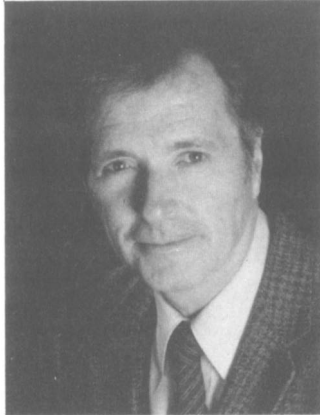


COMMENTS



The 1994 issues for *Fusion Technology (FT)* have continued the tradition of including high-quality research papers of timely interest in a variety of topical areas related to the development of fusion power. Several themes have carried through the issues; for example, starting with a paper on the HYLIFE-II molten-salt inertial confinement fusion (ICF) reactor in the January issue, there have been several important papers on ICF reactor concepts and technology. Magnetic confinement reactors have been discussed in papers in several issues, including a design study of a possible material irradiation test reactor, using a sub-ignited tokamak plasma, in the September issue.

A number of papers have been devoted to alpha-particle physics and engineering, including the May special issue (M. Haegi, Guest Editor), which contained papers based on presentations made at the biennial International Atomic Energy Agency Specialist Workshop on Alpha-Particle Physics. Interest in this area has continued to mount, with the successful deuterium-tritium (D-T) experiments in the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor (TFTR) and the upcoming D-T campaign in the Joint European Torus (JET). For the first time, it becomes possible to compare theory with actual alpha-particle data obtained from a tokamak burn.

Other topical areas that have received keen interest in 1994 include first-wall technology, plasma heating systems, and blanket engineering. Fusion neutronics remains a key interest area for publications in *FT*. Also, manuscripts devoted to nuclear reactions in solids have continued to appear, with strong research continuing in this area, especially in Japan, Russia, and several European countries.

Indeed, the current issue shows a typical broad representation of topics of interest, including papers devoted to materials issues, for example, silicon carbide fibers and activation calculations. Several papers discuss the effect of a plasma disruption on the first wall and the ensuing safety and economic issues. Energy conversion is discussed in the context of recovery of energy from beam injectors. Finally, Professor Matsumoto has contributed an interesting Letter to the Editor concerning journal policies and international collaboration in the area of cold fusion.

I wish to thank the authors, reviewers, and readers for a very productive and gratifying 1994. The *FT* staff and I look forward to working with you in 1995.

George Miley