

# Overview of runaway electron physics presented at the REM 2018 and studies at the COMPASS tokamak

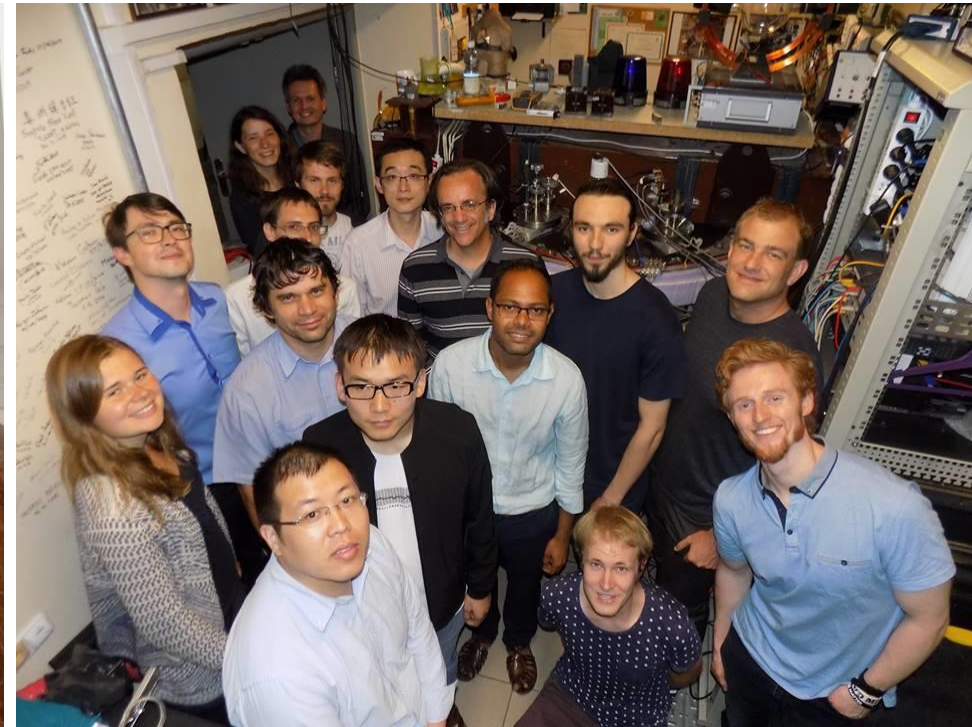
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- Overview from the 6<sup>th</sup> REM – Prague
- The COMPASS tokamak & dedicated diagnostics for RE
- Effects of the gas injection
  - MGI triggered disruptions in the current ramp-up phase
  - Gas injection in the current plateau phase
- RE in perturbed magnetic fields at COMPASS
  - Resonant magnetic perturbation (RMP)
  - Combined effects of RMP and gas injection
- Future plans

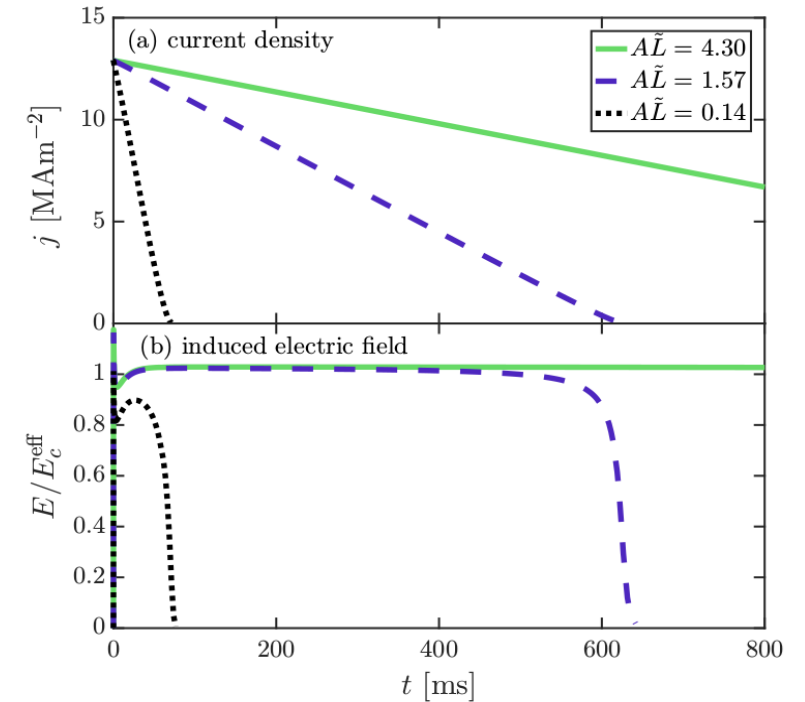


**6th Runaway Electron Meeting - 28-30 June 2018 Prague (FNSE CTU)**



## Effect of partially ionized impurities and radiation on the effective critical field for runaway generation (hesslow@chalmers.se)

- Analytical expression for **effective critical field**  $E_c^{\text{eff}}$  – minimum field where force balance is possible
  - Screening (partially ionized collision operator), synchrotron & bremsstrahlung effects included
  - Agreement with kinetic simulations
  - Week dependence on ionic species
  - Weakly ionized impurities:  $E_c^{\text{eff}} \geq E_c^{\text{tot}}$  (total  $e^-$  density = free & bound  $e^-$ )  $\gg E_c$  (Connor-Hastie formula)
- **Estimate of RE current decay rate**
  - $E$  remains close to  $E_c^{\text{eff}}$
  - Influenced by induced electric field  $(-\frac{L}{2\pi R} \frac{dI_p}{dt})$
  - Higher  $E_c^{\text{eff}}$  reduces the required amount of injected impurities



$$A\tilde{L} \equiv \pi a^2 L / (\mu_0 R), n_D = 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}, n_{\Delta r+} = 4n_D \text{ and } T = 10 \text{ eV}$$

Hesslow et al., PRL (2017); Hesslow et al. PPCF (2018)

## Model comparisons with MST1 data & Latest results from TCV (MST1 campaign) ([ppg@ipp.mpg.de](mailto:ppg@ipp.mpg.de))

**RE decay rate for QRE AUG & TCV beams well described by screening model [Hesslow PRL 2017]**

**GO** [Papp NF 2013] modelling - AUG RE shots

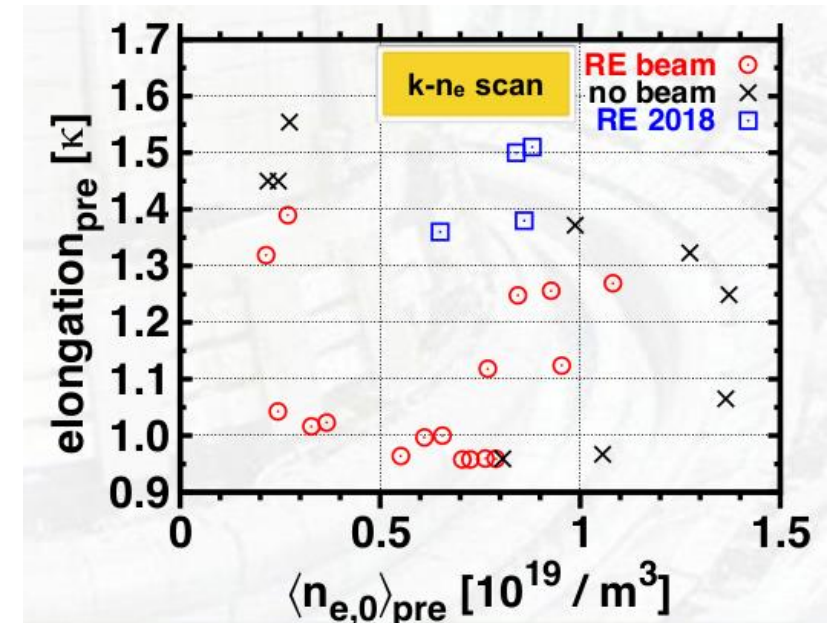
- Best match - at an assimilation rate < 30% (by the end of the quench), lower sensitivity to penetration speed
- Temperature dependence (or lack of) can only be explained if T dep of gas assimilation is modelled (-> ASTRA)

**CODE simulations** for FTU (QRE) and AUG (disruptions)

- FTU quiescent RE shots can only be described if RE transport is taken into account
- Full-f CODE (with self-consistent E-field) was run for a complete AUG CQ for the first time. On-axis RE current is overpredicted -> investigation of the effect of losses & argon interaction is ongoing

Predisruption seed is essential -> scenario sensitive to  $n_e$

- Basic control is excellent - [Carnevale EPS 2018 + July 17 at 8:30]
- **New DMV** injects significantly more gas - possibility of extending the dissipation scan, wider operational space
- **Plasma vertical position no longer affects assimilation/dissipation**
- RE beams up to  $k \sim 1.5$ , nonmonotonic dependence
- Unlike AUG, no  $q_{95} = 3$  threshold observed for RE beam formation

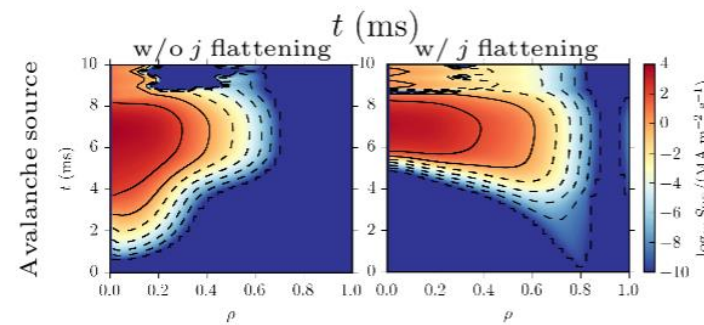
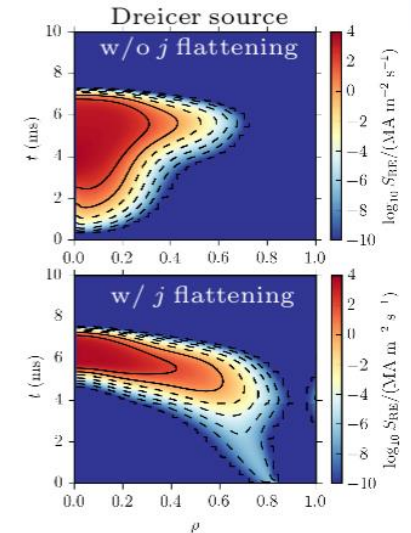
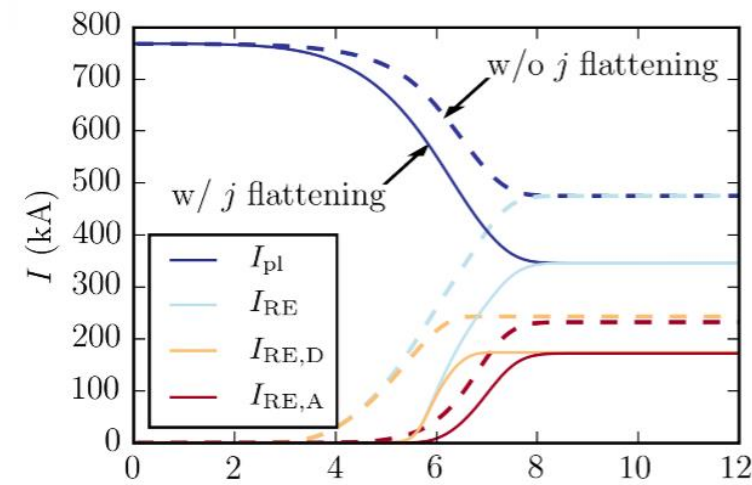


## Self-consistent modelling of runaway electron generation in massive gas injection scenarios (oliver.linder@ipp.mpg.de)

- Coupling of transport solver ASTRA & impurity code STRAHL + equilibrium reconstructions -> **self-consistent modelling of RE in MGI scenarios**
- RE in ASTRA – evolution of plasma quantities
  - RE sources fluid description
  - $j_{RE}$  coupled to evolution of electric field
- Validation against the GO code
- Current density flattening in MGI scenarios
  - Cold gas reached  $q = 2$  -> formation of flat  $j_p$  profile & drop in  $I_i$  & increase in  $I_p$  (spike)

Another transport code METIS is coupled with FP solver LUKE -> self-consistent calculations of plasma and RE beam parameters

**E Macusova et al., REM + 45th EPS, Prague, 2018**



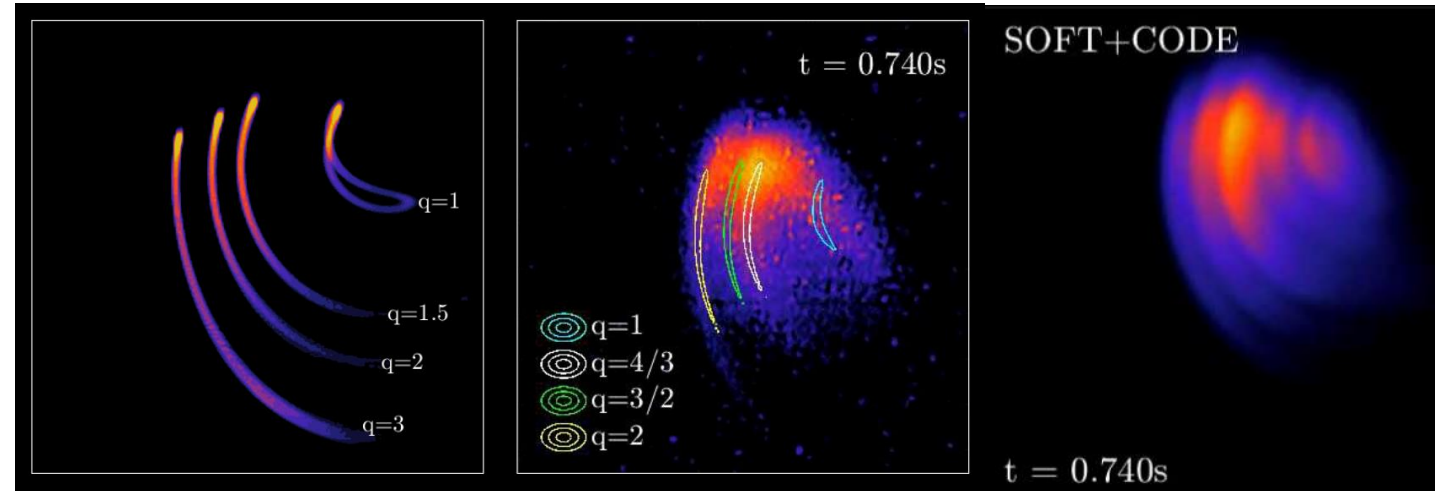
Flat  $q$  enhances  $E_{tor}$  around  $q = 2$  location  
 => RE generation starts off-centre

## Using SOFT and CODE to study spatiotemporal dynamics of runaway electrons in Alcator C-Mod (rating@mit.edu)

- *Wide-angle camera* (60fps, visible & NIR, distortion-corrected, background and HXR removed)
- **SOFT + CODE** (full momentum-space distribution function) – image build from q-surfaces – **most accurate in spatial features reproduction**
- Effect of MHD (lock mode) on RE → **'third leg' in SR pattern** → Structures at rational q?
- First results with synchrotron polarization (10 channel system)

**Modeling the anisotropic radiation of runaway electrons: M. Hoppe (July 17 at 10:30)**

**SOFT** - real(istic) magnetic geometry  
- drift and radiation cone deformation corrections



Tinguely R. A. et al., NF 58 082001 2018

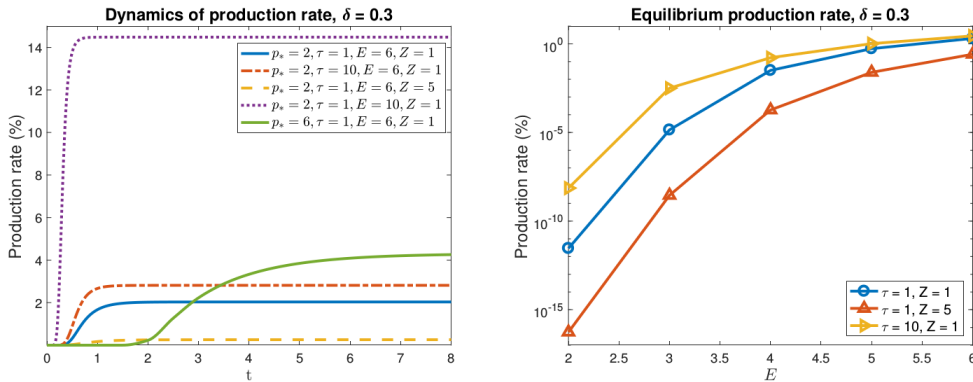
- SR & Bremsstrahlung – different part of the distribution function
- **Importance of geometric effects**

Hoppe M. et al., NF 58 026032 2018; Hoppe M. et al., NF 58 082001 2018



**Production rate of RE in dynamic scenarios: a probabilistic backward Monte Carlo method: D. del-Castillo-Negrete (July 16 at 16:10)**

- **BMC method** – powerful tool (faster convergence;  $T_{RE}$ ,  $T_{LOSS}$  & production rate)



G. Zhang and D. del-Castillo-Negrete. Phys. Plasmas 24, 092551 (2017)

**Synchrotron radiation of relativistic RE**

- Synthetic diagnostic for the Kinetic Orbit Runaway electrons Code (**KORC**) SR developed – compute the full-orbit relativistic dynamics in the electric and magnetic fields **including radiation & collisions**

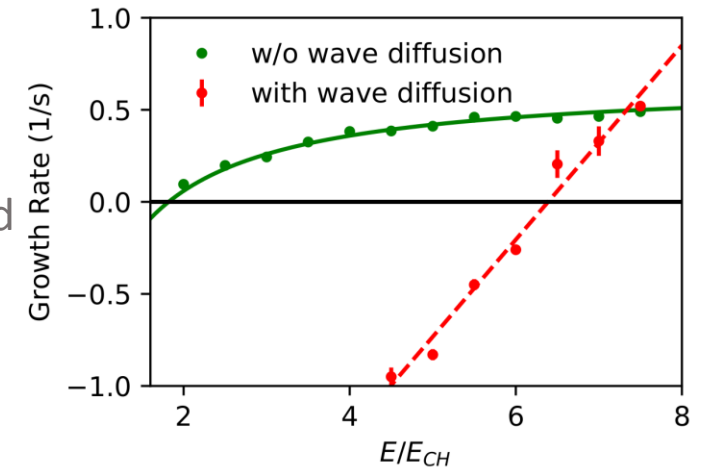
D. del-Castillo-Negrete et al., Phys. Plasmas 25, 056104 (2018)

**Kinetic instabilities associated with runaway electrons: C. Liu (July 17 at 11:40)**

**Self-consistent quasilinear simulation model** (whistler and extraordinary electron waves included) - **new  $E/E_{CH}$  threshold** -> avalanche & losses

- theory closer to experiment
- prompt growth of ECE signal explained

C. Liu et al., ArXiv:1801.01827 (2018)



A **new expression** of conservative magnetic moment of RE was introduced C. Liu et al., ArXiv:1804.01971 (2018)

A **fluid-kinetic framework** for RE simulation using the BMC method presented



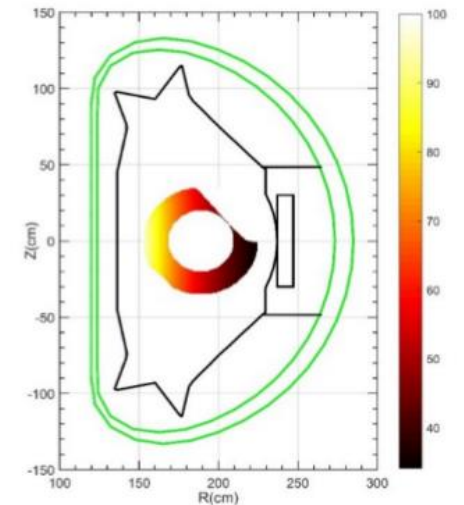
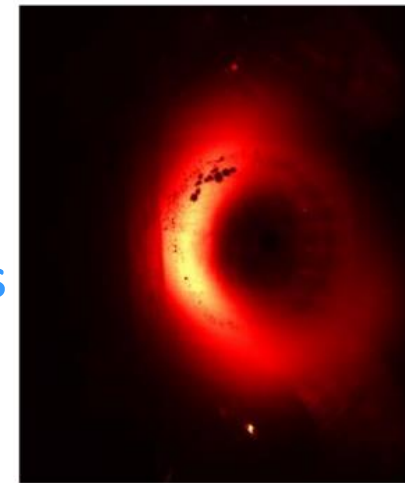
## Recent Runaway Electron Investigations in EAST Tokamak (rjzhou@ipp.ac.cn)

- **RE diagnostics** (High Energy HXR System: CdTe+NaI(Tl)+BGO: 0.5-9 MeV & 1ms time resolution; Gamma Ray Spectroscopy: LaBr3(Ce), max. 1MHz; in development – fast IR cameras system & Cherenkov probe)
- Up to 60% of the pre-disruptive plasma current  $\rightarrow$  to  $I_{RE}$  in the disruption when a seed of fast electrons exist
- 1-D self-consistent model - evolution of radial profile of electric field and  $n_{RE}$  (diffusion  $\leftrightarrow$  induced electric field)
- $\frac{1}{2}$  of magnetic energy converted to RE kinetic energy during the disruption **R.J.Zhou NF 57 114002 2017**
- Analysis of synchrotron radiation (SR) spectra and pattern can supplement each other - **large orbit shift of REs can result to an asymmetrical SR pattern**

## Synchrotron radiation intensity and energy of runaway electrons in EAST tokamak (ykzhang@ipp.ac.cn)

- Energy of RE from drift orbit shift
- **SR intensity and energy of runaway electrons do not reach the maximum at the same time**
- SR compared with Pankratov's analytical formula/SOFT

**Pankratov, Plasma Phys. Rep. 22 (1996) 535**



$E=35\text{MeV}$     $\theta_p=0.18$     $R \in [20, 35]\text{cm}$

## Dynamic evolution of runaway electron energy distribution during tokamak disruptions (zenglong@ipp.ac.cn)

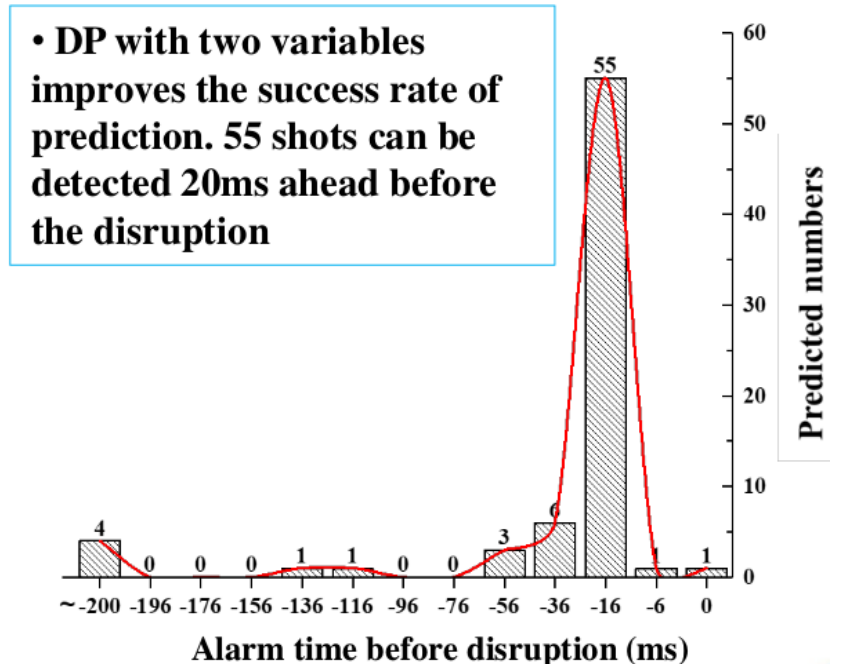
- OD model describing RE energy distribution developed
- **Negative  $U_{loop}$**  applied on the post-disruption RE beam -> **de-acceleration of RE** and decrease of their energy in the medium-energy range + oscillations of HXR signal (not ECE), SXR,  $U_{loop}$  and magnetics
- MGI into the post-disruption RE beam (He & H) -> Non-monotonous dependence of bremsstrahlung on the injected amount of gas; Ar & Ne – stronger RE losses

## Statistic analysis of disruption induced by vertical displacement events on EAST tokamak (zhangyang@ipp.ac.cn)

- 60% of disruptions ( $I_p > 500kA$ ) = VID (vertical instability disruption)
  - Triggered or accompanied by the impurity accumulation, MHD mode, minor D, ELM, physical perturbation -> more flatten current profile – reduced capability of control
  - enhanced halo current = enhanced electromagnetic force or uncontrollable loss of RE

**Disruption prediction function constructed** -> linear Support Vector Machine method used with 2 variables

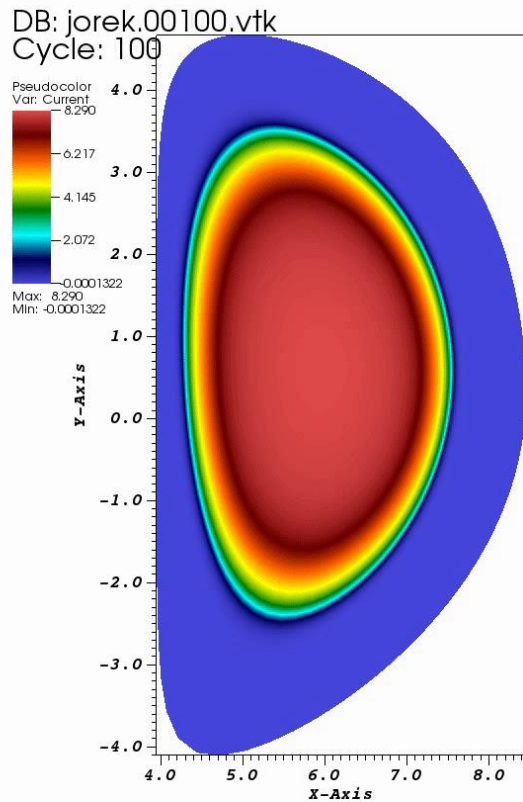
- $(\Delta Z, d \ln |\Delta Z| / dt)$
- 93% of VID predicted successfully
- **80 % VID detected 20 ms ahead** before disruption



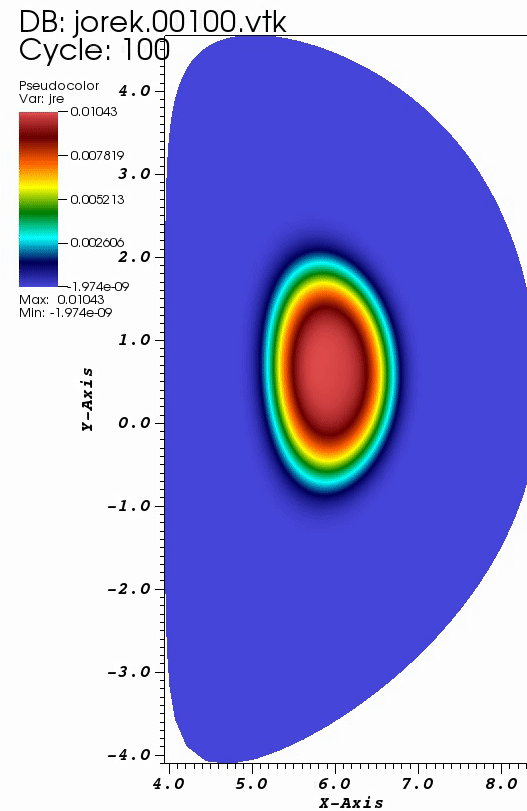
## Runaway electron fluid model in JOEK (vkb@ipp.mpg.de)

### ITER VDE with Runaways (axisymmetric)

**Total current density**



**RE current density**



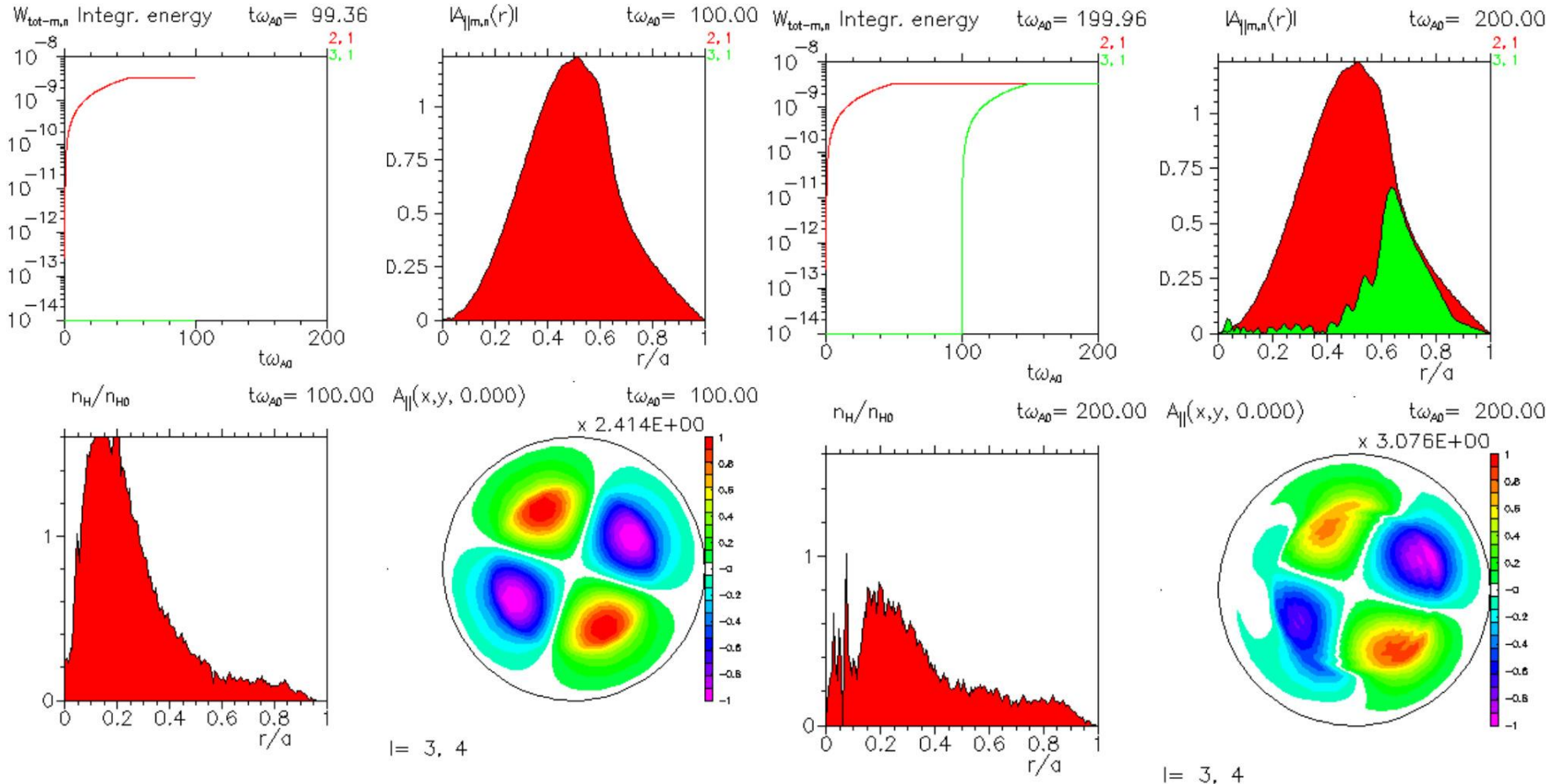
- RE fluid model implemented in to the 3D non-linear MHD code JOEK

- RE separated fluid from plasma
- RE generated during thermal quench
- **RE effects the linear growth of resistive internal kink mode in circular plasma**

- ITER VDE simulations with RE (V. K. Bandaru & F.J. Artola Such\*)

\* Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS, Marseille, France

## Study of transport of runaway electrons in the presence of MHD perturbations with the Hybrid MHD Gyrokinetic Code (casolari@ipp.cas.cz)

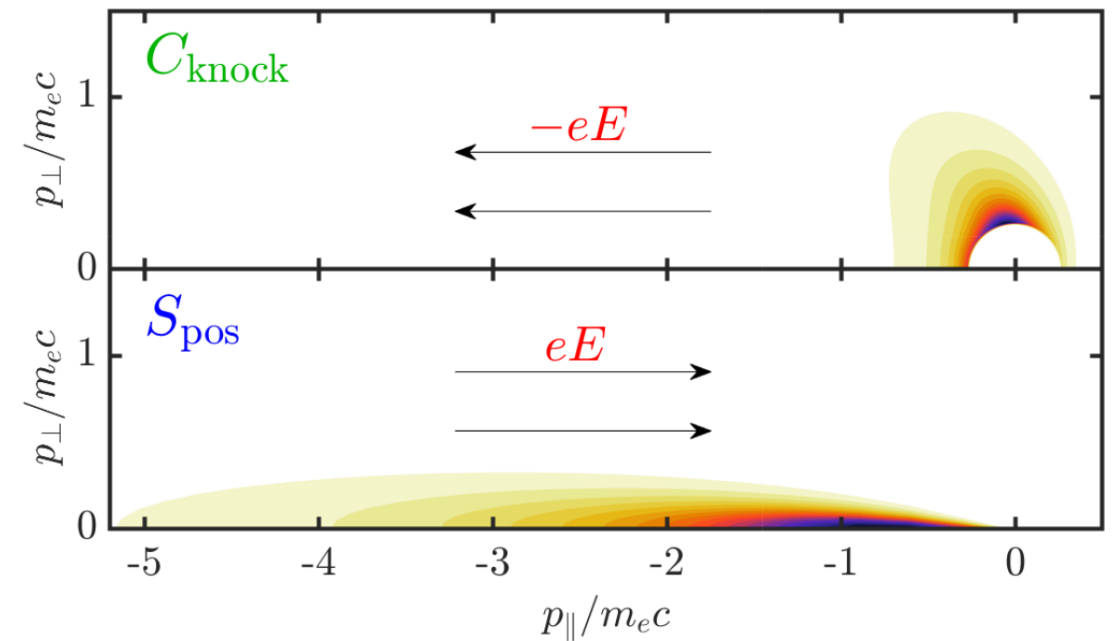


- $n_e$  profile evolution from simulations compared with a purely diffusive model (based on the stochastic diffusion of magnetic field lines)
- effect of  $n=(1, 2)$  &  $(1, 3)$  tearing modes
- **flattening of  $n_e$  profile** when  $n = (1, 2)$  reached the max. amplitude (model) and when  $n=(1, 2)$  &  $(1, 3)$  were overlapping (simulation)



## Dynamics of runaway positrons ([embreus@chalmers.se](mailto:embreus@chalmers.se))

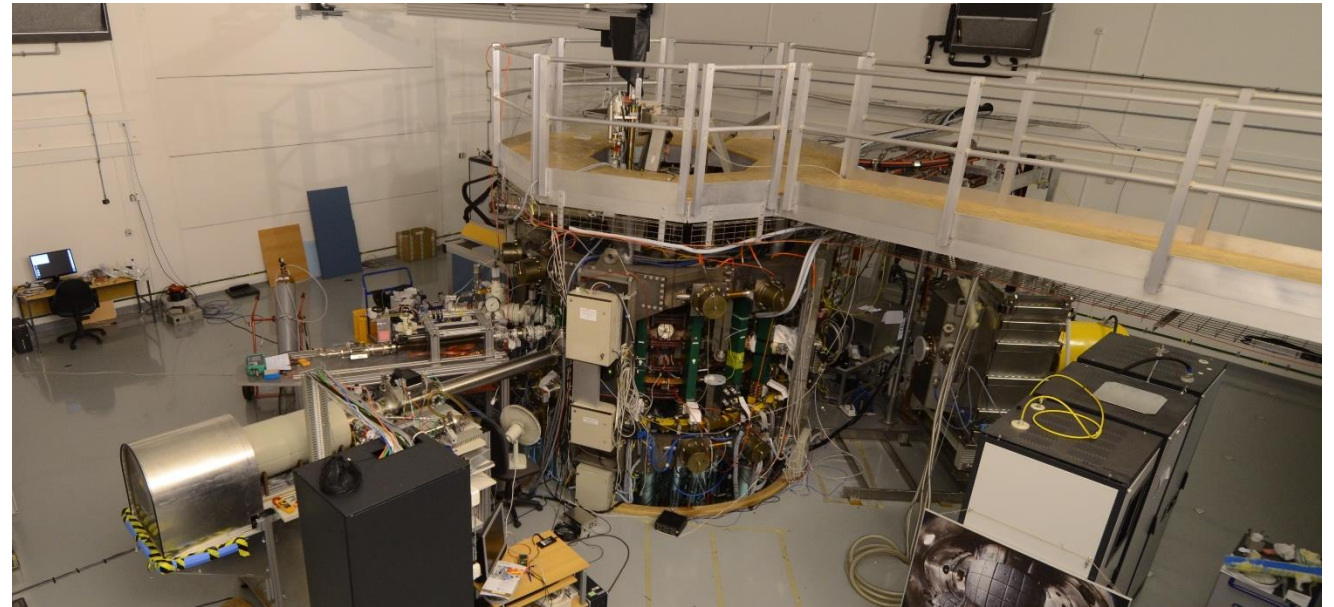
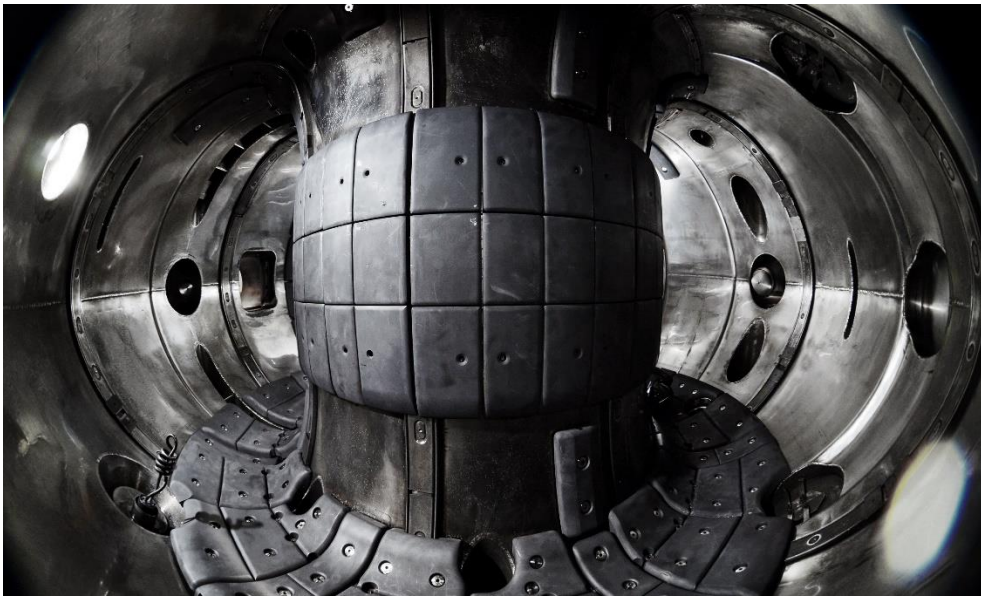
- Positrons in systems with kinetic energy exceeding the pair-productions ( $2m_e c^2 \sim 1\text{MeV}$ )
- RE accelerated in the direction opposite to  $E$  (small pitch angles)
- Positrons remain thermalized or annihilate (small fraction accelerated)
- **Distribution function with positron collision operator derived** -> threshold for positrons pair production  $E_{pp}$  (increase with effective charge)
- $n_{RP}/n_{RE} = 10^{-7}$  -> very small synchrotron or HXR radiation, but annihilation radiation (peaked at 511 keV)



Embreus et al., arXiv:1807.04460, 2018

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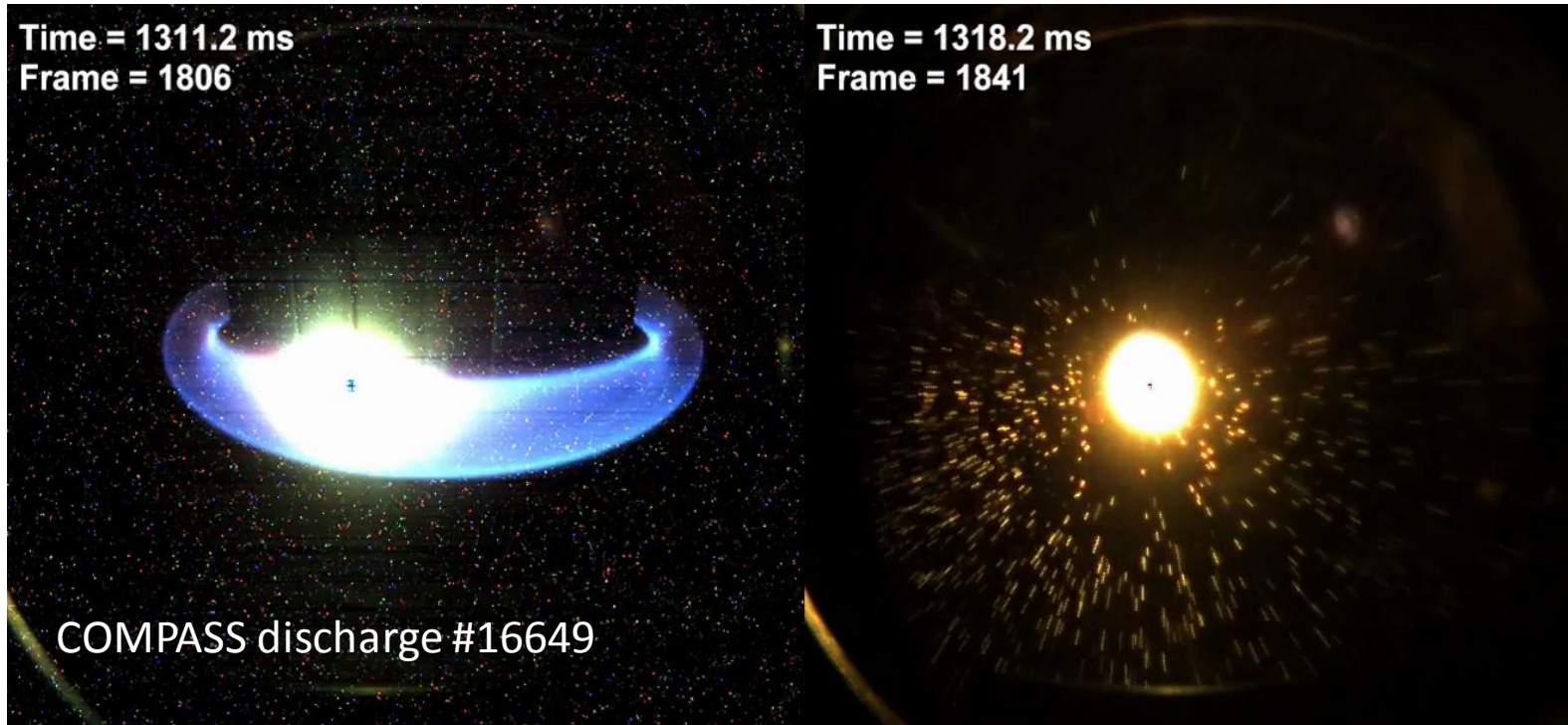
- ITER-like plasma
- $R_0/a = 0.56\text{m}/0.23\text{m}$
- $B_T = 0.9\text{T} - 1.6\text{T}$
- $I_p \leq 350\text{ kA}$
- $P_{\text{NBI}}$  up to 600 kW
- **Full poloidal coverage by RMP coils**



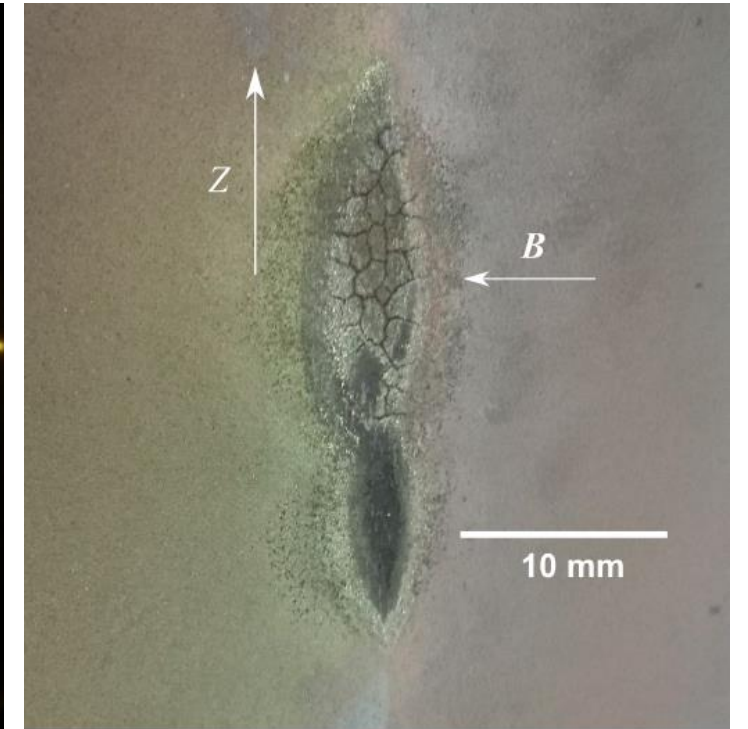
- Rich magnetic diagnostics
- Fast visible & infrared cameras
- Hard X-ray (HXR) and neutron diagnostics
- Thomson scattering; 2mm interferometer
- Dedicated diagnostics for RE - **SXR matrix detector MediPix**

V Weinzettl et al. 2011 Fusion Eng. Des. 86 1227; T Benka et al 2018 JINST 13





Record from fast visible camera (1280 × 1024px @ 4 kfps;  
640 × 8 px @ 800 kfps) at COMPASS (# 16649)



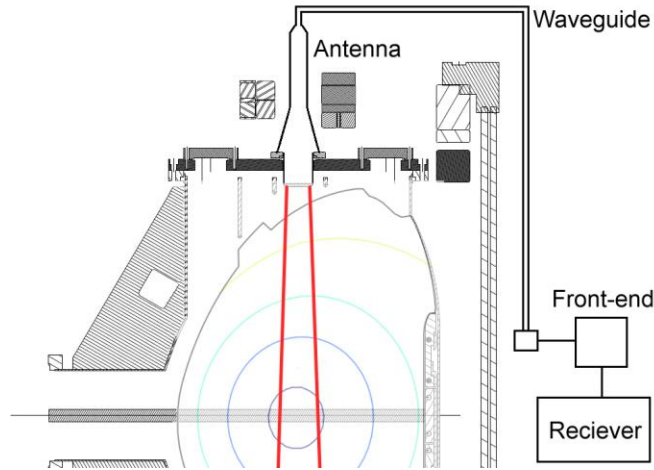
COMPASS protruding  
graphite inner limiter tile

A Havranek et al. 2017 *Fus. Eng. Des.* 123; Weinzettl et al. 2017 *JINST* 12

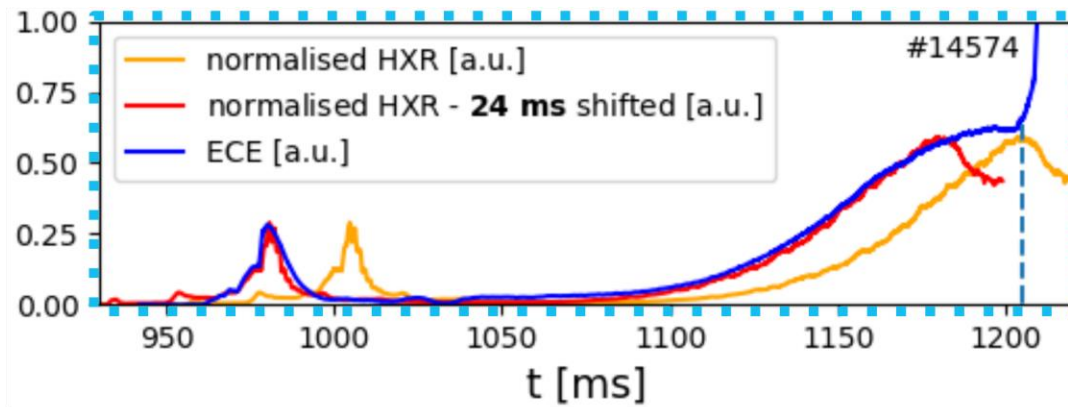
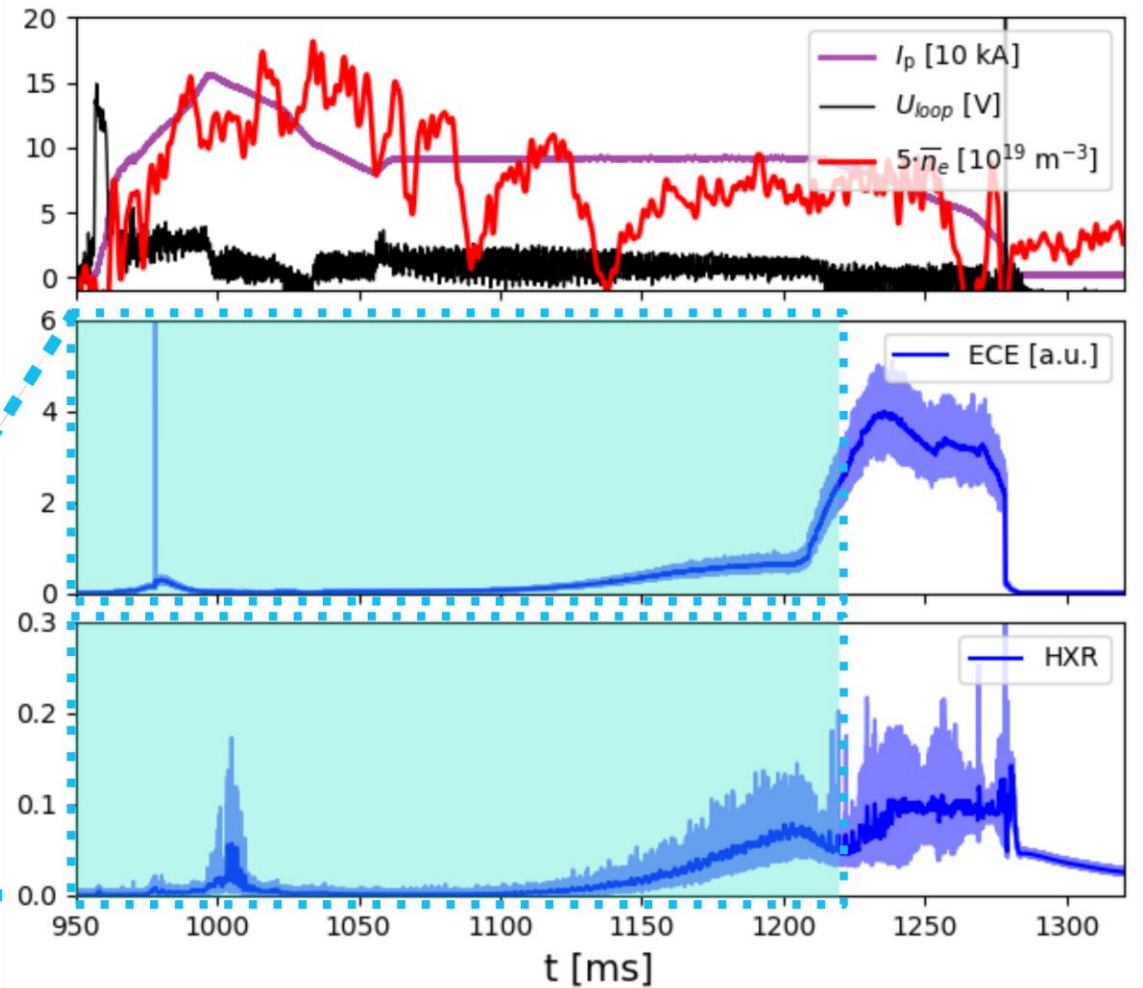
J Mlynar et al. 2018 PPCF, submitted



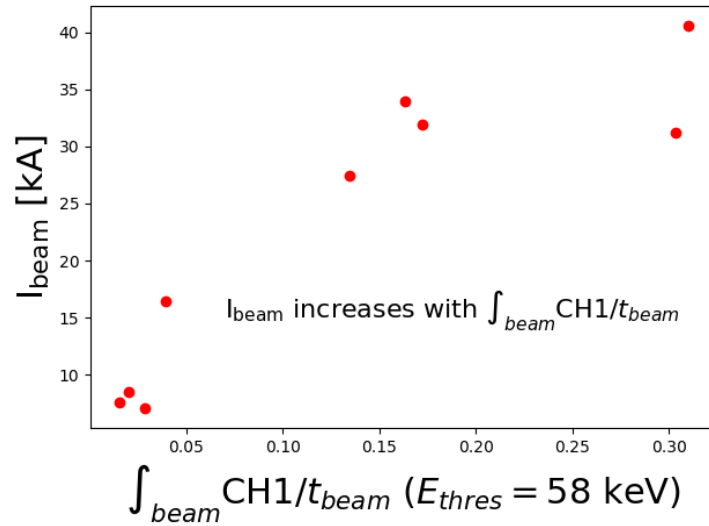
## Vertically placed ECE heterodyne radiometer (V-ECE)



- 3<sup>rd</sup> harmonic  
-> (76 - 88 GHz)
- E = 50 - 140 keV  
-> initial seed
- Comparison with HXR  
-> "confinement time"



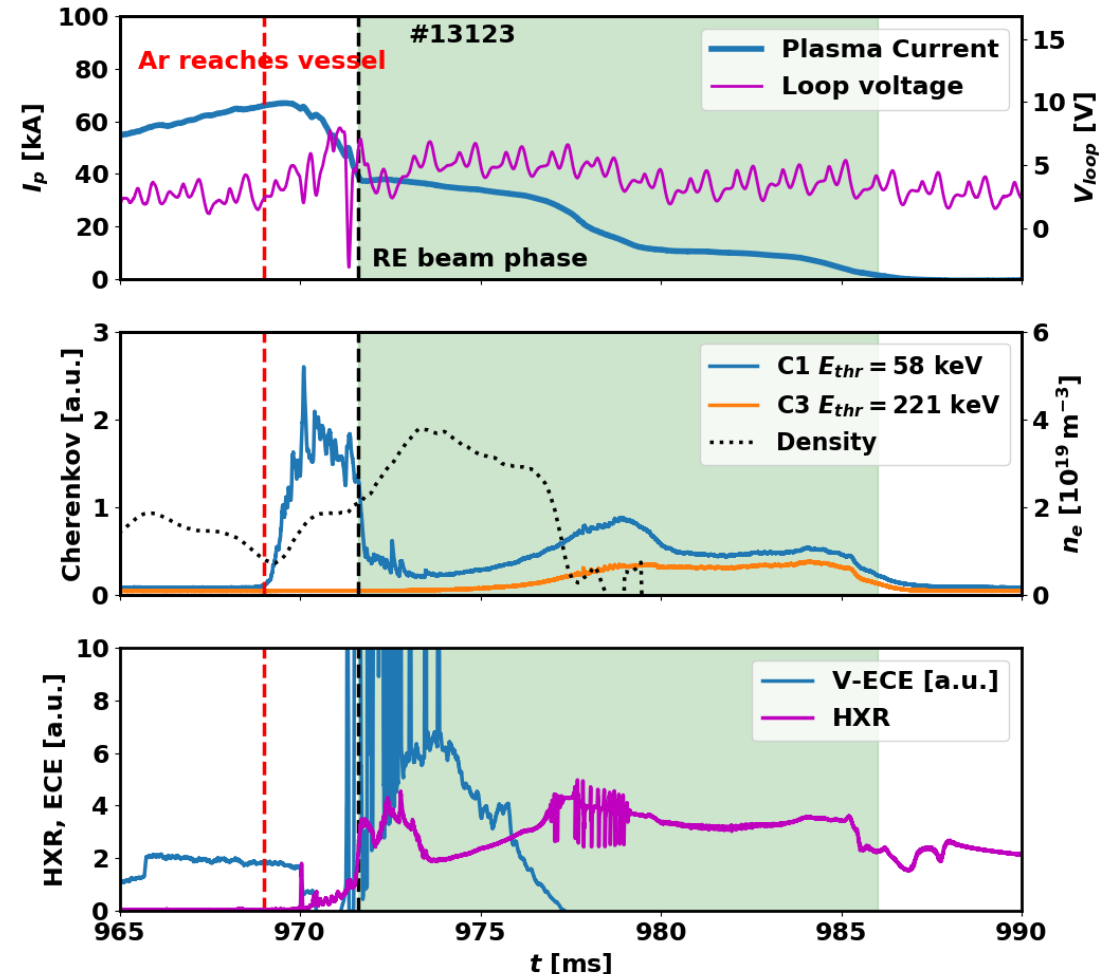
M Farnik et al., P 1.1010, 45<sup>th</sup> EPS, Prague, 2018 (farnik@ipp.cas.cz)

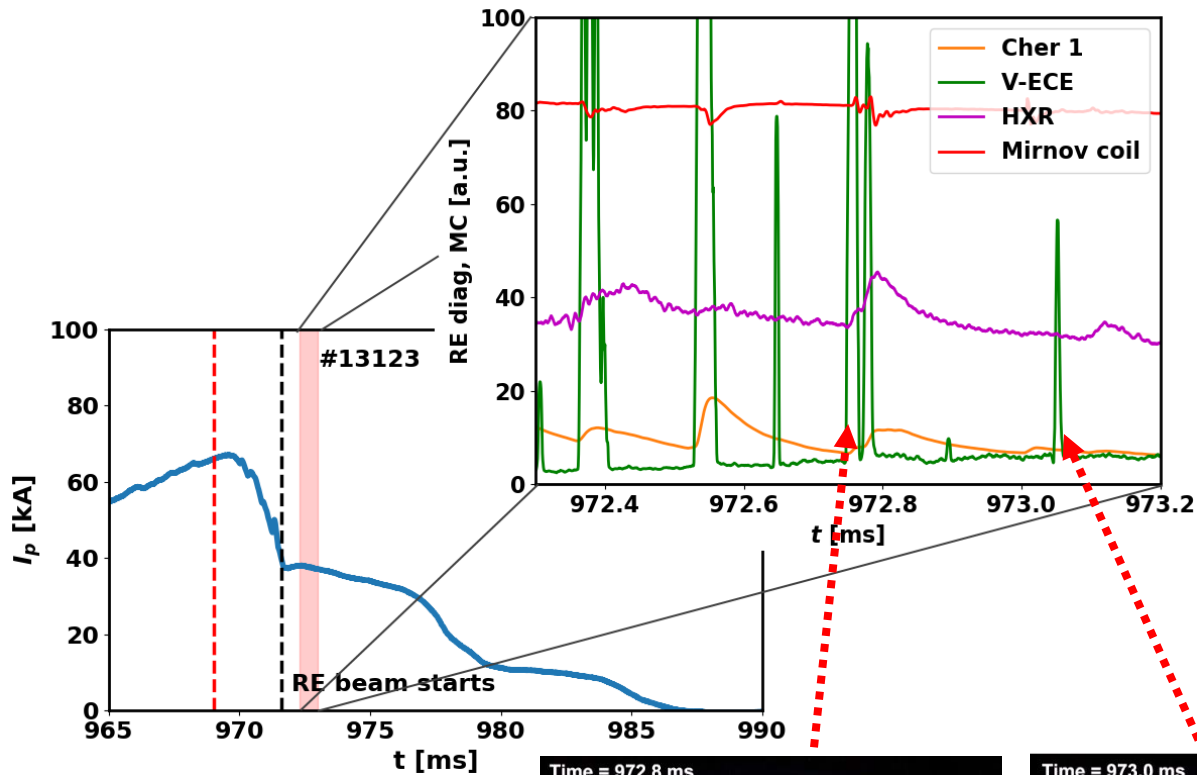


- Developed in NCBJ, Poland, EUROfusion support
- Direct detection of lost RE in CVD diamond
- 3 channels:  $E_{thr} > 58 \text{ keV}$ ,  $> 145 \text{ keV}$ ,  $> 211 \text{ keV}$
- Outer midplane, slightly in shadow of the limiter
- Identifies the onset of Runaway Electrons

J Cerovsky et al., P 2.1006, 45<sup>th</sup> EPS, Prague, 2018  
(cerovsky@ipp.cas.cz)

- $B_T = 1.15 \text{ T}$ ,  $I_p = 70 \text{ kA}$ ,  $q_a > 5$
- $n_e = 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$ ,  $T_e = 500 \text{ eV}$

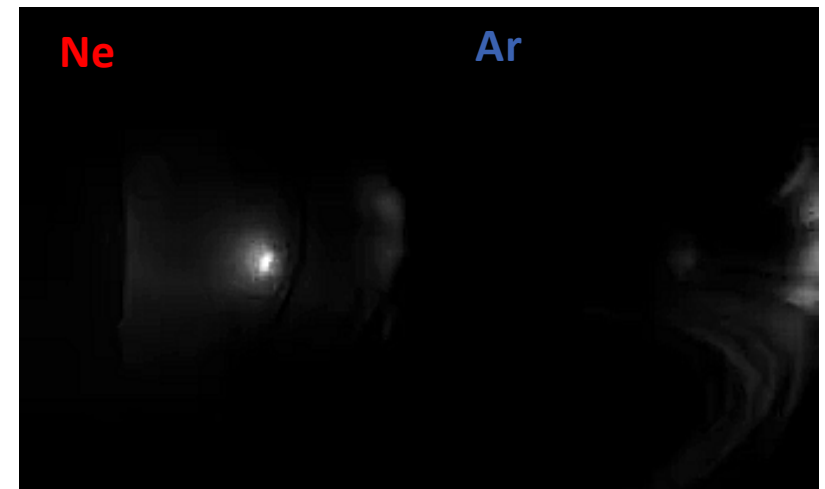
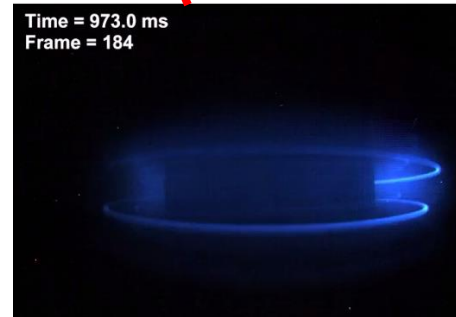
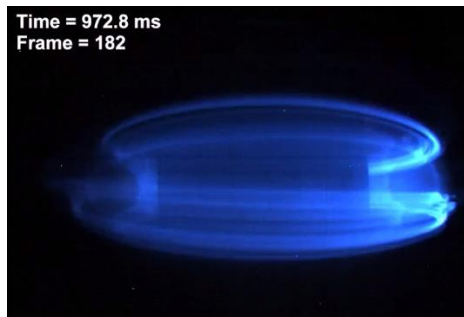




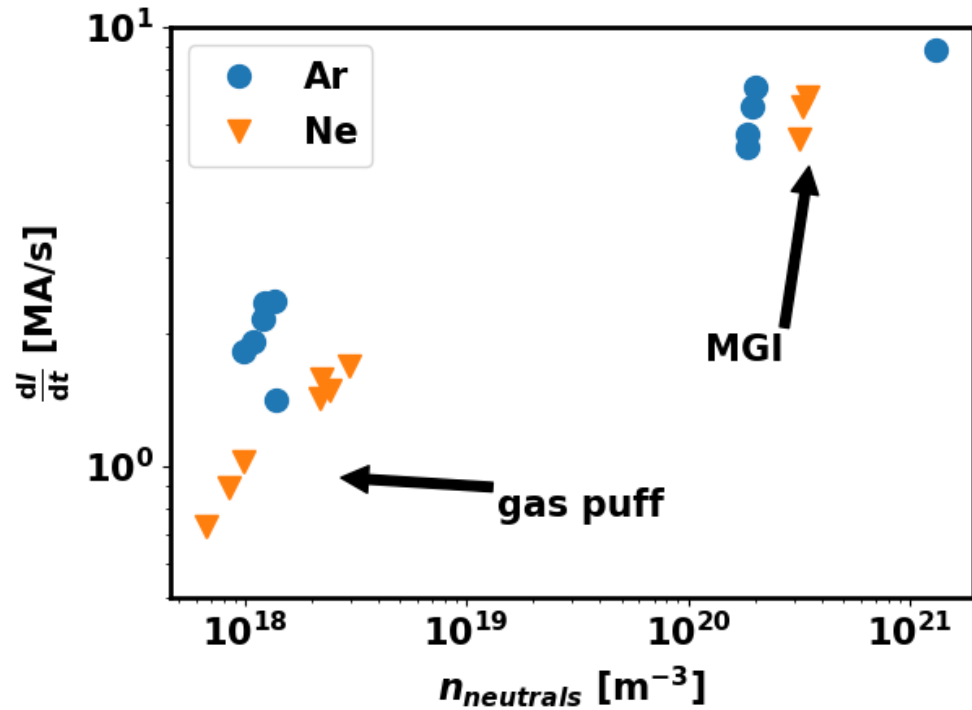
Difference between Ar and Ne behaviour following their injection

- Ne seems to penetrate as a blob (neutral particles)
- Ar spreads poloidally from the onset (ionised particles)

Filaments and spikes in ECE and Cherenkov signals in the early beam phase – correlated

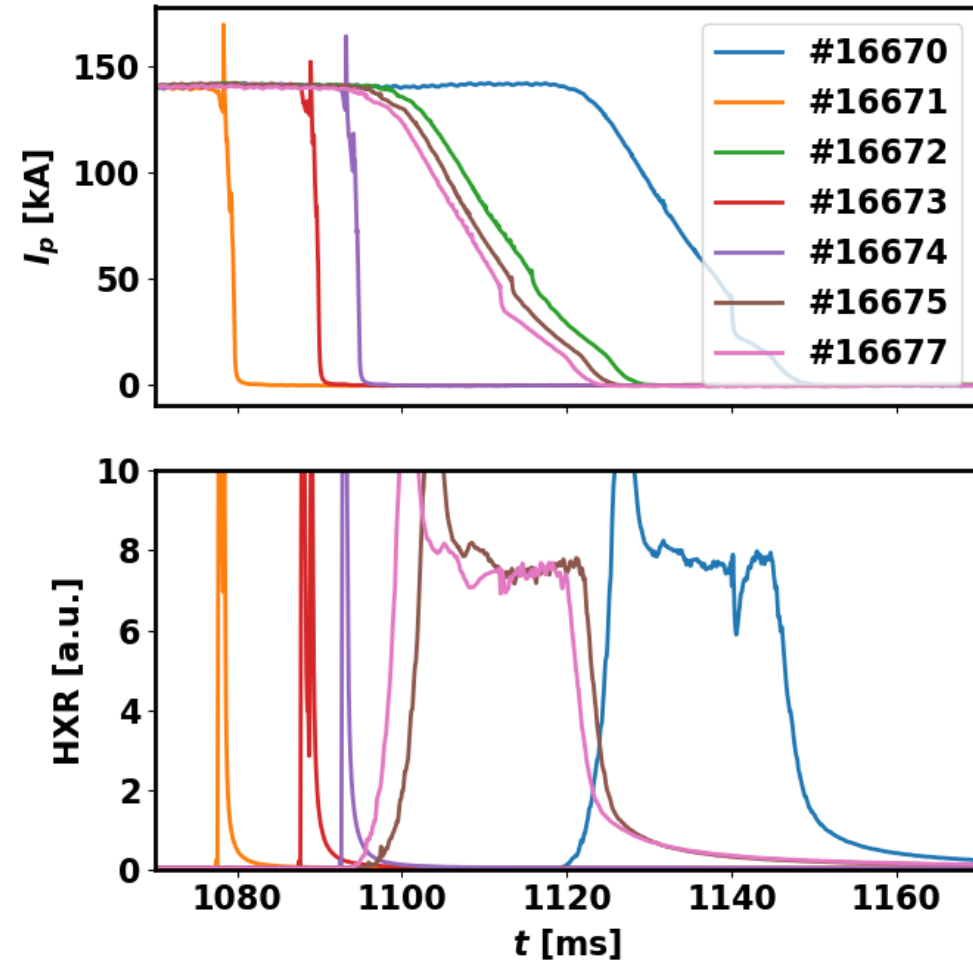


Current decay rate in the gas amount scan



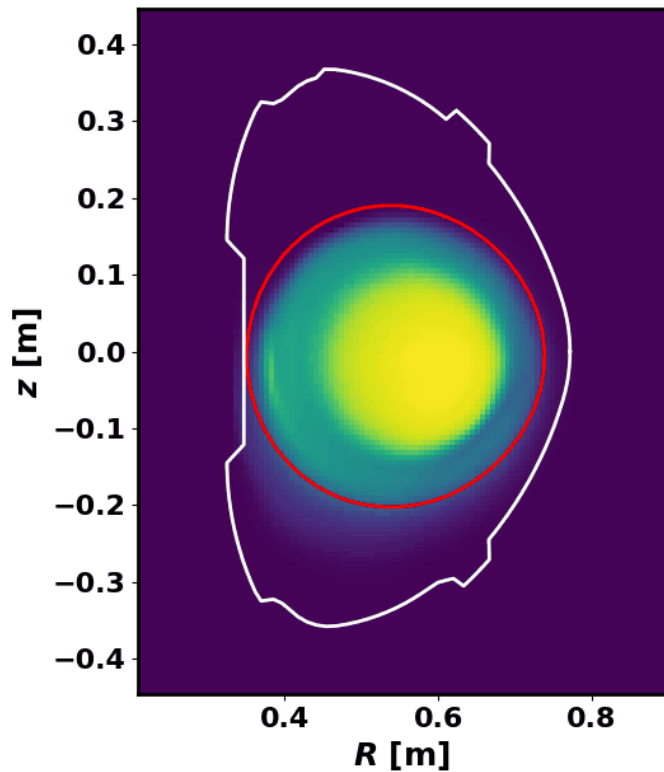
O Ficker et al., P 1.1062, 45<sup>th</sup> EPS, Prague, 2018  
(ficker@ipp.cas.cz)

MGI timing scan - Ip flat-top scenario -> RE energy is decisive for the RE survival





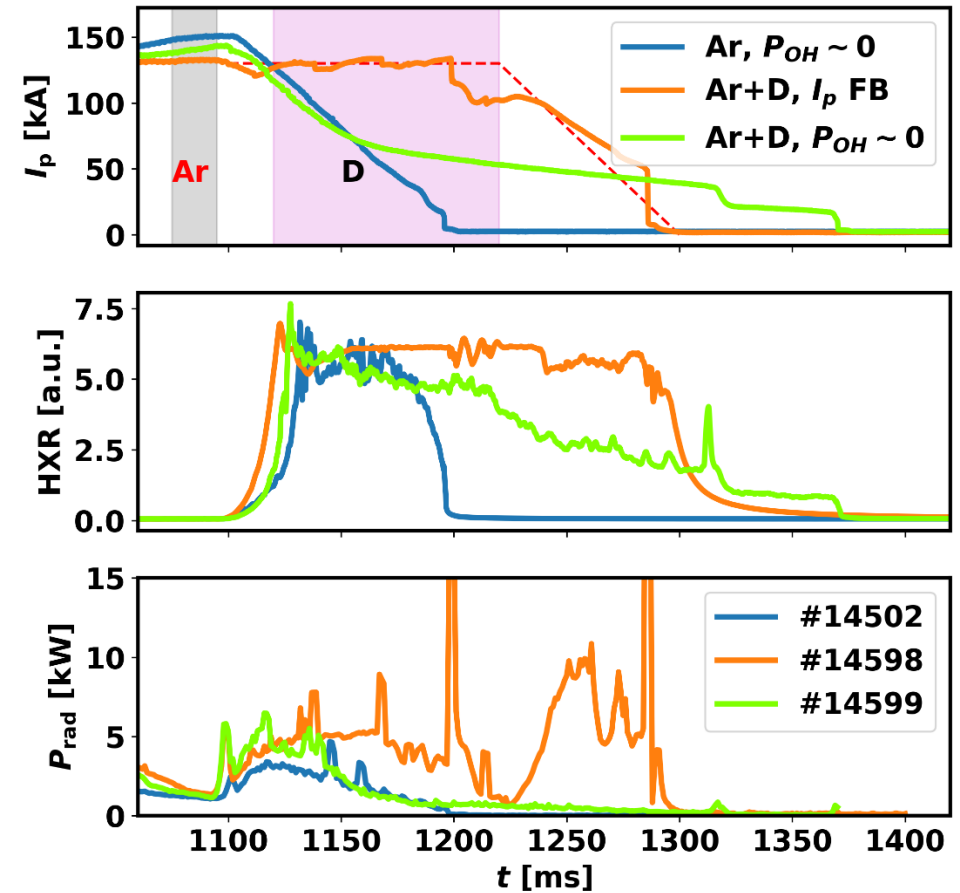
$t = 1095.0 \text{ ms}$



O Ficker et al., P 1.1062, 45<sup>th</sup> EPS, 2018

- Motivated by JET - tomography
- Different behavior with the zero  $U_{loop}$  configuration
- **D injection added— slows decay** (Proposed interpretation: **D** cools down the background plasma- supported by data from minipectrometers)
- **Great interest for modellers**

Zero  $U_{loop}$   $\rightarrow$  natural decay of  $I_{RE}$



J Mlynar et al. 2018 PPCF, submitted

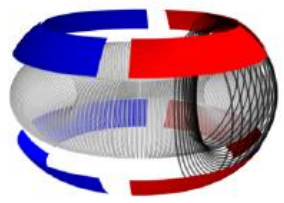
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**Resonant Magnetic Perturbation (RMP):** toroidally periodic (COMPASS,  $n = 1$  or  $n = 2$  )

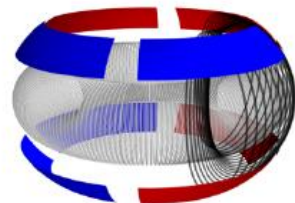
- Motivated by **AUG results**: RE losses increase with RMP, with higher efficiency for the resonant component.

Gobbin M. et al., 2018 Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 60 014036

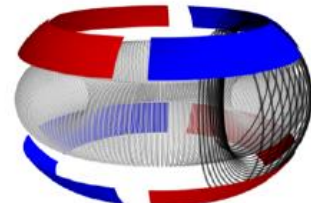
$n = 1$ :  $\Delta\Phi$  scan



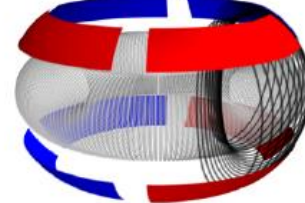
$\Delta\Phi = 0^\circ$   
EW orient.



$\Delta\Phi = 90^\circ$   
NS orient.

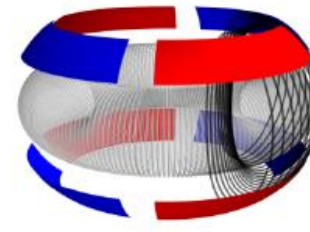


$\Delta\Phi = 180^\circ$   
WE orient.

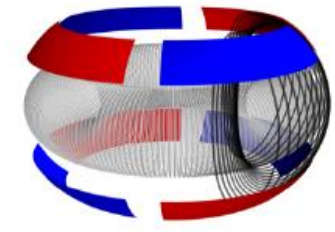


$\Delta\Phi = 270^\circ$   
SN orient.

$n = 2$  "EVEN & ODD configuration"



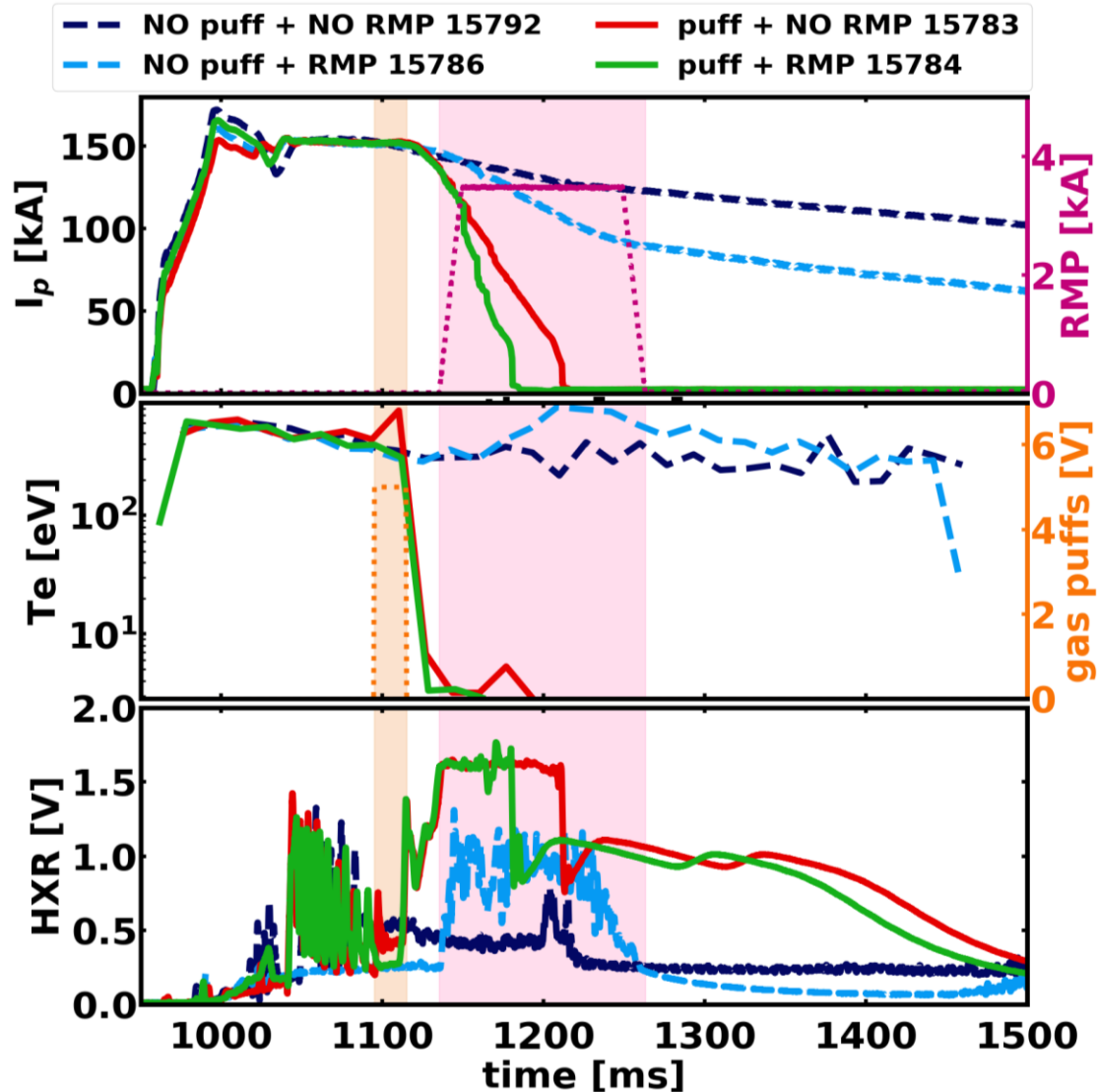
$\Delta\Phi = 0^\circ$   
EVEN orient.



$\Delta\Phi = +/- 90^\circ$   
ODD orient.

- $\mathbf{B}_{RMP} / \mathbf{B}_T \sim 10^{-2}$  -> help understanding of RE dynamics
- MARS-F** (resistive MHD code) applied to interpret RMP experiments

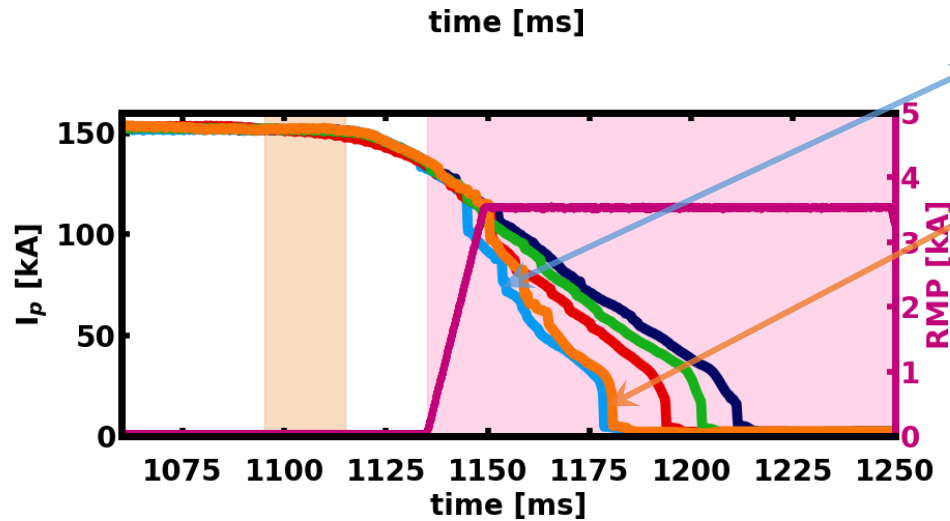
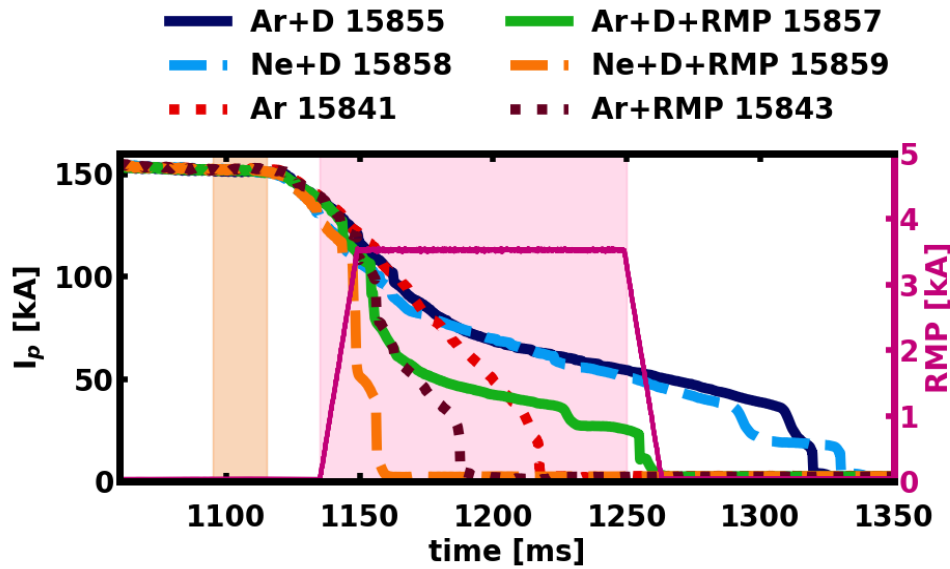
Y. Liu, et al., Phys. Plasmas 7, 3681, 2000



- Zero  $U_{loop}$  configuration
- Effect of gas puff - significant for the plasma and RE current decay rate
- RMP energized after the gas puff
- Effect of RMP clearly visible (even without gas puff) in both current decay rate and in HXR radiation
- The HXR scintillation detector ( $> 50$  keV) suffers saturation in the case of the gas puff
- No gas puff, no RMPs  $\rightarrow$  RE confined

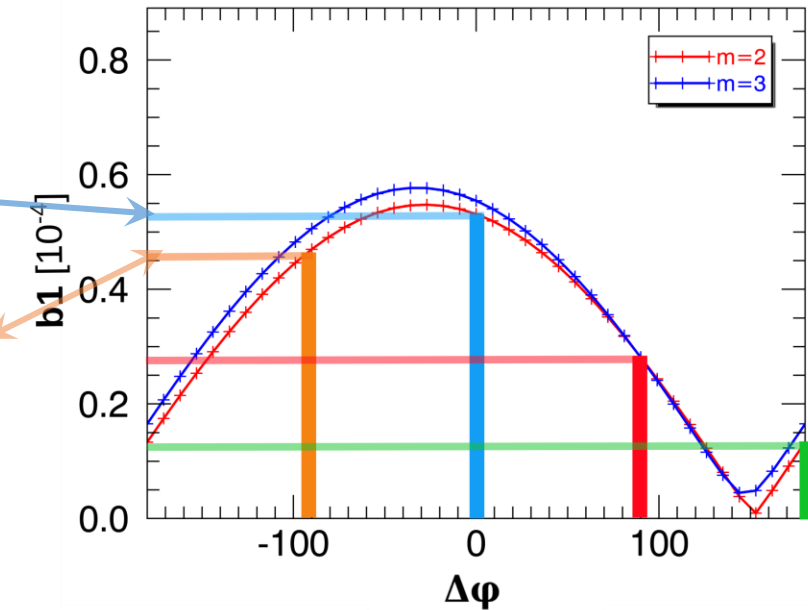
J Mlynar et al. 2018 PPCF, submitted



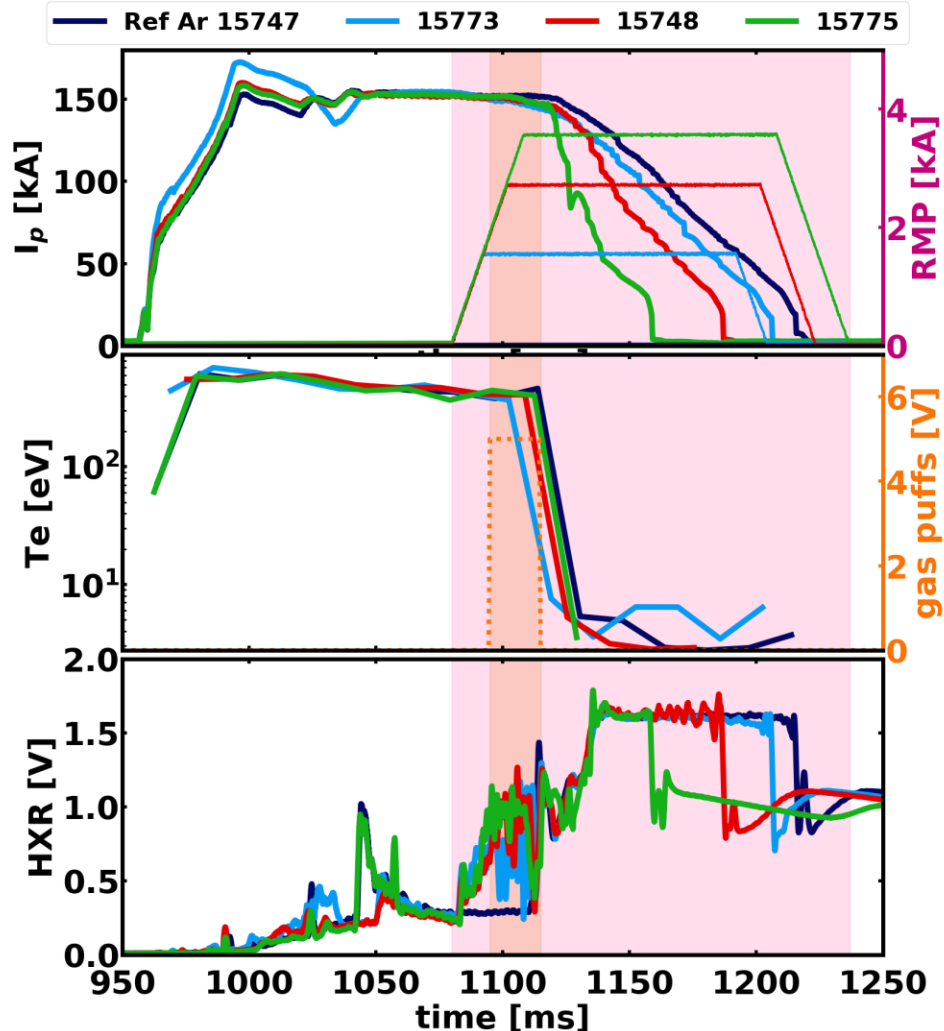


- Zero  $U_{loop}$  scenario
- Post-disruption RMP ( $\Delta\Phi = 0^\circ$ )
- D injections – slows down the current decay
- Ne + D+ RMP faster current decay than Ar + RMP and Ar + D + RMP

- Ref Ar 15791
- $\Delta\Phi = 0^\circ$  15790
- $\Delta\Phi = 90^\circ$  15789
- $\Delta\Phi = 180^\circ$  15788
- $\Delta\Phi = -90^\circ$  15784

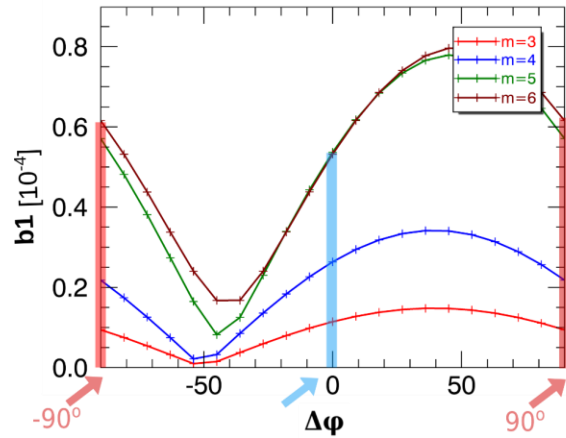


Resonant component in plasma (MARS-F)



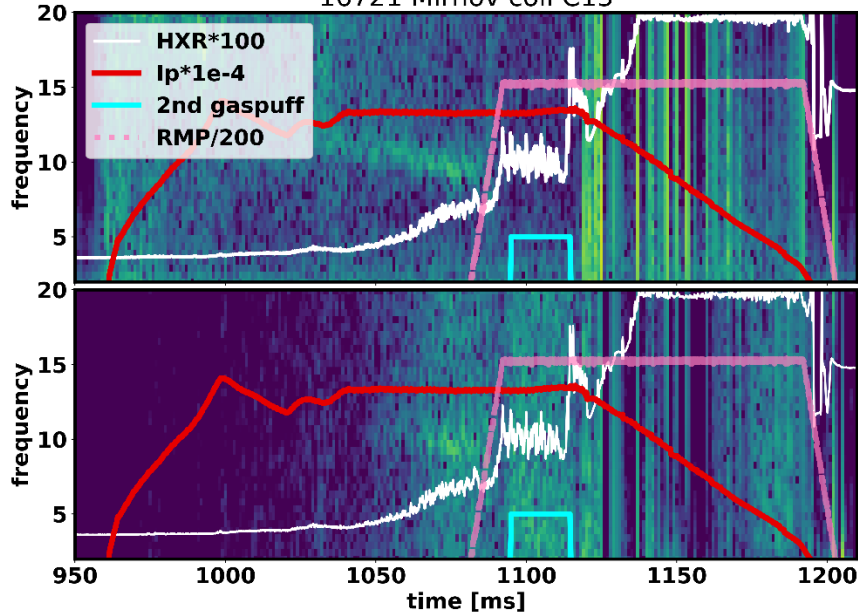
- Zero  $U_{loop}$  configuration
- RMP energised prior to the gas puff
- RMP amplitude scan for  $\Delta\Phi = -90^\circ$
- The stronger the RMP, the faster the current decay
- The fast  $T_e$  quench (together with the HXR intensity) documents importance of the RE current
- The HXR scintillation detector ( $> 50$  keV) show RE losses with the RMP onset, prior to the disruption

## Resonant component in plasma (MARS-F)



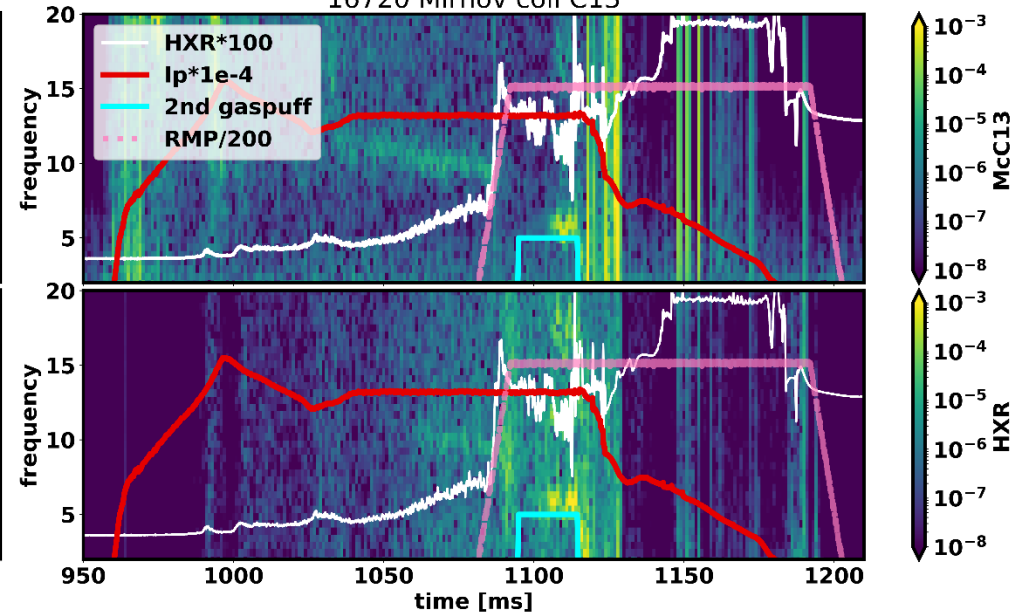
## $\Delta\phi = 0^\circ$ EVEN orient.

16721 Mirnov coil C13



## $\Delta\phi = +/-90^\circ$ ODD orient.

16720 Mirnov coil C13



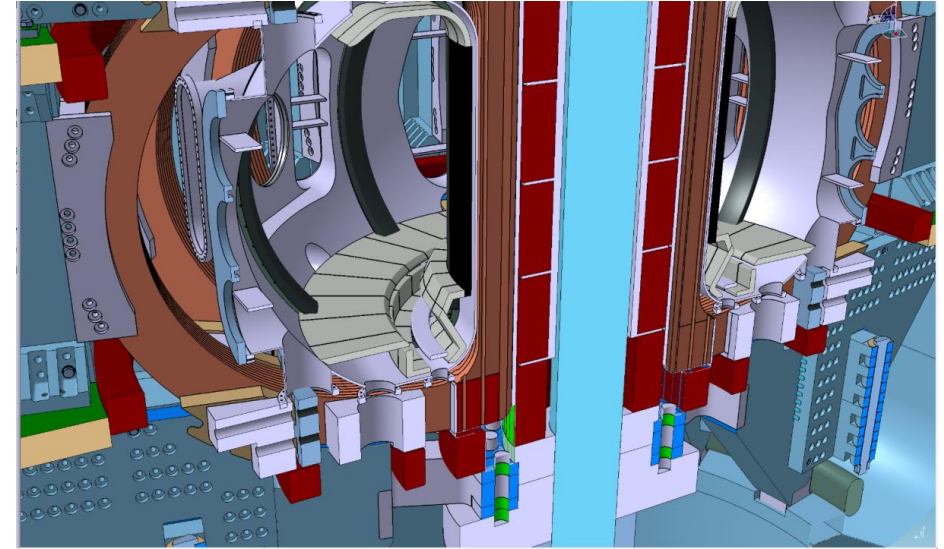
- Experiment stronger effect for  $\Delta\phi = 90^\circ$  compared to  $\Delta\phi = 0^\circ$
- Spectrograms from Mirnov magnetic probe from the HFS and from HXR data demonstrate onset of the MHD mode in the  $\Delta\phi = +/-90^\circ$  configuration

E Macusova et al. 29<sup>th</sup> SPPT, Prague, 2018

- Overview from the 6<sup>th</sup> REM – Prague
- The COMPASS tokamak & dedicated diagnostics for RE
- Effects of the gas injection
  - MGI triggered disruptions in the current ramp-up phase
  - Gas injection in the current plateau phase
- RE in perturbed magnetic fields at COMPASS
  - Resonant magnetic perturbation (RMP)
  - Combined effects of RMP and gas injection
- **Future plans**



- Solid pellet injector (2019-2020)
- REIS (RE infrared spectrometer, for SR) – collaboration with Università di Roma Tor Vergata, Italy
- RE control improvement
- **Advantageously high  $B_T$  for RE studies in the COMPASS Upgrade tokamak**



View inside COMPASS-U

**Basic dimensions and parameters of COMPASS- U:**

**R = 0,89 m**

**a = 0,3 m**

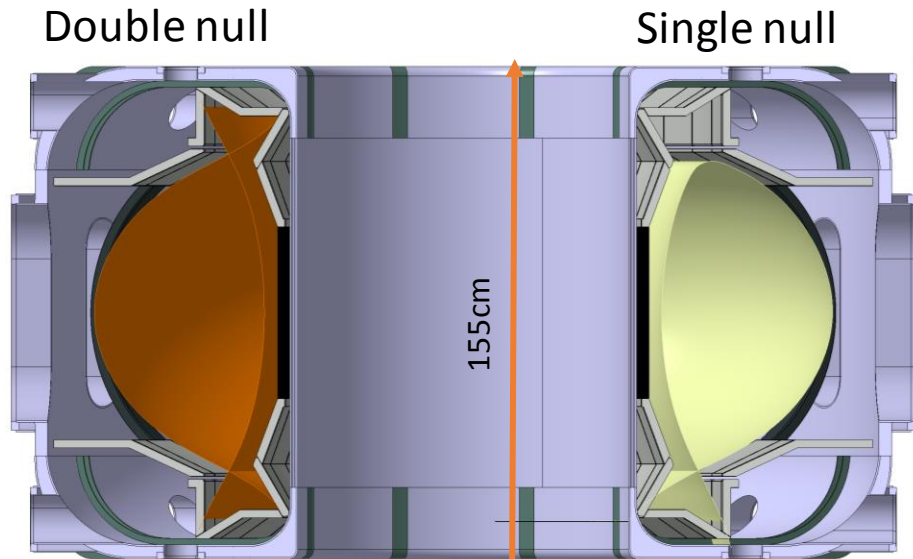
**$B_T$  = 5 T**

**$I_p$  = 2 MA**

**$P_{NBI}$  = 4-5 MW**

**$P_{ECRH}$  = 4 MW (170 GHz)**

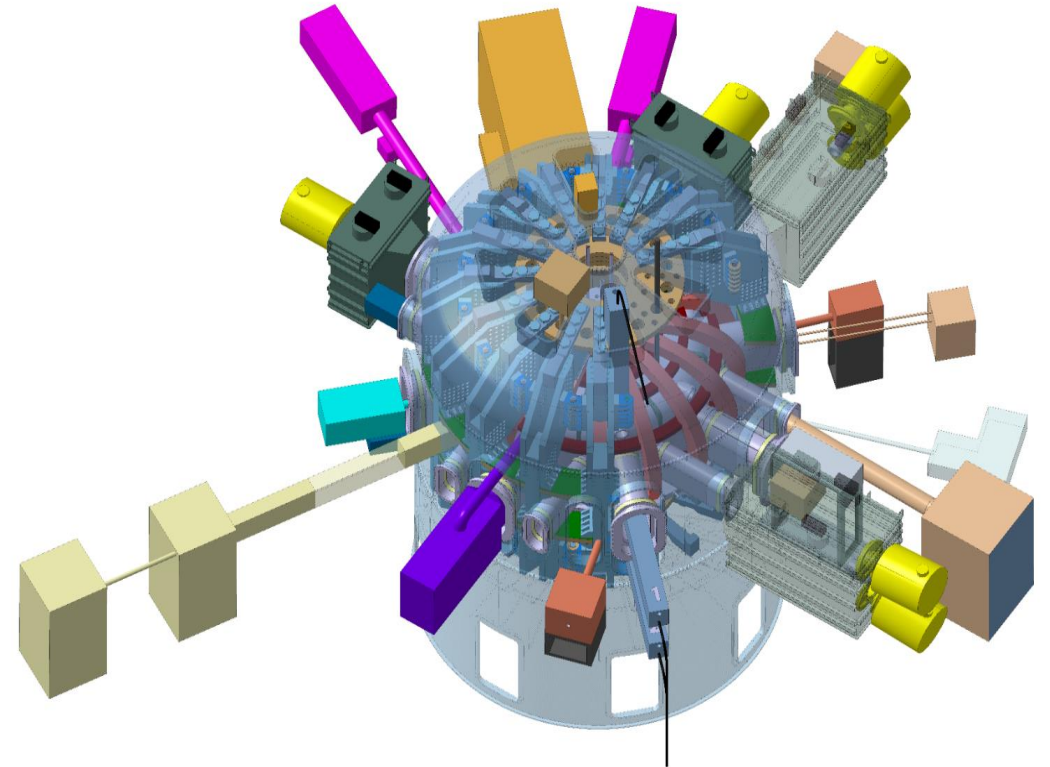
- ITER plasma shape
- Single and double null at high  $\kappa$  (up to 0.6)
- Single and double snow-flake geometry
- Plasma volume  $\sim 2 \text{ m}^3$
- Metallic first wall device
- High-temperature operation ( $\sim 300 - 500^\circ\text{C}$ )



Vacuum vessel of COMPASS-U

- Two closed high density divertors
- High power fluxes in the divertor ( $\lambda_q \sim 1 \text{ mm} \Rightarrow \approx 15 - 20 \text{ MW/m}^2$ )
- Possibility to study physics of advanced modes (QH-mode, I-mode, EDA-mode, etc.)
- **Liquid metal divertor in later phase**

**First plasma 2022**  
**Full parameters 2023/2024**



COMPASS-U and basic layout of auxiliary systems and large diagnostic systems