

## Recent results of ECRH/ECCD experiments on TCV

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# Recent results of ECRH/ECCD experiments on TCV

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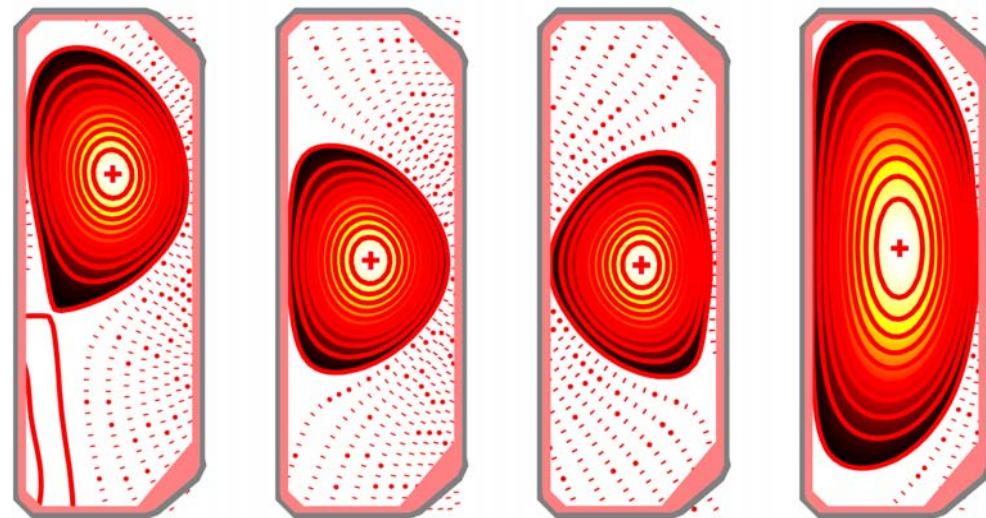
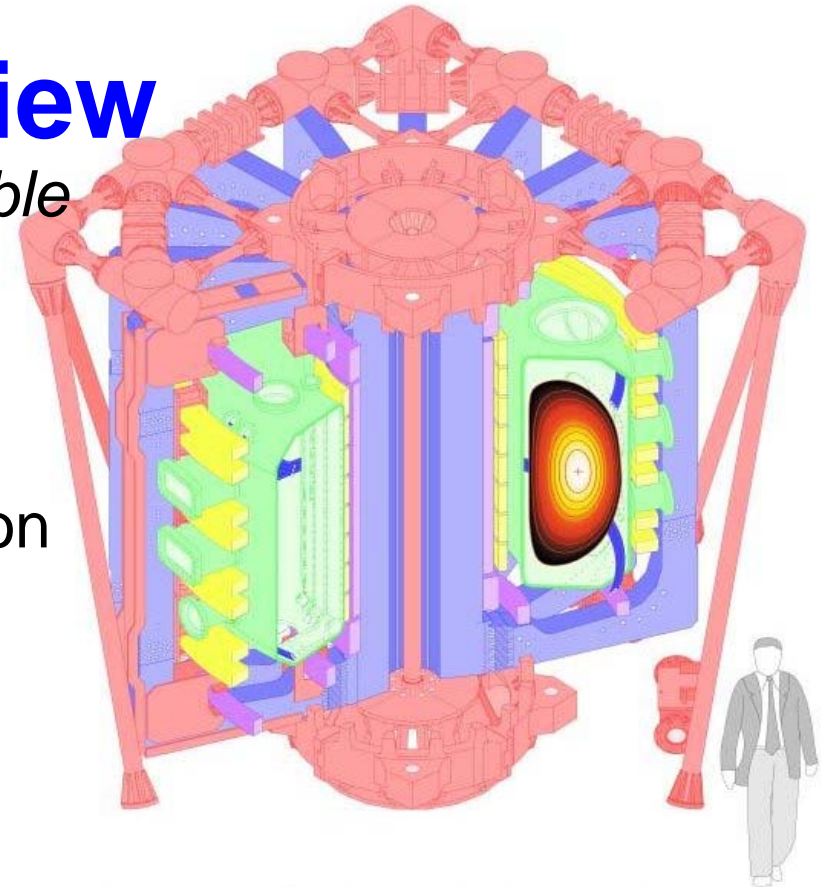
# Talk outline

- TCV Tokamak overview and features
  - ECH/ECCD system
  - Real-time control
- Recent results of ECH/ECCD experiments
  - Real-time control of
    - Sawtooth period
    - Peak-in-profile
  - Plasmas with internal electron transport barriers (eITBs)
    - Creation and sustainment in steady-state
    - Steady-state 100% bootstrap current
    - Global oscillations, suppression using current density profile perturbations
  - Tearing mode studies
- Conclusions & Summary



# TCV Overview

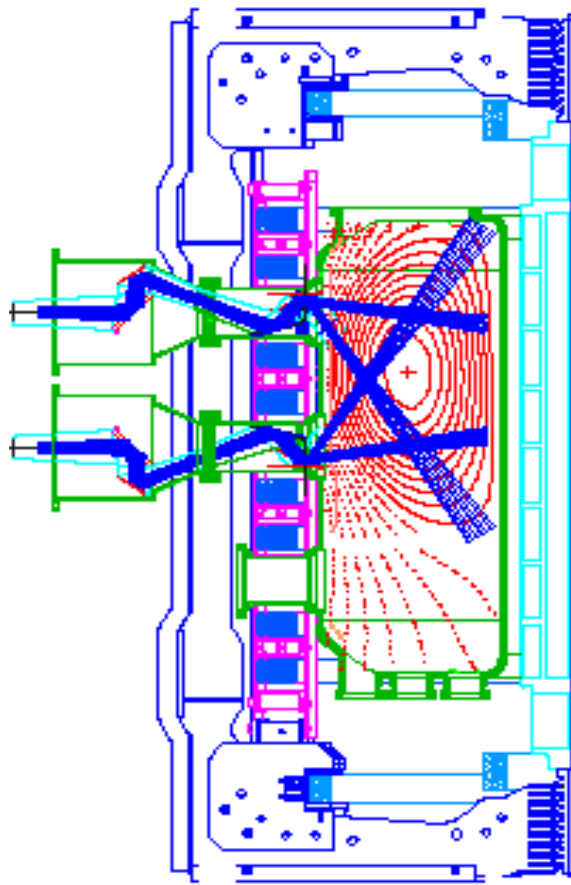
- TCV: *Tokamak à Configuration Variable*
- $R/a = 0.88\text{m}/0.25\text{m}$ ,
- $B_T < 1.45\text{T}$ ,  $I_p < 1.2\text{MA}$
- High flexibility in plasma shape/position
- $0.9 < \text{elongation} < 2.8$
- $-0.6 < \text{triangularity} < 0.9$
- $t_{\text{pulse}} < 4\text{s}$ ,  $T_e < 10\text{keV}$
- Graphite inner wall



# Flexible ECH/ECCD system

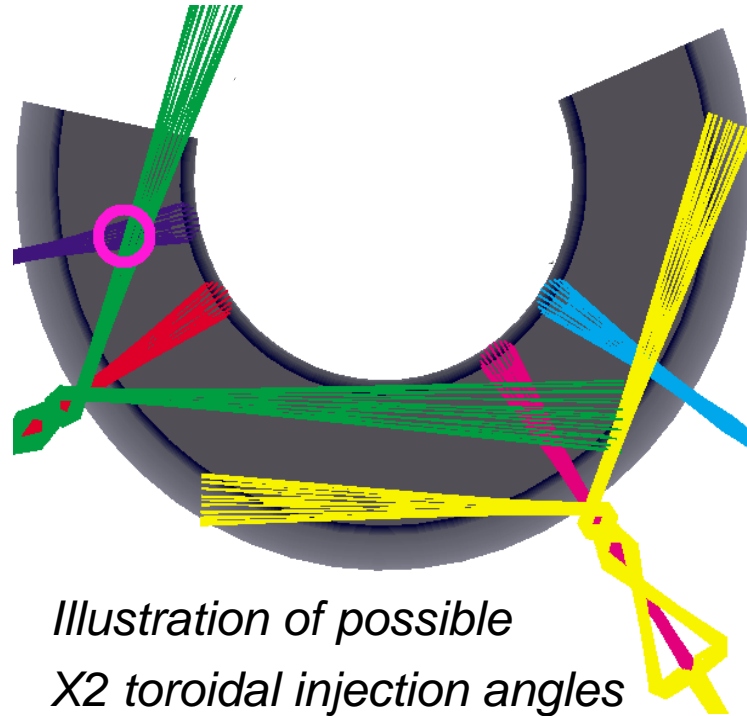
2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic X2 (82.7GHz)  
6 x 0.5MW, 2s gyrotrons

3<sup>rd</sup> harmonic X3 (118GHz)  
3 x 0.5MW, 2s gyrotrons

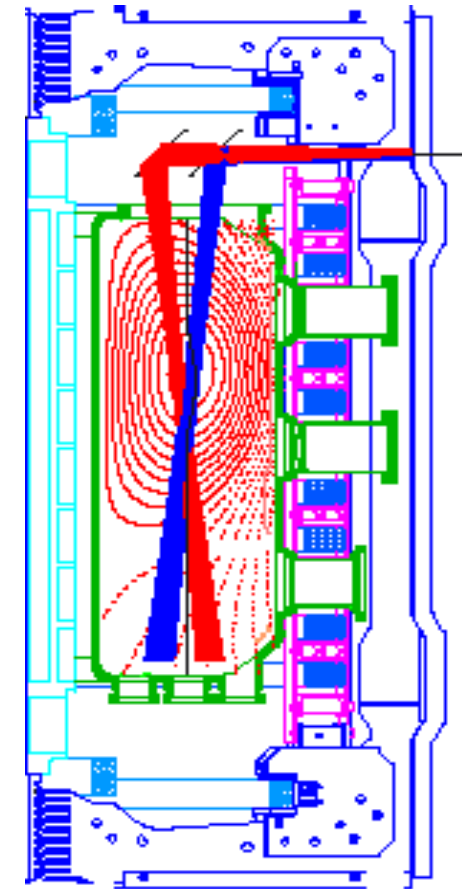


Side launch ECH, ECCD

$$n_{\text{cut-off}} \approx 4 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$$



*Illustration of possible  
X2 toroidal injection angles*

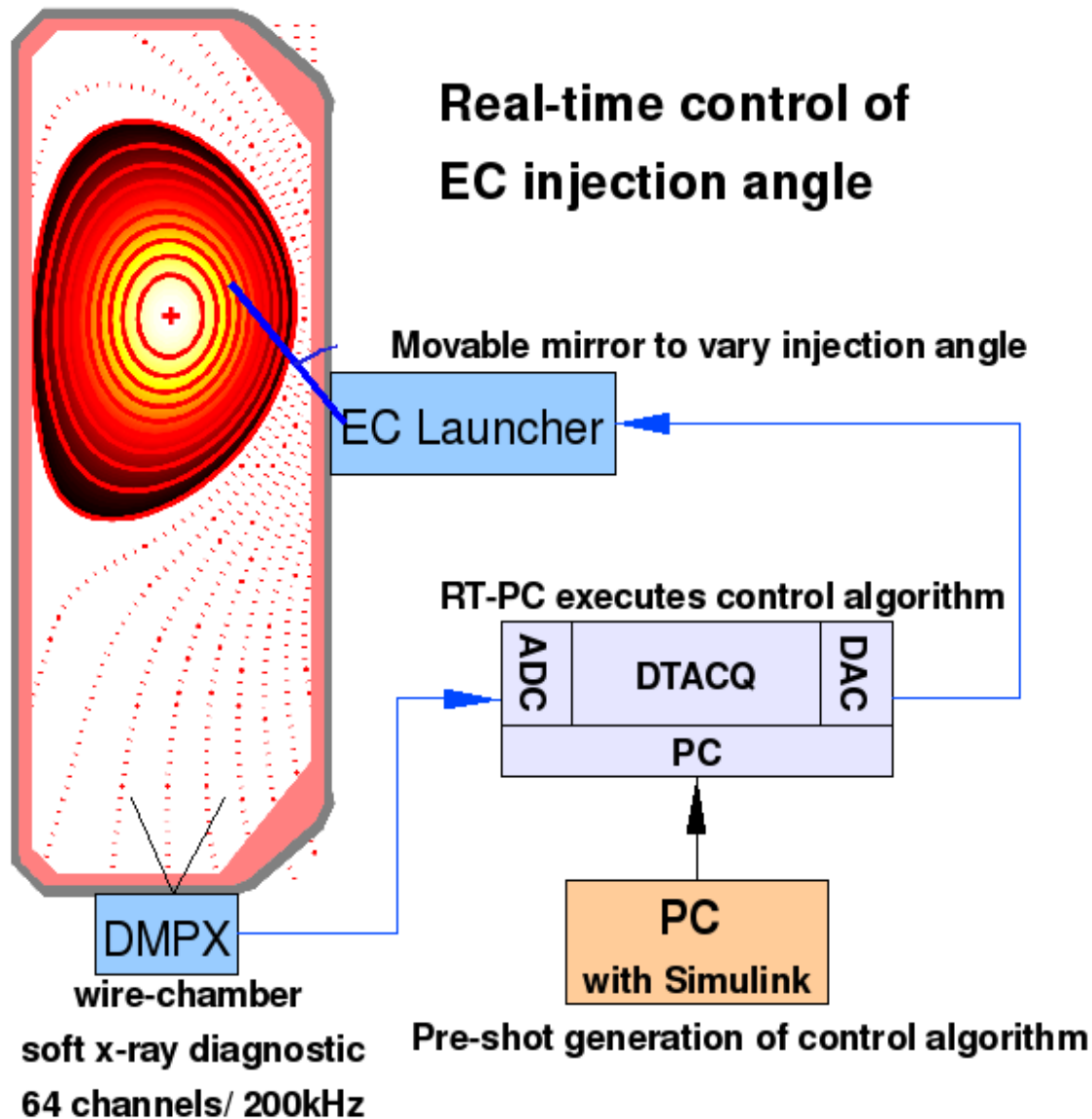


Top launch ECH

$$n_{\text{cut-off}} \approx 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$$



# Real-time control of EC system

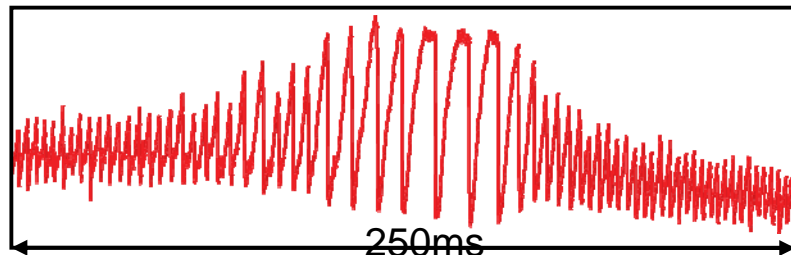


- Digital real-time feedback control of EC system
- EC power/mirror angles can be controlled in Real-time. [Paley, PPCF2007]
- Recently, injection angle was regulated to control
  - Sawtooth period
  - Peak-in-profile

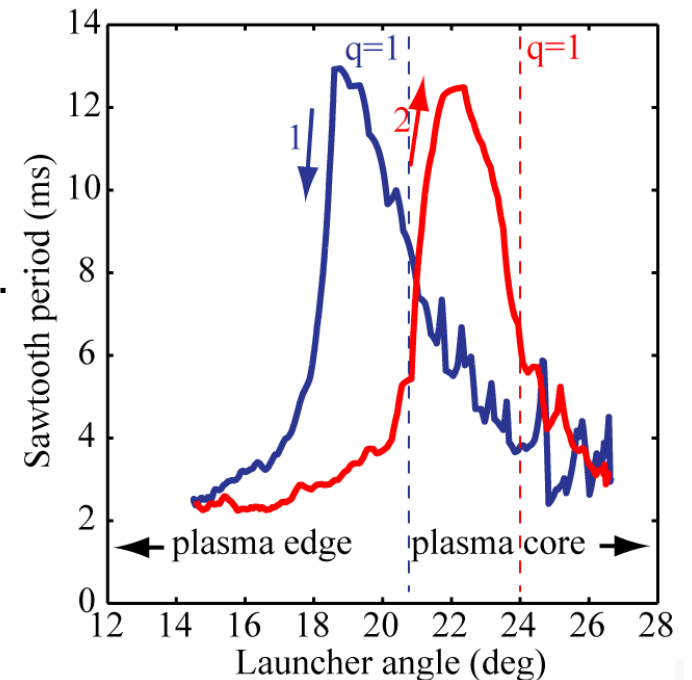


# Control of sawtooth period

- Sawtooth crashes – periodic core pressure and temperature drop inside  $q=1$  surface.
  - Control is important as sawteeth can trigger NTMs -> confinement loss
- Period can be controlled by localized EC deposition near  $q=1$ 
  - Causes local changes in the magnetic shear.
  - Sweep of the EC deposition shows a clear peak
    - Hysteresis due to change in  $q=1$  surface location, caused by global current profile changes.
    - Nonlinear response, system gain changes



Typical signal of central X-rays with sawteeth

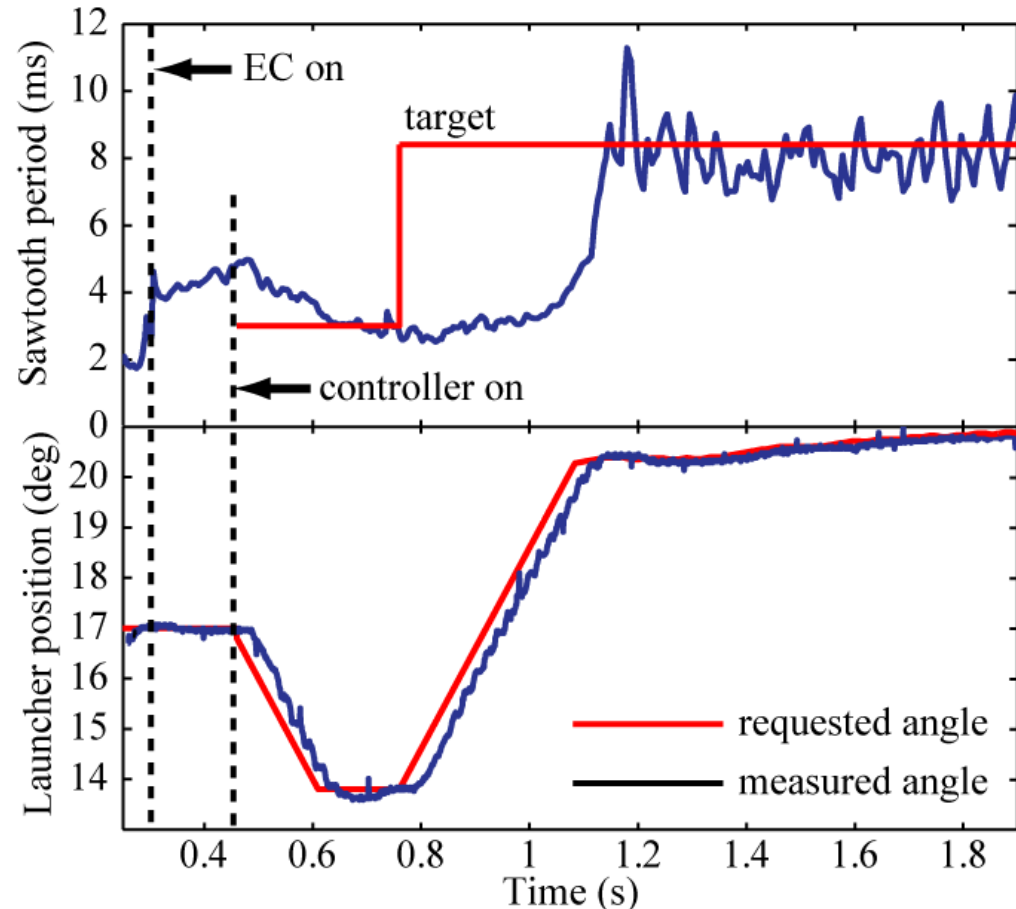


[J.Paley, Submitted to PPCF]



# Control of sawtooth period

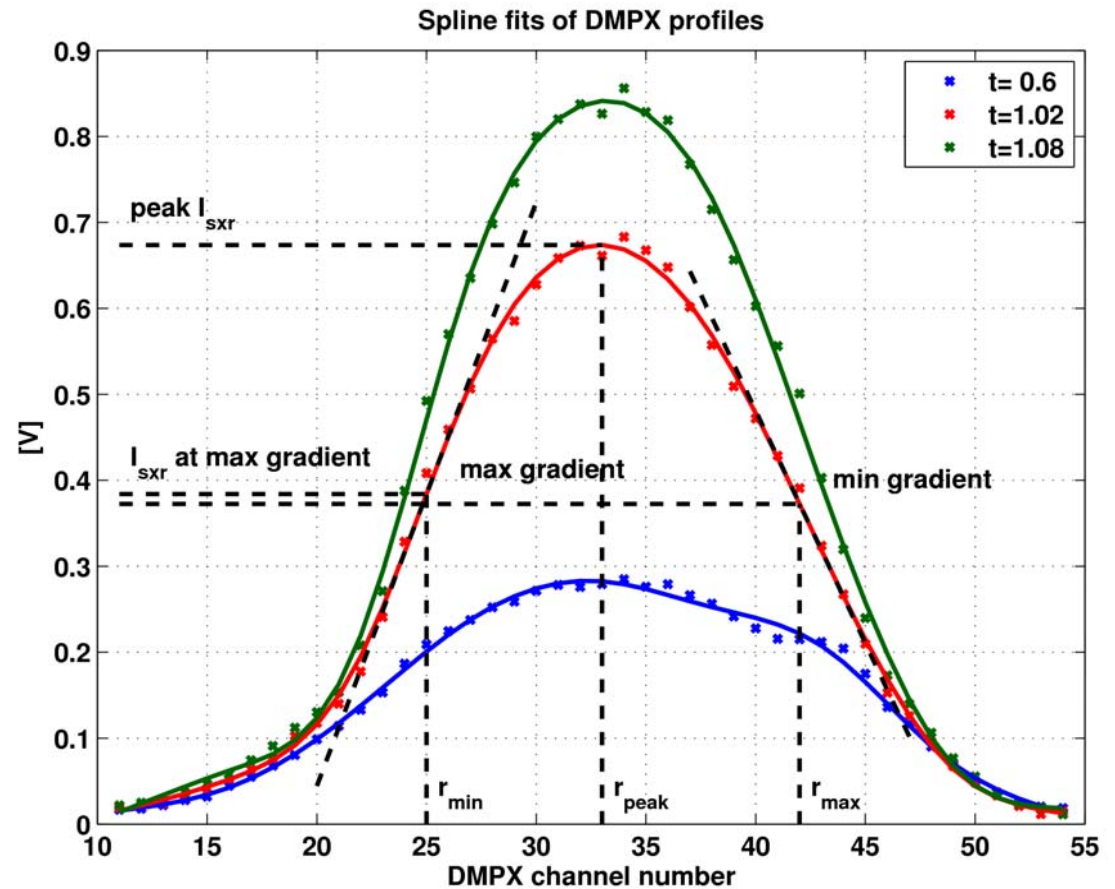
- Linear controller use is limited due to increasing system gain.
- Loop can be either unstable or too slow.
- Solution: nonlinear, gain scheduling controller.
  - Two possible movement speeds depending on requested period.
  - Result: successful tracking of reference signal.





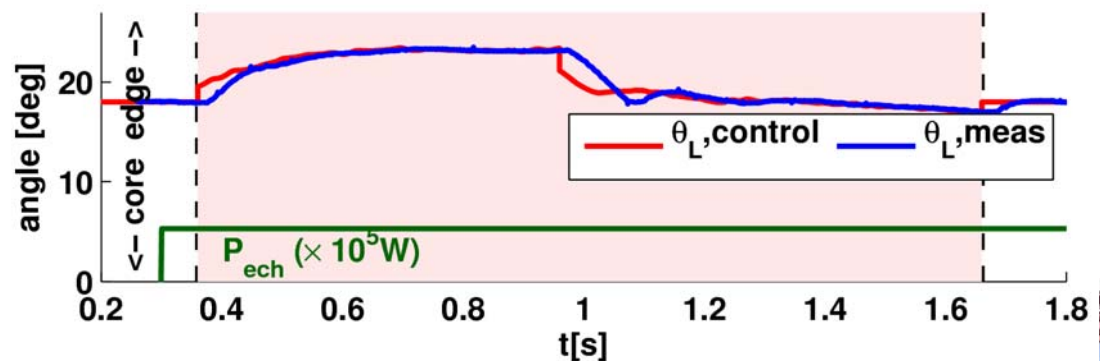
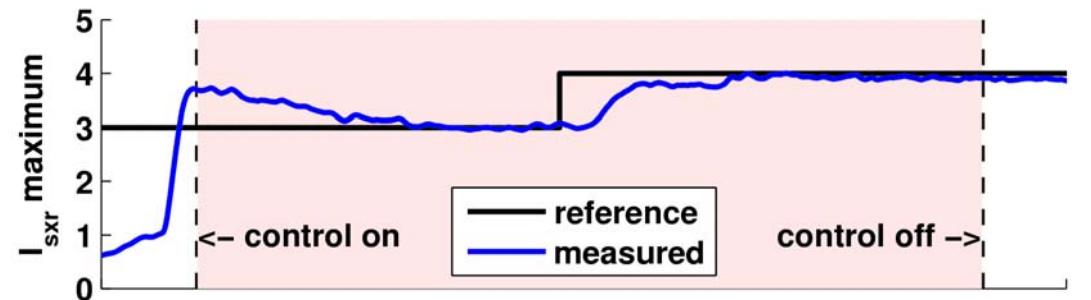
# Profile control

- Acquire all 64 DMPX chords, filter, spline fit in real-time
  - Gives soft x-ray emission profile maximum value, peakedness, width, ...
- Objective: control multiple parameters of the profiles using multiple launchers.
- First experiment: control the maximum value (peak) of the line-integrated SXR emission profile by moving one launcher



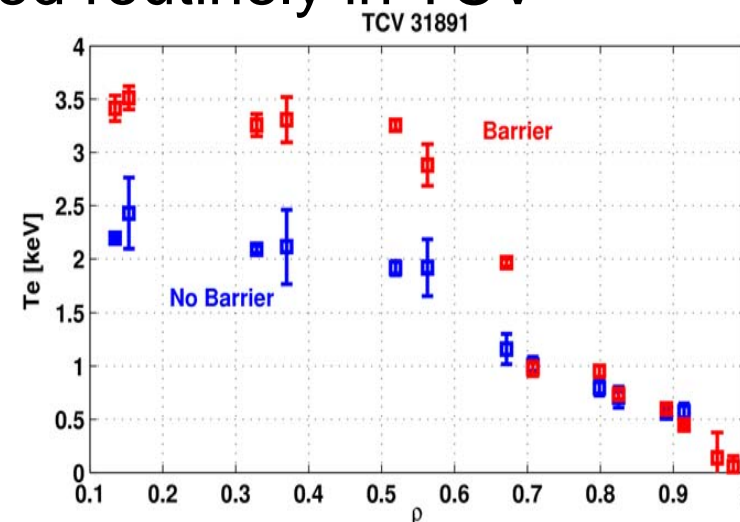
# Peak-in-profile control

- Control the maximum value (peak) of the spline fitted profile
- Reference tracking experiment
  - Subtract measured maximum from given reference
  - Feed error to PI controller
  - Controller adjusts mirror angle
- Future objectives:
  - Invert line-integrated signals to obtain true profile.
  - Control temperature profile instead of SXR emissions
  - Use multiple launchers

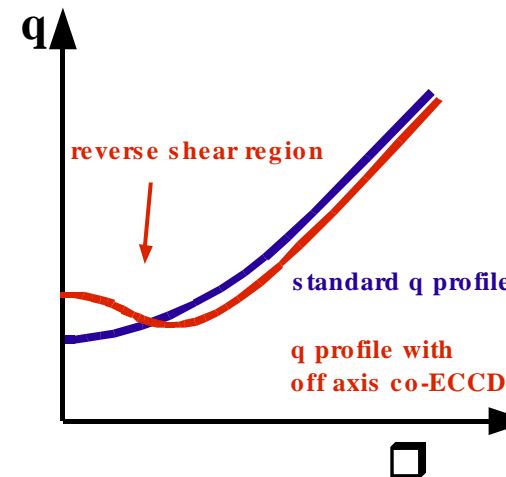
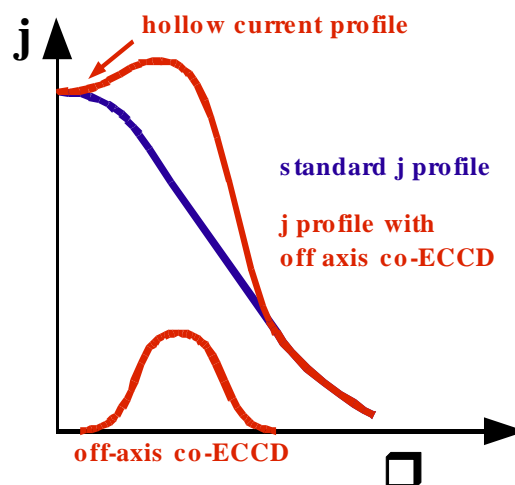


# Scenarios with eITBs

- Electron internal transport barriers created routinely in TCV
  - High pressure gradients in off-axis region
  - confinement improvement 3-6 times
- Created in reversed shear conditions: hollow  $j$  profile, reverse shear  $q$  profile
- In TCV: steady-state eITB plasmas, lasting several current redistribution times.



- Low current and density
- Non-inductive:
  - Off-axis ECCD.
  - High bootstrap fraction (>50%)



[Sauter, PRL 2005]

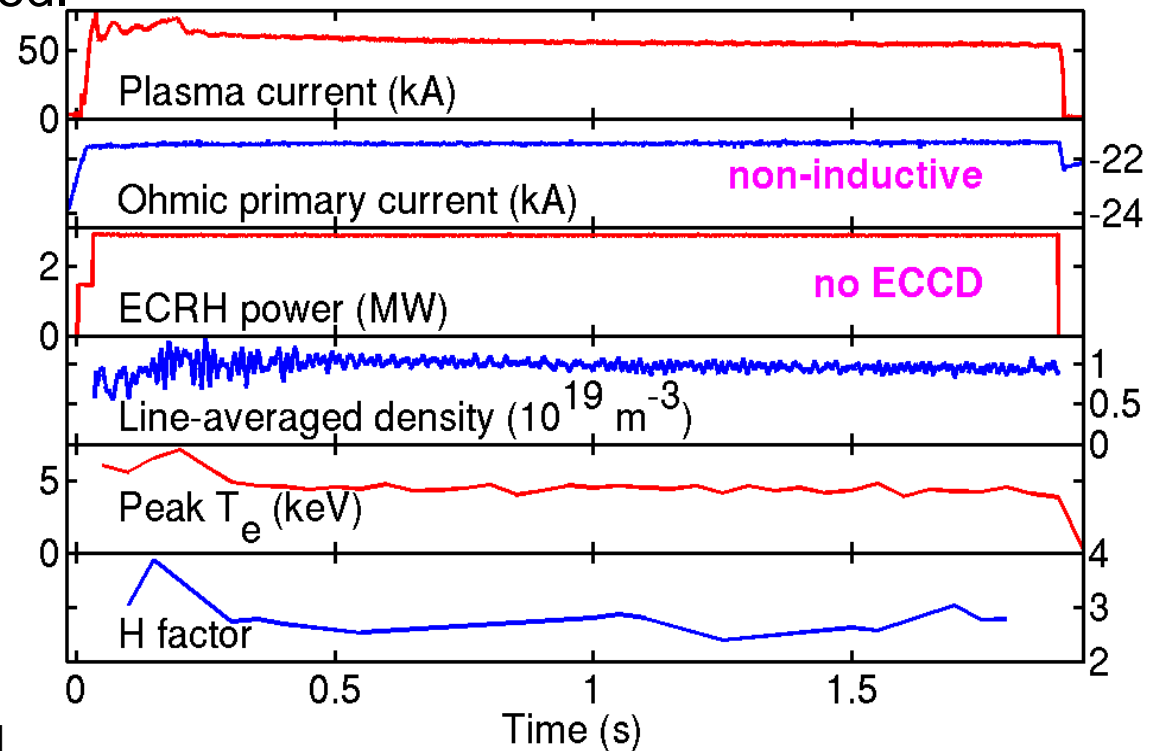


# Steady-state 100% bootstrap current

- eITB generates bootstrap current in high pressure gradient region. The bootstrap current profile must then itself generate the barrier.
  - Need for high-pressure gradient region and bootstrap current profile to be *precisely* and *stably* aligned.

- Experimental results

- Heating during  $I_p$  ramp-up
- Only EC Heating (perp. to B field)
- Quiescent period lasting several current redistribution times ( $\sim 0.2s$ )

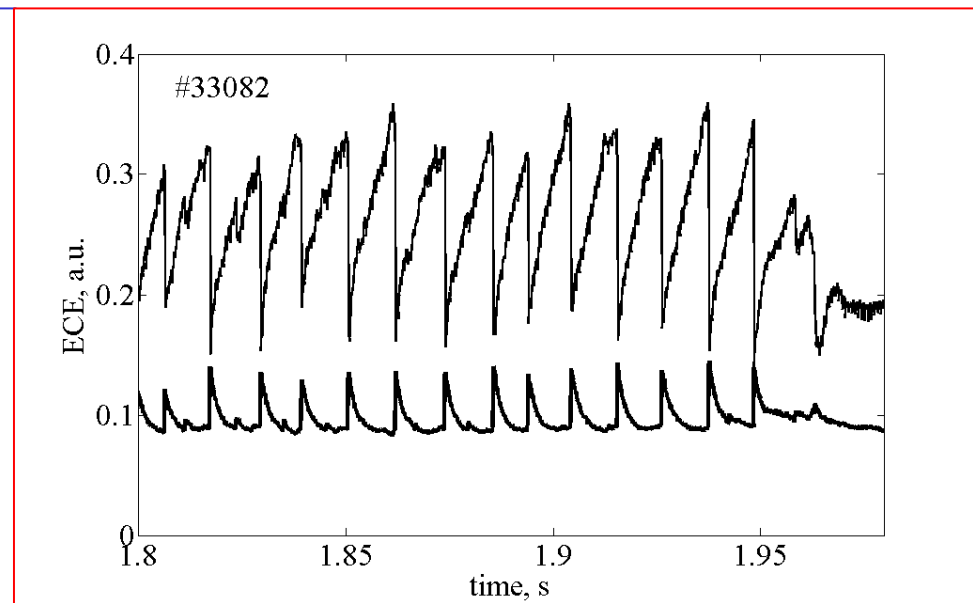
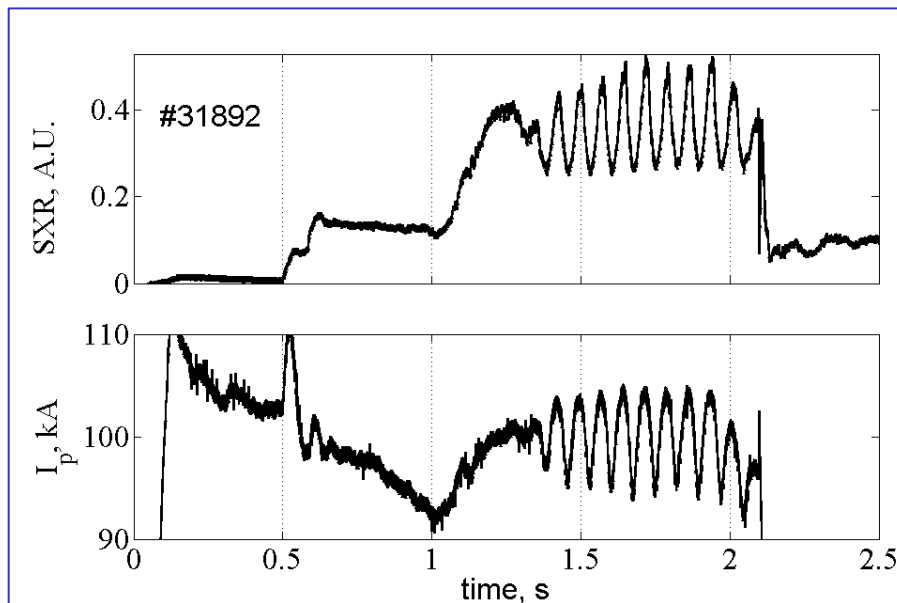


[S.Coda, IAEA2008]



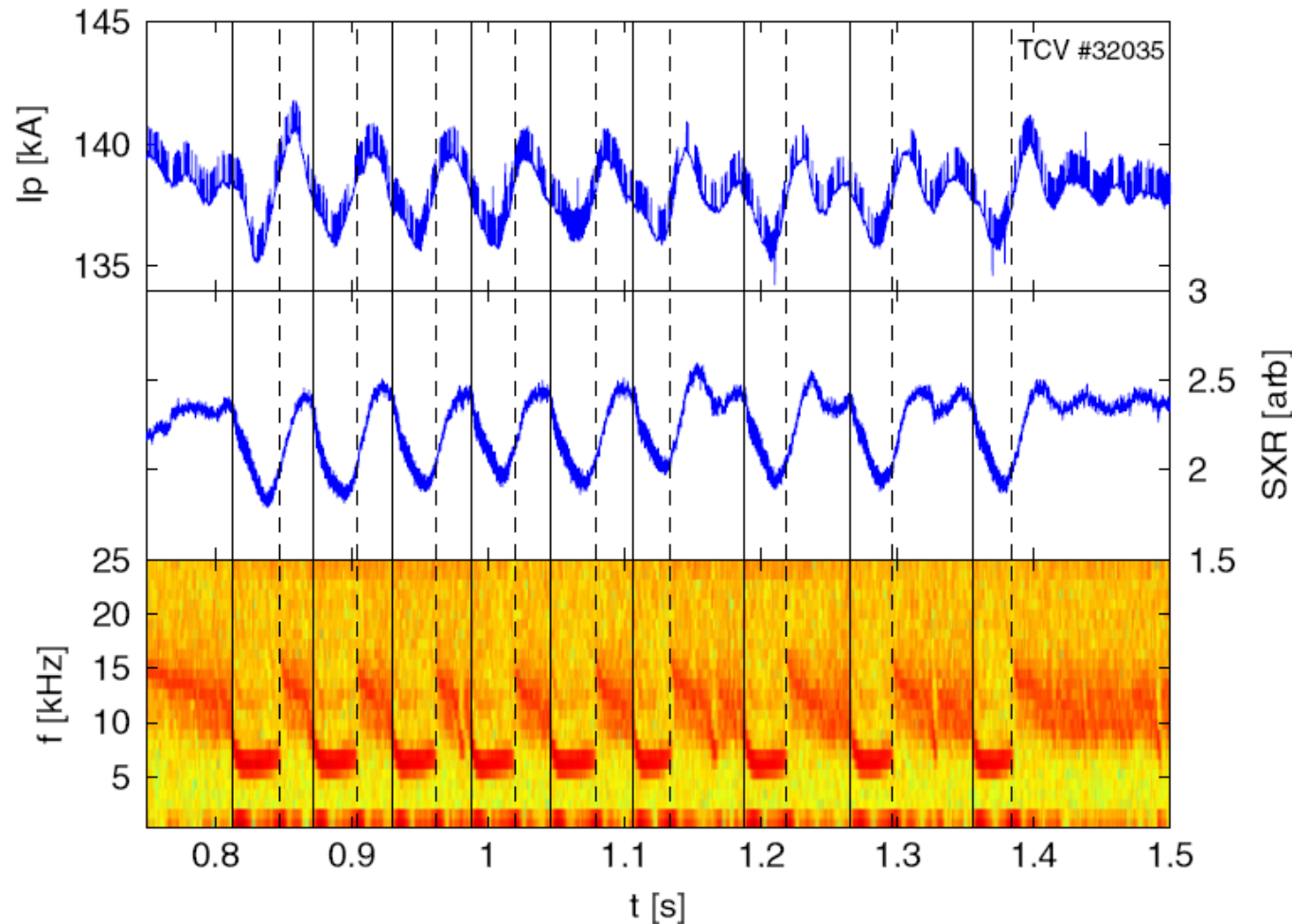
# Global oscillations during eITB plasmas

- Global oscillations of several plasma quantities ( $n$ ,  $I_p$ , ...) have been observed on several Tokamaks [Giruzzi PRL2003, Hanada ICPP2004].
  - These oscillations are present when approaching the ideal limit *infernal modes* [Ozeki, 1993]. Inherent to high-performance eITB scenarios.
  - In TCV, these can be either **sinusoidal** (triggered by resistive MHD) or **crash-like** (triggered by ideal MHD). [G. Turri, PPCF2008, V. Udintsev, PPCF2008]



# Physical origins of the oscillations

- Nonlinear coupling between barrier, current profile and MHD



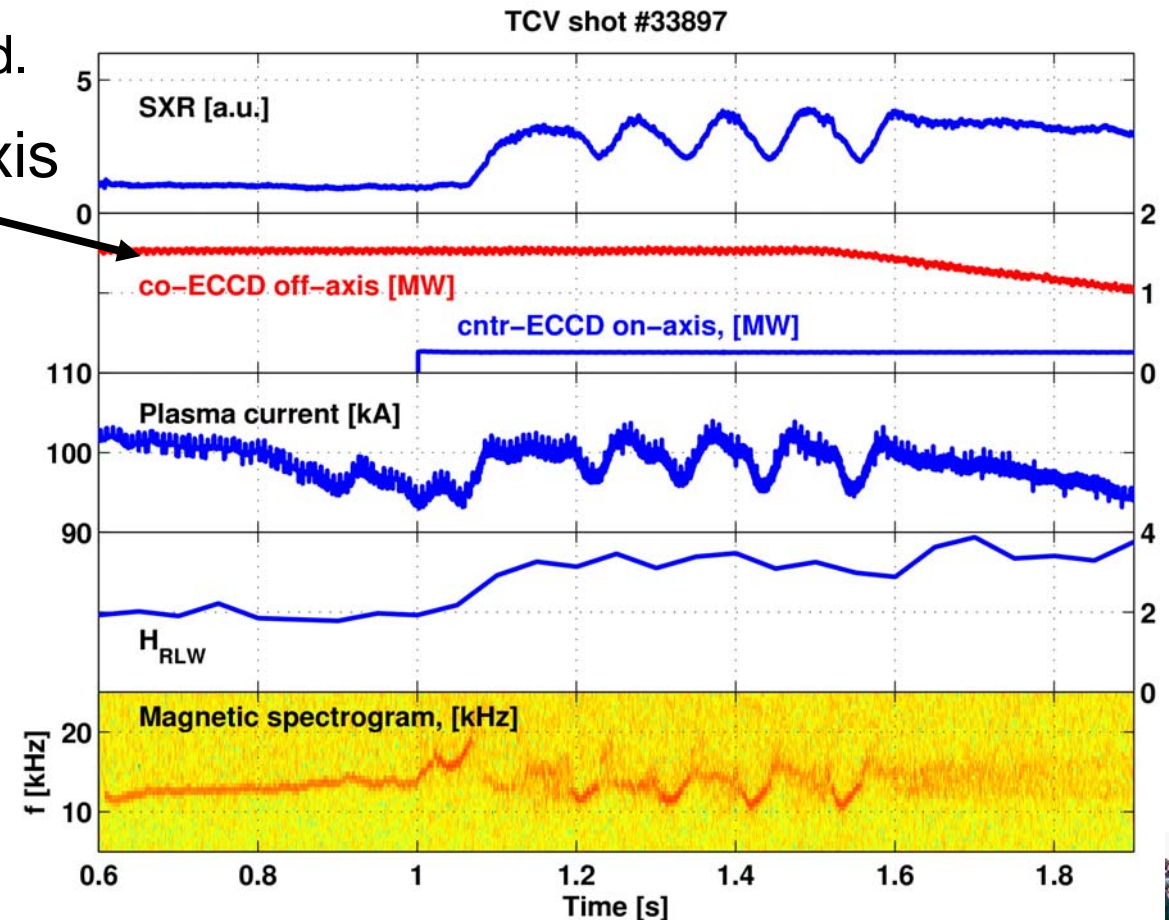
- (1) Barrier forms
- (2) Mode is destabilized
- (3) Barrier degrades
- (4) Mode disappears

[G. Turri, PPCF2008]



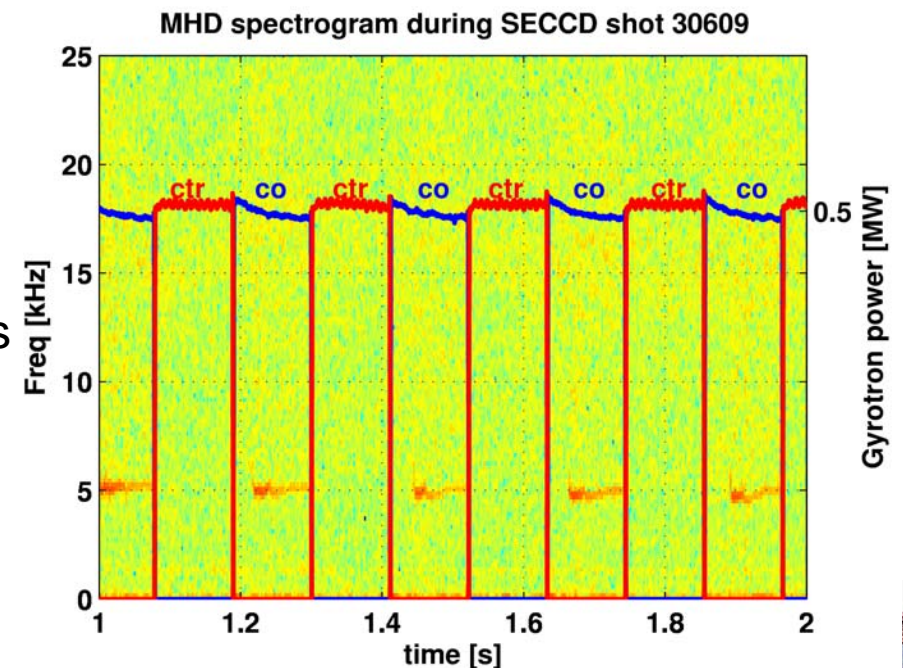
# Current density perturbations - effects on the oscillatory regime

- Make current density profile less hollow
  - Move away from ideal MHD limit
  - Barrier strength reduces but oscillations are suppressed.
- Experiment: reduce off-axis co-ECCD
  - current profile becomes less hollow,
  - oscillations stop
  - barrier remains



# Tearing modes during current profile modulation

- Current profile modulation experiments [Cirant NF2006]
  - Experimental set up
    - One set of gyrotrons aimed for off-axis co-current drive
    - Another set of gyrotrons aimed for off-axis counter current drive
    - Switch gyrotron powers repeatedly
  - Tearing modes are regularly destabilized by current profile changes.
    - Classical destabilization:  $\Delta' > 0$ . [Pletzer POP1999]
  - Goals
    - demonstrate precise control of j profile, important for adv. scenarios
    - Aid predictions of NTM stability limits for ITER.
  - This will be studied in detail during the coming campaign

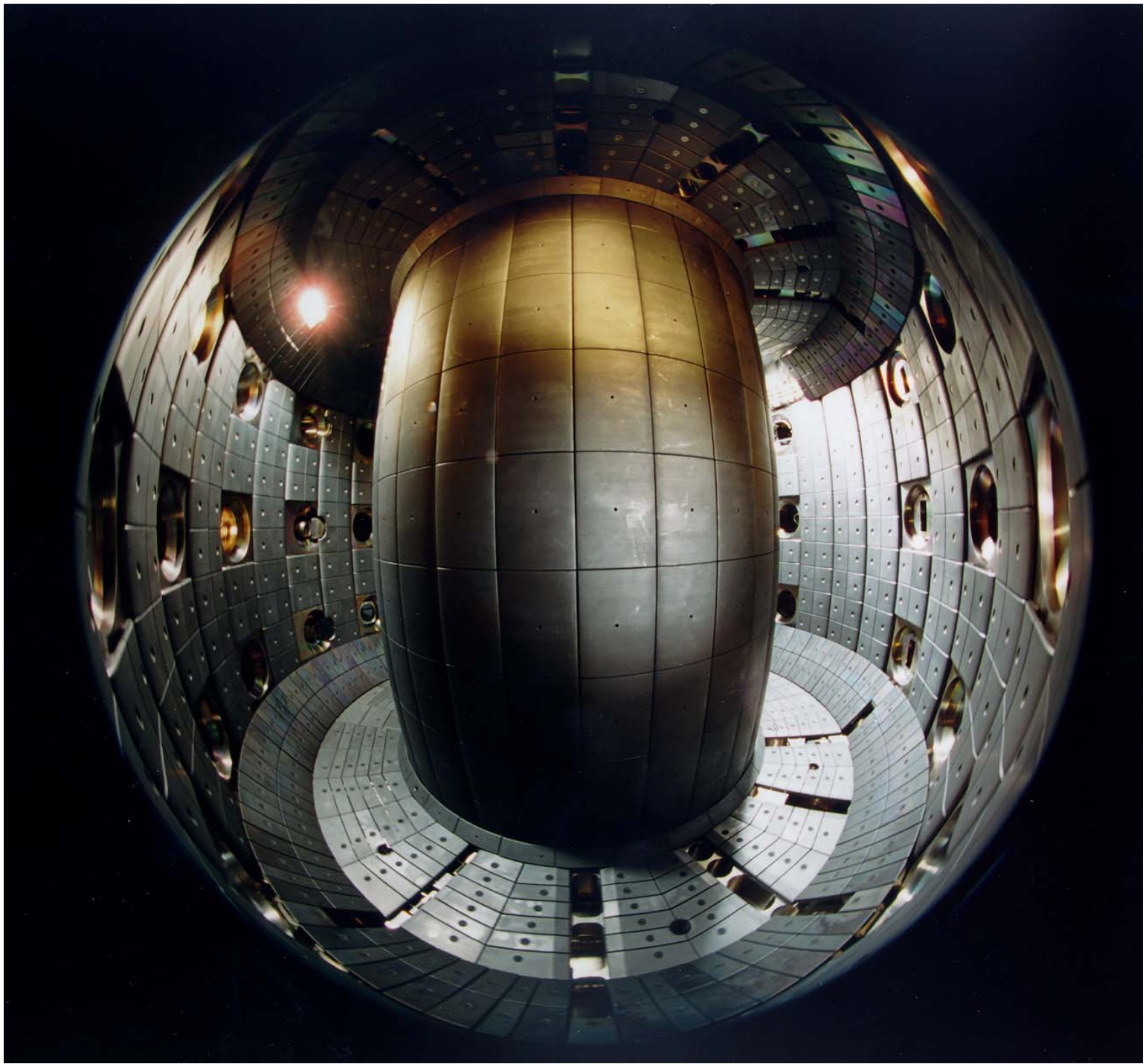




# Summary & Conclusions

- Recent TCV experiments with ECRH/ECCD
  - Real-time control
    - Demonstration of feedback control of sawtooth period by local EC deposition using non-linear controller.
    - Demonstrate of peak-in-profile control by changing EC deposition location.
  - Scenarios with internal electron transport barriers
    - Steady-state sustainment using off-axis ECCD.
    - 100% bootstrap current in steady-state achieved, no external current drive.
    - Global oscillations, inherent to high performance steady-state scenarios
      - Caused by proximity to the infernal mode limit, interplay between barrier and MHD.
      - Stabilization by current profile perturbations rendering profile less hollow.
  - Localized ECCD deposition effects on tearing stability, aiming at precise control of  $j$  profile and NTM stability predictions for ITER.



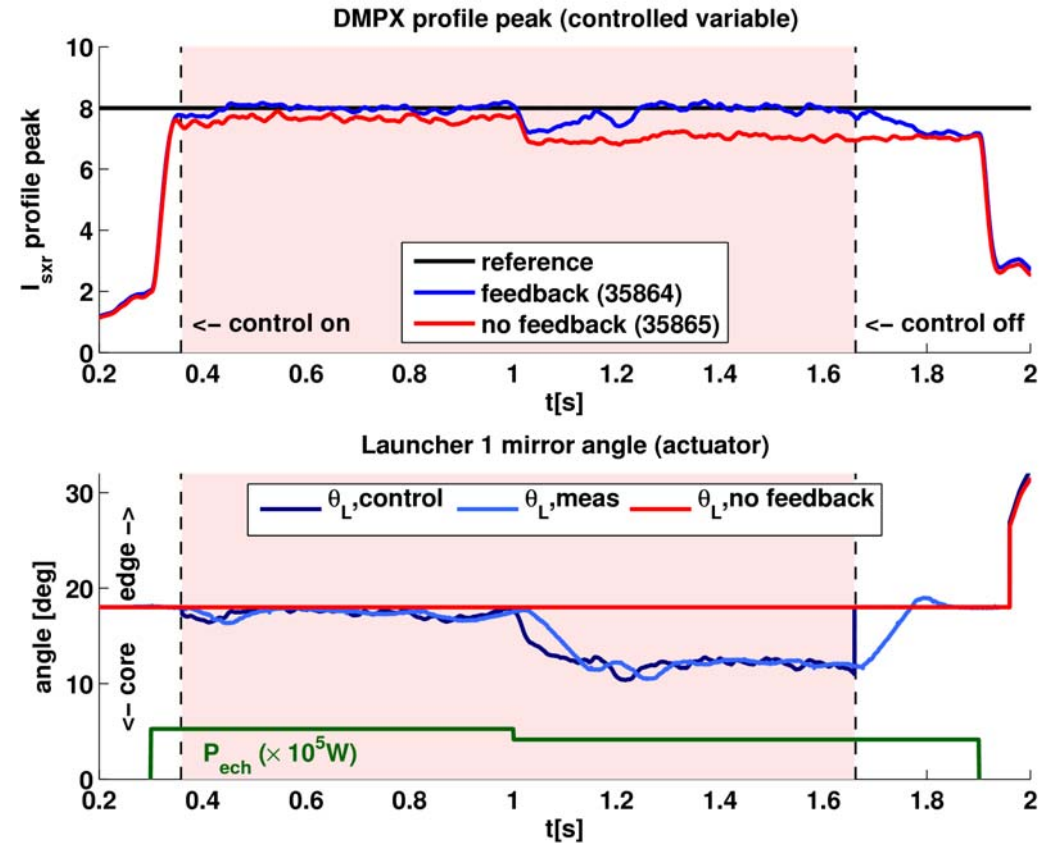


# Reserve slides



# Peak-in-profile control (2)

- Gyrotron power decrease during the shot
- Shot with feedback control recovers maximum by moving deposition off-axis
- Shot with no feedback does not recover.



# Stabilization of the oscillatory regime

- Example 2: Apply co-current ohmic perturbation
  - Negligible increase in injected power
  - The perturbation will be peaked on-axis due to better conductivity.
  - current profile becomes less hollow
  - oscillations stop
  - barrier is maintained

