

Title. . . .

# Ideal MHD is used for. . . .

## 1. Equilibrium:

- i. Grad-Shafranov solvers; VMEC and NSTAB; . .
- ii. Reconstruction: e.g. EFIT, V3FIT, STELLOPT; . .
- iii. Linearly Perturbed Equilibria: e.g. IPEC, . .

## 2. Stability:

- i. kink,
- ii. ballooning,
- iii. peeling-ballooning,

## 3. Tearing mode analysis:

- i. calculation of  $\Delta'$

All of these codes presuppose an ideal MHD equilibrium with nested flux surfaces and smooth profiles

## Use of RMPs to suppress ELMs requires 3D ideal MHD

*“MHD represents the simplest self-consistent model describing the macroscopic equilibrium and stability properties of a plasma.”*

*“There is a general consensus that any configuration meriting consideration as a fusion reactor must satisfy the equilibrium and stability limits set by ideal MHD. If not, catastrophic termination of the plasma on a very short time scale .. is the usual consequence”*

**Ideal Magnetohydrodynamics**, J.P. Friedberg

# Ideal Force-Balance : $\nabla p = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}$

## i. continuous solutions are physically unacceptable

$$\nabla p = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} \text{ yields } \mathbf{j}_\perp = \mathbf{B} \times \nabla p / B^2. \quad \text{Note: } \mathbf{j} \text{ is current density.} \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \underbrace{(\sigma \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{j}_\perp)}_{\mathbf{j}} = 0 \text{ yields } \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \sigma = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_\perp. \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla p(\psi) = 0 \text{ yields } \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \psi = 0. \text{ Use } \psi \equiv \text{toroidal flux as surface label.} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Introduce angle, } \theta \equiv \bar{\theta} + \lambda(\bar{\theta}, \zeta), \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \theta \equiv \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \bar{\theta} (1 + \lambda_\theta) = \iota(\psi) \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \zeta \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Straight fieldline coordinates, } (\psi, \theta, \zeta), \text{ allows } \sqrt{g} \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla = \iota \partial_\theta + \partial_\zeta, \quad \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \zeta = \sqrt{g}^{-1}. \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Fourier, } \sigma \equiv \sum_{m,n} \sigma_{m,n}(\psi) e^{i(m\theta - n\zeta)}, \text{ Eqn(2) becomes } \boxed{(\iota m - n) \sigma_{m,n} = i(\sqrt{g} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_\perp)_{m,n}} \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Resonant parallel current density : } \sigma_{m,n} = \frac{p'}{x} + \delta(x), \text{ where } x \equiv \iota - n/m. \quad (7)$$

$$\text{Current} = \int_S \mathbf{j} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_\epsilon^\delta dx \int_0^{\pi/m} d\theta (\sigma \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \zeta \sqrt{g} + \mathbf{j}_\perp \cdot \nabla \zeta \sqrt{g}) \sim p' [\ln(\delta) - \ln(\epsilon)] \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0. \quad (8)$$

{ Pressure gradients *near* rational surfaces produce infinite currents }

+ { rational surfaces are dense } = no pressure allowed in solutions to ideal force-balance.

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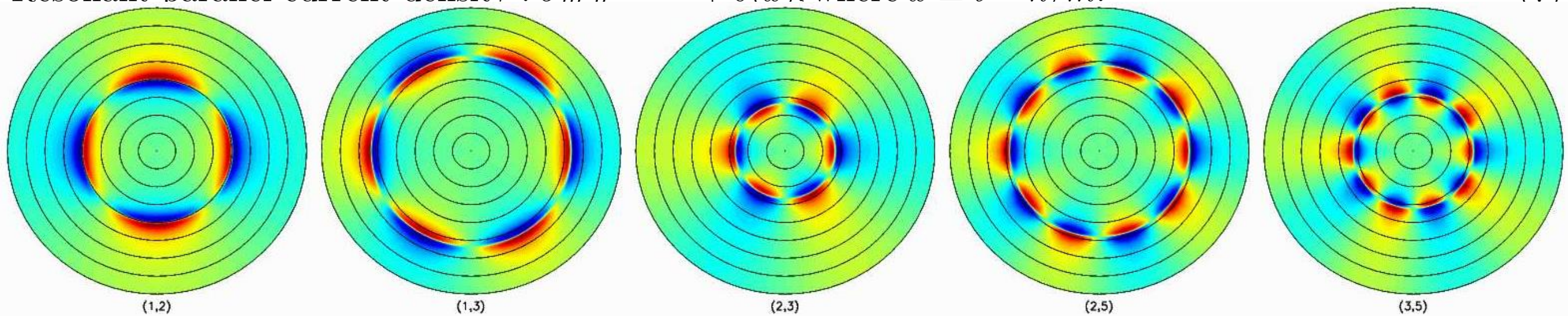
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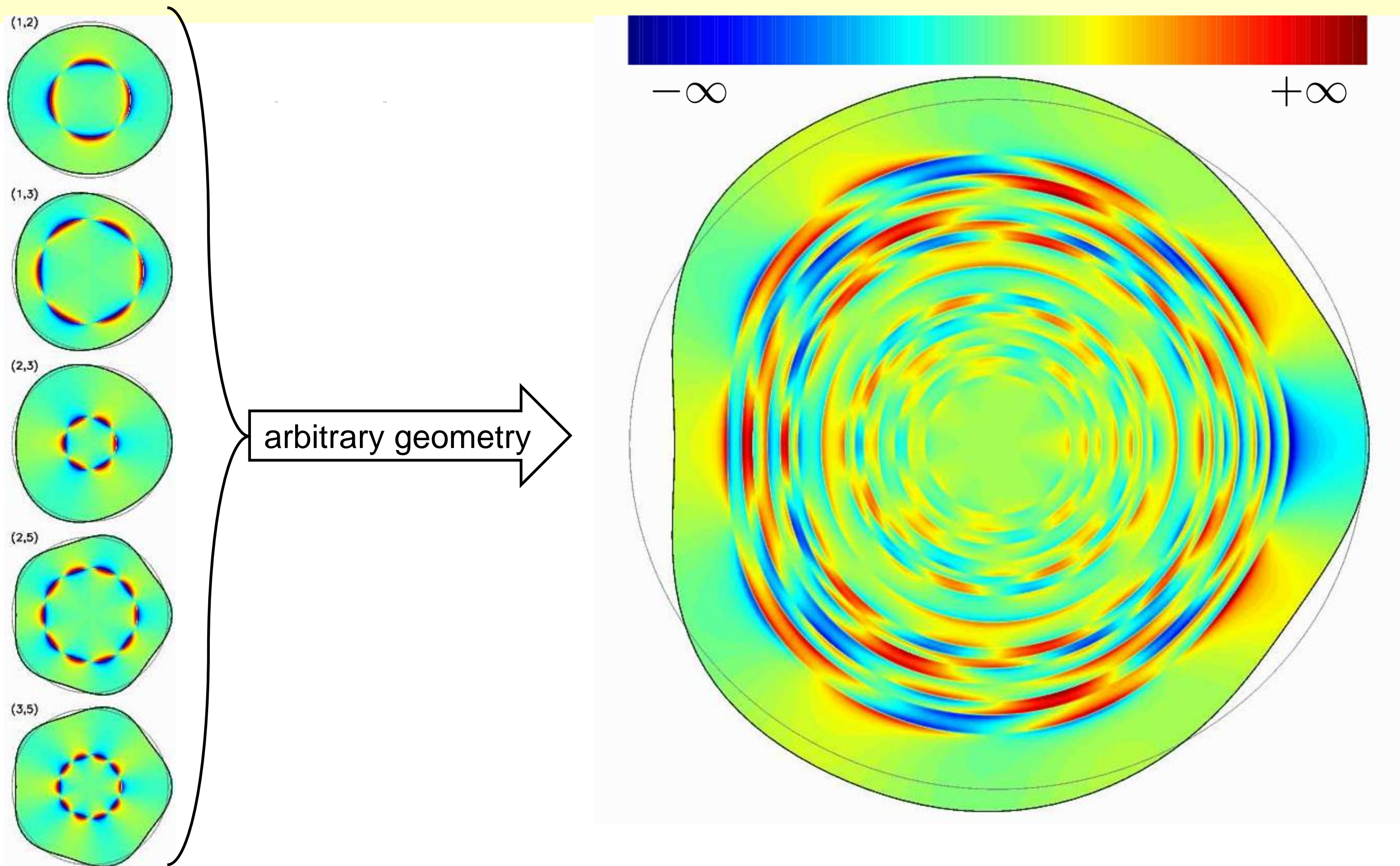
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# Ideal Force-Balance : $\nabla p = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}$

i. dense collection of alternating infinite currents

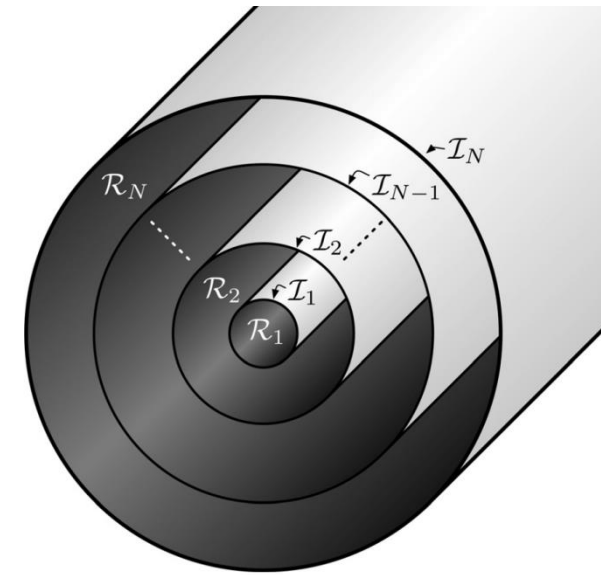


# Multi-Region Relaxed MHD (MRxMHD)

equilibrium  $\equiv$  constrained, minimum-energy state  
 consistent with given pressure, transform, and boundary.

1. **Stepped Pressure Equilibrium Code (SPEC)** extremizes

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{N_R} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{R}_i} \left( \frac{p}{\gamma - 1} + \frac{B^2}{2} \right) dv - \frac{\mu_i}{2} \left( \int_{\mathcal{R}_i} \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} dv - H_i \right) \right\},$$



$\delta \mathbf{B}$  is arbitrary in  $\mathcal{R}_i$ ,  
 i.e. islands in  $\mathcal{R}_i$

and

$\delta \mathbf{B} = \nabla \times (\boldsymbol{\xi} \times \mathbf{B})$  on  $\mathcal{I}_i$ .  
 topological constraint

2. The equilibrium state:  $\underbrace{\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_i \mathbf{B}}_{\text{Taylor relaxed}}$  in each  $\mathcal{R}_i$ , and  $\underbrace{[[p + B^2/2]] = 0}_{\text{“ideal”}}$  across each  $\mathcal{I}_i$ .

3. **Unification of Taylor relaxation and ideal MHD**

If	$1 = N_R$	globally-relaxed, Taylor state,	$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{B}$
If	$1 < N_R < \infty$	partial chaos, stepped-pressure	
If	$N_R = \infty$	globally-ideal, ideal-MHD,	$\nabla p = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}$

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# Early and recent publications

- |     |                        |              |                                                                             |
|-----|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1)  | Hole, Hudson & Dewar,  | PoP 2006     | } (theoretical model)                                                       |
| 2)  | Hudson, Hole & Dewar,  | PoP 2007     |                                                                             |
| 3)  | Dewar, Hole et al.     | Entropy 2008 |                                                                             |
| 4)  | Hudson, Dewar et al.,  | PoP 2012     | (SPEC)                                                                      |
| 5)  | Dennis, Hudson et al.  | PoP 2013     | (MRxMHD $\rightarrow$ ideal as $N_R \rightarrow \infty$ )                   |
| 6)  | Dennis, Hudson et al., | PRL 2013     | (helical states in RFP = double Taylor state)                               |
| 7)  | Dennis, Hudson et al., | PoP 2014     | (MRxMHD+flow)                                                               |
| 8)  | Dennis, Hudson et al., | PoP 2014     | (MRxMHD+flow+pressure anisotropy)                                           |
| 9)  | Loizu, Hudson et al.   | PoP 2015     | (first ever computation of $1/x$ & $\delta$ current-densities in ideal-MHD) |
| 10) | Loizu, Hudson et al.   | PoP, 2015    | (well-defined, 3D ideal MHD with discontinuous transform, RMP penetration)  |
| 11) | Dewar, Yoshida et al.  | JPP, 2015    | (variational formulation of MRxMHD dynamics)                                |
| 12) | Loizu, Hudson et al.,  | PoP, 2016    | (pressure amplification of RMPs)                                            |

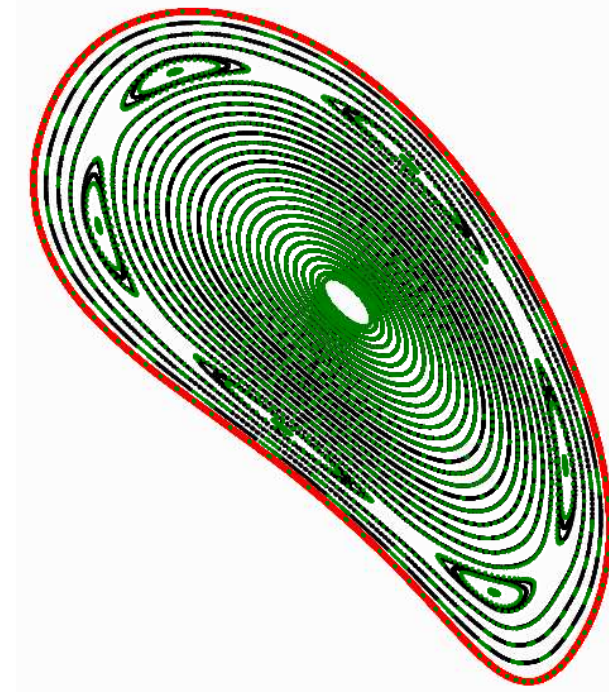
# Recent and upcoming invited talks

- |    |                        |      |                                                 |
|----|------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1) | Hudson, Dewar, et al.  | 2012 | International Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference |
| 2) | Dennis, Hudson, et al. | 2013 | International Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference |
| 3) | Dennis, Hudson, et. al | 2013 | International Stellarator Heliotron Workshop    |
| 4) | Hole, Dewar, et al.    | 2014 | International Congress on Plasma Physics        |
| 5) | Loizu, Hudson, et al.  | 2015 | International Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference |
| 6) | Loizu, Hudson, et al.  | 2015 | APS-DPP                                         |
| 7) | Hudson, Loizu, et al., | 2016 | Asia Pacific Plasma Theory Conference, 2016     |
| 8) | Loizu, Hudson, et al.  | 2016 | Varenda Fusion Theory Conference                |



# Ongoing Efforts

- |                                         |   |                                |
|-----------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1) Linearly perturbed calculations      | ✓ | (already published)            |
| 2) Vacuum benchmark, W7-X, OP1.1,       | ✓ | SPEC vs. Biot-Savart shown →   |
| 3) Non-stellarator symmetric capability | ✓ | (completed, not-yet published) |
| 4) Free-boundary capability             | □ | (almost finished)              |



**W7-X vacuum verification**  
*excellent agreement!*

# Milestones

- |                                  |             |                                       |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Publish vacuum verification   | 2016        |                                       |
| 2) Complete free-boundary        | 2016        |                                       |
| 3) W7-X calculations             | 2016 / 2017 |                                       |
| 4) Linear stability calculations | 2017        |                                       |
| 5) Include flow                  | 2017        | <i>(collaboration with Dr. Hamdi)</i> |

# Active Collaborators

- |                                          |                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) S. R. Hudson, A. Bhattacharjee        | Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory                                                  |
| 2) R.L. Dewar, M. J. Hole                | Australian National University <i>(awarded 3 Australian Research Council Grants)</i> |
| 3) J. Loizu, P. Helander, C. Nuehrenberg | Max-Planck Institute for Plasma Physics                                              |
| 4) Z. Yoshida                            | University of Tokyo <i>(indirect collaboration via Prof.Dewar)</i>                   |
| 5) H. AbdelHamid                         | University of Tokyo <i>(presently visiting PPPL)</i>                                 |

# SPEC vs M3D-C<sub>1</sub>

- 1) How can an equilibrium code be verified against an initial-value code?
- 2) Can self-organized stationary states in tokamaks [[Jardin et al. PRL](#)] be explained as constrained minimum energy states? *(preliminary discussions with A. Bhattacharjee, H. Abdelhamid)*

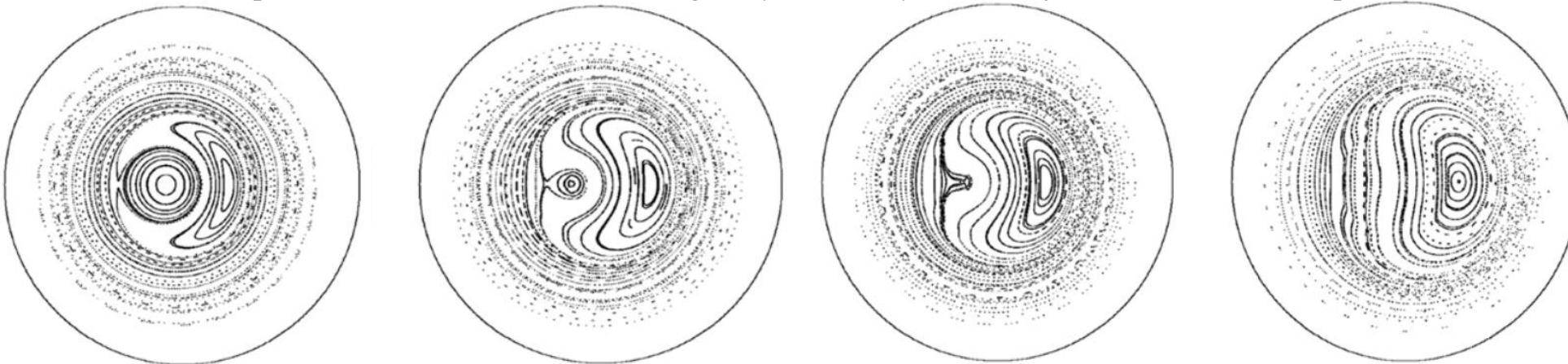
# MRxMHD explains self-organization of Reversed Field Pinch into internal helical state

## EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

### Overview of RFX-mod results

P. Martin et al., *Nuclear Fusion*, 49 (2009) 104019

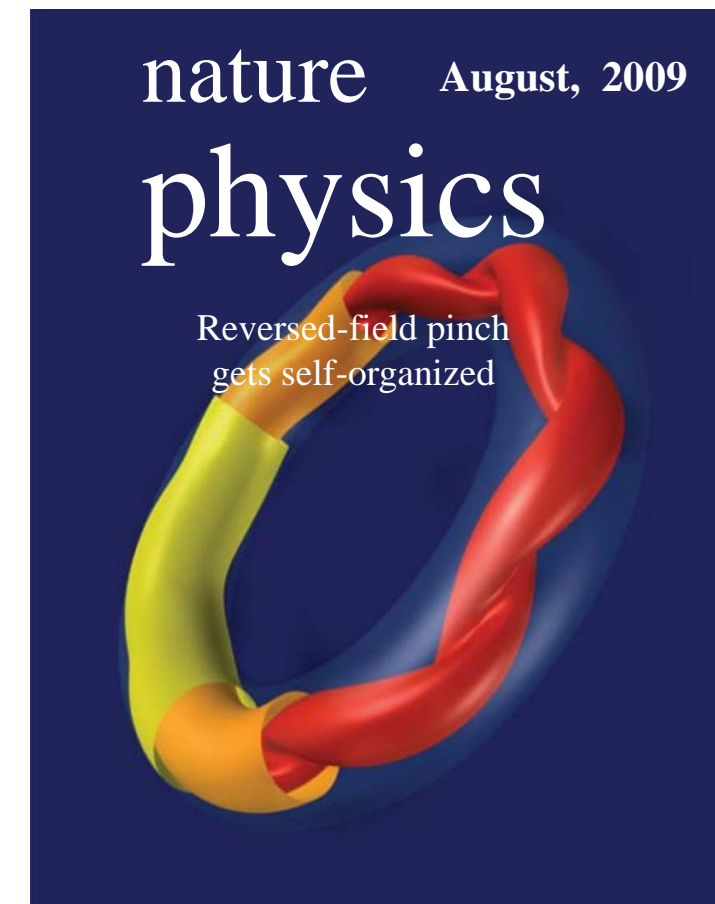
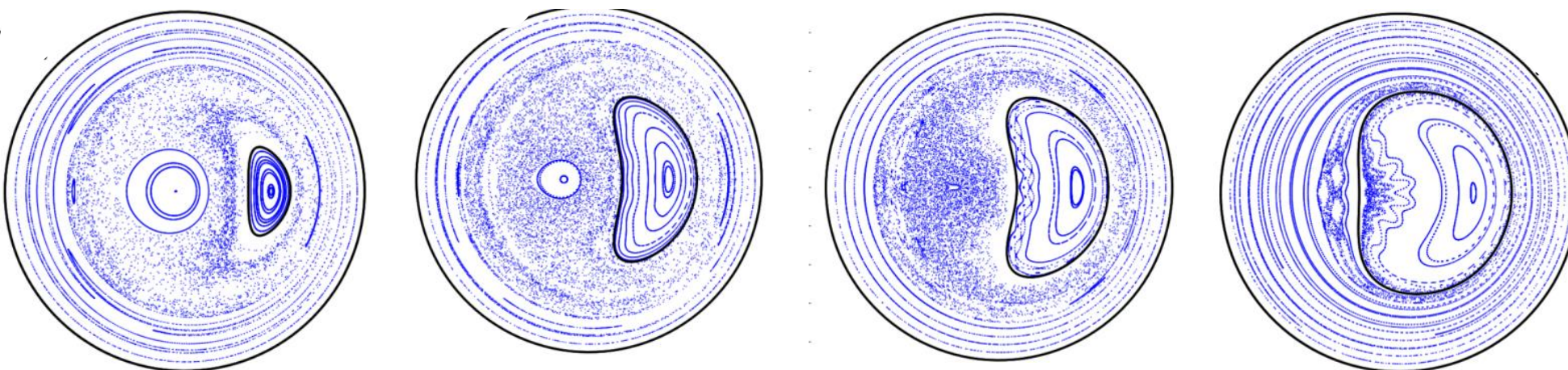
*Fig.6. Magnetic flux surfaces in the transition from a QSH state . . . to a fully developed SHAx state . . . The Poincaré plots are obtained considering only the axisymmetric field and dominant perturbation”*



## NUMERICAL CALCULATION USING STEPPED PRESSURE EQUILIBRIUM CODE

### Taylor relaxation and reversed field pinches

G. Dennis, R. Dewar, S. Hudson, M. Hole, 2012 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Institute of Physics Congress



Excellent Qualitative agreement between numerical calculation and experiment  
→ this is first (and perhaps only?) equilibrium model able to explain internal helical state with two magnetic axes