Multiple flux tubes (MFTs), a universal feature in plasmas with localized ECH heating
- Dynamics of MFTs visualized by 2D imaging: growth, steady-state (~ms), merging (~10 μs), and crash (~10 μs).
- Number of flux tubes strongly depends on the ECH position relative to $q=1$ surface.

Nonlinear Reduced MHD simulation with an empirical current source model:
1) Flat $q$-profile ($|1 - q| < 0.5\%$) after crash
2) Growth and saturation of $m/n=1/1$ helical flux tubes driven by localized ECH
3) Merging of flux tubes

Ongoing study focuses on:
1) Dependence on the ECH injection angle (i.e., width and amount of the driven current)
2) Identification of $q$ profile after sawtooth crash
3) Self-consistent modeling of the ECH coupling with the flux tubes