

# Project

# HALL Thruster Design

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Electric force

$a = \text{acceleration}$

$$F = q\vec{E} \quad a = \frac{q\vec{E}}{m}$$

Magnetic Force:

$$F = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

$[\vec{v} \times \vec{B}]$  cross product

$$= q\vec{v} \cdot \vec{B} \sin \theta$$

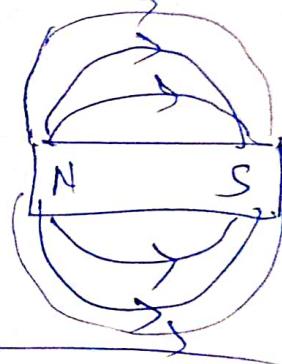
$\theta = \text{angle b/w Velocity and Magnetic field}$

Magnetic force on current carrying conductor

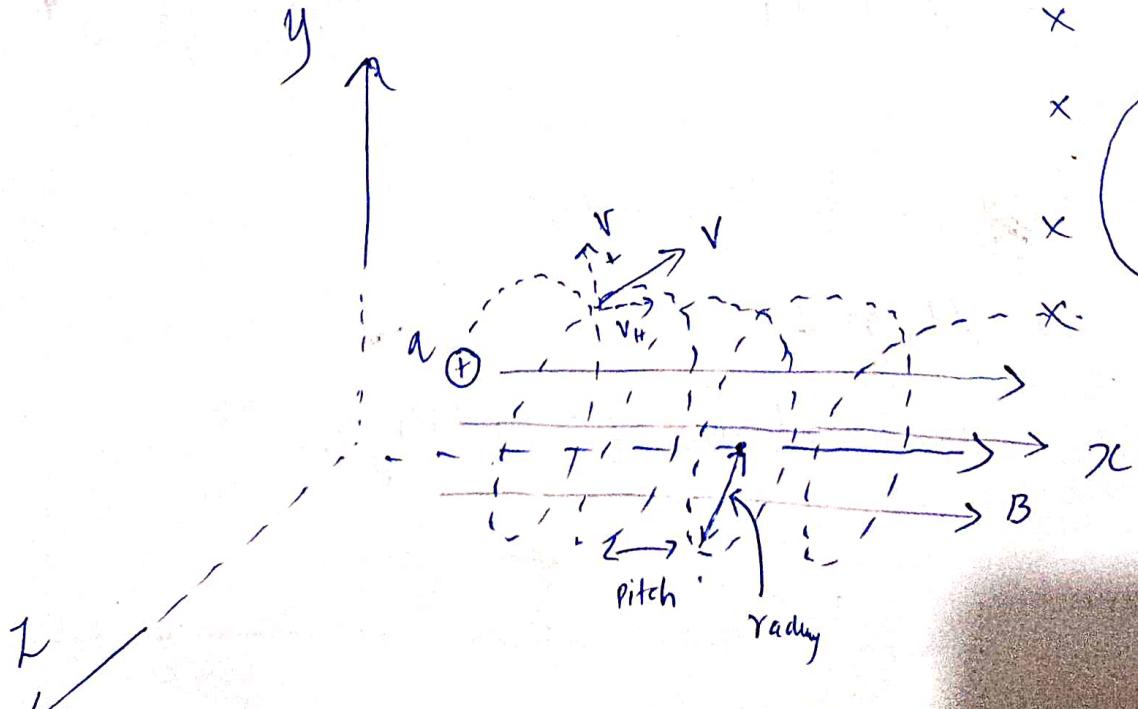
$$F = \int I dL \times B$$

Current length of conductor

magnetic field



Motion of charge in a magnetic field



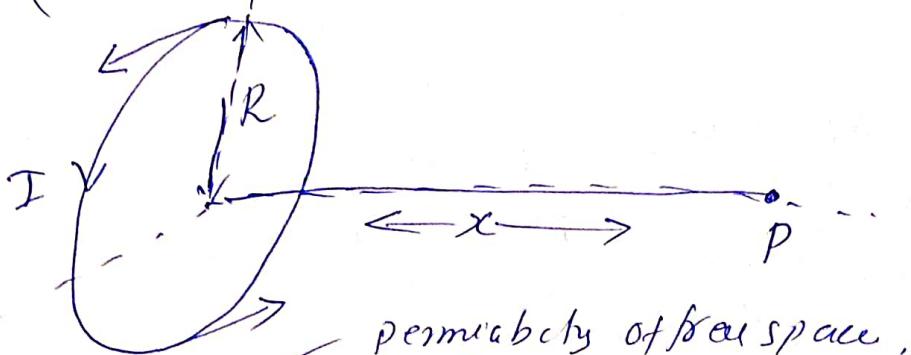
Centrifugal force during rotation of charge.

$$F_c = \frac{mv^2}{r} \quad \text{but } F = qvB$$

$$\frac{mv^2}{r} = qvB$$

$$r = \frac{mv}{qB}$$

Magnetic field due to circular current loop  
(in axis)



$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I R^2}{2(x^2 + R^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$$

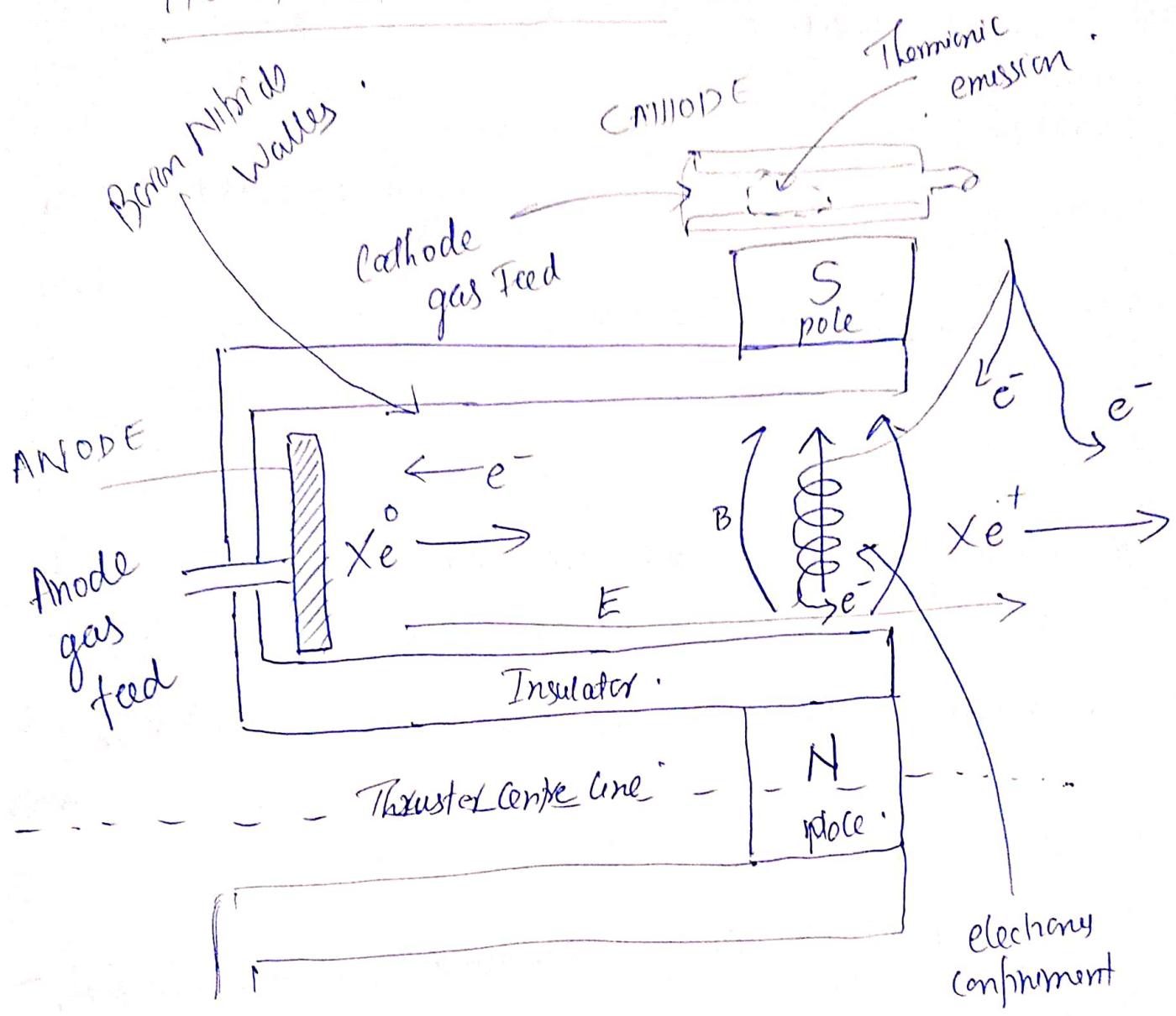
Magnetic field due to solenoid

$$B = \mu_0 n I$$

number of turns per unit length.

Magnetic field  
inside Solenoid

## Hall Thruster Schematic



Operation principle:

uses electrostatic potential to accelerate ions to high speed.

\* Radial Magnetic field  
generated by,  
Central coil and outer coil

g-Gauss

Radial magnetic field of 100 - 300 g ( $0.01 - 0.03 T$ )

Nominal Input Voltage. -300V

\* Axial Electric Field (350)

Generated by Electrical Potential in range 150-800 V  
applied b/w anode and cathode (20v)

This creates an Electric field in the range  $2-40 \text{ kV/m}$

\* Anode:

Contains positively charged Electrode, and gas distributor.  
to introduce xenon gas in the chamber.

Mass flow rate  $\times e$  can typically be  $5-15 \text{ mg/s}$

Cathode :

The Cathode has a dedicated heater, gas distributor.

The heater in the cathode, causes thermionic emission of electrons  
and the gas distributor introduces  $Xe$ .

~~The amount of gas distributed by the cathode can typically be  
5-10% of the gas introduced by anode~~

Principle : Lorentz force : generated on a particle of charge  $q$  by mutually perpendicular electric and magnetic fields.

$$: F = q(V \times B)$$

- \* This force, in turn causes electron confinement in the Hall thruster as opposed to the ringcusp magnetic field in the ion thruster.
- \* The electrons move in circular motion, giving rise to the Hall current.
- Radial magnetic field deflects the electrons but not the ions.

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Circular Radius, or Cyclotron Radius

$$R = \frac{mv}{qB}$$

Component of Velocity  $\perp$  to the magnetic field.  
mass of particle.  $\perp$  magnetic field.  
 $\perp$  charge of particle.

- Electron Larmor radius:  
at Temperature of 25 eV, for radial magnetic field of 150 G  
 $r = 0.13 \text{ cm}$
  - Ion Larmor radius:  
for 300 eV of energy, for radial magnetic field of 150 G  
 $= 180 \text{ cm}$
- Cyclotron frequency

Time period for one revolution -  $T = 2\pi R/V$

= Substitute R.

We get  $T = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$

frequency  $f = 1/T = qB / 2\pi m$ .

Cyclotron frequency  $\omega = 2\pi f = qB/m$ .

For Boundary Condition:

External pressure for space near Geostationary orbit

Can be approximated to be least  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  Torr or ~~1.322~~ (still  $1.322 \text{ e}^{-6} \text{ Pa}$ )

Two types of Hall thrusters:

\* Stationary Plasma Thruster:

SPT's have dielectric insulating wall

Dielectric materials have low sputtering yield.

Electron collisions with wall keep the electron temperature low (due to emission of secondary electrons)

\* Thruster with Anode layer

TALs have metallic conducting wall instead of dielectric wall.

SPT's more efficient than TAL's

## Sputtering effect

If ion kinetic energy exceeds the materials lattice displacement energy, molecules in the wall may be pushed into new position.

Primarily occurs where the striking energy is in the range 60-500 eV.

When high energy electrons strike it releases the secondary electrons from wall boundary.

Materials:

Anode: Stainless Steel

Cathode: Porous Tungsten impregnated with Barium; Barium Oxide, Lanthanum Hexaboride ( $\text{LaB}_6$ )

Walls of plasma chamber: Boron Nitride ( $\text{h-BN}$ ), Barsil ( $\text{BN-SiO}_2$ )  
(High thermal conductivity, low thermal expansion, High Electrical Resistivity, non-toxic)

Propellant:  $\text{Xe}$  (High molecular weight, non toxic, non corrosive, low ionization potential)

Design:

Writing Temperature in eV

$T_{meV}$

$$E = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

Thruster requirements:

Thrust: 123 m N  $\rightarrow T$

Discharge Voltage: 350 V  $\rightarrow V_d$

Specific impulse: 1765 sec  $\rightarrow I_{sp}$

It's known as that:

$$\text{for } 150V < V_d < 350V \rightarrow 800K < T_a < 1000K$$

$$\text{For } 150V < V_d < 900V \rightarrow 10eV < T_{cv} < 20eV$$

$T_a$  - atom temperature.

$T_{cv}$  - electron temperature.

Calculate  $T_a$ :

$$\frac{1000 - 800}{350 - 150} = \frac{T_a - 800}{V_d - 150}$$

$$V_d = 350$$

$$\therefore \frac{1000 - 800}{350 - 150} = \frac{T_a - 800}{350 - 150} \Rightarrow T_a = 1000K$$

Calculate  $T_{cv}$ .

$$\frac{20 - 10}{900 - 150} = \frac{T_{cv} - 10}{V_d - 150} = \frac{T_{cv} - 10}{350 - 150} = T_{cv} = 12.667 \text{ eV}$$

ionization

For Maxwellian electrons.

$\sigma_i V_e \rightarrow$  ionization Reaction Rate.

For:

$$T_{ev} < 5 \text{ eV}$$

$$\sigma_i V_e = 10^{-20} \left[ (3.97 + 0.643 T_{ev} - 0.0368 T_{ev}^2) e^{-\frac{12.07}{T_{ev}}} \right] \sqrt{\frac{8e T_{ev}}{\pi m}}$$

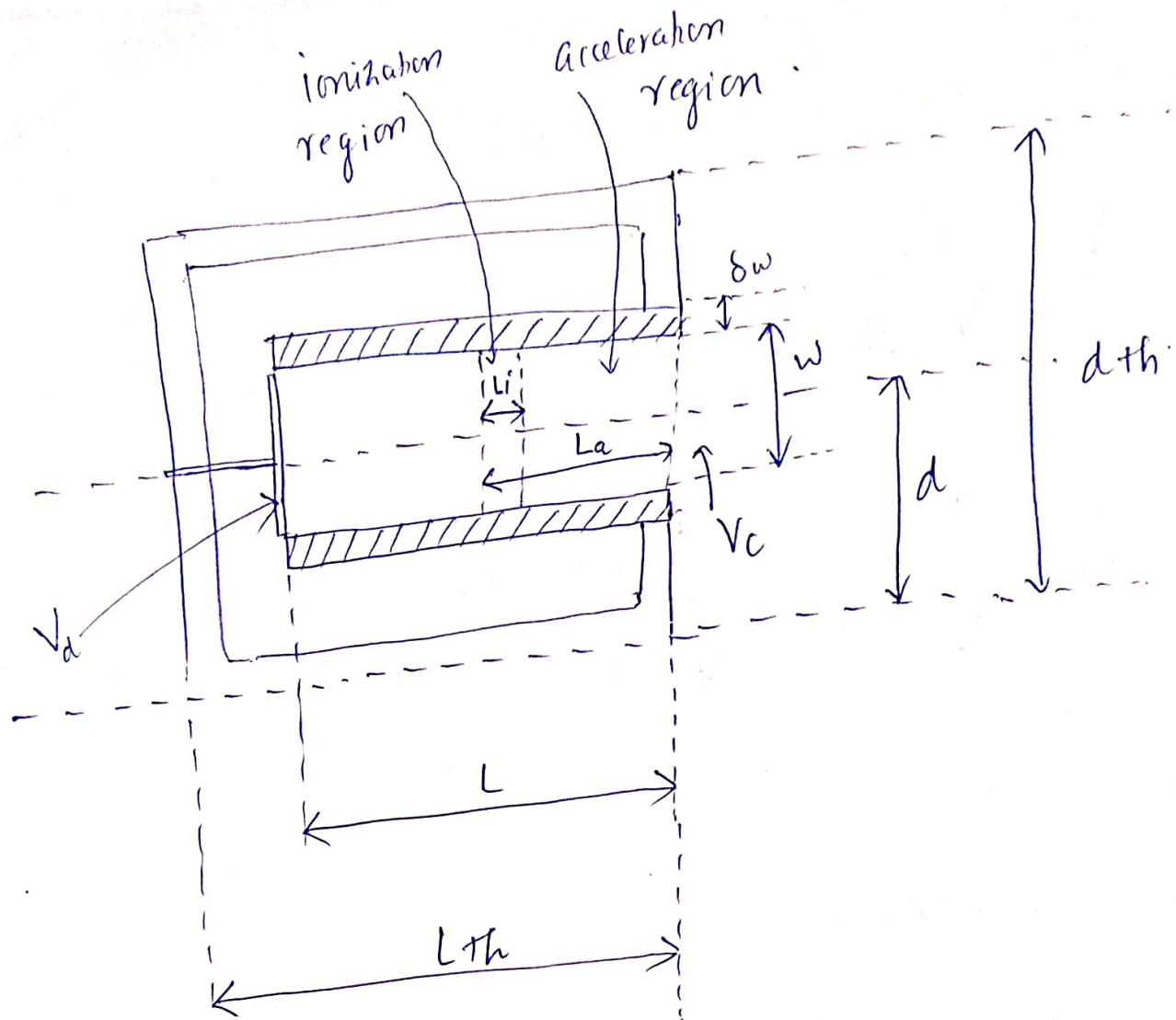
for:

$$T_{ev} > 5 \text{ eV}$$

$$\sigma_i V_e = 10^{-20} \left[ -(1.031 \times 10^{-4}) T_{ev}^2 + 6.386 e^{-\frac{12.125}{T_{ev}}} \right] \sqrt{\frac{8e T_{ev}}{\pi m}}$$

~~T<sub>ev</sub>~~

$$\sigma_i V_e = 5.801 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$$



3. Acceleration potential of ions in Acceleration layer.  
 ↓  
 1st ionization potential of Xenon  
 which is  $(2 \cdot 1)$

$$V_d = \Delta V_{accl} + (3+1) \Psi_{xe} + V_c$$

$12.1299 \text{ eV}$

$$N_d = 350$$

$$V_c = 20$$

$$\Delta V_{accl} = 350 - 4(2 \cdot 1) - 20$$

$$\underline{\underline{\Delta V_{accl} = 281.6 \text{ V}}}$$

Ion and Atom Velocity:

$$V_i = \sqrt{\frac{2qV_d}{M}} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 350}{2.18 \times 10^{-25}}} = 22666.31 \text{ m/s}$$

$$V_a = \sqrt{\frac{8kT_a}{\pi M}} = \sqrt{\frac{8 \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 1000}{\pi \times 2.18 \times 10^{-25}}} = 401.496 \text{ m/s}$$

Electron Velocity:

$$V_e = \sqrt{\frac{8kT_{er}}{\pi m_e}} \times \frac{1}{8.617 \times 10^{-5}} = 3 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$$

Total mass flow:

$$\dot{m} = \dot{m}_a + \dot{m}_e$$

amount of mass flow rate at cathode is 5% - 10% of anode.

$$\dot{m} = \dot{m}_a + 10\%(\dot{m}_a)$$

~~mass~~

Thrust is given by:

$$T = \dot{m} V_{ex}$$

$$= \dot{m} (I_{sp} g)$$

$$123 \times 10^{-3} = \dot{m} (1756 \times 9.81)$$

$$\dot{m} = 7.104 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg/s}$$

$$\dot{m} = 7.104 \text{ mg/s}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{m} &= m_a + \dot{m}_c \\ \therefore \dot{m} &= m_a + 10\gamma \cdot m_a\end{aligned}$$

$$m_a = 6.458 \text{ mg/s} \quad \dot{m}_c = 0.646 \text{ mg/s}$$

## Mean diameter.

$$\frac{m_a}{d} \geq g \frac{\pi M V_i V_a}{\sigma i e}$$

Scaling factor variable.  
mass of Xenon atom.

$$M = 2.18017 \times 10^{-23} \text{ kg}$$

$$\frac{6.458 \times 10^{-6}}{d} \geq \frac{0.5 \times \pi \times 2.18 \times 10^{-25} \times}{5.801 \times 10^{-1}}$$

$$d \leq \frac{g i e \times m_a}{\pi M V_i V_a}$$

$$d \leq 0.1202 \text{ m.} = 12 \text{ cm}$$

dimensions:

$$w = 0.25 \times d \rightarrow 3 \text{ cm} - \text{channel width.}$$

$$\delta w = 0.1 \times d \rightarrow 1.2 \text{ cm} - \text{wall thickness.}$$

$$L = w + (2 \times \delta w) \rightarrow 5.4 \text{ cm} - \text{channel length.}$$

$$d_{th} = 2 \times d \rightarrow 24 \text{ cm} - \text{Diameter of thruster.}$$

$$L_{th} = d \rightarrow 12 \text{ cm} - \text{length of Thruster.}$$

Current to Anode: = (Current coming out of Anode)

$$I_m = \frac{e m_a}{M} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{charge of electron} \\ \text{anode mass flow rate} \end{matrix}$$

$\uparrow$   
Mass of Xenon Atom.

$$= \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 6.458 \times 10^{-6}}{2.18 \times 10^{-25}} = 4.7398 \text{ A}$$

Discharge Current  $\approx 1.3 \times I_m$  { 1.2 - 1.4 time  $I_m$

$$I_d = \underline{\underline{6.16 \text{ A}}}$$

Checking out with the market product!

$$V_d \times I_d = P_{\text{input}}$$

$$I_d = \frac{P_{\text{input}}}{V_d} = \frac{2200 \text{ W}}{350 \text{ V}}$$

$$I_d = \underline{\underline{6.3 \text{ A}}}$$

which satisfies

Current getting into Anode = Current of Tens getting stalled + current of Tens giving thrust.

Cathode efficiency:

$$\eta_c = \frac{\dot{m}_a}{\dot{m}} = \frac{\dot{m}_a}{1.1 \dot{m} \cdot a} = \frac{1}{1.1}$$

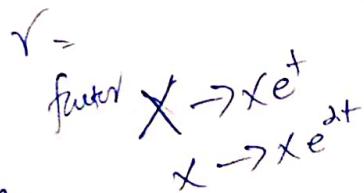
Jet Power:

$$P_{jet} = \frac{T^2}{2 \dot{m}_a} \eta_c = \frac{(123 \times 10^3)^2 \times (1.1)}{2 \times 6.45 \times 10^{-6}} KE = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

which is power of ions

$$= \underline{1064.8 \text{ W}}$$

$$\text{Acceleration power} = \frac{P_{jet}}{\gamma} = \frac{P_{jet}}{0.9} = \underline{\underline{1183.11 \text{ W}}}$$



$$\text{Acceleration power} = \Delta V_{\text{acc}} \times (I_m - I_{iw})$$

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$

Entire Anode current      Part of anode current that hits the wall.

$$I_{iw} = I_{in} - \frac{P_{acc}}{\Delta V_{\text{acc}}} \Rightarrow I_{iw} = \underline{\underline{0.538 \text{ A}}}$$

Length of Acceleration layer =  $L_{ac}$

Empirical Relation:

$$I_{iw} = 0.5 K_{iw} I_m$$

$$K_{iw} = 1.5 L_{ac} / q$$

$$L_{ac} = 0.01816 \text{ m}$$

Electric field =  $\frac{\Delta V_{acc}}{L_{ac}} = \frac{0.281.6}{0.01816} \text{ V/m}$

$$\vec{E} = 15.506 \text{ kV/m}$$

Magnetic field :=  $\frac{\sqrt{V_d}}{WB_{max}} = 5 \sqrt{\frac{e}{M} \frac{1}{0.03(e^{1.3}-1)}}$

$$\vec{B}_{max} = 0.011658 \text{ T}$$

$$= 11.658 \text{ mT}$$

$$= 116.58 \text{ G}$$

=

## Larmor Radius Verification:

$$\text{Ion Larmor Radius} = \frac{m}{eB} \left( \frac{E}{B} \right) = 155.45 \text{ m} \gg w (3\text{cm})$$

$$\text{Electron Larmor Radius} = \frac{m}{eB} \left( \frac{E}{B} \right) = 0.649 \text{ mm} \ll w (3\text{cm})$$

Power balance and efficiency.

$$P_d = P_b + P_w + P_a + P_r + P_{ion}$$

↑      ↑      ↑      ↑      ↙      ↘  
 discharge power   beam power   Power due to charged walls   Power to anode   Radiative power loss  
 ↓      ↓      ↓      ↓      ↗      ↗  
 (due to ion/electron loss)   (due to electron collection)  
 useful power.   comming out.  
 ↑      ↑  
 highest among all  
 the powers.

Power to produce ions  
 ↑  
 not much  
 some time ignored.

using  $\rightarrow$  Current ion efficiency.

## Beam Power ( $P_b$ )

$$P_b = I_b V_b$$

$$1386.59 \text{ W}$$

## Power to channel walls ( $P_w$ )

$$P_w = I_{iw} \left\{ \left( \frac{m}{2\pi m} \right)^k e^{\phi_s/kT_e} \left( \frac{2kT_e}{e} \right) + (\mathcal{E} - \phi_s) \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \phi_s = -1.02 \text{ TeV}, \mathcal{E} = 0.58 \text{ TeV} \right\}$$

$$P_w = 673.55 \text{ W}$$

ion impact is very less than electron impact.

## Power to Anode ( $P_a$ )

$$P_a = 2 \text{ TeV } I_m \cong 2 \text{ TeV } I_d = \underline{754.6 \text{ W}}$$

Current to anode  $\sim$  Discharge Current

$$V_b = 330 \text{ V}$$

$$V_b = V_d - V_c$$

$$I_b = 4.2018 \text{ A}$$

$$I_d = I_{ib} + I_{ec}$$

voltage efficiency

ideal range

$$\eta_v = \frac{330}{350} = 0.942 \leftarrow (0.95)$$

$$\eta_i = \frac{V_b}{V_d}$$

$$\eta_b = \frac{I_b}{I_d} = 0.682$$

current efficiency

(0.6 - 0.8)

Radiative Power loss ( $P_R$ )

$$P_R = n_o n_e \sigma_* V_e > V$$

Power to produce ions  $P_{ion}$

$$P_{ion} = (I_b + I_{iw}) V_f \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{ionization potential of} \\ \text{propellant gas} \end{array}$$

$$(4.2018 + 0.538) \times 5100 \times V_b$$

$$\underline{P_{ion} = 78.21 \text{ W}}$$

$$P_d = P_G + P_w + P_a + P_R + P_{ion}$$

$$2156.7 = 1386.59 + 473.55 + 154.6 + \underline{\quad} + 78.21$$

Secondary electron yield Scaling

$$Y = M(2+b)aT_e^b$$

For boron nitride (BN)

$$a = 0.150$$

$$b = 0.549$$

$$P(2+b) = 1.38$$

For ion and Hall thrusters, ions are accelerated to high exhaust velocity using electrical power source. The velocity of ions greatly exceeds that of any unionized propellant that may escape from thrust, so thrust can be described as

$$T = \frac{dm_p}{dt} V_{ex} \approx \dot{m}_i v_i$$

↓  
ion mass flow rate  
↓  
ion velocity.

$$v_i = \sqrt{\frac{2qV_b}{M}}$$

↑ net voltage through which ion was accelerated  
↓ ion Mass

$$\dot{m}_i = \frac{I_b M}{q}$$

Substituting above EQ. , The Thrust for singly charged propellant

$$\therefore T = \sqrt{\frac{dm}{e}} \times I_b \times \sqrt{V_b} \quad (\text{Newtons}) \quad q = e$$

here If propellant is Xenon

$$\sqrt{\frac{dm}{e}} = 1.65 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\therefore T = 1.65 I_b \sqrt{V_b} \quad [\text{mN}]$$

$\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$   
In amperes      Volts .

Total Hall Thruster efficiency :

$$\eta_T = \frac{T^2}{2 m_p P_{in}}$$

$$\eta_T = \gamma^2 \eta_b \times \eta_v \times \eta_m \times \eta_o.$$

$\gamma$                    $\uparrow$                    $\uparrow$                    $\uparrow$                    $\uparrow$   
 secondary emission    discharge    discharge    mass    electrical  
 scaling                  current       voltage       utilization      utilization  
 efficiency              efficiency      efficiency      efficiency      efficiency

(gamma function)

$$\eta_m = \frac{\dot{m}_i}{\dot{m}_p} = \frac{\dot{m}_i}{\dot{m}_a + \dot{m}_c}$$

$$\dot{m}_i = \frac{M}{c} I_a \eta_b$$

$$\eta_o = \frac{P_d}{P_T} = \frac{P_d}{P_d + P_k + P_{mag.}}$$

$V_0$  = Neutral velocity, initial ion velocity.

$n_0$  = Neutral density; plasma density.

$n_0 = \text{Loschmidt's number (gas density at STP)} = 2.6868 \times 10^{25} \text{ m}^{-3}$

$A = \text{Cross section Area} = \pi r^2 \quad r = w$

$$P_w = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{8kT_e}{\pi m} \right)^{1/2} e n_0 A e^{\left( \frac{e\phi_s}{kT_e} \right)} \left( \frac{2kT_e}{e} \right) + n_0 e V_0 A (e - \phi_s)$$

$k$  = Wave number =  $2\pi/\lambda$

$\lambda$  = mean free path

$$\lambda = \frac{v_n}{n_e \langle \sigma_i v_e \rangle} \quad \text{Neutral gas atom Velocity.}$$

In Hall Themosistor electron temperature is about  $\frac{1}{10}$ th the beam voltage.

$$T_{eV} = \frac{1}{10} \times V_b$$

Calculating efficiency:

$$\eta_T = (\gamma)^2 \times \eta_e \times \eta_m$$

$\downarrow$  electrical efficiency  
 $\downarrow$  mass utilization efficiency

$$= \gamma^2 \times \frac{I_b V_b}{P_d} \times \frac{\dot{m}_i}{\dot{m}_p}$$

$$P_a = 2 T_{eV} I_a$$

$$P_{ion} = (I_b + I_{ion}) U^+$$

$$= (1 + \eta_b) I_b U^+$$

$$P_d = P_b + P_w + P_a + P_{ion}$$

$$= I_b V_b + 0.49 I_b V_b + 2 \eta_b I_b (0.01 V_b) +$$

ionization potential  
is roughly 5% of beam  
Voltage.

## Innovative areas:

- \* Channel Walls
- \* Rather than  $Xe^+$ , going for  $Xe^{2+}$   
Hollow Cathode placement

Material Selection for channel walls.