

The 5th International Conference on Atomic and Molecular Data and Their Applications  
(ICAMDATA) Meudon, France 15-19.10.2006

# Plasma-wall interactions in fusion devices

Bernd Schweer

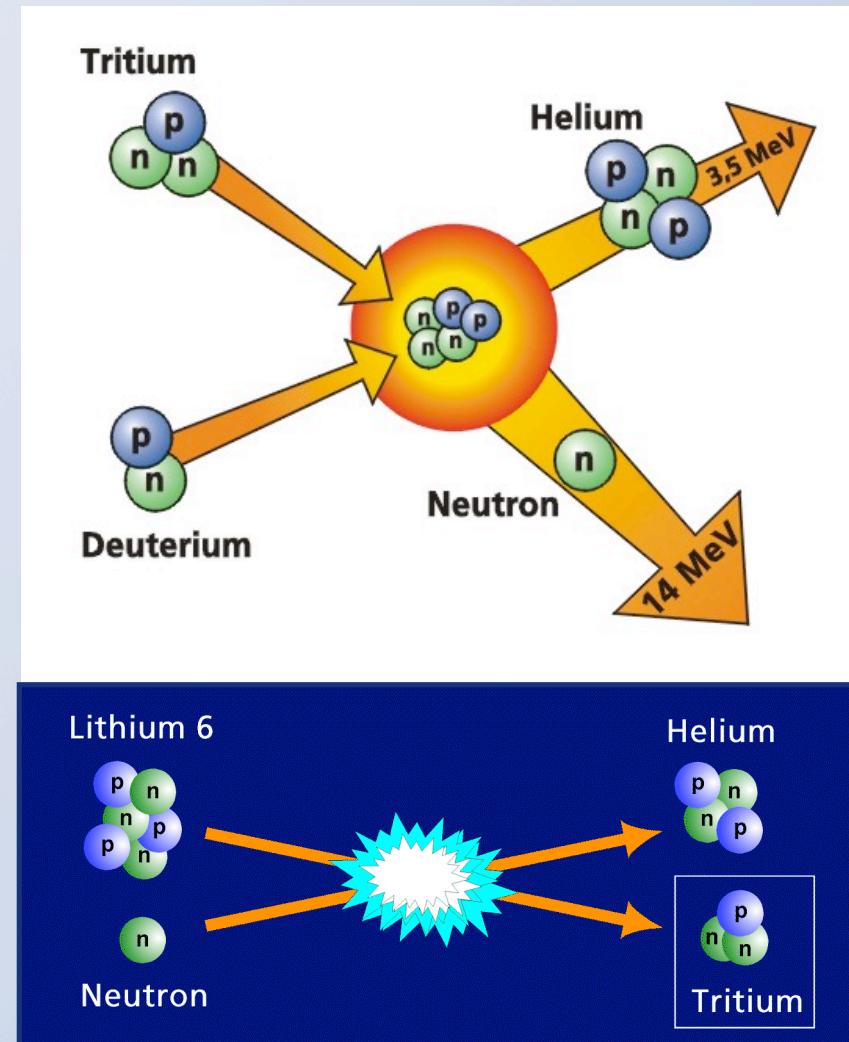
Forschungszentrum Jülich



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*in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft*



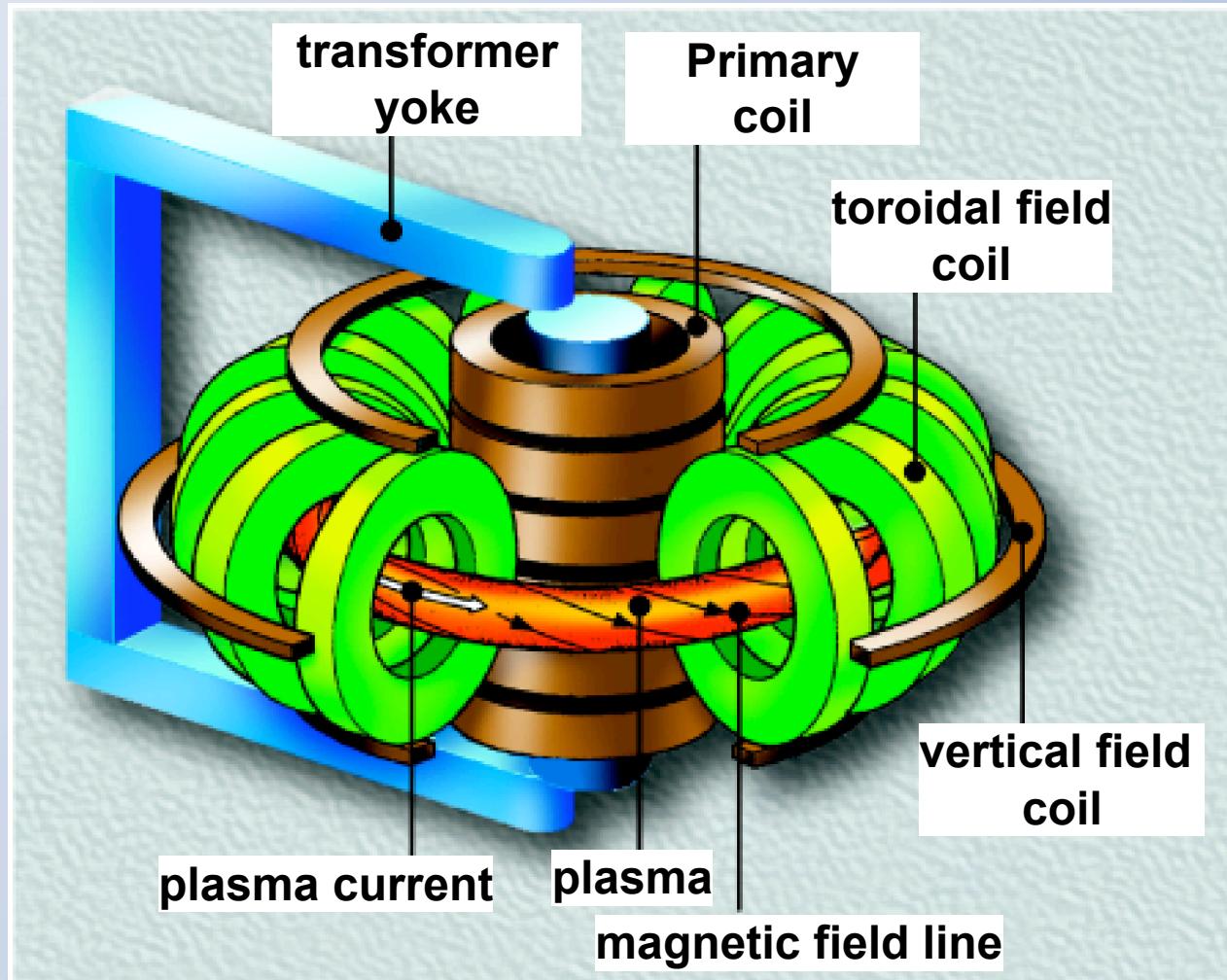
# Fusion - a new primary energy source

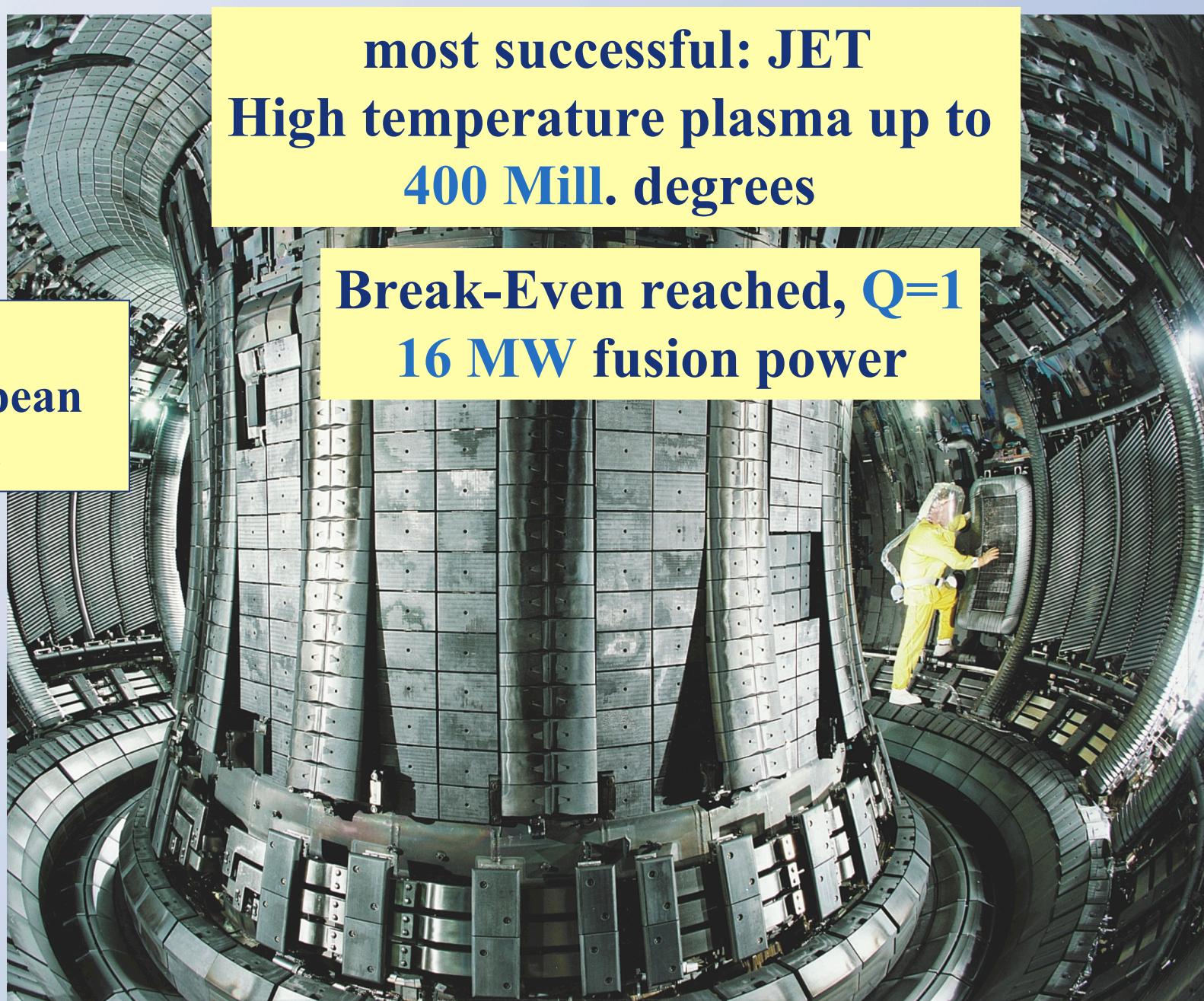


this contains 75 mg deuterium  
and 225 mg lithium  
as fuel for fusion -  
equivalent to 1 000 litres of oil

the fuel is cheap and abundant

## Tokamak- principle set-up





**Joint  
European  
Torus**

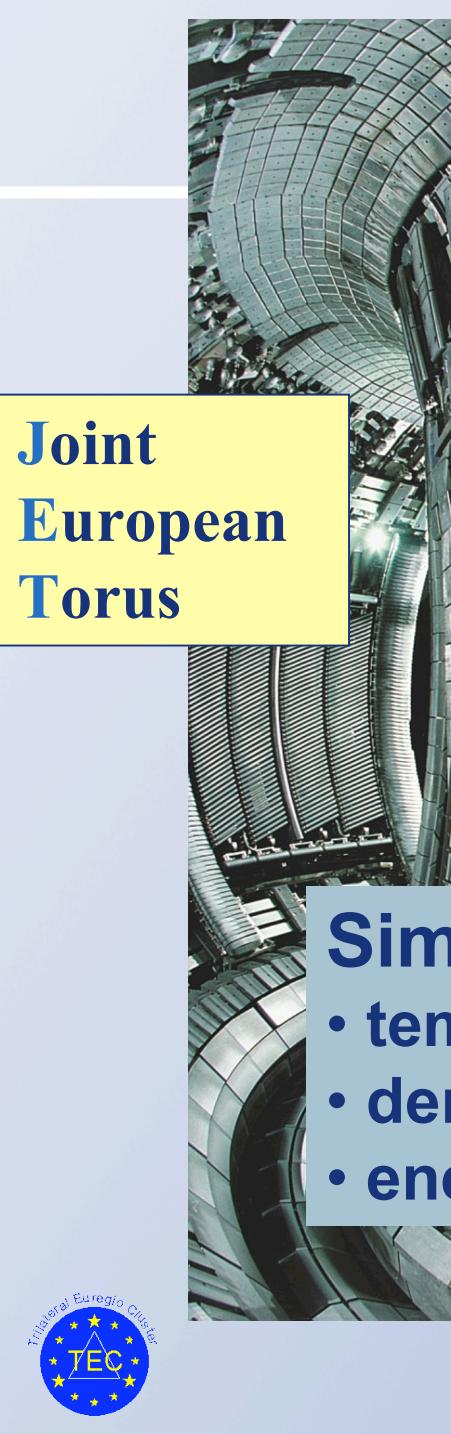
**most successful: JET**  
**High temperature plasma up to**  
**400 Mill. degrees**

**Break-Even reached, Q=1**  
**16 MW fusion power**

Trilateral Euregio Cluster  
TEC

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**Joint  
European  
Torus**

**most successful: JET  
High temperature plasma up to  
400 Mill. degrees**



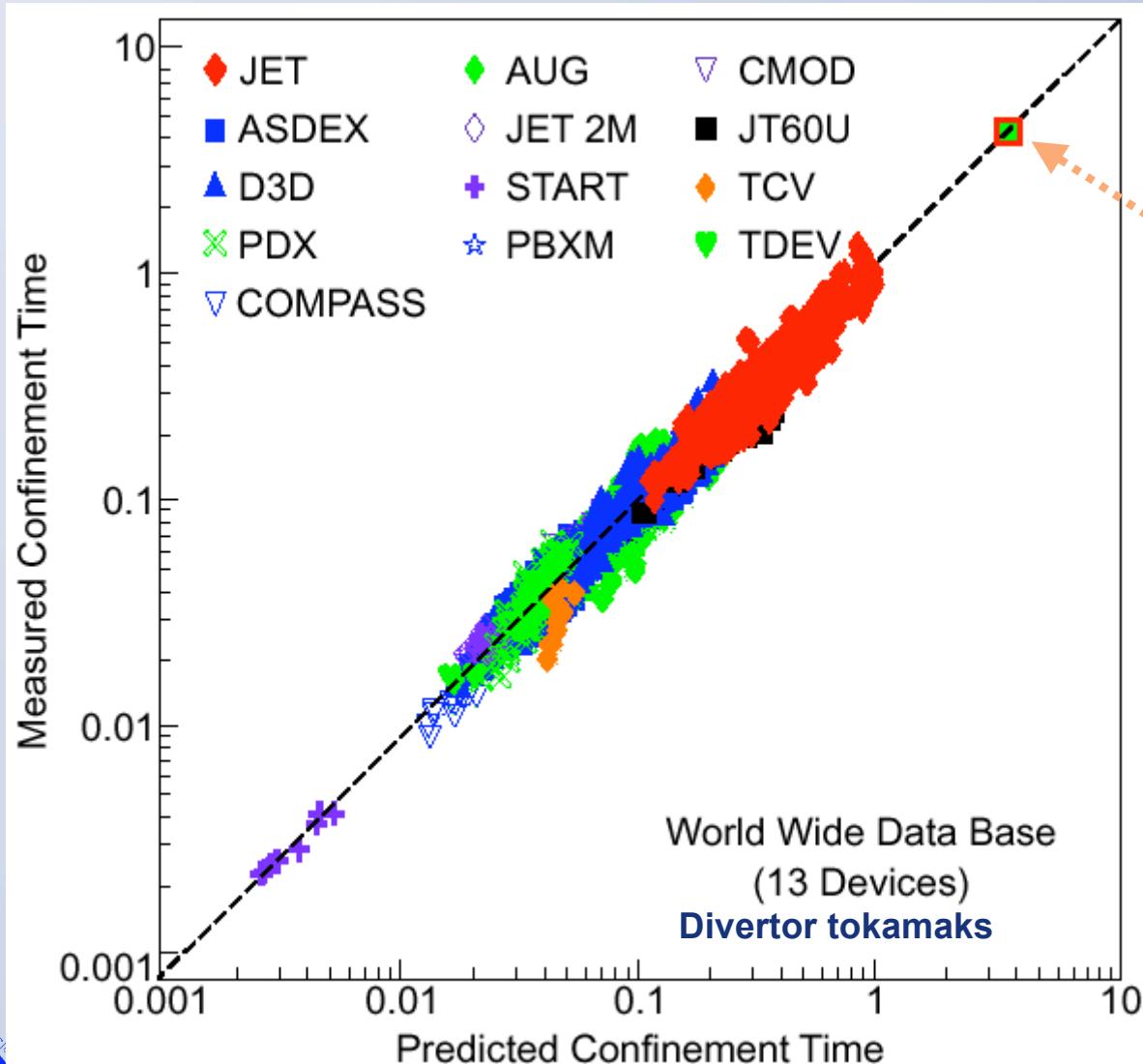
**Break-Even reached, Q=1  
16 MW fusion power**

**Simultaneously necessary parameter:**

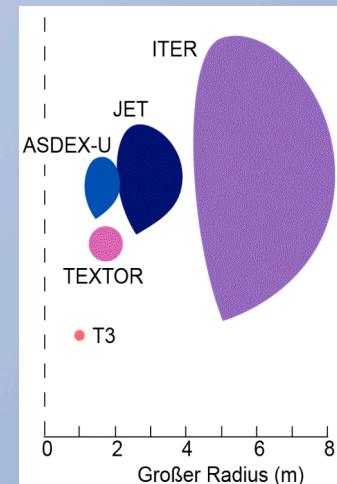
- **temperature:** 10 keV
- **density:**  $1 \cdot 10^{20} /m^3$
- **energy confinement time:** >1 s



## Robust Confinement Scaling: Confidence about ITER



ITER reference scenario

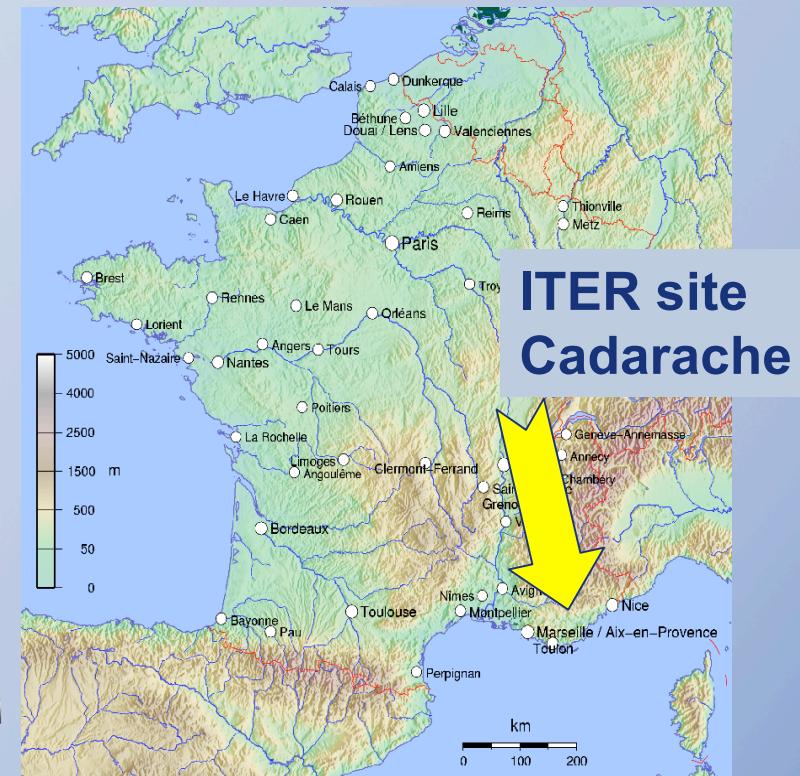
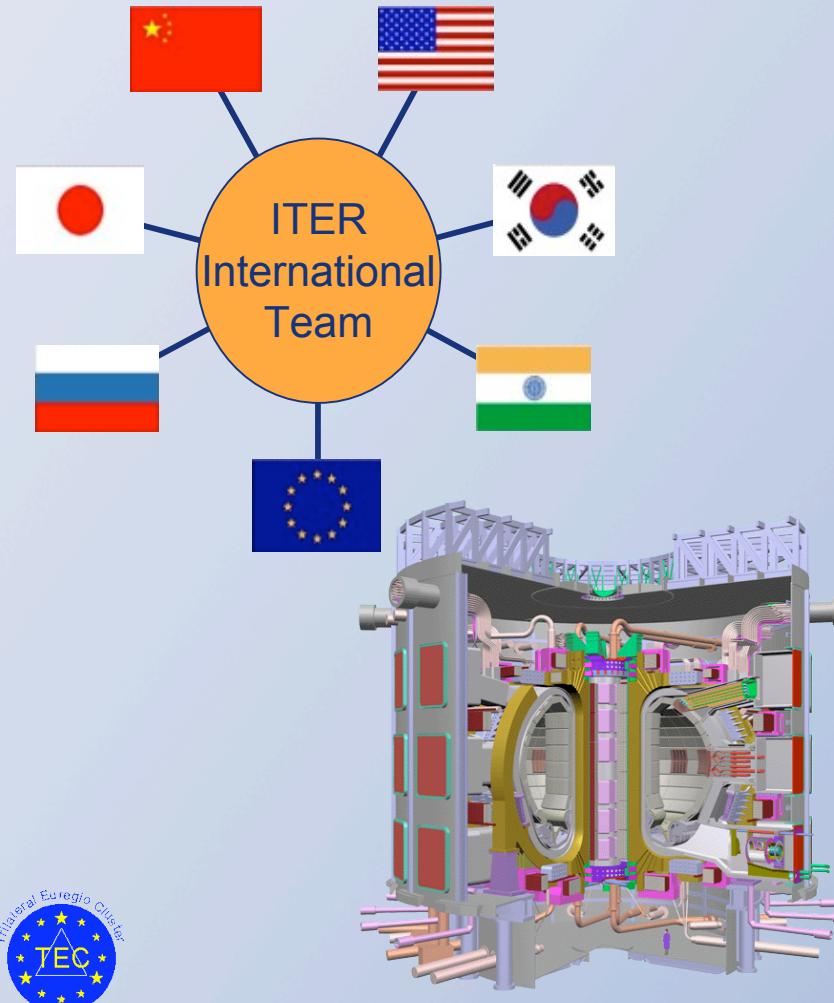


higher magnetic field  
larger volume

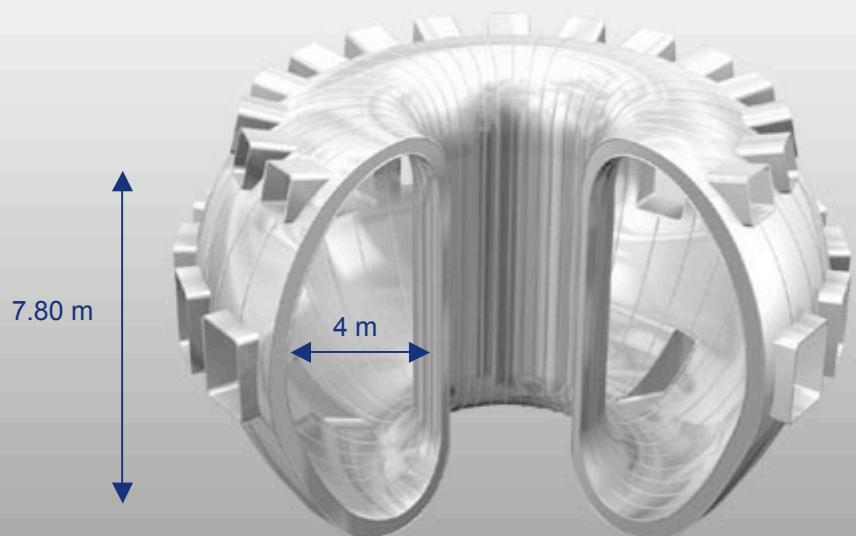


# Next Big Step: First Burning Fusion Plasma in ITER

A Joint Project of EU, Japan, USA, Russia, South Korea, China, India  
contributions „in kind“



Investment ~ 5 Billion €  
24. Mai 2006 Signature of ITER Implementing  
Agreement  
Ratification until end of 2006 / early 2007



- Vessel

-

-

-

-

-

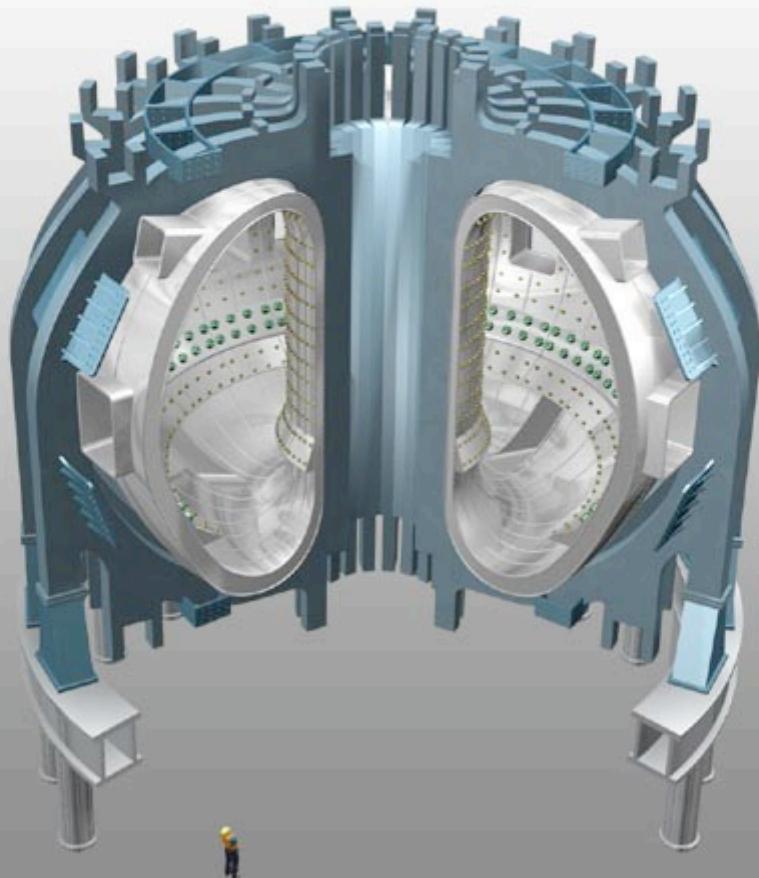
-



18 coils  
superconducting

5.3 T

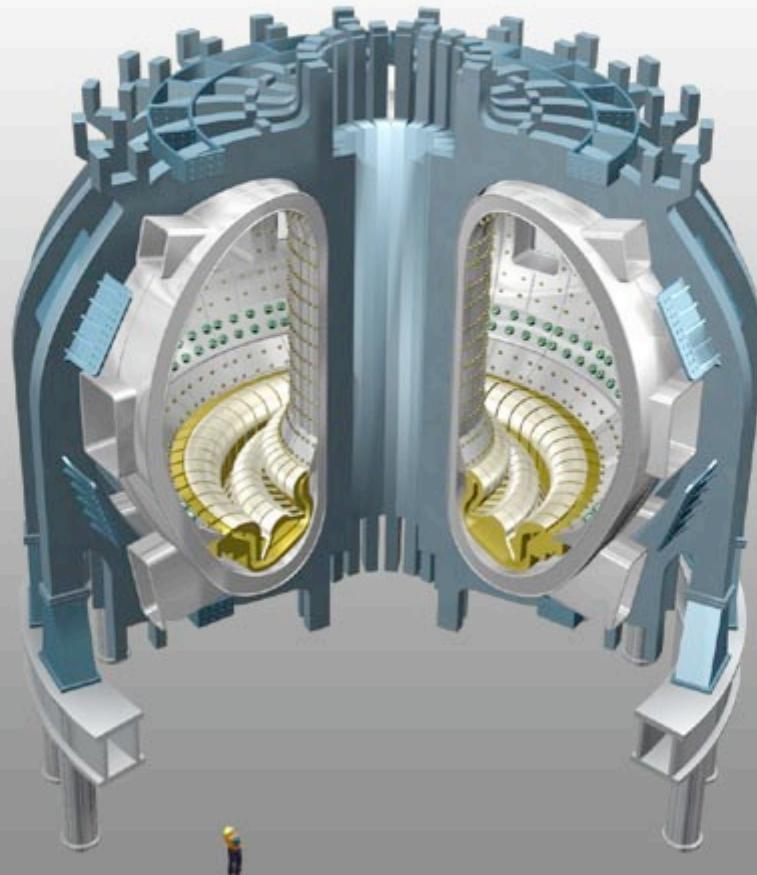
8 700 to



- Vessel
- Toroidal Coils
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

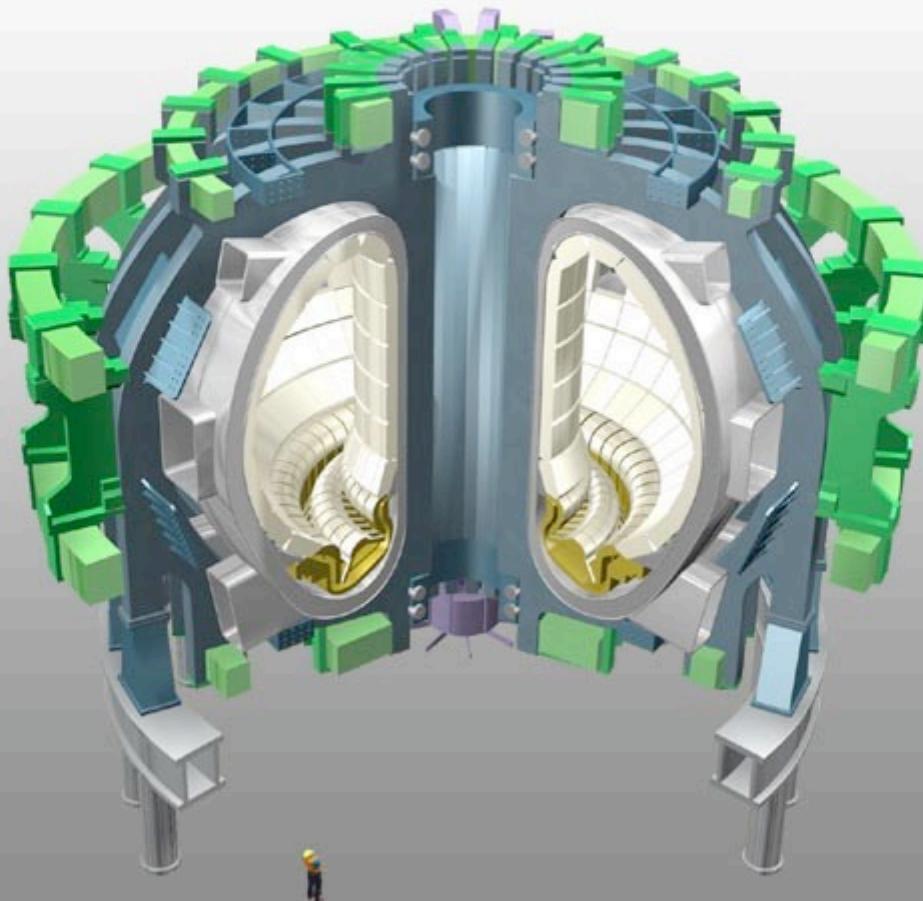


10 MW / m<sup>2</sup> on 8 m<sup>2</sup>

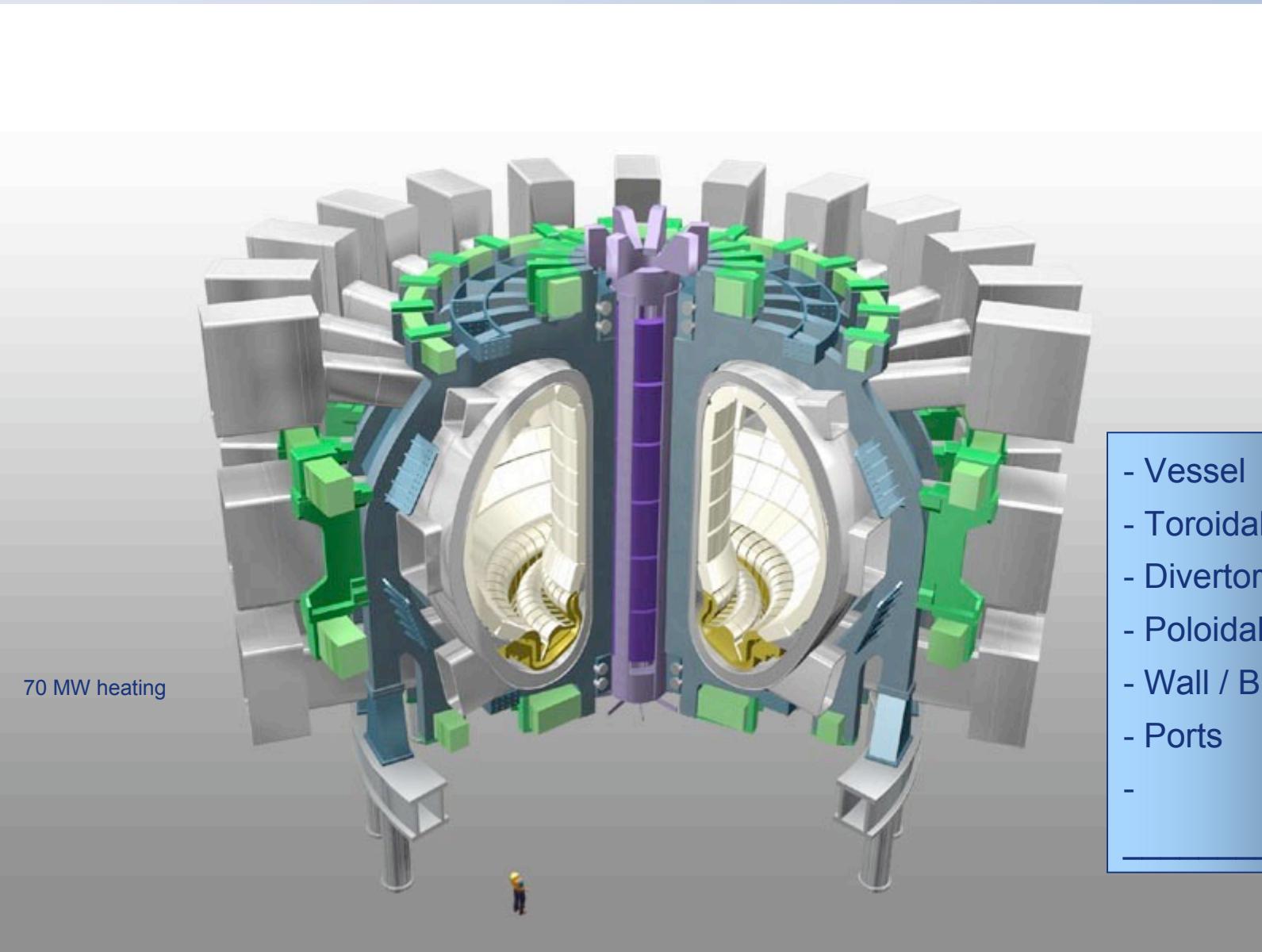


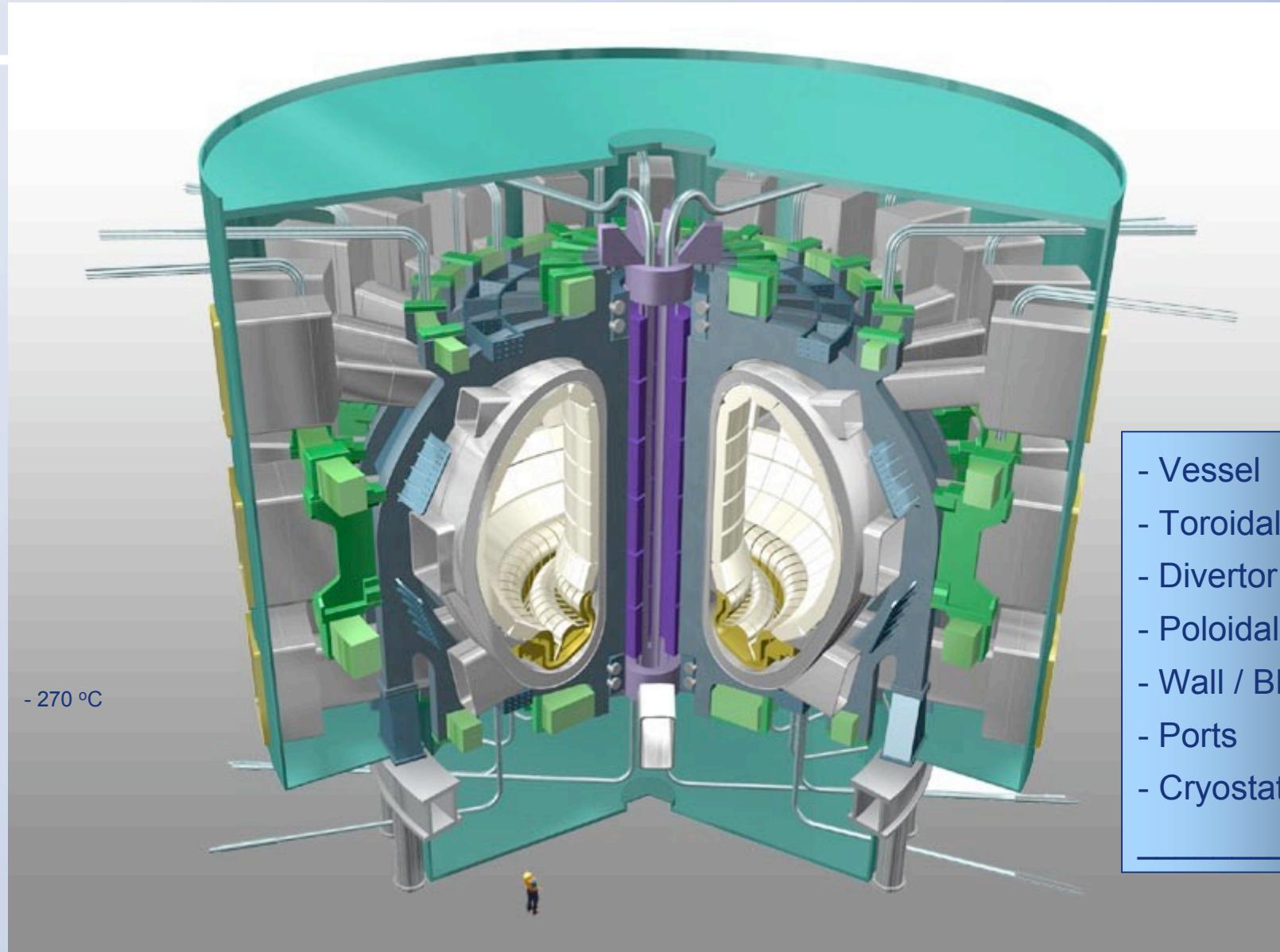
- Vessel
- Toroidal Coils
- Divertor
- 
- 
- 
- 

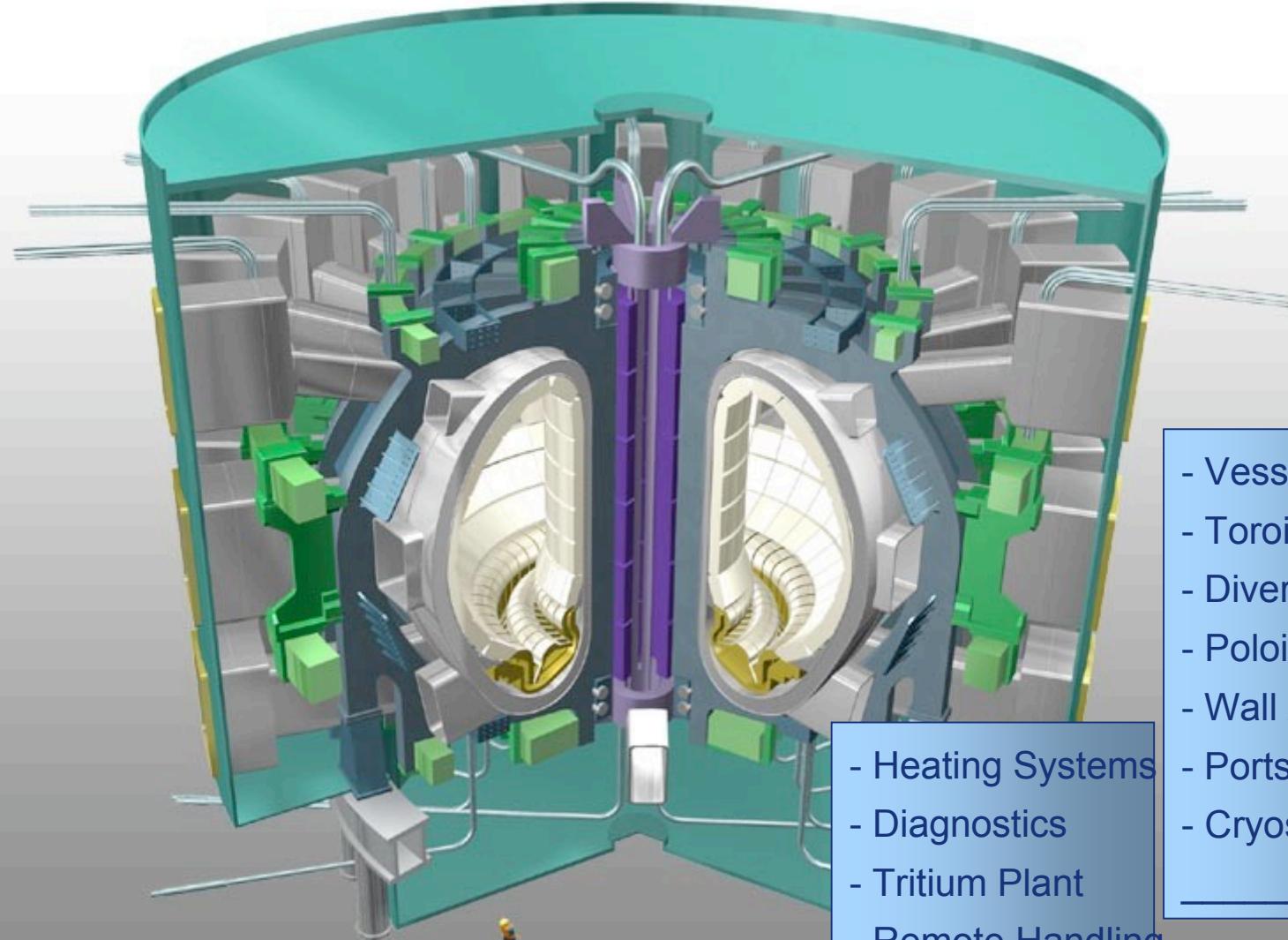




- Vessel
- Toroidal Coils
- Divertor
- Poloidal Coils
- Wall / Blanket
- 
-







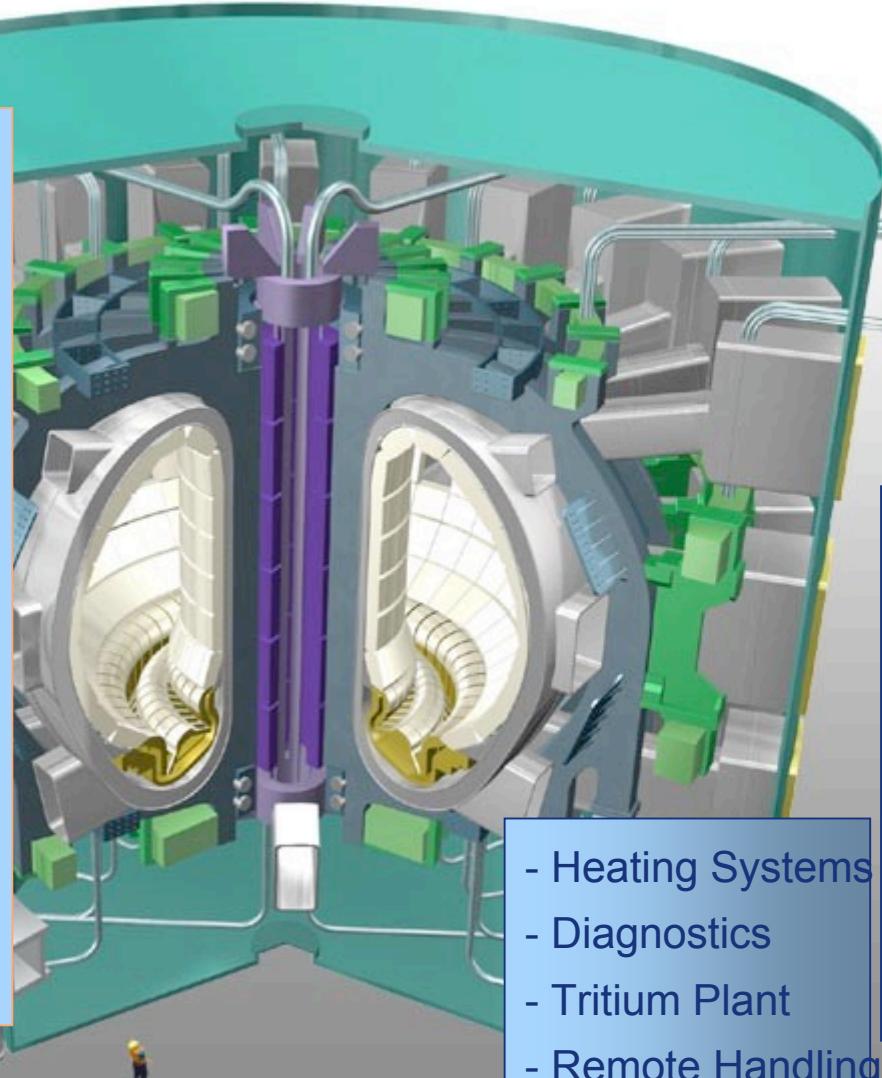
- Vessel
  - Toroidal Coils
  - Divertor
  - Poloidal Coils
  - Wall / Blanket
  - Ports
  - Cryostat
- 
- Heating Systems
  - Diagnostics
  - Tritium Plant
  - Remote Handling
  - Control & Data

## ITER goals

First demonstration of a  
burning fusion plasma  
500 MW fusion power  
8 minutes burn duration

development of the  
physics and technology  
for a continuously  
working power plant

part of a  
broader approach

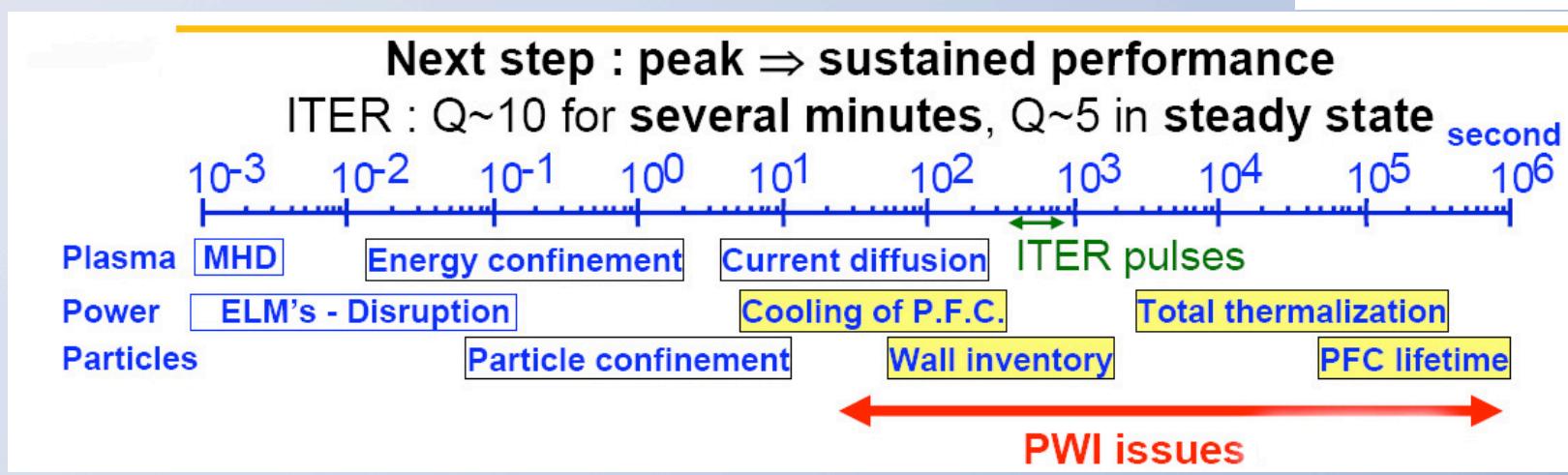


- Heating Systems
- Diagnostics
- Tritium Plant
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- Vessel
- Toroidal Coils
- Divertor
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- Wall / Blanket
- Ports
- Cryostat

# Long Pulse Operation – a New Challenge to PWI

E. Tsitrone, CEA



tokamaks/stellarators (e.g.):  
new linear devices (e.g.):

TEXTOR JET TS ITER W7-X .... DEMO  
MAGNUM-PSI



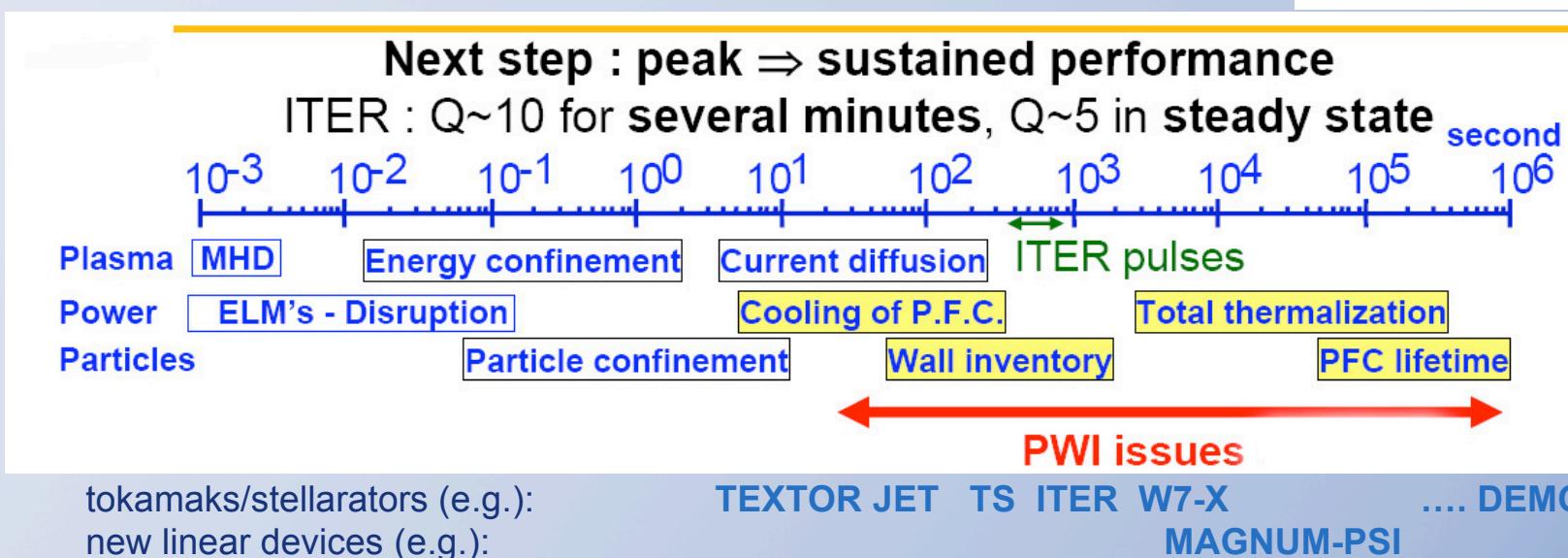
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# Long Pulse Operation – a New Challenge to PWI

E. Tsitrone, CEA



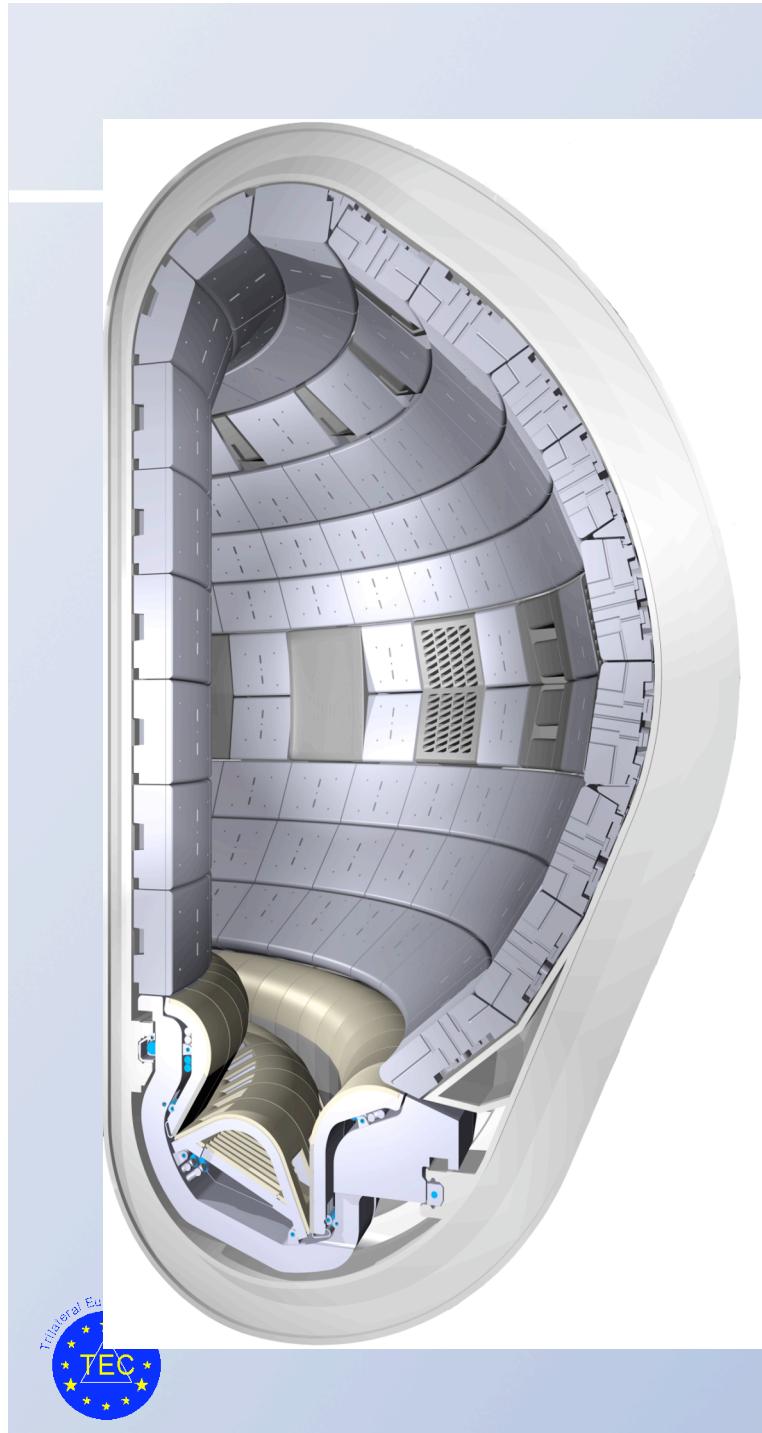
Positive energy balance in ITER most likely based on tokamak size  
but  
Pulse duration and number of discharges depends on PWI



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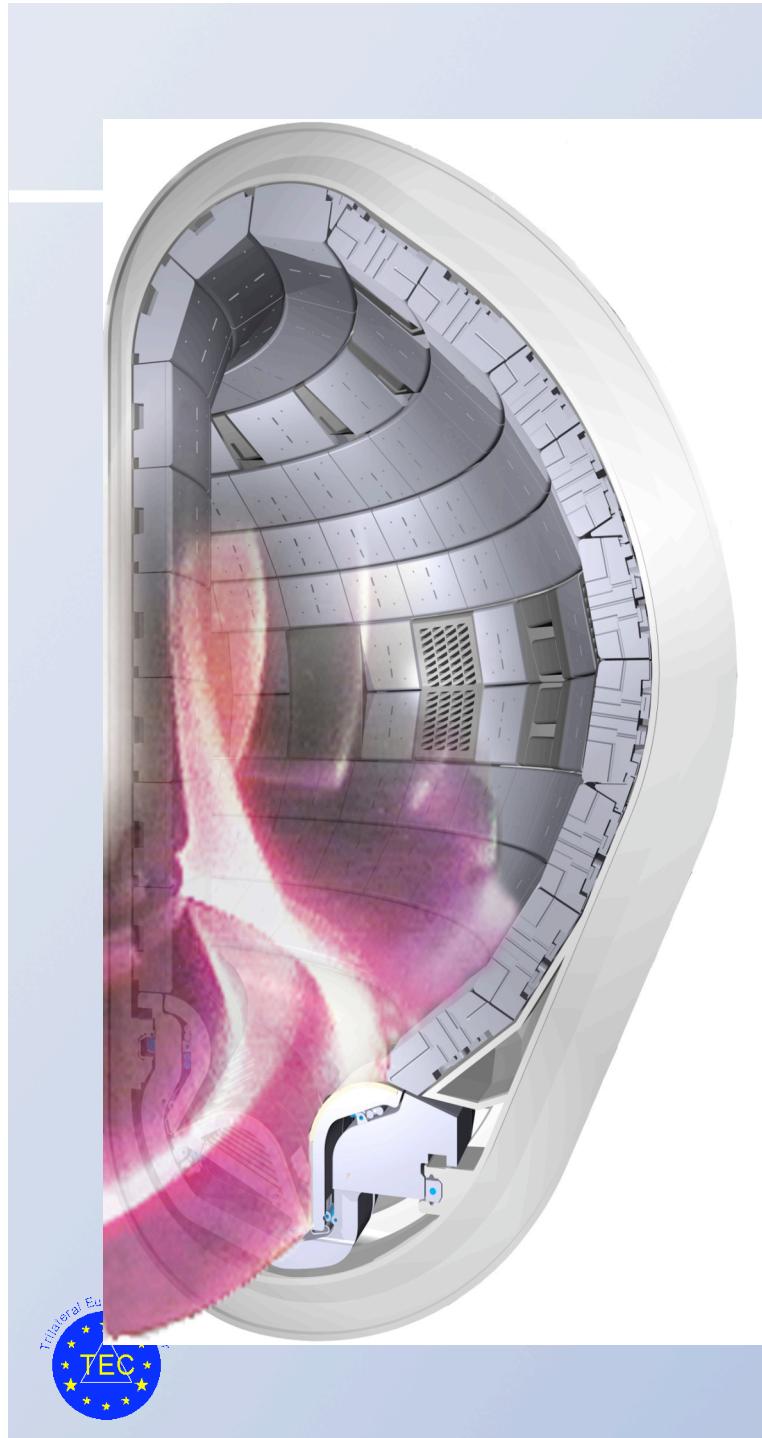
# Plasma-Wall Interaction

ITER

**Magnetic confinement** allows  
500 MW fusion power  
8 minutes burn time  
 $Q = 10$

**Plasma-Wall Interaction** required to  
exhaust 20% of fusion power  
remove impurities (Helium)





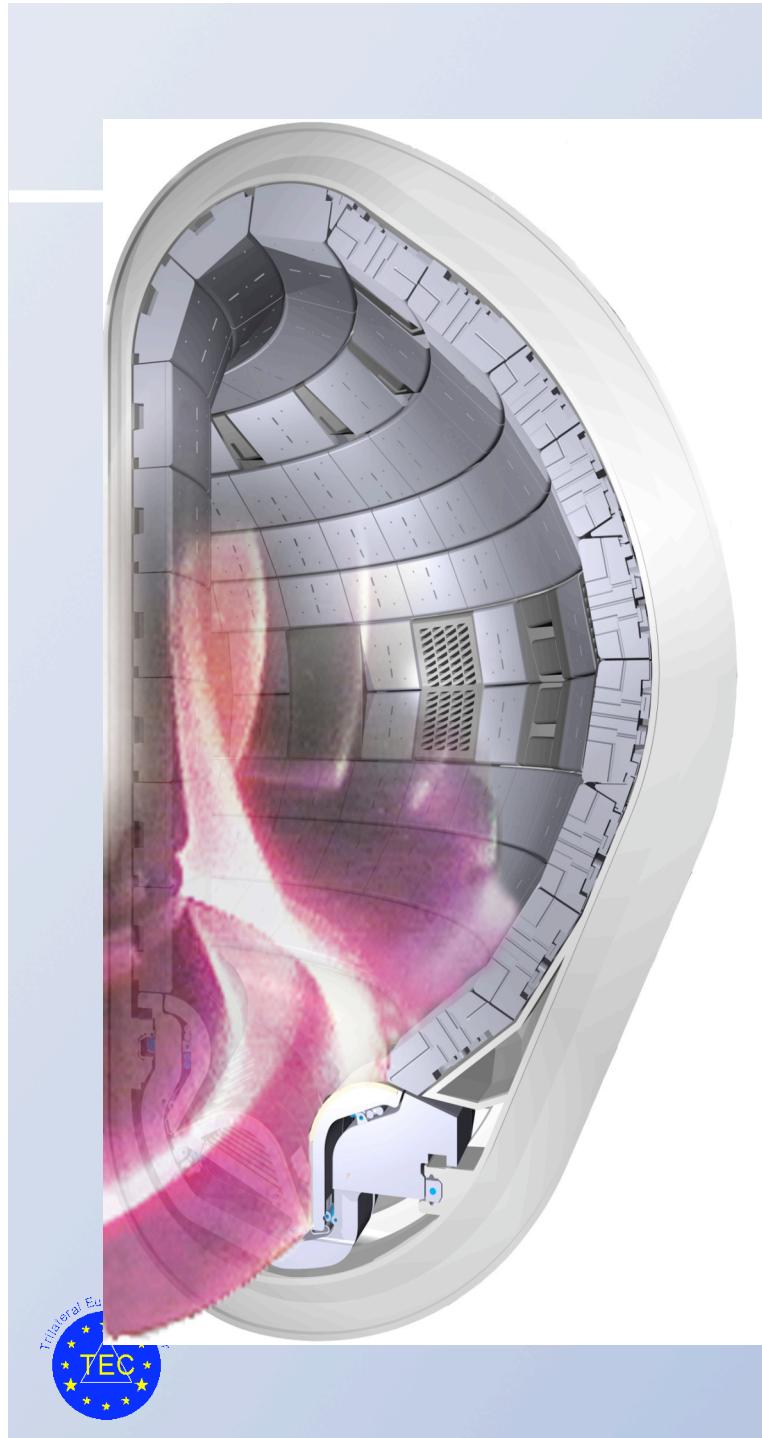
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# Plasma-Wall Interaction

## ITER

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500 MW fusion power  
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**Plasma-Wall Interaction** required to  
exhaust 20% of fusion power  
remove impurities (Helium)

**Wall Surface and Power Densities**  
**680 m<sup>2</sup>** main chamber: < **0.22 MW/m<sup>2</sup>**  
**8 m<sup>2</sup>** divertor peak load: < **10 MW/m<sup>2</sup>**

**$10^{24}$  D/T-atoms m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>**

Divertor design allows main goals of ITER



**Beryllium**

**Tungsten**

**Graphite**

# Plasma-Wall Interaction

## materials for plasma facing components

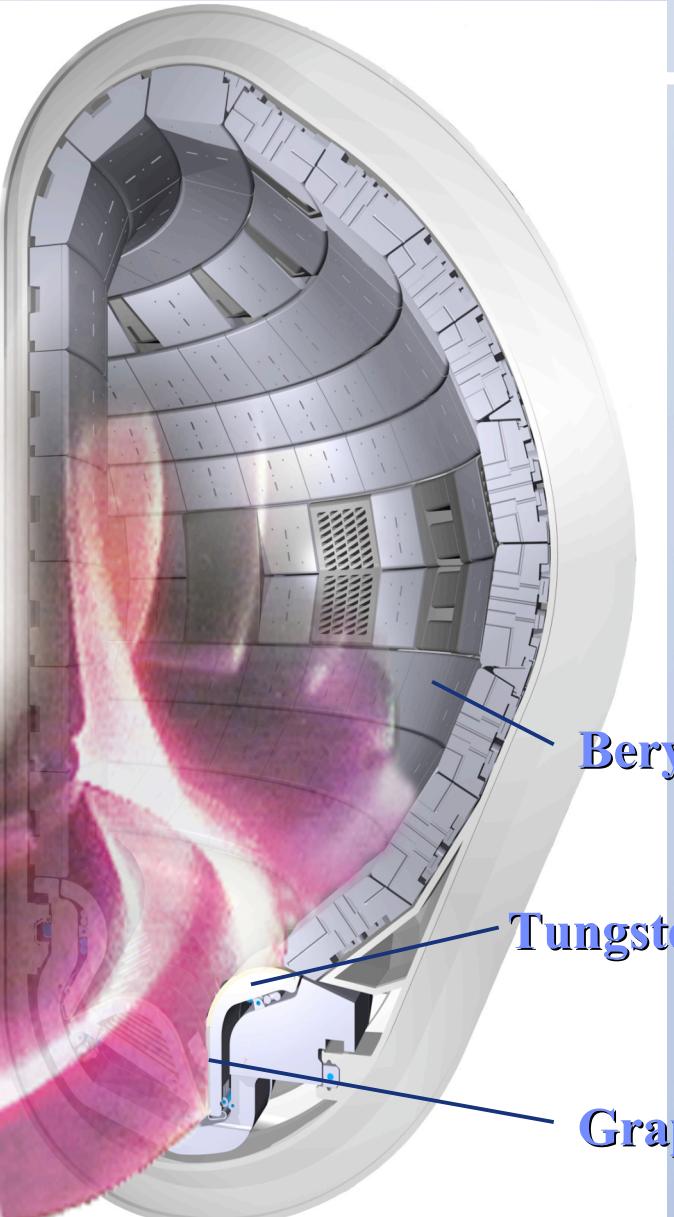
**Main criteria:**

- no radiation from centre (low-Z) .... **Be**
- tolerance with excess loads (graphite) ..... **C**
- low erosion and high melting point (high-Z) ..... **W**

Trilateral Eu  
TEC

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**Beryllium**

**Tungsten**

**Graphite**

# Plasma-Wall Interaction

## materials for plasma facing components

**Main criteria:**

- no radiation from centre (low-Z) .... **Be**
- tolerance with excess loads (graphite) **risks about availability**
- low erosion tritium-retention in high melting deposited carbon layers (high-Z)
- life time of divertor plates

risk minimisation by better understanding of PWI processes

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# Processes of Plasma-Wall Interaction

10 keV central plasma  
confinement region

B

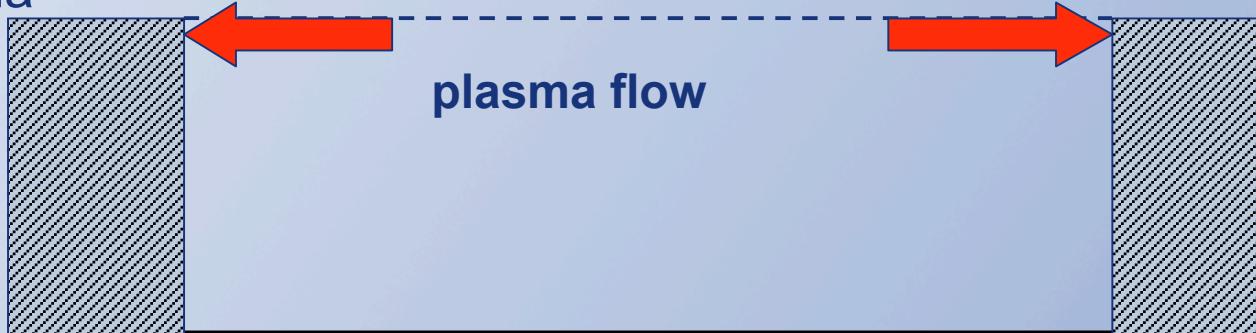
1 eV – 1 keV  
edge plasma

Scrape-off  
layer

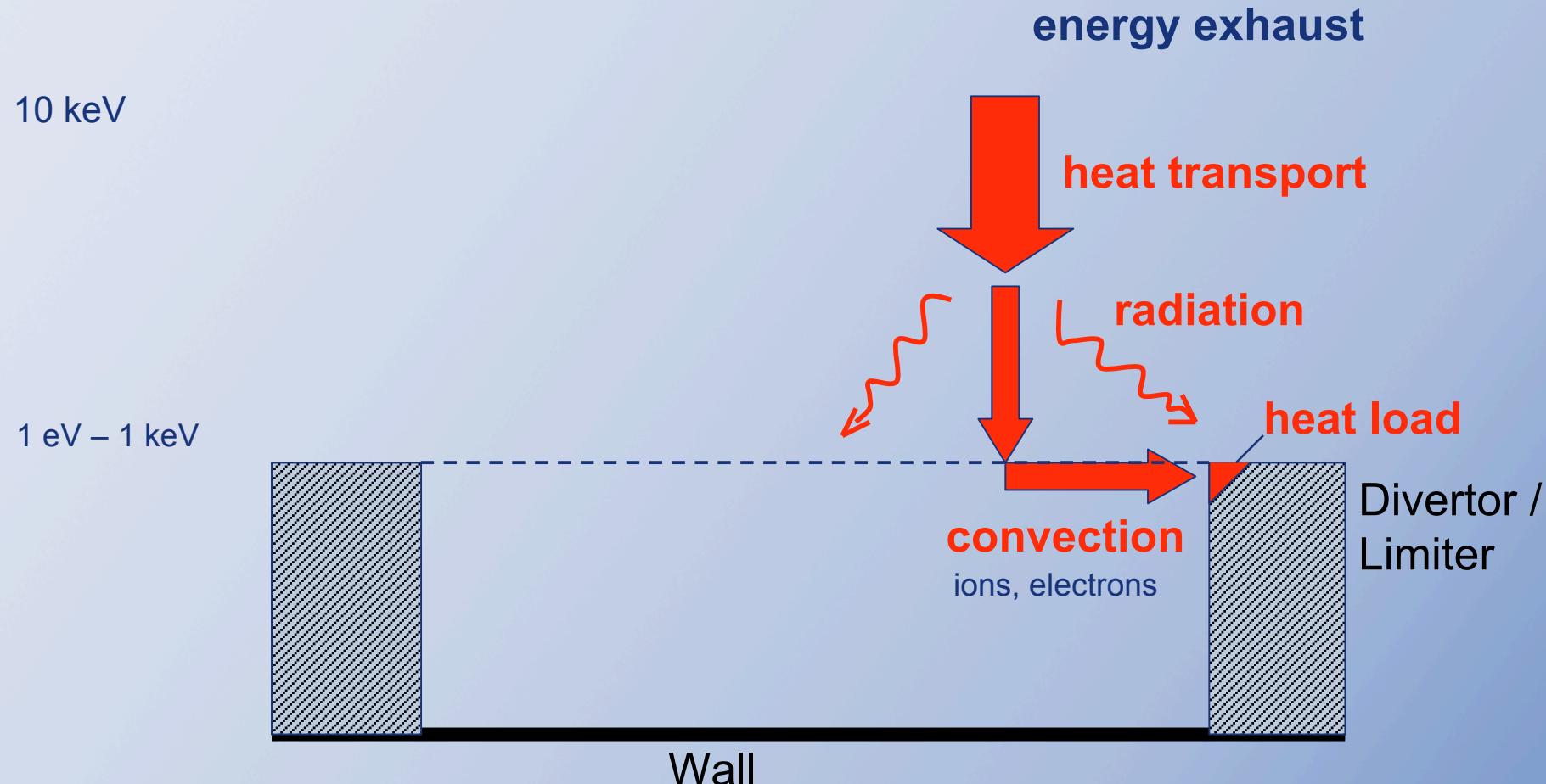
plasma flow

Divertor /  
Limiter  
(plasma sink)

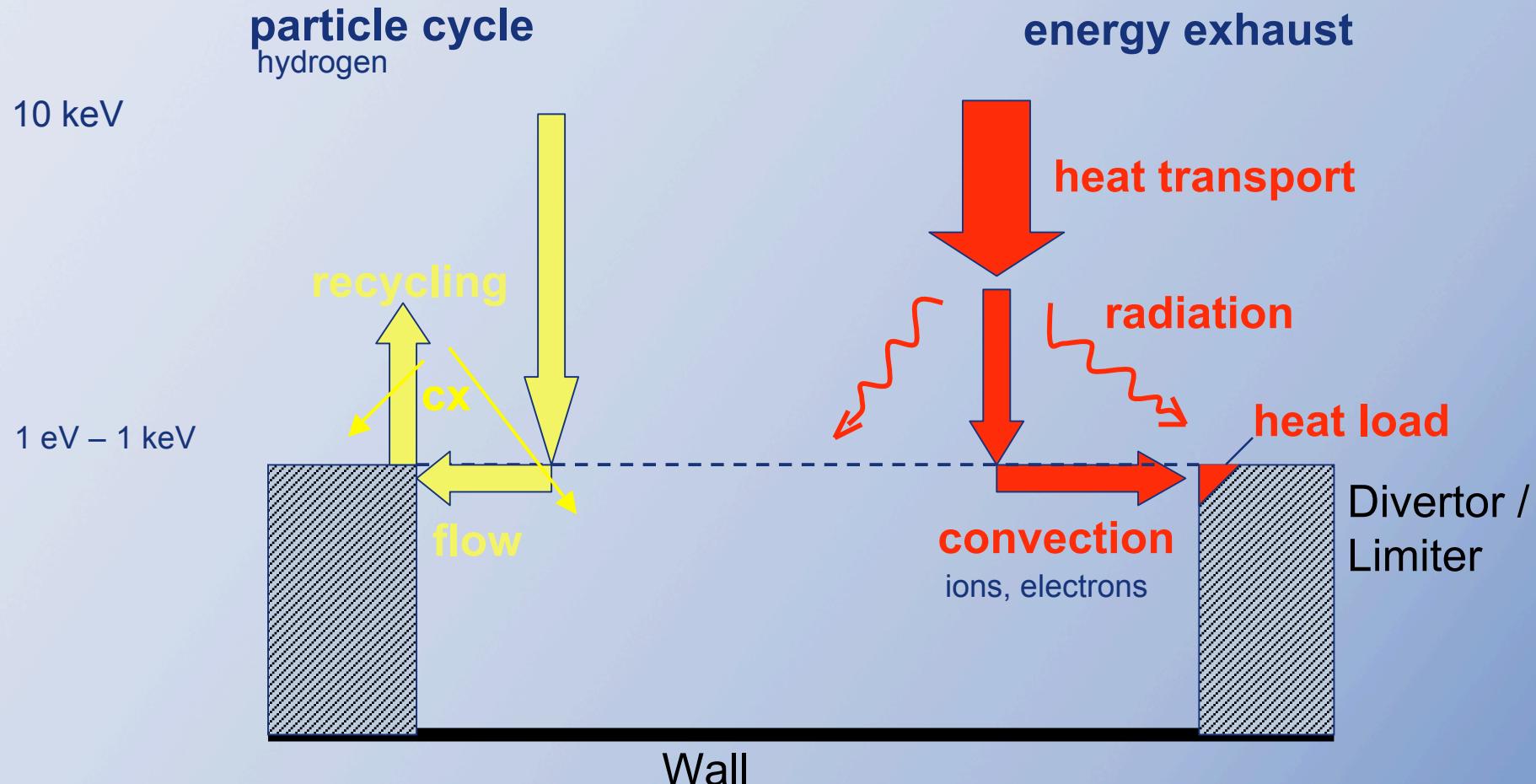
Wall



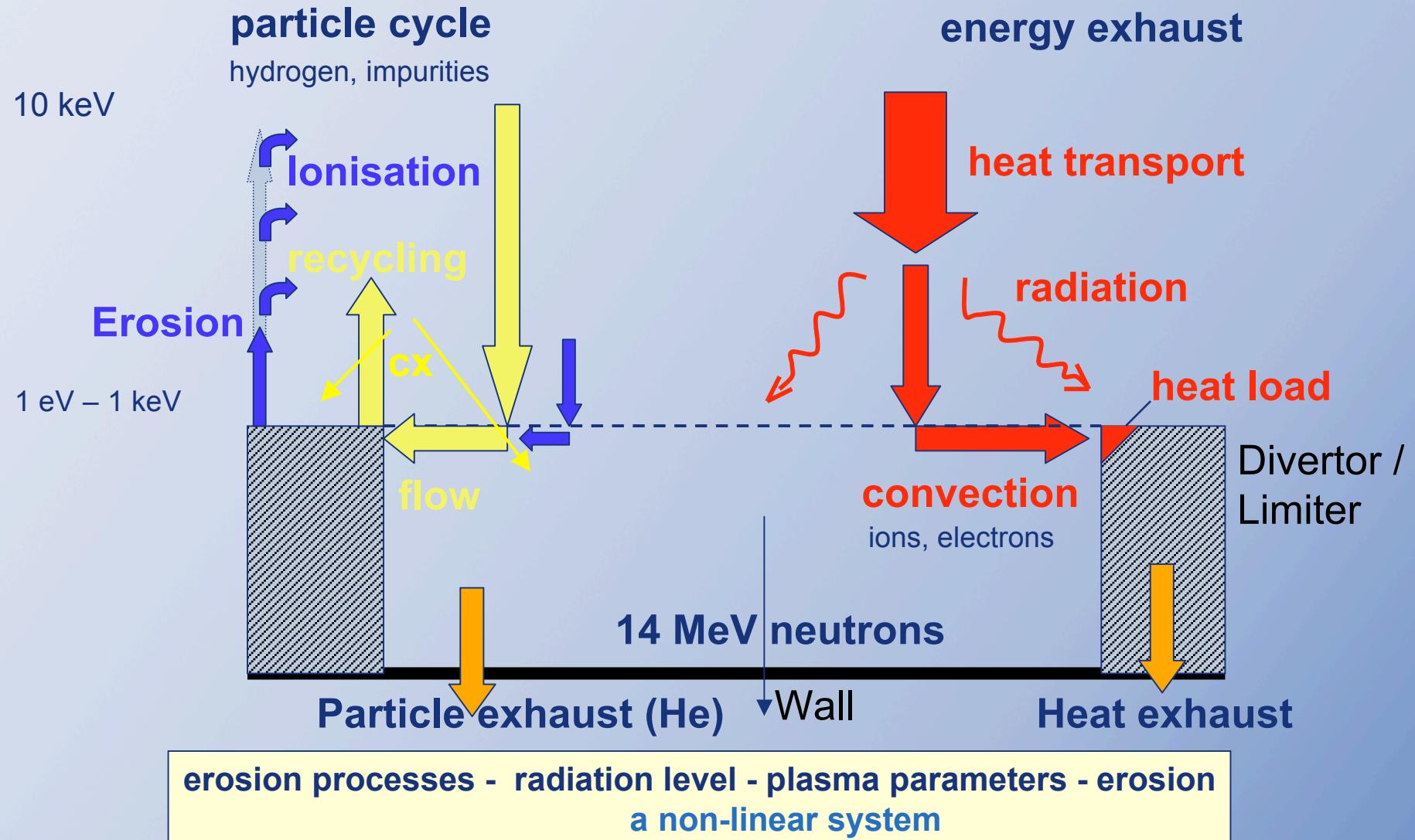
# Processes of Plasma-Wall Interaction



# Processes of Plasma-Wall Interaction



# Processes of Plasma-Wall Interaction



# **Plasma wall interaction tasks**

## **Plasma facing components (PFC)**

### **Material selection:**

- Dependence on heat load (melting, sublimation)
- Electro-mechanical properties and their temperature dependence
- Erosion properties (physical and chemical sputter yield)
- Deposition properties (co-deposition, mixed materials)
- Tritium removal
- Dependence on neutron radiation

## **materials research & engineering of PFCs**

### **Plasma edge:**

#### **Optimisation of plasma parameter**

- Radiation cooling
- Reduction of transient effects (ELM's, VDE's, disruption)
- Increase of interaction area (ergodisation)
- Influence on transport properties (turbulence, rotation)

## **Plasma edge physics**



# Plasma wall interaction tasks

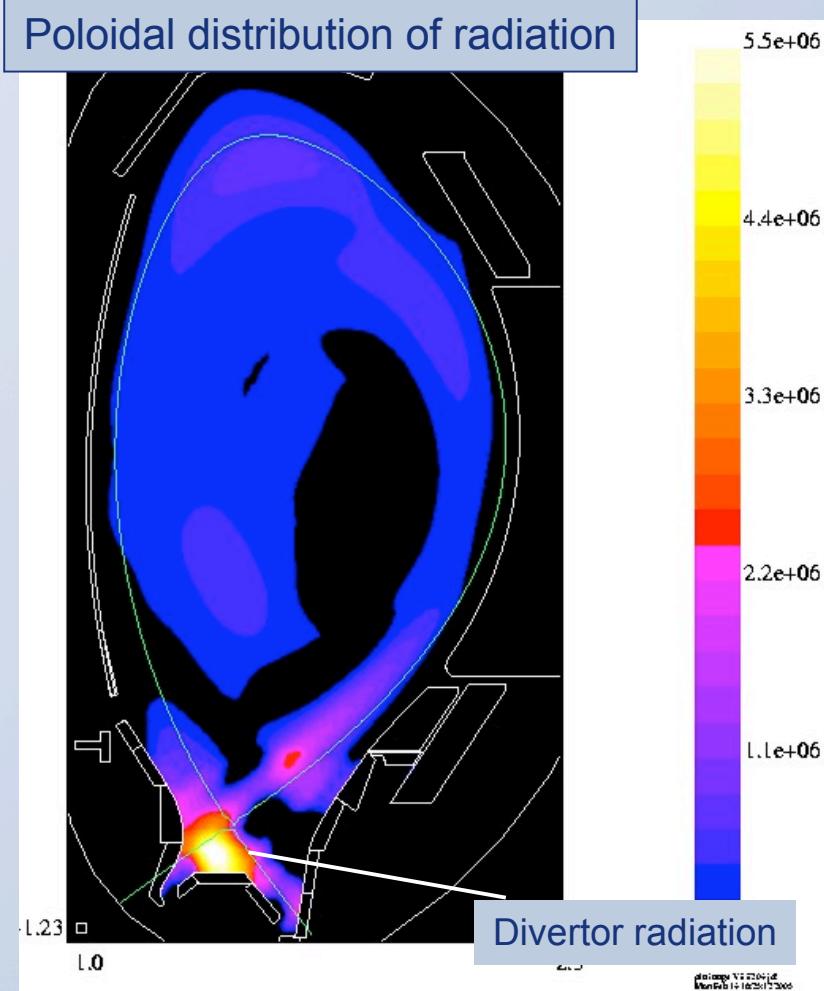
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## Diagnostic development:

- **Tritium retention monitor**  
(laser induced desorption,...)
- **erosion and deposition monitor**  
(quartz micro balance, Speckle interferometer, laser ablation, probes,...)
- **flux measurement**  
quantitative spectroscopy (conversion factors S/XB, D/XB)
- **plasma edge parameter** (passive measurement-line of sight)  
spectroscopy, line intensity ratio
- **plasma edge parameter** (active measurement-local)  
atomic beams-BES (collisional-radiative model), -CXRS (line broadening)  
Thomson scattering,..
- **magnetic field, electric field**  
Motional Stark effect, heavy ion beam



# Radiation Cooling inside a Divertor



high radiation level(>70%)  
from eroded carbon

self adjusting to variation of  
heating power or injection  
of argon

a self-protection mechanisms  
of the divertor

example from ASDEX-upgrade  
A. Kallenbach

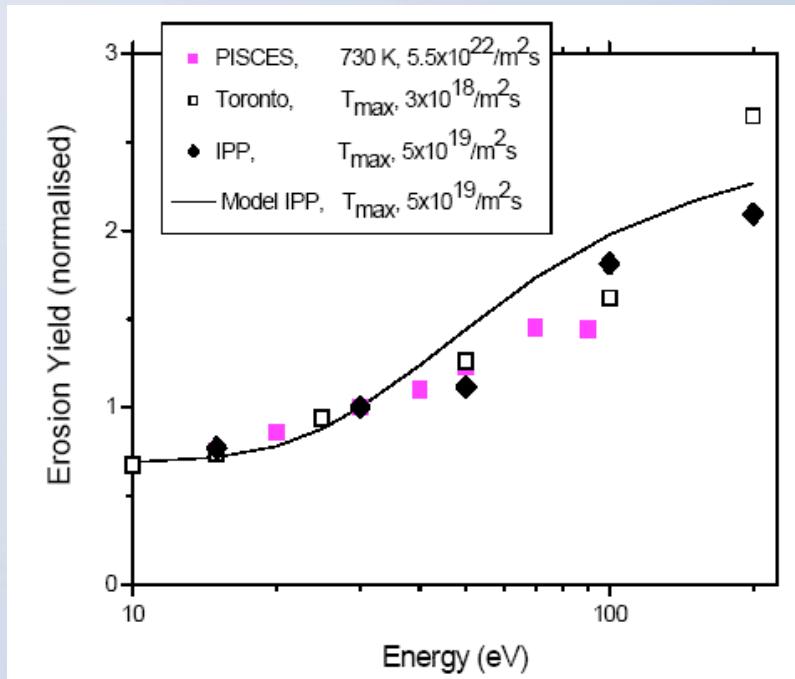


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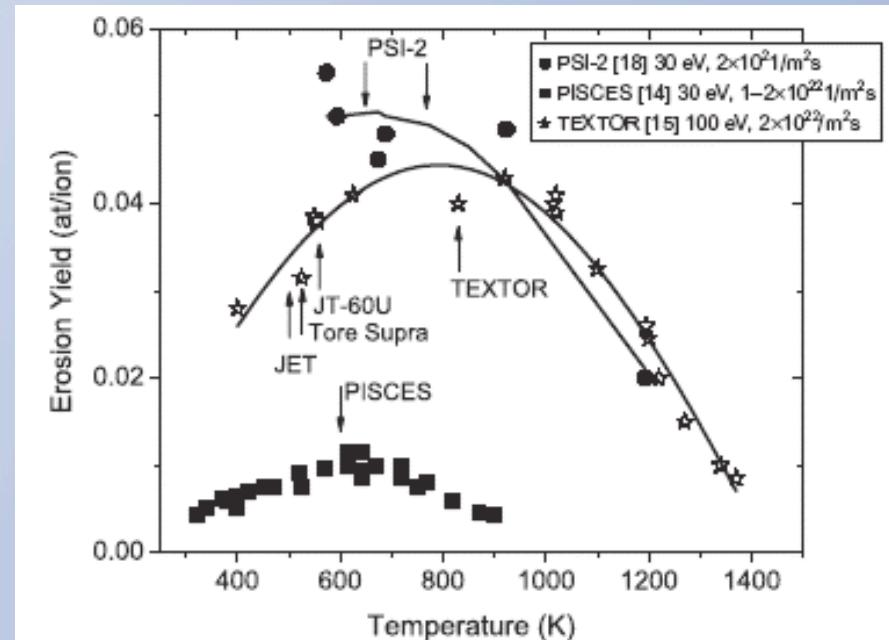


## Chemical erosion yield: $Y = \Gamma_{CxHy}/\Gamma_{ion}$

### Energy dependence of Y



### Surface temperature dependence of Y



Roth et al.  
NF 44 (2004) L21-L25

Ion induced desorption of hydrocarbon radicals

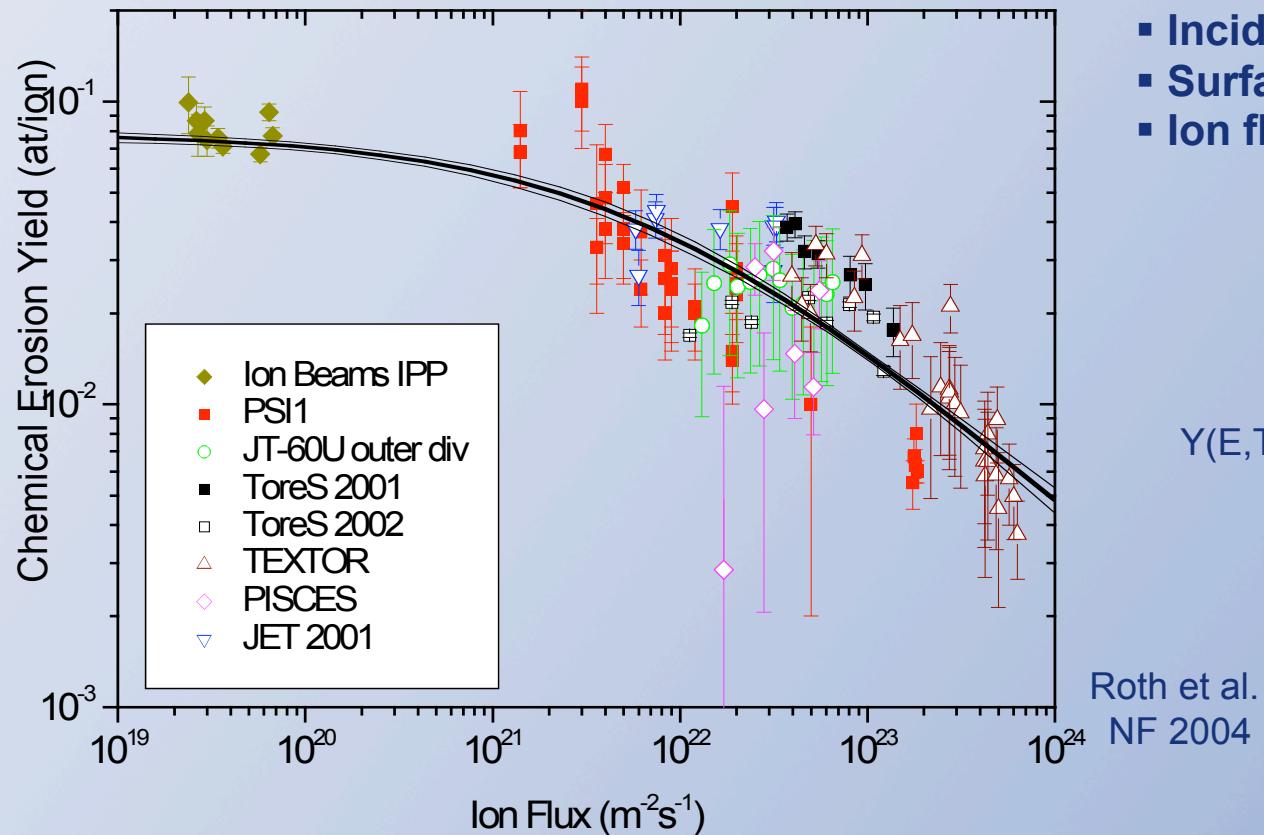
$$Y_{chem,low \phi} = Y_{surf} + Y_{therm}(1+DY_{Dam}) \quad \leftarrow \text{isotope dependence in D}$$

thermal erosion yield enhanced by radiation damage



## Chemical erosion yield: $Y = \Gamma_{CxHy} / \Gamma_{ion}$

### Flux dependence of Y



### Description of Y as function of

- Incident ion energy (E)
- Surface temperature (T)
- Ion flux ( $\phi$ )

$$Y(E, T, \phi) = \frac{Y_{low}(E, T)}{1 + \left[ \frac{\phi}{6 \cdot 10^{21}} \right]^{0.54}}$$

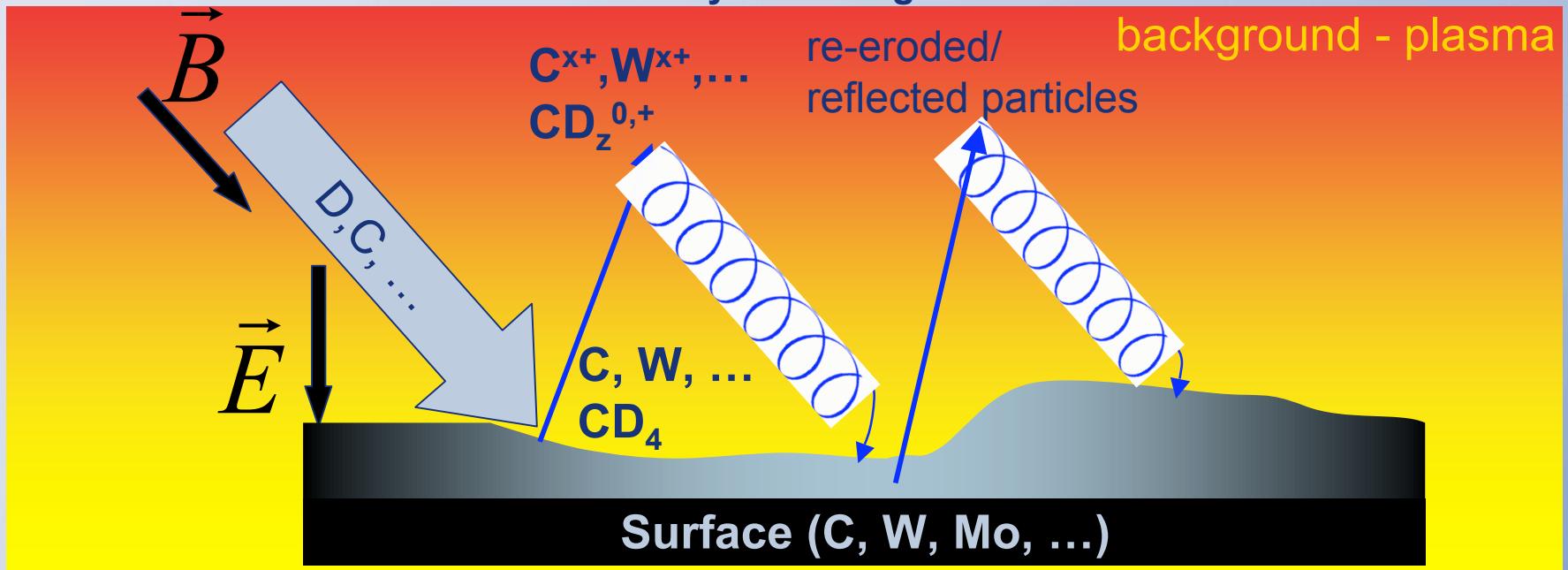
Roth et al.  
NF 2004

- In-situ calibration: mass/optical spectroscopy
- Temperature normalisation to  $T_{max}$
- Ion energy normalisation to 30 eV



# Erosion, Impurity Transport and Deposition

Lifetime Predictions by Modelling: Monte Carlo Code ERO



plasma-wall interaction:

- physical sputtering / reflection
- chemical erosion ( $CD_4$ )
- deposition from background plasma
- re-deposition of eroded species

local particle transport:

- ionisation, dissoziation
- friction (Fokker-Planck), thermal force
- Lorentz force
- diffusion

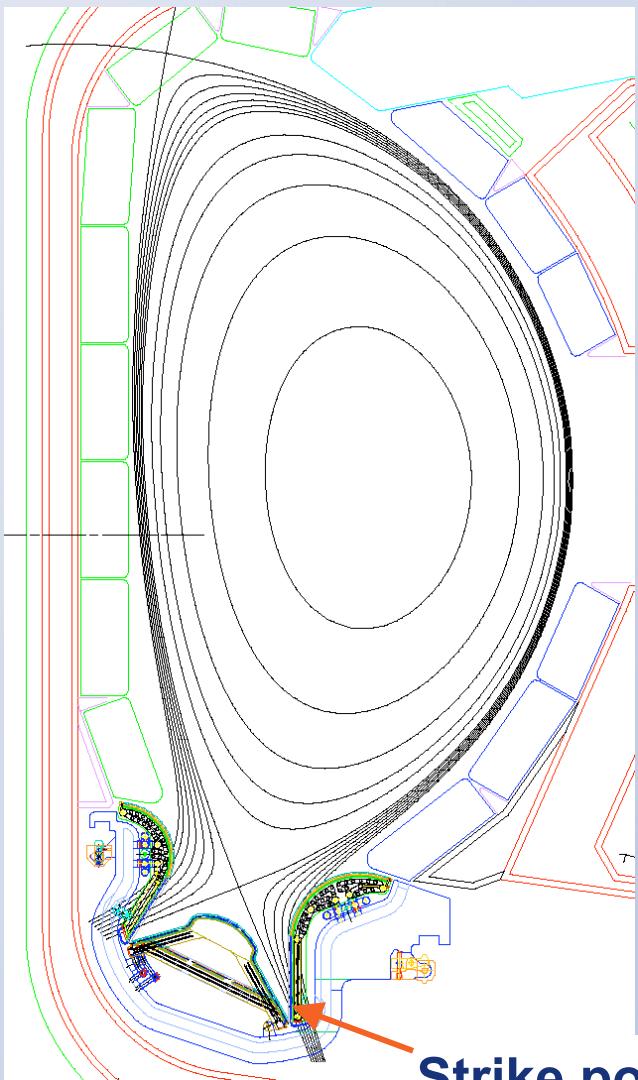


A. Kirschner, S. Droste, D. Borodin

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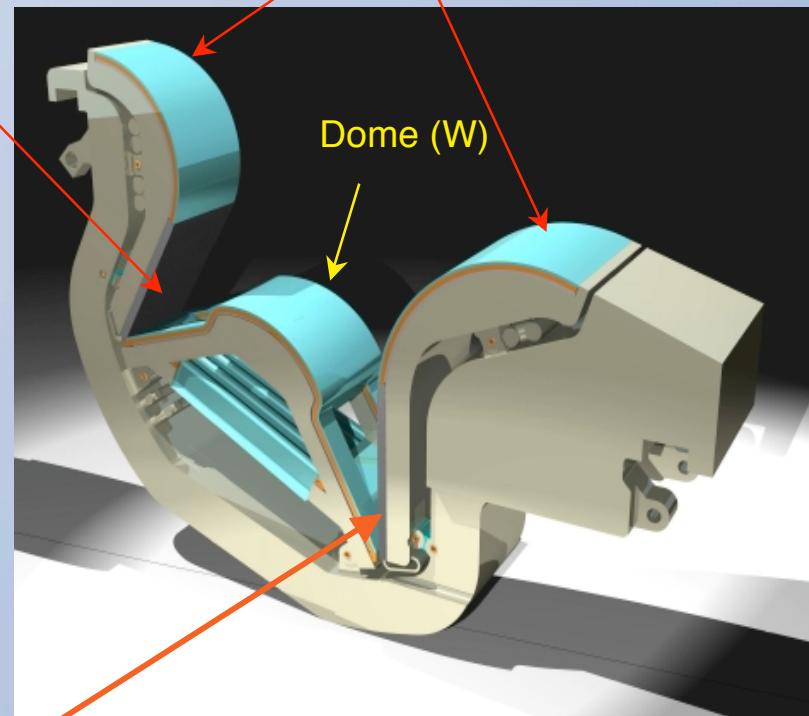


# ITER Divertor Design



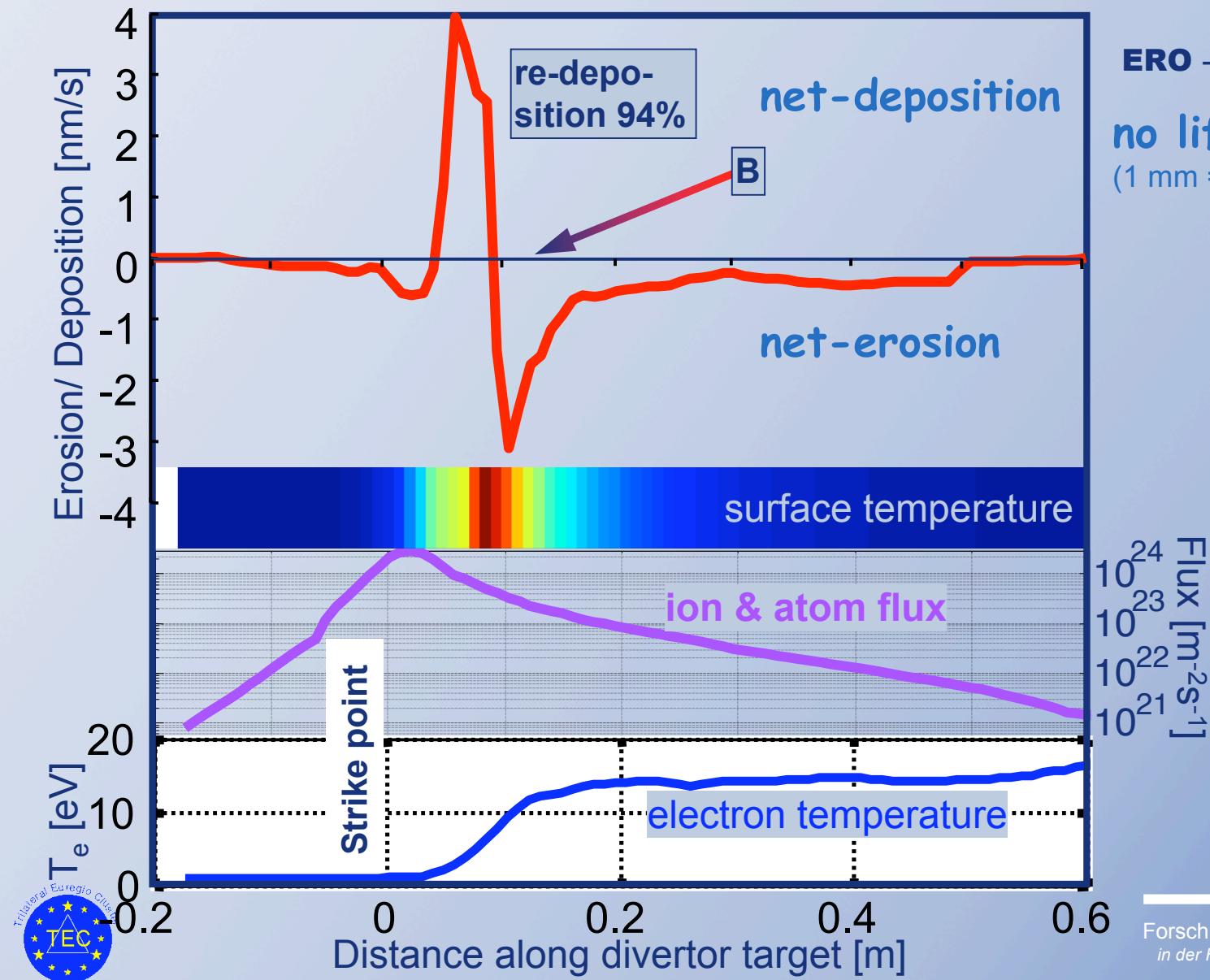
Vertical target (C)

Vertical target (W)

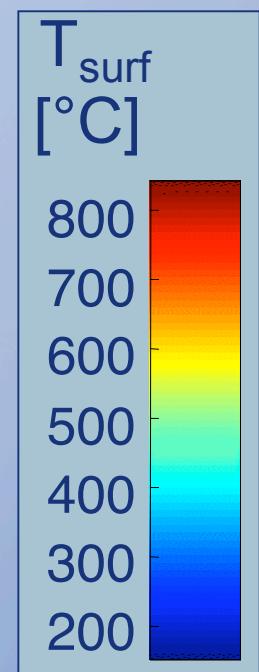


Strike point

# Erosion of ITER Graphite Target Plates



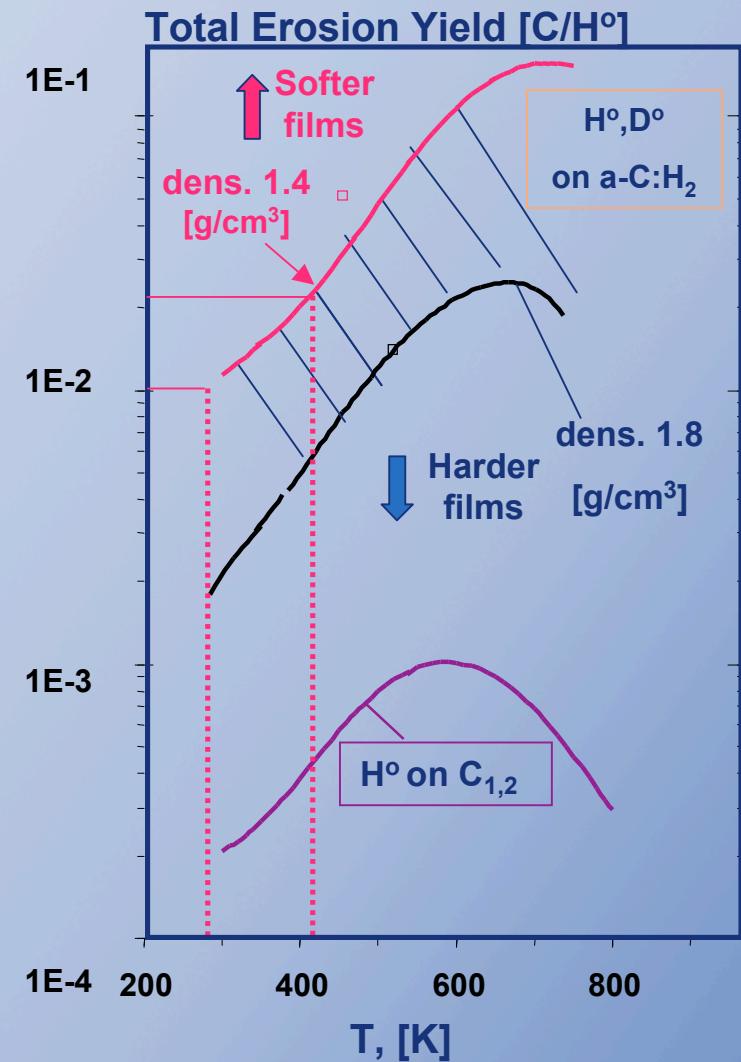
ERO – Modelling for ITER  
no lifetime problem  
(1 mm = 500 ITER discharges)



# Different erosion yields of “soft” and “hard” carbon layers

Example: erosion of graphite and a-C:H films by thermal H<sub>0</sub> and D<sub>0</sub> atoms

- chemical erosion shows strong temperature dependence
- soft layers form at low plasma temperature
- enhanced erosion of soft layers



1. J.W. Davis et al, JNM 155-157(1988), 234;
2. E. Vietzke et al. Fus. Technol. 15 (1989), 108.



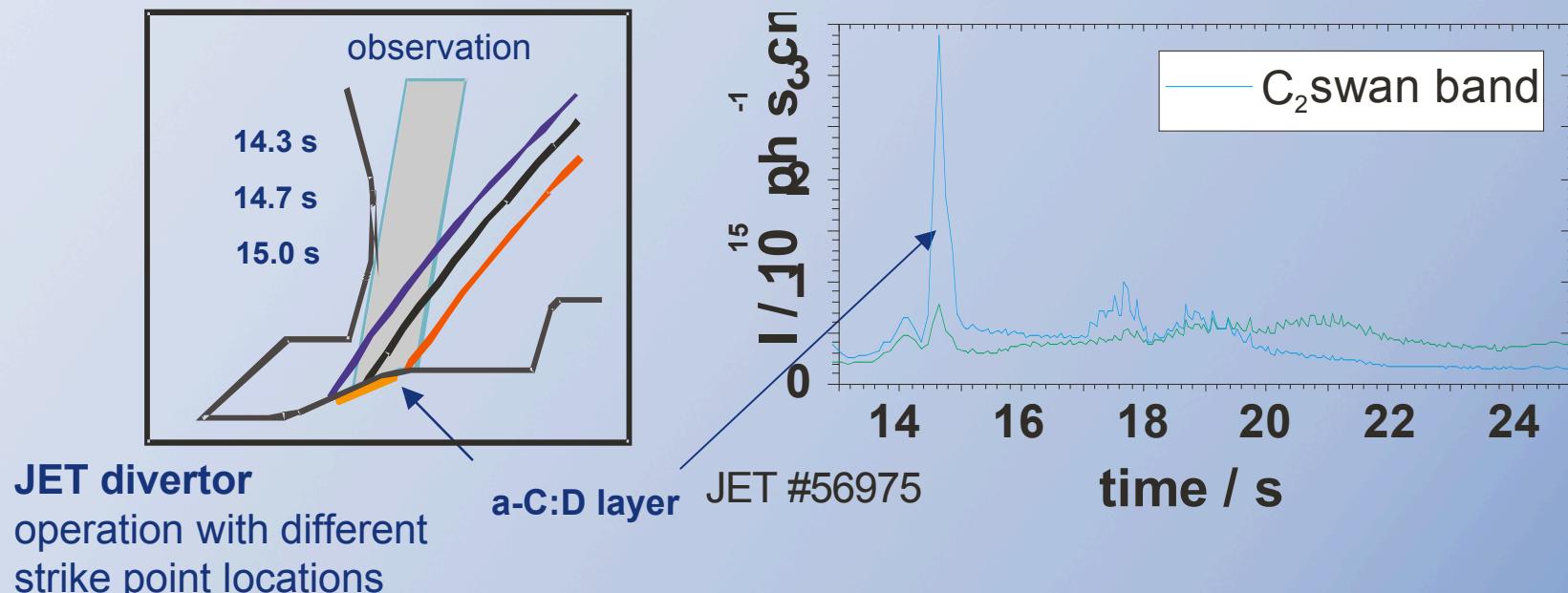
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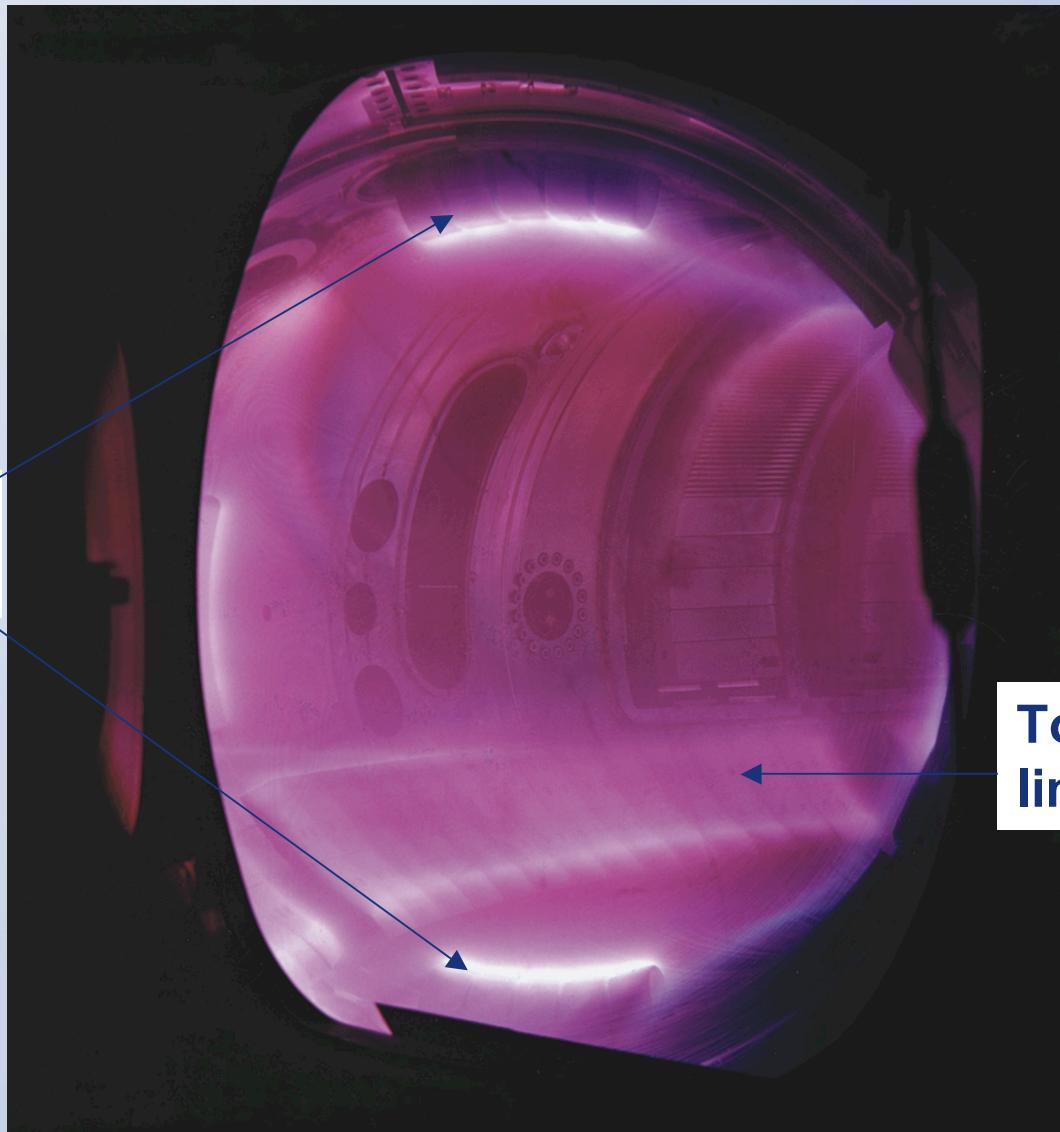
# Hydrocarbon Spectroscopy in JET

- removal of soft hydrocarbon layer identified by  $\text{C}_2$  light emission and deposition monitor
- local removal within one discharge with fixed strike-point



Brezinsek et al.  
JNM 2005

# TEXTOR Plasma



**Poloidal  
limiter**

**Toroidal belt  
limiter**

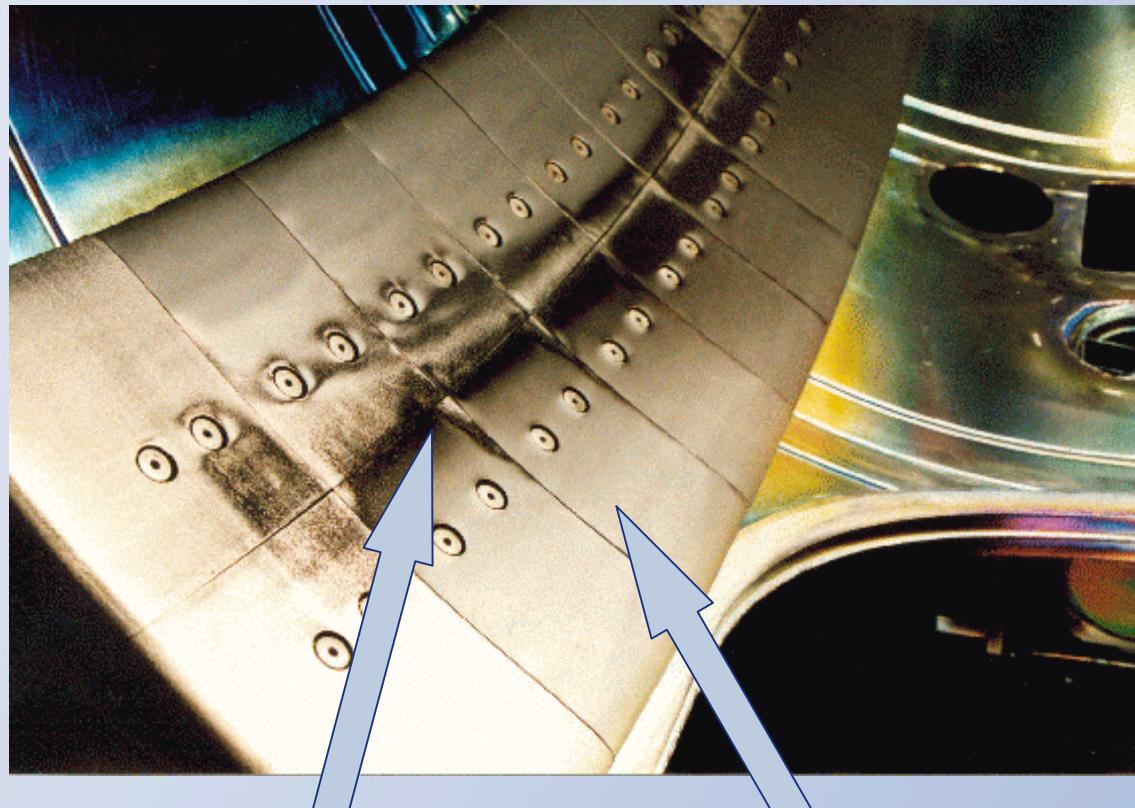


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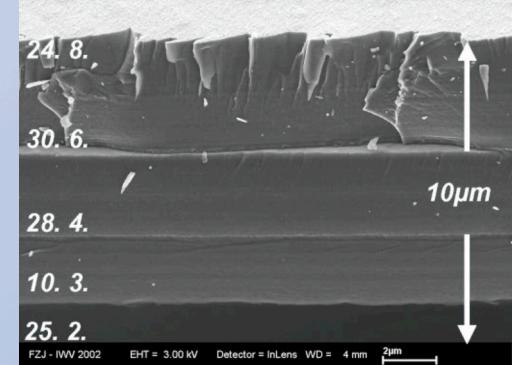
# Tritium Retention in Carbon Layers

TEXTOR



deposition zone

erosion zone



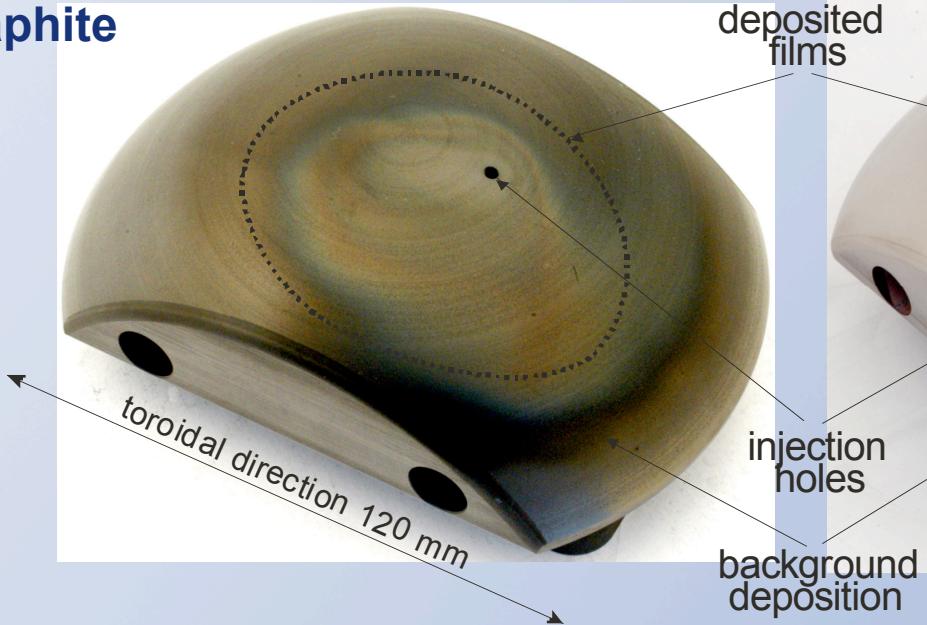
tritium retention by co-deposition;  
has to be limited (safety restrictions)  
worst case: reduced availability for ITER

soft and hard layers  
soft amorphous layers at  $E_i < 30\text{eV}$   
concentration of hydrogen up to 100%

# Local Sticking of Carbon on Tungsten and Graphite

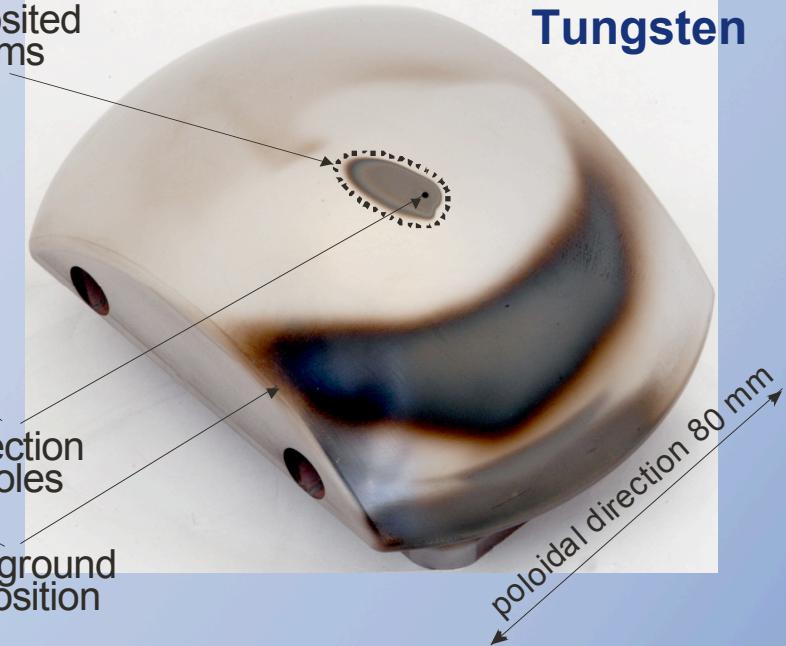
$^{13}\text{CH}_4$  injection through limiters

Graphite



$5.5 \cdot 10^{20}$   $^{13}\text{CH}_4$  puffed  
 $2.0 \cdot 10^{19}$   $^{13}\text{C}$  deposited  
deposition efficiency 4%

TEXTOR  
Tungsten



$5.7 \cdot 10^{20}$   $^{13}\text{CH}_4$  puffed  
 $1.5 \cdot 10^{18}$   $^{13}\text{C}$  deposited  
deposition efficiency 0.3%

sticking efficiency of  $\text{CH}_x$  is negligible



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A. Kreter et al., Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 48 (2006) 1401

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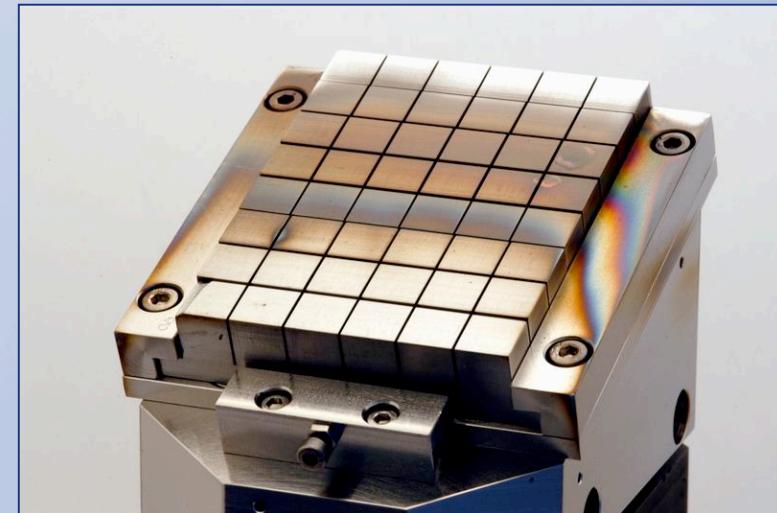
# Material transport in the plasma-shadowed areas

castellation to ensure thermo-mechanical durability of ITER armour  
tritium can be accumulated in gaps



vertical target of ITER divertor (EU prototype)

castellated limiters with ITER-like geometry exposed to TEXTOR plasma



A. Litnovsky et al, J. Nucl. Mater. 337-339 (2005), 917.

New challenges:  
Enhanced deposition in the shadowed areas  
Difficulties to remove the deposits  
Complicated particle transport  
Materials mixing between gaps

## Mixed materials

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ITER materials:

Beryllium

Tungsten

Carbon CFC

Erosion and deposition properties of mixed materials might be changed significantly

In presence of carbon CFC divertor tiles the problem of tritium retention remains

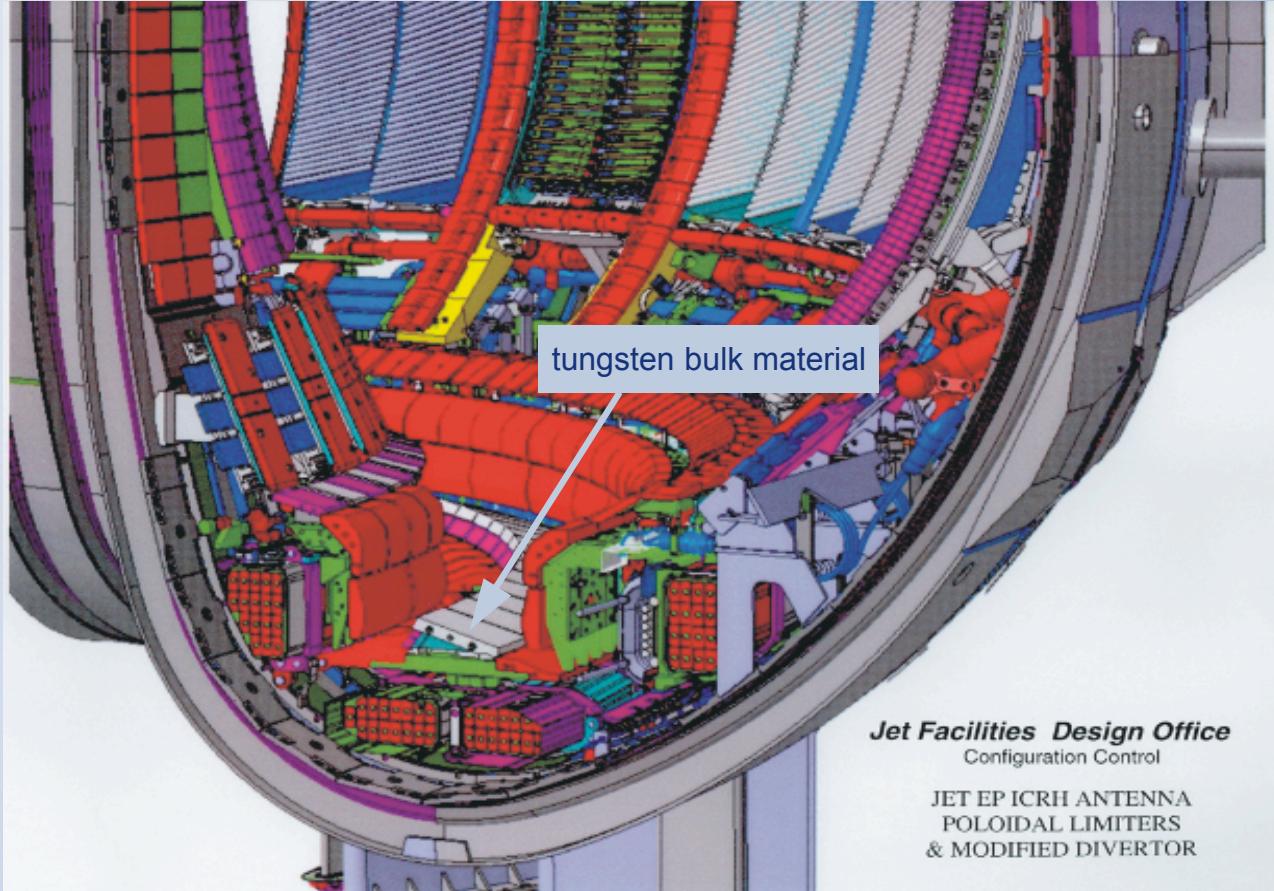
Replacement of carbon divertor tiles by tungsten tiles???

Full tungsten PFC in AUG (R. Neu)

Beryllium tungsten in JET (2010)



## ITER-like wall in JET



**Jet Facilities Design Office**

Configuration Control

JET EP ICRH ANTENNA  
POLOIDAL LIMITERS  
& MODIFIED DIVERTOR

*Ph.Mertens, 2005*

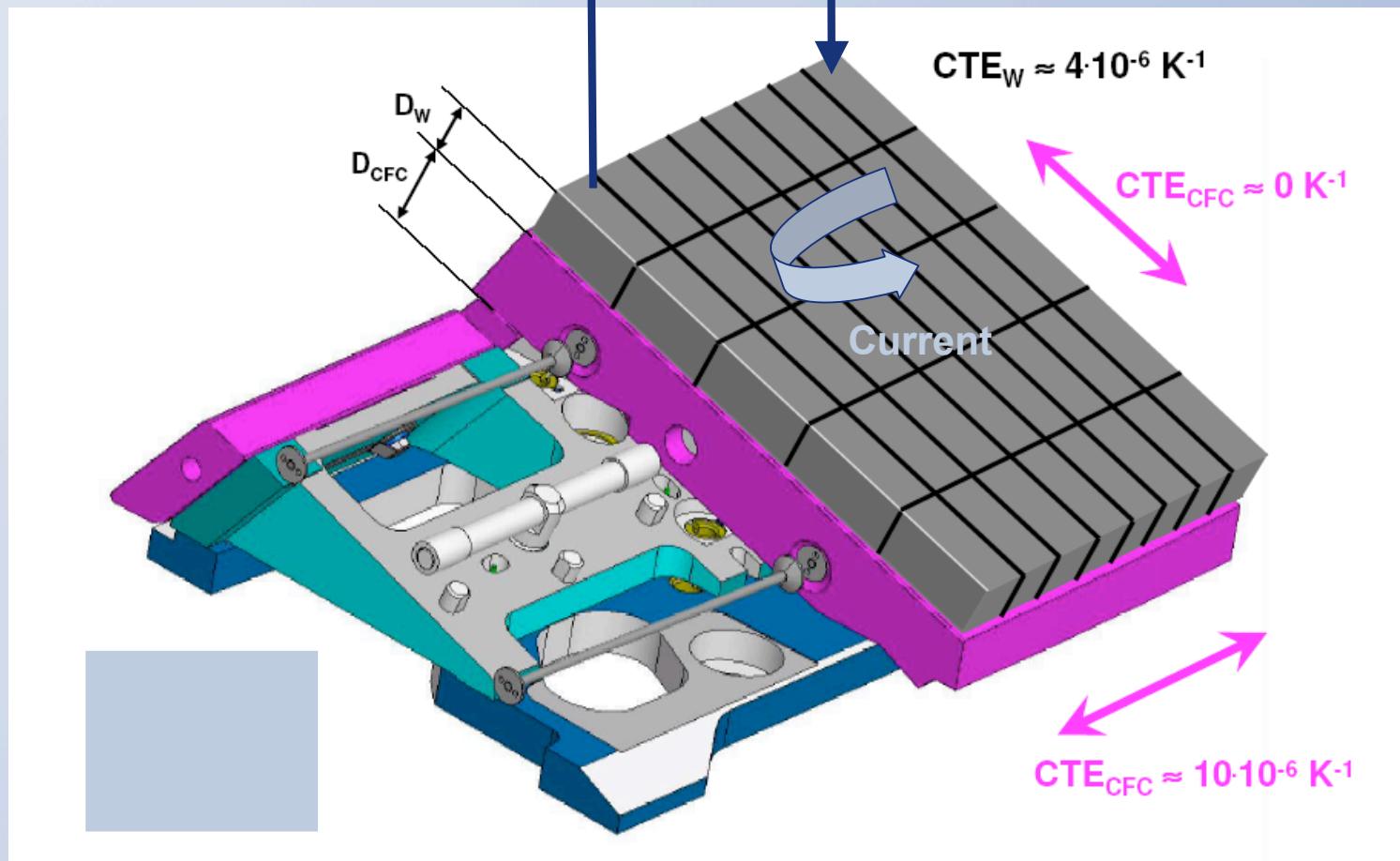
- conceptual design of various prototypes
- thermo-mechanical and electromagnetic FEM calculations
- definition of tests and manufacturing procedures



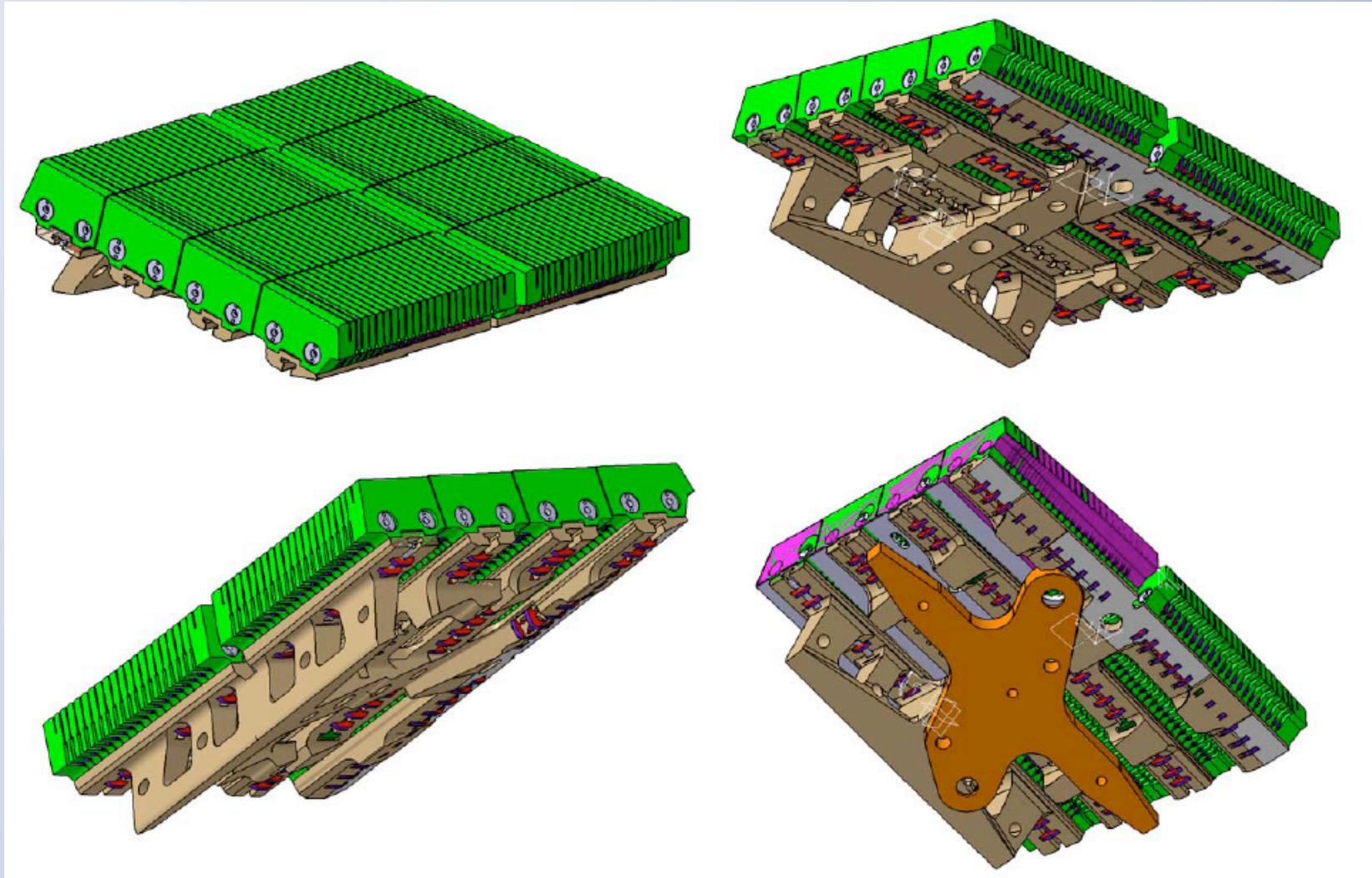
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## Jet tungsten divertor tile



## JET tungsten divertor tile



# Mirrors for ITER diagnostics

*Mirror surfaces will be modified by erosion, deposition and impurity implantation*

*Impact on all optical diagnostics*

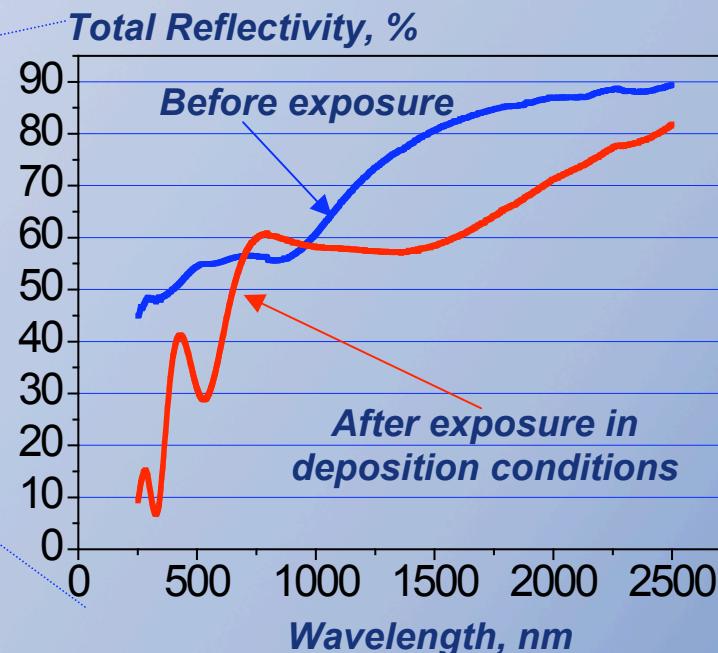
*Performance of mirrors under long term plasma operation has to be studied*

## *Mirror tests in present-day machines*



*molybdenum mirror system  
Carbon deposition can be clearly seen.*

P. Wienhold et al, J. Nucl. Mater. 337-339 (2005), 1116.  
A. Litnovsky et al, Proc. of 32nd EPS, ECA Vol. 29C, P-4.099 (2005)

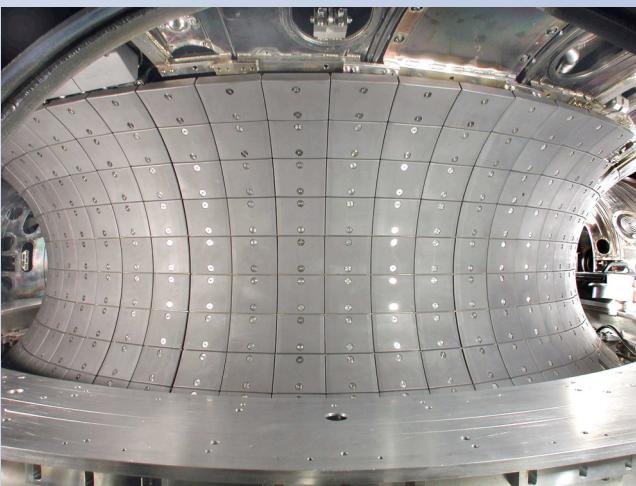


**TEXTOR**

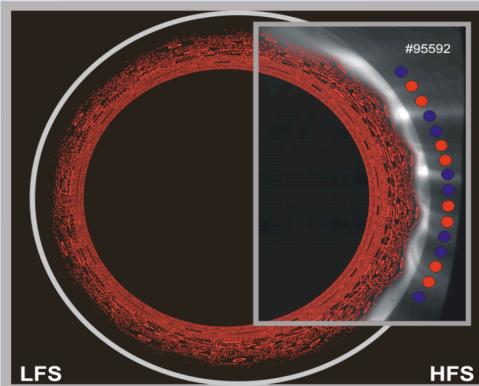
# Dynamic Ergodic Divertor (DED) in TEXTOR



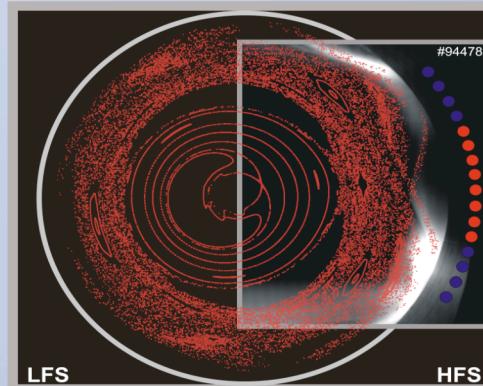
operational since 2003



resonant helical perturbation  
in different modes 3/1,  
6/2, 12/4  
max current 15 kA, DC  
and AC at max 10 kHz  
rotation frequency



**12/4 (6/2) configuration  
helical divertor  
stochastic plasma boundary**



## 3/1 configuration MHD studies (tearing mode stabilization)

**Plasma heating**  
**4 MW NBI (balanced injection)**  
**4 MW ICRH**  
**1 MW ECRH**  
**comprehensive edge and core diagnostics**



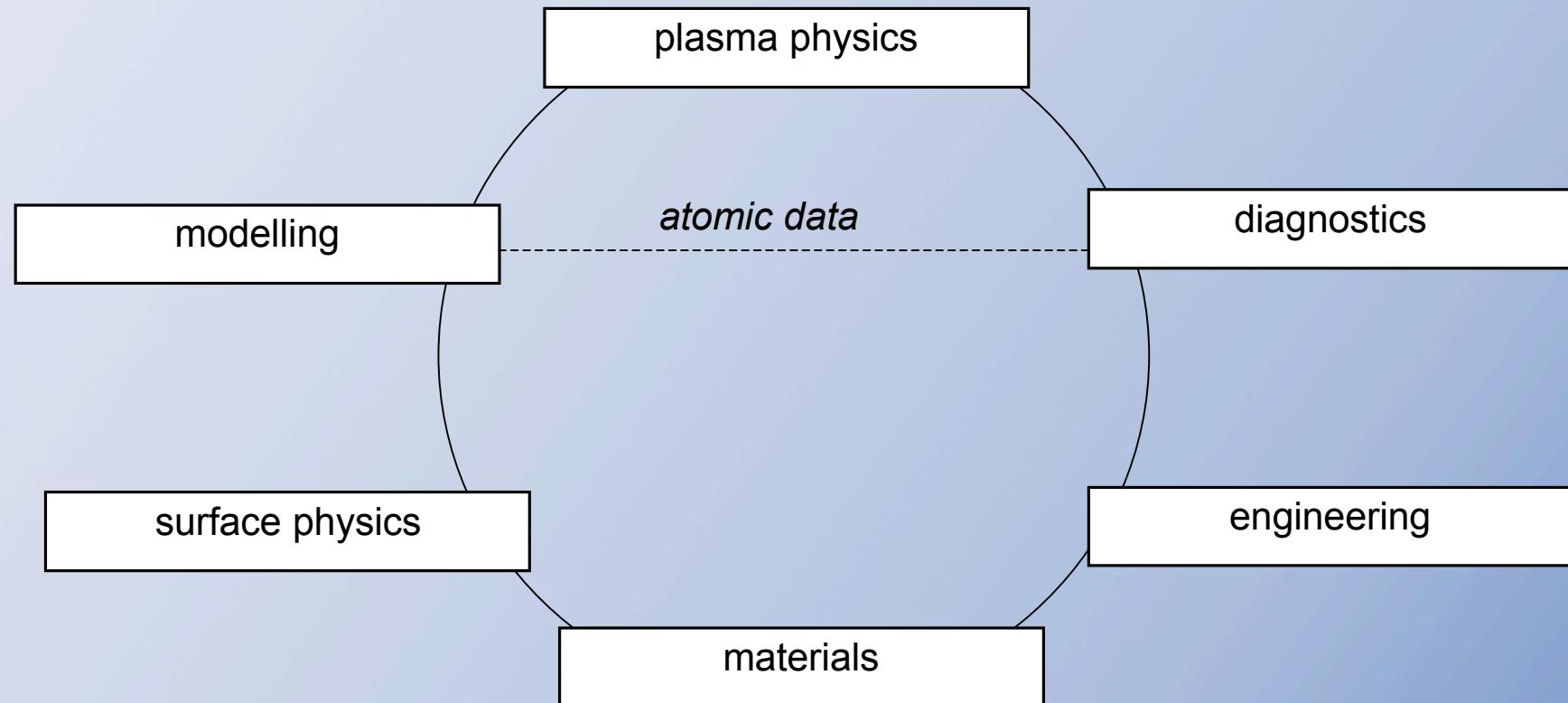
## PWI Research Issues and Data Needs for Modelling

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- reflection/sticking coefficients in particular at low energies
- behaviour of mixed material systems, in particular with beryllium
- erosion properties of deposited films
- tritium retention and release mechanisms / methods
- synergy effects with erosion processes
- migration of materials in complex geometries (castellated structures)
- improved diagnostics (spectroscopy, surface diagnostics)
- development of mirror materials for optical diagnostics

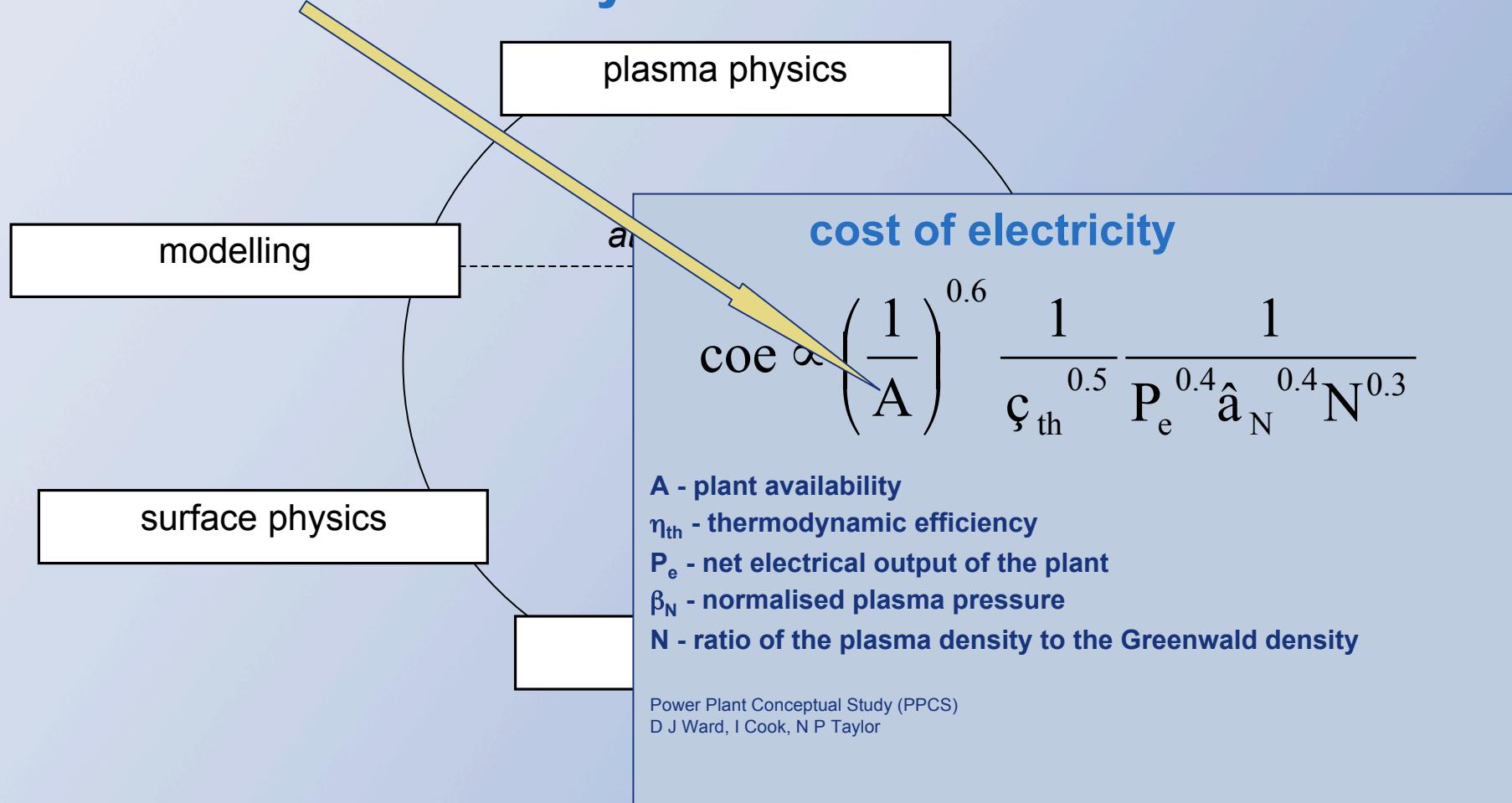


# Plasma-Wall Interaction – an interdisciplinary research field



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PWI – a key field on the road to economic fusion





Thank you!