

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

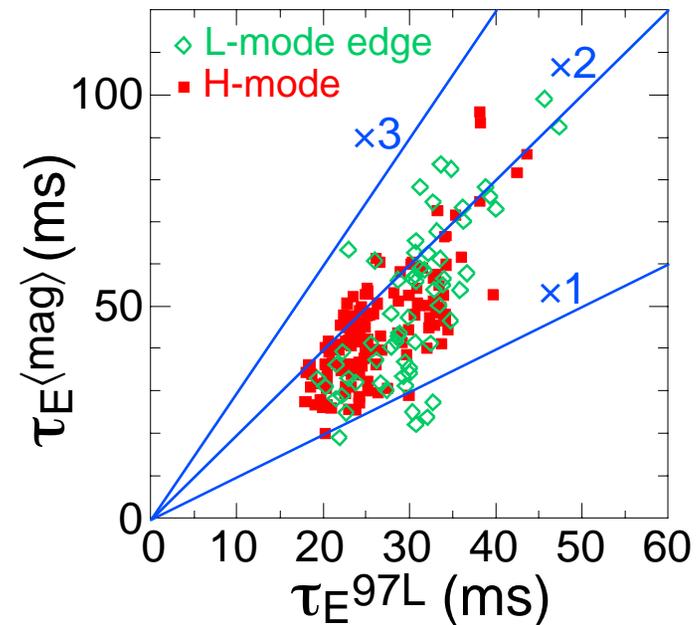
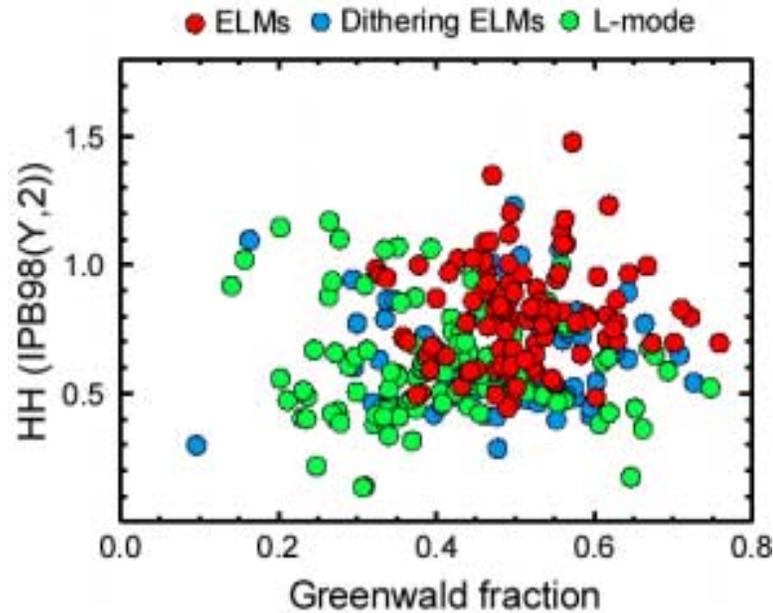
- Experiment

- 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 τ_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

- 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_ϕ 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

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

Theory (2)

- 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

- 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_{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 β' levels to reap the benefits
 - Are benefits of lower η_{\parallel} compatible with high β ?