Abstract Submitted for the DPP20 Meeting of The American Physical Society

plasma Electromagnetic turbulence driven by electron-temperature gradient¹ TOBY ADKINS, ALEXANDER SCHEKOCHIHIN, Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, Oxford University, COLIN ROACH, Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (CCFE/UKAEA), Abingdon, PLAMEN IVANOV, Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, Oxford University — A simplified local model of a tokamak plasma is derived in the low-beta limit of gyrokinetics in a slab of constant magnetic field curvature and gradient. The ordering adopted was chosen in order to retain Alfvénic perturbations to the magnetic field, while ordering out compressive perturbations, in a similar manner to [A. Zocco and A.A. Schekochihin, *Physics of Plasmas* 18, 102309 (2011)]. It is shown that in the electromagnetic regime, isobaric Kinetic-Alfvén waves can become unstable to the curvature-driven ETG instability, driving turbulence on scales above the electron skin depth. Assuming critical balance [M. Barnes et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 115003 (2011)], it is shown that the resultant turbulent heat flux is proportional to the temperature gradient, driving transport that is less stiff than the conventional ETG picture. The structure of the underlying electromagnetic ETG instability is characterized.

¹This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium and has received funding from the Euratom research and training programme 20142018 and 20192020 under Grant Agreement No. 633053, and from the RCUK Energy Programme [Grant Number EP/T012250/1]. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission.

> Toby Adkins Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics, Oxford University

Date submitted: 26 Jun 2020

Electronic form version 1.4