



### Disruption Event Characterization of Global MHD Modes in NSTX and Plans for Instability Avoidance in NSTX-U

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PPPL







#### OUTLINE

- Motivation and connection to DOE FES priorities
- Mission statement and scope
- Disruption Prediction: Characterization and forecasting approach, implementation, and development
- Disruption Avoidance: Mode stabilization and control plan summary, rotation controller and analysis

# Disruption prediction and avoidance is a critical need for future tokamaks; NSTX-U is focusing research on this

- □ The new "grand challenge" in tokamak stability research
  - □ Can be done! (JET: < 4% disruptions w/C wall, < 10% w/ITER-like wall)
    - ITER disruption rate: < 1 2% (energy load, halo current); << 1% (runaways)</p>
- Strategic plan: utilize/expand stability/control research success
  - Synergize and build upon disruption prediction and avoidance successes attained in present tokamaks (don't just repeat them!)
- FESAC 2014 Strategic Planning report defined "Control of Deleterious Transient Events" highest priority (Tier 1) initiative
- NSTX-U will produce focused research on disruption prediction and avoidance with quantitative measures of progress
   Long-term goal: many sequential shots (~3 shot-mins) without disruption

### **DPAM Working Group - Mission Statement and Scope**

#### Mission statement

Satisfy gaps in understanding prediction, avoidance, and mitigation of disruptions in tokamaks, applying this knowledge to move toward acceptable levels of disruption frequency/severity using quantified metrics

#### Scope

- Location: Initiate and base the study at NSTX-U, expand to a national program and international collaboration (multi-tokamak data)
- Timescale: Multi-year effort, planning/executing experiments of various approaches (leveraging the 5 NSTX-U Year Plan) to reduce plasma disruptivity/severity at high performance
- Breadth: High-level focus on quantified mission goal, with detailed physics areas expected to expand/evolve within the group, soliciting research input/efforts from new collaborations as needed

#### More than 50 members presently on email list

### Disruption event chain characterization capability started for NSTX-U as next step in disruption avoidance plan



#### Approach to disruption prevention

- Identify disruption event chains and elements
- Predict events in disruption chains
- Cues disruption avoidance systems to break event chains
  - Attack events at several places with active control
- Synergizes and builds upon both physics and control successes of NSTX

□ New Disruption Event Characterization and Forecasting (DECAF) code created

## **Disruption Prediction**

### JET disruption event characterization provides framework for understanding / quantifying disruption prediction



#### □ JET disruption event chain analysis performed by hand, desire to automate

### Disruption Event Characterization And Forecasting Code (DECAF) yielding initial results (pressure peaking example)



J.W. Berkery, S.A. Sabbagh, Y.S. Park (Columbia U.) and the NSTX-U Disruption PAM Working Group

- 10 physical events presently defined in code with quantitative warning points
  - Builds on manual analysis of de Vries
    - P.C. de Vries et al., Nucl. Fusion 51 (2011) 053018
  - Builds on warning algorithm of Gerhardt

S.P. Gerhardt et al., Nucl. Fusion 53 (2013) 063021

- New code written (in Python), easily expandable, portable to other tokamaks (can now read DIII-D data)
- <u>Example</u>: Pressure peaking (PRP) disruption event chain identified by code before disruption
  - 1. (PRP) Pressure peaking warnings identified first
  - 2. (VDE) VDE condition subsequently found 19 ms after last PRP warning
  - 3. (IPR) Plasma current request not met
  - 4. (SCL) Shape control warning issued

# DECAF is structured to ease parallel development of disruption characterization, event criteria, and forecasting



### DECAF results detect disruption chain events when applied to dedicated 44 shot NSTX RWM disruption database

### Several events detected for all shots

- RWM: RWM event warning
- SCL: Loss of shape control
- IPR: Plasma current request not met
- DIS: Disruption occurred
- LOQ: Low edge q warning
- □ VDE: VDE warning (40 shots)

#### Others:

- PRP: Pressure peaking warning
- GWL: Greenwald limit
- LON: Low density warning
- LTM: Locked tearing mode



#### DECAF results detect disruption chain events when applied to dedicated 44 shot NSTX RWM disruption database



# DECAF analysis already finding common disruption event chains (44 shot NSTX disruption database)

Common disruption event chains (52.3%)

 $\mathsf{RWM} \rightarrow \mathsf{VDE} \rightarrow \mathsf{SCL} \rightarrow \mathsf{IPR} \rightarrow \mathsf{DIS}$ 

- Related chains
  - RWM → SCL → VDE → IPR → DIS
  - VDE → RWM → SCL → IPR → DIS
  - VDE → RWM → IPR → DIS → SCL
  - RWM → SCL → VDE → GWL → IPR → DIS
- Disruption event chains w/o VDE (11.4%)
- New insights being gained
  - Chains starting with GWL are found that show rotation and  $\beta_N$  rollover before RWM (6.8%)
  - Related chains
    - GWL  $\rightarrow$  VDE  $\rightarrow$  RWM  $\rightarrow$  SCL  $\rightarrow$  IPR  $\rightarrow$  DIS
    - GWL → SCL → RWM → IPR → DIS

Disruption event chains with RWM



# Global mode stability forecasting: build from success of drift kinetic theory modification to MHD as a model

Kinetic modification to ideal MHD

$$\nu \tau_{w} = -\frac{\delta W_{\infty} + \delta W_{K}}{\delta W_{wall} + \delta W_{K}}$$

- Stability depends on
  - Trapped / circulating ions, trapped electrons
  - Particle <u>collisionality</u>
  - Energetic particle (EP) population
  - □ Integrated  $\underline{\omega_{\phi}}$  profile matters!!! : broad rotation resonances in  $\delta W_{K}$

plasma integral over particle energy



(Fig. adapted from R. Pitts et al., Physics World (Mar 2006))

(Hu, Betti, et al., PoP **12** (2005) 057301)

# Initial reduced kinetic RWM stability model for disruption prediction based on full MISK code calculations for NSTX



#### Key stabilization physics

- Precession drift resonance stabilization at lower rotation
- Bounce/transit resonance stabilization at higher rotation
- Collisionality
  - <u>Earlier theory</u>: collisions provided (sole) stabilization – unfavorable for future devices
  - Modern theory: Collisions spoil stabilizing resonances, Mode stabilization vs. v depends on  $\omega_{\phi}$ 
    - At strong resonance: mode stability increases with decreasing v

Just some references:

- J. Berkery et al., PRL 104 (2010) 035003
- S. Sabbagh, et al., NF 50 (2010) 025020
- J. Berkery et al., PRL 106 (2011) 075004
- S. Sabbagh et al., NF 53 (2013) 104007 (2013)
- J. Berkery et al., PoP 21 (2014) 056112
- J. Berkery et al., NF 55 (2015) 123007

#### Elements of the reduced kinetic RWM model in DECAF



#### Kinetic component $\delta W_k$

- Functional forms (mainly) Gaussian) used to reproduce precession and bounce/transit resonances
- Height, width, position of peak depend on collisionality

J.W. Berkery, S.A. Sabbagh, R.E. Bell, et al., NF 55 (2015) 123007

1.0

1.2



# Reduced kinetic RWM model in DECAF results in a calculation of $\gamma \tau_w$ vs. time for each discharge



#### Favorable characteristics

- Stability contours CHANGE for each time point (last time point shown left frame)
- Possible to compute growth rate prediction in real time

# DECAF reduced kinetic model results initially tested on a database of NSTX discharges with unstable RWMs





- 32% predicted unstable < 450 ms before current quench
  - Mostly earlier cases are minor disruptions

### DECAF reduced kinetic RWM initial model shows promise for greater accuracy with further analysis



#### Near-term analysis

- Clarify proximity of predicted instability to full current quench vs. thermal quenches
- Optimize parameters of reduced kinetic RWM model to best predict instability
- **u** Using the above, determine proper  $-\gamma \tau_w$  WARNING LEVEL for instability

### Essential step for DECAF analysis of general tokamak data: Identification of rotating MHD (e.g. NTMs)

### Initial goals

- Create portable code to identify existence of rotating MHD modes
- Track characteristics that lead to disruption
  - e.g. rotation bifurcation, mode lock

## Approach

- Apply FFT analysis to determine mode frequency, bandwidth evolution
- Determine bifurcation and mode locking
- J. Riquezes (U. Michigan SULI student)



#### Continued analysis of rotating MHD for DECAF includes more complex cases examined in NSTX-U (I)

Odd-n magnetic signal / analysis (mode locking / unlocking)



#### Continued analysis of rotating MHD for DECAF includes more complex cases examined in NSTX-U (II)

Even-n magnetic signal / analysis (mode present, not locked)



# First DECAF results for NSTX-U replicate the triggers found in new real-time state machine shutdown capability

- Important capability of DECAF to compare analysis using offline vs. real-time data
  - Simple, initial test
- PCS Shut-down conditions are analogous to DECAF events
  - PCS loss of vertical control
     DECAF VDE

#### DECAF comparison:VDE event

- Matches PCS when r/t signal used (1 criterion)
- VDE event 13 ms earlier using offline EFIT signals (3 criteria)



- S.P. Gerhardt, et al., NSTX-U shutdown handler

## **Disruption Avoidance**

# NSTX-U is building on past strength, creating an arsenal of capabilities for disruption avoidance

Predictor/Sensor (CY available)	Control/Actuator (CY available)	Modes	REFER TO
Rotating and low freq. MHD (n=1,2,3) 2003	Dual-component RWM sensor control (closed loop 2008)	NTM RWM	- Menard NF 2001 - Sabbagh NF 2013
Low freq. MHD spectroscopy (open loop 2005); Kinetic RWM modeling (2008)	Control of β <sub>N</sub> (closed loop 2007)	Kink/ball RWM	- Sontag NF 2007 - Berkery (2009–15) - Gerhardt FST 2012
r/t RWM state-space controller observer (2010)	Physics model-based RWM state-space control (2010)	NTM, RWM Kink/ball, VDE	- Sabbagh NF 2013; + backup slides
Real-time V <sub>o</sub> measurement (2016)	Plasma V <sub><math>\phi</math></sub> control (NTV 2004) (NTV + NBI rotation control closed loop ~ 2017)	NTM Kink/ball RWM	- Podesta RSI 2012 - Zhu PRL 06 +backup - THIS TALK
Kinetic RWM stabilization real-time model (2016-17)	Safety factor, l <sub>i</sub> control (closed loop ~ 2016-17)	NTM, RWM Kink/ball, VDE	- Berkery, NF 2015 (+ this talk) - D. Boyer, 2015
MHD spectroscopy (real-time) (in 5 Year Plan)	Upgraded 3D coils (NCC): improved $V_{\phi}$ and mode control (in 5 Year Plan)	NTM, RWM Kink/ball, VDE	<ul> <li>NSTX-U 5 Year Plan</li> <li>+ this talk</li> <li>+ backup slides</li> </ul>

# Joint NSTX / DIII-D experiments and analysis gives unified kinetic RWM physics understanding for disruption avoidance

#### RWM Dynamics

- RWM rotation and mode growth observed
- No strong NTM activity
- Some weak bursting MHD in DIII-D plasma
  - Alters RWM phase

No bursting MHD in NSTX plasma



S. Sabbagh et al., APS Invited talk 2014

# Evolution of plasma rotation profile leads to kinetic RWM instability as disruption is approached



Kinetic RWM stabilization occurs from broad resonances between plasma rotation and particle precession drift, bounce/circulating, and collision frequencies

S. Sabbagh et al., APS Invited talk 2014

# NTV physics studies for rotation control: measured NTV torque density profiles quantitatively compare well to theory



 $\Box T_{NTV}$  (theory) scaled to match *peak* value of measured *-dL/dt* 

□ Scale factor  $((dL/dt)/T_{NTV}) = 1.7$  and 0.6 for cases shown above - O(1) agreement

KSTAR n = 2 NTV experiments <u>do not</u> exhibit hysteresis
 See recent NTV review paper: K.C. Shaing, K. Ida, S.A. Sabbagh, et al., Nucl. Fusion 55 (2015) 125001

# State space rotation controller designed for NSTX-U using non-resonant NTV and NBI to maintain stable profiles

• Momentum force balance –  $\omega_{\phi}$  decomposed into Bessel function states  $\sum_{i} n_{i} m_{i} \langle R^{2} \rangle \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} = \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho}\right)^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left[\frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho} \sum_{i} n_{i} m_{i} \chi_{\phi} \langle (R \nabla \rho)^{2} \rangle \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \rho}\right] + T_{NBI} + T_{NTV}$ 

NTV torque:

$$T_{NTV} \propto K \times f\left(n_{e,i}^{K1}T_{e,i}^{K2}\right)g\left(\delta B(\rho)\right)\left[I_{coil}^{2}\omega\right] \stackrel{\text{I. Goumiri, C. Rowley, S. Sabbagh,}}{\underset{\text{et al. NF 56 (2016) 036023)}}$$



NSTX-U Disruption Event Characterization of Global MHD Modes in NSTX, Avoidance Plans for NSTX-U (S.A. Sabbagh, et al.) Jul 20th, 2016 28 Discuption Event Characterization of Global MHD Modes in NSTX, Avoidance Plans for NSTX-U (S.A. Sabbagh, et al.)

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## State space rotation controller designed for NSTX-U can evolve plasma rotation profile toward global mode stability



I. Goumiri (Princeton student), S.A. Sabbagh (Columbia U.), C. Rowley (P.U.), D.A. Gates, S.P. Gerhardt (PPPL)

# With planned NCC coil upgrade, rotation controller can reach desired rotation profile faster, with greater fidelity



I. Goumiri (Princeton student), S.A. Sabbagh (Columbia U.), C. Rowley (P.U.), D.A. Gates, S.P. Gerhardt (PPPL)

# Global MHD mode stabilization understanding, forecasting, control will synergize in NSTX-U for disruption avoidance

#### Physics Understanding

- Disruption Event Characterization and Forecasting code (DECAF) identifies RWM events and disruption event chains
- □ Unification of DIII-D / NSTX experiments and analysis gives improved RWM understanding for disruption avoidance → linear computations useful to determine marginal stability points
- Recent DECAF development includes initial RWM forecasting, and initial identification of rotating MHD modes, bifurcation, and locking

### Stability Control

- An arsenal of new profile control tools are planned for NSTX-U to add to existing mode control tools
- Rotation profile controller has potential to steer away from unstable profiles
  - Non-resonant NTV quantitatively verified (circa 2006), well-behaved to alter plasma rotation without hysteresis along with NBI

#### **Additional Slides Follow**

# ITER High Priority need: What levels of plasma disturbances $(\delta B_p; \delta B_p/B_p(a))$ are permissible to avoid disruption?

- NSTX RWM-induced disruptions analyzed
  - Same database analyzed by DECAF in prior slides
- □ Compare maximum  $\delta B_p$  (n = 1 amplitude) causing disruption vs I<sub>p</sub>

■ Maximum δB<sub>p</sub> increases with I<sub>p</sub> Max  $\delta B^{n=1 \text{ lower RWM}}$  vs. Plasma Current



# Maximum δB<sub>p</sub> might follow a de Vries-style engineering scaling I<sub>p</sub><sup>p1</sup>I<sub>i</sub><sup>p2</sup>/(a<sup>p3</sup>q<sub>95</sub><sup>p4</sup>)

- NSTX RWMinduced disruptions
- Compare maximum δB<sub>p</sub> causing disruption to de Vries locked NTM scaling
  - engineering parameters
  - Data shows significant scatter (as does de Vries' analysis for NTM)



- P.C. de Vries, G. Pautasso, E. Nardon, et al., Nucl. Fusion 56 (2016) 026007

# Maximum $\delta B_p / \langle B_p(a) \rangle$ might follow a de Vries-style scaling $I_i^{p1}/q_{95}^{p2}$



# In contrast, maximum $\delta B_p/\langle B_p(a) \rangle$ seems independent of scaling on (I<sub>i</sub>) or (F<sub>p</sub>) (or (F<sub>p</sub>/I<sub>i</sub>))



F<sub>p</sub> = p<sub>tot</sub>(0)/<p<sub>tot</sub>><sub>vol</sub> (from kinetic equilibrium reconstructions)
 Dependence on I<sub>i</sub>, F<sub>p</sub> expected for RWM marginal stability points

## Recent NSTX-U controlled shutdown example



# In addition to active mode control, the NSTX-U RWM state space controller can be used for real-time disruption warning

- The controller "observer" produces a physics modelbased calculation of the expected sensor data – <u>a</u> <u>synthetic diagnostic</u>
- If the real-time synthetic diagnostic doesn't match the measured sensor data, a r/t disruption warning signal can be triggered
  - Technique will be assessed using the DECAF code

#### Effect of 3D Model Used



# NSTX is a spherical torus equipped to study passive and active global MHD control

#### □ High beta, low aspect ratio

□ R = 0.86 m, A > 1.27

- **α**  $β_t < 40\%, β_N > 7$
- Copper stabilizer plates for kink mode stabilization

#### Midplane control coils

- n = 1 3 field correction, magnetic braking of ω<sub>φ</sub> by NTV
   n = 1 DWM control
- n = 1 RWM control

#### Combined sensor sets now used for RWM feedback

□ 48 upper/lower B<sub>p</sub>, B<sub>r</sub>



# Kinetic RWM stability analysis evaluated for DIII-D and NSTX plasmas

#### Summary of results

- Plasmas free of other MHD modes can reach or exceed linear kinetic RWM marginal stability
- Bursting MHD modes can lead to non-linear destabilization before linear stability limits are reached
  - Present analysis can quantitatively define ; a "weak stability" region below linear instability Strait, et al., PoP **14** (2007) 056101



S.A. Sabbagh, J.W. Berkery, J. Hanson, et al. APS DPP Invited Talk VI2.0002 (2014)

NSTX-U Disruption Event Characterization of Global MHD Modes in NSTX, Avoidance Plans for NSTX-U (S.A. Sabbagh, et al.) Jul 20th, 2016 41

#### Kinetic RWM stability analysis for experiments (MISK)

# Bounce resonance stabilization dominates for DIII-D vs. precession drift resonance for NSTX at similar, high rotation





# Increased RWM stability measured in DIII-D plasmas as $q_{min}$ is reduced is consistent with kinetic RWM theory

 $|\delta W_{K}|$  for trapped resonant ions vs. scaled experimental rotation (MISK)



### **Disruption Characterization Code** now yielding initial results: disruption event chains, with related quantitative warnings (2)



- This example: Greenwald limit warning during I<sub>p</sub> rampdown
  - 1. (GWL) Greenwald limit warning issued
  - (VDE) VDE condition then found
     0.6 ms after GWL warning
  - (IPR) Plasma current request not met

#### J.W. Berkery, S.A. Sabbagh, Y.S. Park

#### Active RWM control: dual $B_r + B_p$ sensor feedback gain and phase scans produce significantly reduced n = 1 field



### Model-based RWM state space controller including 3D model of plasma and wall currents used at high $\beta_N$



0.2

0.4

0.6

t (s)

0.8

1.0

#### State Derivative Feedback Algorithm needed for Current Control

• State equations to advance  $\vec{x} = A\vec{x} + B\vec{u}$   $\vec{u} = -K_c\vec{x} = \dot{I}_{cc}$  $\vec{y} = C\vec{x} + D\vec{u}$  Control vector, u; controller gain,  $K_c$ 

Observer est., y; observer gain,  $K_o$ 

 $K_c$ ,  $K_o$  computed by standard methods (e.g. Kalman filter used for observer)

- Previously published approach found to be formally "uncontrollable" when applied to current control
- State derivative feedback control approach

$$\dot{\vec{x}} = A\vec{x} + B\vec{u}$$
  $\vec{u} = -\hat{K}_c\dot{\vec{x}}$   $\longrightarrow$   $\vec{I}_{cc} = -\hat{K}_c\vec{x}$ 

 $\dot{\vec{x}} = ((\mathbf{I} + B\hat{K}_c)^{-1}A)\vec{x}$  e.g. T.H.S. Abdelaziz, M. Valasek., Proc. of 16th IFAC World Congress, 2005

new Ricatti equations to solve to derive control matrices – still "standard" solutions for this in control theory literature

Advance discrete state vector  

$$\hat{\vec{x}}_{t} = A\vec{x}_{t-1} + B\vec{u}_{t-1}; \quad \hat{\vec{y}}_{t} = C\hat{\vec{x}}_{t}$$
 (time update)  
 $\vec{x}_{t+1} = \hat{\vec{x}}_{t} + A^{-1}K_{o}(\vec{y}_{sensors(t)} - \hat{\vec{y}}_{t})$  (measurement  
update)

Written into the PCS

- General (portable) matrix output file for operator

# NSTX RWM state space controller sustains high $\beta_N$ , low $I_i$ plasma – available for NSTX-U with independent coil control



S. Sabbagh et al., Nucl. Fusion **53** (2013) 104007

### RWM state space controller sustains otherwise disrupted plasma caused by DC n = 1 applied field



- n = 1 DC applied field test
  - Generate resonant field amplication, disruption
  - Use of RWM state space controller sustains discharge
  - RWM state space controller sustains discharge at high  $\beta_N$ 
    - Best feedback phase produced long pulse,  $\beta_N =$ 6.4,  $\beta_N/l_i = 13$

S. Sabbagh et al., Nucl. Fusion **53** (2013) 104007

# **Open-loop comparisons between measurements and RWM state space controller show importance of states and model**



Improved agreement with sufficient number of states (wall detail)  3D detail of model important to improve agreement

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#### Effect of 3D Model Used



# Active RWM control design study for proposed NSTX-U 3D coil upgrade (NCC coils) shows superior capability



# <u>NSTX-U</u>: RWM active control capability increases as proposed 3D coils upgrade (NCC coils) are added



# When T<sub>i</sub> is included in NTV rotation controller model, 3D field current and NBI power can compensate for T<sub>i</sub> variations

