

US MHD Control workshop: 23-25 Nov 2008, Austin, Texas.

The New EU MHD Topical Group: Complementarity and collaboration with the US programme on MHD

Richard Buttery ⁽¹⁾ and Piero Martin ⁽²⁾

(1) UKAEA Culham Science Centre, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3DB, UK

(2) Consorzio RFX – Associazione Euratom-ENEA per la Fusione, Padova, Italy

Thanks to many colleagues for providing input and information.

New structure in the EU Fusion Programme

- European Fusion Development Agency seeks to boost coordination in the EU programme:
 - Joint exploitation and development of facilities and common tools
 - *More centrally coordinated projects with 'calls' and 'tasks'*
 - New topical groups set up:
 - **Diagnostics:** T. Donne, M Beurskens, A Murari
 - **Transport:** C. Hidalgo, C. Angioni, C. Bourdelle
 - **MHD:** P. Martin, R. Buttery
 - **Heating and Current drive:** A. Becoulet
 - **Materials:** S. Dudarev, M. Rieth
 - ...and task forces continue:
 - **ITM:** P. Strand, L.G. Erickson, M. Romanelli
 - **PWI:** J. Roth, E. Tsitrone

These “support EFDA” in coordinating implementation of its programme

EFDA missions

Goal: Development of plasma scenarios for ITER and DEMO

Missions:

- Burning plasmas => Fast Particles
- Reliability of tokamak operation => Disruptions, Tearing Modes
- Compatibility of plasma scenarios with first wall => ELMs
- Long pulse and steady state operation => RWMS
- Predicting performance (All MHD)

*Basis of 5 working groups
set up under the MHD TG*

Theory & integrated modelling

=> MHD: basic understanding of key phenomena

The EU MHD* Topical group

*actually “Plasma Stability and Control” group

- Aim to focus on “**value added**” activities:
 - Getting experts together to identify priorities, avoid gaps & plan complementary work
 - Joint studies – codes and experiments
 - Knowledge base and advice to EFDA
 - Forming consensus on issues and needs
 - Strategic focus & **reference point for collaborations**

In this talk we outline research priorities, and ideas for complementary or collaborative work with our US partners...

- **Consider as tool to implement and enhance ITPA activities**

Contents

Summarise work under our five groups:

- Disruptions
- Fast Particle
- Tearing
- ELMs
- RWMs & high β



Which aspects benefit from joint or complementary studies?

- *Especially: identify new initiatives*

Are there areas where closer joint work or projects might be useful?

- Outputs:
 - We should try to pick out **useful joint studies** on above themes

Contents

Summarise work under our five groups:

- **Disruptions:** Valeria Riccardo (UK), Gabriella Pautasso (IPP)
- **Fast Particle:** Simon Pinches (UK), Phillip Lauber (IPP)
- **Tearing:** Patrick Maget (CEA), Valentin Igochine (IPP)
- **ELMs:** Andrew Kirk (UK), Marina Becoulet (CEA)
- **RWMs & high β :** Tim Hender (UK), Paolo Buratti (ENEA)

- **Outputs:**
 - We should try to pick out **useful joint studies** on above themes
 - *Flag areas to pursue with me or above people, and we will set up relevant contacts*

***Number 1 MHD issue
to push in Europe***

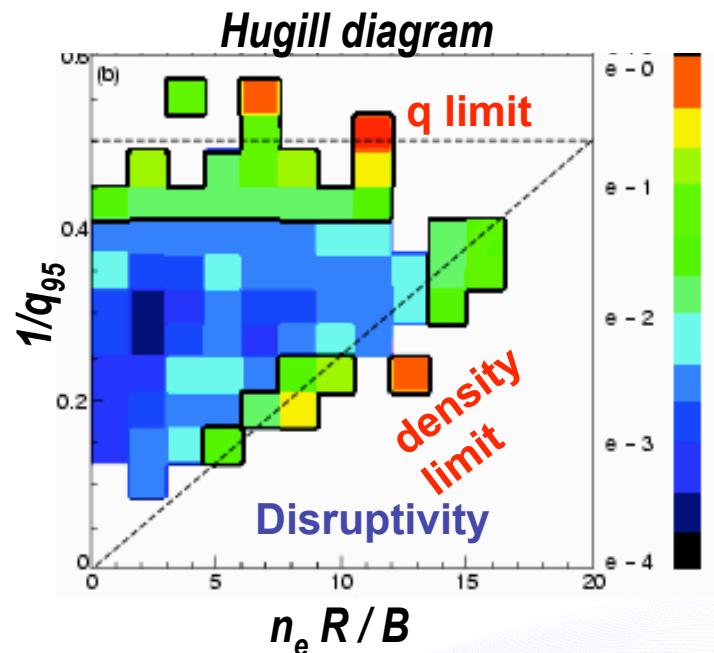
1. Disruptions

EU focus on:

- Anticipating/detecting disruptions
- Simulating and predicting VDEs & halos
- Runaway generation, including with massive gas
- Imaging & impurity diagnosis
- Disruption database

Physics Based Disruption Avoidance

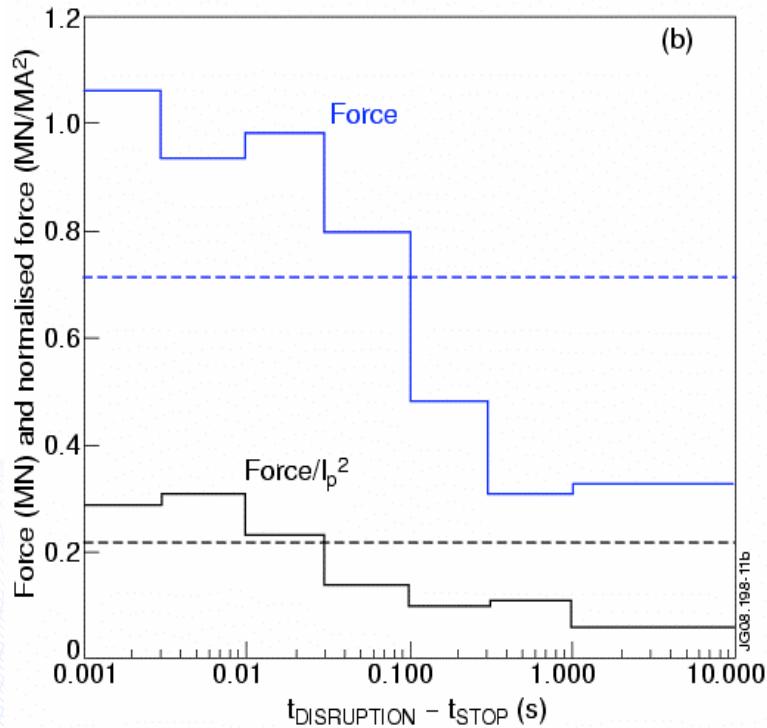
- JET's best disruption avoidance rate is 6%
 - With all shots made in advance and T used
 - Rate increases near operational limits →



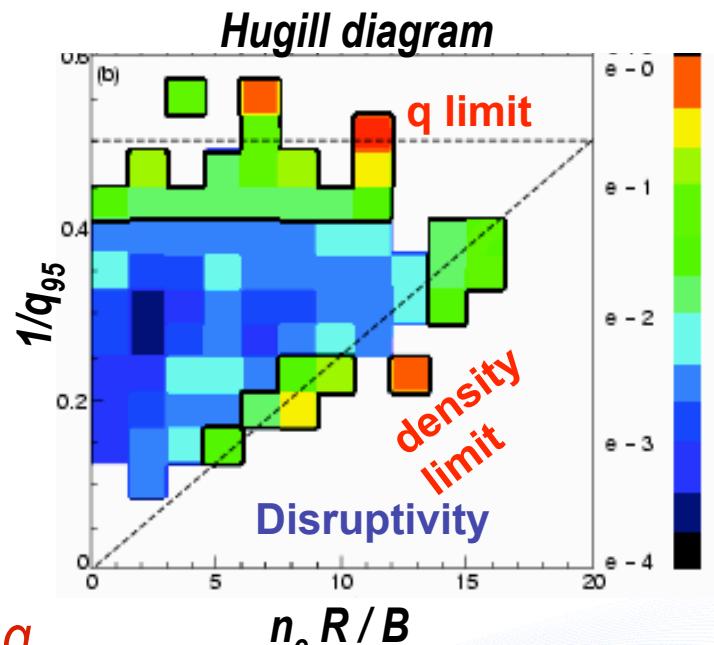
Physics Based Disruption Avoidance

- JET's best disruption avoidance rate is 6%
 - With all shots made in advance and T used
 - Rate increases near operational limits →

Key is detecting event in time:



- *Allow time to mitigate*
- *Simple sensing & mitigation techniques can be applied*



Need to test detection or anticipation methods on various devices:

- *Physics based approaches seem most promising*

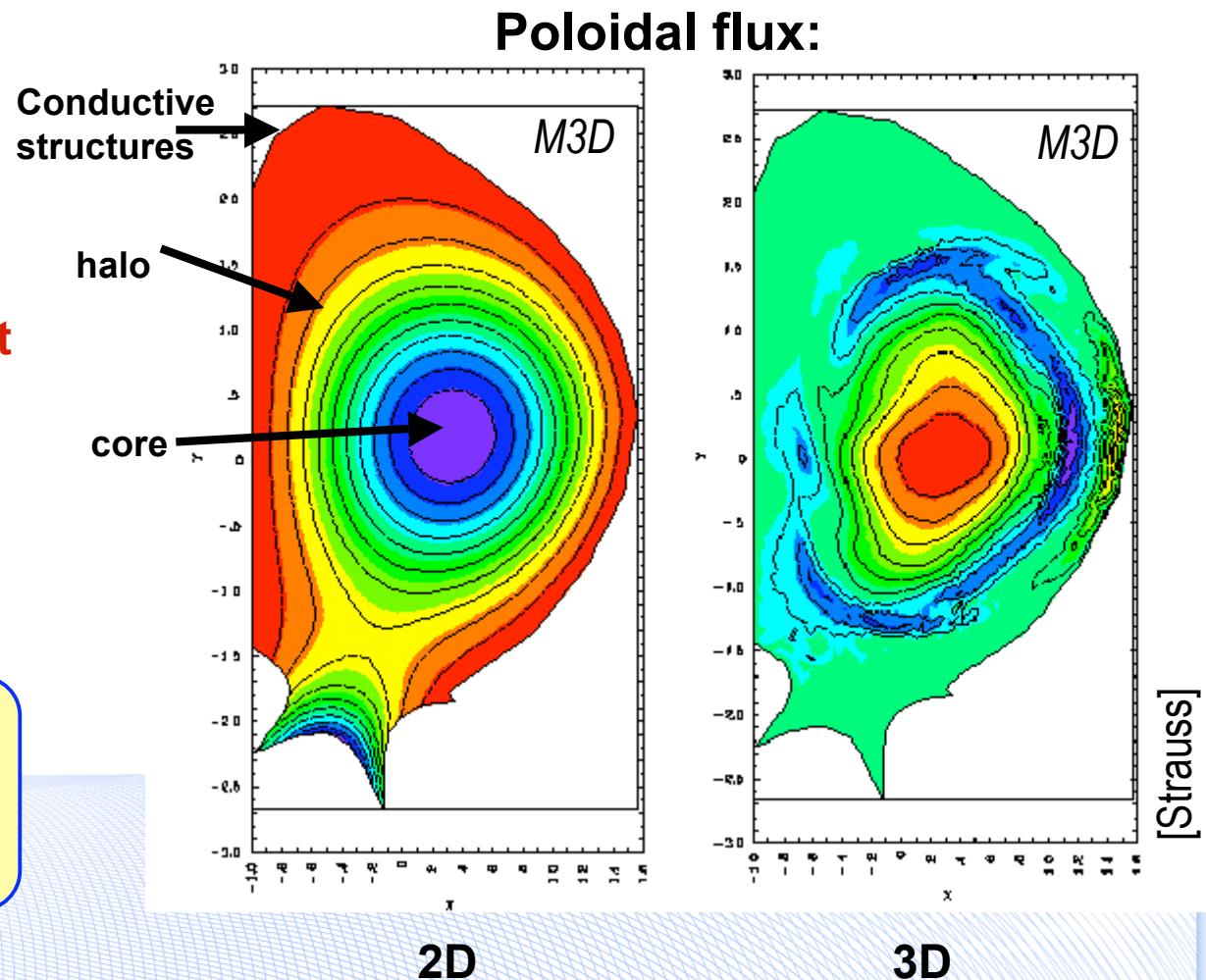
Halo current and VDE modelling

Halo currents give rise to main forces on in-vessel components

- Extent of region affected
- Average and peak current densities

→ *Impacts engineering design and depends on simulation assumptions*

Joint EU/US work on 3D simulations (M3D) has started and we are keen for this to continue and expand.

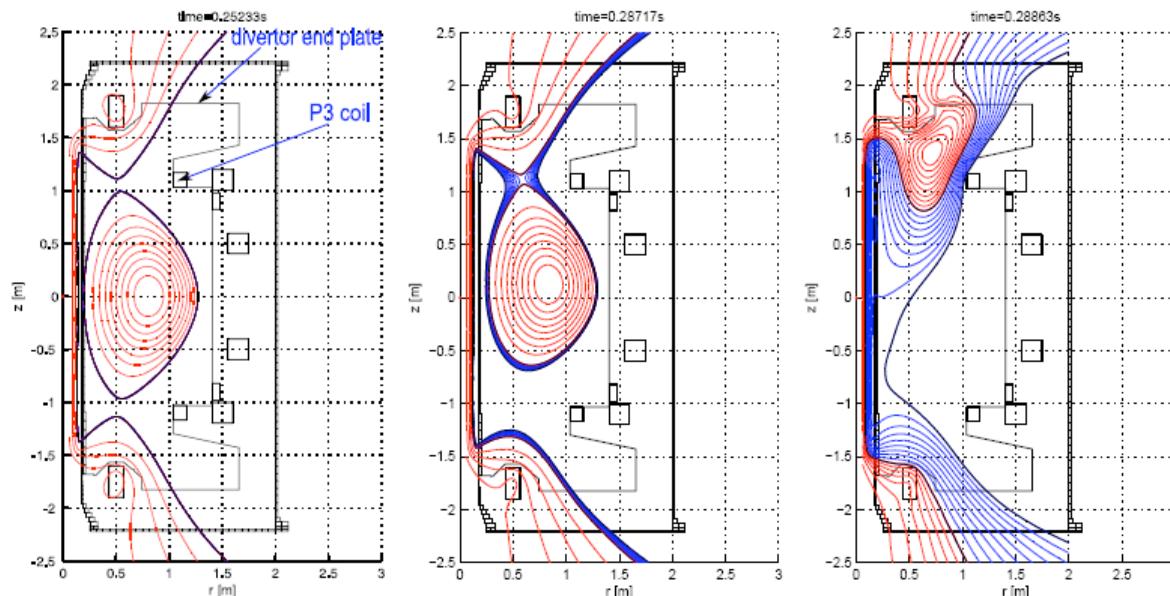


VDE simulation

EFDA MHD – short term plans

Validate further the use of DINA, by carrying out simulations of ASDEX-Upgrade disruptions and compare them with observations

(Also MAST VDEs are being simulated with DINA)



EFDA – long term plans

Develop EU codes able to simulate disruptions and fitting within the suite of codes developed by ITM – in stages:

- Axisymmetric VDE with halo model
- Include impurities
- Go 3D

US collaboration valuable here to benchmark codes as they develop and compare physics trends – your comments, views and ideas are most welcome

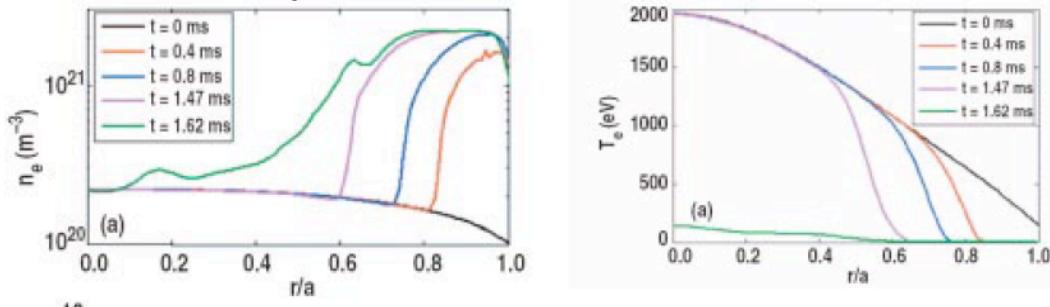
Runaway electrons

- Explore runaway generation threshold from experimental data
 - (i.e. plug in the Fulop et al. formulas)
- Explore avalanche suppression
 - Including mid-sized devices, e.g. TEXTOR
 - Min radial field amplitude and structure from existing experiments
 - *New experiments...?*
- What parts can be included in the *International Disruption DB*?

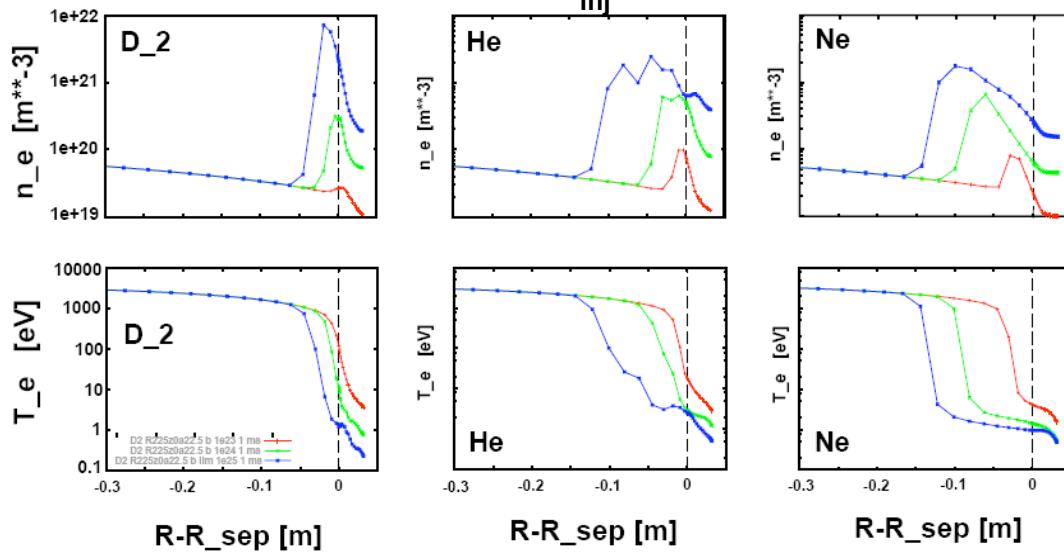
Comparing results with US will be useful to help resolve this physics

Modelling 'massive gas' runaway mitigation

CMOD Ne jets – NIMRAD¹ code: vs time.



AUG – SOLPS code²: $dN_{inj}/dt = 10^{23} 10^{24} 10^{25}$



[¹Izzo, PoP 15 056109, ²Pautasso, IAEA 2008]

Predicting ITER needs requires modelling:

- No of atoms to prevent runaway generation
- How impurity atoms penetrate core

Coordination beneficial:

- Compare experimental behaviour
- Test common code understandings
 - *what physics required?*
 - *benchmarking*

2. Fast particle instabilities

EU focus on:

- Linear stability thresholds
- Fast ion redistribution
- Non-linear mode evolution
- Diagnosis

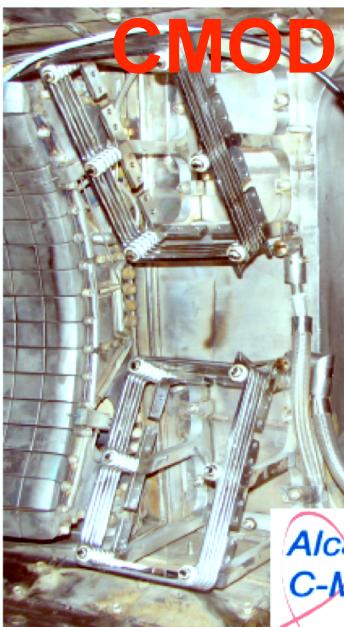
Basis of field is experimental tests vs theoretical modelling

- *...but this may become an MHD control problem!*

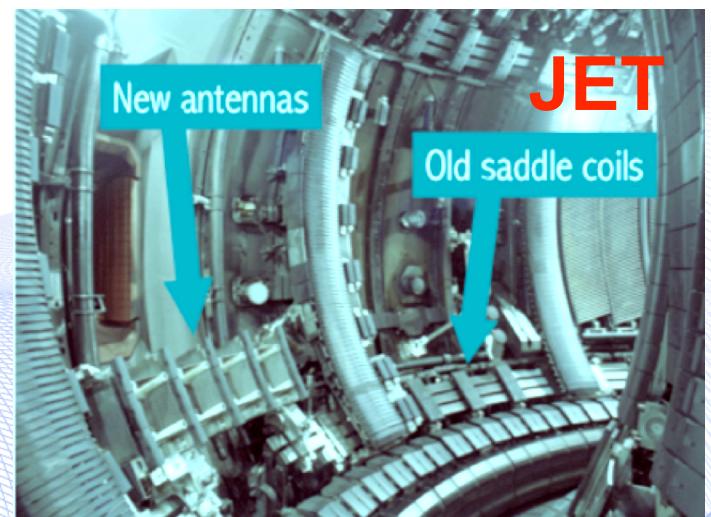
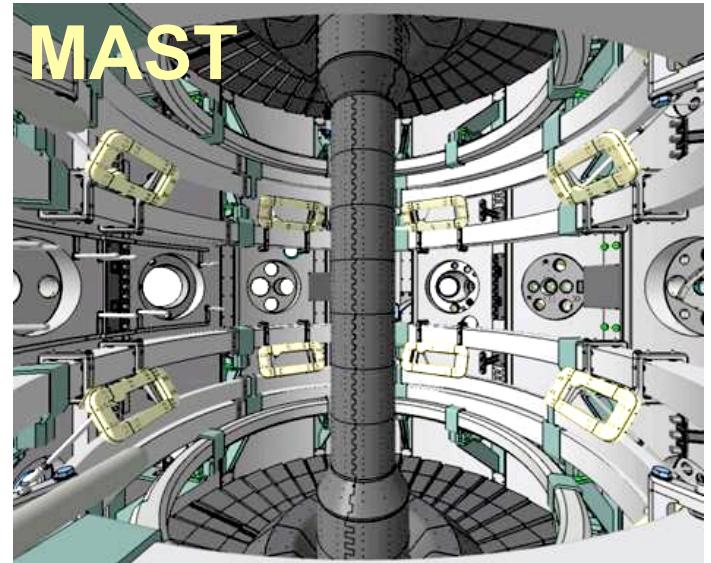
Probing TAE stability

Complementary systems:

- JET: New antennae can drive $n < 30$
- MAST: $n = 1 - 3$
 - 12 coil system: 6 upper, 6 lower
 - 6 independent power supplies
- C-MOD: Intermediate $3 < n < 12$:
 - Broad spectrum centred on $n = 6$



- Damping rate trends differ with different n modes
 - Independent tests of common physics models
 - Benchmark EU vs US codes

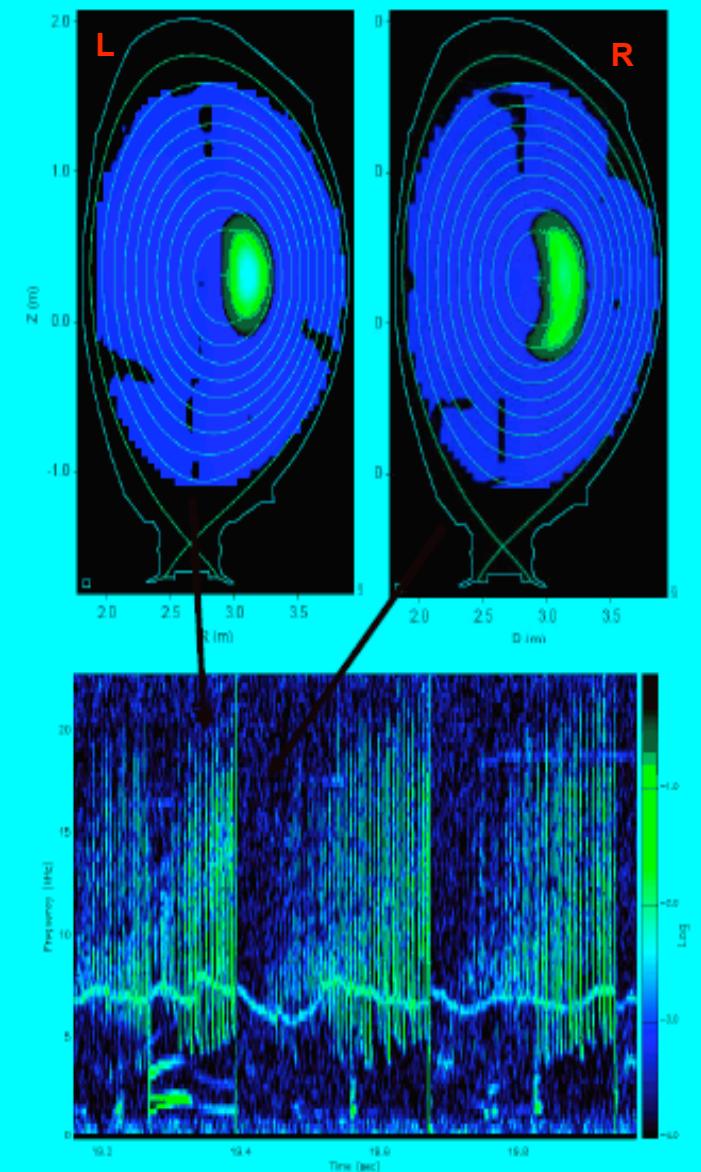


Fast Ion Redistribution

[courtesy
S. Pinches]

- Alfvénic / MHD modes can redistribute ions
→ J profile, α heating, losses...
- Experiments need to isolate clear effects
 - Many good & complementary new diagnostic techniques
- Opportunities through collaboration:
 - Complementary diagnostics
 - Different parameter scans
 - Build up a holistic picture of effects
 - Share very-well-diagnosed cases to provide code-based tests of theory
 - Benchmarking codes

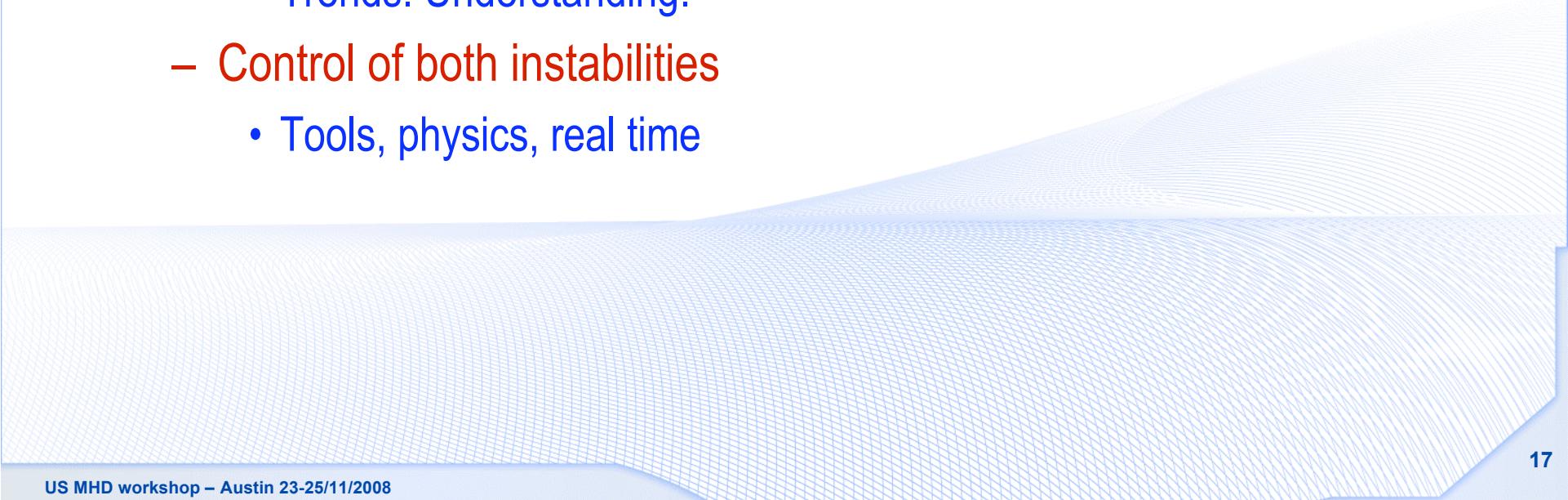
γ ray imaging: sawtooth on JET



3. Tearing physics

EU focus on:

- Sawtooth Stability
- Neoclassical Tearing modes
 - Trends. Understanding.
- Control of both instabilities
 - Tools, physics, real time



Sawtooth Control

- Sawtooth triggering criteria:¹

- Resistive instability: $\pi \frac{\delta\hat{W}}{s_1} < c_\rho \frac{\rho}{r_1}$ and $\gamma_\eta > c_\eta \sqrt{\omega_{*i}\omega_{*e}}$

- Ideal instability: $\pi \frac{\delta\hat{W}}{s_1} < -\frac{\omega_{*i}\tau_A}{2}$

Strong fast ion role in δW

Destabilise by reducing δW or increasing s_1

- Electron Cyclotron Current Drive

- *Initial TORE-SUPRA² results promising*
- *Can increasing s_1 work in ITER (when $\rho/r_1 \rightarrow 0$ and δW dominated by fast ions)?*

- Ion Cyclotron Current Drive

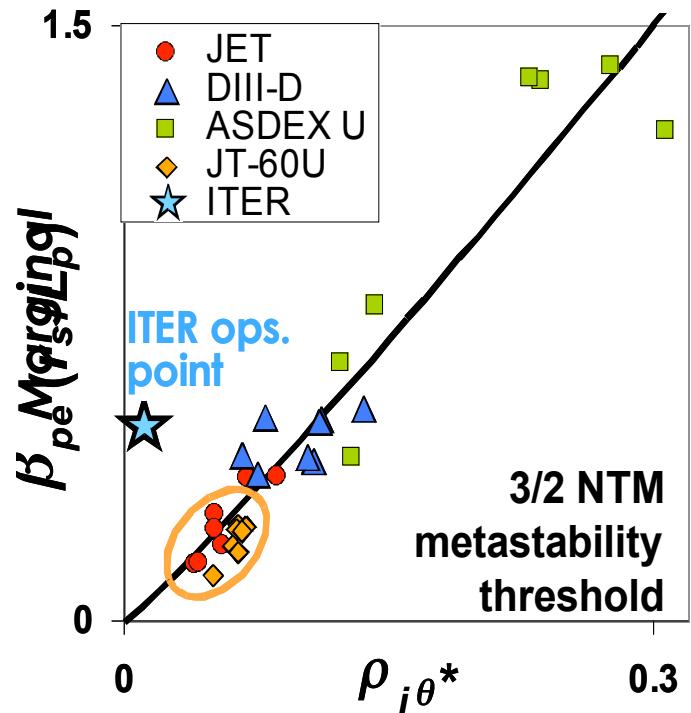
- *But control is mainly due to fast ion effects³*
- *Experimental verification needed – ICCD in ITER will be small*

- Neutral Beam Heating

- *JET, AUG and MAST show off-axis NBI destabilises sawteeth (Chapman et al)*
- *Verify with systematic tilting of beams? In presence of core fast ions?*

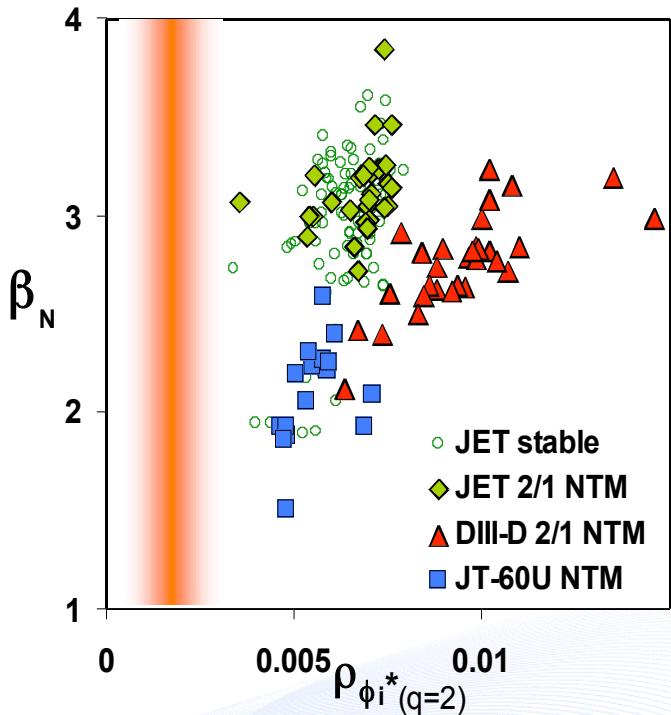
Neoclassical Tearing Modes

- Strong collaboration over many years
 - Eg 3/2 NTM metastable thresholds →



Neoclassical Tearing Modes

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 - Eg 3/2 NTM metastable thresholds
 - **More recently on hybrid β limits** →
 - Some puzzles here...
- **Key issues now are:**
 - Understanding extrapolation to ITER
 - ρ^* , rotation, error fields, q , fast ions
 - Resolving basic physics
 - Small island effects, mode triggering, rotation role, error field interaction
 - Demonstrating control algorithms



Neoclassical Tearing Modes

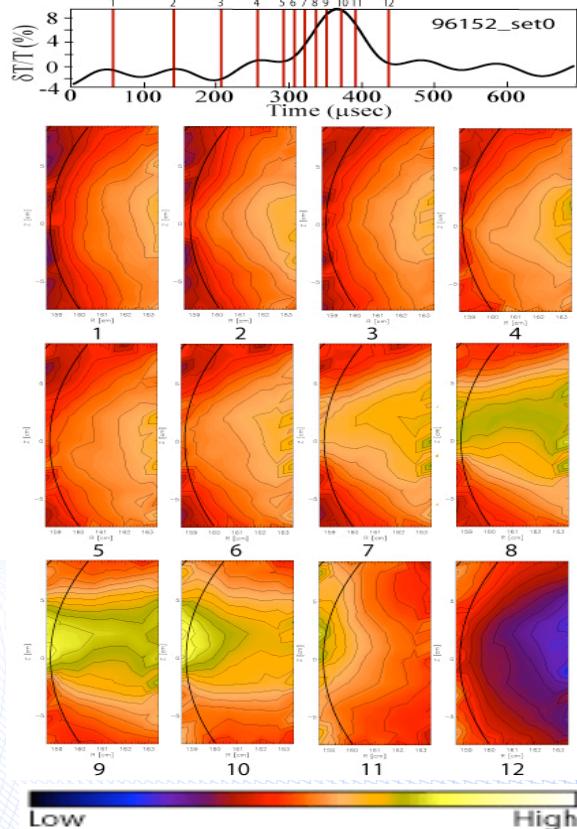
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Complementary strong research capabilities:

- Torque balance & torque-free operation
- Error field harmonics of low error field operation
- Fast particles & ECCD
- Profile diagnostics: MSE, HRTS, ECE, 2d imaging...

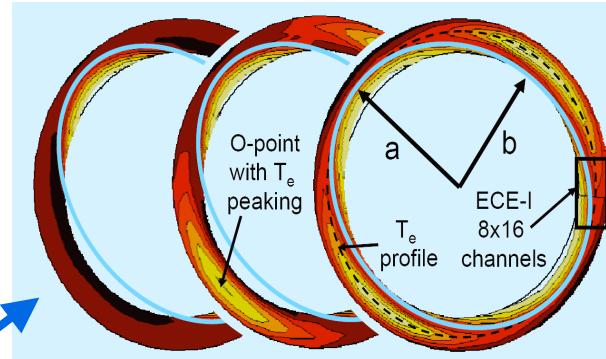
Next steps: understanding non-linear phase

- Work progressing through codes and diagnostics, e.g.:
 - Multi-time HRTS on MAST
 - Or ECE on TEXTOR...

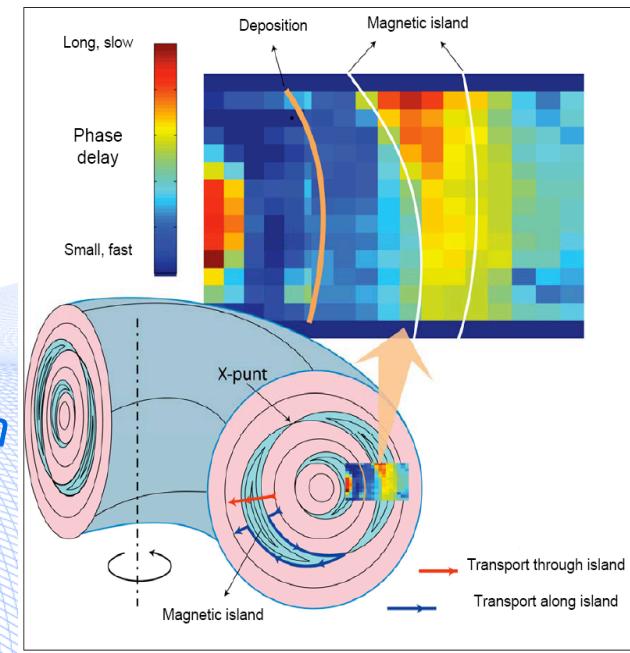


*Island dynamics
visualisation*

Sawtooth crash



*Heat pulse propagation
through islands*



4. ELMs

**New collaborative group under IO:
Max Fenstermacher coordinating
collaborative work on this**

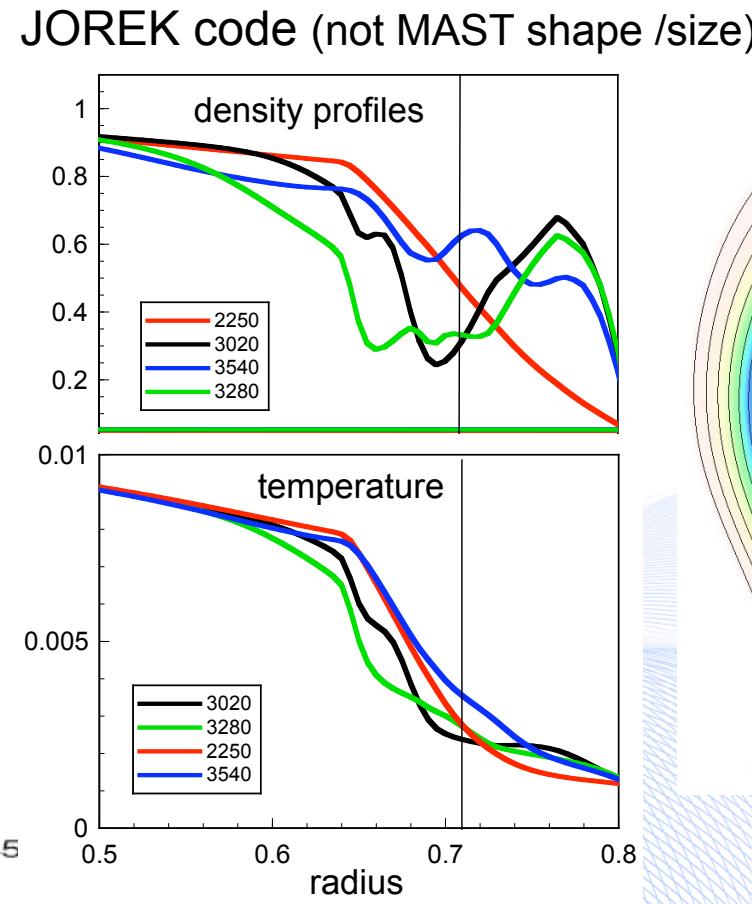
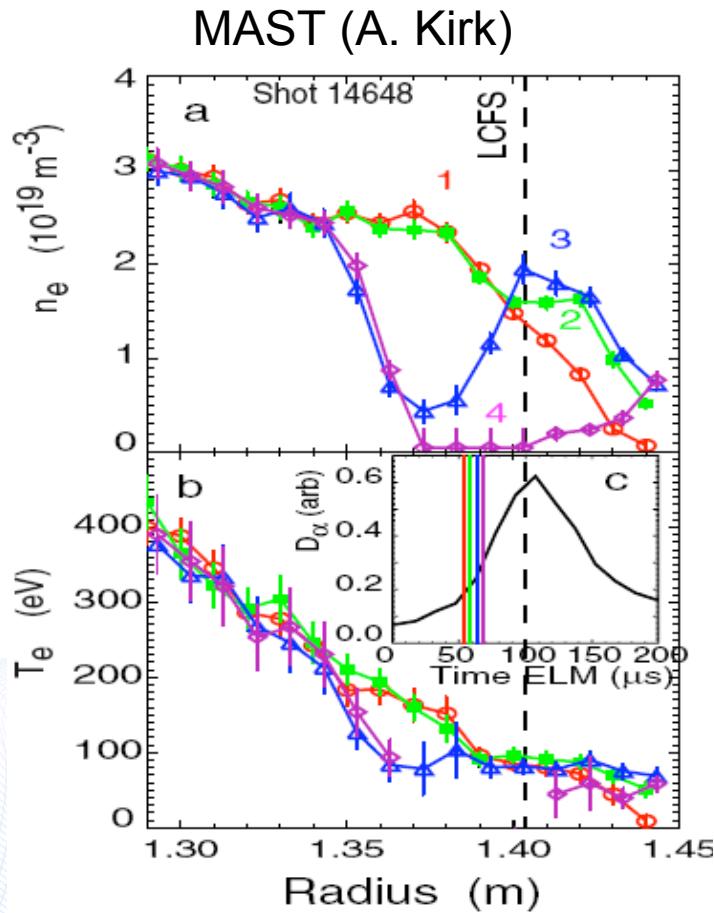
EU focus on:

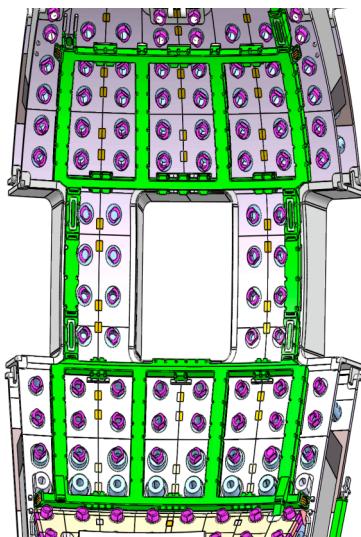
- Non-linear understanding of the ELM size & stability
- Action of mitigation techniques
 - RMPs, pellets, kicks
- Better diagnosis

***Complementary work across devices an essential part of
resolving physics of RMP interaction***

Non linear ELM understanding

- A key focus is to understand ELM size and its dependencies
 - Compare different regimes and benchmark code understanding





ELM RMP understanding

<< New ITER design based on collaborative studies

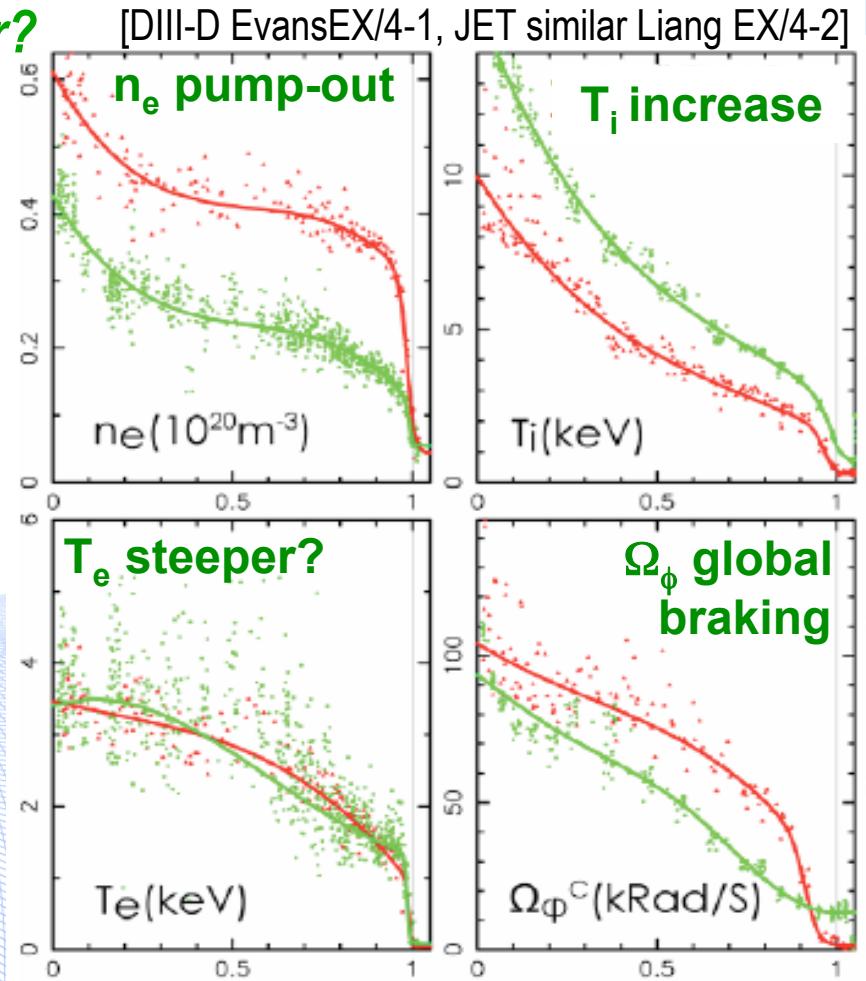
– but physics behaviour raises many questions:

Is Chirikov right parameter?

Effect of screening
and resistivity?

Much left to do - collaboration is key:

- Comparing different harmonic effects
- Determining action – experimental observation & theory
 - Ergodisation, transport, location/harmonics needed
 - Error field interaction & screening effects (see shortly...)



5. RWMS and high β

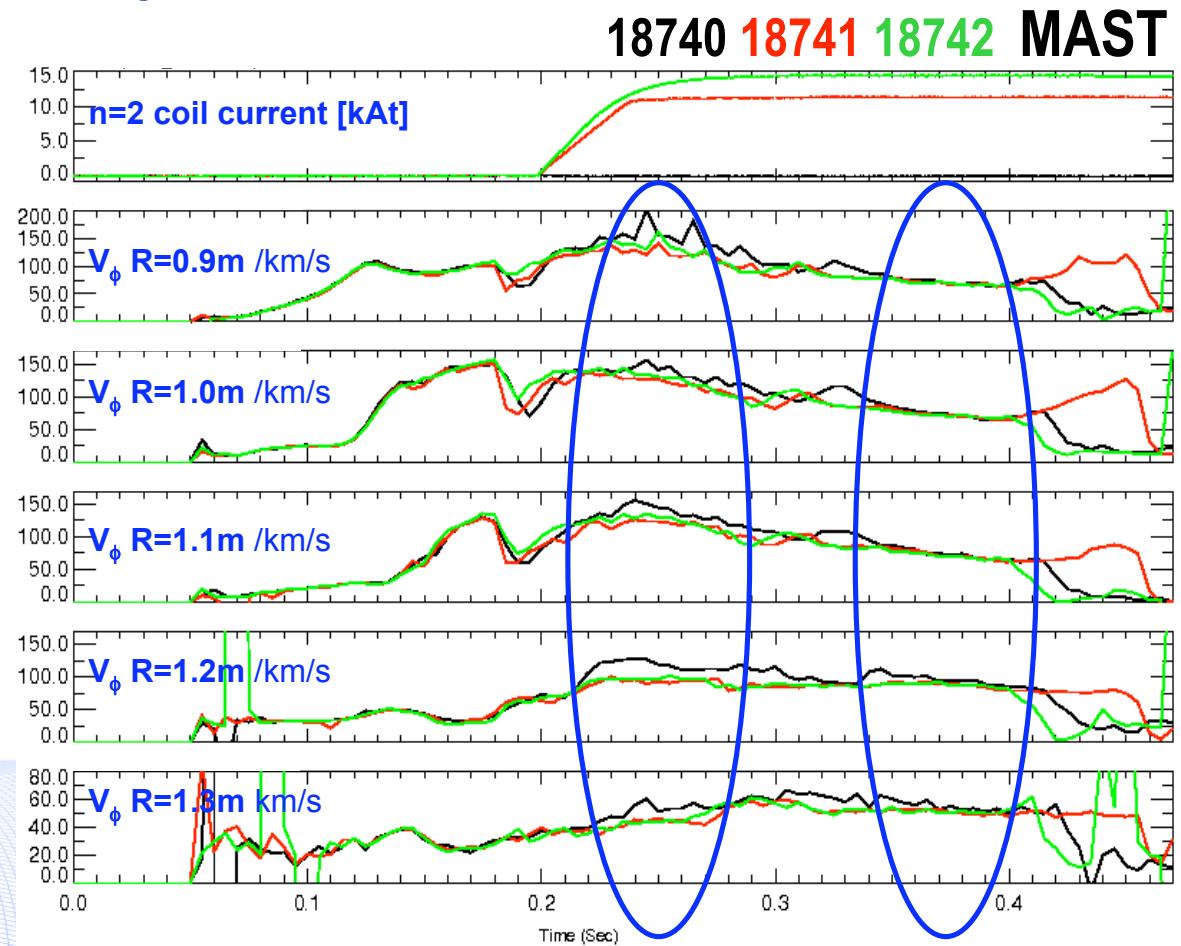
EU focus on:

- Understanding NTV braking (for ELMs also)
- Predicting RWM feedback requirements:
 - Dissipation physics and feedback optimisation
- Tearing mode limits to high beta
 - Identify and understand interaction

Key questions on magnetic braking

Experimentally we see diverse signatures:

- MAST n=2 fields show no significant braking →

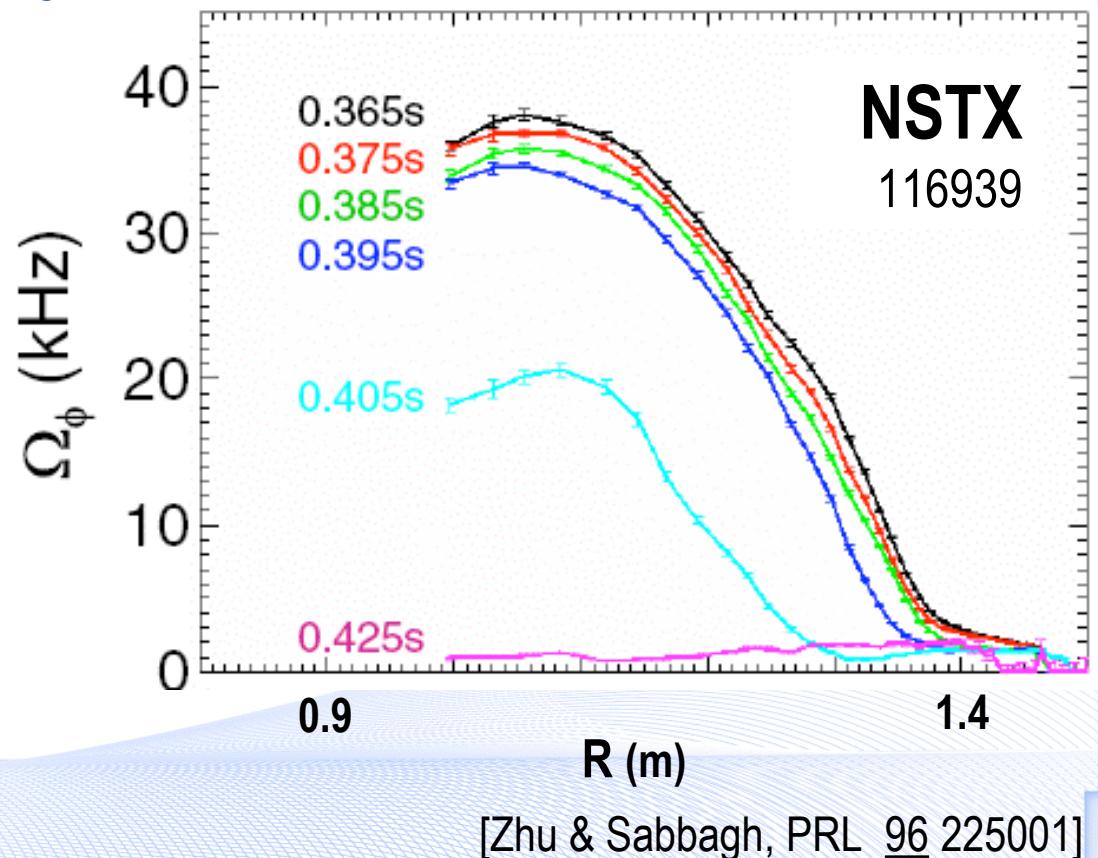


[D. Howell, EFW 2007]

Key questions on magnetic braking

Experimentally we see diverse signatures:

- MAST n=2 fields show no significant braking
- **NSTX dominant n=1 sees clear NTV braking →**
 - Similar differences between CMOD & JET n=2



Key questions on magnetic braking

Experimentally we see diverse signatures:

- MAST n=2 fields show no significant braking
- NSTX dominant n=1 sees clear NTV braking
 - Similar differences between CMOD & JET n=2

Theoretically, there are several element to consider:

- Resonant interactions of error field
- Coupling through higher order surfaces
- Non-resonant interactions / NTV

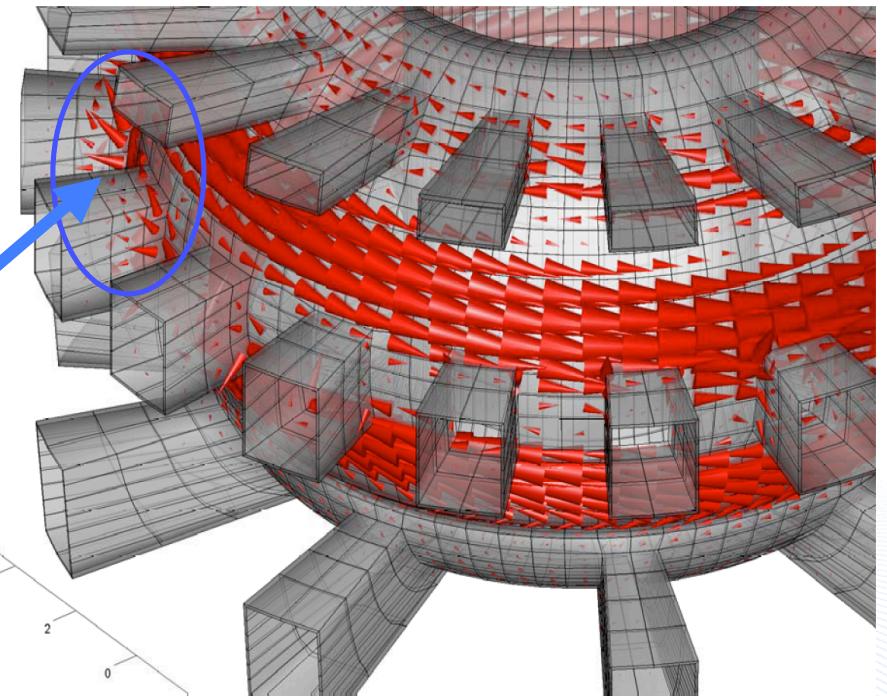
Collaboration can help deconvolve physics:

- Reconcile different harmonic effects
- Which harmonics matter & means of optimal correction
- Resolve unify physics models of interaction
- Park and NTV ‘modules’ for various codes used by field

RWM key physics issues

- Already very healthy collaboration:
 - Pushing & comparing experiments
 - Testing with common codes
 - Identifying key physics

- An EU focus is to predict ITER requirements
 - 3D wall important
 - Feedback by ELM coils

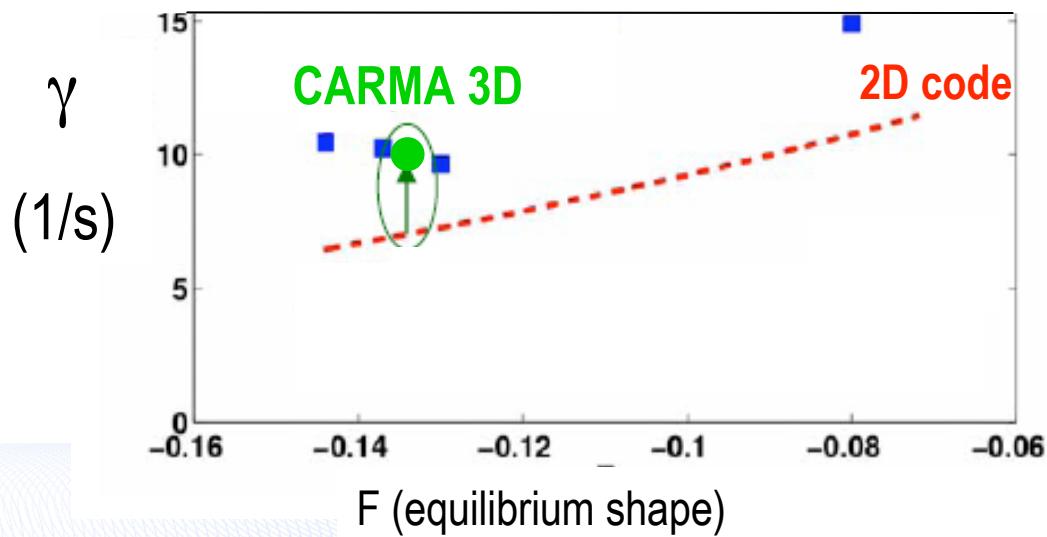


[Liu, APS 2008]

- *Ongoing close work important to resolve physics models (eg dissipation) and optimise feedback for ITER*

RFPs good way to get at RWM issues

- Study complex gains and advanced/multimode control
- RFX-mod data ($n=5$ RWM) used to validate the code, which has been adapted to RFX-mod conditions (including its 3D effects)



	ETAW	MARSF	CarMa	Exp.
$n=4$	5.27	5.07	7.30	≈ 6
			7.48	
$n=5$	8.63	8.55	12.8	≈ 12
			13.1	
$n=6$	14.5	14.4	22.6	≈ 22
			23.4	

CARMA (MARSF + CARIDDI) is a MHD ideal code coupled with an arbitrary 3D magnetic boundary

Conclusions

The good cooperation between EU and US can be further strengthened:

- Many areas where it is useful to extend our results comparisons, test codes, extend datasets, resolve and develop physics models
 - More work on disruptions, particular to understand VDE, runaway mitigation and develop disruption response
 - Understanding linear AE stability and holistic picture of fast ion effects
 - New aspects in sawtooth control and NTM physics
 - ELMs – physics governing size and mitigation
 - NTV & magnetic braking major new area to reconcile observations and develop joint models
- EU and US capabilities highly complementary – both strong & cover similar areas – somewhat reinforcing, but with diversity in capability
 - ***We should take advantage of this, using new structure to initiate personal contacts and pick up useful actions***

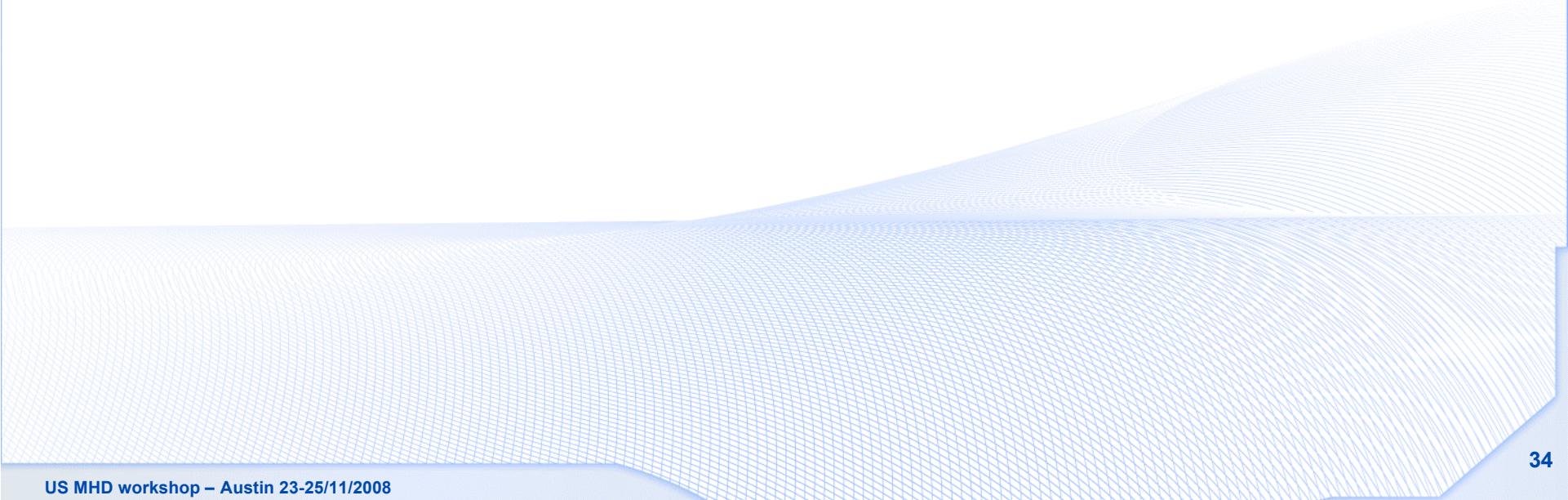
Contacts

EU MHD under our five groups:

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- **Outputs:**
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- Reserve / unused



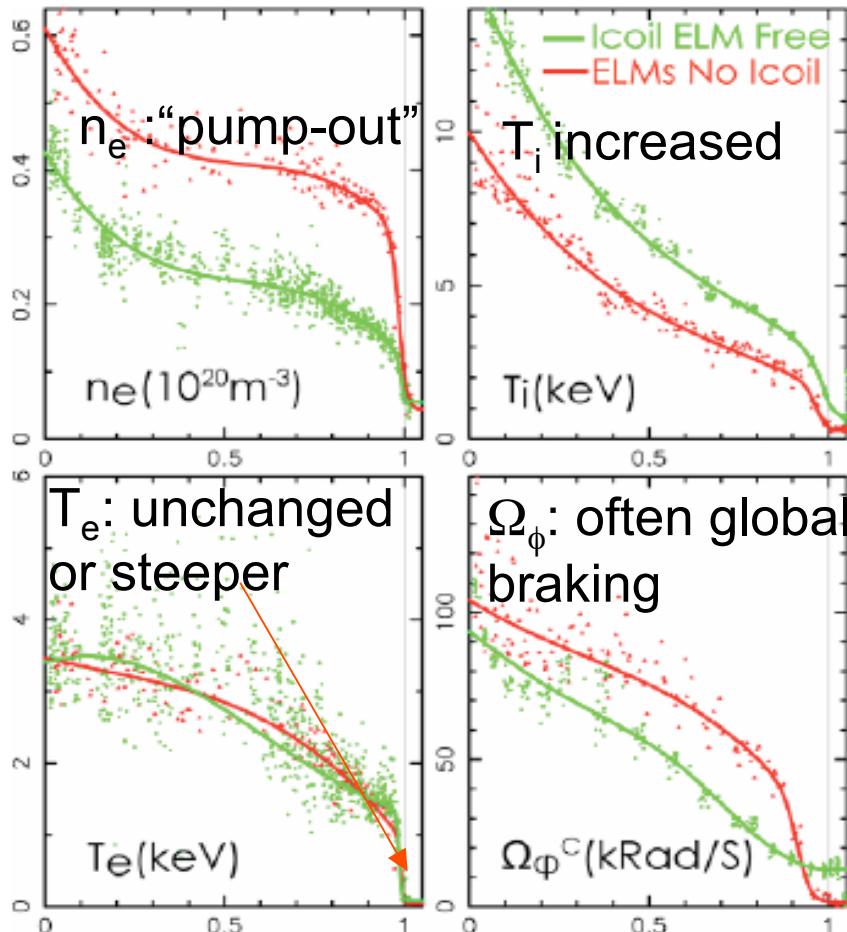
EU priorities – five ‘pillars’

- Development of plasma scenarios for ITER and DEMO
 - MHD!
- Plasma wall interaction and plasma facing materials
- Theory & integrated modelling
 - MHD!
- Emerging Fusion Technologies and Plasma Engineering Techniques
- Fusion as a future energy source

Disruption summary

- 1. Joint project with US on VDE and halo -
Where are we on this? Have we started contacts on this. Can you make me a slide setting motivation and making a proposal (good to have a picture/figure to explain in this also)? Do you want me to approach anyone in particular (Steve Jardin?)
- 2. Physics based disruption predictor - here I can adapt something from PdV's slides. This is a good one to encourage sharing/complementary testing of good ideas - you agree?
- 3. Massive gas mitigation - can we have a slide on MHD goals here? Should we look at what EU and US can do - any points on this?
- 4. Impurity diagnostic - here we look for complementarity with US - so ask whether they plan anything? Should we have a slide on this? (do we know what we envisage here now in sufficient detail to make a slide?)
- 5. VDE simulation - could outline our plans more generally here (linked to item 1) - mention DINA work, discuss other tools and whether this. This merges into item 1 I think, but is extra slide needed? (or generalise slide under 1). Perhaps thing to do here is have a single slide and motivate a discussion on best tools, ways forward and complementarity...? (can you offer a slide setting up the problem with a nice figure, as requested in item 1?)
- 6. Should we have a further slide on discussion of longer term code capability. Can you draft this and make a briefing? (or could leave this issue in as part of above item 1/5 discussion).
- 7. Runaways - yes CMOD have been pushing this (GP saw talk at ITPA) - what collab experiments should we do with them / which bits do EU bring to table (large tokamak avalanche regime on JET... Also AUG...?) Example slide here would be helpful. Perhaps this merges with item 3?
- (8. Disruption database is implicit collaboration under ITPA - no slides needed...? or do you want me to push something?)

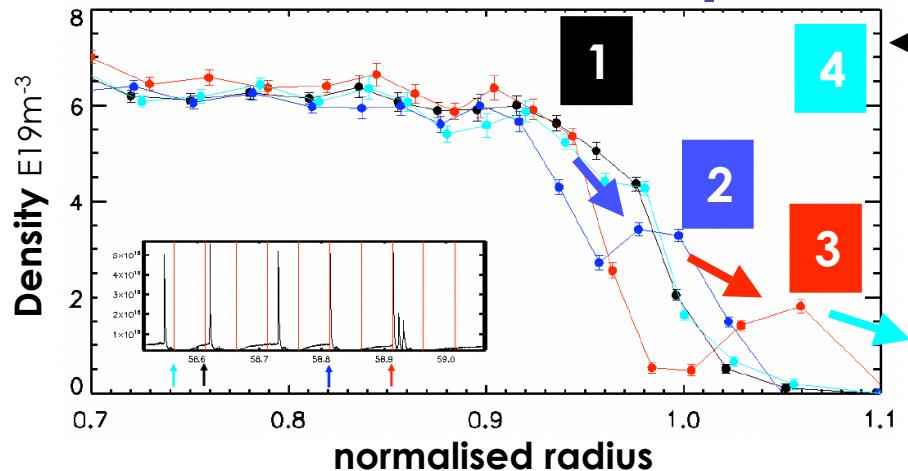
w/o RMPs, ELMy
with RMPs, no ELMs



DIII-D Osborn EPS2005, EvansEX/4-1,
similar on JET(Liang EX/4-2)

- 1) Why ELMs are suppressed?
At present we think: $\text{grad}P \sim P_{\text{crit,ELM}}$?
- 2) Is vacuum criterion (ergodic zone for $r \sim 0.9$) enough for ELM suppression?
Yes: DIII-D, ~JET, not on NSTX, MAST?
- 3) Resonant window in q_{95} ?
Narrow on DIII-D, but it should work for $q_{95}=3-5$ in ITER!
- 4) Mechanism for density "pump-out"?
Can MHD ExB (+ || ?) explain?
Turbulence with RMPs?
- 5) Why is T_e flattening in ergodic region not seen in experiment?
Screening RMPs by rotation?
Flux limit in $c||$?
- 6) Mechanism for plasma
braking/acceleration?
Neoclassical Toroidal Viscosity? Or +....?
etc

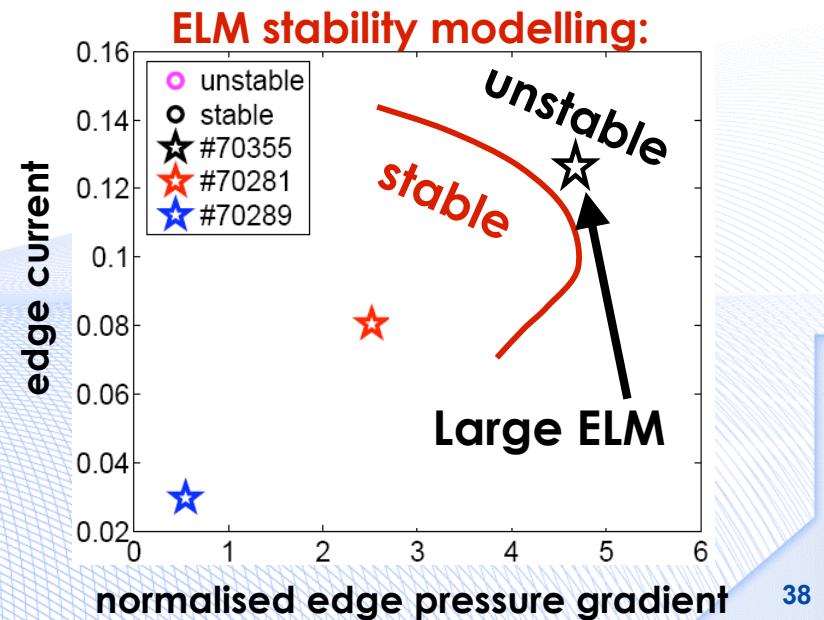
Archive reference on ELMs require precise measurement of profiles and mode structure



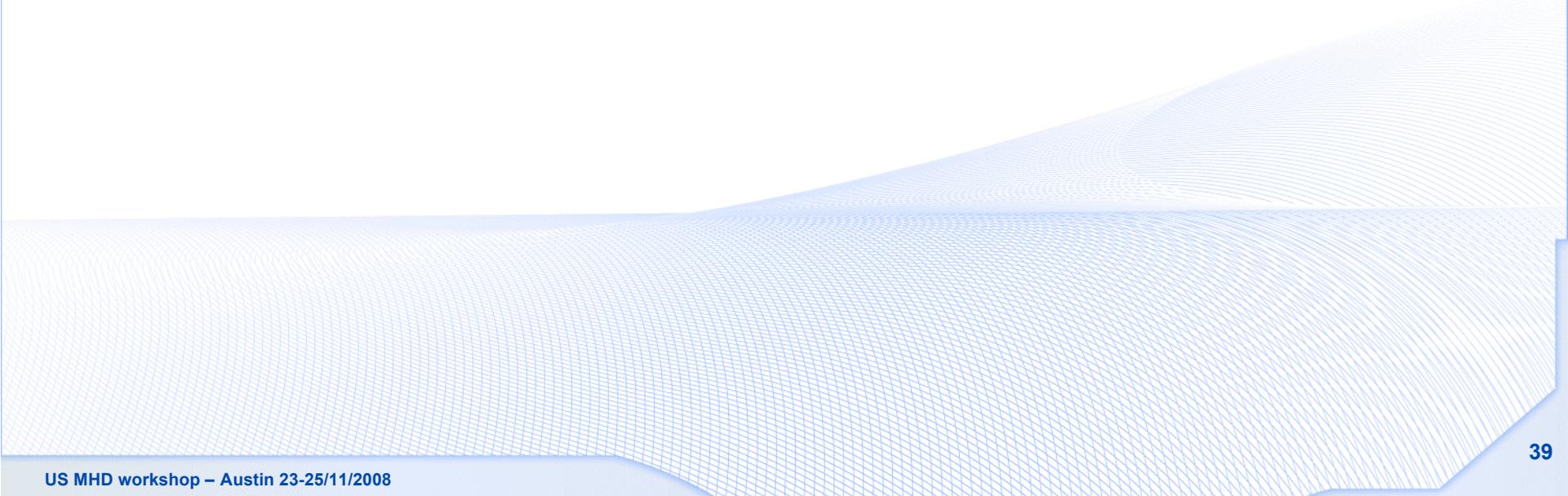
← JET measurement of the composition of filaments ejected by the ELM

- **Key element in extrapolating ELM physics and heat loads**

- High resolution also enables accurate MHD modelling of ELM
 - Large ELM (★) occurs in predicted unstable region
 - Confirms “peeling-ballooning” model of the ELM for *ITER prediction*



- Old slides from template presentation...
(on diagnostics)



Diagnostics for ELM physics & control

- For stability analysis
 - Accurate edge profiles for n_e , T_e , T_i and rotation, TS, CX
 - Edge current measurements, DIII-D already operates Li-beam [Thomas PPCF 2006] - *this is key issue for good physics resolution*
- For ELM dynamics studies
 - Fast cameras
 - Fast magnetics, maybe possible to measure even the growth rate of the linear phase – get at mode magnetic structure and ergodisation response
 - Burst TS for profiles inside the filament & other high res profiles (rotation)
 - Reciprocating probe measurements of the filament current and heat fluxes
- For studies of ELM effects on PFCs
 - IR camera for measuring the power flux on the target & wall
 - (scaling – more devices...)

Diagnostic issues on NTMs physics and control

- Resolving physics questions
 - Threshold physics and seeding mechanisms extrapolation towards ITER
 - Impacts onset criteria and mode stabilisation requirements
 - *high resolution profiles in ne Te rotation*
- Guiding mode control systems
 - Location of islands and resonant surfaces
 - ***Prefer pre-emptive CD - is MSE good enough in ITER?***
 - Size of islands - *magnetics need to be augmented by other diagnostics*
 - Location of ECCD deposition - *precise placement is key*
 - Demonstrations of mode control using ITER like sensors and actuators - *want reliable system on day 2(!)*

Diagnostic issues for sawteeth physics and control – cnt.

- Fast profiles to understand *non-linear* sawtooth evolution
 - & impact on fast ion distributions
 - Improved imaging (SXR tomography)
 - Needs to be on facilities where ITER-like ‘ideal’ sawteeth occur
- Fast ion populations - vital to sawtooth stability
 - γ -ray spectroscopy, CTF, others...
- Fine-scale charge exchange
 - Flow shear plays a key role in sawtooth stability
- High-res MSE to resolve $q=1$ radius and core shear

Diagnostic issues on FP physics

- Detecting FP driven modes in ITER
 - High n TAE antenna needed – *is dedicated ITER antenna needed? (ELM coils?)*
 - Different components of magnetic field (normal, parallel, toroidal)
 - Magnetics challenging for ITER – & will need internal diagnostics anyway –
interferometry/reflectometry/ECE in Alfvén frequency range
- Identifying losses – important for physics now and ITER
 - Further technology to be developed and implement?
 - e.g. *fast ion D-alpha detectors, more IR coverage*
- Understand FP drives for influence on modes
 - Fast particle distribution detectors to understand drives:
 - 2D neutron cameras, γ -tomography, NPA, CTF, FIDA (especially last 2: more needed)

These aspects need careful consideration of what to apply where – need to consider complementary devices with relevant FP populations & MHD

5. Diagnostic issues for RWM physics

- Physics of rotational stabilization at low rotation
 - Fast ion population for kinetic damping
 - Fine scale rotation measurements to resolve kinetic damping
- Coupling to magnetic islands at low rotation
 - Detailed imaging of MHD instabilities
- Non-linear RWM destabilization by transient events and static error fields
- Implication for feedback control
 - Magnetic sensors

Summarising slide – Urgent MHD diagnostic needs

- Edge current diagnostic for ELMs
- Improved q profile diagnosis in general – especially for core MHD (sawteeth, AEs)
- Fast profile diagnostic and reconstruction, particularly during disruption (n_e , T_e)
- Continued push of disruption consequence diagnostics – halos, runaway, full heat accounting
- Fast profile diagnostics for core high resolution core MHD & ELMs (n_e T_e rotation)
 - **Improved CER diagnosis in particular desired**
- ITER TAE antenna need? / specification / how to include / use of ELM coils?
- Fast particle distributions in core – velocity distributions vs space (CTF, FIDA,...)
- Push towards use of non-magnetic diagnostics for many ‘usually-magnetic’ problems

IMPROVED UTILISATION:

- Event triggering for many diagnostic systems very important to capture key data
- Integration into control approaches also very important to learn techniques for ITER
- *More discussion with diagnostic experts probably needed to work out which diagnostics required to meet these needs, specification, and which machines (plasma regimes) to apply them.*

Additional points from discussion... (1)

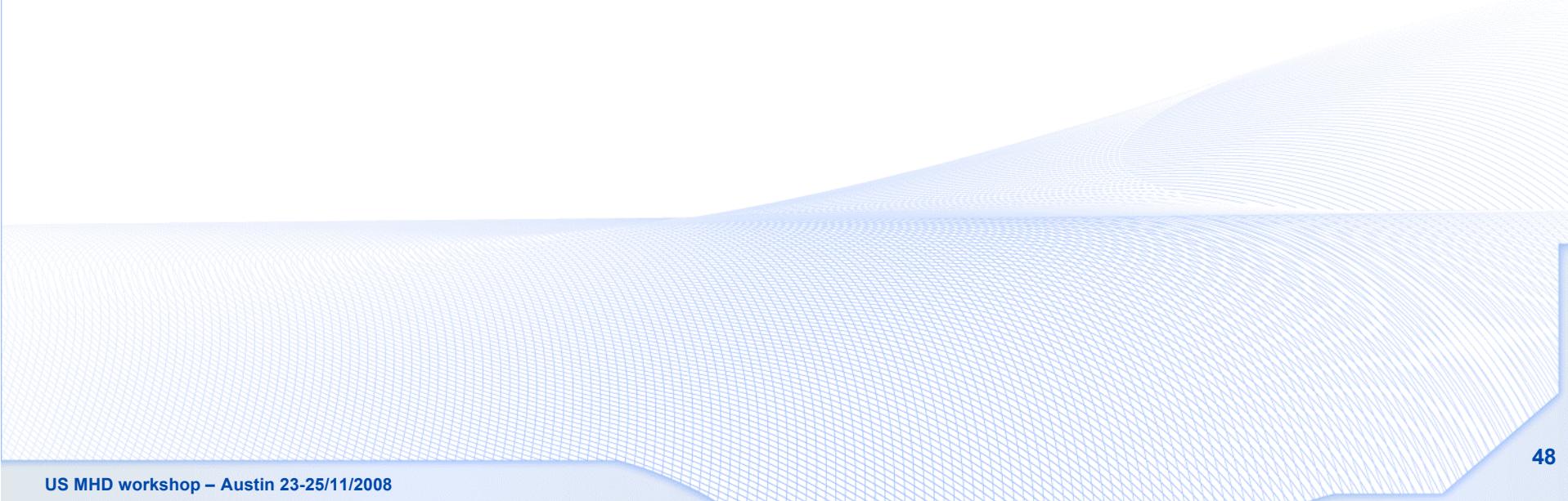
- “MHD seems in good shape for diagnostics, why more needed?”
 - We understand what modes are, and where they are; the manifestation (i.e. non linear behaviour) requires much more detailed measurements of mode structure; many fundamental (plasma stopping) issues still not at all predictable or suitable control not developed
 - eg ELMs, disruptions, NTM onset, RWM behaviour, & BP physics remains a key concern (losses)
- Most urgent issues seem to be **disruptions** and **ELMs**
 - Agree, and disruptions is a “non-sexy” topic where more focus is needed.
- What are key diagnostic themes / most important aspect to push
 - *(more iteration with MHD TG community to specify properly and agree, but 2 key areas...)*
 - Imaging – to see & quantify structure of instabilities in plasma
 - Needs for fast high spatial and time resolution measurements of profiles (ne, Te, rotation)
 - q profile a key aspect to improve measurement of if possible
 - Edge – very detailed diagnostic to see structure and evolution
 - Vital input for MHD models, understanding non-linear process and mitigation techniques.
 - Most important is improved q profile diagnosis in the edge

Additional points from discussion... (2)

- Control is a key theme
 - Yes – devices need to much more routinely integrated diagnostics real time into control systems and use for MHD avoidance
 - *need to develop the 'habit' and expertise for doing this*
- FP physics seems well provided for...?
 - Well, many new and useful tools at JET, but much further needed to really quantify role of fast particles in influencing things like
 - Fast particle distributions with things like CTF and FIDA a key area / gap for physics and diagnostic development
- MSE has limits in its capabilities – MHD itself can often be best diagnostic
 - True, but profile information vital in understanding issues like sawteeth, ELM and fast particle instabilities – measures of magnetic shear are very helpful
 - A holistic (Bayesian?) approach is required to integrate diagnostics

Issues to consider further...

- **TAE antenna for ITER – is dedicated one needed? Are ELM coils enough?**
 - Solicit input from TAE community
 - But note that ITER is the research machine for DEMO, and AEs are one of the key new areas of physics that manifest progressively worse from current → ITER → DEMO
- **What have we missed?**
 - And is EFDA's limit of 2-3 key issue too restrictive (next slide...)?



Principle issues from later EFDA TGL discussion – even more focussed

- Some key priorities:
 - Imaging, particularly for ELM and disruptions (but also for non-linear MHD)
 - SXR tomography, calibrated and augmented by other diagnostics
 - Need to identify specific hardware proposals for next 2 years – where needed and beneficial? → GOAL FOR MHD TG MEETING TO SPECIFY
 - 2D ECE imaging
 - Being taken from TEXTOR to AUG
 - Edge current diagnostics – a challenging field; proposals will be invited. Possibilities:
 - Between and during ELMs
 - Seems a key strategic need for sustained long term action
 - Has ramifications outside MHD as well - pedestal
 - Polarimetry
 - Heavy ion beams and their deflection
 - Edge probes – particularly in smaller devices
 - Control
 - Identify projects to consider choices of sensors: Br vs pol; non magnetic sensors
 - A THEME: Integrate diagnostics into real time control systems for routine MHD avoidance – of disruptions, ideal limits (probing, calculation), etc.

Seems to narrow
– we should seek
more?