



Full-f and δf gyrokinetic particle simulations of Alfvén waves and energetic particle physics



Z.X. Lu, G. Meng, R. Hatzky, Ph. Lauber, M. Hoelzl; NL collision w/ input from A. Chankin, G. Meng, A. Bergmann ...
[Lu, et al, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion, 65, 034004 (2023)]

Acknowledge: A. Mishchenko, ORB5, EUTERPE, JOREK groups, L. Rekhviashvili, E. Sonnendrücker, F. Zonca

TSVV8; ACH/MPG01; ATEP/NLED ENR; TSVV10 projects

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Connection & possible contribution to TSVV10 from TRIMEG (previously/currently participated in TSVV8)

(Mixed δf)-full f scheme electromagnetic particle models

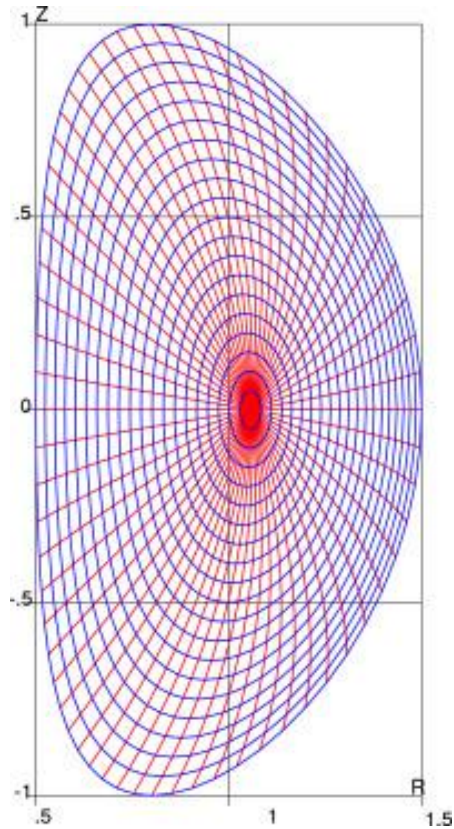
- Mixed variables/pullback scheme in full f
- Marker loading using constants of motion in full f model

Full f nonlinear collision operator using Rosenbluth potential

Field-aligned finite element method for multiple- n nonlinear simulations

Recap: Triangular mesh based gyrokinetic code

Structured mesh

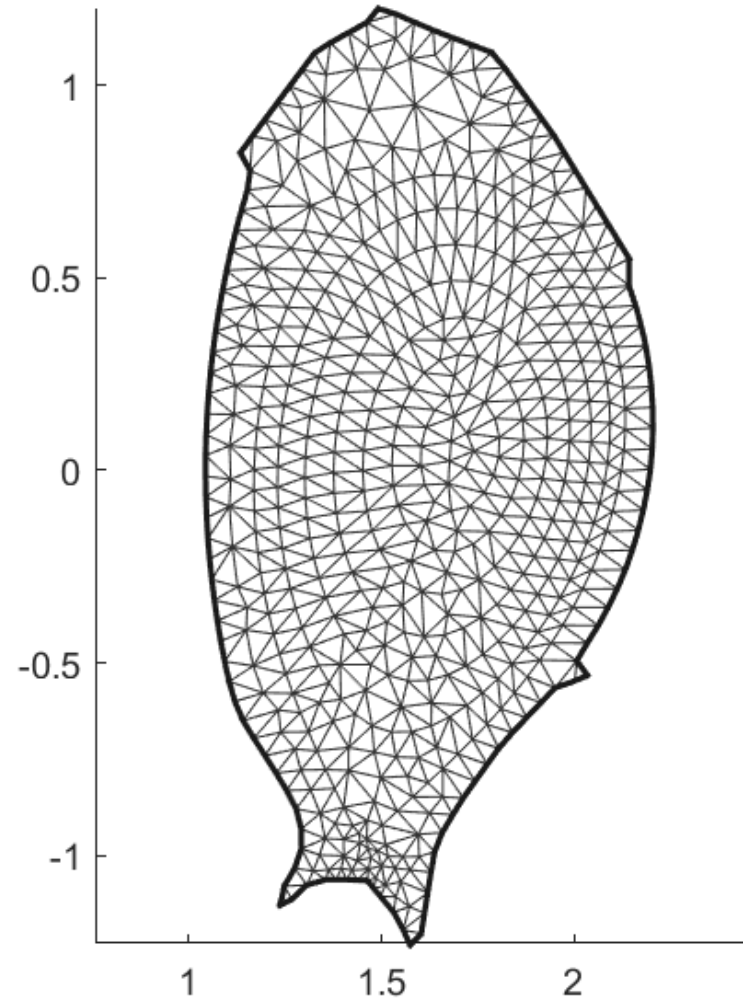


GTC, GTS, GEM
MEGA, HMGC
LIGKA, HAGIS
NOVA, JOREK

STRUPHY

TRIMEG-GKX

• Unstructured mesh



XGC, M3D(-C1)

TRIMEG-C0/C1

Recap: Development of TRIMEG code and Physics studies



TRangular MESH based Gyrokinetic code

Aiming for physics studies with X point, EM and kinetic electrons

Before 2019:electrostatic model, explicit scheme, δf (low noise, fast), (R,Z) coordinate, unstructured mesh, mixed particle-in-cell-particle-in-Fourier

[Z.X. Lu, Ph. Lauber, T. Hayward-Schneider, A. Bottino, M. Hoelzl, Phys. Plasmas , 26, 122503 (2019)]

2019-2021:electromagnetic, implicit scheme, full f , “eXtended” to structured mesh in a test version, realistic mass ratio, multiple species

[Z.X. Lu, G. Meng, M. Hoelzl, Ph. Lauber, Journal Comput. Phys. 440 (2021) 110384]

Recent work

- Numerical improvement

- High order finite element in both structured/unstructured meshes
- Control Variate and noise reduction

[Lu, Meng, Hatzky, Hoelzl, Lauber, PPCF (2023)]

- Neoclassical physics

- Electron transport, bootstrap current [L. Rekhviashvili, master thesis, TRIMEG-C0]
- Neoclassical E_r

- Physics studies related to AUG, benchmark with LIGKA, HMGC

[Meng, Lauber, Wang, Lu, Plasma Science Tech 025101 (2022)]

- Chen, Zonca et al. GK-E&B

- GK-E&B is a powerful model suitable for multi-scale physics
- Test in TRIMEG shows GK-E&B's capability for small d_e

[Rosen, Lu, Hoelzl, Phys. Plasmas, 022502 (2022)]

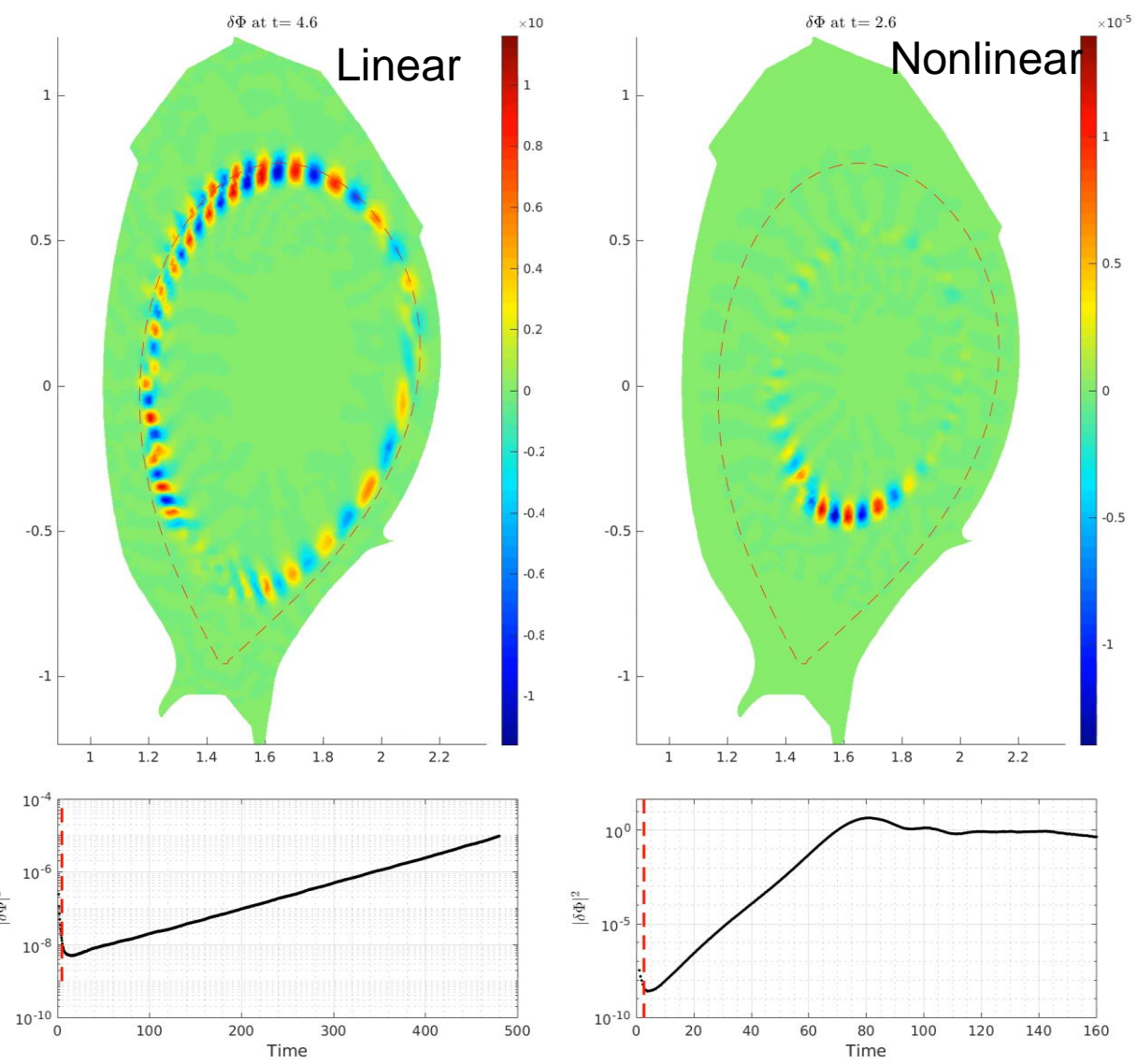
Recap: ITG simulations in TRIMEG



ITG mode is simulated in the whole plasma volume

- Experimental magnetic equilibrium
- Analytical density, temperature profiles
- Dominant terms in equations of motion
- Linear/nonlinear ITG simulations demonstrate the capability of the unstructured mesh in treating the whole plasma volume

[Z.X. Lu, Ph. Lauber, T. Hayward-Schneider, A. Botti M. Hoelzl, *Phys. Plasmas* , 26, 122503 (2019)]



Full f simulations of Alfvén waves and energetic particle physics



Origin of the challenge in gyrokinetic electromagnetic simulations

$$p_{\parallel} = v_{\parallel} + \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}$$

- v_{\parallel} form: $\partial \delta A_{\parallel} / \partial t$ needs implicit treatment.

$$\frac{dv_{\parallel}}{dt} = - \left(\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \delta \phi + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta A_{\parallel} \right); \nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel} = C_A \delta \mathbf{j}_{\parallel, v_{\parallel}}$$

- p_{\parallel} form: Cancellation problem (for $\nabla_{\perp}^2 < \frac{1}{d_e^2}$).

$$\frac{dp_{\parallel}}{dt} = - \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla (\delta \phi - v_{\parallel} \delta A_{\parallel}); (\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \frac{1}{d_e^2}) \delta A_{\parallel} = C_A \delta \mathbf{j}_{\parallel, p_{\parallel}}$$

- In full f scheme, high noise, synergy from neoclassical physics bring in more challenges

	Full f	Direct δf	Traditional δf
v_{\parallel}	Implicit: Lu21JCP		Implicit: Sturdevant 19APS/21POP, XGC
p_{\parallel}	Exercise in 2021 (good in filter-free capability; full f)	Hatzky19	Mishchenko04/05; Bottino11, Hatzky19, this work
Mixed variable/Pull back	this work ; XGC (Hager2022)	Hatzky19; TRIMEG exercise in 2021	Mischchenko18, Cole21 (XGC), Hatzky19, this work

Recent work: explicit scheme, **full f and δf** on the same footing

Focus on p_{\parallel} form, instead of v_{\parallel} form

Noise reduction in full f or mixed δf -full f schemes

Good description of energetic particles in full f simulations

[Lu, Meng, Hatzky, Hoelzl, Lauber, PPCF (2023)]

Essence of the constant of motion in EP description: **PSZS (phase space zonal structure)**

[Zonca et al, New J. Phys. 17, 013052 (2015)]

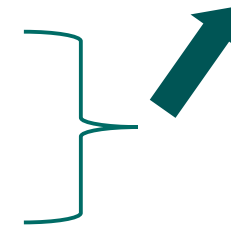
Falessi et al, Phys. Plasmas, 26, 022305 (2019)

The mixed variable/pullback scheme and the iterative p_{\parallel} scheme

Gyrokinetic model with mixed variables: $\delta A_{\parallel} = \delta A_{\parallel}^s + \delta A_{\parallel}^h$, $u_{\parallel} = v_{\parallel} + \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h$

1. **Quasi-neutrality equation:** $-\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{q_s n_{0s}}{B \omega_{cs}} \nabla_{\perp} \delta \phi \right) = \sum_s q_s \delta n_s$
2. **Parallel Ampere's law:** $\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,0}^h = -\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^s - \mu_0 \delta j_{\parallel}$
3. **Iterative Ampere solver:** $\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,p}^h = \sum_s \left(\frac{G_s}{d_s^2} - \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h$, $p = 1, 2, \dots$
4. **Ohm's law:** $\partial_t \delta A_{\parallel}^s + \partial_{\parallel} \delta \phi = 0$
5. **Fourier filter (Particle-in-Fourier for moment, matrix inverse for field)**
6. **Guiding center's equations of motion, weight equation for δf & full f also derived**
7. **Reduction to pure p_{\parallel} form (improved):** $\delta A_{\parallel}^s = 0$

- **Goal:** $\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^h - \sum_s \frac{G_s}{d_s^2} A_{\parallel}^h = -\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^s - \mu_0 \delta j_{\parallel}$;
- $\frac{G_s}{d_s^2} A_{\parallel}^h$: accurate adiabatic part
- $G_s \rightarrow 1$ in analytical limit



- MV-PB implemented for δf (Mishchenko et. al.);

- Full f MV-PB discussed in Hatzky19; not implemented before (XGC: simplified w/o iterative Ampere's law, Hager2022)

Discretization from marker to physical distribution: full f versus δf

Full f scheme

For N markers with given distribution $g(\mathbf{z})$, where $\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{R}, v_{\parallel}, \mu)$ is 5D phase space coordinates

$$g(\mathbf{z}, t) \approx \sum_{p=1}^N \frac{\delta[z_p - z_p(t)]}{J_z}$$

The physical distribution $f(\mathbf{z}, t)$ is represented as

$$f(\mathbf{z}, t) = P_{tot}(\mathbf{z}, t)g(\mathbf{z}, t) \approx \sum_{p=1}^N p_{p,tot}(t) \frac{\delta[z_p - z_p(t)]}{J_z},$$

$$\text{where } P_{tot}(\mathbf{z}, t) = \frac{f(\mathbf{z}, t)}{g(\mathbf{z}, t)} = \frac{n_f}{\langle n_f \rangle_V} \frac{\langle n_g \rangle_V}{n_g} \frac{f_v}{g_v}$$

[Z Lu, G Meng, R Hatzky, M Hoelzl, P Lauber, PPCF(2023)] & refs. Therein; also in PICLS, Boesl, Bottino et al

δf scheme: summarized in ORB5 work [Lanti19]

With decomposition $f = f_0 + \delta f$

$$f_0(\mathbf{z}, t) = P(\mathbf{z}, t)g(\mathbf{z}, t) \approx \sum_{p=1}^N p_p(t) \frac{\delta[z_p - z_p(t)]}{J_z}$$

$$\delta f(\mathbf{z}, t) = W(\mathbf{z}, t)g(\mathbf{z}, t) \approx \sum_{p=1}^N w_p(t) \frac{\delta[z_p - z_p(t)]}{J_z}$$

$$\text{where } P(\mathbf{z}, t) = \frac{f_0(\mathbf{z}, t)}{g(\mathbf{z}, t)}, W = \frac{\delta f(\mathbf{z}, t)}{g(\mathbf{z}, t)}$$

Weight equations

$$\frac{d}{dt} w_p(t) = -p_i(t) \frac{d}{dt} \ln f_0(z_p(t)) ,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} p_p(t) = p_i(t) \frac{d}{dt} \ln f_0(z_p(t)) .$$

[Lanti et al. *Computer Physics Communications*, 251, 107072 (2019)]

Mixed variable/pullback scheme for full f and δf models

Different expressions of mixed variables/pullback scheme for **full f** and **δf**

- **Goal:** $\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^h - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_e^2} \overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel}^h \rangle} = -\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^s - \mu_0 \delta j_{\parallel}$

The parallel Ampere's law is solved iteratively

$$\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,0}^h = -\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^s - \mu_0 \delta j_{\parallel,u}$$

$$\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,p}^h = -\sum_s \frac{1}{d_e^2} \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h + \sum_s \frac{1}{d_e^2} \overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle}$$

for δf model: $\overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle} = \frac{2}{n_0 v_{ts}^2} \int dz^6 v_{\parallel}^2 \langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle \delta(\mathbf{R} + \boldsymbol{\rho} - \mathbf{x}) f_0,$

Ref.: derivation of symplectic/adiabatic current in Hatzky19

for full f model: $\overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle} = \frac{1}{n_0} \int dz^6 \langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle \delta(\mathbf{R} + \boldsymbol{\rho} - \mathbf{x}) f,$

Key idea: noise cancels noise

Rigorously speaking, this correction is crucial; $\frac{-1}{n_0} \int dz^6 v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial \ln f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}} \dots \neq \frac{1}{n_0} \int dz^6 \langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle f \dots$

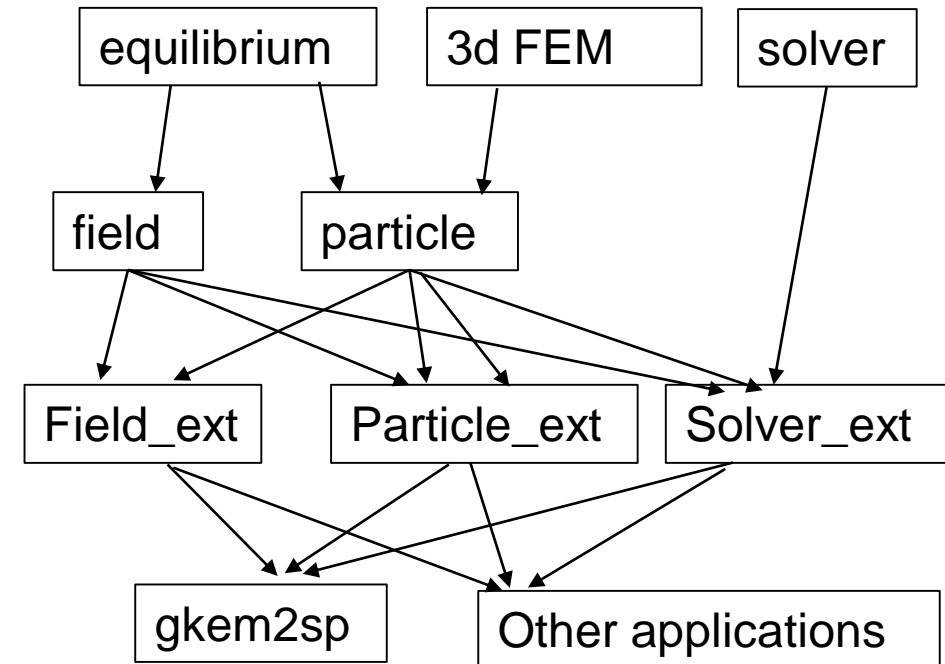
TRIMEG-GKX: demo (simplified) code with circular geometry

TRIMEG-C1: mixed spline-unstructured mesh for realistic geometry



- **Software engineering: MVP (minimum viable prototype) → bigger code**
- **Analytical ad-hoc equilibrium, spline in 3 directions, full f & δf , mixed variable & pullback**
- **Structures: particle and field on the same level**
- **TRIMEG-GKX: ~6000 lines in Fortran; ~5000 lines in Matlab**
- **Similar structures except MPI, solver, visualization**

- **TRIMEG-C1: ~8000 lines (kernel) in Fortran**
- **Field solver: PETSC; w/ particle decomposition; w/o domain decomposition (shared memory for field)**

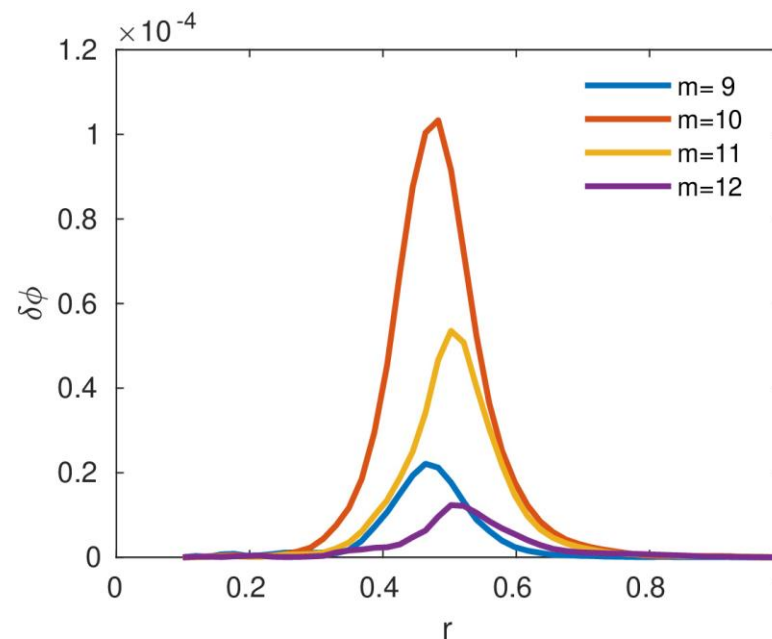
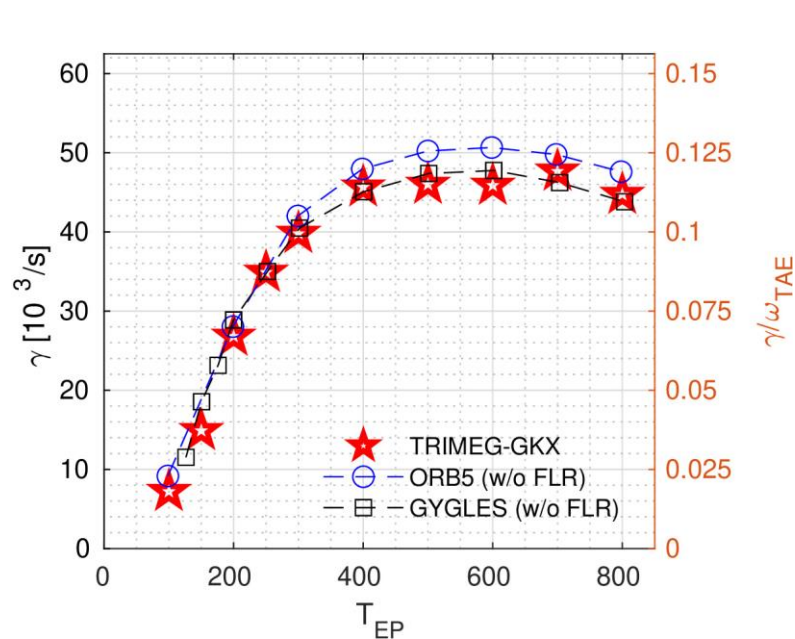


Results: TRIMEG-GKX (pure cubic spline; ad-hoc equilibrium)

Benchmark of ITPA-TAE case: reasonable agreement

The growth rate and the mode structure agree with previous results [Koenies18NF]

- δf scheme for all 3 species; realistic mass ratio ($\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 1836$)

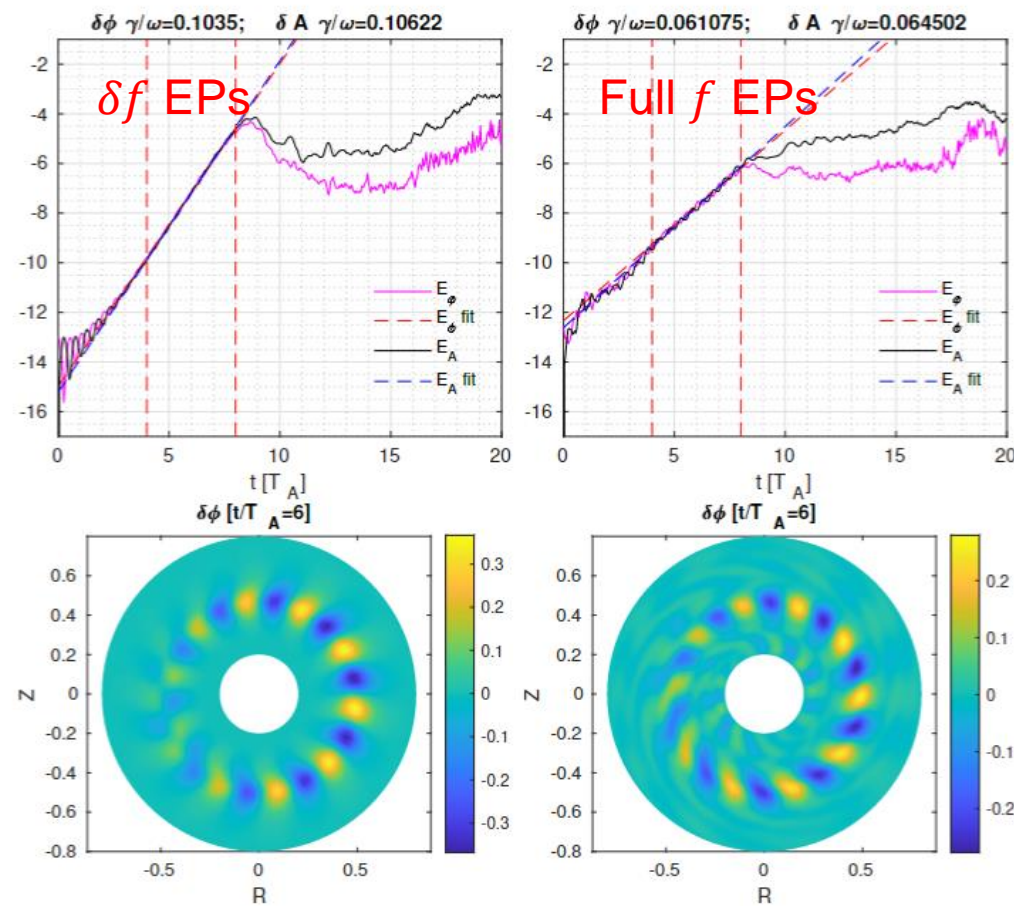


Mixed full f - δf simulations

Full f EPs, δf electrons & thermal ions: more efficient

Full f : growth rate $\sim 40\%$ lower than the δf results, if local Maxwellian distribution is used

EP gradient $\left(\frac{d \ln n}{dr}\right)$ relaxes for $\sim 40\%$ for $T_{EP} = 400$ keV



Full f EP simulations with constant of motion EP distribution

EP distribution in Constants of Motion (COM) space: $f(\psi_{cs}, E, \Lambda)$

- Shifted canonical toroidal momentum:

$$\psi_{cs} = \psi + \frac{mF}{qB} v_{\parallel} - \text{sign}(v_{\parallel}) \sqrt{2(E - \mu B_0)} \frac{mF}{qB_0} H(E - \mu B_0)$$

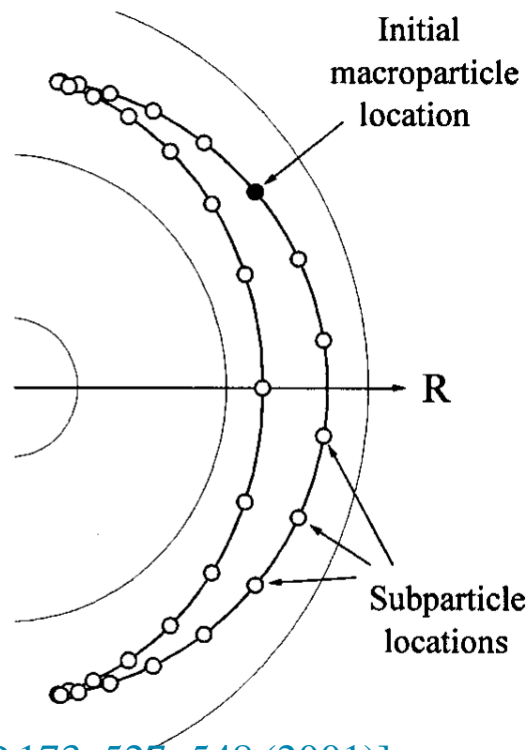
- ψ_{cs} describes the radial location of orbit center

Local Maxwellian EP distribution is not a good approximation, especially when EP energy is high and for full f

- In δf simulations, the EP distribution can be forced to be Maxwellian analytically; but the marker distribution will deviate from its initial one if markers are not loaded in constants of motion space

Two ways of starting full f simulations from stationary distributions

- Scheme 1: Load markers in constant of motion space, uniformly distributed along the ignorable angle



[Heikkinen et al, JCP 173, 527–548 (2001)]

[Bierwage et al, CPC 183 (2012) 1107; CPC 275, 108305 (2022)]

- Scheme 2: Load markers with a chosen distribution, modify f/g (f, g : particle or marker distribution), so that the physical distribution is stationary in constant of motion space (this work)

$$f = \frac{N}{N_p} \sum_p \frac{w_{p,tot}}{J} \delta(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}_p) \delta(v_{\parallel} - v_{\parallel p}) \delta(\mu - \mu_p)$$

$$w_{p,tot} = f/g; J: \text{Jacobian}$$

$$g(r, \theta, v) = \frac{N_p}{\pi^{3/2} v_{th}^3 V_{tot}} \frac{R_0}{R} e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2T}}; \text{uniform along } R, Z, \phi$$

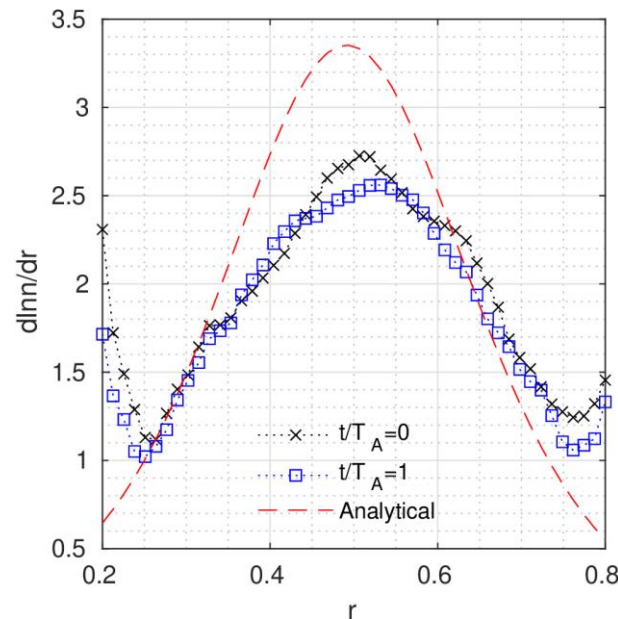
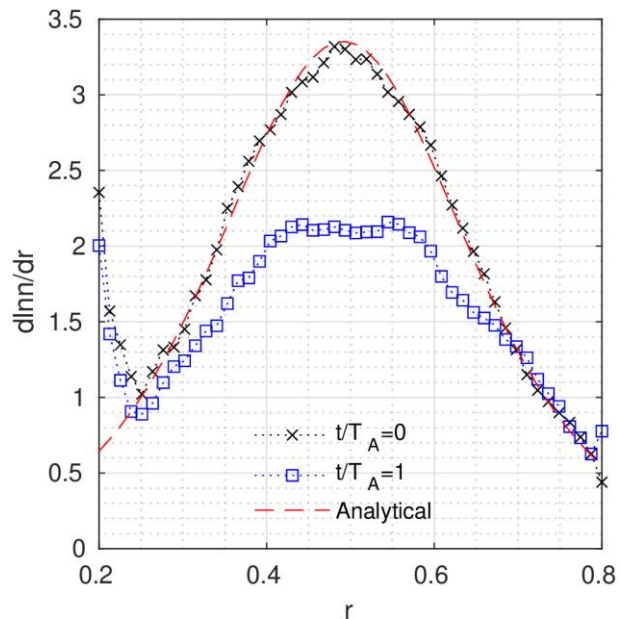
$$f = f(\psi_{cs}, v) = \frac{n(\psi_{cs})}{\pi^{3/2} v_{th}^3} e^{-\frac{mv^2}{2T}}$$

$$\text{Thus } w_{p,tot} = \frac{n(\psi_{cs}) V_{tot} R}{N_p R_0}$$

[Lu et al JCP2021, PPCF2023, same philosophy as Hatzky2019]

Marker loading using local Maxwellian versus constants of motion

- For simulations starting from local Maxwellian EP distribution, a relaxation in density profile occurs in few transit periods ($t/T_A \sim 1$). Density gradient & growth underestimated by $\sim 40\%$
- Using constants of motion, markers are loaded to represent the **stationary** EP distribution



- Red dashed line: target density gradient profile
- Left: load markers with $f_{loc} = n(r)\exp\left\{-\frac{mE}{T}\right\}$
- Right: load markers with $f_{COM} = n(r_{cs})\exp\left\{-\frac{mE}{T}\right\}$

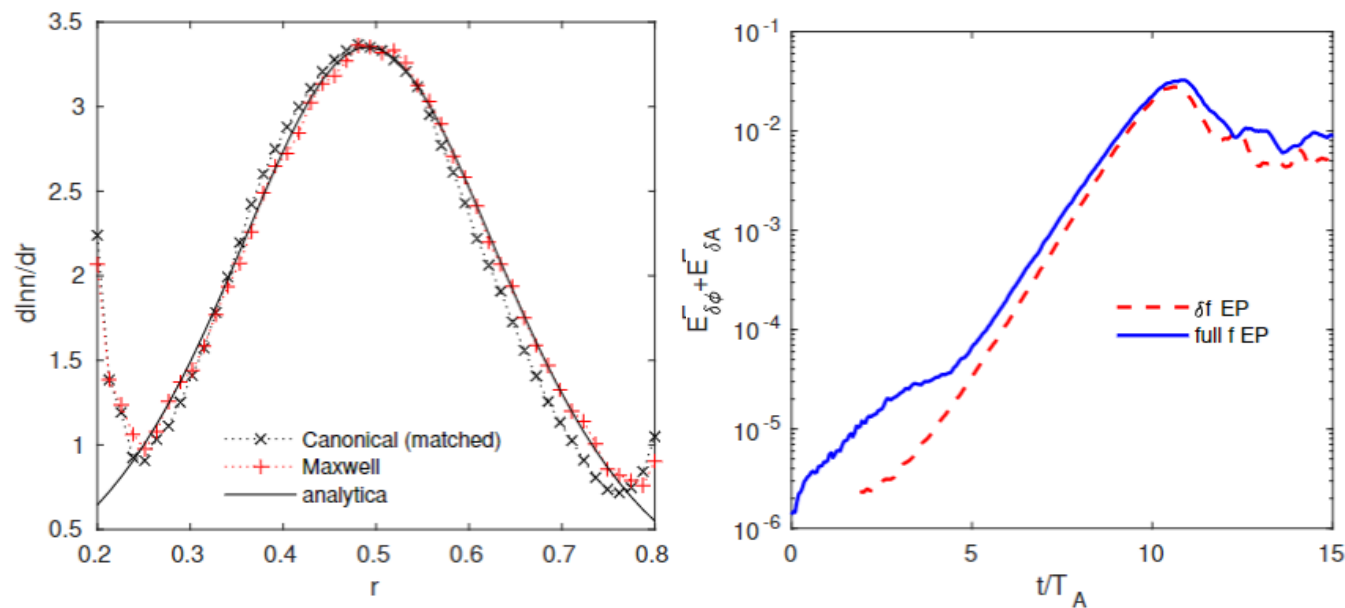
$$r_{cs}^2 = \frac{\psi_{cs} - \psi_{axis}}{\psi_{edge} - \psi_{axis}};$$

$$\psi_{cs} = \psi + \frac{mF}{qB} v_{\parallel} - \text{sign}(v_{\parallel}) \sqrt{2(E - \mu B_0)} \frac{mF}{qB_0} H(E - \mu B_0)$$

- $n(r) = n_0 c_3 \exp\left\{-\frac{c_2}{c_1} \tanh \frac{r-c_0}{c_2}\right\}$

Full f simulations matched to δf simulations

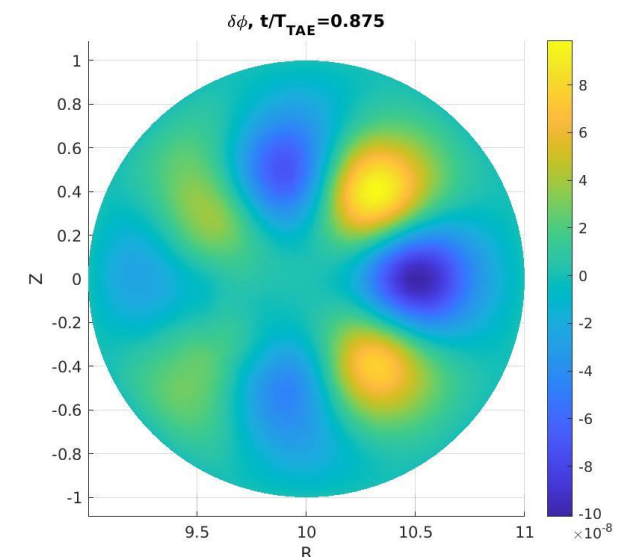
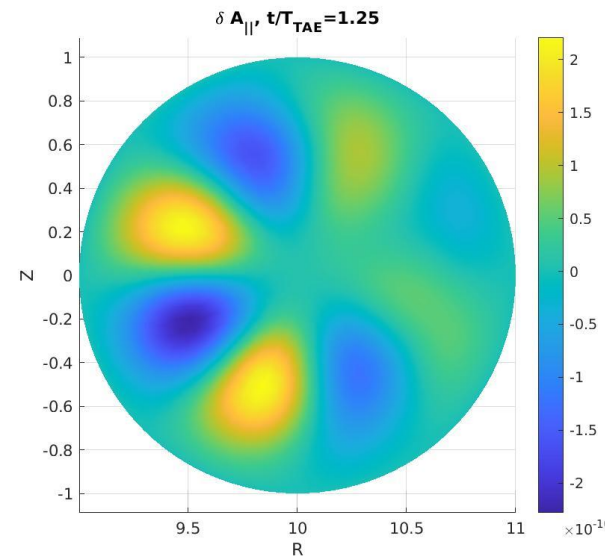
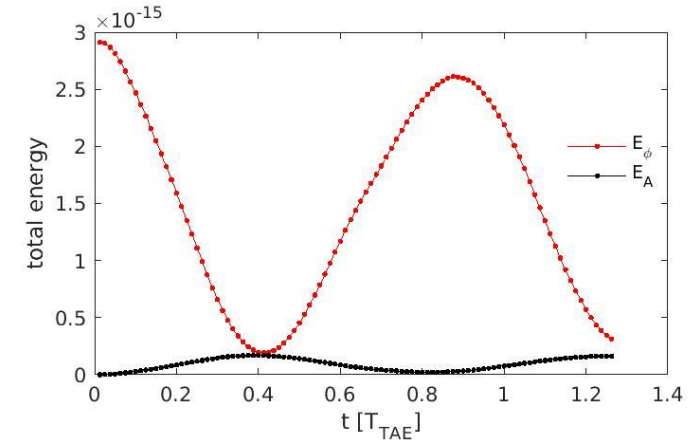
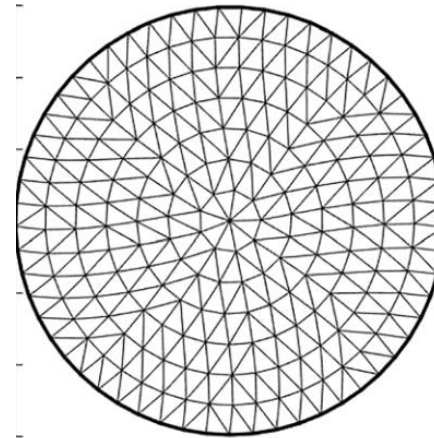
- Distribution in constant of motion mitigates artificial density relaxation
- But $n(r_{cs})$ specifies the orbit density; $n(r)$: particle density
- Match between $n(r_{cs})$ and $n(r)$: mapping between the distribution in (shifted) orbit center and that in **particle location**
- EP relaxation is avoided; EP profile and growth rate matched to δf results



[Z Lu, G Meng, R Hatzky, M Hoelzl, P Lauber, PPCF (2023)]

TAE simulations (moderate d_e) in TRIMEG-C1

- Unstructured meshes are generated for circular geometry
- TAE oscillation simulated using the modified ITPA-TAE parameters
- $n = 2, \beta = \frac{10^{-4}}{9}, \frac{m_e}{m_p} = \frac{1}{200}$
- nominal: $n = 6, \beta = 9 \times 10^{-4}, \frac{m_e}{m_p} = \frac{1}{1836}$
- Magnetic axis is included
- Two species; pure p_{\parallel} form
- 18 radial grids, 8 grids/per toroidal wave length
- Ongoing: simulations with smaller **electron skin depth (d_e)**, longer time scale, higher resolution.



Other ongoing studies



Neoclassical physics

Full f nonlinear collision operator

Field-aligned finite element method

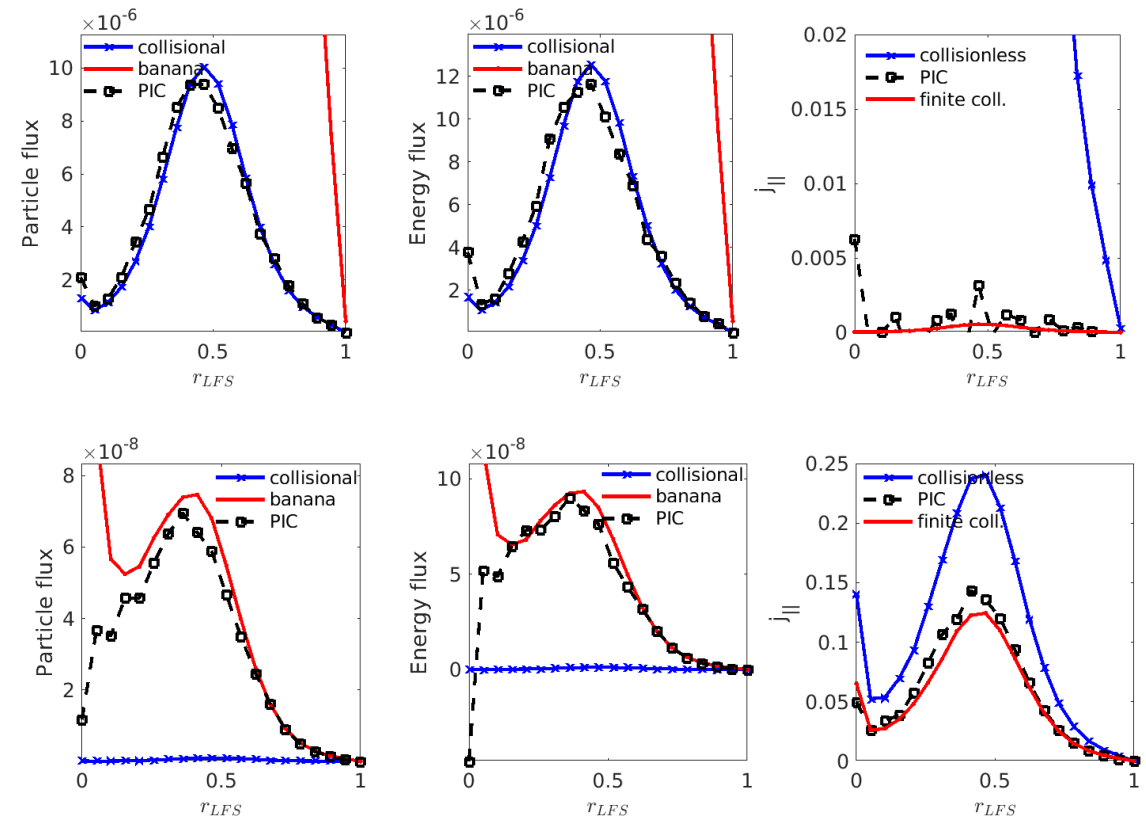
A) Neoclassical physics in TRIMEG-C0

The Lorentz collision model w/o E_r solver is implemented in TRIMEG-C0: electron transport and bootstrap current (Lana Rekhviashvili; master thesis)

δf scheme; Bootstrap current, electron particle/energy fluxes agree with theory (R/a=10)

High/low collisionality (upper/bottom): good agreement with local theory

Particle simulations is capable in larger parameter regimes (large orbit width, global effects etc) than local theory



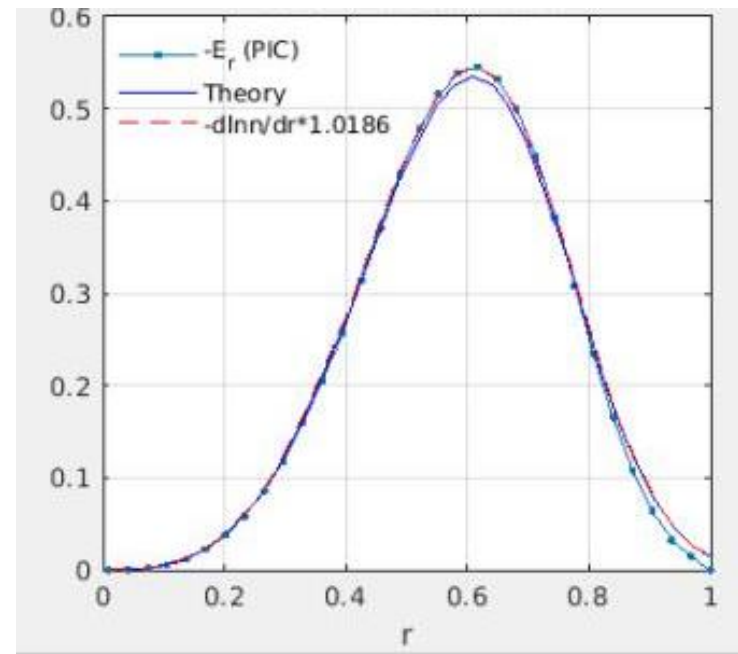
[L. Rekhviashvili, master thesis; arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.00415]

Neoclassical physics with E_r in TRIMEG-GKX



Parallel line in TRIMEG-GKX: multi-species model, with Lorentz collision & E_r solver

- Flat T case (only n variation)



B) Full f nonlinear collision operator: aims for reducing cost from N_p^2 to αN_p in $0d2v/3v$, large marker # limit

Fully nonlinear collision operator (species a scattered by b):

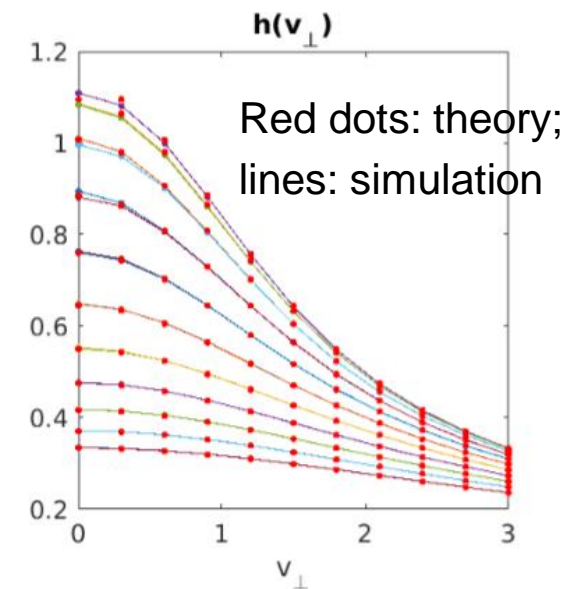
$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{\partial f_a}{\partial t} = -\frac{m_a+m_b}{m_b} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \left[f_a \frac{\partial}{\partial v} h(v) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \left[f_a \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} g(v) \right] \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Integral form: } h(v) = \int dv \frac{f_b(v')}{|v-v'|}, \quad g(v) = \int dv f_b(v') |v-v'| \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Elliptic equation: } \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial v} h(v) = -4\pi f(v), \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial v} g(v) = 2h(v) \quad (3)$$

- Valid for arbitrary distribution function; no expansion near Maxwellian
- $0d2v/3v$, Directly solving (2): $N_p \times N_g$, N_p : particle #, N_g : v grid number
- Solving (3): field Degree of Freedom is N_g ; particle-to-field projection: $O(1)N_p$
- Upper limit of cost: $N_p \times N_g$ or $O(\ll N_g)N_g + O(1)N_p$
- Mixed direct-elliptic solver is developed, in test code
- Pros: lower consumption (than 2 body-collisions $\sim N_p^2$); Cons: rigorous conservation is not obvious
- Possible improvement: control variate scheme [Sonnendrücker, et al. *JCP* 295, 402 (2015)]; or improvement in solving Langevin equation (w/ inputs from C. Slaby, R. Kleiber)

w/ input from A. Chankin, A. Bergmann, G. Meng et. al.



Numerical/physics tests of nonlinear collision operators

Maxwellian distribution as a steady state

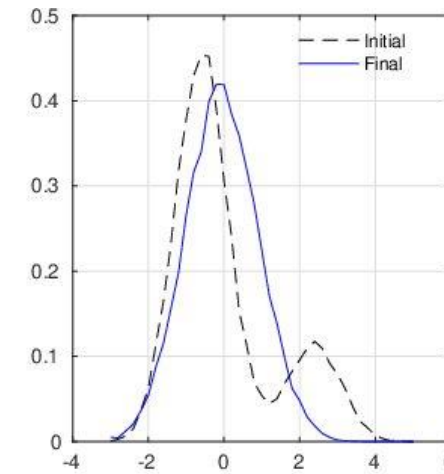
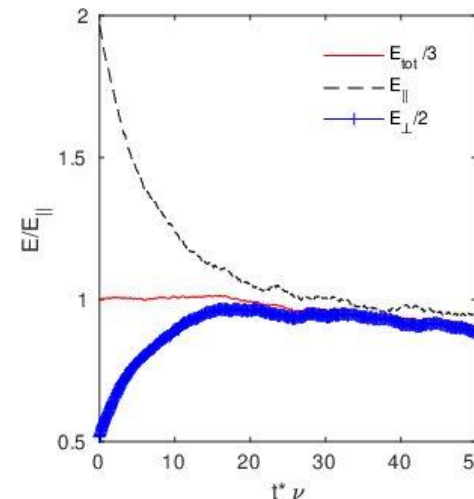
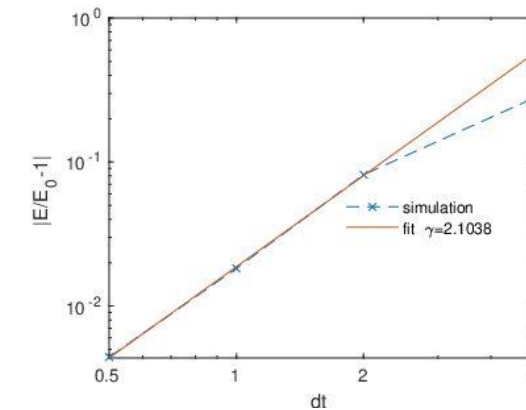
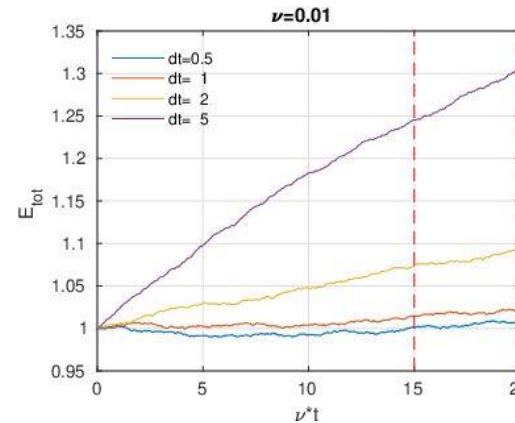
- Deviation from Maxwellian appears if time step size is large

Time evolution of a bump-on-tail distribution

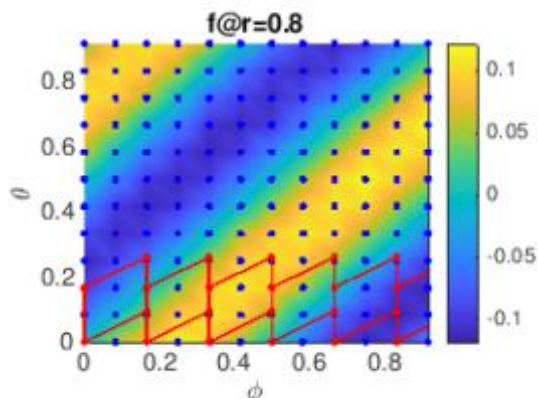
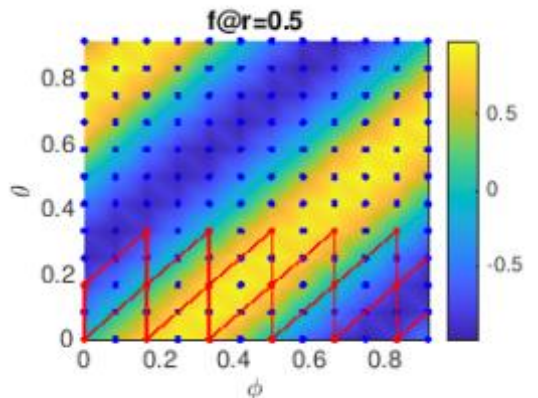
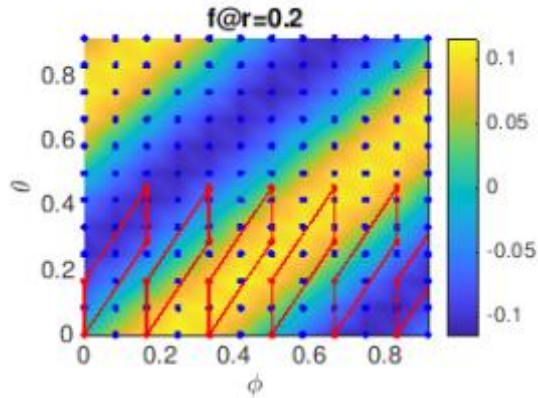
- Relaxation from bump-on-tail to Maxwellian is simulated
- Conservation improves as time step size decreases

2d2v model ongoing (full f neoclassical physics)

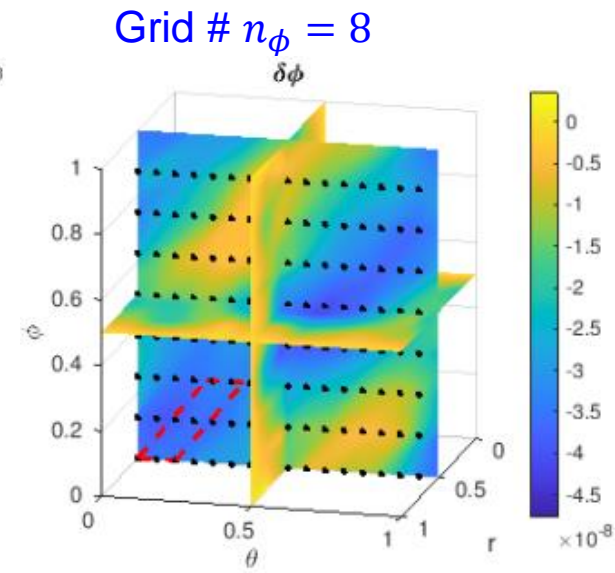
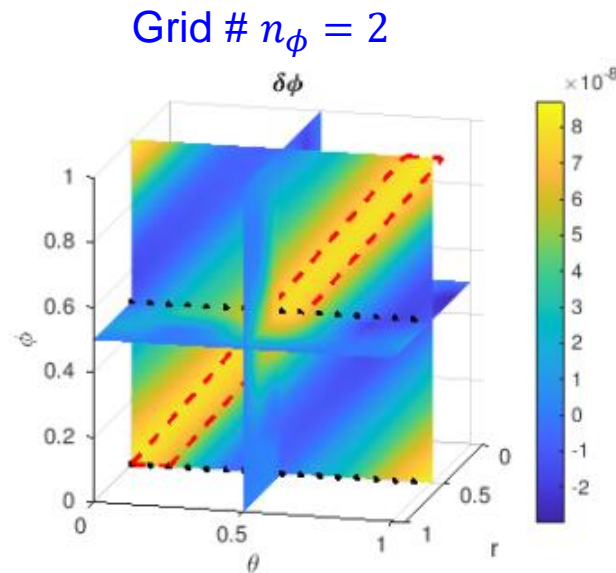
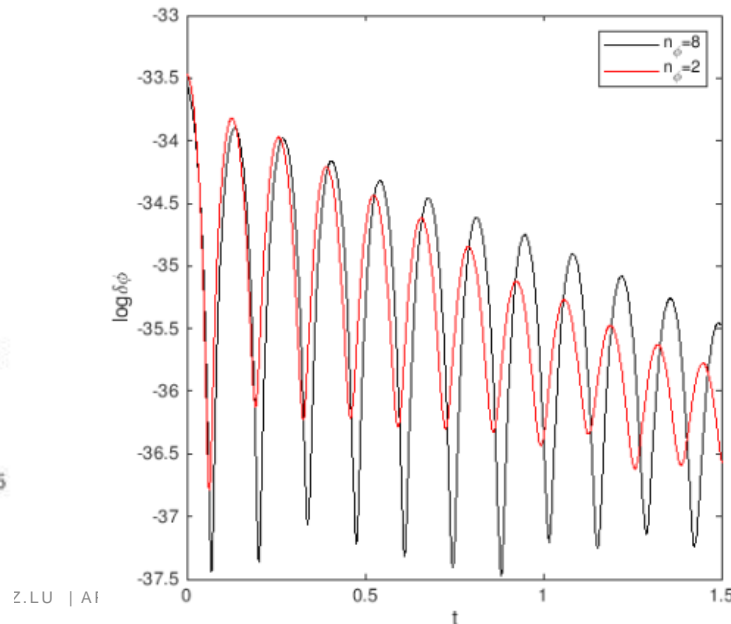
Key issue: how to get better/rigorous conservation?



C) Field-aligned finite element: for multi-(high) n NL simulations



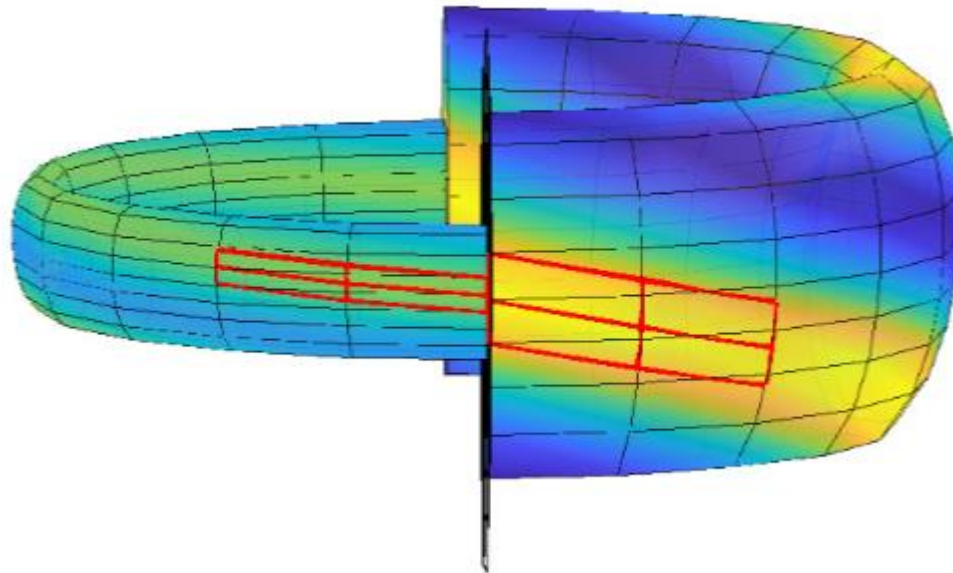
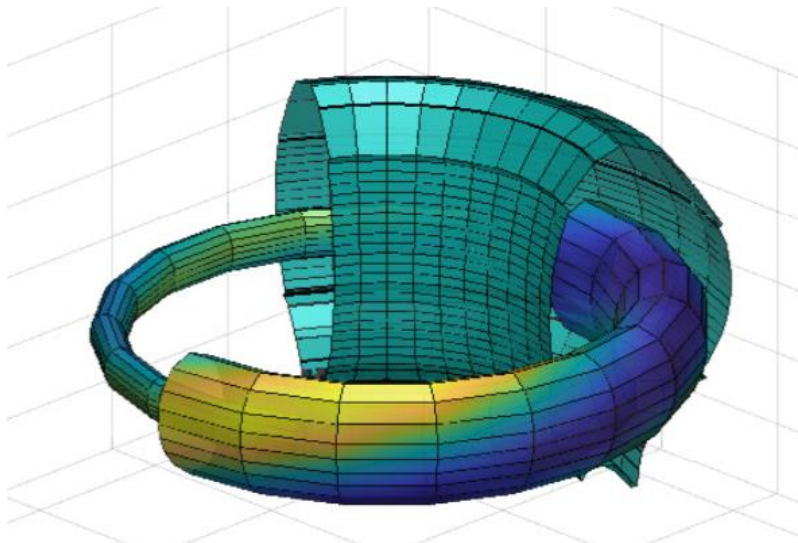
- All grids are aligned without shift
- **Basis functions** are defined on piecewise field-aligned coordinate
- The grid number in the parallel direction can be reduced greatly
- Convergence relies on marker #, grid # in 3 directions, order of finite element basis functions
- Linear/cubic finite element implemented (3d Vlasov-Poisson problem, δf scheme); goal: $n_\phi = 16$ or $32; n_\theta = 512; n_r = 64$ for $n \in 0, 1, \dots, 128$



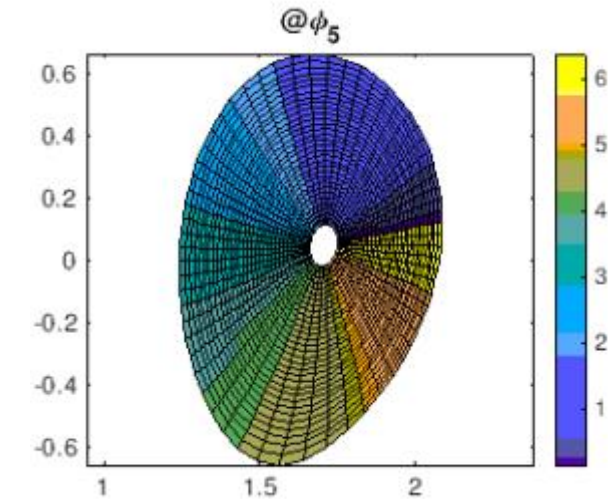
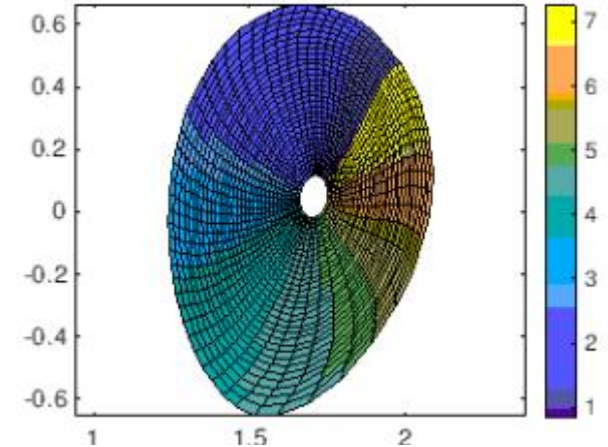
Construction in tokamak geometry

- The Clebsch coordinate is calculated numerically $\eta = \eta(r, \theta, \phi)$,

$$r = \sqrt{(\psi - \psi_{axis}) / (\psi_{edge} - \psi_{axis})}$$
- Equations are represented in the Clebsch coordinates (r, η, ϕ)
- Partition of unit is satisfied (issue raised by Eric)
- Strong deformation of poloidal grids avoided; periodicity along θ and ϕ are satisfied (issue raised by Laurent, Matthias et al)



- Grid deformation for large/small toroidal grids # $\eta(r, \theta, \phi) @ \phi_8$



Conclusions and outlook



Summary

- EP driven TAE simulated for small electron skin depth limit ($d_e \sim 10^{-3}$) with MV/PB scheme
- The mixed full f - δf scheme has been implemented for EP driven TAEs
- The EP simulations using constant of motion is especially useful in full f schemes
- ITG/TEM with kinetic electrons/EM effects are simulated in TRIMEG-C1

Outlook

- Aiming for physics studies with X point, EM and kinetic electrons
- Field aligned coordinate in parallel direction, unstructured mesh in (R, Z) : merit more effort
- Application to EP/AE studies in AUG experiments merits more effort
- Implementation of the EM GK model in JOREK can lead to a powerful tool
- Full f collision might reveal interesting physics (NC-instability synergy, edge coupling etc.)

Backup slides

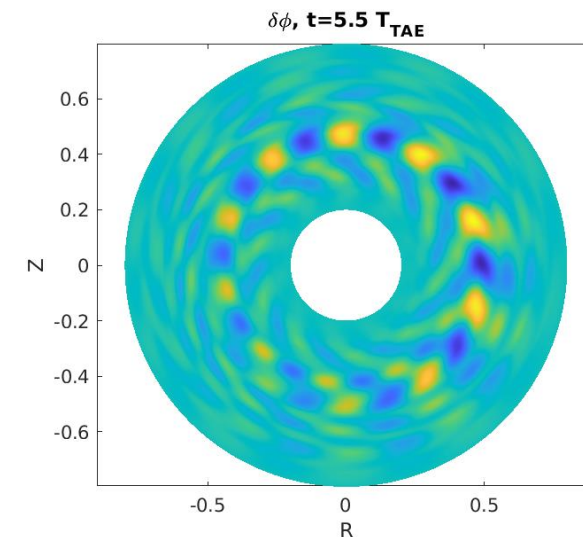
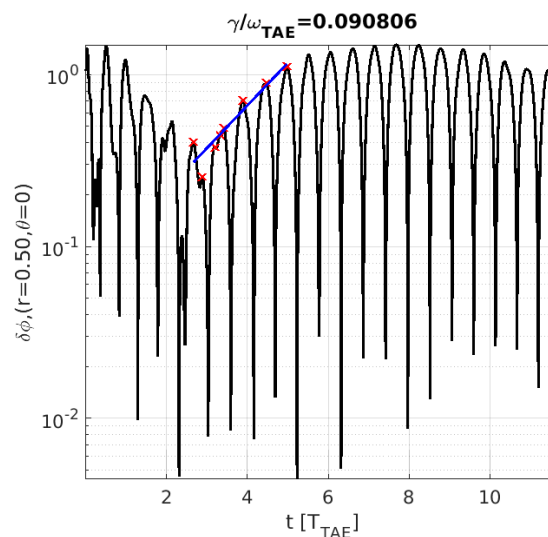
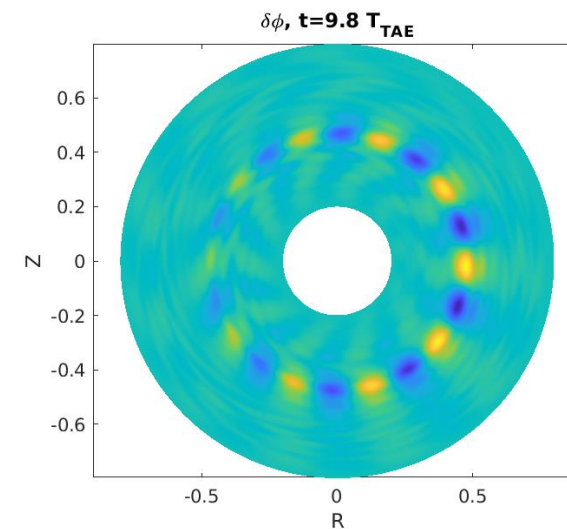
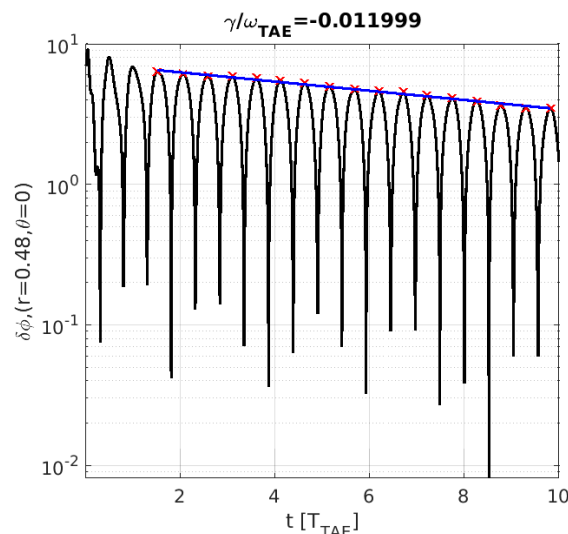


TRIMEG-C1

Implicit full- f scheme using v_{\parallel} form

- Particle enslavement makes it possible
 - Degree of freedom reduced to field grid size
[G. Chen & Chacon 230(18), 2011 J. Comp. Phys.]
- **Moment enslavement** is proposed by us
 - Starting from particle enslavement
 - Achieved: good convergence of the implicit particle-field system
 - TAE w/o and with EPs are simulated; good agreement with LIGKA for the ITPA-TAE case

[Z.X. Lu, G. Meng, M. Hoelzl, Ph. Lauber, *Journal Comput. Phys.* 440 (2021) 110384]



Good convergence achieved in particle-field implicit solver

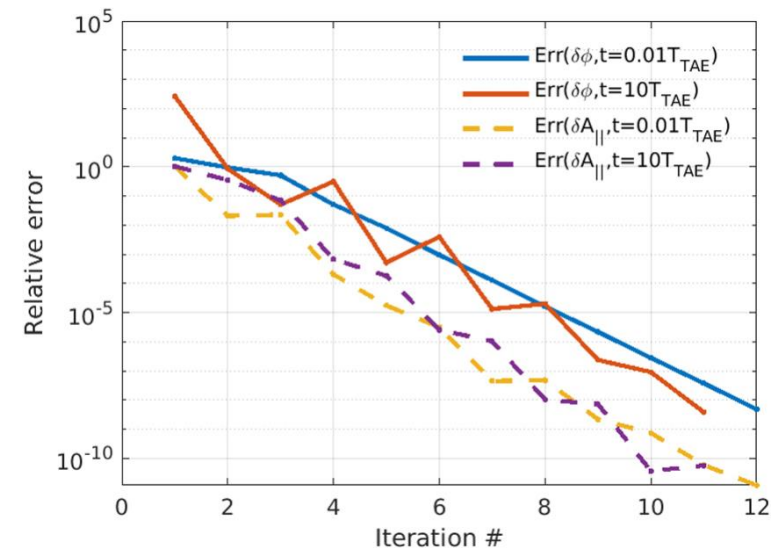
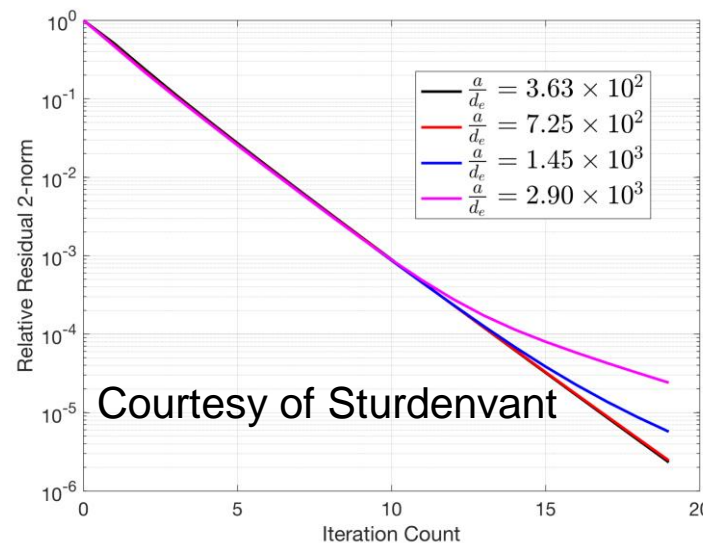
In order to get good convergence of the implicit field-particle solver, the relative correction in $\delta\phi$ and δA_{\parallel} in every iteration are analyzed

[Z.X. Lu, G. Meng, M. Hoelzl, Ph. Lauber, Journal Comput. Phys. 440 (2021) 110384]

$$\xrightarrow{1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta\Phi^{start}(t + \Delta t) \\ \delta A_{\parallel}^{start}(t + \Delta t) \end{array} \right\}^i \xrightarrow{2} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l(t + \Delta t) \\ v_{\parallel}(t + \Delta t) \end{array} \right\}^i \xrightarrow{3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta N^{end}(t + \Delta t) \\ \delta J^{end}(t + \Delta t) \end{array} \right\}^i \xrightarrow{3} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta\Phi^{end}(t + \Delta t) \\ \delta A_{\parallel}^{end}(t + \Delta t) \end{array} \right\}^i \xrightarrow{4} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta\Phi^{start}(t + \Delta t) \\ \delta A_{\parallel}^{start}(t + \Delta t) \end{array} \right\}^{i+1}$$

- In Step 4: set field for the next iteration, $\{\delta\phi^{start}, \delta A_{\parallel}^{start}\}^{i+2} = \{\delta\phi^{end}, \delta A_{\parallel}^{end}\}^{i+1} + \{\Delta\delta\phi, \Delta\delta A_{\parallel}\}$; where $\{\Delta\delta\phi, \Delta\delta A_{\parallel}\}$ is solved from additional equations (moment enslavement)

- Good convergence achieved (left: XGC; right: Lu2021)



Guiding center's equations of motion

Using mixed variables, GC equations of motion are as follows

- $\frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt}, \frac{du_{\parallel,0}}{dt}$: velocity, acceleration in magnetic equilibrium
- $\frac{d\delta\mathbf{R}}{dt}, \frac{d\delta u_{\parallel}}{dt}$: velocity, acceleration due to perturbed field

$$\frac{d\mathbf{R}_0}{dt} = v_{\parallel} \mathbf{b}^* + \frac{m\mu}{qB^*} \mathbf{b} \times \nabla B \quad ,$$

$$\frac{du_{\parallel,0}}{dt} = -\mu \mathbf{b}^* \cdot \nabla B \quad ,$$

$$\frac{d\delta\mathbf{R}}{dt} = \frac{\mathbf{b}}{B^*} \times \nabla \langle \delta\phi - v_{\parallel} \delta A_{\parallel} \rangle \quad ,$$

$$\frac{d\delta u_{\parallel}}{dt} = -\frac{q_s}{m_s} \left(\mathbf{b}^* \cdot \nabla \langle \delta\phi - v_{\parallel} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \rangle + \partial_t \langle \delta A_{\parallel}^s \rangle \right) - \frac{\mu}{B^*} \mathbf{b} \times \nabla B \cdot \nabla \langle \delta A_{\parallel}^s \rangle \quad ,$$

$$\text{Ohm's law: } \partial_t \delta A_{\parallel}^s + \partial_{\parallel} \delta\phi = 0$$

Some details of derivations of the symplectic current

$$u_{\parallel} = v_{\parallel} + \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h$$

Using mixed variables, denoting the physics (symplectic) current as $\delta j_{\parallel,v}$

$$\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel,0}^h = -\nabla_{\perp}^2 \delta A_{\parallel}^s - \mu_0 \delta j_{\parallel,v}$$

Ignore finite Larmor radius (as an example)

In δf scheme, $\delta j_{\parallel,v} = \int dv v_{\parallel} \delta f_v(v_{\parallel}) \approx \int dv \left(u_{\parallel} - \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \right) \left[\delta f_u(u_{\parallel}) + \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}} \right]$

$$\approx \int dv u_{\parallel} \left[\delta f_u(u_{\parallel}) + u_{\parallel} \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}} \right] = \int dv u_{\parallel} \delta f_u(u_{\parallel}) - \int dv \frac{2u_{\parallel}v_{\parallel}}{v_{th}^2} \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}}$$

In full f scheme, $\delta j_{\parallel,v} = \int dv v_{\parallel} \delta f_v(v_{\parallel}) = \int dv \left(u_{\parallel} - \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h \right) f_u$

$$= \int dv u_{\parallel} f_u - \int dv \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h f_u$$

Consistent with Hatzky19

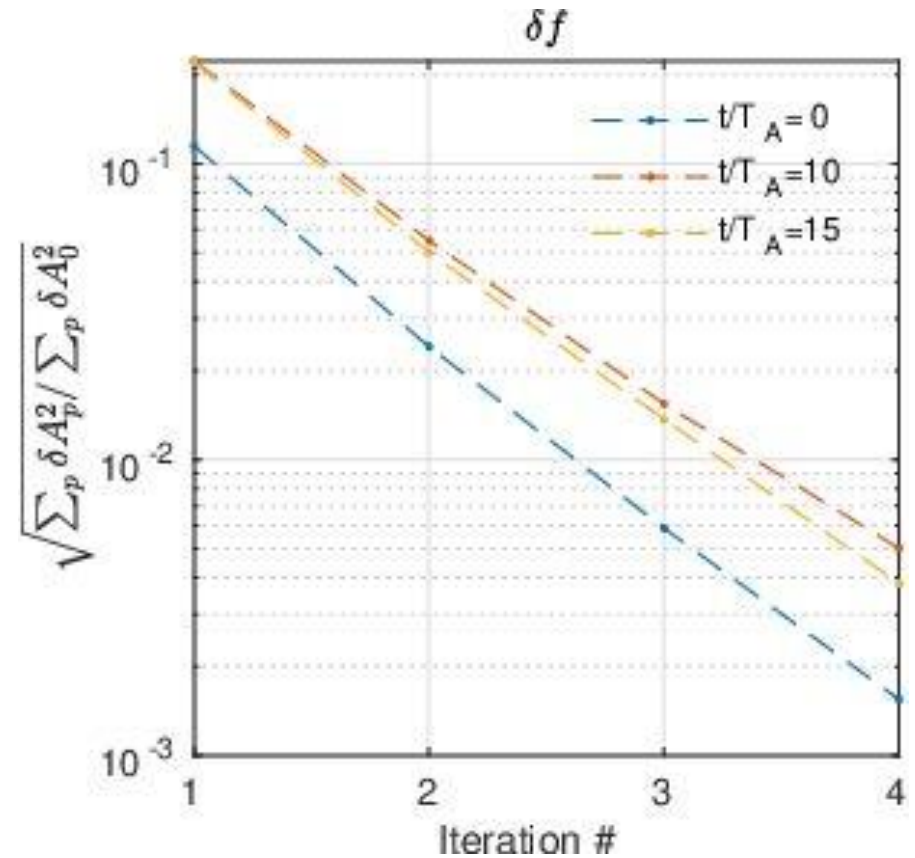
where $f_u = f_u(u_{\parallel} - \frac{q_s}{m_s} \delta A_{\parallel}^h)$; with Fourier filter, denoted as $\delta j_{\parallel,v}$

Convergence of the iterative Ampere solver

Good convergence of the iterative Ampere solver is observed

- $$\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_s^2} \right) \delta A_{\parallel,p}^h = - \sum_s \frac{1}{d_e^2} \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h + \sum_s \frac{1}{d_e^2} \overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle},$$

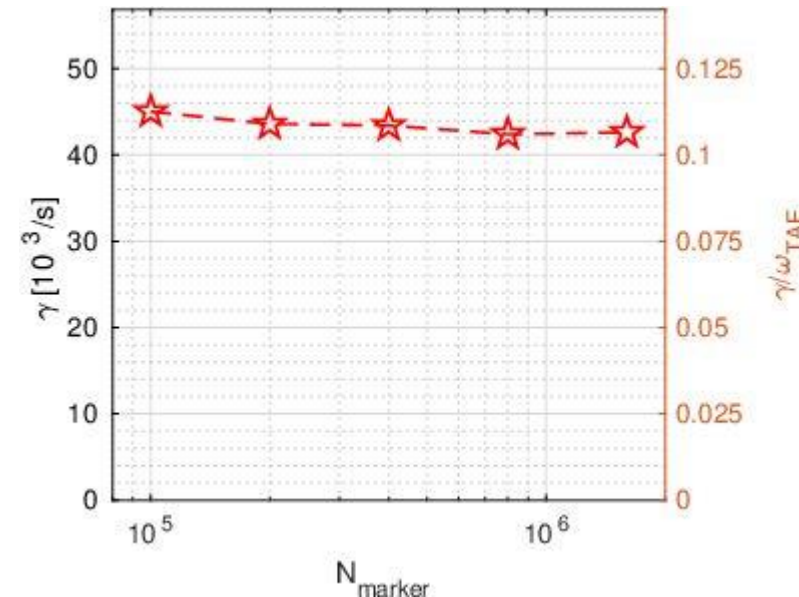
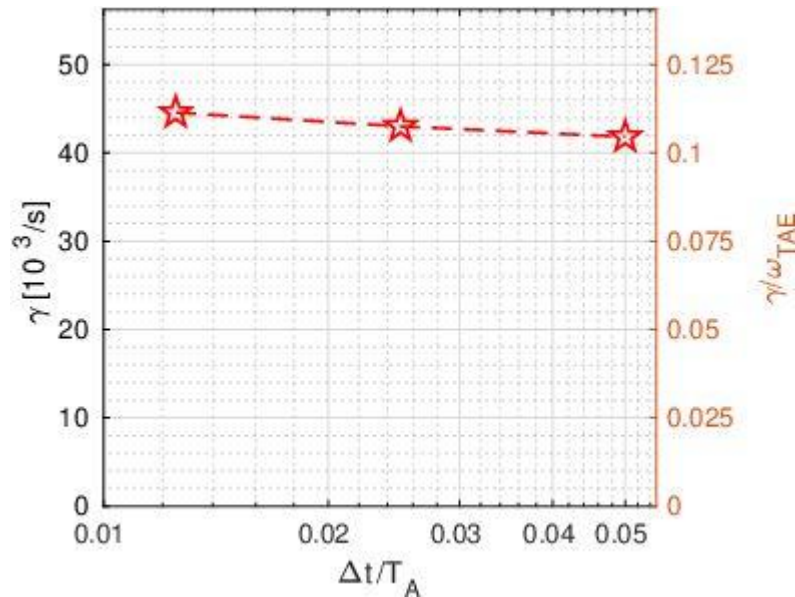
$$p = 1, 2, 3 \dots$$
- $\overline{\langle \delta A_{\parallel,p-1}^h \rangle}$ is calculated by the field-to-marker interpolation first, and then, the marker-to-field projection.



Convergence w.r.t. time step size and marker number

Good convergence observed as marker number $> 10^6$ and $\frac{\Delta t}{T_A} \leq 0.05$

40 steps /wave period already shows good accuracy



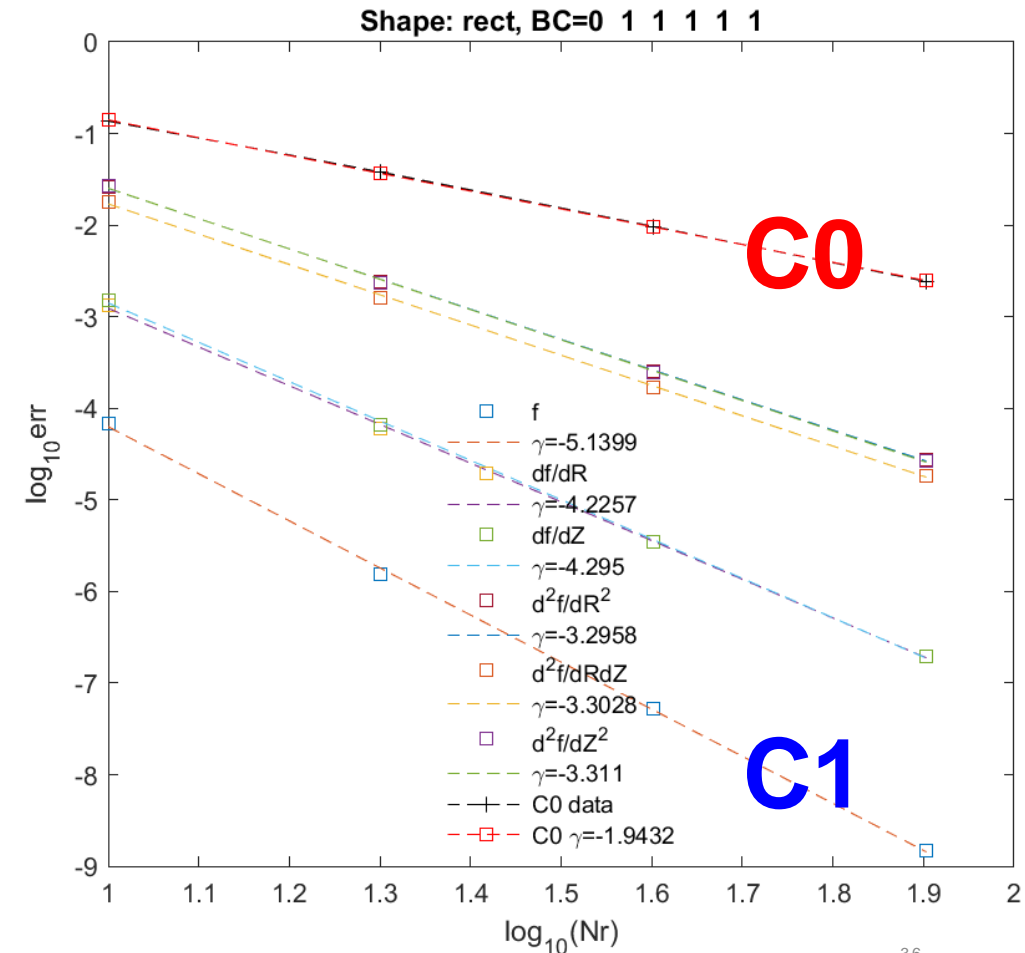
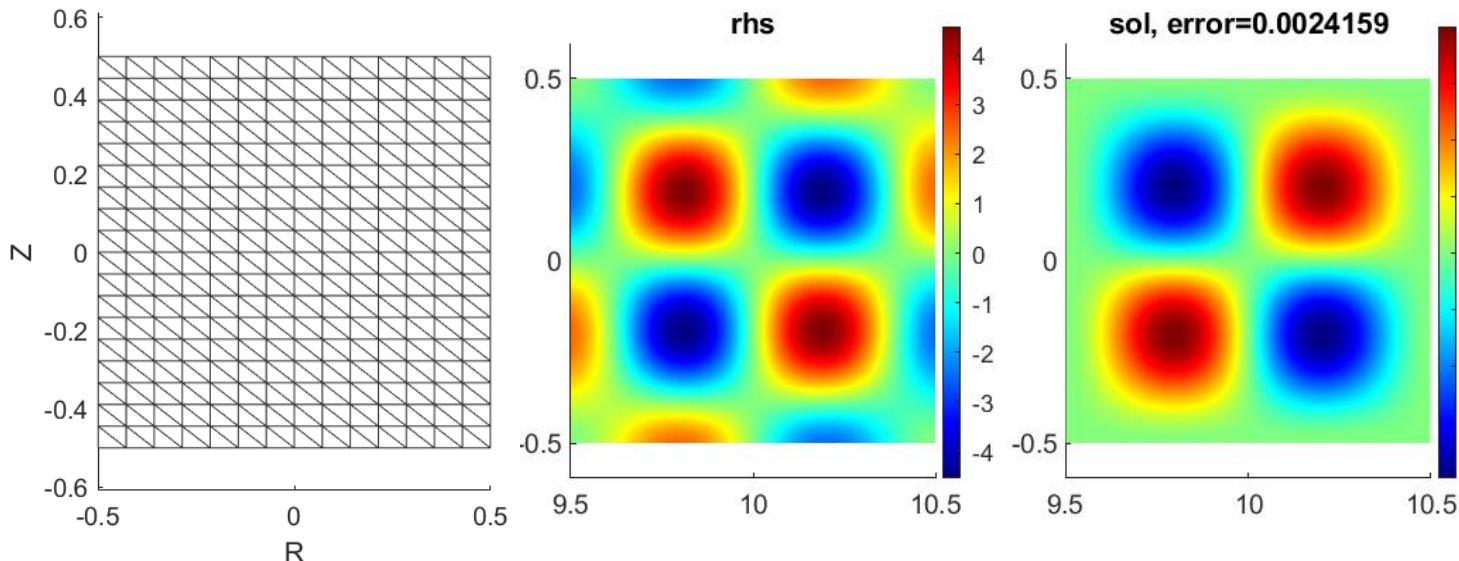
Results: TRIMEG-C1 (unstructured mesh; realistic geometry)

ongoing

C1 finite element: accuracy much better than C0

C1 Finite Element Method in triangular mesh shows good accuracy in field solver

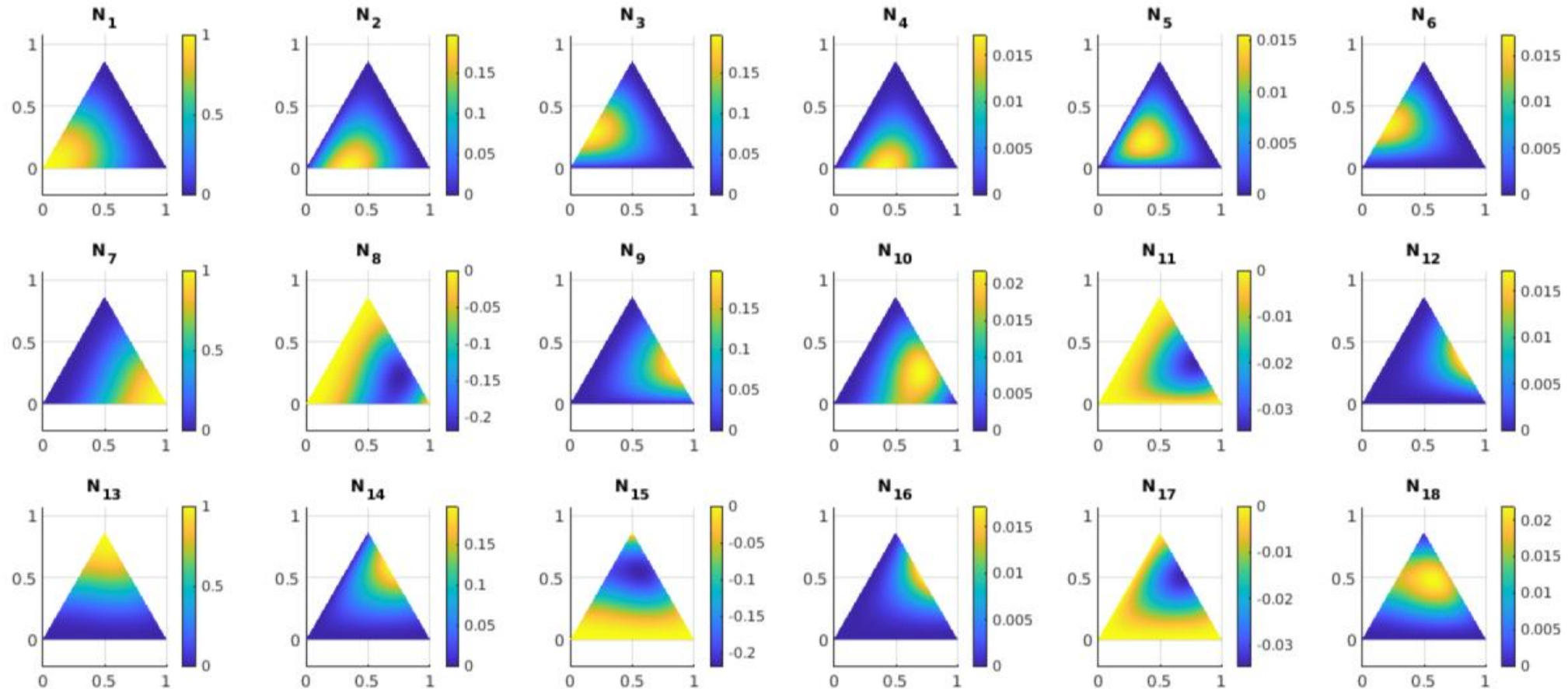
- **C1 Error** $\sim 1/N_r^5$ **VS C0:** $1/N_r^2$
- 18 basis functions in each triangle
- $\nabla^2 sol = rhs$, solved in a rectangle



RZ plane: C1; 18 basis functions in each triangle

Quintic polynomials ($N_k(\xi, \eta) = C\xi^p\eta^q, p + q \leq 5$); C1 continuity across edges

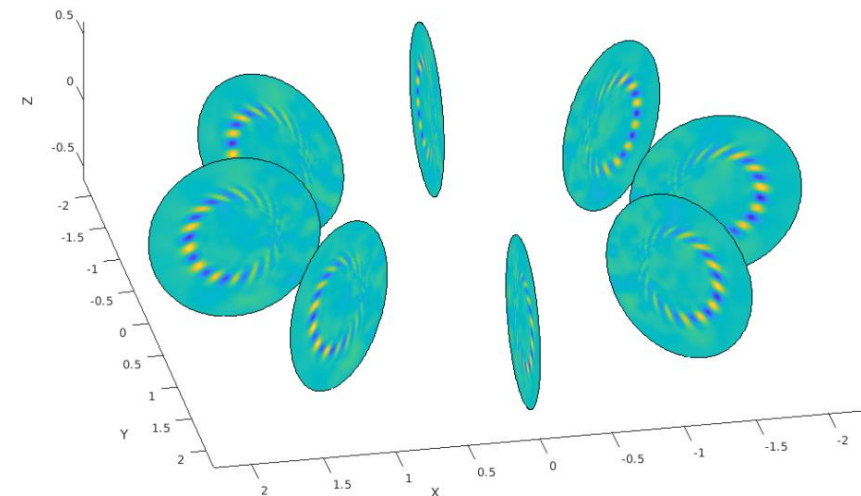
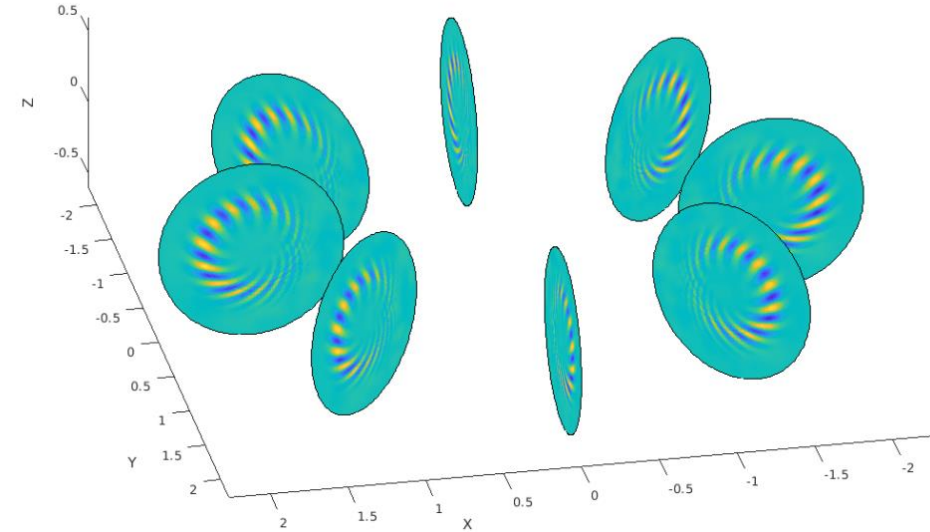
6 degree of freedom per each node ($f, \partial f/\partial R, \partial f/\partial Z, \partial^2 f/\partial R^2, \partial^2 f/\partial R\partial Z, \partial^2 f/\partial Z^2$)



ITG/TEM simulations with kinetic electrons and EM effects

- Cyclone case is adopted for test
- $n = 10$, marker #: 16e6; $(N_r, N_\phi) = (32, 8)$; $N_\theta \sim 2\pi N_r r/a$
- d_e increased to save computing time
- 2D mode structure of ITG/CTEM: opposite tilting angles
- Studies of flow and current generation due to turbulence merits more efforts in future; e.g., comparison with **GEM** results

[X Chen, Z Lu*, H Cai* et al, PPCF 64, 115008 (2022);
X Chen, Z Lu*, H Cai*, et al, POP 28, 112303 (2021)]



Background and motivation

(Gyro)kinetic simulations in the MHD limit reveals important physics phenomena

- Kinetic effects (finite Larmor radius/orbit width) on peeling-ballooning mode
- Energetic particle/kinetic particle effects on tearing mode, kink mode

Various numerical/physical schemes for electromagnetic gyrokinetic particle simulations

- Early treatment: fluid-like electrons (Lin01), iterative Ampere solver [Y. Chen03]
- The “cancellation” problem in the particle simulations (p_{\parallel} or Hamiltonian form) can be mitigated/eliminated by the mixed variable-pullback scheme [Hatzky19, Mishchenko14, Kleiber16]
- The implicit v_{\parallel} or Symplectic form also shows its capability in EM gyrokinetic particle simulations [Sturdevant21(XGC): δf , Lu21:full f]

Challenge: Full f electromagnetic particle simulations in the small electron skin depth limit

- Different concerns in full f : Higher noise level, distribution in constant of motion
- The full f mixed variable/pullback scheme has not been developed except few cases (Hager22XGC: electron skin depth $d_e = \sqrt{m_e/(\mu_0 e^2 n_0)}$ is relatively large; work here: $d_e \sim 10^{-3}$)

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