

Development of the synthetic diagnostic for the ultra-fast swept reflectometer

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DE LA RECHERCHE À L'INDUSTRIE



Development of the synthetic diagnostic for the ultra-fast swept reflectometer

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1. Motivation:

Role of turbulence in plasma confinement

- 2. Ultra-fast swept reflectometer Diagnostic capabilities for turbulence measurements
- 3. Synthetic diagnostic Project progress





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Confinement is limited by turbulent transport

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Plasma in a tokamak must be:

- hot and dense at the core
- cool at the edge

 \rightarrow gradients \rightarrow turbulence

Turbulence should be understood, predicted and reduced for a better confinement

Objective:

Investigate turbulence during confinement changes



δ*T* in the ASDEX Upgrade tokamak with GENE code [genecode.org]

L-H transition – crucial issue for fusion

low confinement (L-mode) \rightarrow high confinement (H-mode)

[F. Wagner, PRL1982]

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- Transport of heat and particles reduced
- Drift velocity $\vec{v}_{E \times B} = \frac{\vec{E} \times \vec{B}}{B^2} \propto E_r$
- Increase of the radial electric field creates E×B shear flow
- Shear flow suppresses turbulence









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- UFSR developed at CEA for Tore Supra and WEST tokamaks, transferred to ASDEX Upgrade (2013–2016) supported by EUROfusion
- 50-102 GHz X-mode
- Acquisition 2Gs/s
- Sweep time 1 μs
 [F. Clairet, RSI 2017]









Turbulence properties measured by UFSR







- Density profiles with 1 µs resolution
- 1D wave propagation simulation
 → radial wavenumber spectra
- Density fluctuation (turbulence level)
- Frequency spectra up to 400 kHz
- Correlation length and time
- 2D effects to be considered

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Background flow (E_{r0}) evolution during I-phase () EUROfusion



 E_{r0} minimum (at $\rho_{pol} = 0.98$) deepens during I-phase from -5 to -20 kV/m

Turbulence and E_{r0} oscillate during I-phase





- Established I-phase might be explained by edge instabilities causing a fast relaxation of pressure (turbulence and flow in phase)
- Edge coherent modes appear in the pedestal region and might play a role







the spectra become narrower during the I-phase and in H-mode due to the radial electric field shear



Outline



1. Motivation:

Role of turbulence in plasma confinement

2. Ultra-fast swept reflectometer Diagnostic capabilities for turbulence measurements

3. Synthetic diagnostic

Project objectives and progress

New challenge: identification of turbulent flows () EUROfusion

Spontaneous organisation of a set of regularly spaced weak transport barriers: ExB staircase predicted by GYSELA





Project at the crossroads between theory, simulation and experiments

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Synthetic diagnostic for UFSR data interpretation



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Turbulence map simulated with gyrokinetic code

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Density map from GYSELA, 10¹⁹m⁻³



Low collisional plasma \rightarrow gyrokinetic description

- \Box flux-driven \rightarrow mimic experiments
- self-consistent interplay btw core, edge & simplified SOL model
- global description: kinetic ions & adiabatic or kinetic trapped electrons
- □ self-organised E_r well











Soft source: $H_z(kdx, y, ndt) = H_z(kdx, y, (n-1)dt) + e^{j\omega(ndt)}e^{-\frac{(y-y_0)^2}{\sigma^2}}\frac{A_0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0\mu_0}}$

Measured signal: $E_y^n(x_s, y_s) = A_0^* e^{j\omega_0 ndt} + a_1^* e^{j(\omega_0 ndt - \phi)}$

Calculation speed (Python+C): 1000 x 1000 x 5000 points 10min for F_0 x y t

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Further development: sweep simulation



Sweep: $\omega_0 \rightarrow \omega = \omega_0 + v_\omega t$

Source:

 $e^{i(\omega_0 t + v_\omega t^2 + \Delta \varphi(t))}$

- Mimic real reflectometer
- Optimised calculation speed
- 1 µs sweep 2 000 000 points \rightarrow 70 hours 0.01 µs sweep 20 000 points \rightarrow 1 hour $F_{beat} \approx 400 MHz \rightarrow 40 GHz$









2D code application





Sign inversion of the spectra asymmetry during I-phase can be explained by a sawtooth-like cutoff layer

Further application: modes' size, flow detection, turbulence level and wavenumber spectra, correlation analysis







- ^{20¹} Create 2D full wave code
 - Couple with GYSELA turbulence maps
 - Parallel calculation for (F,t) 10 min each
 - Optimise calculation speed by sweeping of frequency
 - Integrate 2D code to the loop method of wavenumber/turbulence level analysis
 - Add functions for correlation analysis
 - Reproduce spectra for various turbulence scenarios for ASDEX Upgrade and WEST data, compare with GYSELA and GENE



Conclusions



- First studies of the electron density and density fluctuations dynamics during L-H transitions in ASDEX Upgrade have been performed with a time resolution of 1 μs using 1D wave propagation simulation.
- 2D full wave code is developed for interpretation of ultra-fast swept reflectometer data and coupled with GYSELA and GENE turbulence simulations.
- Synthetic diagnostic is being optimised for further data analysis.



Slow sweep simulation







Loop method for wavenumber spectra





Density fluctuation dynamics : k_r-spectra

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