

Progress on Tokamak Disruption Event Characterization and Forecasting Research and Expansion to Real-Time Application

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**IAEA Technical Meeting on
Plasma Disruptions and their
Mitigation**

20-23 July 2020

St. Paul-lez-Durance, France

ASDEX-U

KSTAR

MAST-U

NSTX-U



Max-Planck-Institut
für Plasmaphysik



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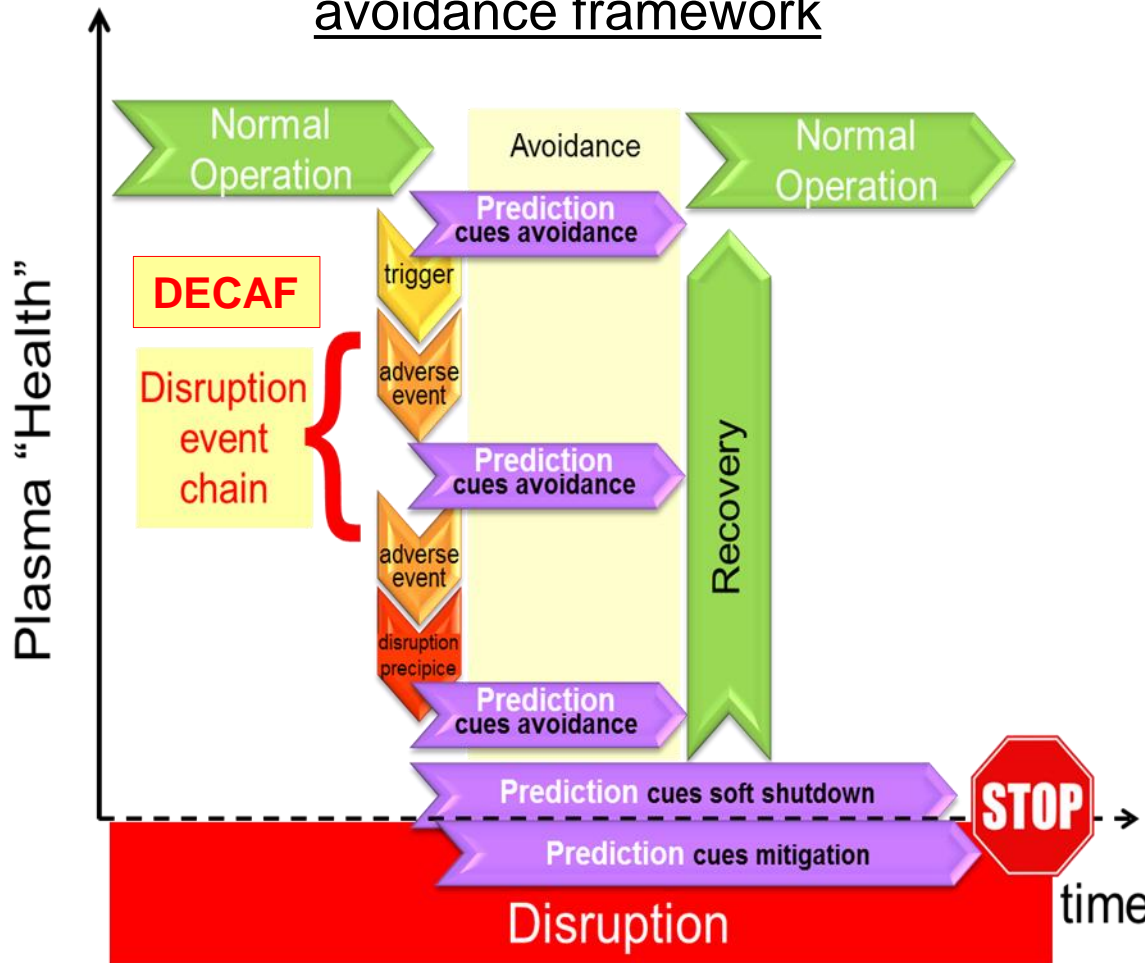
A broadened disruption prediction and avoidance analysis is progressing for ITER and future tokamaks

- ❑ Motivation: Disruption prediction/avoidance is a critical need
 - ❑ Why? A disruption stops plasma operation, might cause device damage
 - ❑ A highest priority DOE FES (Tier 1) initiative - **present “grand challenge”** in tokamak stability research:
 - Can be done! (JET: < 4% disruptions with carbon wall)
 - ITER disruption allowance: < 1 - 2% (energy + E&M loads); << 1% (runaways)

- ❑ Outline
 - ❑ Disruption Event Characterization and Forecasting (**DECAF**) approach
 - ❑ Overview of DECAF results, disruption event chains, early forecasting
 - ❑ Initial multiple-device, large database analysis, forecasting performance
 - ❑ Physics support research: i.e. KSTAR high β_N , Δ' , ~100% non-inductive CD
 - ❑ Recent focus on real-time design and implementation on KSTAR

DECAF is a logical, physics-based paradigm that meets all disruption predictor requirement metrics

DECAF in disruption prediction / avoidance framework



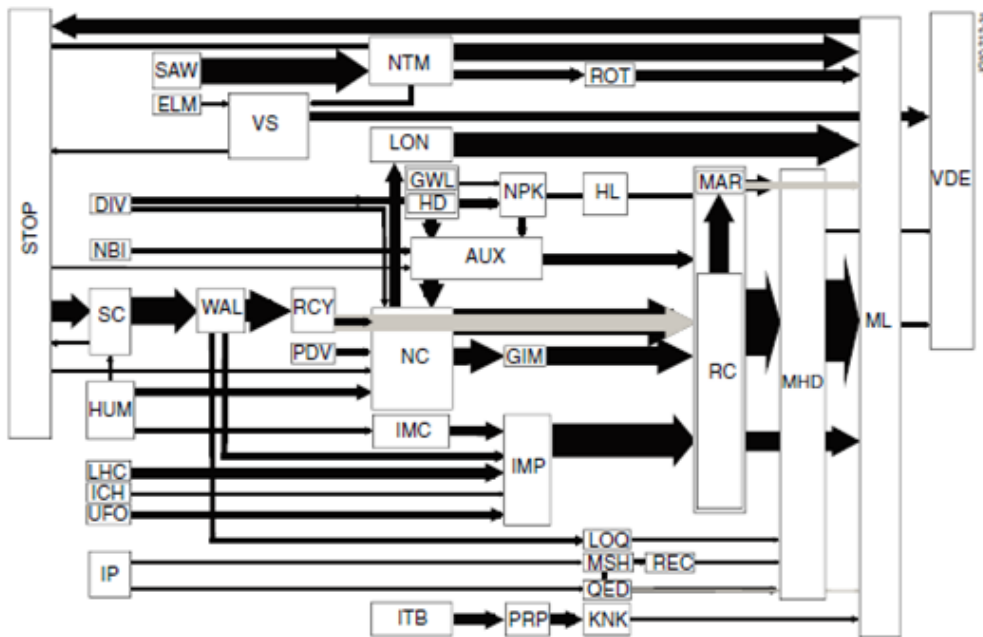
❑ Disruption predictor must

- ✓ Predict SPECIFIC pre-disruptive phenomena → link to control
- ✓ Provide CONTINUOUS variable quantifying proximity (& can GENERATE triggers)
- ✓ Provide SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME for mitigation or avoidance
- ✓ Be EXTRAPOLABLE to new device (e.g. ITER) prior to operation
- ✓ Be REAL-TIME calculable

D. Humphreys, et al., PoP **22** (2015) 021806

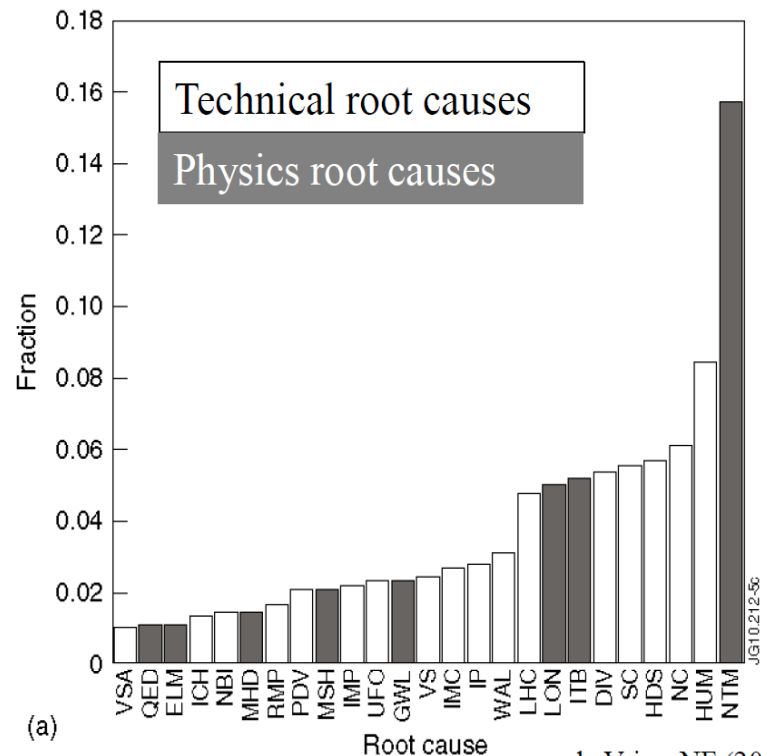
DECAF follows disruption event framework (de Vries) to provide understanding of disruption chains → automates it

JET disruption event chains



P.C. de Vries *et al.*, Nucl. Fusion **51** (2011) 053018

Related disruption event statistics

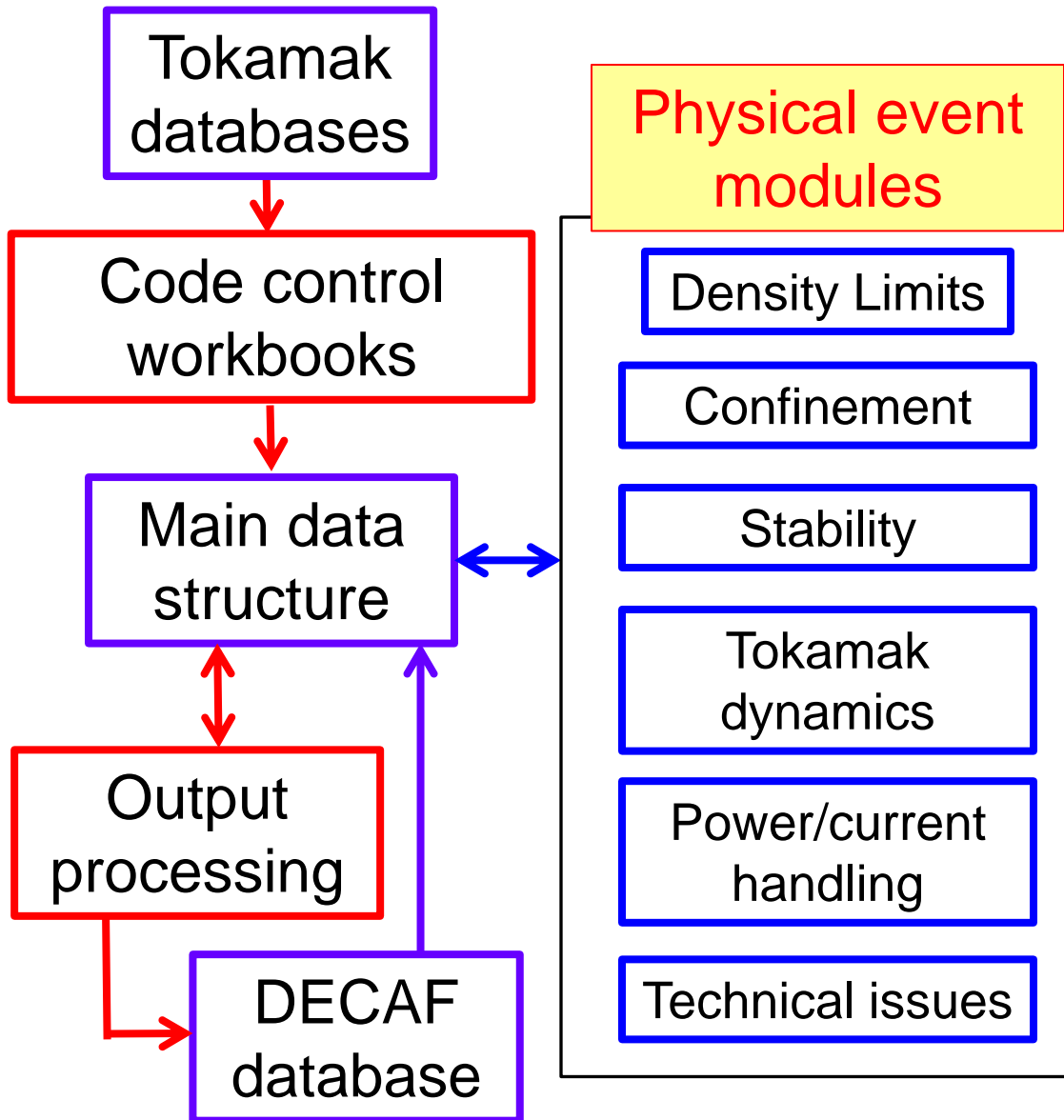


(a)

de Vries, NF (2011)

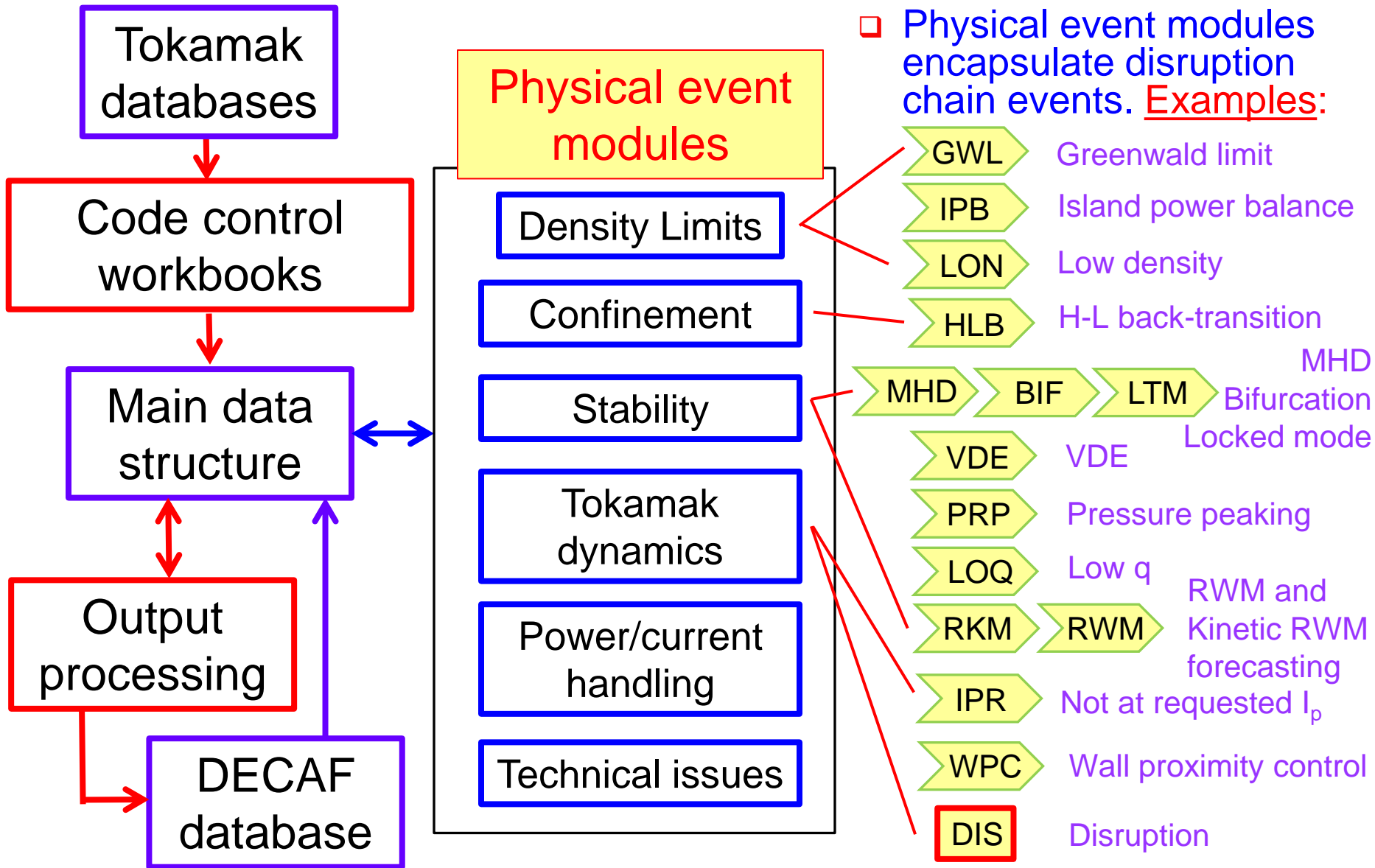
- JET disruption event chain analysis performed by hand, desire to automate
- General code DECAF: automates event chain process, provides disruption warning signals, being validated against databases from multiple devices

DECAF is structured to ease parallel development of disruption characterization, event criteria, and forecasting



- Physical event modules encapsulate disruption chain events
 - Development focused on improving these modules
 - Structure eases parallel development incl. real-time
- Physical events are objects in physics modules
 - e.g. VDE, LOQ, RWM are objects in “Stability”
 - Python “objects” having attributes and methods
 - Carry metadata, event forecasting criteria, event linkages, etc.

DECAF is structured to ease parallel development of disruption characterization, event criteria, and forecasting



DECAF connected to databases from multiple machines, expanding analysis

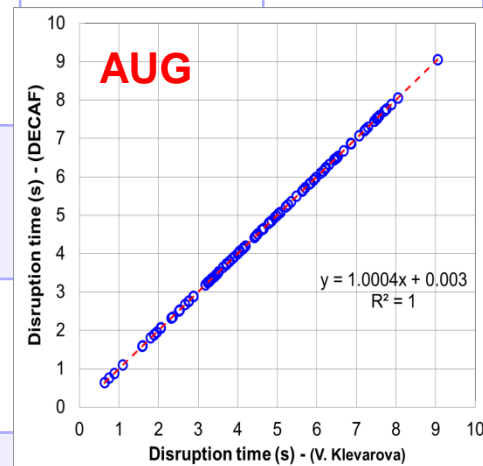
Analysis

- Density limits
- Ideal, kinetic, resistive MHD stability
- Rotating MHD, etc.

DECAF database started

- Presently ~50 TB stored

Device / Capability	KSTAR	MAST	NSTX	DIII-D	AUG, TCV
Full database access (required!)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (UDA)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (MDSplus)	Yes (MDSplus)
Database analysis	continuing	continuing	continuing		
Equilibrium analysis	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE	Magnetic, Kinetic + MSE		
Stability	Ideal, Resistive Kinetic MHD	Ideal (so far)	Ideal, kinetic MHD (resistive)		
shot*seconds (for kinetic analysis)	~ 3,880 (2016-2018)	2,667 (est) (M5 - M9 runs)	2,000 / year (est)		



- Now, full access interface to AUG database; expanding to others
 - 100 shot LTM disruption database by V. Klearova analyzed for **DIS**

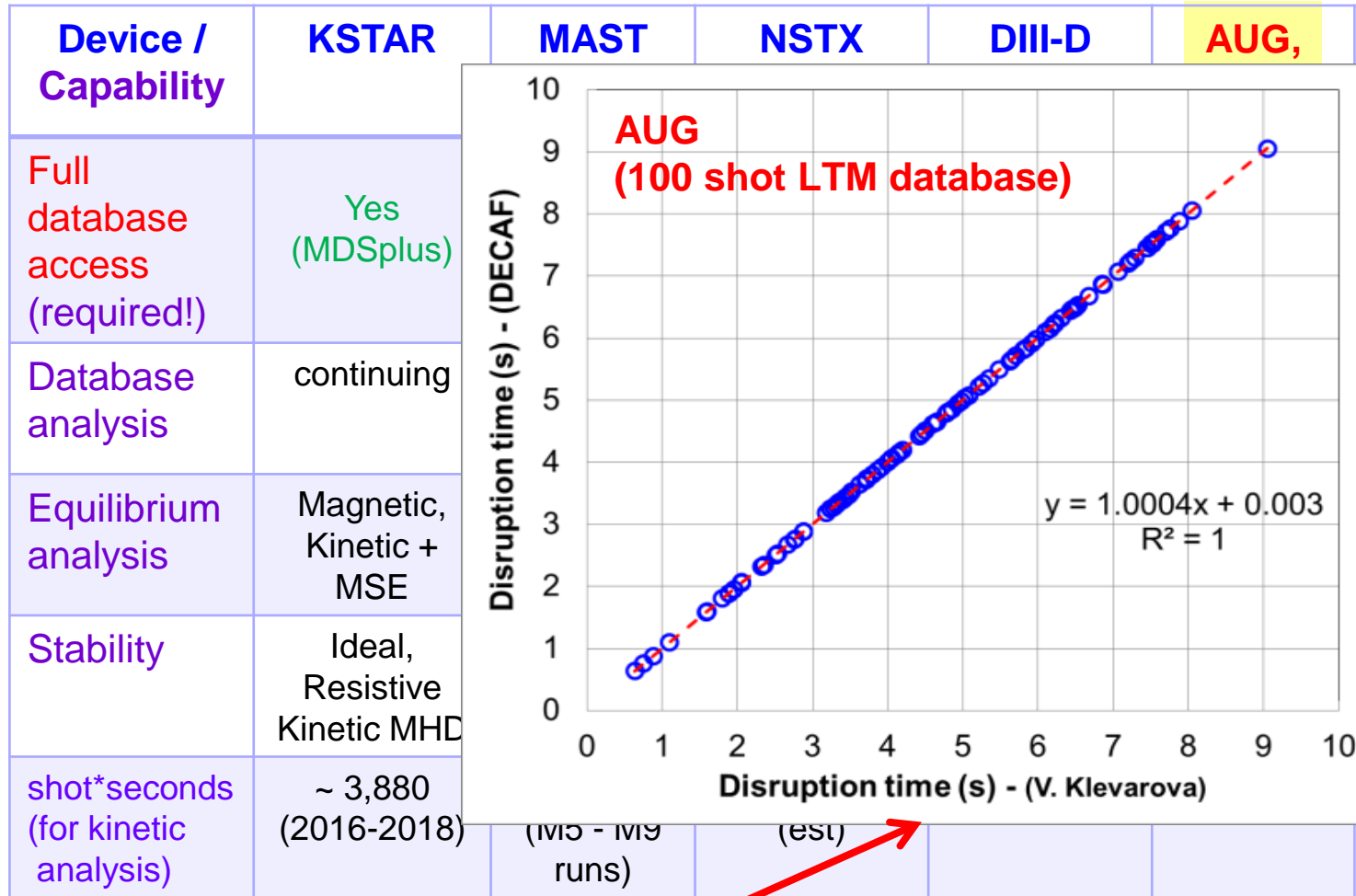
DECAF now connected to databases from multiple machines, expanding analysis

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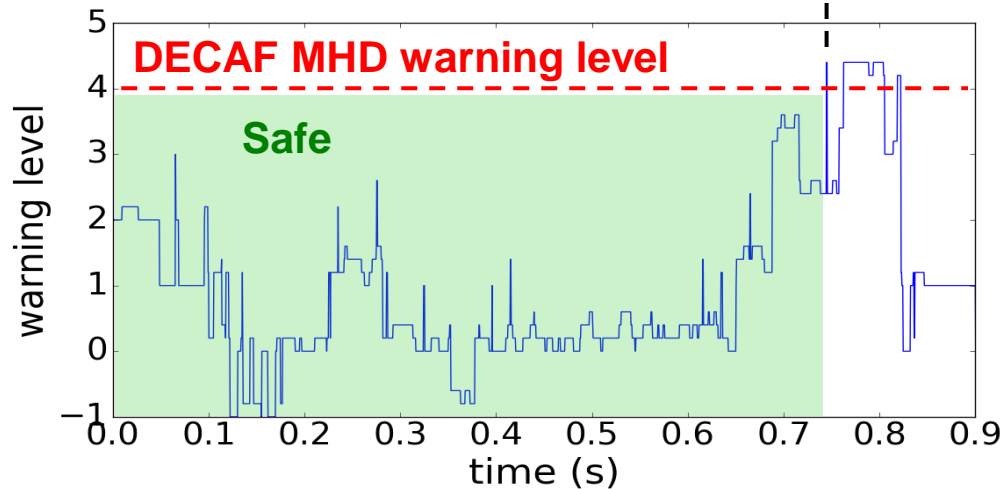
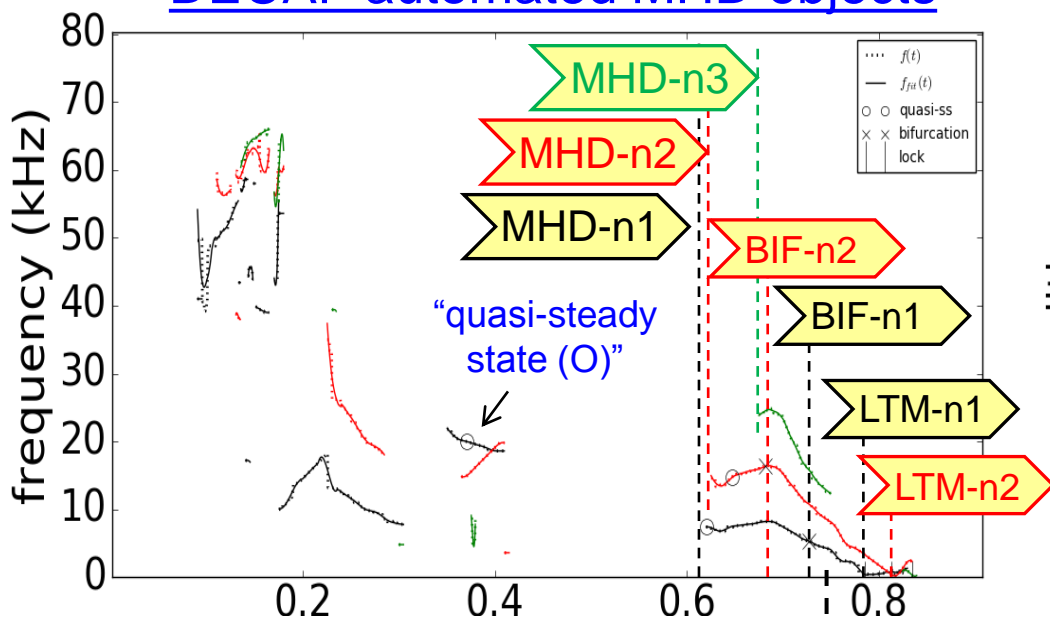
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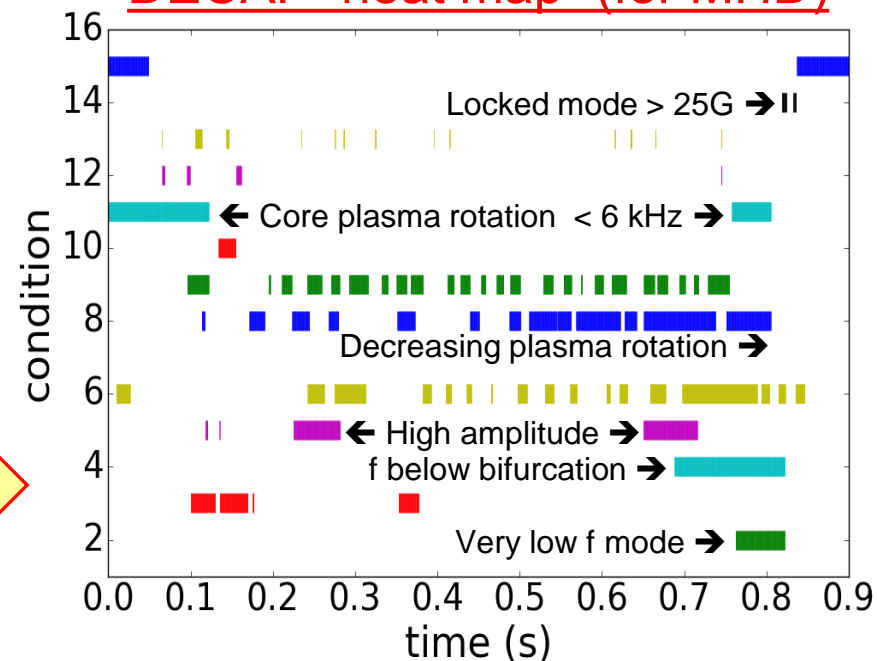
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DECAF MHD events utilize history of 15 criteria to define time evolving disruption warning level

DECAF automated MHD objects



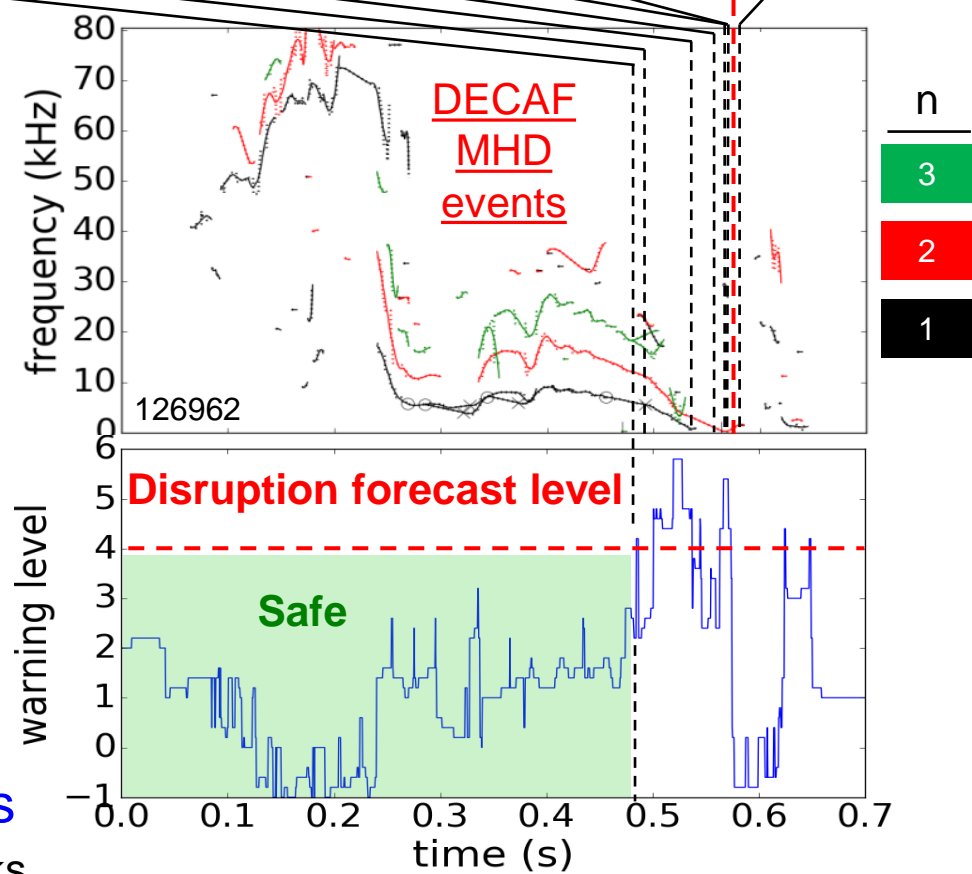
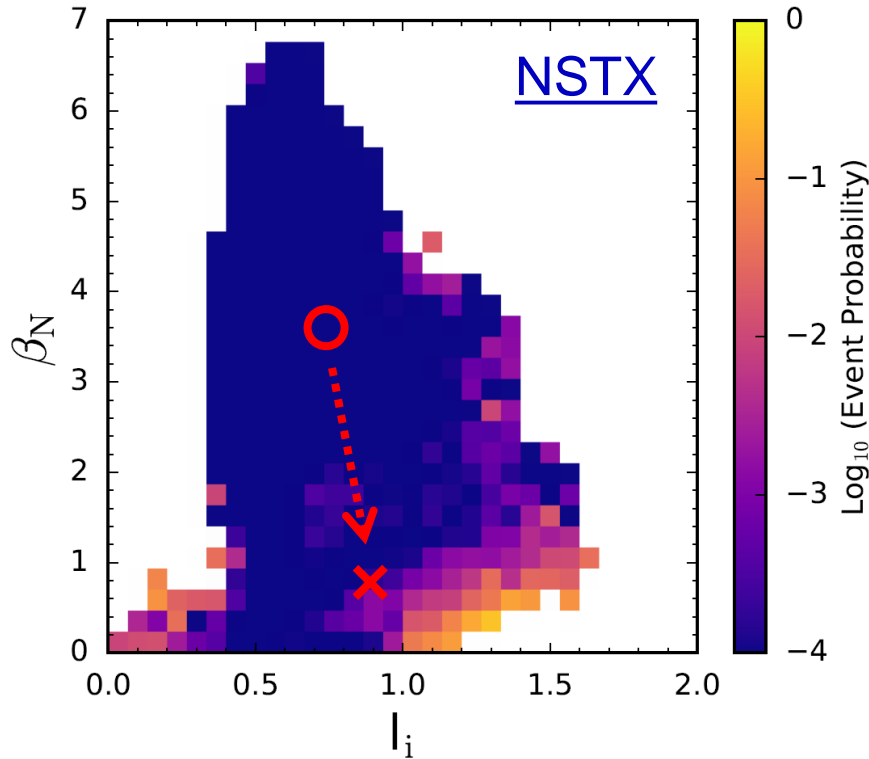
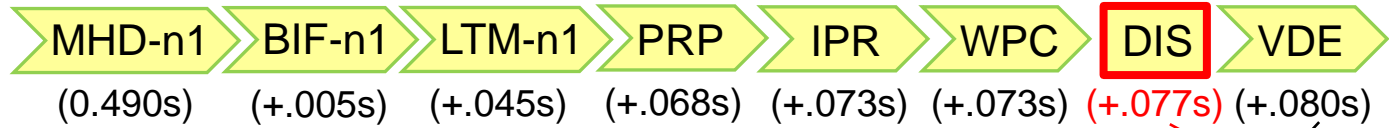
DECAF "heat map" (for MHD)



- Key notables of MHD warning
 - "Safe"/"unsafe" MHD periods found
 - Early, slow warning level evolution
 - Locked mode amplitude important, but warning comes in very late
 - Mode frequency below bifurcation, decreasing plasma rotation key

DECAF provides an **early disruption forecast** - on transport timescales – giving potential for disruption avoidance

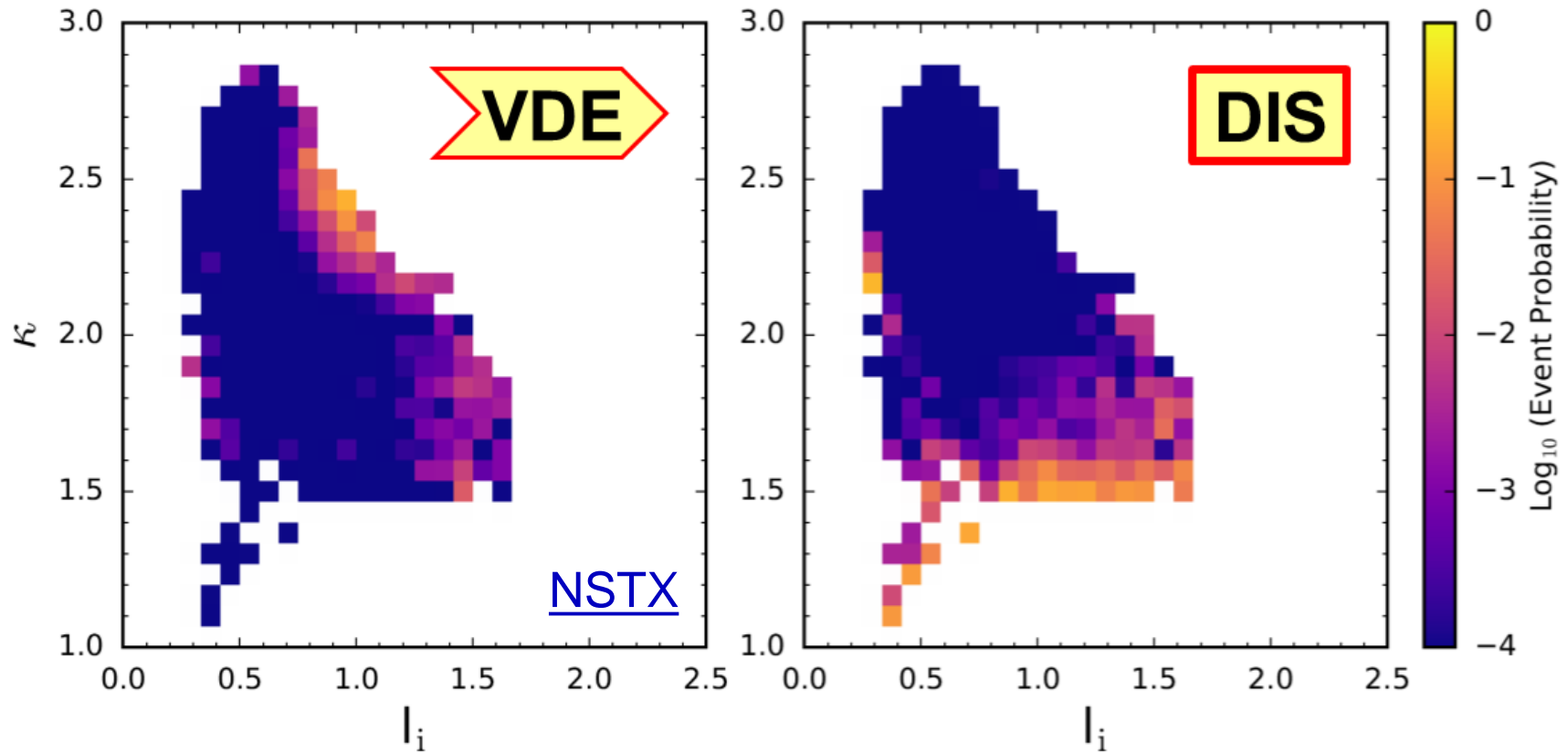
DECAF event chain



DECAF event chain reveals physics

- Rotating MHD slows, bifurcates, and locks
- Then, plasma has an H-L back-transition (pressure peaking warning PRP) before DIS
- Important:** Early warning occurs in apparently **SAFE** region of operating space!

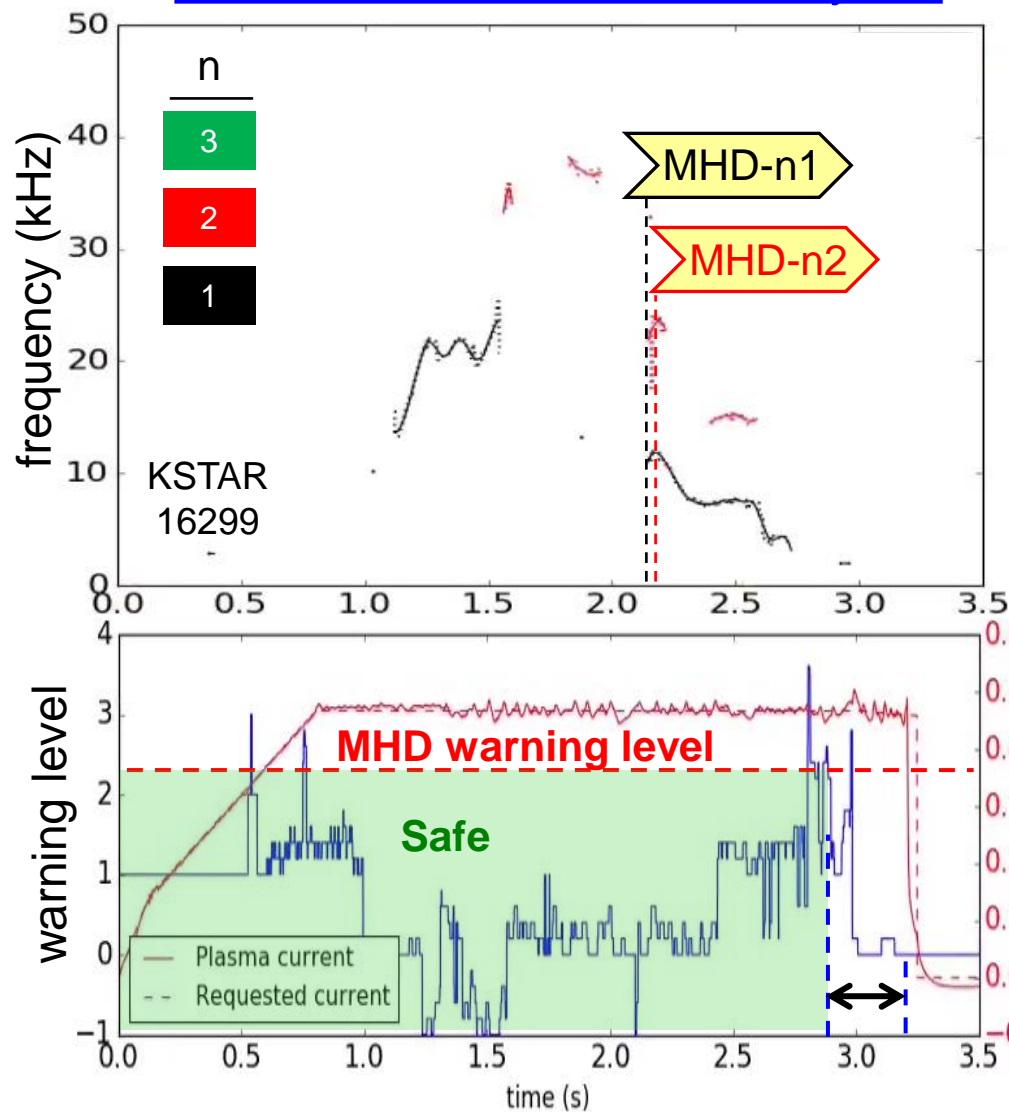
Example: DECAF shows plasma parameters of VDE event can occur far from those of DIS event



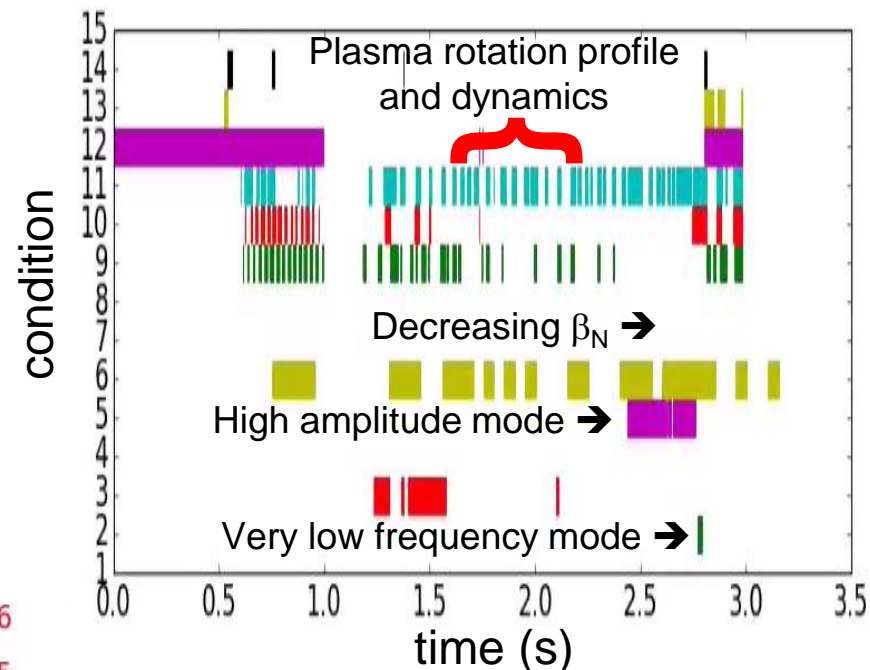
- Largest portion of detected VDE events appear at (I_i, κ) with very small portion of DIS events detected

DECAF MHD events also produce early disruption warnings for KSTAR

DECAF automated MHD objects



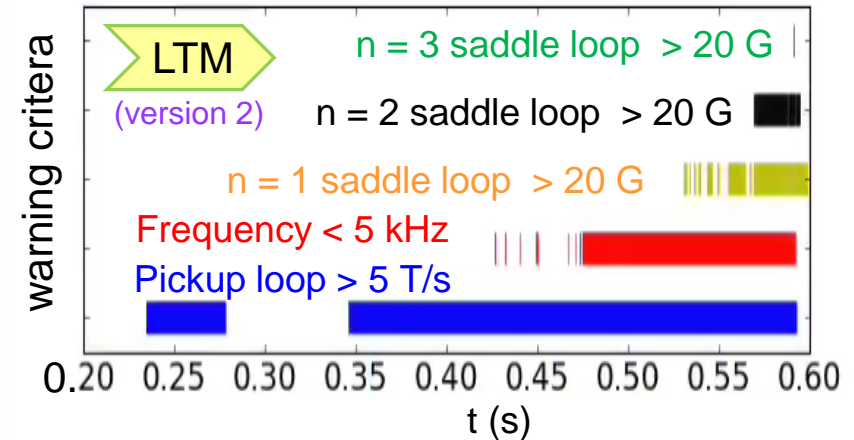
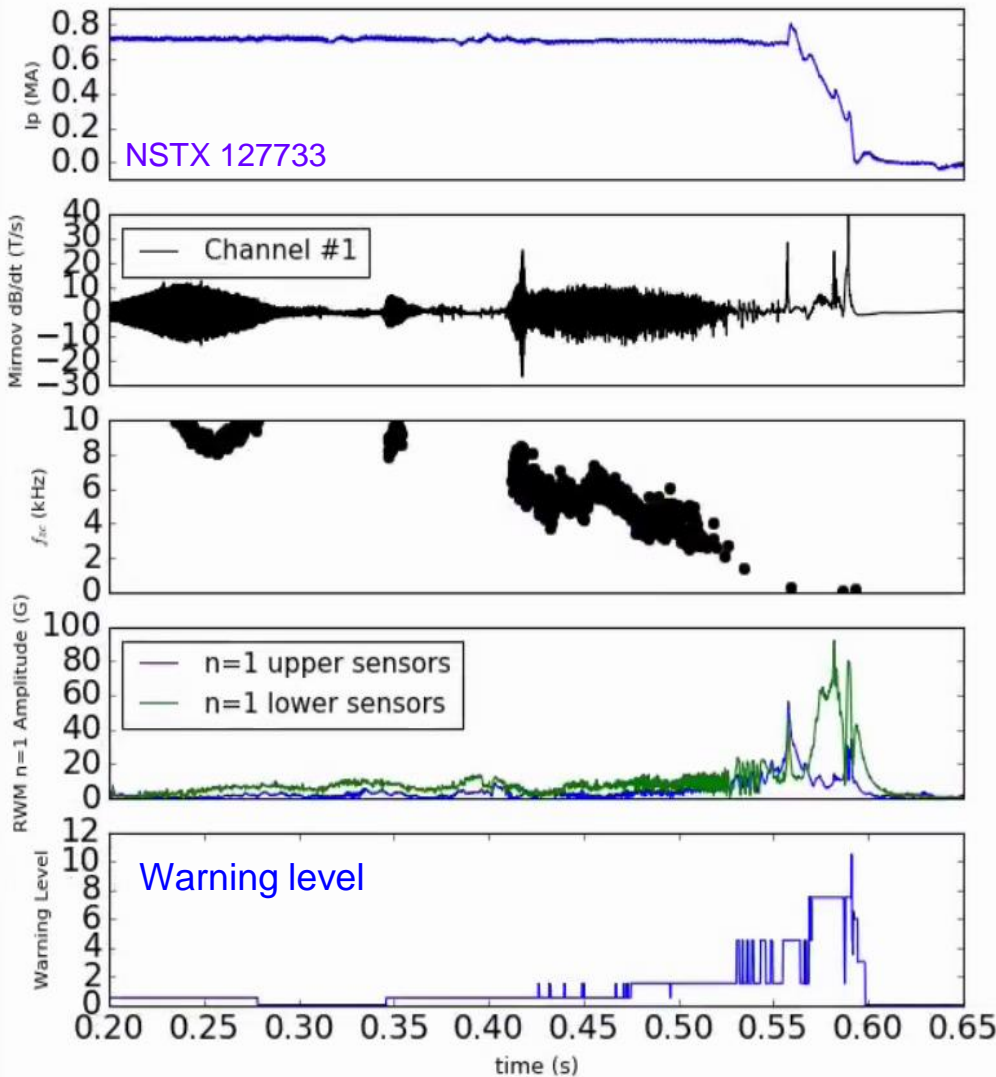
DECAF "heat map" (for MHD)



- Mode locking at reduced plasma rotation
- Key notables of MHD warning
 - "Safe"/"unsafe" MHD periods
 - Early disruption warning (300 ms) \rightarrow on transport timescale

New “reduced” locked tearing mode event being created, aimed for real-time use / comparison

DECAF “heat map” (for LTM v2)



- Using pickup coils and partial saddle loops
- Compare to full FFT approach
- Warning level criteria
 - Pickup coil amplitude > 5 T/s
 - Low zero-crossing measured frequency < 5 kHz
 - High mode identified saddle loops amplitude > 20 G

New DECAF edge localized mode event created to start examining correlations to other MHD

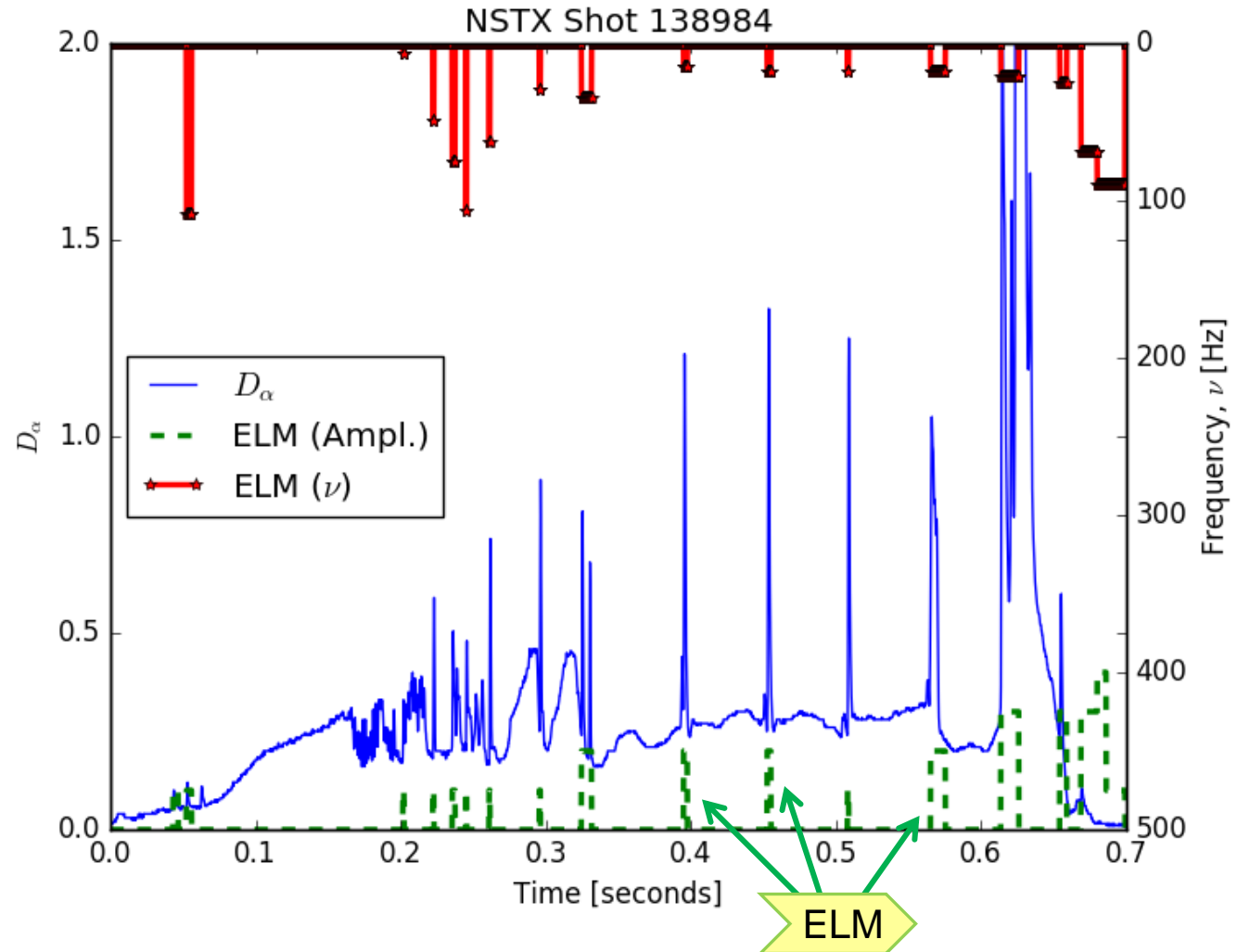
DECAF ELM event

- Presently determines ELM triggering times, along with frequency and relative amplitude

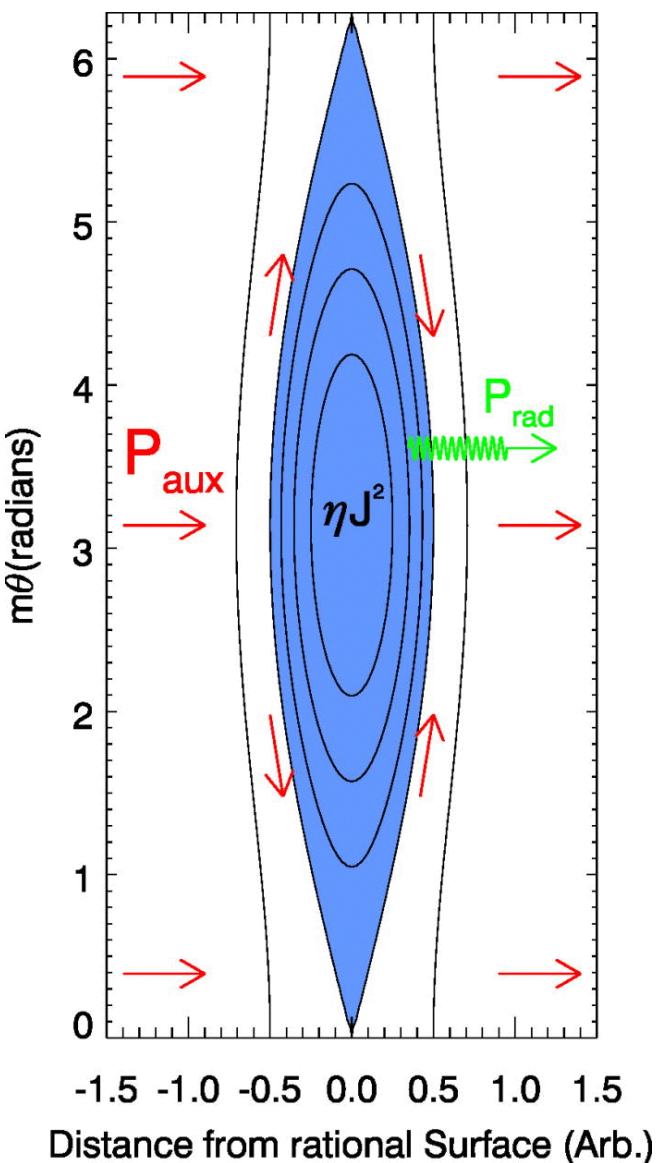
Near-term-goals

- Determine greater understanding between ELM triggering and more deleterious MHD excitation

Compatible with real-time use



A density limit model has been examined in DECAF based on power balance in an island

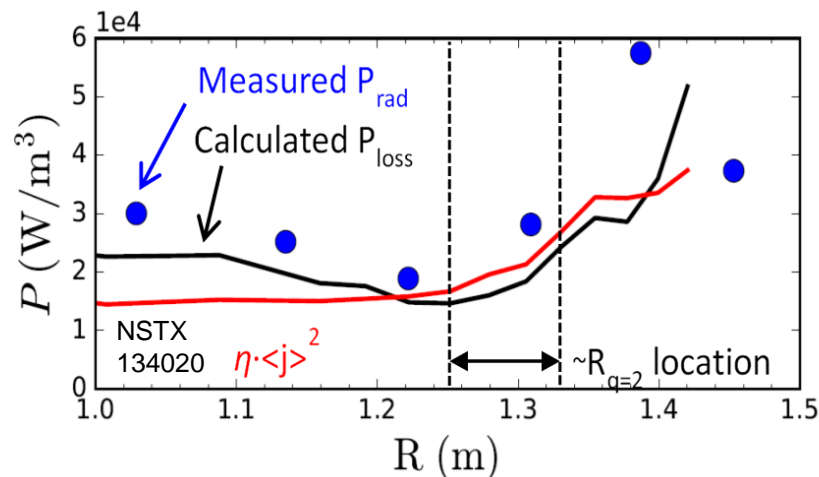


Local island power balance limit

- Power balance in island between Ohmic heating and radiated power loss
- If radiated power at the island exceeds the input power ($P_{\text{loss}} > P_{\text{input}}$), island grows

Power density balance: $P_{\text{loss}} < P_{\text{input}}$

$$n_e n_D L_D(T_e) + \sum n_e n_Z L_Z(T_e) < \eta j^2$$

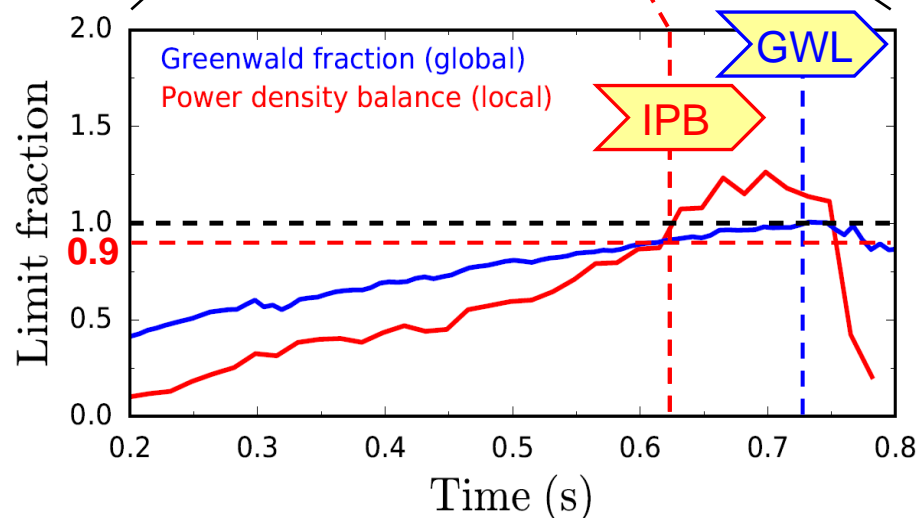
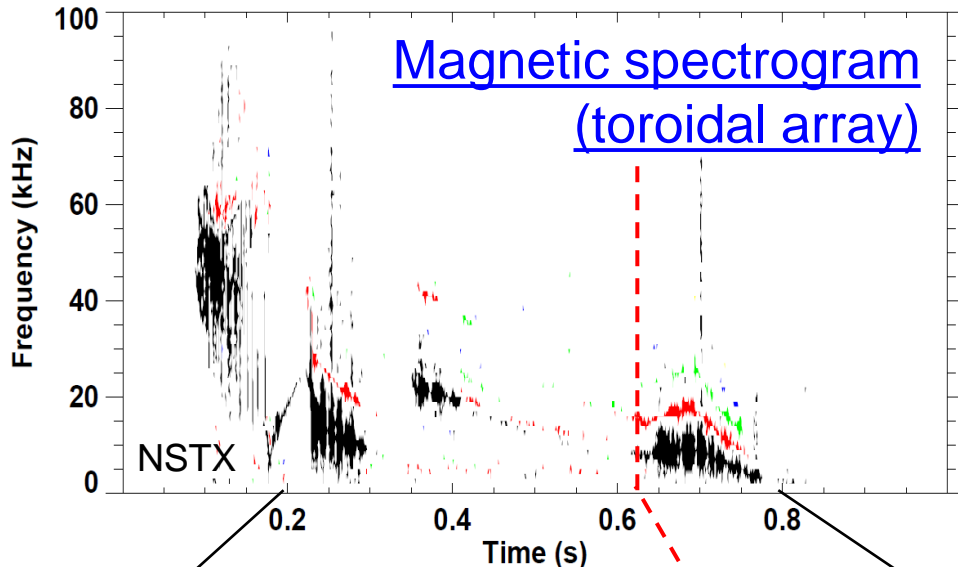


D. Gates et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **108** 165004 (2012)

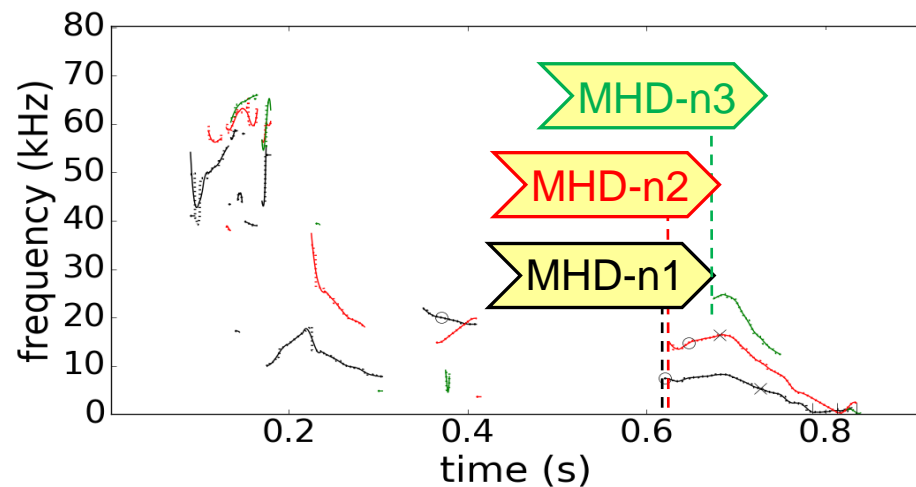
Initial assessment of density limit model shows correlation with MHD events

Shot 134020 $\omega B(\omega)$ spectrum

for toroidal mode number: 1 2 3 4 5



DECAF automated MHD events



- Greenwald limit
 - Near 0.9 when mode starts (range 0.75 – 1.05)
- Rad. island power balance
 - Near 1.0 when mode starts (range 0.60 – 1.50) ← next step: reduce range

Limited event chain analysis of large databases evolves initial performance of disruption prediction

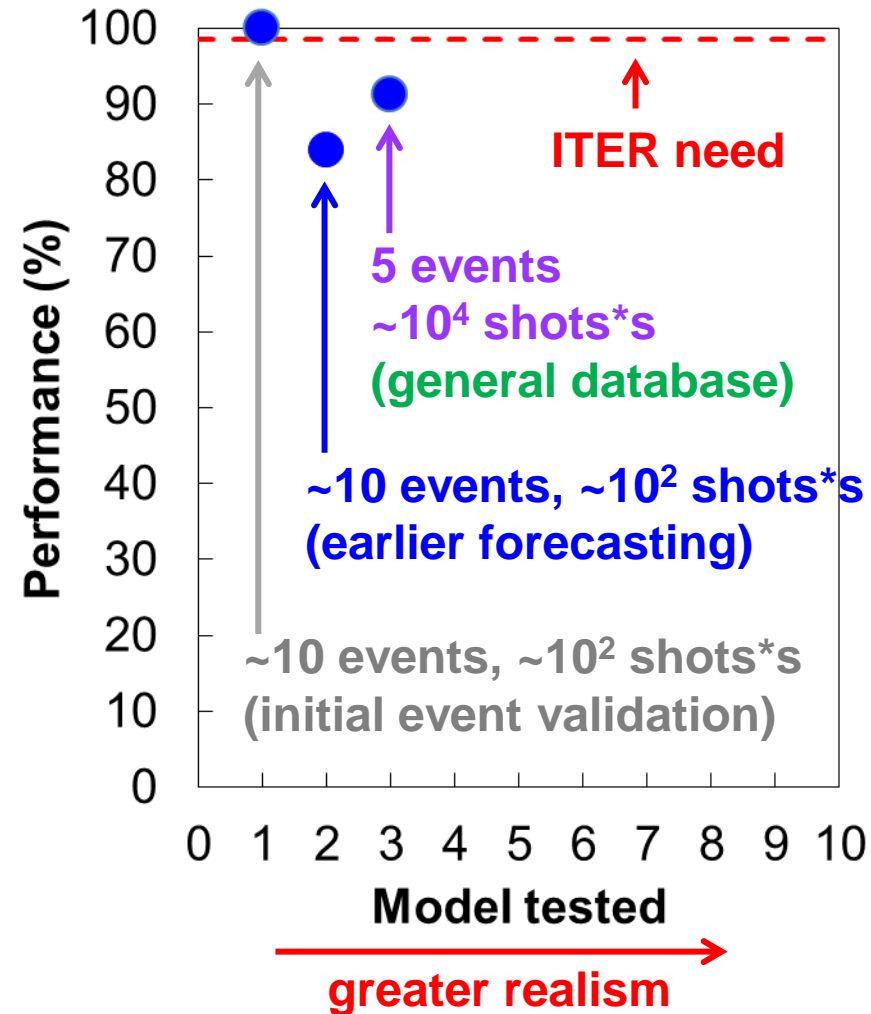
- First test on large, general database
- Analysis with only 5 DECAF events tested for 10,094 discharges with disruptions (NSTX)
 - Events used: VDE, GWL, LOQ, IPR, DIS

□ Performance (Model 3)

- 91.2% true positives (warning occurs)
- 8.7% false negatives (no warning)
 - Somewhat high number of false negatives expected: only 5 DECAF events are used in this large database analysis

- In 5,909 shots, vertical instability  is part of the disruption chain

DECAF Disruption Forecasting Performance Evolution



DECAF is fueled by coordinated research that continues to validate/develop physics models, e.g.:

❑ Resistive MHD

- ❑ Detection / forecasting: available magnetic diagnostics, plasma rotation
- ❑ Forecasting: starting examination of MRE → start with Δ' evaluation

❑ Density limits

- ❑ Detection: rad. power, global empirical limit
- ❑ Forecasting: starting examination of rad. island power balance model

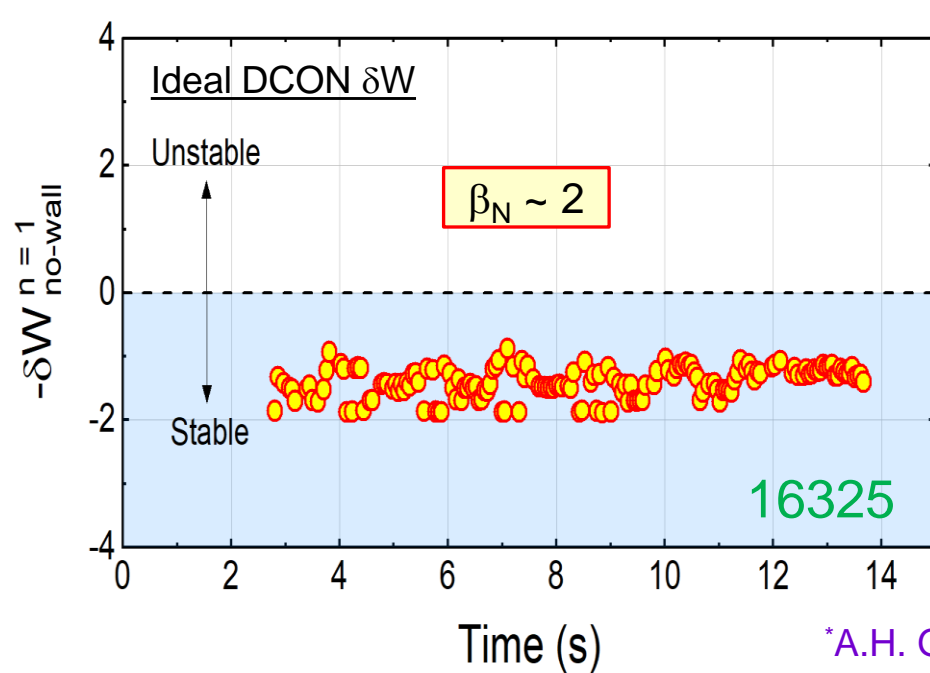
❑ Global MHD

- ❑ Detection: available magnetic diagnostics, plasma rotation, equilibrium
- ❑ Forecasting: Kinetic MHD model has high success in NSTX, DIII-D

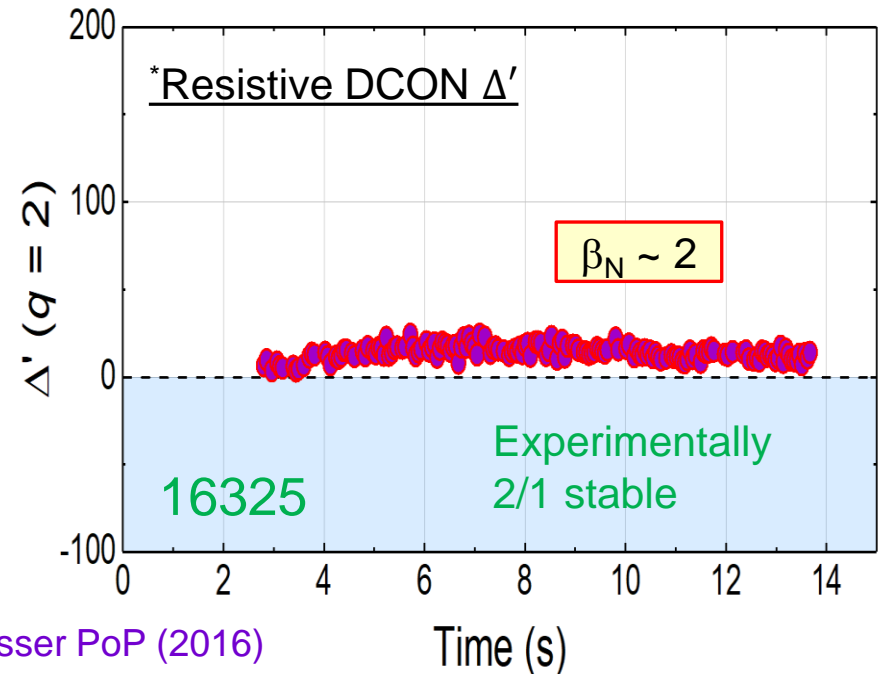
❑ Physics analysis / experiments to build DECAF models

- ❑ Interpretive and “predict-first” TRANSP analysis of KSTAR long-pulse, high beta plasmas with high non-inductive fraction

Tearing mode classical Δ' stability examined in KSTAR plasmas (supports future DECAF models)



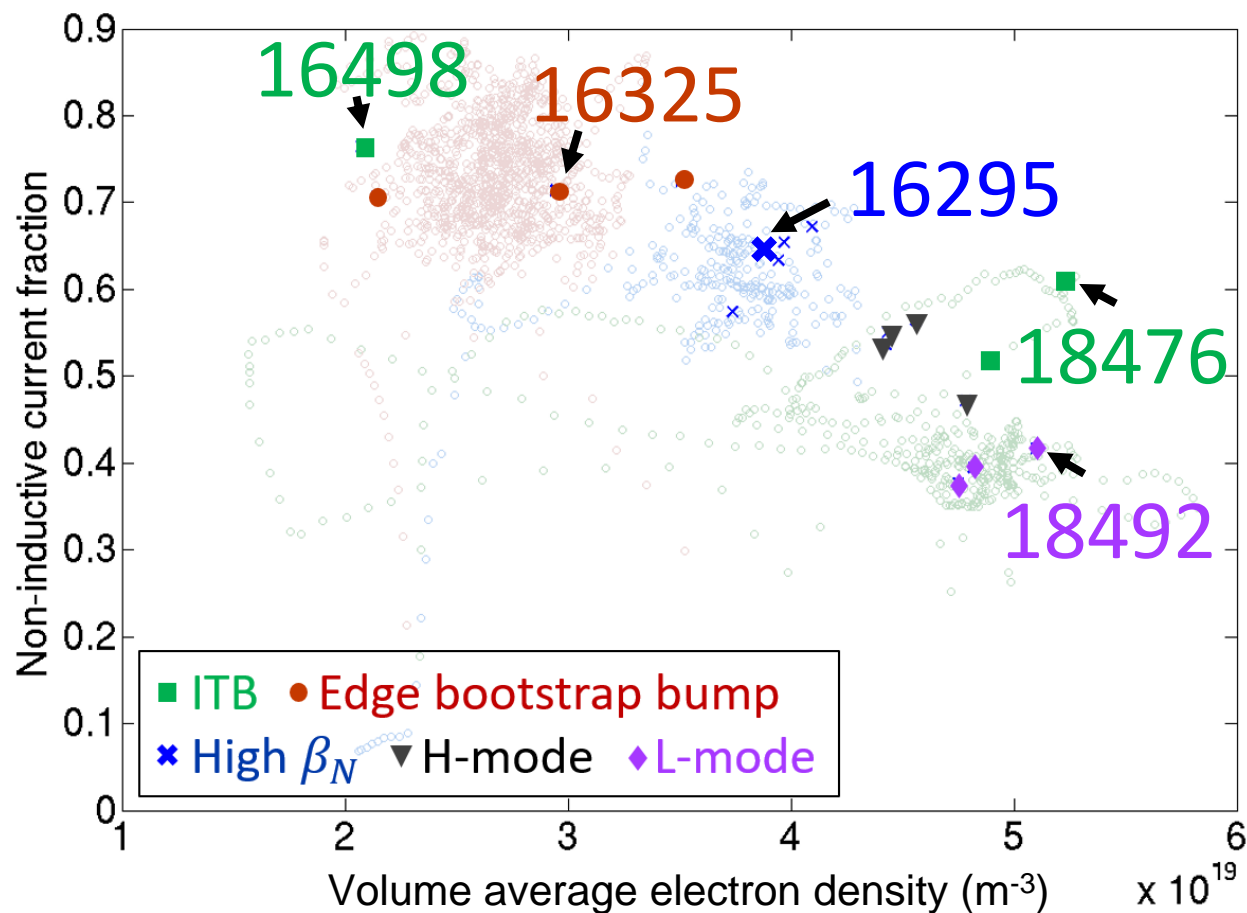
*A.H. Glasser PoP (2016)



- ❑ Classical tearing stability index, Δ' , computed at $q = 2$ surface using outer layer solutions
- ❑ At higher q_{95} , Δ' is mostly positive predicting unstable classical tearing mode
 - Indicates neoclassical effects, additional physics needed to reproduce XP
 - KEY POINT: Conclusions regarding Δ' evolution can be made!
 - Recent paper with MRE evaluation → Y.S. Park, et al., NF 60 (2020) 056007

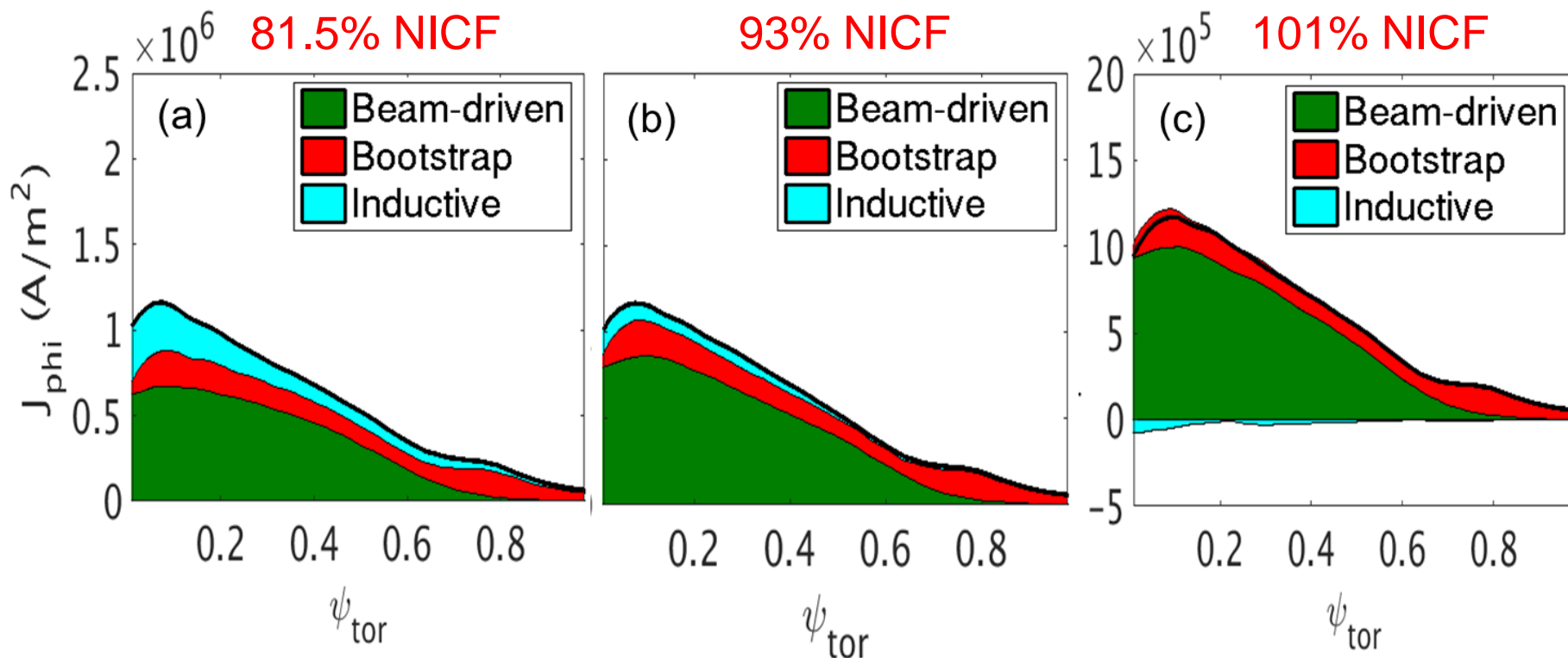
A database of high-non-inductive fraction plasmas is important for disruption forecasting ; NICF ~ 75% in KSTAR

- TRANSP analysis of experimental plasmas
- Non-inductive fraction
 - Beam-driven
 - Bootstrap
- Non-inductive fraction is key for stable high beta steady state operation



“Predict-first” KSTAR TRANSP analysis shows expected high performance plasmas at > 80% NICF

Predicted high non-inductive current fraction (NICF) current profiles



- High non-inductive current fraction predicted for 6.5, 7.5, 8.5 MW NBI
 - The β_N ranges from 3.0 – 3.5; based on KSTAR plasmas with NICF ~70%
- Aim to generate a significant database of long pulse, high NICF plasmas in 2020-2021 KSTAR runs for disruption prediction studies

Machine learning approaches are now coupling to DECAF to compute sub-elements of computations

Determination of ideal MHD no-wall stability limit by DL NN

(2019 Marseille conference)

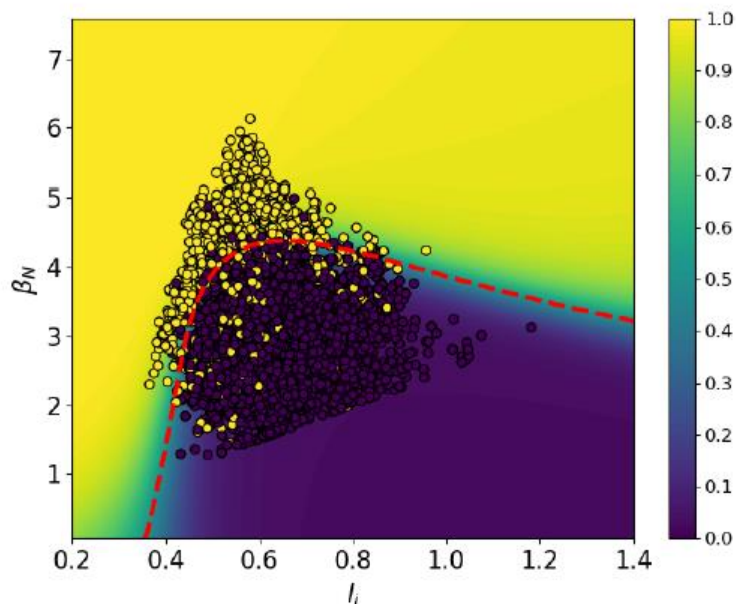


Figure 1: β_n vs l_i decision boundary. The contour plot shows the probability distribution predicted by the neural network.

Determination of ideal MHD stability function by non-linear random forest regression (2019 IAEA ML conference)

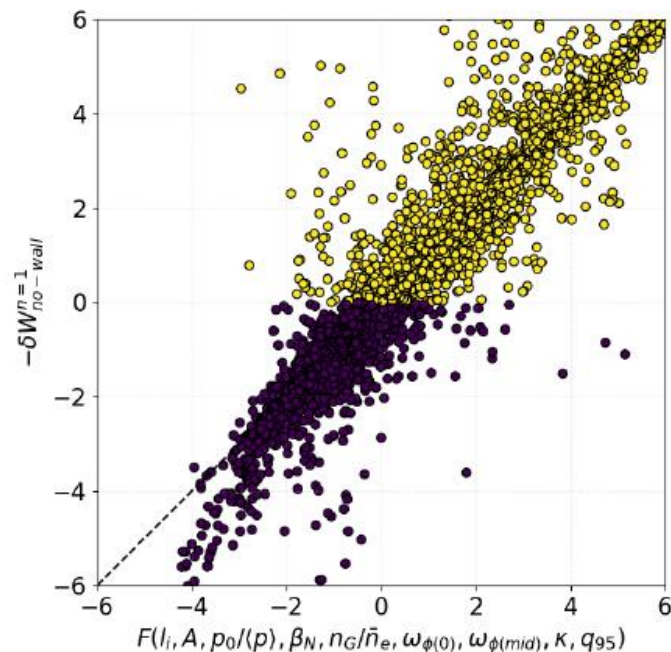


Figure 1: $-\delta W$ vs F for the NSTX database, showing linear correspondence with some spread ($R^2 = 0.878$).

Collaboration with CCFE / UCL (A. Piccone (UCL)); → A. Piccone, et al, Nucl. Fusion **60** (2020) 046033

FES/ACSR Advancing Fusion with Machine Learning - Research Needs Workshop (May 2019)

Disruption prediction and avoidance research on KSTAR moving to real-time application

1. Disruption forecasting physics analysis expansion

2. Implementation of real-time diagnostic capabilities

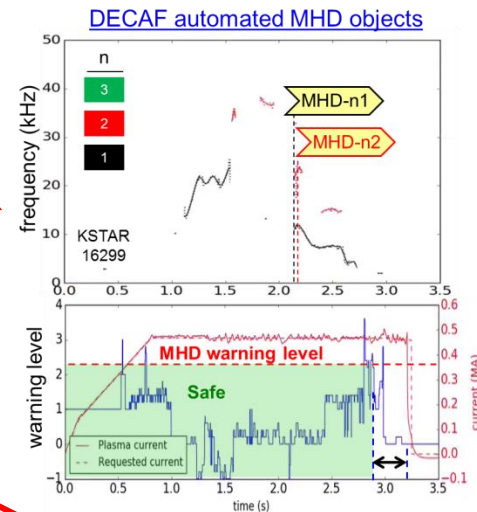
Next slides

3. Real-time implementation of DECAF analysis and sensor input

- Plasma control system (PCS) code specifications written for 10 DECAF events – process continues

4. Real-time control leveraging real-time DECAF analysis and sensors

- Initial specification for model-based control in the PCS is written; interfaces to DECAF events being made



KSTAR DPA grant research “fills in” the desired real-time (r/t) diagnostic capability for r/t DECAF

- ✓ Real-time measurement of rotating / locking MHD
 - < 300 kHz; Data collected during Jan/Feb 2020 run
- Real-time and offline Motional Stark Effect - IN FINAL DESIGN
 - “offline” MSE background polychrometer system, Z_{eff} profile
 - Real-time implementation of MSE; includes δB profile measurement
- Real-time plasma rotation profile – 1st system shipped to NFRI
 - Completely new for KSTAR: 8 channels; 1 – 2 kHz time resolution
- Real-time electron temperature profile – IN PROCUREMENT
 - Implement real-time acquisition of heterodyne radiometer system
- Real-time T_e fluctuation profile – IN PROCUREMENT
 - Implement real-time acquisition to 2-D ECE imaging system



COLUMBIA



Overall setup for KSTAR real-time diagnostic integration and DECAF analysis for the PCS

KSTAR Test Cell / ECE Screen Room

A-to-D (192 ch) Expansion box connected to main ECEI r/t computer

Optical isolation (Dolphin)

PCS Room

r/t ECEI and r/t DECAF development computer
rtDECAF

r/t MHD computer
rtDECAF

r/t DECAF development computer
rtDECAF

1G to KSTAR imaging data server & MDSPlus

RFM
Dolphin

1G to MDSPlus
RFM
Dolphin

1G to MDSPlus
RFM
Dolphin

KSTAR PCS

1G to MDSPlus

r/t ECE computer (includes Te(R) calibrations 73 ch)

Dolphin
RFM

1G to MDSPlus

r/t V_ϕ computer (includes profile calibration 8 ch)

Dolphin
RFM

1G to MDSPlus

r/t MSE computer (includes profile calibration 25 ch)

Dolphin
RFM

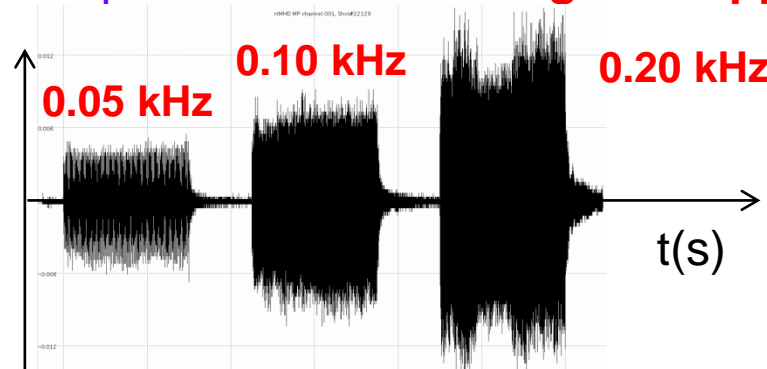
Main Diagnostics Room

All software development under GIT version control

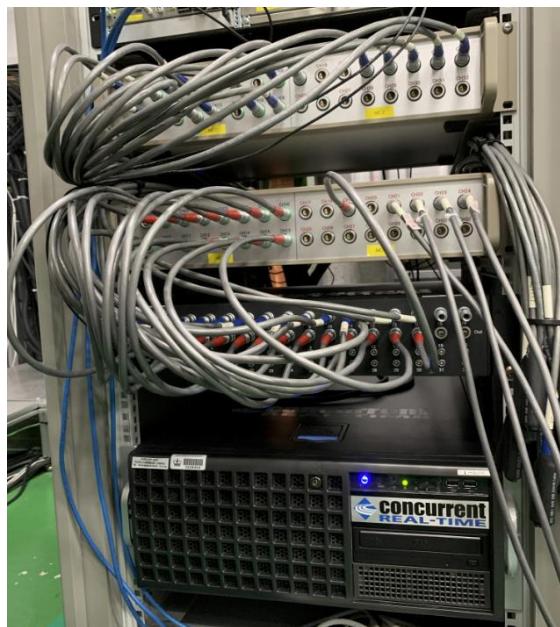
Disruption prediction and avoidance research on KSTAR moving to real-time application

Real-time MHD analysis computer installed at NFRI (14 toroidal probes: $n = 1$ rotating field applied)

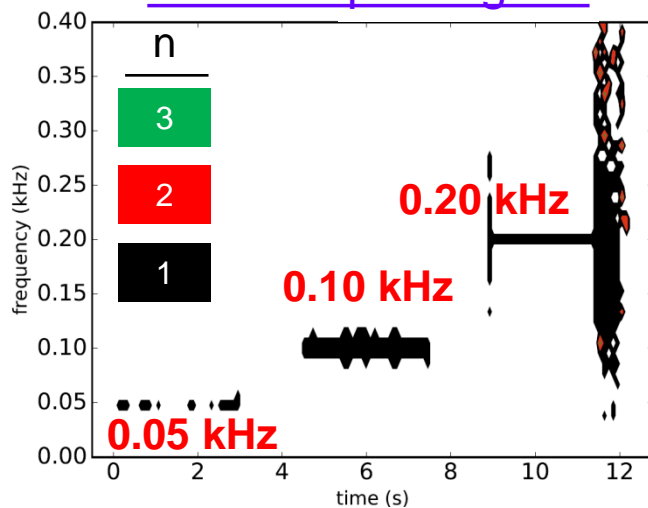
- Designed for connection to plasma control system (PCS)
- Interface to MHD probes built



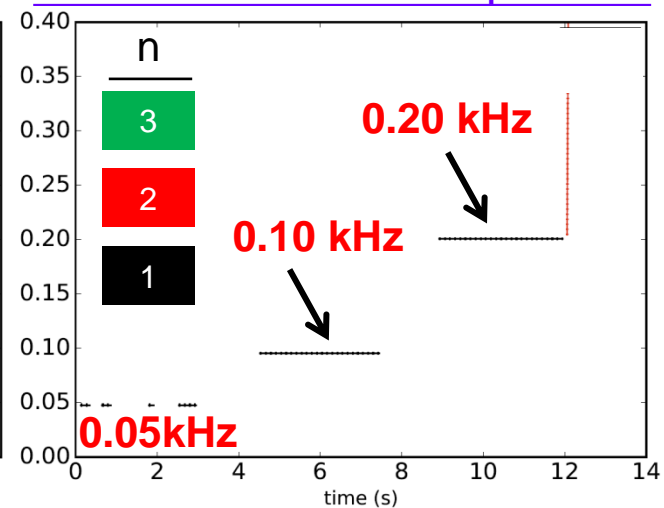
Offline DECAF analysis of real-time signals



DECAF spectrogram

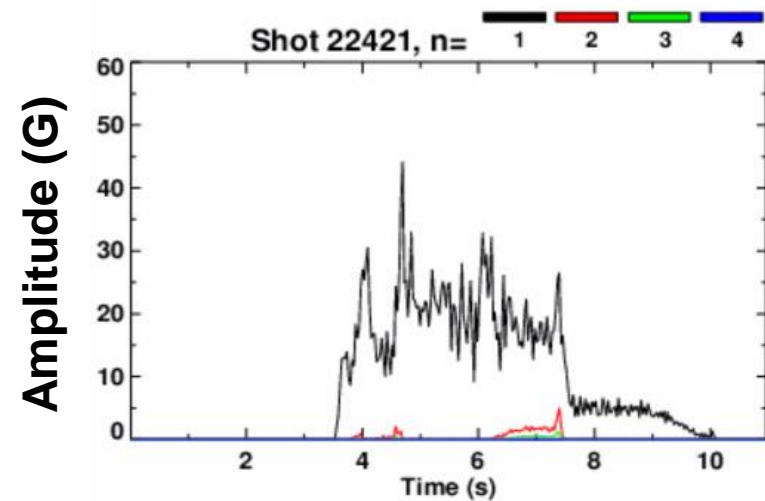
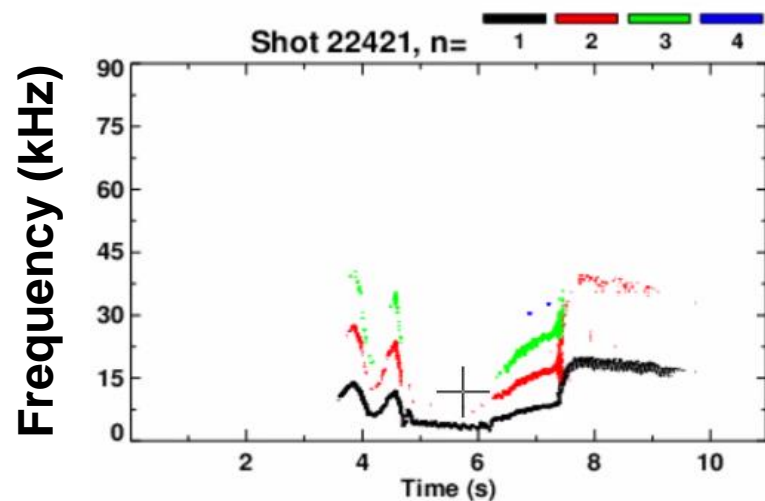


DECAF mode decomposition

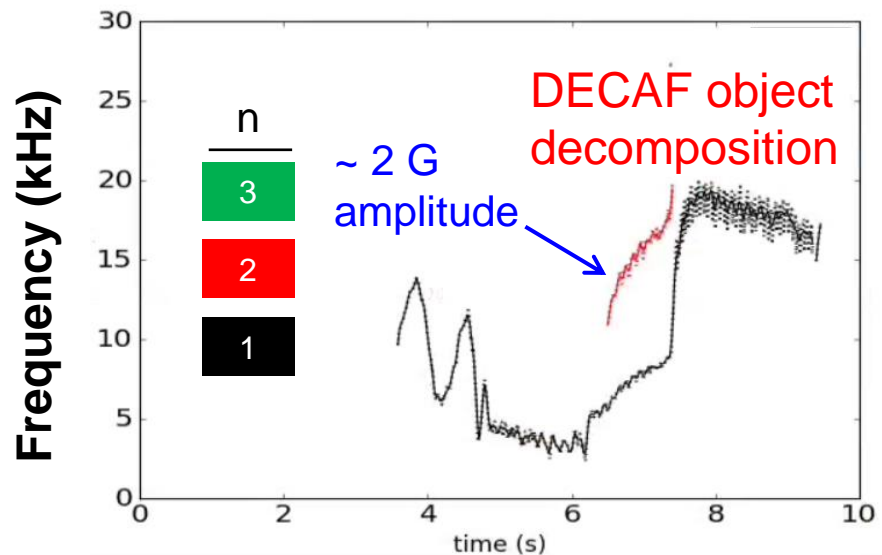
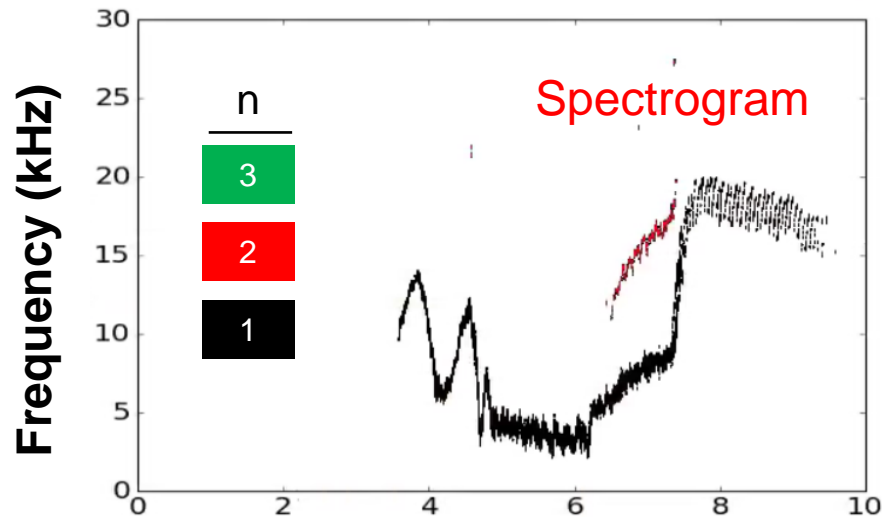


KSTAR real-time MHD computer acquired data for 2019 campaign – data quality as good as offline

Offline data, native code analysis



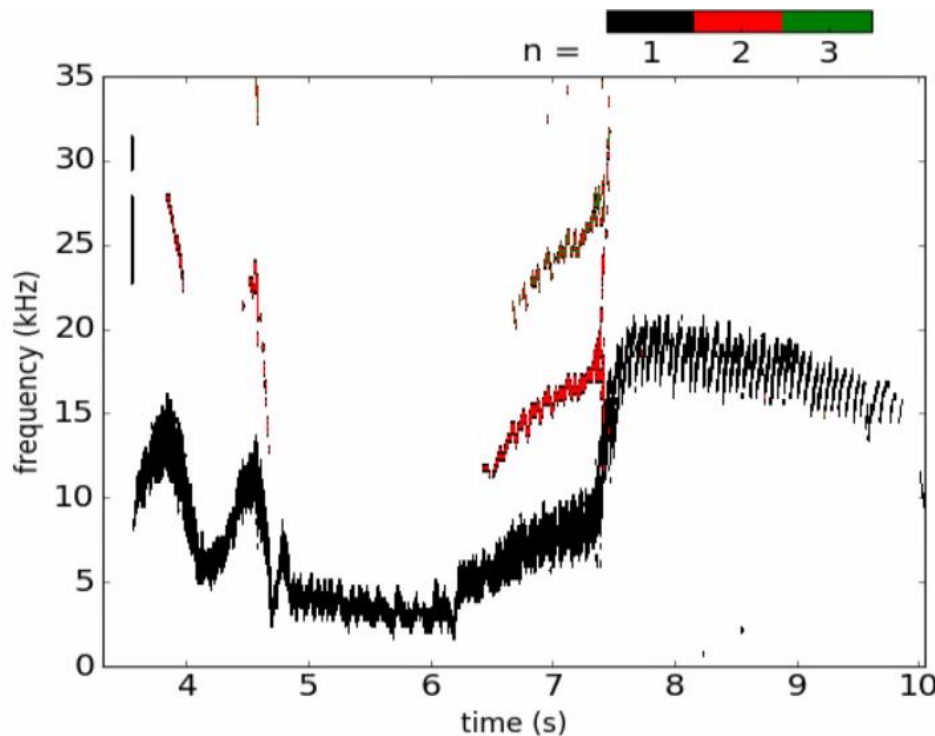
Real-time data, DECAF analysis (offline)



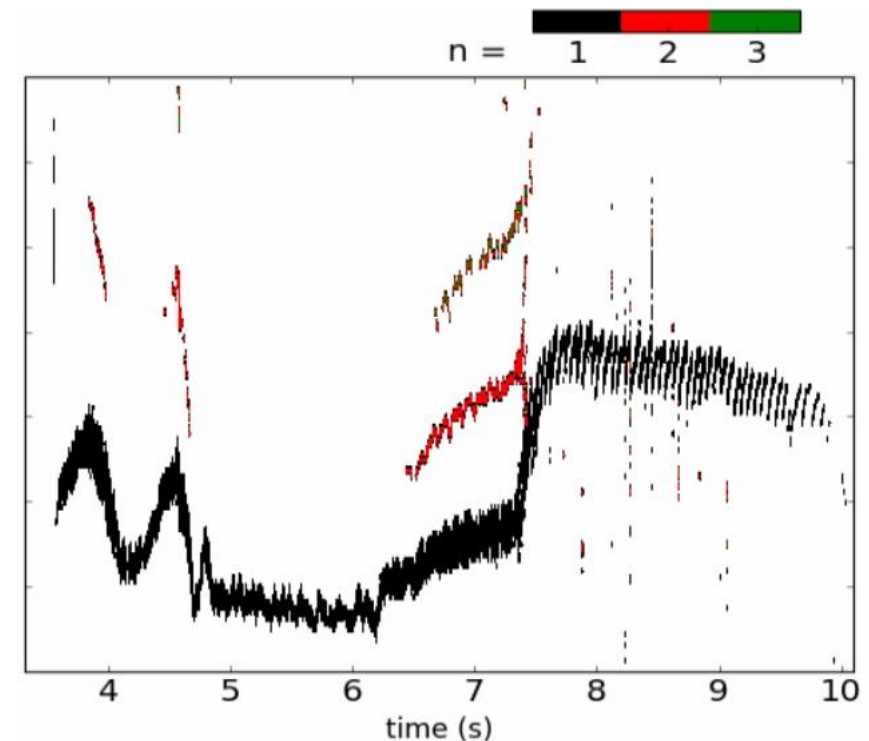
Analysis of KSTAR real-time MHD computer data compared to simulated FPGA* r/t analysis (I)

DECAF analysis using various inputs

From simulated FPGA FFTs



From offline FFTs



□ $\Delta t = 3.06 \text{ ms}$, $\Delta f = 0.31 \text{ kHz}$ (offline analysis set to match FPGA)

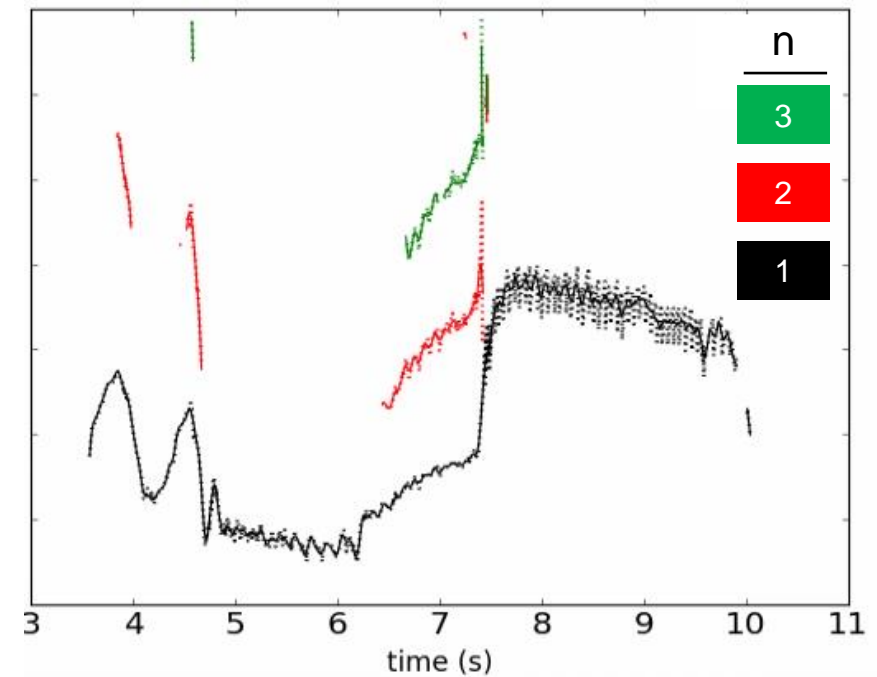
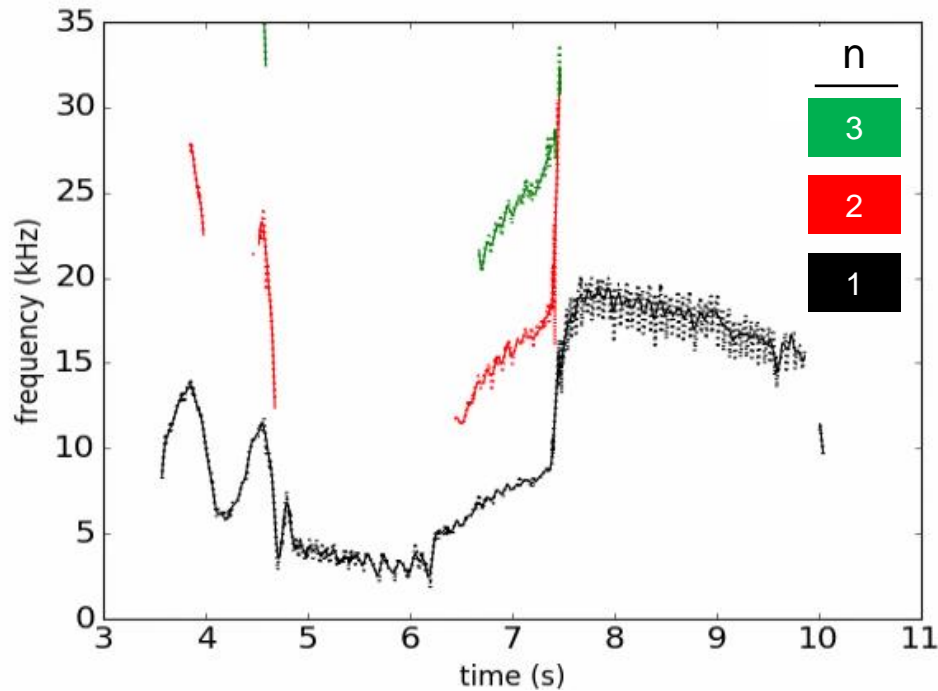
*FPGA: field-programmable gate array

DECAF object decomposition of r/t MHD computer data works well on simulated FPGA analysis

DECAF object decomposition

From simulated FPGA FFTs

From offline FFTs



New real-time velocity diagnostic for KSTAR expands design of NSTX-U system (operated in 2016)

- ❑ NSTX-U: demonstrated RT analysis for v_ϕ , T_i (for $T_i > 150\text{eV}$)

- ❑ 4 radial channels, active + backgrd, 5 kHz

- ❑ KSTAR: plan for 8 radial channels, ~1kHz sampling rate

- ❑ Assess requirements in FY20 to optimize design & analysis software

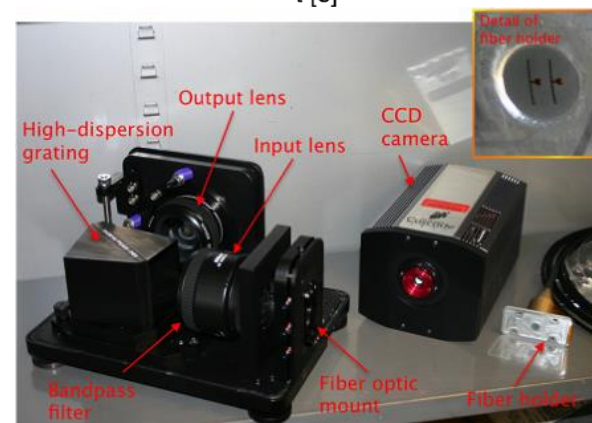
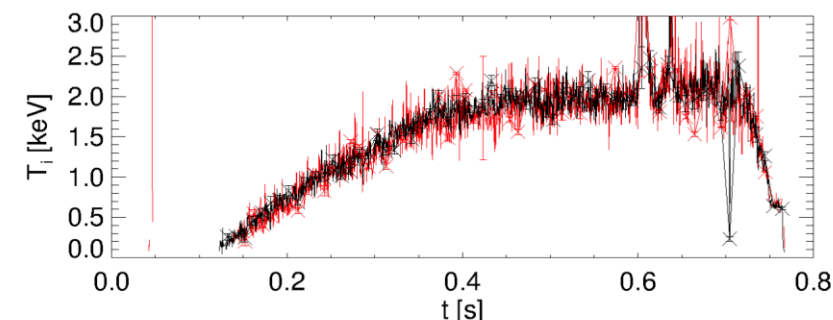
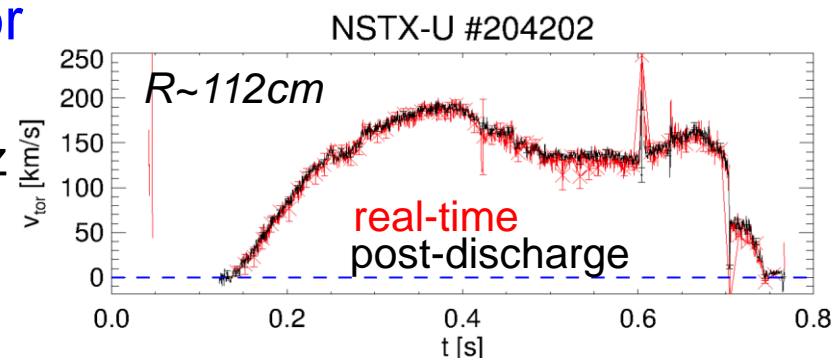
- ❑ Re-locate NSTX-U system, interface w/ KSTAR

- ❑ Status / plan

- ❑ NSTX-U system shipped to KSTAR (arrival this Wed July 22nd evening)

- ❑ Use data from initial system for final design of new KSTAR system

- ❑ Install new KSTAR system 2021



M. Podesta (PPPL)

Expanding DECAF approach provides a new paradigm for disruption avoidance research

- ❑ Multi-device, integrated approach to disruption prediction and avoidance that meets disruption predictor requirement metrics
 - ❑ Physics-based “event chain” yields key understanding of evolution toward disruptions needed for confident extrapolation of forecasting, control
 - ❑ Present performance on large (10^4) databases: **91.2% w/ only 5 Events**
 - ❑ Full multi-machine databases used (full databases needed!)
 - ❑ Innovative use of machine learning started (event analysis, pred. models)
 - ❑ Physics analysis, experiments run to understand, create, validate models
- ❑ DECAF producing early warning disruption forecasts
 - ❑ On transport timescales: → guide disruption avoidance by profile control
- ❑ Continuing development
 - ❑ Improve DECAF forecasting performance run on large database analysis
 - ❑ Continue / expand disruption forecasting performance analysis (→ ITER)
 - ❑ Implement DECAF disruption forecasting models in real-time (→ **KSTAR**)

Supporting slides follow

Simple island rotation dynamics model presently being constructed to forecast the bifurcation point

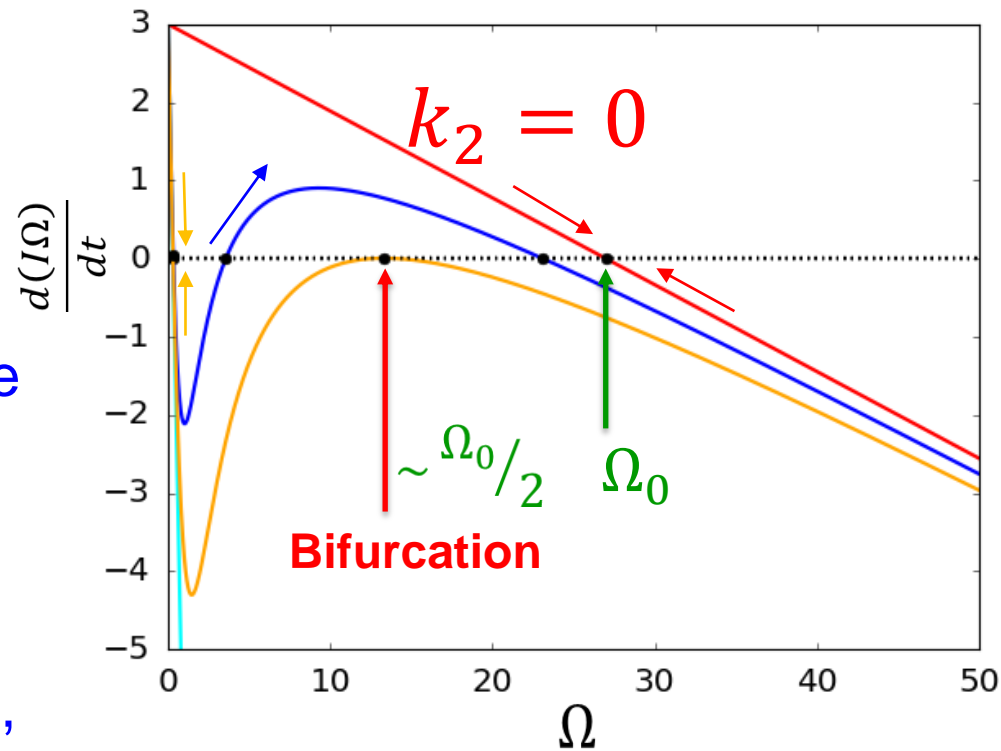
- Start with cylindrical, rigid body model
- Possible model of drag for both a “slip” and a “no slip” condition:

$$T_{mode} = \frac{k_2 \Omega}{1 + k_3 \Omega^2}$$

R. Fitzpatrick et al., Nucl. Fusion 33 (1993) 1049

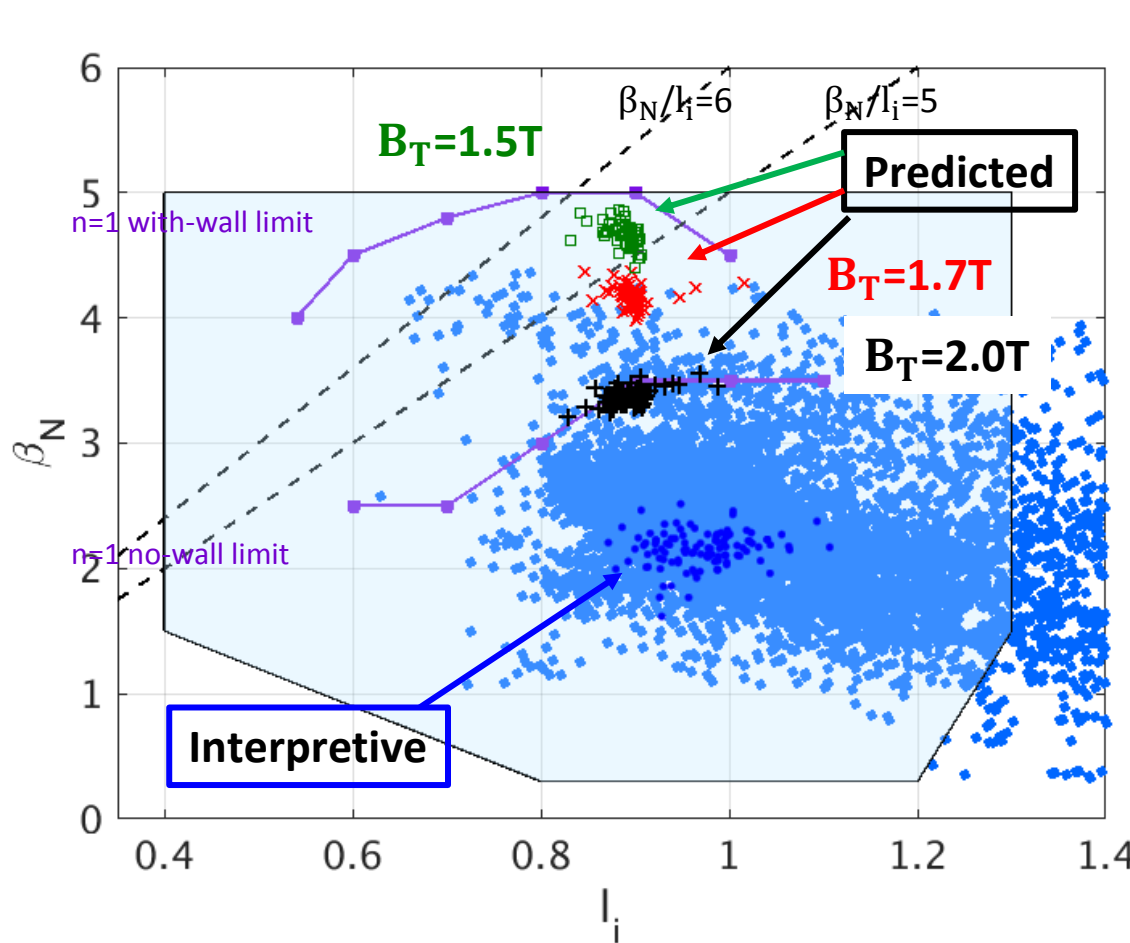
- At very low angular speed mode reaches a stable steady state, **→ investigating this in KSTAR**
- Collaborating with UW Madison theoreticians to add explicit effect of island size on viscosity, toroidal effects, etc.

$$\frac{d(I\Omega)}{dt} = T_{aux} - \frac{k_2 \Omega}{1 + k_3 \Omega^2} - \frac{(I\Omega)}{\tau_{2D}}$$

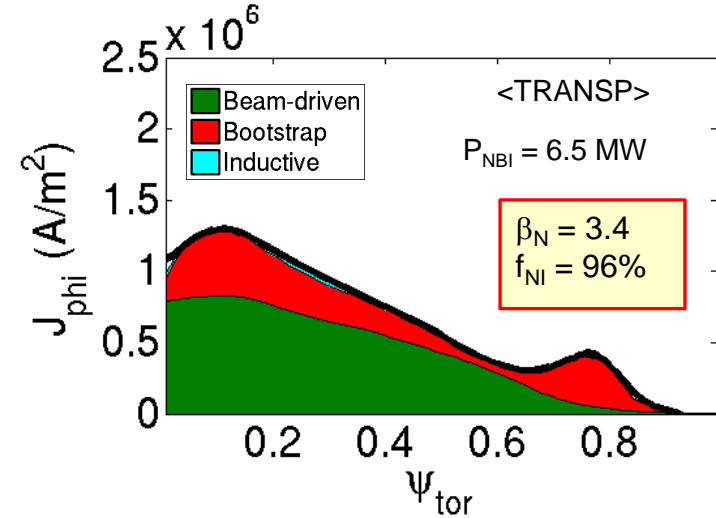


Predictive TRANSP analysis shows KSTAR design target $\beta_N \sim 5$ can be approached with $f_{NI} \sim 100\%$

- “Predict-first” analysis used to design high- β , 100% non-inductive current fraction (NICF) experiments for present KSTAR run campaign



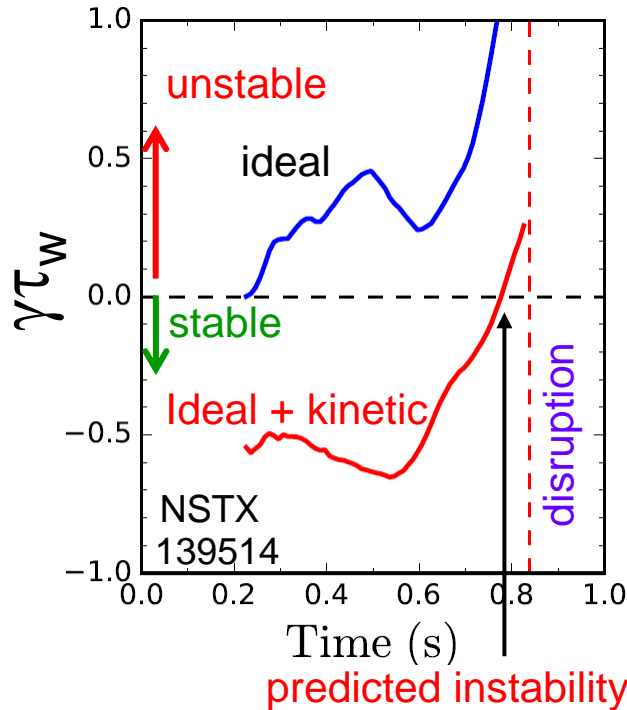
See J-H Ahn CO6.00005



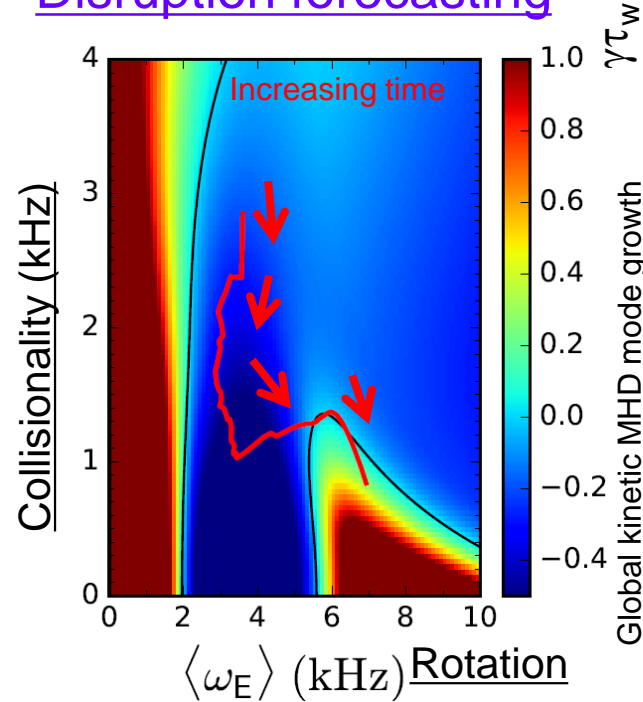
- Up to 75% NICF already reached in similar plasmas
- NBI \rightarrow 6.5 MW in 2018
- By altering I_P and B_T values, $\beta_N > 4$, up to KSTAR design target 5 can be achieved with 100% NICF

DECAF reduced kinetic MHD model provides **early forecast** of instability boundary to global MHD modes

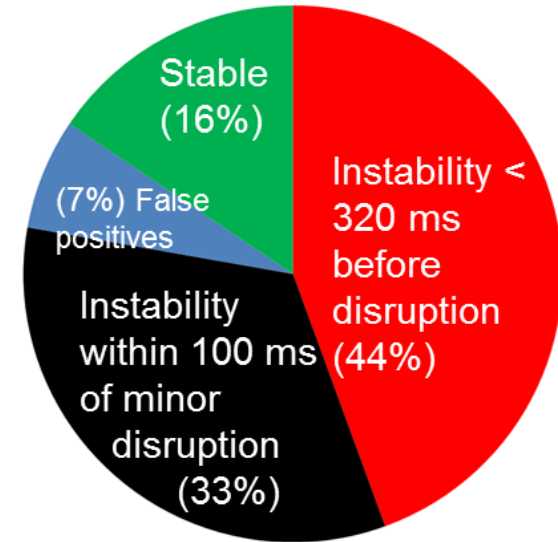
Norm. growth rate vs. time



Disruption forecasting



Predicted instability statistics



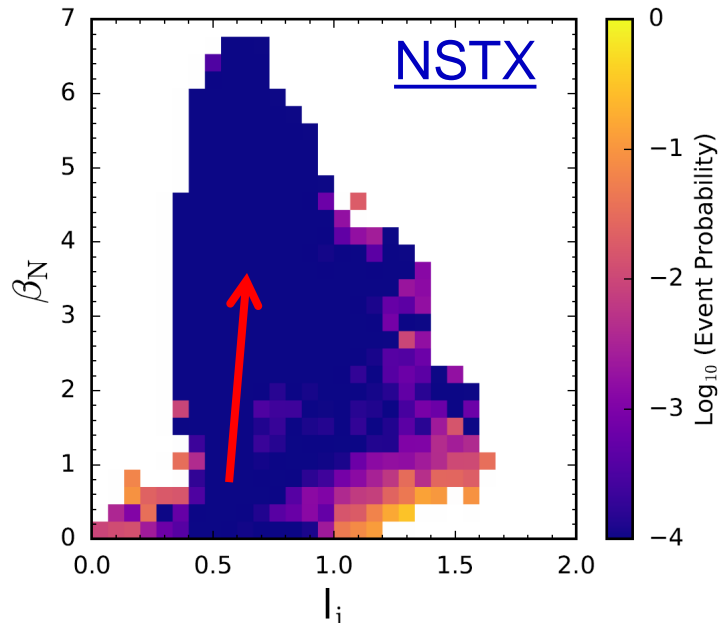
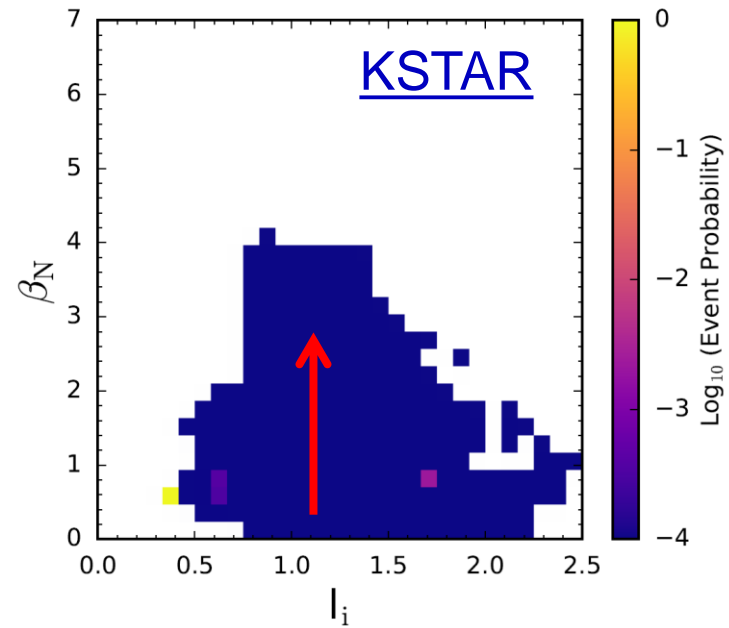
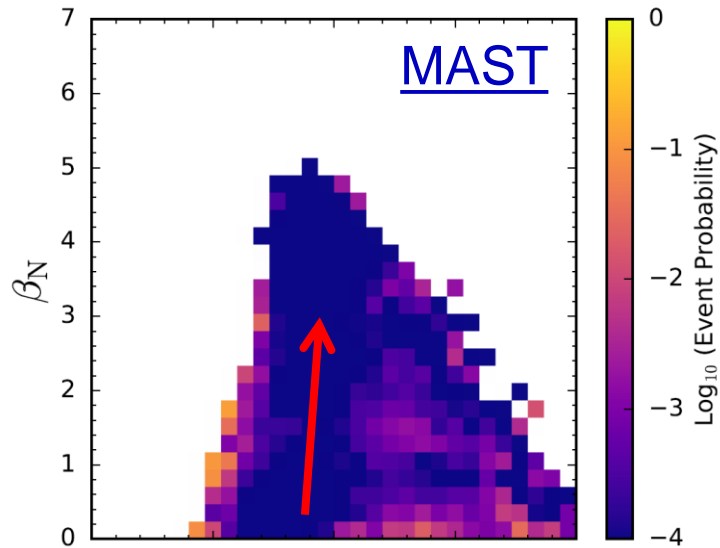
□ Favorable characteristics

- Stability contours CHANGE for each time point
- Model allows real-time stability and mode growth rate prediction

- 84% of shots are predicted unstable (**stringent evaluation**)
- 44% predicted unstable < 320 ms (approx. $60\tau_w$) before current quench
- 33% predicted unstable within 100ms of a minor disruption

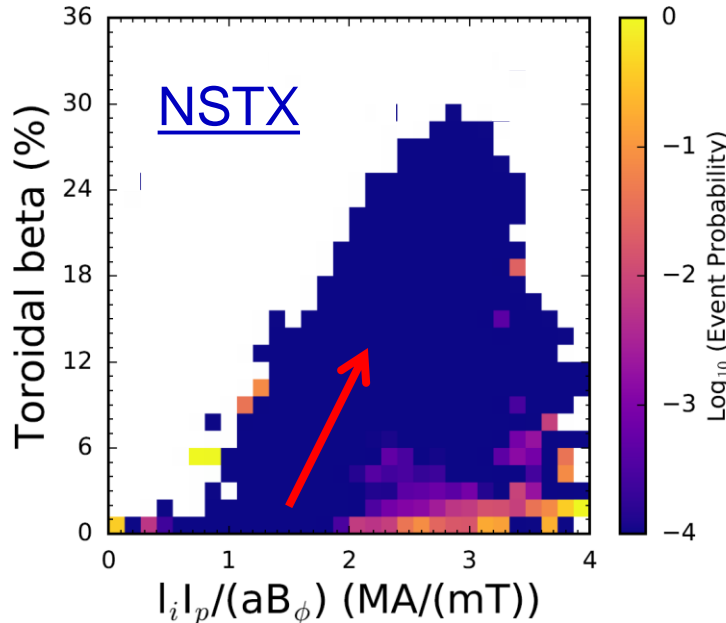
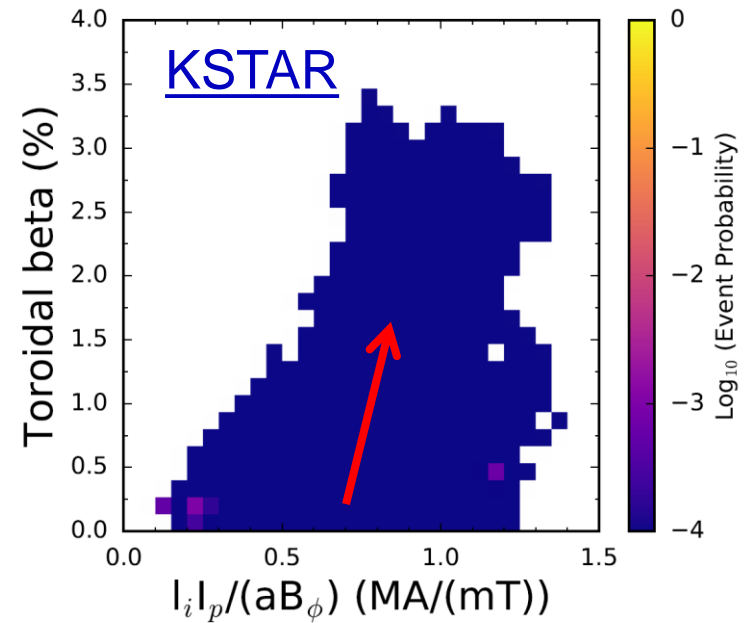
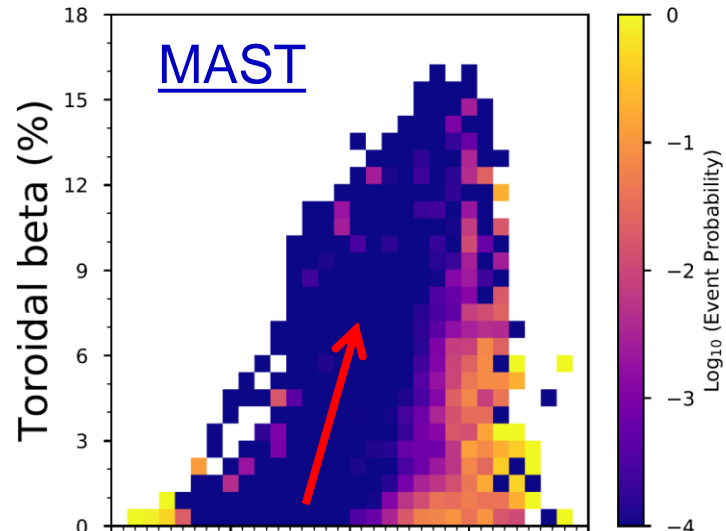
J.W. Berkery, S.A. Sabbagh, R. Bell, *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas **24** (2017) 056103

DECAF analysis of large databases further supports published results that **disruptivity doesn't increase with β_N**



- DECAF analysis of **DIS** event
 - Shots analyzed at 10 ms intervals
- Analysis during I_p flat-top
 - MAST: 8,902 plasmas analyzed
 - NSTX: 10,432 plasmas analyzed
 - KSTAR: 1,309 plasmas analyzed

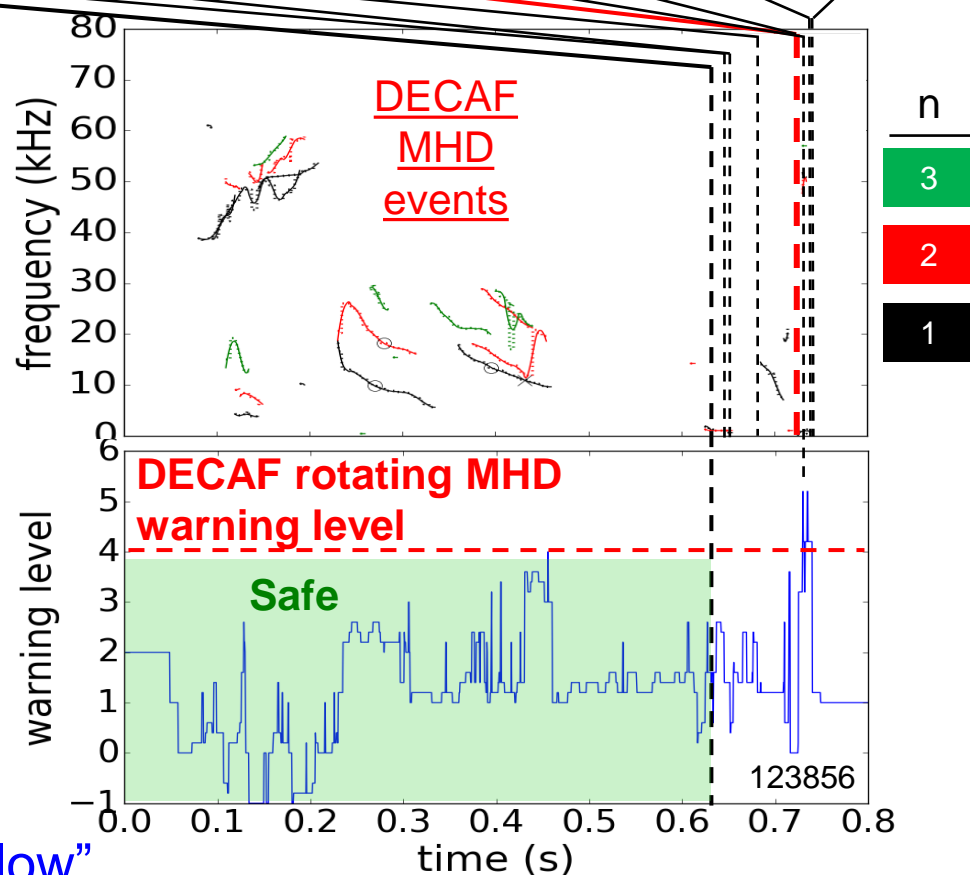
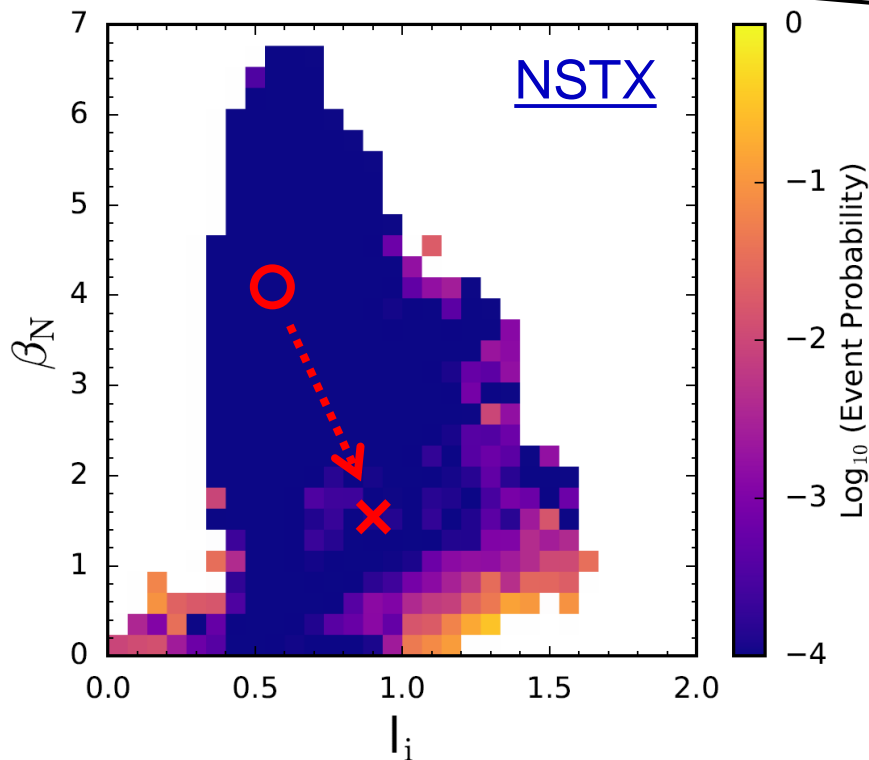
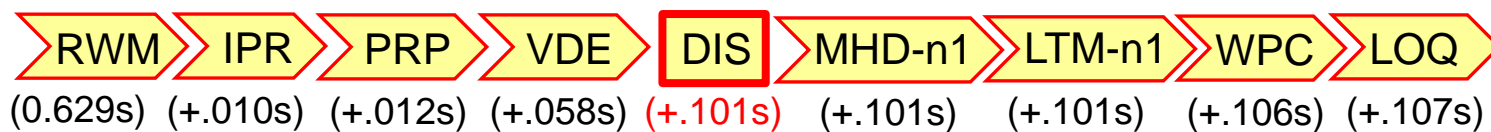
Initial analysis of large databases further supports published result that **disruptivity doesn't increase with plasma β**



- ❑ DECAF analysis of **DIS** event
 - ❑ Similar to a “standard” disruptivity analysis
 - ❑ Shots analyzed at 10 ms intervals
- ❑ Analysis during I_p flat-top
 - ❑ MAST: 8,902 plasmas analyzed
 - ❑ NSTX: 10,432 plasmas analyzed
 - ❑ KSTAR: 1,309 plasmas analyzed

Global MHD modes can also be “slow” and **warnings** for disruptions, potentially allowing avoidance

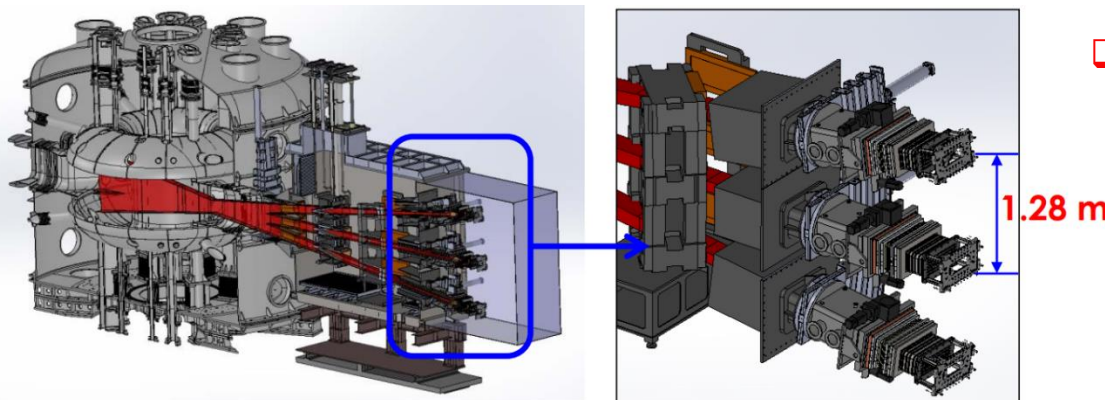
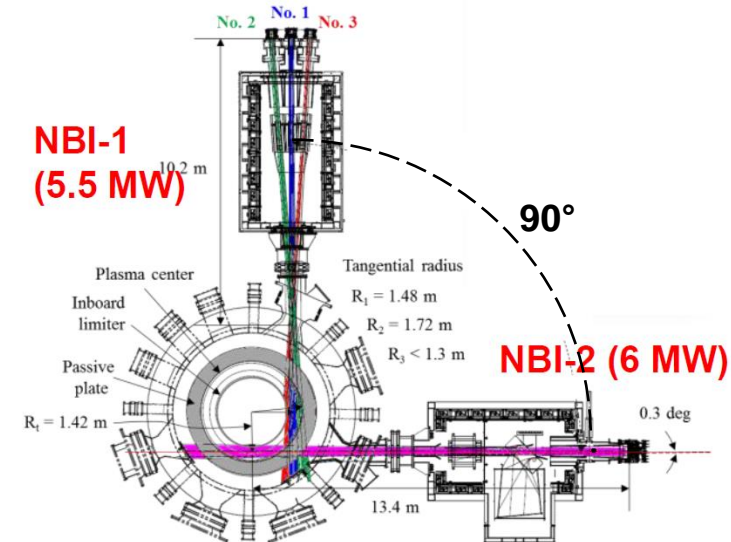
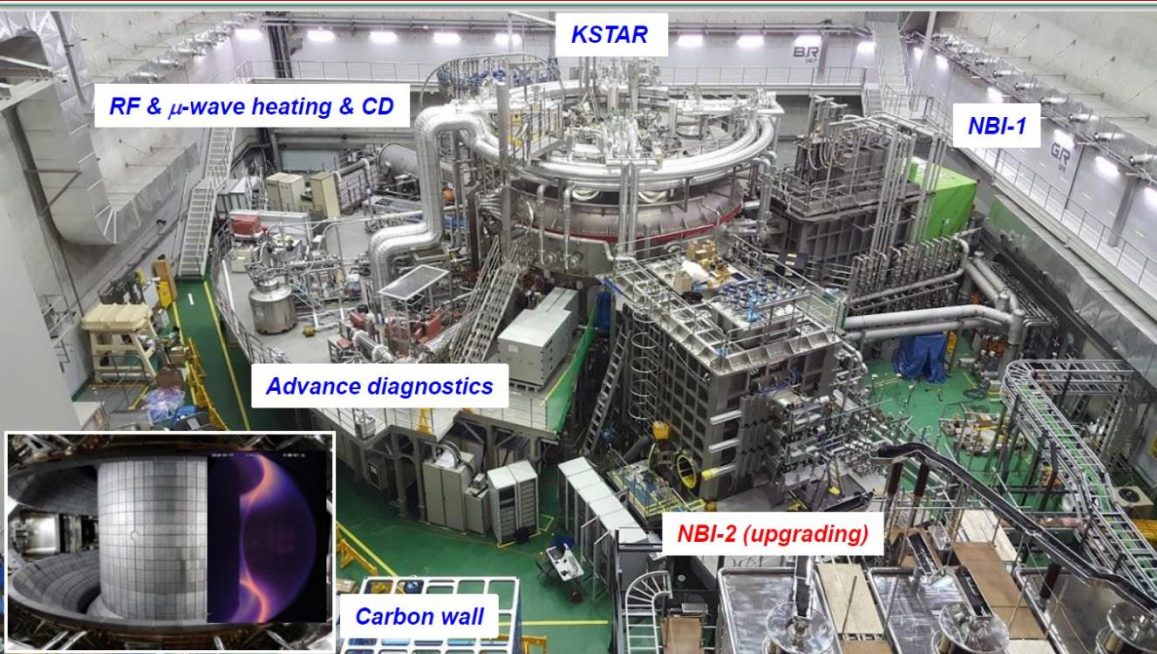
DECAF event chain



Global MHD (RWM) can also be “slow”

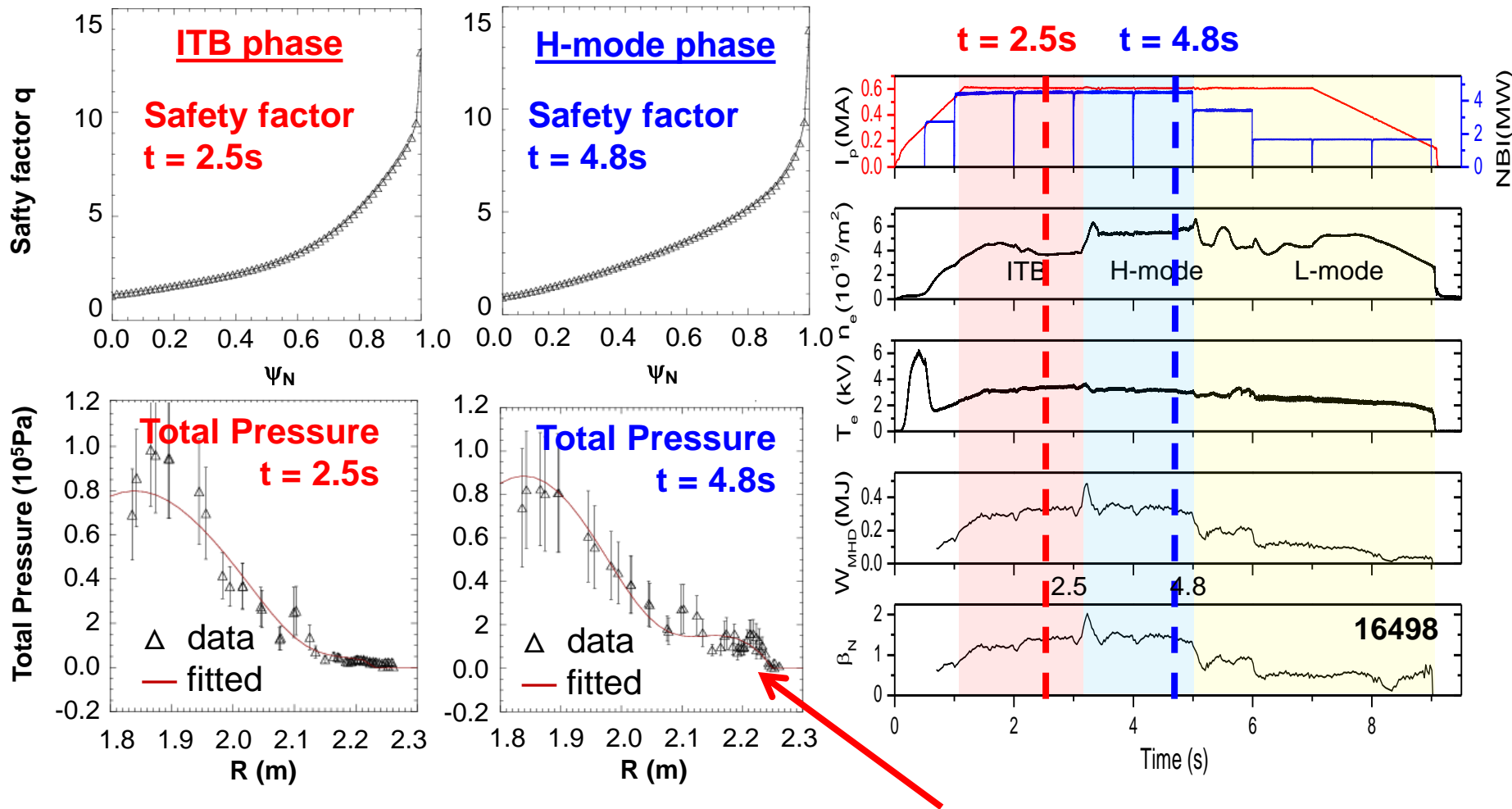
- Rotating MHD warning level **decreases** after 0.46s → **DANGEROUS** for RWM onset!
- H – L back transition (**PRP**) drags out time to disruption (> 100 ms – **transport timescale**)

New 2nd NBI system installed in KSTAR, may be available for 2020 run campaign



- Geometry of 2nd NBI system is included in TRANSP model
- Available power
 - $P_{NBI} \approx 1.5 \text{ MW/source}$ (conservative)

Clear pressure profile distinction between Internal Transport Barrier and H-mode phases



- ❑ Broad pedestal pressure reconstructed in H-mode is not observed in earlier ITB phase

Xp by Jinil Chung