

Disruption Prediction and Avoidance at High Beta in NSTX-U – Spherical Tokamak Science and Real-Time Application

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NSTX-U Physics Meeting 15 February 2021 Virtual Meeting



Supported by US DOE grants DE-SC0016614, DE-SC0018623, DE-FG02-99ER54524 and contract DE-AC02-09CH11466

Disruption prediction and avoidance research on NSTX-U funded to address critical need for ITER, future tokamaks

- □ <u>Motivation</u>: Disruption prediction/avoidance is a critical need
 - □ <u>Why</u>? A disruption <u>stops</u> plasma operation, might cause device damage
 - A highest priority DOE FES (Tier 1) initiative present "grand challenge" in tokamak stability research:
 - <u>Can be done</u>! (JET: < 4% disruptions with carbon wall)
 - ITER disruption allowance: < 1 2% (energy + E&M loads); << 1% (runaways)

Outline

- Abbreviated outline of funded proposal research
- Disruption Event Characterization and Forecasting (DECAF) research
- Initial multiple-device, large database analysis, forecasting performance
- Supporting science research, including equilibrium reconstruction, ideal / resistive stability, non-inductive CD scenarios
 - i.e. KSTAR high β_N , Δ ', ~100% non-inductive CD
- Recent focus on real-time design and implementation on KSTAR

NSTX-U disruption forecasting and avoidance began on NSTX, expanded to multiple devices

- Evolution of research (Began on NSTX, large group meetings > 40 people)
 - Expansion of KSTAR research (including real-time systems); added MAST-U research during NSTX-U recovery; other device databases
- Newly funded NSTX-U Elements <u>synergize</u> with this research ST science elements and real-time – 3 Elements:
 - <u>Element 1</u>: Fundamental physics analysis with support for disruption prediction
 - Kinetic equilibrium reconstruction w/V_{ϕ} (expanding our decade-long work on NSTX)
 - Ideal, resistive, and kinetic MHD stability analyses; ELM transient suppression (w/ IFS)
 - Neoclassical toroidal viscosity (NTV) at low collisonality
 - Kinetic RWM stability at low collisionality
 - Element 2: Physics-based disruption prediction validation, expanded development
 - Forecast / characterize physics based disruption events (DECAF analysis)
 - Generate high β, high NICD, low disruptivity plasmas to validate disruption forecasting
 - Use real-time plasma response (RFA), RWM state space controller observer for disruption forecasting
 - <u>Element 3</u>: Real-time disruption avoidance analysis and control
 - Real-time DECAF implementation on NSTX-U including r/t MHD system implementation
 - Plasma rotation profile control for mode control / disruption avoidance; use of rtMSE
 - RWM active control update/use implemented state space controller on NSTX-U

Expanded Columbia U. Team at PPPL is conducting an international effort on disruption prediction / avoidance

- Eight CU scientists and students based at PPPL
 - Including 2 students
 - New full-time post-doc/student for NSTX-U grant
- Innovative high beta, longpulse, non-inductive superconducting tokamak plasma research on KSTAR
- Compact, high beta spherical tokamak plasma research on MAST-U and NSTX-U

Full access to databases of 6 worldleading tokamaks

(and expanding to more devices...)



S.A. Sabbagh





Y.S. Park



J.M Bialek



Y. Jiang



V. Klevarova

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J. Riquezes



DECAF is a logical, physics-based paradigm that meets all disruption predictor requirement metrics



D. Humphreys, et al., PoP 22 (2015) 021806

DECAF is structured to ease parallel development of disruption characterization, event criteria, and forecasting



DECAF is structured to ease parallel development of disruption characterization, event criteria, and forecasting



DECAF connected to databases from multiple machines, expanding analysis

Analysis

Density
limits
ldeal,
kinetic,
resistive
MHD
stability

MHD, etc.

DECAF database started

Presently ~50 TB stored

/	Device / Capability	KSTAR	MAST	NSTX	DIII-D	AUG, TCV
е	Full database access (required!)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (UDA)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (MDSplus)
/	Database analysis	continuing	continuing	continuing	10 9 AUG 8 7 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 0 1 2 3 4 Disruption time	y = 1.0004x + 0.003 R ² = 1
g etc.	Equilibrium analysis	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE		
е	Stability	ldeal, Resistive Kinetic MHD	ldeal (so far)	Ideal, kinetic MHD (resistive)		
tly	shot*seconds (for kinetic analysis)	~ 3,880 (2016-2018)	2,667 (est) (M5 - M9 runs)	2,000 / year (est)		e (s) - (V. Klevarova)

Now, full access interface to AUG database; expanding to others
 100 shot LTM disruption database by V. Klevarova analyzed for DIS

DECAF connected to databases from multiple machines, expanding analysis

Analysis

stored



Now, full access interface to AUG database; expanding to others
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DECAF MHD events utilize history of 15 criteria to define time evolving disruption warning level



DECAF provides an early disruption forecast - on transport timescales – giving potential for disruption avoidance



- Then, plasma has an H-L back-transition (pressure peaking warning PRP) before DIS
- Important: Early warning occurs in apparently SAFE region of operating space!

Example: DECAF shows plasma parameters of VDE event can occur far from those of DIS event



Largest portion of detected VDE events appear at (*I_i*, κ) with very small portion of DIS events detected

Limited event chain analysis of large databases evolves initial performance of disruption prediction





New "reduced" locked tearing mode (LTM) event being created, aimed for real-time use / comparison



New DECAF edge localized mode event created to start examining correlations to other MHD

DECAF ELM event

 Presently determines ELM triggering times, along with frequency and relative amplitude

Compatible with real-time use

 Distinguishes true "ELMs" from others events (MHD, etc.) that generate D_α light

L-H determination/ transition event underway



DECAF is fueled by coordinated research that continues to validate/develop physics models, e.g.:

Resistive MHD

- <u>Detection / forecasting</u>: available magnetic diagnostics, plasma rotation
- <u>Forecasting</u>: starting examination of MRE \rightarrow start with Δ ' evaluation

Density limits

See Y. Jiang, NP17.05 Wed AM

See Y.S. Park, NP17.08 Wed AM

- <u>Detection</u>: rad. power, global empirical limit
- Forecasting: starting examination of rad. island power balance model

Global MHD

- Detection: available magnetic diagnostics, plasma rotation, equilibrium
- <u>Forecasting</u>: Kinetic MHD model has high success in NSTX, DIII-D

Physics analysis / experiments to build DECAF models

Interpretive and "predict-first" TRANSP analysis of KSTAR long-pulse, high beta plasmas with high non-inductive fraction

Kinetic equilibrium reconstruction will continue and expand for NSTX-U



NSTX EFIT equilibrium reconstruction including toroidal rotation and flux isotherm constraints [S.A. Sabbagh, et al., Nucl. Fusion 46 (2006) 635].

- Equilibrium reconstruction essential stability analysis, etc.
- Expands our more than decade-long effort on NSTX / NSTX-U
 - Results distributed to entire NSTX-U Team
 - Kinetic reconstructions between shots
 - Analysis with MSE
 - Higher time / space resolution as requested
 - Ability to reconstruct with plasma rotation implemented

Recent DECAF supporting effort: key proposed DOE study to determine effect of conducting structure on ST stability



CU group MAST research can reliably reconstruct plasmas with various levels of diagnostic inclusion

Magnetics only

Vessel structure currents are modelled with the VALEN code

Partial kinetic

Includes magnetics plus available pieces of the pressure profile: n_e, T_e, n_i... with models for the other pieces

Kinetic with MSE

- Includes magnetic pitch angle
- KEY for direct analysis comparison to NSTX/NSTX-U!

J.W. Berkery, et al., PPCF 62 (2020) 085007



VALEN code analysis models similar distortion to egg shape mode in MAST

Fast camera image (MAST 21436, t ~ 0.280s)







- Analysis of RWM eigenfunction in VALEN resembles MAST fast camera image, some subtle differences
 - More flattened appearance in analysis may be due to present assumption of pure n = 1 mode in model
 - Magnetics-only equilibrium used, and from a different plasma (7090)

Projected MAST-U equilibria were used to evaluate the ideal MHD stability space





- Exaggerated view of perturbation shows importance of PSP for wall stabilization
- Scans of pressure and q profiles map stable and wall-stabilized MAST-U regimes
 J.W. Berkery, et al., PPCF 62 (2020) 085007

Kinetic MHD global mode (RWM) stability and NTV dependence on collisionality to be studied (as originally planned)



Both kinetic RWM stability and NTV depend on plasma collisionality and velocity

Theory to validate: RWM stability can improve but only for "favorable" plasma rotation profiles; NTV should increase at lower collisionality

Tearing mode classical ∆' stability examined in KSTAR plasmas (supports future DECAF models)



- □ Classical tearing stability index, Δ' , computed at q = 2 surface using outer layer solutions
- □ At higher q_{95} , Δ' is mostly positive predicting unstable classical tearing mode
 - Indicates neoclassical effects, additional physics needed to reproduce XP
 - <u>KEY POINT</u>: Conclusions regarding Δ ' evolution can be made!
 - Recent paper with MRE evaluation → Y.S. Park, et al., NF 60 (2020) 056007

A database of high-non-inductive fraction plasmas is important for disruption forecasting ; NICF ~ 75% in KSTAR

TRANSP analysis of experimental plasmas

Non-inductive fraction

Beam-driven

Bootstrap

Non-inductive fraction is key for stable high beta steady state operation



Predictive TRANSP analysis shows KSTAR design target $\beta_N \sim 5$ can be approached with $f_{NI} \sim 100\%$

Predict-first analysis used to design high-β, 100% non-inductive current fraction (NICF) experiments for present KSTAR run campaign



"Predict-first" KSTAR TRANSP analysis shows expected high performance plasmas at > 80% NICF

Predicted high non-inductive current fraction (NICF) current profiles



□ High non-inductive current fraction predicted for 6.5, 7.5, 8.5 MW NBI □ The β_N ranges from 3.0 – 3.5; based on KSTAR plasmas with NICF ~70%

Aim to generate a significant database of long pulse, high NICF plasmas in 2021 KSTAR run for disruption prediction studies KSTAR disruption avoidance research "fills in desired / real-time (r/t) diagnostic capability for r/t DECAF

- Real-time measurement of rotating / locking MHD
 - < 300 kHz; Data collected during 2019 2020 runs</p>
- **W** Real-time plasma rotation profile installed at KSTAR
 - □ Completely new for KSTAR: < 32 channels; 1 2 kHz time resolution
- Real-time and offline Motional Stark Effect IN FINAL DESIGN
 - "offline" MSE background polychrometer system, Z_{eff} profile
 - \checkmark Real-time implementation of MSE; includes δB profile measurement
- Mailed at KSTAR
 - Real-time acquisition of heterodyne radiometer system use in 2021
- \mathbf{M} Real-time T_e fluctuation profile installed at KSTAR
 - Real-time acquisition to 2-D ECE imaging system use in 2021



Real-time MHD analysis computer installed on KSTAR for disruption prediction and avoidance



New real-time velocity diagnostic for KSTAR expands design of system used on NSTX-U



Real-time toroidal velocity diagnostic (rtV_{ϕ}) installation completed on KSTAR (Oct. 29th), first light the next day!



□ Initial real-time KSTAR V₆ profile data taken 2020

M. Podesta, J. Yoo (PPPL), Y.S. Park (Columbia)

KSTAR real-time ECE and ECEI data acquisition hardware recently installed (Feb 2021)



 rtECE computer in proximity to heterodyne radiometer system
 rtECEI computer connected to diagnostic by PCIe expansion box and custom interface in test cell (192 channels!)

Overall setup for KSTAR real-time diagnostic integration and DECAF analysis for the PCS



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Supporting slides follow

Disruption prediction and avoidance research on KSTAR moving to real-time application

- 1. Disruption forecasting physics analysis expansion
- 2. Implementation of real-time diagnostic capabilities



- 3. Real-time implementation of DECAF analysis and sensor input
 - 10+ DECAF event specs now written for the PCS implementation, including r/t sensors (e.g. ECE)
- 4. Real-time control leveraging real-time DECAF analysis and sensors
 - Initial specification for model-based control in the PCS is written; interfaces to DECAF events being made



Analysis of KSTAR real-time MHD computer data compared to simulated FPGA* r/t analysis

DECAF analysis using various inputs

From simulated FPGA FFTs

From offline FFTs



 $\Box \Delta t = 3.06 \text{ ms}, \Delta f = 0.31 \text{ kHz}$

*FPGA: field-programmable gate array

DECAF object decomposition of r/t MHD computer data works well on simulated FPGA analysis

DECAF object decomposition

From simulated FPGA FFTs

From offline FFTs



DECAF MHD events also produce early disruption warnings for KSTAR; aim to compute in real-time



Active RWM control system components now fully installed in KSTAR PCS (CU group collaboration)



For plasma operation at $\beta_N > \beta_N^{\text{no-wall}}$, RWM control system is prepared in KSTAR

- The middle in-vessel control coils (IVCCs) minimizes the inductive shielding by the copper passive stabilizing plates during RWM feedback
- □ Three sets of RWM B_p sensors with max. 8 toroidal locations (Upper MPZU03 & MPZU04, and Lower MPZL20) have been installed on the inner surface of the passive plates \Rightarrow total 20 independent B_p measurements for RWM identification (f_{sample} = 20 kHz)

Real-time DC and AC compensation of RWM feedback sensor signals now installed and tested in the KSTAR PCS



Developed RWM control algorithm with fully compensated sensor signals was first validated in late 2019 KSTAR operation; recent 2020 XPs



- PCS algorithm reliably computes the n = 1 component of the toroidally rotating n = 1 applied fields, and feedback current to the RWM coils
- □ Sep.29th, 2020 experiment: RWM active control system used in plasma

DECAF disruption prediction and avoidance research expanding to r/t implementation (KSTAR)

- Multi-device, integrated approach to disruption prediction and avoidance that meets disruption predictor requirement metrics
 - Physics-based "event chain" yields key <u>understanding</u> of evolution toward disruptions needed for confident extrapolation of forecasting, control
 - Present performance on large (10⁴) databases: 91.2% w/ only 5 Events
 - Full multi-machine databases used (full databases needed!)
 - Physics analysis, experiments run to understand, create, validate models

DECAF producing early warning disruption forecasts

- □ On <u>transport timescales</u>: → guide disruption avoidance by profile control
- □ Continue / expand disruption forecasting performance analysis (→ ITER)

Expansion to real-time implementation (KSTAR)

- **D** Real-time acquisition of magnetics (MHD), V_{ϕ} , T_{e} , δT_{e} , B pitch angle, δB
- Implementing DECAF disruption forecasting models in real-time

We are hiring post-doctoral researchers!
→ Email: sabbagh@pppl.gov

DECAF follows disruption event framework (de Vries) to provide understanding of disruption chains -> automates it



- JET disruption event chain analysis performed by hand, desire to automate
- General code DECAF: automates event chain process, provides disruption warning signals, being validated against databases from multiple devices

A density limit model has been examined in DECAF based on power balance in an island



Local island power balance limit

- Power balance in island between Ohmic heating and radiated power loss
- If radiated power at the island exceeds the input power (P_{loss} > P_{input}), island grows

<u>Power density balance</u>: $P_{\text{loss}} < P_{\text{input}}$



D. Gates et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 108 165004 (2012)

Initial assessment of density limit model shows correlation with MHD events



Simple island rotation dynamics model presently being constructed to forecast the bifurcation point



DECAF reduced kinetic MHD model provides early forecast of instability boundary to global MHD modes



- 44% predicted unstable < 320 ms (approx. 60τ_w) before current quench
 - 33% predicted unstable within
 100ms of a minor disruption

- Stability contours CHANGE for each time point
- Model allows real-time stability and mode growth rate prediction

J.W. Berkery, S.A. Sabbagh, R. Bell, et al., Phys. Plasmas 24 (2017) 056103

DECAF analysis of large databases further supports published results that disruptivity doesn't increase with β_N



Initial analysis of large databases further supports published result that disruptivity doesn't increase with plasma β



Global MHD modes can also be "slow" and allow early warnings for disruptions, potentially allowing avoidance



H - L back transition (PRP) drags out time to disruption (> 100 ms – <u>transport timescale</u>)

Machine learning approaches are now coupling to DECAF to compute sub-elements of computations

Determination of ideal MHD no-wall stability limit by DL NN

(2019 Marseille conference)



Figure 1: β_n vs l_i decision boundary. The contour plot shows the probability distribution predicted by the neural network.

Determination of ideal MHD stability function by non-linear random forest regression

(2019 IAEA ML conference)



Figure 1: $-\delta W$ vs F for the NSTX database, showing linear correspondence with some spread ($R^2 = 0.878$).

Collaboration with CCFE / UCL (A. Piccone (UCL)); → A. Piccone, et al, Nucl. Fusion **60** (2020) 046033 FES/ACSR Advancing Fusion with Machine Learning - Research Needs Workshop (May 2019)

New 2nd NBI system installed in KSTAR, may be available for 2020 run campaign







- Geometry of 2nd NBI system is included in TRANSP model
- Available power

 $\rightarrow P_{NBI} \simeq 1.5$ MW/source (conservative)

Clear pressure profile distinction between Internal Transport Barrier and H-mode phases



Broad pedestal pressure reconstructed in H-mode is not observed in earlier ITB phase
Xp by Jinil Chung

KSTAR real-time MHD computer acquired data for 2019 campaign – data quality as good as offline



Real-time toroidal velocity diagnostic (rtVphi) in KSTAR (Oct. 29th)



First measurements from rtVphi for shot 26333, 26336 on Oct. 30th 2020



Shot 26333 (w/ NBI-1A/B): Used the *full frame* setup by M. Podesta Result saved as file *shot26333_full_YSP.spe* Shot 26336 (w/ NBI-1A/B): Used the *16 binning* setup Result save as file *shot26336_16bin_YSP.spe*