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Density Fluctuations in Microturbulence and High β MHD in DIII-D Plasmas¹ M. JAKUBOWSKI, R.J. FONCK, G.R. MCKEE, University of Wisconsin, Madison, C.M. GREENFIELD, General Atomics, R.V. BRAVENEC, University of Texas, Austin — Spatial and temporal behavior of plasma turbulence and MHD in DIII-D plasmas is characterized with density fluctuation measurements from the beam emission spectroscopy (BES) diagnostic. These localized measurements have allowed for determination of radial mode structure of neo-classical 3/2 and 2/1 modes in high β plasmas and the dependence of this structure on plasma shape, density, and q profile. The local microturbulence characteristics in DIII-D L-mode discharges appear similar to those observed in other high temperature tokamaks with high amplitudes at the edge that decrease rapidly to of order 1% or less towards the core. Present efforts are concentrating on using the newly expanded BES system and measurements of the local electric field in DIII-D to definitively determine the direction of propagation of the slow moving “ion mode” in the plasma core region. These measurements, plus determination of the $S(k_r)$ and $S(k_\theta)$ spectra, are being used to compare the background turbulence seen in DIII-D to theoretical predictions.

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