[DP1.105] Thomson scattering on the MST RFP: Progress and Plans

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The single-point Thomson scattering diagnostic on MST has been upgraded and a new multi-point, multi-pulse diagnostic is being constructed. The ruby laser single-point system has been upgraded with avalanche photodiode detectors, resulting in increased quantum efficiency, broader wavelength coverage, and improved system etendue. The low density limit for reliable measurement of electron temperature has been reduced by a factor of five. In addition, the improved sensitivity will allow double-pulsing the laser to yield measurement of rapid (10 - 500 microseconds) temperature changes during a discharge. The new Thomson scattering diagnostic being constructed will feature 20 radial measurement points and two Nd:YAG lasers, each capable of 2 J/pulse. Each laser can be pulsed at an arbitrary time during the discharge, or may be repetitively pulsed at 50 Hz with reduced pulse energy. Filter polychromators have been purchased from General Atomics; collection optics and fiber bundles are being procured. We present measurements of component performance and projections of system performance. First operation of the multi-point system is expected in 2001.

Madison Symmetric Torus



MST Reversed Field Pinch

- Plasma current: 500 kA
- Discharge duration: 60 msec
- Best confinement times: **5 msec**
- Typical $n_e = 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$, highest $T_e = 800 \text{ eV}$
- R = 1.5m, a = 0.52m
- **50mm** thick aluminum wall serves as 1 turn toroidal field coil, stabilizing shell and vacuum vessel



Upgrade to present Thomson system gives 5x improvement

- System upgrades:
 - Replace MCP detector with APDs
 - Modify Spectrometer
 - Fiber Optic light collection
- Te measurement now possible at 5x lower density

Spectrometer was modified to increase wavelength coverage



Jarrell-Ash 275 mm spectrometer

APDs improve S/N

- Original detector: MicroChannel Plate
 - photocathode Quantum Efficiency q.e.=6.5 %
 - MCP amplification adds noise: noise factor F = 2.2, gives η_{eff} =3 %
- Upgrade detectors: Avalanche Photodiode
 - η=85 %
 - APD amplification adds noise: noise factor F = 2.8, gives η_{eff} =30 %
 - APDs are Advanced Photonics, have built-in Thermoelectric Cooler

Upgraded system gives improved Te measurement at low density



Data from upgraded system (left trace) shows

more photons / wavelength channel
more wavelength coverage (11 channels vs. old 5 channels)
larger signal even though density in this shot is lower

New Multipoint Multipulse Thomson System is under construction

- 20 point profile
- Optimized filter polychromators (G. A.)
- Dual Nd:YAG lasers for versatile pulse timing
- First data expected 2001





Filter polychromator (one of twenty) by General Atomics



Four wavelength channels (room for four more)



3 wavelength bands (plus center wavelength)



APDs were not selected for low noise

Lens collects light from 20 radial locations





Vacuum chamber moves < 0.2 mm during plasma shot – can mount optics to vacuum vessel.

Collection lens specs have been sent to vendors for bid.

Lasers will be housed in air-conditioned room. (Initial tests were done with no room temperature control.)





Slow drift (30 mm at distance 17 m, time 8 hrs) is due mainly to thermal motion of mirrors and laser.

Cooling and active beam steering will correct slow motion.

Residual fluctuations (1.5 mm at 17 m) are tolerable Burn patterns show laser beam quality good in single pulse mode (2J/pulse). (50 Hz beams not yet satisfactory)



profile at 17 m (single shot) approx. gaussian

Typical far field ccd image at 50 Hz rep rate

Conclusion

- MST's single-point Thomson system has been upgraded to increase its sensitivity 5x.
- MST's multi-point, dual laser Thomson system, will measure Te at 20 locations, several times per plasma shot. First operation is expected in 2001.

Note: Electronic copy (.pdf) of this poster is available at