

# Probing of toroidal electron plasmas confined on helical magnetic surfaces

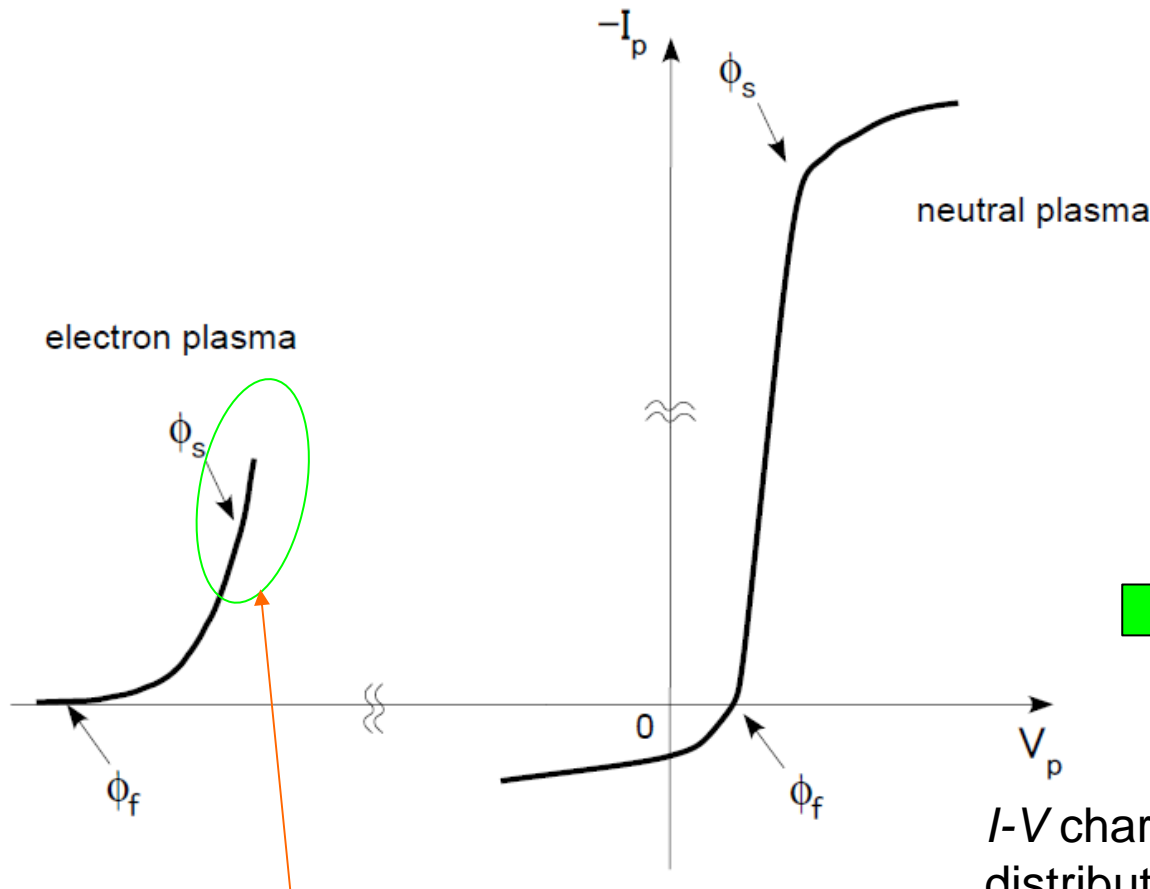
Y. Yamamoto, H. Himura, A. Sanpei, S. Masamune  
M. Isobe<sup>1)</sup>, S. Okamura<sup>1)</sup>, and K. Matsuoka<sup>1)</sup>

*Kyoto Institute of technology, Department of Electronics, Matsugasaki,  
Kyoto 606-8585*

*<sup>1)</sup> National Institute for Fusion Science, Toki, Gifu 509-5292*

*(16th International Toki Conference, Ceratopia Toki, Gifu, JAPAN, December 5-8, 2006 )*

# Non-neutral plasma property



Neutral plasma

$$-100\text{V} \leq \phi_s \leq 100\text{V}$$

$$n_e \sim 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

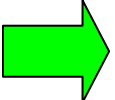
Non-neutral plasma

$$-1.5\text{kV} \leq \phi_s \leq -250\text{V}$$

$$n_e \sim 10^{11-13} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

Depend on  
initial injection energy  
and confinement condition

$I$ - $V$  characteristic shows non-Maxwellian distribution

No electron saturation current  
 Orbital motion limited regime

Non-neutral plasma possess strong  $\mathbf{E}$ ,  
corresponding fast  $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$  flow is  
generated in magnetic surfaces.

# Background

Target plasma : Large  $\phi_s$  plasma with low  $n_e$

$$\phi_s \sim 1\text{kV}, I_p \sim \mu\text{A}$$

For electron flux  $\Gamma$  measurement

high voltage between the probe and bias power supply ( $\sim 1\text{kV}$ )



exceed permissible differential voltage of OP amp ( $\sim 10\text{V}$ )



Divide voltage ( $\phi_s / 1000$ )



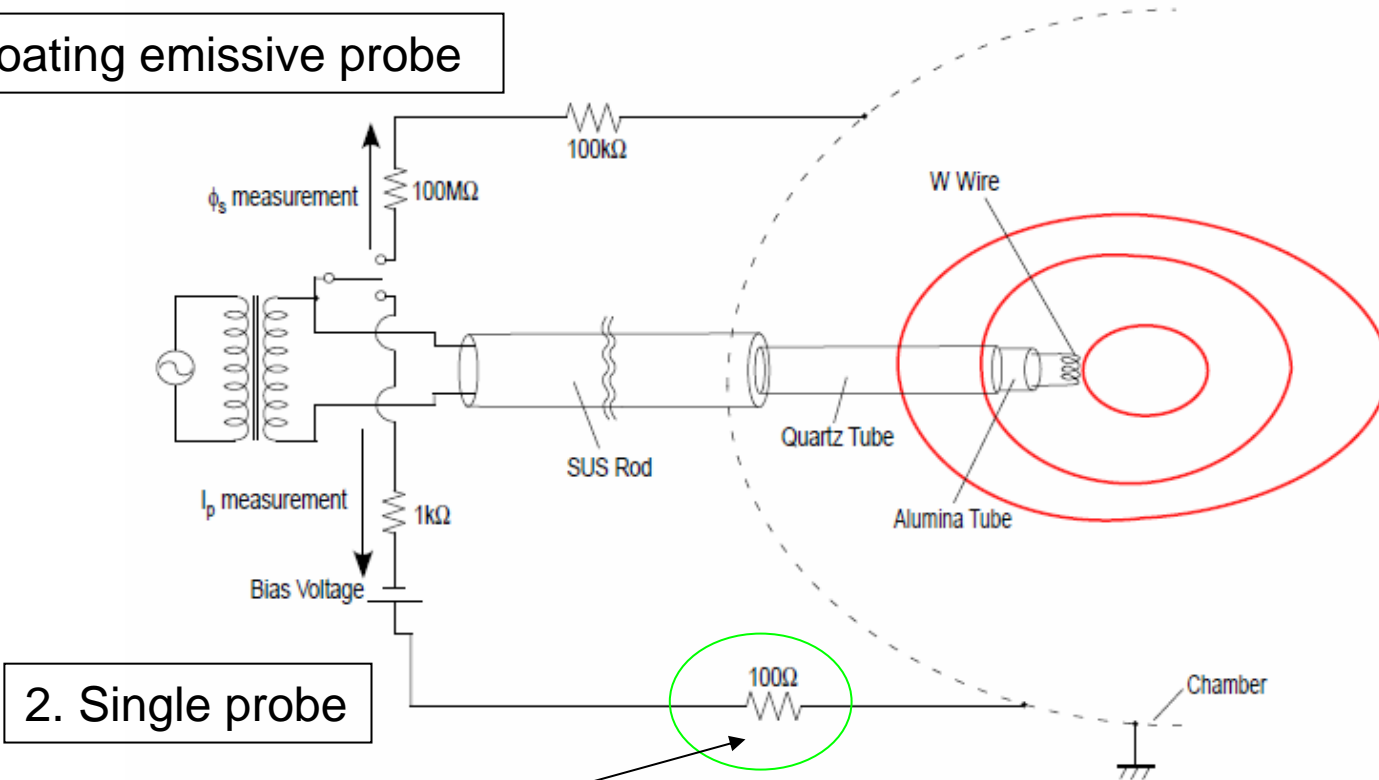
Flux  $\Gamma$  can't be detected.



New measurement method

# Measurement setup

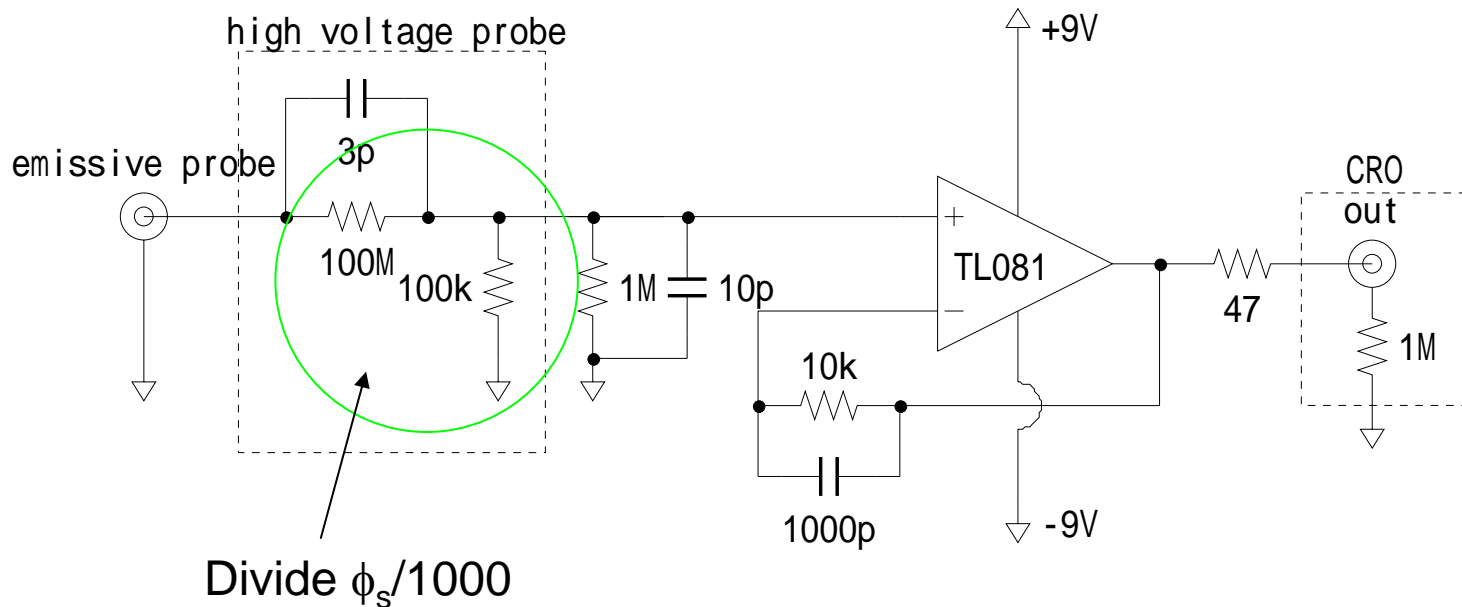
## 1. Floating emissive probe



## 2. Single probe

The reason why  $100\Omega$  is used is that the probing circuit suffered from substantial noise due to the ground loop on CHS. To alleviate the noise, the small resistance is installed in the probing circuit.

# Impedance converter



High impedance causes the probe signal to be transmitted with slow speed due to the large time constant ( $= RC$ ).

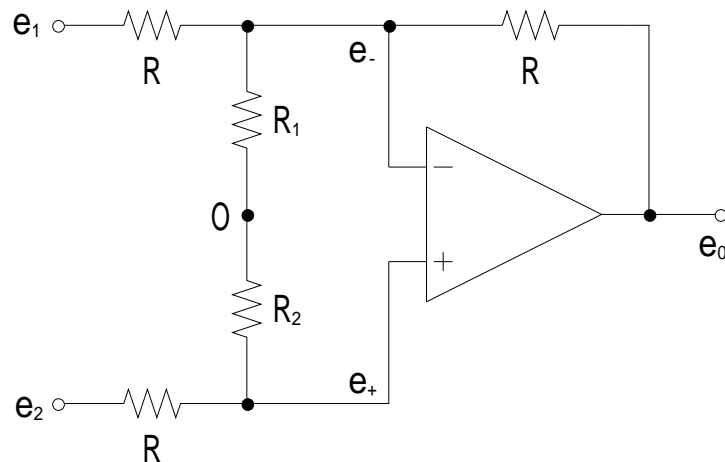


OP amp works as a buffer.

Non-inverting amplifier converts the large resistance to ideally small one.

# Schematic diagram of $\Gamma$ measuring

The input voltage of OP amp



$$e_- = \left( \frac{e_1 - e_-}{R} + \frac{e_0 - e_-}{R} \right) R_1,$$

$$e_+ = \frac{e_2}{R + R_1}$$

$$e_+ = e_- = \frac{R_1 / R}{1 + R_1 / R},$$

$$e_0 = \frac{R_2 / R_1 + 2R_2 / R}{1 + R_2 / R} e_2 - e_1$$

$$R_1 = R_2 \text{ and } R_2 / R = 1/1000$$

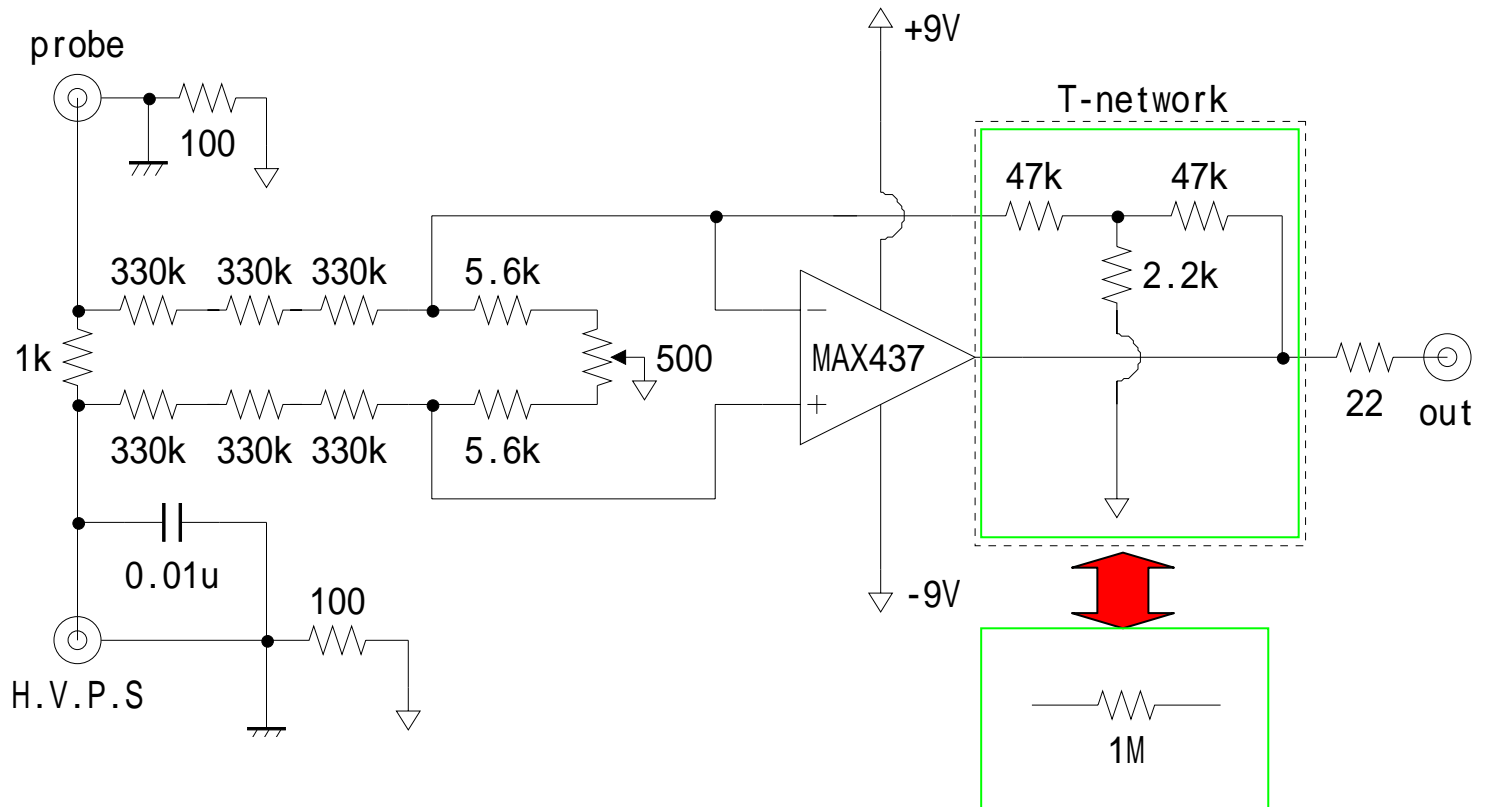
$$e_+ = e_- \cong \frac{1}{1000} e_2,$$

$$e_0 \cong e_2 - e_1$$

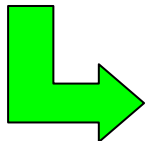
The input voltage of OP amp is  $\phi_s / 1000$ .

The output voltage is a small voltage ( $e_2 - e_1$ ) of signal.

# $\Gamma$ measurement method(MAX437)

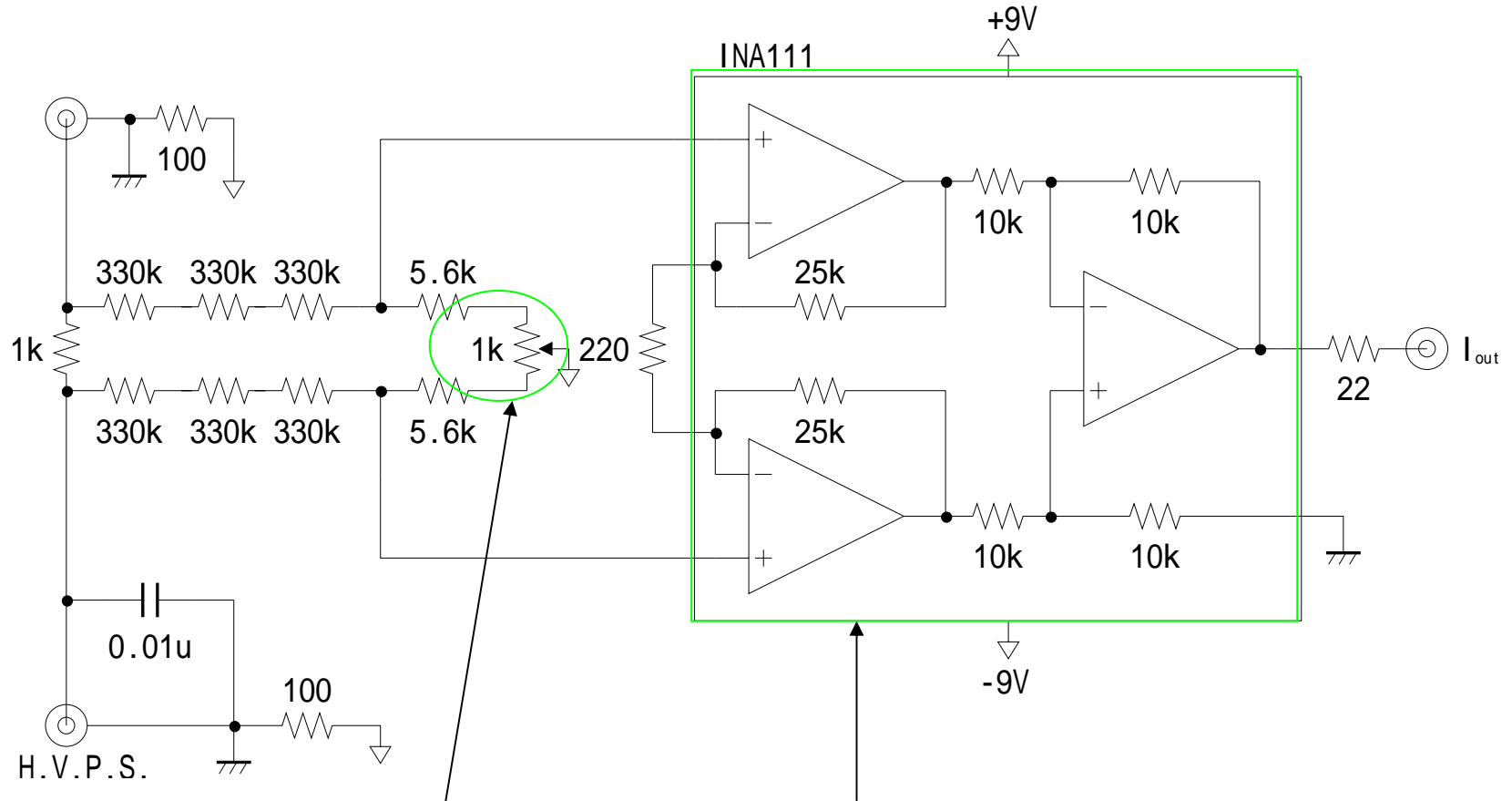


T-network can equivalently treat a small resistance as a large one in the feedback network.



reduce the effects of thermal noise.

# $\Gamma$ measurement method (INA111)

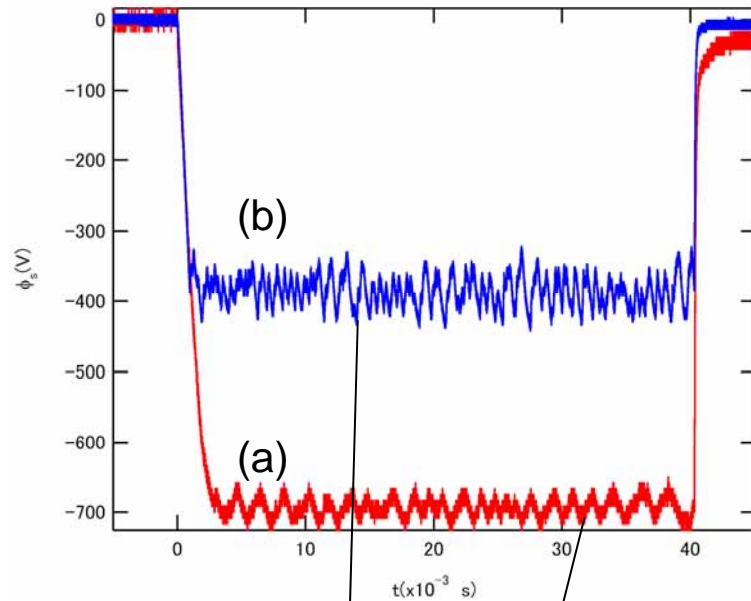


achieve high common-mode rejection ratios

adjust the value of the differential input resistance accurately without using a single precise resistor



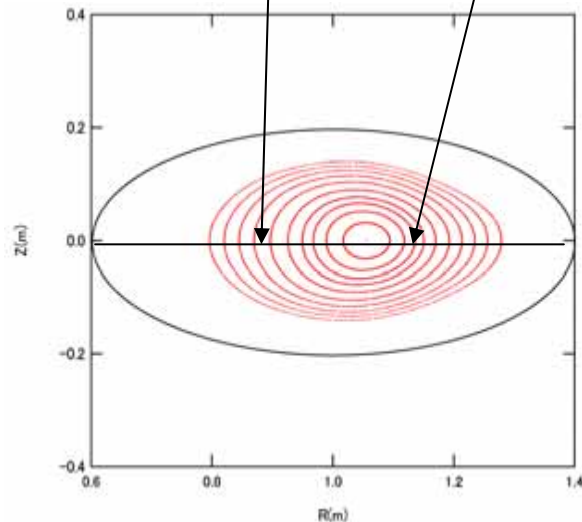
# Typical data ( $\phi_s$ )



These data are measured at  $r = 114$  cm (a) and  $r = 89$  cm (b) in the 50 horizontal cross-section of CHS.

When  $V_{acc} = 1$  kV,  $\phi_s$  measured on magnetic surfaces are showed.

The fluctuation seen in the measured  $\phi_s(t)$  reflects a disruptive instability of helical non-neutral plasmas on CHS.



(a)  $\phi_s \sim -700$  V

(b)  $\phi_s \sim -400$  V

$\phi_s$  of inner side magnetic surface is larger than  $\phi_s$  of outer side magnetic surface.

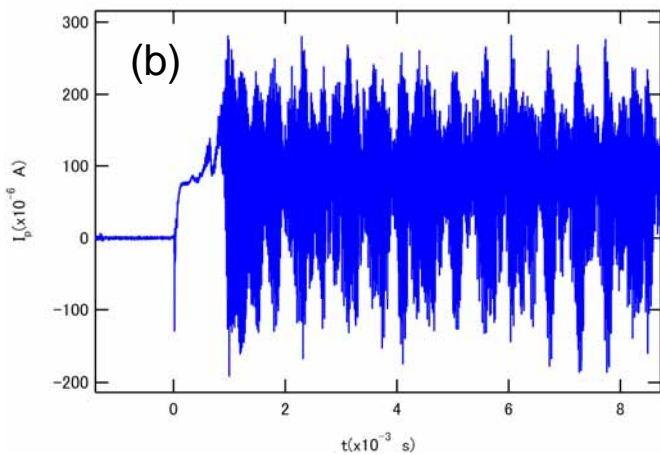
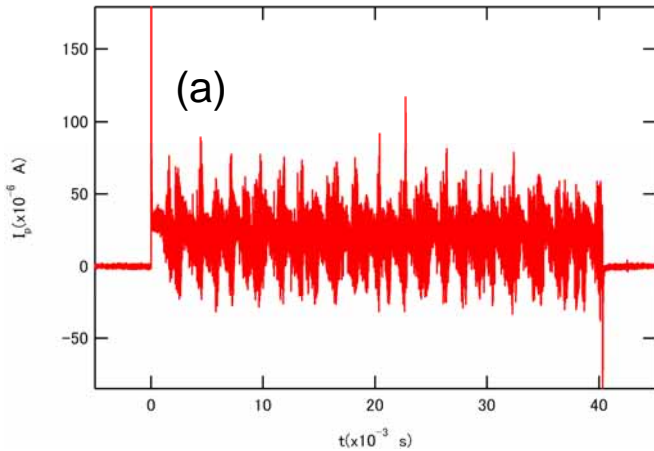
# Typical data ( $I_p$ )

Probe current  $I_p$  is shown when  $V_p = \phi_s$ .

(a)  $I_p \sim 35\mu\text{A}$   
(b)  $I_p \sim 80\mu\text{A}$

After 1 ms, disruptive signals are measured.

$I_p$  of inner side magnetic surface is smaller than  $I_p$  of outer side magnetic surface.



# Summary

- The probing system measured a high space potential  $\phi_s$  of non-neutral plasma was improved by impedance converter.
- The probing system measured a small electron particle flux  $\Gamma_e$  was developed by a various of tricks such as T-network.
- A significant ground loop current was removed by  $100 \Omega$  between a reference potential and GND.