



irfm



Magnetic diagnostics

Ph. Moreau

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IIS2024

13th ITER International School

~Magnetic fusion diagnostics and data science~

December 9-13, 2024 Nagoya Prime Central Tower, Nagoya (Japan)

Dr Philippe MOREAU

French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission,
Institute for Magnetic Fusion Research



Working on WEST –
W Environment in Steady-state
Tokamak ($R=2.42\text{m}$; $a = 0.5\text{m}$)



■ Current position:

- Head of plasma operation group
- Tokamak commissioning manager
- Head of Session Leader team

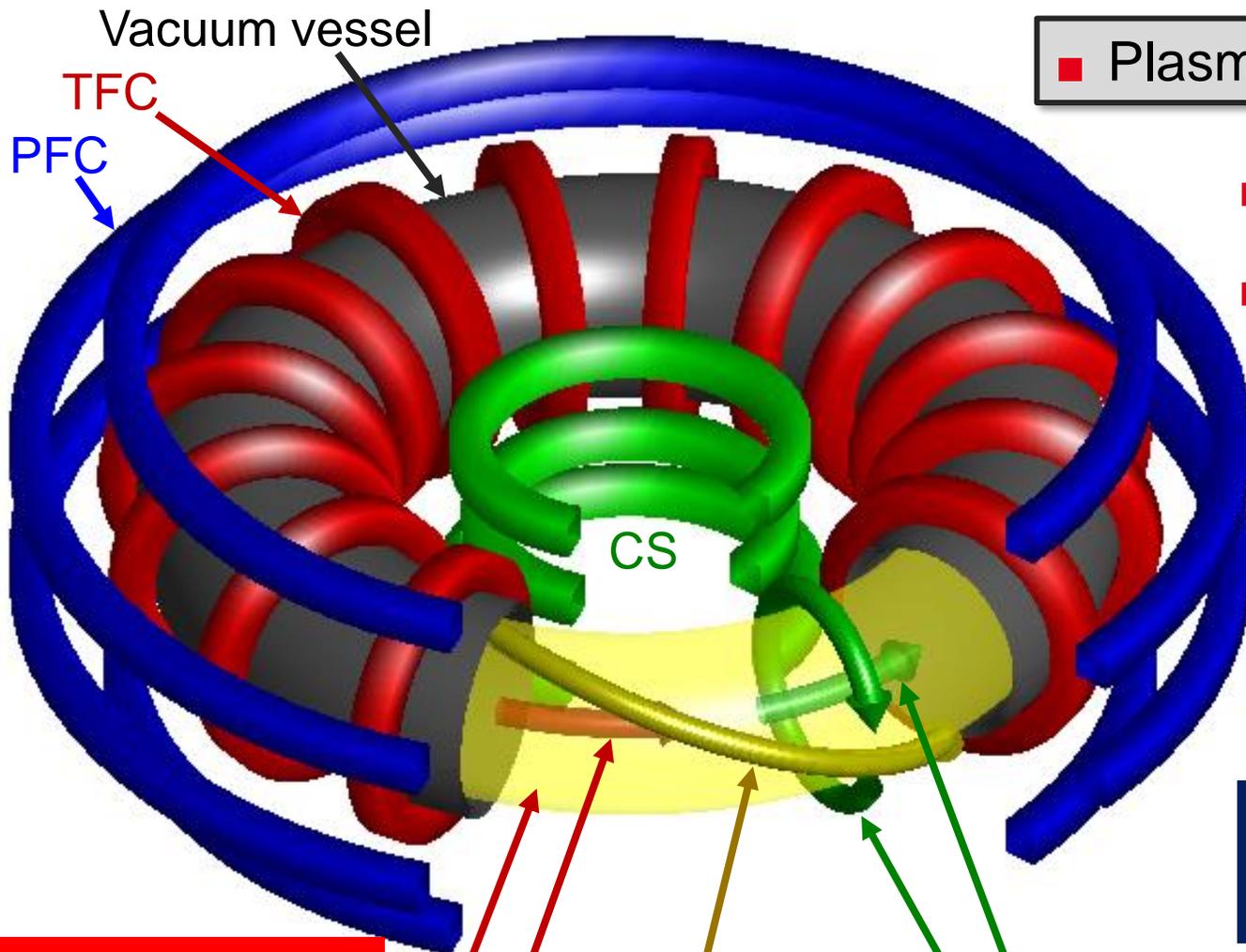
■ Background and skills:

- Tokamak operation
- Plasma control
- Diagnostics, magnetics (WEST, ITER, etc.)



philippe.jacques.moreau@cea.fr

Plasma confinement in tokamaks: A combination of magnetic fields



■ Plasma confined in toroidal chamber with B fields

■ Toroidal field    ■ Helical field lines

■ Poloidal field

■ Tokamak: **central solenoid (CS)**
→ plasma current (transformer effect)

■ **Poloidal field coils (PFC)**:
→ poloidal field → plasma position

Magnetic field, flux, are essential quantities and must be measured

Plasma 150 MK

Toroidal field Resultant: helical field lines

Plasma current

Poloidal field

Outline

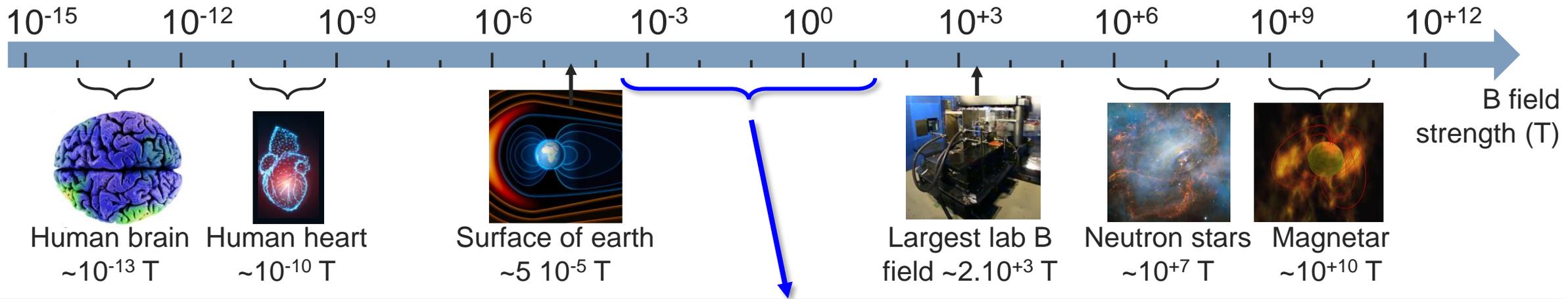
- 1. Magnetic fields and magnetic diagnostics in tokamaks**
- 2. Magnetic sensors**
- 3. Few hints about cabling**
- 4. Signal conditioning: integrators**
- 5. Equilibrium reconstruction and Real-Time data processing**



1 ■ Basis about magnetic in tokamaks

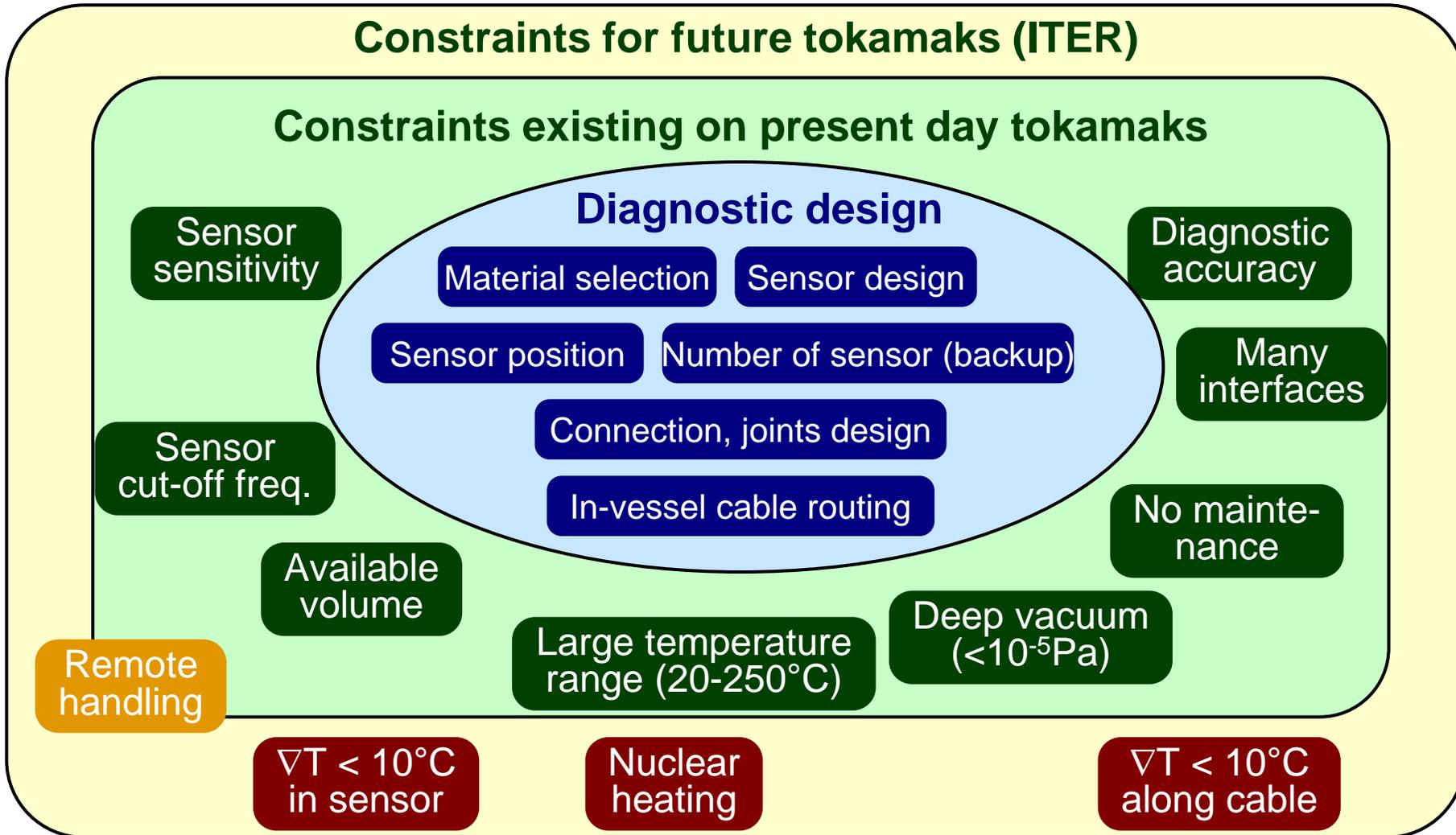
Which magnetic field strength are we speaking about?

- Unit of magnetic field intensity is: **Tesla** (in honor of Nikola Tesla 1856 – 1943)
- Source are:
 - Permanently magnetized material
 - Electric currents



Permanent Magnet Magnet on fridge ~10 ⁻³ T		Superconducting magnets 1-12 T	MRI (1-12T)	Fusion (<1mT - ~10T)	High energy physic (~8T)
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Designing magnetic diagnostics



- Already on several tokamaks
- Poorly addressed up to Now. Few examples
- New issues. under investigation. Requires R&D

- Available sensors:
- Inductive coils/loops
 - Hall probes
 - Magneto-optic

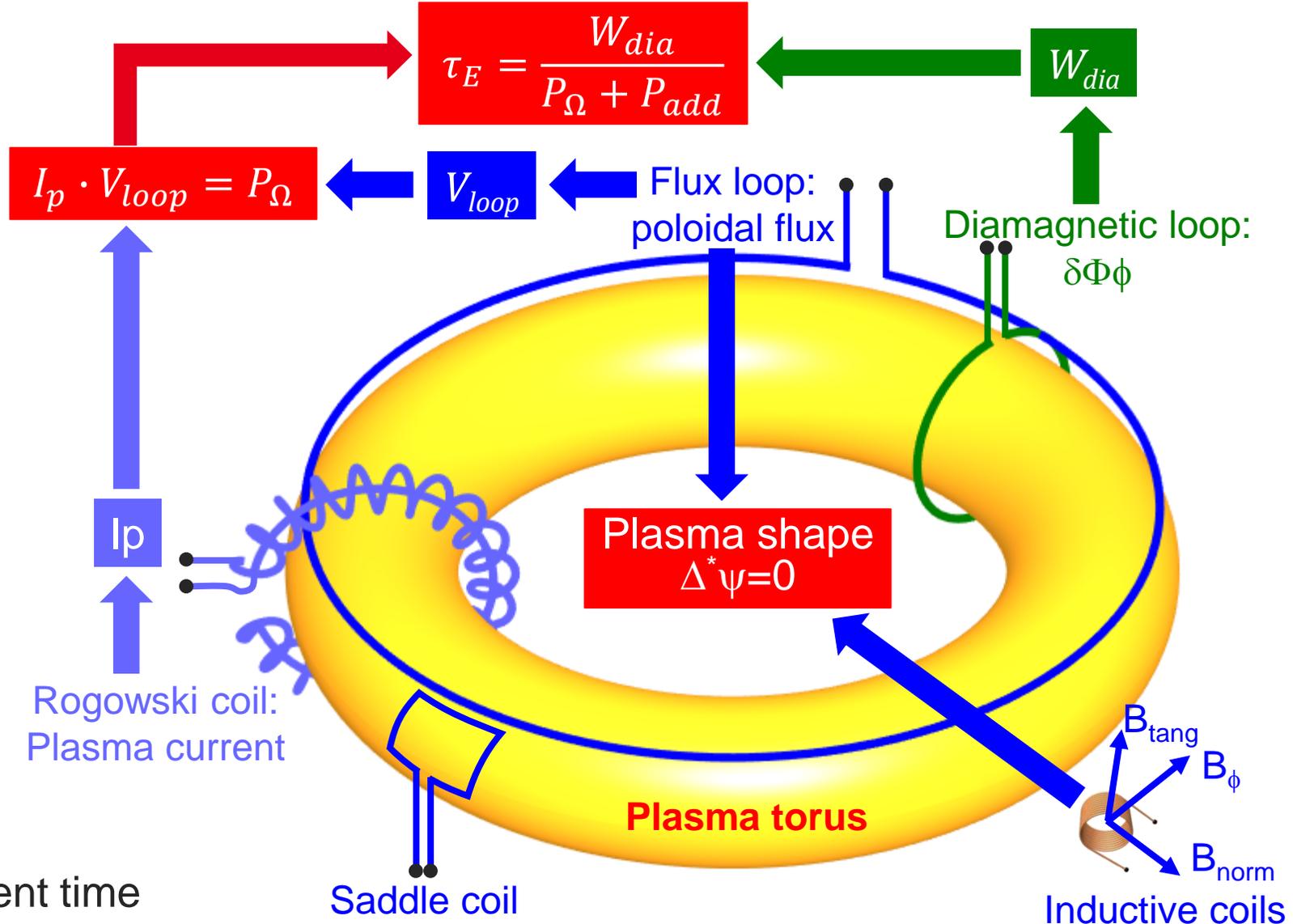
- Disqualify:
- Magnetoresistive, NMR (T°, neutrons)

Which information can be extracted from magnetic diagnostics?

Function	Parameter	Required measurement
Plasma equilibrium	Plasma current (I_p)	Rogowski coil B_{tang} B_{norm} Poloidal flux ψ
	Plasma position and shape	
	X-point position	
	dZ_p/dt	
	Loop voltage V_{loop}	
Diamagnetism	W_{dia} : Plasma energy	Toroidal flux variation $\delta\Phi_\phi$
MHD activity	Low frequency	HF sensors
	High frequency	

P_Ω = Ohmic power

τ_E = energy confinement time





Which sensor may satisfy the constraints and measurement accuracy ?

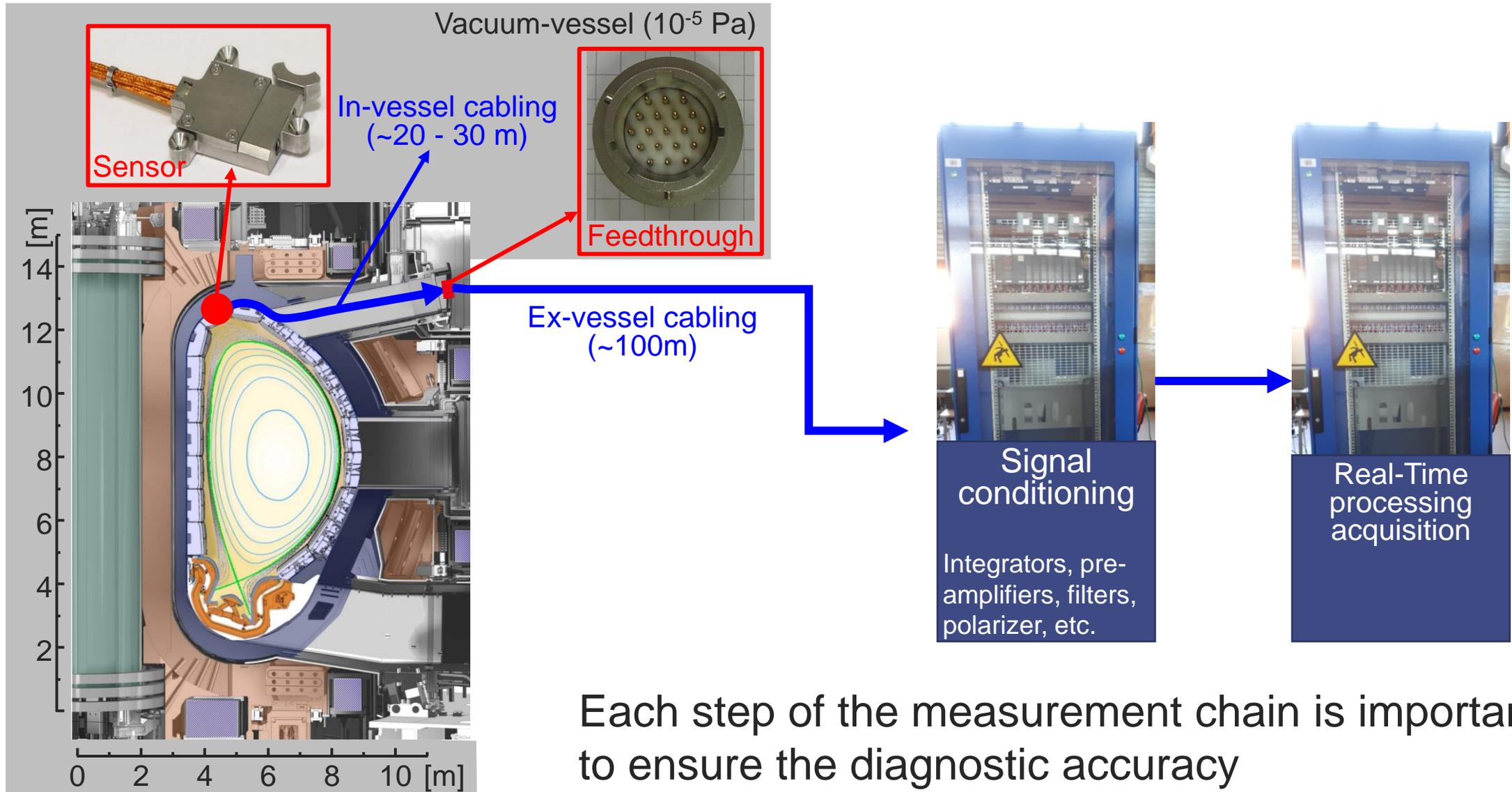
■ Two families of magnetic sensors:

- Inductive: measure B variation vs time dB/dt
- Non inductive: direct B measurement

Function	Parameter	Required measurement
Plasma equilibrium	Plasma current (Ip 0 – 20 MA)	Rogowski coil B_{tang} B_{norm} Poloidal flux ψ
	Plasma position and shape	
	X-point position	
	dZ_p/dt	
	Loop voltage V_{loop}	
Diamagnetism	W_{dia} : Plasma energy	Toroidal flux variation $\delta\Phi\phi$
MHD activity	Low frequency	HF sensors
	High frequency	

	Inductive sensors	Non-inductive sensors
Magnetic field vector	Induction coils (Mirnov coils)	Hall probes
Magnetic flux (toroidal and poloidal)	Flux loops	
Current measurement	Rogowski coils	Magneto-optic (Fiber Optic Current Sensor)

From the sensor to the acquisition



Each step of the measurement chain is important to ensure the diagnostic accuracy



2 ■ Magnetic sensors

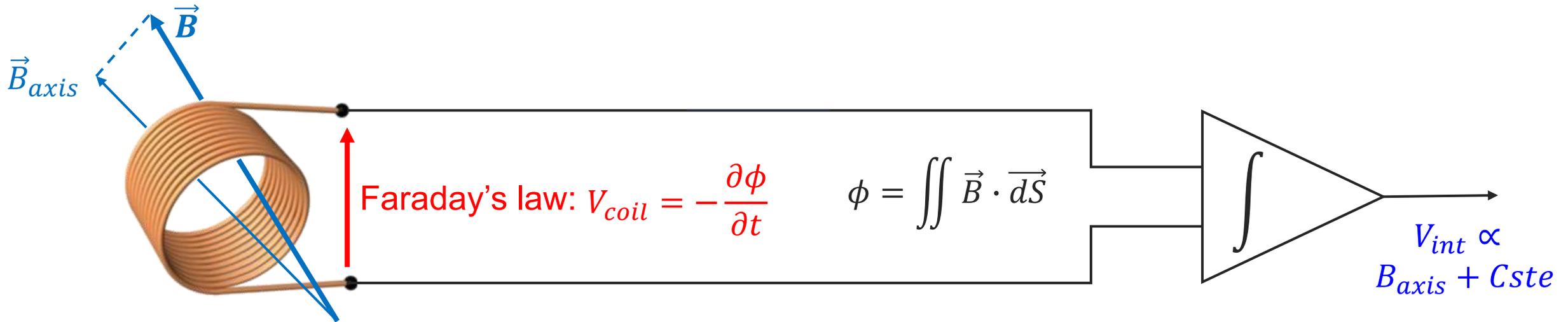


Magnetic field and flux measurements

2.1 ■ → Plasma equilibrium

Local \vec{B} measurement: Induction coils or mirnov coils

- Applications: measure 3D local magnetic field vectors → **plasma equilibrium**
- Measurement principle: Coil is a copper wire wound on a mandrel (e.g. cylinder)



Small sensor → uniform B crossing the winding $\phi = S \vec{B}_{axis}$ S is the coil effective area (m²)

$$V_{coil} = -S \frac{\partial B_{axis}}{\partial t}$$

Integration

$$V_{int} \propto B_{axis} + Cste$$

Local \vec{B} measurement: Induction coils or mirnov coils

■ Advantage

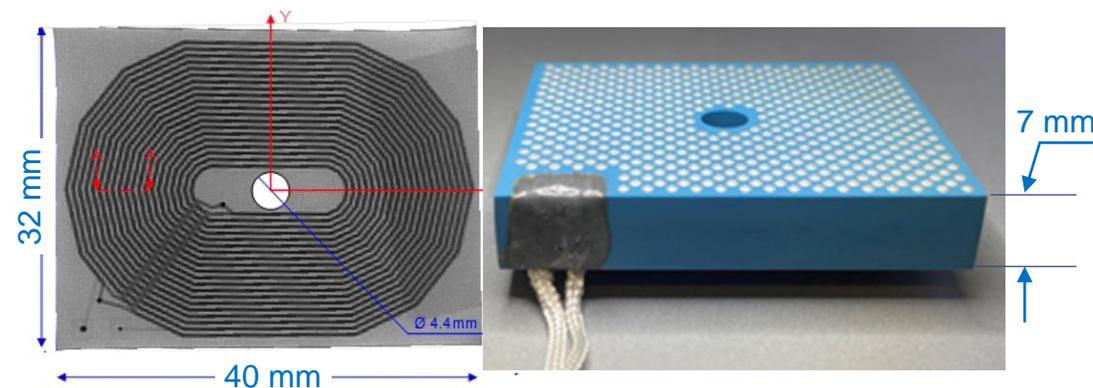
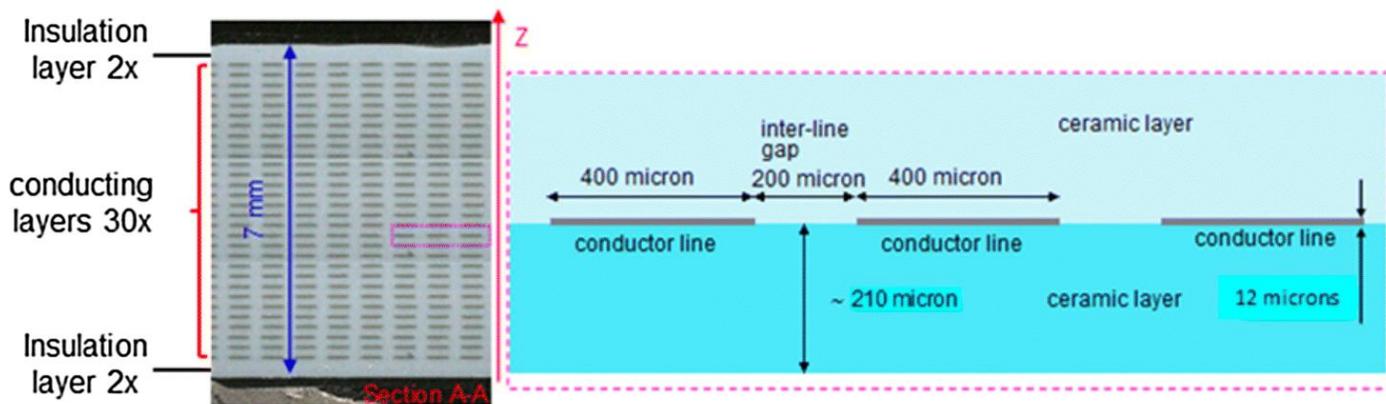
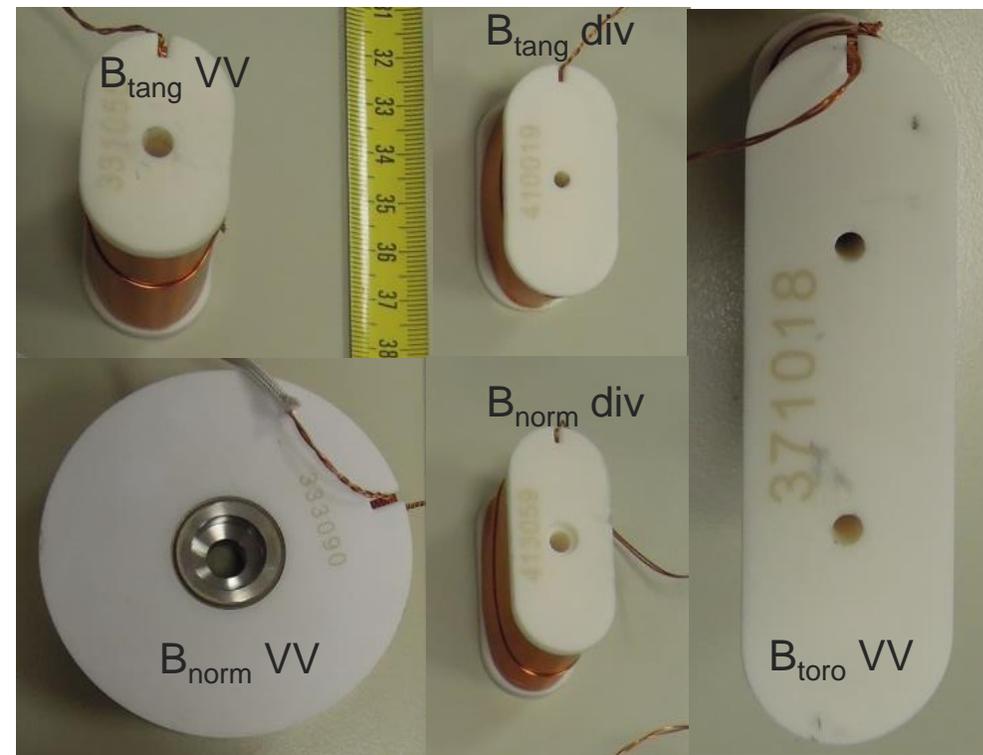
- Flexible design (accommodate geometry)
- Sensitivity, cut-off freq. (#layers, #turn/layer) set by design
- Robustness
- Simplicity of operation

■ Shortcomings:

- Inductive sensor (only sensitive to AC field)
- Requires integrator electronic
- Rather difficult to miniaturize.
Nevertheless thin film technic are available LTCC(*)

(*) Low Temperature Co-Fired Ceramic

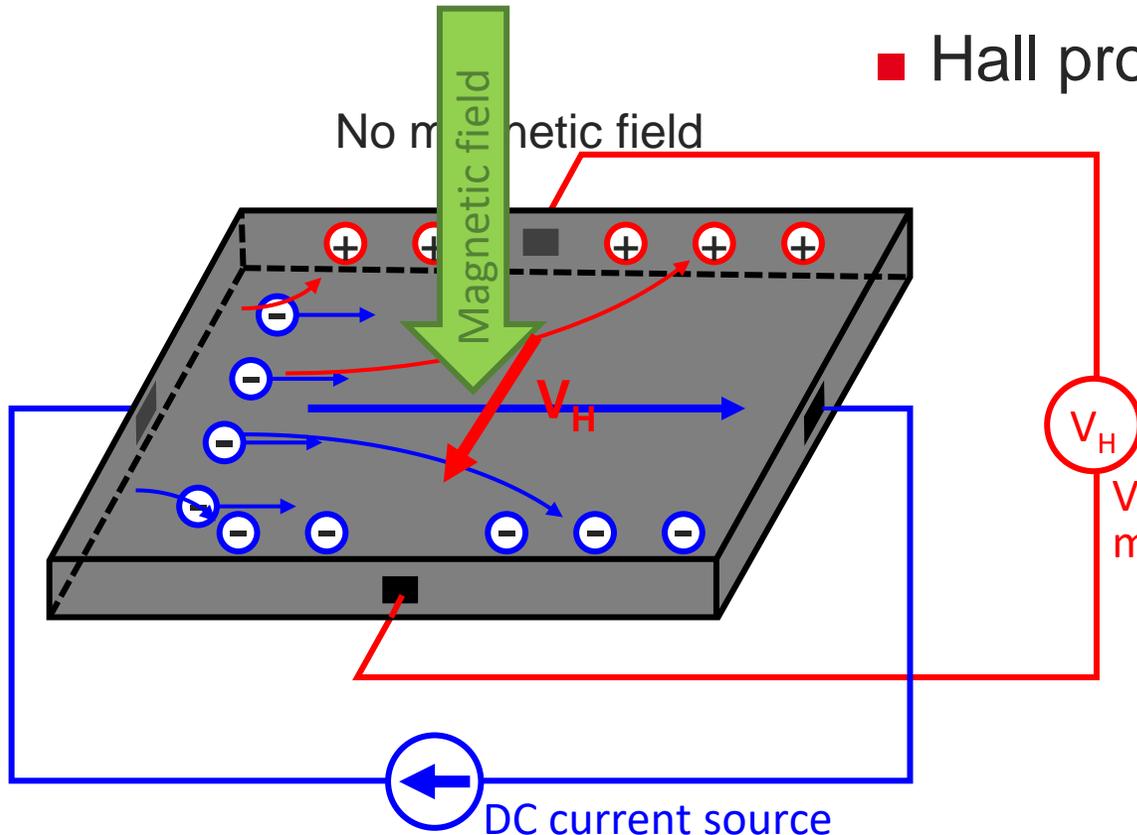
Mirnov coils for application on WEST



Local \vec{B} measurement: Hall probe

- Applications: measure 3D local magnetic field vectors → **plasma equilibrium**
- Measurement principle: hall effect (emf created across conductor when current and magnetic field are present)

- Hall probe is a semiconductor (e.g. Si, GaAs, InSb, ...)



No magnetic field → electrons move straight, $V=0$

Magnetic field → electrons movement deflected



More electrons present on one side



Electric field (voltage) develop \perp to B

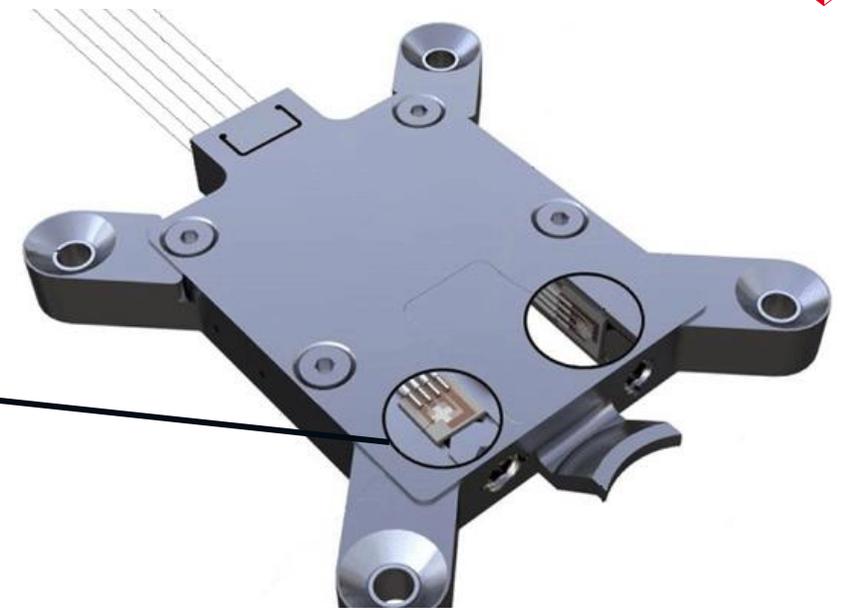
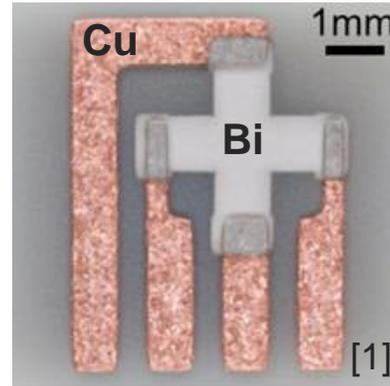
$$V_H = \frac{R_H}{d} I B$$

R_H : fixed depend on HP material
 d : thickness of the HP

Local \vec{B} measurement: Hall probe

■ Advantage

- Most widely used magnetic sensor
- Direct measurement of \vec{B} : $V_H = \frac{R_H}{d} I B$
- Can be miniaturized
- 3D measurements easy to implement
- Low cost

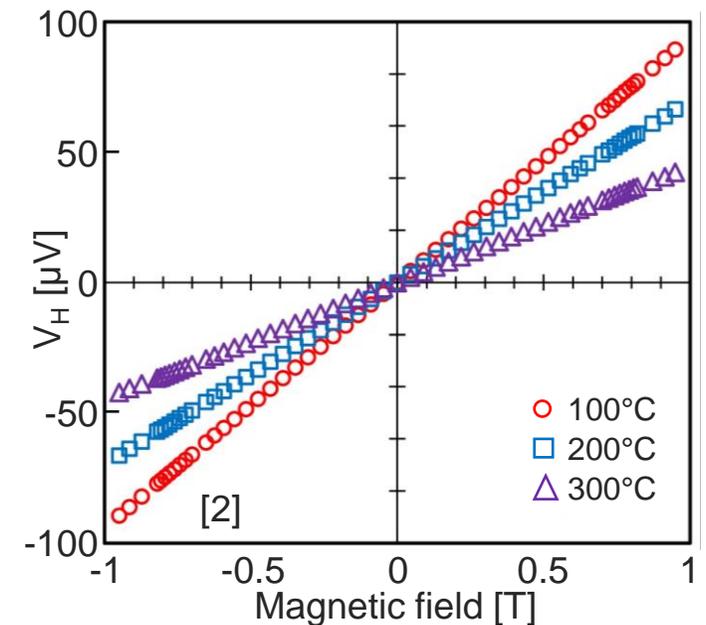


■ Shortcomings:

- Low sensitivity, V_H small, care necessary to avoid pick-up
- More complex cabling than a simple induction coil (more wires)
- Response depends on temperature (compensation needed)
- Sensitive to neutrons efficiency decrease \rightarrow regular recalibration

[1] <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5038871>

[2] <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2023.113476>

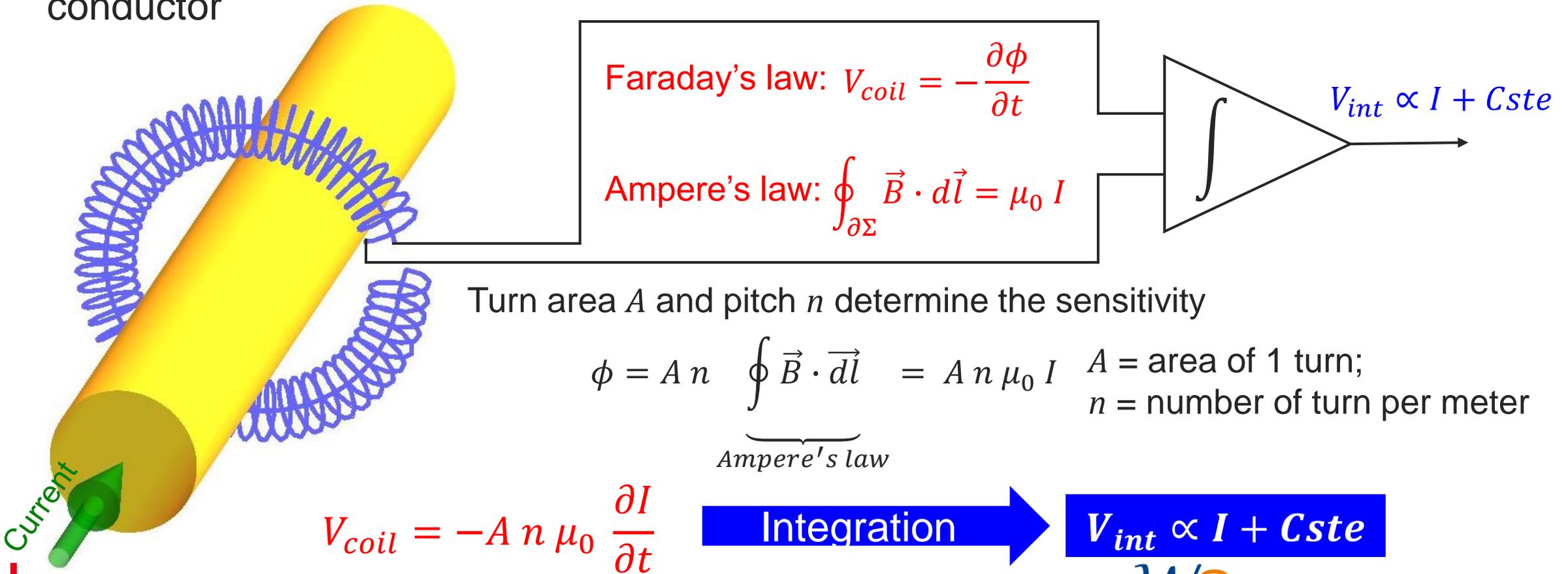




2.2 ■ Currents and plasma current measurements

Current measurement: Rogowski coil

- Applications: measure current linked by the Rogowski → **plasma current I_p** , halo current (plasma \leftrightarrow vessel), eddy currents, etc.
- Measurement principle: Cu wire wound as a spiral **+ return cable**. Installed around conductor



Current measurement: Rogowski coil

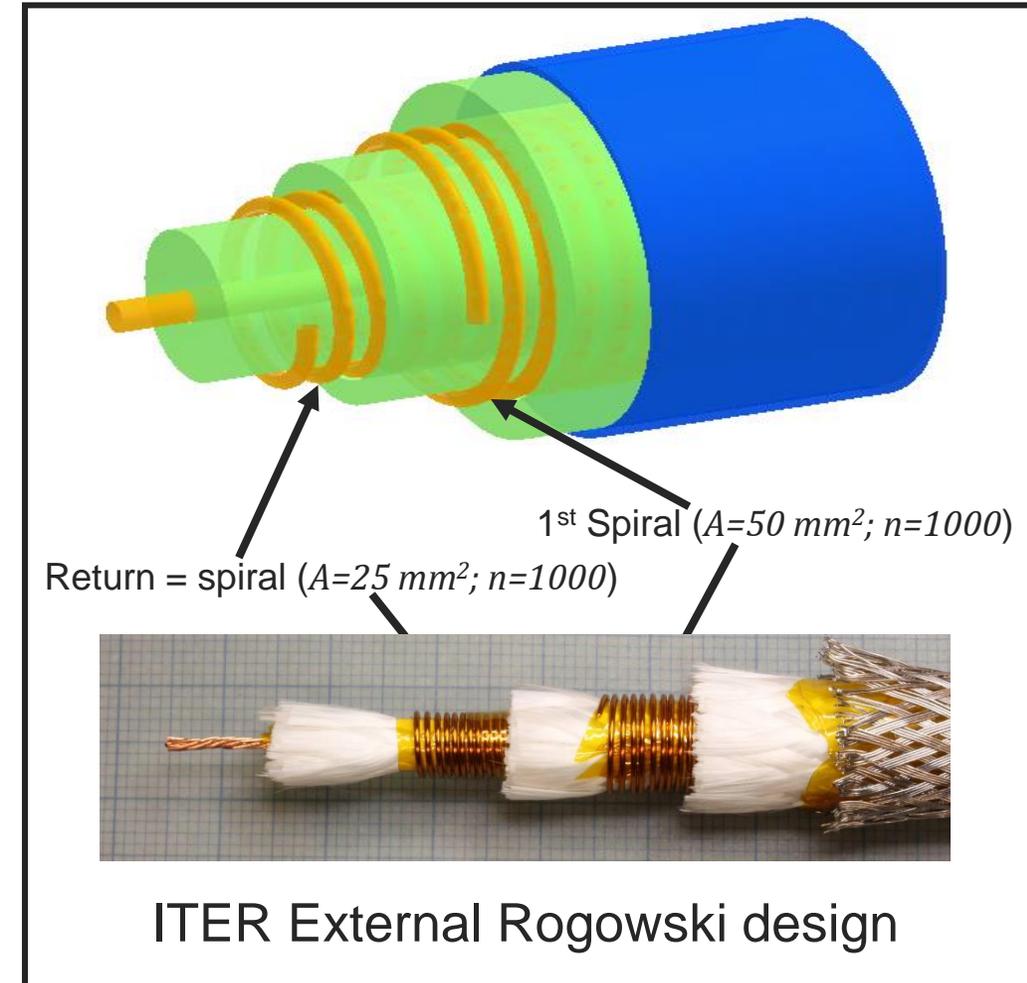
- Wound on the inner skin of the VV, a Rogowski measures I_p

- Advantage

- Routing is free (Ampere's law) → Flexible design
- Compactness, Robustness
- Simplicity of operation

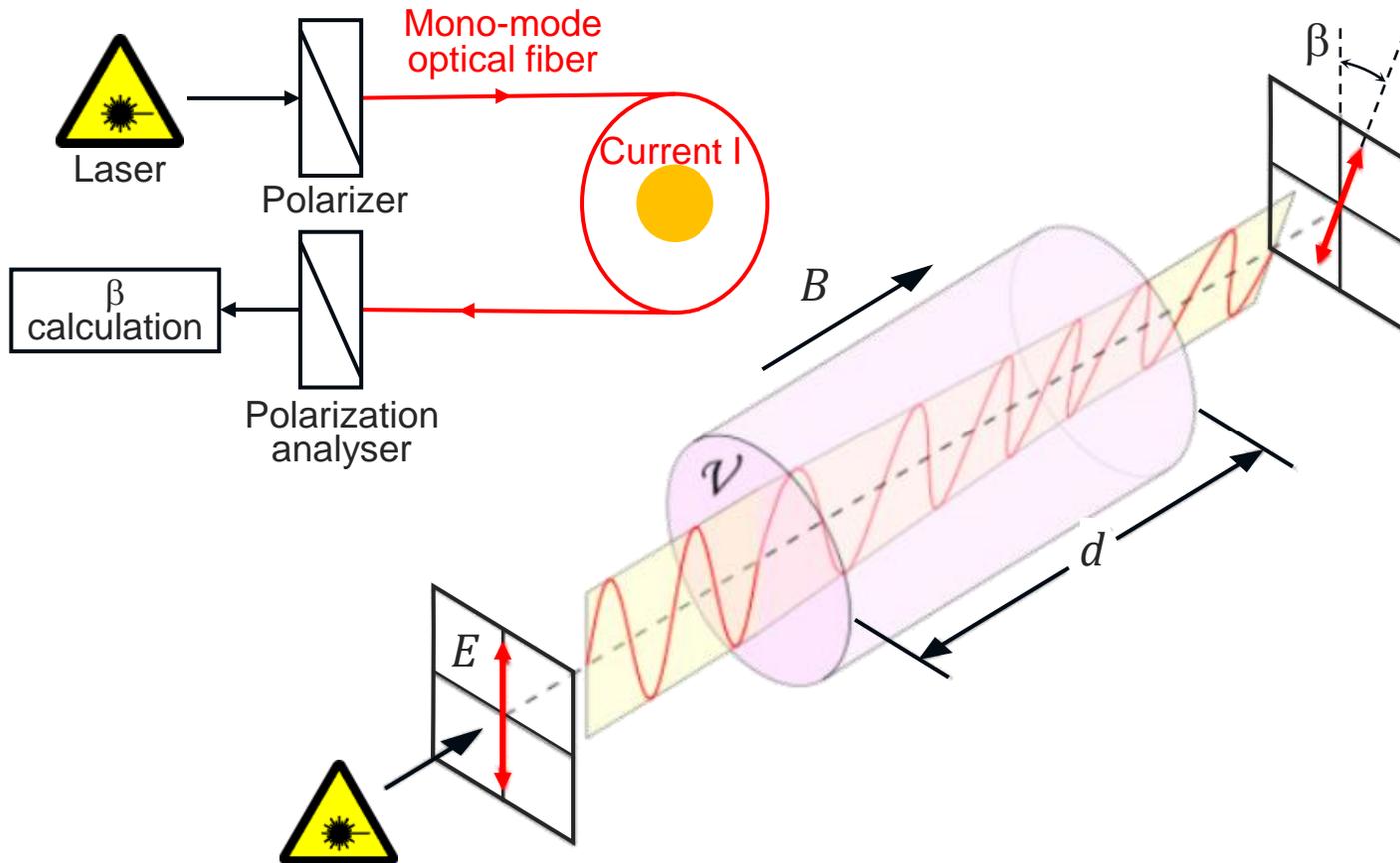
- Shortcomings:

- Inductive sensor (only sensitive to AC field)
- Requires integrator electronic
- Requires perfectly uniform winding
→ in any case pick-up from outer Rogowski current must be taken into account (calibration)



Current measurement: Fiber Optic Current Sensor

- Applications: measure current linked by the fiber optic → **plasma current I_p** , halo current (plasma ↔ vessel), eddy currents, etc.
- Measurement principle: Faraday rotation of light polarization due to magnetic field



Faraday Effect in optical fiber:

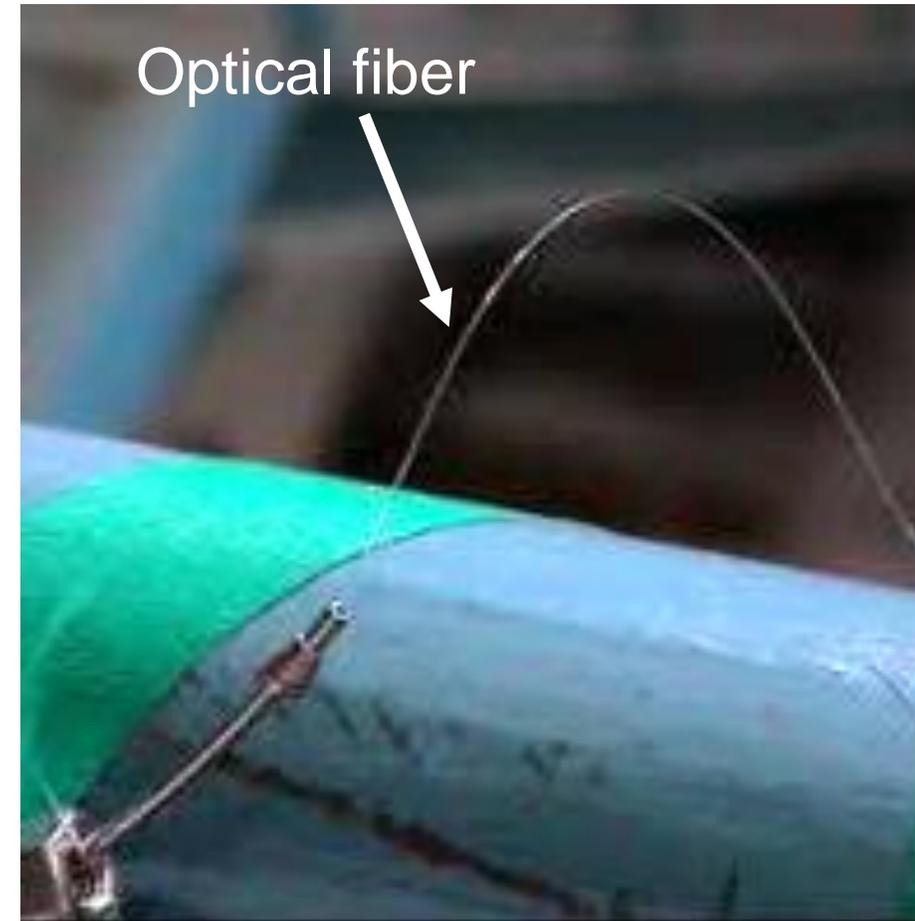
$$\beta = N V \underbrace{\oint \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{l}}_{\text{Ampere's law}} = N V I$$

V = Verdet constant of optical fiber
 $V \sim 0.71 \text{ rad/MA @ } \lambda=1550 \text{ nm}$

N = number of turns around the conductor

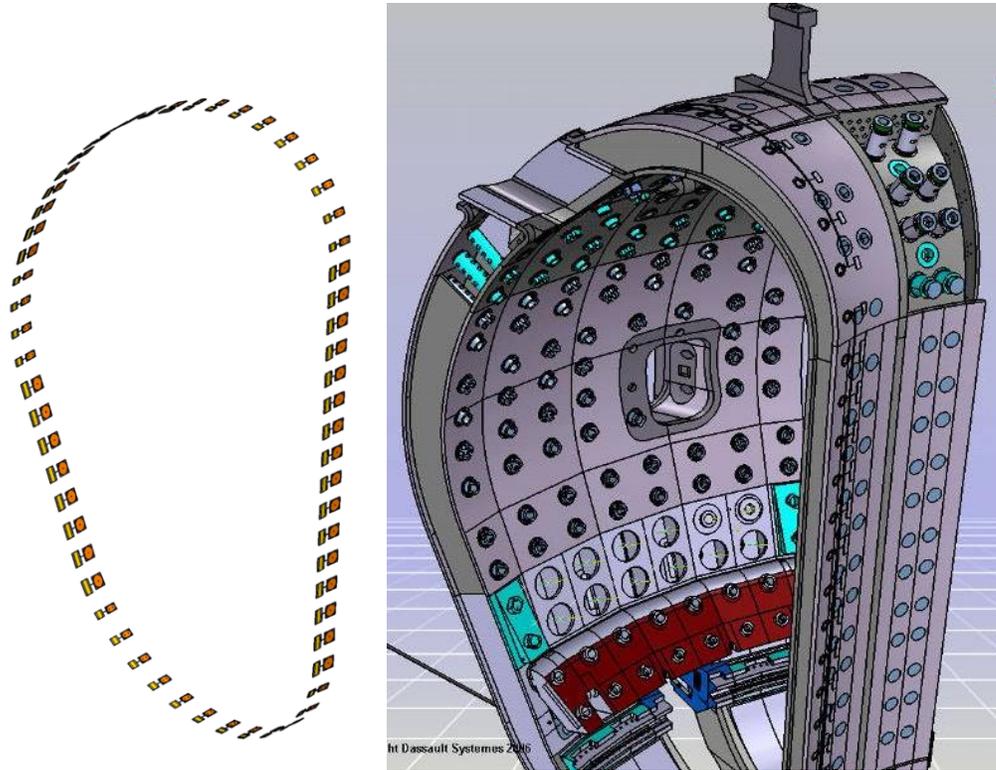
Current measurement: Fiber Optic Current Sensor

- Wound on the inner skin of the VV, FOCS measures I_p . Also used in the industry to measure large current
- Advantage
 - Direct measurement of current (not current variation): $\beta = N V I$
 - Routing is free (Ampere's law) → Flexible design
 - Compactness, Robustness
 - Replaceable (blowing technics exist)
- Shortcomings:
 - Spurious effects (non linear birefringence) must be considered Measurement interpretation might be complex
 - Higher cost than just an induction coil
 - Sensitivity much smaller than inductive coils (but OK for ITER)

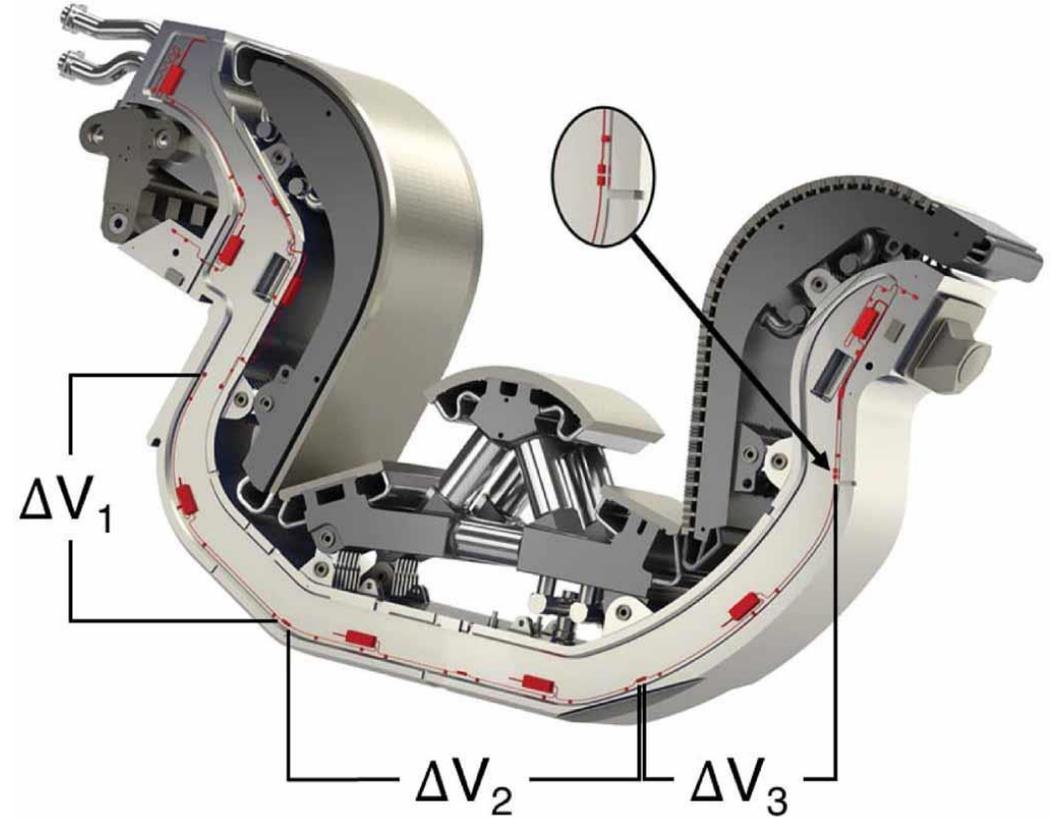


Current measurement: Other technics

- “partial Rogowski” = several tangential field coils around the VV



- “Resistive Shunt” = Voltage drop through a known resistance plugged on 2 points of an electrical circuit



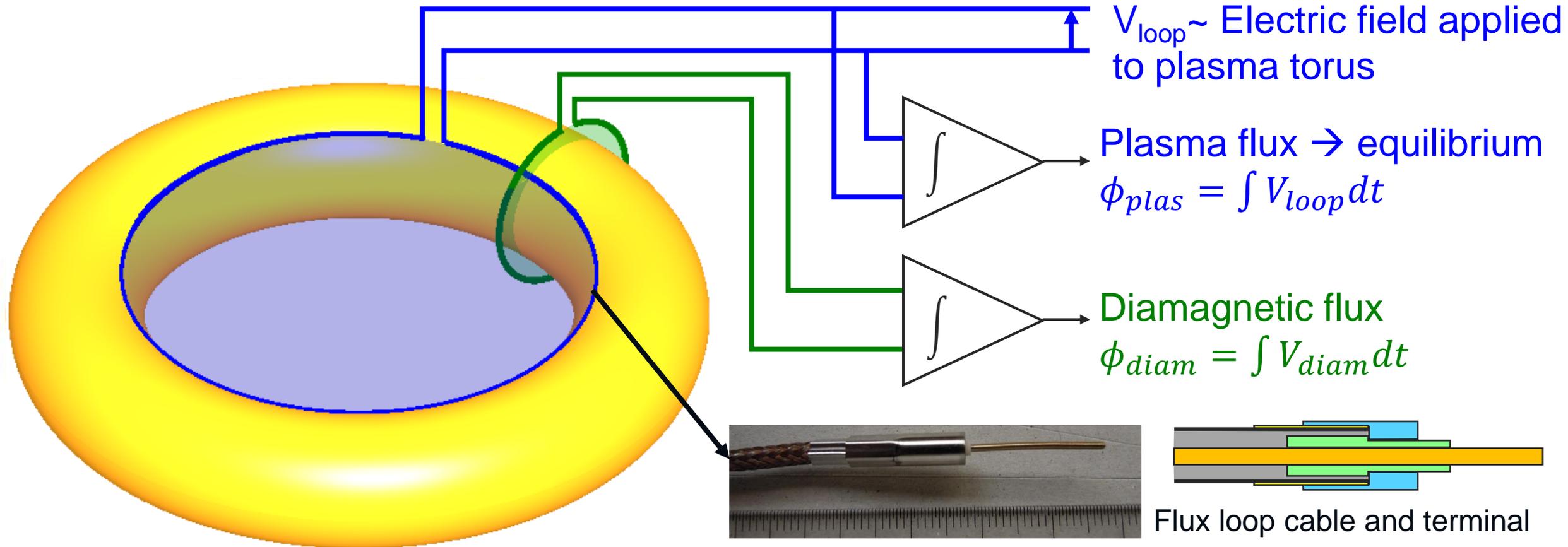
Current = weighted sum of B_{tang}
$$I_p = \sum_i \alpha_i B_{\text{tang}_i}$$



2.3 Loop voltage and flux measurements

Loop voltage and flux: Flux loop

- Applications: measure loop voltage, plasma flux and diamagnetic flux.
- Measurement principle: Voltage induced in a loop of cable (Faraday's law)





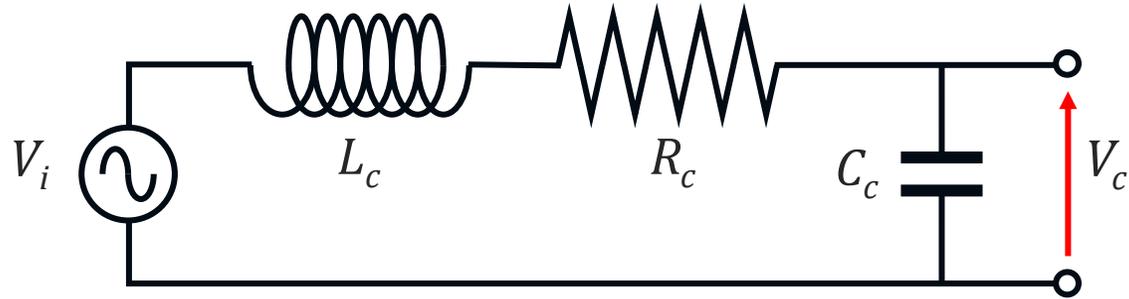
Fast fluctuations in the equilibrium magnetic field

2.4. → MHD Instabilities

HF \vec{B} measurement: Induction coils or mirnov coils

- Applications: HF magnetic field \rightarrow MHD

- Electric model of an induction coil



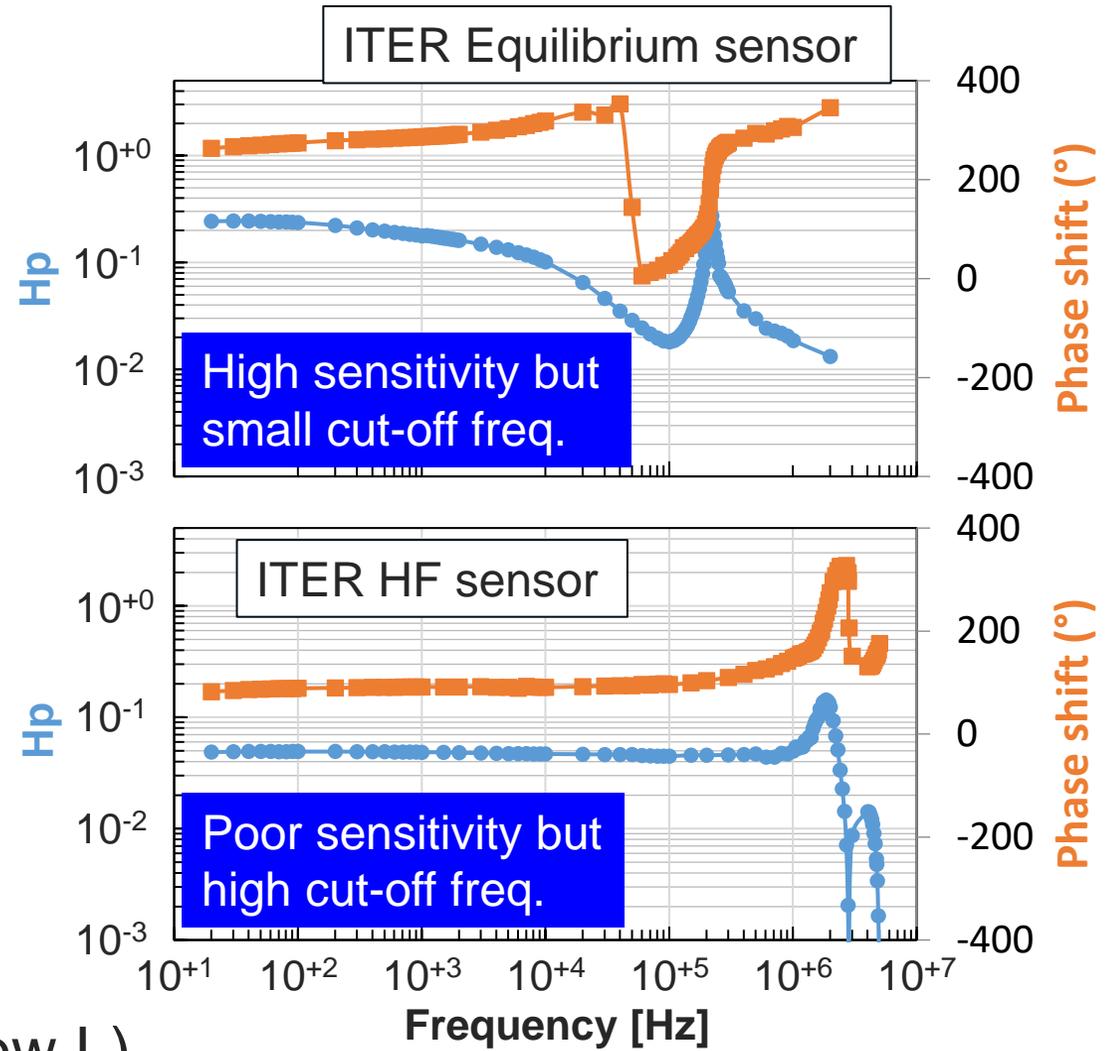
- Transfer function $H_p = \frac{V_c}{V_i}$ with $V_i = jS\omega B_{axis}$

$$H_p = \frac{S}{1 + j\omega\tau_c - \omega^2\tau_c\tau_p}$$

$$\tau_c = R_c C_c ; \quad \tau_p = \frac{L_c}{R_c}$$

$S =$ sensor effective area

- Frequency response is a trade off between sensitivity (eff. Area) and cut-off frequency (low L)

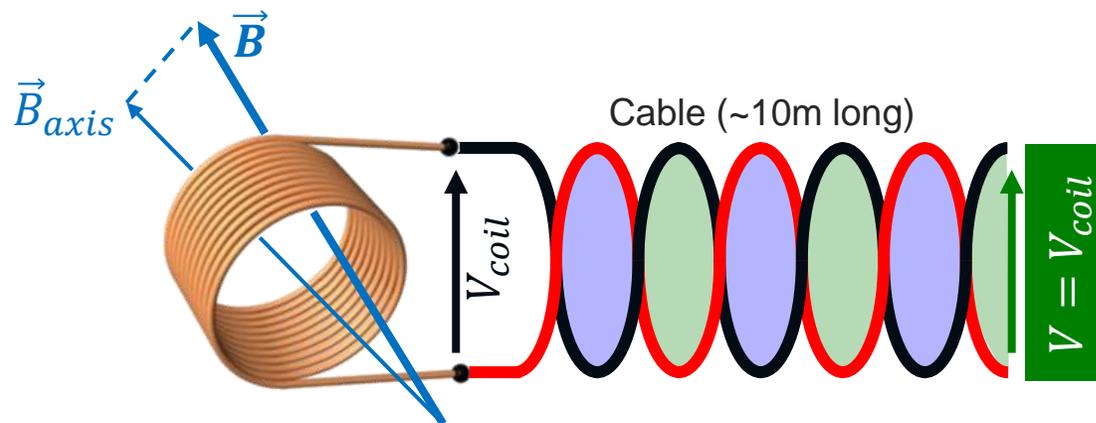
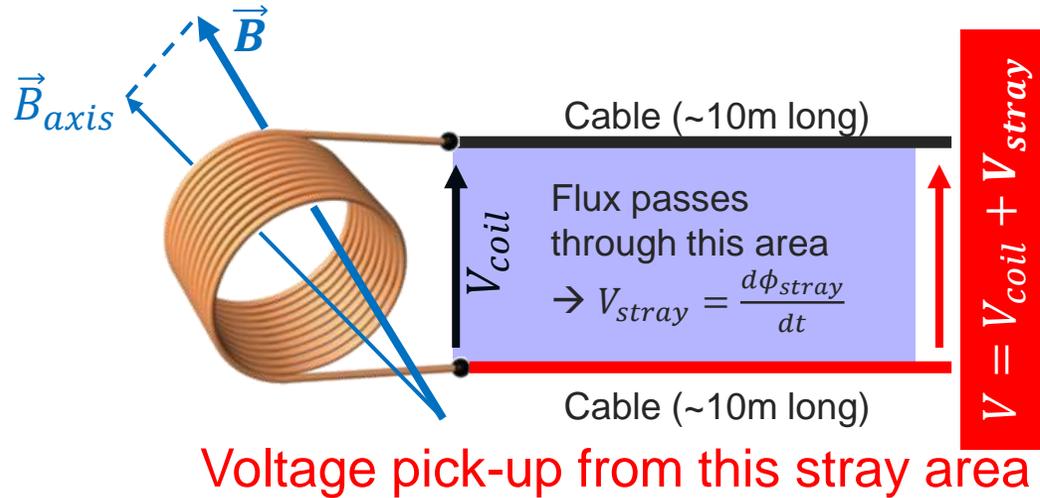




3 ■ **Few hints about cabling**

Sensor cabling

- Twisted pairs of cable mandatory

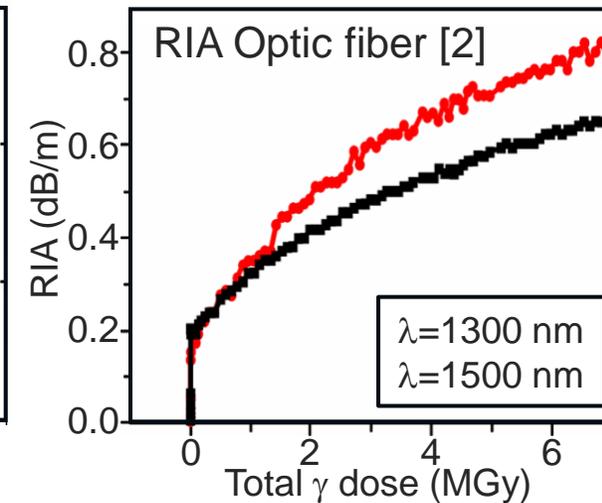
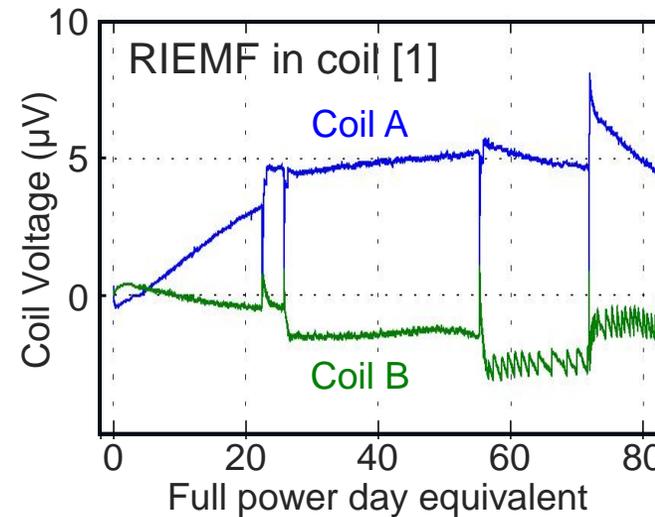


Twisted pair of cable → stray area cancellation

- Radiation hard cable and optic fiber

Wide type of effects induced by radiations:

- RIEMF: Radiation Induced Electro-Motive Force
- RIC: Radiation Induced Conductivity,
- TIEMF: Thermal Induced Electro-Motive Force
- RITES: Radiation induced Thermo-Electric Sensitivity, etc.
- RIA: Radiation Induced Absorption



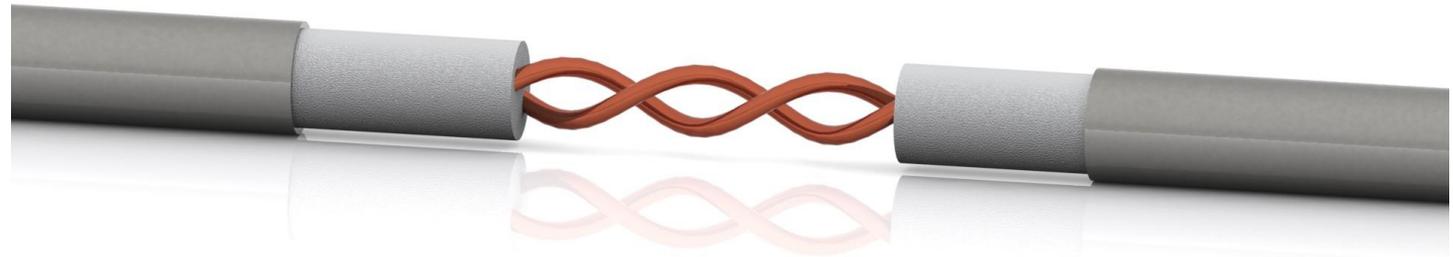
Spurious voltage $10\mu\text{V}$ leads to unacceptable error of 5% after 500s

[1] G. Vayakis et al. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1787580>

[2] B. Brichard, "Initial assessment of optical fibres as current sensors: gamma radiation effects", EFDA TW5-IRR CER-Deliverable 9

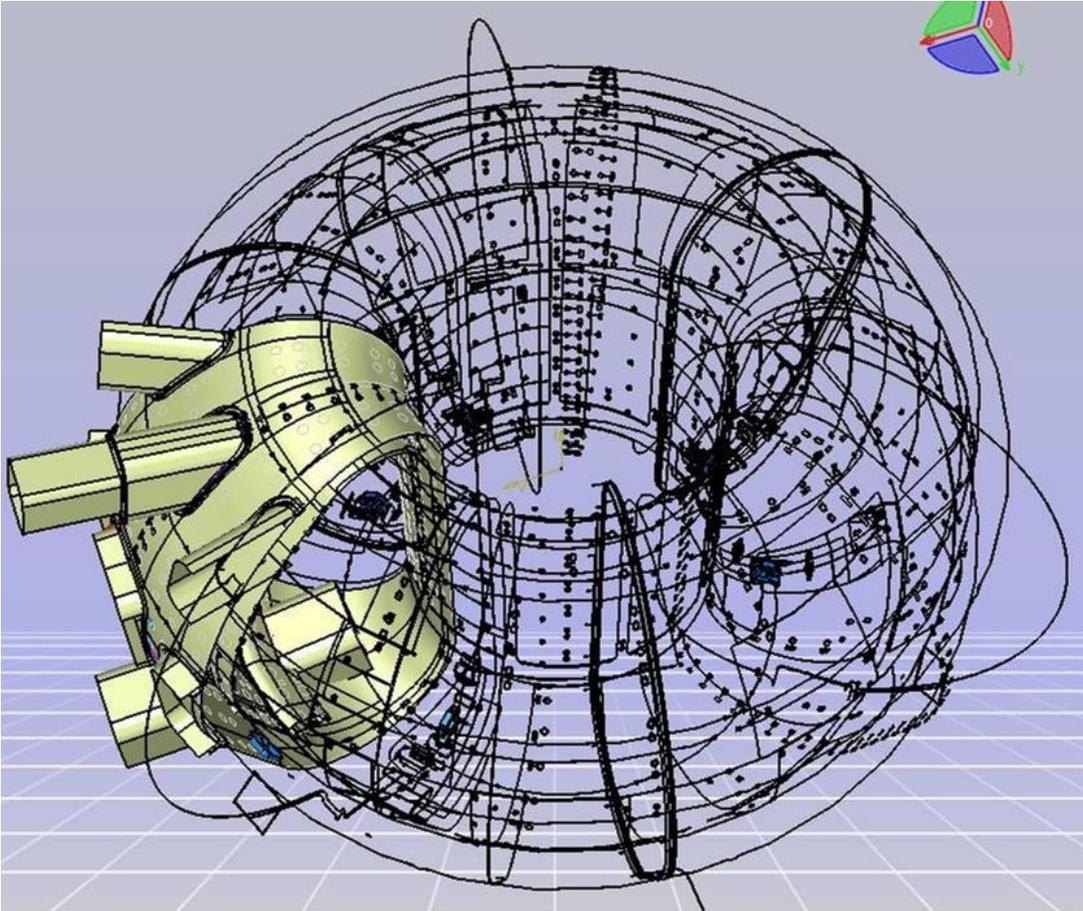
Sensor cabling

- The mineral insulated cables: twisted Cu cable + Stainless steel (or Cu) jacket. Electrical isolation done by inorganic



What ITER magnetic diagnostics look like?

- Mag. Diag. embedded in tokamak structure → No maintenance
- Radiation risk → additional sensor



Location	Radiation / Dose ($\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) / MGy		Type	Number
	n	γ		
In-vessel sensors: Behind blanket modules, fixed on VV inner skin	3. 10^{12} 500	10^{12} 340	Pick-up coils	186
			Rogowski (I_{halo})	360
			Flux loops	220
	10^{13} 1700	$3. \cdot 10^{12}$ 1000	HF coils	>300
Divertor	10^{13} 1700	$3. \cdot 10^{12}$ 1000	Pick-up coils	72
			Rogowski (I_{halo})	48
Ex-vessel sensors Fixed on VV outer skin	1.5 10^{10} 2.5	10^{10} 3.4	Pick-up coils	360
			Steady state sensors	120
			Flux loops	5
			Optic fibre	12
Inside TFC case (T=4K)	1. 10^{10} 1.7	$2. \cdot 10^9$ 0.7	Rogowski (I_p)	≥ 3

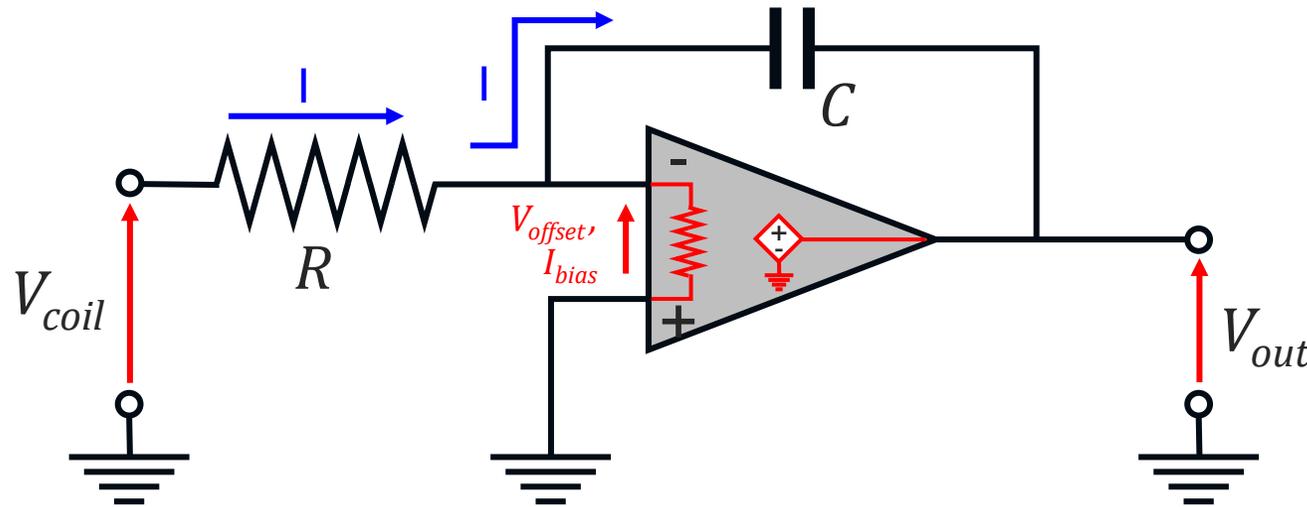
Total : ~ 2000 sensors, 19 types, >300km of cable



4 ■ Signal conditioning: Integrators

Electronic: Integration of inductive sensor signal

- Signal from inductive coil: $V_{coil} = -S \frac{\partial B_{axis}}{\partial t} \rightarrow B_{axis}$ obtained by integration of V_{coil} .
- The most simple active integrator circuit



$$V_{out}(t) = -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^t V_{coil} dt + Cste$$

$$V_{out}(t) = \frac{S}{RC} B_{axis}(t) + B_{axis}(t = 0)$$

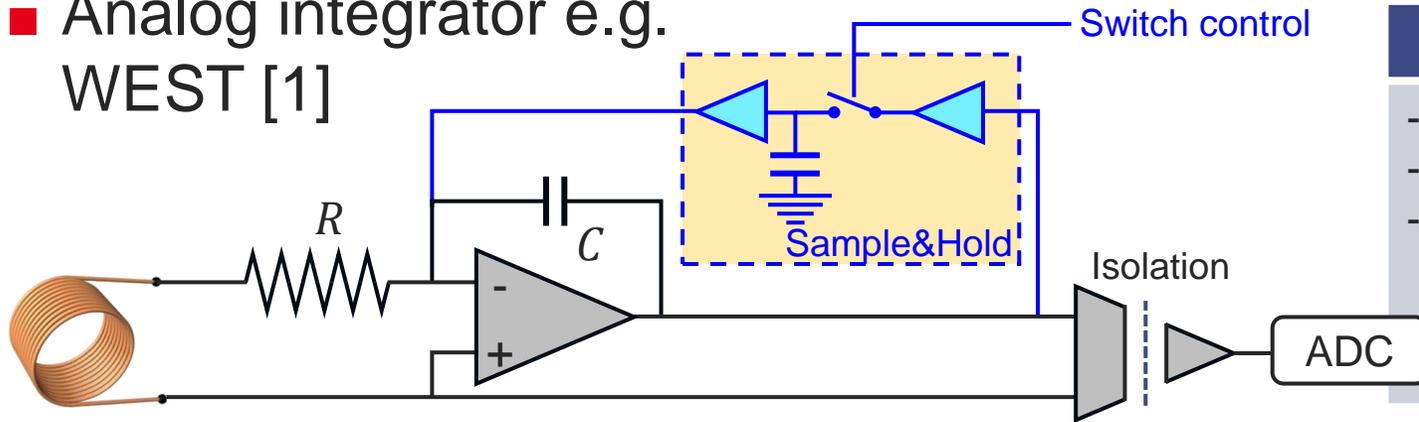
- Must measure high freq. (start-up, disruption, etc.) and low freq. (current plateau) !
- Neither operational amplifier nor capacitor are ideal (V_{offset} , I_{bias} , current leaking, etc.)
Spurious signal $\sim \mu V$ and $\sim nAmp$

Such simple integrator **DO NOT** work for fusion applications

Integrators: Key is to compensate from spurious signal

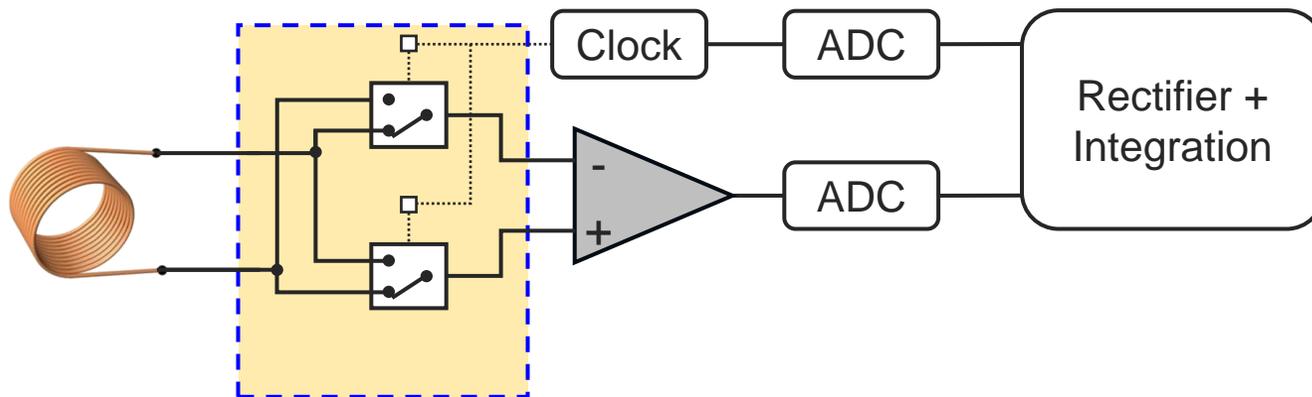
- Almost all tokamaks have made their own developments

- Analog integrator e.g. WEST [1]



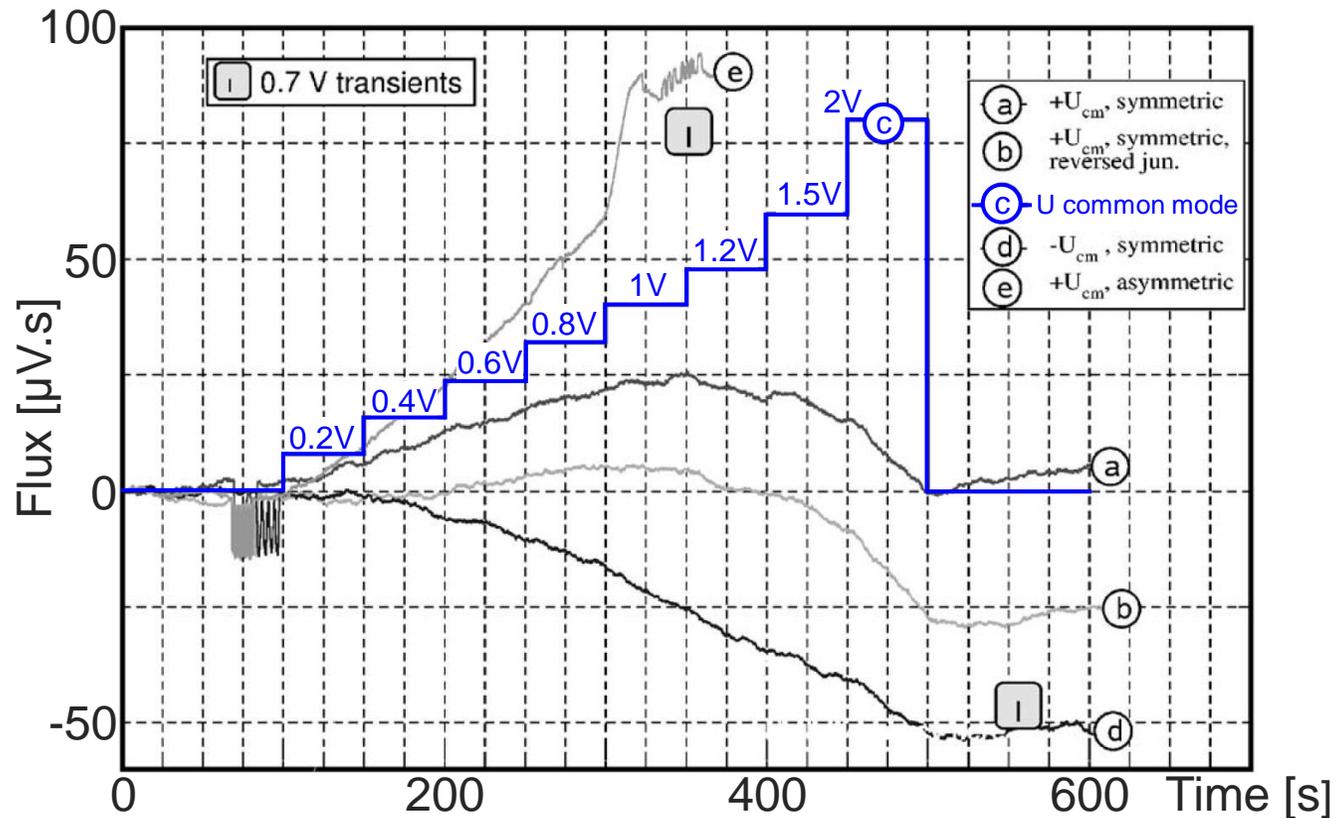
Advantage	Disadvantage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuous output signal - Robust, Cheap (300 €) - No further processing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dynamic range limited to output stage - Special care during assembly and circuit selection - Special care for tuning

- Digital chopper integrator e.g. W7-X [2], ITER [3]



Advantage	Disadvantage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latency of the signal - Better control of drift and common mode - High dynamic range (up to 1000 V) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation is more complex - More expensive (~1 k€) - Requires further processing to obtain the integrated signal

Which quantities to qualify the integrator performance?



- Drift (ITER spec < $400 \mu\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$)
- Voltage standing
- Time constant and linearity
- Pulse response (Slew rate)
- CMRR (Common Mode Rejection Ratio) ITER spec > 140 dB



5 ■ **Equilibrium reconstruction, Real-Time data processing**

[1] G. de Tommasi Magnetic equilibrium and instability control IIS 2022

The Grad-Shafranov equation

- Plasma equilibrium: force balance equation: $\vec{\nabla} p = \vec{j} \times \vec{B}$
Plasma kinetic pressure $\vec{\nabla} p$ Magnetic pressure $\vec{j} \times \vec{B}$
- $\Rightarrow \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla} p = 0$ and $\vec{j} \cdot \vec{\nabla} p = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{B}$ and \vec{j} are lying on isobaric surfaces
- Iso-B surfaces coincide with iso-flux surfaces: $\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi = 0$ ψ is poloidal flux function



- Grad-Shafranov equation:

$$\Delta^* \psi = -\mu_0 R^2 p'(\psi) - f(\psi) f'(\psi)$$

With: $\Delta^* = R \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial Z^2}$

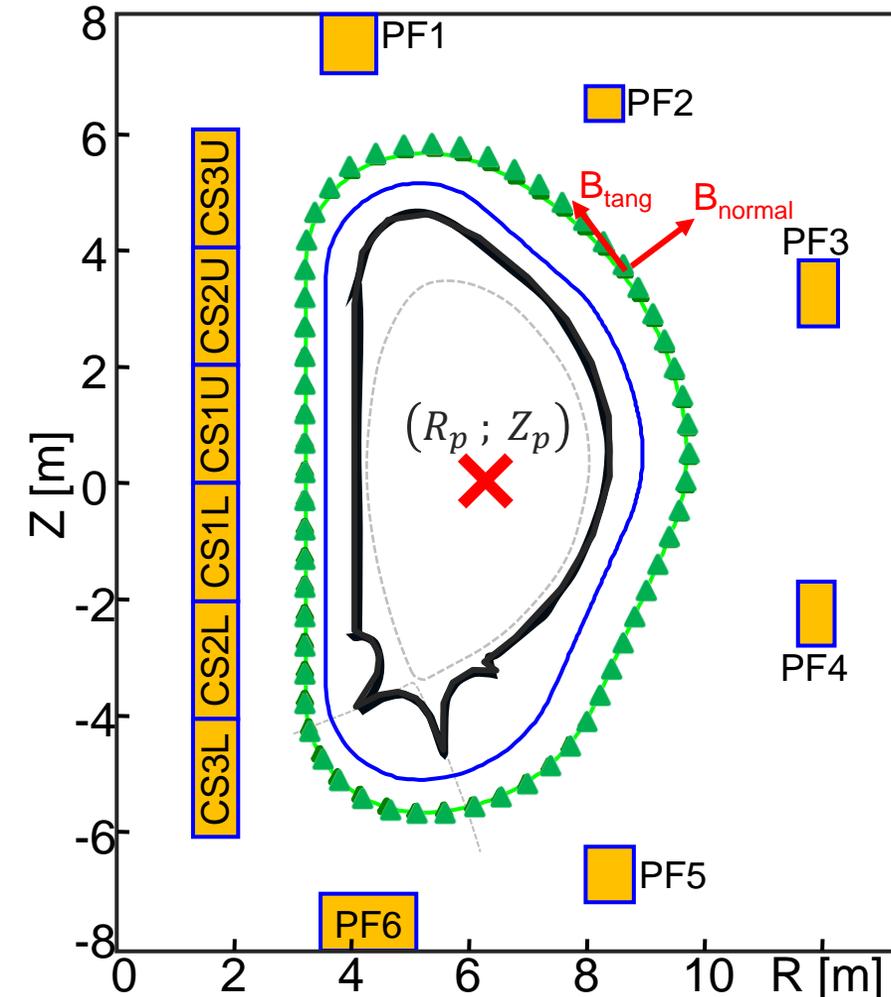
$f(\psi) = R B_\phi = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} I_{pol}(\psi)$ the poloidal current flux function ; $f'(\psi) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \psi}$

$p(\psi)$ Plasma kinetic pressure; $p'(\psi) = \frac{\partial p}{\partial \psi}$

- Link to magnetic diagnostics: ψ flux measured with flux loops; $\vec{B}_R = -\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial Z}$; $\vec{B}_Z = +\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial R}$

Basic measurements: Plasma current centroid

- Plasma geometric properties can be estimated from magnetic meas. outside plasma [1]



- Moment of the current distribution [1,2]

$$\iint f j_\phi dS = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint f B_{tang} + R g B_{norm} dl$$

f is a solution of Grad-Shafranov eq., g is the conjugate fct of f .

- Moment order 0: $I_p = \iint j_\phi dS = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint B_{tang} dl$

- Moment order 1:

$$Z_p I_p = \iint Z_p j_\phi dS = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint Z B_{tang} + R \log \left(\frac{R}{R_0} \right) B_{norm} dl$$

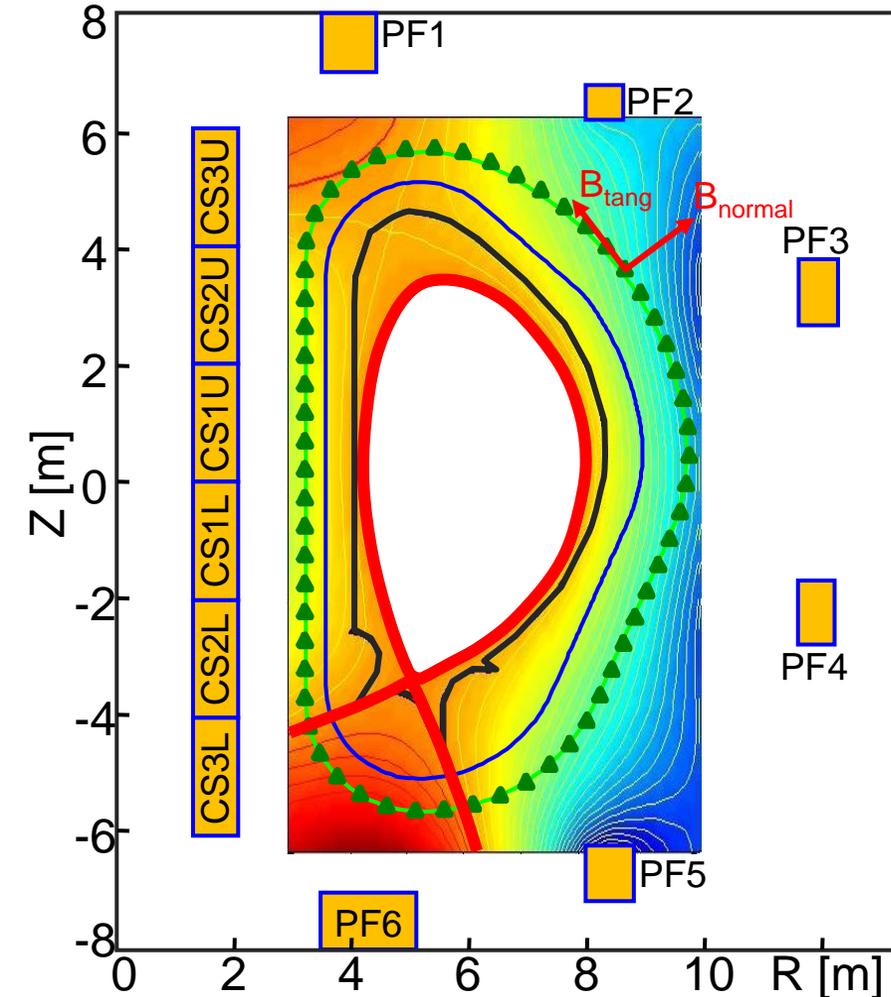
- Moment order 2:

$$R_p^2 I_p = \iint R_p^2 j_\phi dS = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint R^2 B_{tang} + 2 R Z B_{norm} dl$$

$(R; Z)$ = Sensor position; $(R_p; Z_p)$ = plasma position

Outside the plasma: the plasma boundary (1/2)

- Grad-Shafranov equation is written as: $\Delta^* \psi = 0$ ($p = 0$ and $I_{pol} = 0$)



- Principle of reconstruction:
 1. Approximate $\psi(R, Z)$ on the basis of measurements
 2. Determine ψ_{Bnd} at the plasma boundary (X-point if any)
 3. Determine plasma boundary (ψ_{Bnd} isoflux)
 4. Calculate main plasma parameters
- Main issue is item#1,
- Pb: solve: $\Delta^* \psi = 0$
inputs: magnetic diagnostics + PF/CS currents
output: flux map outside the plasma
- Not a unique solution \rightarrow ill posed problem

Outside the plasma: the plasma boundary (2/2)

- Grad-Shafranov equation is written as:

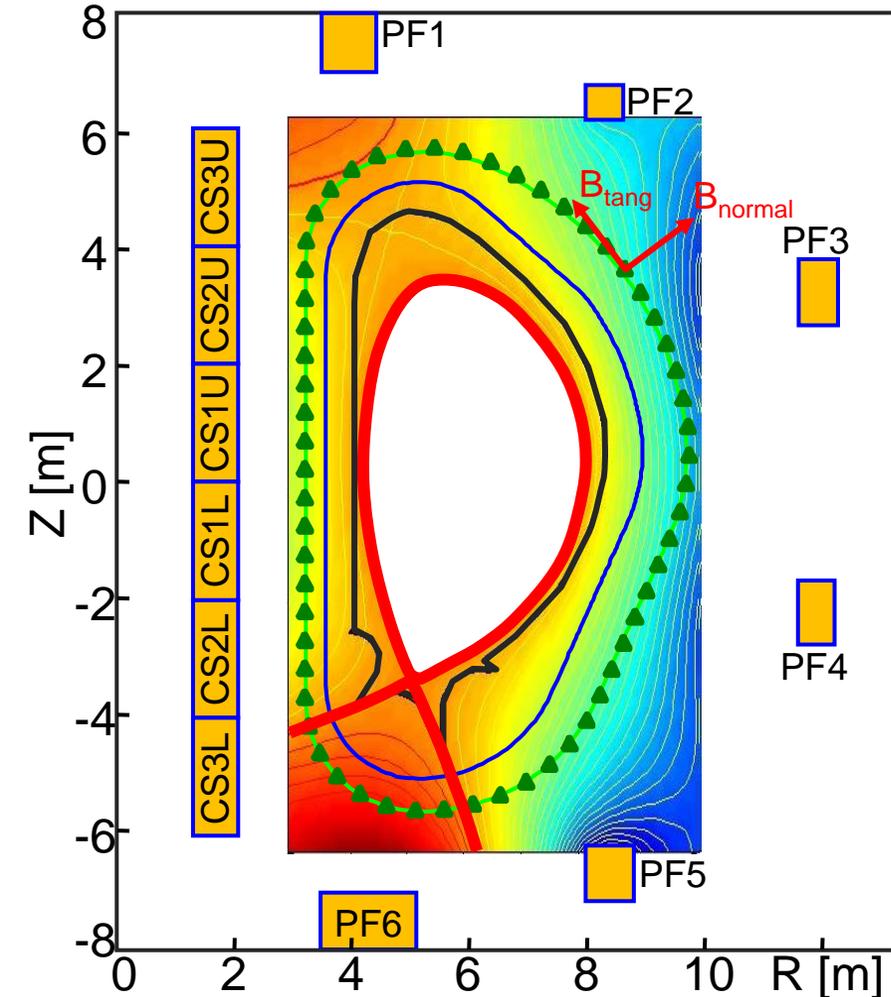
$$\Delta^* \psi = 0 \quad (p = 0 \text{ and } I_{pol} = 0)$$

- Develop ψ on eigenfunctions basis ψ_k : $\tilde{\psi} = \sum_{k=0}^m c_k \psi_k$

- Solve pb of type:
$$\begin{bmatrix} [\psi(R, Z)] \\ [\partial\psi/\partial Z] \\ [\partial\psi/\partial R] \end{bmatrix} [c_k] = \begin{bmatrix} [\psi_{meas}] \\ [B_R] \\ [B_Z] \end{bmatrix}$$

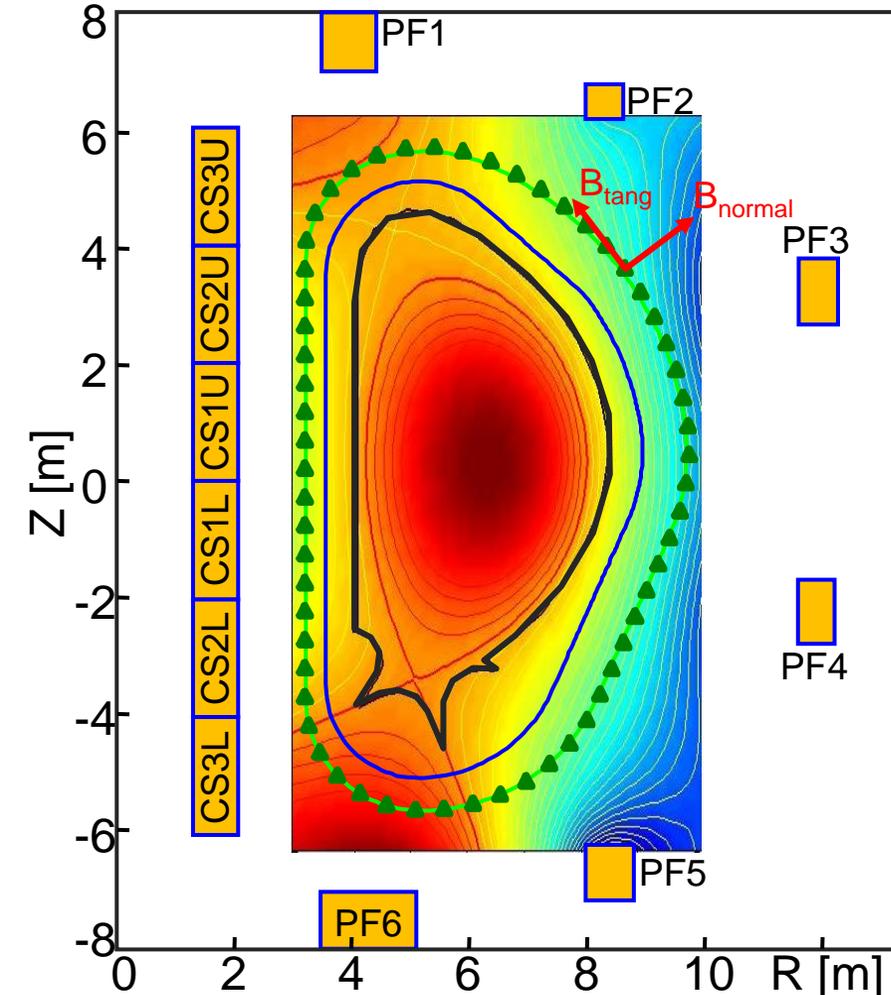
10-20 parameters to determine; ~100 measures
 → Least square solution

- Several eigenfunctions bases can be used
 - natural choice = toroidal harmonics
 - Filament method: consider a set of filament inside plasma + Green's functions. Solve similar matrix pb
 - Hermit spline, etc.
- Neural network methods exist (need training)
- Application: RT plasma control, time cycle ~1 ms



Outside/Inside the plasma: non homogeneous Grad-Shafranov equation

■ Grad-Shafranov equation is written as: $\Delta^* \psi = -\mu_0 R^2 p'(\psi) - f(\psi) f'(\psi)$



- Solve least square pb with additional constraints:
 - Current profile $\rightarrow f(\psi)$ function
 - Pressure profile $\rightarrow p(\psi)$ function
- Using only magnetic diagnostics inputs: $f(\psi)$ and $p(\psi)$ functions approximated by polynom (few parameters)
- Use additional inputs to constrain $f(\psi)$ and $p(\psi)$ profiles
 - e.g. MSE, polarimetry, etc. $\rightarrow f(\psi)$
 - e.g. Thomson Scattering, XICS, etc. $\rightarrow p(\psi)$
- Application: advanced RT control, time cycle 10-50 ms
- *Note: No need to have the full equilibrium to control the plasma pos&shape*

Plasma control: the role of magnetic diagnostics



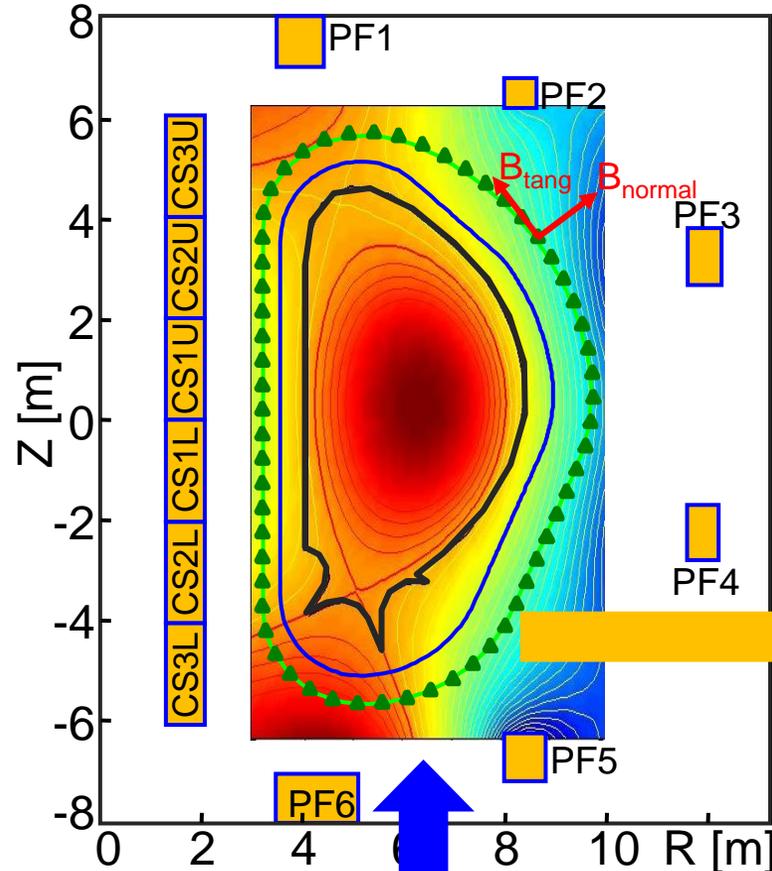
Reference
 $I_p; R_p; Z_p; R_{Xpt}; Z_{Xpt};$
plasma boundary; etc.

Plasma Control
PID or more advanced
controllers

Actuators
CS, PF coils, H&CD,
fueling

Data processing:
 $I_p; R_p; Z_p; R_{Xpt}; Z_{Xpt};$
plasma boundary; etc.
Solve $\Delta^* \psi$ equation

Magnetic diagnostics:
 $\psi; B_{norm}; B_{tang}$ outside
plasma



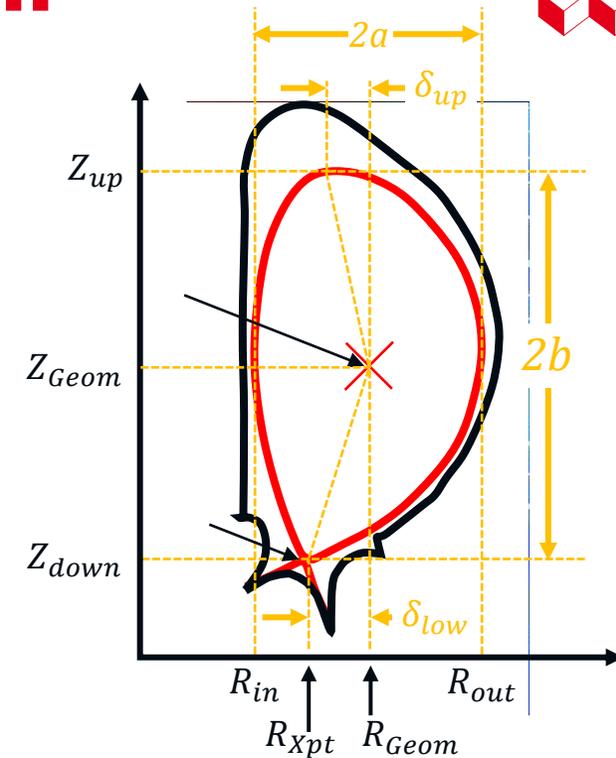
■ Full cycle: ~1 ms

Short list of basic information obtained with magnetic diagnostics

Plasma current and loop voltage: $I_p = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \oint B_{tang} dl$ $V_{loop} = \frac{\partial \psi_{plas}}{\partial t}$

Geometry

- Geom: $R_{Geom} = \frac{R_{in} + R_{out}}{2}$; $Z_{Geom} = \frac{Z_{up} + Z_{down}}{2}$; $a_p = \frac{R_{out} - R_{in}}{2}$; $A = \frac{R_{Geom}}{a_p}$
- elongation: $\kappa = b/a$ ■ triangularity: $\delta_{up} = b/a$
- Perimeter: $\Gamma = \sum dl_i = \sum (R_{i+1} - R_i)^2 + (Z_{i+1} - Z_i)^2$
- Surface: $S = 2\pi \sum (R_{i+1} - R_i)^2 dl_i / 2$ ■ Poloidal area: $A = \sum (Z_{i+1} - Z_i)(R_{i+1} + R_i) / 2$
- Volume: $V = 2\pi \langle R \rangle A$



and much more ...

- Shafranov parameters
 - $S_1 = \frac{1}{v B_{pa}^2} \iint_{\Gamma} B_{pol}^2 [(R - R_o) \vec{e}_R + Z \vec{e}_Z] \cdot \vec{n} dS$; $S_2 = \frac{1}{v B_{pa}^2} \iint_{\Gamma} B_{pol}^2 \langle R \rangle \vec{e}_R \cdot \vec{n} dS$; $S_3 = \frac{1}{v B_{pa}^2} \iint_{\Gamma} B_{pol}^2 \langle Z \rangle \vec{e}_Z \cdot \vec{n} dS$
 - $\beta + \frac{l_i}{2} = \frac{S_1}{2} + \frac{S_2}{2} \left(1 + \frac{R_{magAxis}}{\langle R \rangle}\right)$ ■ $l_i = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1} \left(S_1 + S_2 \left(1 - \frac{R_{magAxis}}{\langle R \rangle}\right) - 2S_3\right)$; $\alpha = 2 \iint_{\Gamma} (\overline{B_{pol}} \cdot \vec{e}_z)^2 dS / \iint_{\Gamma} B_{pol}^2 dS$
- Diamagnetic parameters
 - $\mu = \frac{8\pi B_{\phi 0}}{\mu_0^2 I_p^2} \Delta\phi_{diam}$; $\beta_p = 1 - \mu$; $\beta_{dia} = S_1 + \left(1 - \frac{R_{magAxis}}{\langle R \rangle}\right) S_2 + \mu$; $W_{dia} = \frac{3}{8} \mu_0 \langle R \rangle I_p^2 \beta_{dia}$; etc.

Basic principle of low freq. MHD modes identification

- Signal on a MHD sensor:

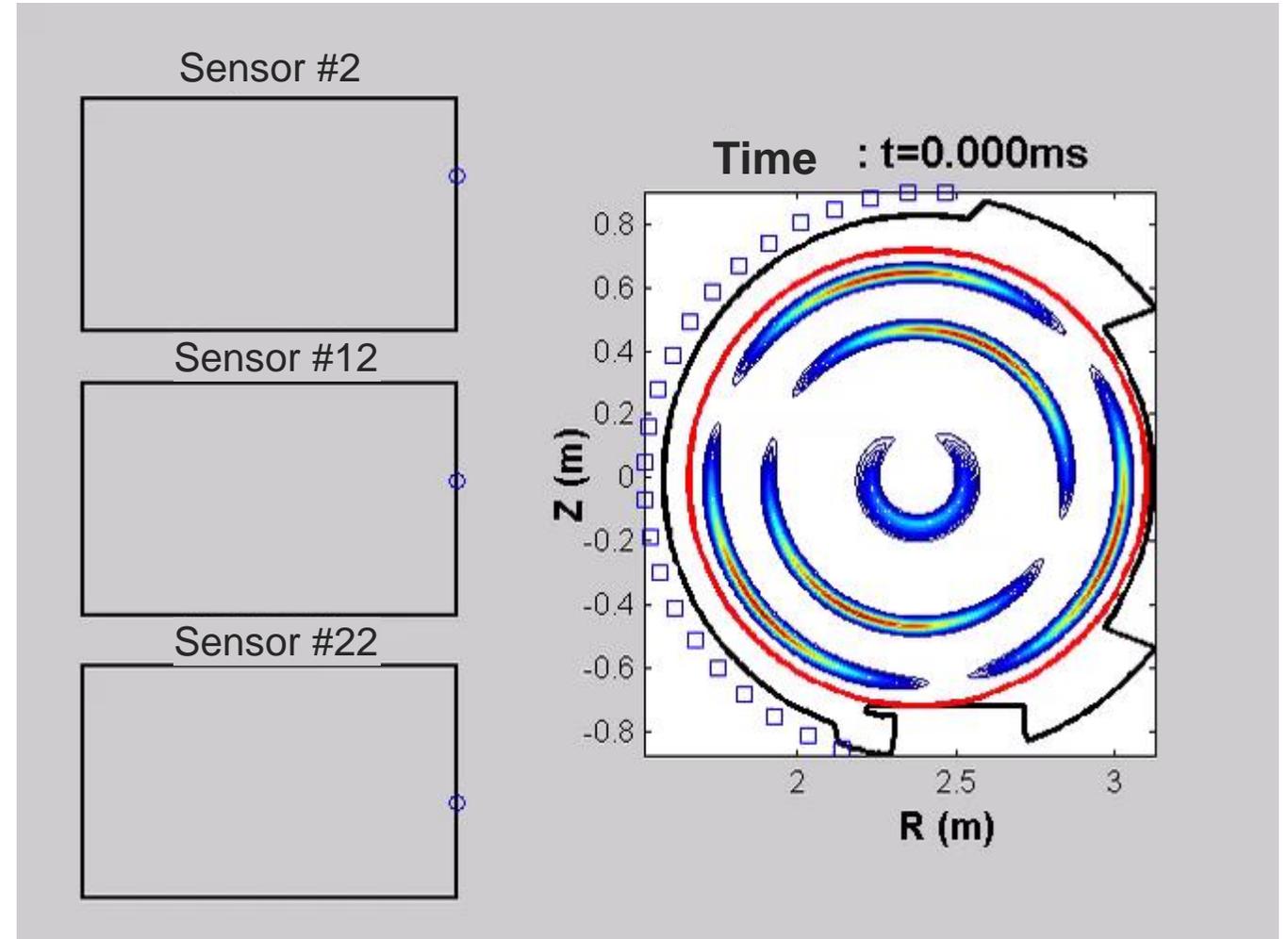
$$S_{MHD} = \sum_{m,n} A_{m,n} \exp[j(\omega_{m,n}t + m\theta + n\varphi)]$$

- Phase shift between sensors

$$\delta\phi_{sensor} = n\varphi + m\theta'$$

$$\theta' = \theta + \lambda \sin(\theta) \quad \lambda = \frac{R_p}{a_p} + \frac{D_0}{2 a_p}$$

- Identify m and n using several MHD sensors



Basic principle of low freq. MHD modes identification

- Signal on a MHD sensor:

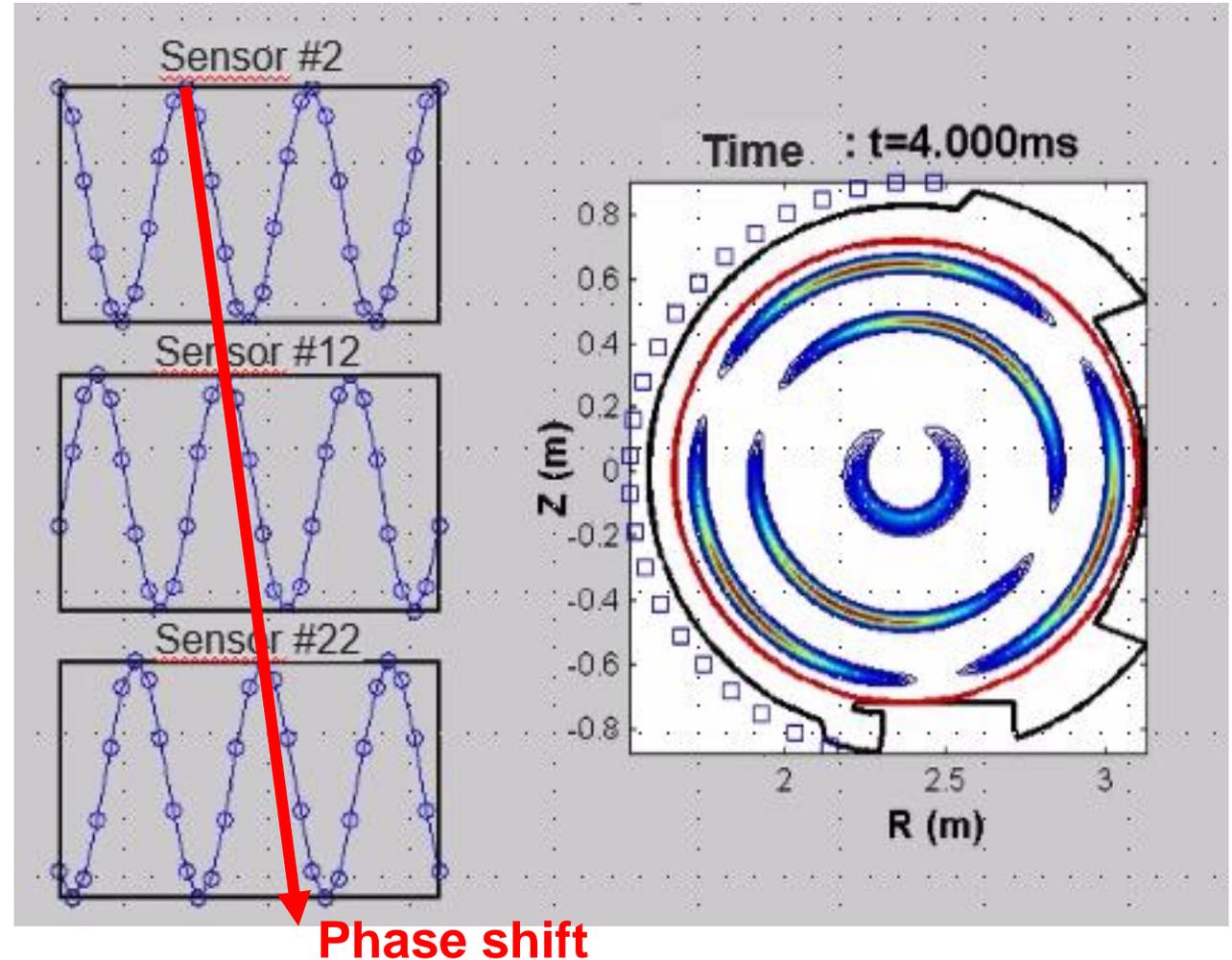
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- Phase shift between sensors

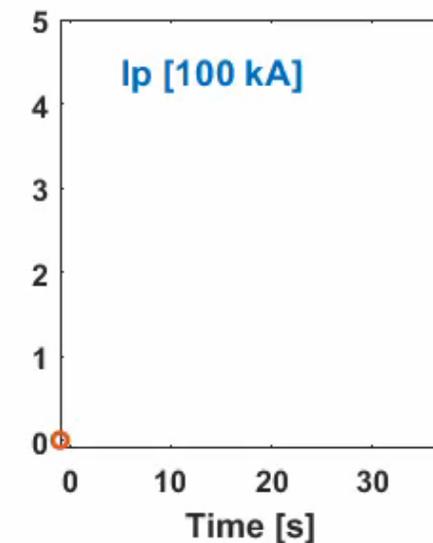
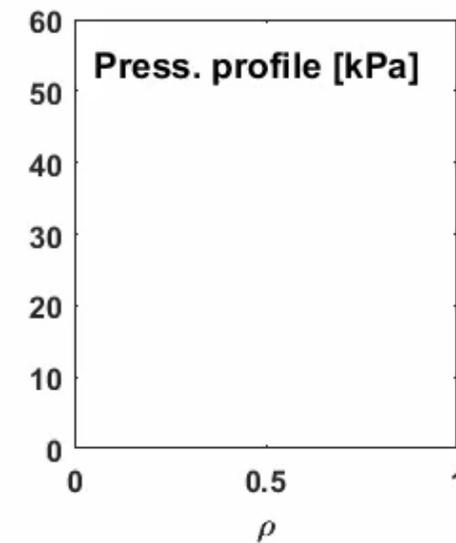
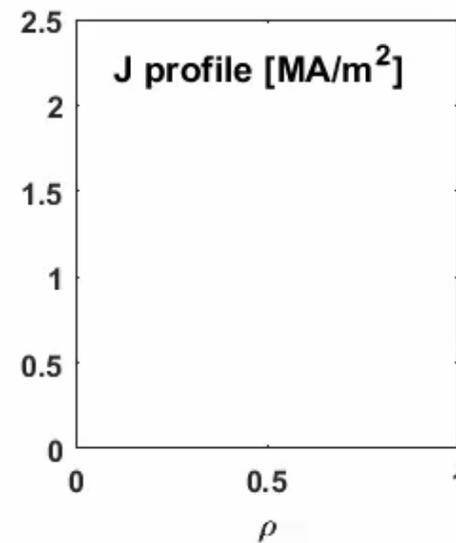
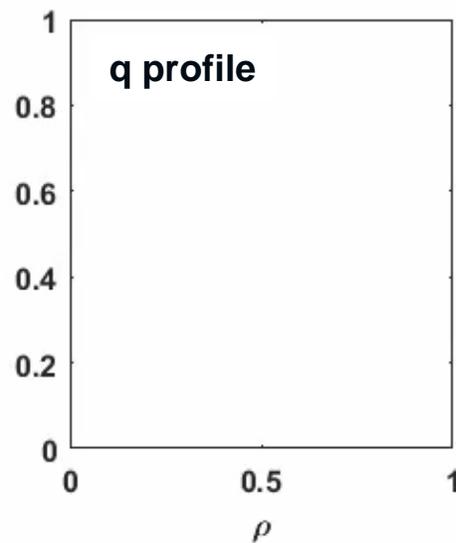
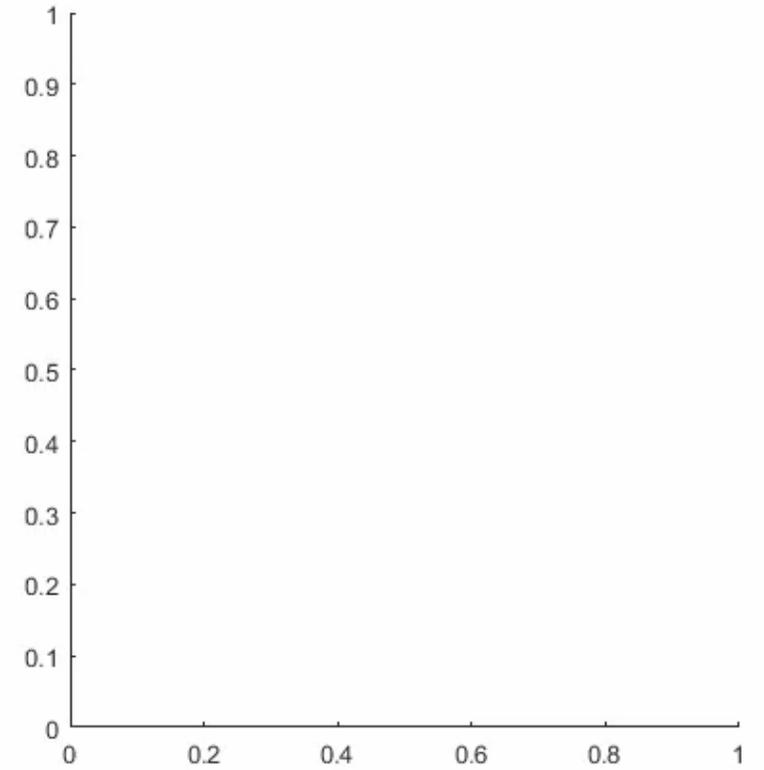
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- Identify m and n using several MHD sensors

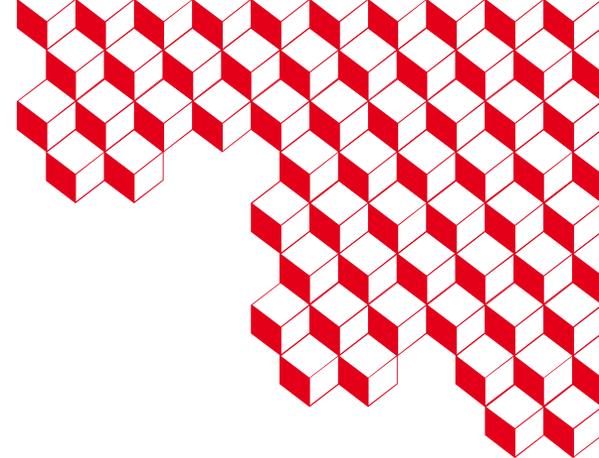


Example of plasma discharge





irfm



Thank you for your attention



philippe.jacques.moreau@cea.fr



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