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Post-PAC-33 discussion of NSTX-U 5 Year Plan for Pedestal, Scrape-off Layer and Divertor Physics

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Post-PAC-33 discussion

- What went well
 - ✓ "Planned program puts NSTX-U team in a strong position for boundary, pedestal, SOL and divertor physics research"
 - ✓ "5YP addresses many, but not all of the major issues for ST-FNSF and other future devices"
 - ✓ "NSTX-U capabilities will improve understanding of key ITER issues"

Post-PAC-33 discussion

PAC recommendations

- The presentation of plans for boundary physics studies and plasma-material interactions could be compressed (I had told you that!)
- Divertor physics is difficult to scale to larger devices
 - Need to address / develop approach
- Choice of wall material not within 5YP how will the SOL/Pedestal change?
- NSTX-U use of Li evaporation is most likely not a viable method for future devices (continuous operation, Tritium retention)
- Unclear if turbulence diagnostics cover relevant region and have high enough resolution.
- Will Li evaporation continue to suppress ELMs at higher Ploss?
- ELM mitigation techniques could be featured more prominently in 5YP for ITER understanding - may be crucial to understand for FNSF as well.
- NSTX-U team generally makes strong contribution, but more work is needed in particular with respect to pedestal and SOL turbulence
- NSTX-U plans to validate cryo-pump modelling within 5YP provides nice example for code validation.
- More complete SOL and edge models need to be developed.

Post-PAC-33 discussion

- Thoughts on path forward
 - Compress presentations into 1 or 2?
 - Need to develop PFC strategy and stick to it
 - Amend present BP 5 year plan based on the strategy
 - Significant impact on pedestal and divertor research program if all high-Z PFC coverage implemented within the 5 year plan
 - Need to consider and add an integrated high-Z approach for all chapters
 - Core and pedestal transport
 - Pedestal stability
 - SOL and Divertor
 - Material migration, erosion, etc
 - Need to add FNSF-related motivation to both thrusts