PROGRESS OF CORE-EDGE INTEGRATED TUNGSTEN TRANSPORT STUDY IN EAST WITH ITER-LIKE TUNGSTEN DIVERTORS USING ADVANCED IMPURITY DIAGNOSTICS

¹L. ZHANG, ^{1,2}S. MORITA, ¹C.X. ZHOU, ¹Y.X. CHENG, ^{1,3}W.M. ZHANG, ⁴P. MANAS, ^{1,5}D. MITNIK, ⁴T. FONGHETTI, ¹A.L. HU, ¹Q.Q. YANG, ^{1,3}Z. ZHOU, ^{1,3}R.J. BAO, ¹J.H. Chen, ¹S.X. WANG, ¹Y.W. SUN, ¹J.P. QIAN, ¹X.Z. GONG, ¹X. GAO, ¹H.Q. LIU, ¹Y.T. SONG

¹Institute of Plasma Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hefei, China

Email: zhangling@ipp.ac.cn

Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) has been equipped with upper and lower tungsten (W) divertors since 2014 and 2021, respectively. Impact on the plasma performance in its steady-state operation must be studied in detail as the highest priority issue in EAST in addition to the study of W transport. For this purpose, fast-time-response and space-resolved extreme ultraviolet (EUV) spectrometer systems [1-3] have been developed for studies on time behavior and spatial distribution of W ions. Meanwhile, an integrated modelling for the simulation study on core W transport has been also developed under OMFIT framework [4]. The W transport characteristics at plasma core in hybrid [5] and fully non-inductive [6] discharge scenarios are explored by combining simulation and experimental studies. As a result, on-axis ECRH [6], 4.6GHz LHW [7] and ICRF [8] heating has proved to be effective to control the core W ions by enhancing the radial transport. On the other hand, up/down poloidal asymmetry was observed for W ions in EAST for the first time [9]. Toroidal rotation was found to play an essential role in enhancing the asymmetry. A strong asymmetric distribution was also found for ions existing in the peripheral region.

Based on the simulation study, turbulent W transport is predicted to be dominant over the neoclassical transport in plasma core region of conventional H-mode discharges in both ITER [10] and CFEDR [11] next-generation tokamaks. A more important point, however, is the control of W ions in the edge pedestal region. Unfortunately, the study on pedestal tungsten transport remained insufficient due to a lack of the line observation for weakly and moderately ionized W ions and the absence of transport modelling for the pedestal region. Recently, weekly and moderately ionized W4+-W20+ ions existing in the SOL-pedestal-edge regions including other metallic impurity ions have been observed and identified [12,13] in the EAST plasma based on the advanced impurity diagnostic system. Benefiting from the observation, a diagnostic gap between divertor W source and core W behavior, i.e., a spectral gap between W atom and highly ionized W ions of W²⁴⁺-W⁴⁵⁺, can be adequately filled. A collision-radiative (CR) model has been built for such weekly ionized W ions, e.g. W5+, to calculate the photon ionization event (S/XB) for W influx evaluation [14]. The modelling was also utilized to study an effect of 3D RMP field on the edge impurity screening in EAST [15]. Currently, a universal approach to calculation on the photon emissivity coefficient (PEC) of high-Z impurity ions with multiple ionization stages is being under development, which will significantly contribute to the enhancement of the ADAS database. Thus, a quantitative analysis becomes possible on the influx and density of W ions at SOL-pedestal-edge plasma regions.

Very recently, core-edge integrated W behavior study was initiated for H-mode discharges under distinct ELM activity regime, particularly by using W burst events. Line emissions from W⁴⁺ - W⁸⁺ are used to study W behaviors at SOL, e.g. W⁴⁺ at 434.3 Å, W⁵⁺ at 382.1 and 394.1 Å, W⁶⁺ at 216.219 and 261.387 Å, W⁷⁺-W⁸⁺ at ~200Å. Line emissions from W¹³⁺ at ~250Å and W¹⁴⁺- W¹⁶⁺ ions at ~300 Å are also used for the W behaviour study at pedestal region. The tungsten unresolved transition array (W-UTA) at 45-70 Å from W²⁴⁺- W⁴⁵⁺ ions and at ~60 Å and 120-130 Å from W⁴⁰⁺-W⁴⁵⁺ ions are used for the W behavior study at edge and core regions. Figure.1 shows a typical time evolution of line intensities from W⁶⁺-W⁸⁺, W¹⁴⁺-W²⁰⁺, W²³⁺ and W²⁶⁺ and W⁴⁰⁺ ions during W bursts in the H-mode phase with small ELMs. The core-edge integrated W transport analysis is being performed based on the simultaneously observed spatiotemporal spectra on multiple W ions. Tungsten transport coefficients are then determined by comparison between observed and reconstructed time traces of the W line intensities using STRAHL transport code and PECs calculated from the CR model mentioned above.

1

²National Institute for Fusion Science, Toki, Japan

³University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China

⁴CEA, IRFM, F-13108 Saint Paul-lez-Durance, France

⁵Instituto de Astronomía y Física del Espacio, Buenos Aires, Argentina

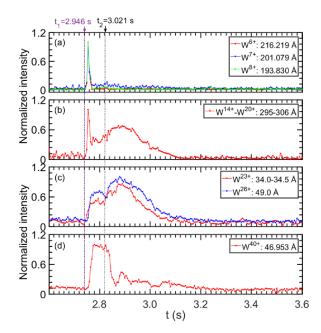


Fig.1 Time behaviors of line intensities of (a) W^{6+} - W^{8+} , (b) W-UTA at 295-306Å composed of W^{14+} - W^{20+} , (c) W^{23+} and W^{26+} and (d) W^{40+} during two timings of W bursts in H-mode phase with small ELMs. Those lines are used to study W influx and transport at plasma edge and core regions. Two dashed lines indicate the start of two W bursts at t_1 =2.946s and t_2 =3.021s. Note that weekly ionized W ions of W^{6+} - W^{8+} was observed only at the first W burst, and the intensity of W^{40+} drastically drops after the second W burst due to a sudden temperature decrease from 2.6keV to ~1.5keV.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was supported by the National Magnetic Confinement Fusion Energy R&D Program of China (Grant Nos. 2022YFE03180400, 2019YFE030403, 2022YFE03020004, 2024YFE03000200), National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 12322512), and Chinese Academy of Sciences President's International Fellowship Initiative (PIFI) (Grant Nos. 2025PVA0060, 2024PVA0074). We thank all staff members in EAST (https://cstr.cn/31130.02.EAST) for providing technical supports and assistances in data collection and analysis.

REFERENCES

- [1] ZHANG L. et al 2015 A fast-time-response extreme ultraviolet spectrometer for measurement of impurity line emissions in the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 86 123509
- [2] ZHANG L. et al 2019 A space-resolved extreme ultraviolet spectrometer for radial profile measurement of tungsten ions in the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak *Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research*, A. 916 169-178
- [3] CHENG Y. et al 2022 Performance improvement of space-resolved extreme ultraviolet spectrometer by use of complementary metal-oxide semiconductor detectors at the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak Rev. Sci. Instrum. 93 123501
- [4] SHI S. et al 2022 Illustrating the physics of core tungsten (W) transport in a long-pulse steady-state H-mode discharge on EAST *Nucl. Fusion 62 066040*
- [5] SHI S. et al 2022 Understanding core heavy impurity transport in a hybrid discharge on EAST Nucl. Fusion 62 066032
- [6] SHI S. et al 2022 Understanding core tungsten (W) transport and control in an improved high-performance fully noninductive discharge on EAST Nucl. Fusion 62 066031
- [7] CHENG Y et al 2025 Effect of 4.6 GHz LHW on tungsten transport in NBI dominant H-mode plasma *Nucl. Fusion* (under review)
- [8] ZHOU Z. et al 2025 Tungsten impurity reduction by ICRH in a high-power injection and high-performance H-mode discharge on EAST Nucl. Fusion 65 036004
- [9] ZHOU C. et al 2025 First observation of up/down asymmetry distribution of tungsten ions in EAST Nucl. Fusion (under review)
- [10] Fajardo D. et al 2024 Integrated modelling of tungsten accumulation control with wave heating: validation in ASDEX Upgrade and predictions for ITER Nucl. Fusion 64 104001
- [11] ZHOU C et al 2025The Transport and Radiation Loss of Tungsten Impurities in Core Plasma for CFEDR Conventional H-mode Scenario *Plasma Sci. Tech.* (under review)
- [12] ZHANG W et al 2022 Line identification of extreme ultraviolet (EUV) spectra from Iron, Copper and Molybdenum ions in EAST tokamak plasmas *Phys. Scr. 97 045604*
- [13] ZHANG W et al 2024 Spectroscopic analysis of tungsten spectra in extreme-ultraviolet range of 10-480 Å observed from EAST tokamak with full tungsten divertor *Phys Scr. 99 105609*
- [14] ZHANG F et al 2025 Evaluation of tungsten influx rate using line emissions from W⁵⁺ ions in EAST tokamak *Nucl.* Fusion 65 036037
- [15] ZHANG W et al 2024 First observation of edge impurity behavior with n = 1 RMP application in EAST L-mode plasma *Nucl. Fusion 64 086004*