

§1. Archival Study on Development of Heliotron Devices

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1. Introduction

"Fusion Science Archives" of National Institute for Fusion Science (NIFS) has promoted archival activities about the scientific studies in the field of nuclear fusion that have been performed at universities in Japan. As one of such activities supported by the NIFS Collaborative Research Program, this archival study is focused on the fusion oriented high temperature plasma experimental devices developed and constructed in the universities, especially on the series of Heliotron devices, which have been originally proposed and developed in Kyoto University by the late professor emeritus of Kyoto University, UO Koji [1].

After the POP experiment in Heliotron E (Kyoto Univ.), the Helical-Heliotron concept is now in its parameter expansion phase and a lot of remarkable results have been obtained through the LHD project in NIFS. On the other hand, a new generation of the heliotron concept, Helical-Axis Heliotron configuration [2], was proposed by the Kyoto Univ. group and has been experimentally examined its basic idea through the Heliotron J project [3] in Laboratory for Complex Energy Processes, Institute of Advanced Energy (IAE), Kyoto Univ. under the auspices of the NIFS Bilateral Collaborative Research Program.

2. Summary of Activities

The aim of this archival study is to make comprehensive and systematic collection of the research materials on each heliotron device. The materials about technical notes in the R&D phase of machine construction and of control sequences are also the targets.

Under the collaboration with "Fusion Science Archives", collection of scientific materials about heliotron devices is in progress. A present situation of a series of heliotron devices has been investigated and some documents of each device were confirmed. The minutes of technical meetings with the manufacturer in each device and the records of the malfunction in operation and countermeasure have been also added in the archive. Here, we have started to make a microfilm collection of large size drawings for the plasma devices and their relating equipment. During these archival activities, we could find several interesting documents in the unexpected places, like a pipe space in the Heliotron building. Those documents have been under investigation to

identify their origins. Some videotapes were also discovered, which are probably records of the test assembling of the Heliotron E device in a factory (Hitachi, Ltd.). The image video records in the very early phase of the Heliotron E experiment are also discovered. In addition to making a digital library of photographic slides of experimental devices and presentations in the Heliotron E era, we have started to re-store the raw data of Heliotron E experiment (including some program files for data analyses) into a set of hard-disk (HD). The original data were recorded in reel-to-reel type 1/2-inch magnetic tapes (MT), about 1200 reels of MT in total. It is necessary to keep a lot of space to store these reels and, more importantly, it is not easy to maintain or ensure the tape reader system workable with a present-day computer system. Therefore, under the initiative of Laboratory for Complex Energy Processes, IAE, the data were converted to a set of HD from the MTs.

Due to a big-scale reconstruction of the Heliotron building in FY2012, the storage place for the archives was temporary moved to other buildings. During this reconstruction work, it was found several new materials relating to previous devices/projects carried out by Heliotron group (some films for presentations in academic meetings, test-samples of conductor for helical-coils, technical reports, etc.). In FY2013, almost all the materials, including the set of Uo's collection, are set back to the new Heliotron Building. However, many of them are still packed in cardboard-boxes without any inspection. It will take a lot of time and a lot of effort to make archival records of these materials.

[1] K. Uo, in Kakuyugo-Kondankai (May, 1958).

[2] M. Wakatani, et al., 17th IAEA Fusion Energy Conf. (Yokohama, 1998) IAEA-CN-69/EX2/5.
M. Yokoyama, et al., Nucl. Fusion 40, 261 (2000).

[3] F. Sano, et al., J. Plasma Fusion Res. SERIES 3, 26 (2000). T. Obiki, et al., Nucl. Fusion 41, 833 (2001).



Some archival materials in a new room