

New insights on the $D(T, ^5\text{He})\gamma$ reaction and prospects for D-T fusion power measurements at ITER

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⁴Plasma Science and Fusion Center,
MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA



- New insights on the $D(T, {}^5\text{He})\gamma$ reaction (at JET)

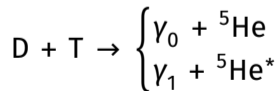
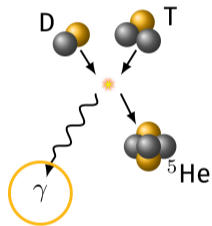
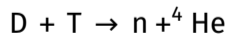
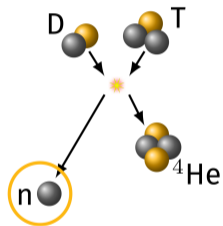
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- Conclusions

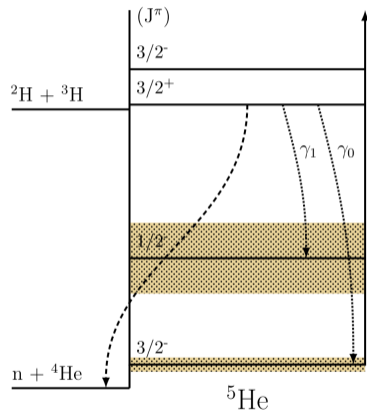
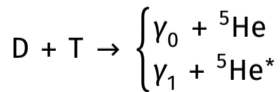
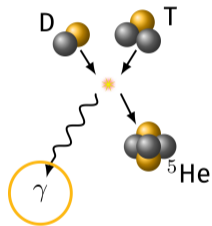
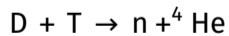
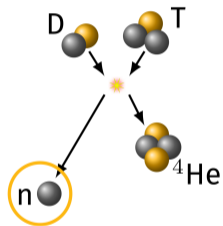
The two branches of the D-T fusion reaction

The DT reaction has 2 possible channels:



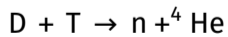
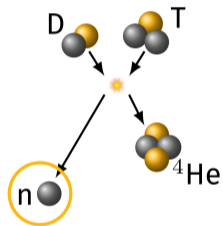
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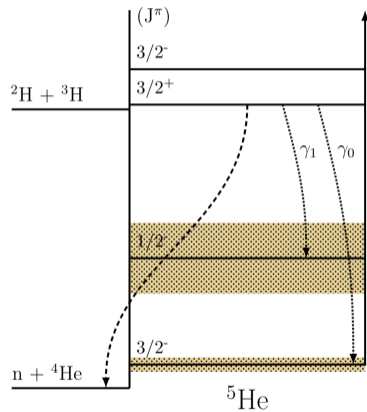
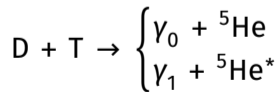
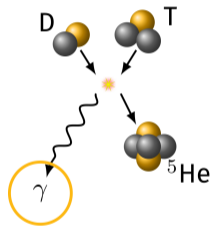


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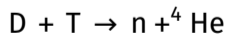
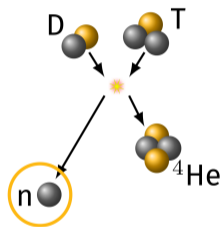


fusion power
measurement

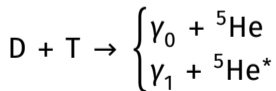
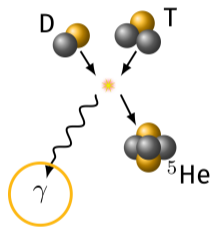


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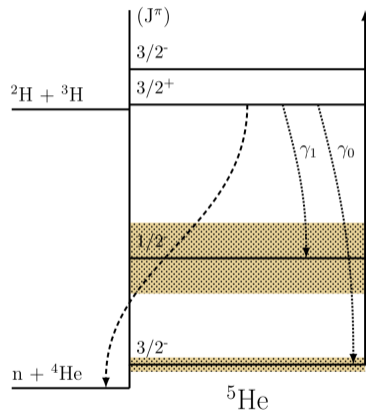
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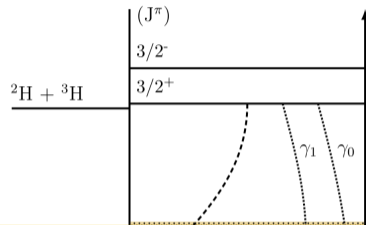
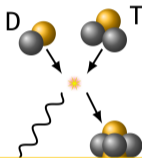
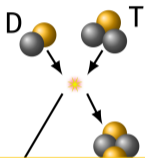


...also?



The two branches of the D-T fusion reaction

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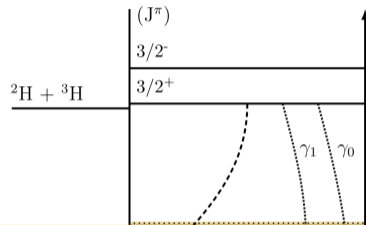
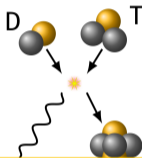
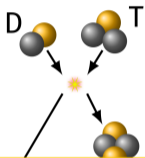


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($1.27 \cdot 10^{-5}$ - $2.84 \cdot 10^{-4}$)

no direct
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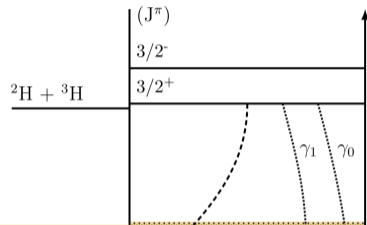
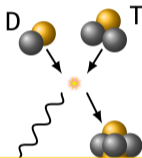
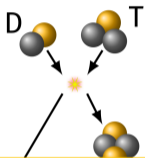
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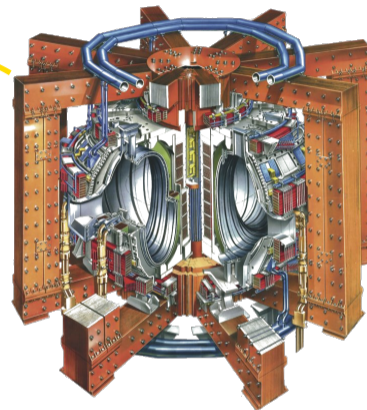
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- DTE3 (2023)

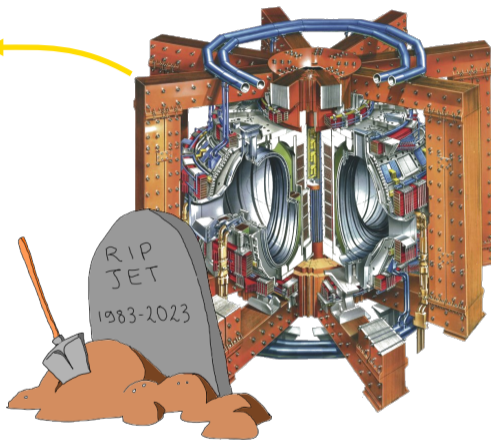
neutron monitors



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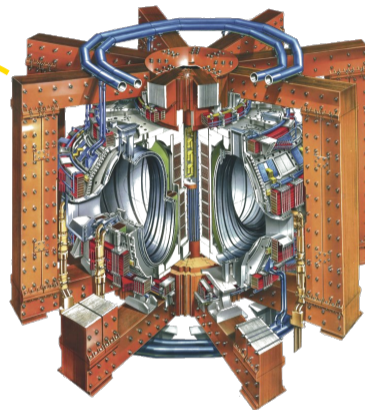
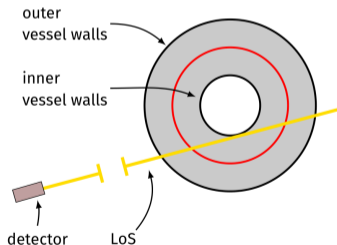


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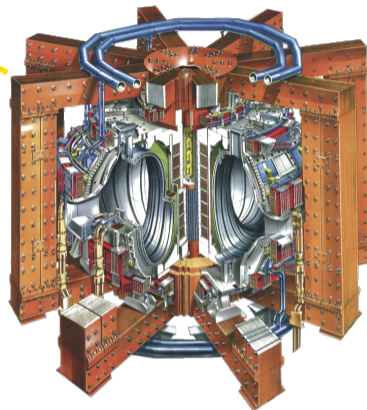
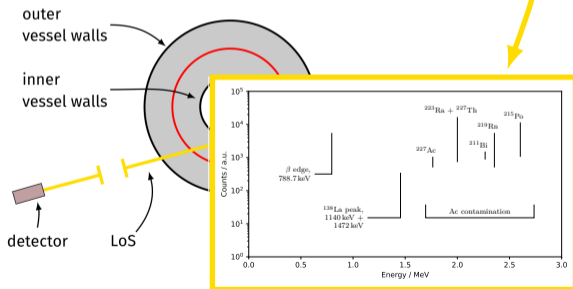
neutron monitors

- LaBr_3 -based gamma-ray spectrometer



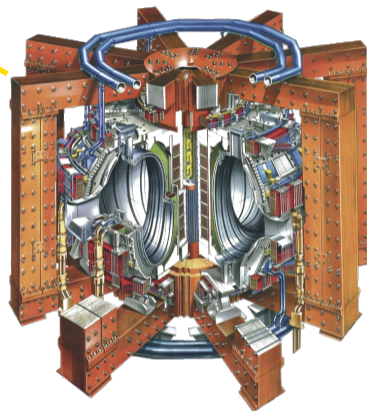
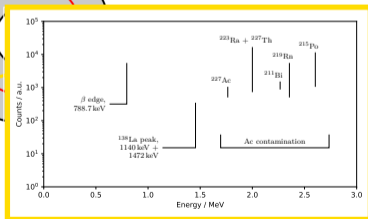
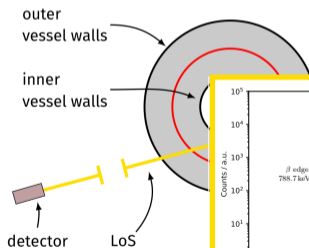
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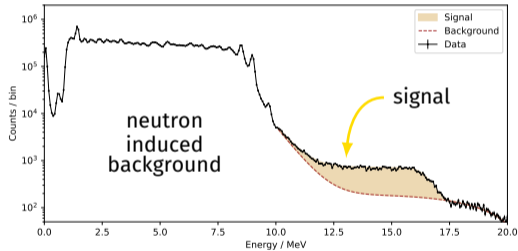
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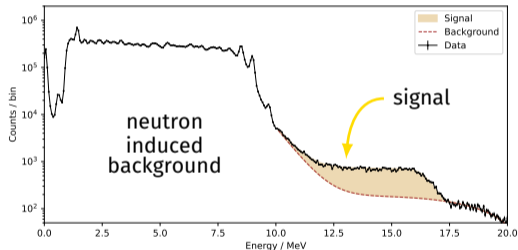


- absolute measurement
- spectral measurement

D($T, ^5\text{He}$) γ reaction: spectral measurement

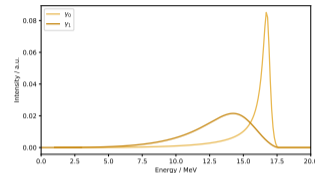
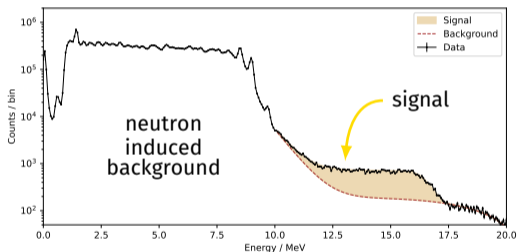


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- Issues: dead time, pile-up, etc.

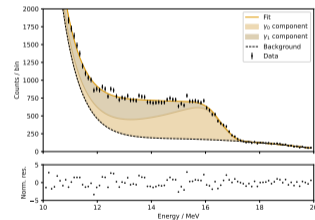
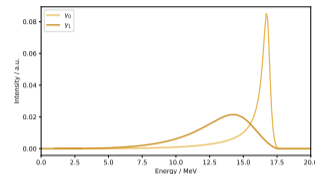
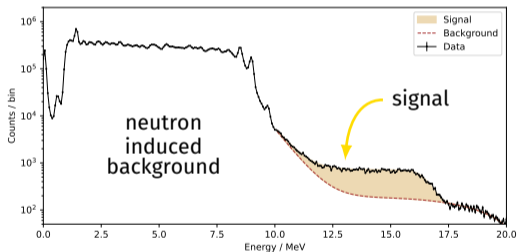
- R-matrix theory: predicts spectral shapes



- Issues: dead time, pile-up, etc.

D(T,⁵He)γ reaction: spectral measurement

- R-matrix theory: predicts spectral shapes
- Fit: gives relative intensities



- Issues: dead time, pile-up, etc.

$$\Gamma_1/\Gamma_0 = 1.09 \pm 0.25$$

D(T,⁵He)γ reaction: probability

$$\text{BR}_{\gamma/n} = \frac{Y_{\gamma}}{Y_n}$$

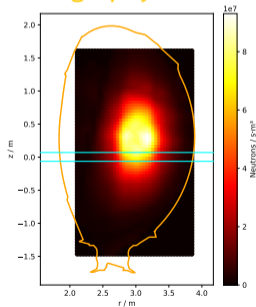
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n Camera +
tomography

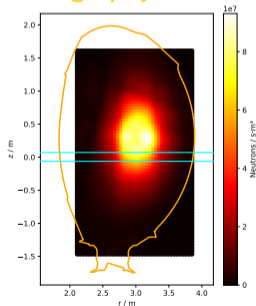


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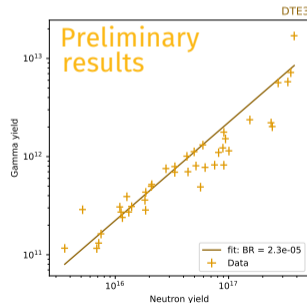
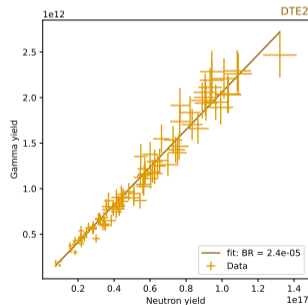
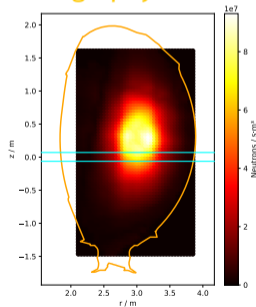


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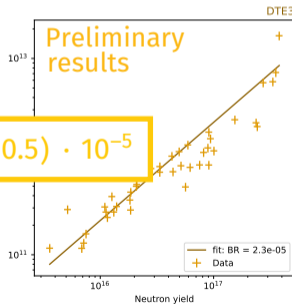
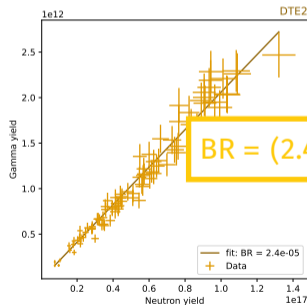
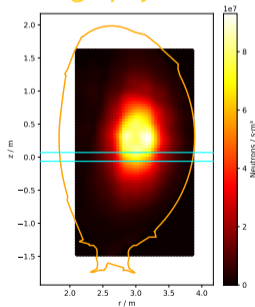
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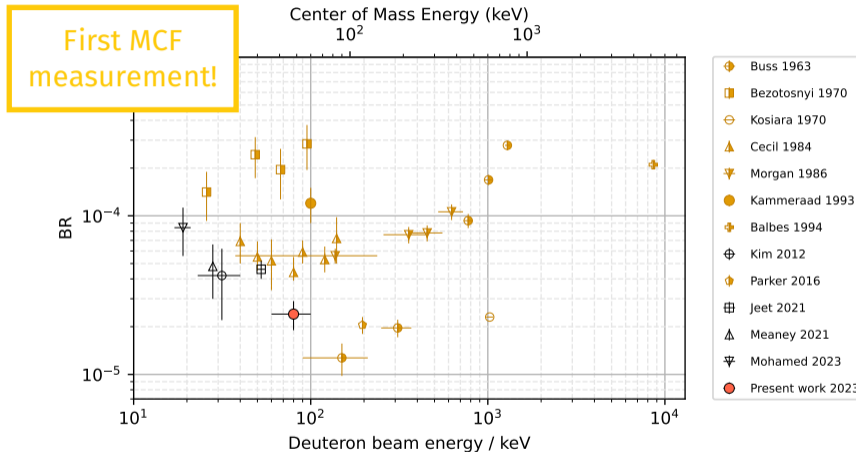
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D(T,⁵He)γ reaction: probability



Benefits for fusion power measurements

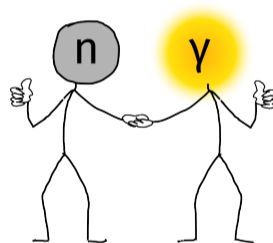
Fusion power validation

Fusion power validation

- absolute measurement
 - no need to be cross-calibrated

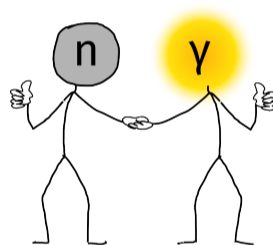
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 - benchmark of standard method



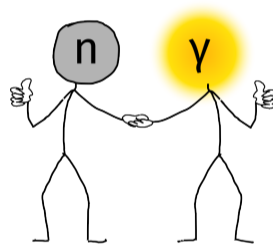
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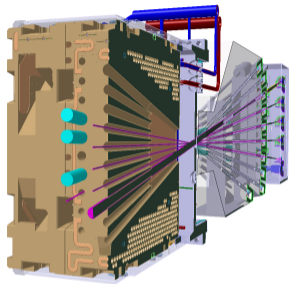


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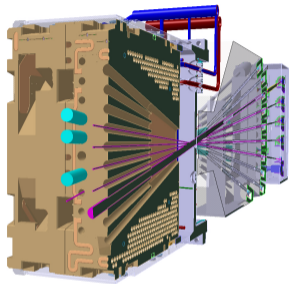
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second method for ITER?

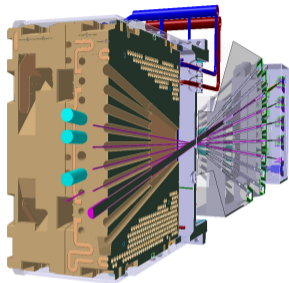


- 3 detectors
- coplanar, radial LoS
- LaBr_3



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Fusion power from
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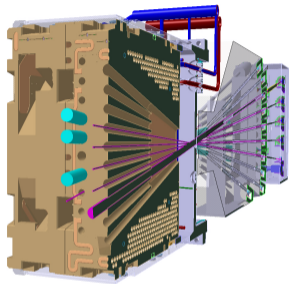


- 3 detectors
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Fusion power from the DT- γ emission!

ITER requirements:

- $Y_n \in (10^{18} \text{ n/s} - 10^{20} \text{ n/s})$
- $\Delta t = 1 \text{ s}$
- uncertainty: 10%



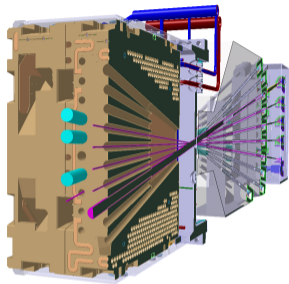
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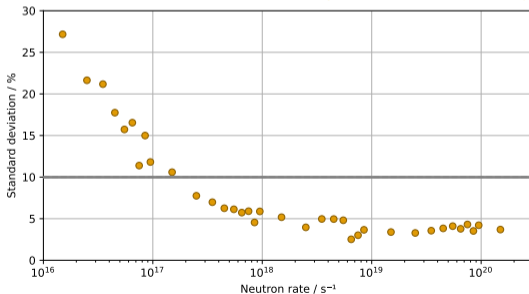
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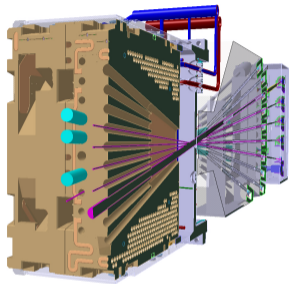
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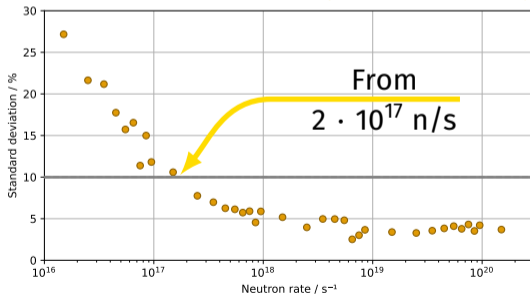
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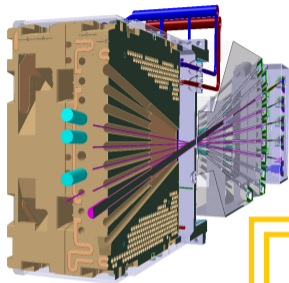
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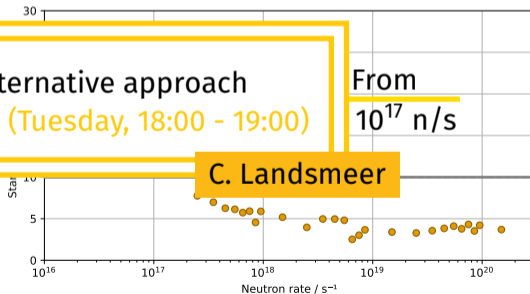
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AI-based alternative approach
Poster Session B (Tuesday, 18:00 - 19:00)

From
 10^{17} n/s



Conclusions

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- At ITER, this method will allow to measure the fusion power

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- which can be exploited for fusion power measurements.
- This was done at JET during DTE2 and DTE3,
- allowing to get new insights on the reaction itself.
- At ITER, this method will allow to measure the fusion power
- within the required operational range.

Measuring Fusion Power

July 30, 2024 - Physics 17, 459

Experiments at the Joint European Torus make the case for using gamma rays to determine the fusion reaction rate in a magnetically confined plasma.



Measurement of the Gamma-Ray-to-Neutron Branching Ratio for the Deuterium-Tritium Reaction in Magnetic Confinement Fusion Plasmas
A. Dal Molin, G. Marcer, M. Nocente, M. Rebai, D. Rigamonti, M. Angelone, A. Bracco, F. Camera, C. Cazzaniga, T. Craciunescu, G. Croci, M. Dalla Rosa, L. Giacomelli, G. Gorini, Y. Kazakov, E. M. Khillkevitch, A. Muraro, E. Panontin, E. Perelli Cippo, M. Pillon, O. Putignano, J. Sciotti, A. E. Shevelev, A. Zohar, and M. Tardocchi
Phys. Rev. Lett. 133, 055102 (2024)
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First direct measurement of the spectrum emitted by the ${}^3\text{H}({}^2\text{H}, \gamma){}^4\text{He}$ reaction and assessment of the relative yield γ_1 to γ_0

Featured in Physics

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 133, 055102 (2024)

Measurement of the Gamma-Ray-to-Neutron Branching Ratio for the Deuterium-Tritium Reaction in Magnetic Confinement Fusion Plasmas

A. Dal Molin¹, G. Marcer², M. Nocente^{1,2}, M. Rebai¹, D. Rigamonti^{1,3}, M. Angelone², A. Bracco⁴, F. Camera⁵, C. Cazzaniga⁶, T. Craciunescu⁶, G. Croci^{6,7}, M. Dalla Rosa², L. Giacomelli⁸, G. Gorini^{9,10}, Y. Kazakov⁸, E. M. Khillkevitch^{11,12}, A. E. Shevelev¹¹, A. Zohar¹³, and M. Tardocchi¹⁴

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At present, magnetic confinement fusion devices rely solely on absolute neutron counting to measure fusion power. Absolute counting of deuterium-tritium gamma rays is a neutron-independent technique required for the validation of scientific fusion power plants. However, this approach necessitates an accurate measurement of the branching ratio. The gamma-ray-to-neutron branching ratio is predominantly determined by the deuterium-to-neutron beam heating ratio.

Thank you!

Featured in Physics

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 110, 014625 (2024)

First direct measurement of the spectrum emitted by the ${}^3\text{H}({}^2\text{H}, \gamma){}^4\text{He}$ reaction and assessment of the relative yield γ_1 to γ_0

Marica Rebai¹, Davide Rigamonti¹, Andrea Dal Molin^{1,2}, Giulia Marcer², Angela Bracco², Franco Camera³, Daniela Farina¹, Giuseppe Gorini^{1,2}, Evgeniy Khilkevitch⁴, Massimo Nocente^{1,2}, Enrico Perelli Cippo⁵, Oscar Putignano⁶, Jimmy Sciotti⁶, Alexander Shevelev⁴, Andrej Zohar⁵, and Marco Tardocchi⁶

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For the first time in a magnetic confinement at the Joint European Torus. A custom developed gamma attenuator combined to a LiH neutron attenuator and a zero dead time emission under the expected gamma intensity of the reaction ${}^3\text{H}({}^2\text{H}, \gamma){}^4\text{He}$ was used to predict the expected gamma intensity from