

# Plasma-Material Interactions Experiments & Modeling

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**UCLA**

*Plasma & Space  
Propulsion Lab*

## Status Quo:

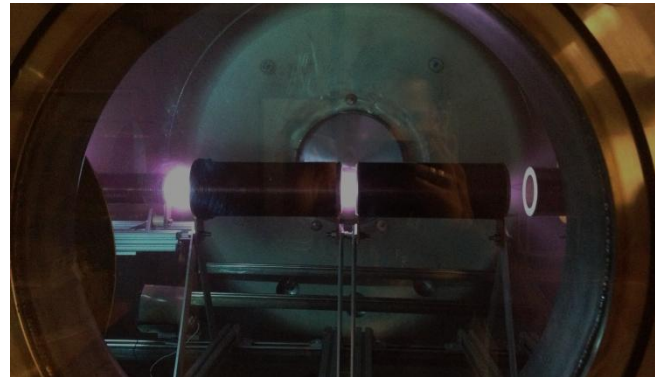
- Existing material options limit plasma thruster and high power device capabilities
- Plasma-material interactions for new material architectures require designated investigations

## Research Goals:

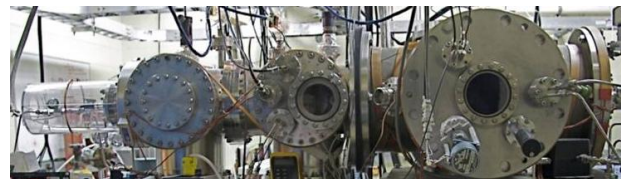
- Develop facilities specifically designed to examine plasma-material interactions for new material architectures
- Utilize a combined experimental/modeling approach to provide well-defined plasma information to sheath and material multi-scale models
- Develop precision experiment to investigate heavy particle induced electron emission

## Main Accomplishments:

- Developed a high power plasma source for designated plasma-material investigations



- Identified methods to improve facility, including auxiliary feed and key diagnostics
- Characterized a precision ion beam facility for investigating heavy particle induced electron emission



- Source improvement complete, beam conditioning and test article improvements underway

## Project Relationship:

<i>Quasineutral Plasma</i>	<i>Sheath</i>	<i>Material</i>
<b><u>Experiments</u></b>		
Pi	i-SEE	Material Analyses
	e-SEE	
	<b><u>Models</u></b>	
DC-ION	Sheath modeling	Material Modeling

## Key Publications:

- Wirz R. E., Patino M. I., Chu L. E., Mao H-S., Araki S. J., *Plasma Sources Sci. Technol.*, Submitted Jan 2013.
- Chu E., Goebel D., Wirz R., *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, accepted Nov 2012
- Araki J., Wirz R., *Journal of Applied Physics*, accepted for publication Oct 2012





- Introduction
- UCLA-Pi
  - Experimental Facilities
  - Modeling
- Heavy Particle Induced Electron Emission
  - Ion Beam Facility and Modeling
- Wrap-up

# Introduction



- Examine plasma-material interactions using combined experimental & modeling approach
- This presentation describes the “Pi” plasma source and related modeling (DC-ION)
- Also described are preliminary efforts towards ion induced SEE measurements

	<i>Quasineutral Plasma</i>	<i>Sheath</i>	<i>Material</i>
<u>Experiments</u>	Pi		Material Analyses
		i-SEE	
		e-SEE	
<u>Models</u>	DC-ION	Sheath modeling	Material Modeling

# UCLA Pi: Plasma-Material Interactions Facility

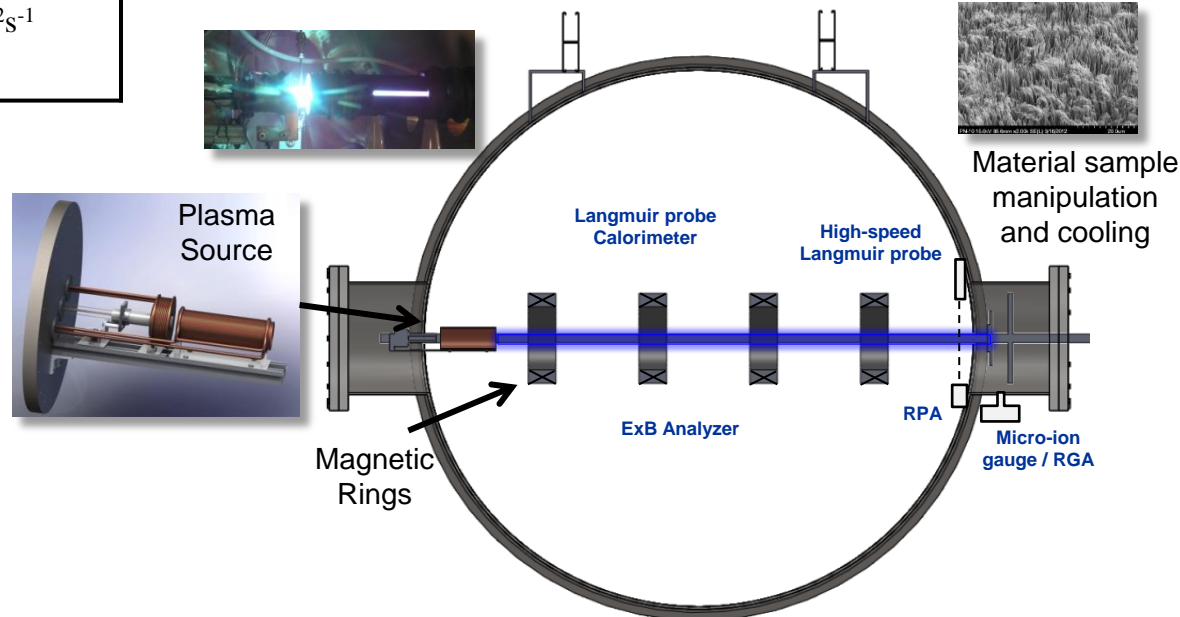
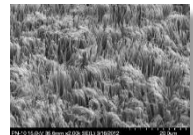
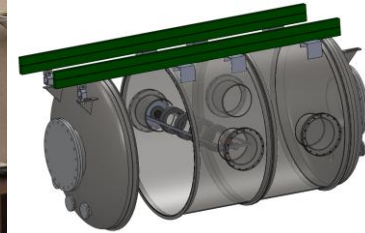
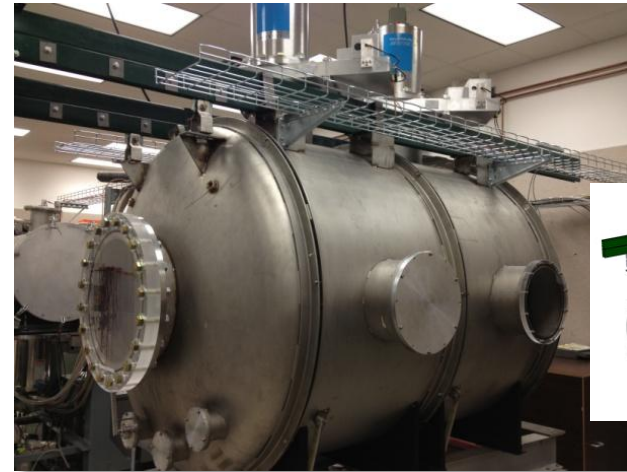


**Objective:** Examine the behavior of new materials for a wide range of plasma conditions

Parameter	Range
Plasma density	$\leq 1 \times 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$
Electron temperature	3 to 20 eV
Ion energy	10 to 300 eV
Ion flux to target	$10^{21}$ to $10^{23} \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
Target area	$\approx 5 \text{ cm}^2$

Plasma Diagnostic	Measurement
Micro-ion gauges	Neutral density
Langmuir/calorimeter	Density, $T_e$ , total ion energy, power flux
$E \times B$ analyzer	Species mix
RGA	Neutral species and impurity levels
RPA	Ion energies

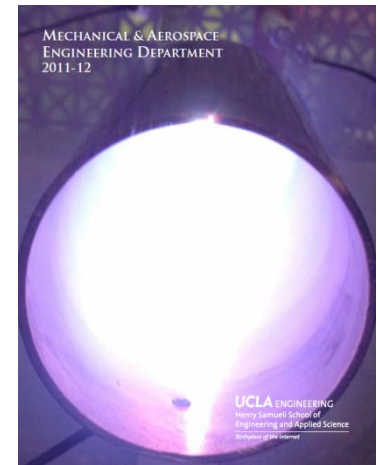
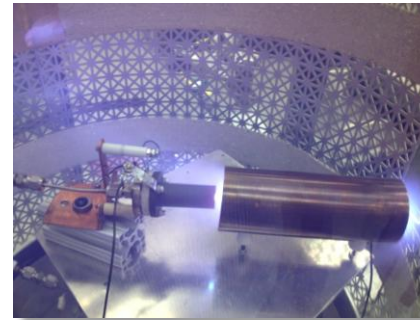
\*Target capabilities



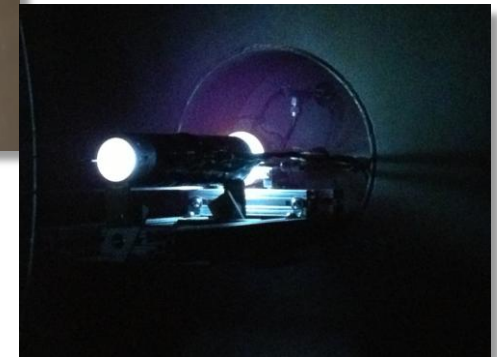
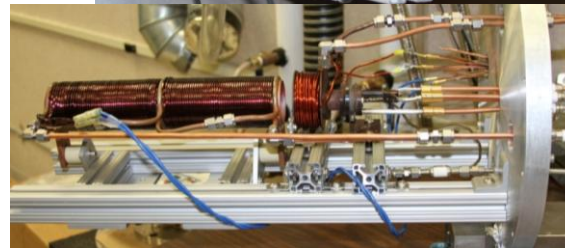
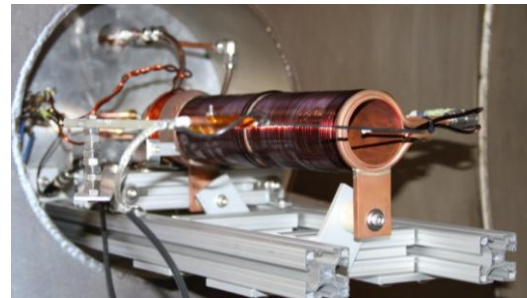
# Plasma Source Development



- Preliminary Cathode Tests
  - 100A hollow cathode
  - Tested in a bell jar vacuum
  - No magnetic confinement of plasma



- Pi Facility Installation
  - Cathode and anode coils
  - Low  $10^{-6}$  Torr operating pressure

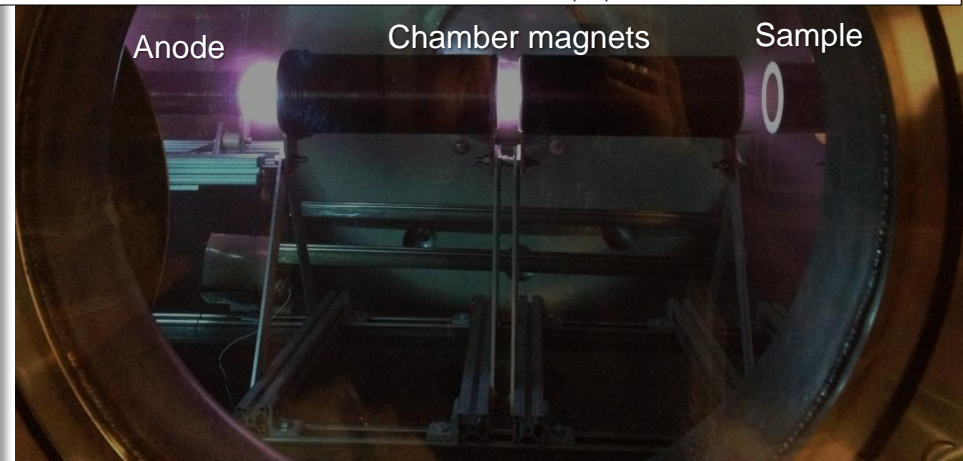
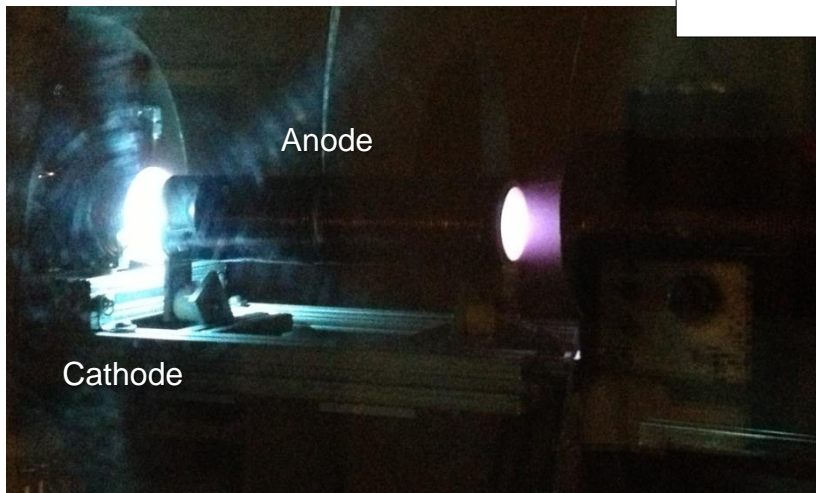
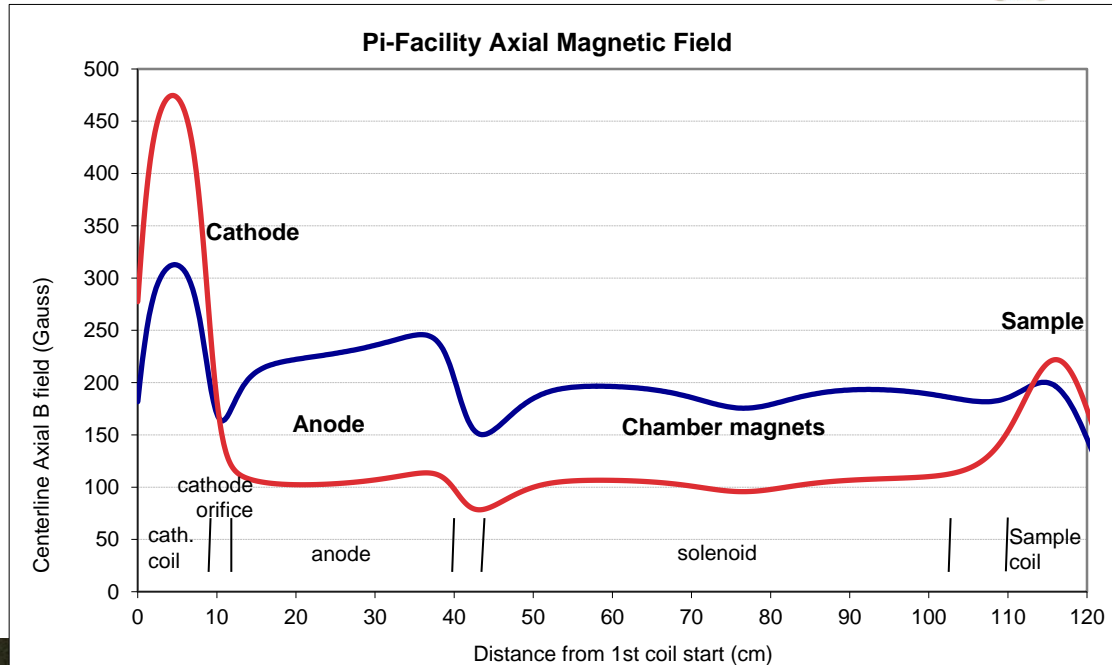




# Plasma Confinement



- Multiple stages of magnetic confinement
  - Strong cathode magnet for efficient plasma extraction
  - Weaker anode magnet weak enough for current collection
  - Downstream “chamber magnets” maintain ~1” diameter plasma beam across chamber (100-200 G)
  - Sample magnet chokes beam to sample size



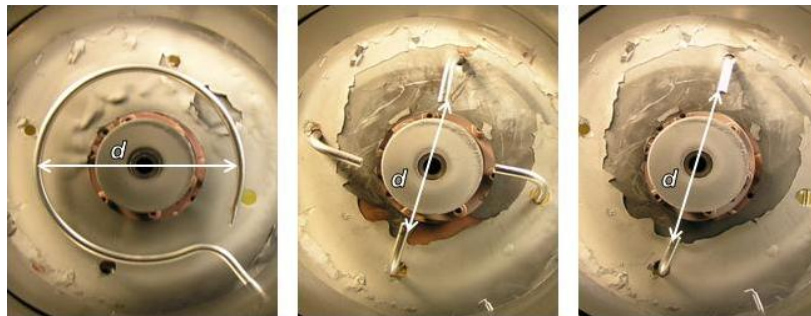
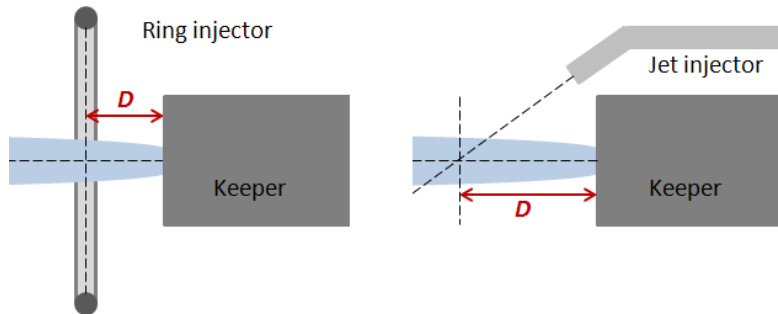
# Auxiliary cathode flow injection



## Objectives:

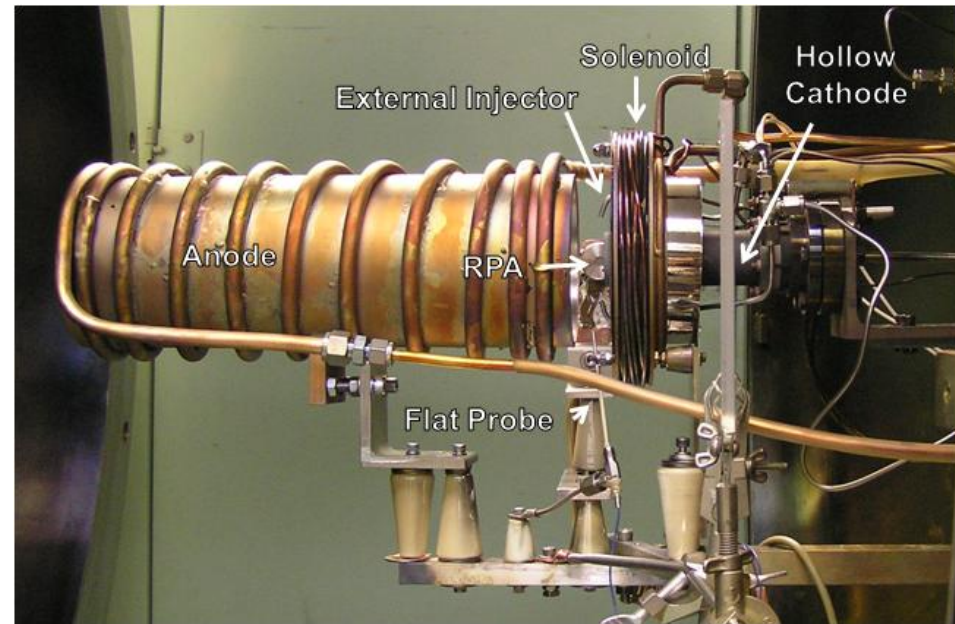
- Examine cathode discharge for auxiliary flow configurations
- Consider for improved plasma source

## Injection techniques:



## Experimental setup:

- 250 A LaB<sub>6</sub> cathode
- 0.8-m-dia. by 2-m-long water-cooled anode
- 10-cm-diameter solenoid coil
- Ion energy measurements via retarding potential analyzer





# Auxiliary cathode flow results



Consider external flow to reduce fluctuations and unwanted high energy ions

- Cathode results show clear reduction, especially at higher discharge currents[1]
- Fluctuation reductions shown for thruster and cathode discharges [2]

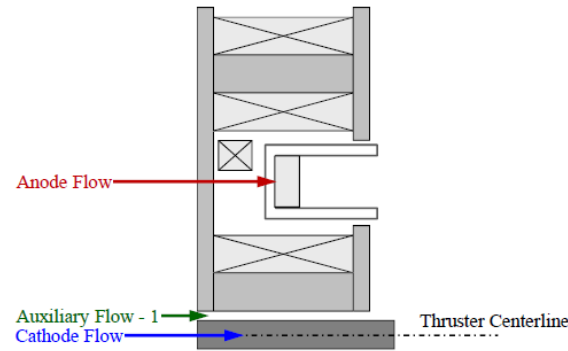


Figure 19. Schematic of the 6-kW laboratory model Hall thruster illustrating locations of propellant injection at the anode, cathode, and auxiliary port.

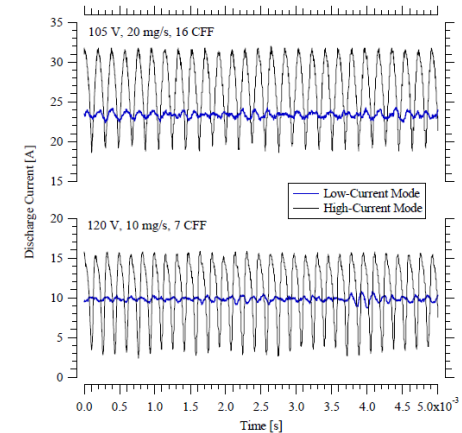
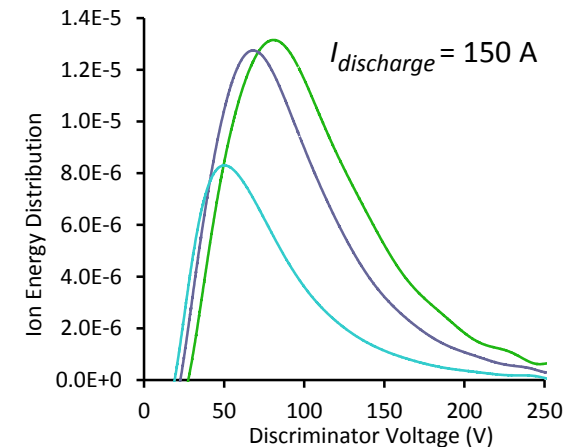
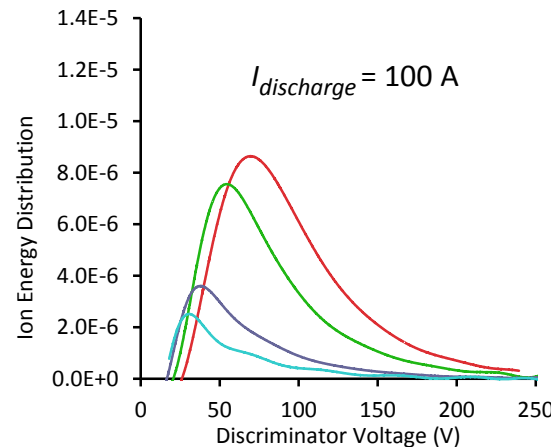
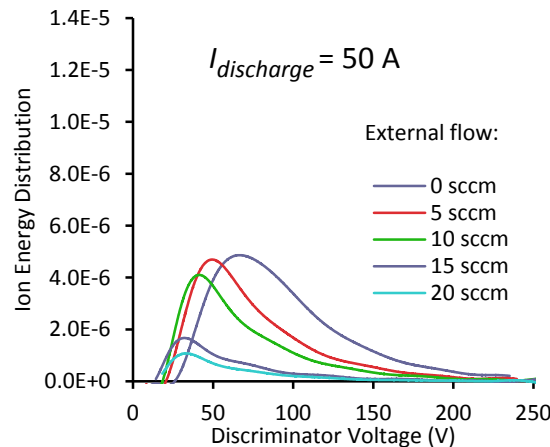


Figure 10. Comparison of discharge current oscillations in the low-current and high-current modes for 105-V, 20-mg/s, 16-CFF operation during a 5-ms time period.

[2] Brown D. L., Gallimore A. D., *IEPC-2009-074*

Cathode flow: 10 sccm

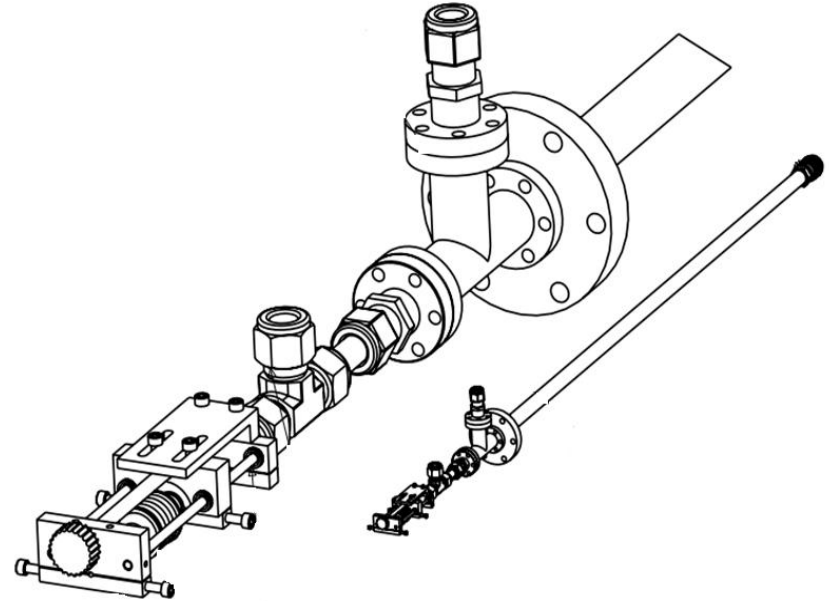


[1] Chu E., Goebel D., Wirz R., *J. Prop. Pwr.*, accepted Nov 2012

# Material sample manipulator



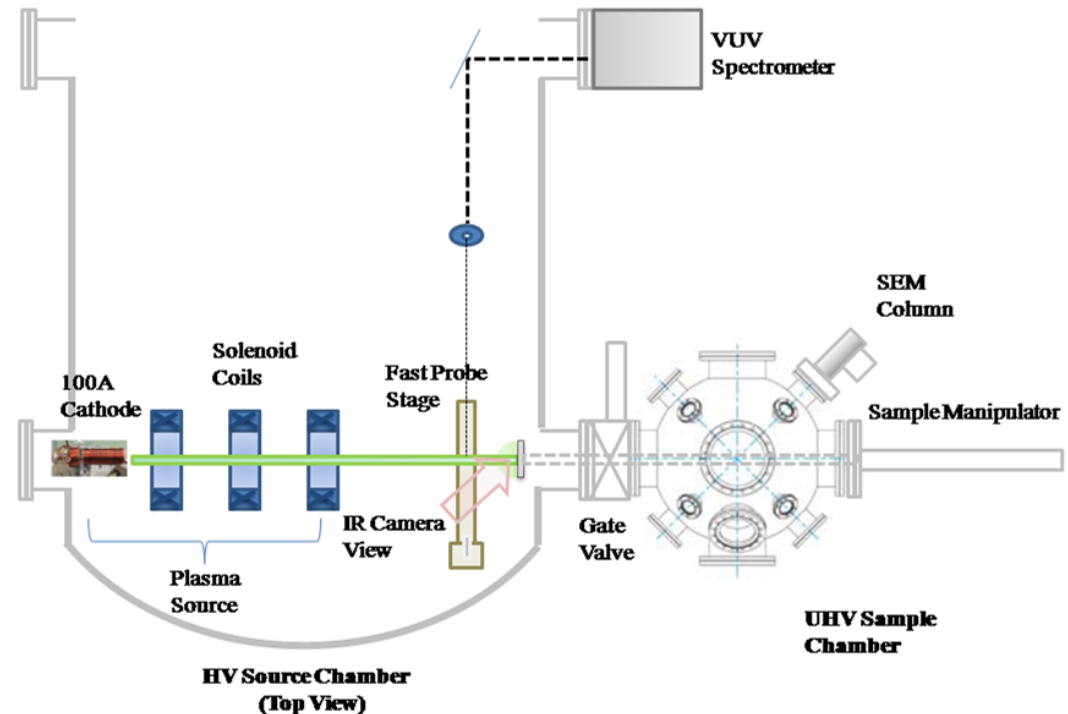
- Manipulator/holder is under construction
  - Water-cooled
- Baseline sample tests pending
- Preliminary micro-engineered material tests will follow baseline tests



# UCLA-Pi Facility Diagnostics



- Current diagnostics
  - Langmuir probe
    - Plasma density/flux
    - Electron temperature
    - Spatial/temporal resolution
  - *Ex situ* SEM
    - Morphology change (pre/post)
- Possible diagnostic upgrades
  - Improved diagnostics
    - Fast probe stage
    - ExB, RPA, RPA, calorimeter
  - Attached SEM
    - Rapid morphology change
    - No atm contamination
  - VUV spectra
    - Sputtered/deposited species
    - Erosion/redeposition rates
  - IR video
    - Temperature map
    - Time resolved capture of 'hot spots'
  - All to be *in situ*



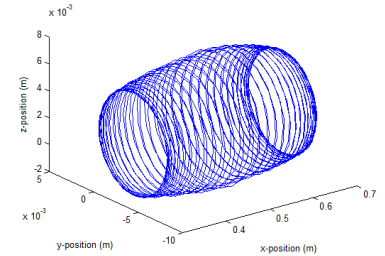
Schematic of the proposed Pi facility showing the addition of a differentially pumped UHV chamber for periodic material inspection. Current facility only includes HV source chamber.



# Modeling of Pi Plasma

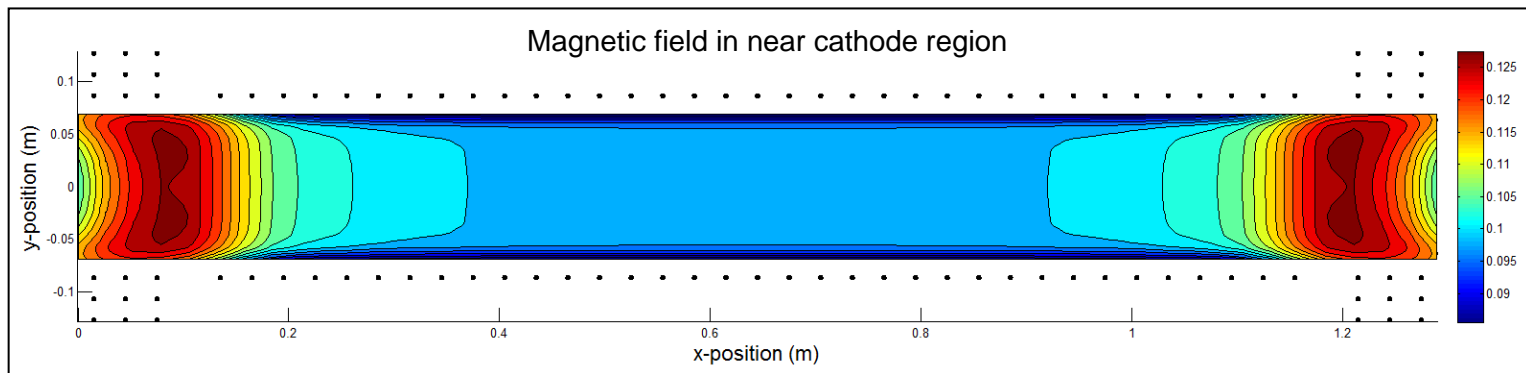


- Plasma conditions just upstream of the material surface will be characterized by a combination of experimental diagnostics and modeling
- \*DC-ION: 2D/3D Hybrid-PIC low-temperature plasma model
  - 3D primary electron (PIC)
  - 2D two-fluid plasma ions and electrons



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ion fluid: } nm_i v_{i-n} \mathbf{u}_i - nm_e v_{ei} (\mathbf{u}_e - \mathbf{u}_i) &= ne\mathbf{E} + ne\mathbf{u}_i \times \mathbf{B} - k\nabla(nT_i) \\ \text{e}^- \text{ fluid: } nm_e v_{e-n} \mathbf{u}_e + \underbrace{nm_e v_{ei} (\mathbf{u}_e - \mathbf{u}_i)}_{\text{two-fluid interaction}} &= -ne\mathbf{E} - ne\mathbf{u}_e \times \mathbf{B} - k\nabla(nT_e) \end{aligned}$$

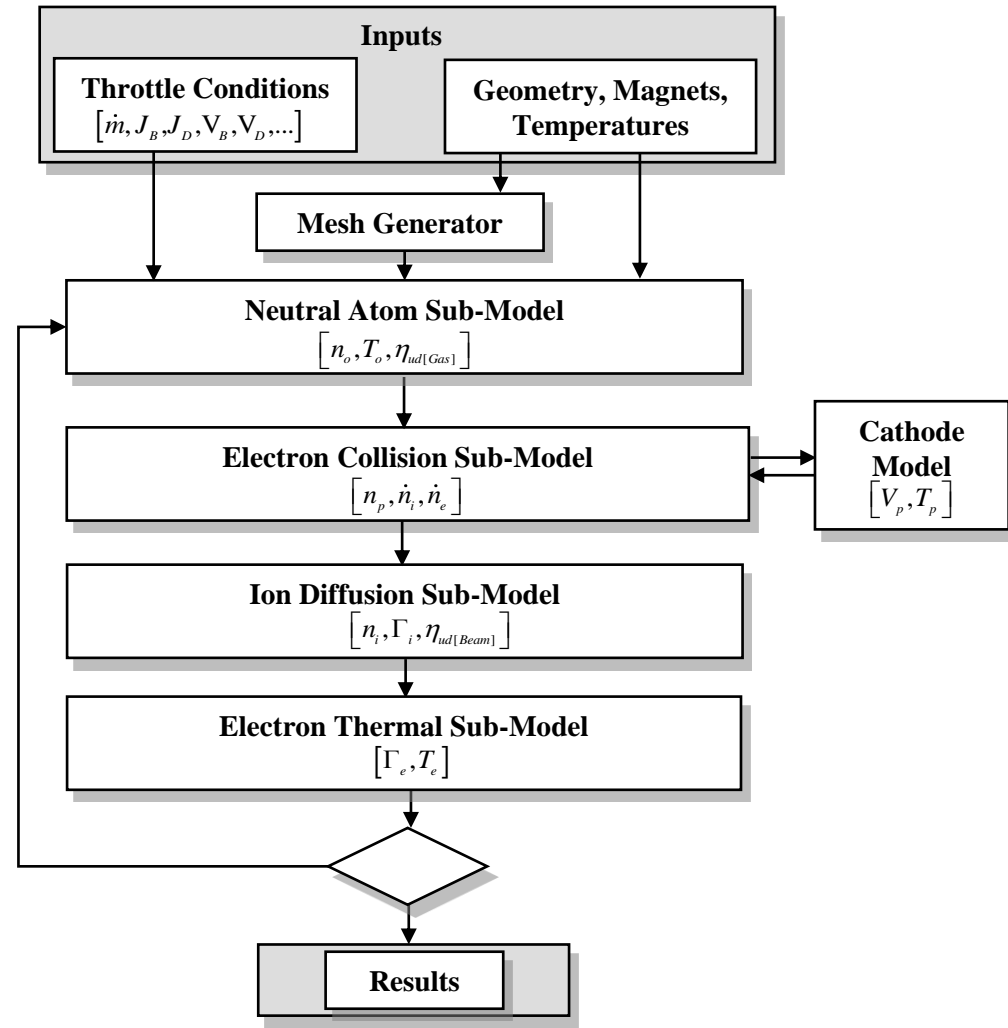
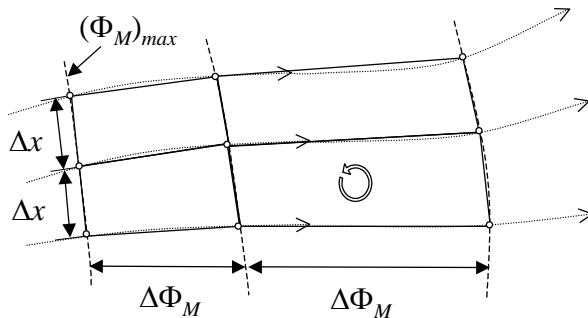
$$\text{Neutral interaction: } v_{i-n} \equiv v_{in} + v_{CEX} + \dot{n}_i/n ; v_{e-n} \equiv v_{en} + \dot{n}_e/n$$



\*Wirz R., AIAA-2005-3887

# DC-ION Model (Overview)

- Hybrid code
- Multi-species
  - Neutral Atoms
  - Primary Electrons
  - Ions
  - Double Ions
  - Secondary Electrons
- Collisions
  - Elastic, ionization (+ & ++), excitation, e-e
- Magnetically aligned mesh capability



Wirz R., AIAA-2005-3887

Wirz R., Katz I., AIAA-2004-4107

Wirz R., Goebel D., Plasma Sources Sci. Technol., 17 (2008) 035010

# Heavy Particle Induced Electron Emission



- Limited data for relevant energies/materials
- Simple theories of electron yield break down for heavy particles
  - Dominant process may change for relevant energies

E (keV)	Targets	Author	Year
1-5	U	Chen et al.	1983
2-8	<b>W</b>	Bonnano et al.	1990
10	Cu,Au,Kr(sol),Xe(sol)	Soszka et al.	1990
0.3-10	Au	Alonso et al.	1986
6-10	FeNi,Xe(sol)	Soszka et al.	1989
5-20	<b>Al</b> ,Ti,Ni,Cu,Zn, <b>Mo</b> ,Ag,Au,Pb	Zalm & Beckers	1984
5-20	Cu,Zn	Zalm & Beckers	1985
1.5-25	KBr,KCl,NaCl,LiF	Konig et al.	1975
40	Ge	Holmen et al.	1975
1.2-50	<b>Al</b>	Alonso et al.	1980
5-50	Cu,Au, <b>Mo</b>	Ferron et al.	1981
7.3-70	Cu	Brusilovsky & Molchanov	1971
4-80	Si	Benazeth et al.	1989
3-90	CuBe	Schram et al.	1966
20-100	Si	Fontbonne et al.	1970
0.01-0.35	<b>Al</b>	Svensson & Holmen	1982
0.1-0.4	Cu	Holmen et al.	1981
0.03-0.4	Cu	Svensson et al.	1981
0.08-1	<b>C</b>	Hasselkamp & Scharmann	1983

Survey of experiments from 1968-1990 with Xe<sup>+</sup> as impinging ion at energies ≤25 keV. Target materials of interest are highlighted in red. Table adapted from D. Hasselkamp, **Particle Induce Electron Emission II**, 1992

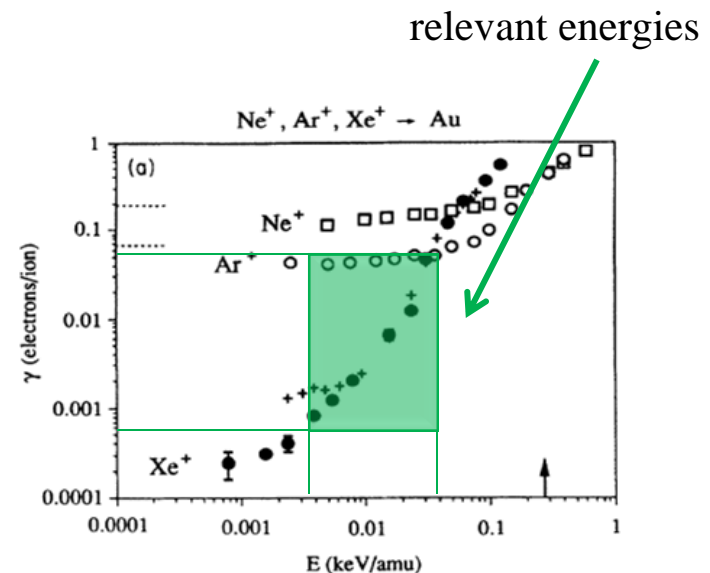


FIG. 3. (a) Total electron emission yields for Ne<sup>+</sup> (open squares), Ar<sup>+</sup> (open circles), and Xe<sup>+</sup> (solid circles) impact on clean polycrystalline gold vs impact energy per atomic mass unit. Crosses show results for Xe<sup>+</sup> from Ref. 7. Vertical arrows and dashed horizontal lines as for Fig. 2(a). (b) Ratio of emis-

G. Lakits *et al*, *Phys Rev A* 42(9), 1990



# Ion Beam Facility

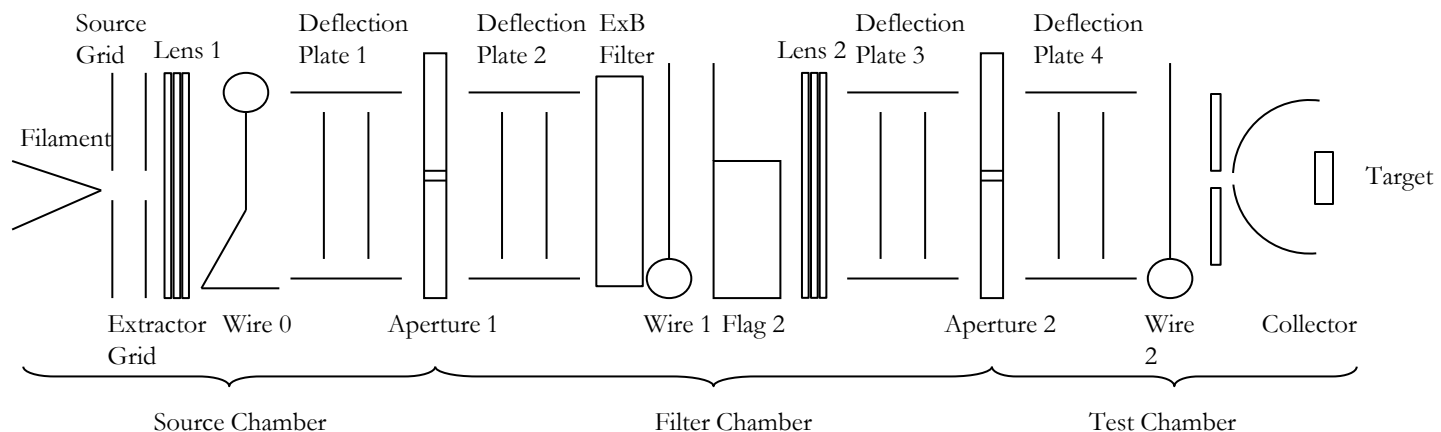
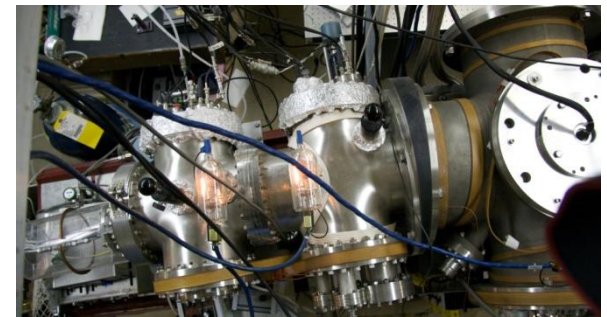


- Facility provides a well-characterized xenon ion beam
- Enables measurement of particle-induced electron emission from a variety of materials
  - Stainless steel, platinum, carbon materials, micro-architected materials, etc.

*Side View*



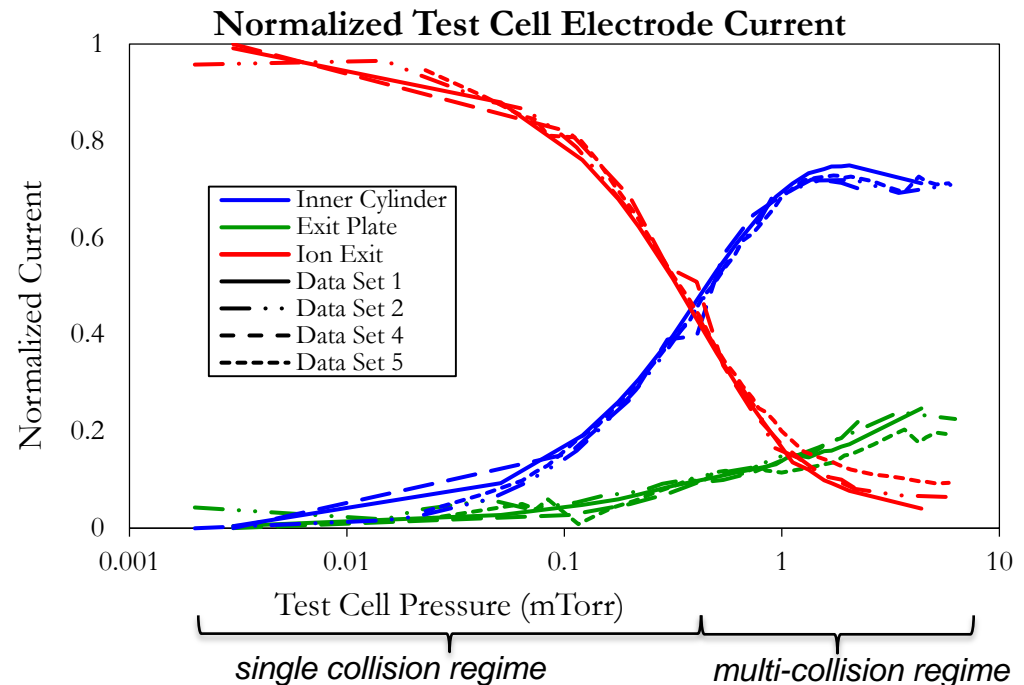
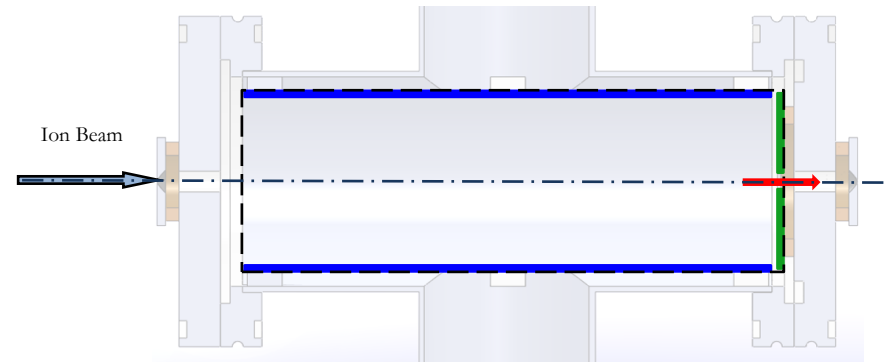
*Top View*



# Ion Beam Characterization



- Ion beam characterized using “Test Cell” and upstream diagnostics
- Repeatable data provides expected trends for normalized data
- Improvements are needed to improve beam current and quality



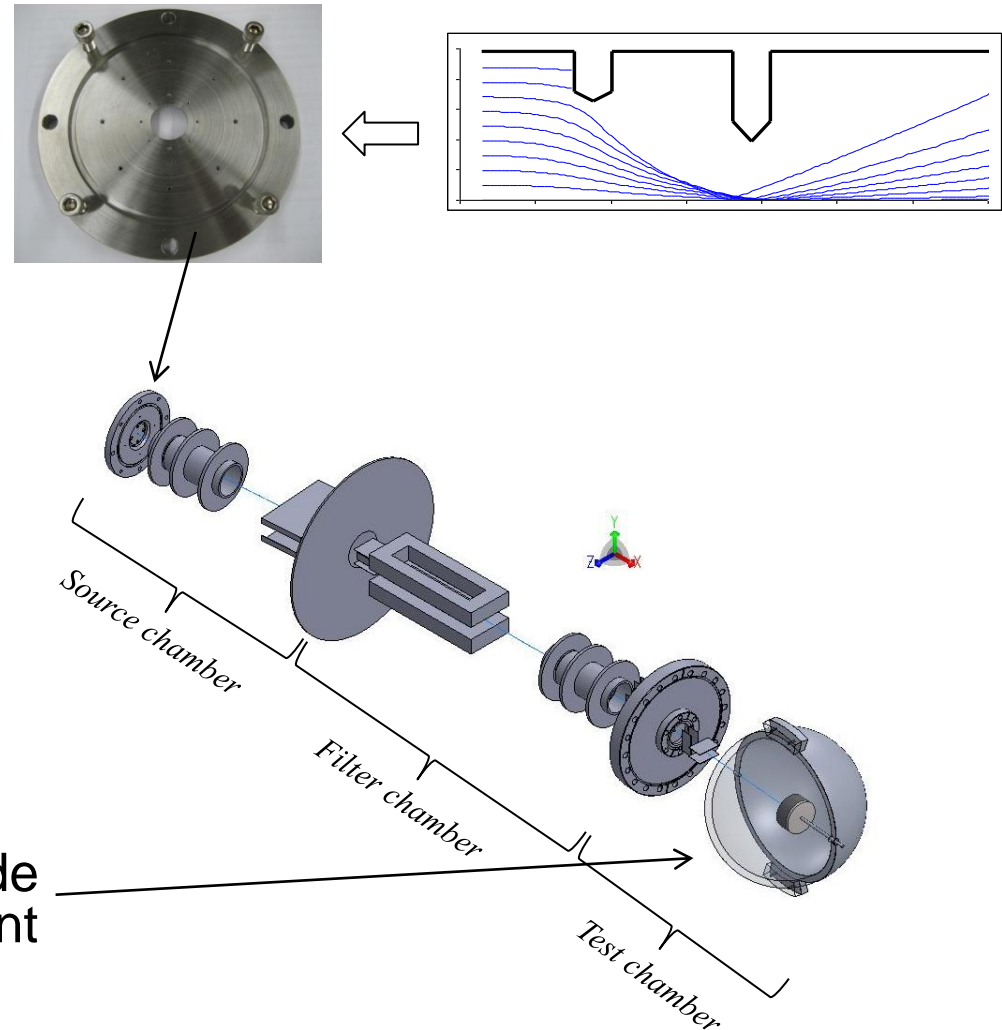
Wirz R. E., Patino M. I., Chu L. E., Mao H-S., Araki S. J., “Simple plasma experiments for investigation of plasma behavior and model validation,” *Plasma Sources Sci. Technol.*, Submitted Jan 2013.

Patino M., Chu L., Wirz R., “Examination of Ion-Neutral Collisions using a Well-Characterized Plasma Experiment,” 48th AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference, Atlanta, GA, 30 July - 1 August 2012, AIAA-2012-4119

# Ion Beam, Current Efforts



- Improvements to ion source current and beam definition
  - Improved ion optics for source designed and built
  - Ion modeling efforts underway to improve ion beam conditioning (e.g., lenses, deflection plates, filter, diagnostics)
- SEE measurements
  - Spherical collection electrode designed for variable incident angles





- UCLA-Pi
  - Vacuum System
    - Complete, fully operational
  - Plasma Source
    - 100 A cathode installed, tested, 75 A plasma demonstrated
  - Sample Manipulator
    - Under construction
  - Modeling
    - Magnetic field modeling and meshing underway
    - To be validated and used for source optimization and characterization
- Ion Beam
  - Ion Source
    - Source improvements complete
    - Beam conditioning and diagnostic improvements underway
  - Heavy particle induced electron emission
    - Experimental design underway



- **Journal articles**

- Wirz R. E., Patino M. I., Chu L. E., Mao H-S., Araki S. J., “Simple plasma experiments for investigation of plasma behavior and model validation,” *Plasma Sources Sci. Technol.*, Submitted Jan 2013.
- Chu E., Goebel D., Wirz R., “External Mass Injection to Reduce Energetic Ion Production in the Discharge Plume of High Current Hollow Cathodes,” *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, accepted Nov 2012
- Araki J., Wirz R., “Ion-Neutral Collision Modeling Using Classical Scattering with Spin-Orbit Free Interaction Potential,” *Journal of Applied Physics*, accepted for publication Oct 2012

- **Conference papers**

- Patino M., Chu L., Wirz R., “Examination of Ion-Neutral Collisions using a Well-Characterized Plasma Experiment,” 48th AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference, Atlanta, GA, 30 July - 1 August 2012, AIAA-2012-4119
- D. Goebel and E. Chu, "High current lanthanum hexaboride hollow cathodes for high power Hall thrusters," in 32nd International Electric Propulsion Conference, Wiesbaden, Germany, September 11 – 15, 2011.
- Wirz R., Chu L., Patino M., Mao H., Araki S. J., “Well-Characterized Plasma Experiments for Validation of Computational Models”, IEPC-2011-122, 32nd International Electric Propulsion Conference, Kurhaus, Wiesbaden, Germany, Sept 11-15, 2011
- Mao H.-S., Wirz R., “Comparison of Charged Particle Tracking Methods for Non-Uniform Magnetic Fields”, AIAA-2011-3739, 42nd AIAA Plasmadynamics and Lasers Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 27-30, 2011
- Araki S. J., Wirz R., “Collision Modeling for High Velocity Ions in a Quiescent Gas” AIAA-2011-3740, 42nd AIAA Plasmadynamics and Lasers Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 27-30, 2011