

Recent activities of ITER gyrotron development in QST

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Introduction

QST is committed to the development of high power RF power sources (or gyrotrons) for plasma heating in fusion devices. Our main activity is the development of 170GHz gyrotron for electron cyclotron resonance heating and current drive (EC H&CD) system of ITER project which requires 20 MW of power injection into fusion plasma. In ITER, 24 sets of 1 MW gyrotrons are planned to be installed of which Japan procures 8 sets. QST (previous JAEA) has already demonstrated 1MW-800s-55%, 0.8 MW-1hr-57% with the TE_{31,8} mode gyrotron [1] and also demonstrated >1 MW operation with TE_{31,11} mode gyrotron, which can generate higher power than previous design. Now the QST-ITER gyrotron has finished its designing phase and proceeds to manufacturing and test phase. The next stage of R&D activity in QST aimed multi frequency operation including >200 GHz frequency region, for future fusion devices such as DEMO. In this paper, present status of these gyrotron developments are described.

Status of ITER gyrotron

An electron cyclotron heating and current drive system in ITER is designed to inject RF power of 20 MW to actively control plasmas. The RF power is supplied by 24 gyrotrons. QST procures to supply 8 gyrotrons which produce 170 GHz / 1 MW each in addition 1 equatorial launcher for ITER.

The specification of ITER gyrotron is 170 GHz / 1 MW output / 50% efficiency / 3600s pulse duration. The oscillation mode in the cavity is TE_{31,11} mode to keep marginal heat load on the cavity surface. The internal mode converter was optimized for 170 GHz single frequency operation. The triode electron gun is utilized and the operation of high frequency power modulation up to 5 kHz is achieved by control of anode voltage.

The final design review of the gyrotron was held in 2015 and the gyrotron design was approved for manufacturing. Manufacturing of auxiliary components for gyrotron operation system, for example the super conducting magnets (SCM), started in 2015 and first two sets of SCMs were delivered to QST test stand in the beginning of 2016. In 2016, the first set of two gyrotrons was manufactured by Toshiba Electron Tube & Devices (TETD) and the tubes were delivered to QST Naka Fusion Institute. Figure 1 shows the photograph of ITER gyrotron.

The short pulse test of the first ITER gyrotron has started since 2017 April after preparation of test stand. A new anode and body power supply system, which has the same configuration with ITER high voltage power supply (HVPS) system was installed into the gyrotron test stand. The new power supply system consists of DC HVPS de-

vices that generate the high voltage and incorporates the switching components for 5 kHz modulations as required for controlling the applied HV to the gyrotrons. The ITER gyrotron was installed into the test stand with ITER SCM and has achieved 1 ms pulse duration at 170 GHz oscillation and a single peak Gaussian profile beam.



Fig. 1. Photograph of the ITER gyrotron

Development of multi frequency gyrotron

A gyrotron with TE_{31,11} mode cavity is suitable for multi frequency as the radiation angle out of the internal launcher as well as beam directivity from the diamond window is compatible with the mode group of TE_{19,7}-TE_{25,9}-TE_{31,11}-TE_{37,13}-.... And, injection beam radii into the cavity resonator to excite these modes are 9.25 mm (TE_{19,7}), 9.19 mm (TE_{25,9}), 9.13 mm (TE_{31,11}) and 9.10 mm (TE_{37,13}) and are controllable using a gun magnet around the magnetron injection gun (MIG). In addition, gyrotrons with a triode MIG have capability to optimize the pitch factor, the ratio of parallel and perpendicular electron velocities, to adapt different magnetic field profile. The oscillation frequencies of TE_{19,7}-TE_{25,9}-TE_{31,11}-TE_{37,13} are 104 GHz, 137 GHz, 170 GHz and 203 GHz, respectively and are matched for the diamond window transmission frequencies of 102 GHz, 136 GHz, 170 GHz and 204 GHz for a window thickness of 1.853 mm.

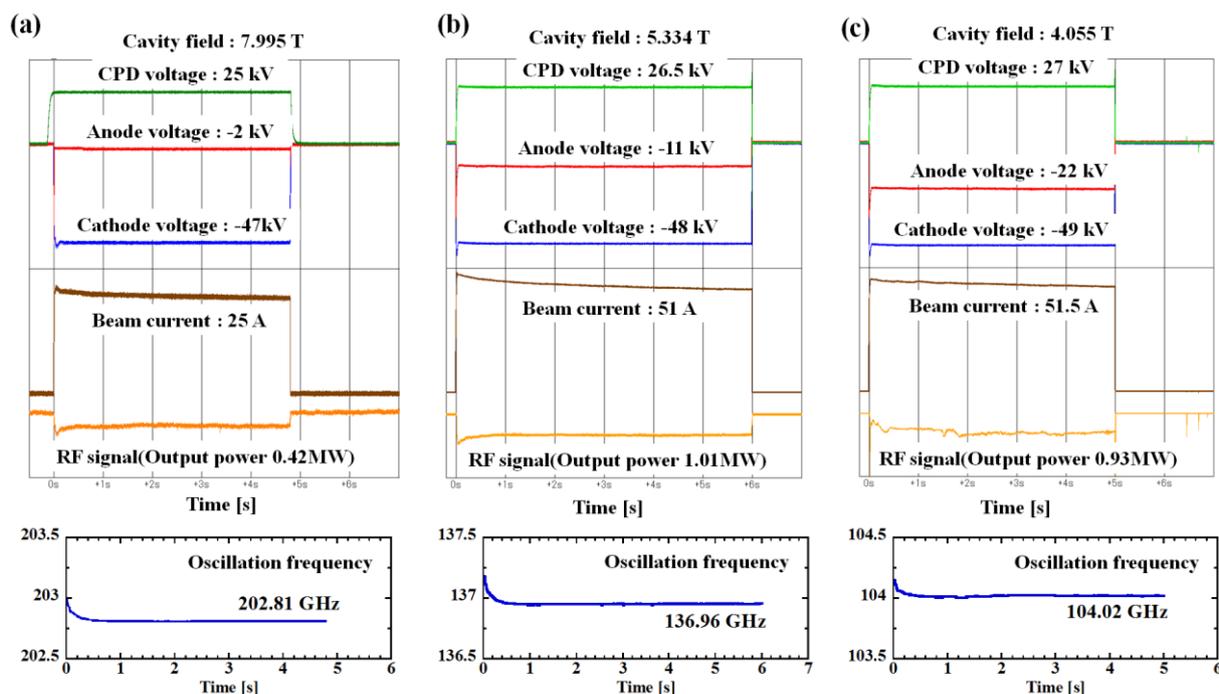


Fig. 2. Time histories of long pulse operations for (a) TE_{37,13} mode, (b) TE_{25,9} mode and (c) TE_{19,7} mode

The operation of TE_{31,11} mode/170 GHz has demonstrated 1.23 MW with an electrical efficiency of 47 % for 2 s, and 1.17 MW, 45 % for 5 s. For stable long pulse operations 1.02 MW/46% oscillation for 300 s was demonstrated.

The operation of the TE_{19,7} mode, TE_{25,9} mode, and TE_{37,13} have also been demonstrated with the measured beam profile was relatively circular and centered on the output window for the other three frequencies. The results include 1 MW output power for 2 s pulse was achieved at TE_{19,7} mode (136.8 GHz); TE_{25,9} mode (103.9 GHz) very short pulse of 0.3 ms of TE_{37,13} (202.96 GHz) of 0.9 MW. This was achieved at beam voltage of 75 kV, beam current of 65 A, and a magnetic field of 7.94 T. And 4.8 s pulse operation has achieved the output power of 0.42 MW and an electrical efficiency of 38%. The beam voltage and beam current of this operation are 72 kV (CPD voltage 25 kV) and 25 A, respectively. 1 MW-level tests will be started soon. Figure 2 (a) shows the time history of long pulse operation with TE_{37,13} mode.

The extension of pulse length for 137 GHz and 104 GHz oscillations were carried out as shown in Fig. 2 (b) and (c), which show the time history of 137 GHz and 104 GHz, respectively. Up to now, the output power of 1.01 MW for 6 s was achieved and the total efficiency of 41 % was obtained in the 137 GHz oscillation. In the 104 GHz oscillation, the output power of 1 MW/41 % for 2 s and 0.93 MW/37 % for 5 s were achieved. In these shots, adjustment of a magnetic field strength was not yet performed because the beam current was rapidly decreased by cathode cooling effect. Therefore, the improvement of the efficiency by applying the magnetic field control in longer pulse length can be expected.

References

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