

ITER, Wendelstein 7-X und DEMO – aktueller Stand der Fusionsforschung

Robert Wolf



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Fusion – Energiequelle der Sonne

Verschmelzung von 4 Protonen (Wasserstoff) zu Helium ABER: Wasserstofffusion ist extrem (!) ineffizient



Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

Inhalt

- Energie aus Fusion
- Magnetischer Einschluss
- Stand der Fusionsforschung
- Auf dem Weg zu einem Fusionskraftwerk
- Fazit und Ausblick



Fusionsreaktionen





Fusionsreaktionen





Fusionsreaktion mit höchstem Wirkungsquerschnitt



Electricity generator

•••

Wendelstein

7-X

Fusionsreaktion mit höchstem Wirkungsquerschnitt





Rohstoffe sind Deuterium und Lithium





Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

- No CO₂-production
- Plant size ~ 3 GW_{th} or ~ 1 GW_e ٠
 - Size of a base load power plant
 - Suitable for large cities or energy intensive industries
 - Heat source in a renewable economy

Development of a new primary energy source on the basis of magnetically confined fusion plasmas

• Small fuel consumption

Energie aus Fusion

- -3 GW_{th} correspond to ~ 1 kg (D and Li) per day
- Abundant fuel resources (D and Li) ٠
- Advantageous environment and safety properties ٠







Inhalt

Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

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Ignition

<u>Heating from fusion reactions</u> has to compensate losses (perpendicular to the magnetic field):

- Radiations losses (impurities, bremsstrahlung, ...)
- Heat conduction and convection (binary Coulomb collisions, turbulent transport)





 $Q = P_{fusion} / P_{heating} >> 1$

<u>Heating from fusion reactions & external</u> <u>heating</u> has to compensate losses (perpendicular to the magnetic field):

- Radiations losses (impurities, bremsstrahlung, ...)
- Heat conduction and convection (binary Coulomb collisions, turbulent transport)



Toroidale Magnetfeldkonfigurationen



Tokamak (2D)



Großer Teil des Magnetfeld durch Plasmastrom ~MA (transformatorprinzip)

Weiter entwickelt, aber gepulst; stationärer betrieb unter Effizienzeinbußen

ITER ist ein Tokamak

Zum ersten Mal (kontrollierte) Energieproduktion mit Fusion



Magnetfeld im Wesentlichen durch externe Spulen

Vorteilhafte Eigenschaften für ein Kraftwerk (intrinsisch stationär)

Wendelstein 7-X ist ein Stellarator

Nachweis, dass Plasmaeigenschaften Kraftwerksanforderungen erfüllen (keine Verwendung von Tritium)

Fusionsbedingungen

Plasma stability

$$\beta = \frac{p}{B^2/2\mu_0} \le 5\%$$

Because of technical reasons $B \sim 5T$ (superconductivity, mechanical forces)

$$p \leq 5 bar$$

Together with optimum temperature range (D-T-reaktion) $\sim 10 \ keV$ it follows

$$n \sim 10^{20} m^{-3}$$

From power balance triple product can be derived (D-T fusion)

$$nT\tau_E > 3 \cdot 10^{21} keV m^{-3}s$$

With *n* and *T* one gets (measure for heat insulation)

$$\tau_E > 3s$$

$$Q = P_{fusion}/P_{heating} \sim 30$$

und $\tau_E \sim 3 s$
$$P_{thermal} = P_{fusion} \sim 3 GW$$

$$P_{electric} \sim 1 GW$$



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AchievedT > 10 keV $n > 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ $\tau_E \sim 1 \text{ sec}$ $\times 10$



Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

Fusionsbedingungen

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Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

Wendelstein





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Erreichen fusionsrelevanter Temperaturen im Tokamak T3 (1969, Kurtschatow-Institut, Moskau) führt zur schnellen Weiterentwicklung des Tokamakprinzips



alltheworldstokamaks.wordpress.com/gallery-of-external-views/t3/



Joint European Torus (JET), größtes derzeit laufendes Fusionsexperiment https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_European_Torus

Plasmavolumen ~ 100 m³ Magnetfeld ~3T (Kupferspulen) Plasmastrom ~3 MA



Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

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JET von innen



https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_European_Torus

16 MW Fusionsleistung für ~ 1 Sek $P_{Fusion} \sim P_{Heizung}$ $P_{\alpha} \sim 0.2 \times P_{heizung}$ 4 MW Fusionsleistung für ~5 Sek

JET von innen



Röntgenemission T ~ 100 Mio °C

P. Mantica et al 2015 Proc 42nd EPS Konferenz Plasma Physik P1.101











Wendelstein 7-X

Magnetfeldstärke 3 T Supraleitende Spulen 70 Kalte Masse / Gesamtmasse 425 t / 700 t Plasmavolumen 30 m³ Plasmadauer bis 30 Minuten Heizleistung 10 MW Maximale Wärmeflüsse 10 MW/m²





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IPP, Foto: Bernhard Ludewig



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IPP, Foto: Bernhard Ludewig



Wendelstein 7-X

Bereits der Bau einer solchen Anlage ist ein Forschungs- und Entwicklungsprojekt

10 Jahre Montagedauer (2005 – 2014) www.youtube.com/watch?v= MJpSrqitSMQ



IPP, Foto: Wolfgang Filser



Wendelstein 7-X Plasma

 $30 \sec \rightarrow 30 \min$



Aufbau einer Fusionsanlage

Wendelstein 7-X

- Magnetically confined fusion plasma
- Plasma facing materials
- Heat and particle exhaust
- Breeding blanket
- Plasma / vacuum vessel
- Remote maintenance
- Superconducting magnetic field coils
- Cryostat vessel
- Auxiliary systems & diagnostics
 - Plasma start-up
 - Plasma heating
 - Current drive
- Fuel cycle
 - Plasma fuelling
 - Gas exhaust
 - Isotope separation

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Energy confinement / transport

- Confinement scaling (engineering approach)
- Discovery of H-mode
- Internal transport barriers
- Confinement optimization of stellarators





$$\tau_E \propto A^{0.40} I^{0.90} P^{-0.65} R^{1.90} a^{0.20} \kappa^{0.80} B^{0.05} n^{0.30}$$

Wendelstein 7-X

Magnetischer Einschluss

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Ion temperature in ASDEX Upgrade L-mode plasma @ 5 MW heating power





Energy confinement / transport

- Confinement scaling (engineering approach)
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Ion temperature in ASDEX Upgrade H-mode plasma @ 5 MW heating power Confinement improvement by factor of 2

F Wagner et al 1982 Phys. Rev, Lett. 49 1408 F Wagner 2007 Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 49 B1





Energy confinement / transport

- Confinement scaling (engineering approach)
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Ion temperature in ASDEX Upgrade	
Internal transport barriers	
@ 5 MW heating power	



R Wolf 2003 Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 45 R1

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Turbulence and turbulence suppression (by sheared flows) plays a major role in plasma transport

Magnetischer Einschluss

Energy confinement / transport

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Prediction of turbulent transport (based on gyrokinetic theory) requires supercomputer



Energy confinement / transport

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Article Demonstration of reduced neoclassical energy transport in Wendelstein 7-X

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03687-w	 C. D. Beidler¹⁵⁵, H. M. Smith¹, A. Alonso³, T. Andreeva¹, J. Baldzuhn¹, M. N. A. Beurskens¹, M. Borchard¹, S. A. Bozhenko¹, K. J. Brunner¹, H. Damm¹, M. Drevlak¹, O. P. Ford¹, G. Fuchert¹, J. Geican¹, P. Helander¹, U. Hergenhahn¹, M. Hirsch¹, U. Klöfel¹, Yo. O. Kazakov², R. Klöhler¹, 	
Received: 30 April 2020		
Accepted: 2 June 2021	M. Krychowiak', S. Kwak', A. Langenberg', H. P. Laqua', U. Neuner', N. A. Pablant', E. Pasch', A. Pavone', T. S. Pedersen', K. Rahbarnia', J. Schilling', E. R. Scott', T. Stange', J. Svensson', H. Thomsen', Y. Turkin', F. Warmer', R. C. Wolf, D. Zhand', & the W.Z. Keam'	
Published online: 11 August 2021		
Open access		
Check for updates	Research on magnetic confinement of high-temperature plasmas has the ultimate goal of harnessing nuclear fusion for the production of electricity. Although the tokamak is the leading toroidal magnetic-confinement concept, it is not without shortcomings and the fusion community has therefore also pursued alternative concepts such as the stellarator. Unlike axisymmetric tokamaks, stellarators possess a three-dimensional (3D) magnetic field geometry. The availability of this additional dimension opens up an extensive configuration space for computational optimization of both the field geometry visel and the current-carrying coils that produce it. Such an optimization was undertaken in designing Wendelstein 7.X (W7X) ² , al nephelicial axia stdwared stellarator (HELAS), which began operation in 2015 at Crefitswald, Germany. A major drawback of 3D magnetic field geometry, is that it introduces a strong temperature dependence into the stellarator's non-turbulent 'neoclassical' energy transport. Indeed, such energy losses will become prohibitive in high-temperature reactor plasma suless a strong reduction of the geometrical factor associated with his transport can be achieved: such a reduction was therefore a principal goal of the design of W7X. In spite of the modest heating product of plasma density, inote timest and energy confinement time is used in fusion research as a figure of merit, as it must attain a certain threshold value before net-energy producing generation of a reactor becomes possible's. Here we demonstrate that such record values provide evidence of reduced neoclassical energy transport in W7X, as the plasma conditions during the 2017 and 2018 experimental campaigns, producing energy transport in W7X, as the plasma perites is used in fusion research as a figure of merit, as it must attain a certain threshold value before net-energy producing operation of a reactor becomes possible's Here we demonstrate that such record values provide evidence for reduced neoclassical energy transport in W7X, as the p	
near before a hance tunner reduction. Colling a minimum value of the fusion triple product, before net energy-producing operation become the fuel density. This is temperature and r, is to imme, defined by the ratio W/P, where W's the and P's the heating power provided by fusion rule dependence of the fuel's tissue meactivity constraint, for deuterium - tritium fusion, the blown a temperature of ID SeV (= 2.2 ND %).	sistent with a tolerable level of energy transport if the required r, is n n n to be achieved. The source of the source of the required r, is n n n, n n n to be achieved. The source of the requires the source of the requires the source of the requires that field ines spiral around the minor axis of the torus policit source of plasma methy and the source of numerous transits about the device the source of numerous transits about the device of the source of numerous transits about the device. For violdes and device of numerous transits about the device of source of numerous transits about the device. For a token and the source of numerous transits about the device of security rails rapidly wided, respectively, by planar current carrying coils situated outside are the plasma and by a toroidal plasma current induced with a central	

ire School (ERM/KMS), Brussels, Belgium

C. Beidler et al 2021 Nature 596 221

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the quest for a viable fusion reactor, consist energy balance shows that -regardless of the co- minimum value of the fusion triple product, for enet-energy-producing operation becom fee deel density. Ts is is temperature and r, is to me, defined by the ratio W/P, where W is the dy'P is the heating power provided by fusion reactivity instraint; for deuterium-tritium fusion, this fow a temperature of 10 keV (-12 - 107 K).	$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	

C. Beidler et al 2021 Nature 596 221

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Particle confinement

- Plasma fuel (D, T)
- Helium exhaust
- Impurity confinement

Fast ion confinement (3.5 MeV α -particles)

- Essential for self-heating of the plasma
- Essential not to damage plasma facing components
- Difficult to achieve in stellarators

Stability

- Limits plasma $\beta = B^2/2\mu_0$
- Biggest issue in tokamaks are current disruptions occurring when reaching operational limits







Courtesy J. Proll

Wendelstein 7-X

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$$P_{fusion} = \frac{1}{4} \int n^2 \langle \sigma v \rangle E_{fusion} dV \sim n^2 \langle \sigma v \rangle R^3$$
$$\sim n^2 T^2 R^3$$
$$\sim \beta^2 B^4 R^3$$

Dem Plasma ausgesetzte Materialien

1 m





- Fuel dilution (low-Z)
- Radiation losses (high-Z)
- Low plasma erosion
- Heat fluxes up to 10 MW/m²



Dem Plasma ausgesetzte Materialien

1 m

Carbon

- Sublimation at high temperatures
- Low Z
- But high (chemical) erosion
- And tritium co-deposition
- Neutron flux cause reduction of heat conductivity

Tungsten

- High Z
- Tungsten as plasma facing material was pioneered by ASDEX Upgrade
- Candidate material for a fusion power plant is tungsten

R. Neu et al 2007 J. Nucl. Mat. 367–370, 1497



Wendelsteir

Wärme- und Teilchenabfuhr

Neutrons deposit 4/5 of the energy in the blanket volume

The rest has to be dissipated by plasma facing components

- About 10% to the divertor
- High heat flux targets ~ 10 MW/m² connected to the plasma boundary by the open magnetic field lines
- About 90% isotropic radiation
- Particles are exhausted formation of neutral gas by recombination of cold plasma (only neutral gas can be pumped)





Wärme- und Teilchenabfuhr

Typical heat fluxes

- Fusion ~ $1.000 10.000 \text{ kW/m}^2$
- Fossil, fission ~ 500 kW/m²
- Solar < 1.4 kW/m² (average in Germany 0.1 kW/m2)

Limitation of local heat fluxes by increasing the radiated power

- Homogeneous distribution over the surface of the plasma vessel
- Dedicated seeding of impurities





Wärme- und Teilchenabfuhr

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Tomographic reconstruction of radiated power for a 23 MW ASDEX Upgrade plasma limiting the heat flux to 5 MW/m² by using argon





A. Kallenbach et al 2012 Nucl. Fusion 52 122003

Wärmeabfuhr in Wendelstein 7-X



Targets (Plansee) for stationary heat fluxes up to 10 MW/m²





30 seconds \rightarrow 30 minutes requires specially cooled targets

Neutron fluences correspond to

- ~1 dpa in ITER
- ~100 dpa in a fusion power plant

Blanket

- Breeding of tritium
- Heat exchange
- Screening of neutrons
- First test blankets in ITER

Vacuum vessel

- Further screening of neutrons
- Overall screening requirement ~10⁻⁶

A Häußler et al 2018 Fusion Eng. Design 136 345

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ITER vacuum vessel

www.iter.org/news/galleries Copyright: ITER Organization

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www.iter.org/news/galleries Copyright: ITER Organization

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ITER vacuum vessel

www.iter.org/news/galleries Copyright: ITER Organization

A Häußler et al 2018 Fusion Eng. Design 136 345

For the 1st time complete exchange of all plasma facing components in activated JET vessel (after D-T operation)

G. F. Matthews et al 2011 Phys. Scr. T145 014001

Remote Maintenance

Remote maintenance required for repair and exchange of activated (in-vessel) components

- Blanket
- Divertor

Relevant devices

- Important developments at JET
- Integral part of ITER design

Supraleitende Spulen

 $n \ T \ \tau_E \sim B^2, \ P_{fusion} \sim B^4$

Magnetic field limited by

- Critical field / current of superconductor
- Mechanical forces of coil configuration

Superconductor

- NbTi (W7-X, ITER vertical field coils) up to 7 T
- Nb₃Sn (ITER central solenoid, toroidal field) up to 12 T
- Development of HT superconductors

W7-X superconductor: up to 18 kA

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Critical field / current of superconductor

• Mechanical forces of coil configuration

Supraleitende Spulen

Superconductor

•

 $n T \tau_E \sim B^2$, $P_{fusion} \sim B^4$

Magnetic field limited by

- NbTi (W7-X, ITER vertical field coils) up to 7 T
- Nb₃Sn (ITER central solenoid, toroidal field) up to 12 T
- Development of HT superconductors

Van Mises stress distribution (in MPa) of a possible coil support structure for a stellarator power plant (W7-X extrapolation)

Kryostatgefäß und thermischer Schild

Installation of first part of ITER thermal shield (January 2021) Copyright: ITER Organization

Sections of the Wendelstein 7-X cryostat vessel

IPP, Foto: Anja Richter Ullmann

Plasmaerzeugung, -heizung und Stromtrieb

Tokamak needs current drive for becoming stationary

• Issue of efficiency

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Stellarator is intrinsically steady state

Heating and current drive systems

- Injection of fast neutrals (NBI)
- Resonant heating of ions (ICRH)
- Resonant heating of electrons (ECRH)

F. Warmer et al 2016, IEEE Transactions Plasma Science 44 1576

Plasmaerzeugung, -heizung und Stromtrieb

Plasmaerzeugung, -heizung und Stromtrieb

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Extrapolation zu einem Fusionskraftwerk

R Wolf 2003 Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 45 R1

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Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

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Extrapolation zu einem Fusionskraftwerk

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Herbstsitzung AKE der DPG

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Roadmap zu einem Demonstrationskraftwerk

European Research Roadmap to the Realisation of Fusion Energy

www.euro-fusion.org/eurofusion/roadmap/

Entscheidende Elemente für die weitere Entwicklung

Improved concepts

• Wendelstein 7-X

First burning fusion plasma, first tritium breeding

• ITER

Fundamental physics understanding

• Extrapolation

Technology development

- E.g. HT superconductors
- Higher B-field

Low activation materials, high heat flux materials

• Neutron source

First integrated design of a demonstration power plant (DEMO)

1.E+09

1.E+08

1.E+01

C (Eurofer) D (SiC/SiC)

1.E+03

Final Report of the European Fusion Power Plant Conceptual Study EFDA(05)-27/4.10

Time (s)

1.E+07

1.E+09

1.E+11

1.E+05

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Wendelsteir

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Fazit und Ausblick

- The realization of fusion energy is scientifically and technologically one of the larges enterprises worldwide
- Leading fusion projects are
 - ITER: First demonstration of a burning fusion plasma & first time breeding tritium from fusion neutrons and lithium (on a technical scale)
 - Wendelstein 7-X: Validation of an alternative confinement concept with advantageous power pant properties
- Important key technologies are: Low activation materials, high heat flux materials, superconductors, heating methods, remote handling, high performance computing, ...
- Close alignment of physics and technology is essential
- Also, close collaboration between research and industry is essential

daten/emag/IPPundIndustrie/index.html

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Danke für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit

Innenansicht Wendelstein 7-X nach erster Betriebsphase

Mit freundlicher Genehmigung von C. Biedermann, G. Wurden (2018)