

§7. Computer Simulation on Potential Formation in Divertor Plasma

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In edge region of fusion plasma, that is, divertor plasma region, the presence of dust grains sputtered from the divertor plate is possible to change the plasma structure [1,2]. Cloud of micron-size dust grains mixed in plasma is negatively charged due to the mobility difference between electrons and positive ions flowing to the dust grains. Thus, Coulomb force acts between the particles. In this work, two dimensional particle simulations on dynamic characteristic of Coulomb dust grain cloud are investigated as a fundamental study of plasma containing the particles.

In order to simulate the two dimensional dynamic behaviors of dust cloud, the negative charge quantity and the mass of dust grain were approximated to be typical experimental value in dust plasma produced by radio frequency discharge. The fundamental characteristics on rotational motion of dust clouds, which are driven by external force, were analyzed with Coulomb strongly coupled structure formed in confinement potential. At first, dust cloud with disk-like Coulomb strongly coupled structure was formed by the assumption that the confinement potential was radially proportional to the square of distance. Behavior of dust cloud at internal orbit was observed when the external force with $\omega_0 < \omega_D$ make the edge orbit of dust cloud rotate at azimuthal direction. Figure 1 shows rotating angular frequency ω_D of particles at internal orbit as a function of rotating angular frequency ω_0 of particles at edge orbit. Here, ν denotes friction coefficient between particle and neutral gas. It is seen that dust

cloud behaves rigidly. This is because both particles at the edge orbit and at the internal orbit are rotating with almost same angular frequency until a critical value ω_c . It is also found that the angular frequency of particle at the internal orbit is reduced drastically to slip between particles at the edge orbit and the internal orbit when $\omega_0 > \omega_c$. The critical frequency ω_c increases with decreasing the friction coefficient ν .

Figure 2 shows temporal evolution of phase shift between particles at the edge orbit and at the internal orbit for $\omega_0 = 0.5$. Here, (a), (b) and (c) denote phase shifts of particles at the edge orbit, inside the orbit and more inside the orbit, respectively. It is found that particles at the internal orbit rotate shearily for the particles at the edge orbit.

Reference

- [1] K. Narihara et al, Nuclear Fusion, vol. 37, pp. 1177-1182, 1997.
- [2] J. Winter, Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion, vol. 40, pp. 1201-1210, 1998

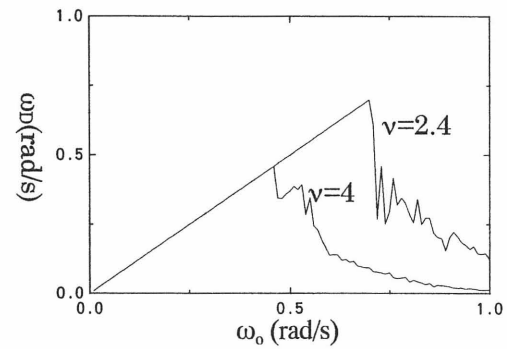


Fig.1 Rotating angular frequency ω_D of particles at the internal orbit as a function of rotating angular frequency ω_0 of particles at edge

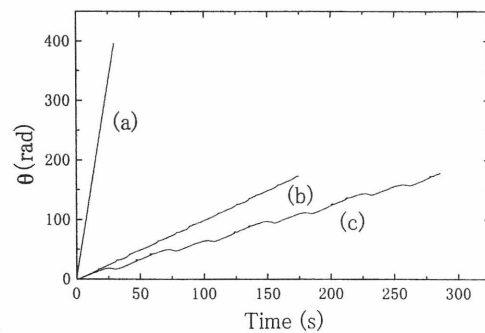


Fig.2 Temporal evolution of phase shift between particles at the edge orbit and at the internal orbit for $\omega_0 = 0.5$.