

Abstract Submitted
for the DPP05 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Microinstability Calculations for Transport Barriers¹ MIKE KOTSCHENREUTHER, PRASHANT VALANJU, SWADESH MAHAJAN, JAMES WILEY, MIKHAIL PEKKER, IFS, The University of Texas at Austin — Comprehensive gyrokinetic stability calculations are performed using GS2 for transport barrier equilibria generated by VMEC. Edge barriers are examined for free boundary equilibria with X-points. These are the first gyrokinetic calculations in such equilibria where the magnetic geometry near the X-point could be potentially significant. Comparisons with present experiments and extrapolation to reactors will be presented. We also examine whether novel magnetic divertors can improve pedestal stability.

¹Work Supported by USDOE IFS Grant

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Date submitted: 22 Jul 2005

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