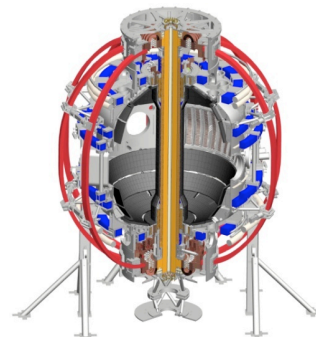


# Divertor Scenario Development for NSTX Upgrade

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J. E. Menard, M. Podesta, F. Scotti, PPPL



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# Abstract

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In the NSTX-U tokamak, initial plans for divertor plasma-facing components (PFCs) include lithium and boron coated graphite, with a staged transition to molybdenum. Steady-state peak divertor heat fluxes are projected to reach 20-30 MW/m<sup>2</sup> in 2 MA, 12 MW NBI-heated discharges of up to 5 s duration, thus challenging PFC thermal limits. Based on the recent NSTX divertor experiments and modeling with edge transport code UEDGE, a favorable basis for divertor power handling in NSTX-U is developed. The snowflake divertor geometry and feedback-controlled divertor impurity seeding applied to the lower and upper divertors are presently envisioned. In the NSTX snowflake experiments with lithium-coated graphite PFCs, the peak divertor heat fluxes from Type I ELMs and between ELMs were significantly reduced due to geometry effects, increased volumetric losses and null-point convective redistribution between strike points. H-mode core confinement was maintained at  $H_{98}(y,2) \approx 1$  albeit the radiative detachment. Additional CD4 seeding demonstrated potential for a further increase of divertor radiation.

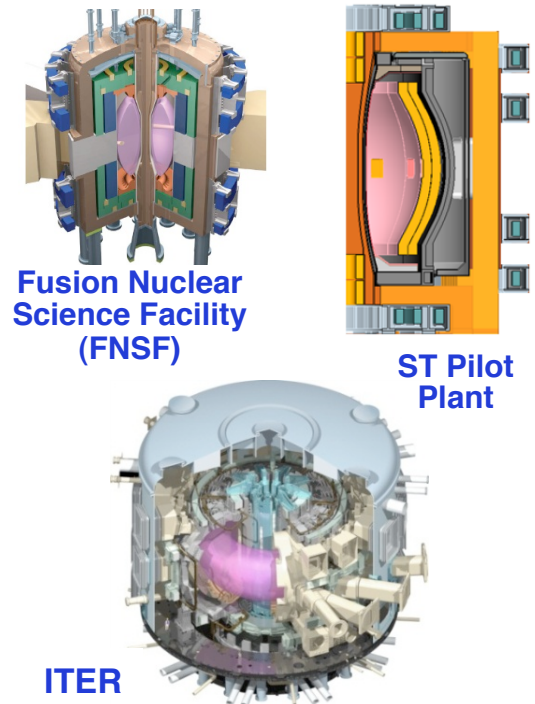


# Plasma-material interface development is key for present and future fusion plasma devices

- Divertor solution** is envisioned for present and future devices (e.g. ITER, ST-FNSF) for **steady-state** power and particle exhaust control
  - Divertor  $q_{peak} < 5-10 \text{ MW/m}^2$ 
    - Large divertor radiated power fractions ( $f_{rad} \leq 0.80$ )

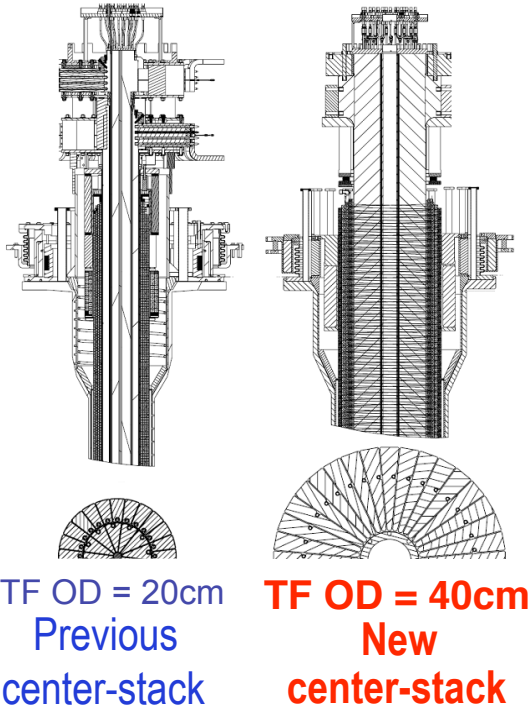
$$q_{peak} \simeq \frac{P_{SOL}(1 - f_{rad})f_{geo} \sin \alpha}{2\pi R_{SP} f_{exp} \lambda_{q_{||}}}$$

- Keep divertor  $T_e$  low to reduce PFC sputtering rate
  - $E_i = 2kT_i + 3Z_i kT_e$
  - $E_i \sim 50 - 300 \text{ eV} \rightarrow Y_C \sim 0.01$
  - Need to obtain  $E_i \leq 20-40 \text{ eV}$  ( $T_e \leq 5 \text{ eV}$ )
- Integration with high-pressure pedestal and core
- Partial divertor strike point detachment is the most promising regime



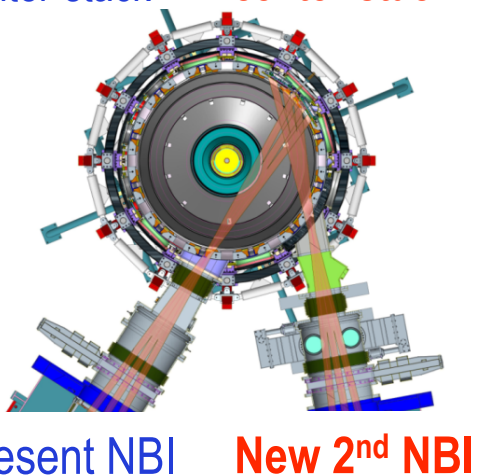
$$A_{wet} = 2\pi R f_{exp} \lambda_{q_{||}}$$

# NSTX Upgrade will address critical plasma confinement and sustainment questions by exploiting 2 new capabilities



## New center-stack

- Reduces  $v^*$  → ST-FNSF values to understand ST confinement
  - Expect 2x higher T by doubling  $B_T$ ,  $I_p$ , and NBI heating power
- Provides 5x longer pulse-length
  - $q(r,t)$  profile equilibration
  - Tests of NBI + BS non-inductive ramp-up and sustainment



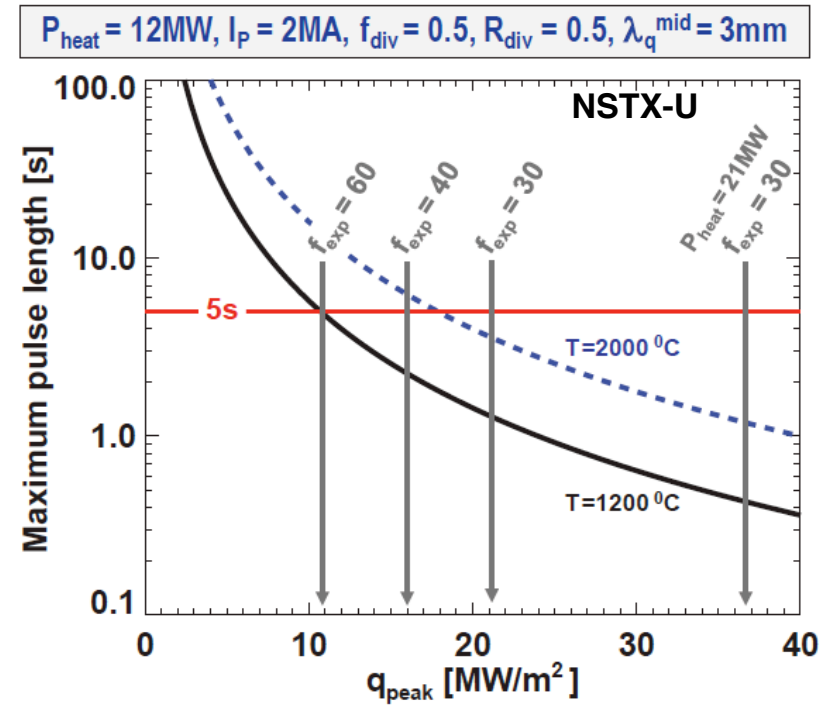
## New 2<sup>nd</sup> NBI

- 2x higher CD efficiency from larger tangency radius  $R_{TAN}$
- 100% non-inductive CD with  $q(r)$  profile controllable by:
  - NBI tangency radius
  - Plasma density
  - Plasma position



# Impurity-seeded radiative divertor with feedback and snowflake geometry are the leading NSTX-U heat flux mitigation candidates

- NSTX-U mission elements:
  - Advance ST as candidate for Fusion Nuclear Science Facility
  - Develop solutions for PMI
  - Advance toroidal confinement physics for ITER and beyond
  - Develop ST as fusion energy system
- Challenge for NSTX-U divertor
  - 2-3 X higher input power
    - $P_{NBI} < 12 \text{ MW}$ ,  $I_p < 2 \text{ MA}$
    - $\lambda_q^{\text{mid}} \sim 3 \text{ mm}$
  - 30-50 % reduction in  $n/n_G$
  - 3-5 X longer pulse duration
- Scenarios with high  $I_p$  and  $P_{NBI}$  are projected to challenge passive cooling limits of graphite divertor PFCs
- Projected NSTX-U peak divertor heat fluxes up to 25-40 MW/m<sup>2</sup>



*R. Maingi (ORNL)*

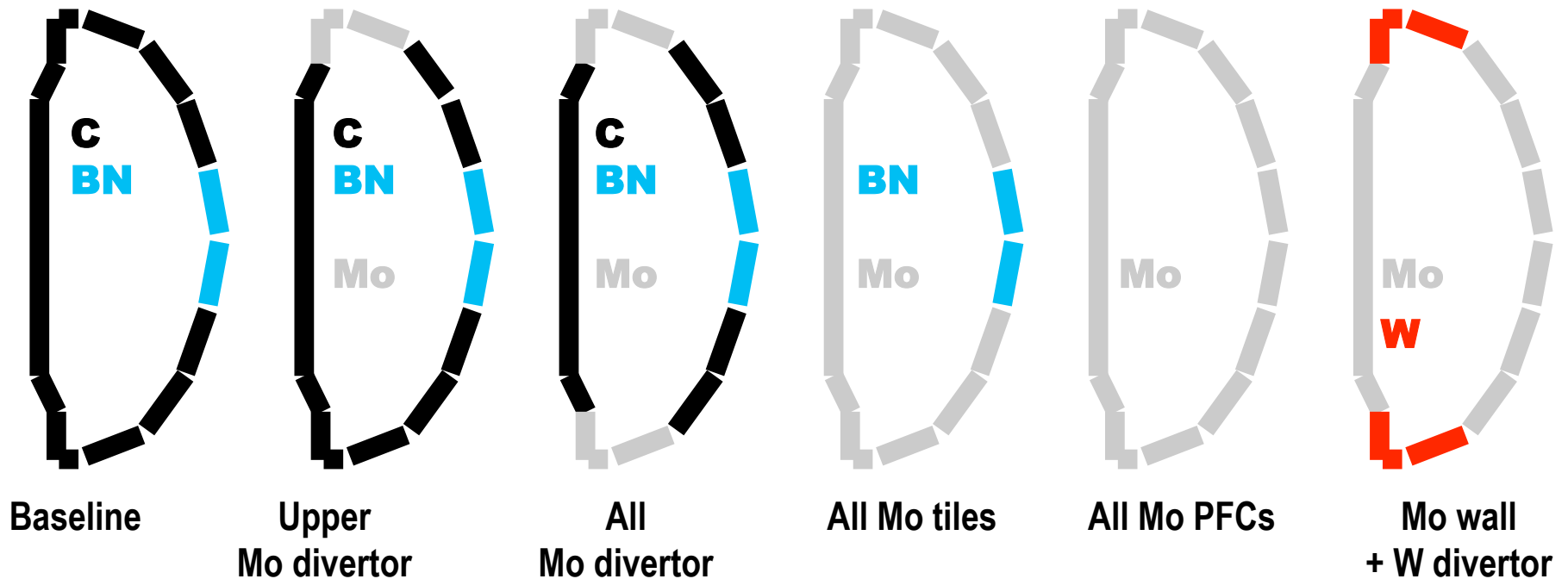


# Plans for divertor power and particle control are developed for NSTX-U

- Particle control objective is
  - Access to reduced core collisionality
    - $n_e \sim 0.6-0.9 n_G$  for transport, stability, start-up, high non-inductive current fraction scenario studies for future STs (e.g., NSTX-Upgrade)
    - $n_e \sim 0.3-0.7 n_G$  for adequate NBI current drive efficiency in scenarios relevant to fusion and nuclear science ST-based devices
  - Long-pulse ion / electron density control
  - Impurity control
- Particle control plans
  - Cryo-pump – see PP8.00030: J. Canik, Physics design of a cryo-pumping system for NSTX-U
  - Lithium coatings – see PP8.00032: M. Jaworski, Collaborative Research and Development on Liquid Metal Plasma Facing Components
- Power control plans – THIS POSTER
  - Snowflake divertor configuration
  - Radiative divertor with impurity seeding and feedback control



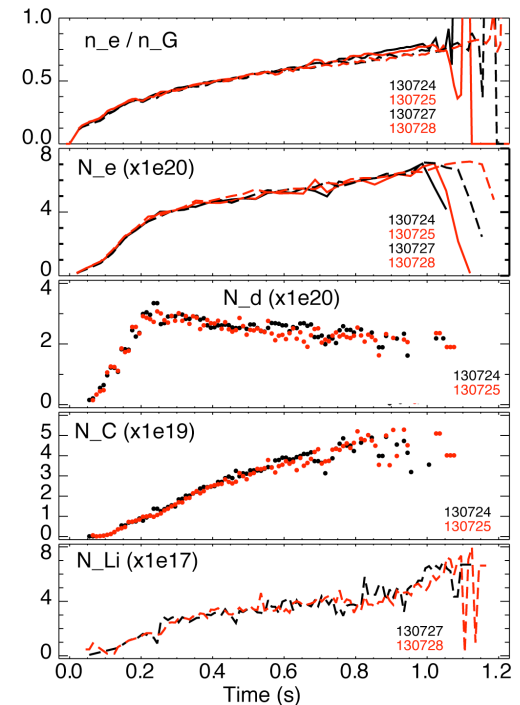
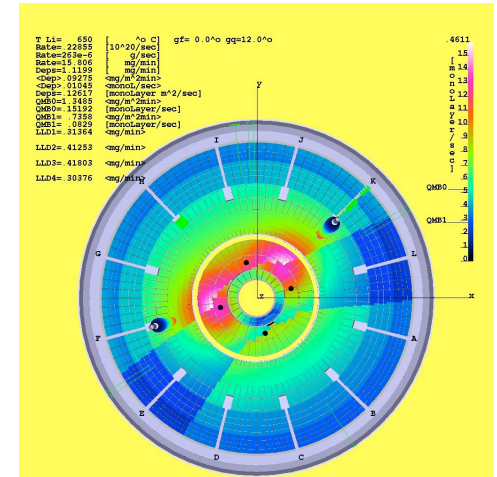
# Divertor heat flux mitigation options are affected by NSTX-U plasma-facing component development plan



- Developing PFC plan to transition to full metal coverage for FNSF-relevant PMI development
- Wall conditioning: GDC, lithium and / or boron
- PFC bake-out at 300-350°C
- Divertor impurity seeding:
  - Graphite PFCs compatible with  $D_2$ ,  $CD_4$ , Ne, Ar
  - Molybdenum PFCs compatible with  $D_2$ ,  $CD_4$ ,  $N_2$ , Ne, Ar

# Evaporated lithium coatings on graphite plasma-facing components are envisioned for density control in NSTX-U

- Surface pumping reduced ion inventory (density) by up to 50 %
- Recycling reduced by up to 50 % in both divertors and wall
- Local recycling coefficients reduced on inner wall and far SOL, remained similar in the outer strike point region
- Parallel heat transport regime in the SOL changes from conduction-limited to sheath-limited (low-recycling)
- Core lithium density low, uncorrelated with divertor source
- Lithium can potentially be used for highly radiative divertor power exhaust solutions – see
  - PP8.00031: T. Rognlien, A mechanism for large divertor plasma energy loss via lithium radiation in tokamaks
  - PP8.00032: M. Jaworski, Collaborative Research and Development on Liquid Metal Plasma Facing Components

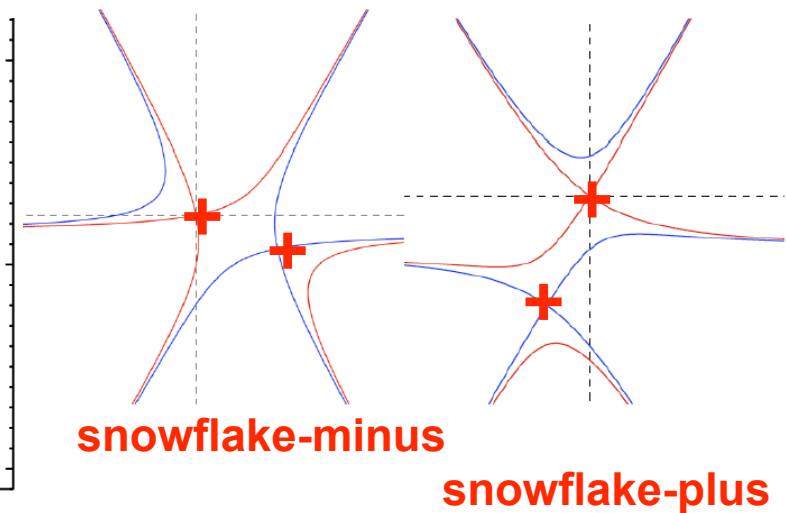
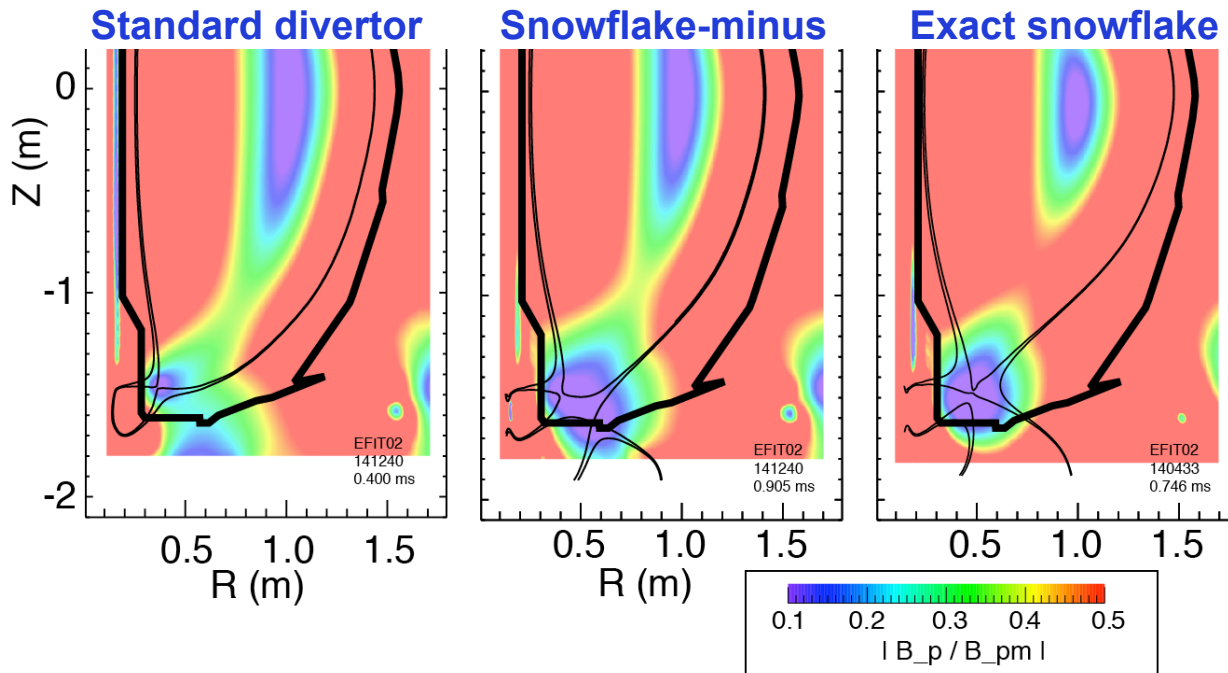
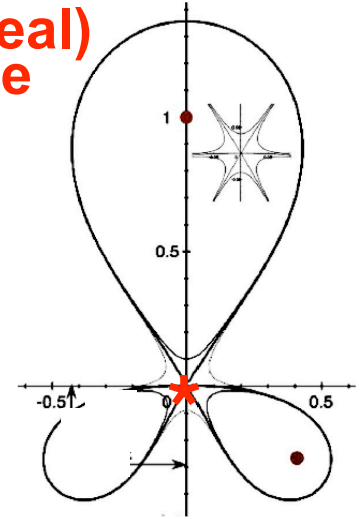




# Snowflake divertor geometry takes advantage of second-order poloidal field null properties

- Snowflake divertor configuration
  - Second-order null
    - $B_p \sim 0$  and  $\text{grad } B_p \sim 0$  (Cf. first-order null:  $B_p \sim 0$ )
  - Obtained with existing divertor coils (min. 2)
  - Exact snowflake topologically unstable
  - Deviation from ideal snowflake:  $\sigma = d / a$ 
    - $d$  – distance between nulls,  $a$  – plasma minor radius

Exact (ideal) snowflake



D. D. Ryutov, PoP 14, 064502 2007  
EPS 2012 Invited, subm. to PPCF

# Snowflake divertor geometry has benefits over standard X-point divertor geometry

- Predicted geometry properties in snowflake divertor (cf. standard divertor)
  - Increased edge shear :ped. stability
  - Add'l null: H-mode power threshold, ion loss
  - Larger plasma wetted-area  $A_{wet}$  : reduce  $q_{div}$
  - Four strike points : share  $q_{||}$
  - Larger X-point connection length  $L_x$  : reduce  $q_{||}$
  - Larger effective divertor volume  $V_{div}$  : incr.  $P_{rad}$ ,  $P_{CX}$

$$q_{pk} \simeq \frac{P_{heat} (1 - f_{rad}) f_{out/tot} f_{down/tot} (1 - f_{pfr}) \sin \alpha}{2\pi R_{SP} f_{exp} \lambda_{q_{||}}}$$

$$f_{exp} = \frac{(B_p/B_{tot})_{MP}}{(B_p/B_{tot})_{OSP}}$$

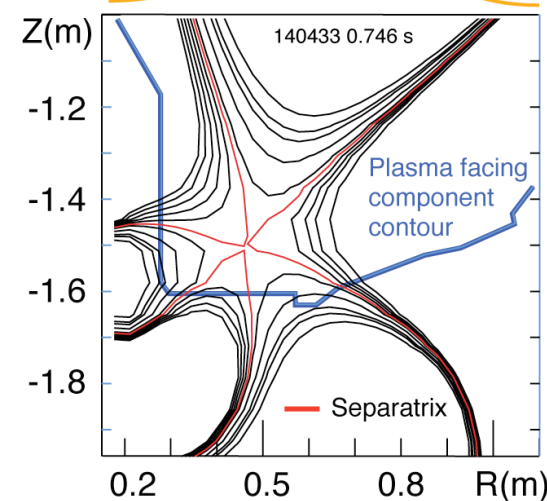
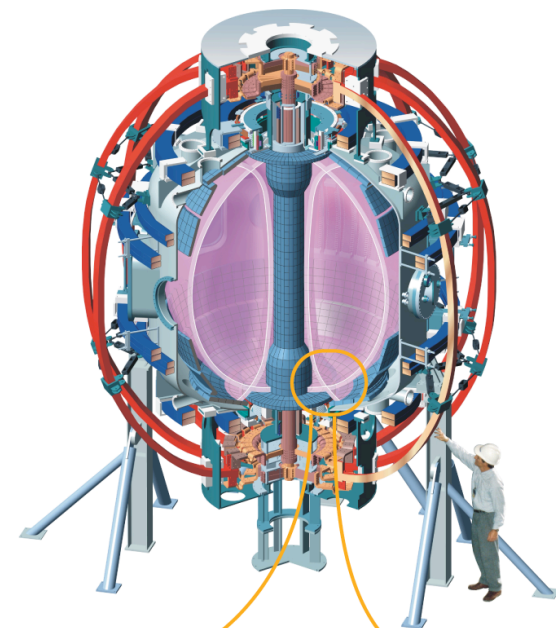
D. D. Ryutov, PoP 14, 064502 2007

$$A_{wet} = 2\pi R f_{exp} \lambda_{q_{||}}$$



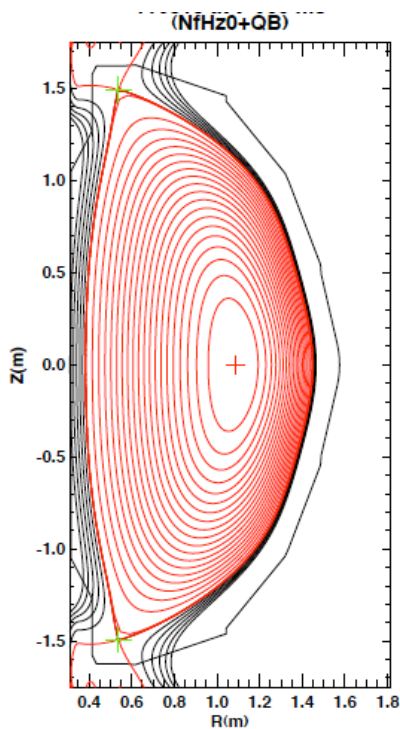
# Snowflake divertor is a promising solution for mitigating divertor heat loads, and projects favorably to future fusion devices

- Snowflake divertor configuration in NSTX
  - Core H-mode confinement unaffected, core carbon concentration reduced
  - Pedestal stability modified: suppressed Type I ELMs re-appeared
  - Divertor heat flux significantly reduced
    - Between-ELM reduction due to geometry and radiative detachment
    - ELM heat flux reduction due to power sharing between strike points, radiation and geometry
- Snowflake divertor is a leading candidate for NSTX-U
  - Divertor coils enable a variety of snowflakes
  - In 2 MA, 12 MW NBI-heated discharges
    - SOL power width  $\lambda_{SOL} = 3$  mm projected
    - $q_{div} \leq 15 - 25$  MW/m<sup>2</sup> projected in standard divertor
    - $q_{div} \leq 3$  MW/m<sup>2</sup> projected in snowflake divertor

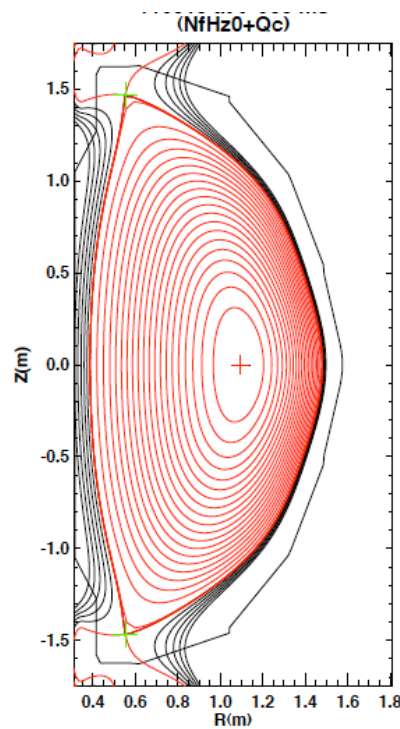


# Snowflake divertor is a leading heat flux mitigation candidate for NSTX-U

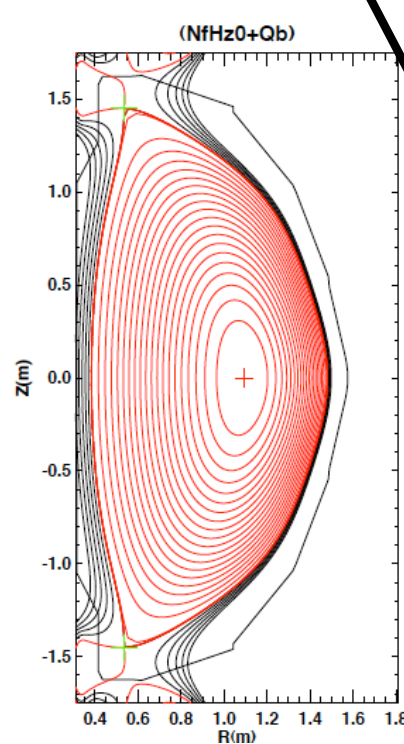
- Single and double-null radiative divertors and upper-lower snowflake configurations considered
  - Supported by NSTX-U divertor coils and compatible with coil current limits
  - ISOLVER modeling shows many possible equilibria
    - Impact of changing  $I_{OH}$  on snowflake minimal
    - Reduced divertor coil set can be used for snowflakes



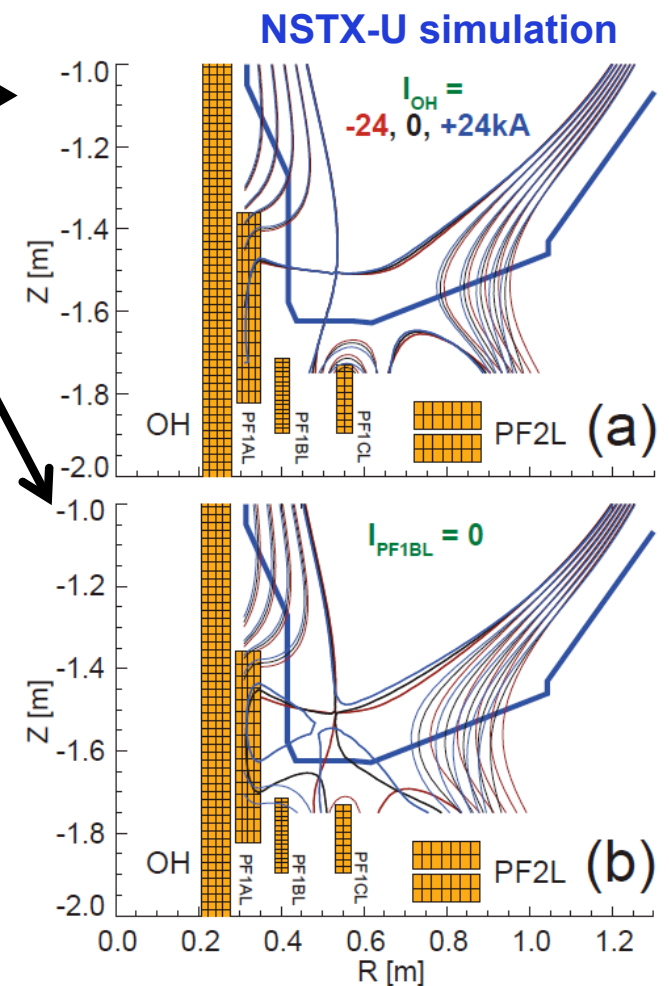
NSTX-U double-null



NSTX-U double-snowflake-plus



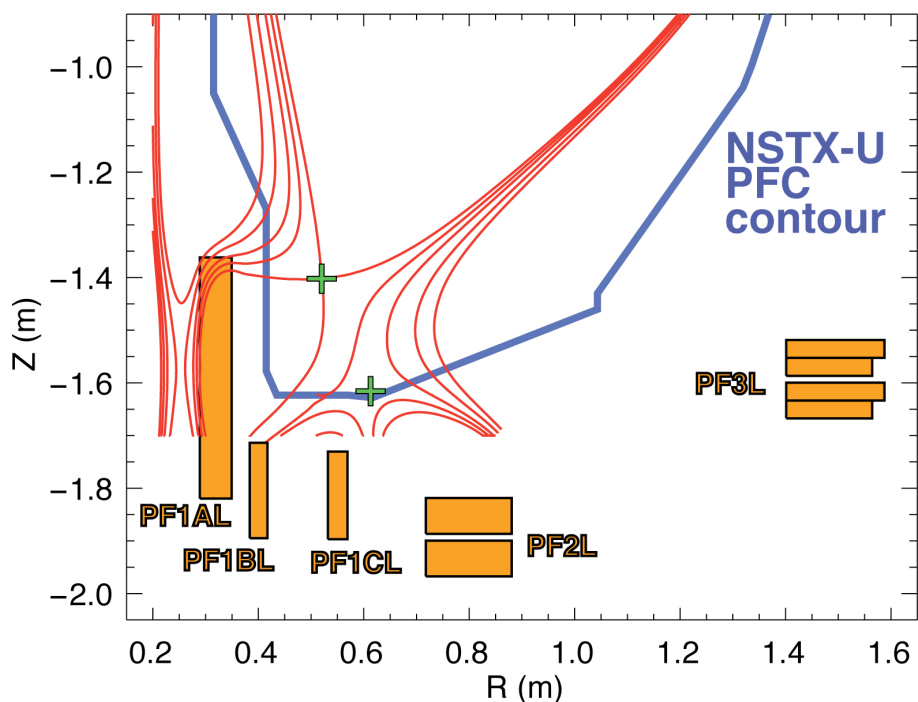
NSTX-U double-snowflake-minus





# Four divertor coils should enable flexibility in boundary shaping and control in NSTX-U

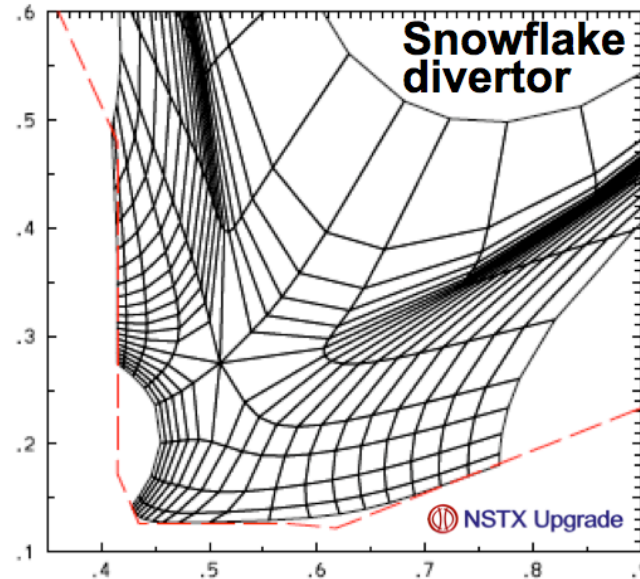
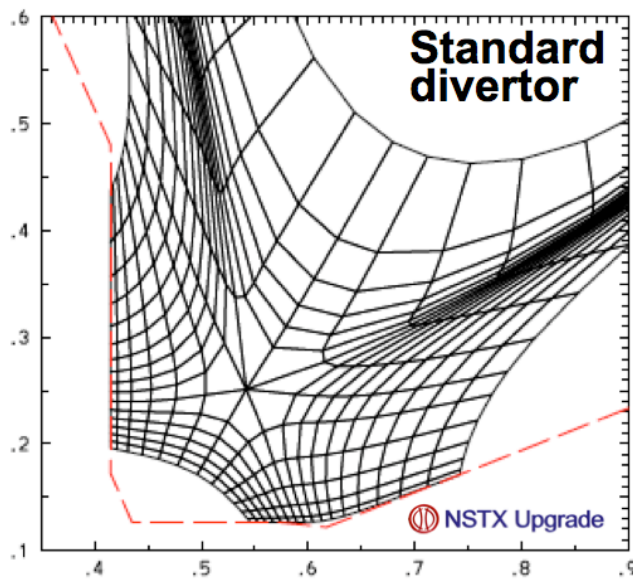
- A variety of lower and both lower and upper divertor snowflake configurations are possible in NSTX-U with four coils per divertor
  - ISOLVER free-boundary Grad-Shafranov solver used
  - Four coils can be used to control up to four parameters (X-pts, OSP, etc)



Midplane flux surface	0.0	1.5 mm	3.0 mm	6.0 mm	9.0 mm
$L_{tot}$ (m)	38.3	20.4	13.9	9.9	8.3
$L_x$ (m)	16.5	4.0	2.2	1.6	1.5
Angle (deg.)	1.6	0.8	0.99	3.0	3.9

- X 2-3 in plasma wetted surface area and connection length vs standard divertor

# Multi-fluid two-dimensional model using UEDGE code is developed for snowflake and radiative divertors

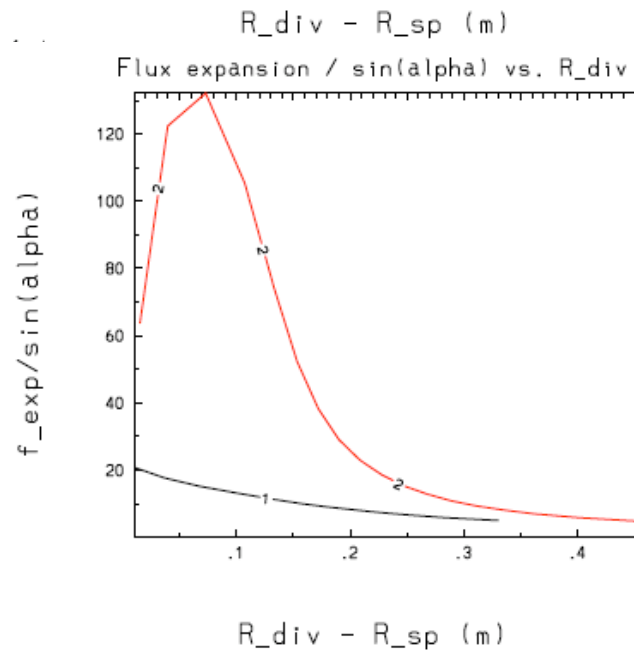
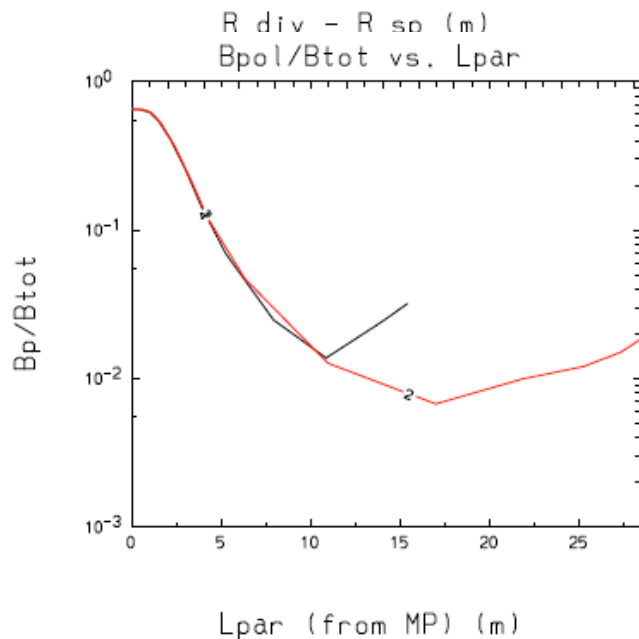
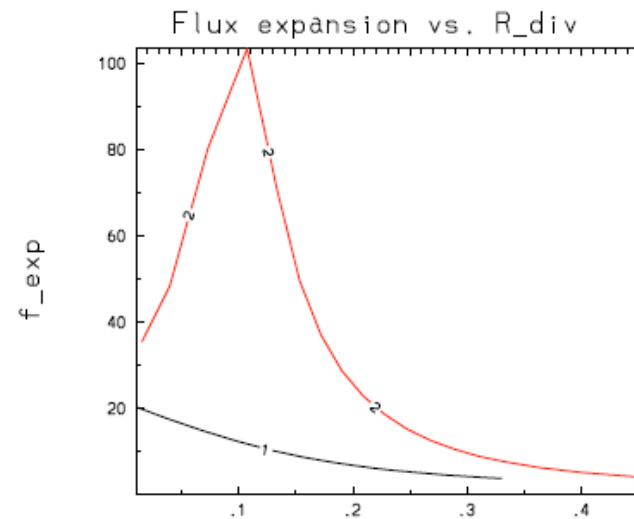
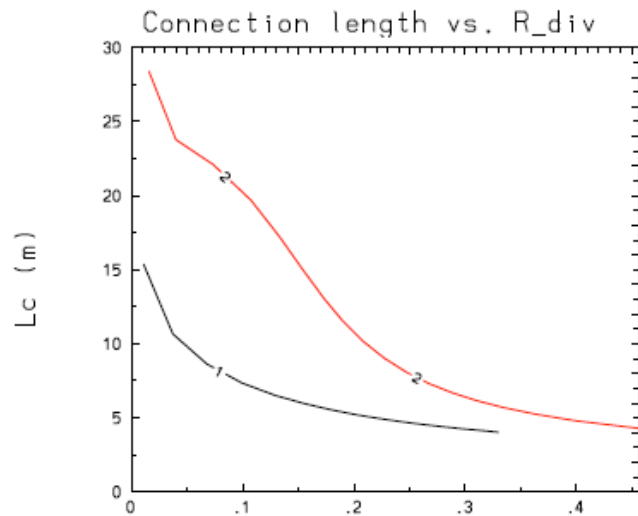


- See PP8.00028: E. T. Meier, UEDGE modeling of NSTX and NSTX-U snowflake divertor configurations

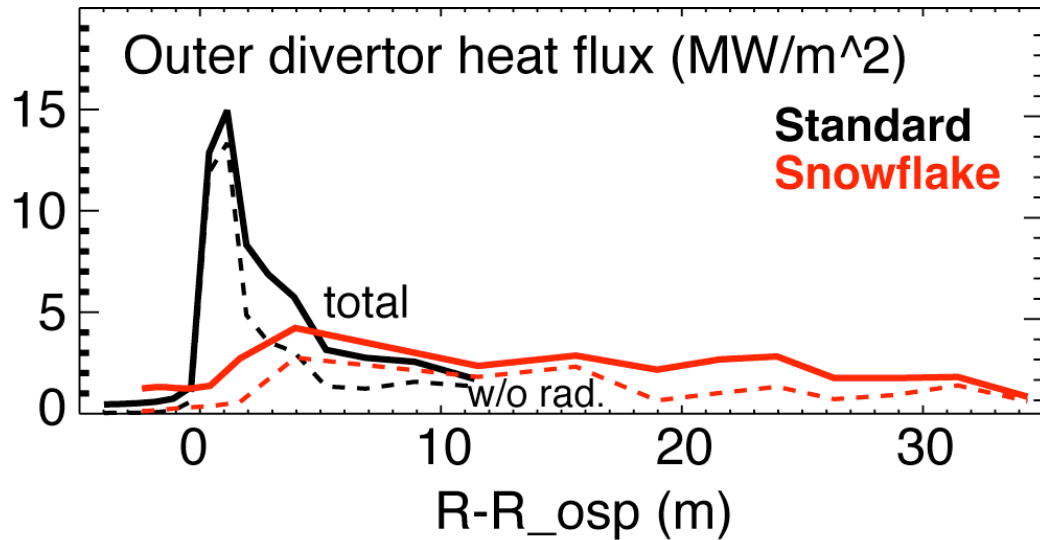
- Fluid (Braginskii) model for ions and electrons
- Fluid for neutrals
- Classical parallel transport, anomalous radial transport
- Core interface:
  - $P_{SOL90} = 5; 7; 9$  MW
- $D = 0.1-0.5$  m<sup>2</sup>/s
- $\chi_{e,i} = 1-2$  m<sup>2</sup>/s
- $R_{recy} = 0.99$
- Carbon 5 %

- Grids extend from  $\psi=0.9$  to  $\psi=1.2$
- STD grid covers 3.1 cm outside the separatrix at the outer MP
- SNF grid covers 3.4 cm outside the separatrix at the outer MP.

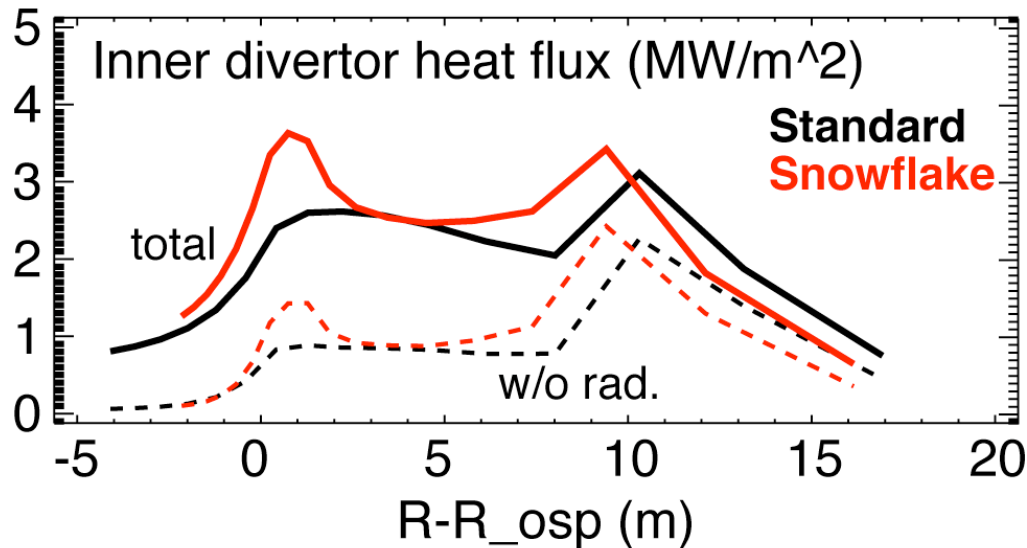
# In modeled NSTX-U snowflake configuration magnetic geometry shows clear benefits (cf. standard divertor)



# UEDGE predicts significant divertor heat flux reduction and attached conditions in NSTX-U at 12 MW NBI heating

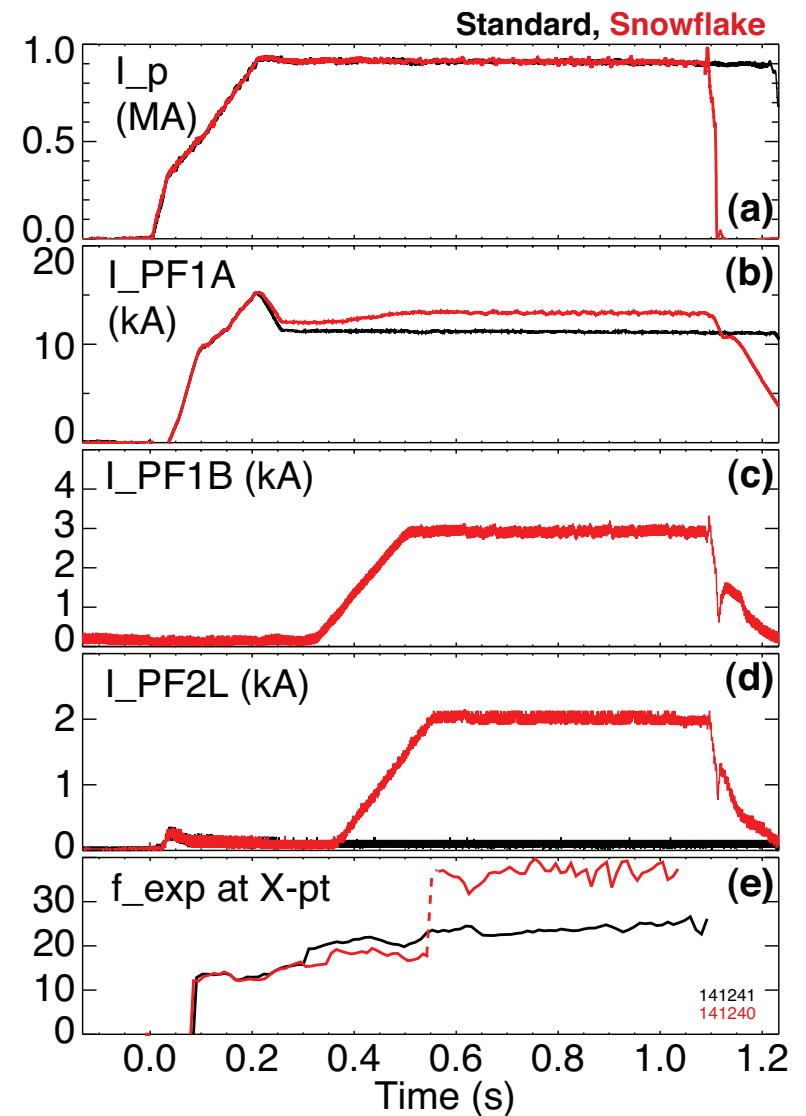
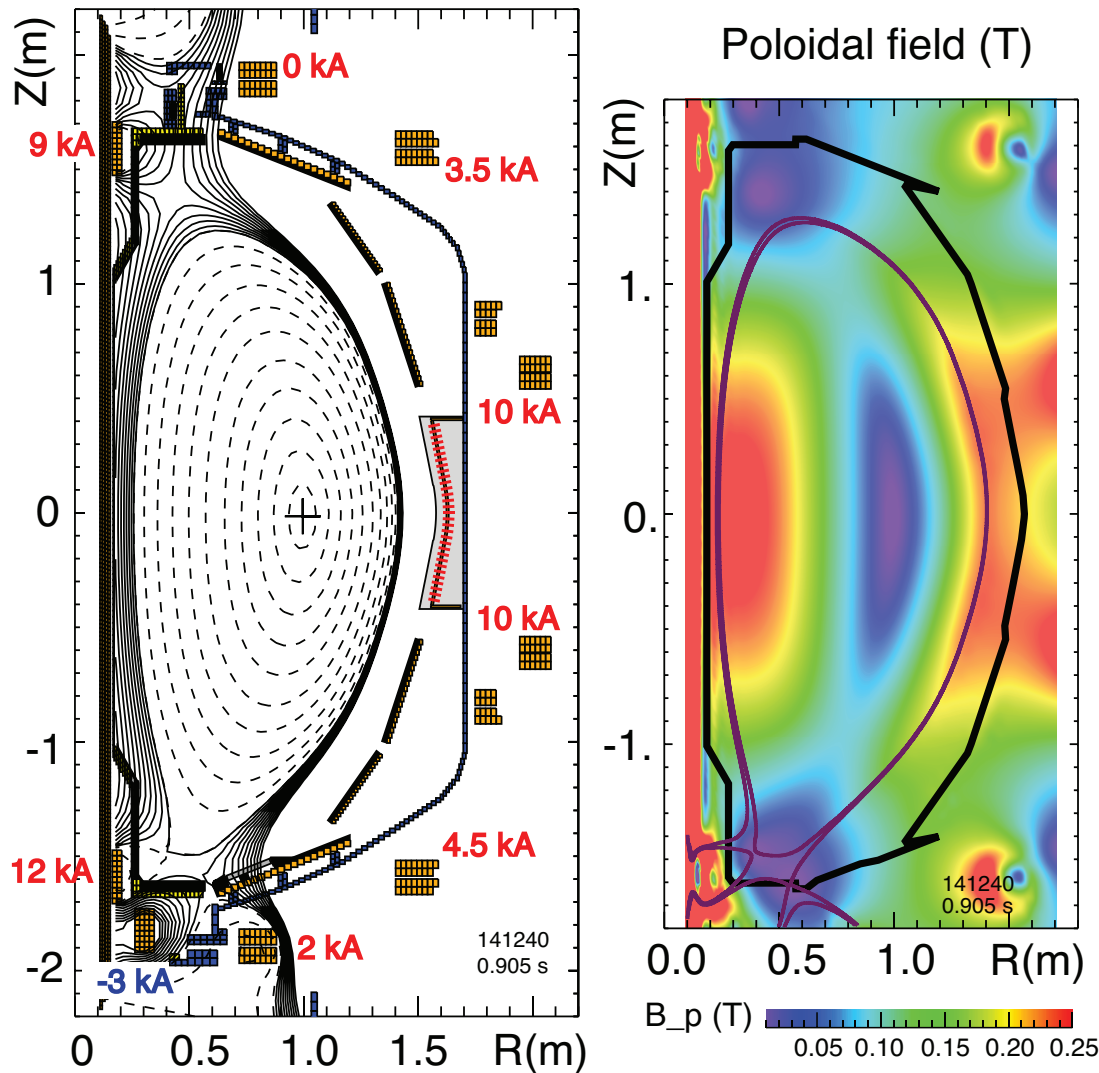


- Predictions for 12 MW NBI case
  - $P_{SOL}=9$  MW
  - Outer divertor attached
    - $T_e, T_i \leq 80$  eV
  - Inner divertor detached



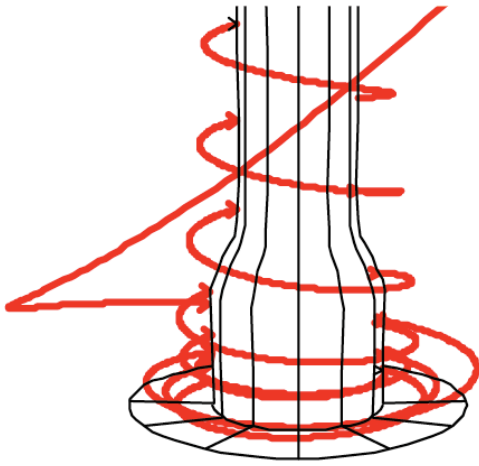


# Snowflake divertor configurations obtained with existing divertor coils, maintained for up to $10 \tau_E$



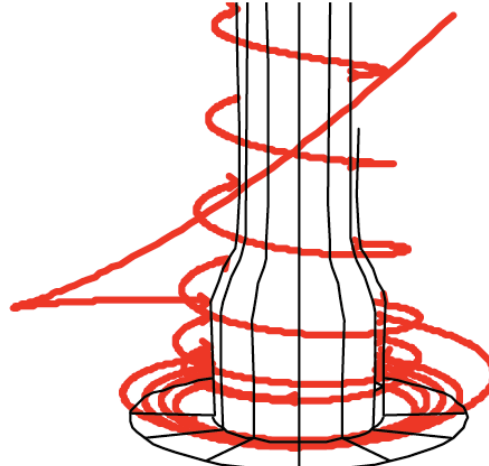
# Plasma-wetted area and connection length are increased by 50-90 % in snowflake divertor

Standard divertor



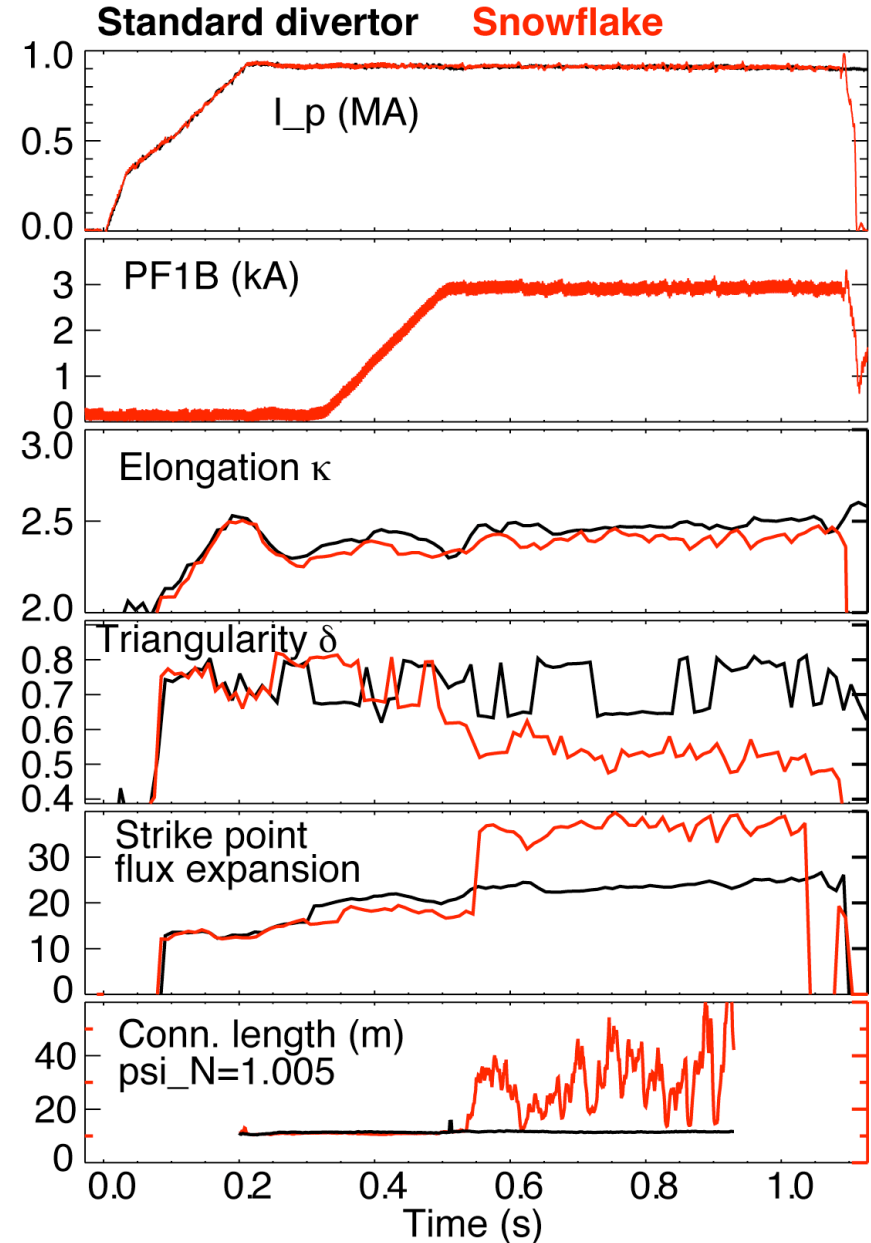
Shot 141241, EFIT02,  
time: 0.905 s,  
normalized flux: 1.005

Snowflake-minus

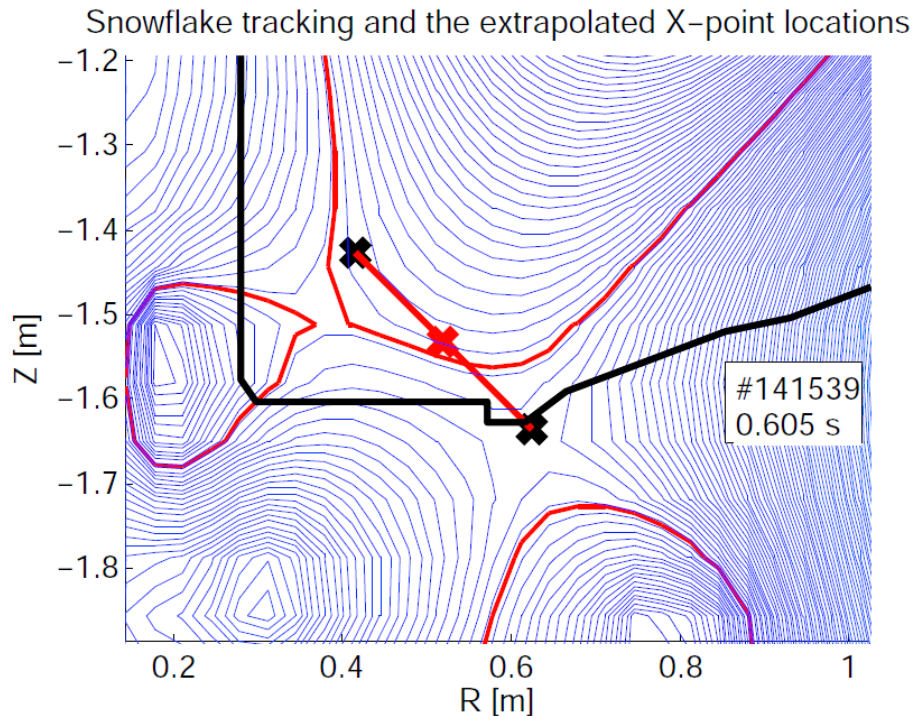


Shot 141240, EFIT02,  
time: 0.905 s,  
normalized flux: 1.005

- These properties observed in first 30-50 % of SOL width
- $B_{tot}$  angles in the strike point region: 1-2°, sometimes < 1°



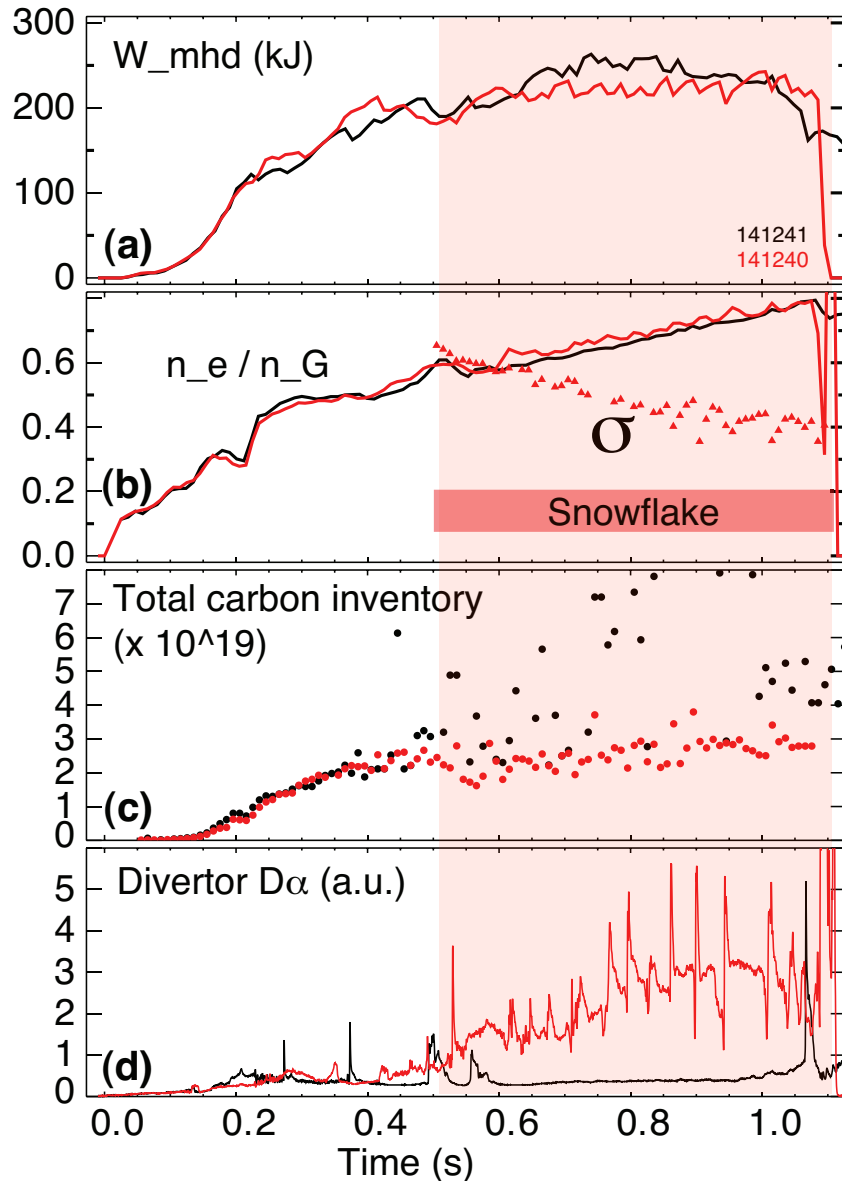
# Close-loop feedback control of divertor coil currents is desirable for steady-state snowflake



M.A. Makowski & D. Ryutov, “X-Point Tracking Algorithm for the Snowflake Divertor”

- All configurations are obtained reproducibly under feed-forward control in NSTX
- In NSTX
  - Developed X-point tracking algorithm that locates nulls and centroid
  - Algorithm tested on NSTX snowflakes successfully
  - Implementing snowflake control in digital plasma control system

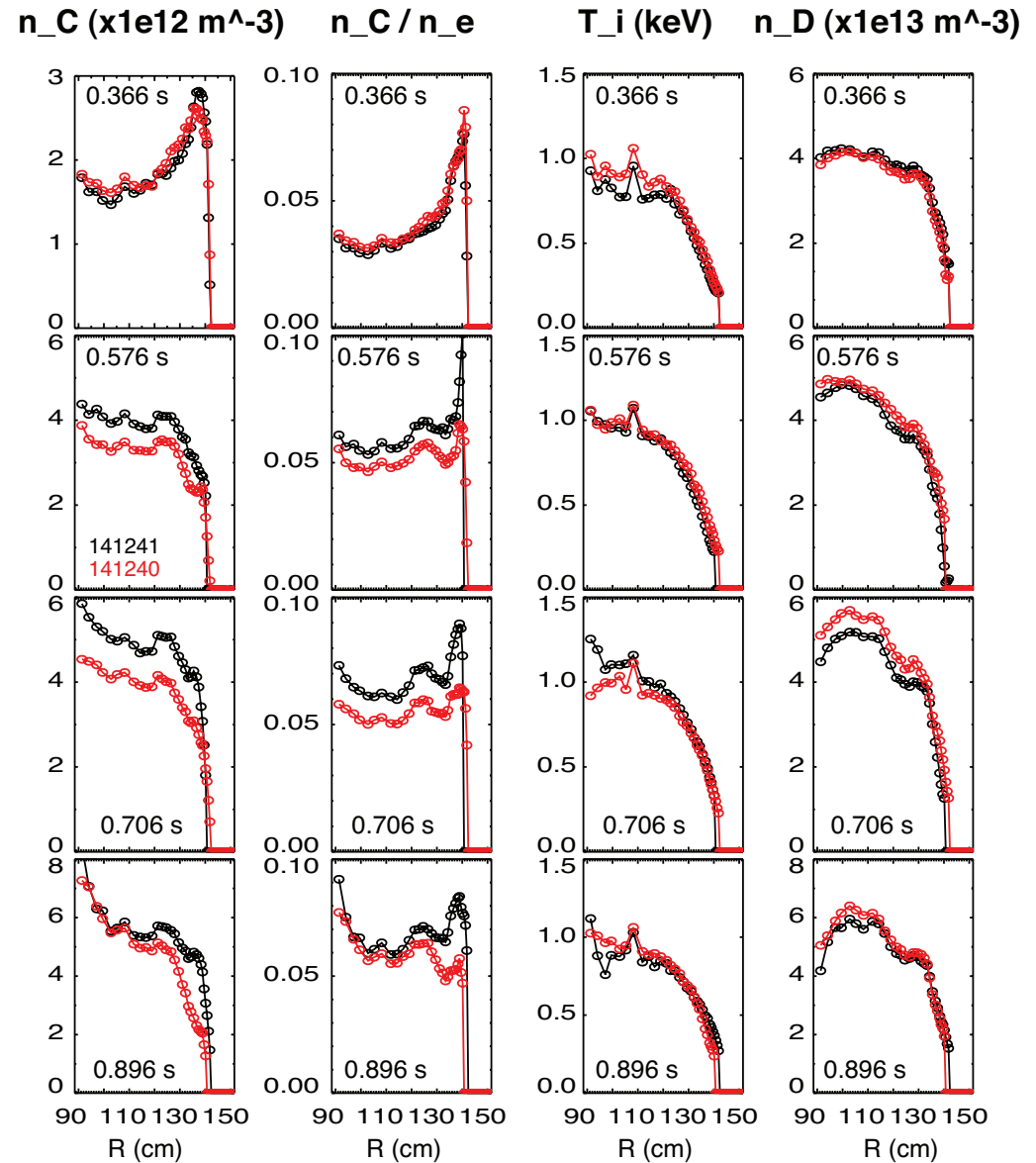
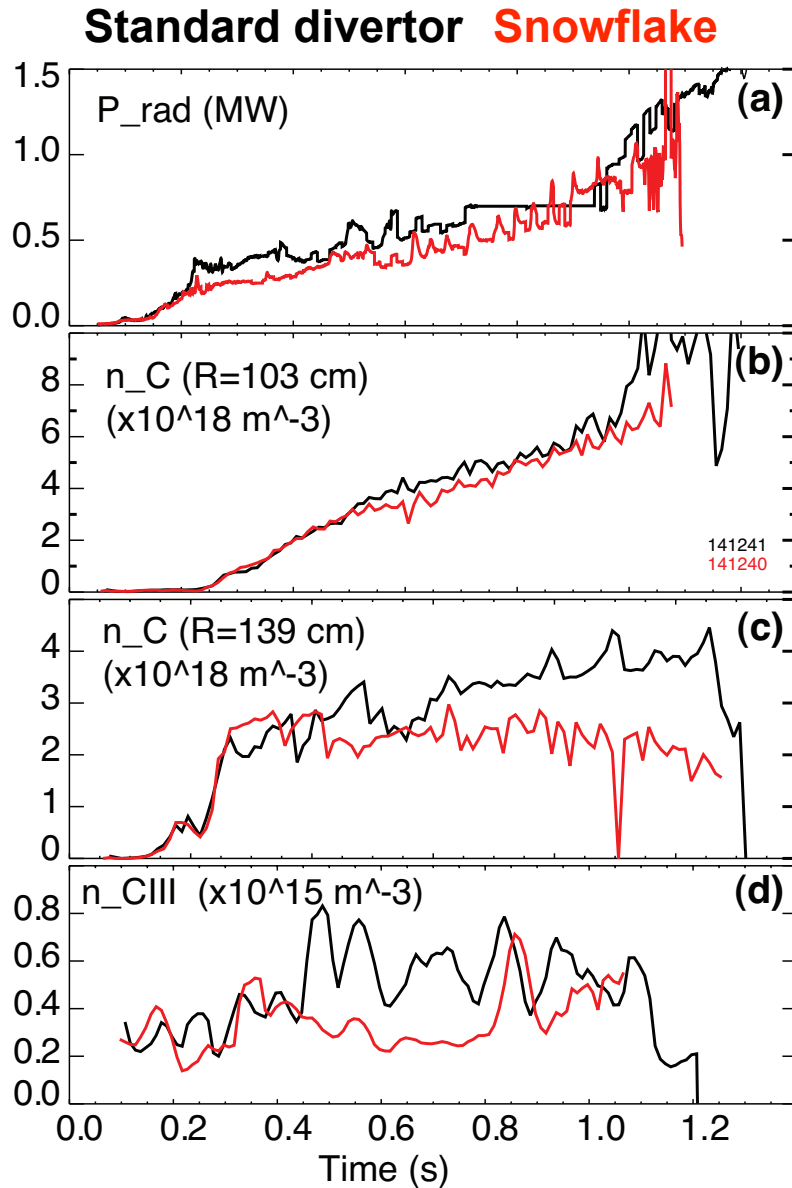
# Good H-mode confinement properties and core impurity reduction obtained with snowflake divertor



- 0.8 MA, 4 MW H-mode
- $\kappa=2.1$ ,  $\delta=0.8$
- Core  $T_e \sim 0.8-1$  keV,  $T_i \sim 1$  keV
- $\beta_N \sim 4-5$
- Plasma stored energy  $\sim 250$  kJ
- H98(y,2)  $\sim 1$  (from TRANSP)
- ELMs
  - Suppressed in standard divertor H-mode via lithium conditioning
  - Re-appeared in snowflake H-mode
- Core carbon reduction due to
  - Type I ELMs
  - Edge source reduction
    - Divertor sputtering rates reduced due to partial detachment

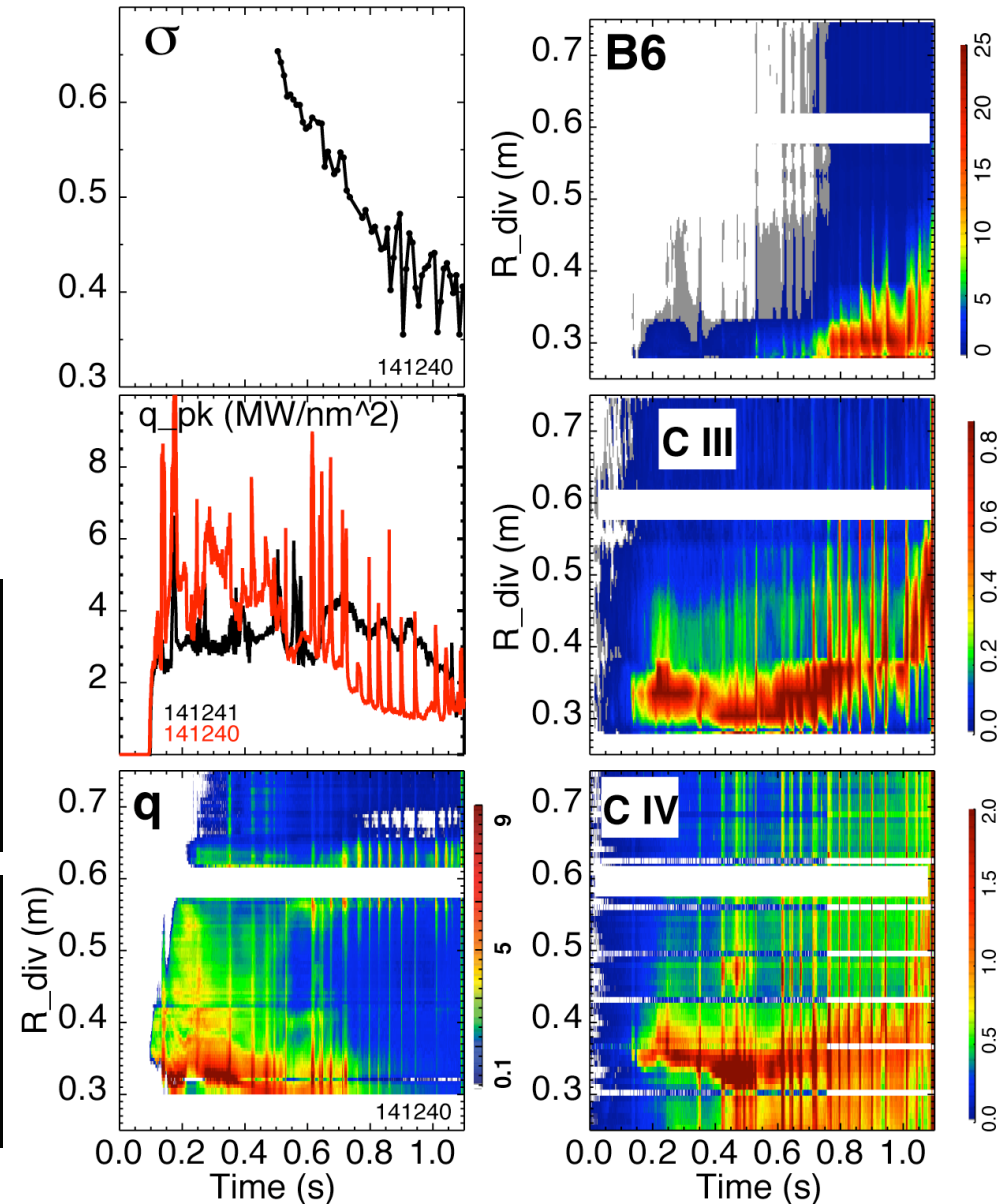
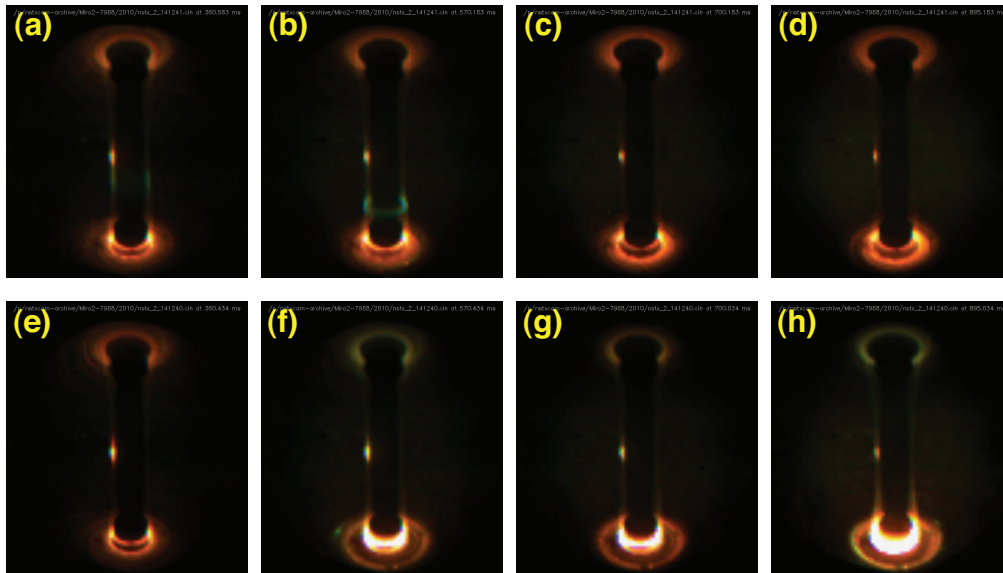


# Core carbon density significantly reduced with snowflake divertor

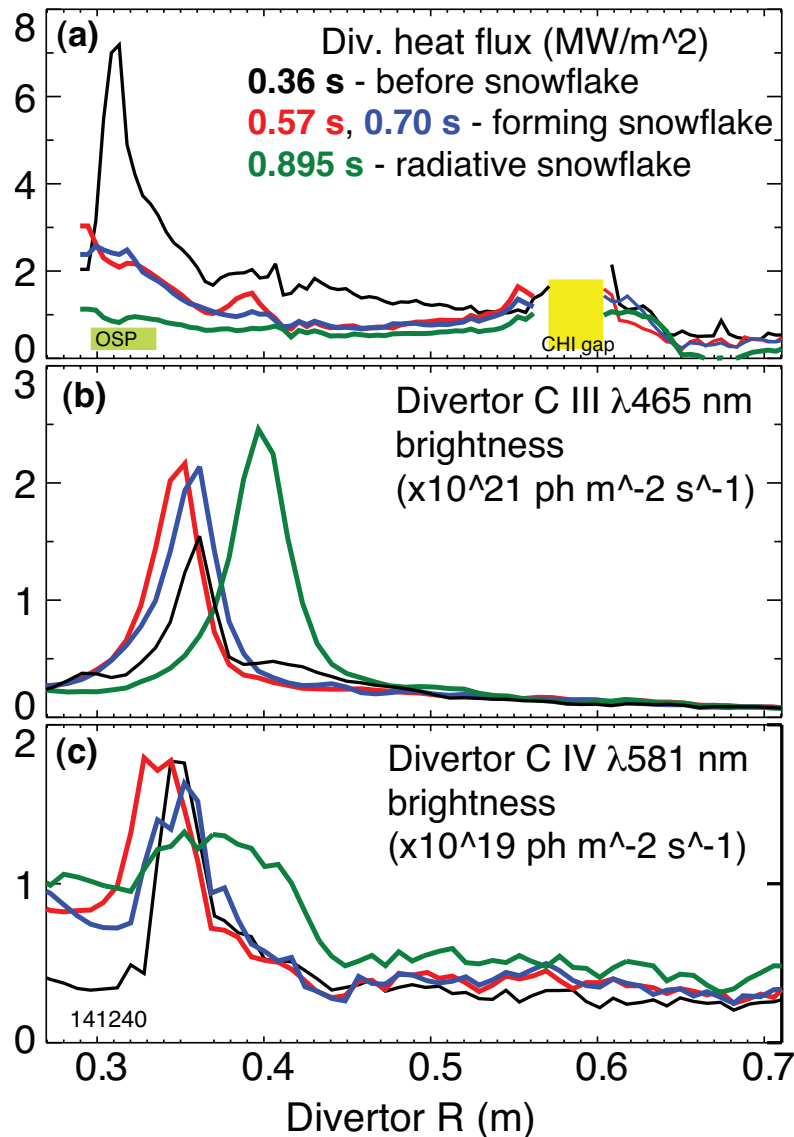


# Radiative detachment with strong recombination and high radiated power observed in snowflake divertor

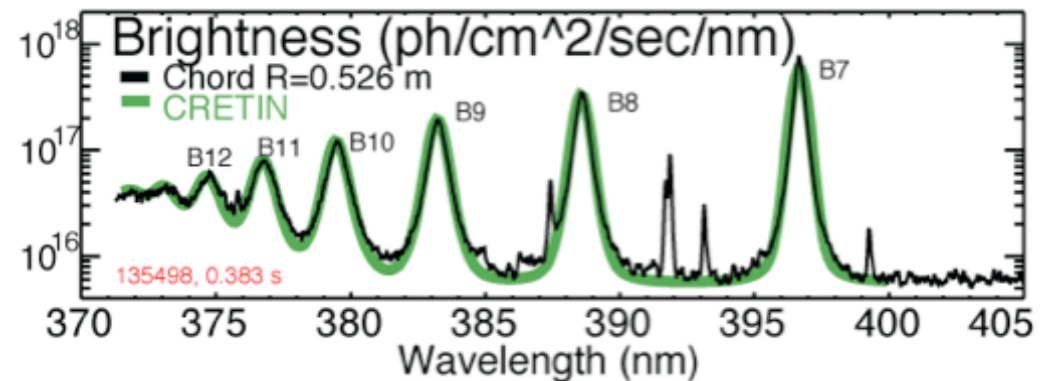
- Attached standard divertor - snowflake transition - snowflake + detachment
- $P_{\text{SOL}} \sim 3 \text{ MW}$  ( $P_{\text{NBI}} = 4 \text{ MW}$ )
- $Q_{\text{div}} \sim 2 \text{ MW} \rightarrow Q_{\text{div}} \sim 1.2 \text{ MW}$   
 $\rightarrow Q_{\text{div}} \sim 0.5\text{-}0.7 \text{ MW}$



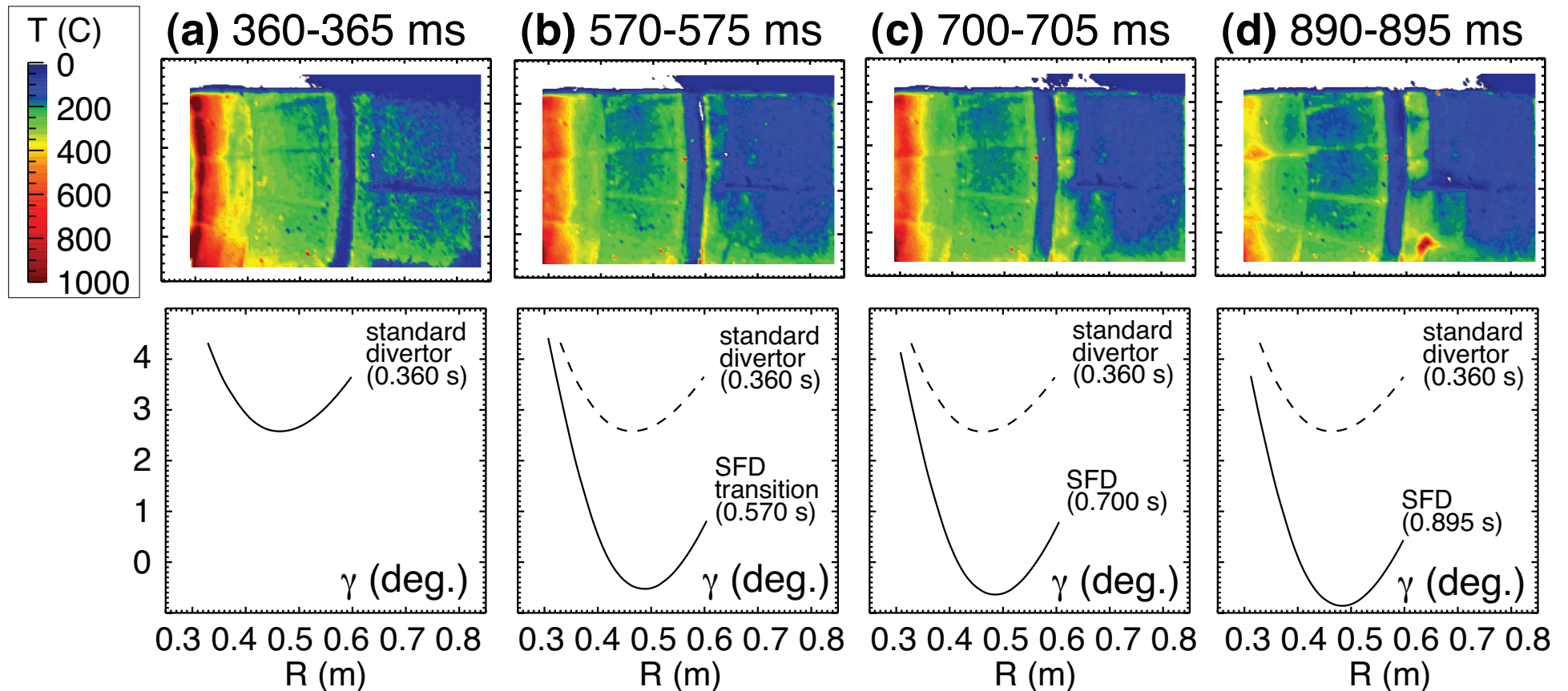
# Divertor profiles show low heat flux, broadened C III and C IV radiation zones in the snowflake divertor phase



- Heat flux profiles reduced to nearly flat low levels, characteristic of radiative heating
- Divertor C III and C IV brightness profiles broaden
- High- $n$  Balmer line spectroscopy and CRETIN code modeling confirm outer SP detachment with  $T_e \leq 1.5$  eV,  $n_e \leq 5 \times 10^{20}$  m<sup>-3</sup>
  - Also suggests a reduction of carbon physical and chemical sputtering rates



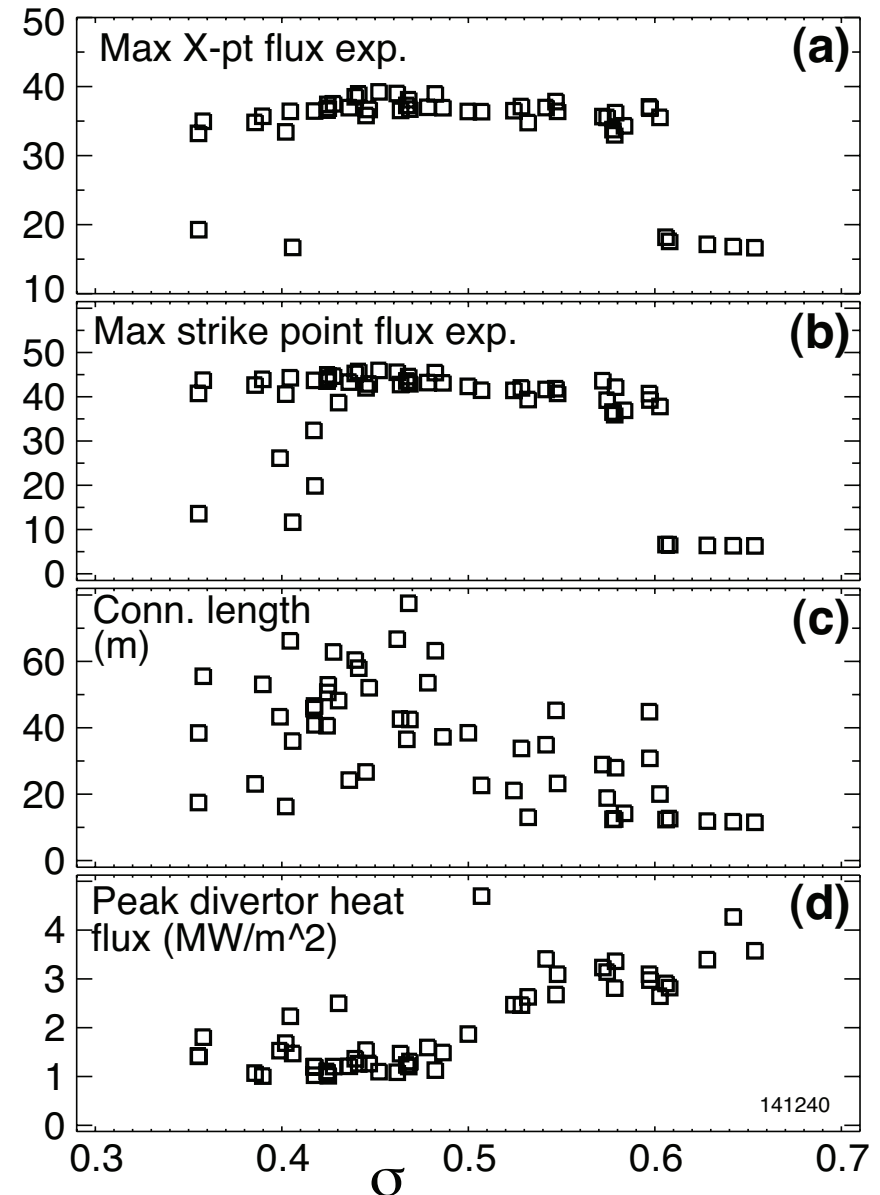
# No leading edge PFC tile heating observed at shallow magnetic field incidence angles



- Reduction of  $q_{\parallel}$  due to radiative detachment is considered

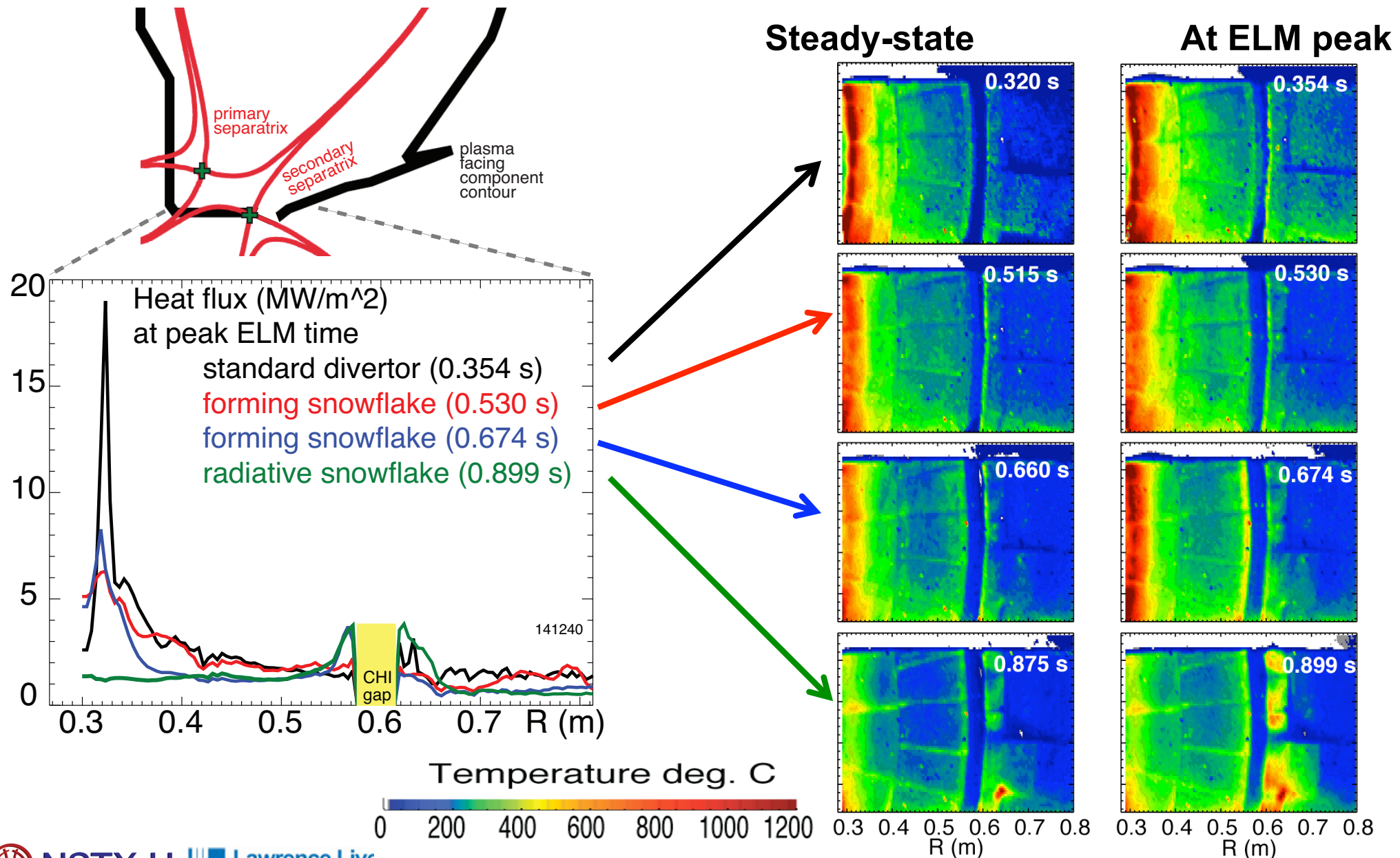
# Peak divertor heat flux decreases with stronger snowflake effects (lower $\sigma$ )

- Deviation from ideal snowflake:  $\sigma = d / a$ 
  - $d$  – distance between nulls,  
 $a$  – plasma minor radius
- Clear trends of flux expansion, connection length, and peak heat flux with  $\sigma$  observed





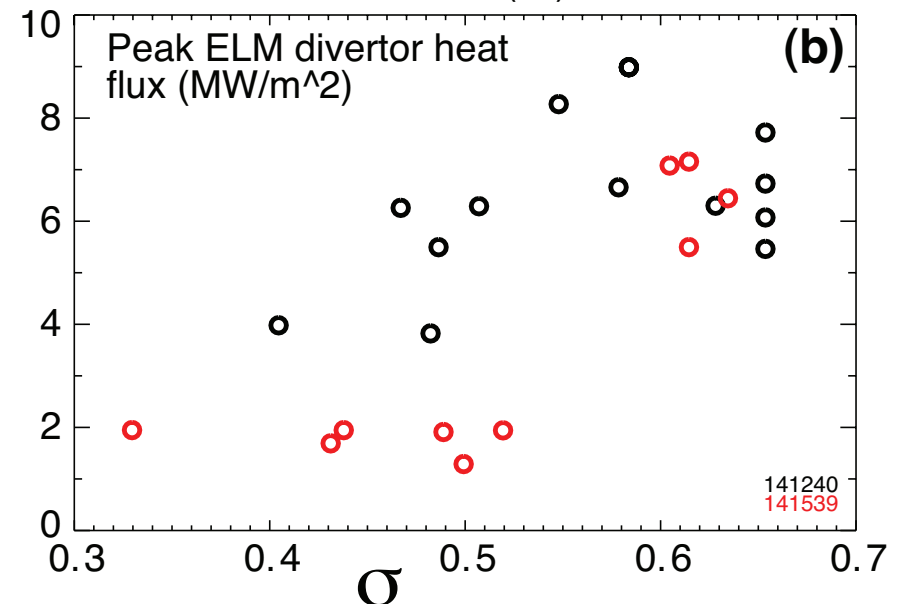
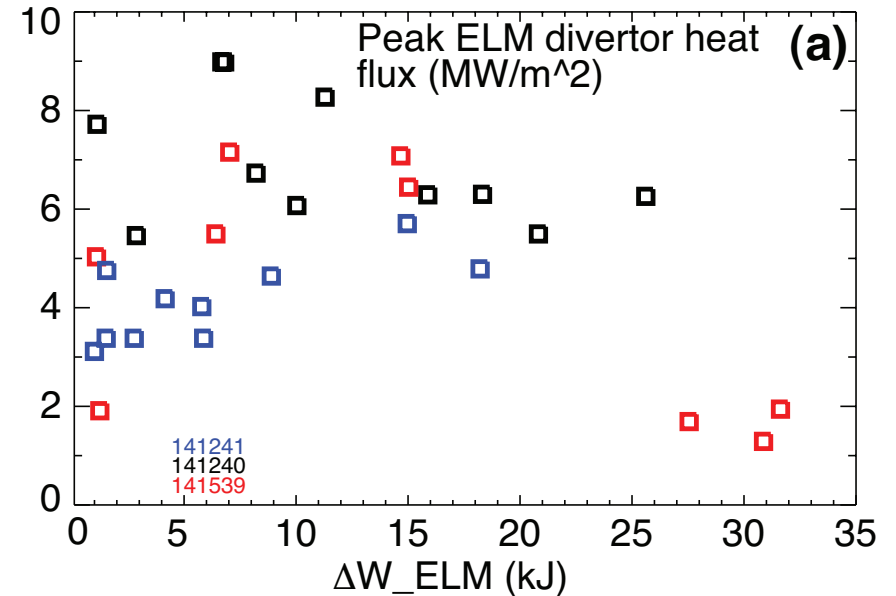
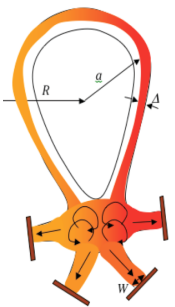
# Impulsive heat loads due to Type I ELMs are mitigated in snowflake divertor



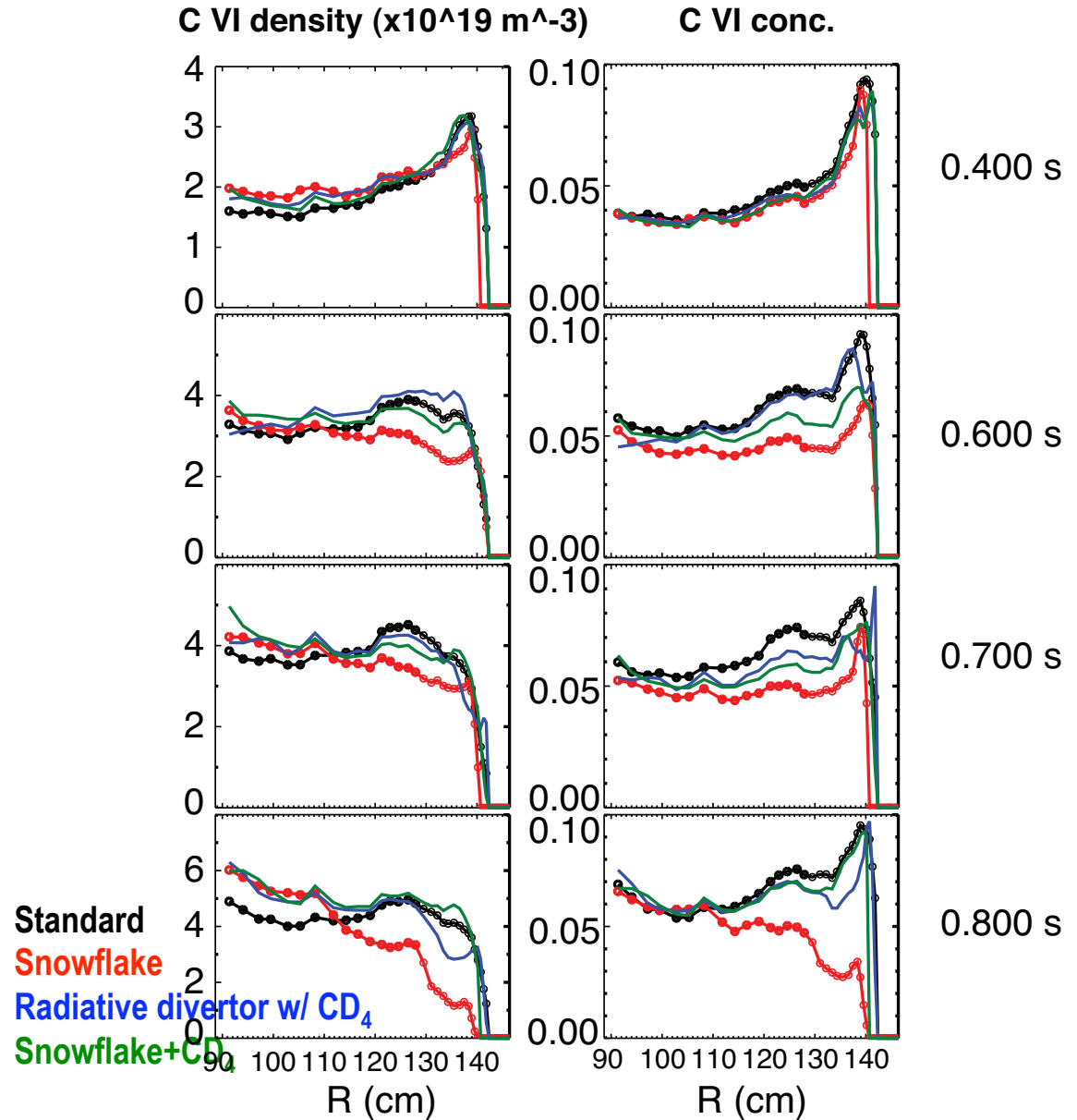
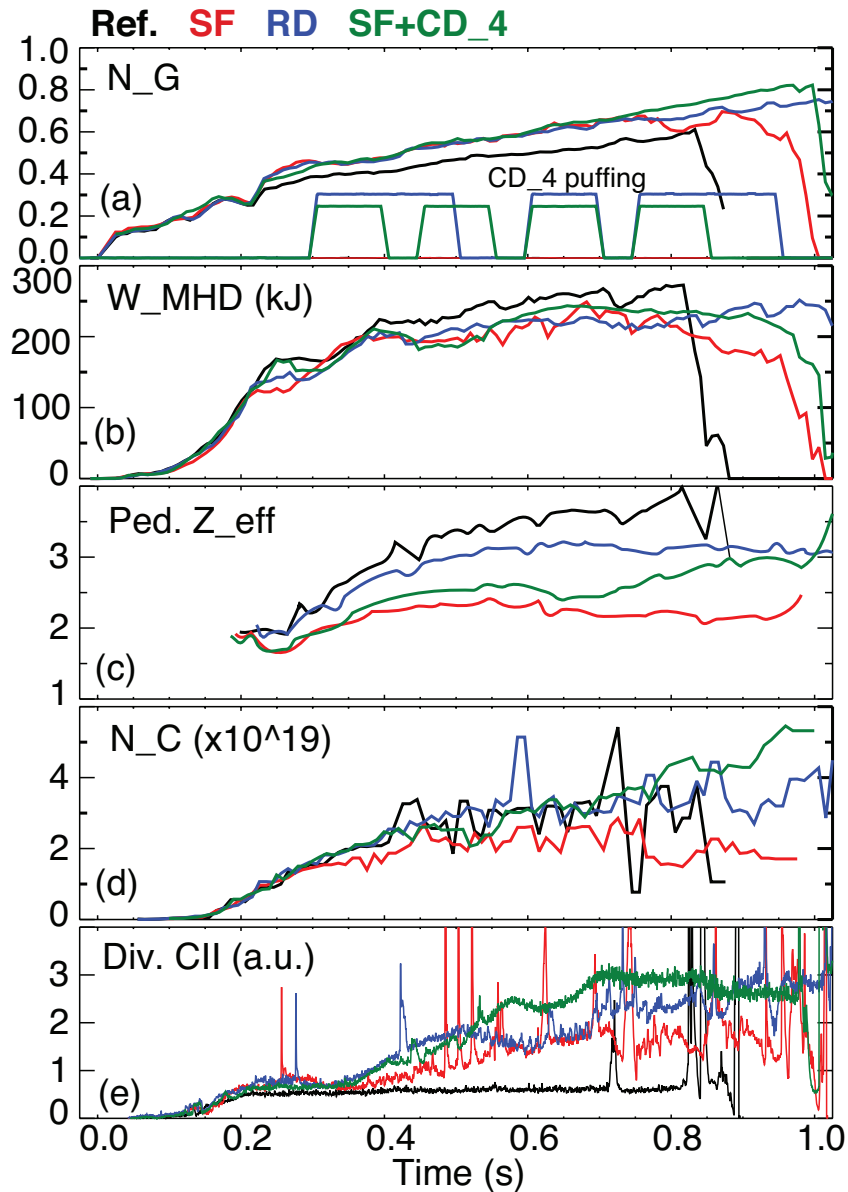


# ELM peak heat flux strongly decreases with stronger snowflake effects (lower $\sigma$ )

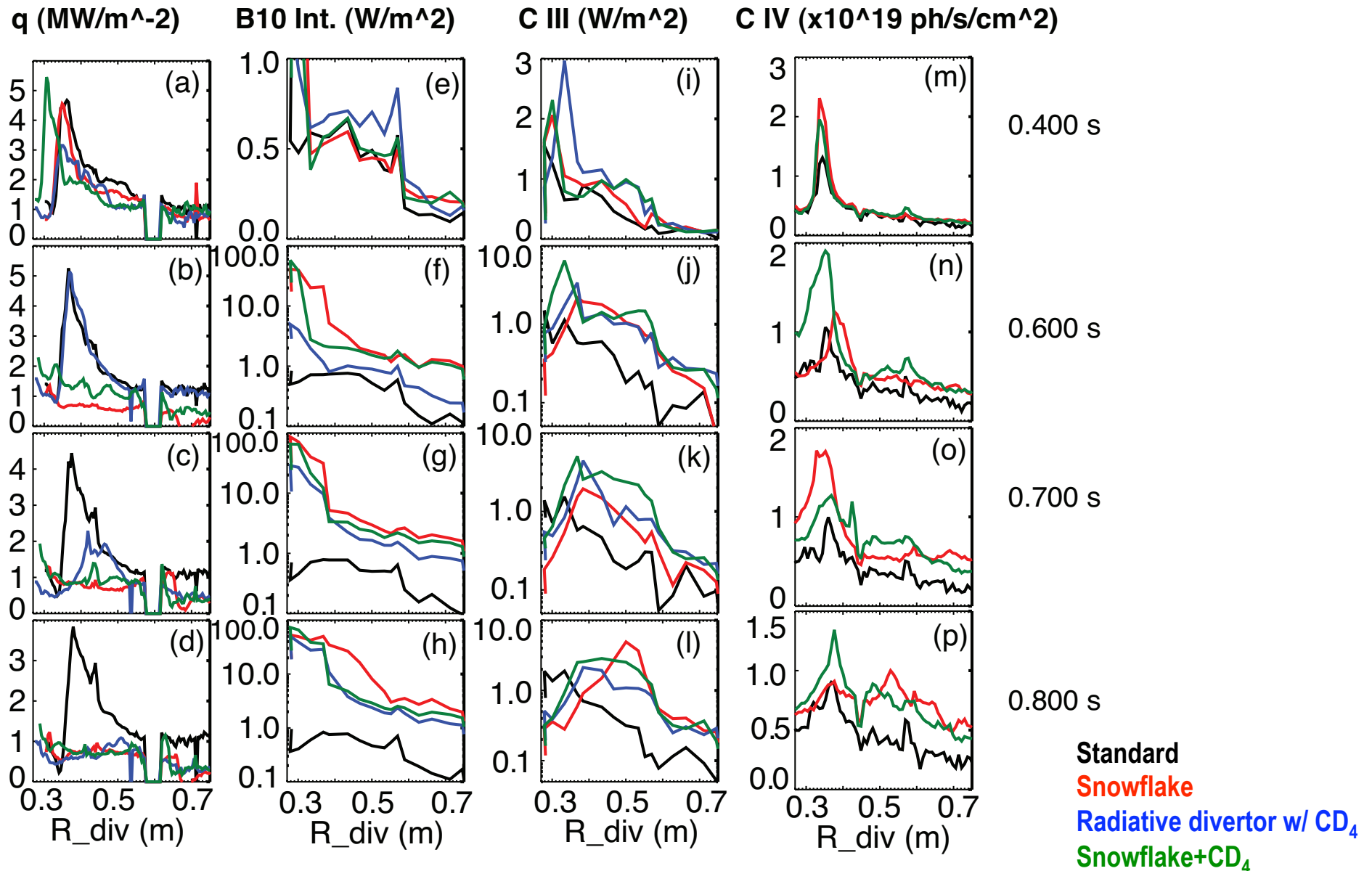
- H-mode standard divertor discharge
  - $W_{MHD} \sim 220-250$  kJ
  - Type I ELMs suppressed by lithium conditioning
  - Occasional ELMs occur
- In the snowflake phase
  - Type I ELM ( $\Delta W/W \sim 5-15\%$ ) re-appeared
  - ELM peak heat flux lower
- Theory (D. Ryutov, TH/ P4-18)
  - Reduced surface heating due to increased ELM energy deposition time
  - Convective mixing of ELM heat flux in null-point region  $\rightarrow$  heat flux partitioning between separatrix branches



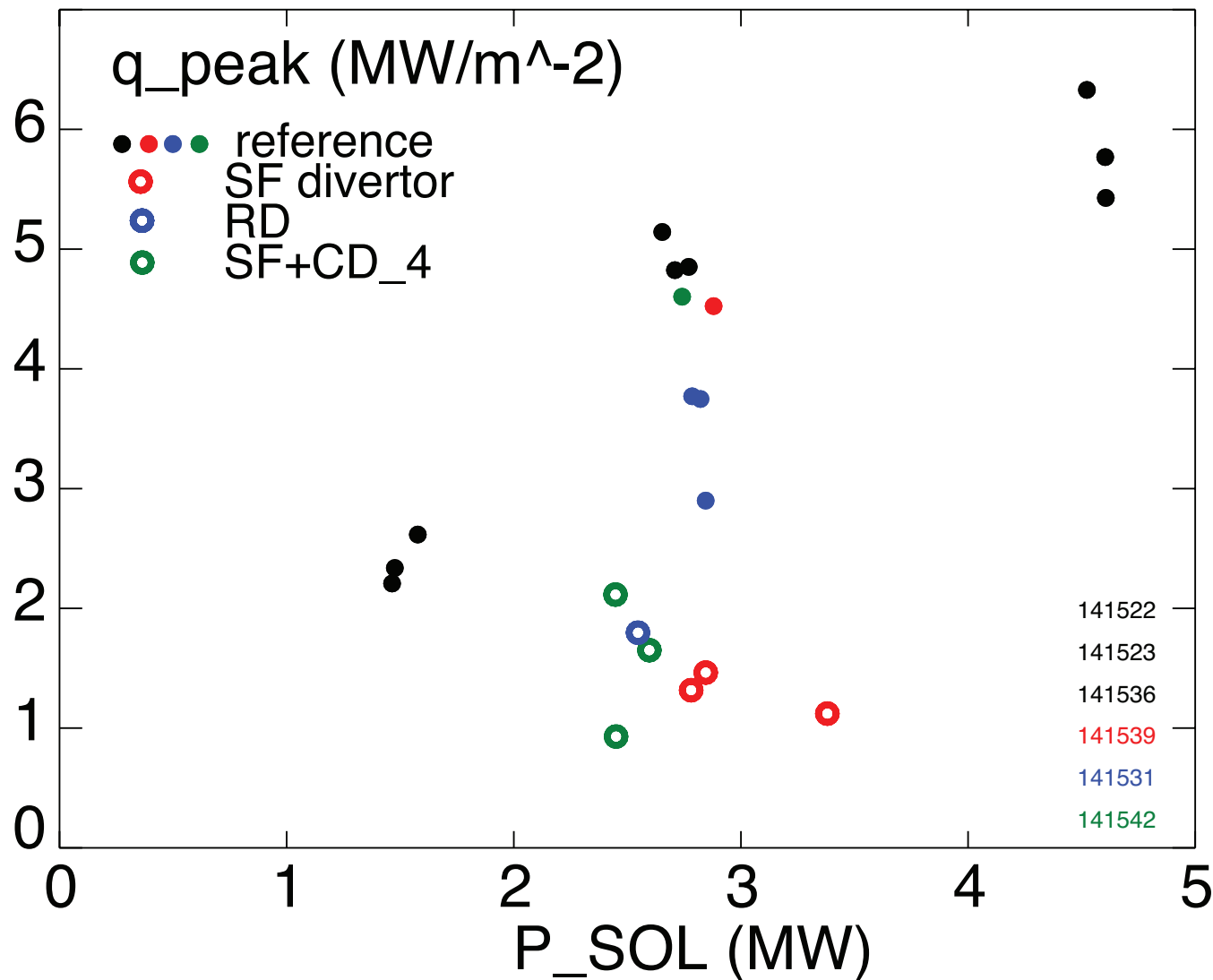
# Good H-mode confinement properties retained or slightly reduced with $CD_4$ -seeded snowflake divertor



# Divertor profiles show enhanced radiation and recombination zone in snowflake divertor w/ and w/o CD<sub>4</sub>



# Divertor heat flux reduced by radiation and/or geometry in radiative and snowflake divertors



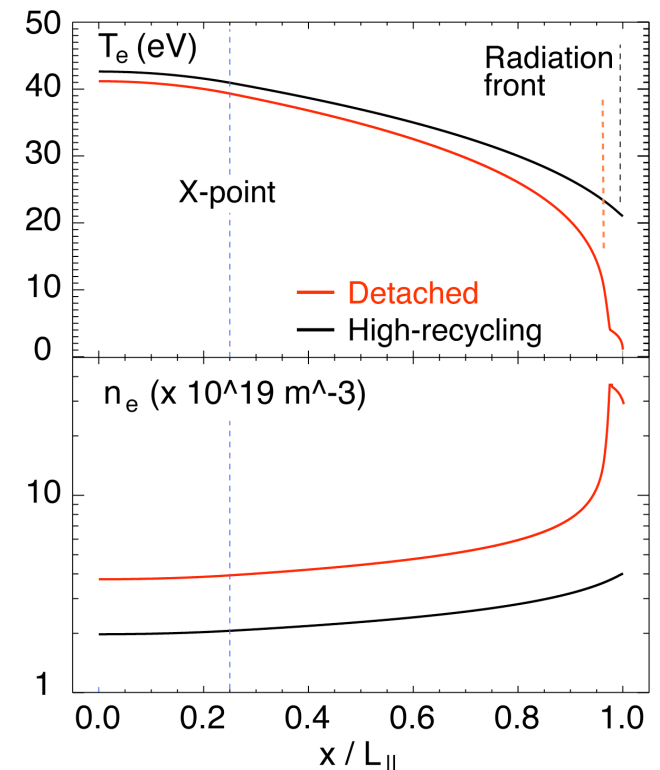
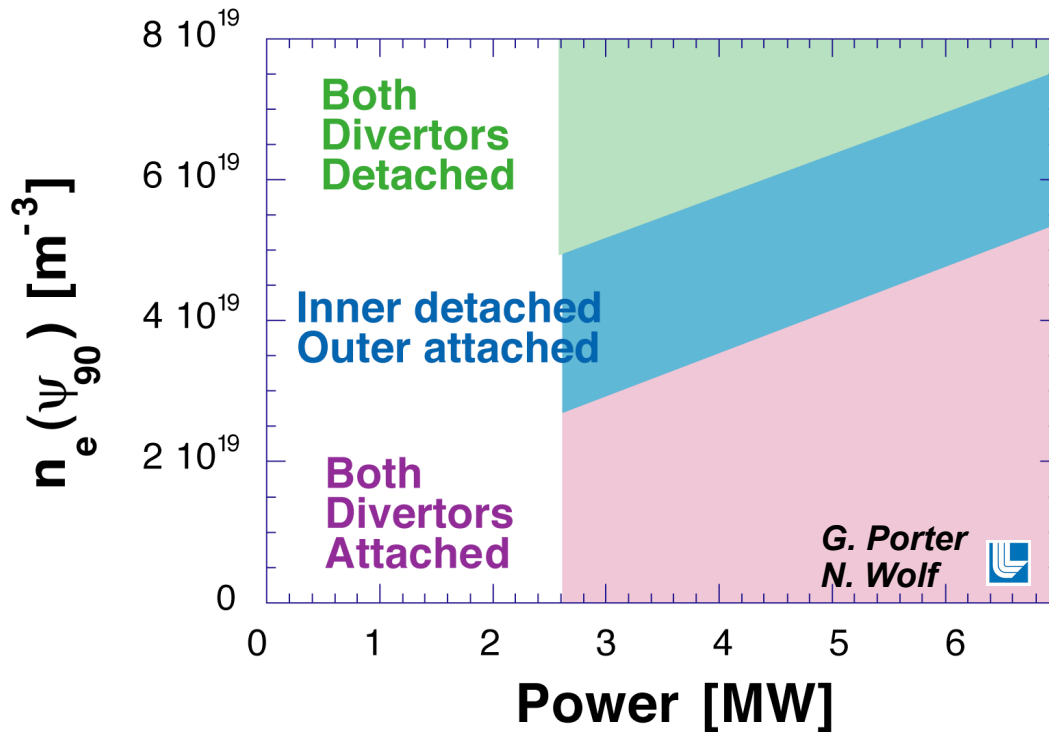
Standard  
Snowflake  
Radiative divertor w/ CD<sub>4</sub>  
Snowflake+CD<sub>4</sub>

# Summary: Developing real-time radiative divertor feedback control for NSTX-U

- Impurity-seeded radiative divertor technique is one of the leading candidates to mitigate divertor heat flux in NSTX-U discharges
  - Unmitigated 20-30 MW/m<sup>2</sup> peak heat fluxes predicted
- Radiative divertor feedback control being developed for NSTX-U
  - Proportional, integral, derivative process controller to be used in digital plasma control system
  - Fast piezoelectric valve is the actuator
    - Gas flow rate is proportional to control voltage
  - Control signal diagnostics for divertor detachment identification and control (System ID) are discussed in this poster
    - Divertor ID diagnostics
      - IR thermography
      - Thermoelectric current
      - Impurity VUV spectroscopy and bolometry
      - Neutral gas pressure
      - Electron-ion recombination rate via UV/NIR spectroscopy
    - Pedestal ID diagnostics



# Models used to simulate detachment operation space and divertor plasma parameters during detachment



- Operating space  $P_{in}, n_e$
- UEDGE calculations predicted limited “window” of outer divertor strike point detachment
- Radiation from intrinsic carbon at 3-5 %

- 5-zone 1D SOL model predicts typical  $T_e$  and  $n_e$  in NSTX during detachment
- High  $f_{rad} \sim 0.8-0.9$  used for detachment simulation

*SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., Phys. Plasmas 16 (2009) 022501,  
SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., J. Nucl. Mater. 363-365 (2007) 432.*

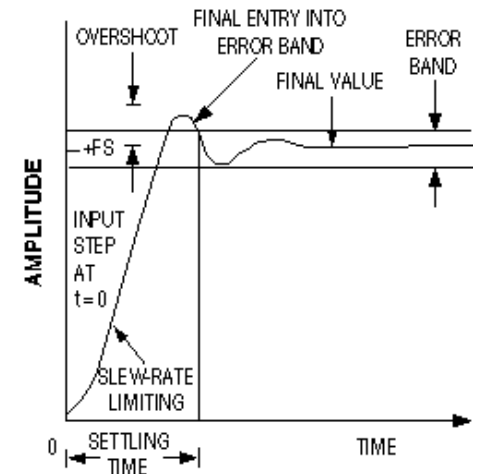
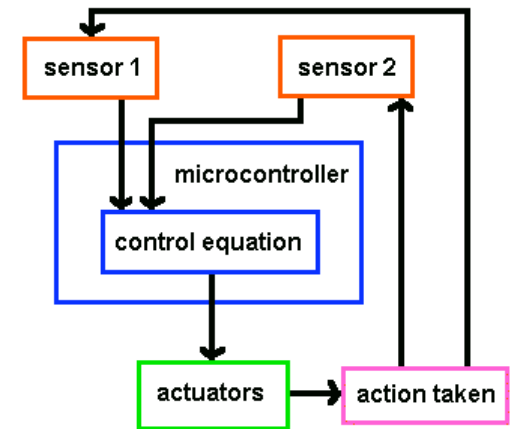
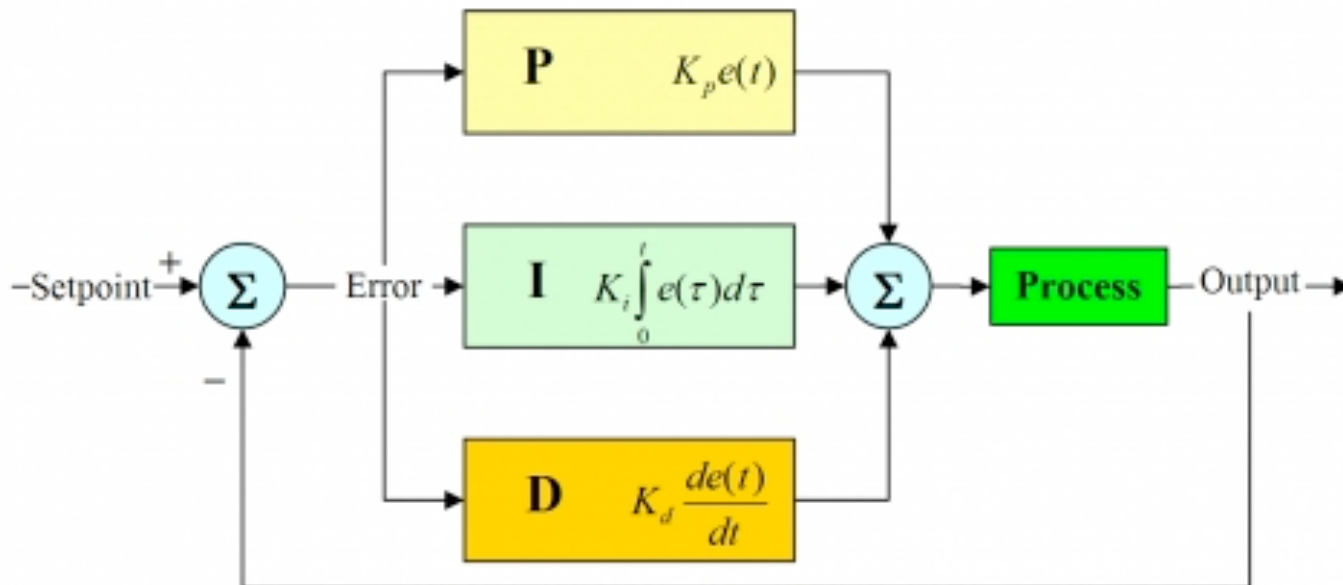


# Conceptual design of radiative divertor feedback control system is based on PID control

- Proportional, integral, derivative controller

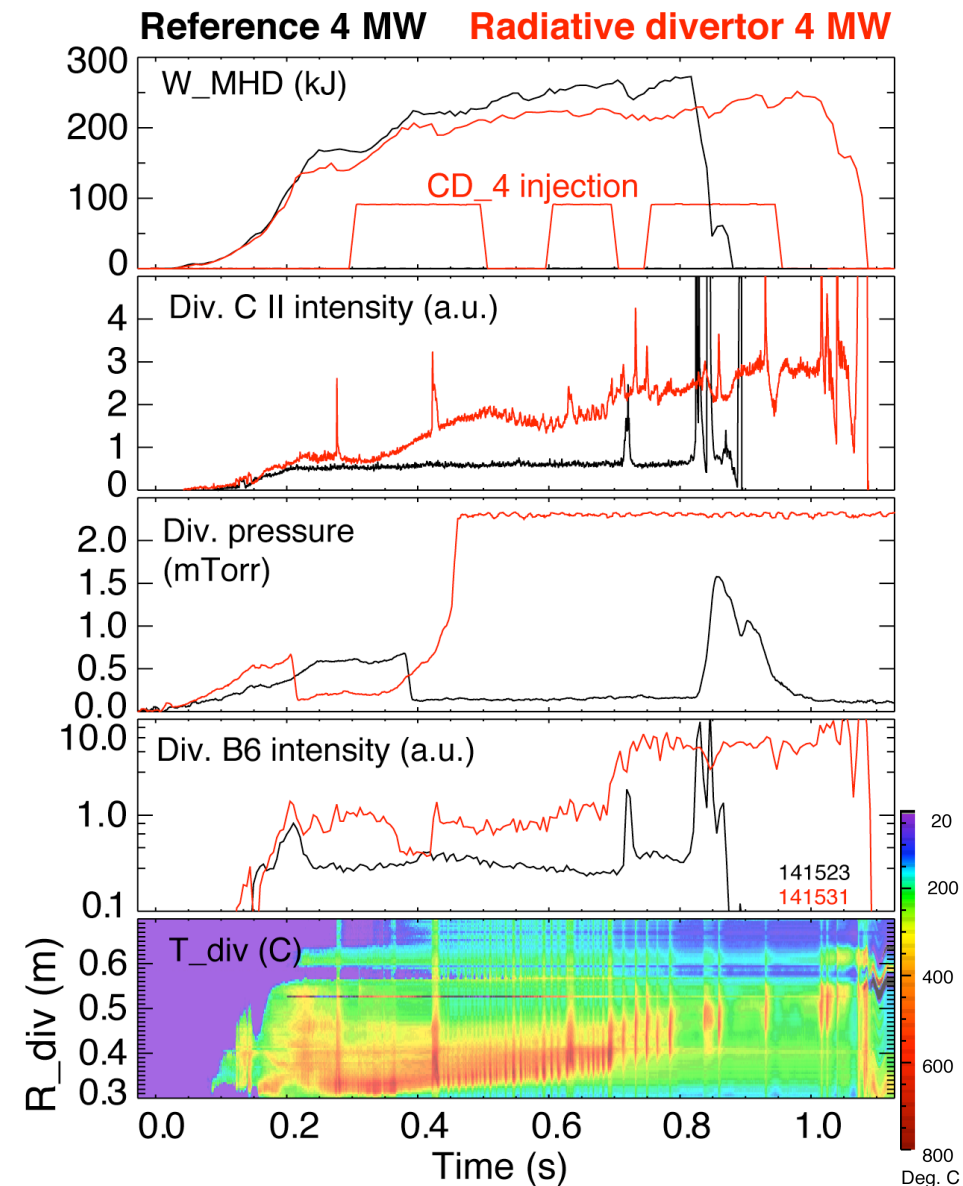
$$\Delta S = S_c - S_{ref}$$

$$V = K_0 + K_p \Delta S + K_i \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \Delta S dt + K_d \frac{d\Delta S}{dt}$$



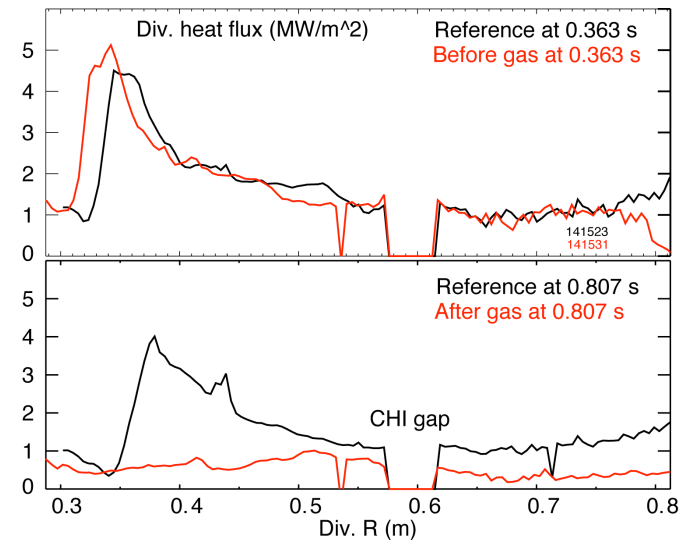
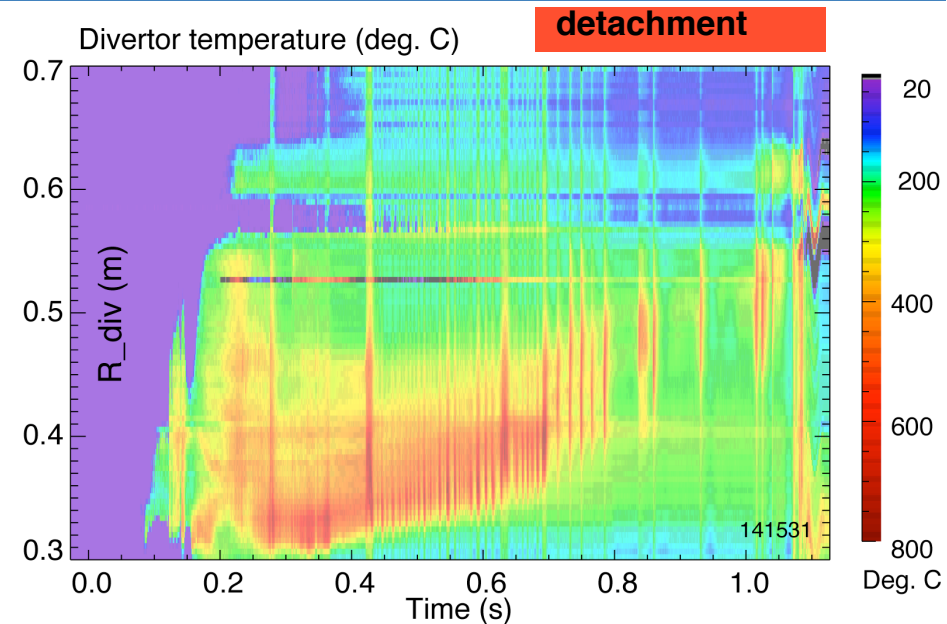
# Control signal options demonstrated using divertor outer strike point partial detachment with $D_2$ or $CD_4$ puffing

- 4MW NBI-heated H-mode
  - $CD_4$  injection preprogrammed wave form
- Outer strike point detachment occurred at about 0.7 s (red traces)
  - Characteristic onset time 50 ms
- Divertor detachment affected divertor power balance
  - Carbon radiation and  $P_{rad}$  increased
  - Divertor heat flux decreased
- Divertor detachment affected SOL momentum balance
  - Neutral pressure increased (also due to gas puffing)
  - Divertor volumetric recombination rate increased (Balmer line intensities increased)



# Option 1: IR thermography for divertor surface temperature monitoring

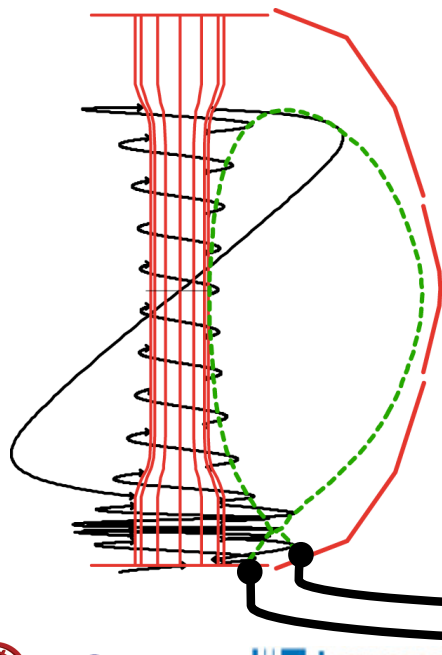
- Diagnostic principle and description
  - Measure PFC surface IR emission, calibrate for temperature
  - IR arrays (1D or 2D) or single-channel IR diode with strike-point region view
- Signal details from NSTX experiments
  - Detached region localization: 5-12 cm
  - Characteristic time: 1 ms
  - X 4 reduction during detachment
- Advantages:
  - Direct PFC temperature monitoring
- Issues:
  - Toroidal and poloidal localization
  - Interpretation and calibration issues due to PFC coatings (e.g., lithium)
- Implementation
  - Needs special IR and relay optics
  - IR optics



AHN, J.-W. et al., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 81 (2010) 023501.

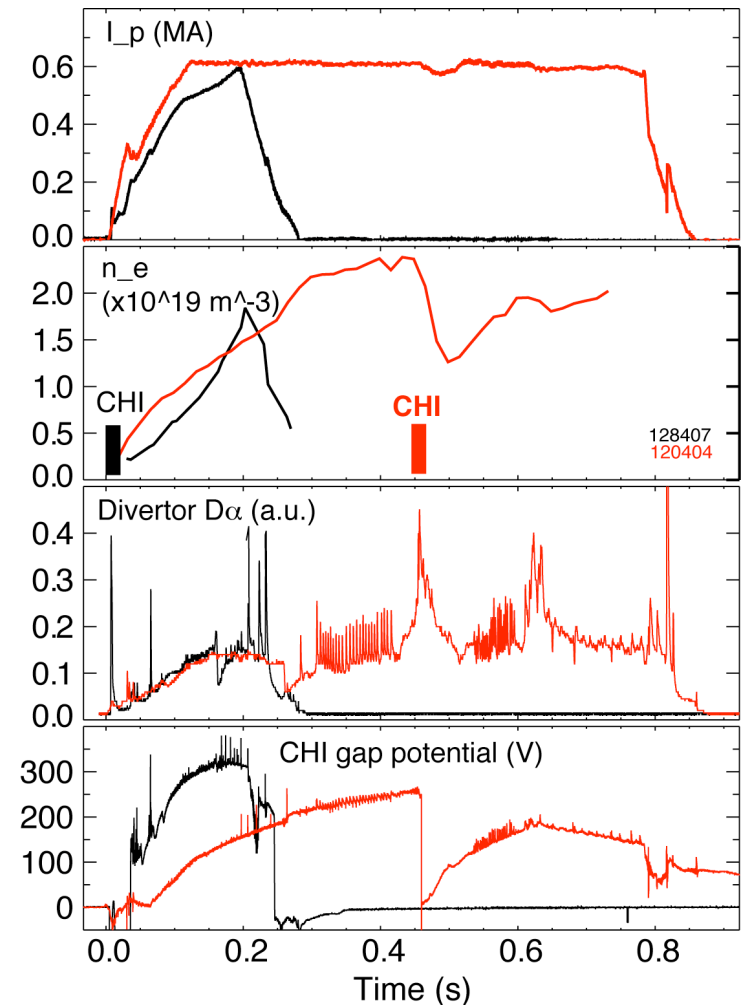
# Option 2: monitor SOL thermo-electric current representative of divertor electron temperature

- Diagnostic principle and description
  - SOL thermoelectric current due to divertor  $T_e$  difference
  - Electric current and potential
- Signal details from NSTX experiments
  - In NSTX inner and outer vessels electrically isolated
  - Potential V measured in CHI exp's



- Advantage:
  - Toroidally-averaged current and potential, linked to divertor  $T_e$
- Issues:
  - More experiments needed to improve interpretation

**Measure V, I**



*RAMAN, R. et al., Nucl. Fusion 49 (2009) 065006*  
*STAEBLER, G. et al., Nucl. Fusion 29 (1989) 1820*  
*KALLENBACH, A. et al., J. Nucl. Mater. 290-293 (2001) 639*

# Option 3: Monitor divertor radiated power or spectroscopic representation of radiated power

- Diagnostic principle and description
  - Fast bolometer or AXUV diode (or array) to monitor divertor rad. power
  - VUV spectroscopy
- Advantage:
  - Toroidally-averaged quantity linked to seeded impurity radiation
- Issues:
  - Need to know radiation distribution and spectral composition
- Implementation
  - Existing AXUV diode array (s)
  - Divertor SPRED
  - Dedicated divertor VUV monitor

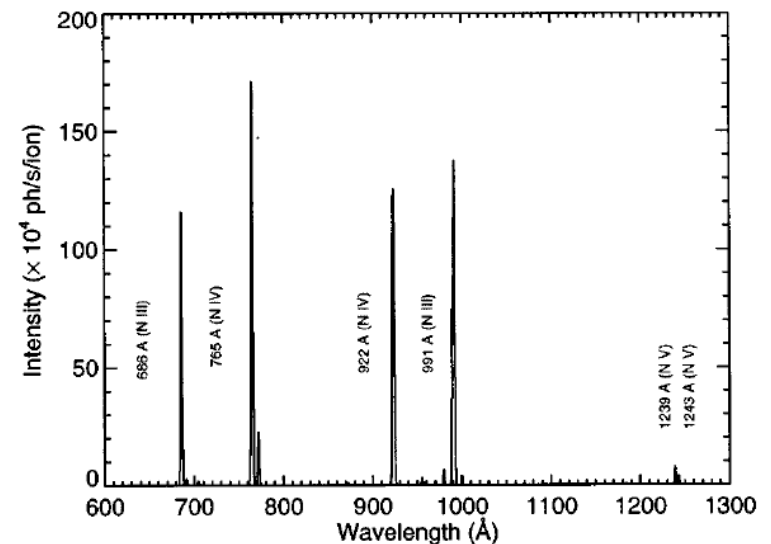
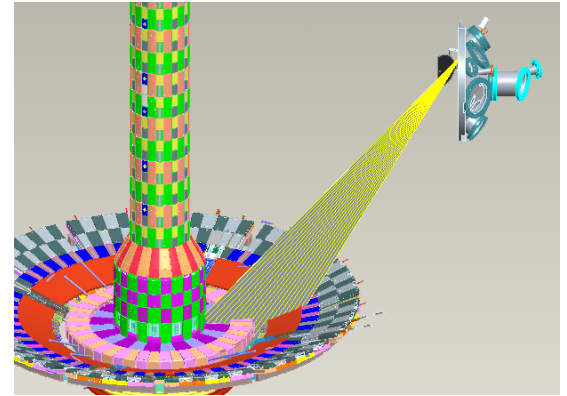


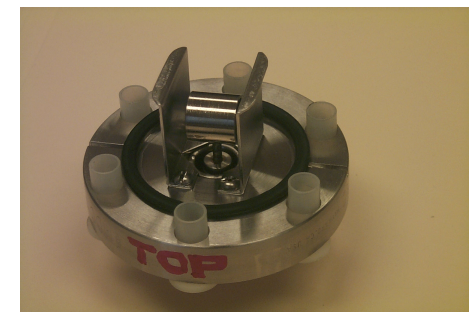
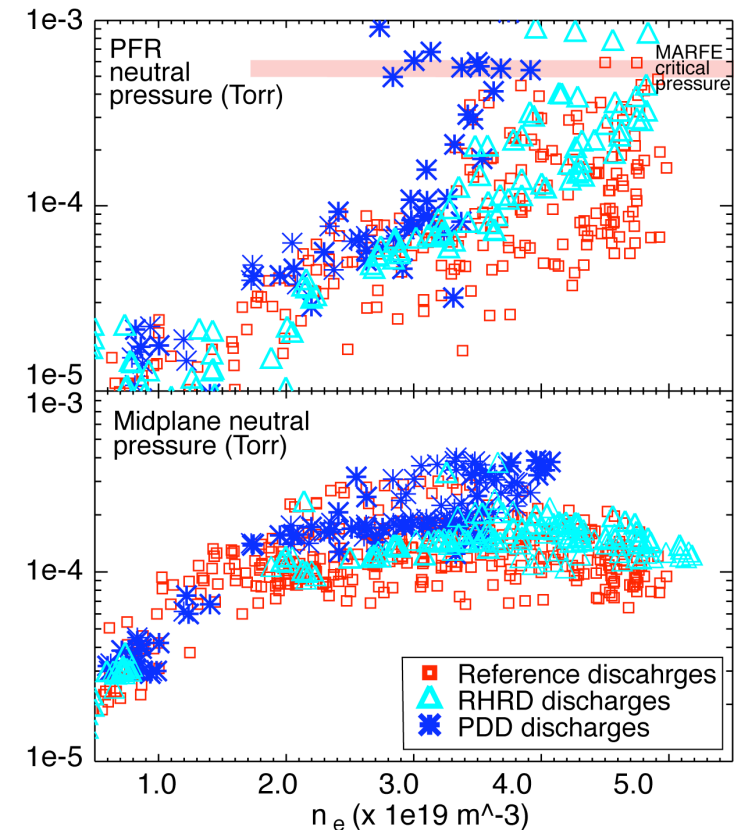
FIG. 2. Modeled N III, N IV, and N V spectrum at  $T_e=9.7$  eV and  $n_e=5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Calculated intensities were given a Gaussian profile with  $\Delta\lambda_{\text{FWHM}}=1 \text{ \AA}$ .

*SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 70 (1999) 340*  
*SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 72 (2001) 3270*



# Option 4: Monitor neutral pressure

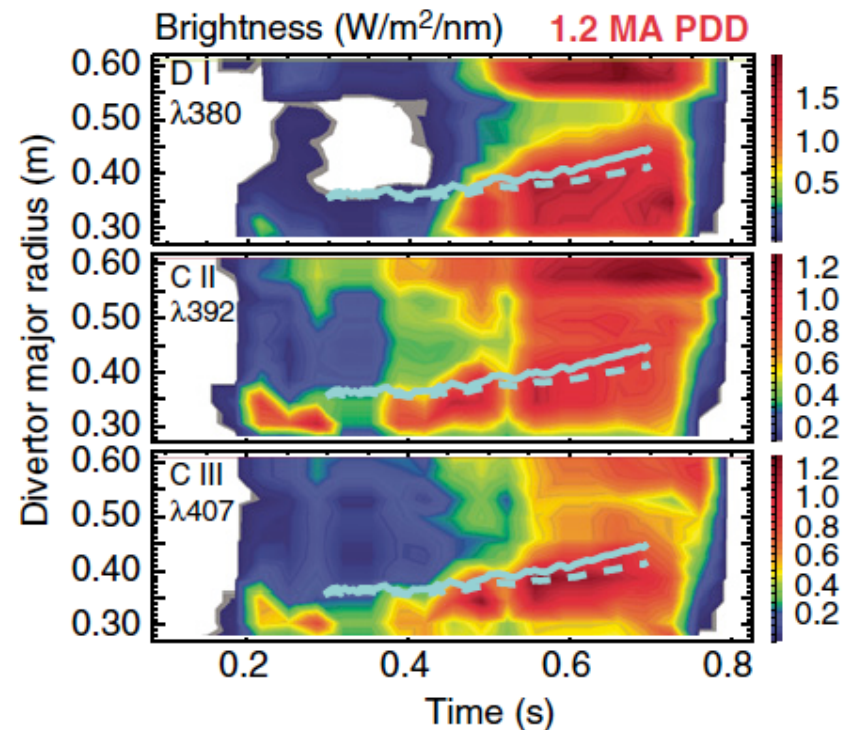
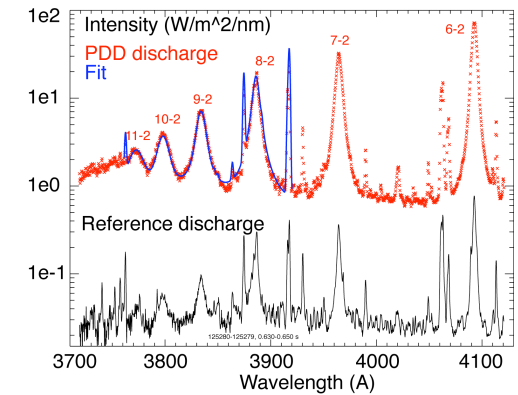
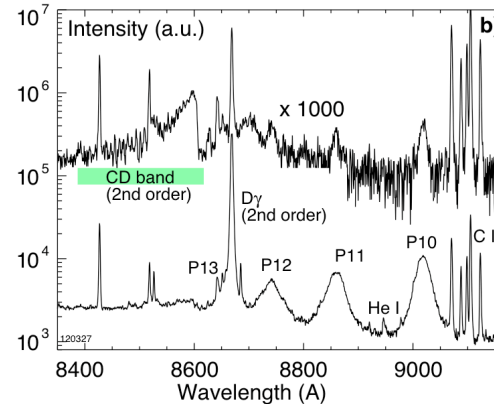
- Diagnostic description
  - Penning gauge for gas pressure monitoring in range 0.1-5 mTorr
- Signal details from NSTX experiments
  - Divertor pressure measured in private flux region, outer strike point region
- Advantages:
  - Direct seeding gas pressure measurement
- Issues:
  - Need to understand links to detachment characteristics
- Implementation
  - Straightforward, existing gauges can be used
  - Developing calibrated spectroscopic monitoring of Penning gauge



FINKEN, K. et al., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 63 (1992)

# Option 5: Monitor recombination rate via Balmer or Paschen line spectroscopy

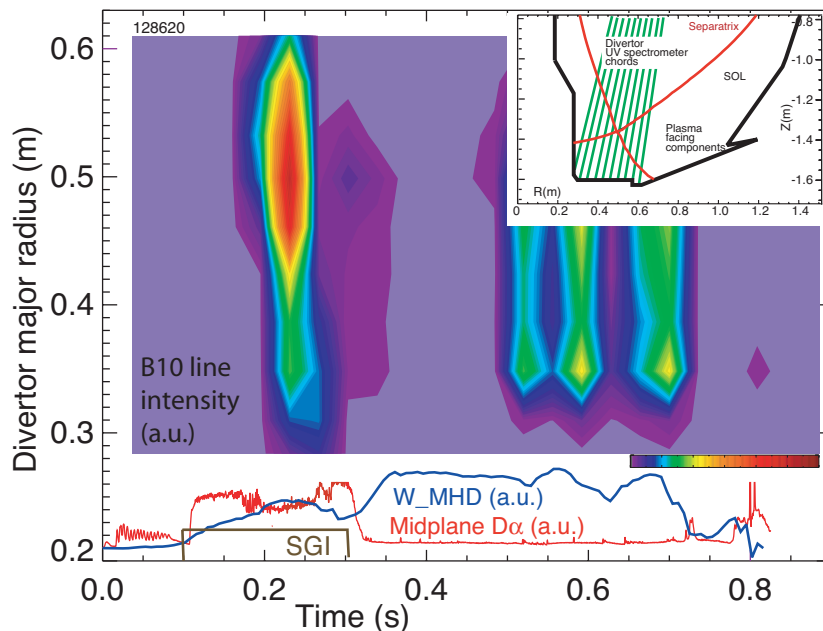
- Diagnostic description
  - UV or NIR spectroscopy to monitor emission line intensity from high- $n$  Balmer or Paschen series lines
- Signal details from NSTX expt's
  - Strong indication of detachment, signal increases by up to  $10^2$
  - Observed  $n=2-m$ ,  $m=3-12$  (Balmer)
  - Observed  $n=3-m$ ,  $m=5-10$  (Paschen)
- Advantages:
  - Toroidally-averaged quantity
  - Direct measure of recombination rate
- Implementation
  - Can use existing UV and NIR fibers and instruments



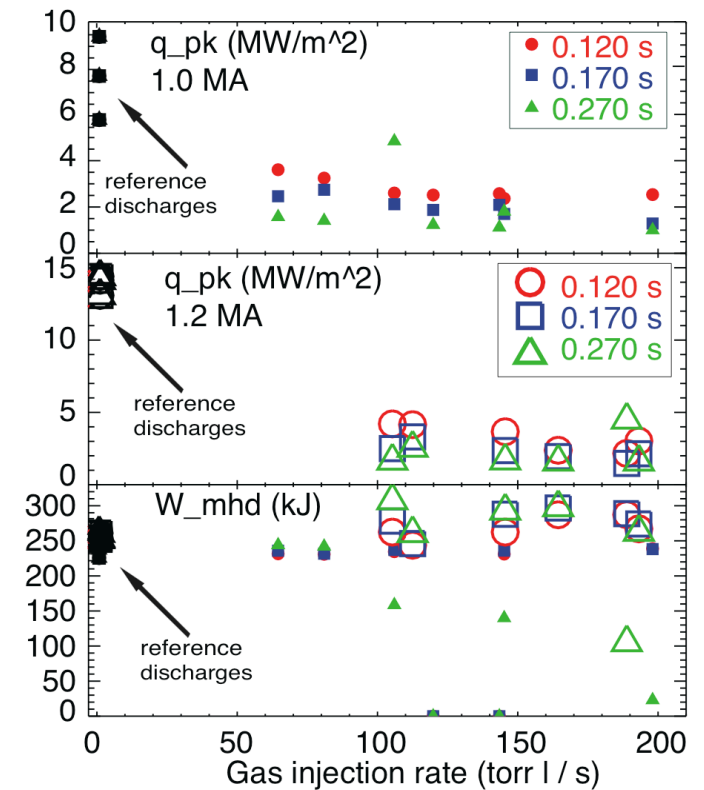
SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 77 (2006) 10127  
 SOUKHANOVSKII, V., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 79 (2008) 10539  
 SOUKHANOVSKII, V. et al., *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 81 (2010) 10723.

# Option 6: need “security” monitoring for signs of confinement degradation (pedestal temperature or MARFEs)

- Diagnostic principle and description
  - Monitor pedestal  $T_e$  (100-600 eV)
    - Soft X-ray arrays, real-time Thomson
  - Monitor MARFE formation
    - Edge neutral pressure
    - Divertor recombination rate



*X-point MARFE formation during high-rate supersonic gas injection. Balmer B10 line intensity is plotted.*



Optimal  $D_2$  injection rate found (used 300 ms pulses)

- 50-100 Torr l / s for 1.0 MA discharges
- 110-160 Torr l / s for 1.2 MA discharges

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