

XP933: NTV physics at varied $v_i^*/q\omega_E$ and search for offset rotation in NSTX

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NSTX Results and Theory Review

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Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

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□ Motivation

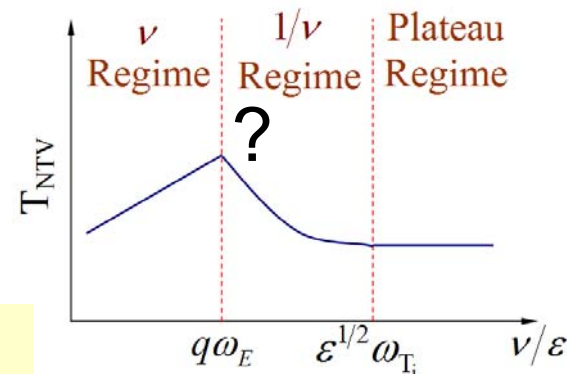
- Determine key aspects of NTV physics to gain confidence in extrapolation to future devices

□ Goals

- Investigate damping over range of $v_i^*/q\omega_E$ to determine if the expected saturation of NTV at increased E_r actually occurs
 - Key for both low and high rotation devices (ITER, ST-CTF)
 - Does ST data reveal new physics, or revise applicability criteria?
- Determine neoclassical offset rotation
 - NTV offset rotation found in tokamaks (Garofalo, 2008), but not yet determined in NSTX
 - Potentially important for low ω_ϕ devices (ITER)
 - Reversed I_p operation will allow better determination of offset rotation

□ Addresses

- NSTX IR(10-1) milestone
- ITPA joint experiment MDC-12



Does $1/v_i$ scaling $\rightarrow v_i/(v_i^2 + \omega_E^2)$?

Utilize lithium and $n = 1$ EFC to study non-resonant braking over long timescale \gg momentum diffusion time

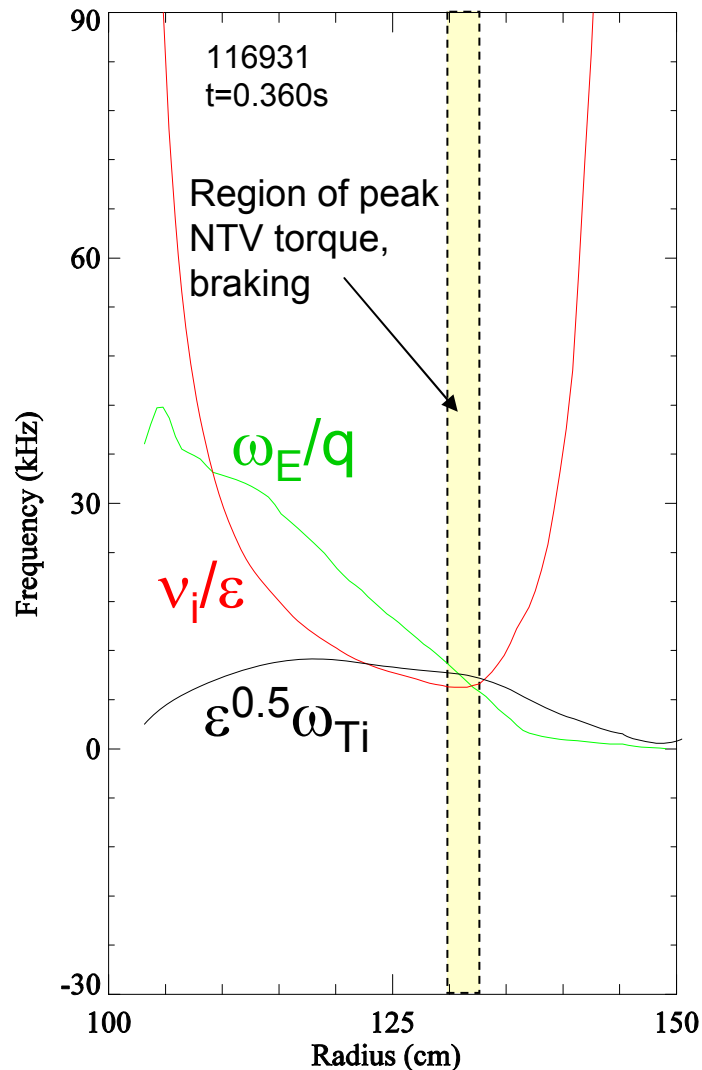
□ Past data

- Non-resonant braking evolves into resonant braking, precludes accurate non-resonant NTV evaluation

□ New approach

- Utilize $n = 1$ EFC and lithium to delay or eliminate rotating $n = 1$ MHD
 - $n = 1$ MHD is the cause for strong resonant ω_ϕ damping
- Examine braking from different initial ω_E ($v_i^* < 1$), at various R
 - Initial $n = 3$ braking field to vary initial ω_E , then increase braking
 - If $v_i^*/q\omega_E(R) > 1$, should observe $T_i^{5/2}$ scaling
 - If $v_i^*/q\omega_E(R) < 1$, should observe saturation in braking, or other (?) scaling
- Look for NTV offset rotation ($T_{\text{NTV}} \sim \delta B^2(\omega_\phi - \omega_{\phi\text{-offset}})$)
 - Allow second quasi-steady-state ω_ϕ to be reached after 2nd braking pulse; will data support existence of $\omega_{\phi\text{-offset}}$? (a counter- I_p offset)
 - Supplement co-injection data with *counter-injection* data - best conclusion

Past NSTX data shows a small region of applicability for NTV collisionless regime scaling



- $n = 3$ braking “configuration
- Frequency profiles
 - Collisionless NTV formulation valid in region of peak measured damping where $q\omega_E < v_i/\epsilon < \epsilon^{0.5}\omega_{Ti}$
 - Computed/observed damping near boundary (low T_i , collisional regime) typically far weaker
 - Uncertain if $\omega_E < \epsilon^{0.5}\omega_{Ti}$ criterion is required for collisionless damping
 - Adequate criterion to describe NTV saturation due to E_r effects?
 - the ω_E calculation neglects poloidal flow and uses carbon ω^* , may be overestimated

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□ Status

- NTV braking observed from all initial $v_i^*/q\omega_E(R)$ variations made in experiment ($n = 3$ configuration)
 - Strong braking observed with lithium, saturation of braking not observed
- Braking of resonant surfaces appeared in many instances, but without locking, even at very low plasma rotation
 - This, and stronger NTV braking at increased T_i correlate with Li operation
- Apparent lack of $1/\omega_\phi$ scaling of drag torque on resonant surfaces
 - Provocative result – either island width is decreasing at low ω_ϕ (why?), or drag at island caused by “island NTV” $\sim \omega_\phi$ (K.C. Shaing, PRL **87** (2001))
- No clear NTV offset rotation (yet)
 - Further analysis needed. If $\omega_{\phi\text{-offset}}$ exists, it would appear to be small
 - Difference between C and D rotation at low values of V_ϕ to be examined

□ Quantitative analysis is next step

- First results for ITPA MHD October '09 meeting