



EFTC 2023

20th European Fusion Theory Conference

2 – 5 October 2023, Padova – Italy



Beam-tracing analysis of EC-assisted breakdown and high-frequency core heating in various DEMO scenarios

C. Tsironis¹, B. Baiocchi², A. Bruschi², L. Figini²,
J. P. Hogge³, M. Siccino⁴, I. Tigelis⁵, C. Wu⁶

¹*National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece*

²*Institute for Plasma Science and Technology – National Research Council, Milan, Italy*

³*Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland*

⁴*Max-Planck-Institute for Plasma Physics, Garching bei Muenchen, Germany*

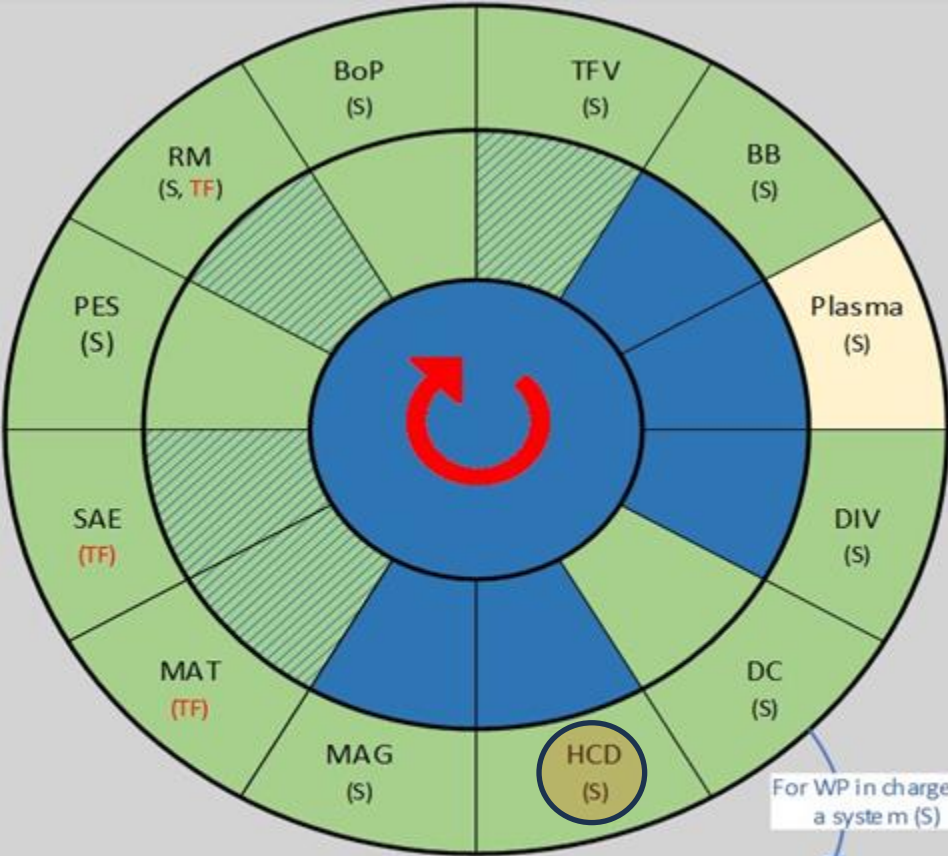
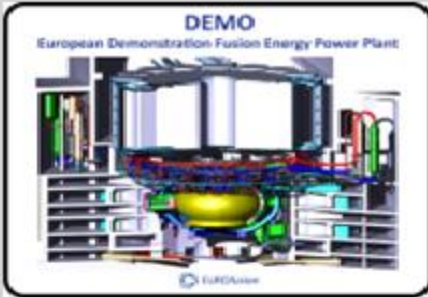
⁵*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece*

⁶*Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany*

EUROfusion DEMO design



Fusion Technology Department (FSD) works on DEMO R&D



For WP in charge of a system (S)

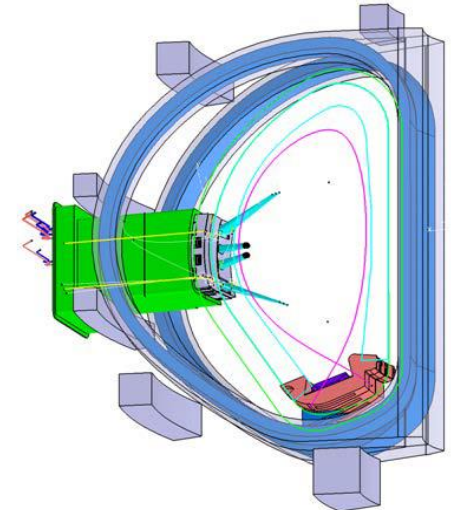
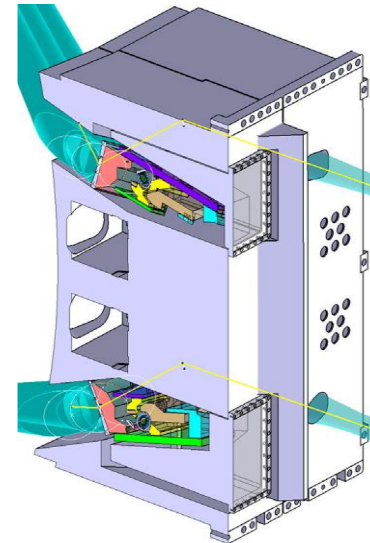
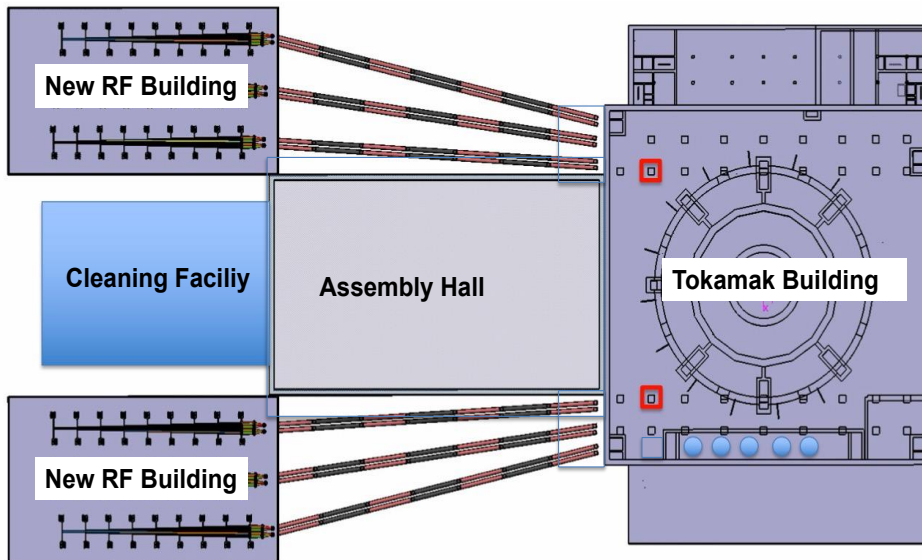
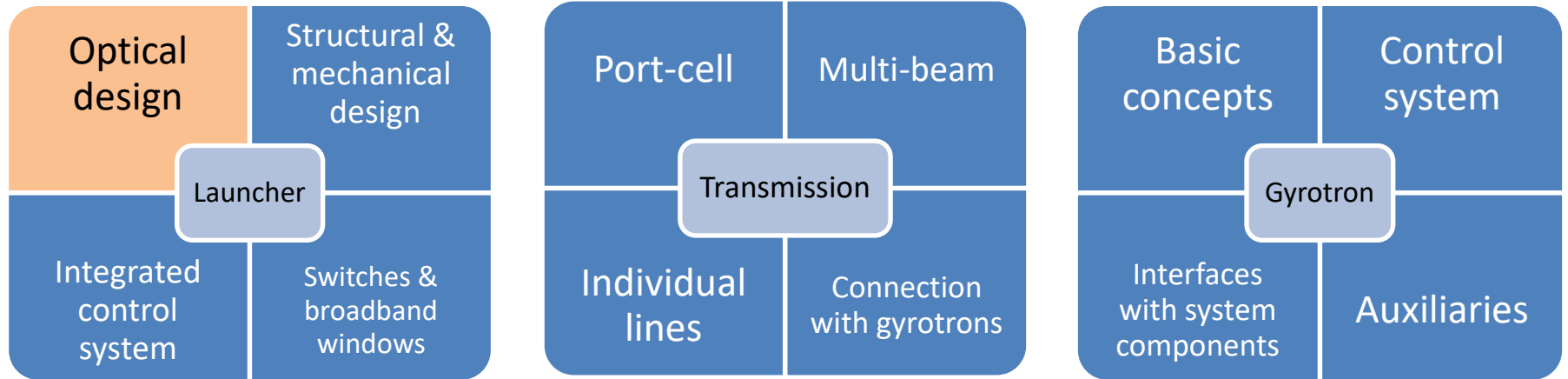


Colour filling = allocation	
DEMO WP	
WP with strong DCT implication	
DCT with WPDES assistance	
Fusion Science Department	
Sector = work packages	
S: System	
TF: Transverse function (in close collaboration with DCT/PIO as it interfaces all systems, represented by: ↻)	
Circles and ring = type of activity	
Inner circle: plant architecture (and system design of systems not allocated to WPs)	
Intermediate ring: system design	
External ring: technology R&D	

Heating and Current Drive work package



WP HCD for EC system conceptual design (phys + tech)



Organization of launcher design studies



S.01.03-T003: Port Plug (Launcher) optical component design

S.01.03-T004: Port Plug (Launcher) structural design

S.01.08-T002: Numerical analysis of broadband window concepts

D001: Brewster windows & polarization aspects

D002: Alternative joinings

D003: Simulation of EM resonances in broadband windows

S.01.01-T003: WPHCD Launcher optical design

D001: Stray radiation evaluations

D002: Study of compatibility with higher frequency

D003: Beam-tracing evaluations

S.01.02-T003: Thermal analysis on launcher components & cooling design

D001: Cooling of M1 mirrors

D002: Cooling design of M2 fixed mirror for BH

S.01.04-T002: Port-cell transmission line integration

D001: TL Layout update

D002: Waveguide components preliminary design

D003: Integration of the components in the CAD design

S.01.05-T004: Multi-Beam transmission line design

D001: TL Layout update

D002: W7-X MBTL design, including mirrors and supporting structures

D003: First design of MBTL mirror with cooling circuit

S.01.06-T004: Individual transmission line design

D001: Study of losses for multi- frequency polarisers

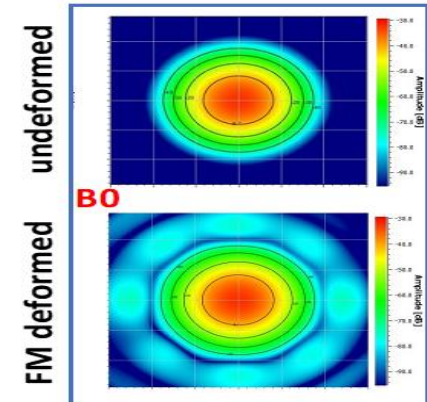
S.01.07-T002: Impact of RAMI on the ECH system and its functions

D001: Functional analysis

D002: FMEA of the ECH system

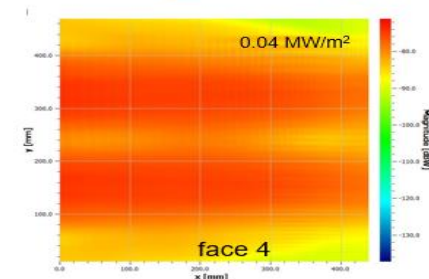
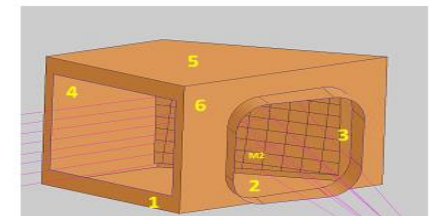
D003: Component reliability & control system techniques to improve W7-X system

Post-mirror beam pattern



WP HCD tasks & deliverables

Distribution of stray radiation



Overview of beam-tracing analysis subtask



Beam tracing analysis in DEMO plasma scenarios of
core ECRH • *EC-assisted breakdown*

INPUT

Magnetic field equilibrium,
plasma density & temperature profiles
based on latest *EU DEMO Reference Design*

equilibrium data (EQDSK)

<https://idm.euro-fusion.org/default.aspx?uid=2PCR4X>

profile data (MATLAB)

<https://idm.euro-fusion.org/default.aspx?uid=2MMUDB>

INPUT

Launcher design (launch coordinates/directions),
beam parameters (frequency, width/curvature radius)
based on latest *ECRH Beam Configuration Data DEMO**

*Beam input data (EXCEL) based on *EC Optical System Design*

design model (CAD)

<http://idm.euro-fusion.org/?uid=2MHNBC>

CODE

TORBEAM

pWKB beam
tracing code

code manual (PDF)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001046551730423X>

Beam trajectory
Power absorption
Driven current

task report (DOCX)

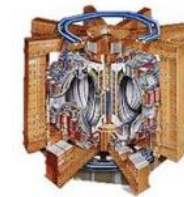
<https://idm.euro-fusion.org/?uid=2QC8DZ>

OUTPUT

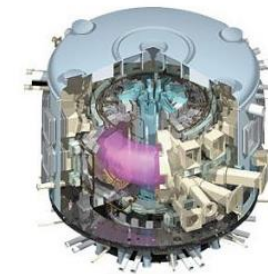
DEMO reference design parameters



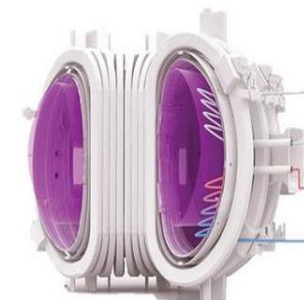
Major radius [m]	8.938
Minor radius [m]	2.883
Aspect ratio	3.1
Plasma volume [m ³]	2448
Plasma surface area [m ²]	1374
Elongation at 95% of plasma minor radius	1.65
Triangularity at 95% of plasma minor radius	0.333
Safety factor at 95% of plasma minor radius	3.936
Vacuum toroidal magnetic field on axis [T]	5.744
Plasma electric current [MA]	18.27
Fusion power [MW]	1871
Average electron density [10 ¹⁹ m ⁻³]	8.058
Ratio of peak vs average electron density	1.52
Average electron temperature [KeV]	11.31
Ratio of peak vs average electron temperature	3.542
Effective charge of ions	1.18
Bootstrap vs inductive current fraction	0.362/0.477
Bootstrap vs auxiliary current fraction	0.362/0.162



JET
80 m³



ITER
800 m³
(one-third the size of an Olympic swimming pool)
~ 500 MW_{th}

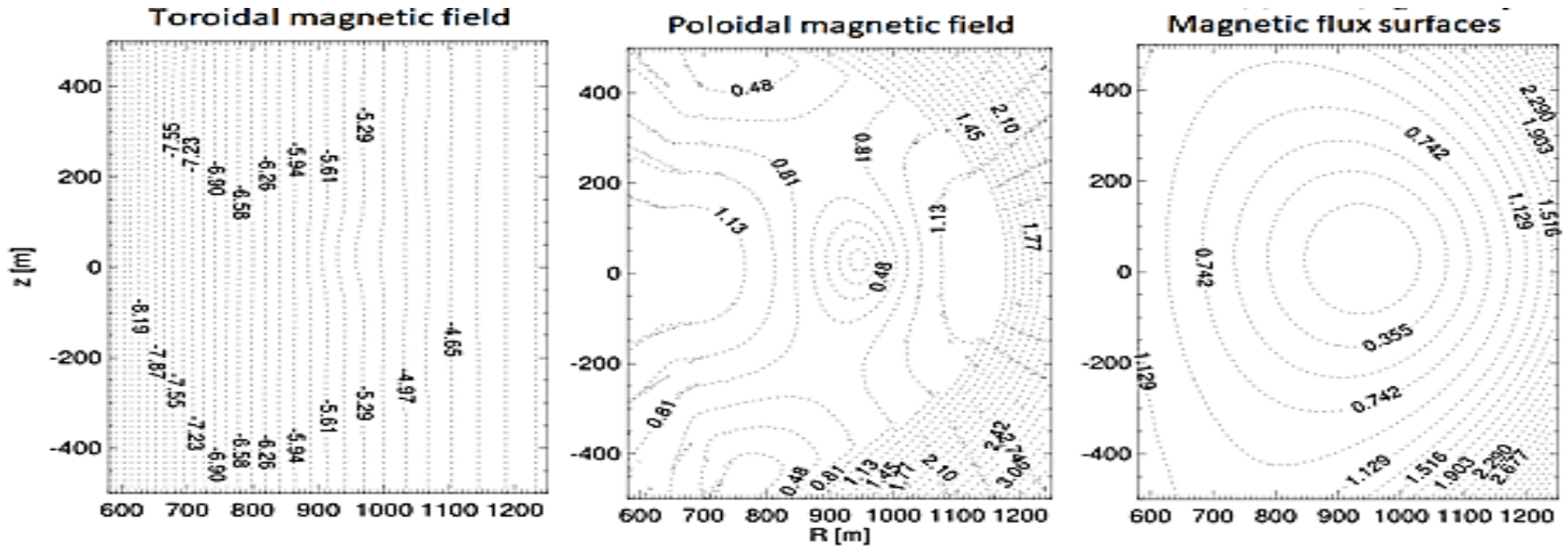


DEMO
~ 1000 – 3500 m³
(half to one and a half times the size of an Olympic swimming pool)
~ 2000-4000 MW_{th}

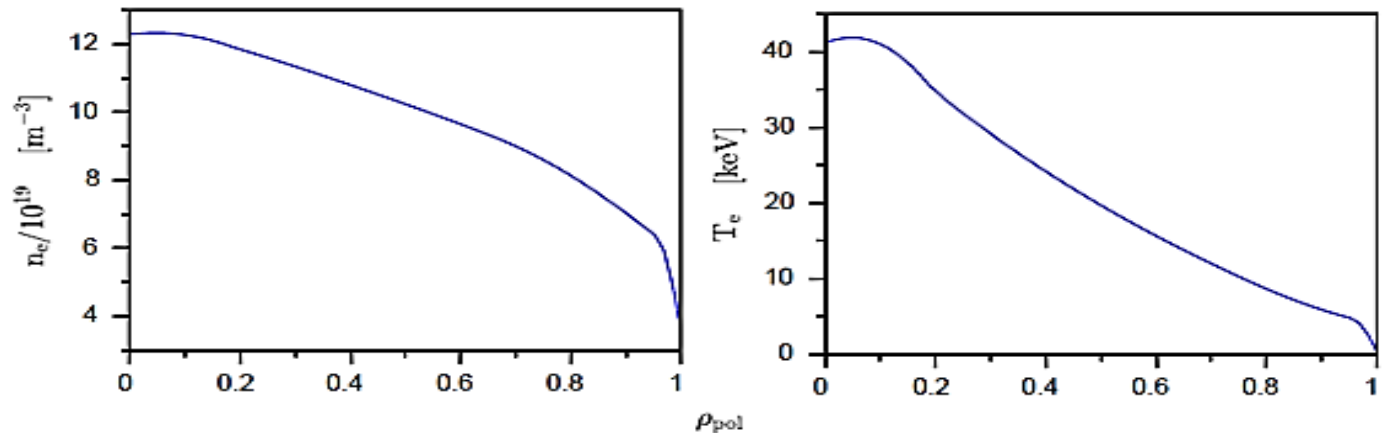
DEMO plasma configuration



Magnetic equilibrium



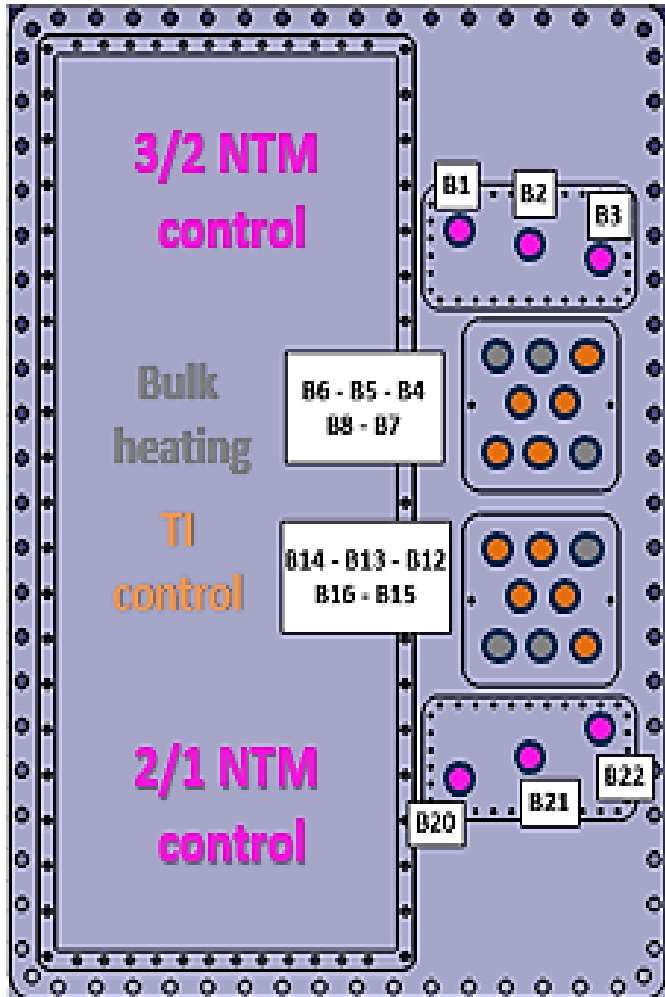
Density & temperature profiles



ECRH beam configuration



Equatorial Port Plug



Beam launching conditions

Launching conditions	Launch point coordinates			Launching angles		Initial beam parameters	
	X (mm)	Y (mm)	Z (mm)	α (deg)	β (deg)	w (mm)	Rc (mm)
BEAM 1 (NOMINAL α)	13573.362	-1187.598	955.833	-15.16	24.67	f=170 GHz 123.92	f=170 GHz -4466.01
BEAM 1 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13573.362	-1187.596	955.833	-11.62	24.59		
BEAM 1 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13573.362	-1187.595	955.833	-18.70	24.59		
BEAM 2 (NOMINAL α)	13400.000	-1295.000	1000.000	-15.20	25.00	f=204 GHz 103.88	f=204 GHz -4415.05
BEAM 2 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13400.000	-1295.000	1000.000	-11.70	24.91		
BEAM 2 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13400.000	-1295.000	1000.000	-18.70	24.91		
BEAM 3 (NOMINAL α)	13222.651	-1395.138	1045.271	-15.24	25.33	f=136 GHz 64.02	f=136 GHz 141203.00
BEAM 3 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13222.651	-1365.136	1045.271	-11.78	25.24		
BEAM 3 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13222.651	-1365.135	1045.271	-18.70	25.24		
BEAM 4	13507.130	-1120.234	464.452	7.23	18.16	f=170 GHz 67.32	f=170 GHz 18242.73
BEAM 5	13397.596	-1190.596	465.143	7.52	20.45		
BEAM 6	13289.359	-1256.336	465.909	7.82	22.71		
BEAM 7	13453.069	-1160.741	380.000	4.91	19.52	f=204 GHz 57.22	f=204 GHz 25263.39
BEAM 8	13344.239	-1228.802	380.000	5.13	21.81		
BEAM 9	13507.036	-1129.939	295.673	2.36	18.49		
BEAM 10	13397.595	-1199.793	294.980	2.51	20.80	f=136 GHz 64.02	f=136 GHz 141203.00
BEAM 11	13289.450	-1266.091	294.213	2.67	23.07		
BEAM 12	13507.036	-1129.939	-295.673	-2.36	18.49		
BEAM 13	13397.595	-1199.793	-294.980	-2.51	20.80	f=170 GHz 67.32	f=170 GHz 18242.73
BEAM 14	13289.450	-1266.091	-294.213	-2.67	23.07		
BEAM 15	13453.069	-1160.741	-380.000	-4.91	19.52		
BEAM 16	13344.239	-1228.802	-380.000	-5.13	21.81	f=204 GHz 57.22	f=204 GHz 25263.39
BEAM 17	13507.130	-1120.234	-464.452	-7.23	18.16		
BEAM 18	13397.596	-1190.596	-465.143	-7.52	20.45		
BEAM 19	13289.359	-1256.336	-465.909	-7.82	22.71	f=170 GHz 123.92	f=170 GHz -4466.01
BEAM 20 (NOMINAL α)	13565.187	-1167.865	-934.645	23.13	15.81		
BEAM 20 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13565.188	-1167.869	-934.645	19.58	15.72		
BEAM 20 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13565.187	-1167.855	-934.645	26.67	15.71	f=204 GHz 103.88	f=204 GHz -4415.05
BEAM 21 (NOMINAL α)	13400.000	-1295.000	-1000.000	23.15	16.00		
BEAM 21 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13400.000	-1295.000	-1000.000	19.67	15.90		
BEAM 21 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13400.000	-1295.000	-1000.000	26.63	15.90	f=204 GHz 103.88	f=204 GHz -4415.05
BEAM 22 (NOMINAL α)	13229.134	-1415.660	-1067.495	23.17	16.19		
BEAM 22 ($\alpha + 3.5^\circ$)	13229.134	-1415.663	-1067.495	19.76	16.09		
BEAM 22 ($\alpha - 3.5^\circ$)	13229.135	-1415.651	-1067.494	26.59	16.11		

Core ECRH (high magnetic field scenario)



SRD REFERENCE VALUES

Up to 30 MW EC @ $f < 240$ GHz
ECRH/ECCD @ $\rho_t < 0.3$

*Considerations of DEMO baseline
with higher magnetic field*

Central toroidal field: $6 \text{ T} < B_0 < 9 \text{ T}$

Equilibrium & plasma input?

Rescale B_0 (assuming an increase to Q_{95} so that B_p , n_e & T_e are retained)

RESULTS for $f = 238$ GHz

Complete (single-pass) absorption

Deposition obeys SRD limit ($0.02 < \rho_t < 0.27$)

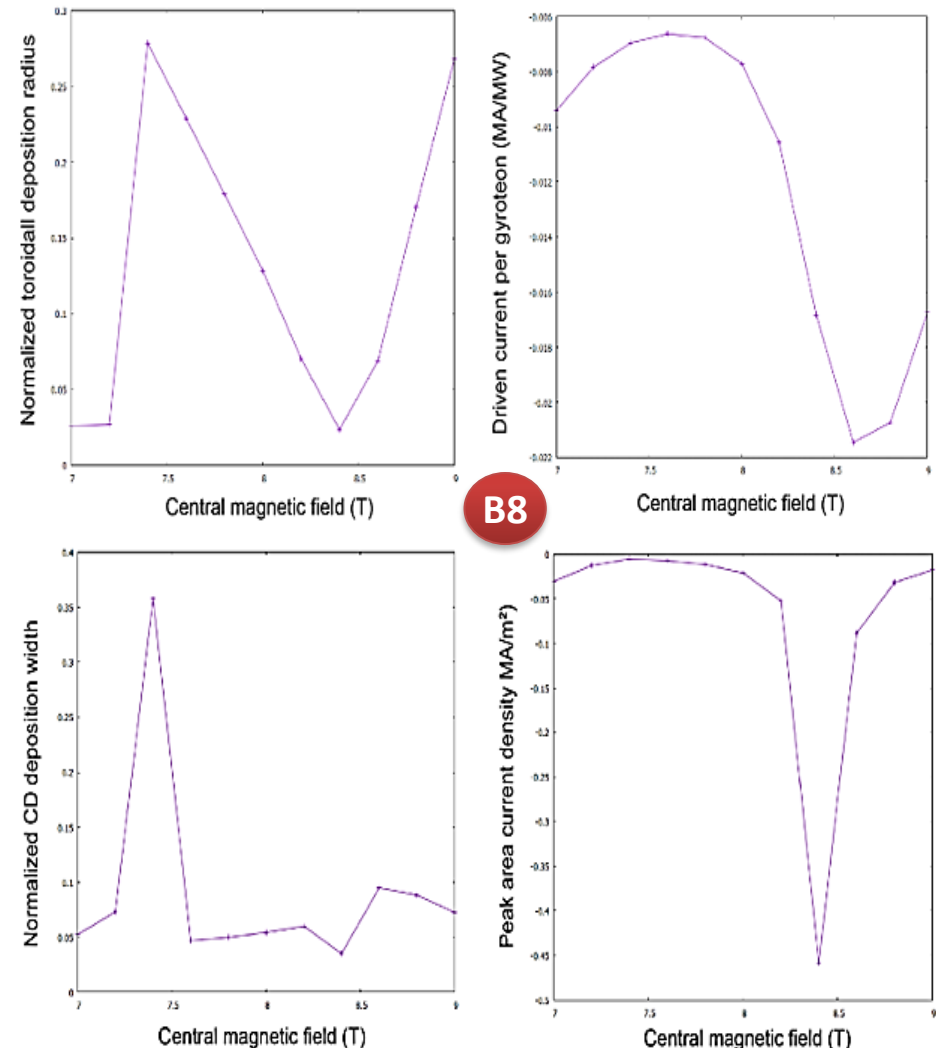
$|I_{CD}|/P_{abs}$ [A/W] ranges from 0.003 to 0.054

Parasitic (O2) absorption decreases vs B_0

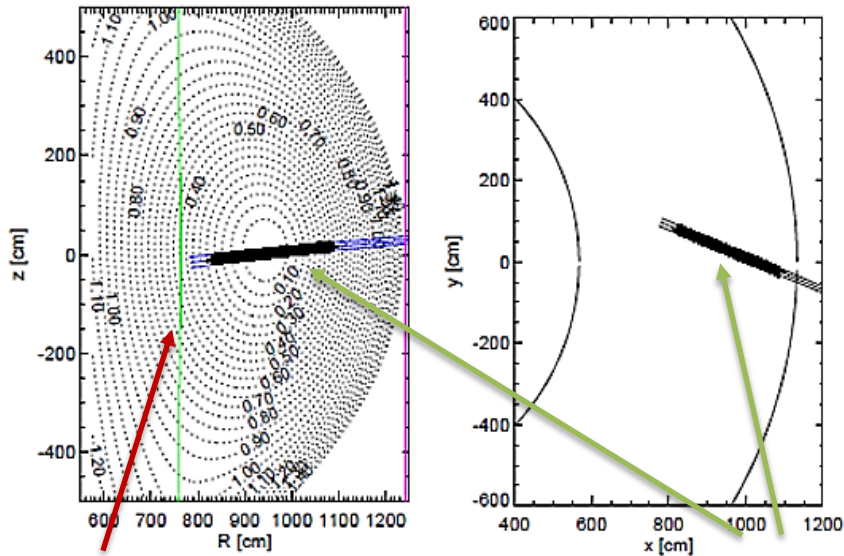
Deposition seems to become narrower vs B_0
($0.01 < \Delta\rho_p < 0.05$ when $7.5 < B_0$ [T] < 8.5)

$|Peak\ CD|$ [MA/m²] ranges from 0.01 to 0.5

HCD parameters vs central magnetic field

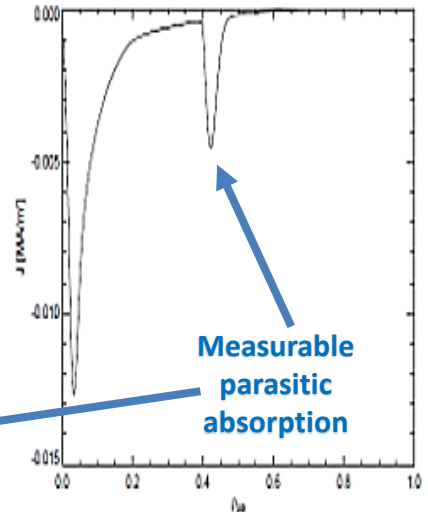
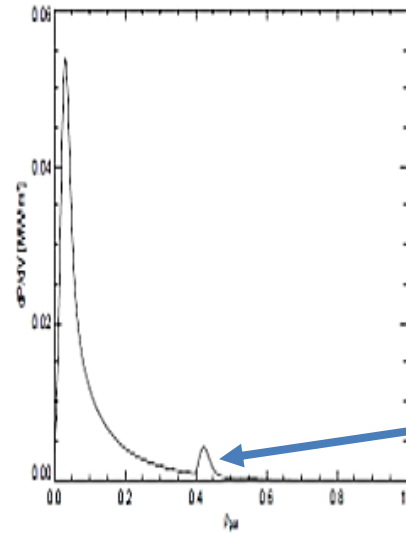


Beam tracing results for high magnetic field



B8

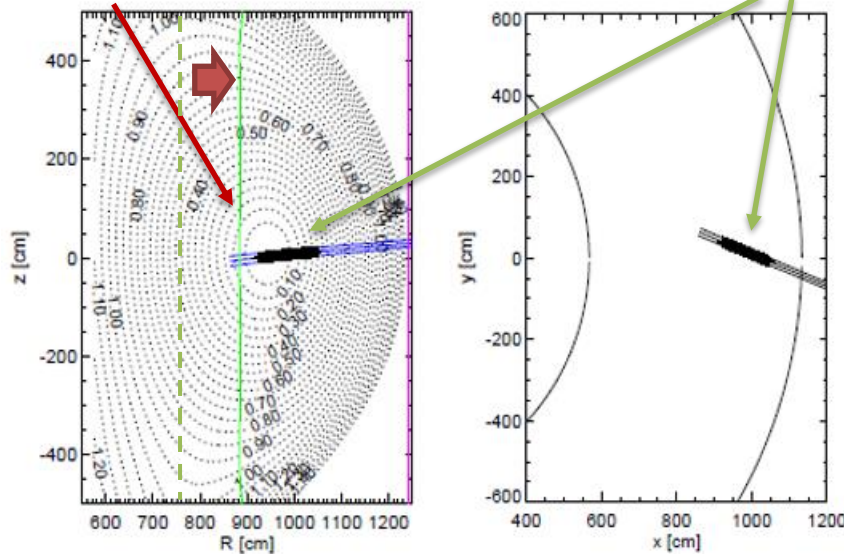
$B_0 = 7.2$
T



LFS shift of cold ECR

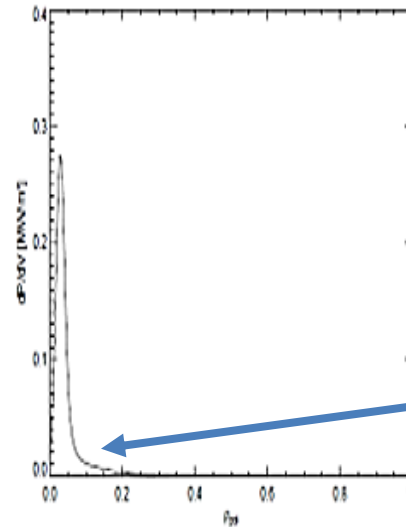
Beam projections R, z (m)

Minimal refraction

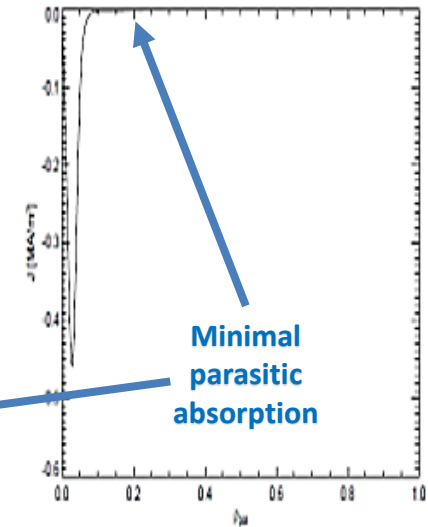


$B_0 = 8.4$
T

Absorbed power per unit volume (MW/m^3)



Driven current per unit area (MA/m^2)



Core ECRH (low magnetic field scenario)



SRD REFERENCE VALUES

Same as in the high magnetic field scenario

Considerations of DEMO baseline with lower magnetic field

Central toroidal field: $2 \text{ T} < B_0 < 5 \text{ T}$

Relevant to the analysis of low aspect ratio (AR) scenario

Baseline with lower central field (to be analysed from late 2023 on)

RESULTS for $f = 136 \text{ GHz}$

Complete (single-pass) absorption

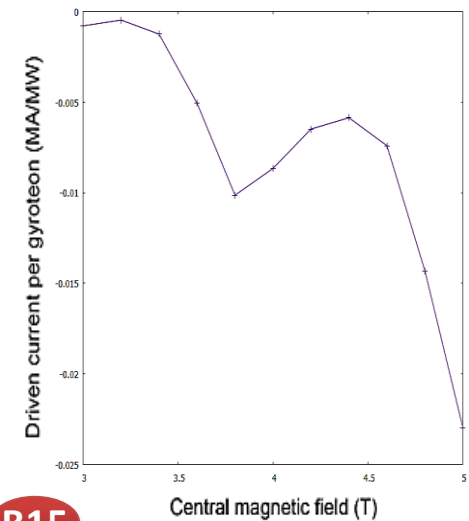
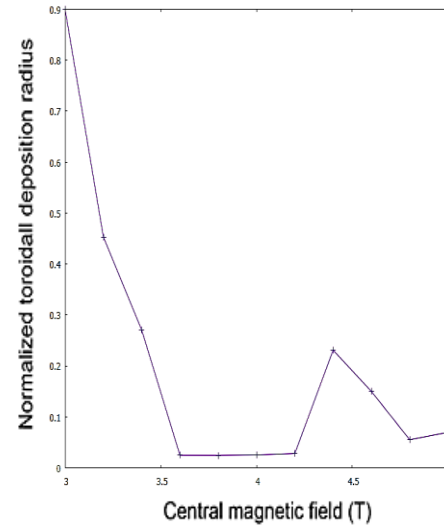
Deposition obeys SRD limit only for $B_0 [\text{T}] > 3.5$ ($\rho_t > 0.3$ for $B_0 [\text{T}] < 3.5 \text{ T}$)

$|I_{\text{CD}}|/P_{\text{abs}}$ [A/W] is smaller than 0.025

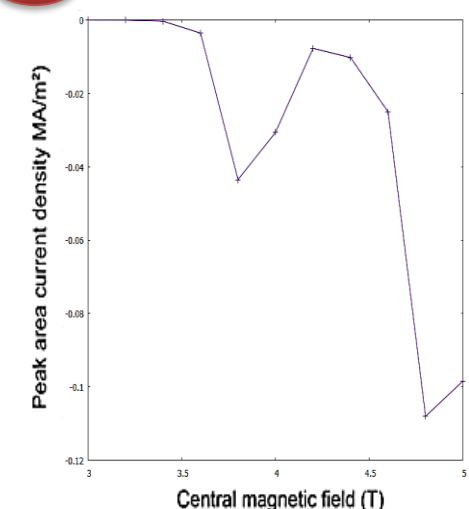
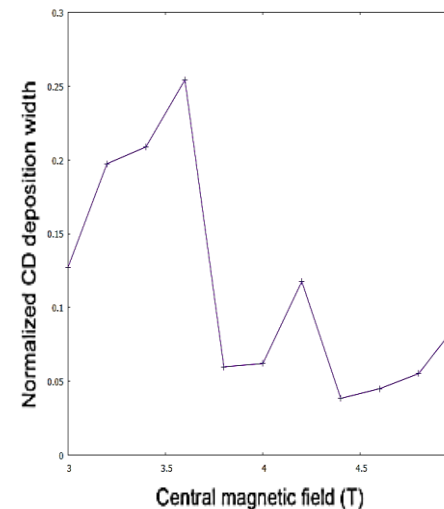
Deposition seems to narrow down vs B_0 ($0.05 < \Delta\rho_p < 0.1$ when $B_0 [\text{T}] > 3.7$)

|Peak CD| [MA/m²] is smaller than 0.11

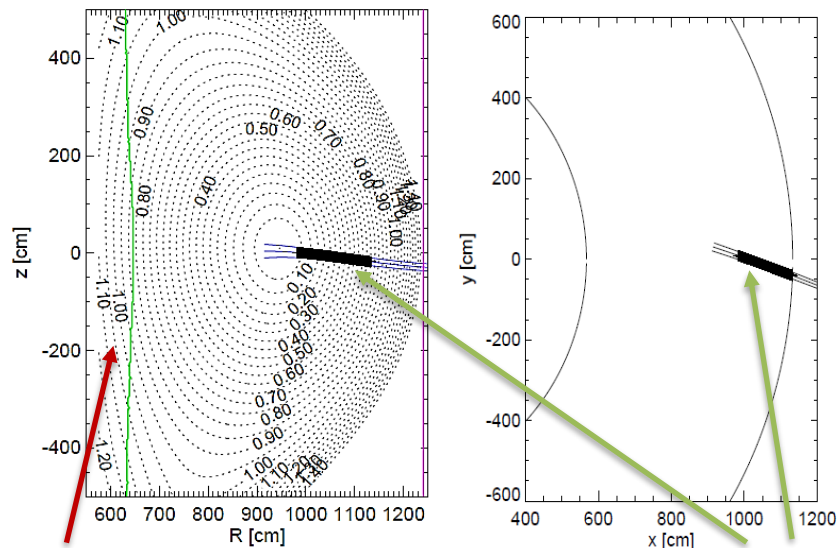
HCD parameters vs central magnetic field



B15

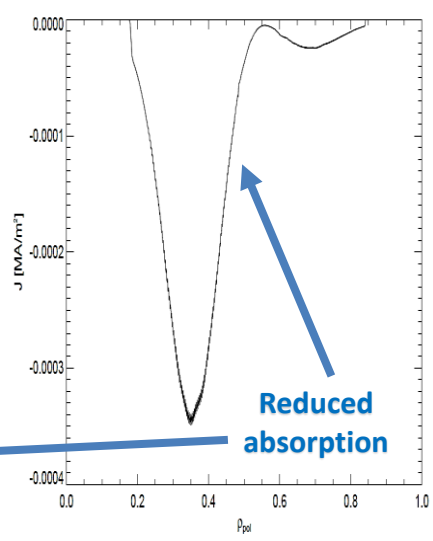
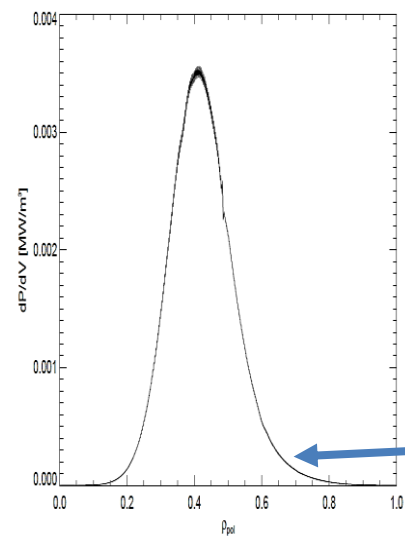


Beam tracing results for low magnetic field



B15

$B_0 = 3.4$
T



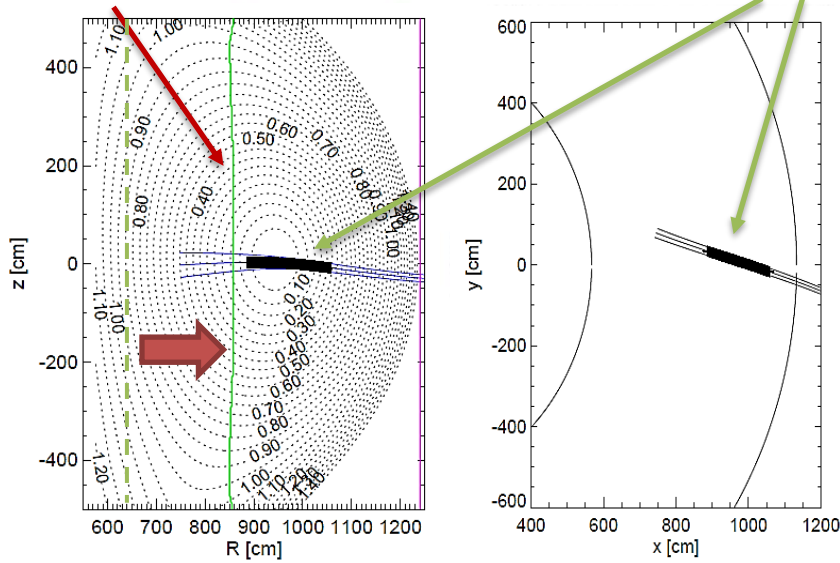
LFS shift of cold ECR

Beam projections R, z (m)

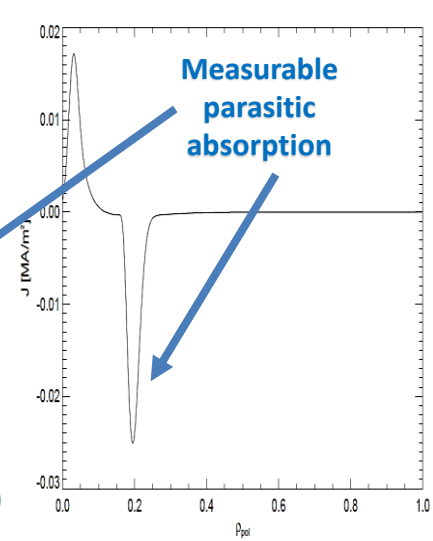
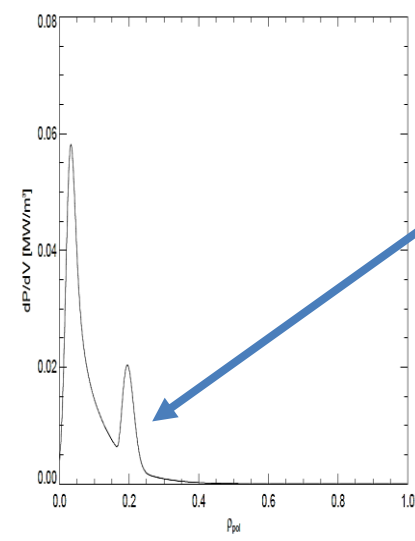
Measurable refraction

Absorbed power per unit volume (MW/m³)

Driven current per unit area (MA/m²)



$B_0 = 4.6$
T



EC-assisted breakdown



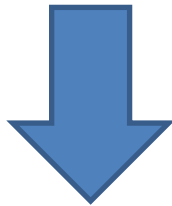
SRD REFERENCE VALUES

Up to 10 MW EC @ $f < 240$ GHz
ECRH @ 1.5 ± 0.5 m from inner wall

Plasma & device parameters

Low n_e
($< 10^{18} \text{ m}^{-3}$)
Very low T_e
(≈ 100 eV)

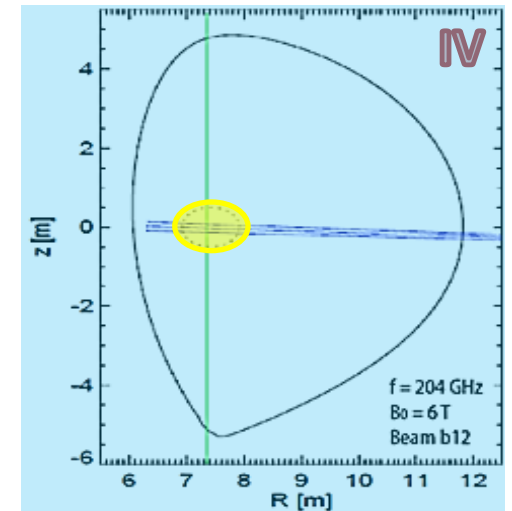
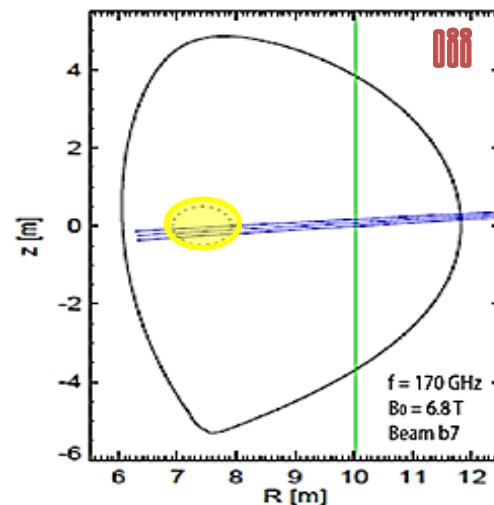
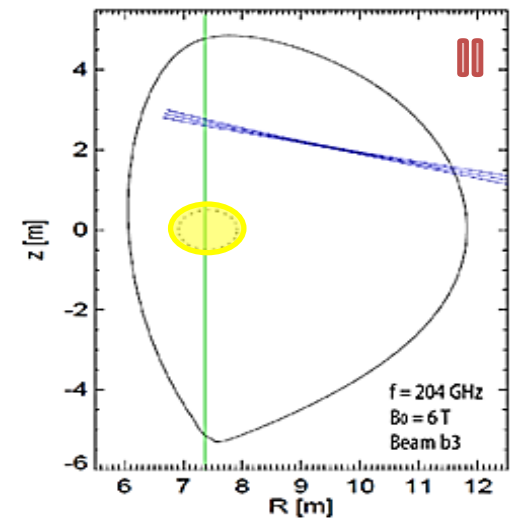
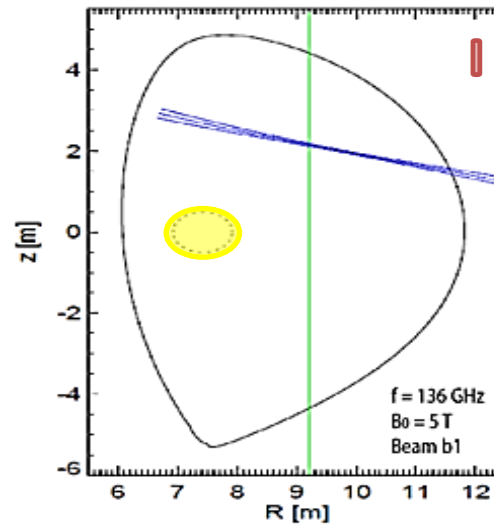
$B = B_t$
(3 – 7 T)



EC-based breakdown
(BKD) condition

Beam trajectory & EC cold
resonance line should both cross
the region specified by SRD

Four different scenarios in the BKD setup



Qualified magnetic field scenarios



BEAM TRACING RESULTS



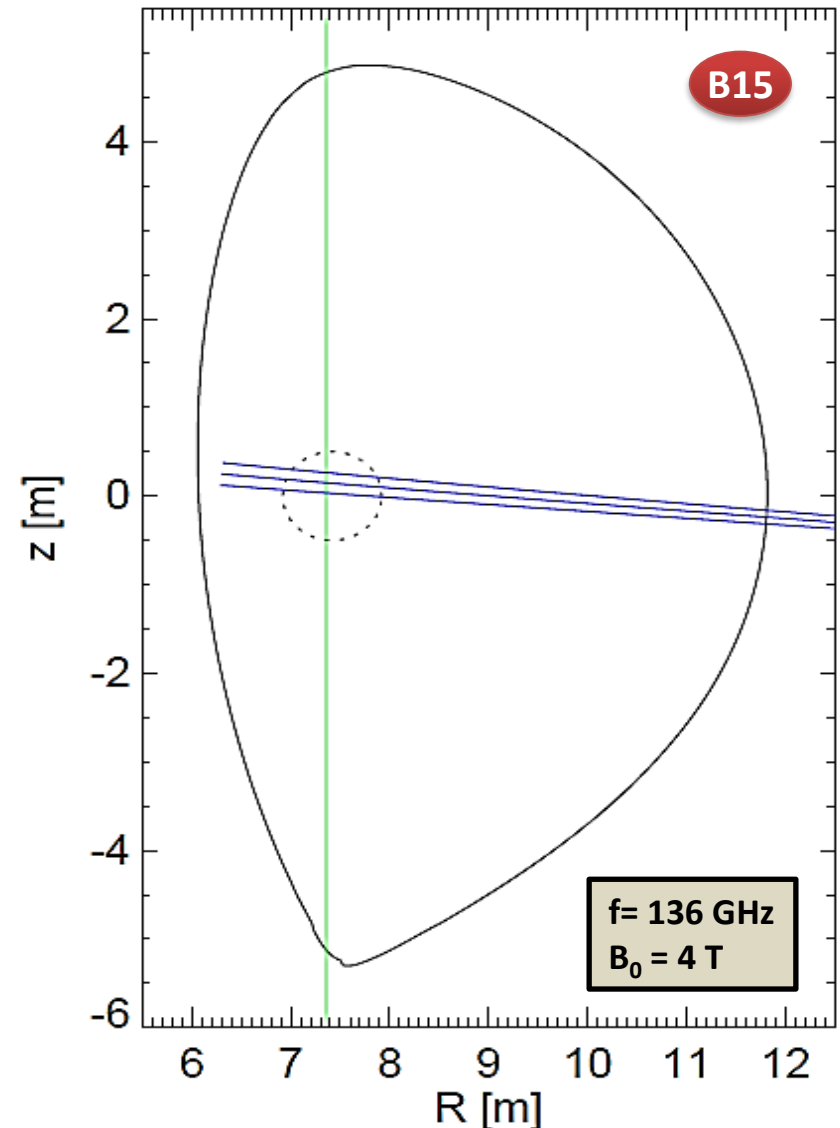
All Mid Module beams target the SRD region!

f-B₀ scenarios qualified for SRD

Frequency (GHz)	Central magnetic field (Tesla)			
136	3.8	4.0	4.2	
170	5.0		5.2	
204	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.4
238	6.6	6.8	7.0	

Linear absorption becomes effective (> 10%) after density threshold ($n_e > 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$)

Reflection(s) of the EC beam to the inner/outer wall are not taken into account



Conclusion – Discussion of results



Core ECRH

- ❑ Launch conditions at the Mid Modules of the EC port plug, depending on f - B_0 combination, provide satisfactory operation within current SRD requirements
- ❑ Parasitic absorption is measurable for lower B_0 , because cold ECR is located in HFS and beam path becomes longer in regions far from 1st harmonic absorption
- ❑ Frequency option **238 GHz** more effective for B_0 ranging from 7.5 T to 8.5 T
- ❑ Frequency option **136 GHz** more effective for B_0 larger than 3.5 T
 - ▷ First step in the analysis of **DEMO low-AR scenario** (ongoing work 2023 – 24)

EC-assisted breakdown

- ❑ All beam conditions from the Mid Modules cross the BKD region
- ❑ Optimal/required gyrotron frequency depends on the central magnetic field:
 - ▷ **136 GHz** for $3.7 \text{ T} < B_0 < 4.3 \text{ T}$ (*relevant to low-AR scenario*)
 - ▷ **170 GHz** for $4.9 \text{ T} < B_0 < 5.3 \text{ T}$
 - ▷ **204 GHz** for $5.7 \text{ T} < B_0 < 6.5 \text{ T}$
 - ▷ **238 GHz** for $6.5 \text{ T} < B_0 < 7.1 \text{ T}$ (*relevant to high magnetic field scenario*)

} (*as seen in HCD 2021 & 2022 reports*)

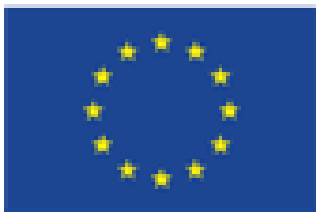


Current design may fulfil the SRD goals for BH & BKD

References – Acknowledgements



1	Tsironis C.	Beam tracing ECCD calculations for the optimization of the DEMO EC system design	WP16-HCD-4.1.6-T010-D001, WP17-HCD-4.1.6-T010-D001, WP18-HCD-4.1.6-T007-D002, WP19-HCD-4.1.6-T015-D001, WP20-HCD-4.1.6-T015-D002 (2016 – 2020)
2	Tsironis C.	Beam – tracing evaluations of the configuration performances	WP21-HCD-S.01.01-T002-D002 (2021)
3	Siccinio M.	EU DEMO1 Reference Design (March 2019)	https://idm.euro-fusion.org/?uid=2NT5PD
4	Tran M. Q.	HCD System Requirements Document for FP9 (version 3.2)	https://idm.euro-fusion.org/?uid=2NV496
5	Poli E.	TORBEAM, a beam tracing code for electron-cyclotron waves in tokamak plasmas	Comp. Phys. Commun. 136, 90 (2001)
6	Pereverzev G. V.	ASTRA - an automatic system for transport analysis in a tokamak	IPP Report 5/42 (1991)
7	Staebler G. M.	A theory-based transport model with comprehensive physics	Phys. Plasmas 14, 055909 (2007)
8	Poli E.	Electron Cyclotron Current Drive efficiency in DEMO plasmas	Nucl. Fusion 53, 013011 (2012)
9	Spaeh P.	WPHCD-EC2019_EQUATORIAL_LAUNCHER_V2_CATIA model	https://idm.euro-fusion.org/?uid=2NLLLX
10	Moro A.	Study of the optical design for dual-frequency launchers at 136-170 or 170-204 GHz	WP21-HCD-S.01.01-T002-D001 (2021)
1	Zohm H.	Update on DCT exploration of options	https://idm.euro-fusion.org/uid=2QBPE4



This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium, funded by the European Union via the Euratom Research and Training Programme (Grant Agreement No 101052200 – EUROfusion). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the European Commission can be held responsible for them.