# **FUSION ENERGY PROGRESS AT**

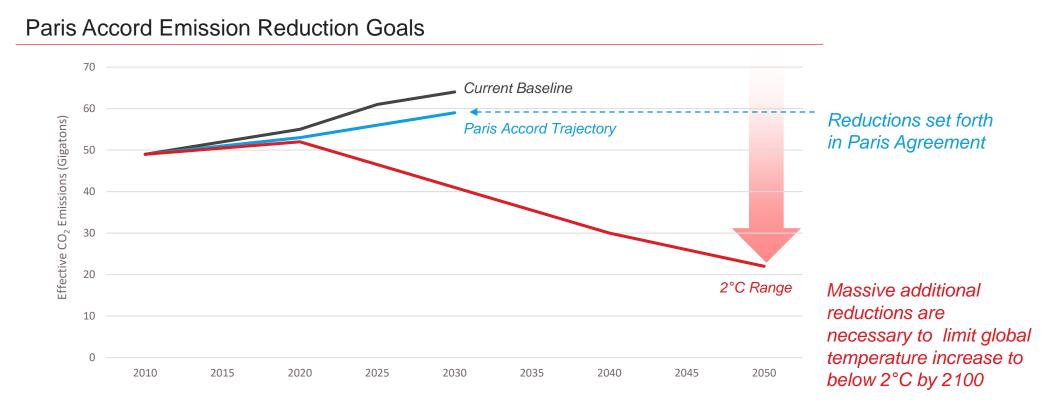
# **GENERAL FUSION**

#### Dr. Michel Laberge

#### general**fusion**°

generalfusion

#### Current Carbon Emission Reduction Plans are Insufficient

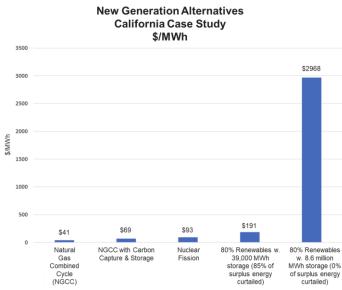


Although renewables are growing more rapidly than other energy production, they are inadequate to significantly curtail climate change

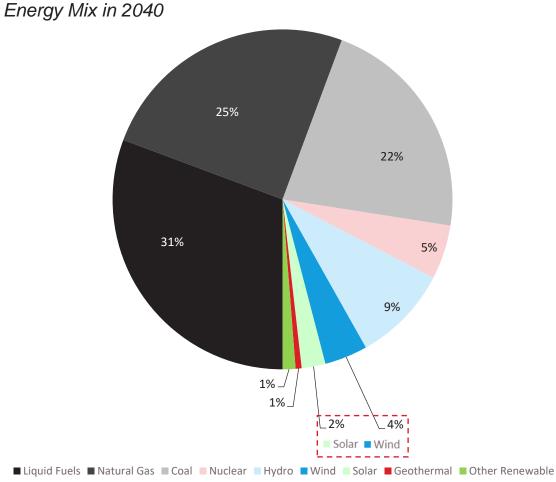
Energy is single largest source of carbon emissions ... no practical complement to renewables exists

# Fusion is a Long-Term Clean Energy Solution...

- Over 50% of renewable electricity is from hydro
- Solar & wind are forecast to make up only ~6% of energy mix by 2040
- Renewables limited by: high land utilization, costly transmission lines, location, intermittent power generation, and storage / battery capacity



Solar and Wind are a Small Fraction of Energy Production



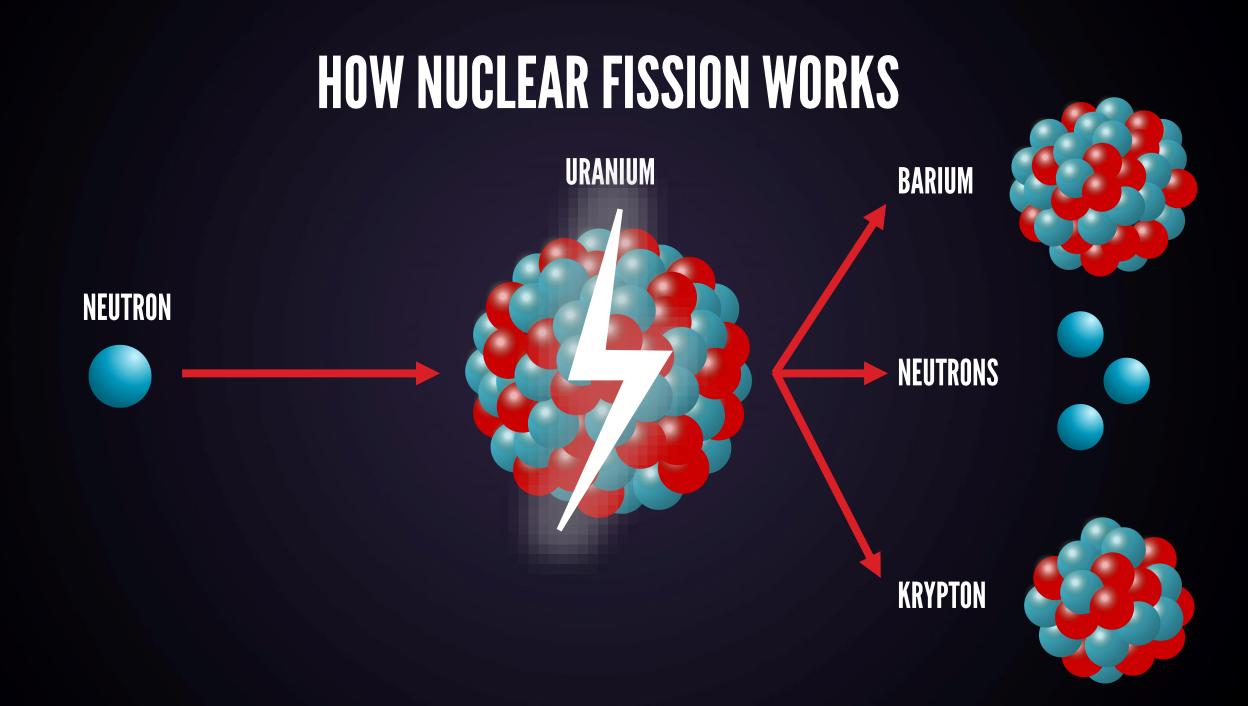
Source: Brick & Thernstrom, 2016. Renewables and decarbonization: Studies of California, Wisconsin and Germany

Source: Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment 2017, BP Energy Outlook 2017, U.S. Energy Information Administration

Natural Gas with Carbon Capture

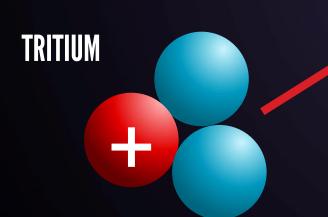
**Nuclear Fission** 

Fusion



# HOW FUSION WORKS





DEUTERIUM



# Fusion: Zero emission, on-demand electricity that is plentiful and safe

Clean: No GHG emissions

**Safe:** Meltdown impossible and no long lived waste

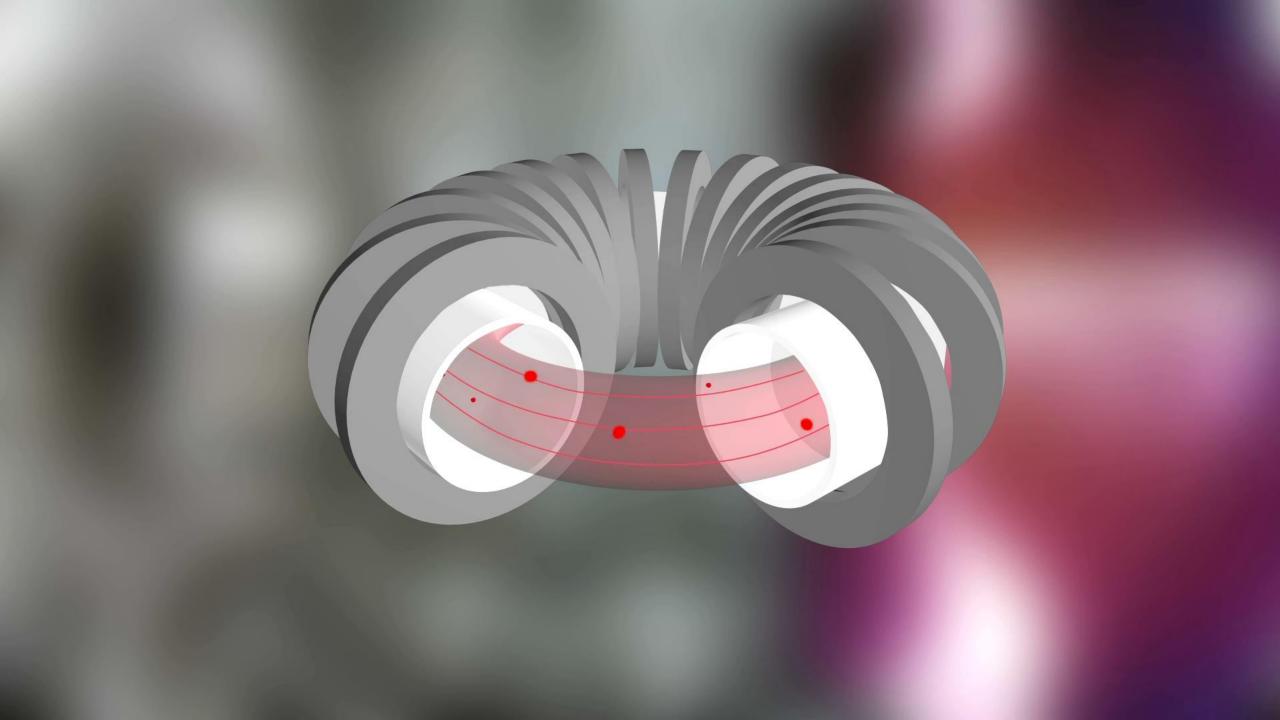
**Abundant:** Fuel derived from sea water, millions of years worth available

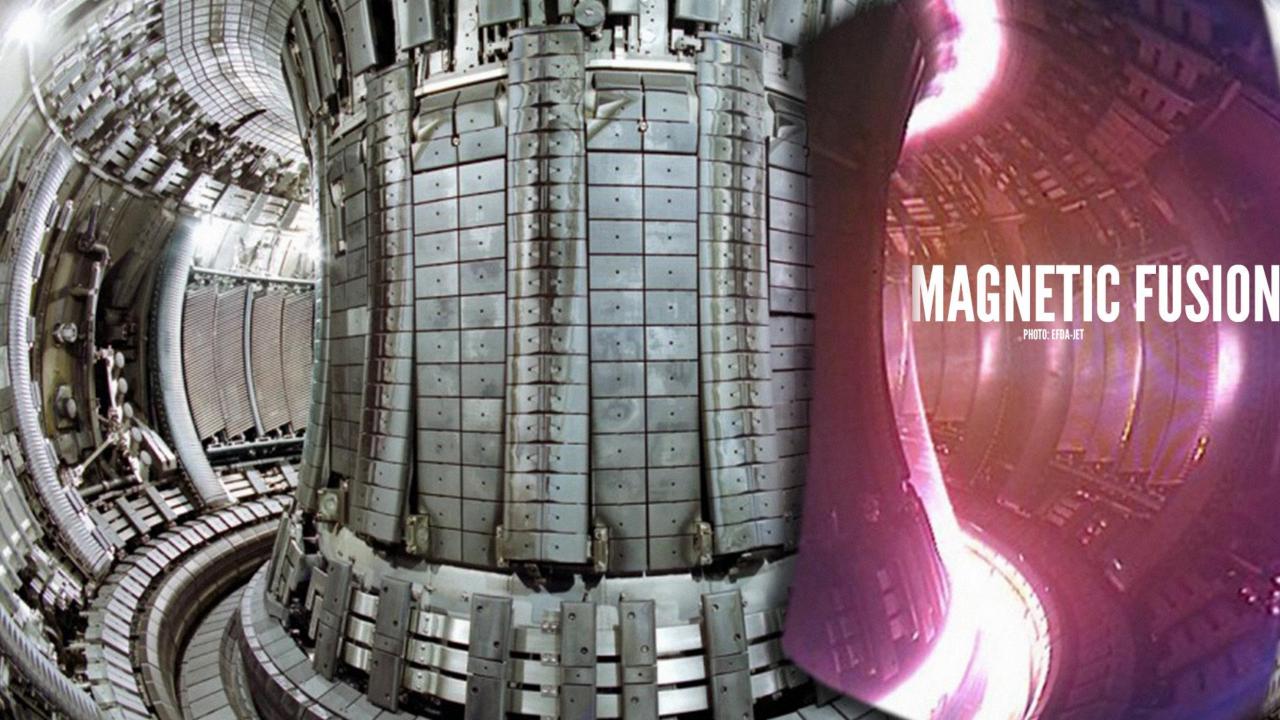
**On-Demand:** Able to provide baseload power around the clock

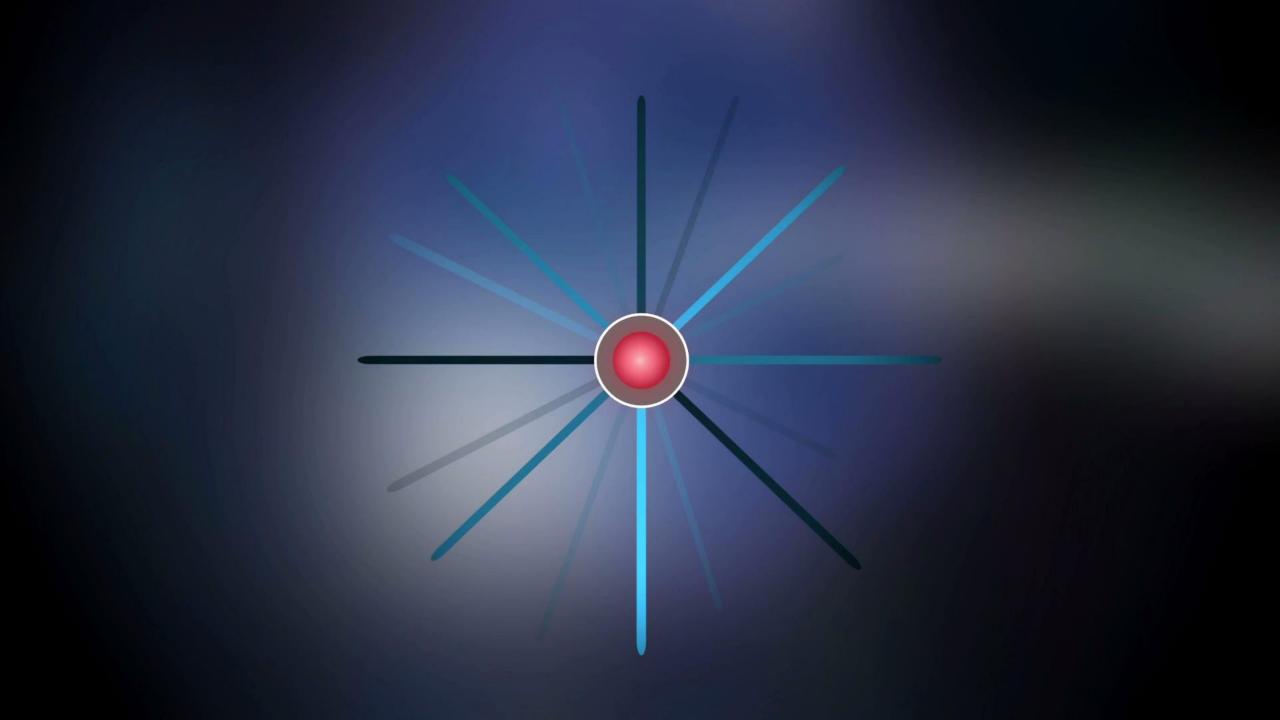
**Cost-competitive:** Effectively zero fuel cost, high density energy

#### ENERGY DENSITY EQUIVALENTS

FUSION	1 kilogram
FISSION FUEL	100 kilograms
NATURAL GAS	6,000,000 kilograms
COAL	10,000,000 kilograms



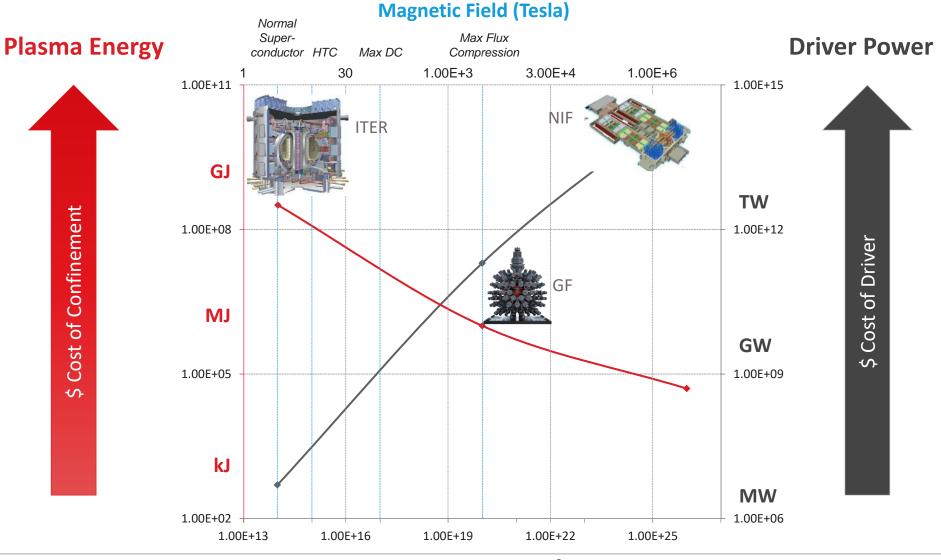




# LARGE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY / XREZ



## **Fusion Technology Comparison**



Plasma Density (cm<sup>-3</sup>)



## Resolving the Traditional Barriers to Fusion

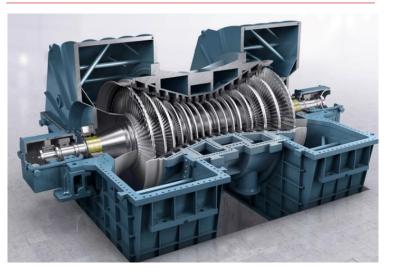
#### **Fusion Conditions**



General Fusion's pulsed fusion process <u>eliminates</u> the need for complex and costly:

- Long heat confinement
- Complex plasma heating systems
- Consumable fuel targets

#### Energy Conversion



General Fusion's energy conversion system <u>uses</u> proven energy technology:

- Proven liquid metal heat exchanger
- Conventional steam turbine/generator
- Inexpensive compressed gas driver

#### System Durability



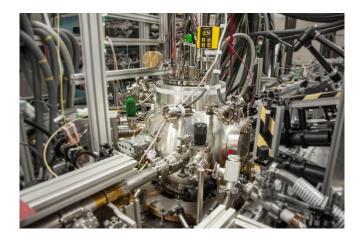
General Fusion's liquid-metal plasma compression and fusion cavity <u>avoids</u>:

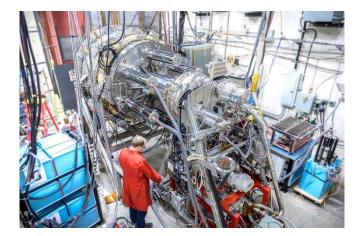
- Solid materials neutron degradation
- Problem of insufficient tritium creation

#### A uniquely practical solution to the challenges of fusion

## **Component Level Development**

#### **Plasma Formation**





#### **Liquid Metal Systems**





#### **Plasma Compression**





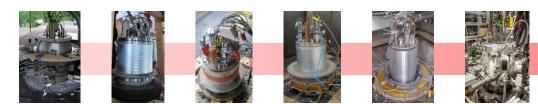
## **Plasma formation**

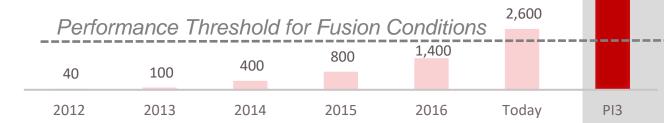
Plasma Injector

World's biggest and most powerful plasma injectors

500 eV pre-compression plasma with life-time >2,600 microseconds Developed and operated 18 generations of injectors since 2010 Library of over 150,000 plasma experiments

Plasma Performance - Lifetime in Microseconds





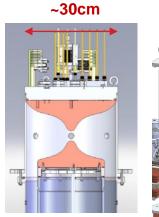
PI3 Prototype-Scale Plasma Injector

10,000

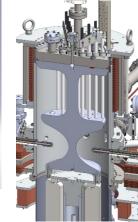


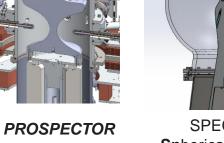
# **Small plasma injectors**

- Built on a reduced scale to reduce iteration time and expense
- · Allow a variety of geometries and magnetic field configuration to be explored
- 15 small injectors built so far
- SPECTOR has achieved 500 eV, lifespan >3,300 µs

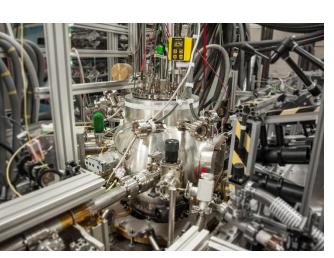


*MrT* : Magnetic Ring Test

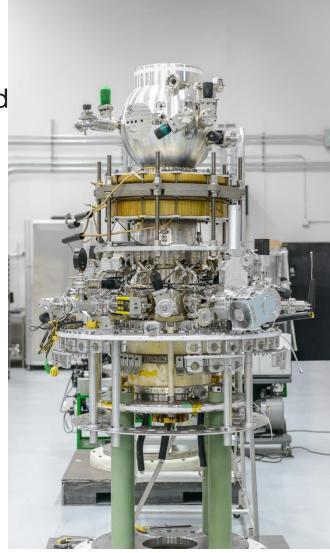




SPECTOR Spherical Compact Toroid

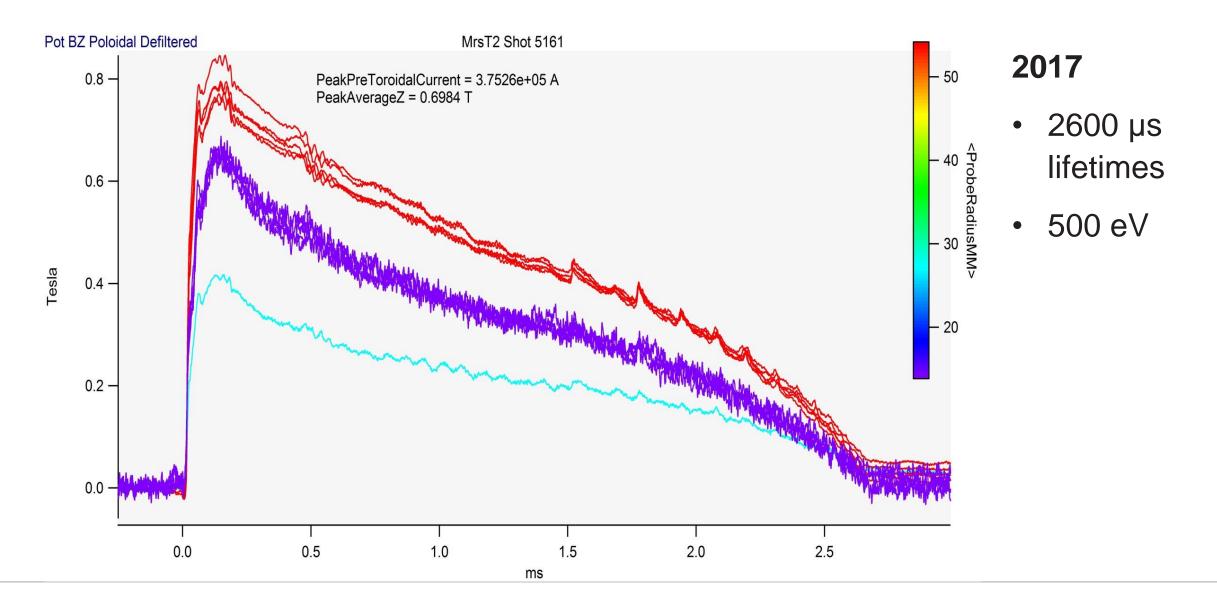


SPECTOR in lab with diagnostics



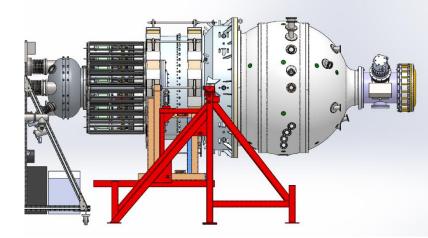
**SPECTOR** injector

## **Spherical tokamak: 500 eV measured by Thomson Scattering**



## Large plasma injectors

- Injectors built to a similar scale as expected for power plant
- Pi1 and Pi2 demonstrated magnetic compression heating of a spheromak to over 400 eV and 3.2T magnetic fields
- Pi3 first plasma at end of 2017

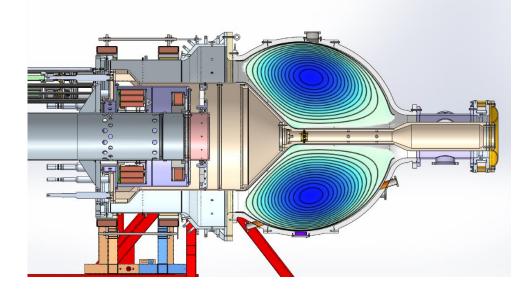


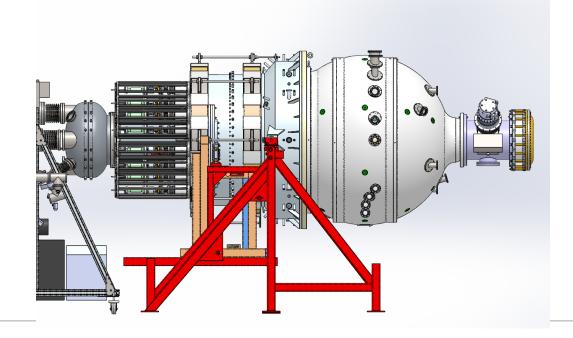


# **Pi3 large injector**

- Spherical tokamak plasma target
  - Major radius: 0.6-0.7 m
  - Temperature  $T_{electron} \sim T_{ion}$ : 100-500 eV
  - Plasma lifespan expected (size): 50 ms
  - 10 MJ capacitor bank





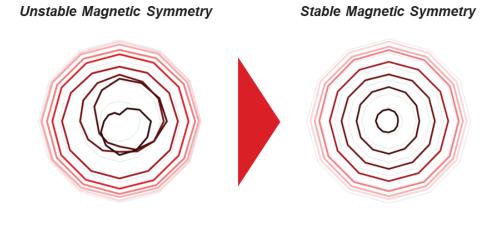


#### **Plasma compression**

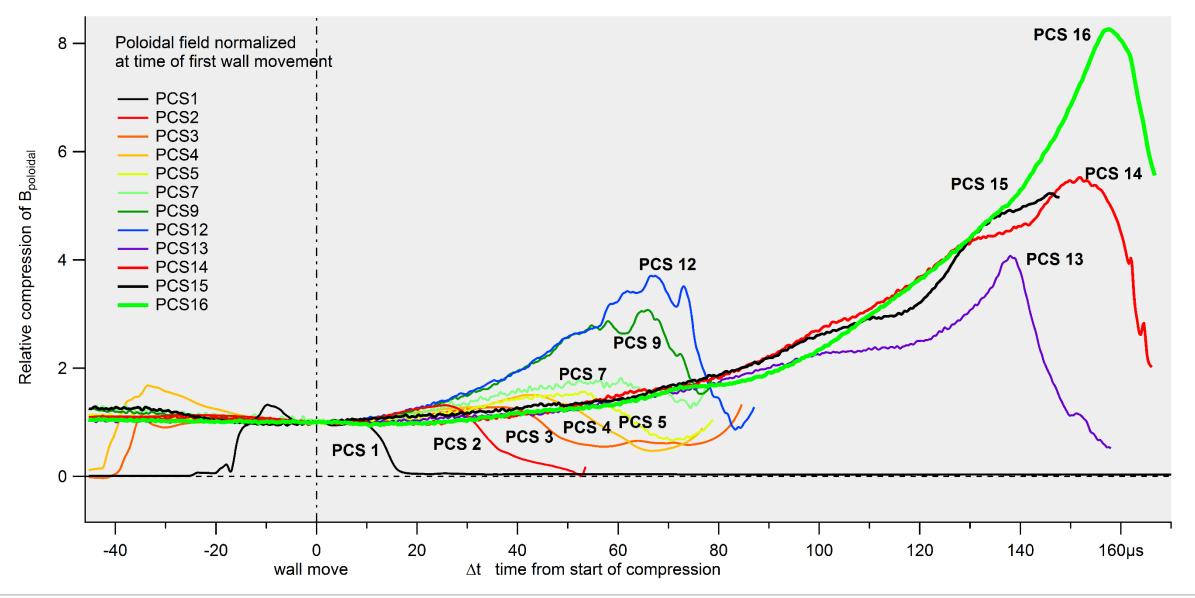
- Mechanical compression of magnetized plasma
- Major advances in plasma systems, materials, coatings, and diagnostics
- · Recent experiments show good magnetic stability



Plasma Stability - Maintaining Thermal Confinement



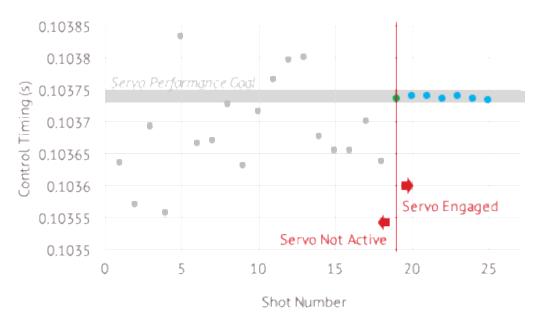
## **All PCS Shots: Poloidal Field Compression**



# **Compression technology**

- Compression of 400°C liquid lead liner with pistons
- Demonstrated synchronization accuracy of +/-2 µs with frictionless servo
- Cavity formation and stabilization





Compression Driver Control System Performance

#### **Big Data**

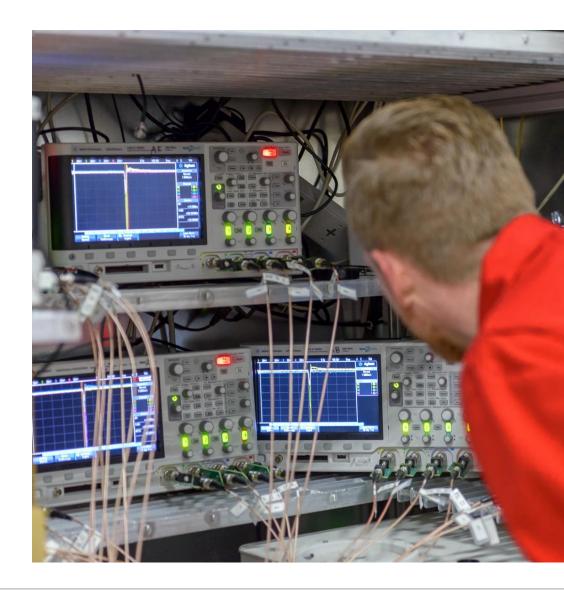
General Fusion has conducted >150,000 plasma shots to date

Each shot generates ~500 Mb of data

Partnering with Microsoft to create new analysis tools and share data with the scientific community

Aurora project – plasma data in the cloud

Big data + machine learning



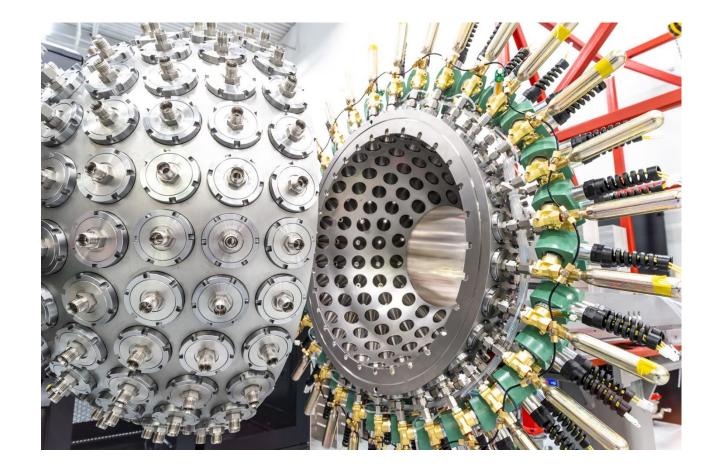
# **Additive Manufacturing**

Additive Manufacturing = industrial scale 3D printing

Ability to create shapes not possible before

Important applications in stabilizing liquid metal wall





## Core Technologies are in Place

Plasma Injector System

#### Compression System

Fusion Process Stability







Backed by years of R&D progress, core technologies are in place, constructed, and tested at large scale

#### **General Fusion Demonstration Program**

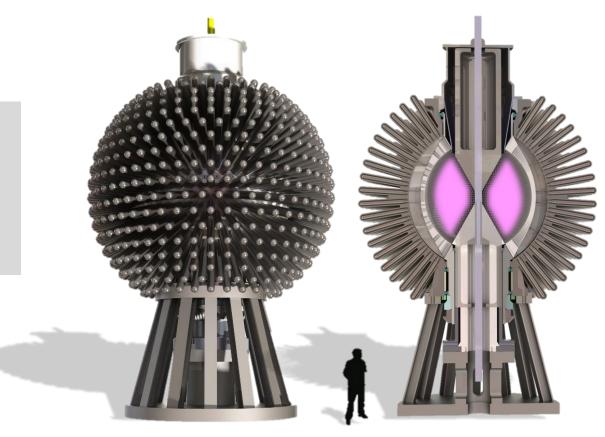


- Embarking on a project to build and operate a fusion demonstration machine that will compress plasma to fusion temperature with pistons and liquid metal
- Builds on key milestones that have confirmed the Company's approach to fusion, achieved industry-recognized fusion system performance, established industrial partnerships for enabling technologies, and captured government support

# **Demonstration Program Goals**

- 1. Demonstrate, at power plant-scale, that fusion conditions can be practically achieved using General Fusion's technology
- 2. Refine commercial power plant economics (ONC and LCOE), based on actual performance





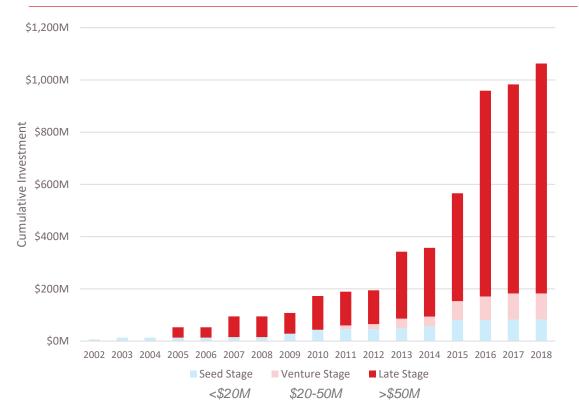
- Demonstration plant integrates all of General Fusion's core technologies
- Deuterium-only hydrogen fueled operation enables achievement of engineering and science objectives in a low risk and cost efficient manner
- Strategic partners mitigate engineering, manufacturing, construction risks

#### **New Innovative Ventures**

**Private Fusion Ventures** 

#### 25 20 Cumulative Number of Ventures 01 51 5 0 2013 pre-2002 2014 2015 2003 2004 2005 2016 2027 2018 2027 202 200 200 Seed Stage Venture Stage Late Stage >\$50M <\$20M \$20-50M

#### Investment in Private Fusion Ventures



#### **Private Fusion Technology Ventures**



a faster way to fusion







# general fusion®



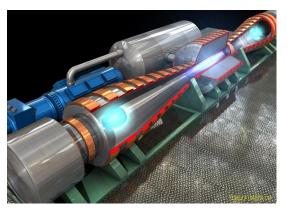












#### Publicly Funded Fusion Research

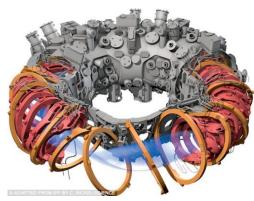




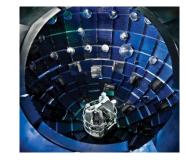


MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

Wendelstein 7-X







Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST)





#### Summary

- The increase in demand for energy worldwide cannot be met by existing renewable technologies.
- Fusion energy can transform the way the world is powered with sustainable carbon free energy.
- Newly matured enabling technologies are now opening innovative new pathways to commercial fusion energy.
- General Fusion is a big player in a growing ecosystem of private fusion companies emerging worldwide.
- Combining new technologies, proven industrial processes, and advances in fundamental fusion science, General Fusion's solution is getting closer to commercial reality.
- General Fusion's unique architecture removes the traditional barriers to practical fusion.

# CLEAN ENERGY. EVERYWHERE. FOREVER."

general**fusion**°

