



***Status of preparations for a polarized-fuel
Demonstration experiment in the DIII-D Tokamak***

Andrew Sandorfi

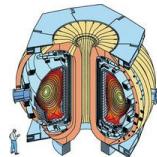
Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, Newport News VA

(for the *Spin-Polarized Fusion (SPF)* collaboration)

The road to fusion through magnetic confinement - preliminaries

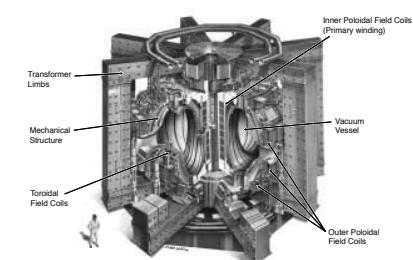
- intended fuel: $D + t \rightarrow \alpha + n$
- about 180 research tokamaks have been built;
there are currently about 30 in operation
- ↔ mostly studying $D+D$ reactions
- quantum leap towards fusion power:
Int. **T**hermonuclear **E**xperimental **R**eactor

DIII-D
(San Diego / USA)



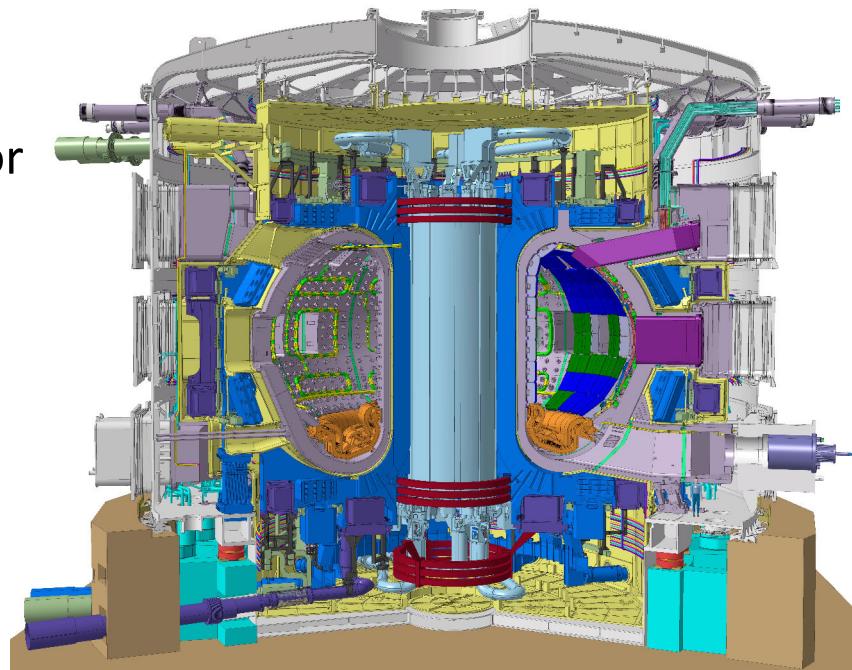
best instrumented
-most diagnostics

JET
(Oxfordshire / UK)



only machine that
can run with tritium

ITER
(Cadarache / France)



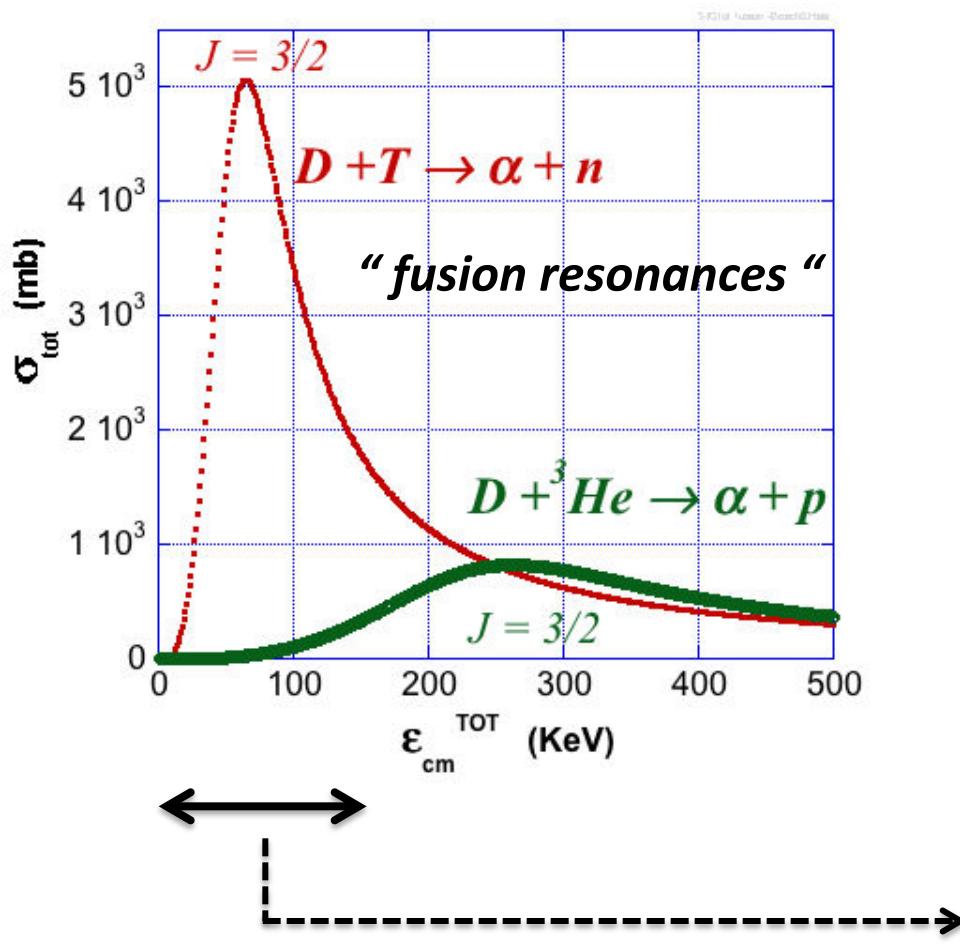
½ GW reactor
- under construction

The road to fusion through magnetic confinement

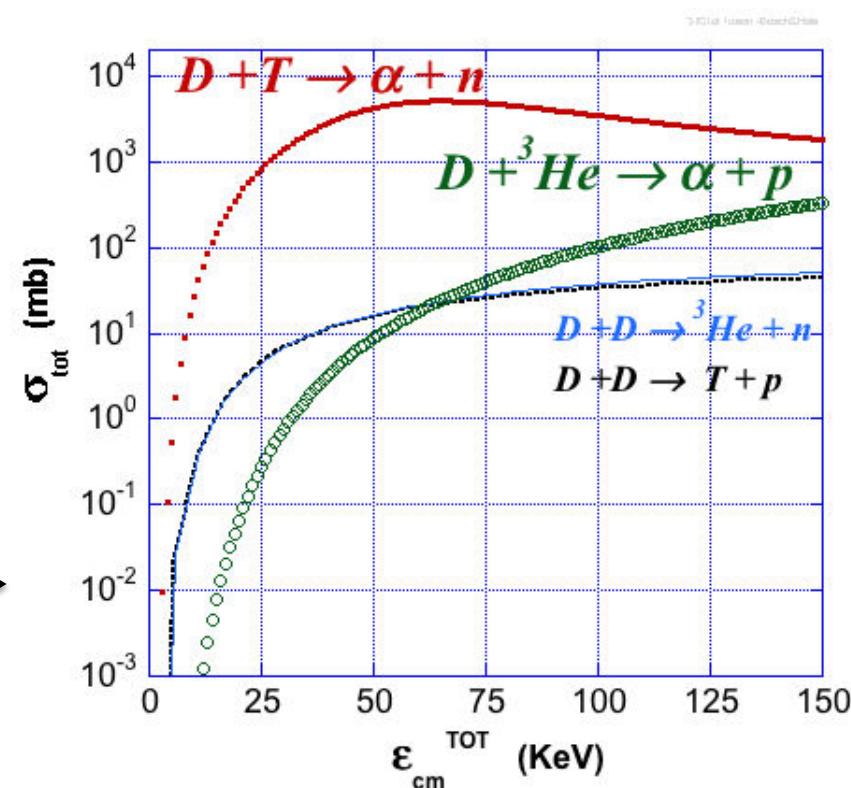
| | V(plasma) | B _c (tesla) | P(MW) | Q = P(fus)/P(in) | coils |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| DIII-D | 20 m ³ | 2.1 | — | <<1 | normal |
| JET | 90 m ³ | 3.8 | 16 | ~ $\frac{2}{3}$ | normal |
| ITER | 700 m ³ | 5.3 | 500 | > 10 | superconducting |

- superconducting coils are needed to reach high field over a large volume
 \Leftrightarrow *concerns over potential field degradation from neutron flux*
- ITER is to be a stepping-stone, requiring at least one more iteration to reach a viable fusion power plant
- Plant costs $\sim V(\text{plasma}) \times (B_c)^2$ \Leftrightarrow eg. 20 – 40 B\$ for ITER

Reactions through the low energy tails of fusion resonances (in the Sun or in a tokamak)



- Sun's core peaks at 1.3 keV
- ITER plasma will peak at ~ 18 keV



The potential of SPIN

- ***fusion fuels:*** $D + T \Rightarrow \alpha + n$; (and $D + {}^3He \Rightarrow \alpha + p$)
 - ↔ dominated by $J=3/2$ resonance just above reaction threshold
 - ↔ ion temperatures $< 10s$ of KeV $\Rightarrow s\text{-waves dominate}$
 - ↔ D ($s=1$) and T ($s=\frac{1}{2}$) preferentially fuse when spins are aligned

$$\sigma_{cm} = \sigma_0 \left\{ 1 + \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{2} \vec{P}_D^V \cdot \vec{P}_T \right\}$$

- ***polarized fuels*** ↔ up to **50%** enhancement in the cross section

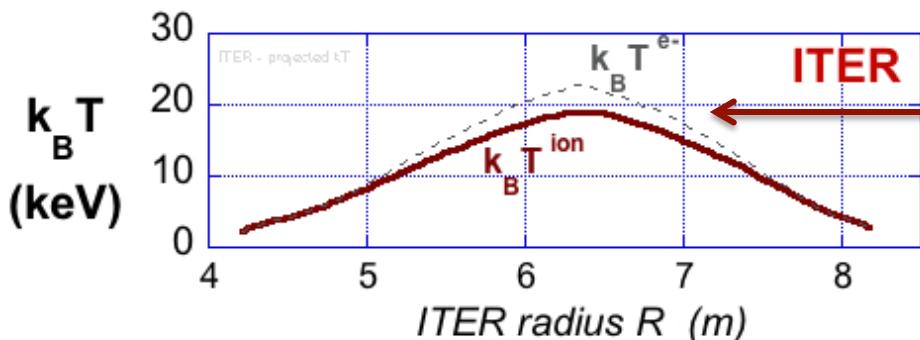
Reaction rates in a heated plasma

~ cross sections averaged over a Maxwellian velocity distribution

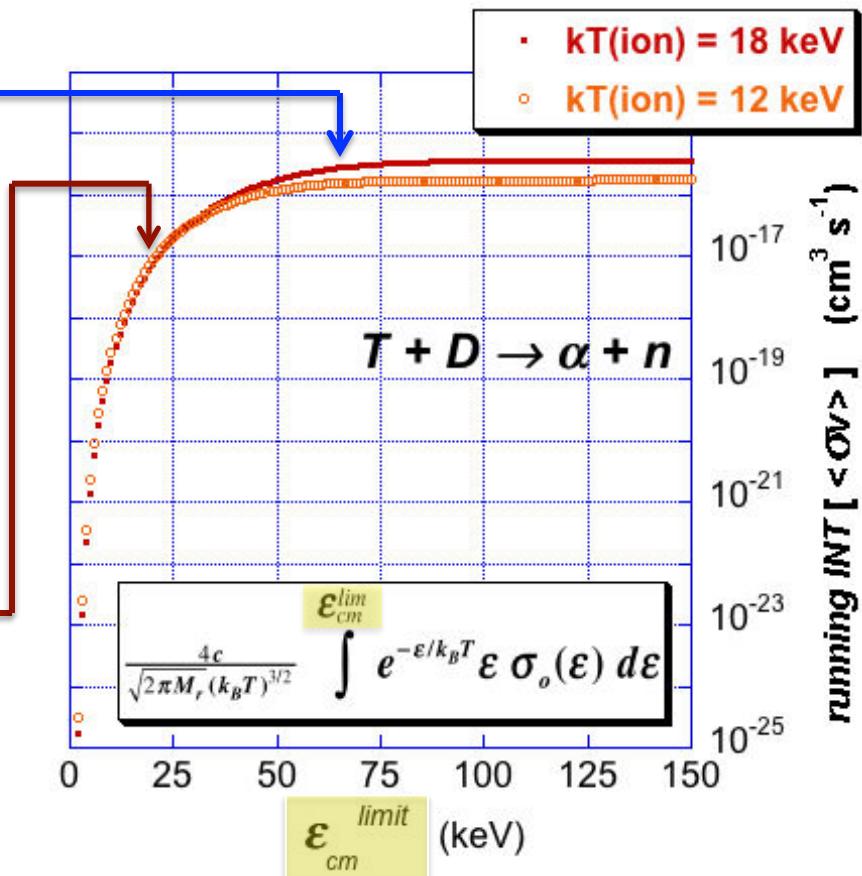
$$R = n_D n_T V_{pl} \times \left\{ \langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{4c}{\sqrt{2\pi M_r} (k_B T)^{3/2}} \int e^{-\varepsilon/k_B T} \varepsilon \sigma(\varepsilon) d\varepsilon \right\}$$

J.N. Bahcall, *Astrophys. J.* **143** (1966) 259

- D+T resonance peaks at 65 keV
- ITER plasma expected to peak at 18 keV
- most of the yield from low energies
- $\langle \sigma v \rangle$ integral extends to higher energies but saturates by ~ 50 keV



ITER Design Report, Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion **44** (2002) 519



Dependence on toroidal field

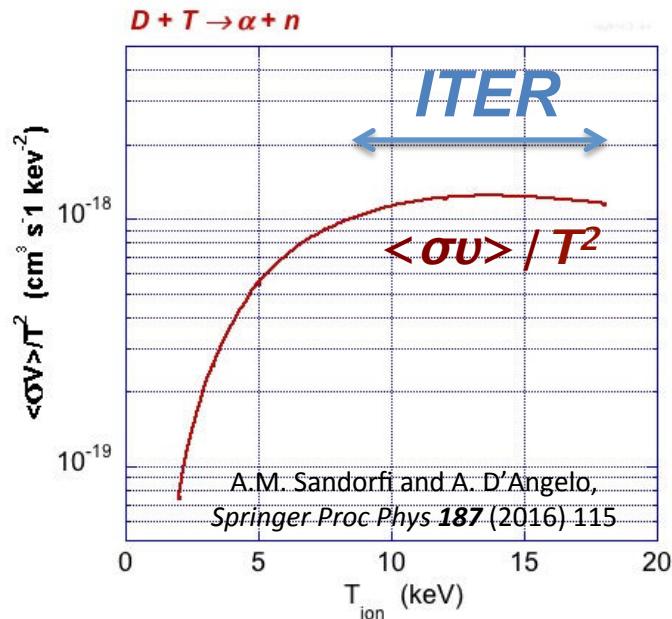
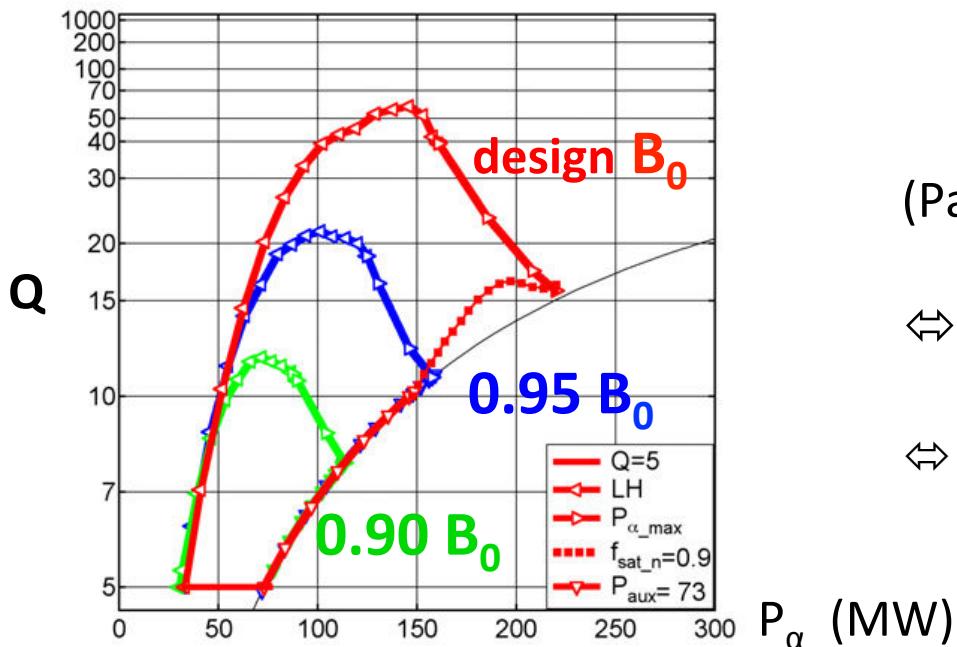
Recasting the fusion rate :

$$R = n_D n_T V \cdot \langle \sigma v \rangle = \frac{\beta^2}{4\mu_0^2} V \cdot \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{T^2} \cdot B^4$$

plasma pressure
~ constant

~ constant
for ITER

- ITER simulations:



(Pacher et al, NF48 (08)105003):

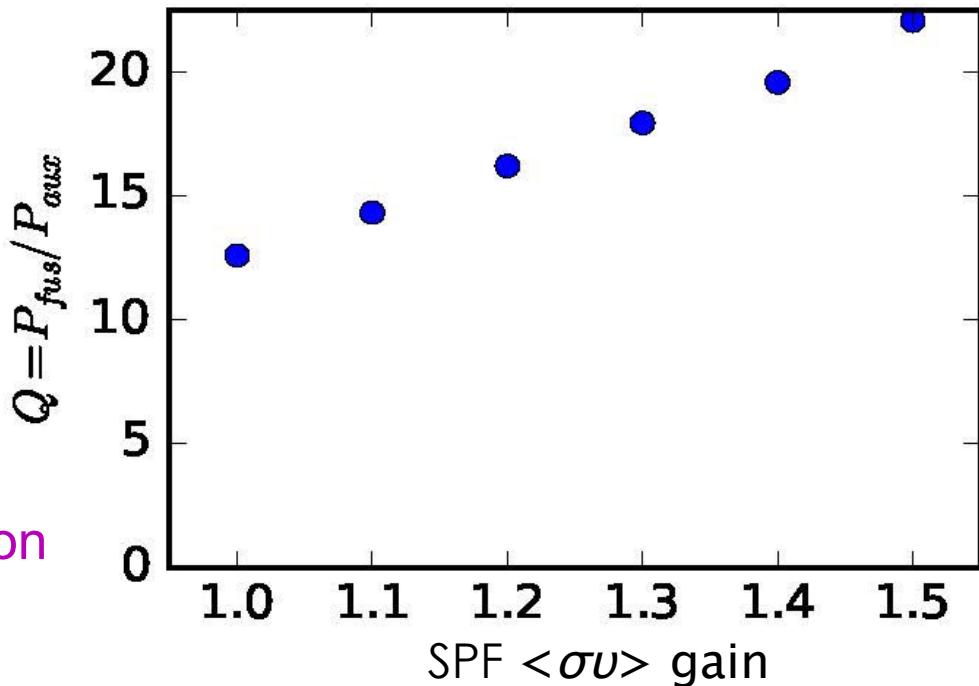
$$\Leftrightarrow R \sim B^6$$

\Leftrightarrow field degradation would severely reduce parameter space for ITER operations

alpha heating \Leftrightarrow non-linear enhancements from the resonance tails

ITER Power simulations with polarized fuel:
(Sterling Smith – GA)

- \Leftrightarrow new simulations for ITER show net 75% gain in power and $Q = P(\text{fusion})/P(\text{in})$ with spin polarized fuel, from increased alpha heating
- \Leftrightarrow polarization gain is independent of field,
→ compensates for a drop in B
- \Leftrightarrow on the ITER scale,
could reach $Q > 20$,
even with toroidal field degradation



The potential of SPIN

- **fusion fuels:** $D + T \Rightarrow \alpha + n$; (and $D + {}^3He \Rightarrow \alpha + p$)
 - ↔ dominated by $J=3/2$ resonance just above reaction threshold
 - ↔ ion temperatures $< 10s$ of KeV $\Rightarrow s\text{-waves dominate}$
 - ↔ D ($s=1$) and T ($s=\frac{1}{2}$) preferentially fuse when spins are aligned

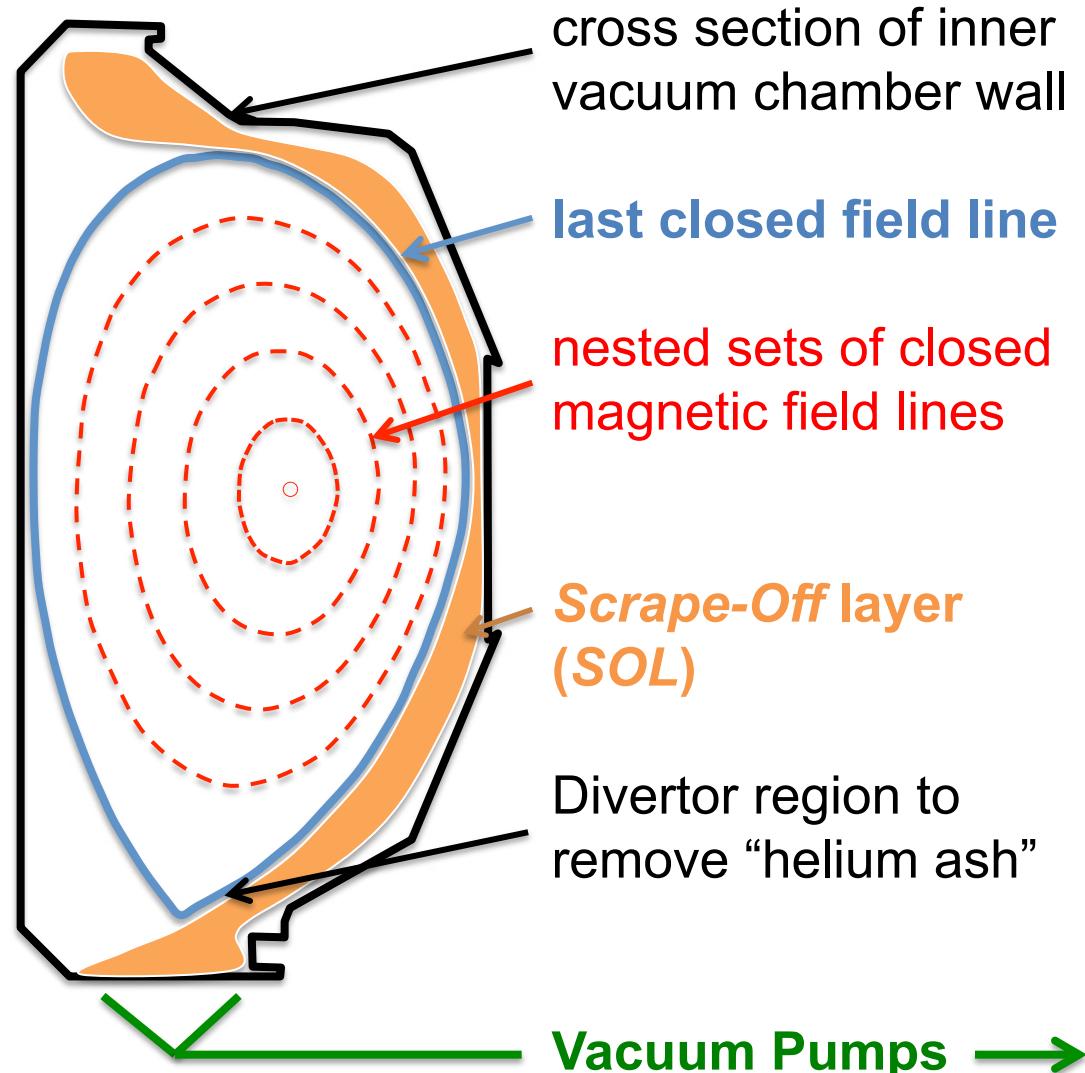
$$\sigma_{cm} = \sigma_0 \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{P}_D^V \cdot \vec{P}_T \right\}$$

- **polarized fuels** ↔ up to **50% enhancement** in the cross section
 - ↔ up to **75% enhancement in power and Q**
 - ↔ can compensate for magnetic field degradation on the ITER scale, and maintain high Q
 - ↔ costs savings of future fusion reactor plants ($\sim B^2$) as much as 20% ↔ a potentially huge factor !

Polarization survival - history

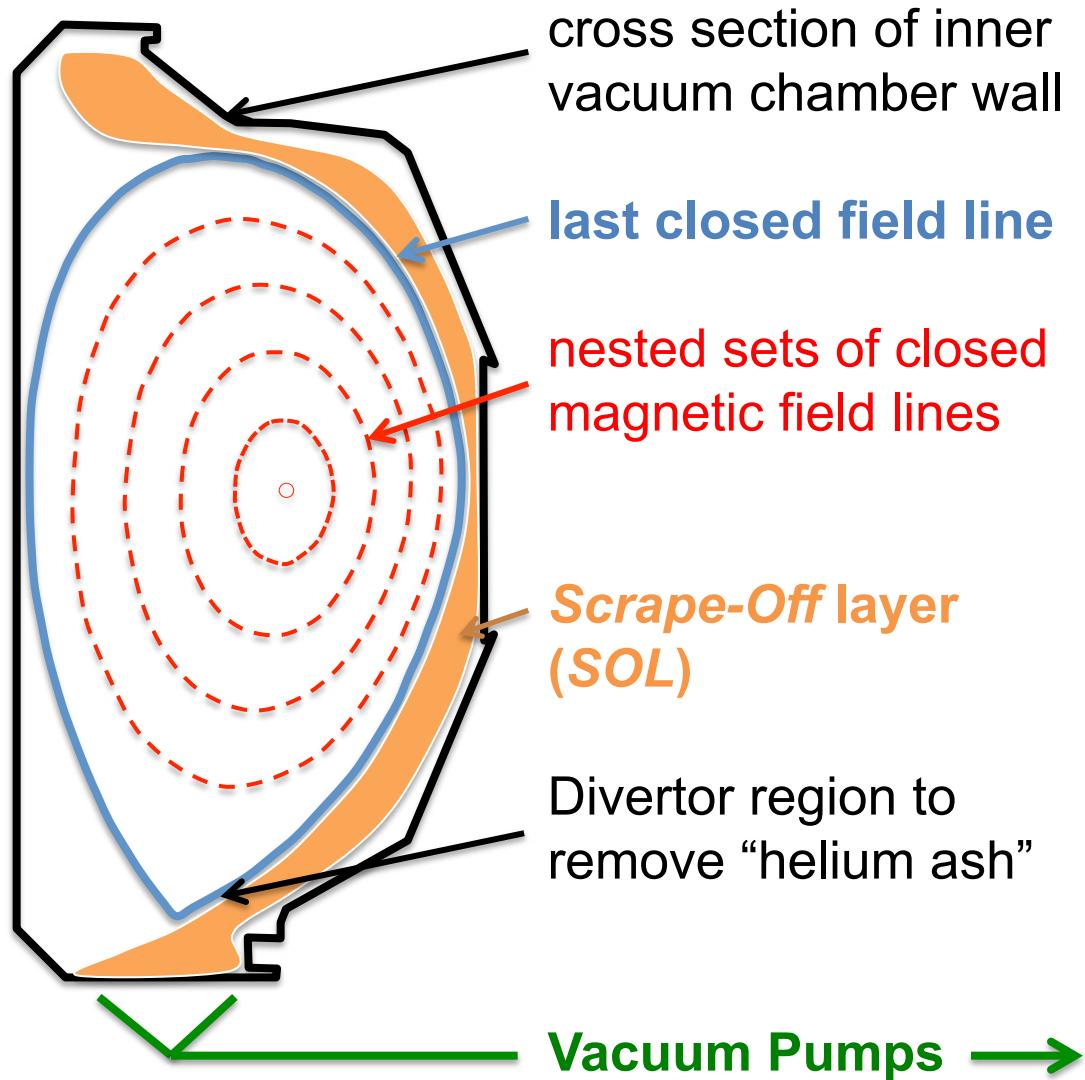
- Potentially large benefits require fuel polarization to survive a 10^8 K plasma for the energy containment time \sim a few sec
- History
 - Kulsrud, Furth, Valeo & Goldhaber, Phys Rev Lett **49** (82) 1248
 - Lodder, Phys. Lett. A98 (83) 179
 - Greenside, Budny and Post, J. Vac. Sci Technol. A **2**(2), (84) 619
 - Coppi, Cowley, Kulsrud, Detragiache & Pegoraro, Phys Fluids **29** (86) 4060
 - Kulsrud, Valeo & Cowley, Nucl Fusion **26** (86) 1443
 - Cowley, Kulsrud, Valeo, E.J. Phys. Fluids **29** (86) 1443
 - ...
- Depolarization mechanisms
 - a great many mechanisms were investigated in the '80s; two survive scrutiny
 - both hinge on wall recycling

Fuel Recycling from the walls through the scrape-off layer



Fuel Recycling from the walls through the scrape-off layer

- after injection, some few % of the fuel undergoes fusion; the rest escapes the plasma
- escaping ions strike outer walls and are neutralized
- depending on wall conditions, ions could depolarize
- if these reenter the plasma, they could dilute polarization of the core
- fuel leaving the plasma will eventually diffuse through the SOL and be pumped away



the ITER scrape-off layer

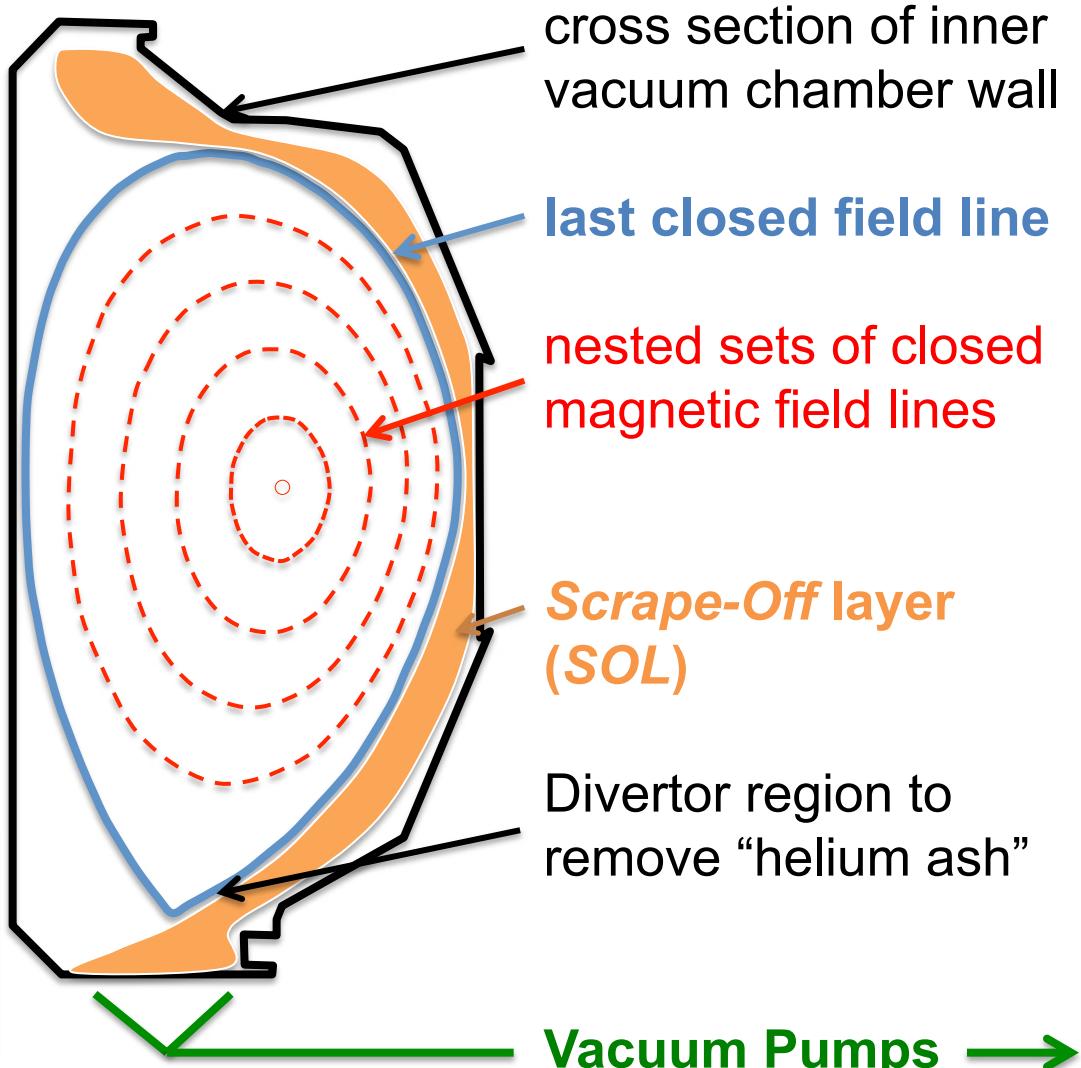
What's new ?

- Plasma Simulations for ITER:

- Pacher *et al.*,
Nucl. Fus. **48** (2008) 105003
- Garzotti *et al.*,
Nucl. Fus. **52** (12) 013002

↔ at $\frac{1}{2}$ GW, the SOL is opaque to neutrals, which are swept to the divertor by convection

↔ fuel recycling from the walls will be insignificant in ITER scale reactors



Polarization dilution from HFS in partially ionized states at injection

- g.s. of all fuels (DT, HD, ^3He , ...) have 2 electrons paired to $1s \Leftrightarrow$ no nuclear int.
- after injection, a partially-ionized state with 1 electron will exist for ~ 10 ms, during which there will be level mixing and a degree of dilution of nuclear pol

- net fractional polarization loss:
$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \frac{4(\mu_e - \mu_I)^2 B^2}{A_{HFS}^2} \right]^{-1}$$

\Leftrightarrow ^3He has the largest hyperfine splitting, $A_{HFS} = -8.66565$ GHz

\Leftrightarrow mean $\Delta P/P$ for ^3He , averaged over the DIII-D plasma field region and weighted by particle density = 1 %

\Leftrightarrow HFS $\sim 1/B^2 \Leftrightarrow$ irrelevant in ITER, due to higher magnetic fields

Q: how to produce polarized fuel for a ~ GW reactor ?

- every characteristic of polarized material comes at a cost;
eg. NP techniques have emphasized lifetime (T_1) of 10^6 –to- 10^8 sec,
(which is useless for fusion where ~ 30 sec would be more than adequate)
 - ITER will require 2000 moles/day, much more than consumed in NP exps
- ↔ **significant R&D, tailored to fusion requirements, will be required**

eg. 1st order speculation:

- spin-exchange optical pumping (SEOP) of molecular DT gas with 2 lasers;
 alternate: separate SEOP of HD and HT
- condense polarized gas to solid pellets for injection with *Pellet Injectors*,
modified to maintain continuous magnetic holding fields

- Crucial to first verify expectation of polarization survival in plasma

SPF (Spin-Polarized-Fusion) Collaboration

- **Jefferson Lab**

JLab:

A. Deur, C. Hanretty, M. Lowry, A.M. Sandorfi, X. Wei

Univ. of Connecticut

K. Wei

- **University of Virginia**

J. Liu, G.W. Miller, S. Tafti, X. Zheng

- **General Atomics/Fusion Energy Research**

GA-DIII-D:

N. Eidiatis, A. Hyatt, G. Jackson, M. Lanctot, D. Pace, S. Smith, M. Wade

GA-ICF Pellet Division:

M. Farrell, M. Hoppe, M. Schoff, N. Alexander

Oak Ridge National Lab

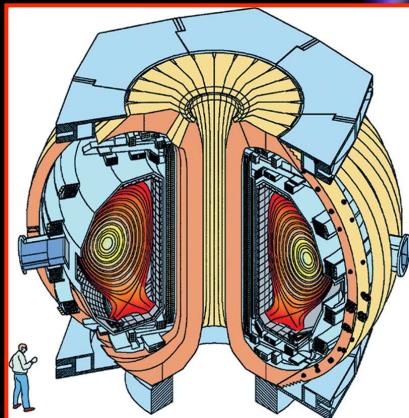
L.R. Baylor

UC-Irvine

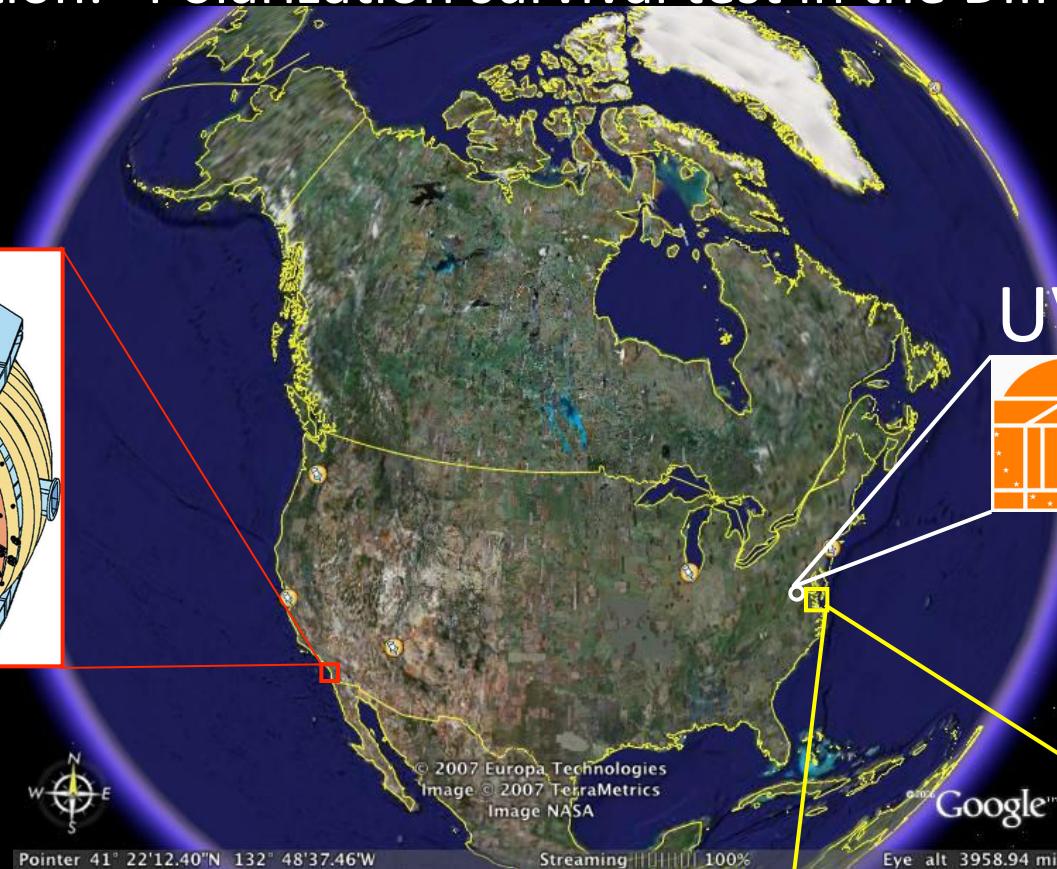
W.W. Heidbrink

SPF collaboration: Polarization survival test in the DIII-D Tokamak

DIII-D



UVa



General Strategy: use existing NP techniques and equipment to create polarization life-times sufficient to produce fuel for a test at DIII-D, thus mitigating costs in a demonstration exp.



Jefferson Lab

D + ^3He as a test-bed for Spin-Polarized-Fusion

In nuclear reactions, isospin is a very good quantum number, particularly at low energies

- ↔ ^5He and ^5Li are *mirror* nuclei with virtually identical low-energy structure
- ↔ $\text{D} + \text{T} \rightarrow ^5\text{He} \rightarrow \alpha + \text{n}$ and $\text{D} + ^3\text{He} \rightarrow ^5\text{Li} \rightarrow \alpha + \text{p}$
are mirror reactions, with the same spins, incorporating the same nuclear physics
- ↔ Polarization survival can be tested with $\text{D} + ^3\text{He} \rightarrow \alpha + \text{p}$
and lessons learned can be directly applied to $\text{D} + \text{T} \rightarrow \alpha + \text{n}$

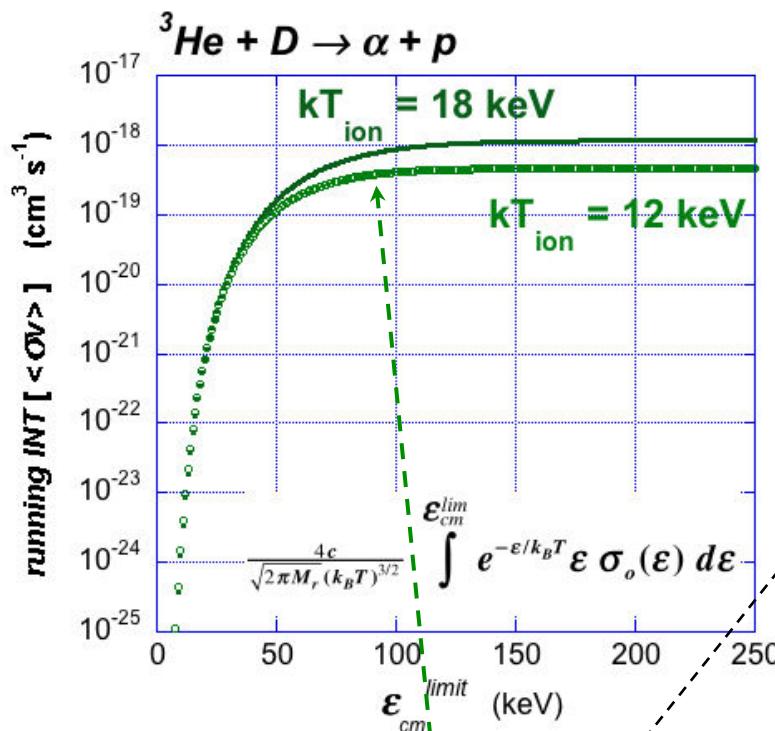
Strategy for testing polarization survival in DIII-D

- test reaction: $\vec{D} + {}^3\vec{He} \rightarrow \alpha + p$ {mirror reaction to $D + t \rightarrow \alpha + n$ }
- **\vec{D} shells:** use existing JLab facilities to create solid $H\vec{D}$
- **${}^3\vec{He}$ shells:** develop polarized ${}^3\vec{He}$ gas-filled shells at existing UVa facilities
- **DIII-D:** generate H plasma in the DIII-D Tokamak
 - inject polarized fuel into plasma, alternating spin alignment:
parallel: $H\vec{D} \uparrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$ }
anti-parallel: $H\vec{D} \downarrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$ } \Leftrightarrow compare proton yields

Status of efforts towards a SPF demonstration experiment

- **White Paper & presentation to a DOE-FESAC subcommittee** - May 31/17 ✓
for inclusion in the *Fusion Energy Sciences* long-range R&D plan
→ report due out Jan/2018
- ↔ proposed next step:
- funding in FY'19 (Oct'18) for **TR-3** (*Technical Readiness Level 3*):
 - the beginning of an *official DOE-FES “project”*
 - initial designs and cost analysis of each major subsystem

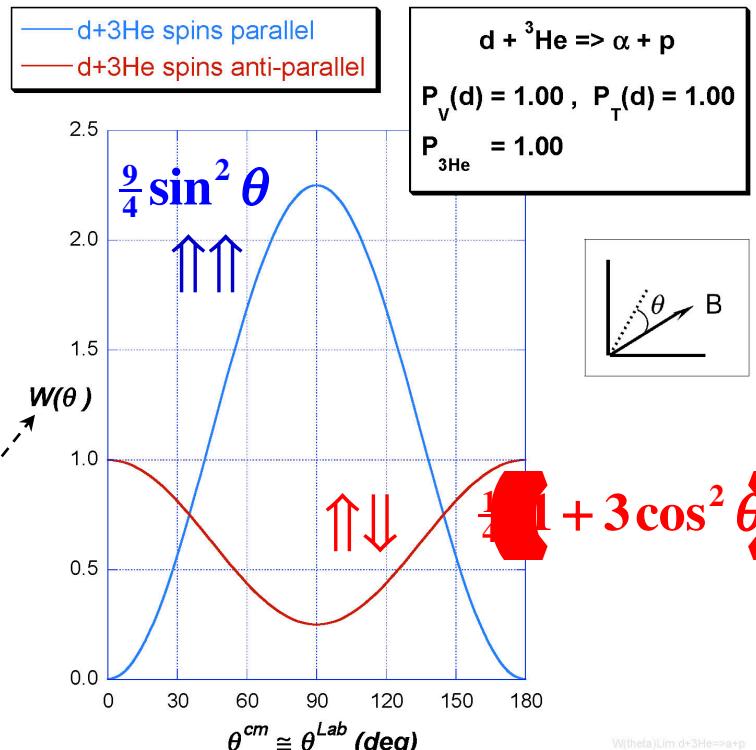
$D + {}^3He \rightarrow \alpha + p$ distributions wrt torus field



$$\langle d\sigma(\theta) v \rangle = \frac{1}{4\pi} \langle \sigma_o v \rangle \cdot W(\theta)$$

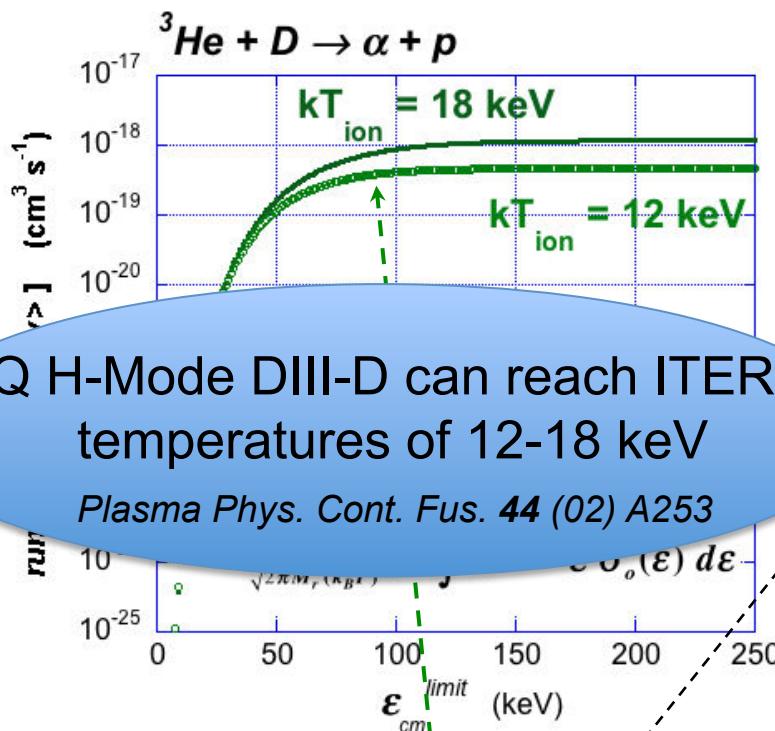
$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \langle \sigma_o v \rangle \cdot \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{2} P_d^V P_{{}^3He} + \frac{1}{2} \left[3P_d^V P_{{}^3He} \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2} P_d^T (1 - 3\cos^2 \theta) \right] \right\}$$

↔ neglecting interference terms ($\sim 2\text{-to-}3\%$)



W(theta).Lim d+³He=>α+p

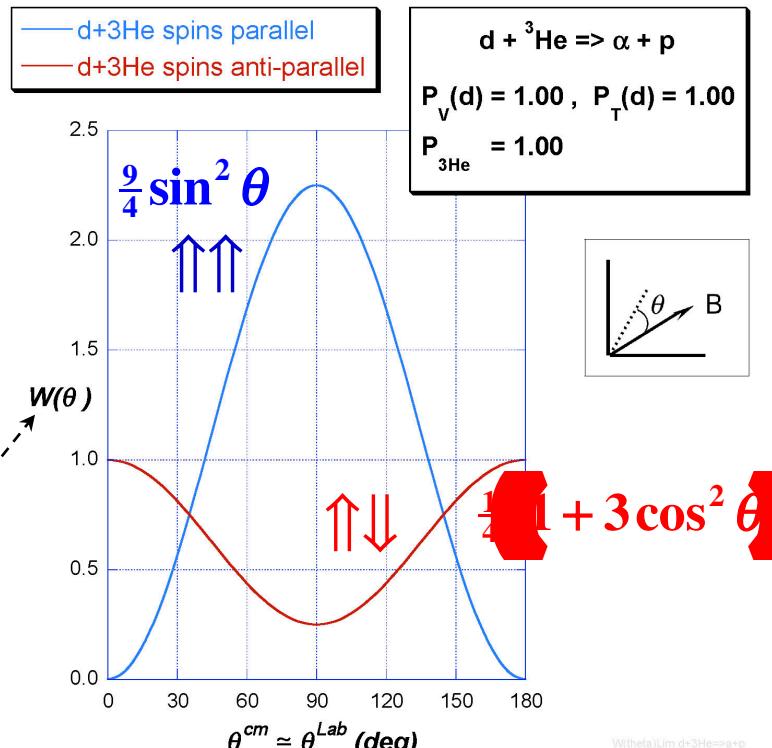
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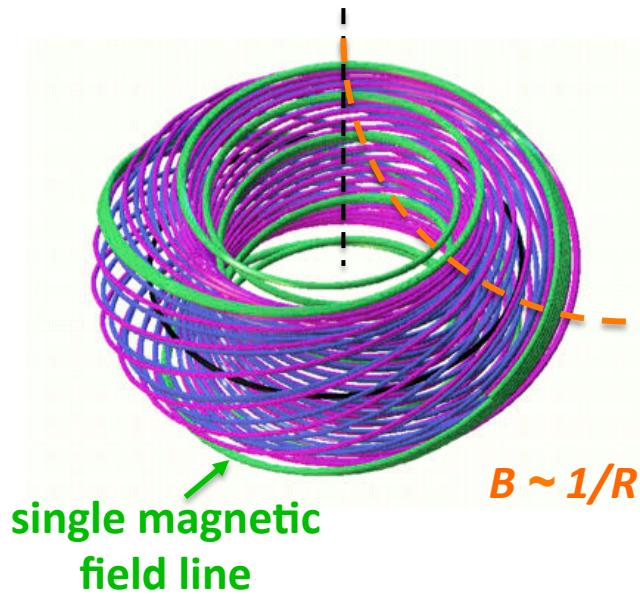
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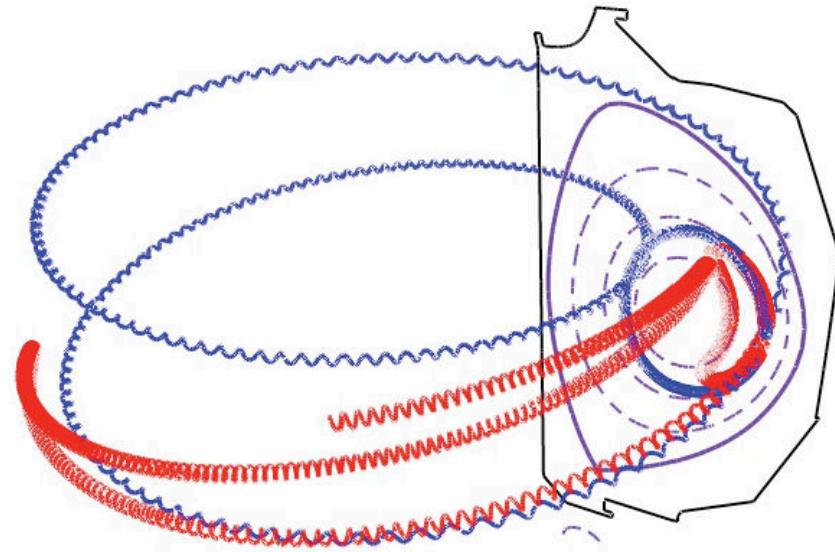


Magnetic field lines in a tokamak

- e^- and ions follow helical trajectories around nested sets of closed magnetic field lines



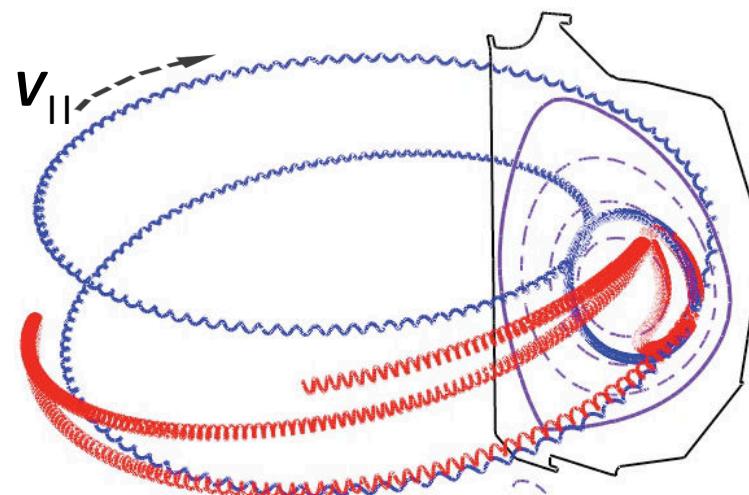
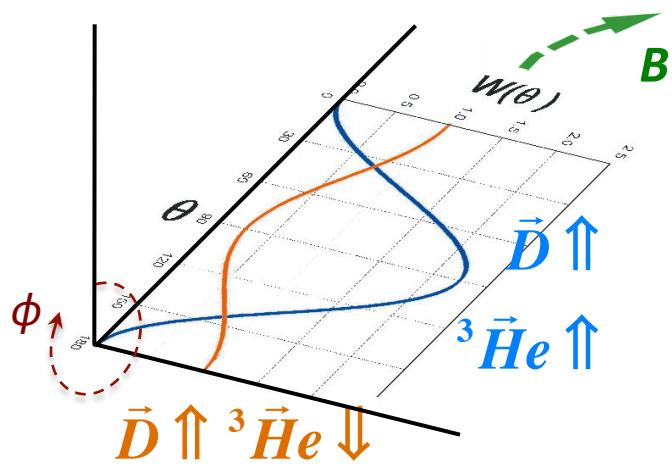
- **passing** orbits, confined around the torus



- **trapped (mirror)** orbits, with larger R variations, are confined by local angular momentum conservation

Helical gyro-rotation
 $\Rightarrow L_{Gyro} \propto \frac{V_\perp^2}{B}$
as R decreases, $V_{par} \rightarrow 0$ and orbit reverses direction

polarized fusion relative to the local field



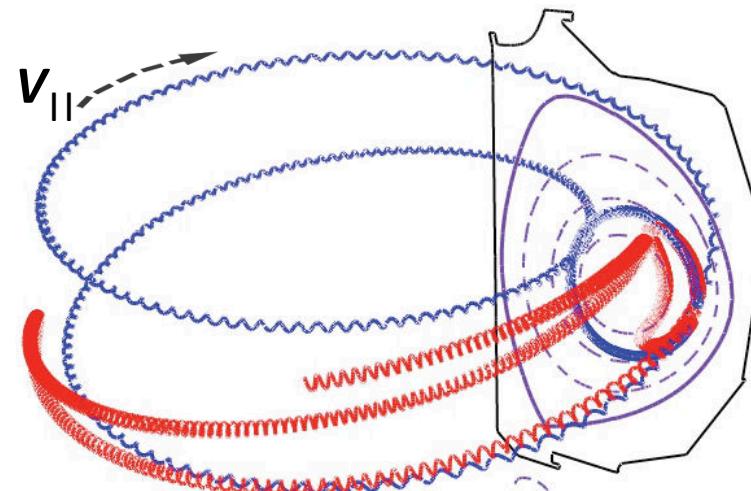
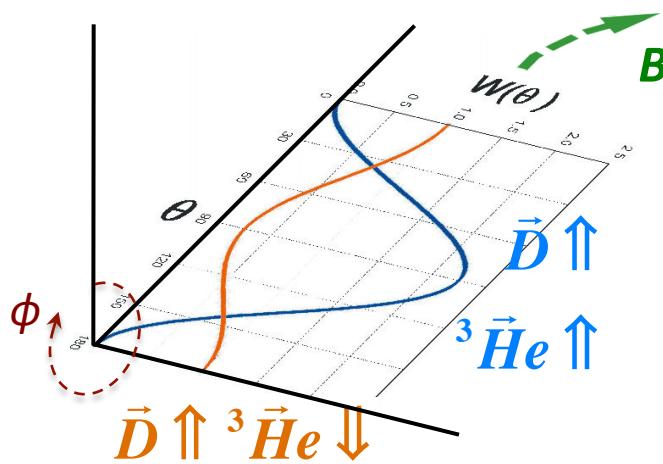
polarized fusion relative to the local field

$$f_L = \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} B \quad \Leftrightarrow \text{Spin precession}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} D \\ 6.5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} T \\ 45.4 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} {}^3\text{He} \\ -32.4 \end{array} \quad (\text{MHz}/T \times B)$$

$$f_{gyro} = \frac{q}{2\pi} \frac{B}{m} \quad \Leftrightarrow \text{Cyclotron motion}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} D \\ 7.6 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} T \\ 5.1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} {}^3\text{He} \\ 5.1 \end{array} \quad (\text{MHz}/T \times B)$$



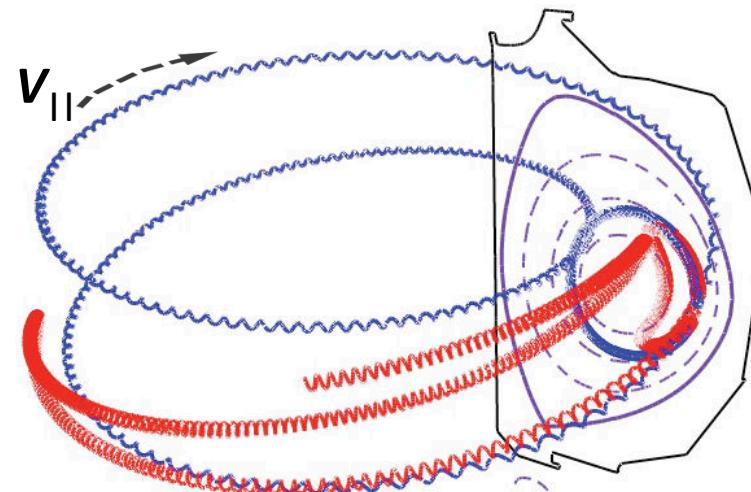
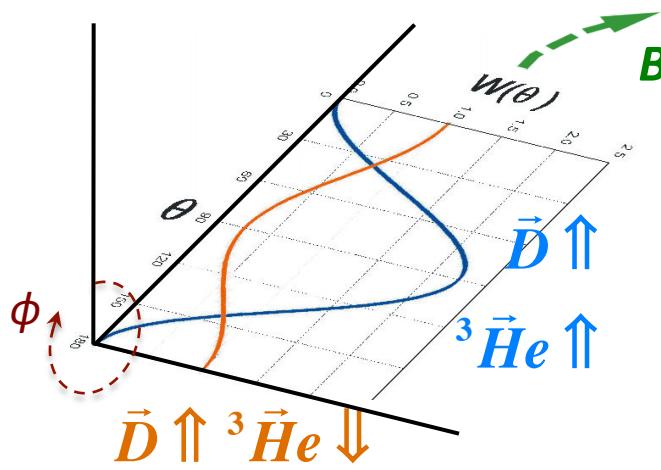
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Cowley, Kulsrud, Valeo, Phys Fluids **28** (86) 430 \Leftrightarrow Fokker-Planck eqs for $B = 5$ tesla, $kT_{ion} = 10$ keV plasma :

- no ion depolarization without collisions \Leftrightarrow spin just follows the field
- collisional depolarization negligible in uniform B , and $\sim 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for inhomogeneous B

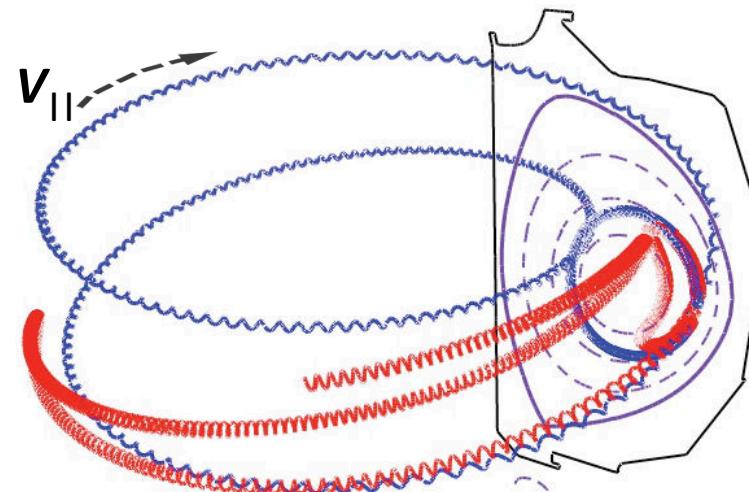
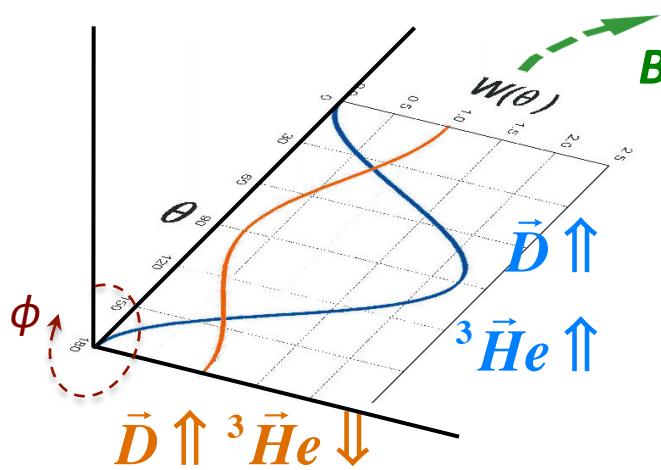
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| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| $\frac{D}{6.5}$ | $\frac{T}{45.4}$ | $\frac{{}^3\text{He}}{-32.4}$ | (MHz/T x B) |
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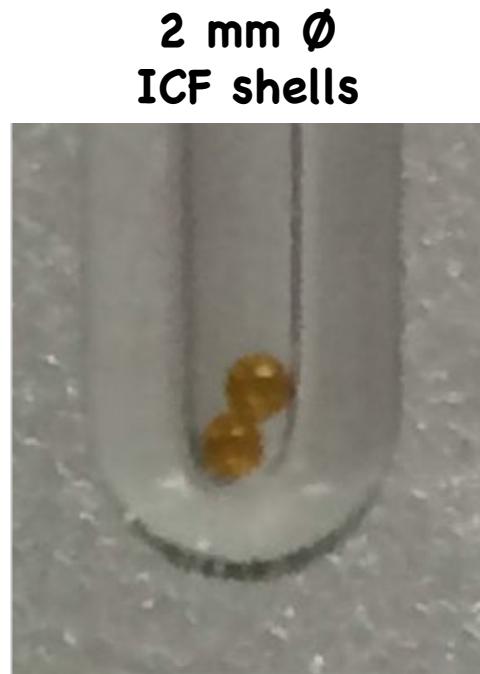
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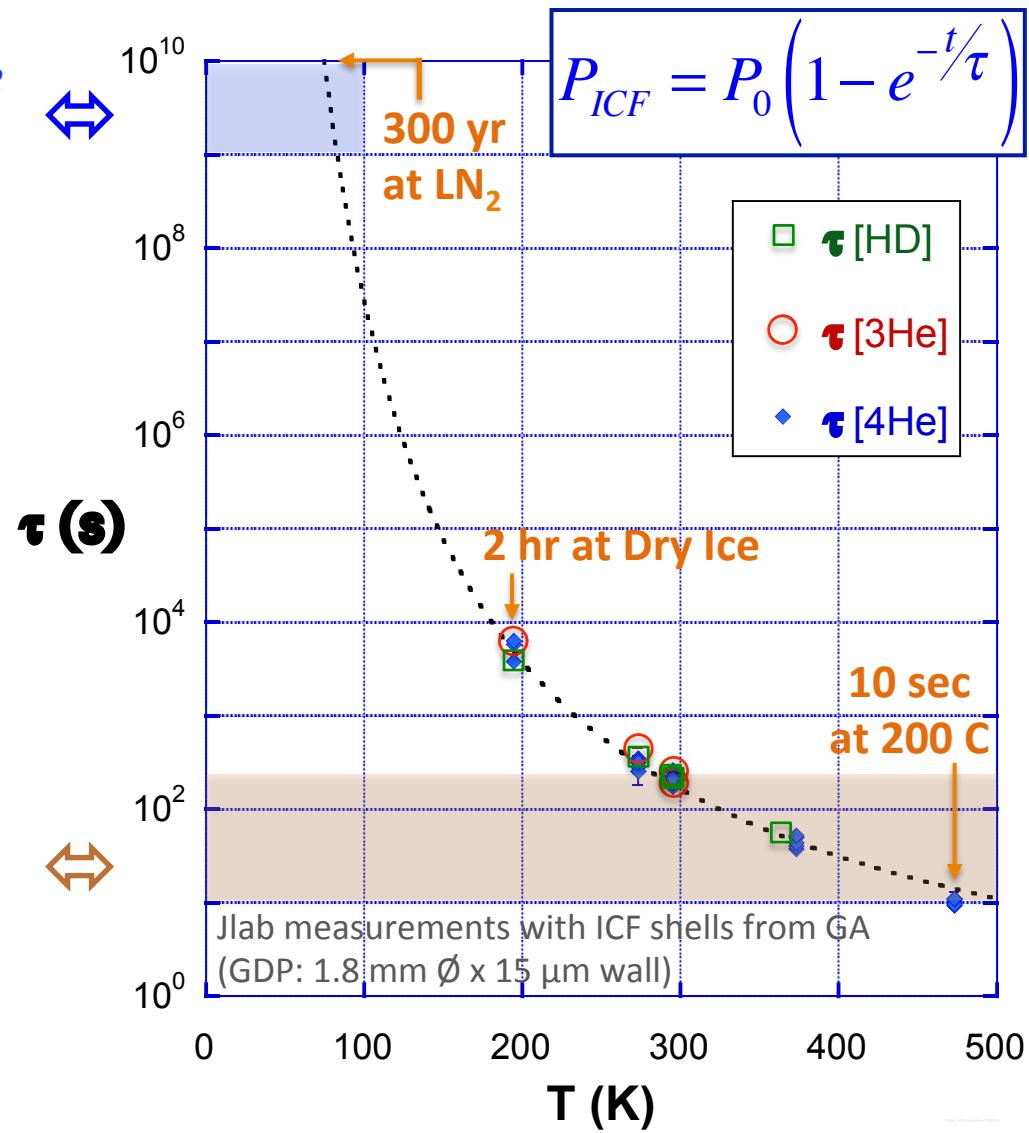
- no ion depolarization without collisions \Leftrightarrow spin just follows the field
- collisional depolarization negligible in uniform B , and $\sim 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for inhomogeneous B
- worst case: $\delta B_\perp = 1$ gauss plasma wave fluctuations at f_L \Leftrightarrow depolarization $T_1 \sim 10$ s (tritons)
 - plasma waves (eg. Alfvén eigenmodes) suppressed in asymmetric plasmas, such as ITER or DIII-D

Preparing polarized-fuel for injection; delivery via Inertial-Confinement (ICF) polymer shells



permeate gas through
shell wall, 20 - 200 C

cool to ~ LN₂
to seal shell



Strategy for testing polarization survival in DIII-D

- test reaction: $\vec{D} + {}^3\vec{He} \rightarrow \alpha + p$ {mirror reaction to $D + t \rightarrow \alpha + n$ }
- **\vec{D} shells:** use existing JLab facilities to create solid $H\vec{D}$
 - diffuse 200 atm HD into ICF shells; cool to solid;
polarize H and D ; $H \Rightarrow D$ spin transfer to maximize D spin;
transport polarized pellets to DIII-D; load into 2 K cryo-gun
- **${}^3\vec{He}$ shells:** develop polarized ${}^3\vec{He}$ gas-filled shells at existing UVa facilities
 - diffuse ~20 atm polarized ${}^3\vec{He}$ into ICF shells; cool to seal;
move polarizer to DIII-D; fill shells; load into 77 K cryo-gun
- **DIII-D:** generate *Hydrogen* plasma in the DIII-D Tokamak
 - inject polarized fuel into plasma, alternating spin alignment:
parallel: $H\vec{D} \uparrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$ }
anti-parallel: $H\vec{D} \downarrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$ } \Leftrightarrow compare proton yields



expected $d+^3He \rightarrow \alpha + p$ signal with existing NP material

Jlab: $P_V(\vec{D}) = 0.40$

UVa: $P(^3\vec{He}) = 0.65$



$$\langle \sigma^{par} v \rangle = \langle \sigma_o v \rangle \{1 + \frac{1}{2}(0.26)\}$$

$$\langle \sigma^{anti} v \rangle = \langle \sigma_o v \rangle \{1 - \frac{1}{2}(0.26)\}$$

Signal from comparing shots \Leftrightarrow

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\langle \sigma^{par} v \rangle}{\langle \sigma^{anti} v \rangle} = 1.30$$

Strategy for testing polarization survival in DIII-D

- test reaction: $\vec{D} + {}^3\vec{He} \rightarrow \alpha + p$ {mirror reaction to $D + t \rightarrow \alpha + n$ }
- **\vec{D} shells:** use existing JLab facilities to create solid $H\vec{D}$



Adapt known technology – a small NP target

transport polarized pellets to DIII-D; load into 2 K cryo-gun



- **${}^3\vec{He}$ shells:** develop polarized ${}^3\vec{He}$ gas-filled shells at existing UVa facilities
 - diffuse ~20 atm polarized ${}^3\vec{He}$ into ICF shells; cool to seal; move polarizer to DIII-D; fill shells; load into 77 K cryo-gun

- **DIII-D:** generate Hydrogen plasma in the DIII-D Tokamak
 - inject polarized fuel into plasma, alternating spin alignment:

parallel:

$H\vec{D} \uparrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$

}

anti-parallel:

$H\vec{D} \downarrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$

\Leftrightarrow compare proton yields

Adapting HD polarized target technology

- use existing JLab facilities to create solid $\vec{H}\vec{D}$:
 - diffuse ~ 200 atm HD into ICF shells,
cool to solid – in NP compatible fixtures \Leftrightarrow eg.
 - polarization of \vec{H} and \vec{D}
followed by $H \Rightarrow D$ spin transfer:
typical polarization decay times (T_1) of years;
typical $P(\vec{D}) \sim 40\%$ in 25 cc NP targets \Leftrightarrow assumed for planning
 \Leftrightarrow limited by cooling rates and RF uniformity over large NP cells
 \Leftrightarrow the maximum of 67% should be approached in 0.03 cc ICF pellets
 - transport polarized pellets to DIII-D:
NP targets routinely transported ~ 1 km to the Jlab experimental hall
 \Leftrightarrow need equipment to transport ~ 4000 km to DIII-D
 - modify 2 K cryo-gun for injection of polarized pellets into DIII-D



*Prototype chamber
for permeation and
polarization
– all within an NP
target envelope*

Strategy for testing polarization survival in DIII-D

- test reaction: $\vec{D} + {}^3\vec{He} \rightarrow \alpha + p$ {mirror reaction to $D + t \rightarrow \alpha + n$ }
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 - **Adapt known technology – a small NP target**
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 - anti-parallel: $\vec{H}\vec{D} \downarrow + {}^3\vec{He} \uparrow$

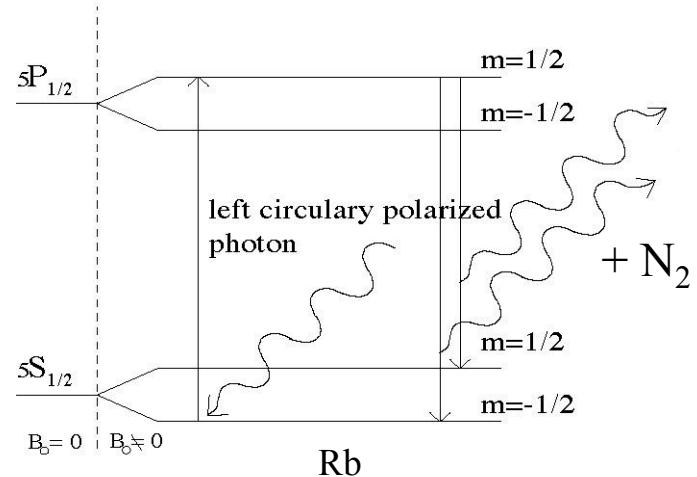
$\} \Leftrightarrow \text{compare proton yields}$



Polarizing $^3\vec{H}e$ fuel

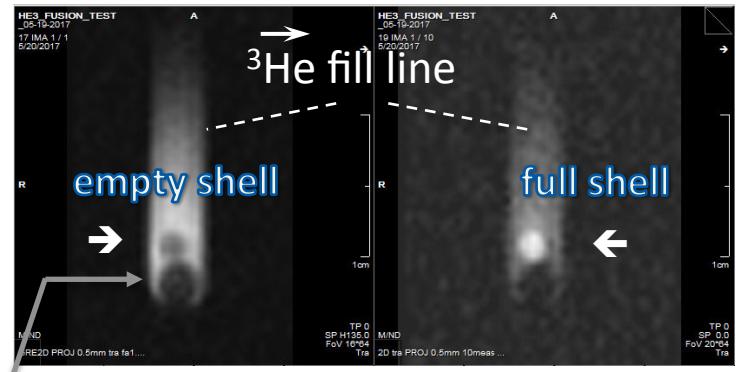
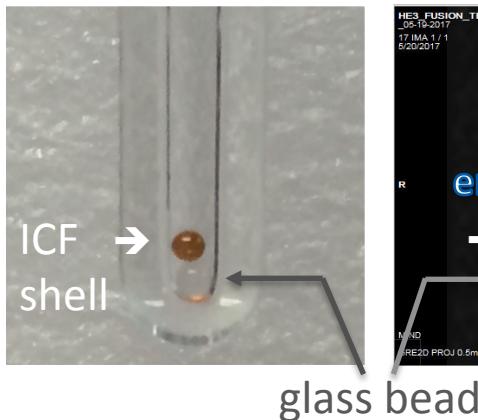
^3He process - *spin exchange optical pumping*

- Rb vapor pumped with 795 nm laser -100W (in oven > 200 C; with ~1 % N₂; uniform B)
 - Rb transfers polarization to K by collisions
 - K transfers spin to ^3He by collisions
-
- typical polarizations in pumping chamber: 70% at 10 amagats (~ 10 atm) (some further gain may be possible with the right geometry cell)
 - large volume targets used in Nuclear Physics exp at JLab, SLAC,...
 - need for high-power laser → must first polarize in glass cell,
 - cool to 20 C to remove alkalis (~few ppm of ^3He)
 - then diffuse into ICF shell

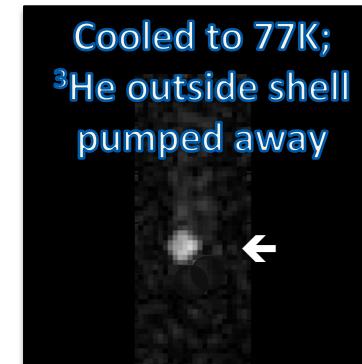


Q: does the polarization survive permeation through the ICF shell wall ?

Imaging ICF pellets filled with polarized ^3He at UVa

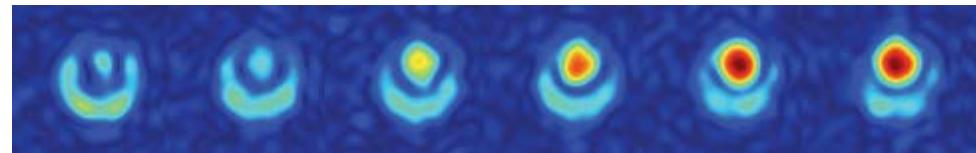


MRI scan of 2 mm OD
ICF shells
filled with polarized ^3He



- ^3He polarization inside ICF shells can be maintained for ~ 5 hr at 77 K
- will require a ^3He polarizer at DIII-D

^3He polarization loss during permeation



t(s): 30 90 210 300 540 900

*Time sequenced MRI
of polarized ^3He filling
an ICF pellet*

Room-temperature permeation of $^3\vec{\text{He}}$
into ICF-GDP (Glow Discharge Polymer) pellets:

| OD (μm) | wall thickness (μm) | Permeation time constant at 22C (s) | $^3\text{He P(in pellet)}/P_0$ |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1788 | 15 | 226 | 0.97 $\pm 0.08 \pm 0.20$ |
| 1918 | 26 | 397 | 0.71 $\pm 0.10 \pm 0.20$ |

- work continuing to reduce Systematics
- planned ^3He pressure = 20 to 25 atm
- Burst pressure of 4 mm \varnothing x 15 μm wall GDP, cooled to 77 K = 40 atm
- 4 mm \varnothing x 15 μm wall pellets will work ✓

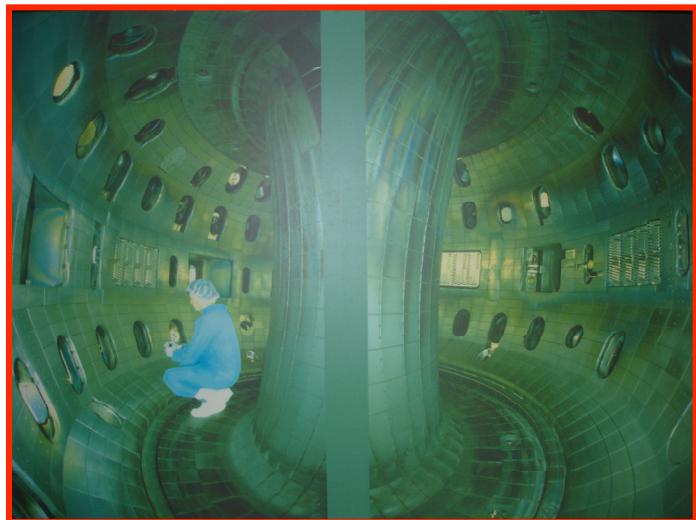
↑
Sys err

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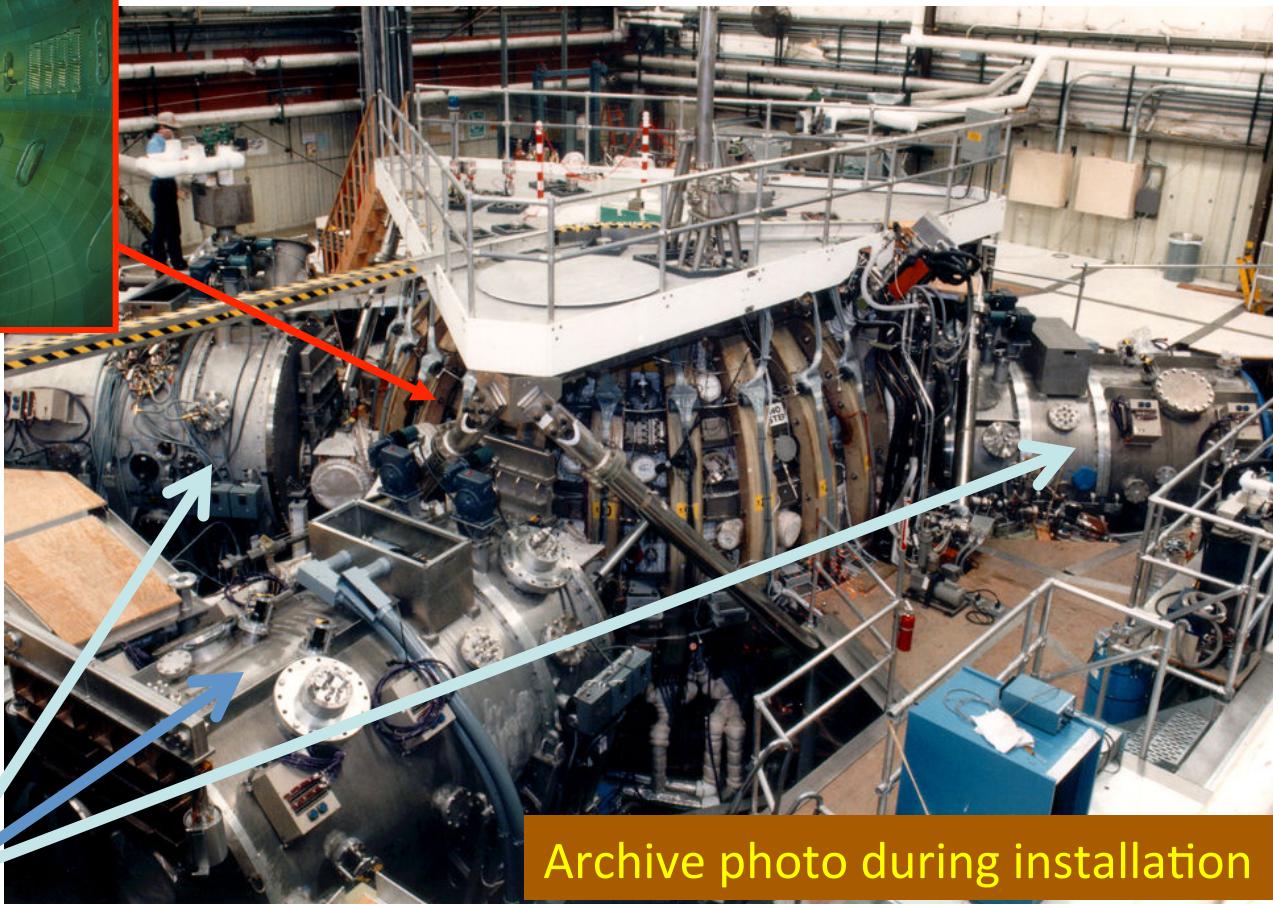


DIII-D Tokamak at General Atomics, San Diego



2.1 tesla torus (normal-conducting coils)

- 2.1 tesla max
 - B ramp up, 3 s
 - flat top \sim 10 s
 - ramp down, 7 s
- 15 min btw shots
- 80 keV neutral-beam Injectors for heating

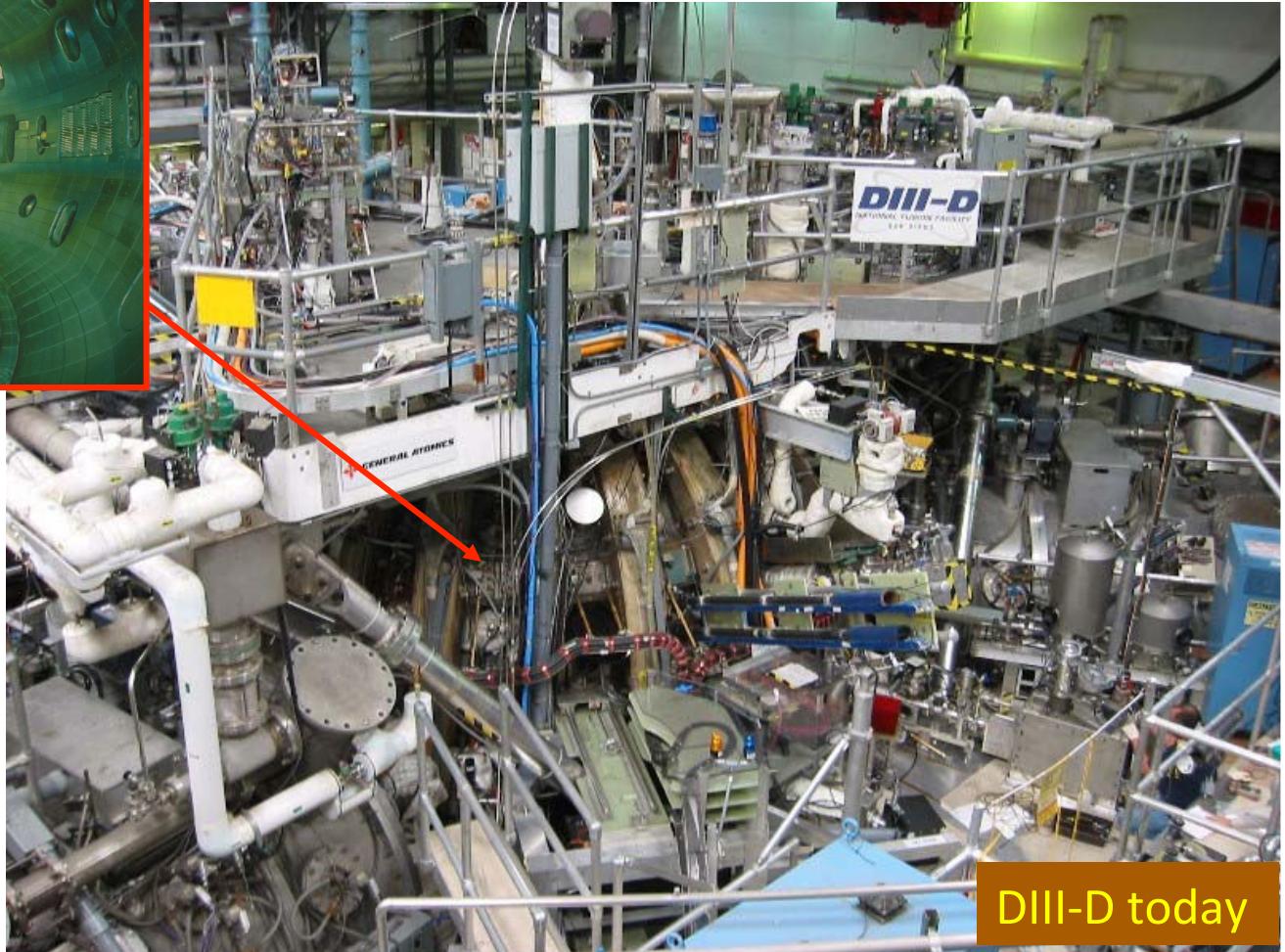


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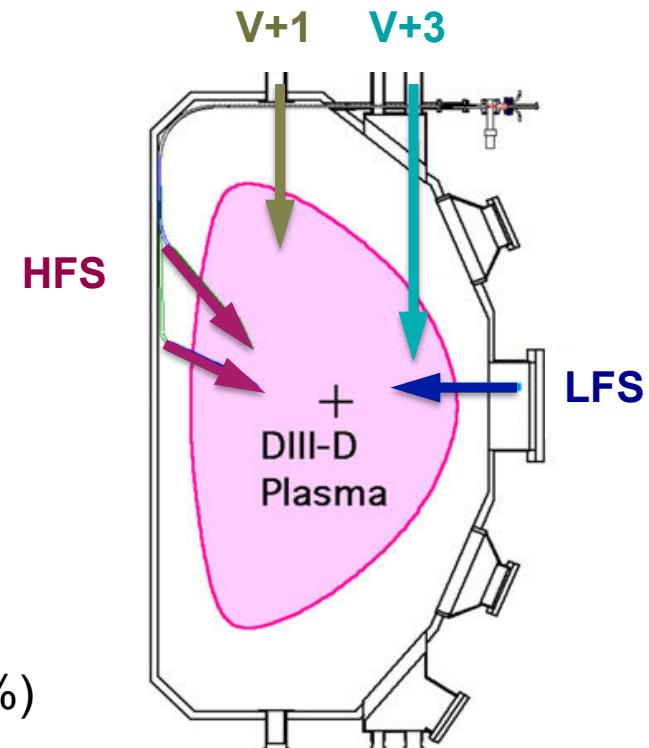
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 - inject polarized fuel into plasma, alternating spin alignment:
“signal” from comparing injections into different plasma shots \Leftrightarrow requires good reproducibility



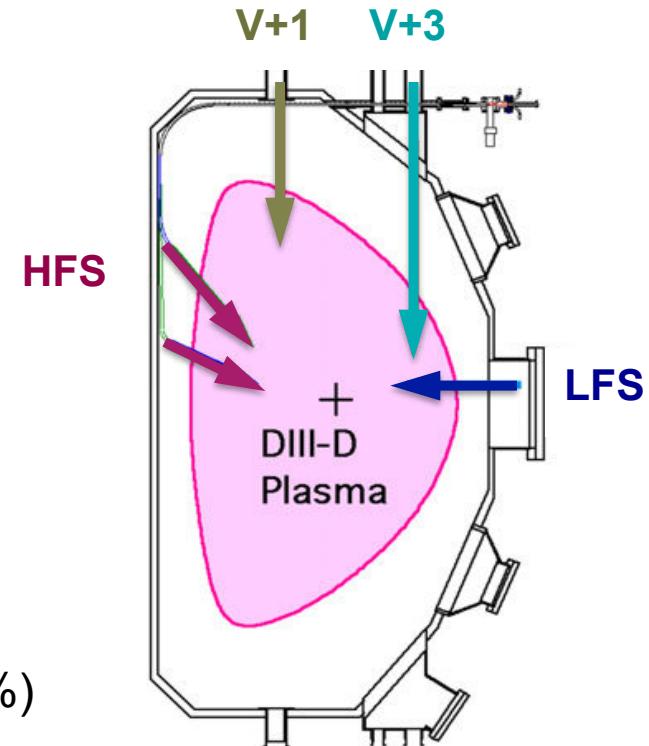
DIII-D Injection reproducibility

- shells propelled by high-pressure H₂ gas
- Balmer- α emissions monitor shell ablation
- V+1 injection for HD & ³He
- laser Thompson-electron scattering:
 - ↔ deposition profile & extent
 - ↔ eff = $\Delta N_e / N_{fuel}$ = increased e⁻ density
 - ↔ **V**ertical (**V+1**) or **H**igh-**F**ield-**S**ide injection gives deeper penetration of plasma core
- Edge-Localized-Modes (ELMs) can be triggered in *H-mode* (high confinement) plasmas
 - ↔ fraction of shell mass can be ejected
 - ↔ $\mathcal{E}(\text{LFS, V+3}) \sim \frac{1}{2}$; $\mathcal{E}(\text{HFS, V+1}) \sim 0.8$ –to–1
 - ↔ injection efficiencies can be measured (to ~5%)



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 - ↔ injection efficiencies can be measured (to ~5%)
- **ELMs are eliminated in Quiescent H-mode**
 - neutral beams injected against counter-rotating plasma (ion) current
 - Plasma Phys. Cont. Fus. 44 (02) A253

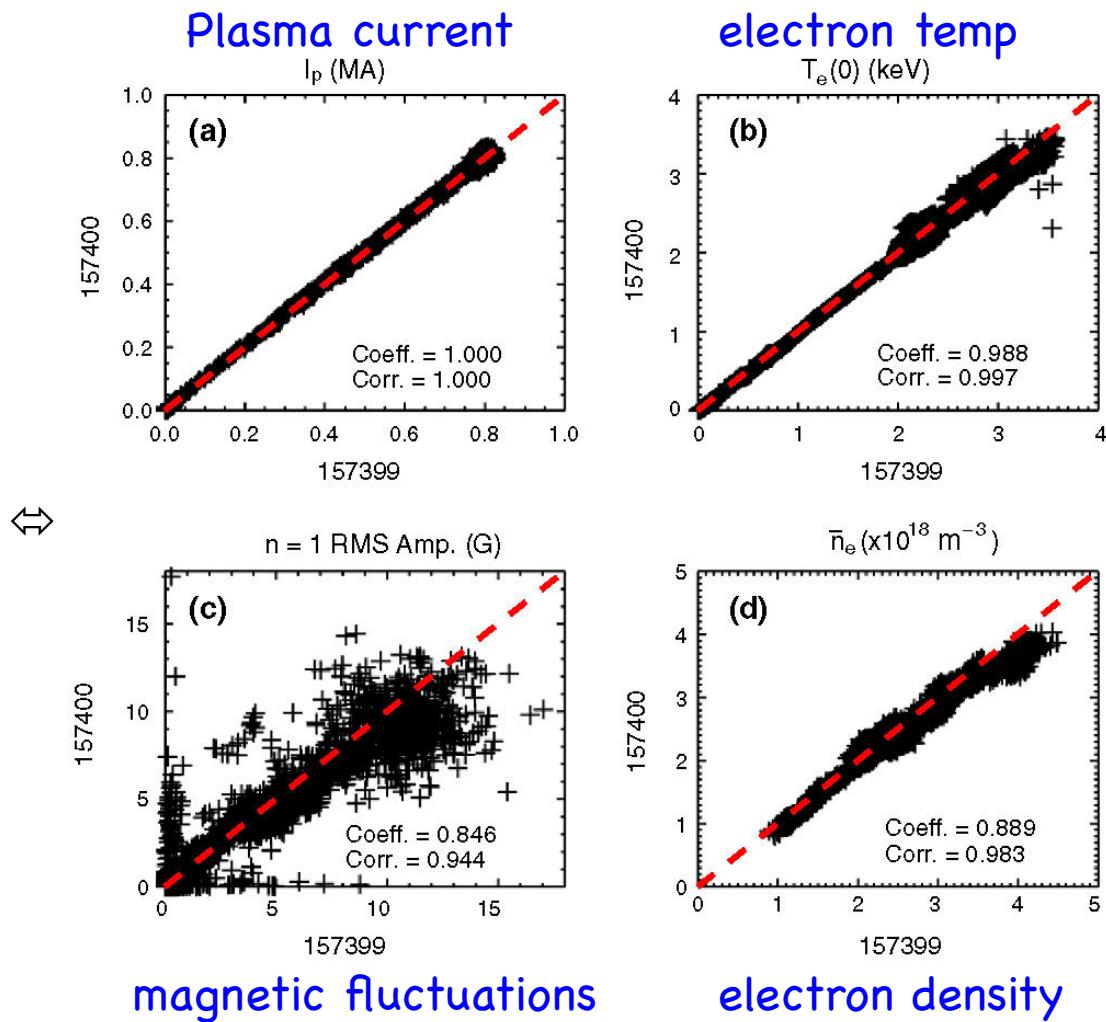


DIII-D plasma shot reproducibility

DIII-D plasma shots:

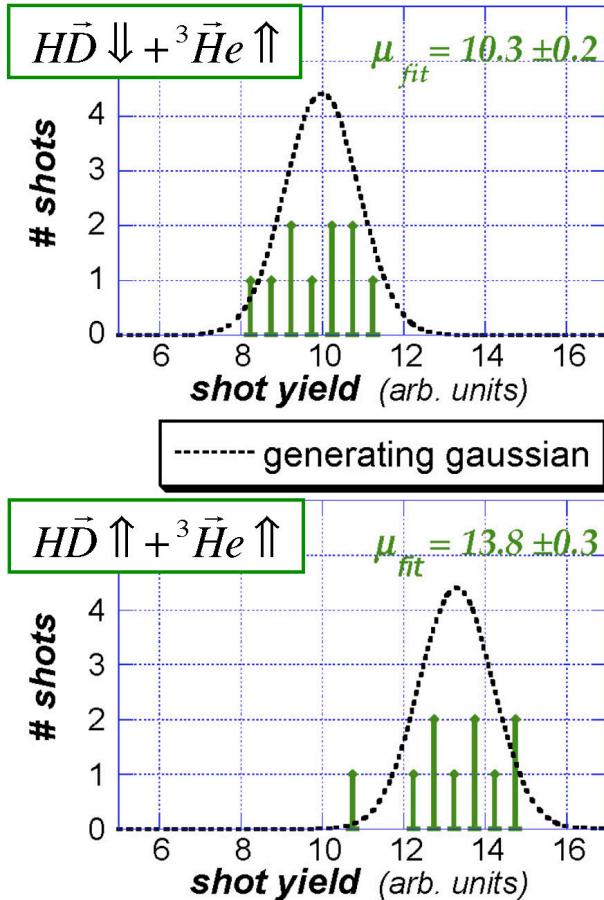
- 3 s ramp up to 2.1 tesla
- 10 s flat top,
with 80 keV neutral-beam
heating
- 7 s ramp down
- 15 min btw shots

- parameters of repeated shots are highly correlated, to $\sim 10\%$
- will need to study reproducibility of high-performance Quiescent H-mode for polarized fusion



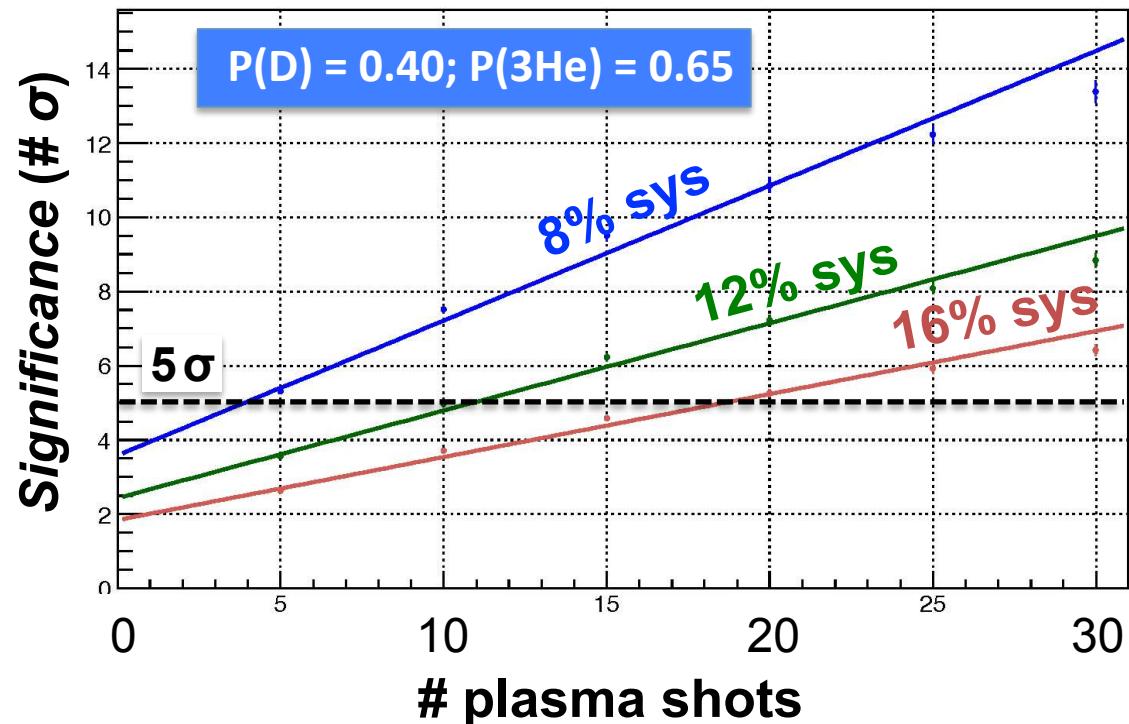
Pace, Lanctot, Jackson, Sandorfi, Smith, Wei, *J. Fus. Energy* 35 (2016) 54

Systematic variations between plasma shots determines # shots needed for a definitive experiment



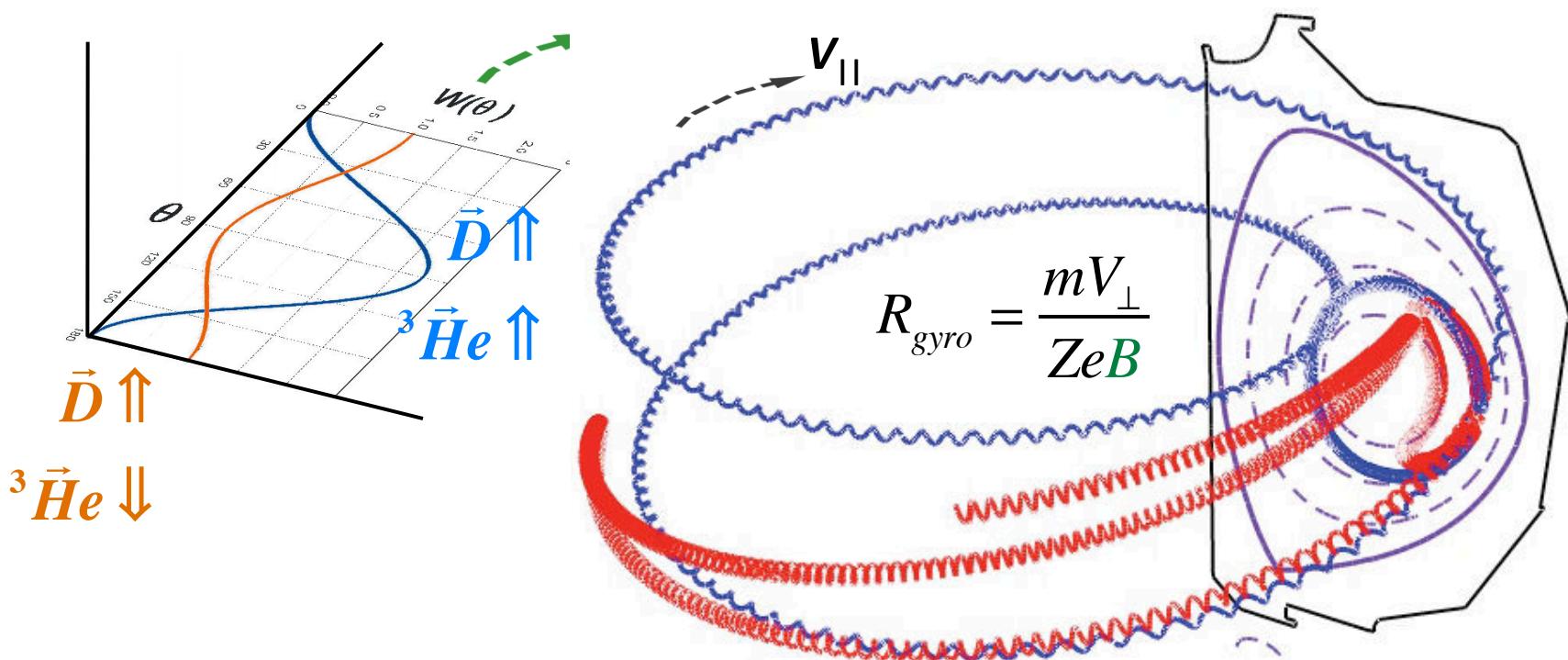
How many shots in each spin alignment to reach 5σ confidence \Leftrightarrow Monte Carlo

- 8% plasma variation \Leftrightarrow 4 shots (P & A)
- 16% plasma variation \Leftrightarrow 18 shots (P & A)



Tracking fusion products in DIII-D: Spin Alignment and Orbit Losses

- parallel spins \rightarrow large V_{\perp} \rightarrow large gyroradii \rightarrow protons hit the wall in a few orbits
- anti-parallel spins \rightarrow large V_{\parallel} \rightarrow small gyroradii \rightarrow better confined

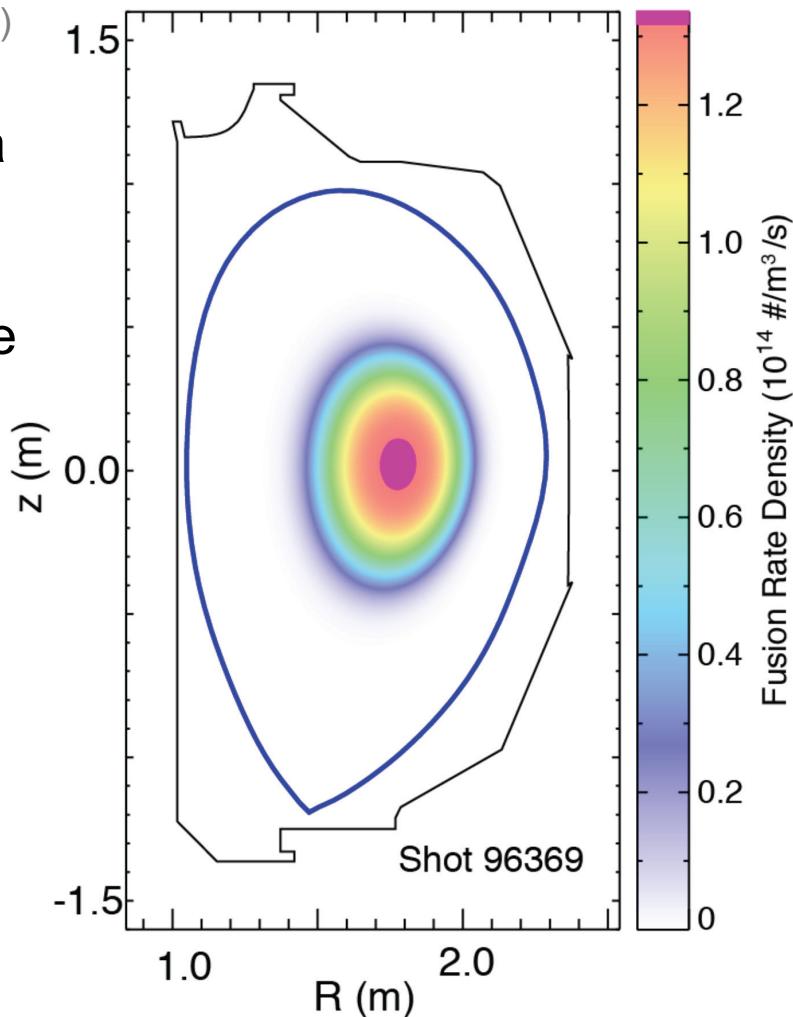


α and p loss-locations on Tokamak wall depend on initial polarizations

Tracking $D + {}^3He \rightarrow \alpha + p$ products in DIII-D

Tracking Simulations: (GA: D. Pace, M. Lanctot)

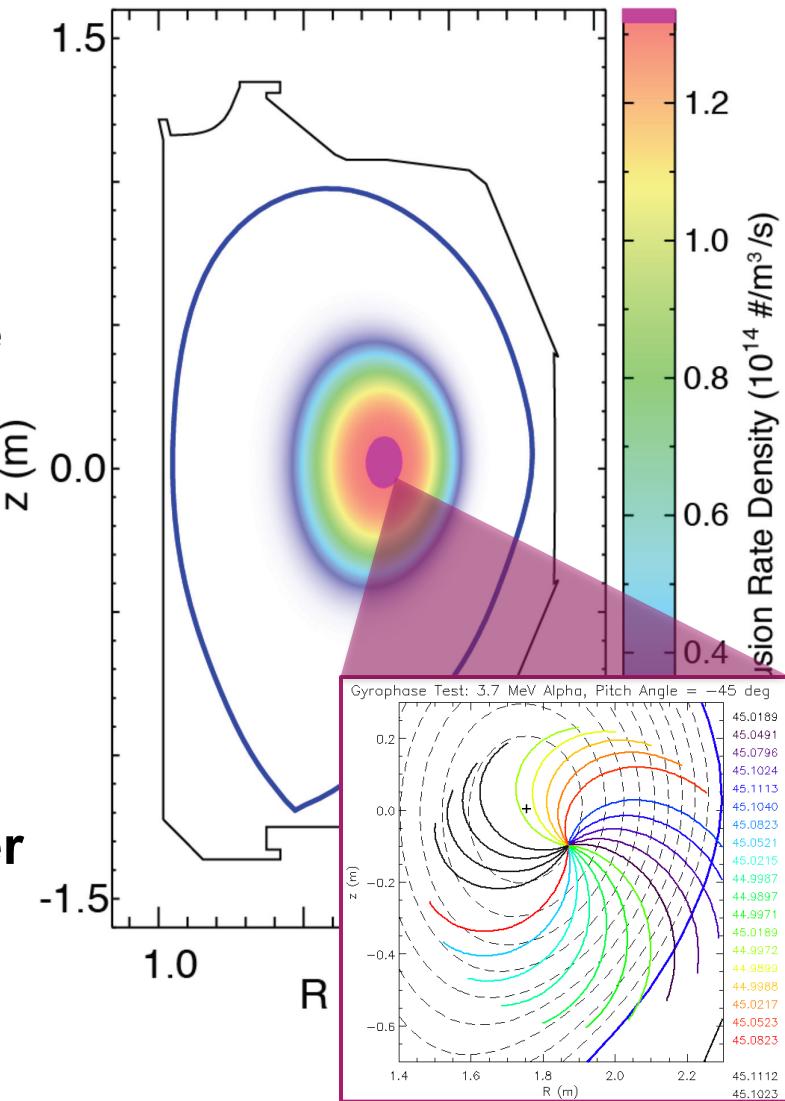
- fusion rate density taken from data with a solid D_2 pellet (shot 96369)
- cross sections scaled from $D+D$ to $D+{}^3He$
- T_{ion} energy scaled to 15 keV
(as expected for Quiescent H-Mode)



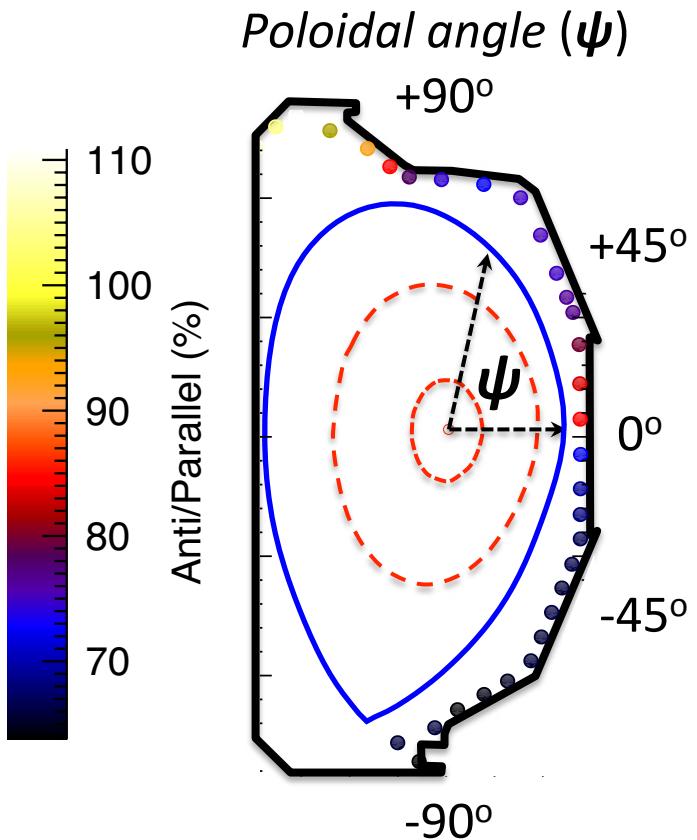
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- fusion rate density taken from data with a solid D_2 pellet (shot 96369)
- cross sections scaled from D+D to D+ 3He
- T_{ion} energy scaled to 15 keV (as expected for Quiescent H-Mode)
- fusion profile discretized; $\alpha + p$ generated along different polar (pitch) θ and azimuthal (gyrophase) φ , relative to the local field, **weighting the relative number by the polarized angular distributions**
- particles are tracked until striking a wall

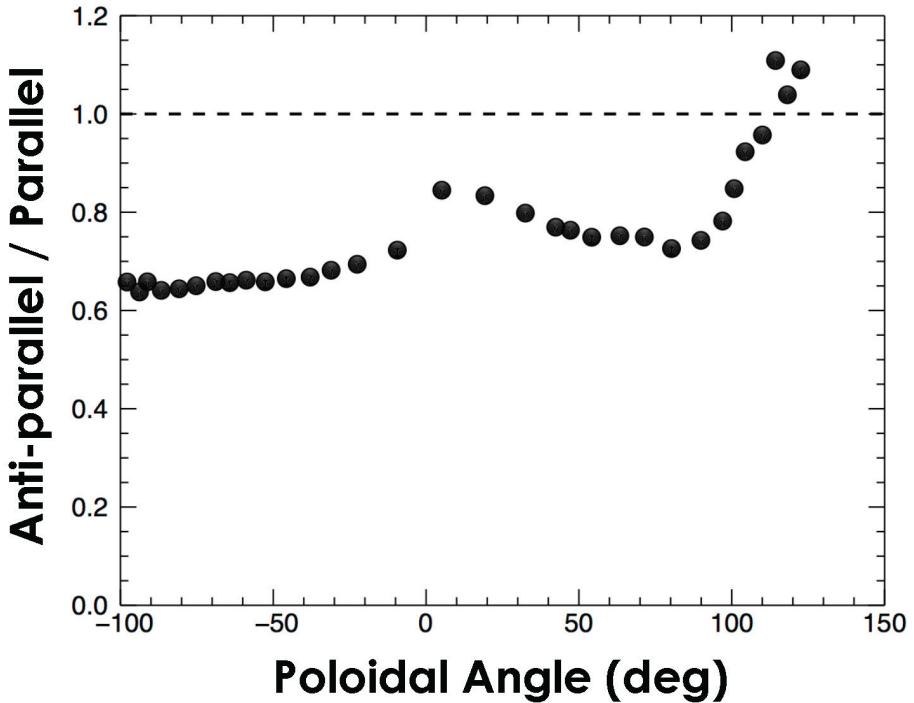


Predicted ratio of protons from anti-parallel & parallel spins



$P(^3\text{He}) = 65\%$; $P(\text{D}) = 40\%$

Ratio of Proton Flux



Definitive Signal:

- ~30% change expected at several wall locations
- distinctive dependence on poloidal angle (ψ)

Secondary Reactions

- use H-plasma heated with H neutral beams
- simulations follow secondary reactions to estimate background yields:



- 15 MeV protons from $^3\text{He} + \text{D} \Rightarrow \alpha + \text{p}$ provide a unique signature that is easily separated
- 2-step ($\text{D} + \text{D} \Rightarrow ^3\text{He}$) + D wrt primary $^3\text{He} + \text{D}$ is suppressed by $n(\text{D}) / [n(\text{D})^2 x n(\text{D})]$, which is negligible

SPF (Spin-Polarized-Fusion) Collaboration

- **Jefferson Lab**

JLab:

A. Deur, C. Hanretty, M. Lowry, A.M. Sandorfi, X. Wei

$H\vec{D}$ & ${}^3\vec{He}$ pellet preparation

Univ. of Connecticut

K. Wei

- **University of Virginia**

J. Liu, G.W. Miller, S. Tafti, X. Zheng

${}^3\vec{He}$ pellet polarization

- **General Atomics/Fusion Energy Research**

GA-DIII-D:

plasma, orbit & transport simulation

N. Eidietis, A. Hyatt, G. Jackson, M. Lanctot, D. Pace, S. Smith, M. Wade

GA-ICF Pellet Division:

ICF pellets for HD, 3He

M. Farrell, M. Hoppe, M. Schoff, N. Alexander

Oak Ridge National Lab

cryo-injection guns

L.R. Baylor

UC-Irvine

W.W. Heidbrink

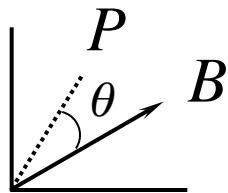
fast particle detection

Status of efforts towards a SPF demonstration experiment

- **White Paper & presentation to a DOE-FESAC subcommittee** - May 31/17 ✓
for inclusion in the *Fusion Energy Sciences* long-range R&D plan
→ report due out Jan/2018
- ↔ proposed time line:
 - funding in FY'19 (Oct'18) for **TR-3** (*Technical Readiness Level 3*):
 - the beginning of an *official DOE-FES “project”*
 - initial designs and cost analysis of each major subsystem
 - funding for 3 years beginning in FY'20 (Oct'19) to reach **TR-6**:
 - construction of an optimized ${}^3\text{He}$ polarizer and commissioning at DIII-D
 - construction of (*ICF-like*) systems for rapid pellet permeation
 - development of ancillary equipment to polarize HD and transport to DIII-D
 - retrofit existing cryo-pellet launchers and guide tubes for polarized pellets
 - DIII-D optimization of high- T_{ion} Hydrogen plasmas & vertical fuel injection
 - build and install proton detector array to map poloidal distribution in DIII-D
 - **1st *in situ* SPF measurements in 2022**

extras

spin-dependent $^3He+D \rightarrow \alpha+p$ (or $T+D \rightarrow \alpha+n$) angular distributions



- polar (pitch) angles relative to local magnetic field direction
- neglecting interference terms (good to $\sim 2\text{-}3\%$)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{cm}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right)_0 \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{2} P_D^V P_{^3He} + \frac{1}{2} \left[3P_D^V P_{^3He} \sin^2 \theta + \frac{1}{2} P_D^T (1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta) \right] \right\}$$

- $P_D^V = n_D^{+1} - n_D^{-1} \in [-1, +1]$
- $P_D^T = n_D^{+1} + n_D^{-1} - 2n_D^0 \in [-2, +1]$
- $P_{^3He} = n_{^3He}^{+1/2} - n_{^3He}^{-1/2} \in [-1, +1]$

→ angle integrated cross section :

$$\sigma_{cm} = \sigma_0 \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{P}_D^V \cdot \vec{P}_{^3He} \right\}$$