Abstract Submitted for the DPP05 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Error Fields and Locked Modes in NSTX JONG-KYU PARK, JONATHAN MENARD, RUSSELL FEDER, GEORGE LABIK, CHRISTIANE LUDESCHER, AARON SONTAG, CHRISTINA TCHEYAN, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, NSTX TEAM — The full set of six mid-plane external error field and RWM control coils has now been installed and utilized on NSTX. Locked-mode threshold experiments performed with these coils imply that a 1-2 Gauss resonant 2/1 intrinsic error field is present in NSTX. The in-vessel B_R sensor array and direct measurements of PF coil shapes indicate the presence of an effective shift of the lower primary vertical field coil (PF5) relative to the nominal machine centerline. The error field magnitude predicted by this shifted PF5 model is consistent with the results from locked-mode experiments, but the toroidal phase angle differs by as much as 60 degrees. Thus far, the 2/1 resonant error field threshold for mode locking has been measured as a function of plasma density in NSTX, and locking as a function of q, B_T , and elongation in LSN will be investigated in the near term. These studies will allow comparison to the threshold scaling derived from higher aspect ratio experiments. Plans for error field studies extended to higher- β plasmas will also be discussed. Simultaneously, magnetic field characteristics of external error field coils are investigated in the context of how a desired and pure (n=1, 3) compensating field can be produced. This preliminary study will continue on more efficient pre-programmed and dynamic control of error fields in NSTX.

> Jong-kyu Park Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory

Date submitted: 22 Jul 2005

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