

Parameter Dependence of Ray Trajectory and Damping for the Ion Bernstein Wave in the TNT-A Tokamak

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The dependence of ray trajectories and damping on various plasma parameters was studied using three-dimensional ray tracing for an ion Bernstein wave in the TNT-A tokamak. The condition for wave power absorption dominated by electron Landau damping was also estimated.

In recent years, plasma heating by an ion Bernstein wave (IBW)¹⁾ has been expected and actively pursued in ACT-1 (a low-temperature toroidal device),^{2,3)} JIPPT-II-U tokamak,⁴⁾ PLT⁵⁾ and TNT-A.^{6,7)} Theoretical studies on IBW are not sufficient and ray-tracing calculations are becoming increasingly important because of the short wavelength of IBW. However, there are few results concerning this type of calculation;^{6,8)} these results do not fully describe the behavior of wave propagation and damping over a wide range of plasma parameters.

In this letter, the parameter dependence of the IBW phenomena using ray tracing is reported in order to understand how to heat ions or electrons at a desired position of a tokamak plasma. We have numerically calculated ray trajectories and damping in the TNT-A tokamak,^{6,7)} utilizing a code originally developed by Ono *et al.*⁸⁾ In this code, Hamilton's equations⁹⁾ of the frequency and wave vector are used with the full dielectric tensor. The obtained parameter dependence can also be utilized for other machines.

Figure 1 shows wave propagation upon changing the in-

itial parallel refractive index n_z . Here, the ratio of the major and minor radii R/a is 40(cm)/8.5(cm); the concentration ratio $n_H/(n_H+n_D)$ is 0.9 (where n_H and n_D are the hydrogen and deuterium densities, respectively); the frequency f is 5.6 MHz; the toroidal field B_t is 2.47 kG (*i.e.*, $\omega=3\omega_D$ where ω_D is the deuteron cyclotron frequency); the central electron, proton and deuteron temperatures are $T_e(0)=50$ eV, $T_H(0)=T_D(0)=20$ eV (electron and ion temperatures take the form of $(1-x^2)^{1.67}$); $n_e(0)=1.2 \times 10^{13}$ cm⁻³ (parabolic density profile); and the safety factors $q_a(\text{edge})=7$, $q_0(\text{center})=2$. From this figure, wave propagation along the toroidal and poloidal directions is enhanced as the initial n_z value increases. This wave changes its propagating direction due to the presence of a poloidal field. The perpendicular refractive index n_x decreases slowly, then increases from $x \sim 4$ cm; an abrupt increase in n_x was observed near the $3\omega_D$ layer.

When the deuterium concentration is increased ($n_H/(n_H+n_D)=0.1$), wave propagation exhibits a different behavior (Fig. 2). The n_x value is larger for the same initial n_z ; also, frequent changes in the sign of n_z have been found.

Figure 3 shows a wave power profile for the case of Figs. 1 and 2. A decrease in the wave power, except the

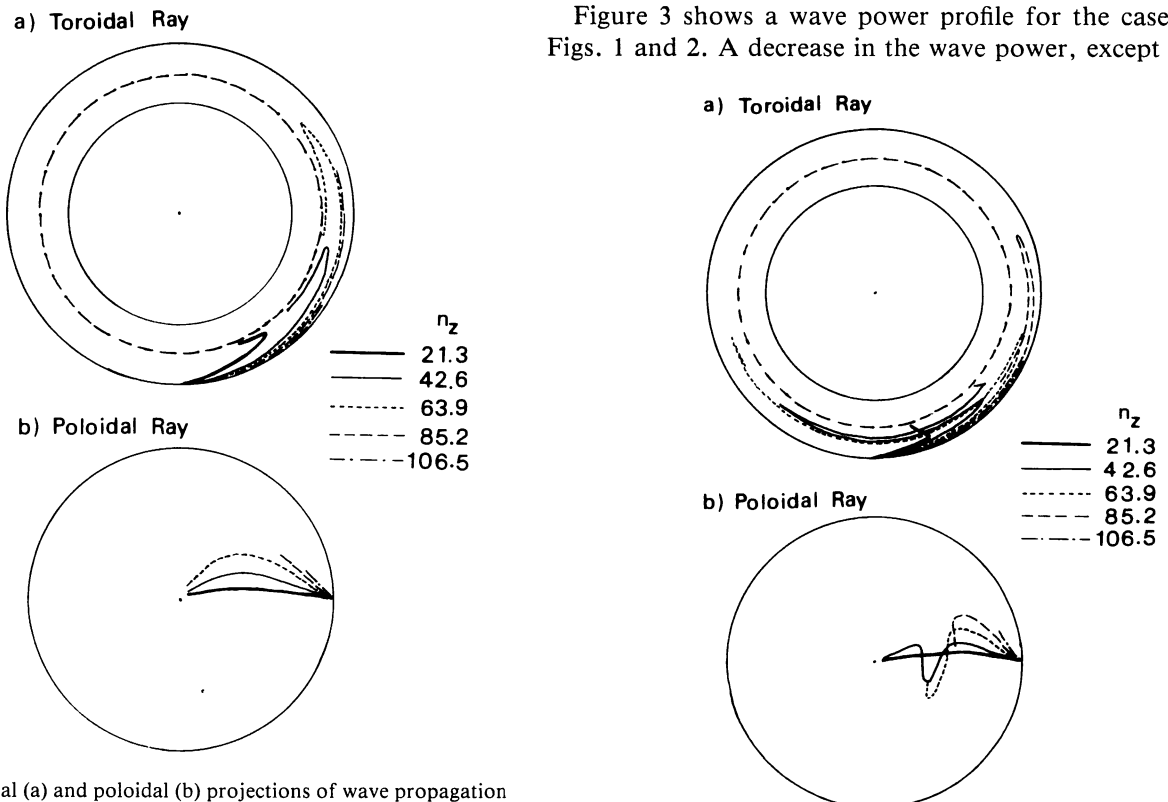


Fig. 1. Toroidal (a) and poloidal (b) projections of wave propagation with $n_H/(n_H+n_D)=0.9$, changing initial n_z value. Here, $n_z=21.3$ corresponds to a toroidal mode number $n=1$ and parallel wave number $k_z=0.025$ cm⁻¹.

Fig. 2. Toroidal (a) and poloidal (b) projections of wave propagation with $n_H/(n_H+n_D)=0.1$, changing initial n_z value.

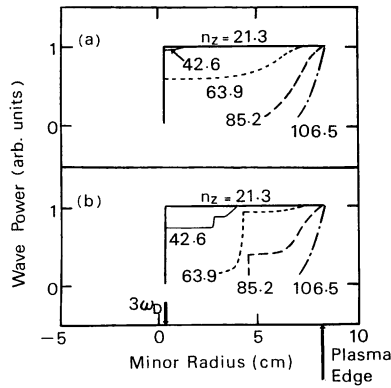


Fig. 3. Radial profile of wave power for different initial n_z values. Figures 3(a) and (b) are for $n_H/(n_H + n_D) = 0.9$ (Fig. 1) and 0.1 (Fig. 2), respectively.

$3\omega_D$ layer, reflects electron Landau damping (ELD). With an increase in the initial n_z , the wave power absorption by ELD near the outer plasma region becomes dominant compared with that by ion cyclotron damping. From Fig. 3, it can be seen that a low concentration of deuterium is effective for heating the plasma core. Generally, if the odd (even) number harmonic frequency of a deuteron is used, n_x and ELD become larger with an increase in the deuterium (hydrogen) concentration due to the presence of a deuteron (proton) resonance.

When the safety factor is lowered with a constant value of q_a/q_0 , wave propagation along the poloidal direction is enhanced. Therefore, the total arc length near the outer plasma region increases, and wave power absorption by ELD increases. As q_a/q_0 increases with a constant q_0 value, the power absorption by ELD also increases. On the other hand, the wave propagates only radially and toroidally (not poloidally), and wave absorption near the outer plasma region increases slightly when q_a and q_0 become infinity (no toroidal plasma current).

A peaked electron temperature profile is favorable for heating the plasma core, though the effect of this profile on the power deposition is weak. With an increase in the electron temperature, the power absorption by ELD becomes dominant since the volume satisfying the ELD condition at the outer plasma region increases and this damping becomes stronger.

So far, we have used the TNT-A plasma parameters: the n_z value n_{z1} , which satisfies the ELD condition that the phase velocity equals the electron thermal velocity, is ~ 100 and the upper n_z value of the excited antenna current spectrum n_{z5} is ~ 300 .^{6,7)} In the JIPPT-II-U tokamak,⁴⁾ n_{z1} is ~ 30 and n_{z5} is ~ 8 . In a reactor-size machine with $T_e = 10$ keV and $f = 200$ MHz, n_{z1} is ~ 7 and n_{z5} is ~ 1.5 if the antenna or waveguide length L is of order 0.5 m. Therefore, contrary to the TNT-A tokamak

case, the power absorption ratio by ELD becomes smaller as the machine parameters increase, *i.e.*, $n_{z1}/n_{z5} \propto fL/T_e^{0.5}$. However, the dependence of wave propagation and damping on plasma parameters obtained in this paper can be utilized even in large machines.

Finally, a calculation was achieved at $\omega = 4\omega_D$, $5\omega_D$ and $6\omega_D$. If the $4\omega_D$ resonance layer is located in the plasma center, the $5\omega_D$ layer is within the plasma cross section (outer side of a torus) for an aspect ratio $A \lesssim 4$. The $5\omega_D$ as well as $6\omega_D$ layers (and the $6\omega_D$ as well as $7\omega_D$ layers) can also be present for the case of $A \lesssim 5$ and $\lesssim 6$, respectively. Therefore, considering the standard aspect ratio in any device, it is necessary to use a frequency of $\omega \lesssim 4\omega_D$ in order to heat the plasma core; otherwise, plasma surface heating may occur.

In conclusion, three-dimensional ray tracing calculations for IBW in a tokamak have been made over a wide range of plasma parameters. As the initial n_z increases, the wave power absorption by ELD becomes dominant compared with that by ion cyclotron damping; this Landau damping region approaches the plasma surface. The value of n_{z1}/n_{z5} , which is a measure of power absorption by ELD, is proportional to $fL/T_e^{0.5}$. As the deuterium concentration increases (decreases), n_x and ELD become dominant for the odd (even) number harmonic frequency of a deuteron. Poloidal propagation is enhanced when the safety factor is lowered. From the view point of heating a plasma core, it is shown that a wave frequency of $\omega \lesssim 4\omega_D$ is favorable.

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