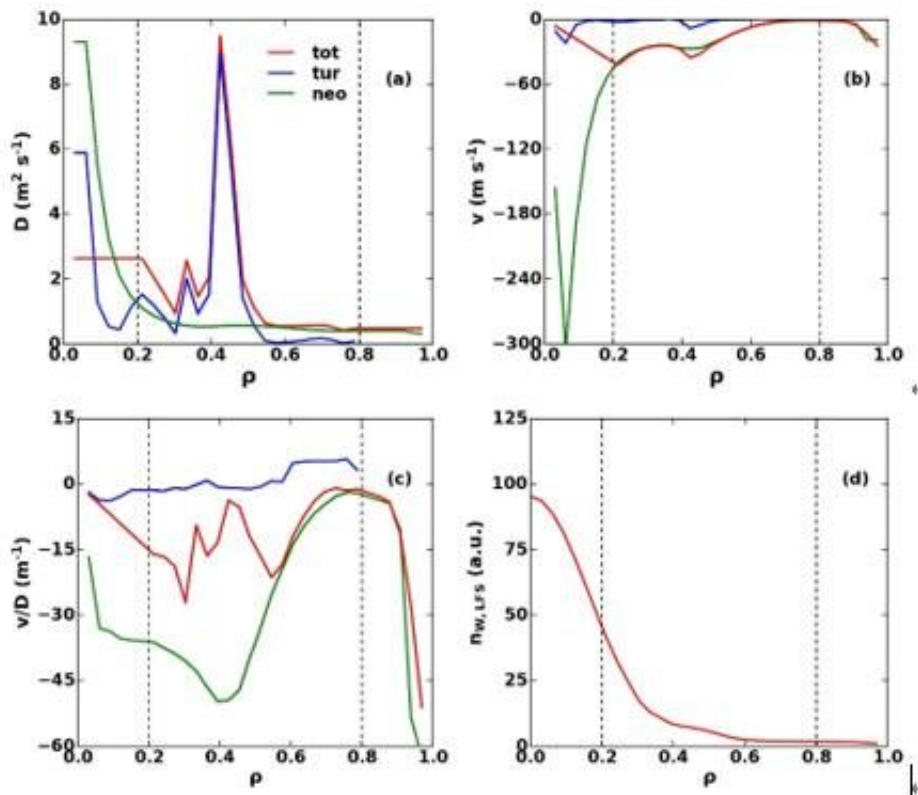


# New study reveals key factors in core heavy impurities transport and control on EAST

February 15 2022, by Zhang Nannan



Radial profiles of (a) diffusion coefficient, (b) pinch velocity, (c) the ratio of pinch velocity to diffusion coefficient, (d) tungsten (W) density of 0 flux in the low field side in a hybrid discharge (shot #71326) on EAST. Credit: Shi Shengyu

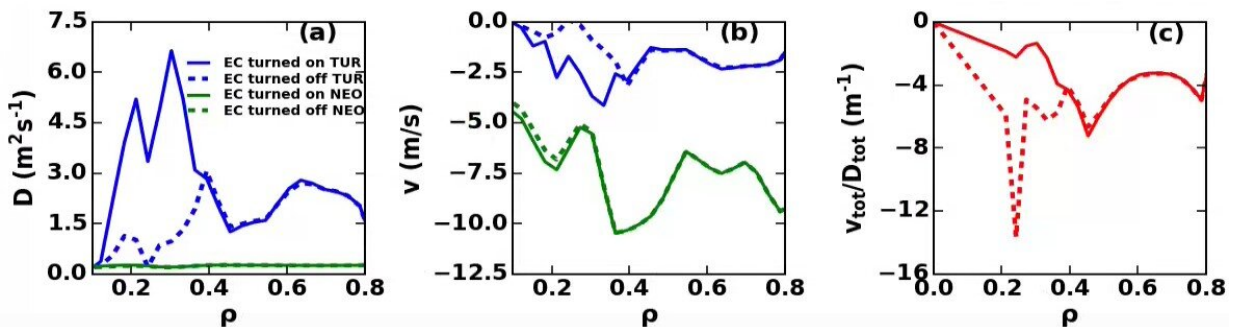
Heavy/high Z metal materials are the preferred materials for plasma facing components in International Thermonuclear Experimental

Reactor (ITER) due to their excellent properties. However, at thermonuclear fusion relevant temperatures, the accumulation of heavy/high-Z particles in the core region may significantly cool the plasmas, deteriorating the plasma performance and leading to H to L-mode back transition and even further to radiative collapse.

Therefore, it is important to further understand the core heavy impurities transport so as to control their central accumulation for the stable operation of Tokamak fusion devices.

A research team from the Hefei Institutes of Physical Science (HFIPS) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences studied the core heavy impurities transport in the hybrid and fully non-inductive scenarios on Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST). They identified the dominant mechanism for the core heavy impurities accumulation and control.

The researchers found that the toroidal rotation and density peaking of the bulk [plasma](#) are usually large in the central region, which is particularly prone to the heavy impurity accumulation. With the advanced integrated modeling, they reproduced these experimental observations and identified that the large inward neoclassical pinch/convection velocity of heavy impurity produced by large toroidal rotation and density of the bulk plasma was the one of the main causes of the accumulation.



Profile of (a) diffusion coefficient, (b) pinch velocity, (c) the ratio of total pinch velocity to total diffusion coefficient of tungsten (W) with/o ECRH (EC) on EAST. Credit: Shi Shengyu

Aside from that, they found that increasing the electron temperature and its gradient by electron cyclotron resonance heating could enlarge the linear growth rate of trapped electron mode, so that the turbulent transport especially the turbulent diffusion is large enough to offset the unfavorable neoclassical pinch of heavy impurity to avoid the heavy [impurity](#) accumulation.

Related results have been published in *Nuclear Fusion*.

**More information:** Shengyu Shi et al, Understanding core tungsten (W) transport and control in an improved high-performance fully non-inductive discharge on EAST, *Nuclear Fusion* (2021). [DOI: 10.1088/1741-4326/ac3e3c](https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-4326/ac3e3c)

Shengyu Shi et al, Understanding core heavy impurity transport in a hybrid discharge on EAST, *Nuclear Fusion* (2021). [DOI: 10.1088/1741-4326/ac3e3b](https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-4326/ac3e3b)

Shengyu Shi et al, Illustrating the physics of core tungsten (W) transport in a long-pulse steady-state H-mode discharge on EAST, *Nuclear Fusion* (2022). [DOI: 10.1088/1741-4326/ac548b](https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-4326/ac548b)

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[10.1088/1741-4326/ac32f0](https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-4326/ac32f0)

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