



# การประยุกต์ Plasma Thruster ทางเลือกการขับเคลื่อนดาวเทียมเอนโดวงจันทร์

ดร.อาหลิ ตำหมั่น

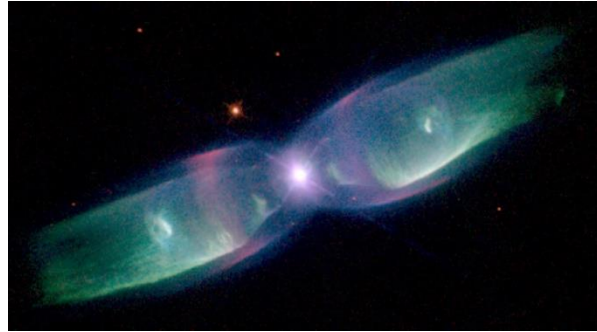
นักวิทยาศาสตร์นิวเคลียร์ชำนาญการ



ศูนย์วิศวกรรมและเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์ชั้นสูง  
สถาบันเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์แห่งชาติ (องค์การมหาชน)

# Plasmas as Energetic Particle Source

## Natural plasmas

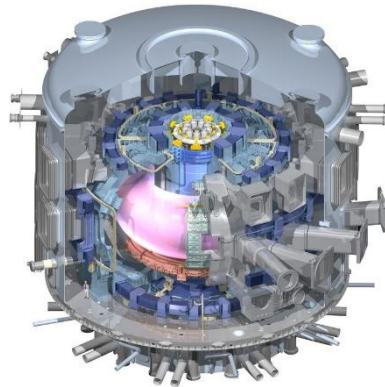


Space Plasmas

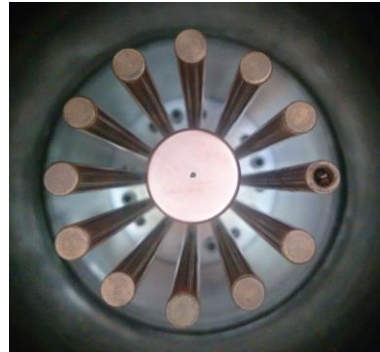
## Laboratory Plasma



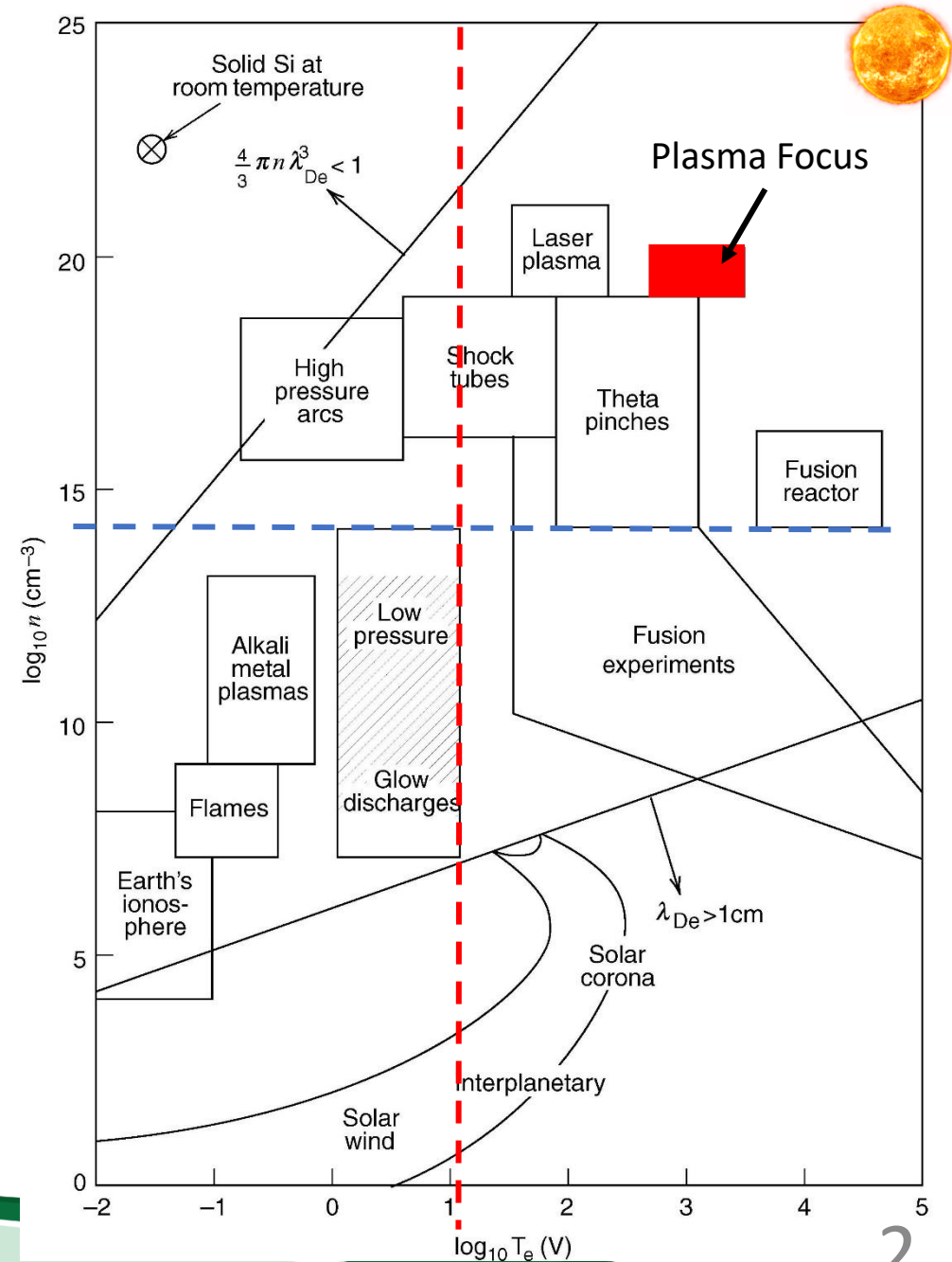
Low Pressure  
(Processing Plasmas)



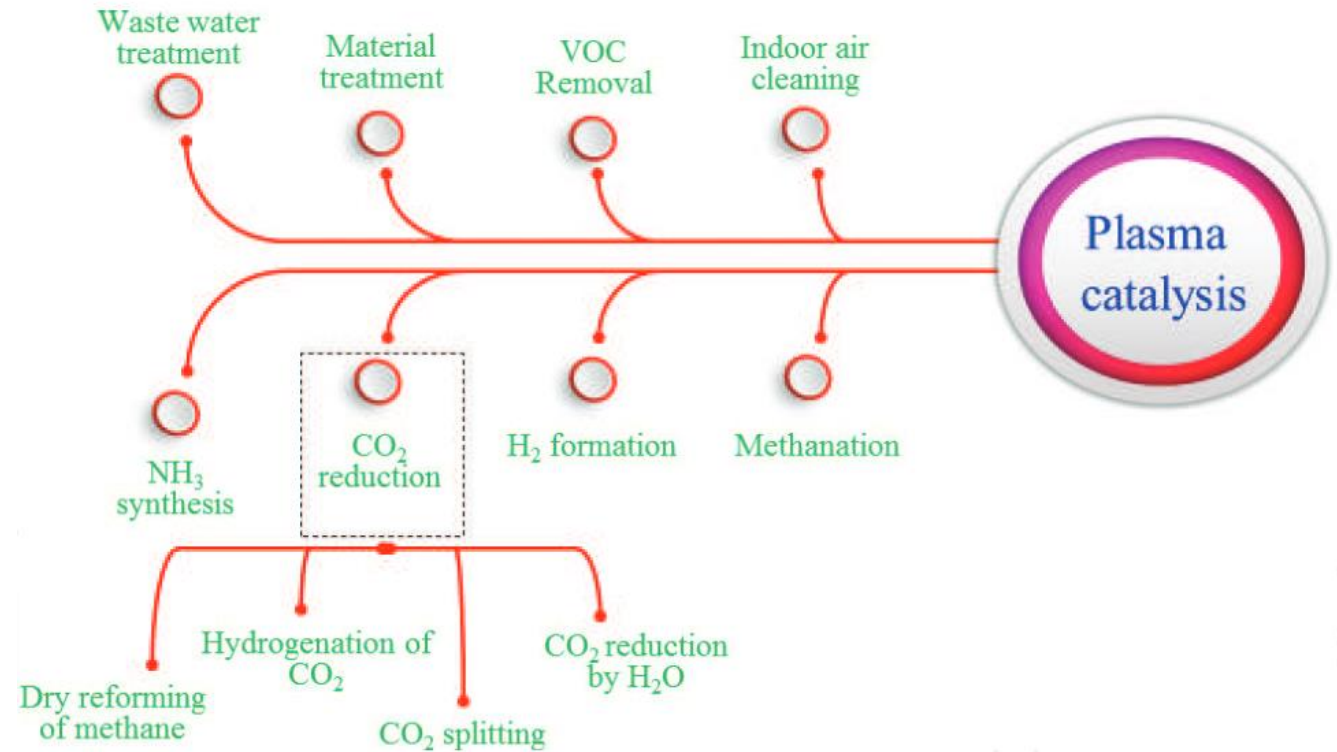
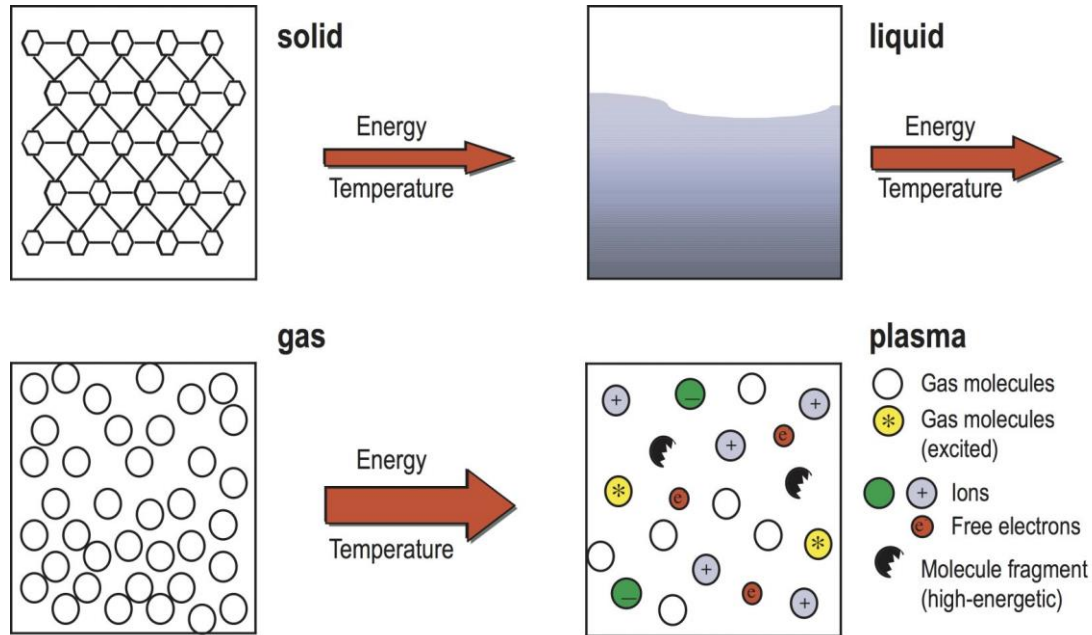
Fusion Reactor



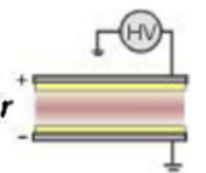
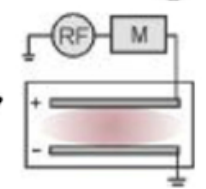

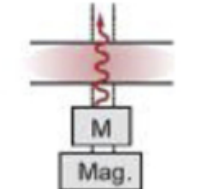

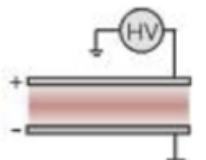
Plasma Focus



# Plasma, 4<sup>th</sup> state of matter

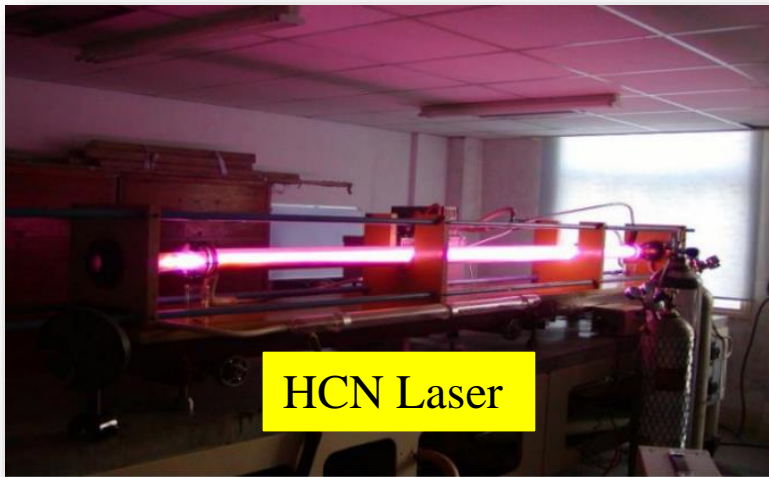


# Plasma Source

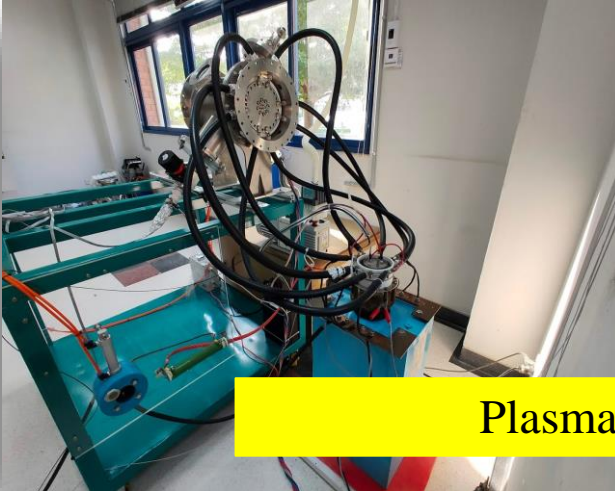
Discharge type	P (mbar)	$N_e(\text{cm}^{-3})$	$T_e(\text{eV})$	$T_{\text{gas}}(\text{K})$
<b>Dielectric barrier</b> 	Atm.	$10^{12} - 10^{15}$	2-10	300-500
<b>Radiofrequency</b> 	$10^{-3} - \text{atm.}$	$10^{12} - 10^{15}$	1-5	300-500
<b>Gliding arc</b> 	atm. :	$10^{11} - 10^{15}$	0.5-3	600-3500
<b>Microwave</b> 	$10^{-5} - \text{atm.}$	$10^{10} - 10^{15}$	1-3	300-6000
<b>Glow</b> 	$10^{-5} - \text{atm.}$	$10^9 - 10^{12}$	0.5-11	300-1000
<b>Corona</b> 	atm.	$10^8 - 10^{14}$	2-10	300-800



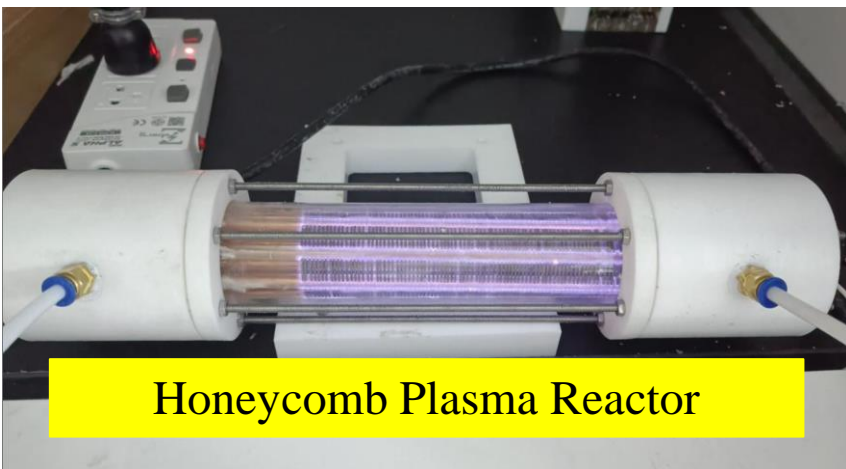
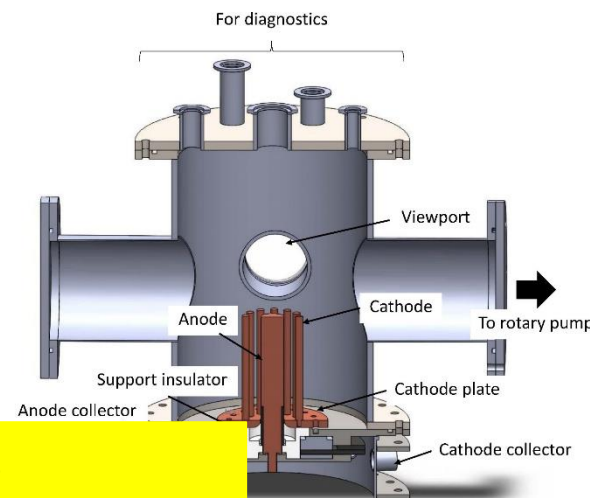
# Plasma Source



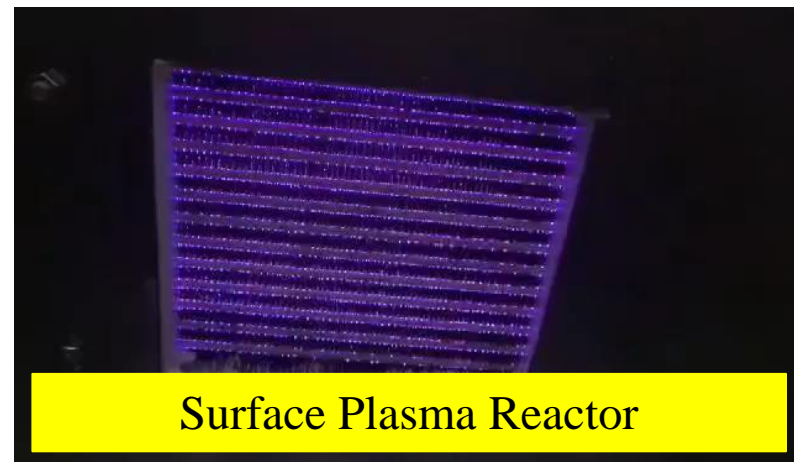
HCN Laser



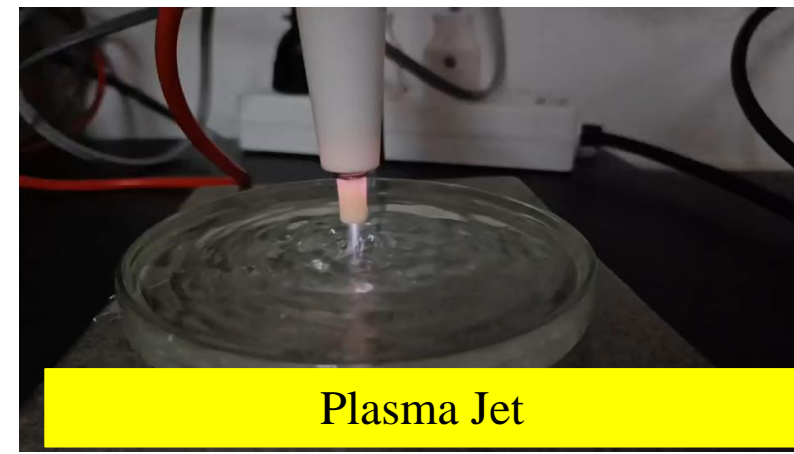
Plasma Focus



Honeycomb Plasma Reactor



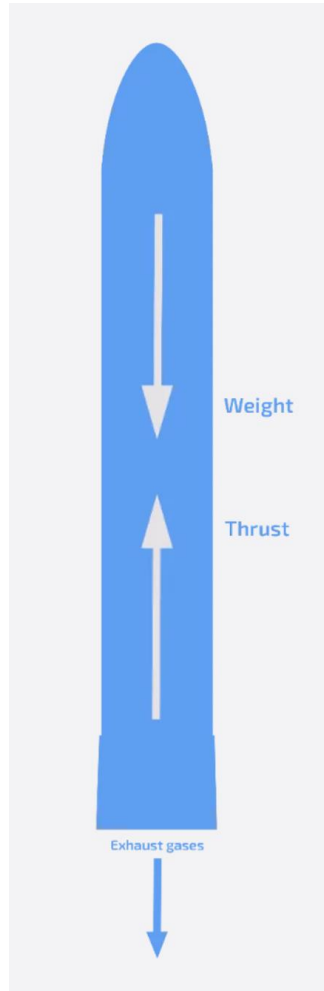
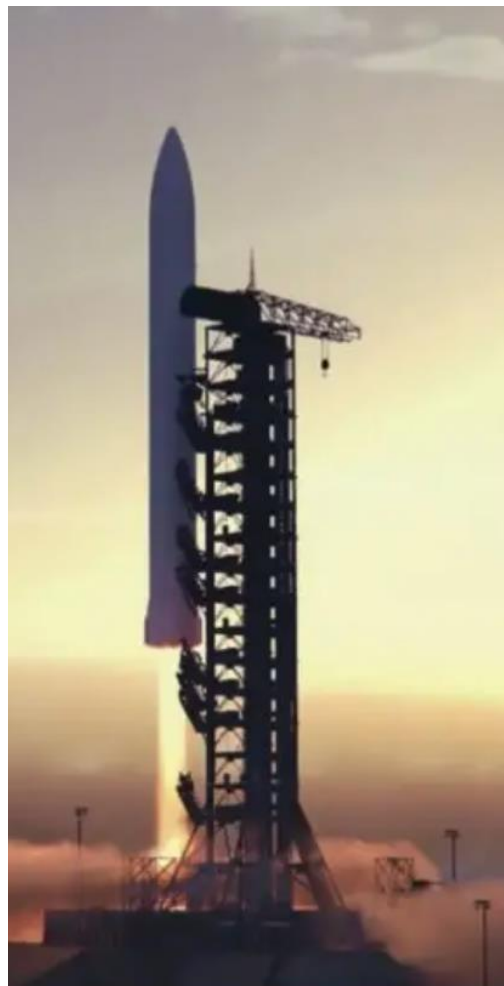
Surface Plasma Reactor



Plasma Jet



# Thruster

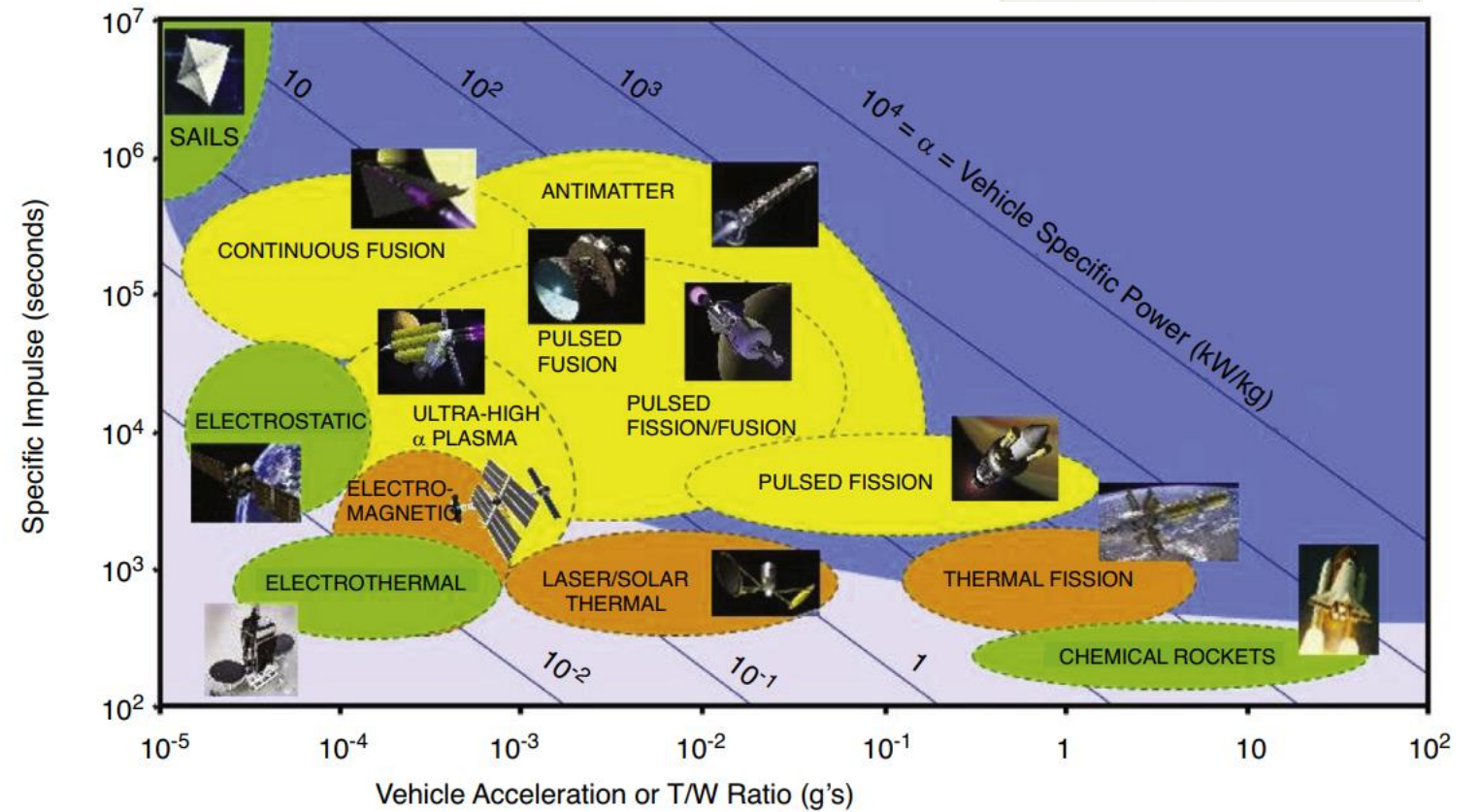


$$I = F * \Delta t$$

Impulse = Thrust \* Total time of Firing

$$I_{sp} = \frac{F}{\dot{m} * g}$$

Specific Impulse =  $\frac{\text{Total Impulse}}{\text{Weight}}$



● Unproven Technology (TRL 1-3)   
 ● Demonstrated Technology (TRL 4-6)   
 ● Operational Systems (TRL 7-9)

Fig. 3.4 Space propulsion system performance for a variety of concepts (courtesy NASA).



# Ion Thruster

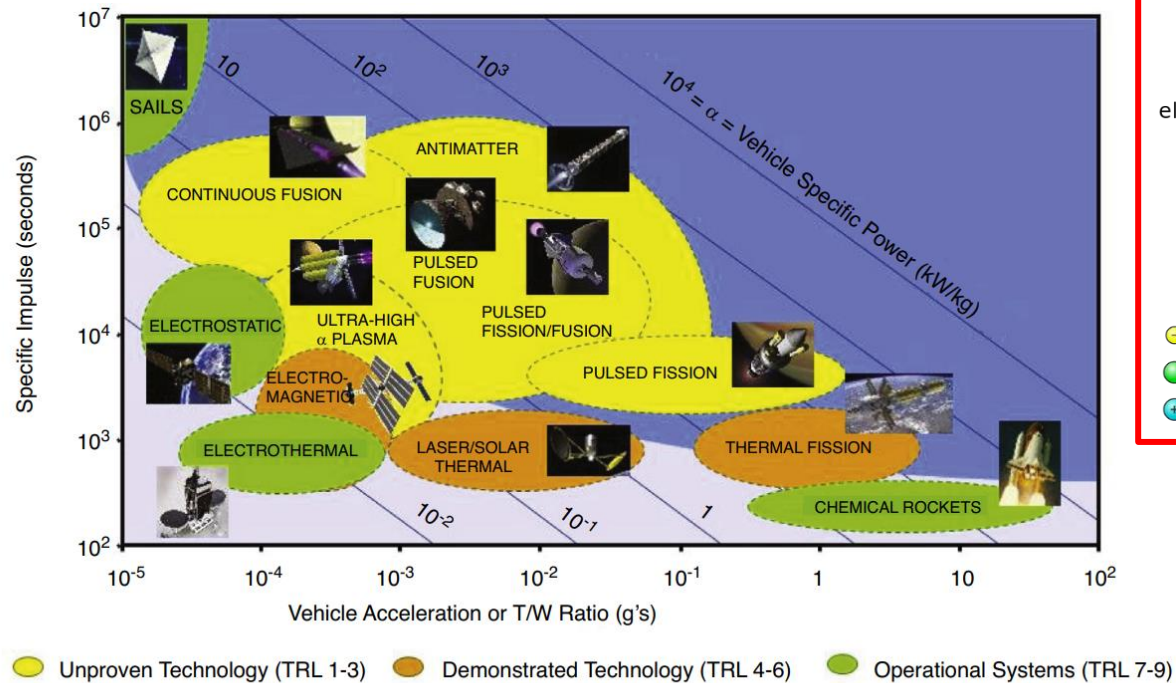


Fig. 3.4 Space propulsion system performance for a variety of concepts (courtesy NASA).

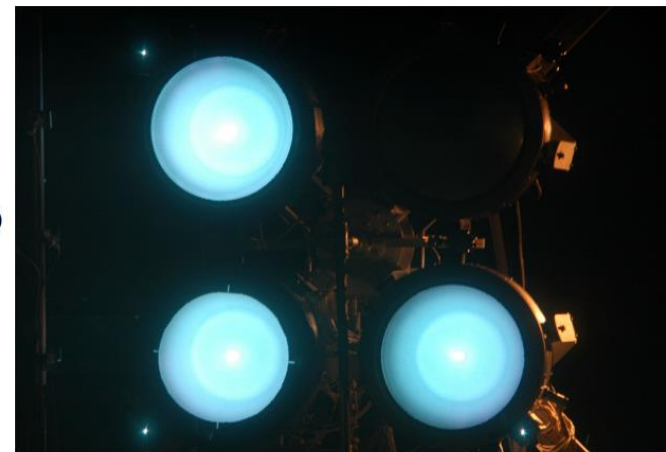
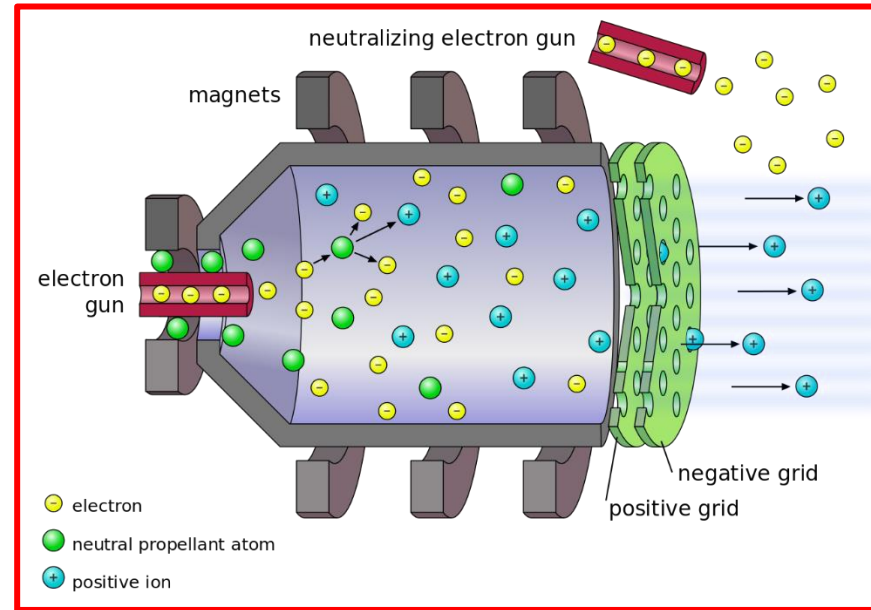


Figure 7.—Three NEXT EM Thrusters at full power in Multi-Thruster Array Test at NASA GRC.

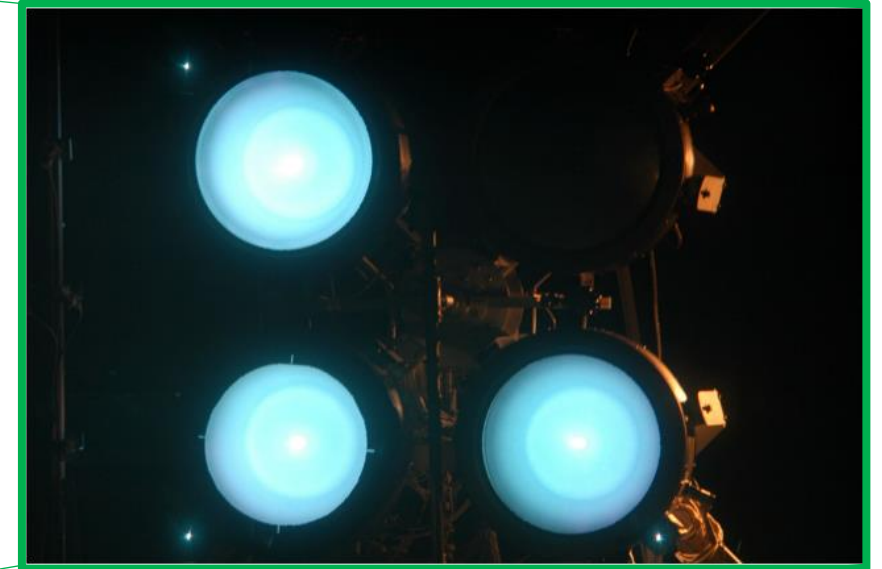
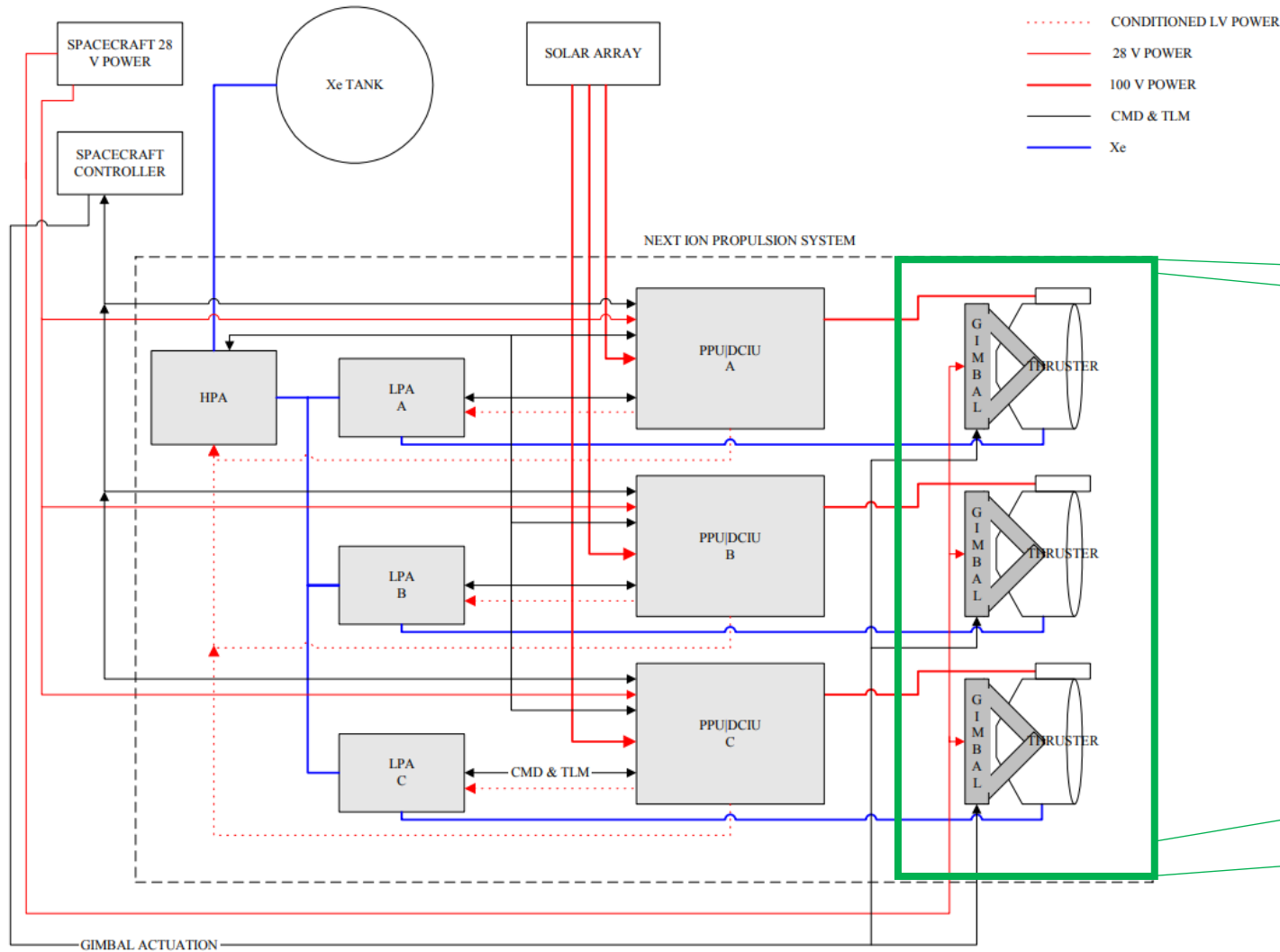
System Input Power Range, kW	0.6 – 7.4
Thrust, mN	25-235
Maximum Specific Impulse, s	4220
Maximum Thruster Efficiency	70%
Maximum PPU Efficiency	94%
Maximum Beam Current, A	3.52
Maximum Beam Voltage, V	1800
Thruster Mass (with harness), kg	<14
PPU Mass, kg	<36



ศูนย์ความเป็นด้านวิศวกรรมและเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์  
สถาบันเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์แห่งชาติ (องค์การมหาชน)

NEXT Ion Propulsion System Development Status and Capabilities, NASA/TM—2008-214988

# Ion Thruster: NEXT Ion Propulsion System

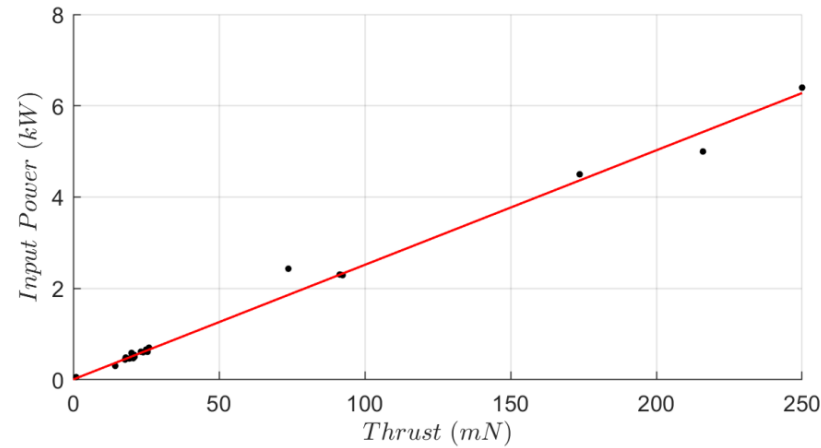


ศูนย์ความเป็นด้านวิศวกรรมและเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์  
สถาบันเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์แห่งชาติ (องค์การมหาชน)

NEXT Ion Propulsion System Development Status and Capabilities, NASA/TM—2008-214988



# Ion Thruster, Thrust : 2 mN at very low power(100 W)



	NSTAR (Throttle Level 15) [23]	XIPS-13 cm (Nominal Operating Condition) [24]	XIPS-25 cm (Mission Level 1) [25]	XIPS-25 cm (Mission Level 2) [25]	XIPS-25 cm (Mission Level 3) [25]	ETS-8 [33]
$T$ (mN)	92.4	17.8	92.0	79.9	61.8	23.0
$P_{in}$ (kW)	2.29	0.44	2.30	2.00	1.60	0.58
$I_{sp}$ (s)	3120	2585	3383	3320	3242	2640
$\eta_T$	0.62	0.51	0.65	0.64	0.62	0.58
$\eta_m$	0.78					
$\eta_e$	0.84					
$V_b$ (V)	1100	751	1215	1215	1215	1003
$I_b$ (A)	1.76	0.40	1.66	1.44	1.11	0.47
$V_T$ (V)	1280	1050	1495	1495	1495	1500
$ V_{acc} $ (V)	180	299	280	280	280	473
$\dot{m}_p$ (mg/s)	3.02	0.70	2.78	2.46	1.95	0.89
$ B_{cusp} $ (G)	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
$ B_t $ (G)	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available

## Preliminary Design for 2 mN Thruster

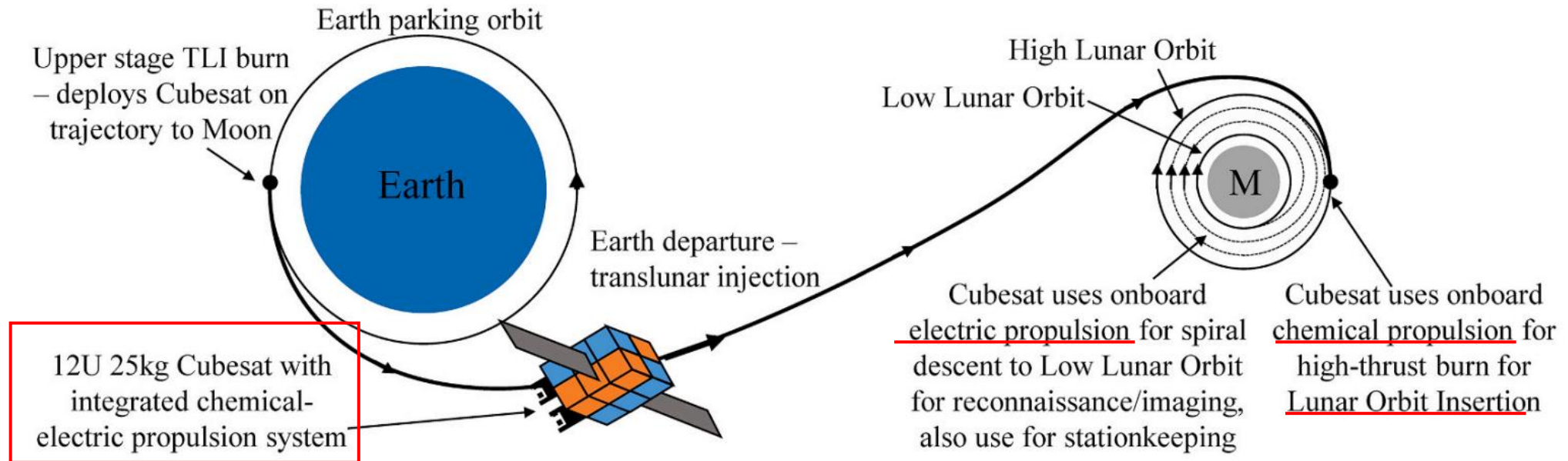
- Fulfill the requirements of
- **LUMIO**: CubeSat mission orbiting in the Earth–Moon region
  - **M-ARGO**: Deep-space CubeSat mission

Parameter	Value
Thrust (mN)	2
Input power (W)	54
Specific impulse (s)	1771
Total efficiency	0.32
Electrical efficiency	0.72
Mass utilization efficiency	0.50
Discharge voltage (V)	28
Discharge loss (W/A)	361
Total voltage between grids (V)	1159
Accel grid potential (V)	-232
Propellant mass flow rate (mg/s)	0.12

Parameter	Value
Discharge chamber diameter (mm)	50
Discharge chamber length (mm)	50
Grids material	Molybdenum
Screen-grid thickness (mm)	0.38
Screen-grid holes diameter (mm)	1.91
Accel-grid thickness (mm)	0.51
Accel-grid holes diameter (mm)	1.14
Distance between grids (mm)	0.66
Number of holes	433
Number of injectors	2
Injector internal diameter (mm)	0.83
Total weight without cathodes (kg)	0.301



# Multimode space propulsion



# Multimode space propulsion

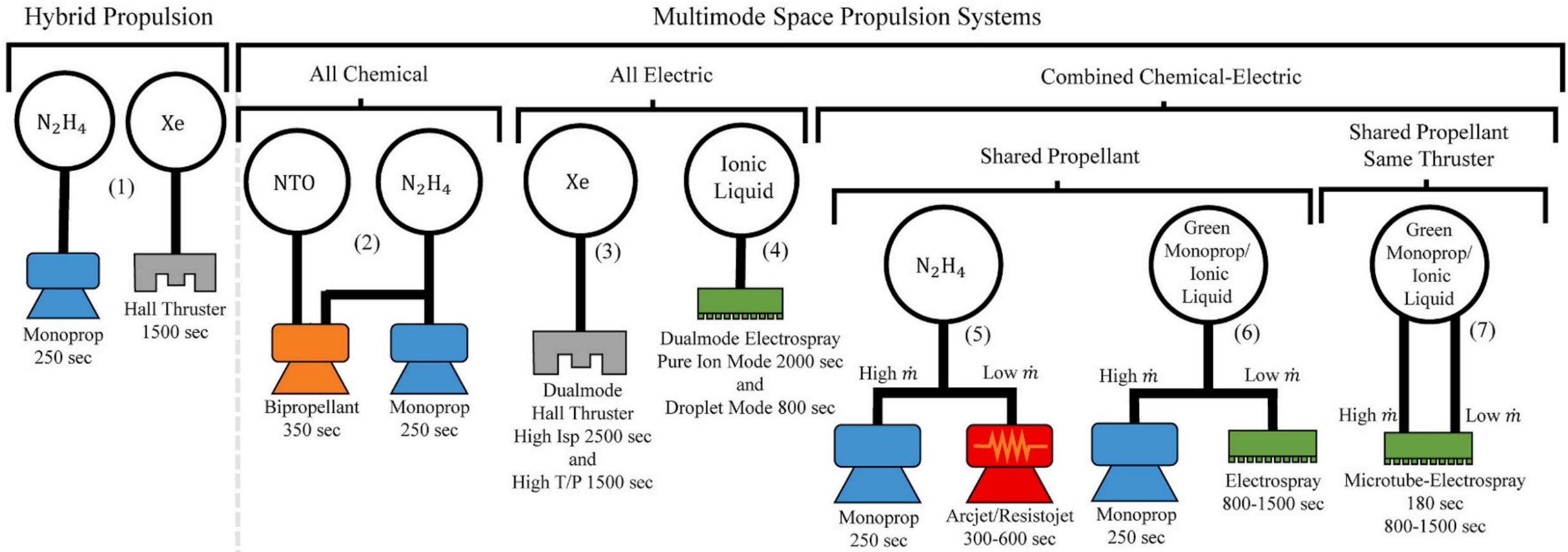
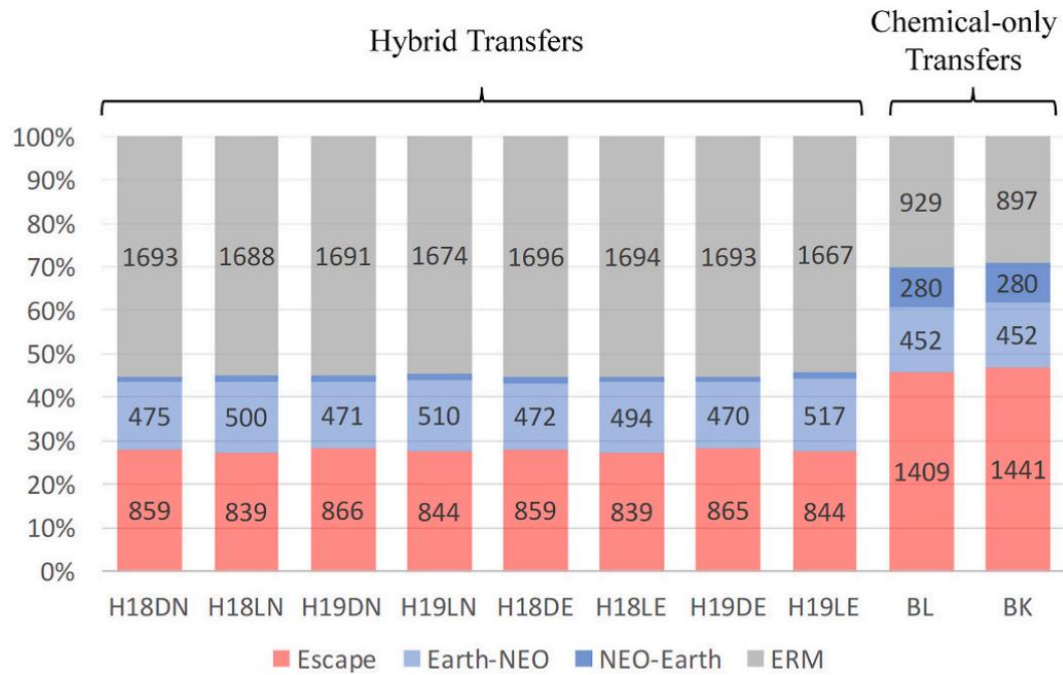


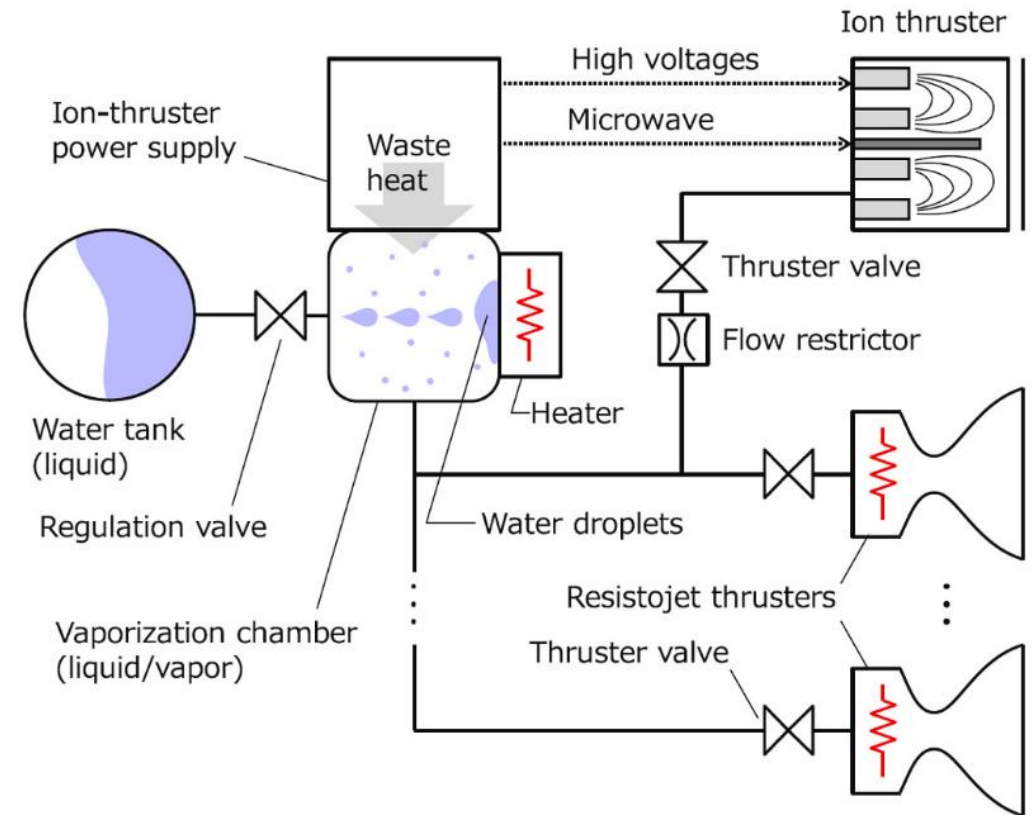
Fig. 1. Illustration of hybrid propulsion and multimode space propulsion.



# Multimode space propulsion



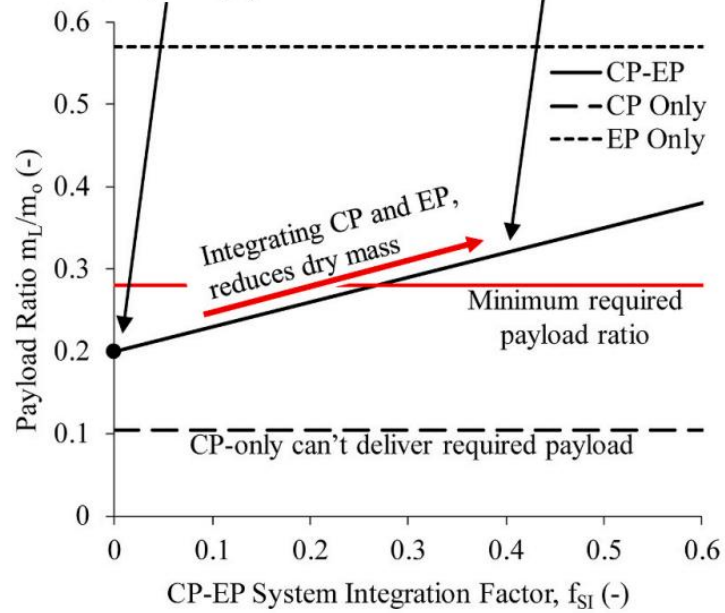
**Fig. 4.** Mass breakdown for hybrid and chemical-only transfers from Earth to a NEO asteroid [55]. Reproduced with permission.



**Fig. 2.** Schematic of water-unified resistojet-ion thruster propulsion system [38]. Reproduced with permission.

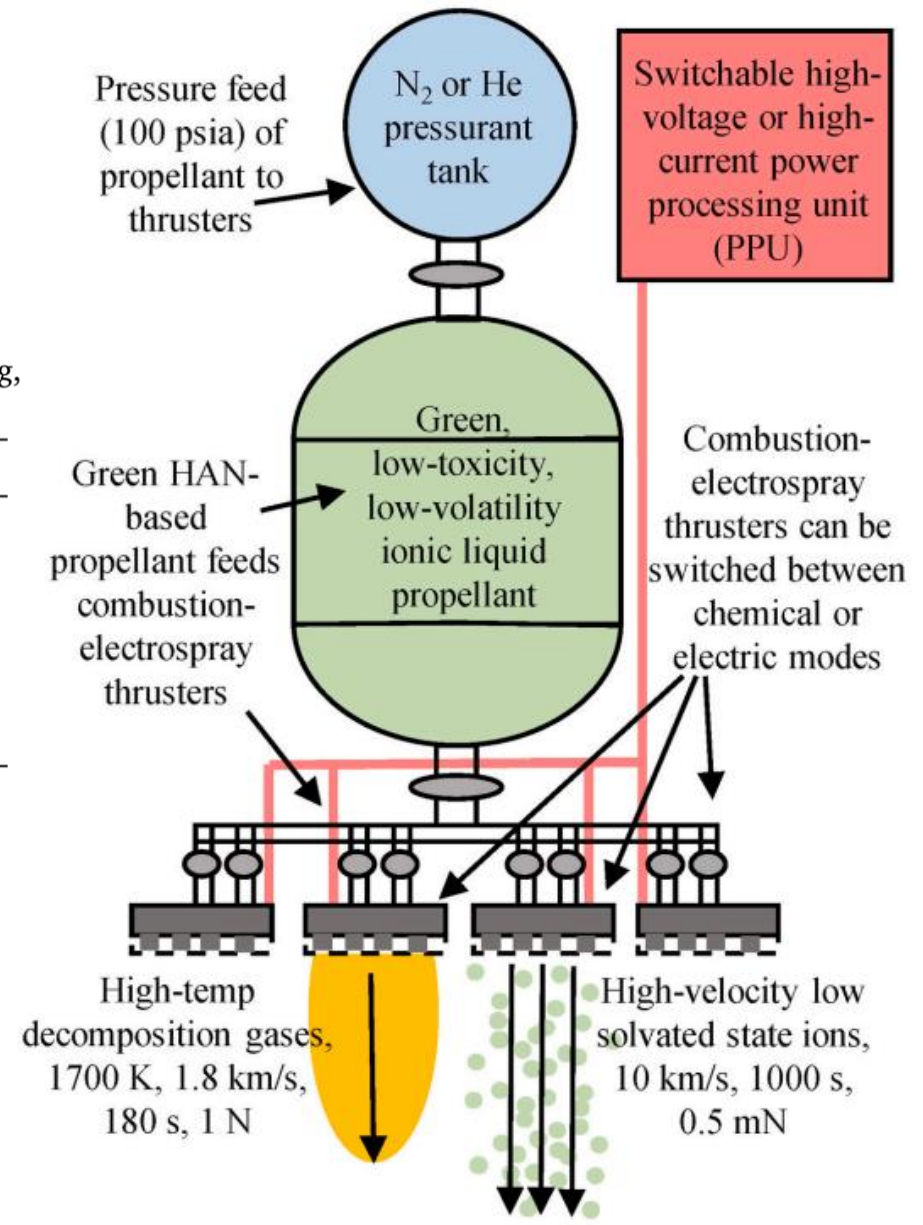
# Multimode space propulsion

- Completely separate CP and EP systems onboard the CubeSat cannot deliver required payload
- Reduced dry mass with system integration
  - CP for Lunar Orbit Insertion
  - EP for Lunar Orbit Descent, Station-Keeping



Assumed performance of propulsion systems for a 25 kg, 12U CubeSat lunar mission.

	Chemical Propulsion	Electric Propulsion
Thrust	8 N (1.8 lbf)	4 mN
$I_{sp}$ (s)	200	1000
$\dot{m}$	4.1 g/s	0.41 mg/s
$\eta$ (%)	-	50
P (W)	20 (preheat)	40
$\frac{m_{dryprop}}{m_o}$	0.26	0.25



# MEMS-based Propellant Technology

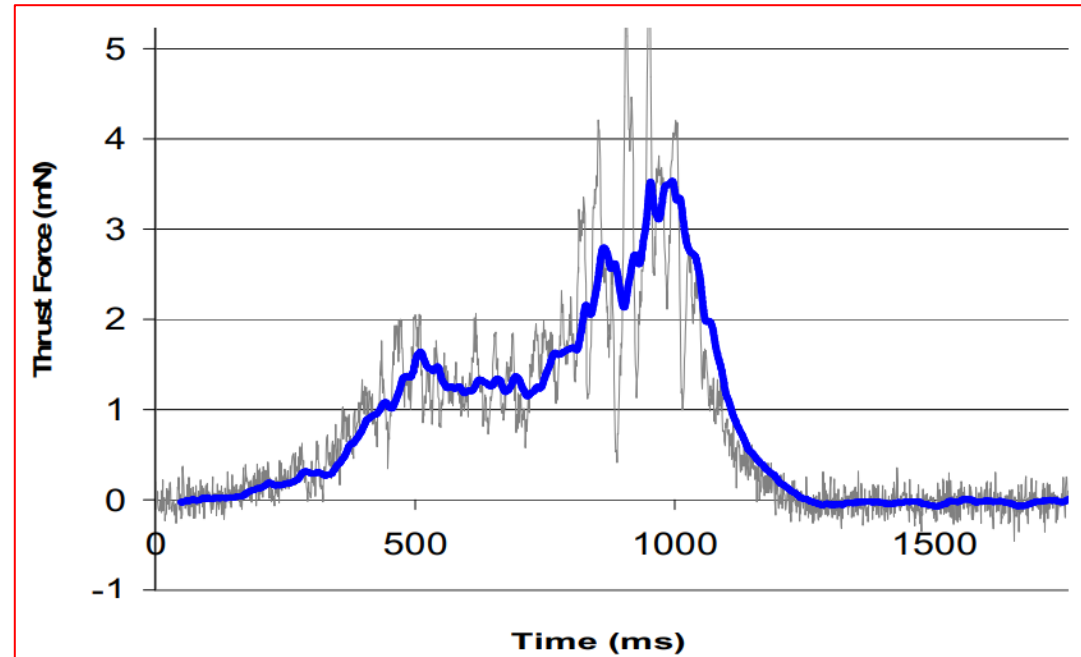
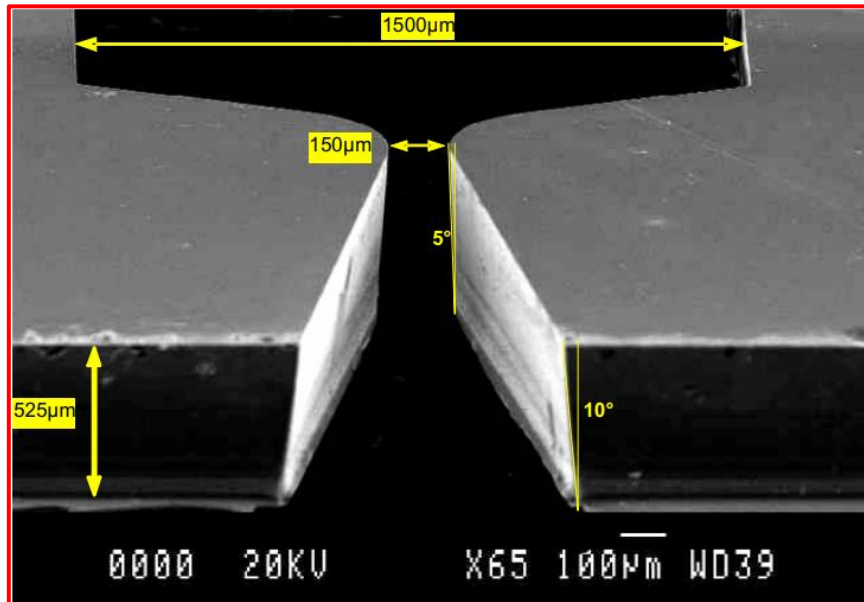
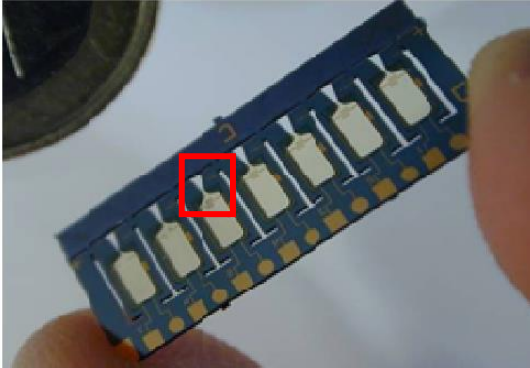
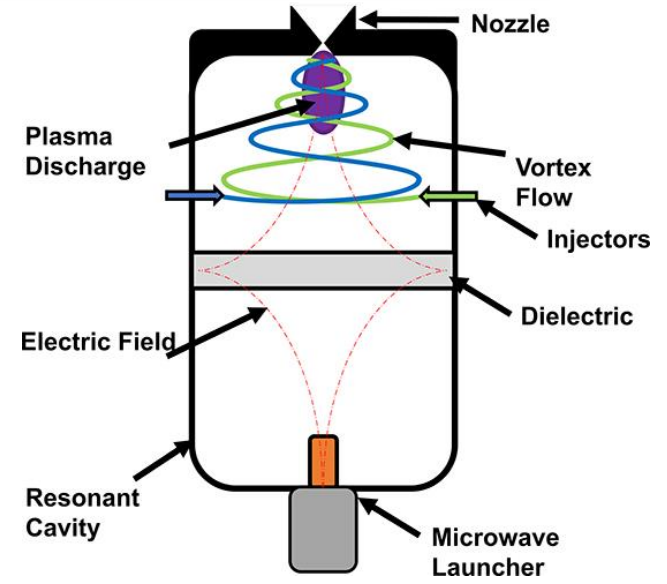
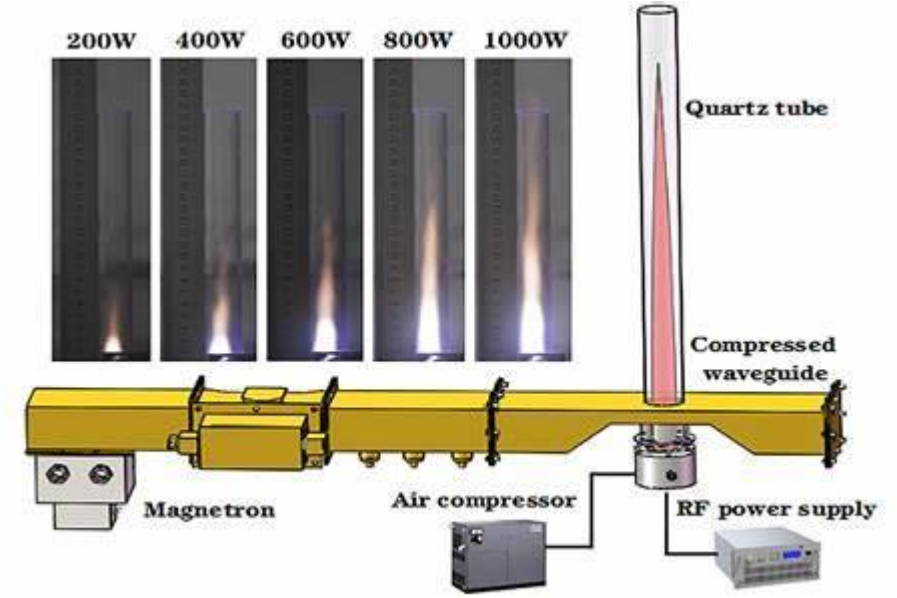
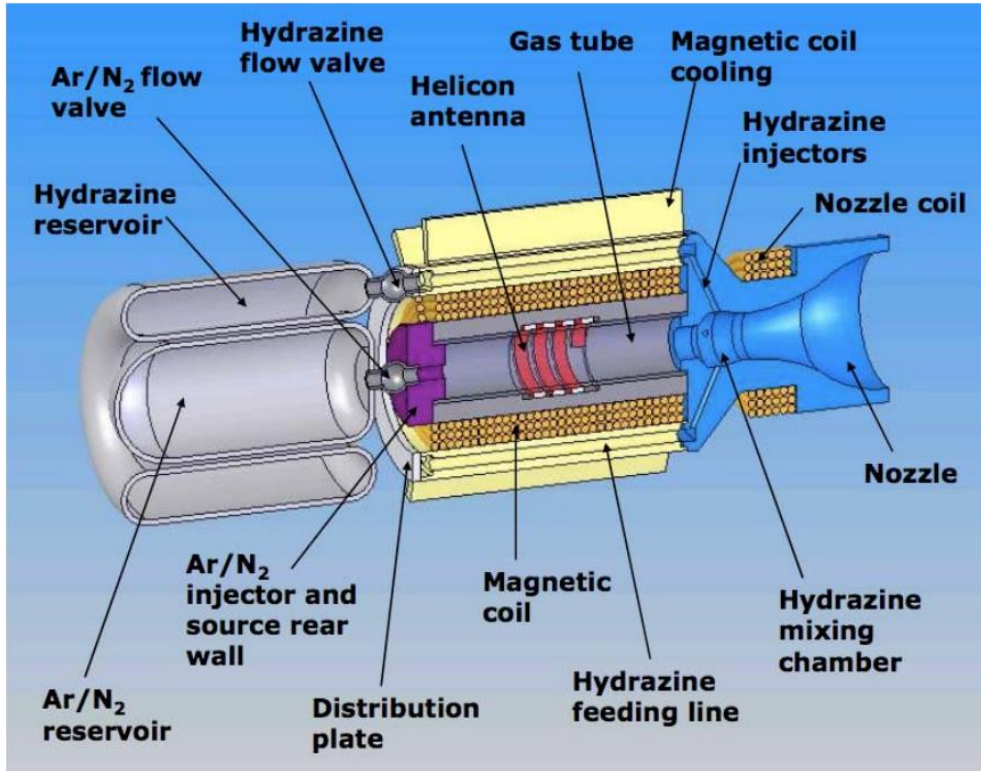


Figure 9. Thrust force vs. Time for thruster of  $W_t=100\mu\text{m}$ , loaded of (SD+30%PN) propellant.



# Plasma Thruster



Plasma Sources and Applications Centre/Space Propulsion Centre, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

## Vacuum facilities



Space Environment Simulation Chamber



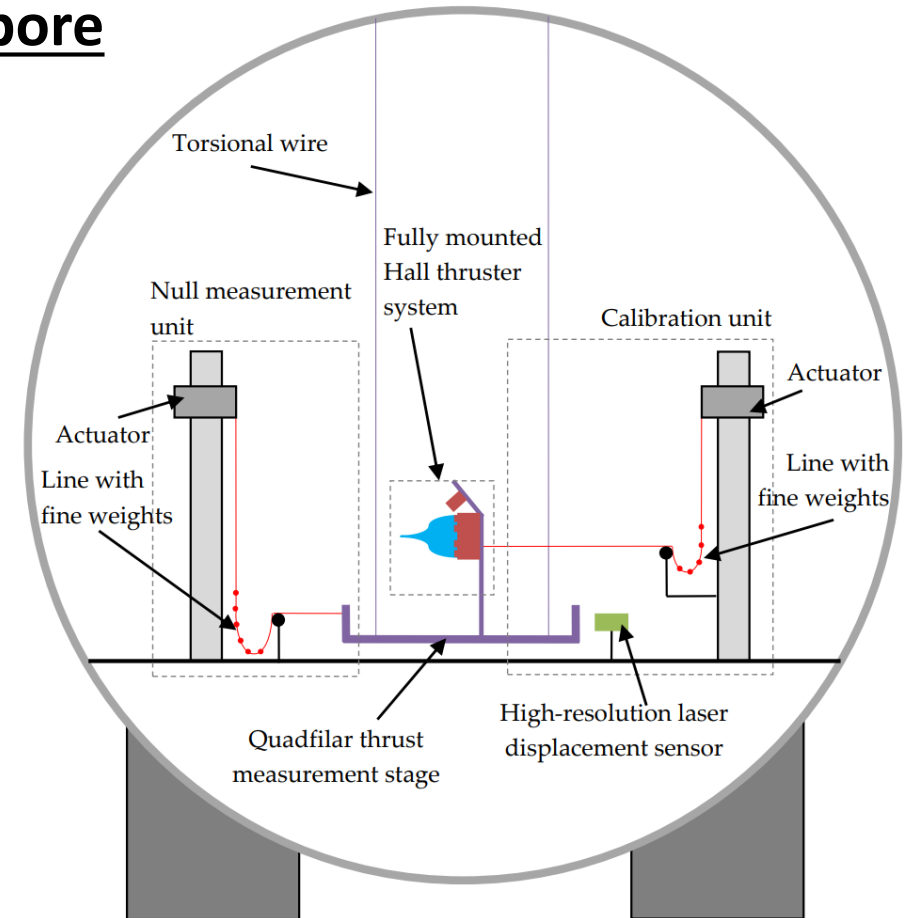
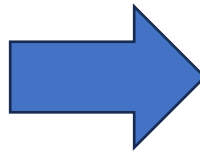
Cathode Experiments



Thruster Experiments

Plasma Sources and Applications Centre/Space Propulsion Centre, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

## Vacuum facilities



Quadfilair Measurement System



# Facility for Propulsion Research and Development

Plasma Sources and Applications Centre/Space Propulsion Centre, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



25 W



50 W

200 W



# Thank you



ศูนย์ความเป็นเลิศเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์ชั้นสูง  
สถาบันเทคโนโลยีนิวเคลียร์แห่งชาติ (องค์การมหาชน)

Review of multimode space propulsion, Progress in Aerospace Sciences Volume 118, October 2020, 100627