Special Issue

Plasma Physics in Space Electric Propulsion

Message from the Guest Editors

Plasma physics issues are crucial for the design and optimization of efficient electric thrusters for space applications. Such thrusters are going to become the standard for a wide range of missions spanning from small-scale satellites control to ambitious interplanetary missions. However, a full understanding of the processes occurring in the different plasma regimes and of the interaction of the plasma with thruster structures is mandatory to achieve the expected advantages in terms of performance and reliability.

In this Special Issue, we invite submissions exploring the plasma physics issues related to electric propulsion and plasma acceleration both from a theoretical and experimental point of view. Ideally, it could become a tool for scientists of different communities to explore the open problems from different perspectives and also for the propulsion community to become more aware of the different approaches adopted to tackle them. For these reasons, survey papers and reviews are also warmly welcome.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

Editor-in-Chief

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