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Preliminary results of modeling neutral beam injection on NSTX-U using neural networks (NubeamNet)

Dan Boyer, Stan Kaye

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Predictive models that run in near- to faster-than- real-time will enable improved control and scenario development algorithms

- Neural networks have recently been developed for approximating the results of computationally intensive calculations

 Meneghini NF 2017, 2014 (TGLF, EPED), Citrin NF 2015 (QuaLiKiz)
- NUBEAM often takes 30% or more of TRANSP time
 - Lower fidelity settings can speed up results but results become noisy
- Can a neural network be trained to reproduce the result of NUBEAM?
- Potential applications
 - Fast but realistic beam calculations for control-oriented simulations or use in real-time predictive control algorithms
 - Fast predictions to optimize neutron rate matching in TRANSP runs
 - Prediction of fast ion pressure profile for kinetic EFITs
 - Fast enough iterations for real-time implementation
 - Control room tools for P.O or S.L. to explore beam timing options prior to shot

Inputs, outputs, and topology of the neural network model



A data set was prepared based on the TRANSP runs performed between NSTX-U shots (BEAST)

- Expanded the dataset with a scan of Z_{eff}, anomalous fast ion diffusivity, and edge neutral density
 - Randomly selected ~2000 cases from the grid scan to actually run for initial testing
 - Used low fidelity settings for speed for initial testing
 - Results are noisy but NN can smooth them
- Projected profiles onto basis functions
 - Reduced 20 grid points per profile to 4 mode coefficients per profile
 - Reduces training time, also results in smooth-in-x profiles
- Assigned 80 of ~300 shots in the dataset to the 'testing' data set
 - No data from any simulations of these shots is used in training the model
- Total of ~200k time slices

The beam slowing down time causes NUBEAM results to depend on time history...

- Simplest approach to modeling:
 - Ignore time history, assume steady-state, only use instantaneous values of inputs
 - Probably not always suitable for planned applications
 - e.g., Beam modulation during control
- The **next simplest** approach:
 - Expand inputs with **filtered beam powers**
 - Multiple time constants to account for changes in slowing down time
 - Not accounting for time history of plasma parameters
 - Fewer inputs, fewer nodes to train on
 - Plasma parameters evolve fairly slowly compared to slowing down time and beam modulation time

Time traces of NN compare well with NUBEAM for shots in testing data set



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Neural network modeling of NUBEAM on NSTX-U, M.D. Boyer, December 5, 2017

Profiles show good agreement between NUBEAM and neural network prediction



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Time traces compare fairly well during beam blip shots in testing data set



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Regression plots for training and testing data set show good fitting and generalization





Testing

1e14

 10^{3}

 10^{2}

10¹

10⁵

 10^{4}

 10^{3}

10²

10¹

 10^{0}

Neural net enables rapid scans of parameters (<<1s per shot)



Neural network modeling of NUBEAM on NSTX-U, M.D. Boyer, December 5, 2017

Testing on a higher fidelity run that was not included in training data set



Example application: Fitting free/uncertain parameters to match measured neutron rate

- One of the steps in interpretive TRANSP runs is to match the predicted and measured neutron rates
 - Find values of fast ion diffusivity, external neutral density, and/ or $Z_{\rm eff}$ since these are not well constrained
- Typically done with scans
 - Parameters can be time-varying so its hard to match the neutron rate at all times
- Recently added a feedback algorithm in TRANSP
 - Adjusts fast ion diffusivity based on error in neutron rate prediction
 - -Automates the matching process
 - Useful for between shots (BEAST) runs

Fast execution time of neural network enables optimization of free parameters – could provide 'feedforward' for AFID controller

- Find fast ion diffusivity profile, edge neutral density, and/or Z_{eff} that minimizes neutron matching error
 - More free parameters than errors to minimize
 - Solution: Regularize by weighting ensemble uncertainty
 - i.e., find the solution that best matches neutron rate while staying in the range of inputs that the model has confidence in



Future work

- More data, more devices...
 - Generate more runs, use higher fidelity runs, poach existing runs...
 Apply approach to DIII-D, KSTAR, etc.
- w/ S. Sabbagh and Columbia KSTAR collaboration:
 - Use NubeamNet prediction of fast ion pressure profile in kinetic EFIT iterations to reduce error bars while avoiding the need for TRANSP/ NUBEAM in the loop
- Develop/test/deploy AFID fitting for routine use with TRANSP runs
- Implement NubeamNet in PCS for real-time applications
 - Real-time kinetic EFIT, profile control
 - Power balance monitoring

Discussion

- Other outputs of NUBEAM that would be useful to include?
- Suggested settings for high fidelity scans?
- Other potential applications of the model or modeling approach?
 - -RF codes?