

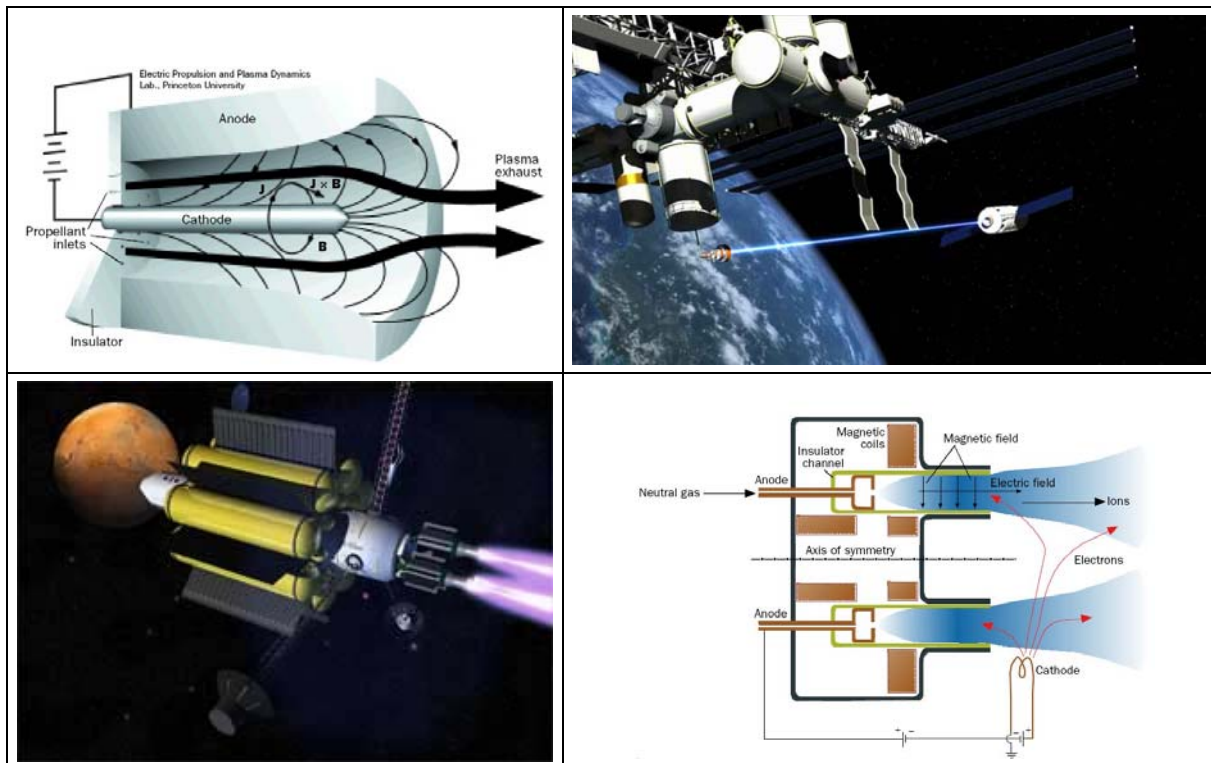
Physics Seminar

Wednesday 1/31/2007, 4:30pm
Willet Science Center 101

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Mercer University

A Review of Plasma Propulsion Methods



Current rocket technology primarily uses chemical reactions to launch spacecraft from the surface of the Earth. Once outside the Earth's atmosphere, chemical reactions are not the only means of propelling spacecraft. This talk will review various kinds of engines that rely on the manipulation of charged particles (i.e. plasmas) with electric and magnetic fields to propel spacecraft. Limitations and advantages of existing plasma engines will be discussed. The talk will conclude by examining various newly proposed mechanisms for propelling spacecraft using plasmas.

Please join us for light refreshments at 4:15pm outside WSC 109.