
A Next Step Burning Plasma Experiment

The Litmus Test for Fusion Science

**Dale M. Meade
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory**

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<http://fire.pppl.gov>

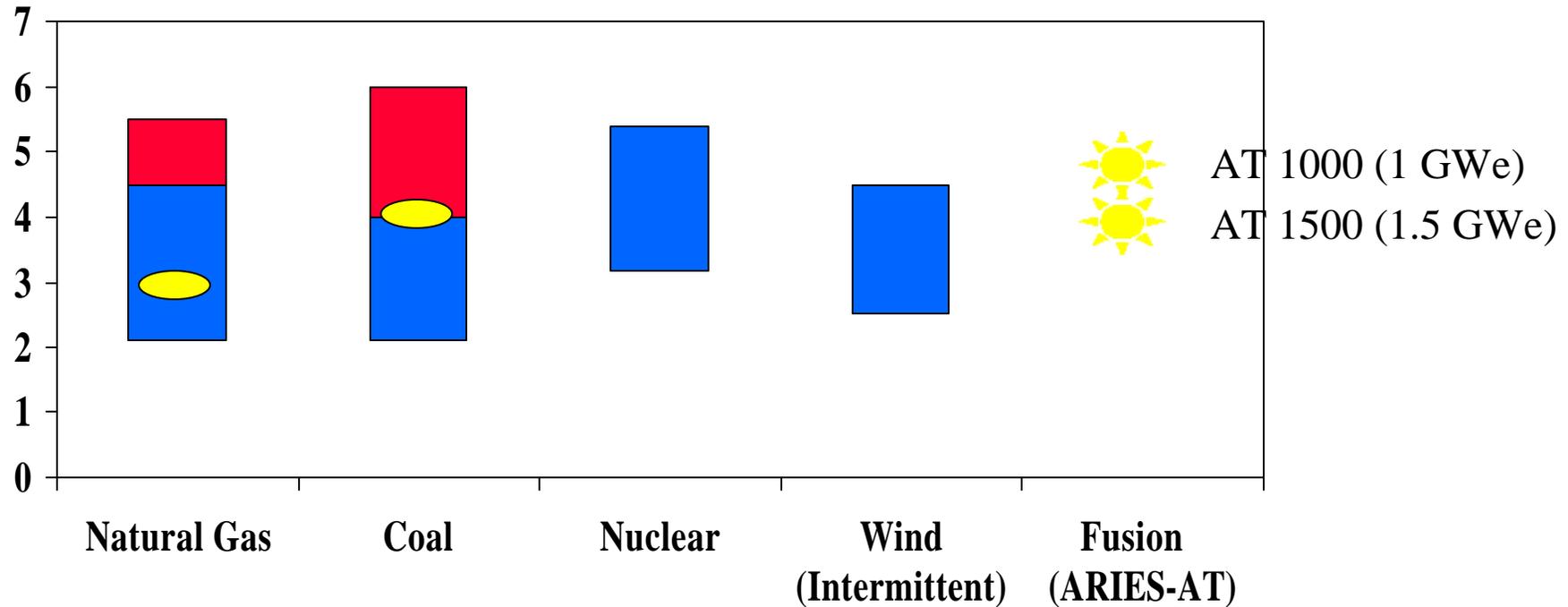
FIRE

Fusion Ignition Research Experiment



The Advanced Tokamak ARIES-AT could be Competitive with other Future Energy Sources

Estimated range of COE (c/kWh) for 2020*



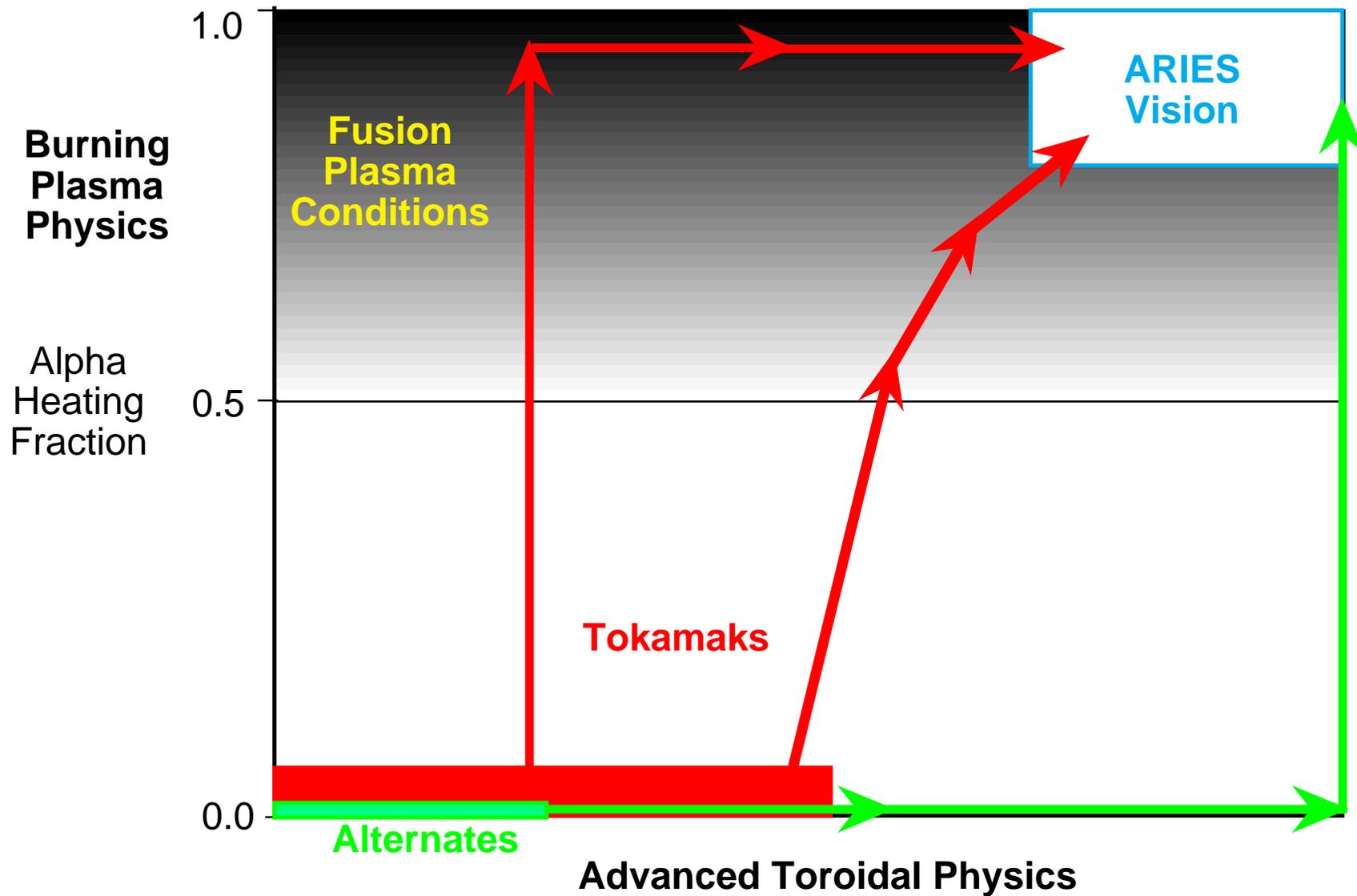
EPRI Electric Supply Roadmap (1/99):

- █ Business as usual
- █ Impact of \$100/ton Carbon Tax.

○ Estimates from Energy Information Agency Annual Energy Outlook 1999 (No Carbon tax).

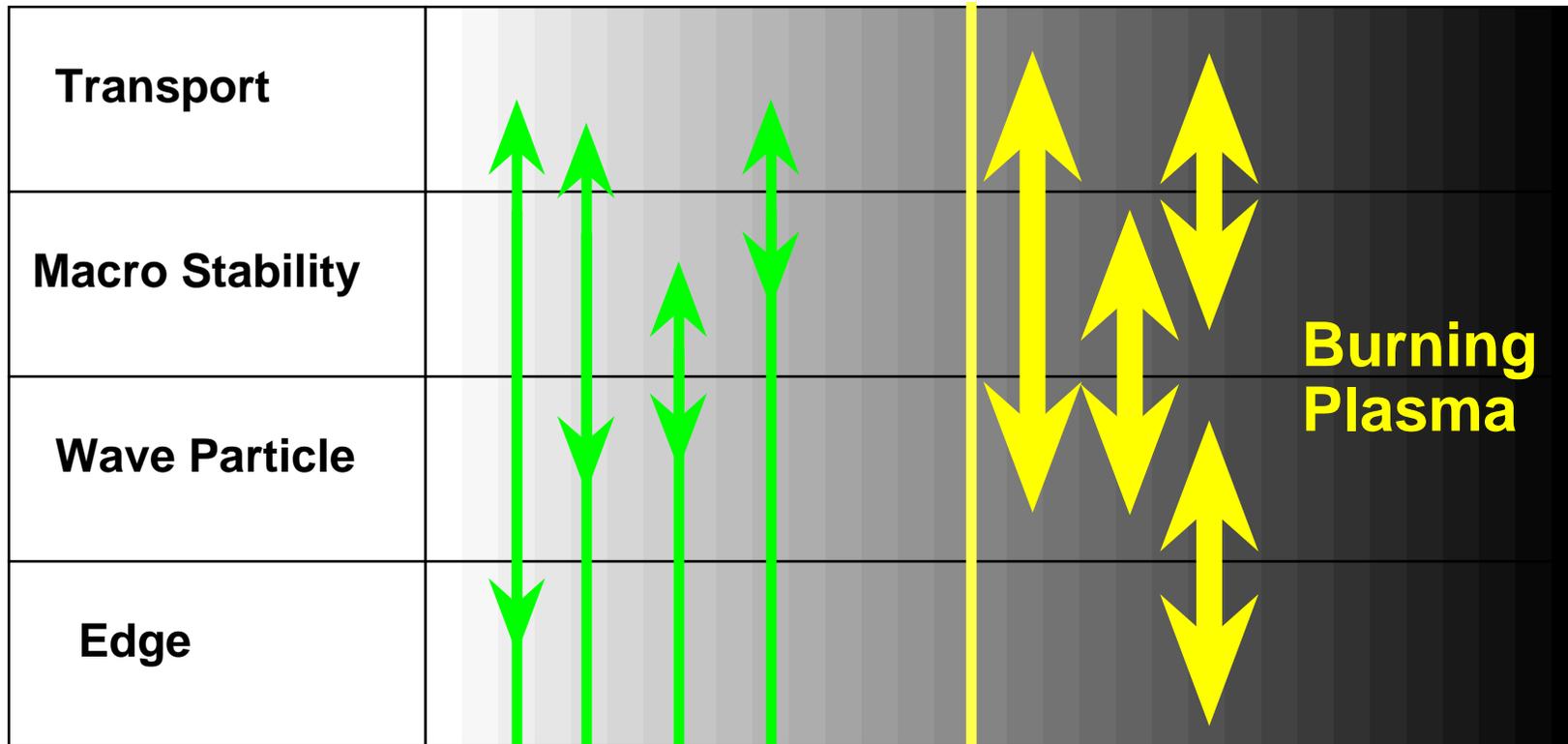
* Data from Snowmass Energy Working Group Summary.

Paths to Develop the Science for Attractive Fusion Energy



Magnetic Fusion Science

Issues - Strongly Coupled in a Fusion (Burning) Plasma



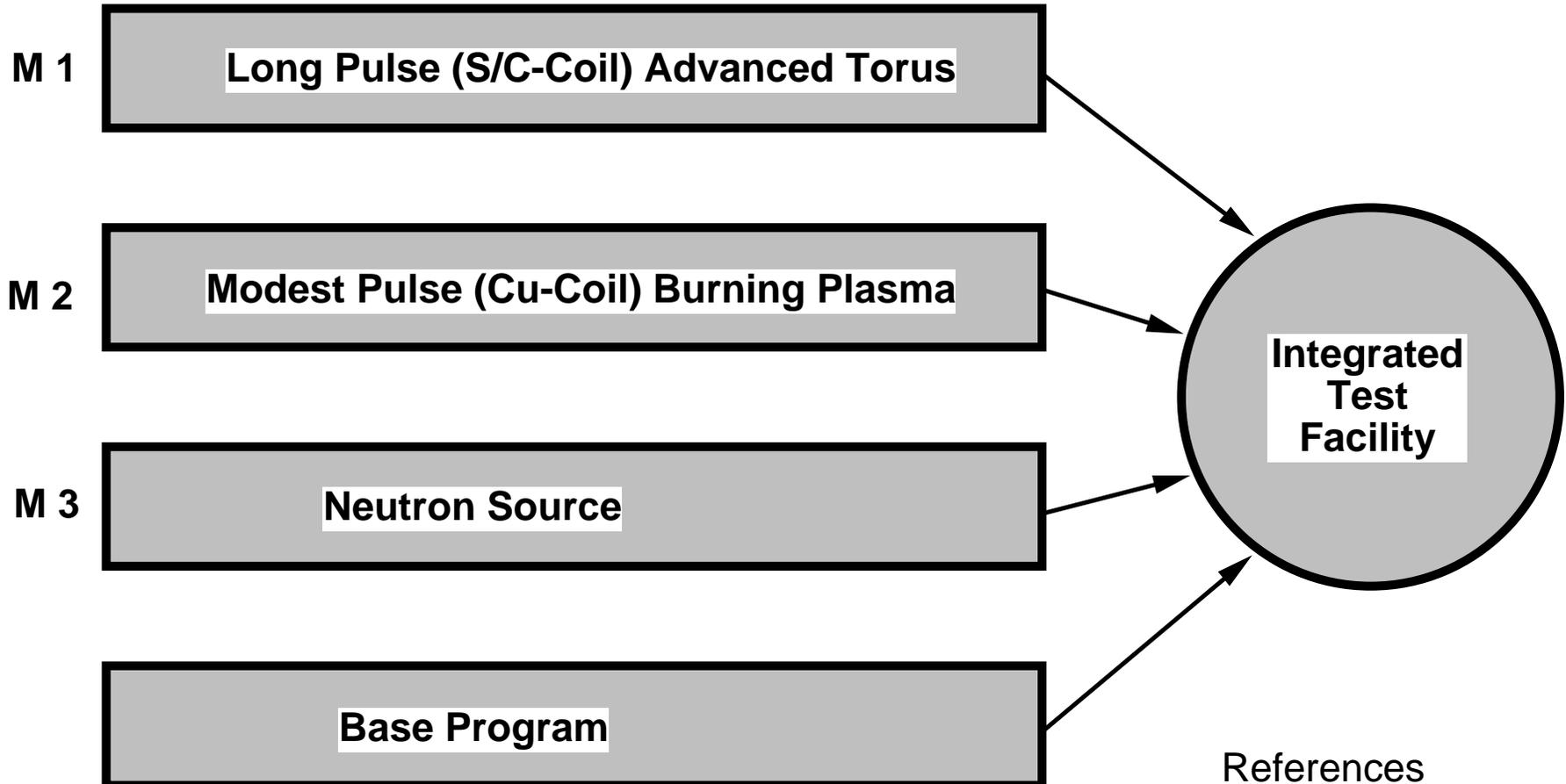
Improved Capability (more advanced)

Fusion Conditions $\{ (\rho^*, \nu^*, \beta), \text{edge}, P_\alpha/P_H \}$

External-heating (control) Self-heating (Self organization)

The Modular (Multi-Machine) Strategy

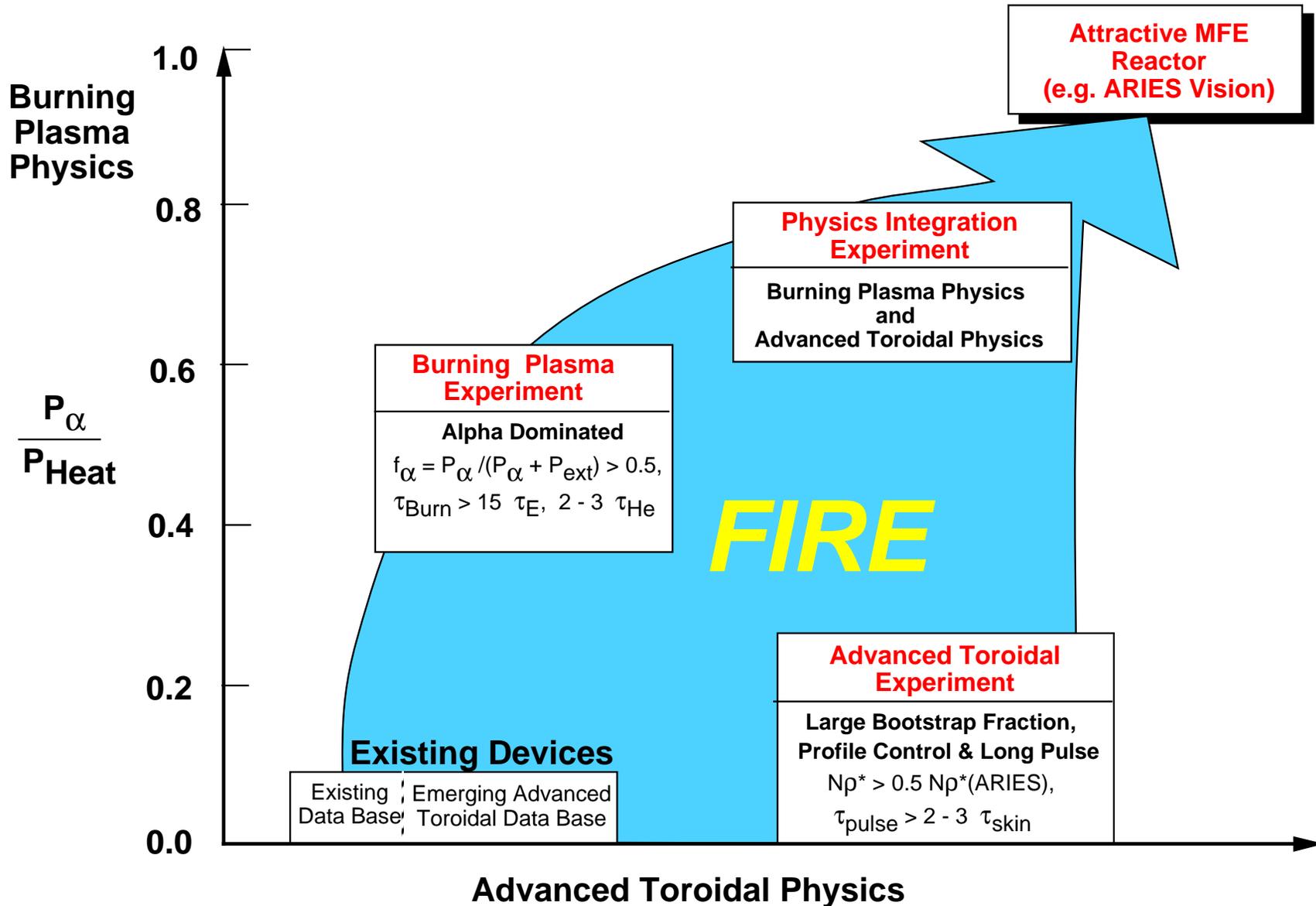
Next Steps in Magnetic Fusion



References

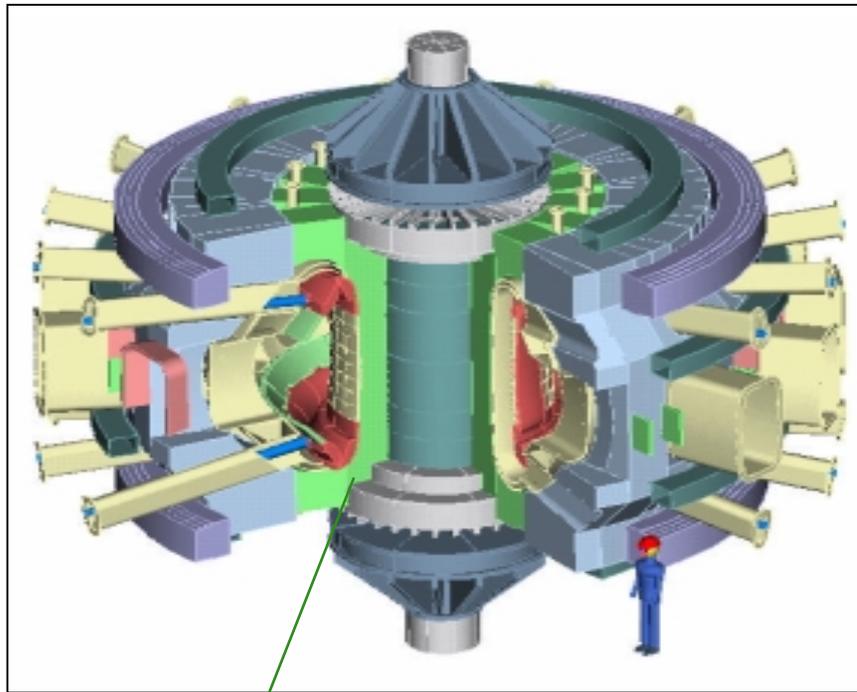
- 1987 - TPA
- 1990 - PHR
- 1995 - PCAST
- 1997 - DMM
- 1998 - MSN

Stepping Stones for Resolving the Critical Fusion Plasma Science Issues for an Attractive MFE Reactor



The “Old Paradigm” required three separate devices, the “New Paradigm” could utilize one facility operating in three modes or phases.

Fusion Ignition Research Experiment (FIRE)



LN BeCu ("HTS")

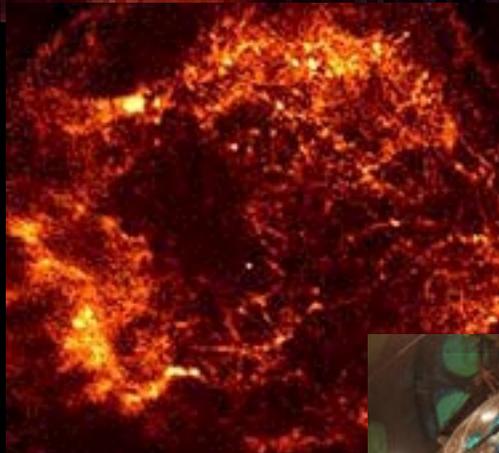
Design Goals

- $R = 2.0 \text{ m}$, $a = 0.525 \text{ m}$
- $B = 10 \text{ T}$, (12T)*
- $W_{\text{mag}} = 3.8 \text{ GJ}$, (5.5 GJ)*
- $I_p = 6.5 \text{ MA}$, (7.7 MA)*
- $P_{\alpha} > P_{\text{aux}}$, $P_{\text{fusion}} \sim 220 \text{ MW}$
- $Q \sim 10$, $\tau_E \sim 0.55\text{s}$
- Burn Time $\sim 20\text{s}$ (12s)*
- Tokamak Cost $\leq \$0.3\text{B}$
Base Project Cost $\leq \$1\text{B}$

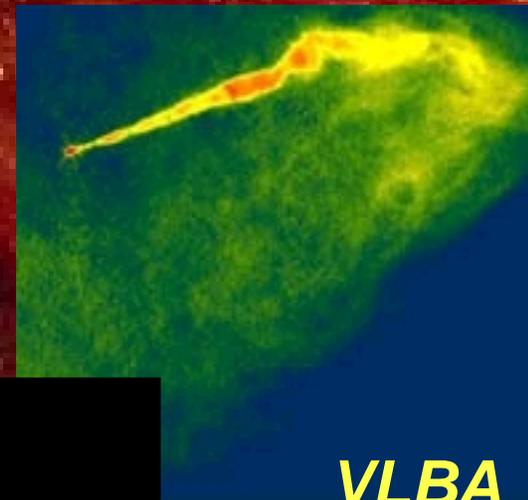
* Higher Field Option

Attain, explore, understand and optimize alpha-dominated plasmas to provide knowledge for the design of attractive MFE systems.

**Laboratories are Needed to Explore, Explain
and Expand the Frontiers of Science**



CHANDRA



VLBA



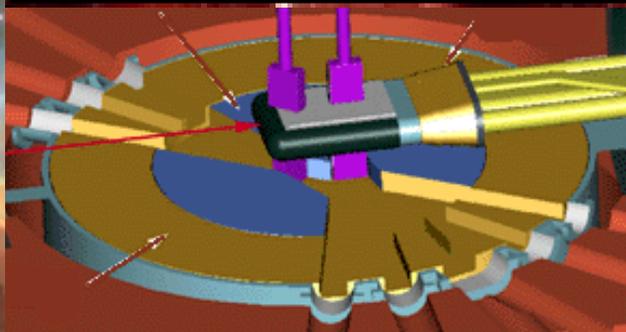
NIF



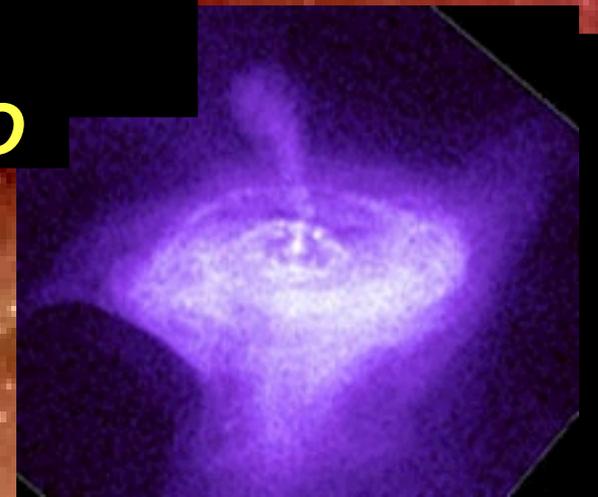
NSO



HST (NGST)



SNS



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