

Plasma Heating and Innovative Microwave Launching in ECRIS: Models and Experiments

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Outline



INTRODUCTION

Microwave-to-plasma coupling "Cavity-dominated" VS "Launching-dominated"

NUMERICAL MODELING

EM wave propagation in the anisotropic magnetized plasmas of ion sources



ECRIS 2018 23rd International Workshop on ECR ion sources

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IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPERIMENTAL BENCHMARKS

- 1. B-minimum device (Electron Cyclotron Resonance (ECR) Ion Sources @ATOMKI)
- 2. ECR-based Charge Breeder (PHOENIX Charge Breeder @LPSC)
- 3. Simple-mirror axis-symmetric linear device (Flexible Plasma Trap @INFN-LNS)



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PERSPECTIVES

1. short term (2 years): Reshaping plasma chambers with non-conventional features;

- 2. short/mid-term (3 years): Innovative RF launcher and quasi-optical approach;
- 3. Long Term (5 years): futuristic all-dielectric mm-waves launching structures.



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Overcoming the actual limit of ECRIS



ECRIS NUMERICAL MODEL: STATE OF THE ART

Up to now several studies make various approximations by:

- **assuming "zero-dimensional" up to 2D-simulation** model for calculating the charge state distribution in a parametric way;
- **considering a simplified magnetostatic scenario** with **an axial symmetry** (only simple mirror configuration instead of minimum-B);
- considering the medium as an equivalent dielectric load
- solving the wave equation in Wentzel Kramers Brillouin (WKB) approximation (Fusion plasma)
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"Cavity vs "Launching" Microwave-plasma coupling



microwave-to-plasma coupling

"Launching-dominated"

$$L_n = \left| \frac{n_e}{\nabla n_e} \right| \quad L_T = \left| \frac{T}{\nabla T} \right| \quad L_B = \left| \frac{B}{\nabla B} \right|$$
 "Cavity-dominated"

$$L_B, L_T, L_n >> \lambda$$

In large-size fusion reactor ray-tracing calculations can be performed

$$L_B, L_T, L_n \approx \lambda$$

in the ECRIS, ray-tracing approximation is not applicable, and the full-wave calculations have to be applied to simulate the wave behaviour in the plasma

Modeling of wave propagation in Anisotropic plasma of ECRIS





$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \boldsymbol{E} - \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \overline{\overline{\epsilon_r}} \cdot \boldsymbol{E} = 0$$

Wave equation with tensorial permittivity

Full-3D non homogeneous dielectric permittivity Tensor depends on local electron density and magnetic field B

$$\overline{\overline{\epsilon}} = \epsilon_0 \overline{\overline{\epsilon}_r} = \epsilon_0 \left(\overline{\overline{\epsilon'}} - i\overline{\overline{\epsilon''}}\right) = \epsilon_0 \left(\overline{\overline{I}} - \frac{i\overline{\overline{\sigma}}}{\omega\epsilon_0}\right)$$

$$= \epsilon_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 + i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{a_x}{\Delta} & i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{c_z + d_{xy}}{\Delta} & i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{-c_y + d_{xz}}{\Delta} \\ i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{-c_z + d_{xy}}{\Delta} & 1 + \frac{i\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{a_y}{\Delta} & i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{c_x + d_{yz}}{\Delta} \\ i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{c_y + d_{xz}}{\Delta} & i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{-c_x + d_{zy}}{\Delta} & 1 + i\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega}\frac{a_z}{\Delta} \end{bmatrix}$$

Simulation Setup in COMSOL





described by the dielectric tensor

Simulation parameter

PARAMETER	VALUE
Cavity length	450 mm
Cavity radius	65 mm
Frequency	8 GHz
Waveguide width	28.5 mm
Waveguide height	12.6 mm
RF Power	100 W



FEM "Full Wave" solution approach





Mesh procedure



The mesh is very fine on the ECR surface and relatively coarser away from the resonance zone.



Numerical results: Snapshots of the Electric field ams Power loss density on a slice



$$P_{diss} = \vec{J} \cdot \vec{E} = \left(\bar{\vec{\sigma}} \cdot \vec{E}\right) \cdot \vec{E}$$

Power deposition : the 55 % of the total input Power is absorbed by the plasma



2÷3 orders of magnitude Difference between Electric field of ECR zone and outer ones







Self-consistent simulations







Road Towards Self Consistency... exit from the loop



Electron Density on xy plane (z=0)

STEP 4





IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPERIMENTAL BENCHMARKS

1. B-minimum device (Electron Cyclotron Resonance (ECR) Ion Sources @ATOMKI)



Exploring plasma structure: first time X-ray imaging experiment in Atomki-Debrecen





Exploring plasma structure in Atomki-Debrecen





[<u>S. Biri</u>, R. Rácz, J. Pálinkás "Studies of the ECR plasma in the visible light range" talk @ECRIS '08"]

"Visible light (VL) photos transform information mainly on the cold electron component of the plasma. <u>Cold electrons are confined in the central plasma part</u>. X-ray (XR) photos show the spatial distribution of ions. These ions and <u>the warm</u> <u>electrons are well confined by the magnetic field lines structure</u> showing strong asymuthal and radial inhomogenity"

Comparison to self-consistent simulations 12.84 or 12.92 GHz





IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPERIMENTAL BENCHMARKS

2. ECR-based Charge Breeder (PHOENIX Charge Breeder @LPSC)









Simulation results



Frequency [GHz]	14.52	14.32
Input Power [W]	100	100
Absorbed Power [W]	<u>24.4</u>	<u>80.4</u>

NUMERICAL EVIDENCE OF THE FREQUENCY TUNING EFFECT !







IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPERIMENTAL BENCHMARKS

3. Simple-mirror axis-symmetric linear device (Flexible Plasma Trap @'NFN-LNS)





Flexible Plasma Trap (FPT) Setup @INFN-LNS



Flexible magnetic field

- Flexible magnetic field generated by three solenoids generator;
- Different magnetic field profiles: Simple Mirror & Magnetic Beach



Flexible RF injection

•	Three m	icrowa	aves	
	inputs:			

1 axial and 2 radial;

• Microwave frequency in the range **4-7 GHz**



Measurements of wave in plasma: INFN Special probes development

- *sensitive to the short wavelength* of longitudinal waves near the resonance layer
- polarization sensitive, the electrostatic radial component
- small enough to have the desired spatial resolution



Simulated Electric filed profile along longitudinal z-axis and transversal x-axis of FPT

Measurements of waves in plasma SETUP: HF probes





"Customized" Microwave coaxial Cable "Sucoflex 102" DC/40 GHz enclosed in Alumina tube



EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS







• The excellent agreement between model predictions and experimental data are very promising for the study and design of future launchers or "exotic" shapes of the plasma chambers in compact machines, such as ECR Ion Sources and other similar devices

["ECR ION SOURCES - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE", Columbia University, Claude Lyneis LBNL]:

Questions:

- How strong is the RF coupling/damping in an ECR plasma chamber?
- What limits the plasma density?
- How can we get a handle on these questions?

PERSPECTIVES

- **short term (2 years)** Reshaping plasma chambers with non-conventional features;
- short/mid-term (3 years): new launchers based on waveguide arrays, especially for new schemes of ECR-Heating such as Bernstein Waves, and for ECRIS still fulfilling frequency scaling laws above 28 GHz (quasi-optical approach);
- Long Term (2-5 years): futuristic all-dielectric mm-waves launching structures.

Reshaping plasma chambers with nonconventional features

short term (2 years)



Sext-in-Sol magnetic field structure



CST simulated Reflection coefficient



new-shaped" plasma chamber



improved

short/mid-term (3 years):

Phased Array



What are they?Why are they used?Many radiators in close proximityBeam control with fixed geometryImage: Control with fixed geome

Alternative Microwave-plasma heating

Phased Array on a fusion reactor: waveguide "grill"



Phased Array on a Ion source plasma reactor: two waveguide array



Phased waveguide array of two elements: FIT FDTD Simulation





Radiation Diagrams @ 14 GHz



Microwave launcher Antenna assembly



["ECR ION SOURCES - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE", Columbia University, Claude Lyneis LBNL]:

«Frequency scaling is roughly correct from 6 to 28 GHz and is expected to work for 4th generation ECR's at ~50 GHz

«The technical challenges at 50 GHz make it attractive to look for new approaches»

Conventional RF technology scaled down?



Dielectric accelerator structures



Types:

- Dielectric wall acceleration
- Dielectric wakefield acceleration
- Dielectric laser acceleration
- Dielectric assisted waveguide
- Dielectric loaded waveguides

Advantages:

- High breakdown threshold (1-5 GV/m)
- High frequency operation
- Can reduce wakefields (photonic crystals)
- Mature fabrication technologies available

Dielectric High Damage threshold



Structure proposed

A range of proposals:

- Lin (2001), Mizrahi and Schachter (2004)
- Cowan (2008), Naranjo et al. (2012)
- □ First demonstration Peralta et al. (2013)



High gradients enable compact

linear accelerators

Accelerator on a Chip International Program (ACHIP) Stanford , UCLA, EPFL, TU Darmstadt , Tech-X



[Wootton, SLAC – 8th Int. Part. Accel. Conf. – WEYB1 – 17th May 2017 7] Long Term (2-5 years)



All-dielectric structures

Proof-of-concept experiments are taking place @LNS



Dielectric waveguide

electromagnetic field



Long Term (2-5 years)

All-dielectric mm-waves launching structures

Emerging electromagnetic concepts

- Photonic Crystal (PhC) technology
- Metamaterials
- Engineering of the geometry of the structure allows for creation of "artificial materials" for unusual EM responses
- Scalability
- Potentially low cost TM01 mode

Dielectric EBG waveguide



periodic dielectric structures

allows Manipulation of the electromagnetic properties of materials

Reinvent resonant structures using dielectric

dielectric cavity









- The wave propagation in plasmas has been modelled with a full wave numerical approach under "cold" plasma approximation.
- For the first time, the electric field amplitude has been measured by mean of a twopins RF probe in a compact plasma trap in conditions resembling very closely the features of a common simple-mirror-configuration ECR ion source.
- The excellent agreement between model predictions and experimental data are very promising for the study and design of future launchers or "exotic" shapes of the plasma chambers in compact machines, such as ECR Ion Sources and other similar devices
- Further steps forward are going to be done as concerning the improvement of the model, including the "hot" plasma tensor: this will perspectively allow to master additional mechanisms such as modal conversion at the hybrid resonance.





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