







Overview of H-mode Pedestal Research on DIII-D

T.H. Osborne, K.H. Burrell, T.N. Carlstrom, M.S. Chance, M. Chu, E.Doyle, J.R. Ferron, R.J. Groebner, R. La Haye, L.L.Lao, A.W.Leonard, M.A. Mahdavi, G. McKee, R. Moyer, D. Mosesian, G. Porter, P.B. Snyder, G. Staebler, E.J. Strait, D.M. Thomas, A.D. Turnbull, M.R. Wade, and the DIII-D Team

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Motivation and Goals for H-mode Pedestal Studies

Motivation

- As a boundary condition for core kinetic profiles, H-mode transport barrier characteristics can strongly influence energy transport and β limit.
- The ELM instability can negatively impact core performance and result in unmanageable divertor power loads.
- Goals
 - Develop a physics based predictive capability for the H-mode pedestal characteristics in the Type I ELM regime to be used as boundary conditions in core transport models, and for possible control of the pedestal parameters.
 - Develop a physics based predictive capability for the effects of Type I ELMs in the core and divertor, for possible mitigation of the negative effects of ELMs
 - Explore alternatives to the Type I ELM regime that may provide a path to high core performance without the negative ELM effects.

H-mode pedestal may impact H-mode based tokamak reactor performance through temperature profile stiffness.

• Maximum P_F and Q are obtained at min <T> for stable operation => $P_F/P_{LOSS} \sim H^2$



H-mode pedestal pressure loss with stiff temperature profiles contribute to H reduction at high density on DIII-D



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H-mode pedestal can impact core stability



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Type I ELM energy loss increases with H-mode pedestal energy. ELM divertor heat loads can be a problem for reactor scale device



Edge Stability

- Determining a scaling for p^{PED} or T^{PED} is separated into a study of the H-mode transport barrier width, Δ, and pressure gradient, p'
- p' may be set by the ELM instability.
- A may be set by the physics of turbulence suppression.
- Stability work has concentrated on Type I ELM regime which has high energy confinement over a wide range of conditions.
- Comparison of conditions just before an ELM with theory:
 - GATO, 1<n<11 ideal modes in real geometry with wall
 - BALOO, n=∞ ideal ballooning modes
 - ELITE, intermediate n pealing/ballooning modes

Pedestal Parameter Evolution in Type I ELM Discharge



Future work on edge stability: Li Beam Diagnostic

- Lithium Beam Diagnostic
 (D.M. Thomas^[1]): high spatial resolution Zeeman effect measurement of edge magnetic field
 - Diagnostic is installed on DIII-D and taking preliminary data.
 - Will allow quantitative comparison between theory and experiment

[1] D.M Thomas, et.al, Rev. Sci. Inst. <u>72</u> 1023 (2001).



Ballooning mode model for ELM cannot account for edge p'; second stability plays a role.



Observations are consistent with low n, ideal, edge localized, kink/ballooning as mode associated with the Type I ELM



H-mode transport barrier width and stability limit are coupled for lower n modes.



- Improved Stability for narrow H-mode barrier width predicted in GATO runs for n=5 and by Rodgers, Drake, Zeiler theory.
- Effect of barrier width for higher n modes (no SS access to ballooning) predicted by RDZ theory does not appear to be present.



ELM mode may be the highest n ideal mode without access to second stability and consistent with FLR stabilization



H-mode Transport Barrier Width



- Derivation of barrier width scaling form data base of discharges.
- Testing of derived scaling with specific experiments.
- Dimensionally similar comparison with CMOD discharges.
- Role of neutrals model for in determining the density pedestal.
- Future Work
 - Hopefully more direct intermachine comparisons
 - Development of a coupled turbulent transport and stability code for the edge (underway).

Pedestal Parameter Evolution in Type I ELM Discharge



H-mode transport barrier width scaling



- Empirical scaling: only I_P, p_e^{PED} , T_e^{PED} are strongly correlated with Δ : $\Delta \propto (p_e^{PED})^{0.52}/B_P^{0.94} \approx (\beta_P^{PED})^{1/2}$ or $\Delta \propto (T_e^{PED})^{0.36}/B_P^{0.44} \approx (\rho_P^{PED})^{1/2}$
- Shaing^[1]: Ion obit loss $\Rightarrow E_R$, $\omega_{ExB} \Rightarrow$ turbulence suppression $\Delta/R \approx (\epsilon/s)^{1/2} \rho_P/R$, where s=orbit squeezing. $s=|1-dE_R/dR/(B_P \Omega_P)| \approx |1+(\rho_P^2/(\delta L_{Ti})| \approx 1 \Rightarrow \delta_{SHAING}/R \approx 0.6\rho_P/R$
- IFS-PPPL^[2]: ITG and TEM turbulence, nonlinear simulations indicate turbulence is suppressed when $\omega_{ExB} > \gamma_L \Rightarrow \Delta_{IFS-PPPL}/R \approx 4 \rho_i/R (T_i/T_e) (1+f(q))/(1+f(\epsilon)) [\times S^x]^{[3]}$



[1]K.C. Shaing, *Phys. Fluids B* 4, 290 (1992)
[2]W. Dorland, et. al, ISPP-17, *Theory of Fusion Plasma s*, SFI Bologna 185 (1996)
[3]M. Sugihara, et. al, 2000 EPS.

Divertor pumping experiment appears to rule out the T^{PED} as a controlling parameter for H-mode transport barrier width



Pedestal dimensionless scaling experiment in collaboration with Alcator-CMOD Group

- Can dimensionless scaling be applied to H-mode transport barrier width (or is atomic physics important) ?
- Match plasma shape, q; scale T_e^{PED} , n_e^{PED} to maintain v*, ρ^* , β fixed
- Data still being analyzed but possible quasi-coherent mode observed in DIII-D
- Future direct comparisons between machines of this type could be very helpful.



Density pedestal may be determined by charge exchange penetration of neutrals



^[1]W. Engelhardt, W. Fenenberg, J. Nucl. Mater. 76-77 (1978) 518.
[2]M.A. Mahdavi et al., "High Performance H-mode Plasmas at Densities above the Greenwald Limit", 2000 IAEA meeting, submitted to Nucl. Fusion



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ELM effects

- Radial extent of the ELM instability eigenmode correlated with ELM size.
- Quiescent H-mode: high energy confinement ELM free regime without the problems of ELM free H-mode (density and impurity accumulation, large edge current and resulting instability).
- Future work.
 - Other models for the Type I ELM energy loss mechanism ?
 - Coupling of edge kink/ballooning to core ?
 - Response of stiff temperature profile ?
 - Inward propagation of the instability ?



Change in ELM size with shape and q may be related to change in radial mod width of associated instability (JT-60U discharges^[1]).



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Reduction in ELM size at high density may be due to reduced mode number at higher collisionality



 v_{i}^{*}

0

0.2

0

10

0



0

 $0.9 \psi - \psi_{\text{AXIS}} / \psi_{\text{SEP}} - \psi_{\text{AXIS}}$

N

ELM free H-mode with edge harmonic oscillation (EHO) has high H and no density accumulation.



Conclusions



- Edge Stability
 - Low medium n edge localized kink/ballooning mode is good candidate for Type I ELM instability
 - Quantitative comparison between theory and experiment will be possible with Li-Beam edge current density diagnostic.
 - Extension of intermediate n theory
 - MHD associated with QH-mode still not understood
- Transport barrier width
 - DIII-D CMOD comparison may indicate dimensionless scaling applies to the edge but need more inter-machine comparisons to settle this and to derive the scaling laws.
 - Need to develop a model for the edge including both transport and stability since these effects are coupled

ELM Effects

- ELM size may be related to low-medium n mode radial extent
- Other possibilities (e.g stiff profiles) should be tested