Dear Associate Editor,

We are writing to you regarding the direct rejection of our submitted manuscript *A theoretical investigation of a magnetically shielded Hall thruster with conducting walls* (with identifier #JAP25-AR-02926), based on the non-fulfillment of your publication criteria. With this letter, we would like to formally appeal this decision.

With respect to the scope of the journal, we believe that Hall thrusters are devices of high interest not only in terms of space applications, but also due to the rich physics they nurture, and *J. Appl. Phys.* have paid considerable attention to them so far. This includes papers from our research group and some of our collaborators.

In the submitted manuscript, we focus on a very novel configuration of Hall thruster, which combines both magnetic shielding and conductive channel walls. The limited literature on it (cited in the manuscript) reports its good performance at normal and high-power density operation. Our work discusses the physics of the plasma discharge, explaining its behavior, which could open the way to further optimization of the device operation.

We agree with the editor that there are other journals where this research can fit, but in our opinion, *J. Appl. Phys.* is one of the most suitable ones.

Therefore, we kindly ask you to reconsider the rejection.

Sincerely,

The authors