Experimental Achievements on Plasma Confinement and Turbulence

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Introduction

For more than 50 years efforts, the construction of ITER has begun.



The understanding from the first principle should give us more confidence by providing more precise prediction of plasma performance for any given magnetic configurations

Anomalous Transport



ANOMALOUS TRANSPORT can be ascribed to **DRFIT WAVE** TURBULENCE.

To understand the plasma transport is to study the turbulence

Turbulence & Transport (1970-1980's)



EXISTENCE OF DRIFT WAVE TURBULENCE and TURBULENT TRANSPORT has been proven.

local & linear & deterministic view



non-local & nonlinear & probablistic view

Improved Confinement Mode I

- Discrete change in energy
- Existence of multiple states



A list of Improved Confinement modes

H-mode	ASDEX	1982
Supershot	TFTR	1987
PEP-mode(ITB)	JET	1992
H-mode (ETB)	W7-AS&CHS	1993
High- β_p (ITB)	JT-60	1994
ERS (ITB)	TFTR	1995
NCS (ITB)	DIII-D	1995
RI-mode	TEXTOR	1995
N-ITB(ITB)	CHS	1999
HDH (ETB)	W7-AS	2002
SDC (ITB)	LHD	2006

The findings have made it begin to dig the confinement law out of the phenomena.

Improved Confinement Mode II



Turbulence suppression is observed at the barriers

Bifurcation property is demonstrated in transport barrier formations

Shear Flow Stabilization I - Simulation

Sheared mean flows tear the turbulence eddies apart



Z. Lin et al., Science 281 1835 (1998)

H. Bigrali et al., Phys. Fluids B 2 1(1990)

Theoretical Expressions Empirical form

$$\gamma < \omega_{_{E\times B}} (\sim dv_{_{E\times B}} \, / \, dr)$$

T. S. Hahm et al., Phys. Plasmas **2** 1648 (1995) General form

$$\chi = \frac{\chi_L}{1 + \beta(E_r)^{\alpha}}$$

K. C. Shaing et al., 12th IAEA **Vol. 2** p13 (1988) K. Itoh et al., PPCF **36** 123 (1994)

Theories and simulations have demonstrated that the turbulence should be suppressed by **sheared poloidal flows**.

The world-wide experimental efforts have begun to confirm the hypothesis.

Shear Flow Stabilization II

Bias Experiments & Observation TEXTOR CCT Ve INSULATOR **TEXTOR discharge #67307** ELECTRODE 1.2 o data r=43.9cm fitted curve: $D = D_{out} + D_{out}/(1+\beta |\nabla E_i|^2)$ 1.0 $D_{test}=0.3$, $D_{ato}=0.7$, $\gamma=2.0$; D/D00 RAKE $\beta = 1.81e 04 \pm 0.08e 4$ PROBE $\chi = 0.93$ $\theta = 0^{\circ}$ $\theta = 180^{\circ}$ (a) 0.2 VE = 74 V/cm 0.0 r=45.0cm Drest = 0.45, Daro = 0.55 1.0 χ_L B = 2.72e 04 ± 0.14e 04 D/D₀₀ $1 + \beta(E'_r)^{\alpha}$ $\chi = 0.60$ PROBE POT. (kV) 5 0 1000 (CO 0000 - 00 000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 0000 - 00 x1012/CM3 -1.2 0.2 $\nabla E_{ert} = 61 \text{ V/cm}^2$ 0.0 (b) 600.0 400.0 0.0 200.0 DENSITY IVE.I [V/cm²] R. Weynants et al. PPCF 40 635 (1998) 0 1.5 1.8 1.1 1.2 1.9 MAJOR RADIUS (M)

External driven sheared flows reduce fluctuations to form transport barrier.

In ITB, spatio-temporal properties of shear-stabilization are observed



A number of experiments have confirmed sheared flow mechanisms

Physics of Bifurcation I

Bifurcation nature could be associated with properties of plasma flows

$$\varepsilon_{0}\varepsilon_{p}\frac{\partial E_{r}}{\partial t}=\Gamma_{e-i}^{anom}(E_{r})-\Gamma_{i}^{lc}-\Gamma_{i}^{bv}-\Gamma_{i}^{v\nabla v}-\Gamma_{i}^{Neo}+\Gamma_{e}^{Neo}-\Gamma_{i}^{CX}+\cdots$$

Some terms on the right-hand-side show strong nonlinearity. This causes the bifurcation of plasma flows.



Itoh & Itoh model

 $\Gamma_{e-i}^{anom}(E_r) + \Gamma_i^{lc}(E_r) = 0$

S-I. Itoh, K. Itoh, PRL 60 2276 (1988)

Shaing model

 $\Gamma_i^{bv}(E_r) + \Gamma_i^{lc}(E_r) = 0$

K. C. Shaing E.C. Crume Jr., PRL 63 2369 (1989)

Transition should happen much faster that confinement time scale High temporal resolution is necessary for experimental confirmation

It is complicated in H-mode where a number of radial currents components are expected

Physics of Bifurcation II



A. Fujisawa et al. PRL 79 1054 (1997)

Physics of Bifurcation III

Turbulent Reynolds stress term
$$\Gamma_i^{\nu\nabla\nu} \propto \partial_r \langle \tilde{\nu}_{\vartheta} \tilde{\nu}_r \rangle$$

 $\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_p \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} = \Gamma_{e-i}^{anom} - \Gamma_i^{lc} - \Gamma_i^{b\nu} + \Gamma_i^{\nu\nabla\nu} - \Gamma_i^{Neo} + \Gamma_e^{Neo} - \Gamma_i^{CX} + \cdots$

Turbulence can drive the flows!

The generated flows should have shearing on turbulence



Steady state condition gives two stable solutions corresponding to L and H-mode!!



Does turbulent Reynolds stress really generate plasma flows ?



Turbulent Reynolds stress plays a role in H-mode transition

Many simulations have shown an important role of TRS even in L-mode transport

Concept of Zonal Flows

The concept of zonal flows is not so new

Hasegawa-Mima equation (1977)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla^2 \varphi - \varphi) - \left[(\nabla \varphi \times \hat{z}) \cdot \nabla \right] \left(\nabla^2 \varphi + \ln \frac{\omega_c}{n_0} \right) = 0$$

Zonal flows are

ubiquitous

Poloidal

Crosssection

ExB flows



A number of simulations show the importance of zonal flows on transport. Experimental identification was an urgent issue.

Zonal flows in toroidal plasma

- stationary zonal flows
- geodesic acoustic modes

Features & Tasks

i) zonal structure

symmetry (m=n=0) a finite radial wavelength no transport

- ii) nonlinear coupling with turbulence
- iii) effects on transport

P. H. Diamond et al. PPCF 47 R35 (2005)

Do zonal flows really exist in toroidal plasmas?



Zonal flows have been identified in the measurements using twin HIBPs

Identification of Zonal Flows II



Symmetric around the axis, with a finite radial wavelength.

The phase difference is robust, and dependent on radial distance.

Identification of Zonal Flows III

0

 Δr (cm)

inward

Using the cross-correlation functions between two electric fields at different radii,



The observation confirms the zonal structure of the fluctuations of the low frequency.

2

-2

2

0

 Δr (cm)

Identification of Zonal Flows IV



The study of GAM is the most flourishing part in zonal flow experiments

How do we prove nonlinear interaction?

A number of techniques have been developed to clarify nonlinear coupling between turbulent elements.

PTF analysis Amplitude Correlation Technique F. J. Crossley et al., PPCF 34 235 (1992) H. Xia, M. G. Shats, Phys. Plasmas 11 561 (2004); probe in H1-heliac Power Transfer Function (PTF) Analysis C. P. Ritz et al., Phys. Fluids B 1 153 (1989); probe in TEXT 充 J. S. Kim et al., Phys.Plasmas 3 3998 (1996); BES in TFTR 8 H. Xia, M. G. Shats, PRL 91 155001 (2003); probe in H1-Heliac $T_{f_1}(f_1, f_2)$ $f_1 + f_2 = f_3$ P. Manz et al., PPCF 50 035008 (2008); probe in TJ-K **Bicoherence Analysis** PX

For evaluation of strength of three wave couplings $(f_1+f_2=f_3)$

Y. C. Kim, E. J. Powers, Trans. Plasma Sci **PS-7** 120 (1979)

C. Hidalgo et al., PRL 71 3127 (1993); probe in ATF



How do we prove nonlinear interaction?



Coupling between zonal flows and background turbulence is confirmed using **bicoherence analysis**

How do we prove nonlinear interaction?



Turbulence power is modulated with zonal flow phase

New Paradigm for Plasma Transport I



The plasma turbulence is regarded as a system of zonal flows and drift-waves Nonlinear interaction between zonal flows and turbulence controls transport. Energy partition between zonal flows and turbulence should be a key

New Paradigm for Plasma Transport II





K. Itoh et al., Phys. Plasmas 14 20702 (2007)

A larger fraction of zonal flows contributes to improving the confinement inside.

Energy partition between zonal flows and drift waves is really the key for confinement

New Paradigm for Plasma Transport III

The flow spectra consists of ZF, turbulence & GAM



Dependence of spectra on dimensionless parameters should be investigated

$$\tau_{\rm E}^{\rm L} \propto \tau_{\rm B} \rho_*^{0.15} \beta^{-1.41} \nu_*^{0.19} M^{0.67} q^{-3.74} \varepsilon^{-0.09} \kappa^{3.22}$$

Scaling in dimensionless form B. B. Kadomtsev Sov. J. Plasma Phys. **1** 295 (1975)

Such studies give fundamental understanding of plasma transport based on the new paradigm

Future Directions

Non-local Transport

K. Gentle et al., PRL 74 3620 (1995).

- How does the core plasma know the change happening at the edge



J. G. Cordey et al., Nucl. Fusion **35** 505 (1995).

Disparate scale interaction could be a key to solve the mystery.

For Future Research I

Disparate scale interaction should be investigated to clarify not only the non-local transport, but also **plasma turbulence and confinement**

Simultaneous measurements of

- 1. Micro-scale turbulence
- 2. Macroscopic structures
- 3. Mesoscopic fluctuations

furthermore, in many physical quantities (electric field, density, temperature, magnetic field and so on)



G. McKee et al., RSI 74 2014 (2003)

At least wider range observation (2D-3D) with fine scale measurements

Computers become cheaper and faster, and can manage massive experimental data.

Now it is the time for us to really do turbulence studies!



For Future Research II

High accessibility and flexibility for physical experiments can be realized in low temperature plasmas - Roles of such devices are strengthen.

τ=Ous



expressed in dimensionless form

Summary

The world-wide efforts have found a number of improved confinement modes

Bifurcation property of plasma flows can be a cause of barrier formation Interplay between flows and turbulence forms transport barriers

Now a new paradigm of plasma transport is coming up

Turbulence is regarded as a system of zonal flows and drift waves.

It should be the time to solve the remaining mysteries in plasma transport

Disparate scale interaction should be the key.

It should be the role for young plasma physicists to elevate the obtained knowledge to the laws of plasma confinement

Now we have good tools for observing the plasma turbulence

cf. The studies of heat engine deduced the second law of thermodynamics

The studies of fusion should provide something universal for science

Review Papers

Reviews of transport barriers

- F. Wagner, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 49 B1 (2007)
- F. Wagner, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 48 A217 (2006)
- A. Fujisawa, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 45 R1 (2003)
- K. Itoh, S. -I Itoh, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 48 1 (1998)

Reviews of turbulence & zonal flows

- P. H. Diamond, K. Itoh, S-I. Itoh, T. S. Hahm, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 47 R35 (2005)
- A. Fujisawa et al., Nucl. Fusion 47 S718 (2007)

Reviews of turbulence experiments

- P. C. Liewer, Nucl. Fusion 25 543 (1985)
- A. Wootton et al., Phys. Fluids B 2 2879 (1990).

Reviews of tokamak and stellarator comparison

U. Stroth, Plasma phys. Control. Fusion 40 9 (1998)