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## **Recent progress towards a quantitative description of filamentary SOL transport**

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#### The Problem of Exhaust: Erosion







A key question for ITER & DEMO:

# How are heat and particle fluxes distributed over the various plasma facing components?

In the SOL of a tokamak, this is strongly affected by the competition between **parallel** conduction and perpendicular convection.



#### **Shoulder formation**





A well known experimental fact in tokamaks:

#### In L-mode, SOL density profiles flatten over a certain density threshold.

An increase of  $\Gamma_r$  associated to a **filament transition** has been proposed as the explanation in the literature.

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### **Evolution of particle transport**





The filament transition has clear effects on filamentary transport:

Packing fraction, f<sub>fil</sub> and amplitude of fluctuations n<sub>fil</sub>/n<sub>back</sub> substantially increased

### **Evolution of particle transport**





The filament transition has clear effects on filamentary transport:

- Packing fraction, f<sub>fil</sub> and amplitude of fluctuations n<sub>fil</sub>/n<sub>back</sub> substantially increased
- Γ<sub>r</sub> across the separatrix is increased by a factor 3-4
- Simmilar results reported from JET (Guillemaut PSI 2016)

### **Thermal evolution of the SOL**





Electrons and ions show very different behaviour through the transition:

- $T_{e,fil} \sim 1.2 T_{e,back}$ ,  $T_e$  roughly constant across the SOL.
- ►  $T_{i,fil} > T_{i,back}$  for  $Λ_{div} < 1$ . Slow radial decay,  $λ_{Ti} \sim 40$  mm.
- T<sub>i,fil</sub> ~ T<sub>i,back</sub> ~ 25 eV for high  $\Lambda_{div}$  > 1. Fast radial decay,  $\lambda_{Ti}$  ~ 10 mm.

#### **Evolution of heat transport**





#### Heat transport is not affected by the transition

- q<sub>r,fil</sub> near the wall are simmilar. Agreement with JET (Guillemaut, PSI 2016)
- A maximum in  $q_{r,fil}$  is reached around the transition.
- Good agreement with IR measurements of the  $q_{\parallel}$  at the manipulator.











EMC3-EIRENE code is used to simulate  $\Lambda_{\text{div}}$  > 1 and  $\Lambda_{\text{div}}$  < 1 scenarios

- No thermalization mechanism can reduce T<sub>i</sub> as observed in the experiment.
- An ionization front builds in front of the limiter shadow in the  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$  case.

#### **ExB Analyzer experiments**





ExB analyzer experiments are consistent with RFA measurements :

- $\Lambda_{div} < 1 \rightarrow$  Monoenergetic distribution with a positive tail, consistent with  $T_{i,back}$  and  $T_{i,fil}$ .
- ►  $\Lambda_{div}$  > 1 → Two-energies distribution with cold ions around the F.C.  $T_{i,fil}$  not necessarily greater than  $T_{i,back}$ .

#### Looking ahead: H-mode





Equivalent experiments have analyzed the shoulder formation on inter-ELM H-mode plasma:

- A simmilar shoulder has been observed.
- An equivalent filament transition takes place for  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$
- A<sub>div</sub> > 1 is a necessary but not sufficient condition. A minimum level of D fueling is also required. This is consistent with L-mode experiments in TCV [N. Vianello, this conference, EX/P8-26].

#### Looking ahead: DEMO



Several scenarios can be proposed for DEMO: **Standard** (Extrapolation of current results):

> $\lambda_{Ti} \sim 10$  mm,  $\lambda_n \sim 40$  mm;  $1/\lambda_{q,i} \sim 1/\lambda_{Ti} + 1/\lambda_n \sim 10$  mm





#### Looking ahead: DEMO



Several scenarios can be proposed for DEMO:

Worst case (No shoulder formation):

 $\lambda_{Ti} \sim 40$  mm,  $\lambda_n \sim 10$  mm;  $1/\lambda_{q,i} \sim 1/\lambda_{Ti} + 1/\lambda_n \sim 10$  mm





#### Looking ahead: DEMO

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Several scenarios can be proposed for DEMO:

Best case (independent shoulder formation/ion cooling, widened near-SOL):

$$\lambda_{Ti} \sim 40 \text{ mm}, \lambda_n \sim 40 \text{ mm};$$
  
 $1/\lambda_{q,i} \sim 1/\lambda_{Ti} + 1/\lambda_n \sim 40 \text{ mm}$ 







L-mode experiments on AUG, JET and COMPASS have shown the relation between a filament transition and the shoulder formation. This process is triggered by the  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$  thresshold.

The transition increases  $\Gamma_{perp}$  by a factor 3 after the transition, while  $q_{perp}$  remains roughly constant due to the drop in  $T_i$ .

Simulations indicate that ion cooling is not the result of thermalization, but of the ionization of cold, recycled neutrals in front of the limiter. This is consistent with the observation of a cold ion population for  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$ .

H-mode experiments indicate that a shoulder can form also between ELMs.  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$  is a necessary condition, but sufficient D fueling level is also required.

The shoulder is probably the result of a feedback loop between increased  $\Gamma_{perp}$ , wall recycling and ionization of reflected neutrals, leading to ever increased transport.

 $\lambda_{Te}$  and  $\lambda_{Ti}$  are decoupled, which could lead to enhanced  $\lambda_{q}$  under certain conditions in DEMO. Also, there is a risk of high T<sub>i</sub> D<sup>+</sup> ions arriving to the first wall.



### **Additional Slides**









#### **Evolution of particle transport**





#### **Evolution of heat transport**





Validated by IR and JET

#### **Implications on Transport: q**<sub>II</sub>





Total  $q_{\parallel}^{MEM}$  can be calculated and compared to IR measurements:

$$q_{\parallel}^{MEM} = q_{\parallel}^{fil} f_{fil} + q_{\parallel}^{back} (1 - f_{fil})$$







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#### **ExB Analyzer**



Probe head designed to measure ion energy distribution in real time.

Collaboration between AUG and COMPASS teams.



Time resolution determined by DAQ system (2 MHz)

#### **ExB** analyzer





#### **H-mode experiments**





Series of  $\Lambda_{div}$  sweeps with the same magnetic configuration (LSND Edge optimized) and parameters ( $B_T = 2.5 T$ ,  $I_P = 800 kA$ ,  $q_{95} = 4.85$ ) as L-mode.

Enough  $P_{heat}$  to access H-mode, but avoid damage to the manipulator.  $\Lambda_{div} > 1$ , is achieved using N seeding and/or large D fueling.

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#### **H-mode: Filament transition**





Perpendicular filament size transitions are observed for different N<sub>edge</sub> values at L-mode and H-mode. However, both happen around  $\Lambda_{div} = 1$ , in agreement with the SL-IN regime transition model.

Individual discharges show limited data. However, there is general correlation between  $\delta_b$  and  $\lambda_{n, far}$ .



#### H-mode experiments: Scenarios





To achieve different levels of  $\Lambda_{div}$ , and disentagle the contributions of  $D_{rate}$  and  $N_{rate}$ , 4 different scenarios are defined, based on  $P_{heat}$  and the relative amplitude of D fueling and N seeding.

To quantify the degree of shoulder formation,  $\lambda_{n,far}$  is defined in the far SOL.

#### Some scenarios develop a clear shoulder, some others do not.

## H-mode experiments: ELM synchronization EUROfusion

