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Spatially-dependent simulation of runaway electron mitigation experiments on DIII-D¹ MATTHEW BEIDLER, Oak Ridge National Lab

New simulations with the Kinetic Orbit Runaway electron (RE) Code KORC [1] show RE deconfinement losses to the wall are the primary current dissipation mechanism in DIII-D experiments with high-Z impurity injection, and not collisional slowing down. The majority of simulations also exhibit an increase in the RE beam energy due to acceleration by the induced toroidal electric field, even while the RE beam current is decreasing. These findings corroborate recent experimental observations investigating the use of high-Z impurity injection to mitigate post-disruption, RE beams on ITER. KORC incorporates time-sequenced, experimental reconstructions of the magnetic and electric fields, and line integrated electron density to construct spatiotemporal models of electron and partially-ionized impurity transport in the companion plasma. Simulation results indicate current profile changes due to increased pitch angle scattering of REs by injected impurities lower the rotational transform and lead to the deconfinement of REs. Comparisons of experimental current evolution and KORC results demonstrate the importance of including Coulomb collisions with partially-ionized impurity transport. This research provides an initial quantification of the efficacy of RE mitigation via injected impurities, and identification of the critical role played by loss of confinement as compared to the relatively slow collisional damping. [1] Carbajal et al., *Phys. Plasmas* 24, 042512 (2017)

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