

Development of Burning Plasma and Advanced Scenarios in the DIII-D Tokamak

by
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for the **DIII-D Team**

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THE DIII-D TEAM CONSISTS OF >300 PROFESSIONALS FROM >70 INSTITUTIONS



US Labs

- ANL (Argonne, IL)
- INEL (Idaho Falls, ID)
- LANL (Los Alamos, NM)
- LLNL (Livermore, CA)
- ORNL (Oak Ridge, TN)
- PNL (Richland, WA)
- PPPL (Princeton, NJ)
- SNL (Sandia, NM)

US Industries

- CompX (Del Mar, CA)
- CPI (Palo Alto, CA)
- Creare (Hanover, NH)
- Digital Finetec (Ventura, CA)
- FAR Tech (San Diego, CA)
- HiTech Metallurgical (San Diego, CA)
- IR&T (Santa Monica, CA)
- Orincon (San Diego, CA)
- SAIC (La Jolla, CA)
- Surmet (Burlington, MA)
- Thermacore (Lancaster, PA)
- TSI Research (Solana Beach, CA)

US Universities

- Alaska (Fairbanks, AK)
- Auburn (Auburn, Alabama)
- Cal Tech (Pasadena, CA)
- Colorado School of Mines (Golden, CO)
- Columbia (New York, NY)
- Georgia Tech (Atlanta, GA)
- Hampton (Hampton, VA)
- Lehigh (Bethlehem, PA)
- Maryland (College Park, MD)
- MIT (Boston, MA)
- Palomar (San Marcos, CA)
- New York U. (New York, NY)
- Texas (Austin, TX)
- UCB (Berkeley, CA)
- UCI (Irvine, CA)
- UCLA (Los Angeles, CA)
- UCSD (San Diego, CA)
- U. New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM)
- Washington (Seattle, WA)
- Wisconsin (Madison, WI)

Russia

- Ioffe (St. Petersburg, Russia)
- Keldysh (Udmurtia, Moscow, Russia)
- Kurchatov (Moscow, Russia)
- Moscow State (Moscow, Russia)
- Trinitiy (Troitsk, Russia)
- Gycom (Nizhny Novgorod, Russia)

European Community

- Cadarache (St. Paul-Lez, Durance, France)
- Consorzio RFX (Padua, Italy)
- Culham (Culham, Oxfordshire, England)
- Frascati (Frascati, Lazio, Italy)
- FOM (Utrecht, The Netherlands)
- IPP (Garching, Greifswald, Germany)
- JET-EFDA (Oxfordshire, England)
- KFA (Julich, Germany)
- Kharkov IPT, (Ukraine)
- Lausanne (Lausanne, Switzerland)
- Chalmers U. (Goteberg, Sweden)
- Helsinki U. (Helsinki, Finland)
- U. Naples (Naples, Italy)
- U. Strathclyde (Glasgow, Scotland)
- U. Wales (Wales)

Japan

- JAERI (Naka, Ibaraki-ken, Japan)
- JT-60U
- JFT-2M
- Tsukuba University (Tsukuba, Japan)
- NIFS (Toku, Gifu-ken, Japan)
- LHD

Other International

- Australia National U. (Canberra, AU)
- ASIPP (Hefei, China)
- KAIST (Daegon, S. Korea)
- KBSI (Daegon, S. Korea)
- National U. (Taiwan)
- Nat. Nucl. Ctr. (Kurchatov City, Kazakhstan)
- SWIP (Chengdu, China)
- U. Alberta (Alberta, Canada)
- U. of Kiel (Kiel, Germany)
- U. Toronto (Toronto, Canada)

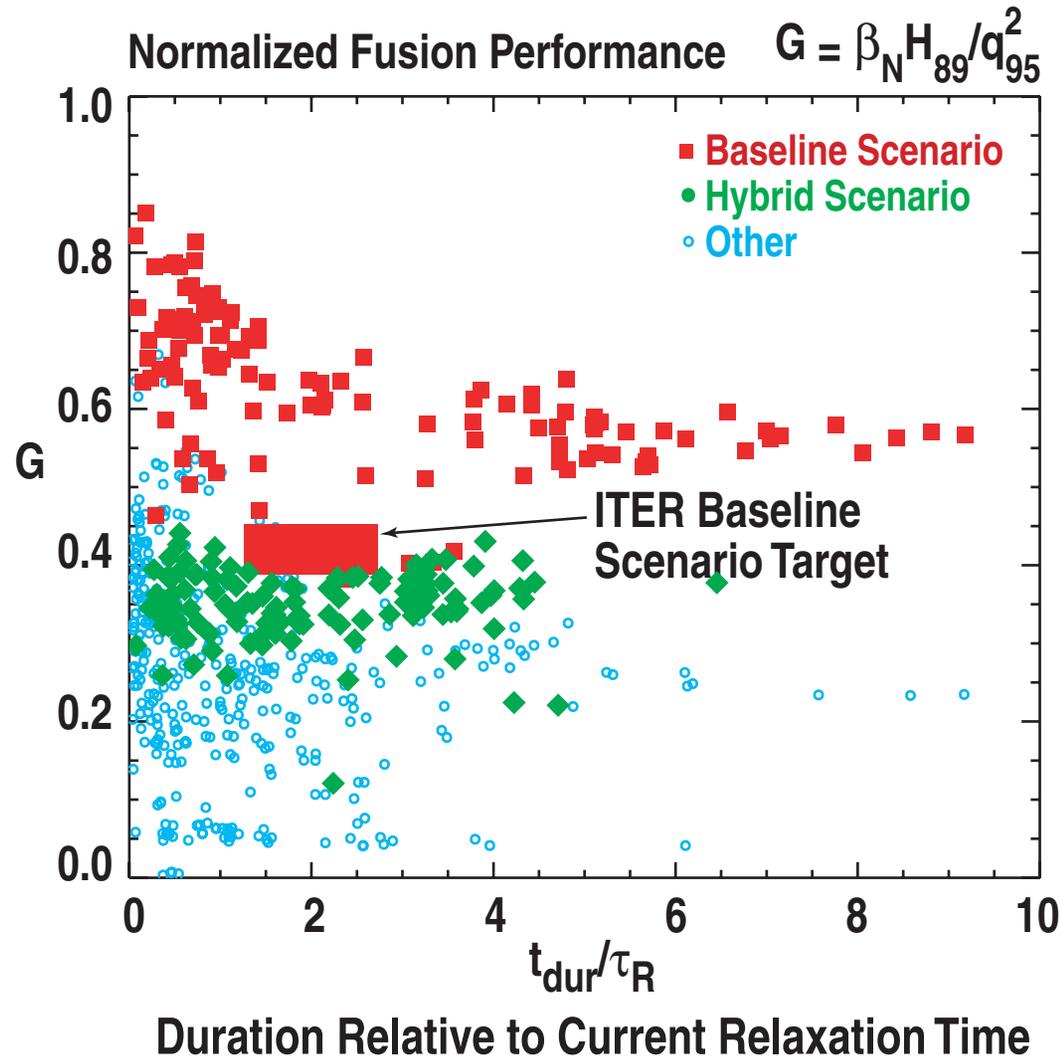


DIII-D PROGRAM GOAL: TO ESTABLISH THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR THE OPTIMIZATION OF THE TOKAMAK

Highlights presented here are organized around three themes:

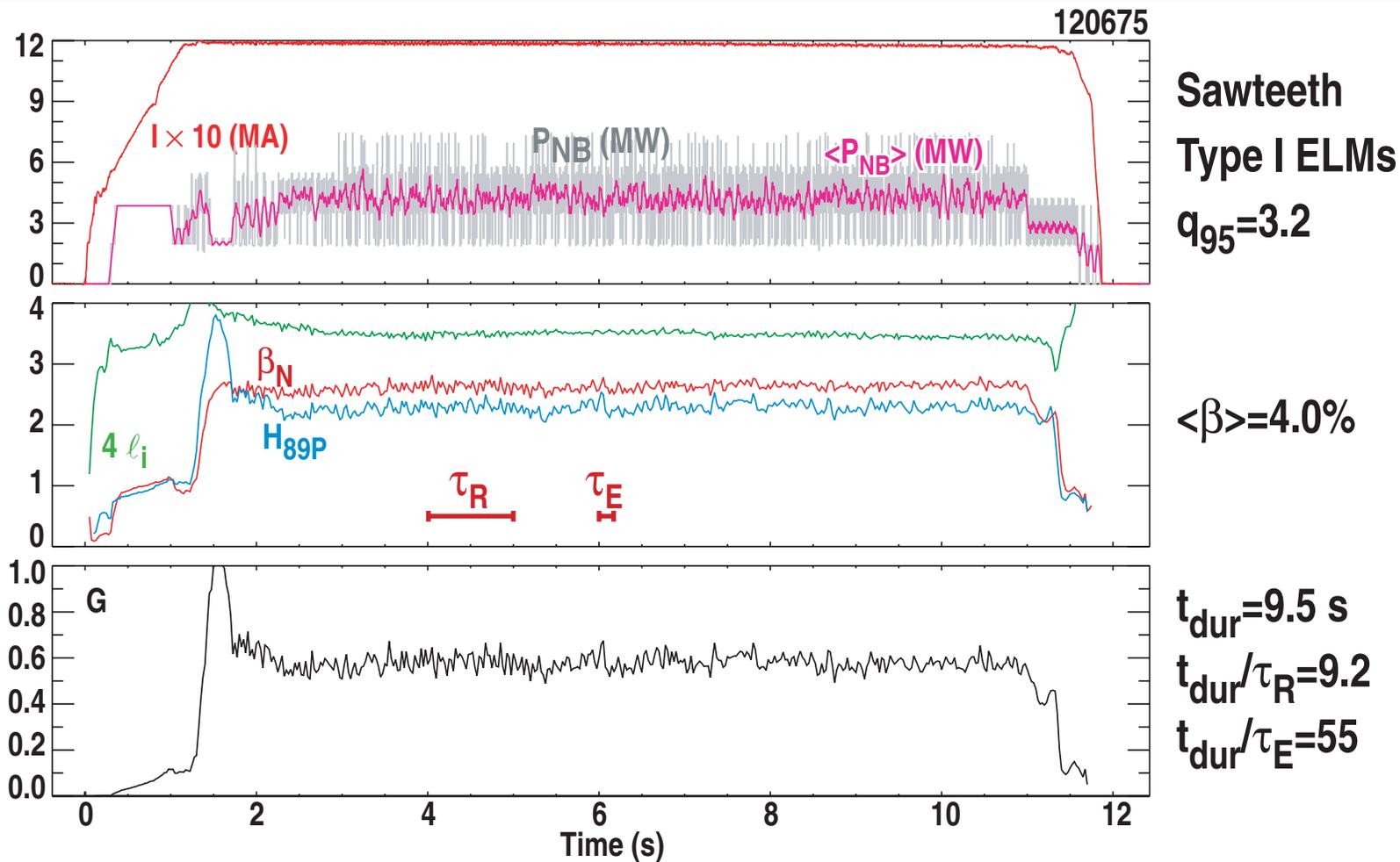
- **Strengthening the scientific basis for next-generation burning plasma experiments (ITER)**
- **Establishing the scientific basis for steady-state tokamak operation**
- **Investigating fundamental properties of tokamak plasma**

DIII-D EXPERIMENTS INCREASE CONFIDENCE IN REACHING THE ITER PERFORMANCE TARGETS



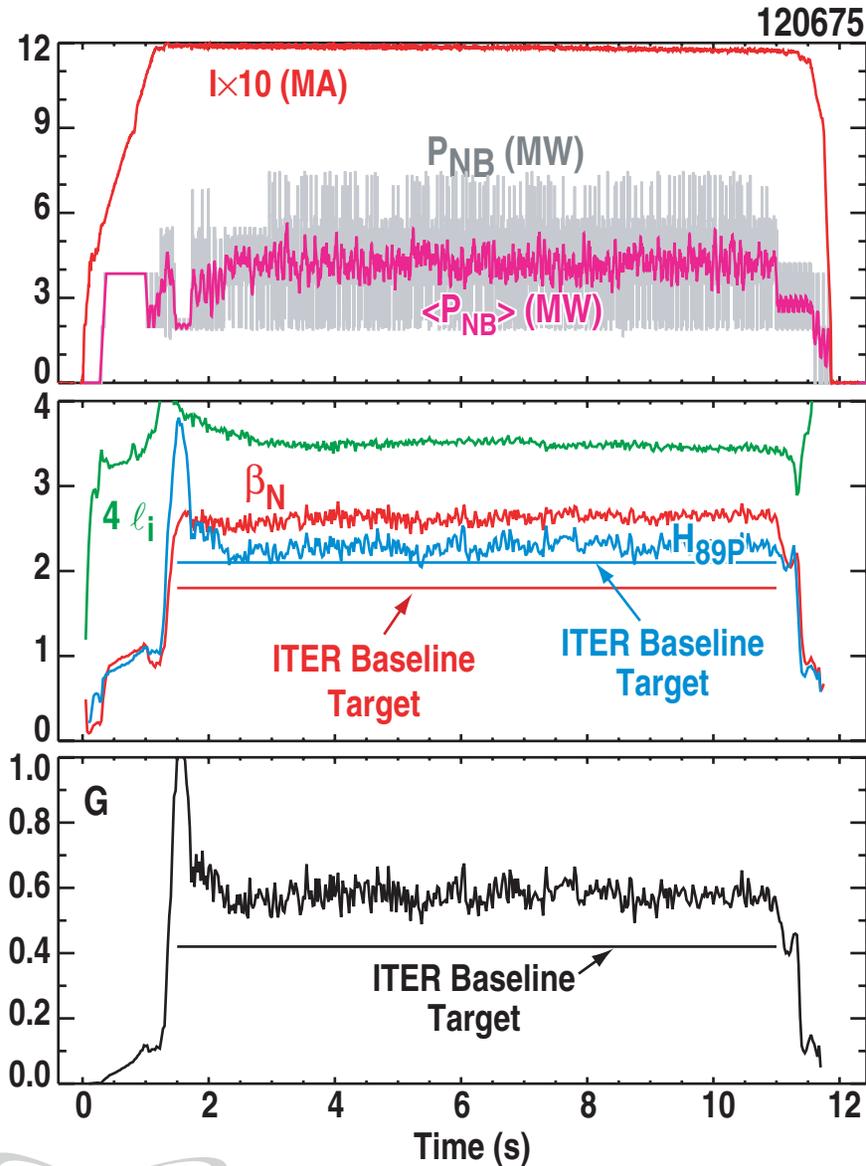
- Stationary discharges with:
 - Performance >40% higher than the ITER baseline scenario
 - Performance equal to the ITER performance target obtained at 30% lower equivalent current

STATIONARY HIGH PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED UNDER CONDITIONS SIMILAR TO THE ITER BASELINE SCENARIO



- Key advance is operation at higher pressure ($\beta_N = 2.8$), due to initiation at a relatively benign resistive instability ($m=3/n=2$ tearing mode) before the onset of sawteeth

STATIONARY HIGH PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED UNDER CONDITIONS SIMILAR TO THE ITER BASELINE SCENARIO



Projection to ITER

$\beta_N = 2.8$ $q_{95} = 3.2$ $n/n_G = 0.85$
 $B = 5.3 \text{ T}$ $I = 13.9 \text{ MA}$

	H	P_{fus} (MW)	P_{aux} (MW)	Q_{fus}
ITER89P	2.4	780	60	12.9
IPB98y2	1.47	740	18.5	39
DS03	1.25	700	0	∞

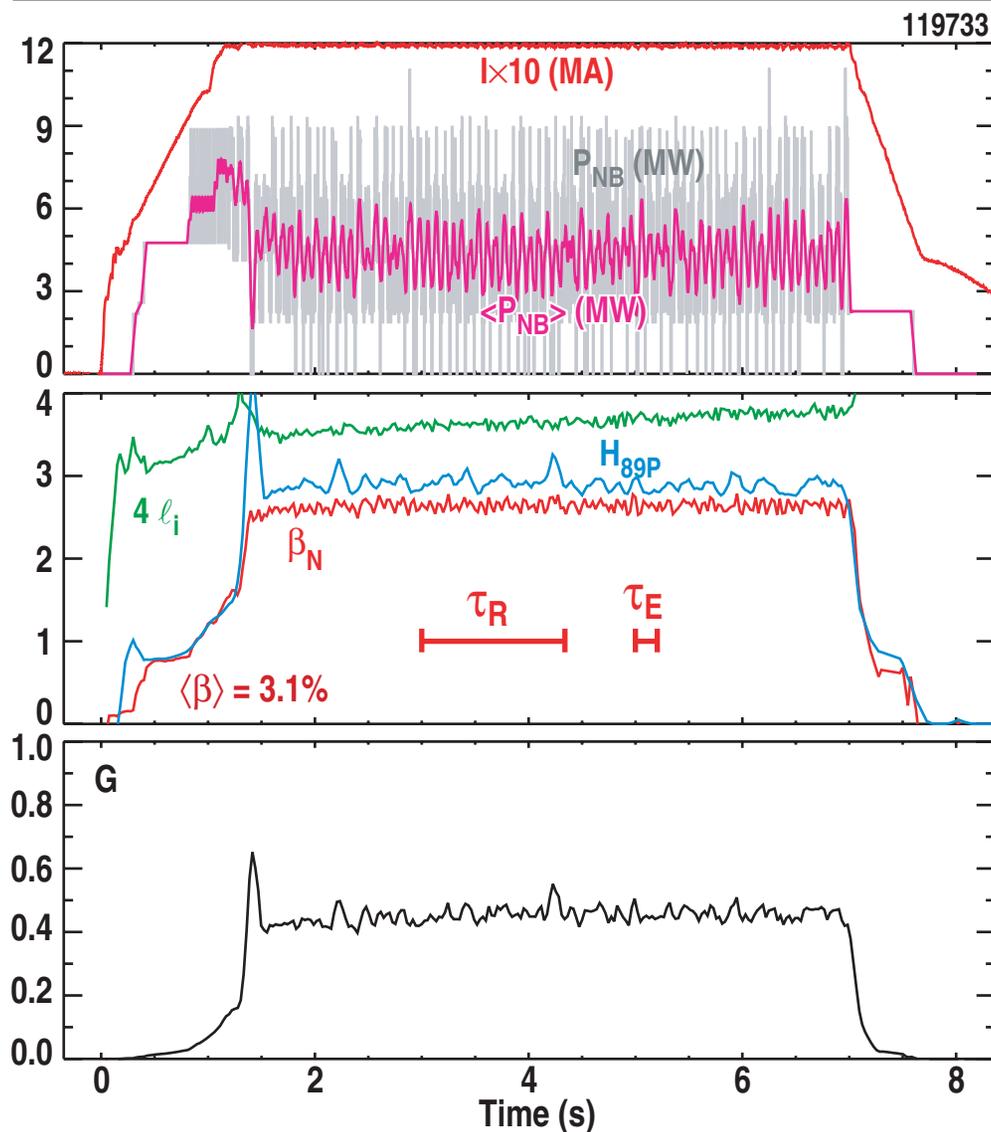
(1.63)*

*DIII-D Value

Flattop time = 2300 s

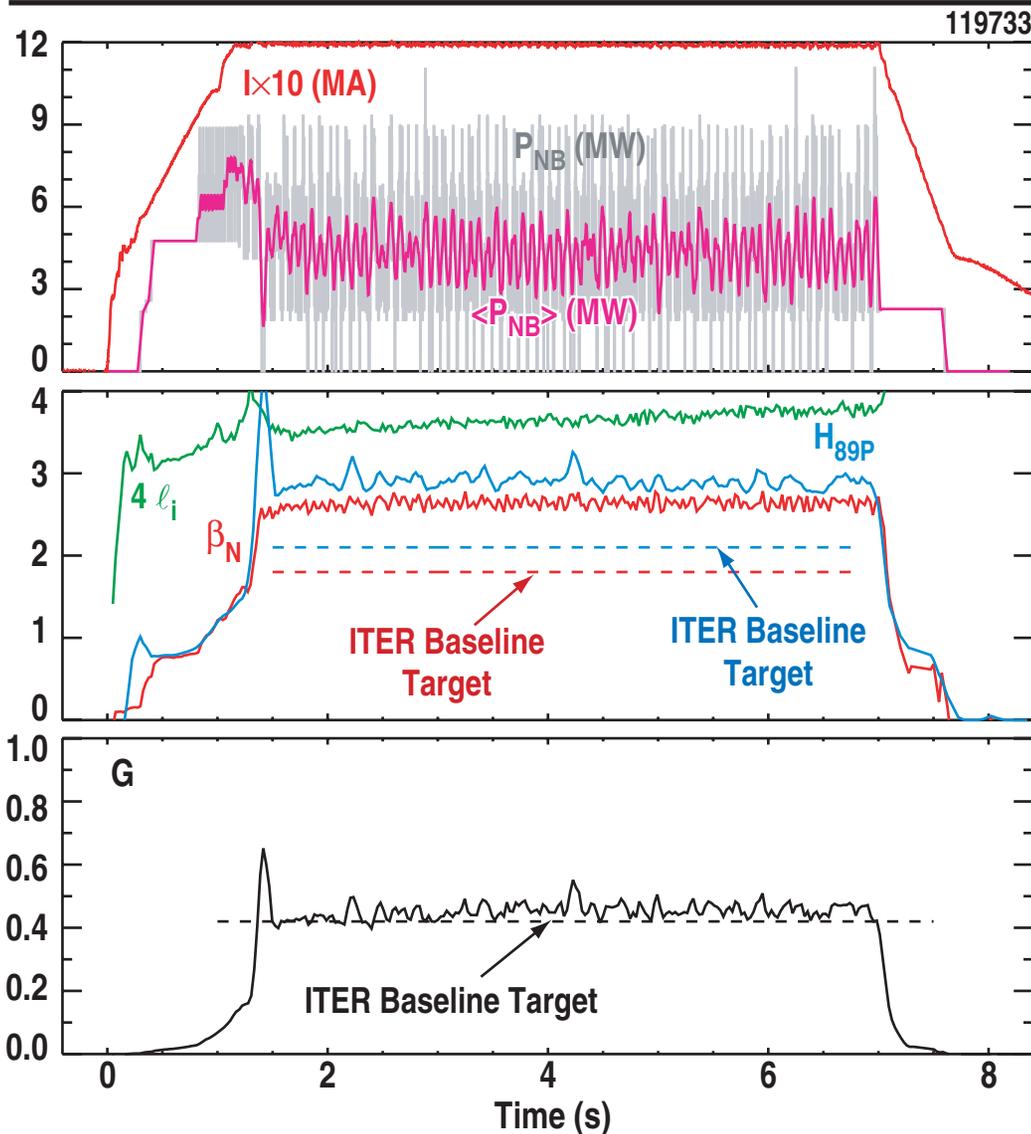
> 30 min

CANDIDATE HYBRID SCENARIO DISCHARGES REACH ITER PERFORMANCE TARGET AT REDUCED EQUIVALENT CURRENT



- Hybrid scenario goal is maximum fusion energy (or neutron fluence) per inductive pulse
- DIII-D approach is reduced current and higher normalized pressure, up to no-wall pressure limit ($\sim 4 l_i$)
- Key advance is again the initiation of a resistive mode ($m=3/n=2$), which prevents the onset of sawteeth and allows high normalized pressure ($\beta_N \leq 3.2$)

CANDIDATE HYBRID SCENARIO DISCHARGES REACH ITER PERFORMANCE TARGET AT REDUCED EQUIVALENT CURRENT



Projection to ITER

$\beta_N = 2.7$ $q_{95} = 4.4$ $n/n_G = 0.85$
 $B = 5.3 \text{ T}$ $I = 10.8 \text{ MA}$

	H	P_{fus} (MW)	P_{aux} (MW)	Q_{fus}
ITER89P	2.75	440	49	9.0
IPB98y2	1.59	440	49	9.0
DS03	1.78	370	0	∞
	(1.81)*			

*DIII-D Actual Value

Flattop Time = 3900s > 1 hour

DIMENSIONLESS SCALING EXPERIMENTS SHOW ENERGY CONFINEMENT IS INDEPENDENT OF BETA

- β scalings for direct experiments and database analysis are very different

IPB98y2

$$\tau_E = 0.0562 I^{0.93} B^{0.15} n^{0.41} P^{-0.69} R^{1.97} A^{-0.58} \kappa^{0.78} M^{0.19}$$

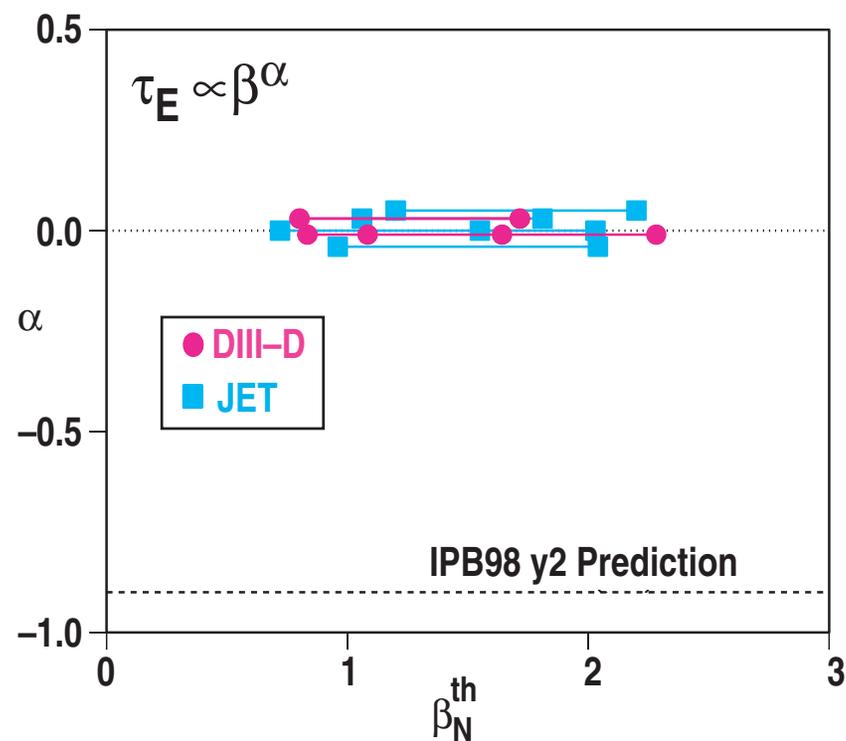
$$B\tau_E \propto \rho_*^{-2.70} \beta^{-0.90} v_*^{-0.01} q^{-3.0}$$

DS03

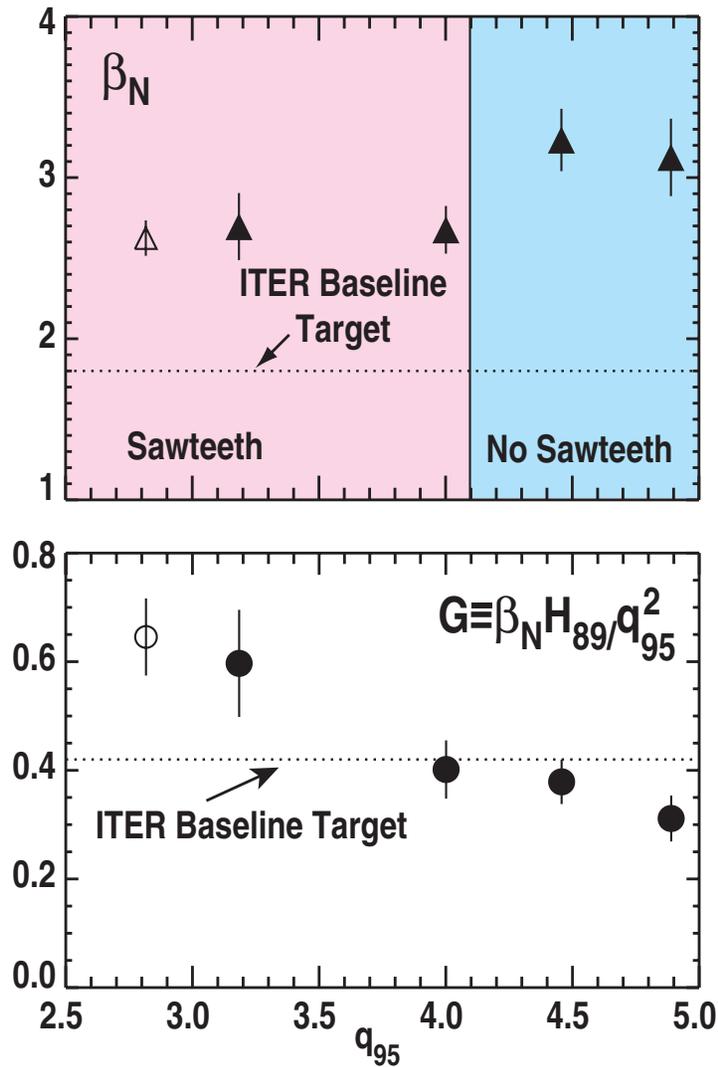
$$\tau_E = 0.028 I^{0.83} B^{0.07} n^{0.49} P^{-0.55} R^{2.11} A^{-0.3} \kappa^{0.75} M^{0.14}$$

$$B\tau_E \propto \rho_*^{-3} \beta^0 v_*^{-0.14} q^{-1.7}$$

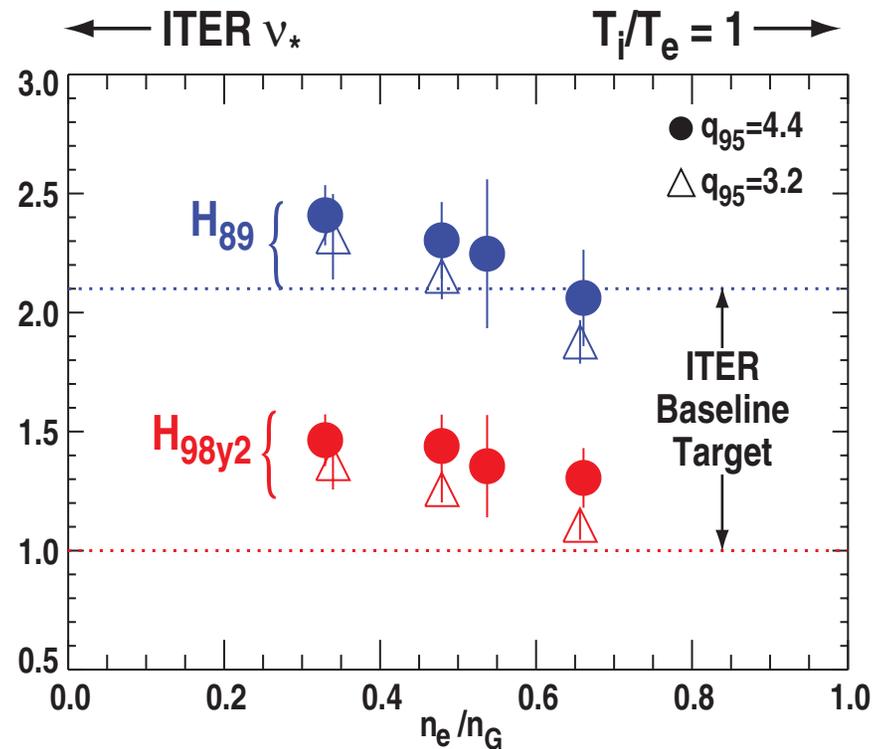
- Absence of β dependence is consistent with drift-type turbulence



STATIONARY HIGH PERFORMANCE DISCHARGES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED OVER A WIDE RANGE OF PARAMETERS

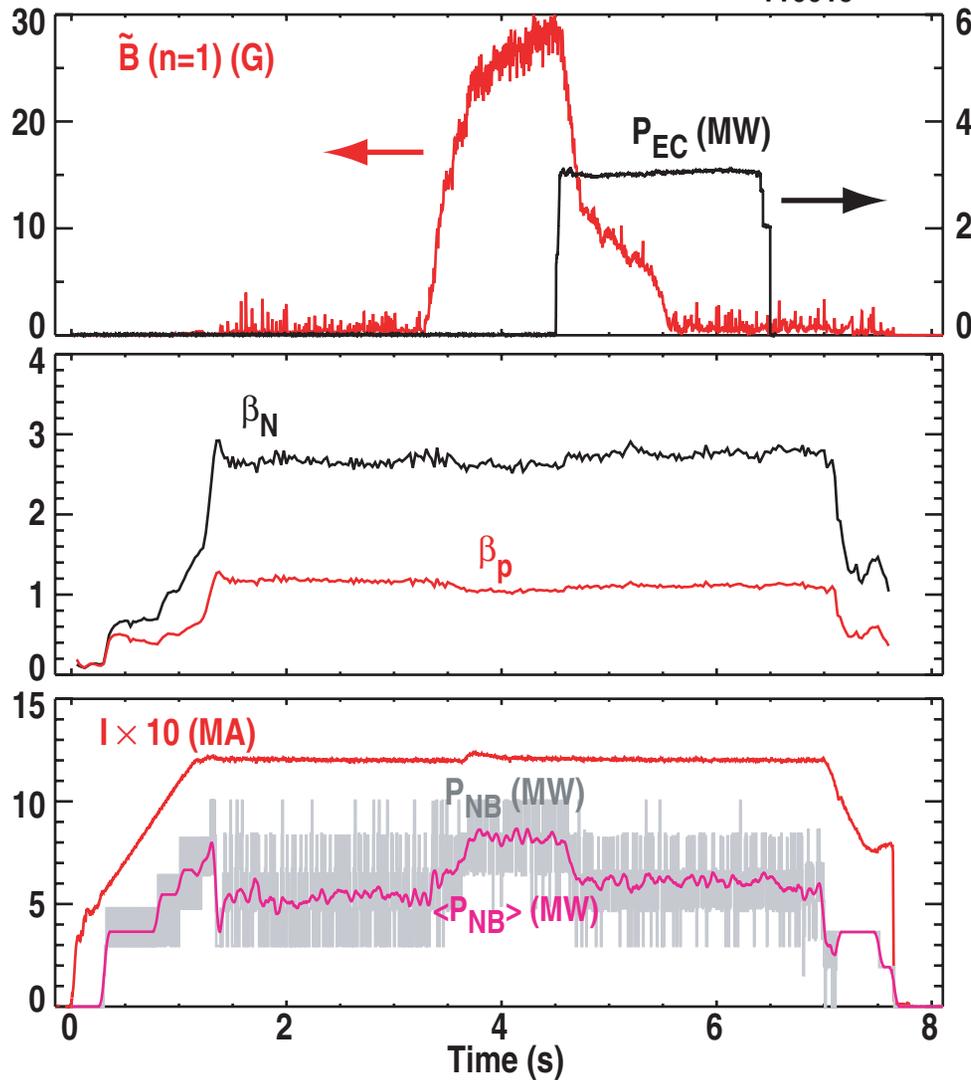


- Pressure limit higher without sawteeth
- Fusion performance maximizes at low q_{95}
- Confinement drops slightly with increasing density



ROBUST STABILIZATION OF $m=2/n=1$ TEARING MODE OBTAINED WITH ELECTRON CYCLOTRON CURRENT DRIVE

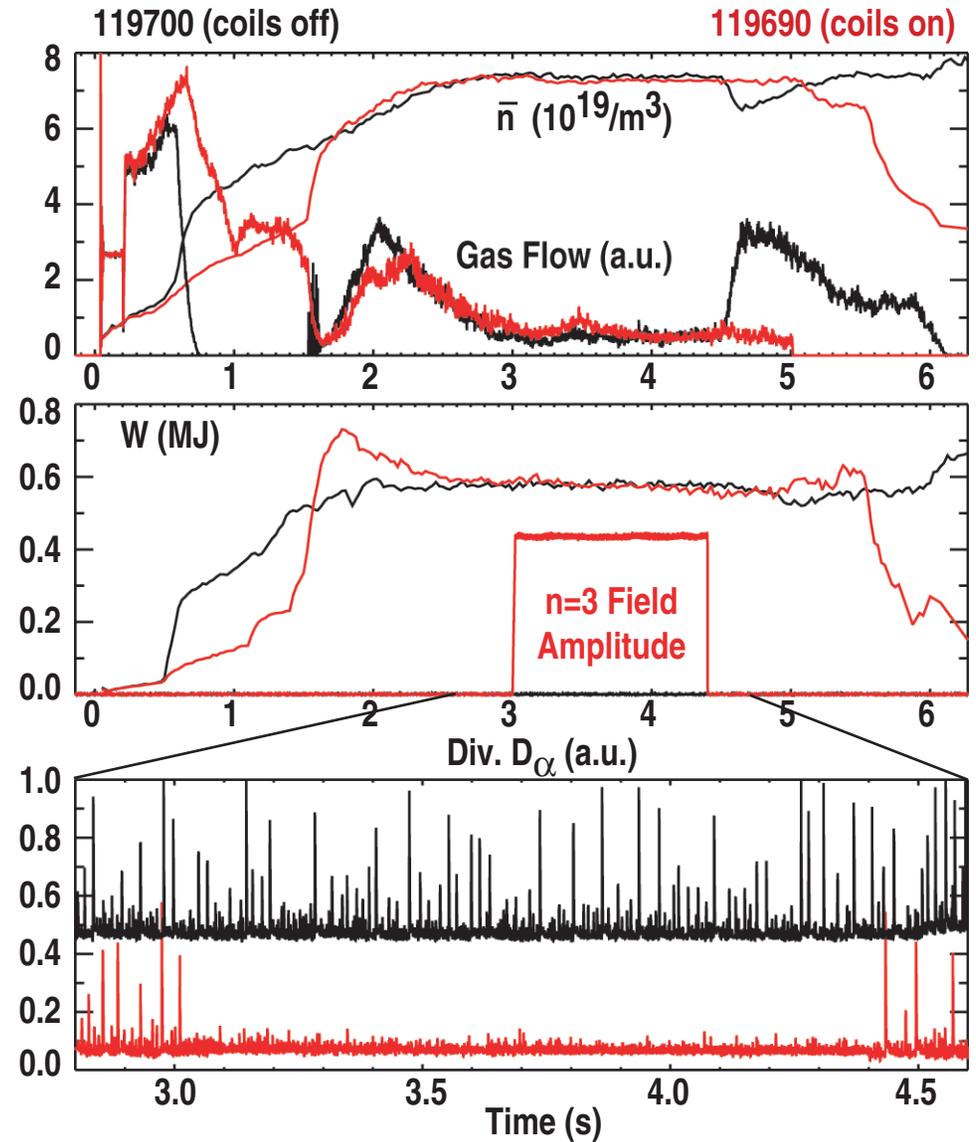
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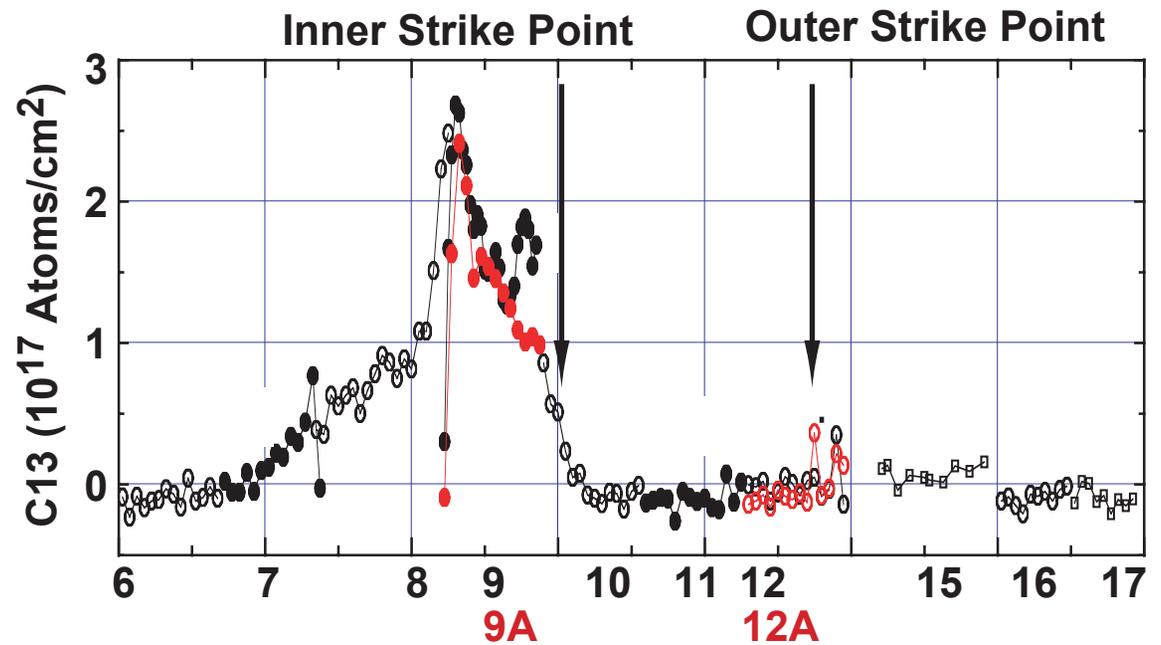
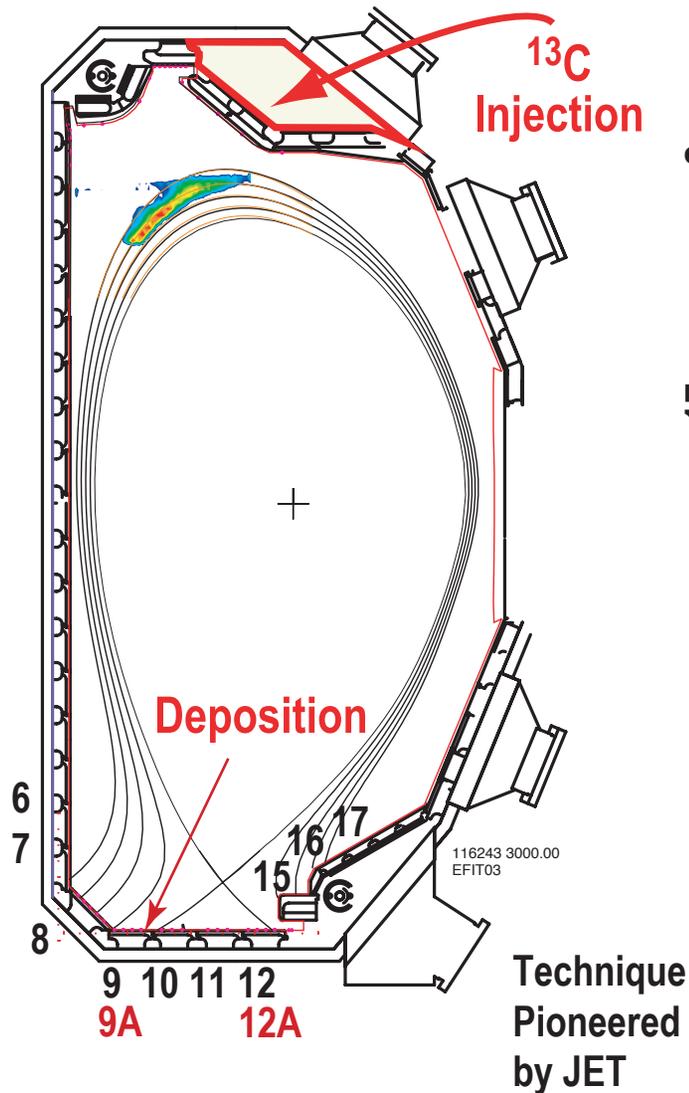
- This instability sets the operational β limit in the ITER baseline scenario. Locking of this mode often leads to disruptions \Rightarrow stabilization would avoid more extreme mitigation measures
- Stabilization is obtained at high pressure ($\beta_N = 2.8$, $\beta_p = 1.1$)
- Stabilization is optimized automatically by active feedback system to place the ECCD at the location of the instability

STOCHASTIC EDGE ELIMINATES LARGE TYPE-I ELMS

- Non-axisymmetric fields ($n=3$) have been used to eliminate ELMS
 - Edge instability changes character
 - Power flow is still to the divertor
 - Technique applied in ITER shape
- Impulsive heat flux reduced by at least a factor of 3
- Confinement and edge pedestal height unchanged



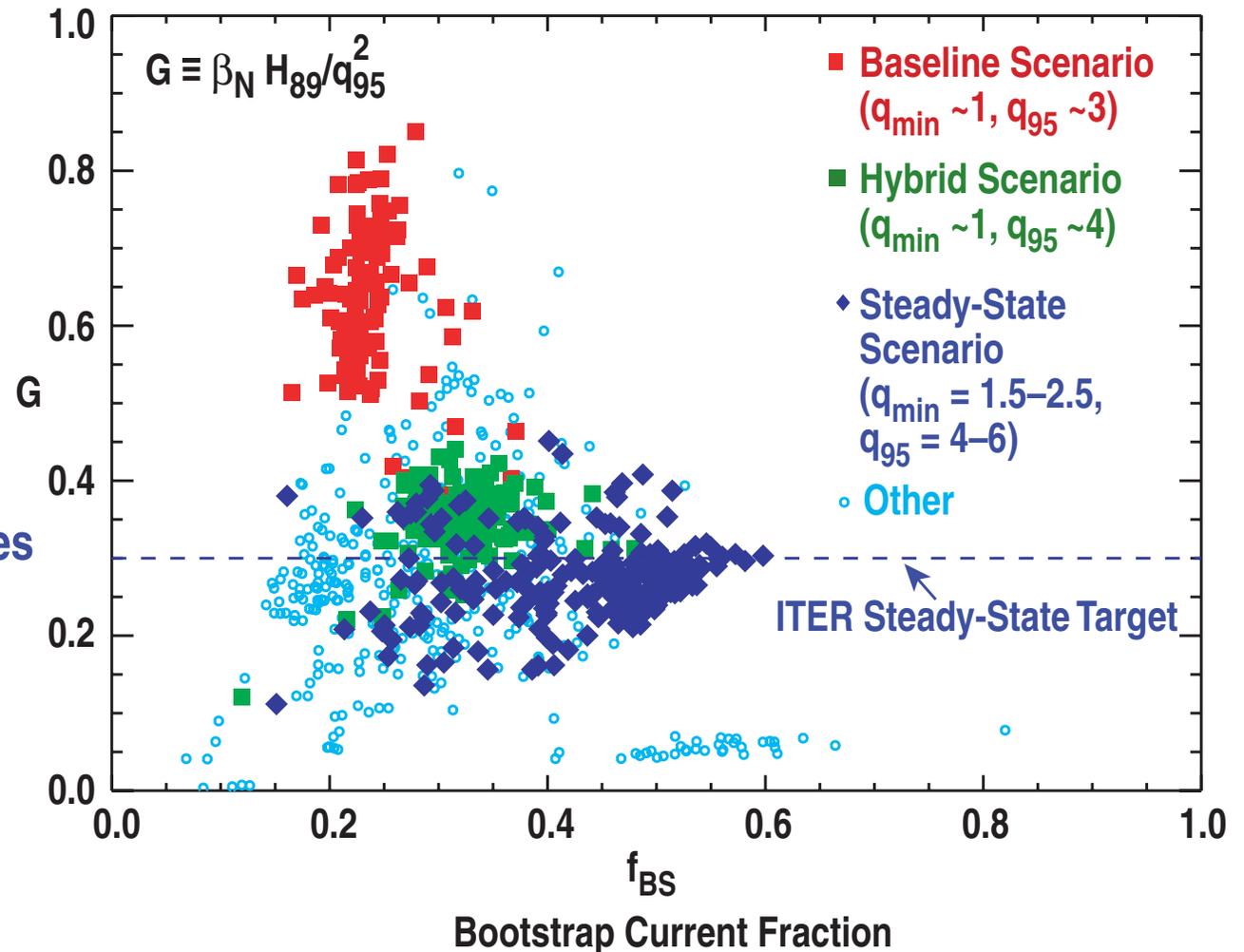
CARBON MIGRATION USING ^{13}C AS A TRACER INDICATES TRITIUM CO-DEPOSITION MAY BE LOCALIZED AT THE INNER DIVERTOR



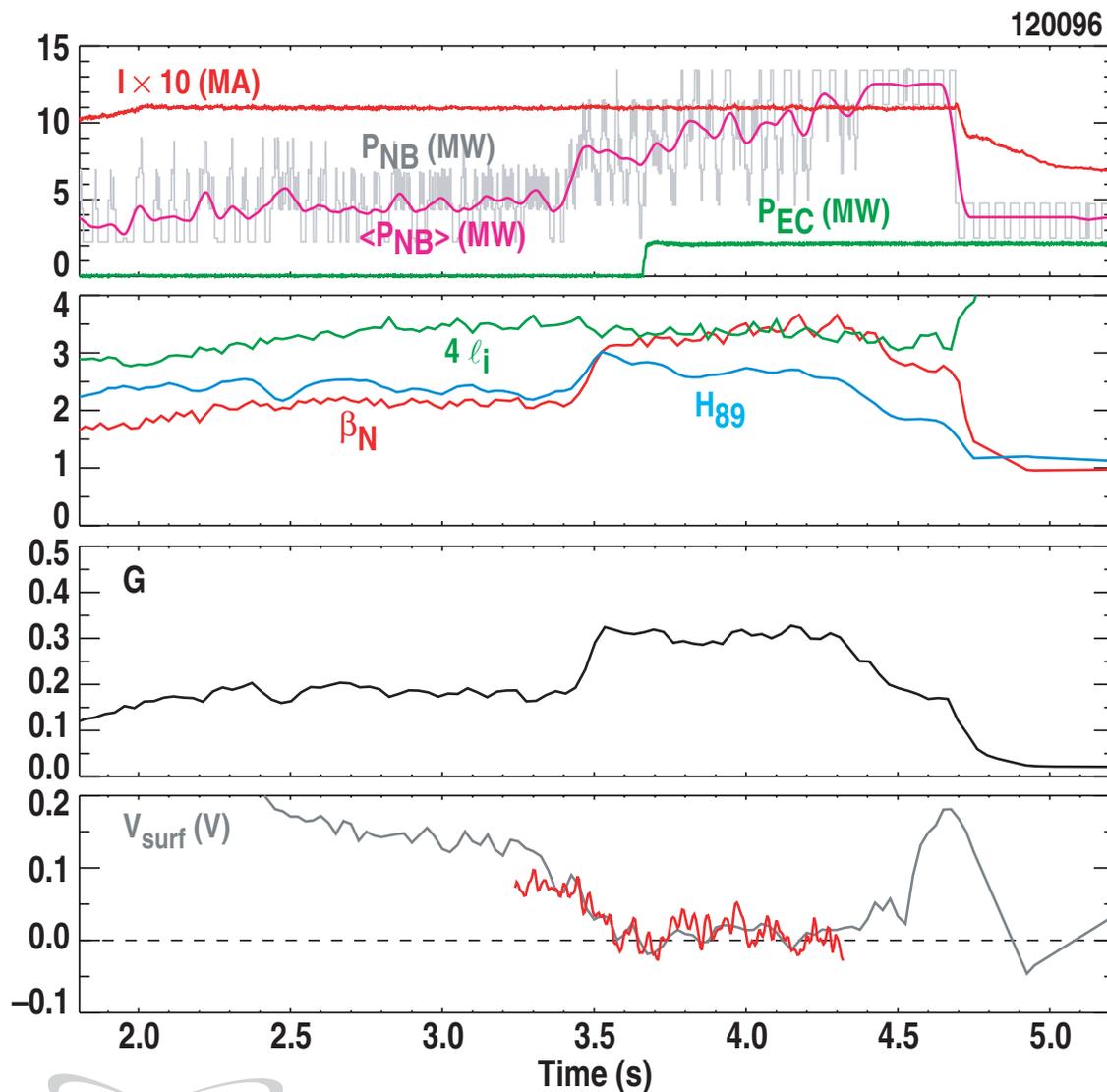
- Measured deposition highly localized at inner divertor; toroidally symmetric
- Modeling of deposition, carbon plume, and core carbon inventory requires flow velocity $M \sim 0.4$ at the separatrix in the direction of the inner divertor

STEADY-STATE TOKAMAK OPERATION REQUIRES A COMPROMISE BETWEEN FUSION PERFORMANCE AND BOOTSTRAP CURRENT

- Full non-inductive discharges in present tokamaks that project to high fusion gain are a necessary first step
- Control of discharge parameters and instabilities will be an essential component of a steady-state tokamak



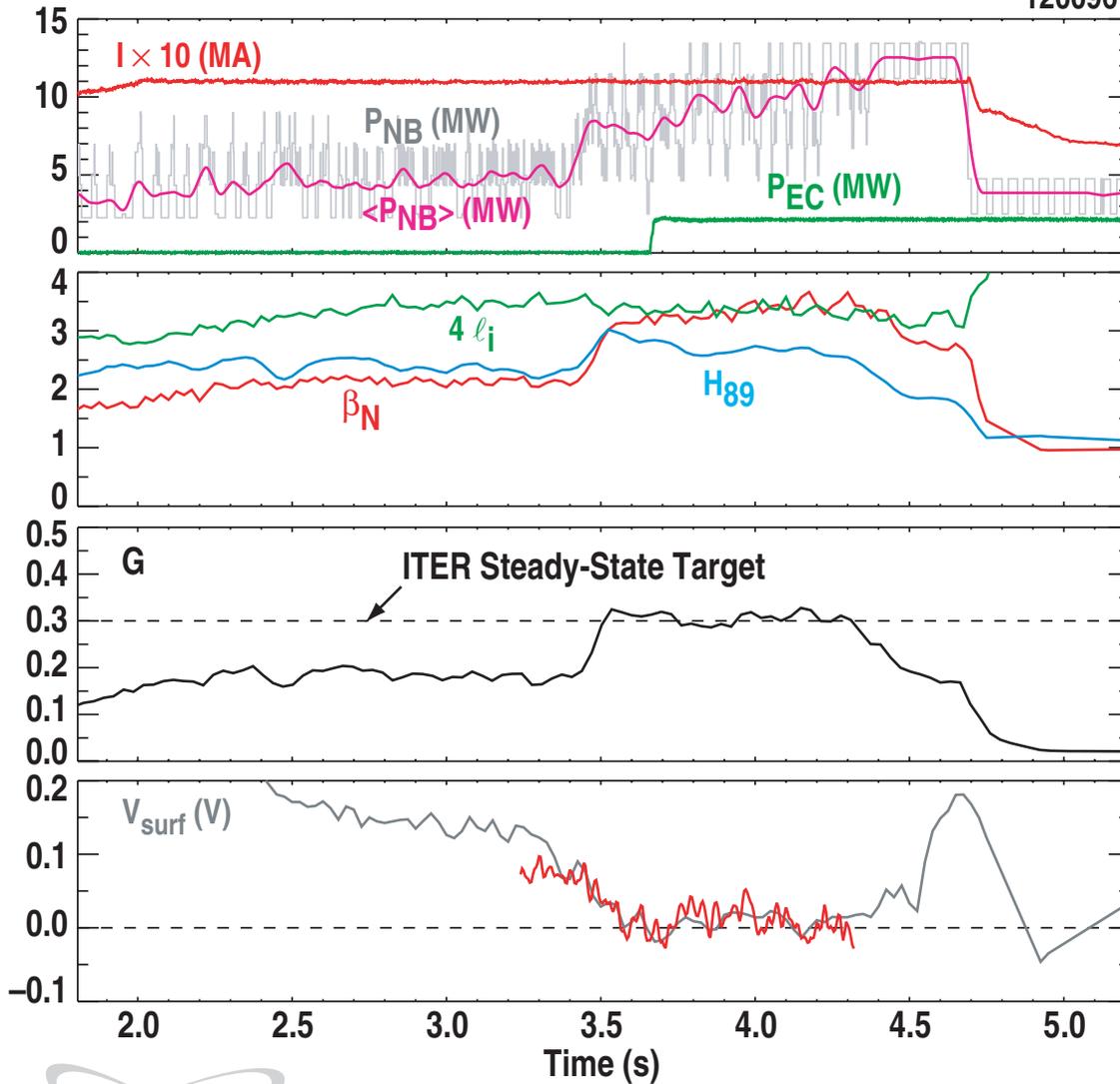
FULL NON-INDUCTIVE DEMONSTRATION DISCHARGE HAS BEEN OBTAINED



- Pressure at or above the no-wall pressure limit ($\beta_N \geq 4 \ell_i$) for high fusion power
- Elevated q_{min} (>1.5) for enhanced bootstrap current ($f_{BS} \sim 0.6$)
- Reduced current ($q_{95} \sim 5$) to minimize non-inductive current requirements

FULL NON-INDUCTIVE DEMONSTRATION DISCHARGE HAS BEEN OBTAINED

120096



$B = 5.3 \text{ T}$

$\beta_N = 2.8$

$I = 9.3 \text{ MA}$

$q_{95} = 5.4$

$\bar{n} = 0.63 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$

$H_{DS03} = 1.28$

$P_{NB} = 33 \text{ MW}$

$I_{NB} = 2.3 \text{ MA}$

$P_{EC} = 20 \text{ MW}$

$I_{EC} = 0.5 \text{ MA}$

$P_{IC} = 20 \text{ MW}$

$I_{IC} = 0 \text{ MA}$

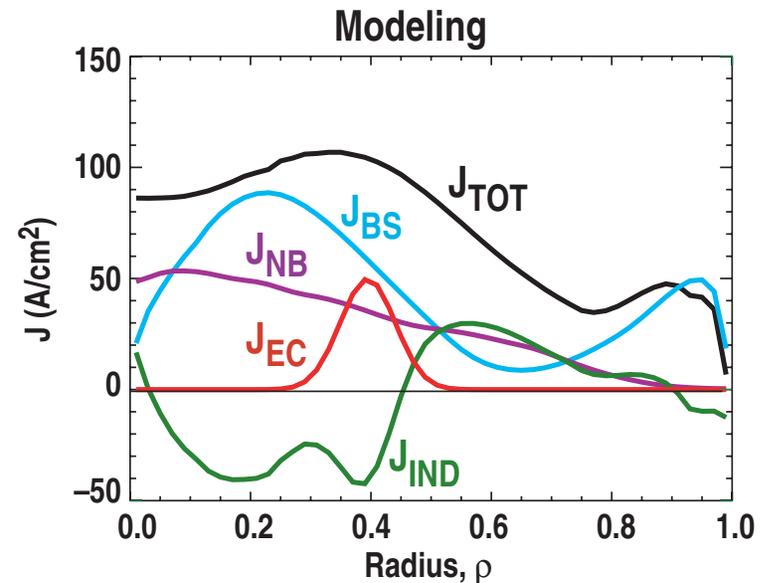
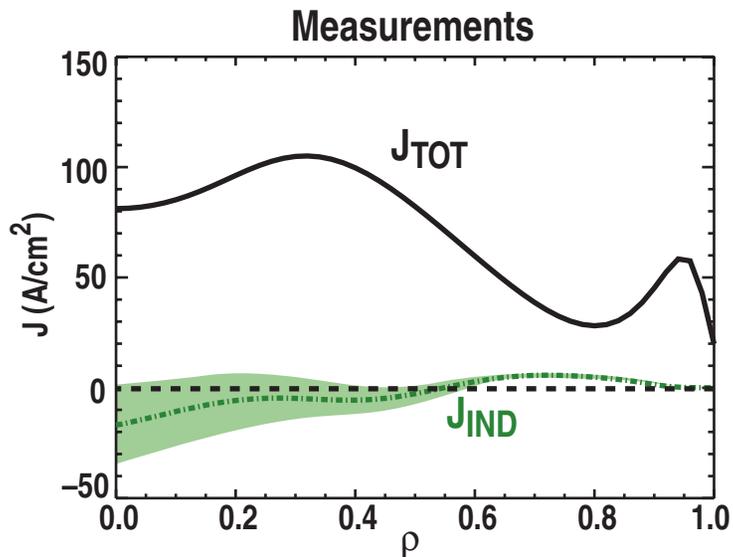
$P_{fus} = 340 \text{ MW}$

$I_{BS} = 6.7 \text{ MA}$

Type I ELMs

$Q_{fus} = 4.7$

MEASUREMENTS AND MODELING INDICATE FULL NON-INDUCTIVE CURRENT SUSTAINMENT WITH GOOD ALIGNMENT

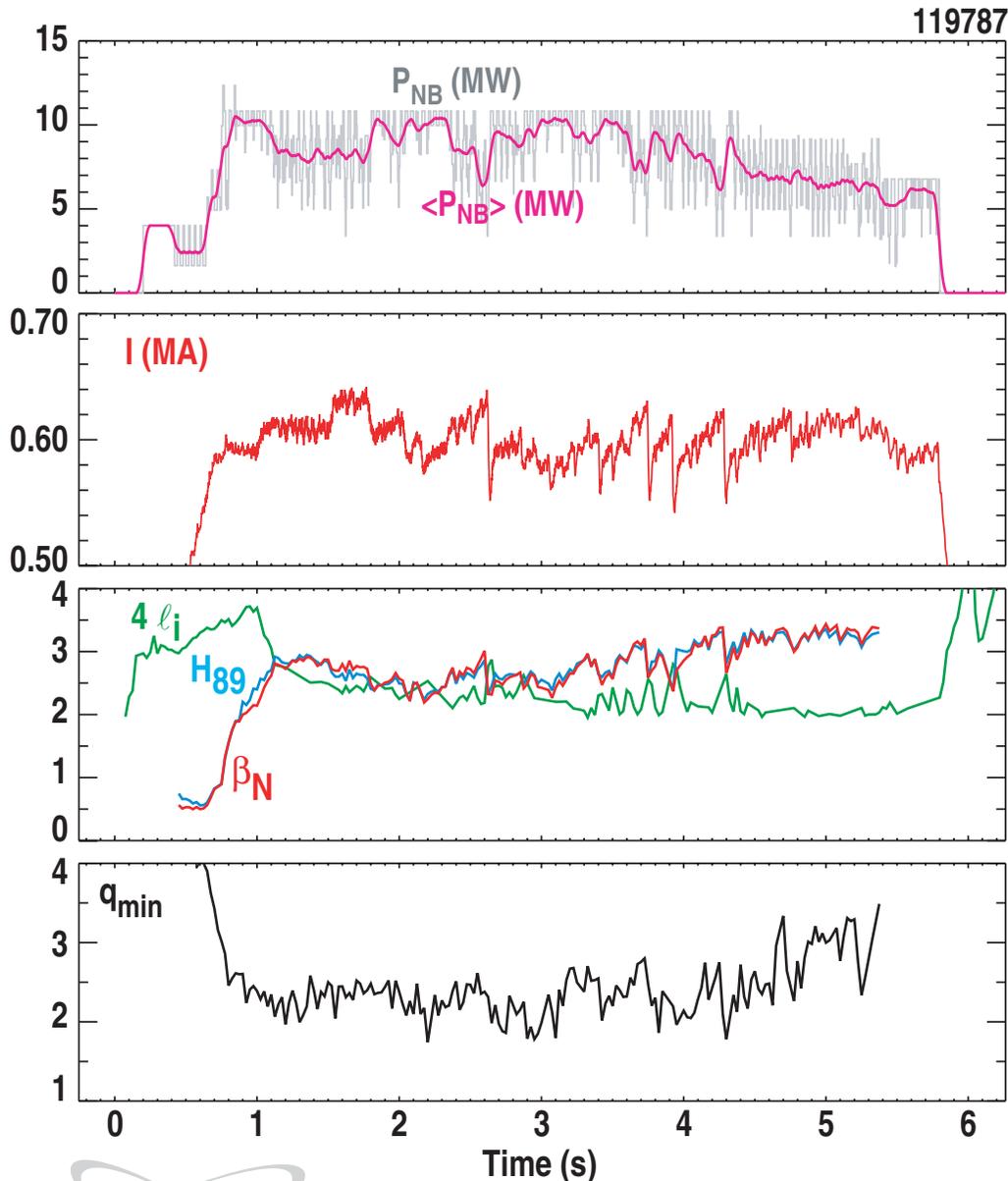


- Surface voltage from equilibrium reconstructions shows no net inductive flux (but note $\mathcal{R} = 0.15 \mu\Omega \Rightarrow 15 \text{ mV} = 100 \text{ kA}$)
- Internal electric field determined from equilibrium reconstructions shows little spatial structure \Rightarrow non-inductive sources well aligned to total current
- Toroidal electric field inferred directly from MSE data confirms equilibrium analysis

- Modeling gives nearly full non-inductive current:

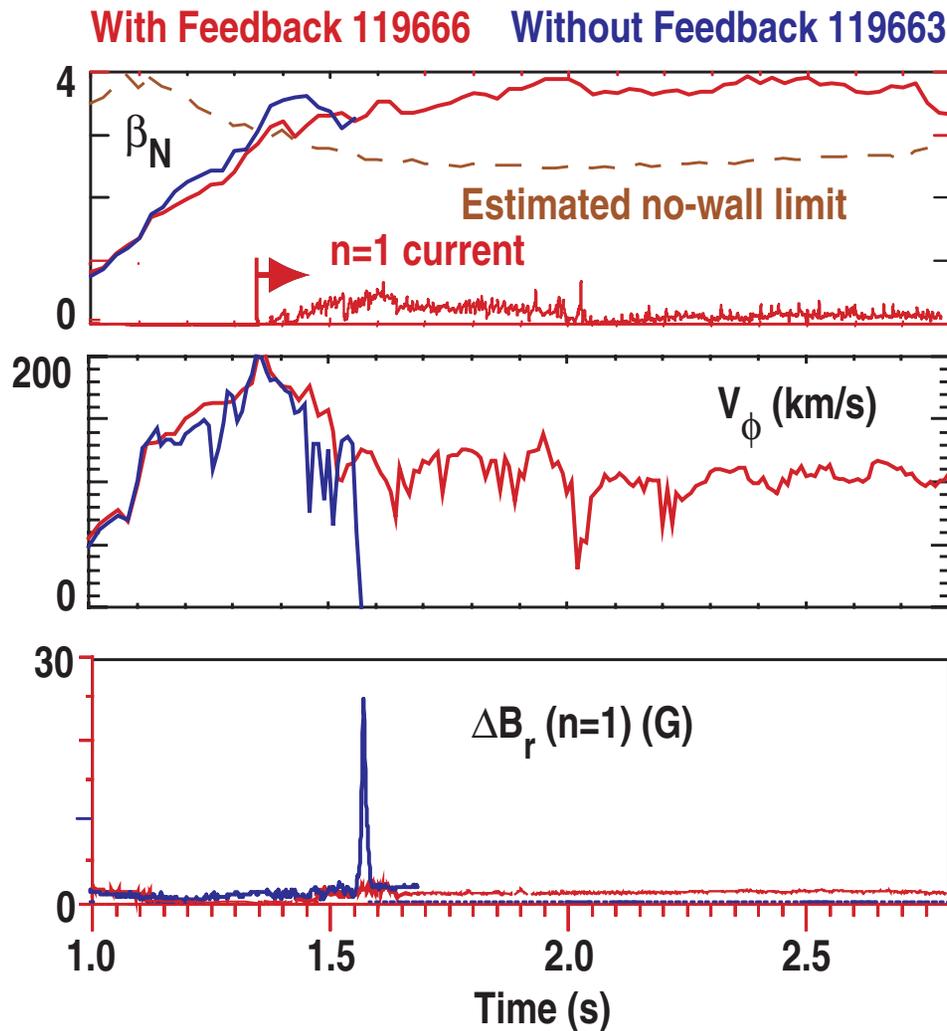
— Bootstrap	59%
— Neutral Beam	31%
— Electron cyclotron	8%
— Inductive	2%

TRANSFORMERLESS OPERATION SHOWS CONTROL OF HIGH BOOTSTRAP FRACTION PLASMAS WILL BE CHALLENGING



- The desired steady-state operating point may not be a stationary solution to the coupled fluid equations. If not, active control is required.
- Inductive control of the plasma current may be desirable \Rightarrow non-inductive overdrive will be required.
- At high safety factor ($q_{95} \sim 10$) and high q_{min} (~ 3), the bootstrap current fraction is $>80\%$.

ACTIVE RESISTIVE WALL MODE STABILIZATION ALLOWS EXTENDED OPERATION ABOVE THE NO-WALL PRESSURE LIMIT

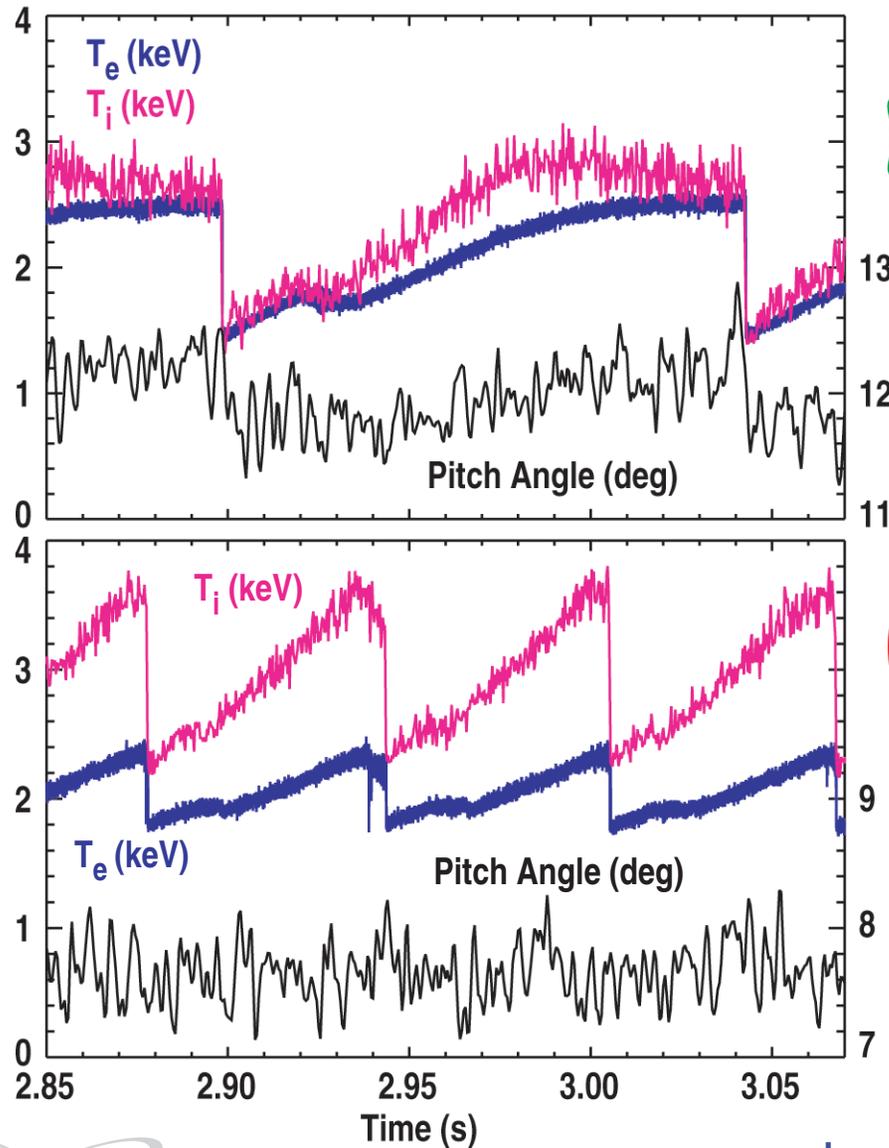


- Rotation is effective in stabilizing the RWM up to the ideal-wall limit in many cases
- Rotation is ineffective in the case shown, perhaps due to a reduction in the number of rational surfaces in the plasma interior (lower q_{95})
- Active feedback using the 12 internal coils in n=1 symmetry allows operation above the no-wall limit for ~200 growth times

PROGRESS IN UNDERSTANDING TOKAMAK PHENOMENA IS BEING MADE IN MANY AREAS

- **Magnetic geometry changes the character of the sawtooth instability**
- **Development of diagnostics and theory to understand the H-mode pedestal**
- **Electron heat transport exhibits no threshold behavior**
- **Plasma fueling is dominated by neutrals originating in the divertor**
- **Plasma rotation is strongly changed by ECH (no external torque applied)**
- **Gas jets mitigate disruptions safely despite a short penetration length**

SAWTOOTH INSTABILITY CHANGES CHARACTER WITH CROSS-SECTION SHAPE



Indented plasmas:

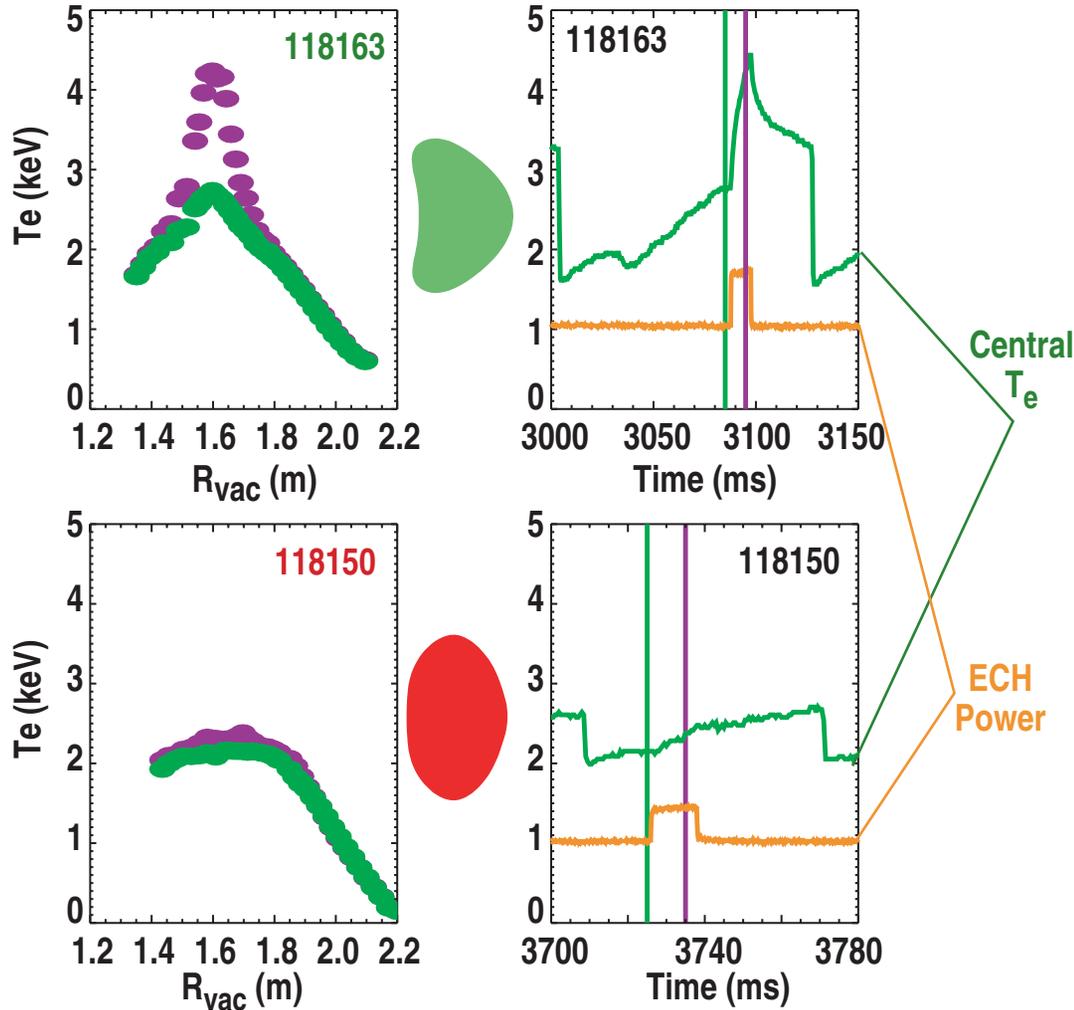
- Electron and ion temperatures remain close
- Significant evolution of the central current density



Oval plasmas:

- Ion temperature significantly above electron temperature despite roughly equal heating
- No significant evolution of the central current density

PLASMAS THAT VIOLATE THE MERCIER CRITERION DO NOT SUPPORT AN ELECTRON PRESSURE GRADIENT



Indented Plasmas:

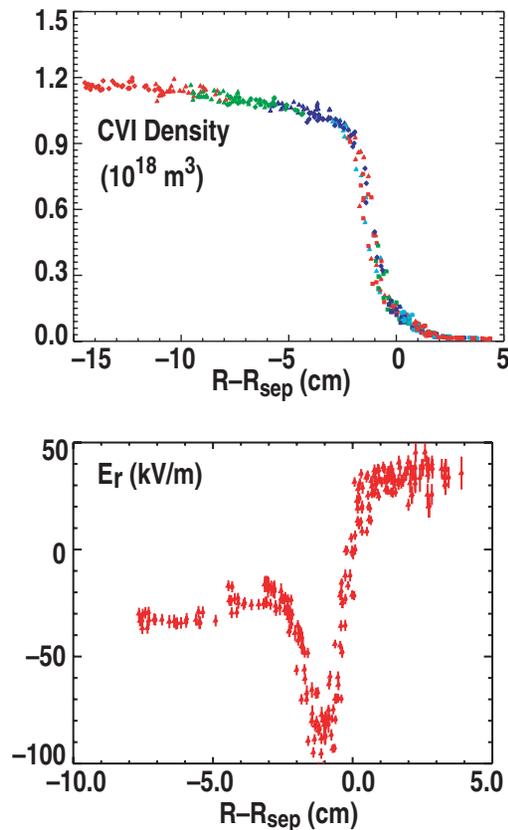
- Mercier limit occurs at $q < 1$
- Local electron heating results in strongly increased gradient

Oval Plasmas:

- Mercier limit occurs at $q > 1$
- Local electron heating results in almost no change in gradient

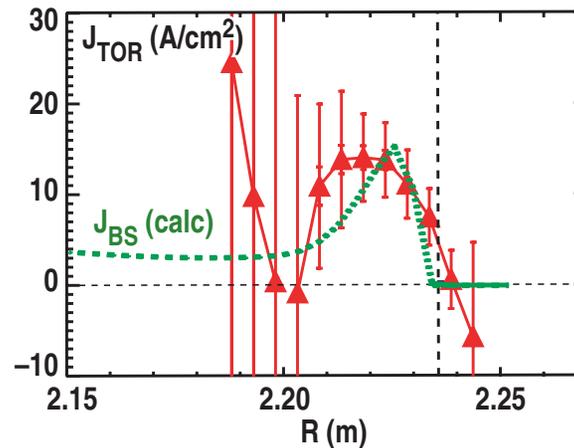
PREDICTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE EDGE PEDESTAL REQUIRES CONTINUING IMPROVEMENTS IN MEASUREMENT AND THEORY

Pedestal Pressure



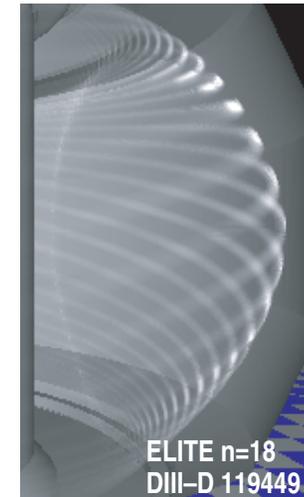
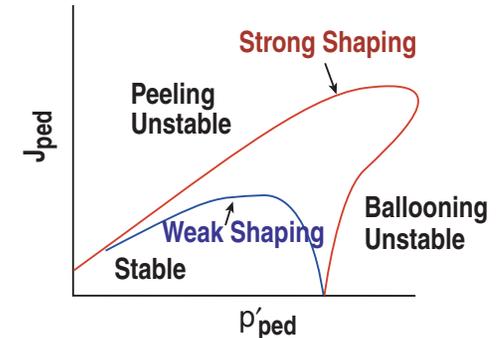
- Need continuous electron pressure measurement

Pedestal Current



- Need improved time resolution

Stability Theory



- Need nonlinear (time-dependent) theory

CONCLUSIONS

- Performance projections for ITER using the present design basis are conservative. DIII-D results provide confidence in reaching the ITER performance targets and optimism that they can be exceeded. Technical challenges are being addressed actively.
- A steady-state tokamak scenario has been demonstrated in DIII-D that projects to modest fusion gain in ITER. The ability to control such plasmas near the performance boundaries is the next task.
- The DIII-D facility is providing unprecedented views of tokamak phenomena, enabling the development and validation of theories and models of plasma behavior.

DIII-D AND GENERAL ATOMICS PRESENTATIONS

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AM Talks	Murakami – Steady-state Scenario	Okabayashi – RWM Control	Nazikian – Energetic Particles Fredrickson – MHD Instabilities	Waltz – Gyrokinetic Simulations	Hollmann – Disruptions
AM Posters		Fenstermacher – Pedestal Physics	West – QH-Mode Kinsey – Transport Modeling Parks– Pellets	Petrie – Divertor Geometry and Pumping Groth – Plasma Fueling Rudakov – SOL Transport Lazarus – Sawteeth deGrassie – Rotation	
PM Talks	Evans – ELMs (Suppression, etc.)	Wade – Hybrid Scenarios	Petty – Tearing Modes		
PM Posters		Ferron – β Limits in Steady-State Scenarios Politzer – High Bootstrap Discharges	Solomon – Poloidal Rotation	DeBoo – Critical Gradients Rhodes –Turbulence Measurements	

Burning Plasma

Steady-State

Tokamak Physics

Other

