

# A BRIEF REVIEW OF MAGNETIC WELLS

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## Abstract

The notion of “magnetic well” is useful as a figure of merit for tokamak operation. The object of this review is to collect and compare a variety of different forms that have been used as a well parameter. A particularly satisfying general formulation, based on a resistive stability criterion, is presented in Eq. (25). The application of these results to tokamaks is discussed in terms of the well-known analytic, near-axis approximation that displays the importance of the safety factor and of shaping.