

XP “NSTX-2011 performance with a pumping Liquid Lithium (LiLi) layer”

Jonathan E. Menard, Leonid E. Zakharov, Ernesto Mazzucato

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, MS-27 P.O. Box 451, Princeton NJ 08543-0451

Presented by Leonid E. Zakharov

NSTX Research Forum

PPPL, Princeton NJ, March 16, 2011

¹This work is supported by US DoE contract No. DE-AC02-09-CH11466.

Contents

1	<i>Thickness of the LiLi layer</i>	3
2	<i>Thermal regime of the plates</i>	5
3	<i>Expected plasma performance</i>	9
4	<i>Summary: XP objective</i>	11

1 Thickness of the LiLi layer

Reference parameters of the SoL strike zone:

	Value	
L_m	2.5	length (circumference) of the strike line
$q_{MW/m^2} \propto \exp(-x^2/w^2)$	5-8.5	heat deposition profile
$2w_{cm}$	4-8	effective width of the strike zone
$P_{SoL,MW}$	0.4-1.5	Heating power from the SoL
$\frac{dN}{dt}$	10^{22}	Reference particle flux from the core, assuming $\tau_D \simeq 50 \text{ ms}$
$m_g \simeq 1.92_g \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}^{pump}$		Total amount of LiLi for pumping D^+ , assuming 6 atomic % $m_g \simeq \frac{1}{0.06} \frac{A_{Li}}{6 \cdot 10^{23}} \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}^{pump}$
$d_{\mu m} \simeq \frac{145}{2w_{cm} L_m} \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}$		Corresponding thickness of the LiLi layer $d_{\mu m} = m_g / (0.53 \cdot 2w \cdot L)$

The basic requirement for evaporation is

$$m_g \simeq 1.92_g \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}^{pump} \quad (1.1)$$

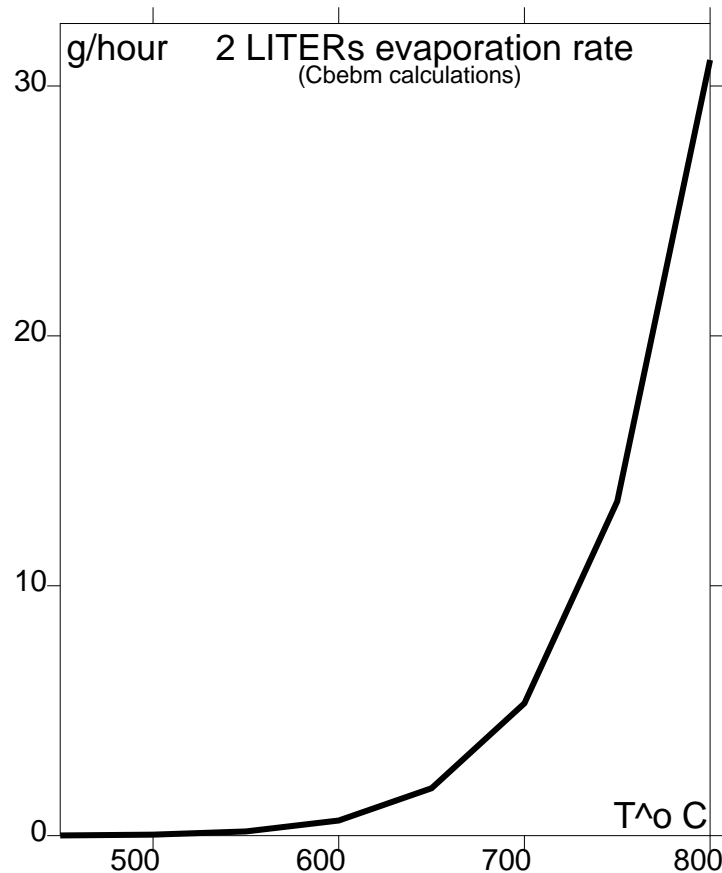


Fig.1. Total evaporation rate $R_{g/hour}^{LITER}$ of 2 NSTX LITER evaporators.

Only a small fraction of evaporated Li is delivered to the strike point zone. The necessary evaporation amount M_g from the LITERs

$$M_g \simeq \frac{m_g}{0.05} \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}^{pump},$$

$$t_{hour}^{evap} = \frac{38}{R_{g/hour}^{LITER}} \cdot \frac{15}{2w_{cm}} \frac{dN_{22}}{dt} \Delta t_{sec}^{pump} \quad (1.2)$$

Technically it is doable

2 Thermal regime of the plates

The LiLi layer is costly in all aspects. It should be preserved for many shots.

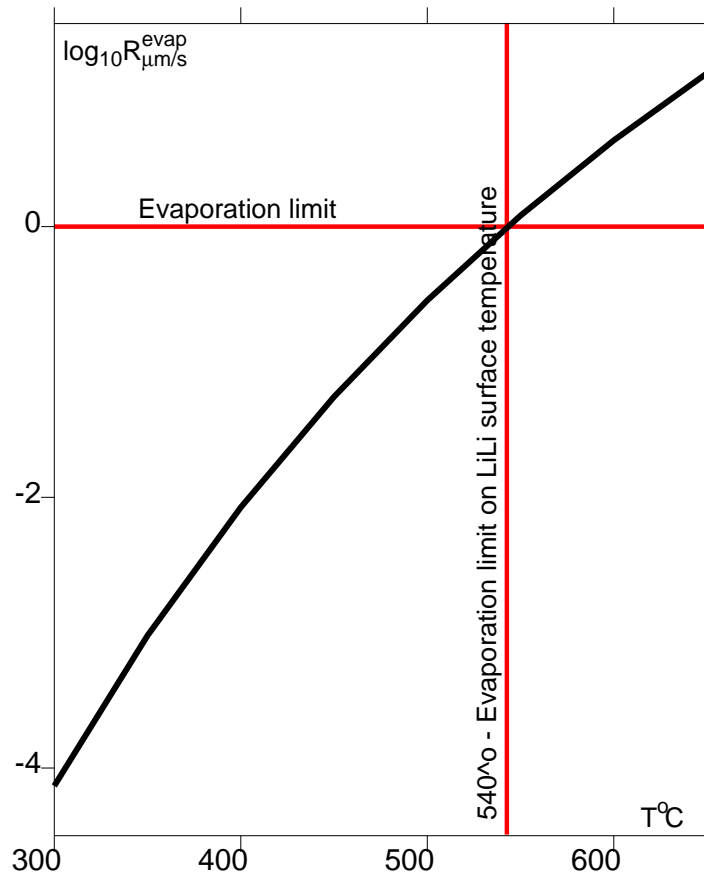
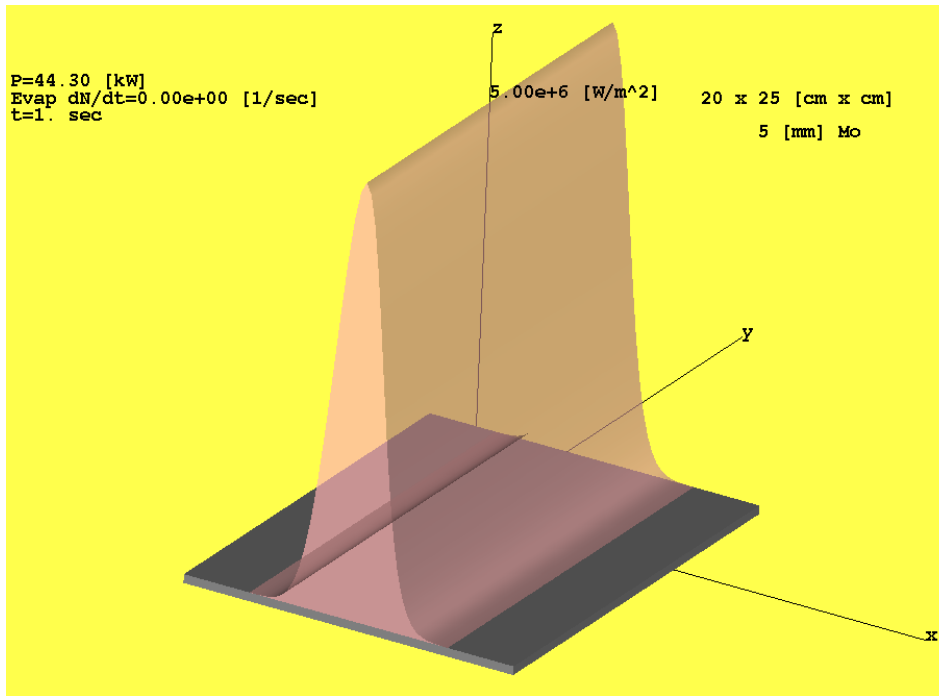


Fig.2. Log of evaporation rate $\ln_{10} R_{\mu/s}^{\text{plate}}$ from the LiLi surface as function of $T^{\circ\text{C}}$.

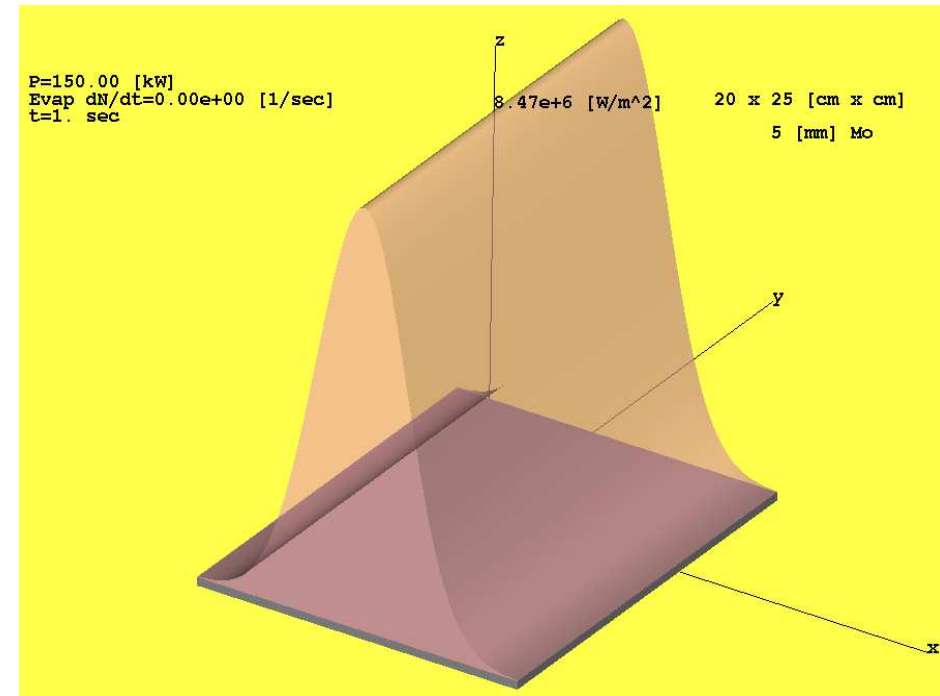
Evaporation becomes a concern when it can erode about 1 μm of LiLi per shot.

LiLi surface temperature should be kept below 540° C

$$T^{\text{LiLi}} < 540^{\circ}\text{C}. \quad (2.1)$$



(a) $P^{SoL} = 0.44$ MW, $2w = 4$ cm



(b) $P^{SoL} = 1.50$ MW, $2w = 8$ cm

Fig.3. Power deposition profiles

No gigantic heating power $P^{SoL} > 1.5$ MW (for 2.5 m long strike zone) was considered. Allowable $P^{SoL} \propto 2w$.

Evaporation limitations leave a room for:

- (i) pumping D^+ at $T^{LiLi} < 400^\circ$ and
- (ii) releasing D_2 at $400^\circ < T^{LiLi} < 540^\circ$

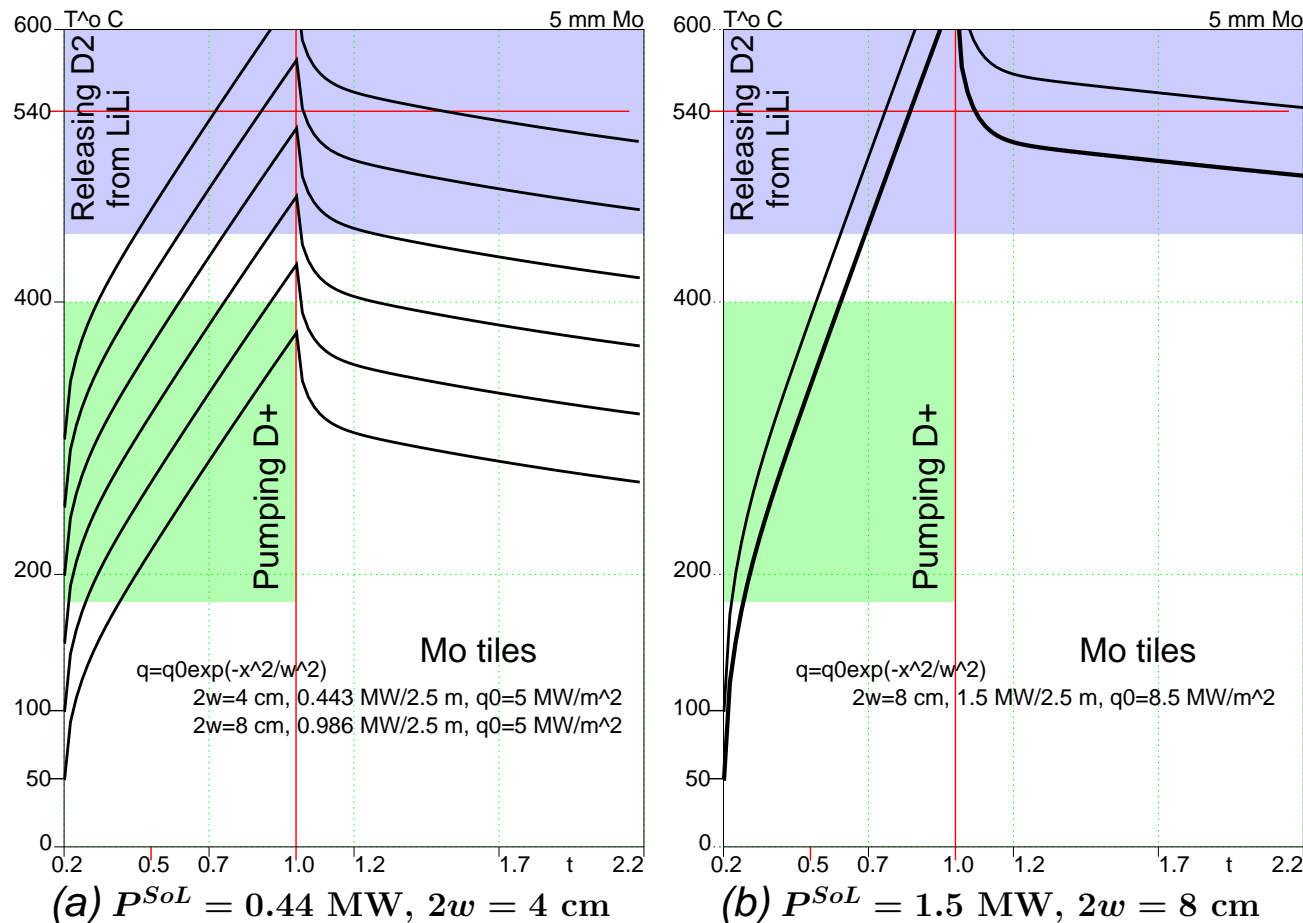


Fig.4. Waveforms of LiLi temperature on the top of the Mo tiles for different initial temperatures ($\Delta T_0 = 50^\circ$ C) and heating interval 0.8 sec.

- (a) $P^{SoL} = 0.44$ MW, $2w = 4$ cm
- (b) $P^{SoL} = 1.50$ MW, $2w = 8$ cm

Both pumping D^+ and releasing D_2 can be combined either.

The real rate of releasing D_2 is unknown to me. It should be determined for designing the shots!!!

LLD has different than Mo tiles characteristics of the thermal regime

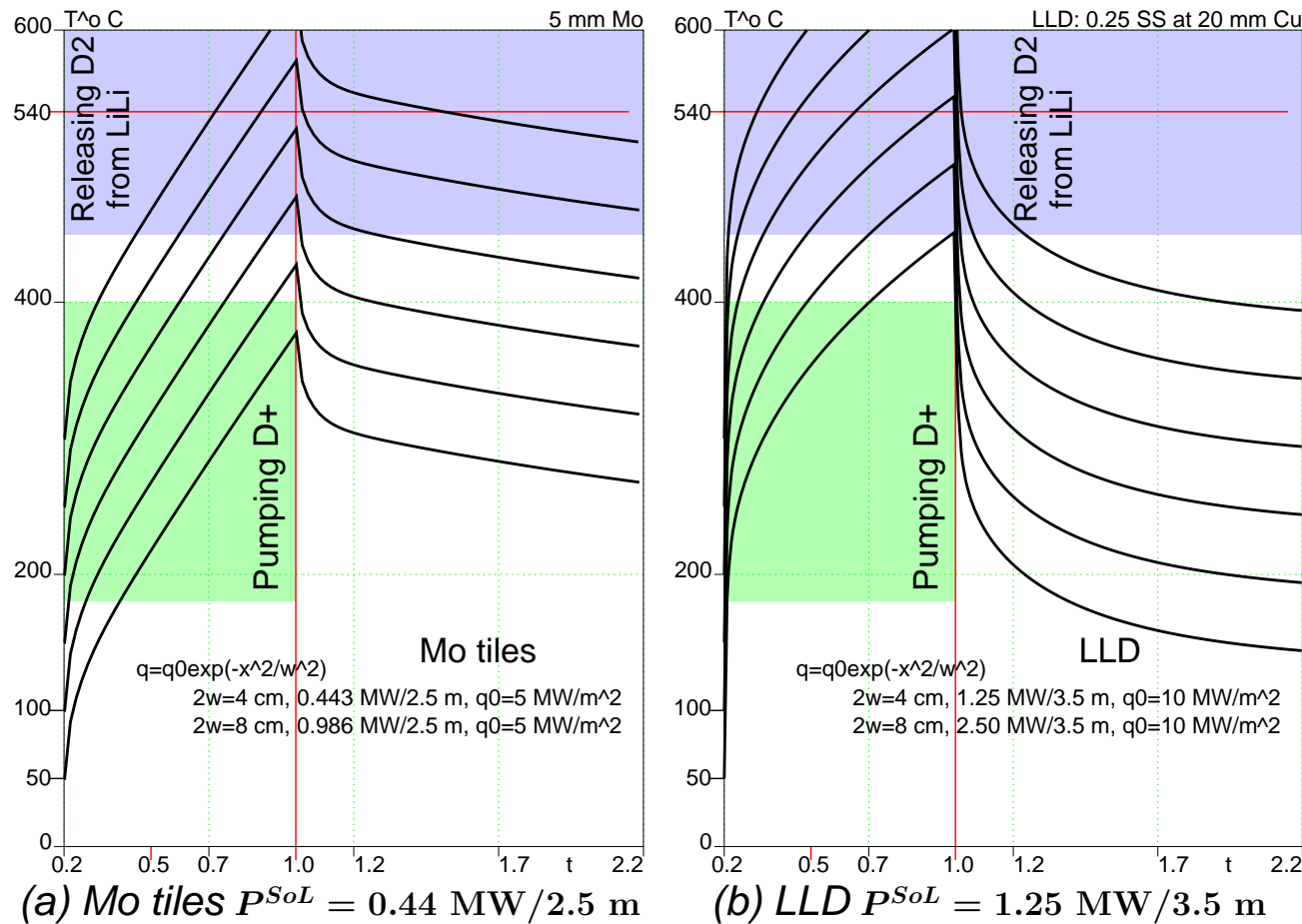


Fig.5. Waveforms of LiLi temperature on the top of LLD for different initial temperatures ($\Delta T_0 = 50^\circ$ C) and heating interval 0.8 sec.

(a) Mo tiles $P^{SoL} = 0.44$ MW/2.5 m

(b) LLD $P^{SoL} = 1.250$ MW/3.5 m

SS of LLD makes combination of pumping/releasing more difficult than for Mo tiles.

3 Expected plasma performance

Recycling and the gas influx, NOT the core turbulence, determine the best possible confinement in tokamaks

Pedestal temperature (end of the confinement zone)

$$\frac{T_i^{edge} + T_e^{edge}}{2} \geq \frac{1 - R^*}{1 + (\Gamma_{gasI} / \Gamma^{NBI})} \cdot \frac{\langle E^{NBI} + P^{aux} / \Gamma^{NBI} \rangle}{5}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\left(\text{where } R^* \equiv \frac{R_i^{recycl} + R_e^{recycl}}{2} + \frac{R_e^{recycl} - R_i^{recycl}}{2} \frac{P^{aux}}{P^{NBI} + P^{aux}} \right)$$

In simulations assessing the expected performance:

$$R_{eff}^{recycl} \equiv \frac{1 - R^*}{1 + (\Gamma_{gasI} / \Gamma^{NBI})}, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\frac{T_i^{edge} + T_e^{edge}}{2} \geq R_{eff}^{recycl} \cdot \frac{\langle E^{NBI} \rangle}{5}, \quad P^{aux} = 0,$$

together with a Reference Transport Model

$$\chi_i = D = \chi_i^{neo}, \quad \chi_e = 20 \text{ m/s}^2. \quad (3.3)$$

Results of simulations (ASTRA)

R_{eff}^{recycl} is the crucial parameter for performance: LiLi can provide $R^* \simeq 0.5$.

$\Gamma^{gas} / \Gamma^{NBI} \simeq 1$ is a challenge.

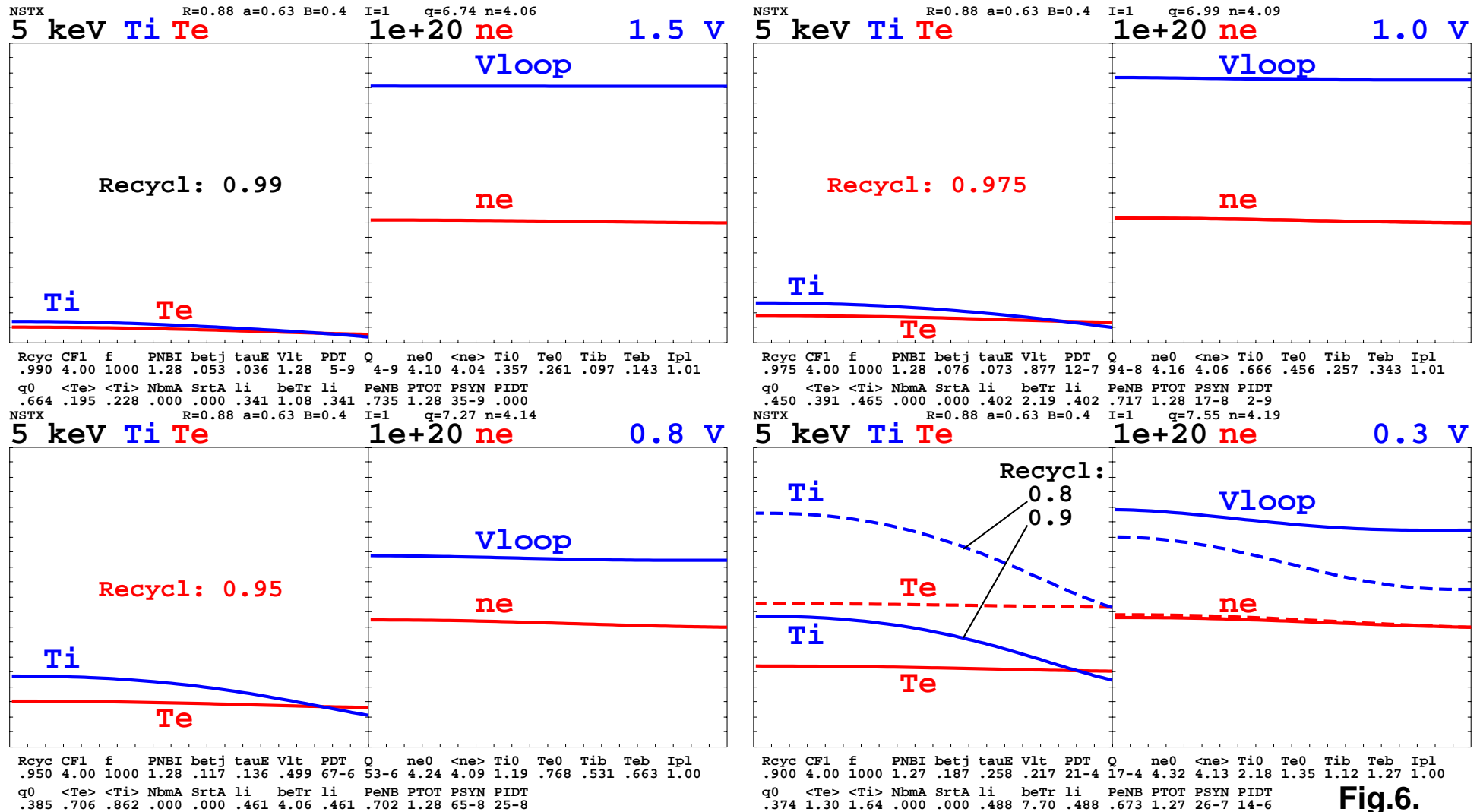


Fig.6.

4 Summary: XP objective

For high plasma performance the reduction of R_{eff}^{recycl} (low recycling and gas influx) is much more important than the high P^{NBI} of core turbulence studies.

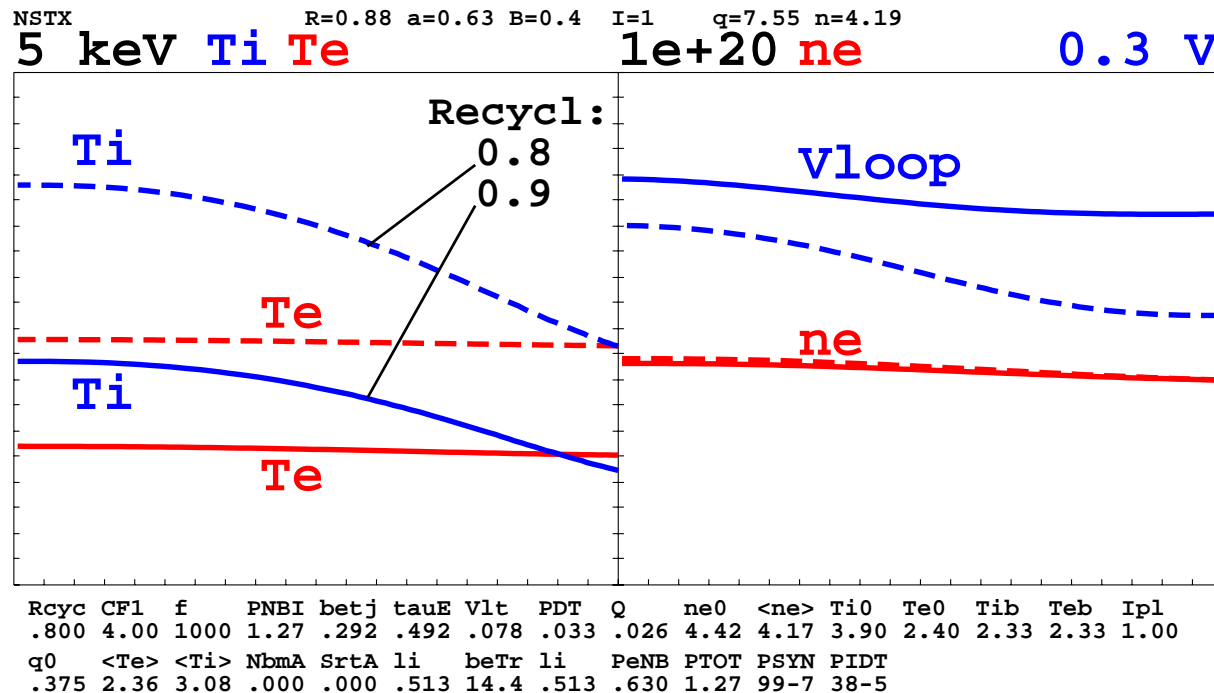


Fig.7a. High performance with $P^{NBI} = 1.5$ MW

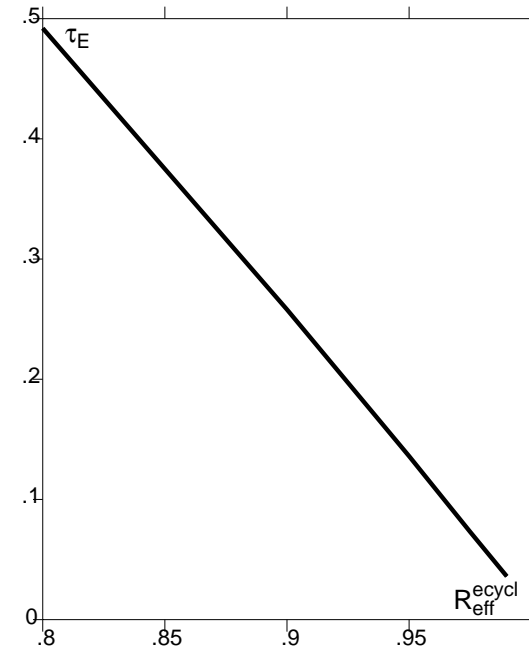


Fig.7b. τ_E vs R_{eff}^{recycl}

The current XP, synchronized with others and potentially affecting the entire physics of NSTX, can introduce new physics and LiWF regimes in tokamaks.