Study of Neutral Hydrogen Transport in LHD Core Plasmas Based on High Dynamic-Range Balmer-Alpha Spectroscopy

Thursday, 16 October 2014 14:00 (285)

The radial distribution of the neutral hydrogen atom density ($n_H$) and pressure ($P_H$) in the Large Helical Device (LHD) is studied. The $n_H$ distribution is determined from a detailed analysis of the intensity-calibrated Balmer-alpha line profile while the $P_H$ distribution is obtained with a simple one-dimensional analytical model. We have for the first time determined $n_H$ at the center of a fusion-oriented plasma, which is approximately three orders smaller than that at the edge. On the contrary, $P_H$ changes only a factor of 10 from the edge to core regions. The central $n_H$ has a tendency to become smaller as the line-averaged electron density is increased.

Country or International Organisation

Japan

Paper Number

EX/P6-31

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Session Classification : Poster 6