The effect of diamagnetic drifts on the dynamics of turbulent transport

D. E. Newman¹, R. Sanchez², Debasmita Samaddar³,¹

¹ Department of Physics, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, USA
² Fusion Energy Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN, USA
³ ITER, Cadarache, France

Recently, much progress has been made toward understanding the fundamental dynamics of turbulent transport in the presence of sheared flows. The insights have come from following Lagrangian trajectories using both gyrokinetic simulations of ITG turbulence[1] and fluid models of drift-wave turbulence[2]. In this work, using the same tools, the impact of simple diamagnetic drifts on the dynamics of the transport is investigated using numerical simulations of 2D-turbulence in slab geometry with the BETA code. By itself, a diamagnetic drift velocity can have a significant impact on the transport dynamics both with and across flow. However when coupled with a sheared flow additional dynamics are observed which could lead to interesting profile control tools if separately controlled. These new dynamics are in part the result of coherent structure formation localized to particular regions of the flows. The transport dynamics and possible uses will be discussed.