Abstract Submitted for the NWS06 Meeting of The American Physical Society

What makes a good spark plug? ANDREW YU — The quality and condition of spark plugs play a key role in achieving peak efficiency of a gasoline internal combustion engine. Since the first mass-produced spark plug, the design has remained constant, but the materials used in making them have changed. The original copper and nickel center and ground electrodes have been replaced with materials such as platinum and iridium. I will study the thermal and electrical conductivity and resistance to corrosion of a variety of spark plugs, and compare their performance to manufacturer's claims.

Andrew Yu

Date submitted: 24 Apr 2006

Electronic form version 1.4