# Simulations and Validation of Disruption Mitigation

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### Current Quench And Runaway Electrons Pose Bigger Challenge

- SPI thermal quench simulations well in hand
- current quench and runaway electron simulations are more challenging
- current quench and runaway electrons involve two extremes
  - cold dirty plasma and relativistic electrons
- several hybrid approaches combining kinetic and fluid models underway
   MARS-F

NIMROD Dispersive Shell Pellet Injection Sims Explain Experimental<sup>†</sup> Trends

- M3D-C1 + fluid RE, M3D-C1 + KORC
- NIMROD RE tracers, NIMROD hybrid kinetic RE
- NIMROD+CQL3D

• additional work exists outside cohort of collaborators

• good agreement in impurity/ionization models demonstrated with stationary, axisymmetric, on-axis source<sup>a</sup>

- benchmarks extended to two more cases : SPI in (a) 2D ITER L-mode and (b) 3D DIII-D (160606<sup>b</sup>)
- good agreement in test of marker particle model for SPI fragments
- comparison of thermal quench metrics : total current( $I_p$ ), thermal energy( $E_{th}$ ), ionized electron count( $\Delta N_e$ ), radiated power( $P_{rad}+P_{ion}$ ), Ohmic power( $P_{ohm}$ )
- verification comparisons have also caught bugs and inconsistencies very useful exercise!
- high confidence in implementation SPI model
- <sup>a</sup>B. Lyons PPCF 2019
- <sup>b</sup>Shiraki PoP 2016



- decreasing viscosity accelerates dynamics earlier t\_{rad}^{peak},  $au_{TQ}$ , t\_{I}^{spike}
  - larger  $P_{rad}^{peak}$  due to stronger linear response (2,1),(3,2)
  - earlier nonlinear saturation but not necessarily larger amplitude

viscosity	${ m d}\phi/2\pi$	$t_{rad}^{peak}$	$ au_{TQ}$	$t^{spike}_{I}$	$P_{rad}^{peak}(GW)$	$E_{rad}/E_{th}$	assim.
$500 \text{m}^2/\text{s}$	0.10	1.417ms	1.478ms	1.728ms	0.50	40%	0.42
$250 \text{m}^2/\text{s}$	0.10	1.224ms	1.268ms	1.510ms	1.46	58%	0.66
100m <sup>2</sup> /s	0.10	1.180ms	1.227ms	1.390ms	0.93	45%	0.61
$500 \text{m}^2/\text{s}$	0.05	1.393ms	1.451ms	1.804ms	0.55	45%	0.34
$250 \text{m}^2/\text{s}$	0.05	1.320ms	1.379ms	1.680ms	0.64	47%	0.38
100m <sup>2</sup> /s	0.05	1.245ms	1.316ms	1.670ms	0.64	44%	0.41

radiation peak  $(t_{rad}^{peak})$ , thermal quench time  $(\tau_{TQ})$ , current spike peak  $(t_I^{spike})$ , peak radiated power  $(P_{rad}^{peak})$ , radiated energy fraction  $(E_{rad}/E_{th})$ , impurity assimilation.

• decreasing viscosity accelerates dynamics - earlier t\_{rad}^{peak},  $au_{TQ}$ , t\_{I}^{spike}



reproduces larger l<sub>p</sub> spike for slower pellets
 slower pellet → less dissipated flux at o-point
 → more reconnected flux at x-point at l<sub>p</sub> spike



- RE seeds only for fastest pellet
- $E/E_{crit} > 1$  only for fastest pellet required for hot-tail generation

## Hybrid MHD-RE Model in MARS-F Used to Study Interaction with Internal Kink



• RE fluid found to destabilize n=1 ideal internal kink and modify eigenmode structure

- kink does not produce significant RE loss unless perturbation field comparable to equilibrium
- RE hybrid model produces less RE loss than RE fluid model

- narrower toroidal deposition (d $\phi$ ) delays dynamics later t $_{rad}^{peak}$ ,  $au_{TQ}$ , t $_{I}^{spike}$ 
  - implies deeper penetration but shows lower assimilation
- peak in radiated power,  $t_{rad}^{peak}$ , precedes  $au_{TQ}$  by  $\sim$ 50 $\mu$ s, current spike,  $t_I^{spike}$ , few 100's $\mu$ s after  $au_{TQ}$

## Good D2 Fraction Validation



- single upper injector, v=200m/s, d $\phi$ =0.10, visc=250m/s<sup>2</sup>, D2=[0×,10×,100×]Ne •  $\tau_{TQ}$ =[1.27,1.57,1.35]ms, radiation fraction [58,50,14]%
- **good** agreement with DIII-D experiment (Shiraki PoP 2016)



## Loose Forward Coupling with NIMROD and CQL3D (Y. Petrov)

- CQL3D relativistic collisional/quasilinear bounce-averaged Fokker-Planck equation
  - solves for distributions of electrons and ions
  - flux surface averaged fields, toroidal geometry
  - ${\scriptstyle \bullet}$  options for RF/neutral beam/particle sources, applied E-field, and radial diffusion
- early coupled sims demonstrated sensitivity to the details of the thermal quench<sup>a</sup>
- ${\scriptstyle \bullet}$  forward coupling feeds NIMROD flux surface averaged fields into CQL3D
  - loose forward coupling: NIMROD is run once independently
  - ${\scriptstyle \bullet}\,$  output fields from NIMROD  $\rightarrow$  input fields for CQL3D
- initial calculations do not consider RE loss
- tighter feedback in time coupling planned for future work
  - file based, python driven

<sup>a</sup>R. W. Harvey, NF 2019

# Runaway Electron Currents From CQL3D-NIMROD Simulations



outboard midplane profiles of T<sub>e</sub> and n<sub>Z</sub> at t=[0.0,0.5,1.0,1.235,1.335,1.475,1.8375]ms
 core temperature maintained throughout early phase (t=[0.0,0.5,1.0])
 peak radiation associated with core collapse (t=[1.235 -])
 impurities mix into core after rapid thermal collapse of core (t=[1.335,1.475,1.8375]ms)
 current spike (t<sup>spike</sup>=1.510ms) occurs after thermal quench

(c) post thermal quench (t=1.335) stochastic fields

(d) late after thermal quench flux surfaces heal - core and (2,1) islands

## Poincare Plots Sketch Destruction and Healing of Flux Surfaces



- (c) runaway electrons accelerated to MeV's
  - electron loss not taken into account recall Poincare plots
    loose coupling does not feed back RE's into NIMROD

future work

### Summary and Future Work

- verification benchmark comparisons with M3D-C1 are invaluable
- NIMROD simulations reproduce and explain many experimental trends
   D2 impurity scan, dominant role of n=1, DSP RE trends
- parameter scans reveal numeric sensitivity landscape
- SPI thermal quench simulations are well in hand
- more challenging current quench and runaway electron simulations under way
- continue more detailed validation comparisons with experiment

#### • extend simulations to ITER predictions