Fusion Reactor Technology I (459.760, 3 Credits)

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Contents

Week 1. Magnetic Confinement/Fusion Reactor Energetics (Harms 8) Week 2. Tokamak Operation (I): Basic Tokamak Plasma Parameters (Wood 1.2-3, Harms 9.2) Week 3. Tokamak Operation (II): H-mode Week 4. Tokamak Operation (III): Advanced Operation Mode Week 7-8. Tokamak Operation Limits (I): Plasma Instabilities (Kadomtsev 6, 7, Wood 6) Week 9-10. Tokamak Operation Limits (II): Plasma Transport (Kadomtsev 8, 9, Wood 3, 4) Week 11. Heating and Current Drive (Kadomtsev 10) Week 12. Divertor and Plasma-Wall Interaction Week 13-14. How to Build a Tokamak (Dendy 17 by T. N. Todd)

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Tokamak Operation Scenario

JET pulse 69905 (B_T = 3.1 T)



Tokamak Operation Scenario



5



• 1982 IAEA F. Wagner et al. (ASDEX, Germany)

- Transition to H-mode: state with reduced turbulence at the plasma edge

- Formation of an edge transport barrier: steep pressure gradient at the edge

Regime of Improved Confinement and High Beta in Neutral-Beam-Heated Divertor Discharges of the ASDEX Tokamak

F. Wagner, G. Becker, K. Behringer, D. Campbell, A. Eberhagen, W. Engelhardt, G. Fussmann,
O. Gehre, J. Gernhardt, G. v. Gierke, G. Haas, M. Huang,^(a) F. Karger, M. Keilhacker,
O. Klüber, M. Kornherr, K. Lackner, G. Lisitano, G. G. Lister, H. M. Mayer,
D. Meisel, E. R. Müller, H. Murmann, H. Niedermeyer, W. Poschenrieder,
H. Rapp, H. Röhr, F. Schneider, G. Siller, E. Speth, A. Stäbler,
K. H. Steuer, G. Venus, O. Vollmer, and Z. Yü^(a)
Max-Planck-Institut für Plasmaphysik, EURATOM-Association, D-8046 Garching, München, Germany
(Received 6 August 1982; revised manuscript received 1 October 1982)

A new operational regime has been observed in neutral-injection-heated ASDEX divertor discharges. This regime is characterized by high β_p values comparable to the aspect ratio A ($\beta_p \leq 0.65A$) and by confinement times close to those of Ohmic discharges. The high- β_p regime develops at an injection power ≥ 1.9 MW, a mean density $\overline{n_e} \geq 3 \times 10^{13}$ cm⁻³, and a q(a) value ≥ 2.6 . Beyond these limits or in discharges with material limiter, low β_p values and reduced particle and energy confinement times are obtained compared to the Ohmic heating phase.

PACS numbers: 52.55.Gb, 52.50.Gj



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• Established in stellarators as well



Wendelstein 7-AS

V. Erckmann et al, Physical Review Letters 70 2086 (1993)



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11

• First H-mode Transition in KSTAR (November 8, 2010)



Separation of plasma from wall by a limiter and a divertor



- Advantage of the divertor configuration
- First contact with material surface at a distance from plasma boundary
- Reducing the influx of ionized impurities into the interior of the plasma by diverting them into an outer "SOL"







Role of wall condition

Shot number : 4333	2010/11/15	001	0:00:00:00
KSTAR TV1 (t=-100ms	;)		







 $P_{thr,scaling} = 0.0488 \pm 0.0028 n_{e20}^{0.717 \pm 0.035} B_T^{0.803 \pm 0.032} S^{0.941 \pm 0.019}$

Y. R. Martin et al., "Power requirement for accessing the H-mode in ITER", J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 123 012033 (2008)

J-W. Ahn, H.-S. Kim et al., "Confinement and ELM characteristics of H-mode plasmas in KSTAR", Nucl. Fusion 52 114001 (2012)

17



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Gyrokinetic Simulations of Plasma Microinstabilities

simulation by

Zhihong Lin et al.

Science 281, 1835 (1998)



Theoretical physics



Basic Tokamak Variables

• Safety factor q = number of toroidal orbits per poloidal orbit



Tokamak Operation Modes



Conventional Operation Mode – H-mode





- Mild pressure gradient with steep edge pedestal
- Naturally peaked current profile
- Monotonic *q*-profile
- Positive magnetic shear

H-mode: Limitations

Stability of H-mode plasmas related safety factor profile: q(r)



 q_0 < 1: Sawtooth instability, periodic flattening of the pressure in the core

Sawtooth





H-mode: Limitations

Stability of H-mode plasmas related safety factor profile: q(r)



 q_0 < 1: Sawtooth instability, periodic flattening of the pressure in the core

q = 3/2 and *q* = 2:

Neoclassical Tearing Modes (NTMs):

- limit the achievable $\beta \equiv 2\mu_0 p/B^2$
- degrade confinement (+ disruptions)
- often triggered by sawteeth.

ITER work point is chosen conservatively: β_N≤1.8 !

Neoclassical Tearing Mode (NTM)





• Pressure flattening across magnetic islands due to large transport coefficients along magnetic field lines



• Pressure flattening across magnetic islands due to large transport coefficients along magnetic field lines

Neoclassical Tearing Mode (NTM)



H-mode: Limitations

Stability of H-mode plasmas related safety factor profile: q(r)



K. Miyamoto, "Controlled Fusion and Plasma Physics" Taylor & Francis (2007)

H-mode: Limitations

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 $q_{95} (\propto 1/I_p) = 3$: Safe operation at max. I_P

Edge Localised Mode (ELM)



35

Edge Localised Mode (ELM)



Edge Localised Mode



Disruption



Edge Localised Mode (ELM)



H-mode: Limitation



H-mode: Limitation



Faraday's law





 $I_P = I_{OH} + I_{NI}$ Standard inductive operation

 $I_P = 0 + I_{NI}$ Non-inductive operation

steady state scenario: producing continuous fusion power in a tokamak reactor.

References

- E. Joffrin, "Advanced tokamak scenario developments for the next step", 34th EPS Conference, Warsaw 2007

- A. C. C. Sips, Seminars