Development, Injection and Diagnostics for LHD Injectors

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Large Helical Device (LHD)





Heliotron configuration of I=2/m=10 field period
All superconducting coil system
Plasma major radius 3.42-4.1 m
Plasma minor radius 0.6 m
Plasma volume 30 m³
Toroidal field strength 3 T

Neutral Beam Injector (NBI) Systems for LHD



- Two positive-ion-based NBIs (p-NBIs) for perpendicular injection.
- Three negative-ion-based NBIs (n-NBIs) for tangential injection.

Structure of N-NBI in LHD



- Hydrogen beam injection with 180 keV-5 MW / injector (2 ion sources).
- Length of gas-neutralizing cell : 5 m
- Focal length of the ion source is 13 m, and pivot point of two ion sources locates 15.4 m in the horizontal direction.
- Injection port is ~3 m long, and the narrowest part is ~0.5 m in diameter with the length of ~0.7 m.

Hydrogen Negative Ion Source



- Multi-cusp source with external magnetic filter
- Plasma production : Filament arc discharges
- Cs vapor is seeded to enhance H⁻ production
- Inner dimensions : 1400 mm (H) x 350 mm (W) x 230 mm (D)
- H⁻ beam : Single stage acceleration
- Beam extraction area : 1250 mm (H) x 250 (W)

Evolution of Injection Status (n-NBI)



- Using three negative-ion-based NBI systems, total injection power of ~ 16 **MW** has been achieved.
- Since 2007, injection powers of more ٠ than 15 MW have continued to inject.

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- Individual maximum injection power of negative NBI systems •
 - BL1: 6.9 MW at 190 keV (maximum), 6 MW (average).
 - BL2: 5.6 MW at 188 keV (maximum), 4 MW (average).
 - BL3: 5.4 MW at 182 keV (maximum), 4 MW (average).

From H to D Beam Injection

Deuterium-Plasma Experiment

Neutral beam Injectors (NBIs) will be upgraded for deuterium beam injection, which have higher ion heating efficiency

Positive NBI (40kV, 6MW, H₀) + (40kV, 6MW, H₀) \rightarrow (60kV, 9MW, D₀) + (80kV, 9MW, D₀) Negative NBI (180kV, 5MW, H₀) x 3 \rightarrow (180kV, ~3.5MW, D₀) x 3

In LHD deuterium experiment, T_{i0} = 10 keV will be achieved with deuterium beam injection and further improvement of confinement due to the isotope effect



D-Beam Injection (p-NBI)

• Due to mass difference, D⁻ current density becomes $(1/\sqrt{2})$ times lower than that of H⁻ according to Child-Langmuir's law.

$$J_{D+} = \frac{4\varepsilon_0}{9} \sqrt{2e/m_D} \frac{E^{3/2}}{d^{1/2}}$$

- The beam energies are increased from 40 keV to 60 keV (NBI #4) and 80 keV (NBI #5) to upgrade p-NBIs.
- The power supplies are prepared for the energy enhancement.
- Injection power is improved from 6 MW to 9 MW each of the p-NBI.

D-Beam Injection (n-NBI)

- The ion heating rate becomes higher in D injection with n-NBI of 180 keV.
- As well as p-NBI, the current density of D⁻ becomes $1/\sqrt{2}$ times lower than that of H⁻.

$$J_{D-} = \frac{4\varepsilon_0}{9} \sqrt{2e / m_D} \frac{E_{ext}^{3/2}}{d_{ext}^{1/2}}$$

- Extraction field (E_{ext}) is hard to increase by reducing the gap, because the acceleration field (E_{acc}) reaches the breakdown limit under the focusing condition that $E_{acc}/E_{ext} = const$.
- Consequently, we need to enhance D⁻ current.

How to Increase the Power of D Beam Injection

Improvement for D⁻ beam

Physics of H⁻ production and extraction

- Diagnostic investigation on H⁻ production
- Beamlet monitoring
- PIC simulation

Engineering approach to enhance H⁻ current

- Improvement of beam accelerator
- Cs recycling
- Control of H⁻ production

Empirical Validation

Diagnostics of Negative-Ion-Rich Plasma

Production of Negative-Ion-Rich Plasma



Decrease of electron saturation current during Cs seeding



Changes in V-I curve of single-tip Langmuir probe



Ion-ion plasma in beam extraction region of a Cs seeded ion source.

(Position of probe tip: 9 mm from PG)

Hydrogen discharge (positive ion) : (electron) ≈ 1 : 10 Cs-seeded plasma (optimized) (positive ion) : (negative ion) ≈ 1 : 1

Cs optimization

In Cs-optimized plasma:

- (1) very symmetric V-I characteristic
- (2) quite low electron density (less than 1% of H^- density).

* "electron" saturation current \rightarrow "negative" saturation current

Diagnostic System for Negative-Ion-Rich Plasma



- Plasmas in extraction region are measured with multiple diagnostic system.
- Density, temperature and flows of charged and neutral particles are measured with those systems at the same time.
- Some new diagnostic techniques are developed for the system.

Diagnostic System for Negative-Ion-Rich Plasma



- Multi-cusp source with a pair of filter magnets.
- Inner size: 700 mm (Height) x 350 mm (Width) x 230 mm (Depth).
- Beam extraction region from PG to filter magnets are the target of this research.
- Filter and electron deflection fields combines in the region.





Beam Extraction and Negative-Ion-Rich Plasma



Changes of H⁻ and Electron Densities During Extraction



- Electrostatic response of negative-ion-rich plasma in beam extraction region.
- By applying the beam extraction field, Hdensity decreases.
- Simultaneously, electron density increase.

- The phenomena above is schematically explained that H⁻ ion is limited to extract.
- Electrons move from hot plasma region (driver region) to compensate extracted H⁻.

Before beam extraction (Cs seeded plasma) $e^- H^0 H^+ e^ H^0 H^+ H^ H^+ H^- H^-$

During beam extraction



Electrostatic Response of Ion-Ion Plasma

pure H₂ plasma



Cs-seeded plasma



• pure H₂ plasma

Potential slope do not change and deep sheath. → metal-like shielding

Cs-seeded plasma

Potential slope is affected with bias voltage \rightarrow Simi-conductor-like shielding

 Acceptance to electrostatic field is lower in the sheath of negative-ion-rich plasma (ion-ion plasma in this case).

Where are H⁻ ions extracted?

Distribution of H α spectrum \rightarrow Estimation of negative ion behavior

Waveform of $H\alpha$ intensity

Subtracted CCD image: (image A) – (image B)



H α reduction around the extraction apertures corresponds to H⁻ decrease in case of hydrogen ionic plasma. 20

Positive Ion Flow



H⁻ Flow



 v_{th} : thermal velocity v_{flow} : flow velocity

$v_{\rm th} = (v_{\rm A} + v_{\rm c})/2$	
$v_{\rm flow} = (v_{\rm A} - v_{\rm c})/2$	

- Flow direction is opposite to electron and positive ions.
- This suggests the source region of H⁻, electron and positive ions are different.

Recent result of H⁻ Flow



Energy Relation and Parent Particle of H⁻ ion



Energy Relation and Parent Particle of H⁻ ion

Affinity level: 0.75 eV $e(\phi - U_{aff})$ is 0.8 eV (at ϕ of 1.45 eV)



Engineering Improvement

Accelerator with Multi-Slot Grid





- N-NBI beamline #1 has been installed an accelerator with multi-slot grounded grid since 15 years ago.
- We researched the characteristics sufficiently, and the accelerator is scheduled to install beamline #2 and 3.
- By replacing the accelerator, arc efficiency defined as a ratio of H⁻ current to input arc power increases twice.
- It is considered caused by back streaming.

Modification of Grid materials



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Active Control of Cs Pressure

Improvement of Cs recycling

Enhancement of H⁻ production (Active control of Cs vapor pressure)

Proper Caesium (Cs) is very effective to increase H⁻ current density. To obtain optimal Cs recycling, it is necessary to control Cs distribution inside source camber.



Summary

- Two p-NBIs and three n-NBIs provides intense neutral beams to LHD.
- For deuterium plasma experiment, p-NBIs increase their energy and n-NBI needs to improve.
- Comprehensive diagnostics has been carried out to investigate hydrogen negative-ion-rich plasmas.
- In our research, the parent particle of H⁻ is proton and the temperature is ~ 0.1 eV.
- The diagnostic results can be applicable to the other field of plasma processing, astrophysics and fundamental processes.
- Engineering improvement will be carried out by replacing the accelerator and by modifying the materials to ferromagnetic materials.



Distribution of plasma potential (bias dependence in H_2 plasma)



- Electric field, slope of potential distribution, does not change in pure H₂ plasma → metal like character
- The field strength is 20~30 V/m
- Sheath gap at PG is proportional to bias voltage

Distribution of plasma potential (bias dep. in Cs seeded plasma)



- Slope of potential distribution changes the by increasing the bias voltage in Cs seeded plasma → Simi-conductor like character
- This indicates the applied field penetrates inside Cs seeded plasma.
- Sheath gap is less sensitive to bias voltage than the case of H_2 plasma \rightarrow Applied field is relaxed less with H^- -rich sheath.

Change of saturation currents before and during extraction







2D mapped negative saturation currents near PG with beam extraction.



 2D distribution of negative saturation current shows the electron concentrates along the magnetic field of electron deflection magnet

S. Geng et al., *Plasma Fusion Res.* 10, 3405016 (2015)

$H^{\circ}(H^{+}/H_{2}^{+})$ temperature (OES)

- Collimated window of HR- OES (High Resolution Optical Emission Spectroscopy) is installed at the top of bias insulator.
- Wavelength precision: 1 pm Resolution: 10 pm
- Blue wing of $H\alpha$ has strong bias dependence.
- H^o temperature is estimated more than 1 eV from Doppler shift.
- Parent particles are H₂⁺ or H⁺ in this measurement.

$$-$$
 H₂⁺ + e → H(n=3) + H(n=1)

$$- H^{+} + H^{-} \rightarrow H(n=3) + H(n=1)$$





H^{o} temperature ($H\alpha$ LAS)

- Ha laser absorption spectroscopy (Ha LAS) is applied to measure H° temperature, T_{H°}.
- The temperature is almost proportional to input arc power.
- $T_{H^{\circ}} \sim 0.3 \text{ eV}$ at 50 kW of input.
- T_{H^o} decrease by increasing operational pressure.
- parent particle is H(n=2) in this diagnostic.









Flow of electron and positive ions (four-pin Langmuir probe)





Flow directions of electron and positive ion are similar due to ambipolar diffusion

H- temperature and flow measured with 4-pin PD





Flow direction is opposite to electron and positive ions.

$$v_{th} = \left(v_A + v_C\right) / 2 = \sqrt{\frac{8kT_{H-}}{\pi m}}$$

Using the decay time of photodetachment signal, H⁻ temperature is estimated as 0.12 ± 0.03 eV. 38

Saturated CRD



$H\alpha$ CCD Imaging



- Ha CCD imaging, which subtracts image with beam off from beam on phases,
- shows the H⁻ decrement due to the extraction.
 - By increasing the bias voltage, the reduction rate of H⁻ decreases as shown in the left-side figure.
 - Next question is how the decreasing H- is extracted from PG apertures.

K. Ikeda et al., *AIP Conference Proceedings* **1655**, 040005 (2015) K. Ikeda et al., **MonPE11** *ICIS 2015*, this conference

Beamlet eclipse: Setup

• PG aperture was shaded with movable ceramic cylinder (eclipse shade) to investigate influences of an obstacle for

(1) H^{-} production and

(2) beamlet interaction.

 H⁻ beamlets extracted from ion source was monitored with beamlet monitor called mini-STRIKE.



Beamlet eclipse: IR images

- Beamlet-eclipse shade changes the beamlet pattern drastically as shown below.
- Nearest neighbor beamlets shift due to beamlet interaction.



Beamlet eclipse: 2D profiles



Green: w/o PG-aperture plug Blue: PG-aperture plug@18.5 mm Red: PG-aperture plug@ 8.5 mm

- By setting the beamleteclipse shade at 8.5 mm apart from PG, shaded beamlet decreases the intensity down to ~30 %.
- This decrease is mainly caused by shading the parent particle of H⁻.
- Beamlet-eclipse method has possibilities to provide more information on beam extraction and formation.