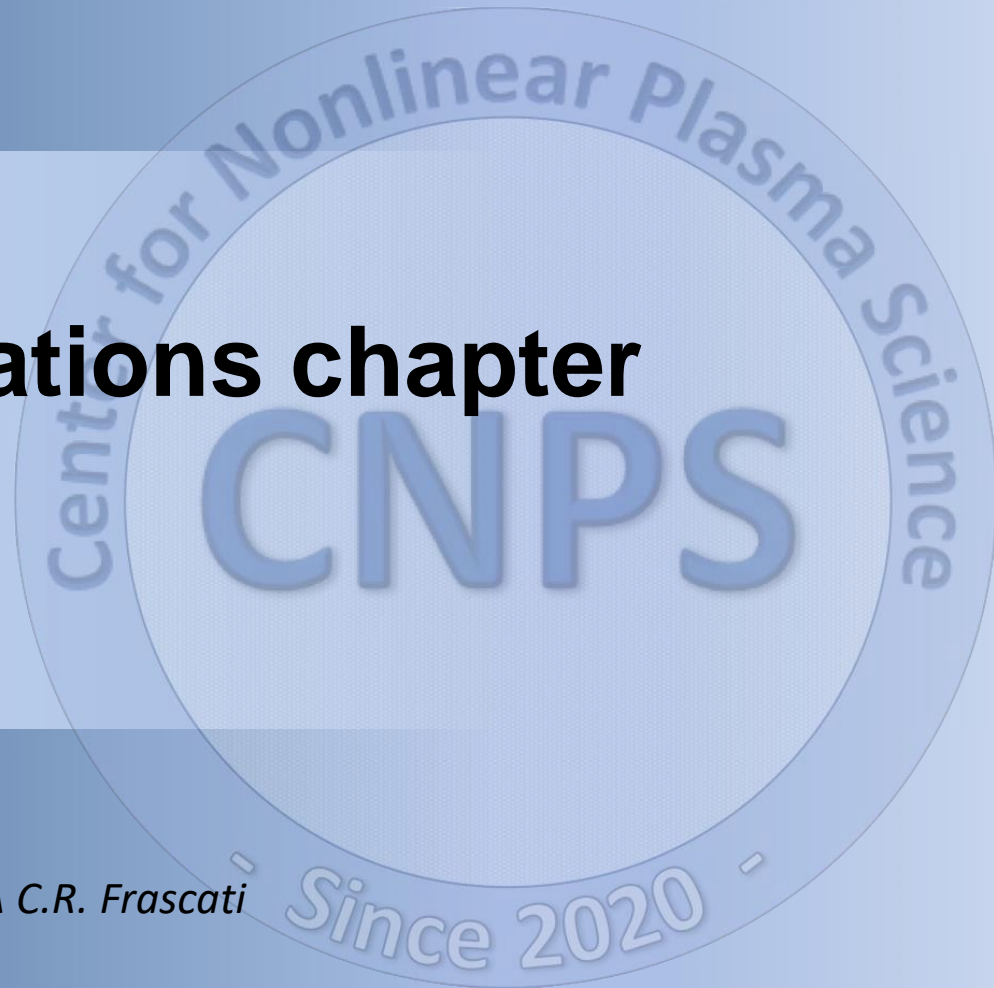


# Theory and simulations chapter

M. V. Falessi, F. Zonca, G. Vlad, E. Nardon

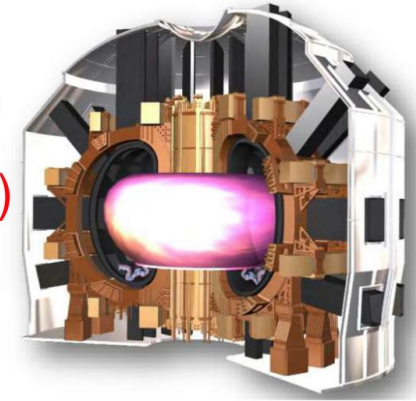
*Center for Nonlinear Plasma Science and ENEA C.R. Frascati*



- Rationale
- Table of contents
- Summary of Chapter 8
- Status of the writing

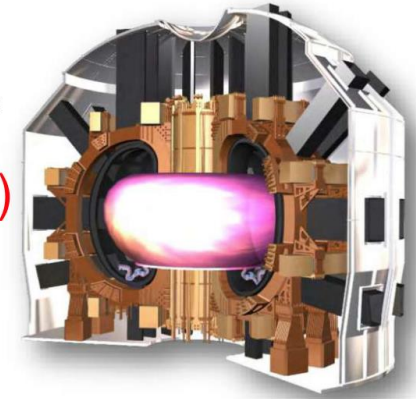
## Divertor Tokamak Test (DTT) facility

- ❑ One of the **key issues** towards demonstration of fusion energy is **Power & Particle EXhaust (PPEX)**
  - ❑ **Mission for DTT**
- ❑ **Integration** of various **physics and technology** aspects is **crucial**
  - ❑ Clear impact on plasma performance and operation

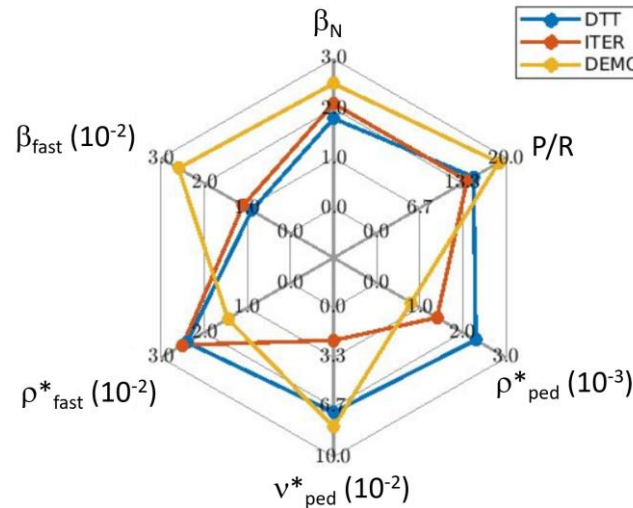


## Divertor Tokamak Test (DTT) facility

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- ❑ **Integration** of various **physics and technology** aspects is **crucial**
  - ❑ Clear impact on plasma performance and operation
    - ❑ Here: **focus on physics integration** (in general)
  - ❑ Need for reliable predictive capability
  - ❑ **Integrated Modeling** crucial for turbulent transport
  - ❑ Need for **novel approaches and physics understanding**:  
fusion is not a mere engineering and technology problem

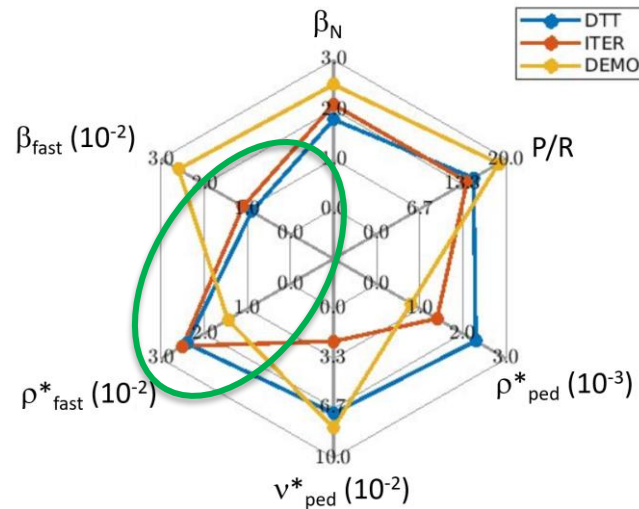


# Rationale of Chap 8



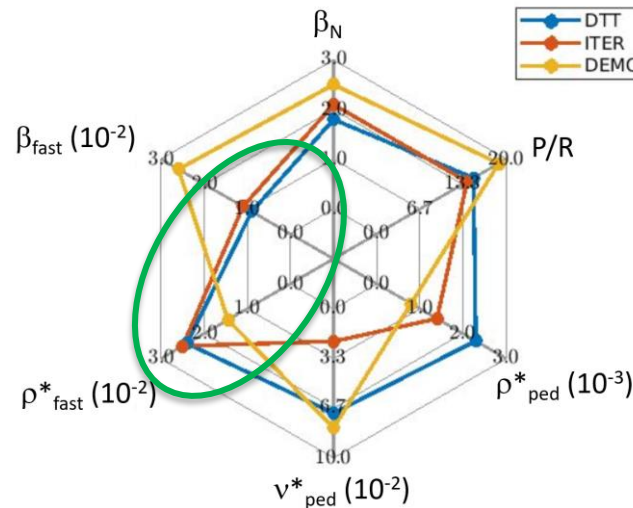
- **DTT** has been designed to describe the physics of **reactor-relevant** fusion plasmas;

# Rationale of Chap 8



- **DTT** has been designed to describe the physics of **reactor-relevant** fusion plasmas;

# Rationale of Chap 8



- **DTT** has been designed to describe the physics of **reactor-relevant** fusion plasmas;
- reactor-relevant plasmas are a **complex system**;
- as a result, it gives rise to challenges in the **theoretical description** of the physics processes;

- 8.1 Weak similarity scaling & DTT;
- 8.2 Plasma as a complex system: nonlinear equilibria and self organization;
- 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models;
- 8.4 Integration of theory, simulation and experiments;
- 8.5 Novel approaches and open problems



What makes DTT unique?

- 8.1 Weak similarity scaling & DTT;
- 8.2 Plasma as a complex system: nonlinear equilibria and self organization;
- 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models;
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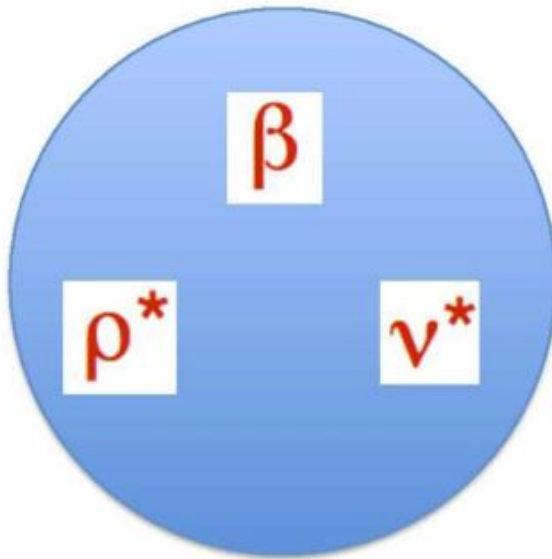


- 8.1 Weak similarity scaling & DTT;
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Theoretical challenges in describing the physics of DTT

# 8.1 Weak similarity scaling & DTT

- The **operation space** of quasi-neutral, collisional, finite- $\beta$  plasmas



There exist three dimensionless parameters in the governing equations [Kadomtsev 75]



Three engineering (dimensional) parameters, with **R left to vary** [Lackner 90]

# 8.1 Weak similarity scaling & DTT



## □ Weak Kadomtsev scaling [Pizzuto et al NF2010]:

➔ fix  $\rho_* R^\epsilon$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\nu_*$

### □ Weak scaling of $\rho_* R^\epsilon$

- Cross-scale coupling (micro-meso scales) is preserved;
- Preserve  $\rho_{*EP}/\rho_*$  set by  $T_{EP}/T$ , given by condition of dominant electron heating

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□ Preserve  $\rho_{*EP}/\rho_*$  set by  $T_{EP}/T$ , given by condition of dominant electron heating

### □ Fix $\beta$ and stability

□ Preserve temporal scale hierarchy: frequency ordering of meso- to macro-scale fluctuations

### □ Fix collisionality parameter $\nu_*$

□ Preserve edge physics and PWI (PPEX)

□ Preserve supra-thermal particle content in the core

## 8.2 Plasma as a complex system: nonlinear equilibria and self-organization



- Integrated simulations → must address **burning plasmas** as **complex self-organized systems**

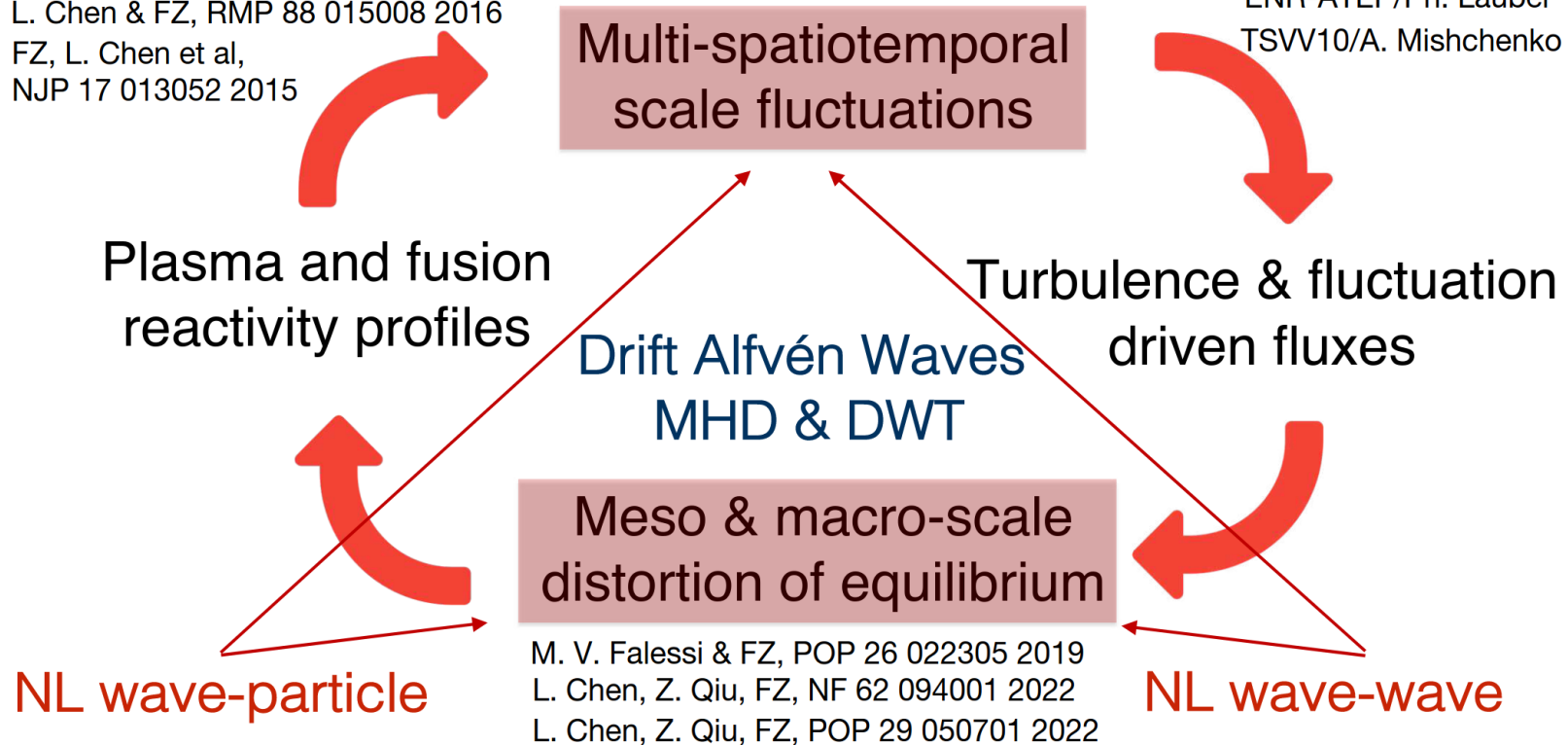
# 8.2 Plasma as a complex system: nonlinear equilibria and self-organization

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L. Chen & FZ, RMP 88 015008 2016  
FZ, L. Chen et al,  
NJP 17 013052 2015



EUROfusion projects  
ENR-ATEP/Ph. Lauber  
TSV10/A. Mishchenko





## 8.2 Plasma as a complex system: nonlinear equilibria and self-organization



### ❑ In collisionless burning plasmas

- Power balance is dominated by EP
- Fluctuation induced transport may cause significant deviation from local thermodynamic equilibrium
  - ➔ importance of phase space transport
- EP are mediators of cross-scale couplings (C&Z RMP16)

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- Power balance is dominated by EP
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- EP are mediators of cross-scale couplings (C&Z RMP16)

### ❑ Recent progress in two areas of theory and simulation:

- Interaction of Alfvén Eigenmodes (AE) and drift wave turbulence (DWT) (Chen et al. 2021-22)
- Gyrokinetic theory of phase space transport (Falessi et al. 2019-21-23) ➔ phase space zonal structures (PSZS)

# 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models

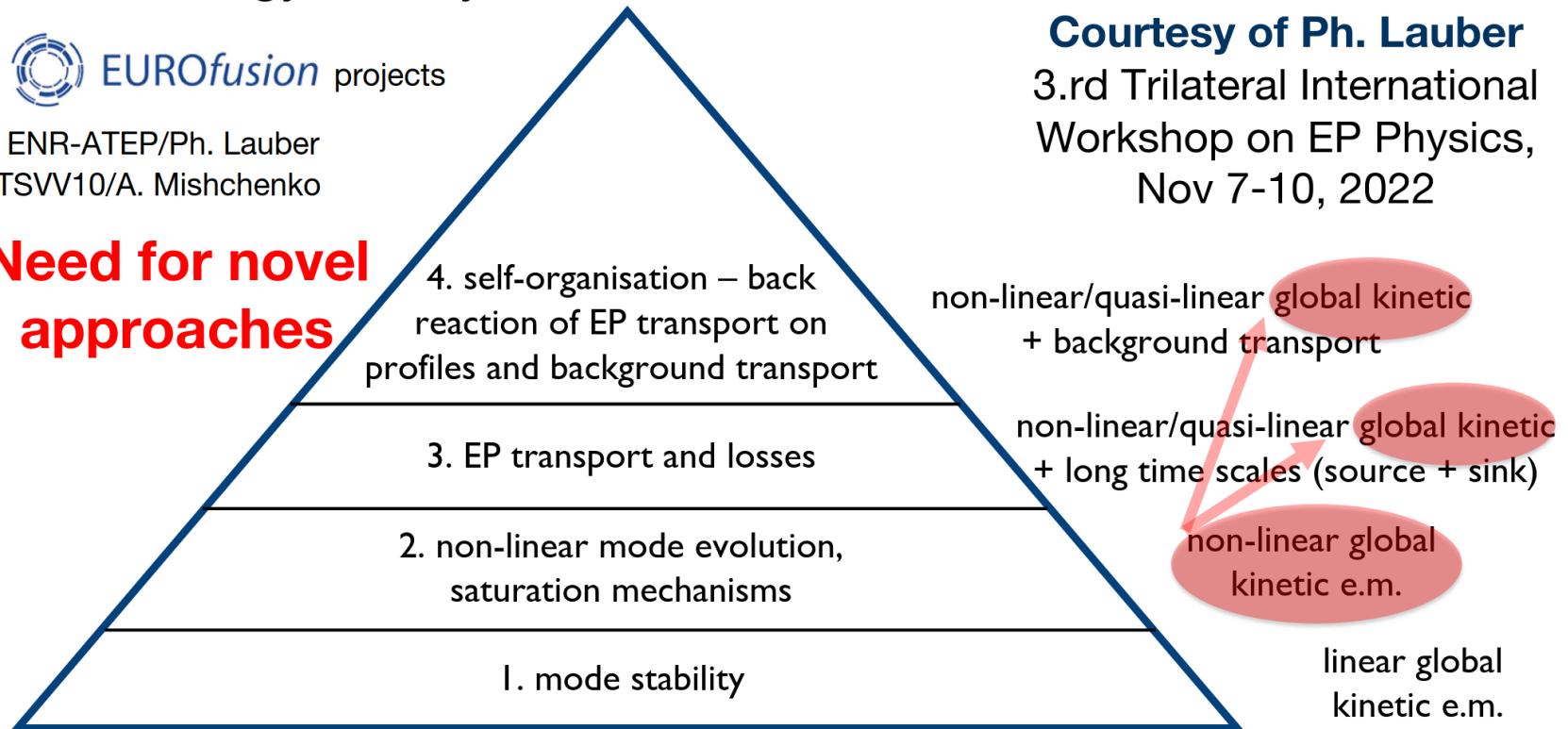
- Integrated **simulation hierarchy** for plasmas with significant EP energy density → **Drift Alfvén Waves & DWT**



EUROfusion projects

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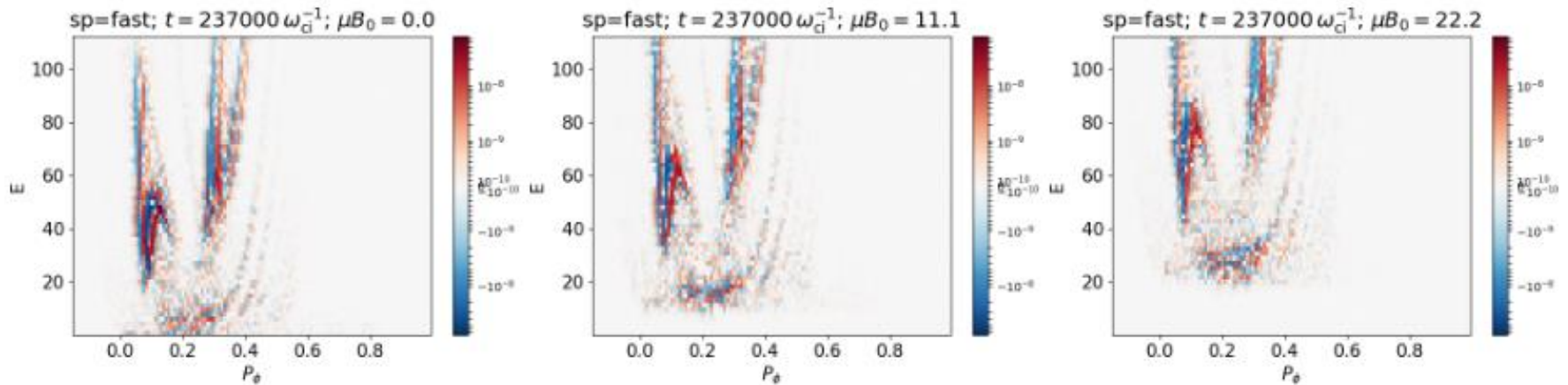
**Need for novel approaches**



**Courtesy of Ph. Lauber**  
3.rd Trilateral International Workshop on EP Physics,  
Nov 7-10, 2022

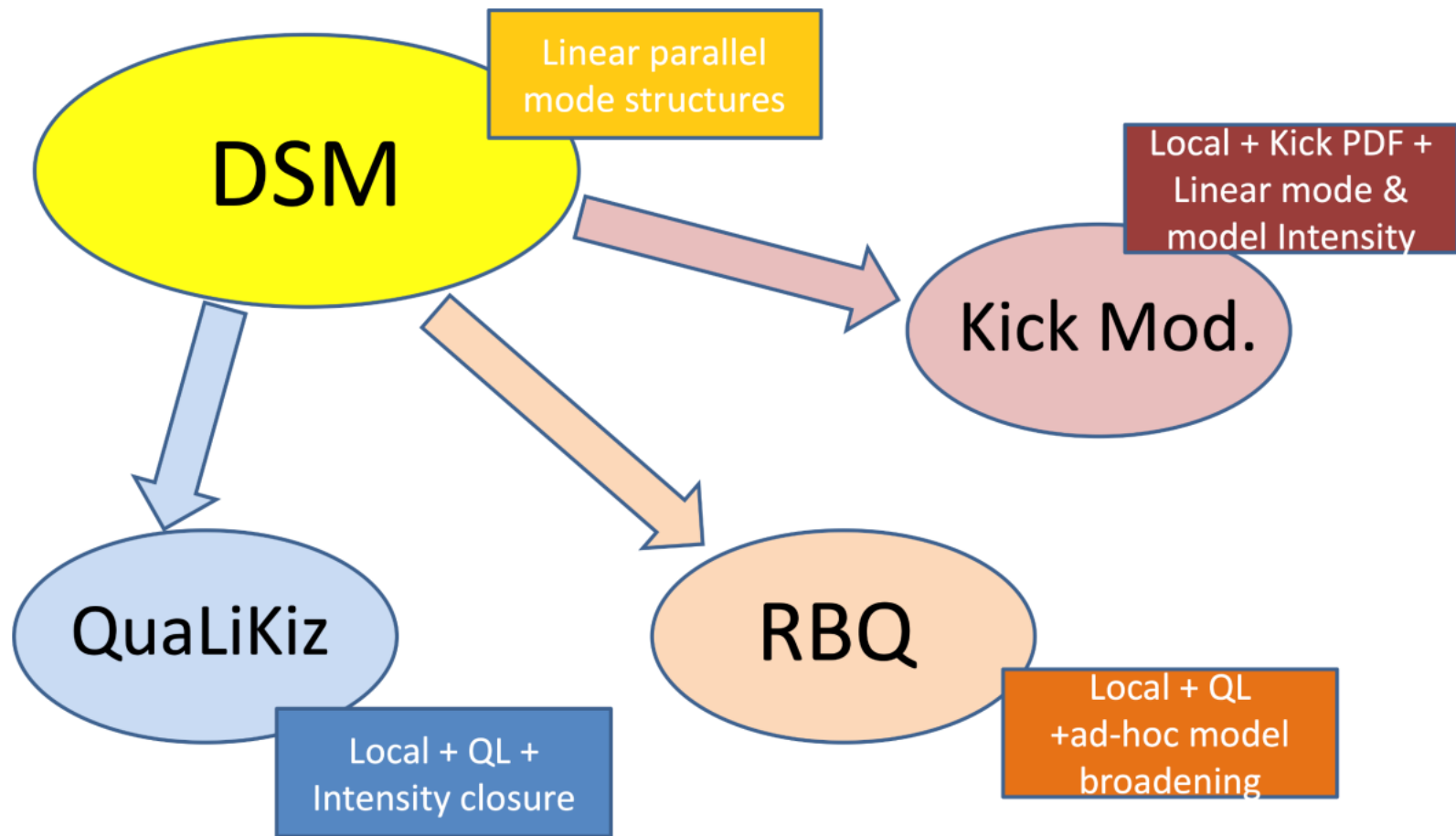
# 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models

Courtesy of Thomas Hayward-Schneider



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \overline{F_{z0}} + \frac{1}{\tau_b} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial P_\phi} \overline{\left( \tau_b \delta \dot{P}_\phi \delta F \right)}_z + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{E}} \overline{\left( \tau_b \delta \dot{\mathcal{E}} \delta F \right)}_z \right]_S = 0$$

# 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models



## 8.3 Gyrokinetic transport theory: general approach & reduced models

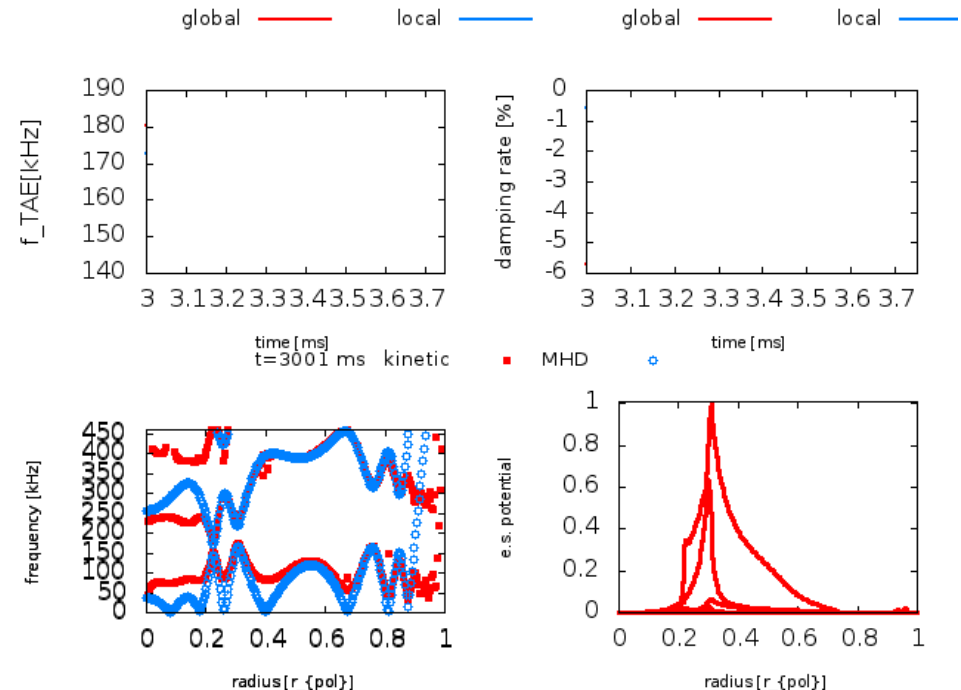


Additional topics:

- improvement of current **transport** approaches;
- **Moment based hybrid/kinetic** models;
- need of truly **global, electromagnetic, Gyrokinetic** analyses;

# 8.4 Integration of theory, simulation and experiments

- Importance of building an infrastructure to verify and validate reduced models on DTT;
- role of **IMAS** infrastructure;
- Ligka-Hagis **EP workflow**, synthetic diagnostics;

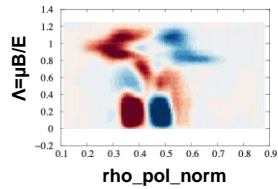


# 8.4 Integration of theory, simulation and experiments

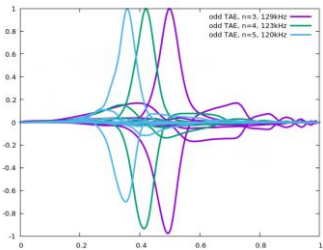
ATEP code: solve transport equation for PSZS with sources and collisions, [Lauber 2022](#)

$$\frac{\partial \overline{F_{z0}}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\tau_b} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial P_\phi} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{P}_\phi \delta F \right)_z + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{E}} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{\mathcal{E}} \delta F \right)_z \right]_S = \left( \sum_b C_b^g [F, F_b] + \mathcal{S} \right)_{zS}$$

$\langle dP_z/dt \rangle$



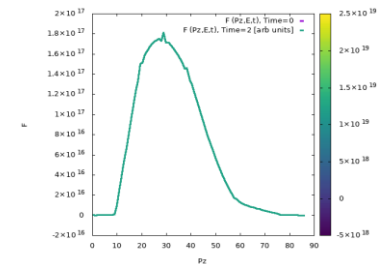
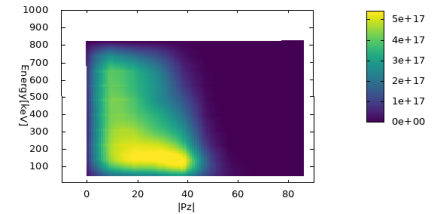
calculate PSZS  
fluxes  
with prescribed  
amplitude



calculate  
linear mode  
spectrum

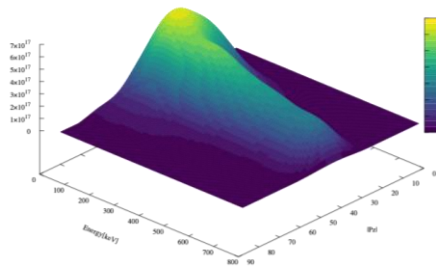
DAEPS and LIGKA  
Are interchangeable  
Thanks to IMAS

advance  
 $F_{EP}$   
and return  
updated  $F_{EP}$  into  
IDS,  
or its moments



core transport  
equilibrium  
mhd\_linear  
distributions

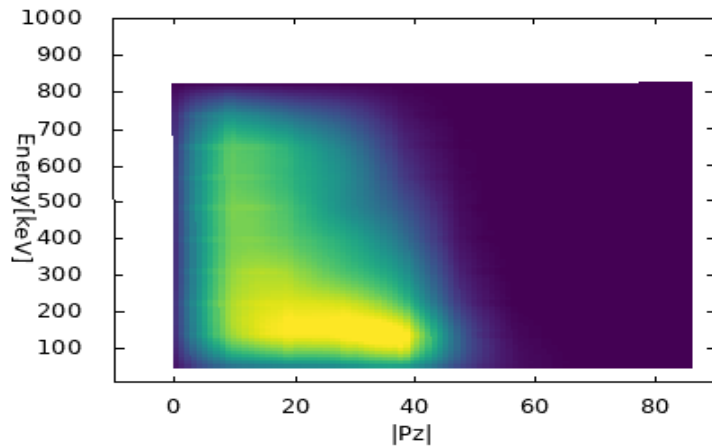
time



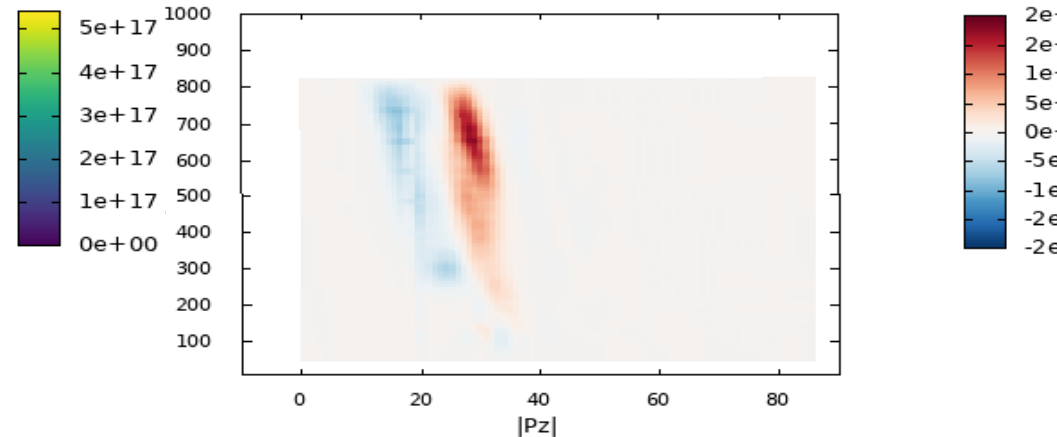


# 8.4 Integration of theory, simulation and experiments

$F(P_z, E, t)$ , Time=2 [arb units]

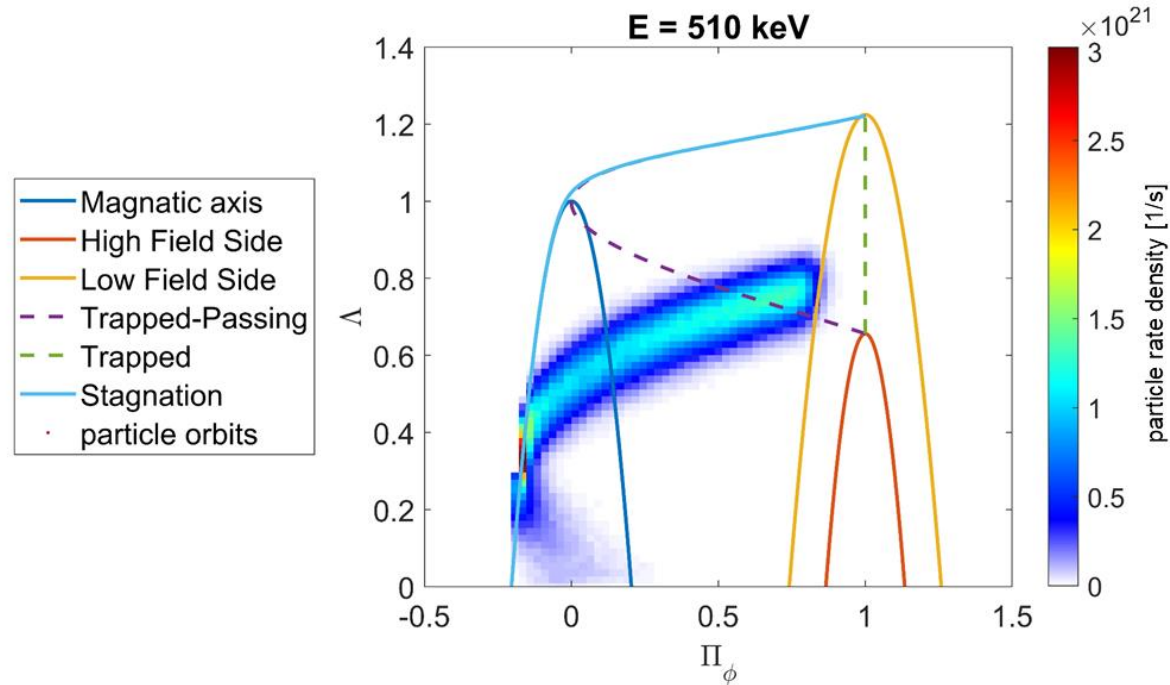


$F(t) - F(t-1)$ , Time=2 [arb units]



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \overline{F_{z0}} + \frac{1}{\tau_b} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial P_\phi} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{P}_\phi \delta F \right)_z + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{E}} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{\mathcal{E}} \delta F \right)_z \right]_S = 0$$

# 8.4 Integration of theory, simulation and experiments



Courtesy of C. de Piccoli & P. Vincenzi

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \overline{F_{z0}} + \frac{1}{\tau_b} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial P_\phi} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{P}_\phi \delta F \right)_z + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{E}} \left( \tau_b \delta \dot{\mathcal{E}} \delta F \right)_z \right]_S = 0$$

## 8.5 Novel approaches and open problems



Some topics:

- nonlinear Gyrokinetics near plasma edge;
- fully nonlinear Gyrokinetic collision operators;
- Hierarchy of reduced models for edge physics (mid term priority);

# What is missing

- The writing process is **almost completed**;

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- Interactions with Gloria Falchetto and others regarding **integrated and edge physics**;
- Interactions with Paola regarding the «transport workflow» and **IMAS** are foreseen;

Thank you for your attention!