

generalfusion

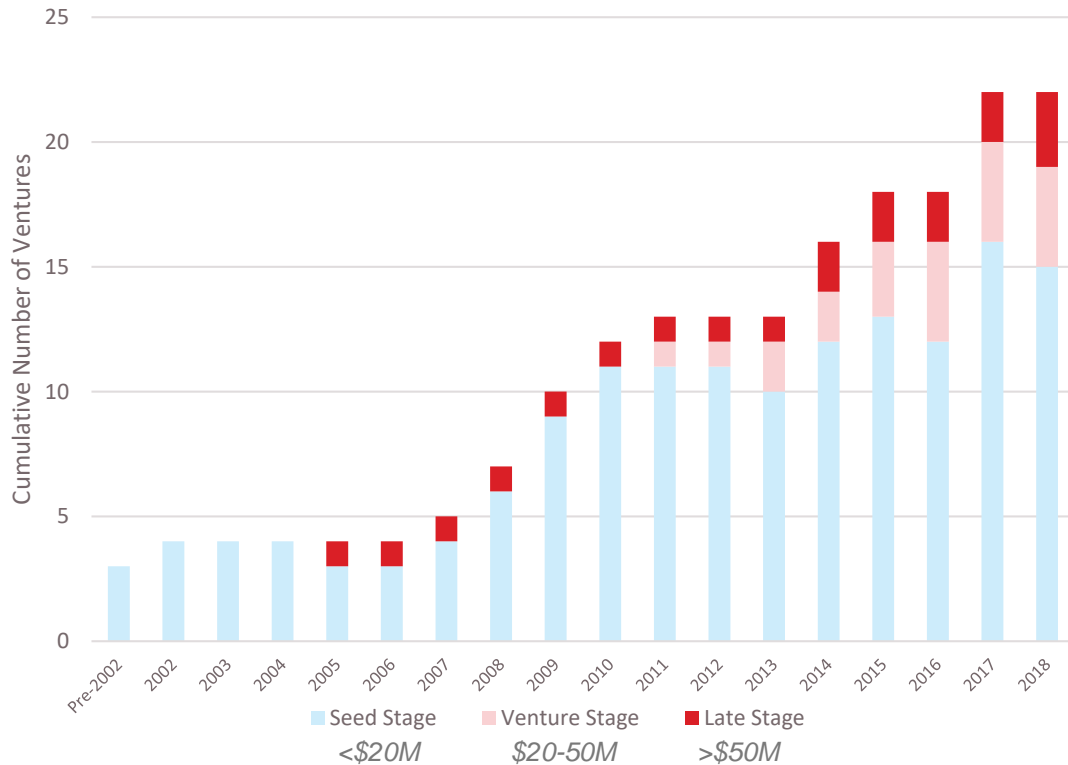
GENERAL FUSION

Michel Laberge

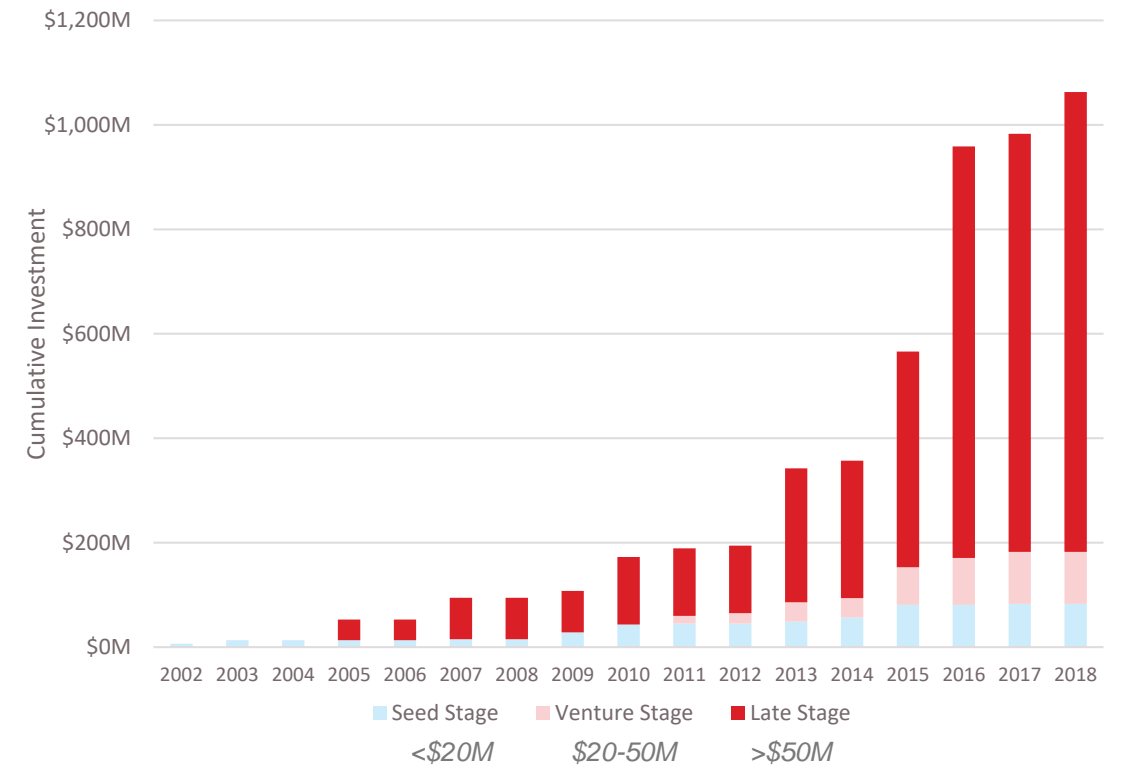
generalfusion

The rise of the private fusion company continues

Private Fusion Ventures



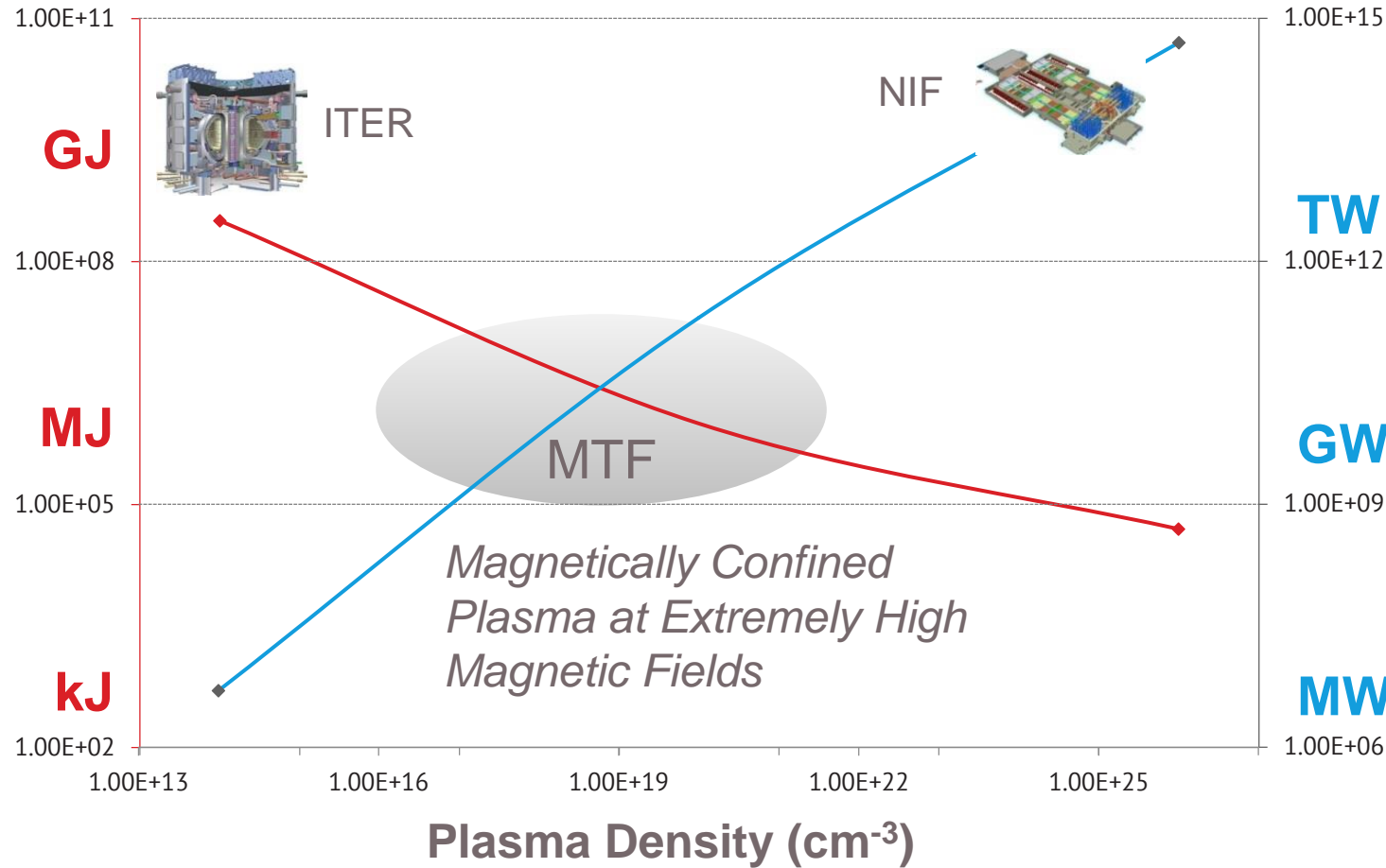
Investment in Private Fusion Ventures



Many companies exploring density regime between MF and ICF

Plasma Energy

Driver Power



Background on General Fusion

Investors

BEZOS
EXPEDITIONS

 **CHRYSALIX**
VENTURE CAPITAL

cenovus
ENERGY


KHAZANAH
NASIONAL


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
TECHNOLOGY CANADA™

bdc 

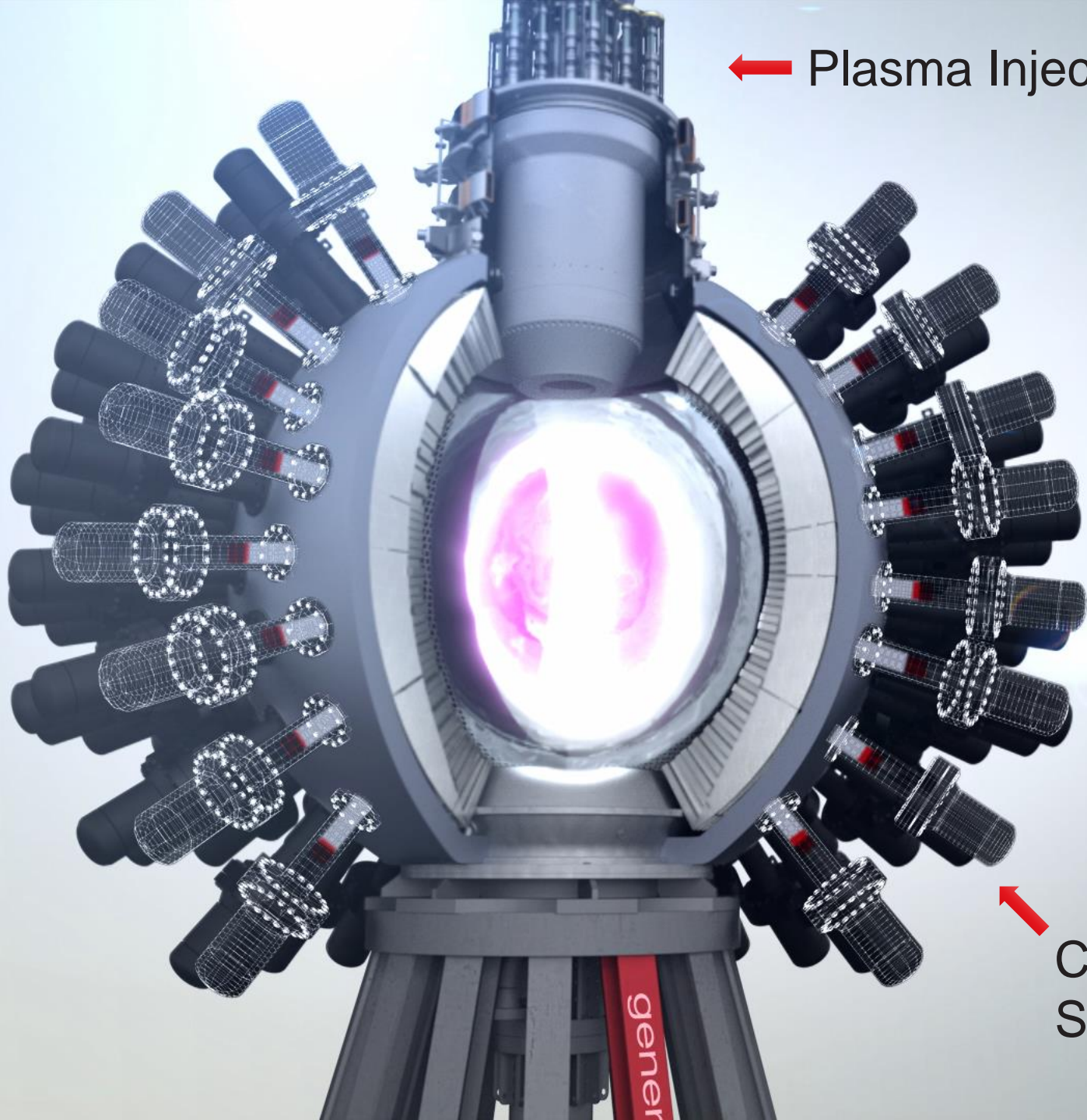
 **BRAEMAR**
ENERGY VENTURES


Entrepreneurs Fund

GROWTHWORKS

SET Ventures

- Total invested capital of \$110 million USD
- 20% funded by Canadian government
- 80 employees



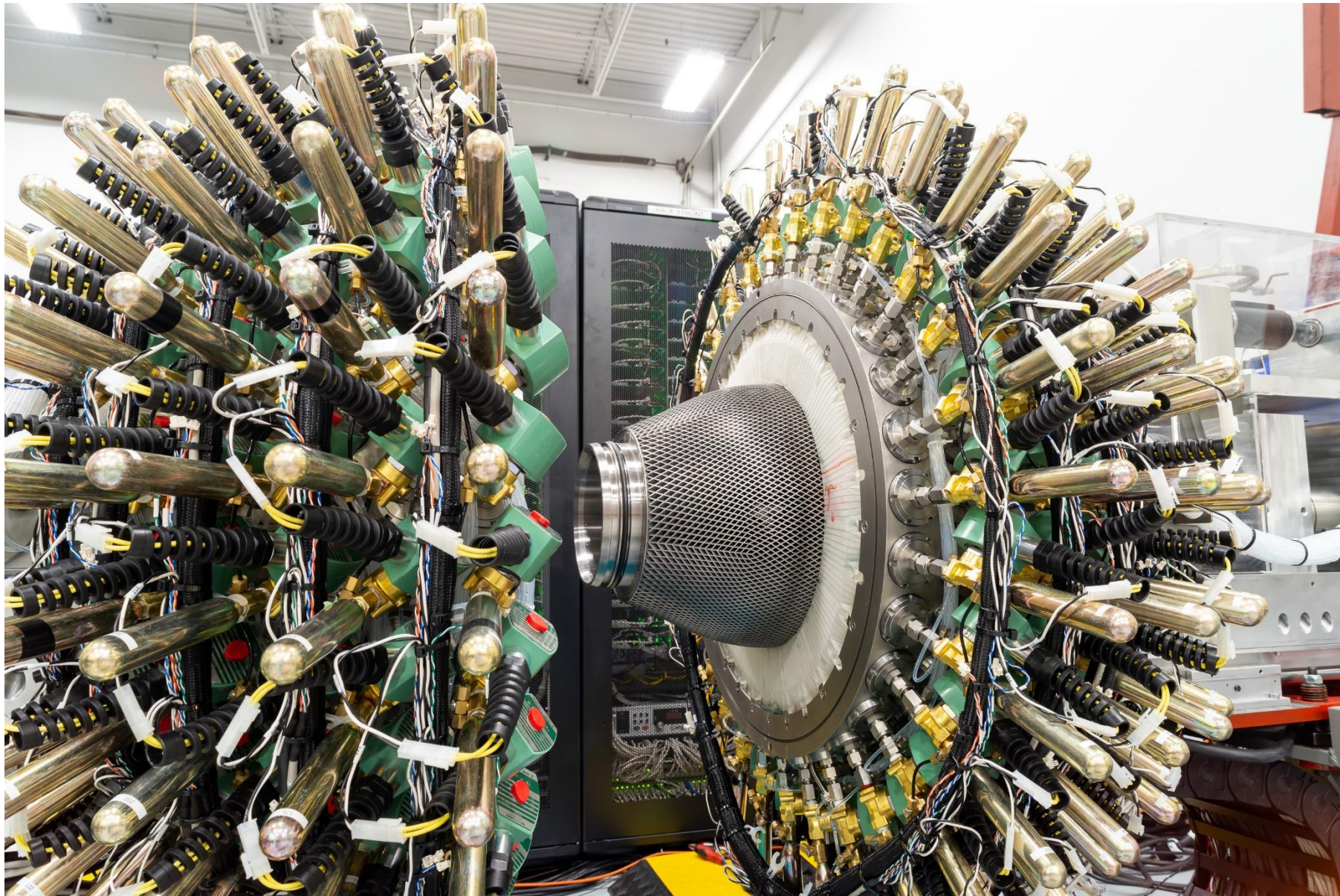
← Plasma Injector

← Compression System

Parameter	Initial	Final
Plasma Density (n)	$2e^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$	$6.5e^{22} \text{ m}^{-3}$
Plasma Temperature (T)	1.3 keV	38 keV
Compression Ratio	1	6.5
Outside Radius of Liquid Metal Flux Conserver	2.2 m	0.34 m
Aspect Ratio (A) = R/a	1.6	2.4
Plasma Current (I_p)	4.7 MA	47 MA
Center Shaft Current (I_s)	7 MA	76 MA
Magnetic Field on Axis (B_0)	1 T	63 T
Magnetic Field on shaft surface (B_{shaft})	2.8 T	100 T
Beta (b)	15%	40%
Thermal Energy (E_{th})	4 MJ	133 MJ
Magnetic Energy (E_m)	28 MJ	378 MJ
Confinement required (c)	$4 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$	$4 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$
Fusion Yield	0	488 MJ

Advantages

- Full coverage by 2 m of PbLi shields all solid structure, no neutron damage problems to structure
- Tritium Breeding ratio of 1.4 with natural Li
- No heat load issues on divertor or any metal surface, only liquid sees high energy plasma
- Straightforward energy extraction from the hot liquid liner through a heat exchanger
- Energy from inexpensive gas pistons leading to attractive economic
- No poloidal or toroidal superconductor coils
- No RF or neutral beam auxiliary heating
- No laser or particle beams
- No expensive target to replace

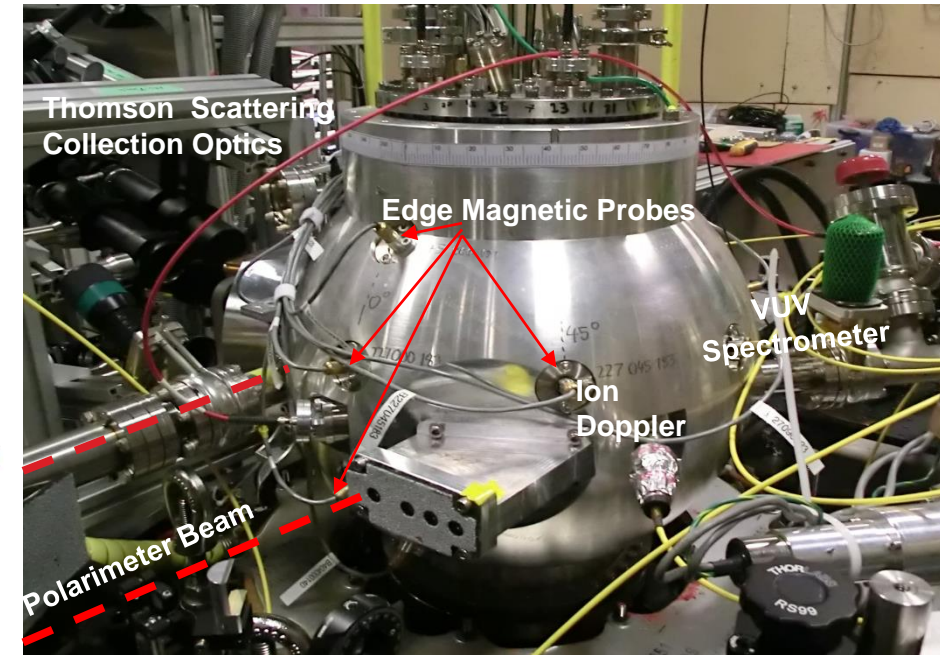
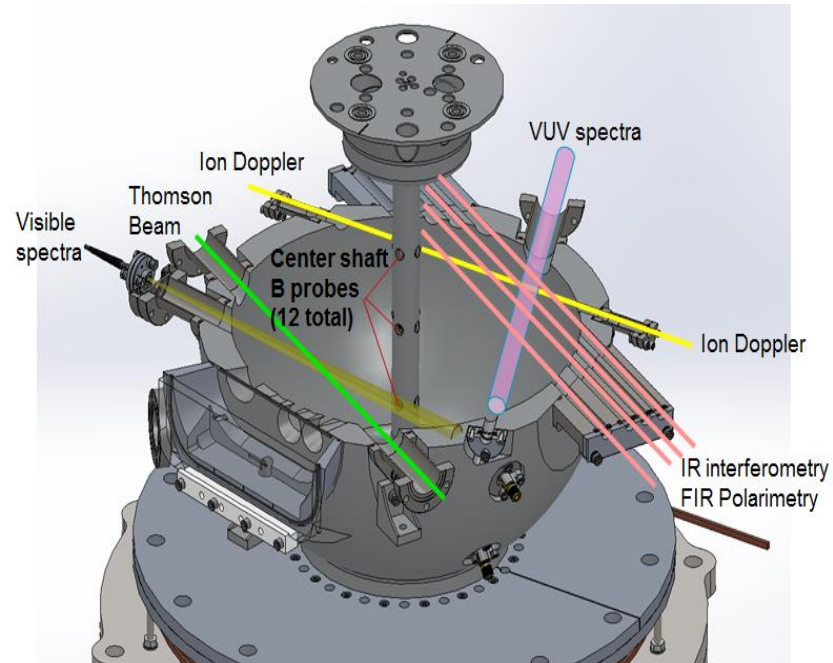


Spherical liquid compression experiment with 3D printed rotor and stator

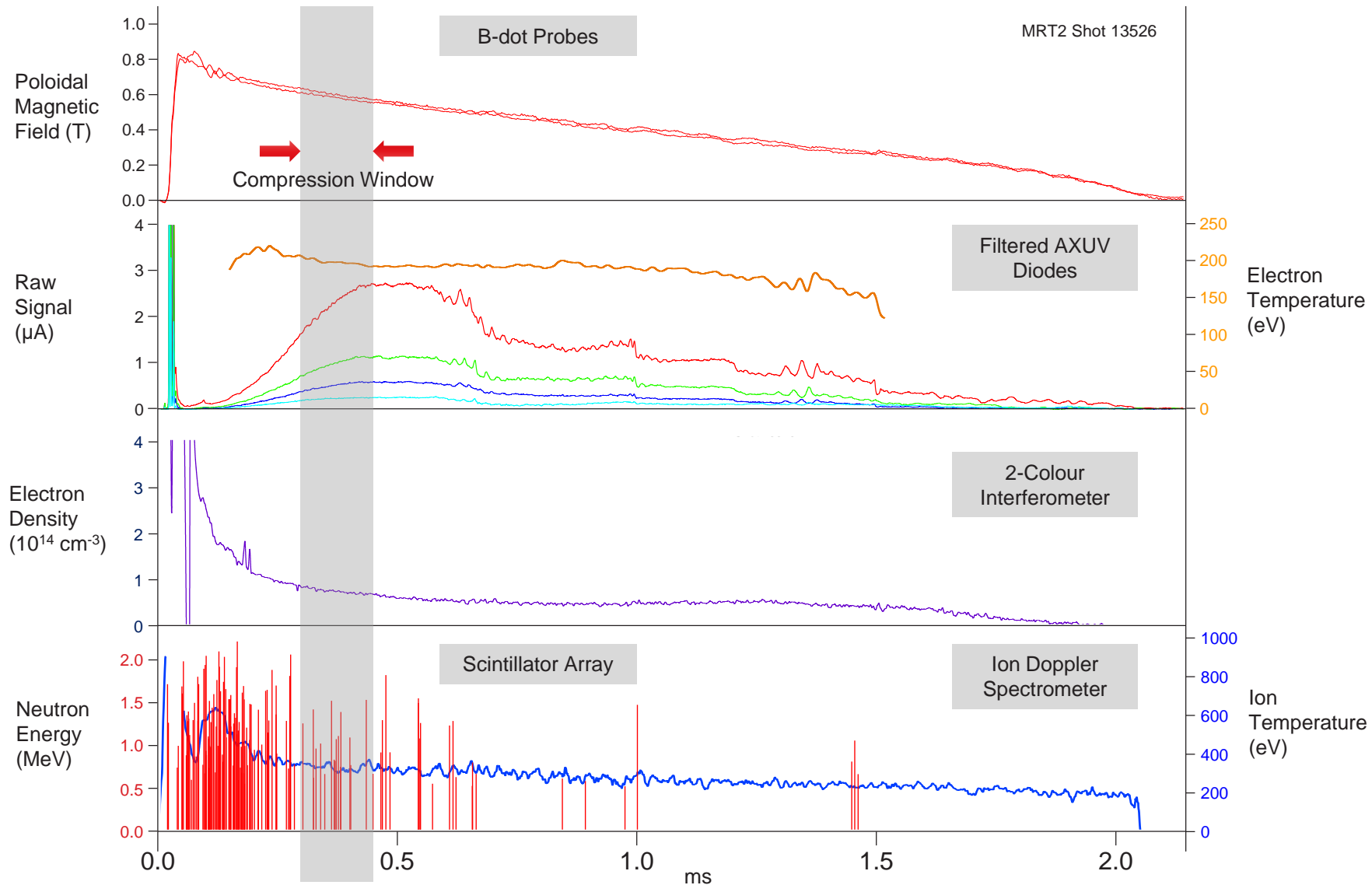
Well-Diagnosed Laboratory Small Spherical Tokamak

100 % CHI

- Magnetic pick-up probes
- Interferometers
- Visible light photodiodes
- X-ray photodiodes
- X-ray phosphor camera
- Visible Spectrometers
- Multi-point Thomson scattering
- Multi-chord FIR Polarimeter
- VUV Spectrometer



Achieving Target Performance Within Compression Window

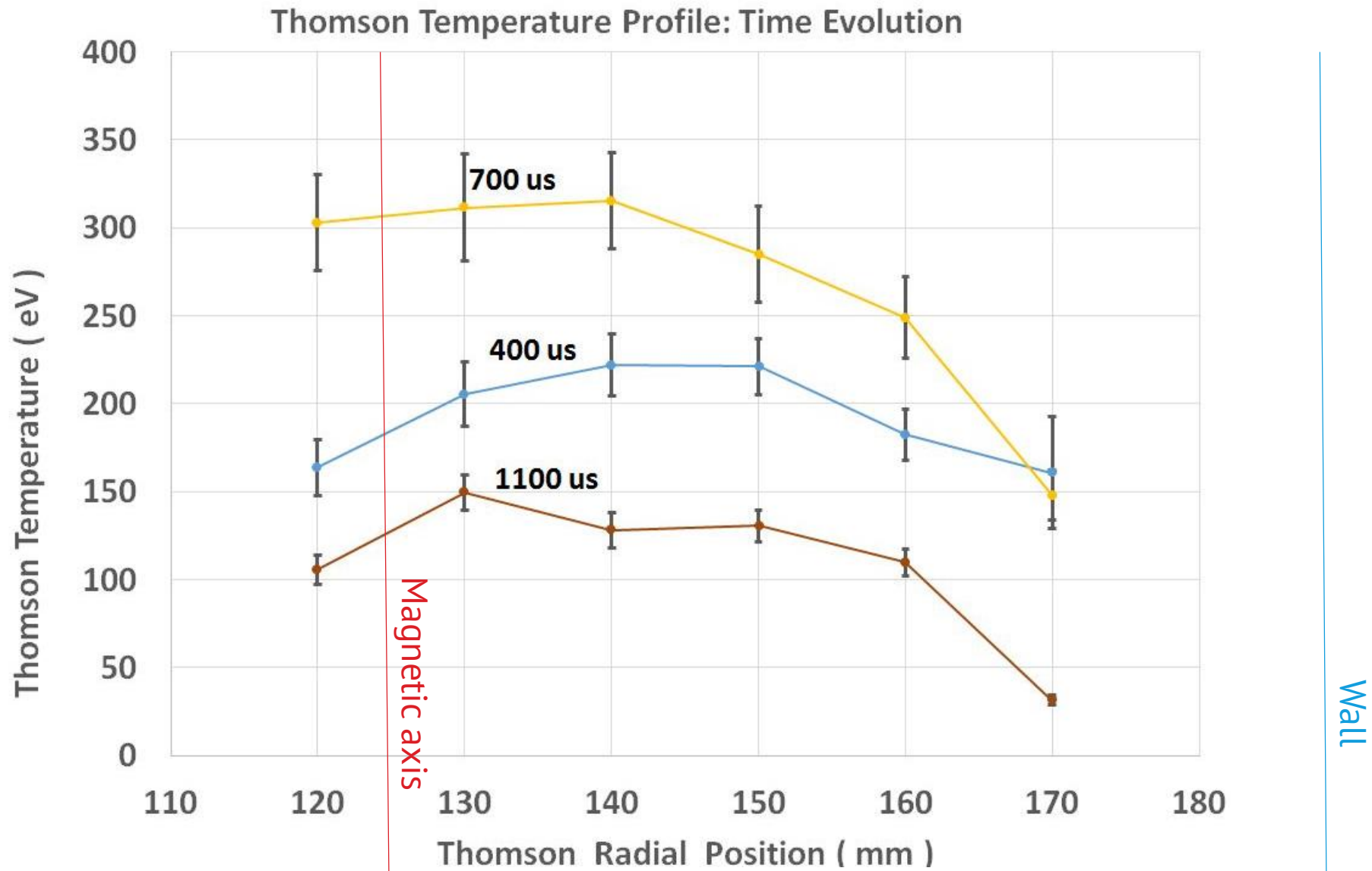


Self-organized plasmas evolve continuously after formation

General Fusion experience with injector design and operation enables tuning of desired plasma properties within a selected compression window

Example:

- MHD stability
- Ion, electron temperatures >200 eV
- Density $0.7 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Strong AXUV, scintillator signals
- q profile, lambda profile (not shown)

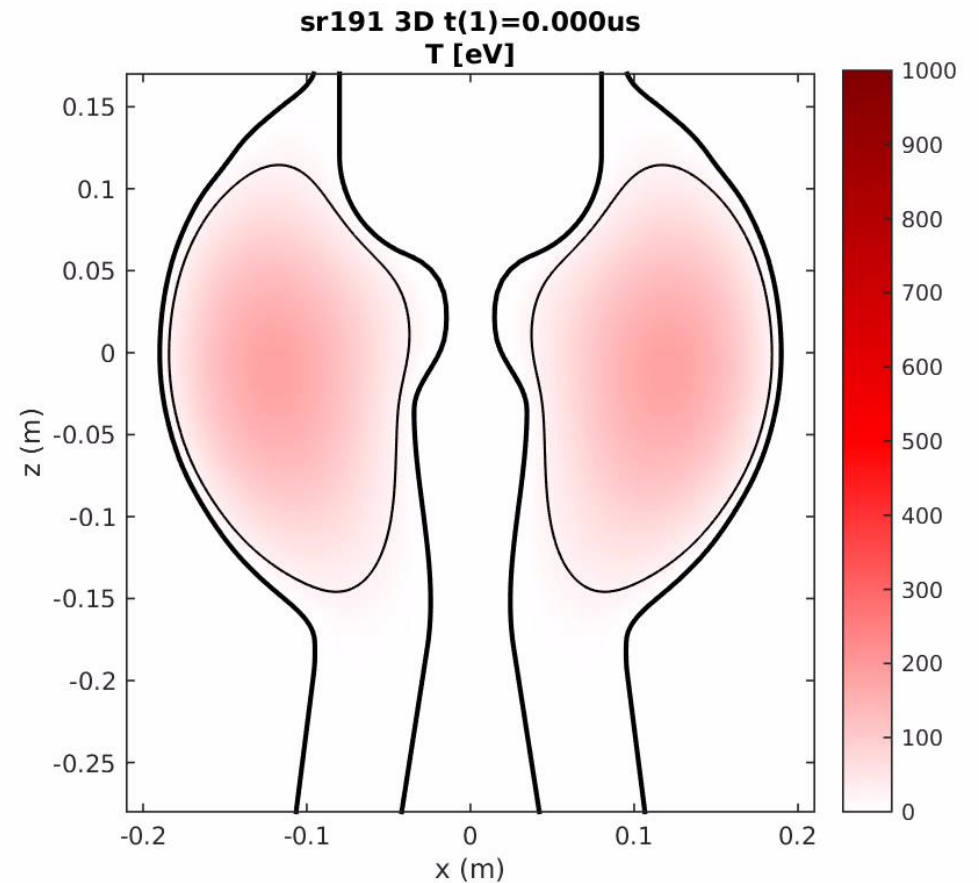


Plasma Compression Science: Field Tests Explore Key Physics

Chemical driver compresses a magnetized plasma with an aluminum liner

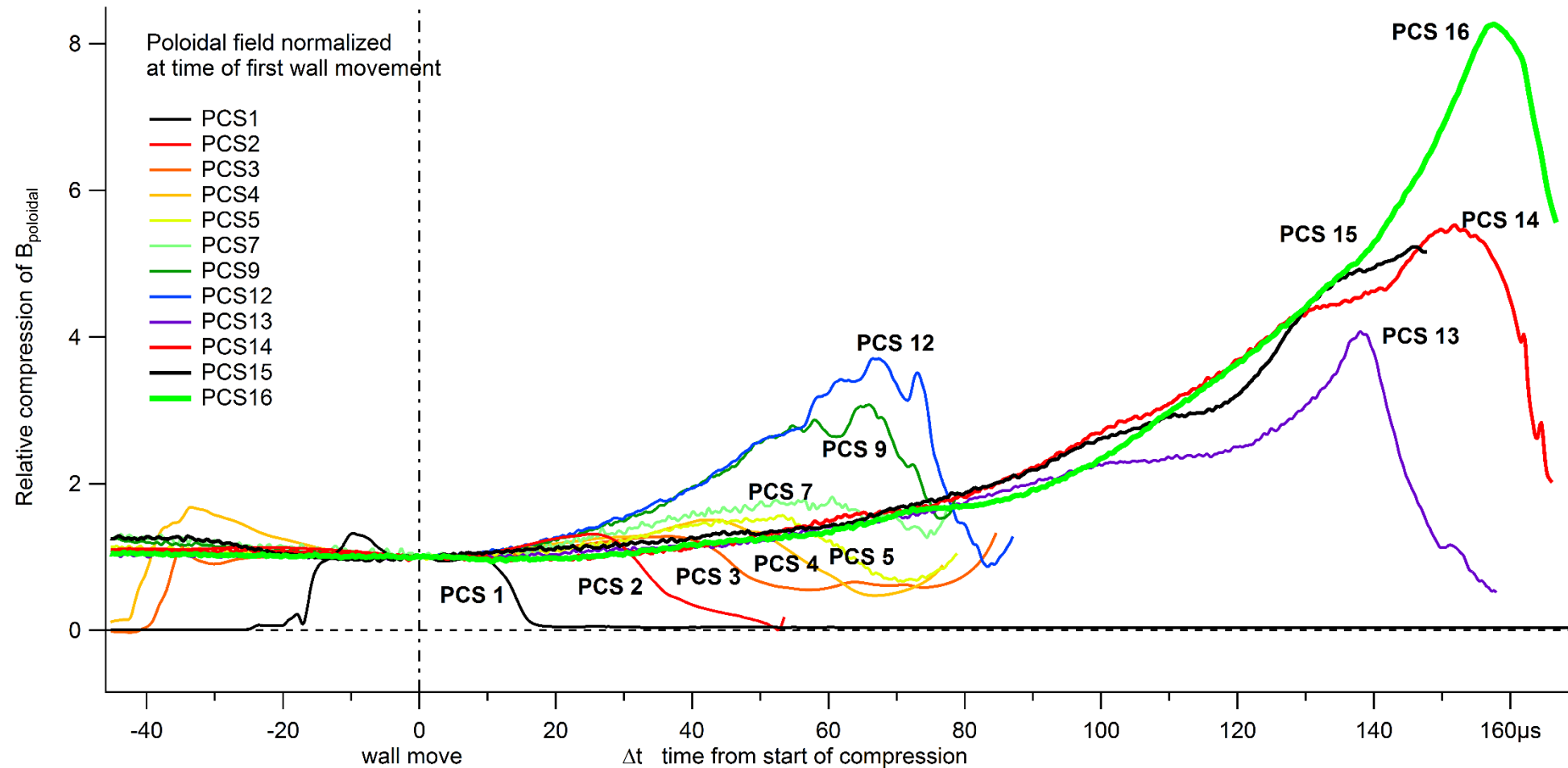
Goals:

- Demonstrate plasma MHD stability in compression
- Demonstrate compression heating



Consistent Progress in Magnetic Compression

16 PCS Shots, 2012-2018



Plasma Compression

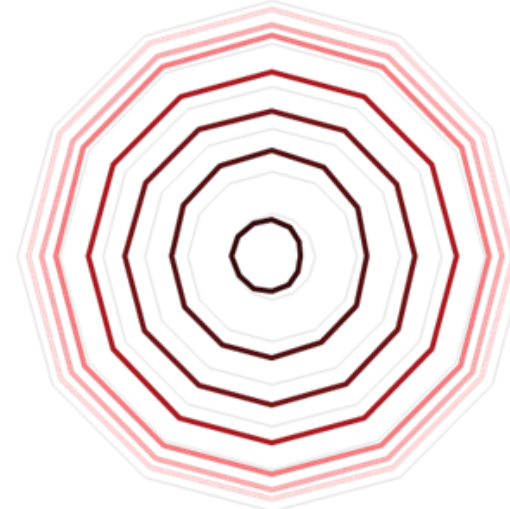
- Mechanical compression of magnetized plasma
- Recent experiments show good magnetic stability

Plasma Stability - Maintaining Thermal Confinement

Unstable Magnetic Symmetry



Stable Magnetic Symmetry



PI3 Large Injector: Prototype Relevant Design, Performance

Goals, at Prototype-relevant scale:

- Validate plasma performance
- Develop and demonstrate technology

Spherical tokamak plasma target

500% increase in radius from our small spherical tokamak

10 MJ pulsed power supply

Presently commissioning

Vessel inner diameter		2 m
Major radius	R	0.6 – 0.7 m
Minor radius	a	0.3 – 0.4 m
Plasma current	I_p	0.8 MA
Shaft current	I_s	1.6 MA
Plasma density	n_e	$2 \times 10^{19} - 2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$
Temperature	$T_e \sim T_i$	100 – 500 eV



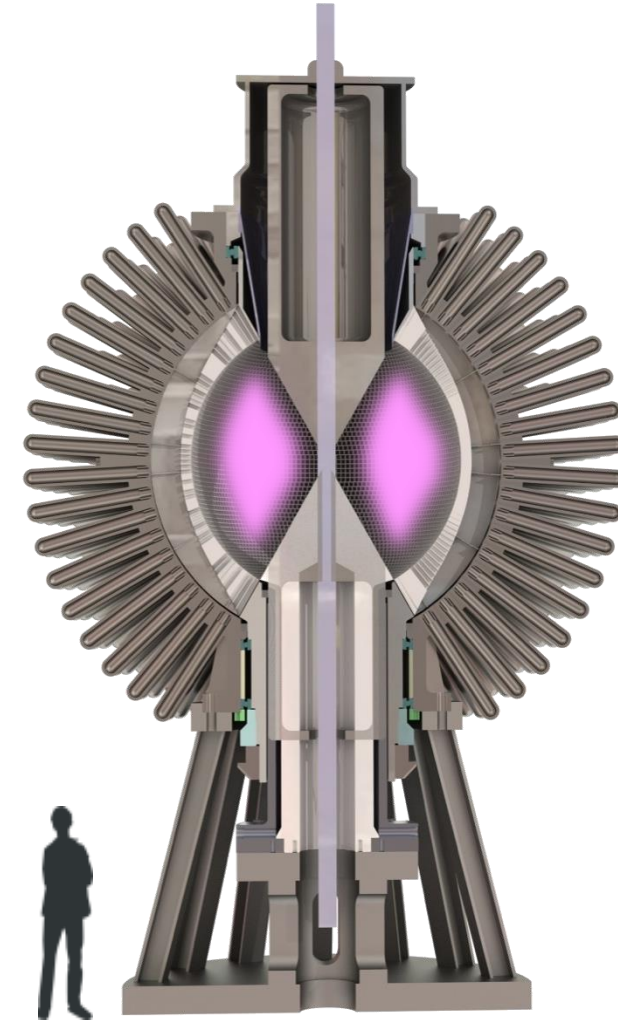
Next Prototype

Strategy

- Optimize performance with flexible operating envelope
- Modularize systems to permit rapid innovation

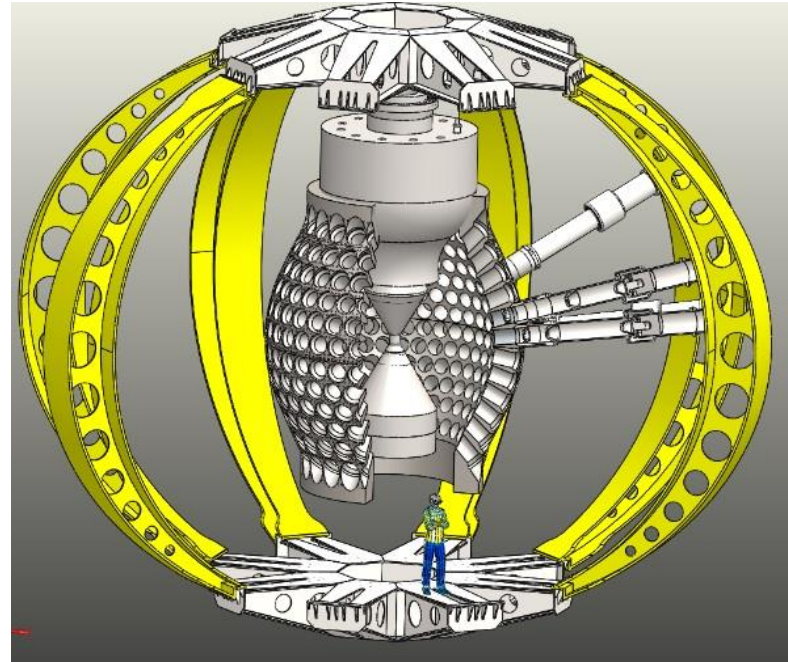
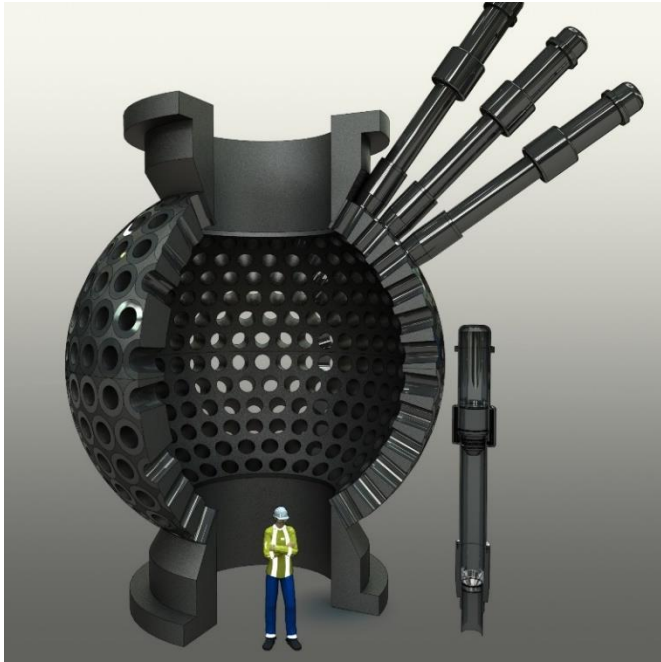
Key Features and Specifications

- 3 meter Diameter Plasma (~70% power plant scale)
- 15 - 25 MJ Plasma Formation Bank
- MAST, SSPX equivalent starting plasma
- Liquid Lithium
- D-D
- 3.5 - 4 ms Compression Time
- Up to 10:1 Radial Compression Ratio
- Designed for 1 Compression Shot / Day Operating Rate
- 10 KeV, 10% of Lawson



Compression Systems

- 346 drivers (pistons)
- Lithium liquid metal (~9 tons)
- Superstructure supports center shaft, cones, plasma injector



Vessel Inner Radius: 1.95 m

Liquid Lithium Temperature: 350 °C

Liquid Lithium Volume: 17 m³

Pressure Pulse: 30 MPa over 2 ms

Conclusion

- Sufficient plasma formation performance has been achieved
- Piston and servo control systems are working fine
- Plasma compressions tests are producing good results
- We are planning to build a large integrated liquid metal prototype, aiming for temperatures of 10 keV and 10% of Lawson
- MAST, NSTX class initial plasma, compressed 10X linear
- 5 ½ years design, build ,operate

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