

1. CHI EQUILIBRIUM MODELING

2. HELICITY



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with

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NSTX Results Review

PPPL

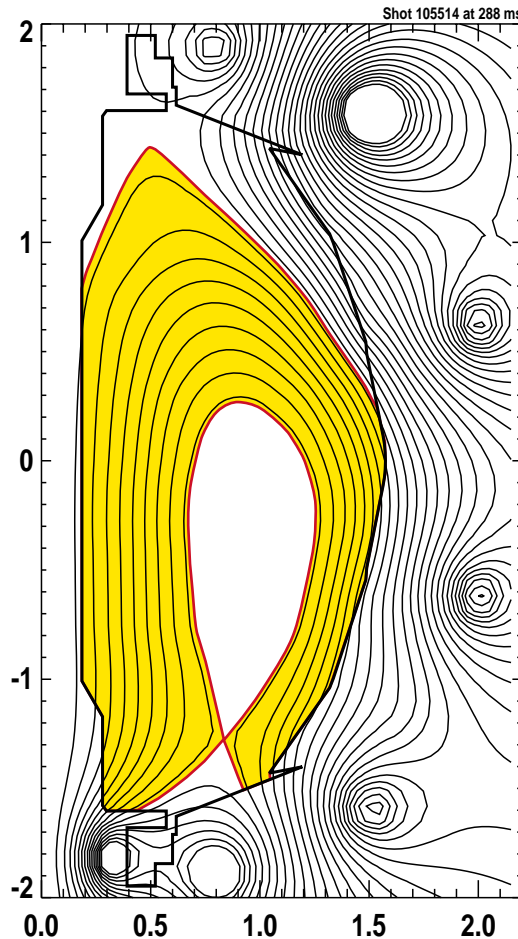
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CHI Raises Basic Physics Questions



- Is there a sizeable central region of CLOSED magnetic surfaces by the end of a CHI non inductive startup pulse?
 - Needed to confine energetic HHFW electrons and/or NB injected ions during the handoff from CHI startup to another non inductive current driver.
- Helicity transport theory predicts that magnetic surfaces must be open (either intermittently or steadily) to sustain current.
 - Open surfaces reduce hot plasma confinement.
- How does CHI operate in STs to distribute plasma current on the closed surfaces?
 - Is this scalable to larger devices and stronger B?
 - Is this compatible with good confinement, or will CHI be limited to just a startup role?

EFIT Was Used to Analyze a High-Current CHI Shot for Indications of Flux Closure

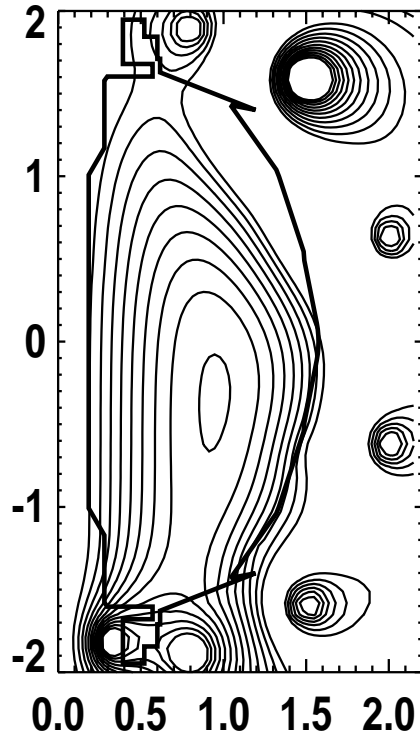


- A force-free current (yellow) was fit in the scrape-off layer (SOL).
- User specifies outer limit of SOL current; not automatic.
 - Here shown as near the 2nd X-point.
- EFIT requires at least a small closed flux region.
- Convergence is poor for NSTX CHI shots tried so far.
- Of course, EFIT assumes axisymmetry.

EFIT run with SOL Current Finds a Small Closed-Flux Region. It Has a Hollow J_{tor} Distribution.

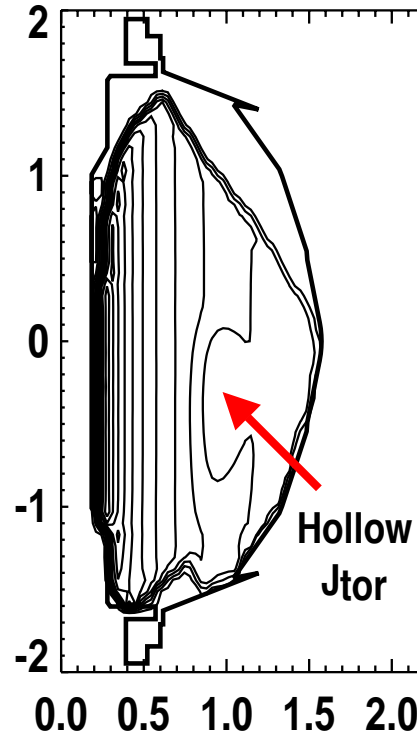


Shot 106488 at 334 ms



Flux Surfaces

Shot 106488 at 334 ms

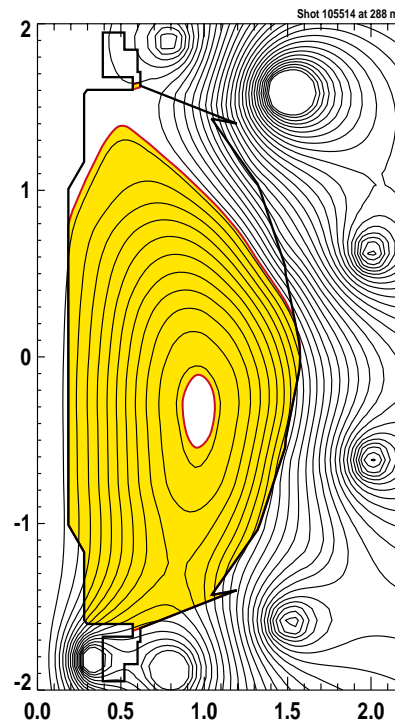
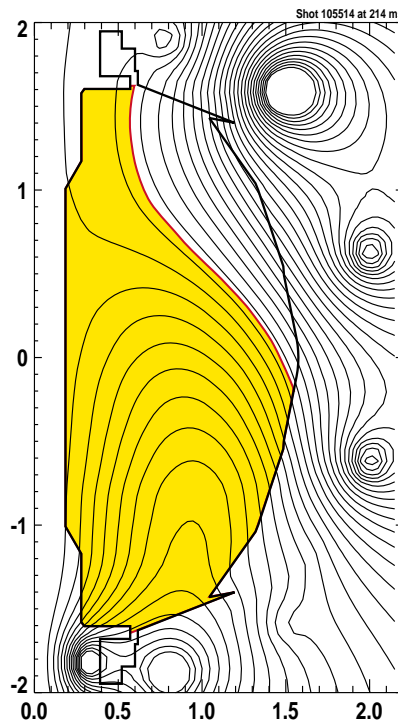


Current Contours

- EFIT finds a small closed-flux region, even though a hollow current profile makes less flux than a peaked one.
- Hollow J is qualitatively consistent with theoretical helicity transport concepts.
- EFIT cannot fit low-current CHI shots (no closed surfaces).

- SOL current out to 2nd X-pt.
- Fit indicators are quite poor in both E-and MFIT.

EFIT Can be Coded to Fit Current on the Correct Open Magnetic Lines



- Use the insulated gaps to define the minimum and maximum flux values that bound current-carrying flux (yellow).
 - This works for some common topologies and geometries.
 - It will not work once the closed flux is large.

Conclusion from Limited EFITting of CHI on NSTX



**EFIT Magnetic Reconstruction
of a High-Current NSTX CHI Shot
is Consistent with Small Closed Flux Region**



SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON MAGNETIC HELICITY

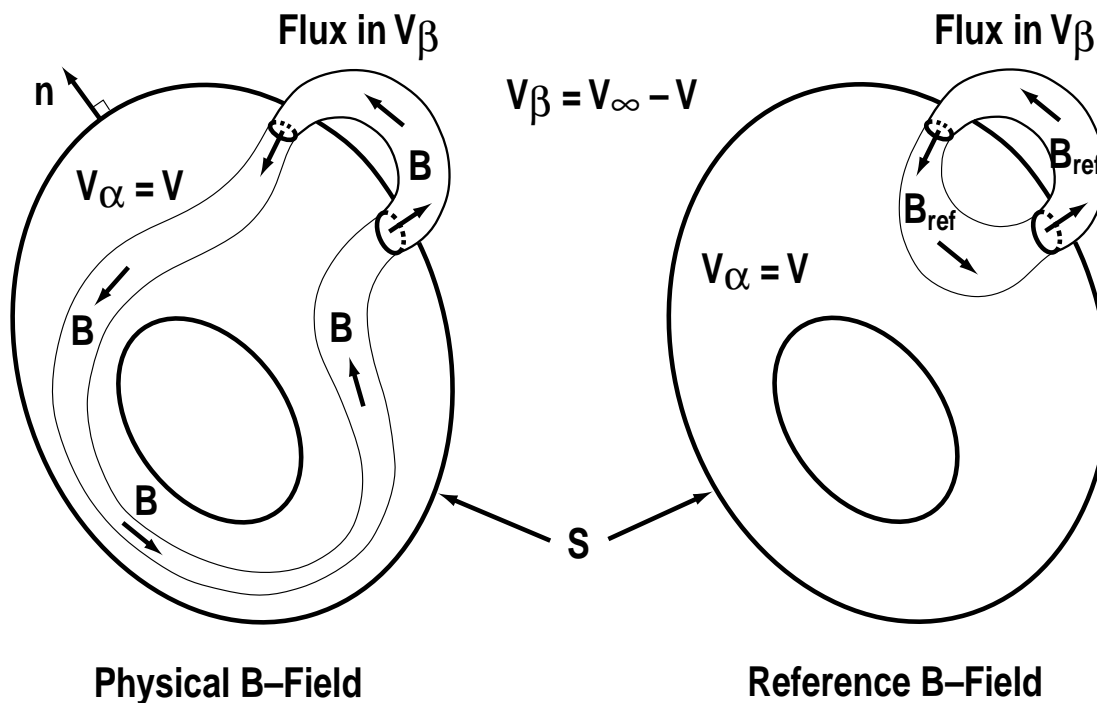
Magnetic Helicity and Its Transport Are Guiding Concepts for CHI



Berger-Field **RELATIVE HELICITY** is the difference between two simple $A \cdot B$ products over all space, V_∞ ,

Berger & Field, *J. Fluid Mech.*
147 (1984) 133.

$$K_{\text{rel}} = \int_{V_\infty} \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \, d^3x - \int_{V_\infty} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ref}} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} \, d^3x$$



Outside of the volume V of interest, $\mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} = \mathbf{B}$.

Is the Moses-Gerwin-Schoenberg Helicity the Same as More Familiar Relative Helicities?



- Berger-Field relative helicity is gauge independent in an arbitrary V and independent of external fields and linkages, even if S is not a magnetic surface, under the generalized condition

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{ref}} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{n} \text{ on } S.$$

This includes the familiar $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ on S .

Best choice of a reference field can depend on the physical problem.

- In contrast, Moses et al. define a magnetic helicity in volume V as simply

$$K_{\text{Moses}} = \int_V \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \, d^3x \text{ with } \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{n} \times \nabla \Psi \text{ on } S.$$

This sets $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$ and $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ on S , which yields unique gauge and helicity.

They use no reference fields.

Moses, Gerwin, Schoenberg, Phys. Plasmas 8 (2001) 4839.

Time Derivative of Relative Helicity in General Requires Fields and Boundary Conditions on Moving Surface

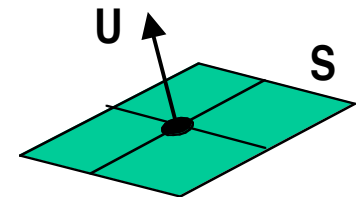


Let $U(x,t)$ be velocity of a coordinate point on $S(x,t)$ and moving with it.

$U(x,t)$ is measured in a fixed, non-deforming coordinate system.

U is perpendicular to $S(x,t)$.

Let (') denote quantities measured at rest on the moving S .



Then:

$$B' = B \quad A' = A \quad E' = E + U \times B \quad \phi' = \phi - U \cdot A$$

$$\frac{\partial A'}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} - U \times B + \nabla(U \cdot A) = \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + U \cdot \nabla A = \frac{dA}{dt}$$

$$E = -\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} - \nabla\phi, \quad E' = -\frac{\partial A'}{\partial t} - \nabla\phi'$$

Boundary conditions: $\frac{\partial A'_{\text{ref}}}{\partial t} \times n = \frac{\partial A'}{\partial t} \times n \quad \phi'_{\text{ref}} = \phi' \quad E'_{\text{ref}} \times n = E' \times n$

Time Derivative of Relative Helicity Can Take Various Forms



$$\frac{dK_{\text{rel}}}{dt} = - \int_{V(t)} 2\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} d^3x + \int_{V(t)} 2\mathbf{E}_{\text{ref}} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} d^3x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dK_{\text{rel}}}{dt} &= - \int_{S(t)} (\mathbf{E}' \times \mathbf{A} + \phi' \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{n} d^2x - 2 \int_{V(t)} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} d^3x - \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V(t)} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ref}} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} d^3x \\ &= - \int_{S(t)} \left(\mathbf{A} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}'}{\partial t} + 2\phi' \mathbf{B} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} d^2x - 2 \int_{V(t)} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} d^3x - \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V(t)} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ref}} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ref}} d^3x \end{aligned}$$

Moses et al:

$$\frac{dK_{\text{Moses}}}{dt} = - \int_{S(t)} \left(\mathbf{A} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} + 2\phi \mathbf{B} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} d^2x - 2 \int_{V(t)} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} d^3x$$

- Much of the confusion over application of magnetic helicity arises from how to interpret the various terms.

Moses-Gerwin-Schoenberg Helicity is a Special Case of Berger-Field Relative Helicity



- The Moses et al. choice of $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ is consistent with Berger-Field, whose relative helicity does not constrain the choice of $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$ or $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n}$.
- When $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$, then $\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$, too, since $\mathbf{U} \parallel \mathbf{n}$.
Then, it can then be shown that the Berger-Field boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}'_{\text{ref}}}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{n} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}'}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{n} \quad \phi'_{\text{ref}} = \phi' \quad \mathbf{E}'_{\text{ref}} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{E}' \times \mathbf{n}$$

can be written identically in terms of either moving-frame or fixed-frame variables.

- It appears to me at this time that Moses et al helicity is a special case of Berger-Field relative helicity, except for no reference helicity.
 - Moses et al is simpler than Berger-Field, but does Moses et al ever need to subtract reference fields?
 - I want to derive Moses et al. explicitly for toroidal volumes and with close attention to conditions at moving surfaces.