Experimental Confinement Studies Beyond ITER

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- A brief review based on comparison between stellarators and tokamaks in ITC18

Introduction

Many kinds of devices have been tested for more than 50 years.

Tokamaks, stellarators, RFP, Mirrors and so on



LHD, CHS, H-J, TJ-II, H1, W7-AS HSX, TU-heliac....

The understanding from the first principle should be mandatory to realize an economic and high-performance devices in future.

Outlines of Talk

1. Advantage of Stellarators

Density limit & attractive confinement regime

2. Transport and New Paradigm

For realizing a better magnetic field configuration in turbulent transport

3. Beyond Simple Comparison

Roles of low temperature devices

4. Summary

High Density Operation

Records in tokamaks

Ion Temp.	40 keV (JT-60U)	
Conf. Time	1.2 s (JET)	1 ³)
beta	40 %(START)	²⁰ /m
Electron Temp.	20 keV (ASDEX-U)	(10
Stored Energy	17 MJ (JET)	u, exp
Fusion Product	1.5x10 ²⁰ m ⁻³ skeV (JT-60U)	_

From K. Yamazaki & M. Kikuchi ITC12

Greenwald limit
$$n_{\text{limit}} \propto \frac{I_p}{\pi a^2}$$

Extremely High Density Limit LHD 1.0 Alcator C DIII PBX 0. 1.0 10 n (10²⁰ /m³) n_G

Courtesy of Prof. H. Yamada

Stellarators can easily exceed the Greenwald density.

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Behavior around Density Limit

Several scenarios around density limit are known, e.g., **Breathing No any violent instabilities** have been reported **— Disruption**



Transport around density limit can be investigated without any current driven instabilities in stellarators

Improved confinement with high density (SDC & HDH)

τ_E, τ_{imp}/30 [ms]

HDH-mode (W7-AS)



K. McCormick et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 89 015001 (2002)

Attractive improved confinement regimes have been found in stellarators

Spontaneous ash removal may be expected The mechanisms should be clarified



Transport & New Paradigm

- Configuration Optimization

Collisional Transport & Barrier Formation



Non-axisymmetric nature (or helical ripple structure) can be the cause for barrier formation

New Paradigm for Turbulent Transport

Magnetic well & shear: associated with linear stabilization of instabilities

New Paradigm: associated with the saturation of instabilities



PLASMA TURBULENCE

The new paradigm is confirmed experimentally.

Flow damping rate is really a key for turbulent transport.

Comparison in Spectra

Common features in fluctuation spectra of stellarator and tokamak

I) stationary zonal flows, ii) GAMs, iii) drift waves



Y. Hamada et al., NF 45 81 (2005)

D. K. Gupta et al., PRL 97 125002 (2006)

Zonal flow fraction appears to be large in tokamaks

Comparison in Flow Damping Rate

Comparison between Flow Damping Rate in Tokamak and Stellarators



Inhomogeneity of configuration (or parallel viscosity) damps the plasma flow.

Confinement & Flow Damping Rate



Parallel viscosity + magnetic well & shear New concept to optimize configuration in turbulent transport

Beyond Simple Comparison

- Roles of Low Temperature Devices

Experiments for Fundamental Processes

High accessibility and flexibility for physical experiments can be realized in low



Roles of such devices are strengthen even in the era of burning.

Controlled Shear Flow Experiments

A small university machine gives a deep insight into the turbulence shearing



Cheap, but these experiments give physical confidence

Summary

- 1. Stellarators are advantageous in steady state operation and high density limit.
- 2. Neoclassical transport of stellarators could be larger, however, it is the cause to create the transport barrier simultaneously.
- Turbulence transport should be affected by the flow damping rate. Parallel viscosity or magnetic field inhomogeneity gives a new concept to optimize the magnetic field configuration in terms of turbulent transport.
- 4. The understanding from the first principle is essentially necessary. The roles of low temperature devices are emphasized for the confinement studies of toroidal plasmas.