

SURROGATE MODEL FOR TURBULENT TRANSPORT USING DEEP LEARNING AND PLASMA PROFILE PREDICTION IN TOKAMAK PLASMAS

Yong Xiao, Hongjian Zhao, Shengming Li

Institute for Fusion Theory and Simulation, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, P. R. China

Email: yxiao@zju.edu.cn

Turbulent transport is a key factor in determining tokamak plasma confinement, directly impacting fusion energy efficiency. While first-principles gyrokinetic simulations provide high-fidelity predictions, their high computational cost limits their use in real-time optimization and control. Artificial intelligence (AI), powered by large-scale data, is increasingly shaping magnetic fusion research.

In this work, we develop a deep learning-based AI surrogate model to predict turbulent transport and plasma profile evolution under various operational scenarios. Our model is trained on high-resolution gyrokinetic simulations performed with the GTC code, as well as experimental data from the HL-2A tokamak. We explore plasma gradient space for the Cyclone Base Case and HL-2A parameters using nonlinear gyrokinetic simulations to generate datasets for typical electrostatic drift-wave turbulence. The primary electrostatic modes—ion temperature gradient (ITG)[1] and trapped electron mode (TEM)[2]—are classified and labeled using conventional methods.

To classify drift-wave turbulence types, we apply a support vector machine (SVM) with plasma gradients as input, achieving an accuracy of up to 98%. Additionally, we derive simple distance-based formulae for transport coefficients, enabling rapid turbulence classification and validating their effectiveness against gyrokinetic simulations [3]. Deep learning techniques, including neural networks, are then employed to develop surrogate models for turbulent transport across a broad range of tokamak parameters [Fig. 1]. Our models achieve R^2 values of up to 0.85 for nonlinear transport and 0.95 for linear growth rates [4].

Finally, we integrate our turbulence surrogate model into a transport model to predict plasma profile evolution in real experiments. These results demonstrate that AI-driven models can serve as efficient alternatives to conventional gyrokinetic simulations, enabling faster scenario modeling and facilitating real-time plasma control in future tokamak experiments. the information given in this template should enable to select the correct format for each section.

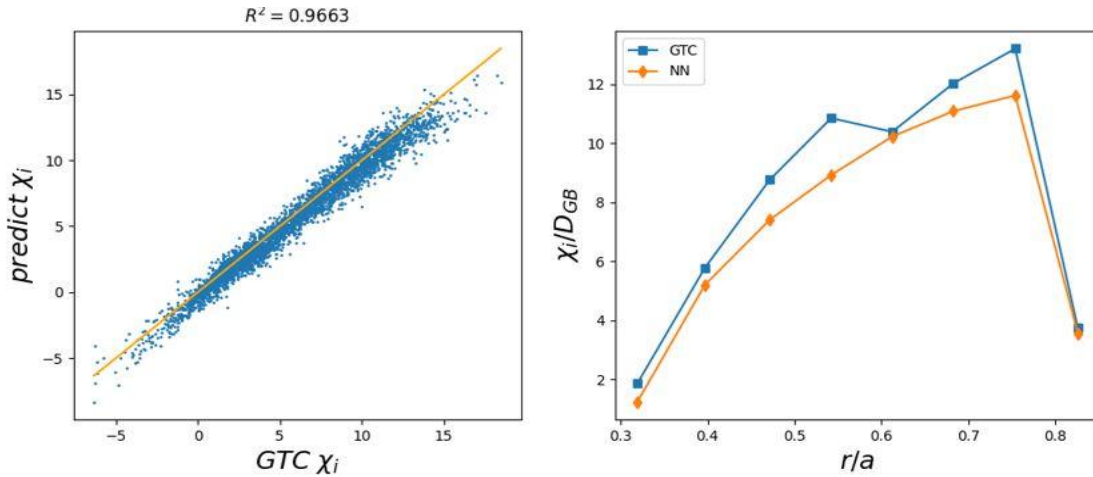


Figure 1: AI surrogate mode for turbulent transport using GTC data based on HL-2A parameters and deep learning

REFERENCES

- [1] Yang, D., Li, S., Xiao, Y. (*), Lin, Z., Disappearance of Dimits Shift in Realistic Fusion Reactor Plasmas with Negative Magnetic Shear, Nucl. Fusion, 64 106045 (2024)
- [2] Xiao, Y. (*), Lin, Z., Turbulent transport of trapped electron modes in collisionless plasmas, Phys. Rev. Letters, 103, 085004 (2009)

- [3] Zhao, H., Guo, Z., Wu, X., Xiao, Y.(*), Machine Learning for Electrostatic Plasma Turbulence Classification in Tokamaks, Plasma Sci and Tech., (accepted), (2025)
- [4] Zhao,H., Li, S., Xiao Y.(*), Surrogate model for turbulent transport with HL-2A tokamak parameters, Physics of Plasmas, (in preparation), (2025)