

Spectroscopic applications for plasma-wall interaction observations in fusion devices

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**Joint ICTP-IAEA School on Atomic and Molecular
Spectroscopy in Plasmas**

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1. Introduction

- a) tokamak plasma-wall interactions
- b) diagnostic tools

2. Spectroscopic applications in plasma edge

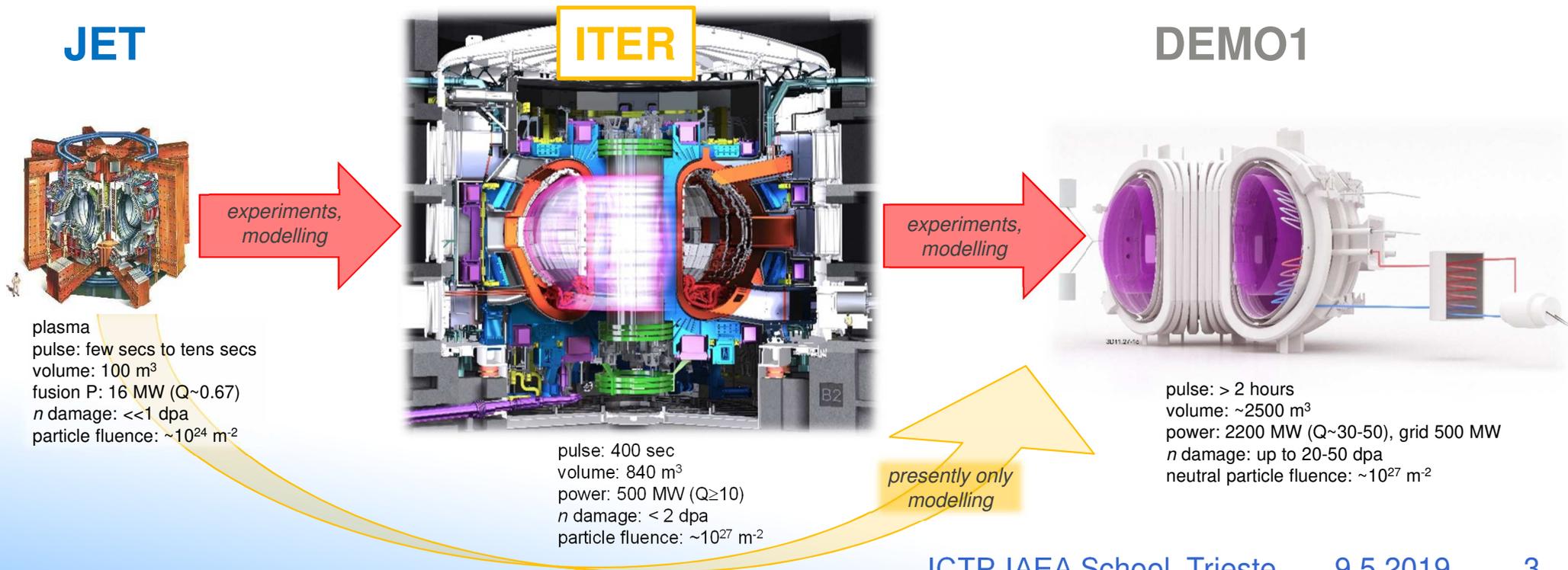
- a) erosion of Be wall material
- b) material migration
- c) plasma-induced erosion of W

3. Divertor spectroscopy and ELMs

- a) ELM-induced erosion of W
- b) plasma-material interactions and ELMs
- c) fuel retention and effect of ELMs

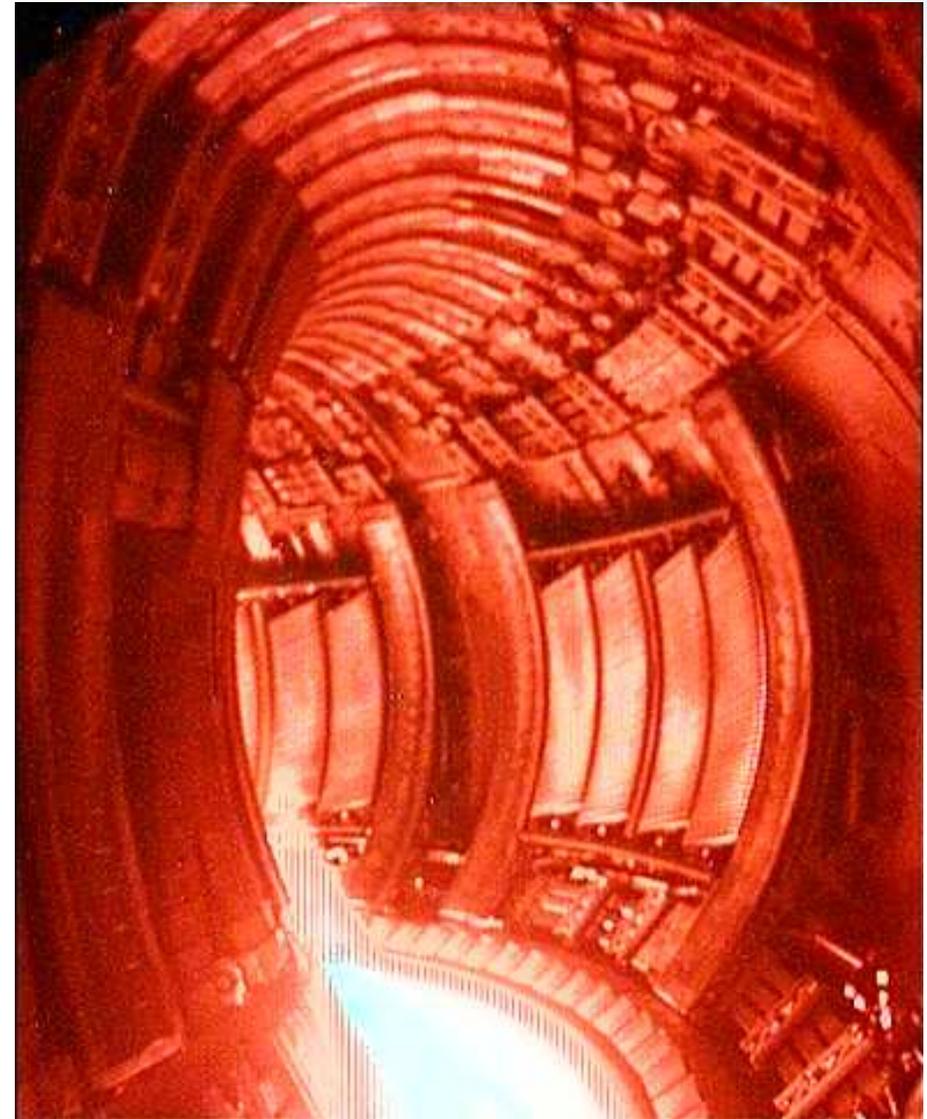
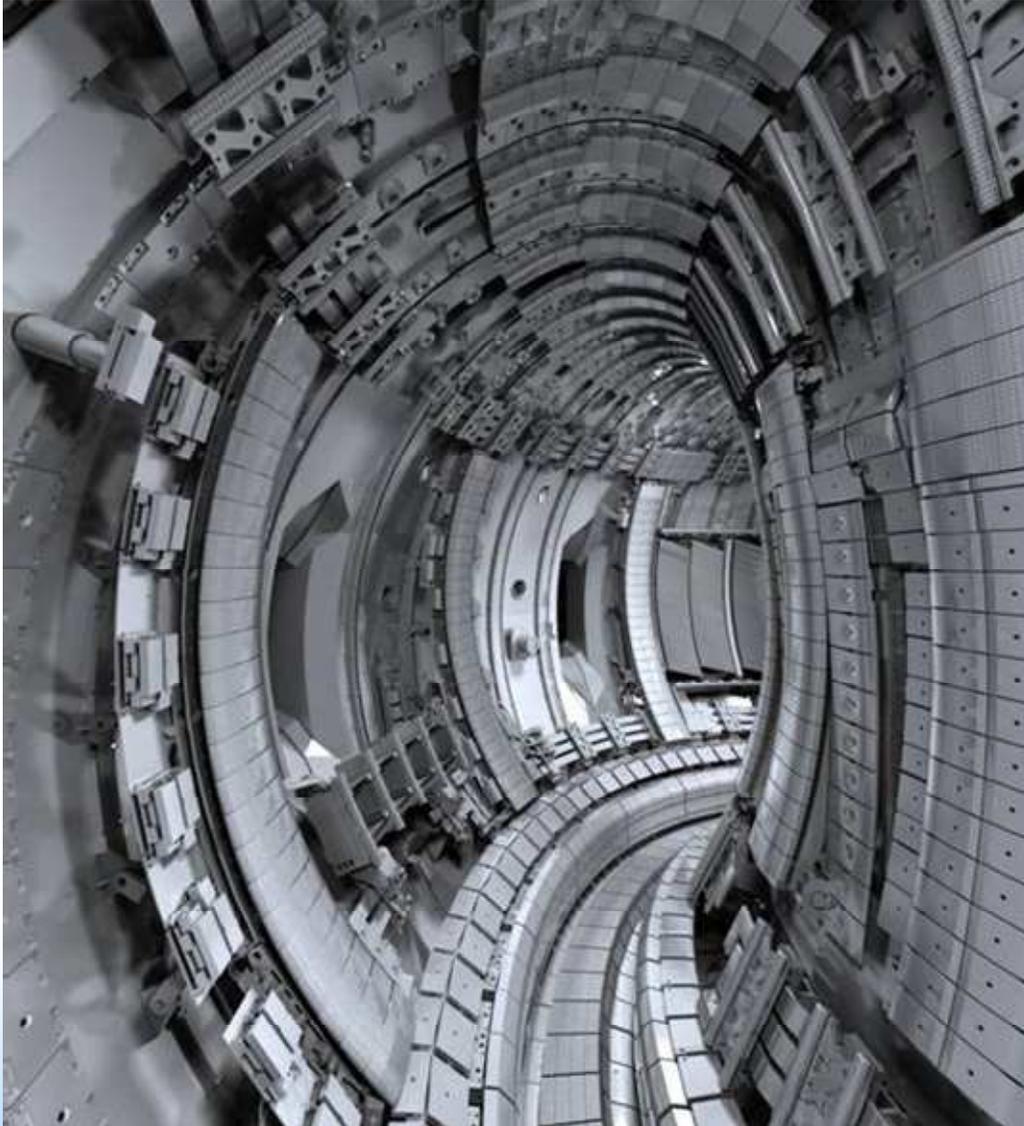
1.a tokamaks and PWI

- present day fusion devices to study plasma properties & plasma-wall interactions (PWI): plasma-surface (PSI) & plasma-material interactions (PMI)
 - experimental results transferred/extrapolated to larger devices
 - plasma power and intensity of PWIs increase with machine size
 - modelling & simulations play a crucial role
 - models to cope with DEMO & Fusion Power Plant conditions
 - plasma physics (A+M data!) and materials science



1.a tokamaks and PWI

- plasma monitoring and control
 - plasma magnetically confined → drifts, etc → plasma-wall interactions (PWIs)



1.a tokamaks and PWI

□ plasma monitoring and control

➤ plasma magnetically confined → drifts, etc → plasma-wall interactions (PWIs)

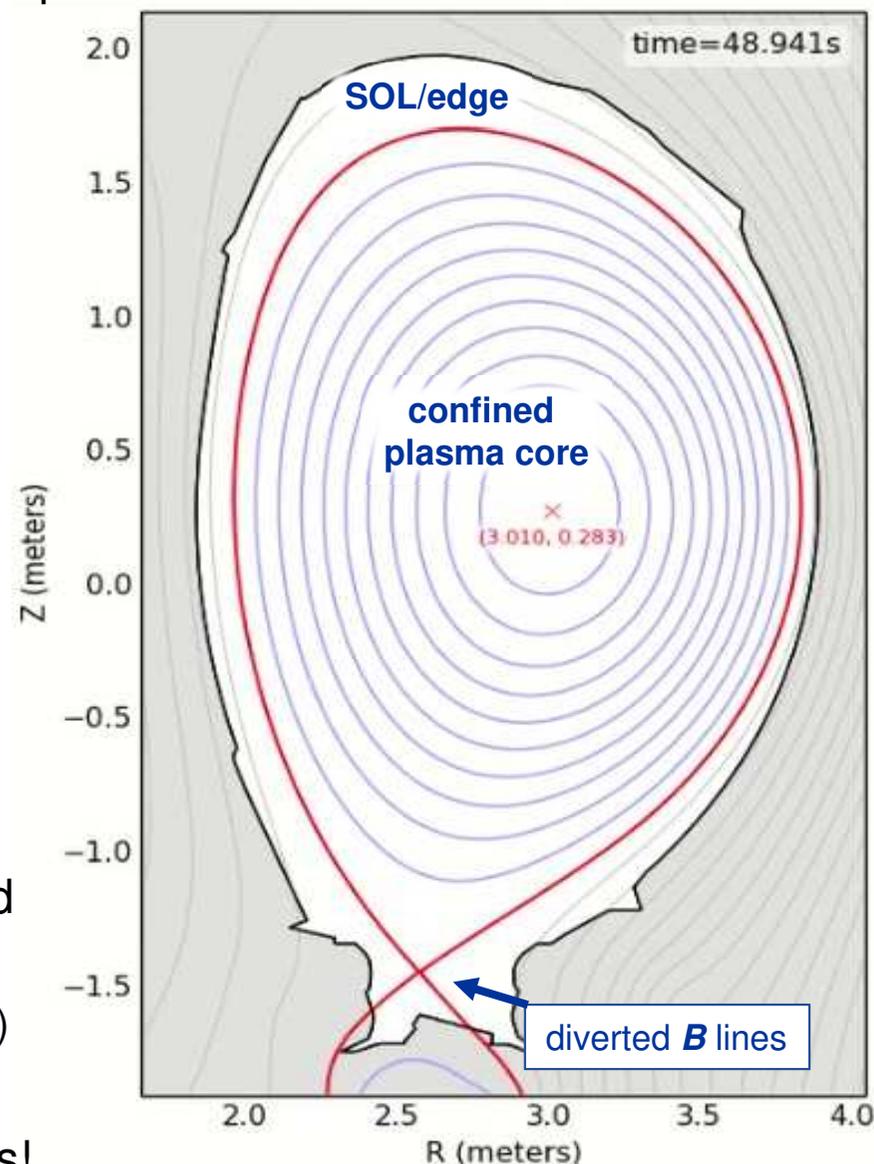
➤ distinguishable plasma regions:

1. core (closed **B** lines):

- plasma particles confined with **B**
- ionized particles and e^- traverse on helical trajectories around torus
- energy: up to tens keV
- collision processes and fusion
- monitoring of plasma shape, density, temperature, ...

2. scrape-off layer (SOL; edge; open **B** lines):

- region of plasma exhaust: particles escaped the core
- energy: tens of eV (divertor: ELMs several keV)
- monitoring density, temperature, ...
- interaction with the surrounding components!



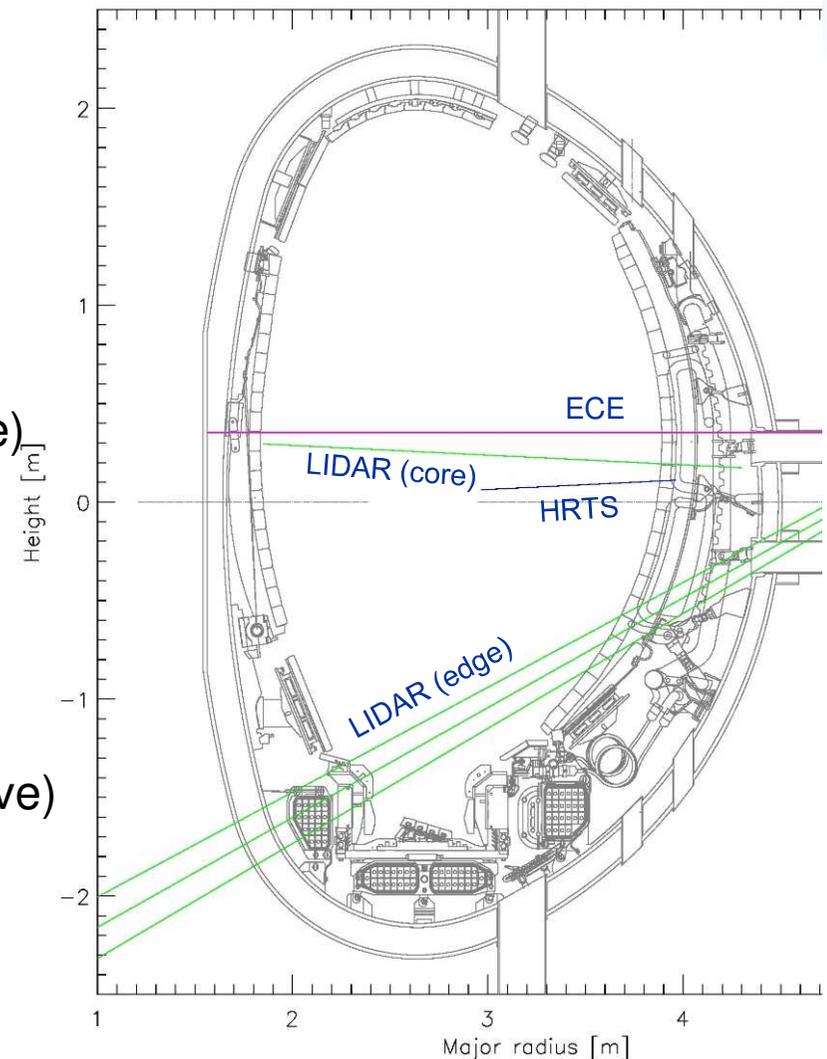
1.b diagnostics: core

e.g. T_e , n_e in JET (core and edge):

- ECE – Electron Cyclotron Emission
- HRTS – High-Resolution Thomson Scattering
- LIDAR – Light Detection and Ranging (Thomson)

□ plasma core

- several plasma parameters to be monitored
 - ✓ particle temperatures T_i , T_e
 - ✓ particle densities n_i , n_e
 - ✓ plasma shape, flows, and fluctuations
 - ...
- tens of plasma diagnostics (active and passive)
 - ✓ T_i , n_i : radiation emitted in charge-exchange (CX) processes with injected neutral plasma particles; radiation emission collisions as X-rays, γ -rays
 - ✓ T_e , n_e : Thomson scattering (laser); electron cyclotron emission (ECE; passive)
 - ✓ radiated power: bolometers
 - ...



1.b diagnostics: SOL and wall

□ plasma edge

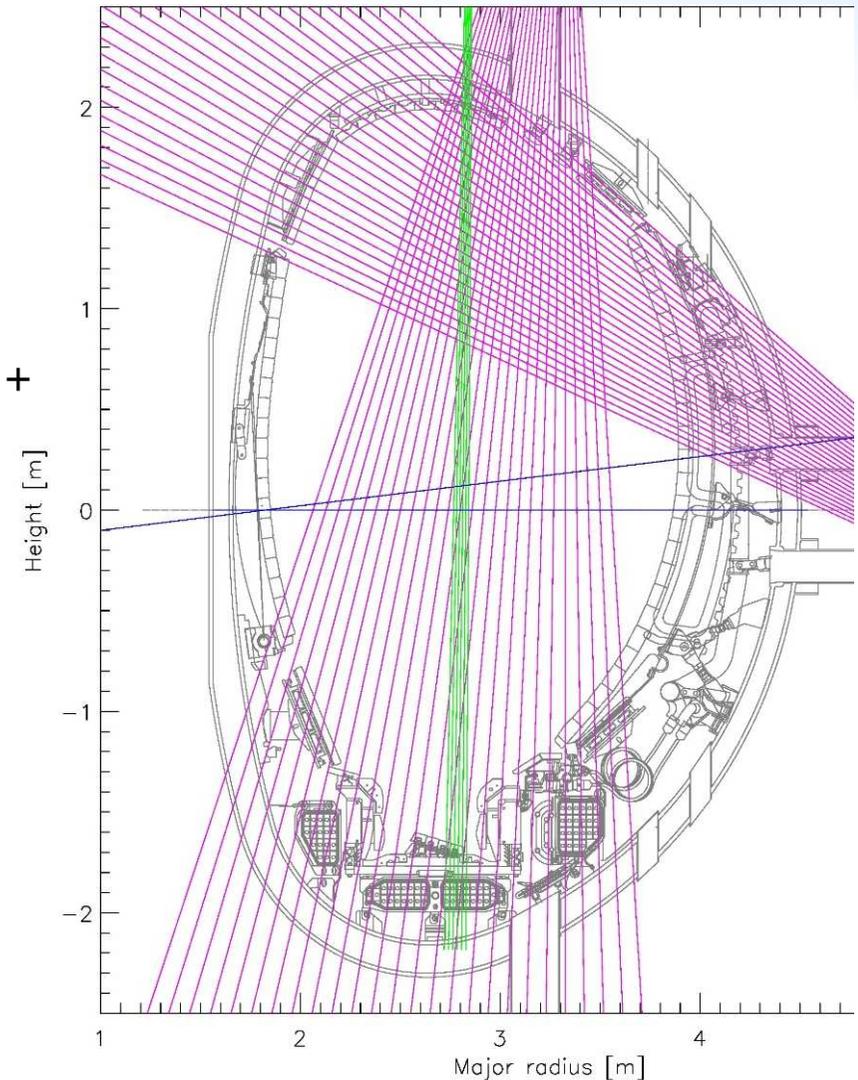
- monitoring of plasma SOL/edge and wall surface
 - ✓ particle temperatures T_i , T_e
 - ✓ particle densities n_i , n_e
 - ✓ properties in the main chamber and in the divertor box:
 - ✓ wall temperature
 - ✓ impinging particles (energies, flux)
 - ✓ erosion
 - ...

1.b diagnostics: SOL and wall

□ plasma edge

- monitoring of plasma SOL/edge and wall surface
- edge plasma and wall diagnostics (active and passive)
 - ✓ spectroscopic measurements of particle + particle, particle + e^- , etc processes: XUV-VUV

e.g. JET various XUV-VUV spectroscopy (core and edge)



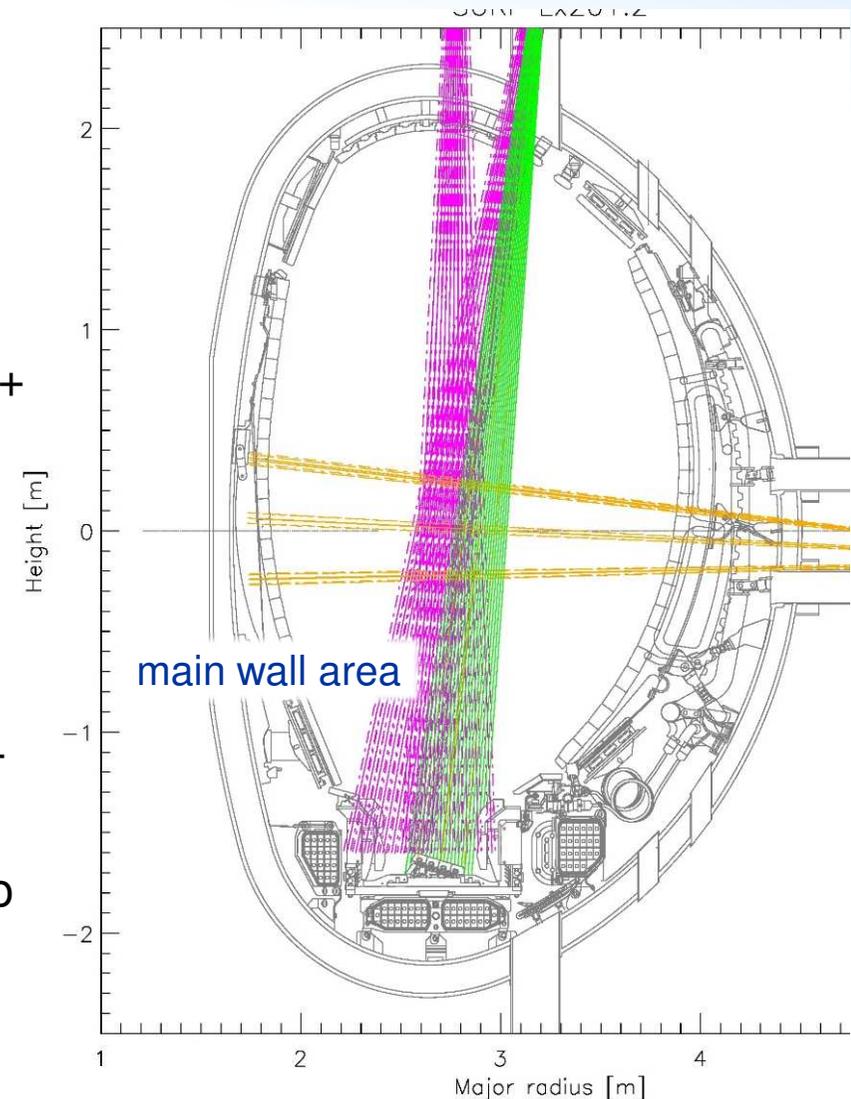
1.b diagnostics: SOL and wall

□ plasma edge

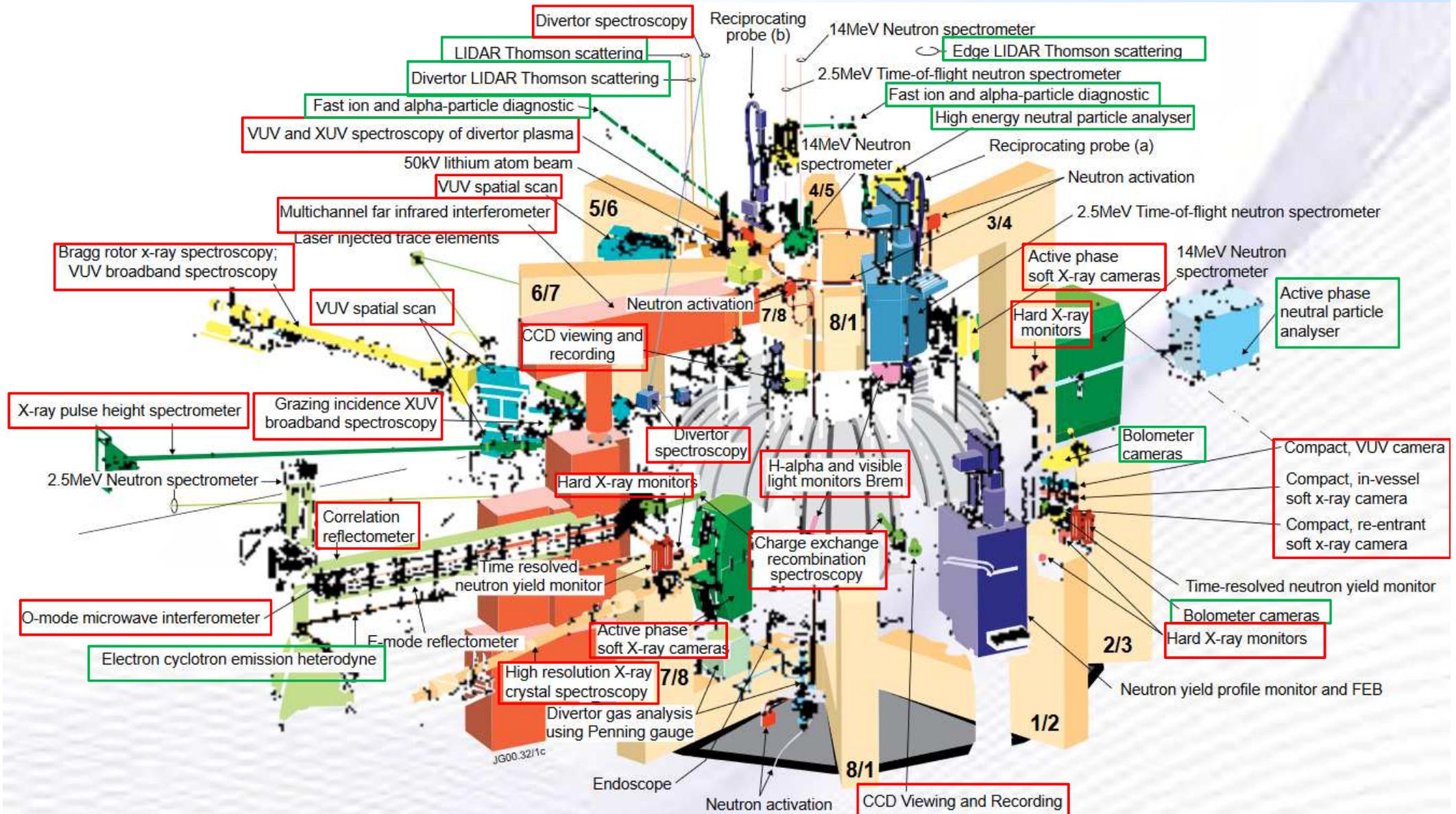
- monitoring of plasma SOL/edge and wall surface
- edge plasma and wall diagnostics (active and passive)
 - ✓ spectroscopic measurements of particle + particle, particle + e^- , etc processes: XUV-VUV
 - optical emission
 - ✓ specific wall areas of interest covered with spectroscopy (JET: D, W, Be, hydrides. Seeded impurities N, Ar, Ne)
 - ✓ other: Langmuir probes for particle flux to wall; thermocouples; Quartz-micro balance; dust monitors; ...

...

e.g. JET optical spectroscopy



1. diagnostics: JET

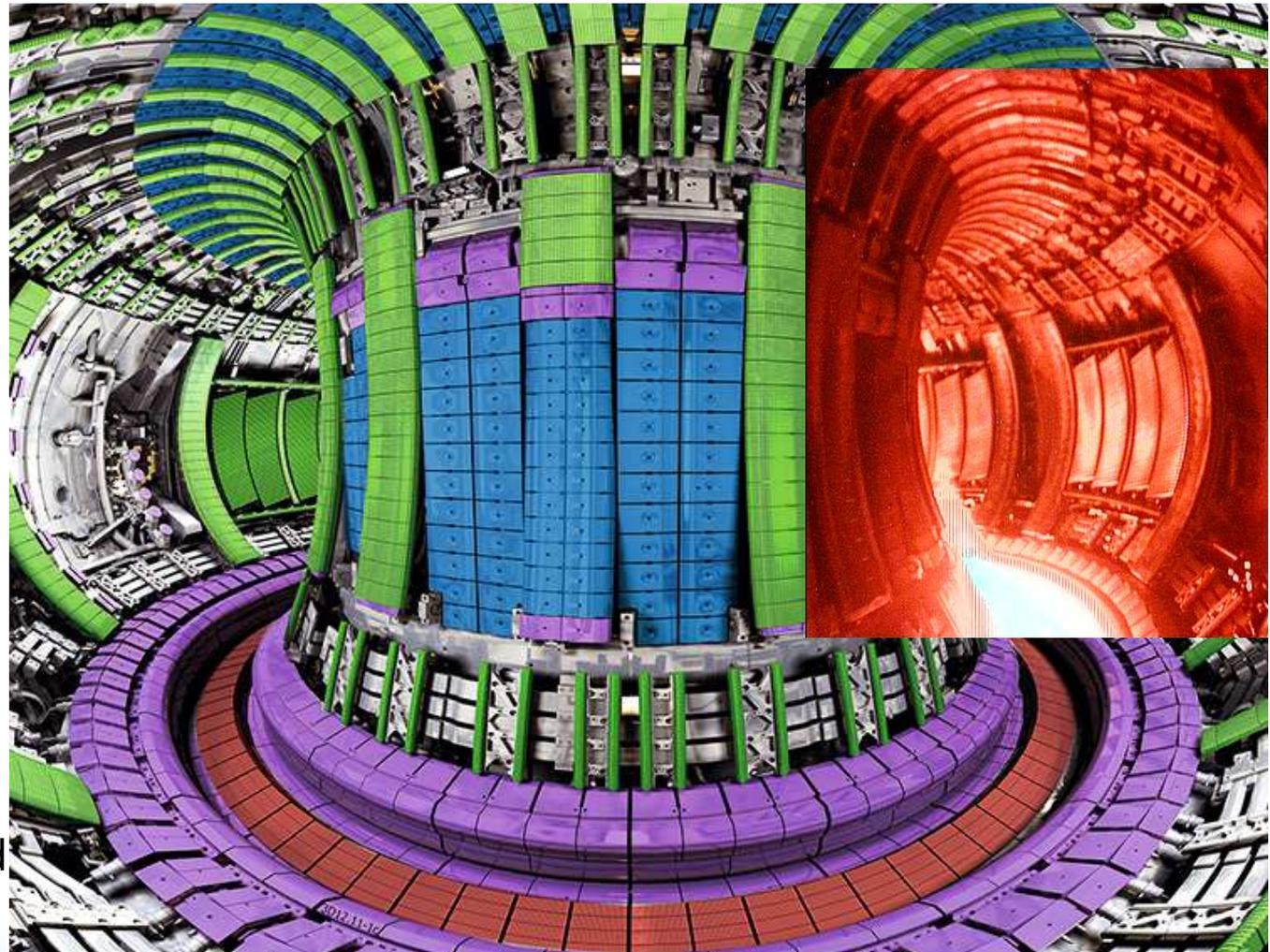


2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

□ JET's ITER-Like Wall experiment

- all metal wall
- **Be limiters**
thermal conductivity
impurity getter
 $T_{\text{melt}} = 1287^{\circ}\text{C}$

- **W divertor**
thermal conductivity
high erosion threshold
 $T_{\text{melt}} \sim 3400^{\circ}\text{C}$

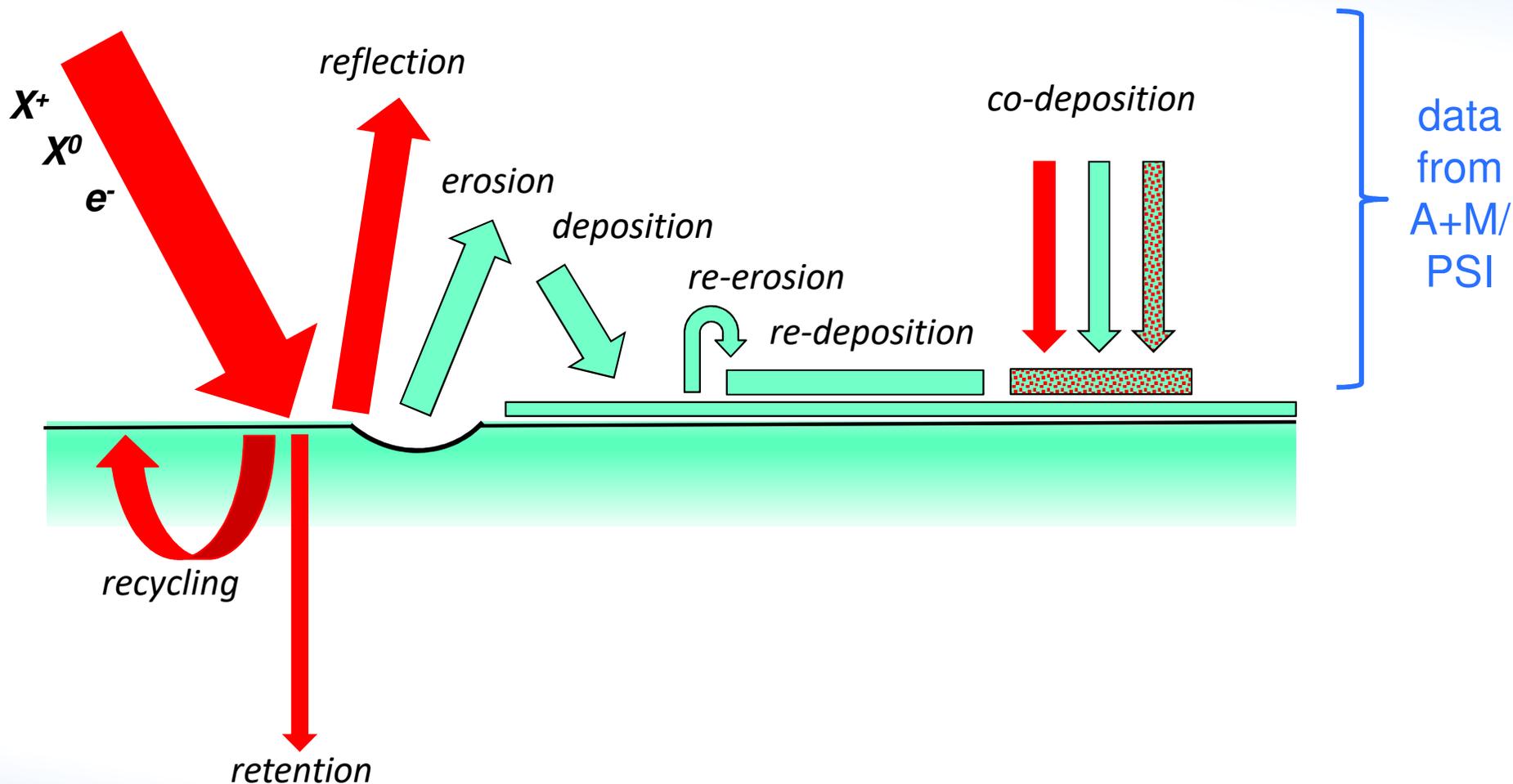


| | |
|---|---|
| ■ Bulk Be PFCs | ■ Be- coated inconel PFCs |
| ■ Bulk W | ■ W- coated CFC PFCs |

2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

□ JET's ITER-Like Wall experiment

█ *D fuel*
█ *Be wall*

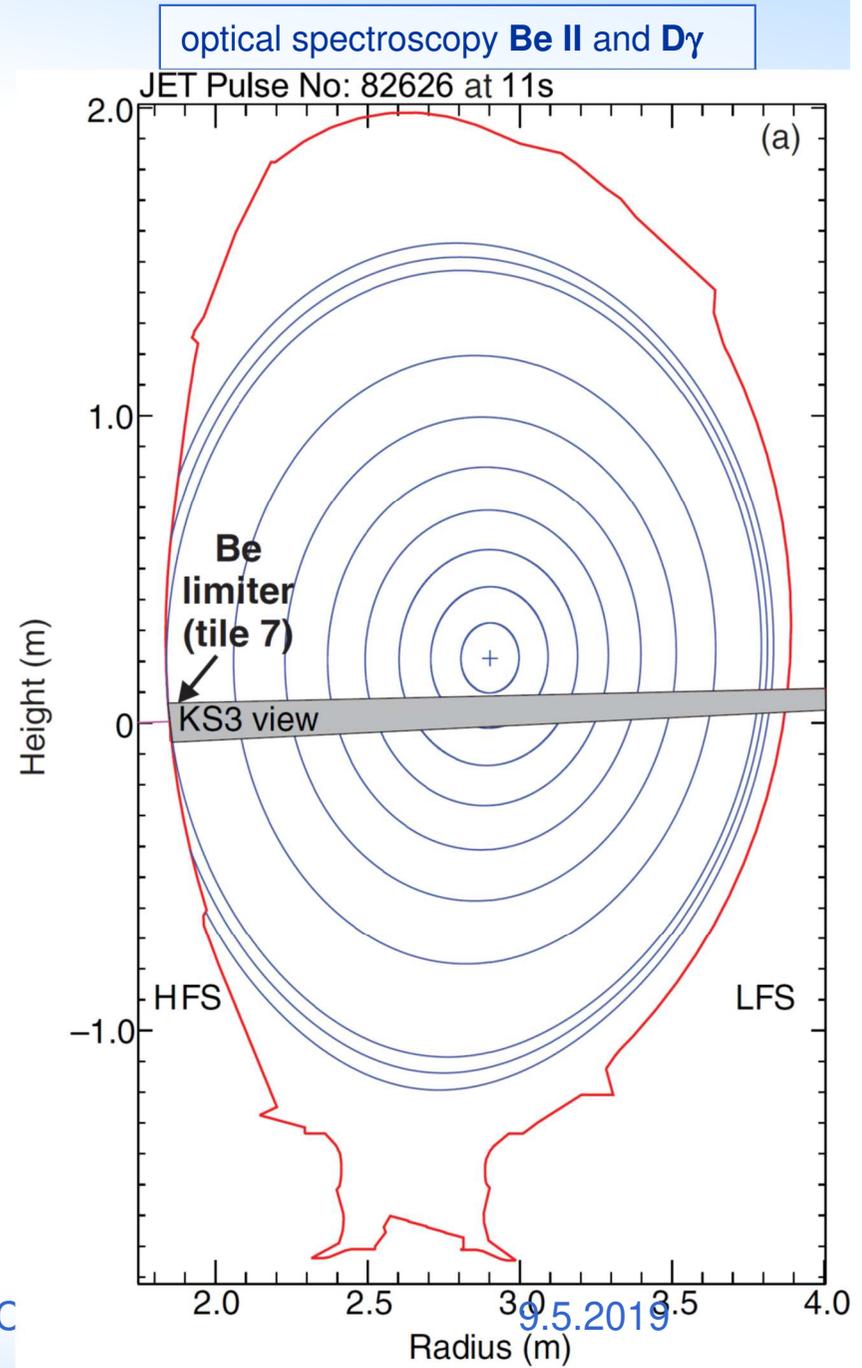


2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

- JET's ITER-Like Wall experiment
 - Be main chamber limiters
 - W divertor

- D plasma interactions with limiters
 - Be erosion and material transport
 - determination of the amount of sputtered Be crucial

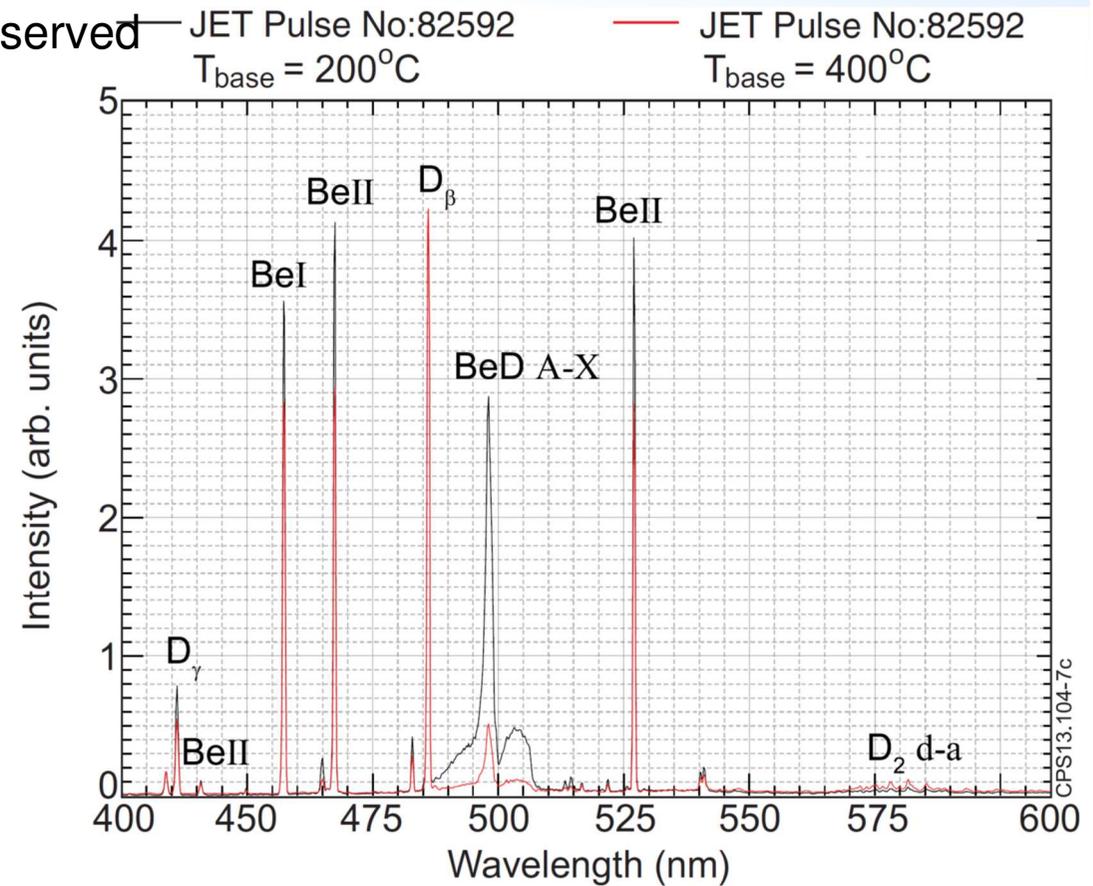
- *In-situ* optical spectroscopy emission of Be wall
 - ❖ line-of-sight to the plasma contact point
 - ❖ lines: Be II (527 nm, 467 nm 436 nm) and D γ
 - ❖ Be erosion due to D⁺, excitation and ionization in collisions with plasma particles (e⁻, D⁺)



2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

□ *In-situ* optical spectroscopy emission of Be wall

- ❖ Be, D, and formation of D₂, BeD observed
- ❖ temperature effect
 - high T_{base} yields lower BeD
 - desorption of D as D₂



2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

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❖ Be sputtering rate Y_{Be} :

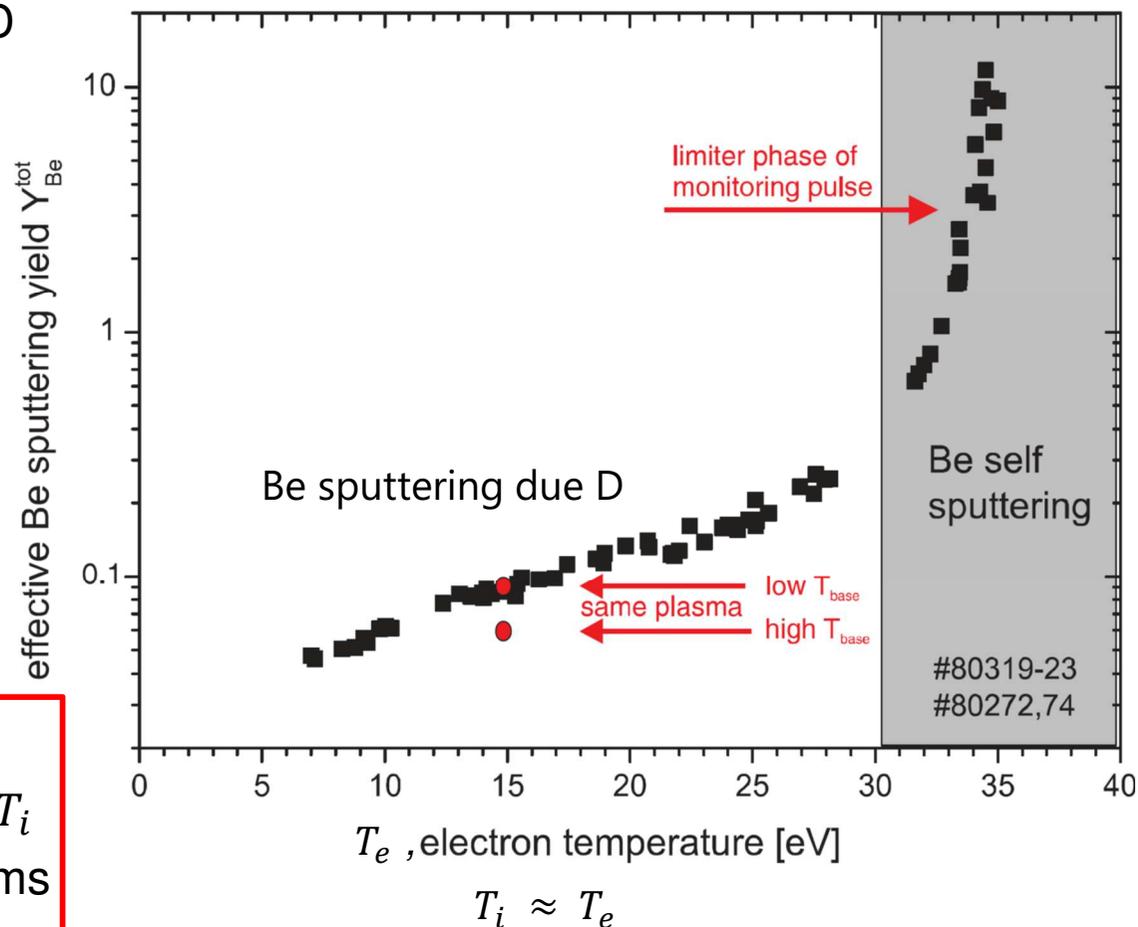
$$Y_{Be} = 4\pi \frac{S}{XB} \frac{I_{Be}}{\Gamma_D} (\text{photon production})^{-1}$$

← Be II intensity
← D⁺ flux to wall

❖ Spectroscopic findings:

- Be erosion increases with T_i
- different erosion mechanisms
- ✓ assessment for wall lifetime!

Be total sputtering $Y_{Be}^{tot} = Y_{Be}^{chem} + Y_{Be}^{phys}$



2.a Spectroscopy: Be wall erosion

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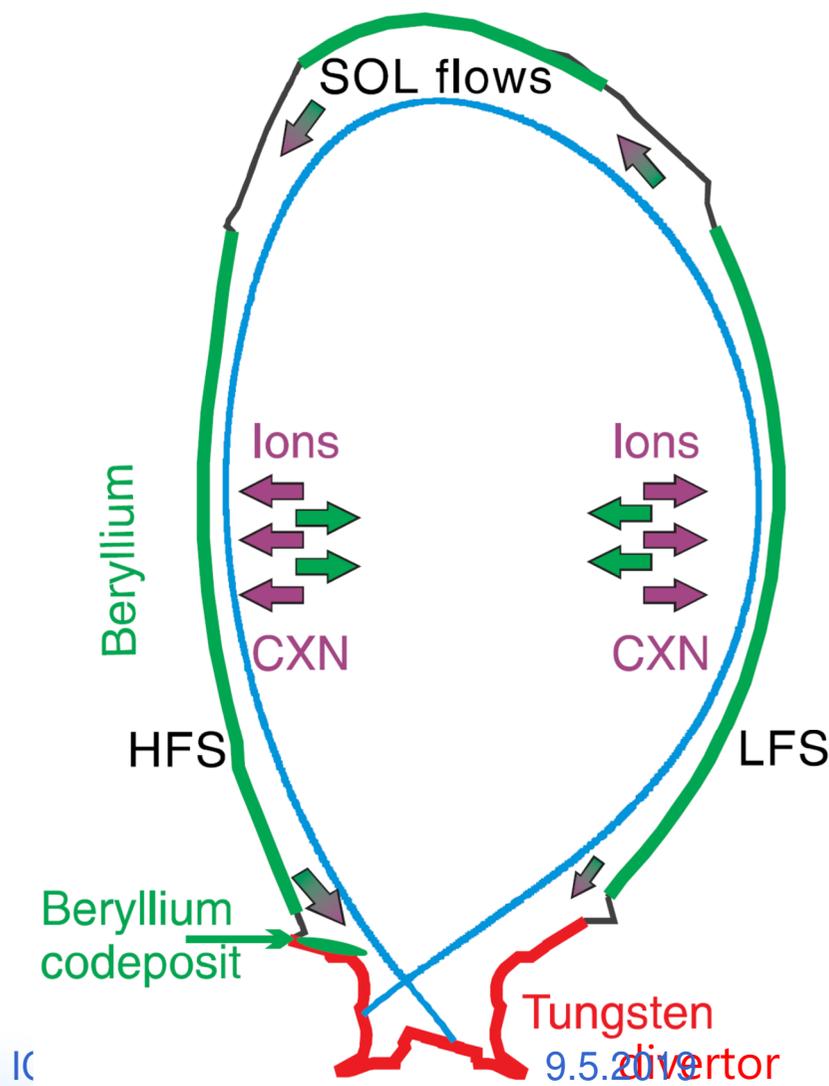
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"Big picture"
Be migration in SOL

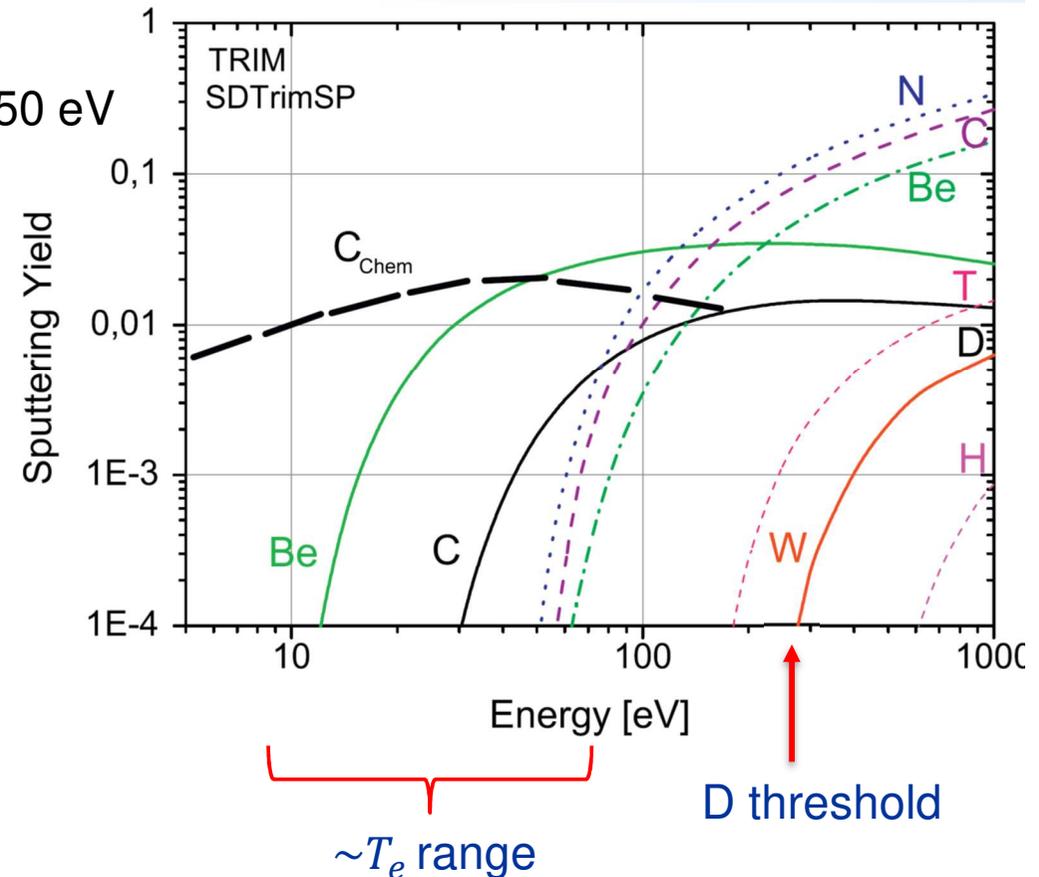


2.b Spectroscopy: divertor PSI

□ D plasma-surface interactions in W divertor

- ❖ W sputtering threshold by D approx. 250 eV
- ❖ T_e range low: eV...few tens of eV
 - W erosion unlikely due to D
 - wall eroded Be plays role?

sputtering yields by D



2.b Spectroscopy: divertor PSI

□ *In-situ* optical spectroscopy of W divertor

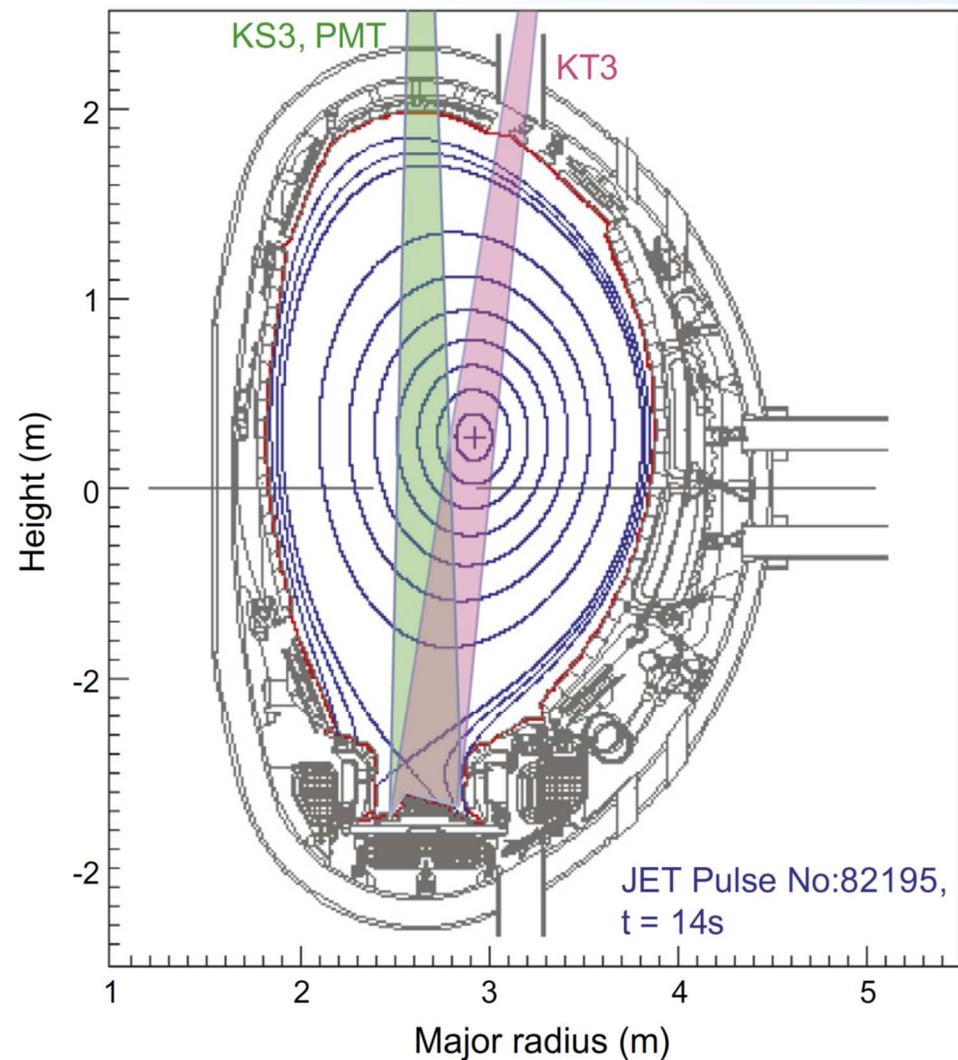
- ❖ line-of-sight to W divertor
- ❖ lines: W I (400.9 nm) and Dε
- ❖ sputtered W get excited and ionized in collisions with plasma particles (e^- , D^+ , impurities, ...)

❖ W sputtering rate Y_W :

$$Y_W = 4\pi \frac{S}{XB} \frac{I_W}{\Gamma_D} \text{ (photon production)}^{-1}$$

← W I intensity
← D⁺ flux to divertor

optical spectroscopy W I and Dε



2.b Spectroscopy: divertor PSI

□ *In-situ* optical spectroscopy of W divertor

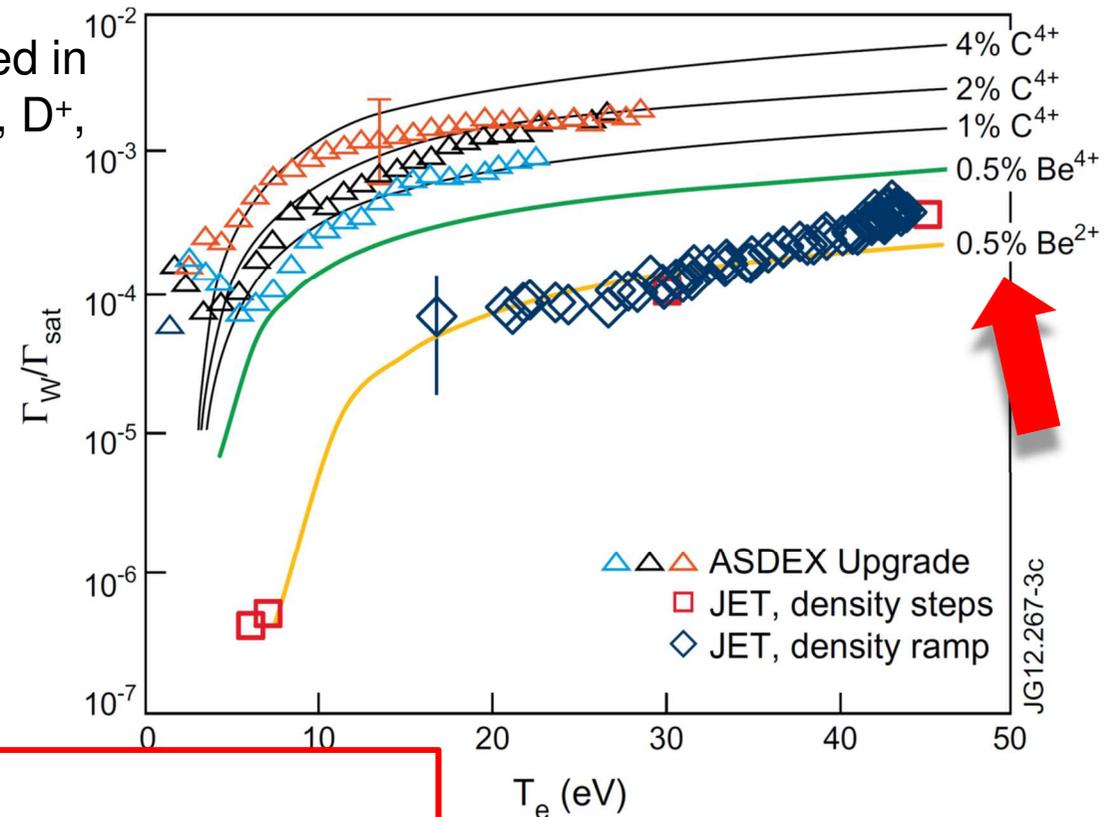
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❖ W sputtering rate Y_W :

$$Y_W = 4\pi \frac{S}{XB} \frac{I_W}{\Gamma_D} \text{ (photon production)}^{-1}$$

← W I intensity
← D^+ flux to divertor

W total sputtering $Y_W^{\text{tot}} = Y_W^{\text{phys}}$



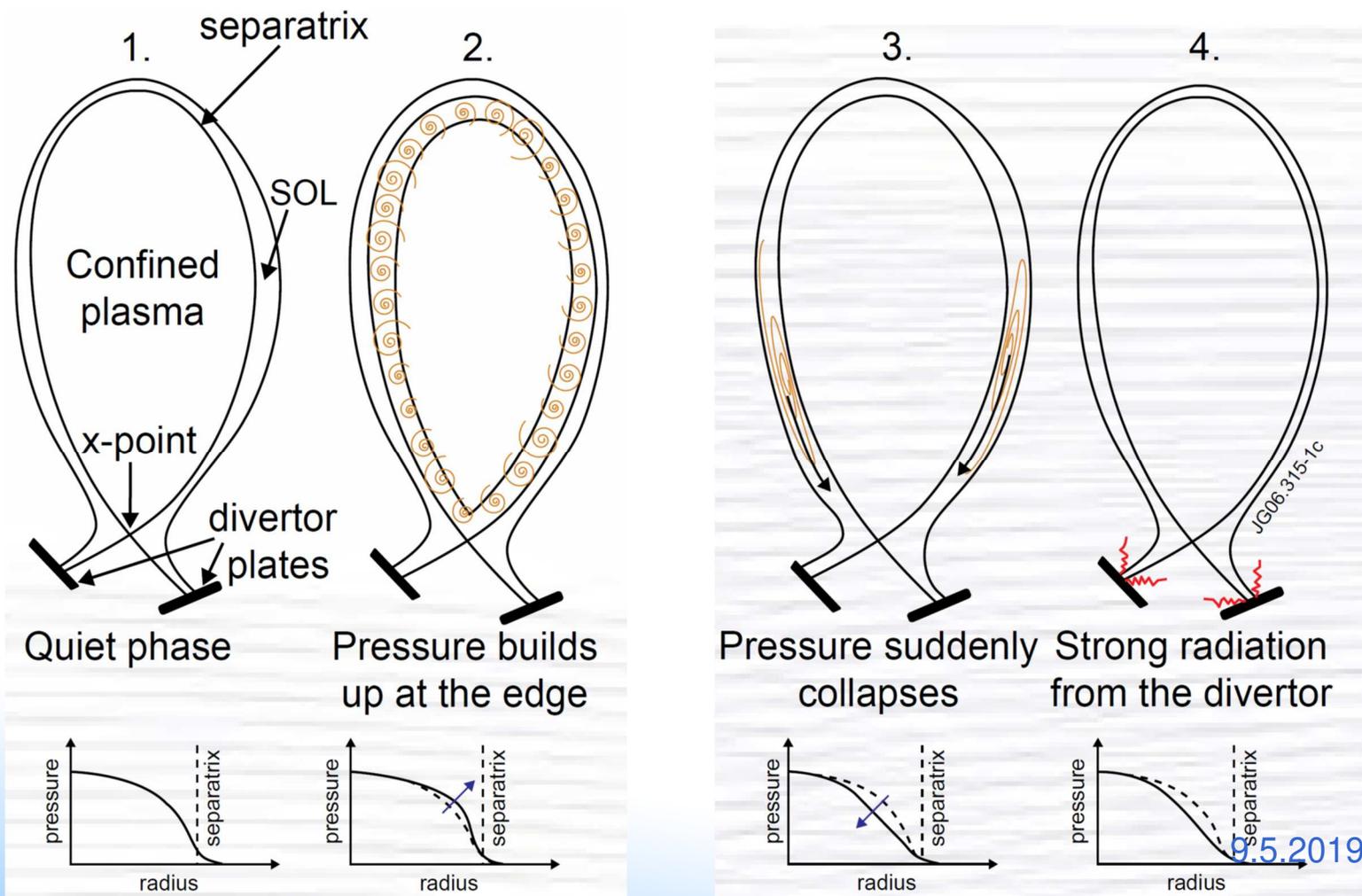
❖ Spectroscopic findings (low T_e):

- W erosion: Be dependent, increases with T_i
- measured 0.5% Be^{2+} corresponds to Be erosion
- ✓ assessment for divertor sputtering

3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

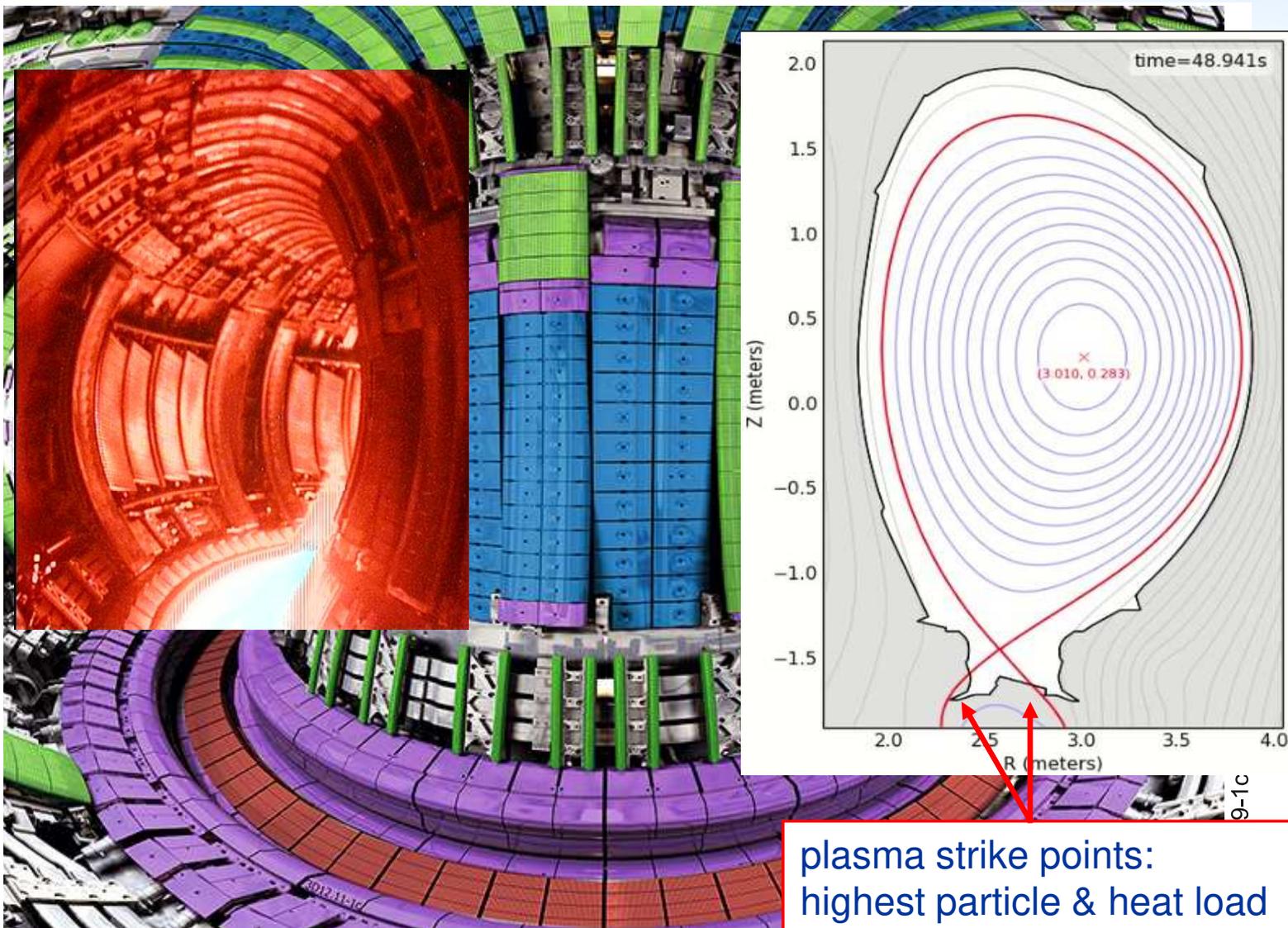
- Plasma edge-localized modes (ELMs)
 - ❖ ELMs present in medium-sized to large devices (H-mode)
 - ❖ plasma pressure increase at pedestal
 - ❖ release to divertor → high *heat* and *energetic* particles!

$\Delta t_{\text{ELM}} \sim \text{ms range}$



3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

- Formation of magnetic configuration with plasma strike points in divertor



■ Bulk Be PFCs

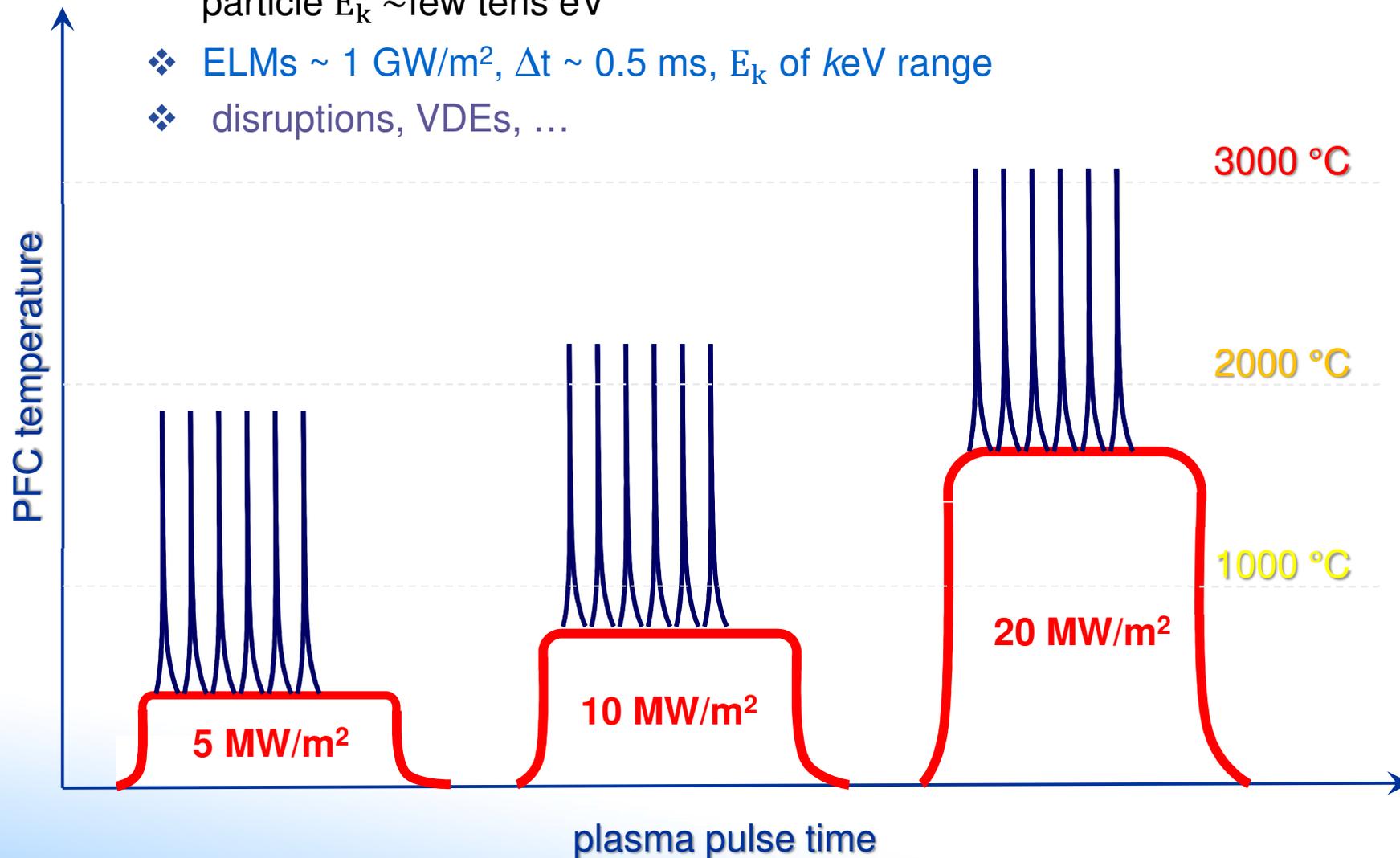
■ Be- coated inconel PFCs

■ Bulk W

■ W- coated CFC PFCs

3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

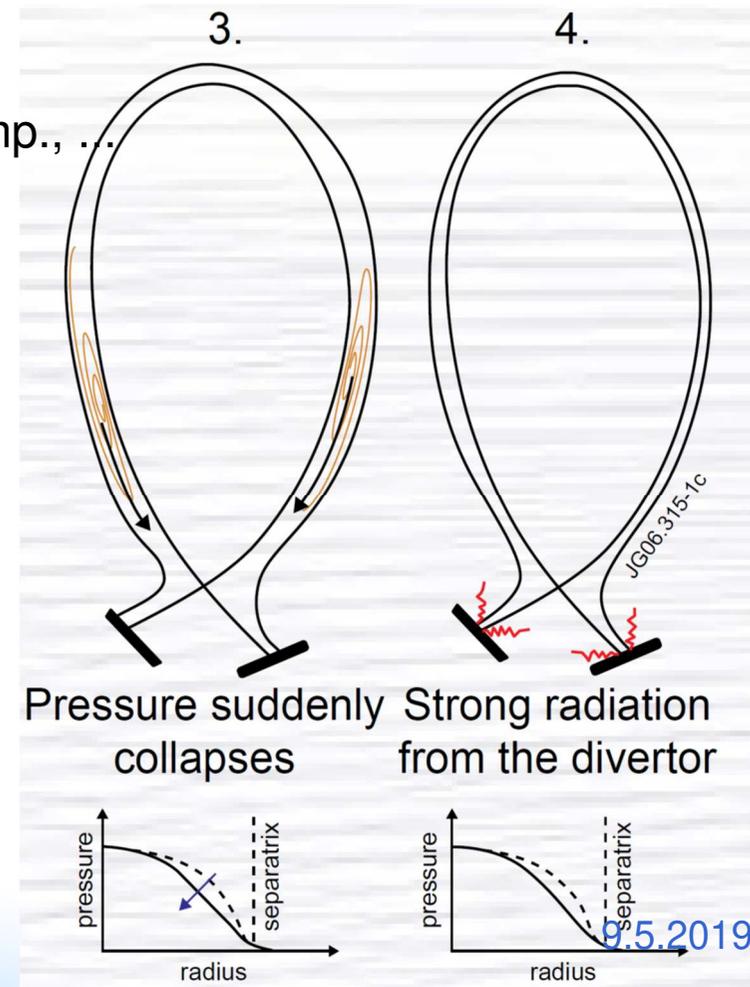
- Plasma edge-localized modes (ELMs)
 - ❖ ITER steady state 10 MW/m^2 , slow transients 20 MW/m^2 , particle $E_k \sim \text{few tens eV}$
 - ❖ ELMs $\sim 1 \text{ GW/m}^2$, $\Delta t \sim 0.5 \text{ ms}$, E_k of keV range
 - ❖ disruptions, VDEs, ...



3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

- Plasma edge-localized modes (ELMs)
 - ❖ ELMs present in medium-sized to large devices (H-mode)
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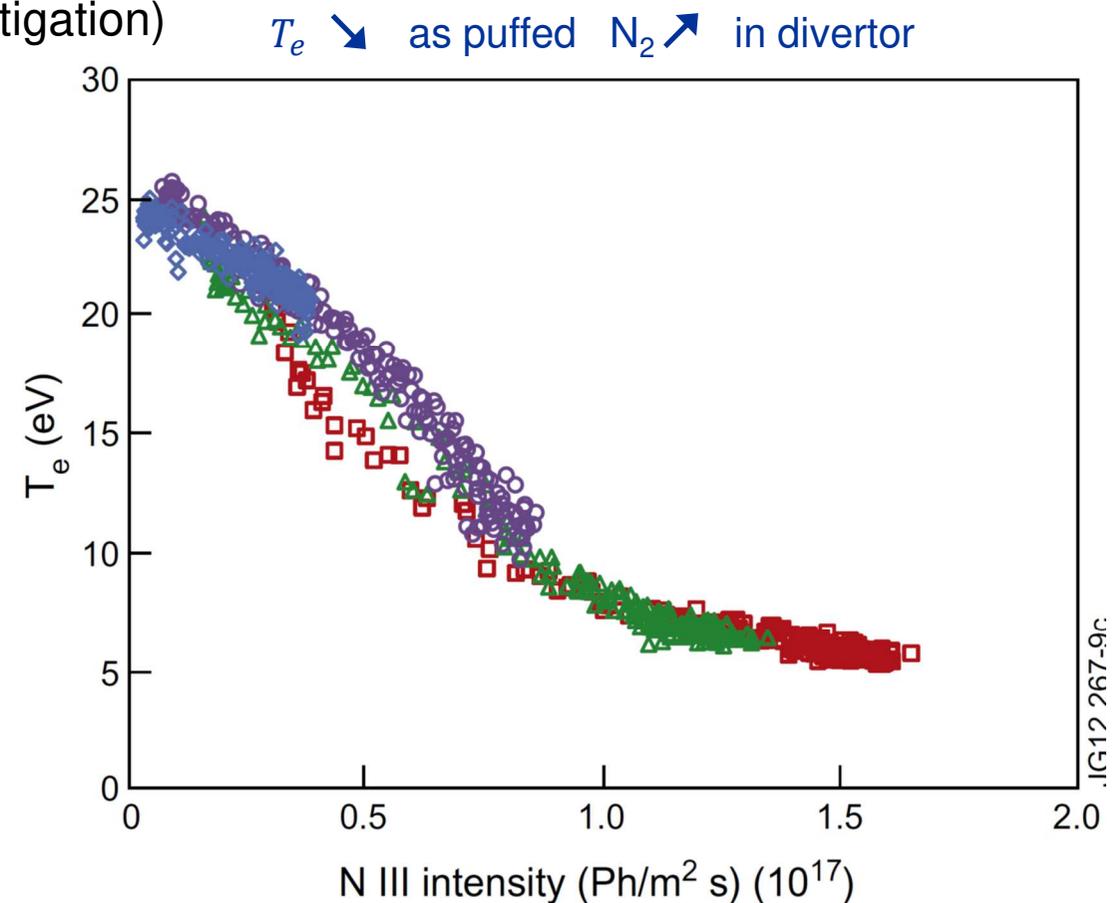
- monitoring ELMs crucial
- diagnostic methods for $n_{e,i}$, $T_{e,i}$, temp., ...
- assessment of wall effects required
 - ✓ plasma operation
 - ✓ wall lifetime
 - ✓ fuel recycling and retention



3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

□ *In-situ* optical spectroscopy of W divertor with ELMs

- experiment with detached plasma
(N₂ seeding for divertor plasma mitigation)



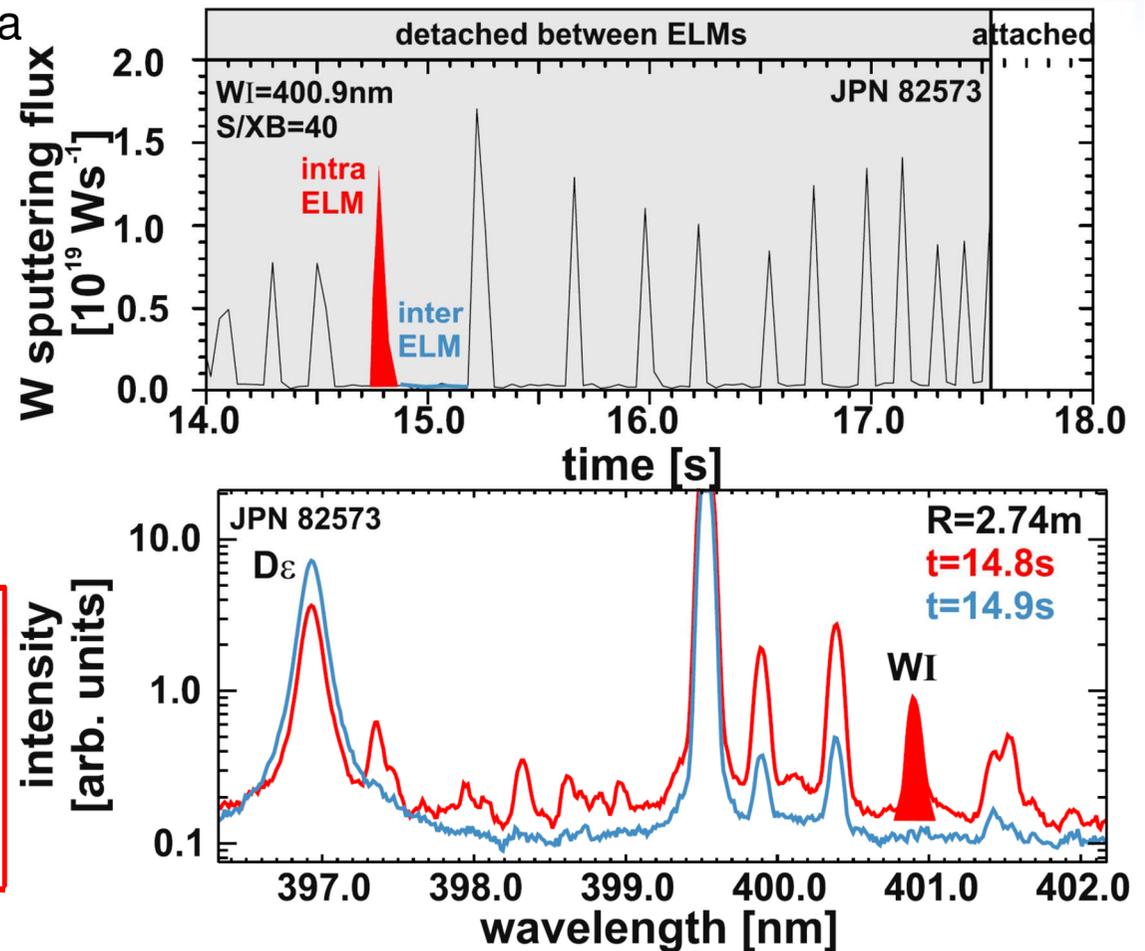
3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

□ *In-situ* optical spectroscopy of W divertor with ELMs

- experiment with detached plasma (N₂ seeding for mitigation)
- between ELMs (blue line): no W erosion
- during ELM (red line): clear W I peak for erosion

✓ ELMy plasmas can sputter W efficiently

- energetic D⁺ and impurities from the pedestal



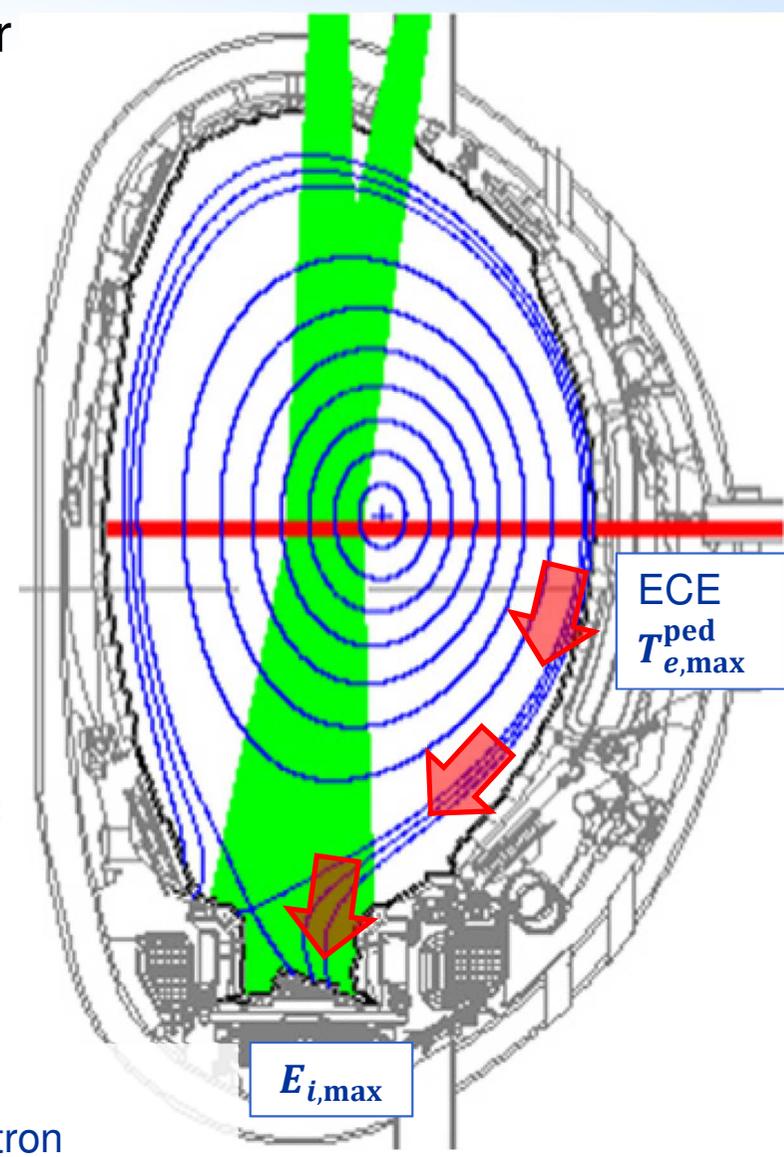
3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

optical spectroscopy **W I** and **D α**

- ELM-resolved D⁺ impact energy (E_i) at W divertor (unseeded plasma → no N₂, no mitigation)
 - Why?
 - plasma with 0.5% Be²⁺
 - D⁺ dominant ELM component
 - How?
 - *in-situ* D α spectroscopy → ion/s at target
 - ECE → maximum T_e at pedestal ($T_{e,max}^{ped}$)
 - absorbed power at target
 - ELM impact energy at divertor correlates with T_e in pedestal as (“Free stream model”):

$$\max(E_i + E_e) \approx \alpha T_{e,max}^{ped}$$

D α
power
ECE (electron cyclotron emission $T_e^{ped} \propto \omega = n\omega_{ce}$)



3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

optical spectroscopy W I and D α

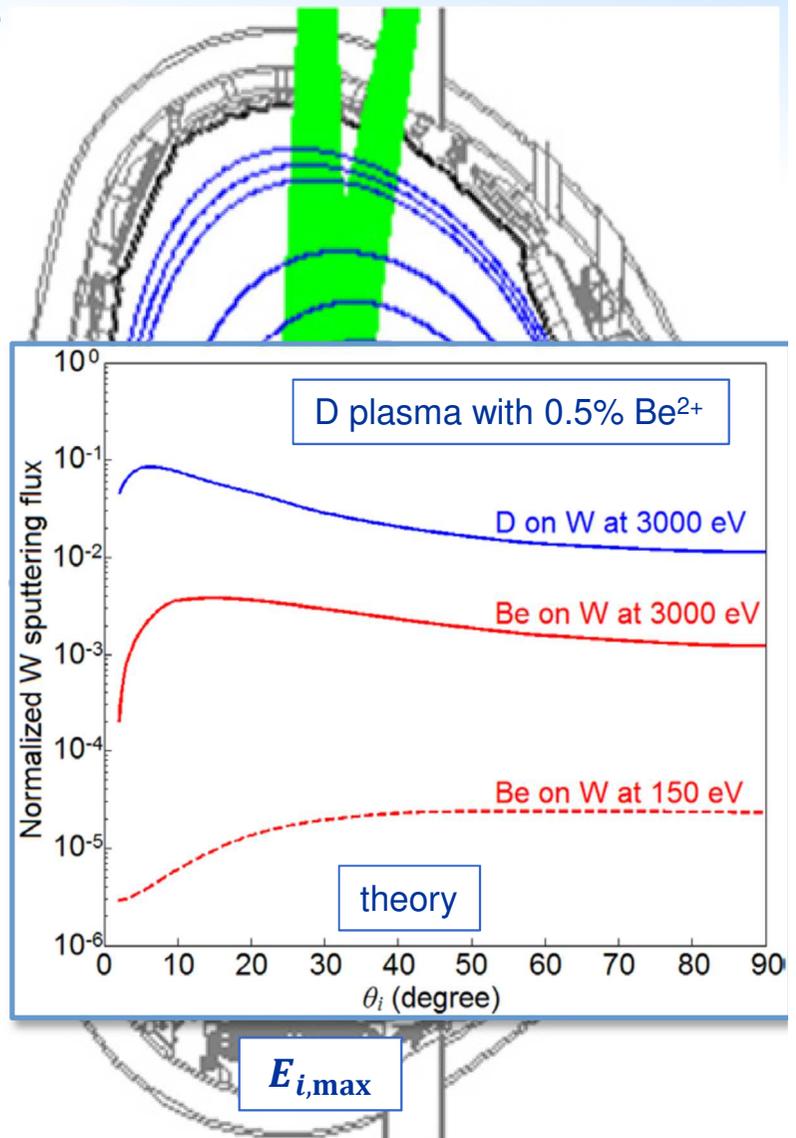
□ ELM-resolved D⁺ impact energy (E_i) at W divertor

➤ How?

- *in-situ* D α spectroscopy → ion/s at target
- ECE → maximum T_e at pedestal ($T_{e,max}^{ped}$)
- absorbed power at target

➤ Result

- $\max(E_i + E_e) \approx \alpha T_{e,max}^{ped}$ ($E_e = E_{e,\perp} = T_e^{ped}$)
 → $E_{i,max} \approx 4.23 T_{e,max}^{ped}$
- JET: experimental $T_{e,max}^{ped} \approx 1$ keV results
 in $E_{i,max} \approx 3$ keV
 → D⁺ in ELMs sputter W easily
 → D⁺ sputters 20× more W than Be²⁺



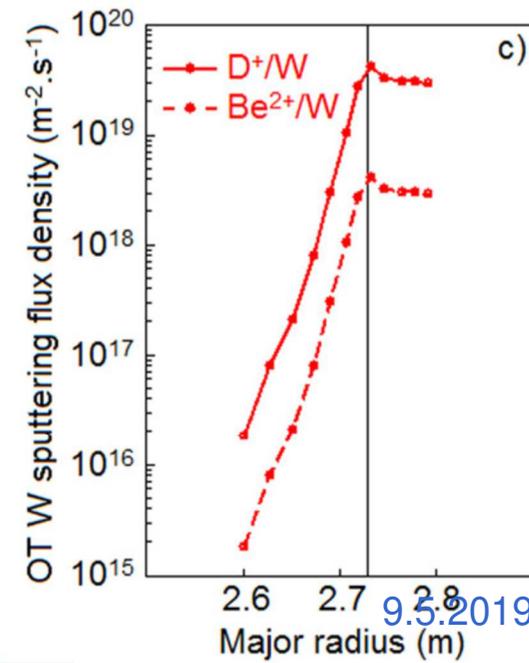
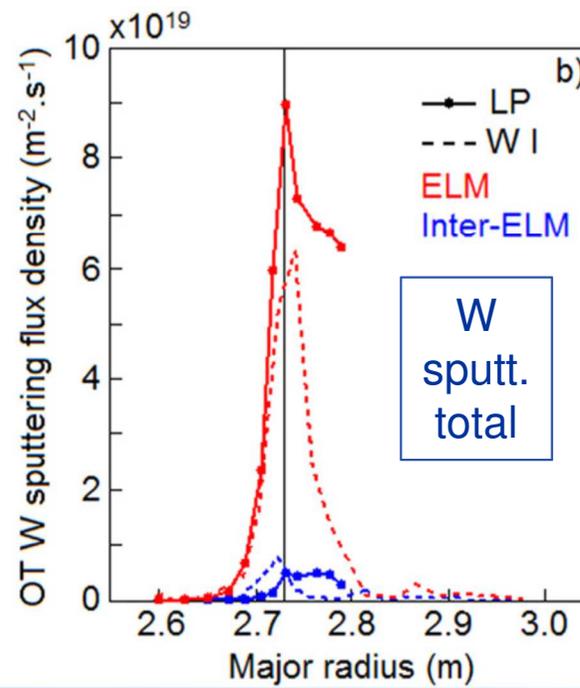
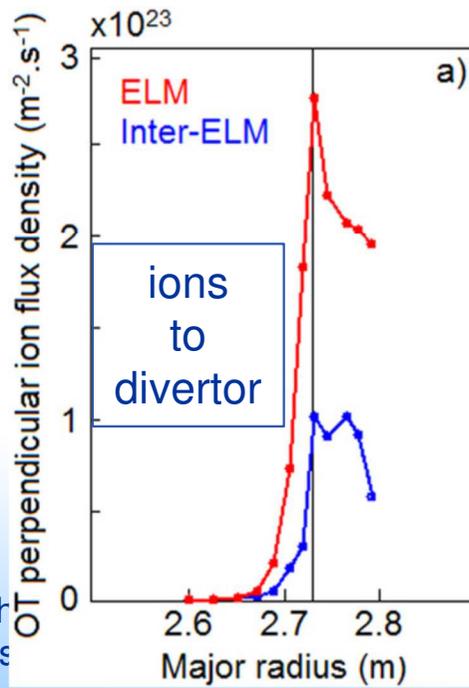
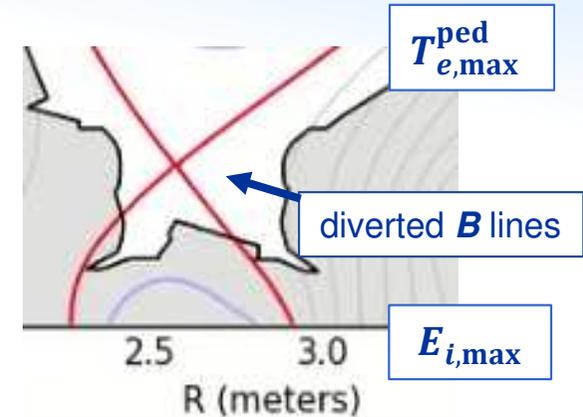
3.a Spectroscopy: divertor PSI w/ ELMs

□ ELM-resolved D⁺ impact energy (E_i) at W divertor

➤ Result

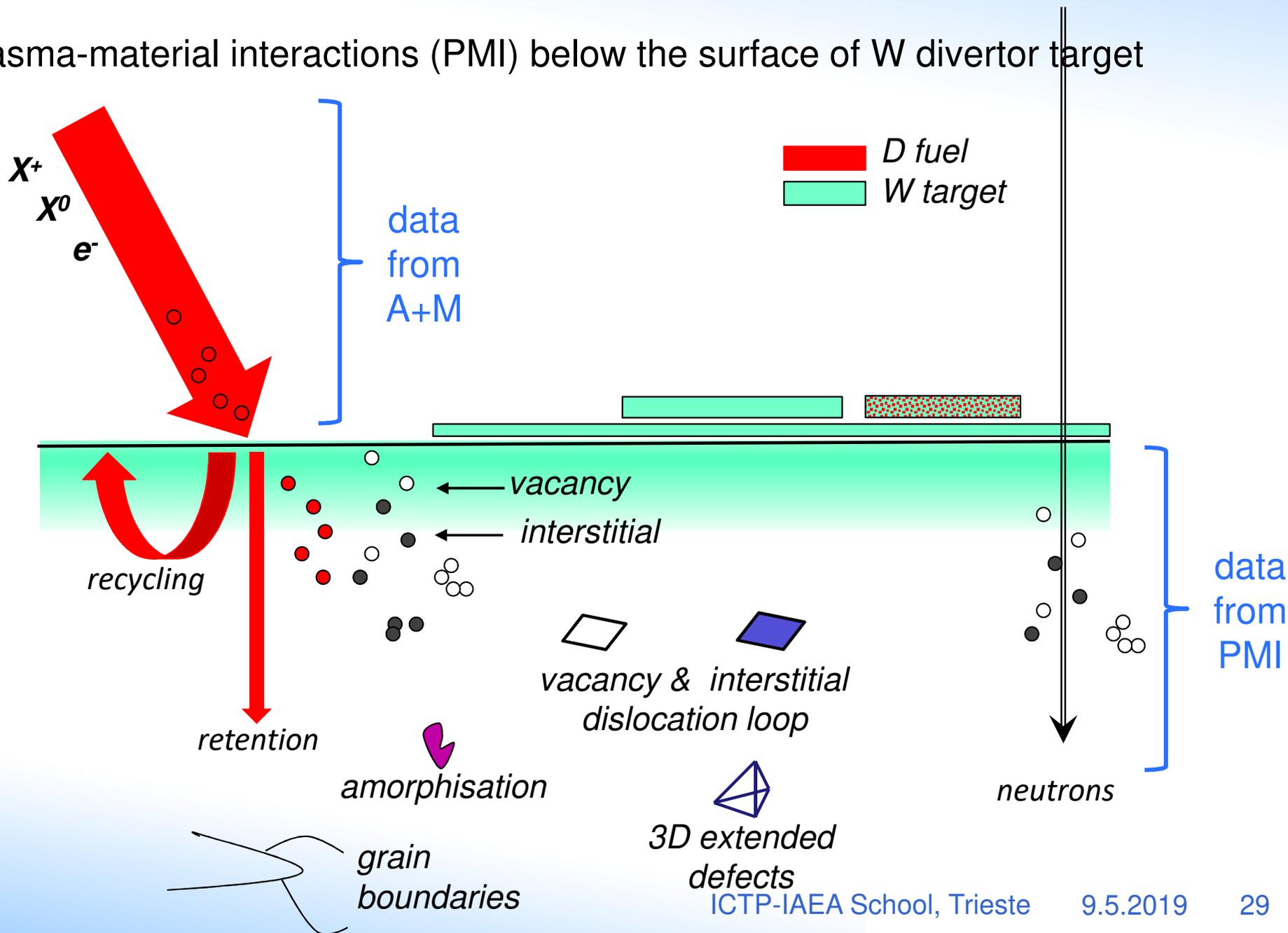
- $E_{i,max} \approx 4.23 T_{e,max}^{ped}$
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in $E_{i,max} \approx 3$ keV
→ D⁺ in ELMs sputters W easily
→ D⁺ sputters 20× more W than Be²⁺
- ITER: theoretical $T_{e,max}^{ped} \sim 5$ keV → $E_{i,max} \sim 20$ keV

optical spectroscopy W I , Be II and Dα



3.b Divertor PMI w/ ELMs

- Plasma-material interactions (PMI) below the surface of W divertor target



3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

- PMI events and reactions, and fuel retention simulated with multi-scale Rate Theory Equation calculations
 - coupled partial differential equations (PDE) for physical processes in the bulk and on the surface

- 1) D processes inside W
 - diffusion
 - retention, trapping, re-trapping with defects
 - recycling

- 2) ELM-induced defect evolution inside W
 - nucleation
 - diffusion
 - clustering
 - dissociation
 - ...

→ over 300 entities which take part in 3200 exothermic and 300 endothermic reactions

3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

- PMI events and reactions, and fuel retention simulated with multi-scale Rate Theory Equation calculations
 - PDE parametrisation: experiments and computational methods (ab initio, MD)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial C_\alpha(x, t)}{\partial t} = & \quad D_\alpha \frac{\partial^2 C_\alpha(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \\
 & + S_\alpha(x, t) \\
 & \pm \sum_{\beta, \gamma=1}^N k_{\beta, \gamma}^2 D_\beta C_\beta(x, t) \\
 & \pm \sum_{\delta=1}^N \nu_\delta e^{-E_{A, \delta}/kT} C_\delta(x, t)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$D = D_0 e^{-E_m/kT}$$

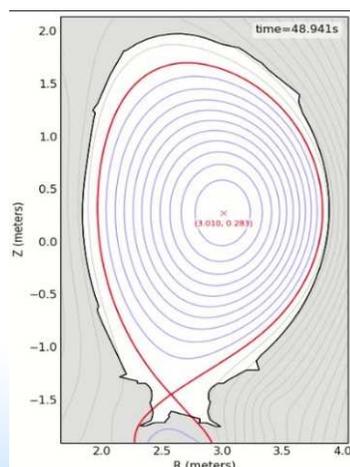
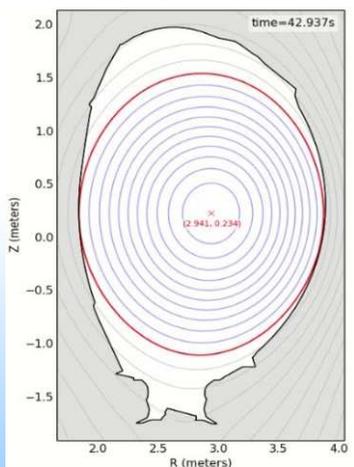
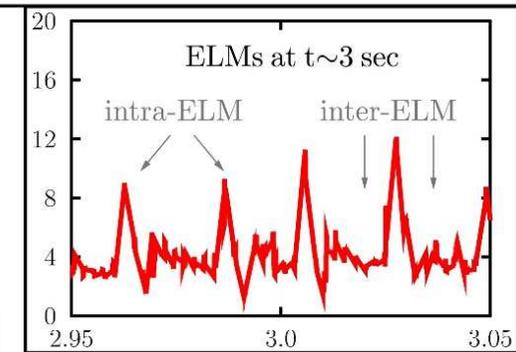
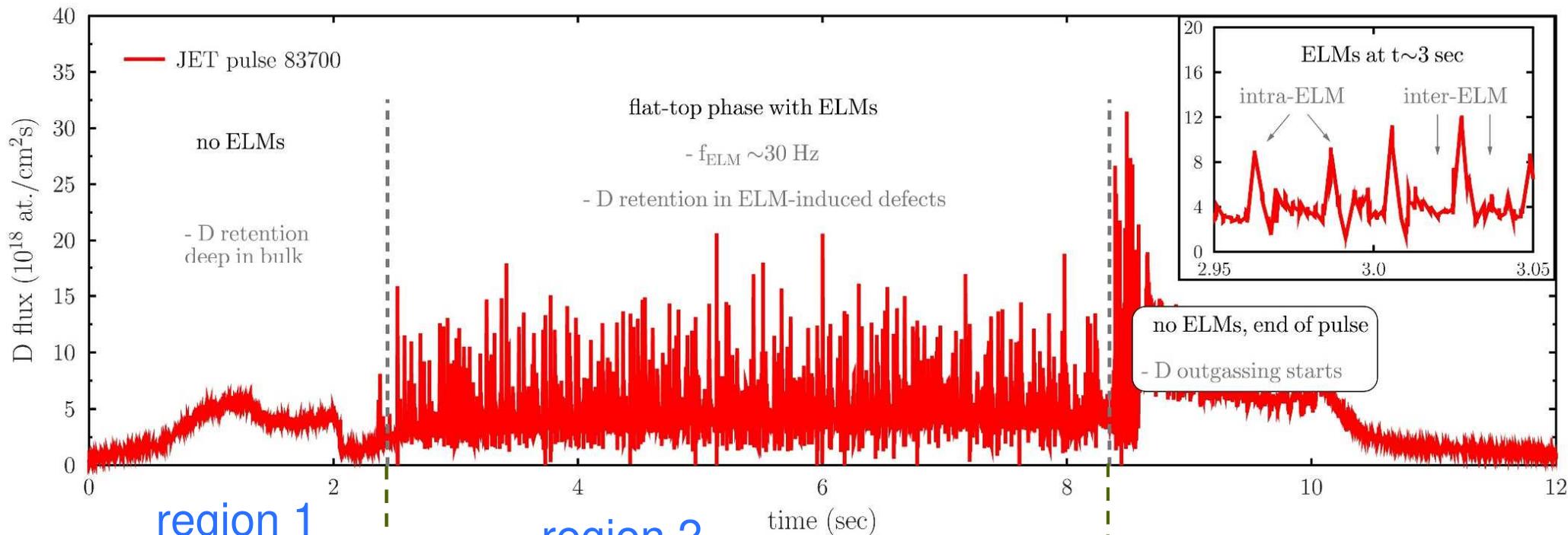
 **source term:**
spectroscopy, MD, other

 **energetics:** *ab initio*, MD

 **force fields:**
sink strength and
reaction radii MD

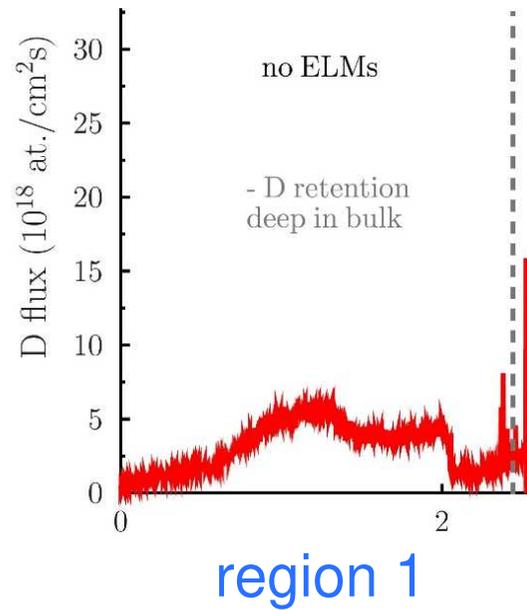
3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

- PMI and fuel retention simulation with ELMy plasmas
 - input from D_α (or other method @ divertor)

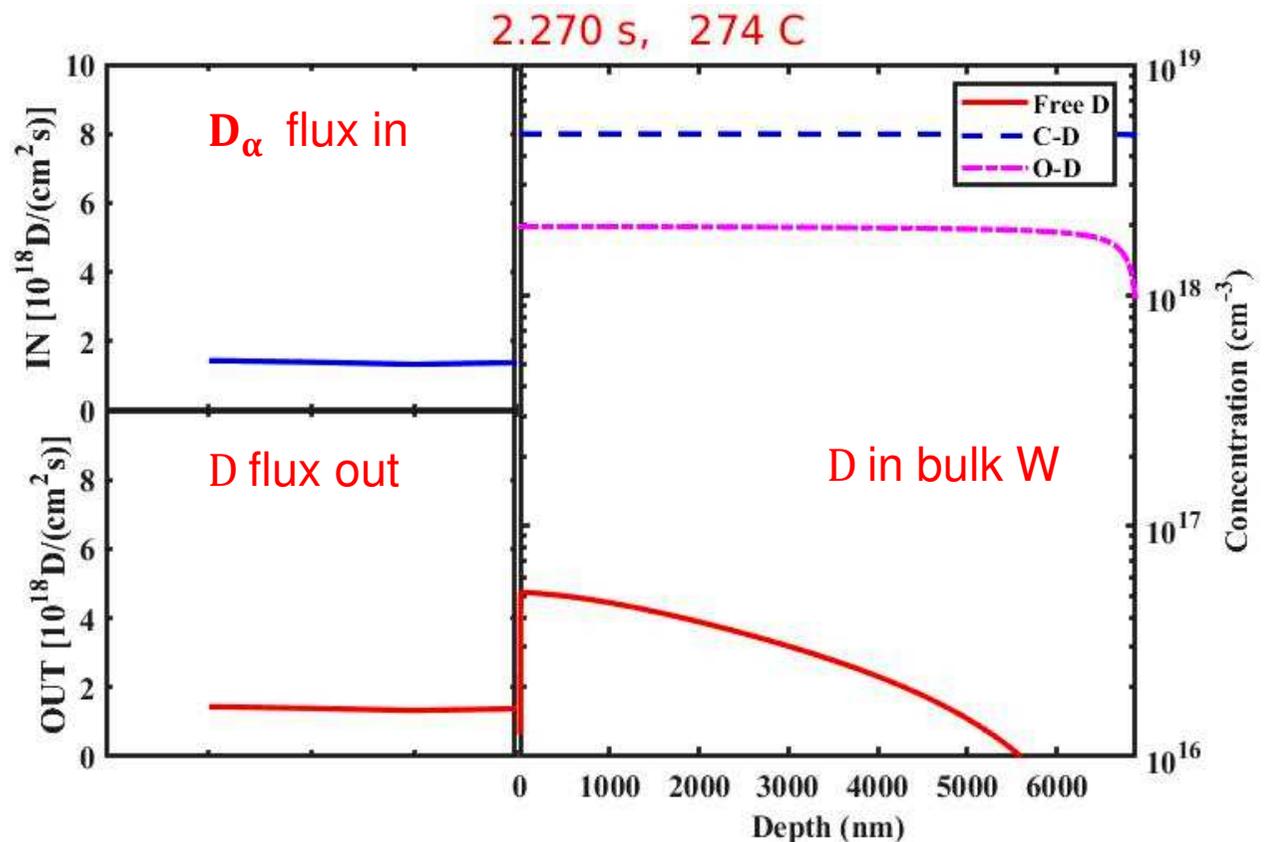


3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

- PMI and fuel retention simulation with ELMy plasmas



- time $0 < t < 2.4$ s
- limiter phase with no ELMs (~ 40 eV/D)



- ✓ D diffusion deep in the bulk
- ✓ no ELM-damage created
- ✓ D retained at natural impurities of W e.g. C, O

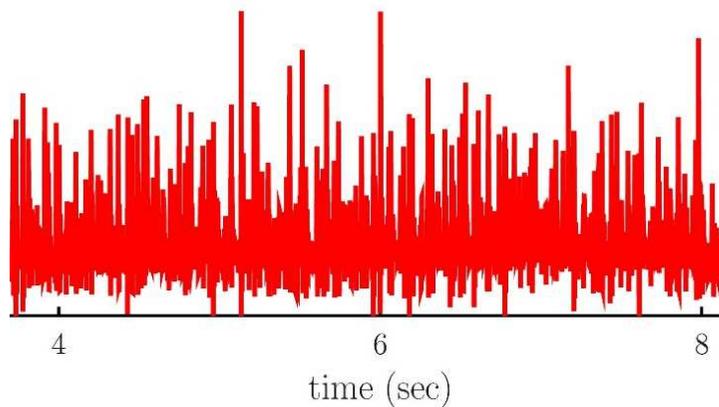
3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

PMI and fuel retention simulation with ELMy plasmas

flat-top phase with ELMs

- $f_{ELM} \sim 30$ Hz

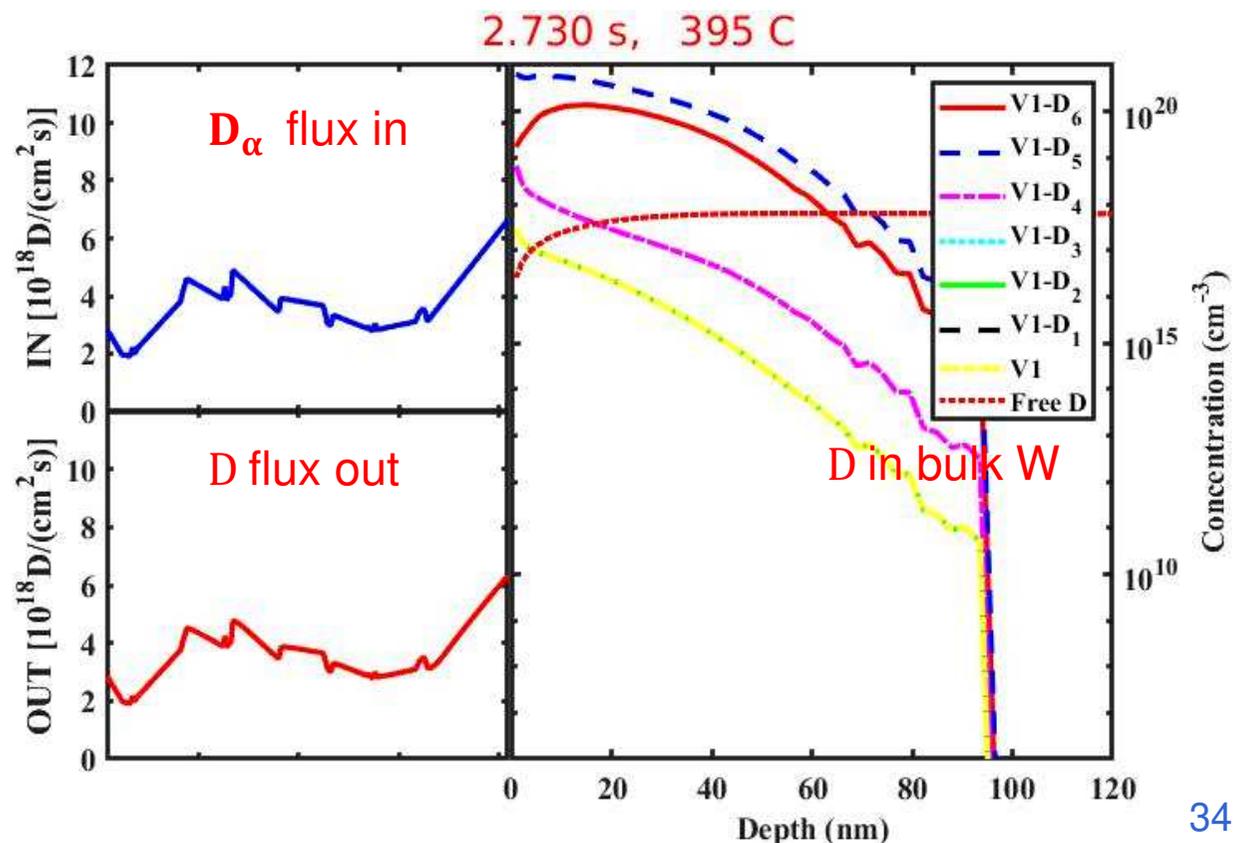
- D retention in ELM-induced defects



region 2

- time $2.4 < t < 8$ s
- divertor phase with ELMs ($f_{ELM} \sim 30$ Hz; 4 keV/D)
- ELM-induced damage, D implantation

- ✓ D retained in near-surface ELM damage
- ✓ effect of target temperature
- ✓ complex dynamics of D trapping/detrapping and mobility of defects



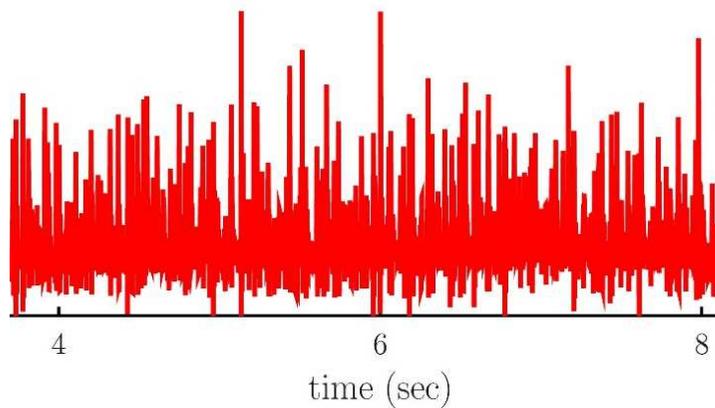
3.c Divertor fuel retention w/ ELMs

□ PMI and fuel retention simulation with ELMy plasmas

flat-top phase with ELMs

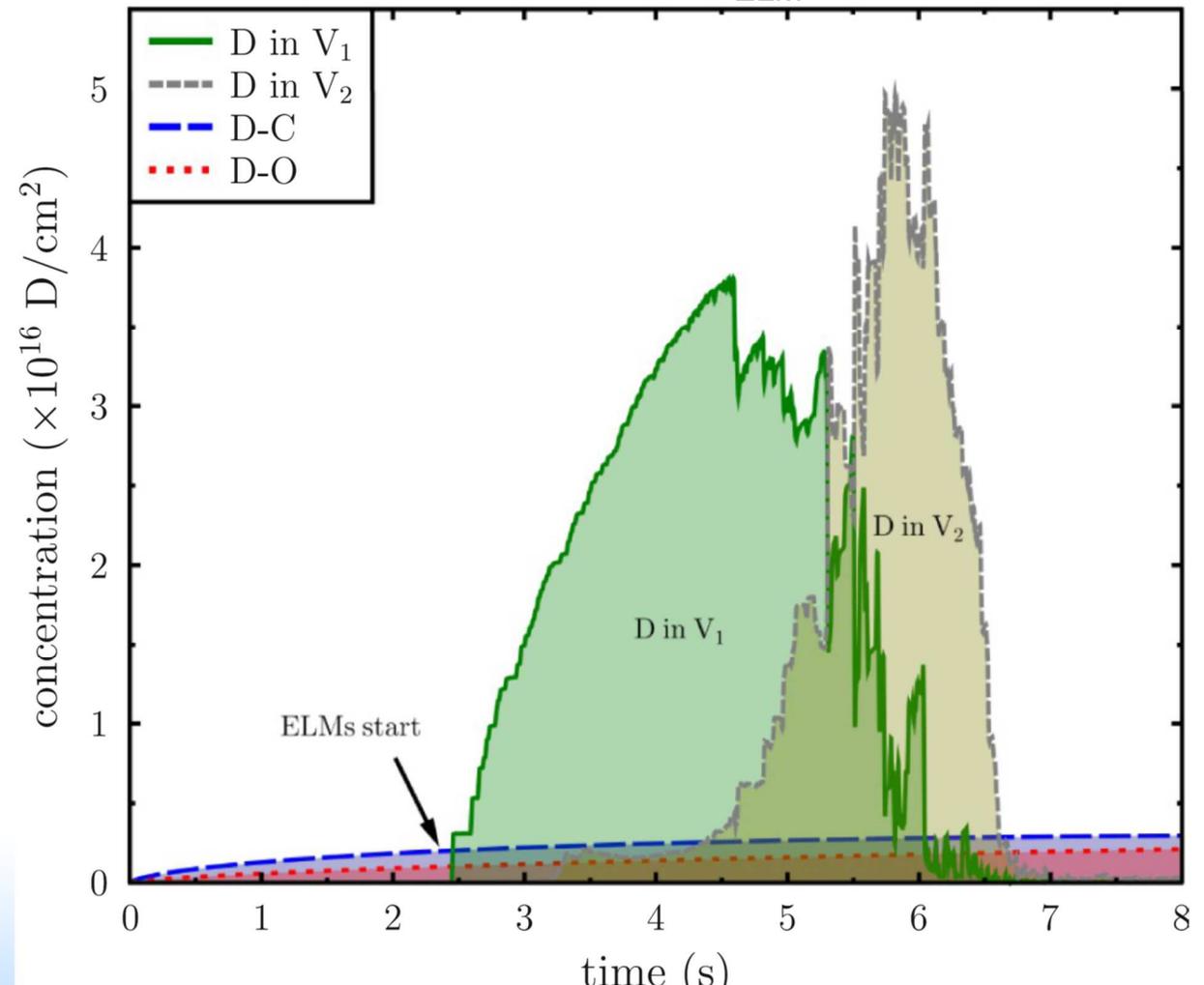
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- D retention in ELM-induced defects



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- ✓ D retained in near-surface ELM damage
- ✓ effect of target temperature
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IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace and Development

$A + M \leftrightarrow PSI \leftrightarrow PMI$

Thank you!