

Core radiative collapse in WEST LHCD plasmas: characterization and integrated modelling

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Core radiative collapse in WEST LHCD plasmas: characterization and integrated modelling

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WEST: superconducting full W environment heated by RF



B _T	3.7 T
R	2.5 m
а	0.4/0.5 m
P _{LH}	2 launchers 7 MW
P _{ICRH}	3 antennas 9 MW

Dominant electron heating, no external torque.

In this talk: L-mode experiments, in deuterium with LHCD dominant heating.

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Two different confinement states in WEST database



Two questions arise from this analysis:

• Why are there two branches?

• Why do the 25% of the discharges in the hot branch collapse?

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3



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- Characterize and understand the dynamics of the radiative collapse;
- **Reproduce** the rapid **collapse** of **central temperature** using an integrated modelling framework;
- Conclusions.

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Outline





- Characterize and understand the dynamics of the radiative collapse;
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Unstable plateaus consistent with W cooling factor unstable range





Prior to the collapse:

- a slow increase of electron density;
- a slow decrease of electron temperature;
- a **constant W** density;
- a slow **decrease** of central **HXR signal**: signature of a lower fast electron production by **LHCD**.

During the collapse : **peaking of the tungsten profile**.



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The T_e(0) collapse is captured by the modelling

1D transport code: **RAPTOR** [F. Felici NF 2018] **Turbolent transport: 10D Neural Network version** trained on **QuaLiKiz**.

[K. van de Plassche PP 2020]



$\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{e}}$ and $\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{i}}$	Predicted using QLKNN-10D
P _{LHCD}	LUKE
n _e	interpretative
n _w	Interpretative, based on bolometry inversion
P _{rad}	Using ADAS database



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LHCD core absorption reduced to capture T_e(0) dynamics





W peaking due to the temperature collapse



10

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Tungsten peaking and LHCD core absorption reduction both needed for the collapse dynamics



The **collapse** is not reproduced if the **radiated power** inside ρ =0.1 does not **overtake the central electron heating**.

Only with both the contribution of the **tungsten** accumulation and the decrease of the central LHCD absorption the speed of collapse is reproduced.







- Characterize and understand the dynamics of the radiative collapse;
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Cea Conclusions

- In the database, L mode plateaus where T_e(0) rapidly collapse are identified in the range of 1.5 keV and 3 keV.
- Time sequence of $T_e(0)$ collapse acceleration:
 - The slight density rise leads to less on-axis LHCD power deposition enhancing the central T_e reduction;
 - ∇T reduction in core leads to a reduction of W core temperature screening hence to core W accumulation.
- even in absence of external torque and particle source, core electron heating is required to burn-through W cooling factor.
 - Core ICRH absorption optimization ongoing;
 - 3MW of **ECRH** from 2023.



DE LA RECHERCHE À L'INDUSTRIE

BACK UP SLIDES

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Plateau Statistics Reduced L-mode Database



- The database contains the **mean values** and the **standard deviations** of different diagnostic measurements at each **plateau** (quasi-steady-state).
- The plateaus are identified intersecting the **total power plateaus** and the **plasma current plateaus**.
- There are **285** discharges with **732** plateaus in the database.





Characterizing the $T_e(0)$ dynamics in the database cea

Automatic identification of radiative collapses within plateaus:



Three categories identified:

unstable plateaus where a collapse takes place, cold stable plateaus and remaining plateaus called stable hot.

ece te center signal

shot 54369

4.8

4.9

time [s]

5.0

5.1

5.2

16

Cea The T_e collapse is captured by the modelling





Collapse reproduction in discharge 54802



The same procedure was carried out for the **54802 discharge**.

The temperature collapses are associated to **variable contributions** of **LHCD** core heating depletion and **tungsten peaking**.

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WEST database aligned with ITER96L





Filter:

- Small reconstruction errors;
- Diverted plasma;
- L-mode plateaus;
- LSN
- Only deuterium shots



Bolometry tomography to compute the power emission density profile



A **bolometer** measures a line-integrated value of the **local radiative emissivity** along a viewing line of sight.

A concentric layer decomposition of local plasma emissivity is assumed together with asymmetric factors in the SOL and edge. The tomography inversion is computed.

The power emission in $\frac{W}{m^3}$ for each layer are estimated.



Above **1KeV** the **main radiator** is the **tungsten**.

Assuming that all the **emission radiation** comes from the **tungsten**, it is possible to use the inverse of bolometry to compute **its density** at each layer.





 $\frac{P_{tot}}{n_{e,vol}}$ for hot and cold branches and collapsing discharges



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$\stackrel{\text{Cea}}{=} P_{LH} \text{ and } n_{e,vol} \text{ for hot and cold branches and collapsing discharges}$







The central value is adjusted to find the optimum between ϵ_{slope}



and $\epsilon_{temperature}$.

$$\epsilon_{slope} = \frac{\left| \left(T_{t-1}^{exp} - T_t^{exp} \right) - \left(T_{t-1}^{simu} - T_t^{simu} \right) \right|}{\left(T_{t-1}^{exp} - T_t^{exp} \right)}$$

$$\epsilon_{temperature} = \frac{\left| T^{exp} - T^{simu} \right|}{T^{exp}}$$



Cea W neoclassical transport

W neoclassical transport (in absence of poloidal asymmetries)







The plateaus in H mode in C4:

- In USN 4 plateaus
- In LSN 10 plateaus
- Max duration of H mode on WEST 4 s.
- The transitions are observed in the hot and cold branches.
- The transitions are unstable because P_{rad} increases when the pedestal is formed and so the power that crosses the separator is reduced and we go back to L mode.
- In C6 we will raise the density to high power because we think we were on the low density branch of the L-H transition.