

22.615, MHD Theory of Fusion Systems  
 Prof. Freidberg  
**Lecture 7: The First Order Grad–Shafranov Equation**

**First Order Equation**

The first order Grad–Shafranov equation is given by

$$\nabla^2 \psi_1 + \left[ \mu_0 R_0^2 \frac{d^2 p}{d\psi_0^2} + R_0^2 \frac{d^2}{d\psi_0^2} B_0 B_2 \right] \psi_1 = -2\mu_0 R_0 \frac{dp}{d\psi_0} r \cos \theta + \frac{1}{R_0} \frac{d\psi_0}{dr} \cos \theta$$

**Simplify**

This equation is simplified as follows:

$$1. \quad B_\theta = \frac{1}{R_0} \frac{d\psi_0}{dr}, \quad \psi_0 = \psi_0(r)$$

$$2. \quad R_0 \frac{dp}{d\psi_0} = \frac{R_0}{\psi_0} \frac{dp}{dr} = \frac{1}{B_\theta} \frac{dp}{dr}$$

$$3. \quad RHS = \left[ B_\theta - \frac{2\mu_0}{B_\theta} r \frac{dp}{dr} \right] \cos \theta$$

$$4. \quad \left[ \right] = R_0^2 \frac{1}{R_0 B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} \left[ \frac{1}{R_0 B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} (\mu_0 p + B_0 B_2) \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{1}{B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} r B_\theta \right) = -\frac{1}{B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} r B_\theta \right)$$

$$5. \quad \nabla^2 \psi_1 - \frac{1}{B_\theta} \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} r B_\theta \right) \psi_1 = \left[ -\frac{2\mu_0 r}{B_\theta} \frac{dp}{dr} + B_\theta \right] \cos \theta$$

**Solve**

This equation is solved as follows:

1. Note that all the forcing terms are proportional to  $\cos \theta$
2. a. The boundary conditions for a *circle* of radius  $b$  are given by

$$\psi(b, \theta) = \text{const} = \psi_0(b) + \psi_1(b, \theta)$$

$$\psi_1(b, \theta) = 0$$

b. For an ellipse  $r = b[1 + \delta \cos 2\theta]$ . Assume  $\delta \sim \epsilon \ll 1$ .

$$\psi[b + b\delta \cos 2\theta] \approx \psi_0(b) + b\psi_0' \delta \cos 2\theta + \psi_1(b, \theta) + \dots$$

$$\psi_1(b, \theta) = -b\psi_0' \delta \cos 2\theta \quad \text{a second harmonic is required in the solution}$$

3. Thus, for a circular boundary with  $\cos \theta$  driving terms we can write

$$\psi(r, \theta) = \psi_0(r) + \psi_1(r) \cos \theta \quad \text{explicit } \cos \theta \text{ dependence}$$

$$\psi_1(b) = 0$$

4. Simplify the  $\psi_1$  equation

$$\frac{1}{r}(r\psi_1')' - \frac{\psi_1}{r^2} - \frac{1}{B_\theta} \left[ B_\theta'' + \frac{B_\theta'}{r} - \frac{B_\theta}{r^2} \right] \psi_1 = B_\theta - \frac{2\mu_0 r \rho'}{B_\theta}$$

$$\frac{1}{r}(r\psi_1')' - \frac{(rB_\theta')'}{rB_\theta} \psi_1 = B_\theta - \frac{2\mu_0 r}{B_\theta} \rho'$$

5. Note

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ rB_\theta^2 \left( \frac{\psi_1}{B_\theta} \right)' \right]' &= (rB_\theta \psi_1' - r\psi_1 B_\theta')' \\ &= B_\theta (r\psi_1')' + rB_\theta' \psi_1' - \psi_1 (rB_\theta')' - r\psi_1 B_\theta'' \end{aligned}$$

$$6. \quad \frac{d}{dr} \left( rB_\theta^2 \frac{d}{dr} \frac{\psi_1}{B_\theta} \right) = rB_\theta^2 - 2\mu_0 r^2 \frac{d\rho}{dr}$$

$$7. \quad \frac{d}{dr} \frac{\psi_1}{B_\theta} = \frac{1}{rB_\theta^2} \int_0^r \left( yB_\theta^2 - 2\mu_0 y^2 \frac{d\rho}{dy} \right) dy$$

regularity at  $r = 0$

$$8. \quad \psi_1 = -B_\theta \int_r^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2} \int_0^x \left( yB_\theta^2 - 2\mu_0 y^2 \frac{d\rho}{dy} \right) dy$$

9. This expression for  $\psi_1$  represents the toroidal correction to the equilibrium solution.

## Consequences of Toroidicity

1. The main consequence is an outward shift of the flux surfaces.
2. From  $\psi_1$  it is straightforward to calculate  $\Delta(r)$  the flux surface shift.
3. a.  $\psi(r, \theta) = \psi_0(r) + \psi_1(r) \cos \theta = \text{const.}$

b. Assume the flux surfaces are of the form  $r = r_0 + r_1(r_0, \theta)$ .

c. Then  $\psi_0(r_0) + \psi_0'(r_0) r_1 + \psi_1(r_0) \cos \theta = \text{const.}$

d. Solve for  $r_1$

$$r_1(r, \theta) = -\frac{\psi_1(r) \cos \theta}{\psi_0'(r)} = \Delta(r) \cos \theta$$

$$\Delta(r) \equiv -\frac{\psi_1(r)}{\psi_0'(r)}$$

4. The equation for the flux surfaces is given by  $r = r_0 + \Delta(r_0) \cos \theta$ , assuming  $\Delta \ll r_0$
5. a. Note that  $(x - \Delta)^2 + (y)^2 = r_0^2$  is the equation of a shifted circle, equivalent to the equation for  $r$ .

b. Let

$$x = r \cos \theta \quad y = r \sin \theta$$

$$r^2 - 2r\Delta \cos \theta \approx r_0^2$$

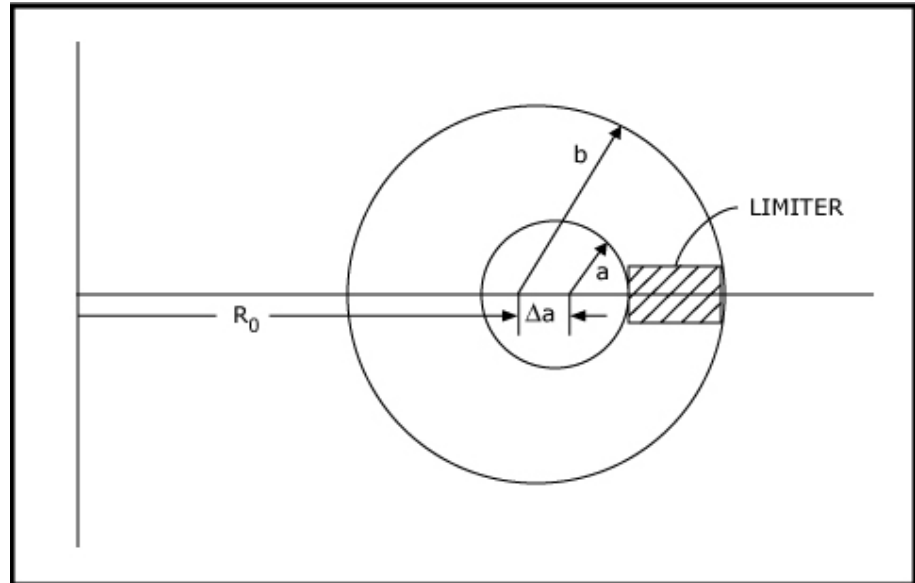
$$r \left[ 1 - \frac{\Delta}{r} \cos \theta \right] \approx r_0$$

$$r \approx r_0 + \Delta \cos \theta$$

6. The flux surfaces are shifted circles, with shift  $\Delta = -\psi_1/\psi_0'$

## The Shafranov Shift

1. Calculate the Shafranov shift  $\Delta_a \equiv \Delta(a)$  where  $a$  is the last surface to carry current, i.e., the edge of the plasma.

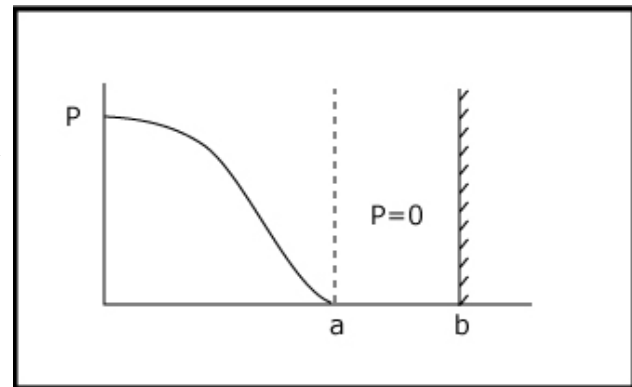


2. Simplify  $\psi_1(a)$  given by

$$\psi_1(a) = -B_\theta(a) \int_a^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2} \int_0^x \left( yB_\theta^2 - 2\mu_0 y^2 \frac{dp}{dy} \right) dy$$

3. Consider the term  $T_1$ , noting that  $a < x < b$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a. } -\mu_0 \int_0^x 2y^2 p' dy &= -\mu_0 \int_0^a 2y^2 p' dy \\ &= -2\mu_0 y^2 p \Big|_0^a + 4 \int_0^a \mu_0 p y dy \\ &= \frac{\mu_0^2 I^2}{4\pi^2} \beta_p \\ &= a^2 B_\theta^2(a) \beta_p \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{b. } T_1 = -a^2 B_\theta^3(a) \beta_p \int_a^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2}$$

$$\text{c. For } x > a \quad B_\theta = B_\theta(a) \frac{a}{x}$$

- d. Therefore

$$T_1 = -B_\theta(a) \beta_p \int_a^b x dx$$

$$= -\frac{B_\theta(a) \beta_p b^2}{2} \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2}\right)$$

4. Consider the term  $T_2$

a. Separate the integral into two parts

$$T_2 = -B_\theta(a) \int_a^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2} \int_0^x yB_\theta^2 dy$$

$$= -B_\theta(a) \int_a^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2} \left[ \int_0^a yB_\theta^2 dy + \int_0^x yB_\theta^2 dy \right]$$

b.  $T_{2b}: \int_a^x yB_\theta^2 dy = B_\theta^2(a) a^2 \int_a^x \frac{dy}{y} = a^2 B_\theta^2(a) [\ln x - \ln a]$

c. Substitute

$$T_{2b} = -B_\theta(a) x [\ln x - \ln a]$$

$$= -B_\theta(a) \left[ -\left(\frac{b^2 - a^2}{2}\right) \ln a + \frac{b^2}{2} \ln b - \frac{b^2}{4} - \frac{a^2}{2} \ln a + \frac{a^2}{4} \right]$$

$$= B_\theta(a) \frac{b^2}{4} \left[ 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} - 2 \ln \frac{b}{a} \right]$$

d.  $T_{2a} = -B_\theta(a) \int_a^b \frac{dx}{xB_\theta^2} \int_0^a yB_\theta^2 dy$

e. Introduce the normalized internal inductance per unit length  $l_i$ .

f. This follows from

$$\frac{1}{2} L_i I^2 = \int_p \frac{B_\theta^2}{2\mu_0} dr$$

$$= (2\pi R_0)(2\pi) \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \int B_\theta^2 r dr$$

$$= \frac{2\pi^2 R_0}{\mu_0} \int_0^a B_\theta^2 r dr$$

g. Define  $l_i \equiv \frac{L_i}{2\pi R_0} / \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi}$  the internal inductance per unit length normalized to  $\mu_0/4\pi$

h. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^a B_\theta^2 r \, dr &= \left( \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi^2 R_0} \right) \frac{1}{2} (2\pi R_0 l_i) \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{2\pi a B_\theta(a)}{\mu_0} \right]^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} a^2 B_\theta^2(a) l_i \end{aligned}$$

i.  $l_i$  is a profile parameter related to the width of the  $J_\theta$  profile

j. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T_{2a} &= -B_\theta(a) \frac{l_i}{2} \int_a^b x \, dx \\ &= -B_\theta(a) \frac{l_i}{4} b^2 \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

5. Combine these terms to evaluate  $\Delta_a$

a.  $\Delta_a = -\frac{\psi_1(a)}{\psi_0(a)} = -\frac{\psi_1(a)}{R_0 B_\theta(a)}$

b. Then

$$\Delta_a = -\frac{1}{R_0 B_\theta(a)} \left[ -\frac{B_\theta(a) \beta_p b^2}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right) + B_\theta(a) \frac{b^2}{4} \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} - 2 \ln \frac{b}{a} \right) - B_\theta(a) \frac{b^2 l_i}{4} \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right) \right]$$

c. The Shafranov shift is given by

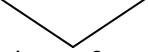
$$\frac{\Delta_a}{b} = \frac{b}{2R_0} \left[ \left( \beta_p + \frac{l_i}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right) + \ln \frac{b}{a} \right]$$

### Properties of the Shafranov Shift

1.  $\frac{\Delta_a}{b} \sim \frac{b}{R_0} \sim \epsilon \ll 1$ . The shift is small, implying that our approximations are consistent.

2.  $\frac{\Delta_a^{(1)}}{b} \propto \beta_p$ . This is the outward shift due to the tire tube force and the  $1/R$  force.

$$3. \frac{\Delta_a^{(2)}}{b} \propto \underbrace{\frac{I_i}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right)}_{\text{internal field}} + \underbrace{\ln \frac{b}{a} - \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \right)}_{\text{external field}}$$

  
 hoop force

This is the shift due to the hoop force.