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Effect of impurities on the turbulent momentum pinch in tokamaks¹ FELIX I. PARRA, MICHAEL BARNES, Plasma Science and Fusion Center, MIT, WILLIAM D. DORLAND, University of Maryland — In tokamaks, rotation shear is not the only effect that drives turbulent momentum transport. There is a pinch of momentum due to the Coriolis force that appears in the frame rotating with the plasma [1]. This Coriolis force breaks a symmetry of the non-linear gyrokinetic equations that makes the turbulent momentum transport vanish [2]. Interestingly, the turbulent momentum pinch vanishes for adiabatic electrons even though the symmetry of the equations. The proof also provides the circumstances under which the momentum pinch is non-zero, showing that the presence of impurities with a ratio of charge over mass Z_s/m_s different from the main ion species is sufficient to drive a momentum pinch. We will confirm these results with nonlinear gyrokinetic simulations using GS2, proving that the impurities are as important for the momentum pinch as trapped electrons.

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