BALLOONING THEORY: Part 2 - HIGHER ORDER THEORY AND RADIAL STRUCTURE

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1. RESUME OF PART 1: THE LOWEST ORDER THEORY

- Anomalous transport associated with micro-instabilities such as the electron drift wave
 - driven by electron Landau resonance, with long parallel wavelengths to minimise ion Landau damping

$$V_{Ti} < \frac{\omega}{k_{\parallel}} < V_{Te}$$

• Pressure driven MHD instability depends on competition between destabilising effect of a pressure gradient in a region of unfavourable curvature and the stabilising effect of field line bending $\frac{k_{\Box}^{2}B^{2}}{r}$

$$c \frac{-2\mu_0}{2\mu_0}$$

- so $\ k_{\rm o}$ plays an important role again and the most unstable modes have the smallest $\ k_{\rm o}$

find
$$k_{\Box} \sim \frac{1}{Rq}$$

- This talk will explore how the stability and mode structure responds to realistic magnetic geometry and radial profiles
 - leads to ballooning theory and more recent developments in this topic



GEOMETRY

Cylinder

•
$$n(r), T(r) \text{ and } q(r): q = \frac{r B_z}{R B_{\theta}}$$

• Fourier analyse: $\varphi = \varphi(r)e^{-i(m\theta - nz/R)}$

•
$$k_{\parallel} = \frac{1}{Rq} (m - nq(r))$$

- For electron Landau drive and to minimise ion Landau damping
- $$\begin{split} &V_{Ti} < \frac{\omega}{k_{\parallel}} < V_{Te} & \Rightarrow \text{long parallel wavelength} \\ \bullet \quad \text{Shear} \quad s = \frac{r}{q} \frac{dq}{dr} \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{ mode localised around resonant surface} \end{split}$$

 \mathbf{r}_0 : m = nq(\mathbf{r}_0)

$$\Rightarrow k_{\parallel} = -\frac{(nq)(r - r_0)}{r} , \frac{1}{L_s} = \frac{s}{Rq}$$



Axisymmetric Torus, $B(r,\theta)$



- $\boldsymbol{\varphi} = \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{r}, \theta) \mathbf{e}^{in\zeta}$
- 2D (r, θ) periodic in θ ; different poloidal m coupled
- High-n simplify with eikonal

$$\varphi(\mathbf{r},\theta) \sim \tilde{\varphi}(\mathbf{r},\theta) e^{inS(r,\theta)}$$

• Problem is to reconcile this with small ${\bf k}_{\parallel}$ and periodicity

$$B \cdot \nabla S = 0 \Longrightarrow S = \zeta - q(r)\theta$$

but not periodic! ; shear \Rightarrow q(r) \neq q(r₀)



Preview of Model Drift Wave Eigenvalue Equation

$$\left\{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} - \sigma^2 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + iX\right)^2 - \kappa_1 X - \kappa_2 X^2 - 2\varepsilon \left(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta\frac{\partial}{\partial X}\right) + i\gamma_e - \Lambda\right\} \phi(X,\theta) = 0$$

- $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{nq'} (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r_0}) \qquad \Rightarrow \Delta \mathbf{x} = 1/nq'$

Resonant surfaces



• Different cases, depending on magnitudes of $\epsilon, \kappa_1, \kappa_2$



SHEARED SLAB/CYLINDER

- Include magnetic shear, $s \neq 0$, and density profile n(r)
- Eigenvalue equation



Potential Q(X)

- 1D problem
- Seek localised (or 'outgoing wave') solutions
- $\kappa_2 \ll 1$, have outgoing wave solutions: $\varphi(x) = exp(-i\sigma X^2/2)$
- Outgoing waves exhibit 'shear damping'



QUASI-MODES

• In periodic cylinder

 $k_{\parallel} \propto m - nq(r)$

- Fix n, different m have resonant surfaces $r_m: n = q(r_m)$
- For large n, m they are only separated by

$$\frac{\Delta X}{r} \sim \frac{1}{nq'} \ll 1 \qquad \qquad \Rightarrow \ \kappa_2 \square \ 0(\frac{1}{n^2}) \ \square \ 1$$

- Then each radially localised 'm-mode' 'looks the same' about its own resonant surface
- Each mode has almost same frequency i.e. almost degenerate and satisfies

$$\frac{k_{\parallel}}{k_{\perp}} \sim \frac{\rho_i}{L_n} << 1$$



- Roberts and Taylor realised it was possible to superimpose them to form a radially extended mode
 - the twisted slicing or quasi-mode which maintains $k_{\parallel} \mathop{<<} k_{\perp}$





TOROIDAL GEOMETRY

- In a torus new effects arise from inhomogeneous magnetic fields
 - changes in mode structure from magnetic drifts: affects shear damping



• Doppler shift:
$$\omega \to \omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{D}$$

 $\epsilon_{T} \left(\cos \theta + is \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \quad ; \quad \epsilon_{T} = \frac{r}{R} << 1$
normal geodesic curvatures

• $\phi(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \phi(\mathbf{r}, \theta)$: two-dimensional

$$\Rightarrow k_{\parallel} \rightarrow \frac{1}{Rq} \left(-\frac{i\partial}{\partial \theta} + m - nq(r) \right) \propto \left(-\frac{i\partial}{\partial \theta} + X \right)$$

• Eigenvalue equation (absorb
$$\gamma_{e}$$
 into Λ)

$$\left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial X^{2}} - \sigma^{2}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + iX\right)^{2} - 2\epsilon\left(\cos\theta + is\sin\theta\frac{\partial}{\partial X}\right) - \kappa_{2}X^{2} - \Lambda(\Omega)\right]\phi = 0$$

$$\epsilon \sim 0(1)$$



EIKONAL SOLUTION

• To minimise
$$k_{\Box}$$
 try $\phi \sim \phi(\theta) e^{-iX\theta + i\int^X k dX}$ to obtain

$$\left\{\sigma^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} + (\theta - k)^2 + 2\varepsilon [\cos \theta + s(\theta - k)\sin \theta] + \Lambda(\Omega) + \kappa_2 X^2\right\} \phi = 0$$

 $\kappa_2 << \epsilon$ - one-dimensional equation in θ

But solution must be periodic in θ over 2π - must reconcile with secular terms!

• Solve problem with Ballooning Transformation (Connor, Hastie, Taylor)

$$\varphi(\mathbf{X}, \theta) = \sum_{m} e^{-im\theta} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{d\eta e^{-i(\mathbf{X}-m-k)\eta} \widetilde{\phi}}_{\phi_{m}(\mathbf{X})} (\eta, \mathbf{X}; k)$$



$$\left\{\sigma^{2}\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial\eta^{2}} + (\eta - k)^{2} + 2\varepsilon(\cos\eta + s(\eta - k)\sin\eta) + \Lambda + \kappa_{2}X^{2}\right\}\hat{\phi}(\eta, X, k) = 0$$

Potential Q(η) - $\infty < \eta < \infty \Rightarrow$ no longer need periodic solution!

- Often consider 'Lowest Order' equation, $\kappa_2 = 0$
 - 1D Schrődinger equation with potential $Q(\eta)$ with k a parameter, $\Lambda(\Omega)$ a 'local' eigenvalue
 - k usually chosen to be 0 or π (to give most unstable mode)
 - localisation of solutions in η reduces shear damping (waves reflected by toroidal coupling)



- Reconstructed $\varphi(X, \theta)$ is a quasi-mode
 - 'balloons' in $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
 - 'm' varies with X
 - radially extended
 - \Rightarrow determine slowly varying radial envelope A(m) by reintroducing κ_2 << 1 in Part 2
 - seen in gyro-kinetic simulations of ITG modes (e.g. W Lee)





SUMMARY OF PART 1

Shown how the ballooning transform allows one to use the simplification of a WKB ansatz for short wave-length (high-n) modes in a torus while allowing the most unstable long parallel wavelengths but still respecting both the toroidal and poloidal periodicities

This provides an efficient calculational method for micro-instabilities and high-n MHD stability in a torus – the 'lowest order theory'

The 'higher order theory' determines radial mode structures and normally provides only a small correction to mode frequencies

- its importance then is to justify choosing the most unstable value of ${\bf k}$ and to show there is a fully consistent theory for the radial variation
- Situations with low magnetic shear and finite rotation shear pose new problems for ballooning theory
- A subject for Part 2!



PART 2: RADIAL MODE STRUCTURE

- 'Higher order' theory: determines radial envelope A(X) (Taylor, Connor, Wilson)
- Reintroduce $\kappa_{1,2} << 1 \Rightarrow k = k(X)$
 - yields radial envelope in WKB APPROXIMATION

$$A(X) = e^{i \int^{h} k(X) dX}$$
- eigenvalue condition
$$\iint k dX = (\ell + \frac{1}{2})\pi$$

Conventional Version: ω_* has a maximum

• Lowest order theory gives 'local' eigenvalue

$$\Omega = \underbrace{\Omega_*(0) - \kappa_2 X^2}_{\text{'local'} \omega_*(x)} + \underbrace{i\gamma_s(k)}_{\text{shear damping}}$$

• Expand Ω about k_0 where shear damping is minimum

$$\begin{split} \Omega = \Omega(0) - \kappa_2 X^2 + i \gamma_{kk} (k - k_0)^2 \quad \left(\gamma_{kk} \sim \epsilon \right) \\ \Rightarrow k(X, \Omega) \end{split}$$





Quadratic profile

Linear profile

- $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Implications} \\ \mbox{-mode width} & X_{M} \sim \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\kappa_{2}} \right)^{1/4} \sim n^{1/2}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta r \sim \frac{a}{n^{1/2}} << a \end{array}$
 - mode localised about ${\rm X}$ = 0, i.e. $\Omega_{*_{max,}}$, but covers many resonant surfaces
 - spread in k: $\Delta k \sim n^{\text{-}1/2} << 1$

 $\Rightarrow k \cong k_0$ (minimum in shear damping)



HIGHER ORDER THEORY: EXPANSION IN 1/n

Ballooning equation: $L(\eta, k, x; \Omega)\phi(\eta, k, x) = 0$

$$\varphi = A(x) \exp(inq' \int_{0}^{x} k(x) dx) \hat{\varphi}(\eta, k) \qquad \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} + inq' k$$
$$\Rightarrow L \rightarrow L \left(\eta, k - \frac{i}{nq'} \frac{d}{dx}, x; \Omega \right)$$

Expand in $n^{-1/2}$: $\varphi = \varphi_0 + \frac{1}{n^{1/2}} \varphi_1 + \frac{1}{n} \varphi_2 +$
$$L = L_0(\eta, k, x, \omega(x)) - \frac{i}{n^{1/2}q'} \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{2nq'^2} \frac{\partial^2 L_0}{\partial^2 k} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial \Omega} (\Omega - \omega(x))$$



Lowest order : $L_0(\eta, k, x, \omega(x))\phi_0 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \omega = \omega(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{x}), \phi_0 = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x})\hat{\phi}_0(\eta, \mathbf{k})$$

First order :

$$L_0 \phi_1 + L_1 \phi_0 = 0$$
, where $L_1 = -\frac{i}{n^{1/2}q'} \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$

$$\therefore \qquad L_0 \phi_1 - \frac{i}{n^{1/2} q'} \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \hat{\phi}_0 = 0$$

But
$$L_0 \hat{\phi}_0 = 0 \implies \frac{\partial (L_0 \hat{\phi}_0)}{\partial k} = \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_0 + L_0 \frac{\partial \hat{\phi}_0}{\partial k} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_1 = -\frac{i}{n^{1/2}q'} \frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \hat{\phi}_1 \text{ with } \hat{\phi}_1 = \frac{\partial \hat{\phi}_0}{\partial k}$$



Determining k₀

Let
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\eta \dots \equiv \langle \dots \rangle$$
, where $\langle \phi L_0 \psi \rangle = \langle \psi L_0 \phi \rangle$

Then
$$\langle \phi_0 L_0 \phi_1 \rangle + \langle \phi_0 L_1 \phi_0 \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_0 \right\rangle = 0$$

But
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} \langle \hat{\phi}_0 L_0 \hat{\phi}_0 \rangle = \left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_0 \right\rangle + \left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial \omega} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_0 \right\rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = 0 \Rightarrow k = k_0$$



Second Order

$$L_{0}\phi_{2} + L_{1}\phi_{1} + L_{2}\phi_{0} = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \langle \phi_{0}L_{1}\phi_{1} \rangle + \langle \phi_{0}L_{2}\phi_{0} \rangle = 0 \tag{I}$$

$$\label{eq:consider} \mbox{Consider} \quad \left< \hat{\phi}_{_0} \frac{\partial L_{_0}}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_{_0} \right> = 0$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}k} \left\langle \hat{\phi}_{0} \frac{\partial L_{0}}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_{0} \right\rangle$$

$$= 2 \left\langle \frac{\partial \hat{\phi}_{0}}{\partial k} \frac{\partial L_{0}}{\partial k} \hat{\phi}_{0} \right\rangle + \left\langle \hat{\phi}_{0} \frac{\partial^{2} L_{0}}{\partial k^{2}} \hat{\phi}_{0} \right\rangle + \left\langle \hat{\phi}_{0} \frac{\partial L_{0}}{\partial \omega} \frac{\partial^{2} \omega}{\partial k^{2}} \hat{\phi}_{0} \right\rangle = 0 \qquad (II)$$

as
$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} = 0$$

Now
$$\langle \phi_0 L_1 \phi_1 \rangle = \left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \left(-\frac{i}{nq'} \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial k} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left(-\frac{i}{nq'} \frac{\partial \hat{\phi}_0}{\partial k} \frac{dA}{dx} \right) \right\rangle$$

From (II) $= -\frac{1}{2n^2 q'^2} \left[\left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \frac{\partial^2 L_0}{\partial k^2} \hat{\phi}_0 \right\rangle + \left\langle \hat{\phi}_0 \frac{\partial L_0}{\partial \omega} \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial k^2} \hat{\phi}_0 \right\rangle \right] \frac{d^2 A}{dx^2}$ (III)
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Radial Equation

Combining (I) and (III)

$$\frac{1}{2n^{2}q'^{2}}\left\langle\hat{\phi}_{0}\frac{\partial L_{0}}{\partial\omega}\frac{\partial^{2}\omega}{\partial k^{2}}\hat{\phi}_{0}\right\rangle\frac{d^{2}A}{dx^{2}}+\left\langle\hat{\phi}_{0}\frac{\partial L_{0}}{\partial\omega}\hat{\phi}_{0}\right\rangle\left(\Omega-\omega(x)\right)A=0$$

or, writing
$$\omega = \omega_0 - \frac{x^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial x^2} = \omega_0 - \omega_{xx} \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2n^2q'^2}\frac{\partial^2\omega}{\partial k^2}\frac{d^2A}{dx^2} + \left(\Omega - \omega_0 - \frac{x^2}{2}\frac{\partial^2\omega}{\partial x^2}\right)A = 0$$

Thus
$$A = A_0 \exp\left(-nq'x^2 \left(\omega_{xx} / \omega_{kk}\right)^{1/2} / 2\right), \quad \Omega = \omega_0 + \frac{\left(\omega_{xx} / \omega_{kk}\right)^{1/2}}{2nq'}$$

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LIMITATIONS

- 1. Low magnetic shear
- 2. High velocity shear
- 3. The edge

- unfortunately characteristics of transport barriers!



H-mode

UKAEA

ITB

FOURIER OR BALLOONING MODES? - (1)

Introduce Fourier expansion and treat ϵ cand κ as perturbations

Seek solution

$$\varphi^{(0)} = \sum_{n} A_{m} e^{im\theta} \varphi_{m} (X - m); \quad \varphi_{m} (X) = \exp(-i\sigma(X - m)^{2}/2);$$
$$\Lambda^{(0)} = -i\sigma$$

i.e. ϕ_m satisfy lowest order 'cylindrical' equation with $\kappa = 0$

Coefficients A_m are determined in first order through degenerate perturbation theory, by annihilating $\phi^{(1)}$



FOURIER OR BALLOONING MODES? - (2)

Applying annihilator

 $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dX \int d\theta \phi_m(X) \exp(im\theta)$

We obtain a recurrence relation

$$\rho(A_{m+1} + A_{m-1}) = (a - m^2)A_m; \ \rho = \frac{\varepsilon}{2\kappa} \left(1 + \frac{i\sigma s}{2}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{i\sigma}{4}\right), \ a = \left(\frac{i\sigma}{2} - \frac{\Lambda^{(1)}}{\kappa}\right)$$

Recurrence relation equivalent to Mathieu equation



FOURIER OR BALLOONING MODES? - (3)

Small ρ : $A_0 = 1$, $A_1 = -2 \rho$, $A_2 = \rho^2/2$; $a = -2 \rho^2 + 7 \rho^4/2$

A single Fourier mode with weak sidebands

Large ρ : A_m slowly varying in m

$$\rho \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 \mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{m}}}{\mathrm{d}\mathrm{m}^2} + \left(\mathrm{m}^2 - \mathrm{a} + 2\rho\right) \mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{m}} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{m} = \exp(-im^{2}/2\rho^{1/2}); \qquad a = 2\rho - i\rho^{1/2};$$

 $\therefore A_m$ essentially constant out to $m \Box \pm |\rho|^{1/4}$ and then fall off exponentially

If ω unstable then σ has a negative imaginary part Since $\sigma \sim 1/s$, $\rho << 1$ for s << 1

Example with ρ real



Fourier Amplitudes A_m as function of real $\rho = \epsilon/2\kappa$





LOW MAGNETIC SHEAR (s << 1, ϵ finite)

- Two-scale analysis of ballooning equations $\eta \rightarrow (\eta, u)$: η periodic equilibrium scale, $u = s\eta$
 - \Rightarrow 'averaged' eqn., independent of $k \Rightarrow \Omega$ independent of k!
 - corresponds to uncoupled Fourier harmonics at each mth surface, localised within $X \sim |s|$: i.e. non-overlapping radially
- Recover k-dependence by using these as trial functions in variational approach (Romanelli and Zonca)
 - exponentially weak contribution

$$\Omega = \Omega_*(0) - \kappa_2 X^2 + i \exp(-c/|s|) \hat{\gamma}_{kk} (k - k_0)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow X_M \sim \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\kappa_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \exp\left(-\frac{s_{crit}}{|s|}\right) \qquad s_{crit} \propto (k\rho_i)^{-2}$$

– becomes very narrow as $|s| \rightarrow 0,$ or $k_{\perp} \rho_i \rightarrow 0$





suggests link between low shear and ITBs

(Romanelli, Zonca)

• Presence of q_{min} acts as barrier to mode structures

Gyro-kinetic simulation by Kishimoto





Ballooning mode theory fails for sufficiently low s (or long wavelength)
 reverts to weakly coupled Fourier harmonics, amplitude A_m, when





– spectrum of $~{\rm A}^{}_m~$ narrows as mode centre moves towards $q^{}_{min}$

In practice, ballooning theory holds to quite low n
 e.g. ITG modes with k_⊥ρ₁ ~ 0(1) largely unaffected by q_{min}



THE WAVE-NUMBER REPRESENTATION

• More general contours of k (X, Ω) (k $\rightarrow \theta_k$)





- 'Closed' contours already discussed; 'passing' contours sample all k
 - WKB treatment in X-space still possible
 - easier to use alternative, but entirely equivalent, Wave-number Representation (Dewar, Mahajan)



$$\varphi(\mathbf{X}, \theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\mathbf{k} \hat{\varphi}(\theta, \mathbf{k}) \exp\left[-i\mathbf{X}(\theta - \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{k})\right]$$

• $\hat{\phi}(\theta, k)$ satisfies ballooning eqn. on $-\infty < \theta < \infty$, i.e. not periodic in θ

 $\hat{\phi}(\theta + 2\pi, k + 2\pi) = \hat{\phi}(\theta, k)$

 $-\phi$ is periodic in θ if S(k) is periodic in k: eigenvalue condition

Example

- Suppose linear profile: $\Omega = \Omega_*(0) + \kappa_1 X + i\gamma_s(k)$, $\kappa_1 \sim \frac{1}{nq'L} \sim 0 \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ $\Rightarrow \kappa_1 \frac{dS}{dk} + i(\Omega - \Omega_*(0) - i\gamma_s(k)) = 0$
- Periodicity of S yields eigenvalue condition

$$\oint dk [\Omega - \Omega_* - i\gamma_s(k)] = 2\pi \ell \kappa_1$$



Implications

• Re Ω related to local $\omega_*(x)$: $\Omega_* + 2\pi \ell \kappa_1$

• Im
$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \iint dk \gamma_s(k)$$

- k not restricted to near k_0 (where γ is maximum): for the electron drift wave, all k contribute to give an average of the shear damping!
- some shear damping restored: more STABLE

e.g.
$$\varepsilon = 4$$
: $\gamma_{s}(0) = -0.02$, $\frac{1}{2\pi} \oint \gamma_{s}(k) dk = -0.35$

•
$$\Delta k = 2\pi \Longrightarrow \Delta X \sim \frac{1}{\kappa_1} \Delta \gamma(k) \sim \frac{\varepsilon}{\kappa_1} >> 1$$
 if $\varepsilon >> \kappa_1$

• Mode width:

(i)
$$\Omega$$
 real $\Rightarrow \Delta X \sim \epsilon n$, or $\Delta r \sim \epsilon a$

(ii) $\Omega \text{ complex} \Rightarrow \Delta X \sim n^{1/2} \epsilon^{1/2}$, or $\Delta r \sim (\epsilon/n)^{1/2} a$







SHEARED RADIAL ELECTRIC FIELDS

- Believed to reduce instability and turbulence prominent near ITBs
- $\omega \rightarrow \omega n \Omega_E(x)$ (Doppler Shift); suppose $\Omega_E = \Omega' x$

$$\Rightarrow \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_E = \frac{d\Omega_E}{dq} \equiv \Omega_q \sim 0(1) !$$

•
$$\Delta X \sim \epsilon / \Omega_q$$

- \Rightarrow mode narrows as $d\Omega_{E}/dq$ increases, reducing estimates of ΔX and transport
- Are these modes related to conventional ballooning modes?
 introduce density profile variation

• Model:
$$\Omega = \Omega_*(0) - i\gamma_0 + i\gamma_{xx}X^2 - i\gamma_k \cos k - \Omega_q X$$

i.e. γ has maximum at X = 0



- Wave-number representation produces quadratic eqn for dS/dk
 - $-\exp(inS) \rightarrow \varphi(k)$
 - periodic S(k) $\Rightarrow \phi(k)$ is Floquet solution of Mathieu eqn: yields eigenvalue γ



Analytic solution for transition region possible (Connor)

$$\Omega_q^{crit} \sim 0 \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_T^{1/2} \\ n \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ continuous evolution from conventional mode to more STABLE 'passing' mode

•
$$\Delta X \sim \frac{\epsilon}{(d\Omega_E / dq)} \leq 1$$
 for large $d\Omega_E / dq$

 \Rightarrow reverts to Fourier modes!



EXTENSIONS TO BALLOONING THEORY

- Have seen limitations imposed by low magnetic shear and high flow shear
- The presence of a plasma edge clearly breaks translational invariance
 - have used 2D MHD code to study high-n edge ballooning modes; mode structure resembles ballooning theory 'prediction'







• Non-linear theory

 the 'twisted slices' of Roberts and Taylor form a basis for flux-tube gyrokinetic simulations





Conventional Tokamak

ST



 introducing non-linearities into the theory of high-n MHD ballooning modes predicts explosively growing filamentary structures, seen on MAST



Simulation



Experiment



SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- Problems of toroidal periodicity in the presence of magnetic shear resolved by Ballooning theory
- Ballooning theory provides a robust and widely used tool, but its validity can break down for:
 - Low magnetic shear
 - Rotation shear
 - Plasma edge

when the higher order theory is considered

- Re-emergence of Fourier modes in the torus for low s and high $d\Omega_{\rm F}/dq$
- Ballooning theory also provides a basis for some non-linear theories and simulations

