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Section 13

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Physics of Thermonuclear Plasmas

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The activities of this group have covered a wide spectrum of plasma physics areas, from the physics of fusion burning plasmas, in which we have had a pioneering role and maintain a leading position, to plasma astrophysics and space physics (e.g., the partially ionized plasmas of the ionosphere). We have dealt with problems of basic theoretical plasma physics both by analytical and computational methods and have led the effort for the proposal and design of experiments to study ignition conditions in magnetically confined plasmas. Our work has received special recognition within the international scientific community, reflected, for instance, by a remarkable number of invited papers and by the success of the International Workshop on Ignitor that was recently held in Washington DC.

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