

Spontaneous chirping whistler excitation in RT-1

Haru Saitoh, GSFS U. Tokyo, Japan

- 1. Introduction; Levitated dipole or artificial magnetosphere
- 2. RT-1 Levitated dipole
- 3. Spontaneous excitation fluctuations in hot electron plasma

4. Summary



2006 Yoshida+ PFR; 2016 Yoshida+ Adv. Phys.; 2019 Nishiura+ NF; 2022 Kenmochi+ NF

1. Introduction: Plasma experiments in levitated dipole

• Levitated dipole: high- β plasma investigation for advanced fusion

1987 Hasegawa, Comm Plasma Phys. Contr. Fusion "Dipole Fusion" inspired by plasma in Jovian magnetosphere





Globally equivalent to magnetosphere RT-1 of U. Tokyo



Hoist Levitation Coll Shaping Colls Colls

D-T \Rightarrow D-D, D-³He Advanced Fusion Levitated Dipole with SC coil

2006 Yoshida+ Plasma Fusion Res. 2010 Boxer+ Nature Phys.

High-Tc SC technologies



• Fusion/Geospace physics Wave particle interaction, relaxation



NNP and antimatters

Charged particle trap application



2013 Ogawa, Mito, Yanagi+ Teion Kogaku 2022 Kenmochi, Nishiura+ NF 2010 Y

2010 Yoshida+ PRL; 2020 Stoneking+ JPP

Plasma confinement in levitated dipole

- Dipole: strongly inhomogeneous field
 - Self-organization of peaked structure, inward "diffusion"
 - globally equivalent to magnetospheres; diverse common phenomena 2016 Yoshida+ Adv. Phys.
- Common/similar phenomena and mechanisms in space and laboratory



2005 Shiraishi & Yoshida PFR

Rt-1 levitated dipole





- Comparison between different magnetic configurations
- Non-linear wave evolution; chorus mode emission, TAE, etc.

2. RT-1 Levitated Dipole generated by SC dipole field coil





- Hi-Tc SC (Bi-2223) coil is magnetically levitated by feedback control
- ECH with 2.45/8.2GHz microwaves, ICH
- Diagnostics: magnetic and electrostatic probes, Thomson scattering, spectroscopy, x-ray, etc.
- High-beta (~100%) plasma, by electron cyclotron heating
- Self-organization and wave particle interaction in plasmas towards advanced fusion, as common physics in space plasmas

Inside the SC coil winding: levitation without cooling







Main Parameters of the Floating HTS Coil

Winding method		Single pancake
Stack number of pancakes		12
Dimension	Major diameter	<i>ø</i> 500 mm
	Hight	67.2 mm
Operating temperature		20~30 K
Magnetomotive force		250 kA
Operating current		115.6 A
Inductance		3.3 H
Stored energy		22 kJ

Bi-2223 high-Tc SC coil (PCS: YBCO), m=120kg, heat input <1W

More than 6 hours of persistent current without cooling/monitoring

Operation procedures for the SC coil of RT-1



Cooling to 20K (He gas circulation) and excitation of persistent current of 116A at maintenance position Lift up to the experiment position and levitation, plasma experiments before coil warm up (30K)

Inside the vacuum chamber of RT-1



Overview of the RT-1 experimental hall

M. Nishiura



3. Spontaneous excitation fluctuations in hot electron plasma

In the first series of plasma experiment, plasmas were generated by ECH with 2.45GHz and 8.2GHz microwaves



Waveforms of ECH plasma in RT-1 with (a) P_{H2} =4.5 × 10⁻²Pa (b) 1.3 × 10⁻³Pa.

Operation range of RT-1 and comparison with space plasma

(a-3)

0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 r(m)

0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 r (m)

2015 Nishiura+ NF, 2017 Nishiura+ NF



2021 Kato&Nagaoka, J. Plasma Fusion Res. (in Jpn.)



- Optimized operation realized
 - Local β ~ 100%, Ne ~ 10¹⁷ m⁻³
 - ~1s discharge (set by ECH)
 - Hot electron (>~keV) plasma
- Comparison with space plasmas high Ne, strong B, but several similarities

Hot-electron high- β plasma with temperature anisotropy

2015 Kawazura+ PoP.

ECH and inward diffusion create electron temperature anisotropy





X-ray emission from hot electrons of plasmas

Temperature anisotropy (perp>para) by ECH as well as by inward transport

> 2014 Furukawa PoP 2021 Aihaba

Micro-instabilities caused by phase space anisotropy
^{2021 Aihaba}
Common wave-particle interaction in fusion and space plasmas

Whistler mode excitation for electrons with Tperp>Tpara

Dispersion relation of R wave

$$\omega_r \simeq k^2 c^2 \frac{\Omega_p}{\omega_p^2} \left[1 + \left(\frac{T_{\perp e}}{T_{\parallel e}} - 1 \right) \frac{\beta_e}{2} \right]$$

Linear condition for instability growth

$$\frac{T_{\perp e}}{T_{\parallel e}} - 1 > \frac{1}{|\Omega_e|/\omega_r - 1}$$



1966 Kennel Petschek

Detection of electromagnetic activities for high- β plasma

Magnetic activities above MHz range appears only for high- β state with hot electrons generated by ECH





ch1: Bdot probe 1, ch2: Interferometer, ch3: Bdot probe 2

- Control to change plasma pressure while keeping input power and density for 3 s
- Plasma pressure is sustained by increased hot electrons with temperature anistropy

Intermittent excitation



• Coherent magnetic and weak electrostatic components

13/18

Intermittent nature of magnetic and electrostatic fluctuations



14/18

Toroidally localized nature of the wave mode (propagation direction)

Measurements at different positions shows the waves propagates along field lines



15/18

875G

2930G

(b) 50G 100G

磁気プロ

probe

dot probes

875G (z=0cm)

超伝導 dipole磁場 マグネット

(a)

1020

Comparison with the characteristics of whistler wave



- Consistent with dispersion relation of whistler along field lines
- Multiple (more than 2) probe measurements is strange: wave direction?
- Anisotropy estimated from the upper limit of active frequency range

$$f < f_{\rm ce} A / (A+1)$$

$$A = T_{\perp}/T_{\parallel} - 1 = 0.7$$

- Linear analysis (1966 Kennel Petschek)
- Rather moderate anisotropy that is fairly consistent with Grad-Shafranov analysis

16/18

17/18

1eV

Possibility of heating and chaotic orbit caused by R wave



 $H = \mu \omega_c + J \omega_b + \Psi \omega_d + N_c$

1990 Murakami, Sato, Hasegawa, PoF; 2016 Saitoh+ PRE

Non-integrable chaotic behavior even in a symmetric geometry, caused by the coupling Between different periodic motions

Efficient heating and chaotic orbit of electrons

Initially 10eV (dot, periodic) electron Is heated to show chaotic behavior





Test particle simulation with R wave of 2×10^4 V/m is applied to electron

• Efficient heating and particle loss are possible with R wave



- In RT-1 Levitated dipole, spontaneous excitation of whistler mode (~f_{ce}) was observed, in addition to low frequency fluctuations mode (~f_{toroidal}).
- In hot-electron high-β plasmas, the fluctuation activity is active at f ~ 0.1-0.4f_{ce}, 0.6-0.8f_{ce} (B, chirping), ~f_{ce} (E, broad).
- Coherent magnetic mode propagates along field lines.



 Future works: Propagation direction, source location, linear to nonlinear transition process, acceleration of electrons, etc.

2006 Yoshida+ PFR; 2016 Yoshida+ Adv. Phys.; 2019 Nishiura+ NF; 2022 Kenmochi+ NF