



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science



# Initial Characterization of L-mode and H-mode Edge Turbulence in NSTX-U using Beam Emission Spectroscopy

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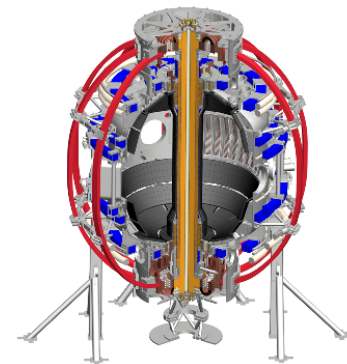
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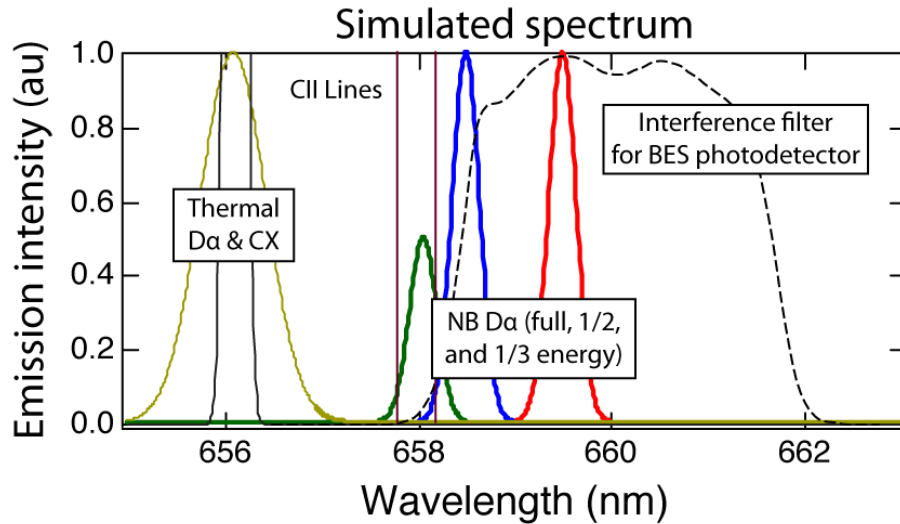


BES introduction	BES expansion	Diagnostic future work	L-mode turbulence	L-H results
BES intro and physics motivation	Motivation for 2D channel layout	Replacement photodiode testing	W. Guttenfelder simulations + overview of L-mode shots	L-H transition in raw BES signals
How BES works	New sightline layout	New preamp PCB layout	Crosspower spectra + fluctuation amplitudes	Turbulence amplitude reduction across L-H
Sightlines and wavenumber sensitivity	Noise debugging and correction	Motivation for spectrometer (impurity line ID & $\tilde{E}$ )	Crossphase spectra show bimodal turbulence	Cross spectra analysis in H-mode, compare to L-mode
Pictures of BES hardware	DTACQ frequency mismatch debugging	Spectrometer design specs	Radial cross spectra + turbulence mode ID	Conclusion

# Beam emission spectroscopy (BES) is used to study instabilities and ion gyroscale turbulence

- High spatiotemporal resolution turbulence measurements
  - Contribute to validating nonlinear simulations of transport required for designing future fusion facilities
  - Investigate unique features of turbulence at low aspect ratio
  - Study dynamics of the L-H transition
- ELM studies at Alfvénic timescales
  - Better understanding of ELM transport required to mitigate damage in future fusion devices
  - Nonlinear ELM dynamics play key role in ELM evolution
  - Common diagnostics cannot capture nonlinear, Alfvén-scale ELM dynamics

# BES measures Doppler-shifted $D_\alpha$ emission from a deuterium heating beam

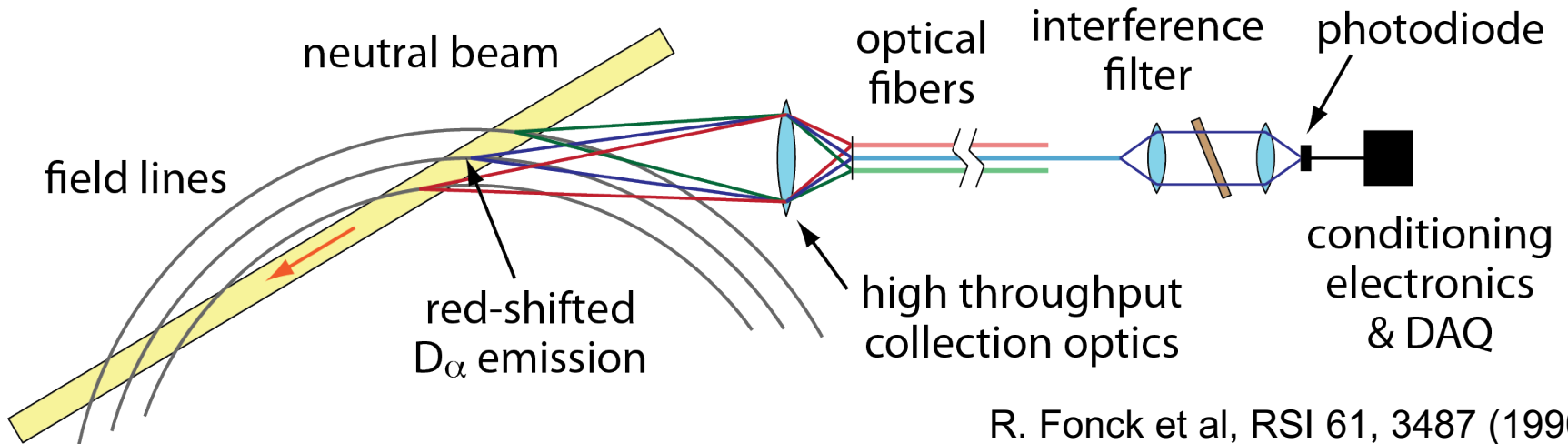


$$\frac{\delta I_{D\alpha}}{I_{D\alpha}} = \frac{\delta n}{n} \times C(E_{NB}, n, T_e, Z_{eff})$$

neutral beam  $D_\alpha$  emission

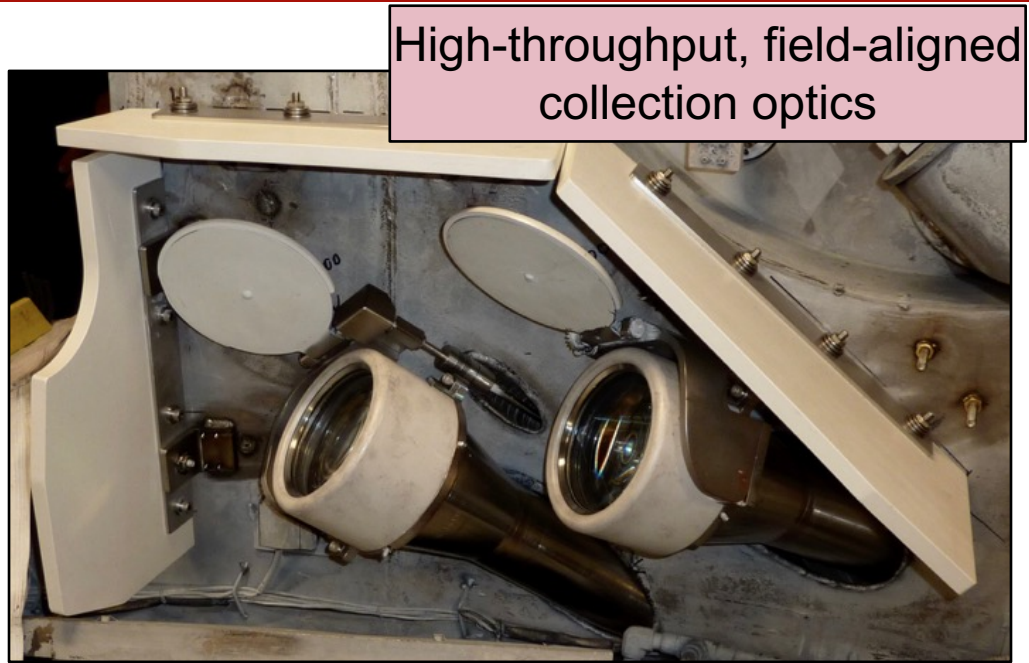
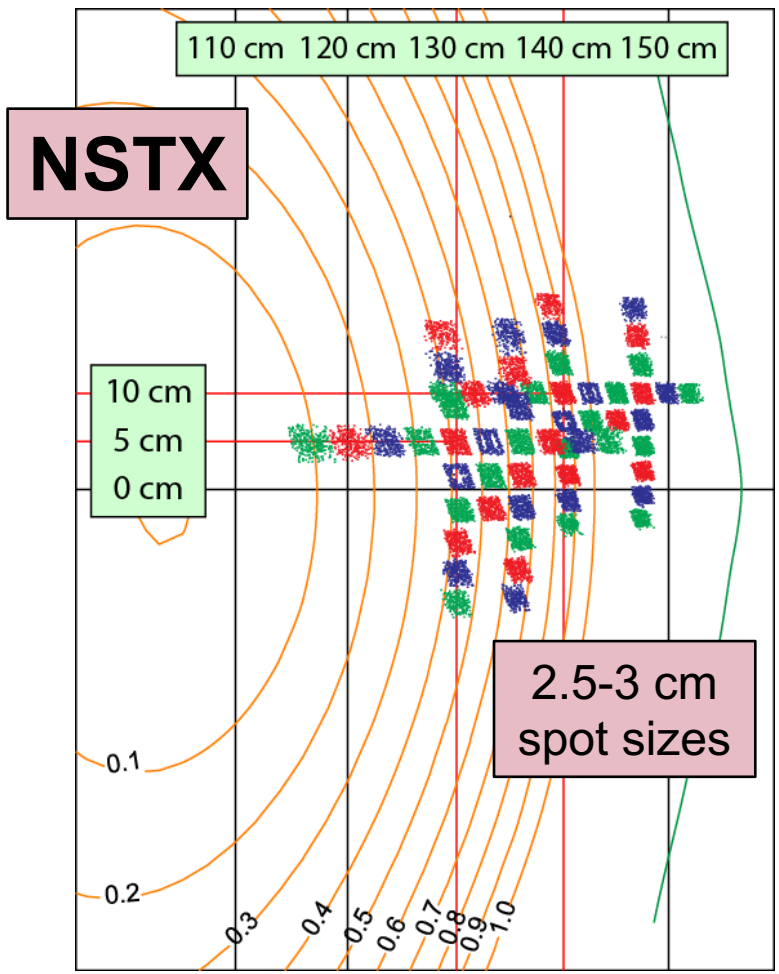
density fluctuation

$C \approx 1/2$



R. Fonck et al, RSI 61, 3487 (1990)  
 R. Fonck et al, PRL 70, 3736 (1993)

# BES is sensitive to density fluctuations with $k_{\perp}\rho_i \leq 1.5$ down to $\delta n/n \approx 0.1\%$

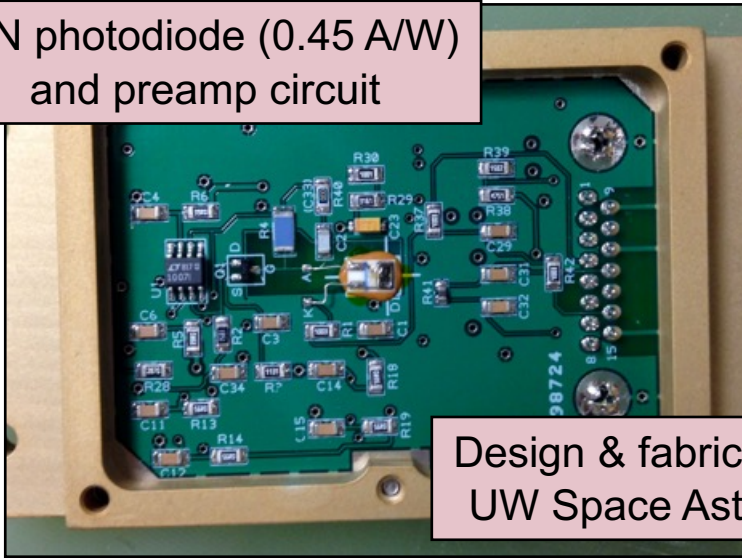


- Sightline layout has wide coverage, but limited locations for correlation analysis
- Only subset of sightlines could be detected at once

D. Smith et al, RSI 81, 10D717 (2010)  
N. Schoenbeck et al, RSI 81, 10D718 (2010)  
D. Smith et al, RSI 83, 10D502 (2012)

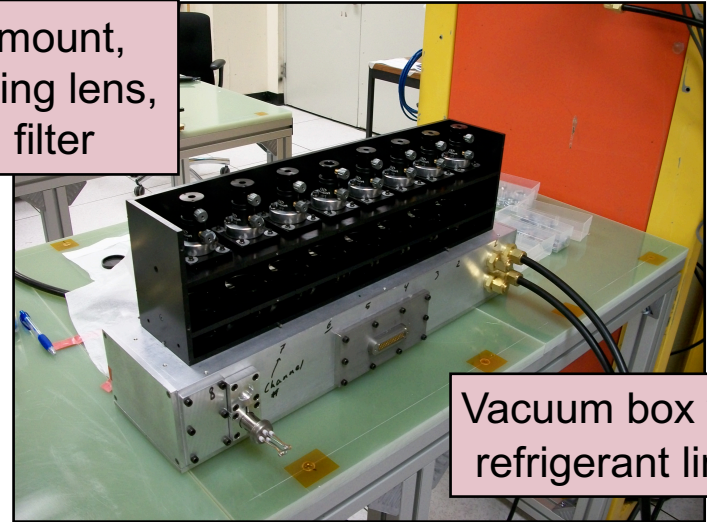
# Modular hardware design enables simple expansion

PIN photodiode (0.45 A/W)  
and preamp circuit



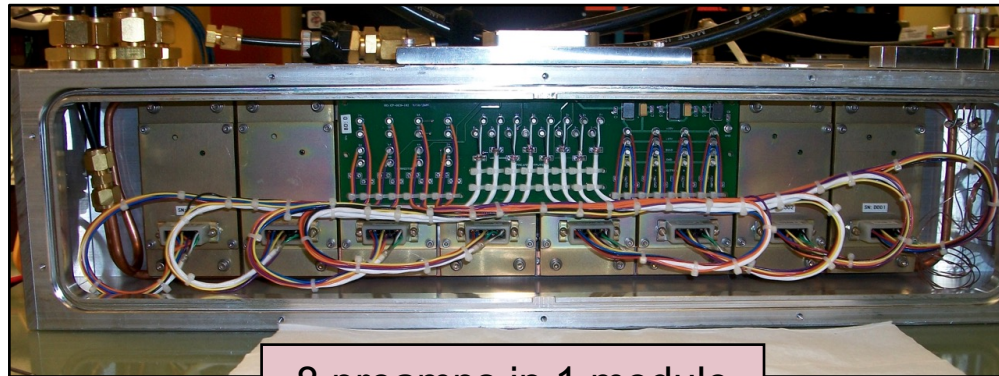
Design & fabrication by  
UW Space Astro. Lab

Fiber mount,  
collimating lens,  
and filter

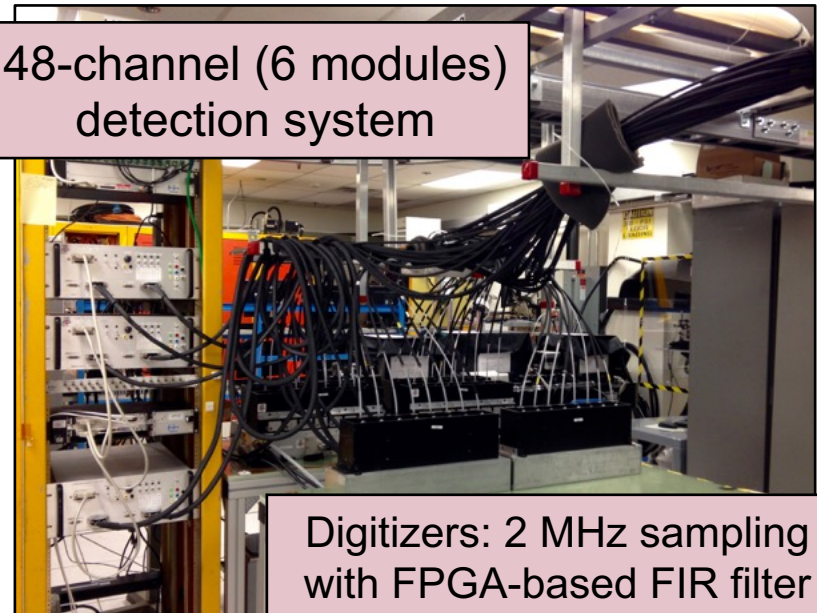


Vacuum box with  
refrigerant lines

48-channel (6 modules)  
detection system



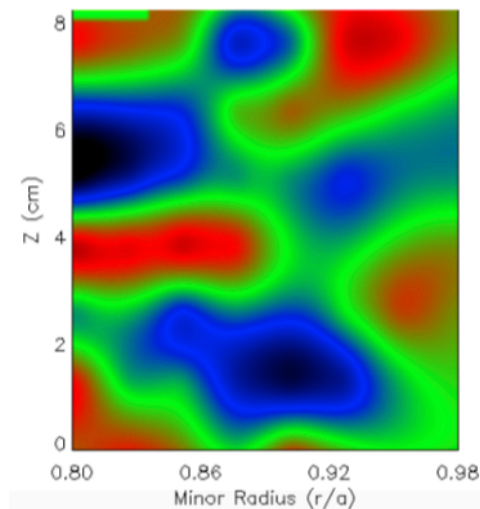
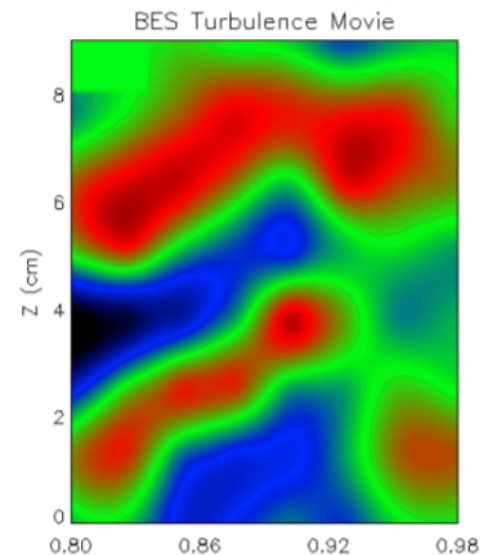
8 preamps in 1 module



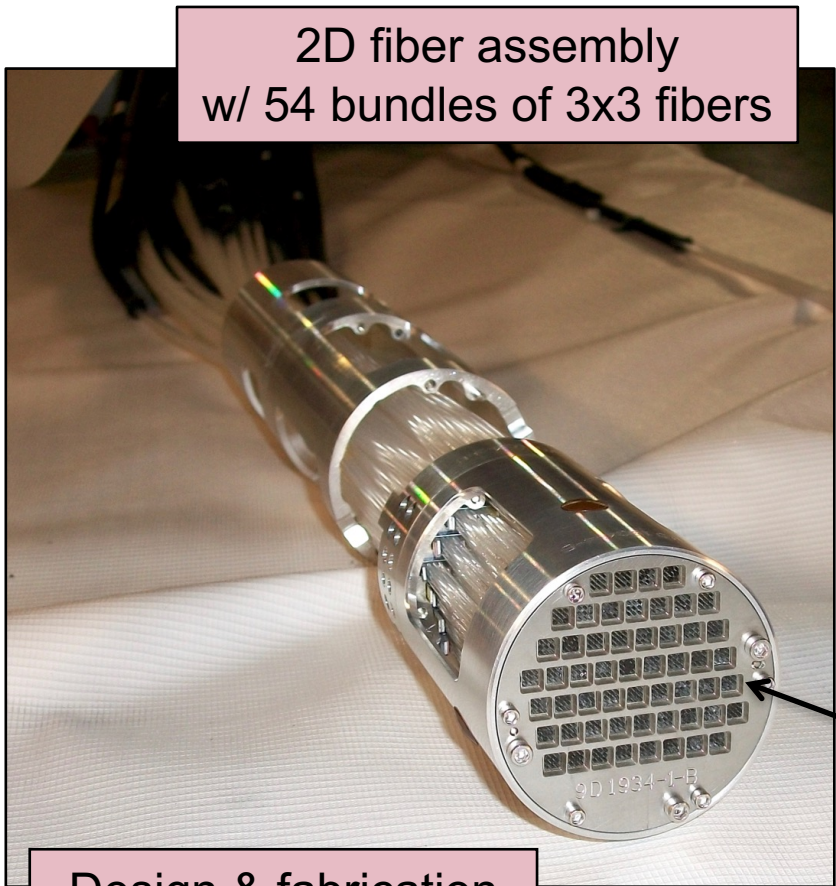
Digitizers: 2 MHz sampling  
with FPGA-based FIR filter

# BES expanded and reconfigured for detailed 2D turbulence and instability studies

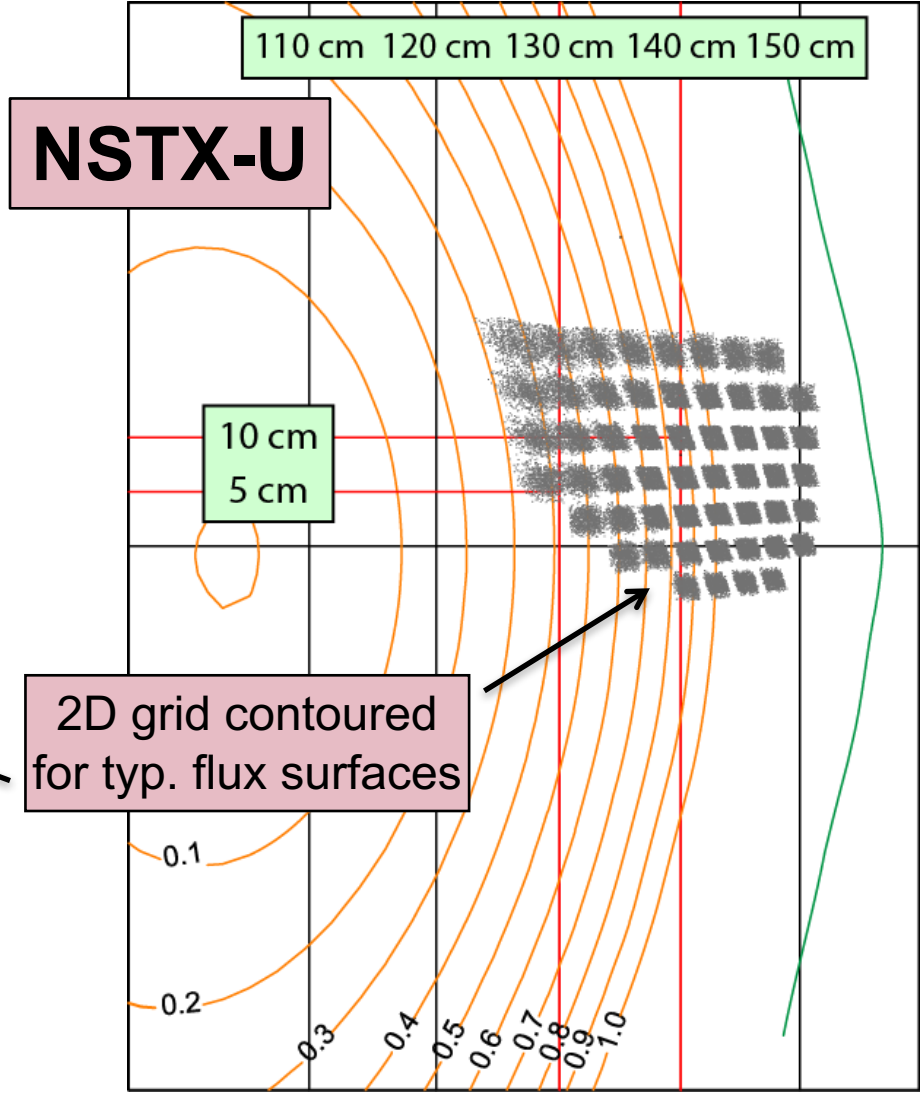
- 2D turbulence imaging
  - Radial and poloidal dynamics of low-k turbulent eddies important for transport
  - Velocimetry techniques extract flow fields from 2D density measurements
- Zonal flow and L-H dynamics
  - Role of shear flow in L-H transition
  - Stronger zonal flow drive predicted in ST
- Alfvén eigenmode/energetic particle mode structure and dynamics



# NSTX-U sightlines provide detailed coverage of edge



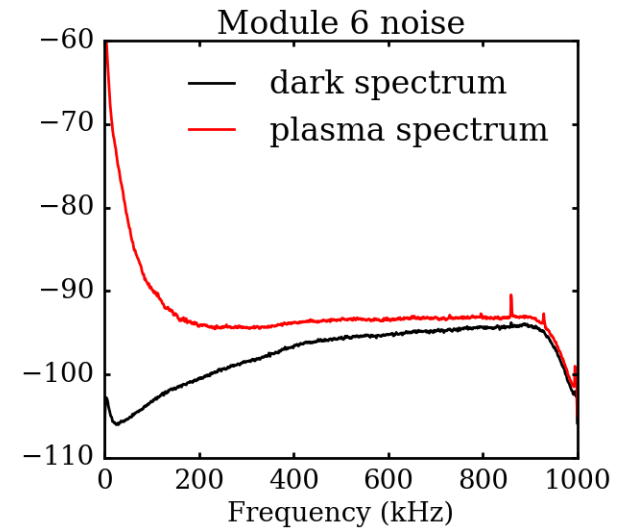
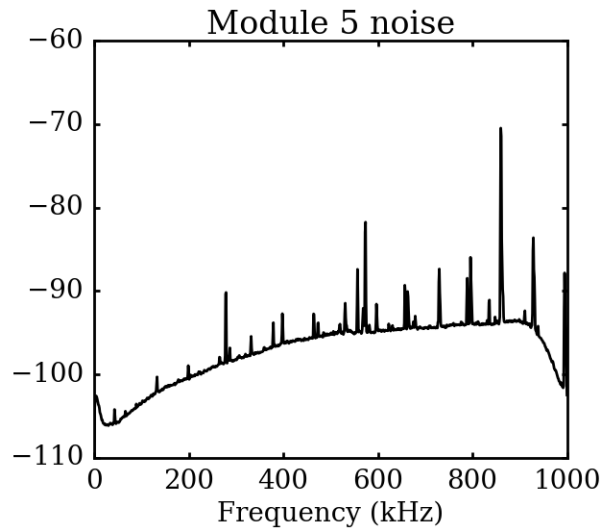
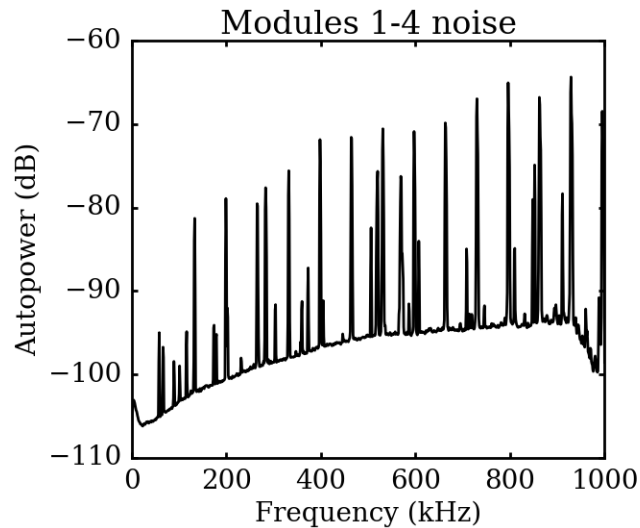
Design & fabrication  
by UW Phys. Sci. Lab





# Electronic noise eliminated

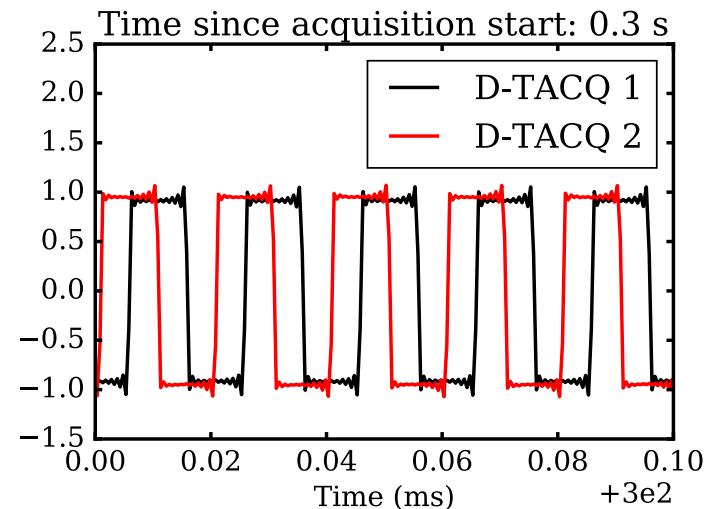
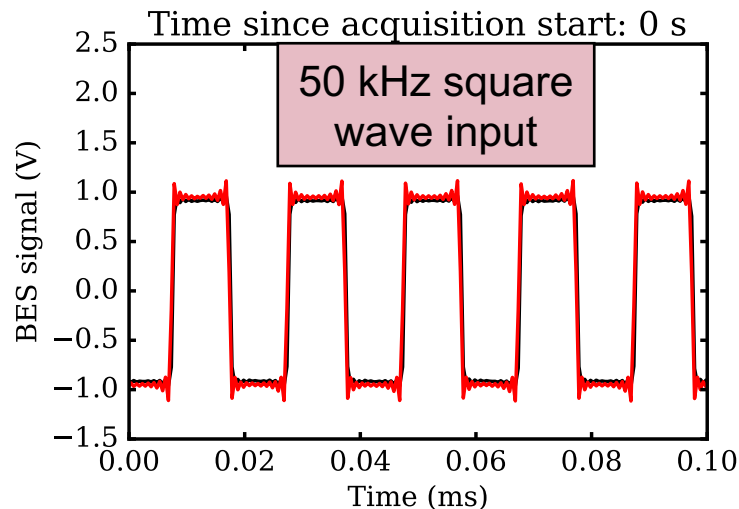
## Dark spectrum



- 40/48 channels picked up noise at discrete frequencies
  - Significant noise pickup for 32 channels, moderate for 8 more
- Fixed by changing ground configuration
  - Digitizer power supply noise coupled into system via ground loop

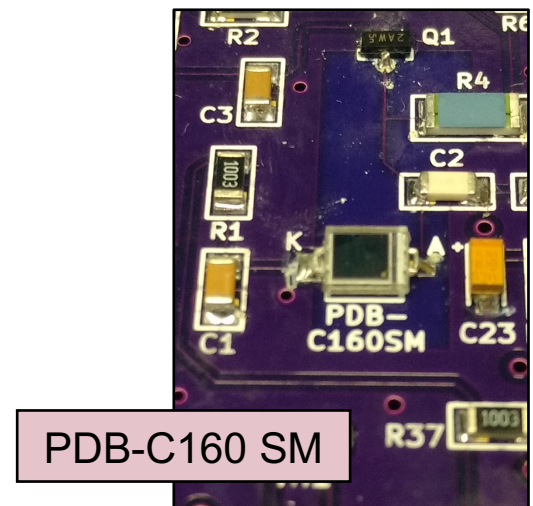
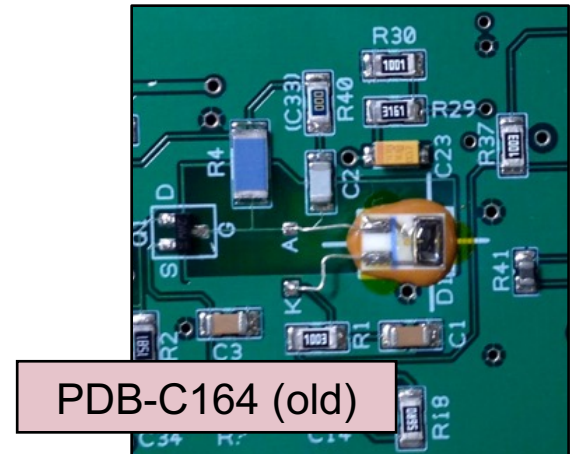
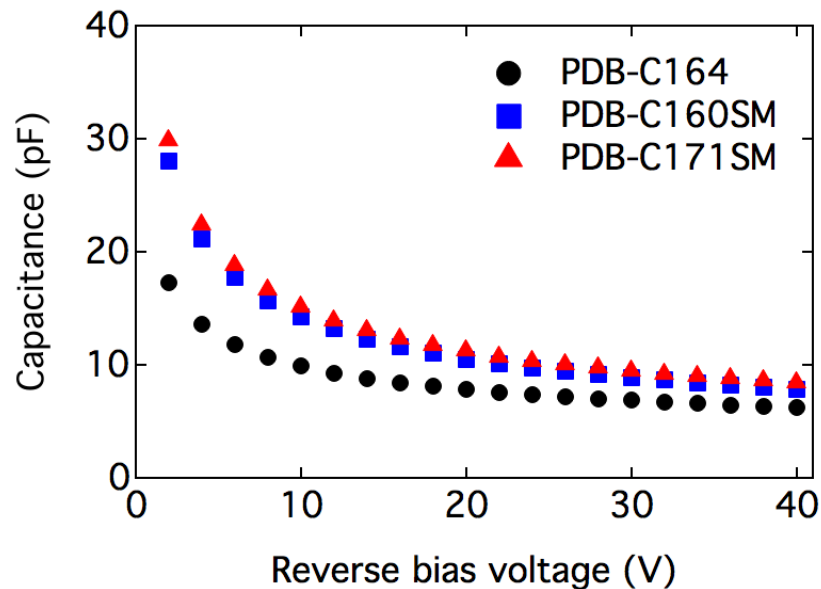
# Digitizer sampling frequency mismatch debugged

- BES uses two D-TACQ ACQ132 digitizers ( $f_s = 2$  MHz)
  - Correlation analysis requires synchronized sampling of data
- 50 Hz  $f_s$  mismatch between digitizers
  - Solved by testing variety of triggering/software configurations



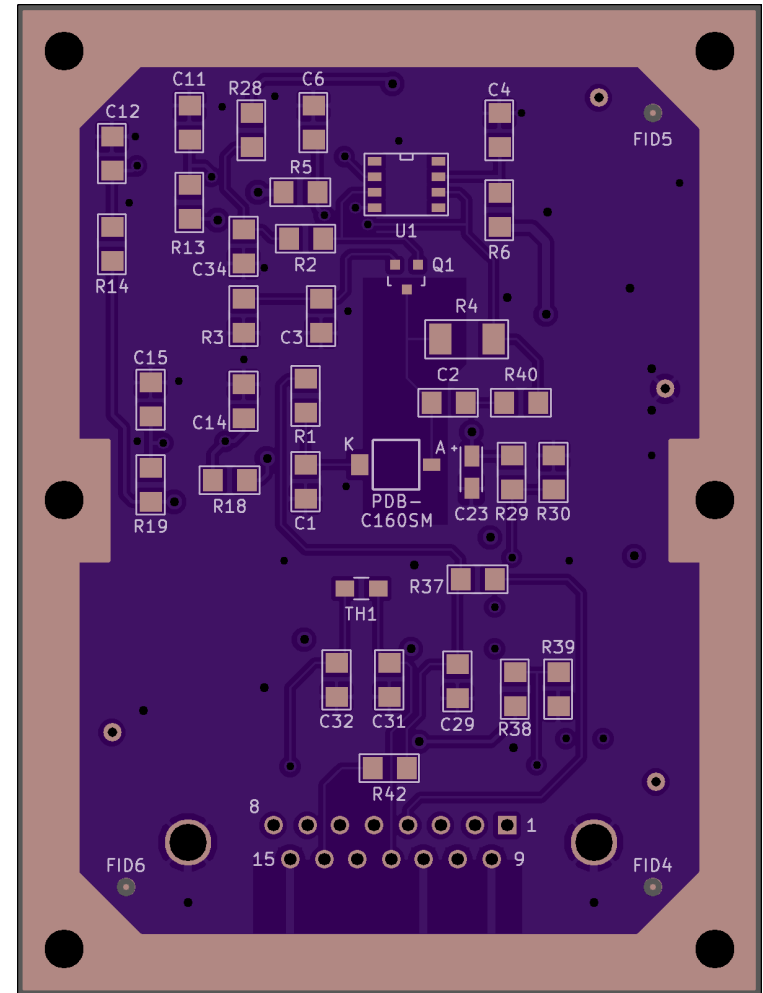
# Replacement photodiode tested

- Detector photodiode discontinued, need replacement
  - High sensitivity at 656 nm ( $D_\alpha$ )
  - Low capacitance at 40 V reverse bias
  - Low dark current



# Electronic Design Automation (EDA) enables rapid prototyping and automated assembly

- Preamp design in KiCad EDA
  - Open source
  - Links together schematic, PCB layout, assembly instructions, and component distributors
- Easily test new photodiodes
- Future BES expansion to 64 channels at lower cost



# Feasibility of high-speed impurity density measurements will be investigated

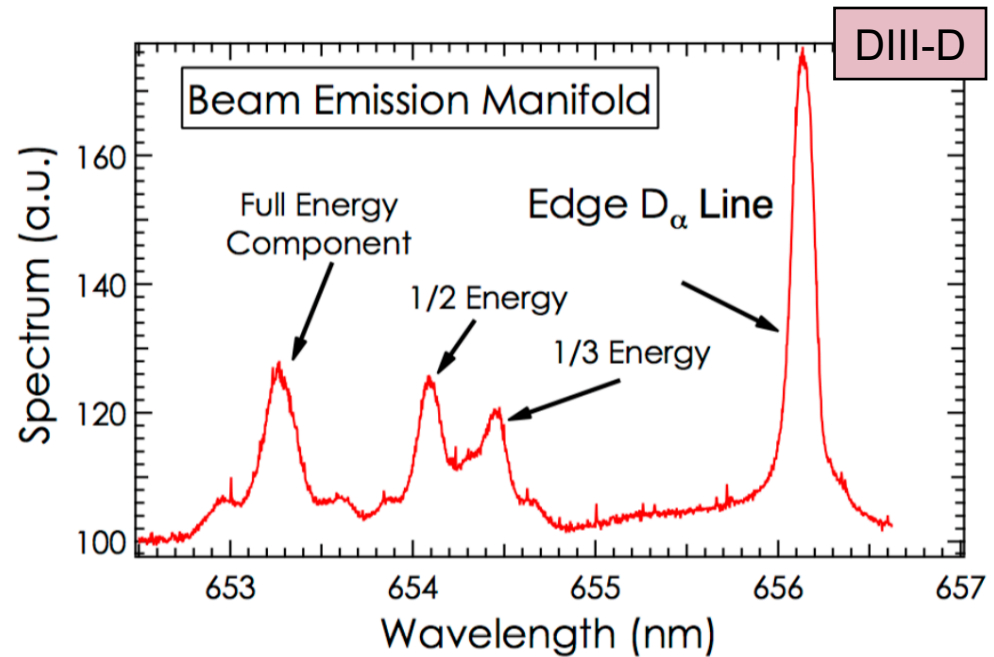
- High-speed, localized, multi-channel impurity measurements
  - Add new optical filters to BES detectors to isolate CX or impurity lines
- Explore impurity sources, transport, and dynamics
  - Impurity expulsion/accumulation in ELMy/ELM-free regimes
  - Characteristics of lithium, boron, carbon, and metal PFC sources
  - Connection between impurity transport and low-k turbulence
- Suitable CX or impurity lines must first be identified

# Survey spectrometer utilizing existing BES sightlines to be deployed

- Measure beam emission manifold in NSTX-U
  - Determine intensity of carbon lines overlapping beam components
  - Provide data on line splitting for new  $\tilde{E}$  diagnostic<sup>1</sup>

- Potential CX lines
  - C-VI, O-VIII, Li-III, He-II
  - Ne-X, Al-XI, Li-I, W-I

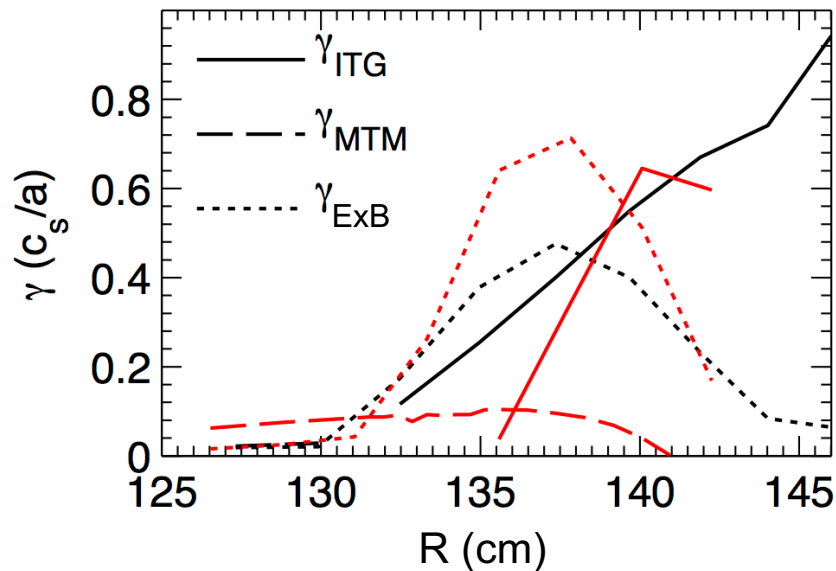
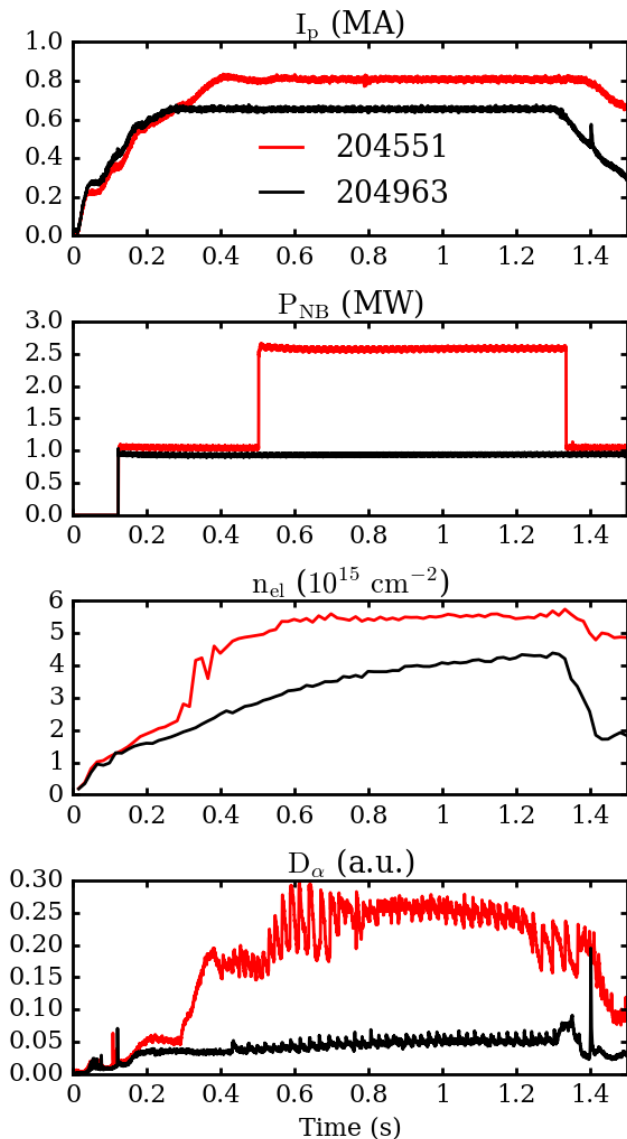
- Spectrometer specs
  - Focal length:  $\approx 0.5$  m
  - f-number: f/4–f/8
  - Spectral resolution:  $< 0.05$  nm



<sup>1</sup>See Burke, NP10.57

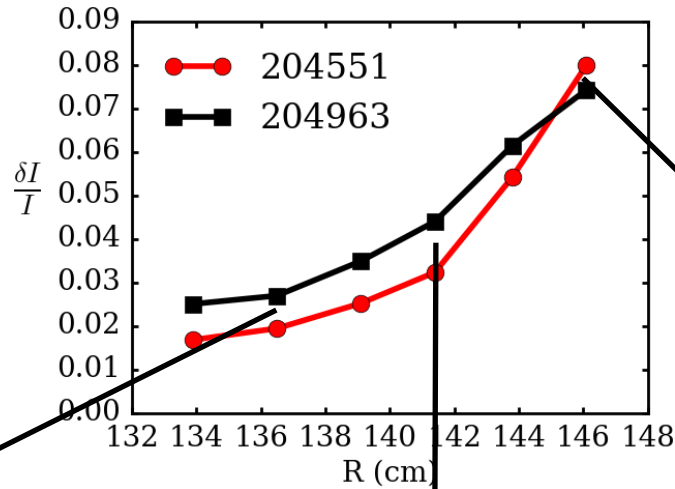
# BES detects turbulence where ITG and MTM are predicted unstable in NSTX-U L-mode discharges

- Local, nonlinear GYRO simulations<sup>1</sup>
  - $\beta_N \approx 2 \rightarrow$  EM effects destabilize MTM
  - 204963 has lower  $T_i/T_e$ , broader range where ITG is unstable



<sup>1</sup>See W. Guttenfelder, GO6.4, (Tues AM)

# Autopower spectra show increasing broadband fluctuation amplitudes toward the edge

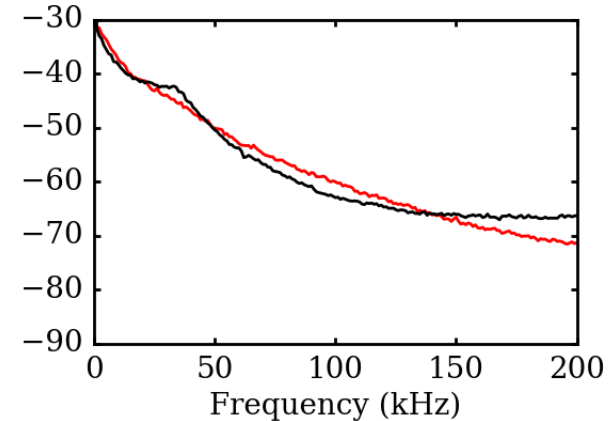
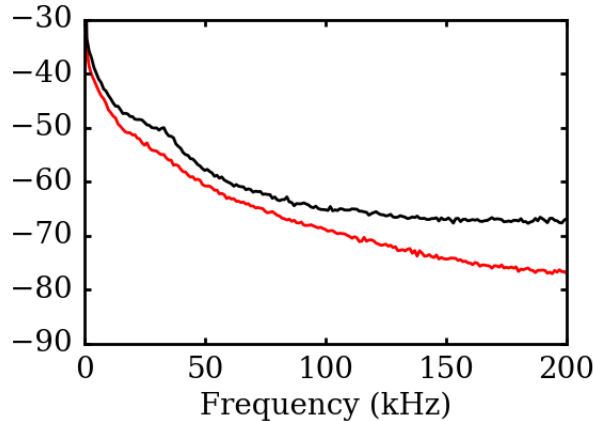
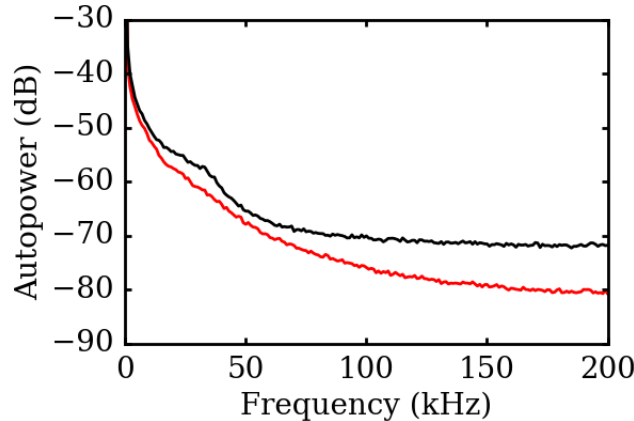


- $\Delta t$ : 0.9–1.2 s
- Conditional sampling to remove sawteeth

$r/a = 0.77$

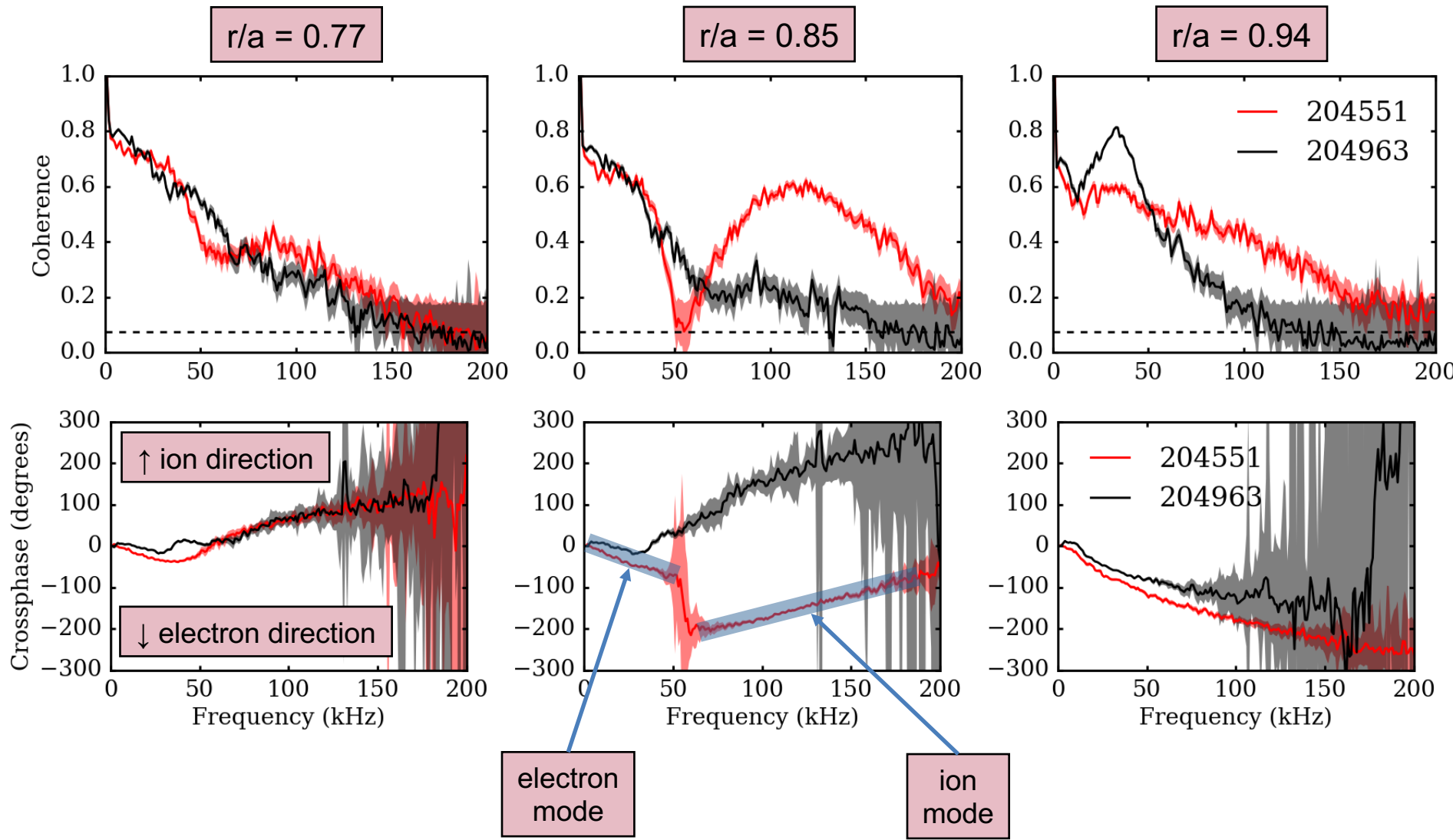
$r/a = 0.85$

$r/a = 0.94$





# Bimodal, counter-propagating turbulence is observed

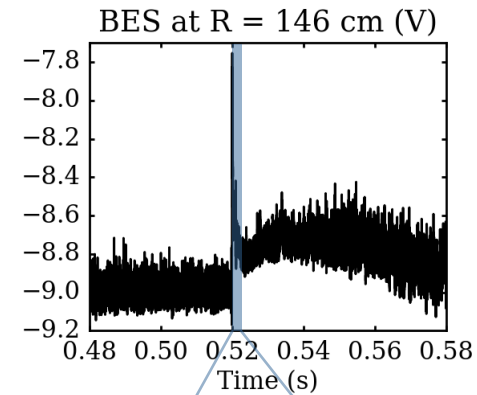
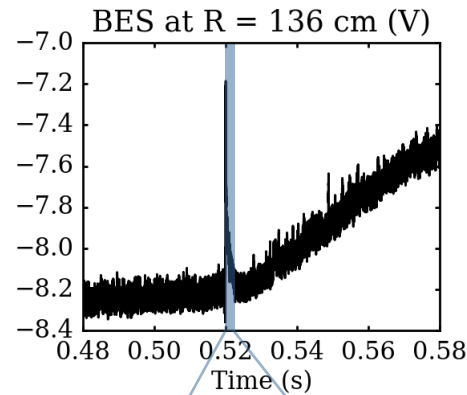
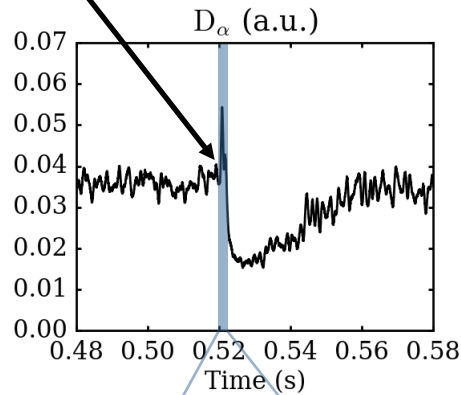
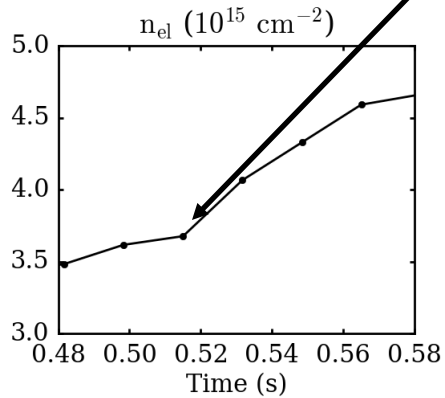


# Observations of ion-scale turbulence show some consistency with GK simulations

- Ion directed mode in 204551 shows up most clearly in region where simulation predicts  $\gamma_{ITG} > \gamma_{ExB}$
- Turbulence amplitudes are higher in 204963, which has larger ITG growth rate and less ExB shear
- However, electron mode seen in region where MTM is predicted stable
  - Effects of edge-induced common-mode fluctuations will be investigated in future

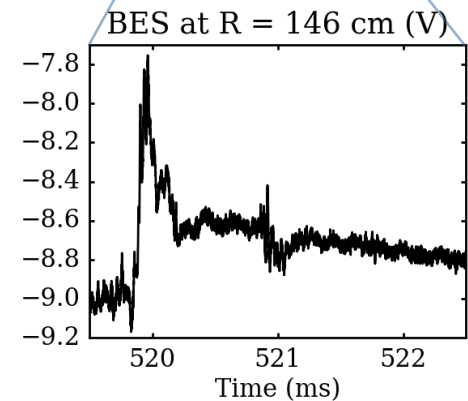
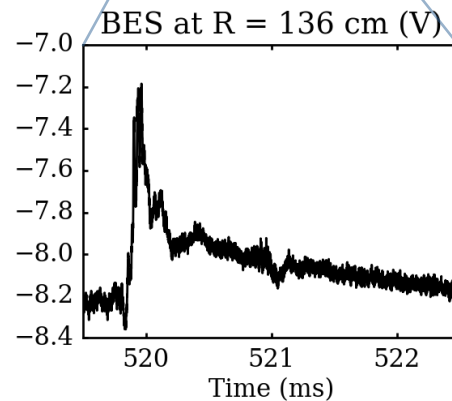
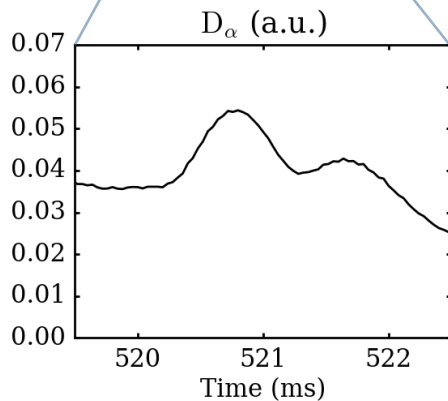
# BES detects fast dynamics of the L-H transition

L-H transition

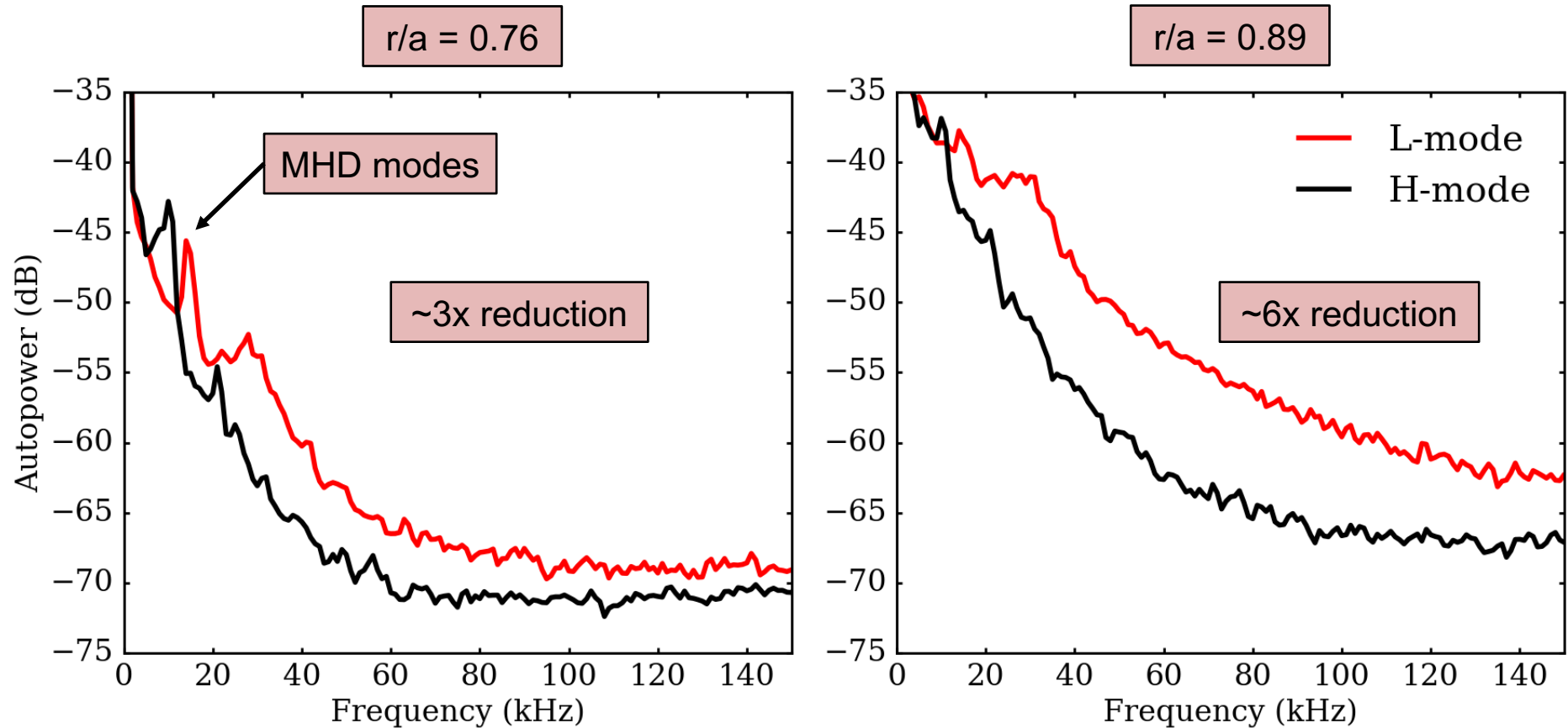


**NSTX-U**  
**Shot 204990**

$I_p = 0.65 \text{ MA}$   
 $P_{NB} = 1.0 \text{ MW}$



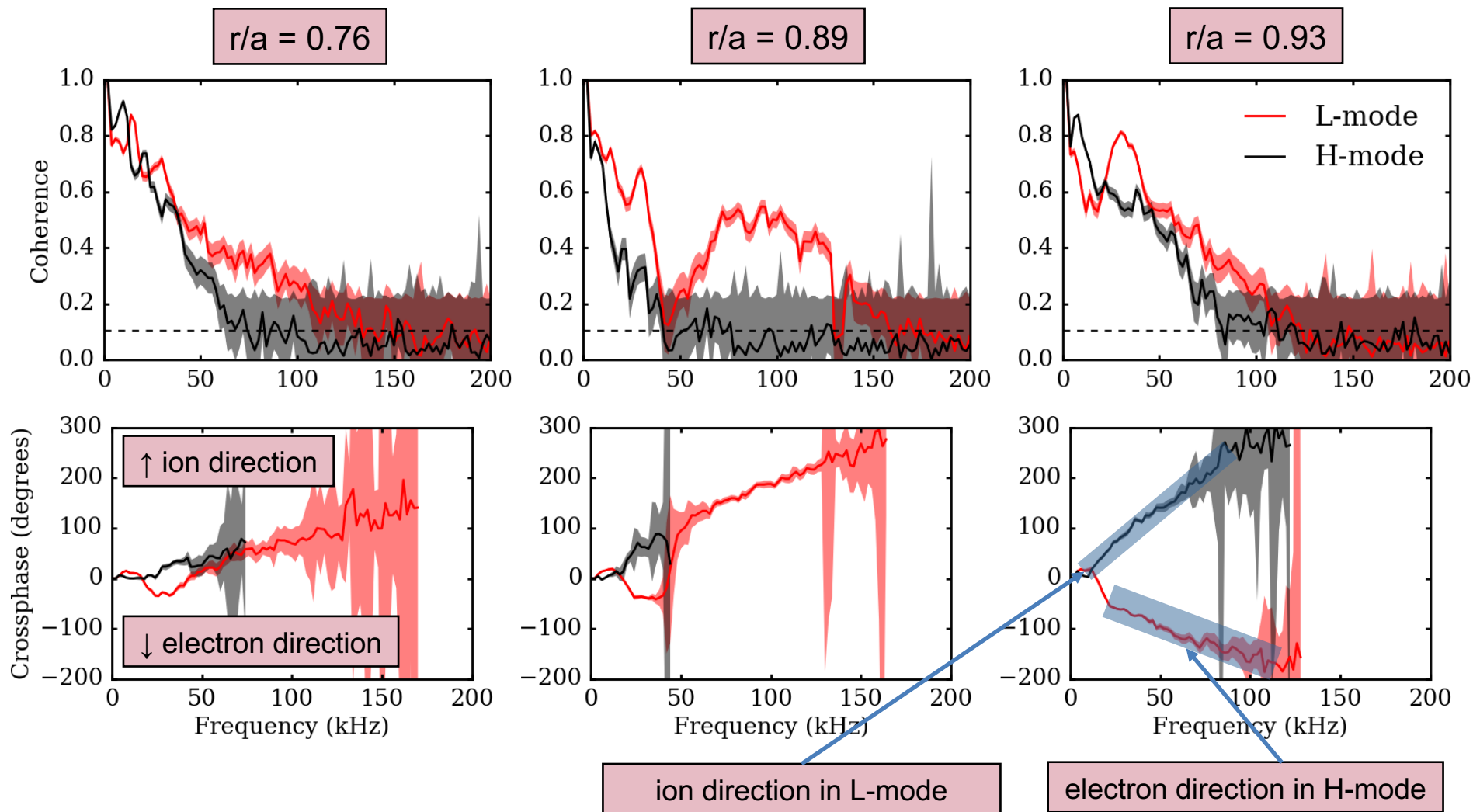
# Turbulence amplitudes decrease after L-H transition



L-mode:  $\Delta t = 448\text{--}518$  ms

H-mode:  $\Delta t = 522\text{--}592$  ms

# In contrast to L-mode, H-mode exhibits unimodal turbulence in ion direction



# Summary

- 2D BES fully operational for future run campaigns
- Spectrometer to be used to scope out emission spectrum for future fast impurity diagnostic
- L-mode plasmas show bimodal turbulence, consistent with GYRO simulations
  - Observed ion directed mode consistent with ITG prediction
- After L-H transition, turbulence nature changes from electron to ion directed mode and amplitudes drop