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# Effect of multiscale interaction between the m/n=2/1 mode and micro-instabilities on transport in KSTAR plasmas

<u>Minjun J. Choi</u><sup>1</sup>, J.-M. Kwon<sup>1</sup>, S.H. Ko<sup>1</sup>, J. Kim<sup>1</sup>, M. H. Woo<sup>1</sup>, K. D. Lee<sup>1</sup>, H. K. Park<sup>1,2</sup>, Y. In<sup>2</sup>, T. S. Hahm<sup>3</sup>, G. S. Yun<sup>4</sup>, and the KSTAR team



<sup>1</sup>National Fusion Research Institute, Daejeon 34133, Korea <sup>2</sup>Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology, Ulsan 689-798, Korea <sup>3</sup>Seoul National University, Seoul 08826, Korea <sup>4</sup>POSTECH, Pohang, Gyungbuk 790-784, Korea





- Magnetic islands are frequently observed in tokamak plasmas
  - MHD instabilities such as neoclassical tearing mode (NTM)
  - The external magnetic perturbation field
- Effect of islands on transport is not trivial
  - Properly controlled islands are shown to be beneficial, but explosive growth of islands leads to disruptions
- This complicated behavior is thought to result from various interactions between



Experimental validation/demonstration is more than necessary



## Outline

Part 1: Turbulence intensity is redistributed by the magnetic island

Part 2: Role of the strong turbulence intensity





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  Full 2-D picture of turbulence intensity
  - More than "weak around the O-point and strong near the X-point"
  - Flow shear generated by the island or turbulence can be responsible for this turbulence intensity redistribution
- Part 2: Role of the strong turbulence intensity



### Experimental set-up for the controlled island experiment

- Discharge conditions
  - 1 MW neutral beam injection (NBI) L-mode diverted plasma
  - Plasma current = 700 kA and  $q_{95} = 4.6$
  - Average density =  $1.3 1.6 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$
  - The *n*=1 (middle) magnetic perturbation field is applied to induce a locked magnetic island





### Diagnostics: electron cyclotron emission imaging (ECEI) diagnostics

 Multi-dimensional diagnostics are essential to understand the complicated dynamics correctly





### T<sub>e</sub> profile, turbulence, and flow measurements using the **ECEI diagnostics**

- T<sub>e</sub> profile from cross calibration
- $T_{\rm e}$  turbulence intensity from cross coherence between ECEI channels
  - Cross coherence  $\gamma_{xy}(f) = \frac{\text{A coherent fluctuation power}}{\text{total power (including all noise)}}$

Flow from local dispersion relation measurement using ECEI channels

- Cross phase  $\theta_{xy}(f) = K(f) \cdot d$ 



J.M. Beall et al., JAP (1982) M.J. Choi et al., APS (2011) & RSI (2016) **K**STAR



# $T_{\rm e}$ profile modification due to the m/n=2/1 island

• The flat (steep)  $T_{\rm e}$  profile inside (outside) the magnetic island





# $T_{\rm e}$ profile modification due to the m/n=2/1 island

• The flat (steep)  $T_{e}$  profile inside (outside) the magnetic island



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9



### 2D inhomogeneous $T_e$ turbulence intensity near the island





### 2D inhomogeneous T<sub>e</sub> turbulence intensity near the island



**K§TAR** 11



## 2D inhomogeneous $T_{e}$ turbulence intensity near the island

- Inside the island, no significant turbulence intensity
- Outside the island, significant turbulence intensity in both inner  $(r < r_{si})$ and outer  $(r > r_{so})$ regions

J.-M. Kwon et al., PoP (2018) & TH/8-1 found TEM ( $r < r_{si}$ ) and ITG ( $r > r_{so}$ ) unstable

For similar experimental observations K. Zhao et al., NF (2015) L. Bardóczi et al., PRL (2016)



## 2D inhomogeneous $T_{e}$ turbulence intensity near the island

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Localized close to the X-point with a distance

J.-M. Kwon et al., PoP (2018) & TH/8-1





# Absence of $T_e$ turbulence in the O-point regions

 Slowly rotating RMP experiment demonstrates full picture of the T<sub>e</sub> turbulence around the island



KSTAR #15638; rotating n=1 field

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KSTAR #15638; rotating n=1 field

### 2D flow measurements near the island





#### 2D flow measurements near the island



**K§TAR** 17



## 2D flow measurements near the island

- The 2-D vertical group velocity measurements found
  - $v_g$  is stronger near the separatrix
  - The radial shear of  $v_g$  increases towards the O-point direction
  - Reversal across the island

For other experimental measurements K. Ida et al., PRL (2001) T. Estrada et al., NF (2016) K. Zhao et al., NF (2017)





# The strong $E \times B$ shear ( $\geq 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) can suppress turbulence in the O-point regions

$$\frac{\partial v_{\rm g}}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( v_{E \times B} + v_{ph} + \cdots \right)$$

Strong shear can be explained by the shear of  $v_{E \times B}$  (or  $v_{zonal}$ ?)

Near X-point O-point  $v_g \downarrow \qquad \qquad v_g \downarrow \qquad \qquad v_g \downarrow \qquad \qquad R$   $R \downarrow \qquad \qquad P \downarrow \qquad \qquad R$ No significant turbulence J.-M. Kwon et al., PoP (2018) & TH/8-1



**K5TAR** 19

**NFRI** E. Poli et al.,

## **Turbulence intensity modulation by the NTM**

 Significant bicoherence between the NTM rotating frequency (20 kHz) and the broad turbulence (50—150 kHz)



Cross (squared) bicoherence between BES measurements (local density fluctuations) around the NTM

in collaboration with Dr. L. Bardóczi and Dr. G. McKee



For other experimental observations L. Bardóczi et al., PoP (2017) M. Jiang et al., NF (2018) P.J. Sun et al., PPCF (2018)



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- Part 2: Role of the strong turbulence intensity
  - Heat flow into the magnetic island; potentially beneficial
  - Minor disruption



#### Heat flow into the magnetic island with turbulence increase

When the turbulence intensity is strong enough, T<sub>e</sub> transport events occurs







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When the turbulence intensity is strong enough, T<sub>e</sub> transport events occurs



**K5TAR** 23

#### Heat flow into the magnetic island with turbulence increase

• 2D  $\delta T_{\rm e}/\langle T_{\rm e}\rangle$  images found the fast heat flow from outside to inside of the island: this may indicate turbulence spreading



R [cm]

R [cm]

R [cm]

**KSTAR** 24

R [cm]

For more understanding of turbulence spreading T.S. Hahm et al., PPCF (2004) K. Ida et al., PRL (2018)

## Minor disruption with stronger turbulence intensity

 Turbulence near the proximity of the X-point can be vulnerable to minor disruption (explosive growth of TM or stochastization)





# Minor disruption with stronger turbulence intensity

 Turbulence intensity further increases and spreads to the X-point before minor disruption occurs



# Summary

Spatial distribution of the turbulence is determined by the combined effect of the temperature gradient and the flow shear around the island



Minor disruption or profile peaking can occur due to the strong turbulence intensity outside the magnetic island

20

15

10

E

ſ

-5

-10

-15

-20

z [cm]



M.J. Choi et al., NF (2017) J.-M. Kwon et al., PoP (2018)

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  - Ishizawa NF 2009, Poli NF 2009 & PPCF 2010, Hornsby PoP 2010, Hu NF 2016, Izacard PoP 2016, Navarro PPCF 2017, Kwon PoP 2018, Hahm PPCF 2004 & JKPS 2018
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# Another evidence for the increasing flow towards the separatrix

- 2D measurement of the turbulence correlation length found that the poloidal correlation length increases toward the separatrix
  - It can result from stronger poloidal flow toward the separatrix





## **Back-up: change of fluctuation power**

Fluctuation power before island - fluctuation power after island







## **Back-up: cross coherence**

Summed cross coherence image

 $\sum_{f=f_1}^{f_2} \gamma(f)$ 

 $\gamma(f) = \frac{|\langle XY^* \rangle|}{\sqrt{\langle XX^* \rangle \langle YY^* \rangle}}$ 

X(f) : FFT of an ECEI signal x(t)Y(f) : FFT of an ECEI signal y(t)





## **Back-up: different turbulence distributions**







# Another evidence for the increasing flow towards the separatrix

- 2D measurement of the turbulence correlation length found that the poloidal correlation length increases toward the separatrix
  - It can result from stronger poloidal flow toward the separatrix





## **Back-up: cross phase**

Cross phase between two channels, i.e.  $\theta_{xy}(f) = k(f) \cdot d$ provides local dispersion relation







### **Back-up: time trace**





## **Back-up: another cross phase**

#15638 X : 8.729—8.749, 50 bins, Towards O : 8.709—8.729, 50 bins, More O : 8.689—8.709, 50 bins



