

Integration of fiber Bragg grating temperature sensors in plasma facing components of the WEST tokamak

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Integration of fiber Bragg grating temperature sensors in plasma facing components of the WEST tokamak

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	8	(Received 1 February 2018; accepted 4 June 2018; published online XX XX XXXX)
	9	Plasma Facing Components (PFC) temperature measurement is mandatory to ensure safe high power
	10	and long pulse tokamak operation. IR thermography systems which are widely used in magnetic fusions
	11	devices become challenged with the choice of tungsten as a PFC material in the ITER tokamak, mainly
	12	due to emissivity uncertainties and reflection issues in a hot environment. Embedded temperature
	13	measurements are foreseen to cross-check the IR thermography measurements. Fiber Bragg grating
	14	sensors are potentially of great interest for this application because they are immune to electromagnetic
	15	interference and allow the measurement of a large number of temperature spots on a single fiber.
	16	Four optical fiber temperature sensing probes, each of them including 11 regenerated fiber Bragg
	17	gratings equally spaced by 12.5 mm (equivalent to one ITER-like tungsten monoblock), have been
	18	specifically designed and manufactured for the WEST project (W-tungsten Environment and Steady
	19	State Tokamak). The four probes are embedded in W-coated graphite components at two different
	20	distances from the surface, 3.5 mm and 7 mm, to cover a wide range of temperatures up to 900
	21	°C. This paper addresses the design and integration issues and the qualification and performance
	22	assessment performed in the laboratory. It also shows the first measurements of this new diagnostic
	23	achieved in a tokamak environment during baking of the machine and during early diverted plasma
	24	exposure. Published by AIP Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5024514

25 I. INTRODUCTION

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26 Fiber Bragg Gratings (FBGs) are well-established strain and temperature transducers finding numerous applications in 27 28 both scientific and industrial fields.¹ They present great inter-29 est in the field of nuclear fusion research because they are immune to electromagnetic interference (EMI). FBG strain or 30 31 temperature sensors are foreseen in the ITER tokamak in the 32 magnet structure (temperature between 4.5 K and 300 K),² 33 in the helium cooled lithium lead Test Blanket Module³ and also in the vacuum vessel.⁴ Such applications rely on specif-34 35 ically developed optical fiber-based sensors that should be 36 tested in a real tokamak environment before integration in 37 the ITER environment. FBG strain gauges and temperature 38 sensors have successfully been developed and installed in the 39 Joint European Torus (JET)⁵ and ASDEX Upgrade (AUG)⁶ 40 tokamaks to measure forces induced on the vacuum vessel 41 during disruption and deformation of the passive stabilizing 42 loop induced during plasma experiment, respectively. In both 43 cases, FBG sensors were fixed to components located in remote 44 areas, not directly exposed to the plasma heat load: on the 45 top and bottom vessel restraints support (legs) in JET and **02** 46 on the copper surface of the stabilizing loops in AUG. The 47 sensors used in JET and AUG are therefore working mainly 48 in the low temperature or medium range, typically below 49 400 °C; thereafter, the Bragg grating may vanish.⁷ FBG tem-50 perature measurement beyond 400 °C is a challenging task and currently a major research topic. Among the various solutions considered to develop temperature-resistant FBGs, the regeneration process¹ shows that the FBG can survive above 900 °C with long-term use (>9000 h). This is potentially of great interest to monitor the bulk temperature of the Plasma Facing Components (PFCs) and what we propose to test in the WEST (W-tungsten Environment and Steady State Tokamak) project.⁸

The WEST project consists in transforming the Tore Supra tokamak in an X-point divertor configuration while keeping its long pulse capability, in order to test the ITER divertor technology.⁸ The main goal is to test the actively cooled tungsten (W) Plasma Facing Units (PFUs) representative of the ITER divertor target^{9,10} under high heat load (in the 10-20 MW m^{-2} range). In WEST, each PFU is composed of 35 W monoblocks of individual size 28 mm \times 12 mm \times 26 mm (width \times depth \times height) assembled with a gap of 0.5 mm on a CuCrZr heat sink tube.¹¹ As the completion of the ITER-like target in WEST is expected to require more time than the tokamak platform, it is planned to start the operation in 2017 with a mix of actively cooled ITER-like PFUs made of tungsten and non-actively cooled PFUs made of graphite with a thin coating of tungsten (~15 μ m) in the lower divertor.¹² Under high heat load, the W-coated graphite component will rapidly heat, which affords an opportunity to test the regenerated FBG technology in a real tokamak environment with high temperature excursion (up to or beyond 1000 °C). Graphite is easy to machine, it is a low cost component, and it has no risk of crack formation such as tungsten after machining the space to

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81 house the diagnostic (hole or groove). In order to test the feasi-82 bility to monitor the PFU bulk temperature, we have designed 83 and manufactured 4 temperature sensors including 11 gratings. Probes are embedded in a side groove of the graphite compo-84 85 nent at two different distances from the surface. One groove 86 is machined at 7 mm from the surface to test the FBG below 87 800 °C (lower FBG) and ensure the proper functioning of the 88 FBG diagnostic and one groove at 3.5 mm to test the FBG 89 beyond 800 °C (upper FBG) in order to find the maximum 90 temperature threshold with the FBG system developed for WEST.

This paper is organized as follows. The diagnostic spec-91 92 ification, WEST environment, and thermal behavior of the W-coated graphite PFU are summarized in Sec. II. The FBG 93 94 design and setup optimized according to the thermal behavior of the components, as well as the signal processing, are pre-95 96 sented in Sec. III. The integration of the fiber in the W-coated 97 graphite PFU and the cabling through the tokamak environ-98 ment are presented in Sec. IV. The FBG system, standalone or 99 mounted in the PFU, is tested and characterized in laboratory 100 experiments with the thermostatically controlled water bath, 101 tubular furnace, and halogen lamps (Sec. V). First experimen-102 tal results obtained during baking and early diverted plasma 103 exposure with the FBG diagnostic installed in the WEST tokamak are presented in Sec. VI. 104

105 II. SPECIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE WEST FBG DIAGNOSTIC 106

107 A. Diagnostic specification and requirements

The goal of the FBG diagnostic (called DTFIB#1) in 108 109 WEST is to monitor the bulk temperature in order to (1) protect the component and its coating to avoid any excessive ther-110 mal dilatation and cracks formation,¹² (2) cross-calibrate the 111 IR thermography system which is disturbed by the emissivity 112 113 uncertainties and potential reflection in the hot environment,¹³ (3) compute the plasma heat load as depicted in Ref. 14, and 114 115 finally (4) test the feasibility to use an FBG system directly 116 into the PFCs. In this context, the diagnostic specifications 117 and requirements are defined as follows:

- 118 • The number of fibers to be installed in the tokamak is 119 4 in order to focus on the feasibility first and investi-120 gate the stability of the measurement at different toroidal 121 locations, assuming that the heat load is the same 122 (toroidal symmetry) before any further deployment in 123 the machine which is foreseen after the completion of the 124 full actively cooled divertor (DTFIB#2 project currently under progress). 125
- 126 Temperature measurement is in the range of 70 °C without any plasma (minimum temperature of the machine 127 128 foreseen in ITER) and 1200 °C during plasma discharge. 129 The accuracy of the system should be about 20 °C at high temperature. 130
- 131 The size of the grating and positioning of the Bragg 132 peaks in the spectral bandwidth have to be defined in order to measure the temperature gradient at the FBG 133 134 sensor up to 45 °C/mm (because the plasma heat load is peaked on the surface 14). 135

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- The number of FBGs is 11 by fiber to cover the spatial extent of the plasma heat load along the W-coated graphite PFU. Each of them is equally spaced by 12.5 mm which is the typical width of W monoblocks in ITER.¹¹
- The optical fiber should be free (to avoid any mechanical strain) and is inserted in a metallic capillary for protection during manipulation and also for the setting in the component (using graphite adhesive). The diameter of the capillary should be of the order of the mm to minimize the intrusive effect of the FBG on the thermal behavior of the component. The total fiber length from the sensors up to the sealing flange should be ~ 3 m to reach the port flange (which is then connected to another optical fiber to join the electronic gallery where the FBG interrogator and acquisition system are based).
- The time duration of acquisition is expected to be couple of minutes with the non-actively cooled components (plasma experiment will be limited in time to avoid excessive temperature of the component¹²). Data acquisition should be 10 Hz at minimum (set by the thermal time response of the graphite component and a relatively short time duration of the experiment expected before the completion of the fully actively cooled divertor).
- The expected number of cycles during WEST phase I (with inertial W-coated graphite PFUs) is 2000. The diagnostic must survive for about 2 years in the tokamak.
- Acceptable degradation of the measurement (long-term drift) along the expected operation period is about 10° .

Most of these requirements were achieved or are expected to be feasible based on initial testing. Although the accu-**0**6 racy of the measurement at high temperature and long-term drift cannot be evaluated yet, this would require high power and repetitive plasma experiments which are foreseen later on during the WEST experimental program.

B. WEST environment

WEST is based on the "tokamak" concept of plasma 172 173 magnetic confinement, in which the plasma is contained in a doughnut-shaped vessel (Fig. 1). The plasma is kept away from 174



FIG. 1. Interior picture of the WEST tokamak showing the upper and lower divertor, the baffle, and port plug numbers (Q4A, Q5A, and Q6A).

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177 the walls by strong magnetic fields produced by supercon-178 ducting coils surrounding the vessel and an electrical current 179 driven in the plasma. WEST is characterized by a strong magnetic field (3.8 T maximum) in the plasma chamber, a vacuum 180 condition (of the order of 10^{-5} Pa), an ambient temperature 181 of 70 °C during plasma operation and 200 °C during baking, 182 183 thermo-mechanical displacement (up to few mm) and vibra-184 tion due to plasma instabilities, and radiation exposure such as 185 photons, neutral particles, and neutrons. The fuel-a mixture 186 of deuterium and hydrogen, or helium-is heated to temperatures in excess of 50×10^6 degrees in the core plasma. Contrary 187 to ITER, WEST is a non-active tokamak device (there is no tri-188 tium injection), and therefore, it is not exposed to high nuclear 189 radiation background. In WEST, the heat flux attributed to the 190 plasma is of the order of 10 MW m⁻² on targets. In remote **Q4** 191 areas, between the divertor and baffle where the cabling has to 192 193 path through, the heat flux attributed to radiation and neutral particles is of the order of 10 kW m⁻².¹⁵ The device should 194 achieve steady-state and high power plasma operation up to 195 196 1000 s after the completion of the full actively cooled divertor 197 target. The diagnostic sensor should be installed in the lower 198 divertor, while the acquisition system (FBG interrogator) is 199 located outside the vacuum chamber (after passing through 200 the vacuum-tight access), in the electronic gallery about 50 m away from the machine. 201

202 C. WEST lower divertor and thermal behavior 203 of the W-coated graphite PFUs

The lower divertor is made of 12 sectors of 38 PFUs each 204 O5 205 (each sector having 30° toroidal extension). As the completion of the ITER-like target is expected to require more time than 206 207 the tokamak platform, it is planned to start the operation in 208 2017 with 6 actively cooled ITER-like PFUs (in which three 209 are manufactured by Japanese industrial and three by Chinese 210 industrial) and 450 non-actively cooled PFUs made of graphite 211 with a thin coating of tungsten (~15 μ m) in the lower divertor 212 (see Fig. 1). Each individual graphite PFU is divided into two parts, the High Field Side (HFS) and Low Field Side (LFS) 213 PFU. The size of the W-coated graphite PFUs is about 30 mm 214 large, 26 mm thick (height), and 326 mm and 256 mm long 215 for the HFS and LFS PFU, respectively. The FBG diagnostic 216 is installed in the LFS PFU because the heat load is expected 217 to be higher on this part. The material used is graphite R6710 218 **_Q6**9 from SGL (with the thermal conductivity of $K \sim 82 \text{ W m}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ at T = 200 °C), and the W-coating is about 15 μ m thick. Sur-220 face temperature should be limited to 1200 °C for standard 221 operation and further (up to 1800 °C) for a limited number of 222 experiments to avoid delamination of the W-coating.¹² 223

The thermal behavior of the W-coated graphite PFU is 224 simulated with finite-element calculation performed with the 225 ANSYS code, as depicted in Ref. 14. The plasma heat load dis-226 tribution, q_n (MW m⁻²), in the poloidal direction is computed 227 with the heuristic formulation (Gaussian-like distribution), 228 229 built with IR thermography measurement during carbon-wall operation,¹⁶ 230

$$q_n(x) \propto \exp\left[\left(\frac{S}{2\lambda_q}\right)^2 - \frac{x - x_0}{\lambda_q f_x}\right] \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{S}{2\lambda_q} - \frac{x - x_0}{Sf_x}\right), \quad 231$$

where x is the position along the target, x_0 is the strike point 232 position (i.e., the connection of the separatrix with the target), 233 λ_{α} is the heat flux decay length parameter in the edge plasma 234 region¹⁹ at the outboard midplane (usually called the scrape-235 off layer width of the order of few mm size), S is the power 236 spreading factor in the "private" region (i.e., the magnetically 237 shadowed region), and f_x is the magnetic flux expansion from 238 the outboard midplane to the PFU. The temperature distribu-239 tions reported at three different depths (surface, FBG upper, 240 and FBG lower locations) in the graphite PFU located on the 241 LFS are presented in Fig. 2 for the nominal high heat flux 242 scenario (i.e., with peak heat load $q_n = 10 \text{ MW m}^{-2}$) and 243 standard magnetic field configuration. After 5 s of heating, 244 the surface temperature reaches almost 1400 °C, while the 245 bulk temperature is expected to be about 850 °C and 600 °C 246 247 at 3.5 mm (FBG upper) and 7 mm (FBG lower) depths,



1400 Upper **FXP** configuration z = 0 mm divertor q=10MW.m⁻² / 5s 1200 z = 3 .5 mm (FBG-U) $\lambda_{a}=5mm$ z = 7 mm (FBG-L) S=1mm 1000 T_=70°C 800 T [°C] $45^{\circ}/mm$ 600 400 HES lower Baffl Private regior Scrape-Off laye divertor LFS 200 0 Graphite PFU - LFS 50 100 150 200 250 x [mm] Graphite PFU - Low Field Side (SGL R6710) HFS LFS 0 0 (a) (b)

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FIG. 3. Schematic picture of FBG showing the transmitted and reflected 261 262 spectrum.

263 respectively. The predicted plasma heat flux distribution leads 264 to a very steep temperature gradient in the component, about 45 °C/mm and 25 °C/mm in the private flux region for the upper 265 266 and lower FBGs, respectively (at 3.5 mm and 7 mm below the 267 surface). Such temperature gradients represent a challenge for O7 268 the design of the multiplexed FBG; the main issues are the 269 choice of the Bragg wavelengths in one side and the position 270 and length of the FBG in the other side.

III. FBG DESIGN AND SETUP FOR WEST 271

A. Multiplexed FBG design for WEST 272

273 A FBG consists of a spatially periodic modulation of the 274 refractive index created along a desired length of the core of 275 an optical fiber. A narrow spectral band of the incident light 276 within the fiber is reflected by successive coherent scattering from the index variations.¹⁷ The strongest interaction or mode 277 278 coupling occurs at the Bragg wavelength given by

$$\lambda_B = 2 n_e \Lambda,$$

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where n_e is the effective index of refraction (~1.46) and Λ 280 is the grating period. This leads to a single peak and valley 281 in reflected and transmitted light through the optical fiber (as 282 283 shown in Fig. 3). The principle of the strain or temperature 284 measurement is based on the determination of the wavelength 285 shift of the Bragg peak reflected by the grating that is induced by the changes of the grating period and by the thermo-optic 286 287 and elasto-optic coefficients. This "peak tracking" function is 288 ensured by using the FBG interrogator device using a wave-289 length tunable laser and logarithmic trans-impedance circuits 290 for the photo-detection. The most commonly used method 291 to write the FBG on the fiber core is based on conventional 292 interferometric setup with ultraviolet light taking advantage 293 of the photosensitivity of the germano-silicate optical fiber. 294 Multiplexed FBG aims to daisy chain multiple sensors with 301

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different Bragg wavelengths (chosen in the spectral bandwidth of the tunable laser) in order to get simultaneous measurements at different locations along a single optical fiber. Standard multiplexed FBGs for temperature measurements are commer-O84 cially available below 500 °C; thereafter, Bragg grating may vanish due to the erasure of the photowritten refractive index modulation. One way to extend the temperature measurement range is the regeneration process which allows increasing the temperature measurement beyond 900 °C, while keeping good metrological performances.¹ The thermal condition foreseen **-(39**0 in WEST and depicted in Sec. III (Fig. 2) requires the development of specific multiplexed and regenerated FBG temperature sensors. This has been carried out in the CEA List Institute which is committed to technological innovation in digital systems including architecture, hardware, and software applied to embedded systems.

The FBG diagnostic developed in WEST is equipped with an industrial multichannel FBG interrogator, based on a wavelength tunable laser, featuring full spectrum analysis with data rate at 10 Hz. The spectral bandwidth available to encode the FBG array is 120 nm covering the wavelength range from 1500 up to 1620 nm with a spectral resolution of 8 pm. In such a wavelength range, the thermal response of the Bragg shift varies from 10 pm/°C at 50 °C up to 20 pm/°C at 800 °C (as derived from the calibration curves), and the average value is of 14 pm/°C. To cover the 70-1200 °C temperature range expected in the bulk of the W-coated graphite PFU, the maximum shift of the Bragg peak is 15.8 nm. Due to the limited spectral bandwidth available, it was not possible to include 11 FBG arrays with such a gap between each FBG. The maximum temperature gradient expected between two consecutive FBGs is about 500 °C, which corresponds to about 7 nm shift of the Bragg peak. The Bragg wavelengths of two consecutive FBGs are therefore spatially spaced by 7 nm to avoid spectral overlapping. The Bragg wavelengths at room temperature are given in Table I.

The typical size of the gratings is about 3 mm, and the 337 space between two consecutive FBGs is 12.5 mm. The eleven 338 339 12.5 mm spaced FBGs are simultaneously regenerated using a high-temperature annealing process, as depicted in Ref. 1. 340 341 The process is performed with a homemade tubular furnace and uses a thermocouple near the FBG in order to control the 342 temperature during the thermal treatment. During the regen-343 eration protocol, the temperature of the furnace is raised to 344 345 920 °C which is the point triggering the regeneration for all the multiplexed FBGs. The full process, FBG photowrit-346 ing, followed by the regeneration process, has been applied 347 successfully to the four dedicated temperature probes. The 348 349 FBGs are photowritten onto a 150 μ m diameter single-mode 350 polyimide-coated silica-glass optical fiber inserted within 351 a 1 mm diameter metallic capillary hermetically sealed at 352 its extremity. The reflected spectrum measured at 70 °C

TABLE I. Bragg wavelengths of the FBGs at room temperature.

FBG	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#1
$\frac{1}{\lambda_{\text{Bragg}}}$ (nm)	1512	1519	1526	1533	1540	1547	1554	1561	1568	157



wavelenght [nm]

FIG. 4. Reflected spectrum as measured by the upper FBG installed in the WEST tokamak with a coolant loop at 70 °C. 382

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353 (the standard temperature of the machine before plasma opera-354 tion) is presented in Fig. 4 for one of the two upper FBGs (once 355 regeneration has been realized). Even if the overall reflected signal is low due to the regeneration process, the Bragg peak is 356 357 about 5 dB higher than the baseline which is enough for peak detection. The baseline reflected light also shows some fluc-358 359 tuation attributed to back (Fresnel) reflection at the extremity of the fiber. 360

361 B. Signal processing and temperature calibration

The first step which further defines the accuracy of the 362 363 temperature measurement is to get the position of the Bragg 364 peaks in the experimental spectrum (see Fig. 3). For each 365 FBG, the peak is detected using a Gaussian-shape function 366 (non-linear regression) combined with data filtering and ampli-367 fication due to the relatively low reflectivity of the gratings 368 and the Fresnel reflection introduced at the extremity of the fiber. The following step is the temperature calibration of the 369 sensing line. The sensing lines are positioned in a high temper-370 371 ature furnace together with a bundle of thermocouples to get Q10 372 the temperature distribution along the furnace. The tempera-373 ture is first raised to 800 °C, and then heating is switch-off in 374 order to get a slow and regular temperature decrease. The log-375 arithm decrease in the furnace temperature is fitted for all the 376 Bragg wavelengths using a fifth-order polynomial function. 377 Figure 5 shows the 11 calibration curves, one curve for each



 FIG. 5. Calibration curve for one of the 4 sensing lines developed and manufactured for WEST.

FBG, for one of the four sensing lines developed for WEST. 383 Above 800 °C, the calibration curve can be extrapolated based 384 on the polynomial function. 385

IV. INTEGRATION OF THE FBG DIAGNOSTIC IN WEST

A. Integration in the W-coated graphite PFU

The FBG temperature probe is inserted in the LFS graphite 389 PFU through a 4 mm deep 1.2 mm thick lateral groove, as 390 shown in Fig. 6(a). The probe has a diameter of 1 mm (due to 391 the capillary), is 150 mm long, and has curvature of R = 62 mm392 downward toward the pumping duct [Fig. 6(b)]. The 4 mm deep 393 lateral groove is shown in Fig. 6(c) for the upper FBG (the 394 center located at 3.5 mm from the surface). The temperature 395 probe is fixed to the component with graphite adhesive made 396 for use up to 1300 °C. After assembling of the instrumented 397 PFU, the connector is clamped to the divertor support plate to 398 prevent any excessive vibration and stresses on the graphite 399 adhesive. A stainless steel box is finally used to protect the 400 overall system from accidental impact during the introduction 401 of the fully equipped divertor sector into the machine. The 402 computer aided design (CAD) view and picture of the FBG **3**03 system after assembling are presented in Fig. 7. The deploy-404 405 ment of the FBG system in WEST is based on one set of two optical fibers, upper and lower FBG which are installed in 406 two adjacent PFU, duplicated in two different divertor sectors 407 (each sector having 30° toroidal extension). 408

409 The four temperature probes are connected to a 3 m long optical fiber with a protective sheath made of PEEK compos-410 ite, one of the few plastics compatible with high vacuum and 411 high temperature applications. The overall is protected by a -412 413 flexible stainless steel creased hose $\emptyset = 2.3$ mm, up to the sealing flange. In the region between the stainless steel box 414 and the entrance of the pumping duct, the flexible stainless 415 steel creased hose might be exposed to plasma radiation and 416 neutral particles up to 10 kW m^{-2} , as shown in Ref. 15 which 417 is acceptable for the temperature behavior of the cable. Each 418 sensing line is connected to a vacuum feedthrough (10^{-8} mbar) 419 1/s) located few meters below the machine. At the outside of 420 the vacuum vessel, the system is connected to the FBG inter-421 rogator and acquisition system with a 60 m long remote fiber 422 cable (see Fig. 8). 423



FIG. 6. Fabrication plan for the FBG 426 upper diagnostic embedded in a 1.2 mm 427 diameter lateral groove at 3.5 mm below 428 the surface. (a) Drawing showing the 429 sensing line integrated in the W-coated 430 graphite component (side view). (b) Full 431 fiber including the 150 mm long sensing 432 line and the connection part, followed by 433 a 3 m flexible capillary to reach the seal-434 435 ing flange. (c) Drawing of the W-coated graphite component showing the lateral 436 groove (back view). 437



FIG. 7. (a) CAD view showing the FBG upper system (located 3.5 mm below the surface). (b) Picture showing the FBG lower (located 7 mm below the surface) 424 425 after installation on the sector.



FIG. 8. Overview of the DTFIB#1 438 diagnostic as deployed in WEST includ-439 ing drawing of the lower divertor, pumping duct, and sealing flange followed by a schematic view of the data acquisition system.

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FIG. 9. Averaged temperature measurement performed by the FBG system,
including FBG upper (located 3.5 mm below the surface) and lower (7 mm
below the surface) optical fibers further duplicated in two different divertor
sectors (named Q3A and Q4A, each sector having 30° toroidal extension),
fully immersed in thermostatically controlled water bath at 80 °C.

449 V. TEST AND QUALIFICATION OF THE WEST450 FBG DIAGNOSTIC

The full multiplexed FBG system has been manufactured
by the CEA List Institute and delivered in June 2016. The system has been tested in the laboratory before the implementation
in the tokamak. The laboratory tests include three successive
experiments to characterize the performance of the system: a
thermostatically controlled water bath, high temperature furnace, and fully instrumented PFU with a set of six halogen lamps.

458 A. Thermostatically controlled water bath

⁴⁵⁹ The four sensing lines are fully immersed (without any ⁴⁶⁰ component), one after the other, in a thermostatically con-⁴⁶¹ trolled water bath at 80 °C. The results obtained for each of ⁴⁶² the 44 FBGs are presented in Fig. 9. The standard deviation ⁴⁶³ obtained at 80 °C is $\pm 5^{\circ}$, and the temporal variation is below ⁴⁶⁴ 0.4° which is consistent with the specification of the system.

⁴⁶⁵ B. High temperature furnace

The FBGs are tested successively (without any component) in a high temperature tubular furnace at the atmospheric pressure. Type-N TCs are used to get the temperature in the furnace with a temperature stability of ± 1 °C. The furnace is 495

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open at the extremity on the entrance side; therefore, the tem-470 471 perature is close to the setpoint value at the bottom and lower at the entrance sides, respectively. The experimental setup and 472 results obtained for a set of three FBGs are presented in Fig. 10. 473 In the experiment presented here, the instruments are intro-474 duced in the furnace for about 150 s at 250 °C. The overall 475 dynamic of the TC/FBG measurements is coherent during the 476 transitory phase. FBG#11 heats up first, followed by FBG#8 477 and #6, as we introduce and take away the sensors (slow move-478 ment) in the furnace. After their introduction, the FBG fiber 479 and TC are rapidly thermalized with the furnace and the steady 480 state condition is almost reached. The TC measurements are 481 coherent with the positioning; we found 243 °C at the bot-482 tom, 240 °C in the middle, and 228 °C close to the entrance. 483 Although the overall dynamic is well reproduced with the FBG 484 measurements, the absolute values given by FBG are slightly 485 486 different from TC: FBG#11 shows 10 °C discrepancy with the TC, while FBG#8 shows less than 1° and #6 less than 487 3 °C along the temperature excursion. Such a discrepancy 488 can be attributed to sensor positioning in the furnace, ther-489 mal convection in the furnace which is open at the entrance, or 490 **_Q**9B FBG calibration and accuracy of the system itself. Among the tested FBGs, the maximum discrepancy is found to be 10 °C 492 with a temperature furnace of 250 °C which is, nonetheless, 493 consistent with the specification of the system. 494

C. Fully instrumented PFUs heated with halogen lamps

After the test and characterization of the four FBG sys-**-3**974 tems standalone, the FBG probes are then fixed in the lateral 498 grooves of the W-coated graphite PFUs with graphite adhesive. 499 The fully instrumented PFUs are tested in the laboratory using 500 halogen lamps. Besides the four FBG instrumented PFUs, a 501 fifth PFU is used with 4 embedded thermocouples to derive 502 503 the thermal time constant of the two systems, the TC and FBG fibre, in the material. The halogen lamp system delivers about 504 4 kW m⁻² continuous and quasi-homogeneous power on each 505 target. The five PFUs are pre-heated to about 80 °C (which is 506 slightly above the nominal temperature of the water cooling 507 system in WEST), this is followed by a 10 min switch-off of 508 509 the power to thermalize the component, and then we apply successive 30 s-on, 150 s-off power steps to compute the time 510 response of the different diagnostics (τ_{diag}). The experimental 511 setup is presented in Fig. 11(a) and the measurements are pre-512 sented in Fig. 11(b) for TC and one FBG probe. We report very 513 good dynamic behaviors of the different systems and accurate 514



FIG. 10. (a) Picture of the experimental setup before the515introduction of the TC and FBG sensors into the tubular516furnace. (b) TC and FBG temperature measurements at517three different locations (FBG #6, #8, and #11) with a set518point temperature of 250 °C.519



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FIG. 11. (a) Picture of the experimental setup with FBG 550 and TC embedded in the W-coated graphite PFUs and 551 halogen heating system. (b) Temperature excursion dur-552 ing 30 s heating steps of the PFUs as measured with TC 553 (yellow signal) and one FBG probe (11 spots measure-554 ments). 555

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measurement of the relative heating ($\Delta T = 2$ °C during each 520 power step). However, we also report about 8 °C discrepancy 521 between the two extreme FBGs temperature measurements, 522 523 similar to the previous experiment. TC data (vellow curve) are 524 slightly lower than FBGs data because the fifth PFU includ-525 ing the TC is slightly out of the center of the beam light [at 526 the bottom as shown in Fig. 11(a)]. The time response of 527 the diagnostic is determined with 2D FEM thermal modeling of the component. The heating is assumed to be uniform 528 529 along the PFU (the x direction) so that the geometry can be 530 simplified in the toroidal-vertical plan (y, z). The numerical 531 temperature reported at the sensor location is convoluted to 532 the temporal step response of the full system (component with the instrument), 533

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where τ_{diag} is the time response of the system which is estimated with a Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) algorithm¹⁸ in order to minimize the residuals between the model and the

 $u(t) = 1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_{diag}}}.$

measurement. We found $\tau_{diag} = 250 \text{ ms with } \pm 50 \text{ ms standard}$ 538 deviation attributed mainly to the lighting up and electrical 539 stability of the lamps. 540

541 VI. BAKING AND EARLY DIVERTED 542 PLASMA EXPOSURE

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Q15 543 The full FBG system has been installed in the WEST tokamak beginning of 2017, before the first plasma breakdown 545 attempts. The system is working properly for more than one 546 year, and we have been able to investigate the variation of tem-547 perature during the baking of the machine and during early



548 FIG. 12. Reflected power as a function of the wavelength at 70 °C (red) and 549 during baking at 185 °C (green), focus on the first and second FBG.

diverted plasma exposure. During baking, the water cooling system is raised up to 185 °C in order to remove the remaining gas from the wall. As a consequence, the temperature is similar in all the PFUs of the divertor. This provides the opportunity to check the FBG temperature measurement in a real tokamak environment by comparing the results with the set of 20 embedded TCs also available in the W-coated graphite PFUs. The reflected power passing through one of the FBG _Q98 probes and measured by using the spectrometer is presented in Fig. 12 with a specific focus on the two first FBG #1 and #2. The resulting signal is about 4 dB above the baseline signal of the spectrum and therefore adequate to detect the position of the Bragg peak. The shift of the Bragg peak measured during baking is also illustrated.

The temperature measurements of the four FBG probes during baking (performed in April 2017) are presented in Fig. 13 together with the average of the TC measurements. The averaged value for the 44 FBG measurements is $\langle T^{FBG} \rangle$ = 177.6 °C, while the TC averaged value is $\langle T^{TC} \rangle$ = 186 °C, close to the water temperature. This shows that FBG measurements have an offset of 10 °C lower than expected. Data scattering of the FBG measurements is about ±10 °C around the averaged value. These discrepancies are attributed to the FBG calibration and peak detection algorithm which are currently under review to improve the data processing (some fluctuation of the baseline signal of the spectrum is observed and attributed



FIG. 13. Temperature measurement with FBG located in two different divertor sectors (named Q3A and Q4A, plotted with cross and plus signs, respectively) and TC systems during baking. FBG upper (3.5 mm below the surface) and lower (7 mm below the surface) are plotted in red and blue, respectively.



FIG. 14. Temporal evolution of the 615 temperature during the cooling down, 616 from baking of the machine down to 70 °C, as measured by FBG upper (a) 618 and lower (b). 619

FIG. 15. Heating 620 measured with the FBG lower (a) and embedded 621 thermocouples diagnostics (b) during 622 623 early WEST diverted plasma exposure (#52693). The diverted plasma expo-624 sure lasts for about 7.2 s, from 32.8 s 625 up to 40 s. 626

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⁵⁸⁶ to the Fresnel reflection introduced at the extremity of the fiber).

587 Figure 14 shows the temporal evolution of the tempera-588 ture as measured with the FBG upper (a) and lower (b) probes 589 as well as the temperature of the water in the cooling loop Q17 590 of the divertor coils (the signal called here as TTBB) at the 591 end of another baking phase (performed in March 2017) when 592 the temperature of the machine decreases down to 70 °C for 593 plasma operation. The typical duration to heat or cool the 594 machine for baking is 24 h. As for the laboratory experiment 595 with the halogen lamps, the absolute value shows a 10 °C 596 offset with the expected temperature, but it is important to 597 stress that the overall heating or cooling is well reproduced 598 (we found $\Delta T = 110$ °C between the normal condition and baking). 599

600 Plasma breakdown, plasma current ramp-up, and diverted plasma have been developed after the machine commission-601 602 ing. First diverted plasmas with additional heating power have Q18 603 been achieved in WEST in early 2018. Figures 15(a) and 15(b) 604 show the temporal evolution of the temperature rise as measured with the FBG (DTFIB#1) and thermocouple diagnostics, 605 606 respectively, during a 700 kA plasma current diverted plasma 607 experiment (#52693). The thermocouples are embedded at 608 7.5 mm distance from the surface of the PFU, close to the 609 lower FBG probes that are embedded at 7 mm. The space 610 between two thermocouples is 37.5 mm, while it is 12.5 mm 611 between two FBG spot measurements (we have therefore one 612 thermocouple every three FBG spot measurements). The two 613 different systems show similar heating distribution along the 614 PFU and similar intensities. Looking at the signal variation as

627 a function of time first, we clearly see the benefit of the optical solution (with noise measurement $\leq 1^{\circ}$) compared to electri-628 629 cal measurement such as TC data which are more sensitive to electromagnetic disturbance (up to few degrees, variation is 630 observed during the plasma current ramp up and ramp down 631 632 phases). Second, looking at the signal intensity, about 11° heat-**_Q**33 ing is reported on FBG#10 and thermocouple TCI at the end of the pulse (blue curves), both sensors being located at the 634 same position along the PFU. Such a temperature rise, regard-_Q20 ing the duration of the pulse, corresponds to plasma heat flux 636 of about 100 kW m⁻², a value which is small but also coher-637 ent, on top of the TC measurements, with Langmuir probe 638 measurements. The FBG and TC data presented here were 639 obtained in the very first WEST plasmas having an important 640 level of radiated power losses. Further experiments will aim at 641 642 decreasing radiated power fraction while increasing injected power. 643

VII. CONCLUSION

645 This paper shows the design and integration of the new 646 embedded FBG diagnostic called DTFIB#1 to monitor the PFU temperature during tokamak plasma operation. Four high 647 temperature probes including each having eleven FBGs have 648 been specifically designed and manufactured by the CEA 649 List Institute according to the WEST plasma and material 650 651 conditions. Each sensing part of probe is inserted in the PFU through a tiny lateral groove (at two different depths 652 3.5 mm and 7 mm) and attached with graphite adhesive. 653 The multiplexed and regenerated FBG probes have been 654

655 tested and characterized in three laboratory experiments before 656 installation in the machine. The accuracy of the measurement is found to be about 10 °C at low temperatures (up to about 657 658 250 °C in the tubular furnace), which meets the specification even if there is still some margin for improvement (the 659 660 calibration and peak detection algorithm are currently under 661 review). However, the relative heating of the component which 662 will be further used to compute the absorbed heat load is 663 well reproduced. The time response of the FBG diagnostic 664 in the component is found to be 250 ms with \pm 50 ms standard deviation, which is relatively small compared to the standard 665 duration of the plasma experiment in WEST (from several sec-666 onds up to couple of minutes). The diagnostic DTFIB#1 has 667 668 been installed in the real tokamak environment and success-669 fully tested during baking (up to 185 °C in WEST) and early diverted plasma exposure (with high radiated power losses and 670 671 a small amount of power reaching the divertor). It is now fore-672 seen to use the 44 available spot measurements of the new FBG 673 diagnostic to cross-check the IR thermography measurement 674 and characterize the heat load absorbed by the components 675 over the coming plasma experiments. The next step will be to ensure that the diagnostic is working properly during plasma 676 677 operation with high heat flux and high temperature in the lower divertor. 678

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