

# The PION code

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Power deposition model
- Fokker-Planck model
- Modified dielectric tensor due to non-thermal ions
- Experimental validation
- Conclusions

# Introduction

- In the late eighties at JET quantities directly affected by ICRF heated fast ions began to be measured routinely (non-thermal neutron rates, fast ion energy contents etc.)
- The experimentalists started to ask why the useless theory types, in spite of their fancy codes, could not model the measured quantities.
- It was quite clear that with the computers 15 years ago it would be very challenging combine a full wave code even with 2D Fokker-Planck code.
- We therefore started to develop simplified modelling that, as we see it, contains the most essential elements. The result was the PION\* code.
- PION is run routinely in CHAIN2 at JET

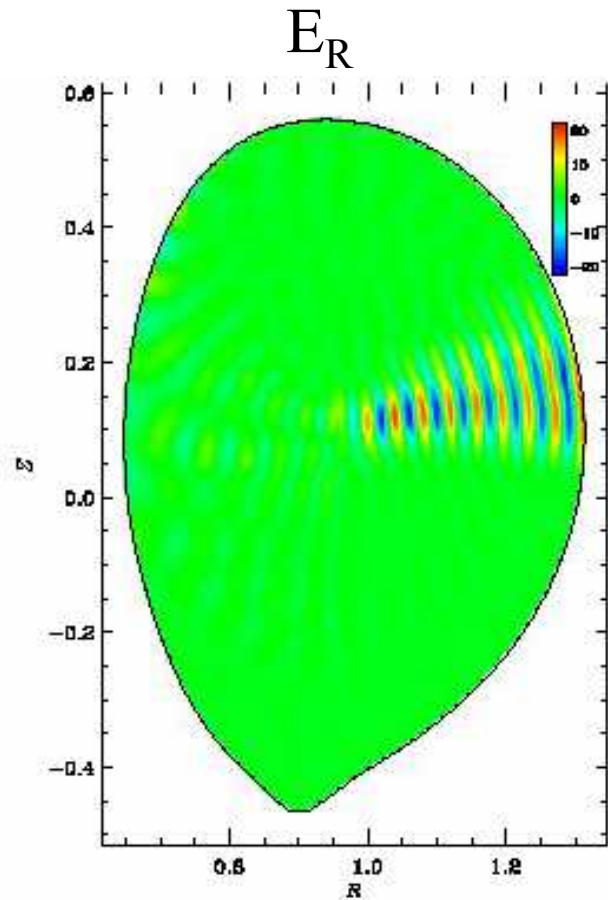
\*L.-G. Eriksson, T. Hellsten and U. Willén, Nucl. Fusion **33** (1993) 1037.

# Power deposition model

- The power deposition model was developed by Hellsten and Villard\*
- It is based on a fundamental observation of the behaviour of wave fields in a Tokamak

T. Hellsten and L. Villard, Nuclear Fusion **28**, 285 (1998).

# Wave fields for strong & weak damping

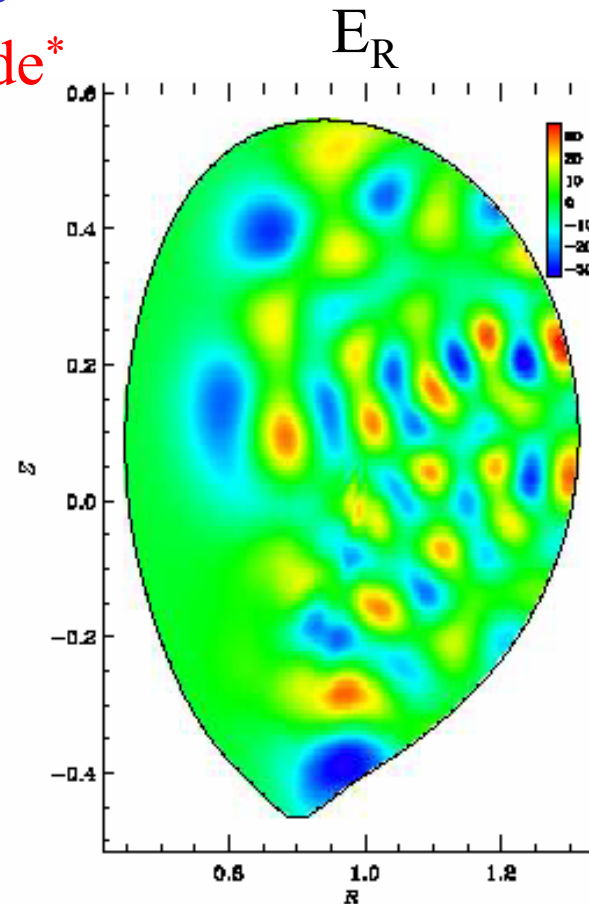


LION code\*

JET,  
(H)D

$n_H/n_D \sim$   
5%

$T_{||H} =$   
20keV  
 $N_\phi = 25$



JET,  
( $^3\text{He}$ )D

$n_{\text{He}}/n_D \sim$   
5%

$T_{||\text{He}} =$   
5keV  
 $N_\phi = 25$

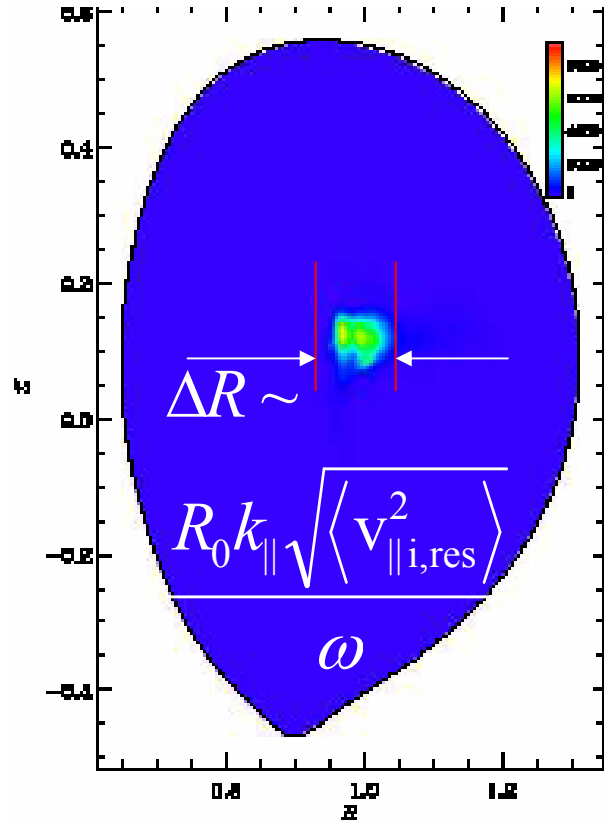
Strong damping, focussing  
of the wave at first passage.

Weak damping, the wave  
field fills much of the cavity;

\*L. Villard et al., Computer Physics Reports **4**, 95 (1986).

Strong

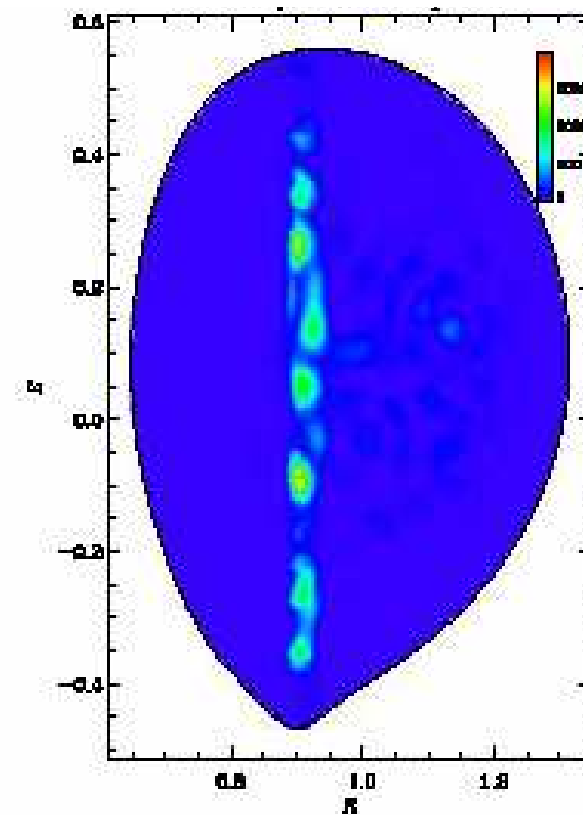
Total absorbed power



Power deposition controlled by Doppler broadening of the cyclotron resonance ( $\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} = n \omega_{ci}$ )

Weak

Total absorbed power



Power deposition determined by wave field distribution and the absorption strength along the cyclotron resonance and

- In a case with medium strong absorption, there will be a mix of the two fundamental cases.
- From the power deposition point of view, two quantities are important to estimate well:
  - The averaged square parallel velocity of the resonating ion species.
  - The damping strength of the different species.
- Both depend on the distribution function of the resonating species.



It is important to have a consistency between the power deposition and Fokker-Planck calculations.

- Ansatz for the flux surface averaged Poynting flux (or power absorbed within a flux surface).

$$P(s) = P(s = 1) \left[ \alpha \bar{P}_S(s) + (1 - \alpha) \bar{P}_W(s) \right]$$

$$\bar{P}_S(s) = \sum_j \bar{P}_{S,j}(s)$$

Represents limit of strong damping.

$$\bar{P}_S(s) = \sum_j \bar{P}_{S,j}(s)$$

Represents limit of weak damping.

$$\alpha = \alpha(a_s) \approx a_s^2$$

$a_s$  is the single pass absorption coefficient calculated in the mid-plane

- Flux surface averaged power density

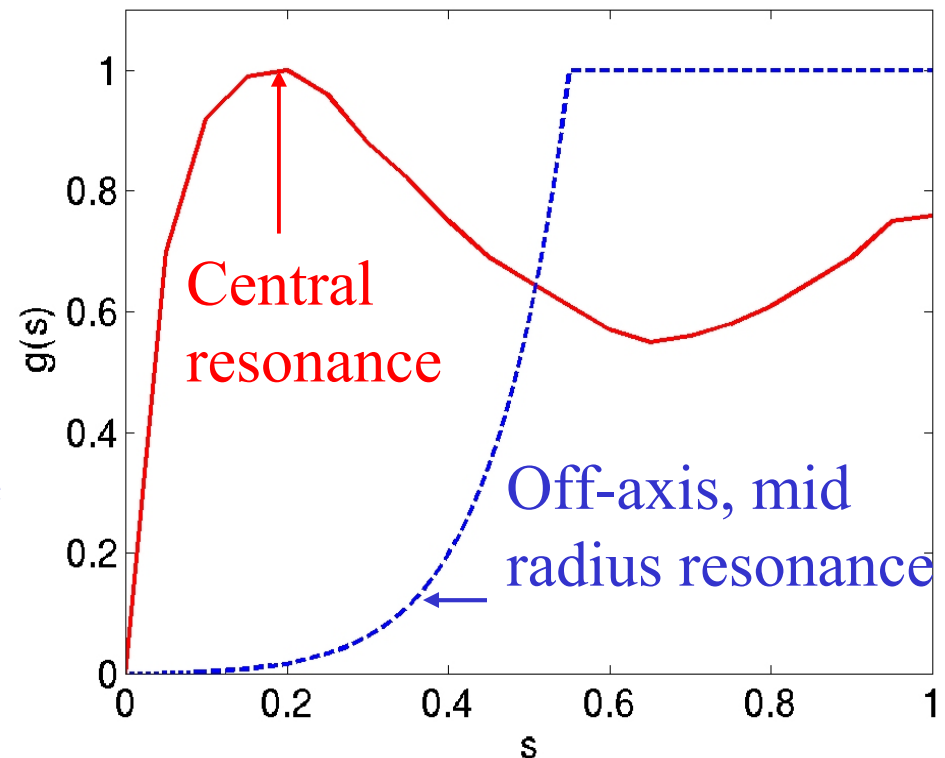
$$p(s) = \frac{dP(s) / ds}{dV / ds}$$



- The strong damping,  $P_s(s)$ , can easily be computed by a simple ray-tracing (now used instead of model<sup>1</sup>).

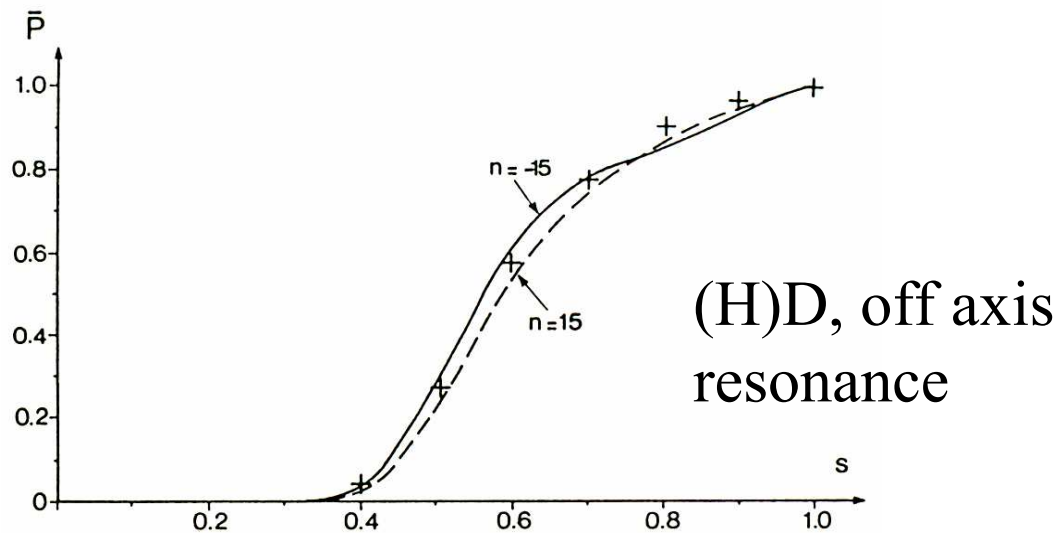
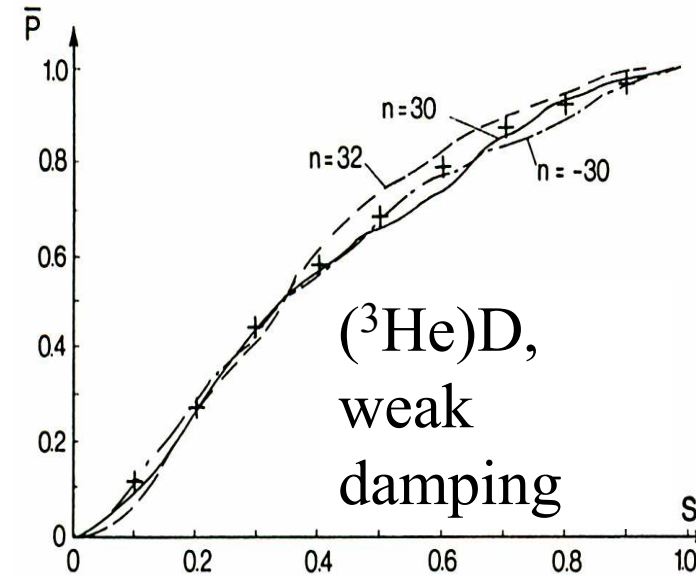
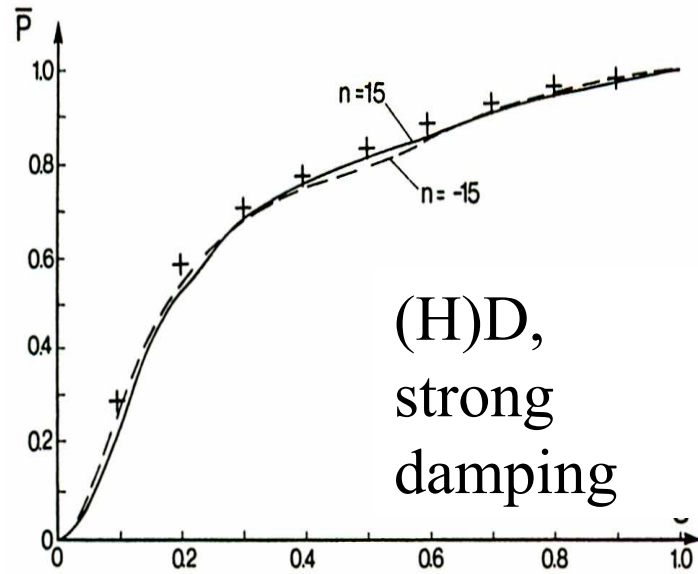
- Ansatz: 
$$\bar{P}_{W,j}(s) = C \int_0^s g(s') a_j(s') ds' \quad ; \quad \sum_j \bar{P}_{W,j}(1) = 1$$

- $g(s)$  was obtained by averaging power depositions in the weak limit, calculated by the LION code, over small changes in toroidal mode numbers and densities.



<sup>1</sup>T. Hellsten and L. Villard, Nuclear Fusion **28**, 285 (1998).

- Examples of comparison between the model and the LION code.



# Fokker-Planck model

- The problem when one starts to do modelling on real experiments is that the power densities normally are very high, several MW/m<sup>3</sup> are typical in e.g. JET.
- Fast ions in the multi MeV range are therefore created.
- The 2D Fokker-Planck codes available at JET at the time (late eighties) could cope with 0.1- 0.2 MW/m<sup>3</sup>.
- We therefore decided to go for a simplified 1D Fokker-Planck model.

- In PION a 1D Fokker-Planck equation equation for the pitch angle averaged distribution function,

$$F(\mathbf{v}, s, t) = \int_{-1}^1 f \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{v}}{v_{\parallel}} \right\rangle \xi d\xi / \int_{-1}^1 \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{v}}{v_{\parallel}} \right\rangle \xi d\xi$$

( $\xi = v_{\parallel 0}/v$ ) is solved:

$$\frac{\partial F(\mathbf{v}, s, t)}{\partial t} = \bar{C}(F) + \bar{Q}(F)$$

A finite difference scheme with adaptive time step and grid is used to solve the 1D Fokker-Planck equation.



- Approximate form of the RF operator

$$\bar{Q}(F) = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left[ v^2 D_{RF}(v) \frac{\partial F}{\partial v} \right]$$

$$D_{RF}(v) = K_0 \int_{\xi_R}^1 \left( \frac{B_R}{B_1} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1 - \xi^2}{(\xi^2 - \xi_R^2)^{1/2}} H(v_{\perp R}) \xi d\xi$$

$$H(v_{\perp R}) = \left| E_+ J_{n-1} \left( \frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp R}}{\omega_{ci}} \right) + E_- J_{n+1} \left( \frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp R}}{\omega_{ci}} \right) \right|^2$$

$$K_0 \sim |E_+|^2$$

Is normalised to give the power density  
obtained from the power deposition code.

- From the solution of the Fokker-Planck equation we can easily calculate the following quantities.

$$\gamma_+^j = \frac{p_+^j}{p_+^{M,j}} \quad , \quad \gamma_-^j = \frac{p_-^j}{p_-^{M,j}} \quad , \quad \gamma_c^j = \frac{p_c^j}{p_c^{M,j}}$$

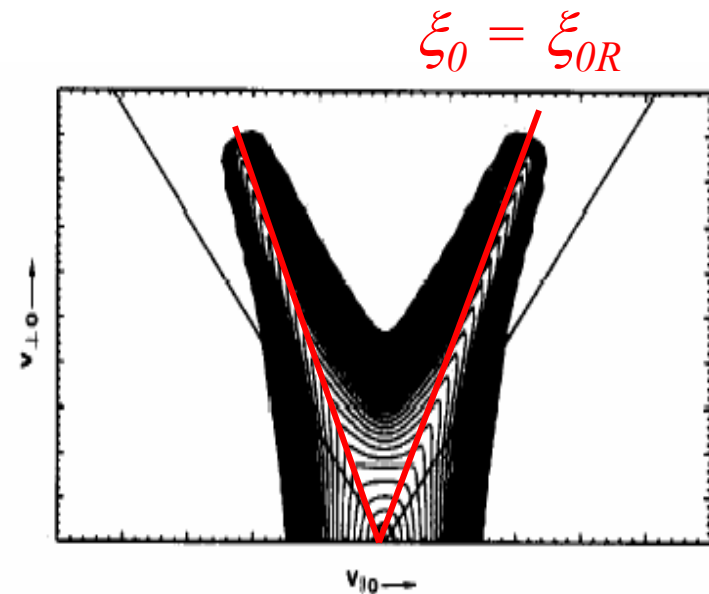
- Where
  - +/-/c denotes powers absorbed due o the  $|E_+|^2 / |E_-|^2 / 2\text{Re}(E_+ E_-^*)$  components of the electric field;
  - $M$  denotes the absorption by a equivalent Maxwellian

- The averaged parallel velocity of a species at the cyclotron resonance is estimated with a formula,

$$\langle v_{\parallel,j}^2 \rangle \approx \frac{1}{n_j} \int_0^{\infty} \xi_{eff}^2(v) F_j(v) 4\pi v^2 dv$$

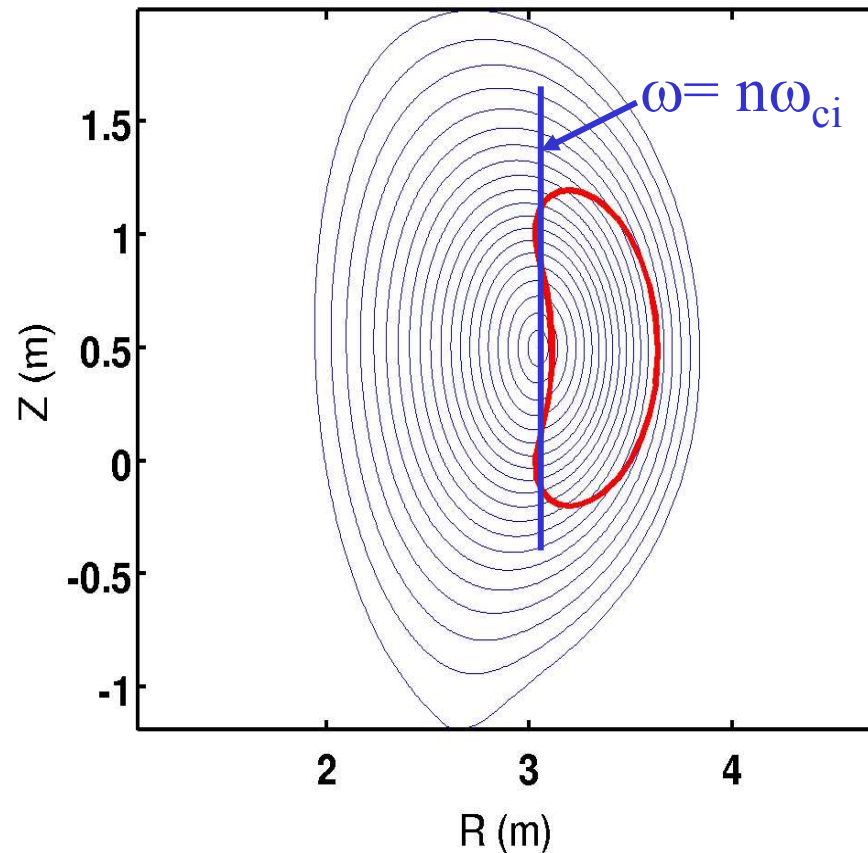
$$\xi_{eff}^2(v) = \frac{1}{3} \frac{1 + \left(\frac{v}{v_*}\right)^2}{1 + \left(\frac{v}{v_*}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{v}{v_*}\right)^4}$$

$$v_* \sim v_\gamma$$



- The physics basis is that the strength of the pitch angle scattering  $\sim (v_\gamma / v)^3$ .

- It soon became obvious that the orbit width of typical ICRF heated ions can be very large in machines like JET.
- The resonating ions tend to be trapped and pile up with their turning points close to the exact cyclotron resonance.



- The collision coefficients at non-thermal energies are therefore averaged over orbits of trapped particles with turning points close to the resonance.
- The fast ion pressure profile, the profiles of collisional power transfer etc. are re-distributed over the same orbits.



## Influence of the distribution function on the power deposition

- The absorbed power density can be written as

$$p_c^j(\vec{E}) = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \left\{ |E_+|^2 \left[ \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^\alpha + \varepsilon_{yy}^\alpha) - 2 \text{Re} \varepsilon_{xx}^\alpha \right] + \right. \\ \left. |E_-|^2 \left[ \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^\alpha + \varepsilon_{yy}^\alpha) + 2 \text{Re} \varepsilon_{xx}^\alpha \right] + \right. \\ \left. 2 \text{Re}(E_+ E_-^*) \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^\alpha + \varepsilon_{yy}^\alpha) \right\}$$

- Using the gamma factors discussed earlier we calculate the anti-Hermitian parts of the dielectric tensor.

- We have for a general distribution function:

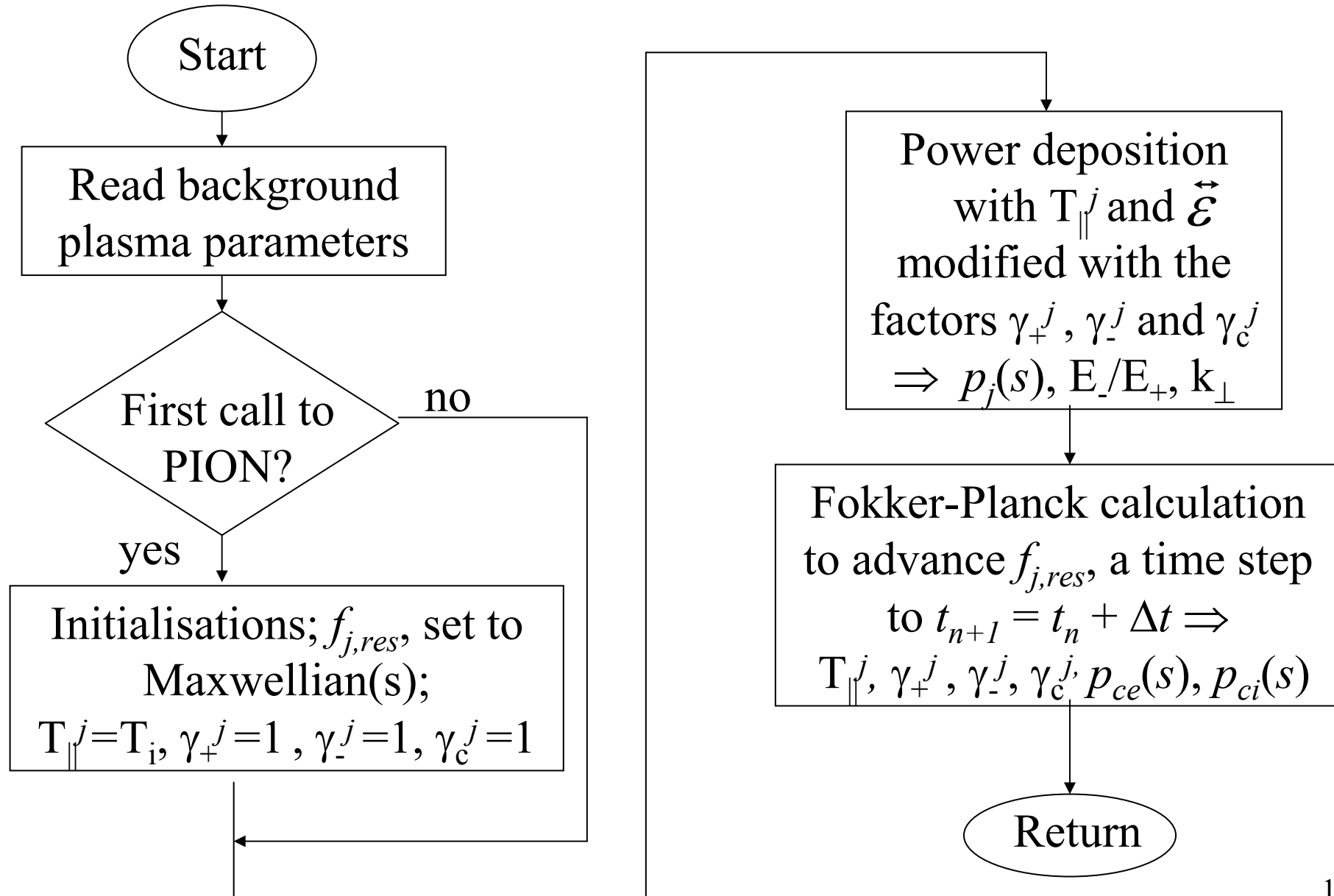
$$\text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^j + \varepsilon_{yy}^j) - 2\text{Re}\varepsilon_{xy}^j = \gamma_+^j \left[ \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^{M,j} + \varepsilon_{yy}^{M,j}) - 2\text{Re}\varepsilon_{xy}^{M,j} \right]$$

$$\text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^j + \varepsilon_{yy}^j) + 2\text{Re}\varepsilon_{xy}^j = \gamma_-^j \left[ \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^{M,j} + \varepsilon_{yy}^{M,j}) + 2\text{Re}\varepsilon_{xy}^{M,j} \right]$$

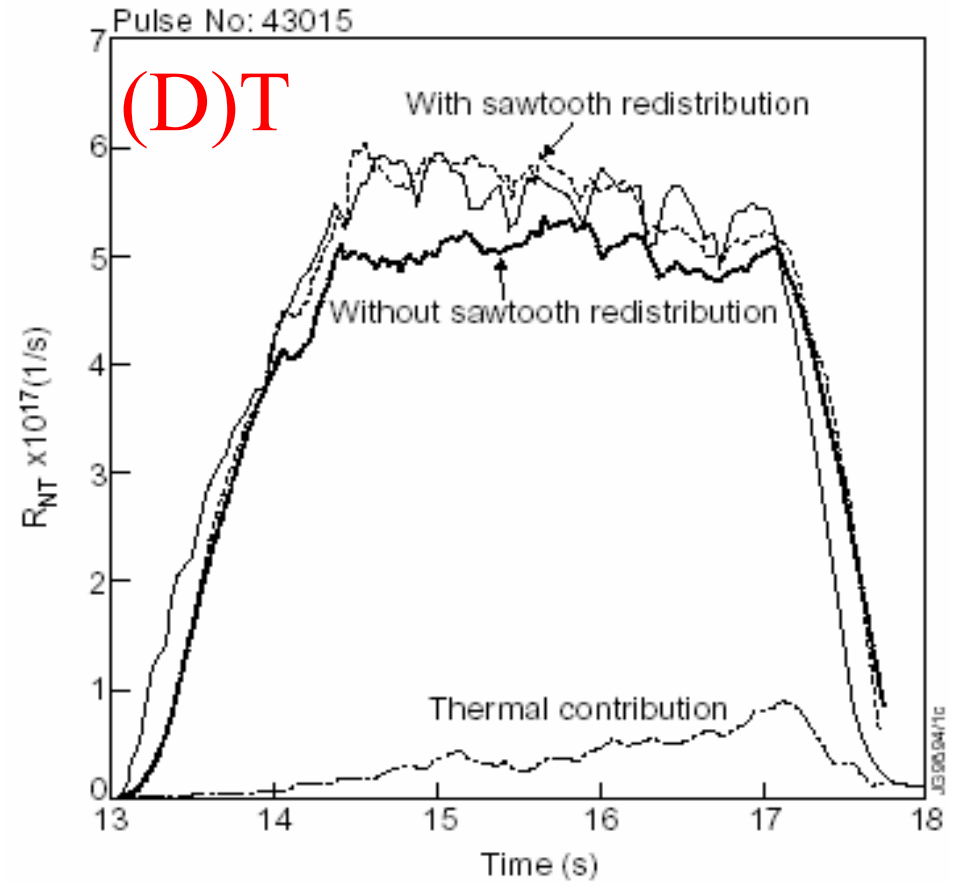
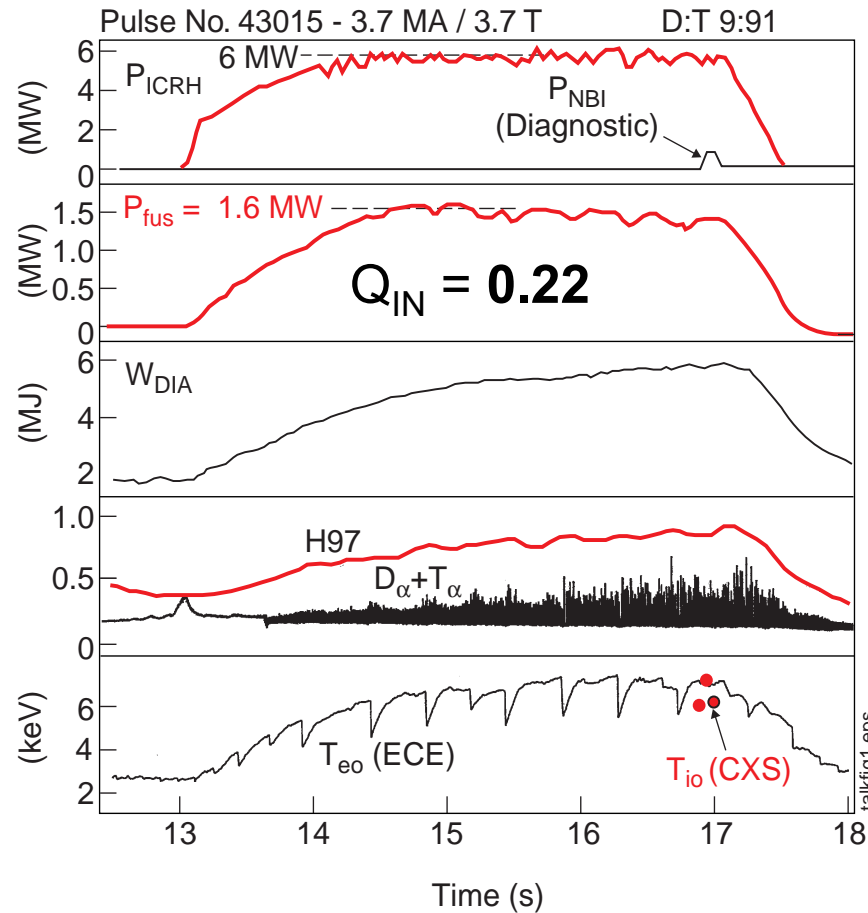
$$\text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^j - \varepsilon_{yy}^j) = \gamma_c^j \left[ \text{Im}(\varepsilon_{xx}^{M,j} - \varepsilon_{yy}^{M,j}) \right]$$

- Three equations  $\Rightarrow$  we can solve for the three unknowns:  $\text{Im}\varepsilon_{xx}^j$ ,  $\text{Im}\varepsilon_{yy}^j$  and  $\text{Re}\varepsilon_{xy}^j$
- By using Kramers Kronig's relations we can also calculate approximate expressions for the Hermitian parts of the dielectric tensor

# Flow chart: call to PION



# Analysis of JET discharges



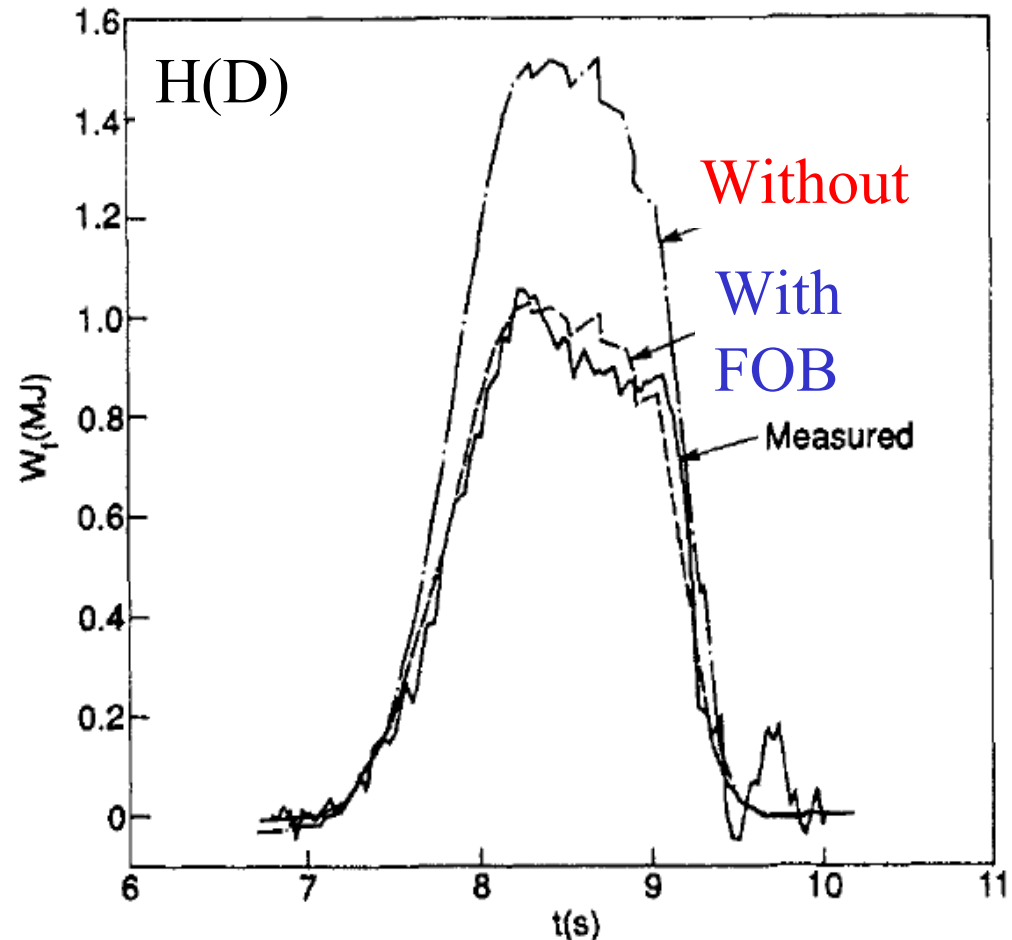
- Modelling in good agreement with experiment.

D. Start, D. Start et al., Nuclear Fusion **39**, 321 (1999);

\*L.-G. Eriksson, M. Mantsinen et al., Nuclear Fusion **39**, 337 (1999).

# Finite orbit width (FOW) effects

- The first version of PION did not include FOW.
- The figure shows a comparison with experimental results with and without modelling of FOB in PION.
- **Conclusion: if you want to do serious modelling of ICRF heated JET plasma don't even think about leaving out finite orbit width effects.**



#12298;  $n_{e0} = 3.6 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$

$T_e = 7.0$ ;  $P_{\text{ICRF}} = 8.0 \text{ MW}$ .

# Conclusion

- The PION approach includes the most important effects of ICRF heating in a simplified way.
- The results obtained tend to be robust.
- PION has been extensively benchmarked against JET results.
- Obviously, the PION approach has many limitations, e.g. cases with directed wave spectra and strong ICRF induced spatial transport cannot be handled.
- For detailed studies of ICRF physics a more comprehensive approach is needed.

# Second harmonic T heating in DT

