

A review of Machine Learning-driven tearing studies for disruption prediction

Recent advancements [1] have demonstrated the efficacy of machine learning (ML) techniques in predicting and controlling tearing modes – magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) instabilities that can degrade plasma confinement and lead to disruptions – in tokamak plasmas. These studies leverage extensive experimental data and sophisticated ML algorithms to enhance plasma stability and performance. Additionally, the threat of tearing modes has driven for years research under the International Tokamak Physics Activity (ITPA) MDC-22 topic, aiming at designing a successful trigger for ITER's disruption mitigation system [2, 3]. In this contribution, we present the ongoing challenge and summarize the latest achievements for identifying the path to stable operations in ITER and beyond. Results presented will include both experimental analysis [4-8] investigating the role of differential rotation and of current profile evolution, and modeling of linear and nonlinear trends [9,10], to inform how to maximise passive resistance to island formation for reactor relevant scenarios.

References:

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- [9] S Benjamin *et al* 2024 *Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion* **66** 075016 doi:[10.1088/1361-6587/ad4e68](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6587/ad4e68)
- [10] S Benjamin *et al* 2025, manuscript in preparation

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I have asked Andy Rothstein if his recent work 'Preemptive tearing mode suppression using real-time ECH steering machine learning stability predictions on DIII-D' has been published

Notes:

- <https://ecmrp2.sciencesconf.org/?lang=en>
- pubblico teorico, che ha però molto interesse anche nei dati sperimentali, invitation based on:
 - <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-6587/ad4e68/pdf>
Macroscopic trends of linear tearing stability in cylindrical current profiles
S Benjamin^{3,1}, C Clauser¹, C Rea¹, R Sweeney², A Kumar¹ and E Marmar¹
2024 PPCF
 - <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1741-4326/ad7787>
The root cause of disruptive NTMs and paths to stable operation in DIII-D ITER baseline scenario plasmas
L. Bardoczi^{1,2,*}, N.J. Richner³, N.C. Logan^{4,5}, E.J. Strait¹, C.T. Holcomb⁴, J. Zhu⁶ and C. Rea⁶ 2024 *Nucl. Fusion*
 - <https://pubs.aip.org/aip/pop/article/30/9/092505/2909948/Empirical-probability-and-machine-learning>
Empirical probability and machine learning analysis of m, n=2, 1 tearing mode onset parameter dependence in DIII-D H-mode scenarios
L. Bardóczi; N. J. Richner; J. Zhu; C. Rea; N. C. Logan 2023 *Phys. Plasmas*
 - <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1741-4326/ab15de>
Progress in disruption prevention for ITER
E.J. Strait¹, J.L. Barr¹, M. Baruzzo², J.W. Berkery³, R.J. Buttery¹, P.C. de Vries⁴, N.W. Eidietis¹, R.S. Granetz⁵, J.M. Hanson³, C.T. Holcomb⁶, D.A. Humphreys¹, J.H. Kim⁷, E. Kolemen⁸, M. Kong⁹, M.J. Lanctot^{17,1}, M. Lehnens⁴, E. Lerche^{10,11}, N.C. Logan⁸, M. Maraschek¹², M. Okabayashi⁸, J.K. Park⁸, A. Pau¹³, G. Pautasso¹², F.M. Poli⁸, C. Rea⁵, S.A. Sabbagh³, O. Sauter⁹, E. Schuster¹⁴, U.A. Sheikh⁹, C. Sozzi¹⁵, F. Turco³, A.D. Turnbull¹, Z.R. Wang⁸, W.P. Wehner¹⁴ and L. Zeng¹⁶
2019 *Nucl. Fusion*