



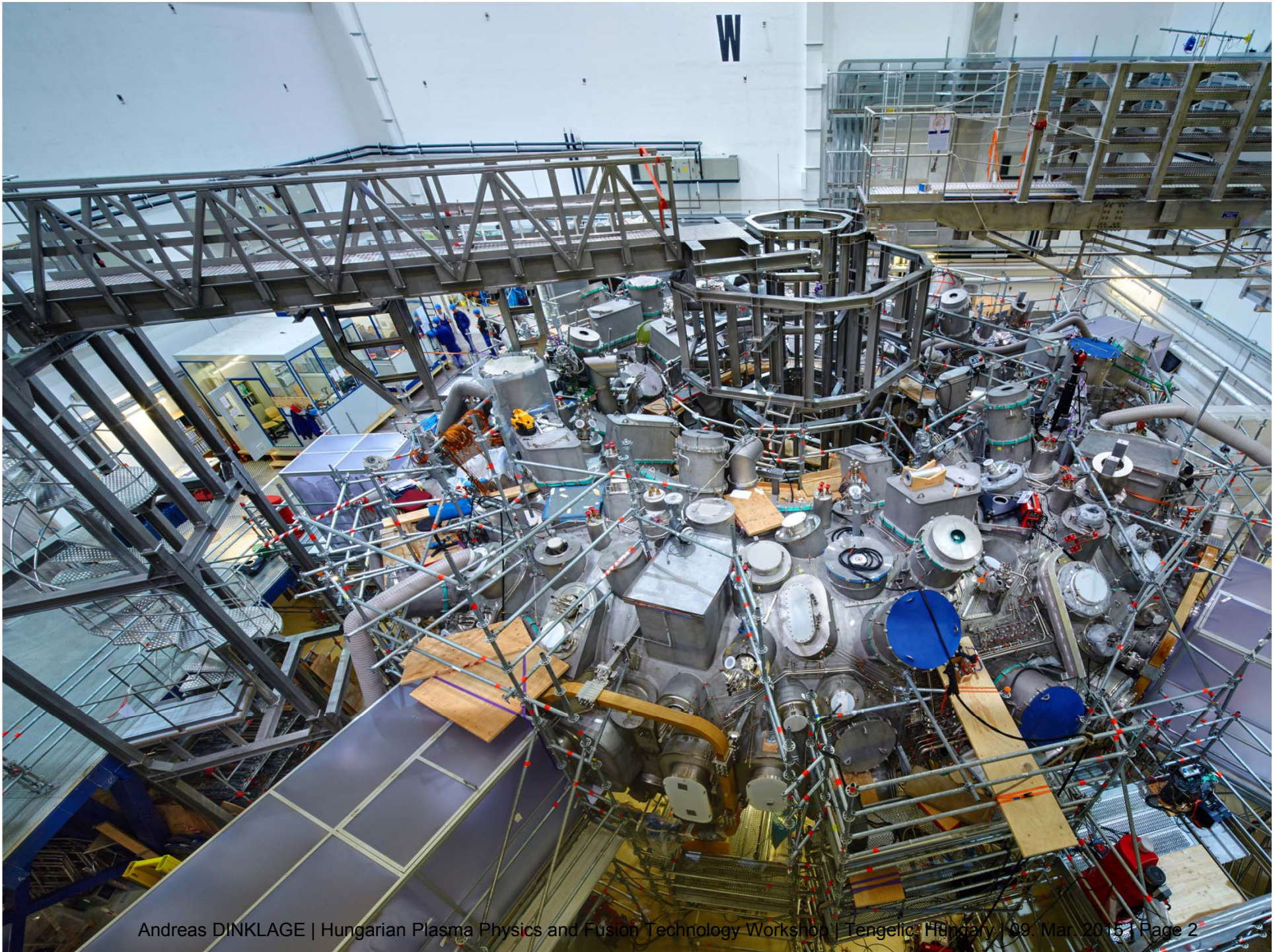
# Wendelstein 7-X in the European Roadmap to Fusion Electricity

Enrique Ascasíbar for the W7-X Team

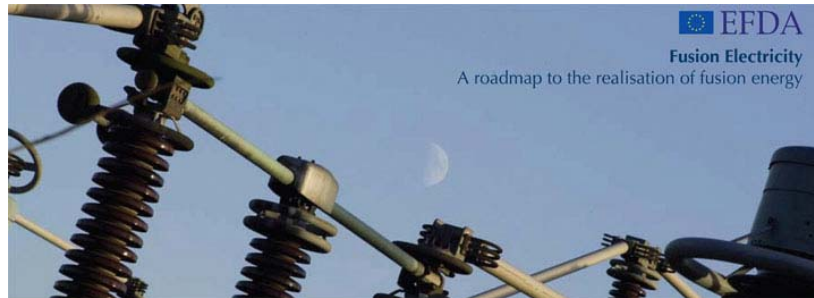


This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium and has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement number 633053. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission.









1. Introduction and Motivation: Stellarators in the EU Roadmap
2. Operational Phases of W7-X: OP1.1, OP1.2
3. Aspects of SSO
4. Summary



# Wendelstein 7-X, the Engineers' View



mass: 725 t

$R = 5.6 \text{ m}$

$a = 0.5 \text{ m}$

$V_{\text{plasma}} = 30 \text{ m}^3$

$B \leq 3 \text{ T}$

$\nu \Rightarrow 5/6 - 5/4$

**ECRH heating**  
**OP1.1: 5.3 MW**

plasma vessel

254 ports

117 diagnostics ports

outer vessel

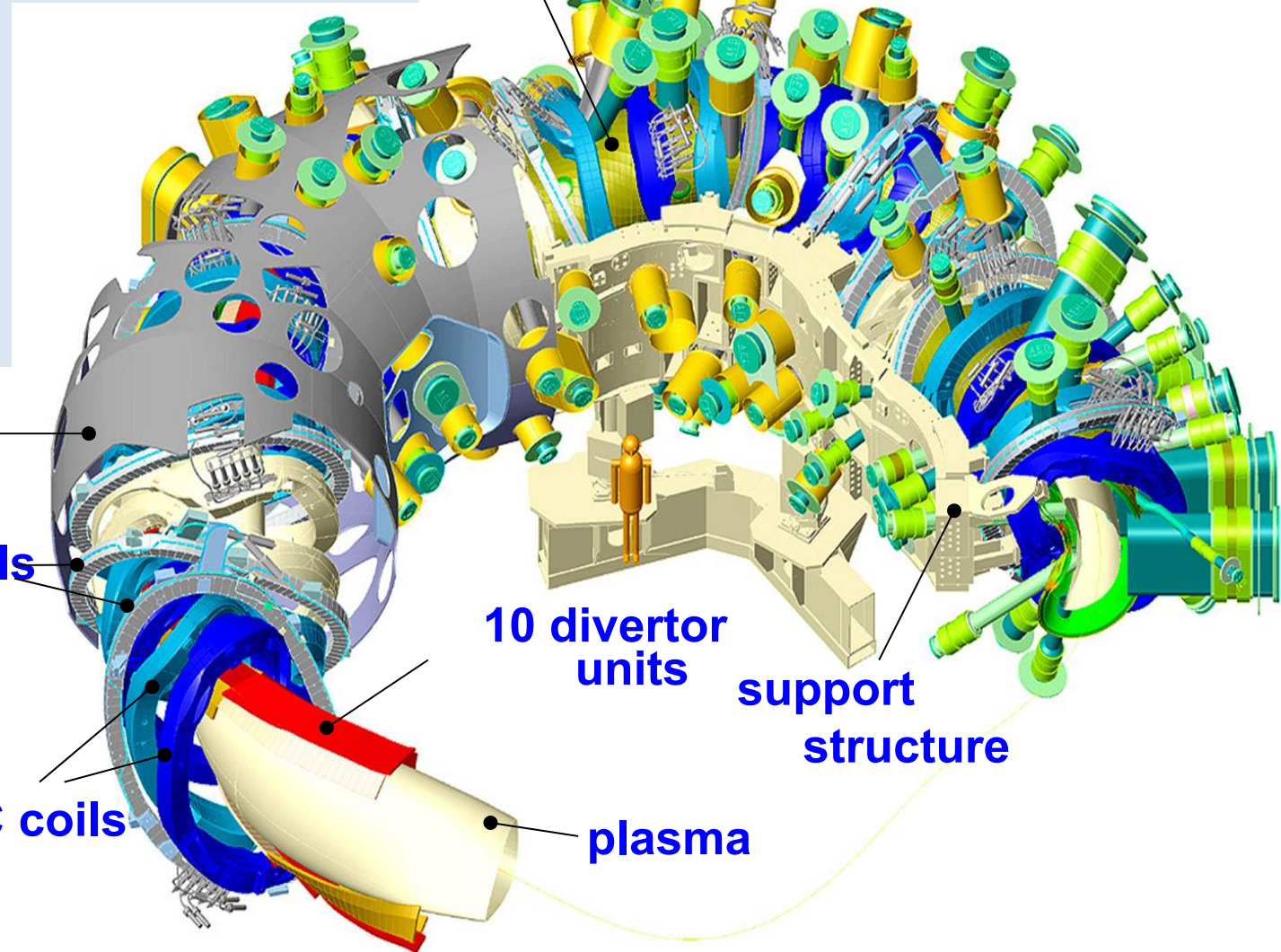
20 planar SC coils

50 non-planar SC coils

10 divertor units

support structure

plasma



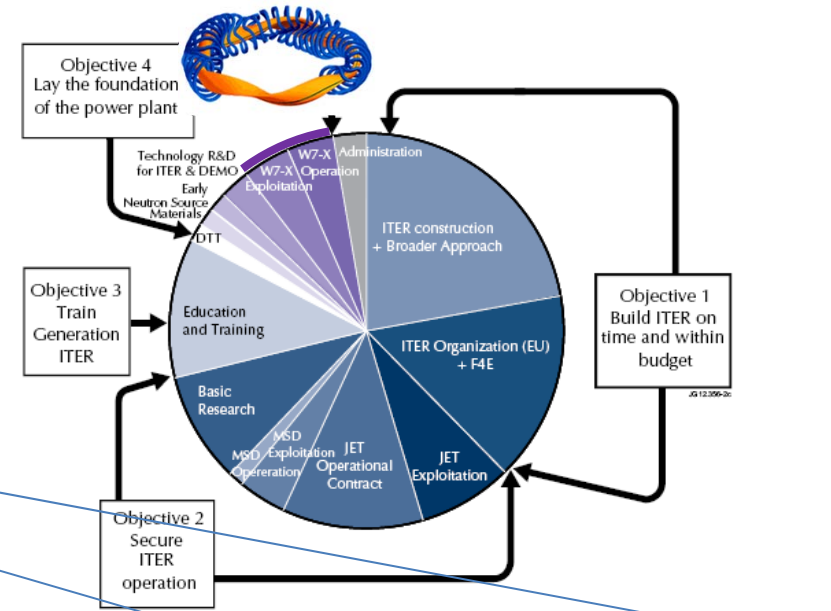
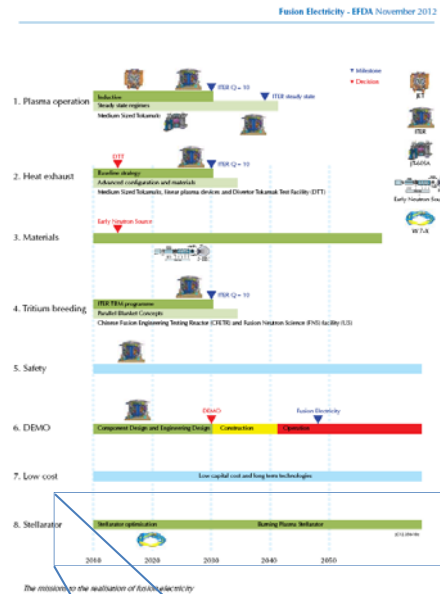
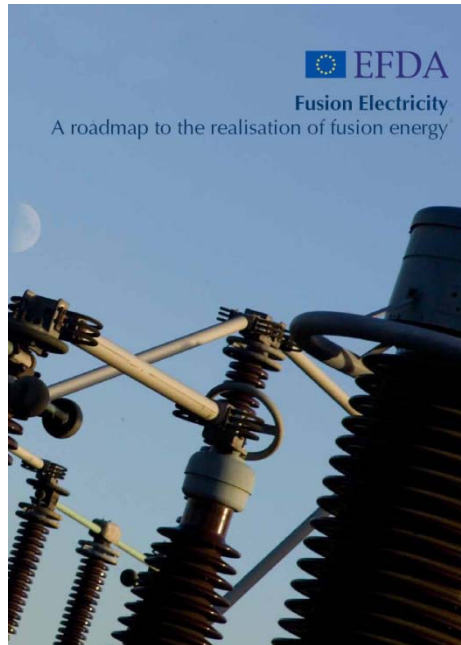


# Europe and W7-X / W7-X and Europe

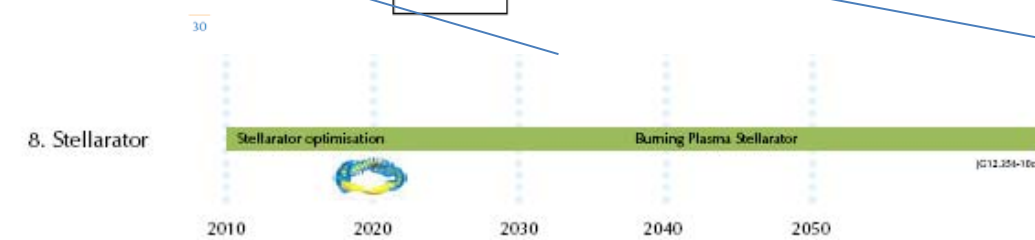


<http://www.efda.org/wpcms/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/JG12.356-web.pdf?5c1bd2>

Introduction and Motivation: Stellarators in the Roadmap



EU Roadmap: Eight Missions:  
**Mission 8**  
 Bring the HELIAS line to maturity



**Long-term alternative to tokamaks: mitigate risks and enhance synergies:**

**Wendelstein 7-X is an integral part of the European fusion development strategy.**



# Why stellarators<sup>[1]</sup>?



Introduction and Motivation: Stellarators in the Roadmap

## Stellarators:

*the main alternative magnetic confinement concept to the tokamak.*

**external coils generate rotational transform: 3D-confinement without plasma current**

- + intrinsically steady-state
- + no current disruptions
- + no current driven instabilities
- + no need significant current drive
- + no runaway electrons
- + operation above Greenwald-limit feasible
- + lower  $\alpha$ -particle pressure (for given  $P_{fus}$ )

- 3D engineering
- 3D core impurity transport
- 3D plasma/fast ion confinement
- high neoclassical losses**
- 3D MCF: one generation behind
  - divertor concept to be verified
  - operation scenarios to be developed

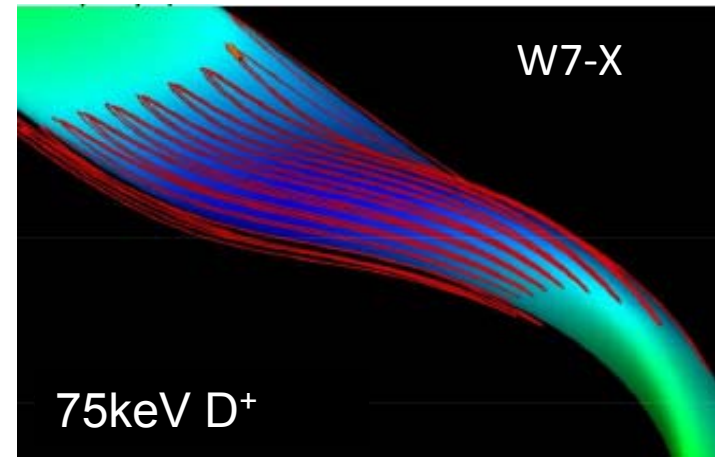
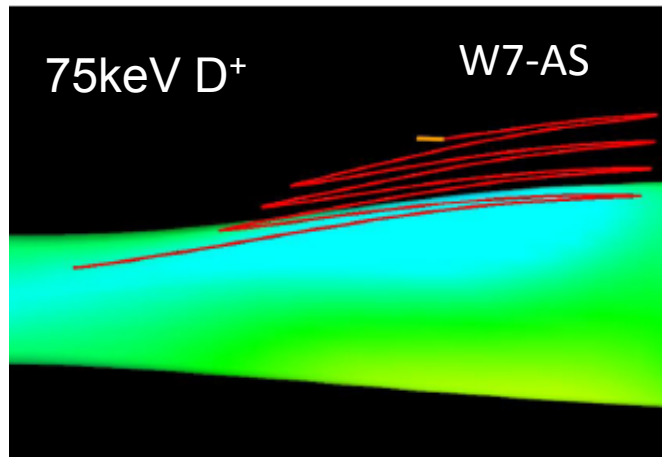
***Stellarator Optimization<sup>[2]</sup>: mitigate 3D losses  
to pave the way to a Fusion Power Plant***

<sup>[1]</sup>Helander, Rep. Prog. Phys. **77**, 0877001 (2014), <sup>[2]</sup>Nührenberg, Zille, Phys. Lett. **A 114**, 129 (1986)

## Stellarator Optimization<sup>[1]</sup>: mitigate 3D losses

### HELical Axis Advanced Stellarator (Neoclassical Optimization)

**taming locally trapped particles by proper shaping of mod B**



© R.Kleiber

• **proof the concept of stellarator optimization to be a viable path to FPPs**

• **fundamentally new scientific field: Imp-3D plasma physics**

⇒ 3D impurity transport

⇒ 3D turbulence

⇒ improved confinement modes

⇒ fast particles & Alfvénic instabilities

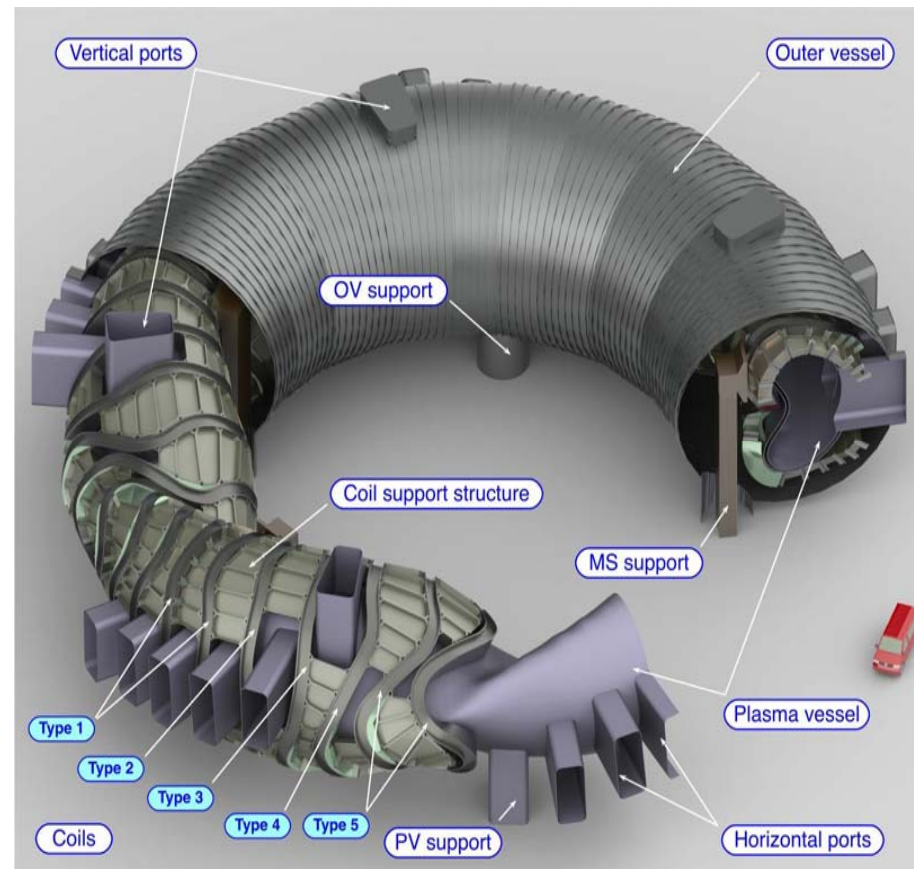
⇒ high- $\beta$  operation at low  $v_i \sim v_e$

⇒ new (island) divertor & SOL physics

<sup>[1]</sup>Nührenberg, Zille, *Phys. Lett. A* **114**, 129 (1986)



## Engineering Study HELIAS 5-B



**electro-mechanical feasibility of HELIAS fusion-power plants**

*Schauer et al., Fusion Eng. Design 88, 1619 (2013)*

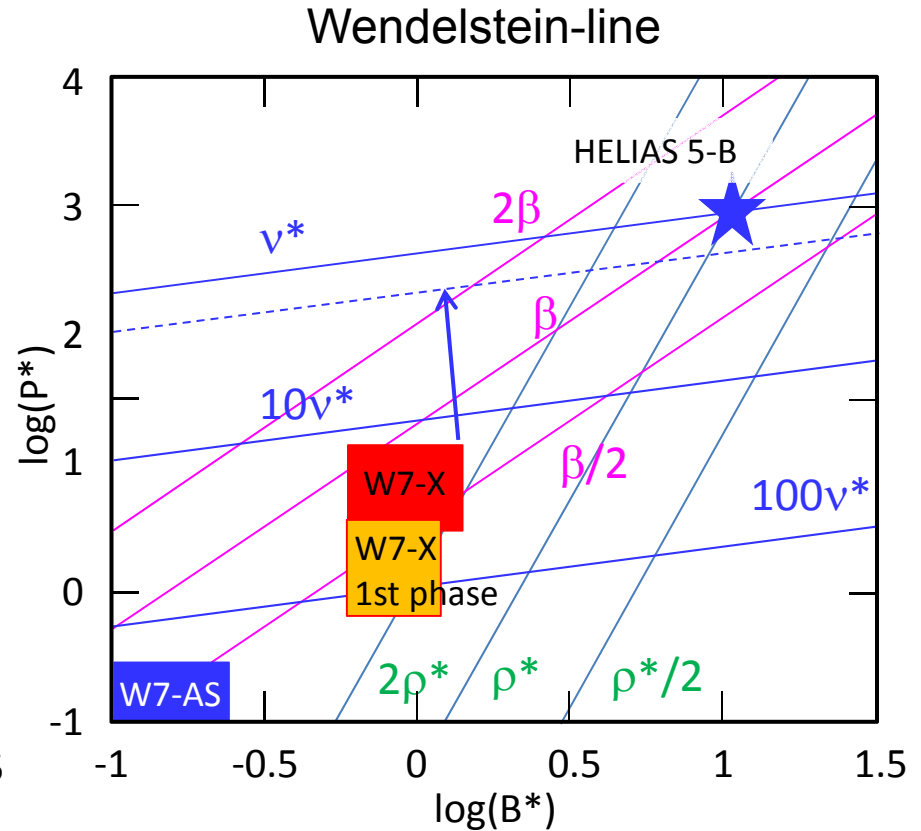
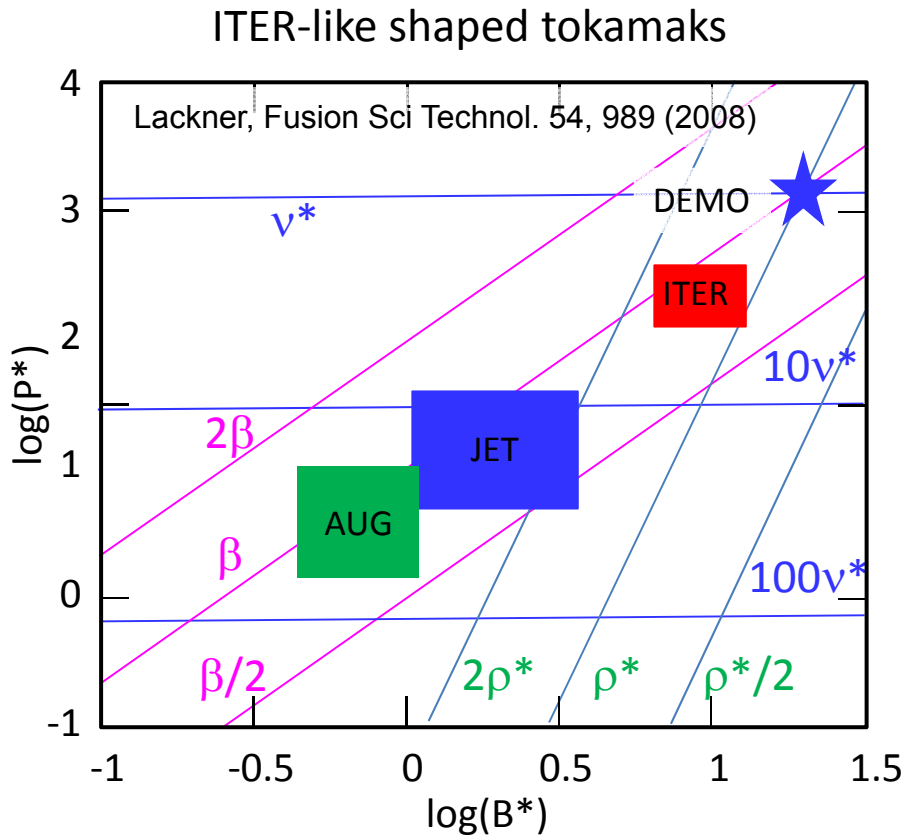




# And what is needed for a HELIAS-FPP?



## Gaps in dimensionless $\beta$ , $\rho^*$ , $\nu^*$ parameters



From Wendelstein 7-X there is still a large gap to the HELIAS reactor but W7-X is large enough to assess reactor physics aspects.



# High-level objectives and implications



## Mission 8: bring HELIAS to maturity

*Operational Phases of W7-X*

- ⇒ exploit W7-X to prepare a decision on the next-step HELIAS device:  
HELIAS-FPP? or HELIAS-BPX?
- ⇒ steady-state,  $I_{mfp}$ , high- $\beta$ , (low  $v^*$ ,  $\rho^*$ ) plasmas and demonstration of favourable 3D confinement/operation
- ⇒ high-level priorities : address key issues in 3D confinement
  - safe operation schemes and effects of optimization
  - density control, impurities, fast particles, island divertor/edge
- ⇒ implement actions along high-level priorities
  - theory driven exploitation and predictive capabilities
  - delivery of key components and their operation
  - preparation of experimental schemes and FPP physics basis

### **specific actions to comply with WP14-18: prepare SSO**

- + develop in OP1 feasible island divertor scenarios in a robust environment to mitigate later technical risks with water-cooled in-vessel components (OP2)
  - increase density
  - explore magnetic configurations compliant with reliable divertor operation
- + assess aspects of stellarator optimization, develop interpretative and predictive capabilities

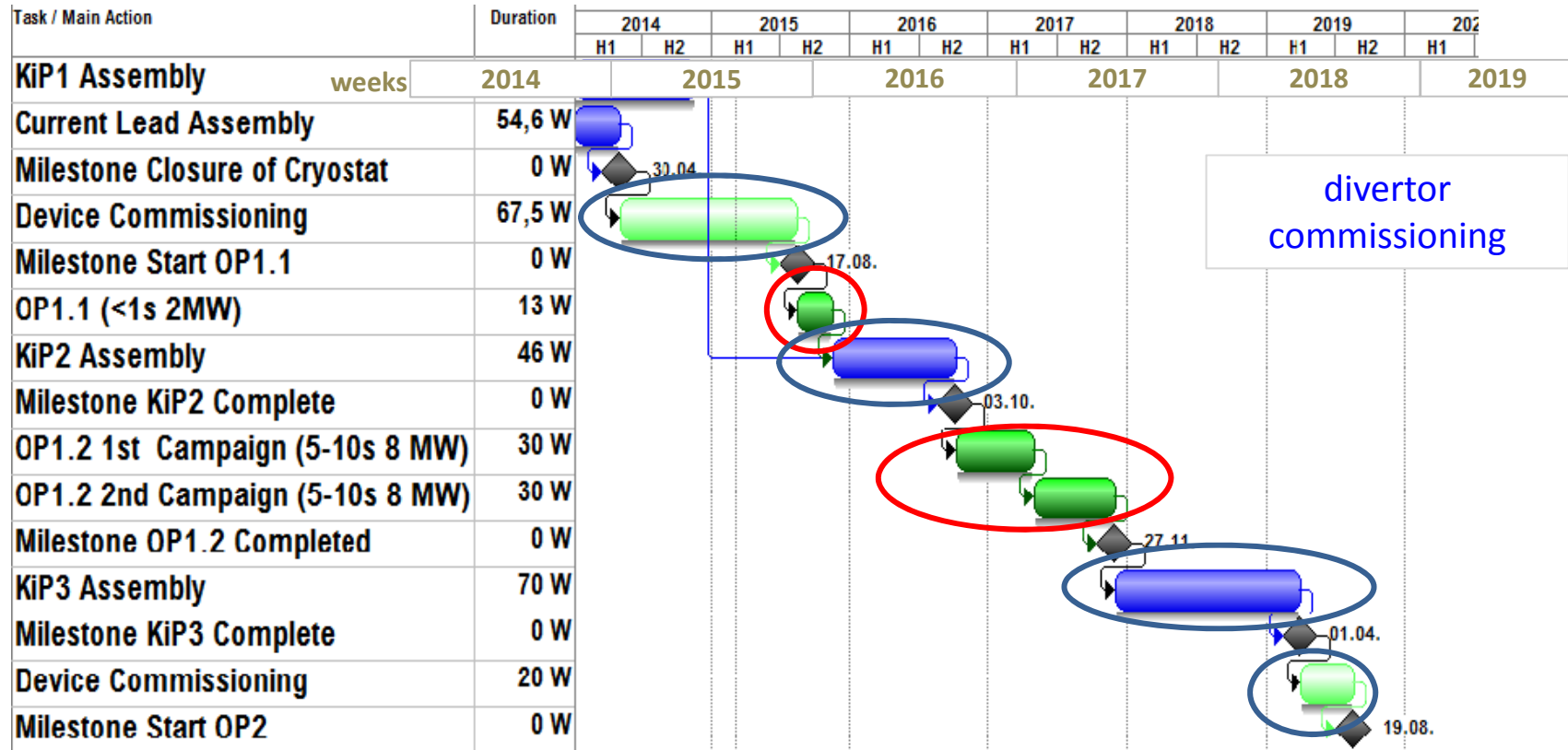
# Timeline OP1.1, OP1.2, OP2



Device commissioning  
(cryostat, fields, vacuum)

Test divertor  
installation

HHF divertor  
installation



divertor  
commissioning

1st plasma C uncooled divertor water-cooled HHF div.  
 C limiter; pulsed op. plasmas steady-state plasmas  
 OP 1.1 pulsed operation OP 2





# W7-X: first OPs in figures



Operational Phases of W7-X

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OP 1.1</b><br><b>2015</b><br>13 wks    | <b>uncooled carbon limiter</b><br>He, (H)<br><b>pulse</b> limit: $E_{\max} < 2\text{ MJ}$<br>$\tau_{\text{Pulse}} \lesssim 1\text{ s}$                          | $P_{\text{ECRH}} \sim 2\text{ MW}$ (...5MW)<br>gas puff<br>surveillance diag.<br>magnetics<br>basic $n$ , $T$ , imp. diagnostics                                                                                                                                                  | $T_e^{\text{NC}} < 3.5\text{ keV}$<br>$T_i^{\text{NC}} < 0.9\text{ keV}$<br>$n < 2 \times 10^{19}\text{ m}^{-3}$<br>$\beta_{\text{ISS04}} < 0.6\%$<br>$\beta_{\text{NC}} < 1.6\%$ |
| <b>OP 1.2(a)</b><br><b>2016</b><br>29 wks | <b>uncooled test-divertor (C)</b><br>H, (D)<br><b>pulse</b> limit: $E_{\max} < 80\text{ MJ}$<br>$\tau_{\text{Pulse}} \lesssim 10\text{ s} \dots \text{min}$     | $P_{\text{ECRH}} \sim 8\text{ MW}$<br>$P_{\text{NBI}}^{\text{H}} \sim 7\text{ MW}$<br>+profiles MHD ( $n, T, E_p, \dots$ )<br>+impurity diagnostics                                                                                                                               | $T_e^{\text{NC}} < 3.5\text{ keV}$<br>$T_i^{\text{NC}} < 3\text{ keV}$<br>$n < 1.6 \times 10^{20}\text{ m}^{-3}$<br>$\beta_{\text{ISS04}} < 1.2\%$<br>$\beta_{\text{NC}} < 3\%$   |
| <b>OP 1.2(b)</b><br><b>2017</b><br>29 wks | <b>test scraper elements</b>                                                                                                                                    | + $P_{\text{ICRH}} \sim 1.6\text{ MW}$<br>$P_{\text{tot}} \lesssim 10\text{ MW}$<br>+ blower gun pellet inj.<br>+ diagn. upgrades                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>OP 2</b><br><b>&gt;2019</b>            | <b>actively cooled divertor (CFC)</b><br><b>steady-state capable</b><br>D, H<br>technical limit: <b>30 min/10MW</b><br>$P_{\text{target}}/A < 10\text{ MW/m}^2$ | $P_{\text{ECRH}} \sim 10\text{ MW}$<br>$P_{\text{NBI}}^{\text{H}} \sim 7\text{ MW}$ or<br>$P_{\text{NBI}}^{\text{D}} \sim 10\text{ MW}$<br>$P_{\text{ICRH}} \sim 4\text{ MW}$<br>$P_{\text{tot}} \lesssim 20\text{ MW}$<br>+ quasi cw pellet injection<br>+ steady-state upgrades | $T_e^{\text{NC}} < 4.5\text{ keV}$<br>$T_i^{\text{NC}} < 4\text{ keV}$<br>$n < 2.4 \times 10^{20}\text{ m}^{-3}$<br>$\beta_{\text{ISS04}} < 2\%$<br>$\beta_{\text{NC}} < 5\%$     |



# Minimum goals of OP1.1



OP1.1

**uncooled carbon limiter, He, (H),  $E_{max} < 2\text{MJ}$**

## **OP1.1 priorities: first plasma operation and integral commissioning**

1. Integral commissioning of all systems needed for successful plasma operation
2. Existence of closed flux surfaces all the way to the limiter (at  $B=2.5\text{ T}$ )
3. Measurement and adequate reduction of  $B_{11}$  field errors
4. Reliable ECRH plasma startup scenario in He
5. Basic ECRH interlocks and safe operation scenarios
6. Basic impurity content monitoring
7. Central  $T_e > 1\text{ keV}$  at  $n_e > 5 \cdot 10^{18}\text{ m}^{-3}$  in at least 10 discharges in He

Plus some more physics:

- Electron root transport studies
- Scrape-off layer studies
- First experiments with ECRH and ECCD
- First comparison He vs H (startup, pumping, confinement)

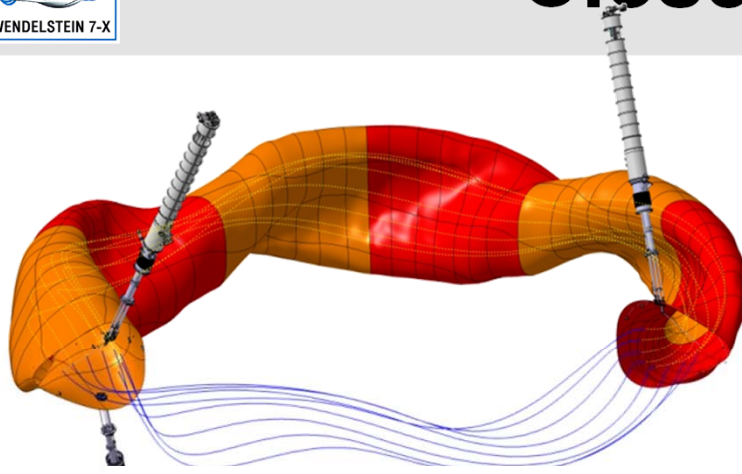
**Confirmation of optimization goals of W7-X will be done in later operation phases.**

*T.S. Pedersen, EPS2014 & W7-X PC Meeting,*

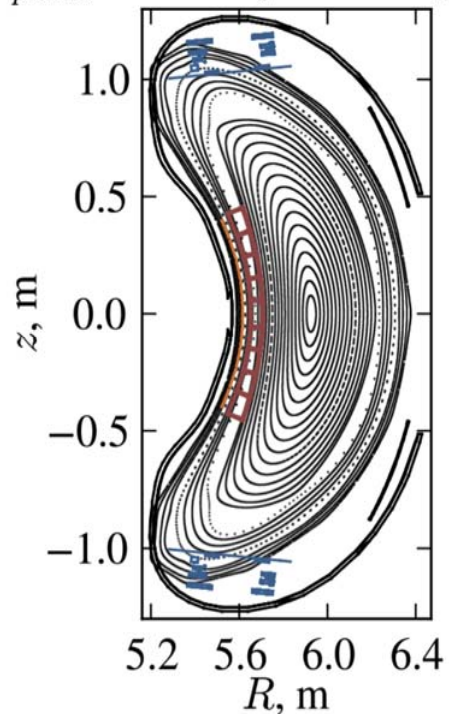
# Closed flux surfaces

view into the W7-X vacuum vessel

OP1.1



$$I_{\text{planar}} = 0.23, \iota_0 = 0.75, \iota_a = 0.81$$



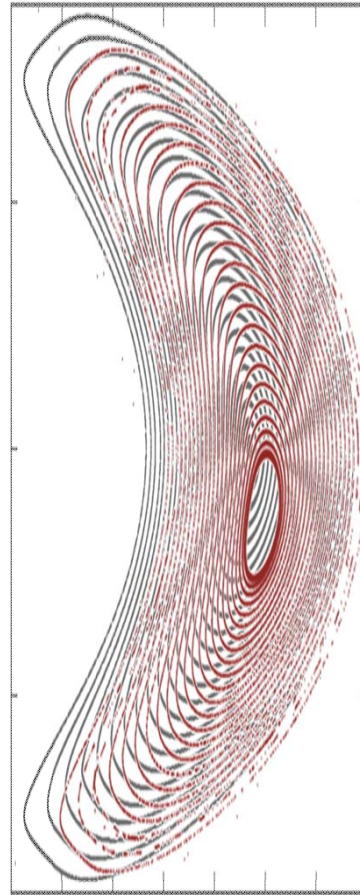
EDICAM video camera system



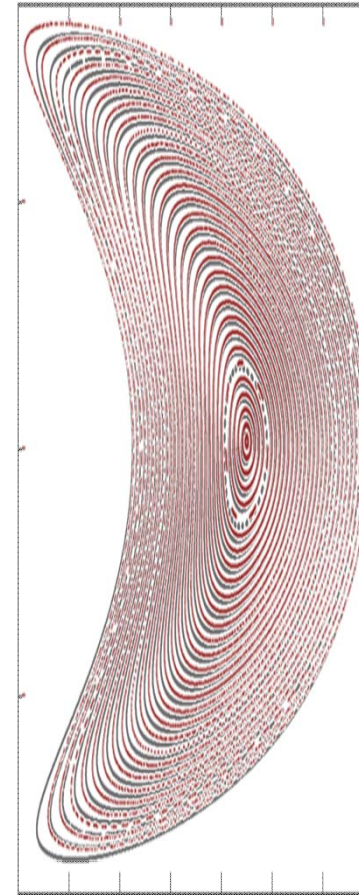
# Field errors

no magnetic field errors  
By  $10^4$  T

OP1.1



high-iota configuration



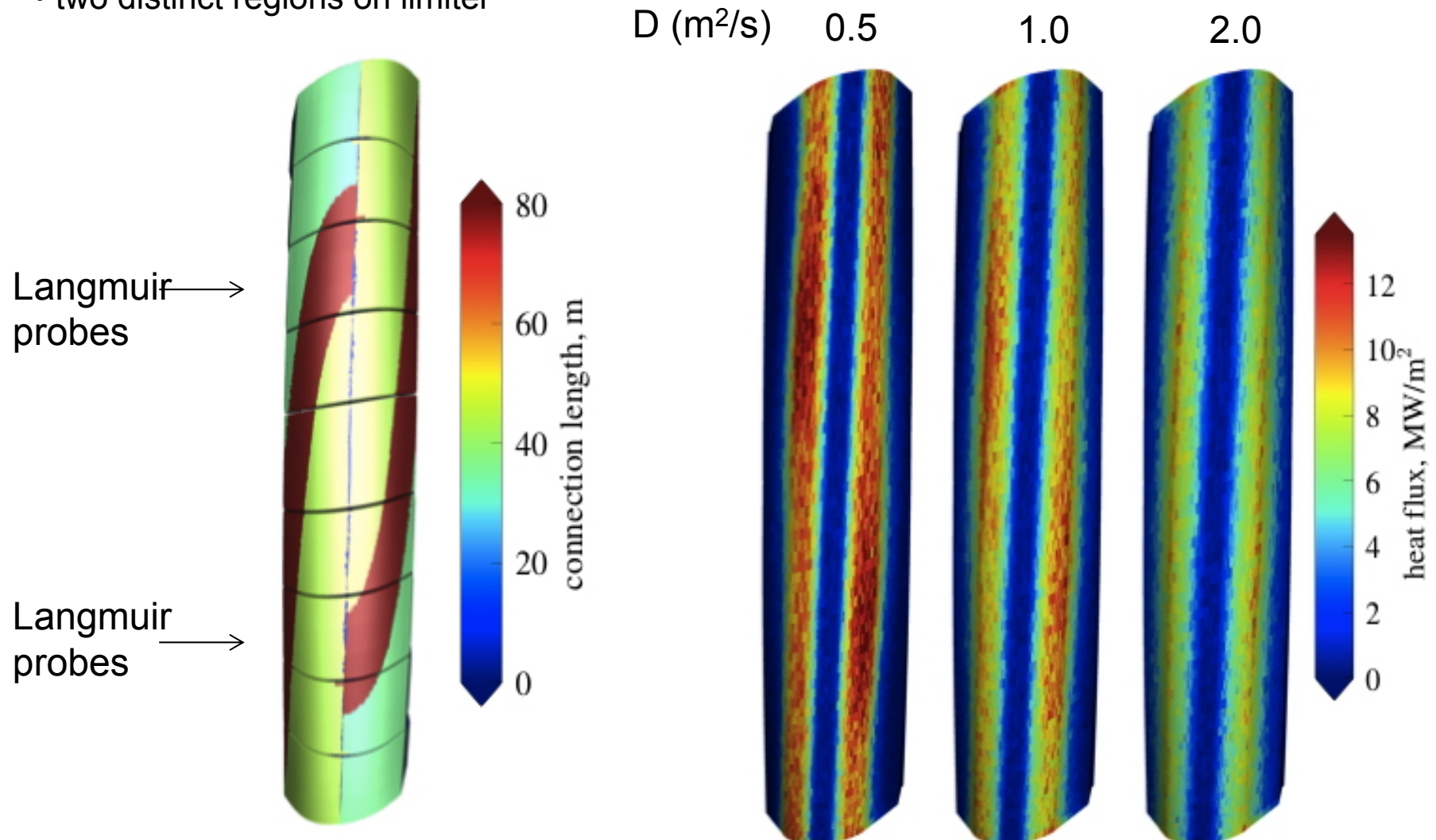
standard configuration

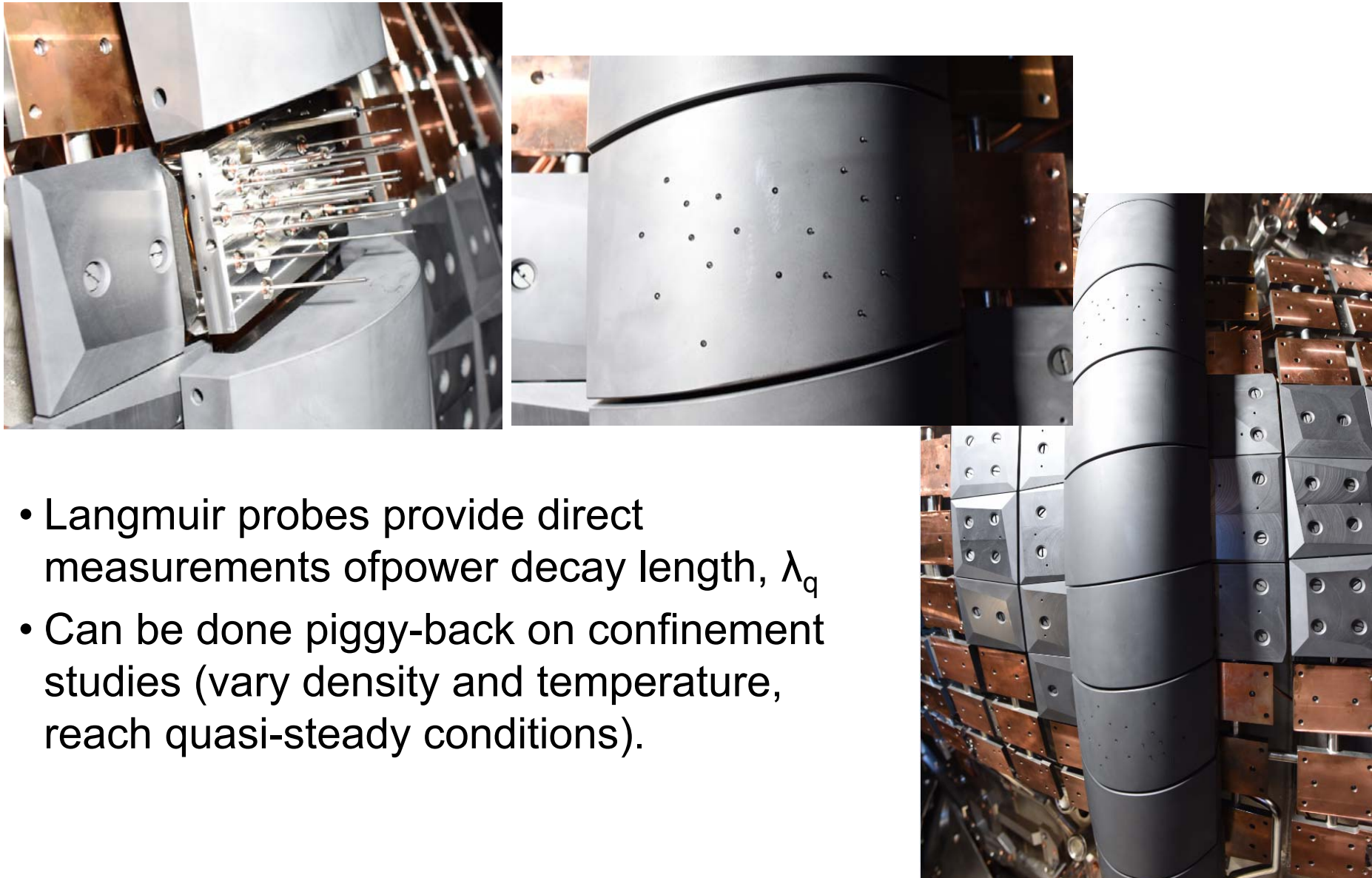
**assessment of small field errors  $\Rightarrow$  development of divertor configurations**

# Limiter SOL physics

- connection length is short compared to divertor phase
- two distinct regions on limiter

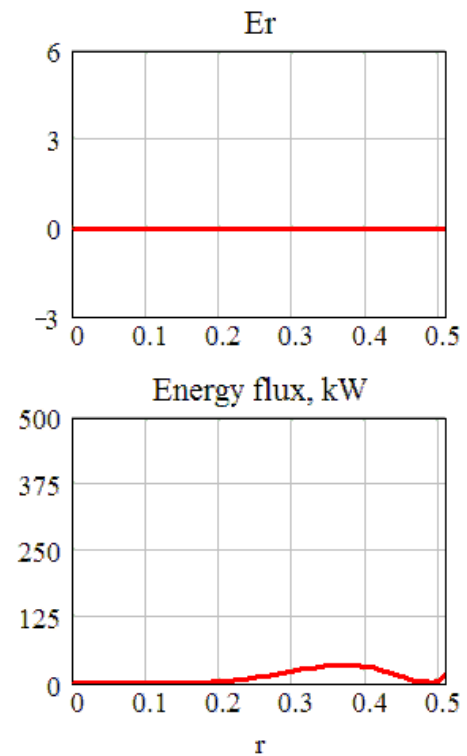
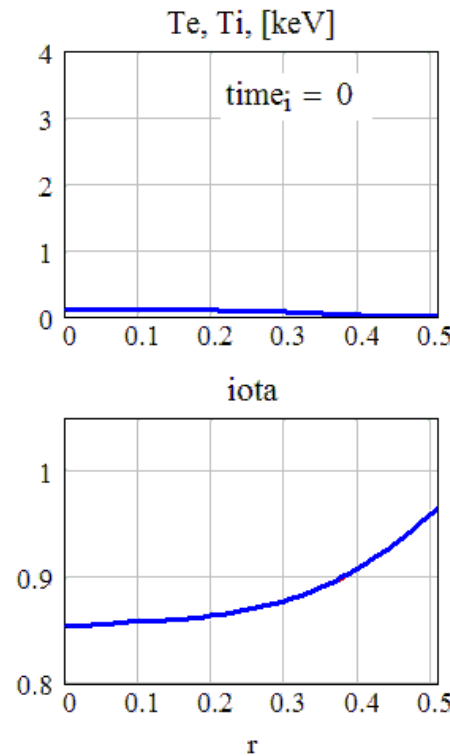
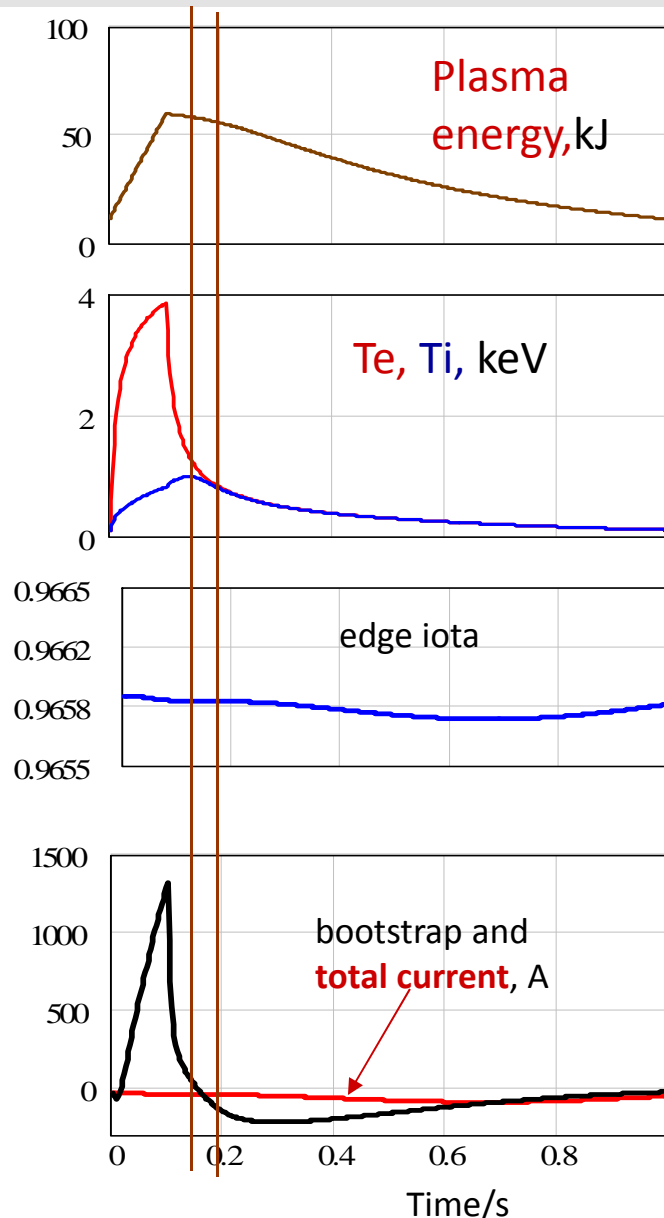
Cross field diffusion rate visibly affects heat load patterns





- Langmuir probes provide direct measurements of power decay length,  $\lambda_q$
- Can be done piggy-back on confinement studies (vary density and temperature, reach quasi-steady conditions).





© Yu. Turkin

- 500 kW ECRH; 100 ms after burn-through
- bootstrap current shielded by the plasma response
- strong electron-root feature in the core – high  $T_e$



## OP 1.2: the test-divertor unit (TDU) phase



**Uncooled but robust TDU:  
unique possibility to explore aggressively the configuration space**

**It gives flexibility to react on  
new insights and technical changes**

**Guiding principles:**

**1. increase density**

**target: beyond X2-ECRH cut-off ( $\sim 1.5 \dots 2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ )  
divertor operation, towards high- $nT\tau$ /high- $\beta$ @low- $v^*$  ...**

**2. employ configurational flexibility**

optimization (small Shafranov shift, good NC confinement, small bootstrap, MHD stability...)

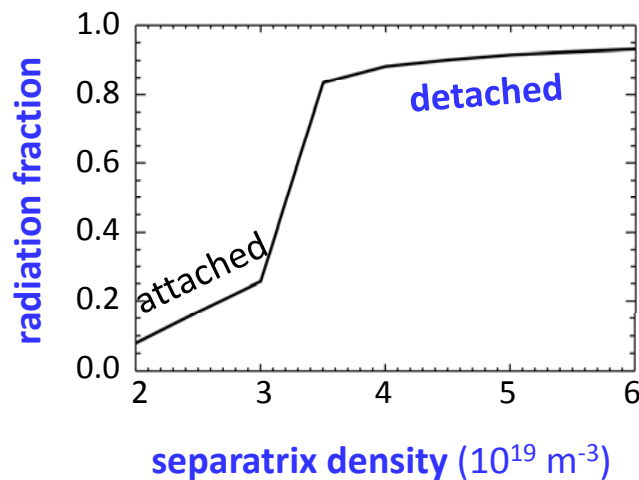
**→ arrange physics topics along these lines**

- 1) Prepare high-density, high-power steady-state operation**
- 2) Prove and assess elements of stellarator optimization**

**towards safe divertor operation**

**towards high- $nT\tau_E$ ,  
high  $n$  & high  $T \rightarrow$  high  $\tau_E$ , high- $\beta$**

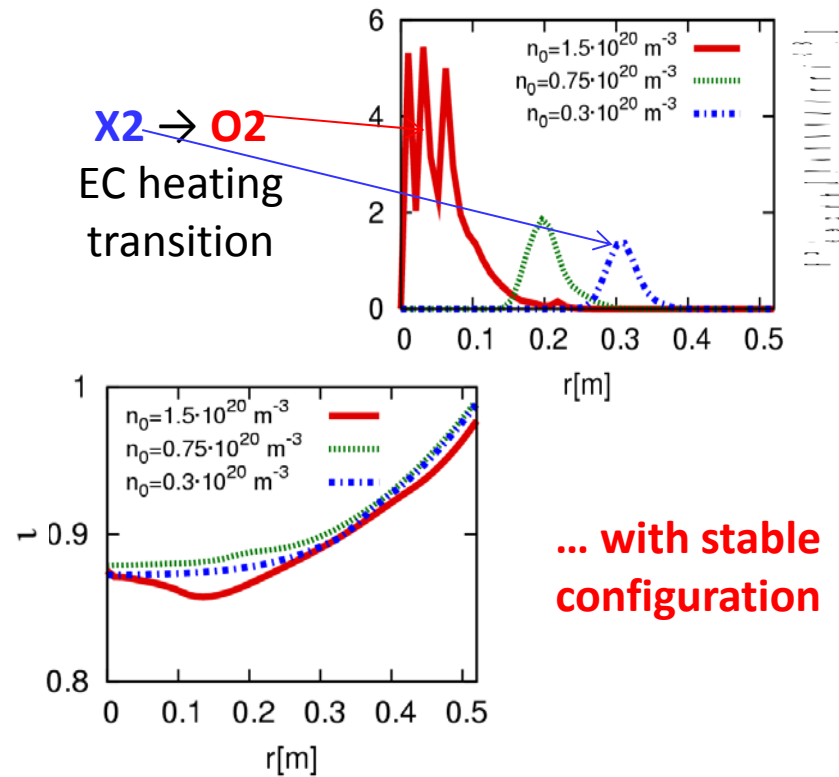
**EMC3/EIRENE simulations  
detachment in stellarator divertor plasmas**



**with high radiation fractions  
(control:  $L_c$ , x-point location,  $n_{us}$ )**

Y. Feng

**plasma scenario development**



**... with stable  
configuration**

Geiger et al., PPCF (2015)

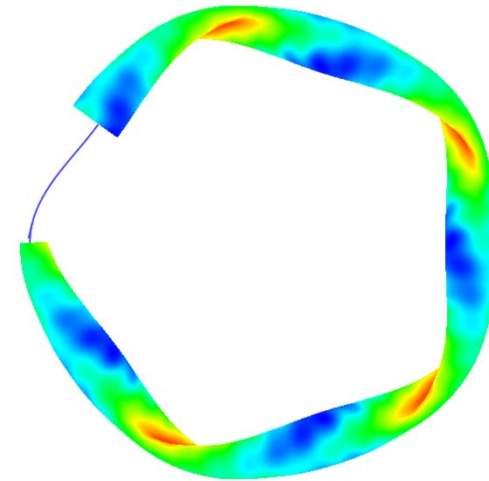


## W7-X coils & protection components: systematic explorations & adjustments

Geiger et al., EPS 2014

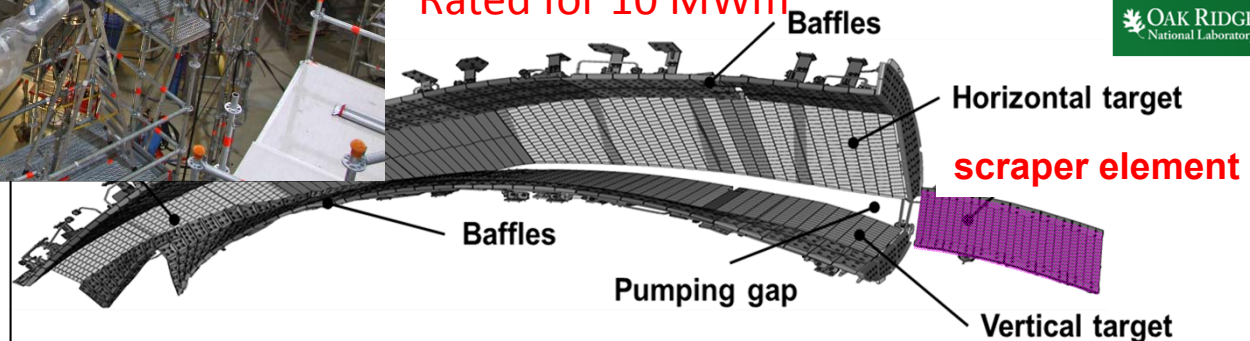


mod B  
red: high  
blue: low



Risk of overload on the target plates:  
Scraper elements: CFC monoblocks able to handle peak heat fluxes  $\leq 15 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$ : to protect overloaded areas intercepting part of the flux

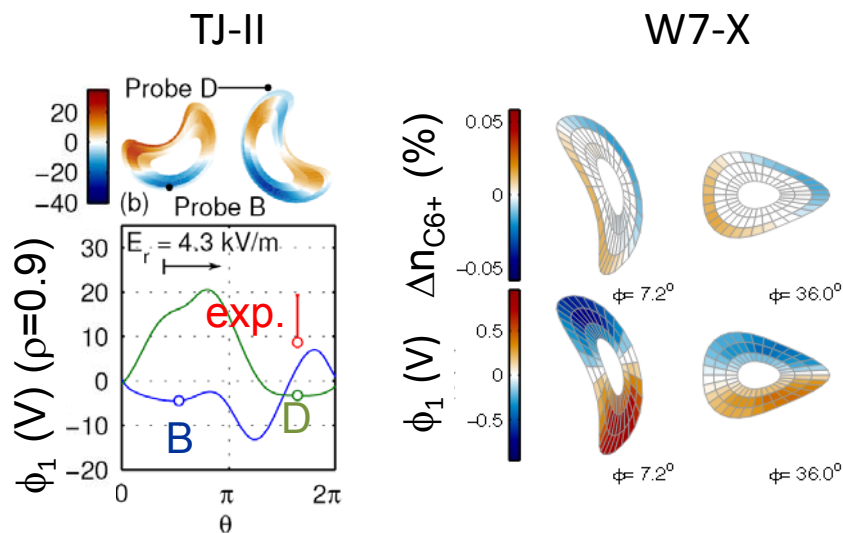
Rated for  $10 \text{ MWm}^{-2}$



Lore et al., Lumsdaine et al., IEEE Trans. Plasma Science (2014)

## Configurational flexibility: qualify scenarios & address physics topics

## Efficacy through targeted scenario preparation and validation of theory



Simulations of potential variations  $\phi_1$  experimental value (red, TJ-II) and resulting C6+ density variations (W7-X), respectively. For low-density and temperature ( $6 \times 10^{19} \text{m}^{-3}$ , 1 keV) W7-X predicted scenarios, variations exist but have a minor effect e.g. for diagnostics interpretation (C6+).

[1] Alonso et al., EPS2014

[2] Satake et al., EPS2014

### Context

- Actions to prepare short experimental campaigns in fields of strategic impact: **optimization and impurity transport**
- Long-term action towards a validated physics basis for a stellarator fusion power plant

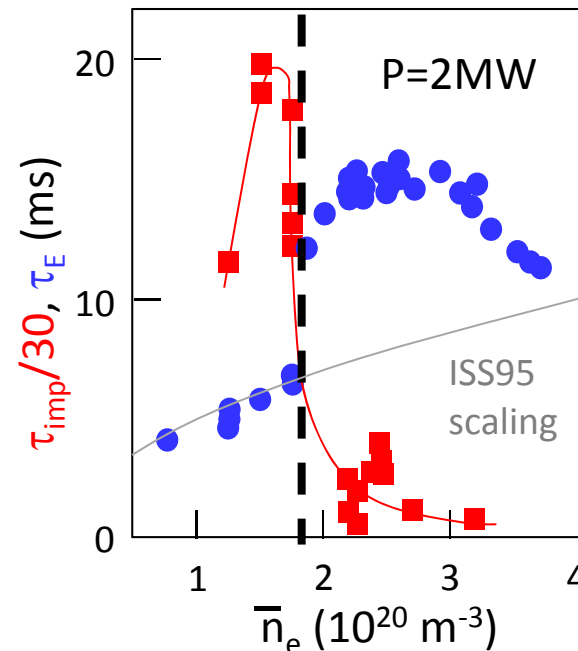
### 2014 achievement

- Experimental schemes
  - to assess in-flux-surface potential variation  $\phi_1$ <sup>[1]</sup>
  - to investigate the interplay of neoclassical and turbulent transport
- validation of non-local effects (ISHPDB)<sup>[2]</sup>

### 2015 Outlook & Prospects

- Continue scheme development (impurity transport, turbulence).
- Broaden stellarator reactor basis
- Fuelling and density control assessments

## Improved Confinement Modes: High-Density H-mode transition in W7-AS



McCormick et al., PRL (2002)

**avoidance of impurity accumulation:**  
employ the interplay of transport, sources (SOL),  
and improved operation modes



## Safety Diagnostics & Control

freedom in OP1.2 to prepare high-power divertor operation ...

... **prepare safe steady-state operation**

## Heating

at moderate densities: small ECCD (some 10kA) for configuration adjustments

at high-densities: transition from X2- to O2- heating

... **provide means for high-density operation / configuration control**

## Fuelling and Density Control

avoid core depletion by 3D transport (thermodiffusion)

... **qualify fuelling schemes**

... **control core and separatrix density**

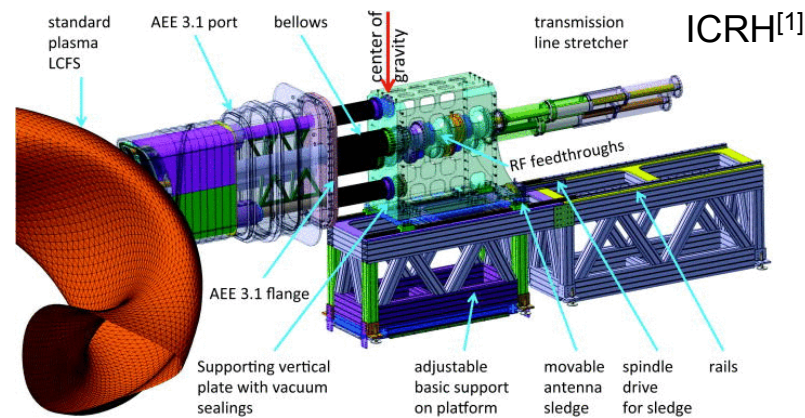
## Divertor operation schemes

→ **mitigation of operation risks with water-cooled PFCs (OP2)**

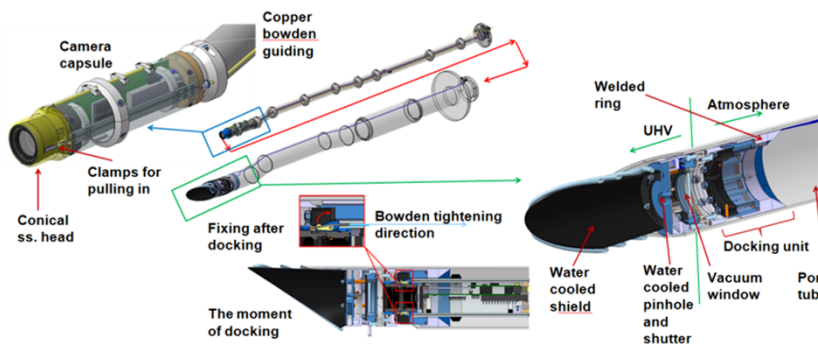


## Materializing European Expertise for W7-X: Hardware deliveries for OP1.1

Examples for hardware developments for W7-X



Video Surveillance<sup>[2]</sup>



[1] Ongena et al., PoP 2014

[2] Kocsis et al., SOFT2014

[3] Kubkowska et al., EPS-DC2015

[4] König et al., EPS\_DC2015

- Context

- Prepare the European exploitation of W7-X by hardware contributions, support actions and dedicated software developments[4]
- Focus on fields of strategic interest for bringing the HELIAS line to maturity

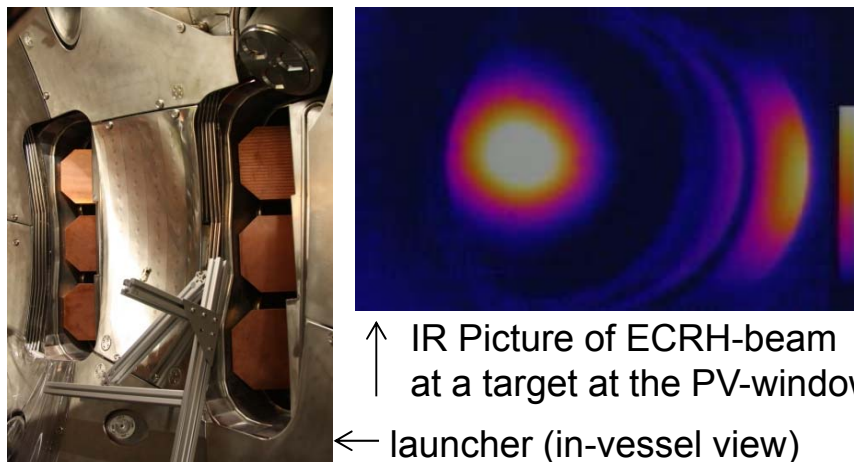
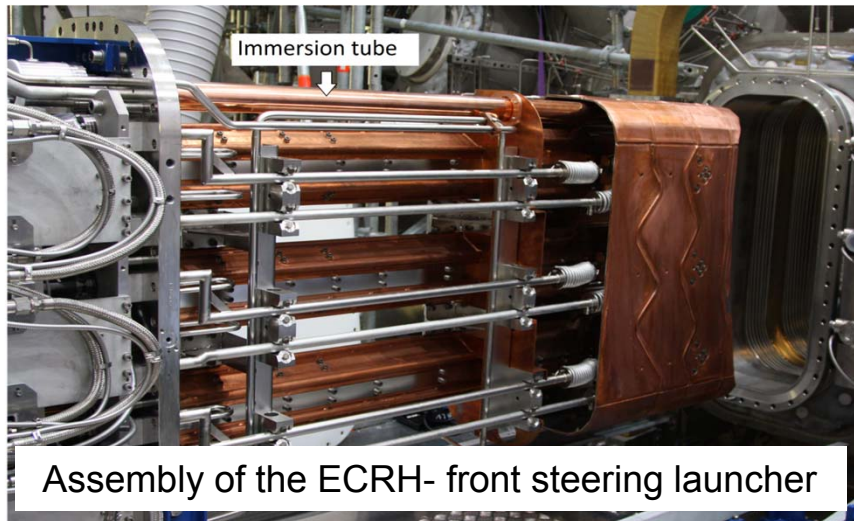
- 2014 achievement

- Diagnostics and Heating hardware prepared under delivery and installation
- V-band reflectometry, video, imaging software, PHA [3], XICS channel ready for OP1.1.
- X-ray diagnostics, ICRH underway
- Enhancement projects launched

- 2015 Outlook & Prospects

- Operation in OP1.1
- Enhancement Projects being implemented
- Feasibility studies being continued

## EC heating for W7-X: routine operation and tool for physics program

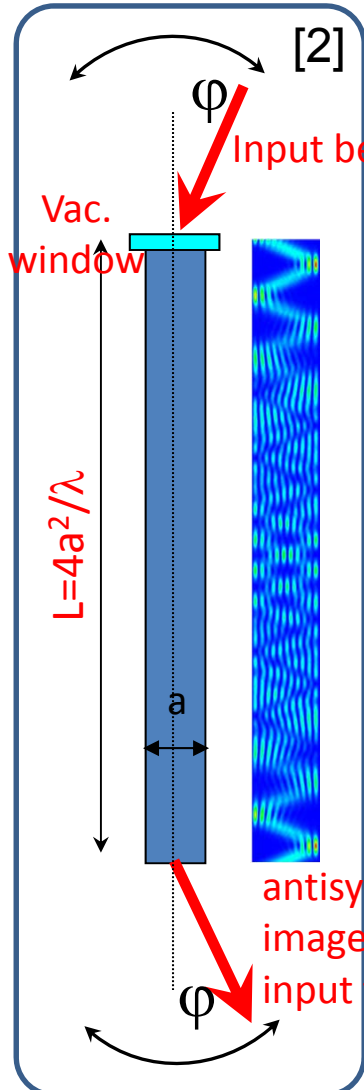
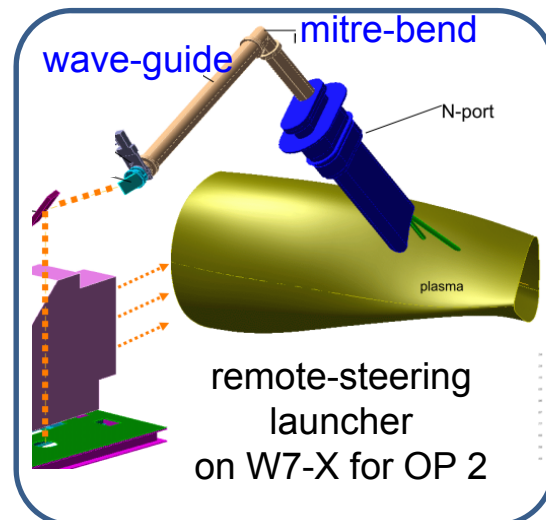
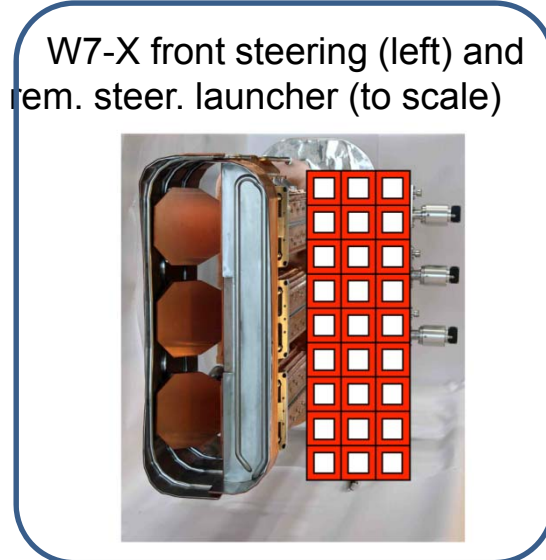


- ECRH Program (in OP1.1)
  - Reliable and routine plasma start-up from day one (incl. break-down)
  - Reliable and routine plasma heating and current drive with X2 mode ( $n_e < 1.2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ ).
  - High density plasma heating with O2 mode ( $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3} < n_e < 2.4 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ )
  - CW operation with X2 and O2.
  - Wall conditioning.
  - Heat wave generation for transport studies.
  - Pressure profile shaping by off-axis heating.
  - Iota profile shaping by local current drive.
  - Edge iota and divertor strike line position control.
  - Impurity control.
  - Fast ion diagnostic CTS

Erckmann FST 2007

Laqua

## Option for cw-EC heating in harsh environments: remote-steering



- Concept

- optimized corrugated waveguide[1]: launcher to transform steered beam **outside** the plasma vessel

- Pros

- compact & high power density (100 MW/m<sup>2</sup>)
- much enhanced RAMI avoiding complicated mechanics of fast movable mirrors
- neutron screening possible (**mitre-bend**)

- Cons

- Reduced steering range (<20°)
- Reduced focusing

- **W7-X**

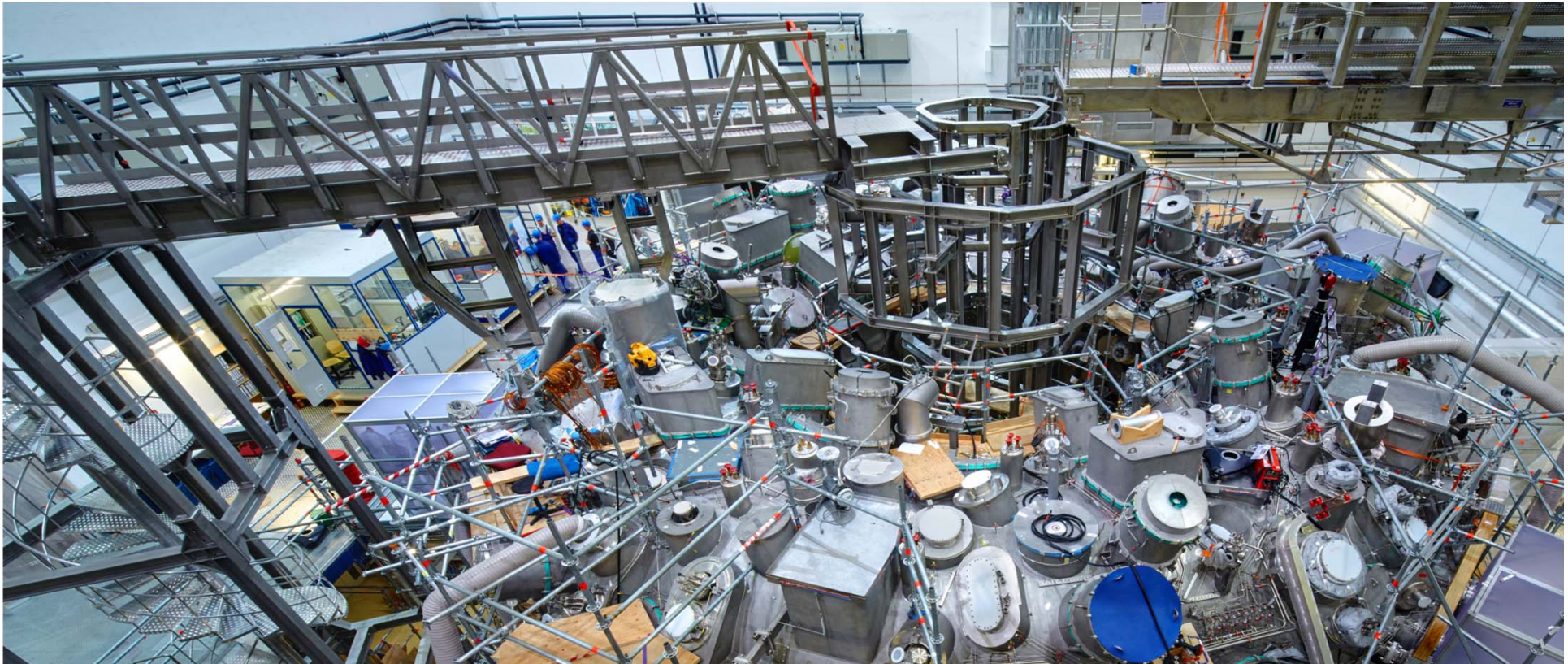
- R&D for 1MW cw for OP2
  - High-field side launch
- [1] Prater (1997), Kasperek (2003), Laqua, Plaum



*EUROfusion Call for Participation (Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>). Missions being decided*

Three experimental areas:

- Scenario development: safe operation and pulse extension
- ECH Physics
- Scrape-Off Layer Physics



# Overview of diagnostic status



| Diagnostic name                                               | In-vessel components |          |             |          |           | Vacuum barrier |          |             |          |           | Periphery                 |                                              |                                 |               |                 |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                               | Design               | Drawings | Procurement | Manufact | Installed | Design         | Drawings | Procurement | Manufact | Installed | DIA: media specified (PS) | racks specified (Schaltschrankspezifikation) | DC: collisionless design exists | media ordered | racks available | media available |
| <b>Needed OP1.1</b>                                           |                      |          |             |          |           |                |          |             |          |           |                           |                                              |                                 |               |                 |                 |
| QXE: Flux surface measurement                                 | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 100             |
| QMJ: Single channel interferometer                            | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 0               | 50              |
| QNC: Neutron counter                                          | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 100             |
| QSV: Video diagnostics                                        | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 70              | 70              |
| QME: ECE                                                      | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 50            | 70              | 0               |
| Limiter diagnostic (Langmuir probes)                          | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 75              | 5               |
| Limiter diagnostic (IR camera in QSR)                         | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 0               | 30              |
| Limiter diagnostic (Thermocouples)                            | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 100             |
| <b>Expected OP1.1</b>                                         |                      |          |             |          |           |                |          |             |          |           |                           |                                              |                                 |               |                 |                 |
| QTB: Thomson scattering (+ports)                              | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 90                        | 30                                           | 100                             | 100           | 30              | 0               |
| QSD: HEXOS                                                    | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 80              |
| QSQ: Therm. He-beam                                           | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 95                              | 100           | 30              | 20              |
| QXD: Diamagnetic loop                                         | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 20              | 0               |
| QXR & QXO: Rogowski coils                                     | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 20              | 0               |
| QXM: Mirnov coils                                             | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 0                               | 100           | 0               | 0               |
| QSX: High resolution Imaging X-Ray                            | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 90              |
| QRN: Multipurpose manipulator                                 | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 50                                           | 0                               | 0             | 0               | 0               |
| QSW XICS (US X-ray spectrometer)                              | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 50              | 20              |
| QMR: Doppler Reflectometer                                    | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 95       | 50        | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 80                              | 100           | 30              | 0               |
| QSR: H <sub>II</sub> immersion tube system                    | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 30                                           | 20                              | 20            | 0               | 0               |
| QRG: Neutral gas pressure 5 systems                           | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 80       | 40        | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 0               | 0               |
| QXS: Saddle coils                                             | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 20              | 0               |
| QSZ: z_eff single line of sight subsystem                     | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 100             | 0               |
| QSB: Bolometer QSB00/AEU30 (HBC)                              | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 50              | 20              |
| QSB: Bolometer QSB01/AEV21 (VBC)                              | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 100                                          | 100                             | 100           | 50              | 20              |
| QXP: PHA                                                      | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 20                                           | 100                             | 70            | 0               | 10              |
| QSS visible spectroscopy: simple observation from port flange | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 0                                            | 0                               | 100           | 0               | 0               |
| QMC: correlation reflectometry                                | 100                  | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100            | 100      | 100         | 100      | 100       | 100                       | 50                                           | 0                               | 0             | 50              | 0               |





# Summary



## Wendelstein 7-X in the EU Roadmap

- achieve steady-state, high- $nT_i t_E$  plasmas
- gain predictive capabilities in view of burning 3D plasmas

*Maturity: demonstrate favorable operation + validated capabilities*

### First Operation Phases (pulsed, lower power):

- qualify safe divertor & develop steady-state scenarios
  - start to address the physics of optimization
- prepare steady-state operation*

## EUROfusion Research Strategy

- address high-priority fields in view of Mission 8
- optimization, steady-state/divertor, impurities, fast particles, density control, turbulence

*2015: preparatory actions & 1<sup>st</sup> W7-X plasma operation to qualify steady-state capabilities*

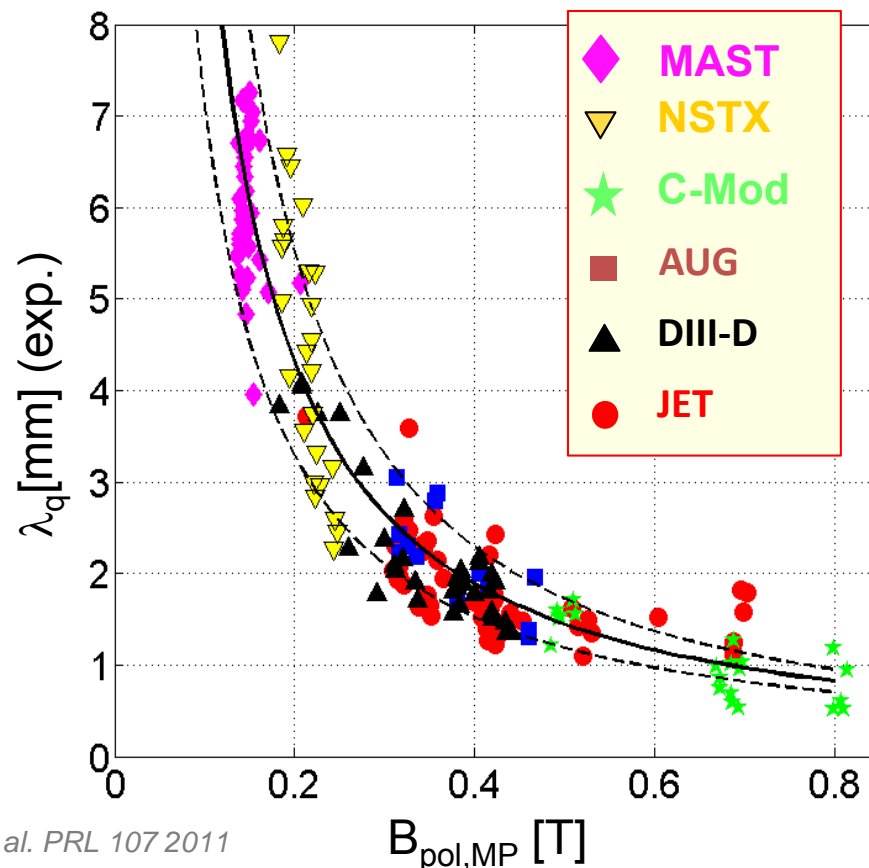


# Back-up slides





- The width of the heat deposition region,  $\lambda_q$ , scales with  $1/B_p$  in tokamaks, and NOT with machine size, leading to a prediction of  $\lambda_q \leq 1$  mm for ITER and DEMO (problematic).



T. Eich et al. PRL 107 2011

- Heuristic model: Goldston, Nucl. Fusion 52 013009 (2012)
  - $\lambda_q \sim L_c \cdot v_D$
  - In tokamaks, L is proportional to  $1/B_p$  leading to  $B_p$  scaling
  - In a stellarator,  $L_c$  is not related to  $B_p$  but to the inclination of the divertor respect to the field lines
  - Limiter operation gives data points at  $L_c \sim 30-80$  m
  - Divertor operation will give data at  $L_c \sim 100-500$  m

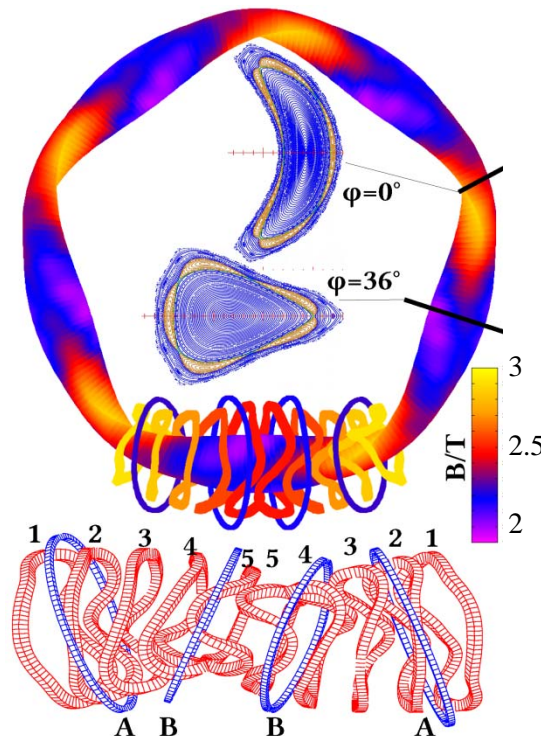
## Navigating the configuration space of optimized stellarators

5MW O2  
 $1.5 \times 10^{20} \text{m}^{-3}$

*mod B on last  
 closed flux surface  
 + vacuum edge  
 magnetic field*

*individually  
 charged coils*

*coil set for one  
 W7-X module*



*Specific high-mirror configurations to minimize residual bootstrap currents with good confinement properties and edge magnetic field (divertor)<sup>[1]</sup>*

**[1] Geiger et al., EPS2014, PPCF 2015**

**[2] Sunn-Pedersen et al., EPS 2014**

**[3] Dinklage et al., IAEA 2014**

- Context
  - goal: **steady-state operation** of optimized stellarators @ high- $\beta$ , low- $v^*$ , low- $\rho^*$
  - **qualify safe SS divertor operation** with robust PFCs (uncooled test-divertor)
- 2014 achievement
  - target configuration (core plasma) low-bootstrap current/good confinement for high-density operation identified
  - OP1.1<sup>[2]</sup> and OP1.2<sup>[3]</sup> experiment strategies
- 2015 Outlook & Prospects
  - Integration core/SOL plasma
  - Broaden discharge scenarios port-folio
  - Employ modelling for interpretation (OP1.1.)

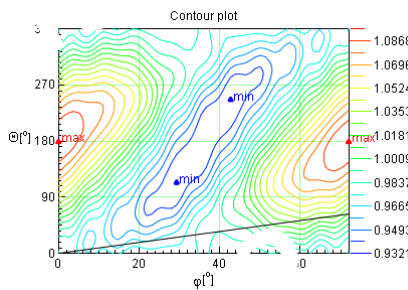


# W7-X in the Roadmap

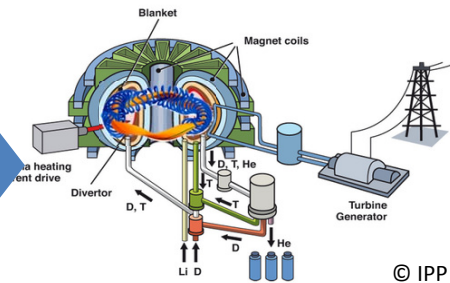


Introduction and Motivation: Stellarators in the Roadmap

## Mission 8: bring the HELIAS line to maturity



- proof optimization: NC,  $\alpha$ , bs, stability, ...
  - qualify steady-state, high-performance operation
  - gain predictive capabilities
  - pursue optimization in line w/ findings
- be ready for surprises!**



HELMHOLTZ GEMEINSCHAFT  
ipp Max-Planck-Institut

International Energy Agency

WENDELSTEIN 7-X

### Strategic benefit for Europe



- Flagship science project
- Synergies and risk mitigation in an integrated fusion road-map
- Physics and technological leadership in 3D MCF



# W7-X within EUROfusion: Mission, high-level goals and research objectives



Research Strategy and its Implementation

## **Mission 8 in the European Roadmap: Bring the HELIAS line to maturity by the exploration of reactor capabilities of optimized stellarators with W7-X**

prepare the decision point: is an intermediate-step device (burning-plasma HELIAS) required?

WPS1: identify and implement experimental and theoretical actions in view of M8  
Concept: theory driven experimental exploitation

- *3D configuration effects and optimization*
  - ⇒ demonstrate optimization targets:
    - improved 3D confinement, MHD stab. ( $\beta=5\%$ ), beyond NC: 3D turbulence, ...
  - develop plasma scenarios with theory models  
(and validate them in experiments to arrive at reliable predictive capabilities)
- *steady-state operation (high  $nT\tau$ ,  $\beta$ , low  $v^*$ ,  $\rho^*$ )*
  - ⇒ qualify heating, power exhaust & safe divertor operation  
(towards FPP IVCs, sufficient  $f_{\text{rad}}$ )
  - steady-state operation elements: safety, control, cw heating (ECRH), diagnostics
  - demonstrate high-power, high-density steady-state discharges





# W7-X within EUROfusion: high-level goals and research objectives



Research Strategy and its Implementation

- *density control and fuelling*

- ⇒ *develop concepts for high-density steady-state operation*

- develop fuelling techniques to avoid core density depletion*

- pellet, gas-puff (, SSMB, NI) fuelling: deposition mechanisms

- preparation of fuelling scenarios, e.g. high-field, low-field side 3D pellet fuelling

- *3D impurity transport*

- ⇒ *develop discharge scenarios without impurity accumulation*

- develop and validate models for high-Z 3D-transport

- implement impurity transport related diagnostics (passive spectr., active LBO)

- *3D fast particle physics*

- ⇒ *develop predictive tools for fast particle confinement in 3D fields*

- generation (NBI, ICRH), diagnostics and validated models

- predictive capabilities for fast particle confinement and collective effects

- *turbulence, improved confinement modes and isotope effect*

- ⇒ *develop and explore confinement beyond neoclassical transport*

- study the interplay of turbulence , magnetic geometry and  $E_r$  (TJ-II, LHD, ...)

- develop predictive theory for 3D turbulence

+ *synergies w/ M1-7: support actions (ITER, DEMO), preparation of FPP physics basis*

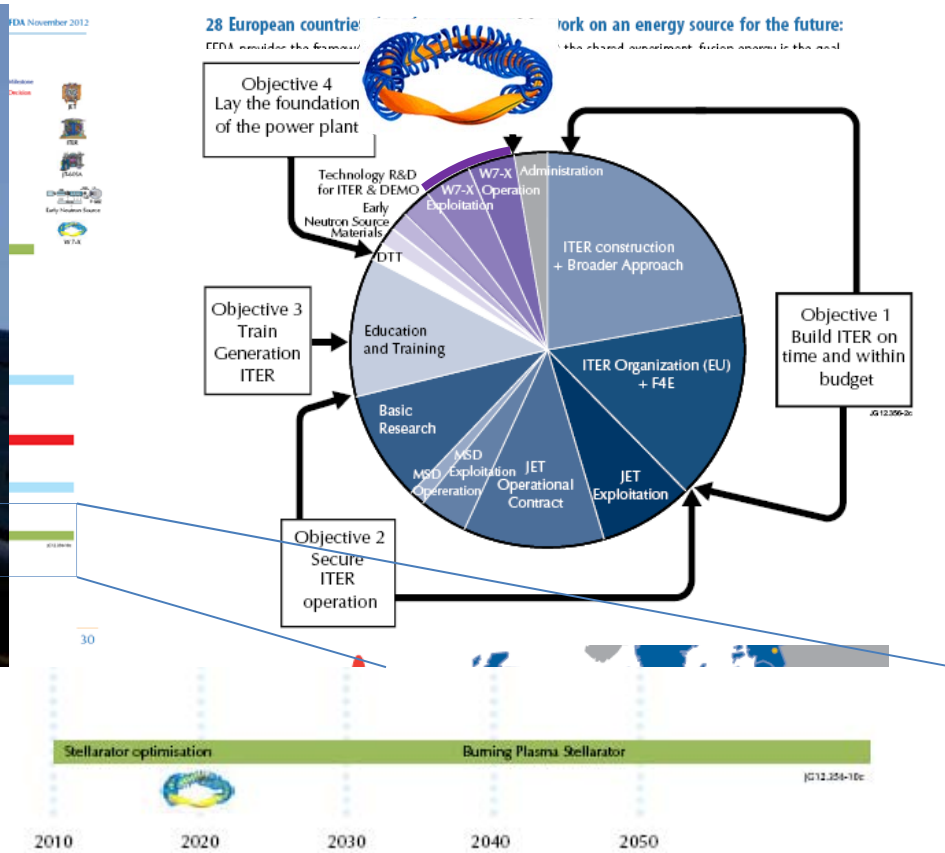
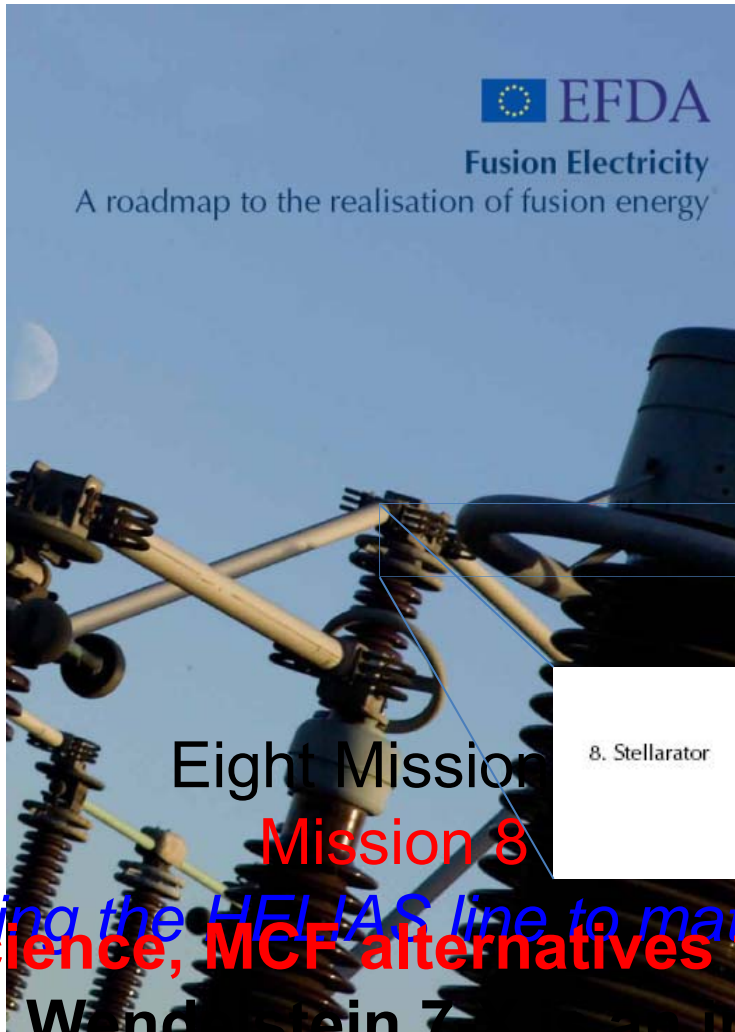
**Priorities: high-level objectives in view of M8, EU expertise,  
anticipated impact on W7-X program**



# Europe and W7-X/W7-X and Europe



Introduction and Motivation: Stellarators in the Roadmap



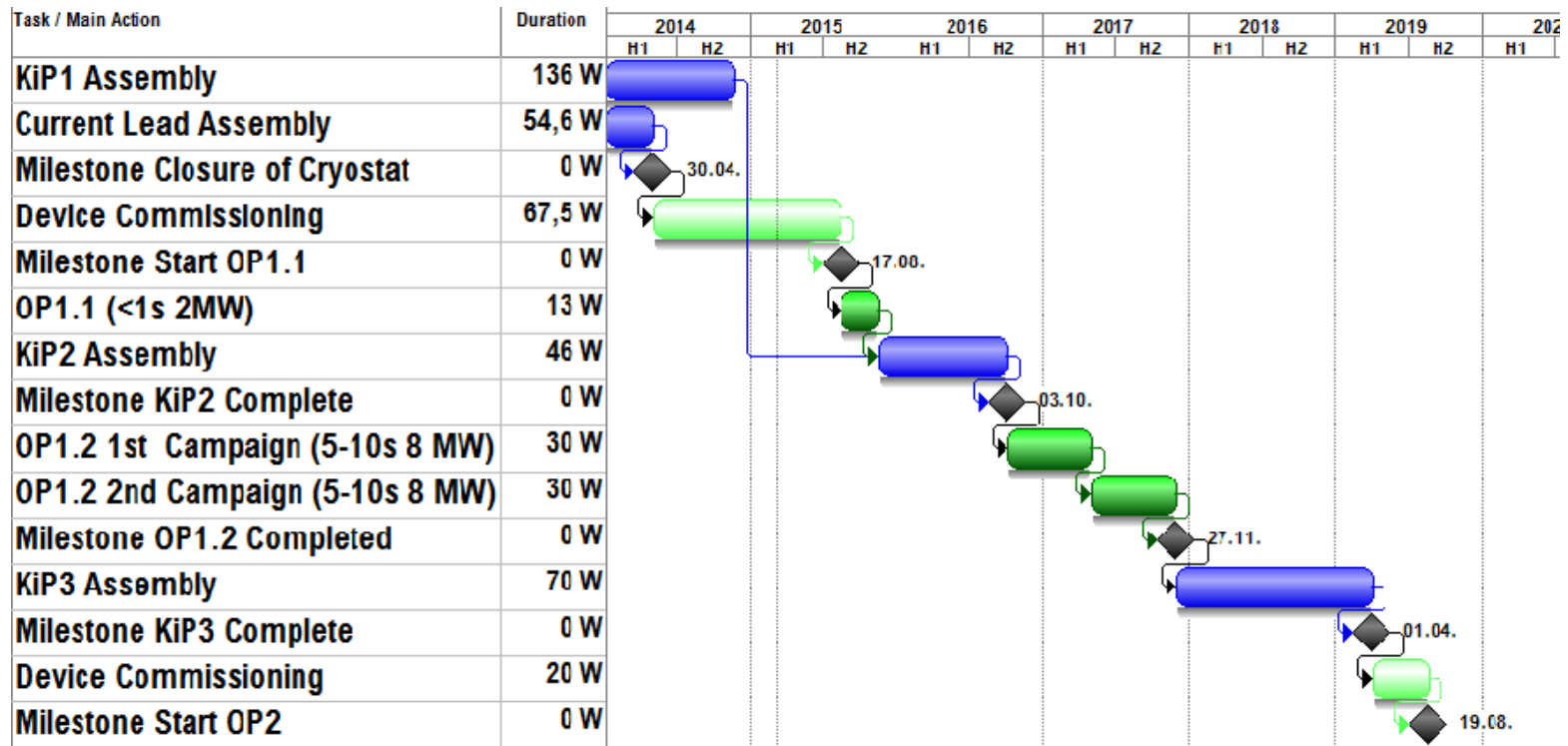
Eight Mission  
Mission 8

Bring the HEP IAS line to maturity

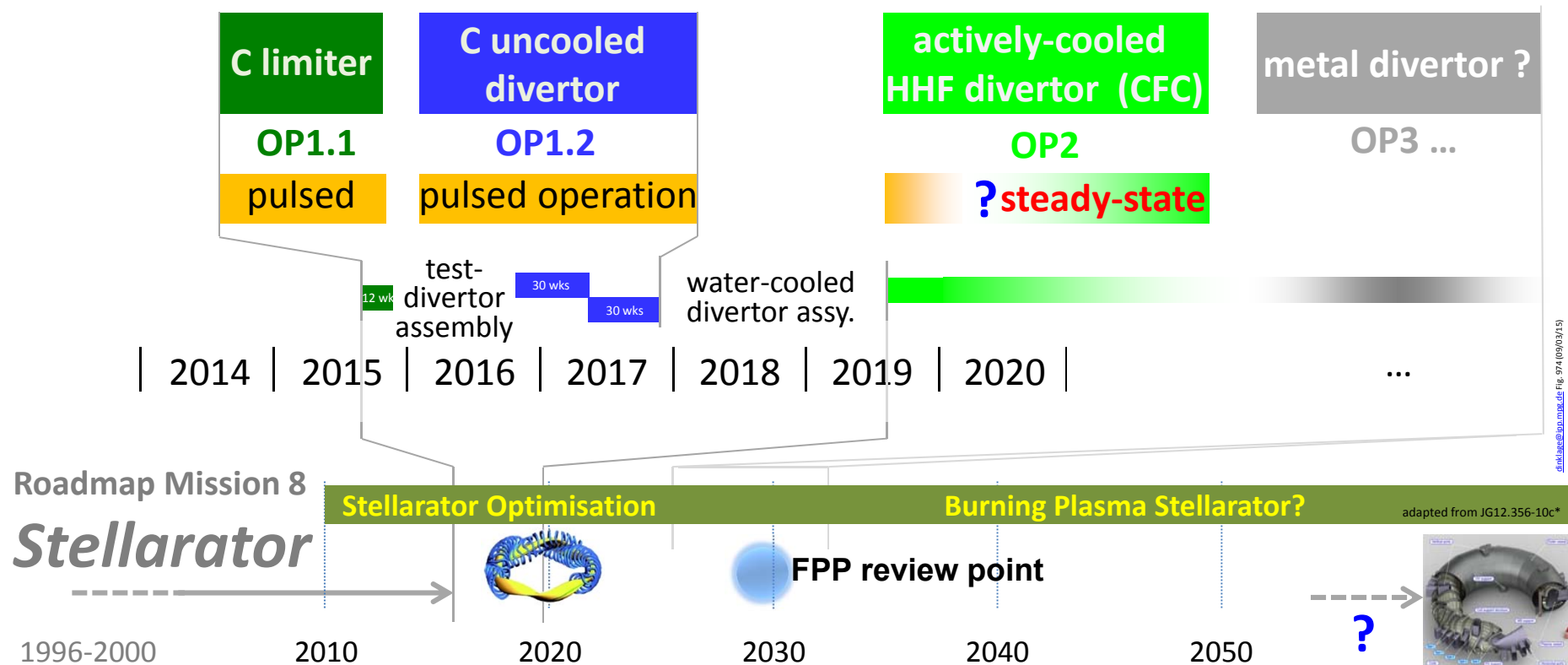
Science, MCF alternatives to mitigate risks and synergies:

Wendelstein 7-X is an integral part of the European fusion development strategy.

<http://www.efda.org/wpcms/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/JG12.356-web.pdf?5c1bd2>



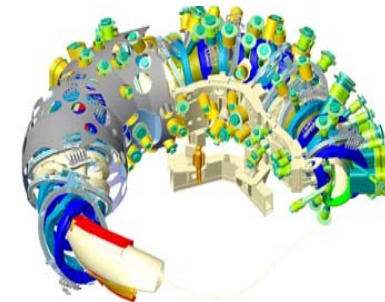
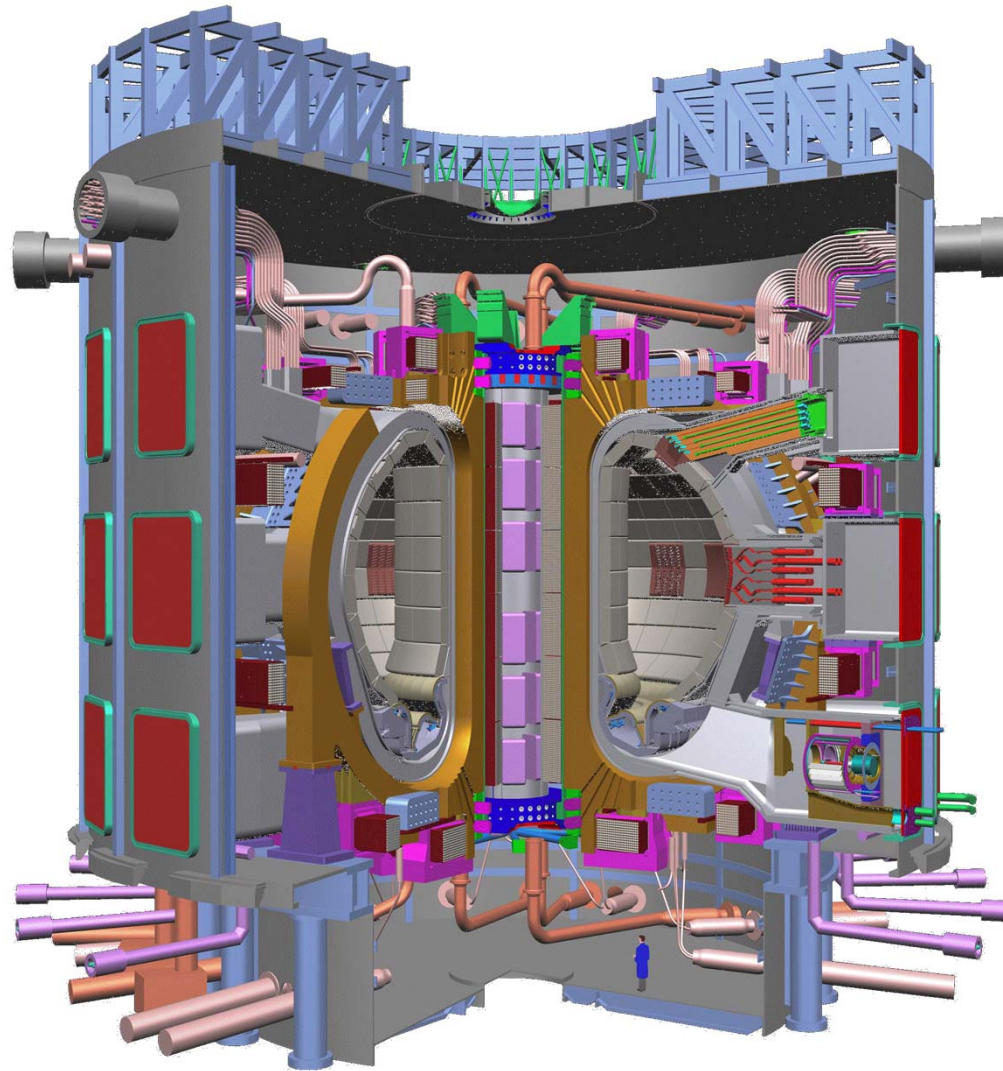
PFC-technology shapes the way to **reliable, steady-state, high  $-nT\tau_E$  operation**



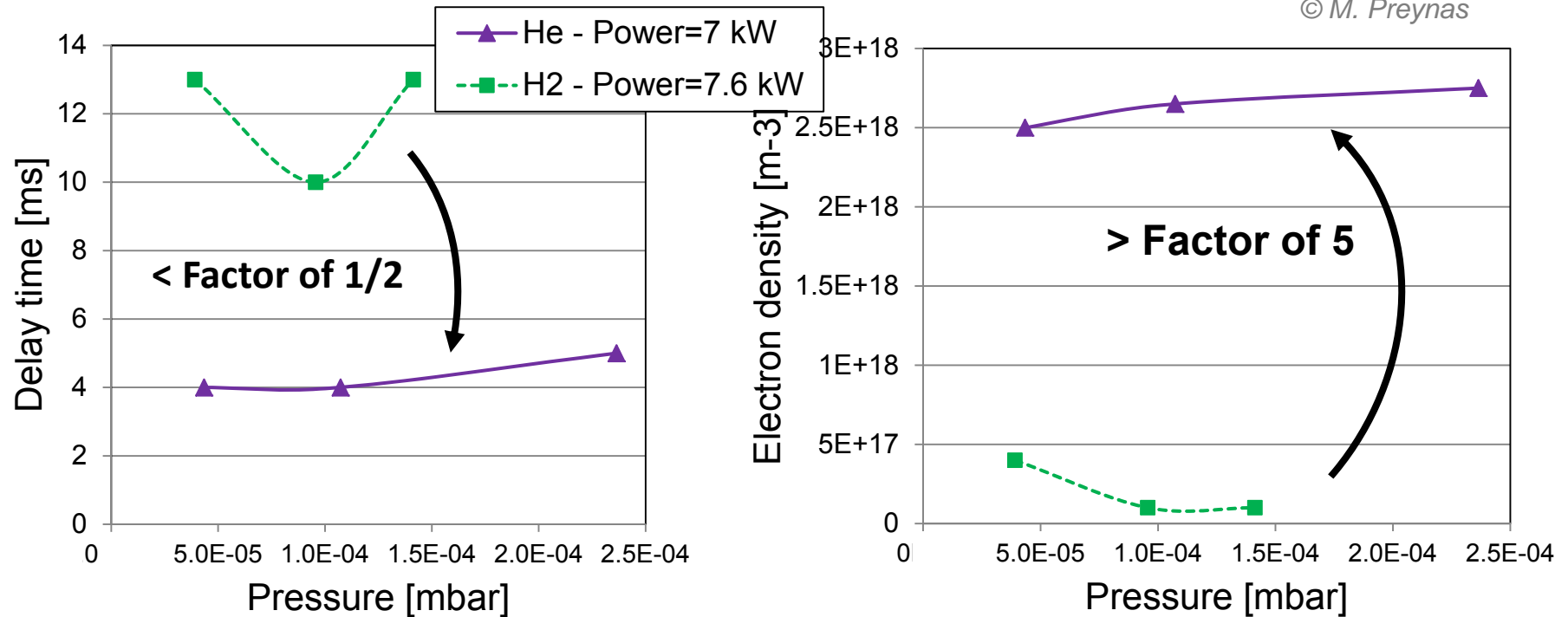
Primary target of OP1: preparation for the actively cooled (SSO) divertor  
**Long term goal: Basis for a HELIAS FPP**

\* from: Fusion Electricity: A roadmap to the realisation of fusion energy (F. Romanelli et al., EFDA, 2012)





empirical finding in WEGA (in line with Heliotron-J, LHD)



- Breakdown easier in He than H
  - NBI start-up model: no dissociative processes +lower vibrational cooling<sup>[1]</sup>
- Discharges serve to condition the machine

<sup>[1]</sup>Gradic et al., Nucl. Fusion **55**, 033002 (2015)

