

# **IAEA FUSION ENERGY CONFERENCE**

## **THEORY SUMMARY (S/1-3)**

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# INTRODUCTION

## Key Questions for Fusion Power

- **Confinement:** scalings, improved confinement (transport barriers)
- **Stability:** pressure limits, loss of control (disruptions), fast particle MHD
- **Exhaust:** divertor heat loads, ELM transients
- **Steady State:** simultaneous achievement of plasma performance, exhaust and current drive

**Plus Basic Understanding:** provides scientific underpinning

Review Progress from Theory against these objectives

# STATISTICS

**91 papers:** 1 Overview (**new**) - Diamond: *Zonal flows in plasma turbulence*; 32 Oral (11 rapporteured), 58 Posters

**Configurations:** Mainly tokamaks (9 ITER, 8 STs)

- 10 non-axisymmetric, 2 other alternates

**Topics:**

- Confinement 48 (ZFs 19, barriers 15)
- Stability 30 (NTMs 6, RWMS 4, ballooning modes 6, disruptions 4, fast particle MHD 10)
- H&CD, fuelling 7 (ICRH/LH 3, ECRH 3, pellet 1)
- Exhaust 14 (ELMs 7)

# THEMES AND METHODOLOGIES

- Increasingly sophisticated physics and geometric realism
- Moves to Integrated Modelling
- Analytic interpretation of ‘Numerical Experiments’

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Numerical approaches vastly dominate:

- Turbulence simulations 21 (Edge/SOL 9)
- Transport codes 12
- Non-linear MHD 10 (hybrid fast particle codes 4)
- Fokker-Planck/Monte Carlo 10

# PROGRESS (1): CONFINEMENT

## BASIC UNDERSTANDING

- Zonal flows and turbulence: Overview (Diamond )

- ZFs have fast radial variation but azimuthally symmetric
- Ubiquitous and robustly generated in drift-wave turbulence
- Critical players in regulating non-linear dynamics ('predator-prey', 'burstiness') of turbulence: the **drift-wave/ZF paradigm**
- Reduce drift wave energy and transport

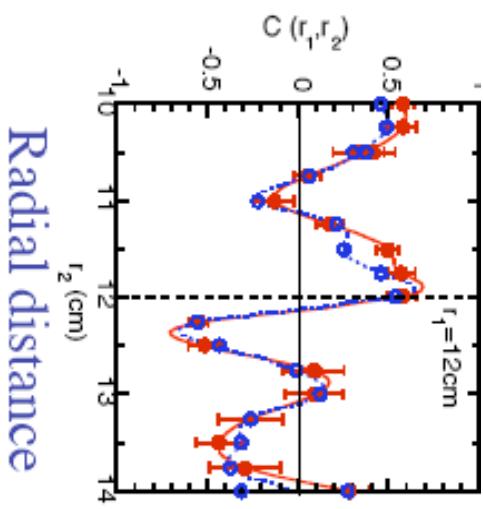
$$\chi \sim R \chi_{GB}; \quad R = \gamma_{ZF}^{\text{DAMP}} / \omega \ll 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  Cost of power plant  $\propto R^{-0.8}$

•  $\gamma_{ZF}^{\text{DAMP}} \propto v_{\parallel} f(q) \Rightarrow \text{control}$  (also Falchetto TH-1/3Rd)

- Also critical gradient increases (Dimits-upshift)
- Can have collisionless damping of ZFs: eg via tertiary instabilities, say Kelvin-Helmholtz

- Seen in expt - CHS (A Fujisawa et al, PRL 95 (2004) 165002)
- Unification of many physical situations in terms of **two** parameters: K and S (Kubo number, Drift wave stochasticity parameter)
- Zonal fields - current corrugations: impact on RWMS, NTMs?
- Valuable analysis of ‘*what we know, what we think we know and what we don’t understand*’



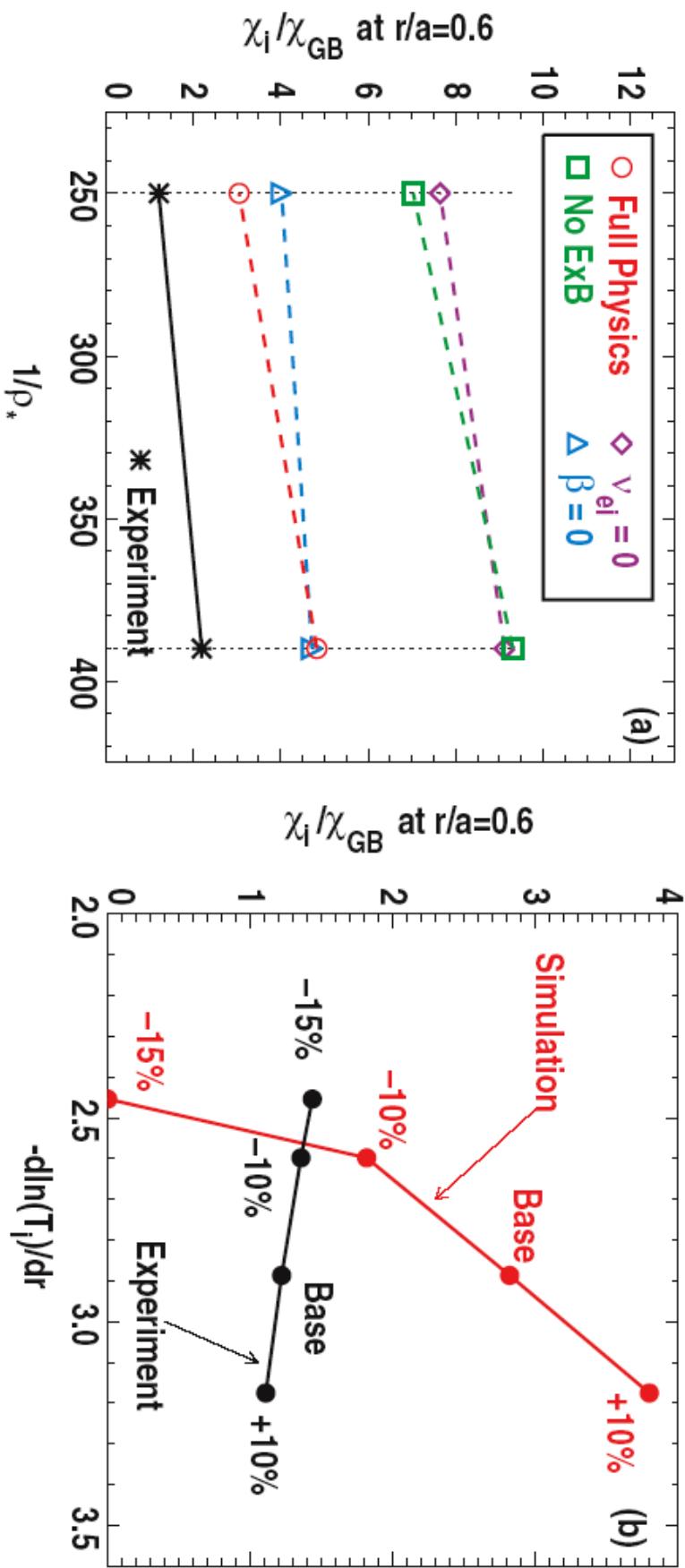
## TURBULENCE THEORY-CONT'D

- Multiscale effects: ETG/ITG (Holland TH-P-6/5)  
Long wavelength drift-ITG straining suppresses ETG streamers, but the corresponding **temperature** perturbations increase ETG growth
- Damped modes: key role in TEM/ZF dynamics and saturation (Terry THP-6/9)
- Lagrangian formulation of Hasagawa-Mima turbulence and ZF eqns. (Dewar TH-P-6/1)

# CORE TRANSPORT

Theme - increasing role for simulation codes: global codes, more complete physics and geometry, low magnetic shear

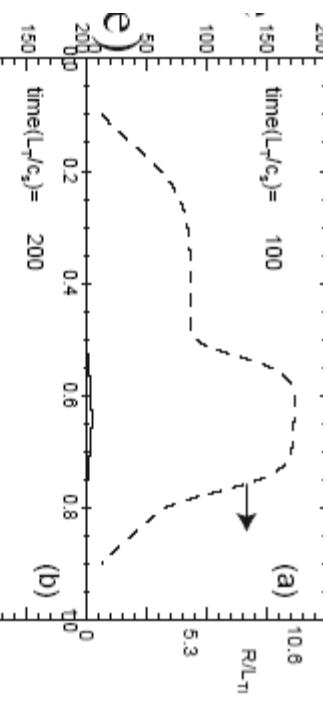
**GYRO**: Global code with full physics describes DIII-D  $\rho_*$  scaling in L-mode; feedback on profiles to achieve steady-state (Waltz TH-8/8)



**GTC:** allows steep gradients - turbulence spreading from edge to **stable core**, affecting  $\rho_*$  scaling (Hahm TH-1/4);  
analytic theory (Holland TH-P-6/5)

**Nonlinear GTC Simulation  
of Ion Temperature Gradient Turbulence**  
 $\frac{R}{L_T} = 5:3$  at core (within Dimits shift regime)

$$\frac{R}{L_T} = 10:6 \text{ at edge:}$$



Initial Growth at Edge and Local Saturation

→ Penetration into **stable** Core:

Lin,Hahm,Diamond,... PRL '02, PPCF '04

**Saturation Level at Core:**

$$\frac{e\delta\phi}{T_e} \sim 3.6 \frac{\rho_i}{a}$$

→ sometimes  $\nabla \cdot \Gamma_{\text{spreading}} \gg \gamma_{\text{local}}$

Can increase transport in **unstable** core, say **fluctuations x2**

# ETG MODES

- Global code (**GTC**)

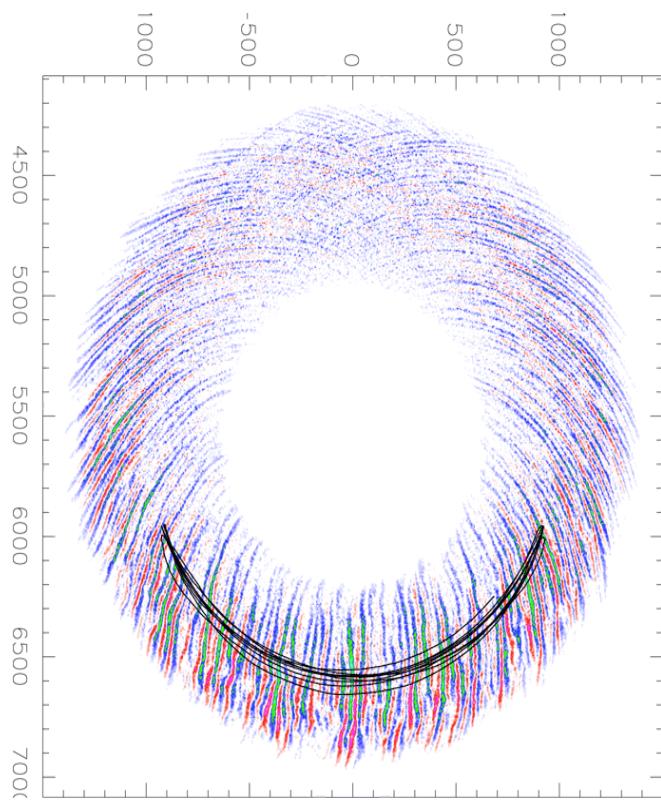
shows streamers

but  $\chi_e \sim 3\chi_e^{\text{ML}} \Rightarrow$  need TEM;  
non-linear toroidal coupling  
essential for spectral cascade

(Lin TH-8/4)

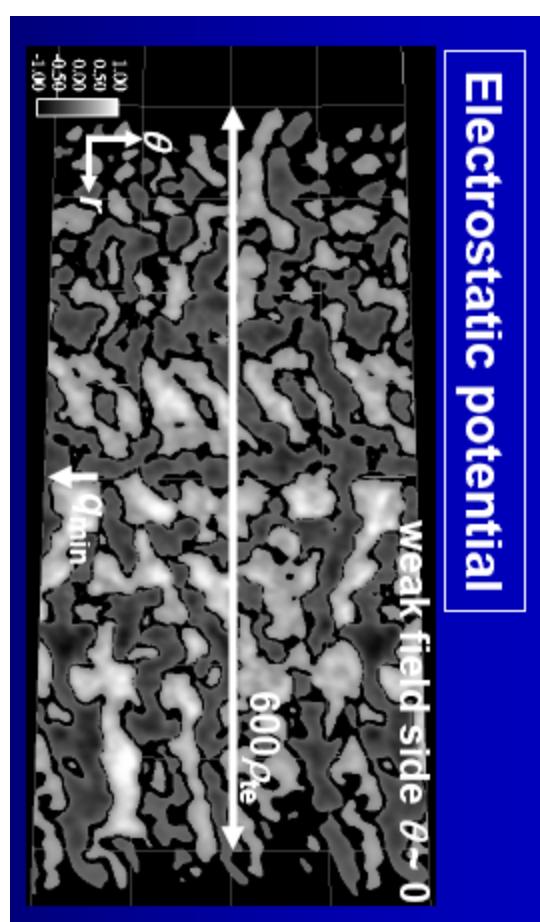
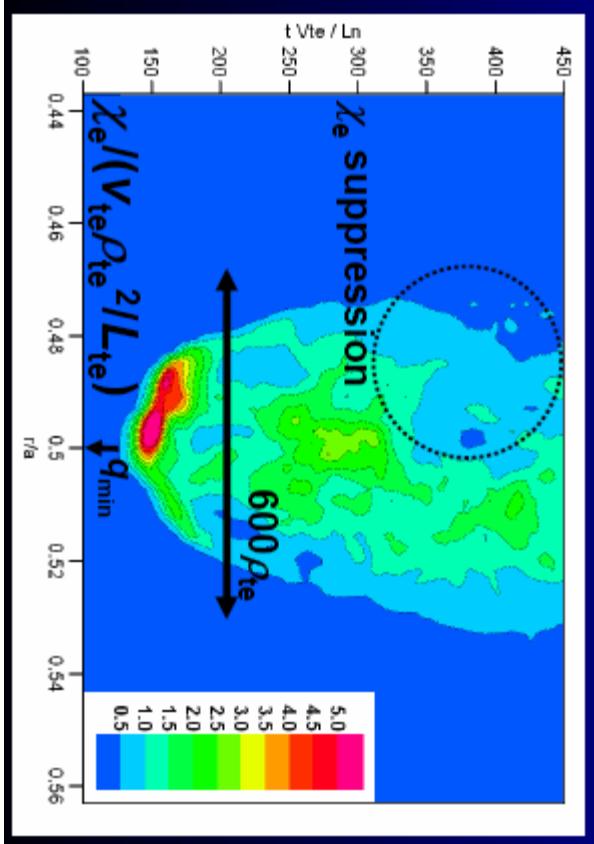
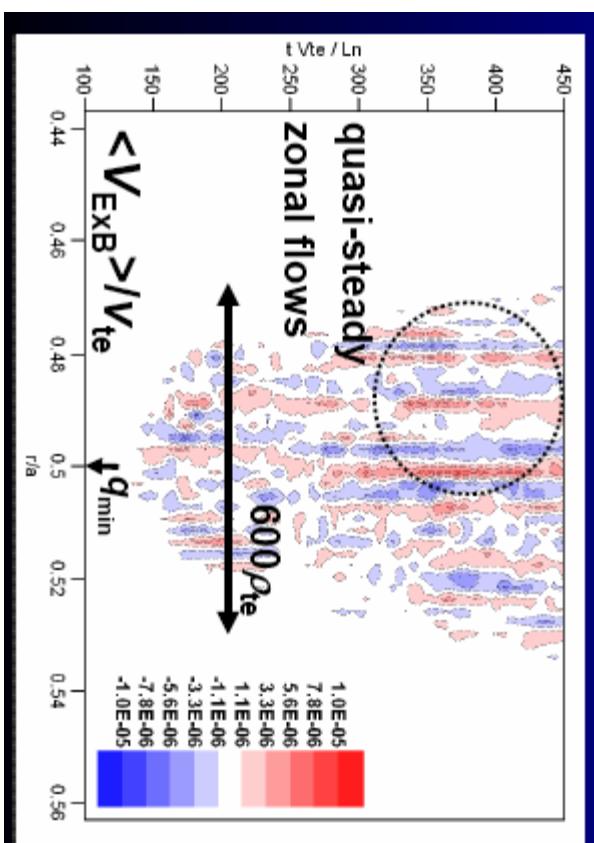
- Low  $s$ , low  $\chi_e$ ; high  $s$ , streamers (Li TH-8/5Ra)

- Global code: near  $q_{\min}$ ,  $s < 0 \Rightarrow$  low  $\chi_e$   
 $s > 0 \Rightarrow$  streamers and large  $\chi_e$ ;  
role for toroidal mode coupling (Idomura TH-8/1)



## $\chi_e$ gap structure in RS gap structure in RS-ETG turbulence

- RS-ETG turbulence shows qualitatively different structure formations across  $q_{\min}$
- **Zonal flows (streamers)** appear in negative (positive) shear region
- $\chi_e$  distribution has a **gap** structure across  $q_{\min}$



# ELECTRON & ION TRANSPORT

## TEM

- **Gs2** - non-linear upshift on critical  $L_n^{-1}$  for C-Mod ITB;  
equilibrium with off-axis ICRH where  $\Gamma_{\text{TEM}}$  balances Ware  
drift

⇒ on-axis ICRH gives control

Gs2 fluctuations compare with PCI on expt (Ernst TH-4/1)

## ITG

- Competition between ZFs, GAMs and parallel flows  
⇒ **q-dependent**  $\chi_i$  (Miyato TH-8/5Ra, Hallatschek TH-P-6/3)
  - cf Hirose (TH-P-6/4)

# ITG-CONTD

- Benchmarking turbulence characteristics in codes (Nevins TH-P-6/6)

- GTC, GYRO: identify origin of discrepancies in  $\chi_j$ , eg due to cross-phase
- mixing length model fails

## MISCELLANEOUS MODELS

### FLUID

- ZF upshift of critical gradient (Falchetto TH-1/3Rd)
- flow generation due to  $L_n$  (Sarazin TH-P-6/7)
- reduced models (18 ODE's needed) and relaxation oscillations (Hamaguchi TH-8/3Ra)

### KINETIC

- entropy balance accounting in velocity space: fine-scale structures and phase-mixing (Watanabe TH-8/3Rb)

## • NEOCLASSICAL

- **δf codes:** GTC-Neo  $\rho_{\text{ban}} \sim L_p$   $\Rightarrow V_{\theta i}$  different from ‘NC’ - depends on  $\omega_\phi(\psi)$  (Hahm TH-1/4);
- Finite orbit width, non-axisymmetric geometry and  $E_r$  (Satoh TH-P-2/18)
- ‘Omniclassical’ in STs - doubles  $\chi_i^{\text{NC}}$  due to gyro-orbits (White/Goldston TH-P-2/19)
- ‘Paleoclassical’: Classical resistive diffusion  $\Rightarrow$  stochastic diffusion of field lines: captures many experimental features (Callen TH-1/1)

## TOROIDAL MOMENTUM

**Losses:** (i) QL theory; (ii) non-resonant MHD and magnetic island effects.

**Source:** Identified toroidal ‘travelling’ modes along  $\mathbf{B}$  for inward transport in accretion model (Shaing/Coppi TH-P-2/9)

## TRANSPORT MODELLING

- Integrated modelling of advanced, steady state ST based on NSTX data  $\Rightarrow \beta \leq 40\%$  (Kessel TH-P-2/4)
- ITBs with mixed Bohm/gyroBohm model: need  $\alpha$ -stabilisation for DIII-D; real time q control simulation for JET (Tala TH-P-2/9)
- ETG transport modelling of Tore Supra, NSTX (Horton TH-P-3/5)
- Analysis of ECRH switch on/off in T10 - ballistic response (Andreev TH-P-3/1)
- Calibration of the model for barrier formation in CPTM; simulations of MAST, DIII-D, JET, TFTR with similar fitting parameters; effective critical  $\rho_{*Te}$  values (after JET) similar (Dnestrovskij TH-P-6/55)
- Integrated modelling - TASK (Fukuyama TH-P-2/3)

## NOVEL TRANSPORT MODELS

- Avalanches and non-diffusive transport observed in turbulence simulations represented in transport modelling by fractional derivatives (del-Castillo-Negrete TH-1/2)
- Model with **critical gradients** and Levy Flights captures **density pinch**, fast transients, power degradation (van Milligen TH-P-6/10)
- Stationary Magnetic Entropy model tested on JET and FTU: predicts q-profile in range of discharge types; less success with temperature profiles (Sozzi TH-P6-13)
- Control of test-particle transport in fusion relevant Hamiltonian systems (Chandre TH -PD-1)

# EDGE TRANSPORT, PEDESTAL & BARRIER

- Relaxation model with flows and ballooning  $\nabla p_{\text{crit}}$  (Guzdar TH-5/4)

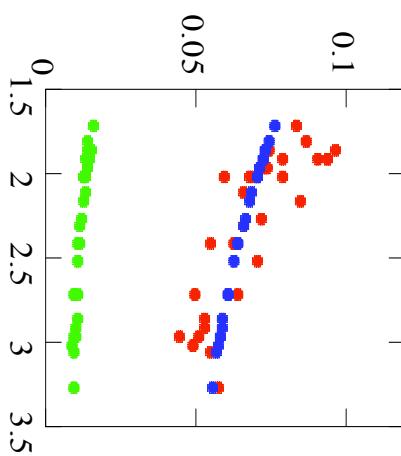
$$\Rightarrow T_{\text{ped}} \propto n^{-1} \text{ and } \Delta_{\text{ped}} \propto n^{-3/2}$$

- matches JT-60U;

but drift waves robustly

unstable in pedestal (**GS2**)

(universal mode!)



- Trans-collisional gyrofluid code (**GEM**)

- gradual change from edge drift waves to core ETG/ITG
- drift wave/ZF system stable against bifurcation

New GK code developed:

- find similar results but more high  $k_{\perp}$  activity (Scott TH-7/1)

## EDGE-CONTD

### Computational models

- **XGC**: NC + neutrals +X-point  
 $n_{\text{ped}}$  develops in 10ms;  
 $\Delta_{\text{ped}} \propto (T - T_c)^{1/2} / B_T$ ;  
T pedestal broader

(Chang TH-P-6/39)

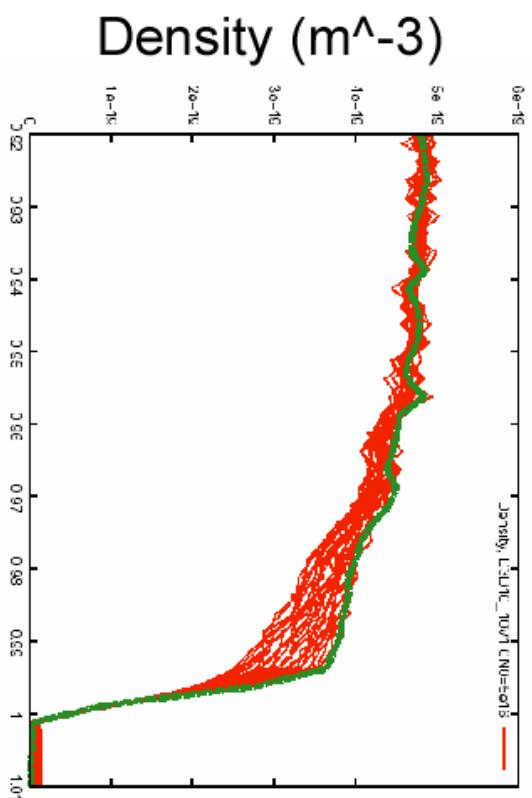


Fig. 1

- **ASCOT**: NC +  $E_r$ ; **ELMFIRE** (new ‘f’-code): NC +  $E_r$  + turbulence; evidence for ITB formation in FT-2 simulation - (Kiviniemi TH-P-3/7)

### Analytic & transport models

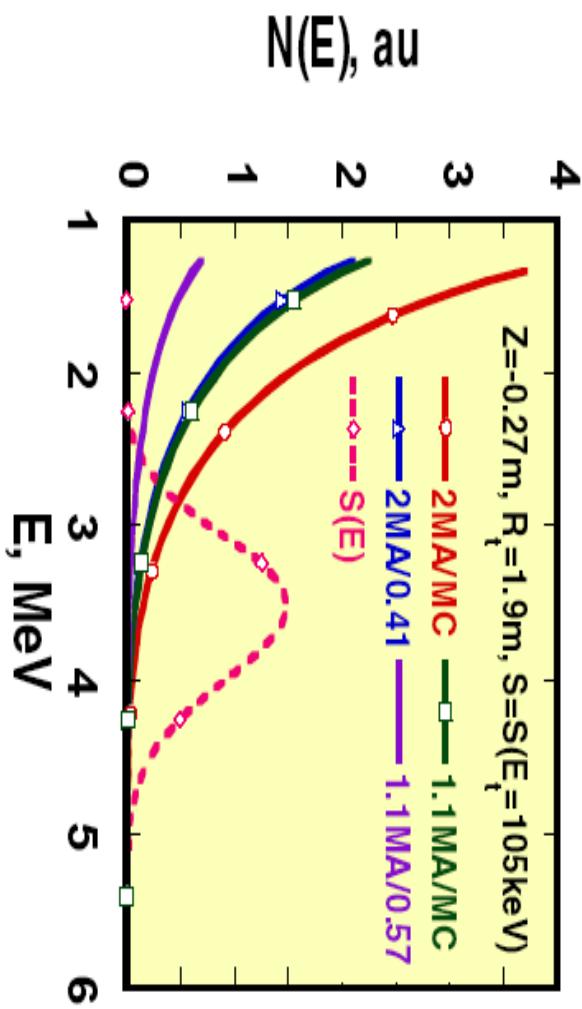
- poloidal and toroidal flows and neoclassical edge barrier (Fukuyama TH-P-2/3);

- coupled non -linear fluid model for  $V_\phi$ ,  $V_\theta$  (Daybelge TH-P-4/2);
- improved modelling of impurity modes (Morozov TH-P-5/26);
- drift-Alfvén transition model; role of  $L_h$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{ped}} \sim 1/n$  (Kalupin TH-P-3/6)

# IMPROVED CORE CONFINEMENT, ITBs

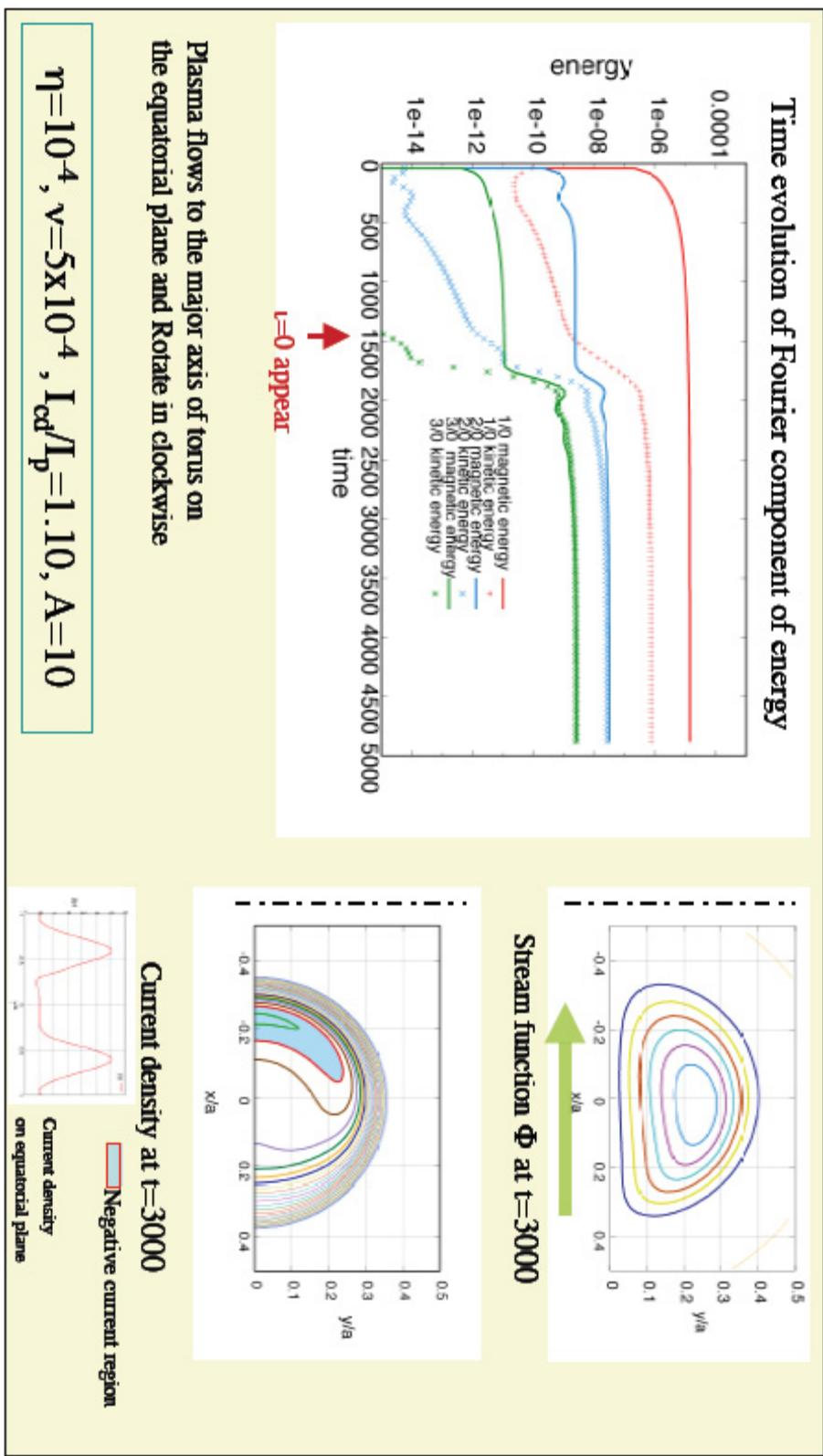
## Current Hole (CH)

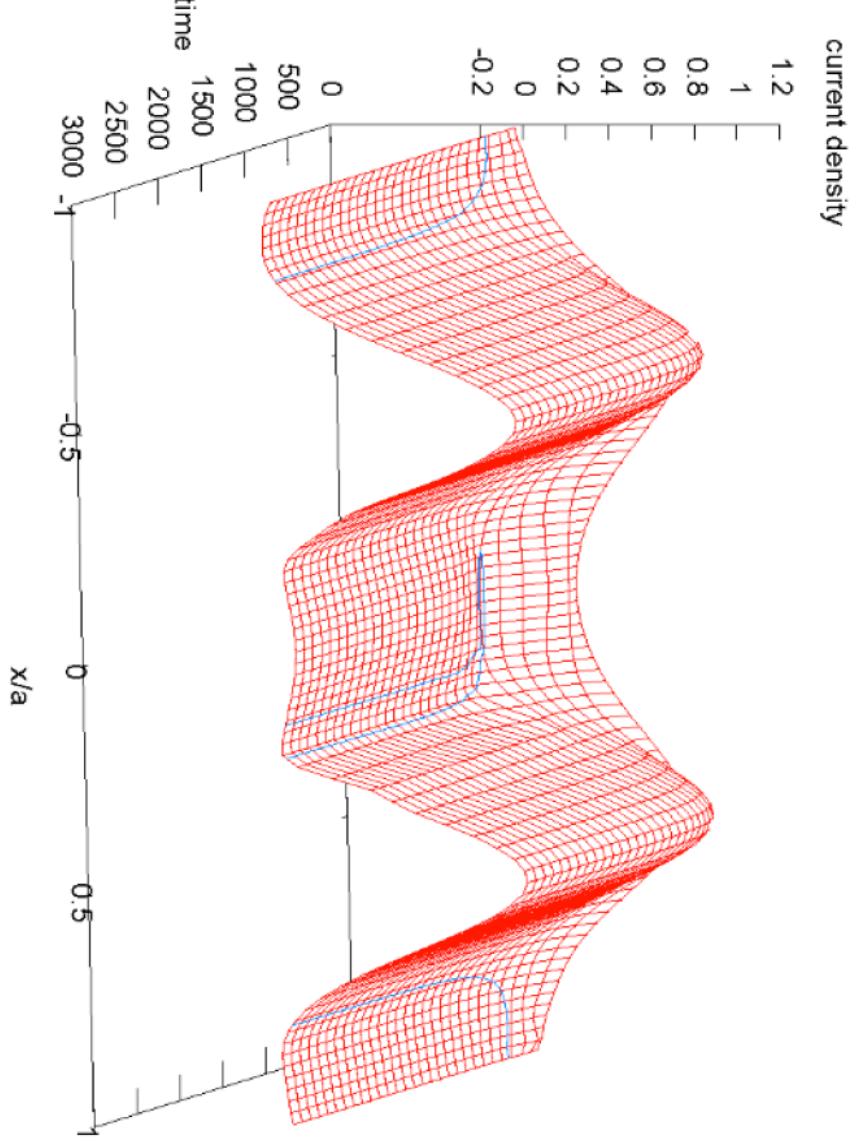
- Simulation of  $\gamma$  decay due to **redistribution** of  $\alpha$ 's in the poloidal plane in JET: 2MA with CH ( $\rho_{\text{CH}} \sim 0.4$ )  $\equiv$  1MA in normal shear (Yavorskij TH-P-4/49)



- Formation of current hole by vortex pair in core (Tuda TH -P-2-10)

## Steady State in Toroidal System

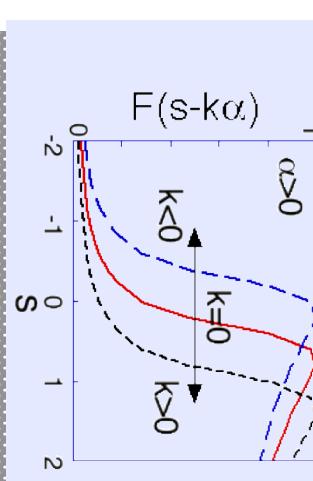




# Profile Formation and Sustainment of Autonomous Tokamak Plasma with Current Hole Configuration -3 magnetic island model for CH ( Hayashi, et al., TH-1/6 )

$$\chi_{amo} = \chi_0 F(s - k\alpha)$$

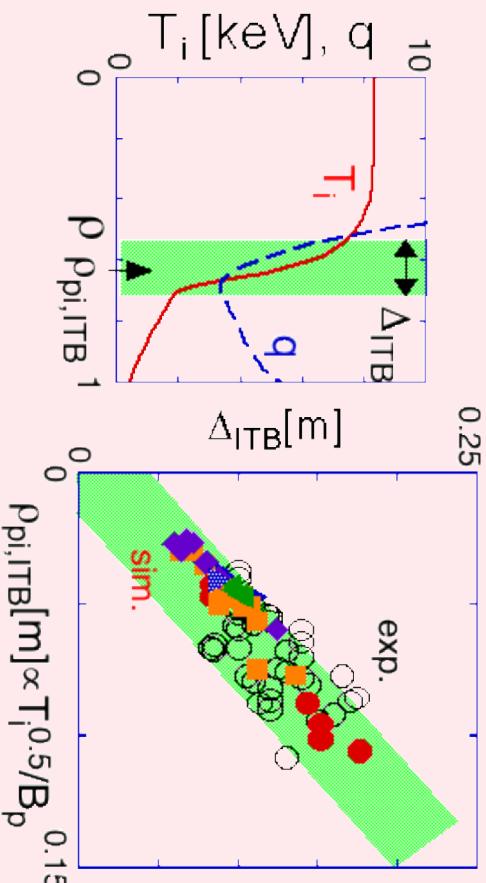
Sharp reduction of anomalous transport in RS region ( $k \sim 0$ ) can reproduce JT-60U experiment.



Transport becomes **neoclassical-level** in RS region, which results in the autonomous **formation of ITB** and **current hole through large bootstrap current**.

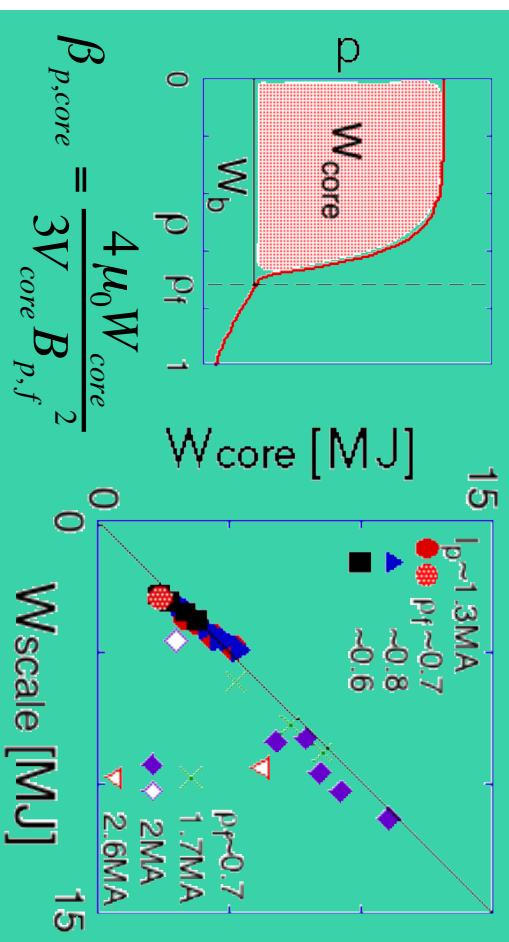
**1.5D transport simulation can reproduce JT-60U scalings.**

ITB width determined by neoclassical-level transport agrees with that in JT-60U :  $\Delta_{ITB} \sim 1.5 \rho_{pi,ITB}$ .



Energy confinement inside ITB agrees with JT-60U scaling :  $\beta_{p,core}^{-f,p,core} \sim 0.25$ .

Same value at MHD equilibrium limit in analytical model.



## ITBs AT $q_{\min}$ , RI-MODE

- Trigger by DTM magnetic island (Dong TH-P-2/7)
- Stability at low shear and with flow shear
  - failure of ballooning theory and complementary approach based on ‘modelets’ (Connor TH-5/5)
  - effects of  $s$ ,  $v_{\parallel}'$ ,  $v'$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $j'$  in cylindrical stability calculations (Wang TH-P-6/11)
- RI Mode: trigger bifurcation by flows resulting from torques due to **poloidal radiation asymmetry**; stabilises at lower impurity concentration (Singh TH-P-5/31)

## PROGRESS (2): STABILITY

Themes: Non-linear codes, realistic geometry with wall,  
improved fast particle models

### NTM: (i) Triggers

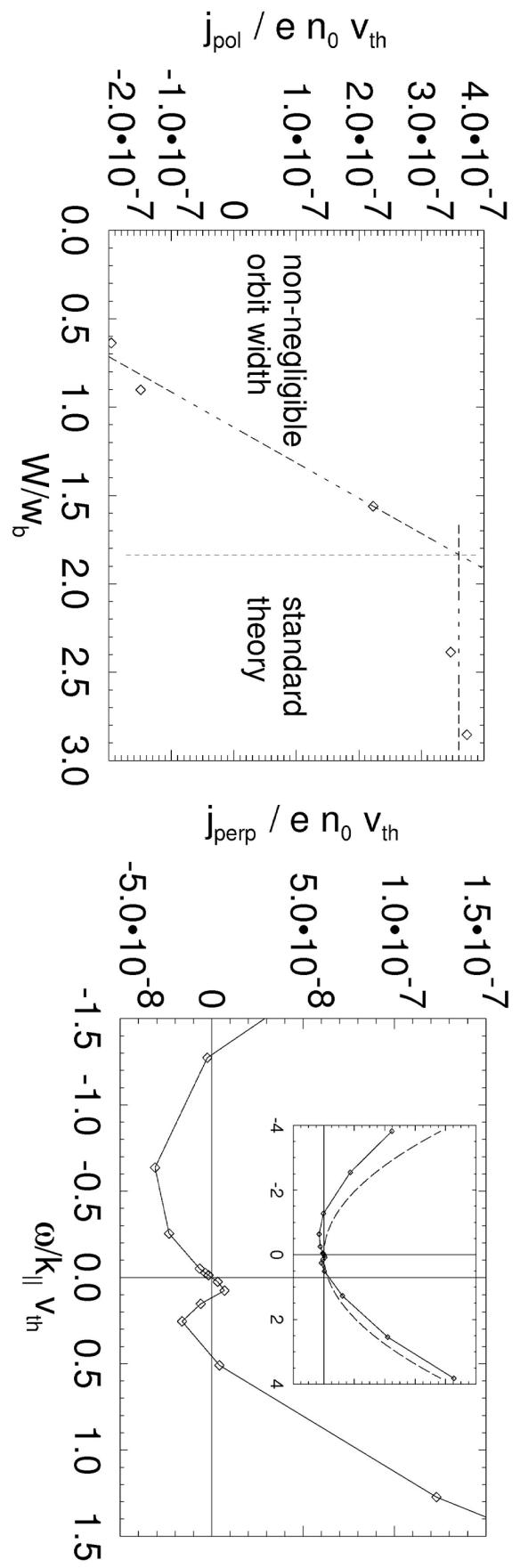
- Forced reconnection by non-linear coupling to MHD modes
  - frequency miss-match not a problem (Coehlo TH-P-5/2)

### • Error field amplification (Pustovitov TH-P-6/3)

#### (ii) Critical island width $w$

- Turbulent viscosity: dominant stabilising effect on  $j_{BS}$  drive  
for island rotating in electron direction  $\Rightarrow$  not explanation of  
 $\beta_{Th}$  in expts; effect on  $j_{Pol}$ ? (Konovalov TH-P-5/10)

- Rotation shear destabilises, differential rotation stabilises  
(Sen TH-6/1)



**Finite orbit ( $w \sim \rho_{\text{ban}}$ ) effects on  $j_{\text{bs}}, j_{\text{pol}}$  (HAGIS):  $j_{\text{pol}} \propto w$ ,**  
 $w < \rho_{\text{ban}}$ ;  $j_{\text{pol}}$  changes sign near  $\omega = \omega_{*e}$  (Poli TH-6/2)

## TEARING MODES

- Non-linear enhancement of growth by drift wave turbulence (Yagi TH-P-5/17)
- Enhanced reconnection in collisional drift-tearing model - parallel electron thermal conduction plays key role (Coppi TH-P2-29)
- Non-linear stabilisation of island at finite island width, w:  
$$\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta' - c_1 w \ln(1/w) - c_2 w \quad (\text{Porcelli PD-1})$$

## RWMS

Rotation stabilisation

and control:

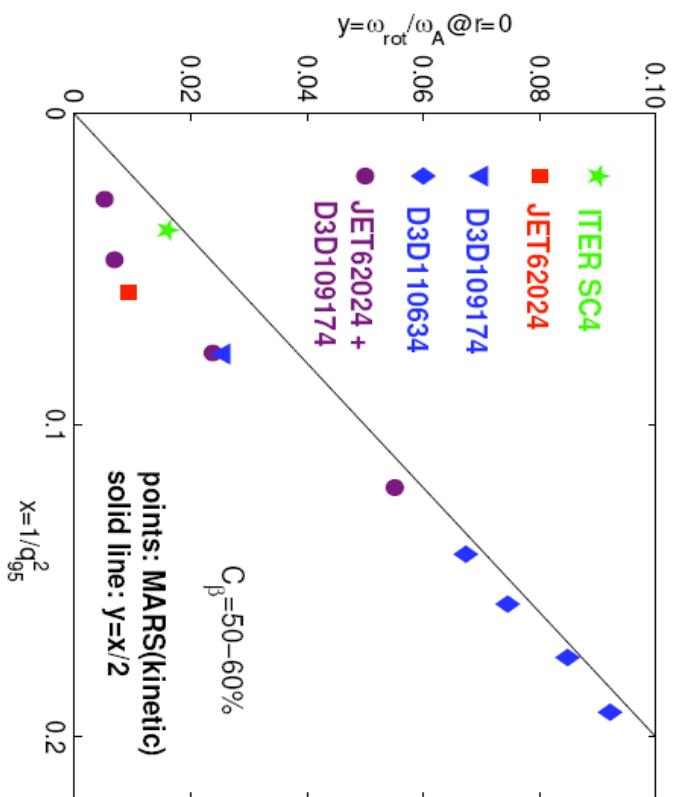
- validated kinetic model for damping in MARS

- stabilisation of  $n = 1$  in ITER for  $\omega_\phi \sim (1.5 - 3) \% \omega_A$ ;

- but predicted rotation  $< 2\%$

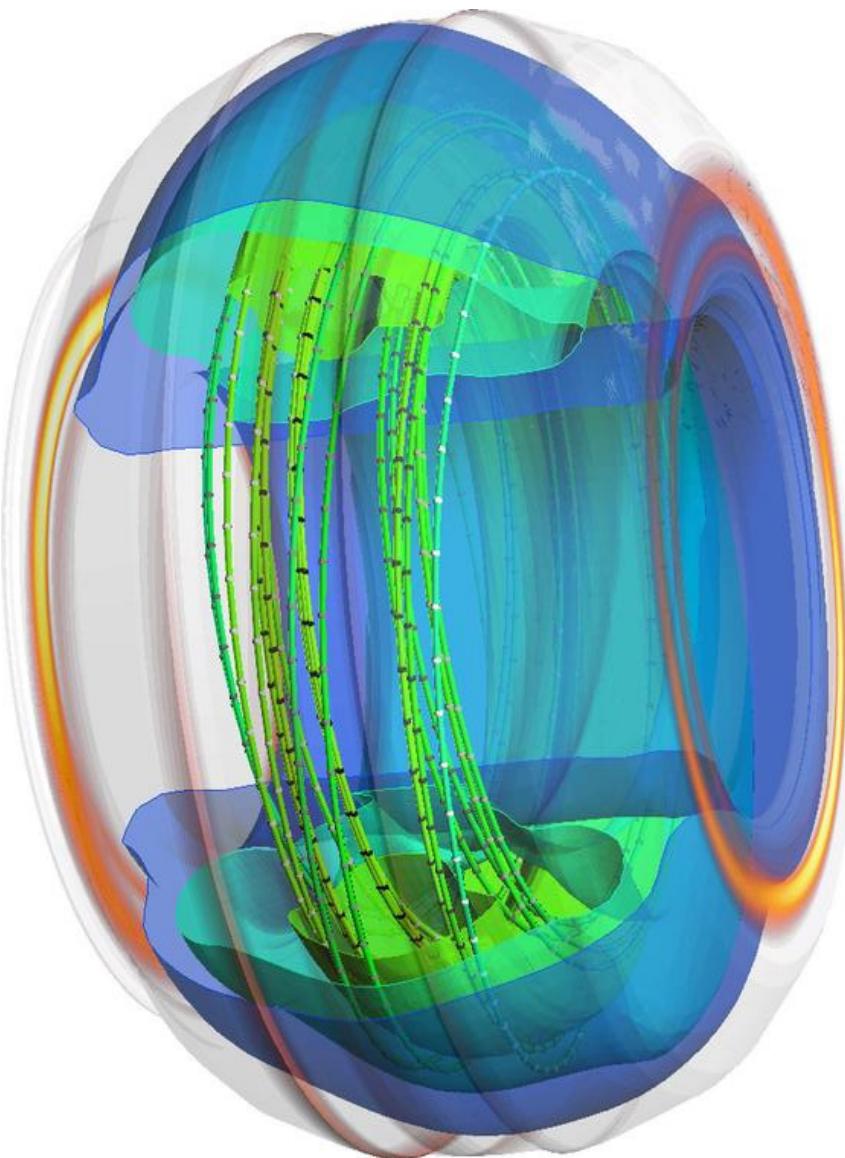
$\Rightarrow$  need control: possible to approach 80% of way between no-wall and ideal-wall limits (Liu TH-2/1)

- Effect of coupling to **stable** internal modes on external modes - generate a ‘peeling like’ structure (Tokuda TH-P-4/46)
- Thick walls in ITER slow down growth rate (Strauss TH-2/2)

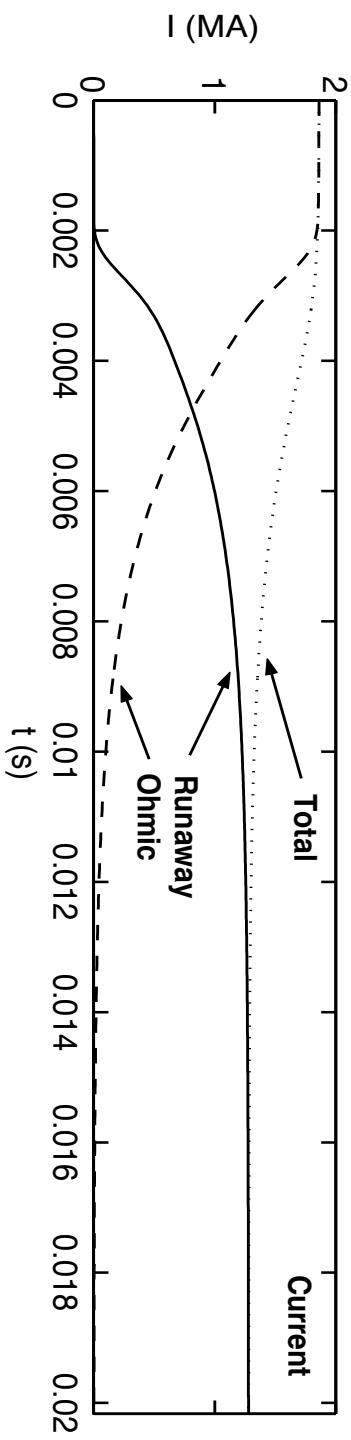


## DISRUPTIONS

- Simulation of **heat deposition** due to disruption for DIII-D RS with **NIMROD** - asymmetric heat deposition from  $n = 1$  distortion (Kruger T-P-2/25)



- Modelling ITER halo current database with **M32D** - VDEs: **halo current fraction  $\sim 0.35$ , toroidal peaking factor, TPF  $\sim 2$**  (Strauss TH-2/2)
- Self-consistent evolution of runaways and current in disruptions - central **peaking** of current - simulates JET; 1/2 of current in JET and 3/4 in ITER converted to runaways (Helander TH-P-4/39)
- Eddy current calculations in ETE ST (Ludwig TH-P-4/7)



## PRESSURE LIMITS

- Non-axisymmetric studies of ideal MHD ballooning and interchange modes (Miura TH-2/3, Nakajima TH-5/6) and equilibrium & orbits (Suzuki TH-P-2/31), particularly LHD and for NCSX
  - reduced disruptivity from toroidal flow generation  $\Rightarrow \beta \sim 1.5\%$  (Miura)
  - perturbative approach to identifying second stability (Hudson TH-P-2/24)
    - ‘realistic’ treatment of boundary, reducing ‘bumpiness’ improves stability and agreement with expt,  $\beta \sim 3\%$  ‘stable’ -  $\beta \sim 1\%$  more unstable (Nakajima)
- 2-fluid non-linear modelling with **M3D**: better explains experiment; stabilises ideal and resistive modes  $\Rightarrow$  soft beta limit due to confinement degradation as islands grow large (Sugiyama TH-P-2/30)

- **Rotation damping** of ballooning modes

- interpretation in terms of damping on **stable modes**

(Furukawa TH-P-1/1);

- **transition** from zero flow calculation of standard ballooning theory (Connor TH-5/5)

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Instability suppression by sheared flows in dense **Z-pinch**

(Herrera Velazquez TH-P-2/23)

# FAST PARTICLE MHD

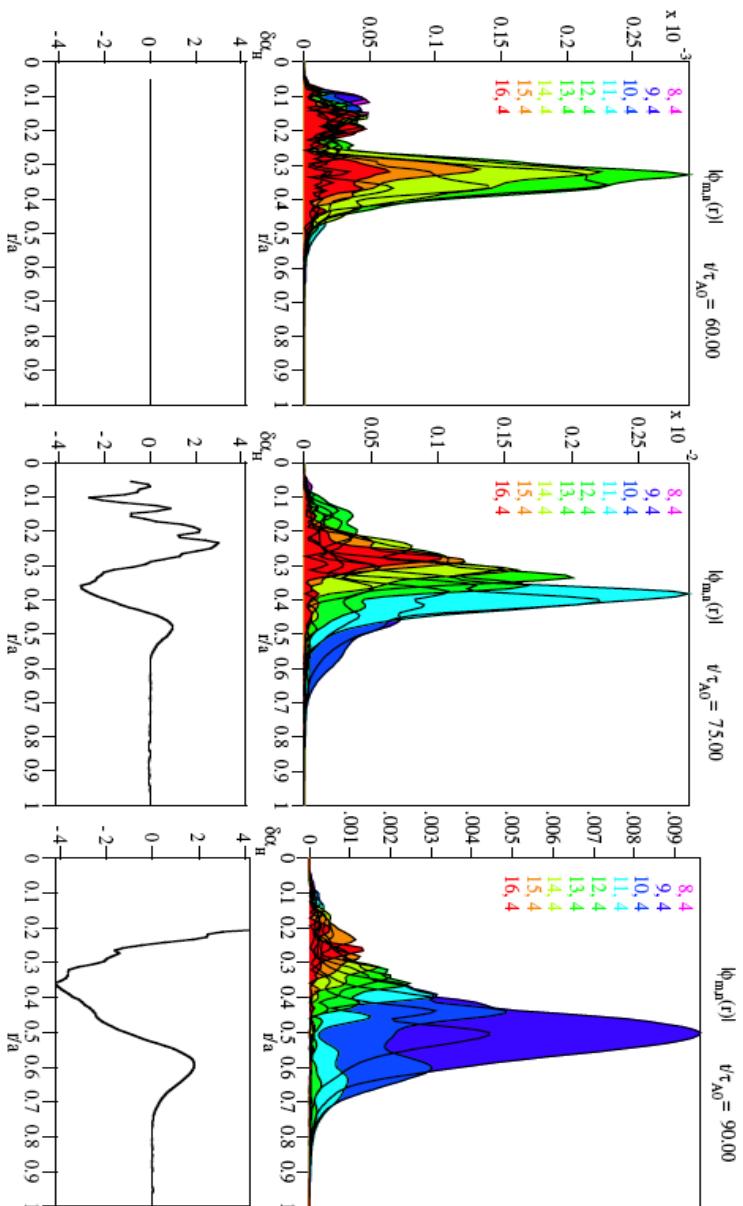
Themes: Realistic  $f_h$ , frequency-sweeping, diagnostic opportunities, alpha-losses

## Fishbones & internal kink mode

- non-perturbative treatments of  $f_h$ , new branches
- Explain low frequency modes on JET with NOVA-K (Gorolenkov TH-P-5/2Rb)
- Hybrid fishbones and coalescence of fishbones during JET monster sawteeth, operating diagram in  $(\gamma_{MHD}, \beta_h, \omega_*)$  (Nabais TH-5/3)
- Non-conventional modes in ST (low  $\mathbf{B}$ ) and doublet frequency modes from passing particles in AUG (Kolesnichenko TH-P-4/42)

## TAEs, EPMs

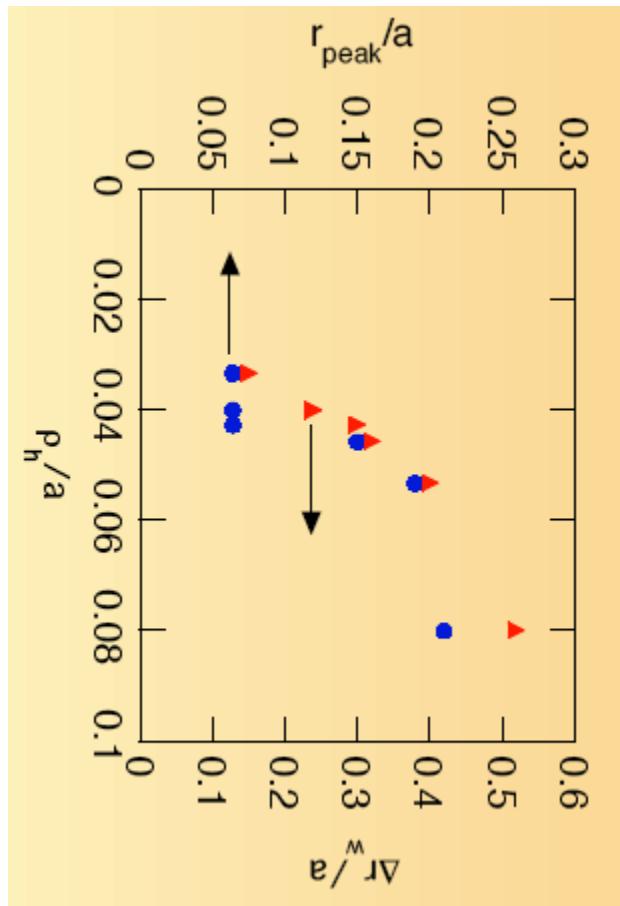
- Hybrid MHD-GK code: **Avalanching** transport of alphas, theory shows **threshold** near linear stability:  $\tau_{\text{loss}} - \text{few } \gamma_{\text{lin}}^{-1}$ , radial redistribution, loss only for ITER RS (Zonca TH-5/1)



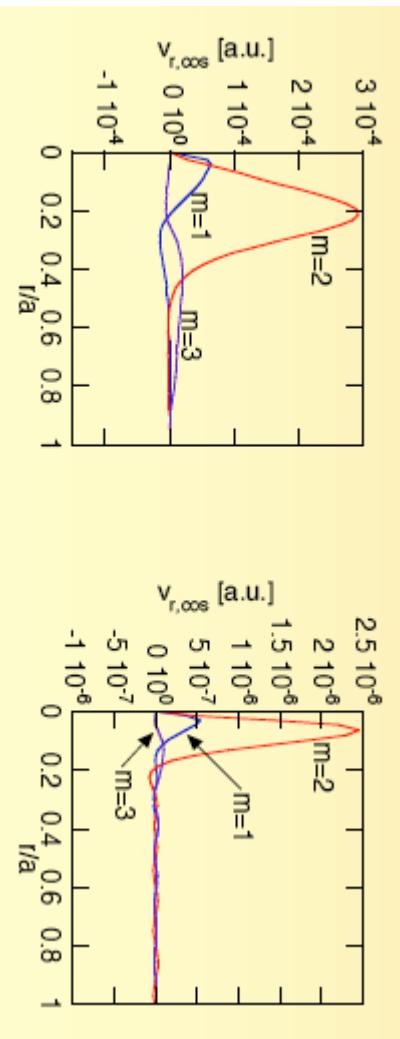
- Non local EPM - width and location depends on energetic ion orbit width (Todo TH-3/1Ra)

# Non-local Energetic Particle Mode (Todo TH-3/1Ra)

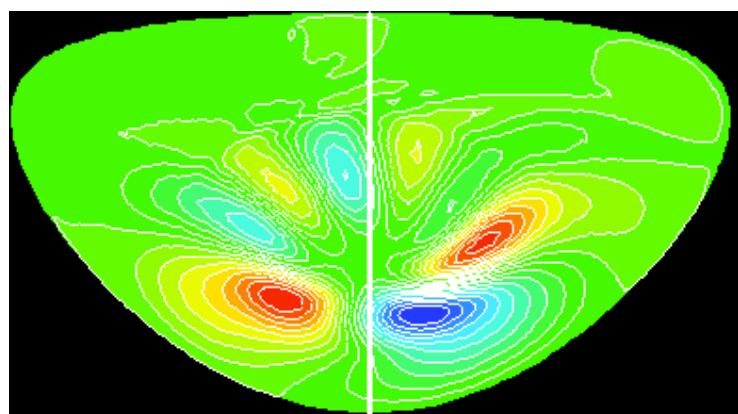
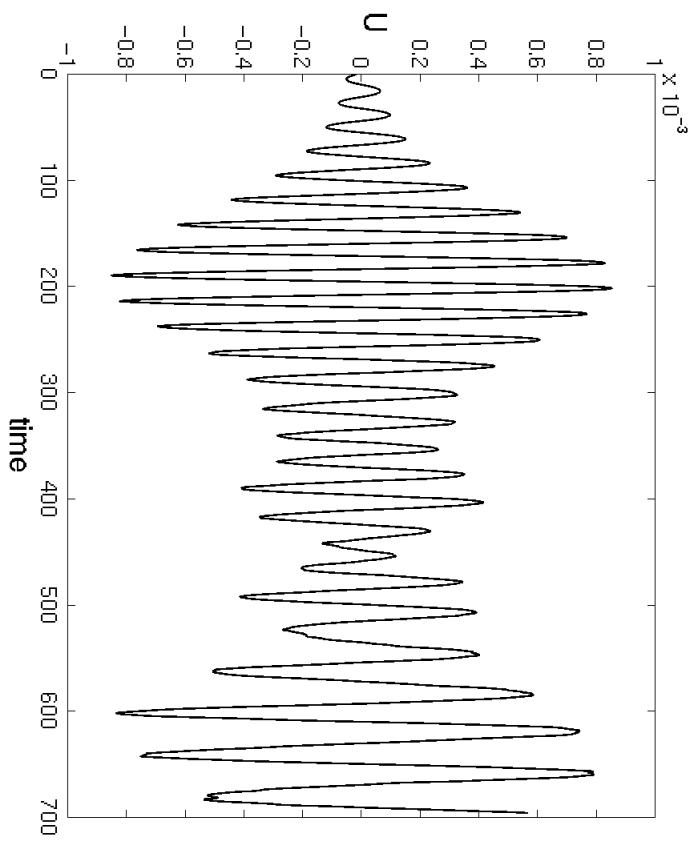
The **radial width** of the non-local EPM significantly depends on the **orbit width** of the **energetic ions**. They are induced by the energetic ions.



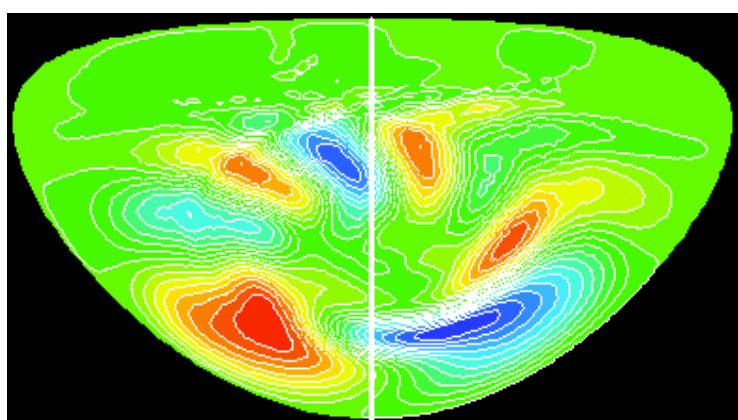
Examples of the **spatial profile**. The toroidal mode number is  $n=1$ .



**M3D** Nonlinear hybrid simulations of beam-driven modes in NSTX shows a bursting n=2 TAE as the mode moves out radially (Fu TH-P-4/38).



$t=0.0$



$t=336$

- **Frequency sweeping:** slow sweep from equilibrium changes (Fu; Berk TH-P4/38); **fast sweep from phase-space holes** (Todo, Berk)  $\Rightarrow$  diagnostic for  $\delta b$  (Berk)

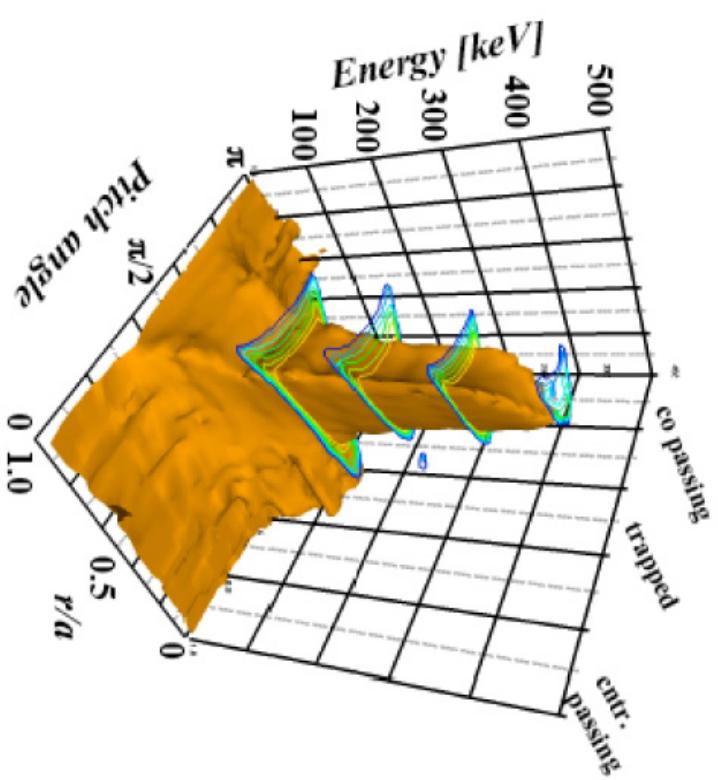
- $\gamma_{\text{NBI}} \sim \gamma_{\text{Alpha}}$  for  $n = 10$  in ITER;  $f_{\text{Loss}} \sim 5\%$  at 23keV (Berk)
- **Alfvén Cascades:** , low frequency modes near  $q_{\text{min}}$  in JET (Berk); modes in cylinder due to  $V_n$  (Konovalov TH-P-4/43)
- New modes in **2<sup>nd</sup> stability**, MAST, NSTX (Berk)
- **Self-consistent dynamics** of  $f_h$  from ICRH and GAE with **SELFO** code ; captures experimentally observed amplitude oscillations (Hellsten TH-P-4/40)
- **Thermal quench**,  $T_e$ , from  $\chi_e$  due to GAE + KAW islands in W7AS (Yakovenko TH-P-4/48)

## PROGRESS (3): FUELLING, H&CD

Themes: realistic physics / geometry, integrated modelling  
⇒ major computation!

ICRH/LH: self-consistent energetic particle  $f_h$ , full wave

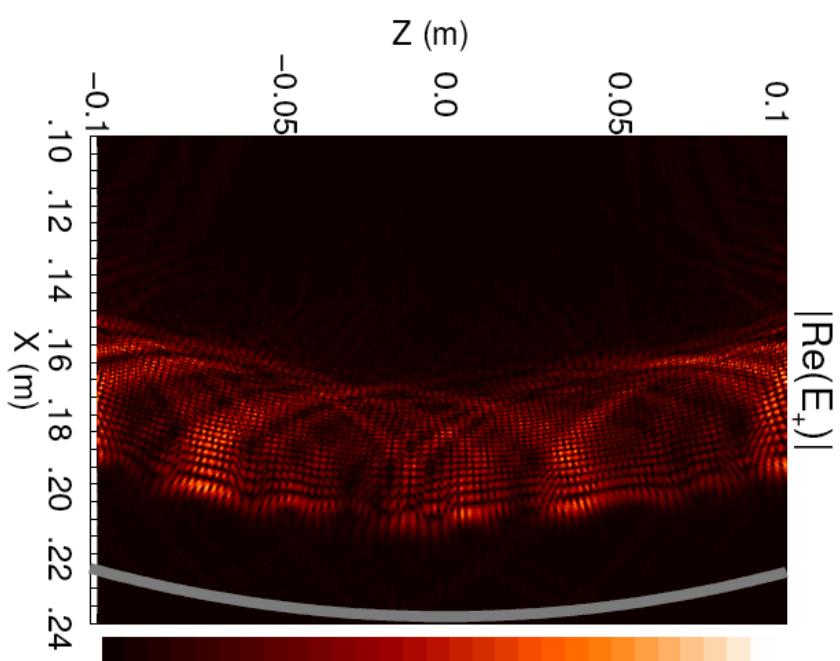
- 3D global modelling for LHD;  
models phase space iso-surfaces



& satisfactory experimental  
comparisons for NDD-NPA  
energy spectrum

(Murakami TH-P-4/30)

- FW: alpha absorption in ITER tolerable, < 5%
  - LH: model validated on C-Mod →
- TORIC** full wave code shows **diffraction** sufficient to fill the **spectral gap**; damping at  $2 - 3 V_{\text{the}}$



(Wright TH-P-4/35)

## EC/EBW: relativistic treatments, suprathermal tails (Nikolic TH-P-4/31, Ram TH-P-6/56)

- current drive in NSTX:  $\eta_{CD} = 3.2$  at  $r/a = 0.5$  (Okhawa);  
 $\eta_{CD} = 1.9$  at  $r/a = 0.2$  (Fisch-Boozer) (Ram)

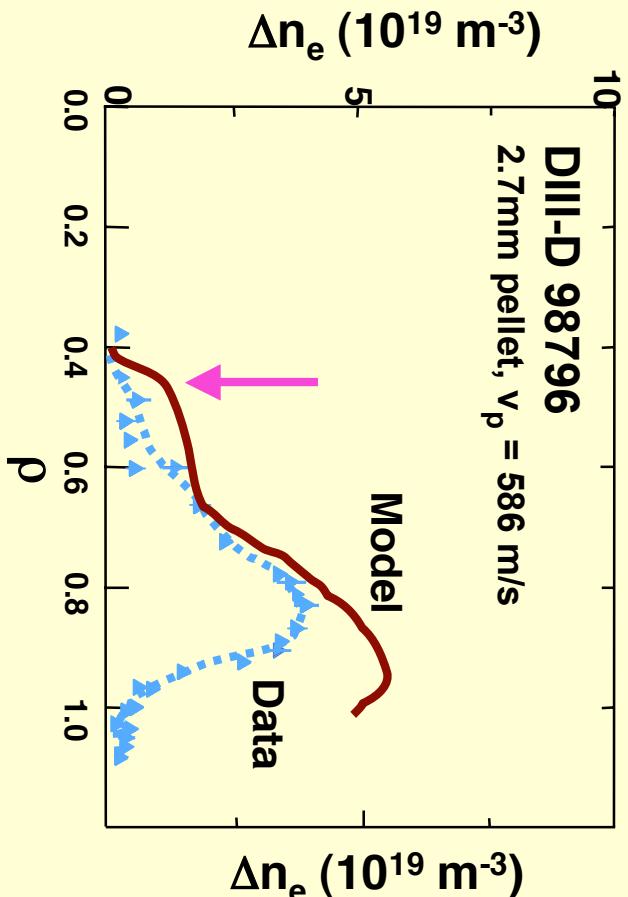
## EC wave transport

- relevant to ITER in RS with  $T_e \sim 35$  keV (Dies TH-P-4/18)
- self-consistent modelling of effects of suprathermal tails and wave transport: not important for thermal plasma, but ECCD significant? (Kukushkin TH-P-6/56)

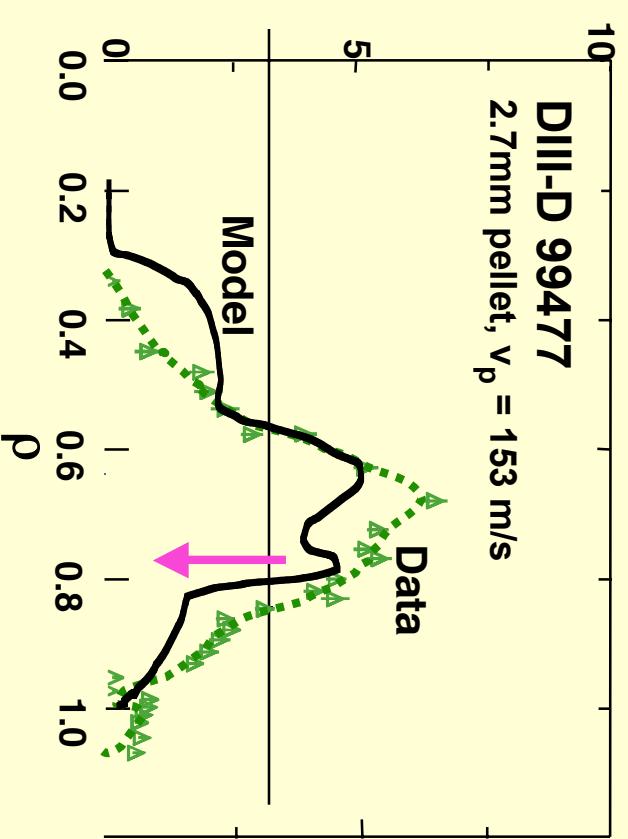
Low frequency and NBI: for FRC, RFP, Spheromaks (Farengo TH-P-4/20)

# Theory and Experiments on DIII-D Compare Well

**Outside launch**



**Inside launch (45 deg above mid-plane)**



- Vertical arrows indicate **pellet burnout point**.

- Fueling efficiency for inside launch is much better (even with slower pellets)

**outside launch**  $\eta_{\text{theory}} = 66\%$ ,  $\eta_{\text{exp}} = 46\%$  (discrepancy due to **strong ELM**)

**inside launch**  $\eta_{\text{theory}} = 100\%$ ,  $\eta_{\text{exp}} = 92\%$  (discrepancy due to **weak ELM**)

# PROGRESS (4): EXHAUST

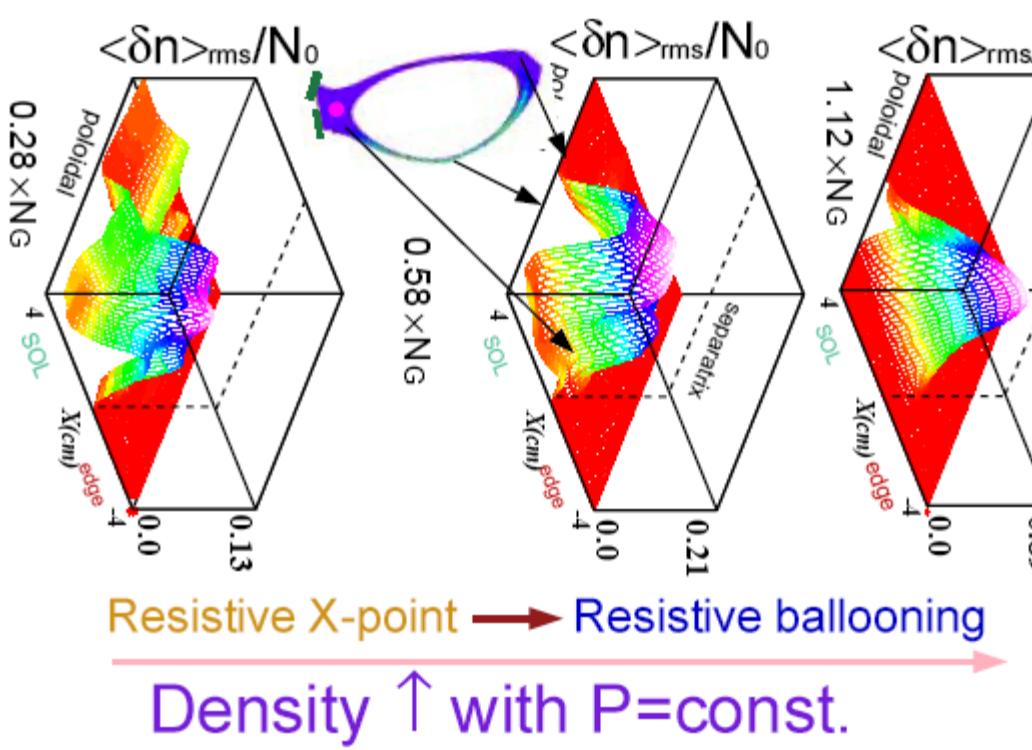
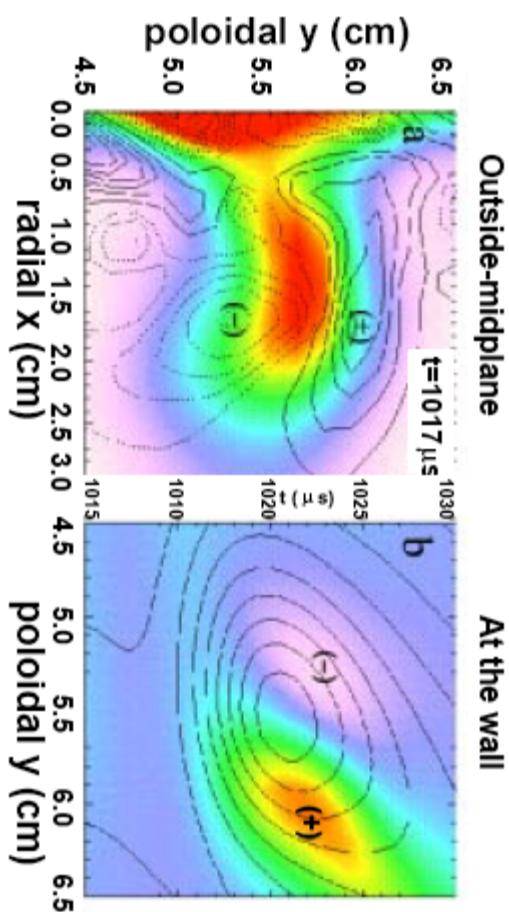
Themes : turbulence, integrated modelling, ELMs

**SOL: turbulence simulations** (Ghendrith TH-1/3Ra, Falchetto TH-1/3Rd,  
Ronglien TH-1/5)

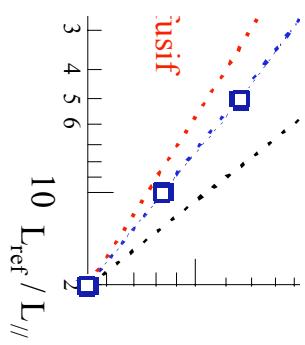
- Coherent structures (**blobs**) with X-point: analytic modelling of 3-D blob dynamics; interpretation of BOUT results (D’Ippolito TH-P-6/2)
- **Integrated BOUT-UEDGE** codes (turbulence + neutrals+ X-point + transport) (Ronglien)
  - increasing density: transition from resistive X-point modes to RBM & greatly increased transport (with blobs)
  - predicts **Greenwald density limit** and X-point MARFES
  - Tail of  $\Gamma_{\text{wall}}$  due to blobs

# BOUT Simulations Show Strong Density Effects on Edge Turbulence

- A transition of boundary turbulence from **resistive X-point** to **resistive ballooning** once  $n > n_G$



- ZFs suppressed in SOL due to connection to **sheath** (Falchetto)
- **Ballistic density front propagation** in 2D SOL turbulence  
 $\Rightarrow \Delta_{\text{SOL}} \sim L_{\parallel}^{0.62}$  - agrees with analytic model
  - ITER implication:  $\Gamma_{\text{wall}}$  up just 10% on diffusion model (Ghendritth TH-1/3Ra)

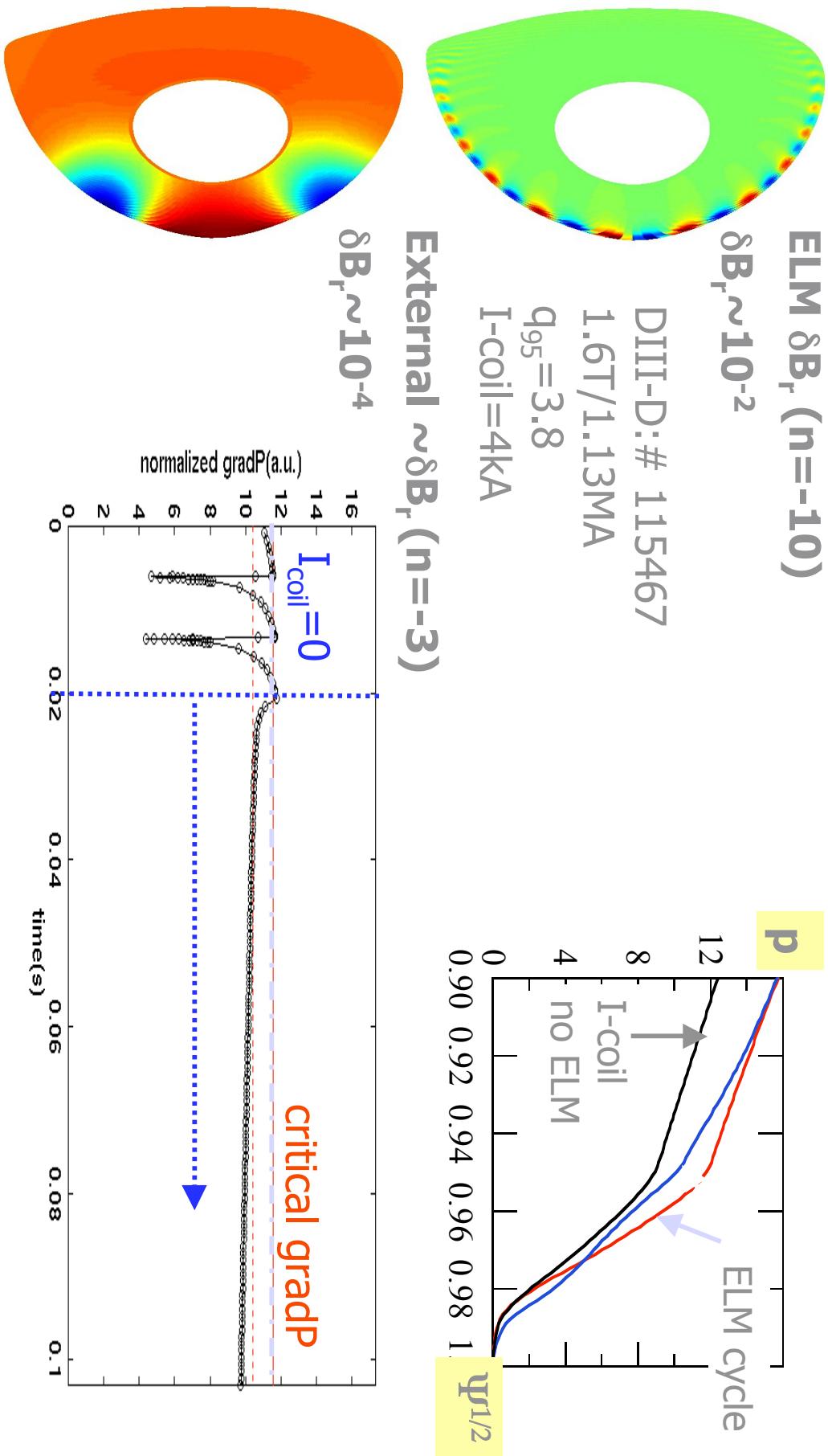


## **Integrated Modelling:** core - pedestal - SOL + ELMs (Pacher

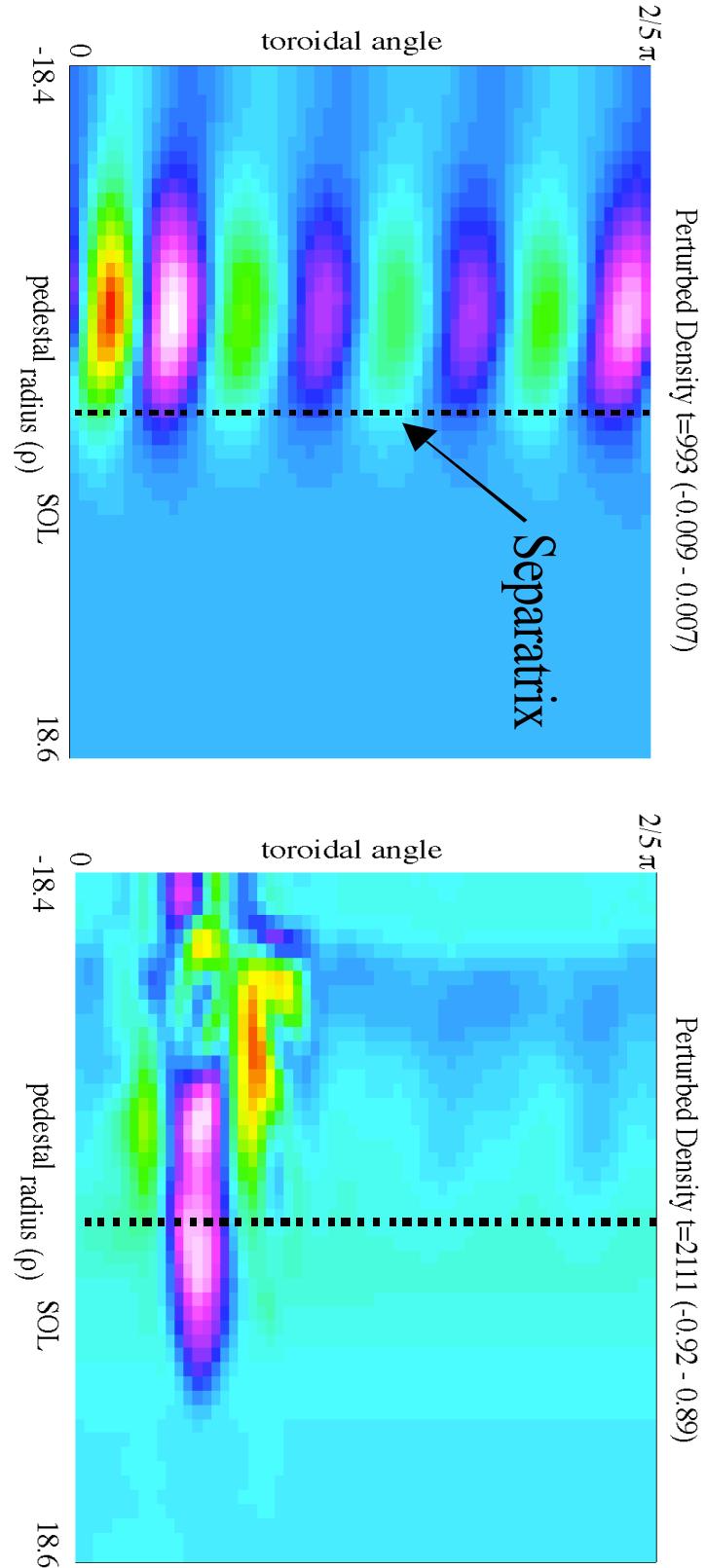
TH-P-3/25, Guzzar TH-5/5)

- Multi-mode model element extended to low shear and ETG  
(Guzzar)
- Detailed analysis/modelling of Carbon erosion in JET,  
**migration and asymmetric deposition**
  - successful simulation by introducing **reflection** above  
some  $T_e^{crit}$  ( $\sim 5 - 10$  eV) at edge (Coster TH-P-5/18)

# Modelled controlled suppression of ELMs by stochastic field transport due to I-coils in DIII-D without significant confinement degradation (Becoulet TH-1/3RC)



(a)(b)



- Simulate relaxation oscillations from RBM turbulence; result of transitory growth giving time delay before shear flow stabilisation (Benkadda TH-1/3Rb)
- Non-linear ballooning mode evolution leads to explosive growth of filaments (Wilson TH-P-1/5)
  - seen in MAST - and BOOUT simulation