

# New Scaling for Detachment and Implications for Tokamak Power Plant Design



**Burning Man  
2010 (RG)**

**Rob Goldston,  
Matt Reinke, Jacob Schwartz  
NSTX-U Physics Meeting  
24 April 2017**



# EU Demo1 is Large & Low Power

	EU DEMO1 2015	
$R[m]$	9.1	
$A$	3.1	1. Plasma Operation
$B_T [T]$	5.7	2. Heat Exhaust
$I_P [MA]$	20	3. Neutron resistant Materials
$H$ (rad. cor.)	1.1	4. Tritium-self sufficiency
$\beta_{N,tot} [\%]$	2.6	5. Safety
$f_{bs} [\%]$	35	6. Integrated DEMO Design
$P_{sep}/R [MW/m]$	17	7. Competitive Cost of Electricity
$\tau_{burn} [h]$	2	8. Stellarator
$P_{el,net} [MW]$	500	

DEMO

Wenninger et al.  
EPS, 2015

- Demo must *point to* competitive COE
  - $> 1.5^2$  x price of ITER
  - 0.5 GWe, pulsed
  - Much more than fission \$/GWe?
  - How does this *point to* lower COE?

# The Problem is Power Handling

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~ Reasonable  
cost steady  
state fusion  
power plant.



Add impurity radiation  
Decrease fusion power



Increase size  
& plasma current



**We need to understand this problem.**

# Outline

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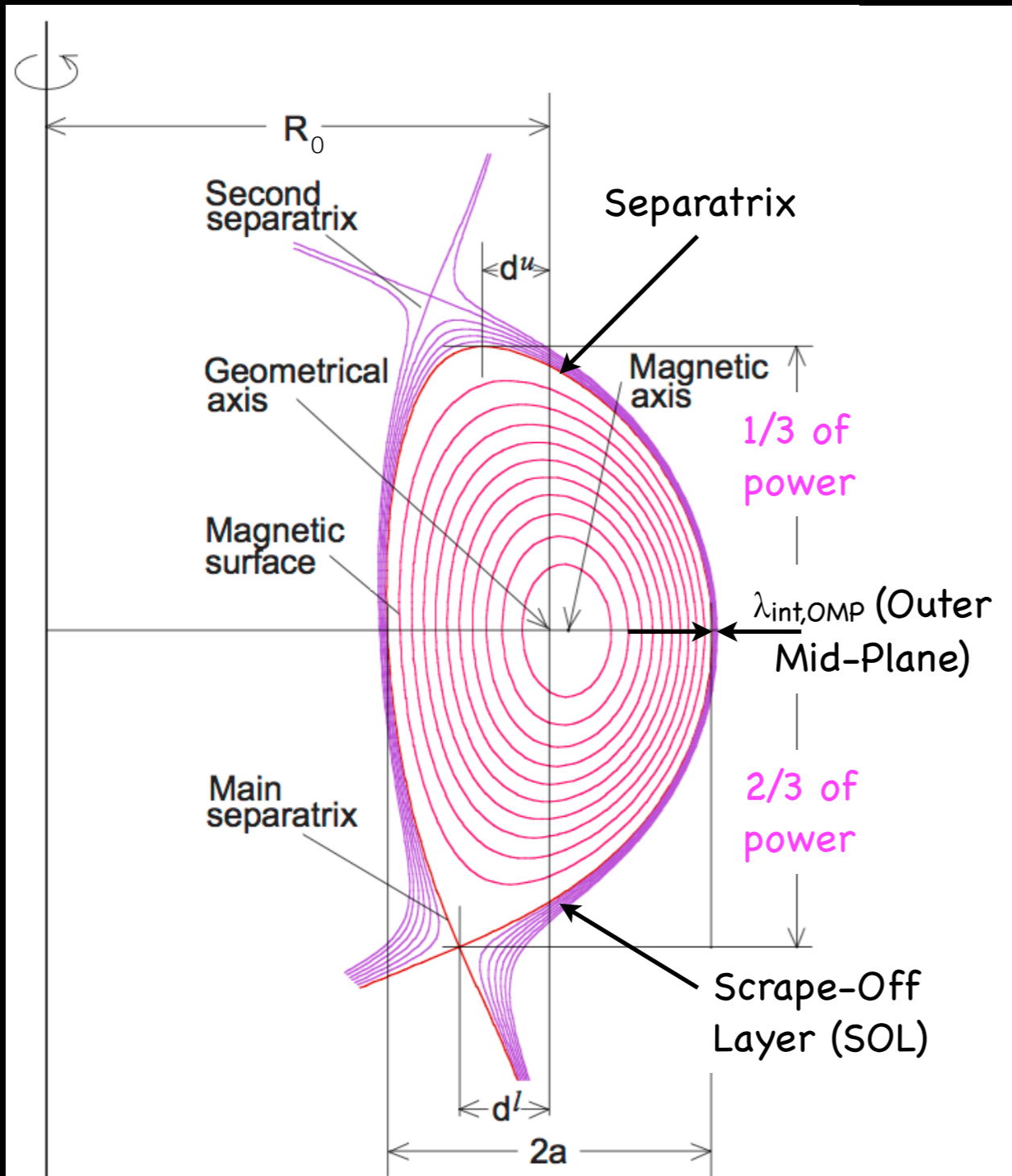
- Parallel heat flux
  - Surface heat flux
- Simple detachment model
  - Magnetic geometry
- Lithium vapor box divertor

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# Parallel Heat Flux



$$\lambda_{int,OMP} \equiv \int q_{p,OMP} dR / \hat{q}_{p,OMP}$$

$$\hat{q}_{p,OMP} \approx \frac{2P_{SOL}/3}{2\pi(R_0 + a)\lambda_{int,OMP}}$$

Assume  $\vec{q} = q_{\parallel} \hat{b} = q_{\parallel} \frac{\vec{B}}{B}$  ( $\Rightarrow$  no  $\vec{q}_{\perp}$ )

$$\hat{q}_{p,OMP} = \hat{q}_{\parallel,OMP} \frac{B_{p,OMP}}{B_{OMP}}$$

$$\hat{q}_{\parallel,OMP} \approx \frac{2P_{SOL}/3}{2\pi(R_0 + a)\lambda_{int,OMP}} \frac{B_{OMP}}{B_{p,OMP}}$$

Assume  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{q} = 0$  ( $\Rightarrow$  no losses)

$$0 = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \frac{q_{\parallel}}{B} \vec{B} = \frac{q_{\parallel}}{B} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} + \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \frac{q_{\parallel}}{B}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{q}_{\parallel} = \hat{q}_{\parallel,OMP} \frac{B}{B_{OMP}} \text{ along } \vec{B}$$

$$\hat{q}_{\parallel} \approx \frac{2P_{SOL}/3}{2\pi(R_0 + a)\lambda_{int,OMP}} \frac{B}{B_{p,OMP}}$$

# Conventional Calculation of $\lambda$

- Parallel confinement time

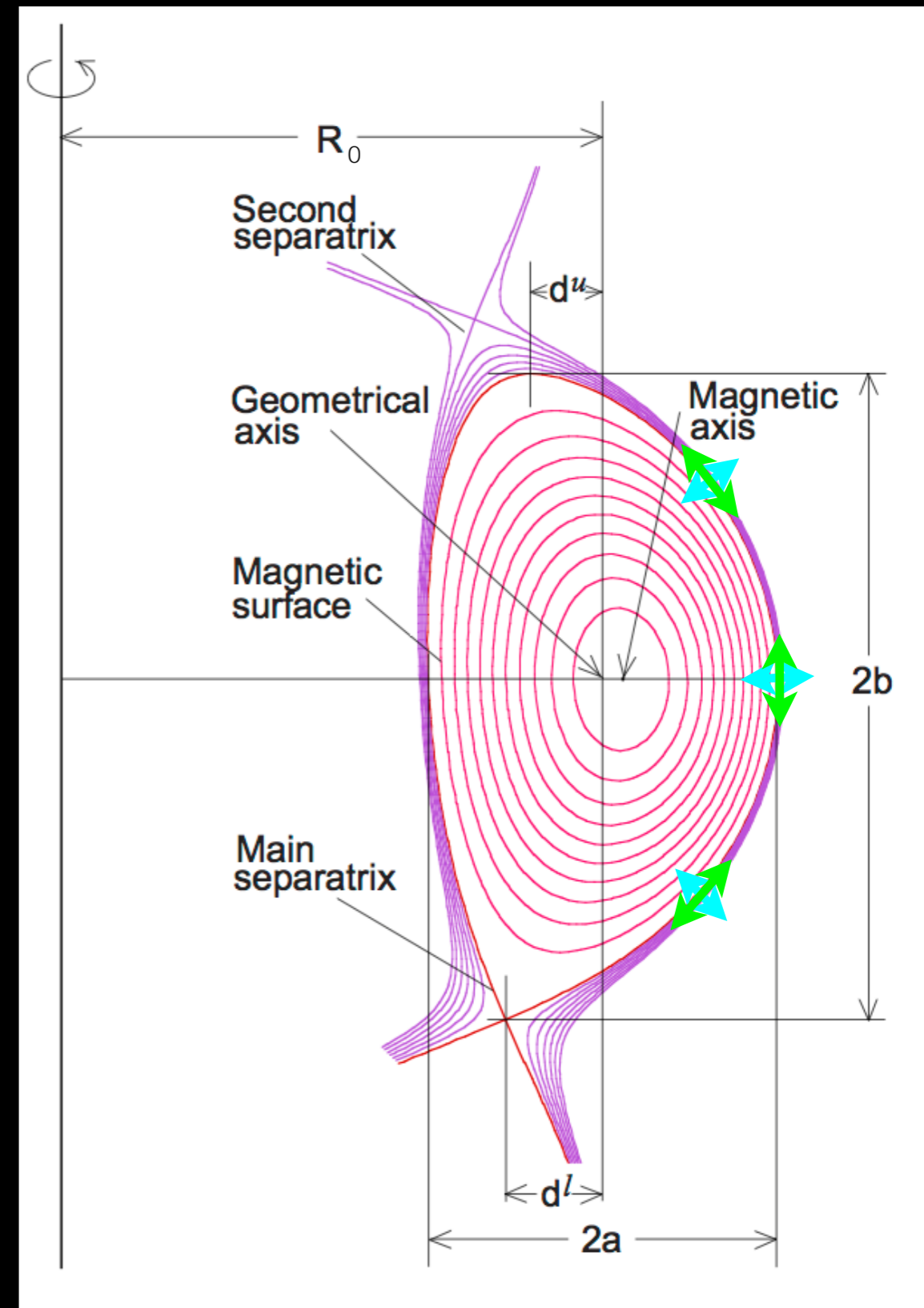
$$\tau_{\parallel} \approx (\pi q R)^2 / 2 \chi_{\parallel}$$

- Cross-field diffusion during  $\tau_{\parallel}$

$$\lambda_{\perp}^2 = 2 \chi_{\perp} \tau_{\parallel} = \frac{\chi_{\perp}}{\chi_{\parallel}} (\pi q R)^2$$

$$\lambda_{\perp} = \pi q R \sqrt{\frac{\chi_{\perp}}{\chi_{\parallel}}} \begin{array}{l} \text{Turbulent} \sim \text{Bohm} \\ \text{Spitzer} \end{array}$$

- $\lambda_{\perp}$  scales linearly with  $R$



# Heuristic Drift Calculation of $\lambda$

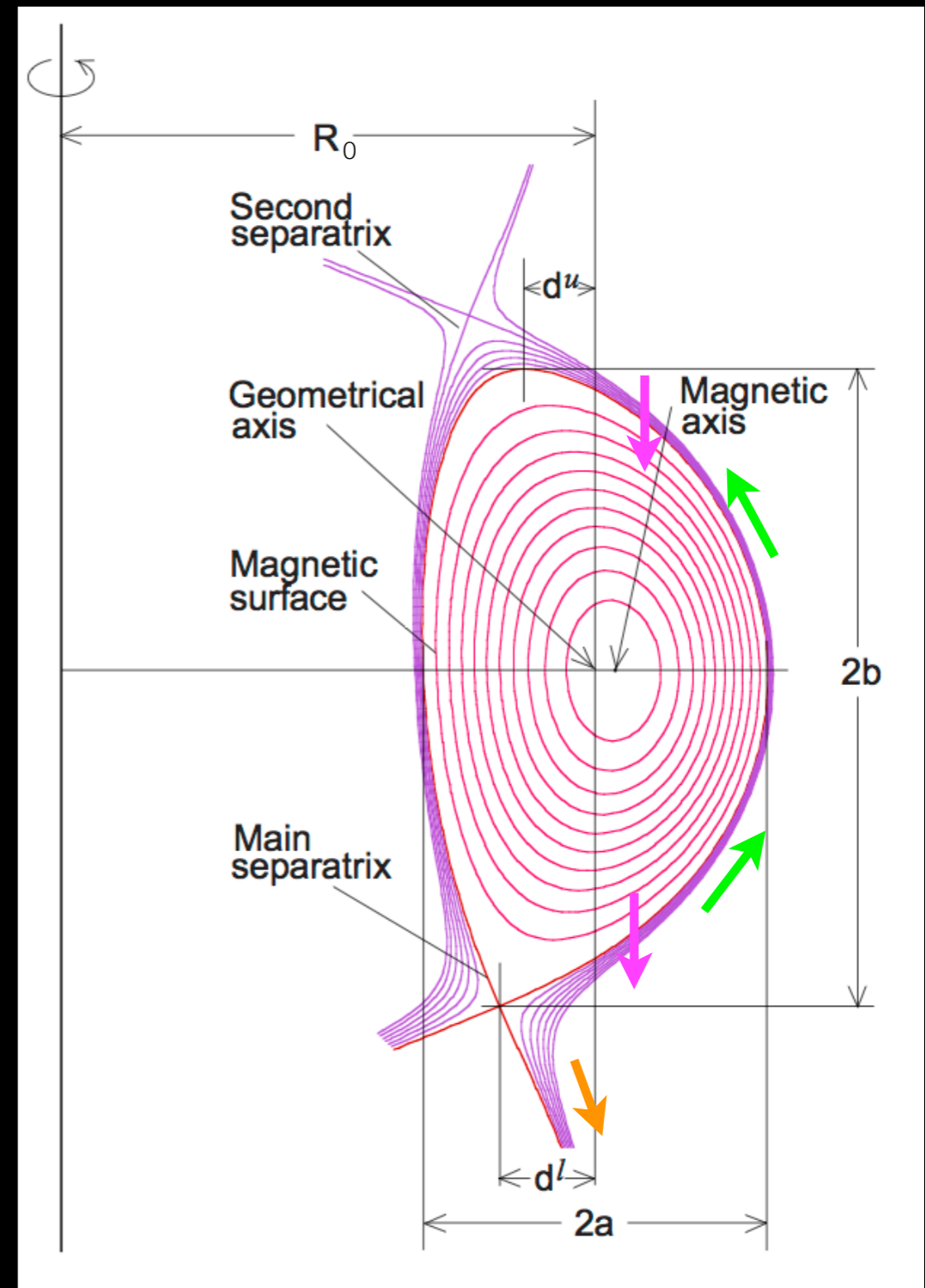
- Vertical Grad B and Curv B drifts cross plasma edge
- Parallel flows connect bottom to top like core Pfirsch-Schlüter flow
- But  $\sim 1/2$  of flow goes to divertor. Time scale for parallel plasma loss (particles accelerate up to  $c_s$ ):

$$\tau_{\parallel} = L_{\parallel} / (c_s / 2) \quad c_s \equiv [(T_e + T_i) / m_i]^{1/2}$$

Assume that cross-field drifts during this time set SOL width.

$$\lambda_{SOL} \approx v_{\nabla B + \text{curv} B} \tau_{\parallel} = 2(a/R_0) r_{L,p}$$

- Get closed form result using Spitzer parallel conduction to give  $T_e = T_i$ .
- **No explicit size scaling in  $\lambda_{\perp}$**





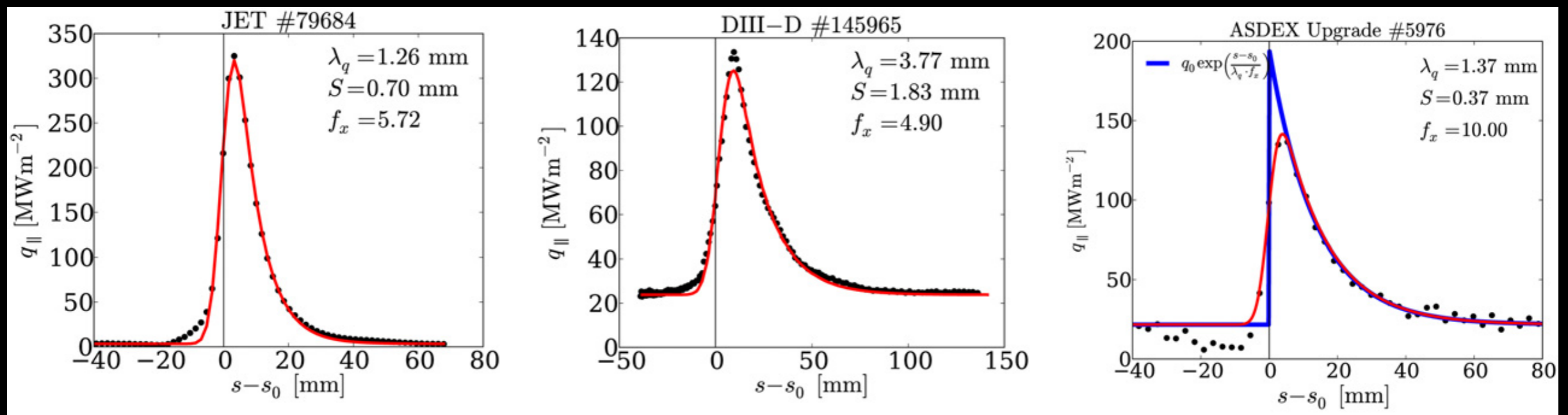
# IR Data are Fit with “Eich Function”

- Convolve an exponential ( $\lambda_q$ ) starting at the separatrix, representing the near SOL around the plasma, with a Gaussian ( $S$ ) representing spreading along the divertor leg.

$$q_{\parallel}(x) = q_{\parallel 0} \int_0^{\infty} \left[ \exp\left(\frac{-x'}{\lambda_q}\right) \right] \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}S} \exp\left[\frac{-(x-x')^2}{S^2}\right] \right\} dx'$$

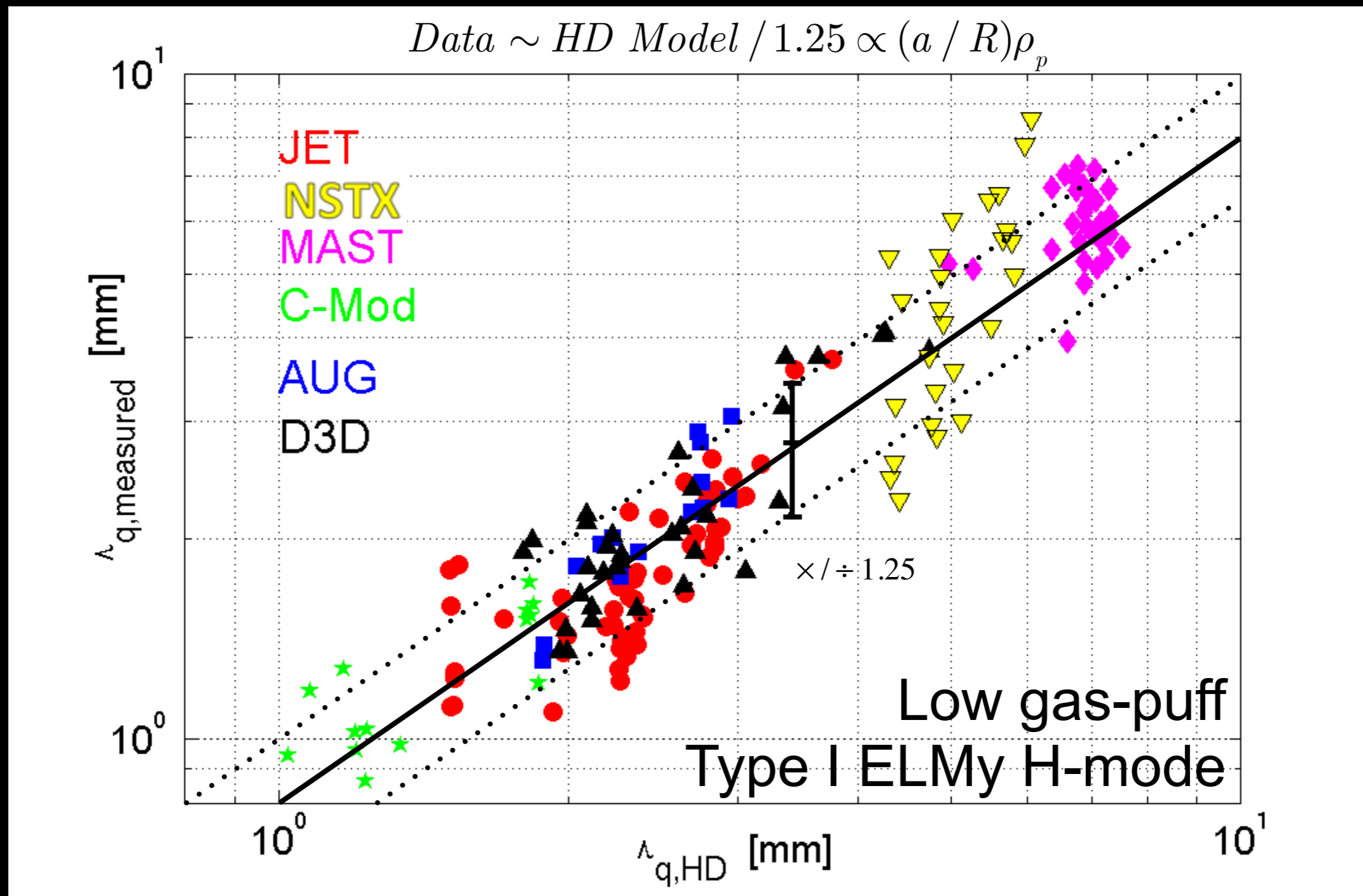
$$= \frac{q_{\parallel 0}}{2} \exp\left[\left(\frac{S}{2\lambda_q}\right)^2 - \frac{x}{\lambda_q}\right] \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{S}{2\lambda_q} - \frac{x}{S}\right)$$

F. Wagner, NF  
1985



T. Eich, NF 2013

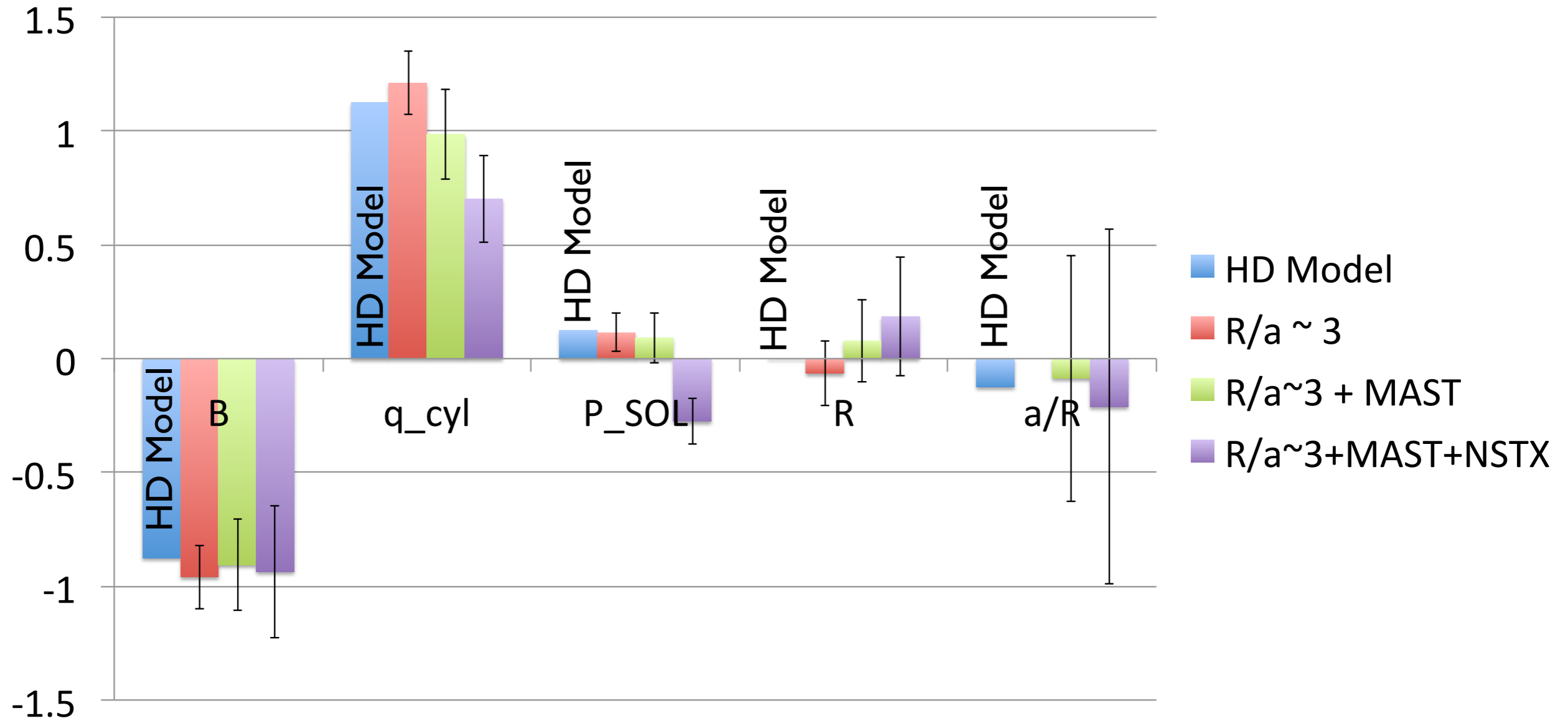
# $\lambda_q$ Data fit HD Model / 1.25 Well



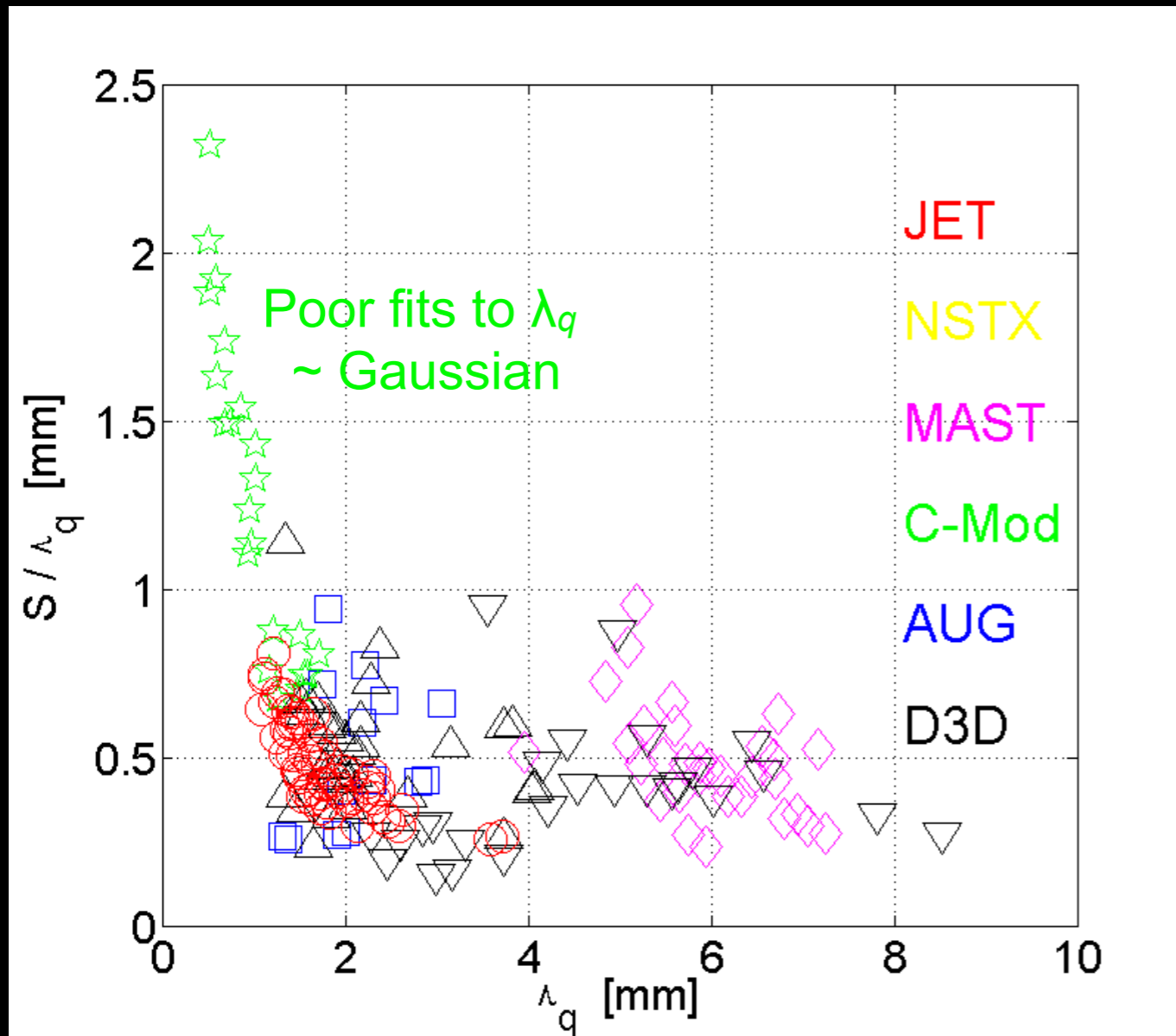
Scales with intensive variables, not system size.  
Projections for ITER and Demo  $\sim 1$  mm (!)

# Individual Scalings fit HD Model

Scaling Coefficient



# $S/\lambda_q$ Relatively Constant @ $\sim 0.5$



T. Eich, 2014

- $\lambda_{int,OMP} \equiv \int q dR / \hat{q}$
- $\lambda_{int}/\lambda_q$  varies with  $S/\lambda_q$  in Eich fct.
- For  $S/\lambda_q = 0.5$ ,  
 $\lambda_{int}/\lambda_q = 1.79$
- $\lambda_{int} \sim 1.79\lambda_q$

- It is possible that turbulence will cause  $\lambda_q$  or  $S$  to scale with size from JET upwards... but much less than linearly, since JET fits HD model &  $S/\lambda_q$ .



# Let's Evaluate $q_{||}$ for Demo1

$$\lambda_q \approx 5671 \cdot P_{SOL}^{1/8} \frac{(1 + \kappa^2)^{5/8} a^{17/8} B^{1/4}}{I_p^{9/8} R} \times \left( \frac{2\bar{A}}{1 + \bar{Z}} \right)^{7/16} \left( \frac{Z_{eff} + 4}{5} \right)^{1/8}$$

- Gives poloidal average width,  $\langle \lambda_{q,HD} \rangle$
- Map to OMP along flux surfaces, by fixing  $\lambda \nabla \psi_p = \lambda_{HD} (R_0 \langle B_p \rangle)$

$$\lambda_{int,HD,OMP} = \frac{1.79 \langle \lambda_{q,HD} \rangle R_0 \langle B_p \rangle}{1.25 (R_0 + a) B_{p,OMP}}$$

- Demo1 assumes  $P_{sep} = 154 \text{ MW} = 0.33 (P_\alpha + P_{aux})$
- Requires  $Z_{eff} \sim 2.6$ ,  $H = 1.0$
- 1.2 x H-mode threshold power.

R. Wenninger  
ICFRM 2015

$$q_{||,R_0} \approx \frac{2P_{sep}/3}{2\pi (R_0 + a) \lambda_{int,OMP}} \frac{B_{OMP}}{B_{p,OMP}} \frac{B_{t,0}}{B_{OMP}} = \frac{1.25 P_{sep} B_{t,0}}{3\pi \cdot 1.79 \langle \lambda_{q,HD} \rangle R_0 \langle B_p \rangle} \approx 3.6 \text{ GW/m}^2$$

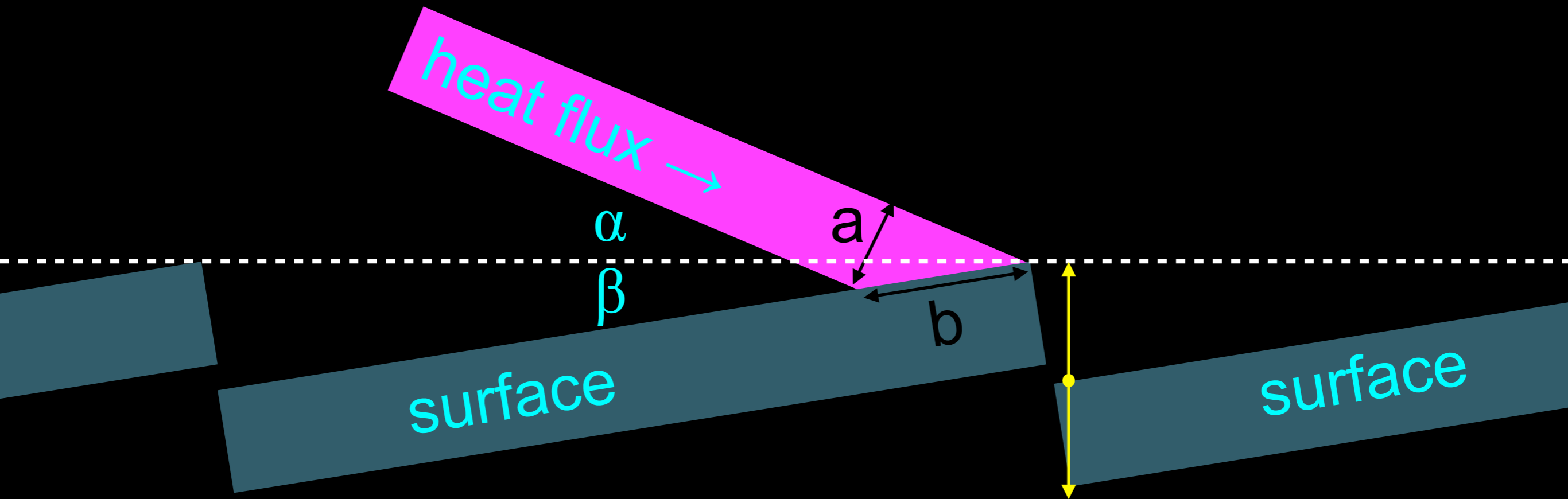
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# Fish-scaling Hides Leading Edges

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Misalignments are inevitable

$$a/b = \sin(\alpha + \beta) ; q_{\perp} b = q_{\parallel} a$$

$$q_{\perp} = q_{\parallel} a/b = q_{\parallel} \sin(\alpha + \beta)$$

# There are limits to both $\alpha$ and $\alpha_0$

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- To reduce  $\alpha$  requires
  - reducing poloidal field at target and/or
  - inclining target plate nearly tangential to B
- To reduce  $\beta$  requires
  - very high-precision alignment and
  - very little degradation of alignment over time
- $\alpha + \beta = 2^\circ$  would constitute major success
- $3.6 \text{ GW/m}^2 \times \sin 2^\circ = 126 \text{ MW/m}^2$ 

A factor of 12.5 – 25 too high!

Requires essentially full detachment



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# Simple Detachment Model

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- Parallel heat flux is reduced by impurity cooling

$$q_{\parallel} = \kappa_0 T_e^{5/2} \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial z} \quad \frac{\partial q_{\parallel}}{\partial z} = n_e n_z L_z = n_e^2 c_z L_z; \quad c_z \equiv \frac{n_z}{n_e}$$

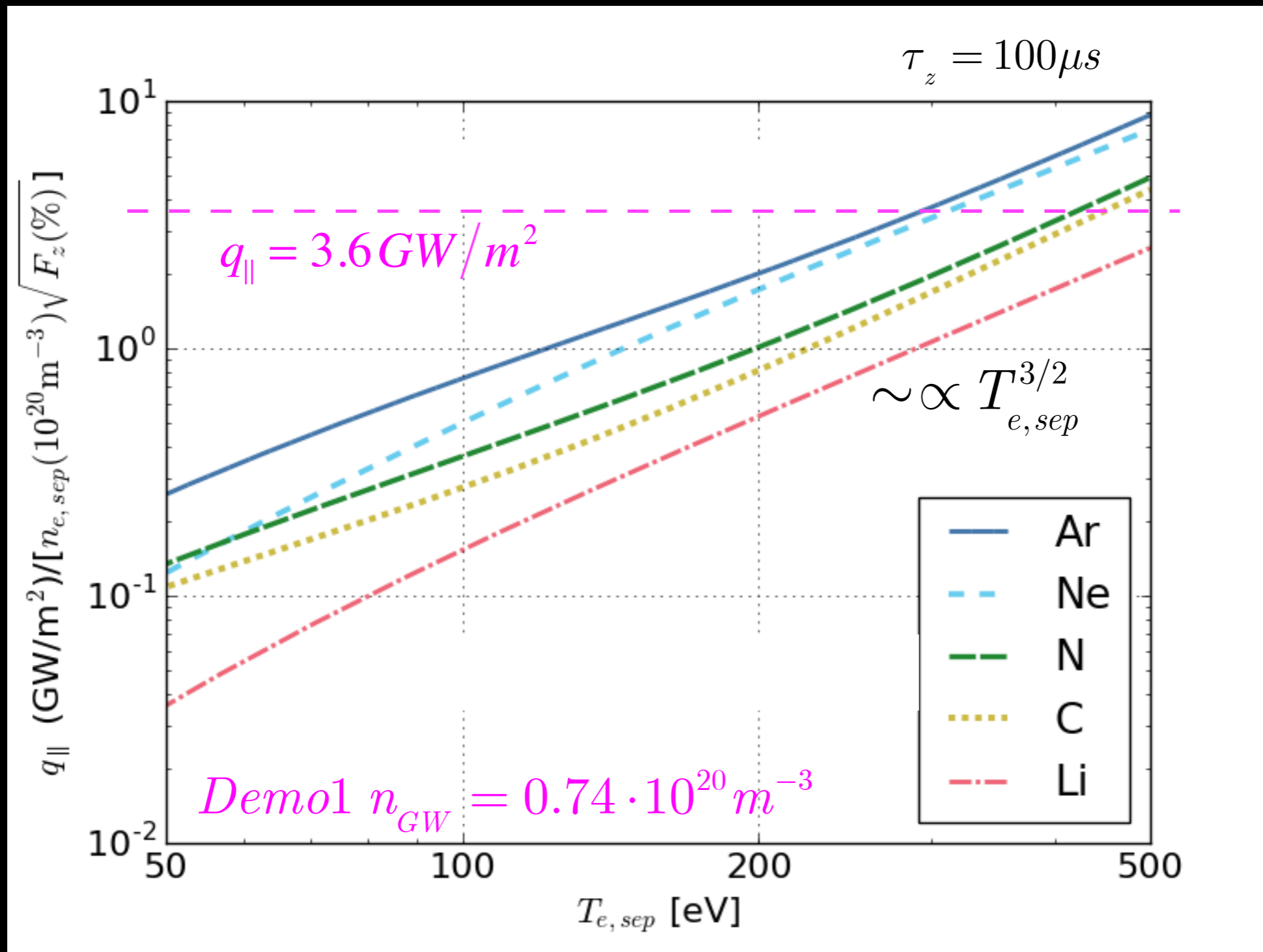
- Multiply these:  $\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial q_{\parallel}^2}{\partial z} = n_e^2 c_z L_z \kappa_0 T_e^{5/2} \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial z}$

- Integrate  $dz$  and assume  $p_e = n_e T_e = \text{const.}$

$$\Delta q_{\parallel}^2 = \int_{T_{det}}^{T_{sep}} 2n_e^2 c_z L_z \kappa_0 T_e^{5/2} dT_e = 2 \left( n_{e,sep} T_{e,sep} \right)^2 \int_{T_{det}}^{T_{sep}} c_z L_z \kappa_0 T_e^{1/2} dT_e$$

Lengyel, 1981

# $q_{||} / (n_{e,sep,20} \sqrt{f_z\%})$ using ADAS

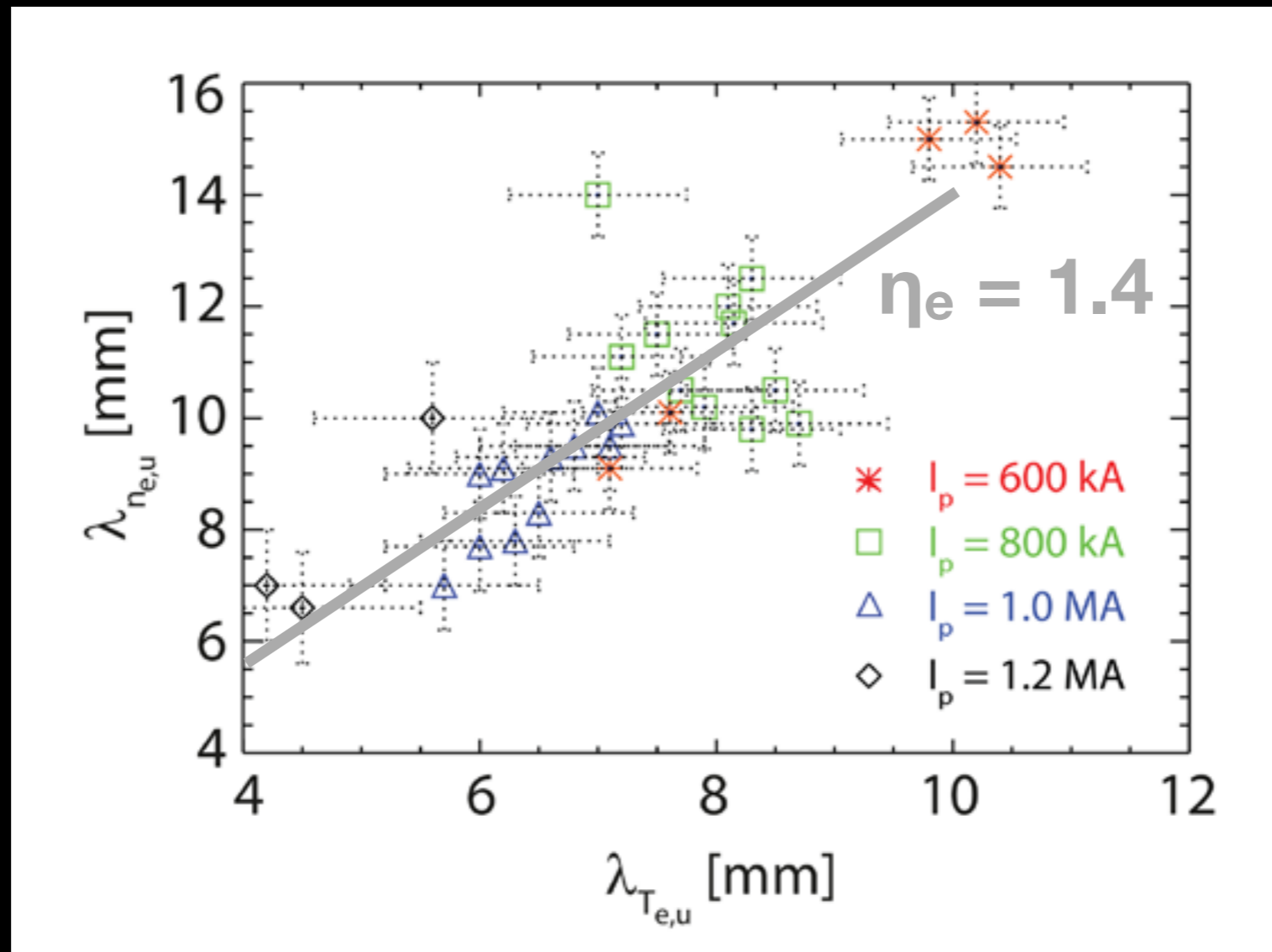


J. Schwartz

$q_{||}$  that can be detached  $\propto \sim n_{sep} \sqrt{c_z} T_{sep}^{3/2}$

# Can we Increase $n_{sep}/n_{GW}$ ?

- Experiments run with  $n_{sep} \sim \bar{n}/3$
- HD model consistent with ballooning limit in SOL at  $n_{sep} \sim \bar{n}_{GW}/3$



H.J. Sun, PPCF  
2015

- Strong pedestal  $\nabla T_e$  with low  $\nabla n_e$  impossible?



# Bring in Spitzer $T_{e,sep}$ & GW Density

$$q_{\parallel,det} = n_{e,sep} T_{e,sep} \sqrt{2 \int_{T_{det}}^{T_{sep}} c_z L_z \kappa_0 T_e^{1/2} dT_e} \sim \propto n_{e,sep} T_{e,sep}^{3/2} c_z^{1/2}$$

- Assume Spitzer  $\chi_{\parallel e}$ , Greenwald density scaling

$$n_{e,sep} \propto f_{GW,sep} \frac{\langle B_p \rangle}{a} (1 + \kappa^2)^{1/2} T_{e,sep} \propto \left( q_{\parallel} \ell_{\parallel}^* q_{cyl} R_0 \right)^{2/7} \quad \ell_{\parallel}^* \equiv L_{\parallel} / \left( \pi q_{cyl} R_0 \right)$$

- Plug these into equation on the right, above

$$q_{\parallel} R_0 \propto f_{GW,sep} \frac{R_0}{a} \langle B_p \rangle (1 + \kappa^2)^{1/2} \left( q_{\parallel} \ell_{\parallel}^* q_{cyl} R_0 \right)^{3/7} c_z^{1/2}$$

$$c_z f_{GW,sep}^2 \propto \frac{\left( q_{\parallel} R_0 \right)^{8/7}}{\left( \ell_{\parallel}^* q_{cyl} \right)^{6/7} \left( \frac{R_0}{a} \right)^2 \langle B_p \rangle^2 (1 + \kappa^2)}$$

No size scaling!

# Now Bring in HD $\lambda_q$ to get $q_{||}R_0$

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$$q_{||}R_0 \propto P_{sep}^{7/8} B_{t,0}^{3/4} \langle B_p \rangle^{1/8} \frac{R_0}{a} (1 + \kappa^2)^{-1/16} \left( \frac{\bar{A}}{1 + \bar{Z}} \right)^{-7/16} (\ell_{||}^*)^{-1/8}$$

- Substitute this into result from last slide

$$c_z f_{GW,sep}^2 \propto \frac{P_{sep} B_{t,0}^{6/7} \left( \frac{\bar{A}}{1 + \bar{Z}} \right)^{-1/2}}{\left( \frac{R_0 q_{cyl}}{a} \right)^{6/7} \langle B_p \rangle^{13/7} (1 + \kappa^2)^{15/14} \ell_{||}^*}$$

$$c_z \propto \frac{P_{sep}}{\langle B_p \rangle (1 + \kappa^2)^{3/2} f_{GW,sep}^2 \ell_{||}^*} \left( \frac{1 + \bar{Z}}{\bar{A}} \right)^{1/2}$$

**OMG!**  
**NO SIZE SCALING !**

# We Should not be Surprised

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- Look at the simplest model possible

$$q_{\parallel} \propto P_{sep} B/a \quad \text{from } \lambda_{int} \propto (a/R_0) \rho_p \sim \propto a/(R_0 B_p)$$

$$p_{rad} \propto c_z n_e^2 \propto c_z f_{GW}^2 \langle B_p \rangle^2 a^2 (1 + \kappa^2) / a^4$$

$$q_{\parallel} \propto p_{rad} L_{\parallel} \propto c_z f_{GW}^2 \langle B_p \rangle^2 a^{-2} (1 + \kappa^2) q_{cyl} R_0 \ell_{\parallel}^*$$

$$q_{cyl} \propto a B_0 (1 + \kappa^2)^{1/2} / R_0 \langle B_p \rangle$$

$$c_z \propto \frac{P_{sep}}{\langle B_p \rangle (1 + \kappa^2)^{3/2} f_{GW,sep}^2 \ell_{\parallel}^*}$$

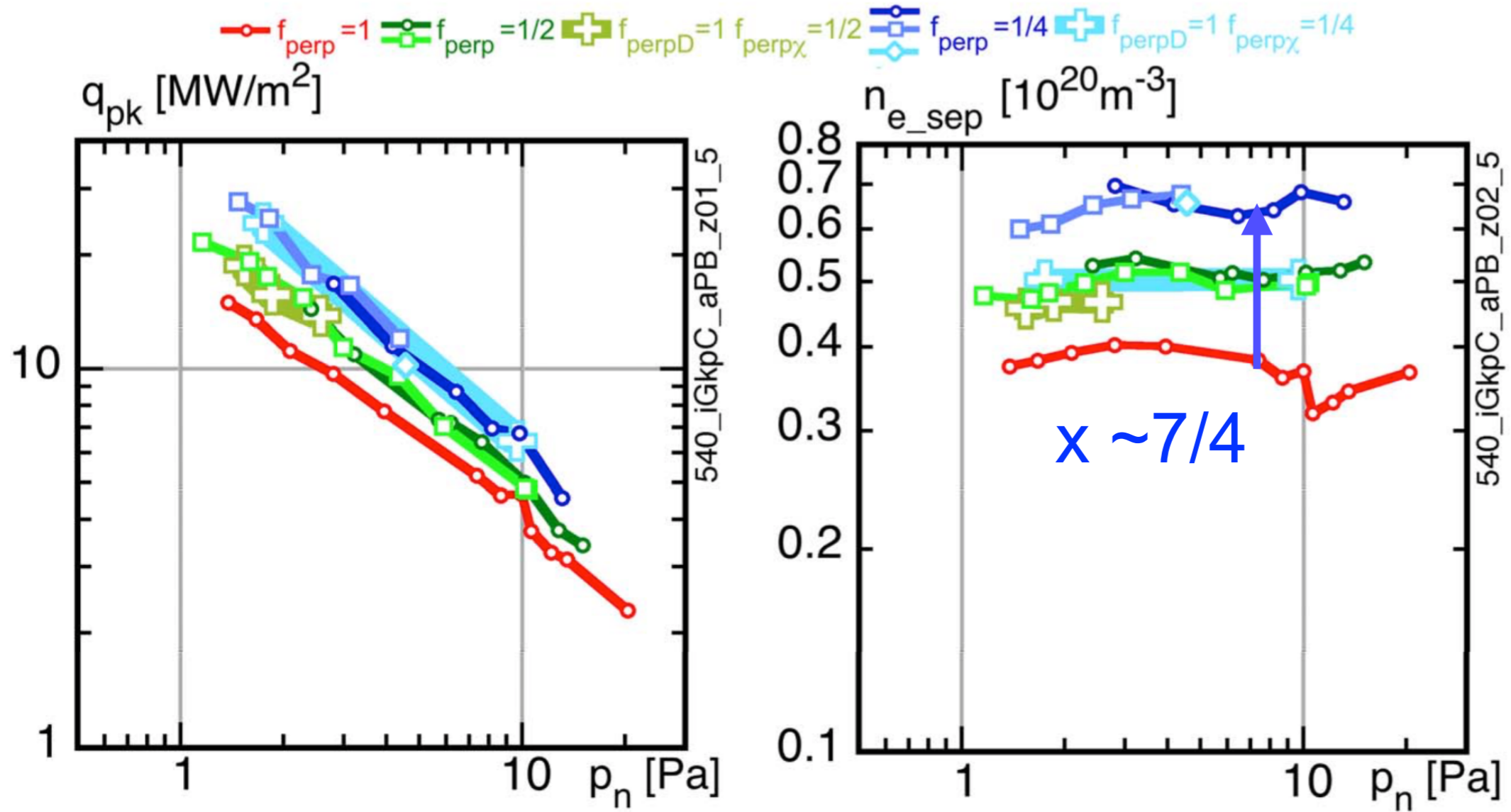
**SAME RESULT:  
NO SIZE SCALING !**

# Scaling to ITER & Demo1

	C-Mod	ASDEX-U	JET	ITER	FNSF (A=4)	EU Demo1
$P_{sep}$	3.83	10.7	14	100	96	154.7
$B_t$	5.47	2.5	2.5	5.3	7.0	5.7
$R_0$	0.7	1.6	2.9	6.2	4.5	9.1
$P_{sep}/R$	5.5	6.7	4.8	16.1	21.3	17.0
$P_{sep}B_t/R$	29.9	16.7	12.1	85.5	149.3	96.9
$I_p$	0.82	1.2	2.5	15	7.5	20
$a$	0.22	0.52	0.90	2.00	1.13	2.94
$K_{95}$	1.51	1.63	1.73	1.80	2.10	1.70
$\langle B_p \rangle$	0.58	0.34	0.39	1.03	0.81	0.98
$q_{cyl}$	3.78	3.16	2.79	2.42	3.55	2.62
$n_{GW}$	5.39E+20	1.44E+20	9.82E+19	1.19E+20	1.89E+20	7.39E+19
<b>Projected <math>c_N</math> for detachment from AUG</b>	1.0%	4.0%	4.1%	10.1%	8.6%	18.8%

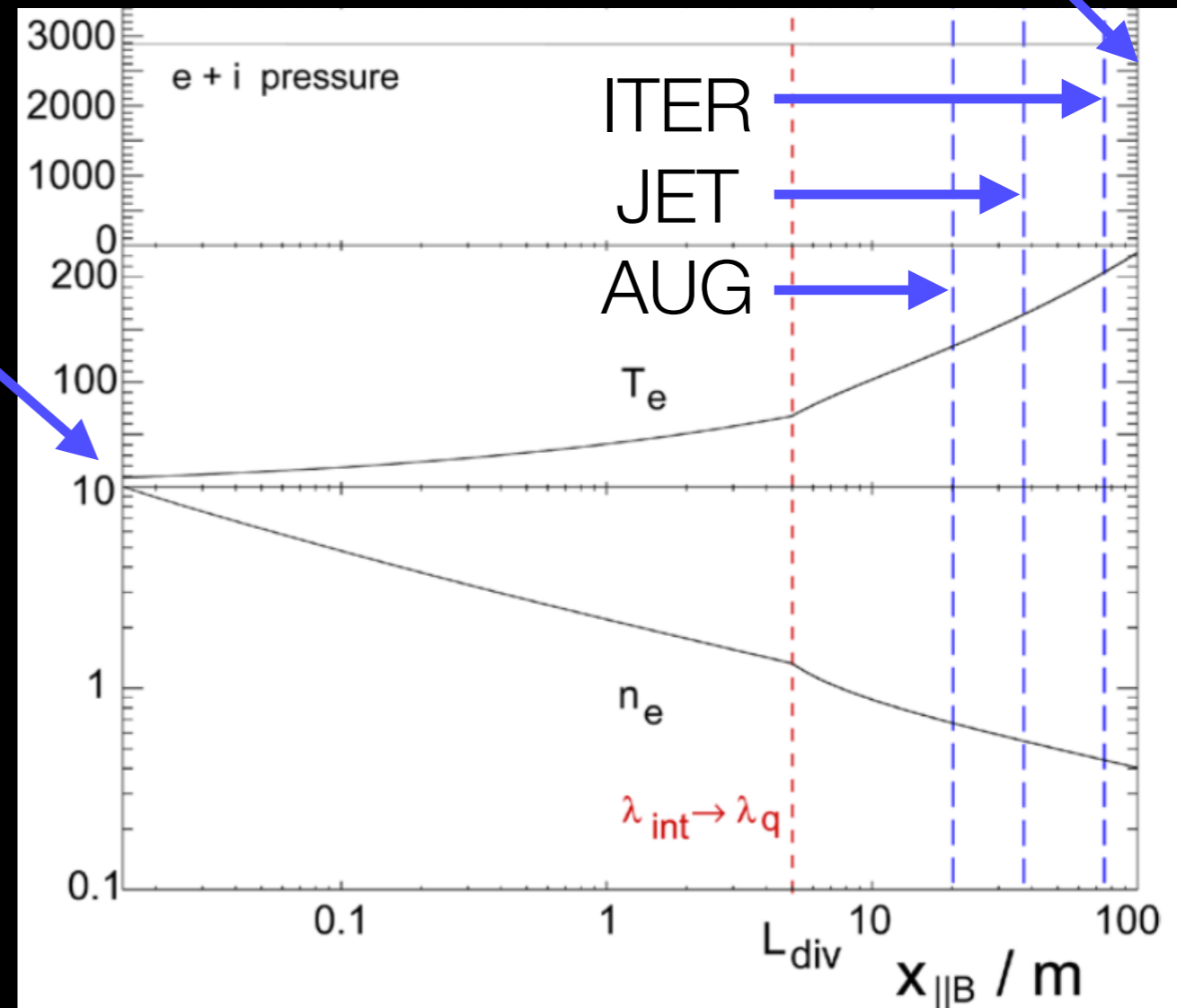
Demo1 needs ~ 5x AUG's  $c_N$  ??

# No Problem in ITER?



# No Problem for 8.25m Demo?

- Fix target conditions including  $q_{\perp}$  &  $\lambda_q$
- Integrate along B up to OMP  $\Rightarrow P \sim \propto R$
- But...  $B_p$  is fixed, so  $f_{GW}$  goes up x  $\sim 3$  even though  $n_e$  falls a bit.



**Figure 4.** (a) Plasma parameters and radiative losses according to the 1D model close to the target and (b) along the flux tube up to the midplane. The parameters correspond to semi-detached divertor conditions: divertor nitrogen concentration  $c_N = 0.04$ ,  $T_{e,tar} = 2.3$  eV, power load of  $2.3 \text{ MW m}^{-2}$ ,  $f_{mom} = 0.5$ , neutral pressure  $p_0 = 4.9$  Pa. The power width  $\lambda$  is reduced from 5 mm to 2 mm at the divertor entrance  $L_{div}$ . Dashed vertical lines indicate the midplane for devices of different size.  $P_{up}$  is 4.7 MW for the AUG size ( $R = 1.65$  m,  $L = 20$  m) and 27 MW for the case with  $R = 8.25$  m,  $L = 100$  m. Corresponding values of the separatrix power,  $P_{sep}$ , are 10.8 and 62 MW, respectively.

# Outline

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# Magnetic Geometry Can Help 3 Ways

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- Reduce  $q_{\perp} \propto B_{p\perp}$  at the target plate: (XD)
  - Limited by  $\alpha + \beta$
- Reduce  $q_{\parallel} \propto |B|$  at the target plate: (SXD)
  - Requires access to high R
  - May also help with stability of detachment
- Increase  $L_{\parallel}$  to the target by reducing  $\langle B_{\rho} \rangle$ : (SFD)
  - *This directly decreases  $c_z \propto L_{\parallel} / \pi q R$*

# Significant Effects May be Available

H. Reimerdes

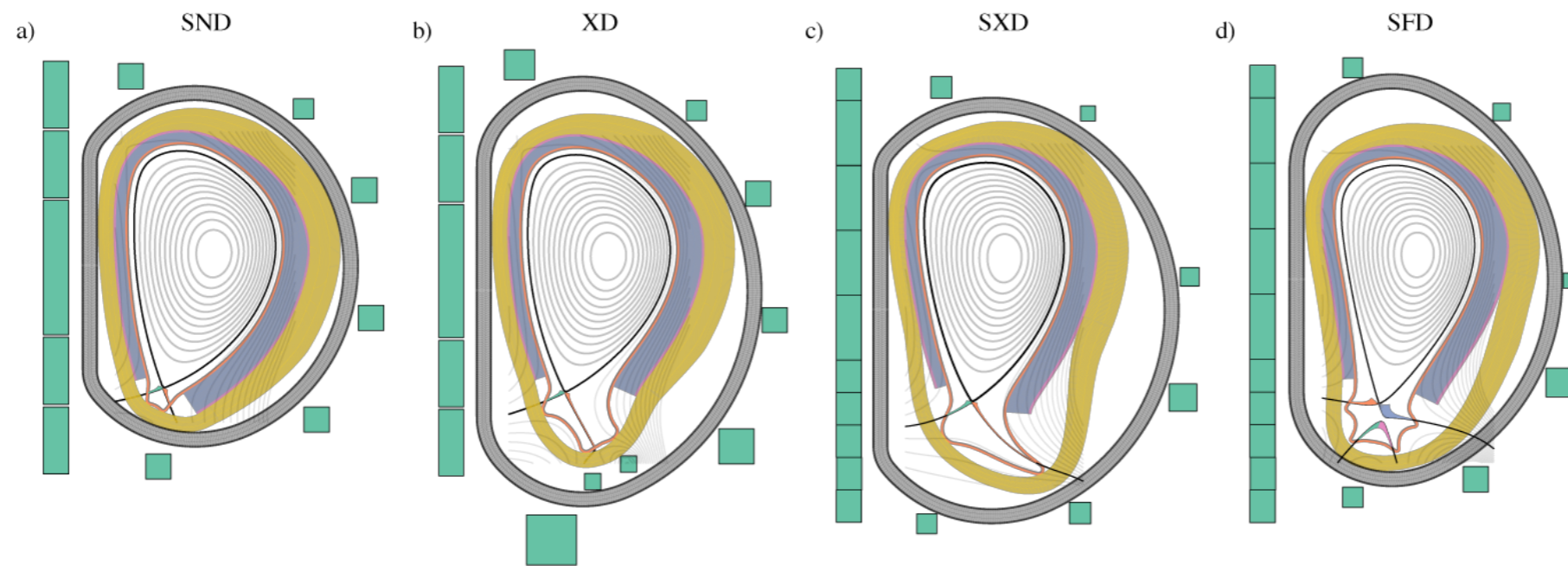


Fig. 6: (a) Reference configuration and alternative configurations including (b) an X divertor, (c) a Super-X divertor and (d) a snowflake divertor.

		SND	XD	SXD	SFD	Limit
<b>Costs</b>	Max $\Sigma  I_{PF} $ (Ma turns)	160	194	164	174	
	Total $I_{PF, internal}$ (MA turns)	-	10	-	-	
	Max. force on single coil $F_{z, PF}$ (MN)	145	301	451	439	<450
	Max. CS separation force $F_{z, CS}$ (MN)	130	244	284	329	<350
	Flux swing (Vs)	330	340	297	215	
	Norm. TF coil volume $V_{TF}/V_{plasma}$	2.9	3.6	4.2	3.8	
<b>Benefits</b>	$L_{  , outer}$ ( $r_u=3mm$ ) (m)	114	146	158	245	
	$f_{x,t}/f_{x,min}$	1	1.43	1	1	
	$R_t/R_x$	1.04	1.14	1.34	1.19	

$c_z$  down x2

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# Three Modalities for Liquid Metals

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Heat  
Conduction to  
Substrate

Liquid protects surface

Heat  
Convection by  
Liquid Metal

Liquid carries away heat

Evaporation &  
Radiative  
Cooling

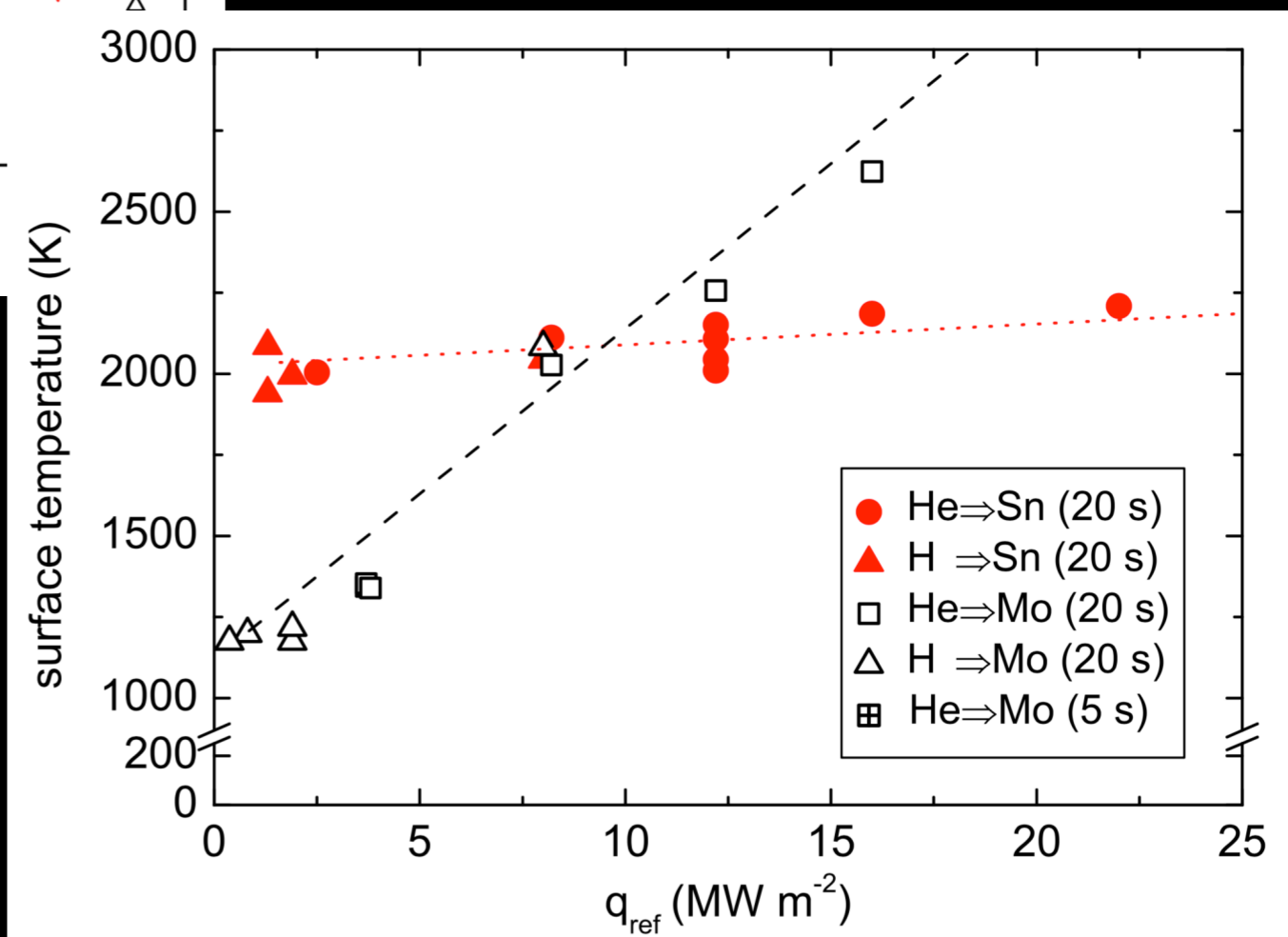
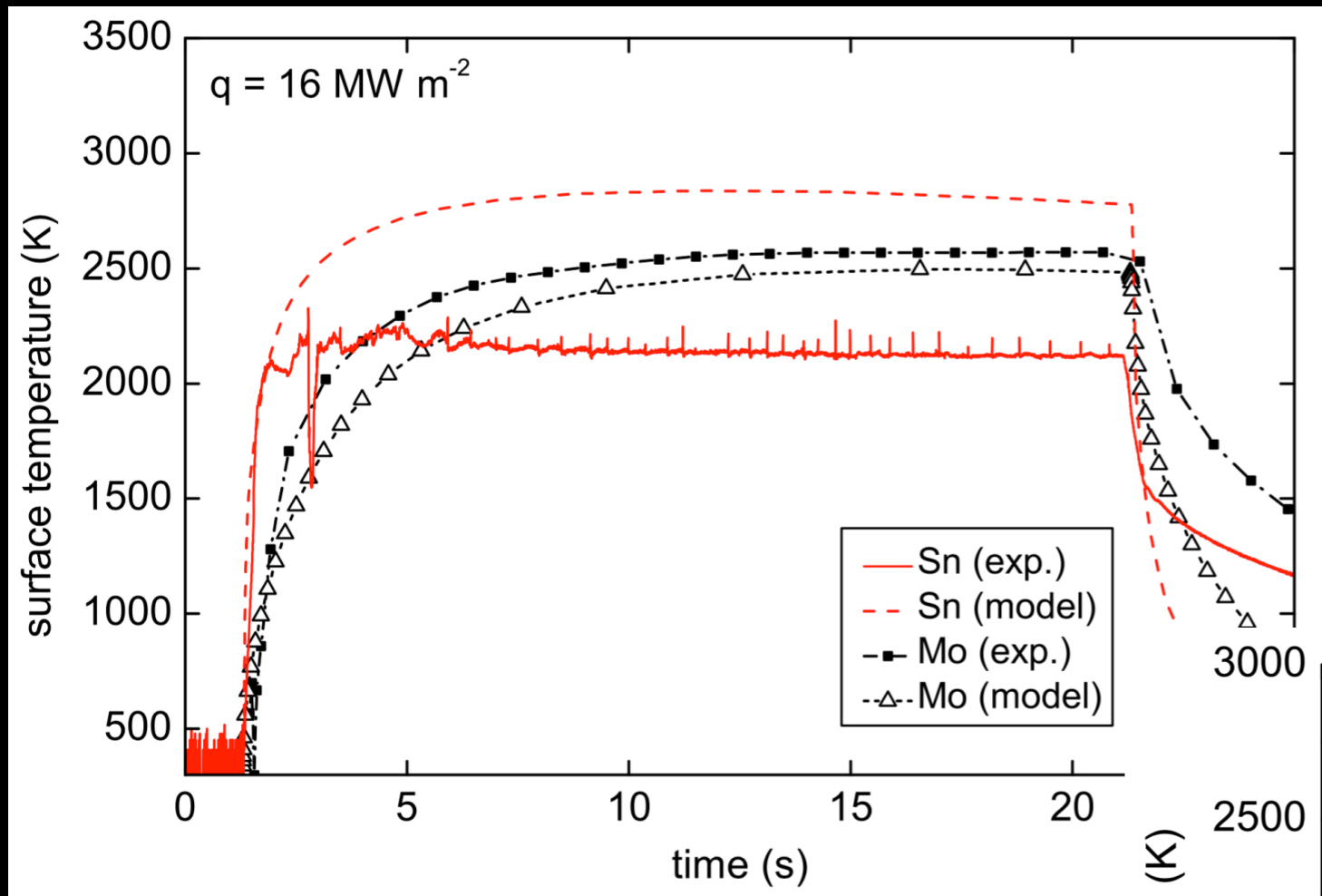
Steady vapor shielding

# Slow Flow Covering Substrate for FW

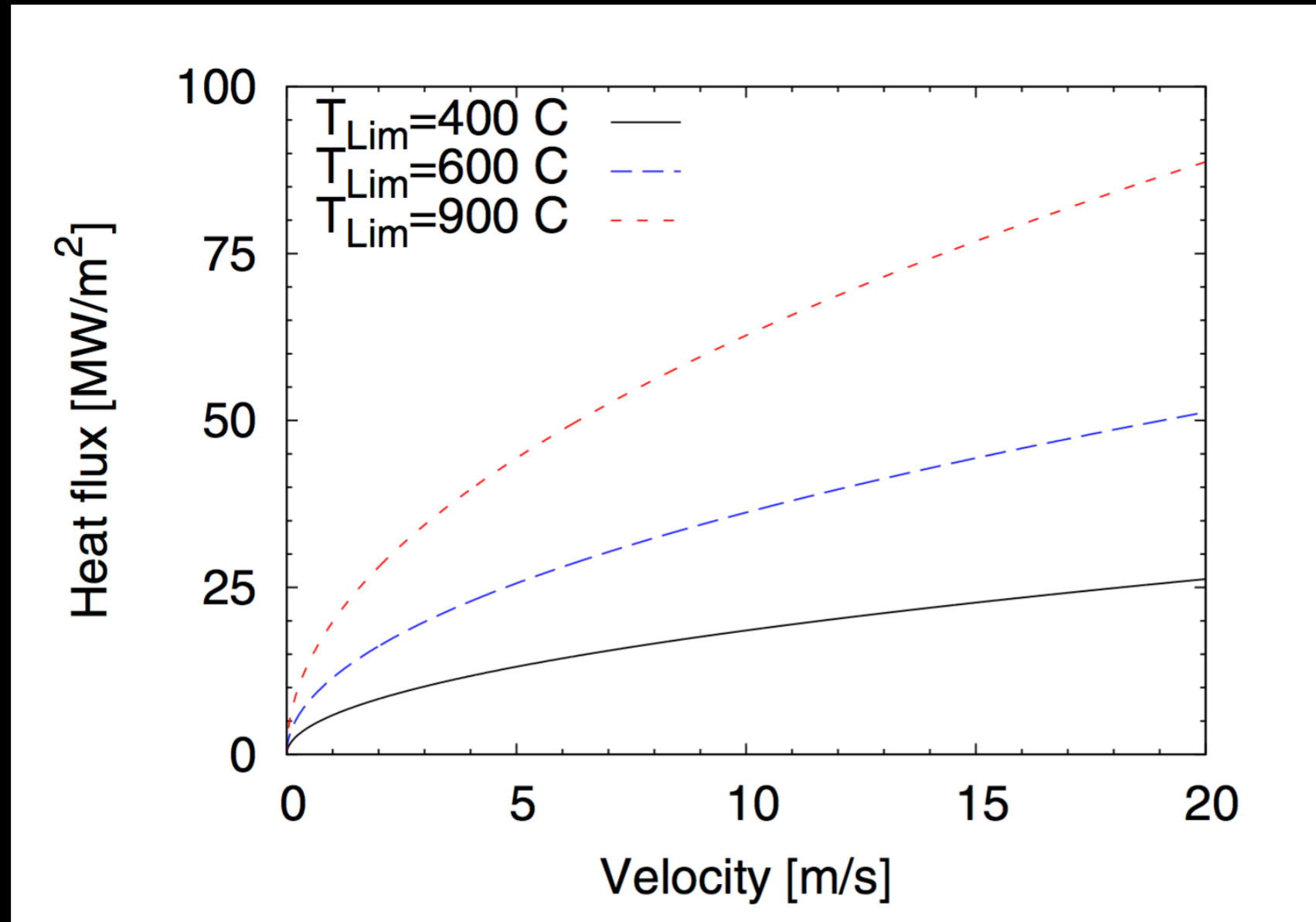
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- Capillary Porous Systems (Red Star)
- Gravity feed (Zakharov)
- CPS protects surface from transient events (but not from runaway electrons)
- First wall temperature  $\sim 500$  °C may be too high for pure lithium application.
- Possible Sn or LiSn application at first wall.
- ISTTOK results:
  - low T retention with Sn and LiSn
- Pilot PSI result: good Sn power handling

# Impressive Power Handling with CPS Sn



# Lithium Carrying Away Heat @ Divertor



$$q_0 = \frac{(\Delta T) k \sqrt{\pi v}}{2\sqrt{\alpha L}}$$

M.A. Jaworski  
FED 2016

- Assumes  $L = 10\text{cm}$  hot spot,  $T_0 = 190\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
- Heat depth  $\sim 1\text{mm} (L/10\text{cm})^{1/2} / (v/10\text{m/s})^{1/2}$

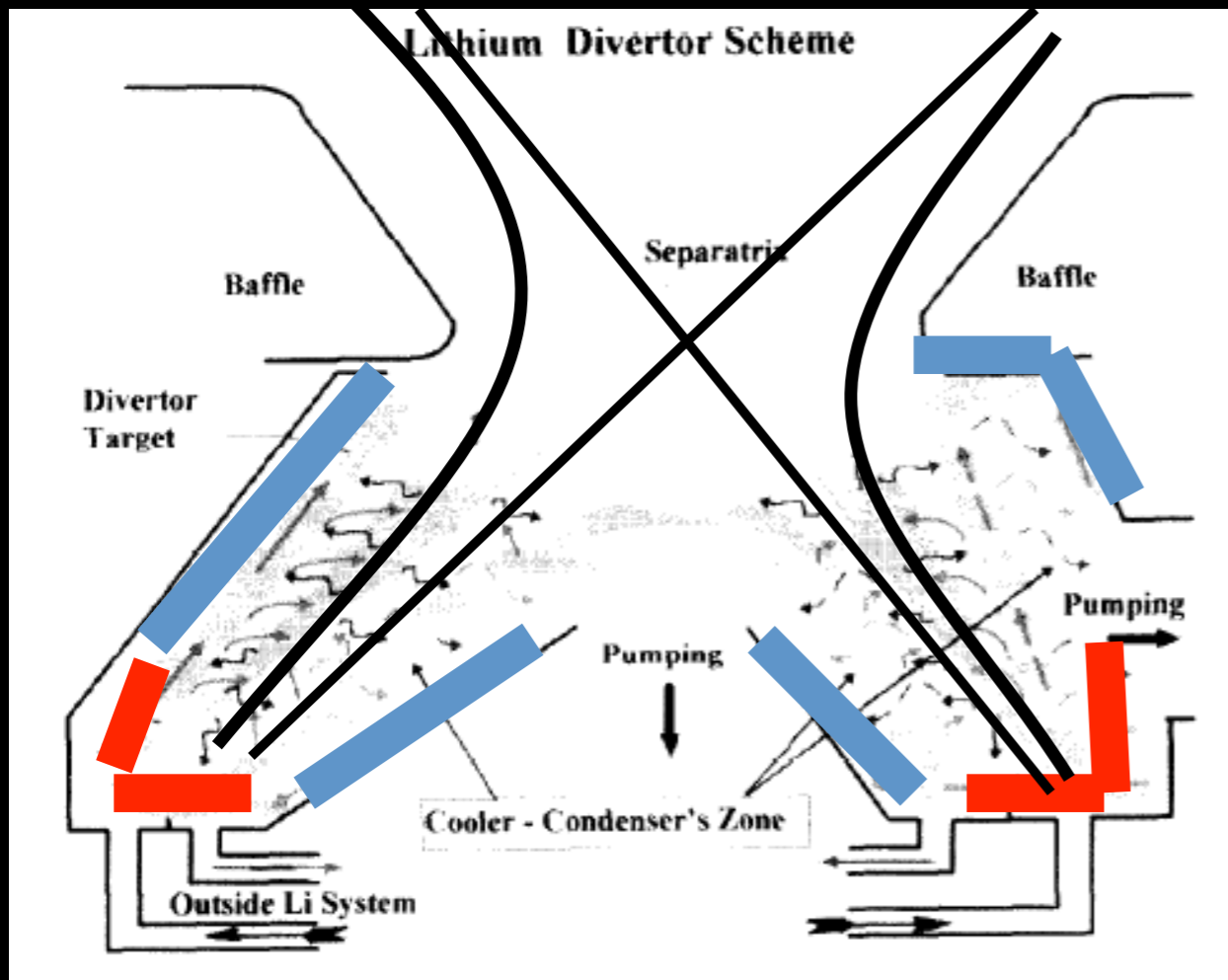


# Proposals for Driving Flow

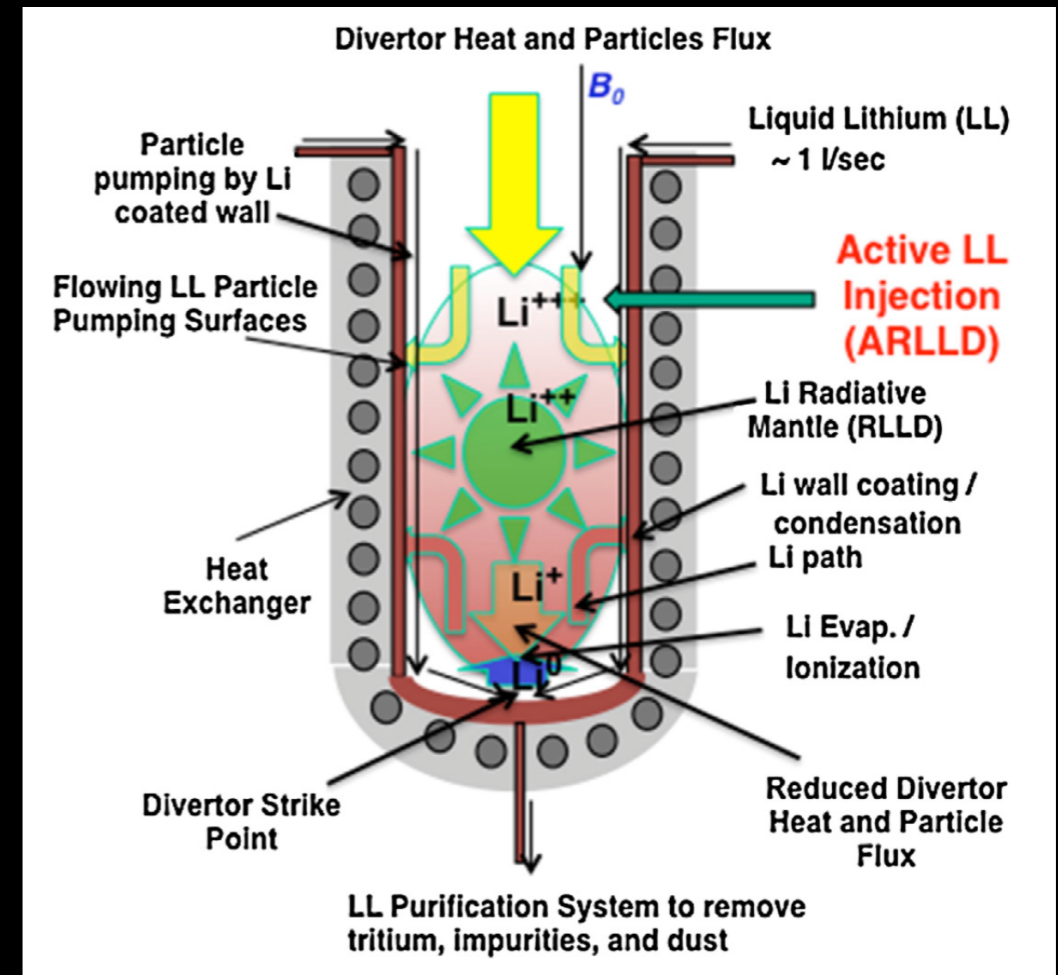
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- Slot Nozzle + JxB propulsion (Majeski & Kolemen)
  - Thermo-Electric effect (Ruzic)
  - JxB Stirring (Shimada)
  - Free surface jets (Ulrickson)
  - JxB propulsion (Zakharov)
- 
- Assume 10m/s, 2.5mm depth,  $2\pi R = 40\text{m}$  width
  - Flow is  $\sim 1\text{m}^3/\text{s} \sim 500 \text{ kg/s}$
  - How is heat extracted (in-torus, out of torus)?
  - What is Li residence time in torus?
  - Safety issues associated with tonnes of Li?

# Steady Lithium Vapor Shielding

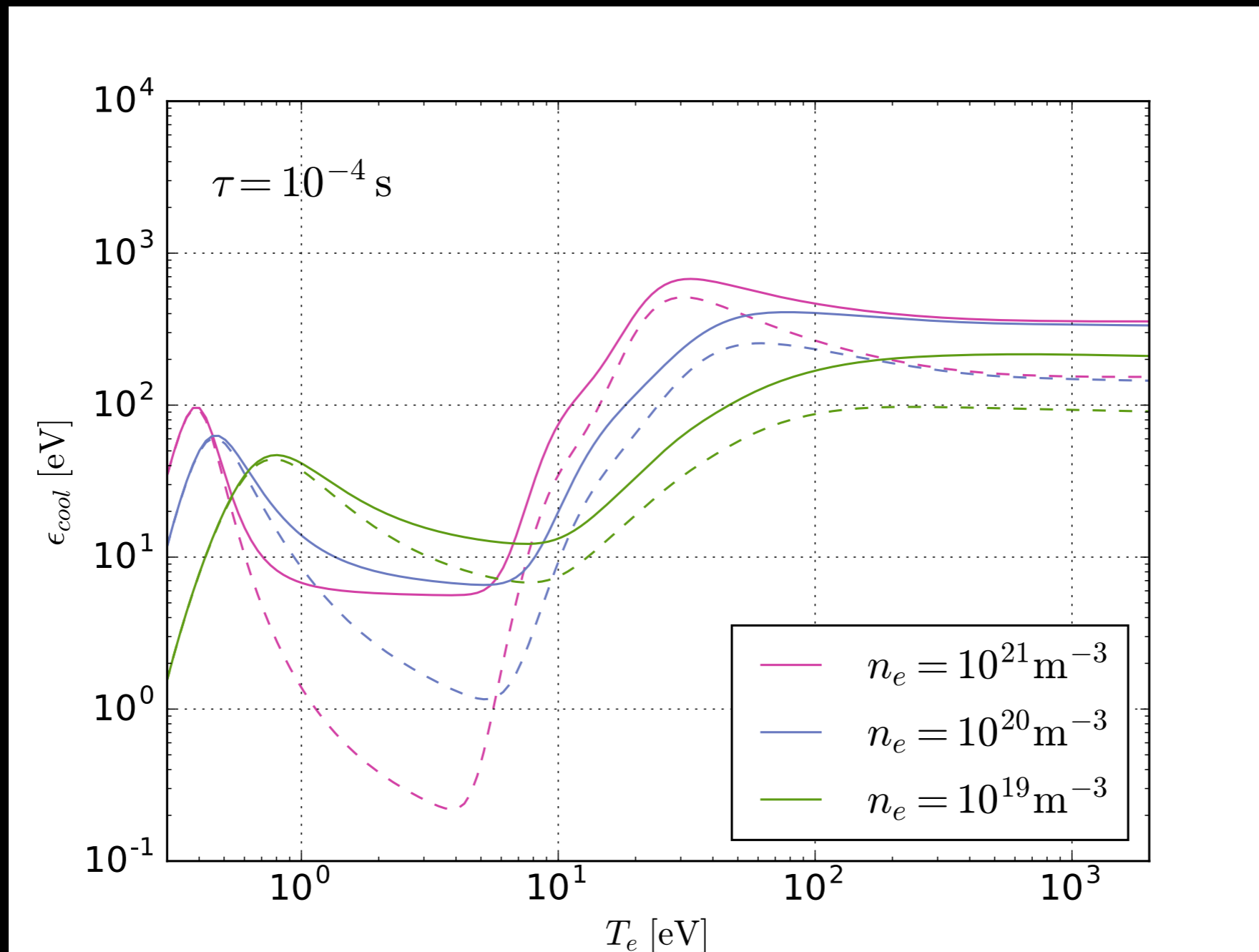


Golubchikov  
1996



Ono  
2013, 2014

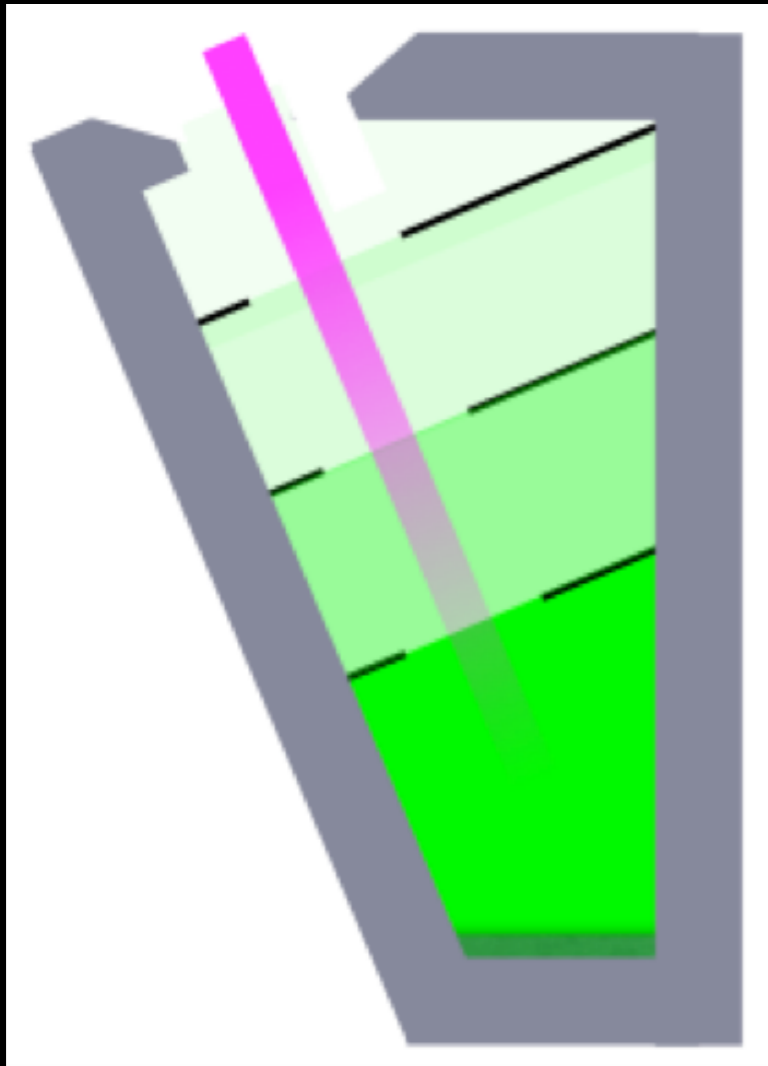
# Lithium Vapor Shielding Promising



J. Schwartz

Estimate  $\sim 250$  eV/particle  $e^-$  cooling.

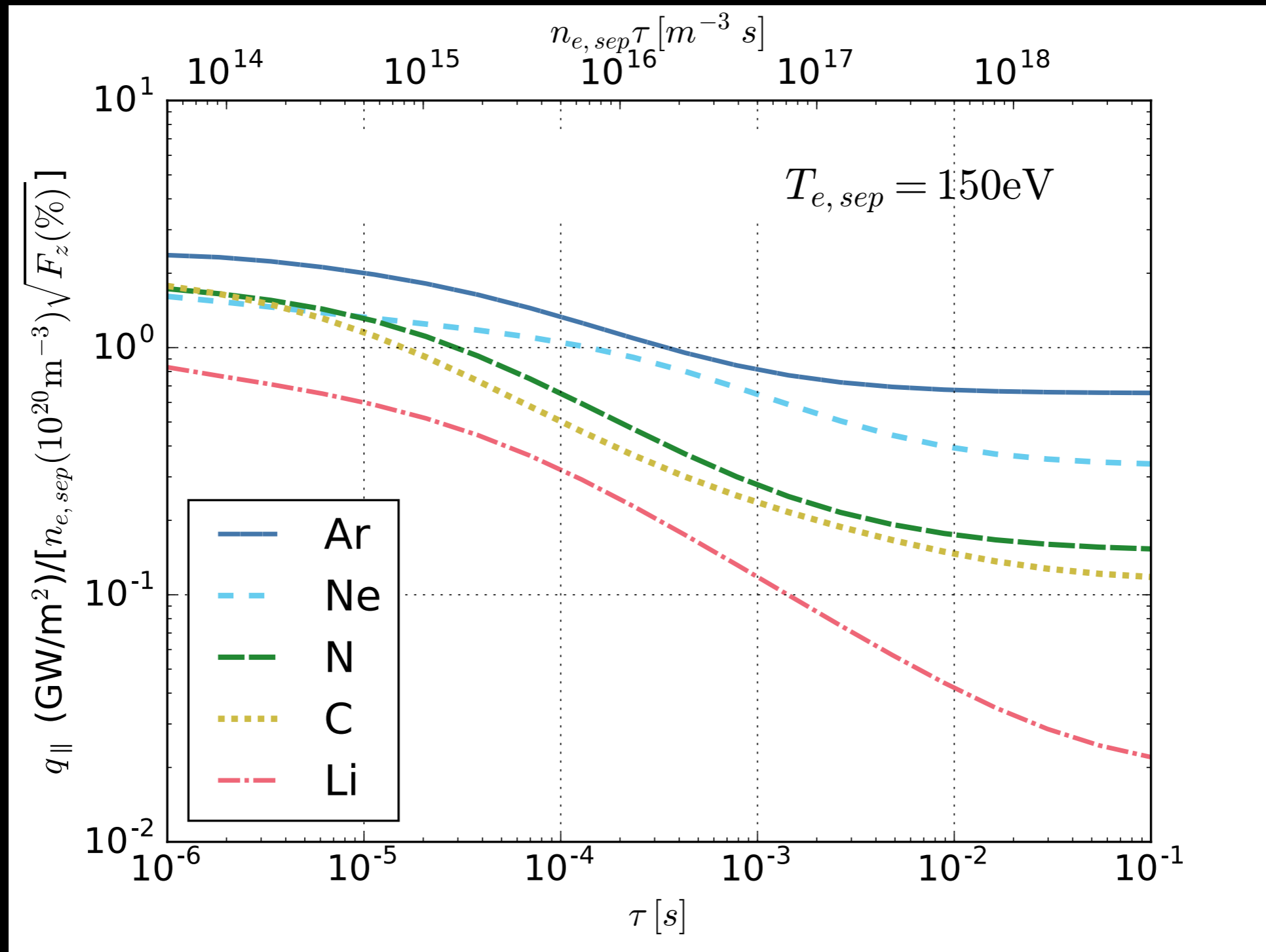
# Lithium Vapor Box Divertor



Goldston  
2015

- Lithium injected into plasma as vapor
- Multiple boxes to localize Li cloud
  - Lined with Li CPS
  - Cooler towards the top, less vapor
  - Heat-pipe-like Li recycling
- Bottom box for 2.5 GW ITER, 580 °C
  - Depth 50 cm, aperture 20 cm
- Efflux from bottom box
  - 18 g/s, ~ 1/10 reduction per box
- Lithium inventory:
  - $2\pi R \times 2m \times 0.25mm = 10 \text{ kg Li}$

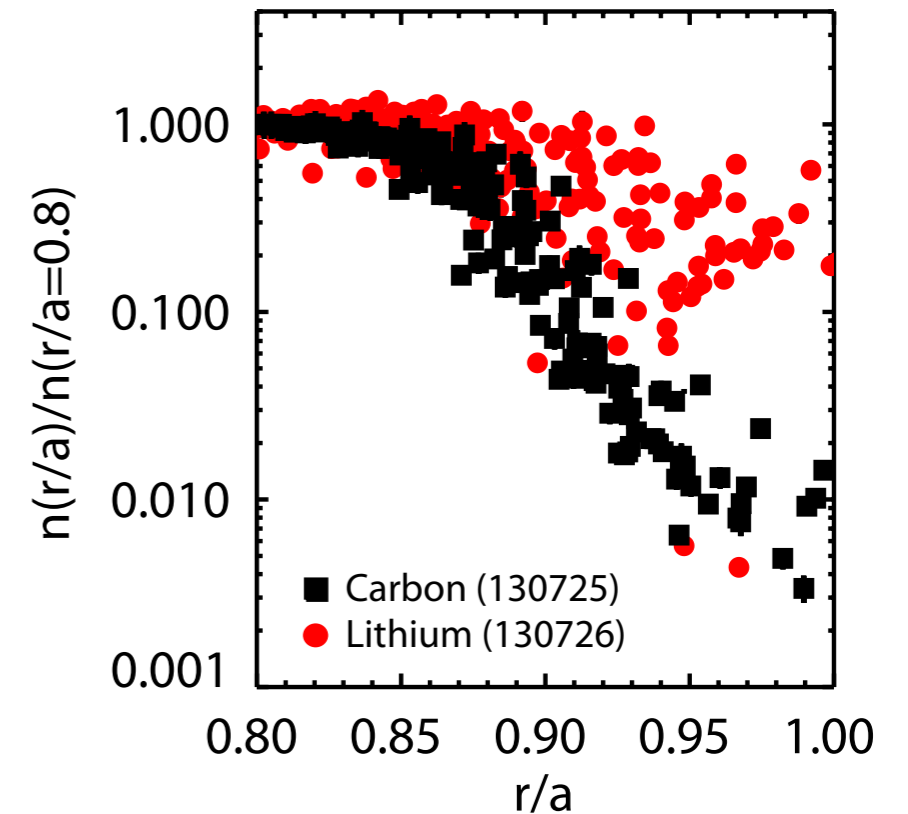
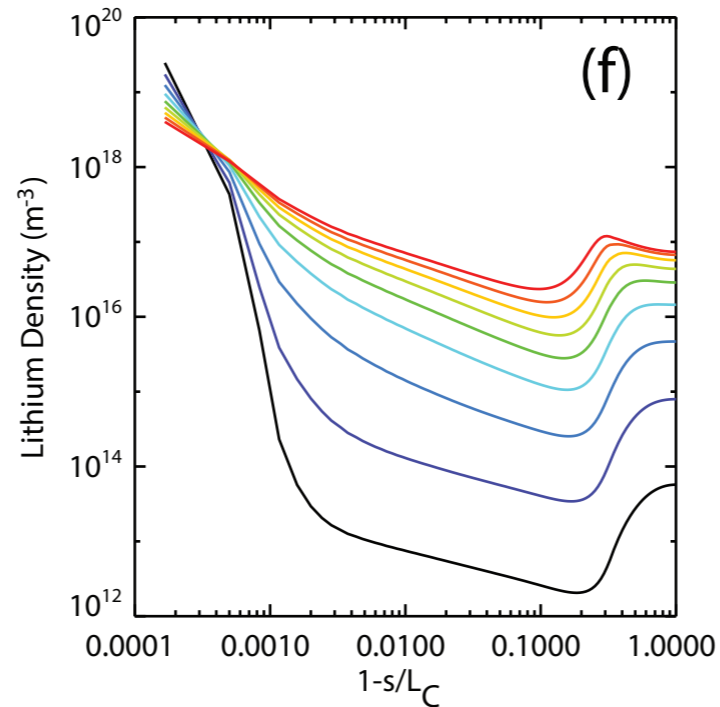
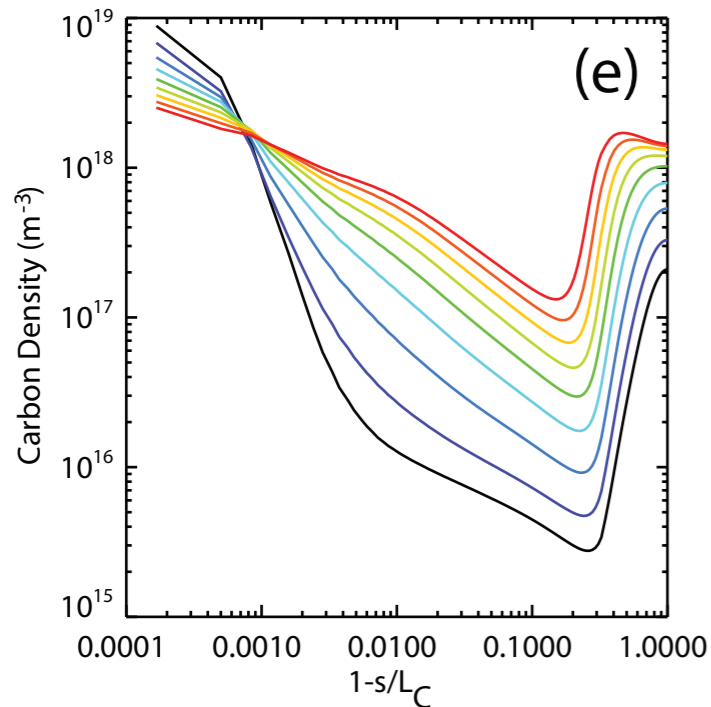
# Lithium Radiation ~ 1/2 N



# Lithium Concentrated Downstream

Recycling Variation in UEDGE

Edge CHERS



F. Scotti  
Ph.D. Thesis

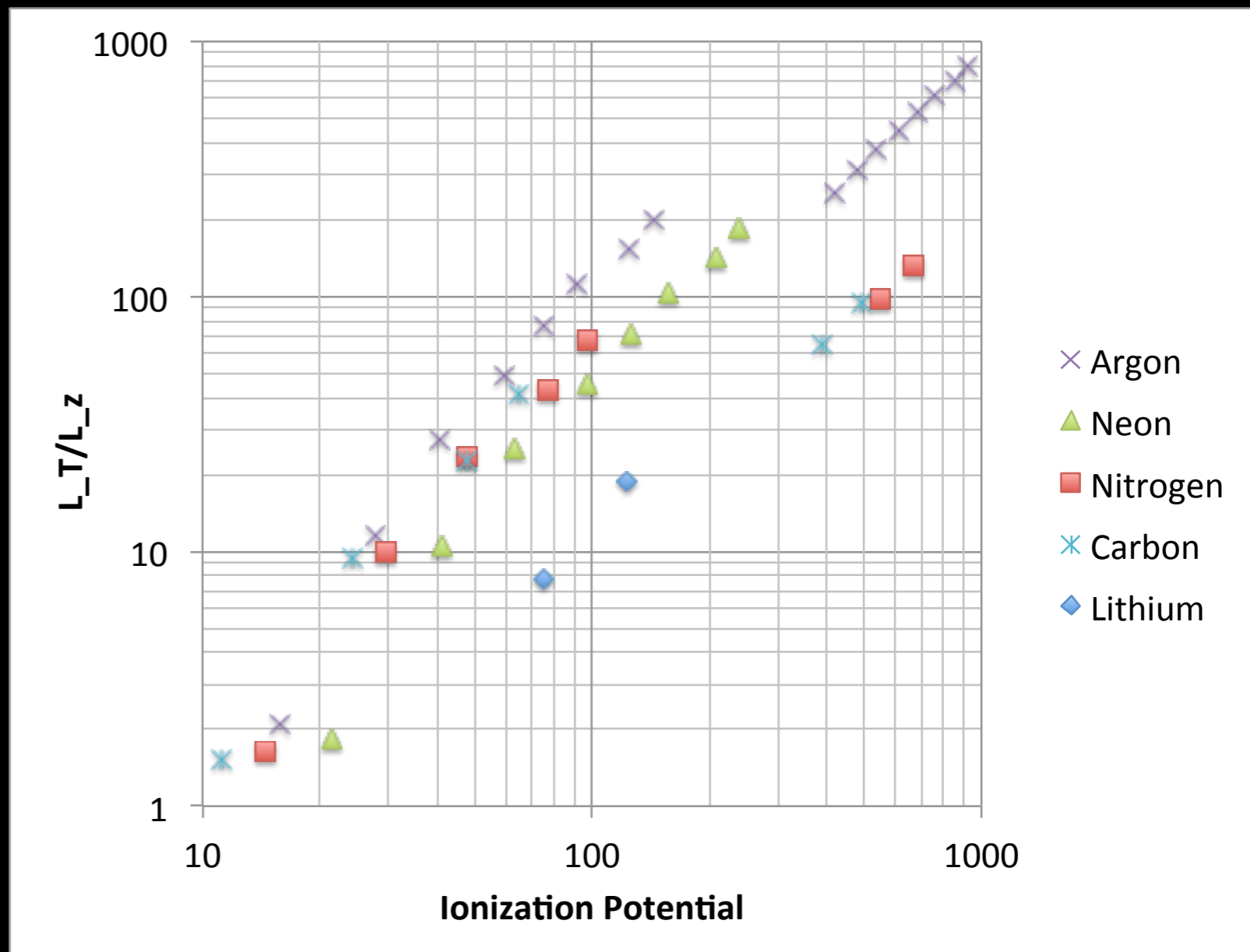
In NSTX, L pulled relatively weakly  
upstream & into plasma core.

# Thermal Force Much Weaker on Lithium

Simple balance between  $\nabla p_z$  and thermal force:

$$\frac{T_z}{n_z} \frac{dn_z}{ds} + \frac{dT_z}{ds} = \alpha_e \frac{dT_e}{ds} + \beta_i \frac{dT_i}{ds}$$

$$\frac{L_T}{L_z} = \alpha_e + \beta_i - 1$$



$$\alpha_e = 0.71Z^2$$

$$\beta_i = \frac{3(\mu + 5\sqrt{2}Z^2(1.1\mu^{5/2} - 0.35\mu^{3/2}) - 1)}{2.6 - 2\mu + 5.4\mu^2}$$

$$\mu \equiv m_z / (m_z + m_i).$$

Stangeby  
2001



# Conclusions - 1

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- A very large, low power Demo does not even *point to cost-effective fusion power.*
- *Due to the problem of power handling.*
- Even with 2/3 core radiated power and 500 MWe @  $R = 9.1\text{m}$ , still must detach.
- The measure for difficulty in detachment is more likely  $P/B_p$  than  $P/R$  – *no size scaling!*
- Should validate with 2-d codes & experiments – *but it makes simple sense.*

# Conclusions - 2

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- Steady lithium vapor shielding is attractive
  - Substantial dissipation per atom
  - Lithium vapor can be localized
  - Thermal force  $\ll$  than for N, Ne, Ar
  - Neoclassical inward pinch  $\propto Z$
- Demo designs should study increasing  $B_p$  and  $\ell_{||}^*$ , rather than  $R$ , to foster detachment.
- The community should develop self-consistent scenario(s) for liquid metals in Demo.