

§ 27. Archival Studies on the Nuclear Fusion Research at Universities in Japan (I)
—NIFS Nuclear Fusion Archives Database—

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Background and objective of the study:

In order to have a correct insight for the future direction of the project, it is always necessary to carry out exact and accurate review and evaluation of the historical materials and data concerning the project.

In FY2002 we carried out the research with the following objectives:

- 1) To comprehensively and systematically collect and preserve historical materials concerning nuclear fusion research at universities in Japan to make its organization and history clear.
- 2) To establish a practical database for providing researchers with historical materials to analyze how the research developed, how the research groups were organized and funded, how the research aimed at addressing the social needs of the times.
- 3) To collect possible information from senior scientists

who played active roles in the early stage of nuclear fusion research through interviews.

- 4) To edit a chronological table on nuclear fusion research in Japan, starting with those of Institute of Plasma Physics, Nagoya University.

NIFS Nuclear Fusion Archives Database

The construction of “NIFS Nuclear Fusion Archives Database” is now under way, the outline of the work in FY2002 being as follows:

-Database management software:	FileMaker Pro 5.5
-Total number of items	9871
	(Registered in 1999-2002)
-ID labeling	<i>e. g.</i> 033-13, (Given on the envelope containing the item.)
-Box labeling	<i>e. g.</i> B 033, (Given on the cardboard box storing the envelopes)
-Total number of storing box	293
-Shelving	10 open shelves (Installed in two rooms)

At present the documents are stored in rooms originally designed for experimental use. These materials should be deposited in an appropriate repository, which would be of the institutional archives. We are now discussing the possibility of transferring them to a certain special corner in the Library of the Institute, under better condition for archival maintenance as well as retrieval and inspection. The database of index is expected to be made on-line accessible as soon as possible.

Chronological table

Based on the nuclear fusion research archives database, a chronological table is edited. At present, 1,040 items on the planning, steering and research activities related to IPP are listed in the chronological order. The first part of the table is shown in Table 1 for reference.

Table 1. Chronological table of the events at IPP (only the first part is shown)

ID #	Date	Administrative Issues	Research Activities	Ref. #
H001	1958.04	Establishment of Nuclear Fusion Association		161-12 308-21
H002	1958.05.19	The first meeting of “Nuclear Fusion Subcommittee” under Atomic Energy Commission, chaired by Prof. Yukawa, H., was held.		301-01
H003	1958.07.15		Publication of the first issue of “Journal of Nuclear Fusion Research.”	106-01
H004	1958.10.15	Prof. Yukawa, H., chairperson of the Nuclear Fusion Research Association, requested Prof. Kaneshige, K., chairperson of Science Council of Japan (JSC), to make a proposal to prepare research environment for nuclear fusion studies, and to establish an organization under JSC for discussing the research plan.		106-01
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