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Comparison of Fluctuations in Lower and Upper Single Null Plasmas in DIII-D¹ J.C. ROST, M. PORKOLAB, B.J. YOUNGBLOOD, Plasma Science and Fusion Center, MIT, G.R. MC-KEE, U. Wisconsin, T.L. RHODES, UCLA, R.A. MOYER, UCSD, K.H. BURRELL, GA — Measurements were performed on DIII-D to compare the turbulence in upper single-null (USN) and lower single-null (LSN) plasmas with otherwise identical parameters, focusing on the effect of the geometry on the H-mode transition. Data was acquired in L-mode plasmas slightly below the H-mode threshold and ELMy H-mode plasmas with phase contrast imaging (PCI), beam emission spectroscopy, Langmuir probes, and reflectometry. In the L-mode discharges the poloidal velocity of the fluctuations shows a large shear in LSN (∇B drift toward the X-point) a few cm inside the left closed flux surface, while the USN at the same power does not. PCI data show that the $k_{\theta} = 0$ modes are dominated by radially outward k_r modes in USN and inward modes in LSN. The ELMs are similar in both geometries; the fluctuations above 20 kHz increase sharply 0.3 ms before the rise in D_{α} emission and start to decay immediately, while lower frequencies peak with the emission.

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