

Overview of JET Results

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Abstract

Since the last IAEA, the scientific programme of JET has focussed on the qualification of the integrated operating scenarios for ITER and on physics issues essential for the consolidation of design choices and the efficient exploitation of ITER. Particular attention has been given to the characterisation of the edge plasma, pedestal energy and Edge Localised Modes (ELMs), and their impact on plasma facing components (PFCs). Various ELM mitigation techniques have been assessed for all ITER operating scenarios using active methods such as resonant magnetic field perturbation, rapid variation of the radial field and pellet pacing. In particular, the amplitude and frequency of Type I ELMs have been actively controlled over a wide parameter range ($q_{95}=3-4.8$, $\beta_N \leq 3.0$) by adjusting the amplitude of the $n=1$ external perturbation field induced by Error Field Correction Coils. The study of disruption induced heat loads on PFCs has taken advantage of a new wide-angle viewing infra-red system and a fast bolometer to provide a detailed account of time, localisation and form of the energy deposition. Specific ITER-relevant studies have used the unique JET capability of varying the Toroidal Field (TF) ripple from its normal low value $\delta_{BT}=0.08\%$ up to $\delta_{BT}=1\%$ to study the effect of TF ripple on high confinement-mode plasmas. The results suggest that $\delta_{BT}<0.5\%$ is required on ITER to maintain adequate confinement to allow $Q_{DT}=10$ at full field. Physics issues of direct relevance to ITER include heat and toroidal momentum transport, with experiments using power modulation to decouple power input and torque to achieve first experimental evidence of inward momentum pinch and determine the threshold for ion temperature gradient driven modes. Within the longer term JET programme in support of ITER, activities aiming at the modification of the JET first wall and divertor and the upgrade of the neutral beam and plasma control systems are being conducted. The procurement of all components will be completed by 2009 with the shutdown for the installation of the beryllium wall and tungsten divertor extending from summer 2009 to summer 2010.

1 Introduction

The JET programme is devoted to the qualification of the integrated operating scenarios for ITER and the consolidation of ITER design choices. Since the last IAEA conference three experimental campaigns have been executed. The reliability of the various systems (heating and fuelling, power supplies, etc...) has been very satisfactory, with record performance delivered in many areas. This has allowed substantial progress to be made in a number of physics topics. Plasma scenarios up to $I_p=3.8\text{MA}$ plasma current have been investigated. Furthermore, specific JET capabilities, such as the possibility of producing variable toroidal field ripple, have been fully exploited.

The first key issue, addressed in Section 2, is the performance of the ITER operating scenarios [1] including the baseline scenario (high confinement mode, H-mode, with MHD instabilities in the core (sawteeth) and in the edge (Edge Localised Modes, ELMs)) and the more advanced scenarios which offer potential for improved performance, long pulse operation and steady state. With regard to the ELMy H-mode scenario, emphasis is given on extending high triangularity plasmas ($\delta \sim 0.45$) to higher currents (up to 3.8MA) in order to characterise the performance, edge, pedestal and ELMs. With regard to the hybrid regime (in ITER, H-mode regime operated at slightly lower plasma current), tailoring the q profile has led to the achievement of substantially improved confinement relative to the reference baseline H-mode scenario, $H_{98}(y,2) > 1.4$ for $\sim 2\text{s}$. Furthermore, investigations on JET have

¹ See Appendix

focussed on extending the edge safety factor q , the density and the normalised pressure (β_N) range of this scenario, and making systematic comparisons of these discharges with a reference baseline H-mode scenario. The main fields of development of the advanced tokamak (AT) scenario (candidate for steady-state operation in ITER) in JET have been the compatibility of this scenario with an ITER-like beryllium wall and tungsten divertor and the role of the q profile shape for accessing high β_N operational domains beyond the experimental “no-wall MHD limit”. The second key issue, addressed in Section 3, is that of achieving acceptable wall power and particle loadings (fuel retention) in conjunction with high fusion performance. ELMs associated with the ITER baseline scenario will cause erosion and damage to plasma facing components (PFCs) and it is essential to develop active mitigation techniques applicable to a as wide as possible range of ITER plasma parameters. JET has applied a number of such techniques to successfully mitigate the impact of Type I ELMs, including the use of resonant magnetic perturbation, the rapid variation of the radial field using the vertical stabilisation controller and impurity seeding. Heat loads and forces induced on in-vessel components by disruptive events in ITER are also expected to pose a limit to their life time. JET has used new diagnostics such as a new wide-angle viewing infra-red system and a fast bolometer to provide a detailed account of time, localisation and form of the energy deposition on PFCs, and halo current sensors to provide better understanding of the dynamics of plasma-wall interaction during a vertical displacement event. The third key issue, addressed in Section 4, is the effect of toroidal field (TF) ripple on H-mode plasmas in view of determining the maximum TF ripple that can be tolerated on ITER. To this end, JET has used its unique capability of varying the TF ripple from its normal low value $\delta_{BT}=0.08\%$ up to $\delta_{BT}=1\%$. The fourth key issue, discussed in Section 5, is the role of plasma rotation and momentum transport on confinement and turbulence; given that plasma rotation is predicted to be low in ITER. Experiments at JET have used power modulation using neutral beam (NB) injection and/or ion cyclotron resonance heating (ICRH) in order to decouple power input and torque and to (i) quantify the momentum diffusivity and pinch; (ii) determine the threshold for ion temperature gradient driven modes; (iii) study temperature profile stiffness with plasma rotation. Furthermore, variation of the TF ripple has been used to investigate the role of rotation in the sustainment and strength of internal transport barriers (ITB). The final key issue in this paper, discussed in Section 6, is the coupling of ion cyclotron resonance frequency (ICRF) and lower hybrid (LH) power into ELMy H-mode plasmas in JET in ITER-relevant conditions, i.e., at large antenna-plasma distances. Section 7 outlines the plan for the JET enhancement programme in support of ITER.

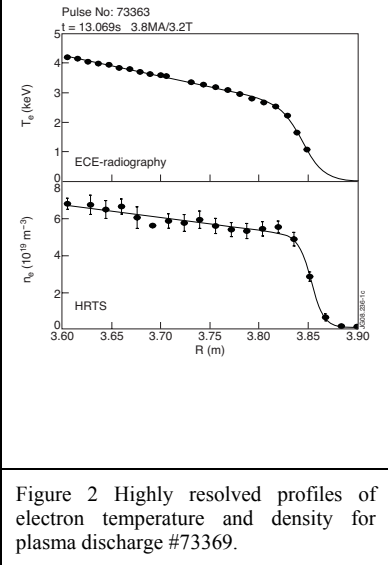
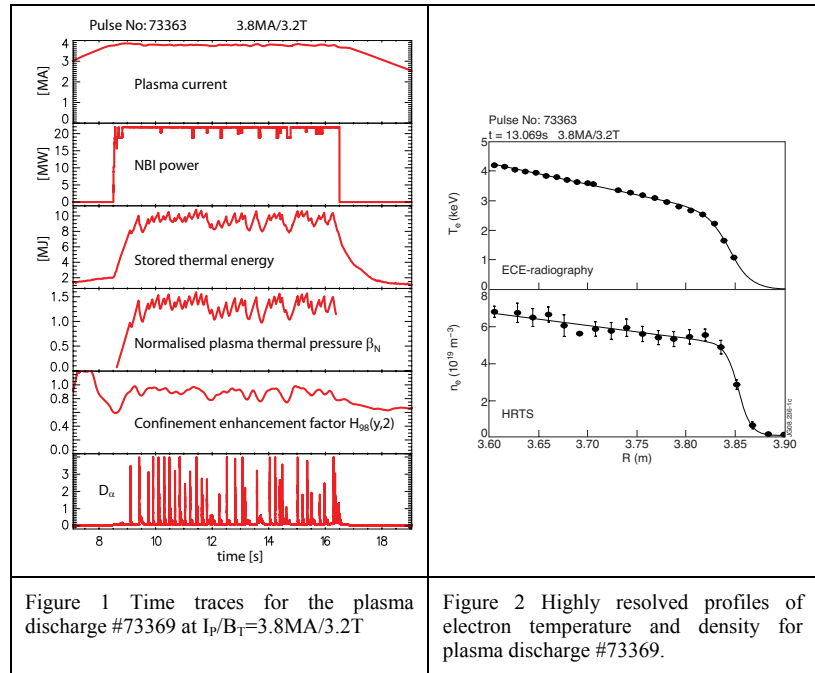
2 Physics developments for ITER scenarios

ITER scenarios development on JET has benefited from the very good performance of the auxiliary heating systems (the number of discharges in this period with injected NB power above 20MW is more than three times the one achieved previously) and the increased shaping capability following the modifications leading to the Mark II HD divertor.

2.1 ELMy H-mode

At high triangularity, $\delta \sim 0.45$, the ELMy H-mode regime has been investigated at high plasma current up to 3.5MA/3.2T ($q_{95} \sim 2.9$, Type I ELM energy $W_{ELM} \sim 0.6$ MJ, plasma stored energy ~ 9.5 MJ). The overall plasma performances appear to be similar to those obtained with earlier high δ configurations (HT3), suggesting that, in JET, an optimum has been reached in terms of confinement with regard to the plasma shape (due to a stronger effect of recycling

flux in the ITER-like shape, imputable to its X-point proximity to the inner vertical divertor target tiles, $< \sim 0.1\text{m}$). So far, at low $\delta \sim 0.25$, plasma currents up to 3.8MA/3.2T ($q_{95} \sim 2.75$, Type I ELM energy $W_{\text{ELM}} \sim 1\text{MJ}$, plasma stored energy $\sim 10\text{MJ}$) have been achieved (figure 1). These plasmas allow access to both low normalised ion Larmor radius ρ^* (~ 0.0035) and collisionality ν^* (~ 0.04). Documenting the pedestal characteristics in this parameter space has been possible thanks to improved diagnostic capabilities such as



the high resolution Thomson scattering diagnostic (HRTS) [2] and the upgraded electron cyclotron emission (ECE) radiometer, which have enabled pedestal profiles to be resolved for an extended range of plasma conditions. Figure 2 shows typical profiles obtained at 3.8MA/3.2T with pedestal temperature of 2.5keV and density of $5 \times 10^{19} \text{m}^{-3}$. The pedestal properties are found to have a crucial impact on global plasma performance, in particular with regard to the β dependence of confinement [3]. Furthermore, the evolution of the edge plasma rotation and radial electric field E_r through many different L- and H-mode ($I_p/B_T=2.5\text{MA}/2.7\text{T}$, $q_{95}=3.3$, high δ) stages has been documented [4] using highly spatially resolved measurements with the upgraded Charge Exchange Recombination Spectroscopy diagnostic with a time resolution of 50ms. The data suggest that the development of significant shear in $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ velocity arises as a consequence of the high confinement phase of the plasma and is not required to enter or maintain the H-mode on JET. This important result indicates that $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ shear suppression of turbulence does not trigger the transport barrier formation, although it may well play a role in transport barrier sustainment and dynamics.

2.2 Hybrid scenario

The hybrid scenario has been extended in parameter space ($2.7 \leq q_{95} \leq 4.5$, β_N up to 3.6, density up to the Greenwald limit ($n_{\text{GW}}=I_p/(\pi a^2)$ at $\beta_N=2.7$, discharge duration up to 20s at $\beta_N=2.5$) [5]. In addition, dedicated experiments with preformed target q profile close to unity and reduced toroidal field strength ($B_T=1.5\text{T}$) have extended the scenario operations at higher total normalised pressure (up to $\beta_N=3.6$). In contrast to other devices such as DIII-D or JT-60U, this high normalised pressure has been reached without significant 2/1 NTM activity. This value of β_N is also well above $4\chi_i$. In 2007 a systematic comparison of the hybrid scenario with the ITER baseline scenario has been conducted at high triangularity ($\delta \sim 0.45$) and $\beta_N \sim 3.0$, pointing out no differences in thermal confinement, though hybrid discharges are less affected by neoclassical tearing modes. However, the q profiles of both scenarios were found almost identical after about one resistive time ($\tau_R \sim 5\text{s}$). Therefore, experiments in 2008 set out to investigate the possible routes for tailoring the q profile in hybrid discharges, with preliminary results indicating improved confinement of $H_{98}(y,2) > 1.4$ for $\sim 2\text{s}$.

2.3 Advanced tokamak scenarios

Access to high β_N plasmas, with or without ITBs, has been investigated at high triangularity, $\delta \sim 0.35-0.5$, and high density, $n_G \sim 0.5-0.8$, at $I_p = 1.2-1.8 \text{ MA}$ / $B_T = 1.8-2.7 \text{ T}$ ($q_{95} \sim 5$) [6]. The current profile is tailored via a fast current ramp, ohmic or with Lower Hybrid Current Drive (LHCD), and early application of NBI or NBI+ICRH power. The resulting target q profile at the start of the main NBI heating phase has low or weakly reversed magnetic shear in the core and the minimum value of q (q_{\min}) is adjusted using the start time of the NBI pulse. In these experiments $\beta_N \sim 3$ was sustained for up to $\sim 18\tau_E$ (τ_E is the energy confinement time) and $\beta_N \sim 2.8$ for up to $\sim 35\tau_E$ ($\sim 1\tau_R$) and was limited by the allowed NBI pulse length for this particular configuration, with $H_{98}(y,2) \sim 1.0-1.2$ (see figure 3). The development of an ITB contributes by 20-25% to β_N , the best performance being obtained when an ITB forms in both ion and electron temperature channels. The total non-inductive current fraction reaches transiently 75% at the maximum values of β_N and $>60\%$ in a more stationary phase. Discharges are routinely obtained with total β_N above the no-wall β -limit, determined theoretically by modelling and empirically by observing resonant field amplification of an externally applied magnetic perturbation [7]. The measured β -limit and the achievable β both decrease with increasing q_{\min} , as do the global confinement and the core pressure. Edge control for AT operation and compatibility with ITER wall material conditions have been investigated using different techniques [8]: (i) Injection of high-Z radiative gas, such as neon, to increase the edge radiation [9]. Two regimes with mild ELM activity have been found at a power radiation fraction either $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \sim 30\%$, with high frequency Type I ELMs, or at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \geq 50\%$, with Type III ELMs or an L-mode edge. With its radiation level mainly determined by carbon it is not obvious that the first regime at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \sim 30\%$ could be directly translated to future experiments with the foreseen ITER-like wall (ILW) in JET [10]. Regimes at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \geq 50\%$ usually require higher core confinement to compensate for the reduction of pedestal energy; (ii) Sweeping of the strike points to spread the heat load on the divertor tiles [11]. Since the PFCs are not actively cooled on JET, this scheme will be used for the development of the 20s high power discharges (45MW) foreseen after the completion of the NBI power enhancement [12]; (iii) Change of the magnetic configuration to quasi-double null plasmas able to reach a grassy ELM regime. This regime has been combined with core ITB on the ion heat transport channel but the achievement of $q_{95} \sim 5$ has not been achieved so far due to the lack of additional heating power; (iv) Resonant magnetic perturbation at the plasma edge [13] (see Section 3.2.1), with the reduction in confinement at the edge transport barrier compensated by an increase of the core energy content.

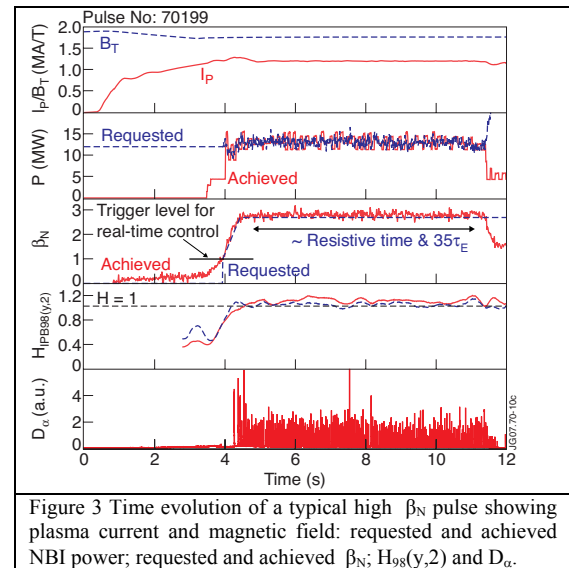


Figure 3 Time evolution of a typical high β_N pulse showing plasma current and magnetic field: requested and achieved NBI power; requested and achieved β_N ; $H_{98}(y,2)$ and D_α .

The development of an ITB contributes by 20-25% to β_N , the best performance being obtained when an ITB forms in both ion and electron temperature channels. The total non-inductive current fraction reaches transiently 75% at the maximum values of β_N and $>60\%$ in a more stationary phase. Discharges are routinely obtained with total β_N above the no-wall β -limit, determined theoretically by modelling and empirically by observing resonant field amplification of an externally applied magnetic perturbation [7]. The measured β -limit and the achievable β both decrease with increasing q_{\min} , as do the global confinement and the core pressure. Edge control for AT operation and compatibility with ITER wall material conditions have been investigated using different techniques [8]: (i) Injection of high-Z radiative gas, such as neon, to increase the edge radiation [9]. Two regimes with mild ELM activity have been found at a power radiation fraction either $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \sim 30\%$, with high frequency Type I ELMs, or at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \geq 50\%$, with Type III ELMs or an L-mode edge. With its radiation level mainly determined by carbon it is not obvious that the first regime at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \sim 30\%$ could be directly translated to future experiments with the foreseen ITER-like wall (ILW) in JET [10]. Regimes at $P_{\text{rad}}/P_{\text{tot}} \geq 50\%$ usually require higher core confinement to compensate for the reduction of pedestal energy; (ii) Sweeping of the strike points to spread the heat load on the divertor tiles [11]. Since the PFCs are not actively cooled on JET, this scheme will be used for the development of the 20s high power discharges (45MW) foreseen after the completion of the NBI power enhancement [12]; (iii) Change of the magnetic configuration to quasi-double null plasmas able to reach a grassy ELM regime. This regime has been combined with core ITB on the ion heat transport channel but the achievement of $q_{95} \sim 5$ has not been achieved so far due to the lack of additional heating power; (iv) Resonant magnetic perturbation at the plasma edge [13] (see Section 3.2.1), with the reduction in confinement at the edge transport barrier compensated by an increase of the core energy content.

2.4 ITER current ramp studies

The experimental verification of ITER scenarios in JET includes [14] studies of (i) the plasma initiation at low voltage; (ii) the current rise phase; (iii) the performance during the flat top phase of the H-mode reference scenario at $q_{95} \sim 3$ as well as the hybrid scenario at $q_{95} \sim 4$; (iv) the ramp down of the plasma. With regard to (i) results show that the minimum electric field on axis for reliable ohmic (un-assisted) breakdown is $E \sim 0.23 \text{ V/m}$ in JET, well below the ITER design value (0.33 V/m). Reliable assisted breakdown with LHCD (no ionisation of the

filling gas is observed) has also been established at $E \sim 0.18 \text{V/m}$ (below the ITER value of 0.32V/m). With regard to (ii) results show that at fixed plasma shape ohmic discharges reach $q_{95} \sim 3$ with the lowest internal inductance $l_i = 0.83$ when using the fastest current ramp rates available (0.36MA/s). These results extrapolate to ITER having unpractical fast current rise time of $\sim 70 \text{s}$ and slow rise phase of $\sim 100 \text{s}$ and also suggest that heating during the current rise phase is a requirement. During the flat top phase (iii) experiments have reproduced the requirements for reaching $Q_{DT} = 10$ at $q_{95} = 3$: $H_{98}(y,2) \sim 1$, $\beta_N \sim 1.8$. With regard to the current decay phase (iv), experiments clearly show that in ohmic and L-mode conditions only a very slow current ramp down can keep $l_i < 1.6$ during the first half of the current decay. Extrapolated to ITER, a 300s ramp down phase would be required, likely to consume transformer flux. Preliminary results show that, in scenarios that maintain H-mode throughout the ramp down phase, the current can be ramped down without additional flux consumption while keeping l_i low enough using modest ramp down rates. Therefore, the requirements for the heating systems in ITER to provide sufficient power to stay in H-mode during most of the ramp down phase need to be assessed.

3 First wall power and particle loadings

3.1 ELMs and their impact on plasma facing components

The Type I ELMs associated with the ITER baseline scenario will cause erosion and damage to the PFCs. To ensure sufficient divertor target lifetime, the loss in plasma stored energy due to ELMs in ITER should be restricted to $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}} \sim 1 \text{MJ}$. To access the highest possible ΔW_{ELM} , JET has been run at $I_p = 3.0 \text{MA}$ ($B_T = 3 \text{T}$, $q_{95} \sim 3.1$) in a series of dedicated discharges with fixed plasma shape ($\delta = 0.25$, elongation $\kappa = 1.72$), progressively decreasing the gas fuelling, Γ_{gas} , from shot to shot. This produces a scan in ELM amplitude and frequency at high plasma stored energy $W_{\text{plasma}} (\sim 8 \text{MJ})$ with the largest $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}} \sim 0.8\text{--}0.9 \text{MJ}$ being found at $\Gamma_{\text{gas}} = 0$, for which the plasma density reaches only ~ 0.4 of the Greenwald limit [15]. The largest ELMs are generally sporadic and often compound, characterised by a sharp initial drop in W_{plasma} and followed by a phase of smaller ELMs (possibly Type III), during which stored energy decays on a slower timescale, and resulting in a decrease in the $H_{98}(y,2)$ factor from ~ 1.2 to ~ 1.0 , although no deleterious effects of impurity release is observed. The ELMs provoke strong radiation losses, mostly confined to the inner divertor volume. The amount of energy radiated during/after the ELM, as a fraction of the ELM energy is found to vary from about half for $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}} \leq 0.6 \text{MJ}$ to larger values (approaching 100% for large, compound ELMs), suggesting thermal decomposition of re-deposited layers on the inner divertor target and ablation of target plates. The largest ELMs appear to deposit no more than 10% of the lost energy on the outer wall of the main chamber, an energy fraction which is well reproduced by the model of ELM filament parallel energy losses [16]. Now seen in all tokamaks where they have been sought and on a variety of diagnostics at JET [17, 2], ELM filaments convecting plasma rapidly across the magnetic field in the Scrape-Off Layer (SOL) to main chamber surfaces are a concern for ITER [18]. Type I ELM filaments are found to follow pre-ELM magnetic field lines, i.e. they do not noticeably distort/perturb the SOL (poloidal/toroidal) magnetic field, and most likely do not carry all the energy and particles expelled by an ELM collapse [2]. Inspection of infra-red images from the wide-angle viewing system obtained in the discharges discussed here reveals essentially no ELM interaction with the upper dump plates and none on the inner wall. By far the largest deposition occurs on the divertor targets, but there is a non-negligible interaction with the low field side bumper limiters. Using a physics-based model describing Type-I ELM energy transport to the divertor and the first wall [19] the ELM power deposition time on the inner/outer divertor targets (τ_{IR}) is found to be entirely determined by pedestal ions free-streaming to the divertor targets. The fraction of energy deposited on the target within the range $0 < t < \tau_{\text{IR}}$ varies between 20% for the

largest ELMs (lowest pedestal collisionality) and 35% for smallest ELMs (highest pedestal collisionality) [20]. Pre and post ELM profiles of a typical Type I ELM crash from the HRTS diagnostic show that the pedestal density collapse on a millisecond time scale is quite different from the temperature collapse [2]. Post ELM measurements between 0 and 1 ms after an ELM-onset show that the pedestal density collapse provokes a rise in the density just outside the separatrix, whereas the T_e -collapse is solely downwards and inside the separatrix. During the next 5ms the density in the scrape off layer (SOL) disappears due to fast parallel transport, whereas the pedestal density and temperature are recovering from the collapse.

3.2 ELM mitigation using active techniques

3.2.1 ELM mitigation using resonant magnetic perturbation

Successful ELM mitigation experiments with external magnetic perturbation fields (EMPFs) induced by the error field correction coils (EFCCs) mounted outside of the vacuum vessel were carried out. The toroidal mode number spectrum of the EFCCs system at JET is limited to $n=1$ and $n=2$ perturbations. Results from these experiments show that the frequency and the amplitude of type-I ELMs can be actively controlled by the application of an $n=1,2$ EMPF generated by the EFCCs [21]. During the application of the $n=1$ field in ITER-relevant configurations and parameters in a wide operational space of plasma triangularity (upper triangularity δ_U up to 0.45), the ELM frequency increased by a factor of 4. The energy loss per ELM normalized to the total stored energy, $\Delta W_{\text{ELM}}/W_{\text{plasma}}$, decreases from 7% to below the noise level of the diamagnetic measurement (less than 2%). Such a condition was maintained for durations of 10 times the energy confinement time. It is also shown that ELM mitigation does not depend on the orientation of the $n=1$ external fields and ELM mitigation is achievable in a wide range of q_{95} (4.8-3.0). The reduction in ELM amplitude, the simultaneous increase in ELM frequency, and a reduction in fast ion losses is observed independent of the phase of the $n=1$ field. A reduction in ELM peak heat fluxes (by roughly the same factor as the increase in ELM frequency) on and in carbon erosion (reduced physical sputtering) of the divertor target plates are observed during the ELM mitigation phase. The application of EMPFs leads to a density pump-out whose origin is not fully understood and that must be compensated by increased gas puffing. Nevertheless, transport analysis using the TRANSP code shows at most a modest reduction of the thermal energy confinement time due to the density pump-out and, when normalized to the IPB98(y,2) confinement scaling the confinement shows almost no reduction.

3.2.2 ELM mitigation using the vertical stabilisation controller

At JET, first experimental evidence of the application of a rapid varying radial field as ELM pacing mechanism has been obtained [22]. The JET vertical stabilization controller has been modified to allow the application of a user defined voltage pulse (so called kick) at an adjustable frequency which can be synchronised to the ELM event or applied asynchronously. Initial results achieved on deuterium target plasmas with a low density H-mode and low frequency Type-I ELMs (single null magnetic configuration, $I_p=1.9\text{MA}$, $B_T=2.35\text{T}$, $q_{95}=3.7$, $\kappa=1.72$) show that it has been possible to increase the natural ELM frequency by at least a factor of 5 and to moderate the initial large ELM while keeping the baseline plasma stored energy unchanged (figure 4). Work is presently ongoing at JET to further develop this

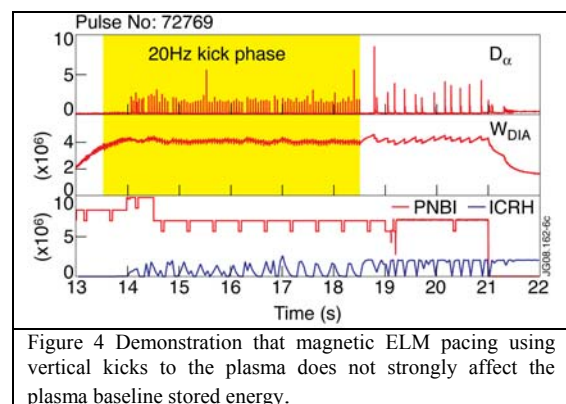


Figure 4 Demonstration that magnetic ELM pacing using vertical kicks to the plasma does not strongly affect the plasma baseline stored energy.

method and accurately document the effects of the kicks on the edge transport barrier, the ELM structure and the changes in ELM power loadings on the divertor and first wall.

3.2.3 ELM pacing with pellet injection

First results obtained during commissioning of the new high frequency pellet injector at JET [12] confirm the strong potential of pellets to drive and trigger MHD events such as ELMs in JET. Even during L-mode phases, strong pellet driven MHD activity is detected, reaching a magnitude exceeding the one observed at the onset of spontaneous and triggered ELMs during a preceding H-mode phase [23]. It thus appears that there is substantial margin left to reduce the pellet fuelling contribution even further and, hence, minimise a deleterious impact on the plasma confinement.

3.2.4 ELM mitigation by impurity seeding

An alternative way to achieve a substantial reduction of the power load to the target plates during ELMs is the use of extrinsic impurities to increase or replace the intrinsic radiation. This usually leads to a transition to the highly radiating Type-III ELMy H-mode regime. At JET substantial progress has been achieved in extending this regime with N₂ seeding to higher plasma currents up to 3.5MA and, hence, higher densities (up to $1.1 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$) [24]. At the highest plasma current the effective charge Z_{eff} is as low as 1.4, mainly due to the increased absolute density and reduced carbon erosion. The advantage of this plasma regime is the tolerable ELM size (the ELM induced transient heat loads onto the outer divertor target are reduced to 2 kJm^{-2}) in perspective of ITER (scaled to ITER, Type-III ELMy H-modes are expected to have an energy load of $\sim 0.3 \text{ MJm}^{-2}$, which is below the technically acceptable limit of 0.5 MJm^{-2}), even though at slightly reduced confinement ($\sim 8\text{-}20\%$) as compared to the reference H-mode regime. This scenario could extrapolate to $Q_{\text{DT}}=10$ in ITER at 17MA and density approaching n_{GW} , with the increased current compensating for the loss of confinement ($H_{98}(y,2)=0.75$) induced by impurity injection.

3.3 Heat loads on PFCs from disruptions

Recent infra-red measurements of heat loads on PFCs using the JET wide angle viewing system during vertical displacement events, density limit disruptions and radiation limit disruptions indicate that up to 60% of the thermal energy is released onto the upper dump plate (starting from the thermal quench) [25], in accordance with previous observations indicating that only 10-50% of that energy is deposited on the divertor targets [26]. Measurements from a new fast bolometer indicate that most of the energy is radiated during the current quench and corresponds to about 30-40% of the total available magnetic energy.

3.4 Material migration and fuel retention

The physical mechanisms underlying material erosion, long and short range migration and re-deposition within the present full carbon walls in JET have been addressed with the particular aim to prepare for future comparisons with results from the foreseen ITER-like wall [10]. These studies have benefited from improved diagnostics and dedicated pulse sequences. Spatial distribution and layer characteristics have been identified with dedicated slow plasma sweeps and spatially resolved hydrocarbon spectroscopy and Quartz microbalance deposition detectors which have been placed around the JET divertor. The main results can be summarised as follows [27]: (i) Carbon is mainly released from first wall and deposited in the inner divertor. The magnetic configuration is the main factor which determines the deposition pattern in first place, e.g. the private flux region turns from net deposition to erosion when the configuration changes from strike points on the vertical to strike points on the horizontal target; (ii) The deposited carbon undergoes further transport inside the divertor by a stepwise

process induced by new magnetic configurations which lead to enhanced re-erosion of freshly deposited layers; (iii) A strongly nonlinear increase of the local carbon release and migration inside the divertor with ELM size is found such that a few large type I ELMs lead to a stronger migration than many small ELMs. These observations can explain the large carbon deposition and tritium retention on remote areas (louvers) in the JET DTE1 experiments in 1997. They show also that the dynamics of carbon transport is a specific carbon property related to the chemical sputtering probability, which is then coupled with the deposition and fast disintegration of carbon layers. Such effects are not expected for metallic layers such as beryllium that will be used in the main chamber of ITER. Moreover, the main difference found between carbon and beryllium (from beryllium evaporation) migration in JET is the fact that beryllium remains close to the location of the inner strike-point. The overall particle balance has been studied in JET in a series of repetitive and identical discharges with an overall accuracy of about 1.2%. The particle retention behaviour has been analysed [28] for L-modes and H-modes (Type III and Type I ELMs) discharges in the same magnetic configuration ($I_p=2\text{MA}$, $B_T=2.4\text{T}$, average particle density $\langle n_e \rangle = 4.5 \times 10^{19} \text{m}^{-3}$, gas injection rate $1.8 \times 10^{22} \text{Ds}^{-1}$). For all the experiments, active pumping was ensured by the divertor cryopump only (all main chamber pumps closed) and its regeneration (to liquid nitrogen temperature) before and after the series (~at least 1/2 hour after the last pulse) thus allowing a direct measure of the long term retention. Co-deposition is found to dominate the long term retention and it is also expected to be the case for beryllium within the future ITER-like wall in JET and in ITER. The overall results for the three different scenarios investigated in JET are summarised in table 1 [28]. Increase of the long term retention is observed from L mode to Type-I ELMy H-mode and is associated to the increase of the recycling flux and the carbon flux resulting from erosion in the main chamber, thus confirming the strong concerns about fuel retention in a carbon clad tokamak and indicating that full carbon in all PFCs in ITER is not viable.

Pulse type	Injection rate (Ds^{-1})	Heating phase (s)	Long term retention (Ds^{-1}) (heating phase)	Divertor phase (s)	Long term retention (Ds^{-1}) (divertor phase)
L-mode	$\sim 1.8 \times 10^{22}$	81	2.04×10^{21}	126	1.27×10^{21}
H-mode Type III	$\sim 1.7 \times 10^{22}$	72	2.40×10^{21}	126	1.37×10^{21}
H-mode Type I	$\sim 1.7 \times 10^{22}$	32	2.83×10^{21}	50	1.7×10^{21}

Table 1 Total number of particles injected, recovered from cryopump regeneration and long term retention, averaged over the heating/divertor phase, for the three series of experiments in L mode, Type III and Type I ELMy H-mode.

4 Toroidal field ripple effects on H-modes and implications for ITER

In all tokamak devices, the finite number and toroidal extension of the toroidal magnetic field coils causes a periodic variation of the TF from its nominal value, called the TF ripple defined as $\delta_{BT} = (B_{\max} - B_{\min}) / (B_{\max} + B_{\min})$. Uniquely to JET, it is possible to vary the TF ripple amplitude by independently powering the 16 odd and 16 even numbered coils. The TF ripple can thereby be increased from its nominal value at the separatrix (outboard mid-plane) $\delta_{BT} \sim 0.08\%$ up to $\delta_{BT} \sim 3\%$. A series of experiments has recently been conducted at JET aiming at quantifying, for a range of plasma conditions, the impact of ripple on H-mode confinement and attempting to identify an acceptable maximum ripple for ITER [29]. To begin with, an H-mode reference discharge with Type I ELMs at δ_{BT} of 0.08% was first established and then the ripple increased in steps (0.3%, 0.5% and 0.7%) from pulse to pulse to a maximum of 1%. Most studies were carried out at plasma current $I_p = 2.6\text{MA}/B_T = 2.2\text{T}$ ($q_{95} \sim 2.9$) at low δ (~ 0.22) with NB co-current injection.

4.1 Behaviour of plasma confinement and rotation with ripple

Increasing the toroidal field ripple in plasmas with no gas fuelling in the H-mode phase has a detrimental effect on plasma density and confinement (figure 5), especially at low pedestal collisionality [29]. Specifically, increasing δ_{BT} from the standard 0.08% level to 1% causes a reduction of the confinement enhancement factor, $H_{98}(y,2)$, of $\sim 20\%$ with most of the density loss already observed at $\delta_{BT}=0.5\%$. Within the measurement uncertainty, the deterioration of plasma confinement with ripple magnitude is continuous (although not necessarily linearly proportional to δ_{BT}). The very non-linear dependence of Q_{DT} on the confinement enhancement factor H_{98} ($\sim H_{98}^{3.3}$) implies that even “small” reductions of the plasma confinement would result in a reduction of the fusion power not acceptable for ITER. Moreover, given that the fusion power output is proportional to the density (at constant β), the impact of density pump out on Q_{DT} is even more

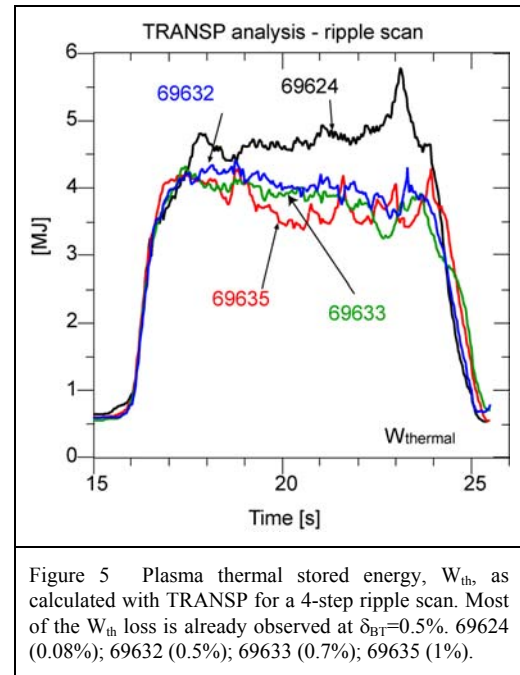


Figure 5 Plasma thermal stored energy, W_{th} , as calculated with TRANSP for a 4-step ripple scan. Most of the W_{th} loss is already observed at $\delta_{BT}=0.5\%$. 69624 (0.08%); 69632 (0.5%); 69633 (0.7%); 69635 (1%).

severe than what is deduced from the reduction of the $H_{98}(y,2)$ factor. Even for small TF ripple amplitudes of $\delta_{BT}\sim 0.5\%$ the JET plasma rotation is significantly reduced compared to normal levels. In the discharges with $\delta_{BT}\sim 0.5\%$ a counter current torque was found in the order of 20-30% of that supplied by the NBI system in co-current direction and for $\delta_{BT}\sim 1\%$ an area of counter rotation develops at the edge of the plasma, while the core keeps its co-rotation [30]. The dominant mechanism that drives the observed counter rotation in the discharges with a large $\delta_{BT}>0.5\%$ can be associated with banana orbit diffusion of trapped energetic ions (by NBI). However, calculations with the ASCOT code of the induced torque due to these losses do not fully explain the observations. The edge rotation in the presence of a large TF ripple appears to depend on the local ion temperature, suggesting that other ion losses, possibly those of thermal ions, may be involved. The effect of TF ripple on thermal ions has so far not been included in the ASCOT calculations.

4.2 Effect of TF ripple on ELMs

The analysis of the JET data shows that toroidal field ripple affects ELM frequency and size [29]. With increased ripple from 0.08% to 0.5% the Type I ELM frequency almost doubles, going from $\sim 12\text{Hz}$ to $\sim 20\text{Hz}$. With ripple increased further to 0.7% and finally 1%, ELMs become irregular, with Type I, Type III and long ELM-free phases, in spite of the fact that the power across the separatrix remains approximately constant. Moreover, the data indicate that Type I ELM size is reduced, for 1% ripple, by about a factor of two and that the ELM losses seem to become more convective. Although a reduction of the ELM size may look attractive for ITER, the JET results show that this would come at the price of significant confinement deterioration. Therefore, the JET results suggests that $\delta_{BT}<0.5\%$ is required in ITER in order to achieve the $Q_{DT}=10$ goal and reduce the uncertainty on confinement extrapolation as well as the impact on plasma rotation.

4.3 TF ripple impact on ITB formation and strength

Another important issue associated with the TF ripple is its effect on the formation and strength of ITB. Dedicated experiments have shown that, although the ITB trigger was unaffected, the further development of the ITB may be degraded due to larger TF ripple [31,

32]. The TF ripple reduces the toroidal rotation and modifies the toroidal rotation profile while no effect on the poloidal rotation has been observed. It suggests that stronger barriers form in the presence of a larger rotational shear. The ITB triggering was unaffected by the changes in rotational shear and, in these experiments, this mechanism may be predominantly determined by the detailed shape of the safety factor profile.

5 Stability and transport

5.1 Resistive wall mode stability up to the no-wall limit

Plasma operation at high β_N (such as required for AT scenarios) is often limited by pressure-driven MHD instabilities. Although the presence of a conducting wall increases this β -limit, it is important to know the ideal no-wall β -limit as resistive wall modes (RWM) can occur above this level. It is known that the Resonant Field Amplification (RFA) of an externally applied helical magnetic field is significantly enhanced when a plasma exceeds the ideal no-wall stability limit [33], suggesting that this might be used for stability probing. Measurements of the plasma response to an applied AC $n=1$ or $n=2$ helical magnetic fields (produced by EFCCs) in high- β scenarios in JET show that the RFA threshold on JET decreases with increasing q_{\min} , as predicted by modelling [7]. This new diagnostic also allows estimation of the duration of the plasma sustainment over the RFA threshold. Values of β_N up to 70% above the measured RFA threshold have been transiently obtained, which is significantly more than the 20% expected from the relationship between no-wall limit and RFA threshold. The possibility of RFA well below the no-wall limit and the condition under which this could happen have been investigated with linear ideal MHD stability codes and appear to be linked to marginally stable current driven modes.

5.2 Momentum, ion and electron heat transport

Understanding the physics of momentum transport is one of the urgent physics tasks in view of predicting the level of rotation in ITER. A rotation database covering more than 600 JET discharges shows that the effective Prandtl number is substantially below one in the JET core plasma, $P_{r,\text{eff}} = \chi_{\phi,\text{eff}}/\chi_{i,\text{eff}} \sim 0.1-0.4$ [34], in apparent contradiction with Ion Temperature Gradient (ITG) based theories and gyro-kinetic calculations reporting ‘purely diffusive’ Prandtl numbers $P_r = \chi_{\phi}/\chi_i \sim 1$. However, recent developments in theory predict a sizeable inward momentum pinch [35] which could resolve the discrepancy as the inward pinch results in $P_{r,\text{eff}}$ being smaller than P_r . Moreover, experiments at JET aiming at decoupling power input and torque included modulation at 6.25/8.33Hz using NBI to create a periodic perturbation in the toroidal rotation velocity and, hence, determine the diffusive and convective momentum transport [36]. Novel transport analysis for these experiments shows the magnitude and profile shape of the momentum diffusivity is similar to those of the ion heat diffusivity. Also, a significant inward momentum pinch, up to 20m/s, is found. An inward momentum pinch may result in a centrally peaked toroidal velocity profile in ITER, even in the absence of any external core momentum source. A related issue is the role of rotation on plasma turbulence and confinement. The existence of a threshold in the ion temperature inverse gradient length R/L_{Ti} ($=R|\nabla T_i|/T_i$, with R the torus major radius) for the onset of ITG modes is experimentally confirmed in JET low rotation plasmas [37] and its value found in close agreement with linear GS2 gyro-kinetic calculations. The stiffness level is high and keeps R/L_{Ti} close to the linear threshold. This finding is not in agreement with the non-linear GS2 calculations which yield significant higher R/L_{Ti} than the linear threshold. Electrons are generally found less stiff than ions [38]. Comparisons of plasmas with different values of toroidal rotation indicate a significant increase in R/L_{Ti} in rotating plasmas. Various observations allow to conclude that such increase is mainly due to a decrease of the stiffness level with increasing rotation, rather

than to a mere up-shift of the threshold, as commonly predicted by theory. This finding has implications on the interpretation of present day experimental results on the effect of rotation on confinement as well as on extrapolations to ITER/DEMO.

5.3 Fast ions studies

Studies of various plasma scenarios based on the synergy of a unique set of diagnostics for confined and lost particle measurements (γ -ray diagnostics, thin foil Faraday Cup array and a scintillator probe) [39] show that a significant redistribution of fast ions happens during the change in q profile from strongly shear-reversed to monotonic. Also, significant changes in the losses of ICRH accelerated protons are observed during confinement transitions: after an L-H transition an abrupt decrease in the ICRH proton losses is observed; in plasmas with an ITB, losses of ICRH-accelerated ions increase as the barrier forms. Furthermore, investigations of the response of ions to MHD modes show a dependence of the loss intensity on the MHD mode amplitude.

6 Plasma heating studies and systems development

Plasma heating optimisation studies in support of the ITER scenarios at JET include the coupling of ICRF/LH power in ELMy H-mode at large antenna-plasma distances [40]. D_2 gas puffing in the plasma edge has been applied on H-Mode plasmas with high- δ , significant differences in ELM behaviour and recycling and a radial outer gap of up to 14cm. This has led to a significant improvement of the ICRF antenna loading (up to a factor of 6) allowing to couple up to 8MW of ICRF power during ELMs. LH power coupling at large gaps has been optimised, delivering 3MW to the plasma during 8s in a stationary way, at a plasma-separatrix/launcher distance of up to 15cm [41]. Three new improvements have recently been made to the JET ICRF antennae to both increase coupled power density and match through rapid coupling variations during ELM's [42]; both of which are key developments for the future design of the ITER ICRF antenna. Firstly, 3dB couplers were fitted to two antennae in 2004/5. Secondly, a new ITER-like antenna (ILA) was installed during 2007 to couple an ITER-relevant power density (8MW/m^2) using a close-packed array of straps, with ELM tolerance incorporated using an internal (in-vacuum) conjugate-T junction with each strap fed through in-vessel matching capacitors from a common vacuum transmission line. Thirdly, an externally-mounted conjugate-T system has been installed on two antennae during the 2007. Initial operation of the JET ILA has already shown that it is feasible to match such antennas to a variety of JET plasmas [42].

7 Outlook

JET is presently in the middle of a large enhancement programme [12] that includes the installation a beryllium wall and a tungsten divertor [10], the upgrade of the neutral beam power from about 24MW/10s up to 36MW/20s, the upgrade of the vertical stability control, the installation of a high frequency pellet injector for fuelling and ELM control and about 20 new diagnostics. Some of these enhancements will come to fruition during the 2008 and 2009 Campaigns. The present planning foresees a shutdown from the middle of 2009 to the middle of 2010 for the installation of the new ITER-like wall and the neutral beam enhancement, followed by a 26 weeks restart phase during which the new JET wall will start to provide important information for ITER. The full exploitation of the enhancements requires the extension of JET until 2014, including a DT experiment.

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