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OBSERVATION OF H-MODE BY ELECTRON  
CYCLOTRON HEATING OF JFT-2M TOKAMAK  
PREHEATED BY A NEUTRAL BEAM

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H-mode is observed by the electron cyclotron heating (ECH) of JFT-2M tokamak preheated by a neutral beam (NB). The effect of the ECH to the realization of the H-mode varies as the position of the electron cyclotron resonance (ECR) layer. The effect of ECH is prominent when the ECR layer locates just inside of the separatrix. This shows that the edge electron heating is effective for the attainment of the H-mode. And the effect of ECH is comparable to or better than that of the NB heating.

Keywords: H-mode, Electron Cyclotron Heating, JFT-2M Tokamak,  
Tokamak Confinement

中性粒子ビームにより予備加熱されたJFT-2Mトカマクの電子  
サイクロトロン加熱によるHモードの観測

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(1987年6月11日受理)

中性粒子ビーム(NB)により予備加熱されたJFT-2Mの電子サイクロトロン加熱(ECH)によりHモードが観測された。Hモードの実現に対するECHの効果は、電子サイクロトロン共鳴(ECR)層の位置により変化する。

ECR層がプラズマ周辺に存在するとき、ECHの効果が大である。このことは、Hモードの生成に対して周辺の電子加熱が効果的であることを示す。そして、ECHの効果は、中性粒子入射加熱と同等あるいはそれ以上である。

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## 1. Introduction

The H-mode state of tokamak plasmas has been found to be attained by neutral beam heating (NBH)<sup>1-9)</sup> or by radio frequency heating of ion cyclotron range of frequency (ICRF)<sup>8),10-12)</sup>. At the transition to the H-mode which is characterized by a sudden decrease in the intensity of the Deuterium Balmer line ( $D_{\alpha}$ ), the peripheral electron temperature is found to rise not only in H-mode in divertor configurations<sup>2-4)</sup> but also in the limiter configurations<sup>13)</sup>. Then it naturally arises a question whether H-transition occurs by heating the peripheral plasma or not. To investigate it, the ECH is suitable by its controllability of local power deposition. By this motivation, the first experiment was carried out in the JFT-2M tokamak in March 1986. And in some shots as shown in Fig. A(a), (b), H-transition was found during the ECH of NBI heated JFT-2M plasma. But the correlation was not firm. Since then, understanding of the operational region for the H-transition and experience have progressed much in the JFT-2M tokamak, and this time (June 1987), ECH has been clearly observed to bring L-mode during NBH to H-mode.

## 2. Experimental Setup

JFT-2M tokamak is a non-circular tokamak which has an iron core<sup>14-15)</sup>. The major and minor radii of the full sized D-shaped plasma are  $R=1.31$  m and  $a \times b=0.35$  m  $\times$   $0.53$  m. Operations with the plasma configurations of D-shaped limiter (elongation  $\kappa < 1.7$ ), single null or double null divertor are possible. The limiter as well as the divertor plate is made of graphite (Fig.1). Taylor discharge cleaning is employed for the cleaning of the vacuum chamber.

The frequency of the ECH system is  $f=59.8$  GHz<sup>16)</sup>, and net (radiated) power in this experiment is  $P_{ECH}=110$  kW.

Typical hydrogen beam energy and current are 34 keV, 65A. Injection power of one beam line is up to 880 kW. The injection angle is  $38^\circ$  with respect to the plasma axis.

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### 3. Experimental Results

The plasma configuration taken in the experiment is lower single null divertor discharge as shown in Fig. 1. A conical horn antenna, which locates in the equatorial plane of the low field side, radiates the wave in the polarization of the extraordinary mode(X-mode). The smallness of the divergence of the microwave beam enables the local power deposition.

The line average plasma density is set below  $\bar{n}_e < 2 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$ , because the cutoff density of the second harmonic ( $f=2f_{ce}$ ,  $f_{ce}$ : electron cyclotron frequency) X-mode is  $n_{eX} = 2.23 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$ .

The direction of the toroidal field is clockwise and the direction of the plasma current is counter clockwise in the top view. And the ion gradient-B drift ( $\propto \vec{B} \times \nabla B$ ) is toward downward. The threshold power( $P_c$ ) for the transition to the H-mode by neutral beam heating(NBH) ranges between 220~280 kW in the coinjection. The effect of ECH to the H-transition is found without ambiguity with restricted ECH power due to the low threshold power  $P_c$  of NBH in the JFT-2M tokamak.

The positions( $r_0$ ) of the second harmonic ECR layer are also shown in Fig. 1. Namely,

Case A: central toroidal field  $B_{t0} = 1.13 \text{ T}$ ,  $r_0/a=0.32$

(a: radius of the separatrix = 28 cm)

Case B:  $B_{t0} = 1.23 \text{ T}$ ,  $r_0/a=0.72$ ,

Case C:  $B_{t0} = 1.31 \text{ T}$ ,  $r_0/a=1.1$ .

Thus the electron heating occurs in the off-center region of the plasma in case A, just inside of the separatrix in case B and just outside of the separatrix in Case C (cf. Fig.3(b)).

Fig. 2(a) shows a time evolution of the H-shot by ECH in the case B. The ECR layer locates just inside of the separatrix. The NBH power ( $P_{NBH} = 145 \text{ kW}$ ) applied for 0.2 sec is well below the threshold power ( $P_c = 250 \sim 280 \text{ kW}$ ). By the application of ECH at time of  $t=0.8 \text{ sec}$  ( $P_{ECH}=113 \text{ kW}$ , radiated power), the intensity  $I_{ECE}$  of the electron cyclotron emission ( $f=90.0 \text{ GHz}$ ) which indicates the radiation temperature around  $r = -30 \text{ cm}$  ( $r/a=1.0$ ), begins to rise, and the intensity of the  $D_\alpha$  line begins to be depressed. Then clear H-transition occurs. Thus the ECH brought the L-mode state to H-state. This H-state has another typical characteristics of the H-mode: those are, the linear increase in the density and increase in the stored energy( $W_s$ ). The H-state continues till the end of the ECH pulse (70~80msec). The large drop in loop voltage  $V_L$  shows that an efficient electron heating



occurs by the peripheral ECH, taking that the displacement of the plasma column is controlled well within 1 cm into account. The total additional power injected into the vacuum chamber is  $P_{\text{tot}}=258$  kW (ECH: 113 kW, NBI: 145 kW) in this case. Fig. 2(c) shows the same case with NBH ( $P_{\text{NBH}}=252$  kW) only. Conditions are the same as in Fig. 2(a). The  $P_{\text{NBH}}$  is almost as large as  $P_{\text{tot}} (= P_{\text{ECH}} + P_{\text{NBH}})$  in the previous case (Fig. 2(a)).  $P_{\text{NBH}}$  of this case is very close to the threshold power  $P_c$ . But, as seen, the clear suppression of the  $D_\alpha$  line does not occur.

By comparing Fig. 2(a) and 2(c), it is known that edge electron heating is effective for the realization of the H-mode.

Fig. 2(b) and 2(d) shows a variation of the stored energy  $W_s^{\text{FIT}}$  obtained from a magnetic fitting with density for the cases in Fig. 2(a) and 2(c), respectively. The attained stored energy  $W_s^{\text{FIT}}$  is almost the same as  $W_s^{\text{FIT}} = 15$  kJ ( $l_1=1.0$ ). A difference between the two cases is shown in density.  $\bar{n}_e$  reaches  $3.5 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$  with ECH without H to L re-transition. Whereas the H to L re-transition occurs at  $2.7 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$  with NBI only. The marked feature in both cases is that the stored energy  $W_s^{\text{FIT}}$  saturates at almost a constant value during the H-mode in spite of the linear increase in density during the H-mode.

In Fig. 3, an effectiveness of the ECH to the realization of the H-mode is compared among the case A, case B and case C. The abscissa is the position of the ECR layer  $r_0$  normalized by the radius of the separatrix  $a$ . The ordinate of Fig. 3(b) is the NB power. The position of the limiter and the chamber wall is as shown in the figure.  $P_c$  (broken line) is the threshold power for the H-transition with NBH only.

The experimental procedure is as follows; Set the ECH power at constant power of  $P_{\text{ECH}}=113$  kW. Inject the ECH in the preheated plasma by NBH. Vary the NBH power shot by shot, while the ECH power is fixed at the constant value. Examine whether H-transition occurs or not.

NB power at each shot in each case is plotted by a circle in Fig. 3(b). The closed circle indicates that the H-transition occurred by ECH in that shot. The open circle indicates that the H-transition does not occur by ECH in that shot. A threshold NBH power  $P_{\text{cE}}$  at the L-H boundary, thus obtained, is shown by the solid line. As the effect of ECH becomes large, the region between  $P_c$  and  $P_{\text{cE}}$  (a hatched region) should extend below.  $P_c - P_{\text{cE}}$ , thus obtained, is plotted in Fig. 3(a) as a function of the position of the ECR layer.  $P_c - P_{\text{cE}}$  is considered as a kind of "saving of the NBH power" by ECH. This figure shows that this saving is the largest when the

ECR layer locates just inside of the separatrix(case B). This fact shows that the edge electron heating was more effective for the H-transition than the off-center resonance heating of case A.

In case B, the effect of ECH is larger than that of the NBH.

#### 4. Conclusions

- (1) By the application of ECH, H-transition of the L-mode plasma which is additionally heated by NBH is clearly demonstrated.
- (2) The additional edge electron heating is shown to be effective for the attainment of the H-mode.
- (3) ECH extends the plasma density of the H-mode to the larger value than NBH does. The H-to-L re-transition does not occur within the ECH pulse length in spite of such higher density.
- (4) The stored energy during the H-mode by ECH as well as the H-mode by NBH stays almost constant in spite of the linear increase in density during the H-mode.

#### Acknowledgements

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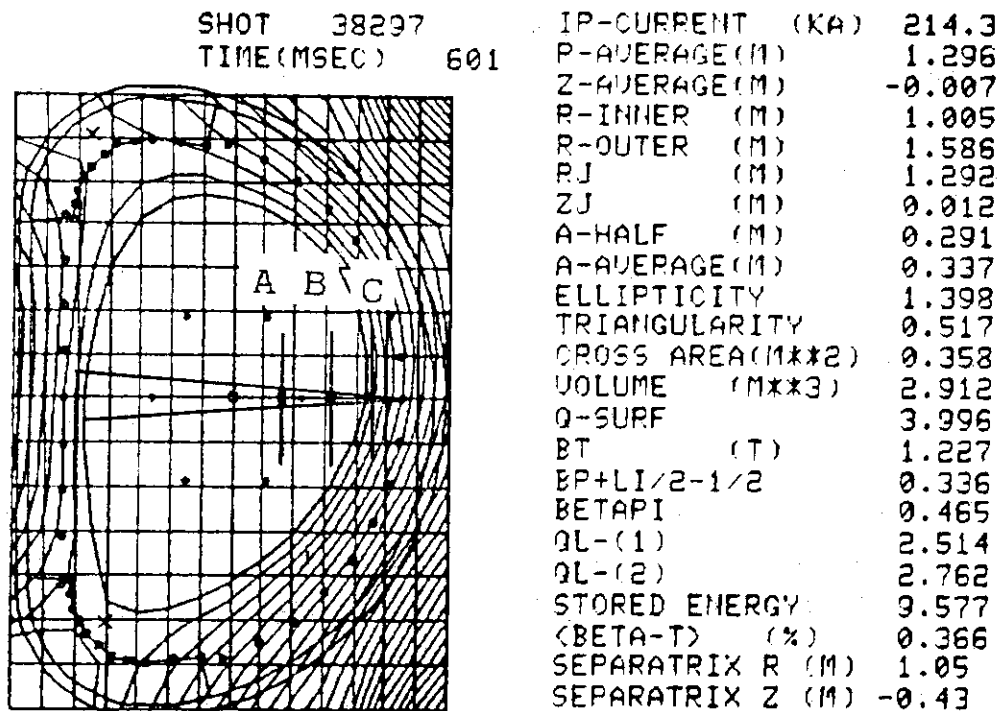


Fig. 1 Configuration in the experiment. Lower single null divertor configuration. Three positions (A, B, C) of the ECR layer are taken in the present experiment.

shot number 38297

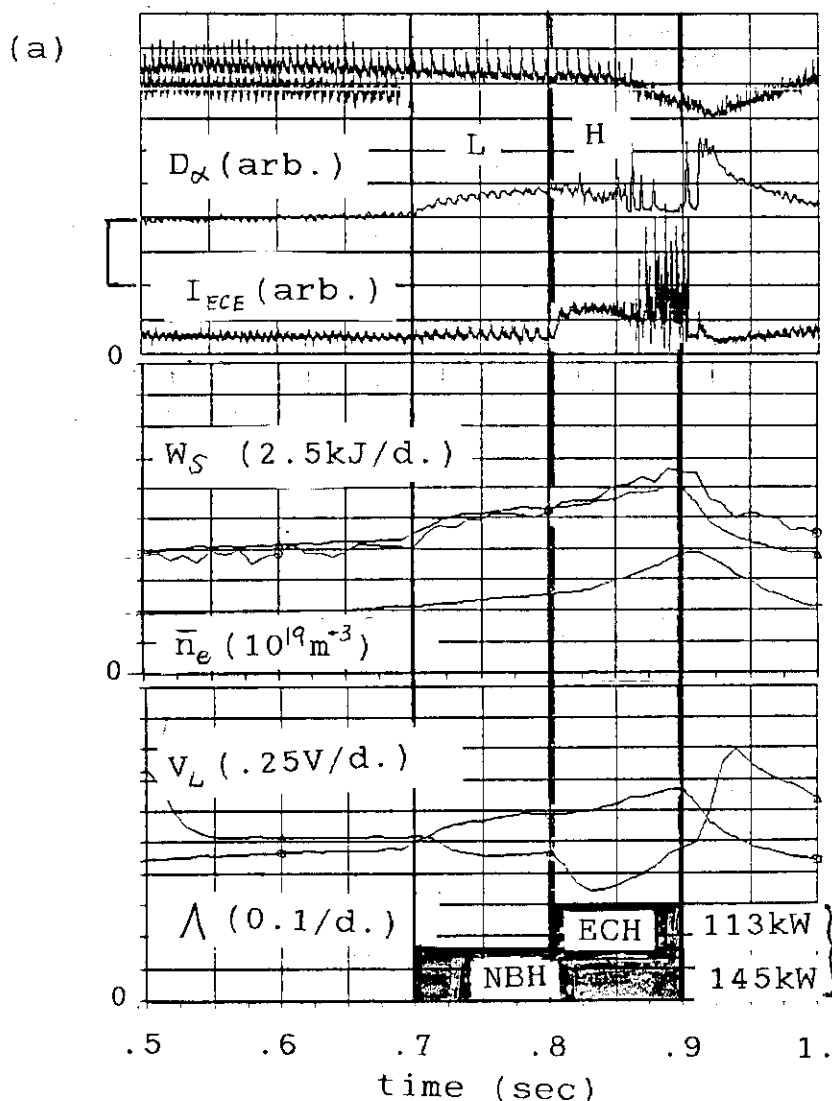


Fig. 2(a) Time evolution of the H-shot by ECH.  $B_{t0} = 1.23 \text{ T}$ .

$I_p = 214 \text{ kA}$ .  $P_{ECH} = 113 \text{ kW}$ .  $P_{NBI} = 145 \text{ kW}$ .  $P_{tot} = 258 \text{ kW}$ .

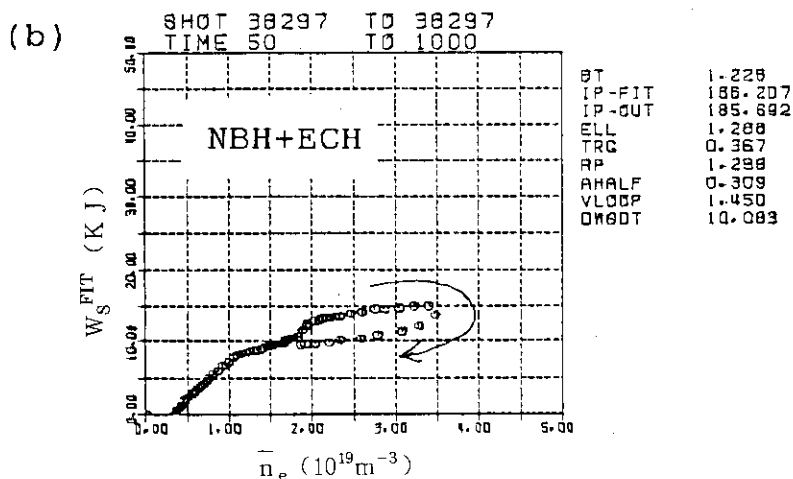


Fig. 2(b) Average density  $\bar{n}_e$  vs. stored energy  $W_s^{FIT}$  for Fig. 2(a).

The conditions are the same as in Fig. 2(a).

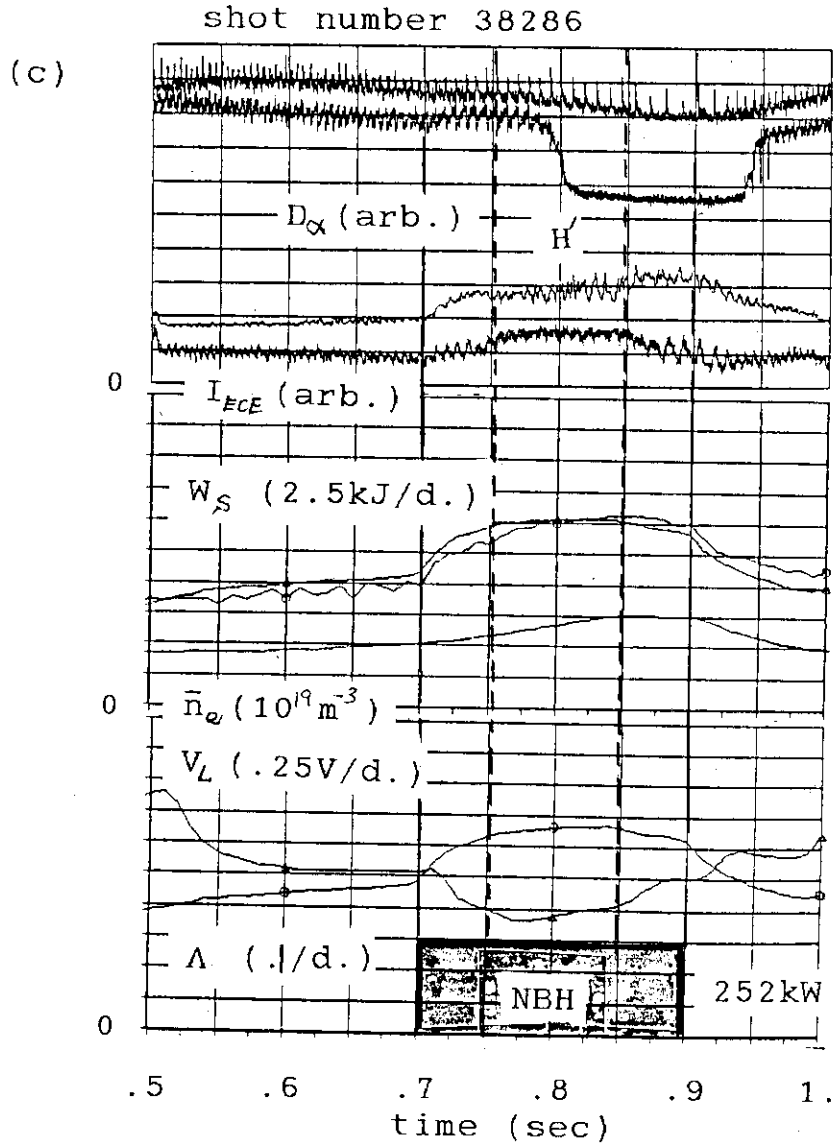


Fig. 2(c) Time evolution of H-shot by NBH.  $P_{NBH} = 252 \text{ kW}$ . Plasma conditions are the same as in Fig. 2(a).

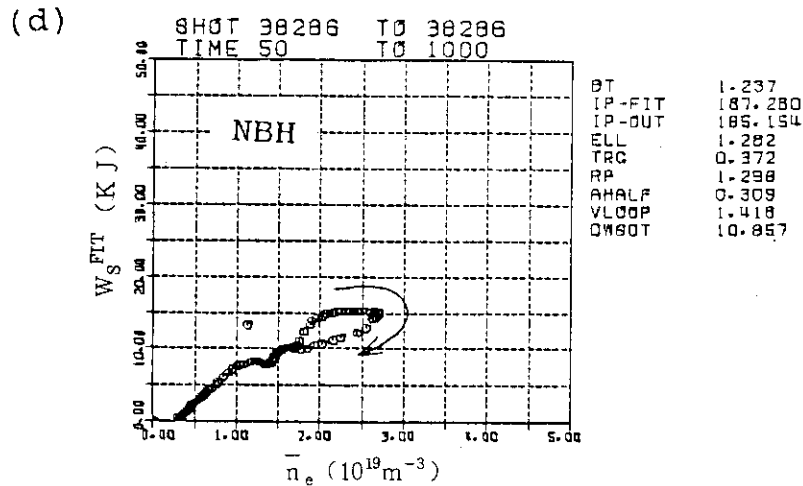


Fig. 2(d) Average density  $\bar{n}_e$  vs. stored energy  $W_s^{\text{FIT}}$  for Fig. 2(c). The conditions are the same as in Fig. 2(c).



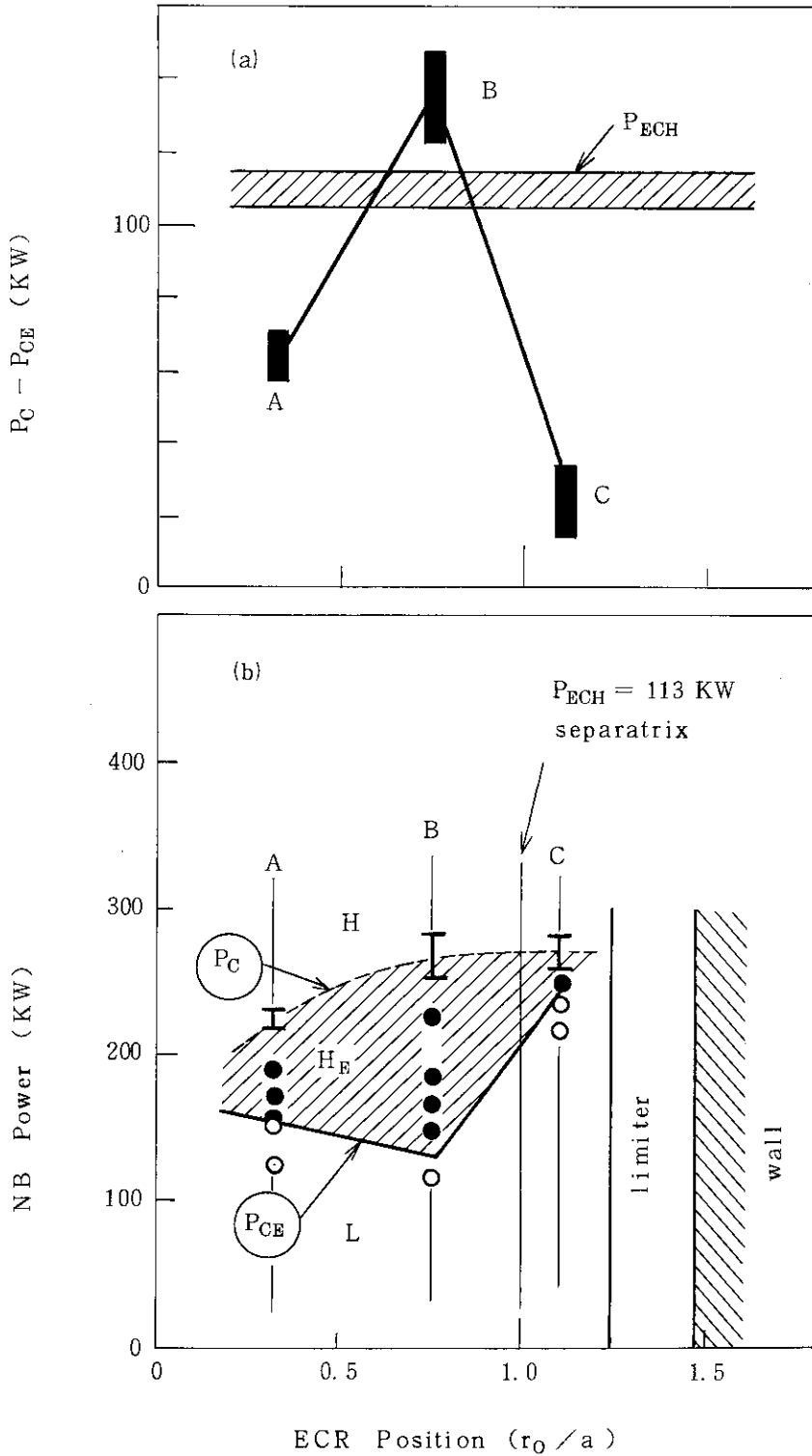


Fig. 3(a) Position of the ECR layer vs.  $P_c - P_{CE}$ . Here  $P_c$  is the threshold power for the H-transition by NBH.  $P_{CE}$  is the threshold power with ECH.

Fig. 3(b) Position of the ECR layer vs NB power.  $I_p = 214$  kA.  $P_{ECH} = 113$  kW. The hatched region indicates a "saving of NB power" by ECH.

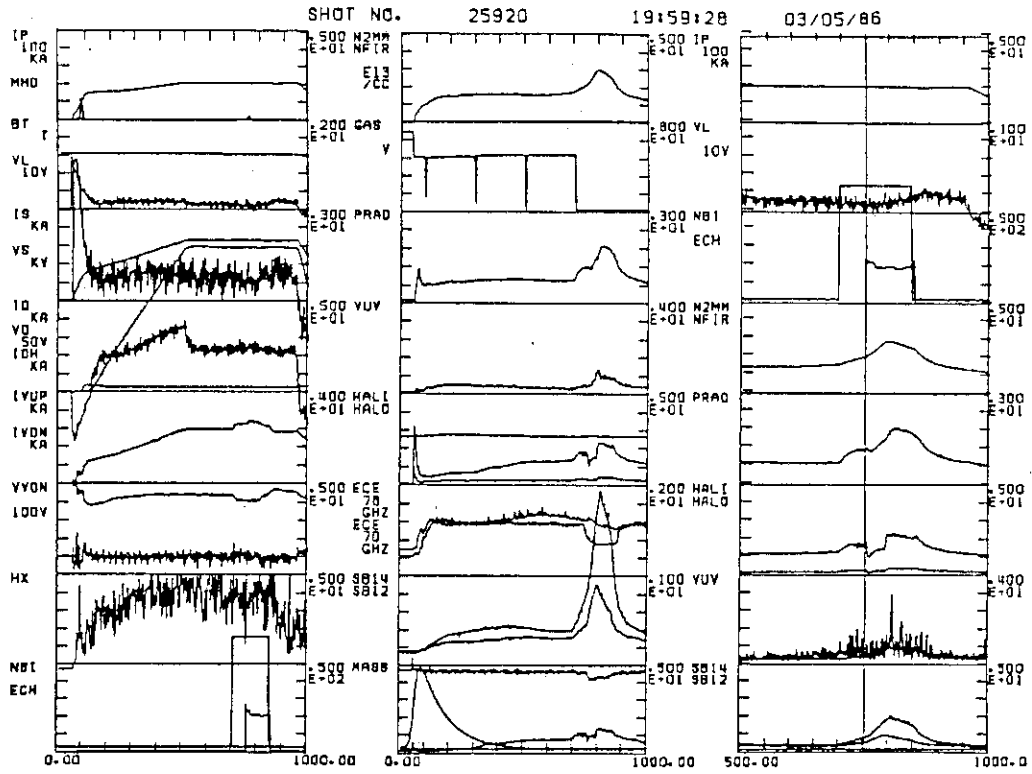


Fig. A(a) shot summary for the shot in which H-transition occurs during the ECH pulse superposed on NBH pulse.

Date: March 5/1986

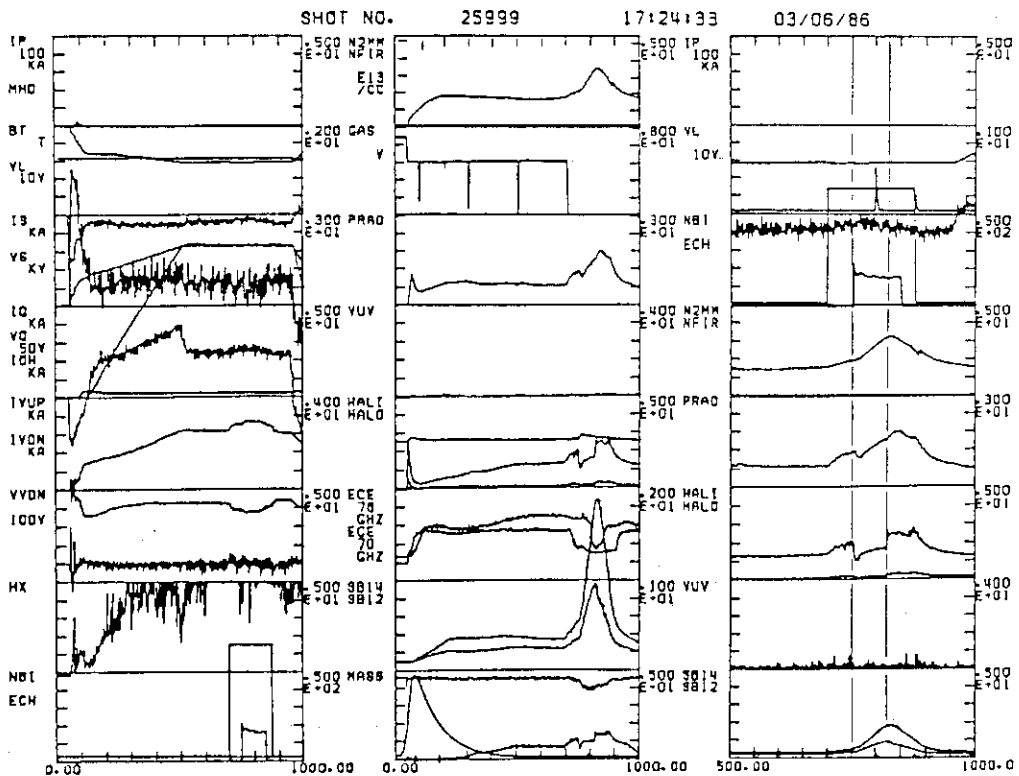


Fig. A(b) ibid. March 6/1986