
  - E.J. Synakowski (TFTR), PoP, 1997;
  - M. Yoshida (JT-60U), NF, 2015...
- De-stiffened, ITB-like state observed for "weak shear" (JET)
  - P. Mantica, PRL, 2011;
  - C. Gormazano, PRL, 1998, etc.
- For more, see previous talks by Dr. Turco, Dr. Pan.



#### Intrinsic Rotation in Weak Shear Profiles

- JET: Weak shear **AND** Rotation  $\rightarrow$  Enhanced confinement
- But external torque limited in ITER
- So need understand: Intrinsic rotation in weak shear regimes
- Important for:
  - Total effective torque
    - $\tau = \tau_{ext} + \tau_{intr}$
  - Contribution to  $V'_{E \times B}$



[P. Mantica, PRL, 2011; Rice, PRL, 2013]

FIG. 4 (color online).  $q_i^{\text{GB}} \text{ vs } R/L_{T_i} \text{ at } \rho_{\text{tor}} = 0.33 \text{ for similar}$ plasmas with different rotation and *s* values. 4

#### Intrinsic Rotation in ITB



- Intrinsic rotation: self-accelerated toroidal rotation
- Discovered in JFT-2M, C-Mod (~ 95')
- During ITB formation:
  - $\tau_{intr}$  in the core flip sign
  - Build up from edge
  - $\tau_{intr} \sim \tau_{ext}$
- Strong coupling between heat transport and momentum transport
- Consistent with

 $\Delta \langle v_{\phi} \rangle \sim \nabla T, \nabla P$ 



### A conceptual Model of Intrinsic Rotation: Heat Engine

• Car motion vs plasma rotation [Kosuga, PoP, 2010]:

	Car	Intrinsic Rotation
Fuel	Gas	Heating $\rightarrow \nabla T$ , $\nabla n_0$
Conversion	Burn	$ abla T$ , $ abla n_0$ driven turbulence
Work	Cylinder	Symmetry breaking
Result	Wheel rotation	Flow

• Plasma rotation:



### Details: Conventional Wisdom of Intrinsic Rotation

• Self-acceleration by intrinsic torque due to residual stress  $(\tau_{intr} = -\nabla \cdot \Pi^{Res})$ 

$$\langle \tilde{v}_{r} \tilde{v}_{\parallel} \rangle = -\chi_{\phi} \frac{d \langle v_{\parallel} \rangle}{dr} + V_{P} \langle v_{\parallel} \rangle + \Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res}$$

- Residual stress  $\Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res}$ 
  - Driven by turbulence, i.e.  $\Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res} \sim \nabla P, \nabla T, \nabla n_0$
- $\Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res} \sim \langle k_{\theta} k_{\parallel} \rangle$  requires symmetry breaking in k space
- Symmetry breaking usually relies on magnetic shear
- Rotation builds up from edge, driven by  $\Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res}$  at edge

[W.X. Wang, PRL, 2009]

# A Simple Example

• 
$$k_{\parallel} = k_{\theta} \frac{x}{L_s} \rightarrow \langle k_{\theta} k_{\parallel} \rangle \sim k_{\theta}^2 \frac{\langle x \rangle}{L_s}$$

- (x): averaged distance from mode center to rational surface
- $\langle x \rangle$  set, in simple models, by:
  - $E'_r$ : centroid shift
  - I'(x): spatial dispersion of envelope
- What of weak shear  $(q' \rightarrow 0)$ ?

[Gurcan et al, PoP, 2007&2010]



# Intrinsic Parallel Flow in Linear Device

- Controlled Shear Decorrelation Experiment (CSDX)
- Straight, uniform magnetic field in axial direction
- Ideal test bed for studying intrinsic flows in unsheared magnetic fields



# More Generally: Why study linear device?

• Correspondence between CSDX and tokamaks:

Tokamaks	CSDX
Toroidal field structure usually sheared	Uniform axial magnetic field (shear- free)
Intrinsic toroidal rotation	Intrinsic axial flow
Rotation boundary condition set by SOL	Axial flow boundary condition set by boundary neutral layer
L-H transition	Transport bifurcation driven by $\nabla n_0$
Inward pinch; density peaking	$n_0$ profile steepening; localized net inward particle flux

## Observation

- Intrinsic axial flow evident (without momentum input)
- Barrier formed when  $B > B_{crit}$
- $\nabla \langle v_z \rangle$  steepening occurs with  $\nabla n_0$ ,  $\nabla P_i$  steepening  $\rightarrow$  barrier formation



 $\langle v_z \rangle$  profile evident, steepens during transition

[Cui, PoP, 2015&2016; TTF talk, 2015]

### Intrinsic $\nabla \langle v_z \rangle$ tracks $L_n^{-1}$

- Axial flow in CSDX:
- $\langle v_z \rangle' \sim \frac{1}{n_0} \nabla n_0$
- $\nabla n_0$  is free energy source
- 2.8 × 10<sup>4</sup>  $B < B_{cr}$ 2.6  $B > B_{cr}$ 2.4 2.2 2  $\begin{array}{c} & 2\\ & \ddots\\ & \ddots\\ & \ddots\\ & 1.6 \end{array}$ 1.4 1.2 1 Δ 0.8 0.3 0.4 0.6 0.50.7  $L_n^{-1} (cm^{-1})$

- Recall
- Intrinsic rotation in C-Mod:
- $\Delta \langle v_{\phi} \rangle \sim \nabla T$  [Rice, PRL, 2011]



#### Axial Reynolds Power Tracks $L_n^{-1}$



- Total Reynolds power:  $P_{Res}^{tot} = -\int \langle \tilde{v}_r \tilde{v}_z \rangle' \langle v_z \rangle r dr$
- Total power coupled to  $\nabla \langle v_z \rangle$  from fluctuations
- Axial Reynolds power rises with  $1/L_n$  (for  $B < B_{crit}$ )
- Evidence for direct connection of fluctuations with intrinsic flow

# Theory

- Dynamical Symmetry Breaking
- No requirement on specific magnetic field structure

ightarrow aspects relevant to both weak shear, and standard configurations

• Electron drift waves (CTEM → ITER relevant)

#### Electron Drift Wave System

• System equations:

$$\frac{D}{Dt}n_{e} + \frac{1}{L_{n}}\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial\theta} + \frac{\partial v_{e,z}}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\frac{D}{Dt}\nabla_{\perp}^{2}\phi = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\left(v_{z} - v_{e,z}\right)$$

$$\frac{D}{Dt}v_{z} - \langle v_{z}\rangle'\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial\theta} = -\frac{\partial n_{e}}{\partial z} \qquad \left(\frac{D}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_{E} \cdot \nabla\right)$$

16

• Non-adiabatic electrons:  $n_e \cong (1 - i\delta)\phi$ 

$$\delta \cong \frac{\nu_{ei}(\omega_* - \omega)}{k_z^2 v_{The}^2}, \text{ with } 1 < \frac{k_z^2 v_{The}^2}{\nu_{ei} \omega} < \infty$$

• Dispersion relation

$$1 + k_{\perp}^2 \rho_{\rm s}^2 - i\delta - \frac{\omega_*}{\omega} + \frac{k_{\theta}k_z\rho_{\rm s}c_{\rm s}\langle v_z\rangle'}{\omega^2} - (1 - i\delta)\frac{k_z^2c_{\rm s}^2}{\omega^2} = 0$$

#### Dynamical Symmetry Breaking



#### Negative Viscosity Increment

- Reynolds stress:  $\langle \tilde{v}_r \tilde{v}_z \rangle = -\chi_\phi \langle v_z \rangle' + \Pi_{rz}^{
  m Res}$
- Turbulent momentum diffusivity:

$$\chi_{\phi} = \sum_{k} \frac{\nu_{\rm ei}}{k_z^2 v_{\rm The}^2} \frac{k_{\perp}^2 \rho_s^2}{1 + k_{\perp}^2 \rho_s^2} k_{\theta}^2 \rho_s^2 |\phi_k|^2 \quad \bigstar$$

Residual stress → Negative viscosity *increment*

•  $\delta \Pi^{Res} = \left| \chi_{\phi}^{Inc} \right| \delta \langle v_z \rangle'$  [Li et al, submitted to PoP, 2016]  $\delta \Pi_{rz}^{Res} = \frac{\nu_{ei} L_n^2}{v_{The}^2} \sum_k (1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2) (4 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2) |\phi_k|^2 \delta \langle v_z \rangle'$ 

#### Modulational Enhancement of $\delta \langle v_z \rangle'$

• 
$$\delta \langle v_z \rangle' \rightarrow \Pi^{Res} \rightarrow \chi_{\phi}^{tot} = \chi_{\phi} - |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$$

• Dynamics of 
$$\delta \langle v_z \rangle'$$
:  

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta \langle v_z \rangle' + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} \left( \delta \Pi_{rz}^{Res} - \chi_{\phi} \delta \langle v_z \rangle' \right) = 0$$

• Growth rate of flow shear modulation

$$\gamma_q = -q_r^2 (\chi_\phi - |\chi_\phi^{Inc}|)$$

- $\chi_{\phi}^{tot} < 0 \rightarrow$  Modulational growth of  $\delta \langle v_z \rangle'$
- Feedback loop:  $\delta \langle v_z \rangle' \rightarrow \Pi^{Res} \rightarrow -|\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$

# Upper Limit of $\langle v_z \rangle'$ Set by PSFI

- Parallel shear flow instability (PSFI)
- Driven by  $\nabla \langle v_z \rangle$ , negative compressibility (similar to ITG)



#### Parallel shear flow instability

• Growth rate and resulting turbulent momentum diffusivity:

$$\begin{split} \gamma_k^{PSFI} &\cong \sqrt{\frac{k_\theta k_z \rho_s c_s (\langle v_z \rangle' - \langle v_z \rangle'_{crit})}{1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2}} \\ \chi_\phi^{PSFI} &\cong \sum_k |\phi_k|^2 k_\theta^2 \rho_s^2 \frac{4(1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2)^2}{\omega_*^2} \sqrt{\frac{k_\theta k_z \rho_s c_s (\langle v_z \rangle' - \langle v_z \rangle'_{crit})}{1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2}} \end{split}$$

- Hit PSFI threshold  $\rightarrow \chi_{\phi}^{PSFI}$  nonlinear in  $\nabla \langle v_z \rangle \rightarrow \chi_{\phi}^{tot} > 0$
- $\delta \langle v_z \rangle' \rightarrow \Pi^{Res} \rightarrow \delta \langle v_z \rangle'$  growth  $\leftarrow$  Saturated by PSFI

$$\chi_{\phi}^{tot} = \chi_{\phi}^{DW} - |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}| < 0$$

$$\chi_{\phi}^{tot} = \chi_{\phi}^{DW} + \chi_{\phi}^{PSFI} - |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}| > 0$$

#### Comparing Symmetry Breaking Mechanisms

	Standard Symmetry Breaking	Dynamical Symmetry Breaking
Free Energy	$ abla T$ , $ abla n_0$	$\nabla n_0$
Symmetry Breaker	$E'_r$ , $I(x)'$ , etc. Linked to magnetic shear.	Test axial flow shear, $\delta \langle v_z \rangle'$ ; No requirement of <b>B</b> structure.
Effect on the Flow	Intrinsic torque, $-\partial_r \Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res}$	Negative viscosity increment, $- \chi^{Res} $ driven by $\nabla n_0$
Flow Profile	$\langle v_{\phi} \rangle' = \frac{\Pi_{r\parallel}^{Res}}{\chi_{\phi}}$	$ \langle v_{\phi} \rangle' = \frac{R * \tau_{ext} + \Pi^{Res}}{\chi_{\phi}(\nabla n_0, \nabla \langle v_{\parallel} \rangle) -  \chi_{\phi}^{Inc} } $

#### Comparison (cont'd)



### Also relevant to Tokamaks

- $\nabla \langle v_{\phi} \rangle$  steepening and  $\Pi^{Res}$  can act in synergy
- Rotation profile gradient enhanced by negative viscosity effect

• 
$$\langle v_{\phi} \rangle' \sim \frac{\text{Drive}}{\chi_{\phi}^{DW} + \chi_{\phi}^{PSFI} \Theta(\langle v_{\parallel} \rangle' - \langle v_{\parallel} \rangle'_{crit}) - |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|}$$

• Drive can be external ( $\tau_{\rm NBI}$ ) or intrinsic ( $\Pi^{Res}$ )

### Future Work

- Boundary condition matter
- Flow boundary controlled by neutral particles
- For simple analysis: No-slip boundary condition due to friction
- In tokamaks: Interaction with SOL



#### Boundary Dynamics Impacts Flow Profile

• Evolution of net axial ion flow:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{0}^{R} dr \langle v_{i,z} \rangle = \int_{0}^{R} dr \frac{\Delta P_{i}}{\rho_{0}L} - \langle \tilde{v}_{r} \tilde{v}_{z} \rangle \Big|_{R} - \int_{r_{b}}^{R} dr v_{ni} (\langle v_{i,z} \rangle - \langle v_{n,z} \rangle)$$



(a) No external source/sink.Net flow = 0.

(b) No-slip at wall  $\rightarrow v_z \cong 0$ ,  $\langle \tilde{v}_r \tilde{v}_z \rangle \cong 0$ . Net flow > 0.

(c)  $\Delta P_i$  drive at center, outflux at wall.

# Boundary Layer

- Partially ionized  $\rightarrow$  Neutral flow within BL
- Neutral flow dynamics (can be solved numerically by BOUT++):

$$\rho_{\rm n} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_{\rm n}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v}_{\rm n} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}_{\rm n} \right) = -\nabla P_{\rm n} + \rho_{\rm n} \nu_{\rm ni} \left( \mathbf{v}_{\rm i} - \mathbf{v}_{\rm n} \right)$$

- Within neutral layer:  $\langle v_{i,z} \rangle \cong \langle v_{n,z} \rangle$
- Neutral flow within BL sets boundary condition for plasma flows

# Summary

- We know:
  - Weak shear + rotation  $\rightarrow$  beneficial for confinement
  - Intrinsic toroidal rotation exists in weak shear regions
- Question:
  - Intrinsic rotation generation for weak shear  $\rightarrow q' \rightarrow 0$ ?
- New mechanism for intrinsic axial flow generation
  - CSDX: a test bed for intrinsic flows with unsheared magnetic fields
  - No requirement on magnetic shear  $\rightarrow$  Broader lesson

# Summary (cont'd)

- Results:
  - Dynamical symmetry breaking
  - Negative viscosity increment induced by  $\Pi^{Res}$

• 
$$\delta \Pi^{Res} = |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}| \delta \langle v_z \rangle'$$

- Total viscosity:  $\chi_{\phi}^{tot} = \chi_{\phi} |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$
- $\chi_{\phi}^{tot} < 0 \rightarrow$  Modulational growth of  $\delta \langle v_z \rangle'$
- Flow profile: pipe flow analogy
  - Balance between drive and viscosity
  - In CSDX:  $\langle v_z \rangle' \sim \Delta P_i / \chi_{\phi}^{tot}$

# Summary (cont'd)

- Broader lesson for tokamaks
  - Synergy of  $\langle v_\phi \rangle'$  self-amplification and  $\Pi^{Res}$
  - $\langle v_{\phi} \rangle'$  driven by  $\tau_{NBI}$ ,  $\Pi^{Res}(\nabla n_0, \nabla T)$
  - $\langle v_{\phi} \rangle'$  enhanced by  $-|\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$
- Future work: flow boundary condition
  - Ion-neutral coupling within boundary layer

# List of Related Talks/Posters

- April 1<sup>st</sup>:
  - A. Ashourvon, "On the Structure of the Zonal Shear Layer Field and its Implication for Multi-scale Interactions"
- March 31<sup>st</sup>:
  - R. Hajjar, "Modelling Transport Bifurcations in the CSDX Linear Device"
  - P. Vaezi, "Nonlinear Simulation of CSDX Including Sheath Physics"
- March 30<sup>th</sup>:
  - S.C. Thakur, "Spontaneous self-organization from drift wave plasmas to a mixed ITG-drift wave-shear flow system via a transport bifurcation in a linear magnetized plasma device"
  - R. Hong, "Effects of Density Gradient on Axial Flow Structures in a Helicon Linear Plasma Device "

## Back-up

# Heat Engine

- Efficiency of intrinsic rotation generation by turbulence
- Entropy evolution:

$$\begin{split} \partial_t S_0 &= \int d^3 x \Bigg[ n \chi_i \bigg( \frac{\nabla T}{T} \bigg)^2 - n K \frac{\langle V_E \rangle'^2}{v_{\rm thi}^2} \\ &+ n \chi_\phi \frac{\langle V_{\parallel} \rangle'^2}{v_{\rm thi}^2} - n \frac{\Pi_{r\parallel}^{\rm res2}}{v_{\rm thi}^2 \chi_\phi} \Bigg]. \end{split}$$

Efficiency ~ Entropy destruction due to flow generation
 Net production due to thermal relaxation

$$e \equiv \frac{\left|\int d^3 x \mathcal{P}_{\text{flow}}\right|}{\int d^3 x \mathcal{P}_{\text{net}}} \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad e_{\text{IR}} \cong \frac{\int d^3 x n (\Pi_{r\parallel}^{\text{res}})^2 / (v_{\text{thi}}^2 \chi_{\phi})}{\int d^3 x n \chi_i (\nabla T/T)^2}$$

#### Non-resonant mode structure

(a) Coupling between nearby radii



 Non-resonant mode structure
 [S. Yi, PoP, 2012]

FIG. 1. Cartoon of the spatial extent of mode-mode interactions (a) among resonant modes only and (b) involving non-resonant modes.

#### Intrinsic rotation

• Discovered in JFT-2M, Alcator C-Mod plasmas



Steady state toroidal momentum in counter-current injection of NBI is two to three times larger than that in co-current injection. [Ida, JFT-2M, 1995]



Time histories of (impurity) toroidal rotation for a 2.0 MW **ICRF** heated EDA H-mode plasma [Rice, C-Mod, 2004]

### **CSDX** Parameters

 These experiments were carried out in the Controlled Shear Decorrelation Experiment, which is a 2.8 m long linear helicon plasma device with a source radius 7.5 cm, 1.6 kW RF power input (reflected power less than 30 W), and a gas fill pressure of 3.2 mTorr.



# **Energy Transfer Ratio**



#### **Residual Stress**

- Reynolds stress:  $\langle \tilde{v}_r \tilde{v}_z \rangle = -\chi_\phi \langle v_z \rangle' + \Pi_{rz}^{
  m Res}$
- Turbulent diffusivity:

Residual stress

# Parallel Shear Flow Instability

• PSFI: recall dispersion relation of the model with adiabatic electrons:

$$\left(1+k_{\perp}^{2}\rho_{s}^{2}\right)\omega^{2}-\omega_{*}\omega+k_{\theta}k_{z}\rho_{s}c_{s}\langle v_{z}\rangle'-k_{z}^{2}c_{s}^{2}=0$$

• Unstable  $\leftrightarrow$  discriminant =  $\omega_*^2 - 4(1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2)(k_\theta k_z \rho_s c_s \langle v_z \rangle' - k_z^2 c_s^2) < 0$ 

• 
$$\rightarrow \langle v_z \rangle' > \langle v_z \rangle'_{\text{crit}} \equiv \frac{1}{k_\theta k_z \rho_s c_s} \left[ \frac{\omega_*^2}{4(1+k_\perp^2 \rho_s^2)} + k_z^2 c_s^2 \right] \rightarrow \mathsf{PSFI}$$

• With non-adiabatic electrons

$$\langle v_z \rangle_{\rm crit}' = \frac{1}{k_\theta k_z \rho_{\rm s} c_{\rm s}} \left[ \frac{\omega_*^2 (1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_{\rm s}^2)}{4[(1 + k_\perp^2 \rho_{\rm s}^2)^2 + \delta^2]} + k_z^2 c_{\rm s}^2 \right]$$

### Parallel Shear Flow Instability

Negative compressibility



### Flow Structure

• Pipe flow analogy



### Flow Structure

- With external drive  $\Delta P_i$ 
  - Don't need modulational growth to generate intrinsic flow
  - $-|\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$  enhances flow gradient
- Momentum balance:

• 
$$\langle v_z \rangle' \sim \frac{\Delta P_i}{\chi_{\phi}^{DW} + \chi_{\phi}^{PSFI} \Theta(\langle v_z \rangle' - \langle v_z \rangle'_{crit}) - |\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|}$$

•  $\langle v_z \rangle'$  is kept at or below  $\langle v_z \rangle'_{crit}$  due to  $\chi_{\phi}^{PSFI}$ 

# Applications to Tokamaks

- Weak shear
- Initial flow shear (seed)
  - $\rightarrow \Pi^{Res}$  by dynamical symmetry breaking
  - $\rightarrow$  Accelerate rotation
- Need modulational growth of  $\delta \langle v_{\phi} \rangle'$
- OR weak net NBI torque (external) + negative

viscosity increment  $\rightarrow \langle v_{\phi} \rangle'$  enhanced by  $-|\chi_{\phi}^{Inc}|$