

## Power and particle fluxes at the plasma edge of ITER : Specifications and Physics Basis

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**Abstract.** The physics basis for the evaluation of power fluxes on plasma facing components in ITER is described. The experimental and modelling basis for the specifications of these loads is summarised and the methodology followed for their extrapolation to ITER described.

### 1. Introduction.

As a result of the ITER design review activities, the specifications for power and particle fluxes onto plasma facing components (PFCs) have been revisited to incorporate the latest physics understanding of the processes leading to these loads and their scaling to ITER during both steady phases of the discharges and as a result of transients. Such specifications are required both for the detailed design of the PFCs as well as for estimating their lifetime when exposed to average and transient fluxes. It is particularly important to control transient fluxes in ITER (ELMs, etc.) to avoid temperature excursions which exceed material melting or sublimation points leading to erosion levels far above those expected in steady state. This paper summarises the experimental physics basis and the modelling/scaling methodology followed for the derivation of the magnitude of a selected set of these loads in ITER reference scenarios.

### 2. Power Fluxes to PFCs during steady phases of ITER discharges.

#### 2.1. Power fluxes to PFCs during ramp-up/down phases.

The precise specifications in terms of plasma shaping (limiter versus divertor phases) and power/density requirements etc., of these phases is the object of on-going optimisation studies to take into account the various limits in the ITER coils, inductive flux requirements for  $Q_{DT}=10$  operation, vertical stability etc., whose status is described in [1]. The present scenarios foresee initial and final ramp-up/down limiter phases in ohmic/low additional heating ( $P_{add}$ ) L-mode conditions, while significant  $P_{add}$  may be applied during the diverted (L-mode and H-mode) phases. The results of the analysis of ohmic/L-mode edge power fluxes for divertor discharges from a multi-machine database [2] have been adopted for ITER. A

factor of  $\sim 2$  around the predicted value for the power flux e-folding length (mapped to the outer midplane) has been assumed to account for uncertainties :

$$\lambda_p^L \text{ (m)} = (1 \pm 1/3) 3.6 \cdot 10^{-4} R(\text{m})^2 P_{\text{div}}(\text{MW})^{-0.8} \times q_{95}^{0.5} \times n_e(10^{19} \text{m}^{-3})^{0.9} \times Z_{\text{eff}}^{0.6} \quad (1)$$

where  $R$  is the major radius of the device  $P_{\text{div}}$  is the conducted power to the divertor,  $n_e$  is the average plasma density and  $Z_{\text{eff}}$  is the plasma effective charge. During the ramp-up/down phases the plasma density is low compared to  $n_{\text{GW}}$  (Greenwald limit) [1] and the total level of radiation is therefore expected to be moderate ( $\sim 30\%$  of  $P_{\text{input}}$ ) so that  $P_{\text{div}} \sim 0.7 P_{\text{input}}$ . Applying this scaling to derive  $\lambda_p$  for 15 MA L mode conditions near the H-mode transition ( $P_{\text{input}} = 40 \text{ MW}$ ,  $\langle n_e \rangle / n_{\text{GW}} = 0.4$ ,  $Z_{\text{eff}} = 2.0$ ) provides  $\lambda_p^{L-15\text{MA}} = 1.0 \pm 0.3 \text{ cm}$ . This is a factor of 2 larger than that expected for full performance  $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$  operation in H-mode [3], in reasonable agreement with the measured changes in  $\lambda_p$  at the H-mode transition. For H-mode conditions during the ramp-up/down phases it is, therefore, assumed that  $\lambda_p$  can be estimated on a similar basis from the L-mode scaling in (1), by dividing this calculated value by 2.

The same L-mode scaling has been applied to the limiter ramp-up/down phases in ITER by : a) replacing  $q_{95}$  by  $q_{\text{LCFS}}$  (which is about  $\sim 15\%$  higher in limiter plasmas), b) replacing the power to the divertor by the power to the limiters and c) taking into account the effect of a variable number of poloidal limiters (i.e., the scaling in (1) corresponds to a large number of poloidal limiters) following the model in [4] for an arbitrary number  $N$  of (flat, i.e. a polygonal distribution) poloidal limiters. The highest power fluxes and narrowest  $\lambda_p$  derived from this methodology are similar to those obtained from EMC3-Eirene modelling of ITER edge plasmas based on experimental results from JET [5]. The spatial location of the limiter has been found to have an important effect on the measured  $\lambda_p$  in experiments. This is caused by edge transport in tokamaks having a strong ballooning component, which leads to larger  $\lambda_p$  when plasmas are limited on the high field side (HFS) [6, 7]. As a consequence, the local  $\lambda_p$  at the PFCs in contact with the plasma is expected to be  $\sim 4$  times larger if the plasma is limited at the HFS than at the LFS (of this factor of  $\sim 4$ , 1.6 is due to the flux expansion at the HFS). This, together with the higher value of the toroidal field at the HFS yields expected local parallel power fluxes for a HFS limited phase in ITER which are similar to those predicted for a LFS limited phase ( $q_{\parallel\text{HFS}}^{\text{imp}} / q_{\parallel\text{LFS}}^{\text{omp}} = 0.84$ ).

The exact plasma conditions during these limiter phases are still the subject of on-going optimisation studies [1]. On the basis of present results [1] and for the purpose of defining the maximum power fluxes during limiter phases in ITER, the following prescription has been adopted  $P_{\text{lim}} \text{ (MW)} < I_p \text{ (MA)}$ . This allows for some moderate level of additional heating ( $P_{\text{add}} = 3\text{-}5 \text{ MW}$ ) during the limiter phases for plasma currents  $I_p > 4 \text{ MA}$ , in case it is required for optimising further these early/late phases of the discharges. As upper limits for the maximum  $I_p$  during ITER limiter phases the following values have been adopted : 5 MA (limiter-X-point transition for ramp-up) and 7.5 MA (X-point limiter transition for ramp-down). Scenario simulation studies in [1] show in fact that the ITER PF system actually permits these magnetic configuration transitions at much lower  $I_p$ .

An example of the parallel power fluxes onto the various PFCs in contact with the plasma during the ramp-up/down phases in ITER together with their outer midplane mapped decay lengths for typical L-mode conditions is shown in Fig. 1. For these results, the following assumptions have been made : **a)** the plasma density is maintained at  $\langle n_e \rangle / n_{\text{GW}} = 0.2$ , **b)**  $q_{95} \sim 3 \cdot (15 / I_p(\text{MA}))^{0.7}$ , which is approximately correct for the full-bore plasma ramp-up [1], **c)**  $Z_{\text{eff}} = 1.0 + 1.1 / \langle n_e \rangle (10^{19} \text{m}^{-3})$  ( $3.8 \rightarrow 1.5$  when  $I_p \text{ (MA)} = 2.5 \rightarrow 15$ ), typical for ITER simulations [1] and consistent with a beryllium dominated plasma at the early stages of the discharge, **d)**  $P_{\text{lim,div}}(\text{MW}) = 0.7 I_p \text{ (MA)}$ , which is typical for ohmic and low level of additional heating conditions and **e)** a range of outer to inner divertor power asymmetry  $1 < P_{\text{div,out}} / P_{\text{div,in}} < 2$ . Fig. 1 shows that even at these very moderate levels of  $P_{\text{lim}}$ , the parallel power fluxes for a plasma in the 2-port limiter configuration originally foreseen for ITER can reach very high values (close to  $\sim 100 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$  for the conditions described above), as was originally shown in [5], which is challenging for their design (see [8]).

## 2.2. Power fluxes to PFCs during ITER $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$ scenarios.

### 2.2.1. Power fluxes to the divertor during steady-state phases.

ITER is expected to explore a wide range of plasma conditions in divertor plasmas, which will cause a large range of plasma fluxes onto its PFCs. Since  $\lambda_p$  is usually found to decrease with  $I_p$  and  $P_{SOL}$  in H-modes [3], the largest power fluxes onto the divertor are expected to occur at the highest currents and powers. The methodology followed to determine  $\lambda_p$  for  $Q_{DT} = 10$  conditions in ITER is based on two approaches : the first one is a direct scaling of the present experimental database [3, 9, 10]; the second is based on B2-Eirene modelling in conjunction with edge MHD stability modelling for ITER [11]. Both approaches provide the same estimate for  $Q_{DT} = 10$  operation in ITER:  $\lambda_p = 5$  mm.

The expected power fluxes at the ITER divertor for fully attached operation can be derived on the basis of B2-Eirene results [12] and extrapolation from present experiments. In fully attached conditions, the level of divertor radiation is low, typically  $\sim 20\%$  of  $P_{SOL}$  ( $P_{SOL} = 80-100$  MW for  $Q_{DT} = 10$  in ITER) so that the power reaching the divertor is  $P_{div} < 80$  MW. Assuming a range of outer to inner divertor power asymmetries  $1 < P_{div,out}/P_{div,in} < 2$  leads to a maximum parallel power flux at either divertor target  $q_{||max} = 900$  MWm<sup>-2</sup>, corresponding to deposited power fluxes of up to  $\sim 40$  MWm<sup>-2</sup> [8]. It is important to note that divertor plasma conditions for these attached phases will almost certainly not be compatible with other requirements for the fusion performance of  $Q_{DT} = 10$  operation (which in turn determines  $P_{SOL}$ ), such as a sufficiently low level of core impurity, He exhaust etc. These attached conditions are therefore expected to occur only transiently when control of plasma detachment and divertor radiation fails (failure of plasma fuelling, impurity seeding, etc.) and are “naturally” limited in duration to periods whose length is determined by energy and particle confinement timescales in ITER (several seconds). Despite this relatively short duration, the associated power fluxes significantly exceed the power handling capability of the divertor target and, thus, such attached phases must be restricted to durations under  $\sim 1$  s. This requirement (as well as minimising the possibility of such attached phases occurring at all) is being taken into account in the detailed design of the gas introduction system in ITER, which is the main actuator on the edge plasma density (DT gas fuelling) and divertor radiation (impurity seeding) allowing semi-detached operation to be recovered [13]. Apart from the need to restrict excessive transient heat loads, B2-Eirene modelling shows that for  $\lambda_p = 5$  mm, the power handling requirements of the divertor target ( $q_{div,peak} < 10$  MWm<sup>-2</sup>), He ash removal required for maintaining  $Q_{DT} = 10$  fusion performance etc., can only be achieved in conditions of high divertor radiation/semidetached divertor operation (typically  $P_{rad} \sim 70\%$  of  $P_{SOL}$  by intrinsic or extrinsic impurities) [12]. The reduction by a factor of 4-6 of the peak divertor flux in semidetached conditions estimated by B2-Eirene with respect to the values for attached phases above is in good agreement with experimental observations in tokamaks (see for instance [14]).

### 2.2.2. Power fluxes to the main wall during steady-state phases.

Besides the divertor, the main wall of divertor tokamaks is subject to significant fluxes carried along the magnetic field by the plasma. These are in addition to other power fluxes such as those due to energetic atoms produced by charge-exchange and plasma radiation, which do not follow field lines. The origin of the parallel plasma fluxes is the turbulent nature of SOL transport, which leads to the fast radial convection of “blobs” in the far SOL of all tokamaks. The effective radial convective velocity in the outer SOL ( $v_{SOL}$ ) of this transport is observed to increase with the distance from the separatrix in the SOL [15, 16] and with increasing separatrix plasma density and/or edge collisionality [16, 17]. Evaluation of the experimental database [15] indicates that  $v_{SOL}$  is weakly dependent on device size, as shown in Fig. 2 (from data in [16, 17, 18]). On the basis of this evaluation [15] and direct measurements of  $v_{SOL}$  from other devices [16],  $v_{SOL} = 30-100$  ms<sup>-1</sup> is predicted at the first field line intersecting the main wall in ITER. This corresponds to  $\Delta R_{sep} = 0.05$  m, which is the typical expected distance between the two plasma separatrices for high triangularity/near double-null plasma operation required for  $Q_{DT} = 10$  operation. For the SOL field lines near

the inner wall, which are not magnetically connected to the outer SOL, the magnitude of the far SOL convective transport is much smaller than the values described above. This is due to the strong ballooning behaviour of transport in the SOL of both limiter and divertor plasmas. Measurements in present experiments operating in near double-null configurations [19] have been used to evaluate the magnitude of the far SOL convective transport in the inner wall disconnected SOL in ITER. On the basis of the SOL e-folding length measurements in [19], it is expected that  $v_{\text{SOL}}^{\text{IN-SOL}} = (1/3-1/5) v_{\text{SOL}}$ , where  $v_{\text{SOL}}^{\text{IN-SOL}}$  is the far SOL convective radial velocity in the disconnected SOL on the inner side.

While the magnitude of  $v_{\text{SOL}}$  directly correlates with the decay length of power fluxes in the far SOL region, the magnitude of the power flux itself at the near-far SOL interface is determined by near-SOL transport. The range of plasma parameters expected for ITER  $Q_{\text{DT}}=10$  operation at this interface has been evaluated on the basis of results from B2-Eirene simulations [12] and direct empirical extrapolation of experimental data [9] : a)  $T_e = 20$  eV,  $T_i/T_e = 2$ ,  $n_e = 5.0 \times 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-3}$  for low edge density conditions to b)  $T_e = 10$  eV,  $T_i/T_e = 2$ ,  $n_e = 1.5 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$  for high density conditions. Taking into account that the transport in the far SOL is mainly convective allows the power decay length  $\lambda_p = L v_{\text{SOL}}/c_s$  to be evaluated ( $L \sim 60$  m is the connection length of the field line covering a poloidal angle of  $\pi$  in ITER). The spatial profiles of the far SOL parallel power fluxes for a typical ITER  $Q_{\text{DT}}=10$  equilibrium and plasma conditions (i.e. distance between separatrices  $\Delta R_{\text{sep}} = 0.05$  m and main separatrix-inner wall PFC distance of 0.15 m) are shown in Fig. 3. The maximum values for these fluxes are reached at the upper region of the device (near the second X-point), both because this is closest to the separatrix and because the toroidal field at this location is higher than at the outer midplane. The total power flux to the main wall associated with this far SOL transport in ITER is estimated to be  $P_{\text{far-SOL}} < 20$  MW.

In addition to these steady-state fluxes, the main wall in ITER will be subject to energy and power fluxes associated with plasma radiation and charge-exchange neutrals. While the precise evaluation of these fluxes needs to be refined, their magnitude is not expected to exceed values of  $0.25 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$  for C-X atoms (including peaking by strong asymmetries in edge ionisation near the gas puffing system) and a similar value for plasma radiation. These loads reach the main wall PFCs in the direction orthogonal to their surface (on average). Similarly, extrapolation of measured loads by Marfes near the X-point [20] (which are unlikely to be compatible with the required plasma confinement for  $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$  operation) shows that the highest power flux in this event in ITER is  $\sim 1 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$  and is deposited on the tungsten divertor baffles, for which the steady-state power handling capability is  $5 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$  [8].

### 2.2.3. Power/Energy fluxes on divertor and main wall PFCs by ELMs.

#### 2.2.3.1. Divertor energy and power fluxes during ELMs.

Experimental evidence shows that the power flux to the divertor during ELMs is maximum near the separatrix, with a similar decay length at the divertor target to that measured between ELMs and has a high degree of toroidal symmetry [3]. Toroidally asymmetric structures can appear for field lines away from the separatrix at the divertor but power fluxes in these areas are typically more than one order of magnitude lower than for field lines close to the separatrix [21] and do not impose additional constraints for the design of the divertor target in ITER. On the basis of sheath transport scalings, the timescale for the rise phase of the ELM power deposition at the divertor target is expected to be in the range 250-500  $\mu\text{s}$  for ITER [3]. The experimental time dependence of the ELM power deposition measured in JET and ASDEX Upgrade [22] is well reproduced by the model described in [23]. As a consequence, a significant amount of the ELM energy (typically more than 66%) is expected to arrive at the target after the maximum ELM power deposition on an expected timescale a factor of  $\sim 2$  longer than the rise phase. Measurements of in/out ELM energy deposition asymmetries in JET and ASDEX Upgrade [24] show that for the favourable direction of the toroidal field for H-mode access, the ratio of inner to outer ELM energy

deposition is in the range of 1-2. The largest ELM loads in ITER are thus expected at the inner divertor. On this basis, the maximum energy density onto the inner and outer divertor targets can be estimated (with  $\sim 1.4 \text{ m}^2$  and  $\sim 1.9 \text{ m}^2$  the inner and outer effective areas for  $\lambda_p = 5 \text{ mm}$ ):

$$E_{\text{in,div}}^{\text{max}} (\text{MJm}^{-2}) \leq 2/3 * \Delta W_{\text{ELM}} (\text{MJ}) / 1.4 \ \& \ E_{\text{out,div}}^{\text{max}} (\text{MJm}^{-2}) \leq 1/2 * \Delta W_{\text{ELM}} (\text{MJ}) / 1.9 \quad (2)$$

where  $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}} (\text{MJ})$  is the bulk plasma energy loss. The latter is predicted to be  $\sim 20 \text{ MJ}$  for uncontrolled ELMs in ITER  $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$  conditions [25], corresponding to  $E_{\text{in,div}}^{\text{max}} (\text{MJm}^{-2}) = 9.5$ ,  $E_{\text{out,div}}^{\text{max}} (\text{MJm}^{-2}) = 5.3$  with an expected ELM frequency  $f_{\text{ELM}} = 1\text{-}2 \text{ Hz}$  [25]. Experimental studies of PFCs (with specifications required for ITER) exposed to ELM-like transient loads have shown that significant erosion can occur if the surface temperature is such that sublimation (CFC) or melting (W) is approached [26]. This would reduce the divertor lifetime to few full performance discharges with uncontrolled ELMs in ITER [27]. This erosion threshold corresponds to energy densities in the range of  $0.7\text{-}1.0 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$ , while for energy densities of  $\sim 0.5 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$  erosion is found to be negligible [26]. On this basis, requirements have been derived for ELM control in ITER consistent with negligible ELM erosion of the divertor targets resulting in a required maximum plasma energy loss for controlled ELMs in ITER of  $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}}^{\text{controlled}} \leq 1 \text{ MJ}$ . The expected frequency for such controlled ELMs is  $f_{\text{ELM}}^{\text{controlled}} = 20\text{-}40 \text{ Hz}$  [25]. These requirements have been taken into account for the incorporation/detailed specification of ELM control strategy and schemes in ITER [28].

### 2.2.3.2. Main wall power and energy fluxes during ELMs.

Measurements of ELM energy deposition at the divertor and main wall in present experiments show that for conditions equivalent to those of uncontrolled ELMs in ITER, 5-20% of the ELM energy lost from the main plasma is deposited on main wall PFCs [29, 30]. The physics basis with which the details of the ELM power deposition on main wall PFCs in ITER can be predicted is still evolving. Estimates of the magnitude of ELM power fluxes must therefore account for insufficient knowledge in the key determining processes; for example: the formation, detachment and propagation of filaments during ELMs, the competition of the losses along the field line from the ELM filaments with their radial and toroidal propagation, etc.

In view of the incomplete understanding, a conservative approach has been followed to provide an upper estimate for the parallel fluxes to be expected during ELMs at the ITER first wall: **a)** the model in [23], which characterises the competition between parallel and radial energy transport during ELMs has been used to determine the expected values of the peak parallel power fluxes at the ITER main wall; **b)** it is assumed that the values of measured ELM radial propagation velocities do not scale with device size, a maximum value of  $v_{\text{ELM}} \sim 1 \text{ kms}^{-1}$  for uncontrolled ELMs is used and it is assumed that this scales as  $v_{\text{ELM}} \sim \Delta W_{\text{ELM}}^{1/2}$  for controlled ELMs (ITER fusion performance requires that pedestal parameters are not significantly affected by ELM control schemes); **c)** it is assumed, as a worse case scenario, that ELM plasma filaments detach from the separatrix radial position and that the plasma characteristics at the time of detachment are similar to those at the pedestal (namely  $n_{\text{ped}} = 7.5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$  and  $T_{\text{ped}} = 5 \text{ keV}$  for ITER  $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$ ) [3] and **d)** it is assumed that the timescale for ELM power deposition by filament impact on the main wall is  $\sim 1/2$  of that at the outer divertor, as seen in experiment and reproduced by modelling [21, 31]. These assumptions provide an upper limit for the maximum parallel energy flux deposited at the upper X-point region ( $\Delta R_{\text{sep}} = 5 \text{ cm}$ ) in ITER of :

$$E_{\parallel, \text{ELM}}^{\text{upper-X}} = 1.0 \text{ MJm}^{-2} \text{ (controlled ELMs) and } 20 \text{ MJm}^{-2} \text{ (uncontrolled ELMs),}$$

which when mapped to the outer midplane correspond to  $E_{\parallel, \text{ELM}}^{\text{mp}} = 0.6 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$  and  $12 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$ , respectively. The range of decay lengths for the ELM energy deposition on the first wall is estimated to be  $\lambda_{\text{ELM}} = 0.025\text{-}0.09 \text{ m}$  (mapped to the outer midplane). The typical estimated fraction of  $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}}$  reaching the wall is under 10% for controlled ELMs and 20% or larger for uncontrolled ELMs. It is important to note that these maximum ELM parallel

energy fluxes on the first wall in ITER are one order of magnitude lower than the highest values at the separatrix itself ( $7.5 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$  (controlled ELMs) and  $150 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$  (uncontrolled ELMs) at the outer midplane). This is in agreement with experimental measurements during uncontrolled ELMs in present experiments [21] and modelling predictions for ITER [31].

The assumptions above are reasonably conservative on the basis of present experimental evidence and understanding but it is important to note that these remain incomplete and are subject of intense research. For example, new experimental/theoretical results from experiments in which ELM energy losses are reduced by increasing pedestal collisionality (not a feasible strategy for achieving the requirements for controlled ELMs in ITER), indicate that  $v_{\text{ELM}}$  may scale with a weaker power of the normalised ELM energy loss :  $v_{\text{ELM}}/c_{s,\text{ped}} \sim (\Delta W_{\text{ELM}}/W_{\text{ped}})^{1/4}$ , if the spatial scale of the ELM filaments depends on  $(\Delta W_{\text{ELM}}/W_{\text{ped}})$  [32]. Despite these uncertainties, predicted energy fluxes on ITER first wall based on direct extrapolation/modelling from results in present experiments (JET [32] and MAST [31]) with this prescription remain under the maximum values adopted for the ITER design following the approach described above. Fig. 4 shows the results obtained for the parallel ELM energy flux at the upper X-point region in ITER on the basis of the approach above and those derived from direct extrapolation from present experiments to ITER conditions (JET [32] and MAST [31]); the main difference between those being associated with the radial position of the filament at detachment (mid-pedestal point for JET extrapolations and separatrix for MAST extrapolations) and the normalisation of the MAST results to the separatrix ELM energy flux for controlled and uncontrolled ELMs foreseen for ITER.

In the absence of exposed edges in ITER main wall PFCs (which lead to close to normal incidence of field lines onto PFCs), the ELM energy fluxes to the main wall during controlled ELMs lead only to a relatively small additional power flux to the outer wall (ELMs fluxes are not observed in current devices to reach the inner wall for configurations close to DN, as in ITER) and should not cause any significant material erosion beyond that associated with physical sputtering of the impinging ions (i.e. no Be evaporation or melting for controlled ELMs). The absolute magnitude of the power arriving at the wall due to ELMs in ITER is expected to be small, typically less than 10% of the ELM power flux ( $P_{\text{ELM}} < 40 \text{ MW}$ ) i.e. 4 MW or 1/5 of the highest steady-state far-SOL transport power to the wall. However, contrary to the power fluxes in the far-SOL, main wall ELM fluxes are concentrated at the location of filament impact, which is expected to be random. The typical measured ratio of the filament FWHM to ELM filament separation is in the range 0.25-0.5 [32] so that a decrease of the ELM average power flux on the wall (compared to that which would be found if all ELM filaments would impact at the same static locations) by random impact in the range of 1.7-3.1 would be expected. For cases in which the ELM filament FWHM is approximately one half of the ELM filament separation, there is a significant probability that a series of ELM filaments will partially overlap at a wall location and the reduction of the power flux during this period will be smaller than the values given above. Evaluation of the number of events with significant ELM overlap and their duration has shown that this is limited to 0.5 s per discharge for controlled ELMs in ITER  $Q_{\text{DT}} = 10$  conditions ( $10^4$  ELMs per discharge), as shown in Fig.5.

From the evaluation of the energy parallel fluxes in ELM filaments above and their wall impact characteristics, the maximum parallel fluxes onto the first wall near the upper X-point for controlled ELMs with  $f_{\text{ELM}} = 20 - 40 \text{ Hz}$  can be evaluated as:

$$\langle q_{\parallel, \text{ELM}}^{\text{upper-X}} \rangle = 12\text{-}24 \text{ MWm}^{-2} \text{ with phases of } \Delta t < 0.5 \text{ s in which } q_{\parallel, \text{ELM}}^{\text{upper-X}} = 16\text{-}32 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$$

The power fluxes at any location of the outer wall can be derived from these values by the using the appropriate value of the toroidal field at the point of consideration and the distance between that point and the separatrix mapped to the outer midplane.

### 2.3. Power fluxes to first wall and divertor during fast confinement transients.

Fast changes of the plasma energy in ITER can lead to the plasma separatrix approaching the first wall. This is due to the intrinsic time scale for the variation of the

currents in the external superconducting PF coils and the diffusion of the magnetic fields through the vacuum vessel ( $\sim 1$  s) which is comparable with the timescale of the transients. A typical example is a transition from full performance H-mode to L-mode caused by a sudden decrease of the power flux through the plasma edge, which could be caused by a failure of the additional heating, unexpected impurity influx, etc. It is important to note that for the ITER  $Q_{DT} = 10$  scenario  $P_{SOL} < 2 P_{L-H}$  and, thus, any significant decrease of edge power flux could trigger a H-L transition. To evaluate the maximum power fluxes to ITER PFCs during such transition, the following H-L transition scenario, based on results from divertor tokamaks, has been considered :

a) An initial phase with time duration of 30-200 ms during which the plasma pressure in the region  $r/a > 0.75$  relaxes from H to L-mode causing an energy loss of  $\Delta W_{L-H} < 60$  MJ [33].

b) A further decrease of the plasma energy to typical L-mode values ( $\sim 130$  MJ and  $P_{SOL} = 50$  MW) within an L-mode energy confinement time of  $\sim 2$  s.

c) The power flux e-folding length during this phase is  $\lambda_p^L = 2 \lambda_p^H = 1$  cm.

As a result of such transition the plasma can shift radially inwards by  $\sim 10$  cm or more [34] depending on the state of saturation of the central solenoid [1], causing significant power fluxes to reach the inner wall. This poses a major challenge for its design and calls for the development of mitigation strategies to avoid this plasma contact [8]. These fluxes have been evaluated in Fig. 6 for a range of assumptions with respect to the minimum distance between the separatrix and the inner wall in these events. Fig. 6 shows that contact of the plasma separatrix with the inner wall leads to parallel fluxes in excess of  $250 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$  for intervals that depend on the duration of this phase, which can last up to 3 s.

### 3. Conclusions.

The specifications of the power fluxes to the divertor and main wall during all phases of high performance scenarios in ITER have been derived on the basis of the most up to date physics understanding from experimental measurements and modelling. A similar evaluation has been carried out for loads associated with RF heating systems, VDEs and disruptive phases of these scenarios, but is not described in the paper due to space limitations. These specifications are being used to refine the detailed design of plasma facing components in ITER as well as of the systems required for their mitigation. Further refinement of these load specifications will be needed in areas where large uncertainties remain (for instance runaway loads) to incorporate the latest R&D results obtained at the ITER Members' fusion facilities/modelling groups.

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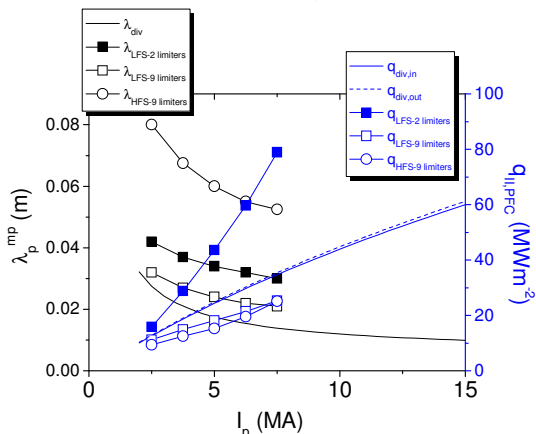


Figure 1. Calculated parallel power fluxes and power e-folding lengths mapped to the outer midplane at various PFCs in ITER (inner and outer divertor, 2 limiters at the Low Field Side, 9 Limiters at the Low Field Side and 9 limiters at the High Field side) for the L-mode assumptions described in the text

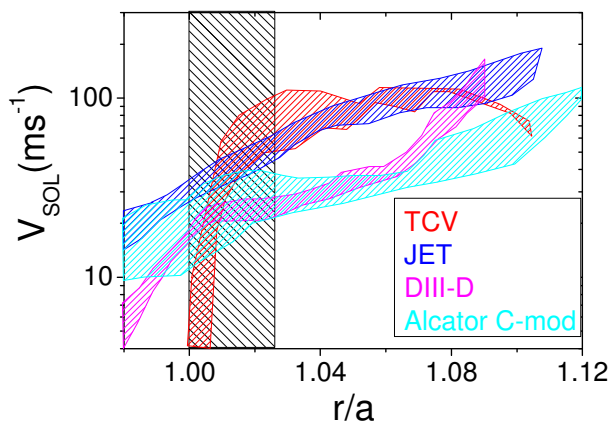


Figure 2. Derived effective plasma velocity in the SOL of various divertor tokamaks versus normalised distance to the separatrix (from [16, 17, 18]). The near SOL to far SOL division in this figure coincides with “standard” ITER operation near double null with a distance between the two separatrices  $\Delta R_{sep} = 0.05$  m

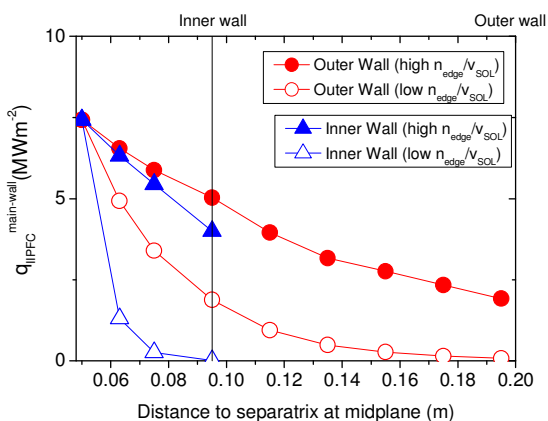


Figure 3. Calculated parallel power flux on the inner and outer wall for a range of assumptions concerning far-SOL transport for the ITER  $Q_{DT} = 10$  scenario

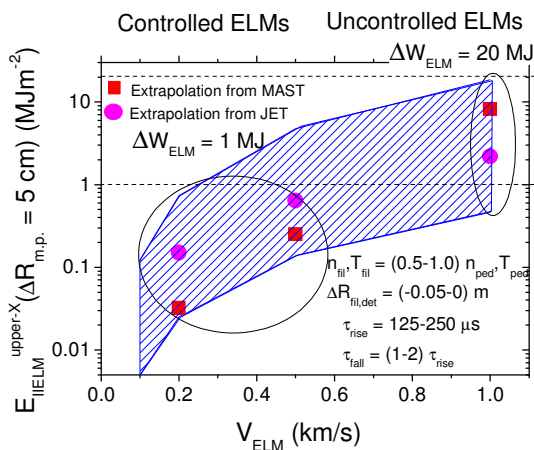


Figure 4. Calculated parallel energy fluxes during ELMs at the upper X-point region for the ITER  $Q_{DT} = 10$  scenario for uncontrolled and controlled ELMs. The dashed area indicates the range for the ELM energy fluxes assumed for the ITER first wall design

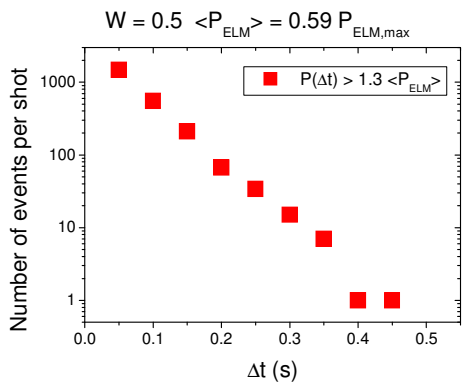


Figure 5. Number of events and associated time duration leading to significant ELM power fluxes above the average and their duration for FWHM-filament/ELM spacing = 0.5.

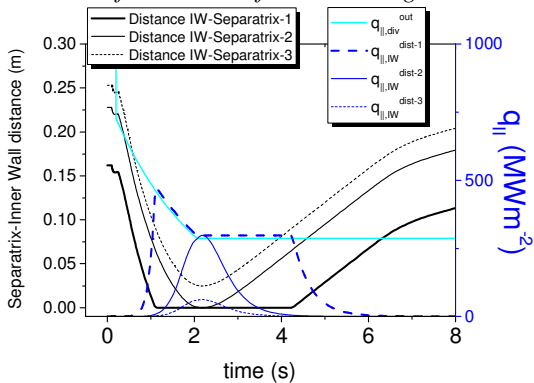


Figure 6. Parallel fluxes to the outer divertor target and inner wall following a fast L-H transition for a range of assumptions concerning the minimum distance between separatrix and inner wall during the transition