

**Possible means of observing  
non-Maxwellian distributions in divertor plasmas**

by : Jean-Pierre Matte, Fabrice Allais, Fathallah Alouani Bibi  
GRIF, INRS-Énergie, Matériaux et Télécommunications,  
Un. du Québec, Varennes, Québec.  
and  
Daren Stotler, PPPL.

With thanks to :  
Vladimir Soukhanovski, Henry Kugel, Alexander Pigarov,  
Stéphane Éthier, Benoit Leblanc, Jose Boedo, Martin Peng.  
PPPL.

## **Physical Problem :**

Electron heat transport along field lines is **non-classical** if the **thermal gradient is steep**.

Non-maxwellian distribution functions then exist.

**Especially** : surplus of fast electrons in the cold plasma (streaming from the hot part).

In divertor plasmas: Hot plasma at the separatrix;  
Cold is near the plates

This affects : rates of ionization and excitation there,  
if  $U$  or  $\Delta E > 3-5 kT_{\text{cold}}$ .

e.g. ionization of D or H, in 1 eV plasma,  
downstream to 25 eV plasma.

(F. Allais, this meeting, Wednesday morning)

## **Computational solution :**

Non local methods : spatial convolutions over  
classical heat flux,  
rates of ionization and excitation, etc.

Gives good agreement with 1-D electron kinetic  
simulations, for affordable computational time.

**Plans** : Add full recycling physics in the model.  
Go to 2D, adding perpendicular diffusion.  
Implement into UEDGE  
(Keeping full compatibility with present  
UEDGE in low gradients, Maxwellian cases)  
Apply to : ELMS and disruptions,  
D ice pellet injection.  
Also, compute rates for impurities, (traces).

### How to observe this physics?

If there is 1 eV plasma, look at UV H lines  
(?  $E : 10.2, \dots, 13.6 \text{ eV} \gg 1 \text{ eV}$ )

If the divertor plasma is attached ( e.g.  $T_e \sim 10 \text{ eV}$ ),  
need lines with higher ?  $E$ .

Consider impurity injection (e.g. low Z pellet  
injector), into the divertor.

Can look at visible lines, for bulk  $T_e$ .

For hot electrons, look at X-rays from K shell (Ka).

For C, this is  $E \geq 360 \text{ eV}$ ; 90 eV for Li.

Feasability study planned.

Estimates of expected signal will be made.

Very good spatial resolution needed.

**Other way:** Thomson scattering in divertor.  
(exist in DIII-D)

