

Abstract Submitted  
for the DPP13 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**A Possible Connection of Plasma Response to RMP ELM Suppression in DIII-D**<sup>1</sup> A. WINGEN, M.W. SHAFER, E.A. UNTERBERG, D.L. HILLIS, ORNL, N.M. FERRARO, T.E. EVANS, P.B. SNYDER, GA — A hypothesis of a possible relation between the so-called kink-response, a flux surface oscillation which is driven by amplification of non-resonant components of the resonant magnetic perturbation (RMP) spectrum, and the re-appearance of edge localized modes (ELMs) in the presence of RMPs is presented. Several DIII-D discharges with different responses show that those with stronger kink-response are closer to the peeling-ballooning stability limit and eventually cross into the unstable region, causing ELMs to re-appear. Simulations of the magnetic topology for all cases are compared. The topology consists of a kinetic equilibrium reconstruction, the RMP fields and a linear plasma response, calculated by resistive, 2-fluid MHD. It is found that the kink response is correlated to the edge current density while screening/amplification of resonant field components is related to flows. A transition from a tearing dominated edge to a kink dominated edge is demonstrated. A kink dominated discharge with intermittent ELMs is found to be marginally unstable in an ELITE simulation while ELM suppressed, tearing dominated discharges are inside the stability limit.

<sup>1</sup>Work supported by the US Department of Energy under DE-AC05-00OR22725, DE-FC02-04ER54698, and DE-FG02-95ER54309.

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Date submitted: 12 Jul 2013

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