

# Control of the Resistive Wall Mode with Internal Coils in the DIII-D Tokamak (EX/3-1Ra)

## Active Measurement of Resistive Wall Mode Stability in Rotating High Beta Plasmas (EX/3-1Rb)

by  
**M. Okabayashi**

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# CONTROL OF THE RESISTIVE WALL MODE WITH INTERNAL COILS IN THE DIII-D TOKAMAK

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# ACTIVE MEASUREMENT OF RESISTIVE WALL MODE STABILITY IN ROTATING HIGH BETA PLASMAS

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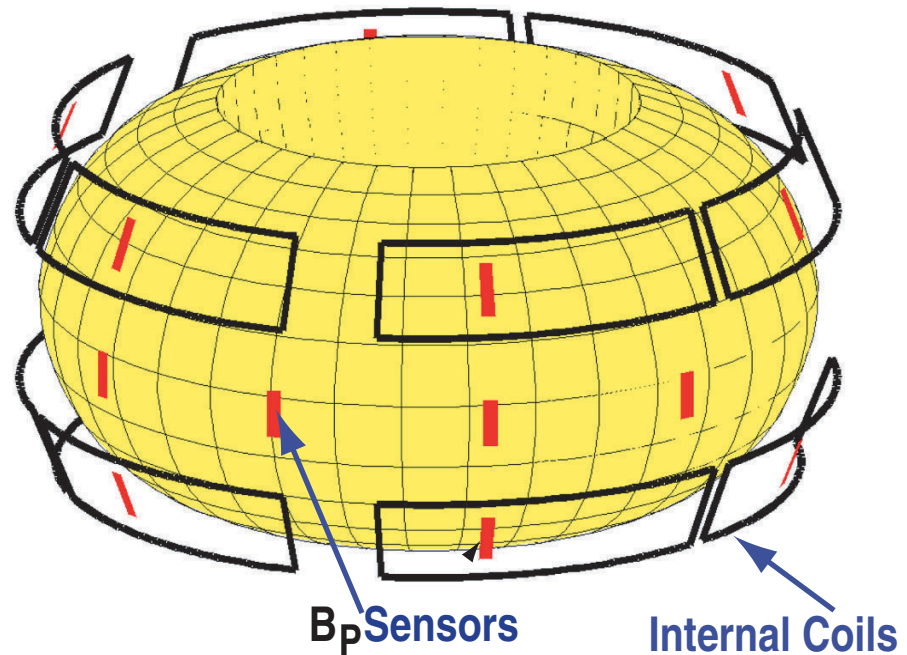
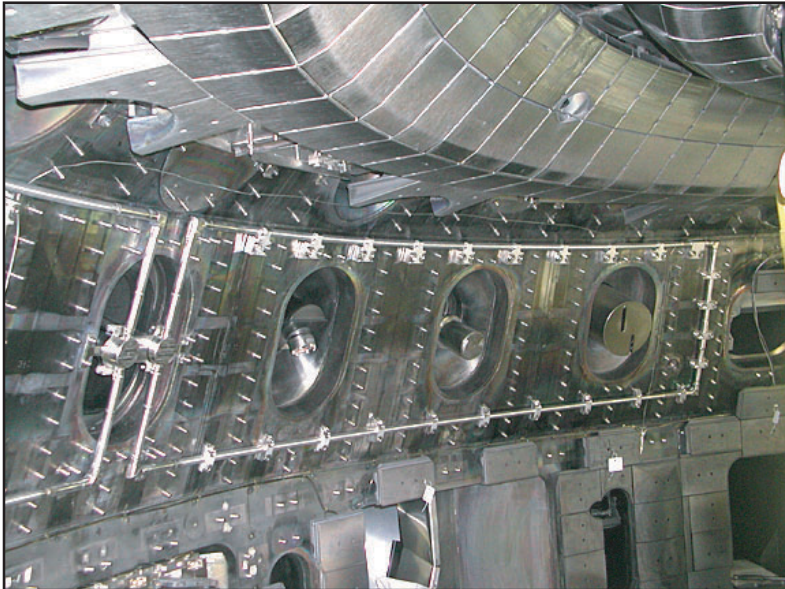
# EXTERNAL KINK CONTROL WITH RESISTIVE WALL

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- **Steady state advanced tokamak scenarios need wall stabilization of external kink modes**
  - for operation at high beta with a high fraction of bootstrap current
- **Finite-conductivity wall**
  - Does not completely stabilize ideal kink mode,
  - Converts it to a slowly-growing Resistive Wall Mode (RWM)
- **Two approaches to RWM stabilization**
  - Passive: fast plasma rotation (EX/3-1Ra)
  - Active: magnetic feedback control (EX/3-1a)
- **New Internal coils installed just after the last IAEA conference: Very productive for RWM physics studies and active control of RWMs**
  - Active MHD spectroscopy with applied rotating field:  
**RWM stability physics**
  - Plasma rotation sustained by feedback-controlled error field correction:  
**Long duration high  $\beta$  plasmas**
  - Direct feedback control :  
**RWM stability at higher beta below critical rotation**

# NEW INTERNAL CONTROL COILS ARE AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR PURSUING STABILIZATION OF THE RWM

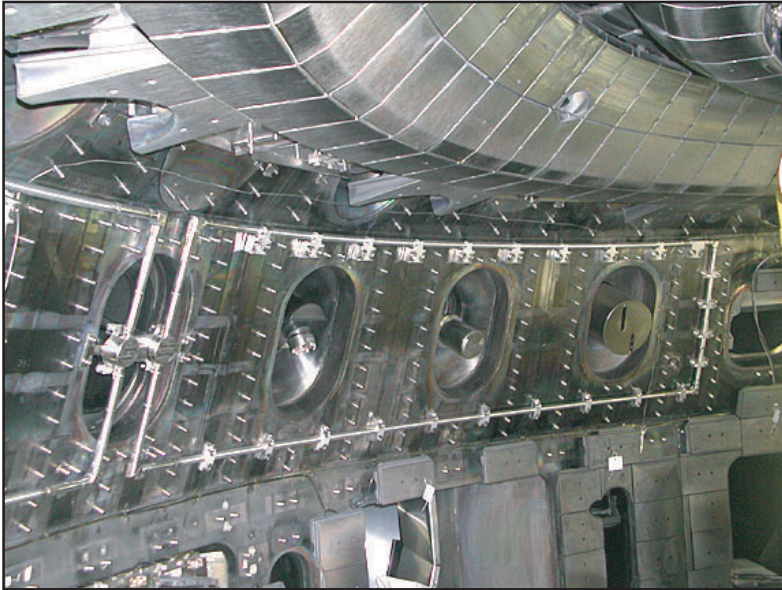
- Inside vacuum vessel: Faster time response for feedback control  
Closer to plasma, flexible magnetic field pattern: more efficient coupling



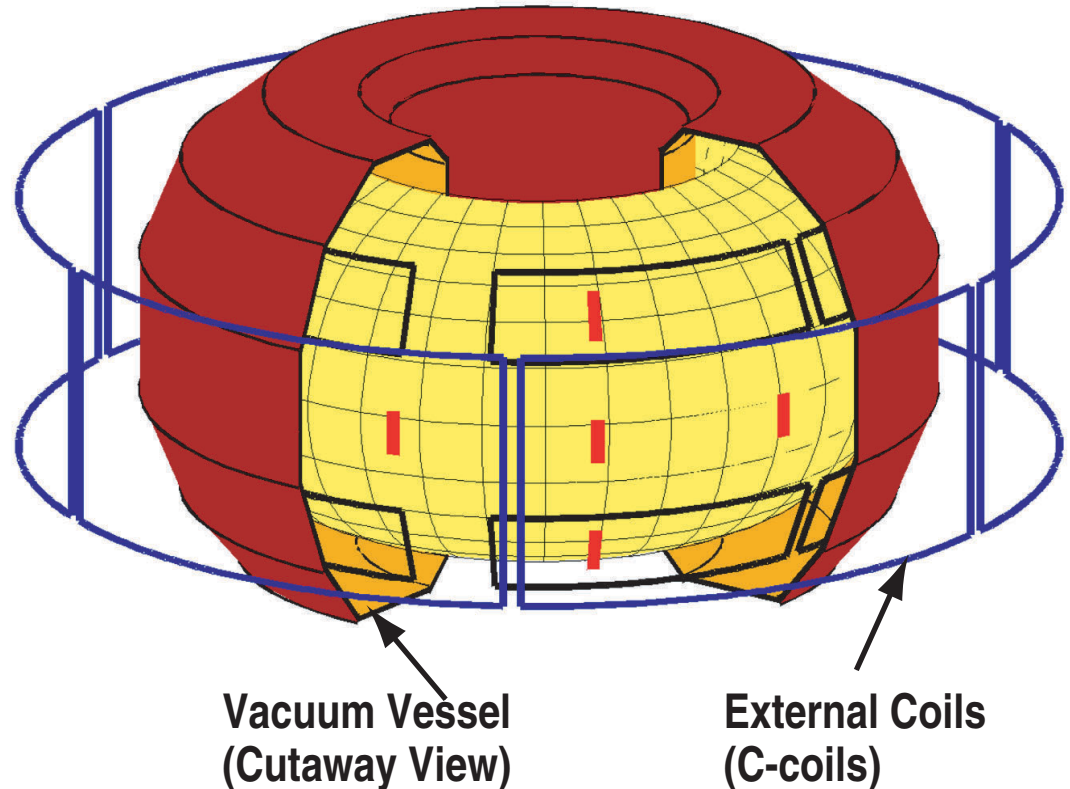
- 12 "picture-frame" coils
- Single-turn, water-cooled
- 7 kA max. rated current
- Protected by graphite tiles
- 10 gauss/kA on plasma surface

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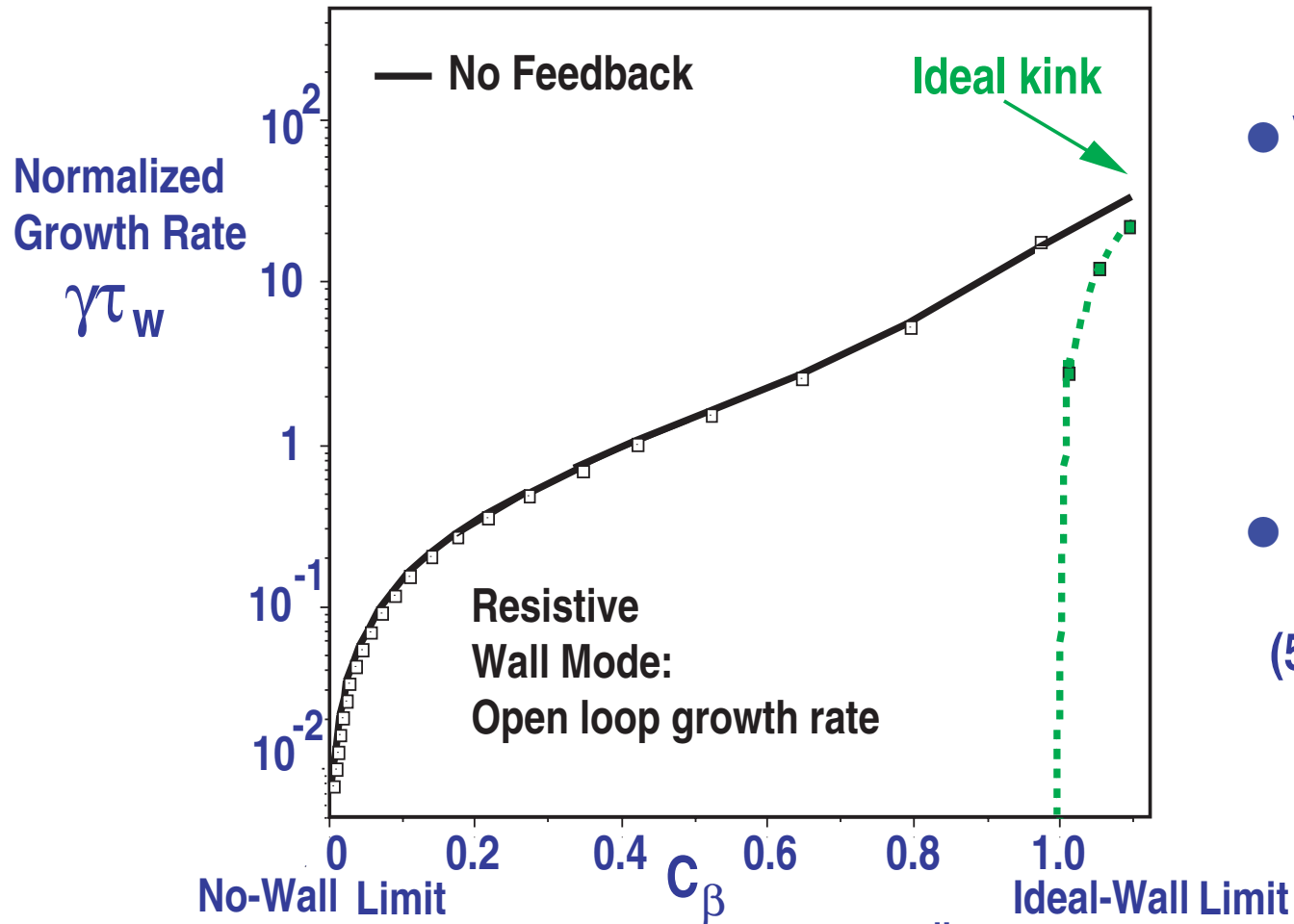


- 12 "picture-frame" coils
- Single-turn, water-cooled
- 7 kA max. rated current
- Protected by graphite tiles
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# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS INCREASES STABLE PLASMA PRESSURE TO NEAR IDEAL-WALL LIMIT

- VALEN code prediction

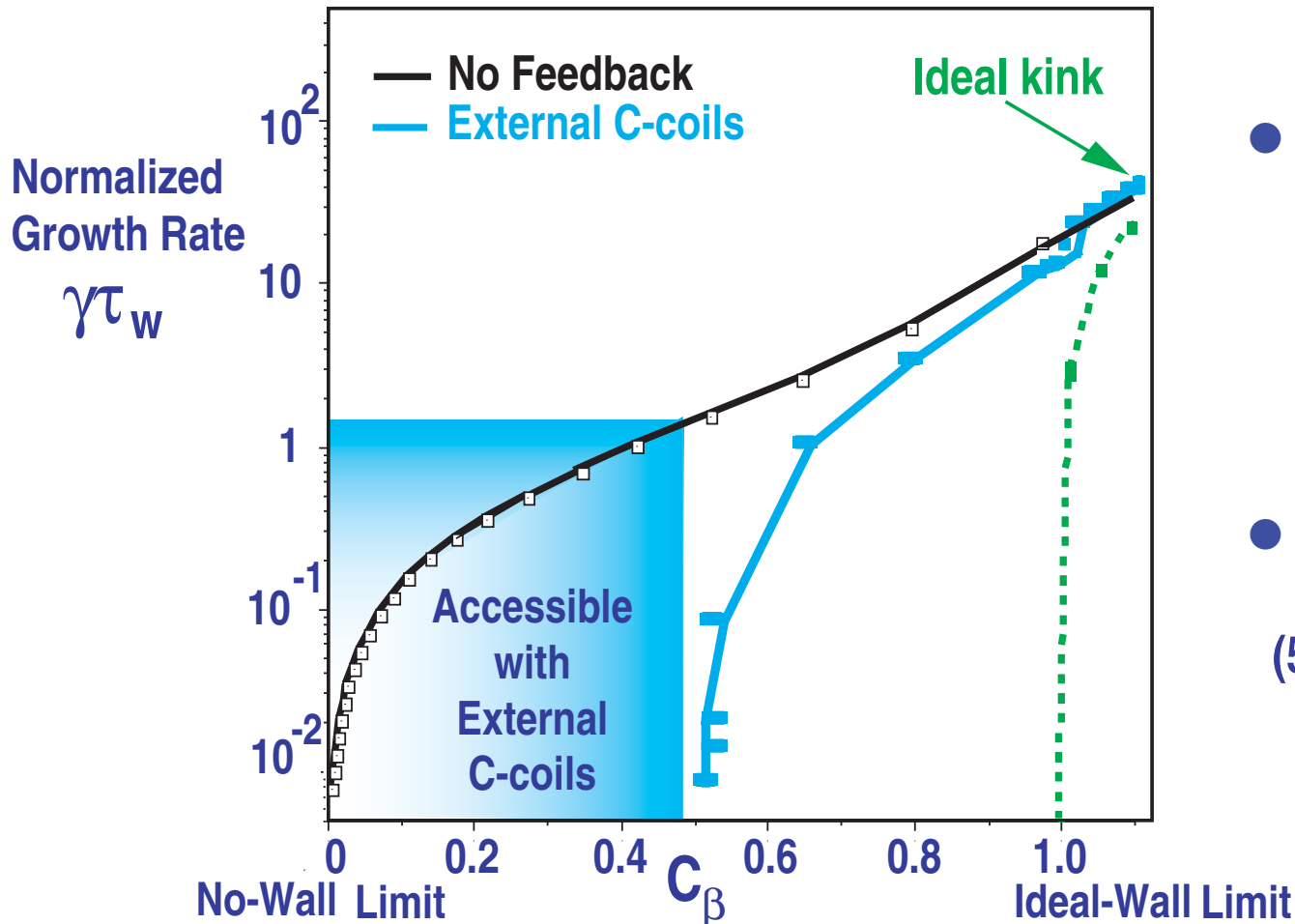


- VALEN code:
  - DCON MHD stability
  - 3D geometry of vacuum vessel and coil geometry
- $\tau_w$  is the vacuum vessel flux diffusion time (5 ms is used in VALEN code)

$$C_\beta = \frac{\beta - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}{\beta^{\text{ideal.wall}} - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}$$

# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS INCREASES STABLE PLASMA PRESSURE TO NEAR IDEAL-WALL LIMIT

- C-coil stabilizes slowly growing RWMs



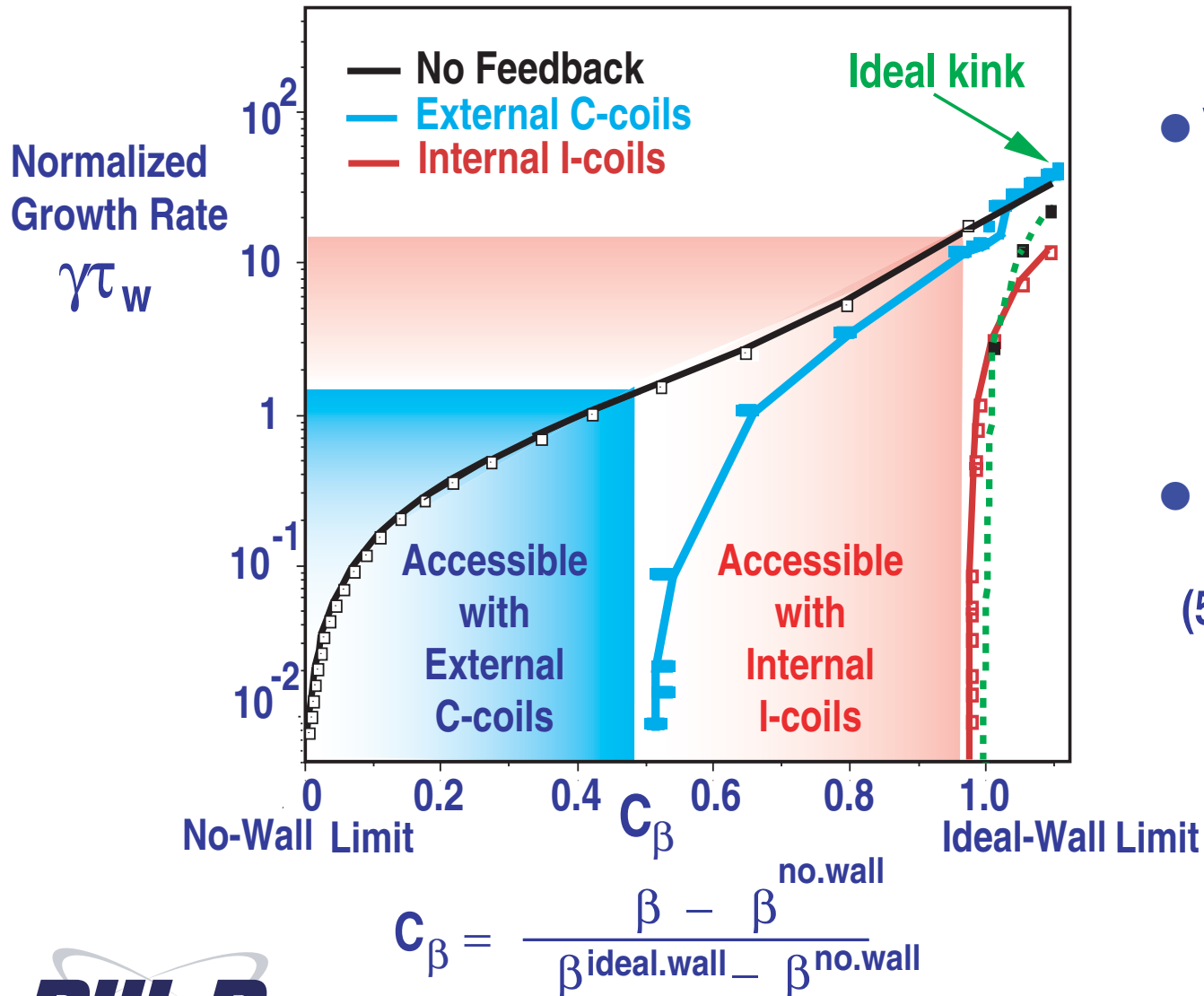
- VALEN code:
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  - 3D geometry of vacuum vessel and coil geometry
- $\tau_w$  is the vacuum vessel flux diffusion time constant (5 ms is used in VALEN code)

$$C_\beta = \frac{\beta - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}{\beta^{\text{ideal.wall}} - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}$$



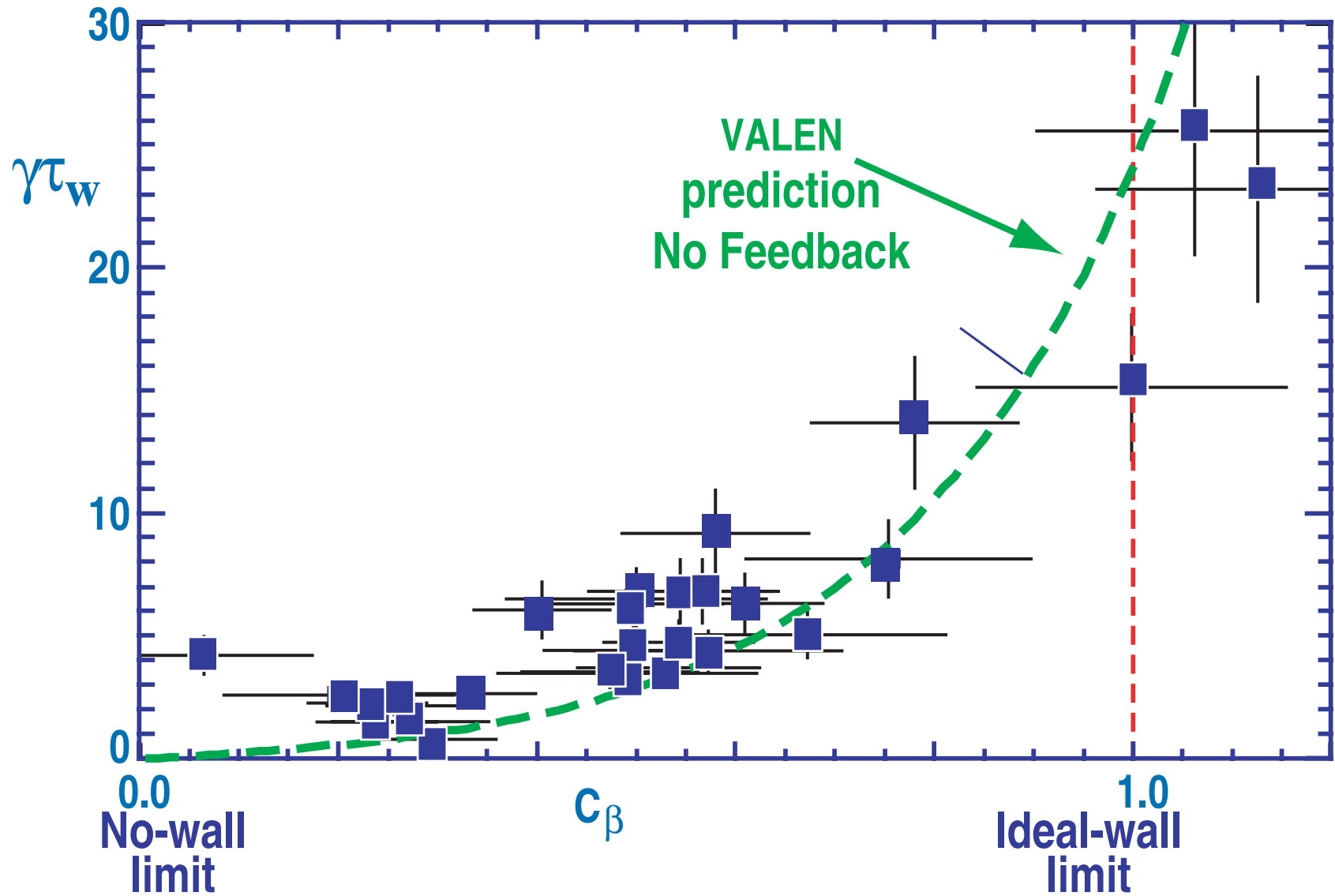
# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS INCREASES STABLE PLASMA PRESSURE TO NEAR IDEAL-WALL LIMIT

- I-coil stabilizes RWMs with growth rate 10 times faster than C-coils



- VALEN code:
  - DCON MHD stability
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- $\tau_w$  is the vacuum vessel flux diffusion time (5 ms is used in VALEN code)

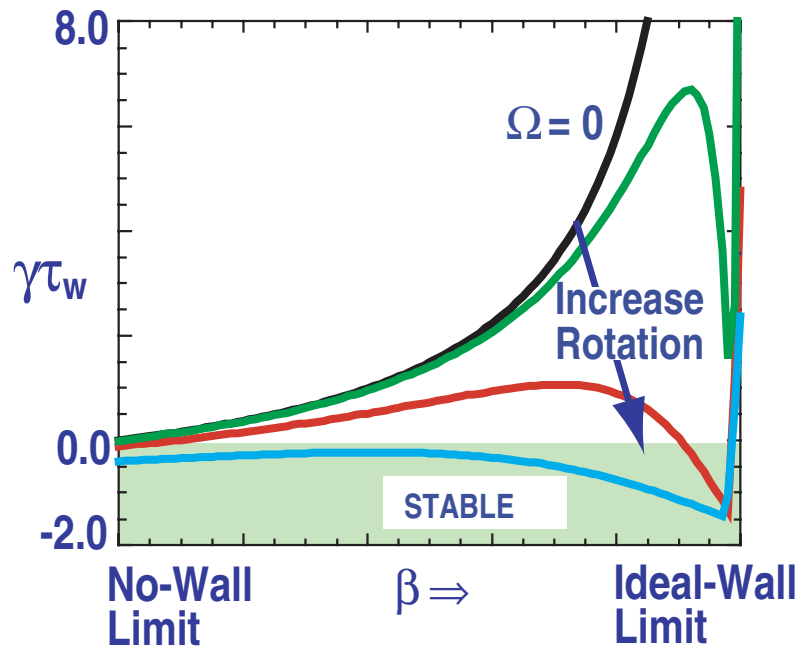
# OBSERVED OPEN LOOP GROWTH RATES AGREE WITH VALEN PREDICTION



# TWO DISTINCT STABILIZATION APPROACHES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED

## Plasma Rotation

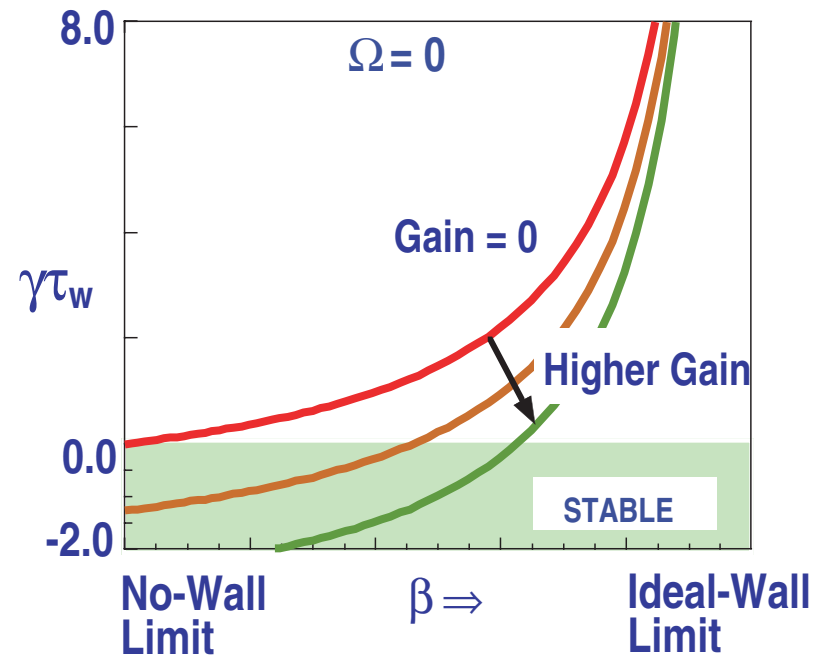
- **Required:** A few % of Alfvén velocity



Exp/3-1Rb

## Magnetic Feedback

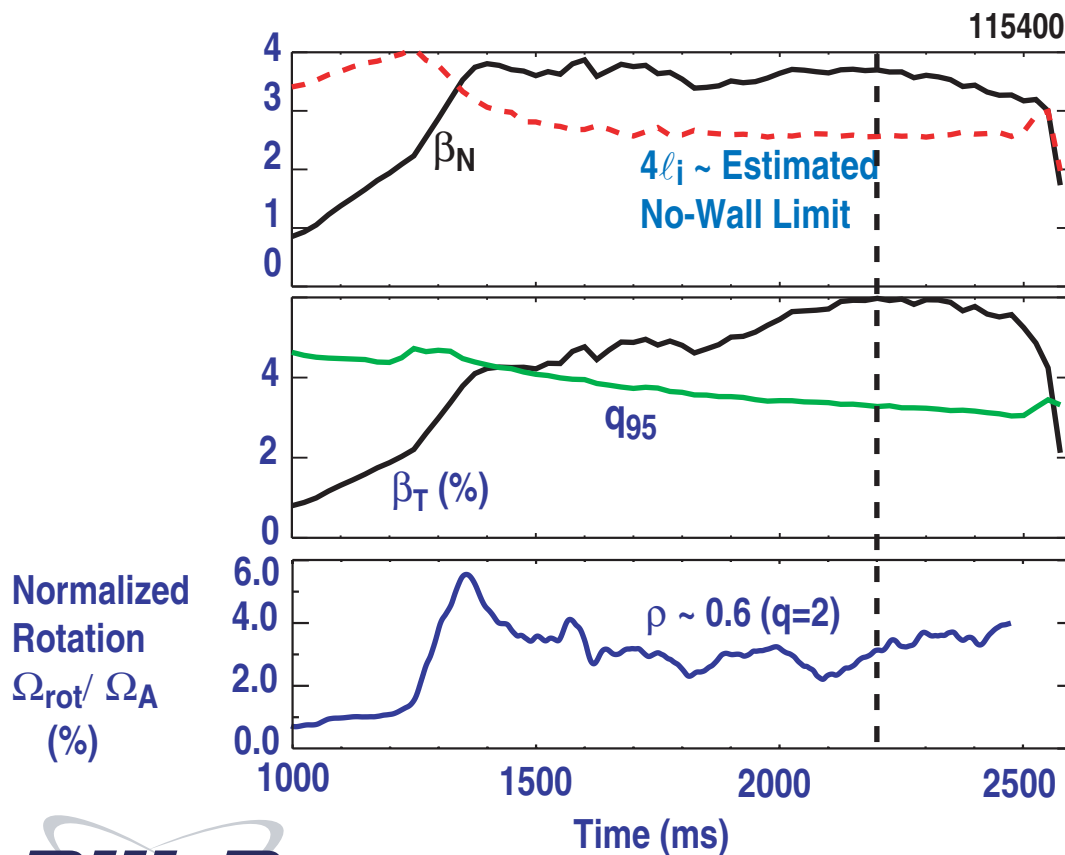
- **Required:** Practical power level
- System stability limits gain



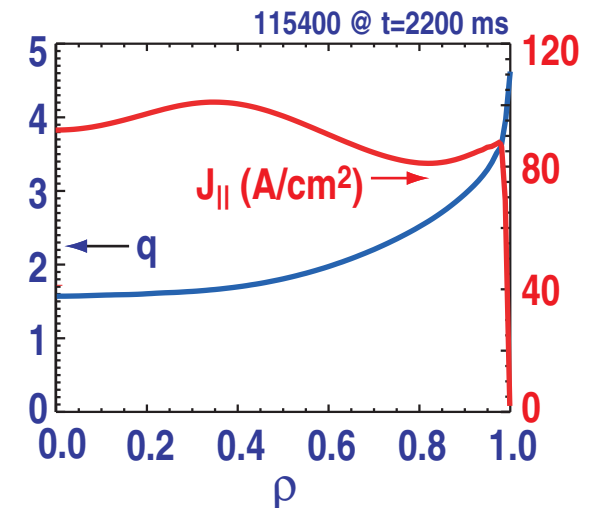
Exp/3-1Ra

# WALL STABILIZATION WITH ROTATION ALLOWS HIGH BETA OPERATION

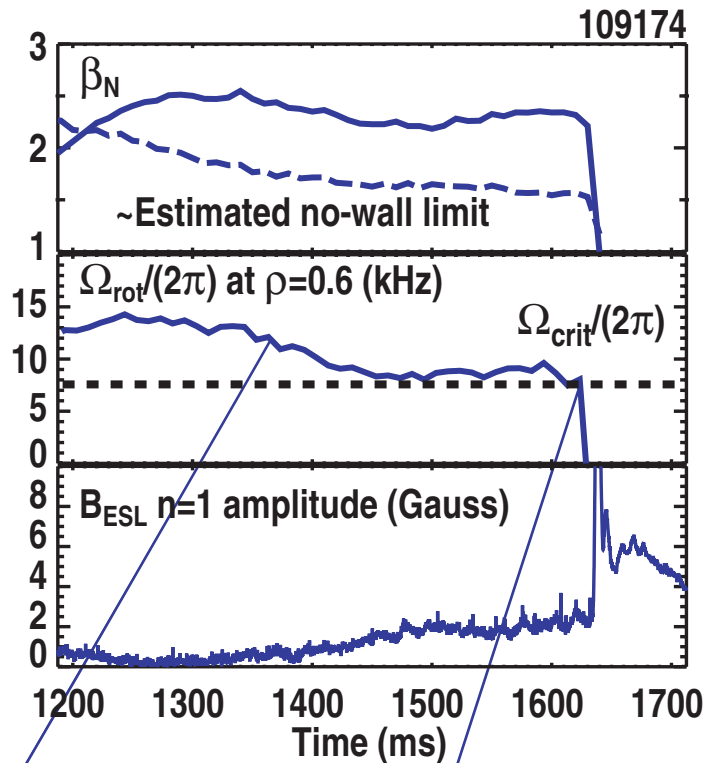
- Stable at  $\beta_N \approx 6 \ell_i$  and  $\beta_T$  reaching to 6%
- Beta exceeds estimated no-wall limit for  $>1s$  ( $> 200 \tau_w$ )



- Broad current profiles can greatly benefit from wall stabilization



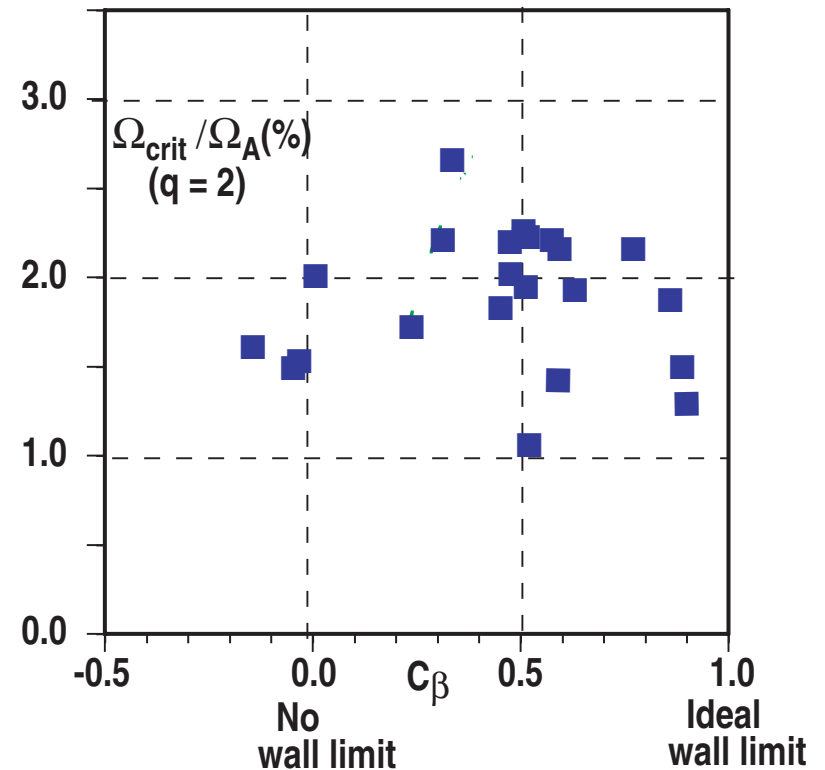
# HOW MUCH PLASMA ROTATION IS REQUIRED TO STABILIZE THE n=1 RWM?



Insufficient  
error field correction  
causes slow-down

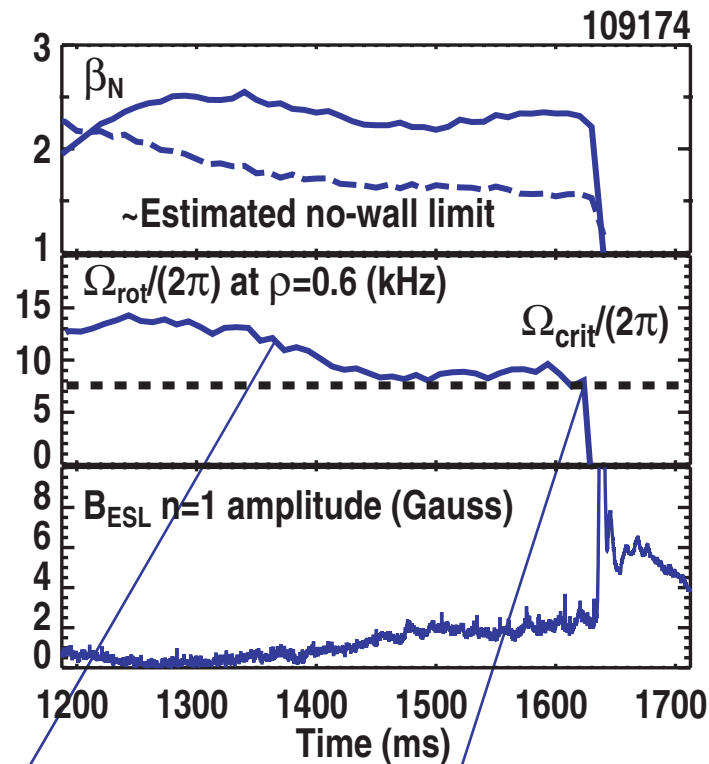
Onset of RWM  
marks  
critical rotation  $\Omega_{crit}$

Measured rotation threshold



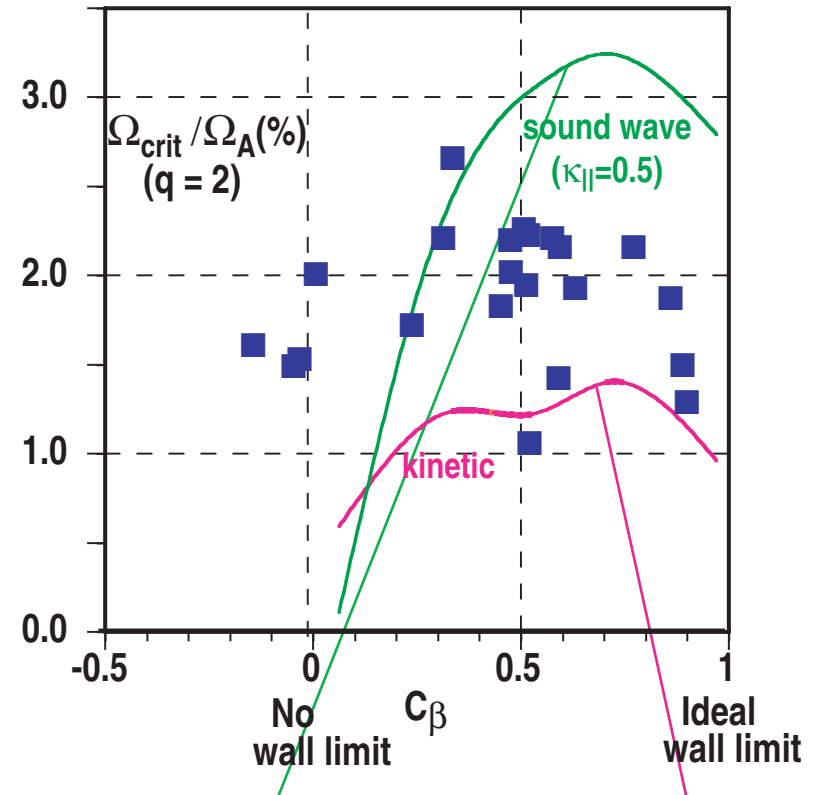
# HOW MUCH PLASMA ROTATION IS REQUIRED TO STABILIZE THE n=1 RWM?

- Comparison with MARS calculation with experimental rotation profile



Insufficient error field correction causes slow-down

Onset of RWM marks critical rotation  $\Omega_{crit}$

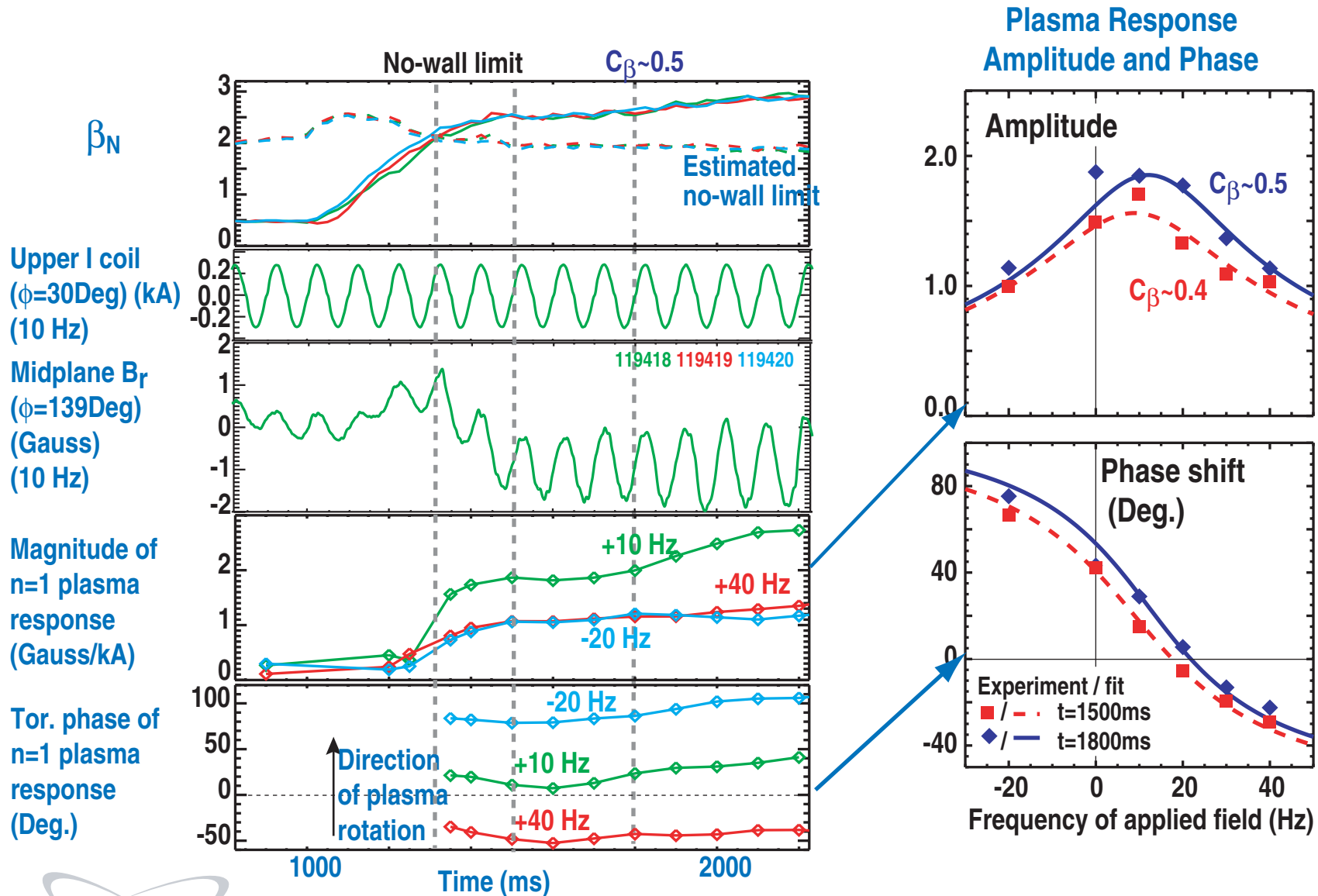


Soundwave damping overestimates the critical rotation

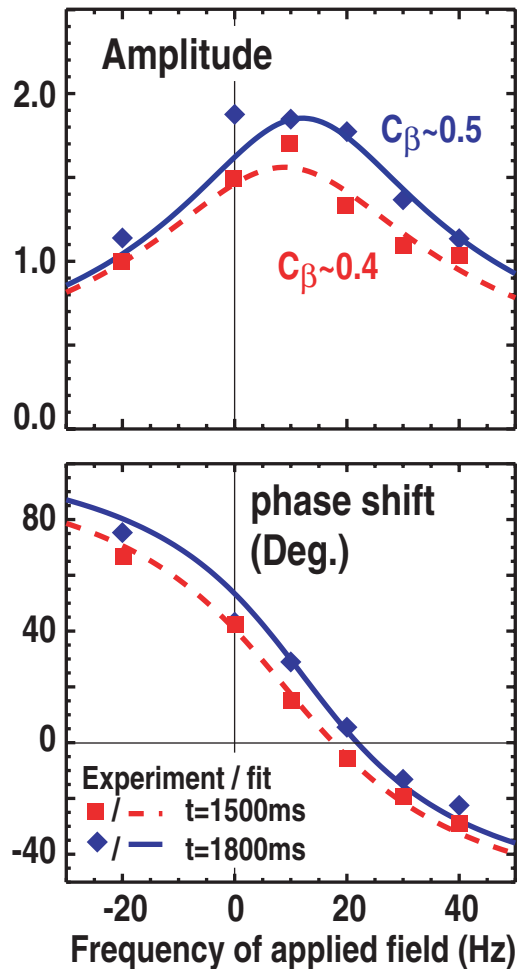
Kinetic damping underestimates the critical rotation

- MARS includes rotation and viscous dissipation

# MHD SPECTROSCOPY PROBES THE RWM STABILITY WHILE THE PLASMA REMAINS STABLE



# SPECTRUM REVEALS GROWTH RATE AND MODE ROTATION FREQUENCY OF THE STABLE RWM



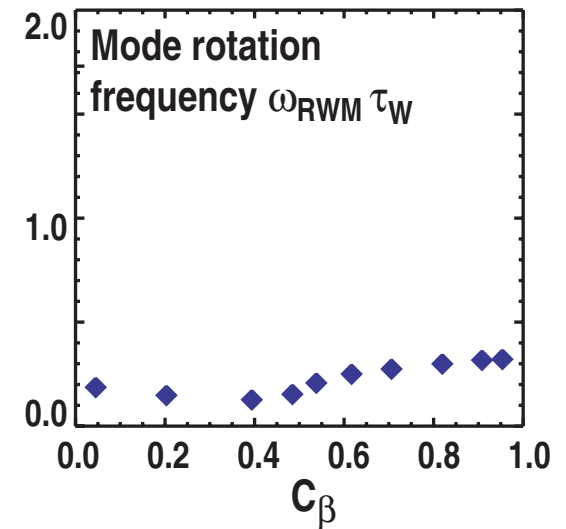
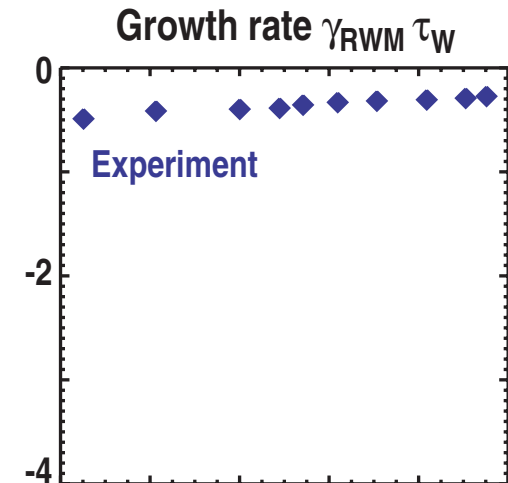
- Spectrum Analysis with a Single Mode Model

$$\gamma_0 = \gamma_{\text{RWM}} + i \omega_{\text{RWM}}$$

- Amplification Factor

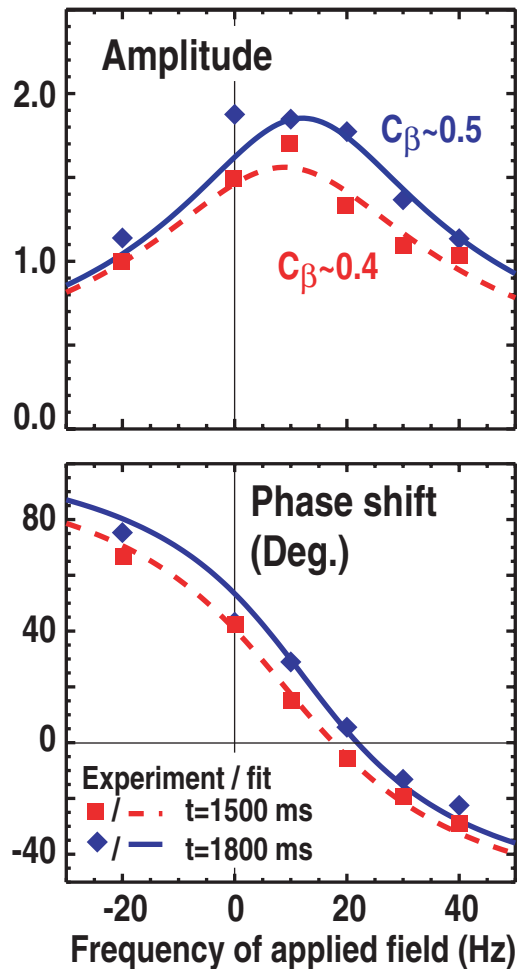
Coupling between external field and RWM

$$= \frac{M (1 + \gamma_0 \tau_w)}{(i \omega_{\text{ext}} \tau_w - \gamma_0 \tau_w)}$$





# SPECTRUM REVEALS GROWTH RATE AND MODE ROTATION FREQUENCY OF THE STABLE RWM



- **Spectrum Analysis with a Single Mode Model**

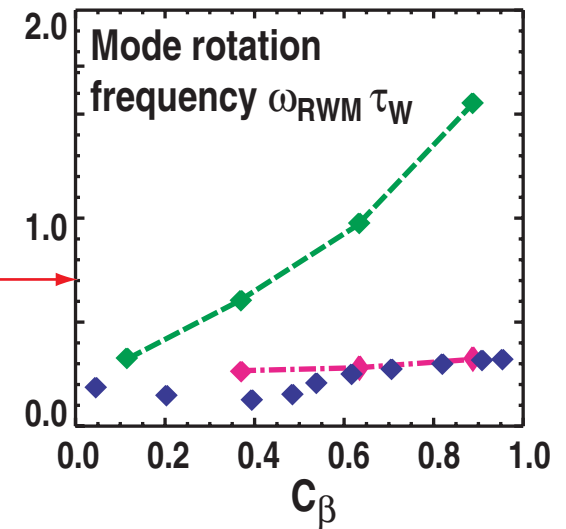
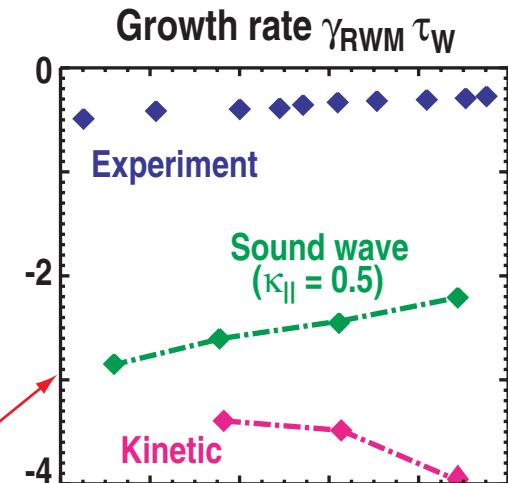
$$\gamma_0 = \gamma_{RWM} + i \omega_{RWM}$$

- **Amplification Factor** Coupling between external field and RWM

$$= \frac{M (1 + \gamma_0 \tau_w)}{(i \omega_{ext} \tau_w - \gamma_0 \tau_w)}$$

- **MARS Comparison**

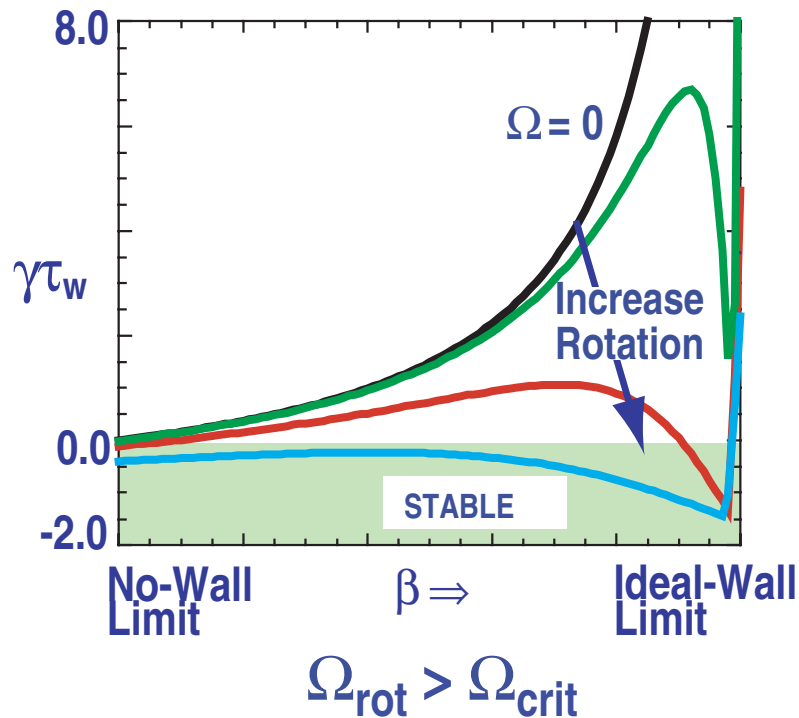
- Growth rate
  - sound wave / kinetic overestimates stabilizing effect
- Mode rotation frequency
  - kinetic : agreement
  - sound wave damping underestimate coupling



# TWO DISTINCT STABILIZATION APPROACHES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED

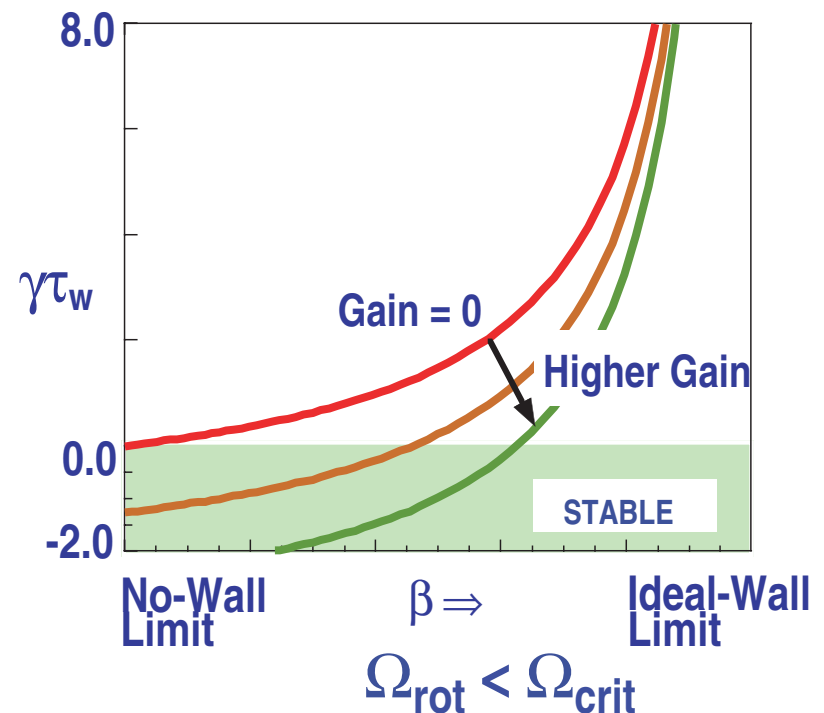
## Plasma Rotation

- **Required:** A few % of Alfvén velocity



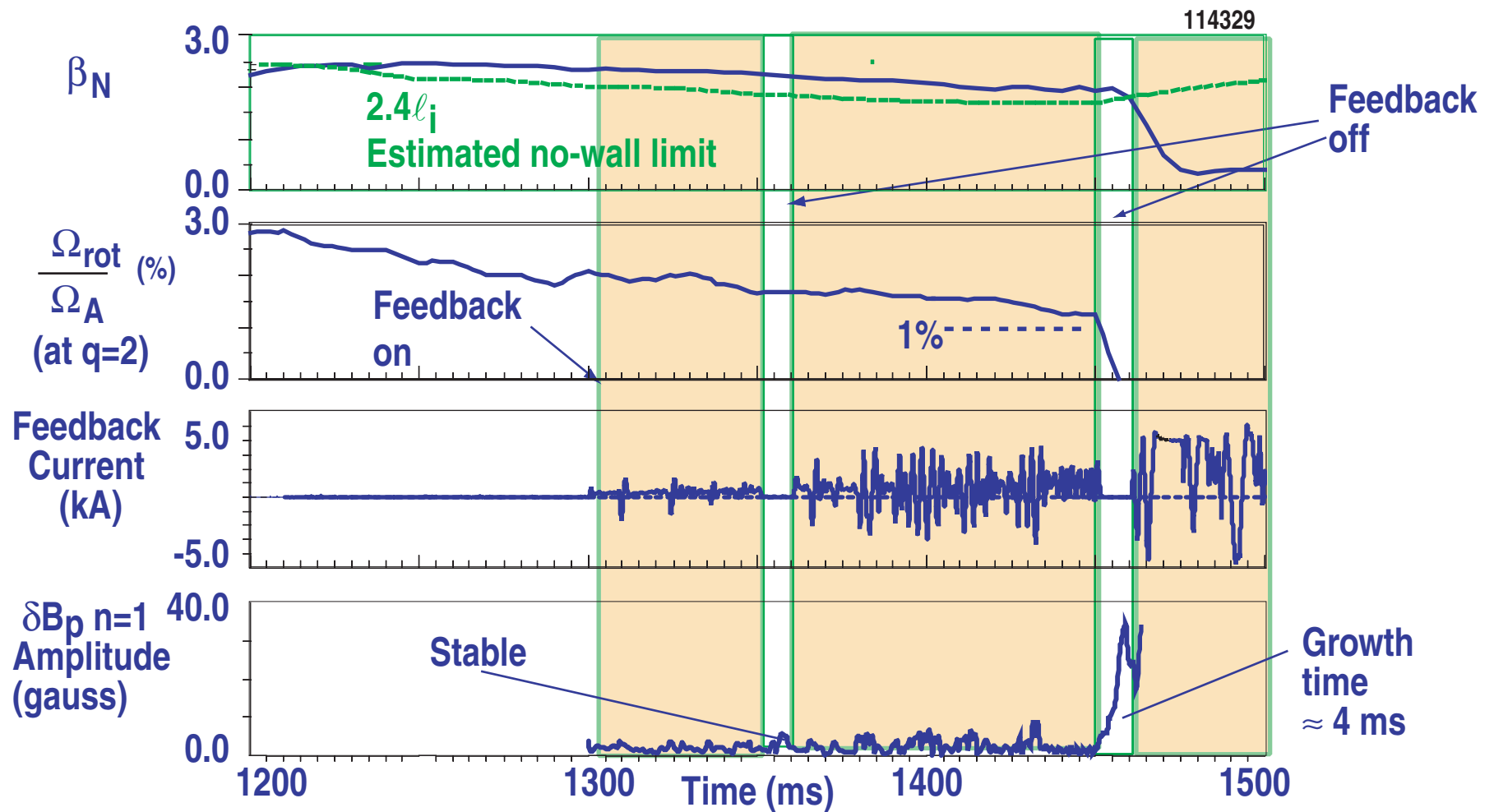
## Magnetic Feedback

- **Required:** Practical power level
- System stability limits gain



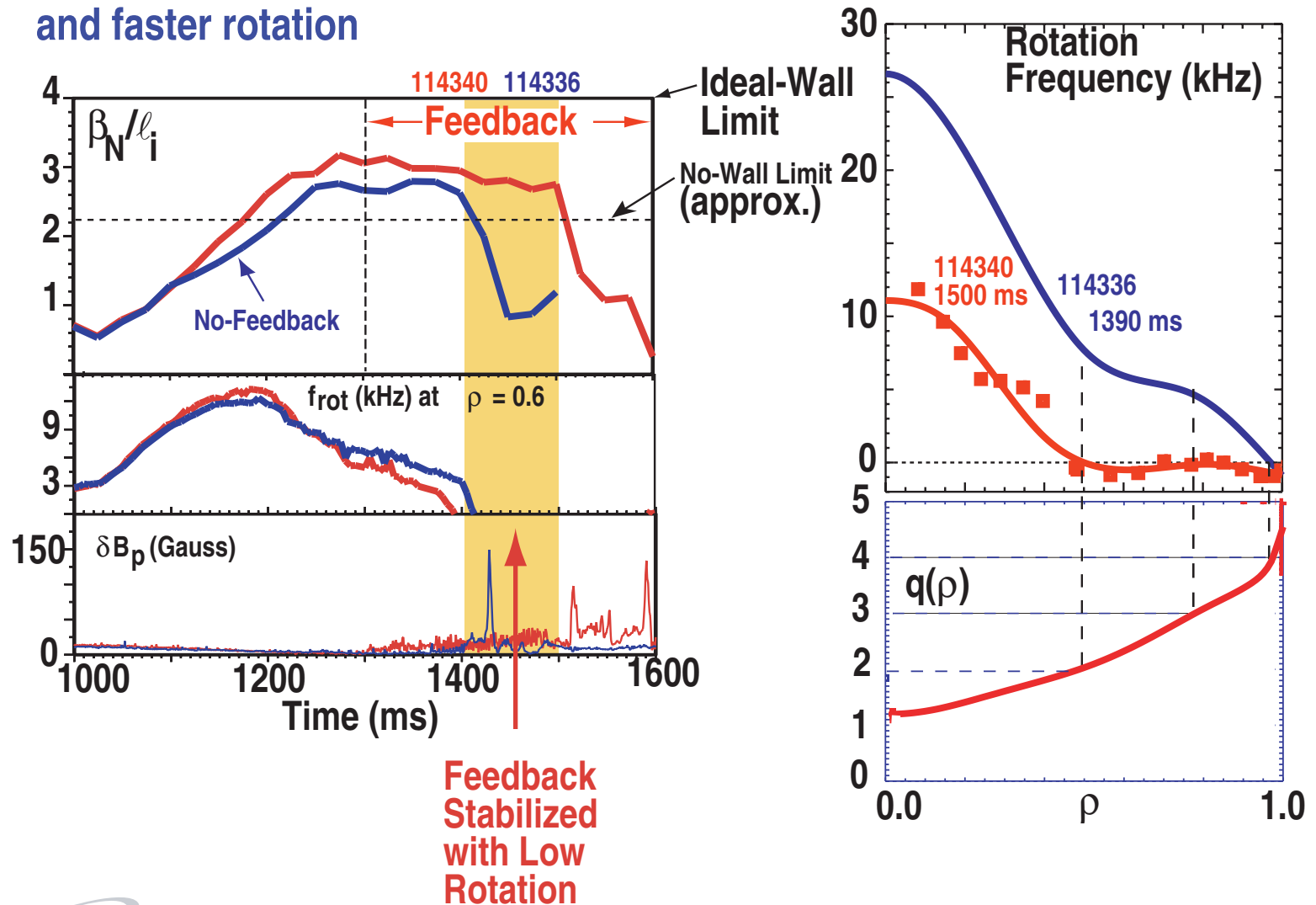
- Rational surface damping mechanism  $\rightarrow \Omega$  at  $q=2$  as a measure of rotations

# DIRECT MAGNETIC FEEDBACK SUSTAINS BETA ABOVE NO-WALL LIMIT EVEN WHEN $\Omega_{rot} < \Omega_{crit}$



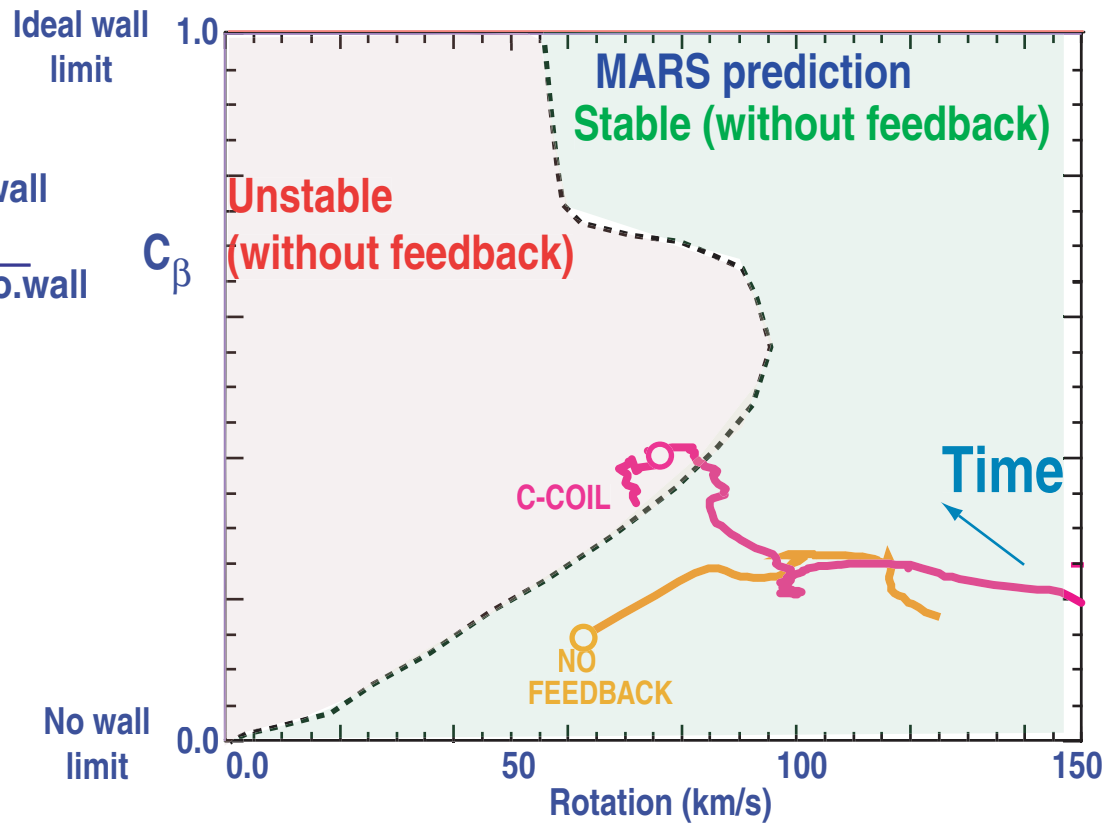
# FEEDBACK SUSTAINS A DISCHARGE WITH NEAR-ZERO ROTATION AT ALL $n=1$ RATIONAL SURFACES

- Comparison case without feedback is unstable even with lower beta and faster rotation



# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS HAS ACHIEVED HIGH $\beta_N$ AT ROTATION BELOW CRITICAL PREDICTED BY MARS

$$C_\beta = \frac{\beta - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}{\beta^{\text{ideal.wall}} - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}$$

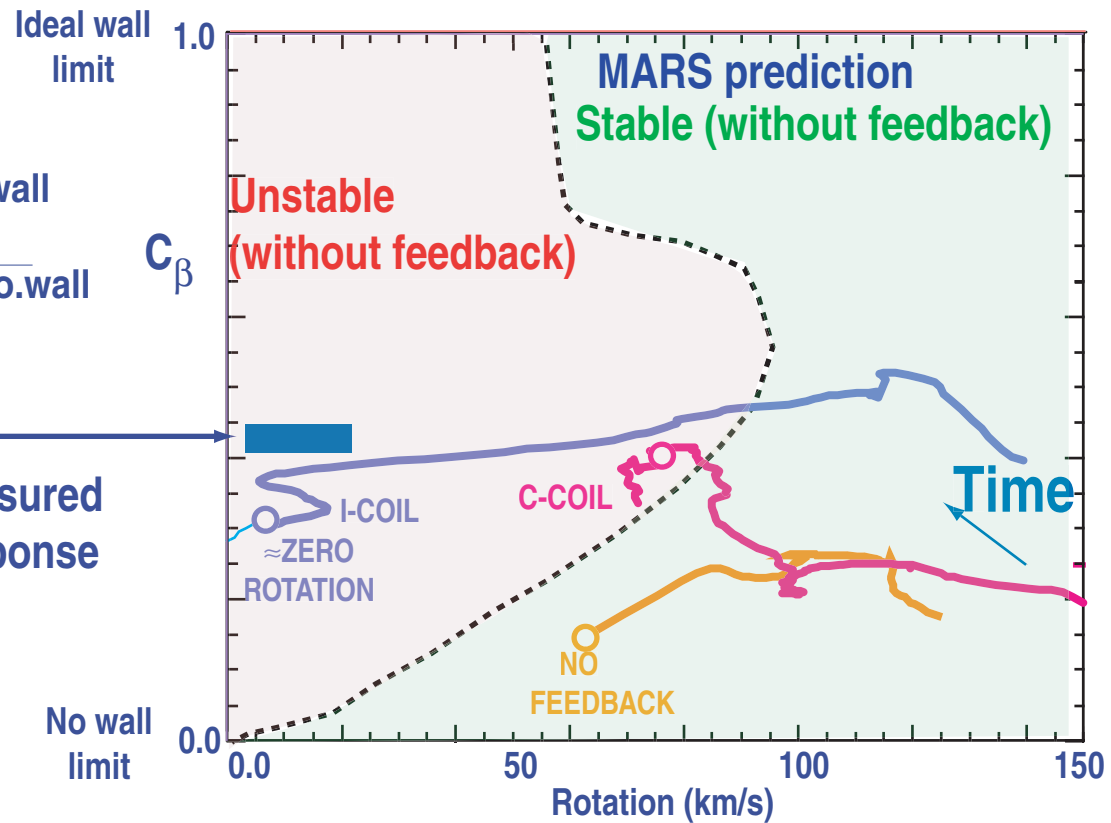


# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS HAS ACHIEVED HIGH $\beta_N$ AT ROTATION BELOW CRITICAL PREDICTED BY MARS

- With near zero rotation,  $C_\beta$  is near the maximum set by control system characteristics

$$C_\beta = \frac{\beta - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}{\beta^{\text{ideal.wall}} - \beta^{\text{no.wall}}}$$

MARS /VALEN prediction for zero rotation, with measured feedback system time response

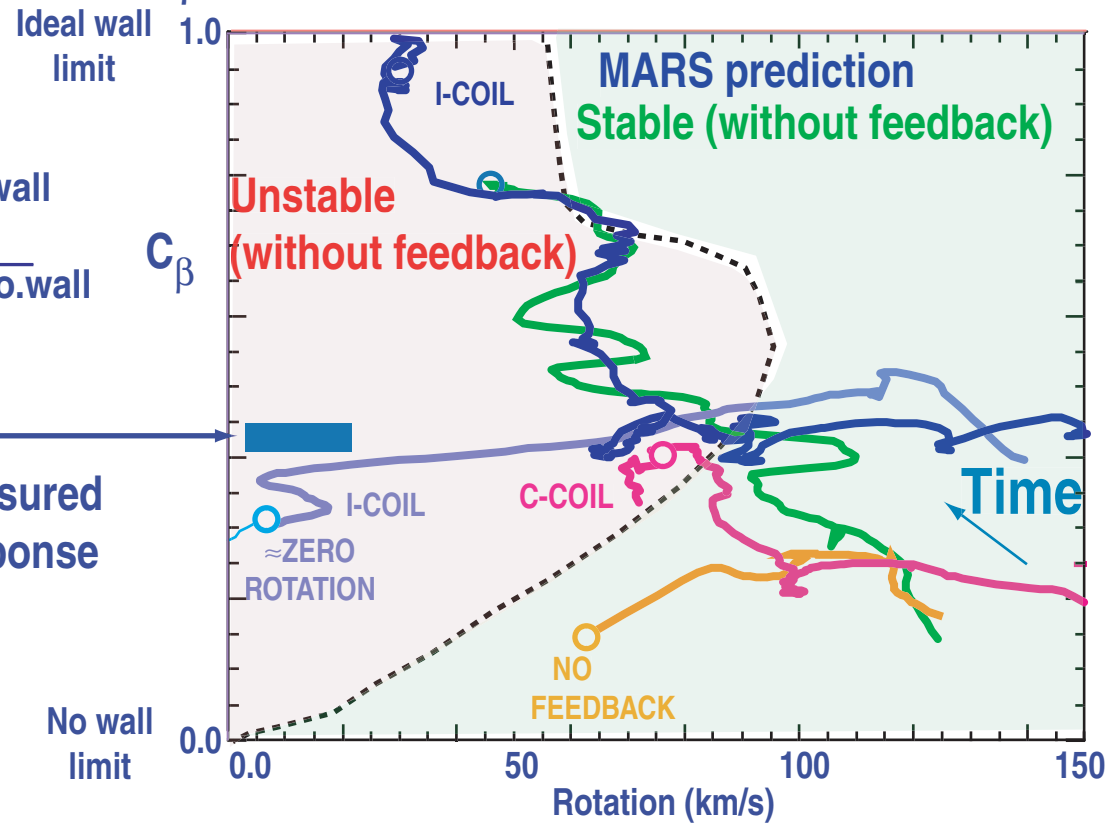


# FEEDBACK WITH I-COILS HAS ACHIEVED HIGH $\beta_N$ AT ROTATION BELOW CRITICAL PREDICTED BY MARS

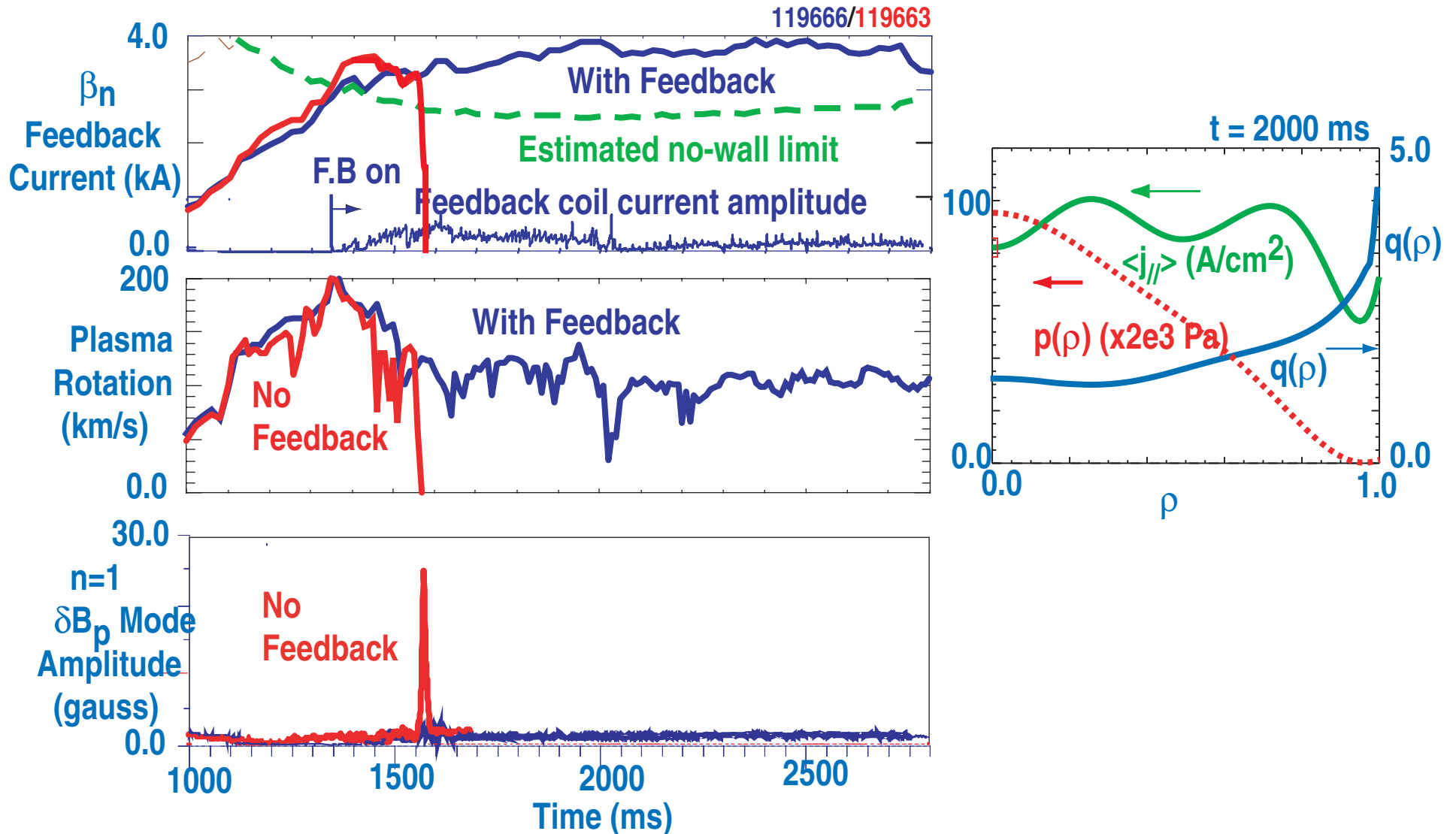
- With near zero rotation,  $C_\beta$  is near the maximum set by control system characteristics
- Feedback with I-coils attained  $C_\beta$  higher than with C-coils

$$C_\beta = \frac{\beta - \beta_{\text{no.wall}}}{\beta_{\text{ideal.wall}} - \beta_{\text{no.wall}}}$$

MARS /VALEN prediction for zero rotation, with measured feedback system time response



# RWM FEEDBACK ASSISTS IN EXTENDING $\beta_N \approx 4$ ADVANCED TOKAMAK DISCHARGE MORE THAN 1 SECOND

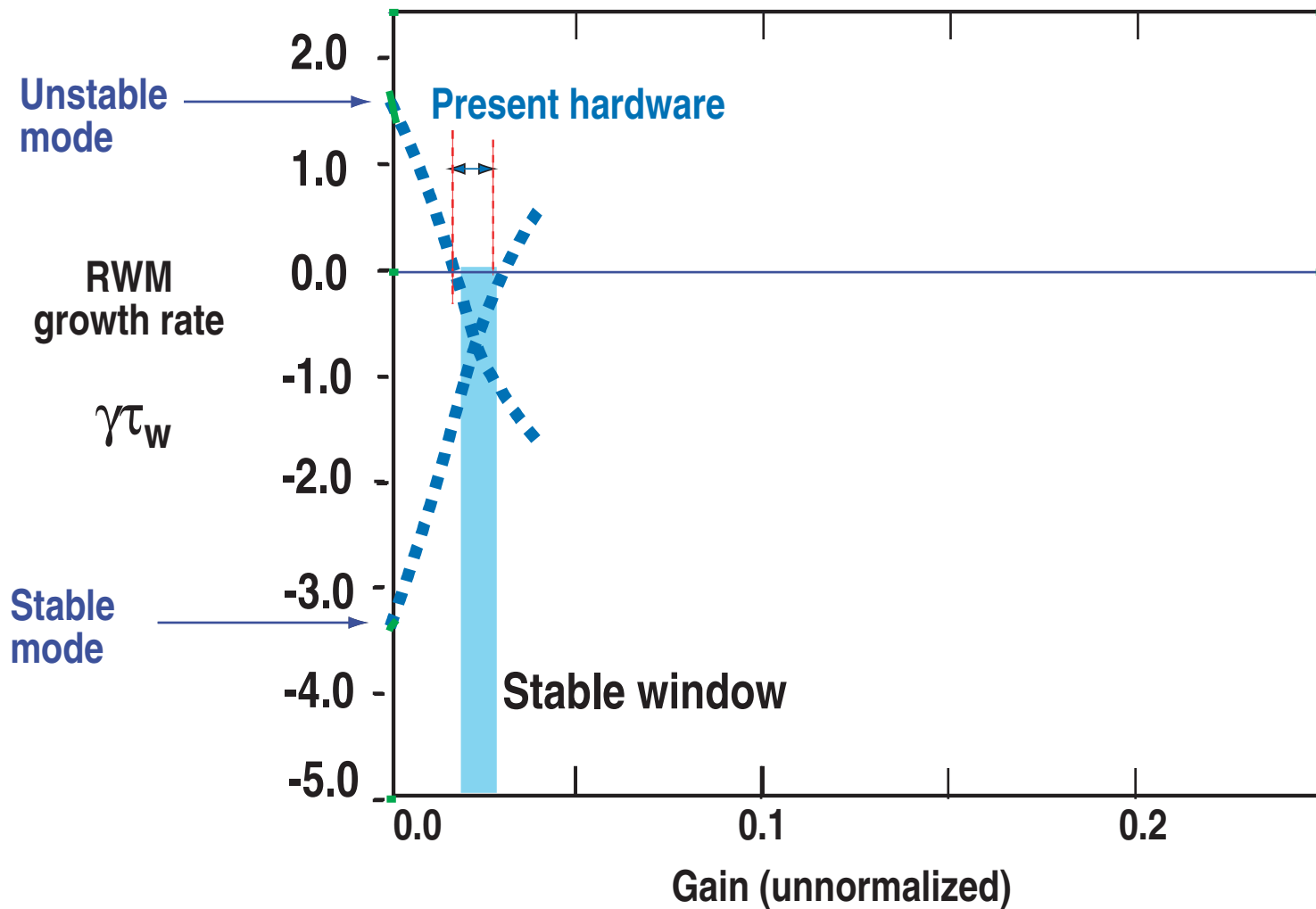


- The rotation is similar for both cases



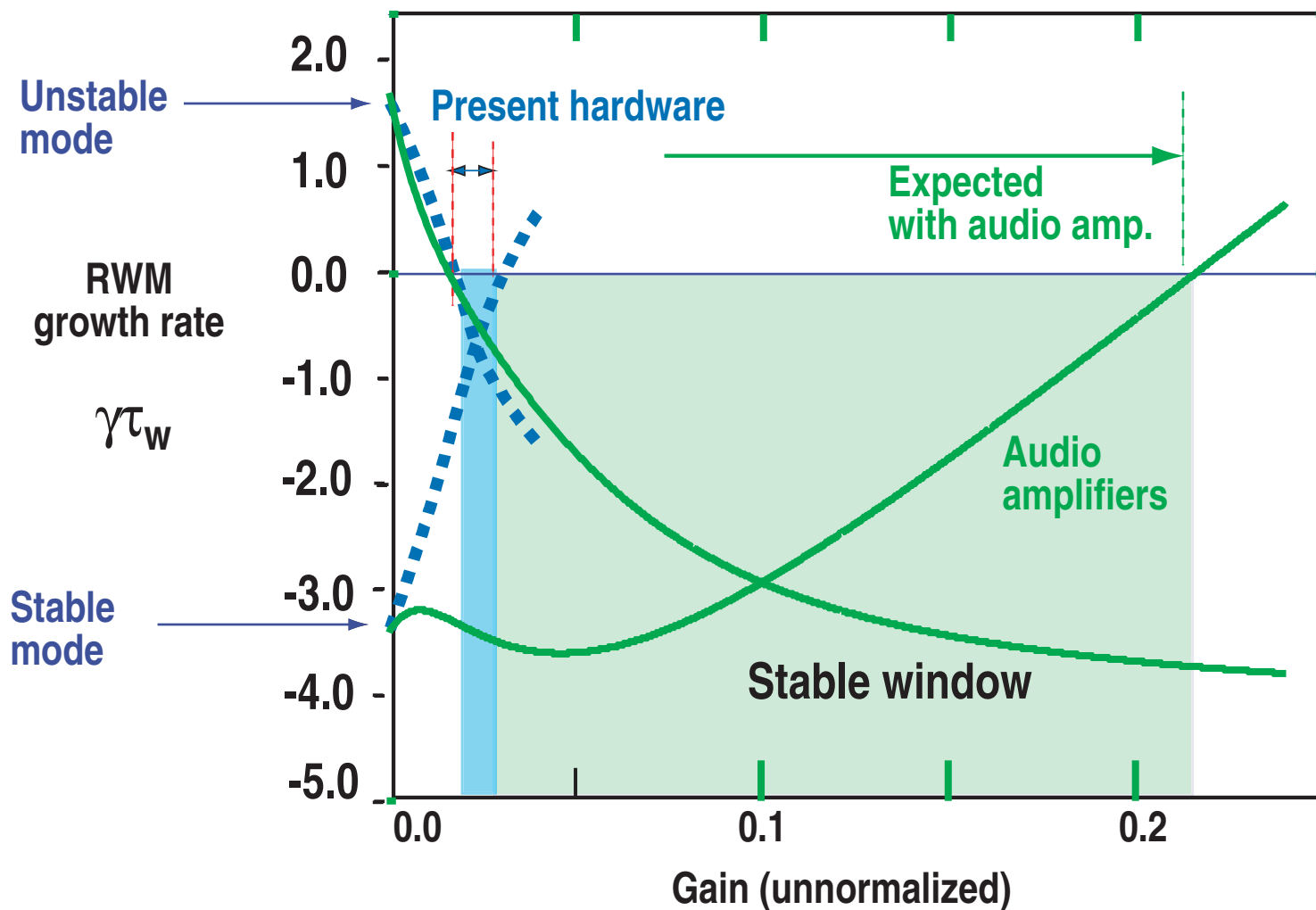
# MARS ANALYSIS PREDICTS THAT STABLE FEEDBACK GAIN RANGE IS NARROW

- With experimental profiles and present hardware
- Stable mode becomes unstable with higher gain due to finite feedback time response



# MARS ANALYSIS PREDICTS THAT STABLE FEEDBACK GAIN RANGE IS NARROW

- High-bandwidth audio amplifiers are being installed to increase the range of stable operation



# OVERALL SUMMARY

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- **Active MHD Spectroscopy has been developed to investigate RWM stability (EX/3-1Rb)**
  - Detailed comparison of experiments with damping models are now possible
  - Sound wave and kinetic damping model results are comparable to experimental values
  - Further improvements of models are needed for a quantitative comparison
- **Direct magnetic feedback with I-coils has been demonstrated as an essential tool for achieving high  $\beta$  plasmas (EX/3-1Ra)**
  - Internal Coils are more effective and efficient than External Coils
  - High  $\beta_n$  close to ideal-wall limit has been achieved with  $\Omega_{\text{rot}} < \Omega_{\text{crit}}$
  - Feedback has assisted in sustaining advanced tokamak discharges with  $\beta_n \approx 4$  over 1 second
  - High-bandwidth audio-amplifiers are being installed to increase the range of stable operation