

Millimeter Wave Polarimetry Modeling on NSTX

Jie Zhang

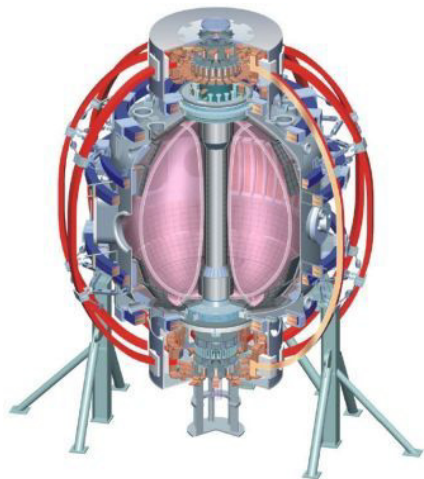
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Results of polarimetry modeling on NSTX

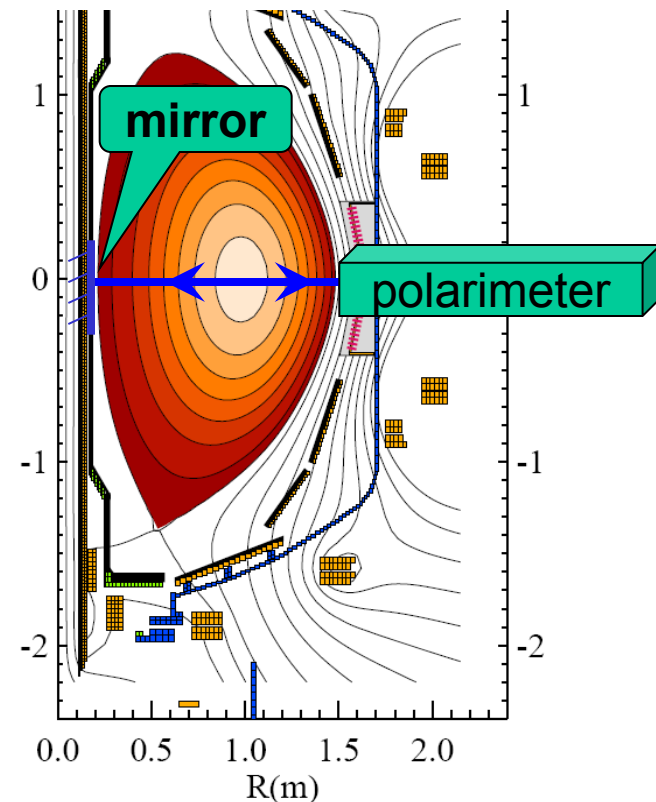
- An interaction between Faraday rotation and Cotton-Mouton effect is clearly identified
 - Faraday rotation modifies elliptization (Cotton-Mouton effect)
 - elliptization is most sensitive to angle between “polarization direction” and “perpendicular magnetic field” in high-field region
 - Faraday rotation modifies the “polarization direction”, so it **MUST** affect elliptization
 - Cotton-Mouton effect intrinsically causes polarization rotation
- Polarimetry calculations for Neoclassical Tearing Modes (NTM) and MicroTearing modes (MT) indicate direct $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ measurements possible
 - Calculations based on simple magnetic island model show $\sim 0.4^\circ$ phase response caused by 0.1% $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}_r$ of NTM
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Planned polarimeter for NSTX aims to measure \tilde{B}

- Polarimetry measures change of wave polarization caused by magnetized plasma
- Polarimetry on NSTX can investigate \tilde{B} of various modes
 - Microtearing modes
 - (Neoclassical) Tearing modes
 - Alfvén eigenmodes
- 288 GHz polarimeter planned for NSTX
 - Horizontal retroreflection from Center Stack
 - Polarimetry modeling calculates phase response for equilibrium and MHD modes
 - Laboratory testing underway

Faraday rotation:

$$\psi \propto \int n \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{l}$$
$$\tilde{\psi} \propto \int \bar{n} \tilde{\underline{B}} \cdot d\underline{l} + \int \tilde{n} \bar{\underline{B}} \cdot d\underline{l}$$



Model of Polarimetry Calculations

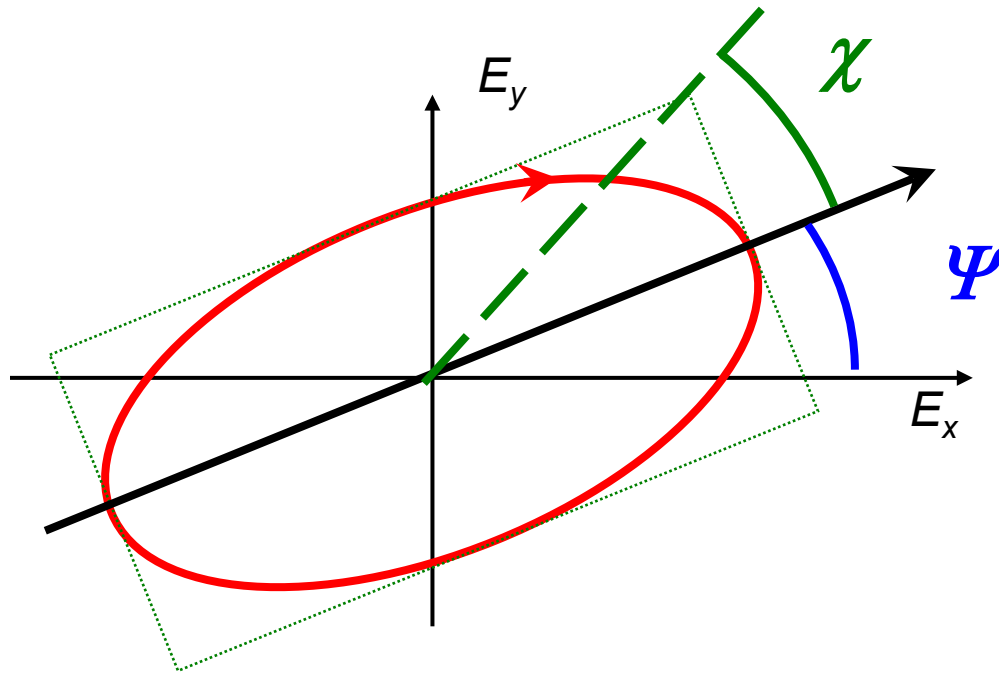
Assumptions are made to simplify modeling of polarization evolution along wave path

- Cold collisionless plasma model
 - no dissipation of beam
 - relativistic finite temperature polarimetry effects are neglected
- WKB (G. Wentzel, H.A. Kramers, and L. Brillouin) approximation used
 - plasma parameters is slowly varying

$$|\bar{B}| \gg \left| \frac{1}{k} \frac{d\bar{B}}{dz} \right|, n \gg \left| \frac{1}{k} \frac{dn}{dz} \right|$$

- Ion motion ignored $\omega_{pi}, \omega_{ci} \ll \omega_{pe}, \omega_{ce} \ll \omega$
- Refraction neglected

Polarization properties are characterized by “polarization direction” & “elliptization angle”

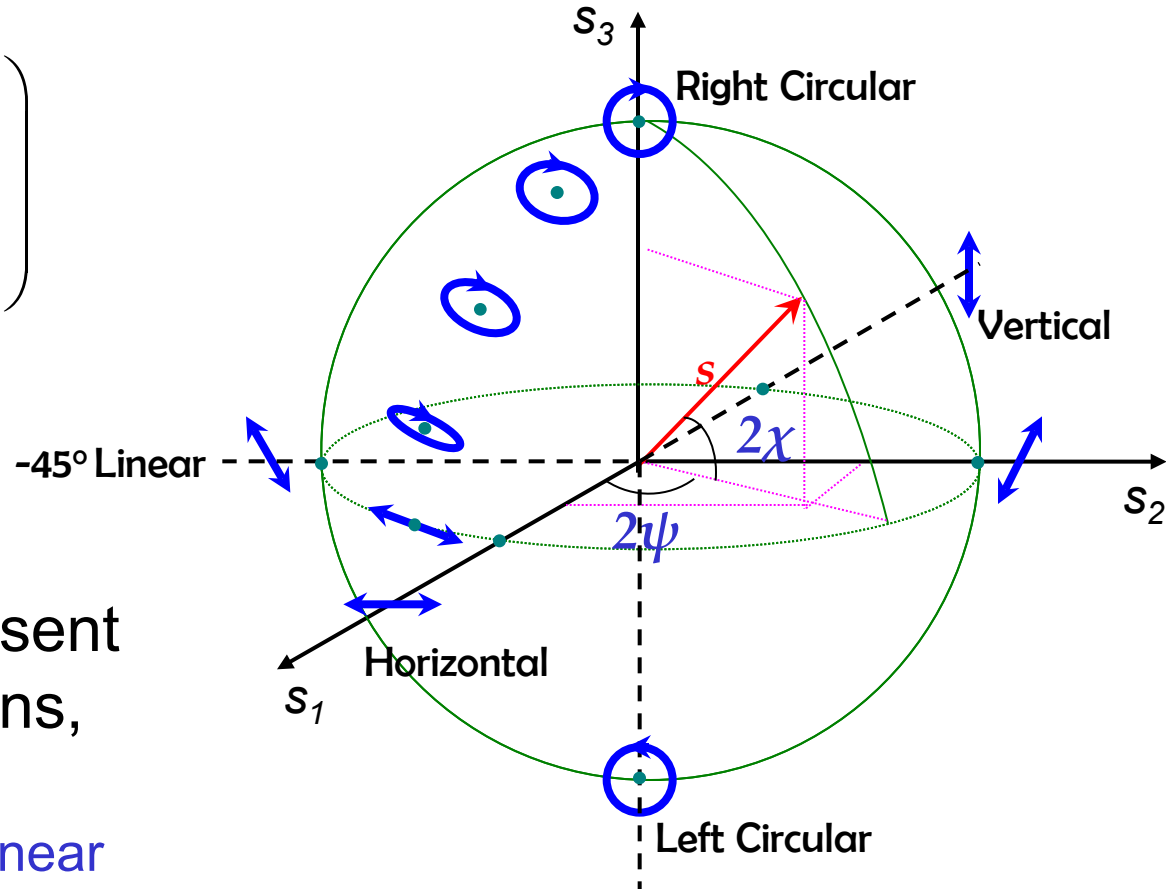


Ψ : polarization direction angle

χ : elliptization angle (+/- sign means Right/Left handedness)

Modeling treats polarization state as point on Poincaré sphere

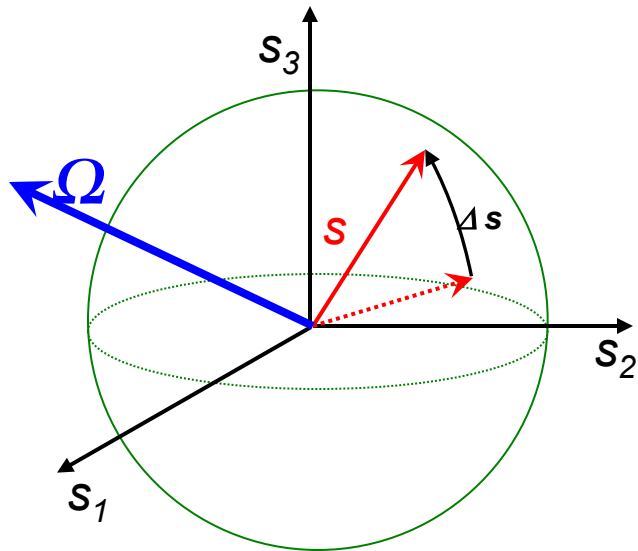
$$\vec{s} = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\chi \cos 2\psi \\ \cos 2\chi \sin 2\psi \\ \sin 2\chi \end{pmatrix}$$



Poincaré sphere

- Opposing poles represent orthogonal polarizations, e.g.
 - **Horizontal & Vertical** linear polarization (s_1 poles)
 - **Left- & Right-handed** circular polarization (s_3 poles)

Evolution of polarization can be described by a trajectory on Poincaré sphere



$$\frac{d\vec{s}(z)}{dz} = \vec{\Omega}(z) \times \vec{s}(z)$$

$$\vec{\Omega} = \frac{\omega}{2c} \left(\frac{\omega_{pe}}{\omega} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\omega_{ce}}{\omega} \right)^{-2} - 1} \begin{pmatrix} (B_x^2 - B_y^2) / B^2 \\ 2B_x B_y / B^2 \\ 2 \left(\frac{\omega_{ce}}{\omega} \right)^{-1} B_z / B \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \text{Cotton-Mouton} \\ \text{effect} \\ \text{Faraday Rotation} \end{array}$$

- Each small step along trajectory is a small rotation of **s** around **Ω axis**
- **Ω** depends on local plasma parameters (*electron density, B-field*)
- Using **realistic NSTX equilibria (Thomson Scattering, EFIT)** indicates **interaction** between Faraday rotation & Cotton-Mouton effect is **important** to polarization evolution

Interaction between Faraday Rotation & Cotton-Mouton Effects

INTERACTION—theoretical approach

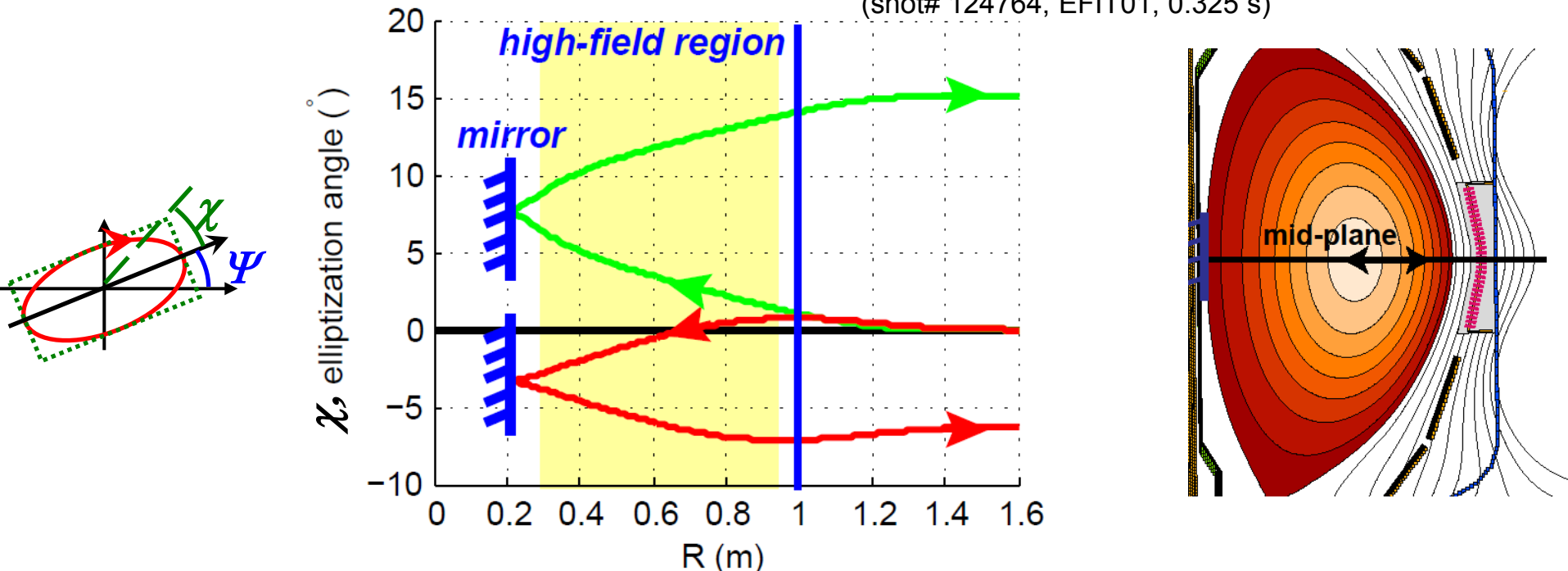
- **Interaction** seen clearly from the geometrical description of polarization evolution
 - e.g. how s_3 (relates to elliptization) changes depends on direction of \mathbf{s} relative to Ω
- **Interaction** can also be seen from differential expressions
 - elliptization is sensitive to ψ
 - Faraday rotation (FR) modifies ψ , so it affects elliptization
 - Cotton-Mouton effect (CM) also intrinsically causes polarization rotation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} d\chi = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\psi d\delta|_{CM} \\ d\psi = d\psi|_{FR} - \frac{1}{2} \tan 2\chi \cos 2\psi d\delta|_{CM} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d\psi|_{FR} \propto \lambda^2 n_e B_{\parallel} dz \\ d\delta|_{CM} \propto \lambda^3 n_e B_{\perp}^2 dz \end{array} \right.$$

Elliptization most sensitive to polarization direction in high-field region

horizontal ($\psi=0^\circ$) and $\psi=45^\circ$ linear launch (mid-plane)

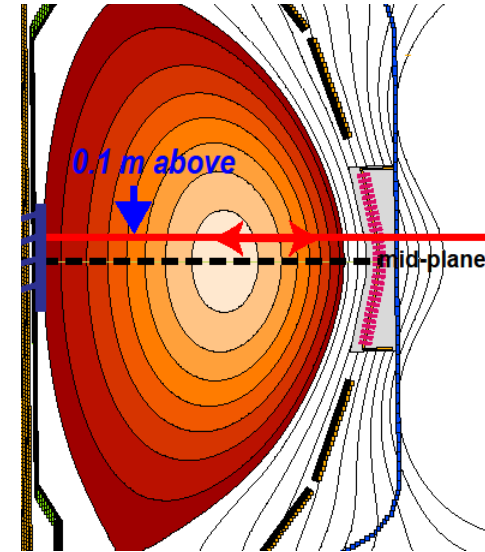
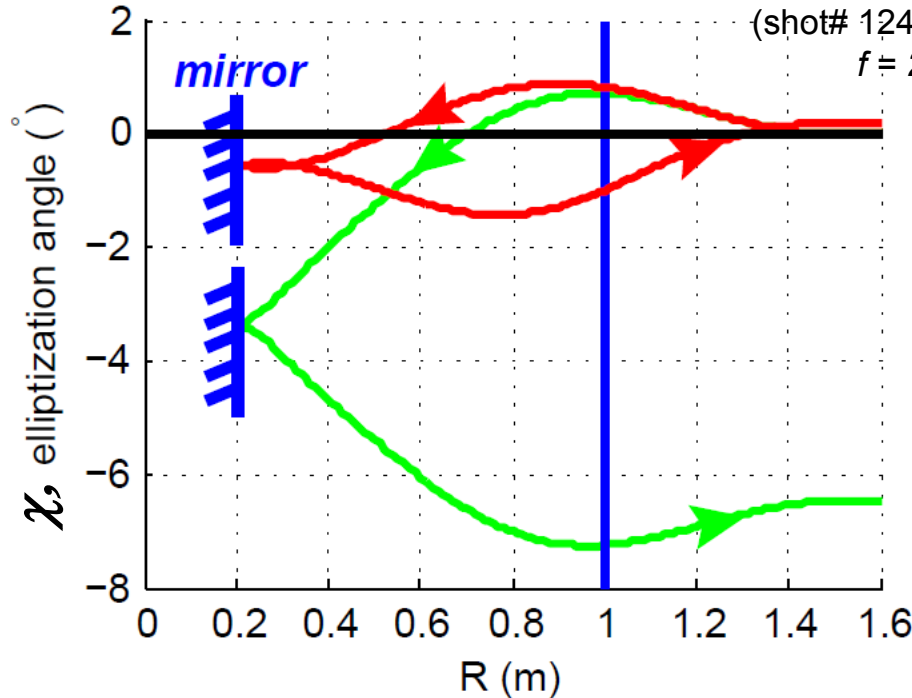
(shot# 124764, EFIT01, 0.325 s)



- Initial polarization direction determines direction in high-field region for mid-plane chord
 - Faraday rotation very weak in mid-plane
- Figure shows elliptization is sensitive to initial polarization direction

Faraday rotation modifies elliptization

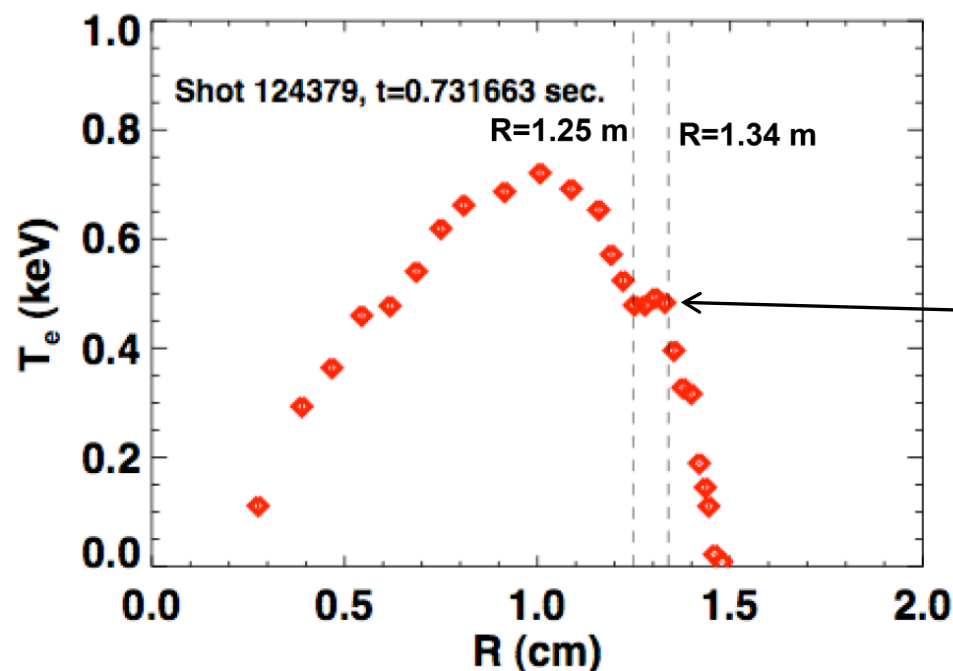
horizontal linear launch **with/without** Faraday rotation



- In general, Faraday rotation & initial polarization direction determine the polarization direction in high-field region
- Figure shows **weak elliptization** along chord 0.1 m above mid-plane **with** Faraday rotation, but **strong elliptization without**
 - Faraday rotation is **counter-clockwise**; turned off by setting $B_{\parallel} = 0$

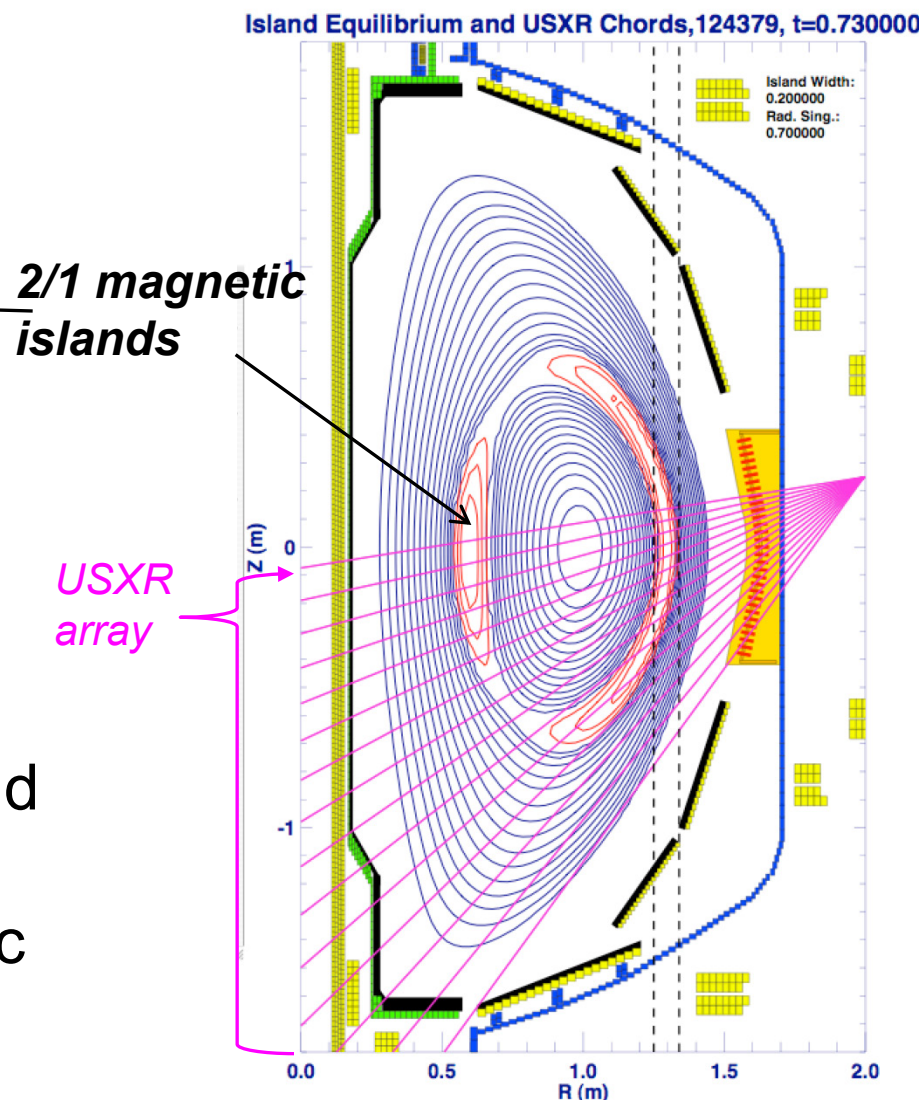
Polarimetry Modeling of NTM & MT

NTM—Realistic magnetic islands structure used in polarimetry modeling



- Magnetic island structure determined using T_e profile and USXR
- On NSTX, typical 2/1 magnetic island

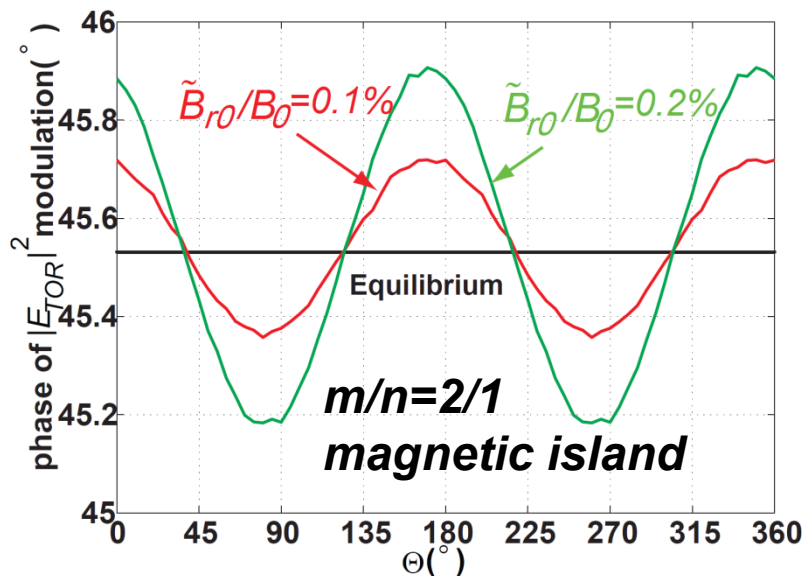
- island width $w \sim 0.1$ m
- radial location $\hat{r}_{2,1} \sim 0.15$



(Both figures courtesy to S. P. Gerhardt)

Polarimetry modeling shows $\sim 0.4^\circ$ phase response caused by $0.1\% \tilde{B}_r$

Equilibrium from shot #133959, $t=0.882s$

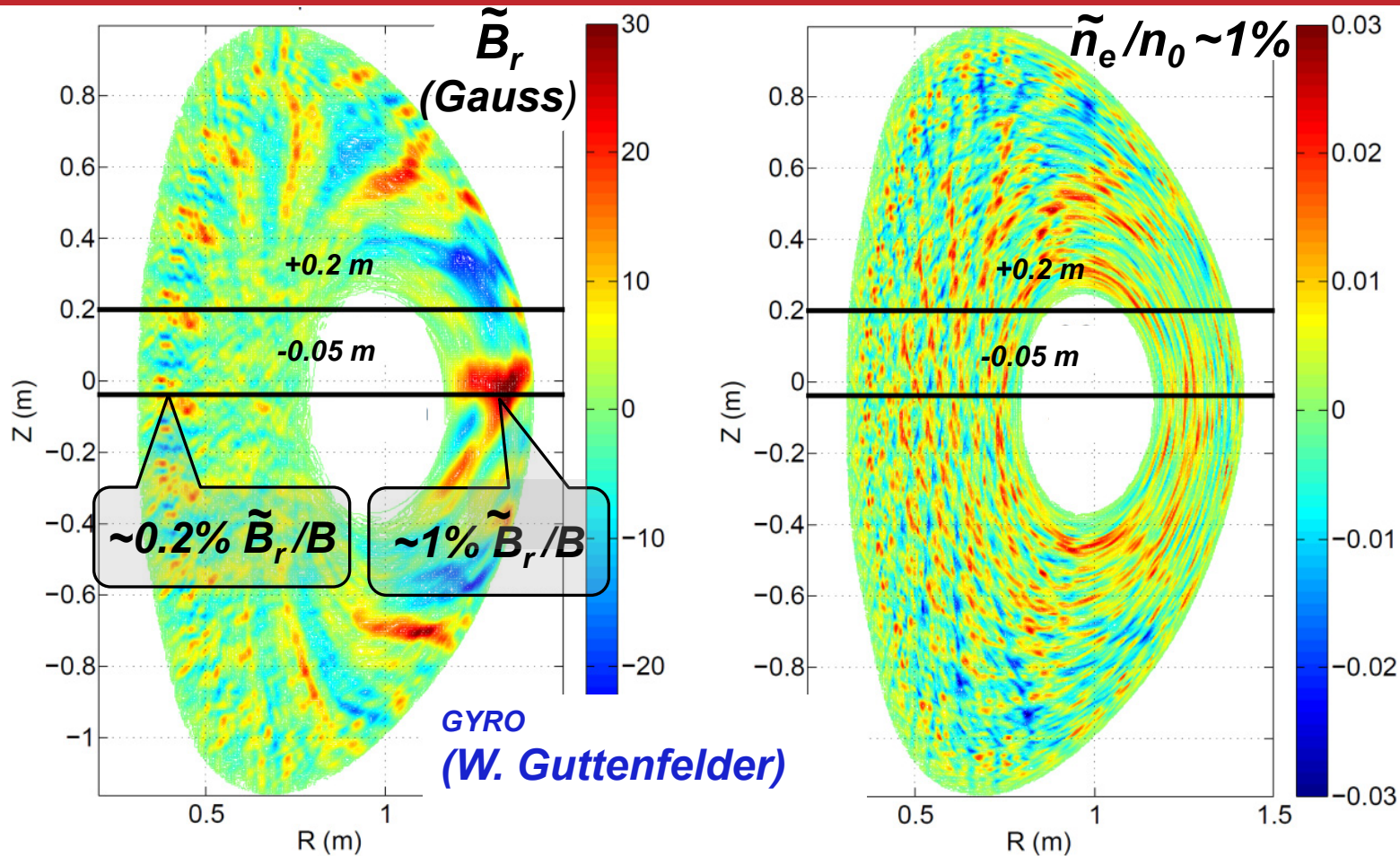


- Model assumes helically perturbed B-field around $q=m/n$ rational surface

$$\tilde{B}_r = \tilde{B}_{r0} e^{-\frac{(\hat{r}-\hat{r}_{m,n})^2}{(w/a)^2}} \cos(m\Theta - n\phi)$$

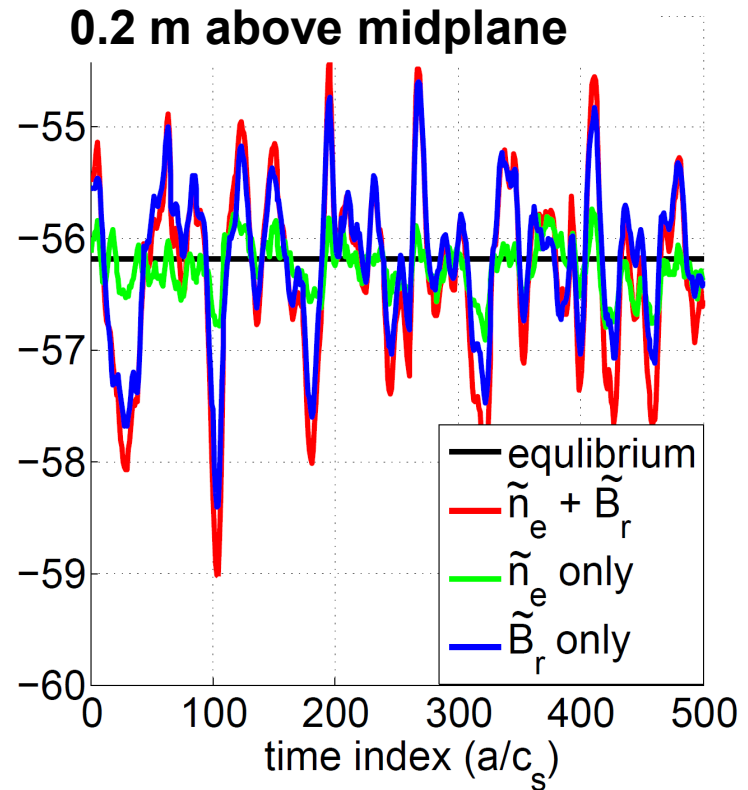
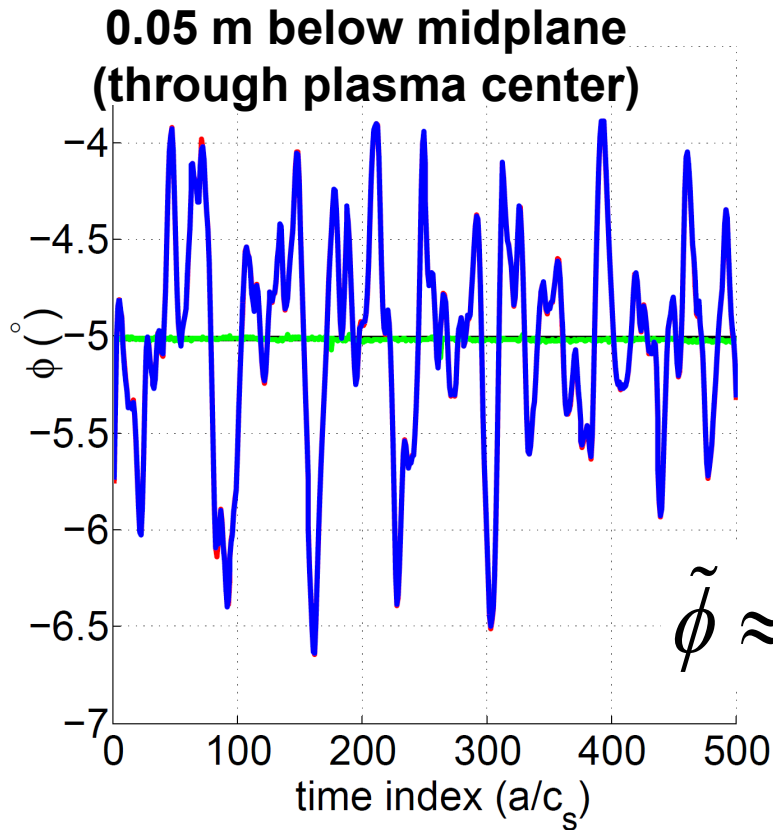
- $m/n=2/1$ island is modeled: ($w \sim 0.1 m$, $\hat{r}_{2,1} \sim 0.15$)
 - beam propagates along chord $0.1 m$ below midplane
- Phase change of $|E_{TOR}|$ modulation is $\sim 0.4^\circ$ with $0.1\% \tilde{B}_{r0} / B_0$
- Phase change dominated by Faraday rotation
 - amount of phase change approximately proportional to fluctuation amplitude

MT—Modeling used to evaluate polarimetry sensitivity to microtearing modes



- \tilde{B}_r and \tilde{n}_e of microtearing modes from GYRO simulations
- Chord heights varied to evaluate polarimetry sensitivity to \tilde{B}_r , \tilde{n}_e respectively

Polarimeter sensitive to primarily \tilde{B}_r for chords near plasma center



- $\tilde{\phi} \sim 1-2^\circ$, expected to be detectable

$$\tilde{\psi} \propto \int \tilde{n} \underline{\tilde{B}} \cdot d\underline{l} + \int \tilde{n} \underline{\tilde{B}} \cdot d\underline{l} \quad \underline{\tilde{B}} \cdot d\underline{l} \sim 0$$

for chords near plasma center

Summary—Results of polarimetry modeling on NSTX

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