

Abstract Submitted
for the DPP14 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Non-diffusive suprathermal ion transport associated with blobs in TORPEX plasmas¹ ALEXANDRE BOVET, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Centre de Recherches en Physique des Plasmas, Lausanne, Switzerland, FABIO AVINO, AMBROGIO FASOLI, IVO FURNO, EPFL-CRPP, KYLE GUSTAFSON, EPFL-SV, PAOLO RICCI, EPFL-CRPP — We present unprecedented space and time-resolved measurements of the transport of a suprathermal ion beam injected in the toroidal device TORPEX. Experiments are performed in turbulence dominated by an ideal-interchange mode using a Li6+ ion source and a set of energy analyzers. Depending on the suprathermal ion energy, the transport exhibits subdiffusive or superdiffusive behaviors. The fast ion current fluctuations are quasi-Gaussian in the former regime and strongly intermittent in the latter. In the superdiffusive case, using conditional sampling, we show that the transport is associated with intermittent field-aligned blobs. In the subdiffusive case, supra-thermal ions average the turbulent structures during their gyro-motion and their vertical drift. These results complement our investigations of the supra-thermal ion transport using 3D time-averaged measurements, which are in agreement with numerical simulations. Numerical modeling is performed by computing the trajectories of tracers in a turbulent electrostatic field generated by a 2D global fluid model. Gyro- and drift-averaging reduce the transport. The evolution of the radial distribution of fast ions can be modeled by a fractional diffusion equation describing fractional Lévy motion.

¹This work was supported in part by the Swiss National Science Foundation and European Union's Horizon 2020 program (grant number 633053)

Ivo Furno
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL),
Centre de Recherches en Physique des Plasmas (CRPP),
CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

Date submitted: 10 Jul 2014

Electronic form version 1.4