Kernfusion durch magnetischen Einschluss - die letzten Hürden vor der Anwendung

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The Sun our role model

- high temperature
- plasma
- high pressure

nuclear fusion at 10 million degrees in the sun

100 million in the lab with magnetic confinement





The D-T-Reaction



Tritium breeding from Lithium



Tritium is radioactive. Half life time 12 years. Not enough found naturally.

the primary fuel is <u>Deuterium</u> and <u>Lithium</u>



the fuel for fusion

sufficient for the yearly electricity consumption of a family



toroidal confinement with helical magnetic field

Tokamak generation of the poloidal field with plasma current

Stellarator generation of poloidal field with helical coils



The Tokamak

plasma confinement in helical magnetic field



Stellarator: helical magnetic field without plasma current

e.g. Wendelstein 7-X in Greifswald



continuous confinement

Joint European Torus

in JET Break-Even reached, Q=1 16 MW fusion power 400 Mill degrees

a positive energy balance (Q>1) requires a <u>better</u> heat insulation

only possible in <u>larger</u> devices



ITER – a joint undertaking

Europe, Russia, Japan, Canada (USA, China)



goals

- 500 MW fusion power, Q=10
- burn time 8 min
- integration of physics and technology (Tritium, breeder blanket, super conductors, heating)

open question

efficiency of <u>steady state operation</u> for

power plant

plasma chamber: Ø 15 m 6.8 m high 5.3 T 15 MA open questions beyond ITER continuous operation efficiency of energy confinement (investment costs) availability of the device (operation costs) safety, environment (waste) ... determined by energy confinement, turbulent transport current drive efficiency (in tokamak) alternative concepts: (e.g. stellarator) plasma-wall-interaction fusion materials under neutron irradiation technology (super conduct. coils, heating, breeder blanket)

development of fusion materials (structural materials)

<u>neutron irradiation damage</u> (life time relevant)

- transmutation: generation of H und He (n-p, n-alpha reactions)
- shrinking, swelling, embrittlement, lower heat conductivity
- irradiation measured in displacements per atom (dpa);
- self-healing at elevated temperatures: DBTT ductile to brittle transisition temperature; but remaining damage accumulates
- regular replacement of components foreseen
- ITER : **3 10 dpa** DEMO **80 150 dpa**

low activation

(waste relevant)

- isotopes with long half life times to be avoided
- alloys with less molybdenum, nickel, niobium (ppm level)
- and more chromium, tungsten, titanium (7-10%)
- e.g. since 2000 the steel alloy **EUROFER** is available to be qualified with respect to engineering parameters and technical licensing
- an irradiation facility with 14 MeV neutrons is needed (IFMIF)

materials for DEMO & first generation plants :

ferritic steels

recycling by remote handling

recycling of a large fraction of all materials



12.5 MWa/m² Bestrahlung



further improvements with SiC-SiC materials

higher operation temperatures

easier recycling



cost of electricity:

$$\text{COE} \qquad \propto A^{-0.6} \eta_{th}^{-0.5} P_e^{-0.4} \beta_N^{-0.4} N^{-0.3}$$

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availability (A)
thermodynamic efficiency (\eta_{th})
unit size (net electrical output, P<sub>e</sub>)
normalised beta (\beta_n)
limiting density normalised to the Greenwald density (N)
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Power Plant Conceptual Study (PPCS) Stage II, D J Ward, I Cook, N P Taylor

the key issues determining the availability are:

- life time of wall components
- tritium retention

... determined by the processes of plasma-wall-interaction

ITER cross section



ITER

 680 m^2 Be-wall

tungsten baffles

graphite target plates



 $6-8 \text{ m}^2$

strike point area

problems of plasma-wall-interaction

heat exhaust

150 MW plasma heating on wall $< 0.15 \text{ MW/m}^2$ in divertor $< 10 \text{ MW/m}^2$ important role:

- intrinsic and seeded impurities
- PSI properties

erosion of wall materials life time of wall components plasma impurities re-deposition, layer formation

tritium retention

limit on tritium inventory (350 g in ITER)

Erosion and Deposition of Carbon and Tungsten



TEXTOR test limiter

co-existence of net-erosion and net-deposition areas

poloidal direction toroidal direction

erosion zone

deposition zone 9

<u>anna</u>

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JET MKIIA Divertor: Tritium retention



The majority of carbon deposition and tritium retention is on remote areas of louvres and shadowed parts of tiles

T Content in TBq

ITER divertor cassette – exchangable by remote handling



Dynamic Ergodic Divertor in TEXTOR



a novel concept to control the plasma boundary







Trilateral Euregio Cluster





Dynamic Ergodic Divertor

a pioneering experiment to demonstrate:

improved heat exhaust

impurity screening

less erosion

improved confinement



heat distributed on large surface

Strategy for achieving fusion power



improvement of the fusion triple product compared to transistor integration and accelerator size

