ELM Simulations with M3D

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Outline

- ITER / DIII-D nonlinear ELM simulations
 - Mesh milestone: ITER: outflow to divertor
 - DIII-D: ELM saturation, little outflow
- density gradient milestone
 - Little effect on linear ideal modes
 - Accurate numerical equilibrium
 - peeling
- XGC coupling
 - mesh
- Future plans

M3D

Extended MHD

- Resistive MHD
- 2 fluid
- hybrid
- Neoclassical model
- Coupling to neoclassical kinetic code XGC

• Algorithmics

- Partially implicit
- Parallel (mpi and omp implementations)
- Unstructured poloidal mesh includes magnetic separatrix
- 1st 3rd order FEL
- SEL
- Toroidal pseudospectral or FD
- Vacuum modeled as 3D resistivity
 - varies as T^{-3/2}
 - S = 10⁶ at core boundary
 - S = 10² to simulate vacuum as cold plasma



ITER nonlinear **ELM**





ITER ELM: pressure time evolution



ELM pressure: initial, mode growth, outflow



ITER – pressure profiles initial, ELM crash, relaxation



Mesh for DIII-D

zoom f = 0.000

- Radial mesh packing to resolve gradients at the separatrix
- Angular packing to resolve ballooning modes
- Example
 - 35x200
 - n = 0, 5, 10, ... 25



g086166 DIIID ELM



Initial p ELM

Time development: p(R) profiles: pressure pedestal expands across separatrix, then relaxes and moves inwards



Drop off to the right of the plots is an artifact



May be effect of boundary

Density milestone: Density and temperature profiles



Added a floor value of edge density

weak dependence of growth rate on relative edge density



In these runs, density was evolved. Numerical mode at low edge Density caused by lack of sufficiently accurate numerical equilibrium. Not evolving density seems to fix problem. Nonlinear: may need upwind numerical scheme.

Low n (3) peeling(?) in g113317

a prt max 0.10E-05 min -0.89E-06 t= 26.09





Pedestal model

• ELM instability

- Edge kinks: driven by bootstrap current
- Ballooning modes: driven by pedestal pressure gradient

Previous simulations used EFIT equilibrium

- Bootstrap current model might not be valid at edge

• XGC – neoclassical kinetic code

- In reasonable agreement with experiments
- Calculates pedestal buildup
- Calculates bootstrap current

• M3D / XGC

- Profiles of p, n, ... given to M3D code
- If unstable, calculate ELM crash

Initial XGC pressure profile



plan to couple XGC to EFIT

need bootstrap current from XGC (or model)

XGC field line following mesh



Low resolution for clarity Will try with M3D

future plans

- ITER / DIII-D nonlinear ELM simulations
 - Add more of scrape off region to DIII-D simulations
 - Better computational mesh
- Density evolution
 - Upwinding for nonlinear simulations
- Pedestal model
 - Improve coupling with XGC code
 - Include bootstrap current