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Geodesic mode instability driven by electron and ion fluxes in tokamaks

Physics of Plasmas **22**, 114503 (2015); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4935383> A. G. Elfimov^{a)},  F. Camilo de Souza, and R. M. O. Galvão[View Affiliations](#)[View Contributors](#) PDF

ABSTRACT

The effect of the parallel electron current and plasma flux on Geodesic Acoustic Modes (GAM) in a tokamak is analyzed by kinetic theory taking into the account the ion Landau damping and diamagnetic drifts. It is shown that the electron current and plasma flow, modeled by shifted Maxwell distributions of electrons and ions, may overcome the ion Landau damping generating the GAM instability when the parallel electron current velocity is larger than the effective parallel GAM phase velocity of sidebands, $Rq\omega$. The instability is driven by the electron current and the parallel ion flux cross term. Possible applications to tokamak experiments are discussed. The existence of the geodesic ion sound mode due to plasma flow is shown.

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