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Role of the multiple mode interaction on the excitation of 2/1 tearing mode by resonant magnetic perturbations on J-TEXT

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The excitation of m/n = 2/1 tearing mode (TM) by external non-axisymmetric magnetic perturbations, known as field penetration, is a significant concern in tokamak research as it leads to confinement degradation and disruption^[1]. The threshold for external field exciting 2/1 TM serves as an important reference for error field correction^[2] and edge localized mode suppression^[3]. Recent research on J-TEXT has discovered that the threshold of 2/1 TM excitation is significantly reduced by the interaction of multiple modes.

In experiments with various static resonant magnetic perturbations (RMPs), the 3/1 and 2/1 TMs were excited individually and successively, and it was observed that the threshold of 2/1 TM excitation was substantially reduced with pre-excited 3/1 TM^[4]. This phenomenon suggests that the interaction between 3/1 and 2/1 TMs has an effect on the field penetration threshold. To better understand the threshold reduction, the MARS-F code^[5,6] was used to investigate the effect of a 3/1 locked tearing mode on 2/1 plasma response, revealing that the 2/1 plasma response was significantly enhanced with a locked 3/1 TM, which may be the reason for the threshold reduction in the experiments.

In static RMPs penetration experiments, the 3/1 and 2/1 TMs were born locked, making it difficult to analyze their behavior separately. As a result, a series of rotating RMP penetration experiments were carried out using the unique high-frequency RMP system on J-TEXT. In these experiments, the helical and radial structure evolutions of the modes were obtained through magnetic probe arrays and local ECE measurements, allowing for analysis of

the interaction between 2/1 and 3/1 modes. Additionally, a 3/1 external kink mode (EKM) was excited by RMP with q_a slightly smaller than 3, and it was discovered that the 3/1 EKM also reduced the thresholds of 2/1 TM excitation^[7]. Further details will be presented at the conference.

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