

# Summary of Topics A3/B3: Experiment/Theory of Transport & Turbulence

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- *topical summary, not a session summary*
- *my impressions, not a concensus!*

# Many Talks Included Transport Component

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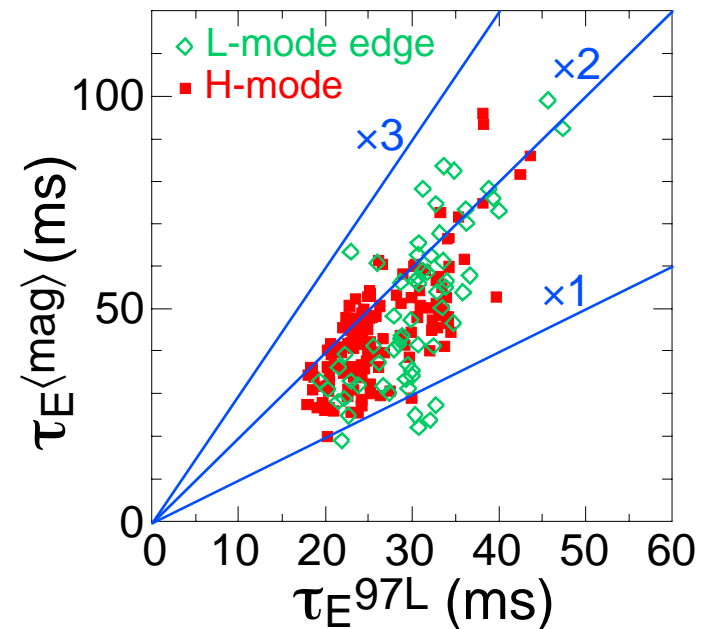
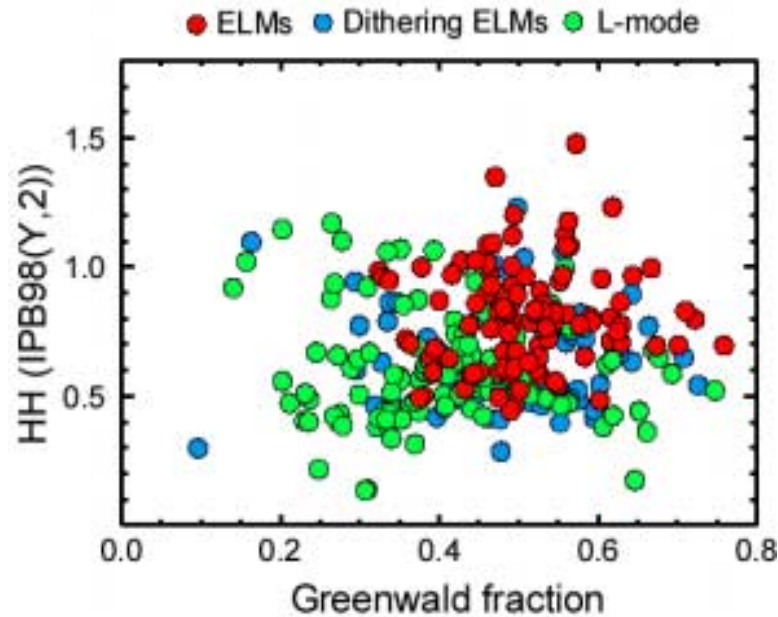
- Experiment

- Gryaznevich *Overview of MAST Results*
- Bell *Overview of NSTX Results*
- Wilson *HHFW H&CD in NSTX*
- Akers *NBI H&CD in MAST*
- Kaye *NSTX confinement results*
- Bush *H-mode, ELMs in NSTX*
- Zweben *Imaging of edge turbulence*
- Stutman *Poloidal Ultrasoft X-Ray System on NSTX*

- Theory

- Bourdelle *Gyrokinetic simulation*
- Shaing *Magnetic island effects on confinement*

# Confinement with NBI Is Good *But..* There Are Interesting Differences



- Routine H-mode operation in both MAST, NSTX
- L and H -modes overlap in  $\tau_E$  and H factor
- Good confinement extends to quite high density
- Single parameter scans reveal different dependences:
  - $\tau_E^{\text{NSTX-L}} \propto I_p^{0.76} B_T^{0.27} P^{-0.76}$ ;  $\tau_E^{\text{NSTX-H}} \propto P^{-0.5}$
- With HHFW heating in NSTX, confinement is not so enhanced

# Ion Channel Appears Good

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- With NBI,  $T_i > T_e$  despite  $P_{b,i} < P_{b,e}$ 
  - $T_i(0) \approx 3\text{keV}$  in MAST at  $n_e(0) \approx 2 \times 10^{19}\text{m}^{-3}$
  - $\chi_i < \chi_i^{\text{NCLASS}}$  in mid-regions of profile in NSTX
    - $T_i$  anomalously high at mid-radius in some cases
- High toroidal rotation rates are measured
  - extreme radial gradients in  $T_i$ ,  $v_\phi$  tend to coincide - role in turbulence suppression
- Particle confinement barriers are also observed
- Electron profiles with NBI are very stiff in NSTX *but...*
- With HHFW, electron ITBs have been observed
- NBI current drive is playing a role in both MAST, NSTX
  - benefit of good fast-ion confinement

# Theoretical Insights

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- Analysis of micro-stability for NSTX plasmas (positive shear) shows
  - increasing growth of ITG with  $\beta'$  up to a critical  $\beta'$ , *then*
  - decreasing ITG for higher  $\beta'$  until KBM destabilized
  - could give rise to bifurcation in transport properties
    - $\tau_E \propto P^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < 0$  for low  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha > 0$  for higher  $\beta$
  - Similar behavior for ETG and TEM
  - *But*,  $\beta'$  threshold for bifurcation is well above present NSTX level (x2)
  - Threshold could be reduced by lower  $\eta_i$ 
    - role for pellet injection?
    - would this be compatible with high  $\beta$  necessary?

## Theory (2)

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- Effects of magnetic islands on transport nearby
  - radial particle flux driven by symmetry-breaking perturbation
  - can spontaneously generate local  $E_r$
  - suppress turbulence & associated transport in neighboring region
- May help to explain occurrence of some types of ITB associated with low-order rational surfaces in conventional tokamaks
  - equally applicable to STs

# Confinement and Transport Issues

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- Although confinement can be good relative to conventional tokamak scalings, there are problems:
  - single parameter dependences are not established
  - *very* unfavorable power dependence ( $P^{-0.75}$ ) in some conditions in NSTX
  - Confinement during rise in  $W_{\text{tot}}$  is much better than in steady state
    - role of pressure-driven instabilities?
  - Electrons appear to respond to B, not I (NSTX)
- Micro-stability theory suggests interesting possibilities *but*
  - Can we achieve  $\beta'$  levels to reap the benefits
  - Are benefits of lower  $\eta_{\parallel}$  compatible with high  $\beta$ ?