Bootstrap Dependence on Plasma Profile Parameters

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Abstract

The bootstrap fraction, I_{bs}/I_p , and the shape of the bootstrap current density, $J_{bs}(r)$, can depend sensitively on the shape of the plasma profiles. Beginning with Hirshman's form for the bootstrap current density, and making a large aspect ratio expansion (proceeding two orders in the square root of the inverse aspect ratio, ϵ), we derive an expression for the bootstrap fraction of the form $I_{bs}/I_p = \epsilon^{1/2} \mathcal{B}_p C_{bs}(\alpha_n, \alpha_T; \alpha_J, Z, \epsilon)$ which depends explicitly on the peakedness of the density, temperature, and current. Examination of contours of constant I_{bs}/I_p in the space of α_n , α_T and consideration of the shape of the bootstrap current density help identify operating regimes for tokamaks which optimize bootstrap current drive.

I. Introduction

The possibility of using bootstrap current to decrease the external current drive requirements for tokamak reactors was first discussed by Bickerton, Connor, and Taylor¹ in 1971. Yet definitive evidence for substantial production of this current drive in tokamaks was not obtained until 1988 when its existence was confirmed in TFTR,² and shortly thereafter on other major tokamaks.³⁻⁵

The improved ability for tokamaks to explore plasma regimes with augmented bootstrap current drive has motivated a number of recent publications which calculate the size of the bootstrap current in tokamaks.⁷⁻¹² The present paper is a contribution which makes explicit the dependence of the bootstrap fraction I_{bs}/I_p on parameters α_n , α_T , and α_J describing the peakedness of the density, temperature, and equilibrium current profiles. In Sec. II, we derive an expression for $C_{bs}(\alpha_n, \alpha_T; \alpha_J, \epsilon, Z) \equiv (I_{bs}/I_p)/(\epsilon^{1/2}\beta_p)$, a coefficient which relates the bootstrap current fraction to poloidal beta, β_p , at a given inverse aspect ratio, ϵ , effective charge, Z , and equilibrium profile parameters α_n , α_T , and α_J . To obtain C_{bs} we perform a large aspect ratio expansion of Hirshman's collisionless form for the bootstrap current density¹⁷ and proceed through two orders in $\sqrt{\epsilon}$. Similar analyses were presented by DeVoto et al.⁸ and Pustovitov,⁹ who retained only the first order terms, and showed tabulated values of C_{bs} for selected profile parameters. However, the first order results can be shown to be inaccurate, especially when the density profile is flat so that $\alpha_p \approx \alpha_T$. Contour plots of C_{bs} as a function of α_n and α_T for fixed ϵ , Z , and various α_J are presented in Fig. 1 and provide a comprehensive survey of this bootstrap coefficient.

It is desirable to operate tokamak reactors at high plasma beta, β , as well as with a high bootstrap current fraction, I_{bs}/I_p . However, since the poloidal beta, β_p , at the Troyon limit is inversely proportional to β , and since the bootstrap fraction is proportional to β_p , the desires for high β and high I_{bs}/I_p compete with one another.^{13,14} It is natural, therefore, to consider the dependence of the bootstrap fraction I_{bs}/I_p on profile parameters at constant beta. To do this, we absorb the current profile dependence of β_p into the coefficient C_{bs} , express β as a fraction of the Troyon limit, and contour the resulting expression for I_{bs}/I_p at a fixed fraction of the beta limit (see Fig. 2).

The benefits of achieving high values of I_{bs}/I_p cannot be realized unless the shape of the bootstrap current profile is close to some desirable equilibrium current profile. Since the bootstrap current density, J_{bs} , vanishes at the magnetic axis, a positive seed current must be supplied near the plasma axis by an external current drive scheme if a stable equilibrium current profile is to be obtained. In addition, the vanishing of the bootstrap current at the plasma edge implies the existence of a maximum of J_{bs} at some intermediate radial location. It follows that if I_{bs}/I_p is close to unity, then, unless the turning point location for J_{bs} is near the magnetic axis, bootstrap “overdrive” in the region of the turning point is unavoidable (see Fig. 3), requiring the external current drive scheme to drive negative current near the bootstrap maximum. Clearly, “desirable” bootstrap current profiles which minimize the external current drive requirements will generally have maxima close to the magnetic axis. In Sec. III, we consider this alignment problem, and derive the dependence $x_t(\alpha_n, \alpha_T)$ of the location of the bootstrap turning point on profile parameters, so that contours of x_t can be superimposed on the contours of constant I_{bs}/I_p . Thus, in a single contour plot, such as Fig. 2, we obtain information on both the magnitude and shape of the bootstrap current profile.

Finally, we remark that Boozer^{15,16} has recently argued that poloidal flux production by tearing mode activity near the center of a bootstrap driven tokamak with $I_{bs}/I_p \approx 1$ may be sufficient to sustain the plasma current without the need for an externally driven seed current. Efficient dynamo action would also require a bootstrap profile, $J_{bs}(r)$, which peaks close to the magnetic axis.

II. The Bootstrap Fraction I_{bs}/I_p

Our starting point is Hirshman’s expression¹⁷ for the flux surface averaged parallel bootstrap current density, which is valid for zero collisionality, and arbitrary aspect ratio:

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle_{bs}}{R \langle \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \phi \rangle} = -\frac{Rp_e(\psi)}{D} \left\{ A_1 \left[\frac{1}{p_e} \frac{dp_e}{d\psi} + \frac{1}{Z} \frac{T_i}{T_e} \left(\frac{1}{p_i} \frac{dp_i}{d\psi} + \alpha_i \frac{1}{T_i} \frac{dT_i}{d\psi} \right) \right] \right. \\ \left. - A_2 \frac{1}{T_e} \frac{dT_e}{d\psi} \right\},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
f &= \frac{f_t}{(1 - f_t)}, \\
\alpha_i &= -\frac{1.172}{(1.0 + 0.462f)}, \\
A_1 &= f(0.754 + 2.21Z + Z^2) + f^2(0.348 + 1.24Z + Z^2), \\
A_2 &= f(0.884 + 2.07Z), \\
D &= 1.414Z + Z^2 + f(0.754 + 2.657Z + 2.0Z^2) \\
&\quad + f^2(0.348 + 1.243Z + Z^2).
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Here, p_e , p_i , T_e , and T_i denote the electron and ion pressure and temperature associated with each flux surface. derivatives are with respect to the poloidal flux within a given flux surface. Z is the effective plasma charge, and f is the ratio of trapped to circulating particles on a flux surface.

To derive an analytic expression for the total bootstrap current, we make the following simplifying assumptions:

$$(SA1) \quad T_e = T_i,$$

$$(SA2) \quad p_e = p_i,$$

(SA3) Assume a large aspect ratio expansion, use the model field variation $B = B_0(1 + r/R \cos \theta)^{-1}$ to calculate the trapped to circulating particle fraction, and retain the leading two orders in the square root of the local inverse aspect ratio to obtain¹⁷

$$f = 1.46\sqrt{r/R} + 2.40r/R. \tag{2}$$

(SA4) Assume that the temperature, pressure, and total toroidal current profiles have the parabolic form $\sigma = \sigma_0(1 - r^2/a^2)^{\alpha_\sigma}$, where $\sigma = T$, p , and J .

Then

$$\frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle}{R \langle \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \phi \rangle_{bs}} = \epsilon^{1/2} \beta_p \left(\frac{I_p}{\pi a^2} \right) \left[(\alpha_p Z_{p_1} + \alpha_T Z_{T_1}) g_1(\alpha_p, \alpha_J) + \epsilon^{1/2} (\alpha_p Z_{p_2} + \alpha_T Z_{T_2}) g_2(\alpha_p, \alpha_J) \right],$$

where

$$g_1 = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha_p + 1)x^{5/4}(1-x)^{\alpha_p-1} / \left[1 - (1-x)^{\alpha_J+1} \right],$$

$$g_2 = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha_p + 1)x^{3/2}(1-x)^{\alpha_p-1} / \left[1 - (1-x)^{\alpha_J+1} \right], \quad (3)$$

$$x = r^2/a^2, \quad (4)$$

and the coefficients Z_{p_1, p_2} and Z_{T_1, T_2} are cumbersome algebraic functions of the effective charge, Z , which are accurately represented by the rational approximations:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{p_1} &\approx \frac{13.93 + 7.89Z}{5.55Z - 1}, \\ Z_{T_1} &\approx -\frac{34.37 + 0.63Z}{8.11Z - 1}, \\ Z_{p_2} &\approx -\frac{5.11 - 1.17Z}{2.21Z - 1}, \\ Z_{T_2} &\approx \frac{12.51 - 0.34Z}{2.68Z - 1}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Defining the total bootstrap current by

$$I_{bs} = 2\pi \int_0^a \frac{\langle \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle_{bs}}{R \langle \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \phi \rangle} r dr, \quad (6)$$

leads to the desired expression for the total bootstrap fraction,

$$I_{bs}/I_p = \epsilon^{1/2} \beta_p C_{bs}. \quad (7)$$

Here

$$C_{bs}(\alpha_n, \alpha_T, \alpha_J, Z, \epsilon) = \left[(\alpha_p Z_{p_1} + \alpha_T Z_{T_1}) G_1 + \epsilon^{1/2} (\alpha_p Z_{p_2} + \alpha_T Z_{T_2}) G_2 \right],$$

$$G_1 = \frac{1}{4} (\alpha_p + 1) \int_0^1 dx x^{5/4} (1-x)^{\alpha_p-1} / \left[1 - (1-x)^{\alpha_J+1} \right],$$

$$G_2 = \frac{1}{4} (\alpha_p + 1) \int_0^1 dx x^{3/2} (1-x)^{\alpha_p-1} / \left[1 - (1-x)^{\alpha_J+1} \right], \quad (8)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_p &= \frac{8\pi^2 \langle p \rangle a^2}{\mu_0 I_p^2} \frac{1 + \kappa^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{4\pi^2 B^2 a^2 \beta}{\mu_0^2 I_p^2} \frac{1 + \kappa^2}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The strategy which leads from Eq. (1) to Eq. (7) involves specifying the total equilibrium current profile. The motivation behind this strategy is that MHD stability should determine the choice of desirable current profile. Once $J(r)$ is specified, the coordinate transformation $d\psi/dr = (1/r) \int r J(r) dr$ which converts flux derivatives to radial derivatives in Eq. (1) is easily determined. The result, expressed by Eq. (7), is a linear relation between the bootstrap current, I_{bs} , and poloidal beta. The difference,

$$J_{seed}(r) = J(r) - J_{bs}(r), \quad (10)$$

between the specified equilibrium current density and the calculated bootstrap current density defines a seed current which must be provided by some external current drive scheme. Depending on the shape of $J_{bs}(r)$, the external current drive requirements may or may not be severe. The minimization of these requirements is discussed further in Sec. III.

A different strategy for calculating the bootstrap current has been considered by Iacono and Bhattacharjee.¹² Rather than assuming a form for the equilibrium current profile, these authors assume that the external current drive scheme provides a constraint on the shape of the seed current profile,

$J_{seed}(r)$. Consistent with this constraint, the flux coordinate transformation is written as $d\psi/dr = (1/r) \int r(J_{seed} + J_{bs})dr$. As a result, the dependence of β_p on I_{bs} is quadratic, rather than linear.

The lowest order (ie., $\sqrt{\epsilon}$) terms in the expression Eq. (7) for I_{bs}/I_p were obtained previously by DeVoto et al.,⁸ who presented tabulated values of the G_1 integral for selected values of α_p and α_J . The reason for including the order ϵ correction in the present calculation is a cancellation between Z_{p1} and Z_{T1} which increases the relative importance of the order ϵ terms when the density profile is flat so that $\alpha_p \approx \alpha_T$. For example, when the effective charge has the value $Z = 2.0$, we obtain $Z_{p1} = +2.94$, $Z_{T1} = -2.34$; $Z_{p2} = -0.81$, $Z_{T2} = +2.71$. For the density, temperature, and current profile parameters $\alpha_n = 0.5$, $\alpha_T = 1.0$, and $\alpha_J = 1.0$, and for inverse aspect ratio $\epsilon = 0.22$, we find $C_{bs} = 0.54$. Of this total, 22 % is the order ϵ correction. On the other hand, for $\alpha_n = 0.1$, $\alpha_T = 1.0$, and $\alpha_J = 1.0$, $C_{bs} = 0.42$ out of which 45% is the order ϵ correction.

Figure 1 shows contour plots of the bootstrap coefficient C_{bs} as a function of α_n and α_T for various values of the current profile peakedness parameter, α_J . Here, the inverse aspect ratio and the plasma effective charge were fixed at the values $\epsilon = 0.22$ and $Z = 2.0$, respectively. For the assumed parabolic current profile, an exact expression can be obtained which relates α_J to the plasma internal inductance, ℓ_i . Thus,

$$\ell_i = \frac{2}{a^2 B_p^2(a)} \int_0^a r dr B_p^2 \quad (11)$$

$$= 2\Psi(\alpha_J + 2) - \Psi(2\alpha_J + 3) - \Psi(1), \quad (12)$$

where $\Psi(x)$ is a Di-gamma function.¹⁸ To avoid the necessity of a Table look-up, we may Taylor expand the Ψ functions about $\alpha_J = 0$ and obtain the following Pade approximation to the internal inductance of the current profile:

$$\ell_i \approx \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1 + 1.1918\alpha_J}{1 + 0.1918\alpha_J} \right]. \quad (13)$$

For the values of α_J used in the Figures, evaluation of ℓ_i gives

α_J	0	1	2	3
ℓ_i	0.50	0.92	1.22	1.45

It is also useful to relate the current profile parameter α_J to the shear parameter q^*/q_0 , where q_0 is the axis value of the safety factor, and q^* is the edge safety factor with definition

$$q^* = \frac{2\pi a^2 B}{\mu_0 R I_p} \left(\frac{1 + \kappa^2}{2} \right). \quad (14)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} q^*/q_0 &= J_0/\langle J \rangle \\ &= \alpha_J + 1. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

The dominant trends seen in Fig. 1 are (i) At constant α_J the coefficient C_{bs} increases with increasing density peakedness, and (ii) At constant α_n and α_T , C_{bs} decreases with increasing current peakedness. For example, with α_J and α_T fixed at nominal values 1.0 and 1.5, respectively, C_{bs} increases from 0.41 to 0.66 when α_n is increased from 0.0 to 1.0; and with α_n and α_T fixed at the values 0.5 and 1.5, respectively, C_{bs} decreases from 0.86 to 0.46 when α_J increases from 0.0 to 2.0.

For contour plotting the function I_{bs}/I_p , it is convenient to fold the profile dependence of poloidal beta into the profile dependence of C_{bs} . To do this we express the toroidal beta as a fraction, f , of the Troyon beta limit:

$$\beta = f \beta_{Troy}, \quad (16)$$

where

$$\beta_{Troy} = C_T \frac{\mu_0}{40\pi} \frac{I_p}{aB}, \quad (17)$$

and C_T is the Troyon coefficient. Then Eqs. (9), (14)-(17) give

$$\beta_p = 0.05 f C_T q_0 \epsilon^{-1} (\alpha_J + 1), \quad (18)$$

and the bootstrap fraction, Eq. (7), becomes

$$I_{bs}/I_p = \frac{0.05 f C_T q_0}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} (\alpha_J + 1) C_{bs}. \quad (19)$$

Figure 2 shows (solid) contours of the right hand side of Eq. (19) for selected values of α_J and the restriction $fC_Tq_0 = 3.5$. This corresponds to the evaluation of the bootstrap fraction at a nominal beta limit $f = 1$, with $q_0 = 1$ and a Troyon coefficient $C_T = 3.5$. However, since the right hand side of Eq. (19) is linear in $f q_0$, it follows that the value of I_{bs}/I_p can be read from Fig. 2 for any β or q_0 by application of a linear scaling. A discussion of the results shown in Fig. 2 is given in the next Section.

III. Bootstrap Current Alignment

To realize the potential benefits of operating with a bootstrap fraction I_{bs}/I_p near unity, the bootstrap profile must have an appropriate shape. For example, suppose we want to produce a (total) current density profile with a predetermined shape, such as shown in Fig. 3. If the dominant current drive is to be bootstrap, it would clearly be undesirable to generate a bootstrap current density, J_{bs} , which peaks near the plasma edge, as in Fig. 3(b). If this were so, some other means of current drive (such as lower hybrid, etc.,) would not only have to supply the current deficit at the plasma center to obtain the desired total profile, but also would have to provide reverse drive near the edge. A more desirable shape for the bootstrap current density is shown in Fig. 3(a), where the peak in J_{bs} is seen to occur near the plasma center. In this case, the additional current drive needs to be driven near the center, and is predominantly unidirectional. We would like to determine which regions of parameter space correspond to “desirable” bootstrap profiles in the sense of Fig. 3(a).

For the parabolic profiles of density, temperature, and current density assumed in this paper the bootstrap current density is constrained to vanish at the origin ($r = 0$), the plasma edge ($r = a$), and has a single maximum at some intermediate radial location. This implies that once the magnitude of the bootstrap current is specified, the shape of J_{bs} can be characterized by a single parameter, namely the location of the turning point, x_t , such that $dJ_{bs}(x_t)/dx = 0$. If the total bootstrap fraction is close to unity, we may identify small x_t as being desirable and large x_t as undesirable.

It is convenient to derive the dependence $x_t(\alpha_n, \alpha_T)$ on the profile parameters α_n and α_T for a given α_J so that contours of x_t can be superimposed on the plots of I_{bs}/I_p , thereby providing information on a single plot of both

shape and magnitude of the bootstrap current. The condition for x_t , i.e., that the derivative of the right hand side of Eq. (3) vanishes, can be easily derived. Inspection of Eq. (3) shows that if the order ϵ terms are neglected and α_J is fixed, then lines of constant x_t are parallel to lines of constant α_p . (Such lines would have slope $= -1$ in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). Including the order ϵ terms skews the alignment of x_t with α_p (because of the α_T dependence), particularly at small α_n when these terms are large. However the skewness is small, as can be seen in Fig. 2, where the dashed lines are exact contours of $x_t(\alpha_n, \alpha_T)$.

From Fig. 2 various trends are evident:

With regard to the magnitude of the bootstrap fraction at the beta limit,

(T1) For fixed density and temperature profile shapes, the value of I_{bs}/I_p increases with increasing α_J . This contrasts with the trend for C_{bs} , showing that the dependence of C_{bs} on the current profile shape is weaker than $\alpha_J + 1$. For example, with α_n and α_T fixed at the values 0.5 and 1.5, respectively, the bootstrap fraction at the nominal beta limit increases from $I_{bs}/I_p = 0.32$ to $I_{bs}/I_p = 0.51$ when α_J increases from 0.0 to 2.0.

(T2) For any fixed current profile shape, the value of the bootstrap fraction, I_{bs}/I_p , increases strongly with increasing α_n . The variation of I_{bs}/I_p with α_T is extremely weak. For example, consider a reference state with $\alpha_n = 0.5$, $\alpha_T = 1.5$, and $\alpha_J = 0.0$. Then increasing α_n from 0.5 to 1.0 increases I_{bs}/I_p from 0.32 to 0.40, while increasing α_T from 1.5 to 2.0 increases I_{bs}/I_p from 0.32 to 0.34. Similarly, if the reference state has a more peaked current profile with $\alpha_n = 0.5$, $\alpha_T = 1.5$, and $\alpha_J = 2.0$, then increasing α_n from 0.5 to 1.0 increases I_{bs}/I_p from 0.51 to 0.60, while increasing α_T from 1.5 to 2.0 keeps I_{bs}/I_p at the value 0.51.

With regard to the alignment of the bootstrap current profile,

(T3) For fixed current profile shape, the bootstrap profile peaks at smaller minor radius as α_p is increased, whether by increasing α_n or α_T .

(T4) For fixed α_p , the bootstrap current profile peaks at smaller minor radius as α_J is decreased.

It is interesting to note that the desire to minimize the external current drive requirements for tokamak reactors implies a desire for large I_{bs}/I_p and

small x_t . We are led, therefore, to a need to compromise between the trends (T1) and (T4)). Also, with regard to the possibility of an essentially 100% bootstrap driven tokamak, we note that the $I_{bs}/I_p = 1.0$ contour has not entered the plots even when α_J has been raised to 3.0. To obtain $I_{bs}/I_p \approx 1.0$, we need to assume $fC_T q_0 > 3.5$. Operating in the Second Stable region, where $fC_T > 3.5$, and $q_0 > 1.0$, offers a possible solution, as can be seen from Fig. 2 by the linear scaling of the contour levels of I_{bs}/I_p mentioned at the end of Sec. 2.

IV. Comparison of Results with a Fully Toroidal Equilibrium Calculation

In order to test how well the formulas Eq. (7) and Eq. (19) can reproduce the output from a fully toroidal MHD equilibrium code, we present a comparison of results in Table 1 and Figs. 4 and 5. Four MHD equilibria corresponding to different choices for the input profiles $J(\psi)$, $p(\psi)$ and $T(\psi)$ were computed using the Princeton JSOLVER equilibrium code. Each input profile is a two-parameter function of the poloidal flux, ψ , of the form

$$\sigma^{JS}(\psi) = \sigma(0)(1 - \psi^b)^a, \quad (20)$$

with $\sigma = J$, p , and T . The variation of b , in addition to a , allows tailoring of the profile shapes. For the calculations, the major radius, minor radius, elongation, and triangularity of the outermost flux surface were fixed at the values $R = 2.25$ m, $a = 0.5$ m, (i.e., $\epsilon = 0.22$), $\kappa = 2.0$, and $\delta = 0.5$. The toroidal magnetic field was $B_t = 3.3$ T. Once an equilibrium is calculated, the bootstrap current density on each flux surface is evaluated using Eq. (1) with $T_e = T_i$, $p_e = p_i$, and $Z = 2.0$. The current density is then integrated over the flux to yield the total bootstrap current, I_{bs} .

To evaluate the approximation given by Eq. (7) for the bootstrap fraction, values for the profile exponents α_σ ($\sigma = p$, T , and J) which provide the one-parameter description of the model profiles are needed. For this purpose, the identification

$$\alpha_\sigma = \sigma(0)/\langle\sigma(\psi)\rangle - 1 \quad (21)$$

is made, where the peak-to-average ratios on the right hand side are taken from the output of the equilibrium runs. In a cylinder, Eq. (21) is exact for

parabolic profiles of the form (SA4). The peak-to-average ratios, together with the poloidal beta, Troyon coefficient, central and edge safety factors, and total plasma current, are presented in Table 1. The value of C_{bs} given by Eq. (8) is also presented, using the prescription in Eq. (21). The final two columns of the Table show the bootstrap current fraction calculated by the equilibrium code, and the fraction obtained by evaluation of Eq. (7). In spite of the considerable variation in profile parameters, excellent agreement between the JSOLVER and model expressions for I_{bs}/I_p is found in all cases.

Figure 4 shows JSOLVER equilibrium plots of the equilibrium and bootstrap current profiles $J(\psi)/J(0)$, and $J_{bs}(\psi)/J_{bs}(0)$, respectively. The poloidal flux is normalized in the plots to equal unity at the plasma edge and zero at the magnetic axis. For comparison, Fig. 5 shows plots of the model profiles $J(x)/J_0 = (1 - x)^{\alpha_J}$ and $J_{bs}(x)/J_{bs}(0)$ obtained from Eq. (3). The chosen abscissa is $x = r^2/a^2$, so that, as in Fig. 4, the area under each curve is the total current. In addition to the agreement between the integrated bootstrap current profiles evidenced in Table 1, the model bootstrap profiles shown in Figs. 5(a), (c), and (d) show substantial agreement in shape with the MHD equilibrium profiles (see Figs 4(a), (c), and (d)). However, when comparing Figs. 4 and 5 we should be aware of the missing Jacobian factor $\partial\psi/\partial(x)$ which relates the abscissae, and that the one-parameter description of the model plasma profiles using Eq. (21) can sometimes lead to significant detailed differences. Thus, for example, the solid curves in Figs. 4(a) and 5(a) show a different radial dependence of the equilibrium and model J profile shapes, particularly near the plasma center. More apparent is the difference between the bootstrap current profiles shown in Figs. 4(b) and 5(b), where the equilibrium code evaluation of $J_{bs}(\psi)$ shows a much smaller value over a substantial region near the origin than does the model calculation. In this case, the difference can be traced to the fact that the two-parameter description of the pressure profile for the exact equilibrium calculation is poorly described by the single moment described by Eq. (21): The pressure gradient for the equilibrium calculation near the magnetic axis is considerably weaker than the single moment description predicts, leading to a substantially smaller local bootstrap current drive.

To illustrate the use of Figs. 1 and 2 for modifying operating scenarios, we note that although the range of bootstrap current fractions appearing in Table 1 spans a wide range (from approximately 0.4 to 1.0), the variation is

almost entirely due to differences in β_p . In fact, the bootstrap coefficient C_{bs} only varies between 0.43 and 0.47 for the four equilibrium scenarios. Now suppose that scenario (d) is perceived to be too aggressive from the point of view of β , yet the value of I_{bs}/I_p is required to be held fixed at approximately unity. Then we note from Fig. 1 that increasing the density peaking factor from $\alpha_n = 0.06$ to $\alpha_n = 0.5$ has the effect of increasing C_{bs} by 20%. Thus, β may be lowered by 20% at no expense to the bootstrap fraction if this modification to the density profile can be realized.

V. Summary

Contour plots of the bootstrap coefficient $C_{bs} = (I_{bs}/I_p)/\epsilon^{1/2}\beta_p$, and of the bootstrap current fraction I_{bs}/I_p evaluated at the first stability beta limit, have been presented in Figs. 1 and 2 as a function of density and temperature peaking factors α_n and α_T . These comprehensive plots are shown for fixed effective charge, Z , and inverse aspect ratio, ϵ , and various current profile peaking factors, α_J . The trends displayed in the figures can be used to identify possible operating regimes for tokamak reactors which make efficient use of large bootstrap fractions.

Major trends show that the values of C_{bs} and of I_{bs}/I_p at the beta limit increase strongly with increasing α_n . This clearly shows the benefit of being able to peak the density profile. Also, the location of the maximum of the bootstrap current density moves to smaller minor radius when the pressure profile is peaked, either by increasing α_n or by increasing α_T . Causing the bootstrap current to peak at small radius is important if the bootstrap current fraction is desired to be near unity, since otherwise a substantial bootstrap overdrive in the vicinity of the bootstrap maximum will result, and the requirements of an external current drive system which must in any event provide a plasma seed near the axis will be increased.

Finally, while the value of C_{bs} decreases with increasing α_J , the value of I_{bs}/I_p , at any fixed volume averaged beta, increases with increasing current peakedness. This desirable effect, however, competes with a trend for the location of the bootstrap maximum to move to larger minor radius when α_J is increased.

Despite the clear trends which emerge from the zero-dimensional analysis which gave rise to the Figs. 1 and 2, it is important to note that the attempt

to use the figures to optimize the use of large bootstrap current fractions has neglected the important issue of MHD stability. However, the above analysis should provide a guideline for a more thorough two-dimensional equilibrium and stability treatment.

Table 1: Profile Parameters and Bootstrap Fractions for Four Equilibria.

$\frac{n(0)}{\langle n \rangle}$	$\frac{T(0)}{\langle T \rangle}$	$\frac{p(0)}{\langle p \rangle}$	$\frac{J \cdot B(0)}{\langle J \cdot B \rangle}$	β_p	$\frac{\beta}{\beta_{Troy}} \S$	q_0	q_e	I_p [MA]	$C_{bs}^\dagger$	$I_{bs}^\dagger/I_p$	$I_{bs}^\ddagger/I_p$
1.86	3.82	4.83	3.98	0.64	0.64	0.71	10.79	1.21	0.44	0.42	0.40
1.41	2.08	2.37	2.43	0.65	0.94	1.02	5.95	1.50	0.48	0.53	0.52
1.49	2.57	3.14	3.41	0.89	0.85	1.02	11.59	1.00	0.43	0.69	0.63
1.06	3.65	3.72	2.09	1.33	1.13	2.01	10.67	0.89	0.47	0.96	1.02

§ Assumes $C_T = 3.5$ in Eq. (17).

† JSOLVER output.

‡ From Eq. (7).

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Figures

FIG. 1. Contour plots of the bootstrap coefficient C_{bs} (Eq. (7)) for various values of α_J , and fixed $\epsilon = 0.22$, $Z = 2.0$.

FIG. 2. Contour plots of the bootstrap fraction I_{bs}/I_p evaluated at the beta limit as a function of α_n and α_T for various values of α_J , and fixed $\epsilon = 0.22$, $Z = 2.0$.

FIG. 3. Schematic picture of “desirable” and “undesirable” bootstrap current profiles J_{bs} .

FIG. 4. Plots of the total equilibrium current density (solid), and bootstrap current density (dashed) calculated using the JSOLVER MHD equilibrium code. Abscissa is poloidal flux.

FIG. 5. Plots of the total current density, $J/J_0 = (1 - r^2/a^2)^{\alpha_J}$, and approximate bootstrap current density, J_{bs}/J_0 from Eq. (3).

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

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