



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science



Overview of the Integrated Scenarios Science Group Status and Plans

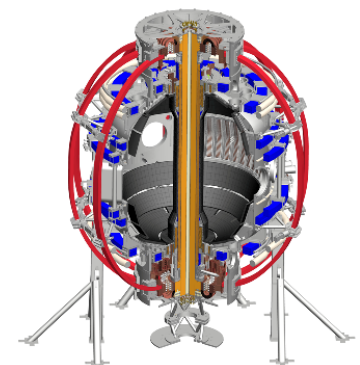
Stefan Gerhardt, PPPL, SG Leader

R. Raman, U. of Washington, SG Deputy Leader

NSTX-U PAC 37

PPPL B-318

1/27/2015



Outline

- Goals & Organization
- Milestones and the Research Forum
- Research Results, Status, and Plans
 - Advanced Scenarios and Control
 - RF Heating and Current Drive
 - Solenoid Free Start-Up
 - Two Multi-TSG Experiments + CC&E (cross cutting and enabling)
- Key Research Enabled by the Proposed Facility Enhancements
- Connection to FES Priorities and Summary

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Recall: NSTX-U Mission Elements

And How the Integrated Scenarios SG Fits In

- Explore unique ST parameter regimes to advance predictive capability – for ITER and Beyond
 - WH&CD: Advanced ICRH modeling and code validation
 - SFSU: Modeling of reconnection during CHI
- Develop Solutions for PMI Challenge
 - ASC: Closed loop control of advanced divertor geometry, divertor radiation
- Advance ST as a possible FNSF/ Pilot Plant
 - HW&CD, SFSU: Non-inductive startup and rampup
 - ASC: Fully non-inductive scenarios, profile control

Integrated Scenarios Leadership Team


- Deputy SG Leader: Roger Raman (U. of Washington)
- Advanced Scenarios and Control
 - TSG Leader: Devon Battaglia (PPPL)
 - Deputy TSG Leader: Stefan Gerhardt (PPPL)
 - Theory/Modeling Rep.: Francesca Poli (PPPL)
 - University Rep.: Egemen Kolemen (Princeton University)
- RF Heating and Current Drive
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Integrated Scenarios Members are Highly Supportive of Physics Operations

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Past, Present,
and Future
NSTX(-U)
Physics
Operators

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IS SG Supports Many NSTX-U Research Milestones

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Run Weeks:	Incremental	16 18	12 16
Boundary Science + Particle Control	R16-1 Assess H-mode confinement, pedestal, SOL characteristics at higher B_T , I_P , P_{NBI}	R17-1 Assess scaling, mitigation of steady-state, transient heat-fluxes w/ advanced divertor operation at high power density R17-2 Assess high-Z divertor PFC performance and impact on operating scenarios	R18-1 Assess impurity sources and edge and core impurity transport IR18-1 Investigation of power and momentum balance for high density and impurity fraction divertor operation
Core Science	R16-2 Assess effects of NBI injection on fast-ion $f(v)$ and NBI-CD profile	R17-3 Assess τ_E and local transport and turbulence at low ν^* with full confinement and diagnostic capabilities	IR18-2 Assess role of fast-ion driven instabilities versus micro-turbulence in plasma thermal energy transport ← Begin ~1 year outage for major facility enhancement(s) sometime during FY2018 →
Integrated Scenarios	R16-3 Develop physics + operational tools for high-performance: κ , δ , β , EF/RWM	IR17-1 Assess fast-wave SOL losses, core thermal and fast ion interactions at increased field and current R17-4 Develop high-non-inductive fraction NBI H-modes for sustainment and ramp-up	R18-2 Control of current and rotation profiles to improve global stability limits and extend high performance operation R18-3 Assess transient CHI current start-up potential in NSTX-U
FES 3 Facility Joint Research Target (JRT)	C-Mod leads JRT Assess disruption mitigation, initial tests of real-time warning, prediction	DIII-D leads JRT Examine effect of configuration on operating space for dissipative divertors	NSTX-U leads JRT TBD

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The Research Forum Determined the Run Plan

- Run time allocation set to large extent by the milestones
- Significantly more days requested than allocated.
- Much discussion produced a tight research plan.
- SG structure was very valuable in setting these priorities.

TSG	Requested Days	Allocated Days
ASC	33	8
SFSU	14.5	3.5
WH&CD	9	3.5

Topic	Total Allocation
High-Beta Scenario Development	3.5
Low Current Ramp-Up	2 (1 WH&CD + 0.5 SFSU + 0.5 ASC)
Control	4
CHI	2.5
HHFW in the Flat-Top	3
Total	15
ASC+RF+SFSU	8+3.5+3.5 = 15

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ASC Research Thrusts Focus on Plasma Control and Scenario Development

#1– Scenario Develop for NSTX-U and Next-Steps

#2 - Axisymmetric Control Development

#3 - Disruption Avoidance By Controlled Discharge Shutdown

#4 - Understand Scenario Physics for Next Step Devices

Defined in the 5 Year Research Plan

For thrust sub-elements, see:

<http://nstx-u.pppl.gov/program/science-groups/integrated-scenarios/advanced-scenarios-and-control>

Significant Modeling Supports the ASC Research Program

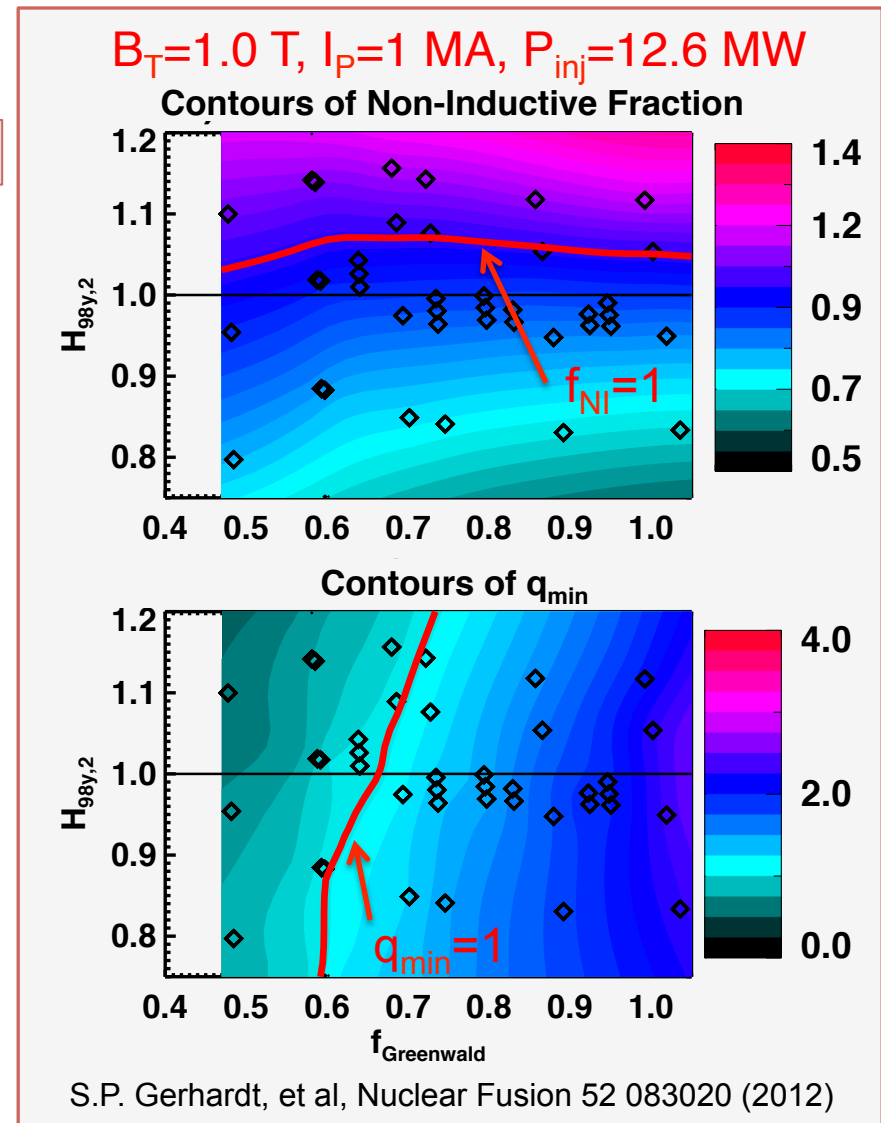
- Fully relaxed non-inductive operating points have been explored with free-boundary TRANSP calculations

R16-3

Research Timeline for 100% Non-Inductive Scenarios

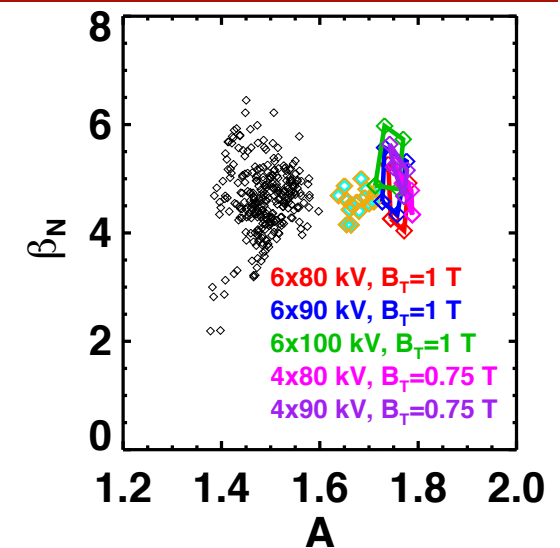
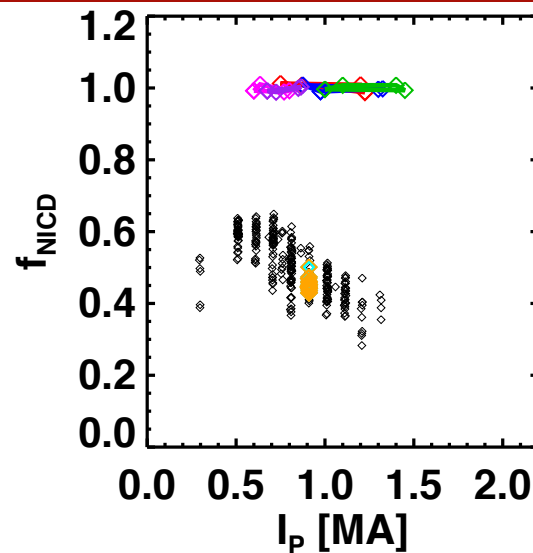
Operation Year	B_T [T]	Current Goal [kA]	Duration Goal
2016	≤ 0.75	$\sim 600-800$	A few τ_E
2017	0.75-1.0	$\sim 600-1000$	1-2 τ_R
Out-Years	1	800-1300	Up to 4.5 s at lower I_p

- These scenarios, obtained at first with an inductive ramp-up, will provide a target for non-inductive ramp-up studies
- See talk by F. Poli and M. Boyer for more recent modeling results.**



Scenario Studies Will Focus on 100% NI and High-Current Long-Pulse

- *Non-Inductive Scenario Development* (XP-1507, Gerhardt, et al.)
 - **Goal:** Develop 100% non-inductive scenarios with $I_p \sim 600$ kA.
 - **Key Issues:** Thermal transport, vertical stability at high- κ , $n=1$ stability
 - **Modeling/Analysis:** TRANSP



S.P. Gerhardt, et al, Nuclear Fusion 52 083020 (2012)

- *Long Pulse Development* (XP-1554, Battaglia et al.)
 - **Goal:** Utilize 80 kV beams, optimized OH waveform, to achieve longest possible pulse
 - **Key Issues:** fuelling optimization, preventing q_0 evolving too far, impurity control.
 - **Modeling/Analysis:** TRANSP
- *Sustained Reversed Shear* (XP-1575 H. Yuh, et al.)
 - **Goal:** Utilize off-axis NBI to sustain reversed shear
 - **Key Issues:** MHD leading to current redistribution, too-high pressure peaking.
 - **Modeling/Analysis:** TRANSP, GS2, other microstability codes pending results

These support milestones R16-2, R17-4, R18-2, & ASC thrusts #1 and #4

NSTX-U Experiments Are Already Using a Significantly Expanded Plasma Shutdown Scheme

- **NSTX PCS:** No means of detecting a disruption, or ramping down the plasma current based on events.
- **NSTX-U PCS:** State machine orchestrates the shutdown.
- Disruptions detected by:
 - Too large I_p error
 - Too large $Z_p(dZ_p/dt)$
 - Large locked $n=1$ modes
- Presently using “Fast I_p Rampdown” on every shot
 - waiting to use “Slow- I_p Rampdown”.
 - Have not yet turned on $n=1$ disruption triggering.

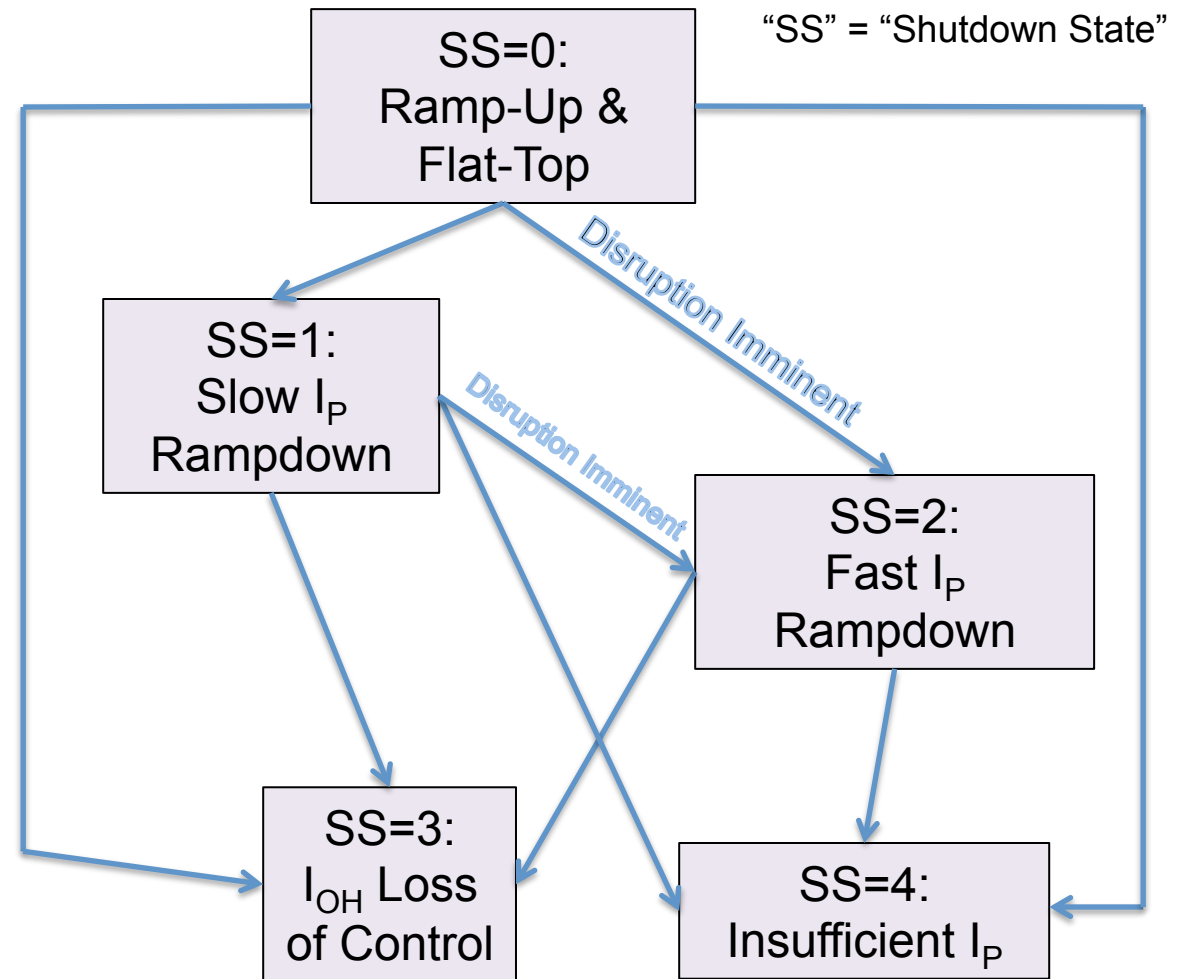


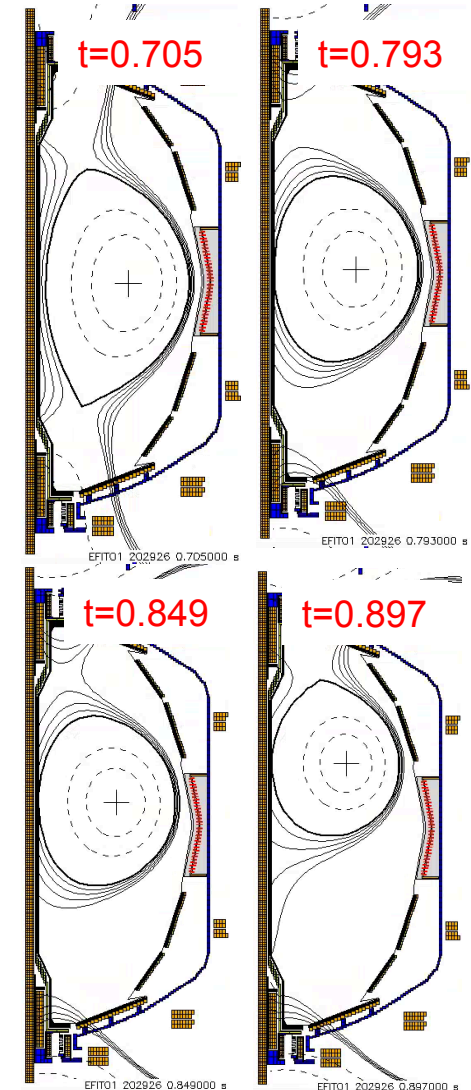
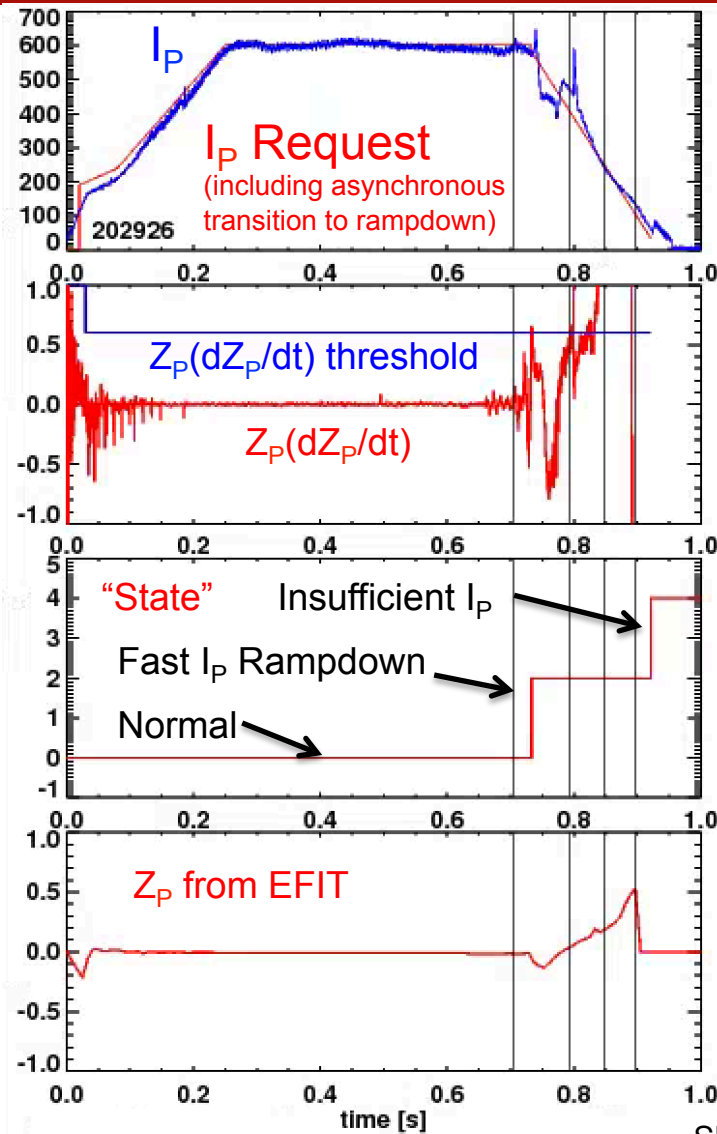
Diagram of the State Machine Presently Implemented in PCS

Supports ASC thrust #3

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Example: This shot would have been a strong VDE in NSTX

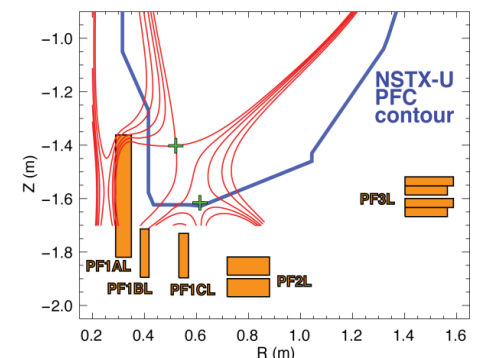


Slow Drift Up, But No VDE or Disruption

Supports ASC thrust #3

Control Experiments Support NSTX-U Program and Next Step Devices

- β_N and I_i Control Study (XP-1509, Boyer et al)
 - **Goal:** Demonstrate closed loop combined control of β_N and I_i .
 - **Method:** Realtime measurements with rtEFIT, control via beam, shape, maybe n=3 actuation.
 - **Key Issues:** rtEFIT quality, beam modulation effects on plasma, limited range of I_i actuation
- *Current Profile Controllability Study* (XP-1532, Boyer et al, 0.75 days)
 - **Goal:** Demonstrate closed loop control of the current profile
 - **Method:** Dedicated modulation shots for system identification type purposes, attempts at closed loop control if technically possible.
 - **Key Issues:** rtMSE availability, beam modulation effects on plasma
- *Rotation Control* [XP-1564, I. Goumiri, et al]
 - **Goal:** Demonstrate closed loop control of the rotation profile and β_N .
 - **Method:** Beam for torque and heating, NTV for breaking. State-Space control algorithm
 - **Key Issues:** rtV_φ availability, beam modulation effects on plasma
- *Snowflake Divertor Control* [XP-1508, Kolemen and Vail]
 - **Goal:** Demonstrate control of the unique dual X-point geometry.
 - **Method:** New PCS algorithm with dual X-point tracking based on rtEFIT flux map, PID mechanism for adjusting divertor coil currents.
 - **Key Issues:** rtEFIT quality, coil forces during control oscillations, interaction with other shape controllers



These support milestone R18-2, & ASC thrusts 1, 2, and 4

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Wave H&CD TSG Thrusts Dedicated to HHFW & EC Applications and Code Validation

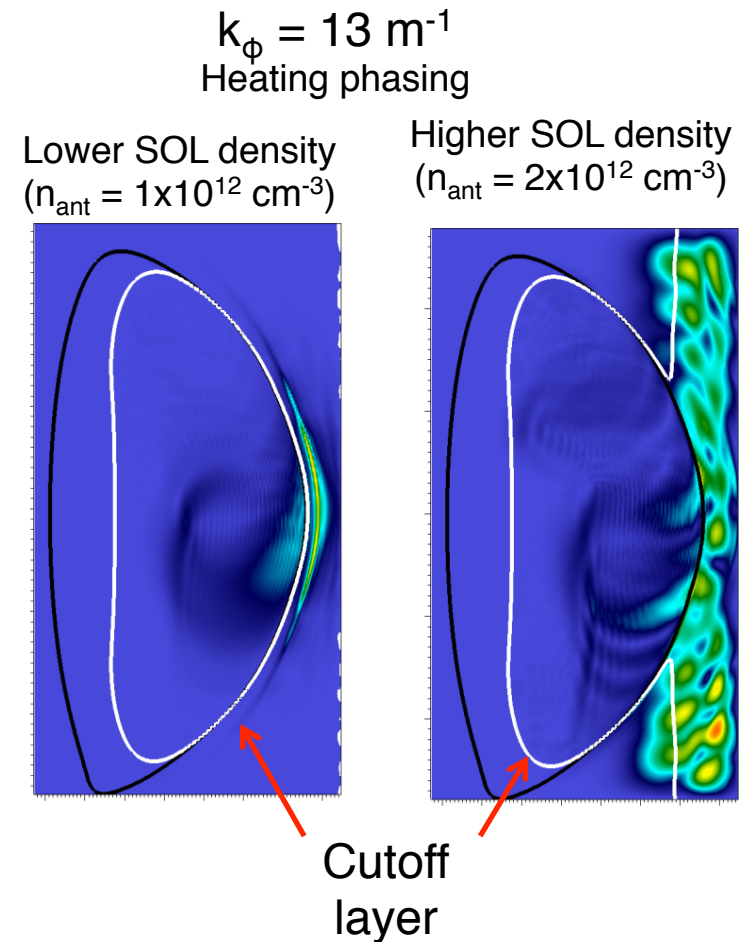
- #1 Develop FW/EC heating for fully NI plasma current start-up and ramp-up
 - Joint XP with Solenoid-Free Start-Up TSG...will describe dedicated experiment later in the talk.
- #2 Validate state-of-the-art RF codes for NSTX-U and predict RF performance in future burning plasma devices.

For thrust sub-elements, see:

<http://nstx-u.pppl.gov/program/science-groups/integrated-scenarios/wave-heating-and-current-drive>

Modeling Is Confirming The Importance of RH Cutoff in Determining SOL Losses

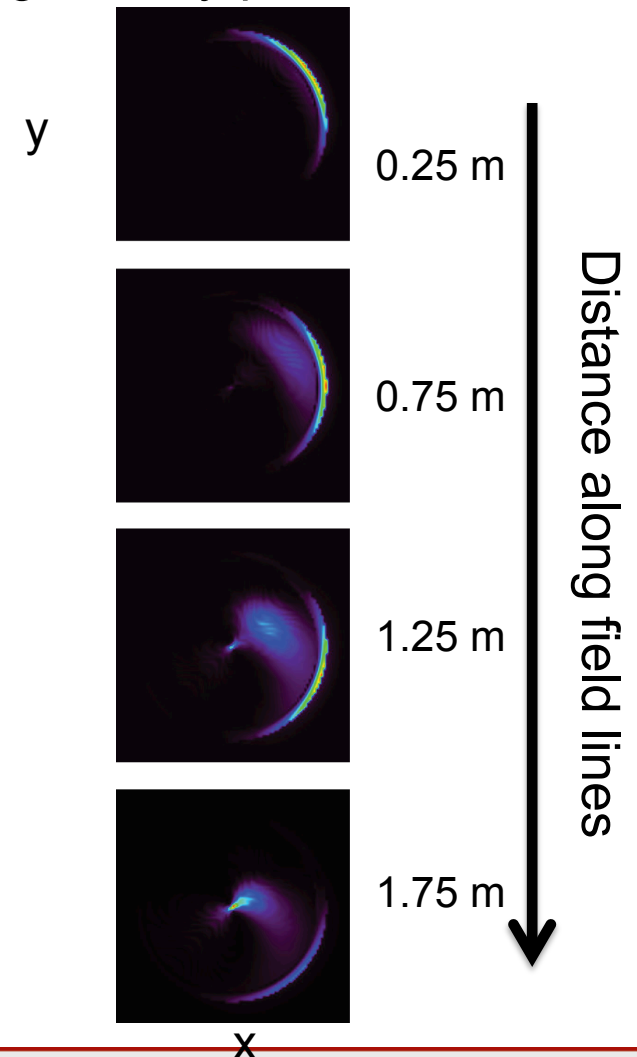
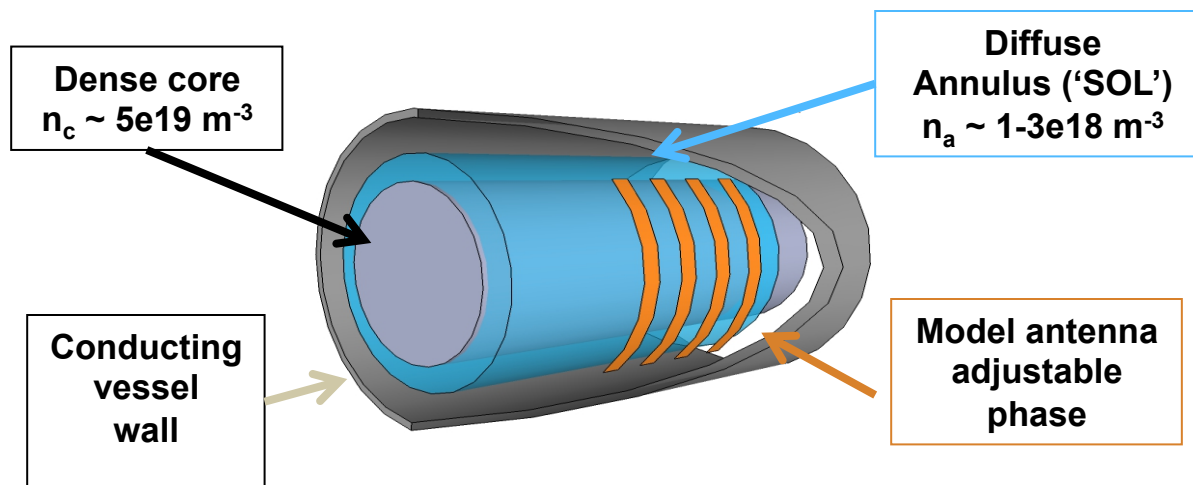
- NSTX showed a large loss of RF power in the SOL
- Modeling shows large RF field amplitude in SOL under certain conditions
 - Seen in full-wave code AORSA
 - N. Bertelli *et al.*, *Nucl. Fusion* **54** (2014) 083004.
 - N. Bertelli *et al.*, *Nucl. Fusion* **56** (2016) 016019.
 - Also seen in cylindrical cold-plasma model
 - Wave power (axial Poynting flux) confined to periphery, only gradually penetrating the core
 - R. J. Perkins *et al.*, 41th EPS Conference on Plasma Physics P-1.011.
- RF fields in divertor cause RF sheath; potentially large enough to account for SOL losses
 - Increased sheath voltage and electron current predicted to substantially increase heat flux to tiles
 - R. J. Perkins *et al.*, *Phys. Plasma* **22** (2015) 042506.



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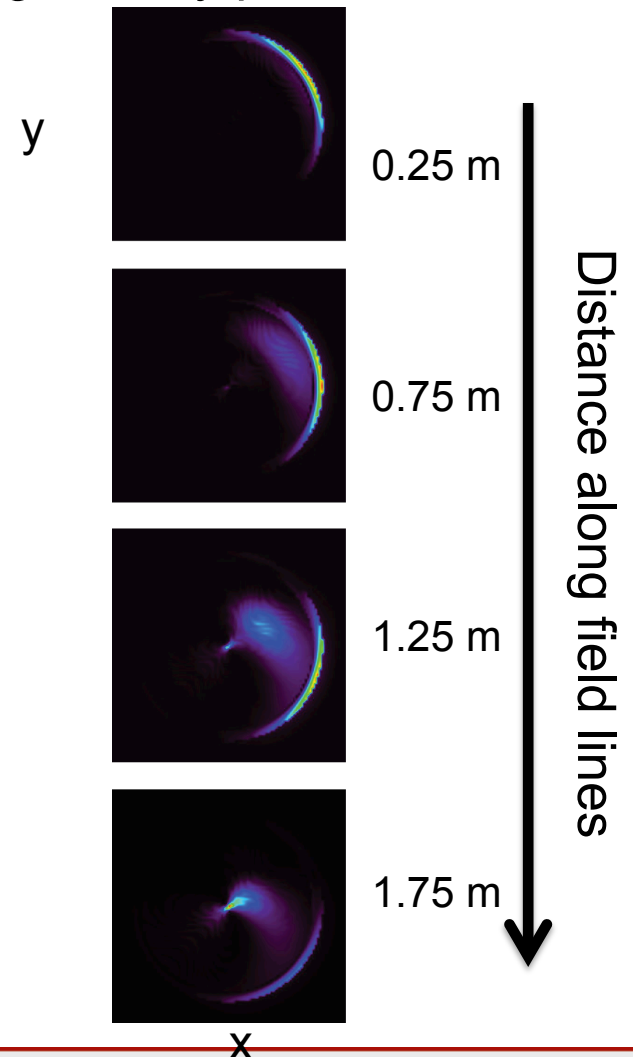
Axial poynting flux
only gradually penetrates core



Modeling Is Confirming The Importance of RH Cutoff in Determining SOL Losses

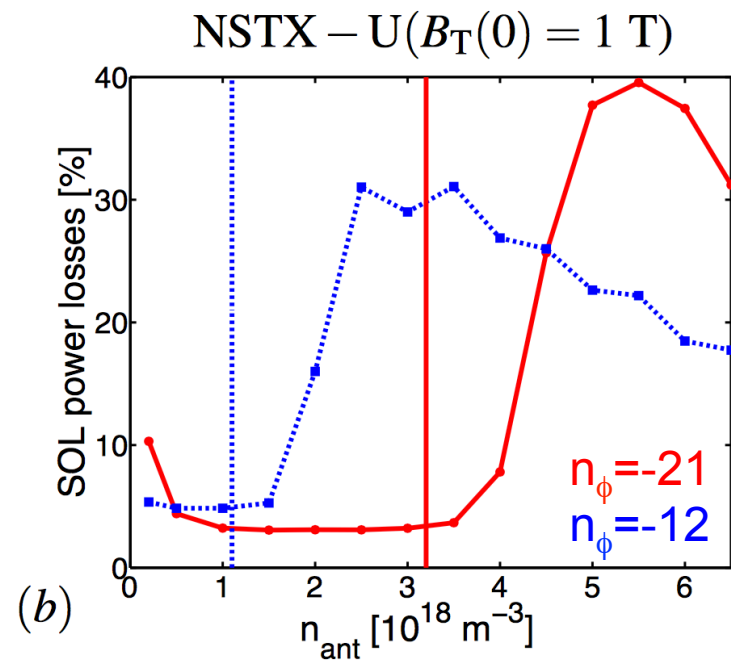
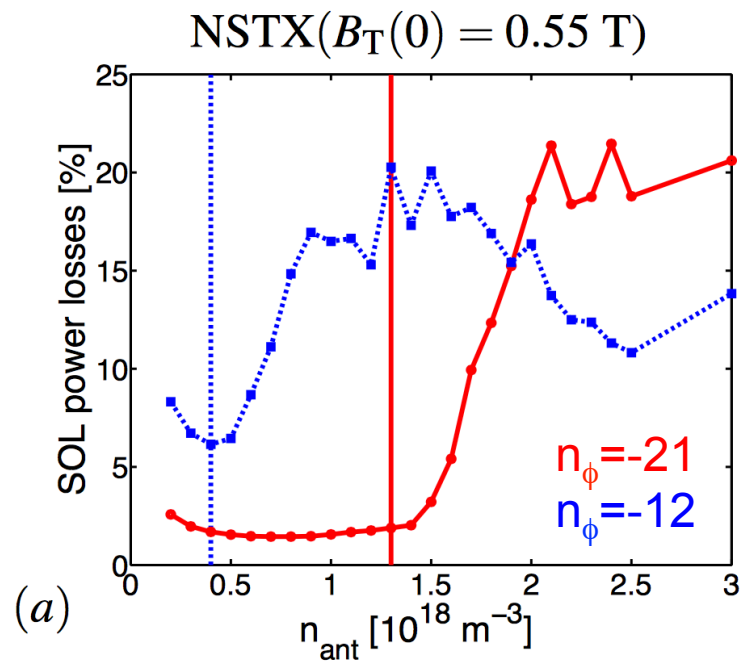
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Axial poynting flux
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NSTX-U Prospect: Higher Toroidal Field May Reduce These SoL Losses

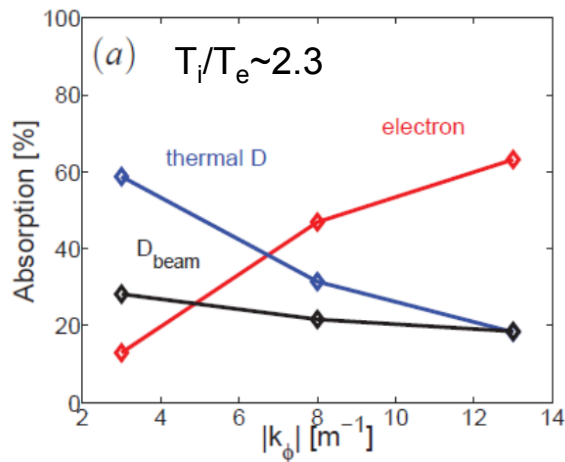
- Right-hand cutoff density proportional to B:
 - Larger cutoff density may reduce losses. $n_{e,FWcut-off} \propto \frac{k_{\parallel}^2 B}{\omega}$
- AORSA modeling confirms this expectation.
 - Using NSTX discharge data and NSTX-U TRANSP scenarios.



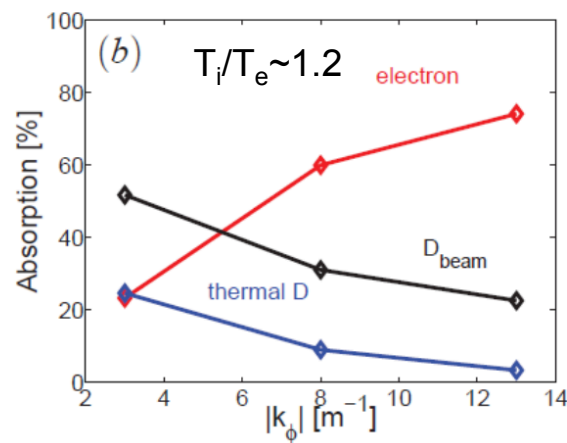
NSTX-U Prospect: Wide Range of Possible Partitions for HHFW Power Absorption

- Increased B_T may increase the thermal and fast ion absorption
 - Decreased ion cyclotron harmonic number, increased cyclotron absorption
- AORSA predictions for NSTX-U :
 - greater deuterium heating when $T_i > T_e$
 - Ion heating increases and electron heating decreases as k_ϕ decreases

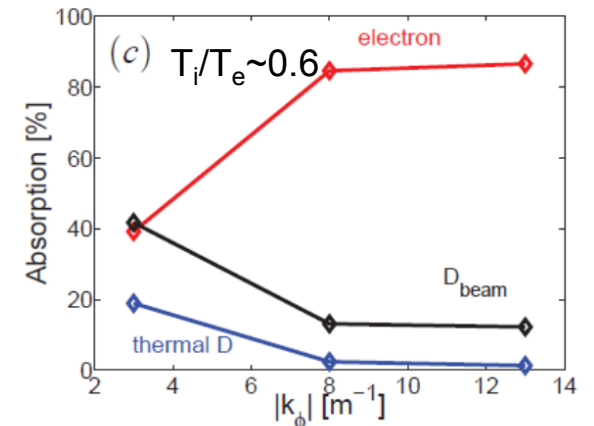
Ti = 2.86 keV, Te = 1.22 keV



Ti = 1.43 keV, Te = 1.22 keV



Ti = 1.43 keV, Te = 2.44 keV



N. Bertelli, et al AIP Conference Proceedings 2014

- This work will benefit from including non-Maxwellian effects in TORIC v.5
 - Bertelli et al. APS 2015

SoL Propagation and Core Absorption Physics Will be Addressed in Two XPs

- *Characterize SoL Losses of HHFW Power in H-Mode* (XP-1510, Perkins, et al.)

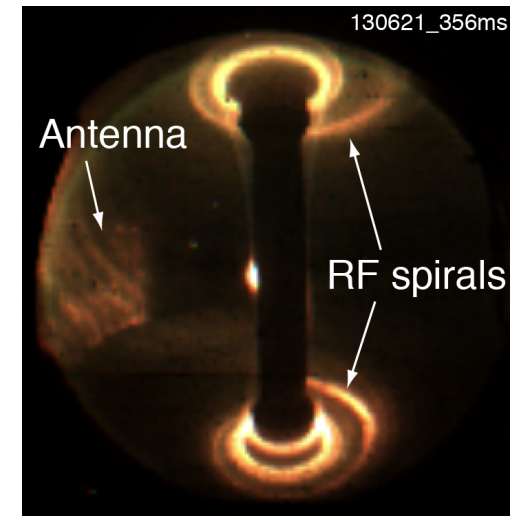
- **Goal: Assess scaling of SoL losses as a function of edge parameters, B_T**
- **Diagnostics:**
 - fraction of HHFW power lost & spiral intensity along length of spiral
 - RF voltage at the most intense portion of the spiral,
 - SOL density profiles in front of antenna.

– **Modeling/Analysis: TRANSP, AORSA**

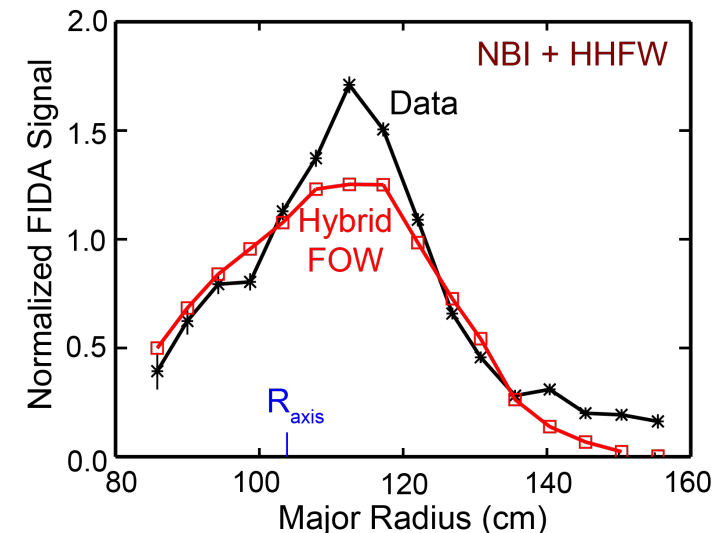
- *HHFW Absorption in NB Heated Plasmas* (XP-1533, Bertelli, et al)

- **Goal: Characterize RF absorption as a function of RF phase, toroidal field**
- **Analysis/Modeling**
 - GENRAY/CQL3D, TORIC, AORSA, AORSA +CQL3D, ORBIT-RF
 - Continue validation of CQL3D with fast ion diagnostic (FIDA) data.


These support milestone IR17-2 , WH&CD Thrusts #2



R. Harvey et al., 56th APS-DPP 2014



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SFSU Research Thrusts Are Synergistic with Other IS TSGs, Address Key Issues for a low-A FNSF

#1 – Establish and Extend Solenoid-Free Plasma Start-up

#2 - Test NBI Current Ramp-Up

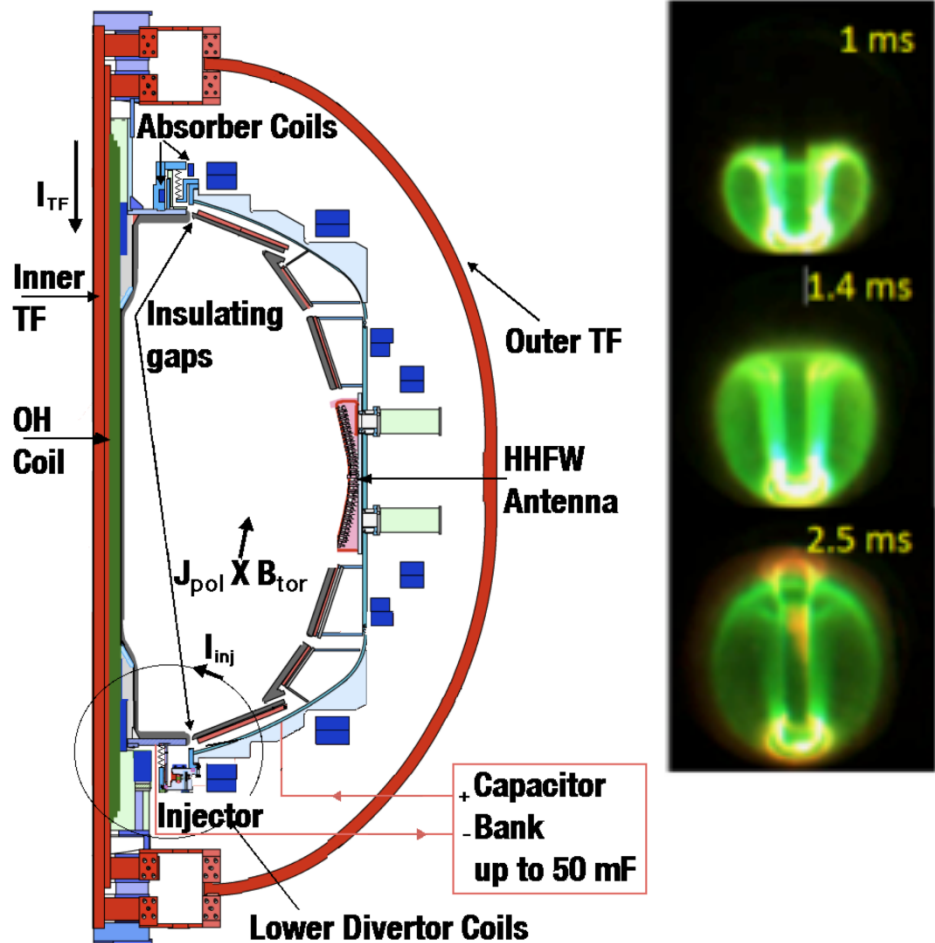
#3 - Ramp-up CHI plasma discharges using ECH, HHFW and NBI and test plasma gun start-up

For thrust sub-elements, see:

<http://nstx-u.pppl.gov/program/science-groups/integrated-scenarios/solenoid-free-start-up-and-ramp-up>

NSTX & NSTX-U Design Incorporates Features for Coaxial Helicity Injection

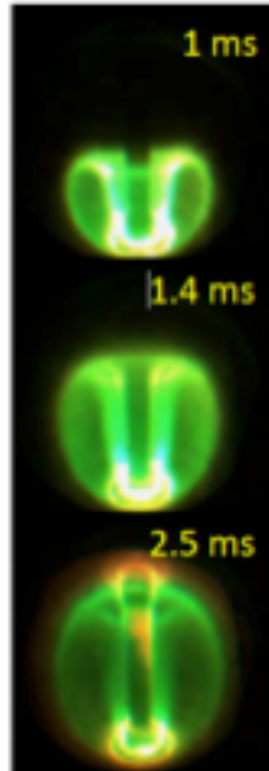
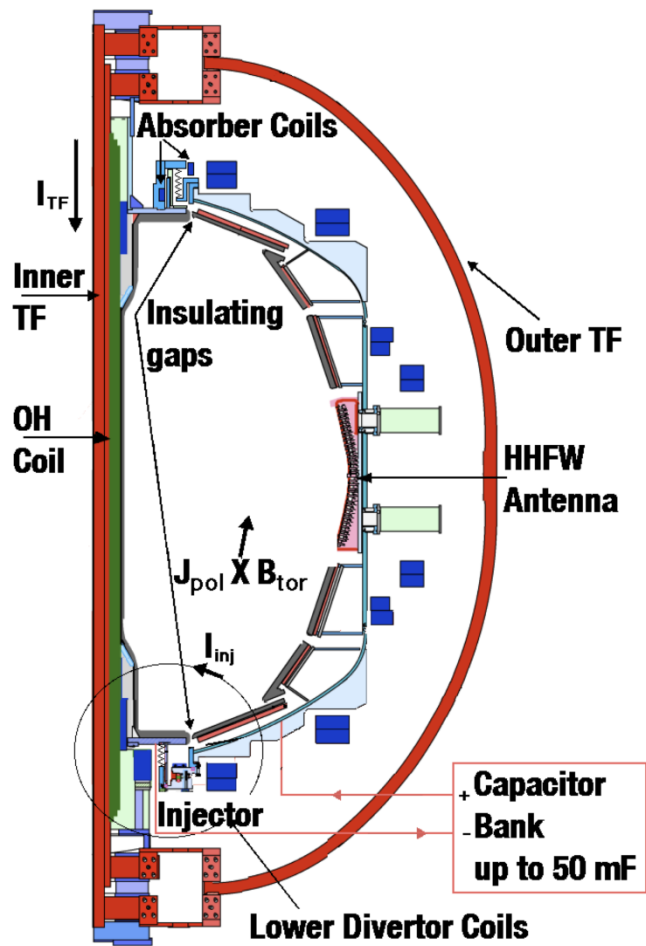
CHI in NSTX/NSTX-U



- Inner and outer vacuum vessels
- Injector and absorber regions
- Injector coils & TF
- Capacitor bank
 - 2kV, 50 mF
- $J \times B$ force drives the plasma into the main chamber.
- Closed surfaces form when the injector (bank) current dies away or is crowbarred.

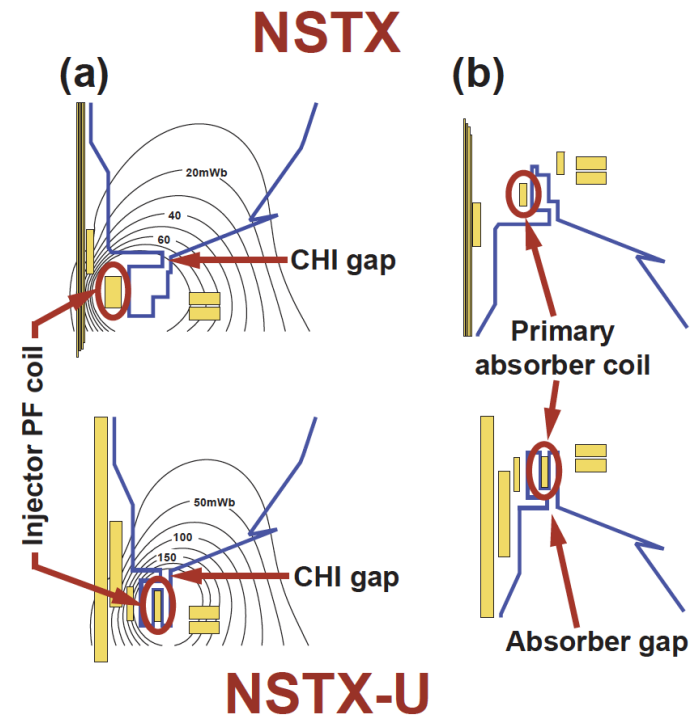
NSTX-U Upgrades that Facilitate CHI Start-up

CHI in NSTX/NSTX-U



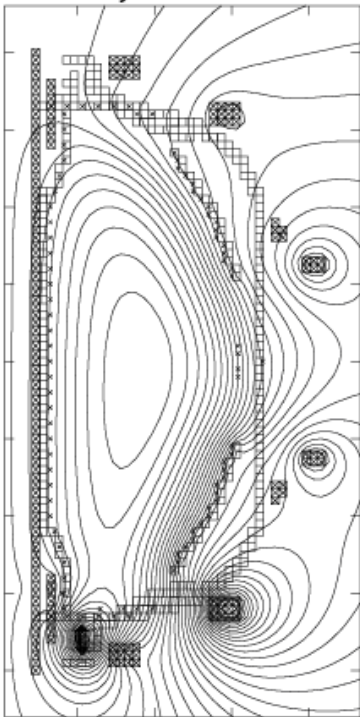
NSTX-U Machine Enhancements for CHI

- > 2.5 x Injector Flux (proportional to I_p)
- About 2 x higher toroidal field (reduces injector current requirements)

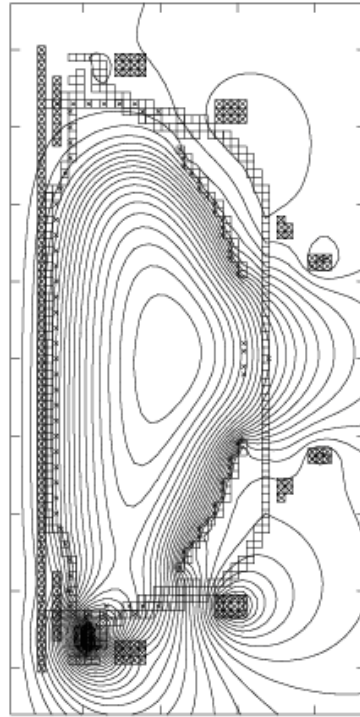


TSC Simulations in the NSTX-U Geometry support up to 400kA Current Start-up Capability in NSTX-U

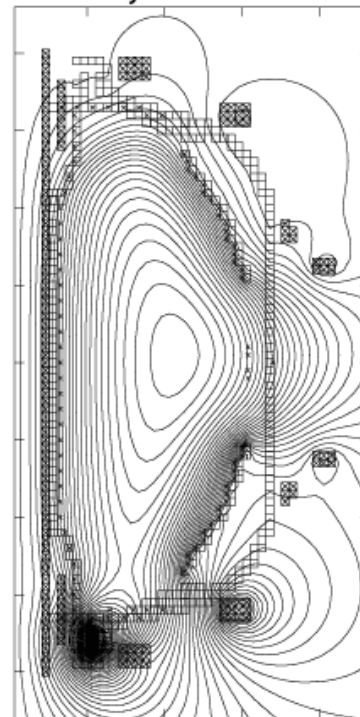
Poloidal Flux at 15 ms
2 kA in Injector Coil



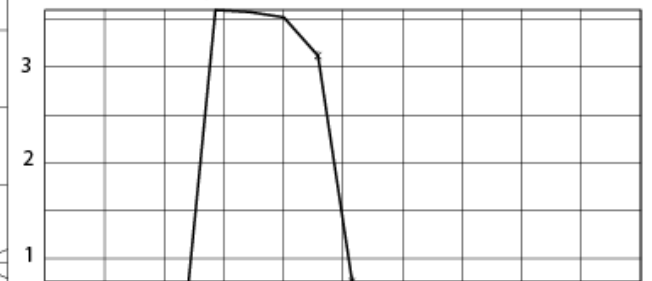
4 kA in injector Coil



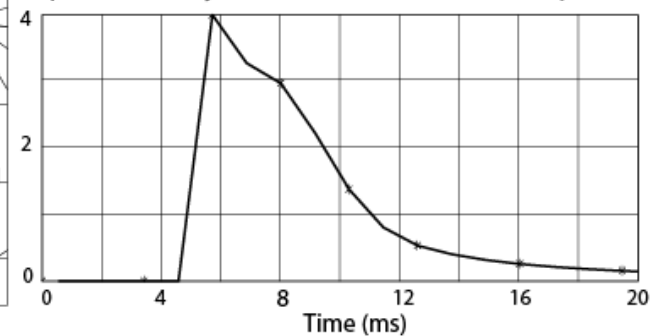
8 kA in Injector Coil



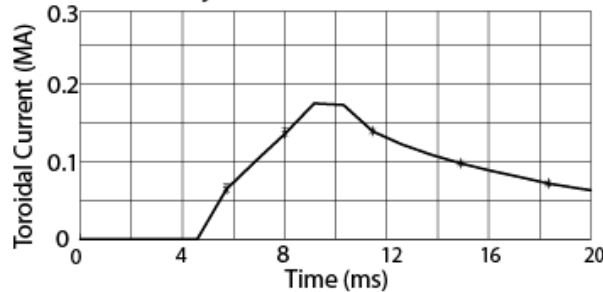
Representative Injector Voltage Waveform (Arbitrary Units)



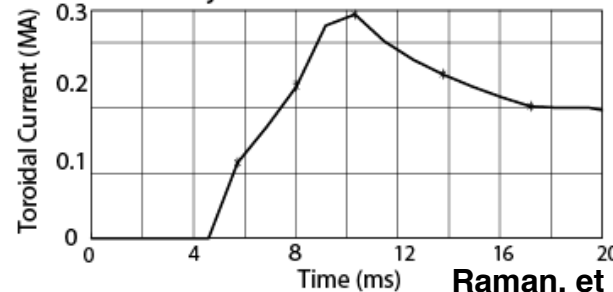
Representative Injector Current Waveform (Arbitrary Units)



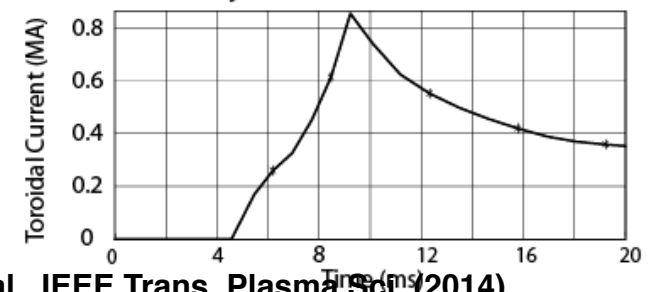
2 kA in Injector Coil



4 kA in injector Coil

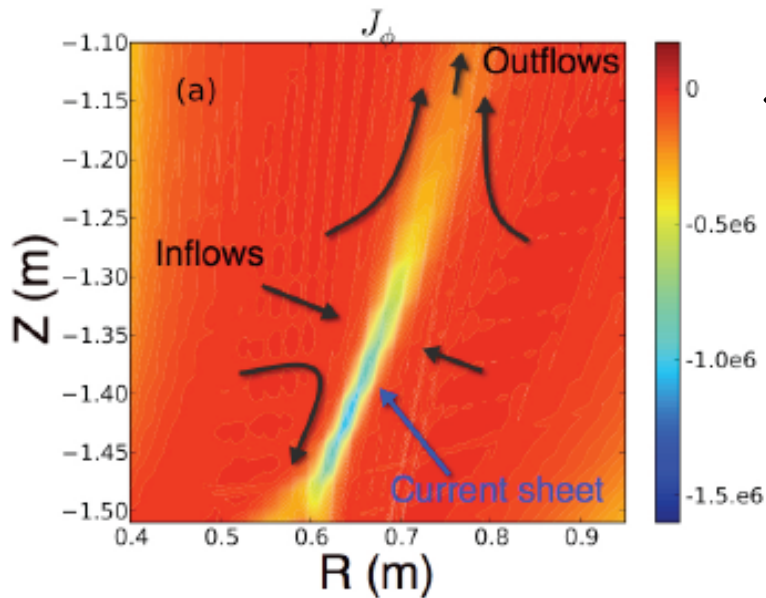


8 kA in Injector Coil

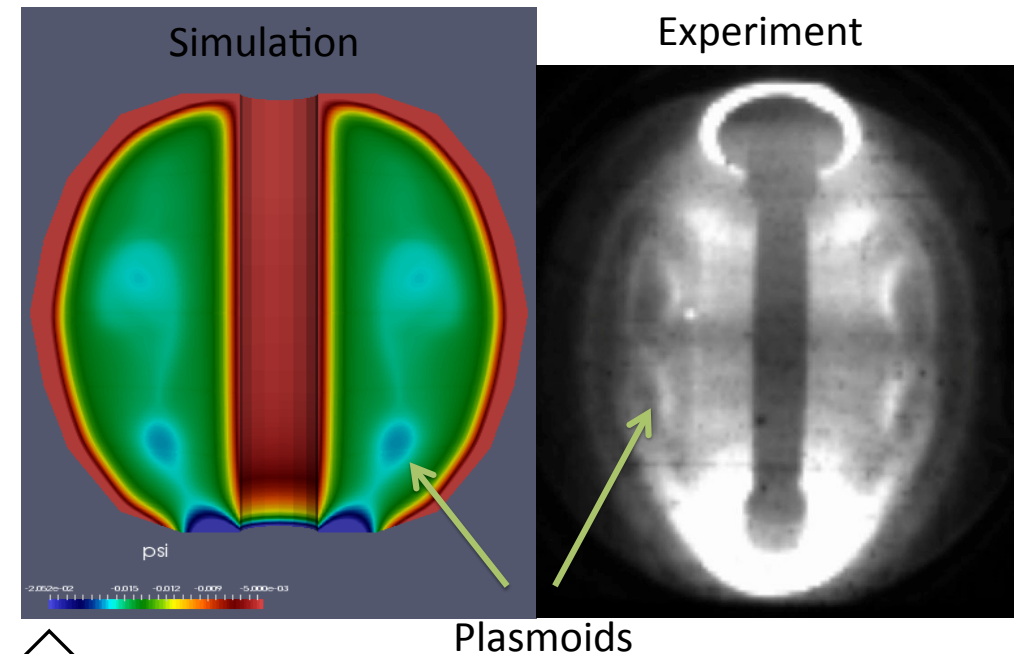
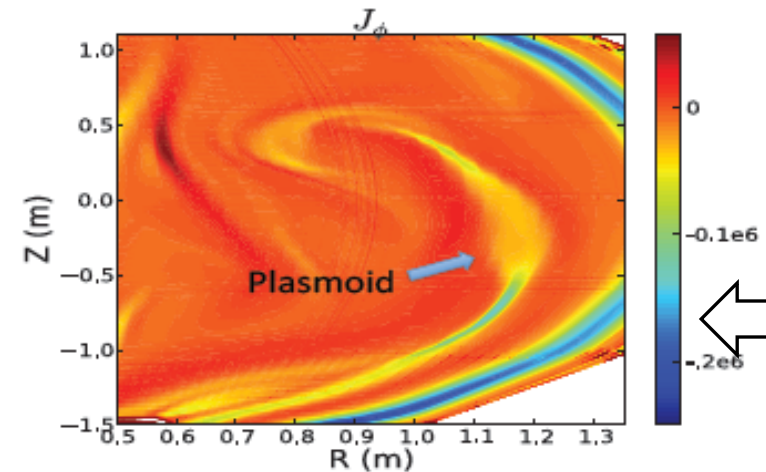
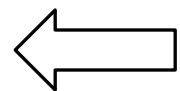


Raman, et al., IEEE Trans. Plasma Sci. (2014)

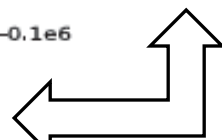
At High Lundquist Number, Plasmoid Mediated Reconnection Identified as Assisting in Flux Closure



- Sweet Parker (S-P) reconnection in the injector region at low Lundquist number



- At high Lundquist number the S-P current sheet is plasmoid unstable
- Plasmoids seen in NSTX CHI



NIMROD Simulations F. Ebrahimi, et al., PRL (2015)

Two FY-16 Experiments Will Exploit the New Upgrade Capabilities, Target Coupling to Induction

- *Transient CHI Startup in NSTX-U* (XP-1432, R. Raman).
 - **Motivation:** New geometry of CHI gap, PF coils, PFCs mandate experiments to establish transient CHI.
 - **Goal:** Establish reliable flux closure in the NSTX-U geometry.
 - **Method:** Start at NSTX-level fields and currents, then increase B_T and injector flux once reliable discharges have been formed.
 - **Key Issues:** Breakdown with new narrow gap, tailoring the flux-footprint with new coils, electrode conditioning.
 - **Modeling/Analysis:** NIMROD + Utilize the extensive suite of cameras to assess plasmoid formation and effects.
- *Inductive Flux Savings of Inductively-driven Transient CHI Plasmas* (XP-1535, B. Nelson)
 - **Motivation:** Coupling transient CHI to induction is a step towards demonstrating compatibility of CHI with subsequent ramp-up schemes.
 - **Goal:** Establish transient CHI discharge and ramp it up with induction
 - **Key Issues:** Persistent enough CHI plasma for good coupling, hand-off to position and I_p control.

These support milestone R18-3 , SFSU goal #1

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 - Two Multi-TSG Experiments + CC&E ←
- Key Research Enabled by the Proposed Facility Enhancements
- Connection to FES priorities and Summary

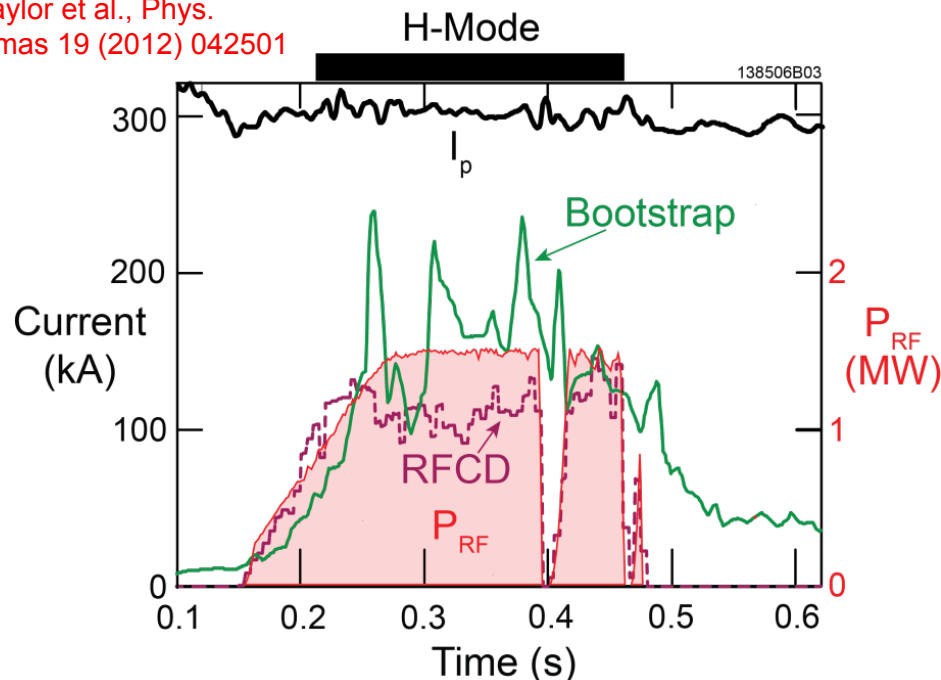
See talk by F. Poli for modeling/theory motivation for these two joint XPs

Effective Heating of Low- I_p Plasmas Will Be Further Developed

Low Plasma Current, Fully Non-Inductive, HHFW H-Mode Plasmas
(XP-1534, Taylor)

300 kA inductive NSTX target heated to 3keV using ~1 MW HHFW

G. Taylor et al., Phys. Plasmas 19 (2012) 042501



See talk by Poli for how this type of heating fits into the full ramp-up scheme

Motivation:

- Critical to heat low- I_p plasmas to the levels needed for NBI CD.
- Very efficient heating of a low current plasma was demonstrated on NSTX
 - Bootstrap current dominant when ITB forms

Goal

- Re-establish ~300 kA, high- f_{NI} , HHFW heated scenarios in NSTX-U
- Attempt overdrive.

Key Issues:

- Shape control and ELMs impact on the RF coupling.
- ITB formation

Analysis/Modeling

- TRANSP, TRANSP+TORIC
- AORSA

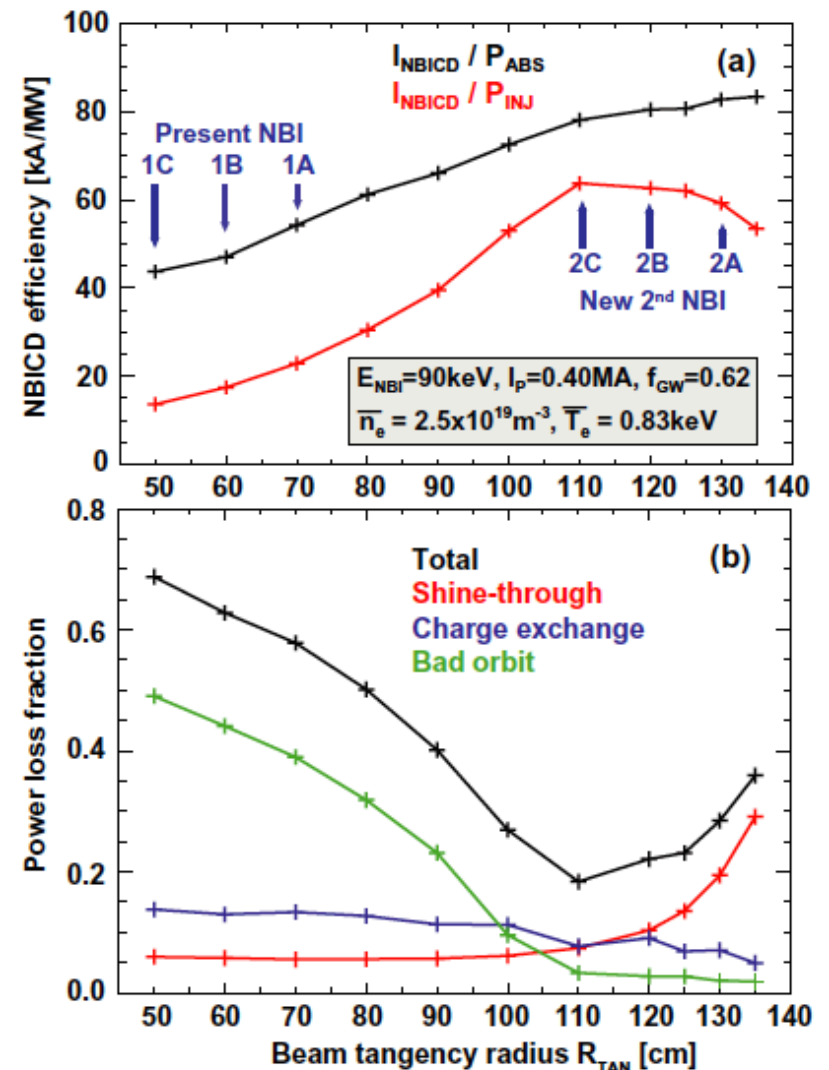
These support SFSU thrust #3, WH&CD thrusts #1 & 2

Ability of Large Tangency Radius Beam to Couple Power/Current at Low Current Will Be Assessed

NB Ramp-Up Studies (XP-1567, F. Poli)

- Motivation
 - Calculations predict high current drive efficiency at low I_p for large tangency radius sources
- Goal:
 - Assess lowest I_p (& therefor n_e , T_e) for NB coupling as a function of tangency radius
- Key Issues:
 - Shine through losses vs. bad orbit losses
 - FI pressure peaking
 - Confinement & plasma control at low I_p
- Method
 - High B_T , $300 < I_p < 500$ kA, 80-90 kV beams.
 - FI diagnostics and comparison to TRANSP predictions
 - HHFW may be used to increase T_e
- Analysis/Modeling
 - TRANSP/NUBEAM

These support milestone SFSU thrust #2, ASC thrust #1




J. Menard, et al., Nuclear Fusion **42**, 083015 (2012)

IS SG Also Supports Cross-Cutting and Enabling XPs & XMPs

- *Optimization of the Vertical Control Algorithm* (XP-1501, Boyer)
 - **Goal:** Optimize control observer parameters, feedback gains, and then push to higher elongation.
 - **Analysis:** TOKSYS, TRANSP-ISOLVER
- *Tuning of Automated Rampdown Software* (XP-1502, Gerhardt)
 - **Goal:** Tune shutdown algorithm for the more challenging H-mode rampdown.
 - **Key Issues:** Shape handoff using ISOFLUX, position transients during H->L.
- *HHFW Antenna Conditioning* (XMP-026, Hosea)
 - **Goal:** Antenna conditioning under plasma conditions, after successful antenna conditioning
- *Commissioning CHI System* (XMP-126, Raman)
 - **Goal:** Commission CHI capacitor bank and dedicated instrumentation, make first CHI discharges.
 - **Key Issues:** Noise reduction on new instrumentation, DCPS configuration during CHI, noise on magnetic diagnostics.
- *LGI Control* (XMP-130, Lunsford)
 - **Goal:** Commission Lithium Granule Injector, including PCS algorithms

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Proposed Facility Enhancements Will Be a Dramatic Step Forwards for SFSU and WH&CD Research

- 28 GHz gyrotron system is largely motivated by the need to connect CHI to HHFW and NB heating.
 - See talk by F. Poli for details on how SFSU research will be fundamentally enhanced.
- 28 GHz gyrotron will also allow EBW heating studies to move forward, following a launcher upgrade.
- High-Z PFC upgrade will provide metal electrode surfaces, which will likely prove advantageous for CHI once properly conditioned (reduced low-Z impurities, radiation).

Exciting Opportunities for ASC Research Will Come out of the Facility Enhancements

- Cryo-pump should resolve a long-standing, legitimate criticism of NSTX scenario research...lack of density control.
 - Will likely be a key capability in exploiting the full NSTX-U magnet and heating systems.
 - Will facilitate targeted scenario and physics studies.
 - Refer to talks by R. Maingi, M. Ono for more details.
- High-Z PFC enhancement will introduce critical, exciting challenges to scenario and control development.
 - May make active heat flux management as critical as other control loops, as will be the case in ITER and other next steps.
 - See talk by M. Jaworski for details.
- NCC will provide an additional key actuator for profile control.
 - Closed loop pedestal height control will be assessed as an ELM mitigation strategy.
 - More flexible rotation control strategies will be developed, which may be important for scenario optimization

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IS SG Research Supports FES Priorities

- Advancing predictive capability, model validation
 - Control oriented modeling, start-up modeling, RF code validation
 - See also talks by Boyer, Poli, in addition to these slides.
- Mitigating / avoiding transients
 - Disruption avoidance via i) advanced profile control and ii) discharge shutdown studies
- Taming the PMI
 - Closed-loop control of advanced divertors (magnetic geometry and radiation)
- Establishing physics basis for FNSF
 - Non-inductive start-up, ramp-up, and sustainment
 - RF Physics
- Supporting discovery science, basic plasma physics
 - Reconnection physics during CHI

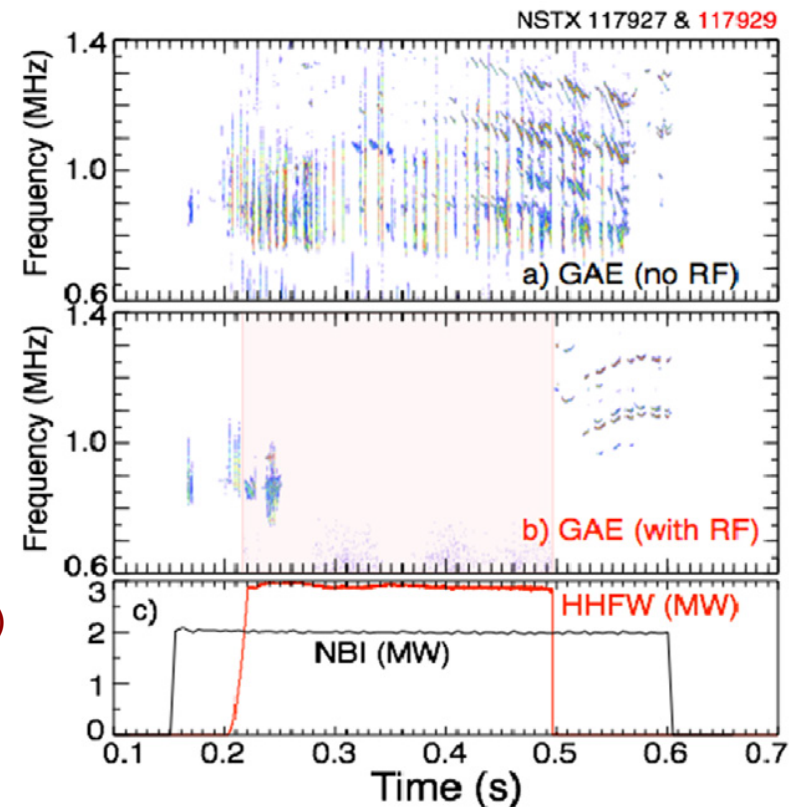
This SG Works to Solve Scenario Physics Problems for the NSTX-U Program, ITER, and Next-Step Devices

- Strong support for the non-inductive startup, ramp-up, and sustainment across the three TSGs.
- Active modeling efforts in all areas support the NSTX-U programmatic goals and FES priorities
- Developing the H&CD actuator physics and closed loop control techniques for next step devices.
- We have an exciting research program planned for the FY16 run and are ready to go!

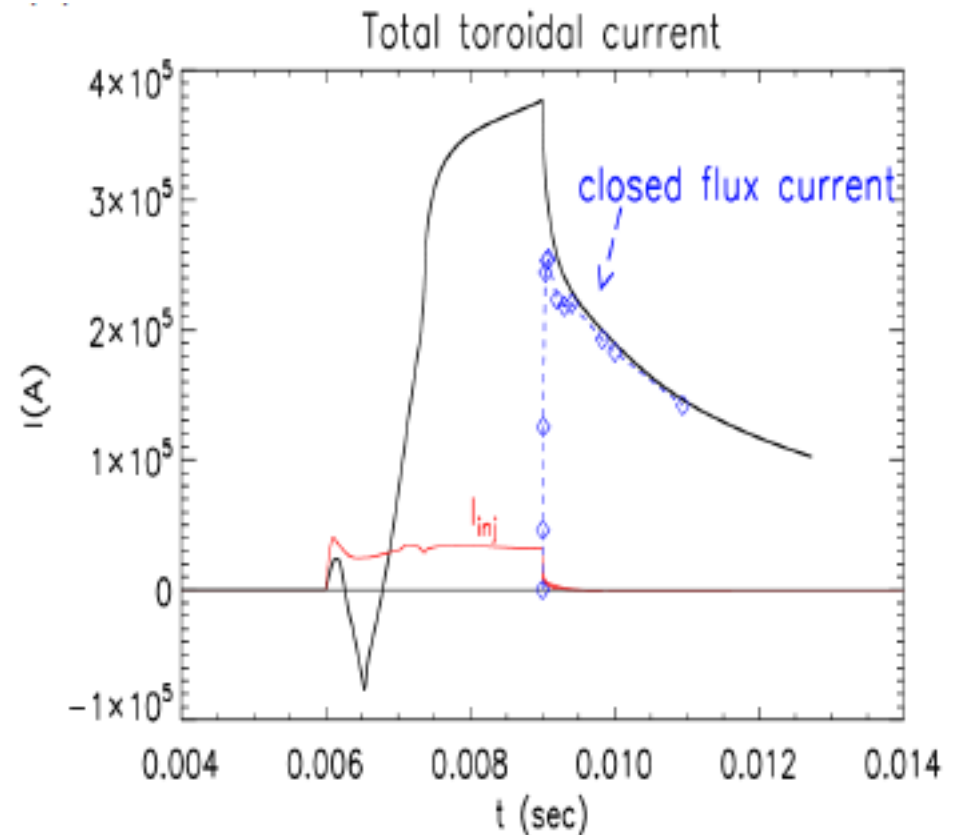
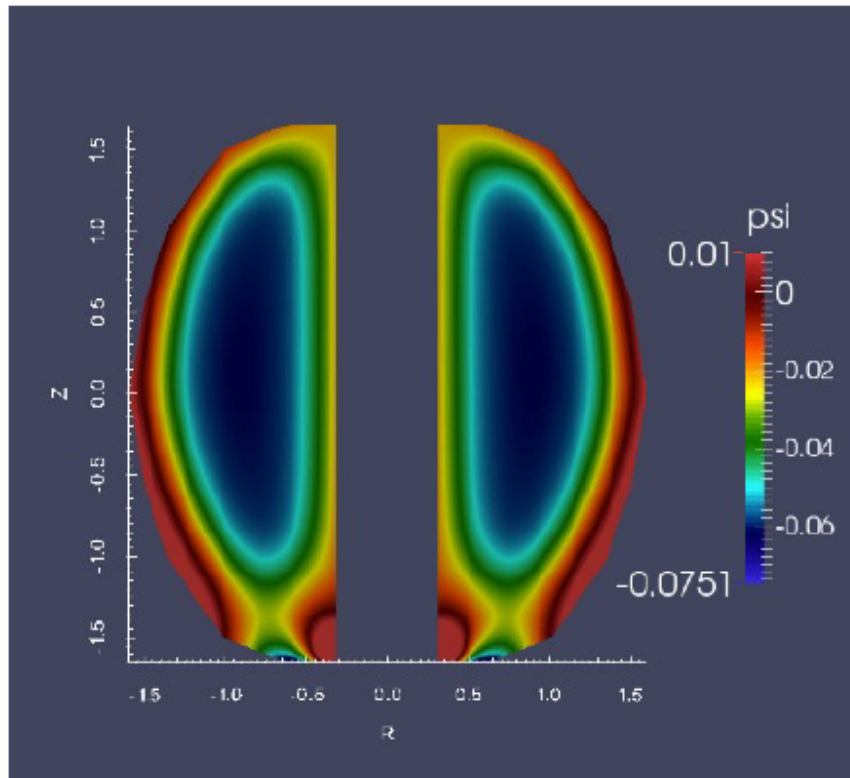
Backup

Ion Absorption of HHFW Power Has Potential Benefits and Disadvantages

- In NSTX, a significant fraction of (core) HHFW power absorbed by fast ions.
 - Seen in neutrons, NPA spectrum, FIDA.
- Ion acceleration to loss orbits can be a strong loss mechanism
 - detrimental heat loads to the PFCs.
- FW interactions with beam ions could be useful for influencing energetic particle modes [EP TSG]
 - Modification of fast-ion distribution
 - D. Liu *et al.*, *Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion* **52** (2010) 025006.
 - Suppression of energetic-particle driven modes
 - E. D. Frederickson *et al.*, *Nucl. Fusion* **55** (2015) 013012.



High fraction of open flux conversion to closed flux seen in simulations with narrow injector flux footprint



- CHI in NSTX-U configuration naturally has a narrower injector flux footprint due to improved Injector coil positioning
- Due to higher Lundquist number in NSTX-U CHI simulations, closed flux surfaces form even during the actively injected phase

NIMROD Simulations

F. Ebrahimi, et al., submitted to NF-Lett.

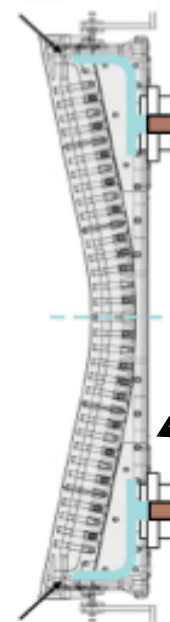
Hardware Upgrades Support HHFW Operations and Physics Studies

- Twelve-strap antenna re-installed
 - New compliant, bellowed feedthrough used to withstand disruptions at $I_p=2$ MA
 - Additional grounding points added to raise voltage standoff
- Six RF sources recommissioned; conditioning started
 - Recent breaker failure being investigated; replacement parts are ready to go
- New color fast camera and infrared camera will monitor antenna
- New sets of divertor Langmuir probes
 - RF-suitable electronics have been designed, reviewed, and tested

Compliant Feedthroughs



Poloidal Cut of Antenna Strap



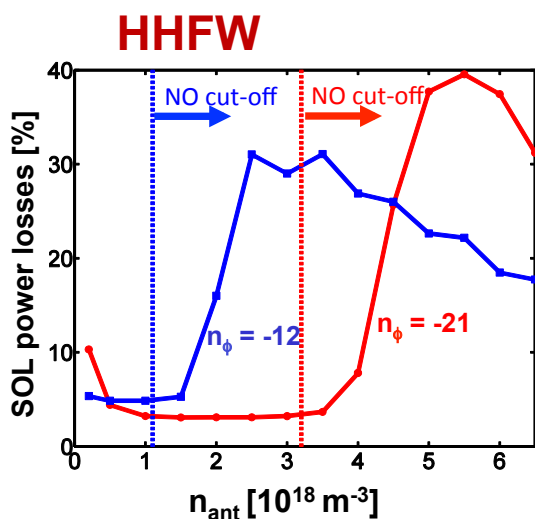
Additional grounding to between antenna box and vessel

Distribution of First Authors (not including CC&E, XMPs) ~12 First Authors

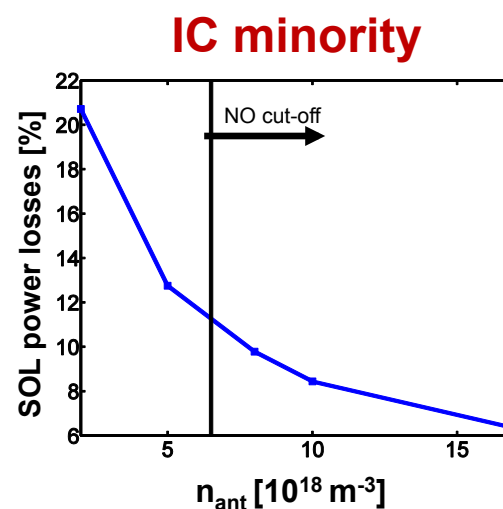
Author	XP	Run Days	Area
Gerhardt	100% non-inductive	2 (ASC)	Scenario Development (3.5 Days)
Battaglia	Longest Possible Pulse	1 (ASC)	
Yuh	Reversed Shear	0.5 (ASC+0.5 T&T)	
Kolemen	SFD Control	1.5 (ASC)	Control Development (4 Days)
TBD	Rotation Control	0.5 (ASC)	
Boyer	Current profile control, $\beta_N + I_i$ control	2.0 (ASC)	
Bertelli	Absorption in NB plasmas	1.0 (RF)	HHFW at Higher Current (3 Days)
Perkins	SOL Losses in H-mode	1.75 (RF)	
D. Smith	Measure Density Perturbation with BES	0.25 (RF)	
Poli	NBI Coupling to Low-Current Plasmas	1 (0.5 ASC+ 0.5 SFSU)	Ramp-Up (2.0 Days)
Taylor/Poli	Low Current, high f_{NI} , HHFW	1 (0.5 RF+ 0.5 SFSU)	
Raman	Transient CHI startup	2.0 (SFSU)	CHI (2.5 Days)
Nelson	Inductive Rampup	0.5 (SFSU)	

AORSA show different behavior of SOL power losses between HHFW and IC minority heating regimes

NSTX-U
scenario
 $B_T = 1\text{ T}$
 $f = 30\text{ MHz}$
 $\nu/\omega = 0.01$



VS.



C-mod
 $n_{\phi} = 10$
 $f = 80\text{ MHz}$
 $\nu/\omega = 0.01$

- SOL RF field amplitude increases when FW can propagate in the SOL
- Direct correlation between SOL RF field amplitude, FW cut-off location, and SOL power losses behavior
- Agreement with DIII-D sim./exp.
- Larger evanescent region predicted at higher fields achievable in NSTX-U, favorable for future experiments
- Possible aspects: cavity modes & magnetic pitch angle

- Alcator C-Mod & EAST results show a decreasing of E field amplitude outside LCFS with increasing n_{ant}
- No transition to higher SOL power losses
- Results perhaps more intuitive w.r.t. the NSTX/NSTX-U/DIII-D
increase SOL density \Rightarrow enhances antenna-plasma coupling \Rightarrow lower fraction of power lost to the SOL region
- Consistent with the C-Mod/ASDEX-U exp.

N. Bertelli et al., Nucl. Fusion 56 (2016) 1

Extended TORIC v.5 to include non-Maxwellian effects both in HHFW and IC minority heating regimes

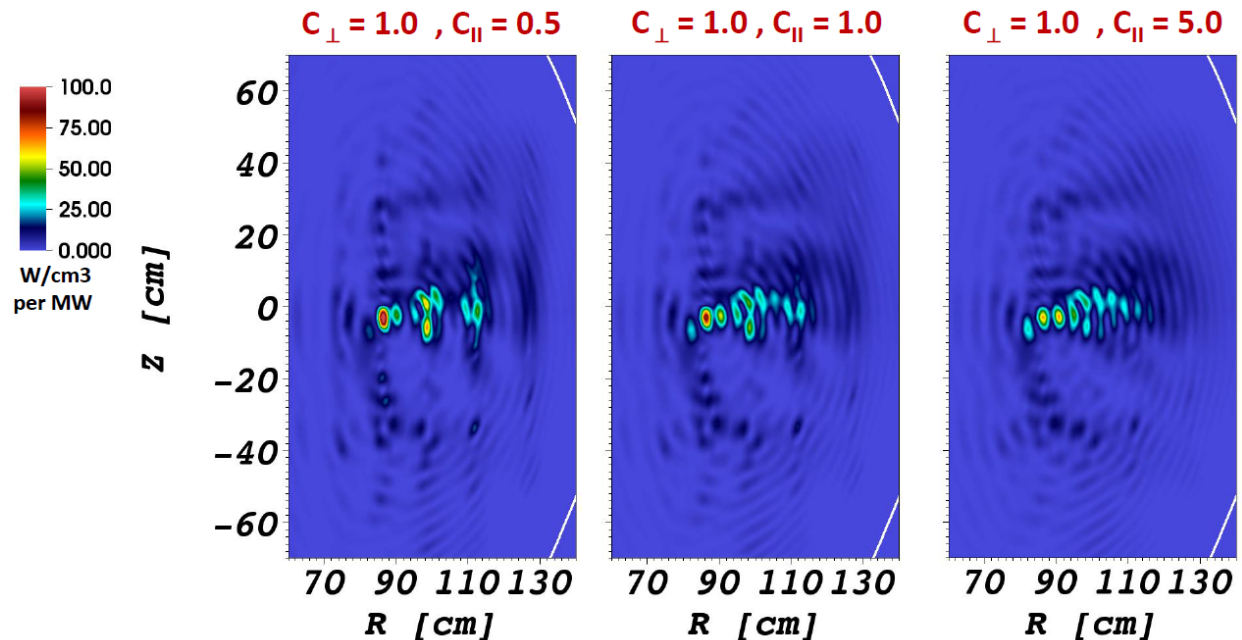
- implementation of the bi-Maxw. and slowing down analytical distributions
- Capability to read a numerical fast ion distr. func. from NUBEAM is underway

Non-Maxwellian effects, generally, result in finite changes in the amount and spatial location of absorption.

$$f_D(v_{\parallel}, v_{\perp}) = (2\pi)^{-3/2} (v_{th,\parallel} v_{th,\perp}^2)^{-1} \exp[-(v_{\parallel}/v_{th,\parallel})^2 - (v_{\perp}/v_{th,\perp})^2]$$

with $v_{th,\parallel} = \sqrt{2C_{\parallel}T(\psi)/m_D}$, $v_{th,\perp} = \sqrt{2C_{\perp}T(\psi)/m_D}$, with constants C_{\parallel} and C_{\perp}

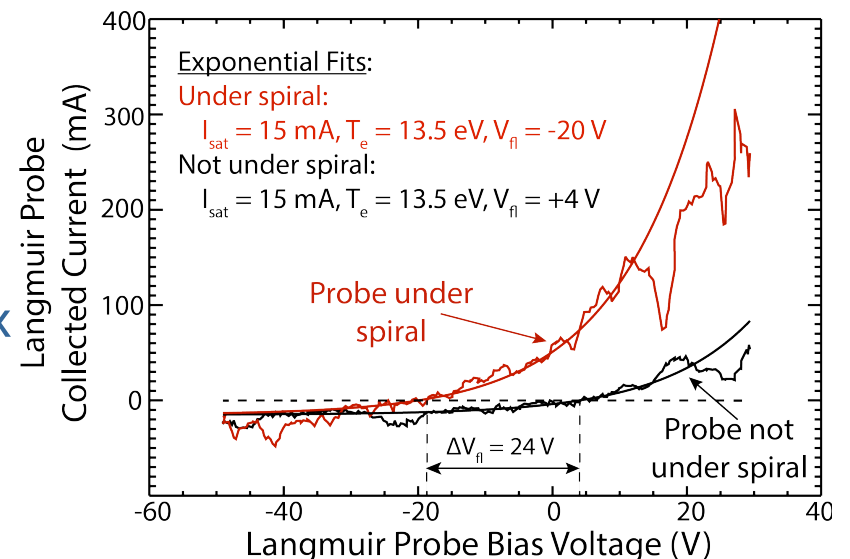
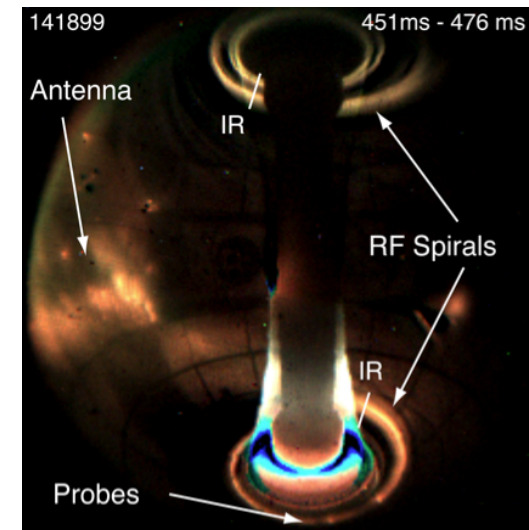
Fast ion absorption assuming a bi-Maxw distr. func. in NSTX



Bertelli et al. APS 2015

Modeling Is Confirming The Importance of RH Cutoff in Determining SOL Losses

- NSTX showed a large loss of RF power in the SOL
- Modeling shows large RF field amplitude in SOL under certain conditions
 - Seen in full-wave code AORSA
 - N. Bertelli *et al.*, *Nucl. Fusion* **54** (2014) 083004.
 - N. Bertelli *et al.*, *Nucl. Fusion* **56** (2016) 016019.
 - Also seen in cylindrical cold-plasma model
 - Wave power (axial Poynting flux) confined to periphery, only gradually penetrating the core
 - R. J. Perkins *et al.*, 41th EPS Conference on Plasma Physics P-1.011.
- RF fields in divertor cause RF sheath; potentially large enough to account for SOL losses
 - Rectified sheath voltage and e^- current predicted to substantially increase heat flux to tiles
 - R. J. Perkins *et al.*, *Phys. Plasma* **22** (2015) 042506.



ASC (and Broader NSTX-U) Research Facilitated by Numerous Upgrades to the Plasma Control System

- Hardware:
 - New control computers, reduced latency links to the power supplies
 - realtime V_{phi} in final testing, realtime MSE measurement in development.
- Methods:
 - Complete prose documentation of all physics algorithms within PCS.
 - Control design with full-physics models in TRANSP
 - See talk by Dan Boyer
- Algorithms:
 - Reviewed every line of code in every control algorithm
 - New shape control capabilities during the ramp-up and ramp-down
 - New automatic discharge shutdown system
 - More modular beam control, vertical control, ISOFLUX shape control algorithms.
 - In final development:
 - Snowflake divertor control
 - Rotation/Current profile control