Burning Plasma Confinement Projections and Renormalization of the GLF23 Drift-Wave Transport Model

J. E. Kinsey, G. M. Staebler, and R. E. Waltz

¹Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015

²General Atomics, P. O. Box 85608, San Diego, California 92186

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Abstract

Fusion power predictions are presented using the GLF23 drift wave transport

model for several next-step tokamak designs including ITER, FIRE, and IG-

NITOR. The GLF23 model has been renormalized using recent gyrokinetic

simulations and a database of nearly fifty H-mode discharges from three differ-

ent tokamaks. The renormalization reduces the ITG/TEM driven transport

by a factor of 3.7 while ETG mode transport is increased by a factor of 4.8

with respect to the original model. Using the renormed model, the fusion

power performance is uniformly assessed and the pedestal requirements are

summarized for each device. The renormed model is still quite stiff and yields

somewhat more optimistic predictions for next-step burning plasma experi-

ments. The consequences of stiff transport in the plasma core are discussed.

A fusion fit formula is derived whereby the GLF23 results follow a universal

stiff model curve for the normalized fusion power versus pedestal temperature.

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