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Oak Ridge TNS Program: Summary of FY 1978 Activities

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OAK RIDGE TNS REFERENCE DESIGN - 1978

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FUSION ENERGY DIVISION

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ABSTRACT

The Next Step (TNS) represents the stage of fusion energy development in which the major emphasis is on engineering testing and demonstration. In this document, the activities of the Oak Ridge TNS Program for FY 1978 are described and summarized. The Reference Design that has evolved from these activities is described, its operating characteristics are examined, and project planning issues are considered. Major conclusions from the FY 1978 effort are stated.

Further documentation of the FY 1978 Oak Ridge TNS Program activities is contained in ORNL/TM-6721-ORNL/TM-6733.

INTRODUCTION

The Next Step (TNS) represents that stage of fusion energy development in which the major emphasis is directed toward engineering testing and demonstration. Thus, TNS should not be viewed as simply a facility, but rather as a major phase in the development of fusion power. The engineering phase of the magnetic fusion power development effort is beginning with the construction of devices such as the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) and the Mirror Fusion Test Facility (MFTF) at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory (LLL). Nevertheless, it is recognized that devices such as TFTR and MFTF are not intended to operate as engineering test facilities. Therefore, the objective of the TNS studies, initiated by the Department of Energy's Office of Fusion Energy, has been to define the characteristics and requirements of a major new facility dedicated to the engineering testing phase of fusion power development. For this reason, TNS has also been identified as an Engineering Test Facility (ETF).

Because the scientific basis required for TNS/ETF will first be available for the tokamak concept, it seems reasonable that the fusion core of the facility should be based on the tokamak concept. The commitment to an ETF with a tokamak reactor core does not represent a commitment to tokamaks as the ultimate power reactor concept. However, if fusion is to develop into an energy option, it is necessary to move into the engineering phase, and it is in this context that the tokamak concept must be pursued vigorously as the core for TNS.

The TNS studies at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) were initiated in FY 1977. During FY 1977, the Oak Ridge effort pursued scoping studies in three broad areas: plasma engineering, systems modeling, and program planning. These activities were carried out in cooperation with the Fusion Power Systems Department of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation. Based upon the findings of the FY 1977 efforts, it was judged that continued activities in the Oak Ridge TNS program should be directed toward preconceptual design with particular emphasis placed on engineering feasibility.

As a point of departure for the FY 1978 activities, a Baseline Design was selected, based on the systems modeling effort of FY 1977. The primary objective of the FY 1978 TNS effort has been to evolve the Baseline Design toward a preconceptual design. However, it is emphasized that because of budget constraints, the FY 1978 effort was not intended to lead to a completed preconceptual design. Therefore, the design resulting from this year's effort is referred to as the Reference Design, rather than as a preconceptual design. The FY 1978 activities were carried out in cooperation with Fusion Energy Department of the Grumman Aerospace Corporation.

In this document we summarize the essential results of the FY 1978 activities of the Oak Ridge TNS Program in the context of the evolved Reference Design. Section 1 is an engineering description of the Reference Design, including a brief systems description, engineering drawings, and a discussion of the key design features. Section 2 examines the projected operating characteristics of the tokamak fusion core, including startup and shutdown, plasma heating, high beta maintenance, and particle control. Section 3 considers project planning issues, including costs and schedules, technical needs assessments, and mission description. The major conclusions from the FY 1978 effort are stated in Sect. 4.

In addition to this summary document, a number of other reports are being issued as part of the documentation of the FY 1978 effort (see Table I.1). To supplement the brief systems description given in Sect. 1, a systems description manual is being issued as ORNL/TM-6721. The technical needs assessment summarized in Sect. 3 is described in more detail in ORNL/TM-6722. The details of the studies which led to the selection of components and configuration for the Reference Design are reported in ORNL/TM-6723-ORNL/TM-6733. Included are systems studies of the toroidal field coil configuration, the vacuum topology, the poloidal field system, the bundle divertor concept, the rf system employed in startup, and the pellet fueling system; descriptions of the mechanical design of the overall system, the startup scenarios, the neutral beam injection and density buildup options; and the beta maintenance approach.

Table I.1. Reports dealing with Oak Ridge TNS Program activities during FY 1978

Report number	Title	First author
ORNL/TM-6720	Summary of FY 1978 Activities	D. Steiner
ORNL/TM-6721	System Description Manual	R. L. Reid
ORNL/TM-6722	Technical Needs Assessment	W. R. Becraft
ORNL/TM-6723	System Studies of the Toroidal Field Coils	R. L. Reid
ORNL/TM-6724	Mechanical Design Considerations	P. T. Spampinato
ORNL/TM-6725	Evaluation of Vacuum Topology	C. Sardella
ORNL/TM-6726	Evaluation of the Poloidal Field System	T. G. Brown
ORNL/TM-6727	Evaluation of the Bundle Divertor	W. M. Wells
ORNL/TM-6728	Evaluation of the ECH Startup System	R. Rosenfeld
ORNL/TM-6729	Evaluation of the Pellet Fueling System	W. Simpson
ORNL/TM-6730	Plasma Startup Scenarios	W. A. Houlberg
ORNL/TM-6731	Low Density Neutral Beam Heating Scenario	J. A. Rome
ORNL/TM-6732	Beta Maintenance	Y-K. M. Peng
ORNL/TM-6733	Plasma Particle Control	A. T. Mense

1. ENGINEERING DESCRIPTION

The engineering description of the Reference Design provided in this section consists of two parts. The design description (Sect. 1.1) is a summary description of the current Reference Design. Key engineering features of the design are highlighted, and the rationale for the selection of components and configuration is given. The systems description (Sect. 1.2) is an abbreviated description of the major TNS hardware systems.

1.1 DESIGN DESCRIPTION

The current Reference Design has evolved from the Baseline Design¹ adopted as a result of the FY 1977 system studies. Table 1.1 lists the major engineering parameters of the Reference Design. The parameters of the Baseline Design are included for comparison.

The Reference Design is an ignited, D-T burning, air core tokamak. The duty cycle is 89% with a steady-state burn of 500 sec. The plasma radius is 1.2 m, the major radius is 5.0 m, and the plasma elongation is 1.6 (D-shape). The fusion power density is 5.0 MW/m^3 , which results in 1140 MW of fusion power during the burn. Exothermic reactions in the first wall and shield are assumed to increase the thermal power to 1450 MW (based on an energy release of 22.4 MeV per fusion event).

A water-cooled tubular first wall and a bundle divertor remove the energy associated with the fusion alpha particles. Both the first wall and the bundle divertor are designed to remove all the alpha particle energy; however, the distribution of this energy to each component is presently assumed to be about 50%. A stainless steel shield, cooled by borated water, absorbs the bulk of the energy associated with the fusion neutrons. All the thermal energy, including that deposited at the first wall and in the divertor, is dumped to a cooling tower.

The stainless steel toroidal vessel is composed of 16 bolted segments, and the entire tokamak is situated within an evacuated containment building. A poloidal field (PF) system, consisting of a superconducting ohmic heating (OH) solenoid and both superconducting and copper

Table 1.1. Comparison of parameters for the Reference Design
and the Baseline Design

	FY 78 Reference Design	FY 77 Baseline Design
Plasma major radius, R	5.0 m	5.0 m
Plasma elongation, δ	1.6	1.6
Plasma minor radius, a	1.2 m	1.2 m
Plasma volume, V_p	230 m ³	230 m ³
Plasma current, I_p	5.0 MA	5.0 MA
Neutron wall loading, L_w	2.4 MW/m ²	1.3 MW/m ²
Total fusion power, P_{tot}	1140 MW	700 MW
Fusion power density, n	5.0 MW/m ³	2.6 MW/m ³
Number of TF coils	12	20
TF coil vertical bore	9.9 m	7.6 m
TF coil horizontal bore	6.2 m	4.9 m
TF coil conductor	Nb ₃ Sn	Nb ₃ Sn
Field at TF coil, B_m	10.9 T	10.9 T
Field on axis, B_T	5.3 T	5.3 T
Steady-state burn time	500 sec	16 sec
Total cycle time	560 sec	300 sec
Total volt-seconds	83 V-sec	52 V-sec
Neutral beam power, P_{inj}	50 MW	75 MW
Neutral beam energy, E_{inj}	150 keV	150 keV
Injection time, τ_{inj}	6.0 sec	
Microwave power	1.0 MW	
Microwave frequency	120 GHz	
Fueling	Pellet injection	Pellet injection
Impurity control	Bundle divertor	Compact poloidal divertor
Shielding	Stainless steel balls and borated water	Stainless steel balls and borated water
Vacuum topology	Vacuum building	Plasma chamber
Vacuum pumping	Cryopumps	Cryopumps

equilibrium field (EF) coils, induces the plasma current and provides plasma position control. Plasma startup is assisted by the injection of 1 MW of rf power at 120 GHz. Bulk heating is accomplished by the injection of 50 MW of 150-keV neutral beams into the plasma. The confining toroidal field is provided by 12 Nb₃Sn superconducting coils (TF coils). Plan and elevation views of the Reference Design are shown in Figs. 1.1 and 1.2, respectively.

The operating cycle of the Reference Design is shown in Fig. 1.3. The mission objective for the Reference Design covers a 10-year period of operation. Four phases of operation are included in this 10-year period:

Phase I. Systems integration and checkout (0.5 year).

Phase II. Hydrogen operation, including long pulse (1.5 years).

Phase III. Ignition testing (2.5 years).

Phase IV. Technology and engineering testing (5.5 years).

Portions of each phase will operate at a reduced pulse rate, i.e., less than the design value of ~50 shots per 8-hr shift. The total number of cycles for the Reference Design is estimated to be 450,000 over the 10-year period of operation.

In the evolution of the Reference Design from the Baseline Design, a major emphasis was placed on engineering feasibility. The key design features of the Reference Design are summarized in the context of engineering feasibility issues and their impact on component and configuration selection.

1.1.1 Coil Configuration

The configuration of the TF coil system has a significant impact on the mechanical design of the tokamak. In the Reference Design, the overall access around the plasma chamber has been increased by reducing the number of coils from 20 to 12 and substantially increasing their size (~30% in bore). A trade study was performed² to evaluate the cost impact of variations in coil size, number of coils, and magnetic field ripple. The Reference Design TF coil system configuration minimizes the

Fig. 1.1. Reference Design elevation view.

Fig. 1.2. Reference Design plan view.

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Fig. 1.3. Reference Design operating cycle.

cost increase while satisfying remote maintenance requirements for access and a field ripple of less than 2% (peak-to-average) at the plasma edge. The project cost increase over the Baseline Design is 7%.

On the basis of a trade study³ that evaluated several design options, an air core, hybrid PF system incorporating rf assisted startup was selected for the Reference Design. The system consists of superconducting OH coils, interior (inside the TF coil bore) copper EF coils which carry 35% of the EF current, and exterior (outside the TF coil bore) superconducting EF coils which carry 65% of the EF current. The name "hybrid" identifies the mix of interior and exterior EF coils. Figure 1.4 depicts the seven separate coil circuits and their time-varying currents.

The choice of the PF coil arrangement, location, and coil material (copper or superconducting) involved trade-offs between capital costs and operating costs for variations in startup and burn time. There is also a considerable cost impact and correlation between initiation rise time, coil location, and inductive power requirements. EF coils located within the TF coil bore have better coupling to the plasma and, assuming short plasma current initiation times (1-2 sec), offer substantial savings in inductive power supply requirements. However, because of the need for radiation shielding in this area, copper coils are necessary. This offsets the power supply capital cost advantage with higher resistive power losses during burn. The intrinsic engineering difficulties in assembling and repairing interior coils in the radioactive environment of a D-T tokamak reactor also provide an impetus for reducing the complexity and number of interior coils. Exterior coils alone, aside from power supply costs considerations, are not desirable because of inadequate shape control and response to plasma movements.⁴

Our considerations of this range of possibilities strongly suggested a PF system incorporating a plasma initiation system that maximizes the current rise time in a manner consistent with plasma physics and offering a combination of interior and exterior EF coils. The Reference Design hybrid PF system incorporating rf assisted startup does just that. The rf system, as an auxiliary heating source, increases the initiation rise time to 6 sec, significantly reducing the cost of power supplies. The split between normal copper interior EF coils and

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CURRENT WAVE FORMS

Fig. 1.4. Reference Design PF coil circuits.

superconducting exterior EF coils offers a reasonable balance between system costs, coil maintenance, and plasma requirements. The use of superconducting coils proved to be a cost-effective approach in reducing parasitic heating losses and MVA demand in the PF system. Interior copper coil resistive losses were minimized by designing the coils for a low current density (450 A/cm^2).

The size of the PF system was based on earlier studies⁵ which identified the geometric characteristics (i.e., plasma size and major radius) for a minimum cost ignited tokamak reactor. The OH system was sized for a maximum field of 8 T. The PF system can supply a total of 83 V-sec when swinging the OH solenoid from +8 T to -8 T.

The time behaviors of the six EF currents and the OH currents are shown in Fig. 1.4, assuming rf preheating during startup. The rf power at 120 GHz is produced by five 200-kW gyrokystrons. It is delivered to the plasma from the high field side in the extraordinary mode to preheat the electrons before the OH loop voltage is applied. It is presently assumed that low density ($\sim 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$) electrons in a small volume near the upper hybrid resonance can be heated to a temperature around 200 eV,⁶ allowing the use of a low loop voltage ($\sim 10 \text{ V}$) to initiate the plasma current. During the subsequent current rise, the combined heating from rf, plasma current, and perhaps additional neutral beams can bring the electron temperature to above 3 keV. The resistive loss of flux swing during this phase is then relatively small ($\lesssim 2 \text{ Wb}$). The inductive volt-seconds requirement for a plasma current of 5 MA (at $\bar{\beta} \cong 7\%$) is estimated to be 51 Wb. The PF system is then adequate for sustaining the burn for about 500 sec, assuming successful plasma ash removal, impurity control, and beta maintenance.

The air core OH solenoid was selected over the iron core alternate because of its advantages in total device cost, linearity of control functions, and higher volt-seconds capability for long burn times. The advantage of an iron core device in improving the OH coupling to the plasma, and subsequently reducing power, was found to have greater potential in devices where fewer volt-seconds and short burn times are required.

1.1.2 Assembly and Remote Maintenance

The design feature which most significantly impacts our remote maintenance concept is the use of a secondary vacuum enclosure (SVE) to maintain a vacuum environment external to the reactor. The need for high vacuum joints is thus eliminated throughout the device, and remote maintenance is made easier.

In a commercial power reactor, rapid blanket module replacement is a major factor in determining plant availability and hence the cost of electricity. Therefore, an important criterion for maintenance is the ability to replace a torus sector rapidly and reliably. With the design approach adapted in the Reference Design, maintenance of the plasma chamber can be accomplished without removal of either the TF or the PF coil systems.

The remote maintenance features of the Reference Design evolved through the incorporation of three major changes to the Baseline Design:

- (1) A reduction in the number of TF coils from 20 to 12 allowed sufficient room between coils to replace a torus sector, which eliminated the need to remove TF coils for sector replacement.
- (2) An increase in TF coil bore (~30%) made it possible to relocate the PF coils inside the TF coils during a sector replacement operation, removing the need for PF coil segmentation for this operation.
- (3) The use of mechanical torus joints, made possible by an evacuated reactor building, eliminated the need for internal cutting and welding to replace a torus sector.

A 1:40 scale model was constructed to help evaluate these concepts. Photographs of the model are presented in Figs. 1.5-1.8 to illustrate the remote maintenance features of the Reference Design.

1.1.3 Structural Design and Maintenance Features

Listed below are the major mechanical assemblies of the Reference Design, their functions, and their maintenance requirements (refer to Figs. 1.9 and 1.10).

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Fig. 1.5. Scale model of Reference Design (scale 1:40).

ORNL-PHOTO 6520-79

Fig. 1.6. Access between TF coils.

Fig. 1.7. (a) Coil system design approach for shield segment removal, showing coils in operating position.

Fig. 1.7. (b) Coil system design approach for shield segment removal, showing upper PF coils raised and lower PF coils lowered.

ORNL-PHOTO 6515-79

Fig. 1.8. Shield segment removed from torus.

Fig. 1.9. Support structure features.

ORNL-PHOTO 6518-79

Fig. 1.10. Scale model disassembled to show design features.

Torus support

The torus consists of 16 sectors that are bolted together and mechanically sealed. Its weight is supported on four quadrant supports independently connected to the ground. When all 16 sectors are joined, they form a rigid structure that encircles a pair of bucking rings. Radially inward electromagnetic forces are reacted by the bucking rings. Electromagnetic forces in the radially outward direction are relatively small and are reacted by the sector bolts.

Each quadrant support carries four torus sectors. To remove a sector, one quadrant is moved radially outward a small distance (~ 10 cm) by releasing a quadrant support lock and removing the sector tie rods. The horizontal motion of the quadrant is controlled by the arrangement of the support struts.

TF coil support

The TF coils are supported by the central support column, the intercoil supports, and, during initial assembly, a lateral support member that supports the imbalance in the TF coil gravity loads. All coil supports are cryogenically cooled. During maintenance operations, if a coil is removed, a temporary outboard strut is used to support the remaining coils.

Interior PF coil support

The interior PF coils are supported from the outer support structure via the dewar support rings. The six coils closest to the midplane are relocated to a parking position during sector removal. The interior PF coils are segmented for a TF coil replacement.

Exterior PF coil support

The lower exterior PF coils are superconducting and are supported from the outer support structure. During a TF coil replacement, they

are lowered to a parking location below floor level. Replacement of the lower coils requires difficult coil segmentation. Further study is required to identify alternate replacement techniques.

The upper exterior PF coils are fixed to the upper support structure. To replace the coils, the upper support structure is raised and translated to a storage area.

OH coil support

The OH coils are supported on the machine base and constrained laterally by the central support column. Replacement of the OH coils requires removal of the rf units.

Dewar support

The dewars are supported by the outer and the upper support structures. The individual dewars are accessible from the exterior of the machine. The interior portions of the common dewar are accessible by removal of one or more torus sectors. The upper shell dewar is accessible by relocation of the upper support structure to its storage area. Access to the lower shell dewar requires relocation of the lower exterior PF coils to their subfloor parking location.

Outer support structure

The outer support structure supports the exterior PF coils, the interior PF coils, the individual dewars, and the outboard part of the common dewar. Removal of one column of the outer support structure is required for a TF coil replacement.

Upper support structure

The rf unit, the upper exterior PF coils, and the common dewar are supported by the upper support structure. For major maintenance operations, such as a TF coil replacement, the upper support structure is raised and translated to the storage area.

1.1.4 Remote Maintenance Equipment

Radioactivity levels within the reactor cell dictate that all maintenance operations be performed with remote equipment. Two types of remote maintenance equipment are used: general purpose equipment is used for nonspecific tasks such as servicing of coolant and electrical connections, and tightening of bolts, and special purpose equipment is used for specific and complex tasks such as torus sector replacement or TF coil transport.

General purpose equipment

Bridge mounted manipulator system. The bridge mounted manipulator system (BMMS) is a shielded, manned unit with a pair of servomanipulators; it services equipment above the torus midplane.

Floor mounted manipulator system. The floor mounted manipulator system (FMMS) is a shielded, manned unit with a pair of servomanipulators; it services equipment below the torus midplane.

Floor mounted module. The floor mounted module is an unmanned unit with small servomanipulators for use in floor areas that are inaccessible with the FMMS, for example, the area beneath the torus.

Polar crane. The polar crane provides mobility for the BMMS. It is also used during replacement of OH coils, rf units, and exterior PF coils.

Special purpose equipment

Sector replacement module. The sector replacement module (SRM) provides all the functions necessary for replacement of a torus sector, including transportation between hot cell and reactor cell. When the SRM is positioned at the torus, it is latched to the outer support structure. Two rails extend from the SRM and latch to the quadrant support. A rail mounted unit translates the torus sectors radially into the SRM after first removing the sector tie rods. Where a sector requires lateral motion prior to radial removal between the coils, an X-Y table mounted on the SRM rails is used.

TF Coil transport module. The TF coil transport module jacks up the TF coil, removes the lateral support connection and the intercoil connections, and transports the coil to the hot cell.

Toroidal bore unit. The toroidal bore unit is carried by the BMMS and extends a boom into the OH bore unit to service OH coil connections.

Injector transport module. The injector transport module (ITM) transports neutral beam injectors and fuel injectors between the hot cell and the reactor cell. It is used in conjunction with the BMMS to make and break service lines and duct connections.

1.1.5 Maintenance Operations

The replacement of a torus sector and the replacement of a TF coil represent two of the most difficult maintenance operations in the lifetime of the device. Procedures for these two operations have been developed in conjunction with the Reference Design.

Sector replacement procedure

The sector replacement procedure is shown in Fig. 1.11. To remove a sector, an entire quadrant is first moved radially outward to provide intersector clearance. Sector A is aligned between two TF coils and thus may be moved directly out. Removal of sectors B, C, and D requires prior removal of sector A.

The procedure for removal of sector A of quadrant I is as follows.

- (1) Remove injector units and cryopumps in quadrant I.
- (2) Disconnect service lines to quadrant I.
- (3) Relocate interior PF coils to their parking position.
- (4) Transport SRM to sector A.
- (5) Latch SRM to the outer structural support.
- (6) Extend two lower rails from SRM and latch to the quadrant support rail.
- (7) Latch SRM to sector A.
- (8) Disconnect torus sector joints AD and DA.
- (9) Remove quadrant lock and move quadrant I radially outward.

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<u>SECTOR</u>	<u>REMOVAL PROCEDURE</u>
A	REMOVE BETWEEN COILS 1 & 2
B	REMOVE SECTOR A, THEN REMOVE E BETWEEN COILS 1 & 2
C	REMOVE SECTOR A; ROTATE B INTO SPACE VACATED BY A; REMOVE C BETWEEN COILS 2 & 3
D	REMOVE SECTOR A, OF QUADRANT II REMOVE D BETWEEN COILS 4 & 5

Fig. 1.11. Sector replacement procedure.

- (10) Disconnect torus sector joint AB.
- (11) Jack up sector A to remove weight from quadrant support rail.
- (12) Translate sector A radially outward.
- (13) Release SRM latches and retract SRM rails.
- (14) Transport SRM (with sector A) to the hot cell.
- (15) Install a replacement sector, reversing this procedure.

TF Coil replacement procedure

The TF coil replacement procedure is as follows.

- (1) Remove the three torus sectors closest to the damaged TF coil.
- (2) Remove the upper support structure complete with rf heating unit and PF coils; place in storage area.
- (3) Install an outboard strut on the TF coil that is diametrically opposite the damaged TF coil.
- (4) Place lower exterior PF coils in their parking location.
- (5) Remove the outer support column behind damaged TF coil.
- (6) Remove the individual dewar and a 30° sector of the common dewar.
- (7) Remove a segment of each internal PF coil, the sector support rails, and the bucking rings.
- (8) Remove the intercoil support structure.
- (9) Position the coil transport module (CTM) at the damaged TF coil.
- (10) Latch the TF coil to the CTM.
- (11) Jack up the TF coil to remove its weight from the central support column.
- (12) Remove the lateral supports.
- (13) Transport TF coil to the hot cell.
- (14) Install a replacement TF coil, essentially reversing this procedure.

1.1.6 Electrical Power Conversion System

The electrical power conversion system consists of an energy storage system, a power convertor system, and primary and secondary distribution systems. A number of power conversion configurations were considered,

including a combination of motor-generator flywheel (MGF) sets, transformers, and thyristors; homopolar generators; dc generators; and a superconducting coil energy storage system. The MGF-transformer-thyristor combination was selected on the basis of cost, technical feasibility, machine integration, and compatibility with an extended burn device.

The technical details associated with the configuration of a series or parallel power supply and coil section interconnection were considered. The series configuration, involving the alternate interleaving of an equal number of power supplies and PF coil sections, was chosen on the basis of EF-DH coupling and its impact on device implementation, compatibility with superconducting coils, energy transfer efficiency, circulating current problems, short-circuit protection and current clearing modes, and stray capacitance.

The energy storage system is required to act as a buffer between the utility grid and the high peak power and energy demands of the pulsed PF coils. It supplies PF pulsed loads from two vertical shaft MGF sets having a combined rated capability of 600 MVA at a lagging power factor of 0.7 and a combined deliverable energy of 4.3 GJ over a 35-sec interval for plasma startup and shutdown every 560 sec. The electrical load demand during the 500-sec burn is taken directly from the utility grid. The MGF sets are also capable of accepting the stored energy from the PF coils at the end of the power discharge cycle.

A power convertor system, based on a 12-pulse thyristor bridge in a modular design, was selected for its coil wave shape control, accuracy in plasma positioning, flexibility, commonality, fast response, recovery of energy, and cost. The power convertor converts variable frequency ac power to dc and inverts dc to ac.

The primary distribution system consists of the electrical buswork between the utility interface at the substation level and the MGF sets, with its associated equipment (e.g., short-circuit current limiting reactors, circuit breakers, monitoring devices, lightning arrestors, transient suppression circuits, and controls). The secondary distribution system consists of the electrical buswork between the power convertors and the serially interleaved coil sections for each of the seven PF coil circuits. The power convertors are built up in 2-kV units to meet the individual voltages required by each PF circuit.

The PF coil circuit schematic is shown in Fig. 1.12. Table 1.2 lists the PF system considerations and the design alternatives considered.

1.1.7 Plasma Heating

The Reference Design specifies neutral beams of deuterium for plasma bulk heating. The beam power is 50 MW and the particle energy is 150 keV. The required pulse length for neutral beam injection is 6 sec. Comprehensive experiments such as the Oak Ridge Tokamak (ORMAK), the Impurity Study Experiment (ISX-B), and the Princeton Large Torus (PLT) have provided a sound basis for the choice of neutral beam systems to supplement ohmic heating.

Early calculations show that the beam systems successfully operated to date are those using positive ions. During the required neutralizing action, these systems are subject to much lower efficiencies at energy levels over 150 keV than those expected from beam injectors using negative ions. However, the development of negative ion approaches is lagging considerably (~5 years) behind that of the positive ion types. The incompatibility of these developments with the TNS/ETF schedule, as well as the uncertainties in predicting the operating characteristics of negative ion systems, provided a strong impetus to reassess ways of using the more readily available and acceptably efficient positive ion based beam lines.

A startup scenario has been established and studied; it shows promise of being quite compatible with neutral beam auxiliary heating systems with moderate energy levels. The Reference Design uses a full bore, low density fusion startup approach (see Sect. 2.2). The startup sequence requires the injection of 50 MW of 150-keV particles into the plasma for 6 sec. The maximum feasible equivalent particle current was selected as 300 A per beam line (three sources at 100 A). Four beam lines are required to provide the necessary 50 MW. The dimensions of the torus penetrations were maximized (0.4 x 1.2 m) to reduce potential drift tube choking (experienced in some earlier beam injection tests).

Table 1.2. PF system trade study alternatives

PF system considerations	Design alternatives
PF coil arrangement	Hybrid Mixed Conventional
PF coil locations	
Type of OH solenoid	Air Iron
Remote maintenance relevance	
Conductor type	Copper Superconducting
Initiation method	rf OH current interruption Interior "blip" coils Neutral beam driven plasma current
EF and OH decoupling methods	Auxiliary transformers Matching mutual inductances Power supply voltage control
Energy storage	ac motor-generator set Homopolar generators Superconducting energy storage coil Shunt connected dc generator system

The neutralizing efficiency referred to above indicates the ratio of particles that are neutralized to those that remain unneutralized. Recent developments in techniques for the direct recovery of the power in the unneutralized portion have supported the selection of direct power recovery as an integral part of the Reference Design beam lines. The resultant overall electrical efficiency of the Reference Design beam line system is ~50%.

RF heating has been chosen to aid the preionization during startup (see Sect. 2.1). This choice has support in physics calculations and will be soon tested experimentally. The use of microwave energy is expected to substantially reduce the plasma loop voltage requirements and thus permit a much less expensive PF system power supply. The system specified couples 1 MW of power at a frequency of ~120 GHz to the plasma for approximately 2 sec at the beginning of the startup scenario.

1.1.8 Divertor System

We have adopted a bundle divertor for impurity control in the Reference Design, instead of the compact poloidal divertor in the Baseline Design. The primary reason for this change was to move the divertor system outside the TF coil bore to improve overall access and provide more space for particle and energy collection.

The bundle divertor⁷ is shown schematically in Fig. 1.13. It is composed of two coils, side by side, with opposite current flows that provide a strong short-range magnetic field, which is superimposed on the toroidal field in the plasma to produce zero field close to the external surface of the plasma. The resulting field distortion allows a bundle of field lines to be extracted and form a loop external to the plasma along which charged particles trapped on the lines can travel.

Plasma physics, magnetics, and economic considerations strongly favor small divertor coils placed as close as possible to the plasma edge. However, in a reactor environment, the divertor coils will require shielding from radiation damage and heating. These shielding requirements impact both the diameter of the coils and their placement relative to the plasma. On the basis of our trade studies, we have selected

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Fig. 1.13. Reference Design bundle divertor schematic.

water-cooled copper coils rather than superconducting or cryogenically cooled coils to minimize the shielding requirement. The shield thickness is then 0.4 m, rather than up to twice as much if superconducting or cryogenic coils were used.

The divertor will expand the diverted magnetic field to reduce particle and energy flux. For design purposes, it is assumed that the divertor must absorb 226 MW and 3×10^{23} ions/sec (mostly deuterium and tritium). If a solid absorber is used, the getter material must either constitute or be part of a heat exchanger, which requires material having good strength and thermal conductivity, since it must be subjected to at least 10^5 cycles of absorption and desorption. Consideration of data on hydrogen embrittlement of structural materials (for one absorption cycle) suggests that this will seriously degrade the material. Also, the times and temperatures for regeneration of getters (700-1000°C for several hours) tend to indicate infeasibility for solids. It is therefore proposed that these functions be accomplished by an array of lithium jets, shown schematically in Fig. 1.13. If it is assumed that a heat flux of 10 MW/m² can be absorbed, there must be 22.6 m² on which the expanded, diverted magnetic field impinges. The expansion requirement leads to a system that has much in common with direct conversion approaches proposed for advanced fuel concepts.⁸

1.1.9 Secondary Vacuum Enclosure

The Reference Design specifies an evacuated reactor cell or "vacuum building" to house the tokamak device. The maintenance of a vacuum environment within the cell means that the vacuum integrity requirements for the plasma chamber are relaxed sufficiently to permit use of a bolted rather than a welded torus assembly. This leads to a substantial reduction in the plant downtime required to remove and replace a torus sector and consequently to a substantial increase in plant availability. The vacuum building is one of several secondary vacuum enclosure (SVE) configurations studied (see Fig. 1.14). Others include a dual-wall torus with an evacuated interspace, a toroidal enclosure around the TF coils, and two bell jar configurations. Although the vacuum building is

Fig. 1.14. Secondary vacuum enclosure alternatives. PVE indicates primary vacuum enclosure; SVE indicates secondary vacuum enclosure.

the largest and most expensive SVE considered, it was selected as the preferred concept because of the relative ease of penetration for maintenance operations and the unrestricted access for inspection and adjustment during normal operations. Also, technical feasibility for a similar structure has been established at the NASA facility in Plumbrook.⁹ By comparison, both the toroidal enclosure and the bell jar require extensive dismantling to gain access to the torus, and they severely restrict the ability to monitor operations with remote television cameras. The dual-wall torus was deemed infeasible because of critical seal clamping requirements, which necessitated the placement of bolts in highly inaccessible areas.¹⁰

Since the maximum benefit derived from the SVE is ease of access to the plasma chamber, its economic benefits for TNS cannot be quantified because routine maintenance operations within the TNS plasma chamber are not required. However, in a commercial power reactor (CPR) where periodic replacement of the blanket may be required, the economic benefits of rapid and reliable access to the plasma chamber are quite apparent. Comparison of two similarly configured CPRs shows that plant availability is 60% for a CPR with a welded torus and 82% for a CPR with a mechanically assembled torus made possible by use of a SVE. Furthermore, the potential for catastrophic failure due to high risk internal operations is largely eliminated with a SVE. Justification for using a SVE configuration for TNS is the desirability of developing a design with reactor relevance. On a program basis, the cost factor for using a SVE can be either positive or negative, depending on the number of unscheduled maintenance operations during its operational life which require replacement of a torus sector. The breakeven point is two, based on a SVE cost penalty of \$20.5 million, a time saving of 2.7 months per sector replacement, and a loss of revenue because of plant unavailability of \$4 million per month.

A base operating pressure of 10^{-4} torr was selected for the vacuum building. Selection was based on permissible torus leak rate and electrical systems requirements to prevent arcing and corona discharge.

Although serious consideration was given to elimination of dewars within the vacuum building, our study concludes that dewars should be retained. The main reasons are (1) the excessive downtime required for

thermal cycling of coils during maintenance operations, (2) the undesirable effects of cold-trapping, i.e., high tritium and hydrogen gas accumulations, and (3) the possibility of quenching the TF coils as a result of a temporary loss of vacuum due to a coolant line leakage.

The vacuum building (Fig. 1.15) is a cylindrical concrete structure with a spherical dome. Its external dimensions are a 56-m diameter and a 40-m maximum height. A metallic inner shell, 48 m in diameter and 33 m high, houses the tokamak, and the space between the inner and outer shells is maintained at ~ 20 torr to prevent outgassing of the concrete.

The outer structure has a dual function; it supports the atmospheric pressure load and serves as the biological shield. The inner chamber is the high vacuum barrier and is designed for an internal pressure of 0.1 atm, which occurs during a leak checking operation.

Initial pumpdown of the vacuum building is by a combination of mechanical pumps and Roots blowers. High vacuum pumping is by ten oil diffusion pumps having a combined pumping speed of 2.0×10^5 liters/sec. Pumpdown time from atmospheric to base pressure is 6 hr.

1.2 SYSTEMS DESCRIPTION

A Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) has been used as the basic management tool to identify and control the elements of the TNS Program (see Fig. 1.16). The WBS has been used as a basic framework on which a major design and construction project can later be established. As part of this year's activities, a System Description Manual, ORNL/TM-6721, has been prepared to describe the hardware systems included in the reactor and facilities WBS.¹¹ A brief overview of each of the Reference Design systems covered in ORNL/TM-6721 is given in Table 1.3.

Fig. 1.15. Reactor cell cross section.

WORK BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE (WBS)

Fig. 1.16. Work Breakdown Structure for TNS.

Table 1.3. Summary system description

Plasma	Expected to achieve an average power density of 5 MW/m^3 and operate with $\beta = 7\%$. Temperature and density during the steady-state burn are taken to be 12 keV and $2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$, respectively. Plasma impurity control is provided by a bundle divertor. A 500-sec burn out of a 560-sec tokamak operating cycle yields a duty cycle of 89%. Plasma radius is 1.2 m with an elongation of 1.6 (D-shape); major radius is 5.0 m . An average neutron wall loading of 2.4 MW/m^2 results.
Limiter	Two poloidal graphite limiters, assumed to be passively cooled, are used to protect the first wall.
First wall	The first wall and divertor are each designed to handle all the energy associated with the alpha particles. However, the energy to the first wall is estimated to be only 50% of the alpha particle energy. The water-cooled first wall is composed of stainless steel tubes and divided into 96 modular panels.
Shield	Composed of stainless steel balls and borated water, divided into 16 removable modules, and sized to adequately attenuate neutrons in order to protect the superconducting coils.
Machine structure	Includes the bucking cylinder, all TF coil supports, the PF coil supports, the dewar structure, and the torus plasma chamber; designed to react all operational mechanical loads as well as seismic load conditions; constructed of austenitic stainless steel. The intercoil support structure for the TF coil is designed for a single coil fault condition; all TF coil support structure is cryogenically cooled.
PF system	Consists of a superconducting OH solenoid, normal copper EF coils located inside the TF coil bore, and superconducting EF coils located outside the TF coil bore. The PF system will supply 83 V-sec while operating with a half-biased OH system swinging from $+8 \text{ T}$ to -8 T , adequate for startup and a 500-sec burn.

Table 1.3 (continued)

TF system	Composed of 12 forced-flow superconducting (Nb_3Sn) coils which produce a field on axis of 5.3 T and a maximum field at the coil of 10.9 T, sized for a magnetic field ripple of 1.5% at the plasma edge.
Dewars	Mechanically joined dewars enclose the superconducting coils, the central supporting column, and the intercoil support members; they provide a vacuum barrier to reduce convection heat loads and a cryogenically cooled thermal shield to reduce radiation heat loads.
Divertor	The divertor and first wall are each designed to handle all the energy associated with the alpha particles. However, the actual energy to the divertor is estimated to be only 50% of the alpha particle energy. The bundle divertor transports charged particles away from the first wall by diverting magnetic field lines outside the plasma chamber. Flowing lithium is used to collect the diverted particles and absorb their energy.
Bulk heating system	Four beam lines with three positive ion sources per line inject 50 MW of 150-keV deuterium neutral beams into the plasma for up to 6 sec to achieve required plasma temperatures. A direct recovery system to collect the energy of the unneutralized particles is a component of the beam line. An overall beam line efficiency of approximately 50% is estimated.
rf heating system	A rf assisted startup is accomplished by injecting 1 MW of 120-GHz microwaves into the plasma from the high field side for approximately 2 sec during startup, using five injectors.
Electrical energy storage system	Provided by two motor-generator flywheel (MGF) sets having a combined rated capacity of 600 MVA and a deliverable energy of 3.7 GJ over 19 sec. Electrical energy during most of the burn is supplied directly from the utility grid.

Table 1.3 (continued)

Electrical energy conversion system	Receives ac power from the MGF sets and converts it to dc for each coil set. Transformers and solid state rectifiers are used.
Electrical distribution systems	The primary system receives ac power from the utility grid at 138 kV and transforms 600 MVA to a 13.8-kV load bus. The secondary system transfers power from the electrical energy conversion system to the coil sets.
Emergency standby power system	Consists of batteries that store sufficient energy to controllably terminate the plasma discharge in the event of loss of power from the utility grid or the primary MGF sets.
Torus vacuum pumping	During the initial pumpdown and after the plasma burn cycles, accomplished by mechanical vacuum pumps and cryosorption pumps. During the burn, provided primarily by the divertor system.
Heat transport	Water cooling systems remove heat from the first wall, shield, copper coils, and portions of the neutral beam lines. Cryogenic cooling systems remove heat from the superconducting coils and high vacuum cryosorption pumps. The heat removed by these systems is rejected to the environment by a water cooling tower.
Fuel injector	Delivers solid D-T pellets to the plasma at velocities of 1000-2000 m/sec.
Fuel handling system	Provides for removing tritium, deuterium, and helium from the spent plasma, the divertor, and the vacuum pumps. Processing and purification are accomplished by combinations of mechanical filtration, gettering, cryogenic trapping, cryogenic distillation, permeation-diffusion, and sorption.

Table 1.3 (continued)

Radwaste	Will consist of portions of the tokamak itself and those components which become contaminated through contact with the coolant. Disposal is expected to be performed using techniques established in fission programs.
Ventilation system	Major functions include containment of activated air and tritium leaks. The use of a vacuum building diminishes the activated air problem and is compatible with a tritium cleanup system.
Instrumentation, control, and data handling system	Automatically controls the tokamak plasma and systems through all the phases of operation. Controls are centralized and are under the command of one operation station.
Assembly and maintenance	The torus is divided into 16 mechanically assembled sectors, each replaceable as a unit with integrally mounted portions of the first wall and shield. Bolted rather than welded assembly is possible since vacuum-tightness requirements are relaxed by the use of an evacuated reactor building. The TF coil bore is enlarged to allow relocation of PF coils to a parking position during sector replacement. Disassembly is done remotely.
Facilities	The tokamak containment building is an evacuated structure with a base pressure of 10^{-4} torr. The remaining facilities are conventional atmospheric buildings.

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2. PROJECTED OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PLASMA

This section summarizes the projected operating characteristics of the plasma. The plasma of the Reference Design is assumed to operate in an ignited mode. A nominal set of plasma parameters for the Reference Design is shown in Table 2.1. These parameters represent reasonable estimates and extrapolations based on our current understanding of plasma physics. It is emphasized that the operating parameters listed in Table 2.1 are to be viewed as plausible, not definitive. More refined physics considerations are discussed in four general areas: startup and shutdown, neutral beam heating, maintenance of high beta configurations, and particle control. The area of long pulse burn dynamics was not addressed in this year's activities.

2.1 STARTUP AND SHUTDOWN

2.1.1 Startup

Both the startup and shutdown phases of the plasma present many complex problems arising from the dynamics of the system. Startup scenarios have been examined to determine whether innovative variations in the procedure can reduce or eliminate major technological constraints associated with traditional procedures. The traditional startup scenario for a tokamak involves the application of a large voltage spike to achieve breakdown in the plasma and to burn through the radiation barriers of hydrogen and small quantities of low-Z impurities. Extrapolation to reactor grade plasmas leads to estimates of several hundred volts for the pulsed voltage and a few thousand megavolt-amperes for the peak power in the ohmic heating system.¹

Experimental evidence² and theoretical estimates³ indicate that launching microwaves from the high field side of the torus at a frequency near the electron cyclotron resonance (~ 120 GHz for the Reference Design) may result in plasma breakdown and heating of the electrons by the extraordinary wave. This heating occurs in a small volume near the upper hybrid resonance. The dominant energy loss is due to magnetic

Table 2.1. Plasma parameters for the reference design

Geometric	
Plasma radius, a	1.2 m
Plasma elongation (D-shape), σ	1.6
Aspect ratio, A	4.17
Plasma volume, V_p	227 m ³
Field on axis, B_T	5.3 T
Fusion Startup	
rf power (preheating), P_{rf}	1 MW
rf frequency, f	120 GHz
rf injection duration, τ_{rf}	2 sec
Volt-seconds required for current buildup, ϕ_{vs1}	53 V-sec
Full plasma current at low beta, I	4.0 MA
Neutral beam injected power, P_{inj}	50 MW
Neutral beam energy, E_{inj}	150 keV
Neutral beam injection duration, τ_{inj}	6 sec
Beam injection angle from perpendicular, θ	>16° in the direction of plasma current
Burn	
Power density, P_d	5 MW/m ³
Fusion power, P_f	1140 MW
Total power, P_{tot}	1450 MW
Alpha power, P_α	225 MW
Neutron wall loading, L_w	2.4 MW/m ²
Burn time (steady state), τ_B	500 sec
Cycle time, τ_c	550 sec
Duty cycle	89%
Volt-seconds required for heatup and burn, ϕ_{vs2}	30 V-sec
Plasma current at high volume beta, I_p	5.0 MA
Plasma temperature, $\bar{T}$	12 keV
Plasma density, $\bar{n}$	$2 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$

Table 2.1 (continued)

Burn (continued)	
Volume beta, $\bar{\beta}$	7.0%
Volume-averaged energy confinement time, τ_E	1.2 sec
Plasma edge particle loss rate	3×10^{23} particles/sec
Plasma fraction recycled at edge as neutrals	85%
Pellet fueling rate	4.6×10^{22} particles/sec
Impurity indicator, Z_{eff}	<1.5
Safety factor, q	3.8
TF ripple at plasma edge, δ_a	1.5%
TF ripple at plasma center, δ_0	0.1%

field curvature and parallel drifts of the electrons. The ions remain cold because of charge exchange loss with the neutrals. A stable, currentless plasma may be established due to the ambipolar potential resulting from unequal electron and ion drifts. Stability is enhanced with the use of a conducting wall which limits the buildup of the vertical electric voltage to less than 1 V (Ref. 4). It is estimated that roughly 1 MW of rf power is needed to preheat the electrons to a temperature of 200 eV. The peak voltage may then be reduced by roughly an order of magnitude from estimates for startup without microwave breakdown and preheating, leading to a significant decrease in resistive volt-seconds during startup.³ The PF coil flux swing requirement for current startup is then largely due to the plasma inductance and amounts to roughly 51 Wb. (These values are listed under fusion startup in Table 2.1.)

Calculations of the current rise phase in full bore plasmas indicate that a skin current will form, and experimental observations indicate that MHD disruptions redistribute this skin current in the plasma and create an influx of impurities from the limiter and/or walls.⁵ A model has been developed for transport simulation of the skin current redistribution due to internal MHD disruptions.⁶⁻⁸ Comparison of this model with experimental data shows good agreement.⁶ Expanding radius startup scenarios have been examined⁹ as a means of reducing the skin current effect and avoiding the introduction of impurities during startup. The use of neutral beam heating with expanding radius is discussed in Sect. 2.2.1. The expanding radius scenario also follows naturally from the microwave breakdown and preheating phase, which creates the plasma in a small volume due to the localized rf heating. More detailed studies are needed to quantify the plasma operation during this phase.

2.1.2 Shutdown

There are two general categories of shutdown for a large tokamak: controlled or soft shutdown and abort or hard shutdown. The features of the two types of shutdown are discussed in qualitative terms in Ref. 10, but little quantitative analysis has been done. In general, controlled shutdown would require a programmed decrease of particle fueling and of

the currents in the PF coils. The vertical field (VF) system would be required to maintain the plasma position as the plasma pressure decreases. The magnetic configuration of the divertor would also have to be maintained. In many respects, a controlled shutdown requires a reversal of the processes considered during startup.

A hard shutdown due to a major plasma disruption places much greater demands on the design of a power producing tokamak and has therefore received more attention than soft shutdown. A theoretical model for the MHD processes responsible for major disruptions¹¹ leads to an estimate of about 24 msec for the disruption time in the Reference Design, as shown in Fig. 2.1. Previous estimates of 100 μ sec were based on observed times in machines like ST, T-4, and Alcator, with no extrapolation because of the lack of a theoretical model; based on the new information, the impact of major disruptions on the Reference Design has been reexamined.¹²

Fig. 2.1. Disruption time as a function of plasma parameters.

For a disruption time of 100 μsec in the Reference Design, it is estimated that 4-5 μm of the wall ablate and $\sim 40 \mu\text{m}$ melt if the energy is evenly distributed over the entire wall area.¹² For a disruption time of 24 msec, it is estimated that no melting or ablation of the wall occurs if the energy is evenly distributed. If the latter case proves to be valid, an estimate can be made for the maximum number of aborts which can be tolerated due to thermal fatigue. The maximum temperature rise is estimated to be 400°C for uniform energy deposition on the stainless steel first wall. About 460 aborts can be tolerated if thermal fatigue is solely due to disruptions.¹² Further analysis should provide valuable information for the engineering design requirements of the first wall.

2.2 NEUTRAL BEAM INJECTION HEATING

Many factors influence the assessment of neutral beam energy and power requirements for reaching ignition in the Reference Design. A one-dimensional (1-D) transport code was used for a parameter study which examined the impact of variations of beam heating time, beam energy, plasma density, and the semiempirical transport model on neutral beam power requirements.⁹ In a companion study, a simplified 1-D transport code was coupled to a 2-D flux conserving equilibrium code to study the full bore, low density heating scenario and the evolution of the MHD equilibrium with intense neutral beam heating.¹³ The results of these studies are summarized below.

2.2.1 1-D Transport Model

The impact of variations of neutral beam heating time, beam energy, plasma density, and uncertainties in the particle and energy transport models has been examined for the Reference Design for both full bore and expanding radius startup scenarios. In a full bore scenario, the plasma size and current are brought to final values before the neutral beams are turned on. The density is increased to the desired value before injection ($\bar{n} \cong 8\text{-}12 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$) and maintained constant during injection.

After ignition, the density can be increased or decreased to the operating density of the burn phase by a combination of pellet injection, gas puffing, and pumping. In an expanding radius scenario, a plasma with one-half the final minor radius and one-fourth the final current is initiated. The density is raised to the startup density as in the full bore scenario. The neutral beams are then turned on while the plasma size and current are increased to the final full bore values. Neutral beam penetration is improved during the early part of the startup because of the smaller plasma size.

The most dramatic reduction in neutral beam injection power comes from increasing the injection time to several energy confinement times ($\tau_E \sim 1$ sec), as shown in Fig. 2.2. Lower energy beams can be used for

Fig. 2.2. Neutral beam power required for ignition as a function of beam heating time, τ_{inj} . The expanding radius scenario with 120-keV D^0 beams and the full bore scenario with 150-keV D^0 beams require essentially the same beam power, P_{inj} . Decreasing the beam energy in the full bore scenario by 20% requires a 20% increase in beam power.

the expanding radius scenario because of the reduced penetration requirements. Lowering the neutral beam energy by $\sim 20\%$ (from 150 to 120 keV) in the full bore startup leads to an increase of $\sim 20\%$ in the neutral beam power required for ignition. This observation is further reinforced by calculations reported in Sect. 2.2.2.

The impact of plasma density on neutral beam power requirements is shown in Fig. 2.3. There is a broad minimum in the curve around $\bar{n} = 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. Below $\bar{n} = 8 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, ignition becomes difficult because of the low fusion power density. This cutoff is sensitive to the transport

Fig. 2.3. Neutral beam power required for ignition as a function of plasma density, $\bar{n}$.

model used. In these cases, electron conduction increases as the density is lowered and exceeds the energy input from fusion alpha particles when $\bar{n} \lesssim 7 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. At high densities ($\bar{n} \gtrsim 1.2 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$), the decreased neutral beam penetration begins to take its toll on the power required. The transport model was varied over a range consistent with empirical models for ohmic discharges in existing experiments. For a startup density of $\bar{n} = 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, the neutral beam power requirements range from 30 to 80 MW for a 4-sec beam pulse, as shown in Fig. 2.3. Startup densities in the range $\bar{n} = 8\text{--}12 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ are indicated, with the largest impact on power requirements due to uncertainties in extrapolation of transport models.

2.2.2 1½-D Transport Model

The effectiveness of neutral beam heating to ignition depends strongly on whether the plasma center can be heated enough at low density so that significant local alpha particle heating occurs.¹⁴ The effectiveness is also influenced by the plasma cross section, the shift of the magnetic axis as beta changes, and the energy spectrum of the beams. A simplified transport model was coupled to a fixed boundary MHD equilibrium code to follow the evolution of the plasma through a sequence of flux conserving equilibria in the presence of large heating and fueling sources.¹³ The transport model assumes a single fluid ($T_e = T_i$) with density and pressure subject to flux-surface-averaged radial transport. Empirical confinement laws consistent with 1-D considerations are used. The Monte Carlo neutral beam deposition code, which includes multiple energy species, was incorporated for the beam heating calculations. This code was developed at PPPL¹⁵ but has been substantially modified at ORNL to account for noncircular, shifted flux surfaces.

Neutral heating with 120-keV beams having a energy mix of 85:10:5 (full:one-half:one-third energy) in the range of 68 MW for 6 sec is shown to ignite the plasma, consistent with the 1-D calculations. The evolution of the plasma density, temperature, beam deposition profile, and alpha particle heating profile for this case is shown in Fig. 2.4. Several beam energies have been studied to determine the required power

Fig. 2.4. The evolution of electron density, plasma temperature, injection heating, and alpha heating along the midplane during a low density, full bore heating scenario with 120-keV beams.

for ignition with a similar final density. The results are summarized in Fig. 2.5. It is seen that, as in the 1-D calculation, the required neutral beam power increases as the beam energy is decreased to 100 keV. However, taking the neutralization efficiency into account, the extracted ion power is seen to remain roughly independent of beam energy.¹³ These calculations also show that the plasma can ignite near the center when the volume-averaged beta exceeds $\sim 4\%$ and the density approaches $\sim 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$. The plasma is assumed to burn at $\bar{\beta} \cong 7\%$, a critical beta value limited by pressure driven MHD instabilities (see Sect. 2.3).

Our extensive calculations for the ignition of a clean plasma ($Z_{eff} \sim 1$ with only light impurities) in the Reference Design have suggested that a deuterium beam energy above 200 keV is unnecessary if our present assumptions of the plasma confinement properties are reasonable. They also show that a steady-state beam pulse in the range of

Fig. 2.5. To obtain ignition, a trade-off must be made between beam energy and extracted current, but extracted power is about the same at all energies.

4-6 sec is needed. Both scenarios for heating to ignition seem to allow for sufficient margin in energy and power requirements. Since the plasma control requirements of expanding radius startup require further analysis, the full bore, low density heating scenario with 150 keV and 50 MW for 4-6 sec has been chosen for the Reference Design.

2.3 MAINTENANCE OF HIGH BETA CONFIGURATION

The high beta ($\sim 4-7\%$) plasma obtained at the end of the ignition phase is to be maintained over a pulse length of 500 sec in the Reference Design. This requires an understanding of the plasma energy, particle, and impurity balances over a time scale longer than the equilibration

times between the plasma and the surrounding surfaces (assumed to be tens of seconds) and much longer than the plasma and impurity transport times in the plasma and divertor regions (a few seconds). This also requires knowledge of the evolution of high beta equilibrium configurations and fusion plasma profiles over a time scale comparable to or longer than the magnetic flux diffusion times (hundreds of seconds). Our present understanding of the energy, particle, and impurity balances is quite limited. For example, the interacting processes of plasma transport and impurity production at the first wall and at the divertor collector under intense thermal power loads are largely unknown. Some initial assumptions and estimates of particle handling requirements are summarized in Sect. 2.4.

The magnetic flux diffusion process in high beta plasmas heated by beams and alpha particles over long time scales is also not understood. Therefore, this discussion is concerned with the presently more amenable studies of maintaining the high beta equilibrium configuration during the heating, ignition, and early burn phases before significant magnetic flux diffusion sets in. As shown by the results of the 1-D and $1\frac{1}{2}$ -D transport calculations^{5,13} of neutral beam heating mentioned in Sect. 2.2 and by the transport simulations carried out by Hogan¹⁶ and others,¹⁷ significant variations in the plasma current and pressure profiles can result during these phases when varying sources of power and fuel are applied. The estimated requirements for maintaining the high beta plasma configuration in terms of stability, poloidal field, and coil currents are summarized.

2.3.1 MHD Stability Requirements

Assuming that the MHD instabilities degrade plasma confinement and depress plasma beta, it is necessary to estimate ways to improve plasma stability. In ideal MHD, significant theoretical understanding has already been obtained. It has been shown^{18,19} that the stability of linearized modes depends strongly on plasma cross section, aspect ratio (A), pressure and current profiles, and β_p . There is now rather wide acceptance of the potential advantages for stability at high beta of the D-shaped cross section with elongations of around 1.6 at a modest aspect ratio ($3 \leq A \leq 5$).

The effects of the plasma profiles and β_p on the ideal MHD stability are less well understood. Earlier calculations of the Mercier criterion and the high mode number ballooning instabilities have indicated that beta is maximized when $\beta_p \sim A/2$ (Refs. 18 and 19) and for broad current profiles with low q_a .¹⁸⁻²⁰ It has been shown²¹ that a separation between the plasma and the conducting wall of $\leq 0.2a$ will be sufficient to stabilize the low mode number instabilities. A systematic study of stability on flux conserving equilibria²² for the Reference Design plasma has been carried out to analyze the effects of profiles and β_p . The results indicate that the critical beta value for stability follows the approximate formula

$$\bar{\beta}_c \cong C \left(\frac{q_0}{q_a} \right)^2 \frac{1}{A} \left(\frac{\beta_p}{A} \right)^{1.5} \left(1 - \frac{\beta_p}{A} \right),$$

where C is estimated to be around 9. For $A \cong 4$, $q_0 \cong 1.5$, $q_a \cong 3.8$, and $\beta_p \cong 2.4$ it follows that $\bar{\beta}_c \cong 7\%$, which is the value assumed for the Reference Design.

Significant advances²³ have been made in the past several years in understanding the role of resistive MHD tearing modes in plasma internal²⁴ and major disruptions¹¹ and in the Mirnov oscillations²⁵ observed in existing tokamaks. If we assume that the ideal MHD instabilities would limit q_0 to ~ 1.5 , internal disruptions may be absent in a high beta plasma. The major disruptions observed have been successfully modeled to include nonlinear interaction and overlapping of tearing modes, which become severe (as do Mirnov oscillations) when the q profile is relatively flat.

Present understanding of MHD stability seems to indicate the need to maintain the proper plasma cross section, profiles, and β_p values in order to sustain high beta in the fusion plasma. Many more experimental and theoretical studies are needed to understand the MHD stability properties of high beta plasmas to further quantify the requirements. Since there are significant uncertainties in the profile evolutions of the plasma during the ignition and burn phases, it is important to ensure that the desirable plasma cross section can be maintained by the PF system despite large changes in plasma profiles and β_p .

2.3.2 Poloidal Field and Coil Current Requirements

A set of MHD equilibria with $q_a = 2.0-5.4$ ($q_0 = 1$) and $\beta_p = 0.4-3.5$ has been calculated to determine the poloidal fields and coil currents required to maintain a D-shaped plasma with $\bar{\beta}$ values ranging from 1 and 15%. From these equilibria the dependence of the desirable poloidal field on q_a and β_p is determined. Our previous studies have resulted in the choice of the hybrid PF coils²⁶ shown in Fig. 2.6. The dependence of the currents in the inside (I), outside (O), and D-shape (D) coils on q_a and β_p can then be determined. Our results are summarized in Figs. 2.7 and 2.8, under the assumptions that $\Sigma I_{\text{coil}} = -I_p$ and the split of the produced poloidal field between the coils interior and exterior to the TF coils is 35/65%. For the interior coils, Fig. 2.7(a) shows that the absolute value of I_{II} and I_{ID} increases mildly with increasing q_a (increasing peakedness of profile) while I_{IO} remains essentially unchanged. Figure 2.7(b) shows that as β_p is increased, I_{IO} increases significantly, I_{II} decreases significantly, and I_{ID} decreases mildly in absolute value. For the exterior coils, Fig. 2.8 shows that similar dependences prevail, except that the currents are, on the average, an order of magnitude larger than those in the interior coils.

Fig. 2.6. The hybrid PF coil configuration used in the Reference Design. To reduce the engineering difficulties, the II coils have been moved to the vicinity of the EI coils.

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Fig. 2.7. The dependence of I_{IO} , I_{II} , and I_{ID} (a) on q_a at the plasma surface (with fixed $\beta_p = 2.5$) and (b) on β_p (with fixed $q_a = 3.2$).

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Fig. 2.8. The dependence of I_{EI} , I_{EO} , and I_{ED} (a) on q_a (with fixed $\beta_p = 2.5$) and (b) on β_p (with fixed $q_a = 3.2$). When the II coils are moved to the vicinity of the EI coils (see Fig. 2.6), $(I_{EI} + I_{II})$ is plotted.

These results indicate that the PF system proposed for the Reference Design will allow us to control the D-shaped plasma cross section despite possible large changes in plasma profile and beta. Similar studies based on realistic plasma profiles, obtained through $1\frac{1}{2}$ -D transport calculations, are needed for better quantification of the needed poloidal fields and coil currents. A similar PF coil system²⁷ will be tested in ISX-B during experiments on noncircular, high beta plasmas.

2.4 PARTICLE CONTROL

Particle control in the Reference Design should involve all assumed fueling and exhausting mechanisms and can be discussed in terms of the phases of the discharge cycle: prefill, breakdown, current buildup, heating to ignition, burn, and shutdown and exhaust. Our knowledge in the area of particle control is presently limited; we present a brief discussion of our assumptions, with an emphasis on the phases of heating to ignition and burn.

2.4.1 Prefill, Breakdown, and Current Buildup

A neutral prefill of roughly 5×10^{-4} torr is assumed, roughly half of which is ionized and retained in the plasma after breakdown (in accordance with existing tokamak experiments). To control impurity production and migration into the plasma during the current buildup phase, an expanding plasma radius isolated from material surfaces is assumed. Depending on the heating scenario (see Sect. 2.2), gas recycling and/or pellet fueling may be required during current buildup.

2.4.2 Heating to Ignition

During this phase, it is expected that fueling by a combination of gas blanket, pellet injection, and neutral injection will be used. For a neutral heating power of 50 MW at 150 keV, particles are introduced at a rate in excess of 2×10^{21} particles/sec, providing some central fueling. Over 6 sec, the neutral beams would contribute substantially to the plasma particles at a density of 10^{14} cm^{-3} , owing to the relatively long confinement time of the particles near the center of the plasma.

If the neutral beams alone cannot produce the needed density rise during heating (see Sect. 2.2), pellets with at least partial penetration are needed. Calculations under the neoclassical and trapped ion transport models²⁸ have indicated volume-averaged particle confinement times around 0.5 sec if no significant gas recycling is present at the plasma edge. Assuming an unload divertor, the average particle temperature at the separatrix would be around 3.4 keV, potentially leading to unacceptable rates of impurity production at the wall. Gas recycling from the divertor and the wall is then required to effectively shield the plasma from reentry of sputtered impurities.

The effectiveness of divertors in controlling impurities has been experimentally demonstrated only at low power and for short durations.²⁹⁻³¹ Extrapolation of these results to the Reference Design is presently speculative. Recent hydrogen recycling measurements in Alcator³² have indicated that the plasma flux at the edge (Γ_s) lies between $7.5 \times 10^{16}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ and $9 \times 10^{17}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ when the plasma density is between $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and 10^{14} cm^{-3} . We have assumed that $\Gamma_s = 10^{17}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ in the Reference Design, which leads to a total plasma loss rate around 3×10^{23} particles/sec and a volume-averaged particle confinement time of ~ 0.1 sec. Because significant gas recycling is assumed, vacuum pumping of only a fraction of this particle rate (say, $3 \times 10^{22}/\text{sec}$) is required. It is assumed that this pumping rate at 10^{-4} torr is sufficient for adequate impurity control.

2.4.3 Burn

Particle and impurity control requirements during this phase differ from those in the previous phase due to the presence of fusion thermal power (~ 230 MW), the absence of direct fueling to the plasma center (i.e., by neutral beam injection), the depletion of the D-T plasma, and the production of alpha particles due to fusion near the plasma center. Assuming the same plasma edge flux of 10^{17} particles/ cm^2/sec , the averaged particle edge temperature would be 2.4 keV in the absence of nonconvective heat losses. To reduce the thermal power handling difficulties at the divertors, it is assumed that more than half of the fusion thermal power

is deposited on the first wall through cross-field conduction (by instabilities, field ripples, etc.) and charge exchange losses (by gas recycling) in the scrape-off region.

D-T particles are consumed during burn at a rate of $\sim 3 \times 10^{20}$ particles/sec or 2%/sec of the total plasma particles. These particles are assumed to be replenished by the inward diffusion of the surrounding plasma, which is fueled by pellets. If a pellet fueling rate of 4.6×10^{22} particles/sec is assumed, the required inward diffusion rate is only 2%. The alpha particle confinement time is assumed to be similar to the particle confinement times near the plasma center (which are assumed to be ~ 4 sec). This leads to a steady-state alpha particle content of roughly 1.6×10^{21} or 4% of the plasma. Assuming a vacuum pumping requirement of 1.5×10^{22} molecules/sec, the helium concentration through the vacuum pump is $\sim 2.7\%$. These quantitative assumptions need extensive theoretical and experimental corroboration.

2.4.4 Shutdown and Exhaust

Fusion shutdown can be achieved by terminating tritium fueling to significantly reduce the tritium content in the plasma in a time scale of the central particle confinement time. The plasma equilibrium is maintained throughout shutdown. Given adequate pumping and various discharge cleaning techniques, exhausting the residual gas in the chamber and on the wall is not expected to be difficult.

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3. PROJECT PLANNING

The programmatic issues associated with the implementation of a TNS project are discussed. The major issues include cost and schedule, assessment of technical needs, and the operating plan or mission of the facility.

3.1 COST AND SCHEDULE

The cost estimates were calculated with the aid of the COAST code developed in FY 1977,¹ except where more detailed cost analyses were available as a result of the systems cost/performance optimization studies performed this year. A scheduling activity initiated last year has been continued to identify the schedule requirements that must be satisfied in order to implement the TNS project on a timely basis.

3.1.1 Cost

There has been a continuing effort to maintain up-to-date cost estimates for the systems of the evolving TNS design and to use these estimates as a guide in establishing the Reference Design. The FY 1978 activities concentrated on cost/performance trade studies in selected critical system areas in order to arrive at a more cost-effective design. The areas considered included the PF system, the TF coil system configuration, and the vacuum topology.

The cost estimates have been prepared in a format corresponding to the Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) shown in Fig. 1.16. Table 3.1 gives the cost of the facility on the basis of the first level of the WBS. Note that the direct cost of the facility is ~\$500 million and that the total cost is ~\$1000 million, excluding escalation and interest during construction. The cost estimate is presented in Fig. 3.1 on the basis of major functional areas, indicating the large dependence on the TF coil system, followed by the electrical power and controls. Table 3.2 shows the cost estimate carried down to the second level of the WBS.

Table 3.1. Cost estimate for the TNS Reference Design

Top level WBS elements of facility	Cost (in millions of dollars)	Percent of total
Tokamak systems	238	47
Electrical power and controls	79	16
Tokamak support systems	82	16
Structure and site services	58	12
Plasma heating	<u>45</u>	<u>9</u>
Direct facility cost	502	100
Additional costs		
Shipping and handling (~1%)	5	
Installation (~15%)	75	
EDIA (~45%)	<u>226</u>	
Subtotal	808	
Contingency (30% of subtotal)	<u>242</u>	
Total cost of TNS Reference Design	1050

Fig. 3.1. Facility cost by functional area.

Table 3.2. Facility cost by component/element

Component/element	Cost (in millions of dollars)	Percent of total
Tokamak systems		
Vacuum vessel assembly	9.36	1.87
Liner/limiter	1.79	0.36
Machine structure	7.72	1.54
Bucking cylinder	1.67	0.33
TF coil assembly		
Conductor	63.83	12.72
Structure	73.55	14.65
Dewar	13.35	2.66
EF coil assembly	19.11	3.81
OH coil assembly	13.38	2.67
Winding station	18.00	3.59
Device shielding system	14.68	2.92
Neutral beam duct shielding	<u>1.70</u>	<u>0.34</u>
Subtotal	238.42	47.49
Electrical power and control systems		
PF system MGF sets	21.22	4.23
Neutral beam primary power	3.12	0.62
Primary and secondary distribution	2.86	0.57
TF power conversion	2.41	0.48
EF 3-phase rectifiers	9.44	1.88
OH rectifiers	7.73	1.54
rf initiation system	5.00	1.00
EF power conversion	10.05	2.00
OH power conversion	9.28	1.85
Control, handling, safety	9.49	1.89
Plasma diagnostics	1.80	0.36
Standby/emergency system	<u>0.90</u>	<u>0.18</u>
Subtotal	83.30	16.60

Table 3.2 (continued)

Component/element	Cost (in millions of dollars)	Percent of total
Tokamak support systems		
Remote servicing	18.20	3.63
Fuel handling	11.92	2.38
Tritium cleanup	5.19	1.02
Torus vacuum pumps	4.25	0.85
Refrigeration		
Liquid helium (for super- conducting coils)	24.90	4.96
Liquid nitrogen (for super- conducting and copper coils)	7.94	1.53
Vacuum vessel cooling	1.51	0.30
Water cooling		
PF system	0.96	0.19
Shield	2.66	0.53
Plant circulation	0.89	0.18
Experimental area ventilation	1.44	0.29
Radioactive waste handling	<u>2.42</u>	<u>0.48</u>
Subtotal	82.28	16.39
Structures and site services		
Vacuum containment building	40.00	7.97
Other structures and site work	<u>18.00</u>	<u>3.59</u>
Subtotal	58.00	11.55
Neutral beam systems	<u>40.00</u>	<u>7.97</u>
Total	502.00	100.00

3.1.2 Schedule

A program planning and scheduling activity was initiated during FY 1977.² A master program schedule has been developed over the past year that is consistent with the following assumptions:

- (1) Title I start is restricted until after the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) is operational.
- (2) The device is to be operational in the late 1980s.
- (3) The development of the facility will be preceded by a site evaluation and selection process.
- (4) The schedule is to be consistent with Department of Energy and Office of Management and Budget cycles.
- (5) The schedule is to be consistent with the experiences of other major projects.
- (5) The schedule is to be consistent with critical physics, technology, and development plans.

Figure 3.2 depicts the present schedule for the Reference Design.

Maintaining an up-to-date TNS schedule requires a continuing review in detail of all critical system requirements, the determination of key technical inconsistencies and gaps in present research and development (R&D) programs, the identification of possible solutions, and the generation of a program schedule with minimum cost impacts. In future studies, all critical systems will continue to be evaluated so that the system schedule can be kept up to date.

As an example of the interfacing between the development schedules and the overall program schedule, Fig. 3.2 shows a preliminary development plan for the electron cyclotron heating (ECH) system. This Reference Design system was not part of the Baseline Design and therefore had not been addressed in our previous TNS planning.²

3.2 TECHNICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The technical needs identified for the key systems of the Reference Design are summarized in this section. The goal of this continuing assessment effort³ is the identification of potential barriers and

Fig. 3.2. TNS program schedule.

technical gaps that may impede the successful implementation of the TNS program. This assessment employs both a rollback and rollforward approach for determining the needs for specific systems. The evaluation for each system is based on the following questions:

- (1) Will the present and expected R&D effort satisfy the requirements of the TNS Program?
- (2) Where are the major gaps in this R&D effort?
- (3) How and when must these gaps be closed?

The level of effort directed to the definition of the technical needs of the various systems was limited; therefore, a balance was made between the depth and breadth of consideration for this year. Ten areas were addressed: physics, divertor system, pellet fueling system, PF system, neutral beams, mechanical systems, blanket, rf system, TF system, and instrumentation and control.

The technical needs and the R&D advancements required in each area are summarized below. A more detailed discussion of the technical needs assessments is presented in ORNL/TM-6722. It is noted that at this preconceptual design stage, these assessments tend toward generic issues, which will become more specific as the studies go forward. There seem to be, however, two continuing requirements showing up in these assessments: (1) an increased effort to integrate the various physics results to obtain the desired operational cycle and to define more clearly the required physics R&D and (2) an increased emphasis on technology and engineering developments to provide reliable, cost-effective components for TNS on a timely basis.

3.2.1 Physics

Recent advances in tokamak confinement and heating experiments have provided optimism concerning the prospects for producing a controllable fusion core based on the tokamak concept. Nevertheless, uncertainties still exist in essentially all the physics assumptions adopted in the Reference Design, although these assumptions are considered reasonable. This section briefly summarizes and discusses the physics R&D needs as

suggested by the required improvements in understanding. Highlighted are five physics areas in which even a rudimentary level of understanding is considered seriously lacking. These areas are ordered according to an increasing level of uncertainty: plasma confinement, plasma heating, ignition and burn, operation and control, and impurity control.

Plasma confinement and optimization

This area deals with the plasma size, the TF strength, the plasma density, and the plasma temperature required for ignition and burn in the Reference Design. These parameters (see Table 2.1) are chosen in the context of their influence on plasma confinement. Substantial understanding in this area is already available, although surprises in future experiments cannot be ruled out. Continued studies to improve tokamak confinement via improved stability by optimizations in the plasma shape, profile, and beta are also being actively pursued. The evolution of high beta plasmas over long pulses is one of the topics on which work is still needed.

Plasma heating

Heating with 150-keV, 50-MW deuterium beams for 6 sec is assumed in the Reference Design. Recent neutral beam injection in PLT, heating the plasma to near ignition temperatures, has increased confidence in these assumptions. Experimental corroboration is needed for the theoretical calculations showing that ignition can be reached with a neutral beam energy level of only 150 keV using the low density or small radius heating scenario in the Reference Design. The physics of rf heating is presently less well understood, although vigorous experimental programs are in progress. The optimal combination of rf and neutral beam heating also needs to be explored experimentally.

Fusion ignition and burn

Achieving $Q = 1-2$ in TFTR will only provide a demonstration of the approach to ignition, while the Reference Design assumes ignition ($Q = 5$)

and burn ($Q > 5$). An experimental understanding of the plasma physics of ignition and burn is needed. The study of the dependence of the burn process on the plasma parameters, the fusion alpha particle power deposition profile, the fueling rate, the D-T composition, and the method of fueling will provide the basis for burn control over long pulse times ($\sim 10^2$ sec). Detailed numerical simulations consistent with the proper confinement assumptions and the possible improvements in TFTR achievements to $Q > 2$ are needed to reduce the gap between present estimates and the actual demonstration of ignition and burn. An experimental test of ignition and burn still seems necessary to verify our assumptions.

Plasma operation and control

The desired plasma parameters, profiles, and cross sections through the phases of startup, heating, ignition, burn, and shutdown should be elucidated through studies in plasma confinement and optimization, heating, and ignition and burn. An understanding of the plasma control requirements along the desired path of operation during the pulse is presently lacking. Studies of methods to avoid fusion thermal runaway and plasma disruption and to reduce pulsed fields at the TF coils should be actively pursued.

Impurity control

The plasma and impurity transport processes through the plasma edge/scrape-off region and in the divertors are presently the weakest area of physics understanding. The use of poloidal divertors will be studied in PDX. However, the physics of the bundle divertors chosen for the Reference Design (because of their potential engineering advantages) and the impact of the divertors on plasma confinement must be studied at a level comparable to that of PDX before a clear choice can be made for the TMS class of device. The impurity production process involves interactions between the plasma and the wall/collector plates under large thermal power loading. The long pulse (~ 10 - 10^2 sec) behavior of these interactions and their effects on the impurity control processes

also need to be studied because presently successful methods using titanium gettering may be limited to short pulses (~ 1 sec). Other impurity control schemes should also be explored.

Summary of physics needs

On the basis of these discussions we can identify some critical physics issues for the Reference Design. They include:

- (1) Long pulse behavior of impurity production and transport under high thermal power in a diverted plasma.
- (2) Long pulse evolution of high beta MHD equilibria through substantial flux diffusion and influenced by fusion alpha particle heating and various fueling sources.

We can also identify areas where understanding can be developed via theoretical analyses and numerical simulations with some confidence (although experimental studies in these areas would increase our confidence in the fusion plasma operation in the Reference Design). They include:

- (1) The physics of fusion ignition and burn ($Q > 5$) for a time scale much longer than the energy confinement time.
- (2) The physics of helium ash accumulation and transport in diverted plasmas.

Finally, the physics/engineering studies during FY 1978 have suggested schemes that could favorably impact the reactor engineering and technology requirements. These studies point to the following desirable experimental verifications:

- (1) Experiments to optimize the neutral beam injection process (such as the low density and small radius scenarios) that directly or indirectly corroborate the process of heating to ignition with beam energies of ~ 150 keV.
- (2) Fueling experiments with partial pellet penetration.
- (3) Experiments with a flexible PF coil system and superconducting TF coils to study ways to minimize the pulsed field during startup and disruption.

- (4) Experiments with the use of plasma heating sources before and during current startup to increase the startup time and to reduce cost.
- (5) Experiments with variable field perturbations (such as ripples in the toroidal field) as a method of controlling the runaway electrons and the plasma edge condition and improving access to the plasma core.

3.2.2 Divertor System

In the Reference Design, a bundle divertor approach was adopted for impurity control. The concept chosen for continuing study incorporates a liquid lithium jet system to absorb the large amount of diverted power and particles with a reasonable cross-sectional area. The assessment of the technical needs for the bundle divertor shows two areas of needed emphasis:

- (1) Bundle divertor coil configurations that address
 - the incorporation of larger coils that permit adequate scrape-off areas and allow room for adequate shielding,
 - approaches to equalize the energy variation expected across the face of the lithium collection jets, and
 - methods of ceramic insulation of the coils that would ease the shielding requirements.
- (2) The liquid lithium "shower" concept for ion/energy collection that addresses
 - the expansion of the temperature range beyond the present $\sim 350^{\circ}\text{C}$ limit where data are available or the collection of hydrogen isotope ions by liquid lithium,
 - the ability of the "shower" to retain embedded alpha particles, and
 - the ability of liquid lithium to pump neutral hydrogen isotopes.

3.2.3 Pellet Fueling System

The fueling technique adopted in the Reference Design is the injection of pellets of solid deuterium and tritium. The developments being carried out in this area have provided encouraging results both in laboratory experiments and on the ISX-A tokamak.⁴ Continuing physics calculations and experiments are needed to better define the injection requirements. The technical advancements required for TNS implementation are highlighted by three needed actions:

- (1) Development of the potentially promising concepts of pellet injection by gas, mechanical, and electromagnetic methods of acceleration.
- (2) Expansion of the data base on the physical properties of deuterium and tritium pellets.
- (3) Intensification of efforts to achieve equipment design innovations and simplifications that will lead to enhanced equipment reliability, fabricability, and cost effectiveness.

3.2.4 Neutral Beams

The demonstrated success of neutral beam heating, in particular the recent PLT results, has provided a growing confidence that such systems can be used in future devices. However, the complexities of current experimental beam lines raise issues concerning cost, reliability, and maintenance in the TNS context. The chief technical needs of neutral beam systems for the Reference Design are as follows:

- (1) The capacity for 12.5 MW per beam line for 6 sec at energy levels up to 150 keV.
- (2) Simple, more reliable systems that can obtain the necessary performance.
- (3) Simple means of operating and controlling multiple beam lines.
- (4) Design and fabrication concepts that will minimize the difficulties of maintaining the beam lines in a reactor environment.

3.2.5 Poloidal Field System

The PF system consists of seven sets of coils, each requiring separate power supplies. A combination of copper and superconducting coils (inside and outside the TF coils, respectively) is used; the interior copper coils permit a close coupling to the plasma. The key R&D needs are:

- (1) Pulsed superconducting coil technology to meet the Reference Design needs (e.g., $\dot{B} \sim 2 \text{ T/sec}$, $B_{\text{max}} \sim 8 \text{ T}$).
- (2) Simple electrical storage and supply circuitry for cost and reliability improvements.

3.2.6 Mechanical Systems

The mechanical systems for the Reference Design include the machine structure, the secondary vacuum enclosure, the remote servicing equipment, and shielding. The technology data base is largely available to meet the mechanical systems requirements of the Reference Design. However, the specific implementation of the design requirements requires significant expansion of the data base, especially in two areas:

- (1) Material properties in a high temperature, high neutron flux environment.
- (2) Remote servicing equipment and methods for replacement and repair of highly activated device components.

3.2.7 Blanket

The Reference Design includes concepts for the first wall and bulk shield functions but does not address the requirements of a breeding blanket. The blanket that must breed fuel, recover heat, and provide some shielding is being studied in depth in the ORNL Tokamak Reactor Blanket Study,⁵ the objective of which is to develop a blanket concept based on near-term technology that satisfies reliability and lifetime needs for a commercial reactor. A promising blanket concept has been advanced, and preliminary analyses support its potential for reactor

application. This technical area is of particular value to the engineering test phase of the TNS, and a continuing blanket development effort is necessary. The blanket requirements in terms of surface and volumetric heat generation rates coupled with the large number of power on/off cycles are challenging — even if the severe neutron irradiation effects are ignored. The following R&D activities would be of particular benefit:

- (1) Development of an experimental basis for promising blanket concepts via model testing that includes some limited neutron environment. MHD effects can and should be tested for blankets employing liquid lithium.
- (2) Characterization of the requirements imposed on the blanket (i.e., particle loading and heat loads) in the event of an abnormal or disruption situation as well as for a normal cycle.

3.2.8 Toroidal Field System

The Reference Design specifies an on-axis magnetic field of 5.3 T, which is to be produced by 12 superconducting TF coils with a horizontal bore of 6.2 m and a vertical bore of 9.8 m. This combination of number of coils and coil size yields a magnetic field ripple of 1.5% at the plasma edge. The TF coils are assumed to be a pure tension D-shape design with a trapezoidal cross section. The centering forces on the coils are reacted through a bucking cylinder. The major technology needs associated with the TF system may be summarized as follows:

- (1) Production of Nb_3Sn conductor and manufacture of coils without strain degradation of properties.
- (2) Designs for coil cooling that will avoid collections of helium bubbles and/or vapor in the liquid helium, which would result in degradation of the heat transfer.
- (3) Means of coil protection, including the detection of small normal zones, quench pressure in forced flow channel, or quench voltage in bath-cooled coils and the control of coil currents or fault forces.

3.2.9 RF System

The use of rf heating around 120 GHz has been selected to aid plasma breakdown. Experimental substantiation of this assumption is critical and should be vigorously pursued because of the large potential cost benefits. Microwave power on the order of 1 MW is suggested for deposition in the plasma region for ~ 2 sec. Relatively efficient waveguides and flush-mounted arrays can be designed to accomplish the power transmission. The major R&D areas that should be pursued include:

- (1) Development of power tubes to achieve 200 kW cw per tube at 120 GHz.
- (2) Development and component testing of the elements required to transfer the rf power from the sources to the plasma, including oversize waveguides, modal filters, materials that can tolerate the reactor environment, pressurization windows, and antennas.

3.2.10 Instrumentation and Controls System

This system is required to automatically control the device through all its phases of operation. Instrumentation is provided for controlling functions and for diagnostics. The data from the instrumentation are processed and either displayed or stored for later on-call display. The philosophy of operation is that of semiautonomous subsystem controls and diagnostics operating under the supervision of a central computerized control. A significant emphasis in the development of this system must be the necessary designs for fail-safe operations and degraded mode options.

Table 3.3 is a list of major parameters that may need to be measured, along with some sensing concepts that should be studied for use in the reactor environment.

Future investigations must include more study of the problems of disruptions, aborts, and shutdown and of the difficulties of defining sensors and instrumentation systems that can survive the reactor environment and meet the accuracy and response demands of the controls and diagnostics. Thus, the primary R&D needs include:

- (1) Development of a hybrid computer instrumentation and control (I&C) simulation, bench marked with experiments and expansion to long pulse calculations and experiments.
- (2) Development of instrumentation that can operate in the expected reactor environment.

Table 3.3. Parameters to be measured and candidate sensing concepts.

Parameters	Candidate sensing concepts
Plasma density as a function of time and plasma radius	Thomson scattering, microwave absorption
Plasma location	Inductive pickup loops
Average plasma current	Rogowski coils
Plasma ion and electron temperatures as functions of time and plasma radius	Thomson scattering, soft x-ray detectors
Magnetic field strengths	Inductive pickup loops
Neutron flux at first wall	Activation foils, collimating tube and detectors

3.3 MISSION DESCRIPTION

The operating plan or mission of the facility is to provide a major cost-effective stepping-stone of knowledge and understanding for the development path to a fusion energy option. The facility operation must be carefully planned and conducted on this basis. The early identification of the desired operations provides additional guidance to the evolution from the Reference Design to the Final Design. Therefore, the mission description is an important element in the design process, and the following comments relay the initial issues and suggestions.

3.3.1 Objectives

TNS is viewed as the initial core of an Engineering Test Facility (ETF). This initial core may be followed by several modifications and

upgrades and also by additional fusion cores based on alternate concepts. The program objectives of TNS must reflect its position in the ETF and in the overall magnetic fusion energy development program. TNS is intended to bridge the gap between TFTR and an engineering prototype reactor (EPR).⁶ Toward this end, TNS must achieve the necessary advancements in both plasma physics and engineering technology development. In the area of plasma physics, TNS must produce a controllable, ignited plasma and demonstrate long pulse, high duty factor, D-T operation. In the area of engineering technology development, TNS must incorporate and test components and systems which are relevant to the EPR.

3.3.2 Assumptions

The progress in physics and technology development prior to the operation of TNS will be significant and must be assessed in such a way that the mission plan is properly based. The following assumptions have been made about the TNS program and about the physics and engineering data base which would be available during TNS development.

- (1) Operation will begin in late 1989.
- (2) TNS will be operational for at least 10 years.
- (3) The physics data base available prior to TNS operation will include successful experience in
 - particle energy confinement,
 - long pulse hydrogen operation,
 - ignition and burn dynamics,
 - disruption characterizations,
 - startup and controlled shutdown,
 - fueling and particle control,
 - heating,
 - divertor operation, and
 - reactor-relevant diagnostics.
- (4) The engineering data base will include technology developments in
 - large superconducting magnets (steady-state and pulsed),
 - tritium operations,

- remote maintenance and assembly,
- radiation-compatible controls and sensors, and
- helium/hydrogen separation-pumping.

The proposed TNS operational plan has been divided into the following four phases:

- Phase I. Integrated system checkout (0.5 year),
- Phase II. Hydrogen (deuterium) phase (1.5 years),
- Phase III. Ignition test and plasma burn phase (2.5 years),
- Phase IV. Engineering test phase (5.5 years).

The schedule relationship of these phases is shown in Fig. 3.3.

Phase I. Integrated system checkout

During this phase, the checkout of each system of the device and the step-by-step integration of the systems into the completed operating device will be accomplished. Remote maintenance and assembly procedures are to be evaluated throughout Phases I and II. The major machine system operation in this phase includes discharge cleaning, diagnostics shakedown, and hydrogen operation to validate the physics regimes observed in previous experiments (approximately 10,000 shots).

The three subphases are:

- (1) Debugging to check out all subsystems and integrate them into the device (4 months).
- (2) Limited hydrogen operation to correlate with physics regimes of previous machines (2 months).
- (3) Remote maintenance and assembly checkout (continuous).

Phase II. Hydrogen (deuterium) operation

During this phase, the device will be operated over a broad range of hydrogen plasma parameters. The characterization of the major functions of the device will be to provide the base for "fine-tuning" the machine and its scenarios for the subsequent ignition and burn phase. Long pulse operations will be stressed, with their attendant refueling,

Fig. 3.3. TNS operating plan.

impurity, and disruption concerns. The severity and frequency of disruptions will be addressed, the techniques for dealing with disruptions having been evaluated in previous experiments. There will be approximately 30,000 hydrogen (deuterium) shots during this operational phase (150 shots per 2-shift day, assuming that an average shot at this stage is about 6 min).

The two subphases are:

- (1) Characterization of the machine's startup/shutdown, fueling, heating, and magnetic field capability (7 months).
- (2) Long pulse operation to emphasize refueling, impurity control, divertors, power densities, and disruption characteristics (11 months).

Phase III. Ignition test and plasma burn phase

This most critical phase will begin with an exploration of operation near ignition to define the phenomena expected upon ignition and how excursions may occur and be controlled. Following this subphase, the ignition regime will be explored. After these 2-1/2 years of operation (approximately 100,000 shots at an average of 5 min per shot) have provided the necessary understanding of the ignited plasma and its interaction with the machine variables, extension of the burn times will be undertaken to explore the path to high duty cycles.

The three subphases are:

- (1) Exploration of near ignition (12 months).
- (2) Characterization of ignition (12 months).
- (3) Long burn tests and determination of high duty cycle feasibility (6 months).

Phase IV. Engineering test phase

The primary objective of this phase is component testing for the EPR. Here the operations (approximately 400,000 shots at an average of about 5 min per shot) are dictated mainly by the need to fill any gaps in the extrapolatability of the previous test results to the EPR. The

technology and engineering questions will have become more prominent during the growth of plasma physics knowledge in the previous phases. New heating, fueling, and other plasma engineering technologies developed during the previous 5 years will be introduced and tested. Sensitivity of machine operation to design parameters (especially those that could lead to reliability and cost improvements) will be studied. It is expected that remote maintenance and changeout procedures developed during earlier phases will be used extensively during this phase. Candidate blanket modules will be considered for test. The previous extrapolation of the neutronic performance of the prototype designs will be verified.

The three subphases are:

- (1) Plasma engineering components/testing of plasma heating, fueling/refueling, magnet systems, divertors, and controls/diagnostics (24 months).
- (2) Shutdown for changeouts (e.g., blanket modules) (12 months).
- (3) Nuclear engineering component/testing of heat removal, remote maintenance and assembly, and upgrade of selected systems (30 months).

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4. CONCLUSIONS

The major activities of the Oak Ridge TNS Program for FY 1978 are summarized below in the context of engineering feasibility, plasma operating characteristics, and project planning, and conclusions are drawn.

4.1 ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY

The activities in the area of engineering feasibility focused on three issues: remote maintenance, the PF system design, and the divertor design.

4.1.1 Remote Maintenance

The remote maintenance features of the Reference Design are a significant improvement over those of the Baseline Design as a result of three major design changes:

- (1) The number of TF coils was reduced from 20 to 12 in order to create enough room between coils to replace a torus sector without removing the TF coils.
- (2) The TF coil bore was increased by about 30%, which made it possible to relocate the PF coils inside the TF coils during a sector replacement operation and thus eliminate the need for PF coil segmentation.
- (3) The use of mechanical torus joints, made possible by the use of an evacuated reactor building has eliminated the need for internal cutting and welding to replace a torus sector.

A 1:40 scale model was constructed to help evaluate the maintenance features of the evolving design.

4.1.2 Poloidal Field System

The PF system adopted in the Reference Design represents a significant improvement over that employed in the Baseline Design. The PF system in the Reference Design consists of a superconducting OH coil,

interior (inside the TF coil bore) copper EF coils, which carry about 35% of the EF current, and exterior (outside the TF coil bore) superconducting EF coils, which carry 65% of the EF current. The PF system in the Baseline Design consisted of a copper OH coil outside the TF coils and copper EF coils inside the TF coils. The updated PF system design offers a reasonable balance between system cost, coil maintenance, TF coil protection, and power requirements. Moreover, the use of a superconducting central solenoid permits the flux swing for a burn time of around 500 sec without excessive Joule heating losses.

4.1.3 Divertor System

A bundle divertor has been adopted for impurity control in the Reference Design, instead of the compact poloidal divertor adopted in the Baseline Design. The primary reason for this change in design was to move the divertor system outside the TF coil bore to improve overall access and to provide more space for particle and energy collection. An innovative scheme making use of an array of lithium jets has been proposed as a means of accomplishing the particle and energy collection in the bundle divertor.

4.2 PLASMA OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS

The activities related to plasma operation focused on the following areas: the reduction of the technology requirements for startup and heating, the maintenance of high beta configurations, and the identification of the key physics issues requiring investigation in order to achieve a controllable, long pulse, ignited tokamak plasma.

4.2.1 Technology Requirements

In order to reduce the power supply requirements during startup, a microwave assisted startup procedure has been proposed and evaluated. It is estimated that the peak voltage requirement might be reduced by roughly an order of magnitude relative to estimates for startup without microwave breakdown and preheating. Additional experimental evidence is

required to verify the validity of such an approach. Calculations of neutral beam heating indicate that ignition could be reached with deuterium beam energies as low as 100 keV without excessive demands on power requirements. These calculations, which must still be confirmed by experiments, suggest that reactor heating requirements could be satisfied with positive ion beam systems employing direct recovery and that negative ion beam systems may not be necessary. Beams of 150 keV were adopted in the Reference Design.

4.2.2 High Beta Maintenance

The magnetic flux diffusion process in high beta plasmas heated with beams and alpha particles over long time scales is not well understood. The FY 1978 studies have been concerned with the maintenance of high beta equilibria during the heating, ignition, and early burn phases. In this context, the PF system proposed for the Reference Design will allow the control of the D-shaped plasma cross section despite large changes in the plasma profile and beta during these phases.

4.2.3 Key Physics Issues

The control and handling of plasma disruptions is identified as a key physics issue relative to the implementation of TNS. Plasma disruptions would severely limit the useful life of the first wall and would also impose serious design constraints in terms of superconducting magnet protection. The need to characterize, understand, and control disruptions is identified as a major area for further investigation. Overall particle control during the various phases of the plasma operation also represents a key physics area of uncertainty. To date, conceptual solutions based on empirical arguments have been employed to define schemes of particle control, but it is clear that significantly more work needs to be done in this area to define requirements and techniques. A third key physics issue requiring investigation is plasma control during burn, including control of profiles, beta, and impurity content.

4.3 PROJECT PLANNING

The project planning activities considered cost and schedule, R&D needs assessments, and an operating plan.

4.3.1 Cost and Schedule

The cost estimates performed for the TNS indicate that the direct cost of the facility would be approximately \$500 million and that the total cost, excluding escalation and interest during construction, would be about \$1 billion. A cost estimate breakdown on the basis of major functional areas indicates the very large dependence of cost on the TF coil system, followed by the electrical power and controls systems. The TNS scheduling exercise suggests a total project timespan requirement of about ten years, with approximately six years required for device construction.

4.3.2 R&D Needs Assessments

The R&D needs assessments in the general areas of physics and technology identified two major themes: (1) an expansion of efforts is needed to integrate the various physics results in the context of the desired operational cycle of the plasma in order to define more clearly the required R&D needs for a controllable, long pulse, ignition fusion core, and (2) an increased emphasis is required in the area of technology and engineering developments to provide reliable, cost-effective components for the TNS on a timely basis.

4.3.3 TNS Mission

An operating plan or mission was laid out for the TNS facility. This mission consisted of four phases:

- Phase I. Integrated checkout (0.5 year).
- Phase II. Hydrogen (deuterium) operation (1.5 years).
- Phase III. Ignition test and plasma burn (2.5 years).
- Phase IV. Engineering testing (5.5 years).

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