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Electron Banana Width Effect and Density Pump-out in ECCD Experiments¹ K.L. WONG, PPPL, V.S. CHAN, P. GOHIL, C.C. PETTY, R. PRATER, GA, R.J. JAYAKUMAR, LLNL — When averaged over the finite banana orbit, an energetic trapped electron sees a nonzero parallel electric field if it is spatially inhomogenous. With some simplifying assumptions, it is shown that the energetic trapped electron dynamics can be described by the Smoluchowski equation. A simple criterion is derived to assess its significance in ECCD experiments. In small tokamak experiments like the WT-3 device where density is low and the inductive electric field can change rapidly in time, the finite electron banana width can cause the energetic electrons to pile up near the trapped-passing boundary, leading to an enhanced bootstrap current. For the DIII-D experimental parameters, this effect becomes negligibly small. During high power ECCD in the plasma core of DIII-D, significant decrease of electron density was observed. It is possible that the highly localized power absorption produces a poloidal electric field and a radial convective plasma flow. This conjecture will be compared with experimental data from the motional Stark effect diagnostic.

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