

# LH power threshold scaling with X-point radius and the role of X-point loss

- Exp. Results:  $P_{LH}$  decreases with larger X-point radius
  - Also,  $P_{LH}$  lower for grad-B in favorable direction
  - Prior to LH transition, increased  $D_\alpha$  at inboard divertor and  $\sim 1$  kA divertor current toward the outboard divertor
    - Reverse effect for unfavorable grad-B
  - Edge  $T_e$  at LH transition is similar over a large range in heating power, neutral fueling and lithium conditions for a matched shape
- Connection to X-point loss and LH transition physics
  - Ion orbit loss can be a source of  $E_r$  at the plasma edge (sets a min  $|E_r|$ )
    - Transition is predicted to occur at some threshold  $E_r \times B$  or  $E_r \times B$  shear
  - Velocity hole calculations indicate:
    - Critical edge  $T_i$  for appreciable X-point ion loss ( $\sim 100$  eV) is about 60% larger for high- $\delta$  shape vs low- $\delta$  shape
    - Ions primarily lost to inboard (outboard) divertor for favorable (unfavorable)
    - Very sensitive to edge  $T_i$  ( $\approx T_e$  at edge) and magnetic geometry
  - Could also tie in  $P_{LH}$  vs  $I_p$  and/or  $P_{LH}$  vs  $d_{rsep}$  results
- Need/Strong Desire: XGC0 calculations