

Benchmark of NIMROD kinetic electron
closures with NEO

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0.1 First-order DKE in the (ξ, s) velocity variables

Hazeltine's form for the drift kinetic equation (ϵ, μ) :

$$\partial_t f + (\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} + v_D) \cdot \nabla f + \left(\mu \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} + e(\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} + \mathbf{v}_D) \cdot \mathbf{E} \right) \partial_{\epsilon} f = C + Q.$$

Using $\xi = v_{\parallel}/v$ and $s = v/v_0$ yields

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t f + (\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} + v_D) \cdot \nabla f - +(\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} + v_D) \cdot \left[\frac{1 - \xi^2}{2\xi} \nabla \ln B \partial_{\xi} + s \nabla \ln v_0 \partial_s \right] f + \\ \left(\frac{e}{2e_0 s^2} (\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} + \mathbf{v}_D) \cdot \mathbf{E} \right) (s \partial_s f + 2g(\xi) \partial_{\xi} f) = C + Q \end{aligned}$$

with general form for drift

$$v_D = \frac{\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}}{B^2} + \frac{e_0 s^2}{e B} \left[\mathbf{b} \times \left((1 - \xi^2) \nabla \ln B + 2\xi^2 \kappa - \frac{v_0 s \xi}{e_0 B} \nabla \times \mathbf{E} \right) + (1 - \xi^2) \frac{\mu_0 \mathbf{J}_{\parallel}}{B} \right].$$

0.2 1D FE basis in ξ

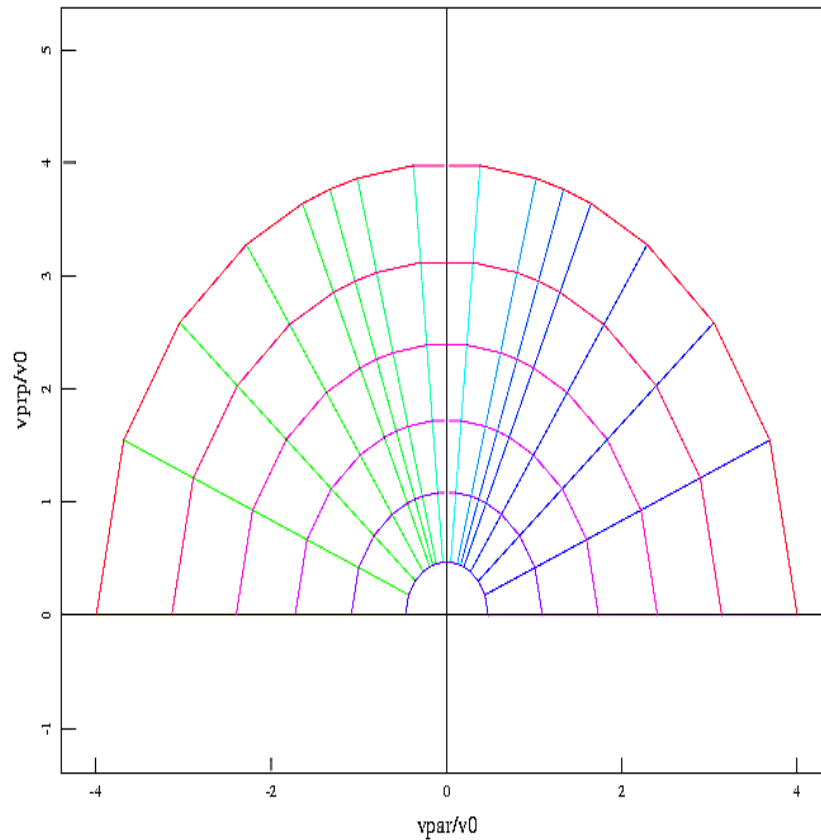
- Use 1D FE grid in pitch angle. In each element expand f as :

$$f(\mathbf{r}, t, \xi, s) = \sum_i f_i(\mathbf{r}, t, s) \phi_i(x)$$

- Modal (built from Legendre polynomials) and nodal (Lagrange and Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre) bases have been implemented.
- Test packing in pitch angle.
- Pitch-angle coefficients, f_i , computed on speed grid determined by Gauss-Laguerre ($s \in [0, \infty)$) or Gauss-Legendre ($s \in [0, s_{max}]$) quadrature.

0.3 Sample velocity grid

- 3 cells in ξ with 5th-order polynomials and 6 speed grid points = 96 unknowns. Naturally packed near trapped/passing boundary.



0.4 Coulomb collision operator for like particle collisions

- Full, linearized Coulomb collision operator taken from Ji and Held, PoP (2006) :

$$C^{aa} = \frac{1}{n_a v_{Ta}^{l+2k}} \sum_{lk} \frac{f_a^{(0)}}{\sigma_k^l} P_l(v_{||}/v) M_{||}^{lk}(\mathbf{r}, t) \nu_{aa}^{lk},$$

where $f_a^{(0)}$ is Maxwellian, ν_{aa}^{lk} 's are speed dependent collision frequency and

$$M_{||}^{lk} = \frac{l!}{(2l-1)!!} v_T^{l+2k} \int d\mathbf{v} L_k^{l+1/2}(s^2) s^l P_l(v_{||}/v) F$$

- Applying quadrature yields:

$$C^{aa} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-s_{is}^2} \sum_{js} w_{js} \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2} s_{js}^{l+1-2n} e^{s_{js}^2}}{s_{js}^{l+2}} \right) L_k^{l+1/2}(s_{js}^2) \sum_j \sum_{lk} \frac{l!}{(2l-1)!!} \frac{\nu_{aa}^{lk*}(s_{is})}{\sigma_k^l} P_{li} P_{lj} f_j(\mathbf{r}, t, s_{js}).$$

0.5 Coulomb collision operator for unlike particle collisions

- Full, linearized Coulomb collision operator taken from Ji and Held, PoP (2006) :

$$C^{aa} = \frac{1}{n_a v_{Ta}^{l+2k}} \sum_{lk} \frac{f_a^{(0)}}{\sigma_k^l} P_l(v_{||}/v) M_{||}^{lk}(\mathbf{r}, t) \nu_{aa}^{lk},$$

where $f_a^{(0)}$ is Maxwellian, ν_{aa}^{lk} 's are speed dependent collision frequency and

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0.6 Ordering for neoclassical transport calculations

Order $v_D \ll v_{\parallel}$ and assume weak (relative to Dreicer) electric field:

$$\partial_t f_0 + \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \nabla f_0 - \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \left[\frac{1 - \xi^2}{2\xi} \nabla \ln B \partial_{\xi} + s \nabla \ln v_0 \partial_s \right] f_0 = C(f_0)$$

which is satisfied by stationary Maxwellian with flux functions n and T .

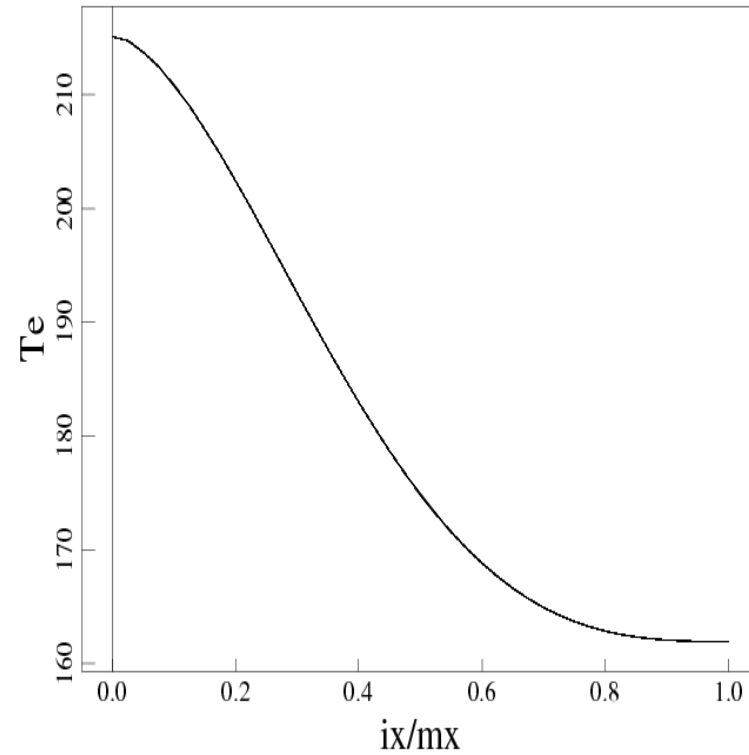
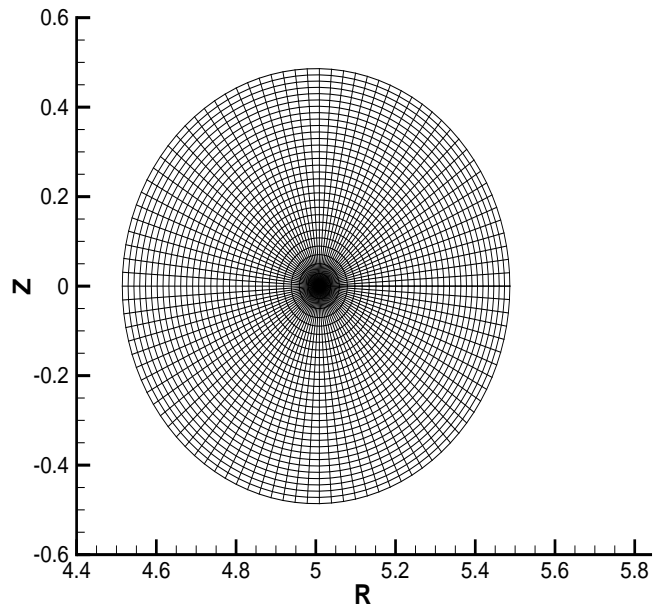
To next order :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t f_1 + \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \nabla f_1 - (\mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \nabla \ln B) \frac{1 - \xi^2}{2\xi} \partial_{\xi} f_1 = \\ -\mathbf{v}_D \cdot \nabla f_0 + s v_D \cdot \nabla \ln v_0 \partial_s f_0 - \frac{e}{2\epsilon_0 s} \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot (\mathbf{E}^A - \nabla \phi_1) \partial_s f_0 + C^{aa} + C^{ab} \end{aligned}$$

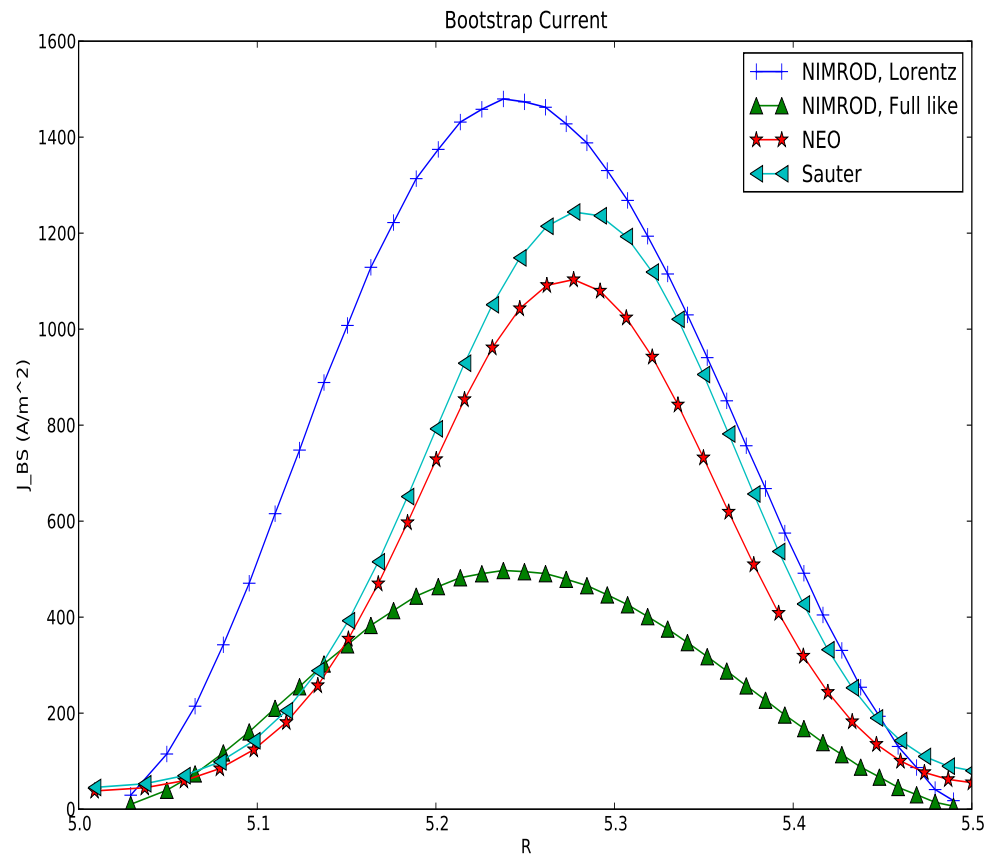
Using $g = f_1 - (e\phi_1/T_0)f_0$ yields (compare with Eq. 23 of Belli and Candy, 51 PPCF 2009):

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t g + \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \nabla g - \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \nabla \ln B \partial_{\xi} g &= \\ -\mathbf{v}_D \cdot \nabla f_0 + s v_D \cdot \nabla \ln v_0 \partial_s f_0 &+ \\ C^{aa} + C^{ab} - \frac{e}{2\epsilon_0 s} \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} \cdot \mathbf{E}^A \partial f_0 + (e f_0 / T_0) \partial_t \phi_1 & \end{aligned}$$

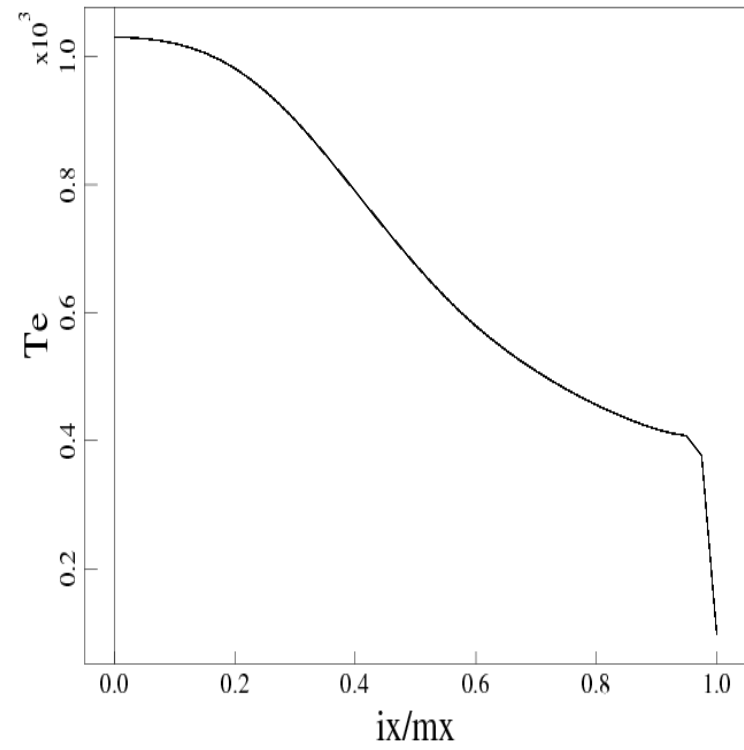
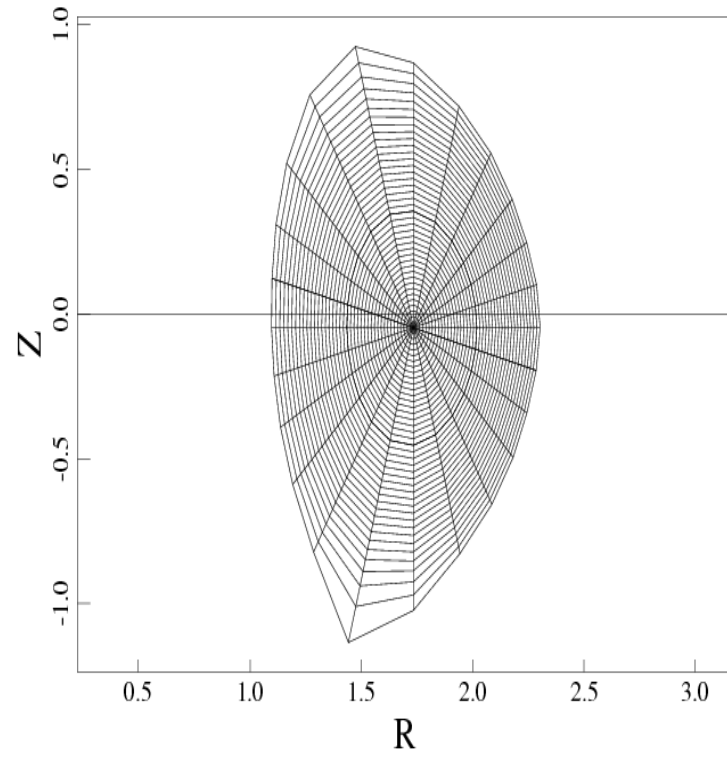
0.7 Test on high-aspect ratio Grad-Shafranov equilibrium



0.8 Preliminary Bootstrap Current Comparison



0.9 Test on DIII-D equilibrium 118897



0.10 Further discussion

- C^{aa} -> NIMROD uses full linearized Coulomb operator; NEO uses various reduced forms with the best being the “re-normalized” form of Hirshman and Sigmar .
- C^{ab} -> NIMROD and NEO use $C^{ei} = L_{ee} + \nu_{ei}(v)m_e v_{||} V_{||i} f_{0e}/T_{0e}$. Ion/electron operator, $C^{ie} = -s\xi R_{||ei} f_{0i}/p_{0i}$, also implemented in NIMROD with simultaneous solve for both distribution functions. Here $R_{||ei} = m \int d\mathbf{v} v_{||} C^{ei}$.
- Works well on a workstation, but velocity space resolution limited. Debugging on Franklin.