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Advanced Tokamak Research at the DIII-D National Fusion Facility¹ T.C. SIMONEN, J.C. DEBOO, R.D. STAMBAUGH, T.S. TAYLOR, General Atomics, T.A. CASPER, B.W. RICE, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, M. MURAKAMI, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, AND THE DIII-D NATIONAL TEAM — The tokamak magnetic fusion concept has an enormous range of freedom to optimize its properties and potential as a fusion power system. Early tokamaks formed plasmas whose properties were largely derived from inductive pulse formation, with centrally peaked current profiles and low self-driven current fractions. In contrast, the AT concept utilizes: (1) non-monotonic current profiles, (2) electric and magnetic field shear to reduce plasma turbulence and subsequently energy transport; (3) plasma pressure and current profile control to optimize plasma pressure for high reactivity; (4) self-driven bootstrap currents to enable efficient steady-state operation; and (5) divertor design to provide power dispersal and particle control to sustain plasma purity with intense power and particle exhaust. This paper reports DIII-D experimental progress in these individual research areas as well as their optimized integration and theoretical modeling toward demonstrating the advanced tokamak concept.

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