

Many people die every summer throughout the world. In last Japanese summer, more than 50 thousand people were taken to hospitals and 172 people died. Global warming is real and cannot wait. This picture is a haunting face crying a river of tears as glacier melts in the see and is used as a symbol of global warming. Fission energy has been recognized as one of primary solutions to the global worming. Fusion has long been considered as only a potential option in future. But Fukushima–Daiichi disaster will change this conservative view if strong fusion solution exists



Our solution is laser fusion.

lt's	time to bring a paradigm shift in inertial fusion.	ILE O
• By th	/ the time of NIF ignition, it will have passed more an 20 years since the end of the Cold War.	
• GI	obal warming is becoming the serious problem.	
ſ	A flagship program is necessary to lift up	
	community's spirits.	

Considering these strong factors: 1) social requirement of large scale energy sources emitting neither warming gas nor nuclear waist, 2) eve of controlled fusion burn, I feel that



This is one of such plans. Laboratory Inertial Fusion Test. The 200 kW laser in total produce 4 MW Electricity. Half of the electricity is recycled to the laser. With 10% efficiency, the 2MWe becomes 200 kW laser power. The rest half can be connected to the grid. The stability and power is comparable to those of wind machines, but the net electricity generation will be a landmark of fusion energy development, just like the first fission reactor which Enriko Fermi made.



Here is the roadmap towards commercial fusion plant. The upper half is a group of projects for reactor core physics. NIF, LMJ, FIREX-I, EP, and SG in china are in this group. Lower half are elements of reactor technology, such as driver development, target fab, injection, tracking, fusion chamber, blanket etc. These activities plus ITER R&D would converge onto a common goal of experimental reactor demonstrating power generation.

これが私どもの作成した、ロードマップです。上半分は炉心プラズマ物理を確立するプロジェクト群で、NIFが早ければ2011年、LMJがそれに遅れること5年、最近は中国の神光計 画が発足し、さらに5年後の2020年に中心点火を実証いたします。わが国のFIREXは2011年に点火温度を達成しFIREX-IIを開始する。下半分は炉工学要素技術で、炉用レーザー 開発、ターゲット注入・追尾・照射技術開発、炉チャンバー・ブランケットなどです。これらの要素技術開発の成果、およびITER&Dの成果を取り入れてレーザー核融合実験炉を開始しては どうかと思っている。まず2011年から4年間工学設計を行い、建設を含めて5年間の間に繰り返し工学試験を行う。ここではFIREX-Iクラスの未臨界プラズマを一秒に一回発生させ る。その間にFIREX-IIで検証されるであろう新しい知見を柔軟に取り入れて、よりコンパクトな炉開発を行うことができる。繰り返し工学試験が成功すれば、それをそのまま拡張して、 レーザー核融合実験炉をつくり2030年ごろに10時間程度の発電実証を行う。最後の3年は連続運転で1ヶ月の運転を目指す、実験炉の装置完成をもって原型炉の工学設計を開 始、発電実証をもって原型炉建設開始の判断を行う。経済性の実証後、炉チャンバーを4基に増設し、実用炉とするか、新たに建設するかの判断を行うことになろう。



Given electric power generation by the test reactor, one can judge the start of Demonstration Plant for economical demonstration of power plants. This demo is directly followed by a GW class commercial plant by increasing the reactor chamber module from one to four.

Q: Test:scientific demo, Pilot: engineering demo, Demo: economical demo

A: MFE combines engineering and economic demo to Pilot plant and Demo will skip. no other way.

IFE has its optimum roadmap. From its compactness, Test combines scientific and engineering demo. Economical demo might not necessary.





- can be compact (~200 MWe).
- can correspond to load fluctuation by rep-rate control.







Question arises "are we ready?" on Plasma physics, Laser, target and reactor development plus alliance with other people inc. industries. Concerning the burning plasma creation, the remaining issue is how we can downsize the reactor core plasma.



Here we conduct Fast Ignition Realization EXperiment as one of most advanced fast ignition programs. The fuel is first imploded by irradiating laser light just like a standard fashion except for the insertion of a cone in some cases. At the maximum compression timing, a high-intensity short-pulse laser is injected through the cone, triggering thermonuclear ignition.

This two step ignition scheme is analogous to gasoline engine with spark plug for ignition, whereas conventional central ignition is analogous to diesel engine. Like a gasoline engine being much smaller than diesel one, fast ignition takes place with one tenth of laser energy required for central ignition and, therefore, it will significantly accelerate inertial fusion energy development.

the goal of FIREX-I is to demonstrate ignition temperature followed by FIREX-II with the goal of the demo of ignition and burn.



high power glass laser technology developed in the past 40 years has been well matured to explore such plasma physics issue. As for compression laser, GEKKO-XII was the world largest laser when it was constructed. As for heating laser, LFEX is now the world largest short pulse laser. Let me describe some detail the LFEX laser.



The amplifier has a standard 4-pass 4 beam system with 2x2 architecture. The most critical technology was high precision large format gratings necessary for Chirped Pulse Amplification, where using a short pulse nature having broad Fourier spectrum, it is first stretched, amplified, and finally compressed again with large format gratings. The extension of nano-tech precision to meter size was real challenge but has been successfully completed. This is a strategic technology developed by US, Jpn optical industries coordinated by Osaka U.

加熱用のレーザーは2x2の4ビーム構成になっている.このレーザーは短パルスが広いフーリエ成分を持っていることを利用して、回折格子により時間的にパルスを拡げてから増幅し,最後に圧縮をする。これがチャープパルス増幅と呼ばれているものです。増幅部は数年前に完成し,最大の技術開発課題であった大型回折格子もナノテクをメートルサイズに拡張することに成功.これは日米の光学メーカーと大阪大学の協力により開発された戦略的技術です.



As for the pulse compressor, this picture shows one side of grating array. two beams out of four have been completed with two tiled grating. The final 4 beams will be completed in this year.

パルス圧縮器は1ビーム分が完成.本年6月から高速点火統合実験を開始した.残りのビームについては2010年度頭に2ビーム化,2011年度頭 に4ビーム化を行う.



in fast ignition a heating laser has to be injected into the right place at the right timing. In the left, Spatial coincidence between the compressed core and the heating beam is confirmed. In the right, temporal coincidence between the compressed core and the heating laser is also confirmed.

統合実験で必要なことは,加熱ビームが空間・時間的に最大に圧縮された燃料に注入されることです。空間的な対応はX線の像においてコーン先端部か ら強いX線発光が観測されていることで確かめられる。時間的な対応は,爆縮からの発光と加熱レーザーによるコーン先端の発光の時間差から確かめら れる。この時間差を変化させて,中性子発生数が最大となるところを探します。



Ultra-fast x-ray images clearly show two peaks: one from the maximum compression, two from the additional heating. This second peak suggests that additional heating indeed takes place.



Neutron yield is a yardstick of fusion and is....

with the time window width comparable to the life time of the compressed core. This is undoubtable evidence of fast heating.



In the last year experiment, both neutron yield and heated ion temperature have exceeded the record made in 2002. Here Yn increases with the heating laser energy input, confirming 20% coupling efficiency from the heating laser to the compressed core plasma. Shown in right is the same but ion temperature. Given this coupling efficiency, one may expect that ignition temperature is expected with laser energy below 10 kJ that is the capability of LFEX.

加熱レーザーエネルギーを変化させた時の中性子発生数を示す.加熱レーザーのパルス幅に対する強い依存性を発見.中性子発生数と燃料の密度等か らイオン温度を推定したものが右のグラフです.各グラフには結合効率一定のラインがひかれています.現在の600 Jレベルから2年後の10 kJレベル までエネルギーを増加させれば,予測された5 keVの加熱は十分に達成可能であると思われます.



In interim summary. High compression was made in 1990 using surrogate target and more recently in 2008 using cryogenic targets. The fast heating to ignition temperature will be demonstrated in 2011–12. As mentioned, ignition and burn themselves in the same time period. As far as reactor core plasma is concerned, we may step forward after achieving fuel heating at FIREX–I and ignition at NIF. What is the nexstep?



This is again Laboratory Inertial Fusion Test. But now we access in more detail. Two-story laser: one for implosion the other for heating. Each has 100 kJ (twenty times smaller than NIF) but has 1Hz rep rate. With this energy level, we may expect a target gain of 50, generating 10 MWth. With standand electrical conversion efficiency 40%, 4 MWe is generated. Half of the electricity is recycled to the laser. So one of the important requirement for reactor lasers is 10% laser efficiency at 1 Hz reprate. Can we make it?



Yes we can by two modern laser technologies. Flash lamps have long been used since the innovation of lasers in 1960 by Maymann. But its spectral broadness results in1) very low efficiency and 2) excess heat limiting rep-rate operation. Laser Diodes emission line can exactly match to the absorption line so that both efficiency and rep-rate conditions are simultaneously fulfilled. Here is the actual laser diode, having 25 layer of diodes, each of which emit 100 W light. So this tiny peace of diode emit very bright light of 2.5 kW. Diode pumped solid state laser has two issues. one is its cost. This small peace costs 10k\$, whereas it must be 300\$ for reactors. As a reference present diode cost is 100 times the cost of gold with the same mass.

フラッシュランプ励起レーザーは、1960年のレーザーの発明以来半世紀の間使われているが、レーザー媒質の吸収線に対して、励起光が非常に広いスペクトルを有するため、ほとん ど熱損失となり、効率が悪く、かつ高い繰り返し動作ができない。これに対しレーザーダイオードは媒質の吸収線に合致した発光波長を選ぶことができるので、効率と繰り返しという2 つの要請を満足することができる。これが実際に使われているレーザーダイオードでその一つは25層になって一層から100Wが出力されます。大変明るい光源であることがおわかり いただけるかと思います。レーザーダイオード励起のレーザーには2つ問題があり、その1つは価格です。現在はワットあたり300円を10円/Wにまで下がる必要があります。ちな みに現状の価格は同重量の金の価格の100倍以上しています。



Like many other semiconductor products, the diode cost significantly decreases with increasing market size. This is so called a learning curve. Diode cost for the experimental reactor is here, but Considering the uncertainty of such learning curve, three times higher cost is conservatively assumed for the cost calculation of LIFT 2–3 B\$.

LDの価格は市場の成長により低下します。いわゆる習熟曲線というものです。これまでの実績から外挿すると、実験炉に必要なダイオード数に対する価格予想はこのようになりま す。外挿の不確定性を考慮して、ロードマップ作成に当たってはこの価格の3倍を想定して、実験炉全体で2000–3000億円という値を算出しています。



The reactor laser have been developed in collaboration with industries. This is such MW class laser diode developed by Hamamatsu.



This laser system demonstrated several 10-J 10 Hz 10% efficiency several years ago. At lower reprate and reduced laser energy, this laser has been operated in the last 8 years without diode breakdown. However due to low thermal conductivity of laser material, high spec operation can be made only for short period of time.

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This short life problem has been solved by introducing new laser material. Current fusion laser uses glass material, as large optics is easily fabricated, though it has very low thermal conductivity. Ceramic Crystal has much higher conductivity because of crystal nature, whereas large optics can be fabricated because of ceramic nature. Furthermore, cooled ceramic has even higher conductivity because lattice vibration is limited. The remaining transparency issue was overcome by Japanese industry as shown here. As a result of several 100s increase of thermal conductivity

もう一つの問題は,現在の核融合用レーザーは大型のレーザー媒質としてガラスが使われていることです.ガラスは熱伝導度が低いため,高繰り返し動 作ができません.これに対し,わが国が得意とするセラミック結晶は結晶であるために熱伝導度が高く,セラミックであるために大型化が可能です. さらにこれを液体窒素温度で冷却して格子振動を抑制することにより,ガラスに比べて数百倍の熱伝導度を得ることができます.この結果,繰り返し 率は100Hzとレーザー核融合に必要な目標値ははるかに凌駕した.



This is GENB-Kid demonstration of 100Hz operation



Laser technology is underpinned by strong industrial support and some of the critical element are demonstrated. There are other critical issues concerning reactor technology. Here is our reactor design, where target is injected its trajectly is tracked and laser beam is steered from various direction. The cascaded liquid wall not only absorbs fusion energy (x-ray, neutrons, alphas, ions) but it also protect the reactor structure, and laser entrance window must be protected from debris.



Mass production of target capsule with varying size from current experimental use to future commercial reactor use was already demonstrated many years ago. Sophisticated injection of cone target is demonstrated, where subbot is attached to protect target and subbot is accreted by air gun or electromagnetically and in some stage the subbot is decelerated with spyral current to release the target. As for target tracking 1 micron accuracy was demonstrated with use of Arago spot. Honestly speaking, we haven't spent major effort to these subject, But these are highly technical subjects and I believe that there is no fundamental difficulty.

Q. some people might ask 200 m/s is jetplane speed. it must be difficult to shoot it. Ans. is no. Even with low-tech 10-ns timing control, target moves only 2 micron.



Stability of liquid wall cascade is carefully studied at hydrodynamically equivalent to LiPb and found no serious instability. Port protection can be protected at 1T magnetic field.



Although there are so many important areas where R&D is required, not many people do. We need cooperation and collaboration with international IFE community, magnetic fusion and industries.



As for collaboration among IFE community, there are three independent program aiming at energy development. Although these rely on different scheme of plasma physics, there is a strong commonality of reactor and laser technology.



There is strong and long collaboration history with UK and France. And



Recently, we have started collaborative work with Korea and China. Gekko-IV technology has been transfered to Korea.



This is the starting step for collaboration with national labs.

In hope these international alliance activities result in common goal of IFE. Crandall

Jeanloz, material

Kaifu, observatory

Nagamiya, J-Parc,

- Moses
- Yamaji,

Suzuki, KEK director

- Tajima,
- Kato, optics
- Rosner



Material development is mostly common in MFE and IFE and therefore there is an big area we IFE and material scientists/nuclear engineers cooperate. Many magnetic and reactor technology people already join in IFE technology development.

INTEGRATED LARGE SCALE PRODUCTION IS READY FOR SIC/ SIC, C/SIC AND W/CMC COMPONENTS FOR FUSION - BY NITE PROCESS -

1: Excellent total performance and process attractiveness have been presented and been proven ;

2: Large scale production lines for SiC fibers, green sheets and prepreg-sheets (fibers +matrix) have been established by Japanese Industries and joint ventures with universities.

3: Real size components for Rockets and Fission/Fusion Reactors have been provided for R & D efforts international

10cm dia., 1.8m sized preform foaming machine has been installed and is now under operation for long tube/cylinder production

Greensheet/Prepreg-sheet Production line in IEST Co., Ltd., MURORAN





All SiC/SiC Rocket Thruster

A. Kohyama: Organization of Advanced Sustainability Initiative for Energy System/ Material, Muroran Institute of Technology









- 1. They have started new civilian project for inertial fusion energy.
- 2. Motivation of this project is, research and development of key issues for IFE reactor, diode-pumped solid-state laser driver technology, target fabrication and launching technologies and reactor material and system engineering.
- 3. In this project, four facilities collaborate toward the same goal of IFE with different objectives, such as electricity cost reduction, creation of photonics industries and sustainable energy.
- 4. Our facilities are located within the range of 70km.
- 5. Therefore we can work together closely.



- 1. This is a photograph of DPSSL pumped 10TW laser driver HAMA.
- 2. This system consist of Ti:sapphire seed laser, pump DPSSL, Ti:sapphire main amplifier, vacuum compressor, target chamber and diagnostics.
- 3. Typical laser specifications are peak intensity of 13TW, repetition rate of 1.25Hz, on target energy of 2J and pulse duration of 148fs.
- 4. I would like to explain in detail about pump DPSSL.



As far as ILE is concerned, more than 1000 school kids are invited every year.



The other program is international physics source, where large scale experimental facility is provided for foreign students



Finally, let us compare the increase of laser intensity vs year. This is so called Mourou chart. After CPA innovation in late 80's, he expects exponential increase up to 10 21 W/cm2. Most high intense laser systems stack together around this intensity. But using high intensity technology developed in FIREX program, it is pretty feasible to reach such pinnacle of intensity.

最後に他国のプロジェクトとの比較をさせていただきます. モローチャートと呼ばれるものでレーザーの強度対年度を示しています. 1980年代後半のチャープパル ス増幅の発見によりレーザー強度は飛躍的に増大し, 10²⁰—21W/cm²に達しました. 世界の多くのペタワットレーザーはこのあたりでドングリの背比べをし ているのですが, 最近稼働を開始したLFEXレーザーは頭一つ抜けています. LFEXで開発した最新のレーザー技術を拡張すれば, 他のレーザーを6桁も圧倒す る世界最高峰の超高強度レーザーをつくることができます.

Summary



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- After 50 years from the innovation of lasers, it is an eve of the first controlled fusion burn in humankind.
- Compactness of fast ignition will accelerate inertial fusion energy development. This option will soon be tested in FIREX program.
- IFE physic and engineering programs would converge onto an experimental reactor, such as LIFE and LIFT, that will lift up people's spirits.
- Most of critical elements of IFE reactors have been addressed and/or demonstrated.