Analysis of a Multi-Machine Database on Divertor Heat Flux

by

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Outline

- Motivation
- Experimental Conditions and Diagnostics
- Heat Flux Profiles
- Multi-Machine Scaling Relations
- Plasma Profile Analysis
- Comparison with SOL Models
- Conclusion and Summary



Summary of Heat Flux Width Scaling

 Multi-machine data base predicts a scaling

$$\lambda_q \sim \frac{a}{I_p} \sim \frac{1}{B_p}$$

 Two-parameter fit yields independent scaling for private and common flux regions

- Upstream plasma profiles correlated with divertor heat flux width
- Heat flux width scaling consistent with drift based model





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- Resulting heat fluxes can easily exceed material limit of ~10 MW/m²

Heat Flux Width is Dependent on Both Parallel and Cross-field Transport

- SOL thermal transport can be cast as competition between parallel and cross-field transport
 - Parallel physics governed by
 - conductive/convective transport and boundary conditions
 - Cross-field physics governed by drift/collisional/turbulent transport
 - Scale lengths are vastly different: $\chi_{\parallel}/\chi_{\perp} \sim 10^6$

• Don't consider contribution from ELMs to heat flux

- Only contributes ~ 20% of the heat
- Likely scales differently

Present Study is Unique in its Scope

• Present study differs from previous ones

- Coordinated effort on three different devices: CMOD, D3D, and NSTX
- Similar magnetic topology
- Similar plasma conditions
- Improved IR thermography providing between-ELM (steady-state) heat flux measurements, as in previous DIII-D work

Yields a cohesive data set that

- Allows study of underlying physics
- Establishes a firm physics basis for extrapolation to next-step devices

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Engineering and Physics Parameters Were Varied Over a Wide Range

• Basic magnetic configuration was the same

- Lower single null with grad-B drift towards the x-point
- ELMy H-mode (EDA in the case of CMOD)
- Attached divertor

Some differences exist

- Divertor physical geometries
- Target is Mo in CMOD and Carbon in DIII-D and NSTX

	I _p (MA)	B _t (T)	f_{GW}	a (m)	R (m)	P _{sol} (MW)
Range	3.0 x	14.7 x	3.0 x	2.7 x	2.5 x	9.8 x
CMOD	0.5 – 1.0	4.6 - 6.2	0.3 – 0.7	0.22	0.69	0.6 - 3.0
DIII-D	0.5 – 1.5	1.2 – 2.1	0.4 - 0.6	0.60	1.75	1.2 – 4.5
NSTX	0.6 - 1.2	0.42 -0.49	0.3 – 0.9	0.60	0.86	2.4 – 5.9

Significant Variation in Size was Obtained

IR Thermography is the Primary Means of Measuring the Heat Flux

Steady-state Heat Flux Profiles are Measured Between ELMs

 Fast infrared camera measures the surface temperature between ELMs

-Supplemented by probe and slower thermocouple measurements

No profile broadening due to strike point motion

Codes Are Used to Convert Surface Temperature to Heat Flux

- Temperature is converted to heat flux by solution of the 2D, time-dependent, non-linear heat diffusion equation
 - Anisotropic in the case of carbon (THEODOR code)
 - Finite element code used for curved divertor in CMOD (QFLUX_2D)

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Parallel Heat Flux is Used to Compare Different Devices

- To reconcile differing divertor geometries, the parallel heat flux, mapped to the outer midplane, is used for inter-machine comparisons
- Typically, φ is a few degrees

The Traditional Way to Characterize the Heat Flux Profile is with the Integral Width

• Integral width is a single parameter measure of a profile

$$\lambda_{q,\text{int}} = \frac{1}{q_{\parallel,0}} \int q_{\parallel}(R_{mp}) dR_{mp}$$
The integral width captures the contribution to the heat flux from the "tail" such as in CMOD profiles
Integral width includes contributions from both the private and common flux regions
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{q_{\parallel,0}} \int q_{\parallel}(R_{mp}) dR_{mp}$$

 $\rho - \rho_{\text{sep}} (\text{mm})$

The Eich Function is a Two-parameter, Semi-empirical Fit to the Entire Profile

• Eich* has developed a *two-parameter*, semi-empirical profile fit-function:

$$q_{\parallel}(s) = \frac{q_{\parallel,0}}{N\sqrt{\pi w_{pvt}^2}} \int_0^\infty e^{-(s-s')^2/w_{pvt}^2} e^{-s'/\lambda_{sol}} ds' + q_{bkg}$$

- The function is a convolution of a Gaussian and an Exponential
 - Gaussian: Characterized by w_{pvt} and models diffusion into the private flux and SOL regions
 - Exponential: Characterized by I_{sol} and models transport in the SOL

*T. Eich, accepted for publication, PRL.

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- Integral width of Eich profile is

$$\lambda_{eich-int} = \frac{1}{q_{\parallel 0}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [q_{\parallel}(s) - q_{bkg}] ds$$
$$\approx \lambda_{sol} + 1.64 w_{pvt}$$

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Primary Dependence Found is Approximately Inverse with I_p

- All three machines independently demonstrate an inverse I_p dependence with slightly different exponents
- This dependence persists in the multi-machine scaling
- Secondary dependencies

 (B_t, P_{sol}, ...) vary from machine to machine and
 - With choice of heat flux width
 - Weighting of data

Similar Dependencies Obtained with Different Measures of Width

• Predominant scaling is $\sim a^{0.4}/I_p$

$$\lambda_{fit} = C \cdot I_p^{e_I} \cdot B_t^{e_B} \cdot a^{e_a} \cdot f_G^{e_f}, \qquad f_G = n_e / (I_p / \pi a^2)$$

M.A. Makowski/APS/November 2011

The Eich Parameters w_{pvt} and λ_{sol} have Different Parametric Dependencies

- Private flux (w_{pvt})
 - Strong dependence on I_p , f_G

- Weak dependence on B_t , P_{sol}

- SOL (I_{sol})
 - Strong dependence on I_p , a
 - Weak B_t and no f_G dependence

Scaling with a/I_p Suggest B_{pol} as Fundamental Dependence

- Scaling of λ_{sol} with a/I_p suggests B_{pol} as a regression variable
- Resulting scaling is independent of all other variables, including minor radius, a
- Has same value of correlation coefficient as 4 parameter regression

Data from this Study is Consistent with JET/ASDEX-U Results*

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High Quality Upstream Plasma Profile Data has been Obtained

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- Relevant region for SOL models is quite small: ~10 mm
- Can extract accurate gradient scale lengths: L_{ne}, L_{Te}, L_{pe}

$$L_{ne} = \left(\frac{1}{n_e} \frac{dn_e}{dR}\right)^{-1}$$

 Possible to evaluate the validity of simple models for parallel heat flux

Profile Scale Lengths Generally Consistent with Parallel Physics Models of Heat Flux Width*

- Parallel physics models generally predict that the heat flux width is proportional to the gradient scale lengths of the profiles of n_e , T_e , or P_e (or a combination of them)
- Models relate scale lengths to the heat flux width, but do not predict what determines the width
- Flux-limited model agrees better than Spitzer model

$$\lambda_{\text{spitzer}} = \frac{2}{7} L_{Te}, \quad \lambda_{\text{flux-limited}} = \left(\frac{1}{L_{ne}} + \frac{1.5}{L_{Te}}\right)^{-1}$$

P.C. Stangeby, GO4.00009

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What Sets the Heat Flux Width??

- Competition between parallel and cross-field physics determines the heat flux width
- Scaling of the heat flux width indicates the dependencies, but not the underlying physics mechanisms

- Result is that the heat flux width depends strongly on B_{ρ}

- Parallel physics yields a simple relation between the divertor heat flux width and SOL profiles
- Examine two possible models for SOL transport expected to scale with B_p

Drift Based Model of SOL Flows Quantitatively Predicts the Heat Flux Width

- This is a first principals model with no free parameters but is based on a heuristic derivation*
- Magnetic drifts carry particles into the SOL
- Parallel flows assumed in the SOL
- The penetration of the drift into the SOL determines the *density* scale length
- Anomalous electron thermal diffusivity is needed to provide heat exhaust
- Factors of order unity may apply

*Goldston, accepted for publication, Nuc. Fusion

Our Results are Consistent with Drift Based Theory of Heat Flux Width

$$\lambda_{qll,Goldston} = 5671 \cdot P_{sol}^{1/8} \frac{(1+\kappa^2)^{5/8} a^{1778} B^{1/4}}{I_p^{9/8} R} \left(\frac{2\overline{A}}{1+\overline{Z}}\right)^{7/16} \left(\frac{Z_{eff}+4}{5}\right)^{1/8}$$
• Observed size scaling is consistent with drift based theory of heat flux width
• Predicts that the heat flux width is proportional to the poloidal gyroradius ~ B^{-1}{}_{p,mp}
$$\frac{a^{17/8}}{I_p^{9/8} R} \approx \frac{a^2}{I_p R} = \frac{a}{R} \frac{1}{B_p}$$

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The Kinetic Ballooning Mode (KBM) is a Leading Candidate for Setting the Edge Pressure Gradient*

- Estimate the KBM critical gradient at the separatrix by the ideal ballooning mode stability limit
- Measured and calculated pressure gradients scale similarly
 - Factor of 1.5 is within the uncertainty of measurements and calculation
- For a complete model of the heat flux width, need
 - A more accurate calculation of the KBM limit
 - A model for the separatrix pressure

Snyder, Cl2.00005

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Implications for Next Step Devices

- Inverse I_p dependence dominates scaling of heat flux width
 - This has important implications for high plasma current next step devices
- Regardless of secondary dependencies, heat flux widths are consistently smaller than currently used scaling relations
 - Results here predict a width of the order of 1 mm for ITER
 - This is substantially less than the present estimate of 5 mm

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