XP-23: NBI with Small \vec{q} = 1

- Developed "growing " startup in MP-13 (11/12)
 - Start up with small cross-section on center stack
 - Keep q_a approximately constant as I_p ramps up
 - 700kA, 80ms f/t with repetitive sawteeth, ~10ms

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$$r_{q=1} = 0.25 - 0.3 \text{ m} (\text{EFIT})$$

- First XP-23 session on Friday 11/17 (22 shots)
 - Preceded by MP-9 (Boronization) in morning
- Start with 700kA, 35kA TF, D₂ grown plasma
- Gas requirement changed by wall and NB pumping
- Add NB-B after start of s/t then just before s/t
 - ► W_{MHD} sometimes unaffected by early sawteeth but
 - W_{MHD} reduced momentarily or collapsed at later s/t, particularly for $\beta_P > \sim 0.35$, suggesting NTM role
- Extend ramp to 800kA, add NB-C and finally A
- 104215 good example of heating through 2 s/t followed by minor then major collapse at next 2

Growing Startup Can Produce Small Repetitive Sawteeth



Small Sawteeth Do Not Affect NB Heating at Low β_P



MGB / NSTX Results Review / 010919

XP-23: NBI with Small q = 1 (2)

- Second round on Tuesday 7/3 (14 shots)
- Difficulties reproducing conditions from 11/17
 - ▶ 800kA, 35kA TF, D₂ (adapted from 104215)
 - graft on new startup program
 - change gas valve
 - adjust for change in sensor for B_{pol} at outer gap
 - Initial plasma current lower than before
 - Outer gap developed large oscillations
 - larger effect of eddy currents in passive plates?
- Eventually produced small sawteeth (105647)
 - ~5ms period starting around 85ms in OH phase
- NBI had trouble with permissive (105646 9)
- NBI on 105650
 - NBI-A + B modulated (20ms on/off) on105651
 - Heating not as good as 104215 but no obvious deleterious effect of individual sawteeth

Changes in Growing Phase Affected Sawteeth Later



SXR (>0.6keV) profiles before, after crash (100µs average)





Thomson Scattering Profiles



- Temperature is quite peaked but density is relatively broad
 - Result of strong gas puffing during ramp



Conclusions

- Successful in producing plasmas with small, benign sawteeth by growing cross-section
- Limitations on control of large outer gaps impair day-to-day reproducibility
- Sawteeth *per se* do not degrade confinement during NBI
- At $\beta_P \sim 0.4$, sawteeth can trigger degradation
 - Progressively more severe as β_P rises
 - Suggestion that Neoclassical Tearing Modes are playing a role