Application of Plasma Phenomena

Po-Yu Chang

Institute of Space and Plasma Sciences, National Cheng Kung University

Lecture 13

2025 fall semester

Thursday 9:00-12:00

Materials:

https://capst.ncku.edu.tw/PGS/index.php/teaching/

Online courses:

https://reurl.cc/ZlG6k6

2025/12/17 updated

Grading

- **Quizzes 50 % (2-min Q&A at the beginning of each class)**
- **Presentations 50 % (10-min presentation on any plasma applications or phenomena)**
- **Prerecorded classes:**
  - **1/8: International workshop on multiscale laboratory astrophysics with the aid of data science**

Final presentation on 12/31 at 10:30 in room 48111B

Please select all the times you are available so we can find a time slot that works for everyone.

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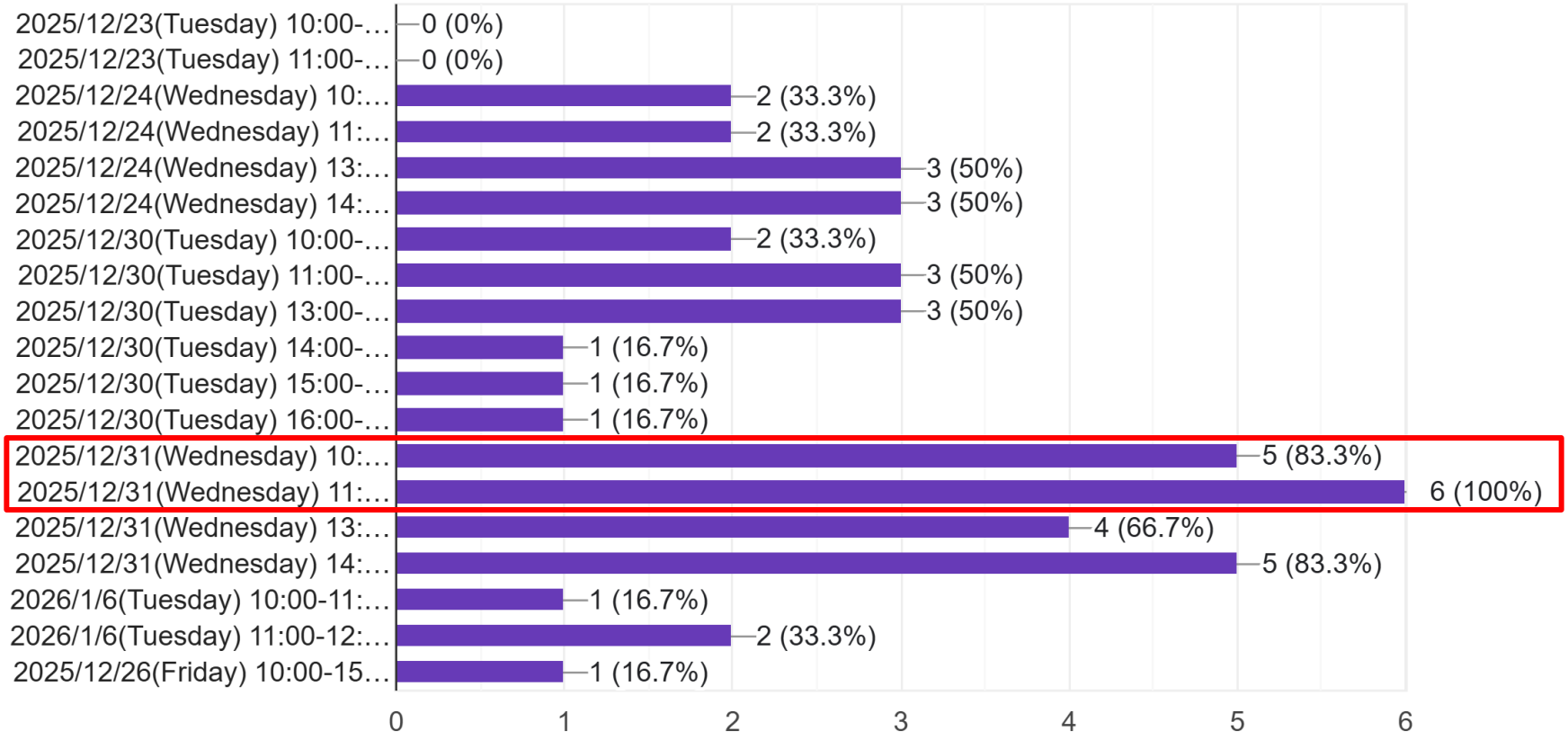
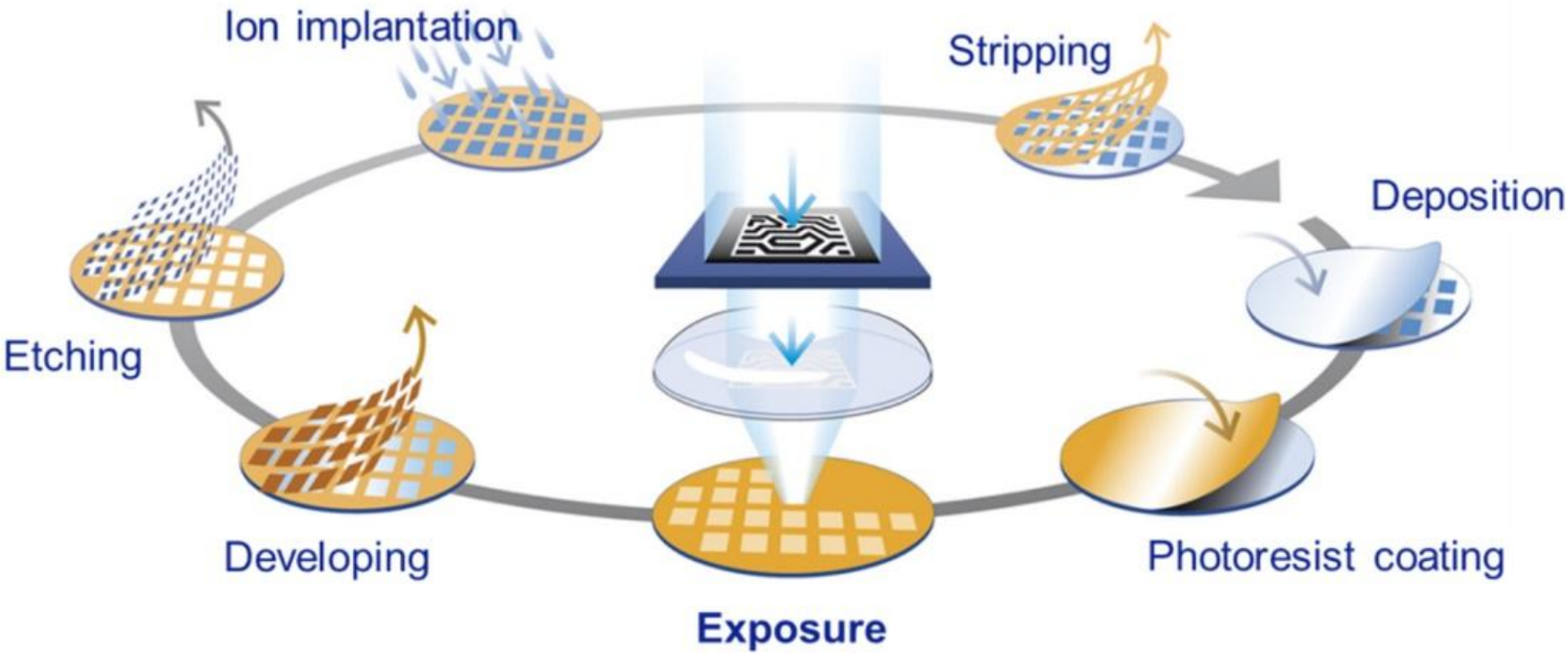


Note!

- **Final presentation on 12/31 at 10:30 in room 48111B!**

- **Time: 12/31 10:30**
- **Time for each person: 10 mins**
- **Topics: anything related to plasma. You can talk about a plasma phenomenon or a plasma application. In your presentation, you need to describe how plasma is involved. What rule does the plasma play in the phenomenon or application.**
- **Your scores (34 points in total) will depend on:**
  - **(2 points) Presentation time.**
    < 8 min: 0
    8~9 min: 1
    9~11 min: 2
    11~12 min: 1
    > 12 min: 0
  - **(2 points) Plasma related.**
  - **(10 points) How clear the physics is explained?**
  - **(10 points) The presentation skill.**
  - **(10 points) Your slides.**

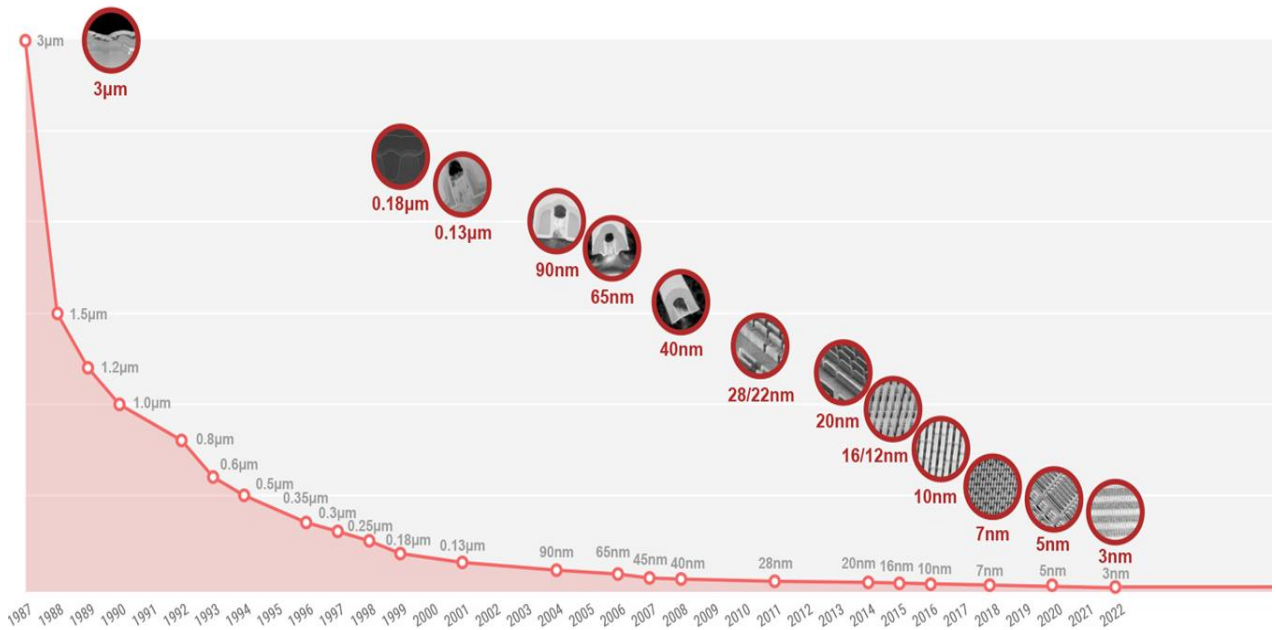
A semiconductor device is fabricated by many repetitive production process



Surf. Topogr.: Metrol. Prop. **4** (2016) 023001

Ultraviolet lithography (EUVL) is one of the key technologies in semiconductor manufacturing nowadays

- **The process technology of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Limited (TSMC):**

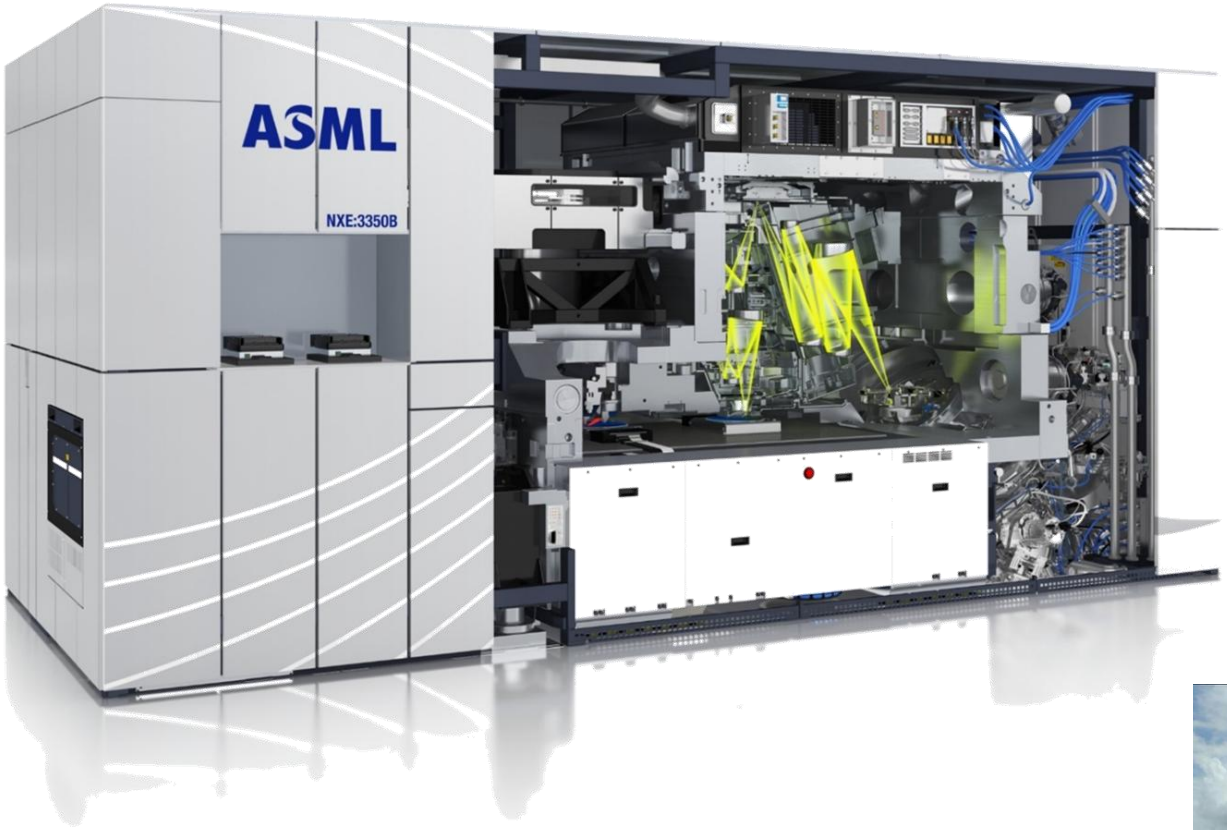


- **Optical diffraction needs to be taken into account.**
- **Shorter wavelength is preferred.**

- **Light source with a center wavelength of 13.5 nm is used.**

https://www.tsmc.com/chinese/dedicatedFoundry/technology/logic.htm

EUV lithography becomes important for semiconductor industry

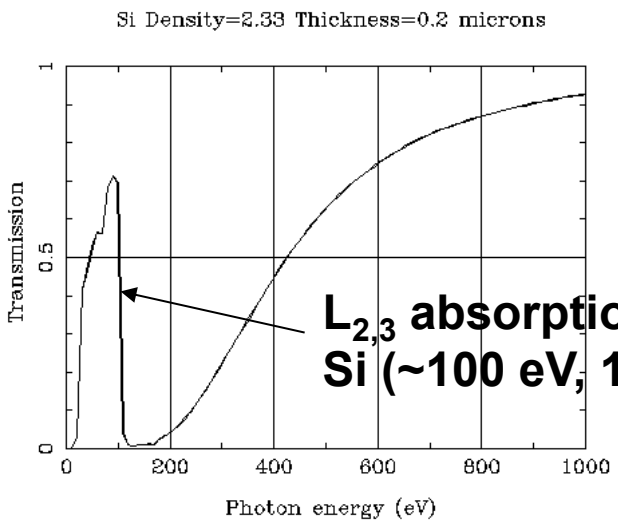


- **0.15 billion USD for each EUV light source.**

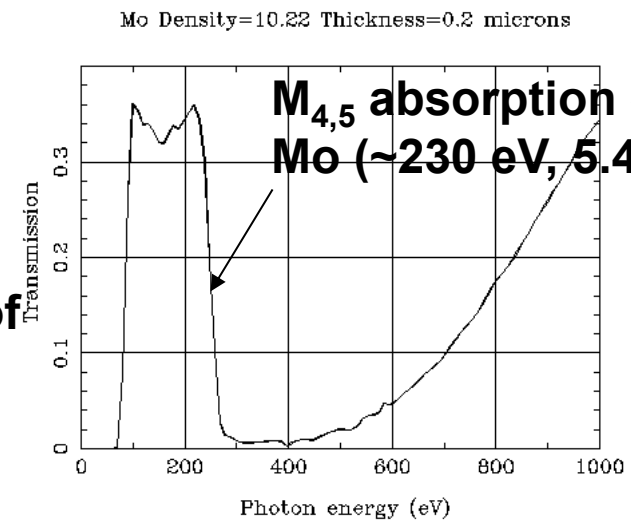
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHSR6AHNiDs

http://finance.technews.tw/2019/01/25/euv-asml-2018/

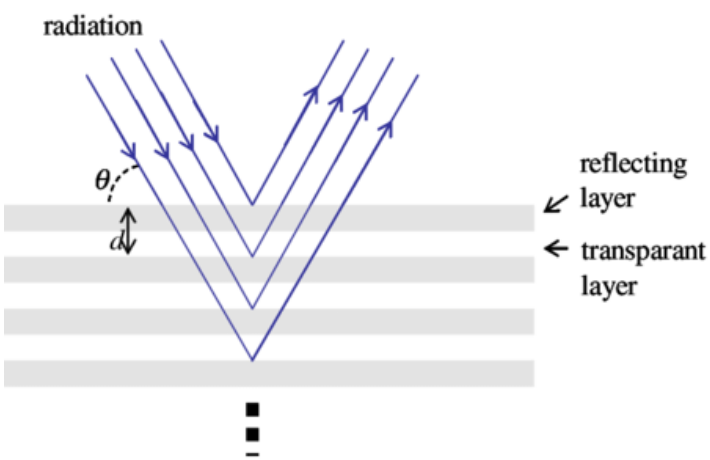
EUV light can only be reflected using multilayer mirrors

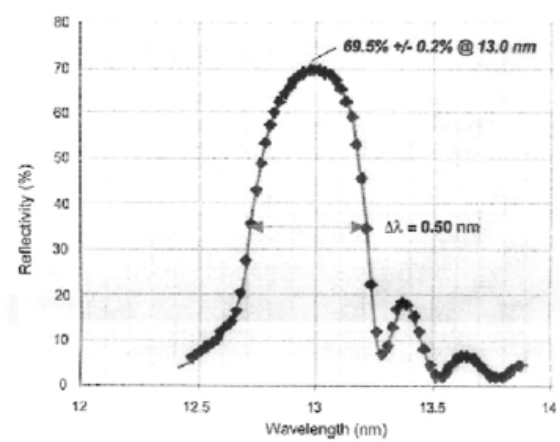


$L_{2,3}$ absorption edge of Si (~100 eV, 12.4 nm)



$M_{4,5}$ absorption edge of Mo (~230 eV, 5.4 nm)

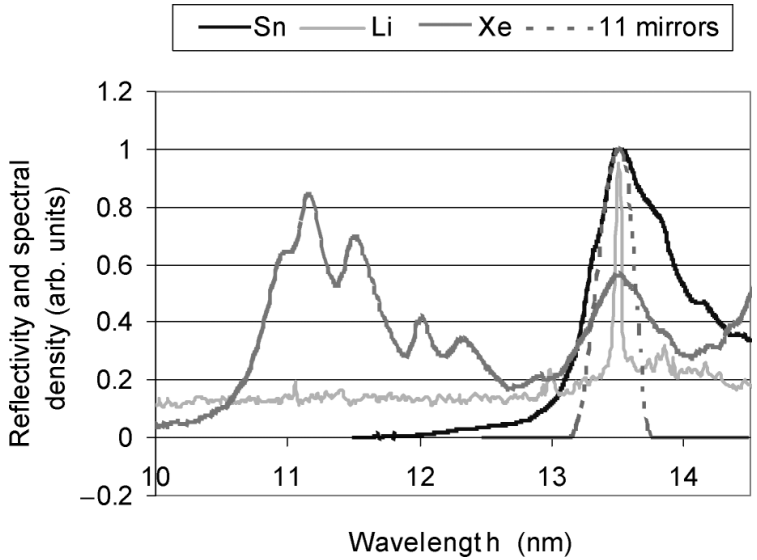




https://henke.lbl.gov/optical_constants/

Mo/Si multilayer coating technology for EUVL, coating uniformity and time stability; E. Louis et al.; SPIE 4146-06, Soft X-ray and EUV Imaging Systems, San Diego, 2000.

13.5-nm EUV light is picked for EUV lithography



- $\lambda = 13.5\ \mathrm{nm} \pm 1\%$ is required.
- At T=35-40 eV (~450,000 K), in-band emission occurs.
- Xenon:
  - $4p^6 4d^8 \rightarrow 4p^6 4d^7 5p$ from single ion stage Xe^{10+}
  - UTA @ 11 nm

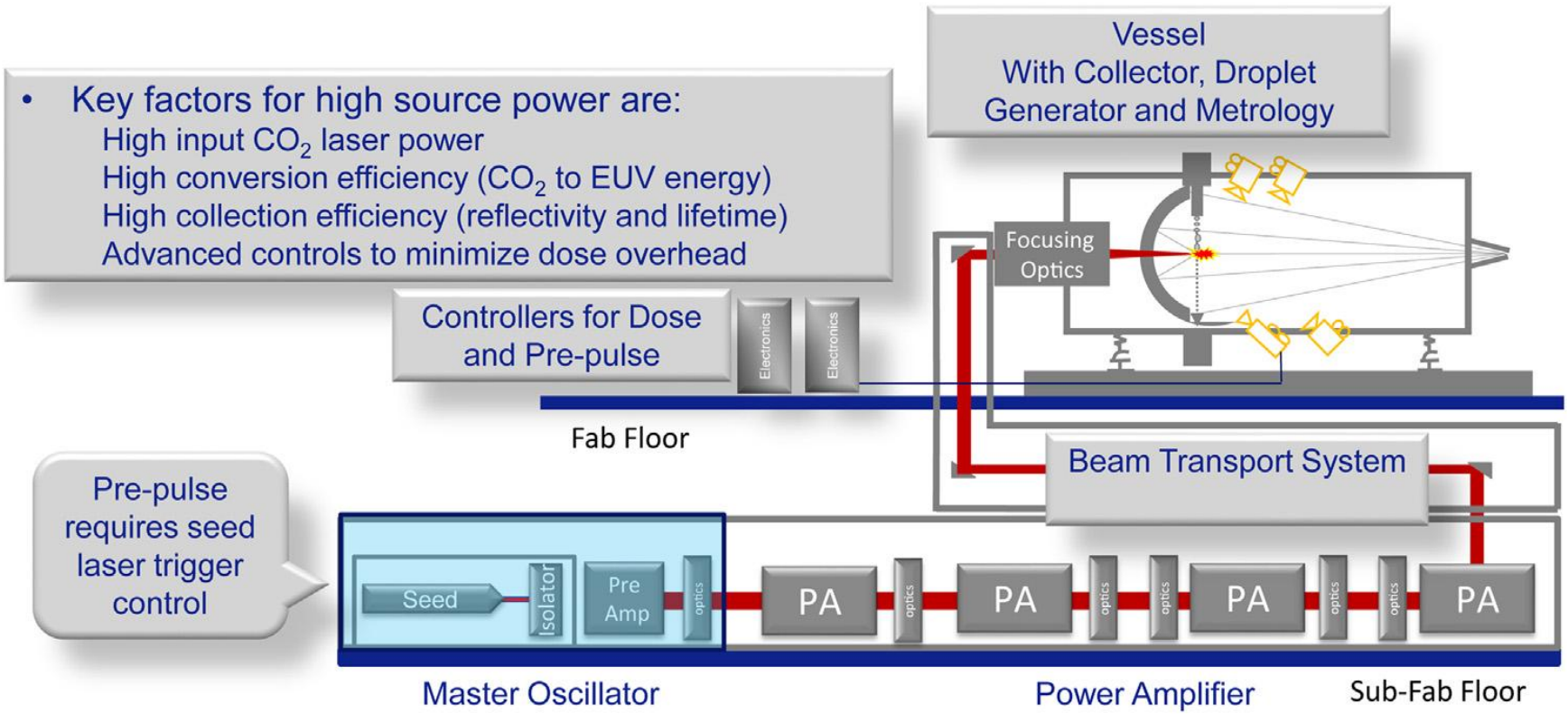
- Tin:
  - $4p^6 4d^N \rightarrow 4p^5 4d^{N+1} + 4p^6 4d^{N-1} 4f$ ($1 \leq N \leq 6$) in ions ranging from Sn^{8+} to Sn^{12+}
  - UTA @ 13.5 nm

- UTA: unresolved transition array

V. Bakshi, EUV sources for lithography
R. S. Abhari, etc., J. Micro/Nanolithography, MEMS, and MOEMS, 11, 021114 (2012)

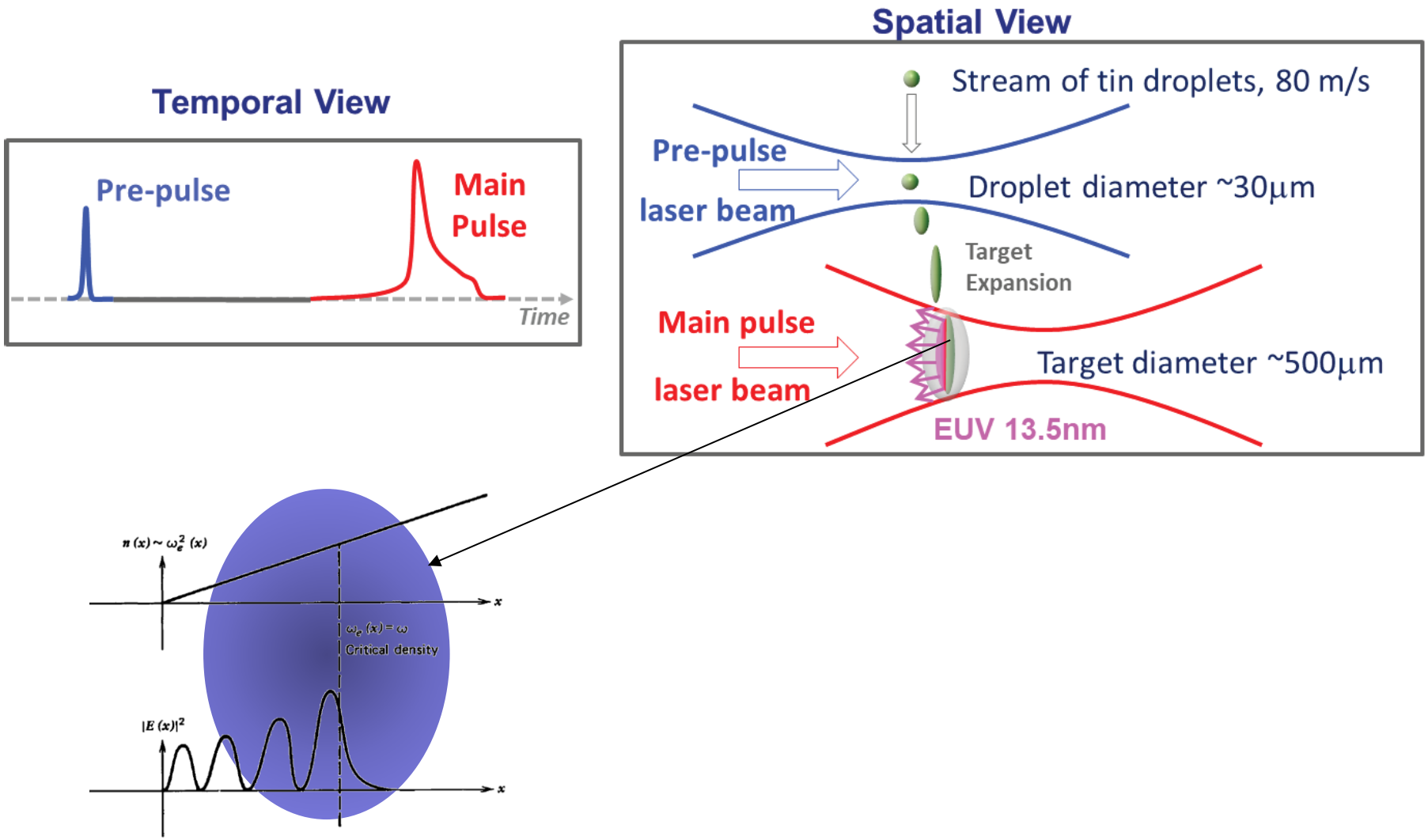
EUV light is generated from laser-produced plasma (LPP)

- Key factors for high source power are:
  - High input CO_2 laser power
  - High conversion efficiency (CO_2 to EUV energy)
  - High collection efficiency (reflectivity and lifetime)
  - Advanced controls to minimize dose overhead



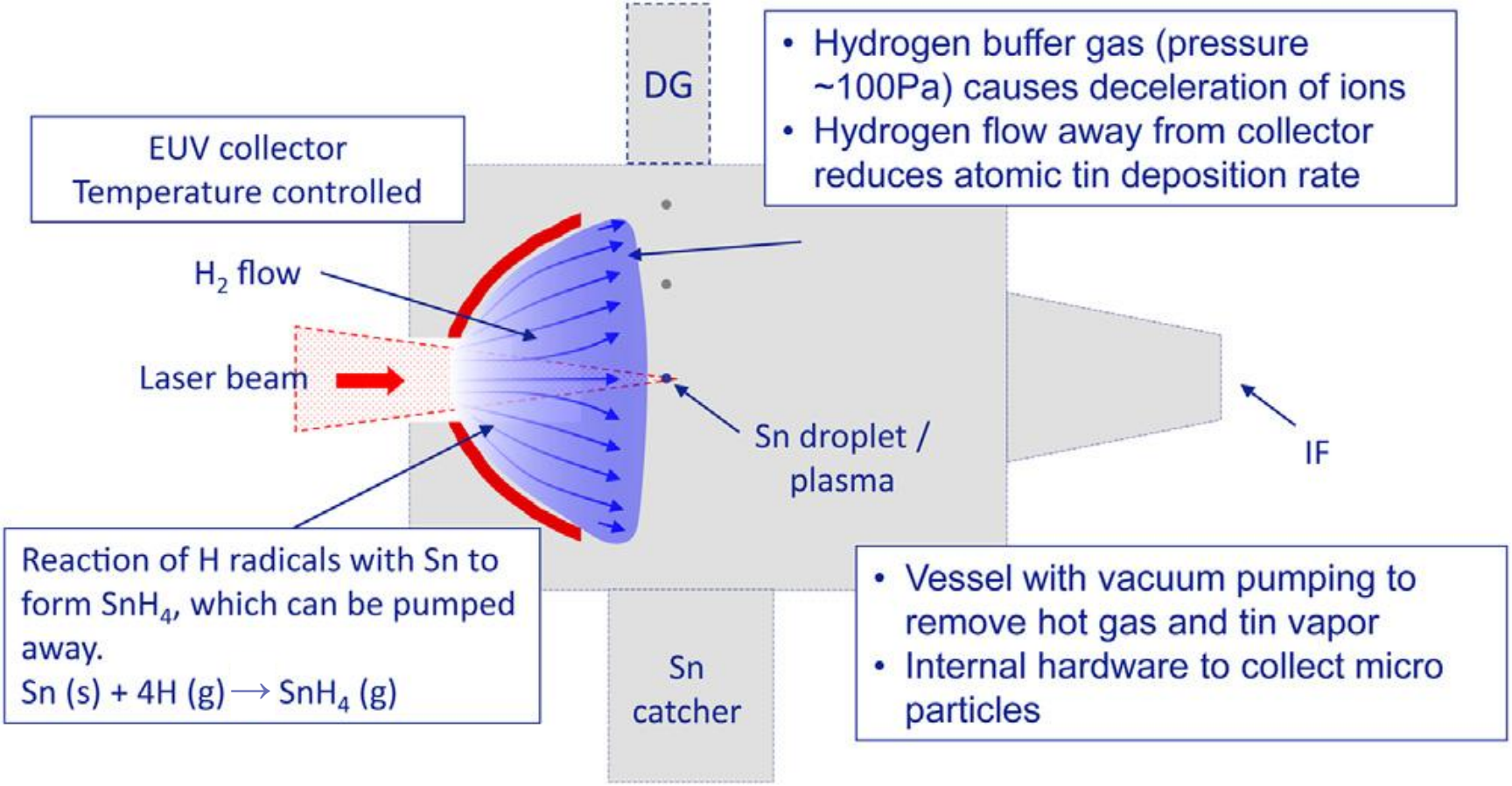
D.-K. Yang, etc., *Chip*, **1**, 100019 (2022)

Two laser pulses are used to heat the plasma



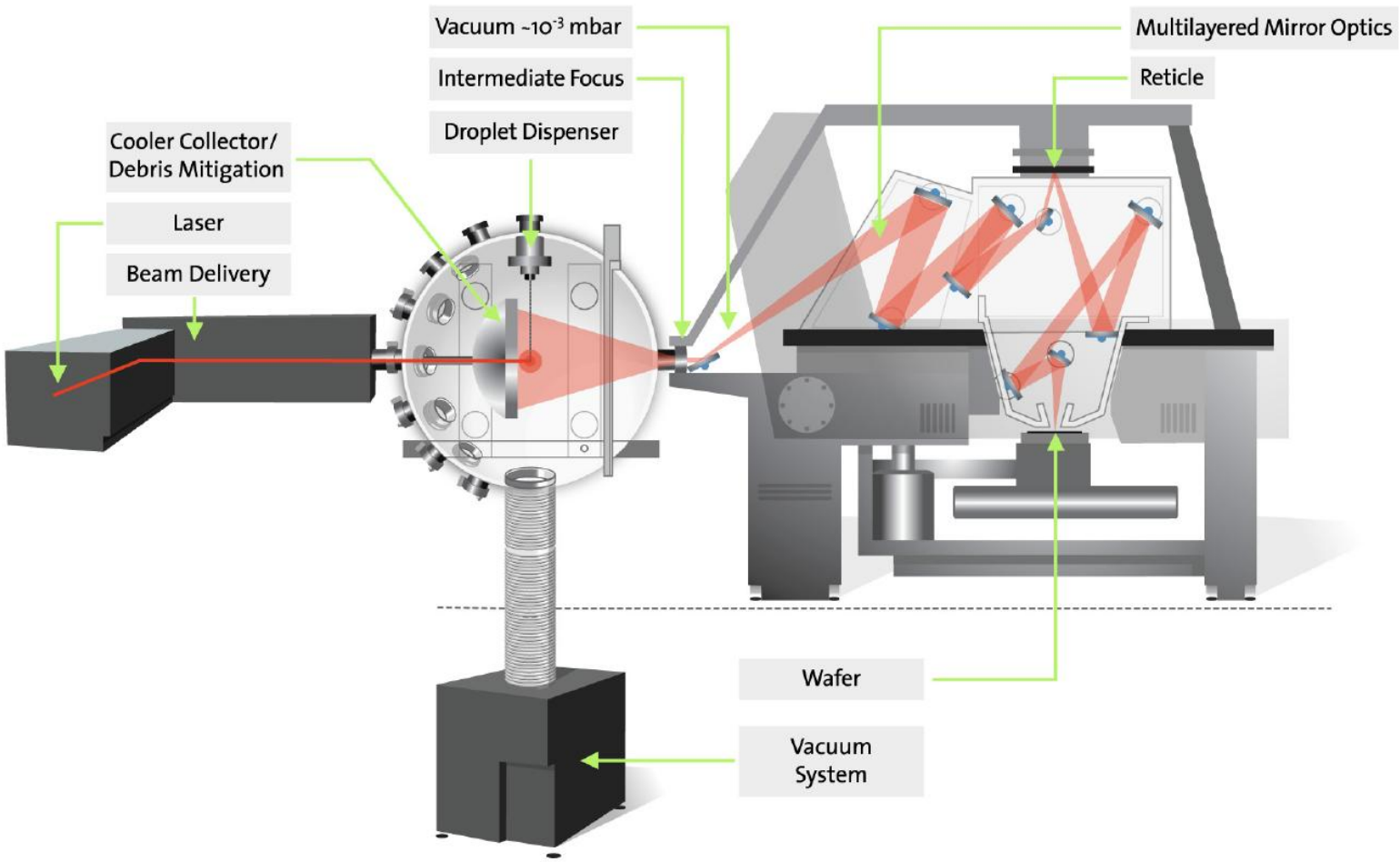
I. Fomenkov, etc., *Synch. Rad. News*, **32**, 3 (2019)

Hydrogen buffer gas with a pressure of ~100 Pa is used to protect the collector mirror



D.-K. Yang, etc., *Chip*, **1**, 100019 (2022)

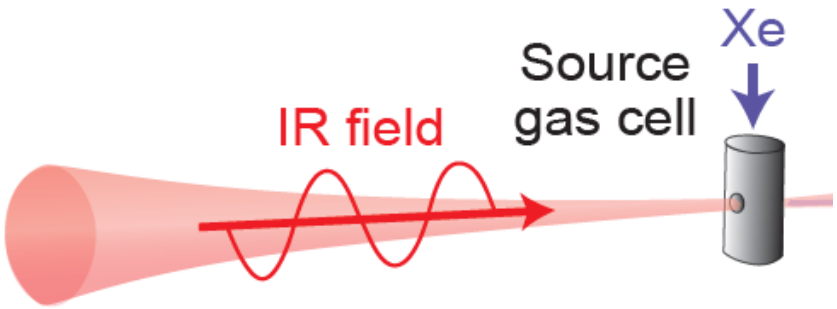
Laser-produced plasma (LPP) is used in the EUV lithography

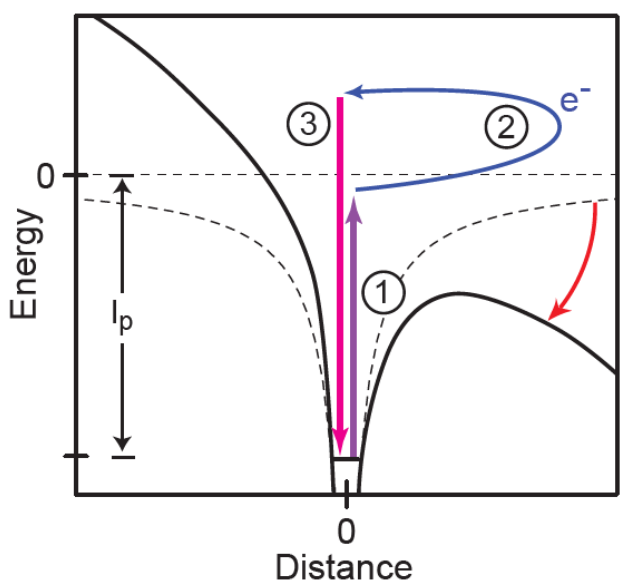


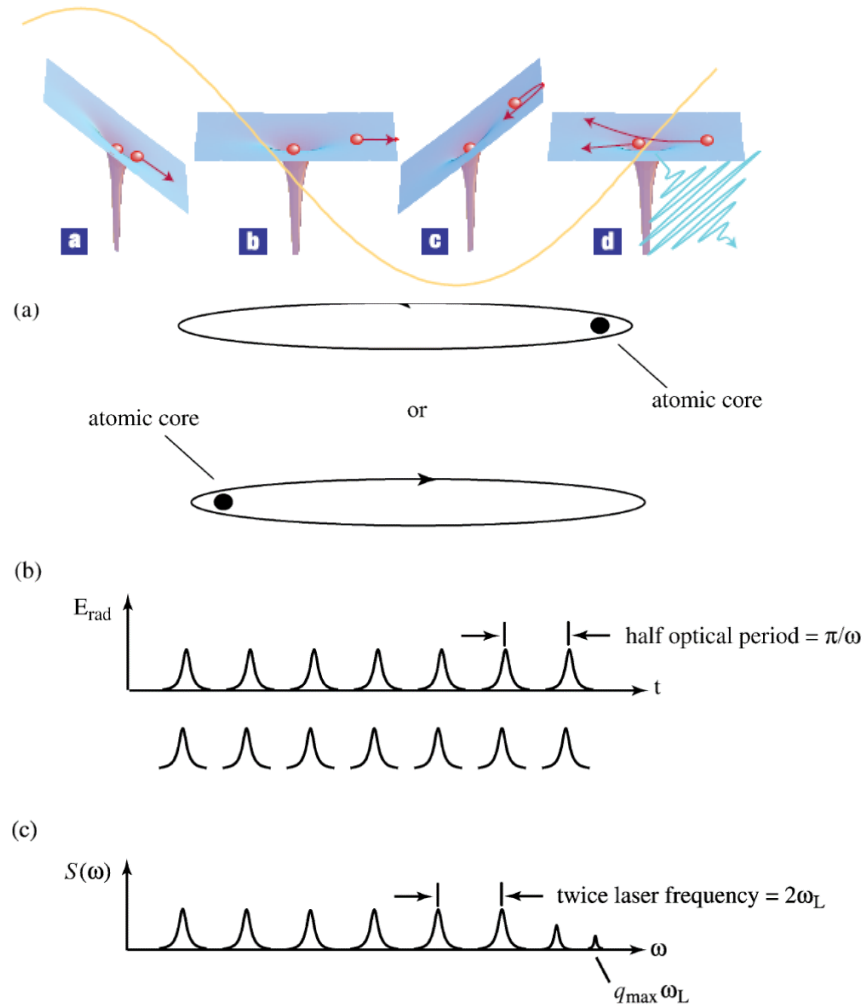
R. S. Abhari, etc., J. Micro/Nanolithography, MEMS, and MOEMS, 11, 021114 (2012)

High harmonic generation from high-power laser

- **For I < 10^{18} w/cm^2**

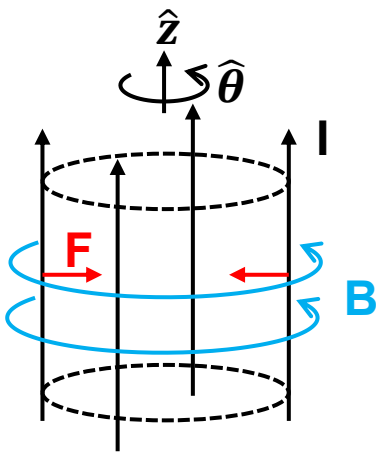


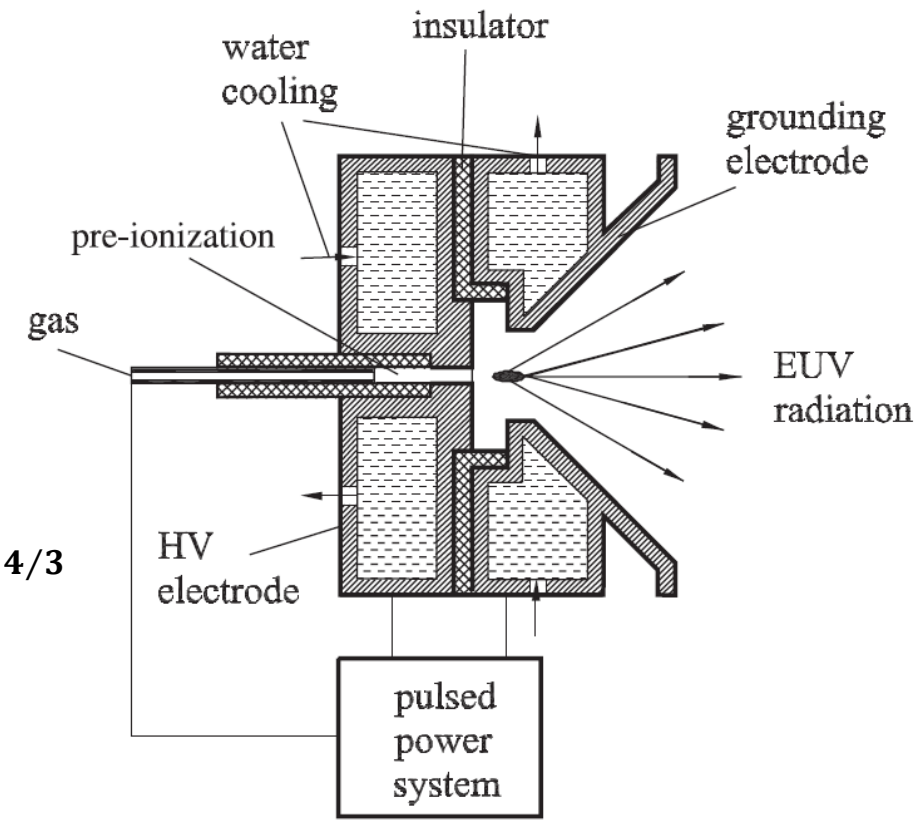




- M. Krüger, etc., Appl. Sci. 9, 378 (2019)
- Nonlinear Optics 3rd edition , by Robert W. Boyd
- P. B. Corkum and F. Krausz, Nature Phys., 3, 381 (2007)

EUV light can be generated using discharged-produced plasma





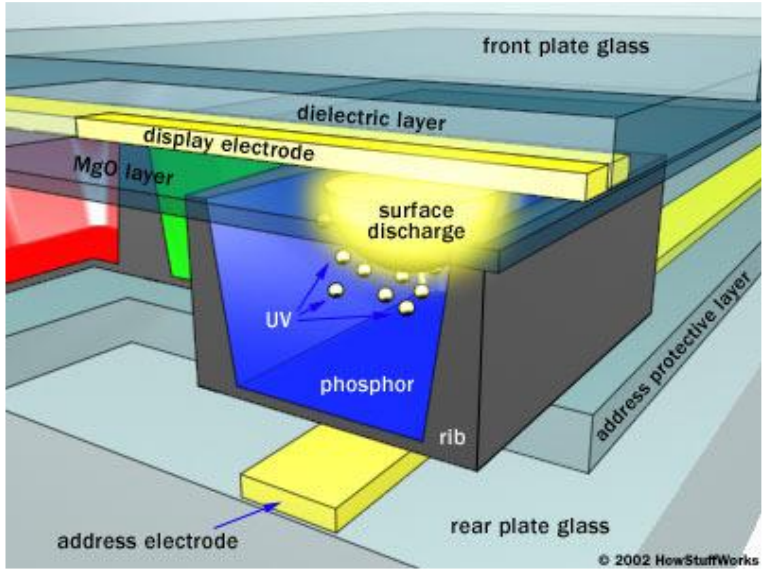
- **Adiabatic compression:**

$$TV^{\gamma-1} = \text{const} \quad T_f = T_o\left(\frac{r_o}{r_f}\right)^{4/3}$$

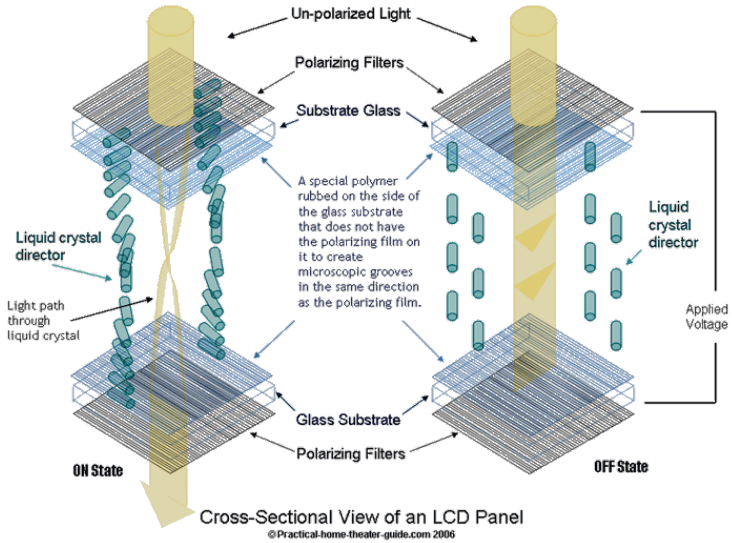
- JPDAP_37_p3254_2004_EUV sources using Xe and Sn discharge plasmas

Light source and display systems

Plasma display panel (PDP)



Liquid crystal display (LCD)

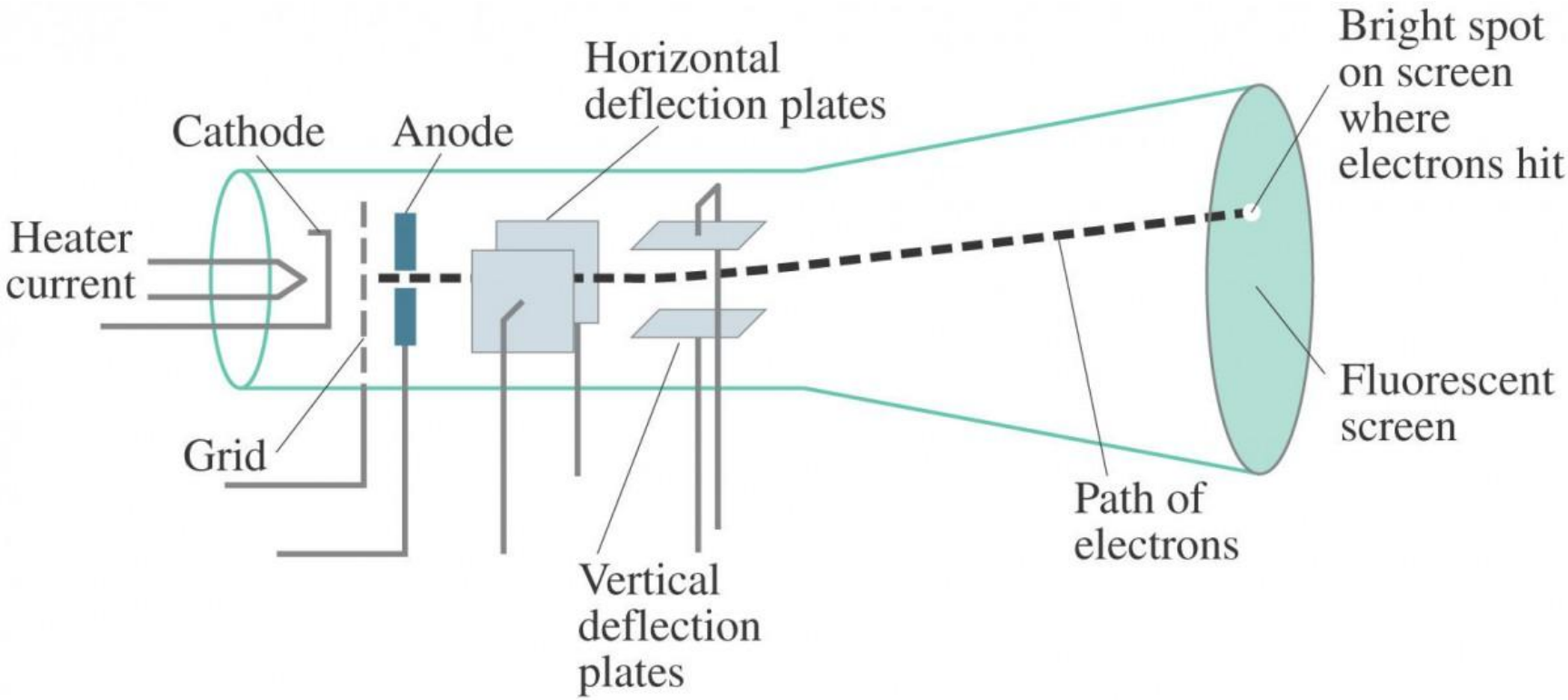


Outlines

- Cathode Ray Tube
- Color space (CIE 1931 color spaces)
- History of plasma display panel (PDP)
- Design of PDP
- Liquid crystal display (LCD)
- LCD vs PDP

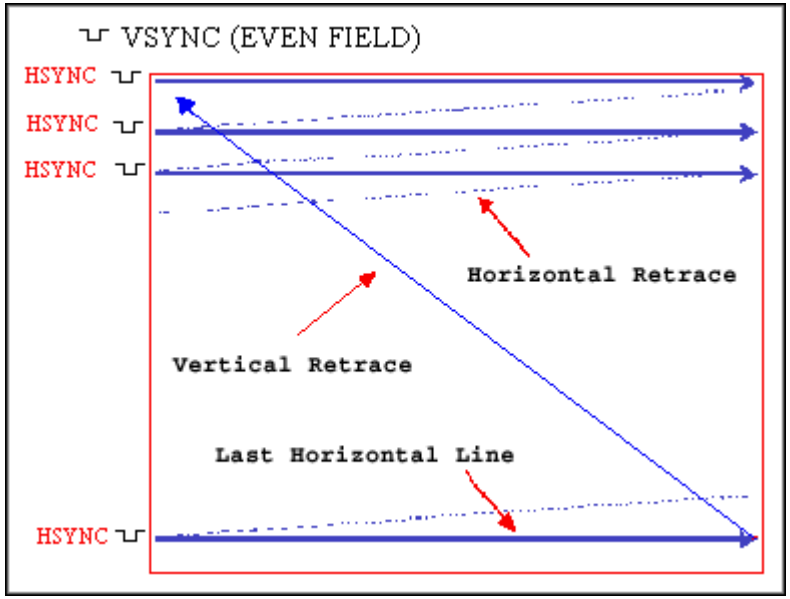
CRT

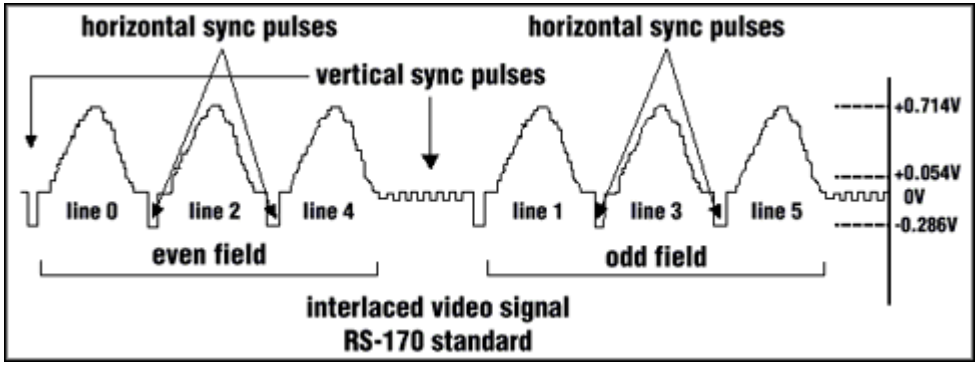
Cathode Ray Tube uses electron beams to light the fluorescent screen

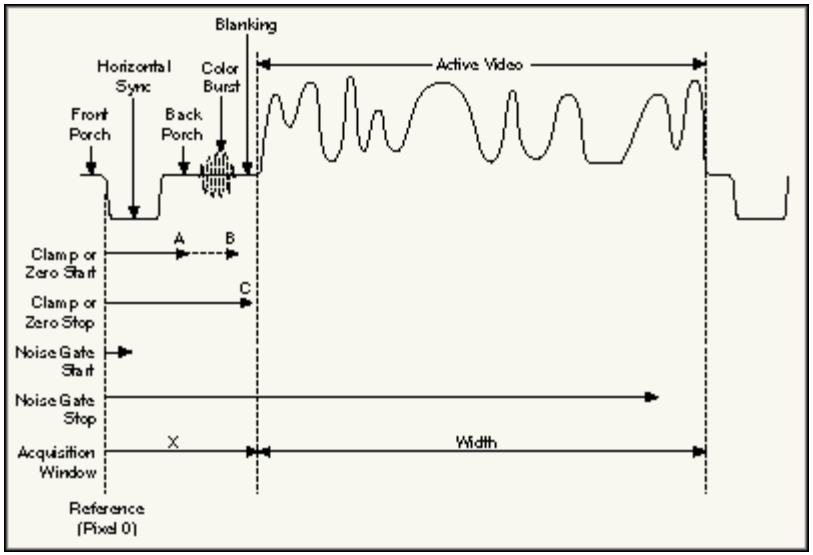


http://www.sciencefacts.net/cathode-ray-tube-crt.html

The image is shown by scanning through the whole screen with the single electron beam

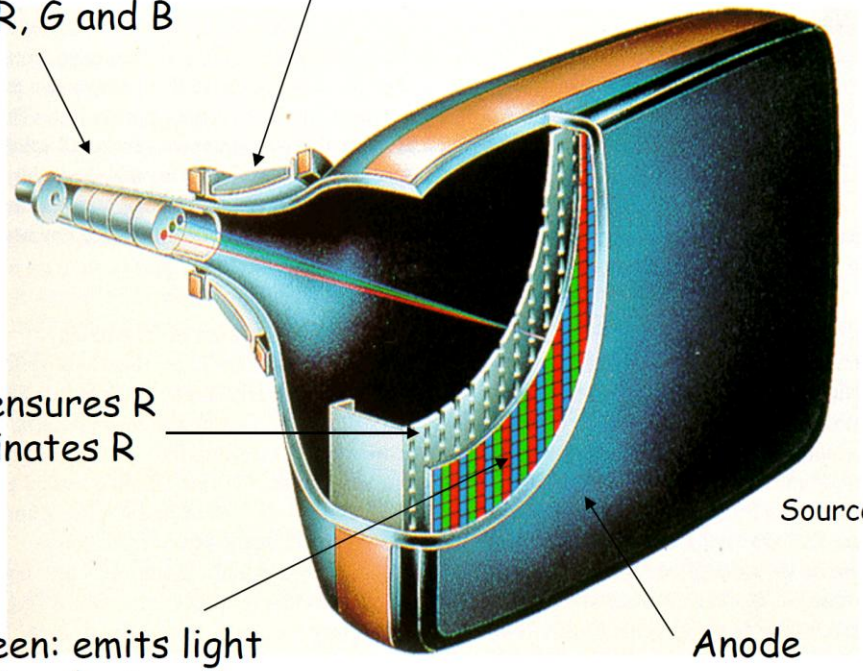






http://www.ni.com/white-paper/3020/en/#toc2

Color image is formed by using three electron beams scanning through three different color channels

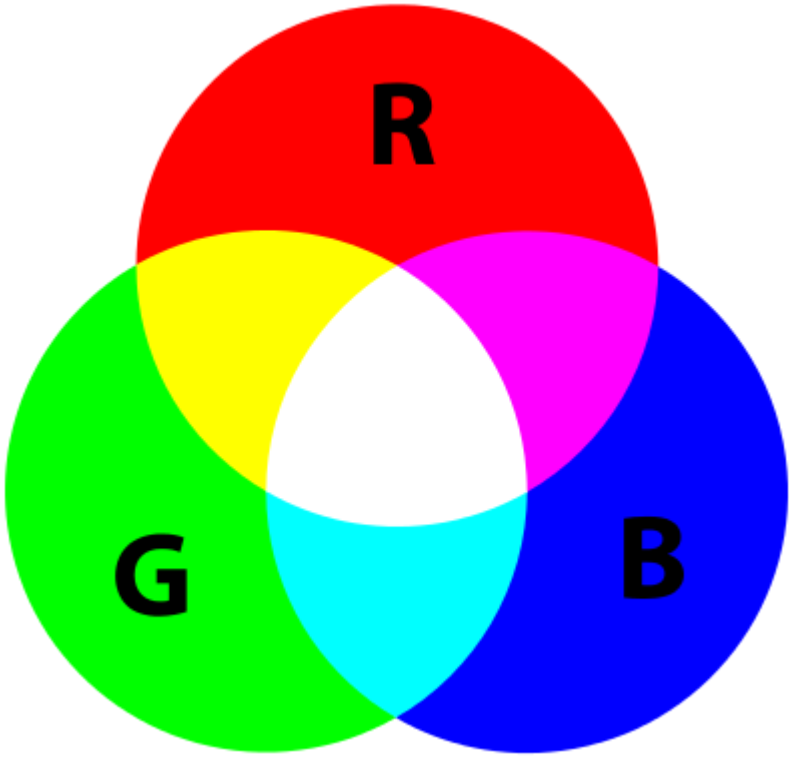


http://web.mit.edu/6.111/www/f2008/handouts/L12.pdf

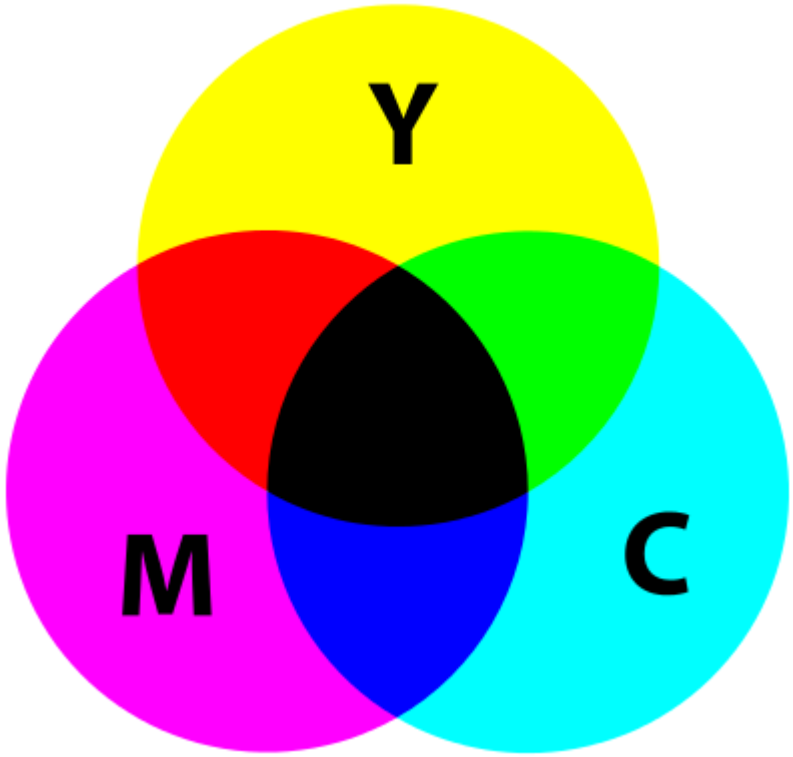
Color space

Color can be created using three primary colors

Additive primaries

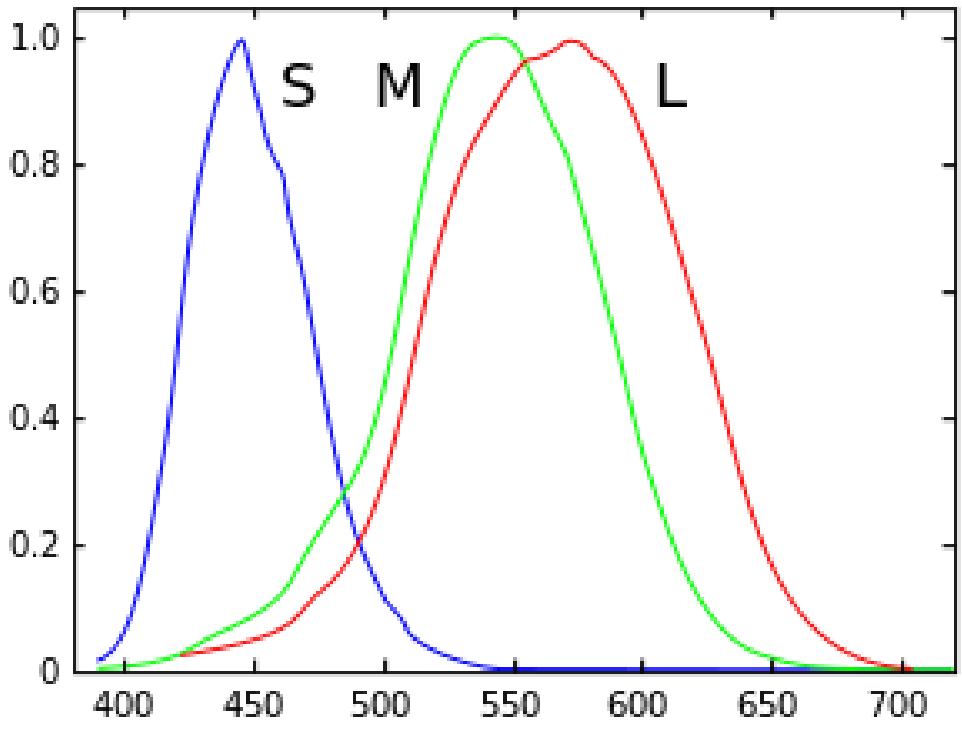


Subtractive primaries

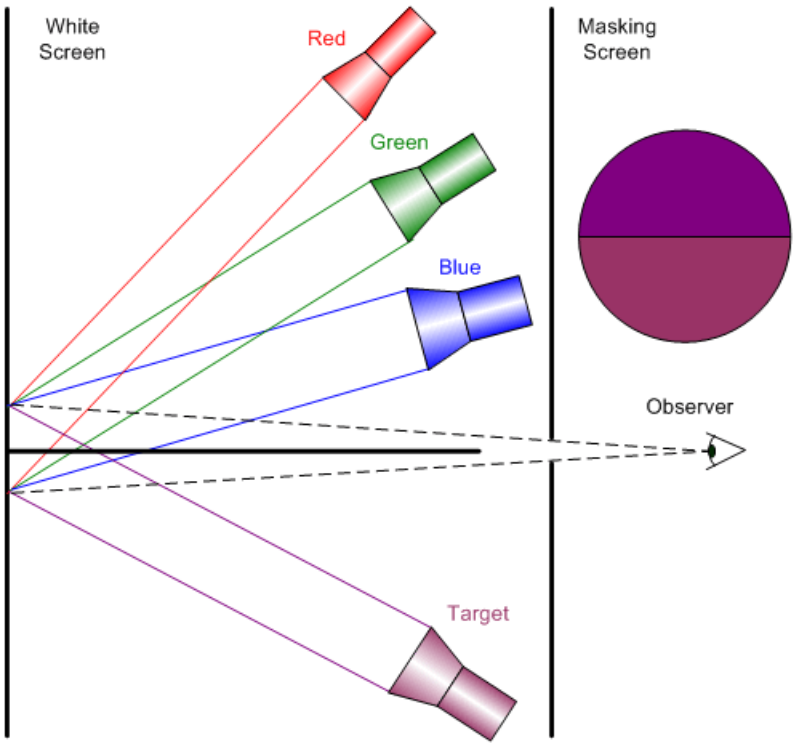


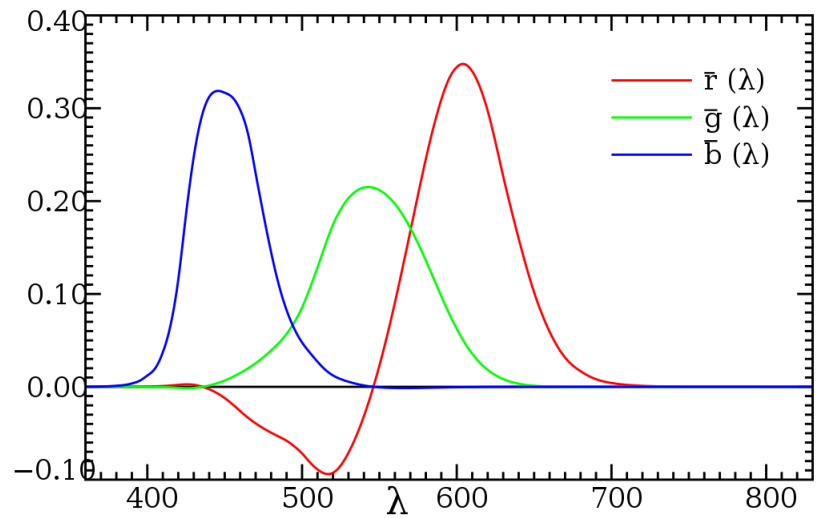
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primary_color

Human retina has three kinds of “cones” that have different spectral response



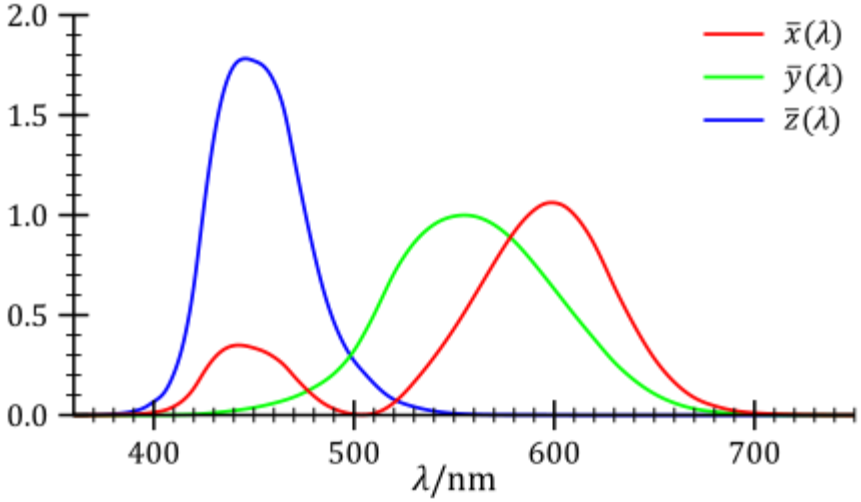
Spectral response of retina “cones” are tested using light sources with single wavelength

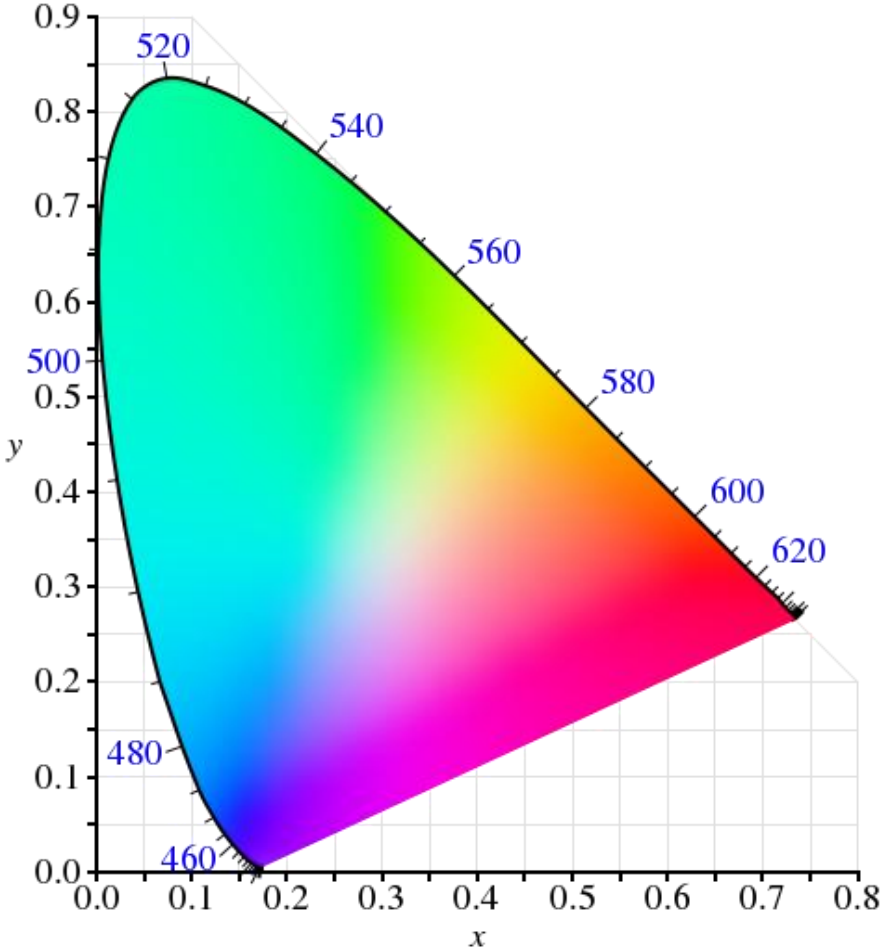




http://betterphotographytutorials.com/2011/08/01/light-and-colors-%E2%80%93-part-3/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIE_1931_color_space

The CIE 1931 color space chromaticity diagram is the standard color space

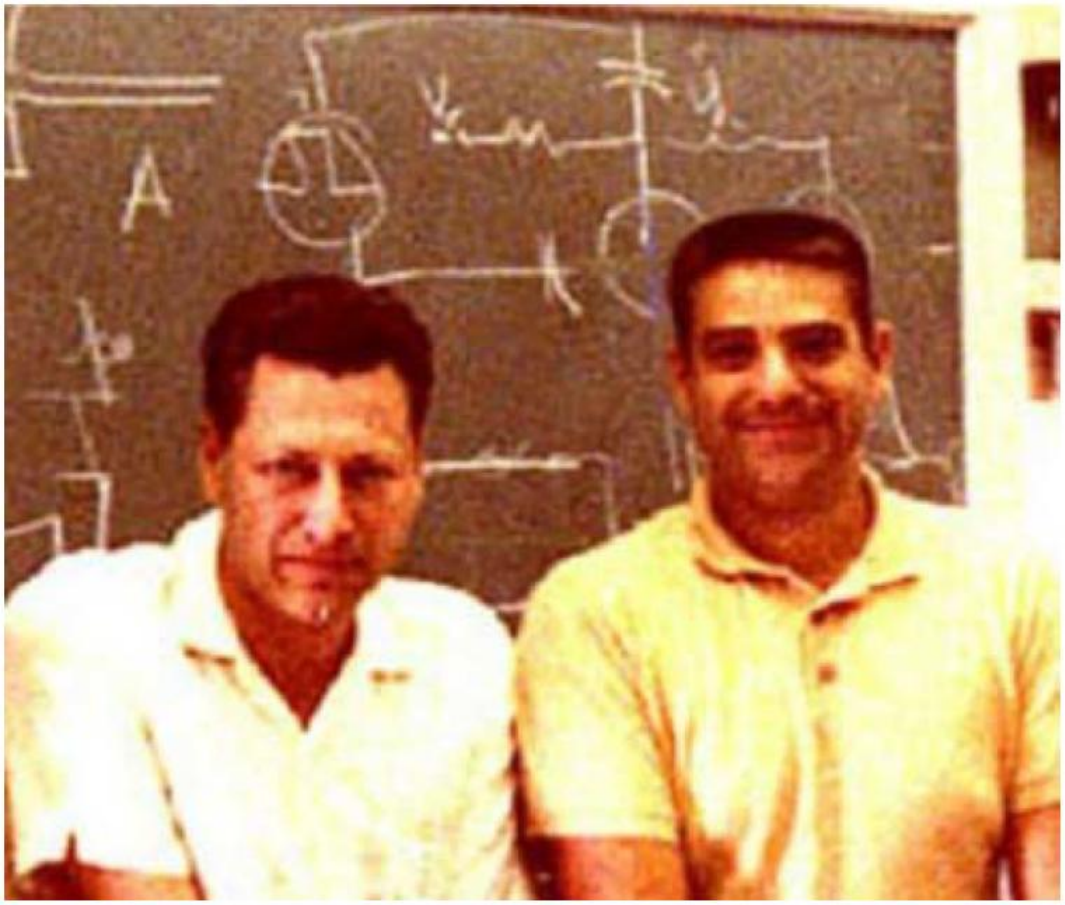




https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CIE_1931_color_space

History of PDP

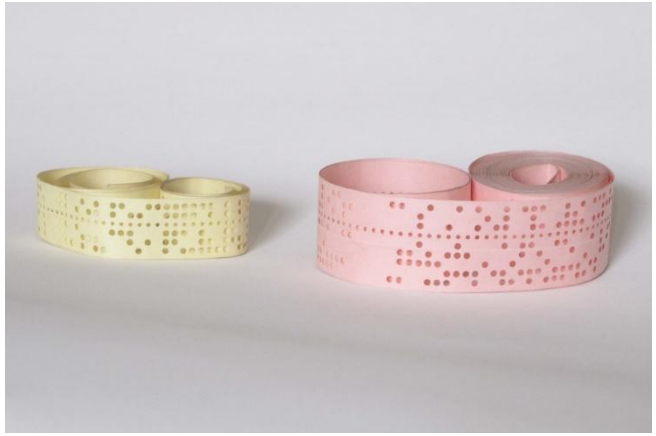
Plasma display panel was invented at the University of Illinois in 1967



Prof. H. Gene Slottow **Prof. Donald L. Bitzer**

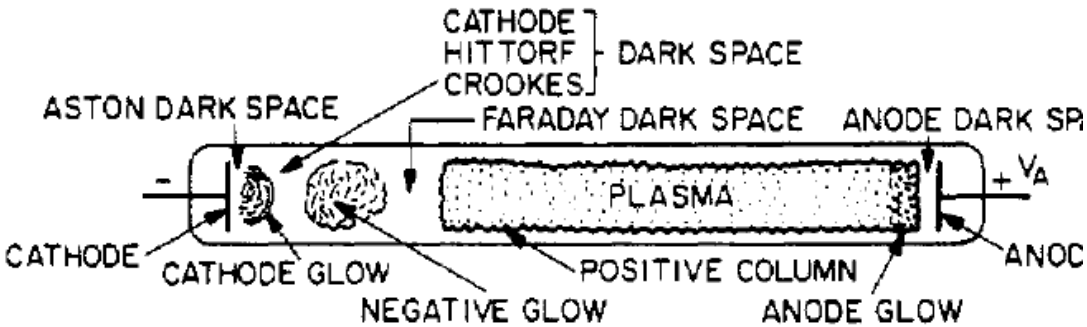
L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

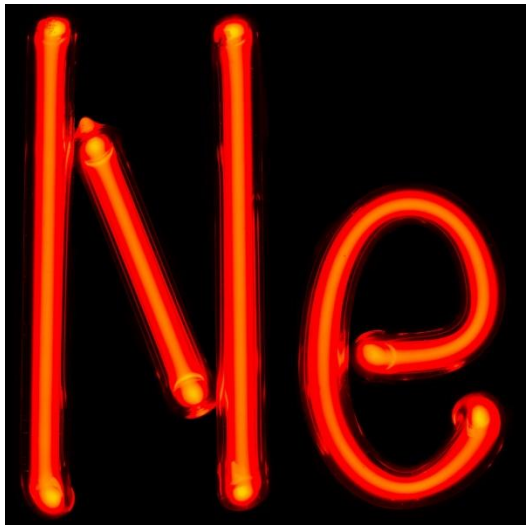
PDP was invented due to a need for Programmed Logic for Automatic Teaching Operations (PLATO) in 1960s



https://topwallpapers.pw/computer/keyboards-computers-history-teletype-typewriters-desktop-hd-wallpaper-1035981/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punched_tape
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PLATO_(computer_system)

The positive column in a glow discharge is used to excite phosphors in color PDP

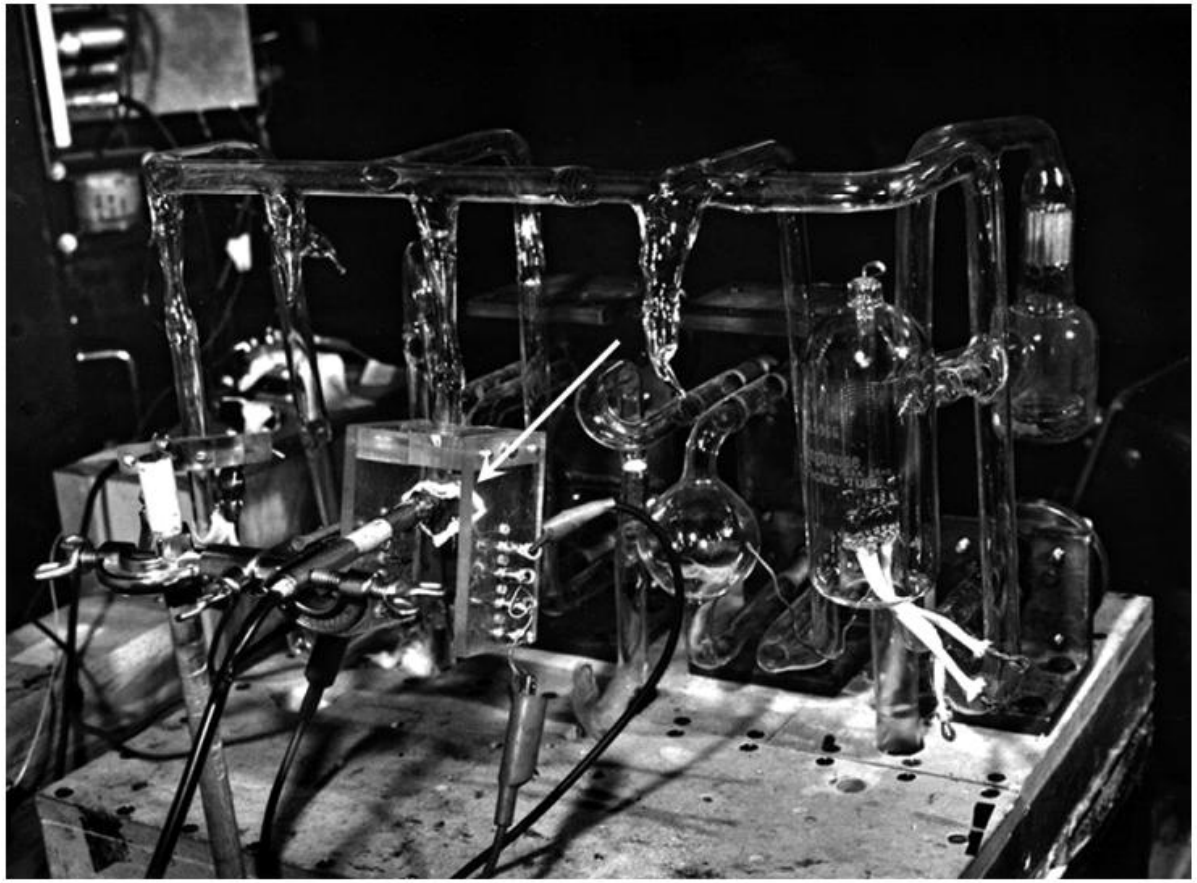




- **Majority of monochrome PDPs use the negative glow as the light source**
- **The positive column is used to excite phosphors in fluorescent lamps and in color PDPs**

Industrial plasma engineering, volume 1, by J. Reece Roth
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neon_lighting

Early plasma panel (PD) attached to the glass vacuum system used for the first plasma displays at UI



- **It had the same alternating sustain voltage, neon, gas, and dielectric glass insulated electrodes that are used for plasma TVs today.**

L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

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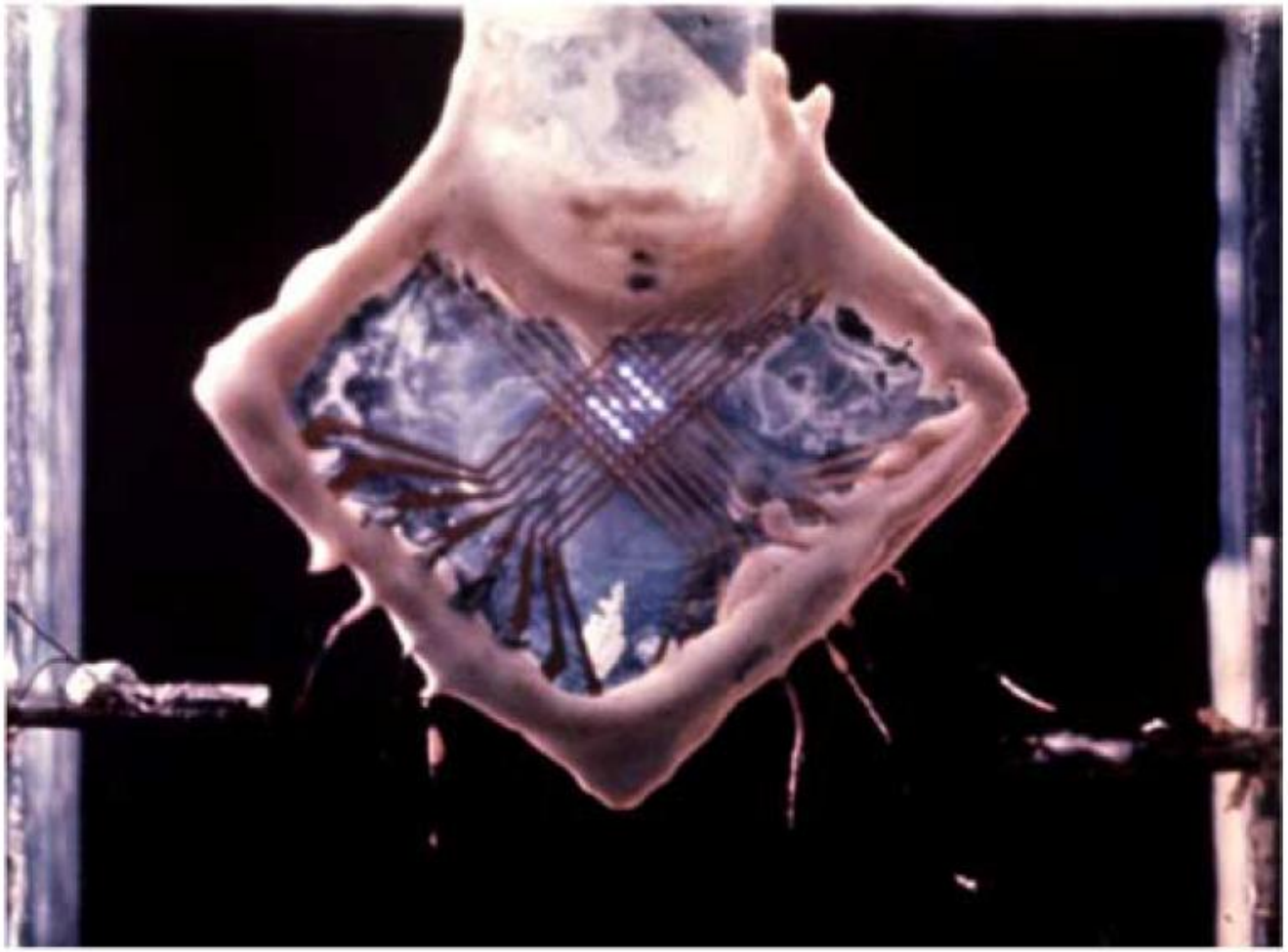
Early 4x4 pixel panel has achieved matrix addressability for the first time



L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

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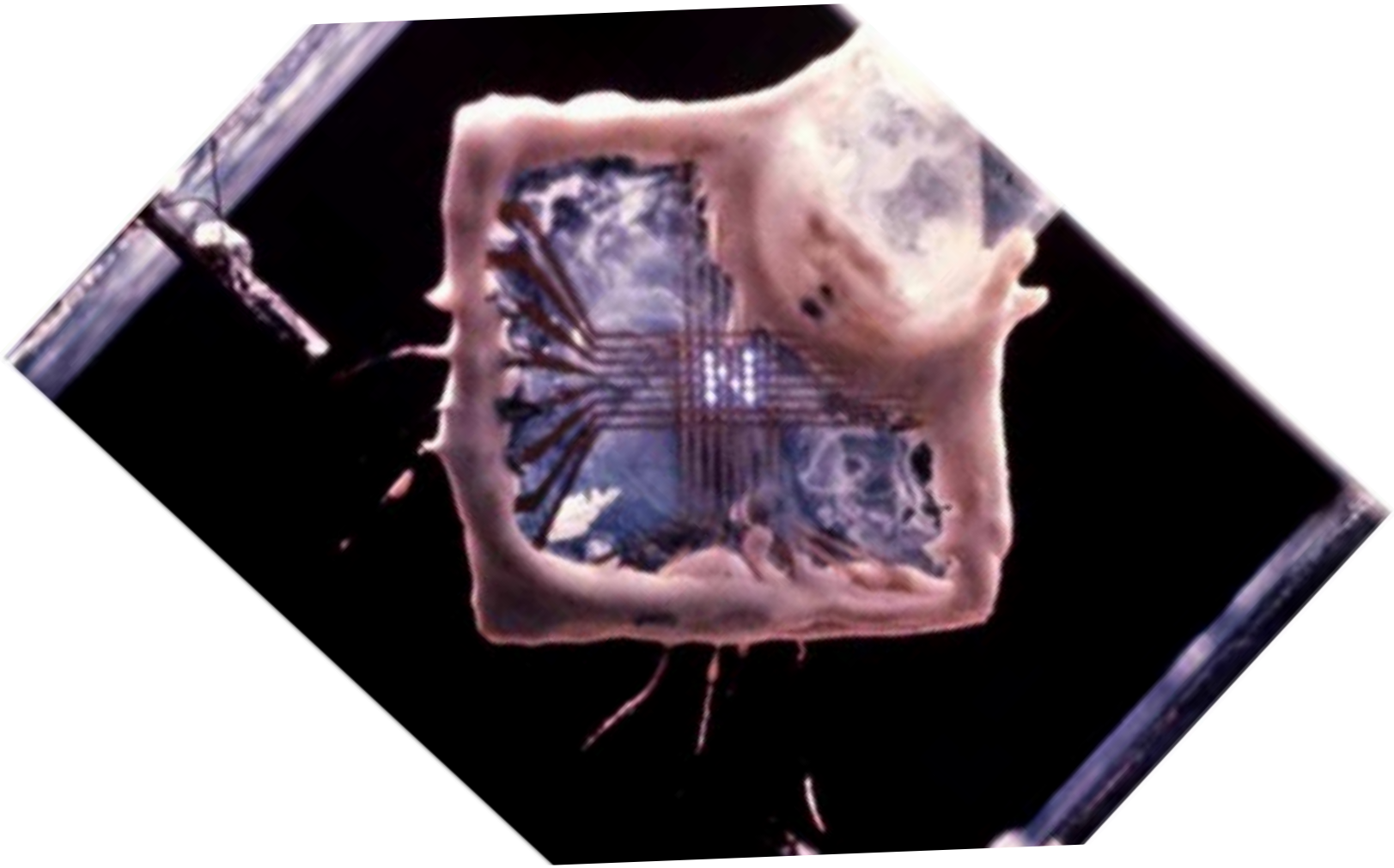
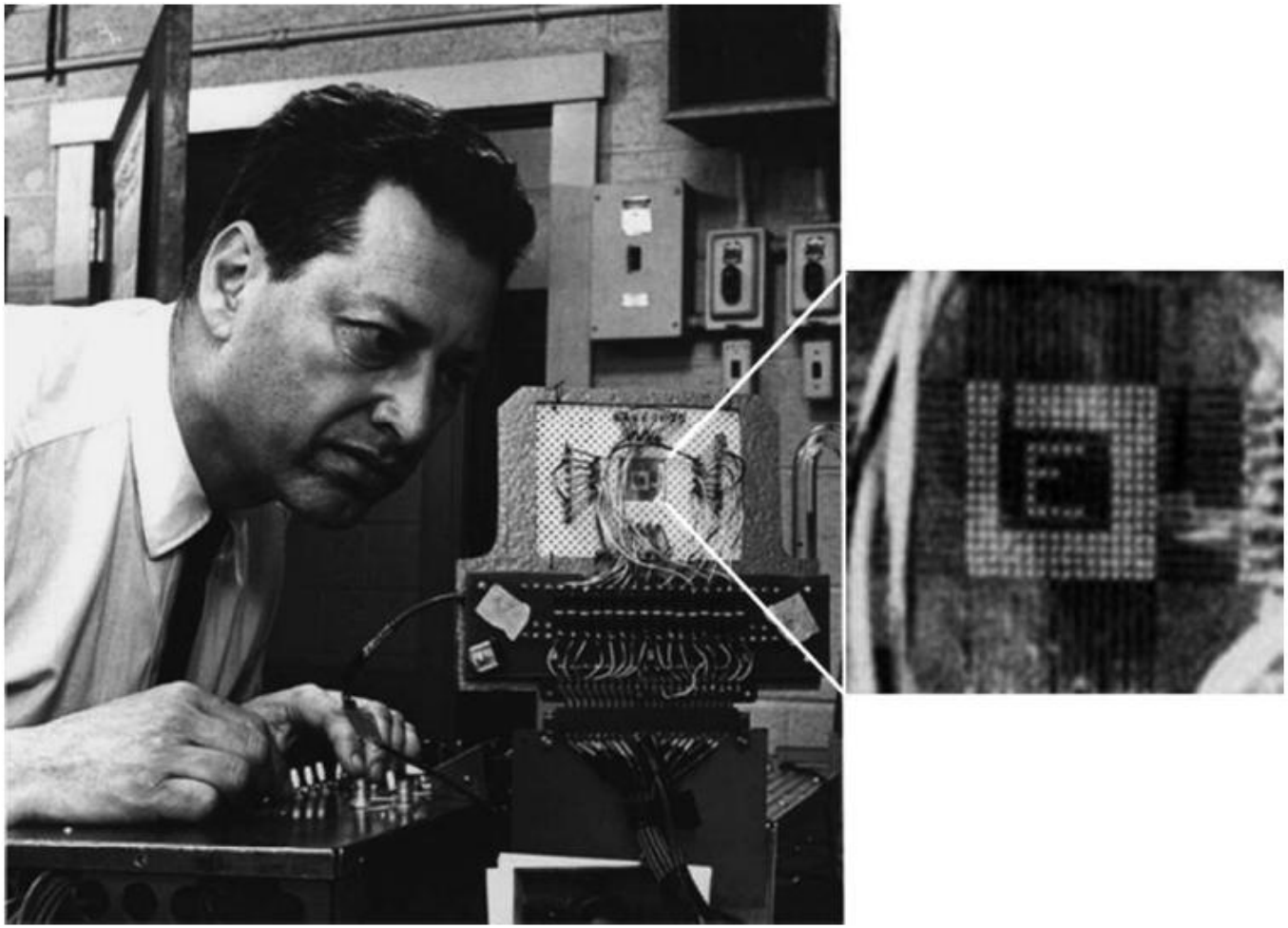


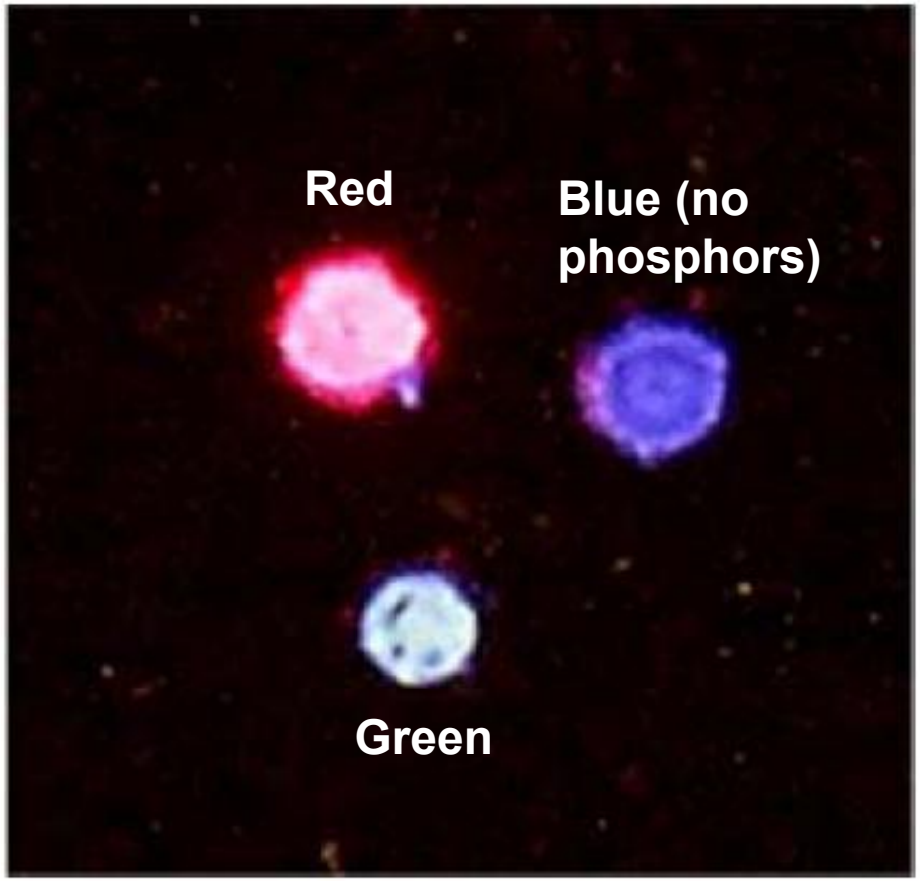
L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

A 16x16 pixel PD, developed in 1967, needed to be addressed manually



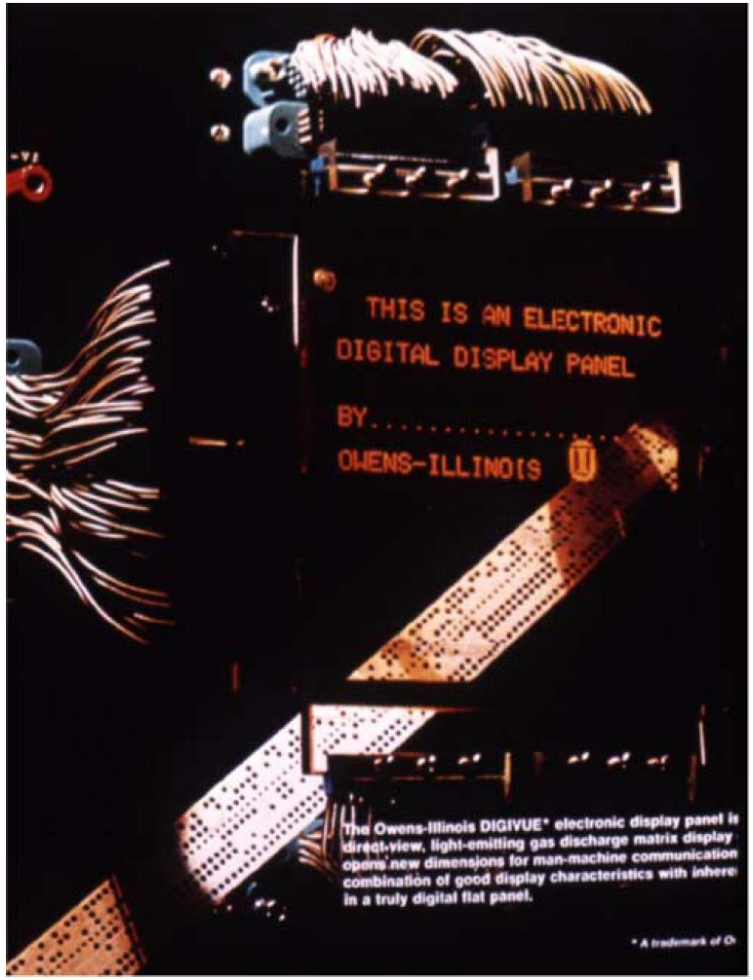
L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

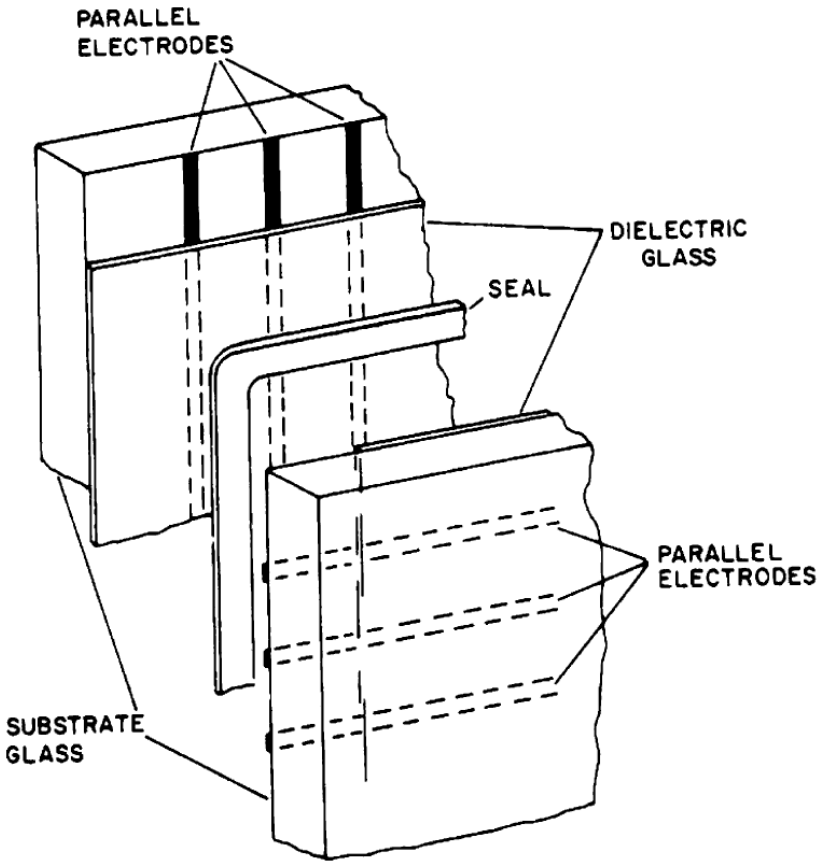
First color PD was three cell prototype with red and green color phosphors excited by a xenon gas discharge



L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

Open-cell structure developed in 1968



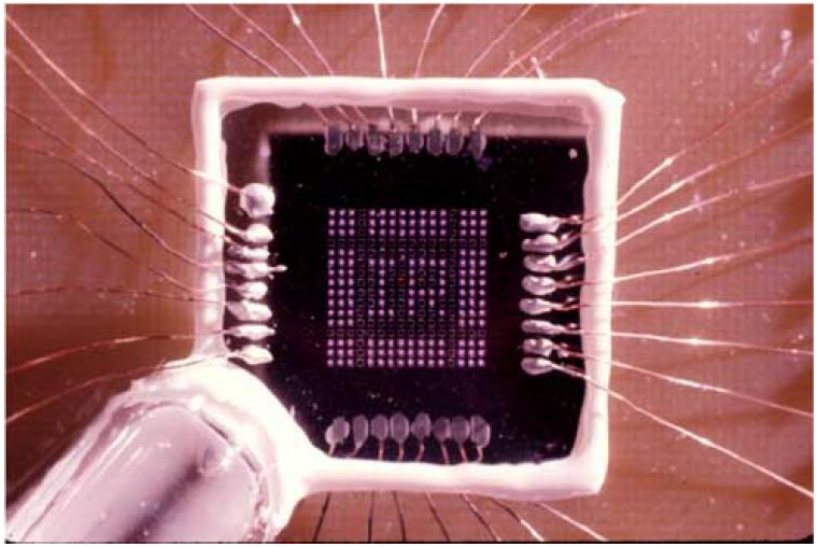


- **It could be baked under vacuum at 350 ^{o}C to drive out contaminants.**

L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

More progress

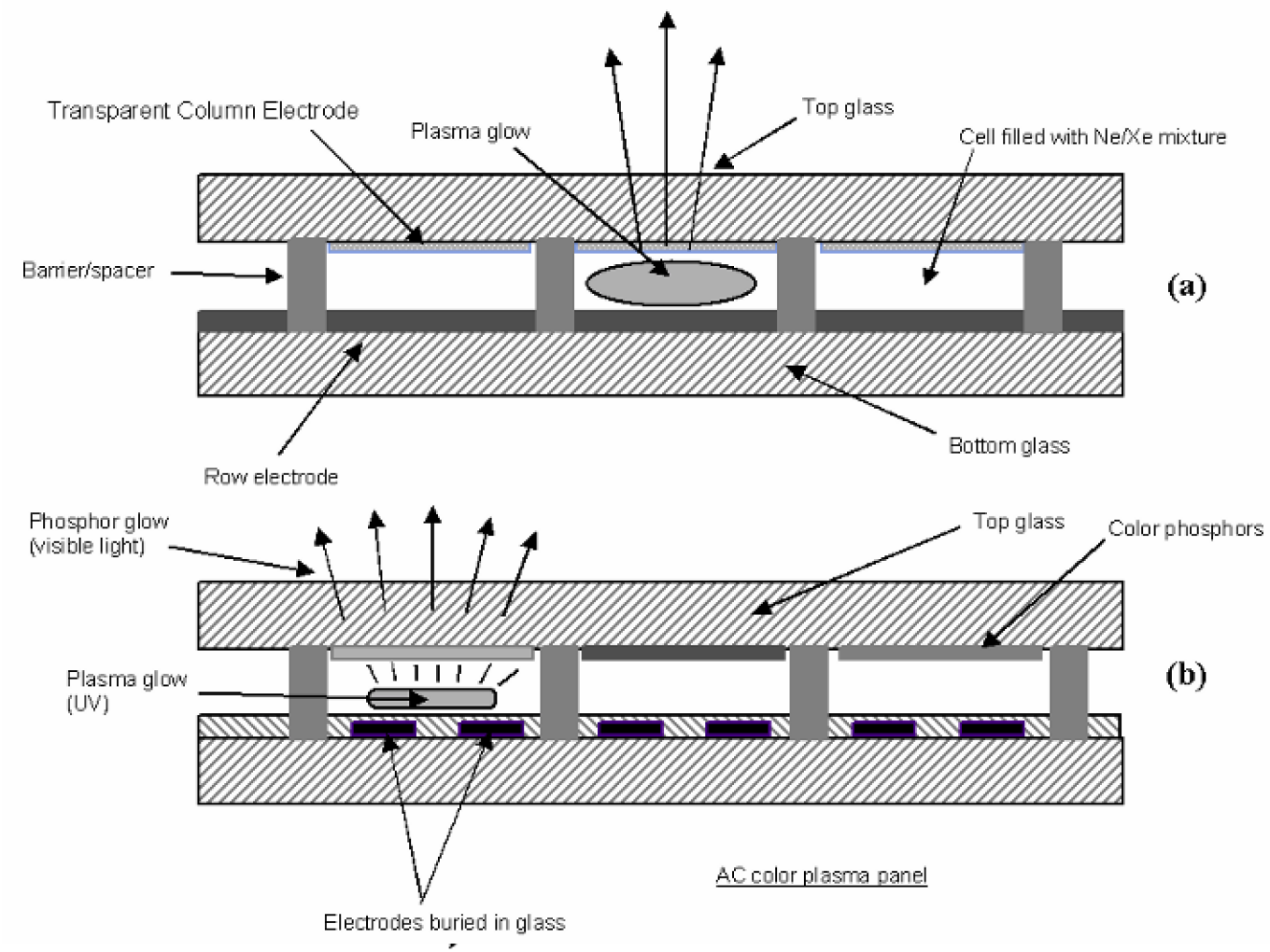
1968, University of Illinois
16x16 pixels



1971, Owens-Illinois
512x512 pixels

L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

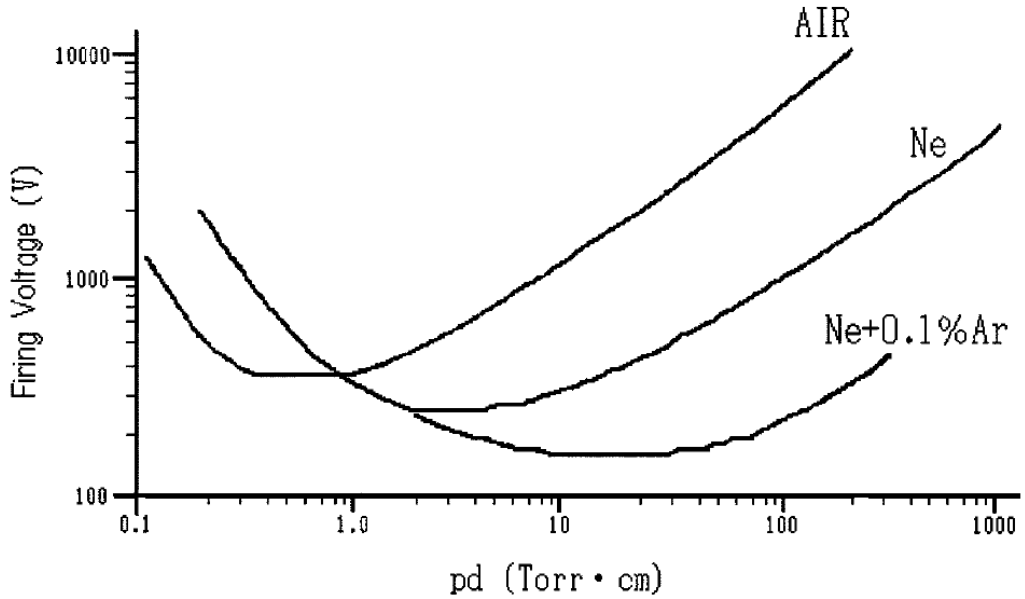
Color PDPs had short display lifetime due to the degradation of color phosphors caused by ion sputtering

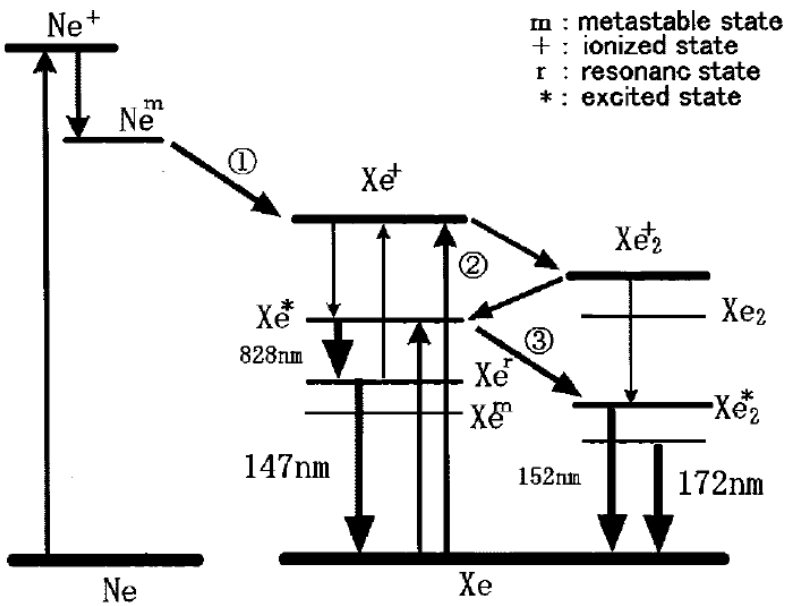


http://what-when-how.com/display-interfaces/display-technologies-and-applications-display-interfaces-part-3/

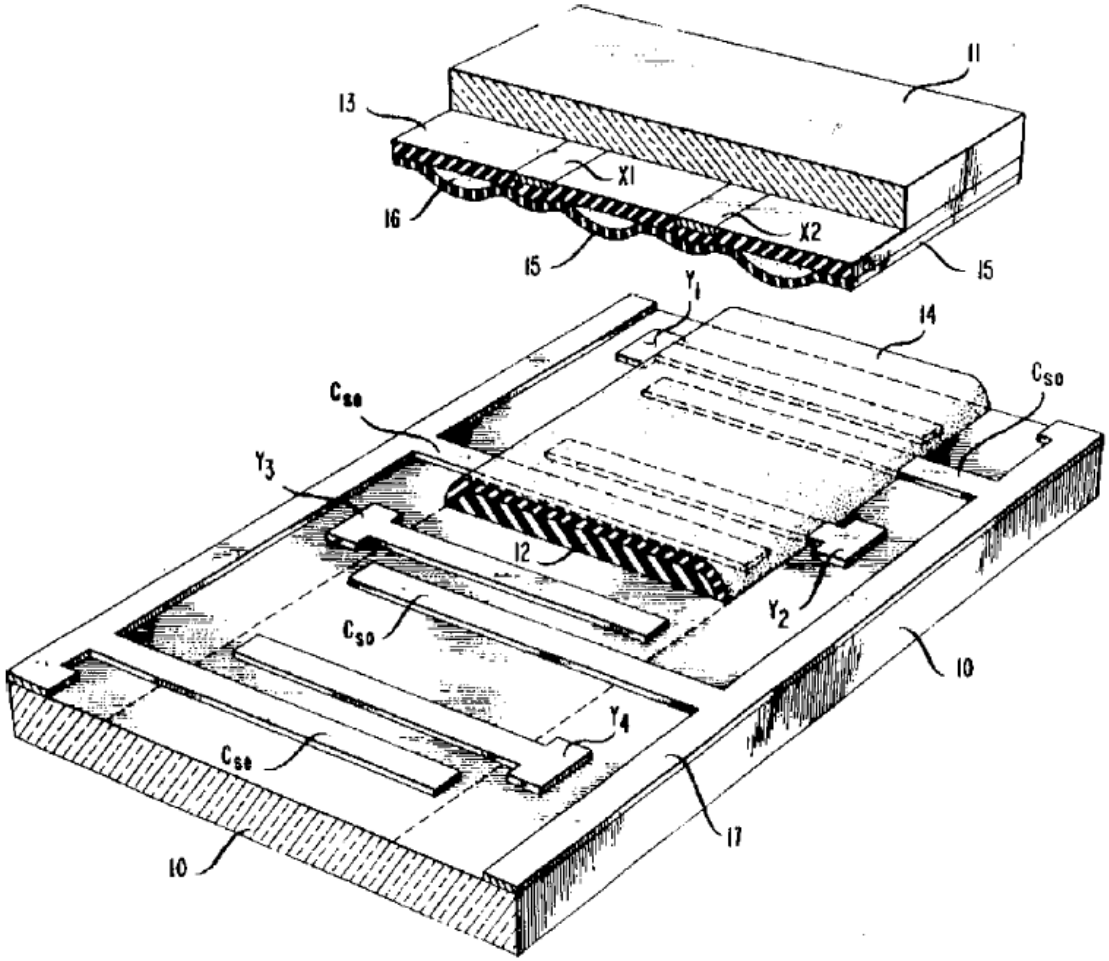
Design of PDP

A lower breakdown voltages can be obtained with very small amounts of added gas



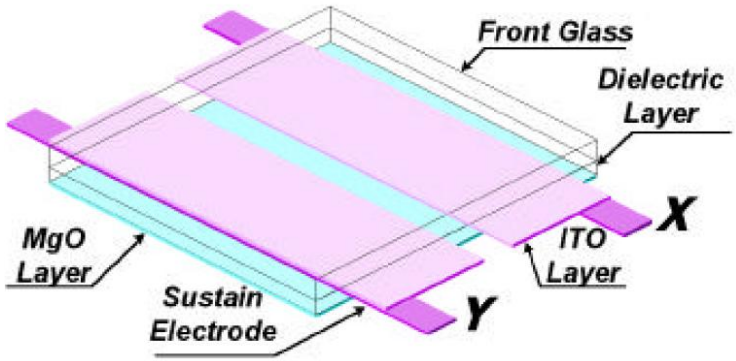


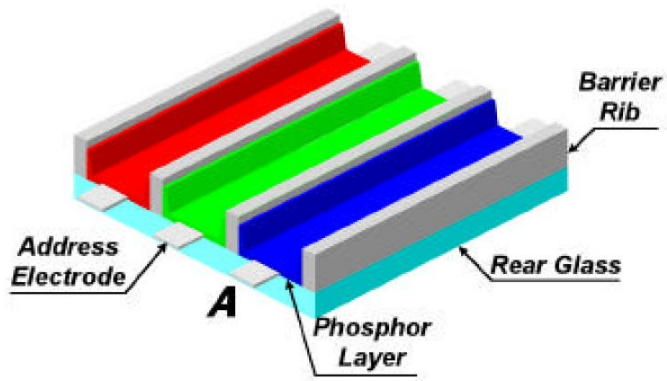
AT&T three-electrode patent

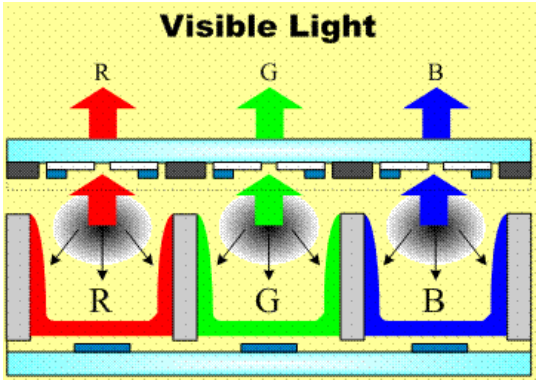


L. F. Weber, IEEE Trans. Plas. Scien., *34*, 268, 2006

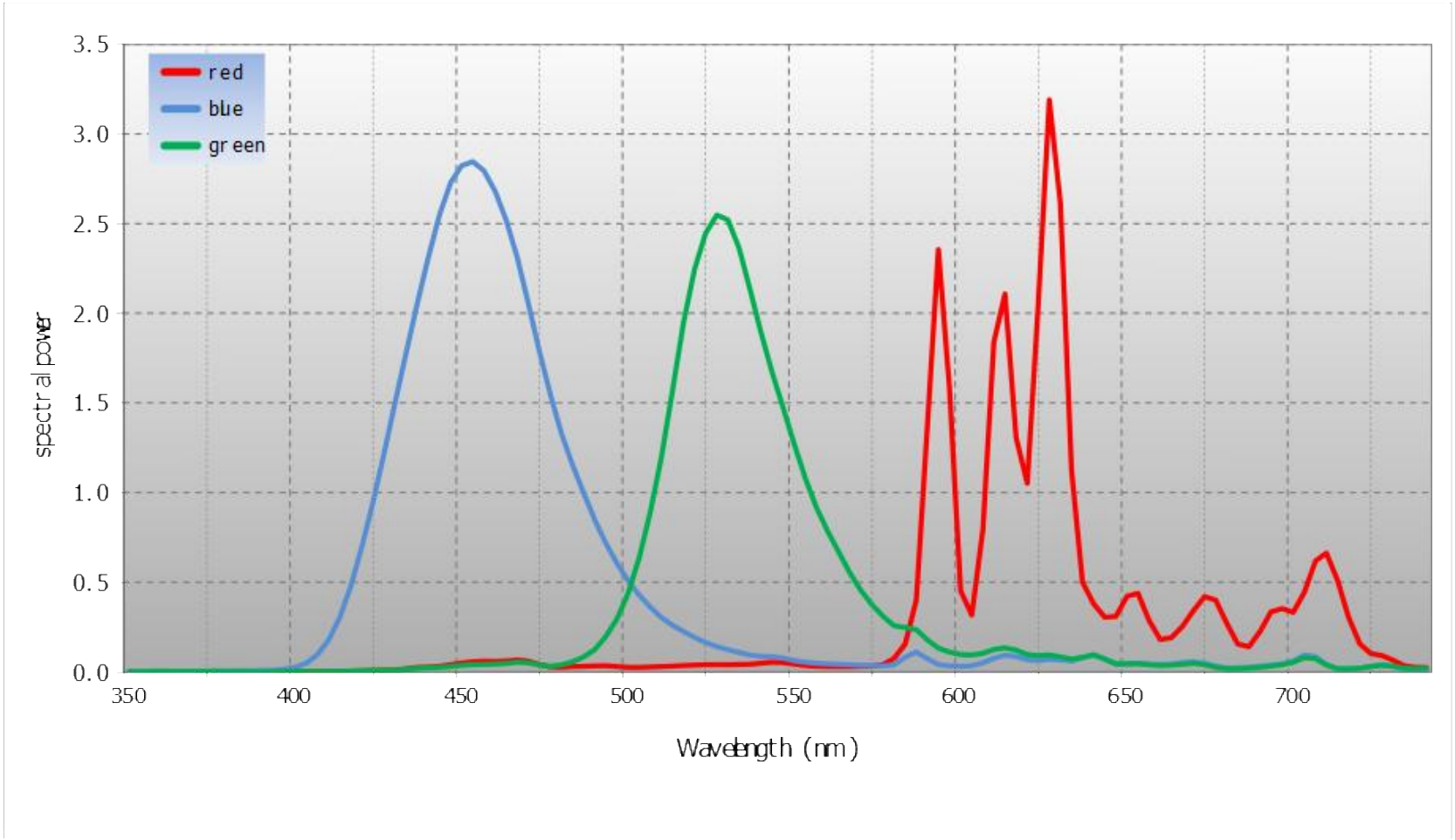
Reflective phosphor geometry is used in most of today's plasma TVs



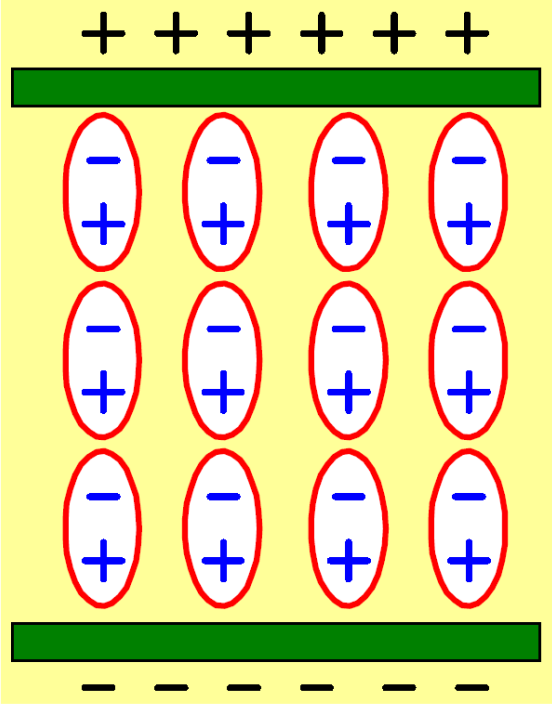


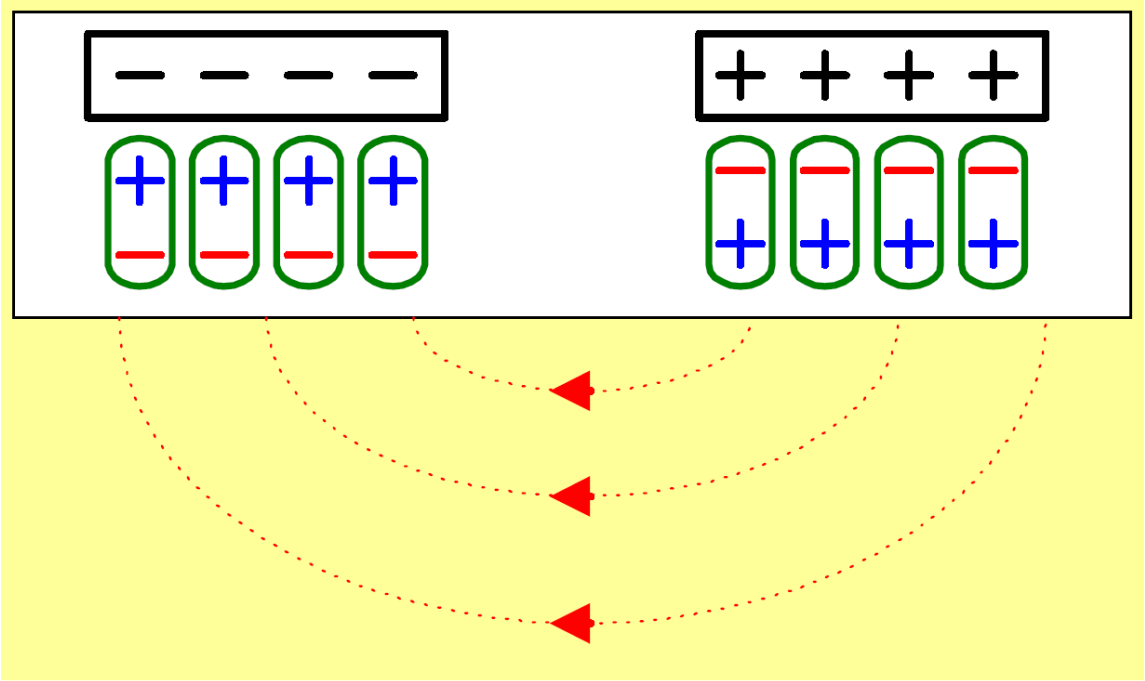


Spectrum of the different phosphors

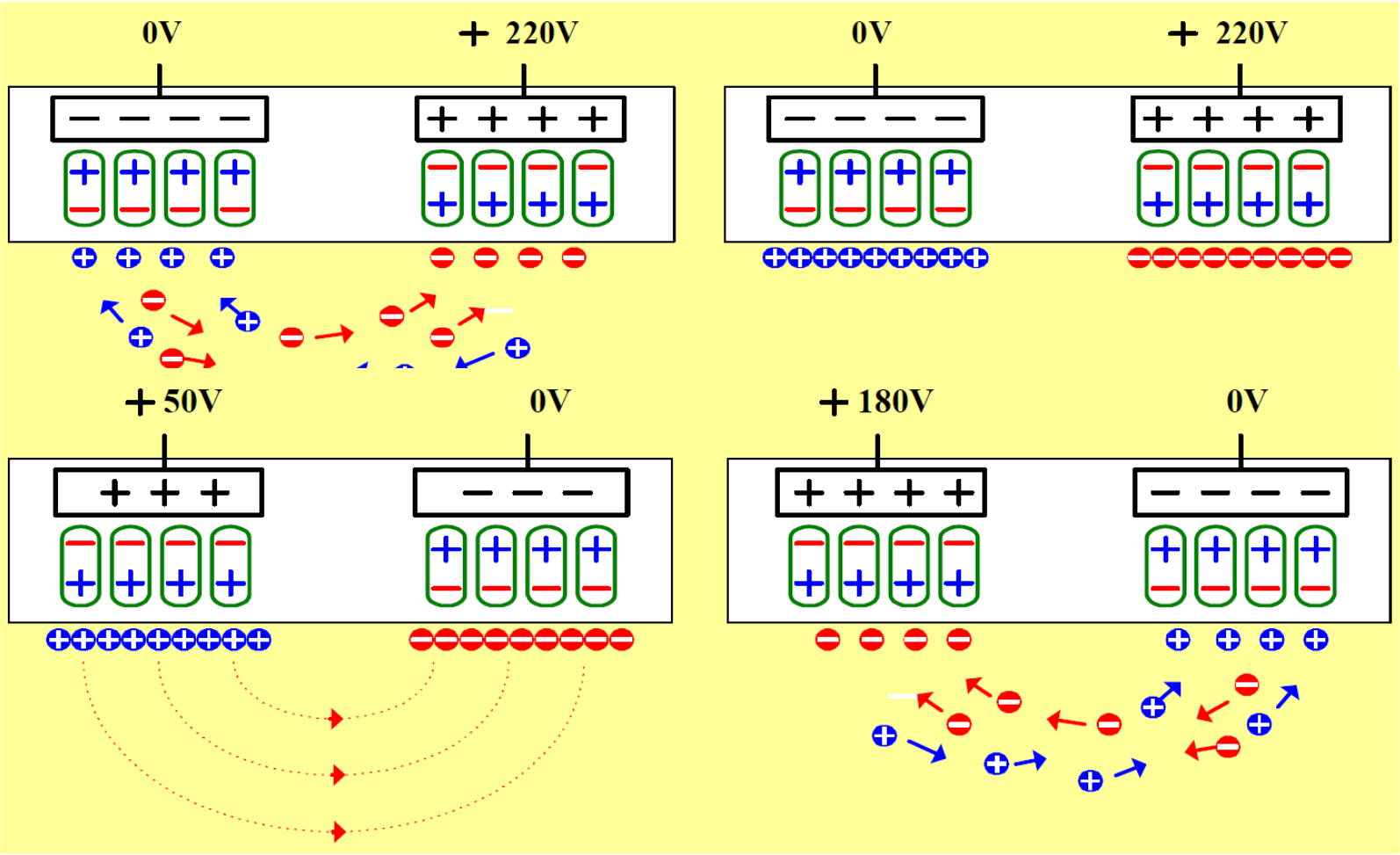


The foundation of AC discharge





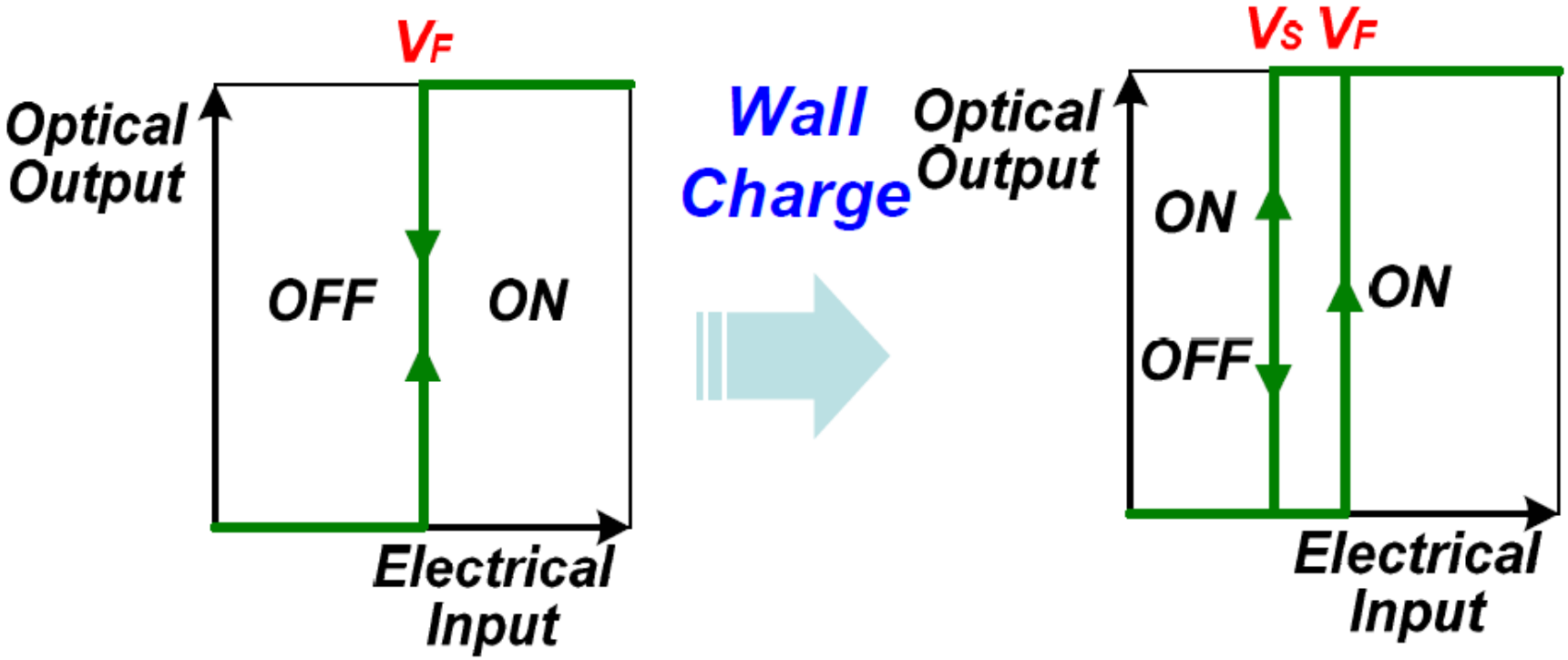
The plasma can be sustained using ac discharged



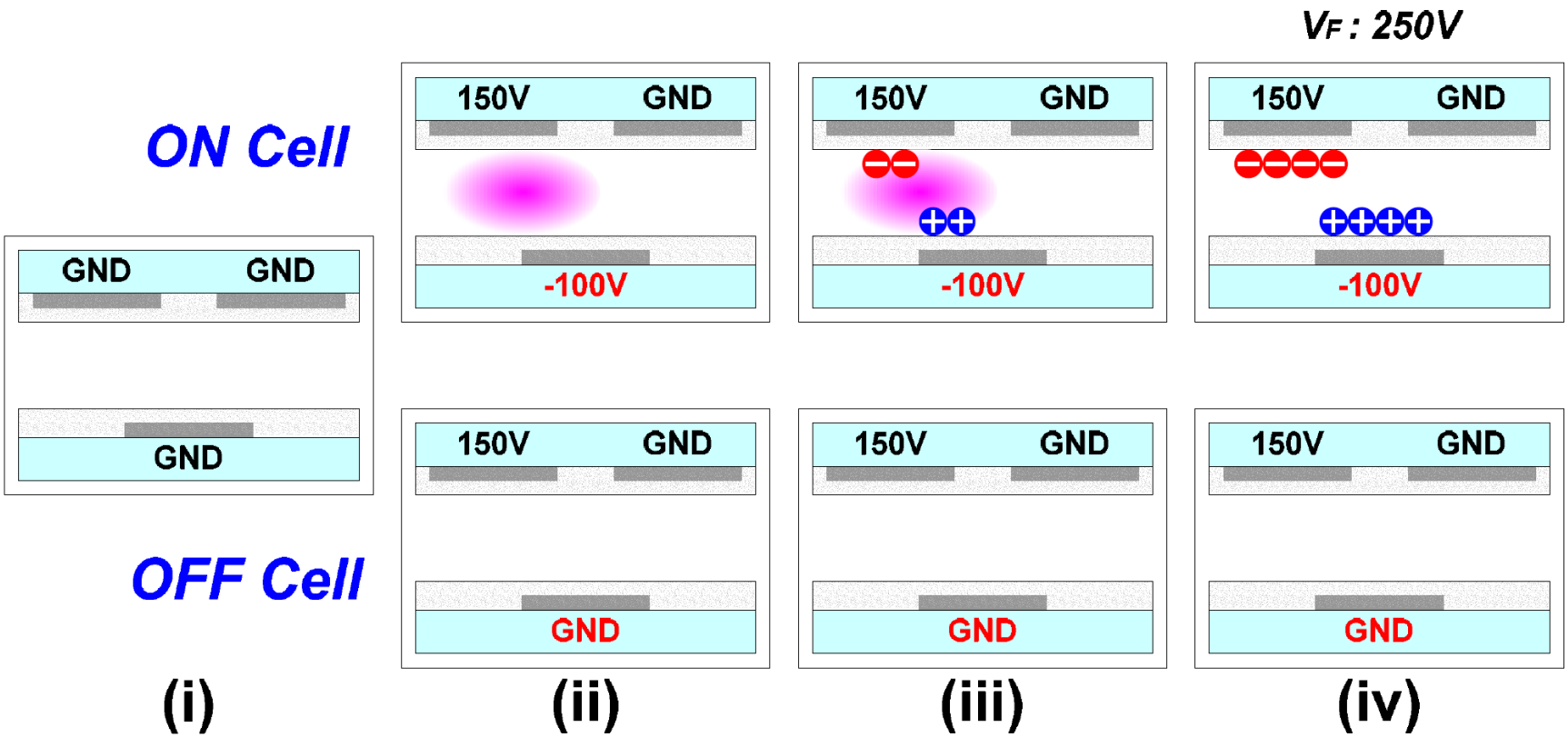
- **Wall discharge reduced the required discharge voltage**

Slides from Prof. Heung-Sik Tae, School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Kyungpook National University

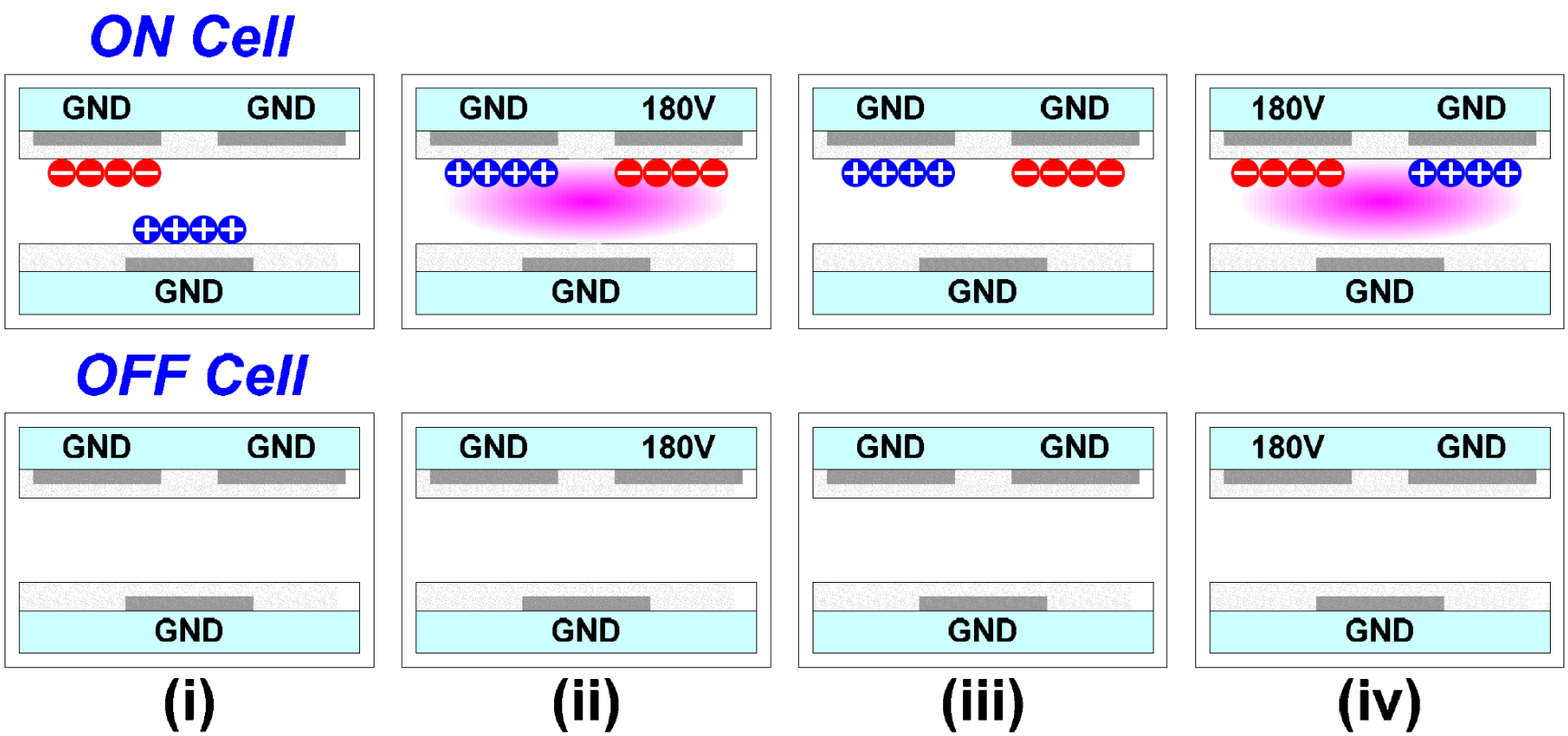
Wall discharge reduced the required discharge voltage



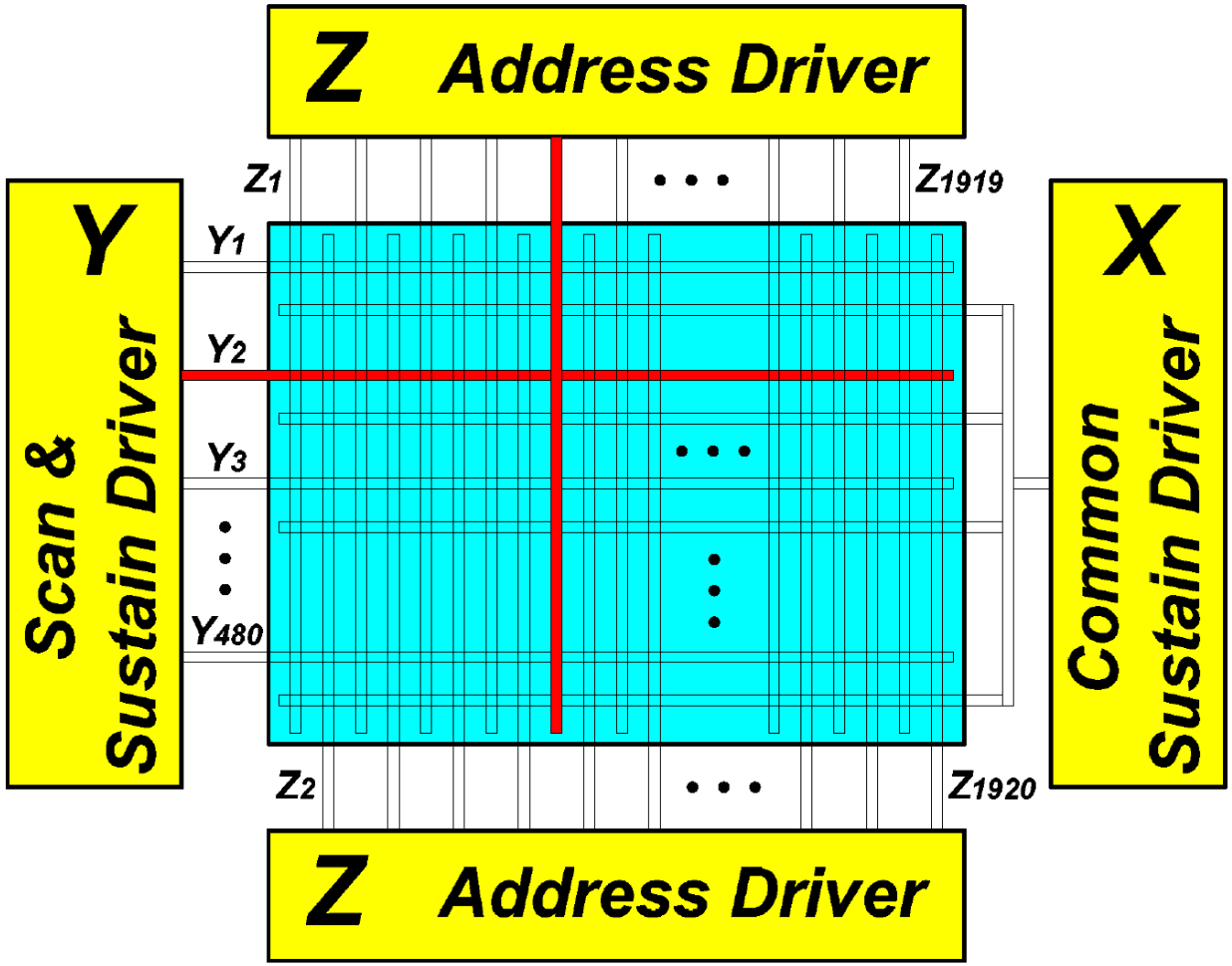
ON/OFF State Selection



Sustain discharge



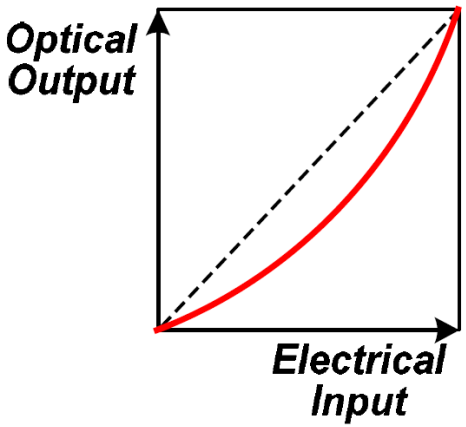
Address and sustain electrodes are connected to different drivers



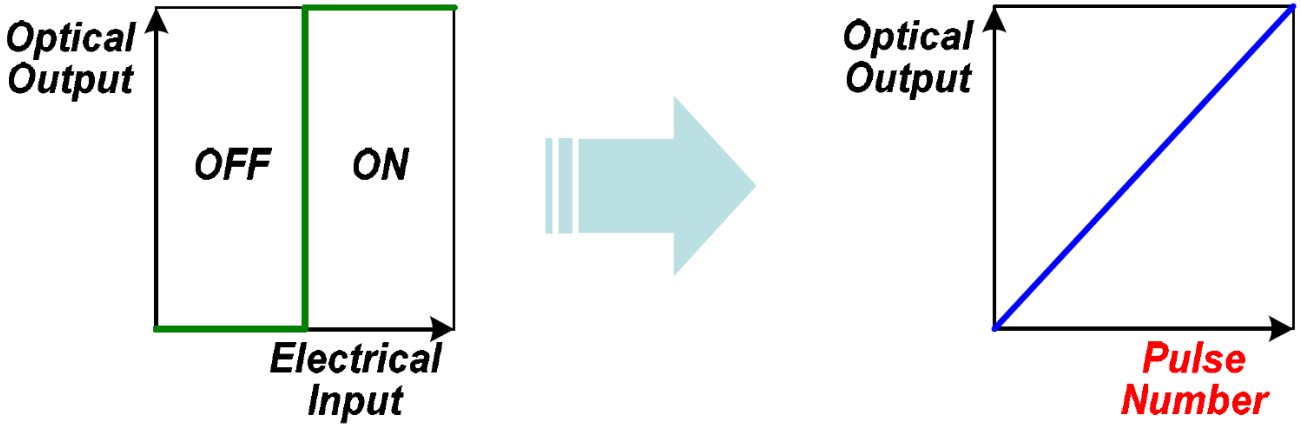
Slides from Prof. Heung-Sik Tae, School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Kyungpook National University

PDP pixel can only be either ON or OFF

- Cathode Ray Tube :

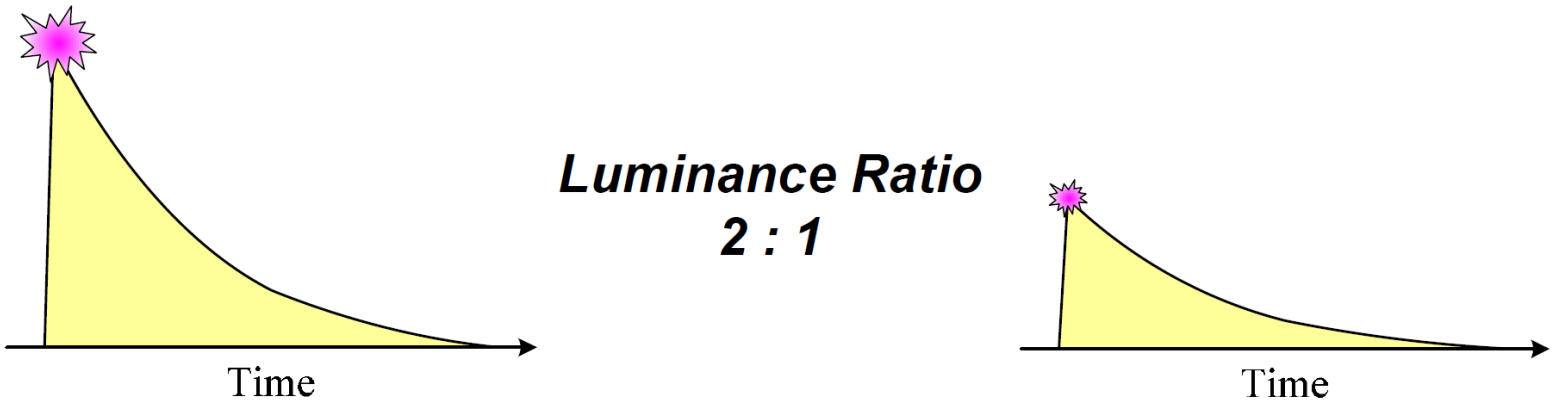


- Plasma Display Panel :



PDP luminance is controlled by using number of light pulses

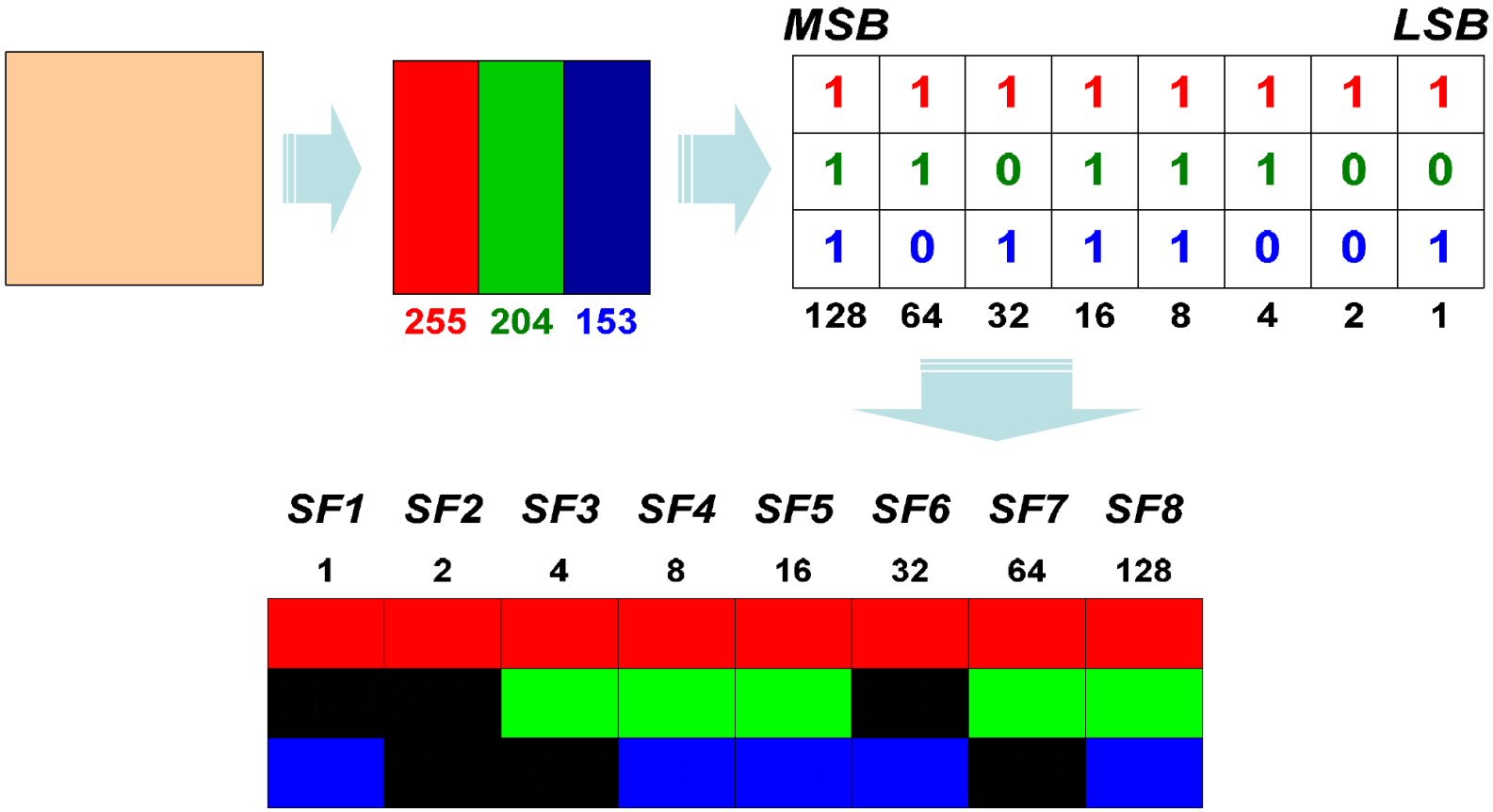
- CRT : Control the Luminance using Electron Beam Intensity



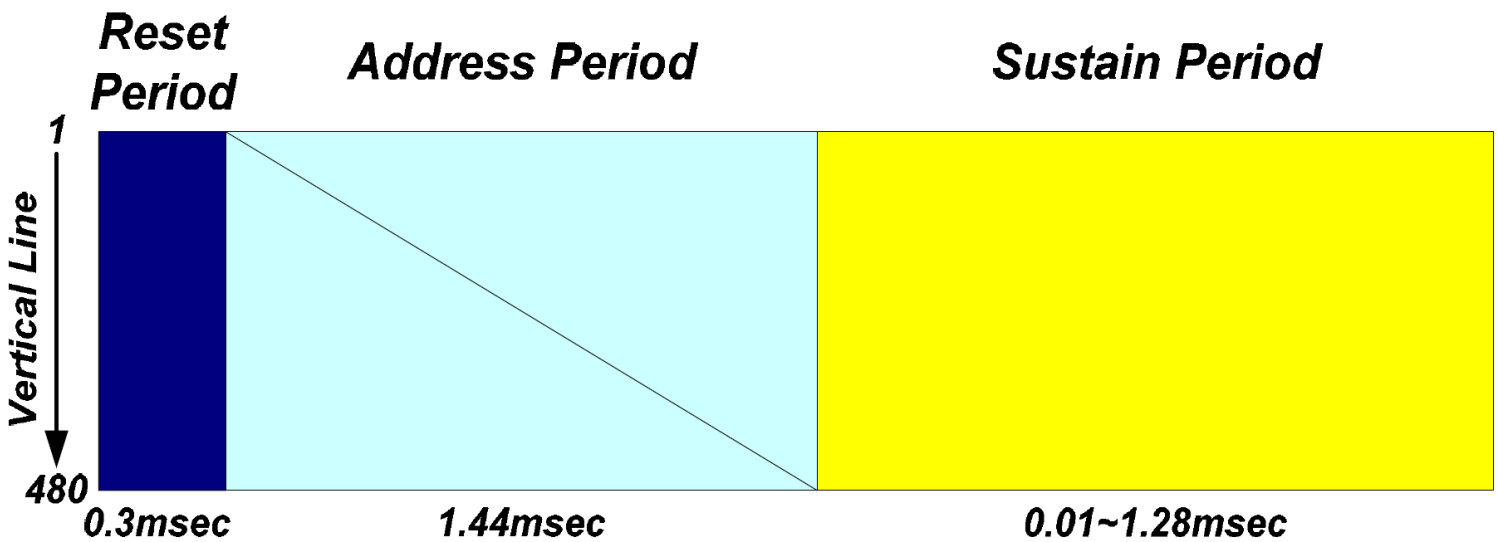
- PDP : Control the Luminance using Number of Light Pulses

Slides from Prof. Heung-Sik Tae, School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Kyungpook National University

A single field is divided into 8 subfield

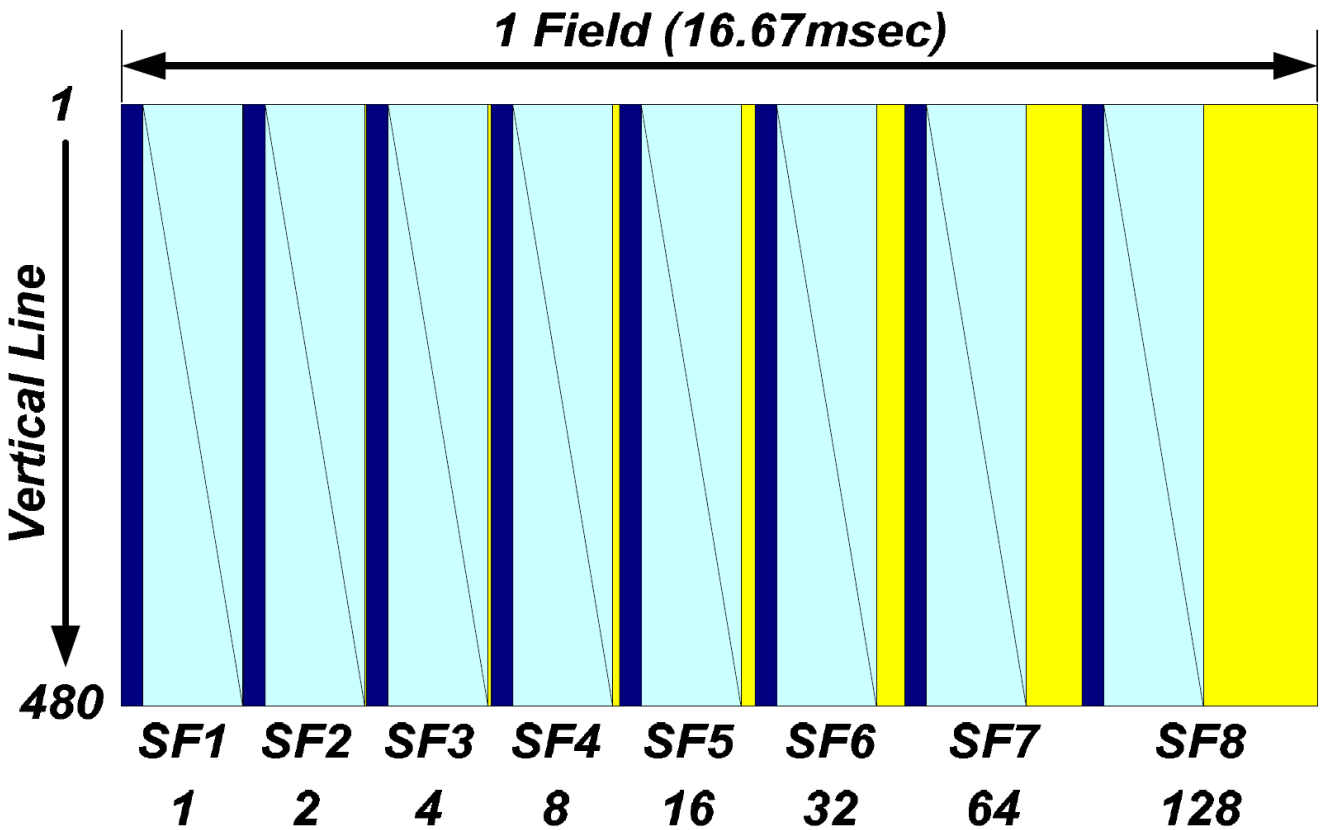


Composition of each subfield



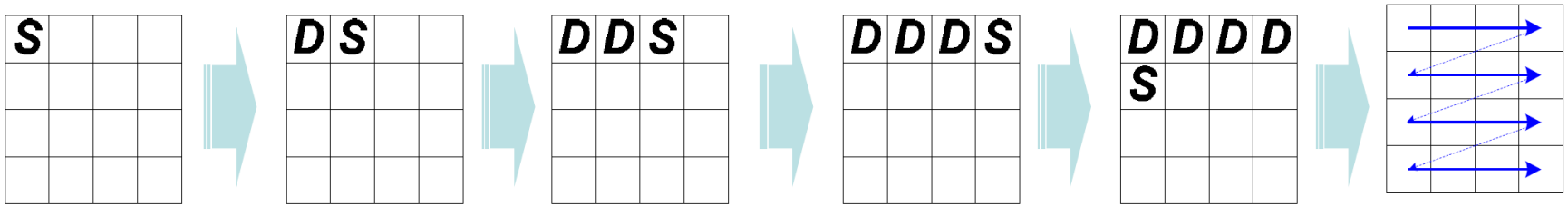
Spec : VGA (640*480)
8 Subfield
0.03msec Address Pulse
100KHz Sustain Freq.

8 subfield in one TV-Field (ADS)

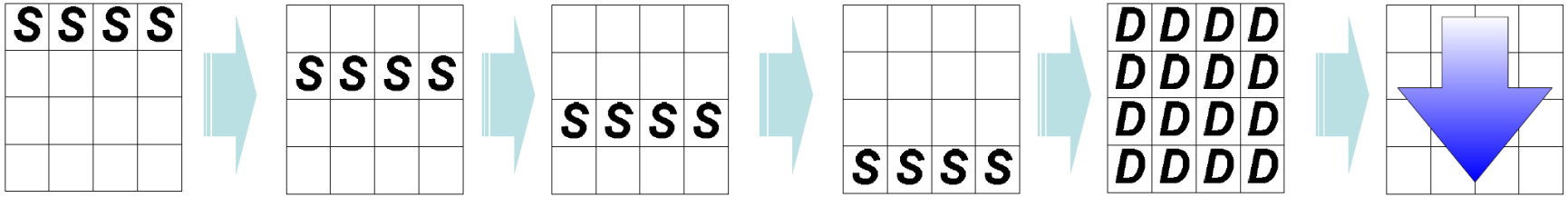


PDP uses line-by-line scanning

- Cathode Ray Tube : Cell-by-Cell Scanning

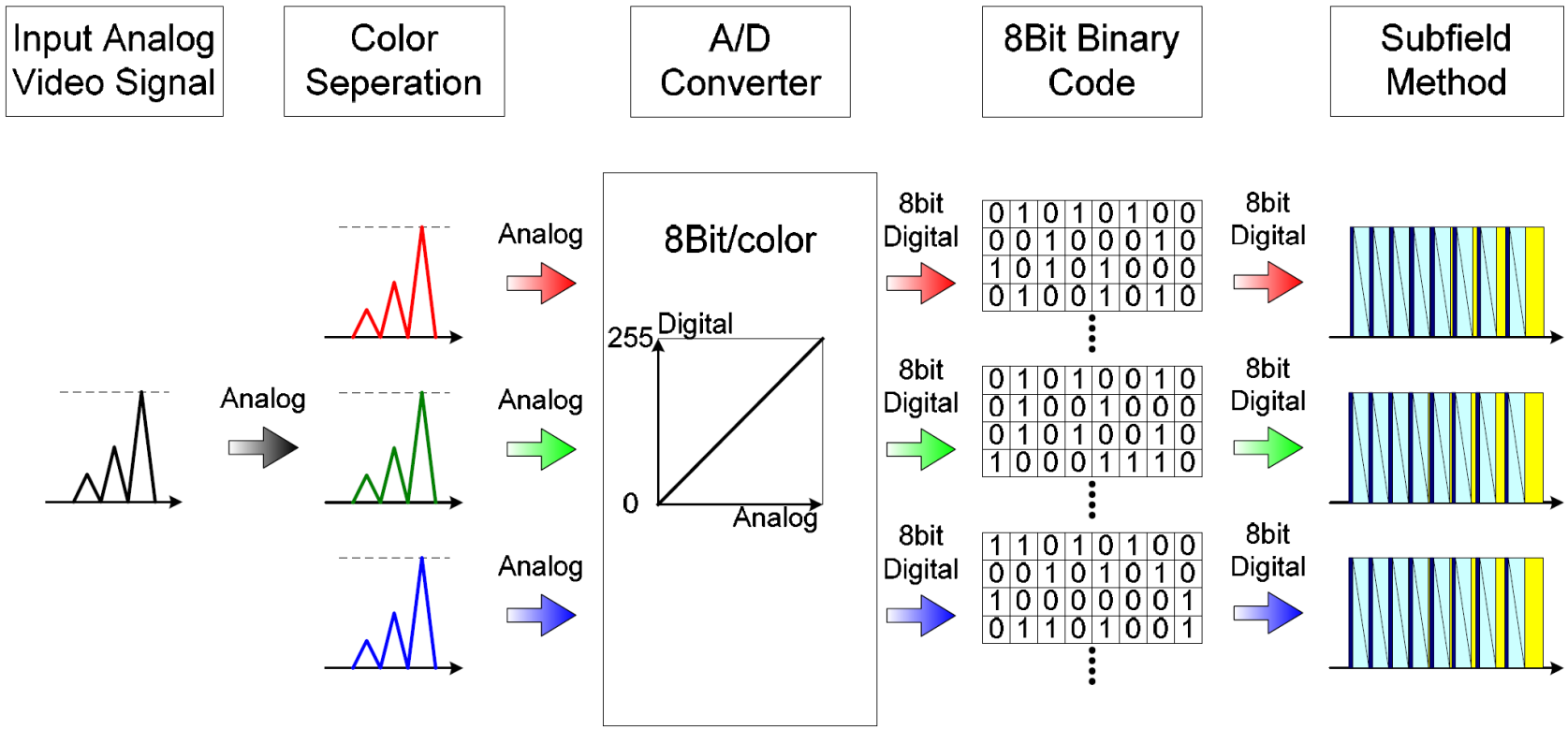


- PDP : Line-by-Line Scanning



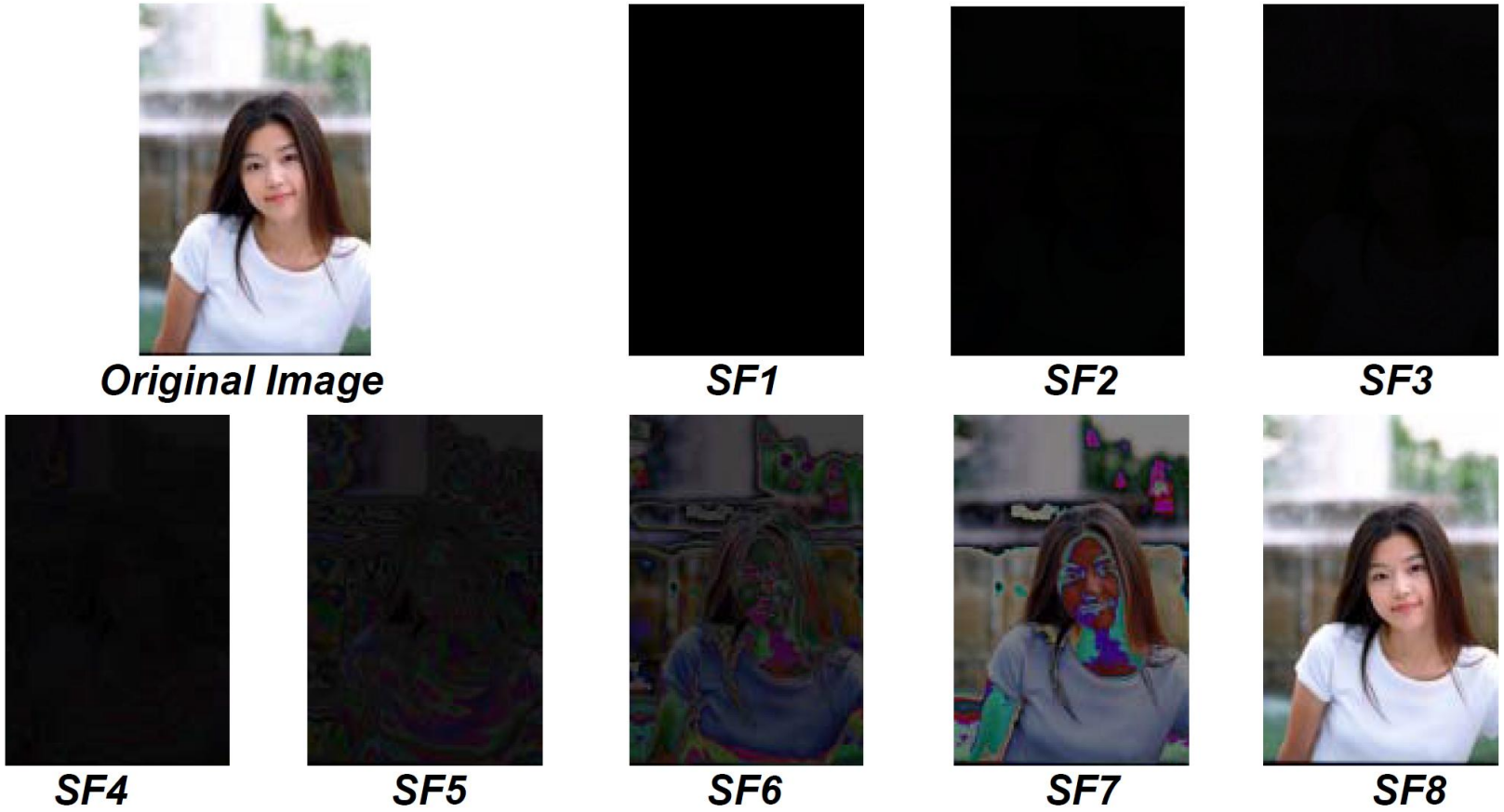
Video signal processing

- Analog Video Signal ⇨ Digital Pulse Signal

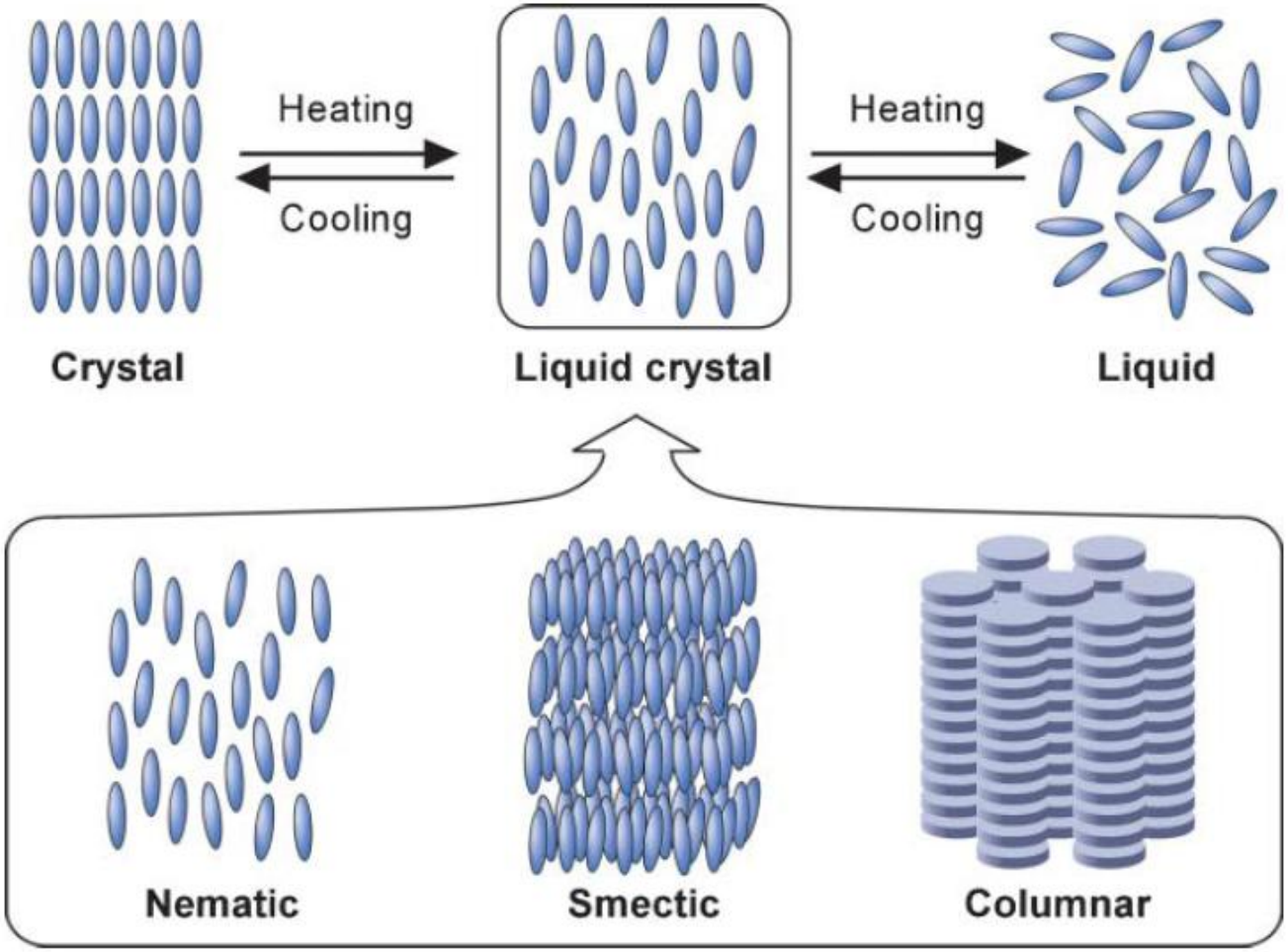


Addressing period

Displaying period

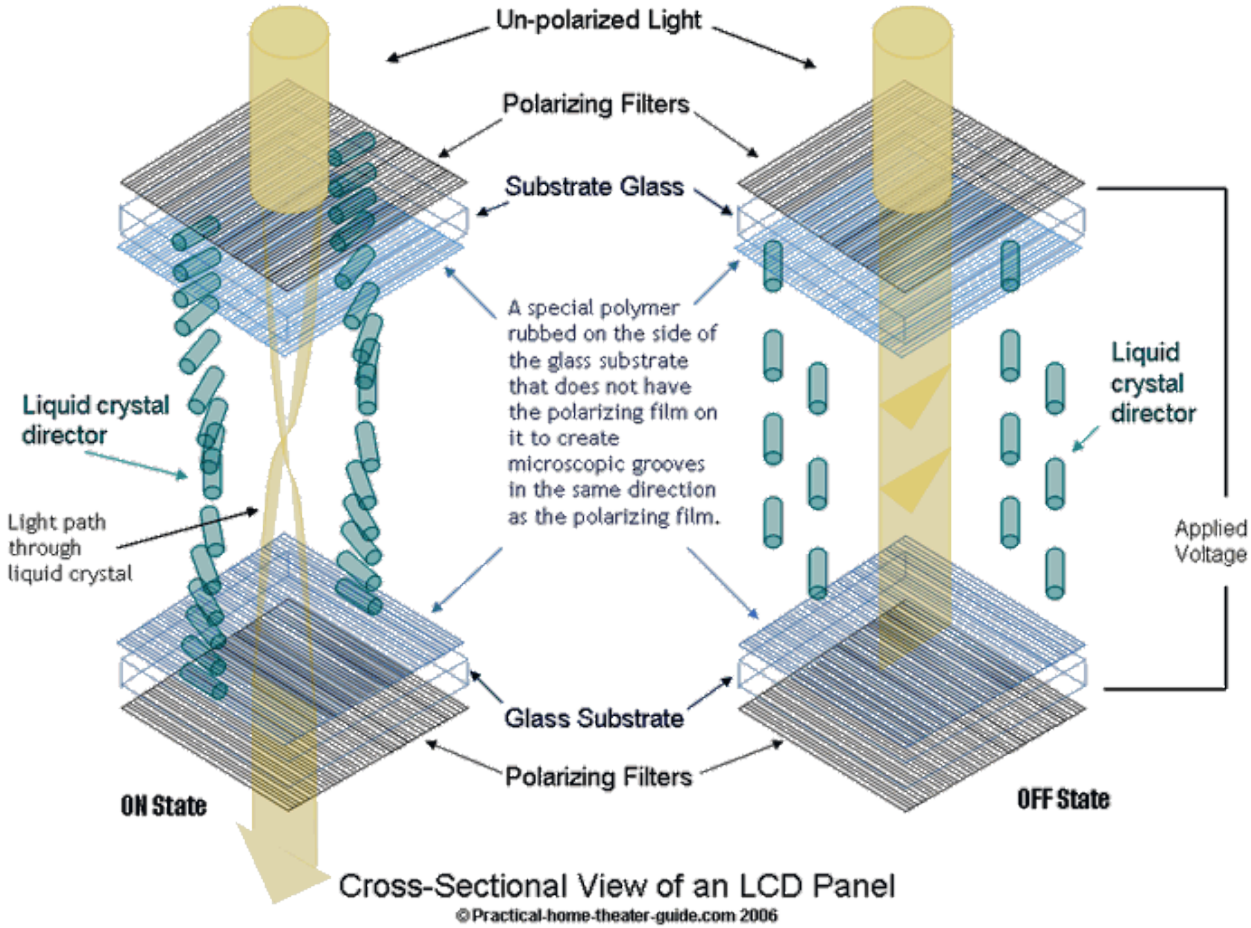


Liquid crystal are a special state of matter between liquid and crystal



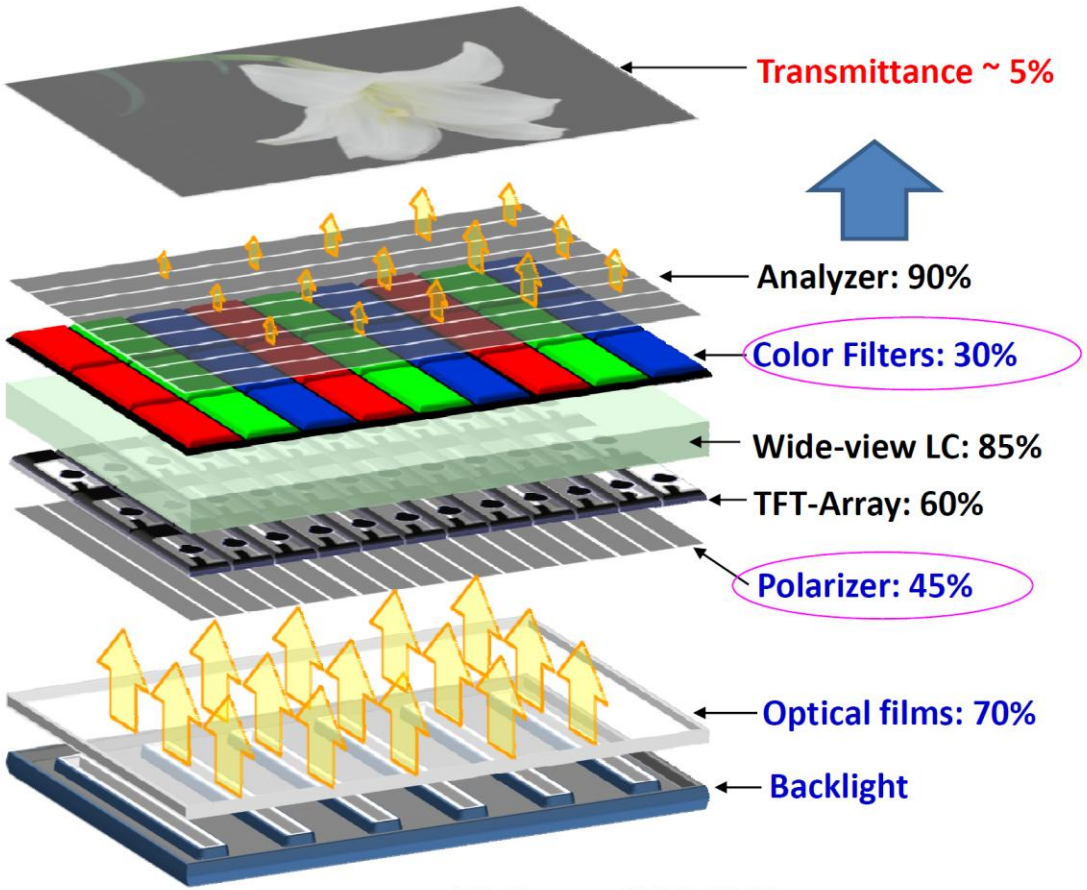
T. Kato, *et. al.*, Chem. Soc. Rev., *36*, 1845, 2007

Linear polarization of a light can be rotated by miss aligned liquid crystal



http://www.practical-home-theater-guide.com/lcd-display.html

Structure of Liquid crystal display (LCD)

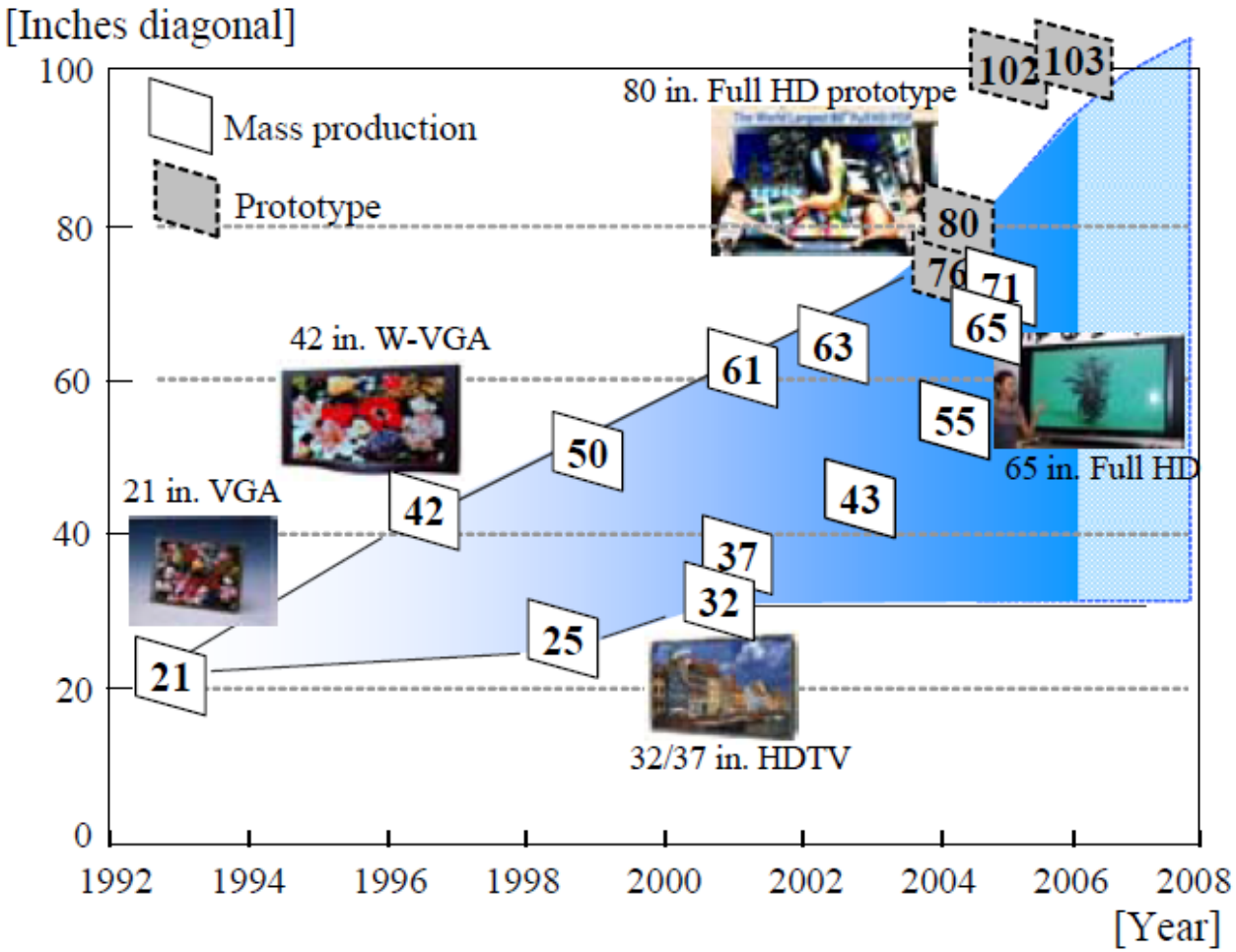


YB Huang, IDRC 2008

Notes from ST Wu, UCF

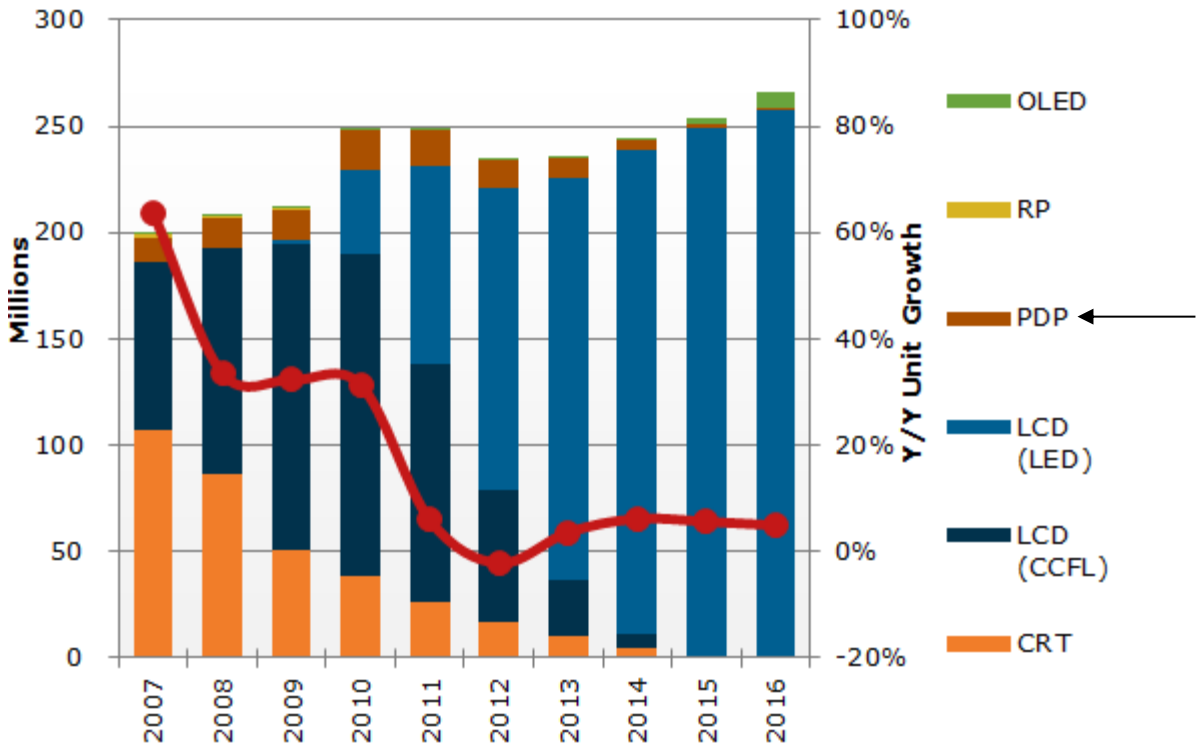
http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/cityu25/events/engineering/pdf/proftang.pdf

Optimistic projection of PDP market



Reality

TV Shipment Growth by Technology



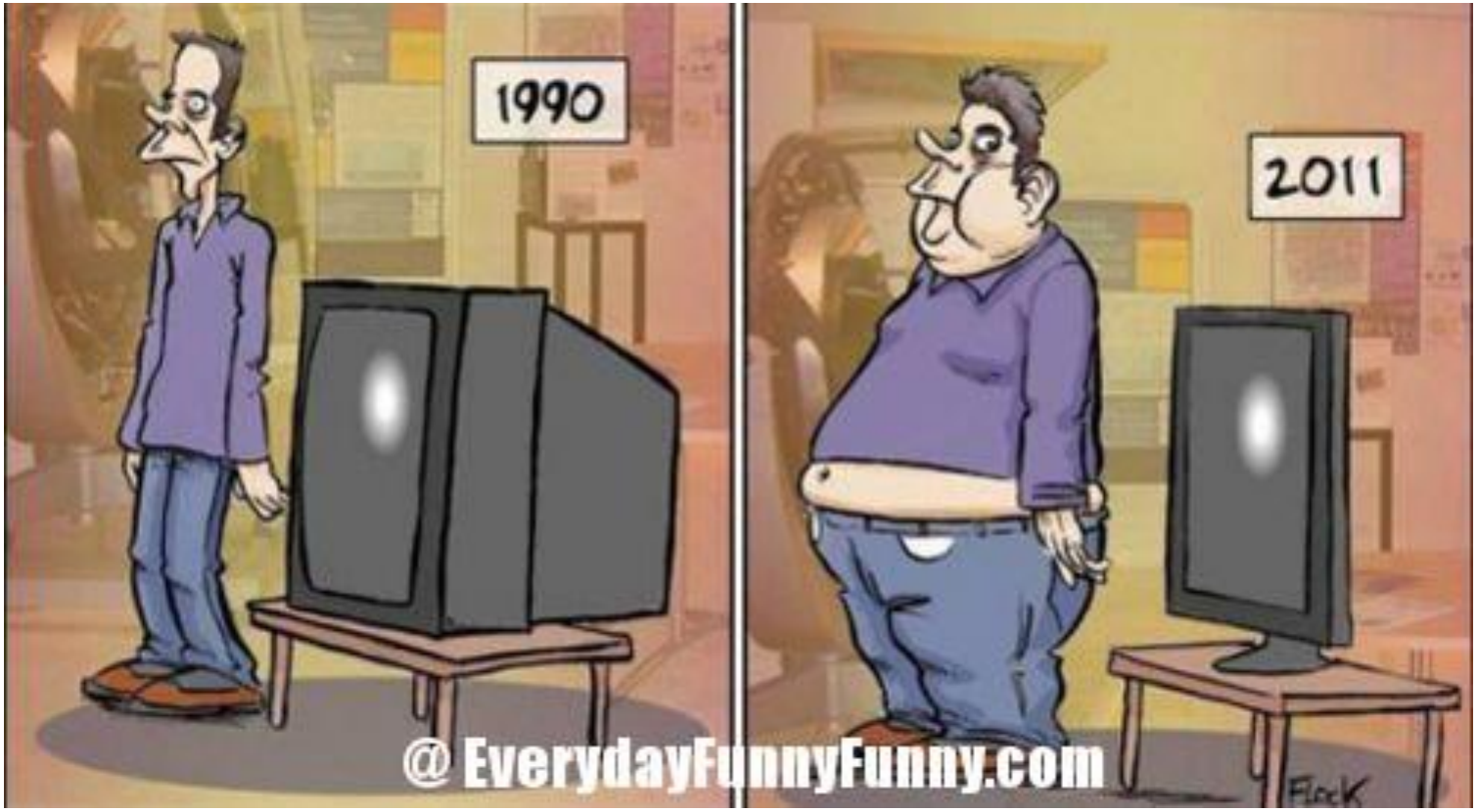
http://www.digitaltvnews.net/?p=22108

Too many reasons that PDP died!

- Bright showroom conditions put plasmas at a distinct disadvantage versus LED-lit LCDs
- Aesthetics may have played a role in hastening plasma's demise
- UHD/4K caught on quickly
- Screen-size limitations also played a part in plasmas plight
- You can't bend a plasma
- Plasmas were harder to deal with than LCDs
- While OLED is still in the early stages of development, there's no question it offers greater potential than plasma
- Energy efficiency may have played a part in putting plasma out to pasture
- Plasma was the original flat-panel technology, People just thought of it as old technology.
- Projectors improved in quality and prices dropped

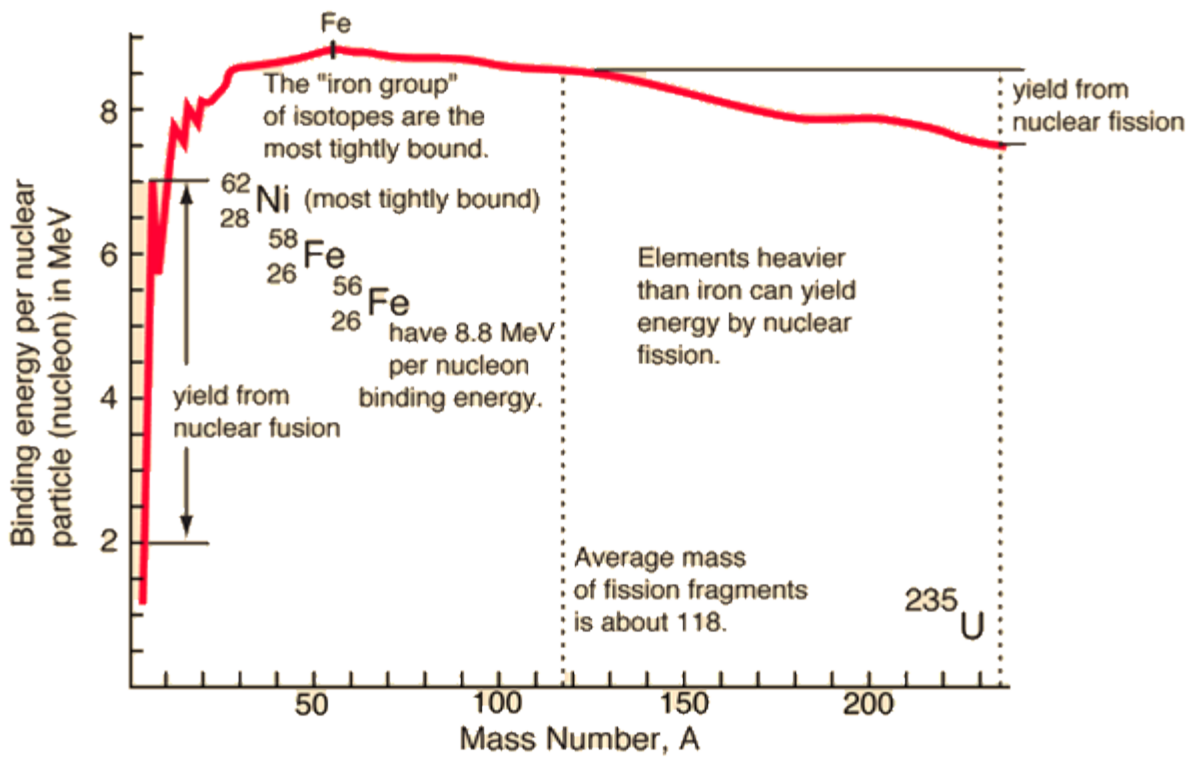
http://www.avsforum.com/forum/40-oled-technology-flat-panels-general/2080650-10-reasons-plasma-died.html

Let’s stand up and do exercise!!



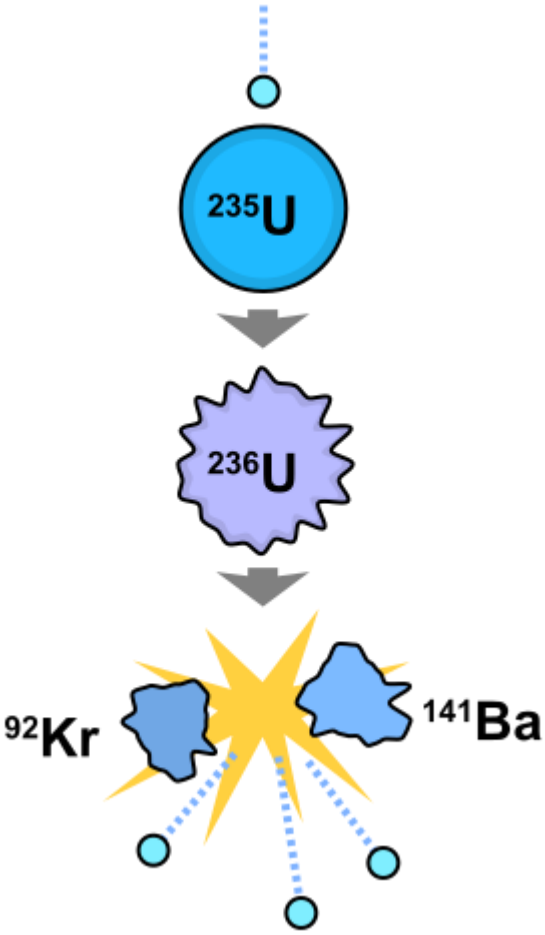
The hydrogen bomb

The “iron group” of isotopes are the most tightly bound



http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/nucene/nucbin.html

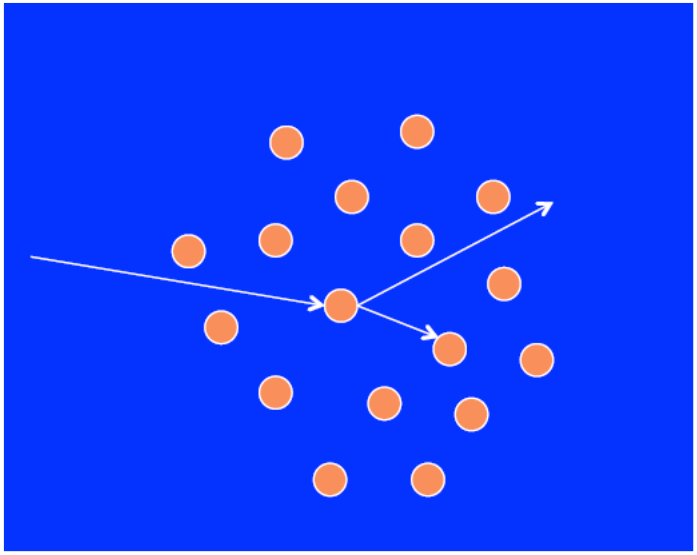
Chain reaction can happen in U^{235} fission reaction



- ~ 200 million electron volts (MeV)/fission, ~million times more than chemical reactions
- Energy for bombs, or for civilian power can generate huge amounts of energy (and toxicity) in a small space with a modest amount of material
- Source of safety, security issues for nuclear power

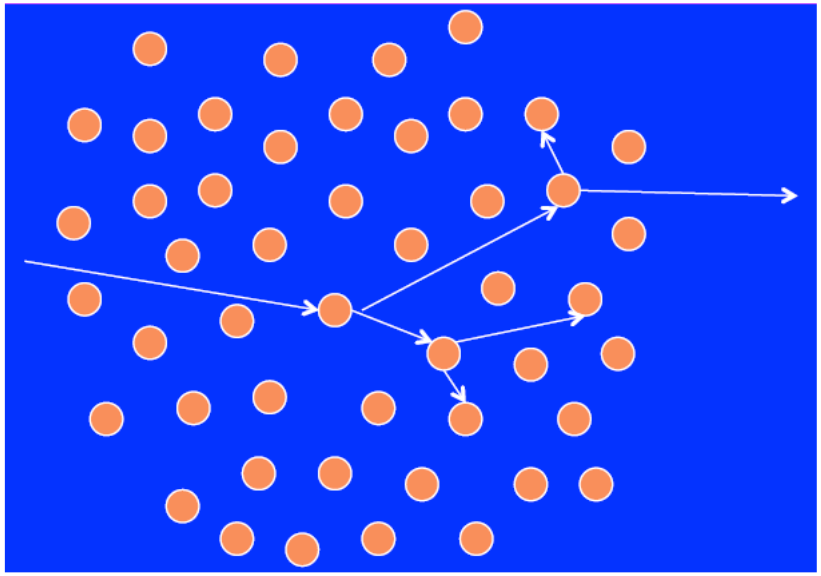
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uranium-235
Talk given by Matthew Bunn, IGA-232: Controlling the World's Most Dangerous Weapons, Harvard Kennedy School, 2013

The neutrons are leaking out and stopping the chain reaction in a sub-critical mass

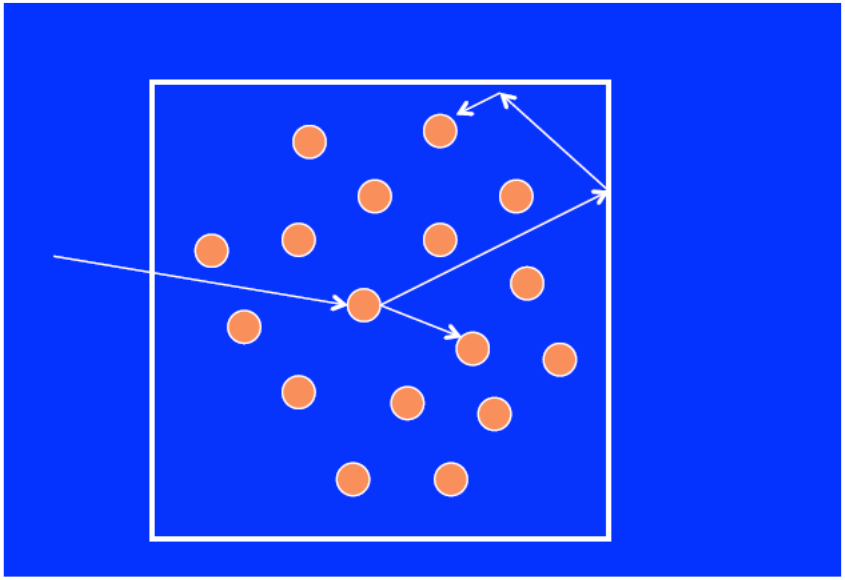


Talk given by Matthew Bunn, IGA-232: Controlling the World's Most Dangerous Weapons, Harvard Kennedy School, 2013

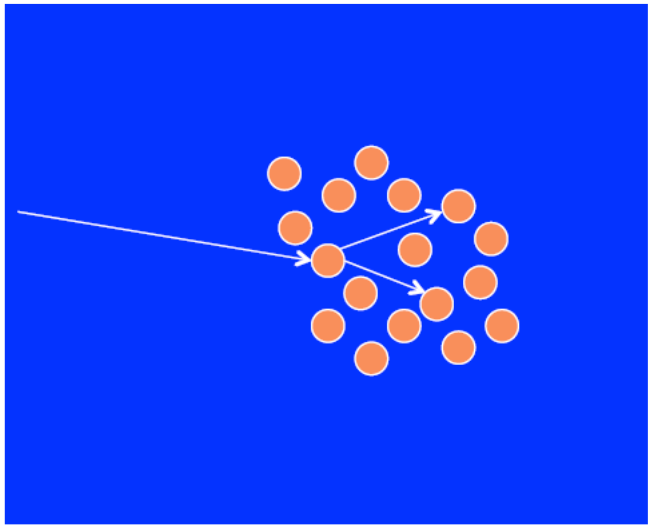
Solution 1: add more material



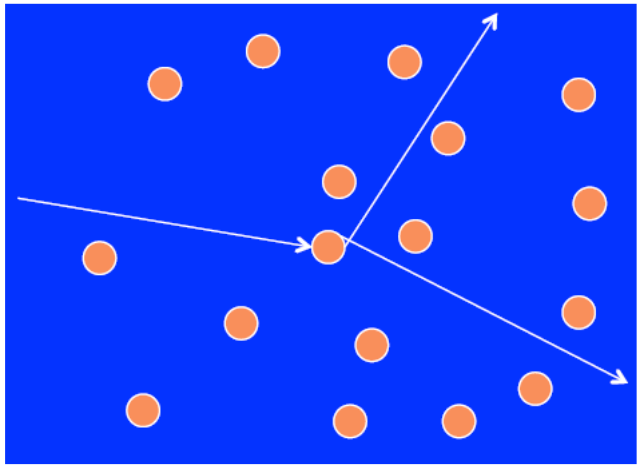
Solution2: reflect the neutron back in



Solution 3: increase the density



How to get the material together before it blows apart?

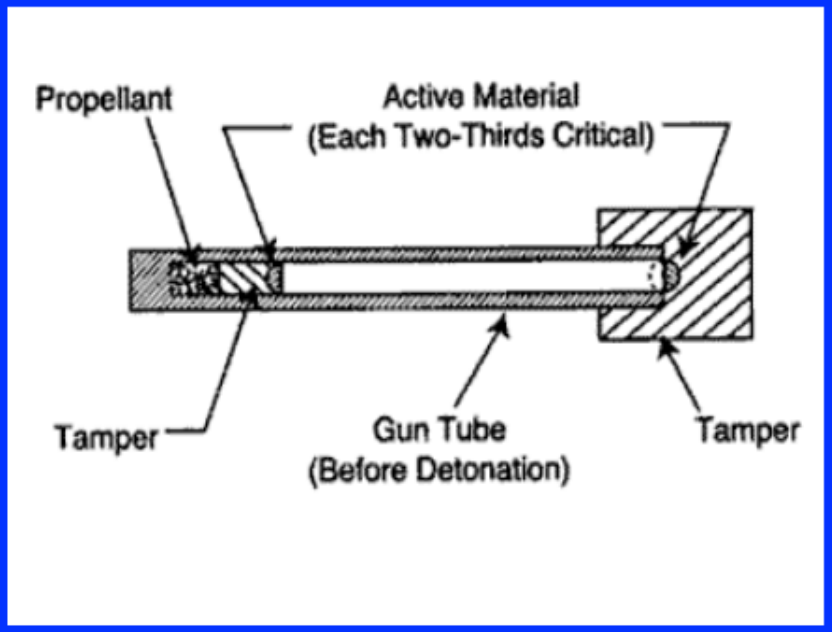


- **There are always neutrons around**
- **Once chain reaction starts, material will heat up, expand, stop reaction**
- **How to get enough material together fast enough?**

Talk given by Matthew Bunn, IGA-232: Controlling the World's Most Dangerous Weapons, Harvard Kennedy School, 2013

Gun-type bomb

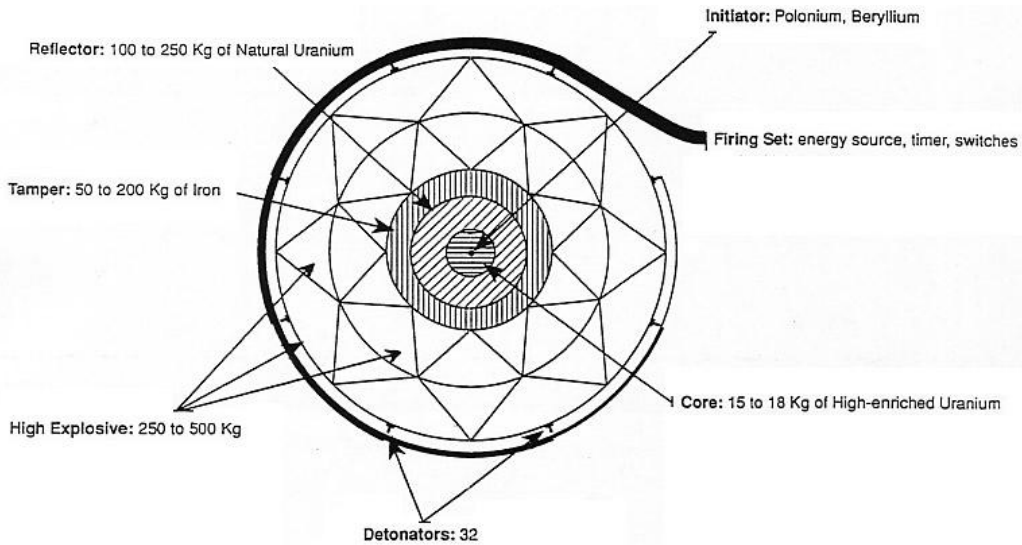
- **Simple, reliable – can be built without testing**
- **Highly inefficient – require lots of nuclear material (50-60 kg of 90% enriched HEU)**
- **Can only get high yield with HEU, not plutonium**
- **Hiroshima bomb: cannon that fired HEU projectile into HEU target**



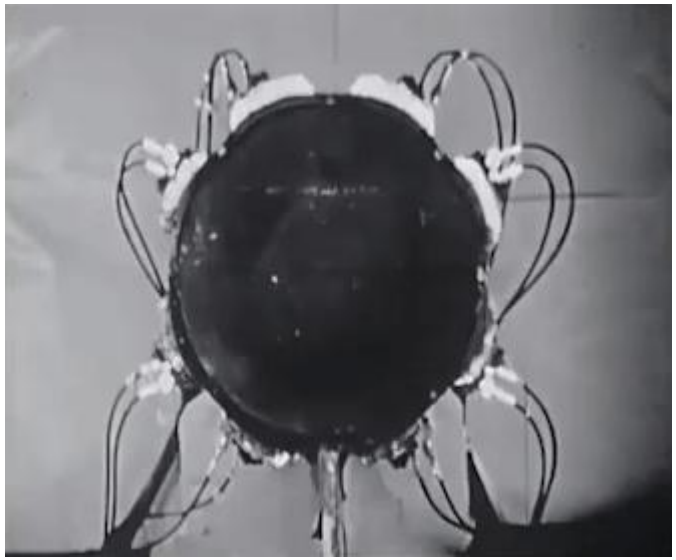
Source: NATO

Implosion design

- **A schematic diagram of an implosion bomb**



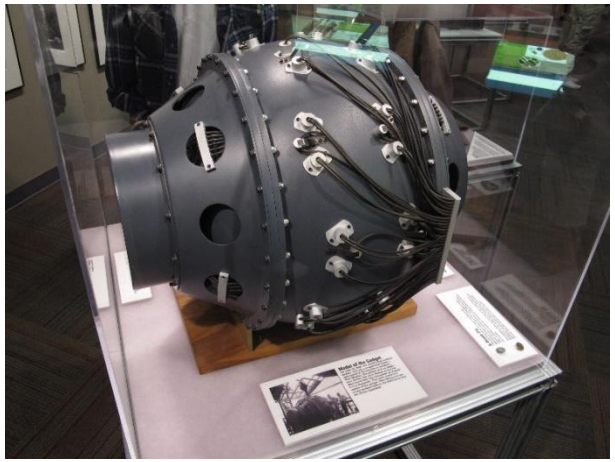
- **Small-scale slow-motion cross-section of a shaped charge implosion design**



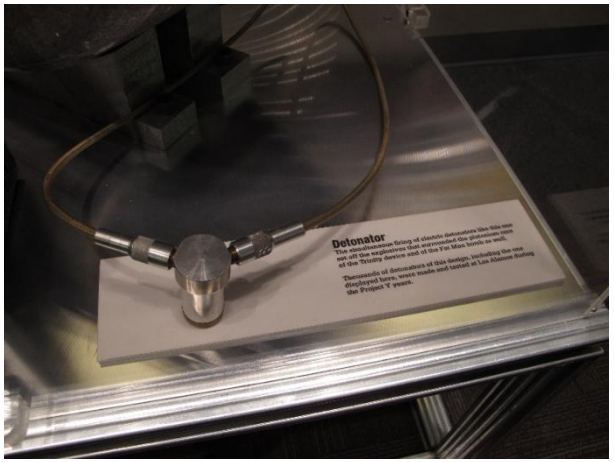
https://www.wisconsinproject.org/nuclear-weapons/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_%28nuclear_test%29

The 1st nuclear bomb: Trinity (Bradbury Science Museum)

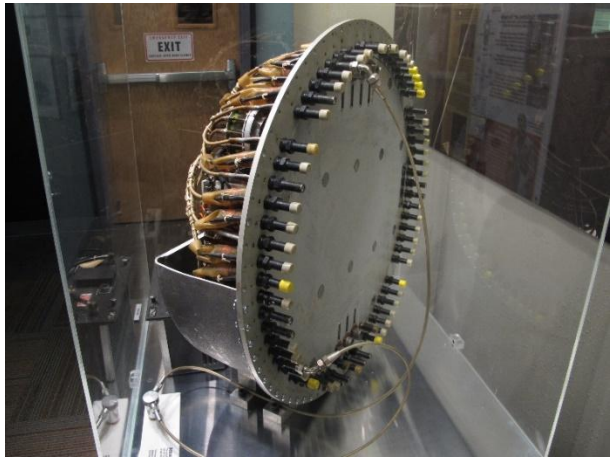
- **Model of the Trinity Gadget**



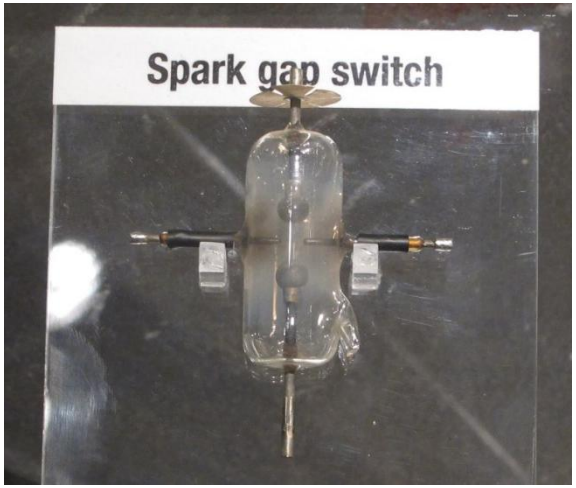
- **Project Y Atomic Bomb Detonator System**



- **Project Y Atomic Bomb Detonator System**

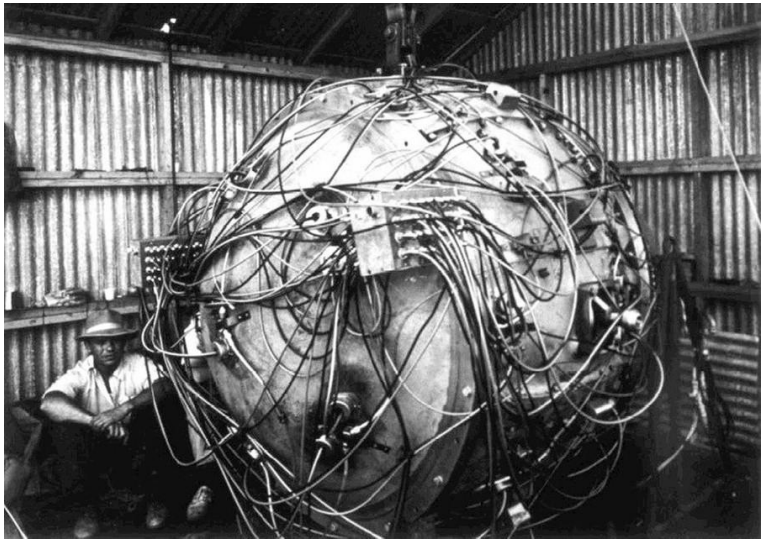


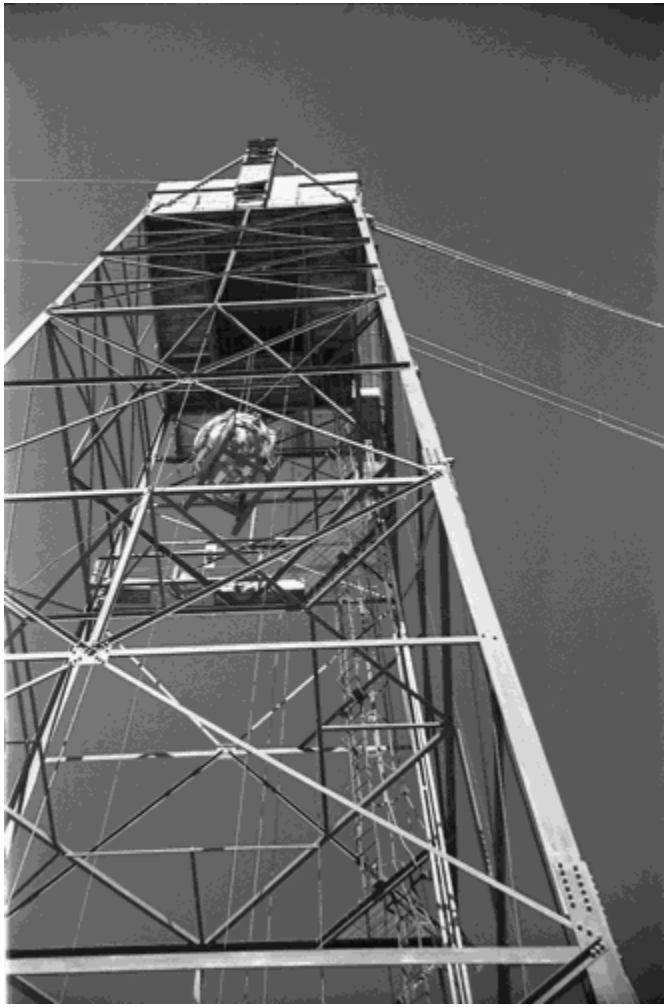
- **Project Y Atomic Bomb Detonator System Spark Gap Switch**



https://www.flickr.com/photos/rocbolt/with/8061684482

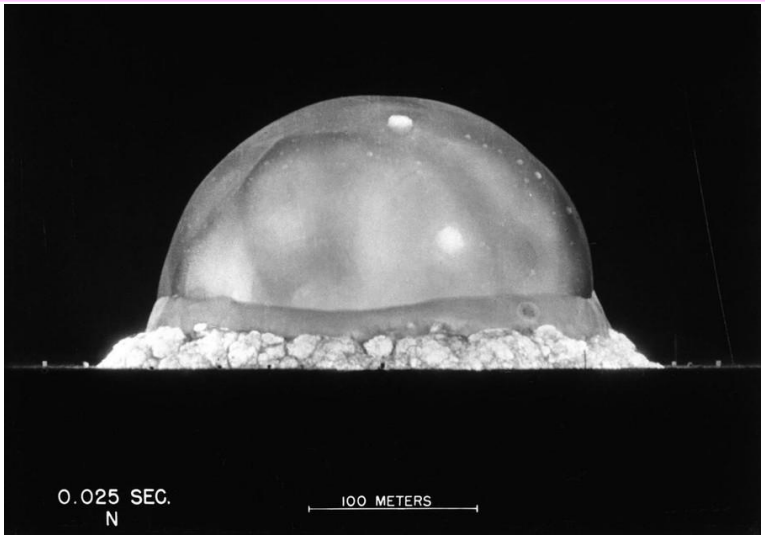
The 1st nuclear bomb: Trinity

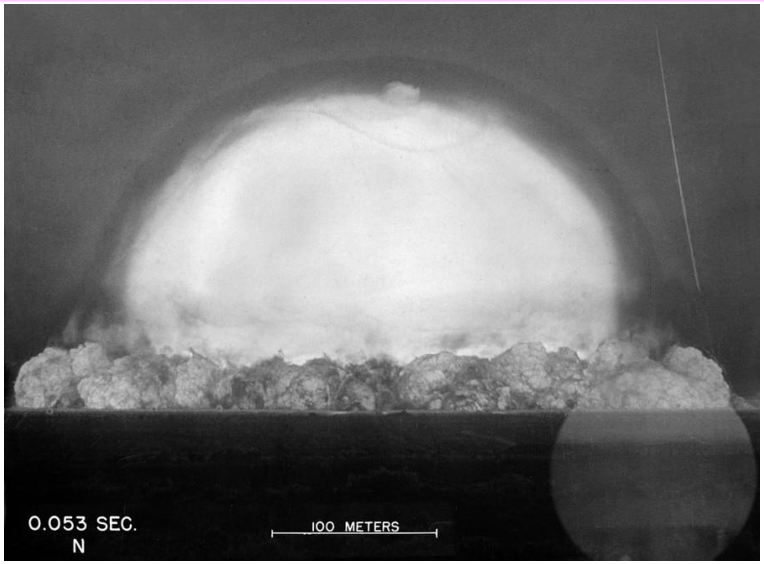


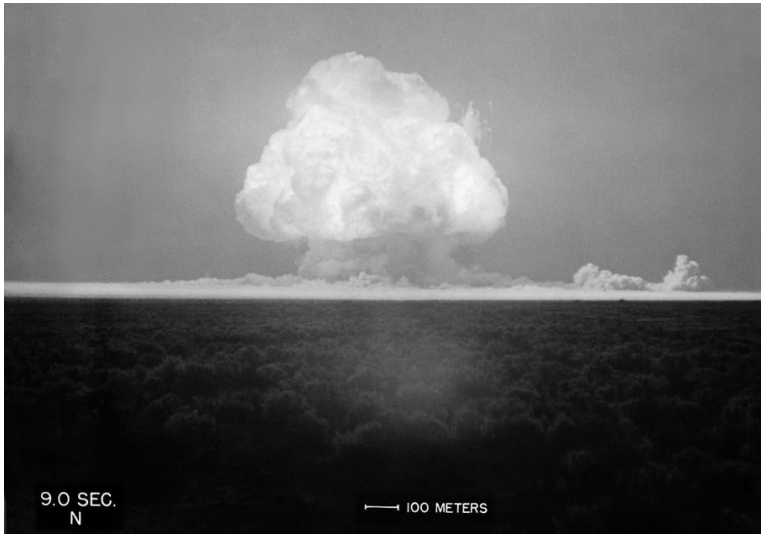


https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2015/07/70-years-since-trinity-when-we-tested-nuclear-bombs/398735/
https://saddlebagnotes.com/arts-and-leisure/tucson-seismographs-detected-first-nuclear-test-at-trinity-n-m/article_b01c5b20-f6fb-11eb-a221-6327df2feaeb.html

Trinity explosion on July 16, 1945







https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2015/07/70-years-since-trinity-when-we-tested-nuclear-bombs/398735/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_%28nuclear_test%29

Hiroshima Bomb – “Little Boy”

Gun Type – Easiest to design and build (Hiroshima bomb was never tested)

About 13 kiloton explosive yield

Talk given by Dr. Charles D. Ferguson, President, Federation of American Scientists, Department of Physics, Colloquium, American University, 2012

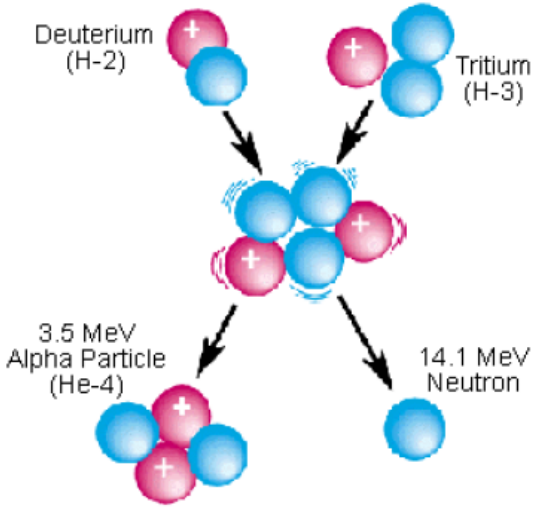
Atomic bomb is very destructive

Hiroshima: August 6, 1945

Nagasaki: August 9, 1945

Talk given by Dr. Charles D. Ferguson, President, Federation of American Scientists, Department of Physics, Colloquium, American University, 2012

The fusion process



Deuterium-Tritium Fusion Reaction

$^{2}H + ^{3}H \Rightarrow ^{4}He + n + Q \equiv 17.6$ MeV

Energy release Q=17.6 MeV

In comparison

$^{2}H + ^{2}H \Rightarrow ^{1}H + ^{3}H + Q \equiv 4.0$ MeV

$^{2}H + ^{2}H \Rightarrow ^{3}He + n + Q \equiv 3.2$ MeV

$^{3}H + ^{3}H \Rightarrow ^{4}He + 2n + Q \equiv 11.3$ MeV

$^{235}U + n \Rightarrow X_A + X_B + 3n + Q \approx 200$ MeV

Fusionable Material, deuterium ^{2}H (D) and tritium ^{3}H (t):

Deuterium: natural occurrence (heavy water) (0.015%).

Tritium: natural occurrence in atmosphere through cosmic ray bombardment; radioactive with $T_{1/2}$=12.3 y.

https://isnap.nd.edu/Lectures/phys20061/pdf/10.pdf

“Advantages” of hydrogen bomb

Fusion of $^2H+^3H$: $$\frac{Q}{A} = \frac{17.6\ MeV}{(3+2)\,amu} = 3.5\,\frac{MeV}{amu}$$

Fission of ^{235}U: $$\frac{Q}{A} = \frac{200\ MeV}{236\ amu} = 0.85\,\frac{MeV}{amu}$$

Fusion is 4 times more powerful than fission and generates 24 times more neutrons!

Neutron production:

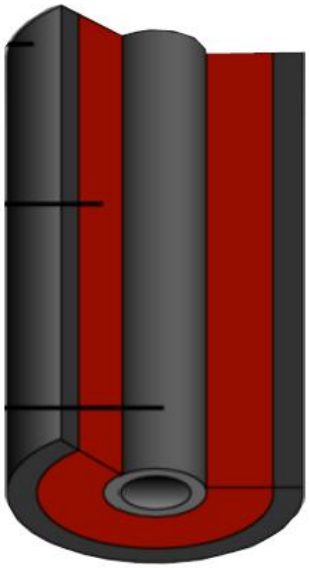
$$^2H + {}^3H: \quad \frac{n}{A} = \frac{1}{5} = 0.2$$

$$^{235}U + n: \quad \frac{n}{A} = \frac{2}{236} = 0.0085$$

https://isnap.nd.edu/Lectures/phys20061/pdf/10.pdf

Hydrogen bomb uses a fission bomb to initiate the fusion reaction

Fuel



Primary Fission Device

Core: ^{239}Pu, ^{235}U,
plus $^{2}H+^{3}H$ booster

Shell: ^{238}U tamper

High explosive lenses

Secondary Fusion Device

Radiation channel

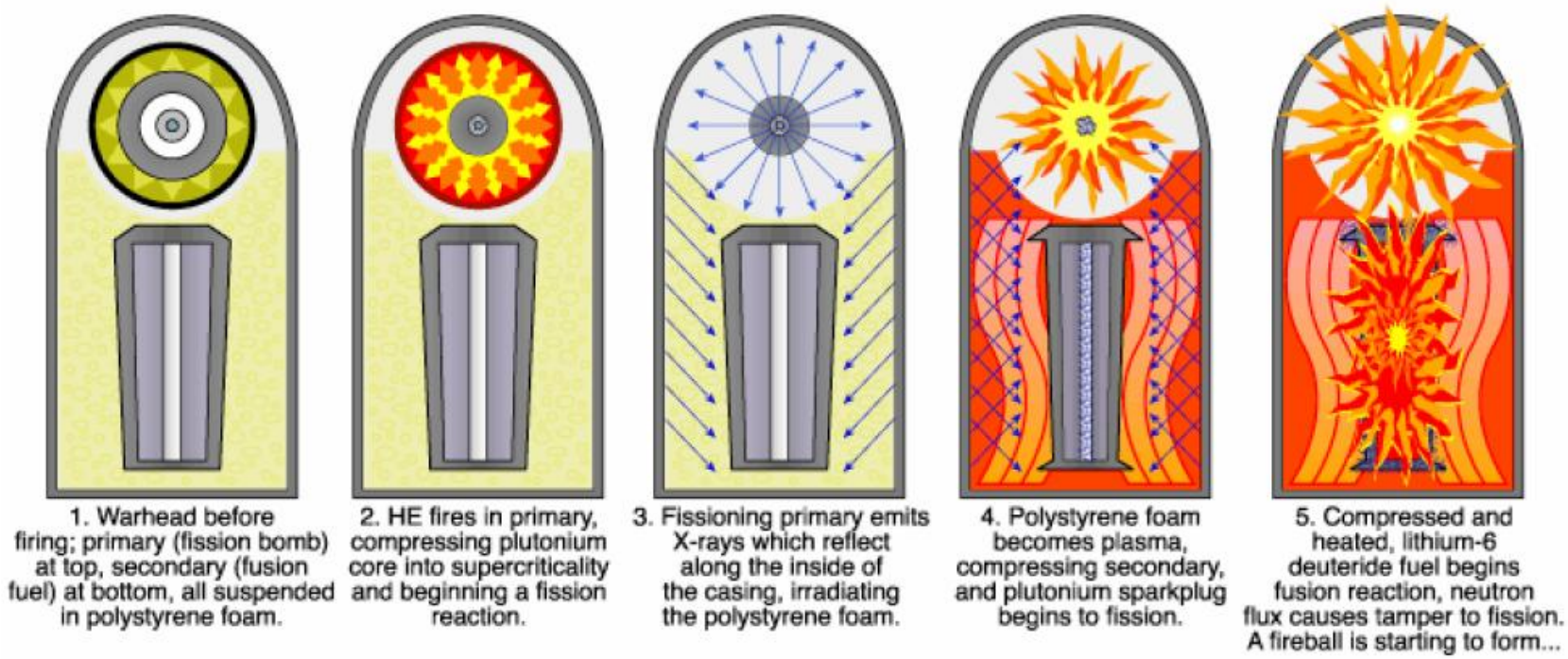
^{239}Pu sparkplug

^{6}Li, ^{2}H, ^{3}H fusion cell

^{238}U tamper

https://isnap.nd.edu/Lectures/phys20061/pdf/10.pdf

Event sequence



Additional pressure from recoil of exploding shell (ablation)!

https://isnap.nd.edu/Lectures/phys20061/pdf/10.pdf

You don't want to build a hydrogen bomb!

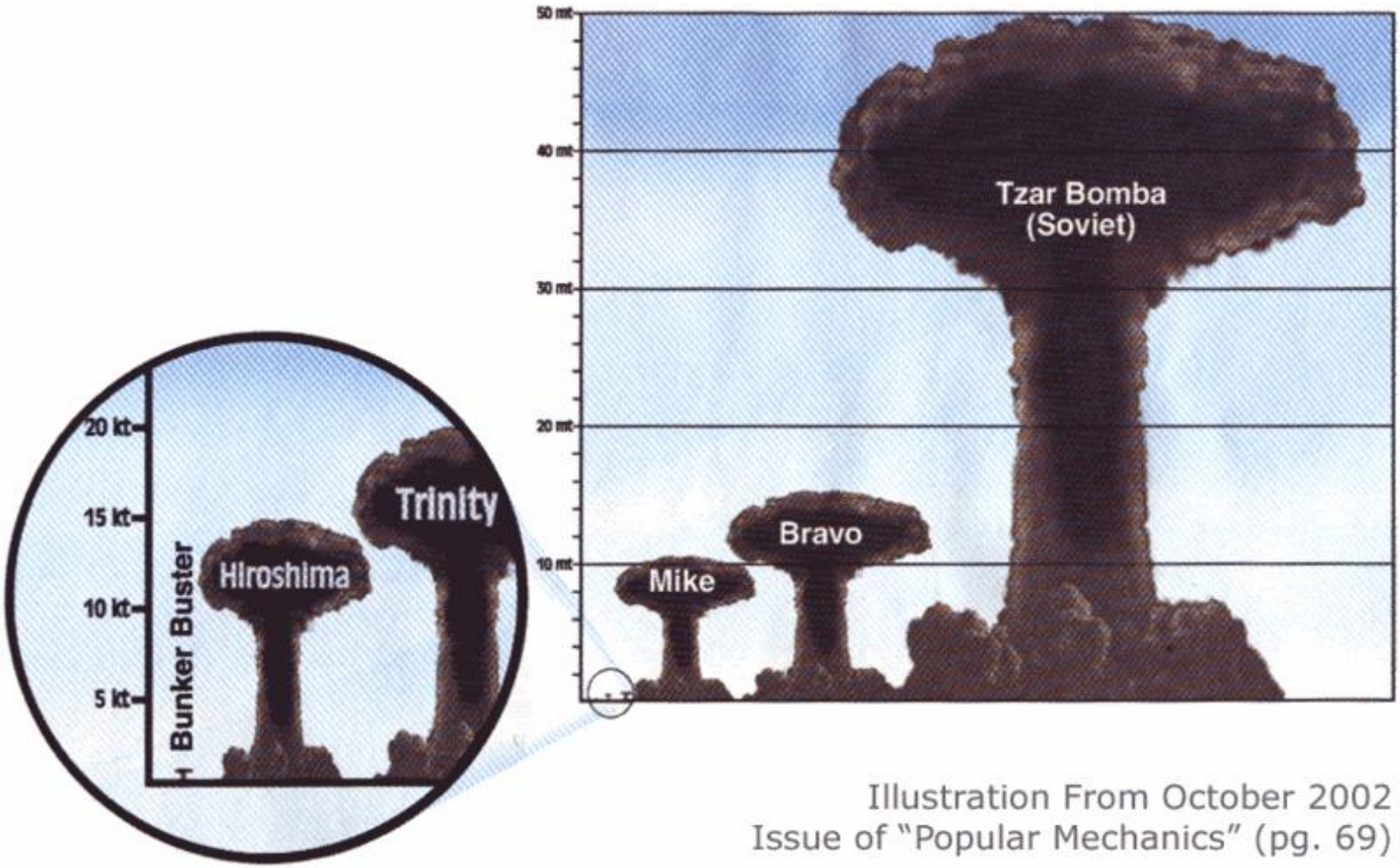
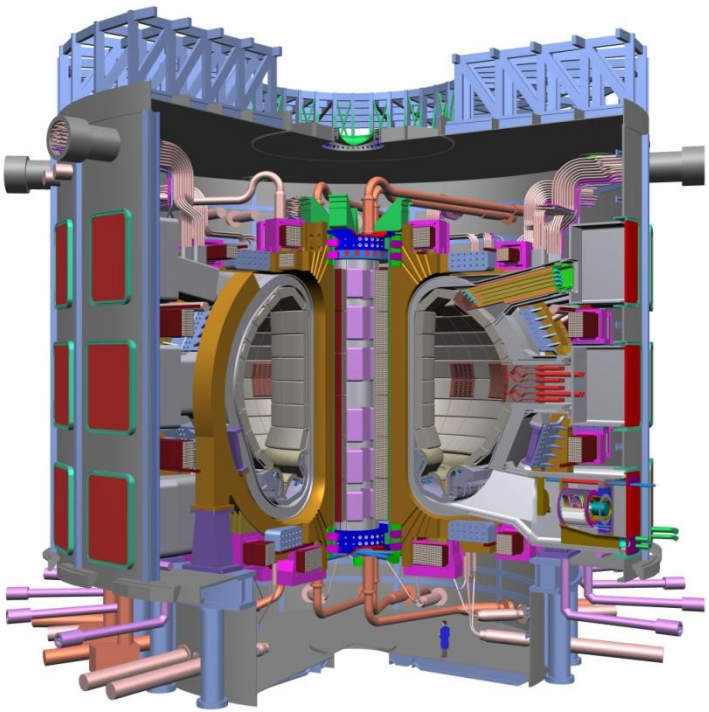
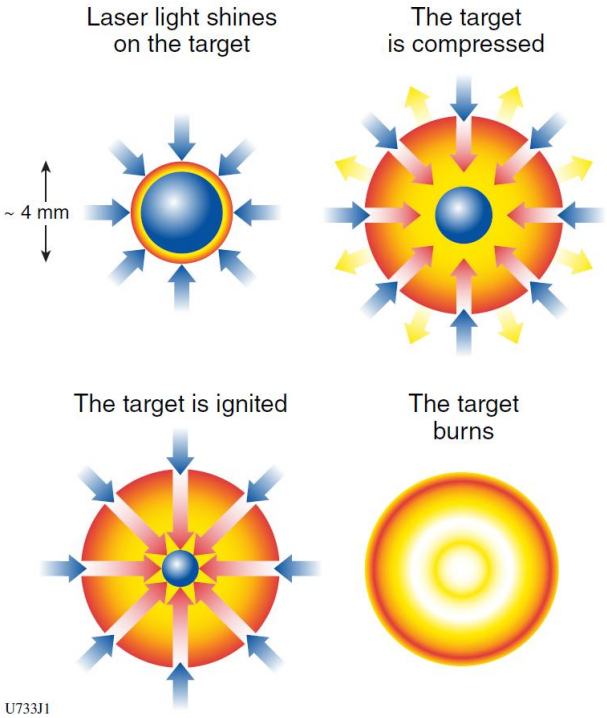


Illustration From October 2002
Issue of "Popular Mechanics" (pg. 69)

To Fuse, or Not to Fuse...



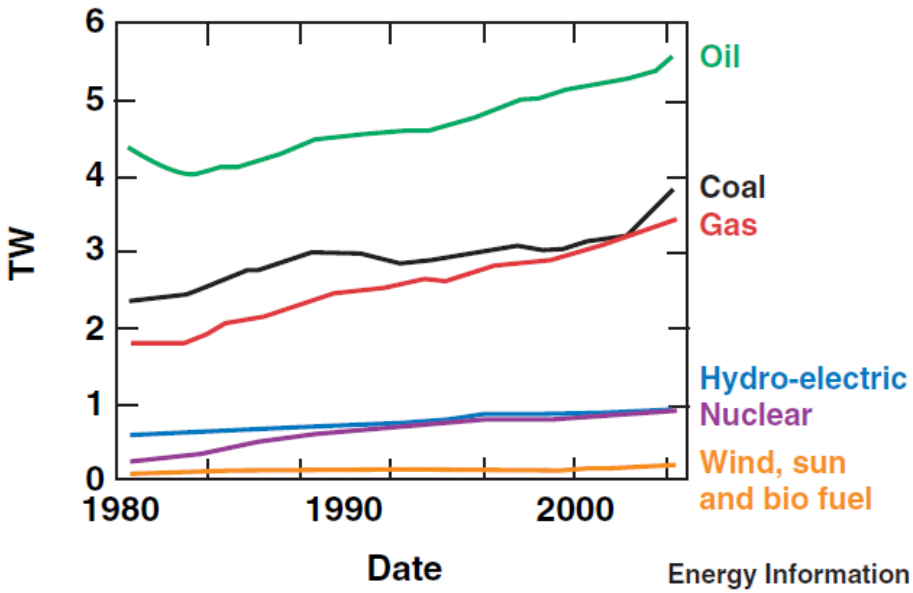


Outline

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)
  - Tokamak
  - Stellarator
- Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)
  - Indirection drive ICF
  - Direct drive ICF
- Innovation idea – MCF + ICF
- Plasma in space
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

World energy consumption is dominated by the use of dwindling fossil fuels

Fossil fuel	Estimated reserve	(2005 consumption rate) Years remaining
Oil	1,277,702 million barrels	32 years
Natural gas	~6,500,000 billion cubic ft	72 years
Coal	1,081,279 million tons	252 years

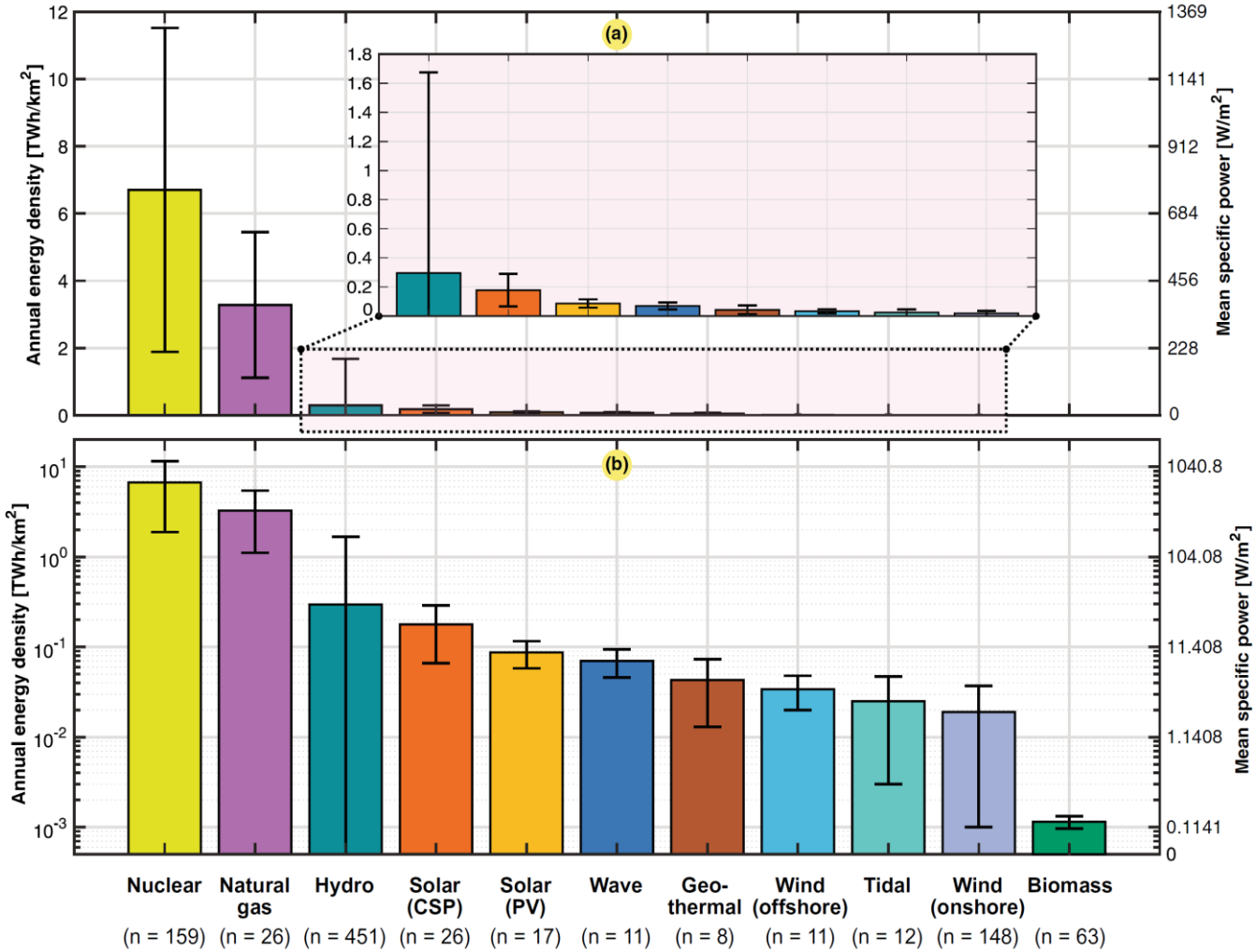


While predictions about the exact number of remaining years vary, fossil fuels will run out.

Energy Information Administration (EIA) 2006 Annual Report, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.

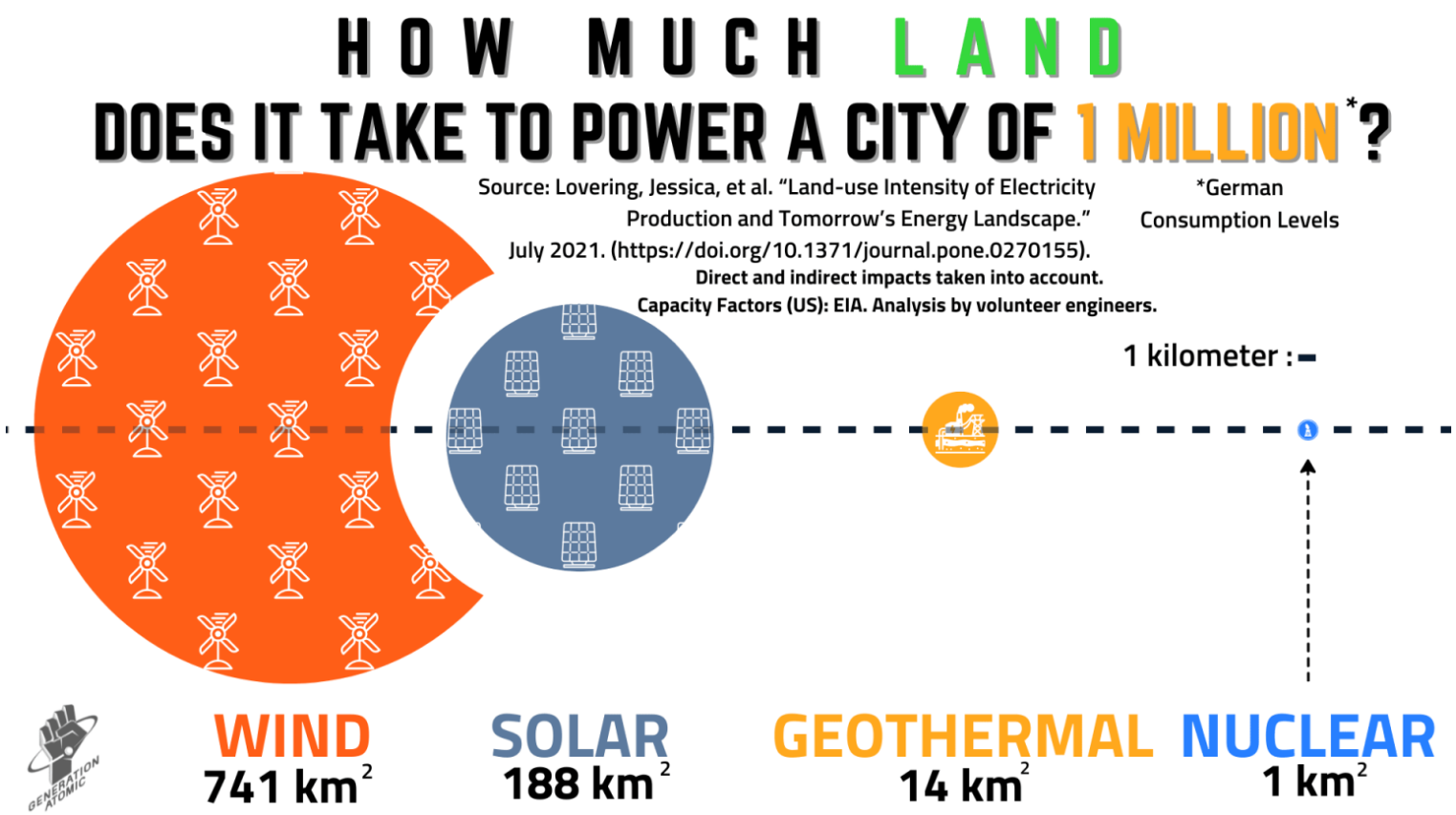
*from Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Nuclear energy has the highest energy density



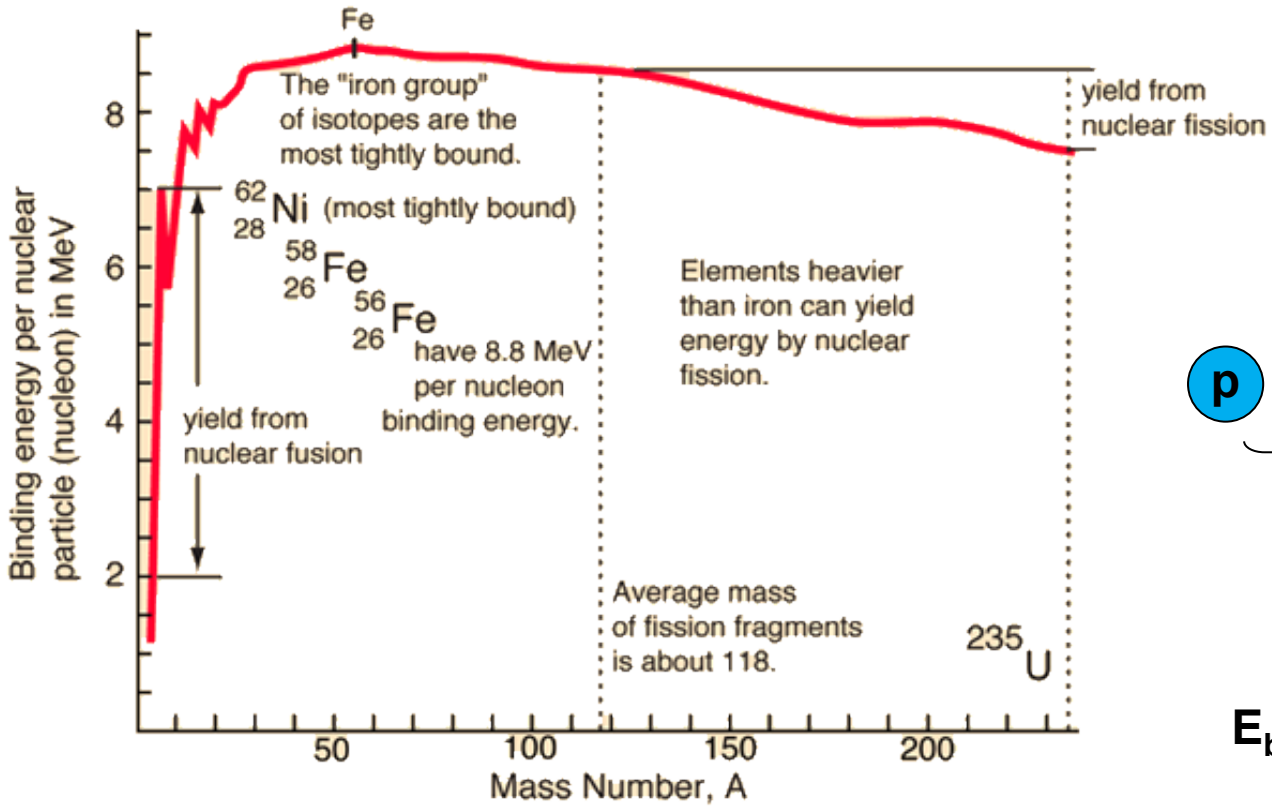
J. K. Noland, etc., Scientific Reports **12**, 21280 (2022)

Nuclear energy has the highest energy density

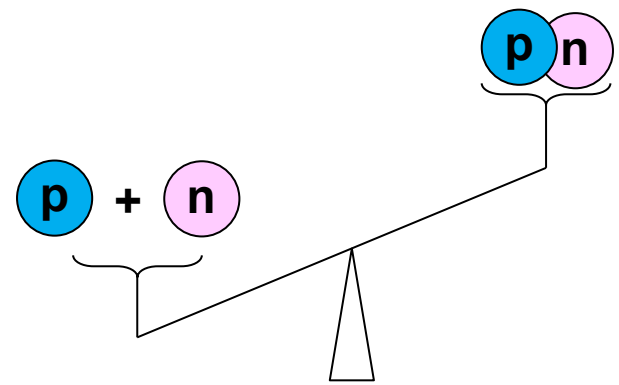


https://www.generationatomic.org/why-nuclear/

The “iron group” of isotopes are the most tightly bound



Deuterium



$m_p + m_n > m_D$

$E_{binding} = [(m_p + m_n) - m_D]c^2$

$$Q = \left(\sum_i m_i - \sum_f m_f\right)c^2$$

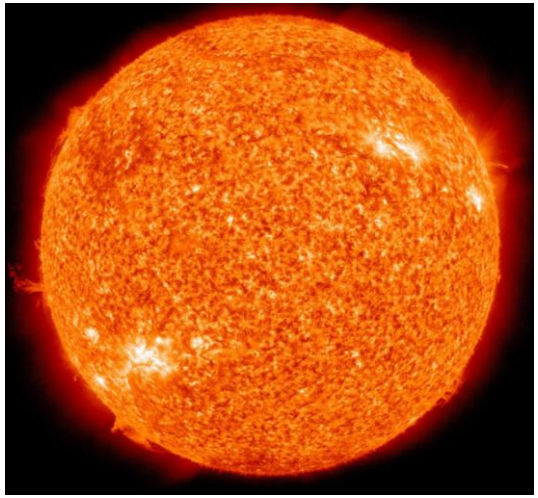
$$\Delta m = zm_p + (A - z)m_n - m$$

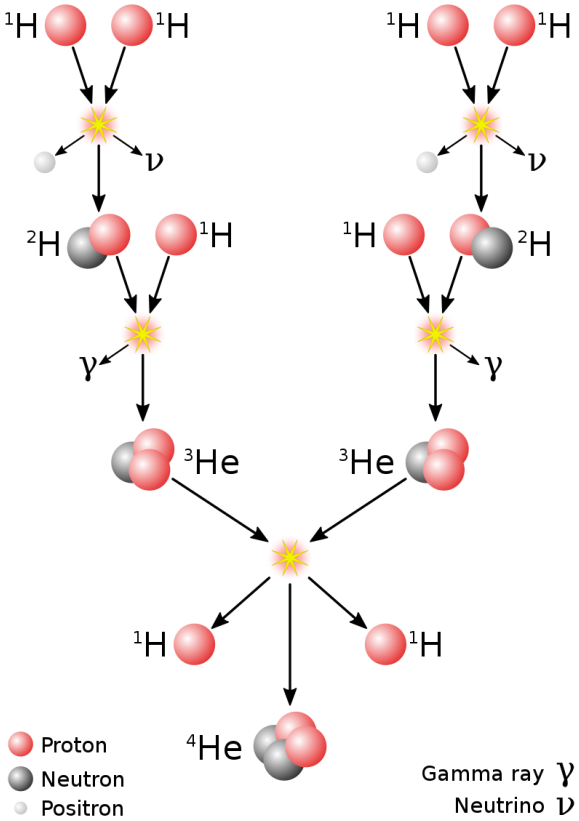
- **Binding energy:** $B = \Delta mc^2$
- **Output energy:** $Q = \sum_f B_f - \sum_i B_i$

http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/nucene/nucbin.html

Fusion in the sun provides the energy

- **Proton-proton chain in sun or smaller**

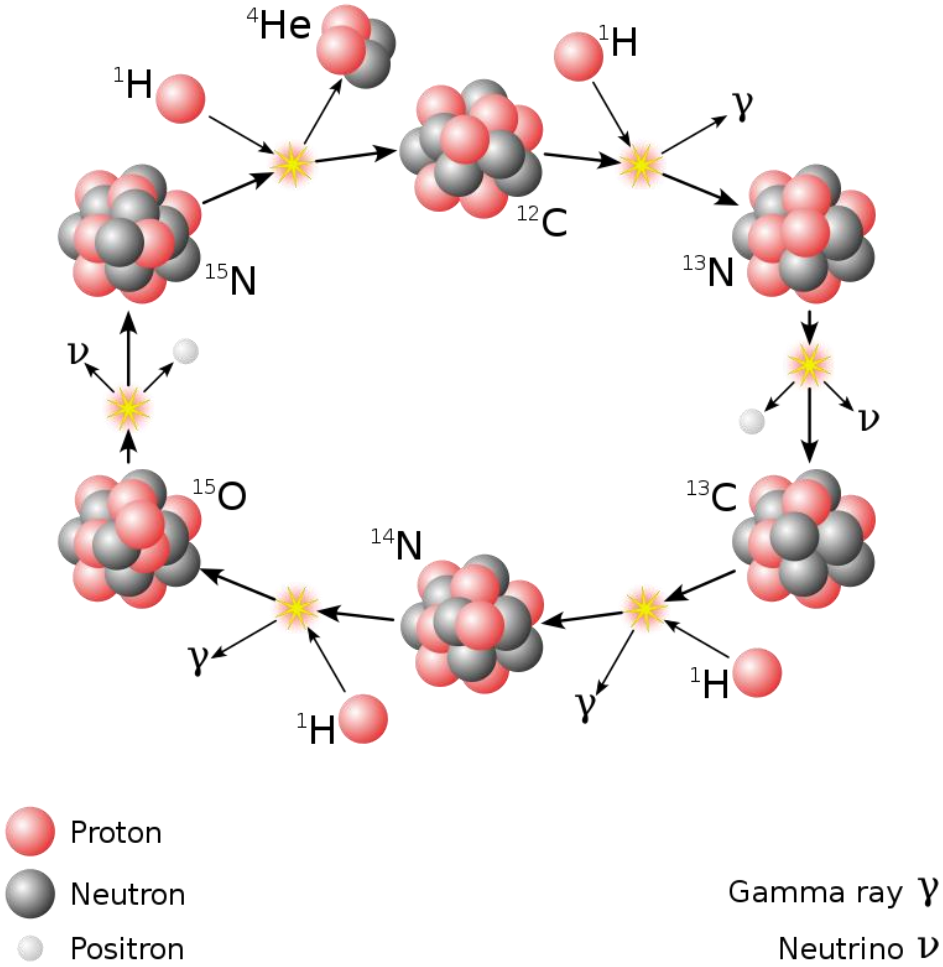




- **Particles are confined by the gravity.**

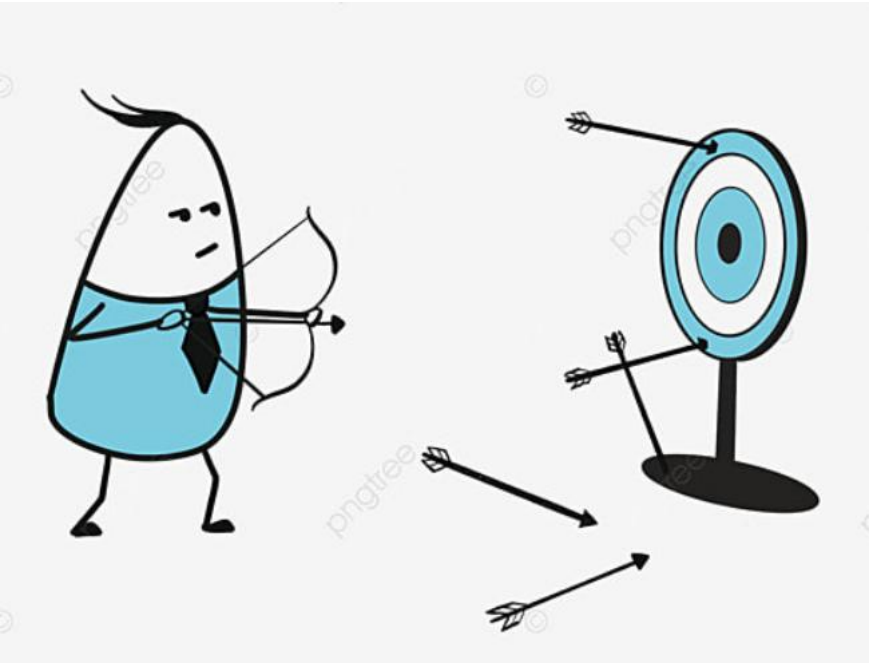
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_fusion

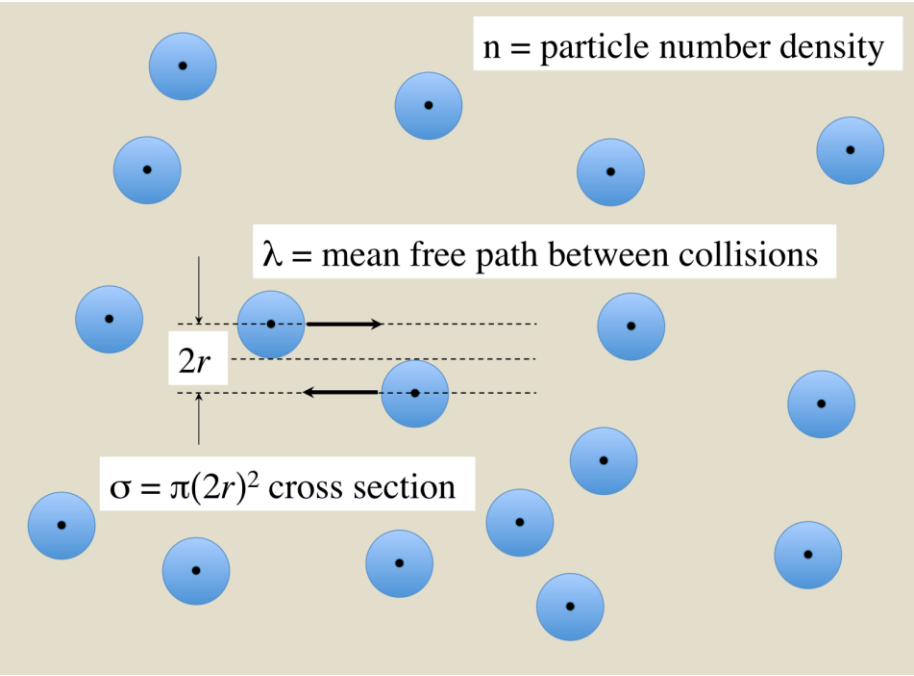
In heavy sun, the fusion reaction is the CNO cycle



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_fusion

The cross section is a measure of the probability that a specific process will take place in a collision of two particles

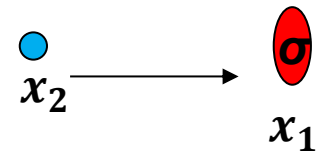




https://zh.pngtree.com/so/%E5%8D%A1%E9%80%9A%E5%B0%84%E7%AE%AD
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cross_section_(physics)

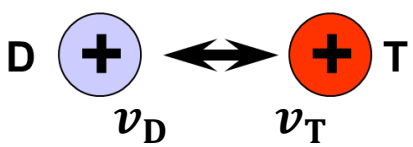
Cross section measures the probability per pair of particles for the occurrence of the reaction

$$x_1 + x_2 \rightarrow x_3 + x_4$$



- **The hard sphere cross section:**
  $\sigma \approx \pi R^2$ **where R ≈ 5x10^{-15} m is the nuclear radius, i.e.,**
  $\sigma = 0.8 \times 10^{-28}$ **m^2 ≈ 1 barm. (barm ≡ 10^{-28} m^2)**

- **Classical cross section:**

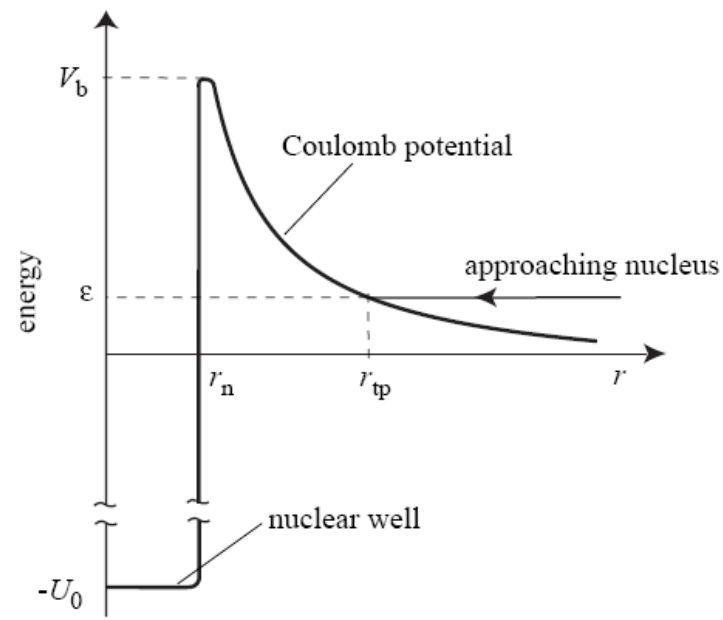


$$\frac{m_D}{2} v_D{}^2 + \frac{m_T}{2} v_T{}^2 \geq \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_o R}$$

- **Let** $v = \left|\vec{v}_D - \vec{v}_T\right|$

$$v_D = \frac{m_T}{m_D + m_T} v \qquad v_T = \frac{m_D}{m_D + m_T} v$$

$$\frac{m_r}{2} v^2 \geq \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_o R} \qquad m_r = \frac{m_D m_T}{m_D + m_T}$$



- **Classical kinetic energy required for fusion is**

$$K_{c.m.} > 288 \text{ keV} \quad !!!$$

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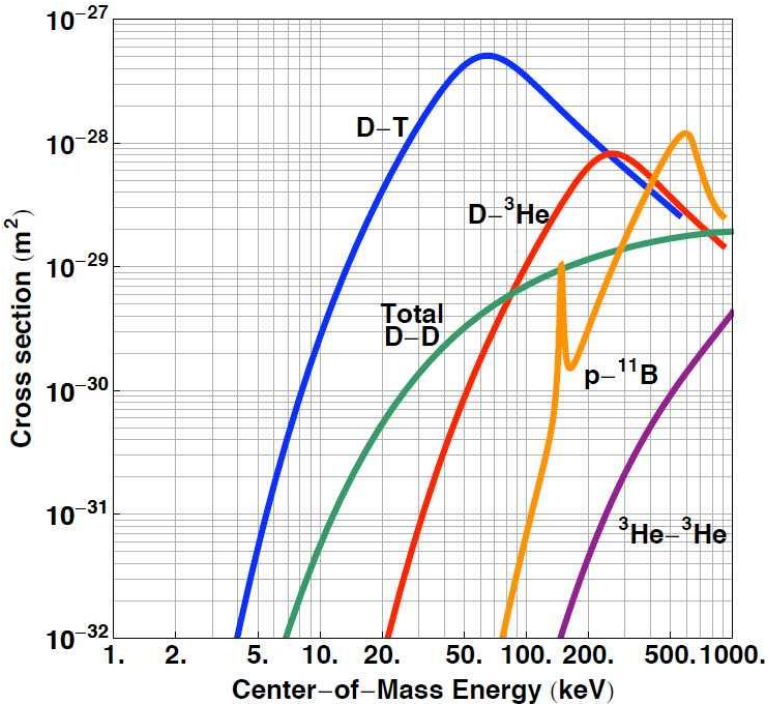
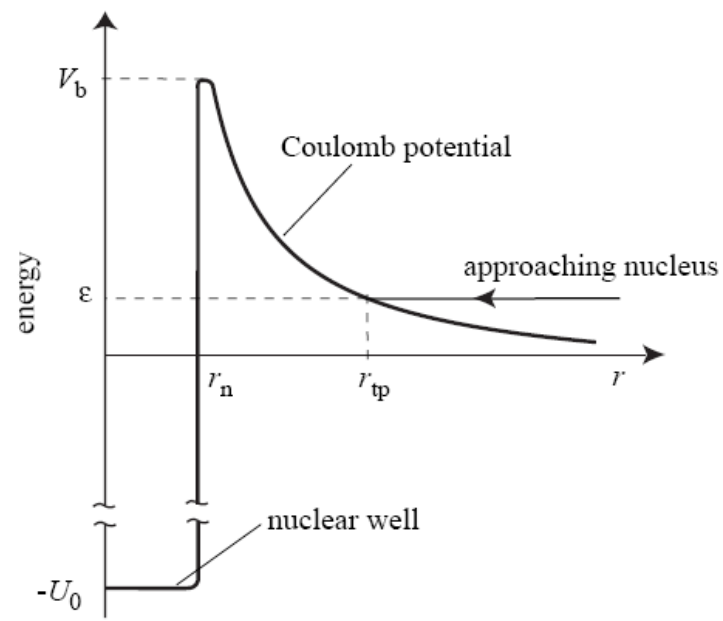
Cross section of fusion reaction is much larger than the classical approach



- **Classical kinetic energy required for fusion is** $K_{\mathrm{c.m.}} > 288\ \mathrm{keV}$ **!!!**
- **DT cross section has a peak of ~5 barns at 120 keV.**
- $\sigma_{DT} \approx 100\sigma_{DD}$ **@ 20 keV.**



$D + D \rightarrow T + p$
$\rightarrow He^3 + n$

$D + T \rightarrow He^4 + n$

$D + He^3 \rightarrow He^4 + p$

$p + B^{11} \rightarrow 3He^4$

https://i.stack.imgur.com/wXQD5.jpg
Santarius, J. F., "Fusion Space Propulsion – A Shorter Time Frame Than You Think", JANNAF, Monterey, 5-8 December 2005.

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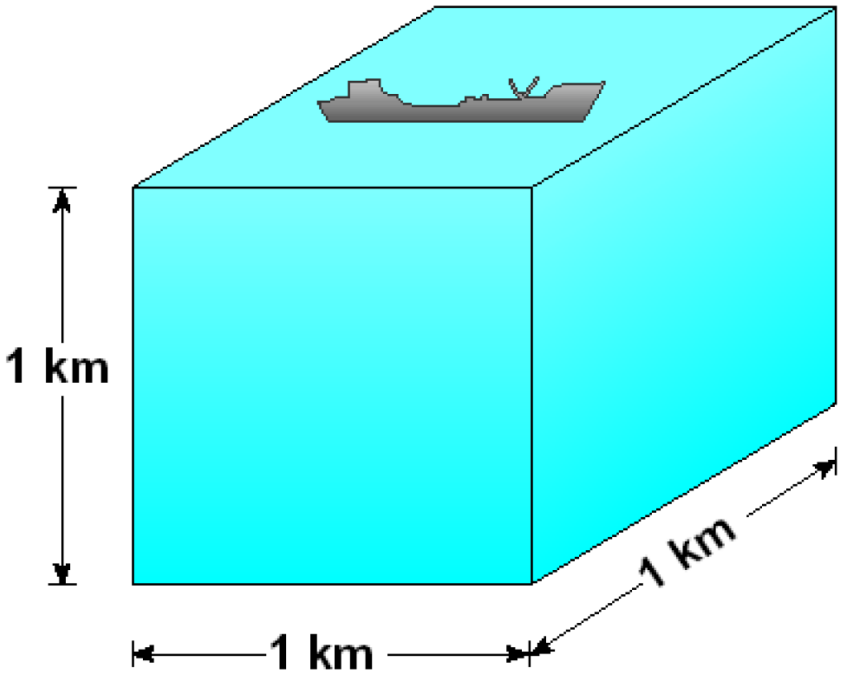
The cross section of proton-proton chain is much smaller than D T fusion

Reaction	$\sigma_{10\ keV}$ (barn)	$\sigma_{100\ keV}$ (barn)	σ_{max} (barn)	ε_{max} (keV)
$D+T \rightarrow \alpha+n$	2.72×10^{-2}	3.43	5.0	64
$D+D \rightarrow T+p$	2.81×10^{-4}	3.3×10^{-2}	0.06	1250
$D+D \rightarrow {}^{3}He+n$	2.78×10^{-4}	3.7×10^{-2}	0.11	1750
$T+T \rightarrow \alpha+2n$	7.90×10^{-4}	3.4×10^{-2}	0.16	1000
$D+{}^{3}He \rightarrow \alpha+p$	2.2×10^{-7}	0.1	0.9	250
$p+{}^{6}Li \rightarrow \alpha+{}^{3}He$	6×10^{-10}	7×10^{-3}	0.22	1500
$p+{}^{11}B \rightarrow 3\alpha$	(4.6×10^{-17})	3×10^{-4}	1.2	550
$p+p \rightarrow D+e^{+}+\nu$	(3.6×10^{-26})	(4.4×10^{-25})		
$p+{}^{12}C \rightarrow {}^{13}N+\gamma$	(1.9×10^{-26})	2.0×10^{-10}	1.0×10.4	400
${}^{12}C+{}^{12}C$ (all branches)		(5.0×10^{-103})		

- "( )" are theoretical values while others are measured values.

The Physics of Inertial Fusion, by Stefano Atzeni and Jürgen Meyer-Ter-Vehn

Enormous fusion fuel can be produced from sea water



= Total energy of world oil reserve

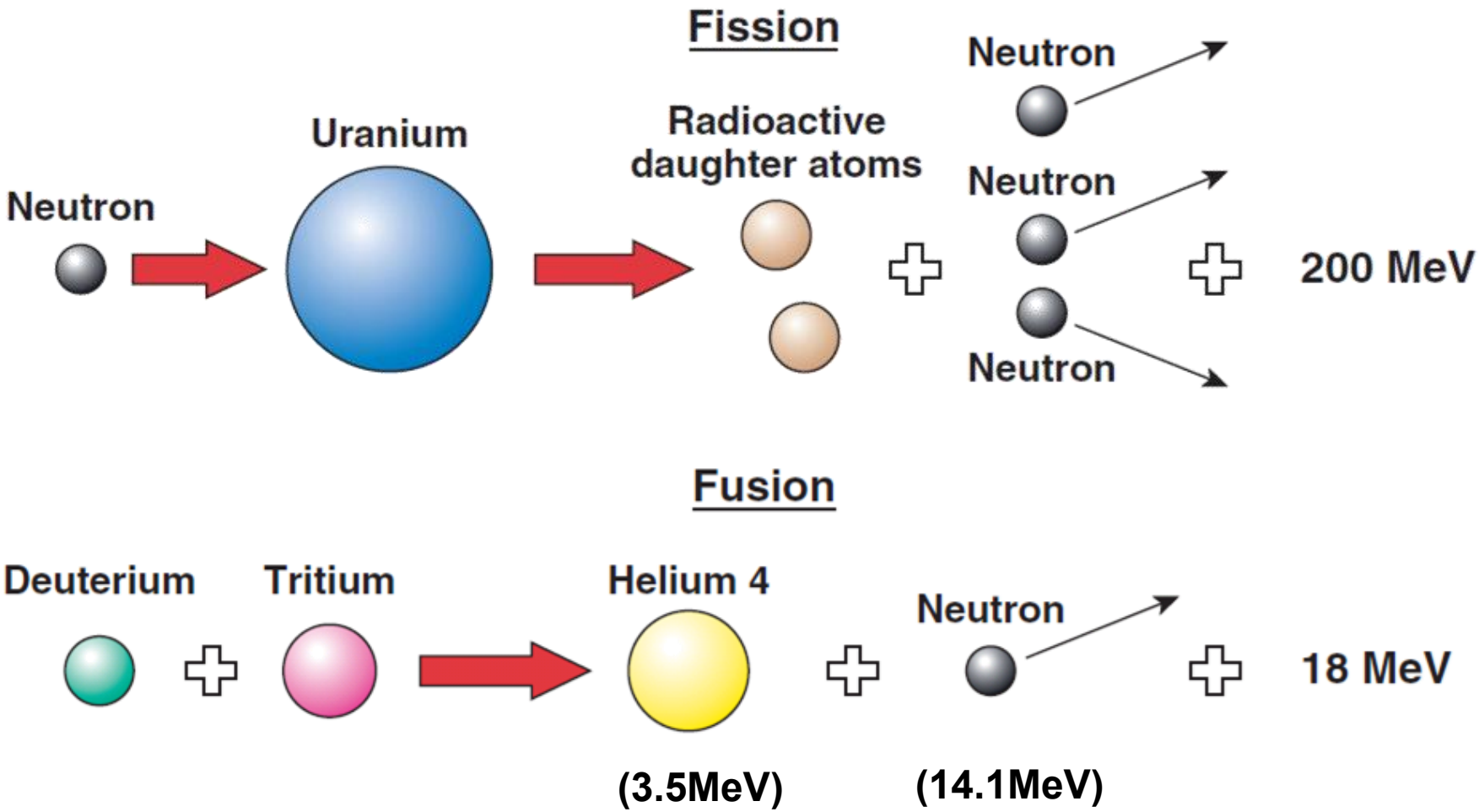
*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

What could you do with 1 kg DT?

- **1 kg DT -> 340 Tera joules**
  - **You can drive your car for ~40,000 km (back and forth between Keelung and Kaoshiung for 50 times).**
  - **You can keep your furnace running for 8 years.**
  - **You can blow things up! 1 TJ = 250 tons of TNT.**

*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Nuclear fusion and fission release energy through energetic neutrons

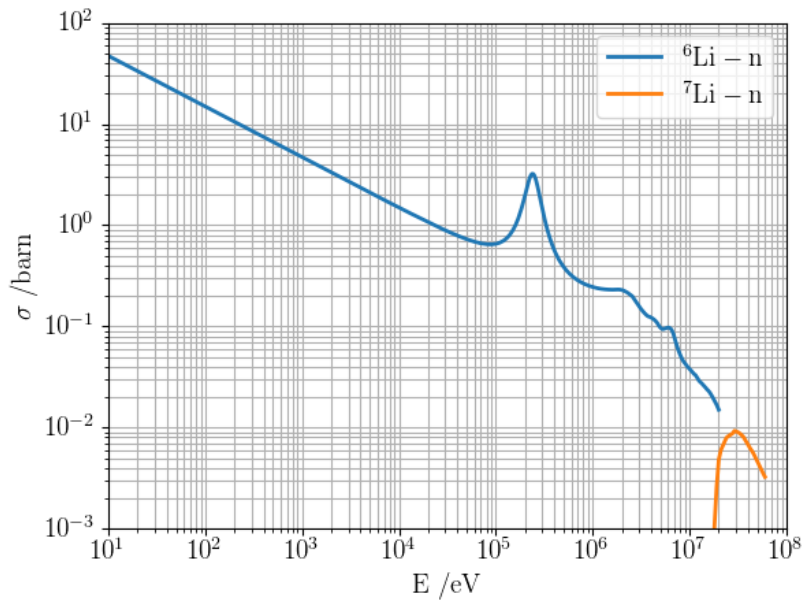


Nuclear fusion provides more energy per atomic mass unit (amu) than nuclear fission

Fusion of $^{2}H+^{3}H$: $$\frac{Q}{A} = \frac{17.6\ MeV}{(3+2)\,amu} = 3.5\,\frac{MeV}{amu}$$

Fission of ^{235}U: $$\frac{Q}{A} = \frac{200\ MeV}{236\ amu} = 0.85\,\frac{MeV}{amu}$$

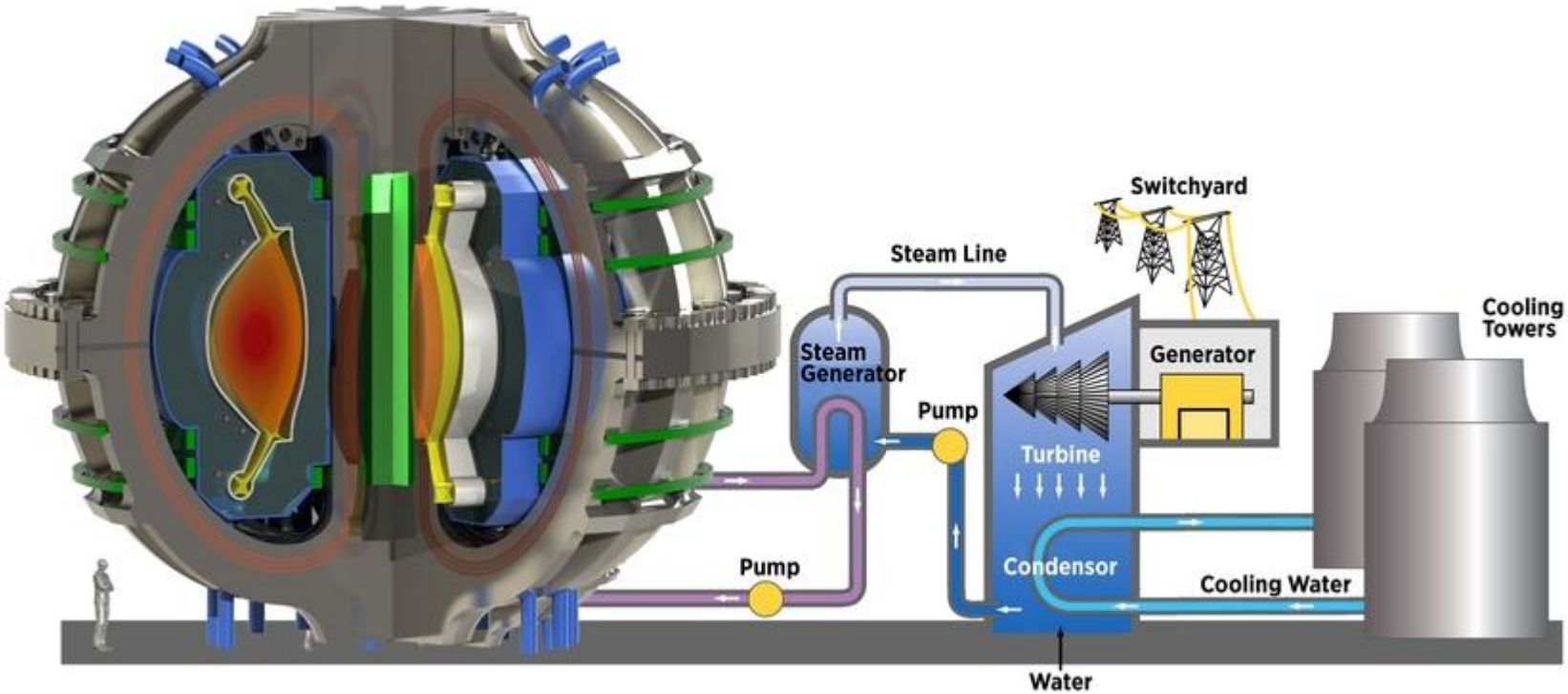
	Half-life (years)
U235	7.04×10^{8}
U238	4.47×10^{9}
…	
Tritium	12.3



n + ^{6}Li → α + T + 4.86 MeV
n + ^{7}Li → α + T + n – 2.87 MeV

https://scipython.com/blog/breeding-tritium-for-a-fusion-reactor/

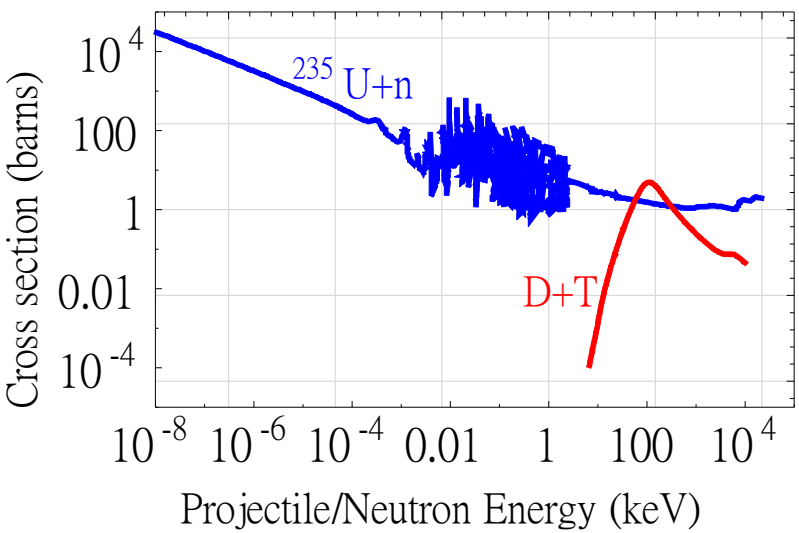
Nuclear fusion power plant proposed by Commonwealth Fusion Systems (CFS)

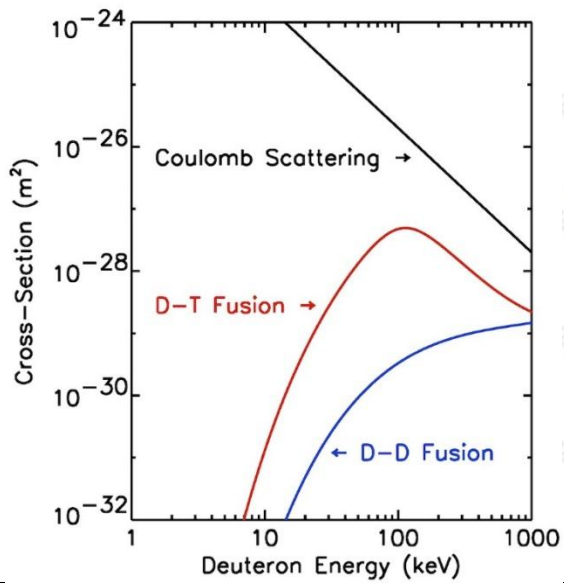


https://news.mit.edu/2018/nas-report-right-path-fusion-energy-1221

Fusion is much harder than fission

- **Fission:** $n + {}^{235}_{92}U \rightarrow {}^{236}_{92}U \rightarrow {}^{144}_{56}Ba + {}^{89}_{36}Kr + 3n + 177\ \mathrm{MeV}$
- **Fusion:** $D + T \rightarrow {}^{4}_{2}He(3.5\ \mathrm{MeV}) + n(14.1\ \mathrm{MeV})$

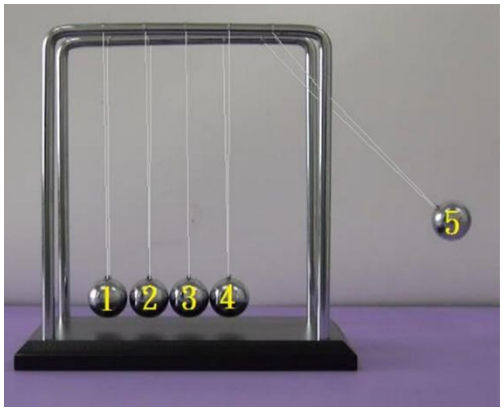




- **Beam particles lose their energy before making a fusion reaction, i.e., they only thermalize the fuel. Therefore, beam fusion does NOT work!**

https://www6.lehigh.edu/~eus204/lab/PCL_fusion.php#x1-10096
https://www.16pic.com/photo/pic_3815585.html

Fast neutrons are slowed down due to the collisions



- A moderator is used to slow down fast neutrons but not to absorb neutrons.
- For $m_M \sim m_N$, the energy decrement is higher. Therefore, H slows down neutron most efficiently.
- However, H + n → D, i.e., H absorbs neutrons.

Neutron ● → ● Atom

m_N m_M

- The best option is the D in the heavy water (D_2O).

	Energy decrement	Neutron scattering cross section (σ_s) (Barns)	Neutron absorption cross section (σ_a) (Barns)
H	1	49 (H_2O)	0.66 (H_2O)
D	0.7261	10.6 (D_2O)	0.0013 (D_2O)
C	0.1589	4.7 (Graphite)	0.0035 (Graphite)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neutron_moderator#cite_note-Weston-4
https://energyeducation.ca/encyclopedia/Neutron_moderator#cite_note-3

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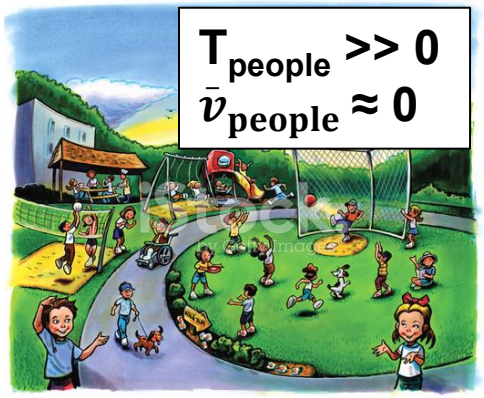
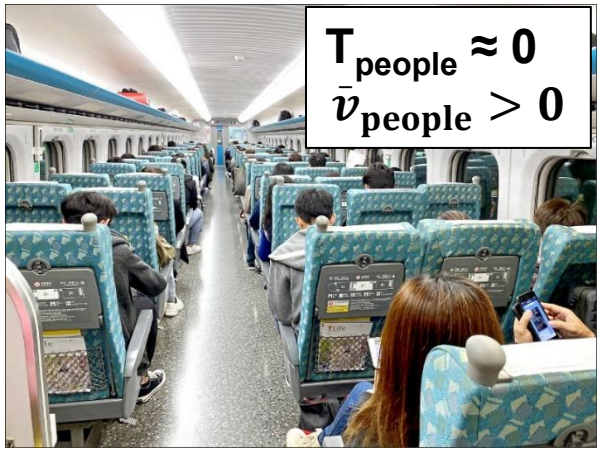
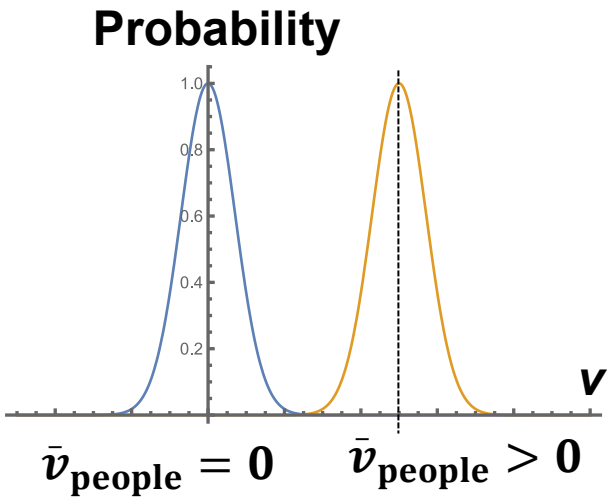
A temperature describes the randomness of particles





- **Distribution function:**

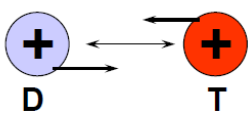


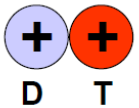
https://ydweb.yuda.tyc.edu.tw/Page/YDW/School/Home/Post?id=13286&BoardName=%E6%A1%83%E8%82%B2%E6%B4%BB%E5%8B%95%E7%85%A7%E7%89%87&Board_PartialViewName=&Post_PartialViewName=&Page=60&PageSize=3
https://www.freeimages.com/tw/premium/school-playground-with-children-1496555

A “hot plasma” at 100M ^{o}C is needed

- **Probability for fusion reactions to occur is low at low temperatures due to the coulomb repulsion force.**

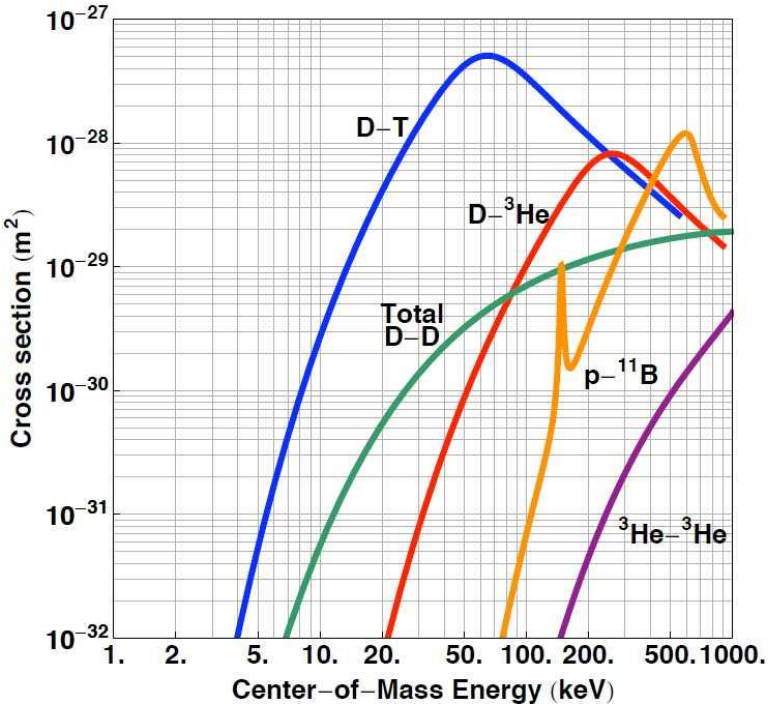
- **If the ions are sufficiently hot, i.e., large random velocity, they can collide by overcoming coulomb repulsion**

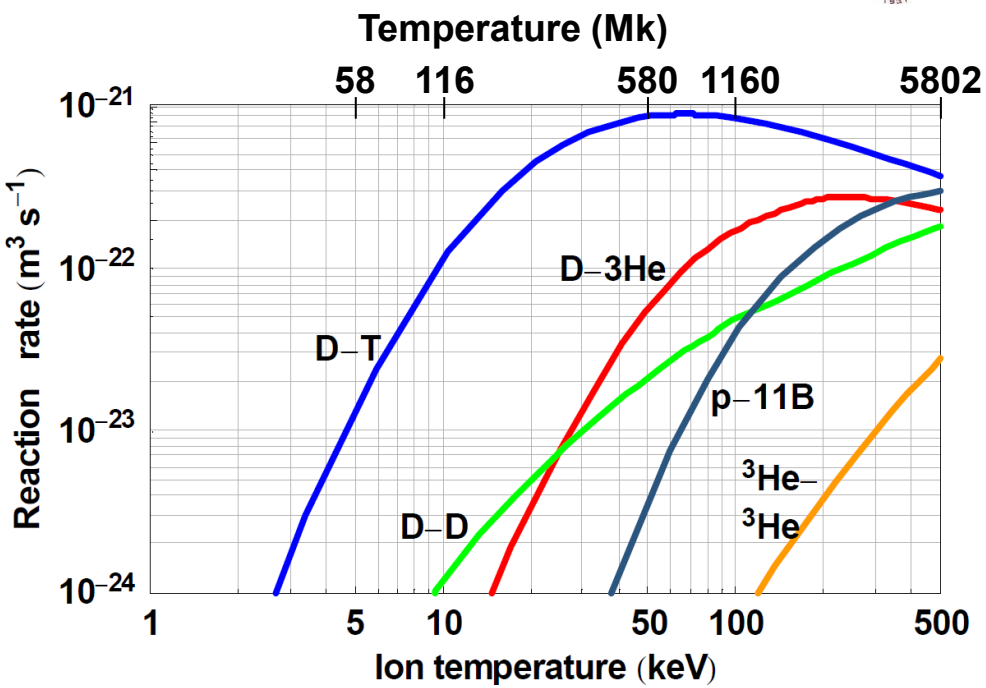




*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015
https://ydweb.yuda.tyc.edu.tw/Page/YDW/School/Home/Post?id=13286&BoardName=%E6%A1%83%E8%82%B2%E6%B4%BB%E5%8B%95%E7%85%A7%E7%89%87&Board_PartialViewName=&Post_PartialViewName=&Page=60&PageSize=3
https://www.freeimages.com/tw/premium/school-playground-with-children-1496555

Fusion doesn't come easy





$D + D \rightarrow T + p$

$\rightarrow He^3 + n$

$D + T \rightarrow He^4 + n$

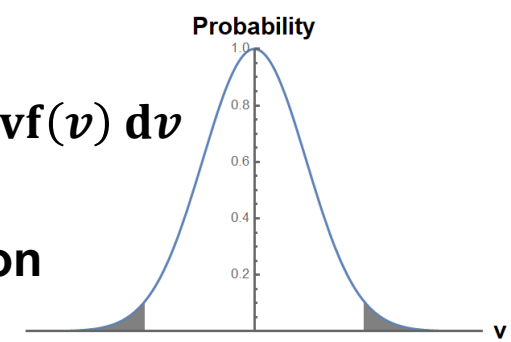
$D + He^3 \rightarrow He^4 + p$

$p + B^{11} \rightarrow 3He^4$

- **Reaction rate:**

$$< \sigma v >= \int \sigma(v) \mathbf{v} \mathbf{f}(v)\, \mathbf{d}v$$

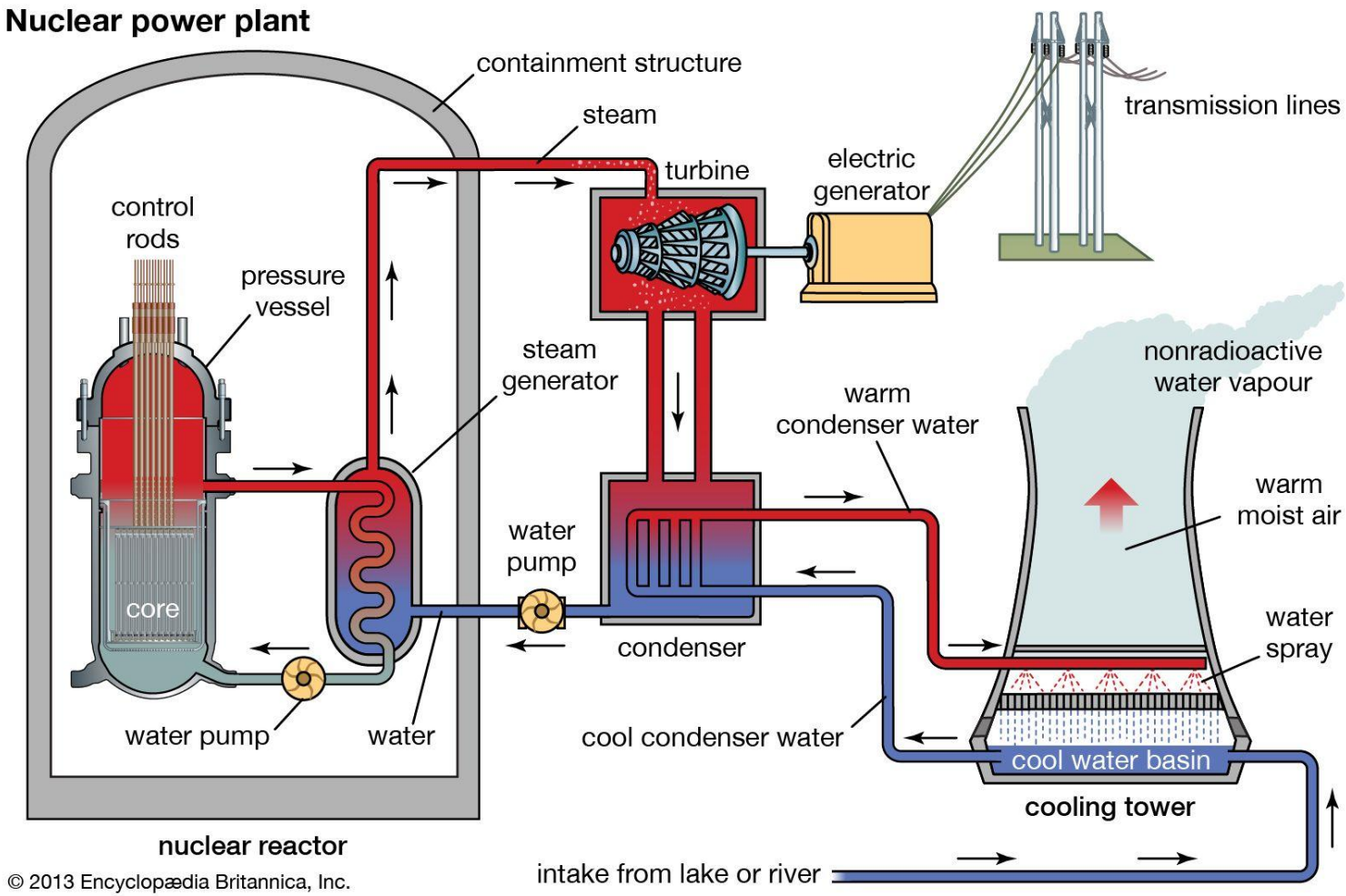
Cross section



https://i.stack.imgur.com/wXQD5.jpg

Santarius, J. F., "Fusion Space Propulsion – A Shorter Time Frame Than You Think", JANNAF, Monterey, 5-8 December 2005.

Nuclear power plant



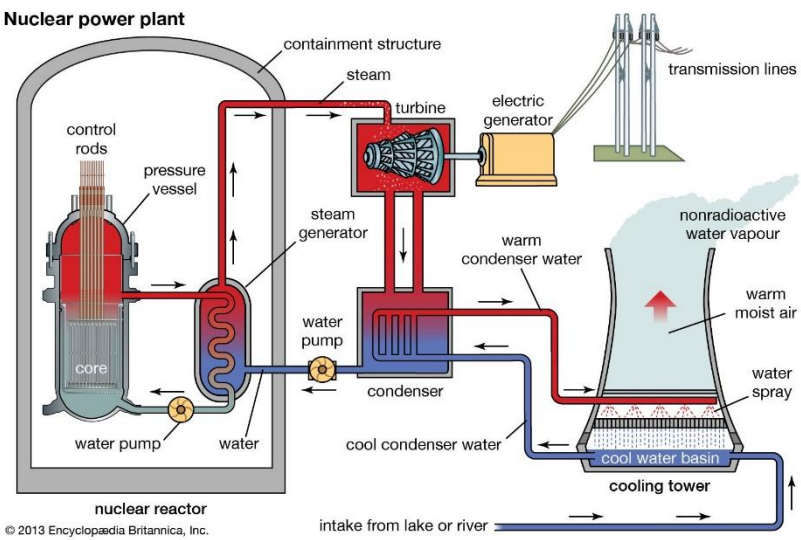
Skip

https://www.britannica.com/technology/nuclear-power

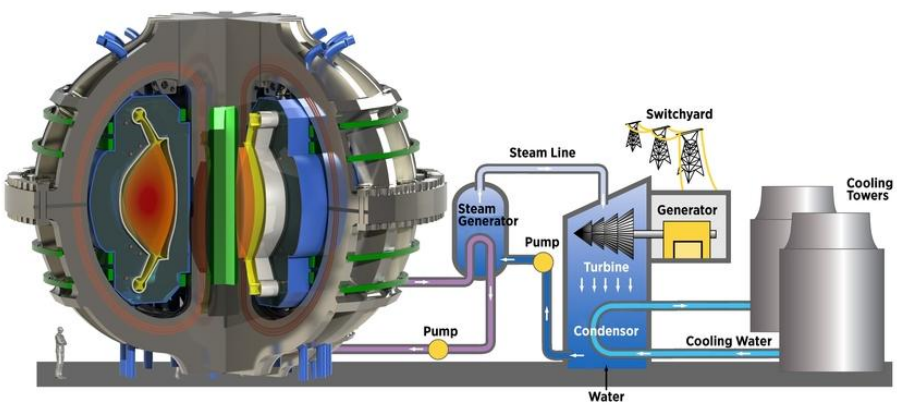
Comparison between nuclear fission and nuclear fusion

	Nuclear Fission	Nuclear Fusion
Chain reaction	Yes	No
Melt down	Possible	Impossible
Nuclear waste	High radiative	Low radiative / None

- **Nuclear fission power plant**



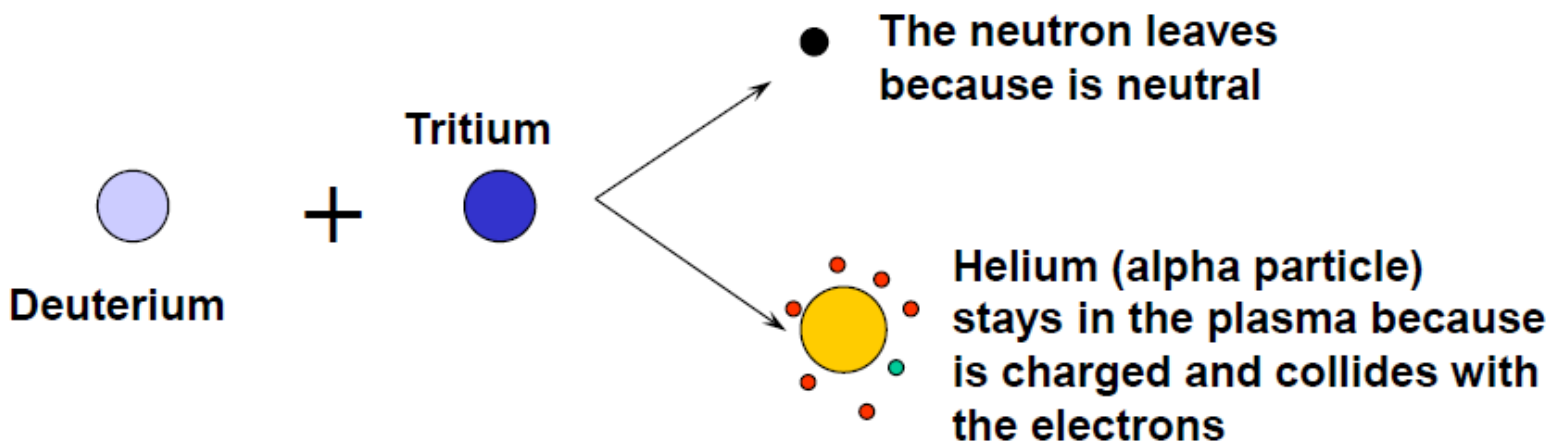
- **Nuclear fussion power plant**



https://www.britannica.com/technology/nuclear-power
https://news.mit.edu/2018/nas-report-right-path-fusion-energy-1221

It takes a lot of energy or power to keep the plasma at 100M ^{o}C

- **Let the plasma do it itself!**



- **The α-particles heat the plasma.**

*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Under what conditions the plasma keeps itself hot?

- **Steady state 0-D power balance:**

$$S_\alpha + S_h = S_B + S_k$$

S_α: α particle heating

S_h: external heating

S_B: Bremsstrahlung radiation

S_k: heat conduction lost

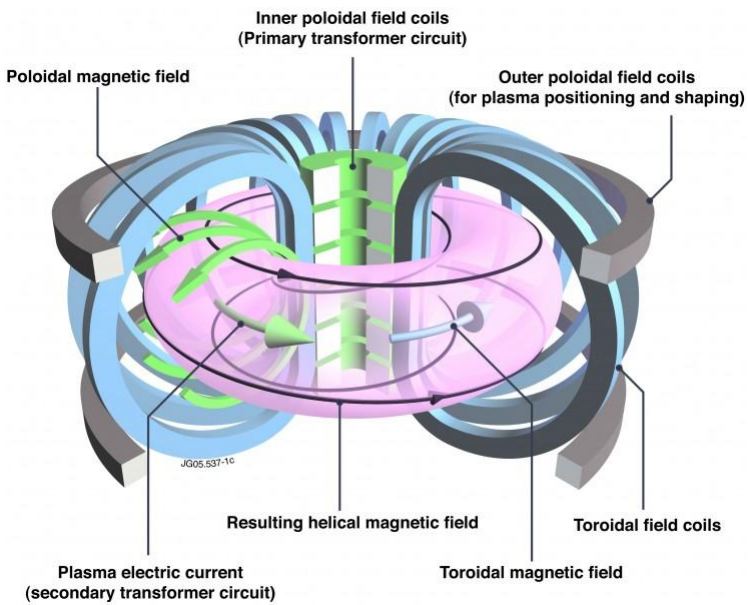
Ignition condition: $P\tau$ > 10 atm-s = 10 Gbar - ns

- **P: pressure, or called energy density**
- **τ is confinement time**

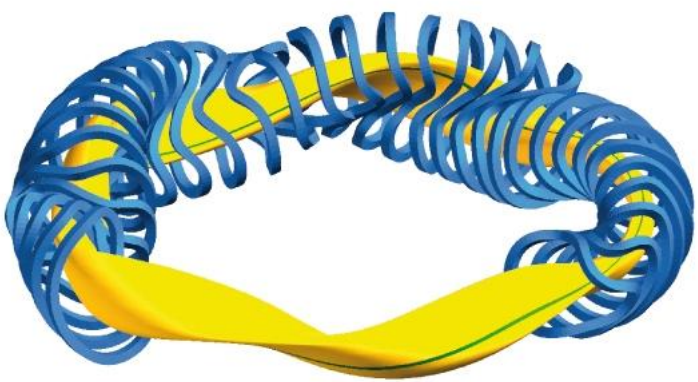
The plasma is too hot to be contained

- **Solution 1: Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF), use a magnetic field to contain it. P~atm, τ~sec, T~10 keV (10^8 ºC)**

Tokamak



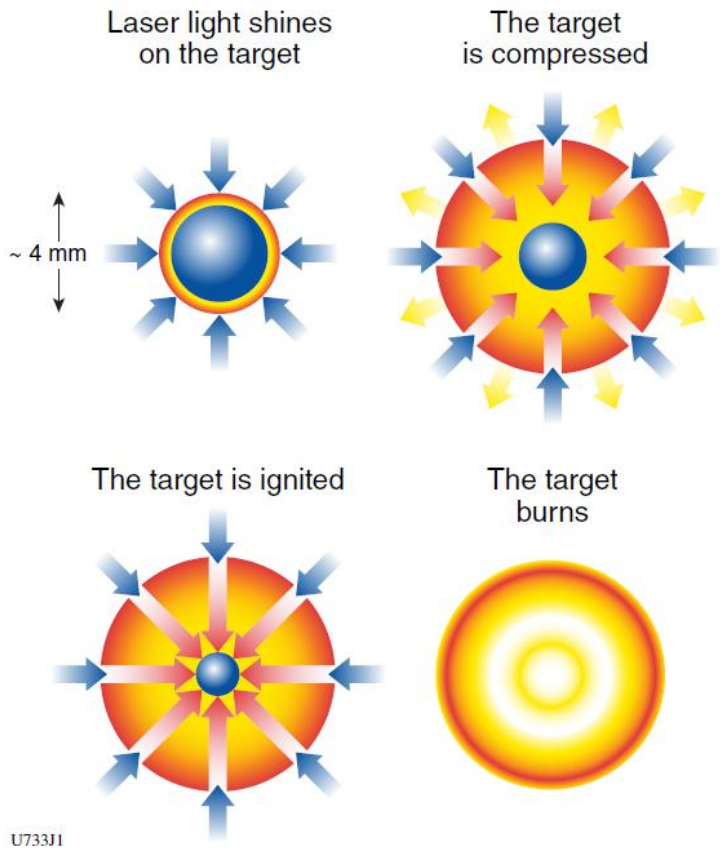
Stellarator



https://www.euro-fusion.org/2011/09/tokamak-principle-2/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stellarator

Don’t confine it!

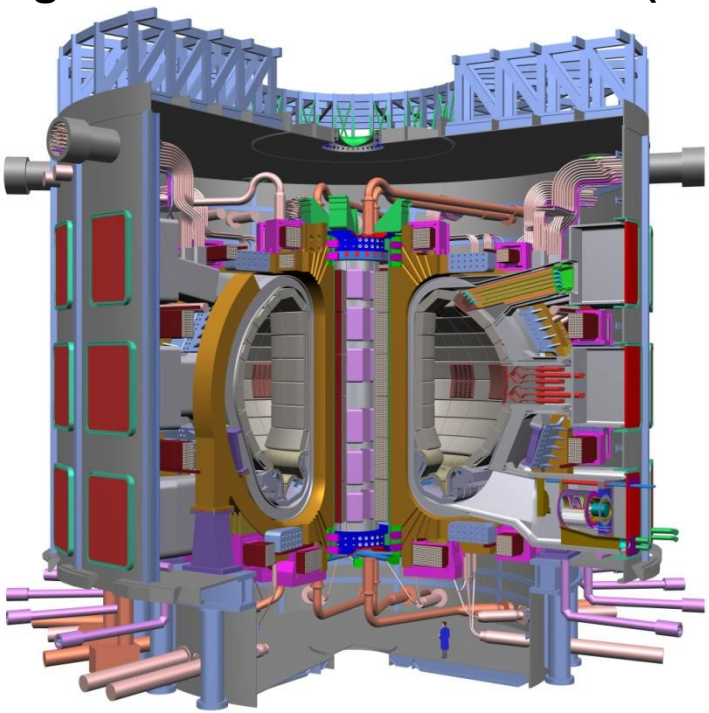
- **Solution 2: Inertial confinement fusion (ICF). Or you can say it is confined by its own inertia: P~Gigabar, τ~nsec, T~10 keV (10^8 ºC)**



Inertial confinement fusion: an introduction, Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester

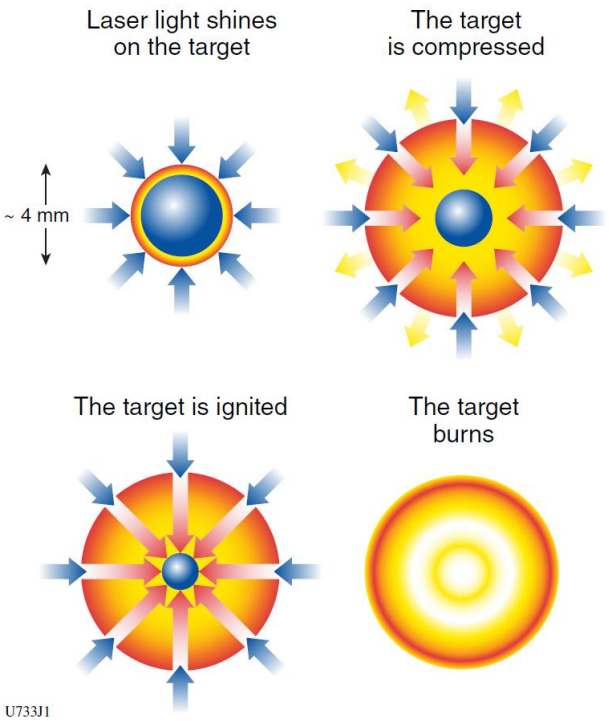
To control? Or not to control?

- **Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)**



- **Plasma is confined by toroidal magnetic field.**

- **Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)**

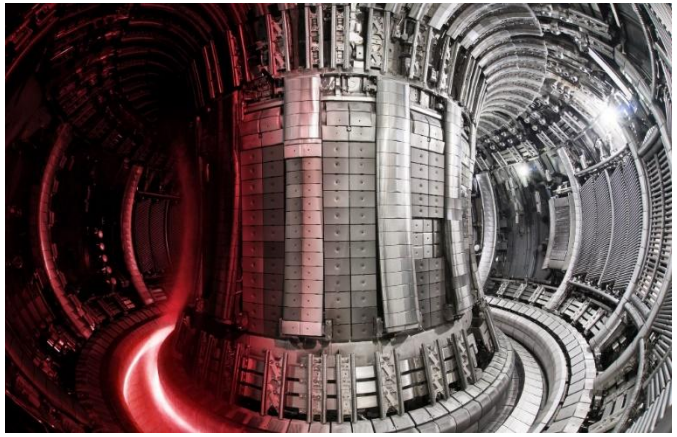


- **A DT ice capsule filled with DT gas is imploded by laser.**

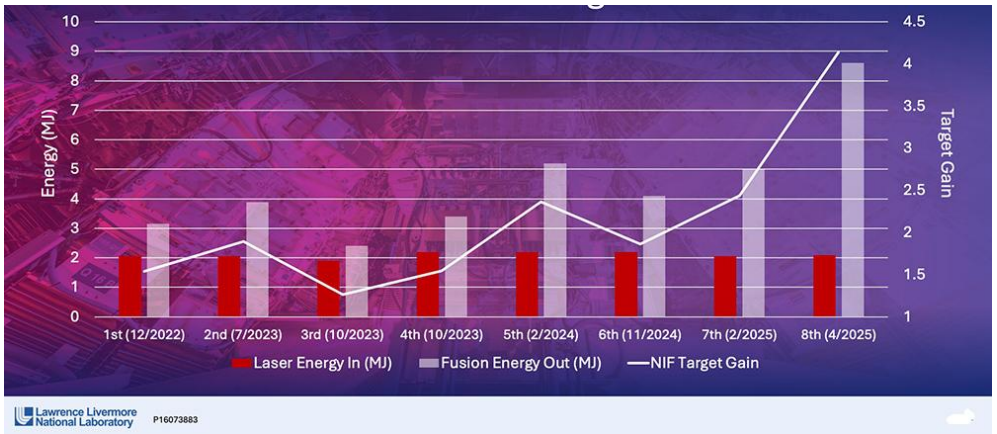
Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester is a pioneer in laser fusion

“Ignition” (target yield larger than one) was achieved for the first time in NIF on 2022/12/5

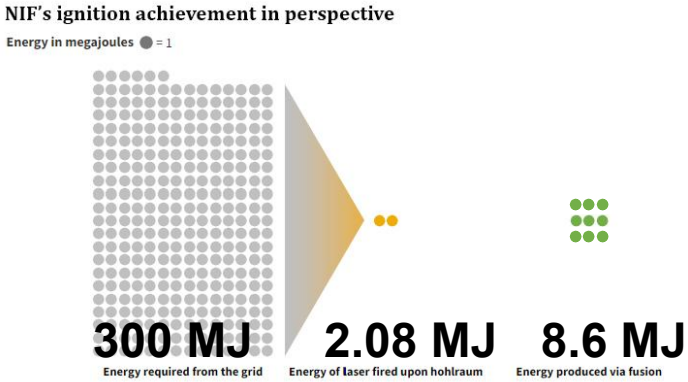
- **Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)**



- **Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)**



- **Record-breaking 59 megajoules of sustained fusion energy in Joint European Torus (JET) facility in Oxford demonstrates powerplant potential and strengthens case for ITER.**

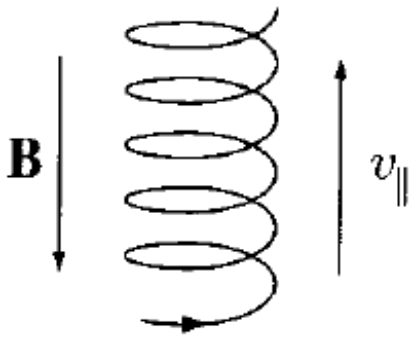


https://ccfe.ukaea.uk/resources/#gallery
https://physicstoday.scitation.org/do/10.1063/PT.6.2.20221213a/full/
https://lasers.llnl.gov/science/achieving-fusion-ignition

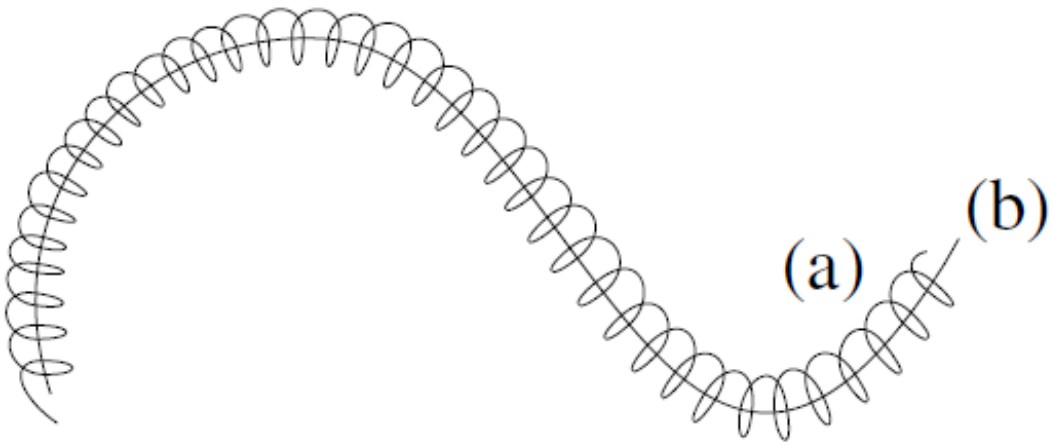
Outline

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- **Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)**
  - **Tokamak**
  - **Stellarator**
- Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)
  - Indirection drive ICF
  - Direct drive ICF
- Innovation idea – MCF + ICF
- Plasma in space
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

Charged particles gyro around the magnetic fields

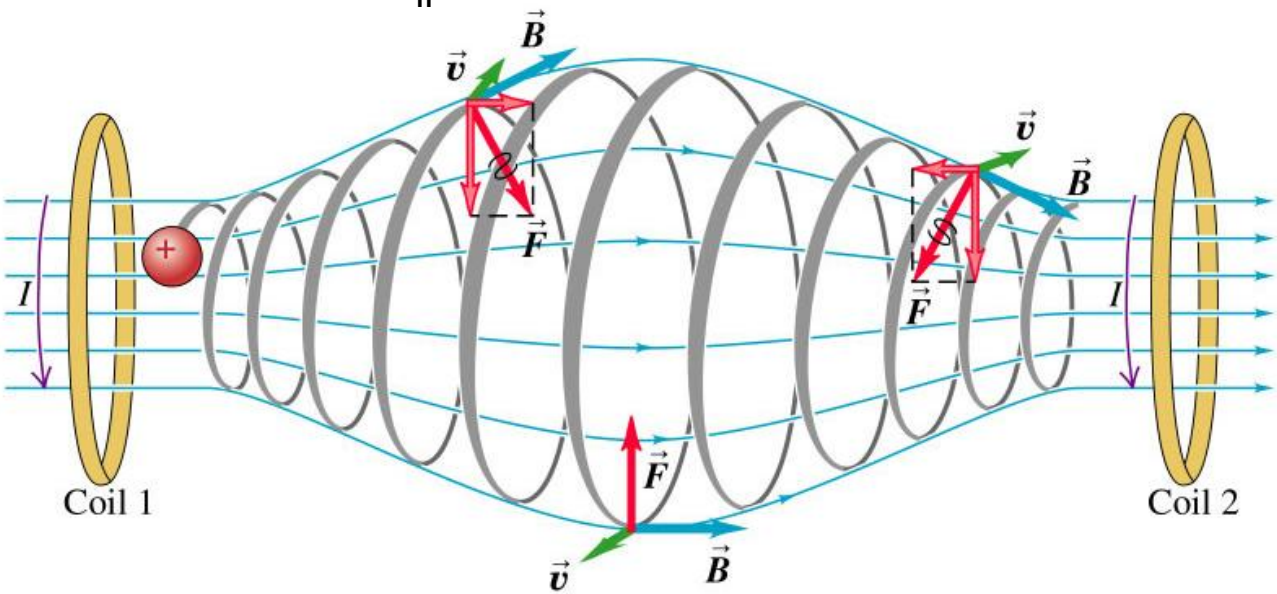


$$r_L = \frac{mv_{\perp}}{|q|B}$$



Charged particles can be partially confined by a magnetic mirror machine

- Charged particles with small $v_{||}$ eventually stop and are reflected while those with large $v_{||}$ escape.



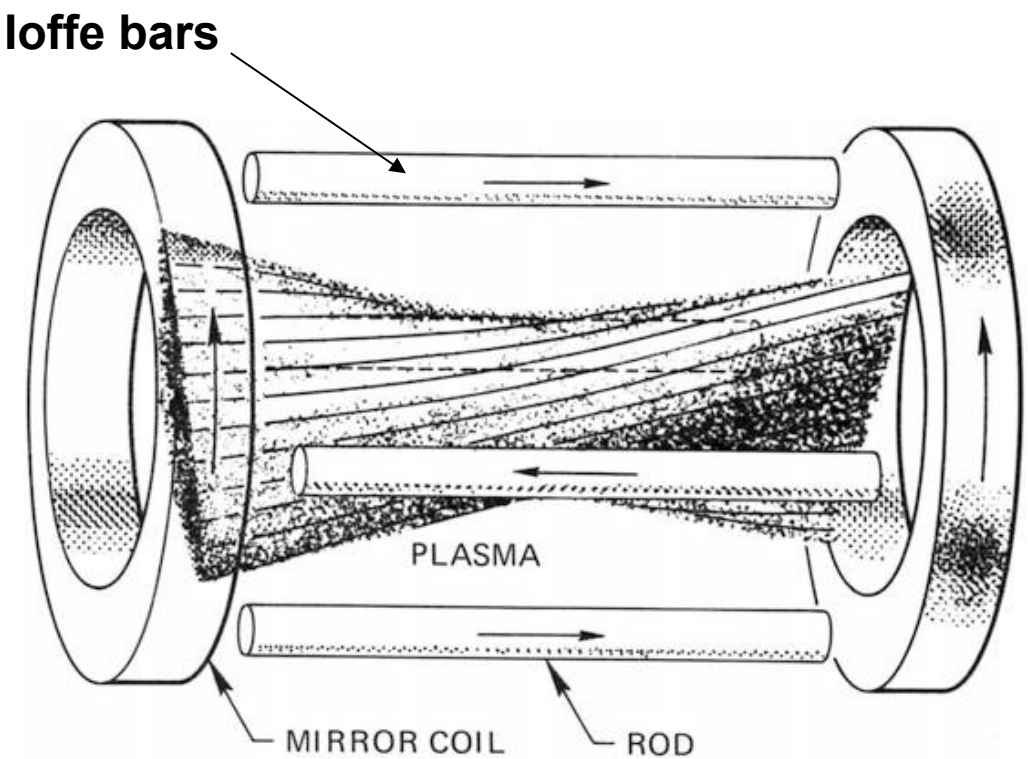
$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}m{v_{||}}^2 + \frac{1}{2}m{v_{\perp}}^2$$

- Large $v_{||}$ may occur from collisions between particles.

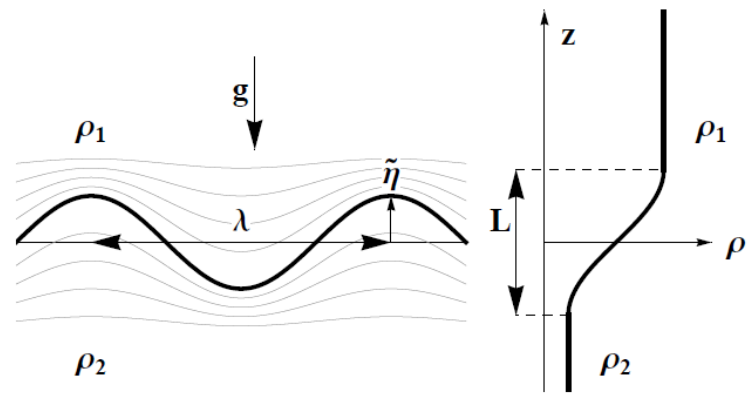
- **Those confined charged particle are eventually lost due to collisions.**

https://i.stack.imgur.com/GlzGZ.jpg

“Ioffe bars” are added to stabilize the Rayleigh-Taylor instabilities at the center of the mirror machine

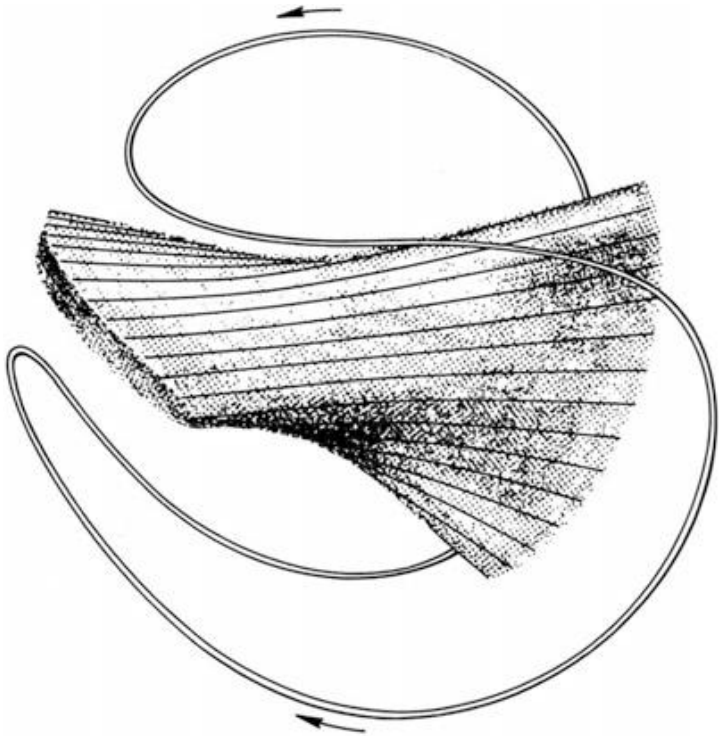


- **Rayleigh-Taylor instability**



A “baseball coil” is obtained if one links the coils and the bars into a single conductor

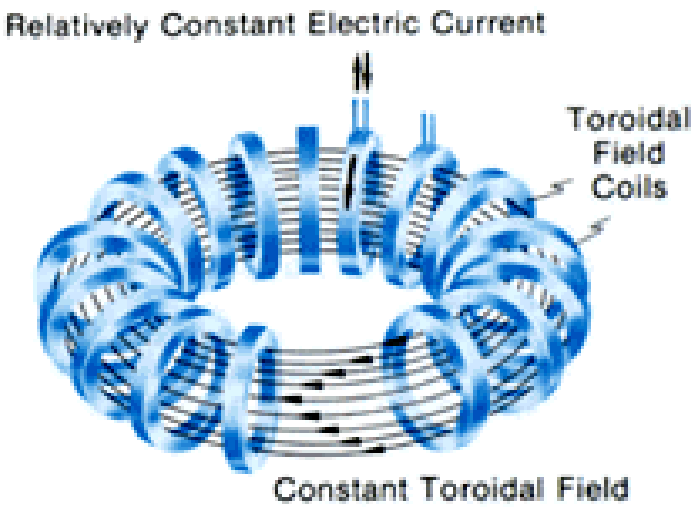
- **Baseball coil**

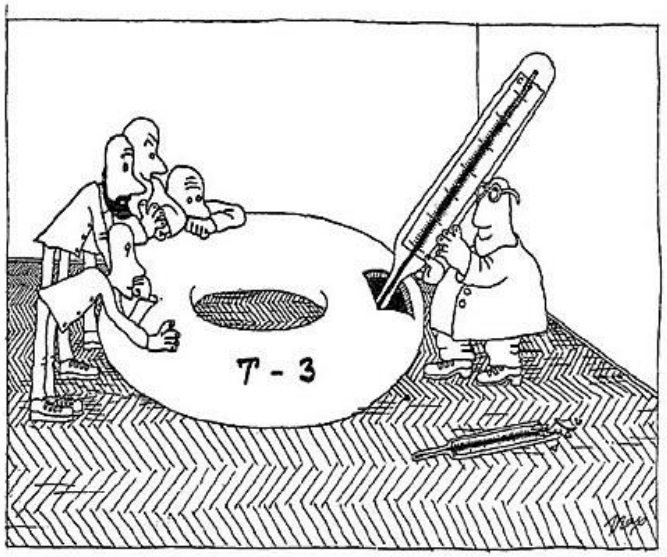


- **MFTF-B mirror machine**

Plasma can be confined in a doughnut-shaped chamber with toroidal magnetic field

- **Tokamak - "toroidal chamber with magnetic coils" (тороидальная камера с магнитными катушками)**

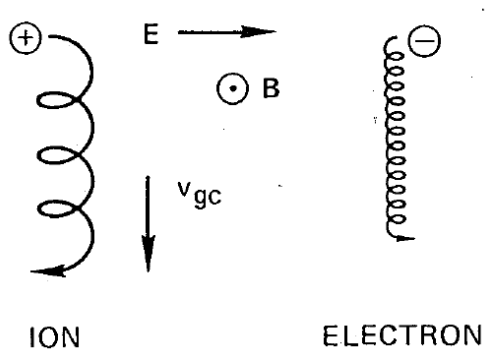




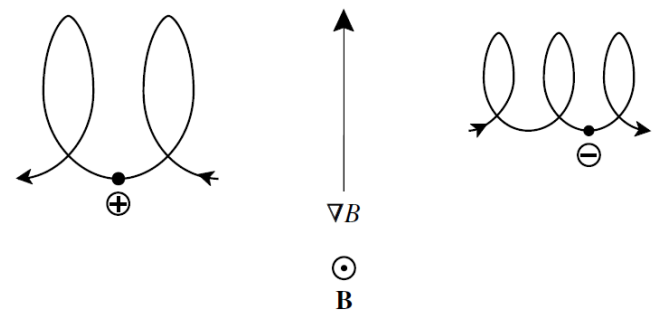
https://www.iter.org/mach/tokamak
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tokamak#cite_ref-4
Drawing from the talk “Evolution of the Tokamak” given in 1988 by B.B. Kadomtsev at Culham.

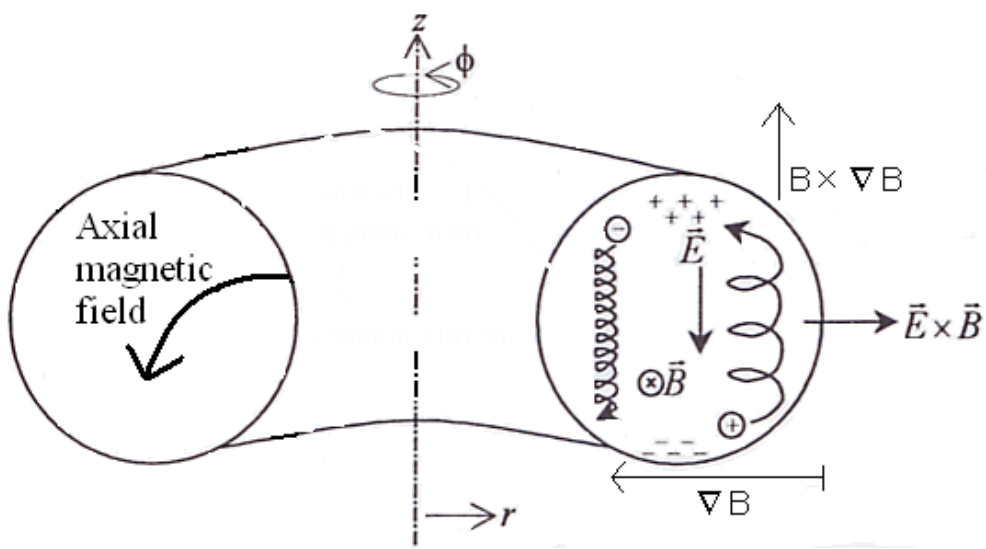
Charged particles drift across field lines

- **ExB drift**



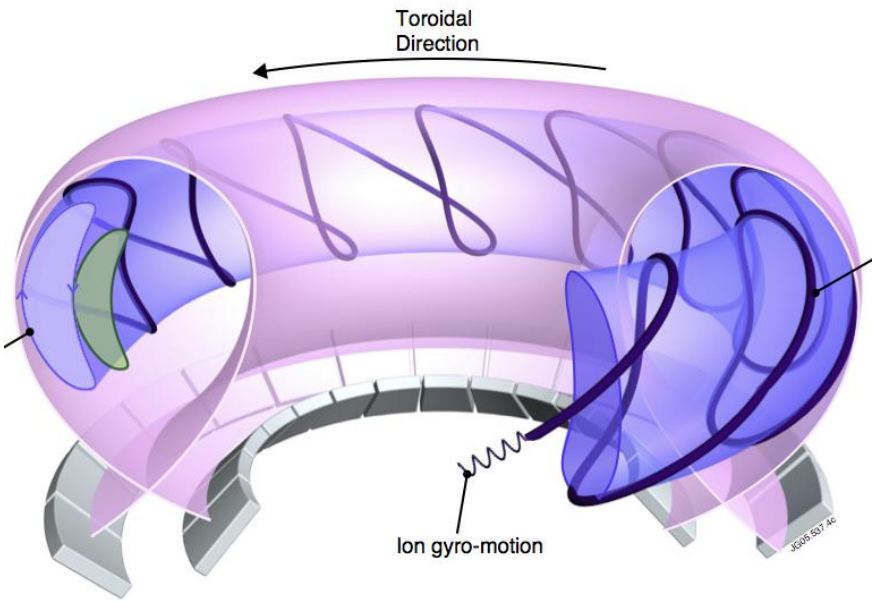
- **Grad-B drift**

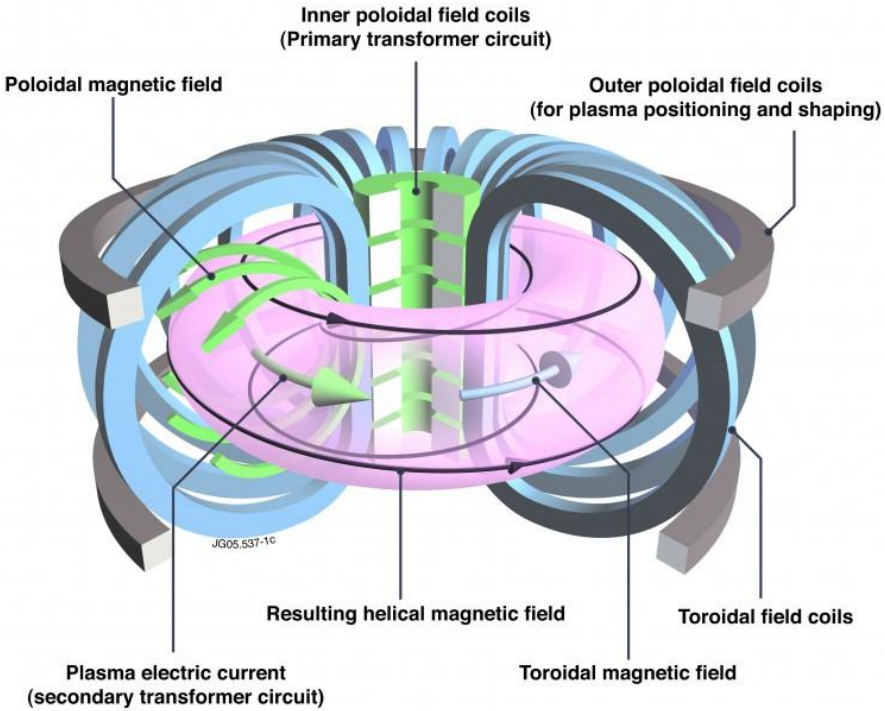




http://www.geocities.jp/tomoyahirata417/fusion/gennkou.htm

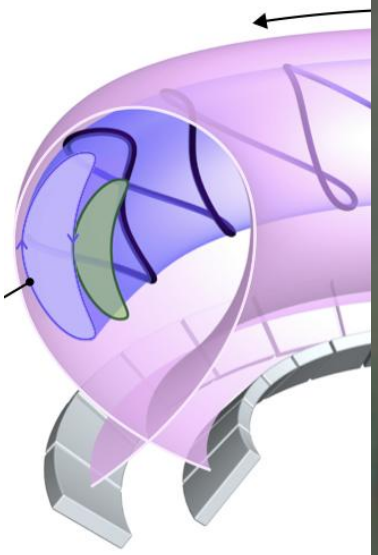
A poloidal magnetic field is required to reduce the drift across field lines

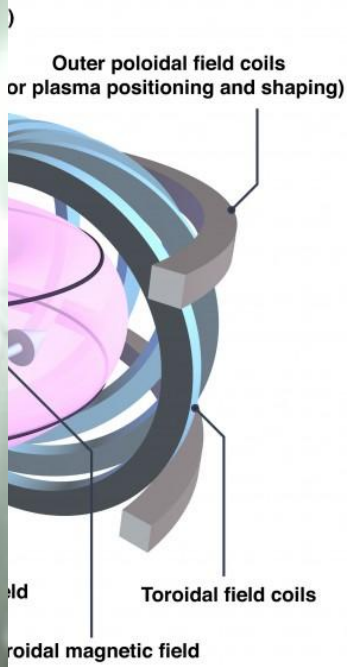




https://www.davidpace.com/keeping-fusion-plasmas-hot/
https://www.euro-fusion.org/2011/09/tokamak-principle-2/

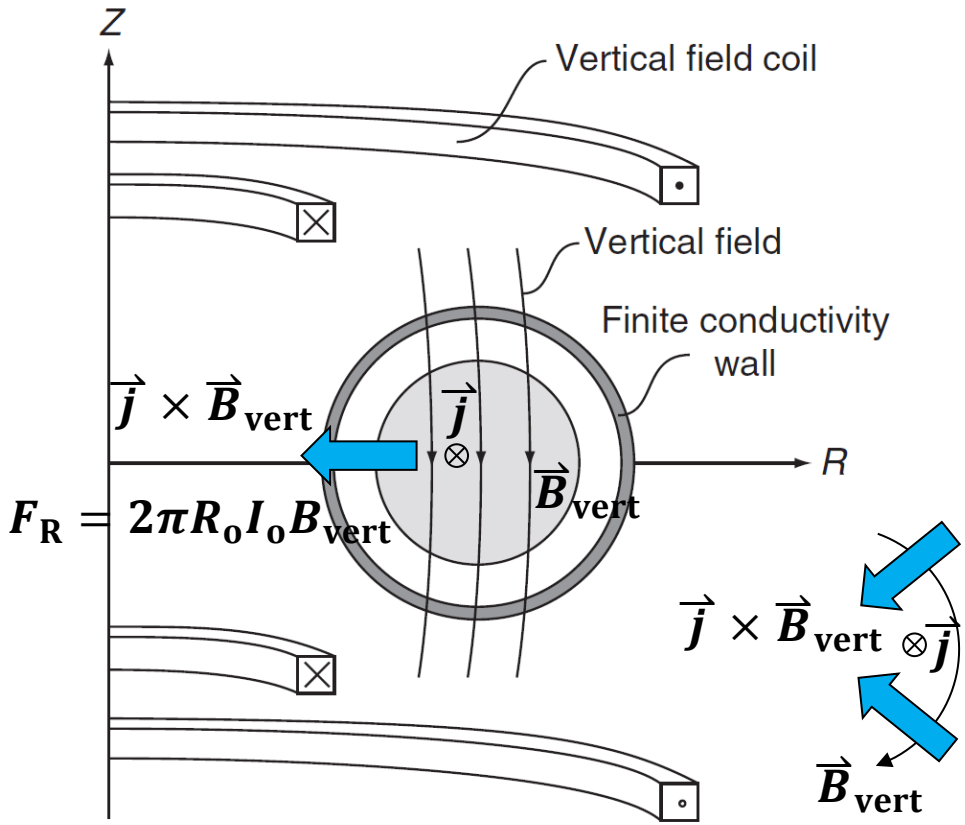
A poloidal magnetic field is required to reduce the drift across field lines



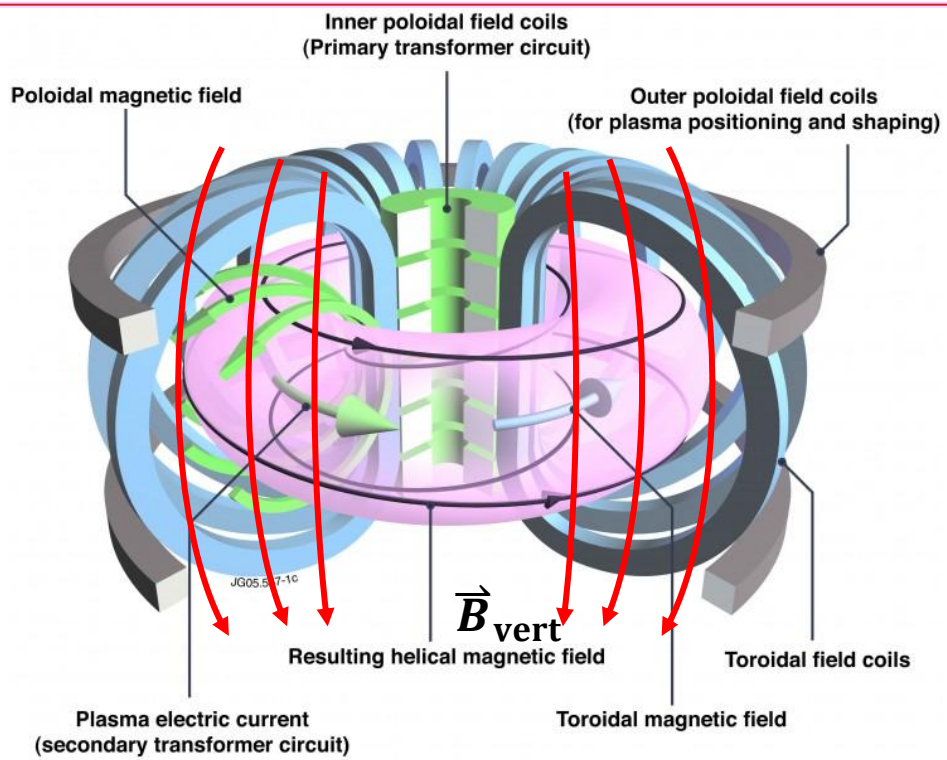


The outward force can be compensated by externally applied vertical fields

- **Externally applied vertical field**



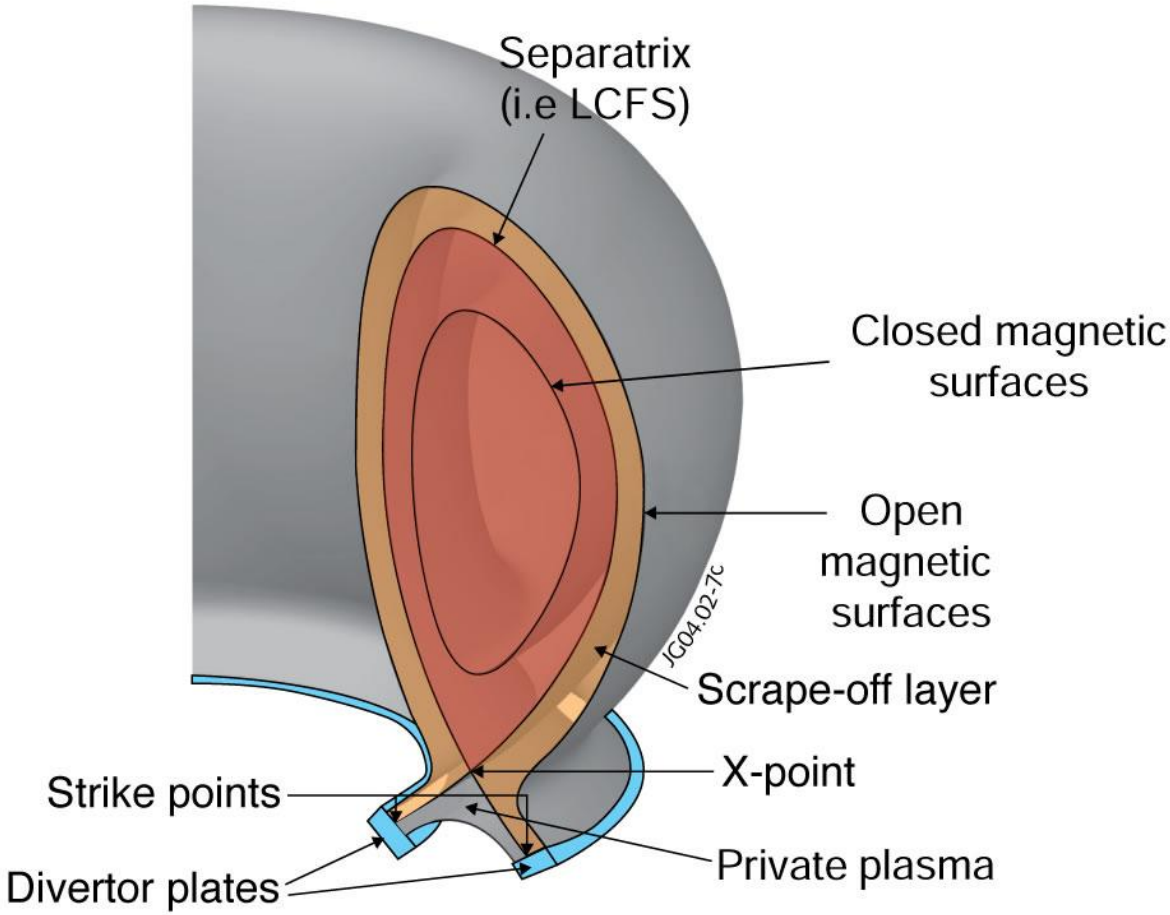
Coils in a tokamak



- **Toroidal field coils (in poloidal direction) – generate toroidal field for confinement.**
- **Poloidal field coils – generate vertical field for plasma positioning and shaping.**
- **Central solenoid – for breakdown and generating plasma current (in toroidal direction) and thus generating poloidal field for confinement.**

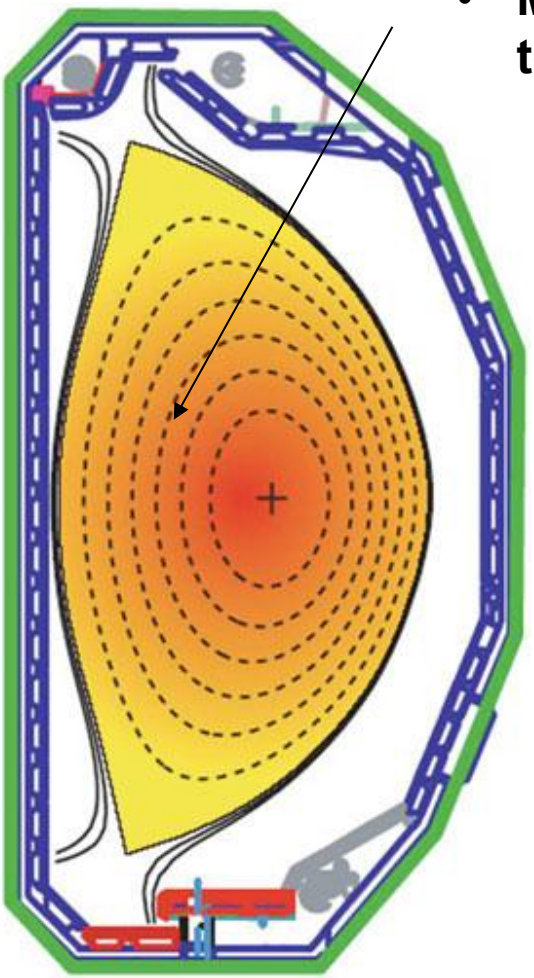
https://www.euro-fusion.org/2011/09/tokamak-principle-2/

A divertor is needed to remove impurities and the power that escapes from the plasma



https://www.euro-fusion.org/newsletter/divertor-concepts/

D-shaped tokamak with diverter is more preferred nowadays

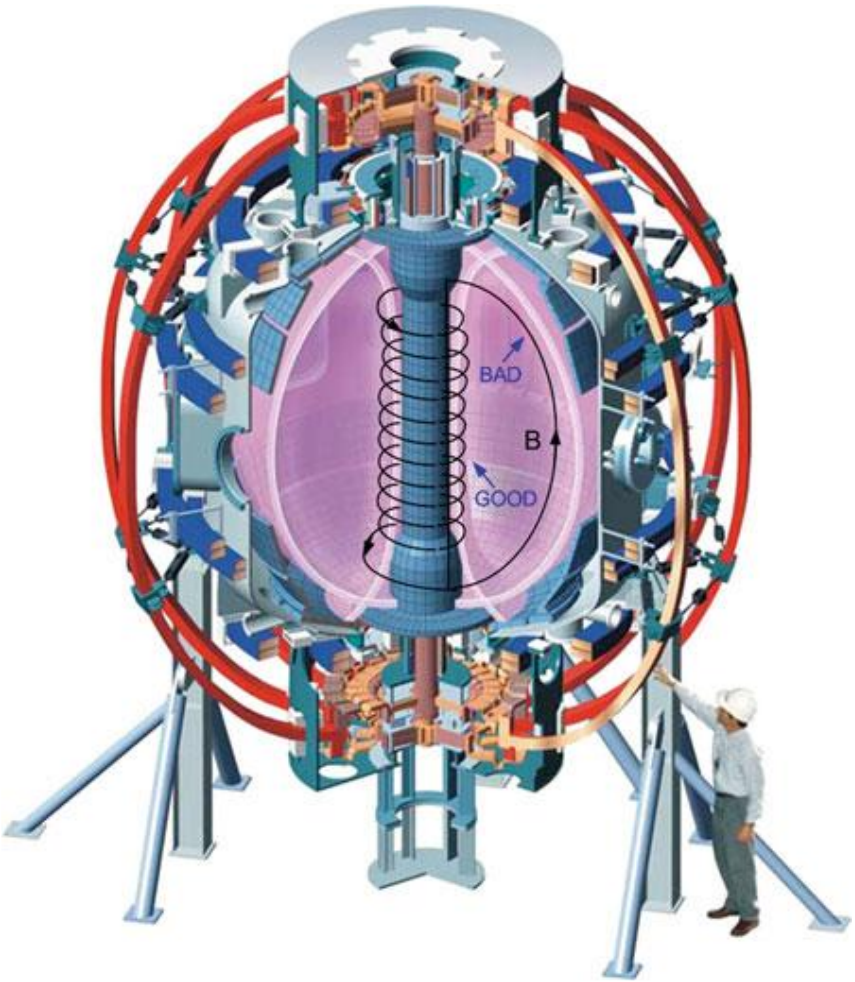


- **Make the plasma closer to the major axis**

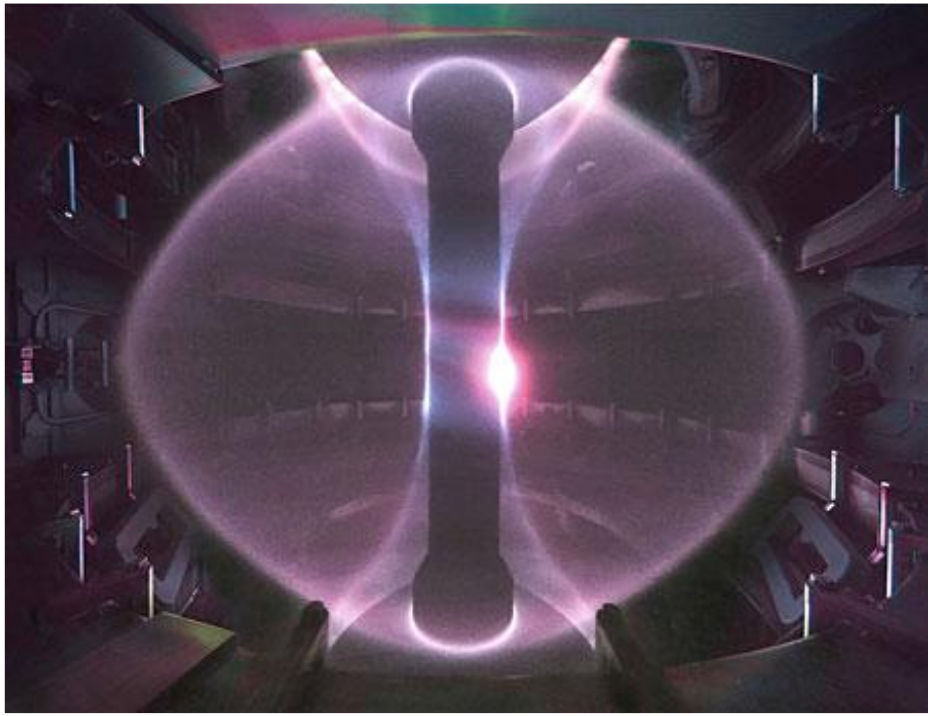
Introduction to Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion 3rd Edition, by Francis F. Chen

Spherical tokamak is formed when the aspect ratio of a tokamak is reduced to the order of unity

- **NSTX @ Princeton**

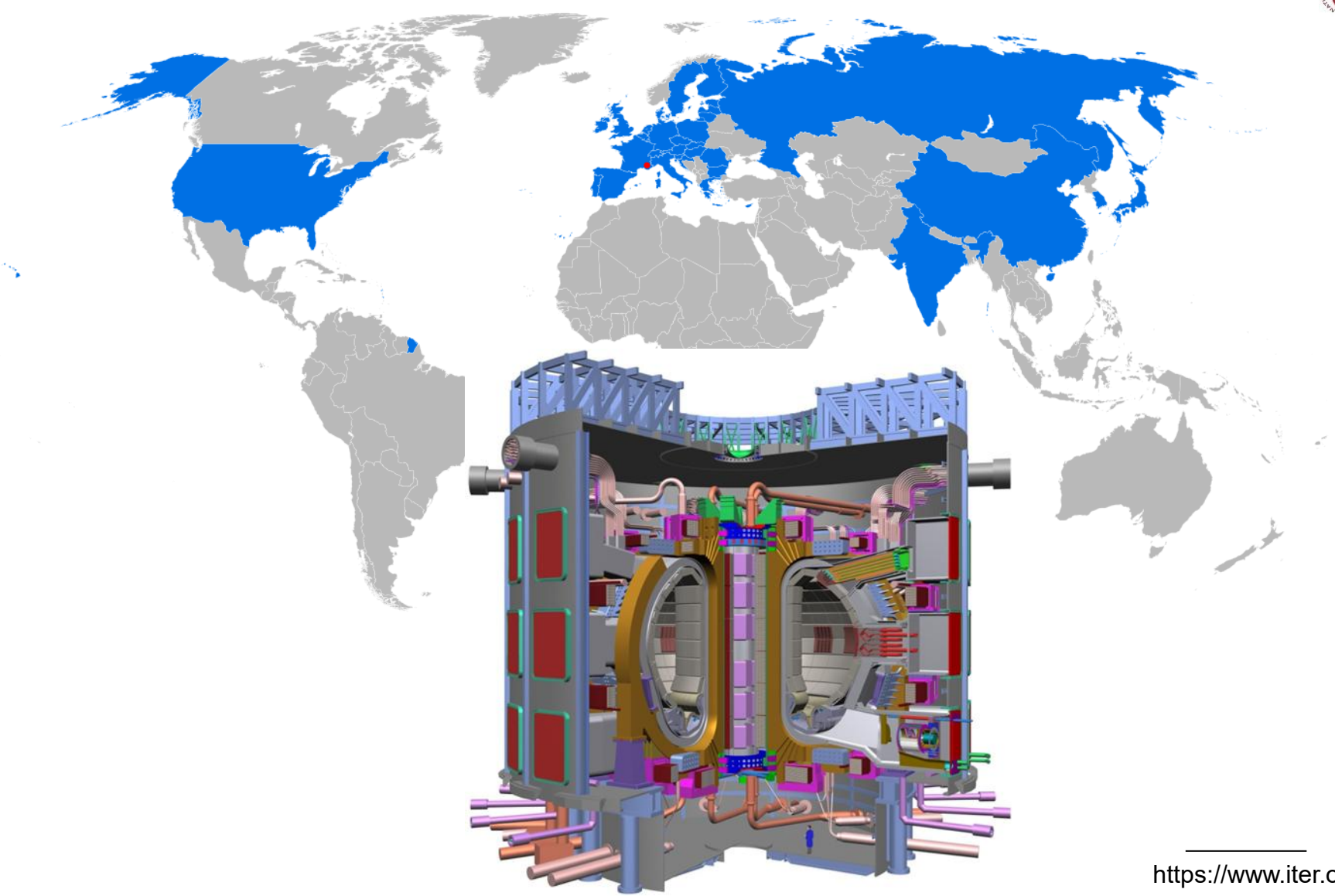


- **MegaAmpere Spherical Tokamak (MAST) @ Culham center for fusion energy, UK**



Introduction to Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion 3rd Edition, by Francis F. Chen

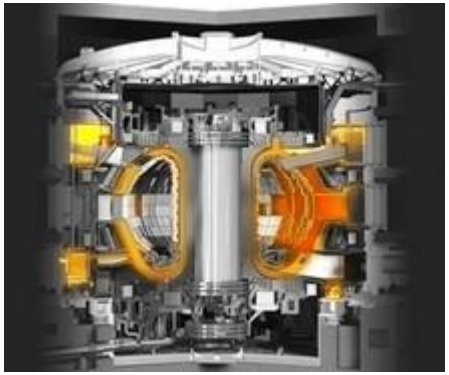
ITER ("The Way" in Latin) is one of the most ambitious energy projects in the world today



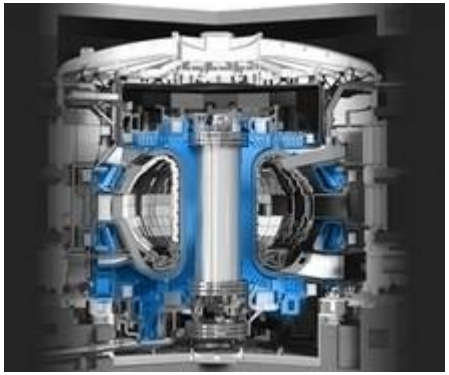
https://www.iter.org

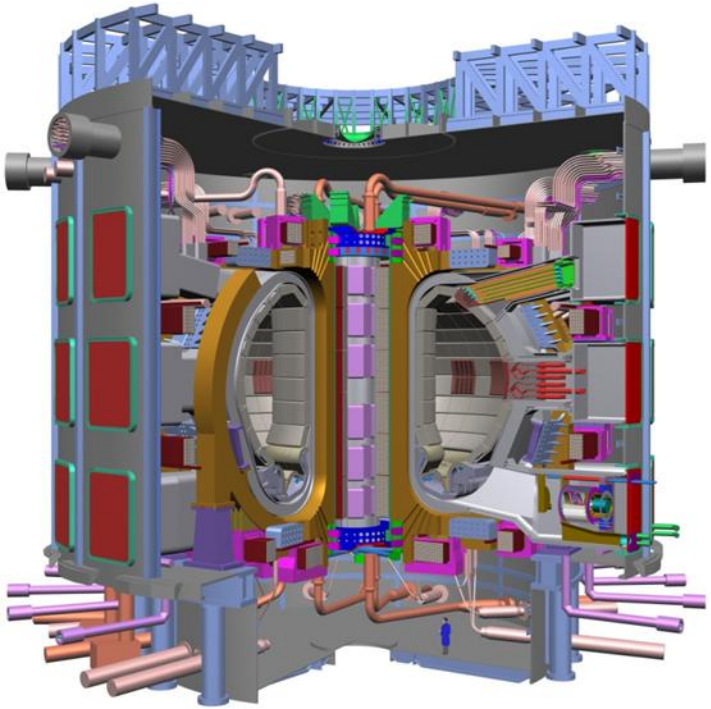
ITER ("The Way" in Latin) is one of the most ambitious energy projects in the world today

- **Vacuum vessel**

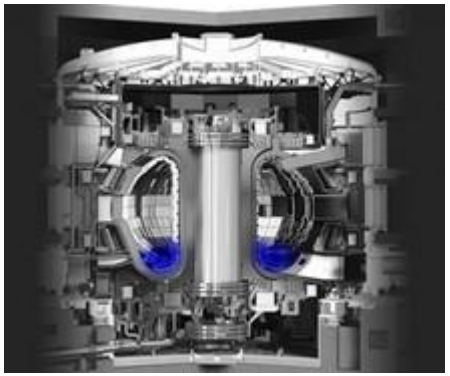


- **Magnets**

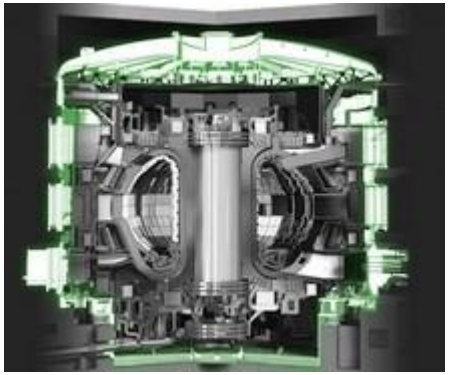




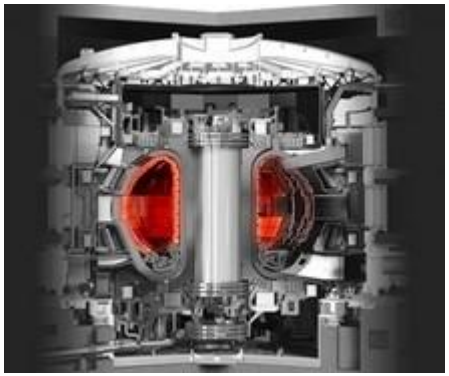
- **Divertor**



- **Cryostat**



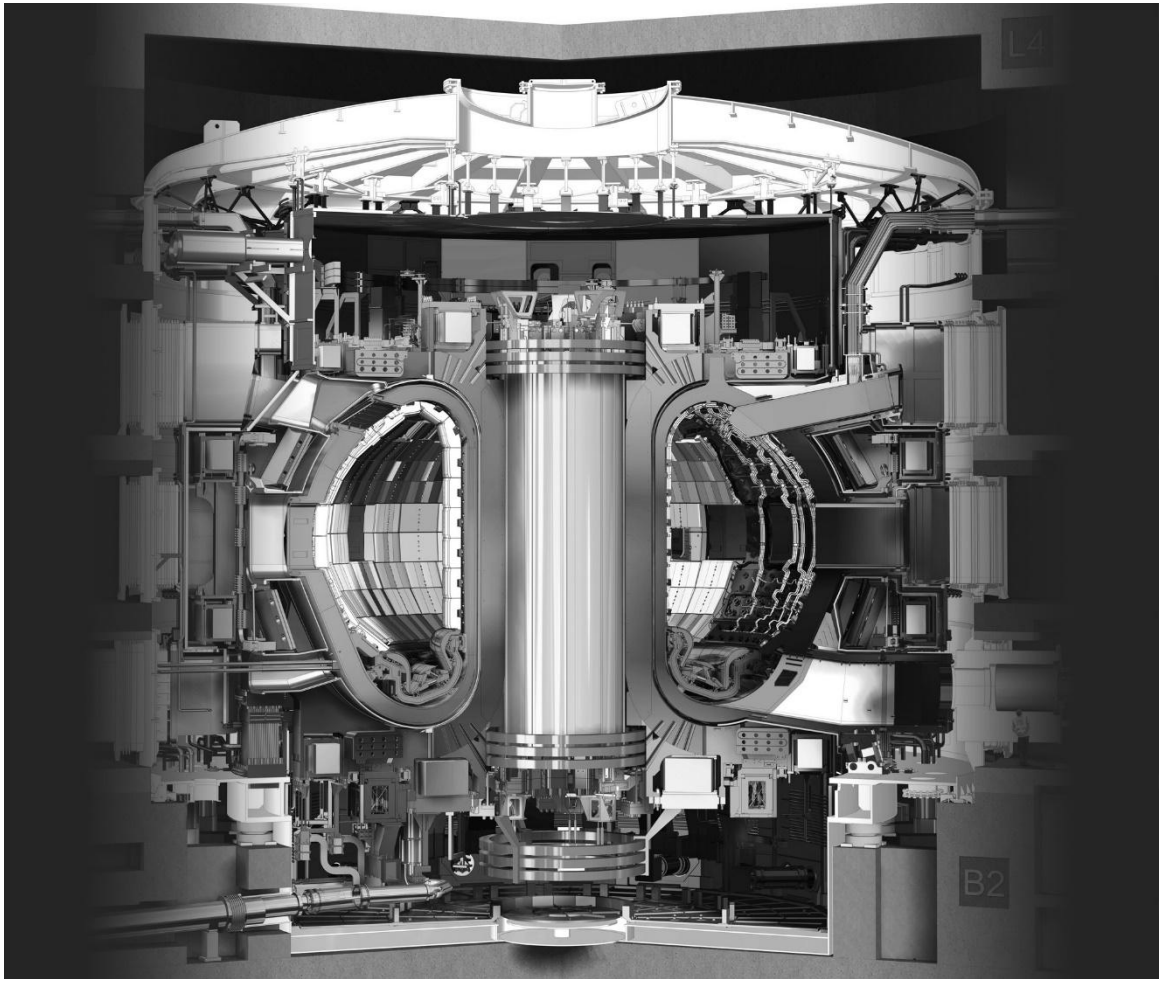
- **Blanket**



https://www.iter.org/

ITER

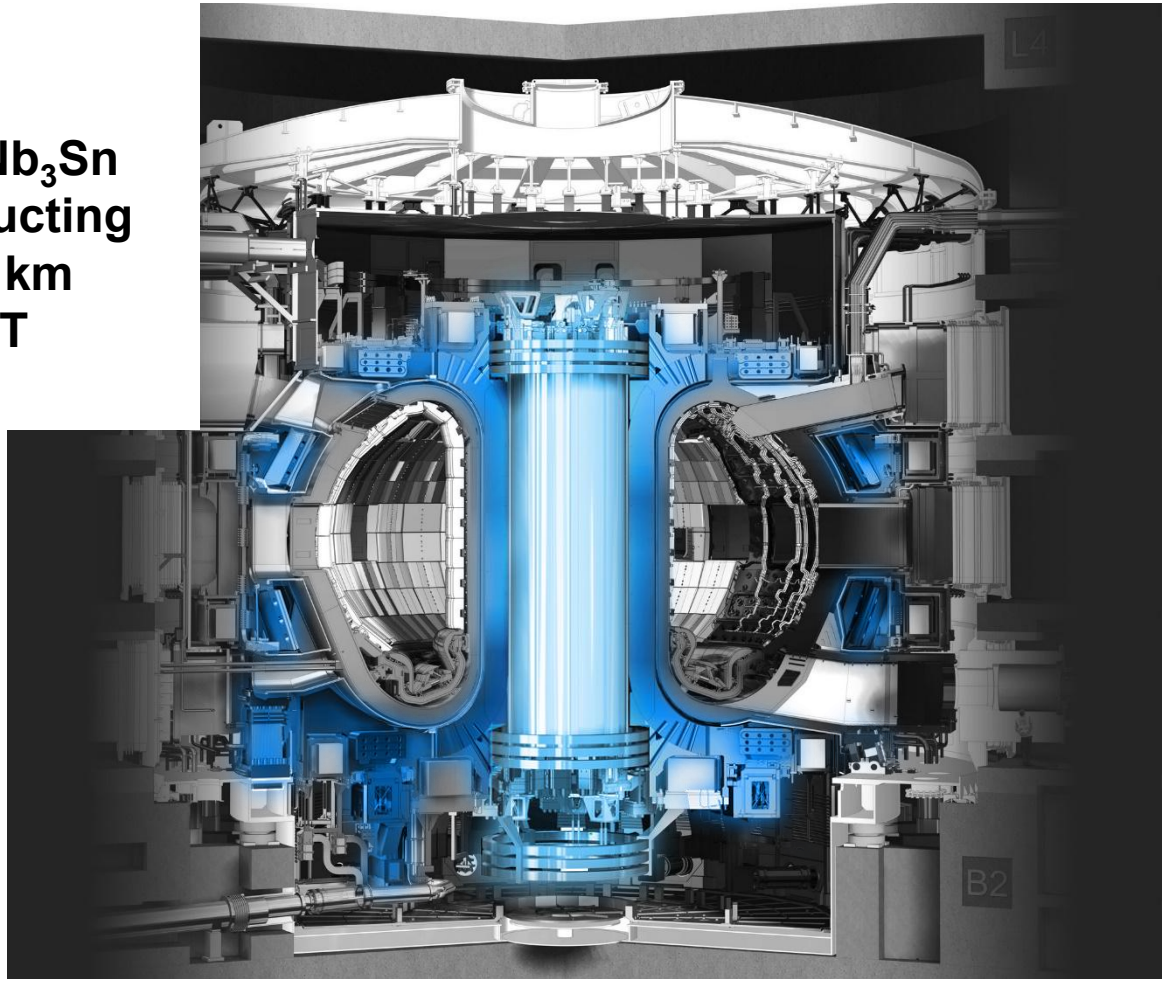
- T=150M ^{o}C
- P=500 MW



https://www.iter.org

ITER – Magnets

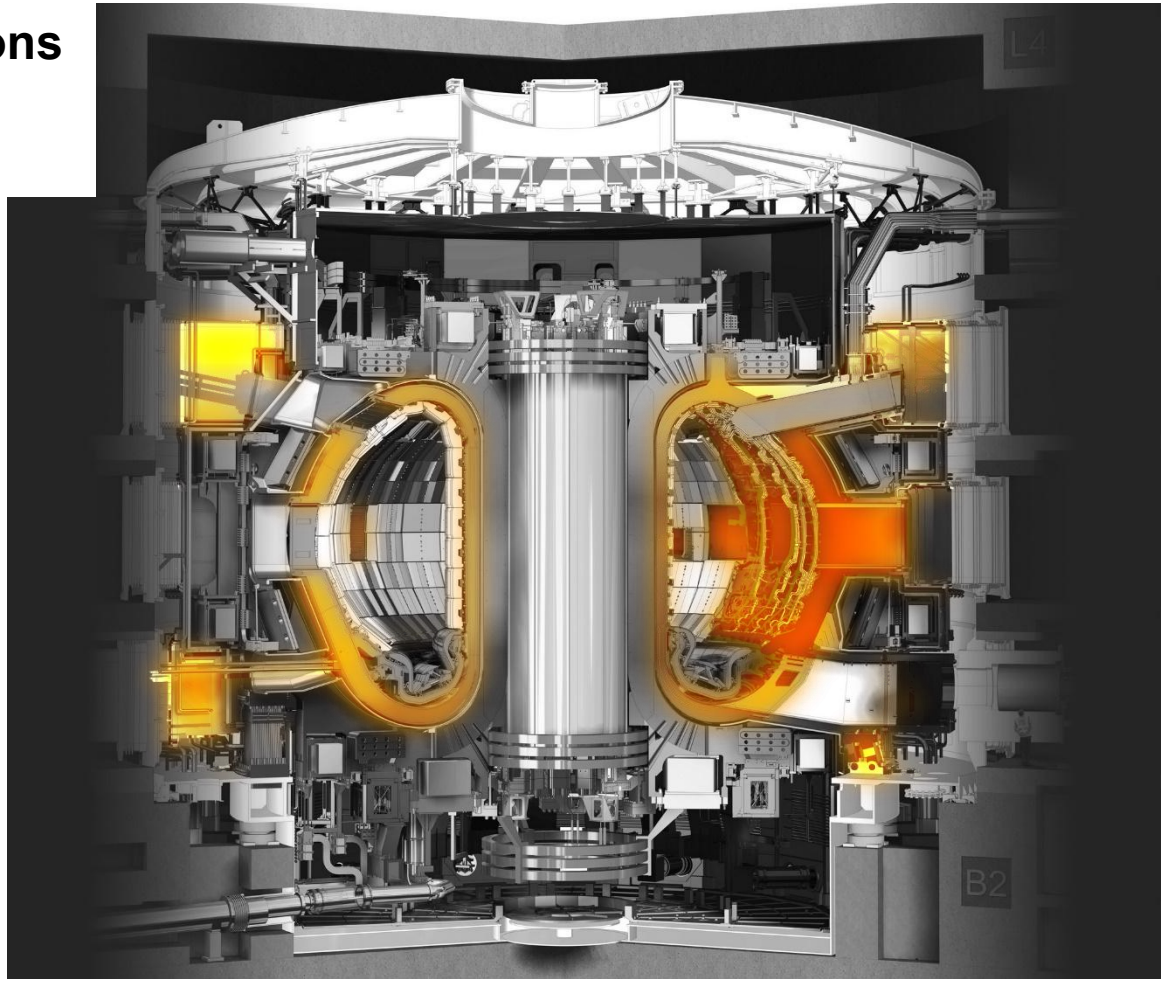
- E_B=51 GJ
- T_B=4 K
- Length of Nb_3Sn superconducting strand: 10^5 km
- $B_{T,max}$=11.8 T
- $B_{P,max}$=6 T



https://www.iter.org

ITER – Vacuum vessel

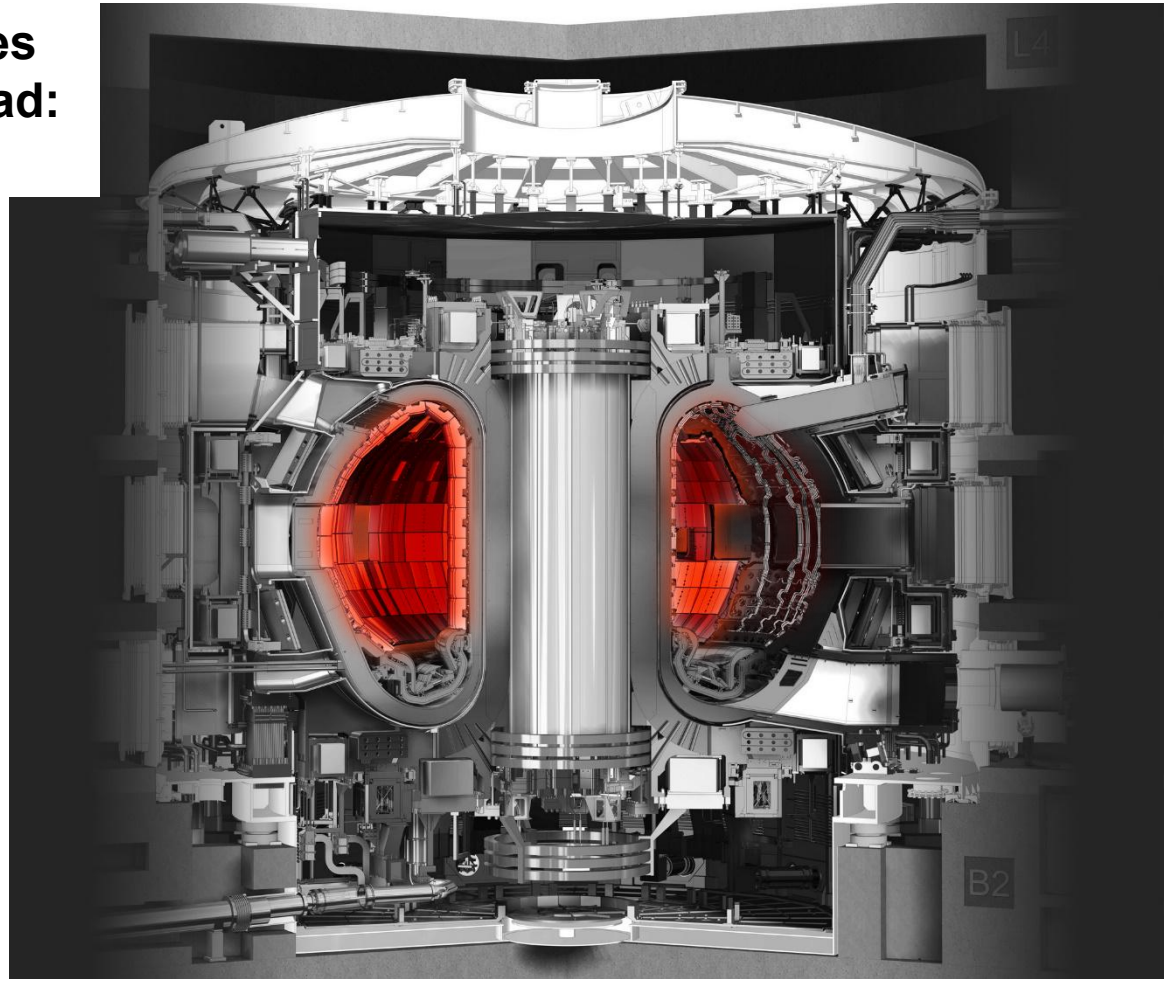
- W = 8000 tons
- V = 840 m^3
- R = 6 m



https://www.iter.org

ITER – Blanket

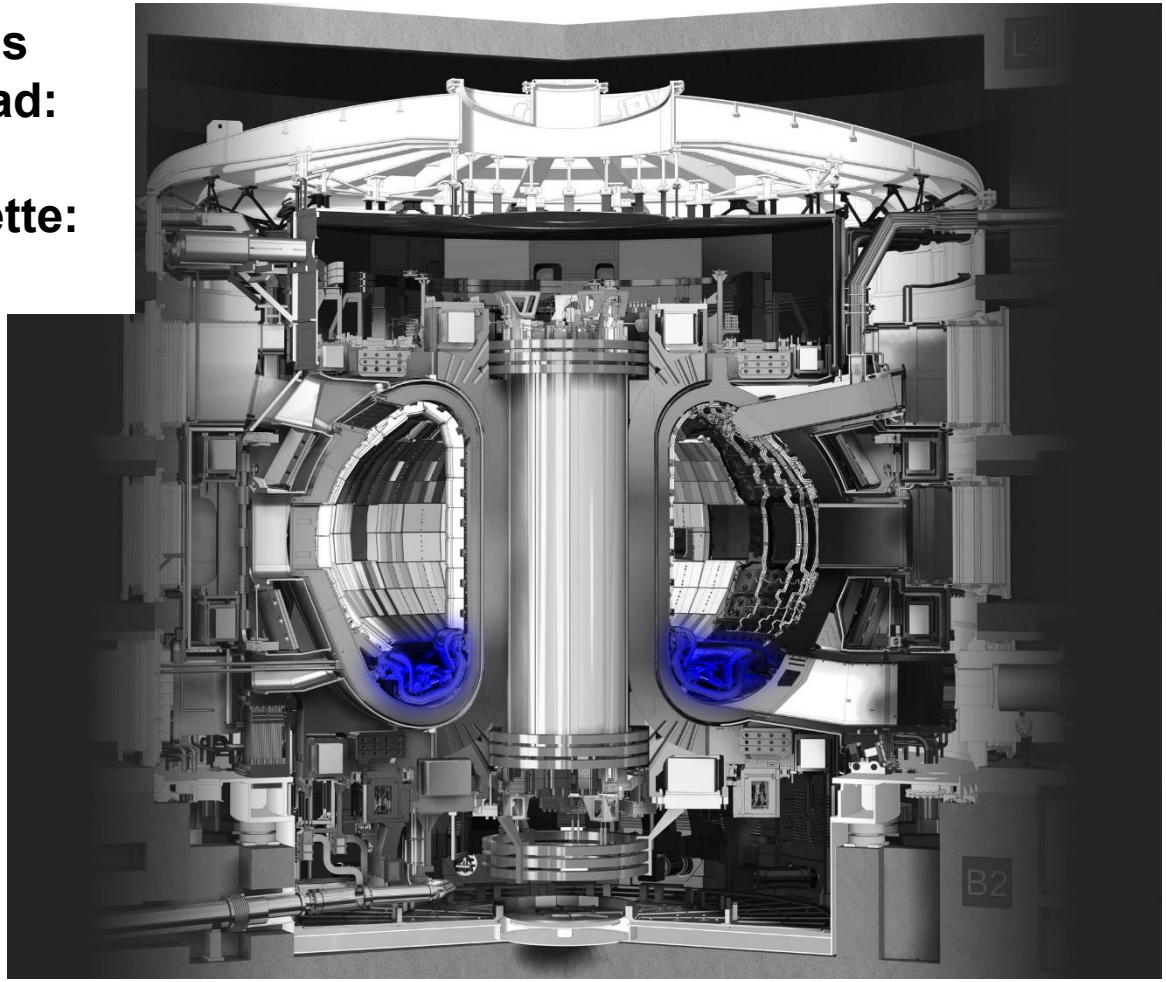
- **440 modules**
- **Thermal load: 736 MW**



https://www.iter.org

ITER – Divertor

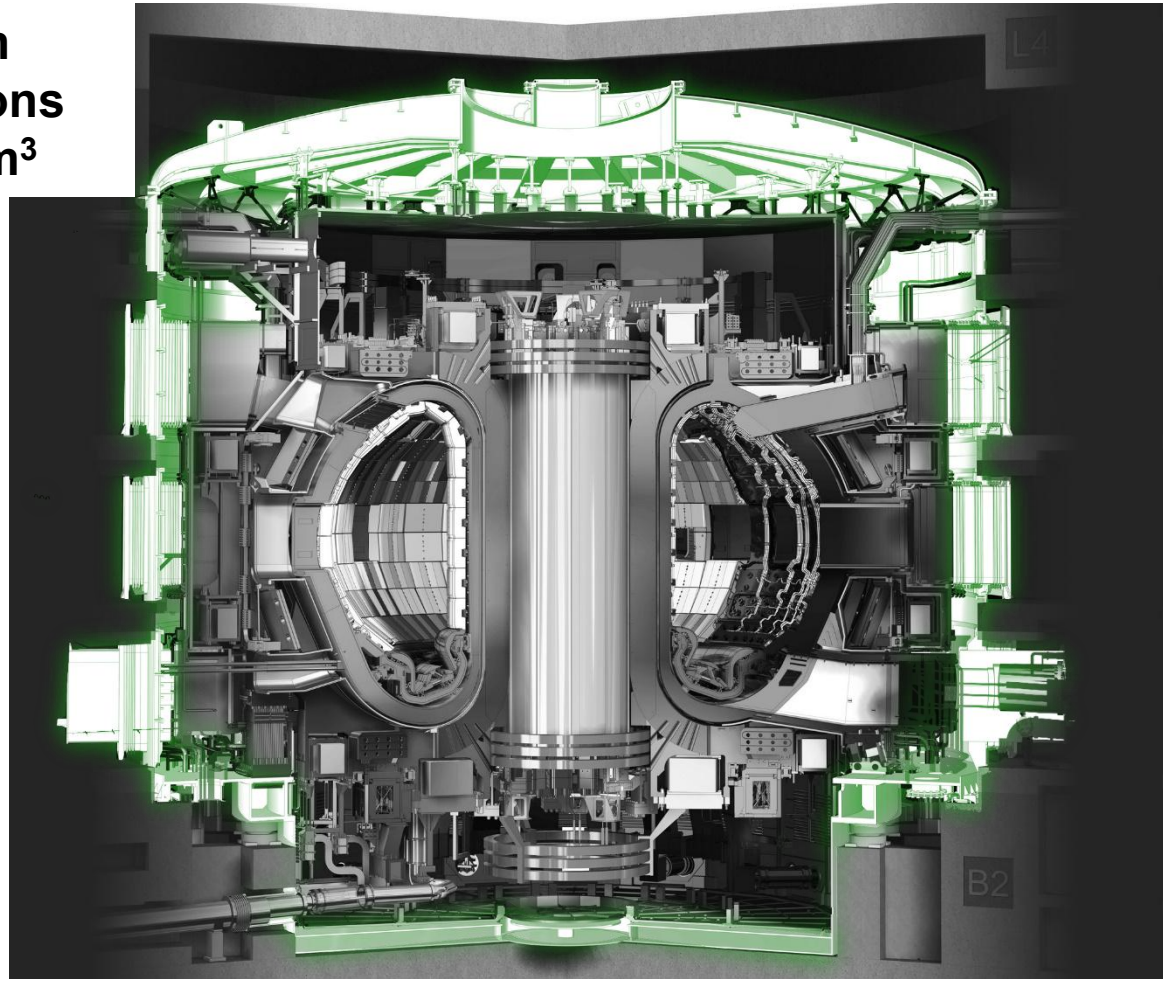
- **54 cassettes**
- **Thermal load: 20 MW/m^2**
- **Each cassette: 10 tons**



https://www.iter.org

ITER – Crystat

- P = 10^{-6} atm
- W = 3800 tons
- V = 16000 m^3

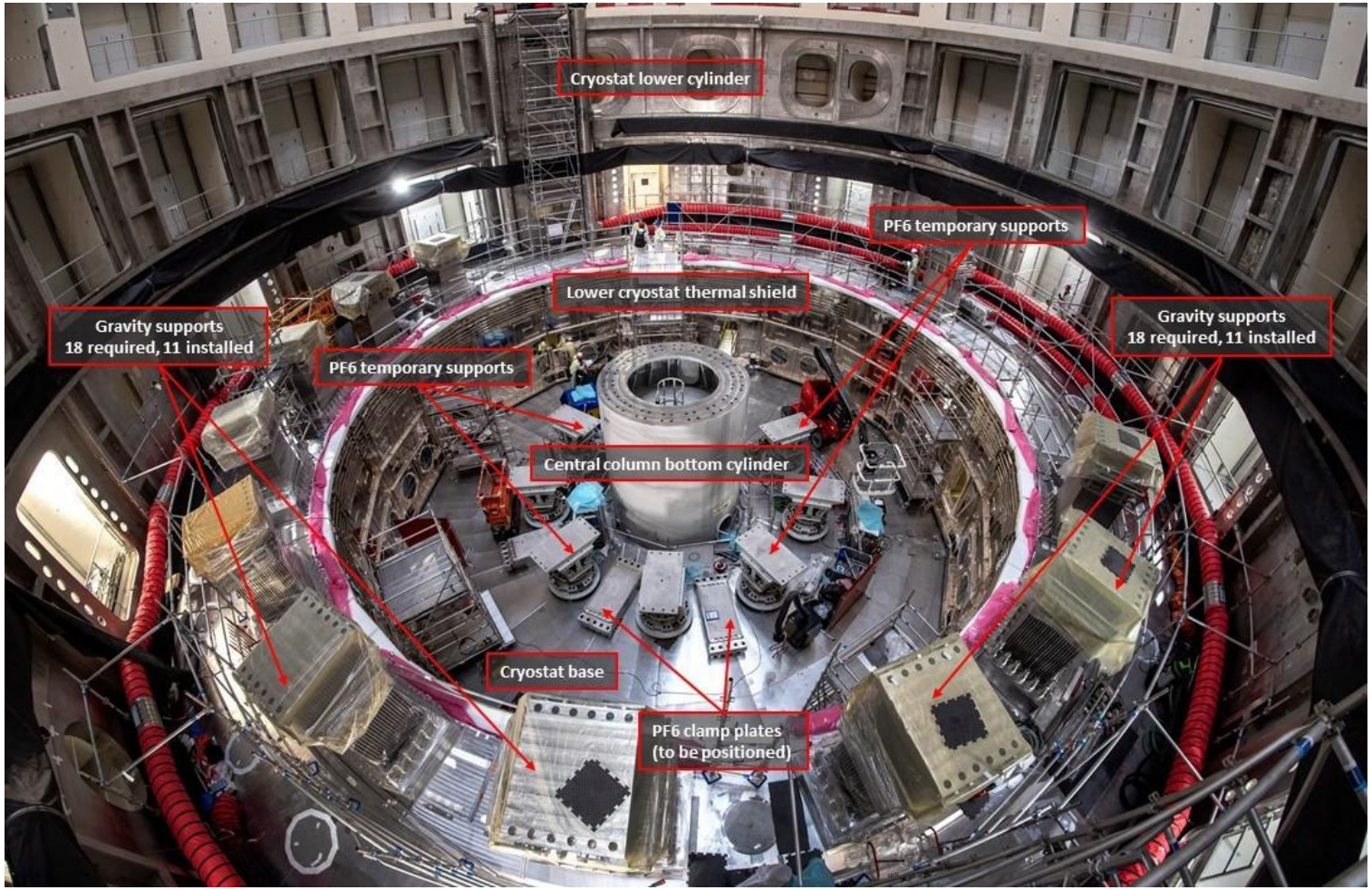


https://www.iter.org

Supporting systems

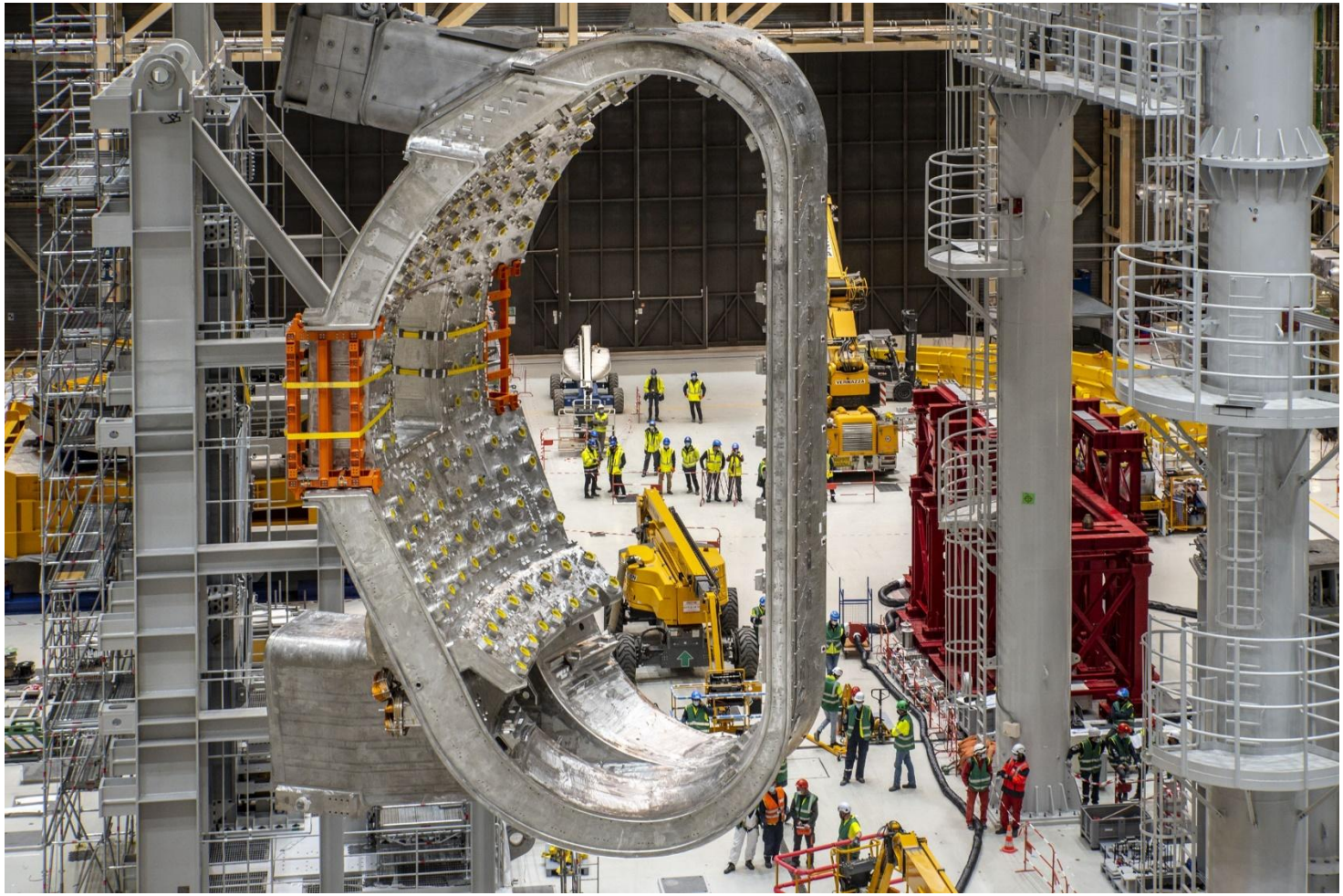
- Tritium breeding
- Control, Data access and Communication (CODAC)
- Cooling water
- Cryogenics
- Diagnostics
- Fuel cycle
- Hot cell - a secure environment for processing, repair or testing, etc., of components that have become activated by neutrons.
- Power supply
- Remote handling
- Heating and current drive
- Vacuum system

ITER is being assembled



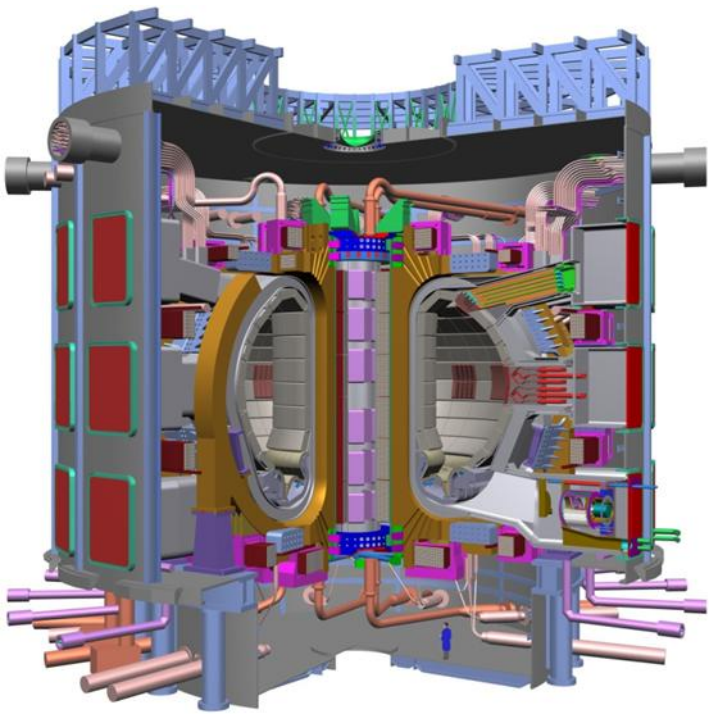
https://www.iter.org

ITER is being assembled



https://www.iter.org

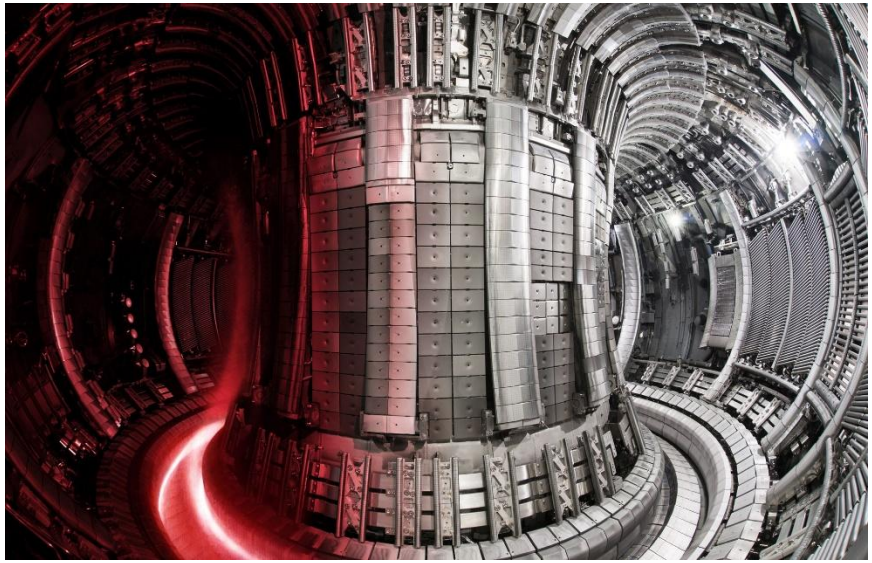
There is a long way to go, but we are on the right path…



- **Dec 2025 First Plasma**
- **2035 Deuterium-Tritium Operation begins**

https://www.iter.org

Joint European Torus (JET) facility has a record-breaking 59 megajoules of sustained fusion energy

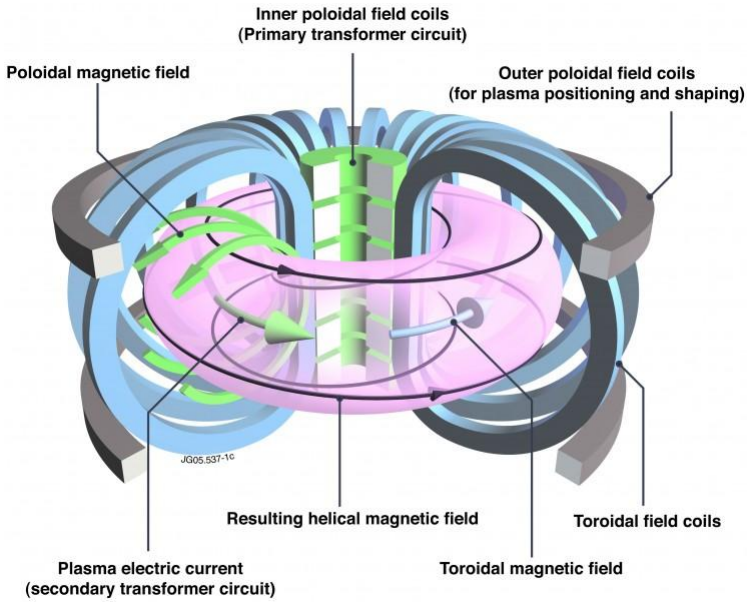


- **Record-breaking 59 megajoules of sustained fusion energy in Joint European Torus (JET) facility in Oxford demonstrates powerplant potential and strengthens case for ITER.**

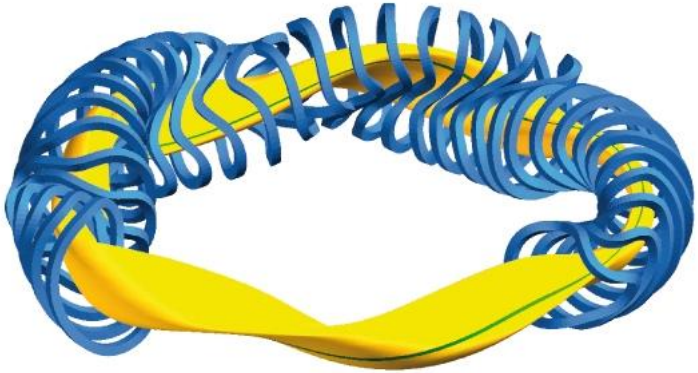
https://ccfe.ukaea.uk/resources/#gallery

Stellarator uses twisted coil to generate poloidal magnetic field

Tokamak

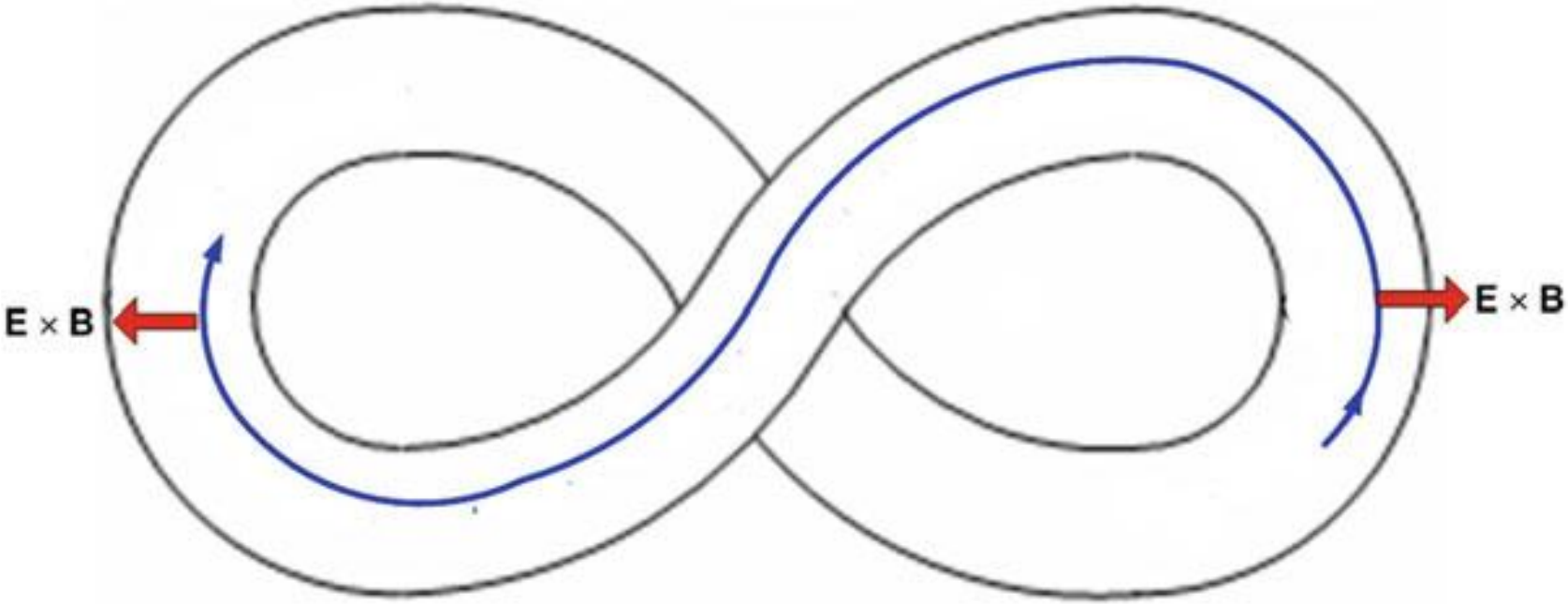


Stellarator



https://www.euro-fusion.org/2011/09/tokamak-principle-2/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stellarator

A figure-8 stellarator solved the drift issues



A figure-8 stellarator solved the drift issues

Lyman Spitzer, Jr. came out the idea during a long ride on a ski lift at Garmisch-Partenkirchen

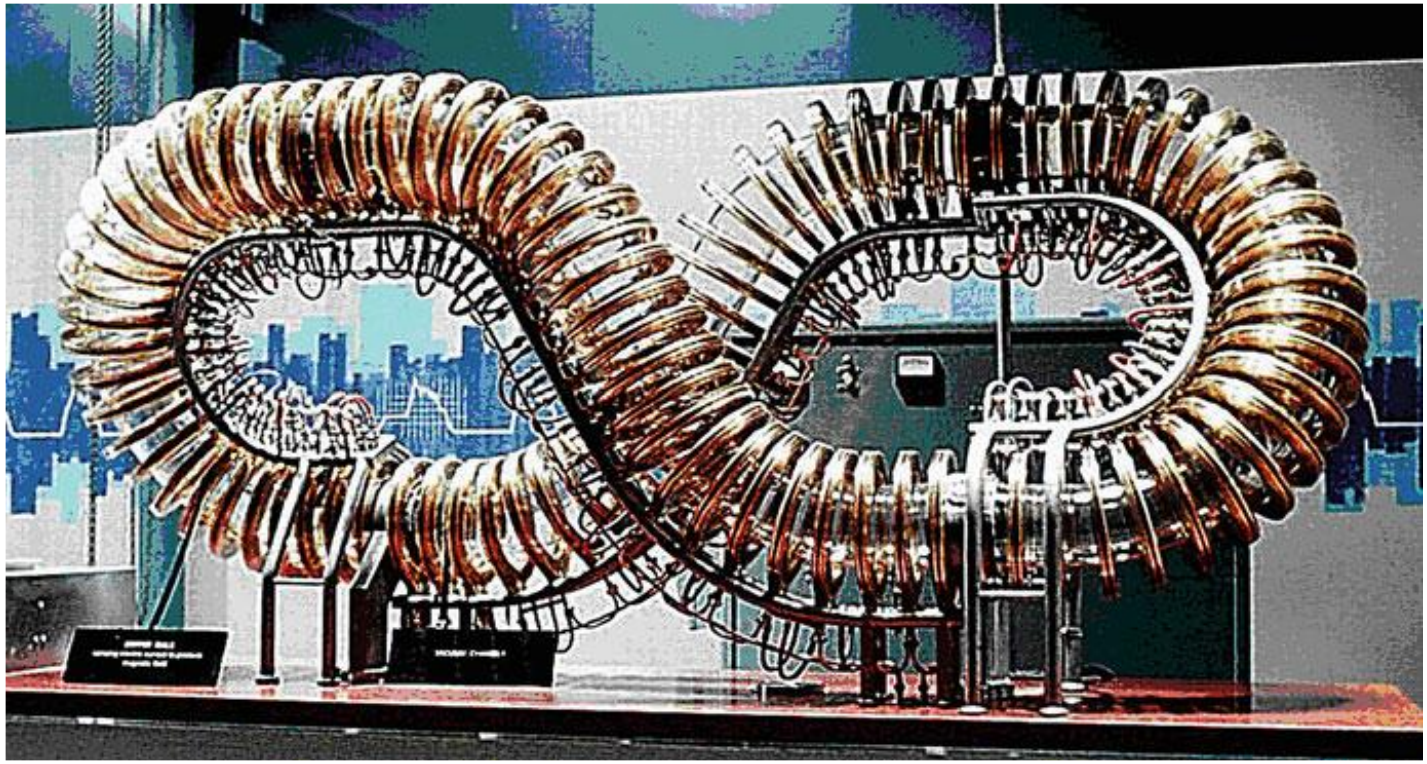
https://www.snowtrex.de/magazin/skigebiete/garmisch-classic-zugspitze/

Model A stellarator

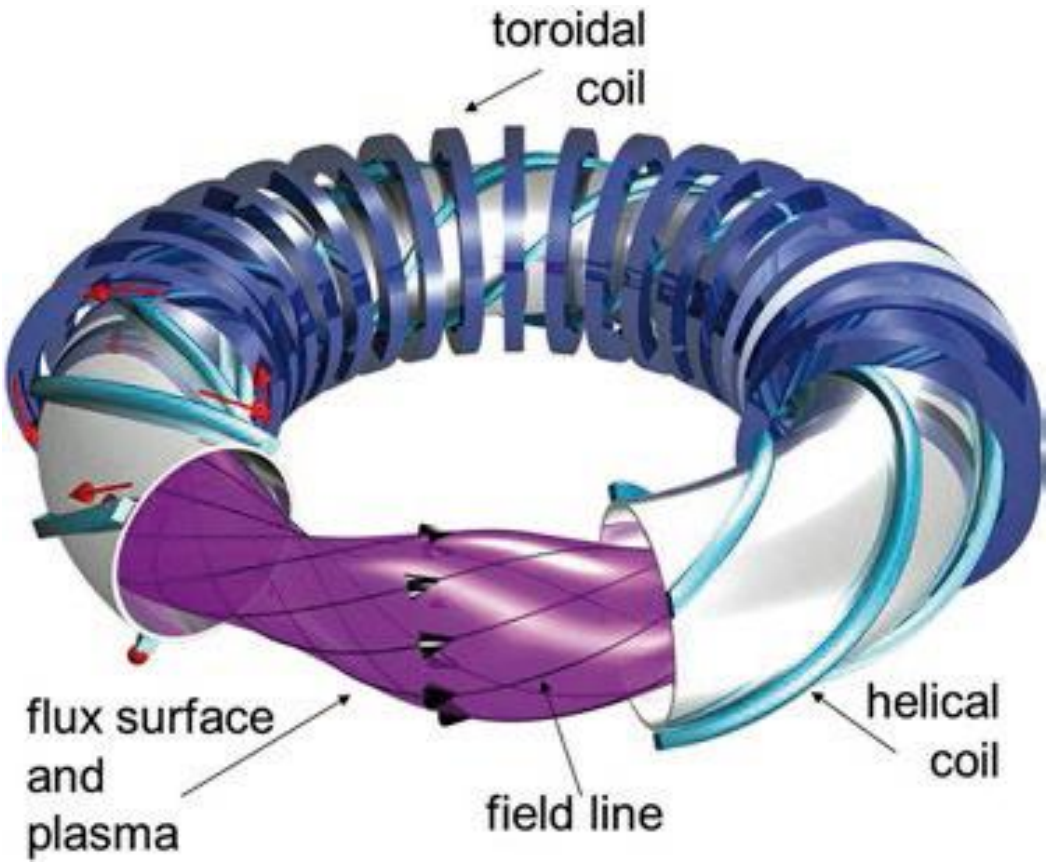
Skip

https://www.pppl.gov/timeline

Exhibit model of a figure-8 stellarator for the Atoms for Peace conference in Geneva in 1958

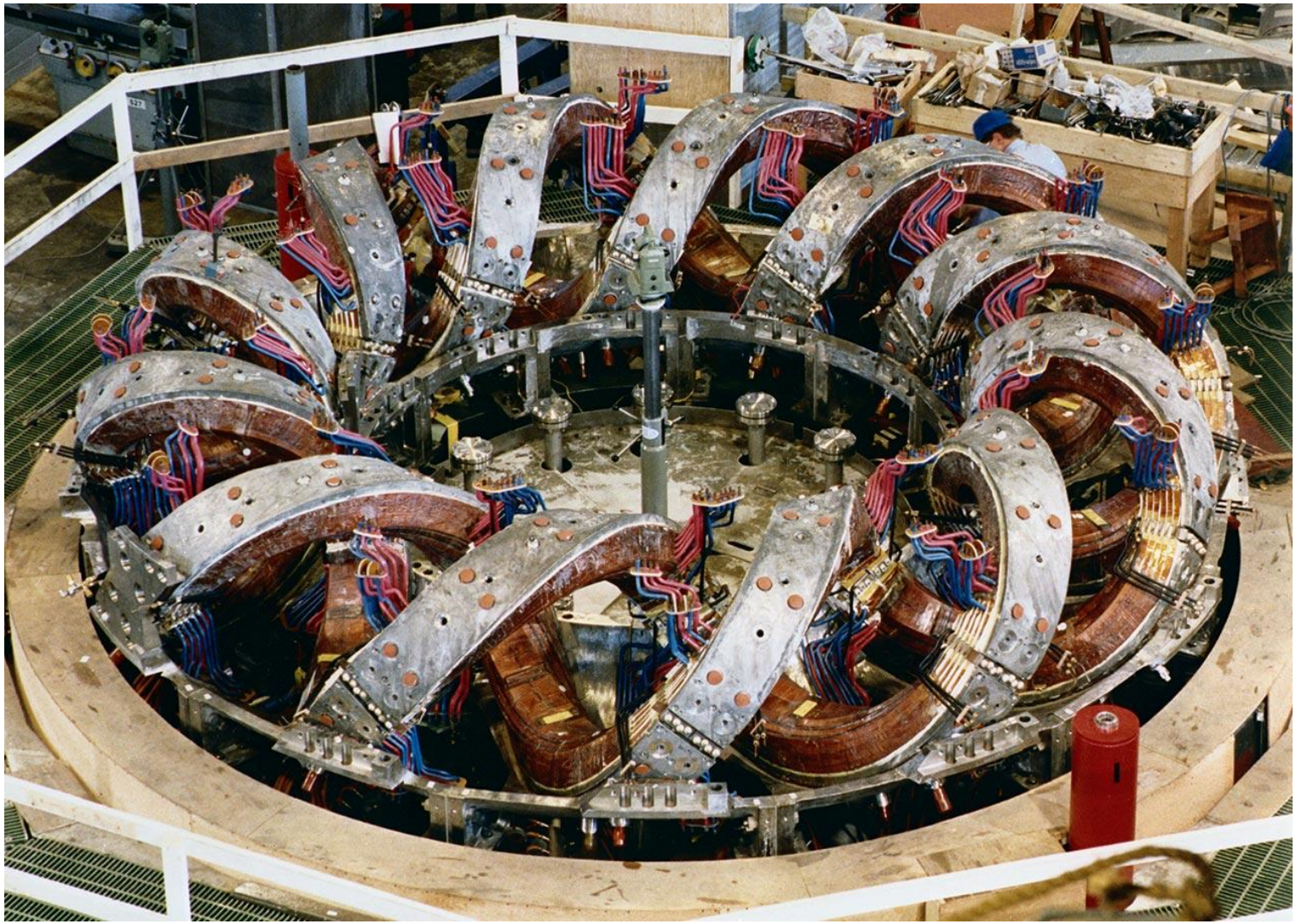


Twisted magnetic field lines can be provided by toroidal coils with helical coils



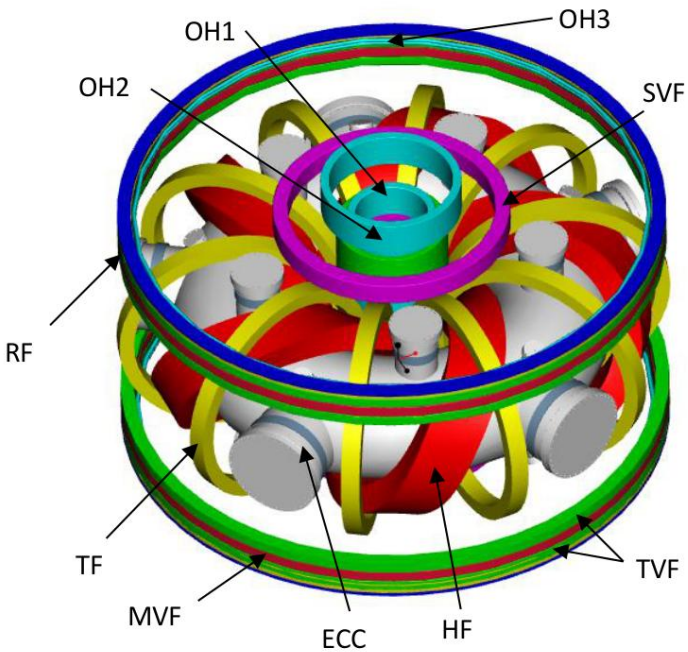
Wagner, F., Fusion energy. MRS Energy & Sustainability, 5, E8 (2018)

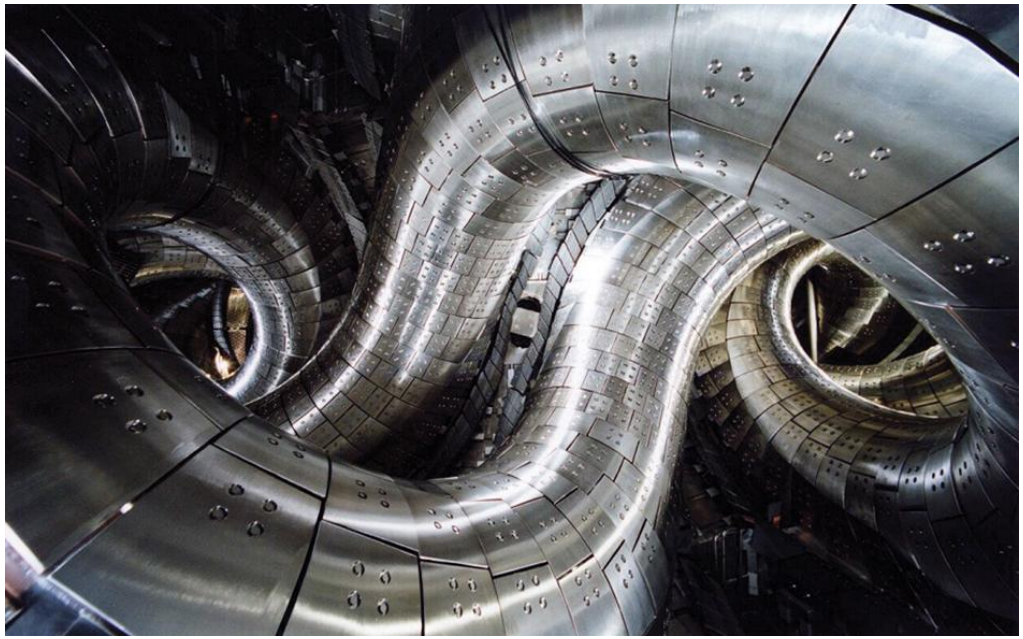
Construction of a pair of helical magnetic coils for the Advanced Toroidal Facility torsatron

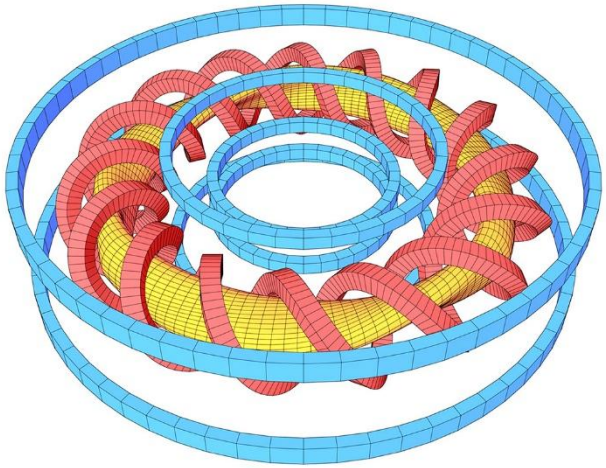


https://www.energyencyclopedia.com/en/glossary/torsatron

LHD stellarator in Japan (Heliotron)



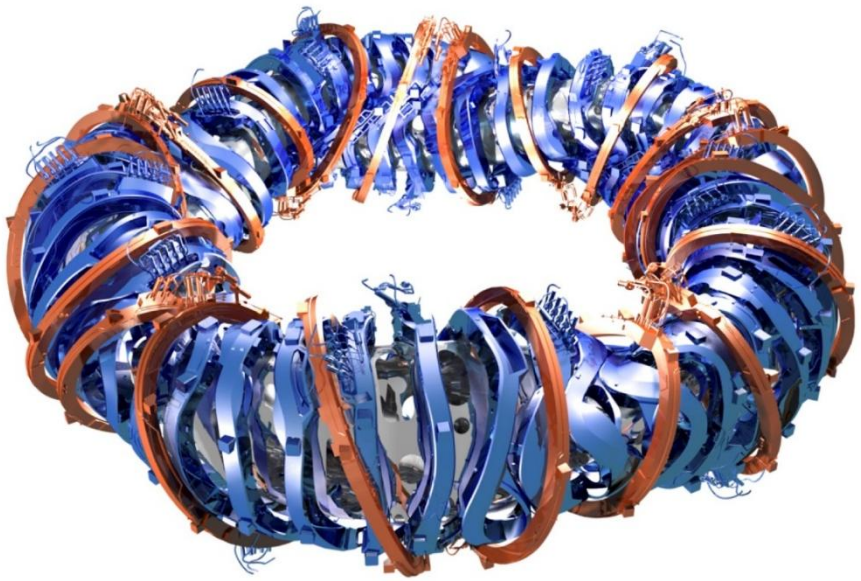


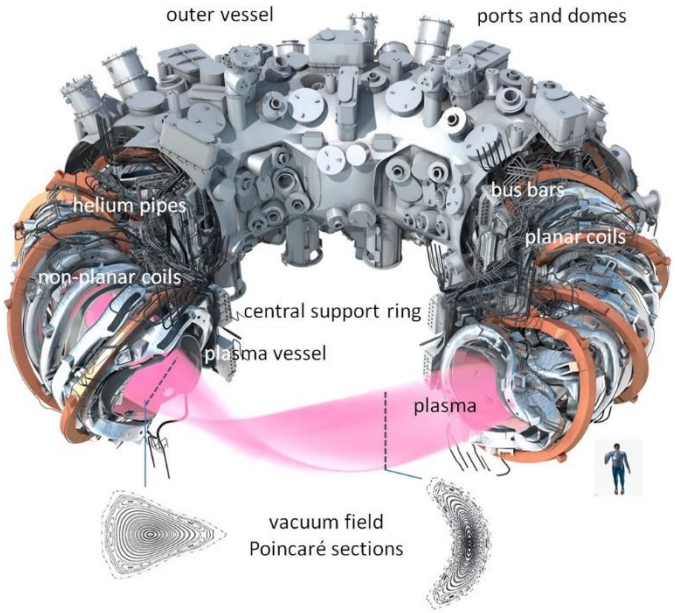


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compact_Toroidal_Hybrid
https://www.energyencyclopedia.com/en/glossary/heliotron
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Large_Helical_Device

Skip

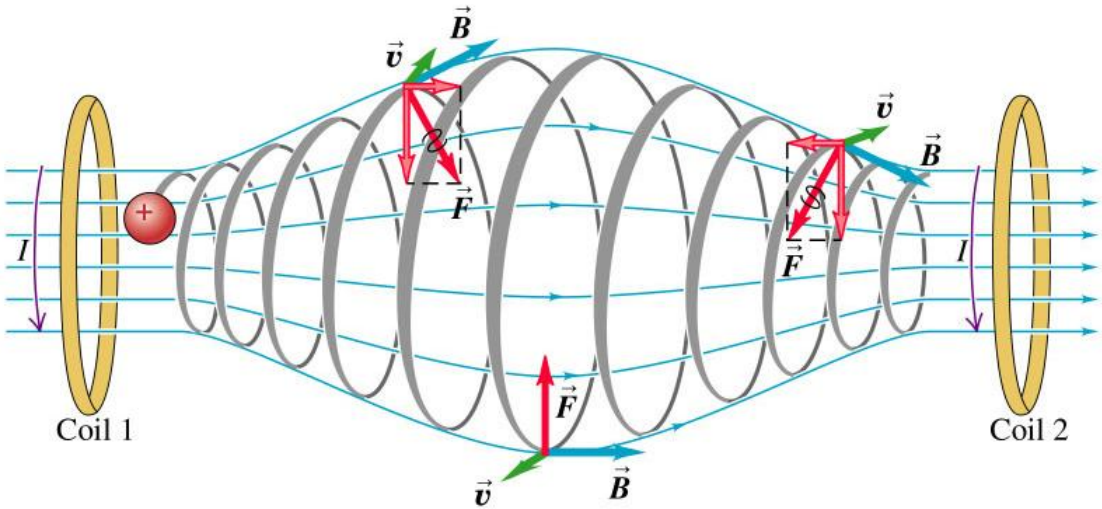
Wendelstein 7-X is a stellarator built by Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics (IPP)

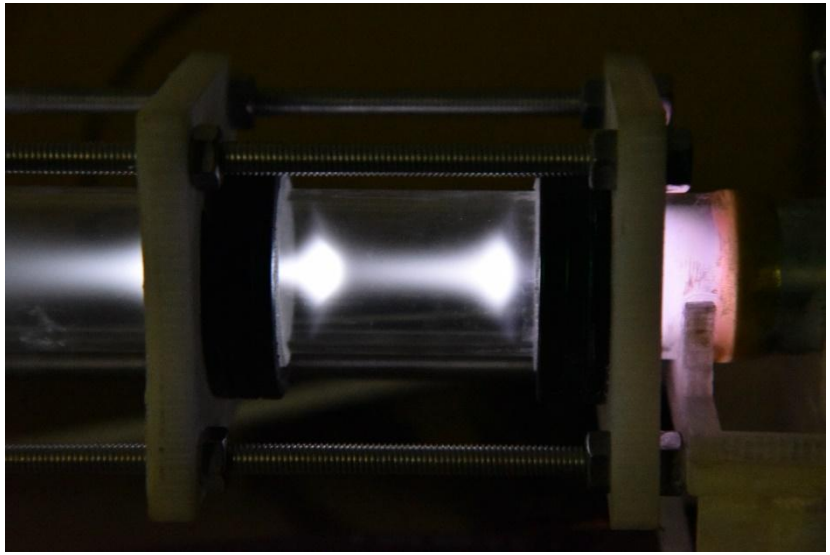




- **Wemdelstein 7-x is now installing new diverters.**

Demonstration of a magnetic mirror machine

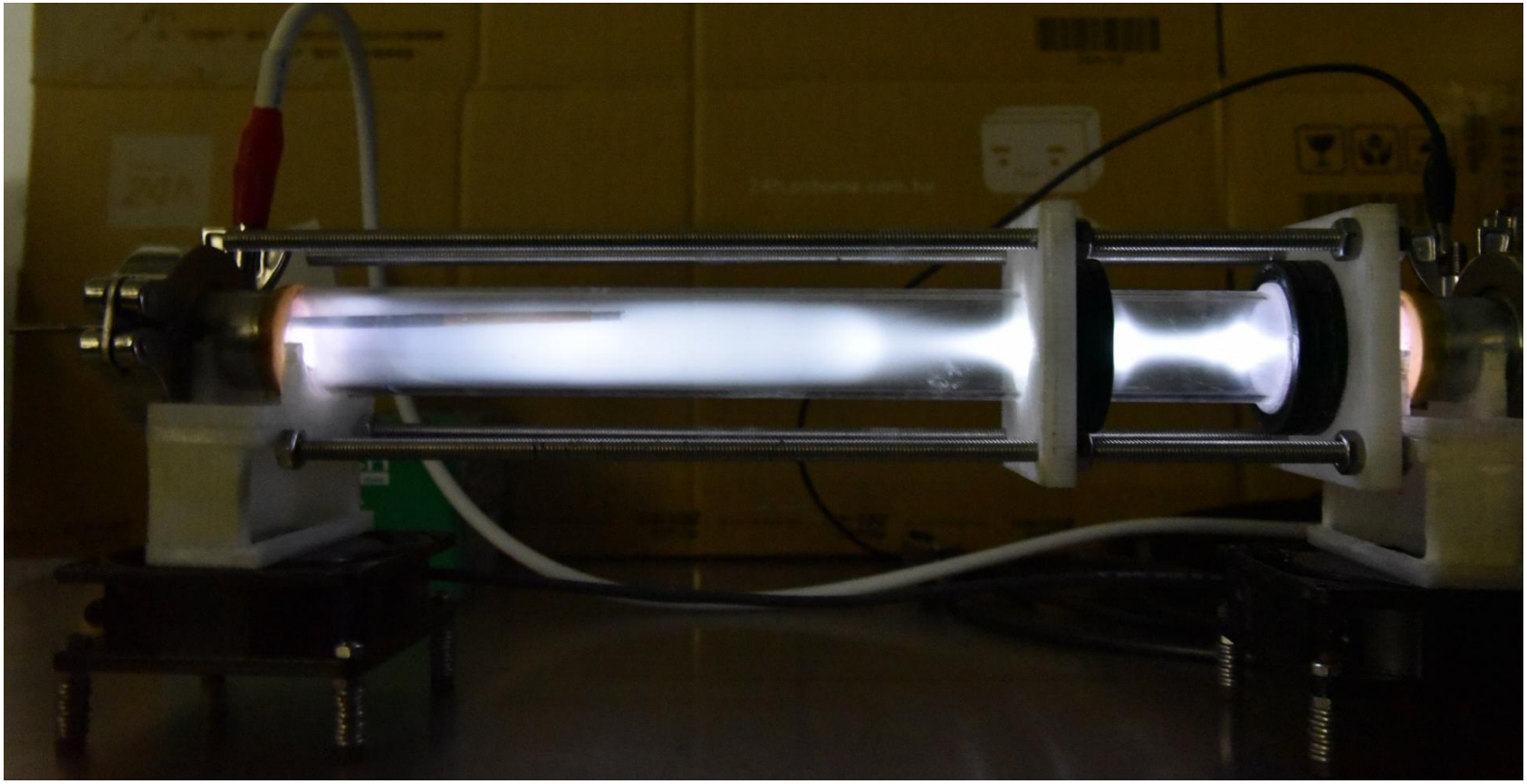




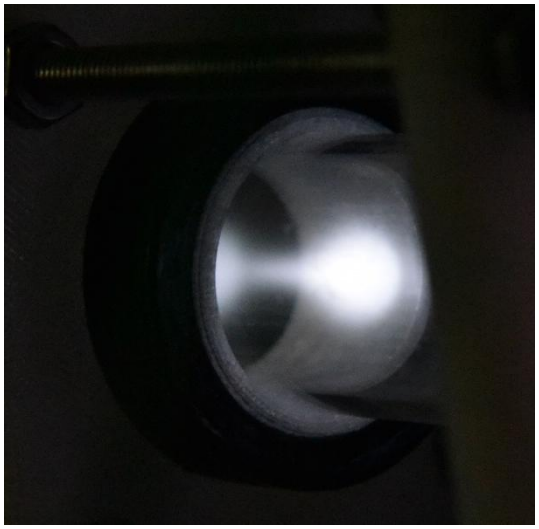
Show video.

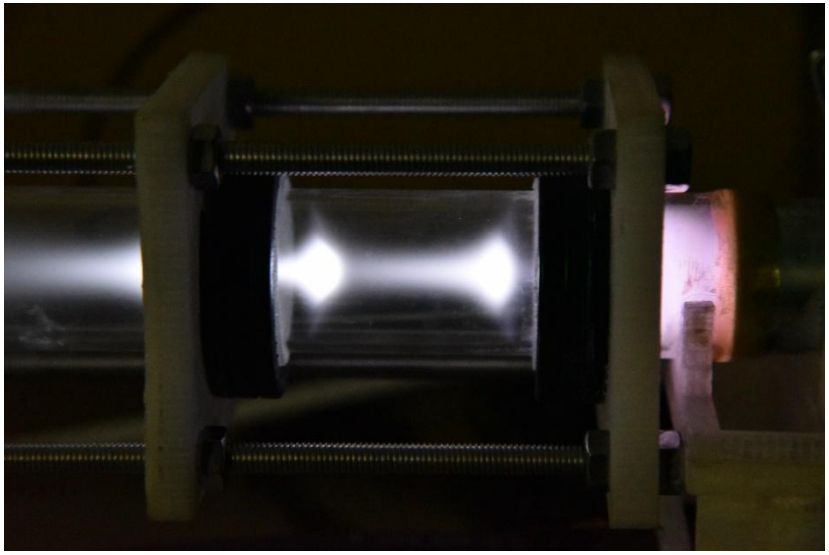
https://i.stack.imgur.com/GlzGZ.jpg

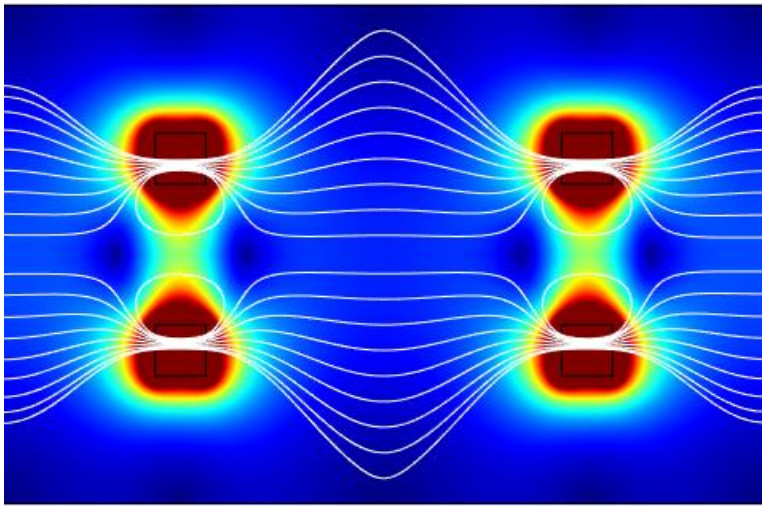
Plasma is partially confined by the magnetic field



Many mirror points are provided by a pair of ring-type magnets



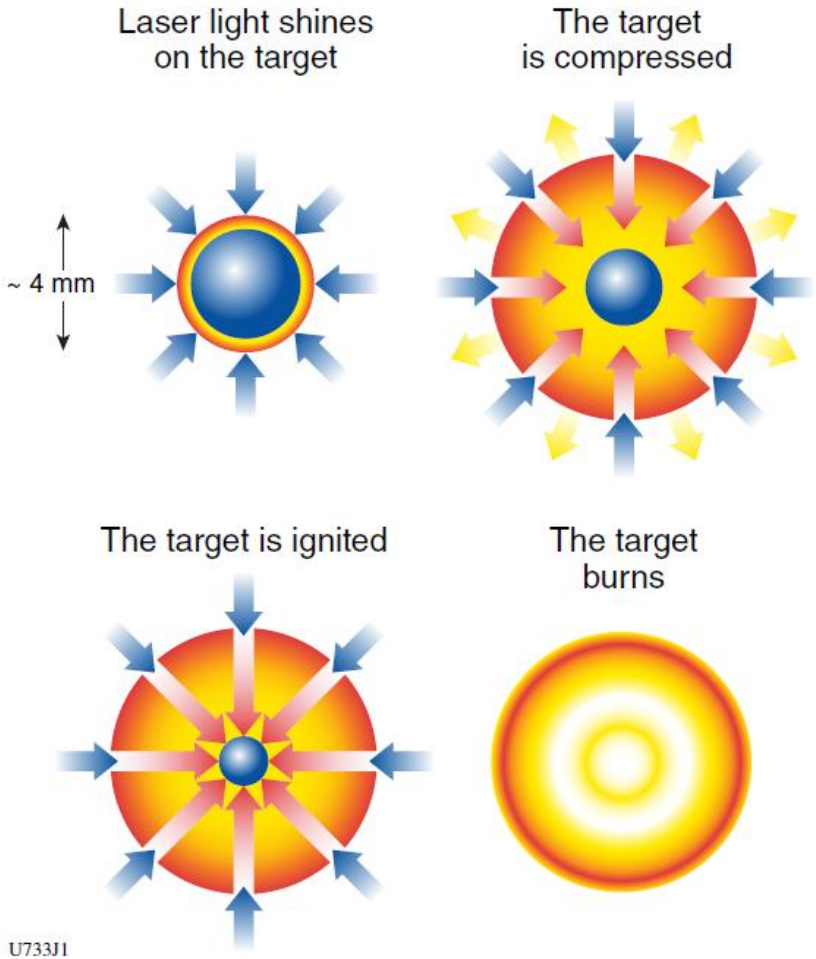


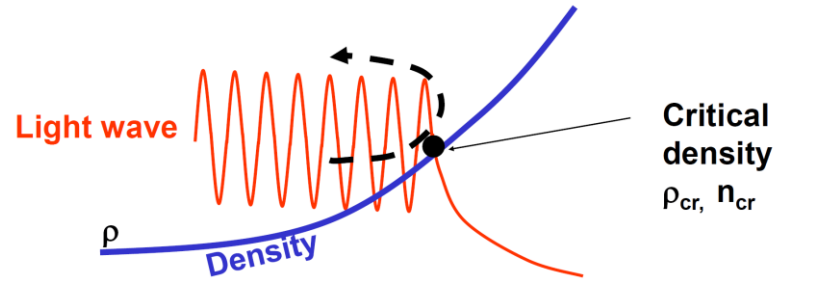


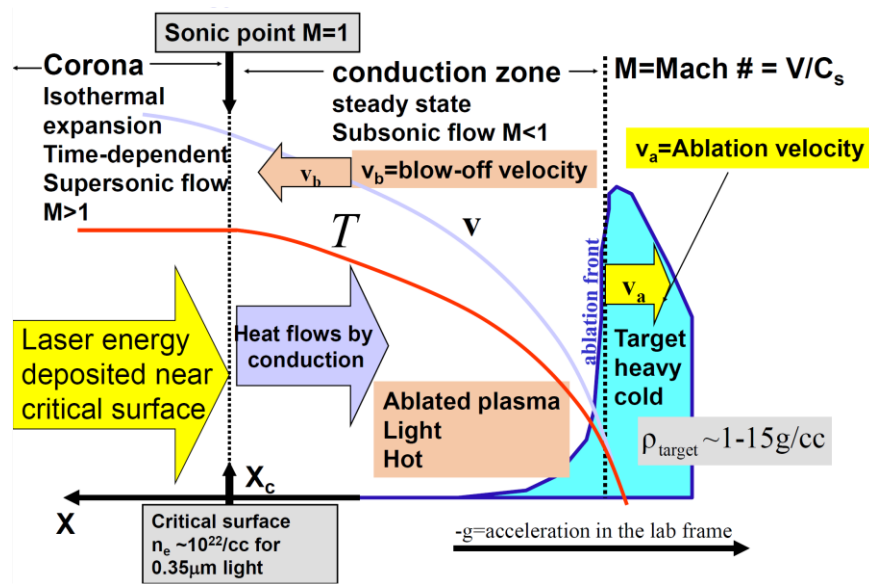
Outline

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)
  - Tokamak
  - Stellarator
- **Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)**
  - **Indirection drive ICF**
  - **Direct drive ICF**
- Innovation idea – MCF + ICF
- Plasma in space
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

Compression happens when outer layer of the target is heated by laser and ablated outward

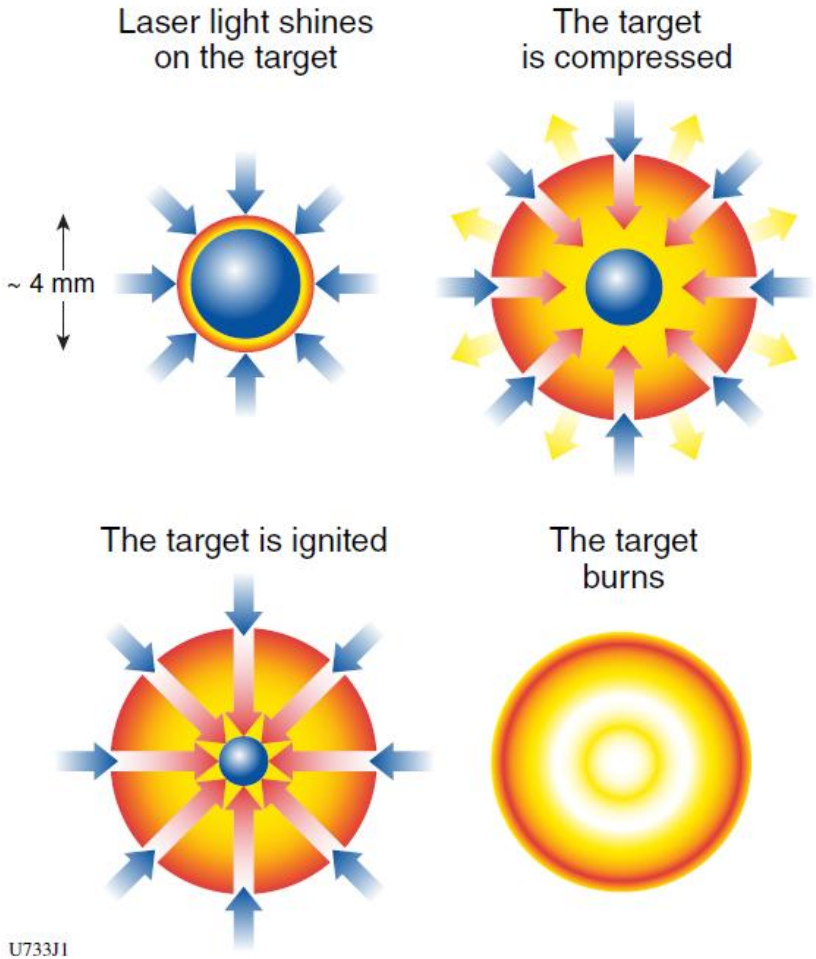




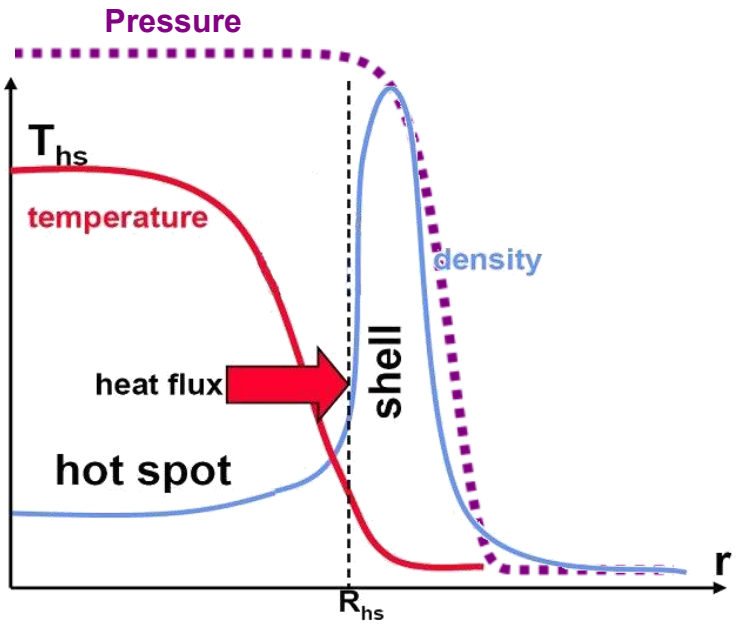


Inertial confinement fusion: an introduction, Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester
R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Plasma is confined by its own inertia in inertial confinement fusion (ICF)



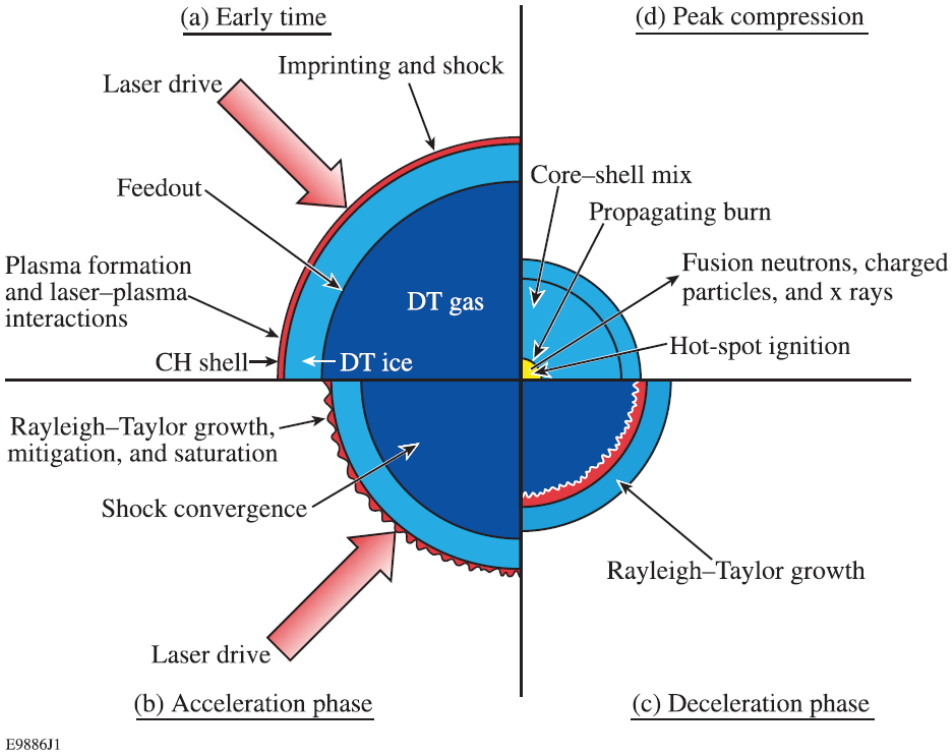
Spatial profile at stagnation



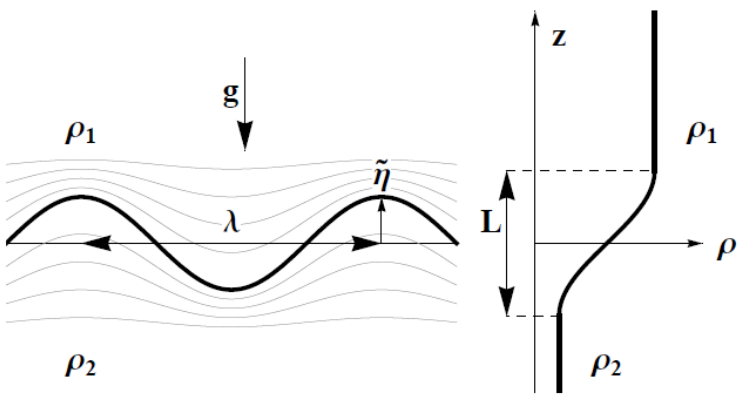
Inertial confinement fusion: an introduction, Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester

A ball can not be compressed uniformly by being squeezed between several fingers

- **Stages of a target implosion**

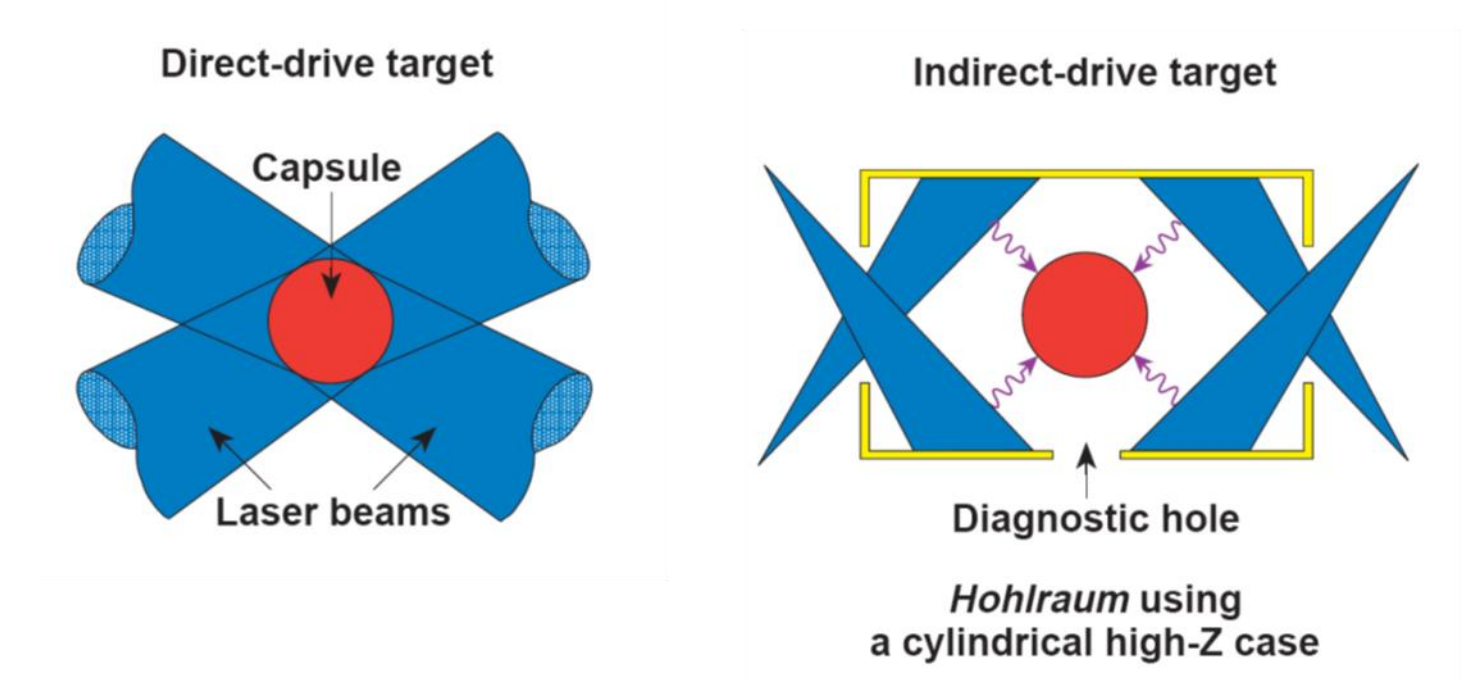


- **Rayleigh-Taylor instability**



P.-Y. Chang, PhD Thesis, U of Rochester (2013)
R. S. Craxton, etc., *Phys. Plasmas* **22**, 110501 (2015)

A spherical capsule can be imploded through directly or indirectly laser illumination



*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Rochester is known as “The World's Image Center”

There are many famous optical companies at Rochester

Kodak

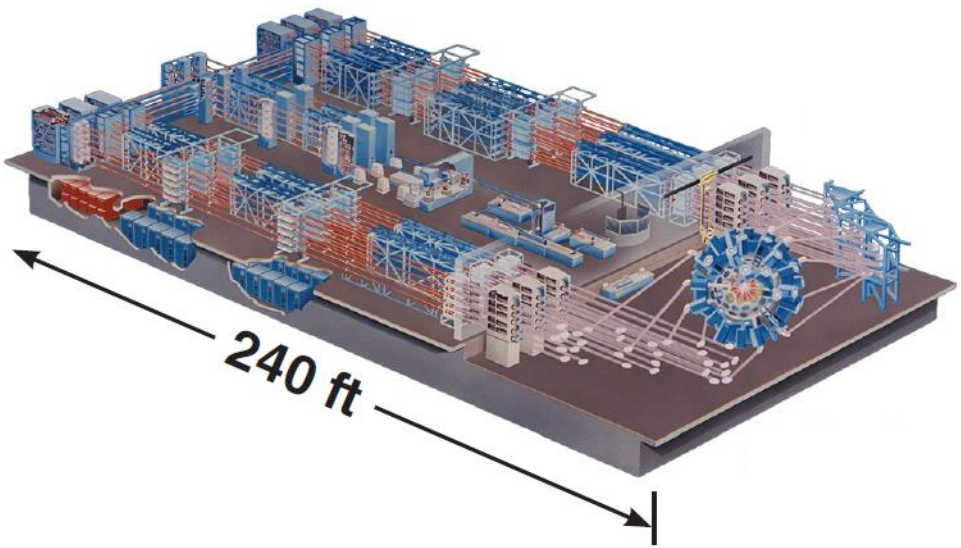
xerox®

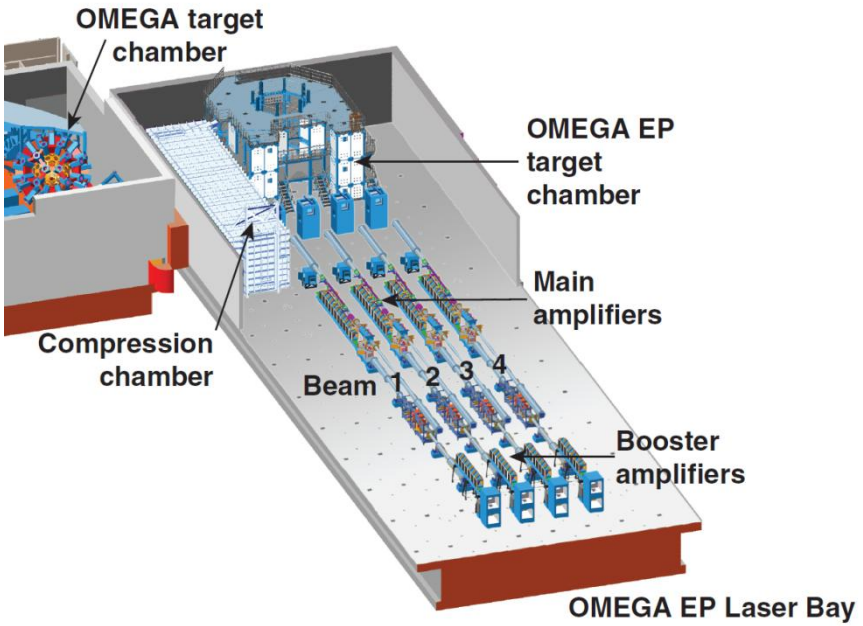
Eastman school of music

BAUSCH + LOMB

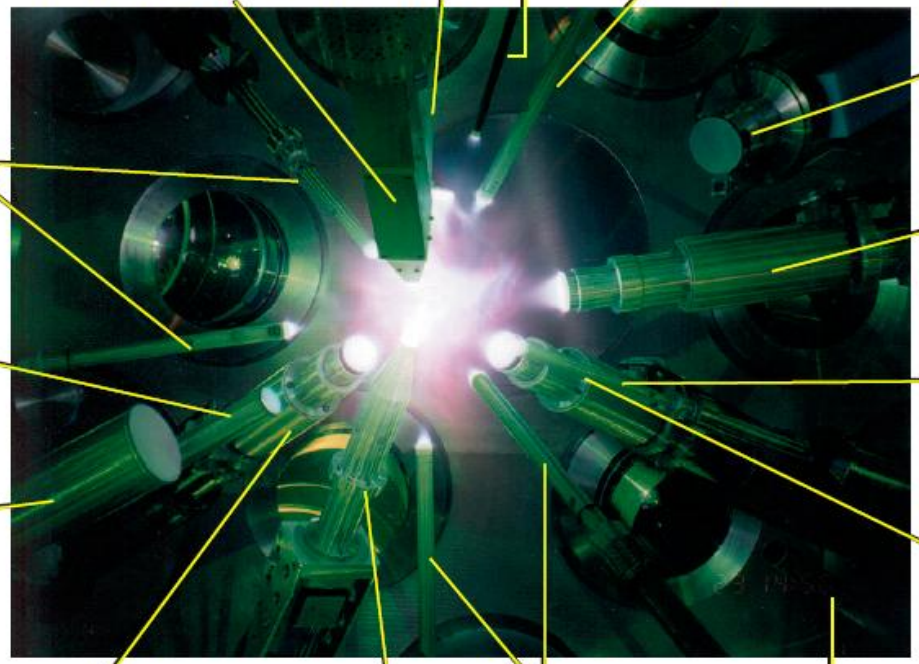
Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester is a pioneer in laser fusion

- OMEGA Laser System
  - 60 beams
  - >30 kJ UV on target
  - 1%~2% irradiation nonuniformity
  - Flexible pulse shaping
- OMEGA EP Laser System
  - 4 beams; 6.5 kJ UV (10ns)
  - Two beams can be high-energy petawatt
    - 2.6 kJ IR in 10 ps
    - Can propagate to the OMEGA or OMEGA EP target chamber





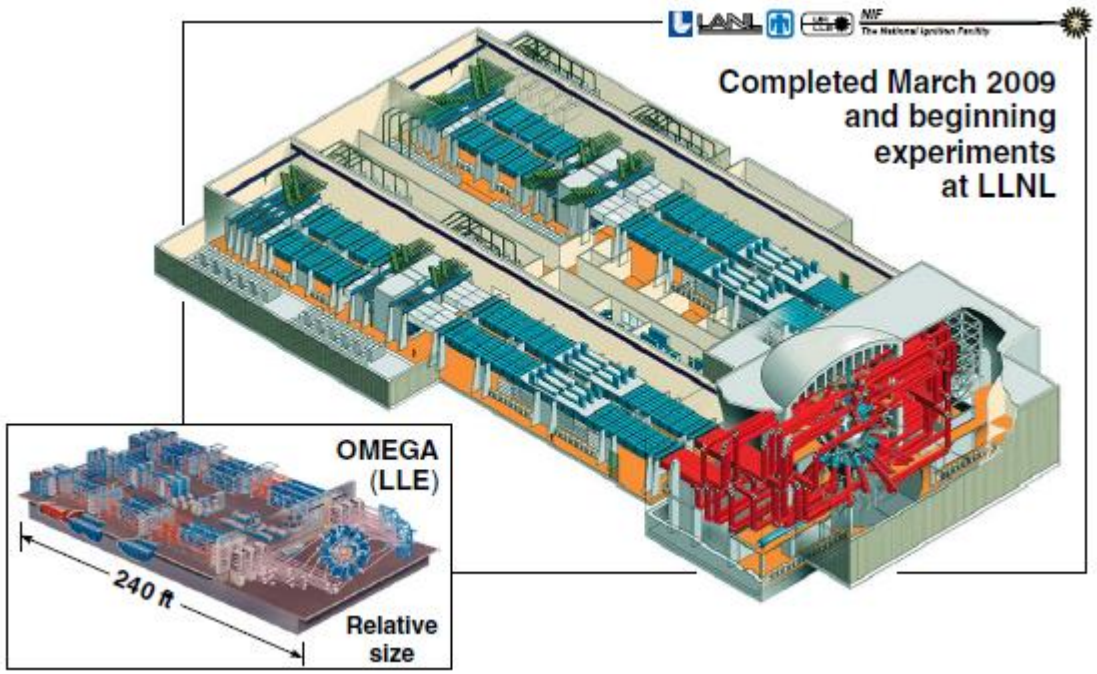
The OMEGA Facility is carrying out ICF experiments using a full suite of target diagnostics



E8012b

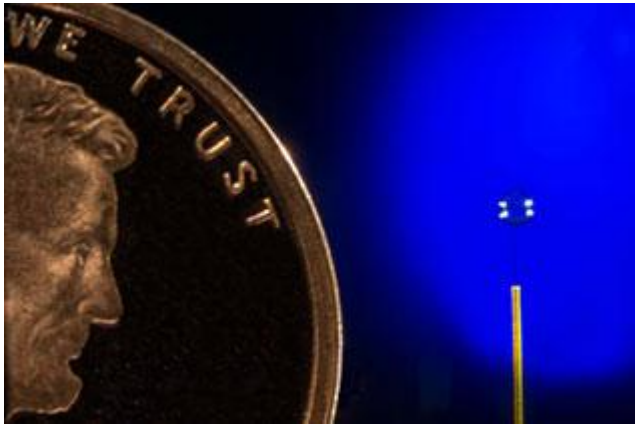
Photo taken from port H11B

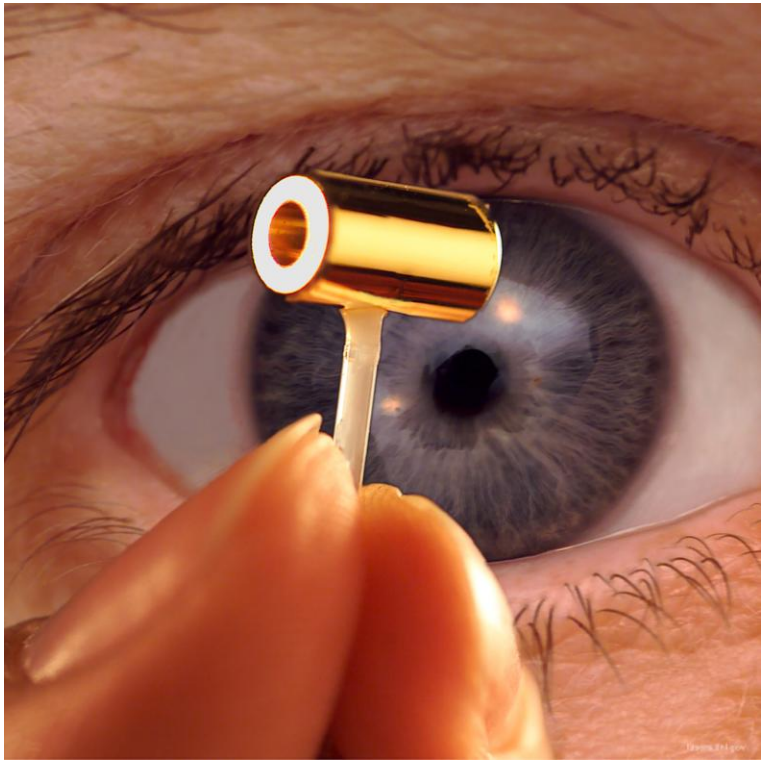
The 1.8-MJ National Ignition Facility (NIF) will demonstrate ICF ignition and modest energy gain



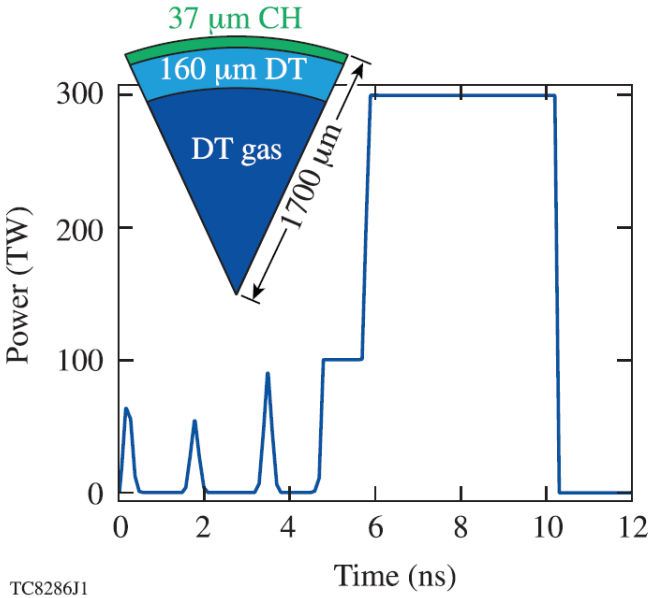
OMEGA experiments are integral to an ignition demonstration on the NIF.

Targets used in ICF



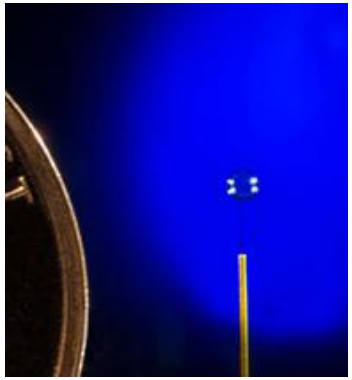


- **Triple-point temperature : 19.79 K**

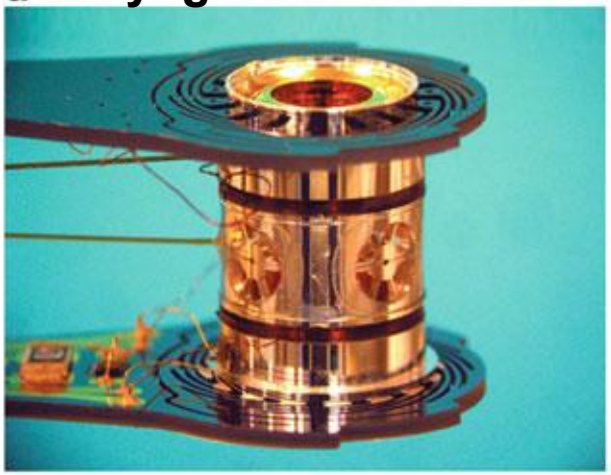


http://www.lle.rochester.ed
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inertial_confinement_fusion
R. S. Craxton, etc., *Phys. Plasmas* **22**, 110501 (2015)

Targets used in ICF



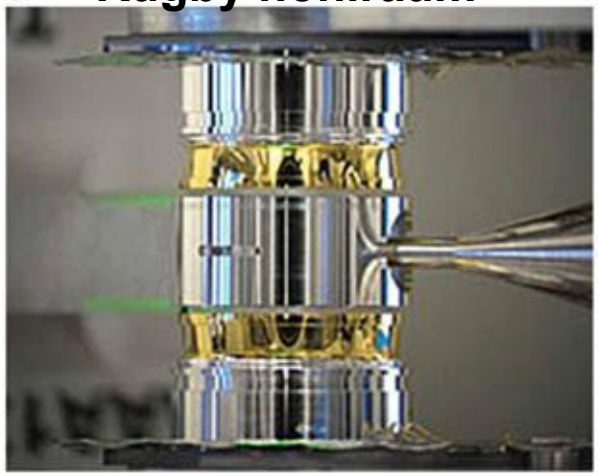
a Cryogenic hohlraum



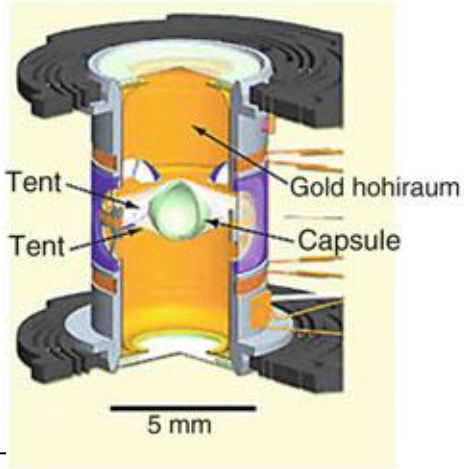
b

Cryogenic shroud

c Rugby hohlraum



d Tent holder

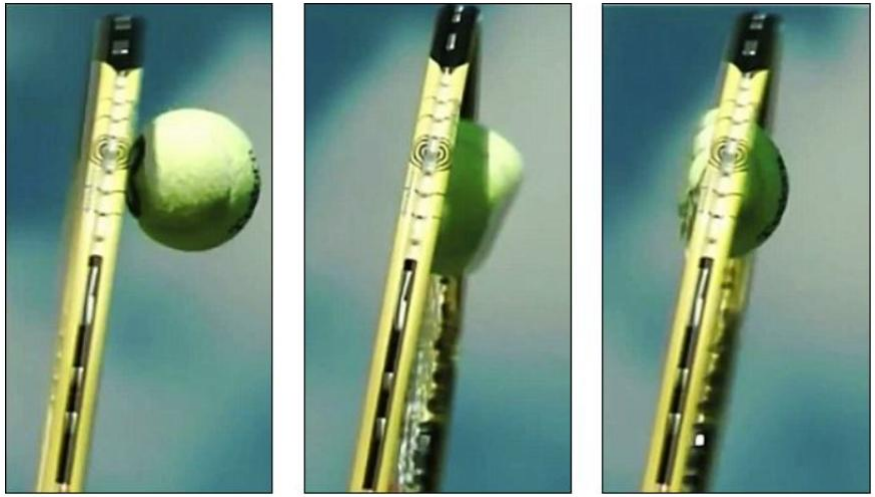


https://www.lle.rochester.edu/index.php/2014/11/10/next-generation-cryo-target/
Introduction to Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion 3rd Edition, by Francis F. Chen
https://www.llnl.gov/news/nif-shot-lights-way-new-fusion-ignition-phase

Softer material can be compressed to higher density

- **Compression of a baseball**

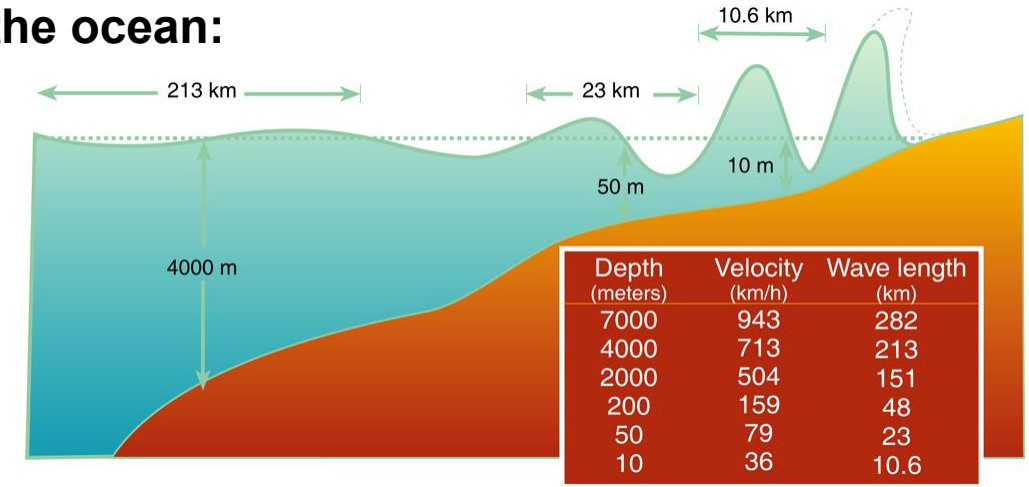
- **Compression of a tennis ball**



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxIIdMoAwbY
https://newsghana.com.gh/wimbledon-slow-motion-video-of-how-a-tennis-ball-turns-to-goo-after-serve/

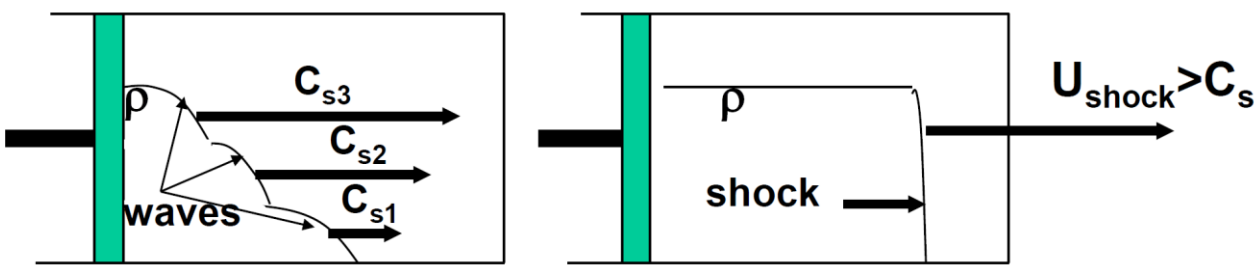
A shock is formed due to the increasing sound speed of a compressed gas/plasma

- **Wave in the ocean:**



Depth (meters)	Velocity (km/h)	Wave length (km)
7000	943	282
4000	713	213
2000	504	151
200	159	48
50	79	23
10	36	10.6

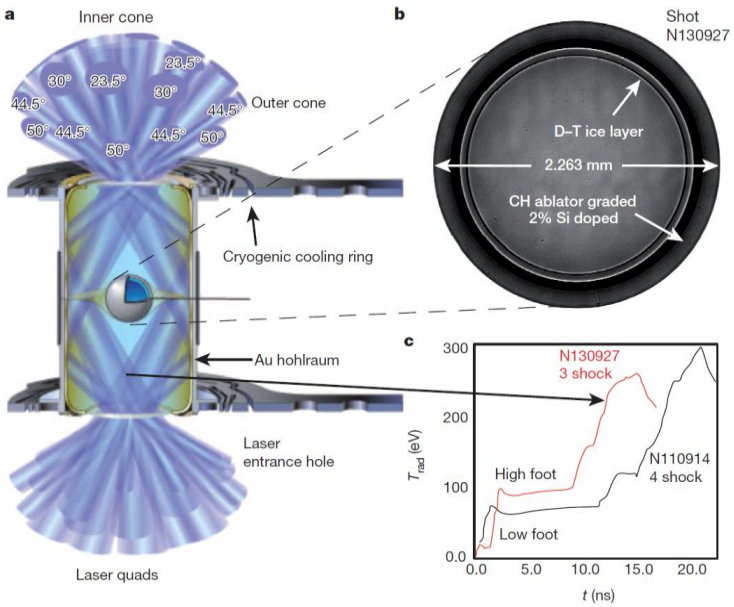
- **Acoustic/compression wave driven by a piston:**

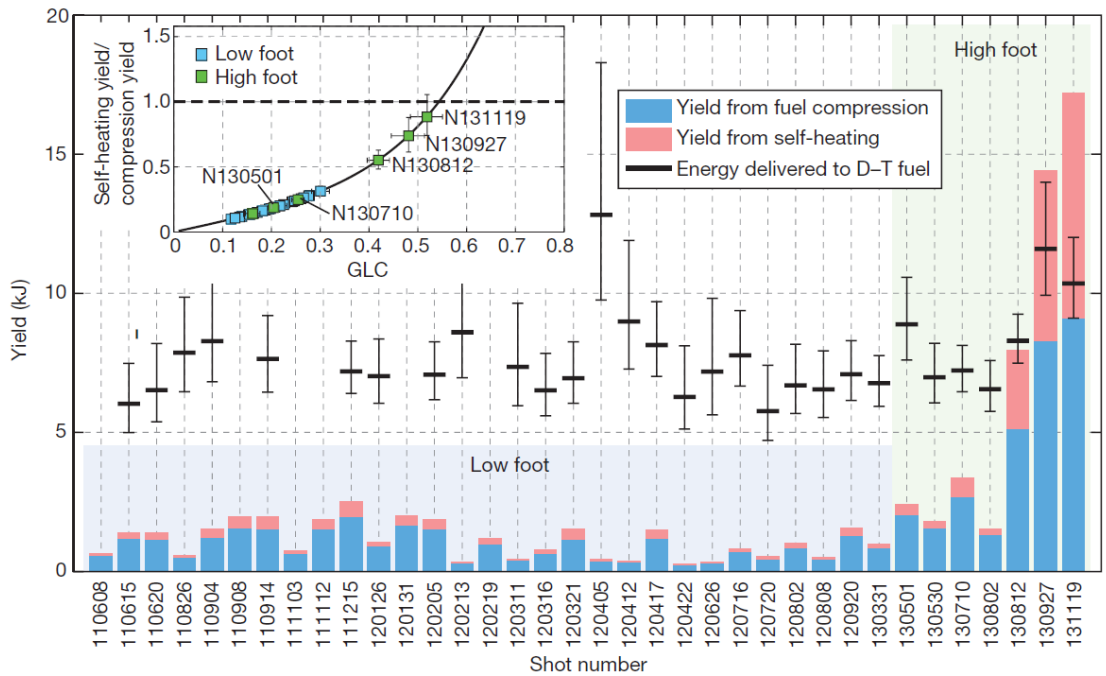


$$C_s \sim \sqrt{\frac{p}{\rho}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{\alpha\rho^{5/3}}{\rho}} \sim \sqrt{\alpha}\rho^{1/3}$$

http://neamtic.ioc-unesco.org/tsunami-info/the-cause-of-tsunamis
*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Nature letter "Fuel gain exceeding unity in an inertially confined fusion implosion"

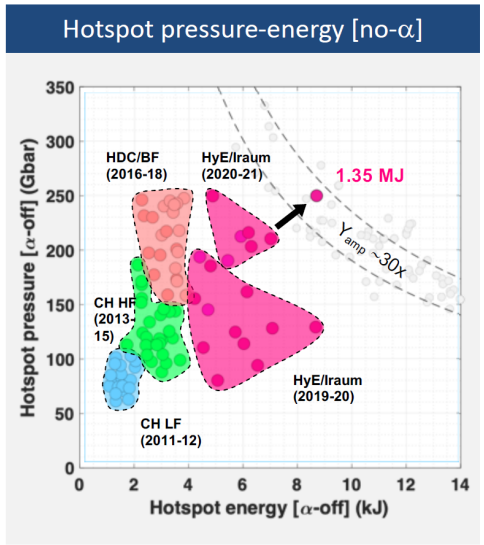


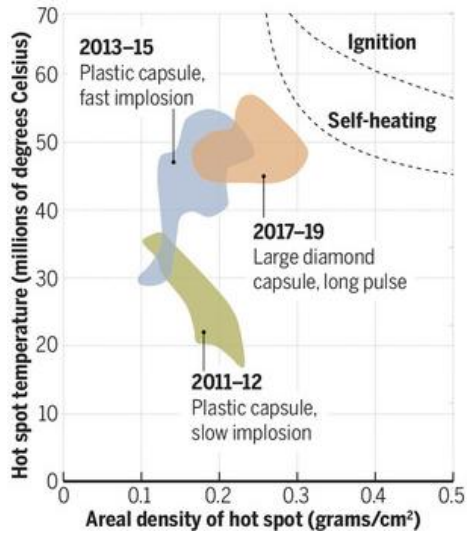


- **Fuel gain exceeding unity was demonstrated for the first time.**

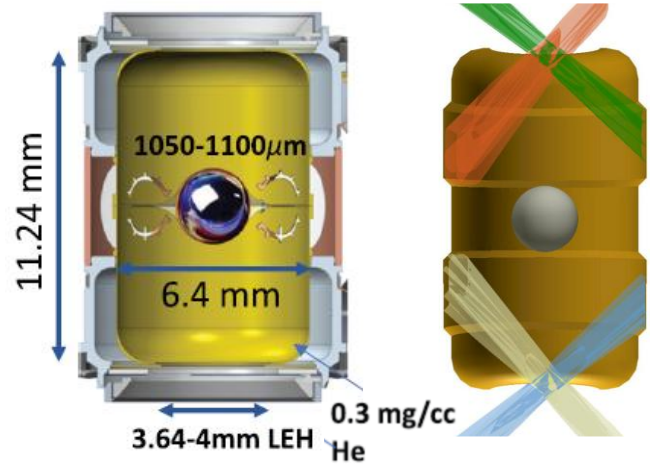
Nature 506, p343, 2014

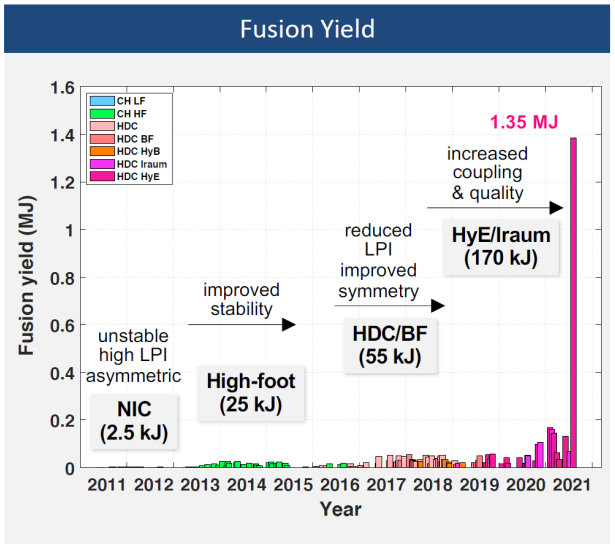
The hot spot has entered the burning plasma regime



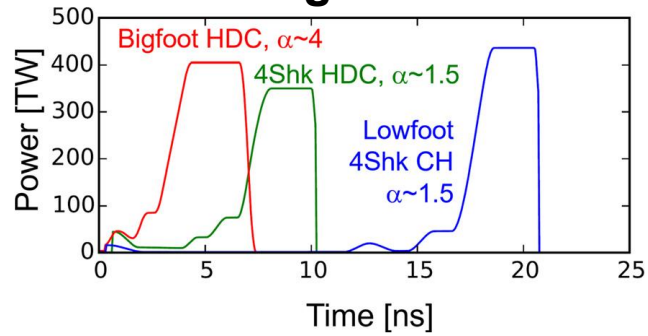


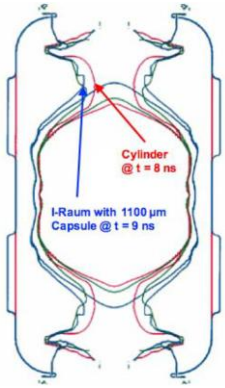
- **Hybrid-E**
- **I-raum**





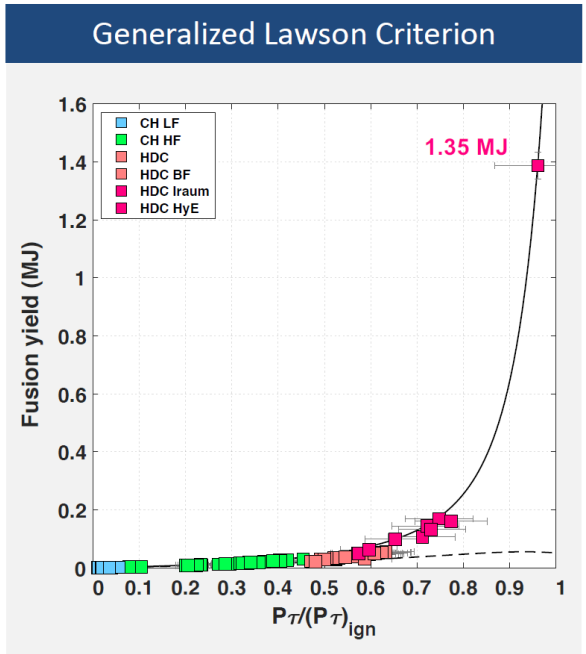
- **Big foot**

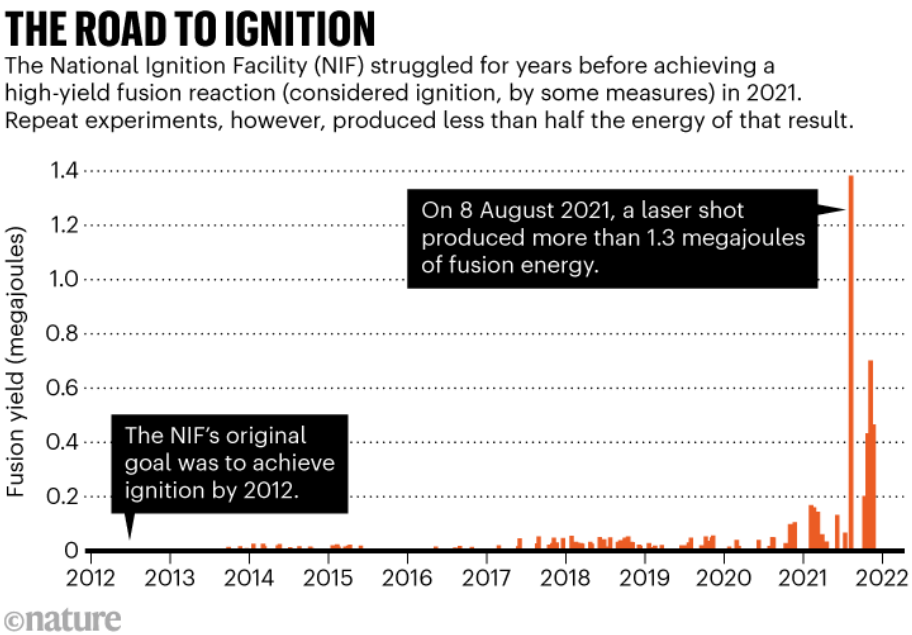




T. Ma, ARPA-E workshop, April 26, 2022
Science 370, p1019, 2020
D. T. Casey, etc., Phys. Plasmas, 25, 056308 (2018)
A. L. Kritcher, etc., Phys. Plasmas, 28, 072706 (2021)
H. F. Robey, etc., Phys. Plasmas, 25, 012711 (2018)

National Ignition Facility (NIF) achieved a yield of more than 1.3 MJ from ~1.9 MJ of laser energy in 2021 (Q~0.7)

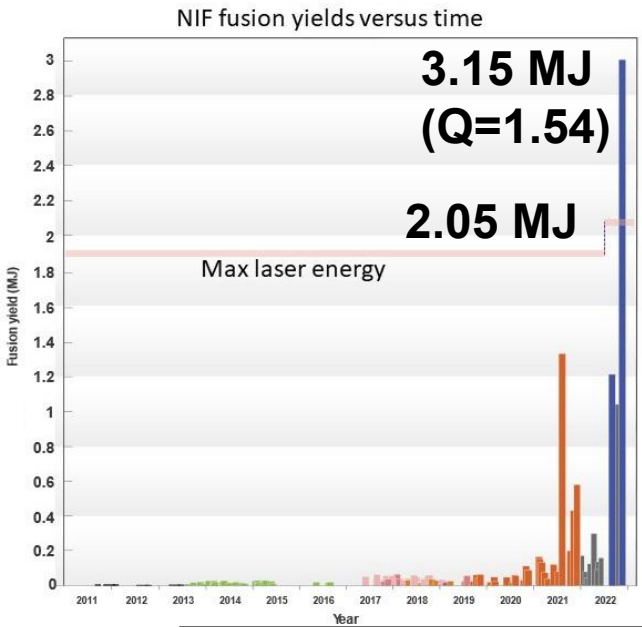


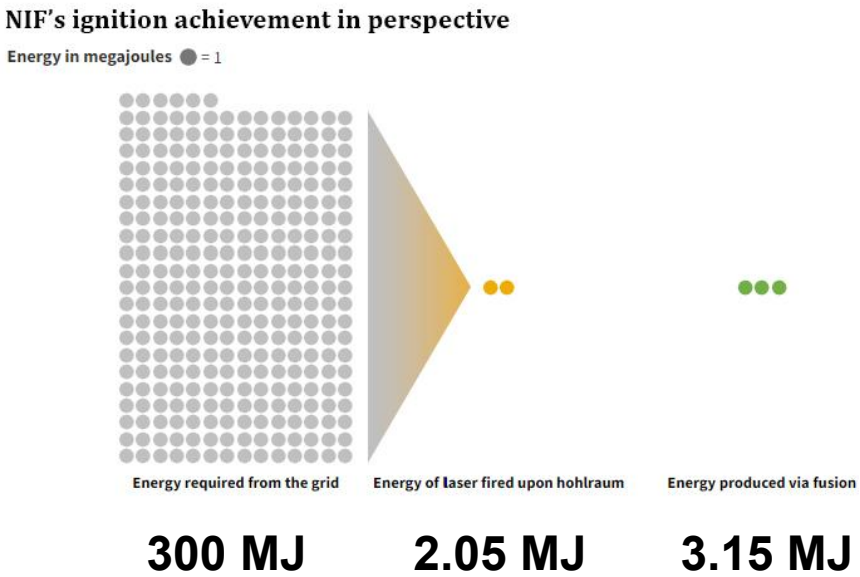


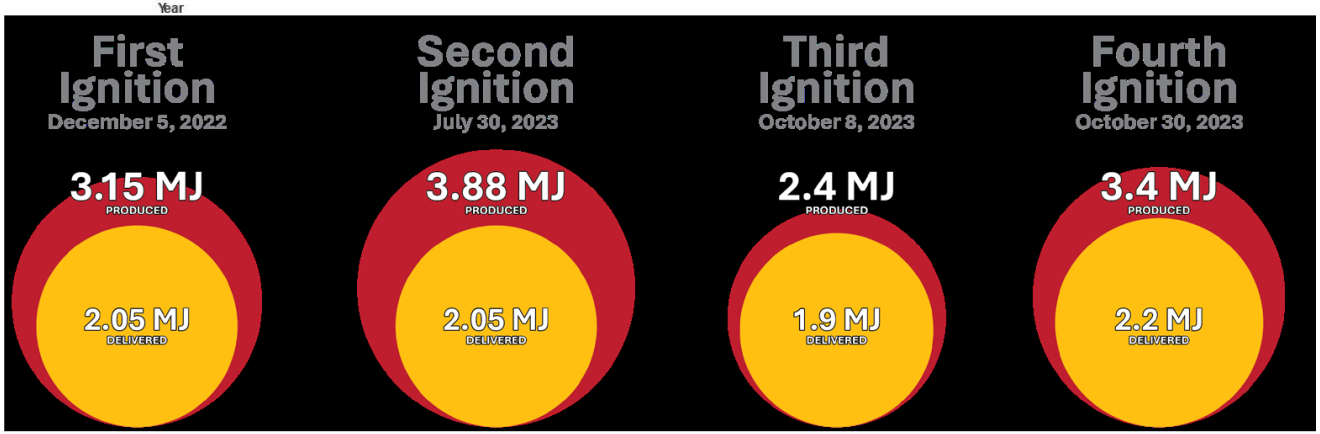
- **National Ignition Facility (NIF) achieved a yield of more than 1.3 MJ (Q~0.7). This advancement puts researchers at the threshold of fusion ignition.**
- **Laser-fusion facility heads back to the drawing board.**

T. Ma, ARPA-E workshop, April 26, 2022
J. Tollefson, Nature (News) 608, 20 (2022)

“Ignition” (target yield larger than one) was achieved in NIF on 2022/12/5

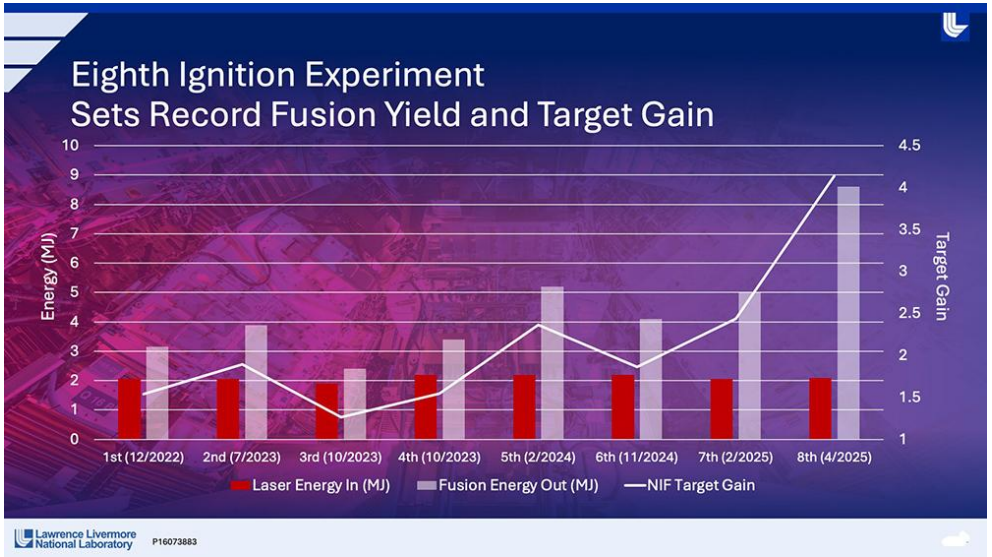


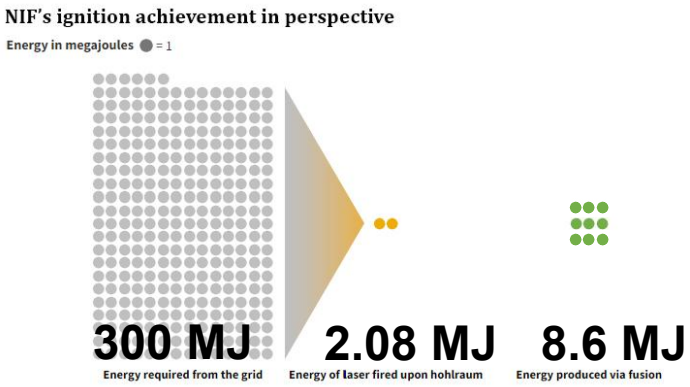




https://physicstoday.scitation.org/do/10.1063/PT.6.2.20221213a/full/
The age of ignition: anniversary edition, LLNL-BR-857901

A gain over 4 has been achieved



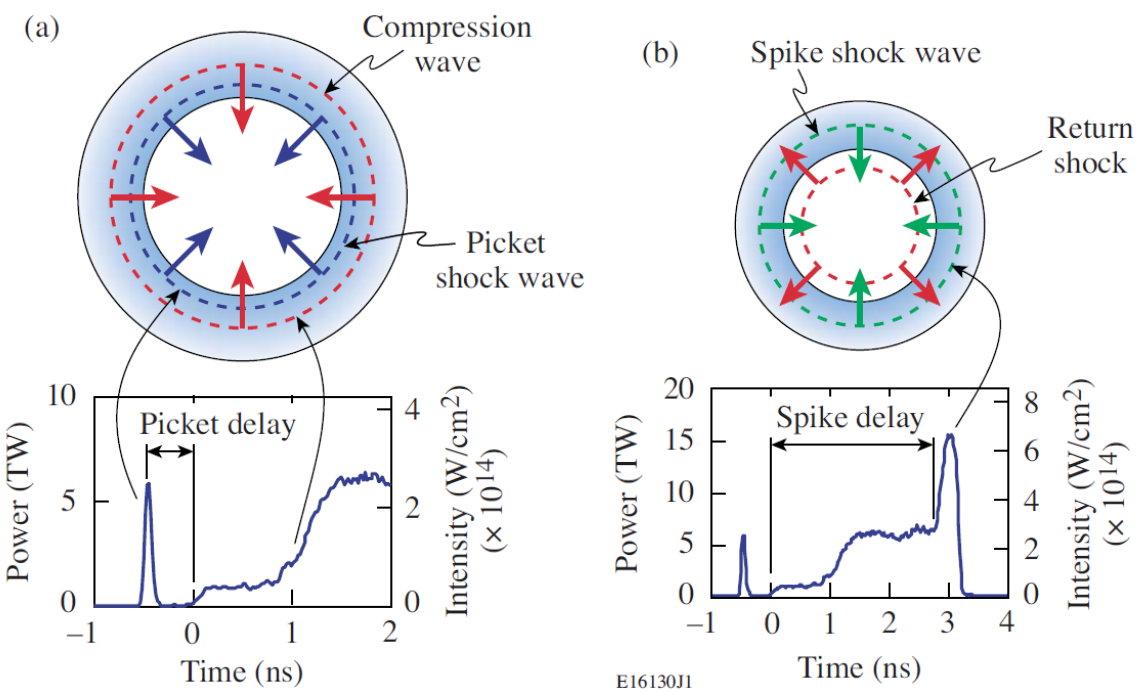


- **In recent attempts, the team at NIF increased the yield of the experiment, first to 5.2 megajoules and then again to 8.6 megajoules, according to a source with knowledge of the experiment.**

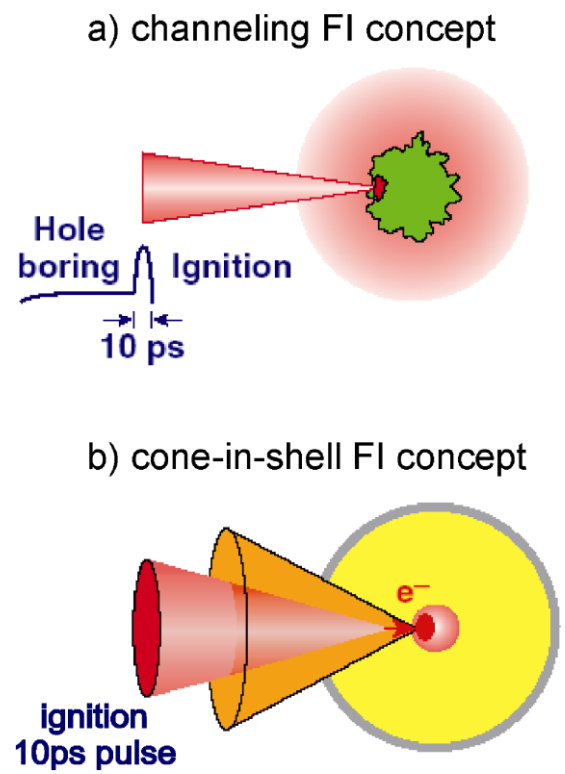
https://physicstoday.scitation.org/do/10.1063/PT.6.2.20221213a/full/
https://lasers.llnl.gov/science/achieving-fusion-ignition

External “spark” can be used for ignition

- **Shock ignition**



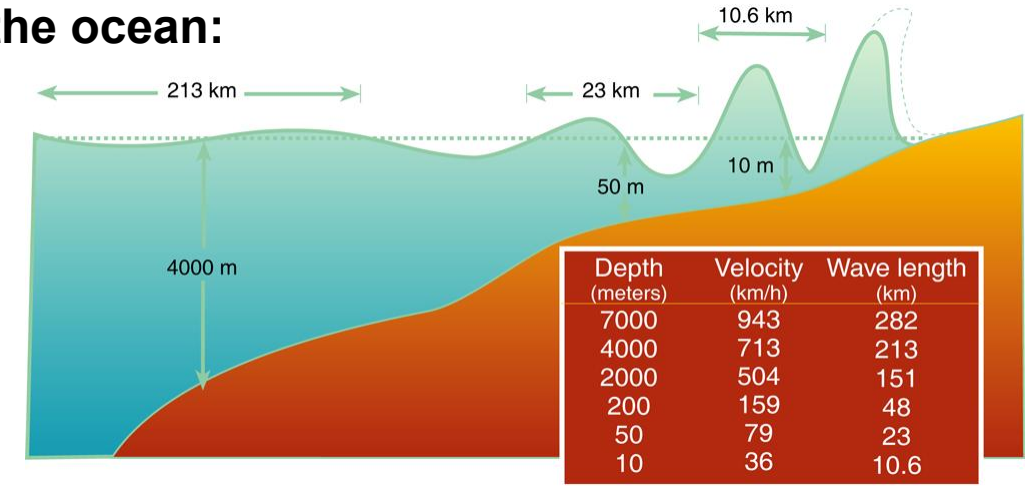
- **Fast ignition**



J. Badziak, Bull.Polish Acad. Sci. Tech. Sci.Phys. Plasmas 15, 056306 (2008)

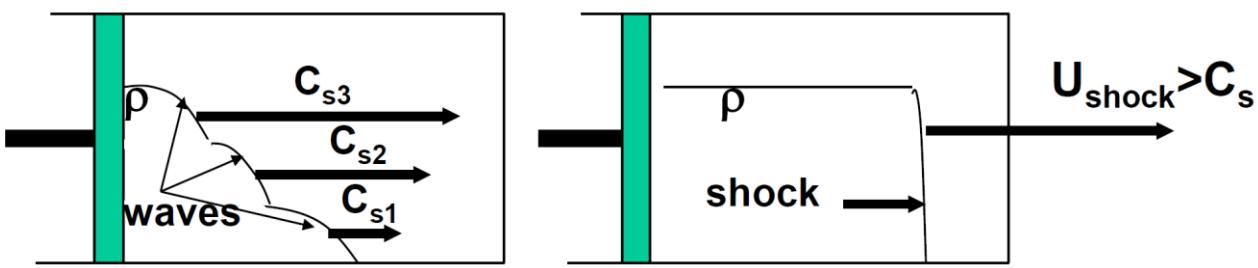
A shock is formed due to the increasing sound speed of a compressed gas/plasma

- **Wave in the ocean:**



Depth (meters)	Velocity (km/h)	Wave length (km)
7000	943	282
4000	713	213
2000	504	151
200	159	48
50	79	23
10	36	10.6

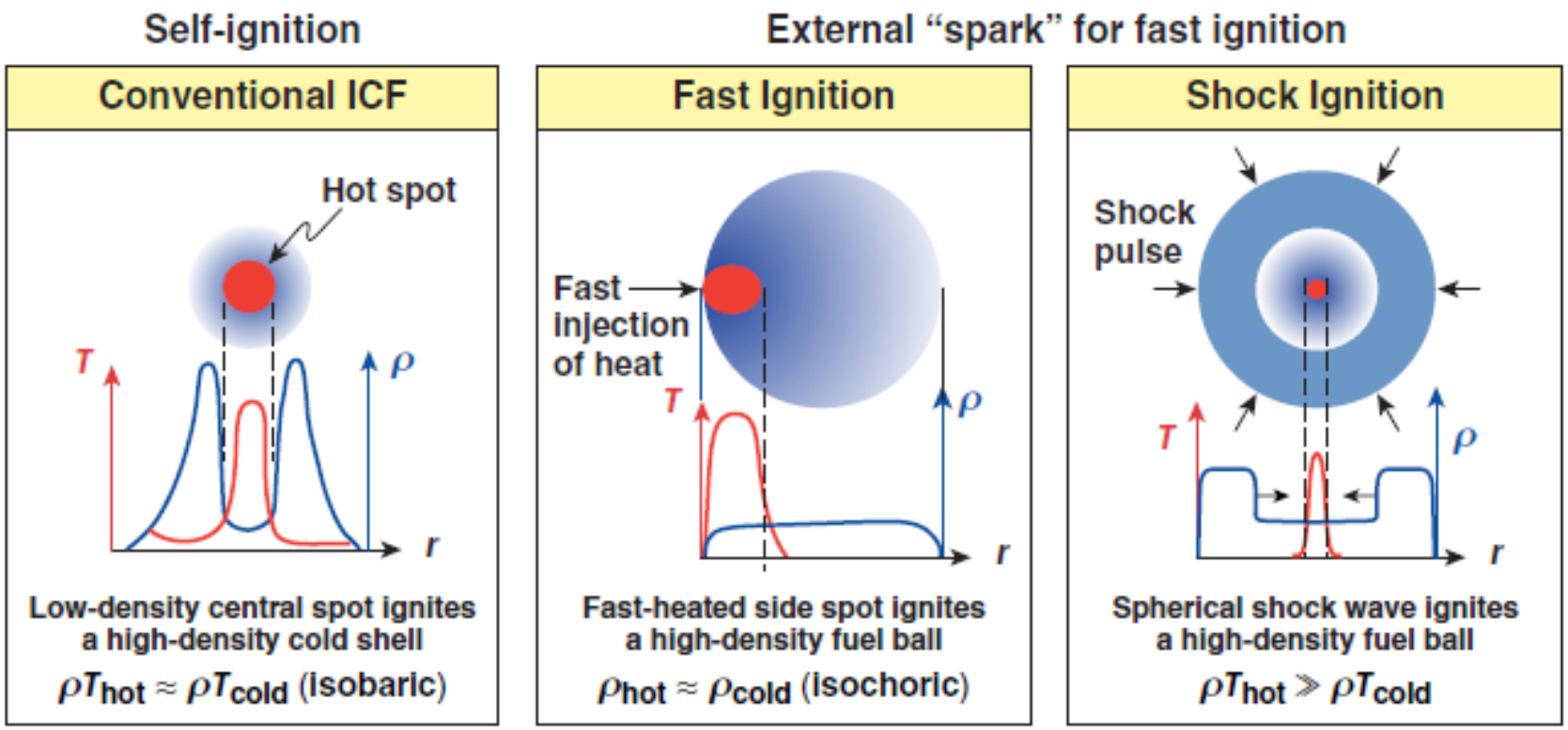
- **Acoustic/compression wave driven by a piston:**



$$C_s \sim \sqrt{\frac{p}{\rho}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{\alpha\rho^{5/3}}{\rho}} \sim \sqrt{\alpha}\rho^{1/3}$$

http://neamtic.ioc-unesco.org/tsunami-info/the-cause-of-tsunamis
*R. Betti, HEDSA HEDP Summer School, 2015

Ignition can happen by itself or being triggered externally

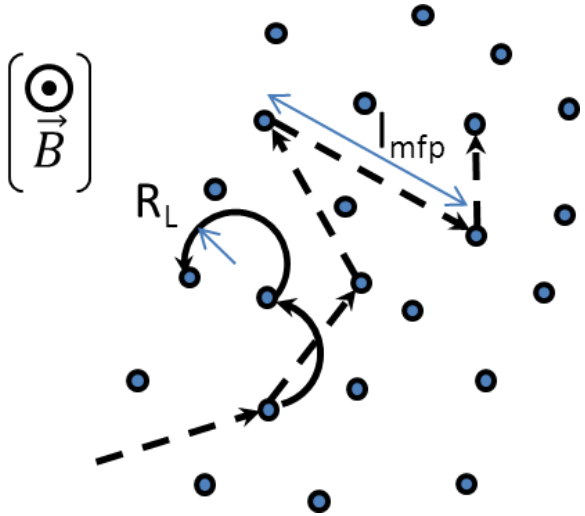


P. B. Radha, Fusion Energy Conference,2018

Outline

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)
  - Tokamak
  - Stellarator
- Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)
  - Indirection drive ICF
  - Direct drive ICF
- **Innovation idea – MCF + ICF**
- Plasma in space
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

A strong magnetic field reduces the heat flux



$$q_T = -\kappa_{||}\nabla_{||}T - \kappa_{\perp}\nabla_{\perp}T$$

$$\kappa_{||} = \kappa_0 T^{5/2}$$

$$\kappa_{\perp} = \frac{\kappa_{||}}{\chi^2} \quad \text{for large Hall parameter } \chi \propto \frac{l_{mfp}}{R_L} >> 1$$

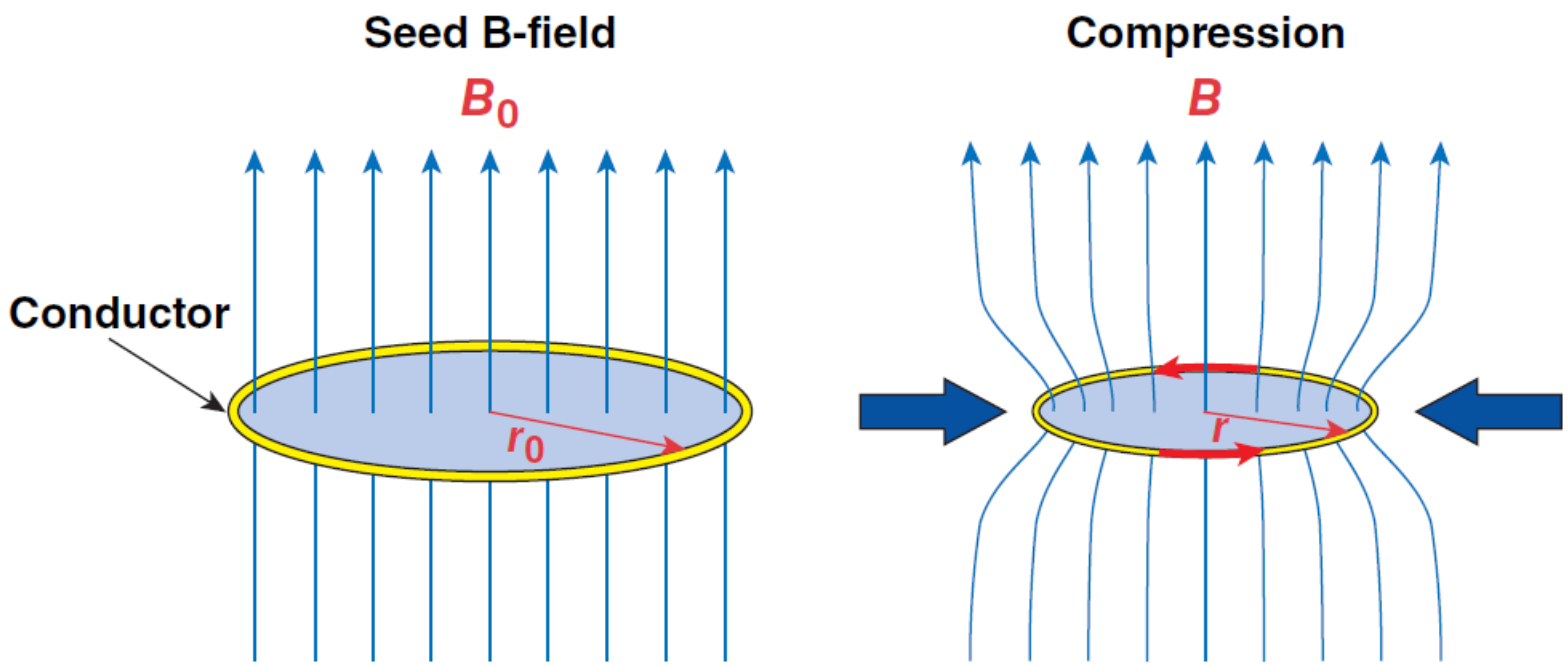
- Typical hot spot conditions:

  R_{hs} ~ 40 μm, ρ ~ 20 g/cm^3, T ~ 5 keV:

  $B > 10\,\text{MG}$ is neededfor $\chi > 1$

Magnetic-flux compression can be used to provide the needed magnetic field.

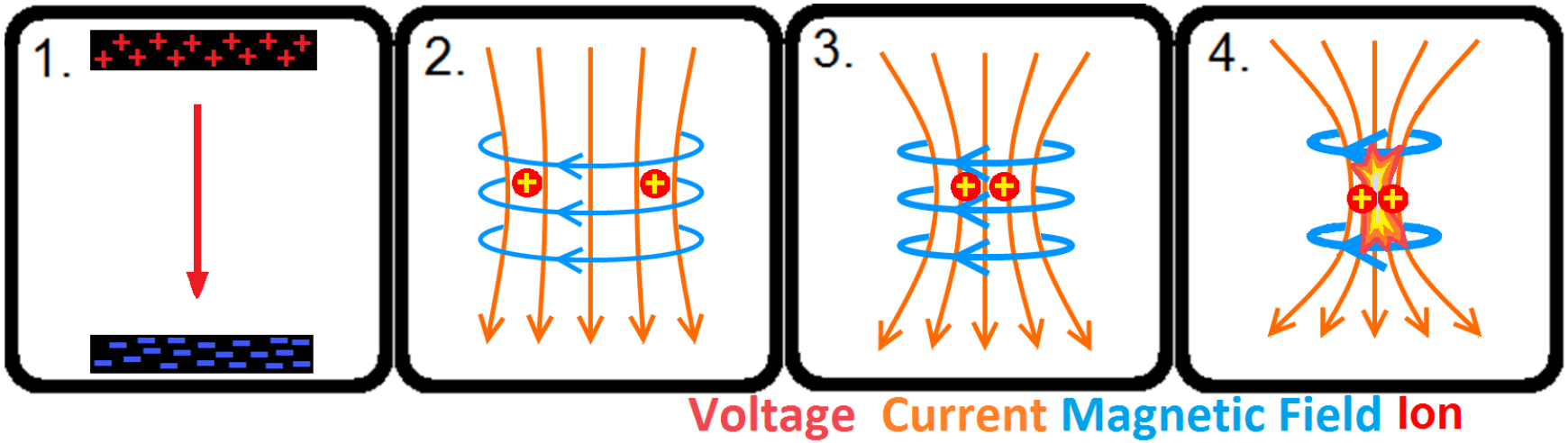
Principle of frozen magnetic flux in a good conductor is used to compress fields



$$\Phi = \pi r_0^2 B_0 = \pi r^2 B$$

M. Hohenberger, P.-Y. Chang, *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas 19, 056306 (2012).

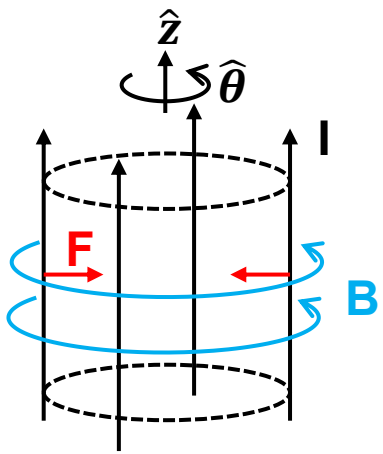
Plasma can be pinched by parallel propagating plasmas



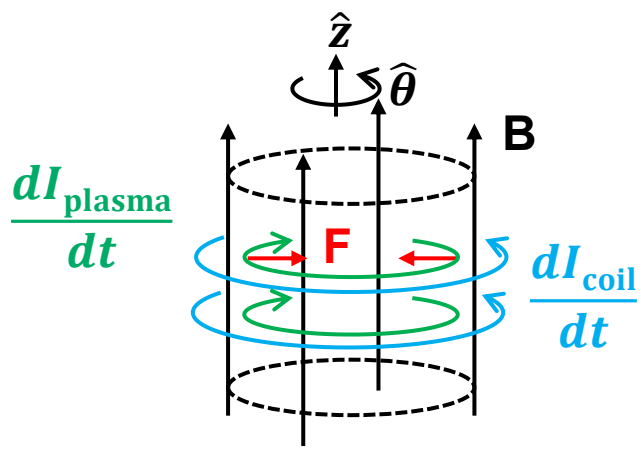
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinch_(plasma_physics)

Plasma can be heated via pinches

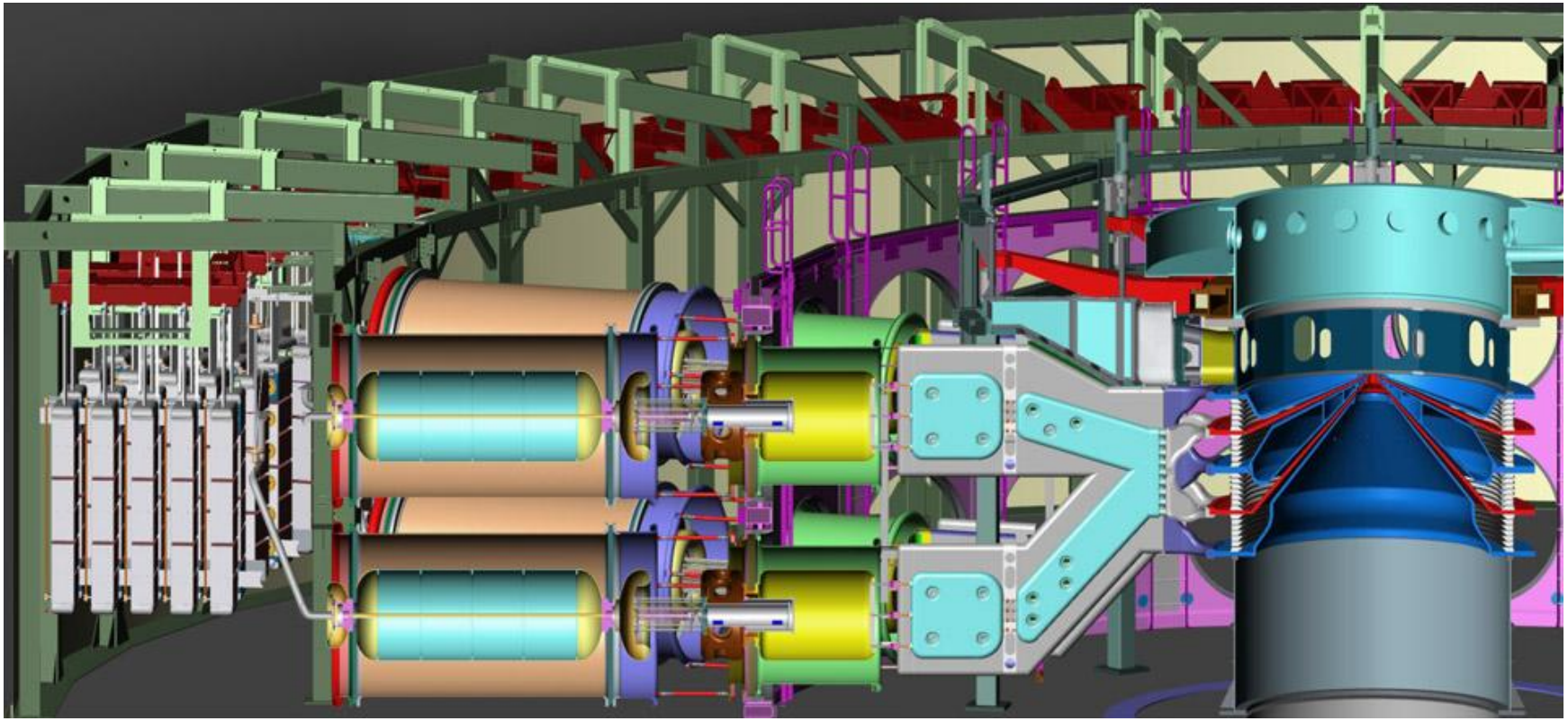
Z pinch



Theta pinch

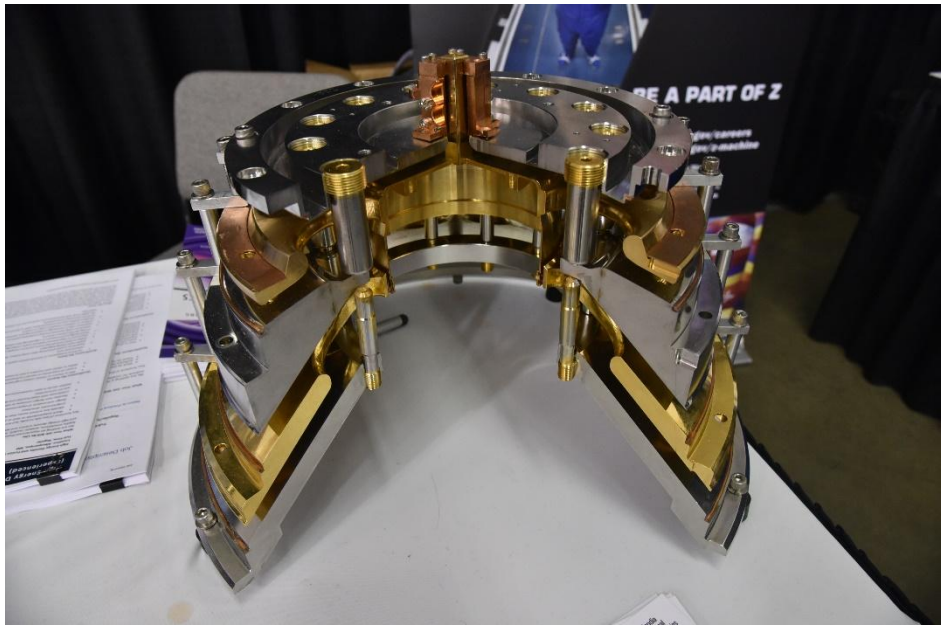


Sandia's Z machine is the world's most powerful and efficient laboratory radiation source

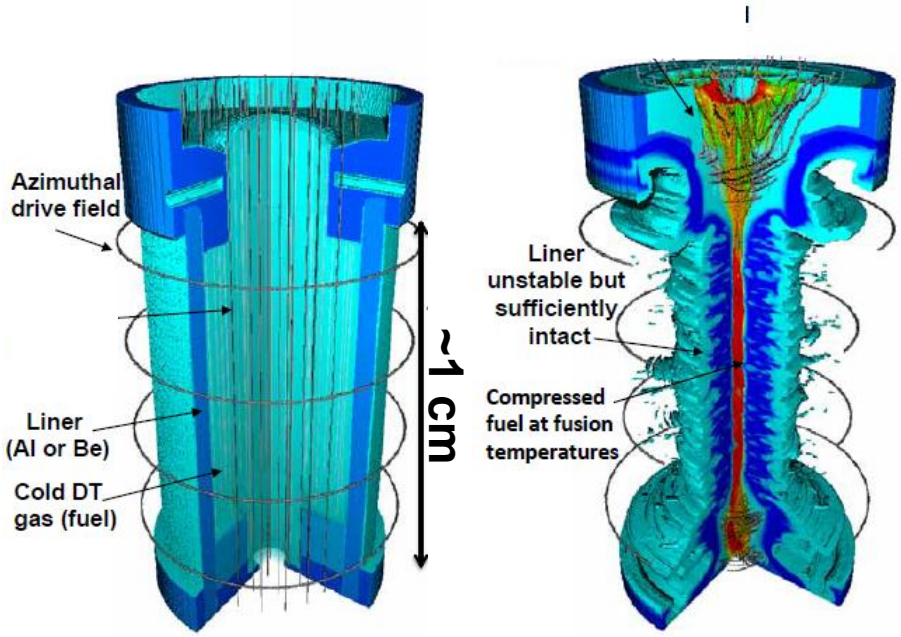


- Stored energy: 20 MJ
- Marx charge voltage: 85 kV
- Peak electrical power: 85 TW
- Peak current: 26 MA
- Rise time: 100 ns
- Peak X-ray emissions: 350 TW
- Peak X-ray output: 2.7 MJ

Z machine



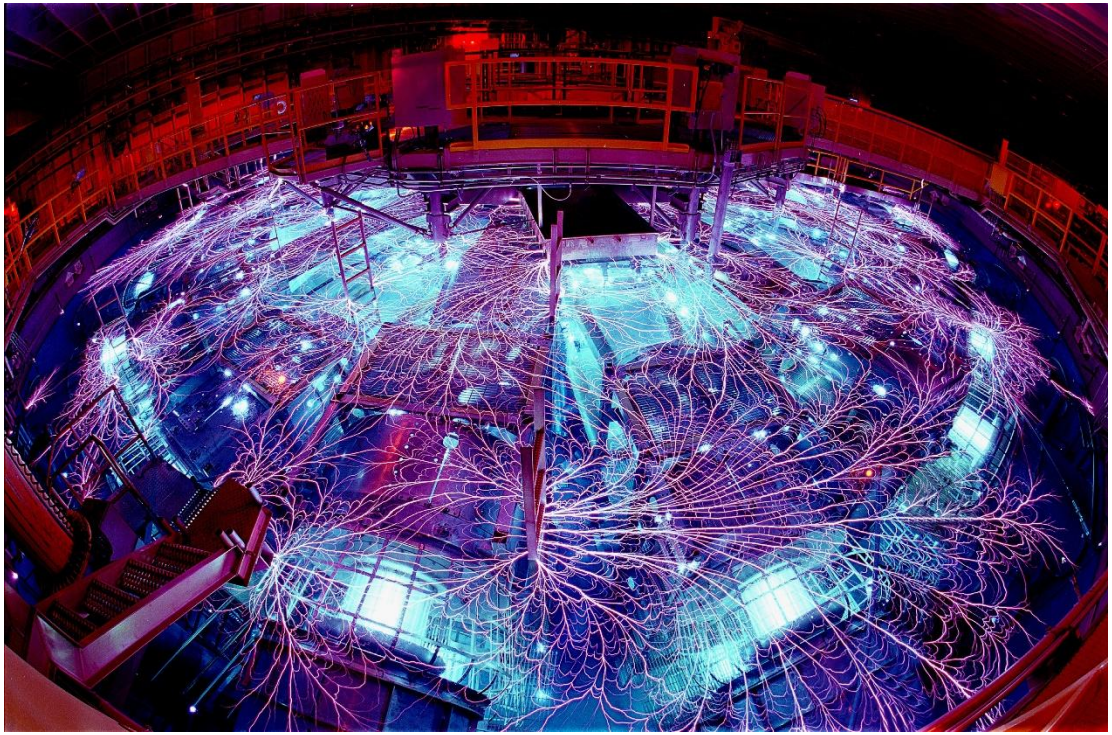
Z machine



- Stored energy: 20 MJ
- Peak electrical power: 85 TW

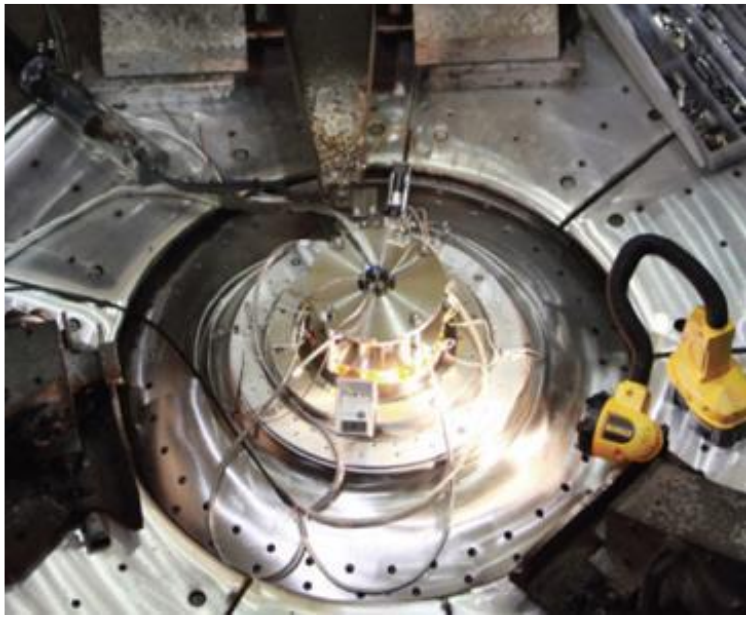
- Peak current: 26 MA
- Rise time: 100 ns
- Peak X-ray output: 2.7 MJ

Z machine discharge

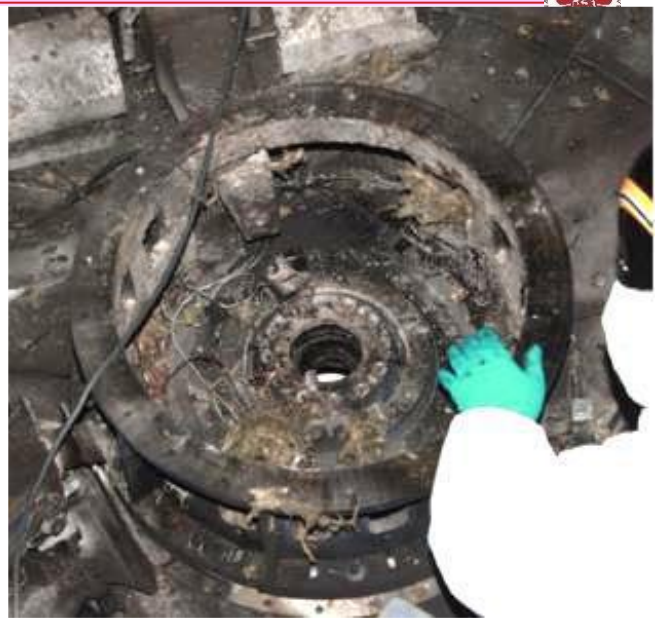


Before and after shots

- **Before shots**

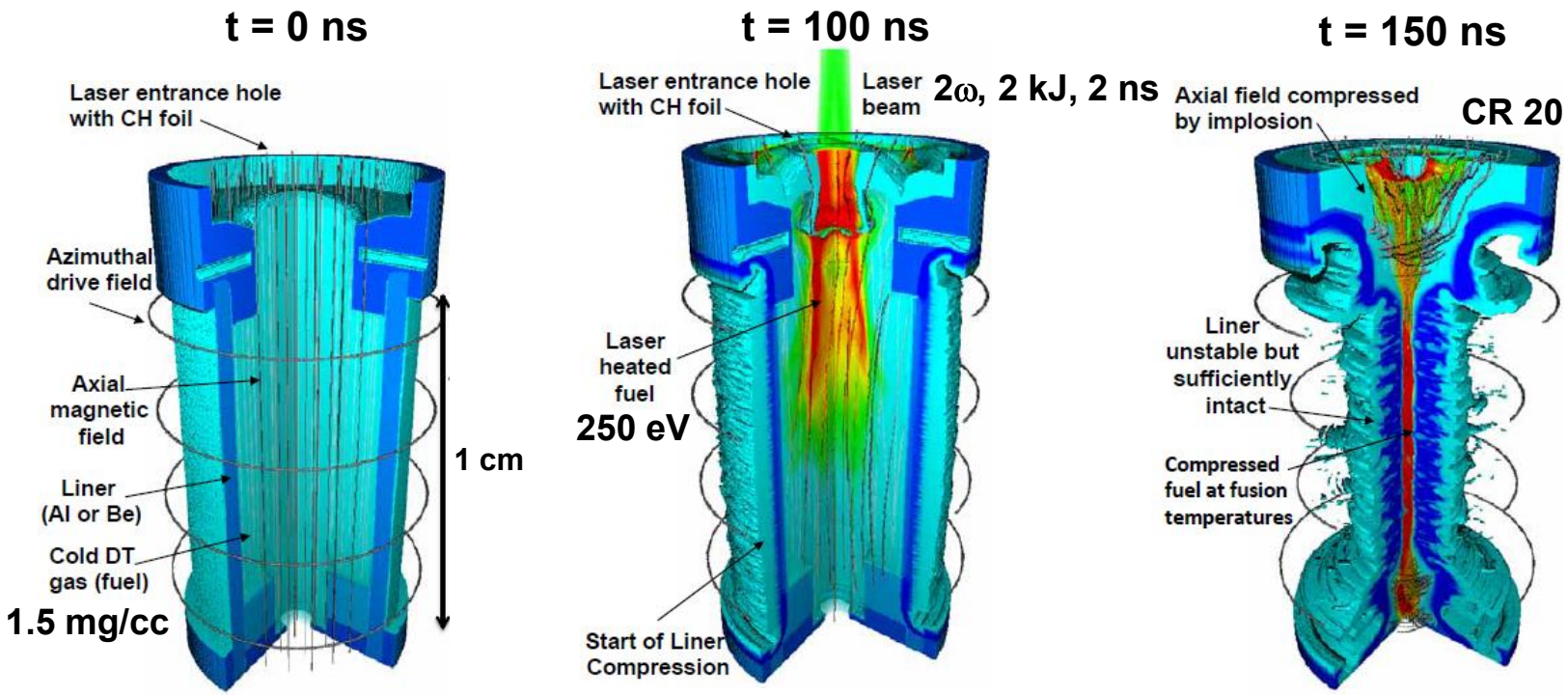


- **After shots**



SAND2017-0900PE_The sandia z machine - an overview of the world's most powerful pulsed power facility.pdf

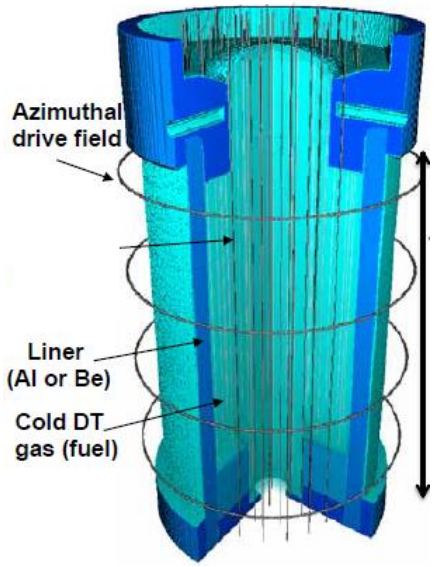
Promising results were shown in MagLIF concept conducted at the Sandia National Laboratories

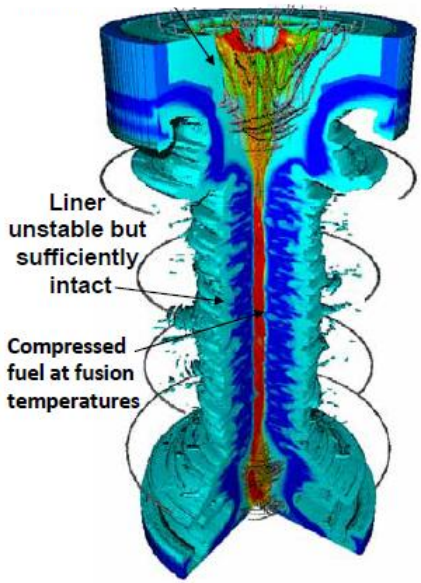


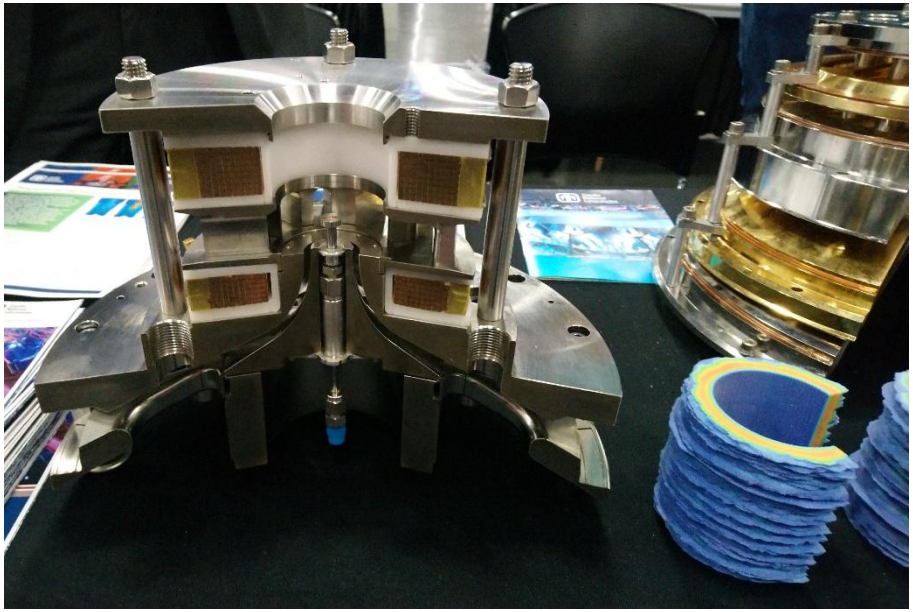
The stagnation plasma reached fusion-relevant temperatures with a 70 km/s implosion velocity

S. A. Slutz *et al* Phys. Plasmas 17 056303 (2010)
M. R. Gomez *et al* Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 155003 (2014)

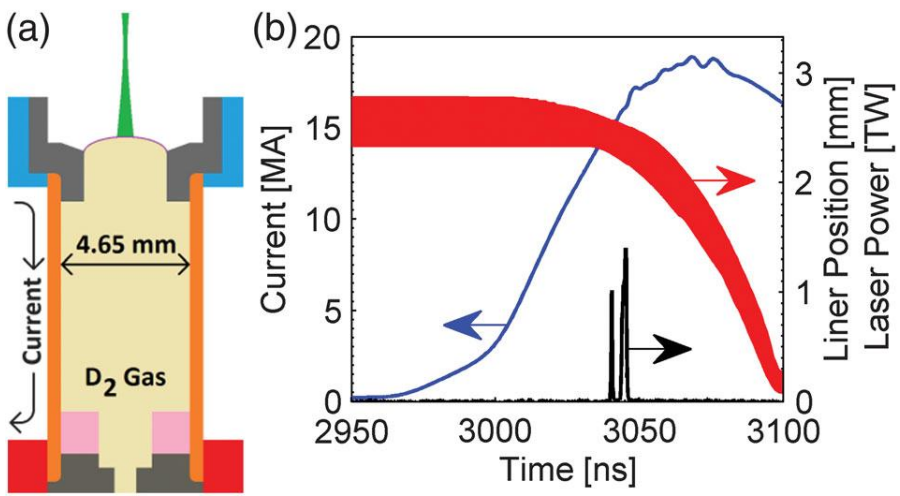
MagLIF target

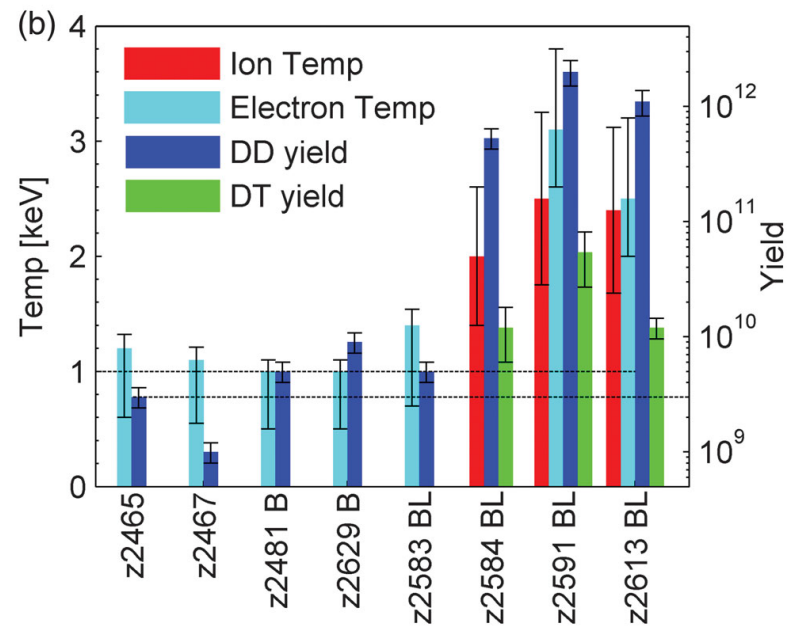






Neutron yield increased by 100x with preheat and external magnetic field.



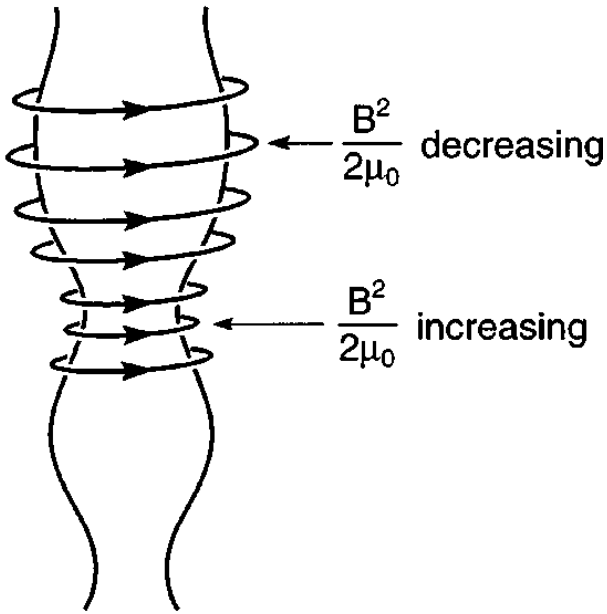


M. R. Gomez *et al* Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 155003 (2014)

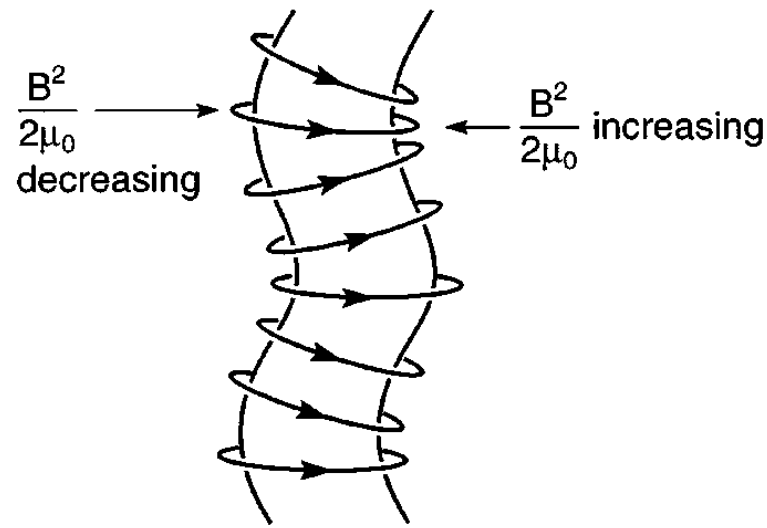
Sheared flow stabilizes MHD instabilities

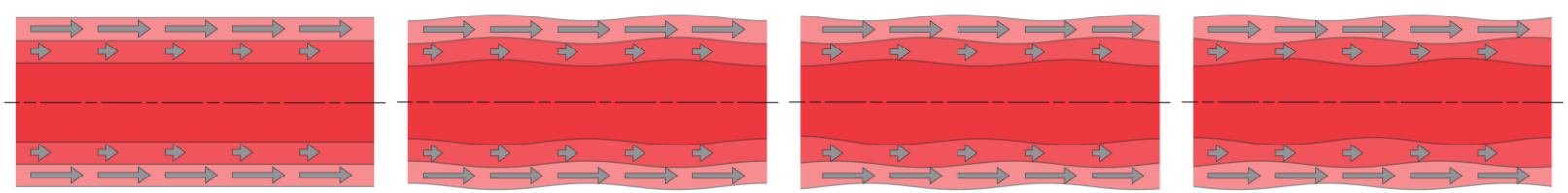
m = 0 (sausage)

Perturbation $\propto e^{(im\theta + ikz + \gamma t)}$



m = 1 (kink)

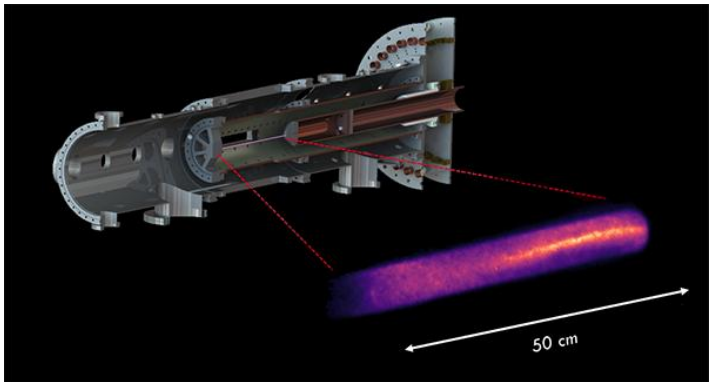




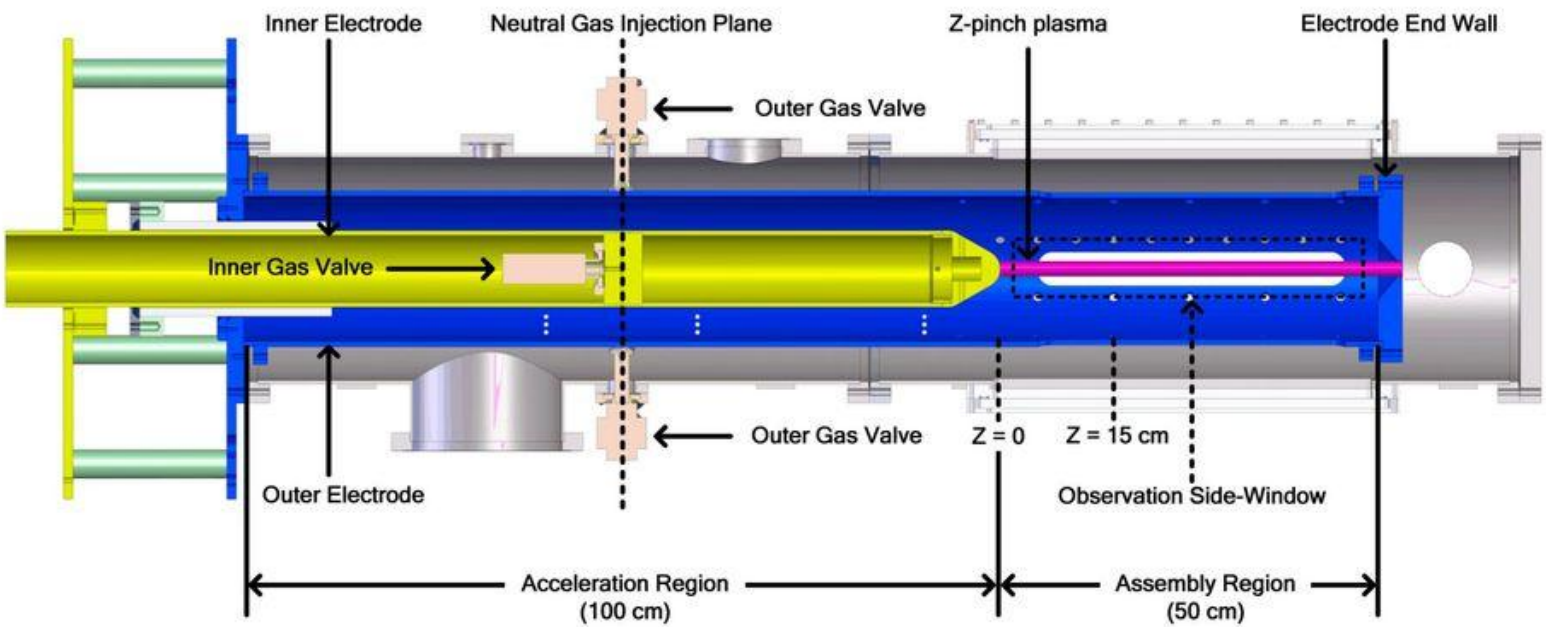
$$\frac{dV_Z}{dr} \neq 0$$

M. G. Haines, etc., Phys. Plasmas 7, 1672 (2000)
U. Shumlak, etc., Physical Rev. Lett. 75, 3285 (1995)
U. Shumlak, etc., ALPHA Annual Review Meeting 2017

A z-pinch plasma can be stabilized by sheared flows

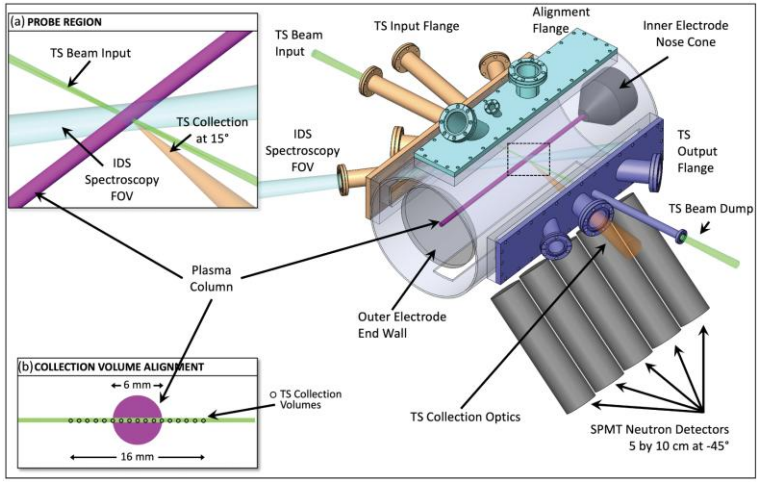


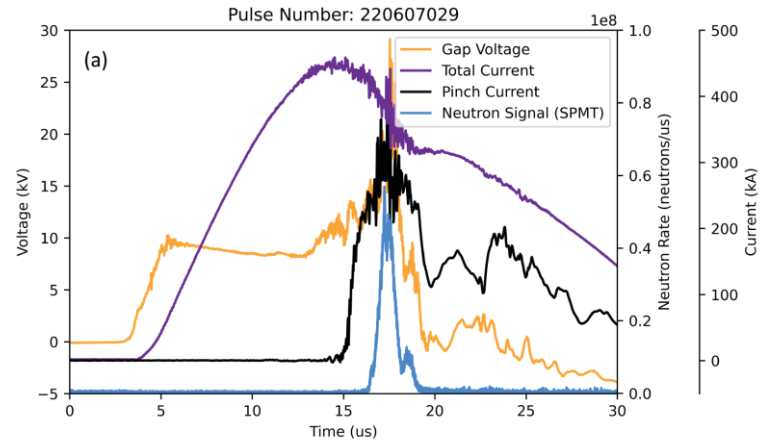
ZAP ENERGY™



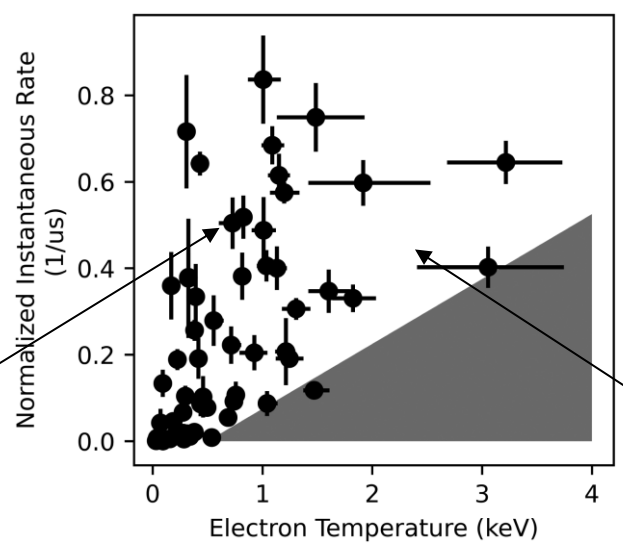
https://www.zapenergyinc.com/about
A. D. Stepanov, etc., Phys. Plasmas 27, 112503 (2020)

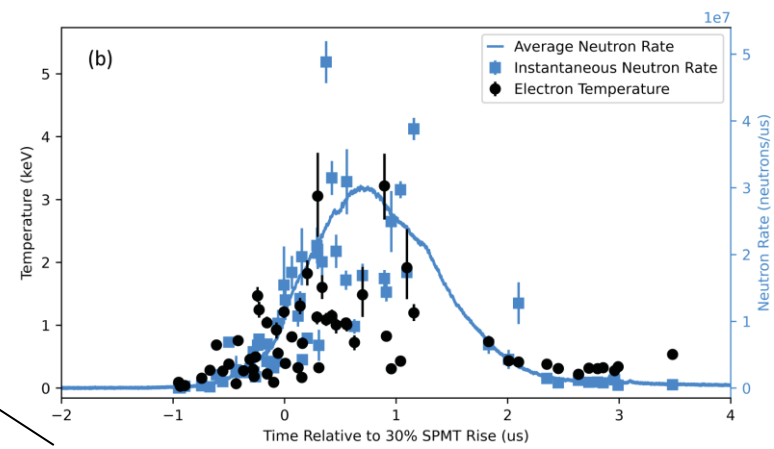
Elevated electron temperature coincident with observed fusion reactions in a sheared-flow-stabilized z pinch





- **Thomson scattering measurement missed the high temperature region.**

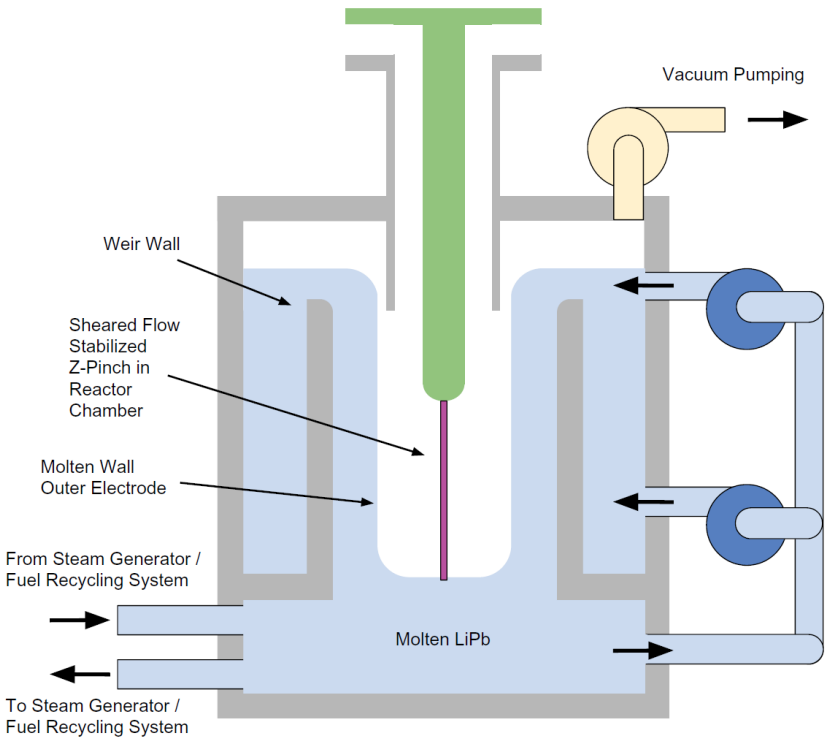


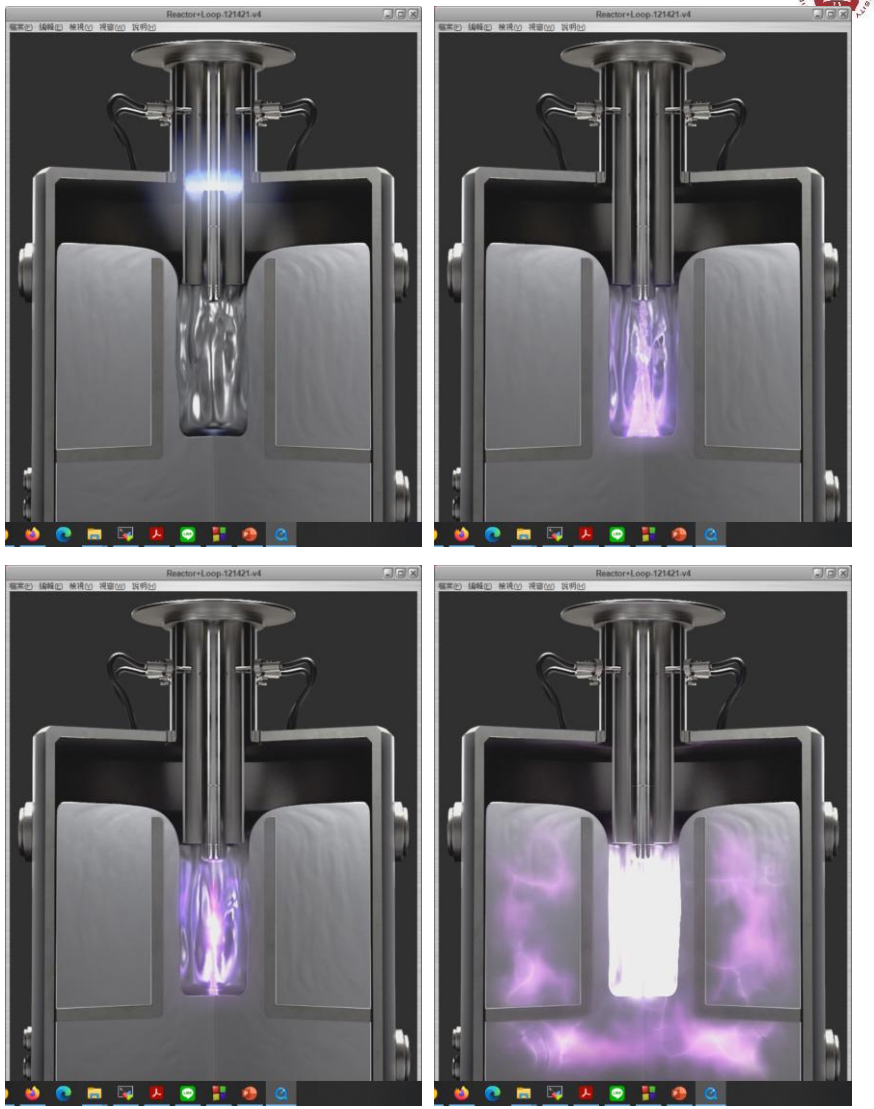


- **High temperature coincide with high rate.**

B. Levitt, etc., Phys. Rev. Lett. **132**, 155101 (2024)

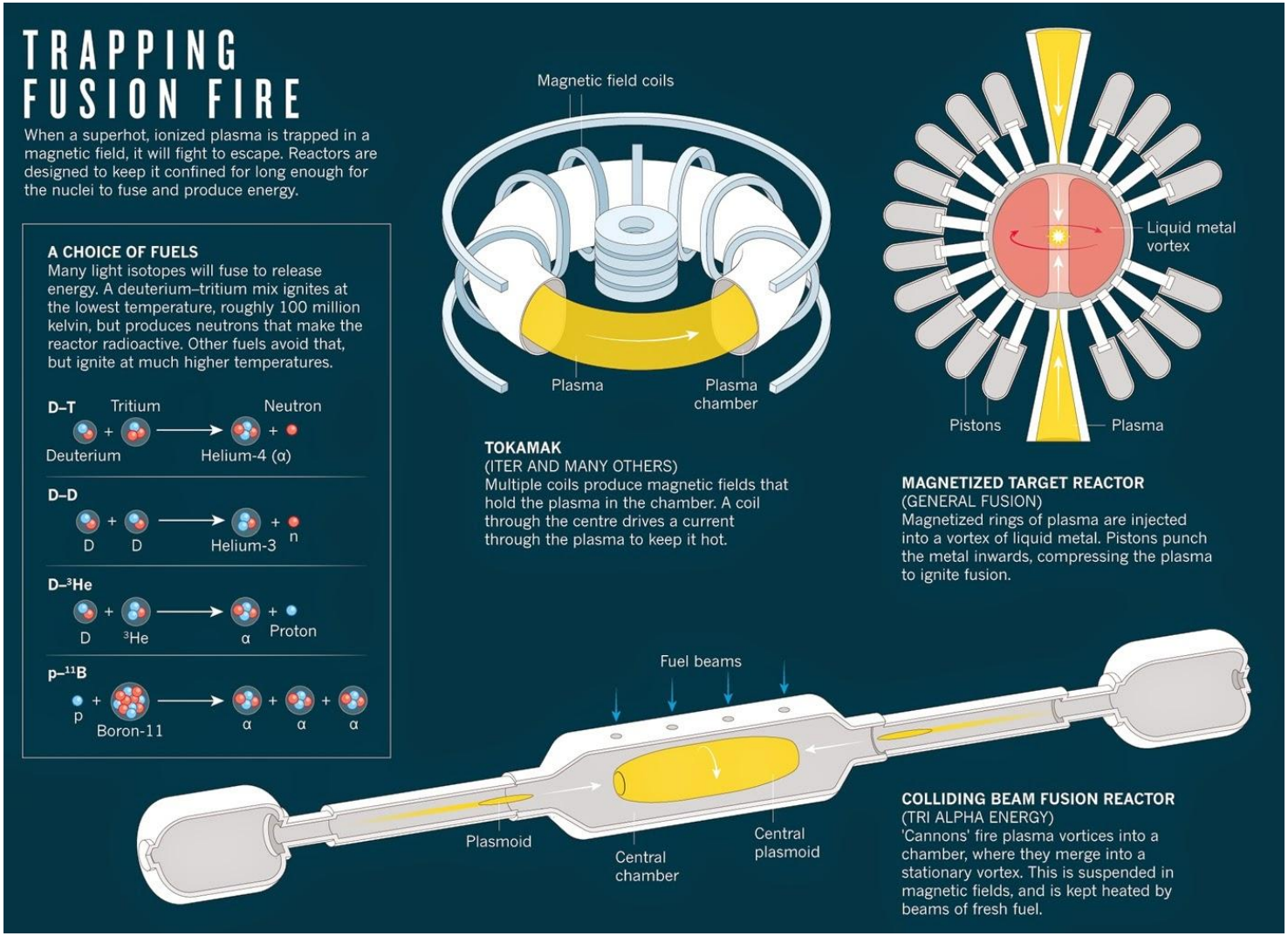
Fusion reactor concept by ZAP energy





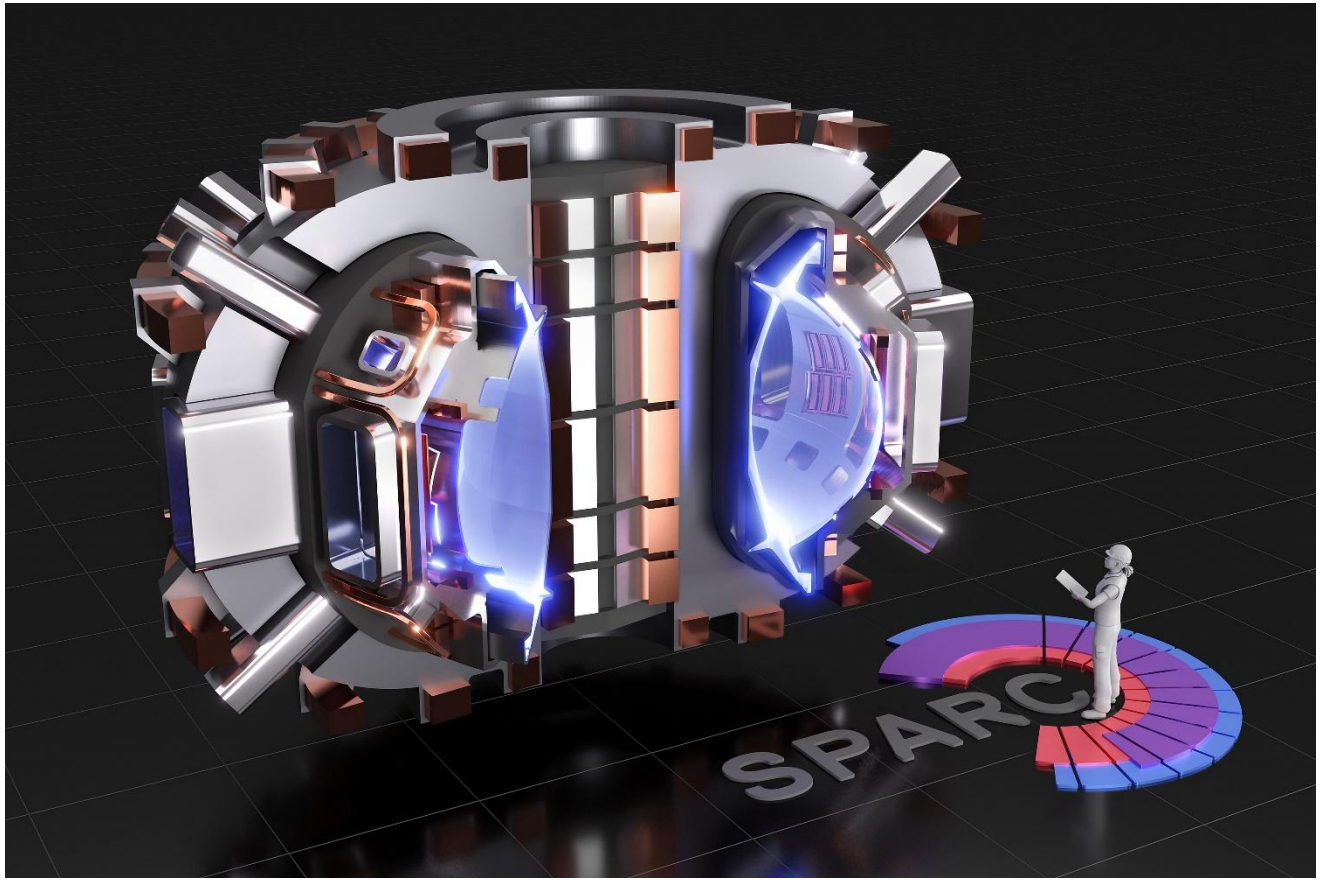
https://www.zapenergyinc.com/about
E. G. Forbes, etc., Fusion Sci. Tech. 75, 599 (2019)

There are alternative



http://www.nextbigfuture.com/2016/05/nuclear-fusion-comany-tri-alpha-energy.html

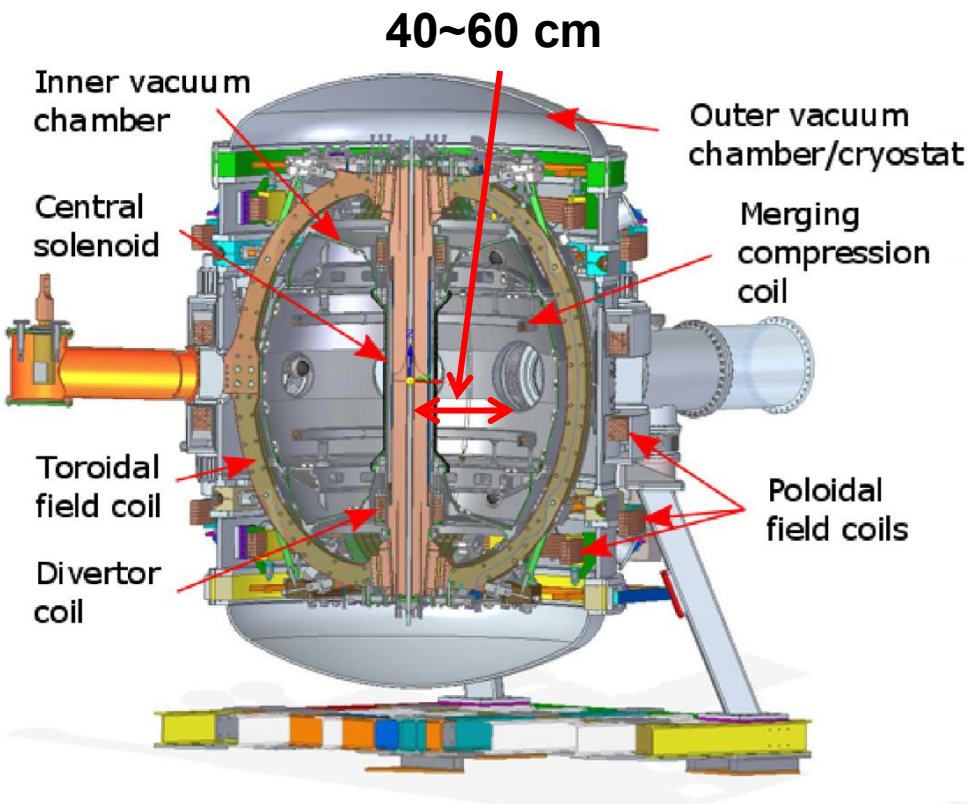
Commonwealth Fusion Systems, a MIT spin-out company, is building a high-magnetic field tokamak



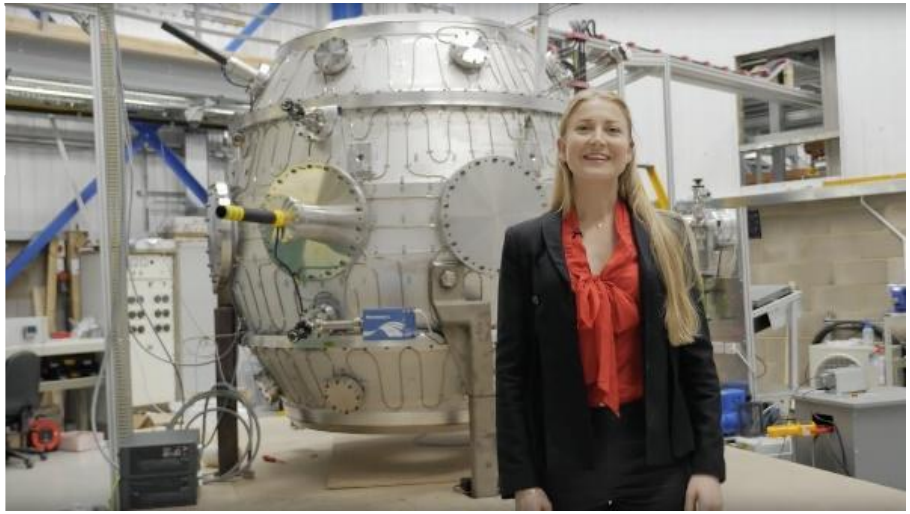
- **Fusion power ∝ B^4.**
- **The fusion gain Q > 2 is expected for SPARC tokamak.**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SPARC_(tokamak)

Merging compression is used to heat the tokamak at the start-up process in ST40 Tokamak at Tokamak Energy Ltd

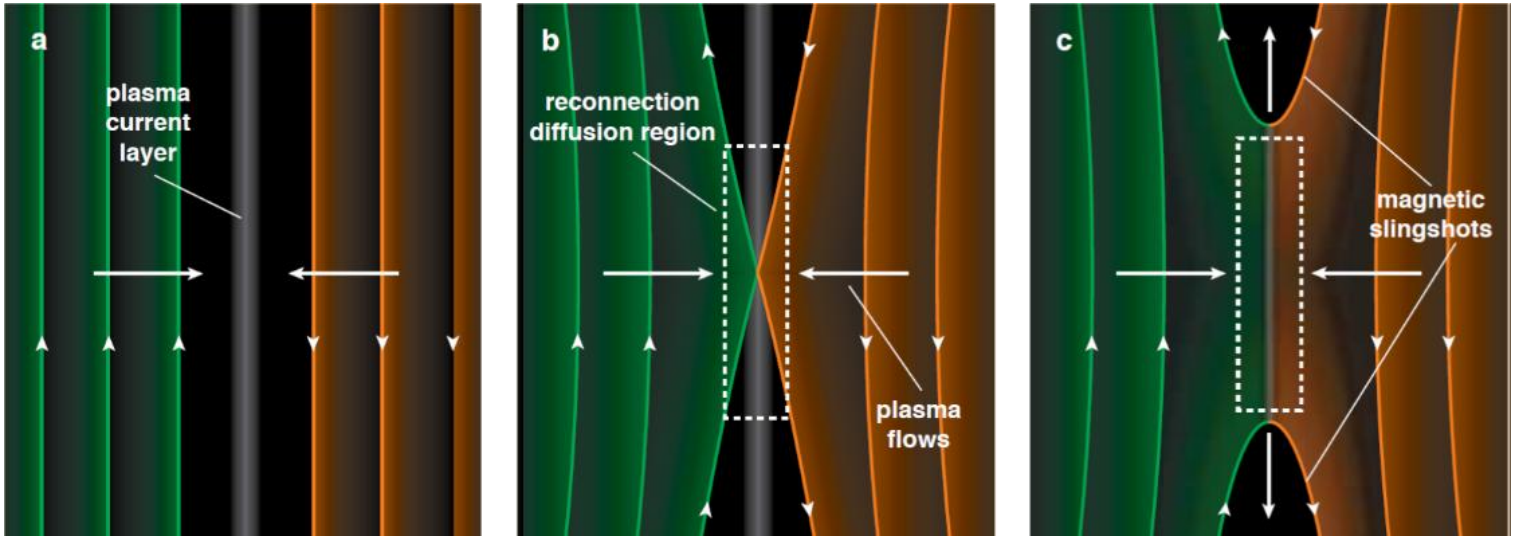


- **High temperature superconductors are used.**
- **B_T ~ 3 T**



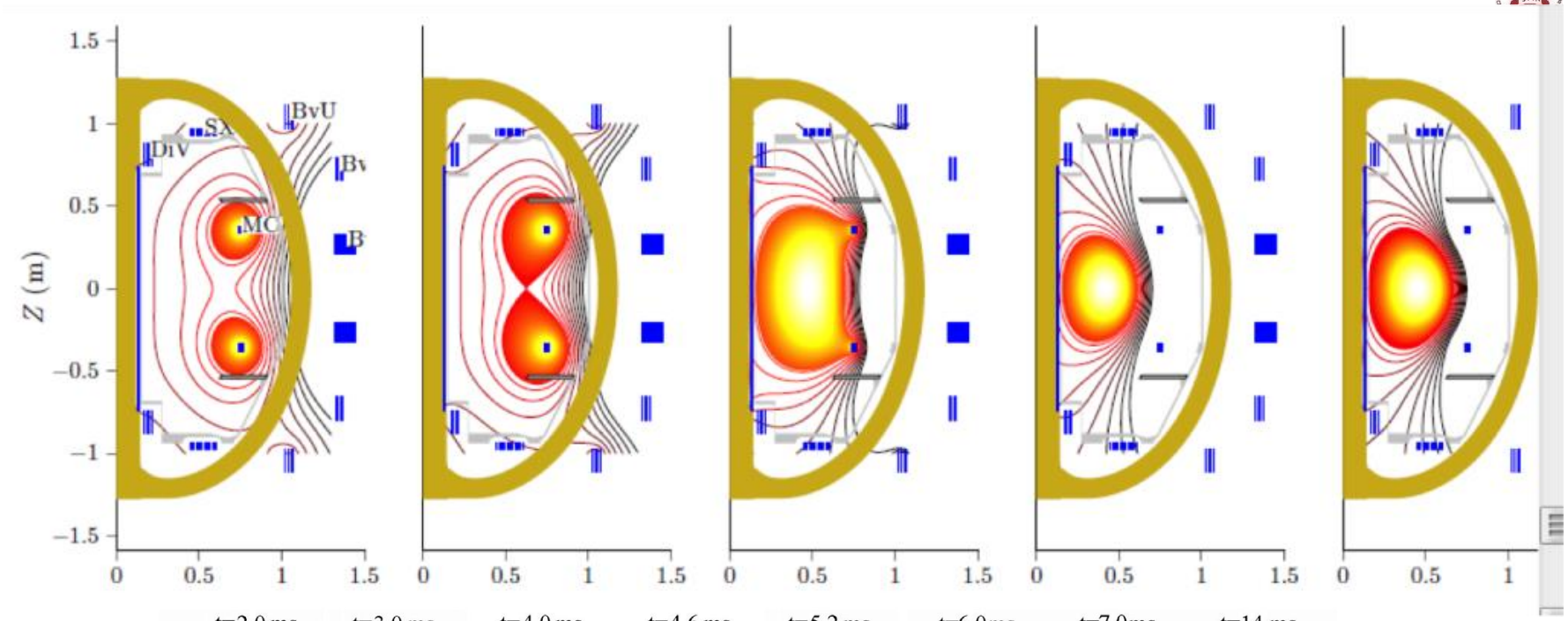
M. Gryaznevich, etc., Fusion Eng. Design, **123**,177 (2017)
https://www.tokamakenergy.co.uk/
P. F. Buxton, etc., Fusion Eng. Design, **123**, 551 (2017)

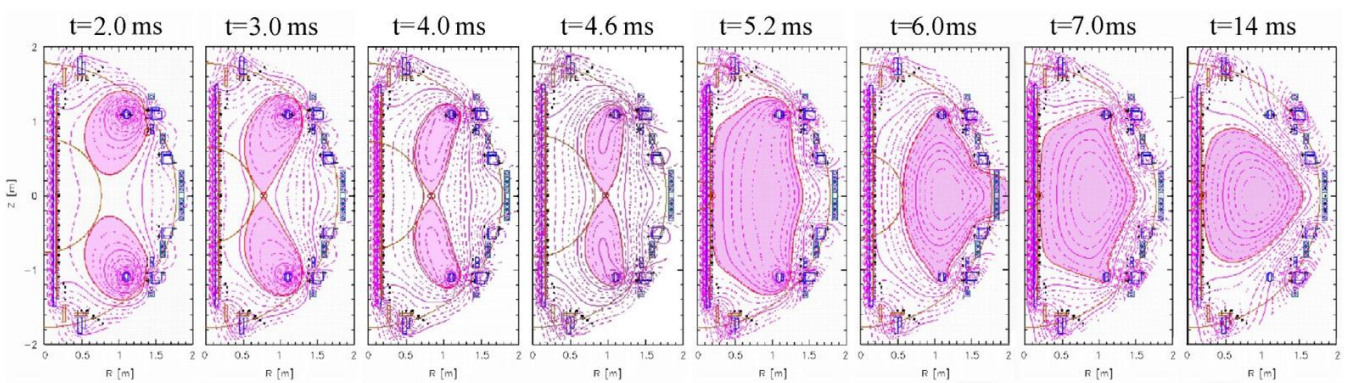
Reconnection



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sS3Lpzh0Zw

Merging compression is used to heat the plasma

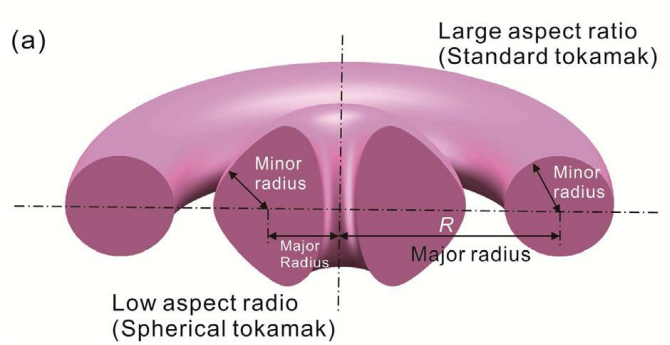




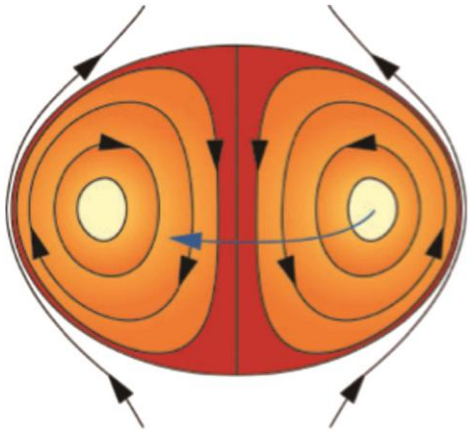
http://www.100milliondegrees.com/merging-compression/
P. F. Buxton, etc., Fusion Eng. Design, **123**, 551 (2017)

Spherical torus (ST) and compact torus (CT)

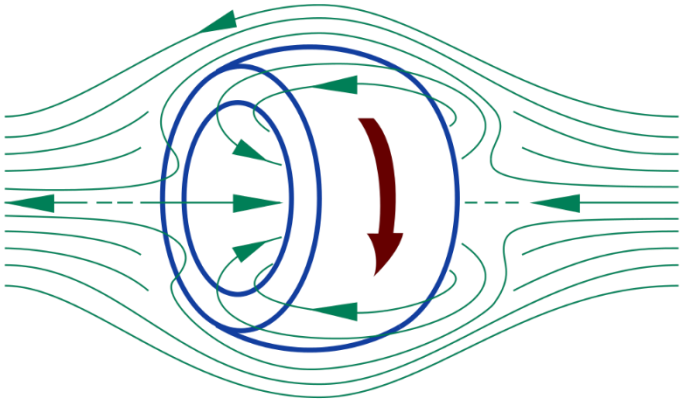
- **Spherical torus (ST)**



- **Compact torus (CT)**
  - **Spheromak**

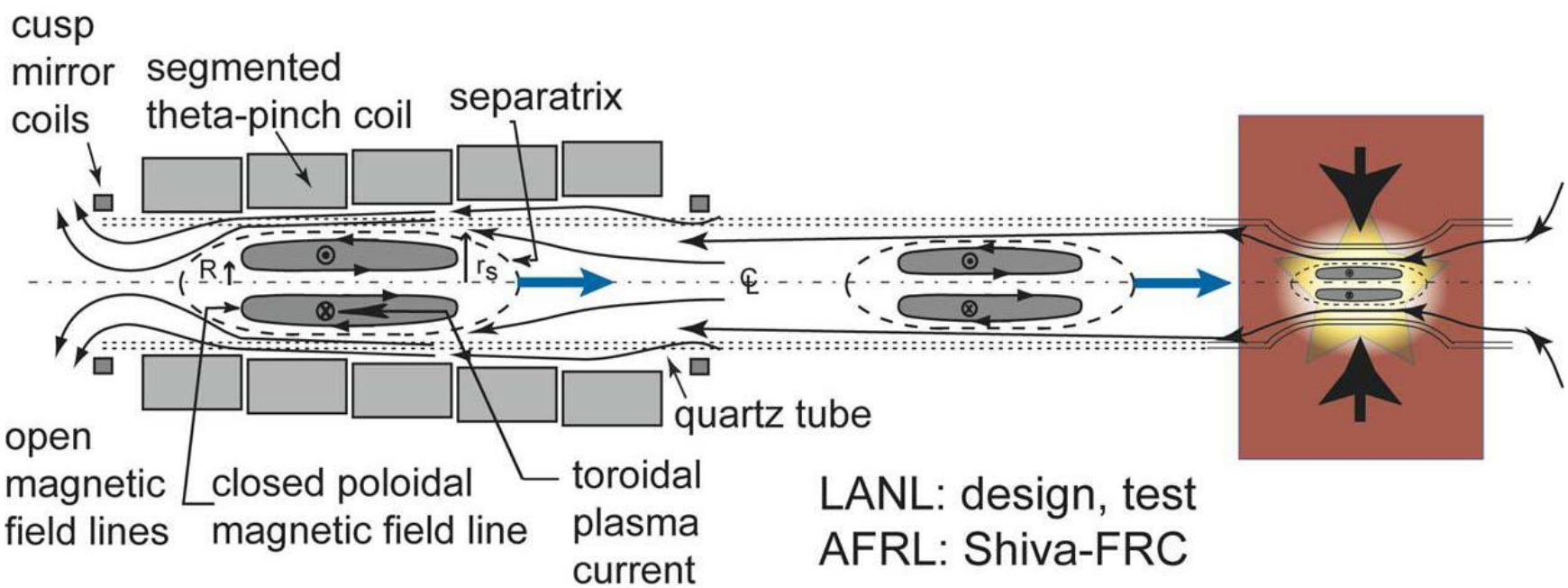


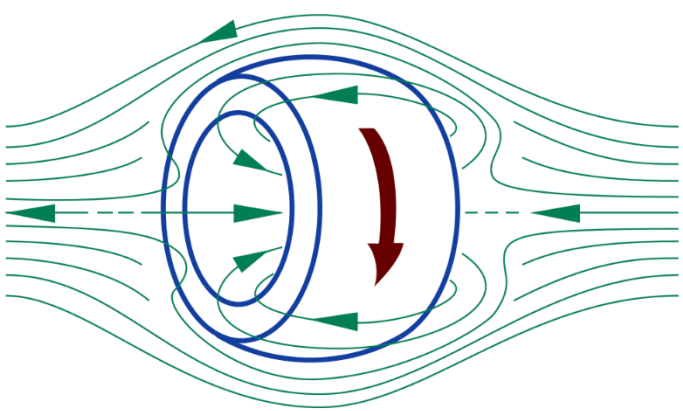
  - **Field reversed configuration (FRC)**



Zhe Gao, Matter Radiat. Extremes **1**, 153 (2016)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field-reversed_configuration

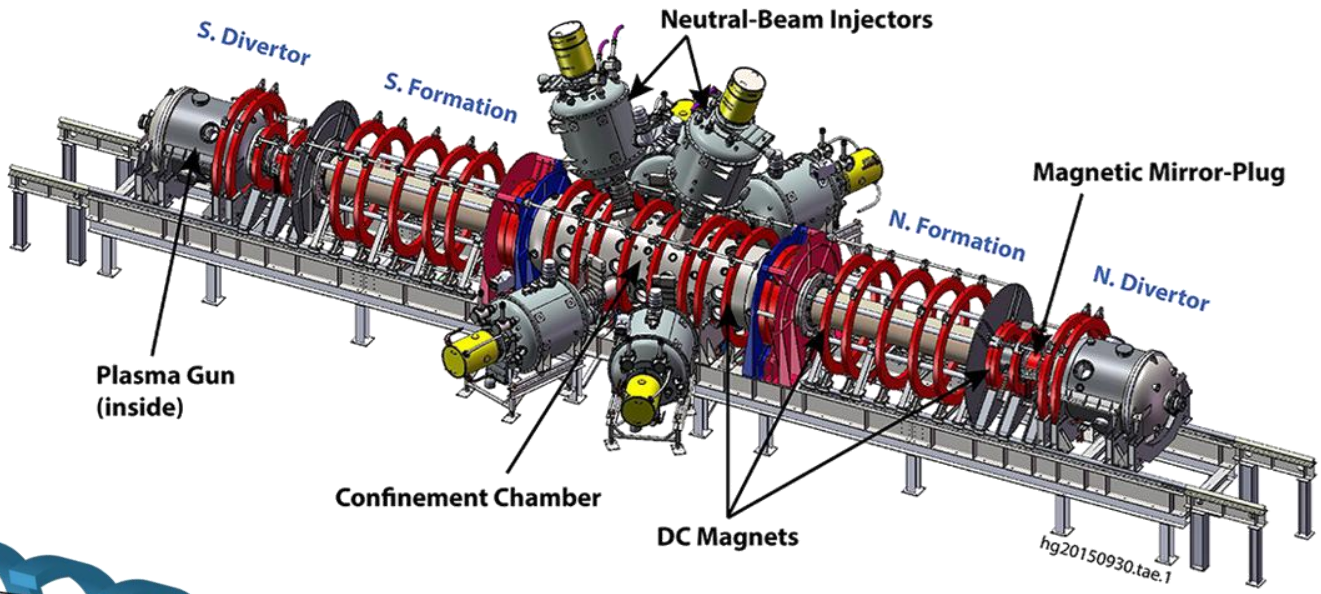
Field reverse configuration is used in Tri-alpha energy

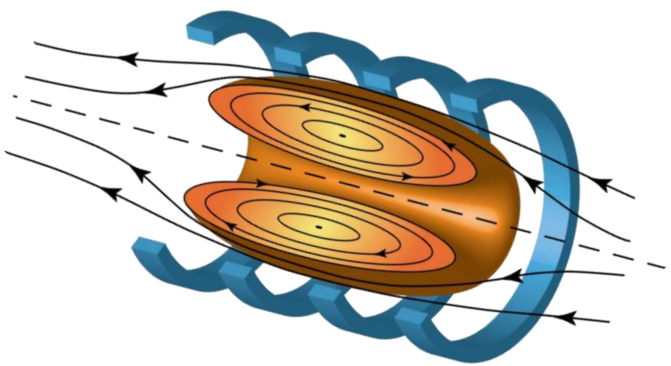




*Magneto-Inertial Fusion& Magnetized HED Physics by Bruno S. Bauer, UNR & Magneto-Inertial Fusion Community
**https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field-reversed_configuration

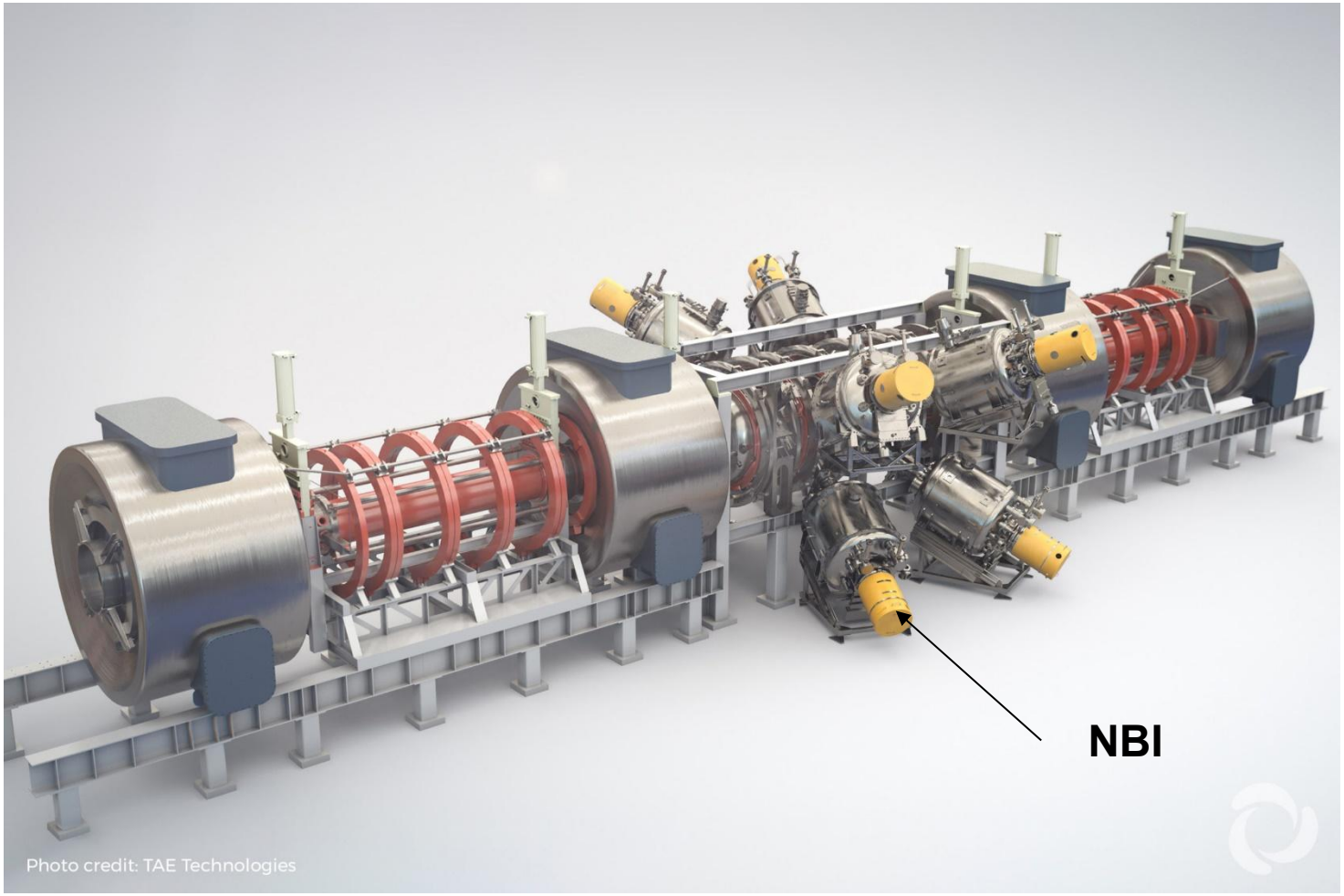
Field reverse configuration is used in Tri-alpha energy





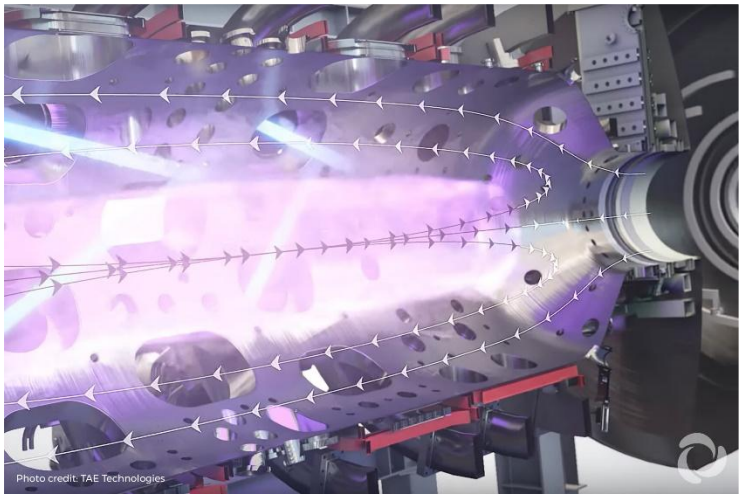
http://trialphaenergy.com/
Zhe Gao, Matter Radiat. Extremes **1**, 153 (2016)

NBI for Tri-Alpha Energy Technologies



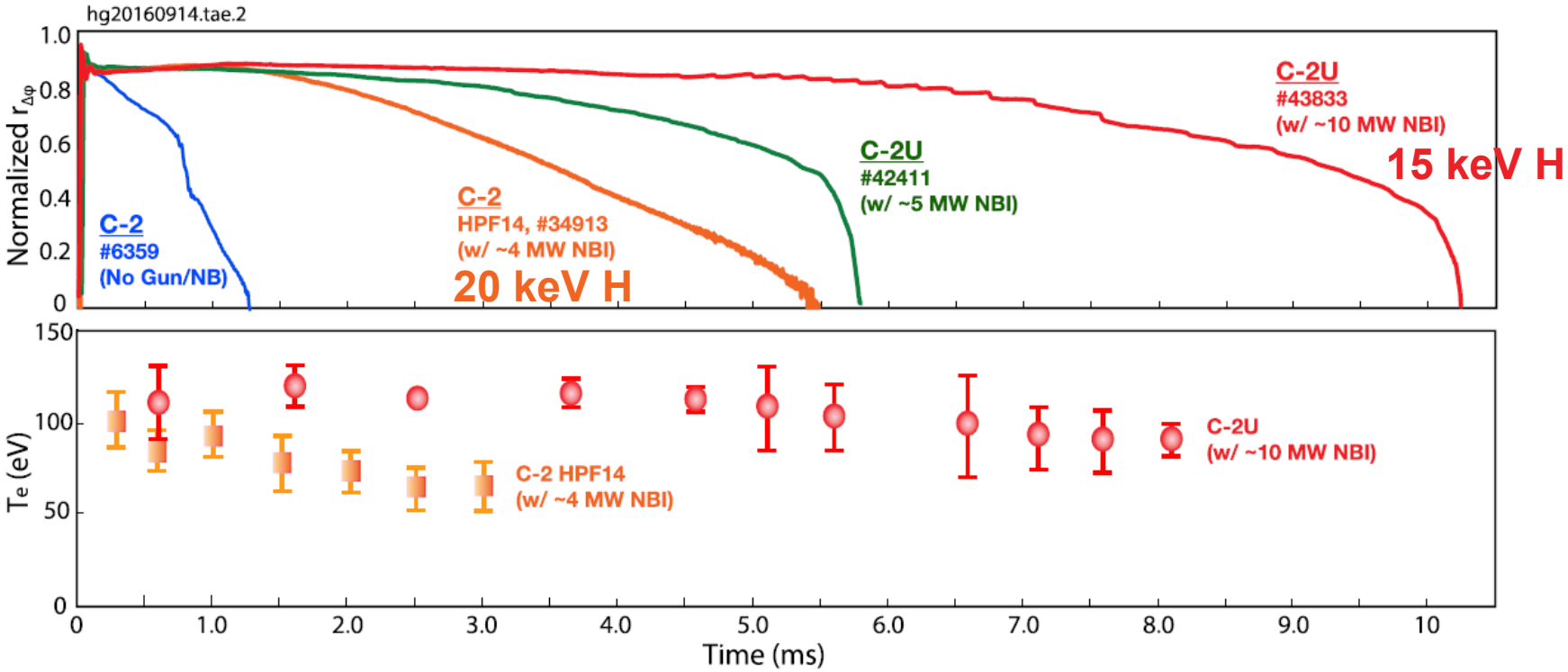
https://tae.com/media/

Neutral beams are injected in to the chamber for spinning the FRC



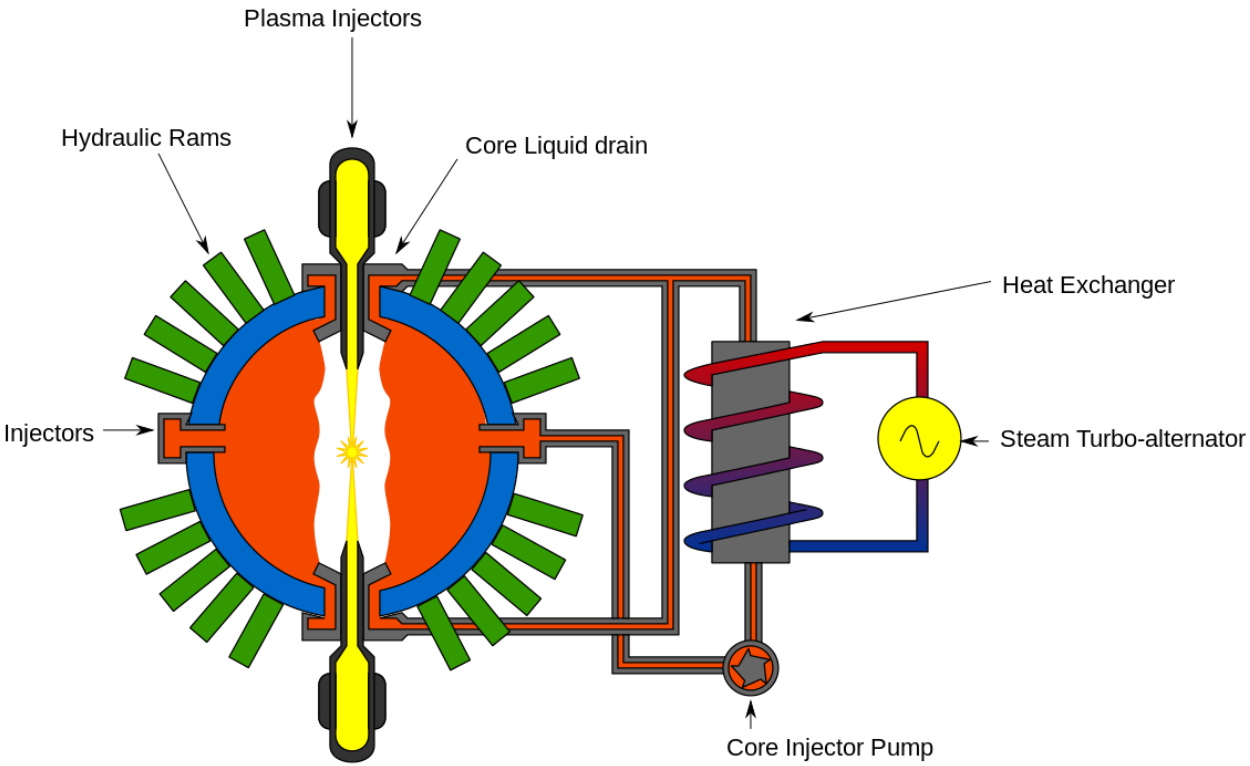
https://tae.com/media/
https://zh.wikihow.com/%E5%9C%A8%E6%89%8B%E6%8C%87%E4%B8%8A%E8%BD%AC%E7%AF%AE%E7%90%83

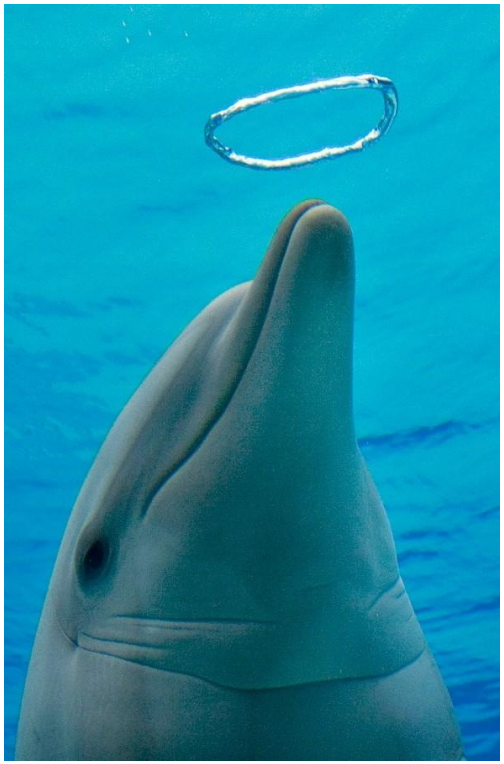
FRC sustain longer with neutral beam injection



H. Gota, *etc.*, Nucl. Fusion **57** (2017) 116021

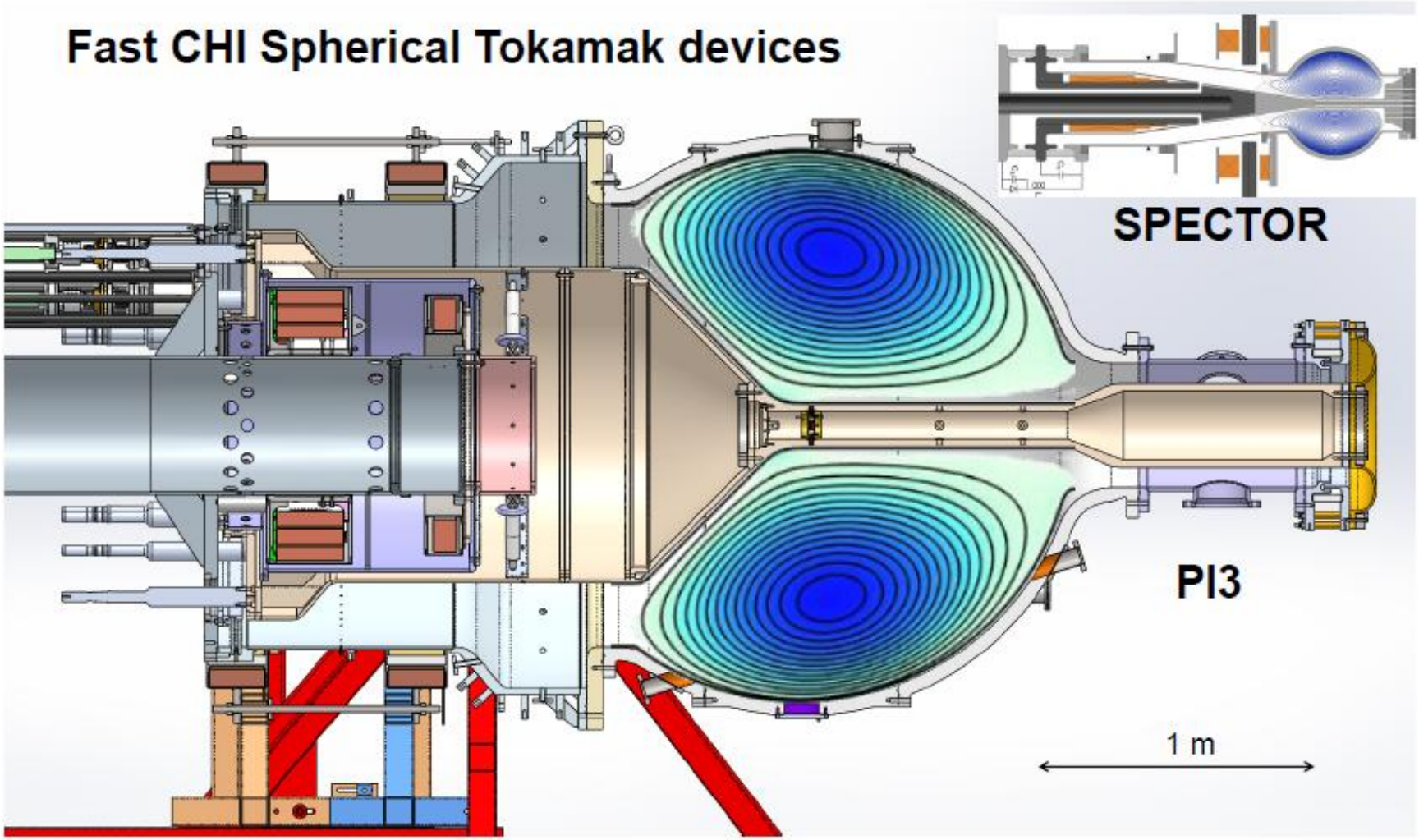
General fusion is a design ready to be migrated to a power plant





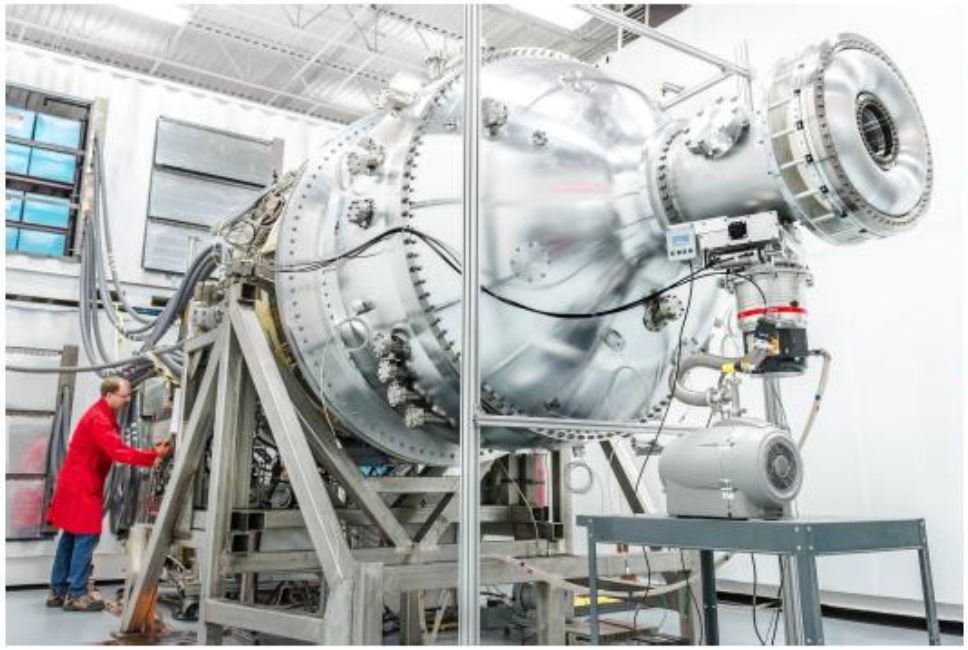
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Fusion

A spherical tokamak is first generated



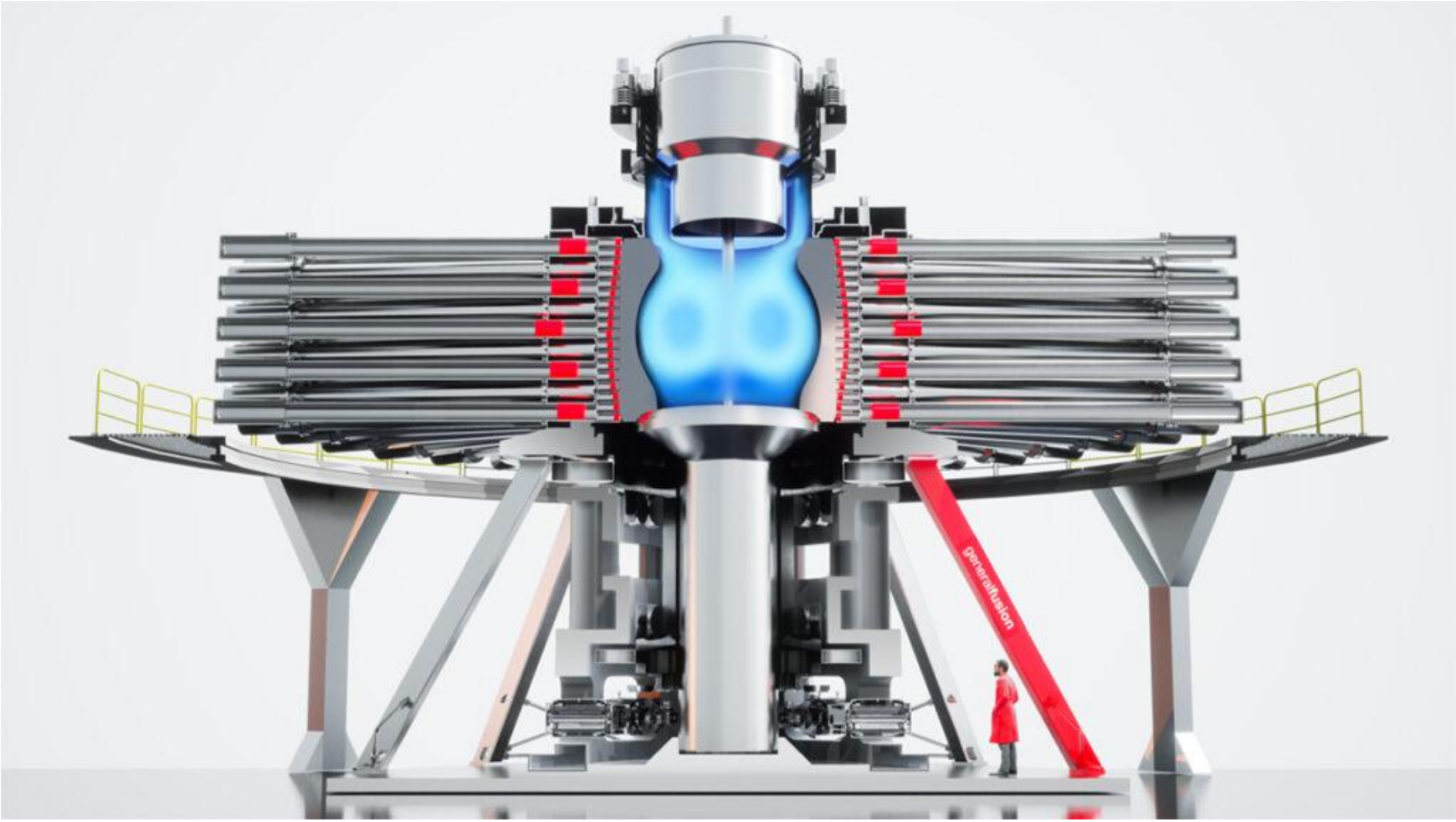
K. EPP, etc., 60th APS-DPP, CP11.00192

Plasma injector for the spherical tokamak

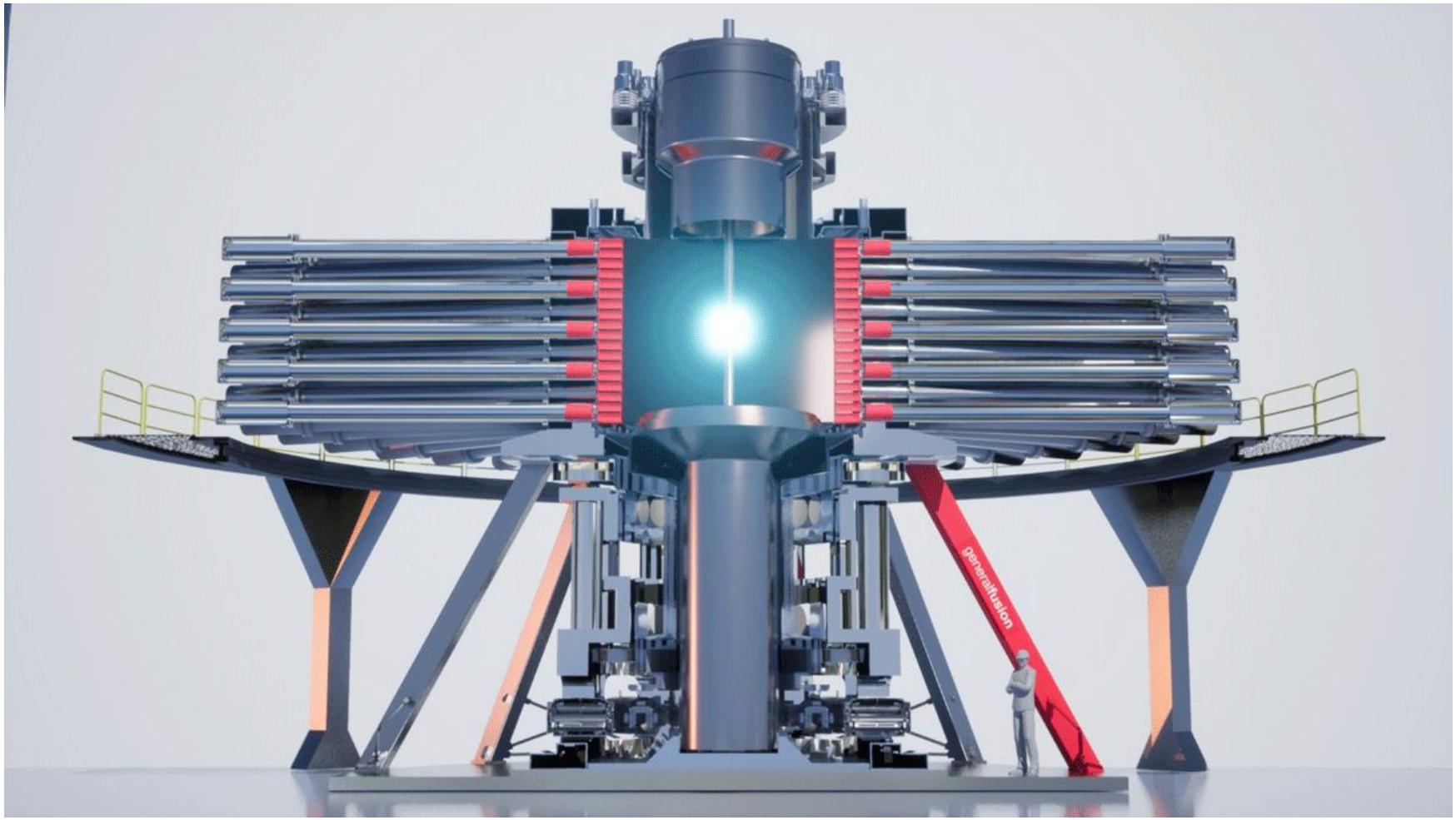


K. EPP, etc., 60th APS-DPP, CP11.00192

A spherical tokamak is generated in a liquid metal vortex



The spherical tokamak is compressed by the pressure provided by the sournding hydraulic pistons



BBC: General Fusion to build its Fusion Demonstration Plant in the UK, at the UKAEA Culham Campus

Nuclear energy: Fusion plant backed by Jeff Bezos to be built in UK

By Matt McGrath
Environment correspondent

17 June

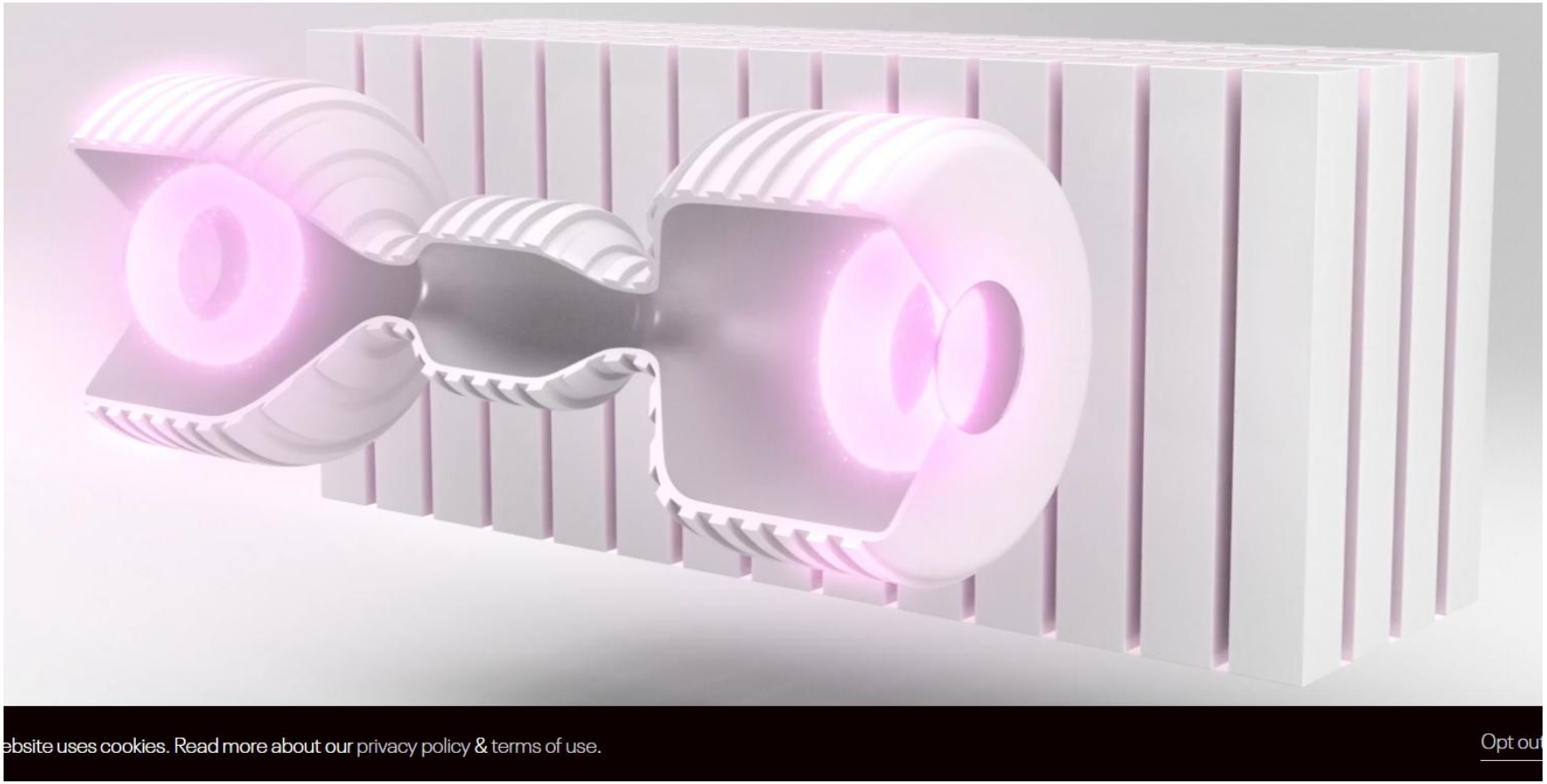
An artist's impression of what the new demonstration plant might look like

A company backed by Amazon's Jeff Bezos is set to build a large-scale nuclear fusion demonstration plant in Oxfordshire.

Canada's **General Fusion** is one of the leading private firms aiming to turn the

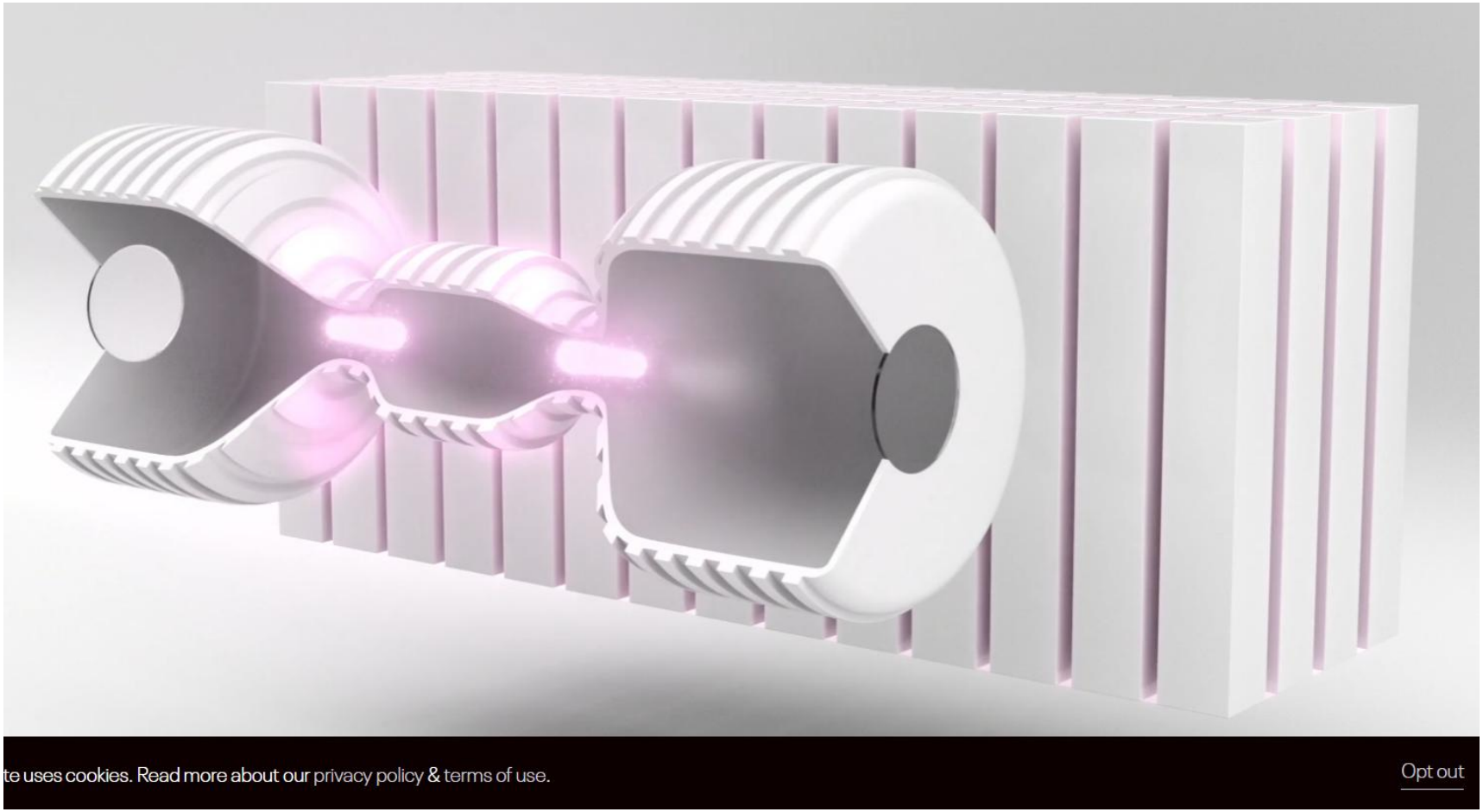
https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57512229

Helion energy is compressing the two merging FRCs



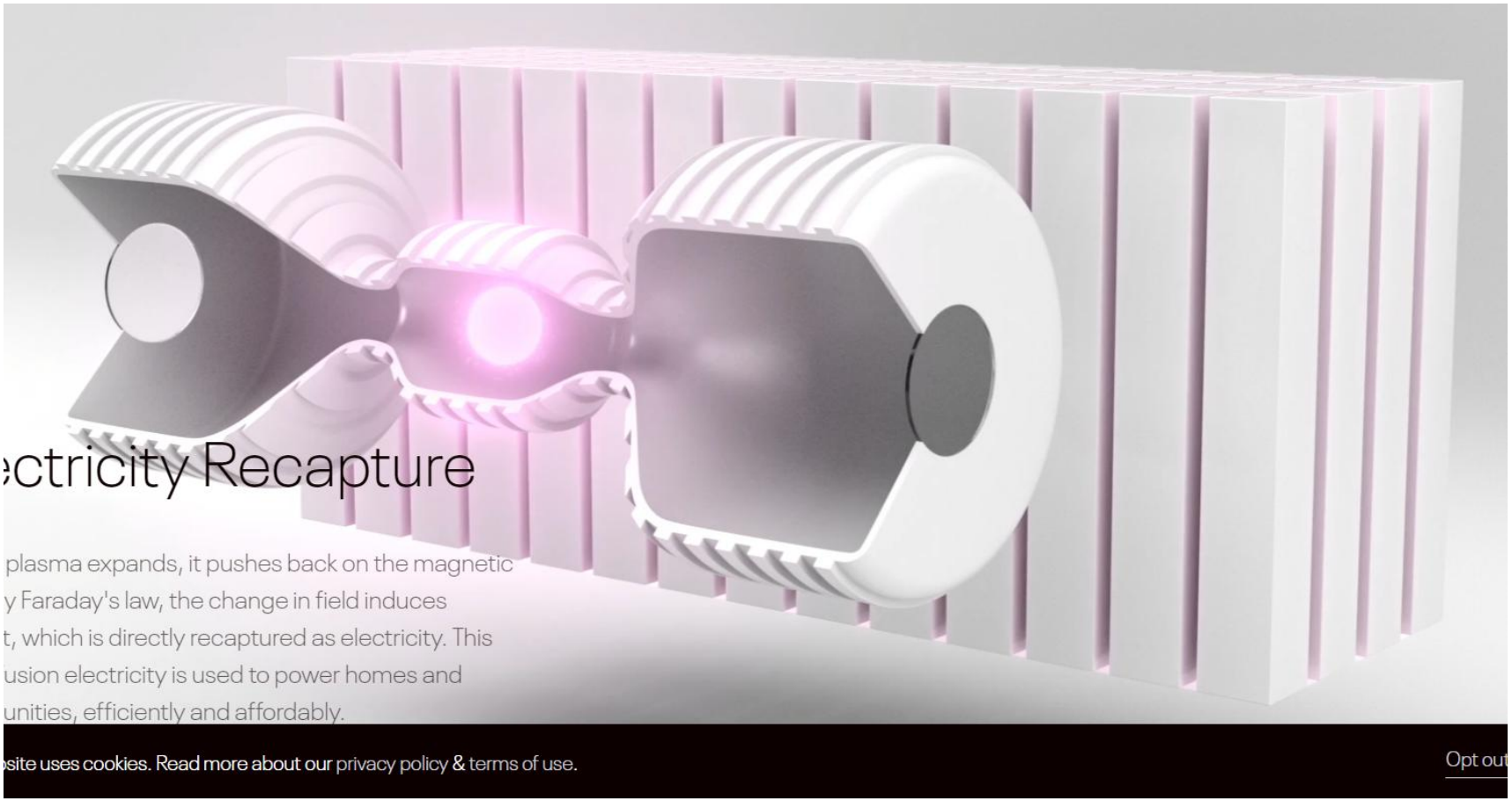
https://www.helionenergy.com/

Two FRCs are accelerated toward each other



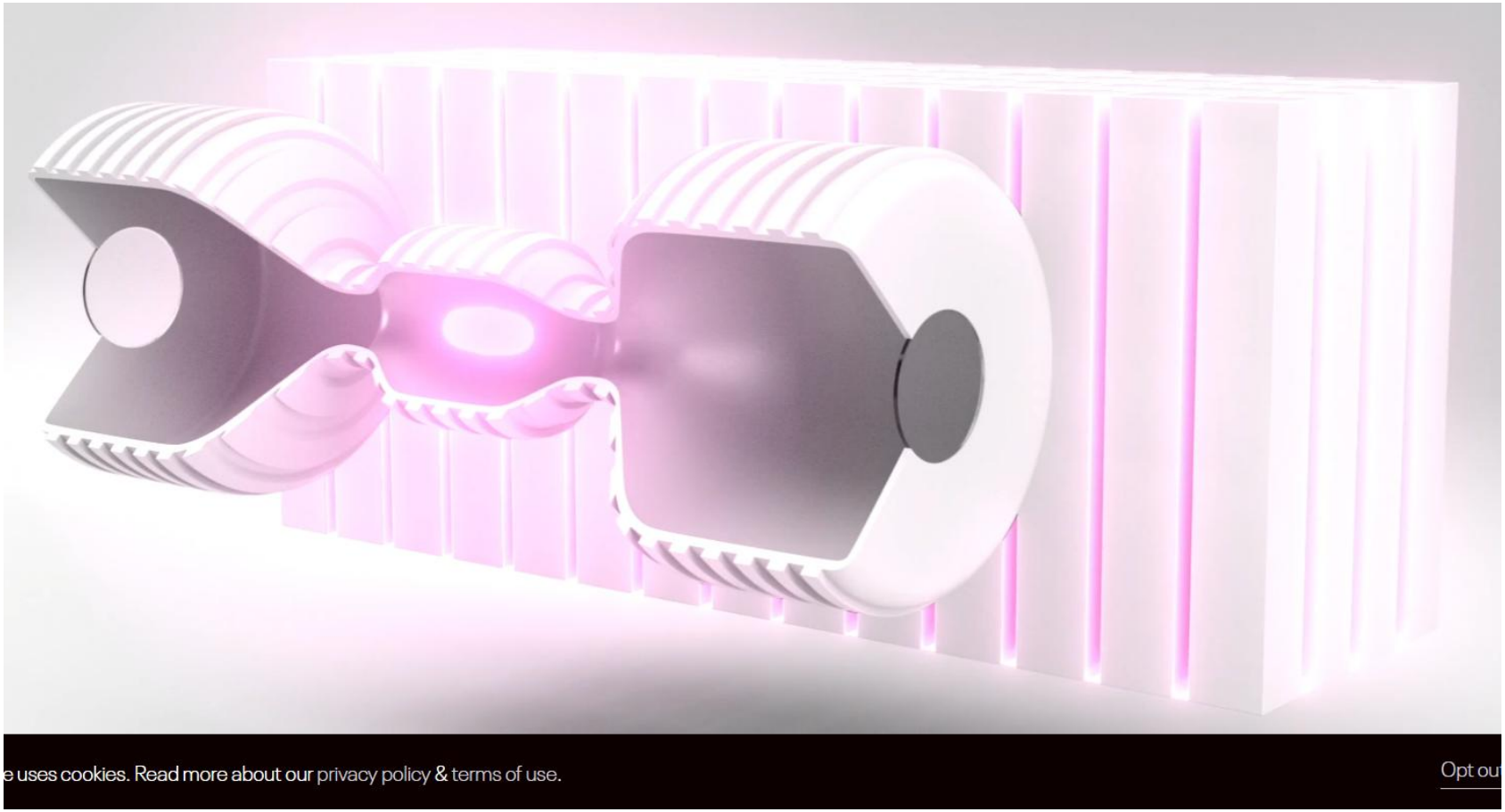
https://www.helionenergy.com/

Two FRCs merge with each other



https://www.helionenergy.com/

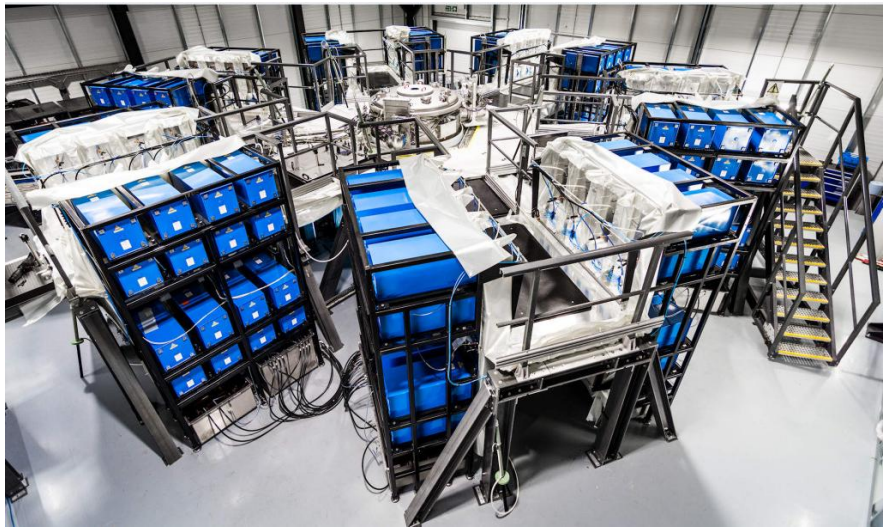
The merged FRC is compressed electrically to high temperature



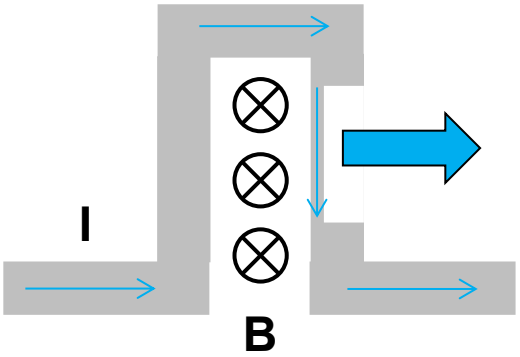
- **Similar concept will be studied in our laboratory.**

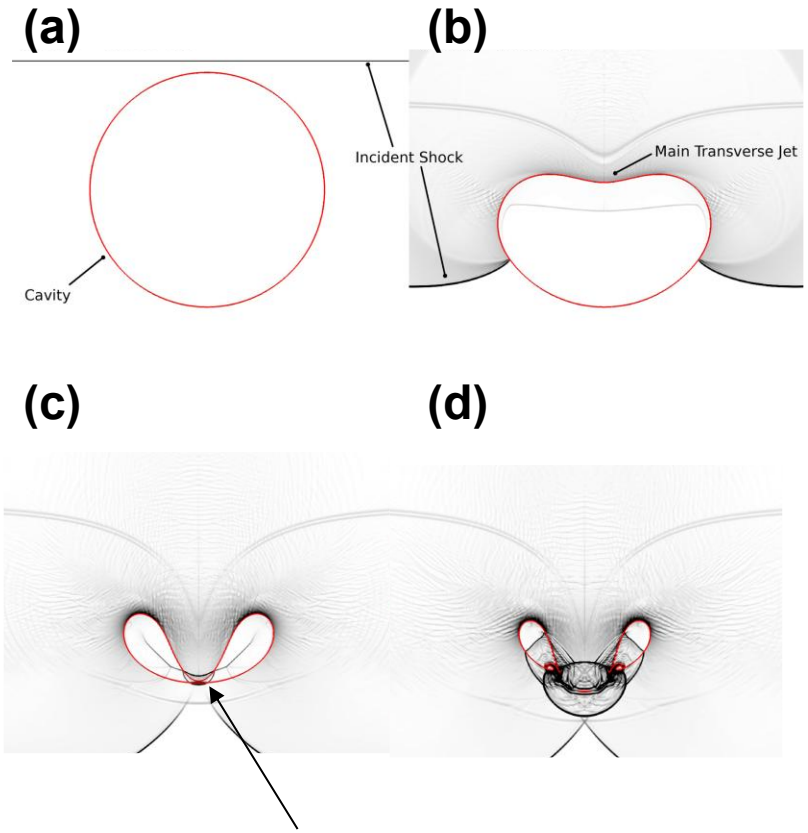
https://www.helionenergy.com/

Projectile Fusion is being established at First Light Fusion Ltd, UK



- **Stored energy: 2.5 MJ @ 200 kV (C_{tot}=125 uF)**
- **I_{peak}=14 MA w/ T_{rise}~2us.**





- **High pressure is generated by the colliding shock.**

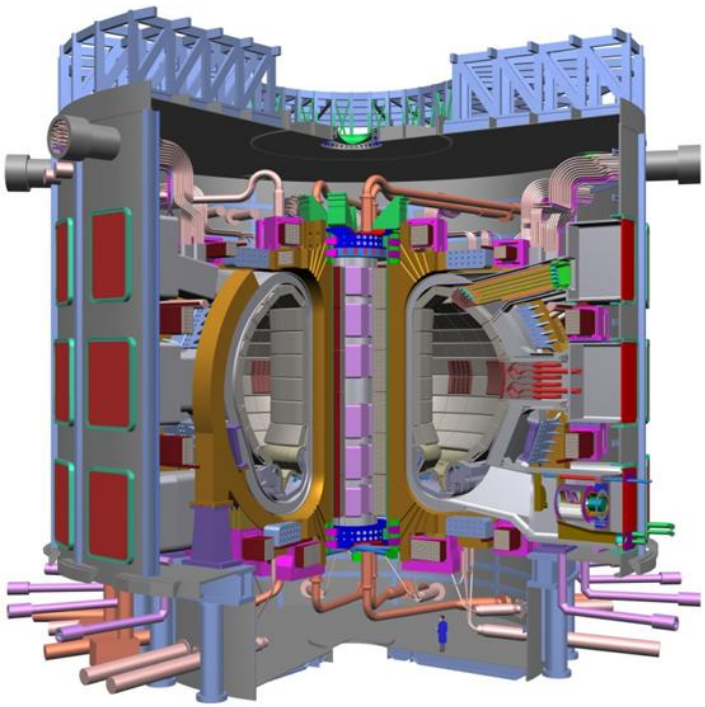
https://firstlightfusion.com/
B. Tully and N. Hawker, Phys. Rev. **E93**, 053105 (2016)

A gas gun is used to eject the projectile

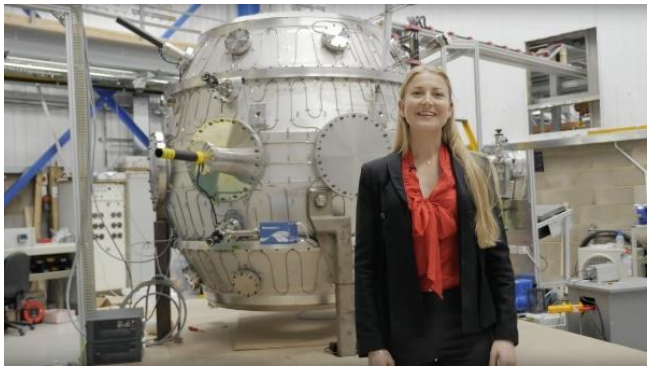
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JN7lyxC11n0
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aW4eufacf-8

Many groups aim to achieve ignition in the MCF regime in the near future

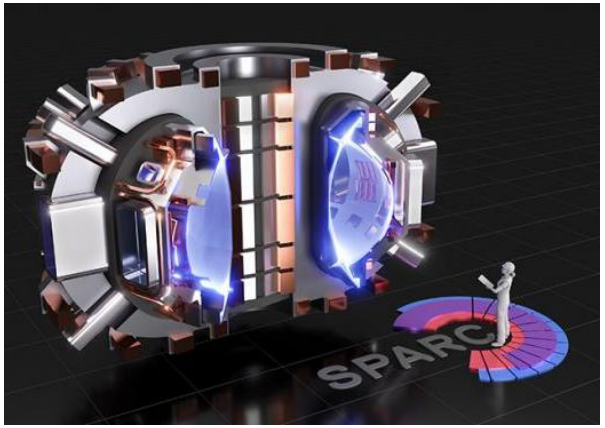
- **ITER – 2025 First Plasma**
  2035 D-T Exps
  2050 DEMO



- **Tokamak energy, UK**
  - **2025 Gain**
  - **2030 to power grid**



- **Commonwealth Fusion Systems, USA – 2025 Gain**



https://www.iter.org
https://www.tokamakenergy.co.uk/
https://www.psfc.mit.edu/sparc

Fusion is blooming

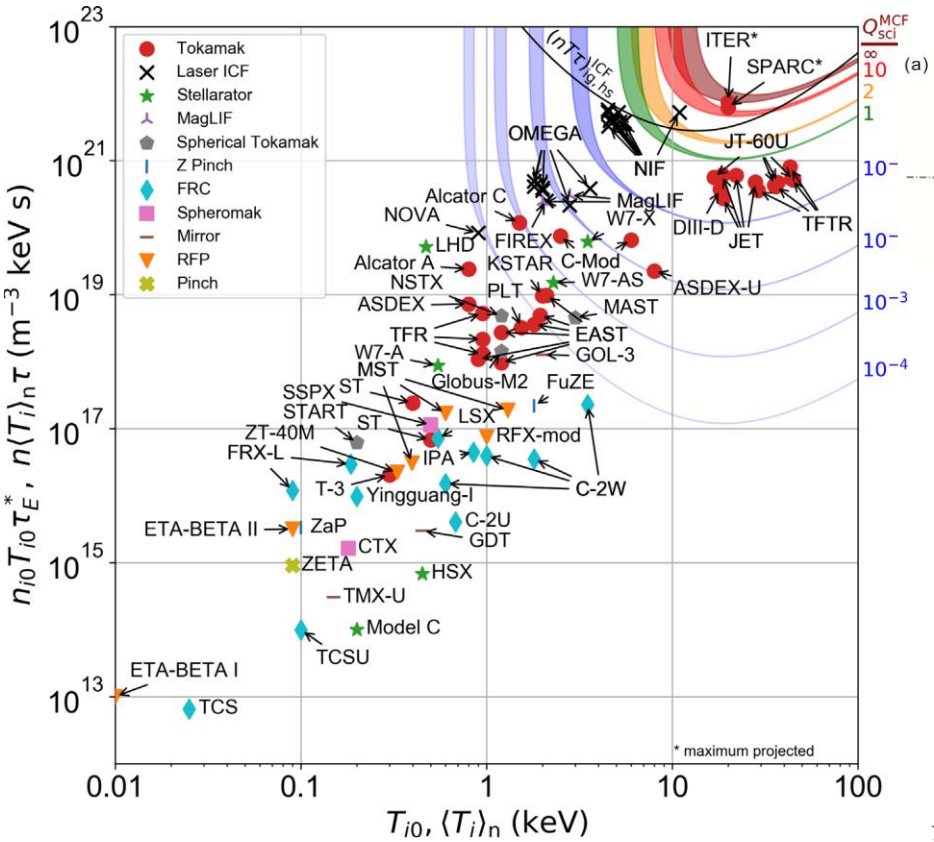
FUSION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

generalfusion
Commonwealth Fusion Systems
tae
AVALANCHE
Proxima Fusion
PACIFIC FUSION
ZAP ENERGY
TYPE ONE ENERGY
HELION
EX-Fusion
first light
FOCUSED
fuse
GAUSS FUSION
HB11 ENERGY
KYOTO FUSIONEERING
MarvelFusion
OPENSTAR
REALTA FUSION
THEA ENERGY
Tokamak Energy
LaserFusionX
LONGVIEW FUSION
LPP FUSION
MARITIME FUSION
XCIMER ENERGY CORPORATION
acceleron
ANUBAL FUSION
BLUE LASER FUSION
ELECTRIC FUSION SYSTEMS
Helical Fusion
HelicitySpace
HORNE TECHNOLOGIES
MIFTi
nearstar FUSION
NOVATRON
nT-τao Compact Fusion Power
PRANOS FUSION ENERGY
RENAISSANCE FUSION
SHINE
STELLAREX
TERRA FUSION

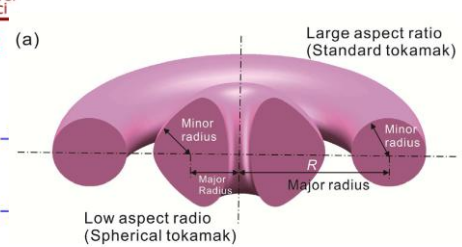
MCF
MTF
ICF

https://www.fusionindustryassociation.org/members

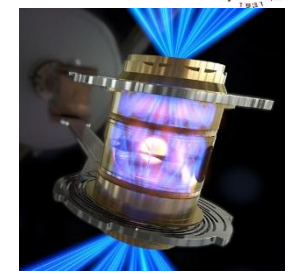
We are closed to ignition!



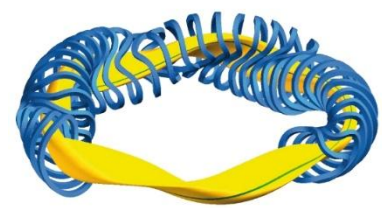
MCF | **ICF**



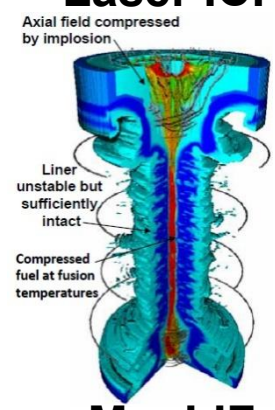
(Spherical) tokamak



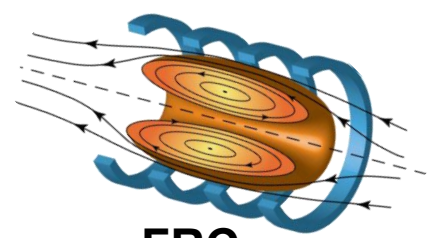
Laser ICF



Stellerator

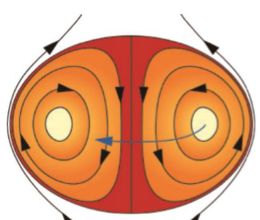


MagLIF

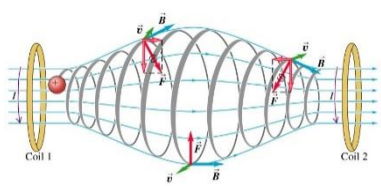


FRC

Sheared-flow Z pinch



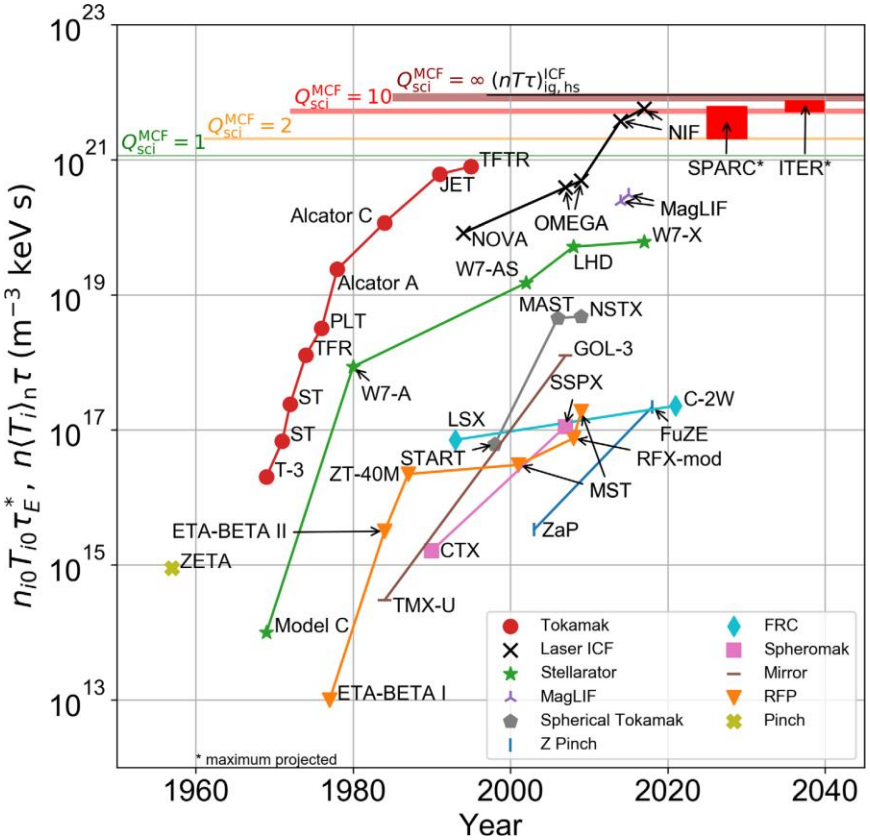
Spheromak



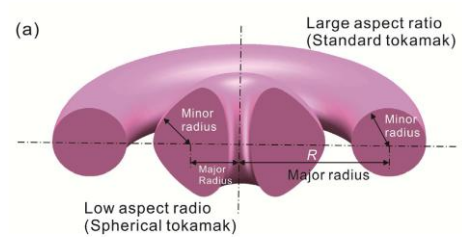
Mirror

Samuel E. Wurzel and Scott C. Hsu, Phys. Plasmas, **29**, 062103 (2022)

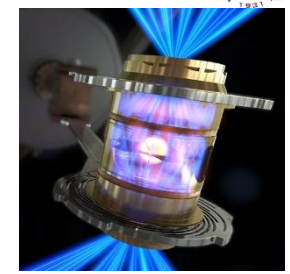
We are closed to ignition!



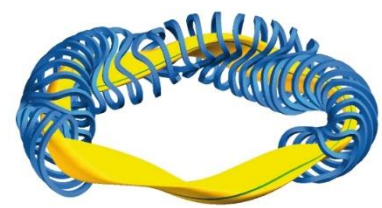
MCF | **ICF**



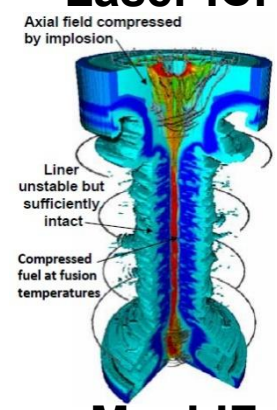
(Spherical) tokamak



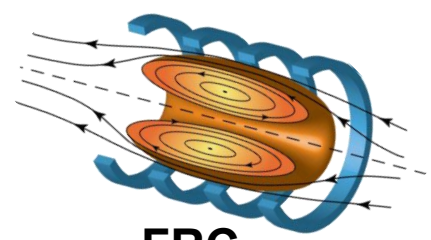
Laser ICF



Stellerator

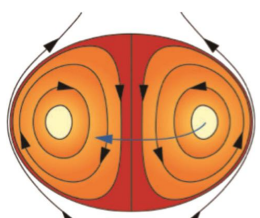


MagLIF

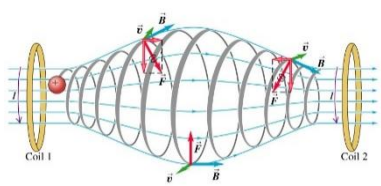


FRC

Sheared-flow Z pinch



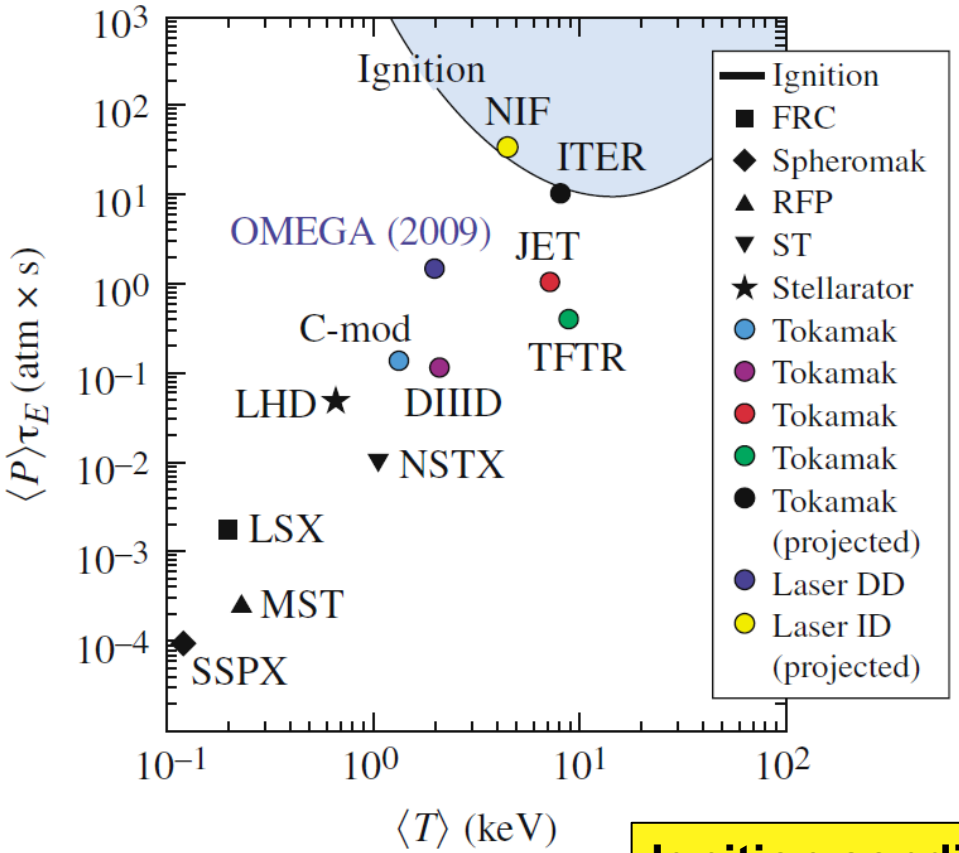
Spheromak

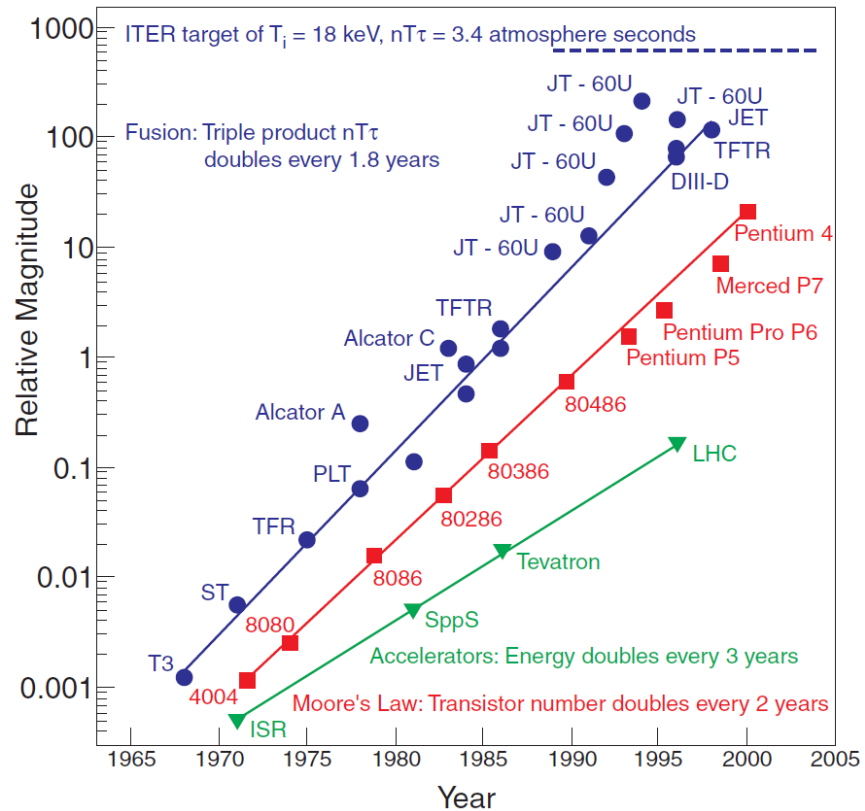


Mirror

Samuel E. Wurzel and Scott C. Hsu, Phys. Plasmas, **29**, 062103 (2022)

We are closed to ignition!

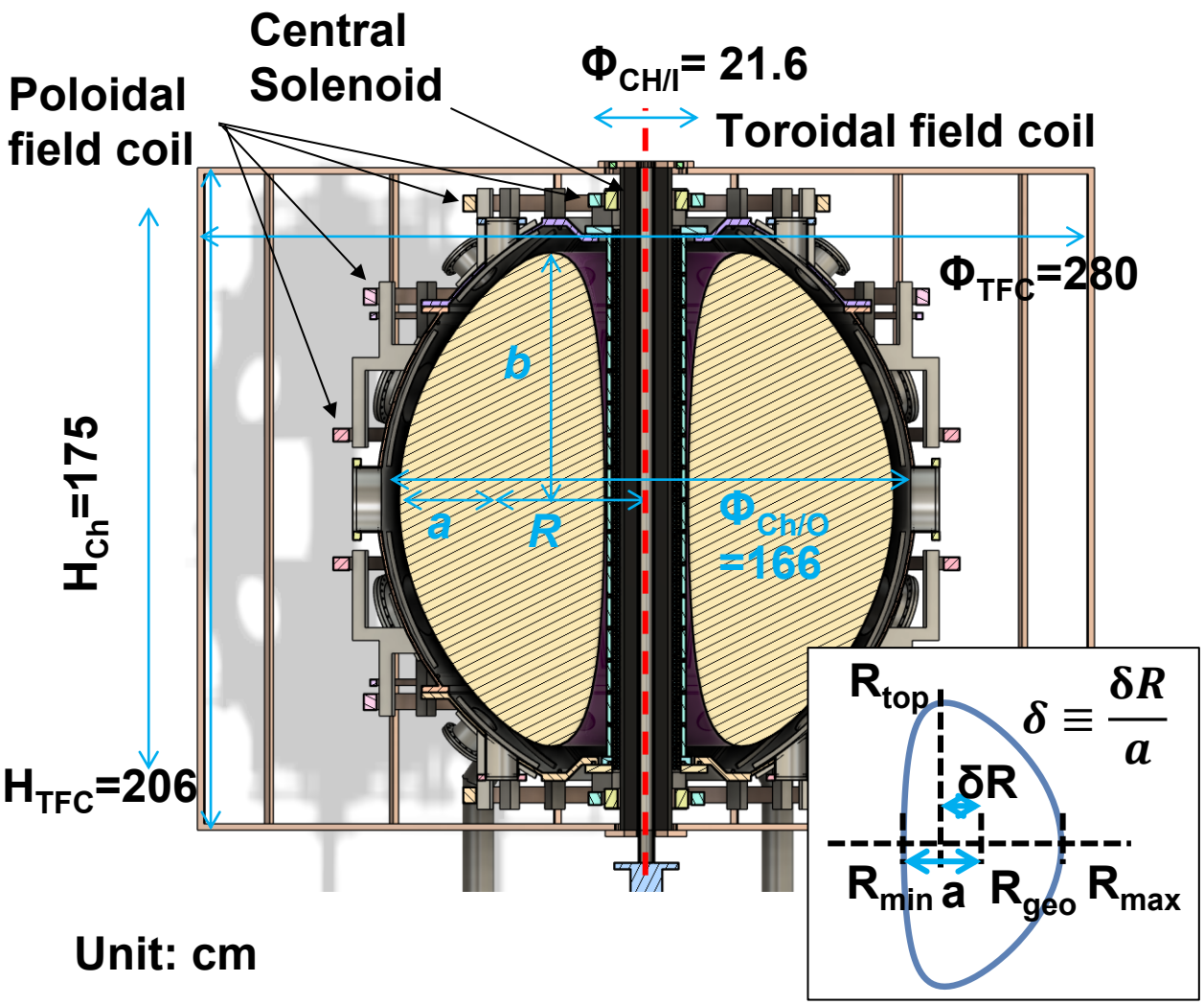




Ignition condition: Pτ > 10 atm-s = 10 Gbar - ns

A. J. Webster, Phys. Educ. **38**, 135 (2003)
R. Betti, etc., Phys. Plasmas, **17**, 058102 (2010)

Formosa Integrated Research Spherical Tokamak (FIRST) aiming for the first plasma in 2026

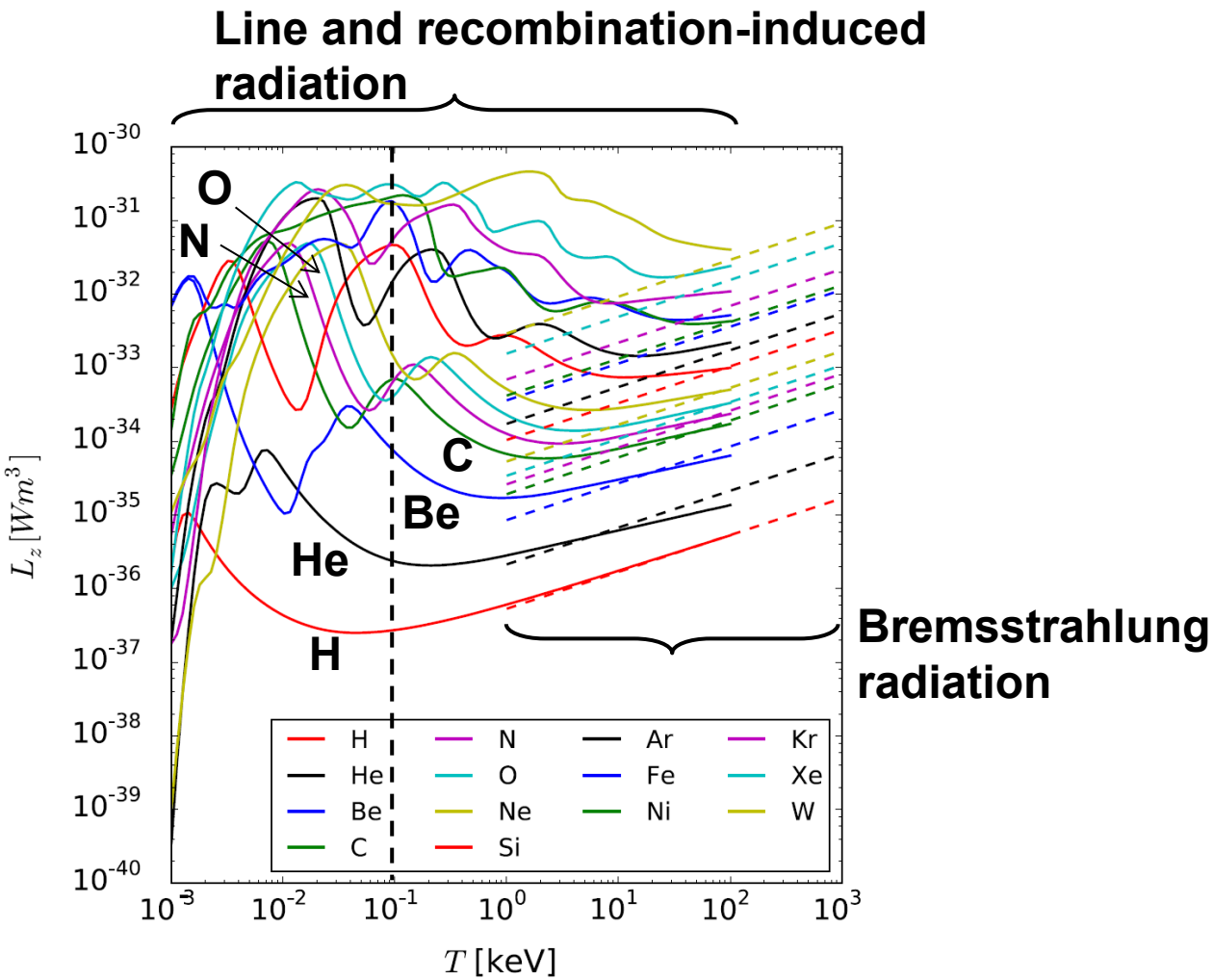


Unit: cm

- $R/a/b$=45/32/76.8 cm
- Aspect ratio = R/a = 1.5
- $k = b/a$ = 2.4
- δ = 0.5
- B_T = 0.1 ~ 0.5 T
- $T \geq$ 100 eV
- $I_p \geq$ 100 kA
- Gas: H_2
- Ohmic heating
- Duration: 100 ms
- FIRST is targeted for
  - Low aspect ratio
  - High beta
  - High bootstrap current
- Short term goal in my group - study the startup mechanism.

- **We welcome anyone interested in fusion research to join us!**

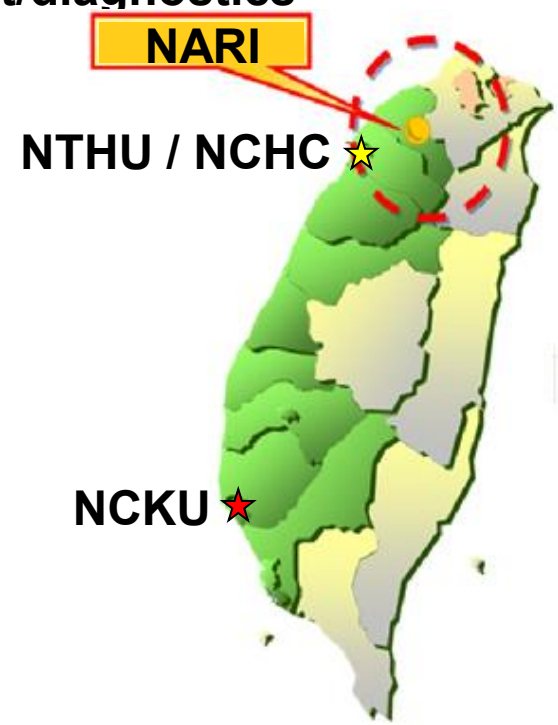
Temperature of 100 eV is the threshold of radiation barrier by impurities



H. Lux, etc., Fusion Eng. Des. **42**, 101 (2015)

This is a joint project including 6 groups

- 馬維揚團隊 @ 國家原子能科技研究院
  - Site
- 張博宇團隊 @ 成功大學 太空與電漿科學研究所
  - System design and development/diagnostics
- 向克強團隊 @ 成功大學 前瞻電漿中心
  - Theoretical design
- 河森榮一郎團隊 @ 成功大學 太空與電漿科學研究所
  - Diagnostics
- 柳克強團隊 @ 清華大學 工程與系統科學系
  - Diagnostics
- 蔡宗哲團隊 @ 國家高速網路與計算中心
  - Simulation
- 張存續團隊 @ 清華大學 物理系
  - RF startup



- **We welcome anyone interested in fusion research to join us!**

https://www.sipa.gov.tw/home.jsp?mserno=201001210037&serno=201001210041&menudata=ChineseMenu&contlink=content/introduction_4_1.jsp&serno3=201002010023

Students are encouraged to study either science or engineering

- Management team @ Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester
  - Administrative、Engineering、Experimental、Omega Laser Facility、Plasma & Ultrafast Laser Science & Engineering、Theory division、Laboratory Safety、Laser and Materials Technology

- Science involved:
  - Plasma Physics、Physics、Material Science、Super conductors、Chemistry、Mathematics…
- Engineering involved:
  - Electrical Engineering、Mechanical Engineering、Computer science、Artificial intelligent、Control、Optics、…

Skip

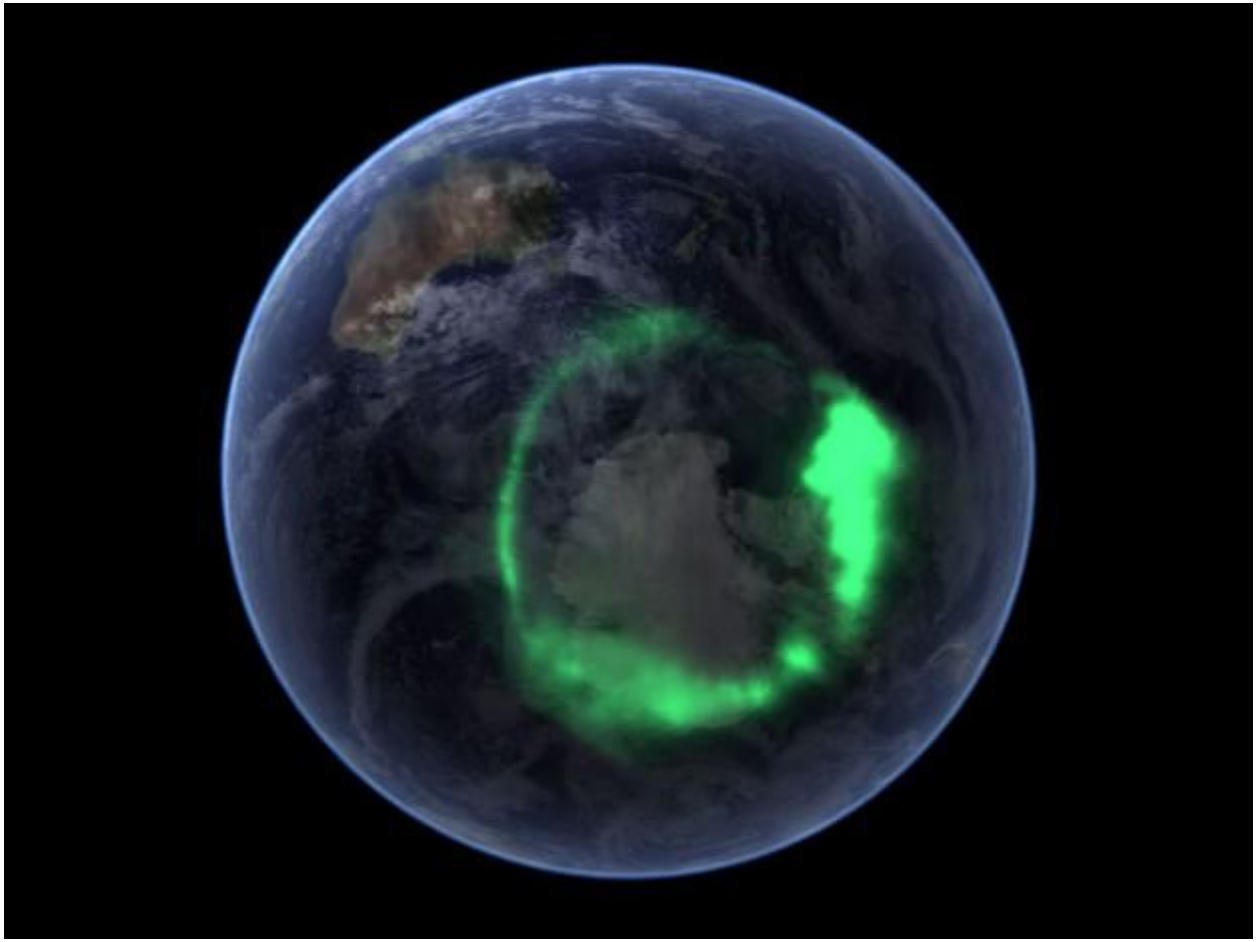
Outline

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- Magnetic confinement fusion (MCF)
  - Tokamak
  - Stellarator
- Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)
  - Indirection drive ICF
  - Direct drive ICF
- Innovation idea – MCF + ICF
- **Plasma in space**
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

Aurora

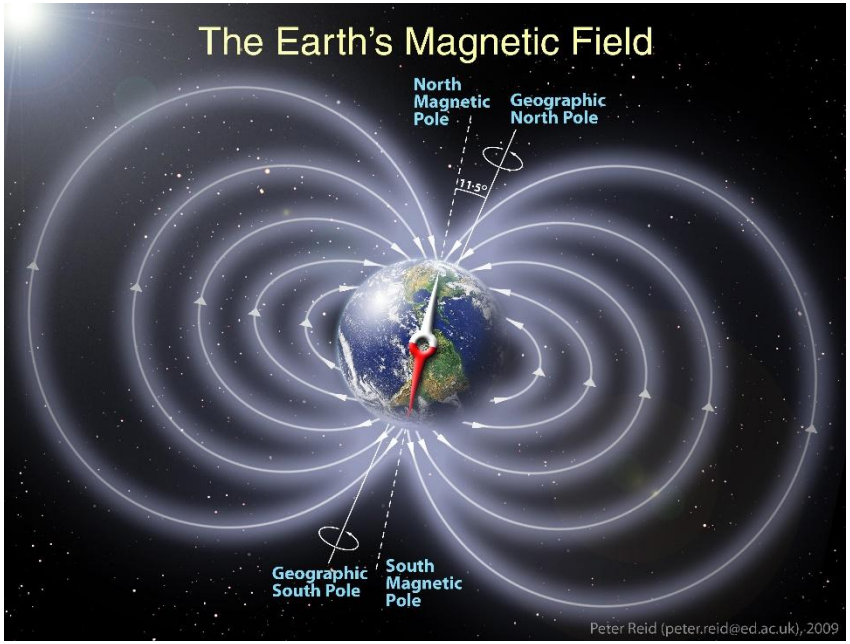
https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/aurora

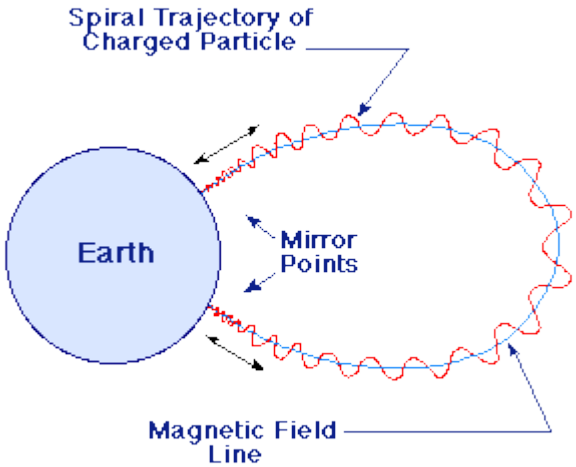
Aurora seen from a satellite



https://flashpack.com/insights/2014/11/20/aurora-australis-forget-the-northern-lights-have-you-heard-about-the-southern-lights/

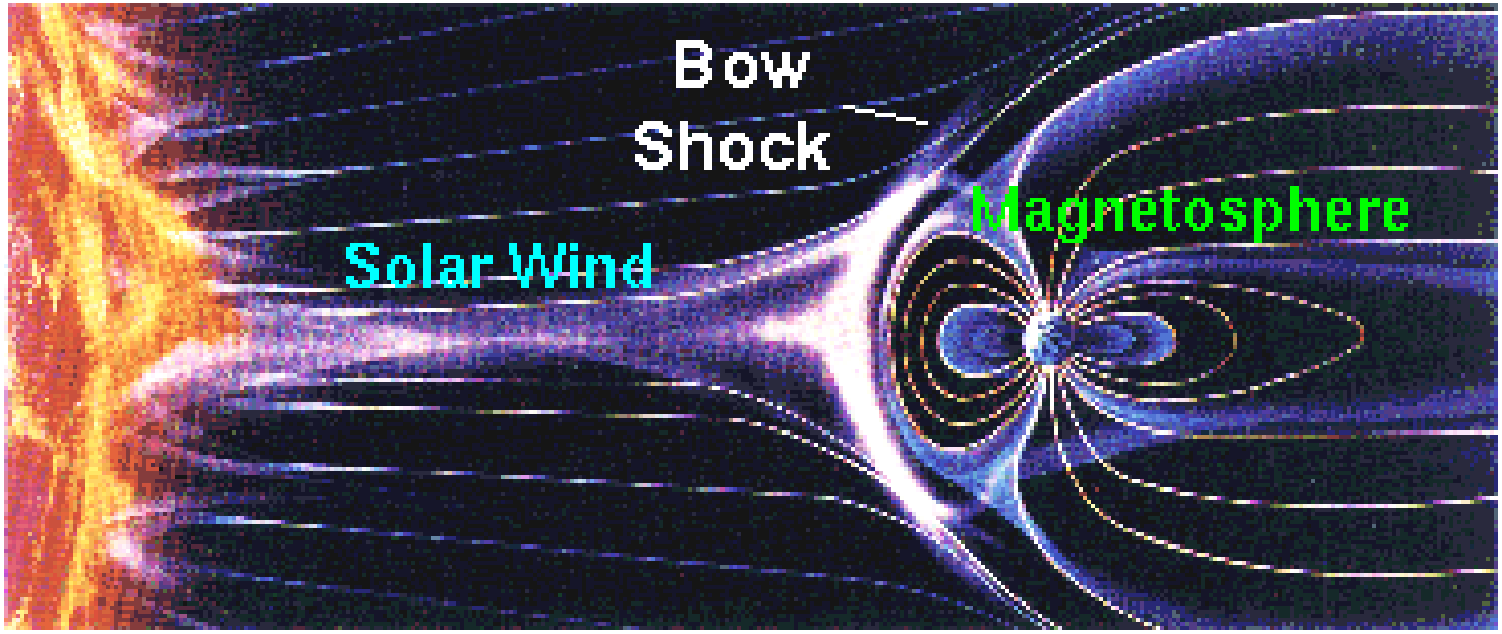
Earth's magnetic field





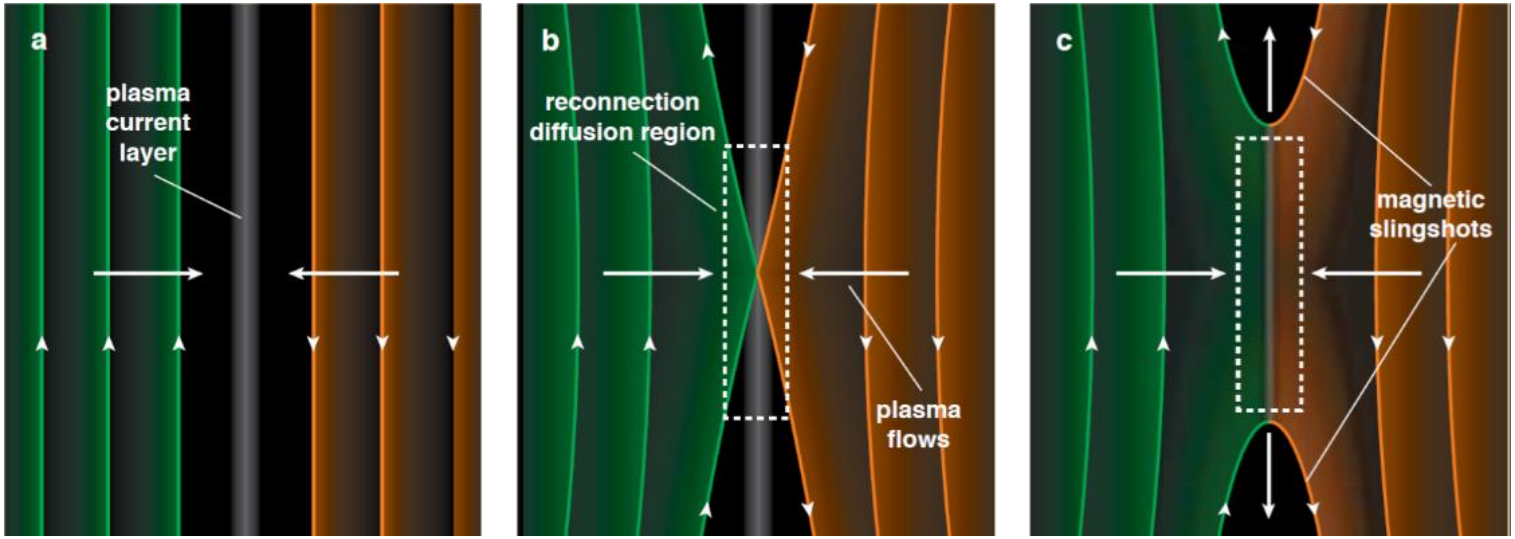
https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/sunearth/news/gallery/Earths-magneticfieldlines-dipole.html
http://www.pas.rochester.edu/~blackman/ast104/emagnetic.html

Earth magnetic fields are strongly influenced by solar wind



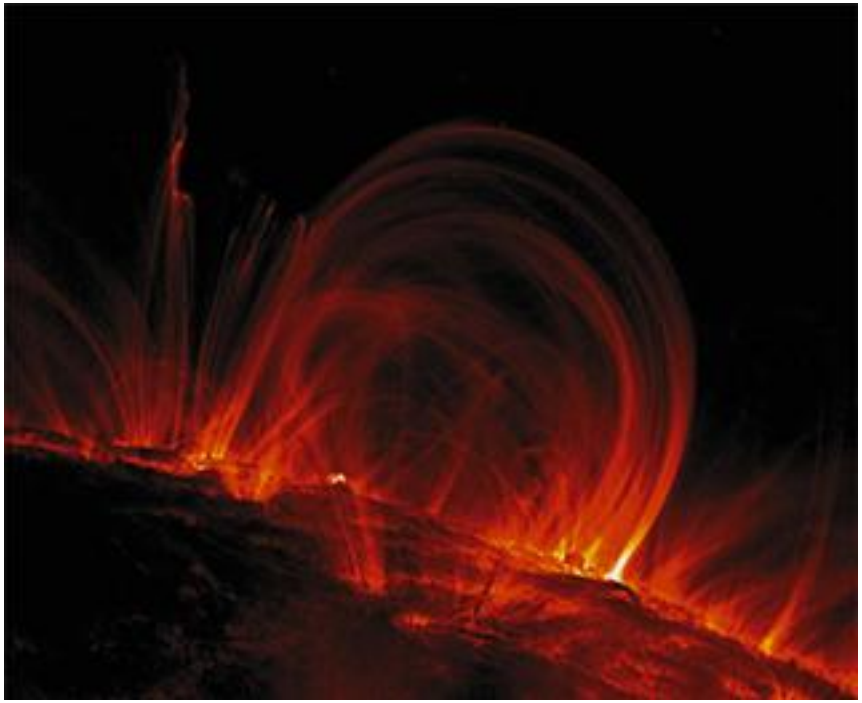
http://www.pas.rochester.edu/~blackman/ast104/emagnetic.html

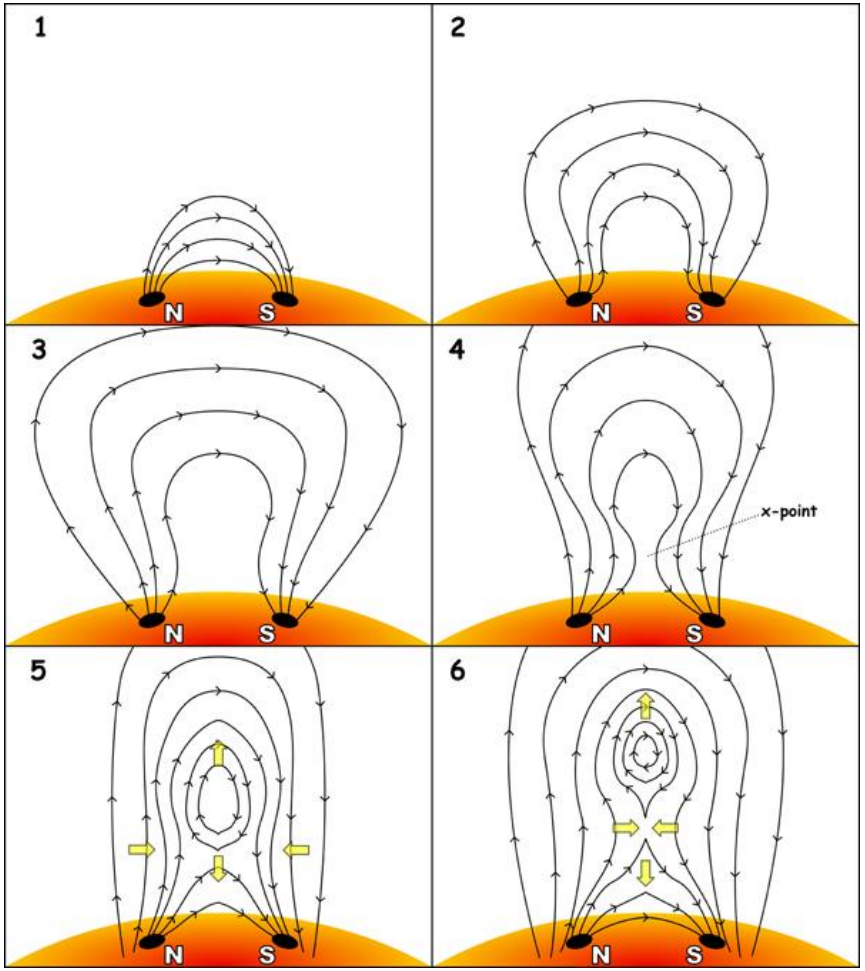
Reconnection



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sS3Lpzh0Zw

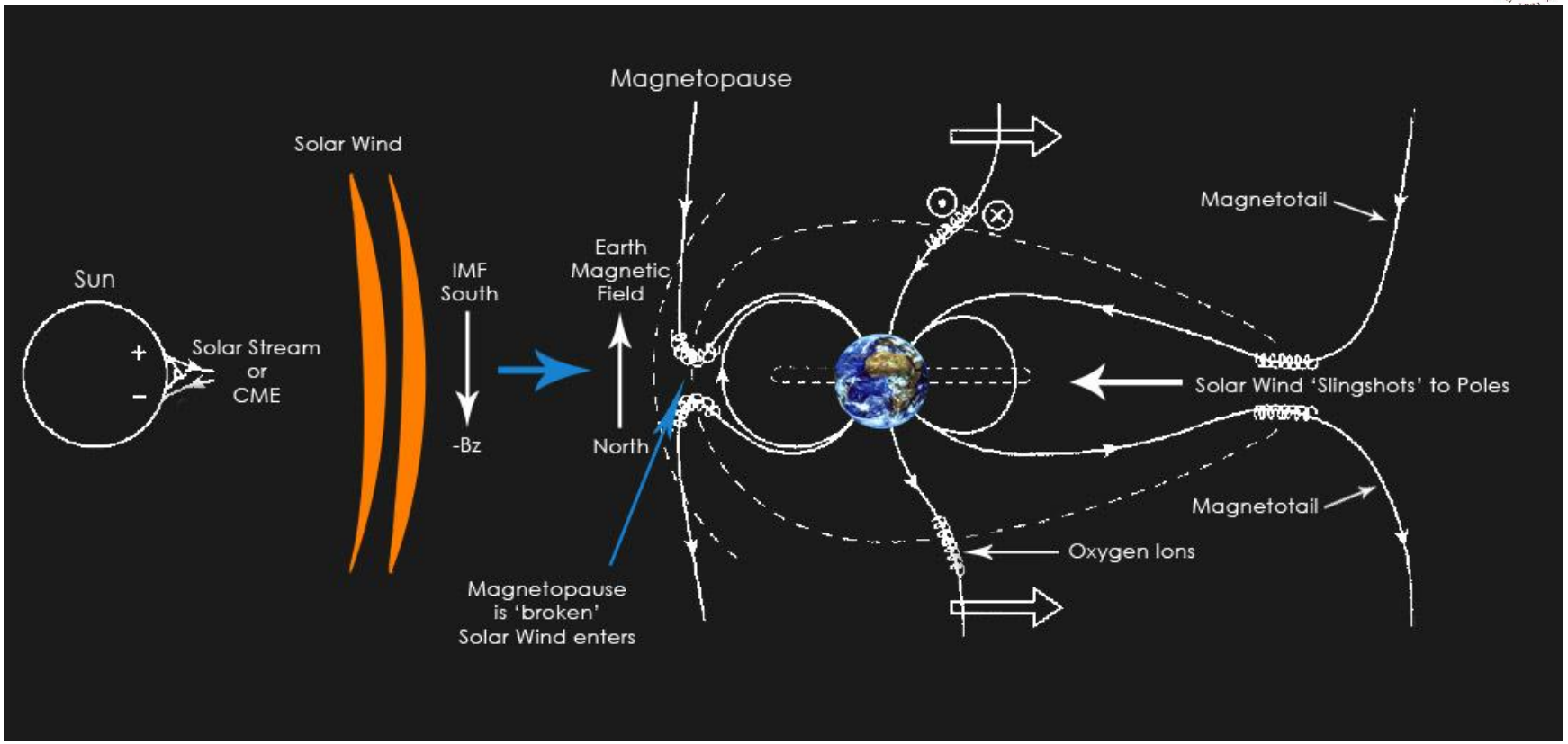
Corona mass ejection (CME)





http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/SegwayEd/lessons/exploring_magnetism/in_Solar_Flares/s4.html#sf

Reconnections occur in many locations

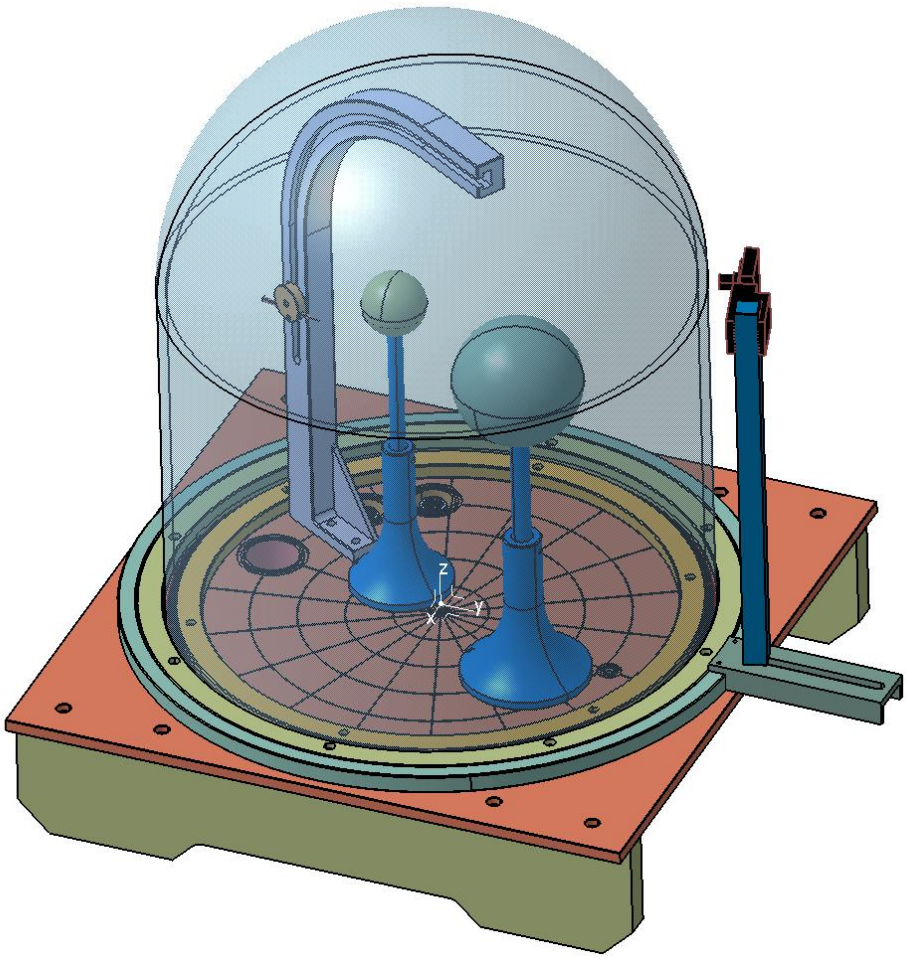


- **The Aurora Borealis:**

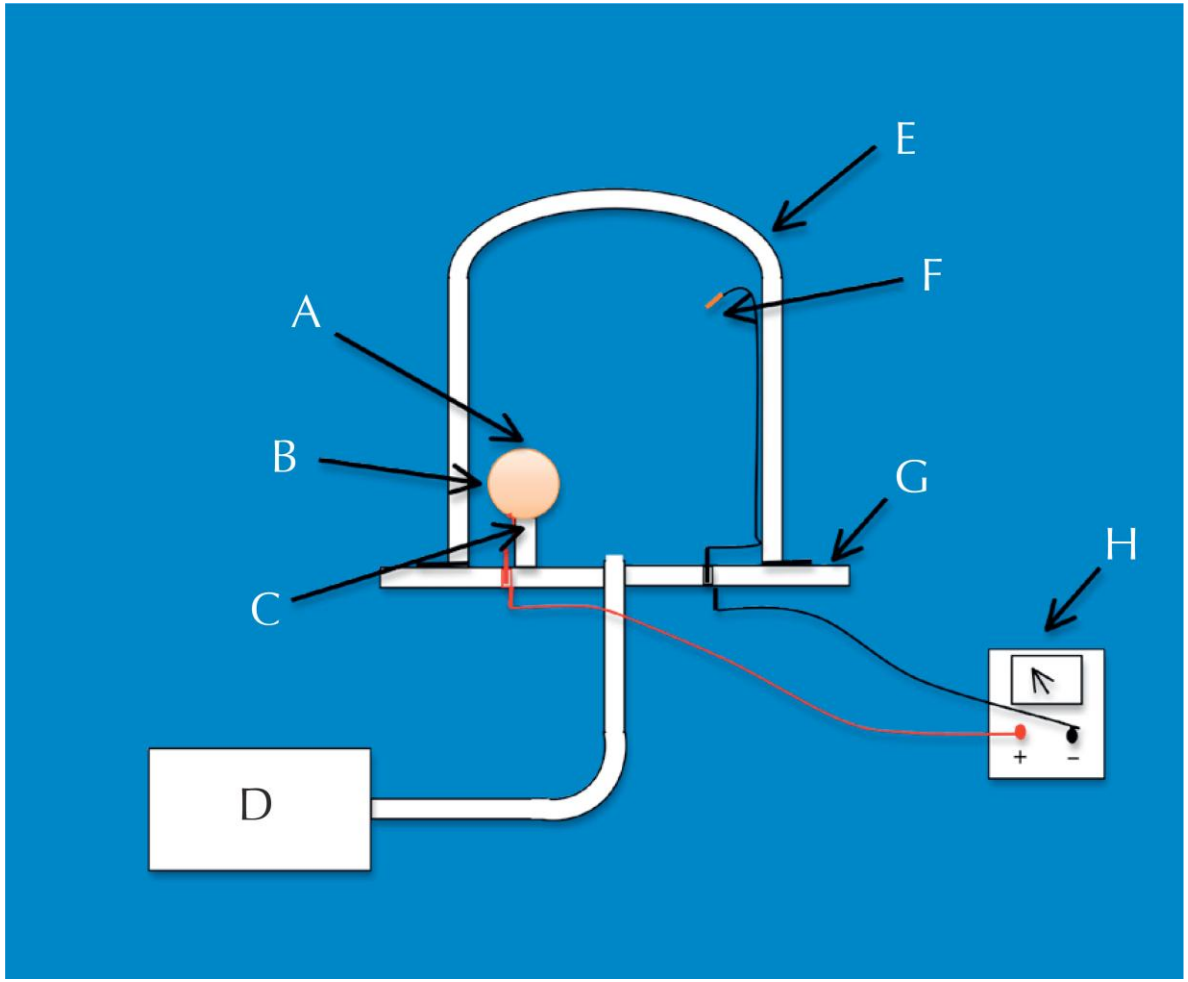
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lT3J6a9p_o8

http://www.natalia-robba.com/myblog/travel/the-aurora-borealis-the-northern-lights-everything-you-need-to-know/

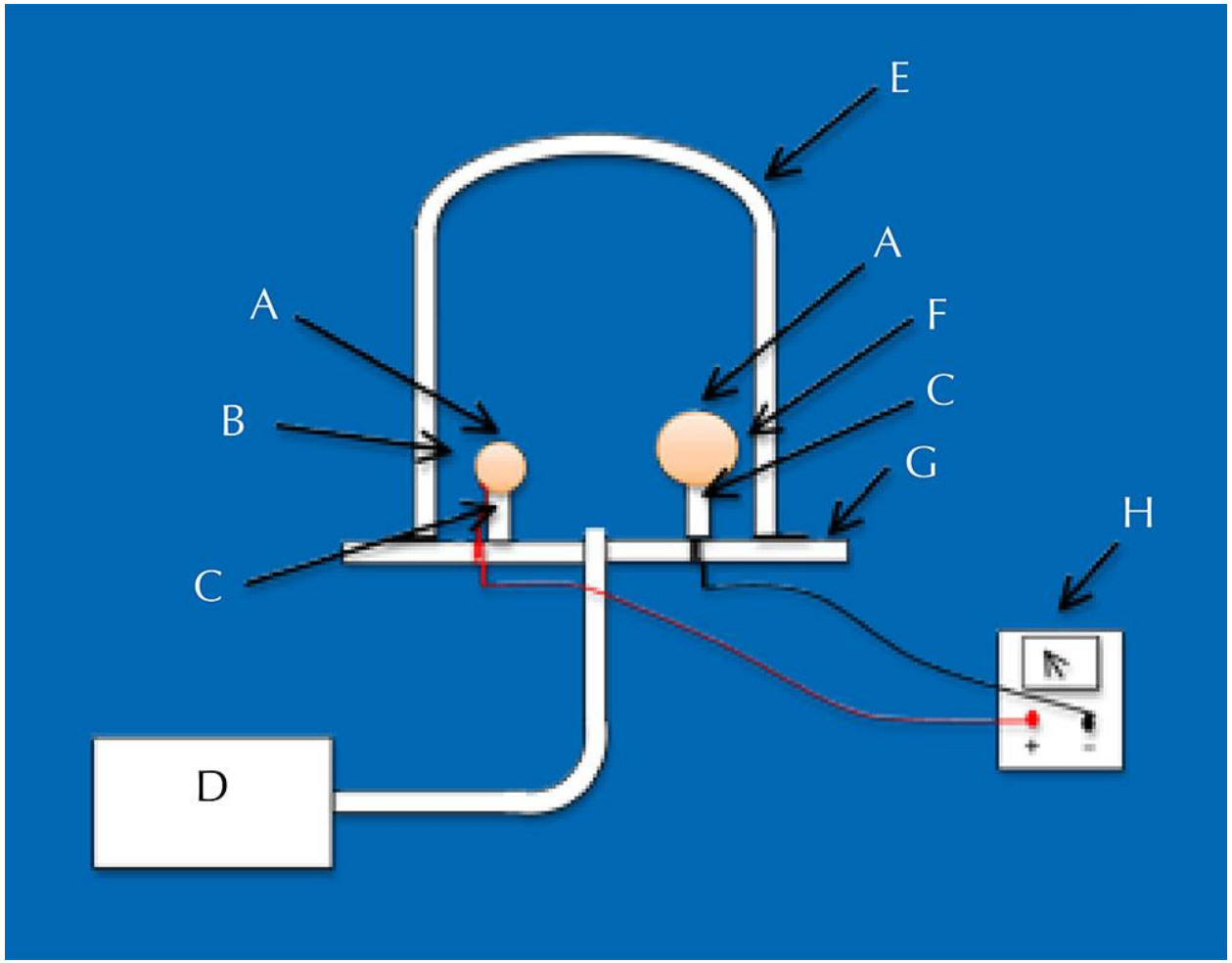
Planeterrella is an aurora simulator



Simple glow discharge is demonstrated

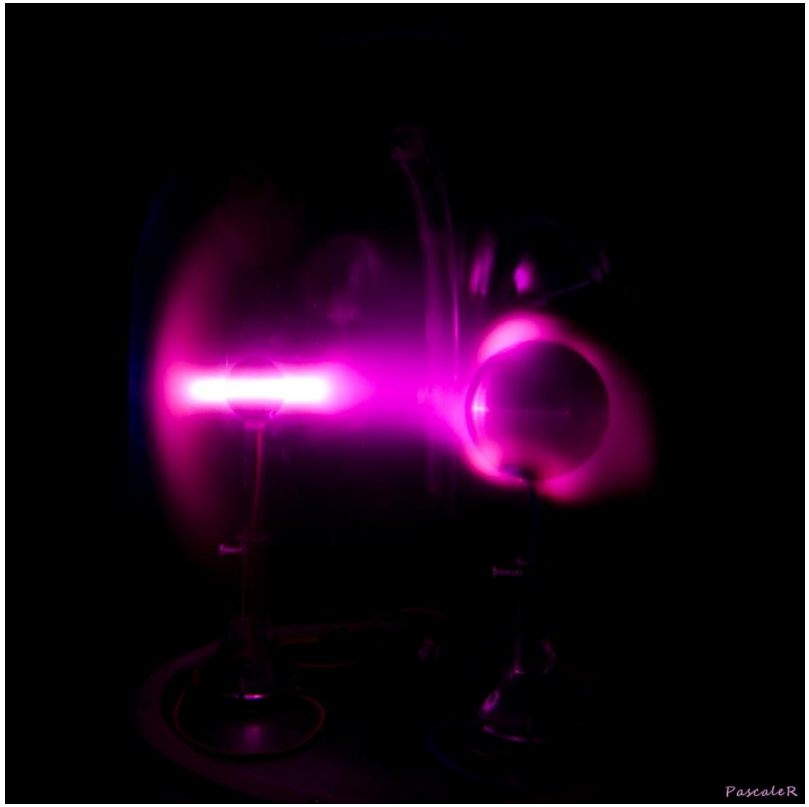


Aurora/ring current are demonstrated



- **B w/ magnet: aurora demonstration**
- **F w/ magnet: ring current**

Aurora and ring current are expected to be seen



Neutral beam source

- **Neutral beam injection for heating plasma in Tokamak**
  - **Jure Maglica, Seminar at University in Ljubljana**
  - **Ian G. Brown, The Physics and Technology of Ion Sources**

- **Electric propulsion (plasma thrusters)**
  - **D. M. Goebel and I. Katz, Fundamentals of Electric Propulsion: Ion and Hall Thrusters**

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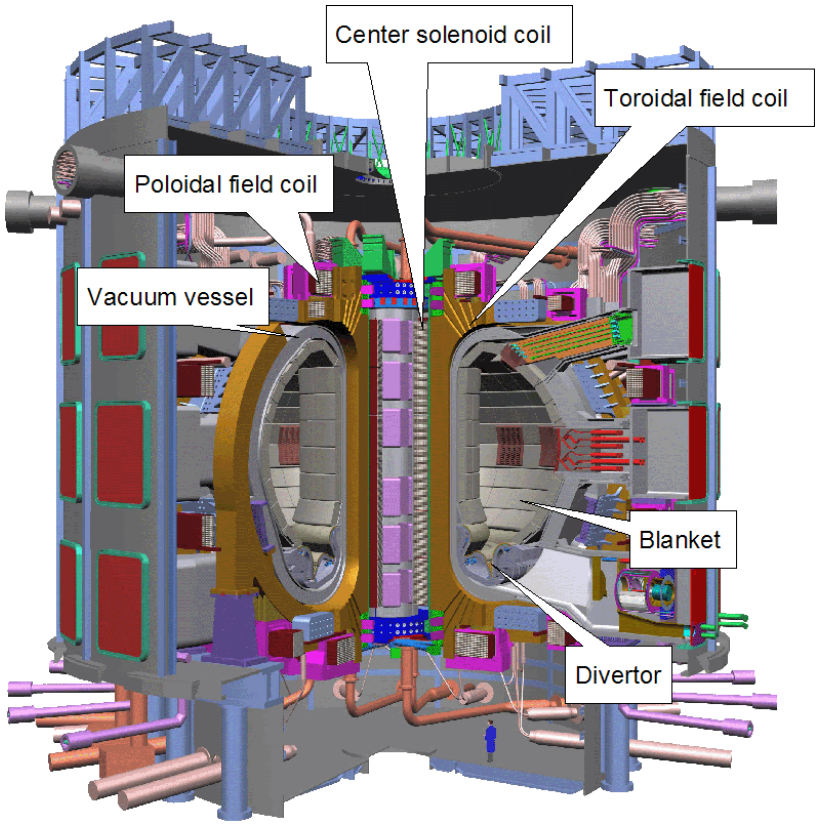
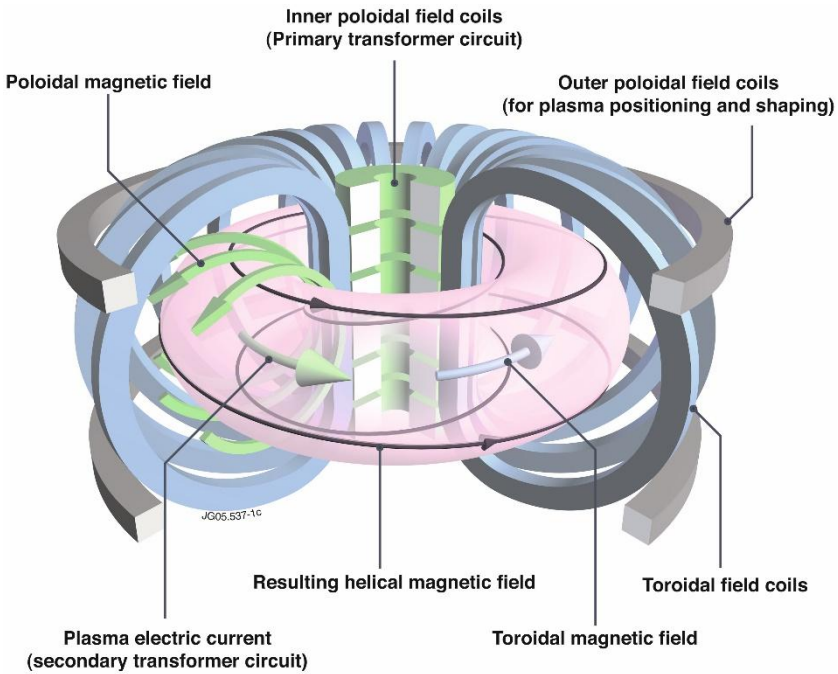
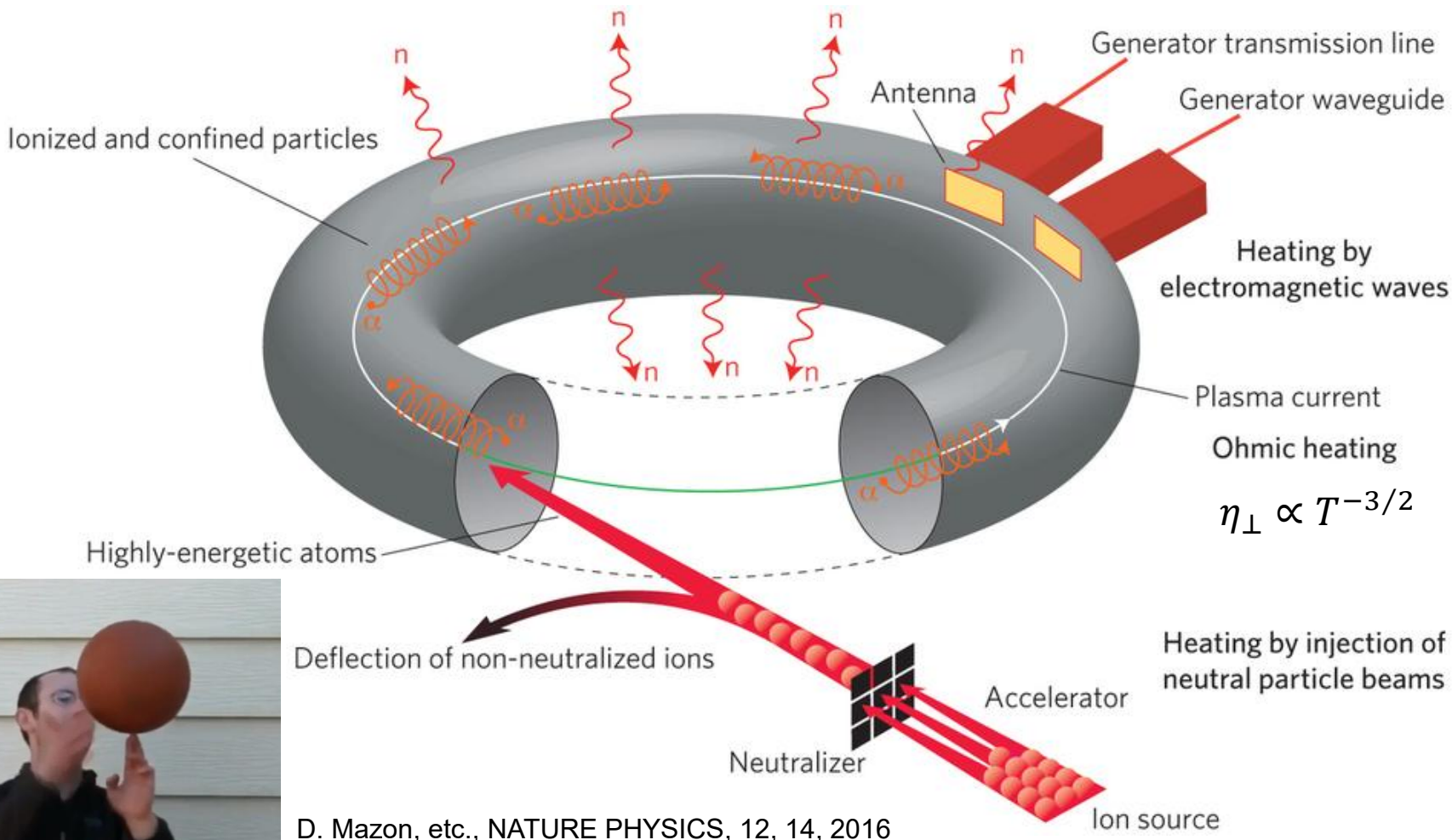
Hot plasma is confined by the magnetic field in magnetic confinement fusion





http://www.dailykos.com/story/2010/5/24/869588/-
https://www.euro-fusion.org/jet/

Neutral beam injector is one of the main heat mechanisms in MCF



D. Mazon, etc., NATURE PHYSICS, 12, 14, 2016
https://zh.wikihow.com/%E5%9C%A8%E6%89%8B%E6%8C%87%E4%B8%8A%E8%BD%AC%E7%AF%AE%E7%90%83

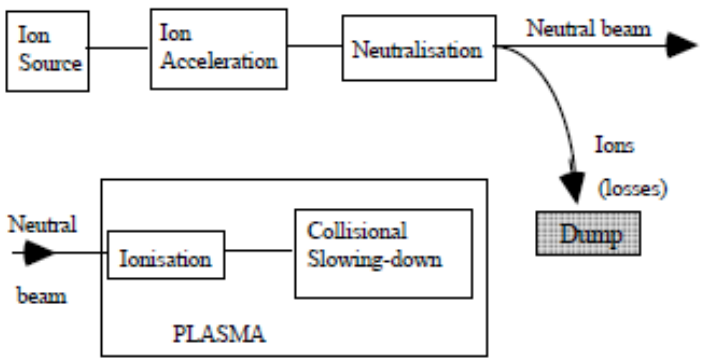
Varies way of heating a MCF device

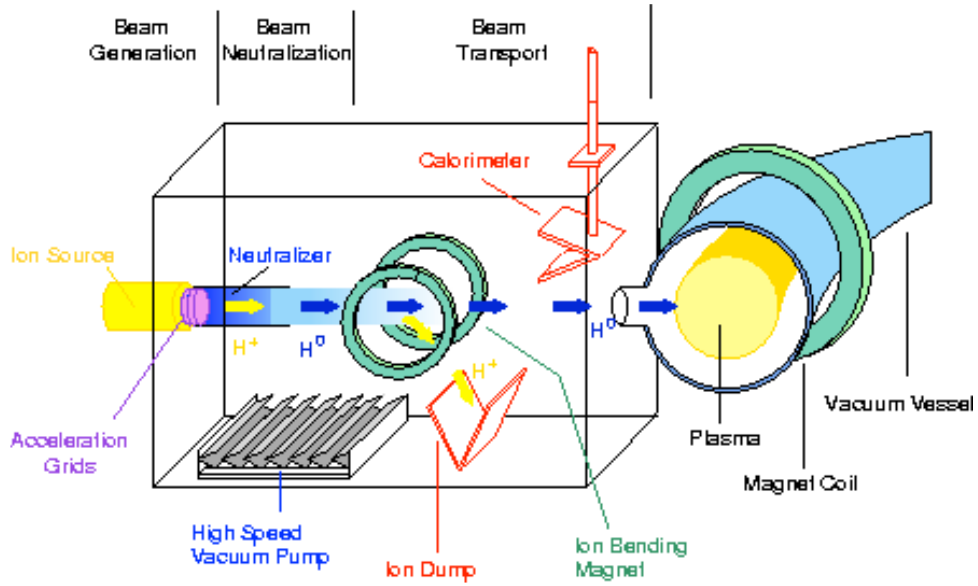
System		Frequency/ energy	Maximum power coupled to plasma	Overall system efficiency	Development/ demonstration required	Remarks
ECRF	Demonstrated in tokamaks	28–157 GHz	2.8 MW, 0.2 s	30–40%	Power sources and windows, off-axis CD	Provides off-axis CD
	ITER needs	150–170 GHz	50 MW, S S			
ICRF	Demonstrated in tokamaks	25–120 MHz	22 MW, 3 s (L-mode); 16.5 MW, 3 s (H-mode)	50–60%	ELM tolerant system	Provides ion heating and smaller ELMs
	ITER needs	40–75 MHz	50 MW, S S			
LHRF	Demonstrated in tokamaks	1.3–8 GHz	2.5 MW, 120 s; 10 MW, 0.5 s	45–55%	Launcher, coupling to H-mode	Provides off-axis CD
	ITER needs	5 GHz	50 MW, S S			
NBI +ve ion	Demonstrated in tokamaks	80–140 keV	40 MW, 2 s; 20 MW, 8 s	35–45%	None	Not applicable
	ITER needs	None	None			
NBI −ve ion	Demonstrated in tokamaks	0.35 MeV	5.2 MW, D^-, 0.8 s (from 2 sources)			
	ITER needs	1 MeV	50 MW, S S	~37%	System, tests on tokamak, plasma CD	provides rotation

'S S' indicates steady state

Nuclear Fusion, 39, 2495, 1999

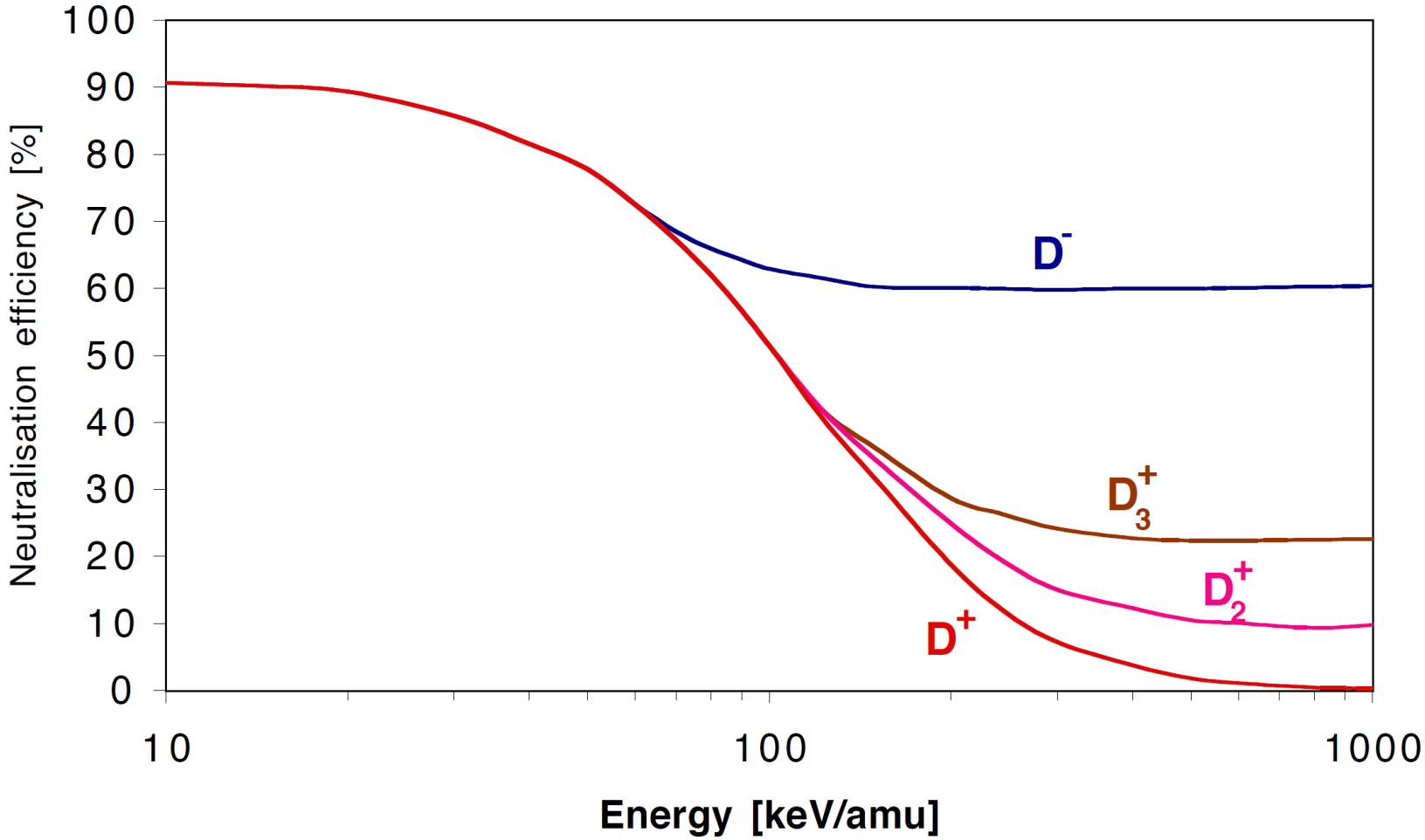
Neutral particles heat the plasma via coulomb collisions





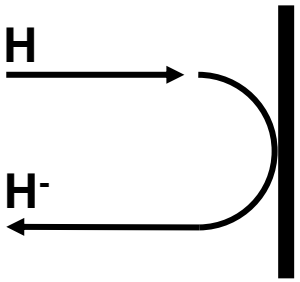
1. create energetic (fast) neutral ions
2. ionize the neutral particles
3. heat the plasma (electrons and ions) via Coulomb collisions

Negative ion source is preferred due to higher neutralization efficiency



There are two ways to make negative ions – surface and volume production

- **Surface production, depends on :**
  - **Work function Φ**
  - **Electron affinity level, 0.75 eV for H^-**
  - **Perpendicular velocity**
  - **Work function can be reduced by covering the metal surface with cesium**



$$H + e^- \longrightarrow H^-$$

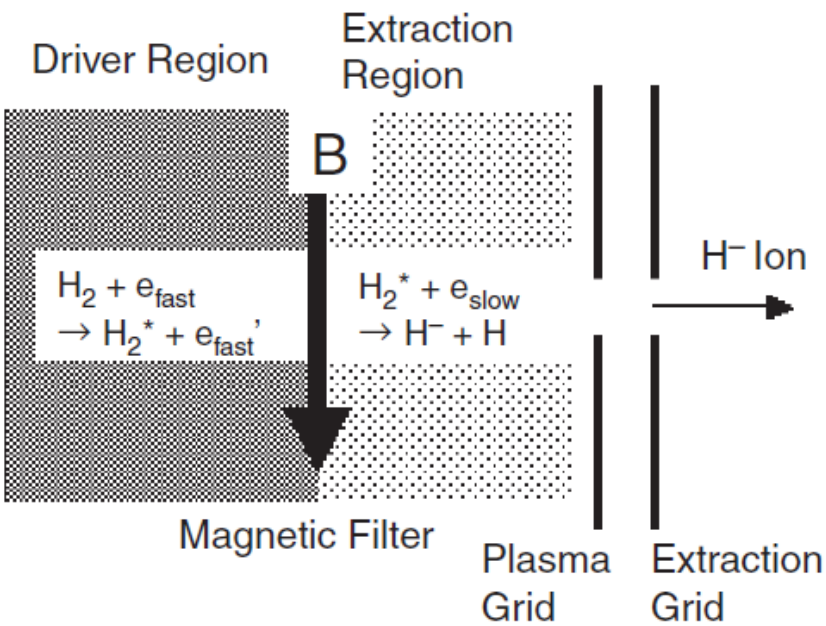
$$H^+ + 2e^- \longrightarrow H^-$$

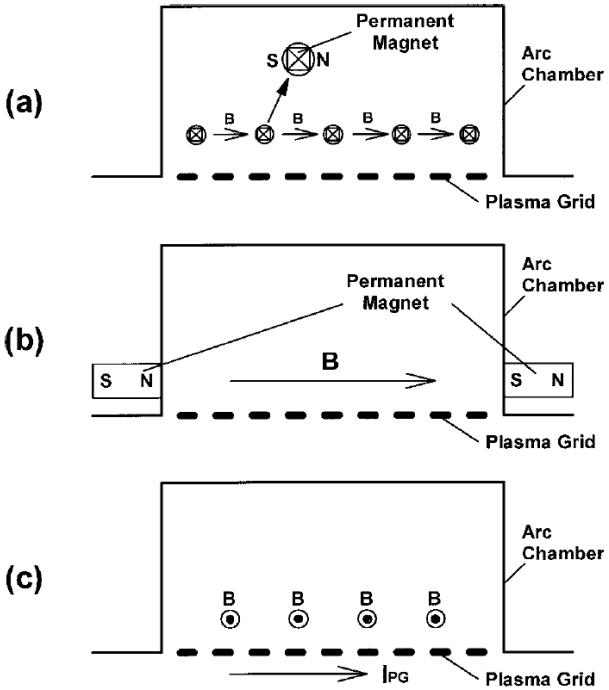
- **Volume production:**

$$H_2 + e_{fast}(>20\ \text{eV}) \rightarrow H_2^*(\text{excited state}) + e_{fast},$$

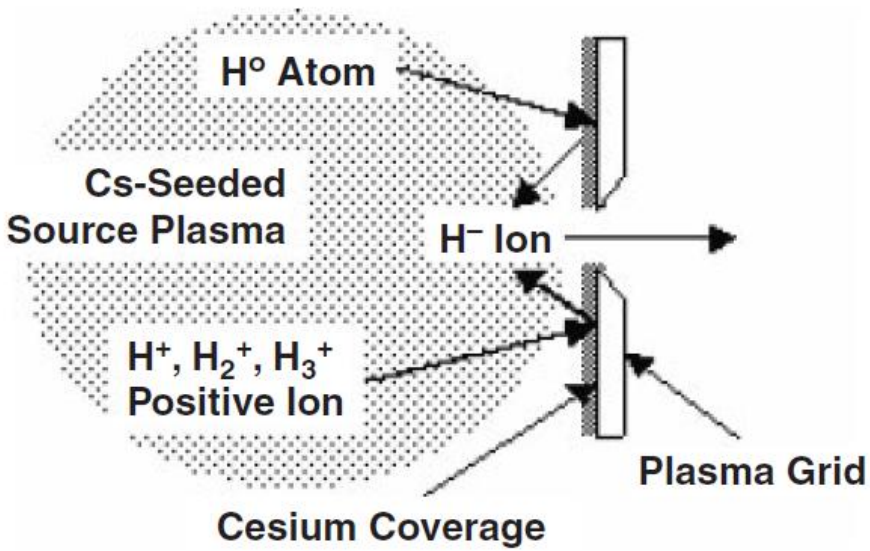
$$H_2^*(\text{excited state}) + e_{slow}(\approx 1\ \text{eV}) \rightarrow H^- + H.$$

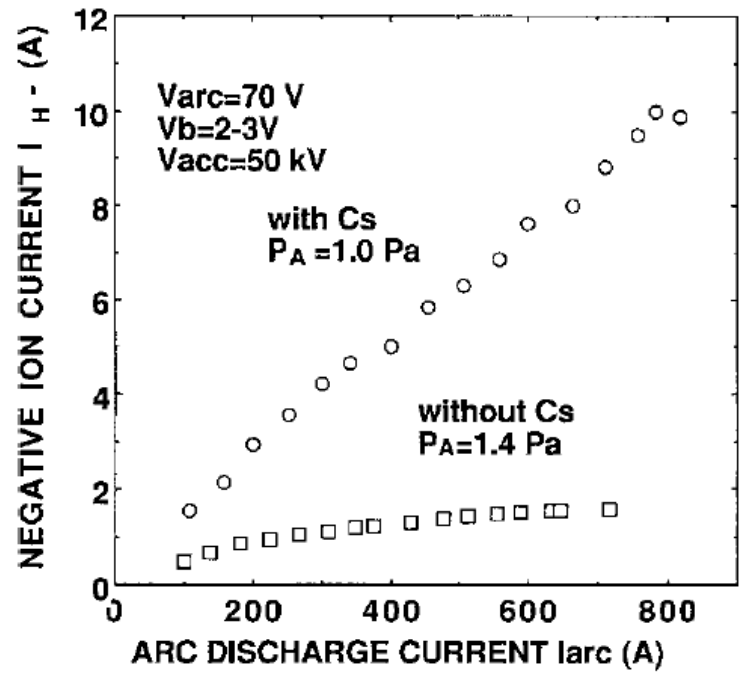
Two-chamber method of negative ions in volume production with a magnetic filter



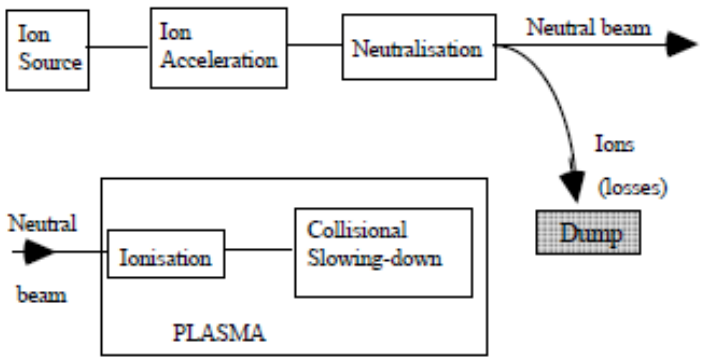


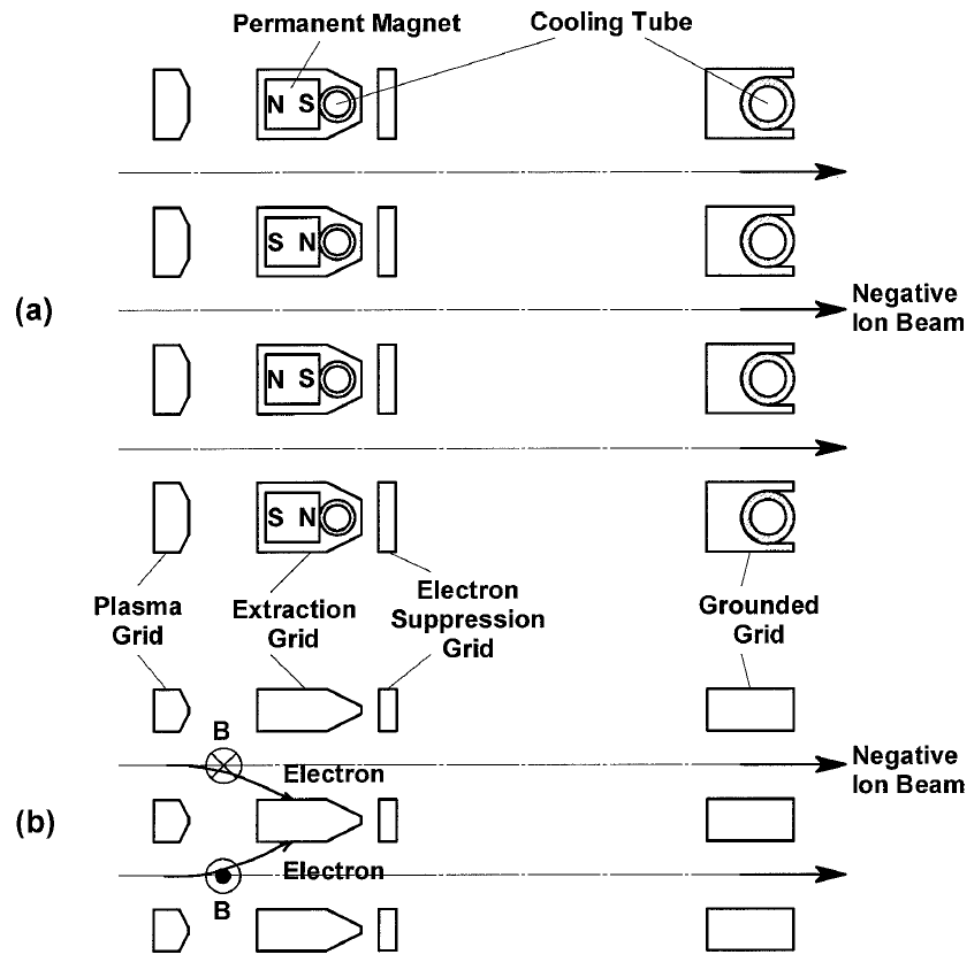
Adding cesium increases negative ion current





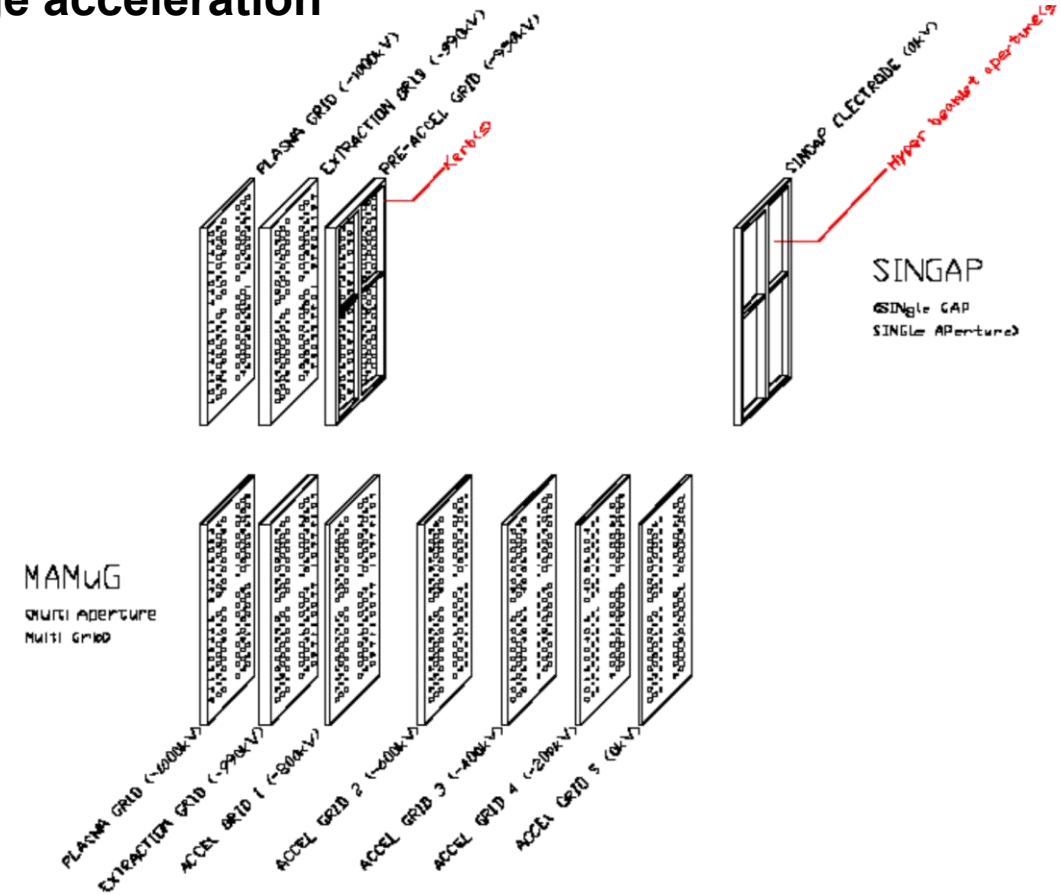
Electrons need to be filtered out since they are extracted together with negative ions





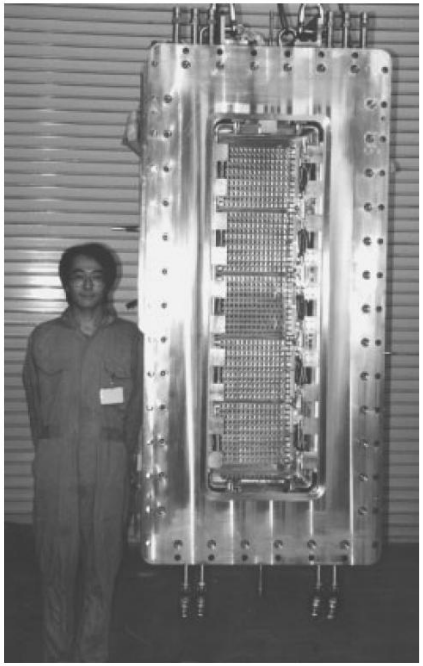
Acceleration

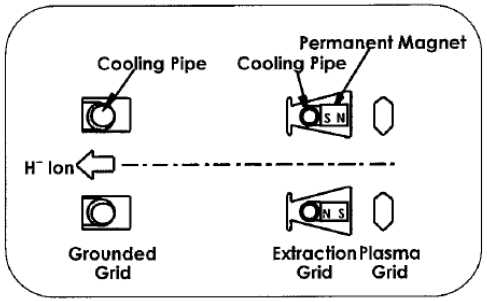
- **Multi-stage acceleration**
- **Single-stage acceleration**



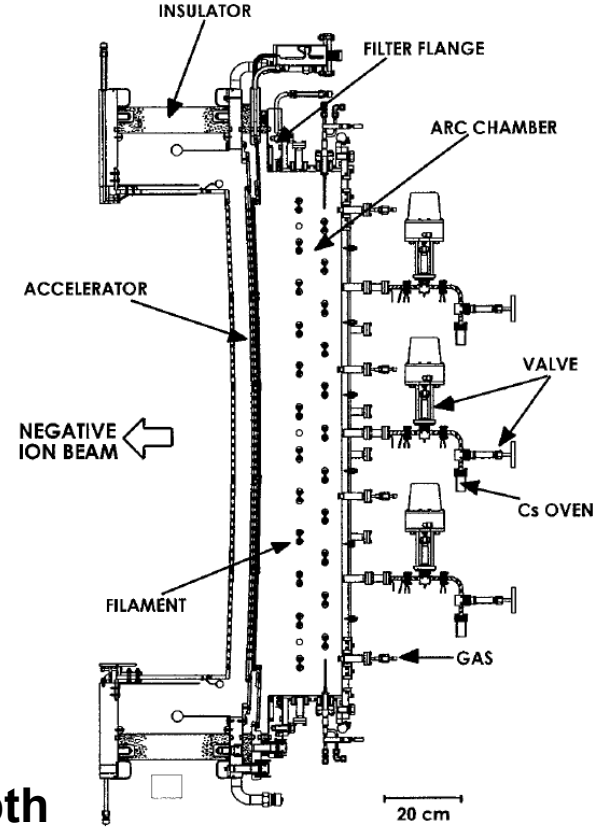
The ITER neutral beam system: status of the project and review of the main technological issues, presented by V. Antoni

NBI system of the LHD fusion machine





Negative Ion Accelerator

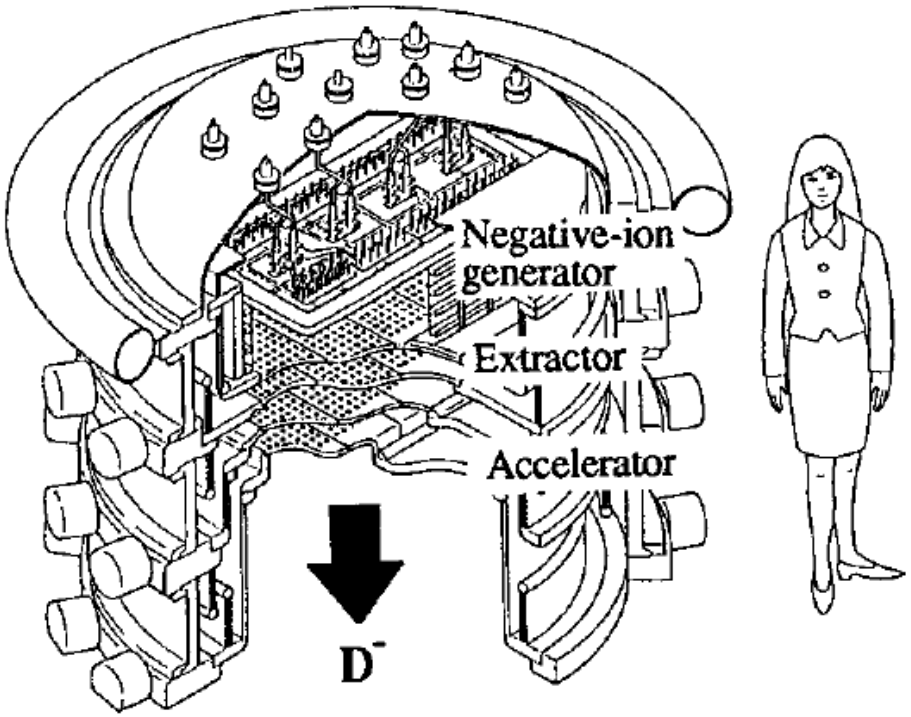


- **180 keV and 30 A**
- **Arc chamber: 35 cm x 145 cm, 21cm in depth**
- **Single stage accelerator**

Y. Takeiri, etc., Nucl. Fusion, 46, S199, 2006

JT60U NBI system

- JT-60 (Japan-Torus) is a tokamak in Japan.
- 550 keV, 22A
- 2m in diameter and 1.7 m in height
- 3-stage accelerator



Neutralization

- **Gas neutralization**
  - **Collisions between fast negative ions and atoms**

$$H^- + H_2 \longrightarrow H + H_2 + e^-$$

  - **Fast ions can lose another electron after neutralized**

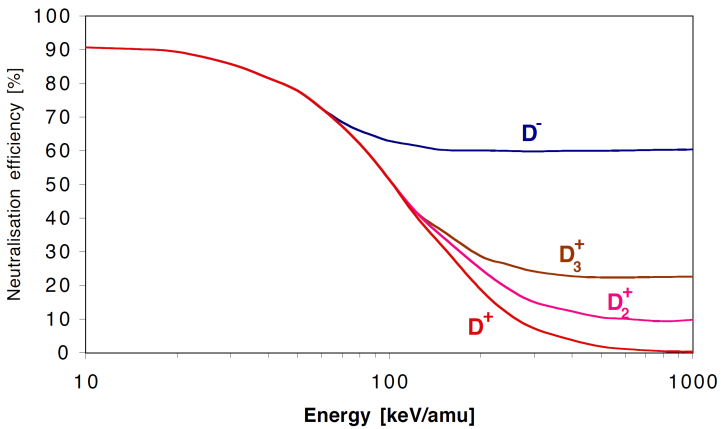
$$H + H_2 \longrightarrow H^+ + H_2 + e^-$$

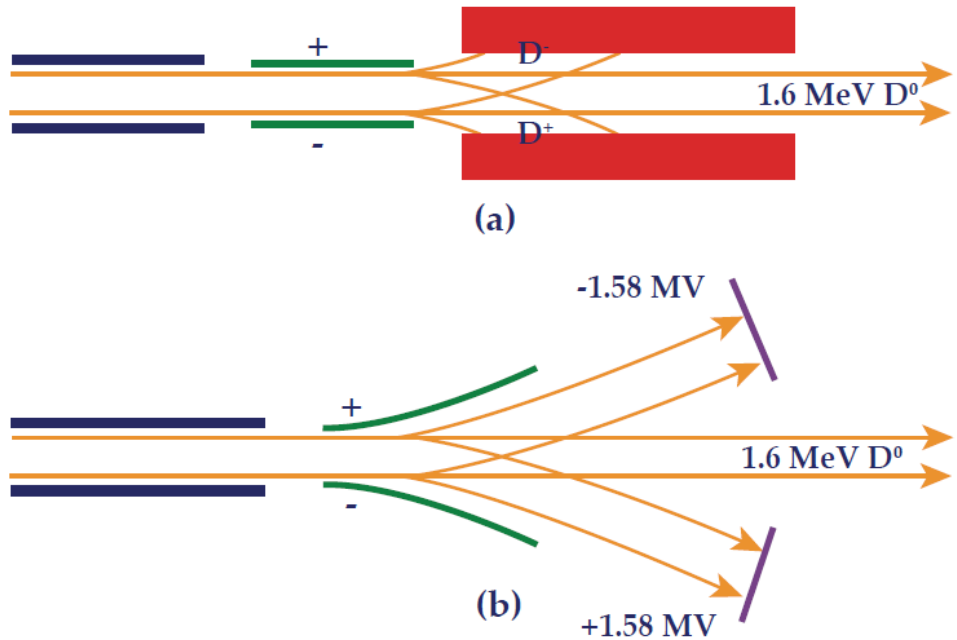
- **Plasma neutralization**
  - **Collisions with charged particles in plasma**

$$H^- + X(e, \mathrm{Ar}, H^+, {H_2}^+) \longrightarrow H + X + e^-$$

  - **The efficiencies reach up to 85% for fully ionized hydrogen plasma**

Beam dump

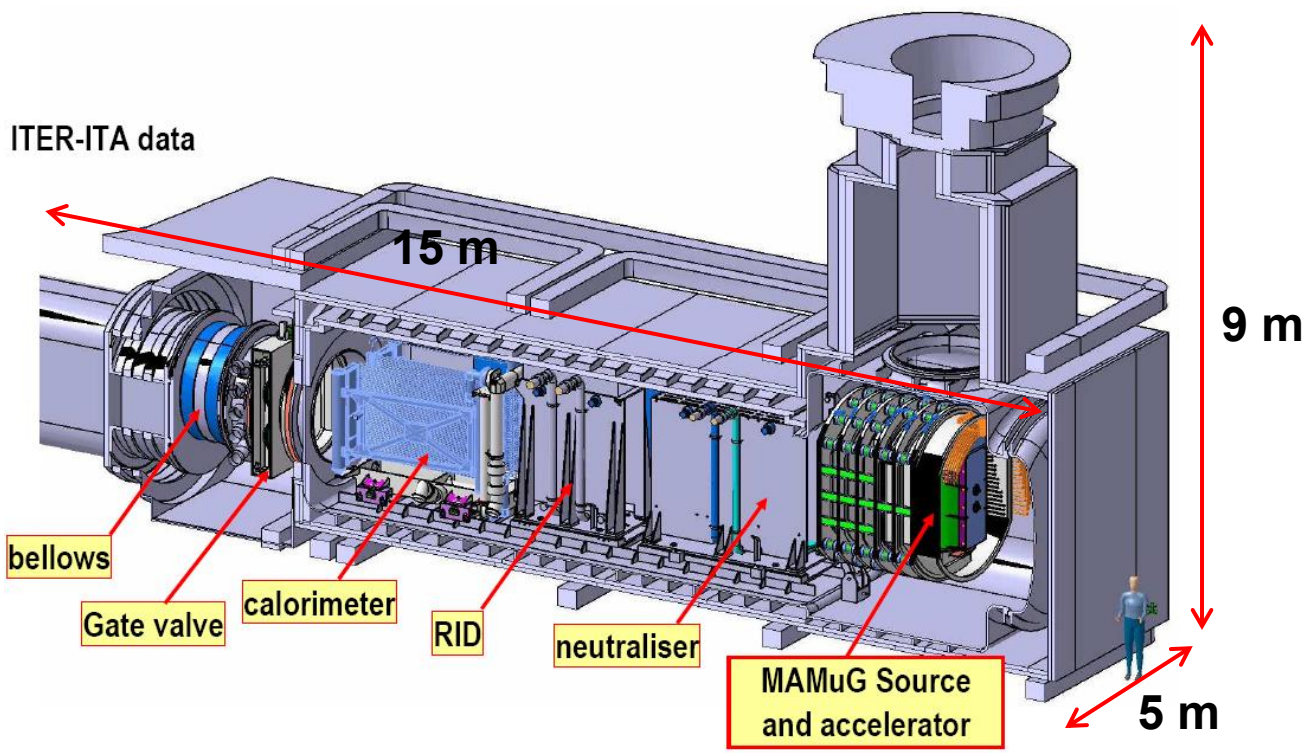




R. W. Moir, Fusion Technology, 25, 129, 1994

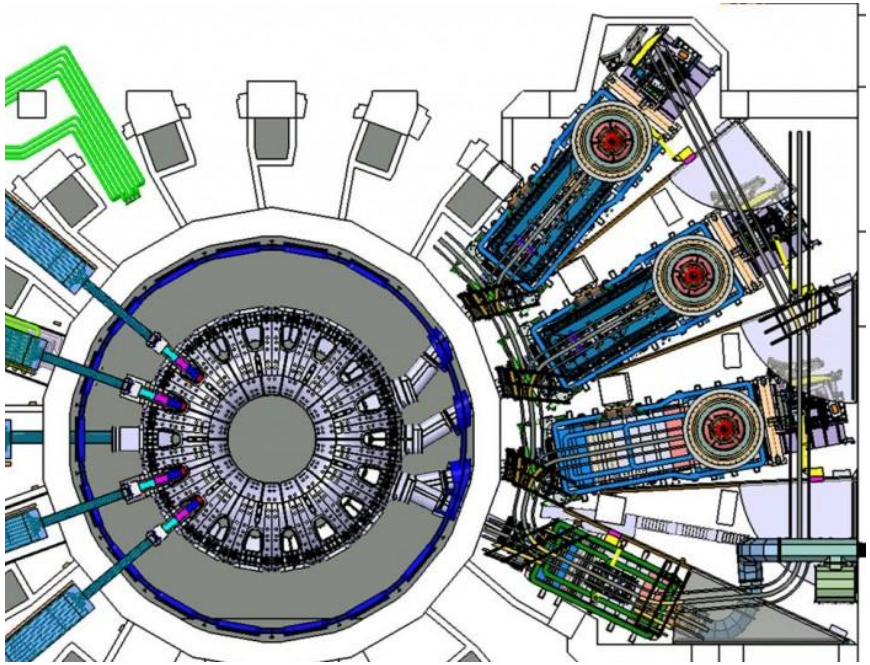
NBI for ITER

- **beam components (Ion Source, Accelerator, Neutralizer, Residual Ion Dump and Calorimeter)**
- **other components (cryo-pump, vessels, fast shutter, duct, magnetic shielding, and residual magnetic field compensating coils)**



The ITER neutral beam system: status of the project and review of the main technological issues, presented by V. Antoni

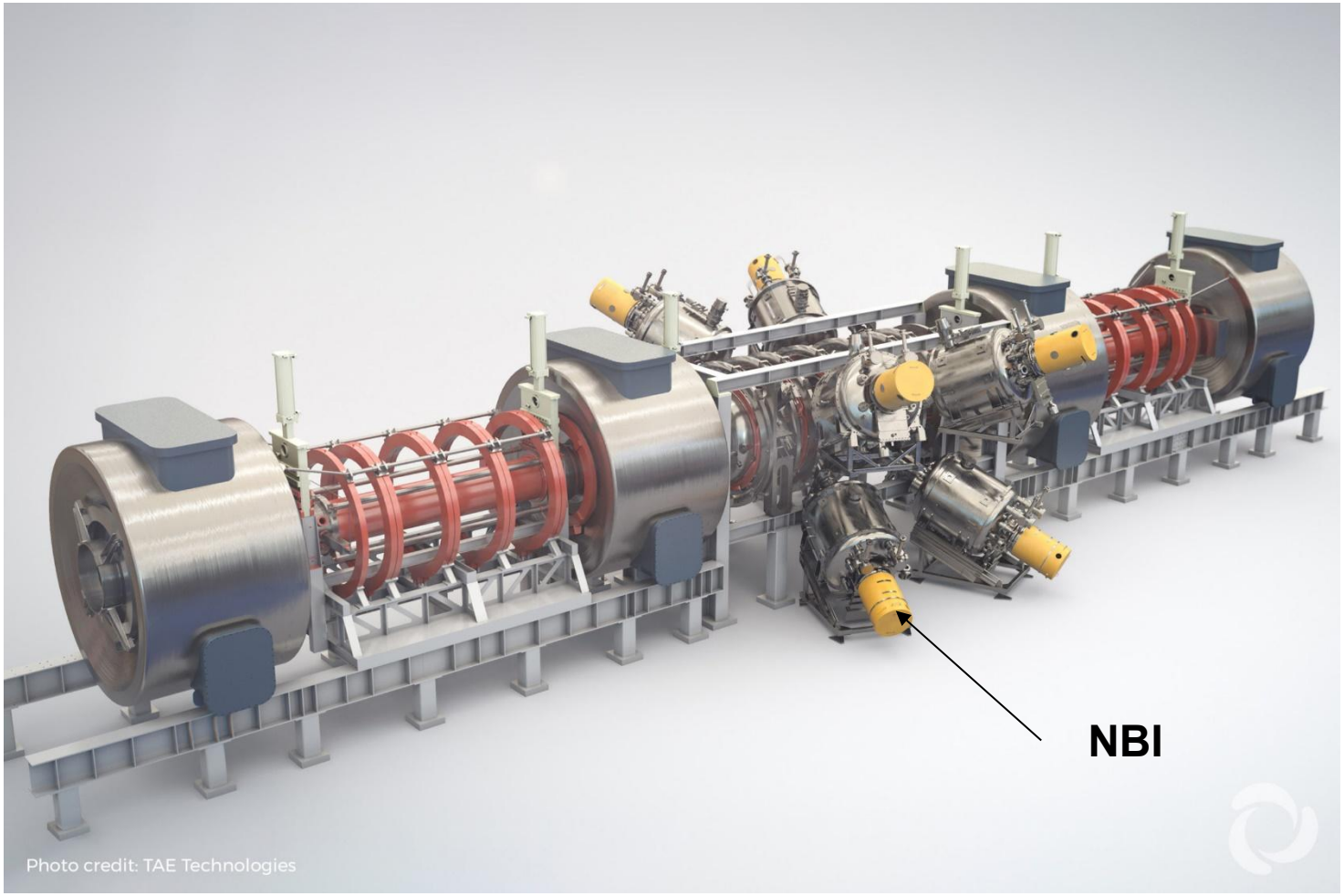
Neutral beam penetration



- Parallel direction
  - Longest path through the densest part of the plasma
  - Harder to be built
- Perpendicular direction
  - Path is short
  - Larger perpendicular energies leads to larger losses
  - Easier to be built

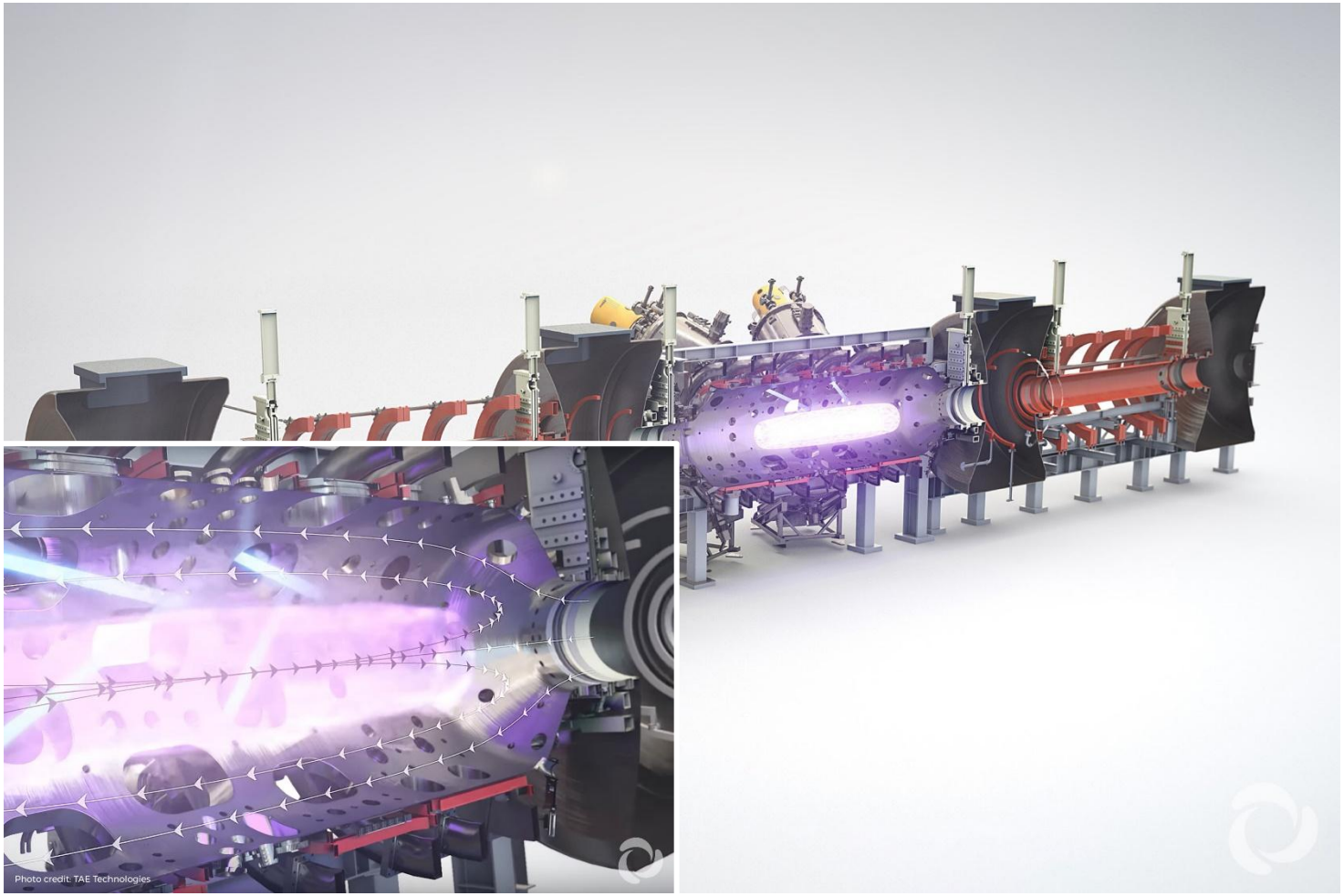
https://www.iter.org

NBI for Tri-Alpha Energy Technologies



https://tae.com/media/

Neutral beams are injected in to the chamber for spinning the FRC



https://tae.com/media/

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  - Stellarator
- Inertial confinement fusion (ICF)
  - Indirection drive ICF
  - Direct drive ICF
- Innovation idea – MCF + ICF
- **Plasma in space**
- Pulsed-power system at NCKU

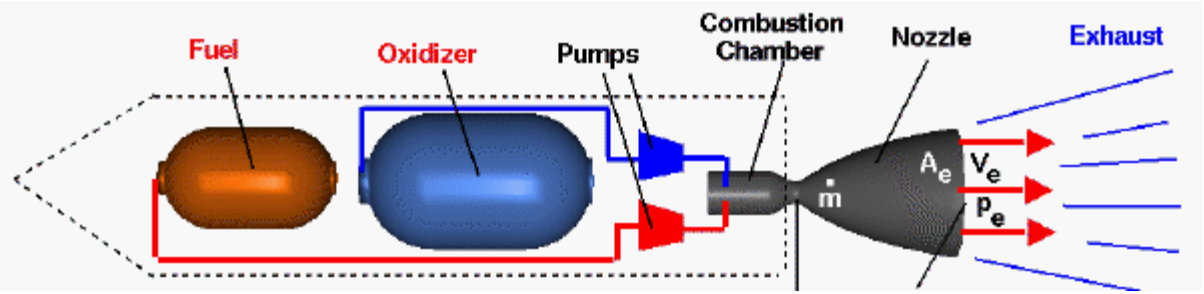
Neutral beam source

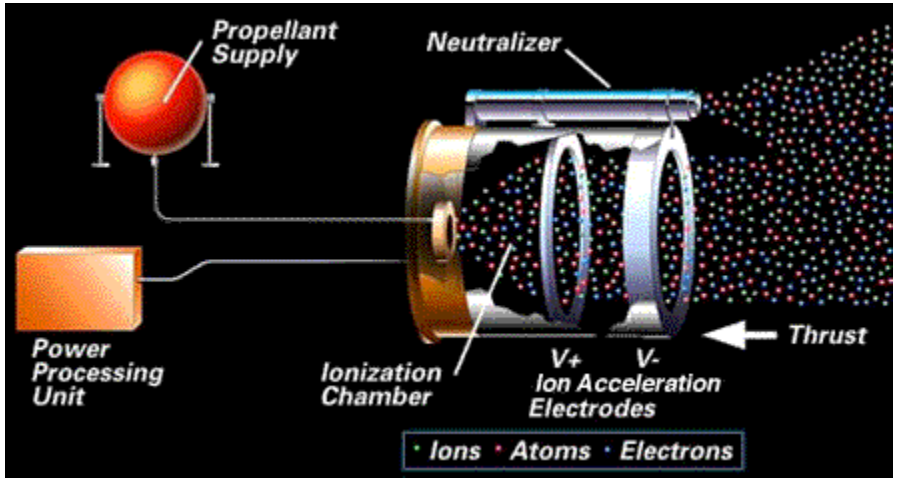
- Neutral beam injection for heating plasma in Tokamak
  - Jure Maglica, Seminar at University in Ljubljana
  - Ian G. Brown, The Physics and Technology of Ion Sources

- **Electric propulsion (plasma thrusters)**
  - **D. M. Goebel and I. Katz, Fundamentals of Electric Propulsion: Ion and Hall Thrusters**

Comparison between liquid rockets and ion thrusters

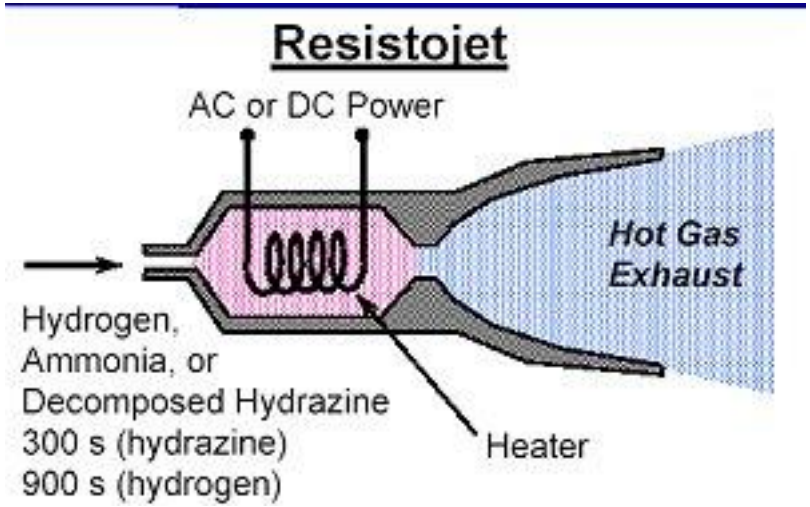
- Liquid rockests
  - u~4500 m/s
  - Isp~450 s
  - Energy ~ 100GJ
  - Power ~ 300MW
  - Thrust ~ $2x10^6$ N
- Ion thrusters
  - u~30000 m/s
  - Isp~3000 s
  - Energy ~ 1000GJ
  - Power ~ 1kW
  - Thrust ~ 0.1 N

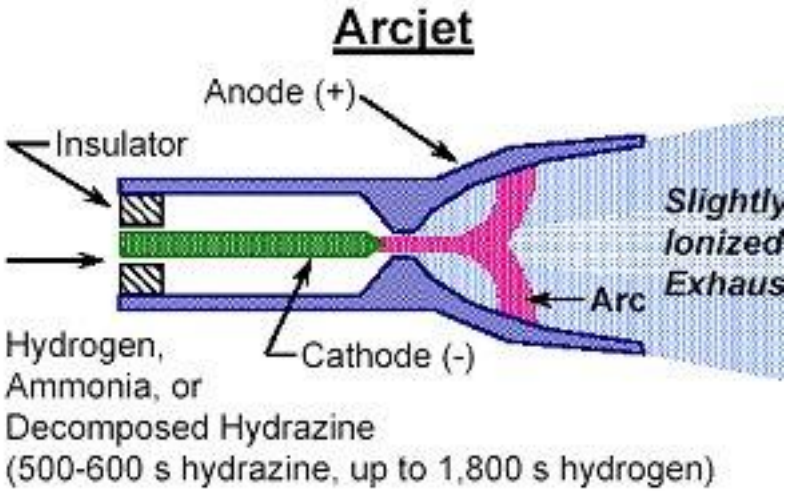




Electric thruster types - electrothermal

- **Resistojet**
- **Arcjet**

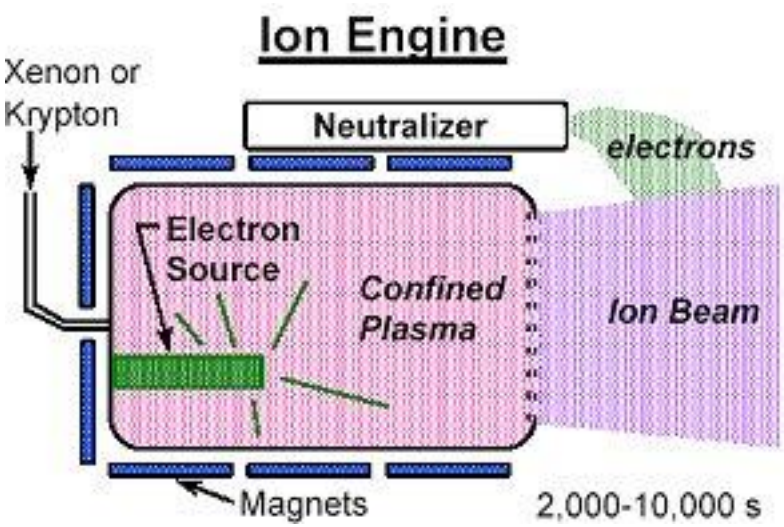




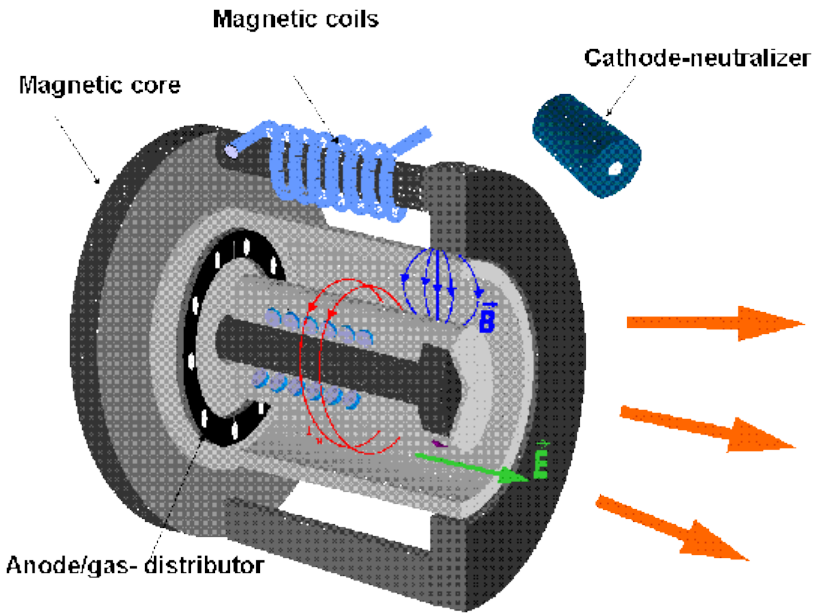
http://pages.erau.edu/~ericksol/courses/sp300/ch5/propul_ch5.html

Electric thruster types - electrostatic

- Ion thruster

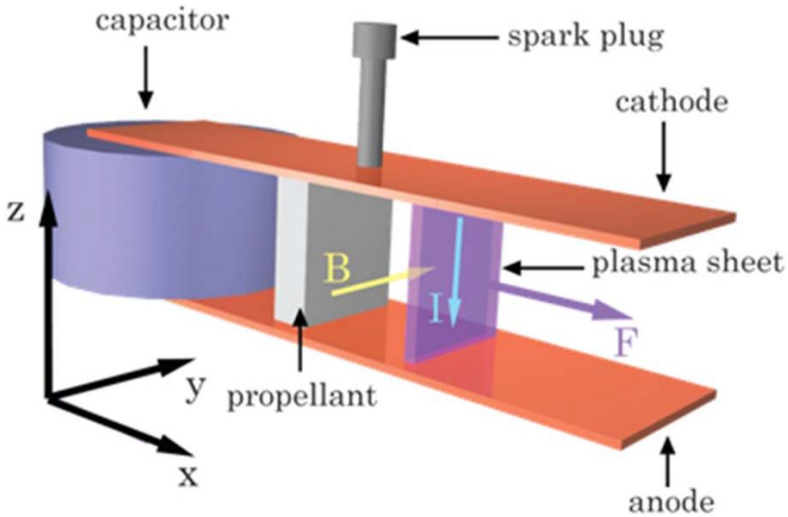


- Hall thruster

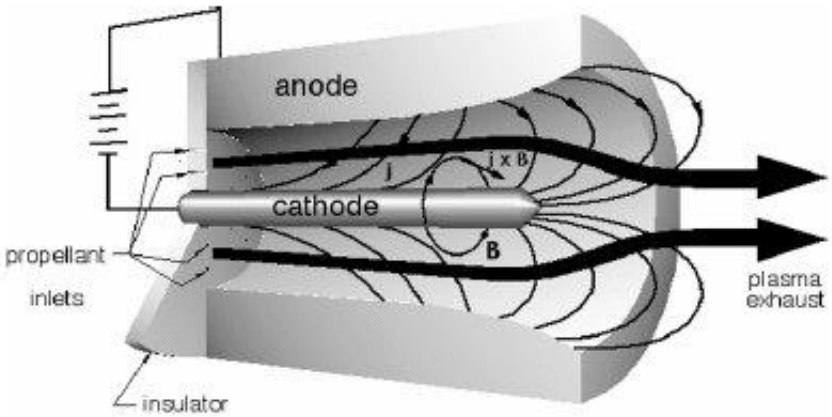


Electric thruster types - Electromagnetic

- **Pulsed plasma thruster**



- **Magnetoplasmadynamic thruster (MPD)**



The thrust in an ion engine is transferred by the electrostatic force between the ions and the two grids

$$\frac{dE(x)}{\mathrm{dx}} = \frac{\rho(x)}{\varepsilon_0} = \frac{\mathrm{q}n_i(x)}{\varepsilon_0}$$

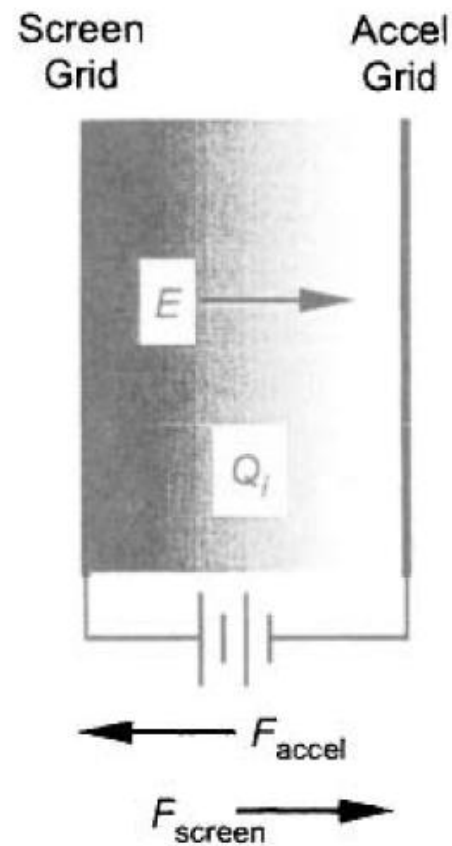
$$E(x) = \frac{q}{\varepsilon_0}\int_0^x n_i(x')\mathrm{dx}' + E_{\mathrm{screen}}$$

Gauss's law: $\sigma = \varepsilon_0 E_{\mathrm{screen}}$

$$F_{\mathrm{screen}} = \sigma\frac{(E_{\mathrm{screen}} + 0)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_0 {E_{\mathrm{screen}}}^2$$

$$F_{\mathrm{accel}} = -\sigma\frac{(E_{\mathrm{accel}} + 0)}{2} = -\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_0 {E_{\mathrm{accel}}}^2$$

$$T = F_{\mathrm{screen}} + F_{\mathrm{accel}} = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_0({E_{\mathrm{screen}}}^2 - {E_{\mathrm{accel}}}^2)$$



$$F_{\mathrm{ion}} = q\int_0^d n_i(x)E(x)\mathrm{dx} = \varepsilon_0\int_0^d \frac{dE}{\mathrm{dx}}\mathrm{Edx} == \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_0({E_{\mathrm{accel}}}^2 - {E_{\mathrm{screen}}}^2)$$

The rocket equation

$$p(t) = p(t + \mathrm{dt})$$

$$Mv = (M - dm_{\mathrm{p}})(v + dv) + dm_{\mathrm{p}}(v - v_{\mathrm{ex}})$$

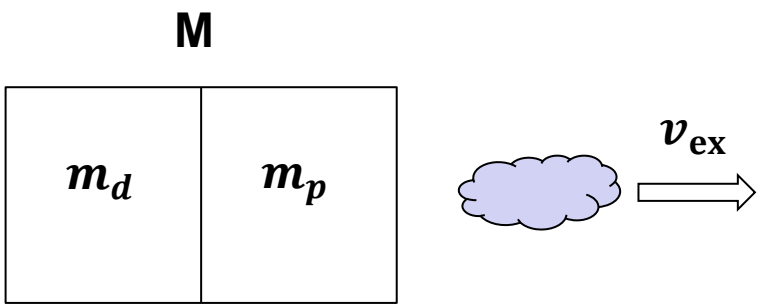
$$\cancel{Mv} = \cancel{Mv} + Mdv - \cancel{dm_p v} - dm_p dv + \cancel{dm_p v} - dm_p v_{\mathrm{ex}}$$

$$dv \sim -v_{\mathrm{ex}} \frac{dM}{M} \quad \text{where } dm_{\mathrm{p}} dv \text{ is neglected and } dm_{\mathrm{p}} = -dM$$

$$\int_{v_i}^{v_f} dv = -v_{\mathrm{ex}} \int_{m_d + m_p}^{m_d} \frac{dM}{M}$$

$$\boxed{\Delta \mathrm{v} = (\mathrm{Isp} \times g) \ln\left(\frac{m_d + m_p}{m_d}\right)}$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} m_p &= m_d[e^{\Delta \mathrm{v}/v_{\mathrm{ex}}} - 1] \\ &= m_d[e^{\Delta \mathrm{v}/(\mathrm{Isp} \times g)} - 1] \end{aligned}}$$



Force transfer

$$T = -\frac{d}{dt}\left(m_p v_{\mathrm{ex}}\right) = -v_{\mathrm{ex}}\frac{dm_p}{dt} = -\dot{m}_p v_{ex}$$

$$\dot{m}_p = \mathrm{QM}$$

$$P_{\mathrm{jet}} = -\frac{1}{2}\dot{m}_p {v_{\mathrm{ex}}}^2 = -\frac{T^2}{2\dot{m}_p}$$

$$T = -\frac{dm_{\mathrm{p}}}{dt}v_{\mathrm{ex}} \approx -\dot{m}_i v_i$$

$$v_i = \sqrt{\frac{2\mathrm{qV}_b}{M}}$$

$$-\dot{m}_i = \frac{I_b M}{q}$$

$\dot{m}_p$ = propellant mass flow rate in kg/s

Q = propellant particle flow rate in particles/s

M = atomic mass in kg

$\dot{m}_i$ = ion mass flow rate in kg/s

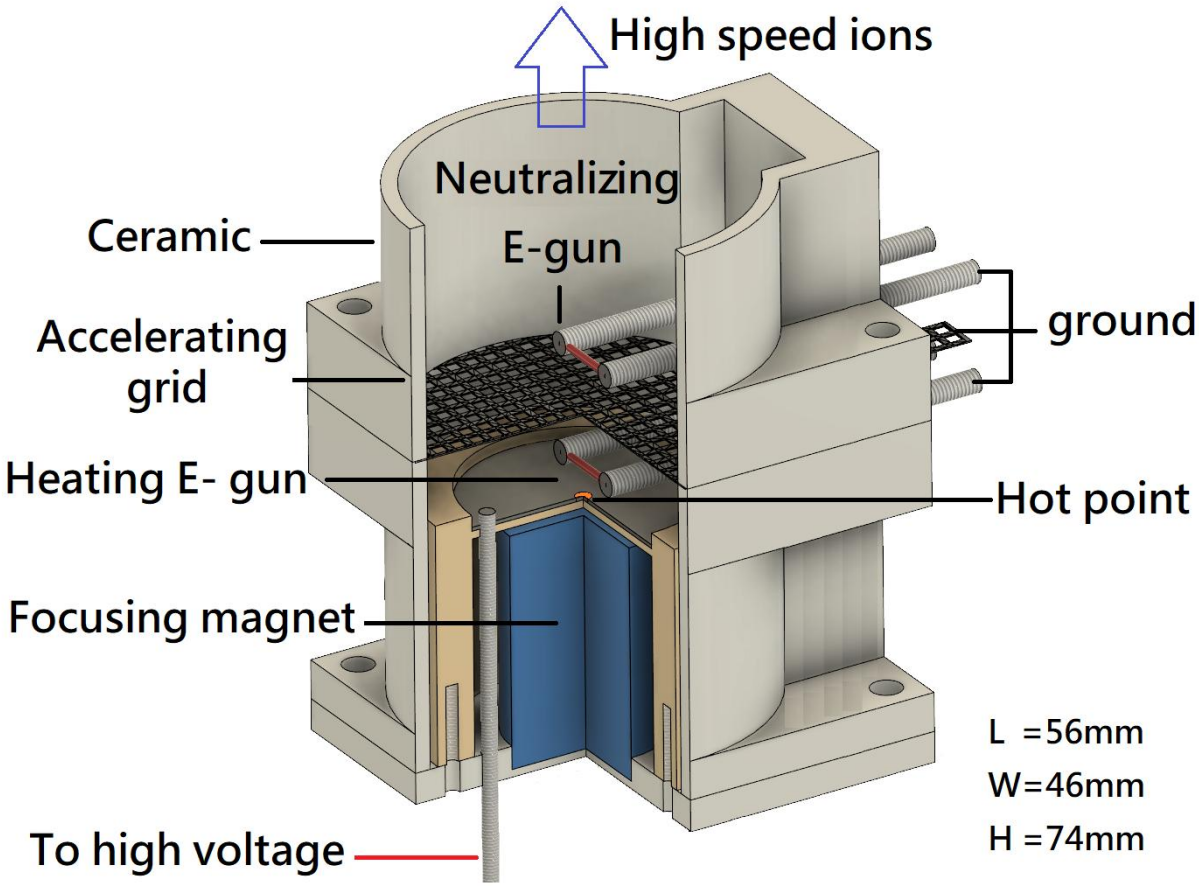
I_b = ion current

$$\boxed{T = \sqrt{\frac{2M}{e}}I_b\sqrt{V_b}\ (\mathrm{Nt})}$$

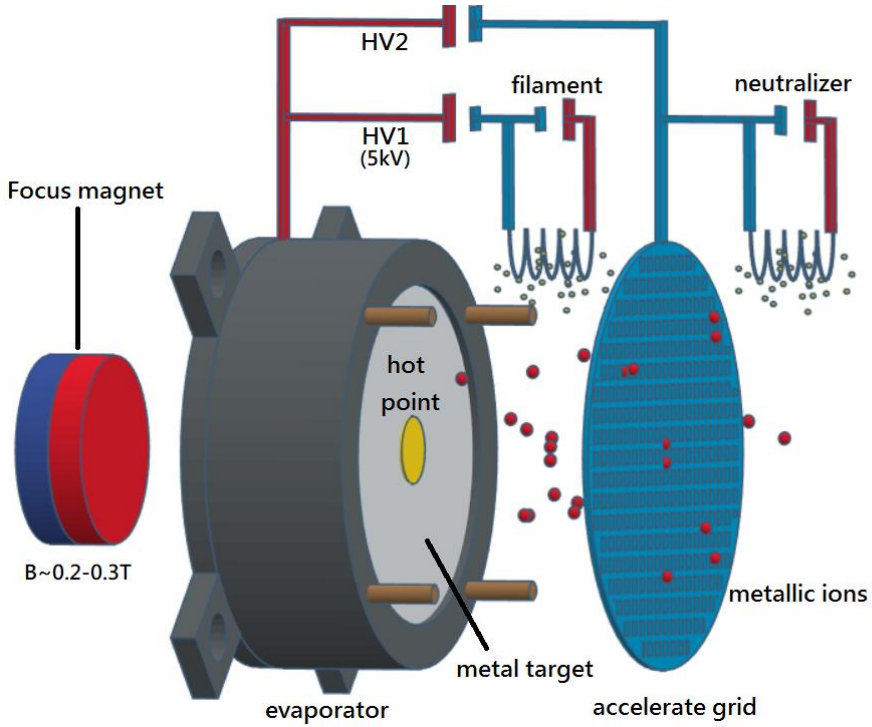
Ion thruster has the highest specific impulse (Isp)

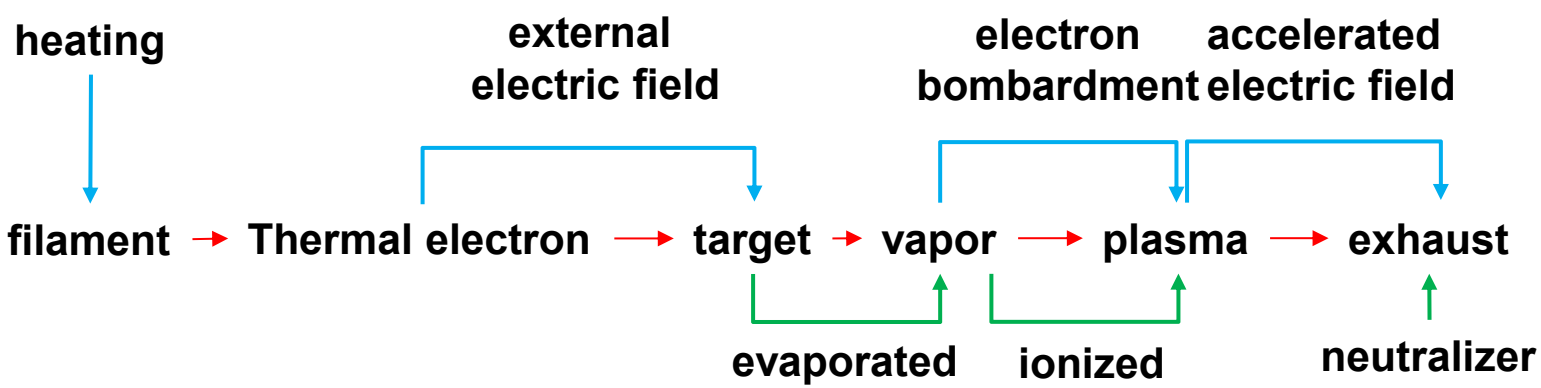
Thruster	Specific Impulse (s)	Input Power (kW)	Efficiency Range (%)	Propellant
Cold gas	50–75	—	—	Various
Chemical (monopropellant)	150–225	—	—	N_2H_4 H_2O_2
Chemical (bipropellant)	300–450	—	—	Various
Resistojet	300	0.5–1	65–90	N_2H_4 monoprop
Arcjet	500–600	0.9–2.2	25–45	N_2H_4 monoprop
Ion thruster	2500–3600	0.4–4.3	40–80	Xenon
Hall thrusters	1500–2000	1.5–4.5	35–60	Xenon
PPTs	850–1200	<0.2	7–13	Teflon

Metallic Ion Thruster Using Magnetron E-Beam Bombardment (MIT-MEB)



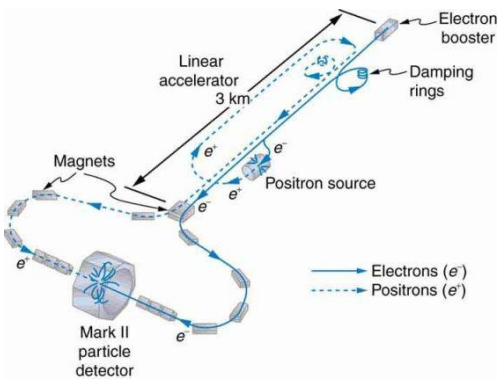
Electrons are used to generate metallic gas, metallic plasma and to neutralize ions

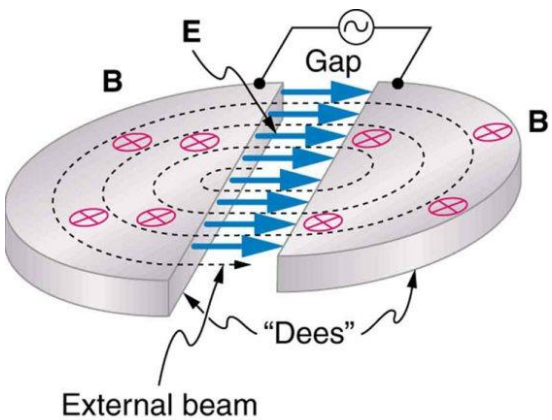




High energy particle accelerator

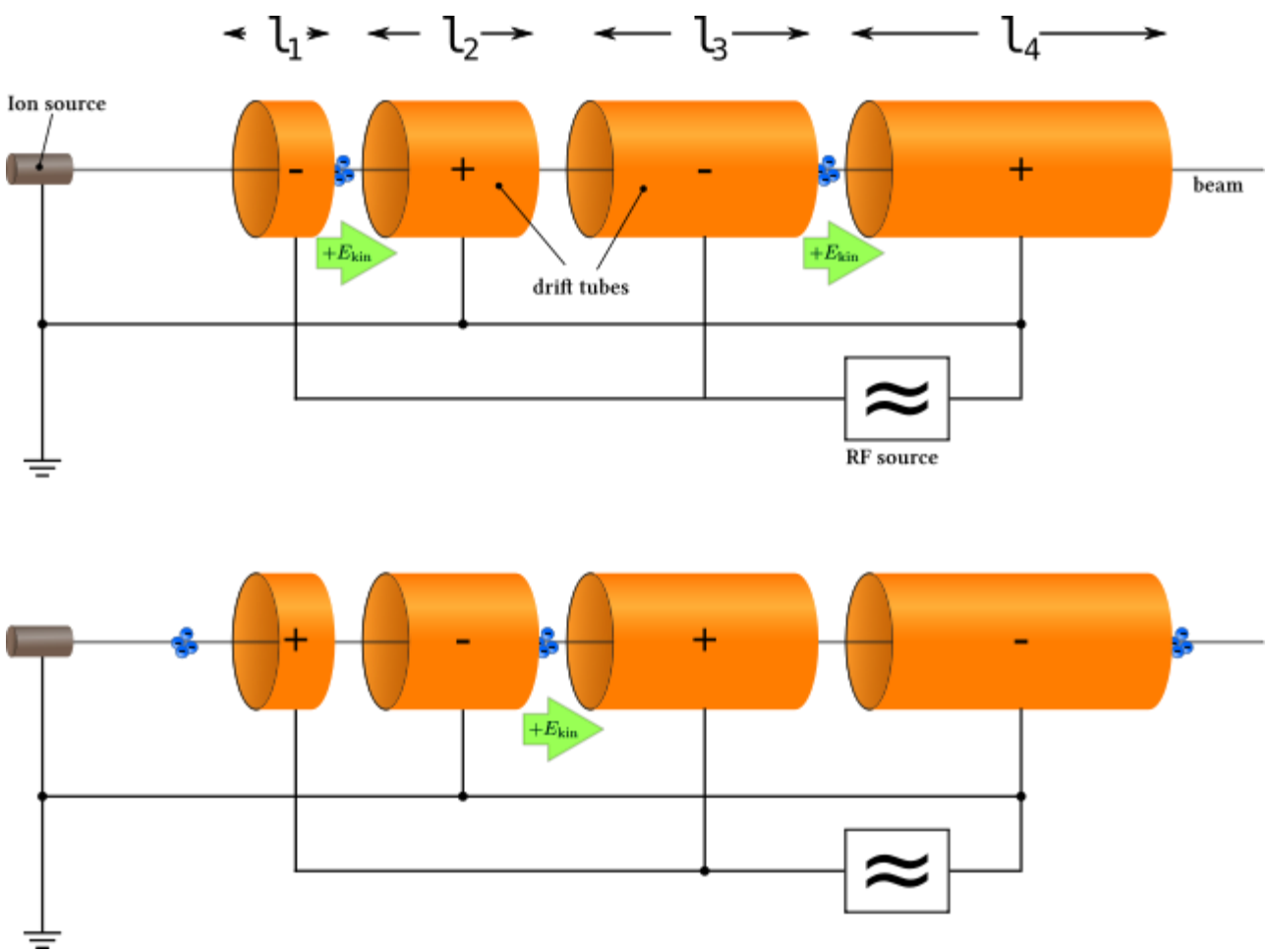
- linear particle accelerator (Linac)
- Cyclotron
- Synchrotron





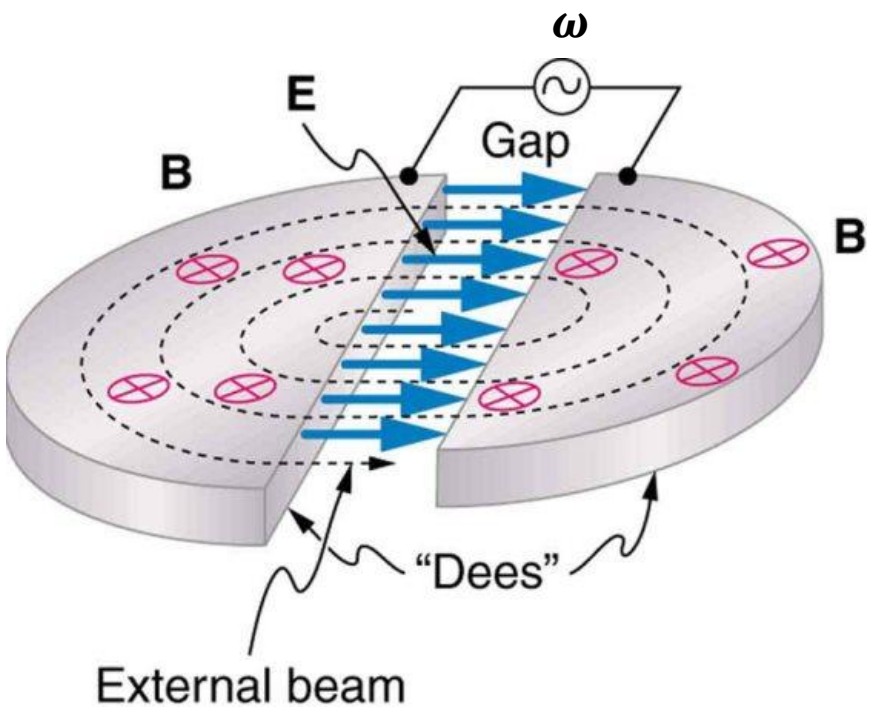
- Reference: Introduction to plasma phenomena and plasma medicine, Y. Nishida and K.-L. Ou

A linear particle accelerator (linac) accelerates charged particles using a series of oscillating electric potentials along a linear beamline



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linear_particle_accelerator

Cyclotrons use a magnetic field to cause particles to move in circular orbits



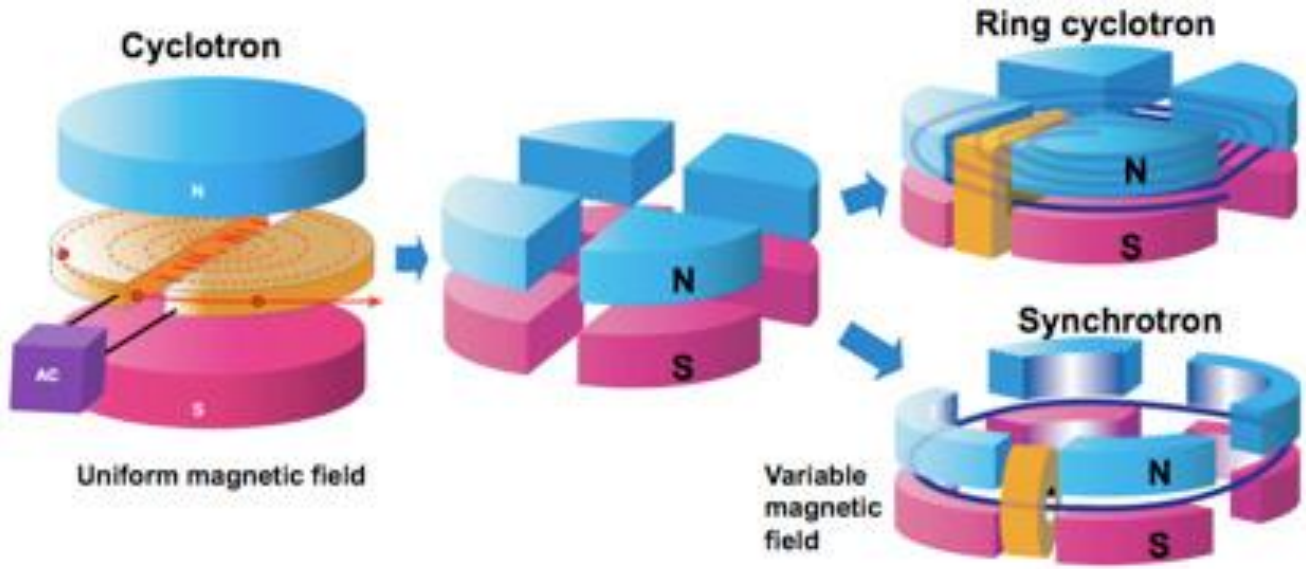
$$\omega_{\mathrm{ce}} = \frac{eB}{m_e c}$$

$$r_e = \frac{v}{\omega_{\mathrm{ce}}} = \frac{m_e c v}{eB}$$

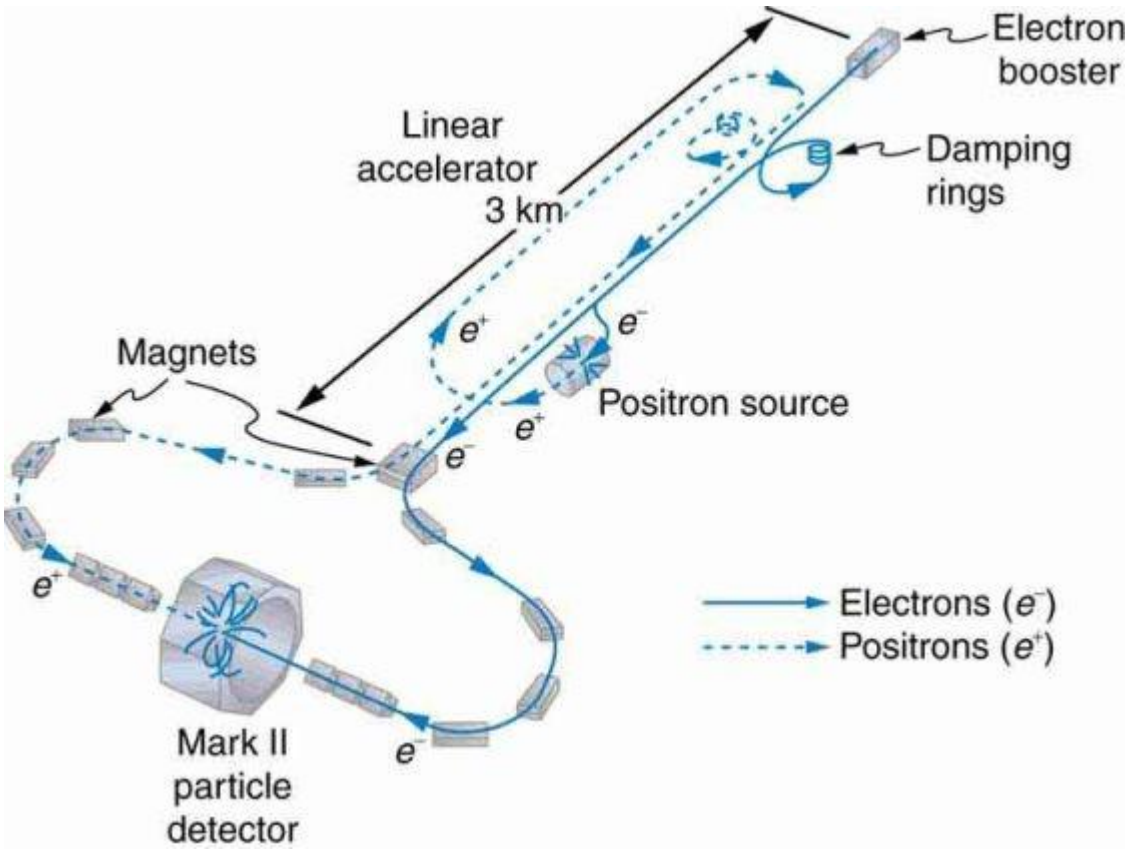
- **Cyclotron was invented by Ernest Lawrence who earned the 1939 Nobel price in physics**

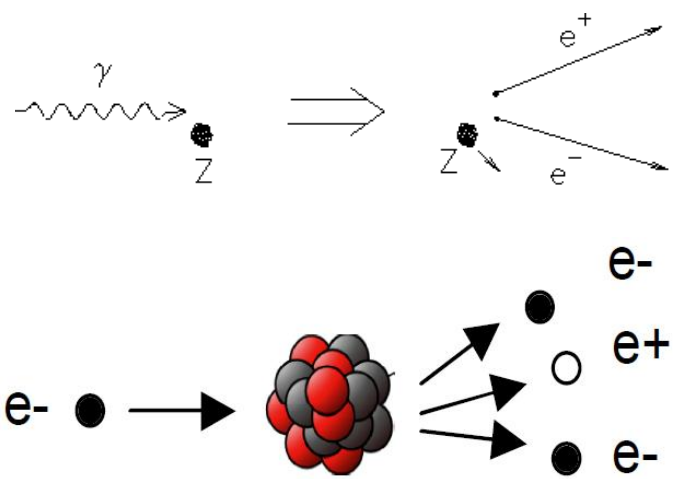
http://math.ubooks.pub/Books/ON/M1/1704/C33S4M004.html

Synchrotron uses time-dependent guiding magnetic field synchronized to a particle beam



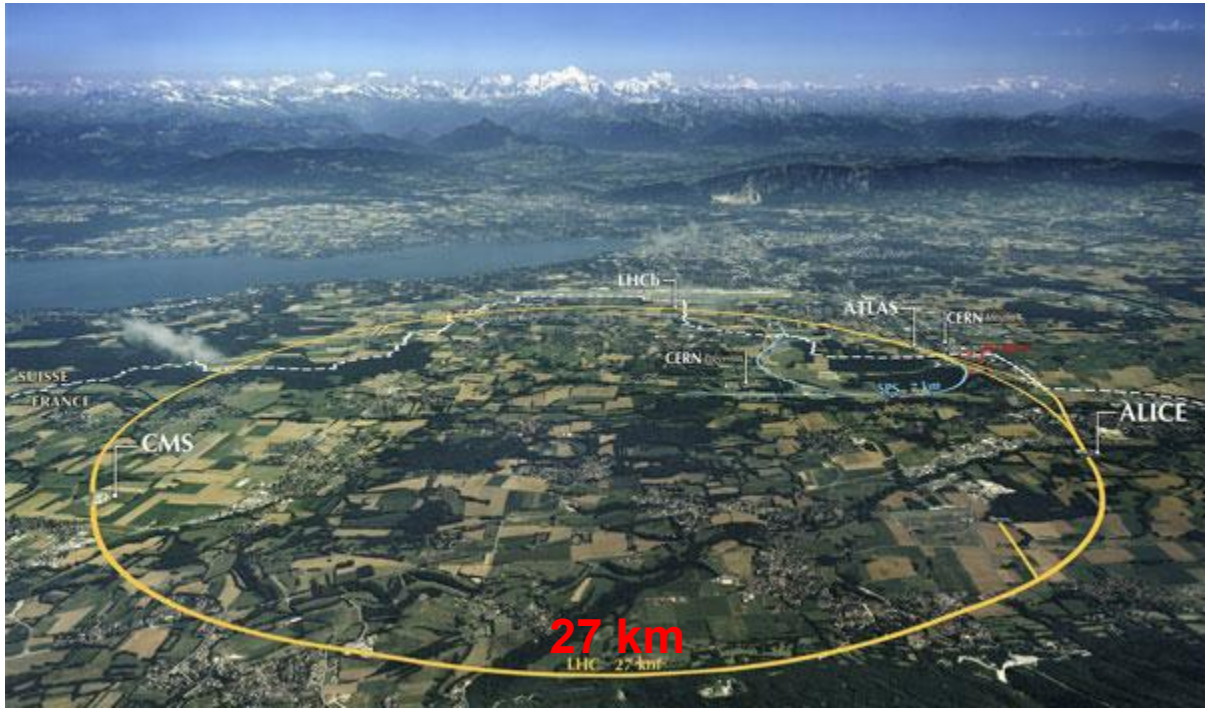
Stanford linear accelerator center (SLAC) is a 50 GeV electron / positron accelerator





http://cnx.org/contents/aypTUEkP@4/Accelerators-Create-Matter-fro
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/64/Pair_production_Cartoon.gif

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the world's largest and most powerful particle collider providing 13 TeV protons



http://www.coepp.org.au/large-hadron-collider

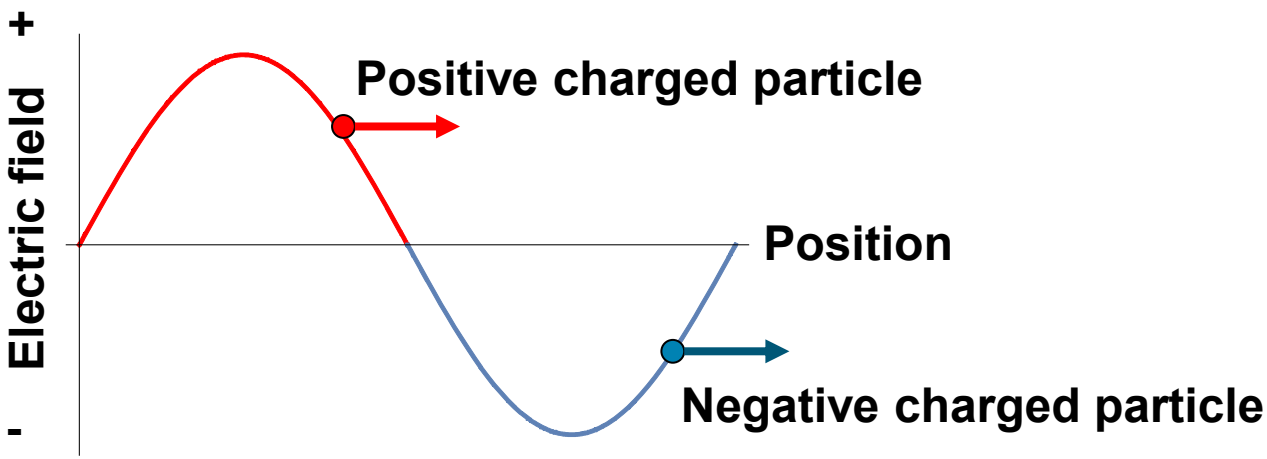
Plasma based accelerators will become 3 orders smaller than the regular microwave based accelerator

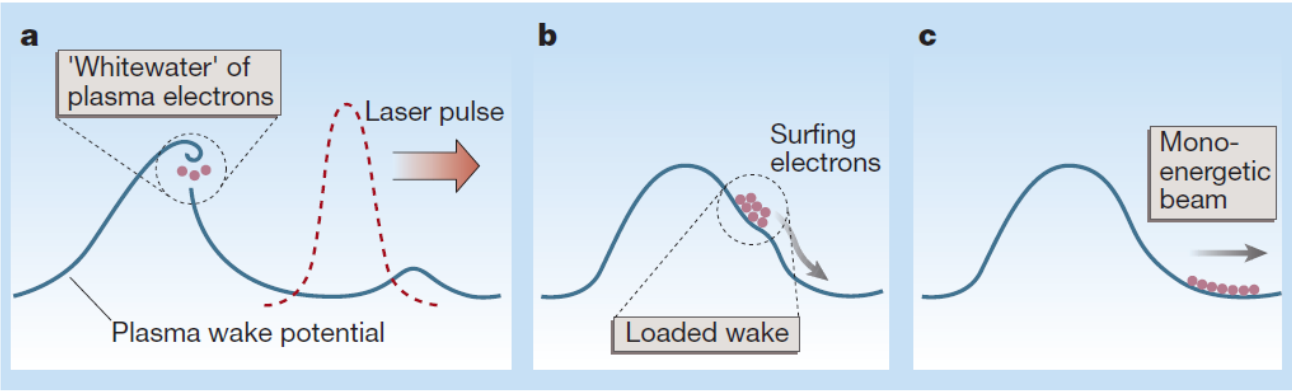
- **Maximum field strength:**
  - **Microwave: 100 MV/m**
  - **Plasma: >10 GV/m, 300 GV/m was achieved using laser wakefield accelerator[1]**

- **Plasma based high energy accelerators:**
  - **V_pxB or surfatron accelerator[2]**
  - **Plasma wakefield accelerator (PWFA)[3]**
  - **Plasma beat wave accelerator (PBWA)[4]**
  - **Laser wakefield accelerator (LWFA)[4]**

[1]N. A. M. Hafz, *et al.*, Nature Photonics **2**, 571 (2008)
[2]T. Katsouleas and J. Dawson, Phys. Rev. Lett. **51**, 392 (1983)
[3]P. Chen, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **54**, 693 (1985)
[4]T. Tajima and J. M. Dawson, Phys. Rev. Lett. **43**, 267 (1979)

Charged particles can be accelerated in the wave electric field





T. Katsouleas, Nature **431**, 515 (2004)

Who will catch the wave?

https://lightsabersandsurfboards.wordpress.com/tag/lake-erie-surfing/

Plasma wake field accelerator is just like boat wake surfing

http://newscenter.lbl.gov/2011/03/17/simulating-at-lightspeed/

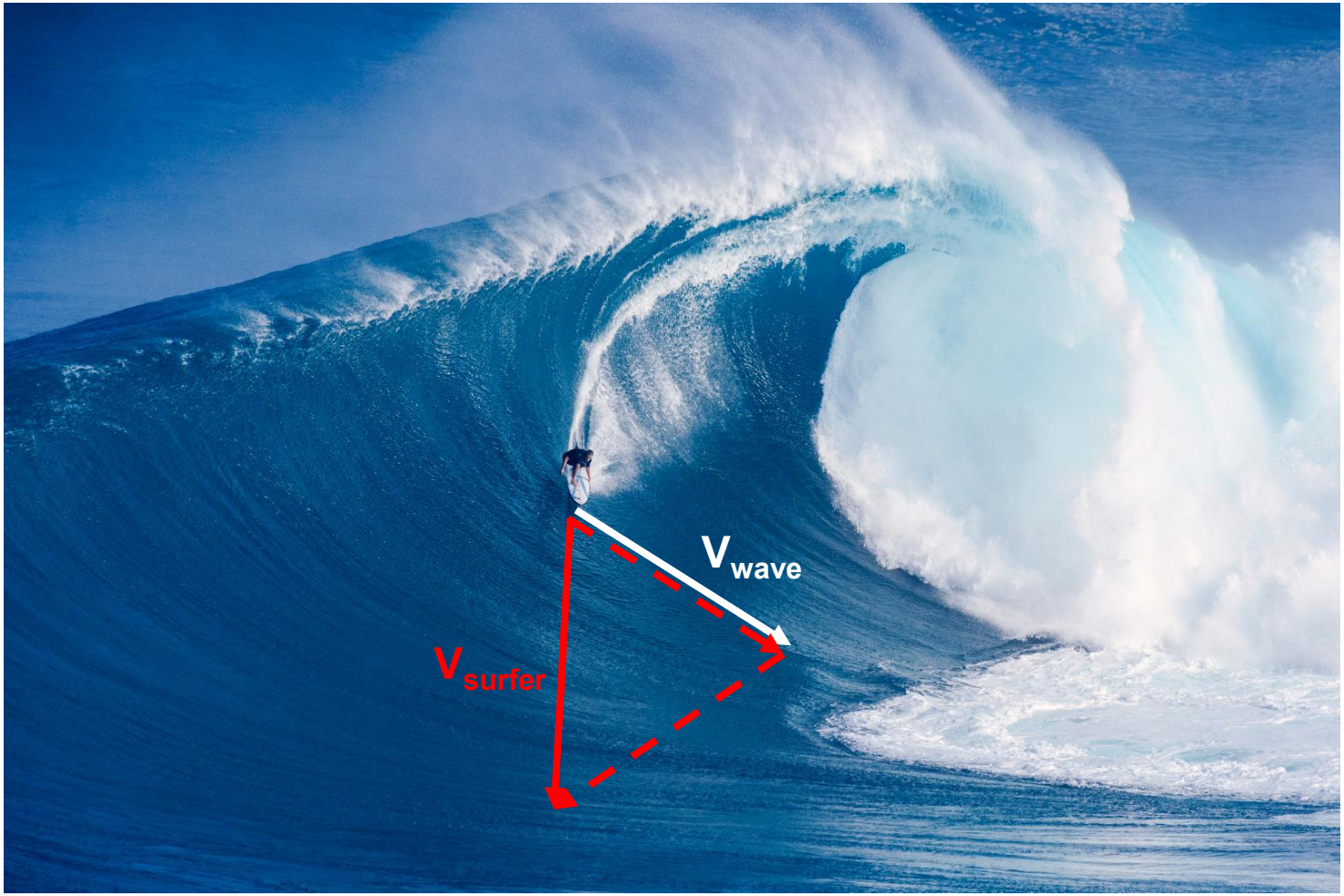
A wake surfer catches the wake field via being pulled by the boat using a roap

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFp7SloeAnk

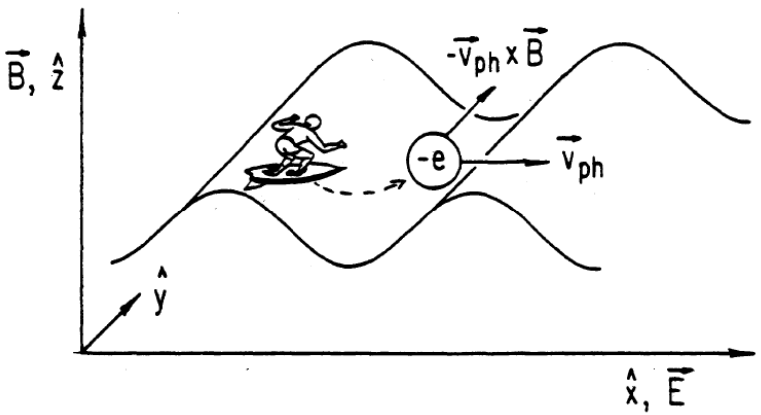
https://learntosurfkona.com/featured/wake-surfing-vs-regular-surfing/
https://i.ytimg.com/vi/CA-SDf1wvTQ/maxresdefault.jpg

The surfer glides in a direction not parallel to the wave direction to be in phase to the wave propagation

The surfer glides in a direction not parallel to the wave direction to be in phase to the wave propagation



Electrons may be accelerated to speed of light using V_pxB acceleration (Surfatron)



- **Plane wave electric field and uniform magnetic field:**

$$\vec{E} = E_0 \sin(\mathrm{kx} - \omega \mathrm{t})\hat{x}$$

$$\vec{B} = \mathrm{B}\hat{z}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\gamma v_x) = \frac{qE_0}{m}\sin(\mathrm{kx} - \omega \mathrm{t}) + \omega_c v_y$$

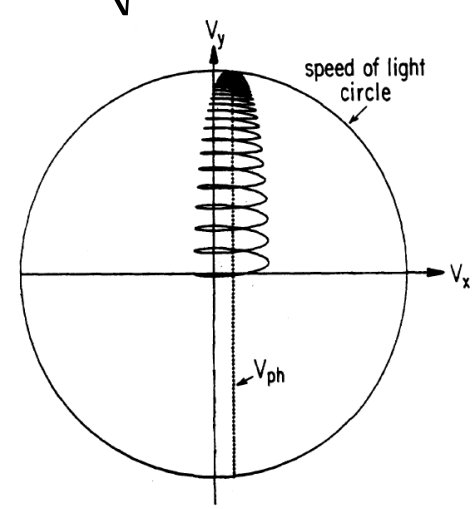
$$\frac{d}{dt}(\gamma v_y) = -\omega_c v_x \qquad \gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v_x{}^2 + v_y{}^2}{c^2}}}$$

- **On the wave frame and if the particle is trapped in the wave:**

$$x_1 = x - v_{\mathrm{ph}} t \qquad \frac{d}{dt}(\gamma v_x) = 0$$

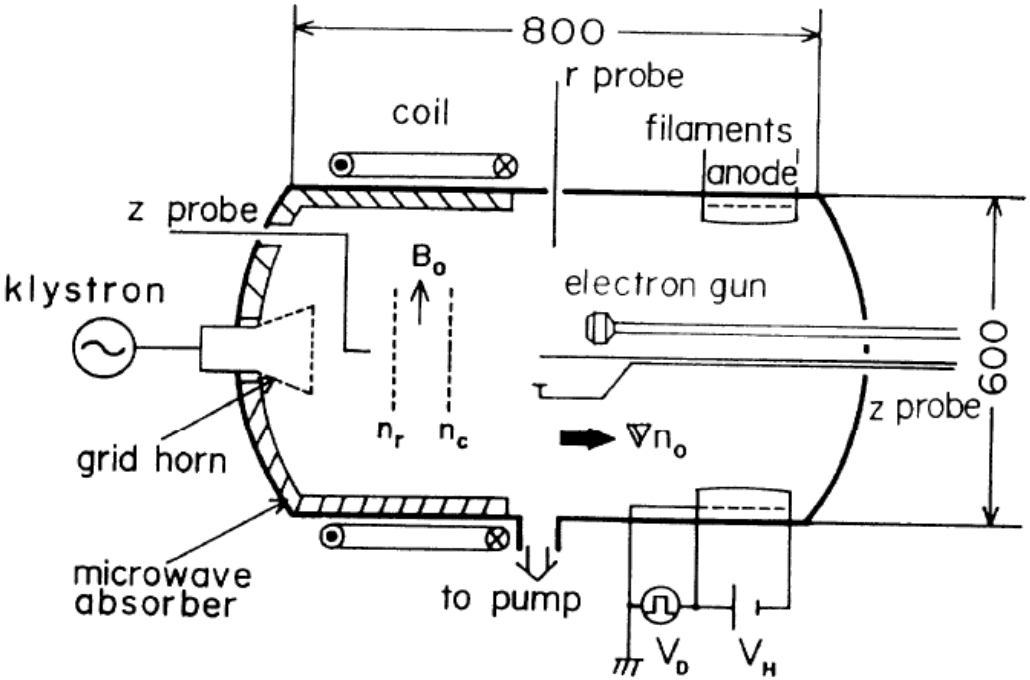
$$v_x \to v_{\mathrm{ph}}$$

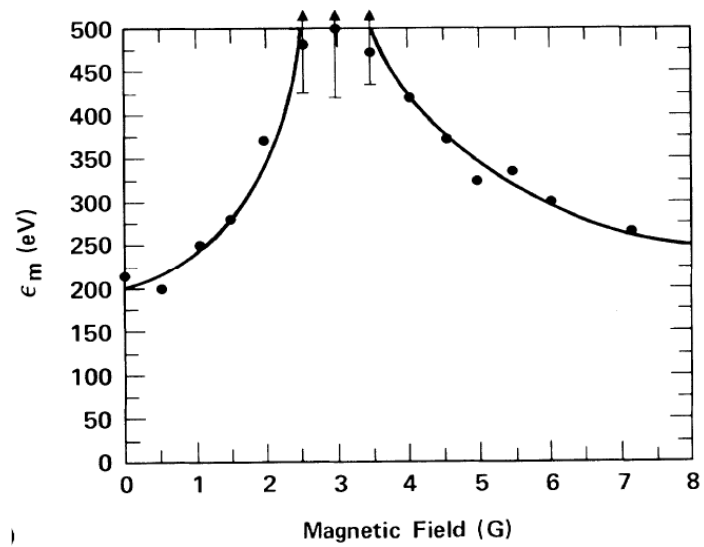
$$v_y = -\frac{\omega_c v_{\mathrm{ph}} t}{\gamma_{\mathrm{ph}}\sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega_c{}^2 t^2 v_{\mathrm{ph}}{}^2}{c^2}}}$$



- T. Katsouleas, *et al.*, PRL **51**, 392 (1983)
- T. Katsouleas, *et al.*, IEEE TNS. **NS-30**, 3241 (1983)
- Y. Nishida, *et al.*, AIP Conf Proc. **737**, 957 (2004)

Experimental results of V_pxB acceleration (Surfatron)

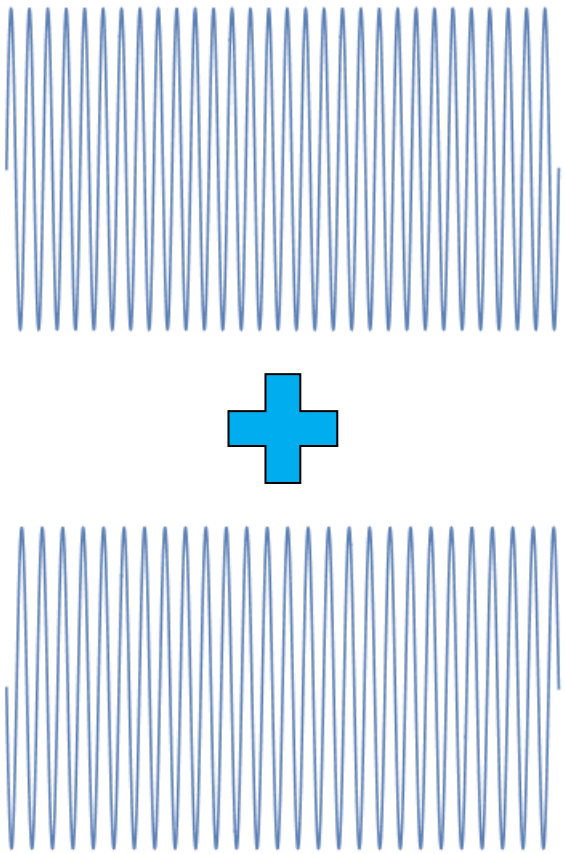


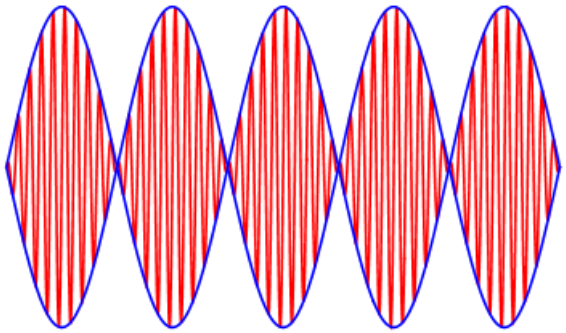


- n_0 ~ 1-30 x 10^{17} m^{-3}
- T_e ~ 2-5 eV
- T_i ~ 0.1-0.2 eV
- Microwave frequency: 3-10 GHz

C. Domier, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **63**, 1803 (1989)

Plasma beat wave accelerator





$$sin(x_1) + \sin(x_2) = 2\sin\left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{x_1 - x_2}{2}\right)$$

A plasma wave is driven by the laser beat wave

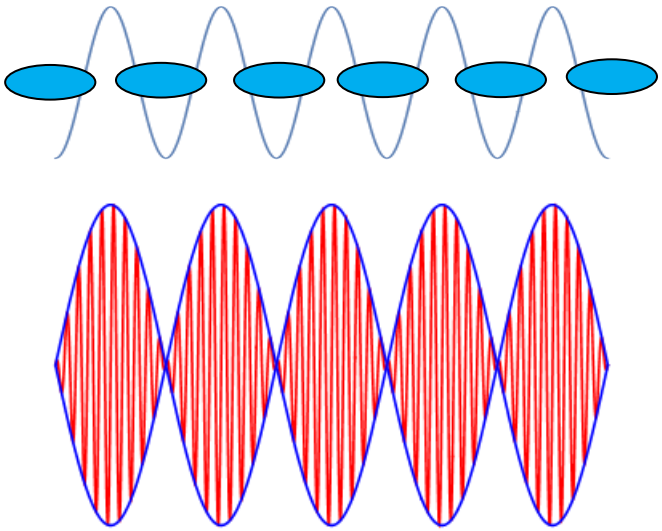
$$\omega_0 = \omega_2 - \omega_1$$

$$k_0 = k_2 - k_1$$

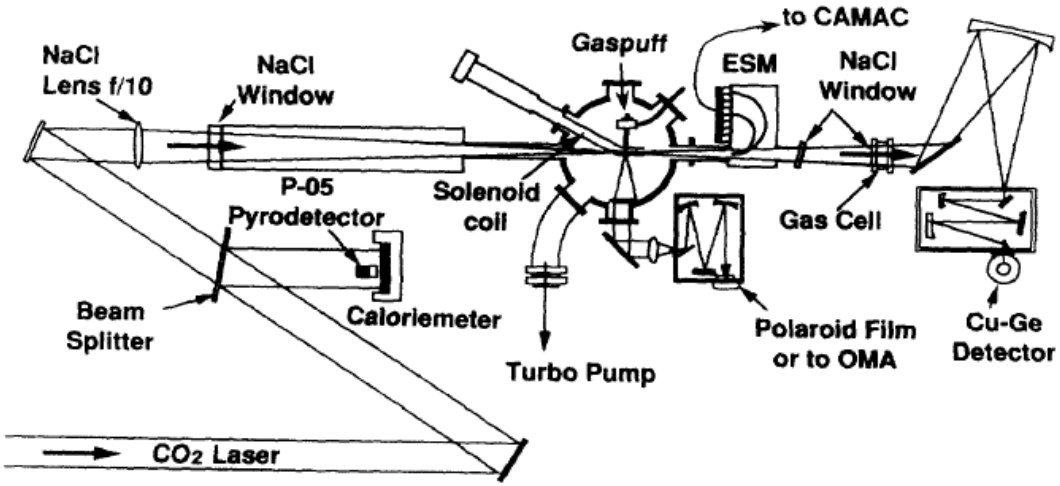
$$v_{\mathrm{ph}} = v_g = c\sqrt{1 - \frac{{\omega_p}^2}{{\omega_0}^2}}$$

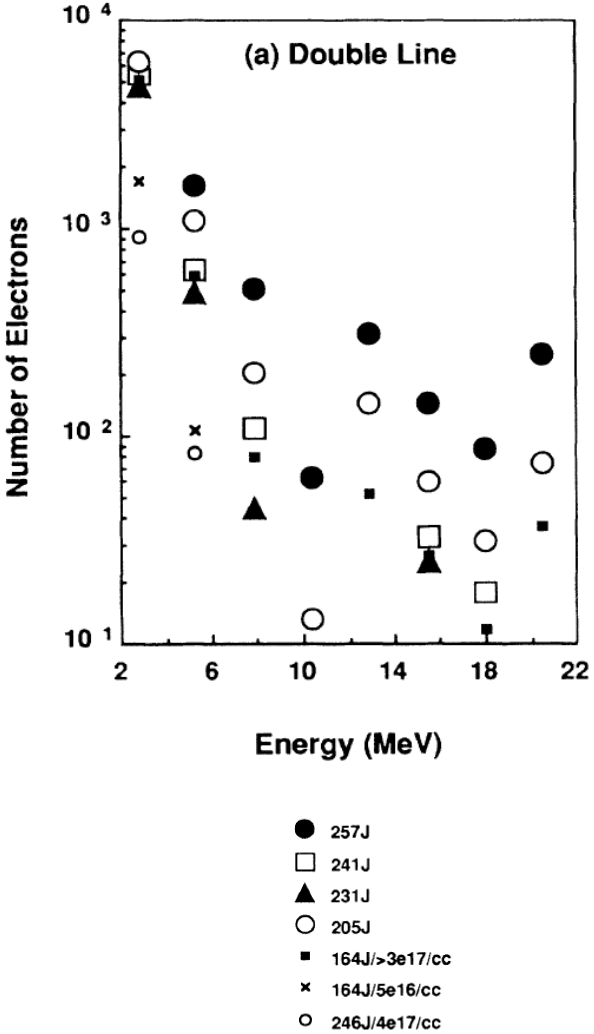
$$F = -e\nabla\phi_p = -\nabla\frac{e^2 E^{(1)} \cdot E^{(2)*}}{\mathrm{m}\omega_1\omega_2}$$

Plasma wave



Electrons were accelerated to over 20 MeV using plasma beat wave accelerator





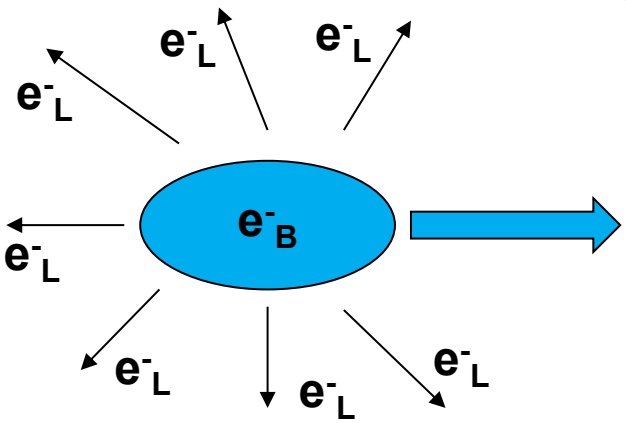
Laser: 10.6 um + 9.57 um
Intensity: $2\times10^{13} \sim 2\times10^{14}$ W/cm^2
Injected E-beam: 0.1~1 MeV
$n_0=3\times10^{16} \sim 7\times10^{17}$ cm^{-3}

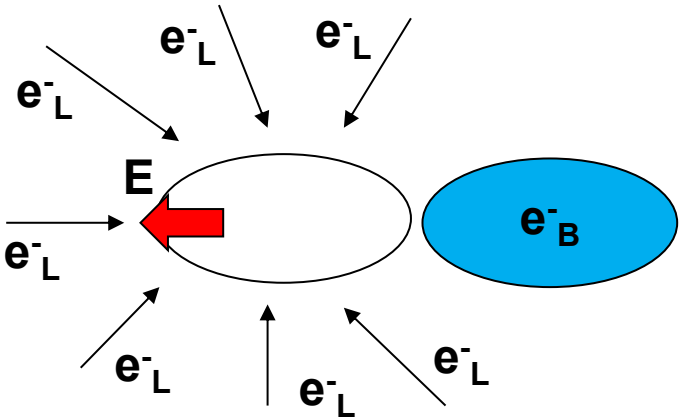
Y. Kitagawa, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **68**, 48 (1992)

Plasma wakefield accelerator employs two beams

- When a bunch of electrons enter the plasma, they expel local electrons.
- When the bunch of electrons leave the plasma, the local electrons try to return but oscillate around their original locations and generate a wake field behind the bunch.
- The longitudinal field of the wake can accelerate the particles in the back.

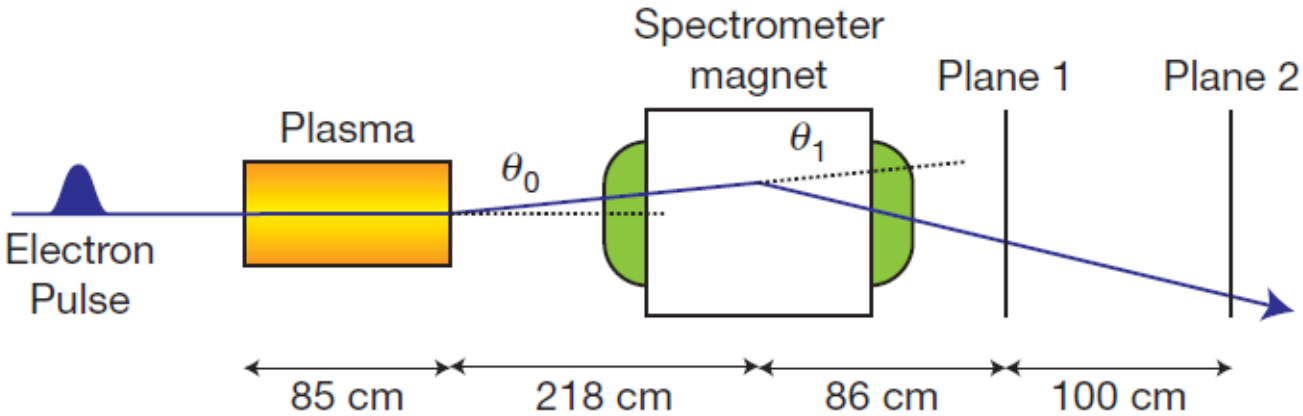
- Key components:
  - Drive bunch: excite wake-field
  - Test bunch: beam that is accelerated to high energy

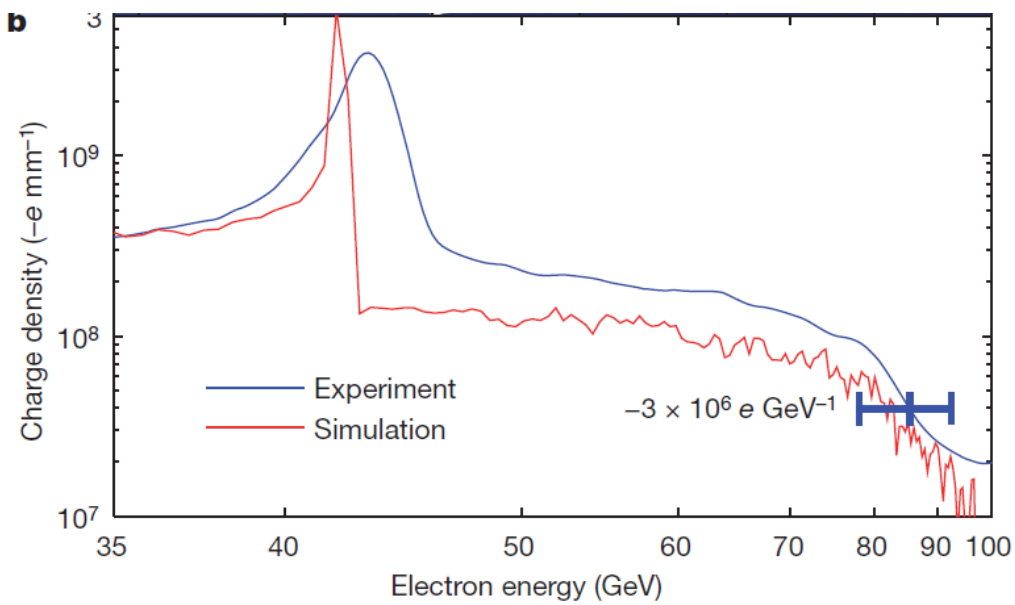




T. Katsouleas, Phys. Rev. A **33**, 2056 (1986)

Energy doubling of 42 GeV electrons in a metre-scale plasma wakefield accelerator





I. Blumenfeld, *et al.*, Nature **445**, 741 (2007)

Dream beam – the dawn of compact particle accelerators

Front page of nature, 30 Sep., 2004

Ponderomotive force expelled electrons away from the higher electric field region

$$m_s\ddot{x} = q_s E = q_s E_0(x)\cos\omega t$$

$x = x_0 + x_1$ where $x_0 = \overline{x}$

$$m_s(\ddot{x}_0 + \ddot{x}_1) = q_s\left(E_0 + x_1\frac{dE_0}{dx}\right)\cos\omega t$$

- **Take time average:**

$$m_s\ddot{x}_0 = q_s\left.\frac{dE_0}{dx}\right|_{x_0}\overline{x_1\cos\omega t}$$

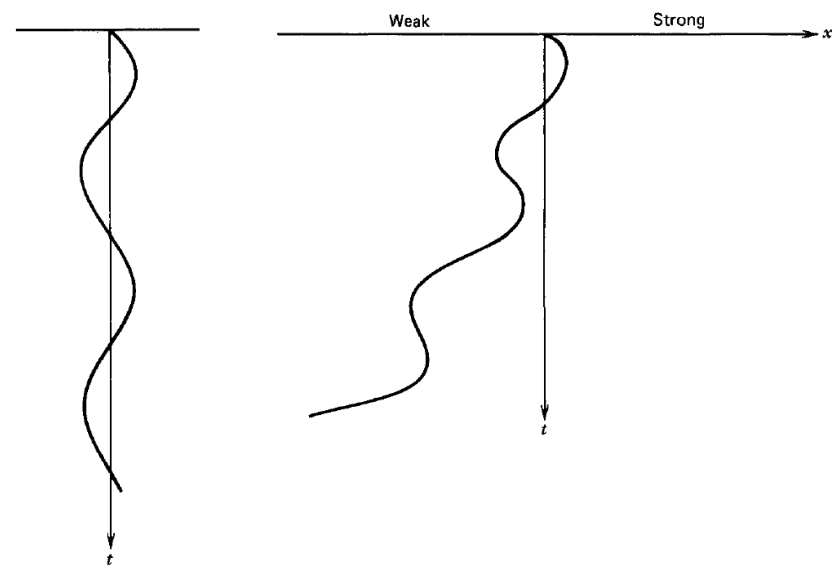
- $\ddot{x}_1 \gg \ddot{x}_0$, $E_0 >> x_1\dfrac{dE_0}{dx}$

$$m_s\ddot{x}_1 = q_s E_0\cos\omega t$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{q_s E_0}{m_s\omega^2}\cos\omega t$$

$$\ddot{x}_0 = -\frac{{q_s}^2 E_0}{2{m_s}^2\omega^2}\frac{dE_0}{dx}$$

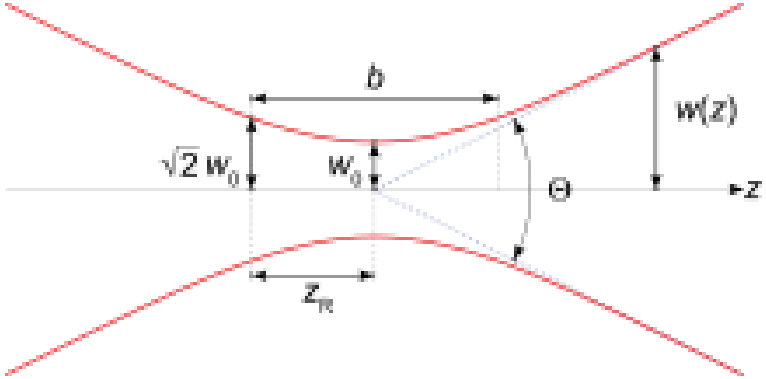
$$\frac{dE_0}{dx} = 0 \qquad \frac{dE_0}{dx} > 0$$



$$\boxed{F_p = m_s\ddot{x}_0 = -\frac{{q_s}^2}{4m_s\omega^2}\frac{d}{dx}\left({E_0}^2\right)}$$

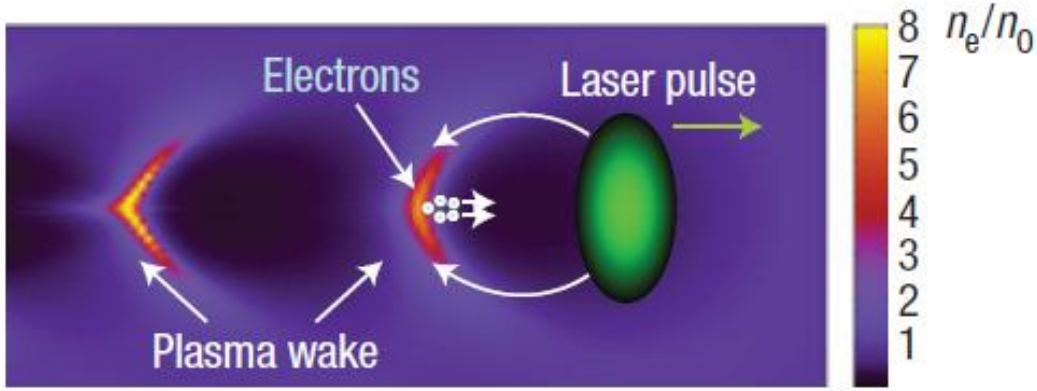
Laser is used to create a bunch in laser wakefield accelerator

$$I(r,z) = \frac{2P}{\pi w^2(z)} \exp\left[-\frac{2r^2}{w^2(z)}\right]$$



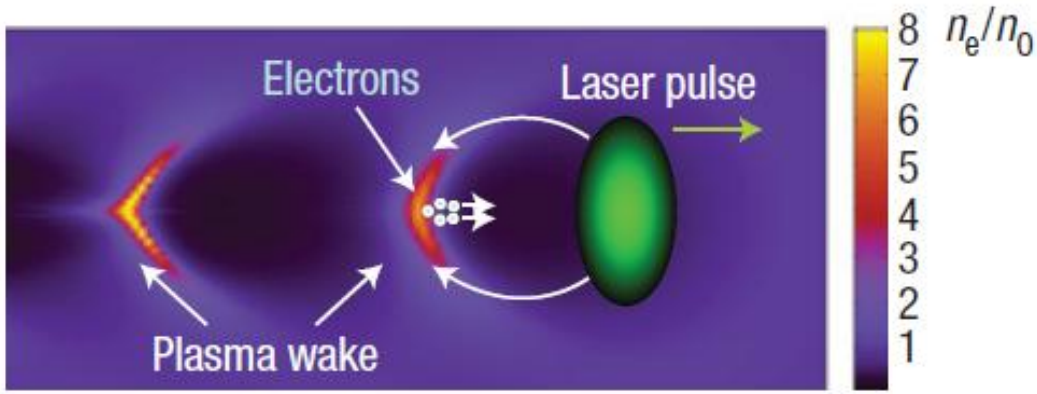
- **Waist:** $w(z) = w_0 \sqrt{1 + \frac{z^2}{{z_R}^2}}$
- **Rayleigh length:** $z_R = \frac{\pi {w_0}^2}{\lambda_L}$

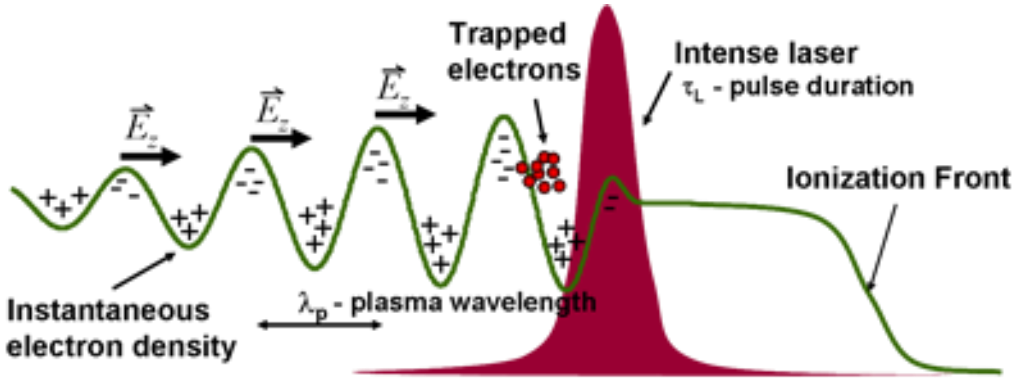
Bubble/blow-out regime



V. Malka, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 447 (2008)

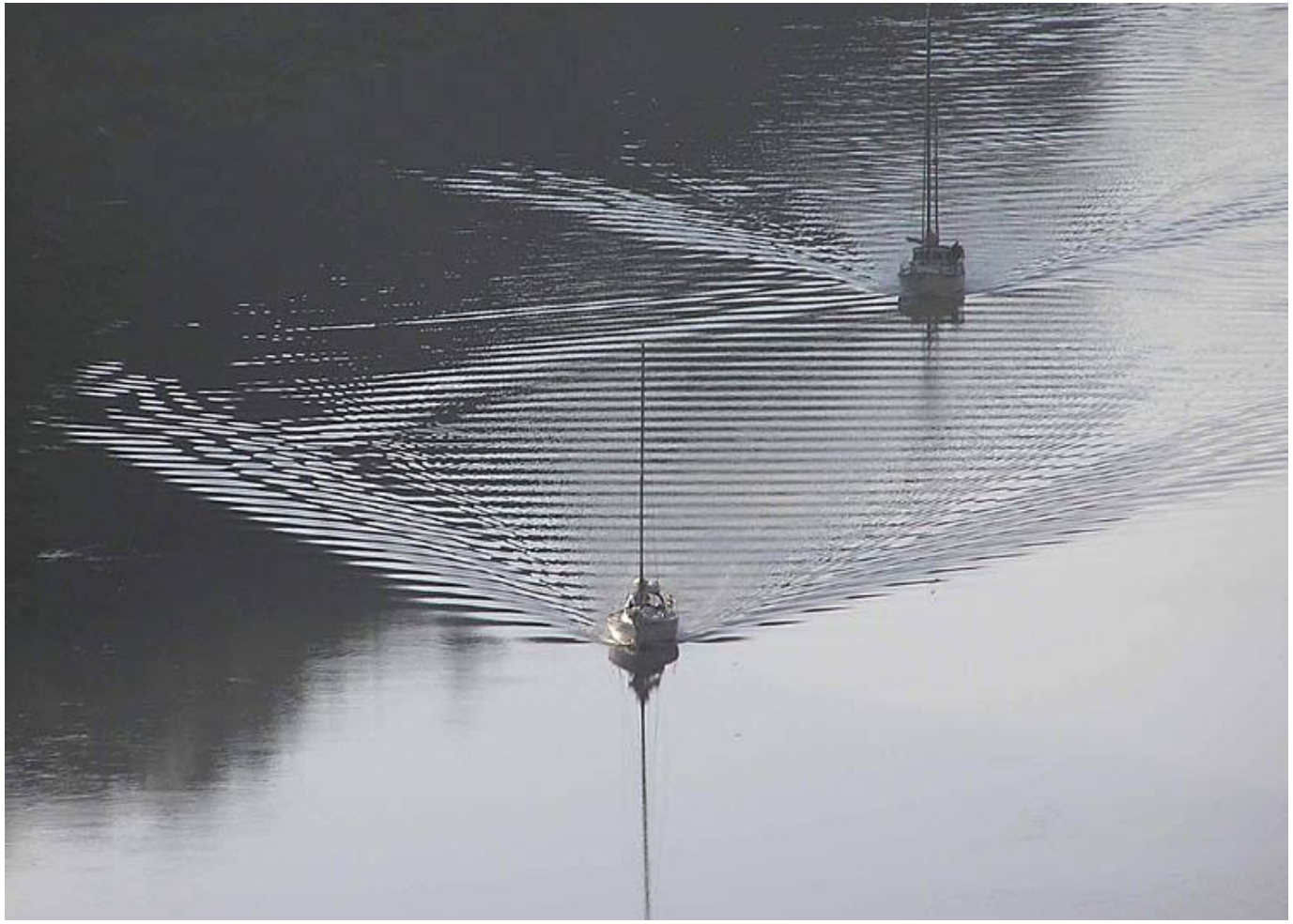
A plasma wake is generated by a short pulse laser





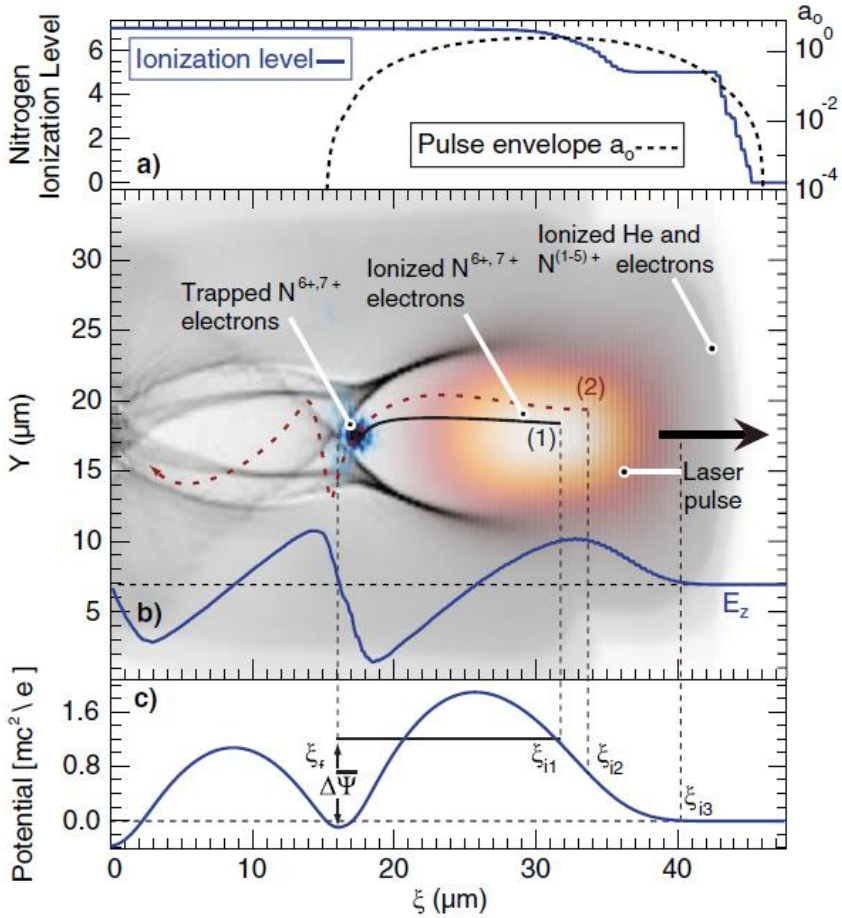
V. Malka, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 447 (2008)
http://cuos.engin.umich.edu/researchgroups/hfs/research/laser-wakefield-acceleration/

The wakefield generated by a short pulse laser is very similar to the wave behind a boat



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4f/Wake.avon.gorge.2boats.arp.750pix.jpg

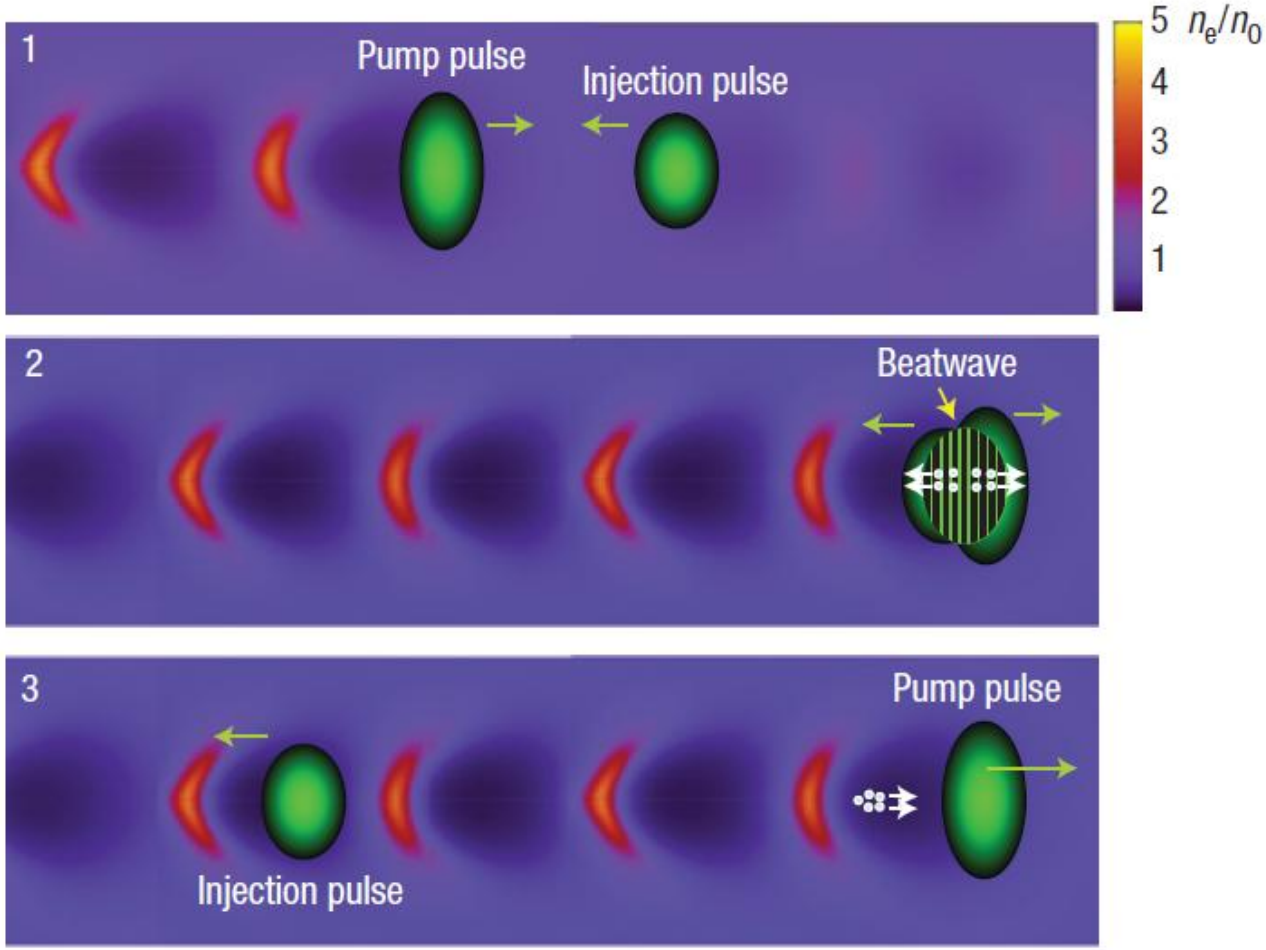
Ionization injection



- **Large relative energy spread**
- **Energy required to trap electrons is reduced so that electron beams with large charge can be produced in a moderate laser energy**

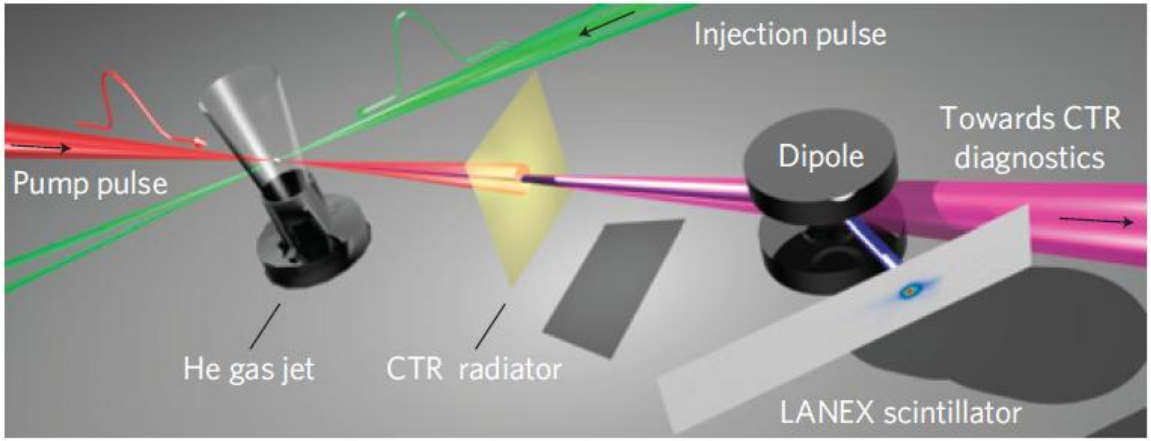
A. Pak, *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 025003 (2010)

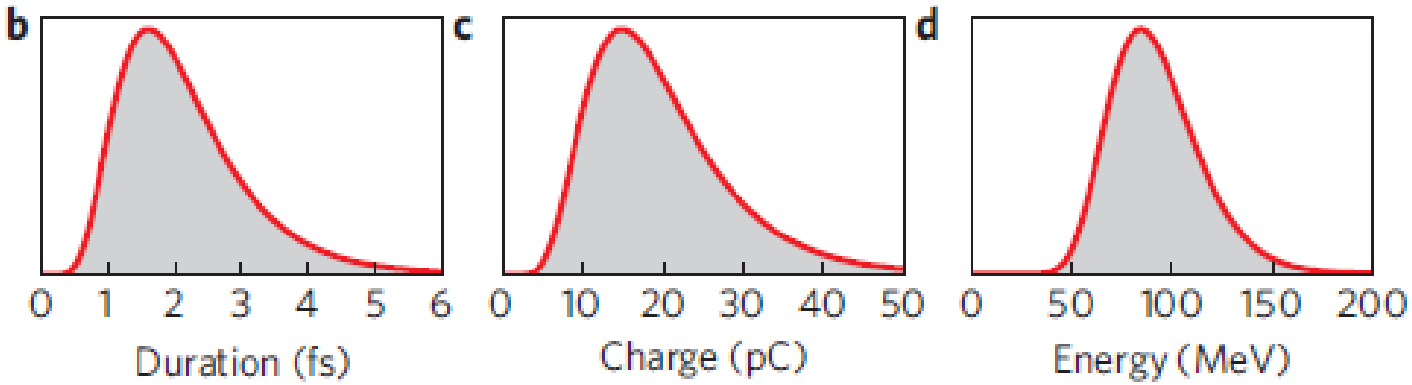
Colliding laser pulses injection



V. Malka, *et al.*, Nature Physics **4**, 447 (2008)

Few femtosecond, few kiloampere electron bunch is produced by a laser–plasma accelerator





O. Lundh, *et al.*, Nature Physics **7**, 219 (2011)

Plasma medicine

- **Reference:**
  - **“Applied Plasma Medicine”, by G. Fridman, et al., Plasma Process. Polym., 5, 503, 2008**
  - **“Plasma Medicine”, by A. Fridman and G. Fridman**

Outline

- Example of several plasma discharges for plasma medicine
- Living tissue sterilization
- Blood coagulation
- Nitrogen oxide (NO) treatment
- Non-thermal plasma treatment of melanoma skin cancer
- Skin regeneration
- Egg sterilization
- Facemask regeneration

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- **Example of several plasma discharges for plasma medicine**
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- Facemask regeneration

Plasma is characterized by the electron and ion temperatures

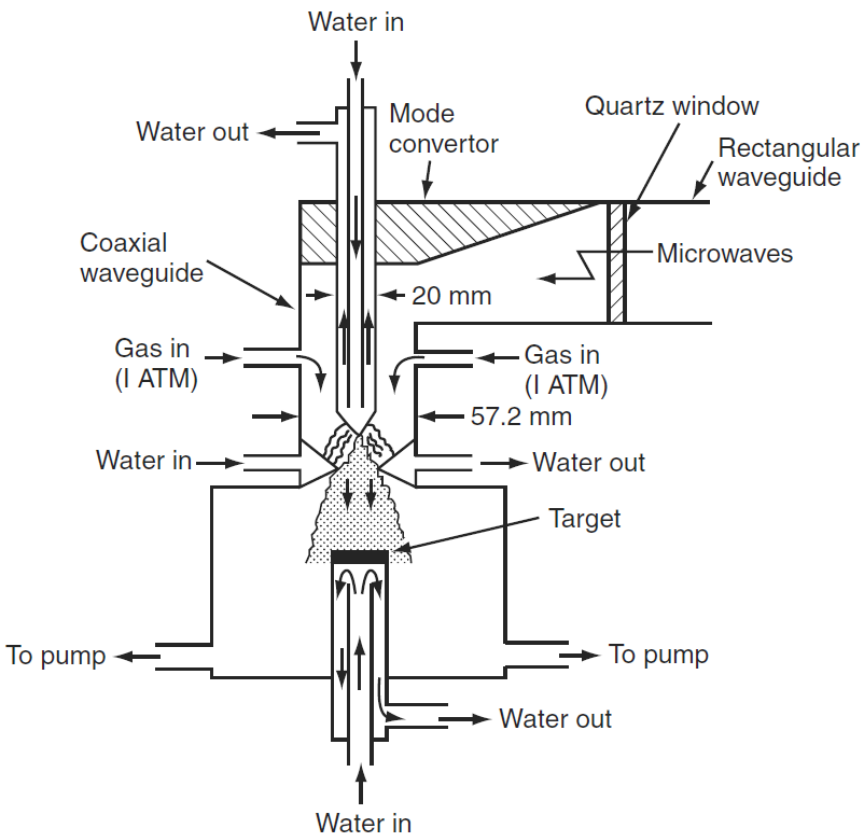
- **Non-thermal plasma**
  - $T_i << T_e$
  - **Also called non-equilibrium plasma**
- **Thermal plasma**
  - $T_i \approx T_e$
- **Earlier applications of plasma in medicine – thermal effects of plasma**

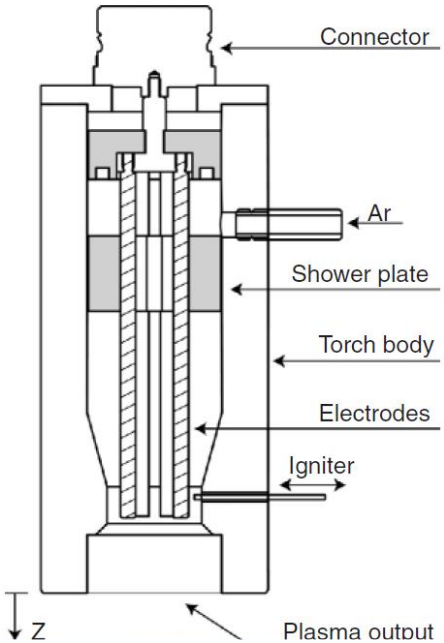
Plasma can provide good surface treatment with low temperature

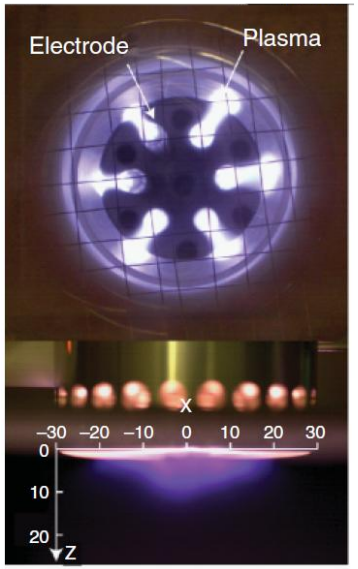
Treatment	Surface treatment level	Depth	Temperature	Cost
Chemical	Large	Deep	Room temperature ~200 ℃	Medium
Heat	Only oxidizing	Deep	High temperature	Cheap
Radiation	Small	Whole sample	High temperature	Expensive
Plasma	Large	Surface	Room temperature ~100 ℃	Cheap ~ Medium

Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

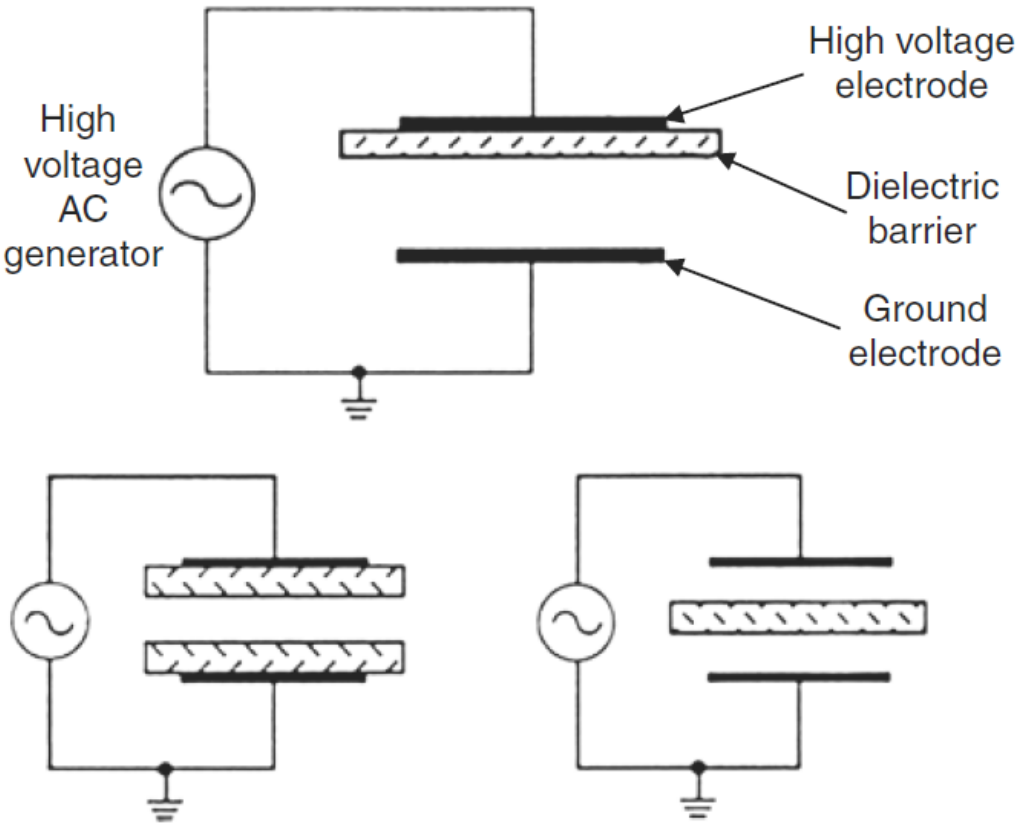
Microwave plasma torch

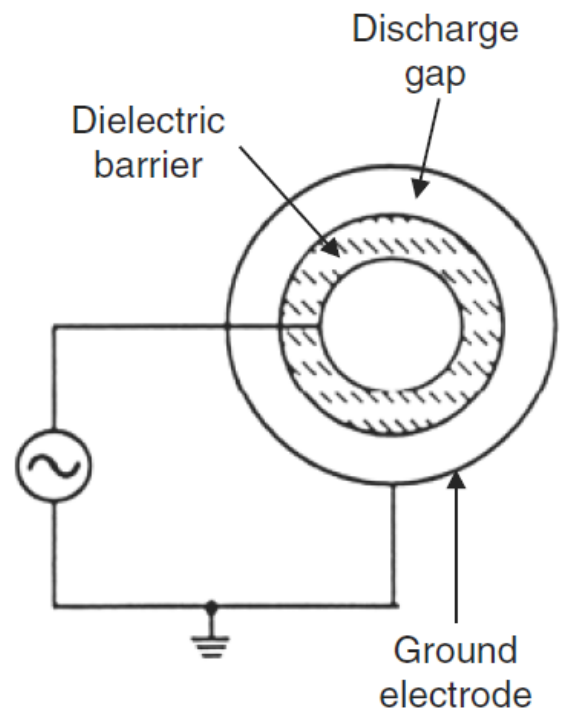




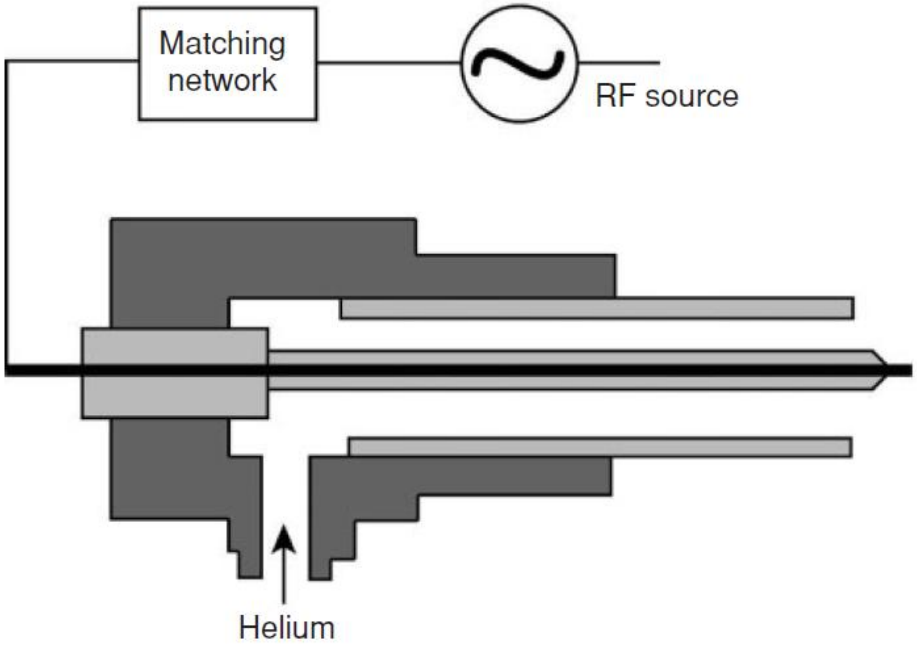


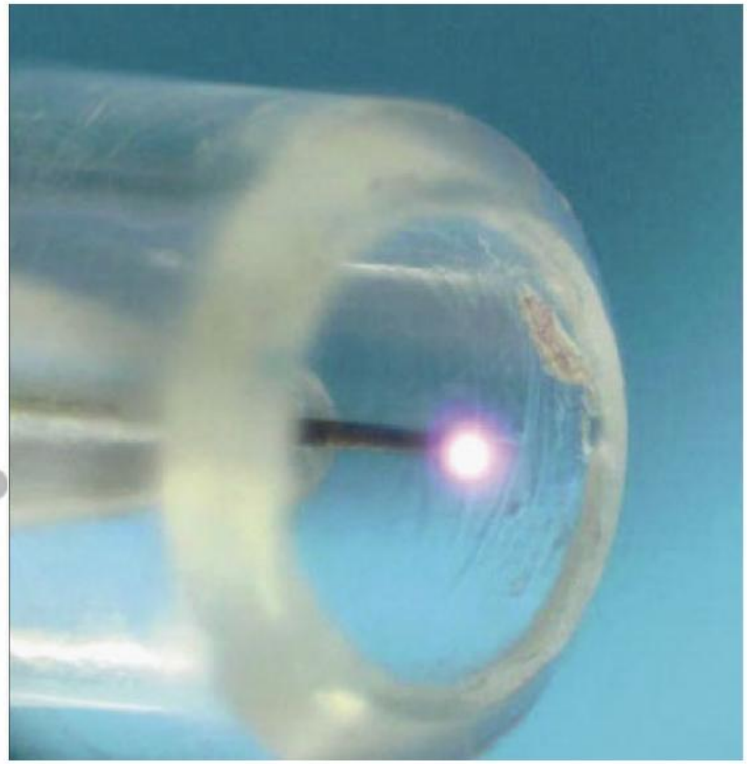
Dielectric-barrier discharges (DBDs)



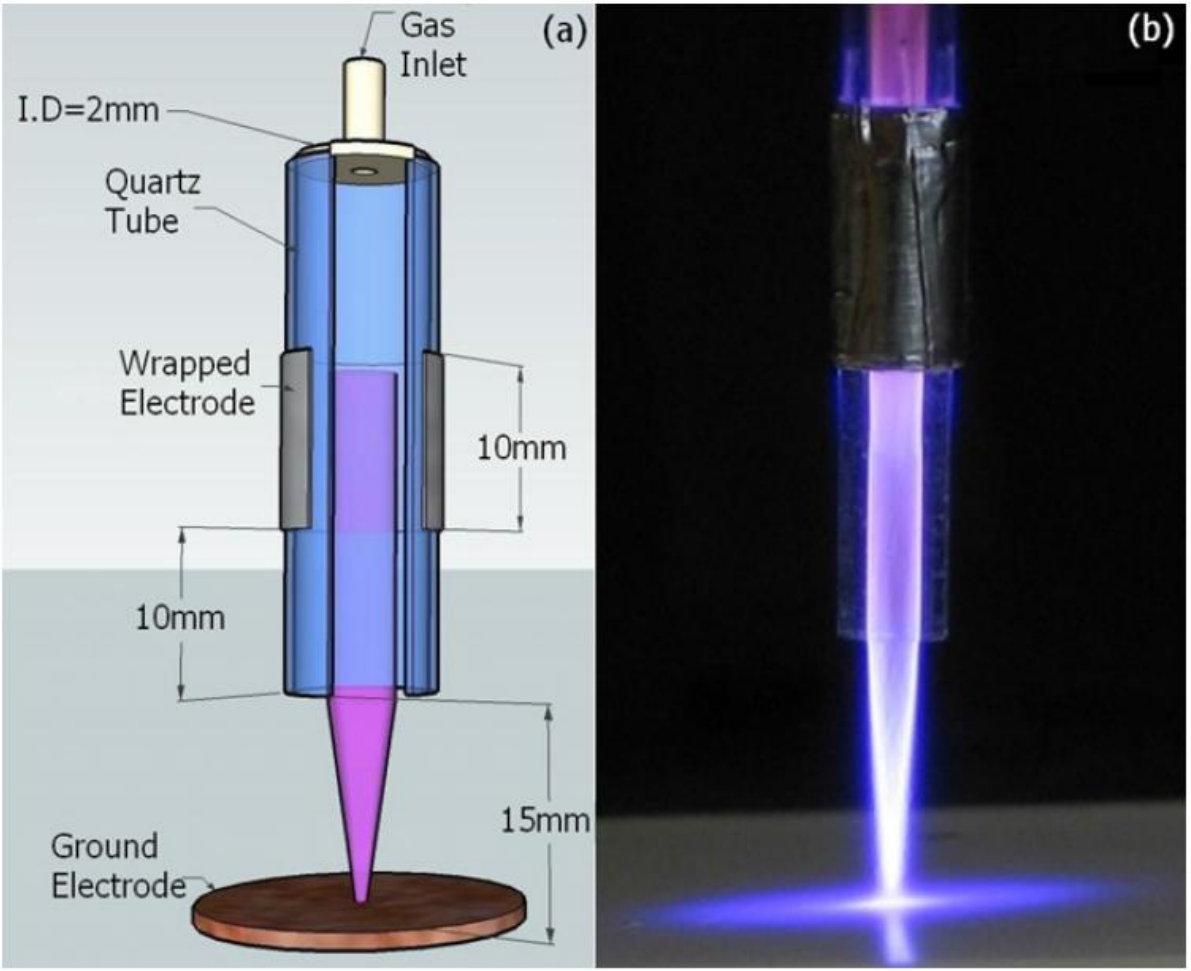


Plasma-needle discharge



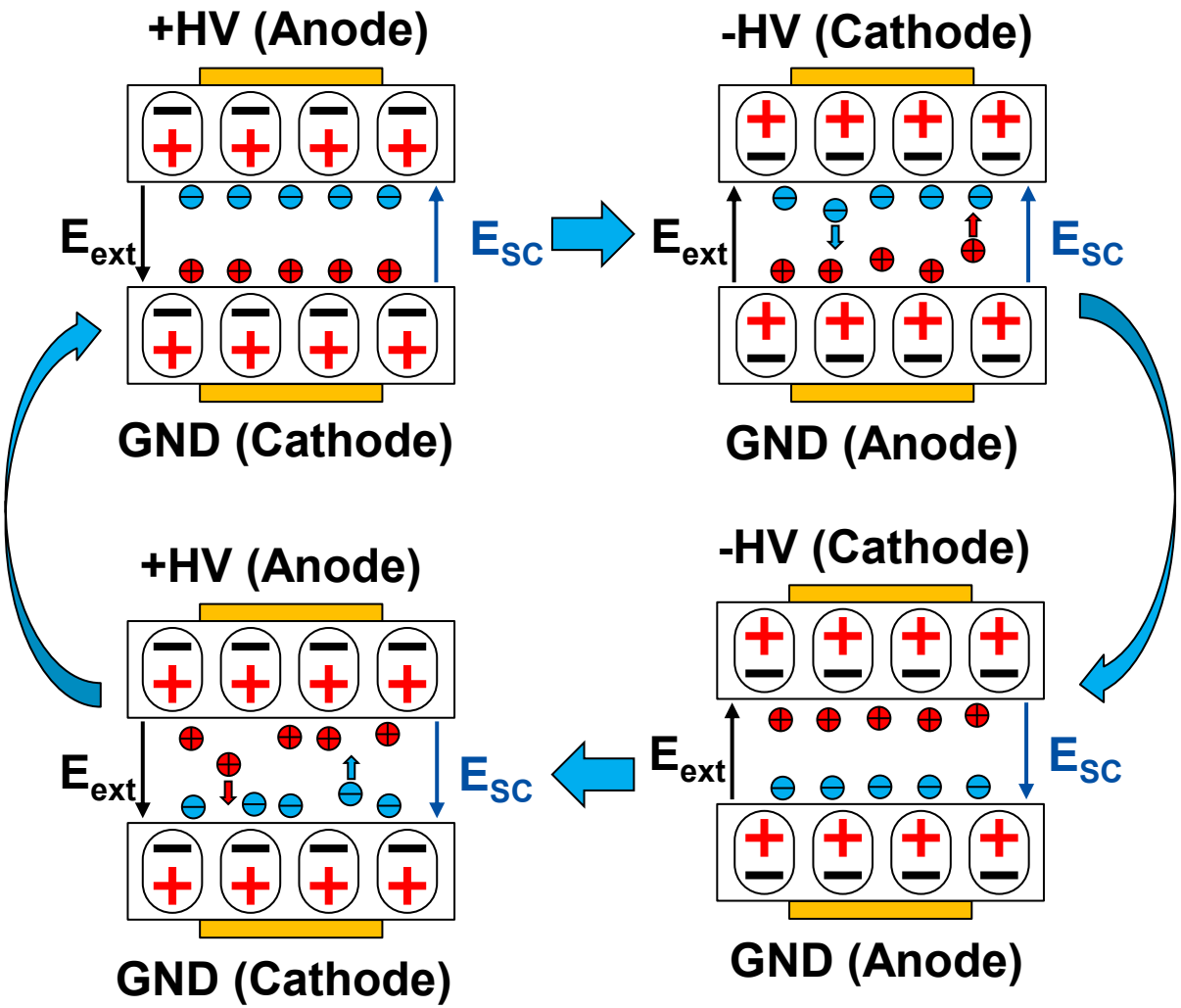


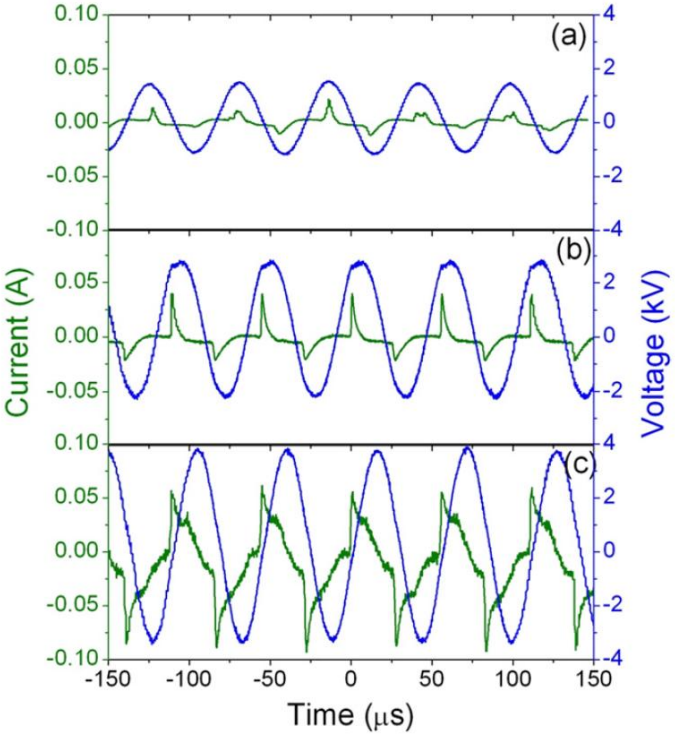
Atmospheric-pressure cold helium microplasma jets



J. L. Walsh, *et al.*, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., **43**, 075201 (2010)

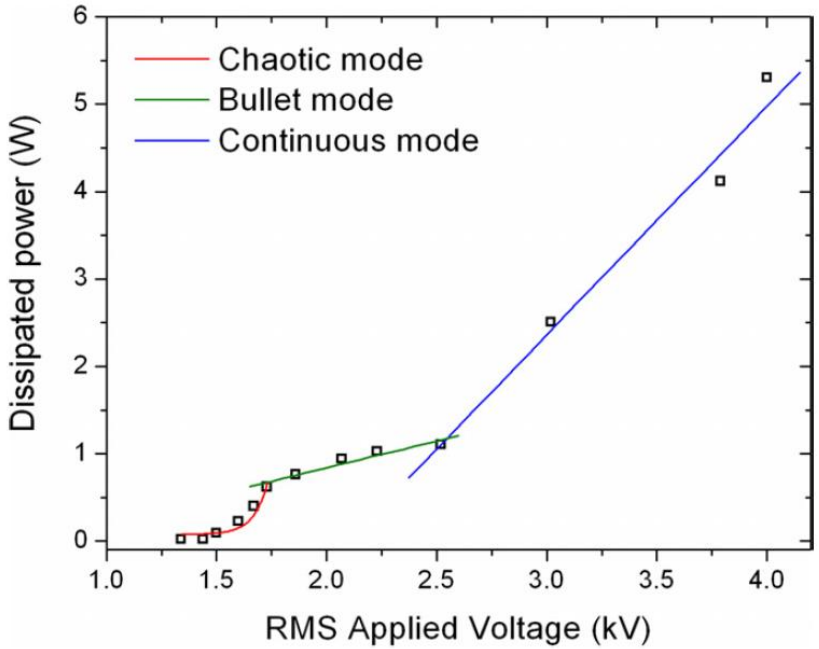
Space charge effect enhance the electric field

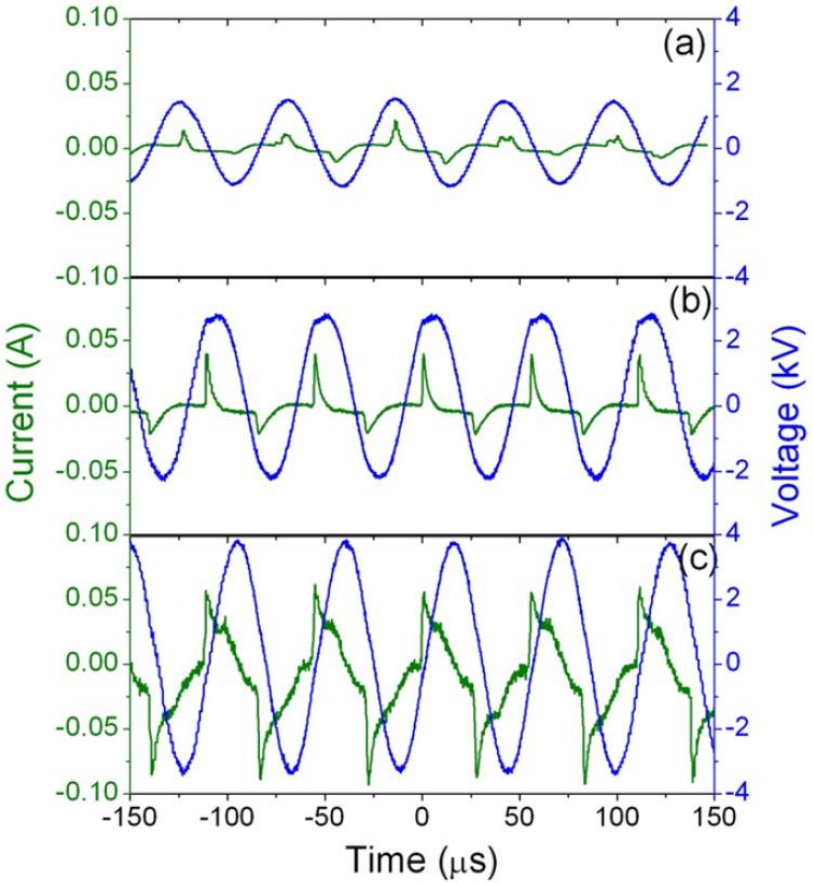




J. L. Walsh, *et al.*, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., **43**, 075201 (2010)

There are three different modes: chaotic, bullet, and continuous mode



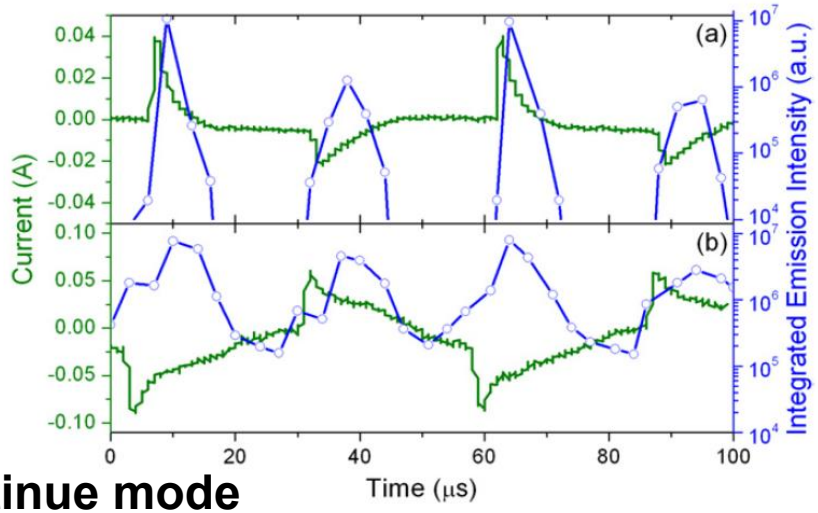


J. L. Walsh, *et al.*, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., **43**, 075201 (2010)

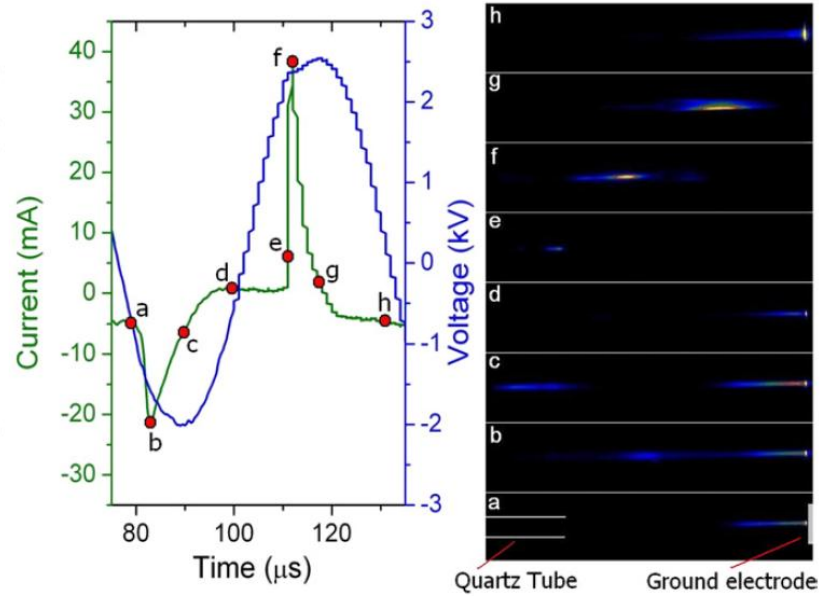
In bullet mode, the plasma jet comes out as a pulse

- **wavelength-integrated optical emission signal (350–800 nm)**
- **Images of bullet mode**

Bullet mode

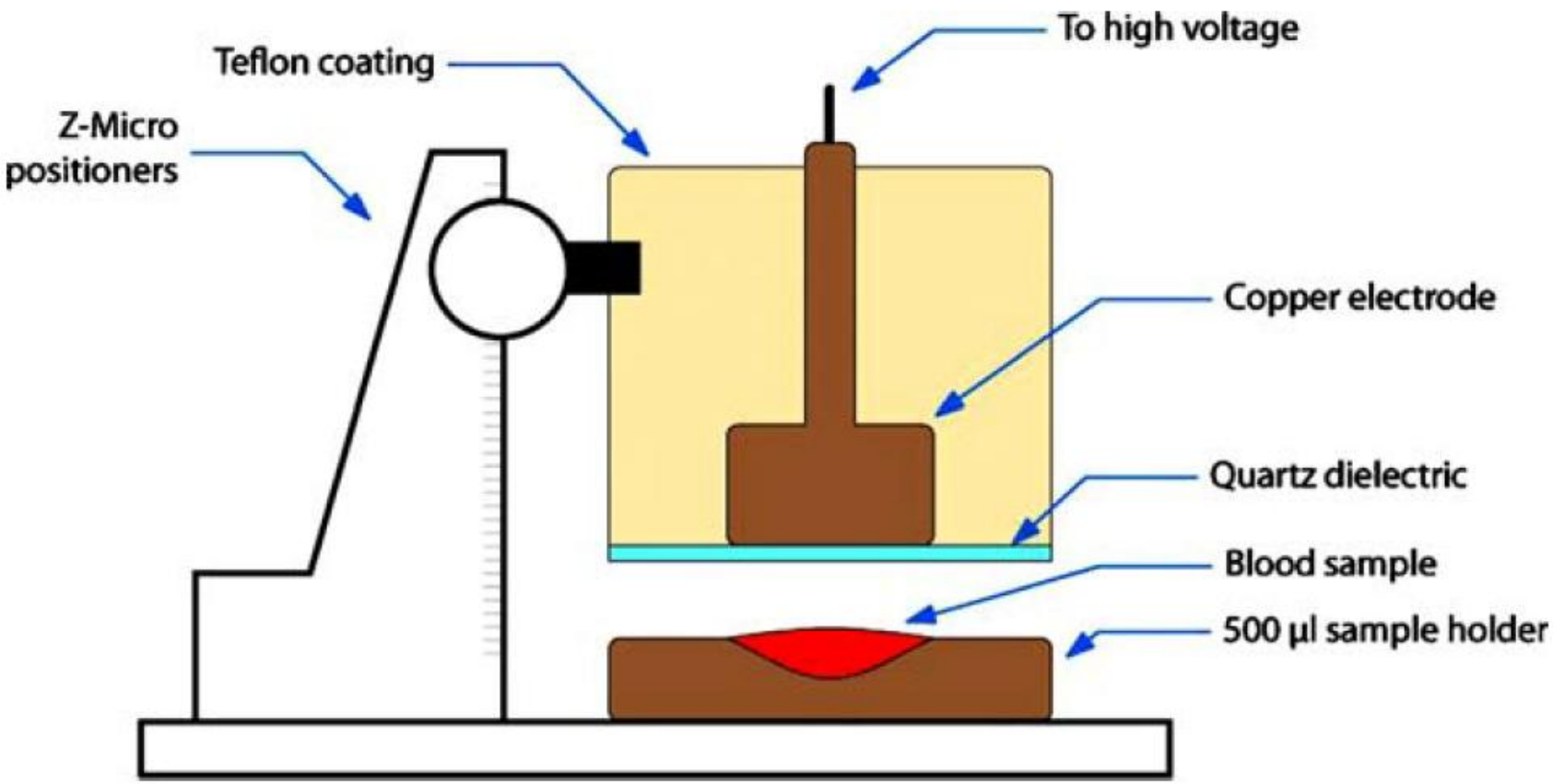


Continue mode



J. L. Walsh, *et al.*, J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys., **43**, 075201 (2010)

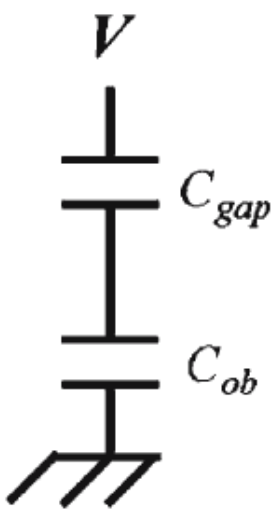
Floating-electrode dielectric barrier discharge (FE-DBD)

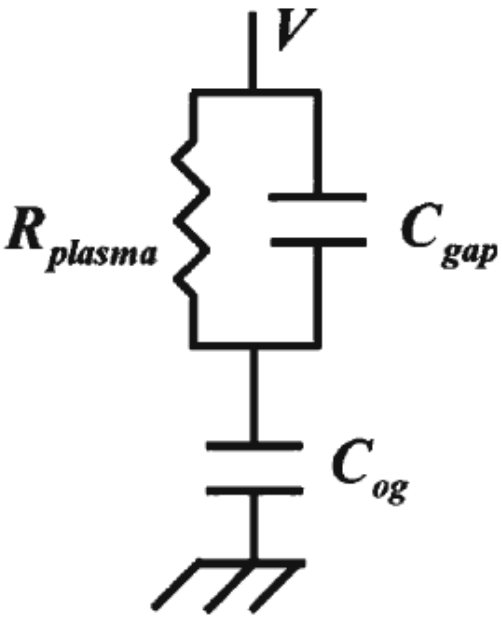


G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)

Simplified electrical schematic of FE-DBD

- **electrode itself**
- **electrode near the treated object**
- **e-plasma discharge**



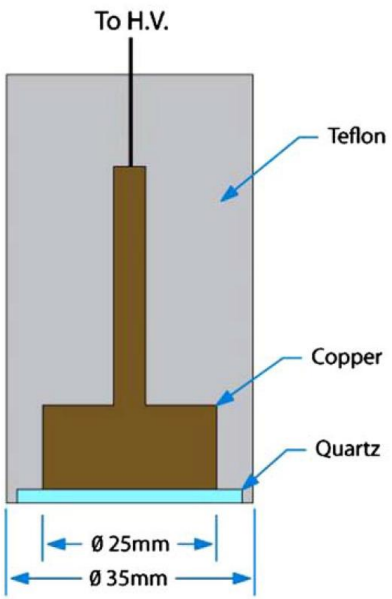


$$C_{\mathrm{ob}} >> C_{\mathrm{gap}} \Rightarrow V_{\mathrm{ob}} << V_{\mathrm{gap}}$$

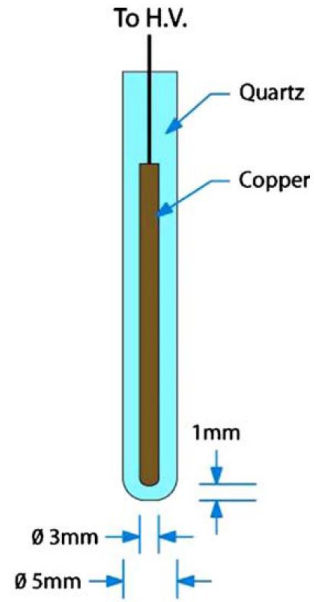
G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)

Depending on the needs, the size and the shape of FE-DBD treatment electrodes can vary

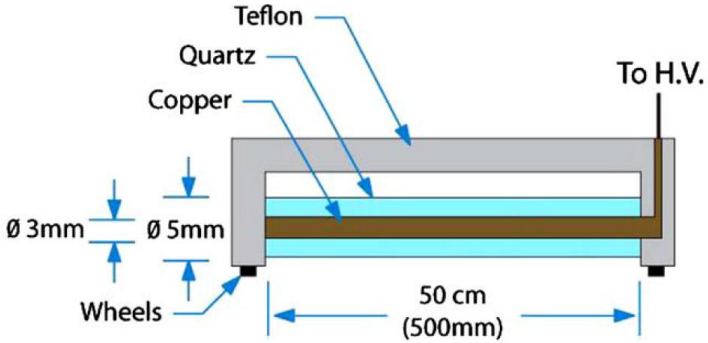
- **Round**



- **Wand**

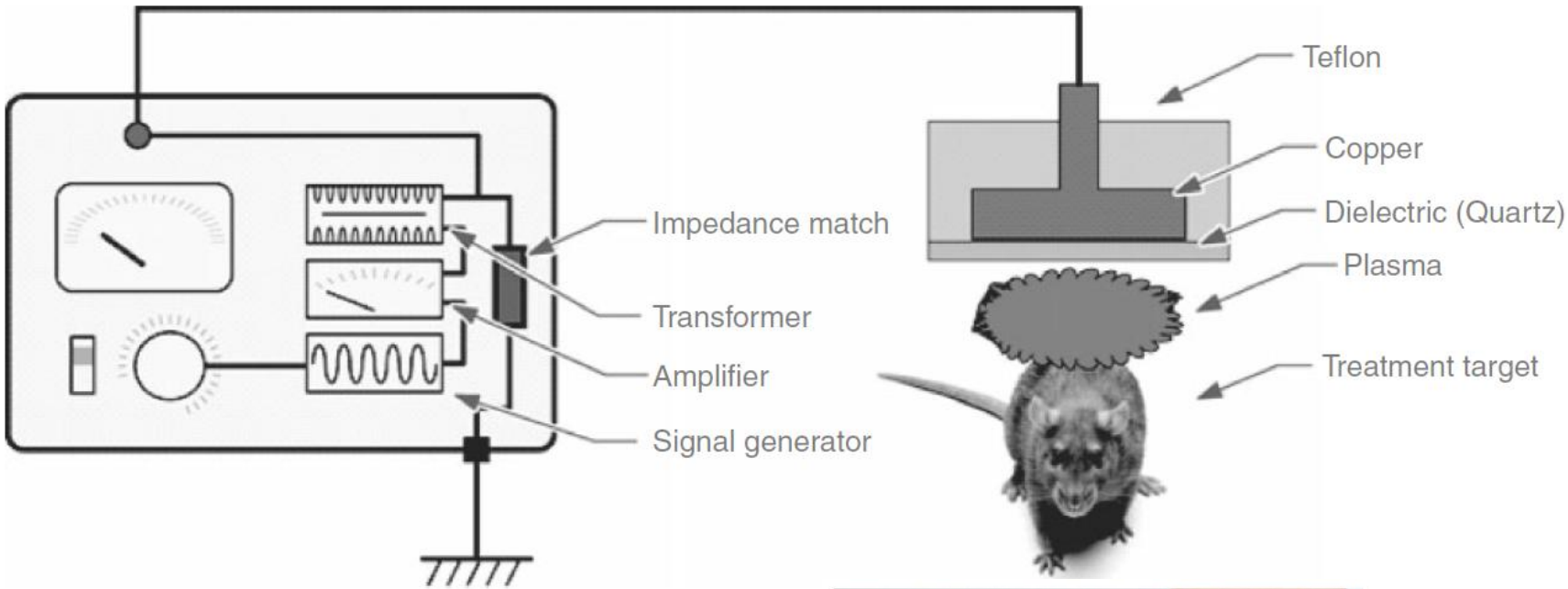


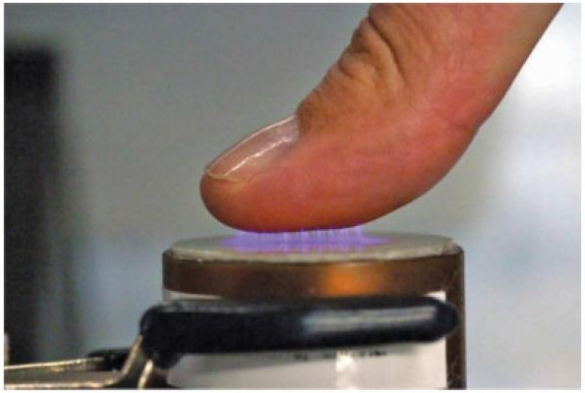
- **Roller**



G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)

FE-DBD is a direct plasma medicine





G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)
Plasma medicine, by Alexander Fridman and Gary Friedman

Outline

- Example of several plasma discharges for plasma medicine
- Living tissue sterilization
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- Skin regeneration
- Egg sterilization
- Facemask regeneration

Bacteria concentration reduces after being treated with FE-DBD

Table 1. Bacteria sterilization results (in cfu · mL^{-1}).[26]

Original concentration	5 s of FE-DBD	10 s of FE-DBD	15 s of FE-DBD
10^9	850 ± 183	9 ± 3	4 ± 4
10^8	22 ± 5	5 ± 5	0 ± 0
10^7	6 ± 6	0 ± 0	0 ± 0

- **Maximum acceptable dose – the highest dose that doesn't cause a damage on skin**

G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Process. Polym., **5**, 503 (2008)

The power of FE-DBD is low enough such that the tissue is not damaged by the plasma

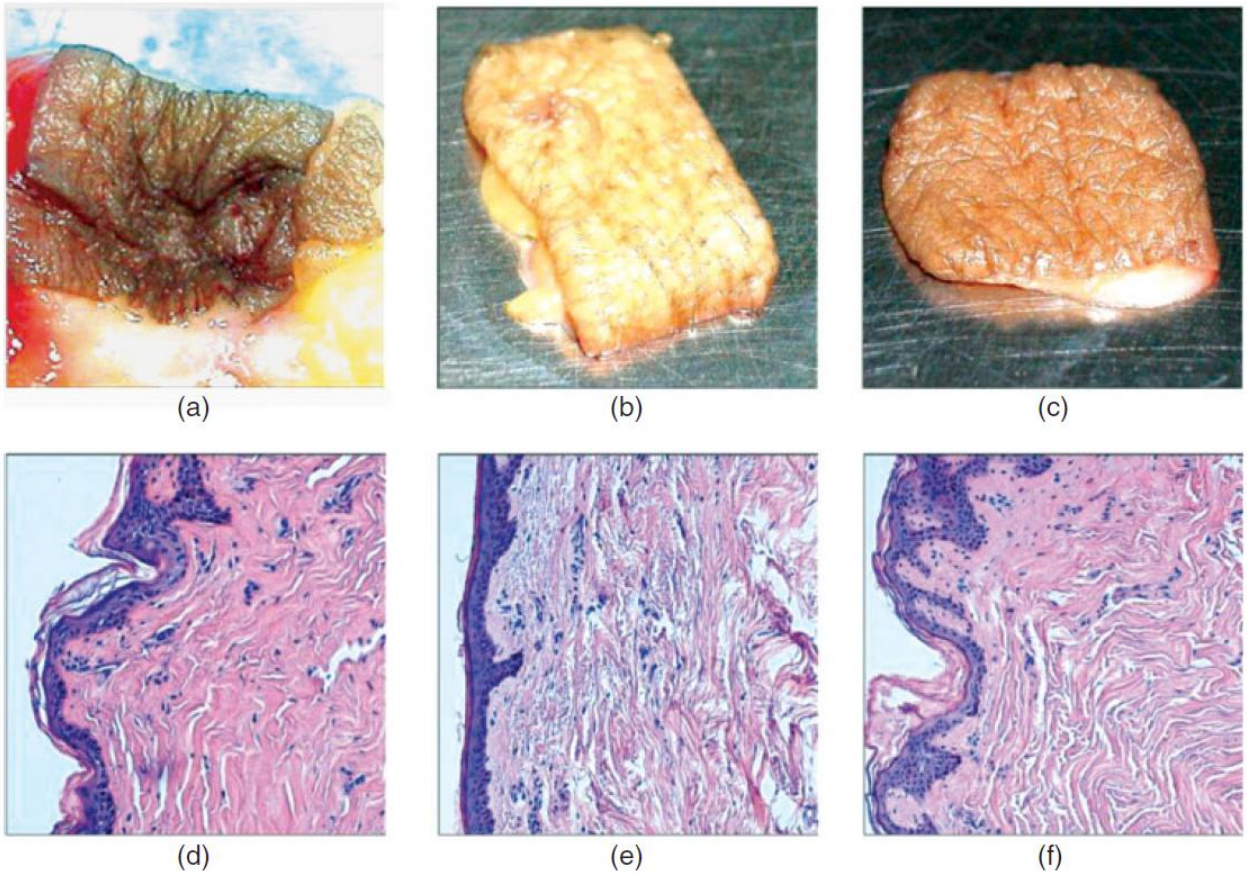
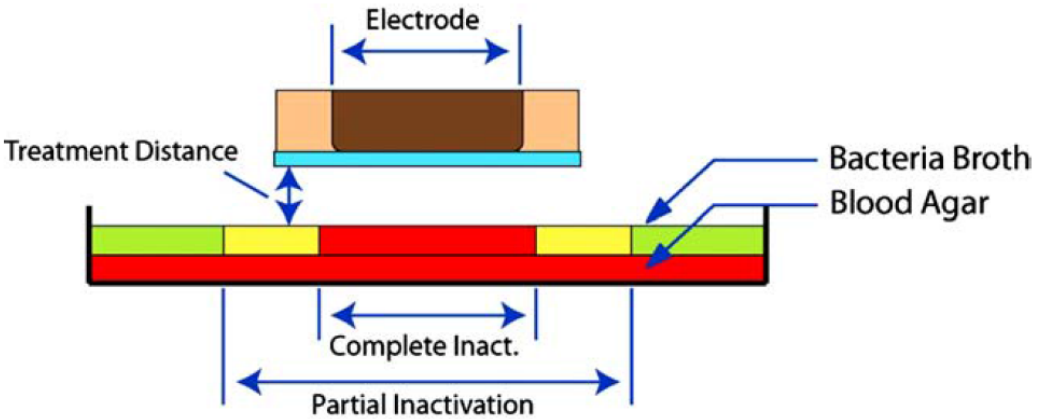


Figure 6.23 *Photos (top) and tissue histology (bottom) of cadaver skin samples after FE-DBD treatment: (a, d) control; (b, e) after 15 s of treatment; and (c, f) after 5 min of treatment – no visible damage is detected.*

G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)
Plasma medicine, by Alexander Fridman and Gary Friedman

Bacteria is inactivated by the plasma



- ~1.3×10^7 cfu/cm^2 (10^9 cfu/ml) of skin flora (CFU: colony-forming unit)
- Treated by FE-DBD plasma for 10 s

G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)

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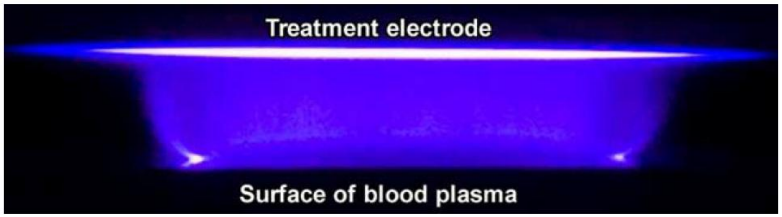
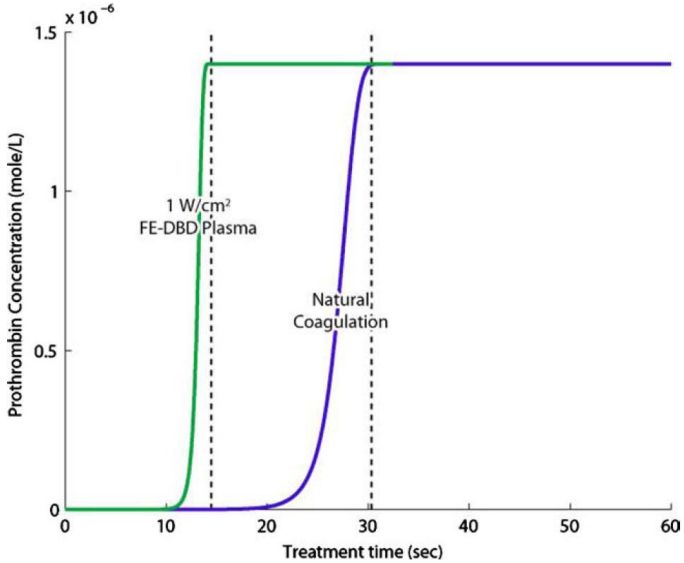
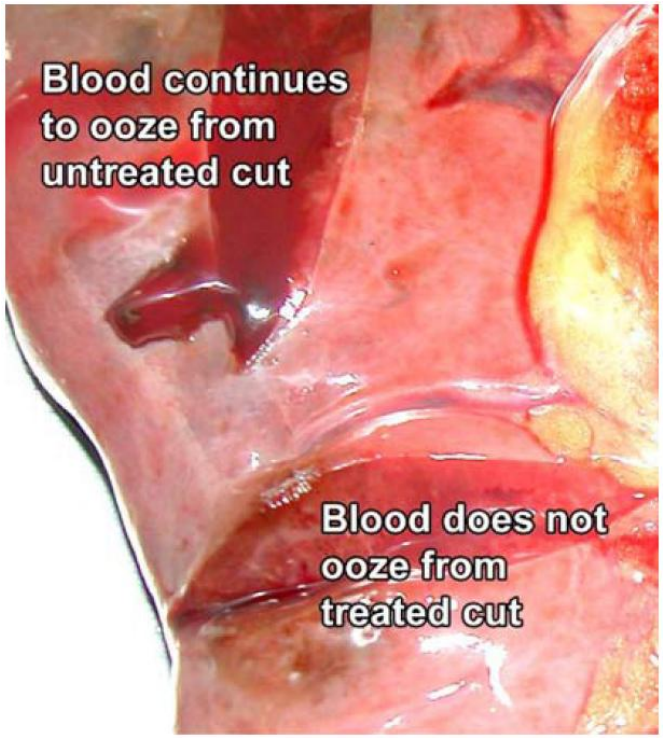
Plasma can stimulate blood coagulation

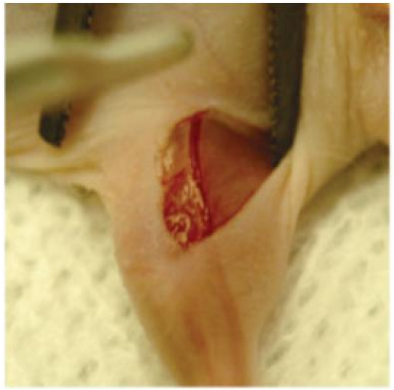




G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)

Example of blood coagulation using plasma





Saphenous vein
is a major blood vessel for a mouse

(a)

If left untreated following a cut
animal will bleed out (control)

(b)

15 seconds at 0.8 Watt/cm^2 stops the
bleeding completely right after treatment

(c)

G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Process. Polym., **5**, 503 (2008)
G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Chem. Plasma Process., **26**, 425 (2006)
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Nitrogen oxide (NO) serves a multitude of essential biological functions

- Blood coagulation
- Immune system
- Early apoptosis (細胞凋亡)
- Neural communication and memory
- Relaxation of flat bronchial (支氣管) and gastrointestinal muscles (胃腸肌肉)
- Hormonal (激素) and sex functions
- Anti-microbial (抗微生物) and anti-tumor (抗腫瘤) defense
- Play an important role in tumor growth, immunodeficiency (免疫缺陷), cardiovascular (心血管), liver (肝), gastrointestinal tract (胃腸道) disease

NO treatment of wound pathologies

Before treatment | 21st day of NO-therapy (10 seances) | After 2 months of NO-therapy

- **Decrease in the trophic ulcer (營養性潰瘍) area:**
  - Traditional treatment methods: 0.7% per day
  - NO treatment methods: 1.7% per day

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NO treatment of wound pathologies

Before treatment

After 4.5 months of NO-therapy
(3 courses; 12 seances per course)

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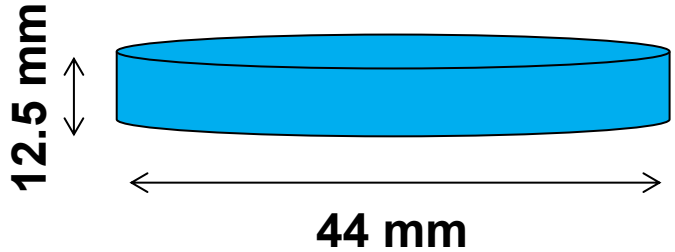
- Facemask regeneration

Non-thermal plasma treatment of melanoma skin cancer (黑色素瘤皮膚癌)

- **Melanoma cancer cell line (ATCC A2-58) was used**
- **~1.5x10^6 per dish**



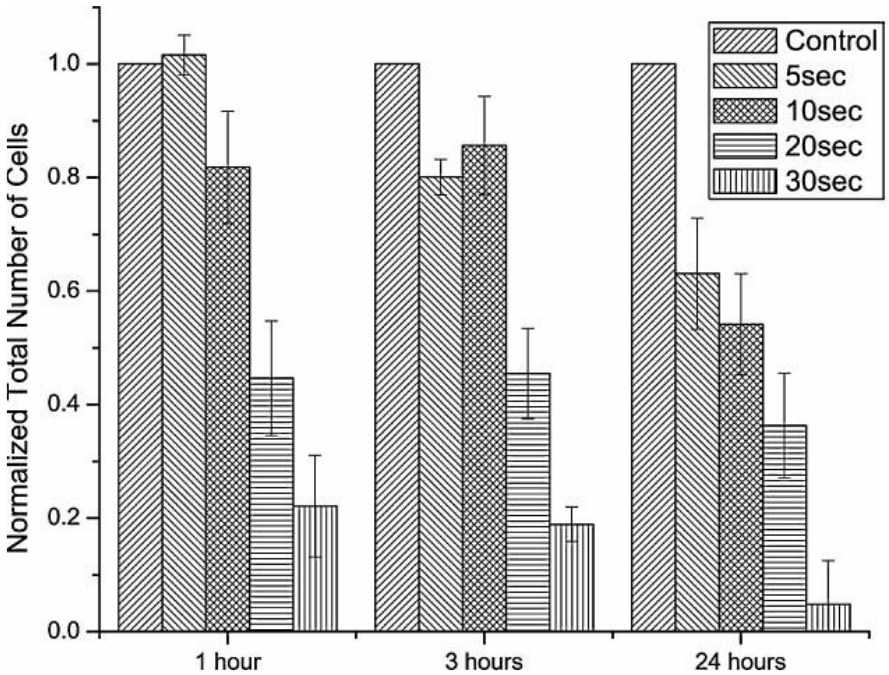
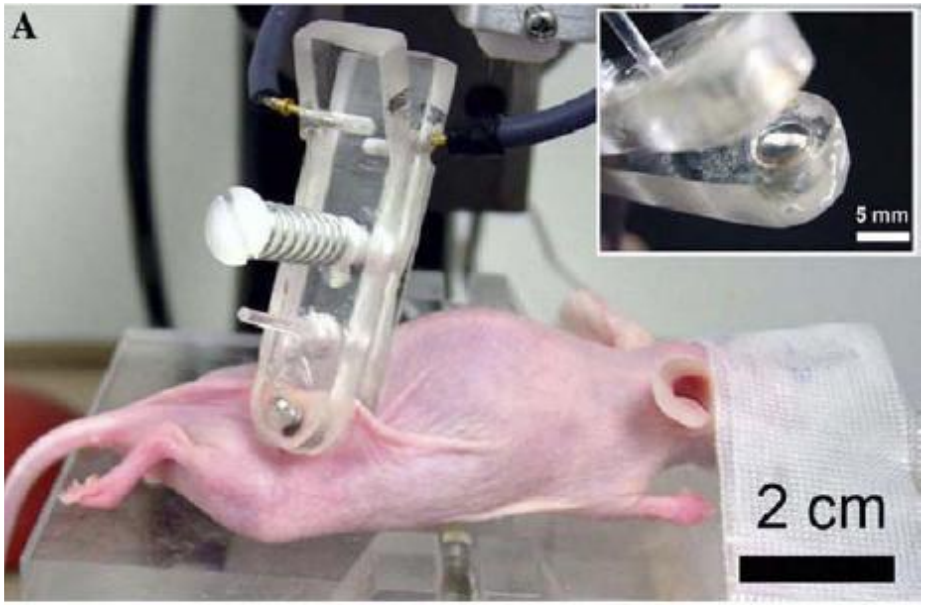
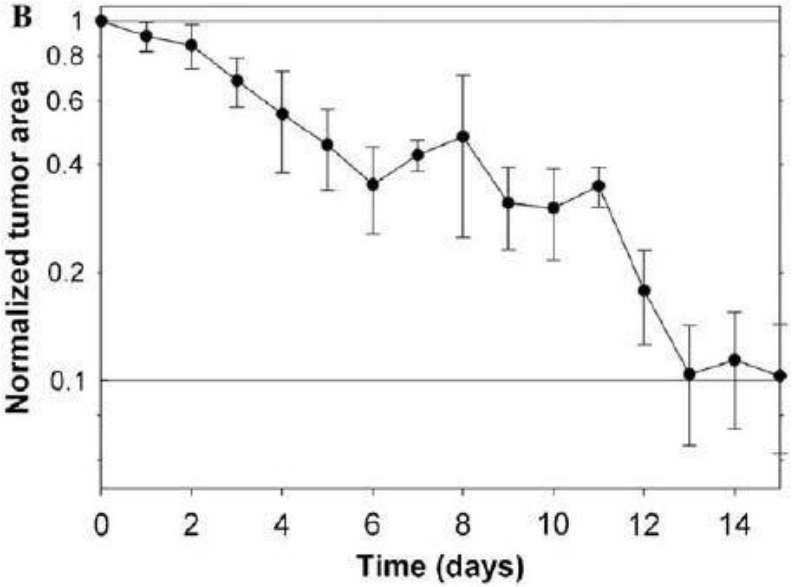


Figure 22. Results of FE-DBD treatment of melanoma cancer cells: Control, 5, 10, 20, and 30 s, counted 1, 3, and 24 h post-treatment.[27]

G. Fridman, *et al.*, Plasma Process. Polym., **5**, 503 (2008)

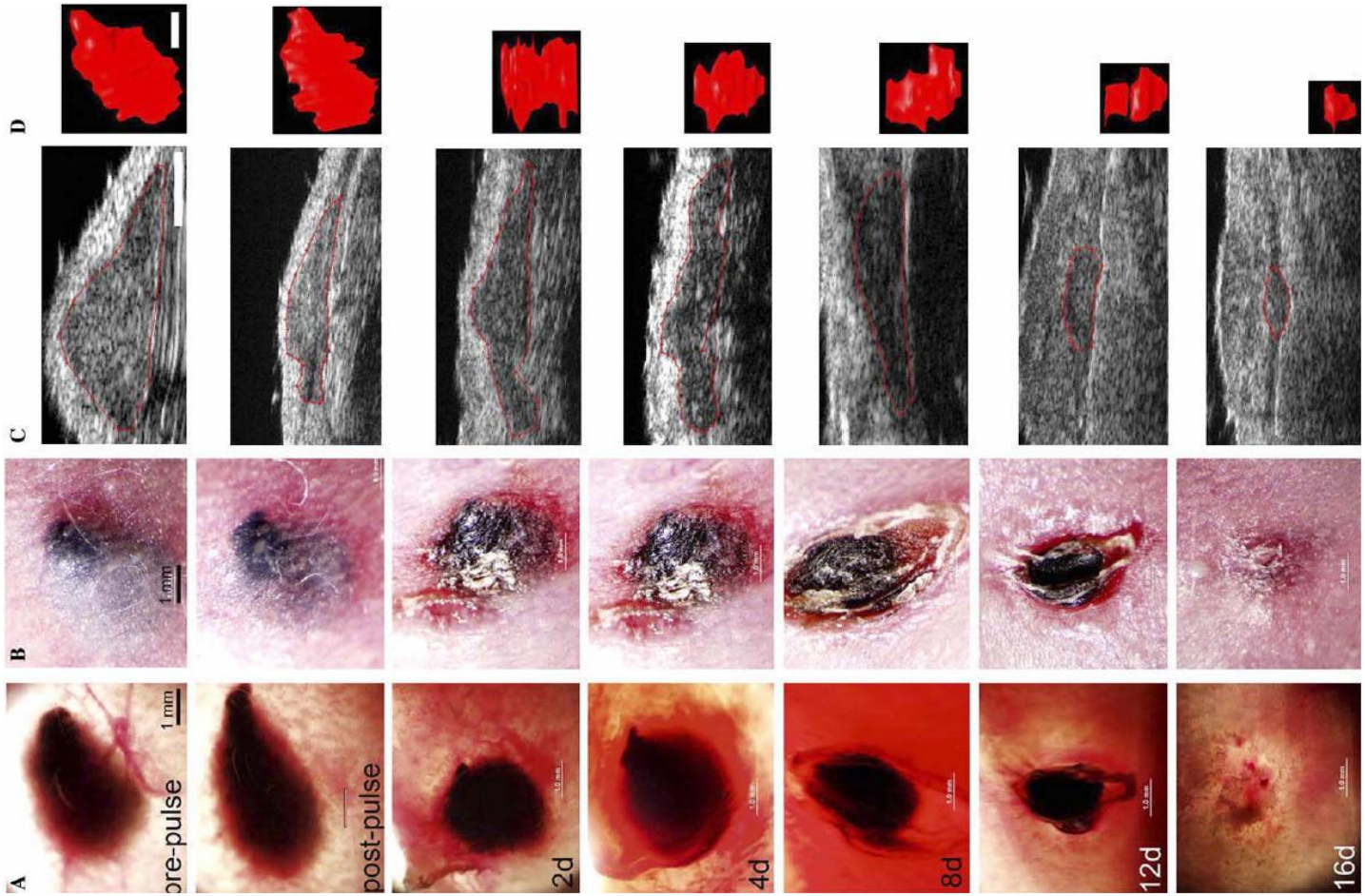
SKH-1 hairless mouse is treated with parallel plate electrode under isoflurane inhalation anesthesia





Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 2006 May 5; 343(2): 351–360.

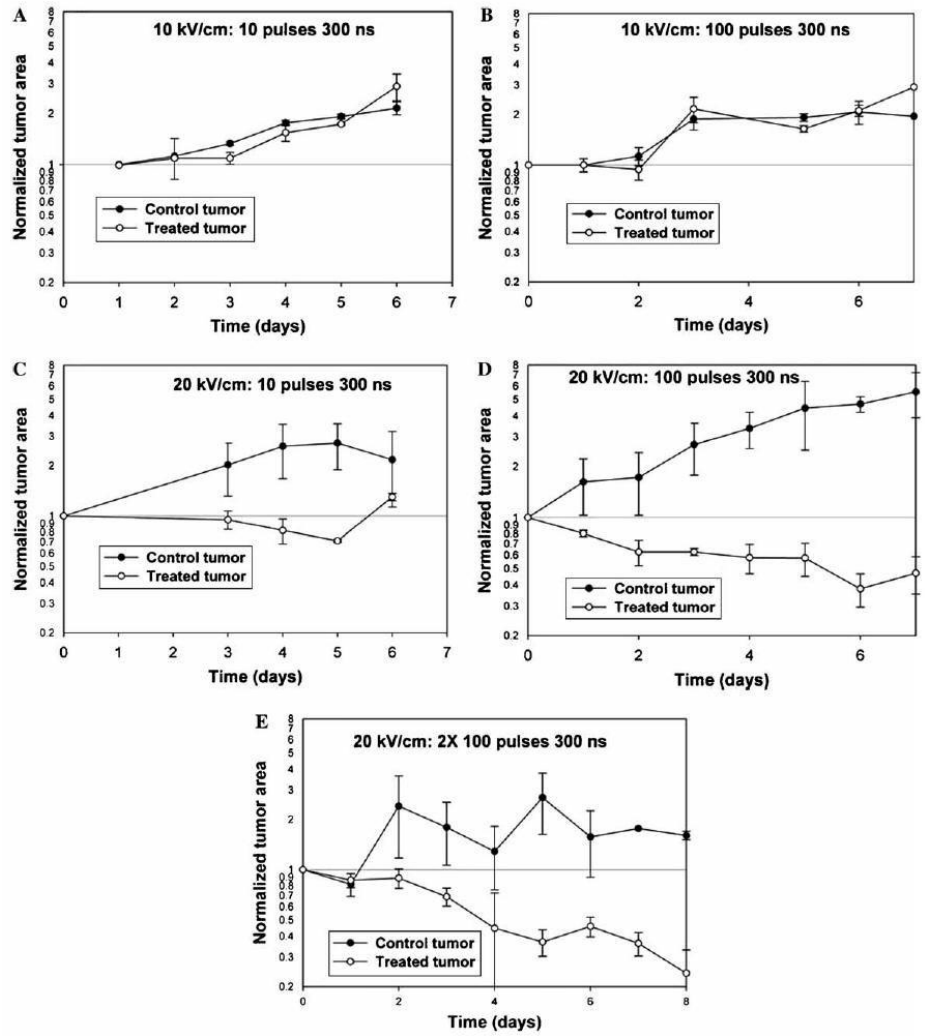
Melanoma shrinks after the treatment



- **Day 0-3: 3 applications of 100 pulses (300 ns, 40 kv/cm, 0.5 Hz), 30 min apart**
- **Day 4: single application using 5 mm diameter parallel plate electrode**

Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 2006 May 5; 343(2): 351–360.

Electric field of 20 kV/cm is needed to treat Melanoma

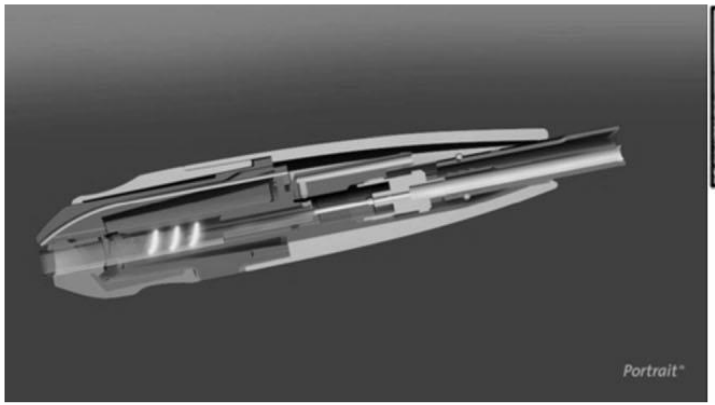


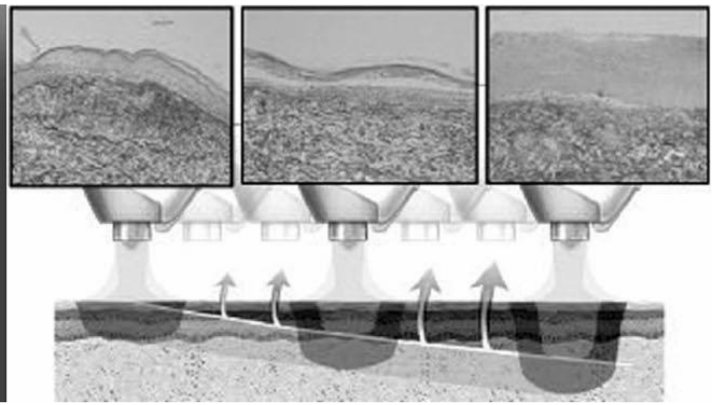
Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 2006 May 5; 343(2): 351–360.

Outline

- Example of several plasma discharges for plasma medicine
- Living tissue sterilization
- Blood coagulation
- Nitrogen oxide (NO) treatment
- Non-thermal plasma treatment of melanoma skin cancer
- **Skin regeneration**
- Egg sterilization
- Facemask regeneration

Plasma skin regeneration (PSR) is a novel skin treatment device





- PSR provides 1-2 J or 3-4 J per pulse for lower or higher power, respectively
- The skin is damaged slightly by the nitrogen plasma jet
- Skin regeneration is stimulated
- Local anesthetic (麻藥) is required and a systemic anesthetic, administered orally is recommended
- Ablative-like effect, similar to that of laser skin resurfacing can also be achieved, but with higher doses

Zones of the face and associated treatment energy settings

M. A. Bogle, *et al.*, Arch. Dermatol.,**143**, 168 (2007)

This particular patient-rated improvement in overall skin rejuvenation was 85%

- **Patients reported minimal discomfort following the procedure and reported over 60% improvement in their skin condition**

M. A. Bogle, *et al.*, Arch. Dermatol.,**143**, 168 (2007)

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Atmospheric-Pressure Plasma sterilization 99.9999% bacteria on surfaces of eggs

https://www.itri.org.tw/chi/Content/Publications/contents.aspx?SiteID=1&MmmID=2000&MSid=745416417706673311

Outline

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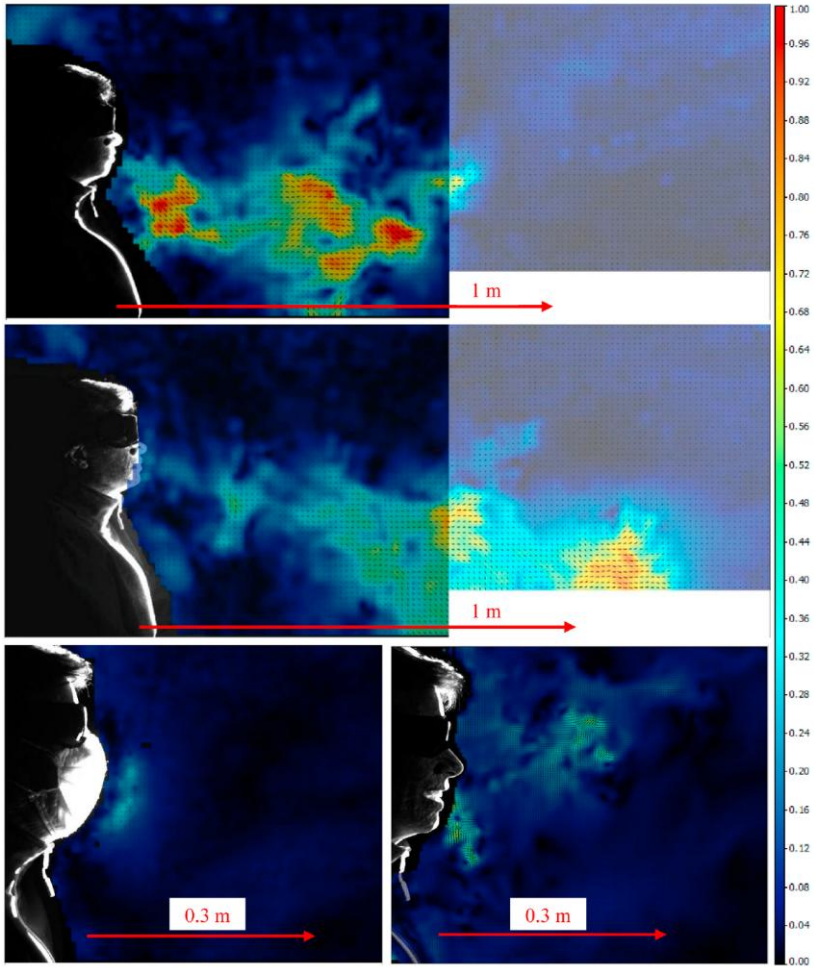
A face mask do restrict the air flow from the mouth and the nose



Coughing over one breath w/o mask.

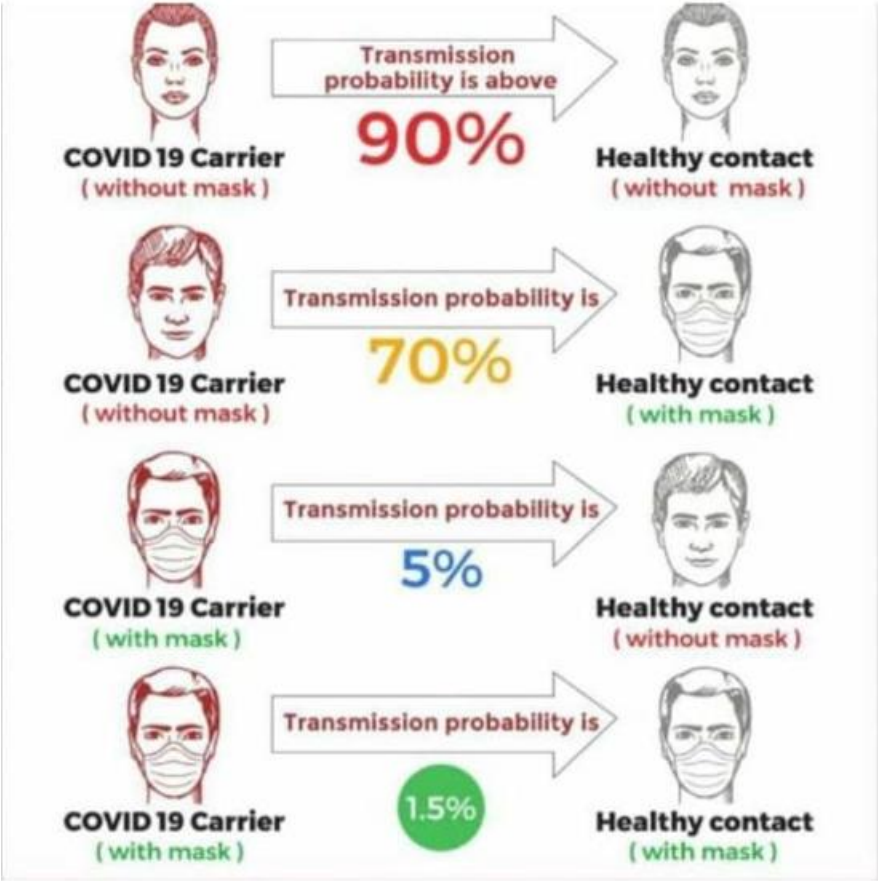
Coughing over a longer periods of time w/o mask.

Coughing over one breath w/ mask.

Talking w/o mask.

C. J. Kähler , *et al.*, J. Aerosol Science, **148**, 105617 (2020)

Wearing face mask can reduce the Covid-19 transmission probability significantly



http://www.riderta.com/coronavirus

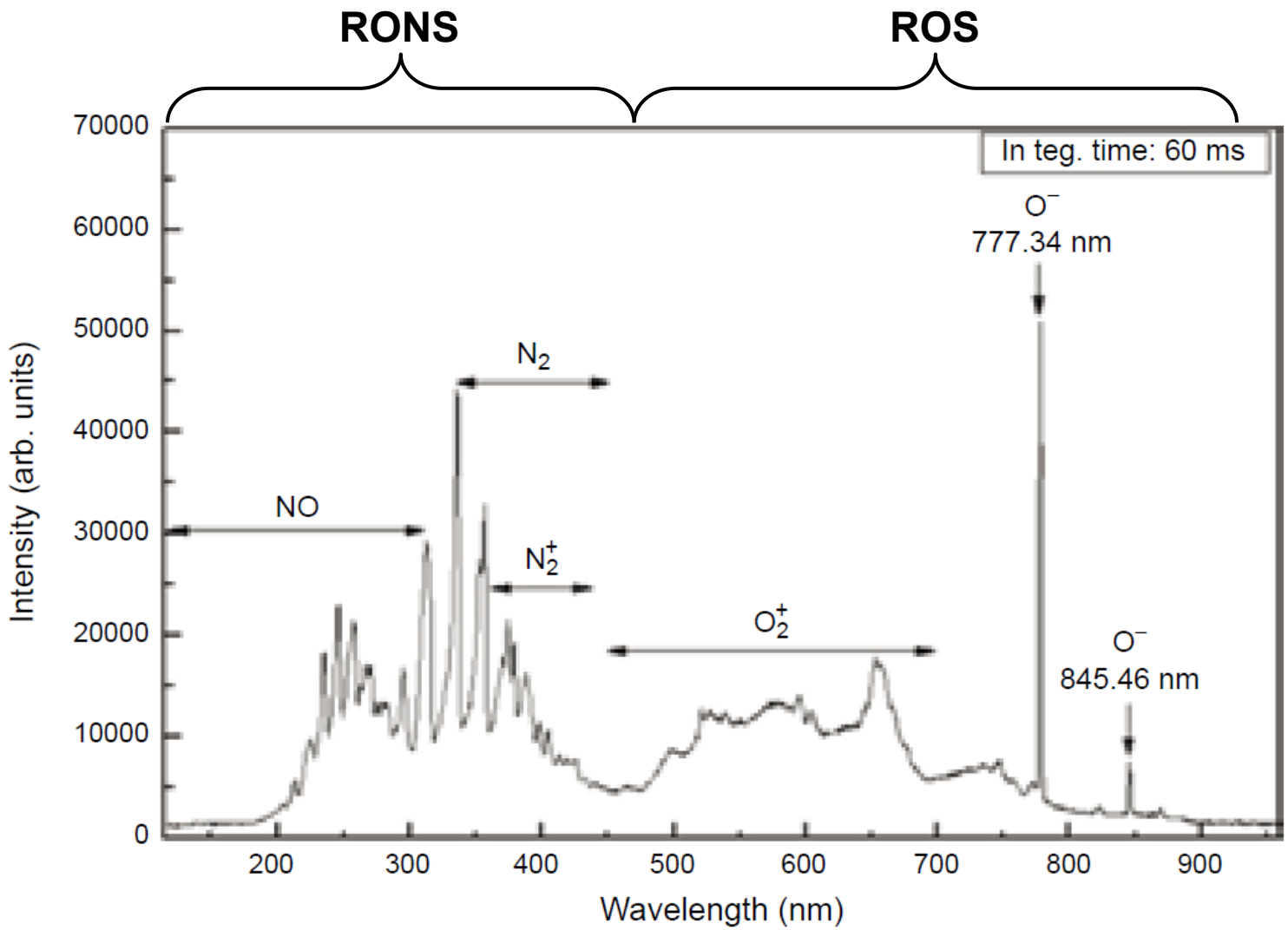
Plasma can provide good surface treatment with low temperature

Treatment	Surface treatment level	Depth	Temperature	Cost
Chemical	Large	Deep	Room temperature ~200 ℃	Medium
Heat	Only oxidizing	Deep	High temperature	Cheap
Radiation	Small	Whole sample	High temperature	Expensive
Plasma	Large	Surface	Room temperature ~100 ℃	Cheap ~ Medium

- Atmospheric plasma can generate radicals, ozone, reactive oxygen/nitrogen/NH (ROS，RONS), UV light, electrons, charged particles.

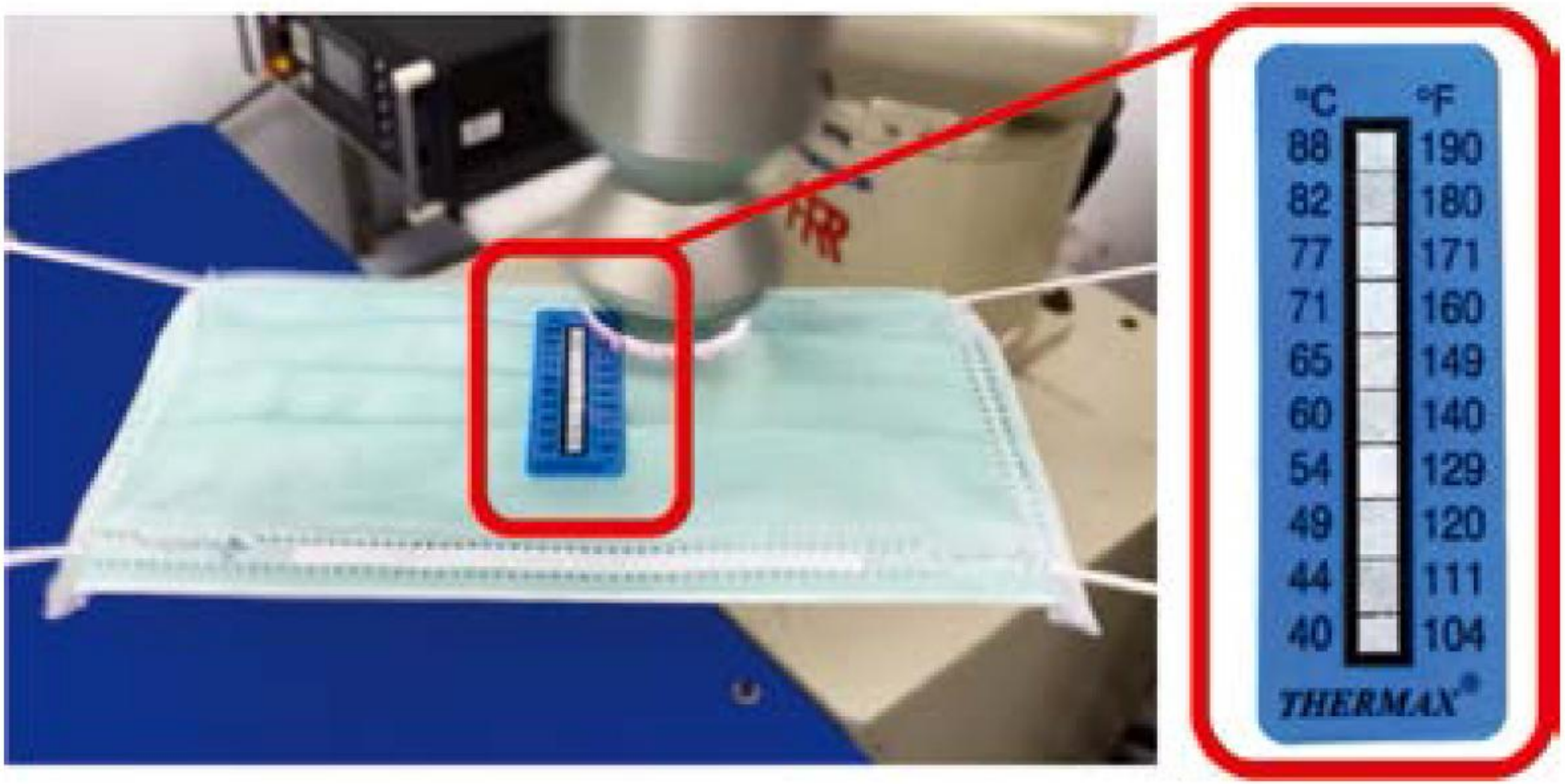
Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

Plasma can generate ROS and RONS



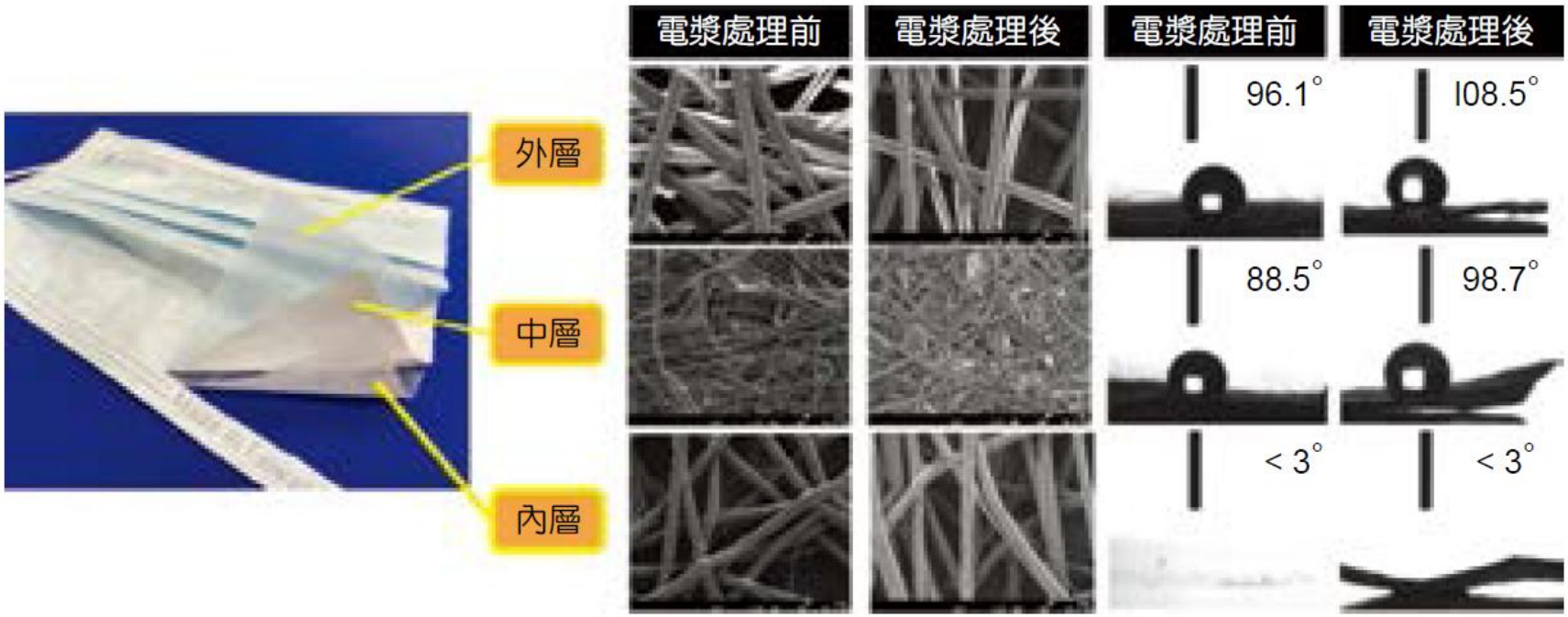
Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

The temperature of the mask under plasma treamtment is below 40 ℃



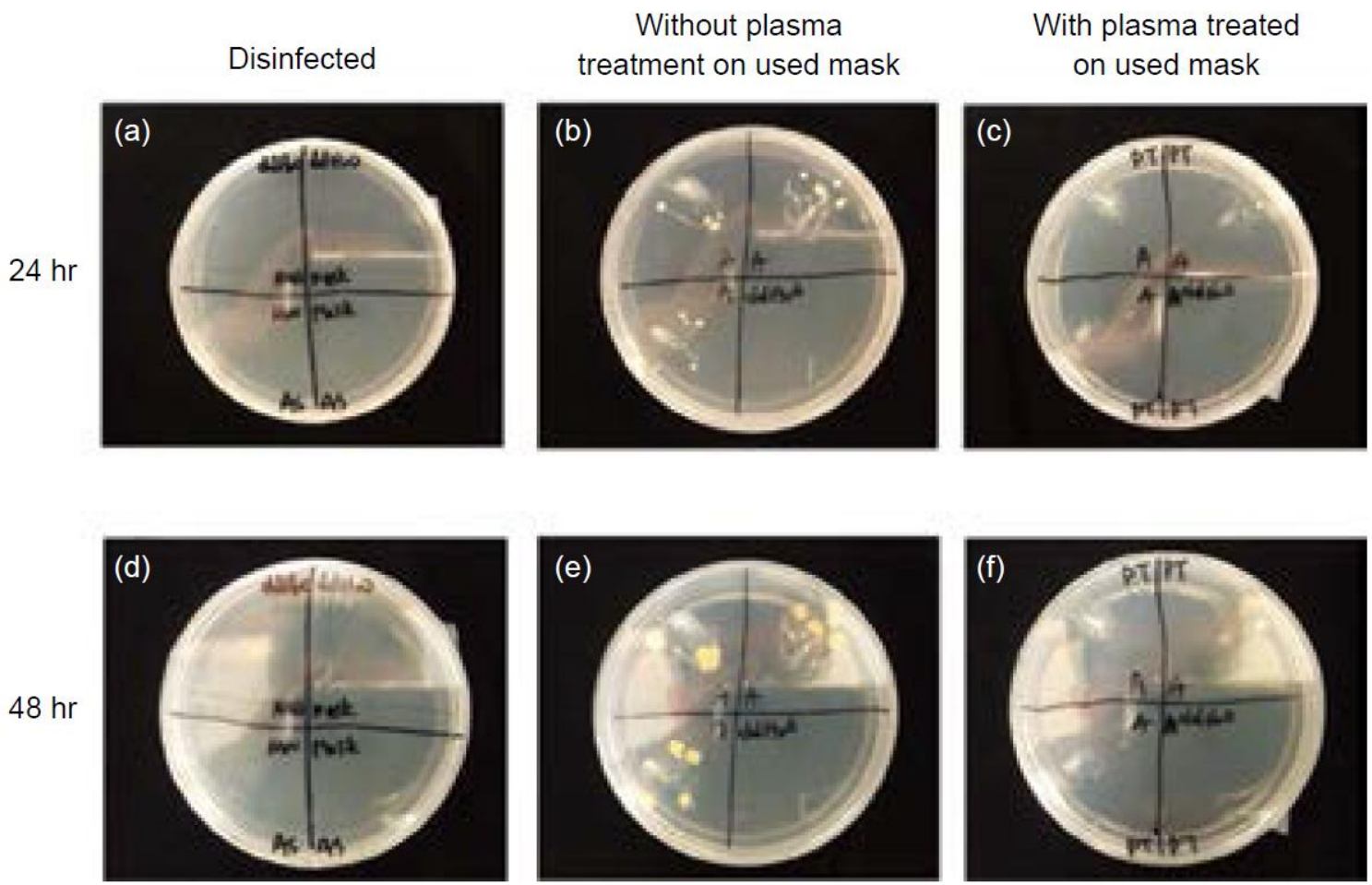
Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

The surface quality of the face mask was not influenced by the plasma treament



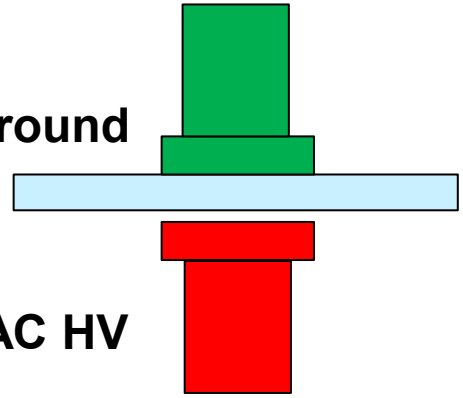
Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

The growth of the bacteria on the face mask was suppressed



Yu-Lin Kuo, etc., 自動化大氣電漿設備建置與醫療用口罩去異味活化,科儀新知227 期 p50

DBD plasma demonstration



Show video.

DBD plasma can be generated between the finger and the dielectric layer