## QUEST experiments towards steady state operation of spherical tokamaks

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# We have been promoting characteristic steady state experimental devices



### What are issues to SSO?

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#### Non-inductive current drive

Ideally self-organized current such as BS current to alleviate less current drive efficiency

**neo-classical current** in low n<sub>e</sub> at present and **EBWCD** in near future on QUEST

Heat and particle handling

Heat handling; Detached divertor, Ar and Ne injection

Particle handling; Closed divertor, Hot wall, Enhanced pumping, Advanced fueling

 Integrated control including core plasma, PWI and wall.
 Global plasma control, Turbulence control in core, Blob control in SOL, Wall conditioning

### An example of 0-D heat balance in a steady state plasma QUEST AFRC



• Heat was completely balanced after about 30 min.

• Plasma termination was caused by unbalance of particle.

# What happen particle balance in steady-state?

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Wall pumping in long pulse operation

M. Sakamoto et al., Nucl. Fusion 42 (2002) 165



- The wall pumping rate strongly depended on the plasma parameters.
- The wall pumping was working for more than 5 hours.
- The abrupt termination of the plasma was caused by a lost of particle balance (may be wall saturation).



#### **0-D particle balance eq.**

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AFRC  $\frac{\partial N_p}{\partial t} = -\frac{N_p}{\tau_n} + \frac{N_n}{\tau_{ion}}$  $\frac{\partial N_n}{\partial t} = -\frac{N_n}{\tau_{ion}} - \frac{N_n}{\tau_{ab}} f_n(N_W) + r\frac{N_p}{\tau_n} f_p(N_W) + (1+C_1)\frac{N_p}{\tau_n}\frac{N_W}{N_{WSn}} + \frac{N_W}{\tau_W} + \Gamma_{in} - \Gamma_{out}$  $\frac{\partial N_W}{\partial t} = -\frac{N_W}{\tau_W} + (1-r)\frac{N_p}{\tau_p}f_p(N_W) - C_1\frac{N_p}{\tau_p}\frac{N_W}{N_{WSp}} + \frac{N_n}{\tau_{ab}}f_n(N_W)$  $f_{n,p}(N_W) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{N_W}{N_{WSn,p}} & N_W < N_{WSn,p} \\ 0 & N_W \ge N_{WSn,p} \end{cases}$  $\Gamma_{out} = \frac{N_n S_{pump}}{V_{Vanal}}$  $N_p$ , number of plasma particle  $N_{WSp,n}$ , number at wall saturation  $N_n$ , number of neutral particle r, refrection coeffcient  $N_{W}$ , number of neutral particle in wall  $C_1$ , plasma – induced desorption



 $\tau_{W}$ =10sec,  $\tau_{ion}$ =25ms,  $\tau_{p}$ =10ms, nWSp=2.5x10<sup>22</sup> (1x10<sup>21</sup> m<sup>-2</sup>), nWSn=nWSp/12 Vvessel=35m<sup>3</sup>, Vplasma=4m<sup>3</sup> Svessel=25m<sup>2</sup>, input=4x10<sup>18</sup>/sec, Spump=10m<sup>3</sup>/sec



- The number of stored particles depends on the targeted wall temperature.
- Hot wall around 673K could not have the property of pumping.

# Issues in particle balance eq

- Impurity production
- Re-deposition, Co-deposition
- Estimation of  $\tau_{W}$ ,  $\tau_{p}$ ,  $\tau_{ab}$ ,  $\tau_{ion}$ , C<sub>1</sub>, r, n<sub>WSp</sub>, n<sub>WSn</sub>
- Fusion reaction, D, T, and He balance
- 1-D model (inward pinch, density peaking, blob, divertor)





# Present status of QUEST QUEST

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Non inductive current griven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47				
R(m)0.680.7a(m)0.40.48a(m)1.61.47A1.61.0Ip kA(OH)30010 (Bt=0.14T)Ip kA (RF)2^ 30(0.45MW) 100 (1MW)25(60kW) (Bt<0.14T)Prf (kW)400~200Prf (kW)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)Non inductive current (riven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.475S37 s			Design	Achieved
Image: space of the space of		R(m)	0.68	0.7
A1.61.47Image: Image: Image		a(m)	0.4	0.48
Image: Point of the section of the		Α	1.6	1.47
Ip kA (RF)2~ 30(0.45MW) 100(1MW)25(60kW)Prf (kW)400~200Prf (kW)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)Bt(T)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)n4E18<1E18clischargeSS37 s		I <sub>p</sub> kA(OH)	300	110 (Bt=0.14T)
Pref (kW)400~200Non inductive current driven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47Bt(T)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)Non inductive current dischargeAE18<1E18SS37 s		lp kA (RF)	2~ 30(0.45MW) 100 (1MW)	25(60kW)
Non inductive current driven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47Bt(T)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)Bt(T)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)0.25(CW)In4E18<1E18SS37 s		P <sub>rf</sub> (kW)	400	~200
Non inductive current driven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47 discharge SS 37 s	Non inductive current driven plasma R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47	Bt(T)	0.25(CW)	0.25(CW)
R=0.7m, a=0.48m, A=1.47 discharge SS 37 s		n	4E18	<1E18
		discharge	SS	37 s

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# Non-inductive current drive

- Development of hardware of microwave heating system (presented by Prof. Idei)
- Plausible explanation of present experimental observation
- Future plans for current drive (presented by Prof. Idei)

### **Development of QUEST status**



QUEST experiments are going well as previously scheduled and we have an opportunity to challenge for steady state operation of spherical tokamaks.

#### New type phased array antenna for EBWCD

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- Control of incident wave polarization and mode
- Control of incident angle and beam property
- Water cooling for CW operation up to 200kW

How wave should be injected depends on the way for current drive. This antenna will be used for EBW excitation and current drive, X and O mode ECCD.

#### The details will be presented by Prof. Idei in this meeting H. Idei et al., Journal of Plasma and Fusion Research SERIES, Vol.8 (2009), pp. 1104-1107







The details will be presented by Kalinnikova-san in this meeting



• Difficult to understand how to drive the current using 1 and  $2\Omega e X$  and O mode ECCD and EBWCD.



- On open magnetic surface, the asymmetric orbit and the <u>precession of</u> banana electrons can drive the plasma current.
- The effect is enhanced with higher energy region.
- The momentum to electron fluid is supplied by the lost electrons. This is a kind of spontaneous current such as bootstrap current.



### Neo-classical effect can drive the current

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At the plasma current start-up, a part of the plasma current was driven outside of last closed flux surface.

• The current can be explained by the precession motion of banana electrons accelerated on  $2\Omega e$ ECR layer in open magnetic flux.

# Heat and particle handling

- Formation of Divertor conf.
- Divertor probe measurement
- Study of Blobs in ECRH plasmas





Hot spots mainly appeared on the outer wall, increasing P<sub>RF</sub> and pulse duration. The plasma current was reduced by the increment of out-gassing caused by the presence of the hot spots.









J.R.Myra and D.A.D'lppolito *et al*, Physics of Plasmas ,13 ,92509(2006) J. Cheng et al., Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion, 52, 055003 (2010)

Particle flux in SOL region related to blobs is dominant . For 1-D model of particle balance, distribution of particle flux should be investigated.



# Blobs in ECRH plasma on QUEST are belonging to low collisional region like as ITER SOL.

Statistical Analysis will be reported by Santanu-san in this meeting



60% of particle flux was induced by blob-related convective flux and It should be investigated how many particles transport to the wall, not to the divertor.





The details will be presented by Hasegawa-san in this meeting





### **Comparison of the plasma axis position** with magnetic measurement QUEST





# Hot wall has been designed QUEST



#### Modeling of plasma for heat balance calcu.

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- Plasma was assumed as a toroidal-shaped flat radiation source.
- No heat flow to divertor plate from plasma.
- 100kW radiation in steady
- state (20 % of 500kW)

# An example of calculation result







When the temperature of the hot wall surface is over 500 degree, a part of the vacuum vessel is going to be too high. This means some cooling channels are required.

#### **Two types of cooling channels are investigated** for cool-down of the vacuum vessel QUEST

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Required flow rate of water is reasonable, however workability to install these channels is still concerns. Further investigations are necessary.





#### Plasma current evolution – principal comp. analysis applied to fast camera images QUEST

- > Let A denote an  $m \times n$  matrix of image data, where  $m \ge n$
- Equation for SVD gives:

$$A = USV^T$$

Where *U* is a  $m \times n$  matrix, *S* is a  $n \times n$  diagonal matrix and *V*<sup>T</sup> is a  $n \times n$  matrix

> The first, second and third principal components are defined by  $s_1v_1^{T}$ ,  $s_2v_2^{T}$ ,  $s_3v_3^{T}$  respectively



September 28<sup>th</sup>: 28-3P-7 Poster presentation by Santanu Banerjee

## Summary

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- On QUEST, a spherical tokamak configuration with the aspect ratio of less than 1.5, the plasma current up to 25kA could be obtained for 1s by fully non-inductive current drive using the well-controlled microwave of 8.2GHz, 120kW.
- The non-inductive current is driven by toroidally asymmetric orbit of energetic electrons accelerated by the microwave.
- The plasma current was reduced by the increment of out-gassing caused by the presence of the hot spots made by direct attack the energetic electrons on the wall.
- The single-null divertor configuration was formed and could be maintained for 20 sec. Ion saturation current measured on the divertor plate surface was increasing around the divertor leg.
- The real time plasma shape control for QUEST are preparing and the method to avoid a drift problem of magnetic signal (2D SXR) will try to apply to identify the plasma position..
- •Several types of new developed diagnostics start to work.



- Everything has some complicated reciprocal relations and its integrated results make or mar fusion power plants.
- Several issues come to the front in steady state operation.

### **Particle Balance**

#### What kinds of processes are working?



### What is the matter with steady-state ?

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#### Wall pumping in long pulse operation

M. Sakamoto et al., Nucl. Fusion 42 (2002) 165



 The wall pumping depends on the plasma parameters and it leads to be difficult to control of particle balance in steady state. The co-deposition process plays an essential role in the wall pumping rate.

# Neo-classical current was enough to make CFS









- 1 $\Omega$ e X and O mode ECCD was impossible at low B<sub>T</sub> even under the consideration of relativistic and Doppler effect.
- $2\Omega e X$  ECCD had the possibility to drive the current because of avoidance of the cancel effect in a narrow density region.



#### 予測されるblobのパラメータ領域



他の装置で発生するblobもこの領域にあると予想され、QUEST で観測されているblobも、同じ領域にいるのでQUESTでの研究 は、他の装置での伝搬機構解明に役立つと考えられる。

S. I. Krasheninnikov, Phys. Plasma., **74.** (2008)679 J.R.Myra and D.A.D'lppolito *et al*, Physics of Plasmas , **13** ,(2006)92509



Wall store the number of particle (1x10<sup>21</sup>) before the plasma turns on. When this situation occurs in real experiments, the plasma do not turn on.







### ダイバータプローブ破損状況











A part of high energy elec. may directly attack to the outer wall.
The asymmetric elec. orbit can drive the current in closed flux surface (CFS) spontaneously.

### **Particle Balance**

#### What kinds of processes are working?



## Particle Balance in QUEST

Most of processes are common in various devices.











#### ダイバータプローブ計測結果



上側ダイバータ位置に、R方向にプローブアレイを設置(R=270mmから15mmおきに 35チャンネル)。イオン飽和電流計測を行った。

・リミタ配位の場合とダイバータ配位の場合との違い
・(ダイバータ配位の場合)上側ヌルと下側ヌルとでの違い
・ECR位置での違い



