

Abstract Submitted
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Theory for Plasma Rocket Propulsion¹ CROCKETT GRABBE,
SeaLane Research & Consulting — Electrical propulsion of rockets is developing
potentially into the use of 3 different thrusters for future long-distance space mis-
sions that primarily involve plasma dynamics. These are the Magnetoplasmady-
namic (MPD) Thruster, the Plasma Induction Thruster (PID), and the VASIMIR
Thruster. The history of the development of electrical propulsion into these
prospects and the current research of particularly the VASIMIR Thruster are re-
viewed. Theoretical questions that need to be addressed in that development are
explored.

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