Abstract Submitted for the DPP19 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Full Wave Simulations of Alfven Waves in the Large Plasma Device¹ KUNAL SANWALKA, TROY CARTER, STEVE VINCENA, JEFFREY ROBERTSON, University of California, Los Angeles, JOHN WRIGHT, SYUNICHI SHIRAIWA, MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center, NICOLA BERTELLI, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory — A full wave solver is used to simulate the propagation of shear Alfven waves in the Large Plasma Device (LAPD). The Petra-M code is used to directly solve Maxwells equations with realistic antenna and experimental geometry, that is, spatially varying density and magnetic field under the cold plasma approximation. Petra-M is a finite element analysis software developed using the MFEM partial differential equation solver library. Simulations of the LAPD were done to investigate antenna coupling, propagation of shear waves into axial gradients of the Alfven speed, and generation and propagation of shear waves in multi-ion species plasmas.

¹Work performed at the Basic Plasma Science Facility, which is funded by the US DoE and NSF

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Date submitted: 10 Jul 2019

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