

USTC SNST 2015 Autumn Semester Lecture Series

Title: Introduction to Research and Development in Tokamak Fusion  
Energy Science and Technology

Room 1617, 930-1130, Saturday November 21, 2015

L4: Frontline: Scrape-Off-Layer (SOL) Divertor Plasma Material  
Interaction (PMI)

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Class assistant: 徐国梁

Webpage assistant: 王伸吉

# Class Dates and Plans for This Special Lecture Series

1. To work around national holidays *and USTC activities?*

Please raise hands to confirm dates!

- ✓ 1) 09/12: Philosophy and approach of these lectures
- ✓ 2) 09/19: Where fusion plasma meets the material world
- ✓ 3) 10/17: Where fusion plasma meets the material world, **cont.**
- ✓ 4) 10/24: H-mode plasma pedestal – behind the “frontline”
- ✓ 5) 11/21: Frontline: the interface of SOL and Divertor target
- 6) 11/28: 2nd-line: neutron irradiation on the materials
- 7) 12/12: 2nd-line: neutron irradiation on the materials, cont.
- 8) 12/19: 3rd-line: tritium, tritium, everywhere
- 9) 01/09: 3rd-line: tritium, tritium, not here
- 10) 01/23: Semester conclusion, discussion, and feedback

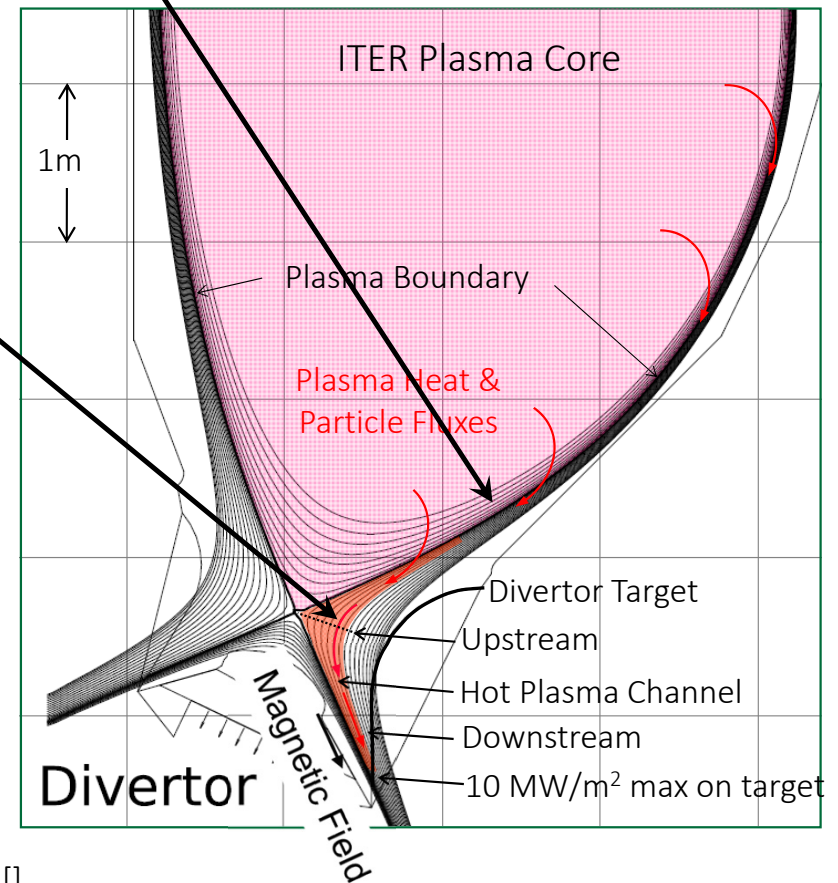
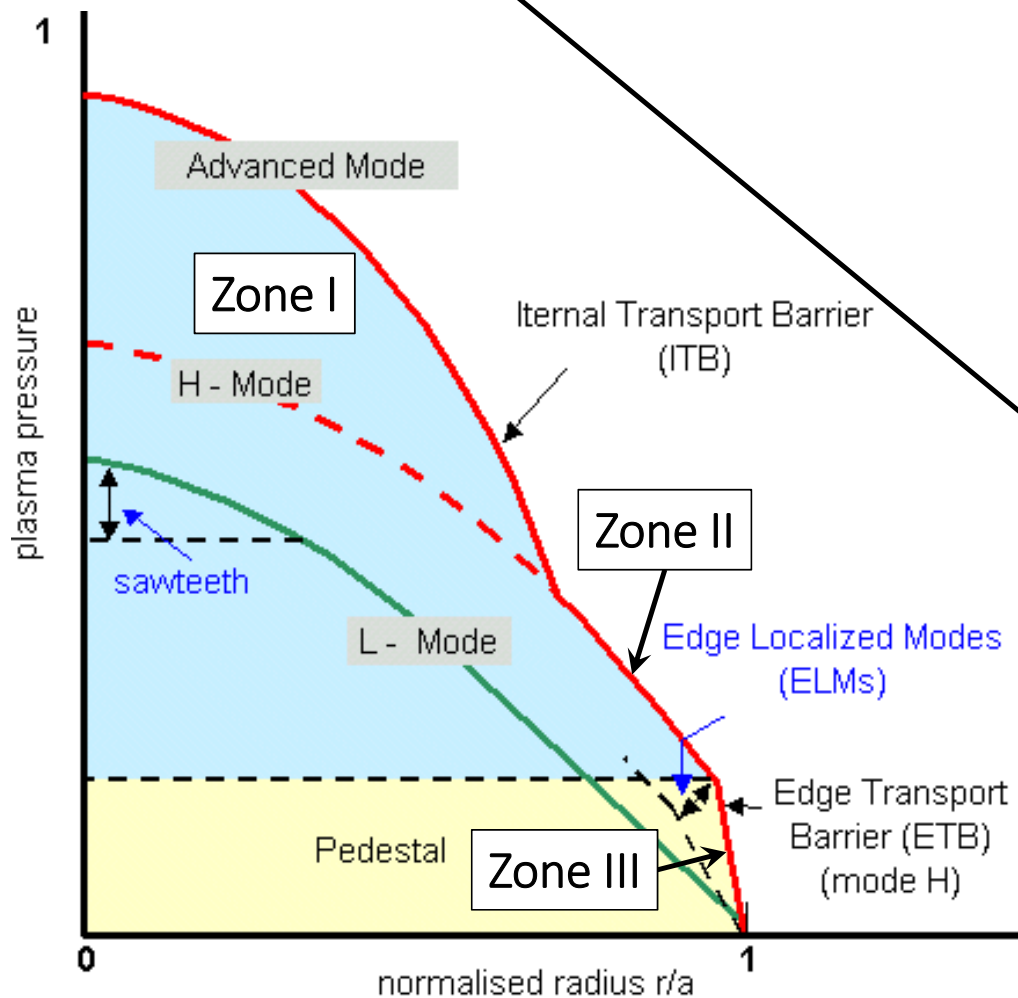
# Divertor PMI R&D Has Focused on Weakening the SOL Plasma Fluxes

- Tokamak divertor concentrates plasma SOL fluxes on reduced target area
- Pedestal and SOL plasma dynamics spread the fluxes to larger areas, but in strong bursts, which can potentially damage the W divertor in ITER
- Techniques are in R&D to disperse these fluxes, with side effects
  - Inject impurity gas into the divertor plasma to radiate heat
  - Mix up the edge magnetic field to spread the fluxes further
  - Spread out the SOL magnetic field lines
- Further, plasma interactions with W surface cause persistent erosion and alterations in nanoscales
- **Philosophy for survival of both SOL and divertor?** Make one side so strong that the other can behave freely. **Which side to strengthen?**

Opportunities abound in R&D to make fusion energy available.

# Reminder: fusion H-Mode plasma model contains four zones

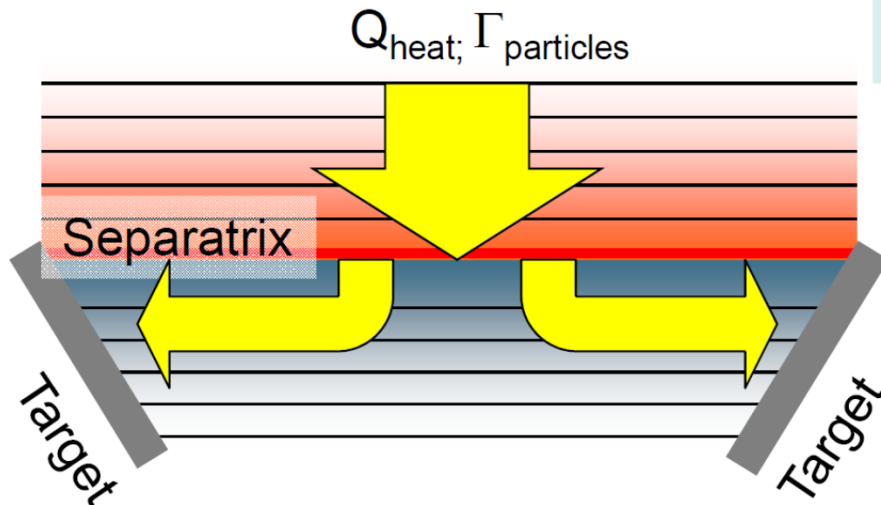
- Zone I: Internal transport barrier
- Zone II: normal transport layer
- Zone III: edge transport barrier “pedestal” (behind the “frontline”)
- The Scrape-Off Layer (SOL) bridges to the PFC (“frontline”)





# Effects of edge transport and magnetic topology on the PWI

## A simplified model for Calculation of Deposition Width



Closed Flux Surfaces region

Radial Transport into SOL  $D_{\perp}, \chi_{\perp}$

Open field line region SOL

Parallel Heat  $q_{\parallel}$  and Particle  $\Gamma_{\parallel}$  Fluxes to Target

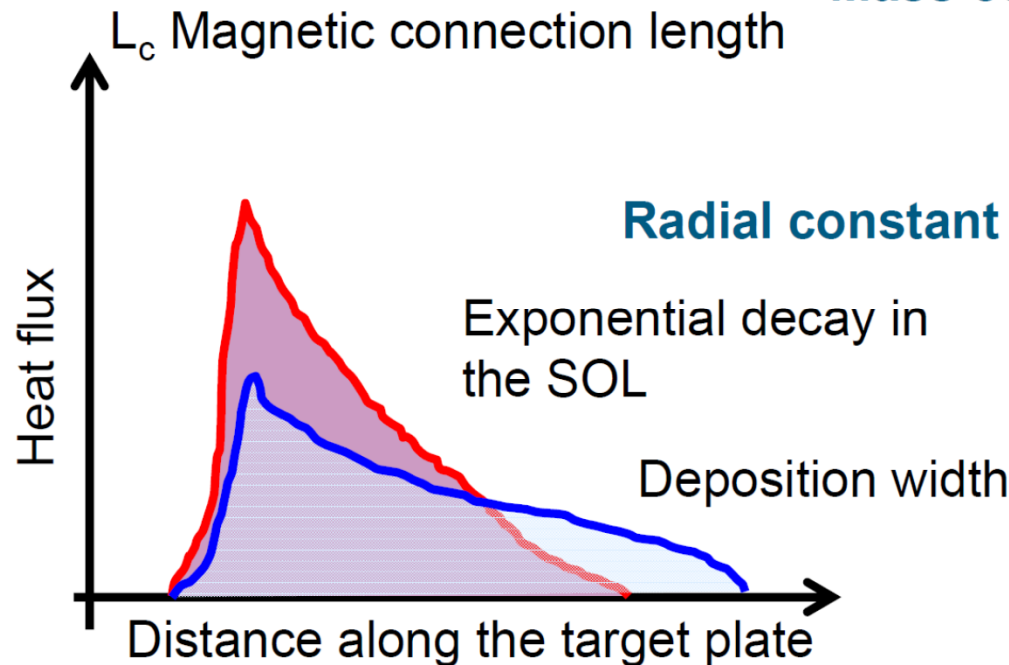
Mass conservation in open field line region:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} D_{\perp} \frac{\partial n}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (n v_{\parallel})$$

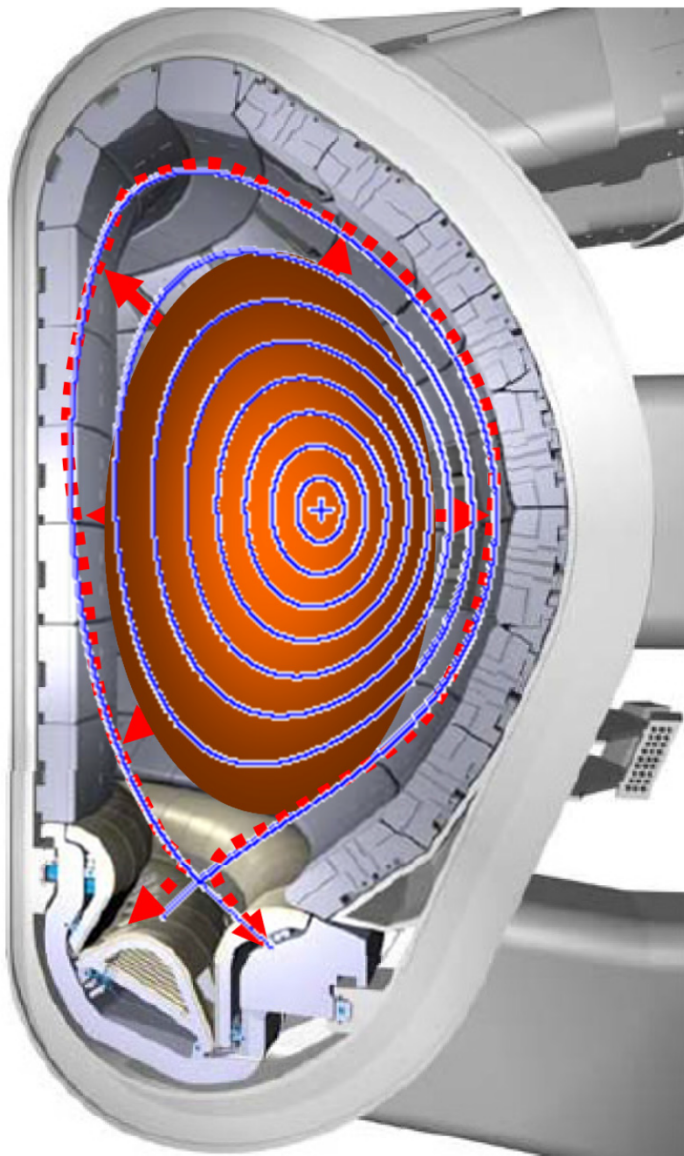
Radial constant diffusion, parallel flow with  $n/\tau_{\parallel}$

$$n(x) = n(0) \exp(-x/\sqrt{D_{\perp} \tau_{\parallel}})$$

$$\lambda = \sqrt{D_{\perp} \tau_{\parallel}} \quad \lambda = \sqrt{\frac{D_{\perp} L}{0.5 c_s}}$$

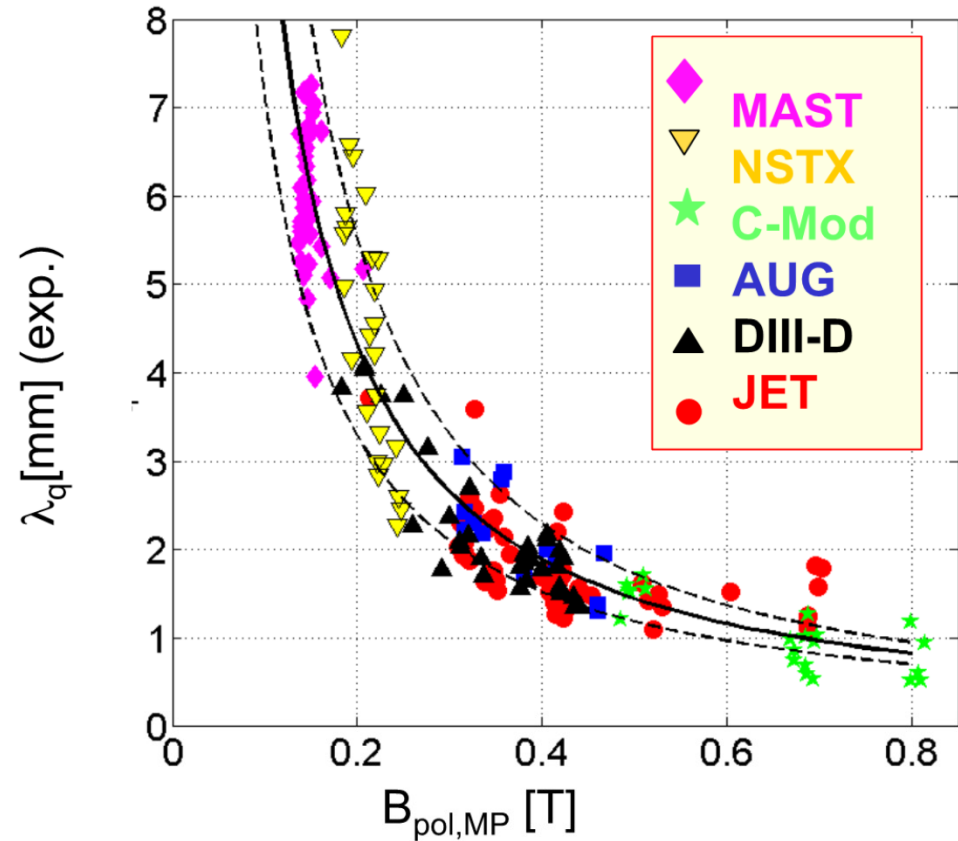


# Divertor SOL concentrates plasma fluxes on target



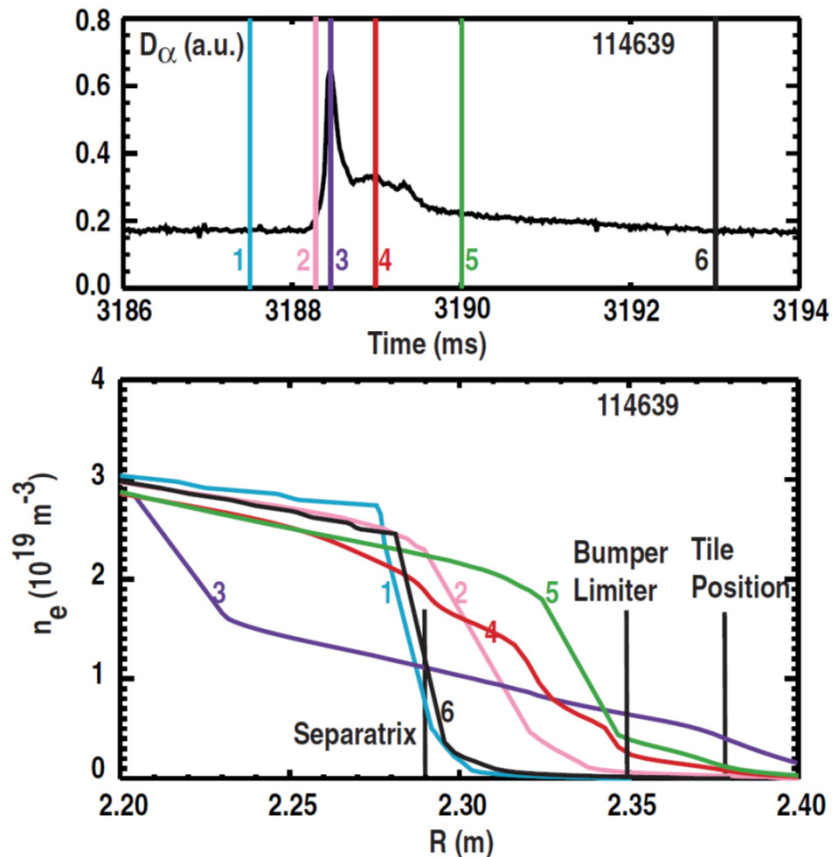
## Parallel Heat $q_{||}$ and Particle $\Gamma_{||}$ Fluxes to Target

*T. Eich et al. PRL 107 2011*



$q_{||,u} \sim 1.8 \text{ GW/m}^2$  (ITER),  $\sim x5$  larger in a Demo

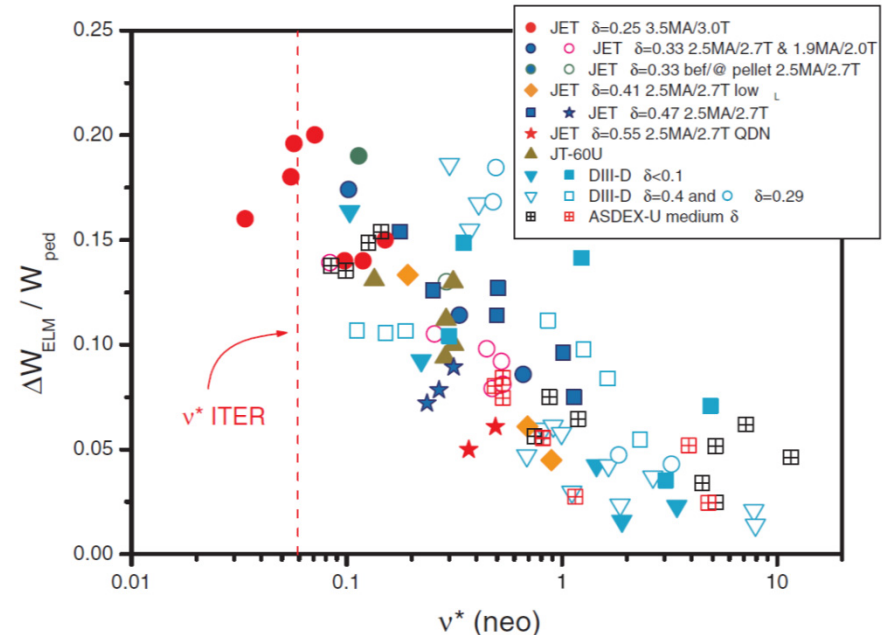
# Plasma edge instabilities lead to “Edge Localized Modes” (ELMs)



- 1) Excellent containment at divertor plasma edge “pedestal,” holding up  $2 \times 10^{19}/\text{m}^3$  in 2 cm at keV temperature!
- 2) The “dam” weakens; plasma moves out
- 3) Pedestal plasma spills out in  $\sim$ ms!
- 4) “Dam” slowly rebuilds off of outer limiter
- 5) Continues rebuilding,
- 6) Recovers excellent containment in 30ms, This ELM event repeats!

[2004-Zeng-Plasma Phys Control Fusion-v46-pA121]

It is projected that 20% of the ITER plasma pedestal energy would be spilled in  $\sim$ ms, damaging the divertor target.

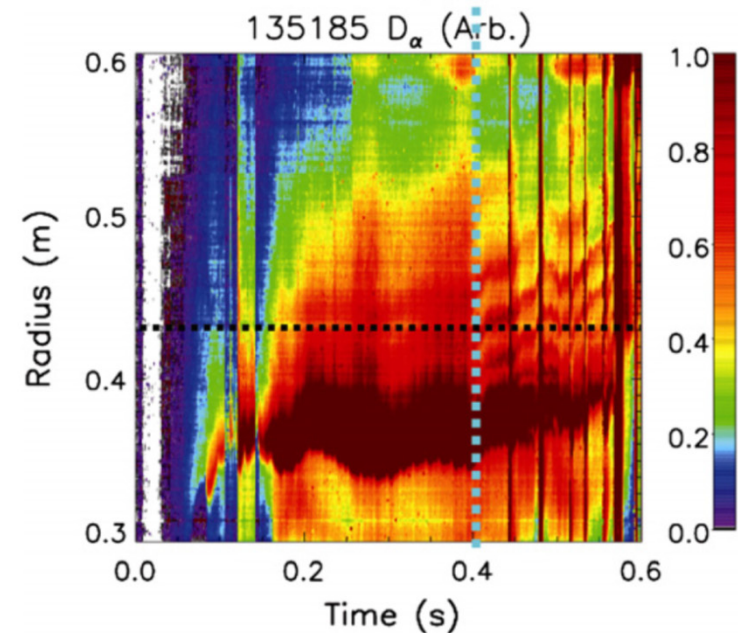
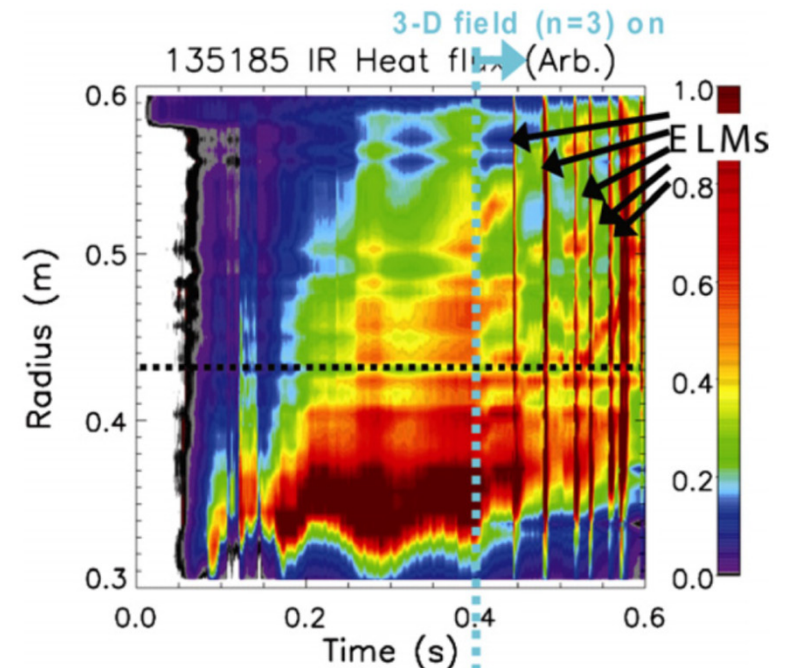
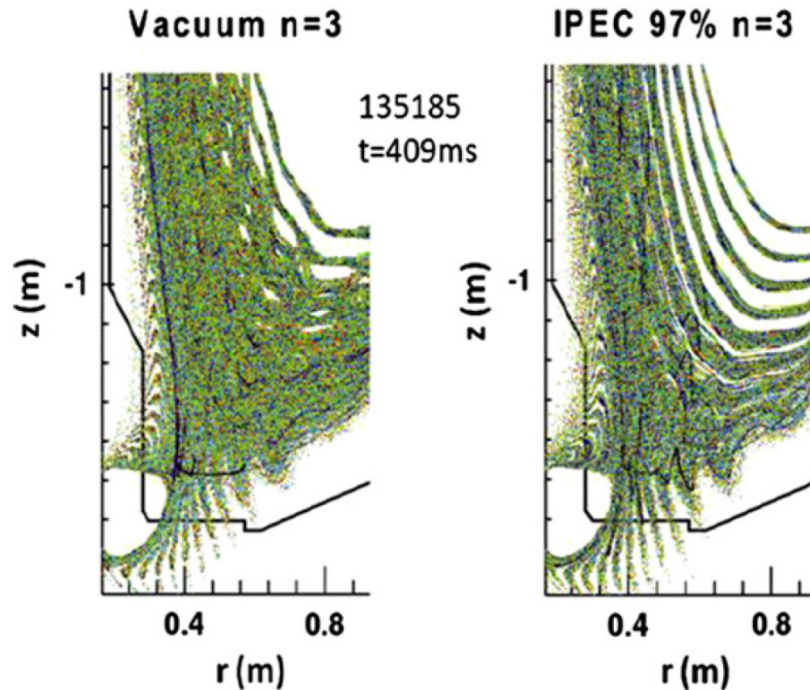




# Plasma spills in multiple stripes in a ELM crash

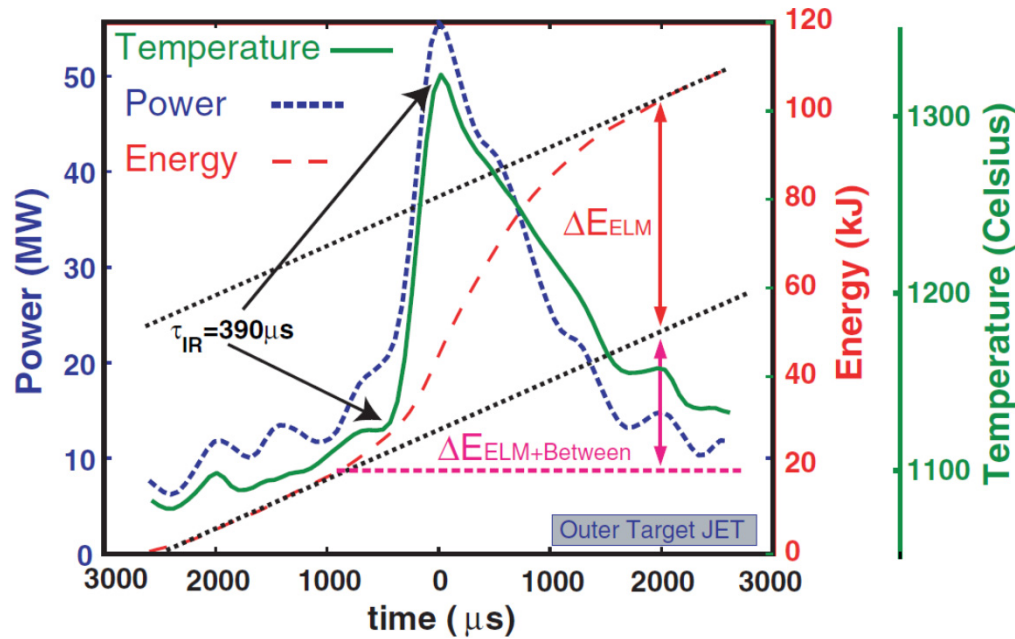
NSTX example: [2011-Ahn-J Nucl Mat-v415-pS918]]

- The instability grows and breaks up the plasma surfaces into stripes that extend to the divertor target
- These can be seen by fast infrared camera as target heating, and D ionization ( $D_\alpha$ ) radiation near the target



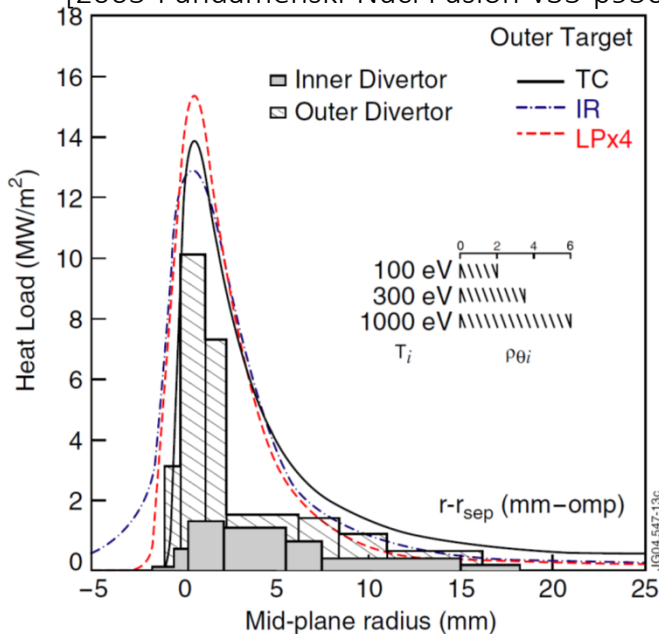
# What happens to the divertor target plate in an ELM event?

[2003-Eich-J Nucl Mat-v313-316-p919]

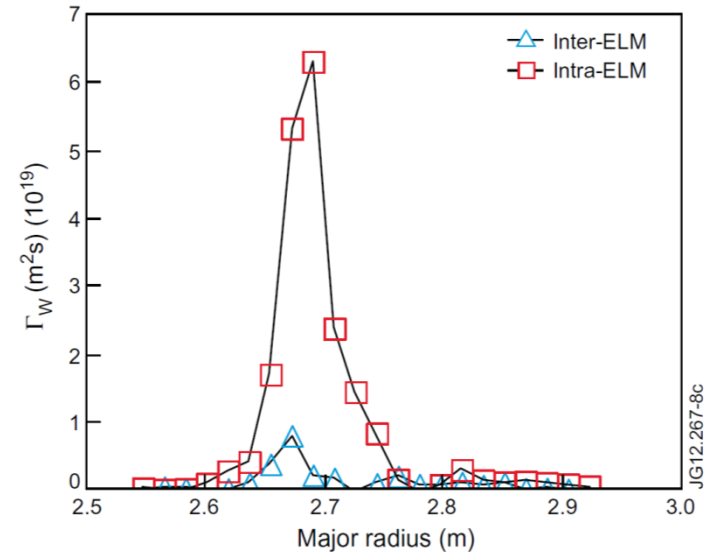


- ELM-induced lost power reaches divertor target in a fraction of ms.
- Surface temperature shoots up by 200°C.
- Deposits 30 kJ heat on divertor.
- Surface heat load over 10 MW/m<sup>2</sup> over narrow footprint.
- Nearly 10 times the W sputtering yield of between ELMs.

[2005-Fundamenski-Nucl Fusion-v35-p950]

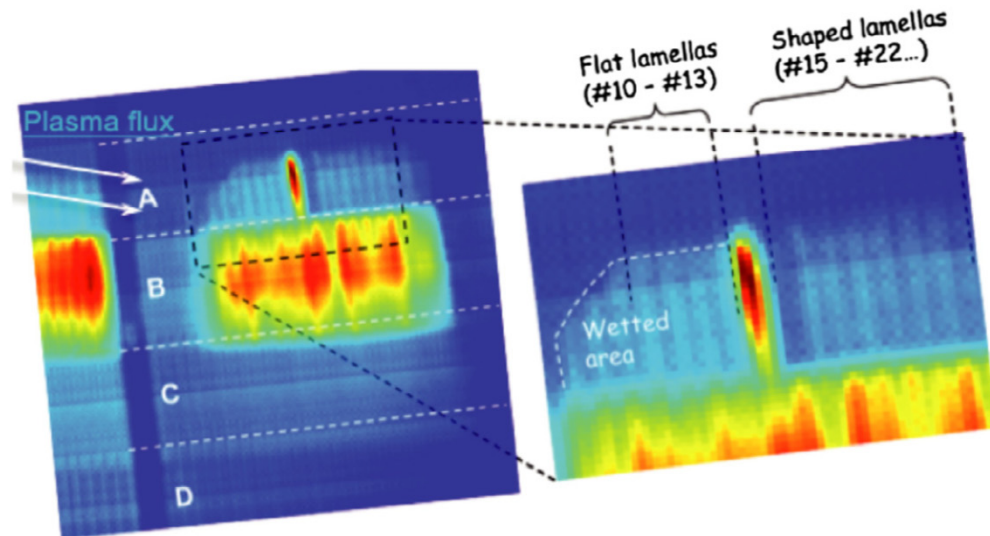
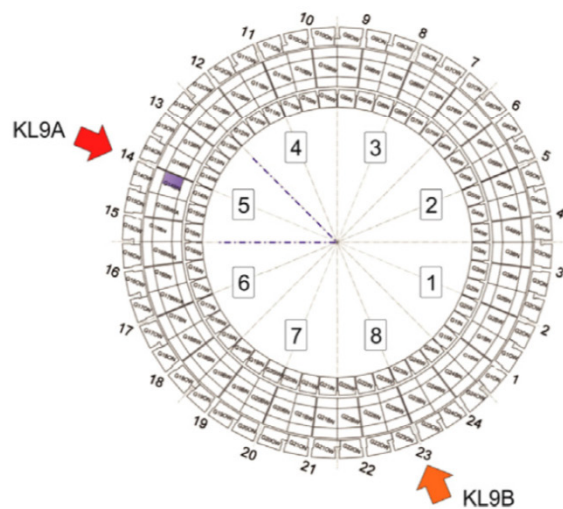
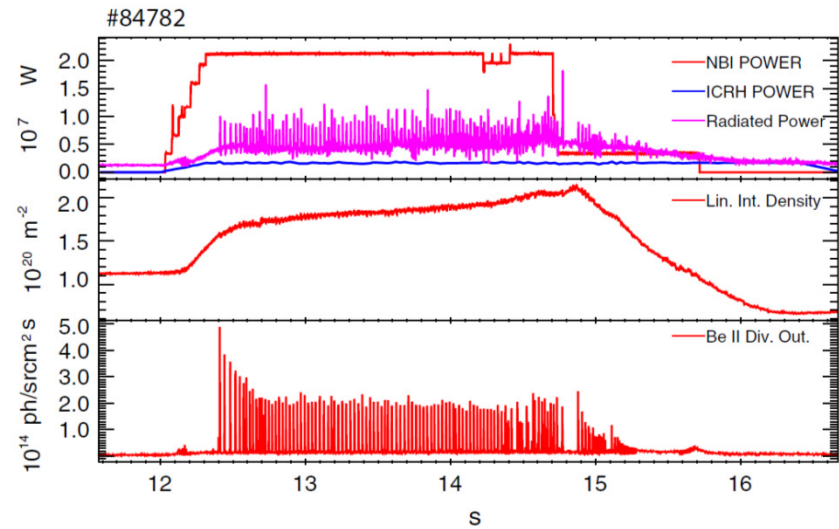
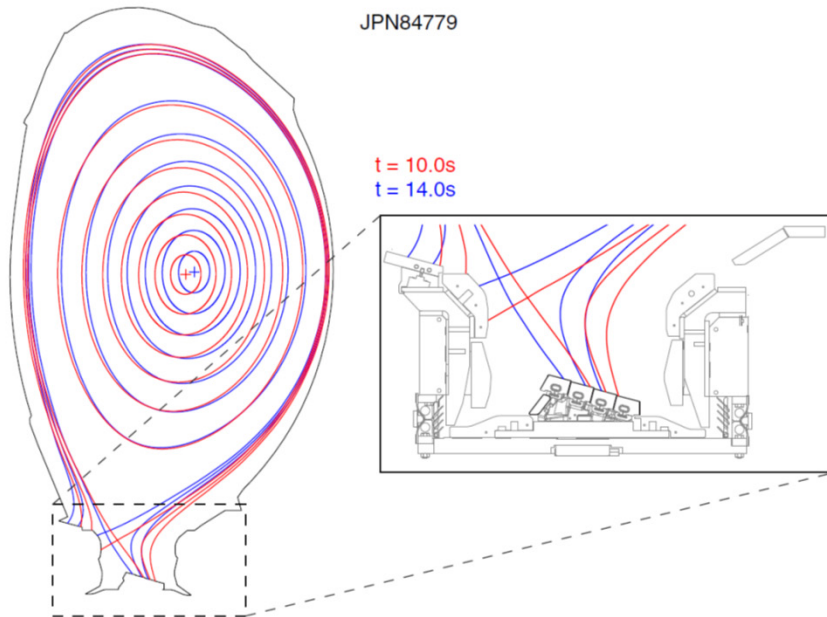


[2013-van Rooij-J. Nucl. Mat.-v438-pS42]



# These can lead to damages to the divertor target

- The divertor is subjected to ELMy discharges and received pulses of heat deposition

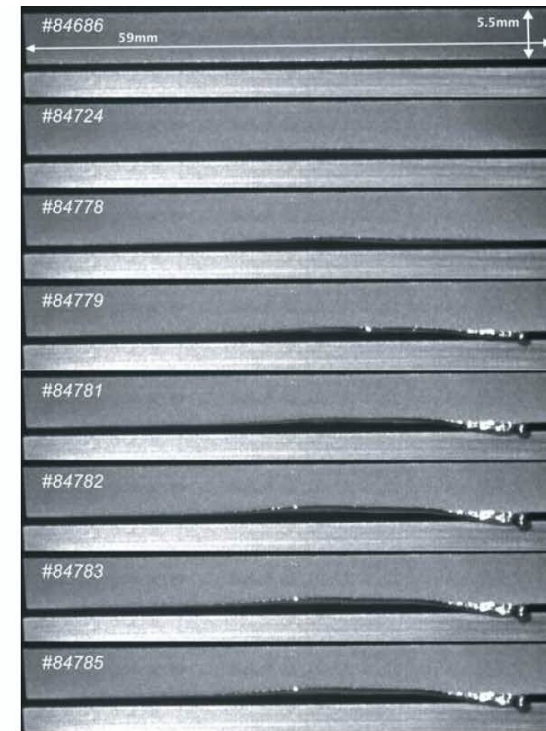
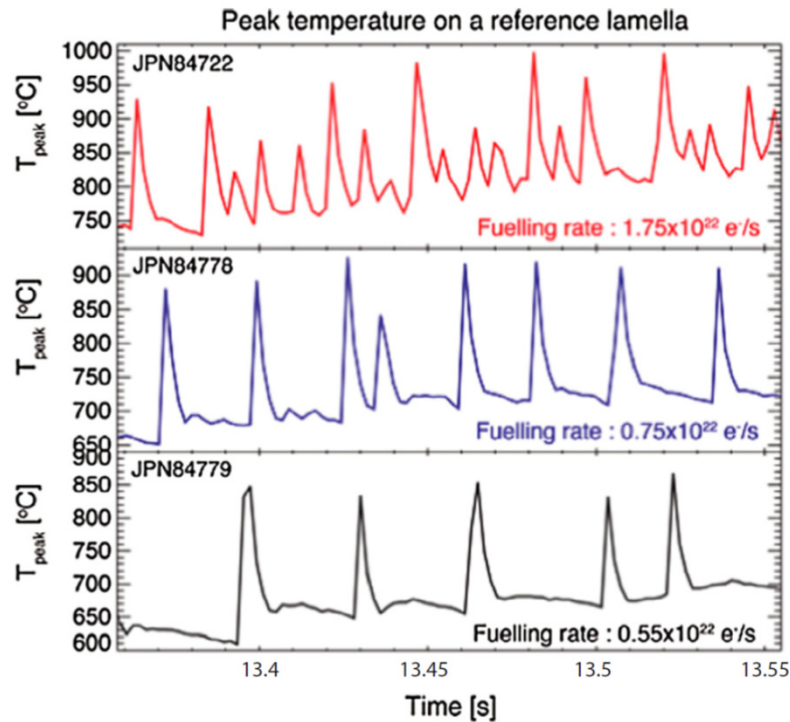




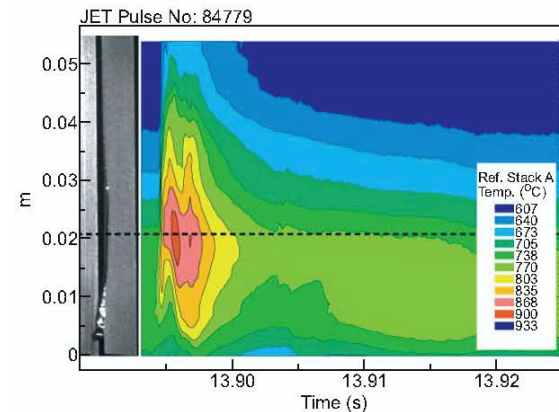
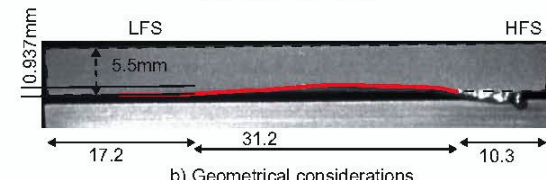
# These can lead to damages to the divertor target-II

JET example: [2015-Coenen-J Nucl Mat-v463-p78]]

- W temperature rises and progressive damages were monitored
- Damage pattern was compared with ELM temperature rise

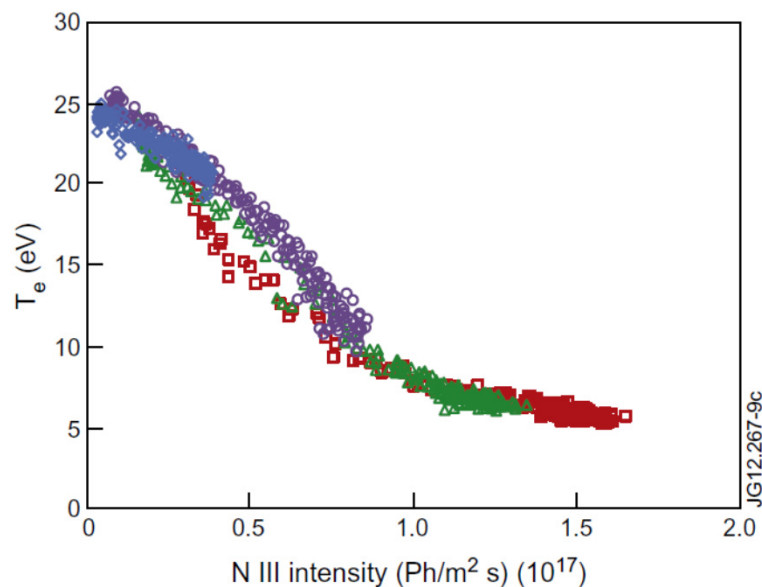
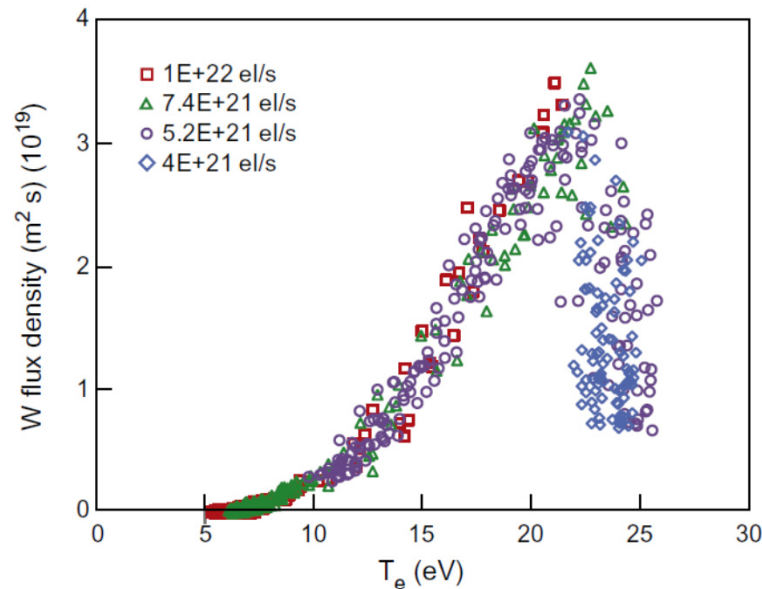


a) Damage evolutions



# Impurity gas injected into the divertor can reduce W erosion

[2013-van Rooij-J Nucl Mat-v438-pS42]



## Nitrogen seeding on JET can reduce W sputtering

- Divertor plasma temperature  $T_e$  drops as N concentration increases.
- At higher  $T_e$ , tungsten sputtering increase sharply as  $T_e$  drops from 25eV to 20eV.
- Further lowering  $T_e$  (increasing N concentration), W sputtering drops to negligible levels for  $T_e < 10$ eV.
- A slow N impurity rise in plasma core resulted.





# EAST Has Modern Divertor Gas Injection System

[Dongsheng Wong, 2012 PhD thesis, ASIPP]



ASIPP

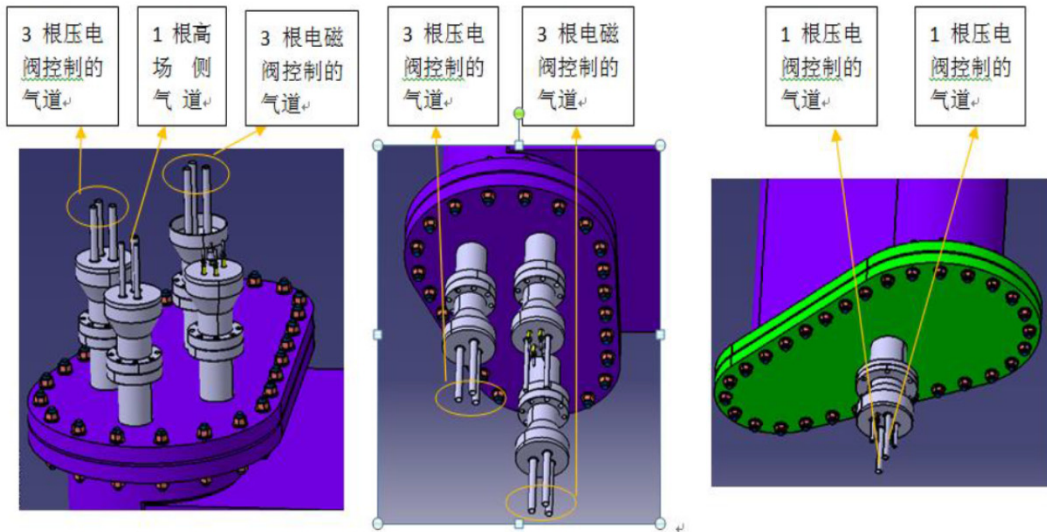
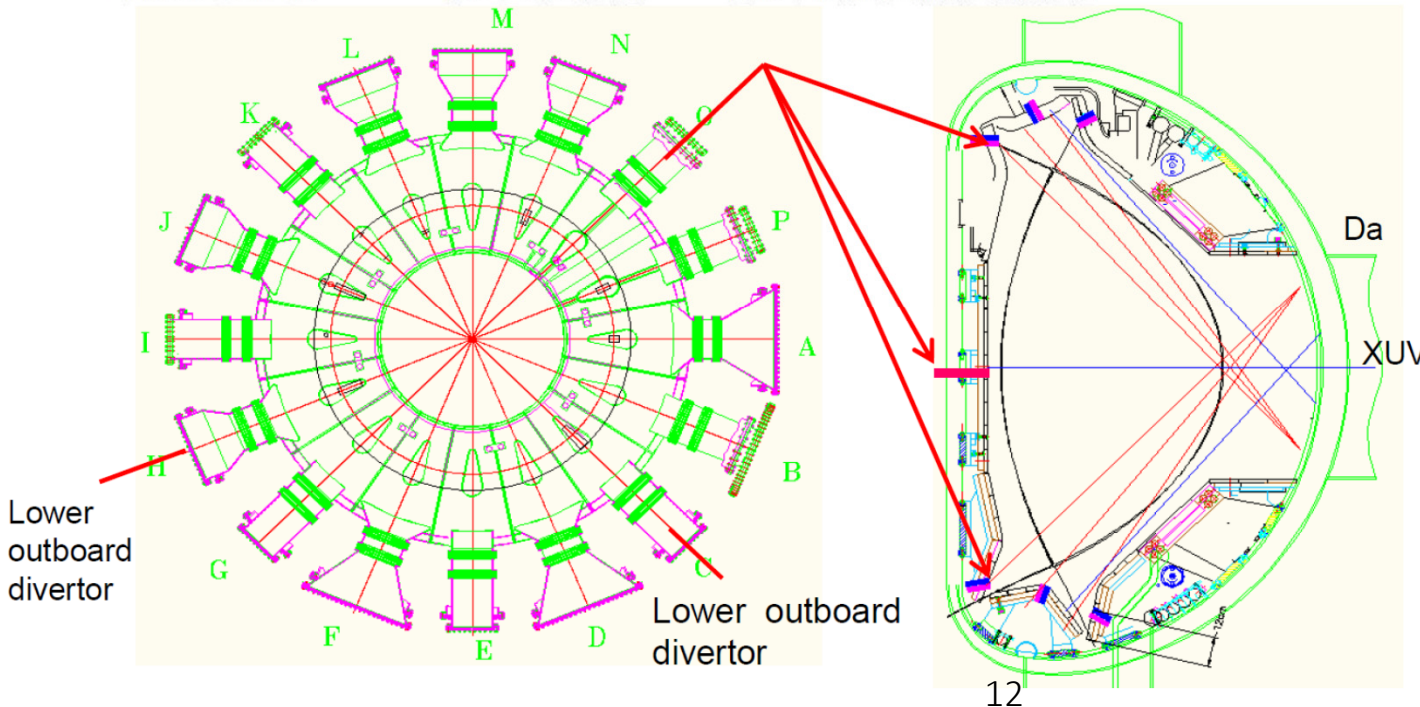
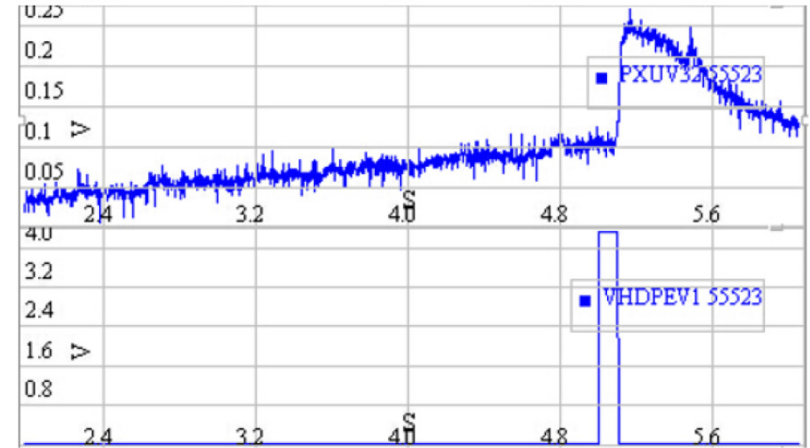


图 8.上 O 窗口法兰图

图 9.下 O 窗口法兰图

图 10.下 C 或 H 窗口杂质充气系统法兰图



2 sets of 3 injectors for upper (W) and lower (C) divertors.

Delay of ~100ms from fast valve to divertor





# Pure Argon Injection Lowered ELM peaks in 2010

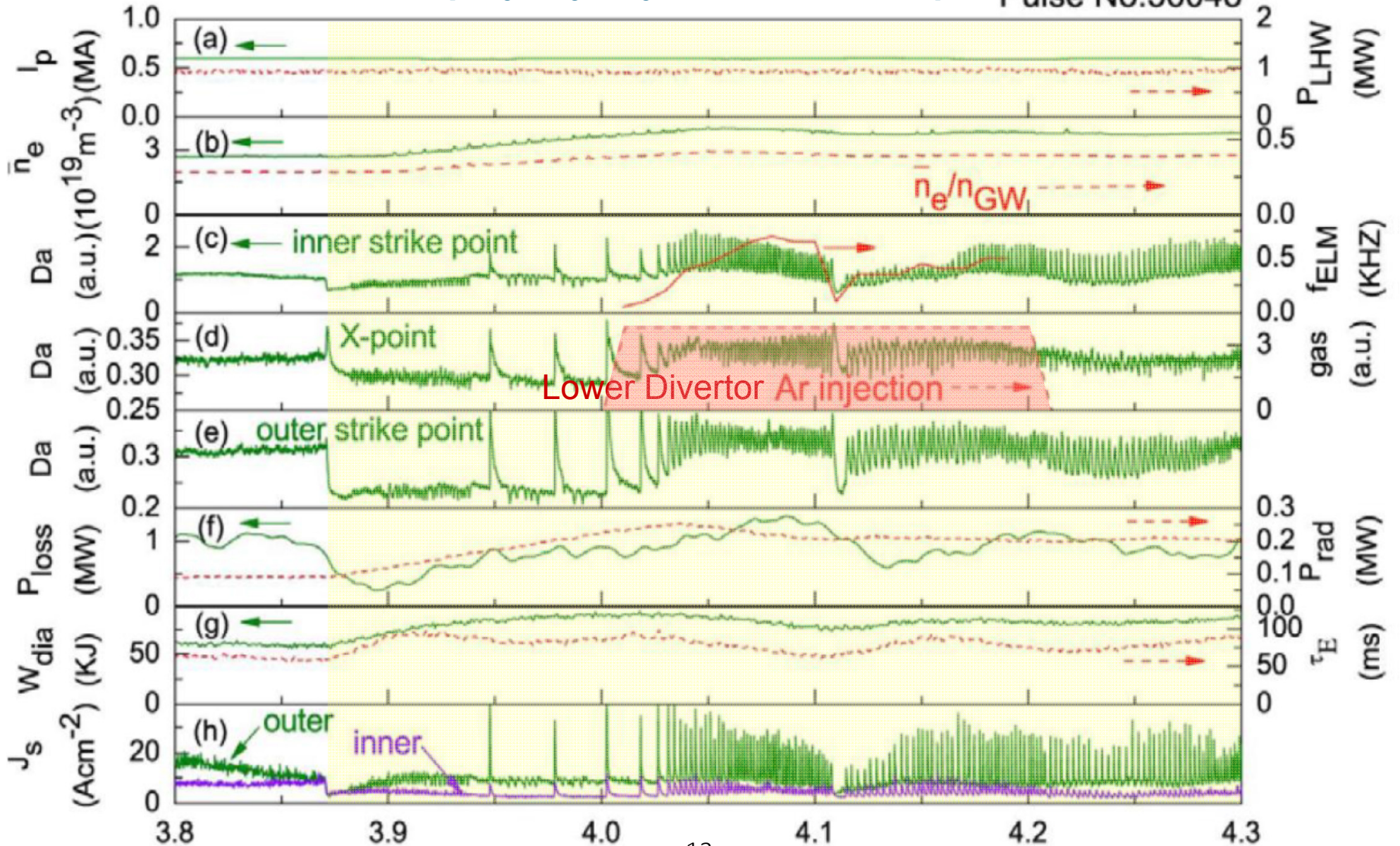
$P_{LHW} = 0.9\text{MW}$ ,  $B_T = 1.8\text{T}$



ASIPP

[Dongsheng Wong, 2012 PhD thesis, ASIPP]

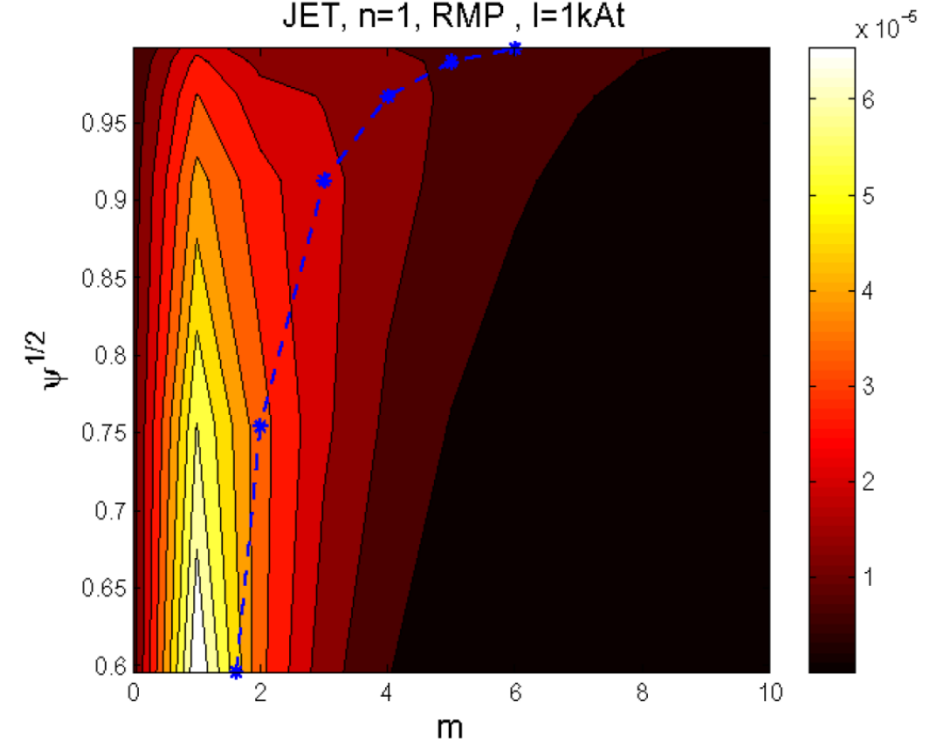
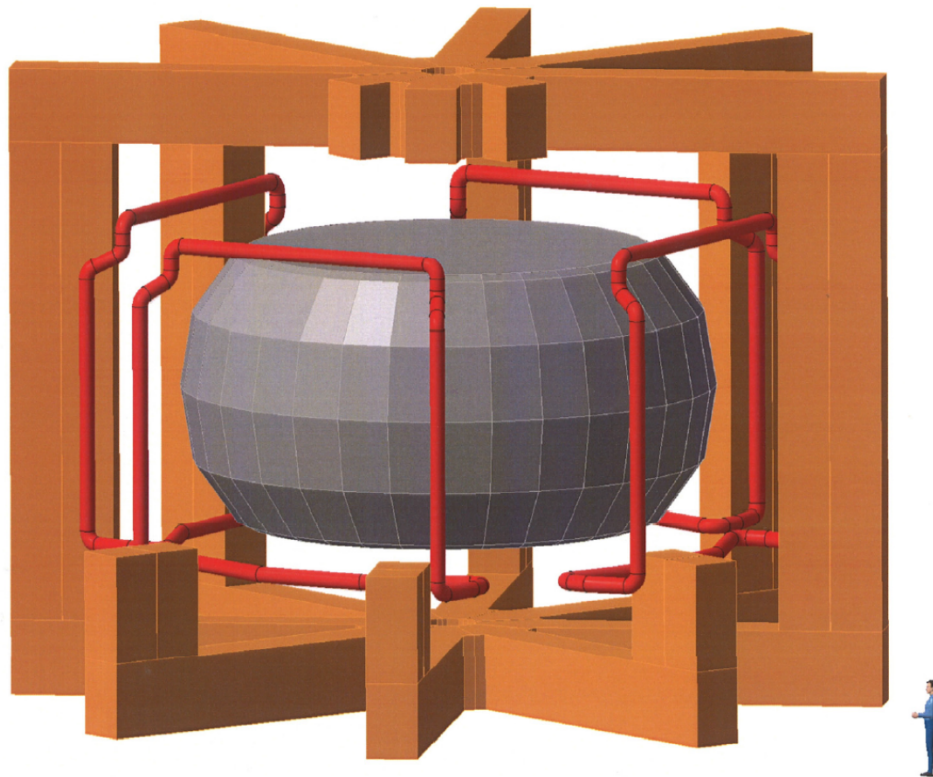
Pulse No:36048



# Error Field Correction Coils (EFCC) on JET

$$I_{\text{EFCC}} = 1 \text{ kAt}; B_t = 1.84 \text{ T}$$

JET,  $n=1$ , RMP,  $I=1\text{kAt}$

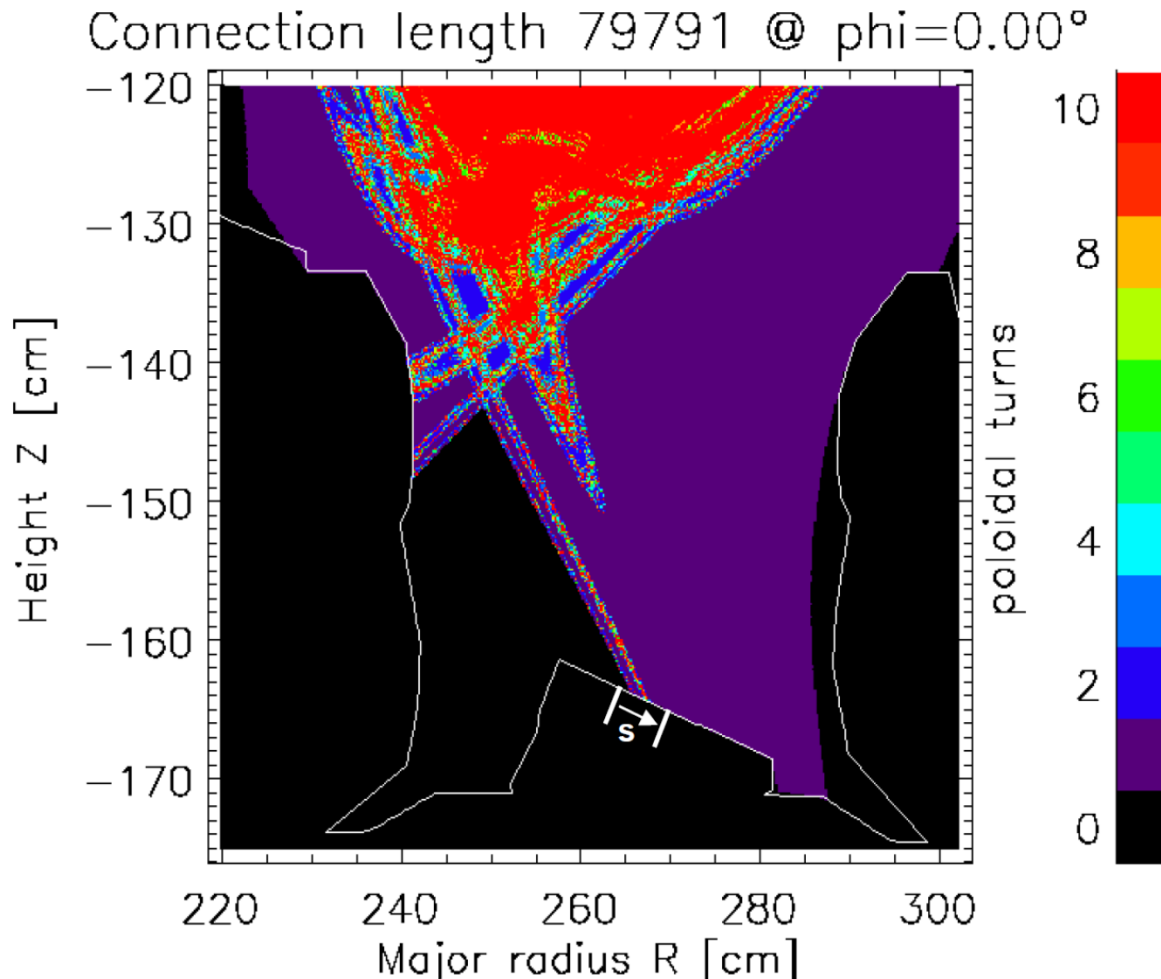


- Depending on the relative phasing of the currents in individual coils, either  $n=1$  or  $n=2$  fields can be generated
- $I_{\text{Coil}} \leq 3 \text{ kA} \times 16 \text{ turns}$  ( $n = 1$  and  $2$ )
- $R \sim 6 \text{ m}$ ; Size  $\sim 6 \text{ m} \times 6 \text{ m}$
- $B_r$  at wall  $\sim 0.25 \text{ mT/kAt}$

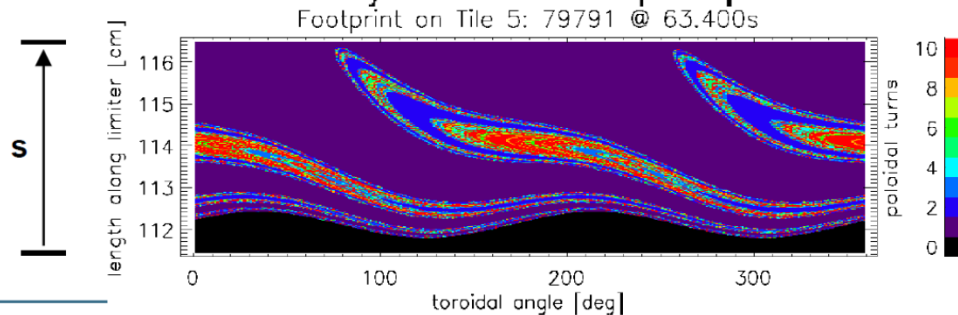
Y.Liang et al., PPCF 2007



# Toroidal Evolution of Strike Point



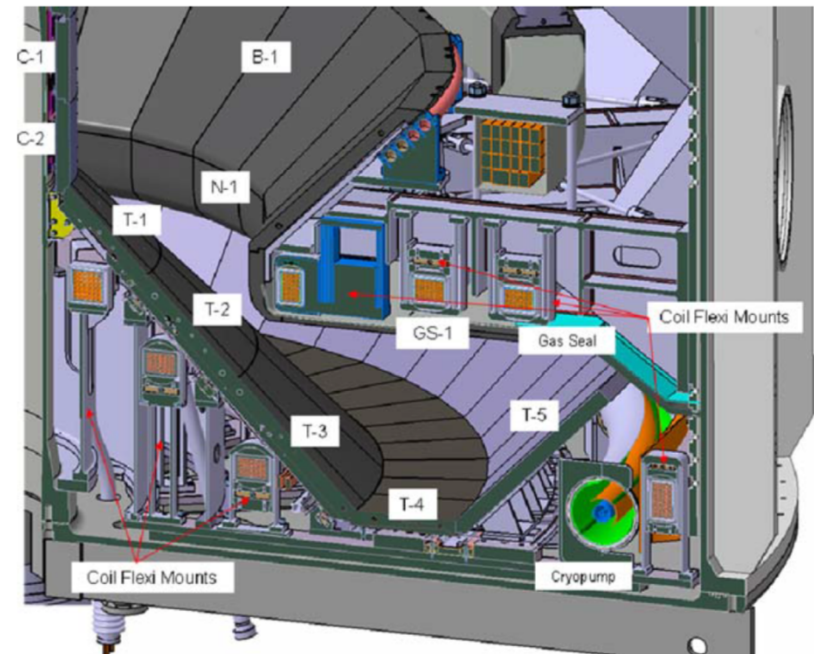
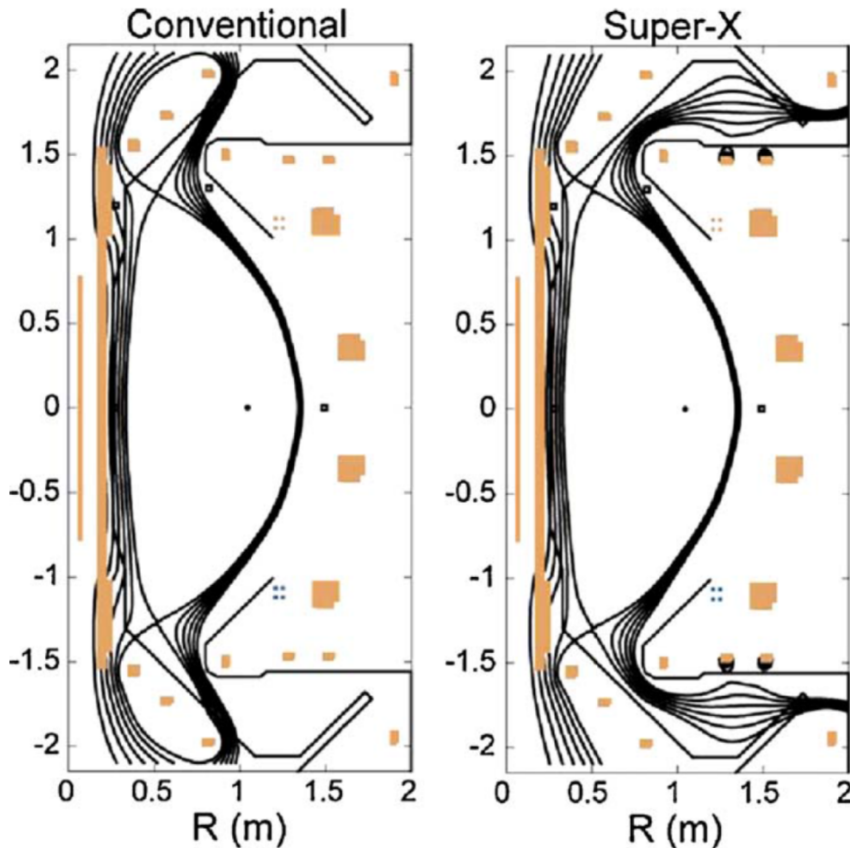
- Field line tracing in vacuum approximation (superposition of equilibrium and perturbation field)
- No screening of RMP by poloidal rotation
- Ergodic field lines form lobes which generate multiple strike points on the divertor
- Strike point splitting depends on toroidal position
- Footprint represents  $n=2$  symmetry of perturbation field



D. Harting, Y.Liang, JET science meeting 2010

## A more drastic approach: Super Extended Divertor (SXD)

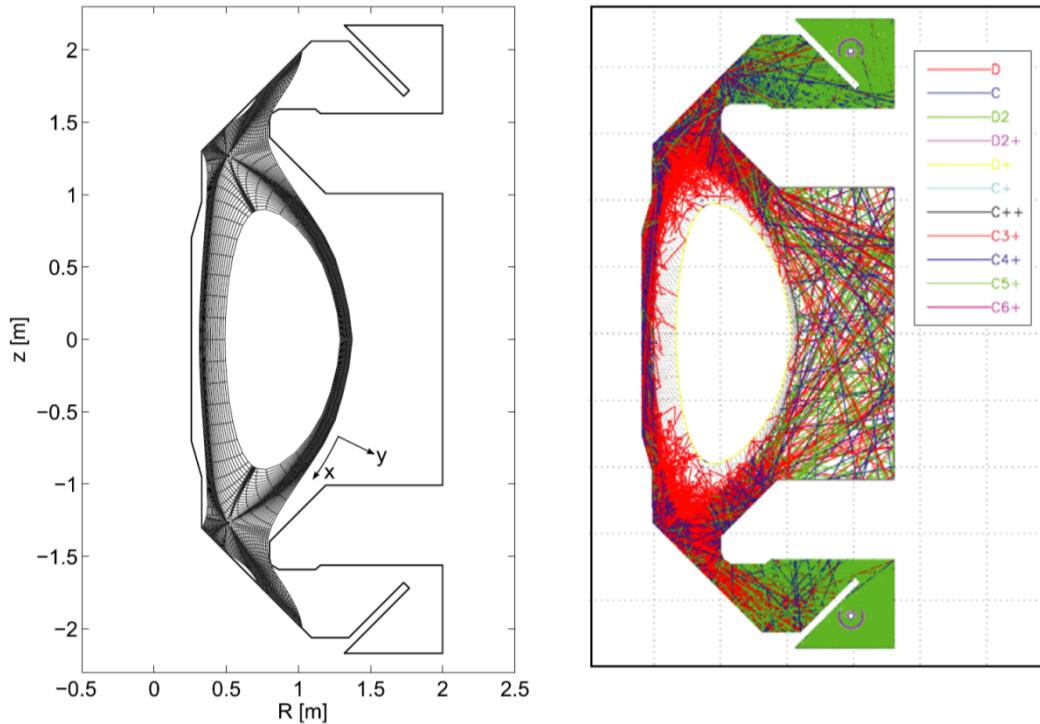
- SXD extends the plasma divertor channel to large R and increases the field-line connected plasma volume in divertor chamber. (MAST-U)
- Require the use of additional divertor poloidal field coils and a relatively large vacuum vessel.



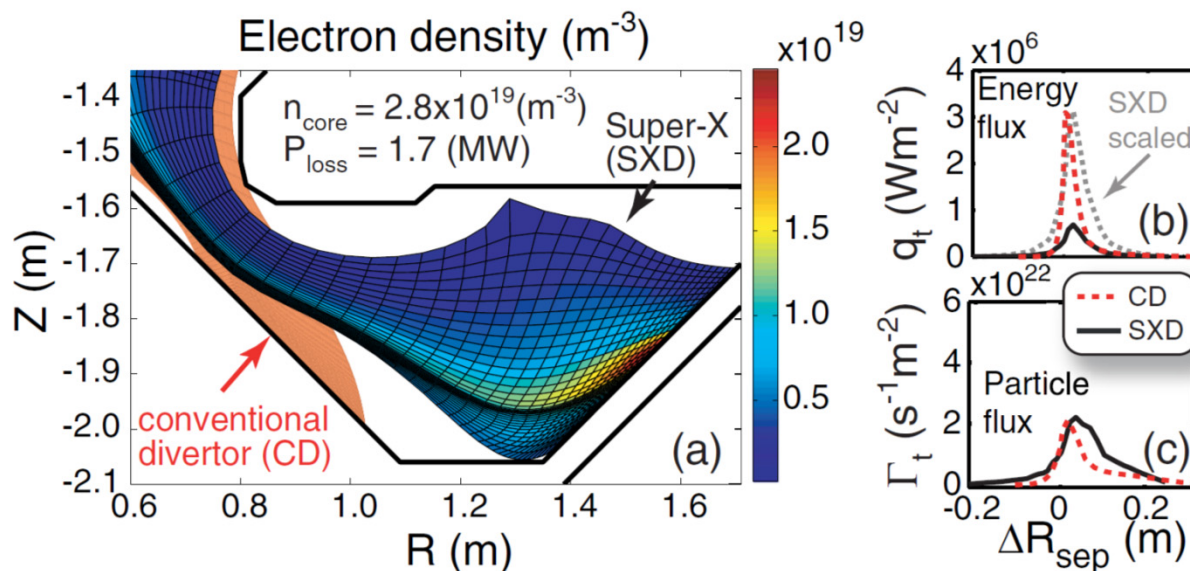
[2011-Katramados-Fusion Eng. Design-v86-p1595]

# Numerical simulations indicate adequate heat and particle handling

[2014-Havickova-Plasma Phys Control Fusion-v56-p075008]



- SOLPS calculates fluid plasma along field lines.
- B2-Eirene simulates Monte-Carlo random trajectories of ions and neutrals.
- Millions of particles simultaneously.
- Obtains stationary conditions while minimizing numerical noise.

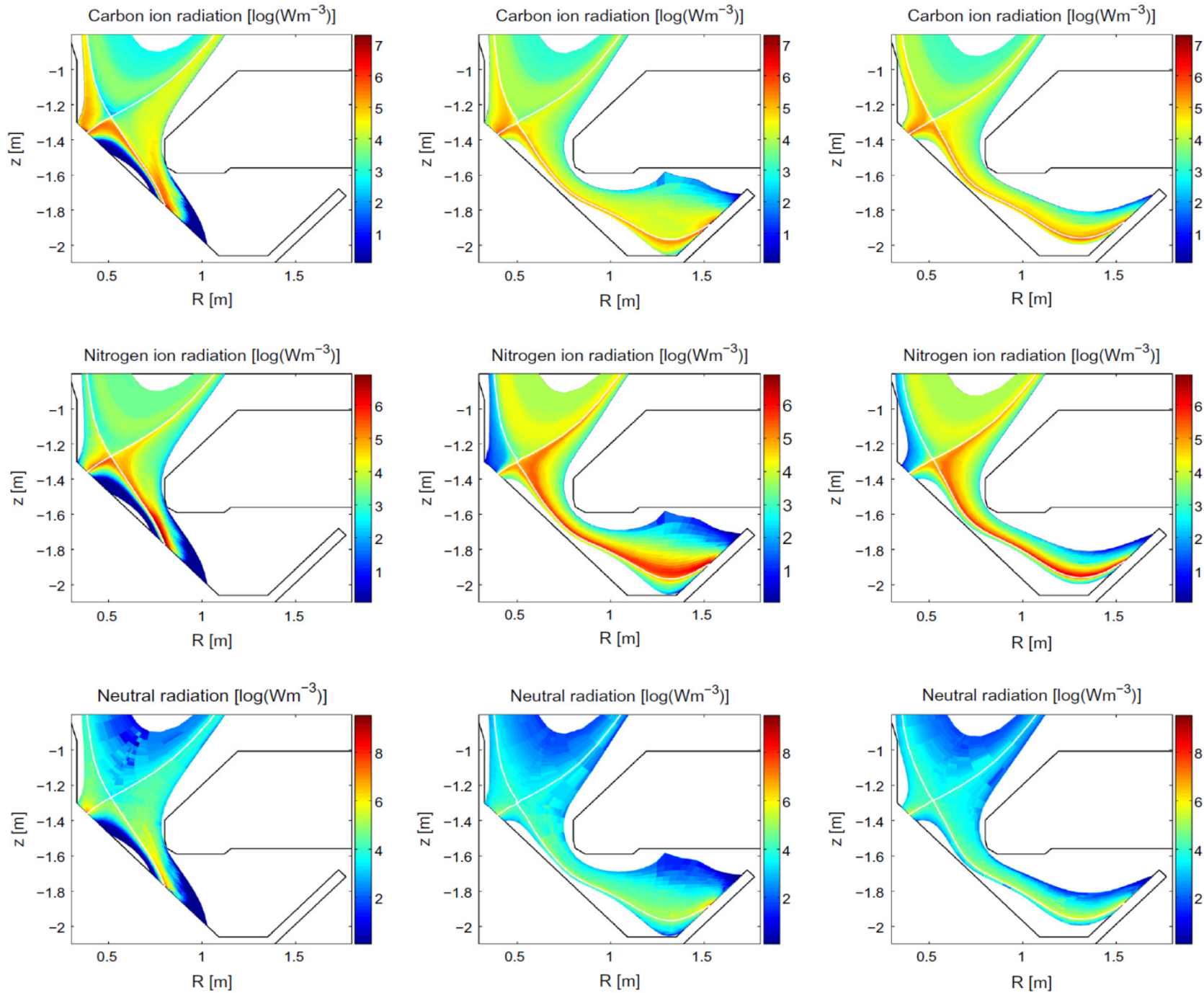


- Under expected core plasma conditions:
- Divertor heat flux reduced 5 times.
- Particle flux remains roughly unchanged.

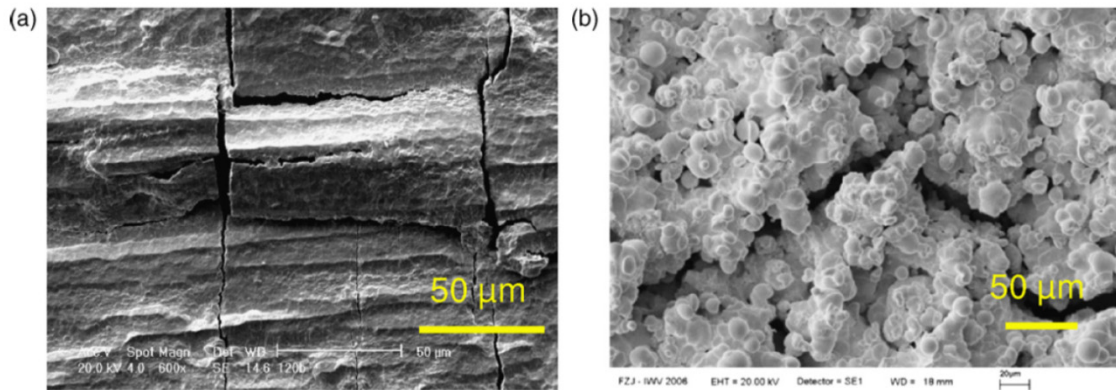
[2013-Meyer-Nucl Fusion-v53-p104008]



# Impurity seeding leads to large radiative cooling of divertor plasma; but how about ingestion by plasma core?



# “Strong attraction”: when both sides experience dramatic changes (II: What strongly coupled interactions can do.)

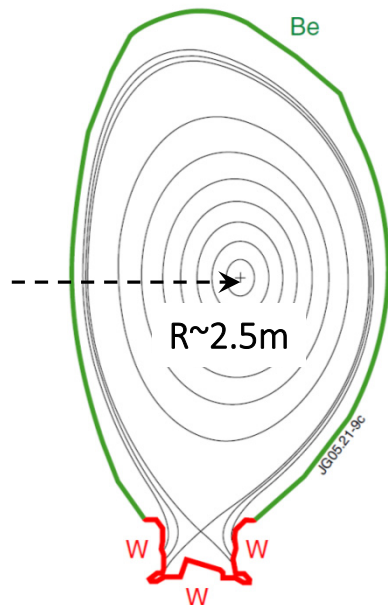


W coating (200mm thick on CFC) for JET divertor target after heat loading testing:

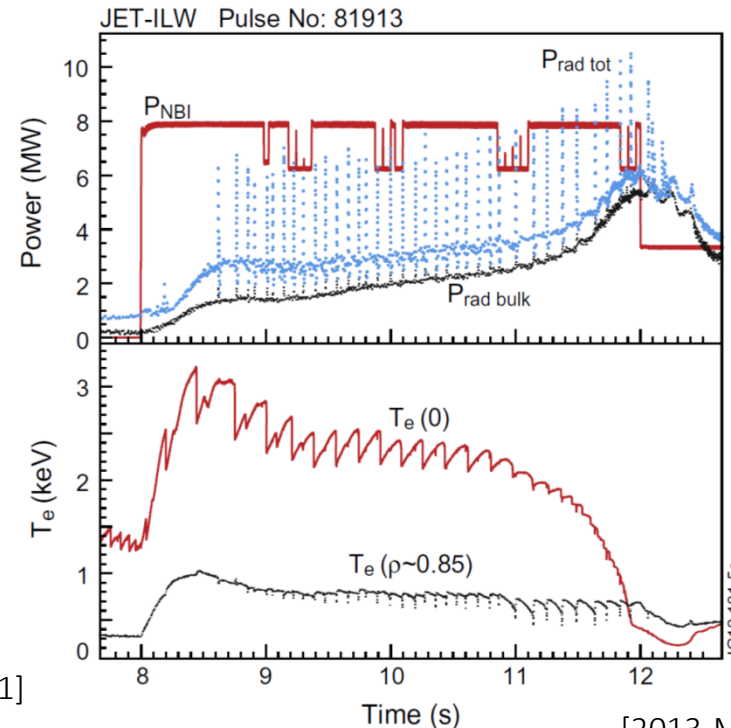
- a) Cyclic thermal load  $\Rightarrow$  thermal fatigue cracks.
- b) ELM-like pulsed heat load  $\Rightarrow$  grain boundary and surface modified.

[2007-Hirai-Fus. Engin. Design-v82-p1839]

## JET PFC configuration



[2007-Pamela-J. Nucl. Mat.-v363-365-p1]



A failed JET plasma pulse operating with W divertor and Be first wall, when large ELMs were present:

- Impurity line radiation increased toward the applied plasma heating power.
- Plasma temperature declined as the plasma starved of net heating.

[2013-Mathews-J. Nucl. Mat.-v438-pS2]



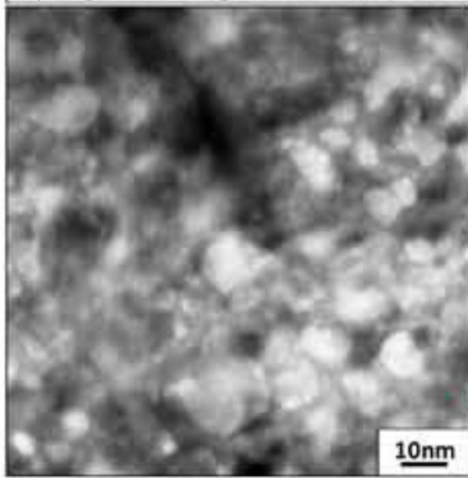
# Plasma alters W surface morphology in the nanoscale

~ 600 - 700 K

~ 900 - 1900 K

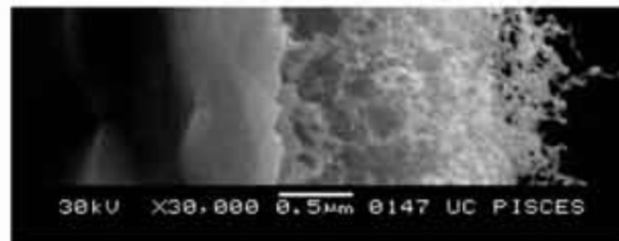
> 2000 K

(a) Bright field image (under focused image)



## PISCES-B: mixed D-He plasma

*M.J. Baldwin et al, NF 48 (2008) 035001*  
 1200 K, 4290 s,  $2 \times 10^{26}$  He<sup>+</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>, 25 eV He<sup>+</sup>



## NAGDIS-II: pure He plasma

*N. Ohno et al., in IAEA-TM, Vienna, 2006*  
 1250 K, 36000 s,  $3.5 \times 10^{27}$  He<sup>+</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>, 11 eV He<sup>+</sup>



## PISCES-A: D<sub>2</sub>-He plasma

*M. Miyamoto et al. NF (2009) 065035*  
 600 K, 1000 s,  $2.0 \times 10^{24}$  He<sup>+</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>, 55 eV He<sup>+</sup>

- Little morphology
- He nanobubbles form
- Occasional blisters

- Surface morphology
- Evolving surface
- Nano-scale 'fuzz'

$2.6 \times 10^{27}$ /m <sup>2</sup> $3.7 \times 10^{23}$ /m <sup>2</sup> s 7200 s 2100 K	$0.9 \times 10^{27}$ /m <sup>2</sup> $1.2 \times 10^{23}$ /m <sup>2</sup> s 7200 s 2600 K

## NAGDIS-II: He plasma

*D. Nishijima et al. JNM (2004) 329-333 1029*

- Surface morphology
- Shallow depth
- Micro-scale

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Opportunities abound in R&D to make fusion energy available.

## 2015 / 2016 Major Public Holiday Calendar

Name	Date	Legal Holidays	2015	2016
New Year's Day	Jan. 1	1 day	Jan. 1 - 3 off	Jan. 1 - 3 off
Chinese New Year	subject to lunation	3 days	Feb. 19 (Feb. 18 - 24 off)	Feb. 8 (Feb. 7 - 13 off)
Qingming	Apr. 4 or 5	1 day	Apr. 5 (Apr. 4 - 6 off)	Apr. 4 (Apr. 2 - 4 off)
May Day	May 1	1 day	May 1 - 3 off	Apr. 30 - May 2 off
Dragon Boat	5th of 5th lunar month	1 day	Jun. 20 (Jun. 20 - 22 off)	Jun. 9 (Jun. 9 - 11 off)
Victory Day	Sep. 3	1 day	Sep. 3 (70th Anniversary of Victory over Japan)	Sep. 3 (no holiday)
Mid-Autumn Day	Aug. 15 of lunar calendar	1 day	Sep. 27 (Sep. 26 - 27 off)	Sep. 15 (Sep. 15 - 17 off)
National Day	Oct. 1	3 days (Oct. 1 - 3)	Oct. 1 - 7	Oct. 1 - 7