



Tailoring 3D fields across confinement modes to optimize plasma instability control

SeongMoo Yang Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

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Outline

- Issues in optimizing 3D fields
- Tailoring 3D field
 - Method
 - ELM suppression for the entire period of discharge with n=1 field
 - Additional benefits of the ERMP scheme
 - ELM suppression with reduced confinement degradation
 - Control of RMP induced fast ion orbit loss to reduce wall heating
- Other approaches to improve 3D field-induced degradation
 - Preventing core RMP penetration
 - NTV control (electron NTV and torque matrix)
 - Understanding 3D field-induced L-H transition delay
- Future work





Introducing 3D field effect: ELM suppression and other effects

- 3D field can **suppress edge localized modes** (ELMs), which can cause intolerable damage to plasmafacing components in a future reactor.
- 3D field application for ELM suppression can lead to other effects.
 - Mode locking that eventually terminates plasmas.
 - Density pump, angular momentum degradation, and fast ion orbit loss.
 - Delay or prevention of L-H transition (if applied before L-H transition)



Need to isolate edge RMP to optimize ELM control

- Resonant Magnetic Perturbation (RMP, $\delta \vec{B}_{res}$) is known to be important for ELM suppression.
 - The edge RMP penetration can suppress ELM [1,2] $\delta \vec{B}_{res} \gg \vec{B}_{pen,th}(n_e, \omega_{\phi}, ...)$.
 - However, core RMP can drive disruptive Locked Modes (LMs).
 - → Edge RMP needs to be maximized but core RMP should be minimized to optimize ELM control
- However, external 3D coils typically apply both edge and core RMP.

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New scheme developed : Systematic RMP localization

- A systematic approach can minimize core response and maximize edge response by introducing corenull space projection, $\vec{P}_{c,null}$ [S.M. Yang et al., NF, 2020].
- This edge localized RMP eliminates core resonant response (core $\delta B=0$) while it maintains sizable edge response with good efficiency (only ~30 % penalty in edge δB).

Difficulties in validating edge localized RMP

- However, the geometry and location of RMP coils limit the realization of the most efficient edge localized RMP for safe ELM control.
- For example, it is impossible to follow the variation of edge localized RMP at HFS using existing coils.
- The edge localized RMP is predicted to be inefficient for ELM suppression, despite of flexible KSTAR 3D coils.

[Existing coils cannot produce HFS structure]

80 times more current

for ELM control

Penalizing core RMP for experimental application

- We introduced penalizing factor, c_{opt}, that can strike a balance between coupling efficiency and safety of RMP for ELM suppression.
 [S.M. Yang, J.-K. Park et al., PRL submitted]
 - $c_{opt} = 0$ is edge efficient RMP that neglects core RMP response.
 - $c_{opt} = 1$ is edge localized RMP without penalization (δB_{edge} is not sufficient for ELM suppression)
 - Increase of c_{opt} localizes RMP, by removing core RMP, $\delta B_{core}/\delta B_{edge}$.

Penalizing core RMP for experimental validation

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 - $c_{opt} = 0$ is edge efficient RMP that neglects core RMP response.
 - $c_{opt} = 1$ is edge localized RMP without penalization (δB_{edge} is not sufficient for ELM suppression)
 - Increase of c_{opt} leads unnecessary reduction of edge RMP, δB_{edge} , due to overlap between core and edge.

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n=1 RMP optimization using KSTAR 3D coils

- KSTAR has three rows of flexible 3D coil arrays for the n=1 RMP optimization.
- The n=1 (low-n) RMP is attractive for future reactors needing ex-vessel 3D coils to avoid nuclear contamination.
 - COMPASS-U ex-vessel coil examples shows the efficiency of low-n RMP (logarithmic decay with n)
- However, the n=1 RMP is tricky to use as its core RMP penetration is disruptive. (ITPA MDC-19 is about low-n core error field correction)

n=1 RMP optimization using KSTAR 3D coils

- For the safe use of n=1 RMP, we designed edge localized RMP (ERMP) with KSTAR 3D coils.
- Three rows of RMP coils in KSTAR (as in ITER) allows 5D freedom (Amplitude: I_T , I_M , I_B , phasing: $\Delta \phi_{TM}$, $\Delta \phi_{MB}$) to improve ELM suppression.
- The ERMP optimization using multiple rows of coils can benefit DIIID & ITER as well.

→ 3D optimization will be useful for future

ELM suppression for the entire period of discharge

- In future reactors, ELMs should be suppressed for the entire period of discharge.
 Single ELM burst is dangerous. This needs ELM suppression at transient entries and exits of H-mode.
- RMP before the L-H transition is the easiest approach.
 - This requires multi-target optimization (from L-mode to H-mode)
- L-mode plasma is vulnerable to core LMs due to low density and rotation, especially for n=1 field.
 - Core RMP in L-mode (δB_{core}^{L}) turns out to be the most disruptive and limiting force.
 - \star ERMP optimization for the entire discharge
 - 1. Localize RMP to avoid core LMs
 - Edge RMP gets weaker due to core/edge coupling
 - 2. Penalize localization to suppress ELMs
 - Penalty of core RMP increase
 - => Edge localized RMP (ERMP) for experimental application. GPEC [1] response used for optimization

ELM suppression for the entire period of discharge

- The ERMP optimization allowed the application of n=1 RMP before the L-H transition for ELM suppression for the first time. (n=1, strong enough for ELM control, not disruptive in L-mode)
- Other RMPs with different core removal executed as expected
 #26027 (ELM controlled from the beginning, mitigated at early phase due to q95 evolution)
 - #26025 (Disrupted early by LMs)
 - #26026 (weak edge RMP, ELM not mitigated)

ELM suppression for the entire period of discharge

• ERMPs has a unique operating point in the coil space - Amplitude, phasing that has never been used.

 $I_T: I_M: I_B = 1: 0.11: 0.85$ (Standard [1]: $I_T = I_M = I_B$) $\phi_{TM}: \phi_{MB} = 170^{\circ}: 196^{\circ}$ (Standard [1]: $\phi_{TM} = \phi_{MB} = 90^{\circ}$)

• ERMP significantly improve safety of n=1 RMP - Core LM in L-mode (Standard RMP does not work)

=> Validated ERMP significantly improve safety of n=1 RMP

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Effect of core-removal at ELM suppressed state

- We ramped up optimized RMP with different core-removal (δB^H_{core}) to get ELM suppressed state.
 To see effect of edge localization at the ELM suppressed state.
- We predicted ELM suppression time and safety windows, using two most important optimized RMP.
 #26016 (core removal = 0): Requires least RMP current for ELM suppression (useful if core RMP is not critical).
 - #26015 (core removal = 0.98): Safety is maximized (More robust with change/uncertainties of plasma condition)

Benefit of core-removal: Reduced rotation degradation

- At the initial ELM suppressed phase, a reduction of overall perturbations (with core removal) is expected as indicated by NTV response. (#26016 has the largest torque)
- Reduction of NTV (due to core removal) reduces rotation degradation at ELM suppressed state.

Benefit of core-removal: Reduced density degradation

- Reducing the core resonant field results in the NTV reduction in ELM suppressed phase.
- Core removal reduces density degradation at ELM suppressed state (e.g., core removal = 0.98 vs 0)
 - Physics of different density degradation is not clear (under investigation, turbulent transport?)

Benefit of core-removal: reduced fast ion loss (simulation)

- Under different core removal, we simulated fast ion orbit loss using NuBDeC [1] and GPEC simulations.
 - δB_{edge} maintained but δB_{core} reduced
- With a reduced core RMP response, simulation shows a reduction of fast ion loss.
- Simulation implies that ELM suppression can be maintained with improved fast ion confinement by core removal

Benefit of core-removal: reduced loss to poloidal limiter

- We investigated increase of poloidal limiter temperature to validate fast ion orbit loss. (diverted plasma)
- Poloidal limiter temperature increases shows good agreement with simulation.
- RMP with core-removal reduced temperature increase of poloidal limiter temperature compared to standard RMP.

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Summary: Tailoring RMP

- Edge localized RMP is proposed to optimize ELM suppression.
- Validated benefits of core removal in KSTAR are as follows
 - Improved safety in RMP-ELM suppression (ex. Robust during performance degradation in long pulse operation)
 - Lessened confinement degradation (rotation and density)
 - Lessened poloidal limiter temperature increase (This was a critical issue in KSTAR long pulse)
- > ERMP becomes reference 3D configuration for US-KSTAR long pulse operation considering the benefits

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Localized ECCD to prevent core RMP penetration

- Preventing core RMP penetration was a key to improve the safety (degradation as well) of ELM suppression.
- Simulation result shows that localized ECCD prevents core RMP penetration.
 GPEC has shown that local current profile can reduce external drive for tearing (Δ'_{ext}, It is different from replacing bootstrap current).
 TM1 has shown that ECCD can increase the core RMP threshold
- This can significantly improve low-n RMP ELM suppression in any scenario by reducing core LM potential while maintaining strong edge RMP. (*I*_{RMP,crit} is required RMP for penetration)

[More ECCD, higher EF allowed]

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Localized ECCD to prevent core RMP penetration

- ECCD is applied with a different toroidal angles to see the change of the LM threshold in KSTAR.
 To modify localized current drive while maintaining same heating power
- Only injection angle of 15° shows different LM threshold compared with 20° and -20° , possibly due to its injection near the q=2 surface. (No RMP ELM suppression at $q_{95} \sim 6.2$.)
- More experiments are required for validation (more promising in DIII-D)

Understanding core RMP threshold

• We also tried to find robust regime in core RMP penetration .

[1] S.M. Yang et al., Nuclear Fusion (2021)

- Core RMP becomes more dangerous at high Bt
- Toroidal rotation can stabilize core RMP penetration
- Density dependence shows non-monotonic dependence.
- A role over of density dependence can be explained with modified theoretical error field (EF) scaling with LOC-SOC transition.

EF scaling in LOC [2]: $\delta B_r / B_T \propto n_e^1 B_T^{-9/5} R_0^{-1/4} \longrightarrow$ EF scaling in SOC [1]: $\frac{\delta B_r}{B_T} \propto n_e^{4/70} B_T^{-87/70} R_0^{11/70}$ [2] R. Fitzptrick et al., PPCF (2012)]

Rotation control to improve core RMP threshold

- If 3D field can accelerate plasma rotation, this can also improve core RMP threshold.
- Experiment show that plasma rotation can be accelerated by 3D field
 - # 19115 shows acceleration of plasma rotation. (unlike other discharges)
 - This result to the increase of core RMP threshold.

Rotation control to improve core RMP threshold

- We validated that electron NTV accelerates plasma rotation.
 - Rotation acceleration toward NTV offset is observed
 - Simulation quantitatively agrees with measured response torque.

[S. M. Yang, J.-K. Park et al., PRL (2019)]

[Rotation acceleration with applied 3D field]

[Estimated NTV offset]

Rotation control to improve core RMP threshold

We validated that electron NTV accelerates plasma rotation.

- Rotation acceleration toward NTV offset is observed

[Measured torque]

- Simulation quantitatively agrees with measured response torque.

[S. M. Yang, J.-K. Park et al., PRL (2019)]

=> Rotation acceleration (electron NTV) improved core RMP threshold.

[Measured response]

Optimizing NTV using torque response matrix

- A further optimization of NTV is possible using torque response matrix. [J.-K. Park et al., POP (2017)]
- The eigenvector of torque response matrix with minimum eigenvalue, QSMP is validated in KSTAR.
 - **RMP** caused density pump, T_e degradation, and rotation damping.
 - NRMP drives rotation damping without density $\&T_e$ degradation.
 - QSMP did not show any degradation.
 - => NTV optimization is validated in KSTAR. It can be used to improve core RMP threshold

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Introduction: Zonal flow and 3D field in L-H transition

- A fluctuating small scale *E* × *B* shear such as zonal flow is understood as a triggering mechanism of L-H transition in tokamak.
- Recent study showed that 3D field can increase effect on turbulence transport, particularly in L-H transition power threshold.

Observation of limit-cycle oscillation before L-H transition

- We found oscillation of D_{α} , increase of \bar{n}_e , T_e that indicates confinement enhancement right between L-mode and H-mode phase in KSTAR.
- The observation in KSTAR before L-H transition resembles zonal flow oscillation in DIII-D, which shows edge density and temperature increase.

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RMP optimization improves L-H transition delay

- RMP optimization improves L-H transition delay and turbulence (nonlinear interaction).
 With less removal of RMP (c_{opt} = 0.91 vs c_{opt} = 1), nonlinear interaction is reduced even with increased turbulence.
- Reduction of the zonal flow could be the primary reason for the observed delay of L-H transition.
- Note that RMP optimization for L-H transition should include plasma response. (Vacuum vs total Chirikov) [RMP optimization result] [Zonal flow oscillation affected by RMP optimization] [RMP suppress non-linear interaction]

Future work

• ELM control coils for other devices (e.g., next phase of KSTAR including K-DEMO) will be studied - Based on the ERMP scheme, as already studied for KSTAR and COMPASS-U.

[Geometry optimized KSTAR coil]

- ERMP scheme applied to improve ELM suppression
- Stellarator tool applied to optimize geometry

=>141 % increase of safe ELM suppressed window

[S.M. Yang et al., NF, 2020]

[Ex-vessel and in-vessel COMPASS-U coil]

- Efficiency of ex-vessel coil tested (ERMP applied)
- Best option chosen with given realistic coil geometry

[J. K. Park et al., COMPASS Final Design review (2021)]

Future work

- Extension of validated ERMP optimization scheme for ITER application
 - High-n optimization will be done with better diagnostics (run-time (1.5 day) expected in DIII-D)
 - Physics of lessened confinement degradation will be investigated in both KSTAR and DIII-D.
- Validation of fast ion loss study under 3D field
 More experimental (KSTAR + DIII-D) and simulation (NubDec + ORBIT) is planned.
- Validation of ECCD effect on core RMP threshold
 Propose more experiments, analyze existing data in KSTAR (DIII-D, run-time requested but ...)
- Turbulence study to understand RMP induced L-H transition delay

 Analyze turbulence measurement (ECEI) to see nonlinear interaction change and its structure
 Application to negative triangularity discharge to prevent L-H transition
- Heat flux under RMP
 - Continue collaboration with UW-Madison (supports EMC3-EIRNE simulation in KSTAR).

END

Back up : q95 window of ELM suppression in KSTAR

• Why initial ELMs are not suppressed?

0.54

0.52 0.5 0.48

5.5 56b

2^N

· 2

<u>...</u>1

 D_{α}

4 7 ______

 $[10^{19}]$

1ºe

3.5

-These initial ELMs can be related to q_{95} windows (4.85 < q_{95} < 5.5)

• When q_{95} is controlled initial ELM crashes are suppressed.

* Radial position control coil is not available with a flexible 3D setup * So, shaping control is not good enough during the transient phase

Back up: 3D optimization with existing coils: Validation in KSTAR

- Three different RMP spectrum is investigated at $P_{NB} = 3.9 MW$ target discharge.
 - 90 degree phasing (26022)
 - Largest window (26023)
 - Ideal edge localized RMP until 9s (26024)
- The window was narrower at higher **P**_{NB} as empirical found in KSTAR.
- One can expand ELM suppression window for this target by 3D optimization.
- Ideal edge localized RMP is too weak as expected. It can lock the plasma by raising mid coil current after 9s.

Back up : Density degradation cross calibration& across different target

Thomson Scattering

0.75

 $n_e \, [10^{19} m^{-3}]$

0.5

 ψ_{N}

0.5

 ψ_N

0.75

1

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Back up : ERMP reduced diverter temperature increase

- **ERMP** shows less increase of central diverter temperature than other RMP with a similar plasma condition (even with a slightly higher edge RMP level).
- **ERMP** shows increased wet area with comparable peak heat flux for all toroidal angles.
- Rotating RMP will also be used to estimate the fast ion orbit loss.

Back up : ELM suppression for the entire period of discharge

- In future reactors, ELMs should be suppressed for the entire period of discharge.
 This needs ELM suppression at transient entries and exits of H-mode.
- Easiest approach is to apply RMP before the L-H transition
 This requires multi-target optimization (from L-mode to H-mode)
- L-mode plasma has low density and rotation and is vulnerable to core LMs, especially for n=1 field.
- n=1 (low-n) RMP is attractive for future reactors needing ex-vessel 3D coils to avoid nuclear contamination. Great synergy with edge localized RMP.

Back up : RMP optimization for efficient L-H transition

• Removal of RMP in L-mode with c_{opt} is validated with efficient L-H transition.

- At $c_{opt} = 0.91$, edge turbulence increase, \bar{n}_e and v_{\perp} change is observed with $t_{LH} = 2.66 s$ - At $c_{opt} = 1$, no change in turbulence with $t_{LH} = 2.47 s$ (even without additional heating) \rightarrow More efficient L-H transition with $c_{opt} = 1$

Note that vacuum response is not decreased at c_{opt} = 1 unlike total response.

3D field induced L-H transition delay due to turbulence change

- A necessity of integrated optimization implies the importance of RMP control during the transient phase such as L-H transition.
- We found that zonal flow oscillation and non-linear interaction are affected by RMP optimization.
- Reduction of the zonal flow could be the primary reason for the observed delay of L-H transition.
- A physics behind this behavior is under investigation but the early opening of edge island is a candidate.

Back up: 3D coil design with edge localized RMP

- Edge localized RMP can significantly improve the design of ELM control coils.
- The modified coil size and location based on the edge-localized RMP shows that the ELM suppression window can be expanded. (41 % increase of safe ELM suppressed window)
- A geometry optimization with FOCUS can further improve the ELM suppression window. (141 % increase of safe ELM suppressed window)

DIIID Breakout result (preliminary)

- Introduced ERMP optimization scheme will be applied to DIII-D tokamak at higher-n with better diagnostics
 - Optimizing RMP across the L to H confinement modes to suppress ELMs
 - Tier 1 priority in ELM control ROF (1 day + 1 LRHO)
 - "Entering H-mode without an ELM, then minimizing confinement degradation n = 3 RMP ELM suppression" (1 day + 1 LRHO)
 - High chance to get shots in prepare for ITER ROF (0.5 day)
 - "Entering H-mode without an ELM, then minimizing confinement degradation n = 3 RMP ELM suppression" (0.5 day)
 - Piggyback planned in Core-edge integration ROF (1 day + 1 LRHO)
 - "Integrate RMP ELM control with divertor detachment in closed divertor" (1 Day+1 LRHO)
 - Piggyback being discussed for n=2 RMP ELM suppression in ELM control ROF

Back up: Systematic RMP localization approach

- A systematic approach can minimize core response and maximize edge response by introducing corenull space projection, $\vec{P}_{c,null}$.
- This edge localized RMP shows relatively good efficiency while completely eliminating core resonant response (core $\delta B=0$, small penalty in edge δB).

[Calculation of efficient edge-localized RMP]

[S.M. Yang et al., NF, 2020]

$$\begin{split} \overleftrightarrow{\mathcal{C}}_{core} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{c,null}^{x} &= 0 \\ \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{c,null}^{x} &= \overleftrightarrow{\mathcal{P}}_{c,null} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{b}^{x} \\ &\stackrel{\overleftarrow{\mathcal{P}}_{c,null}}{\Rightarrow} = \overleftarrow{\mathcal{P}}_{c,null} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{b}^{x} \\ &\stackrel{\overleftarrow{\mathcal{P}}_{c,null}}{\Rightarrow} = \overleftarrow{\mathcal{C}}_{edge} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{c,null}^{x} \\ & \vec{\mathcal{B}}_{edge} &= \overleftarrow{\mathcal{C}}_{edge} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{c,null}^{x} \\ & \vec{\mathcal{B}}_{edge} &= \overleftarrow{\mathcal{C}}_{e,cnull} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{b}^{x} \\ & \vec{\mathcal{B}}_{edge} &= \overleftarrow{\mathcal{C}}_{e,cnull} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{V}}_{b}^{x} \end{split}$$

Back up: RMP effect on zonal flow

- Experimental evidence of zonal flow oscillation and its suppression due to RMP is found in KSTAR.
- Experimental results imply a role of RMP in zonal-flow turbulence interaction.
 - With RMP, reduction of nonlinear interaction is shown even with increase turbulence level.
 - With RMP, LCO frequency becomes higher even with lower collisionality, which is counter-intuitive to the linear collisional zonal flow damping rate.

[RMP induced reduction in bi-coherence]

[RMP induced LCO frequency change]

Back up: Limit-cycle oscillation in KSTAR

- Although direct $v_{E \times B}$ is not available, modulation of turbulence ($\delta T_e, \delta n_e$) during the LCO in KSTAR is very similar to zonal flow oscillation in DIIID.
- A δT_e fluctuation shows poloidally elongated structure that indicates that it is m=0 structure.

Back up: Limit-cycle oscillation in KSTAR

- We found that D_{α} peak is related to the minimum turbulence amplitude. (Rising D_{α} include zonal flow max)
- We found that nonlinear interaction is much more active during zonal flow grow phase.
- This may imply that Reynolds-stress-driven energy transfer only becomes significant when the turbulence is driving zonal flow.

Rising D_{α} ~ include zonal flow max Falling D_{α} ~ turbulence grow

Back up: Limit-cycle oscillation in KSTAR

- We found that D_{α} peak is related to the minimum turbulence amplitude. (Rising D_{α} ~ zonal flow max)
- We found that nonlinear interaction is much more active during zonal flow grow phase.
- This may imply that Reynolds-stress-driven energy transfer only becomes significant when the turbulence is driving zonal flow.

3D optimization with existing coils: Diverter wetted area

- Three different RMP spectrum is investigated by 3D optimization.
 - 90degree phasing (26014): between 26015&26016
 - Largest window (26015): later locking
 - Most efficient RMP (26016): earlier locking

• Diverter wetted area (A_{wet}) is proportional to edge IPEC resonant field? $A_{wet}[m^2] \equiv \frac{\int q_{\perp} dA_{wet}}{(q_{\perp})_{max}}$

Introduction

• Optimization of 3D magnetic field needs an understanding of $\delta \vec{B}_{res}$, $\vec{B}_{pen,th}$ and $\delta \vec{B}_{NR}$.

[Park et al., Nature Physics, 2018]

- $\delta \vec{B}$ consists of $\delta \vec{B}_{res}$, $\delta \vec{B}_{NR}$
- ✓ Resonant field $(\delta \vec{B}_{res})$: 3D field resonant with equilibrium field line pitch $q = \frac{m}{n}$. - $\delta \vec{B}_{res}$ drives field penetration when $\delta \vec{B}_{res} \gg \vec{B}_{pen,th}(n_e, \omega_{\phi}, ...)$
 - Known to be responsible for ELM suppression and mode locking
- ✓ Non-resonant field ($\delta \vec{B}_{NR}$) : 3D field that does not resonant
 - $\delta \vec{B}_{\rm NR}$ is not resonant, but it can change plasma rotation.

- Change of rotation can affect $\vec{B}_{\mathrm{pen},th}(\mathrm{n_e},\omega_\phi,...)$

• This work will mainly cover resonant field $\delta \vec{B}_{res}$

