#### PULSED POWER SYSTEM 脈衝功率系統



Po-Yu Chang

#### Institute of Space and Plasma Sciences, National Cheng Kung University

2024 Fall Semester

Thursday 9:10-12:00

Lecture 6

#### http://capst.ncku.edu.tw/PGS/index.php/teaching/

**Online courses:** 

https://nckucc.webex.com/nckucc/j.php?MTID=mf87b10f22c1e36d5c4b2337 e60d8a847

<sup>2024/11/14</sup> updated 1





- Foundations of pulsed power technology, by Jane Lehr & Pralhad Ron
- Pulsed power systems, by H. Bluhm
- Pulsed power, by Gennady A. Mesyats
- J. C. Martin on pulsed power, edited by T. H. Martin, A. H. Guenther, and M. Kristiansen
- Pulse power formulary, by Richard J. Adler
- Circuit analysis, by Cunningham and Stuller



- Introduction to pulsed-power system
- Review of circuit analysis
- Static and dynamic breakdown strength of dielectric materials
  - Gas Townsend discharge (avalanche breakdown), Paschen's curve
  - Liquid
  - Solid
- Energy storage
  - Pulse discharge capacitors
  - Marx generators
  - Inductive energy storage

#### **Characteristics of capacitors**



- Dependence of the high-voltage strength of a capacitor
  - Breakdown strength of the dielectric.
  - Shape, area, metal of the terminals.
  - Bonding to the insulator that fills the case.
- The instantaneous capacitance differs from the static value when a capacitor is charged or discharged quickly. It is the result from the finite relaxation time of the polarization, which is also responsible for the dielectric losses.

Polar molecules rotate if the electric field oscillates. The rotation of the \_ polar molecules causes the energy loss.



# Polarization P and displacement D will leg behind in phase relative to the applied E field

$$E = E_o \cos(\omega t) \qquad D = D_o \cos(\omega t - \delta) = D_1 \cos(\omega t) + D_2 \sin(\omega t)$$
$$D_1 \equiv D_o \cos(\delta) \qquad D_2 \equiv D_o \sin(\delta)$$
$$D_o \qquad \text{frequency dependent}$$

 $\frac{D_o}{E_o} \rightarrow \text{frequency dependent}$ 

$$\epsilon'(\omega) = \frac{D_1}{E_o} = \frac{D_o}{E_o} \cos(\delta)$$
  $\epsilon''(\omega) = \frac{D_2}{E_o} = \frac{D_o}{E_o} \sin(\delta)$   $\tan(\delta) = \frac{\epsilon''(\omega)}{\epsilon'(\omega)}$ 

• Current density in the capacitor:

$$j = \frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{\mathrm{d}D}{\mathrm{d}t} = \omega[-D_1\sin(\omega t) + D_2\cos(\omega t)] \qquad \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

- q: surface charge density on the capacitor plate.
- dD/dt: displacement current.

 $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{j}_f + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$ 

### Polarization of a material has two terms with different response time

Energy density ψ (per unit volume and time):

Power = 
$$IV \times \frac{Ad}{Ad} = \frac{I}{A} \frac{V}{d} Ad = jEAd$$
  $\Psi = \frac{Power}{Ad} = jE$   
 $\Psi = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi/\omega} jE dt = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi/\omega} \omega [-D_1 \sin(\omega t) + D_2 \cos(\omega t)] E_o \cos(\omega t) dt$   
 $= \frac{\omega}{2} E_o D_2 = \frac{\omega}{2} E_o D_o \sin(\delta) \approx \frac{\omega}{2} E_o D_o \tan(\delta)$  (Small  $\delta$ )

• Dielectric polarization:  $P = P_{s} + P_{d}$ 

 $P_{\rm s}$ : spontaneous polarization due to electronic and atomic polarization.

- $P_{\rm d}$ : dipolar polarization appears in substances composed of molecules that have permanent electric dipole moments.
- If the field is suddenly switched on, P<sub>d</sub> relaxes to final, static value with a time constant τ:

 $P = P_{\rm S} + P_{\rm d} (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$ 

• Energy density in a capacitor:  $\Phi = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 E^2 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 E^2$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi} = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_o E^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{PE}$$

## There are two terns with different response time in energy density of a capacitor

 If the field is suddenly switched on, Pd relaxes to final, static value with a time constant τ:

$$\boldsymbol{P} = \boldsymbol{P}_{\mathrm{S}} + \boldsymbol{P}_{\mathrm{d}} \big( 1 - \boldsymbol{e}^{-t/\tau} \big)$$

• Energy density in a capacitor:

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi} = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_o E^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{PE}$$

- A fast term: time dependent can be neglected at the usual switching speed.
- A relaxation term: affects the charging and discharging of capacitors.

#### Capacitors need to be grounded if not used



#### Operation frequency needs to be away from the selfresonant frequency of the capacitor



- In general, operational frequency  $\omega \ll \omega_r$  to avoid large power losses inside the capacitor and destroy it.
- A fast capacitor requires stacks with a short path to the terminal.



# Capacitor lifetime can be affected strongly by the voltage reversal and charged voltage



 If charge has been injected from the metallic-cathode side into the dielectric, the space charge field associated with it can add to the external field during voltage reversal and the total field can exceed the local breakdown stress and cause damage to the material.

#### It takes time for dipole to rotate



- It takes time for dipole to rotate. E<sub>P</sub> is in the same direction to E<sub>ext</sub> in a short period of time.
- To extend life time (>10<sup>8</sup> shot for industrial uses):
  - V << V<sub>rate</sub>
  - Very conservative dielectric insulation, i.e., large size and low energy density.

#### **Failures in capacitors**

- Surface tracking along the insulating margin at the edges of capacitor sections.
  - Eliminated by resistively grading the field distribution at the capacitor edge.
     Achieved by impregnating the paper with a dilute solution of copper sulphate in water (CuSO<sub>4</sub>). The loss current increases and the hold time reduces.



### **Failures in capacitors**

- Breakdown at voids or impurities in the dielectric.
  - Breakdown may not destroy the capacitor due to the "self-cleaning" process.
- Arcing at pressure-contacted tabs or in other sections of the capacitor.
  - It produces gasification of materials and pressure increases.
  - Avoided if all contacts are soldered or welded.





- Introduction to pulsed-power system
- Review of circuit analysis
- Static and dynamic breakdown strength of dielectric materials
  - Gas Townsend discharge (avalanche breakdown), Paschen's curve
  - Liquid
  - Solid
- Energy storage
  - Pulse discharge capacitors
  - Marx generators
  - Inductive energy storage

#### **Marx generators**

- HV pulse capacitors operation voltage < 100 kV.
- Transformers for high-power charging units become prohibitively large above 100 kV.
- Solution: charge several capacitors in parallel @ switch them in to a series configuration for discharge.

$$V_{\rm out} = n \times V_o$$





#### **Marx generators**

- HV pulse capacitors operation voltage < 100 kV.
- Transformers for high-power charging units become prohibitively large above 100 kV.
- Solution: charge several capacitors in parallel @ switch them in to a series configuration for discharge.

$$V_{\rm out} = n \times V_o$$



### **Eight-stage little Marx generator**





#### Positive vs Negative output and peaking switch



#### Switches are triggered sequentially

- Switch 1 is triggered and closed  $\rightarrow$  point C @ U<sub>o</sub>, point D @ 2U<sub>o</sub>,  $\Delta V_2=2U_o$ .  $\rightarrow$ Switch 2 breakdown by itself  $\rightarrow$  point E @ 2U<sub>o</sub>, point F @ 3U<sub>o</sub>,  $\Delta V_3=3U_o$ .
  - $\rightarrow$ Switch 3 breakdown by itself  $\rightarrow$  point G @ 3U<sub>o</sub>, point H @ 4U<sub>o</sub>,  $\Delta V_4$ =4U<sub>o</sub>.

 $\rightarrow$ all gaps will fire sequentially. "erected" takes ~ µsec.



#### Positive vs Negative output and peaking switch



#### Step output of a Marx generator





#### Step output is removed with using a peaking switch





#### Example of the 3-stage Marx generator we built



### A grounding resistor is needed if a load is a "gap"





#### **Examples of gaps as loads**



#### Example of the 3-stage Marx generator we built



#### Example of the 3-stage Marx generator we built



### Capacitor and switch inductances need to be considered



#### **Bipolar-Charging Marx generator**



### **Bipolar-Charging Marx generator @ charging**



#### **Bipolar-Charging Marx generator @ discharging**





#### **Bipolar-Charging Marx generator has a smaller impedance than a conventional Marx generator**

### It's harder to raise the power of Marx generators to more than Terawatt



- Smaller impedance  $Z_M \rightarrow$  larger power output

 $\rightarrow \mathsf{N} \uparrow => \mathsf{Z}_\mathsf{M} \uparrow$ 

- → N  $\uparrow$  => longer system => L<sub>stray</sub>  $\uparrow$  => P $\downarrow$  => more and more difficult to raise the power of Marx generators to  $\geq$  TW.
- $\rightarrow$  The major task is to pulse-charge an intermediate storage (water or oil filled) capacitor.
- Breakdown strength of water is dependent on the duration of the E-field stress
  - => charging must happen quickly if a high energy density is to be obtained.
  - => To obtain complete energy transfer,  $C_{intermediate} = C_{M}$ .

## Intermediate capacitors are used to increase the output power

 To achieve high energy densities and short, high-power pulses, it's more beneficial to synchronize several Marx generators of reduced pulse energy to charge one water capacitor



## Energies in capacitors are also dissipated through the charging resistors

 Each capacitor begins to discharge through two resistors in parallel with a time constant of

$$\tau_R = \frac{1}{2} R_L C_o$$

• The requirement of delivering most of the energy to the load:

$$\tau_{\text{load}} << \tau_R$$



### Charging resistors can be replaced by inductors

• Energy in each capacitor begins to oscillate between the capacitor and the charging inductors with a oscillation period

$$au_{\rm L} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} {
m LC}_o}$$

• The requirement of delivering most of the energy to the load:



$$\tau_{\rm load} << \tau_{\rm L}$$



### **Example of using inductors for charging**



37

• Assembly of 1kJ Marx generator



### **Requirements of triggering the Marx generator**

- Triggering the Marx generator means starting the erosion process by external-command control at a preselected instant in time.
  - Small jitter.
  - Low prefire probability.
  - Large operating range.
- First stage triggable three-electrode spark-gap switch.
- Later stage self-breaking spark-gap switch.



#### Stray capacitors needed to be considered



C<sub>s</sub>: between the stage capacitors and ground.

C<sub>q</sub>: between the switch electrodes.

• Assumption: (1) each capacitor is charged to  $V_0$ ; (2)  $S_1$  is triggered first.

=> C<sub>S</sub> @ B try to hold B to ground.

 $\Rightarrow C_0 \Rightarrow C_S$ , so  $C_S$  is charged to  $V_0$  rapidly.

=> A  $\rightarrow$  2V0 => S<sub>2</sub> will fire only if it is over voltaged sufficiently long.

#### Stray capacitors needed to be considered



Assumption:

=> A  $\rightarrow$  2V0 => S<sub>2</sub> will fire only if it is overvoltaged sufficiently long.

=>  $C_g @ S_2$  and  $C_S @ D$  form a capacitive voltage divider.  $V_A = 2V_0$   $V_D = 2V_0 \frac{c_g}{C_S + C_g}$   $V_{S2} = V_A - V_D = 2V_0 \frac{C_S}{C_S + C_g} = \frac{2V_0}{1 + C_g/C_S}$ =>  $C_g/C_S$  needs to be sufficiently small.

=> placing a ground conducting plate closed to the case of the storage capacitor.  $C = \epsilon \frac{A}{A}$ 

#### Stray capacitors needed to be considered



- **Assumption:** 
  - $= V_B = V_0 \quad V_D = 2V_0 \frac{c_g}{c_s + c_g} \approx 0 \rightarrow V_D = V_0 \text{, CS } @ \text{ D is charged by} \\ V_B \text{ through } R_L \text{ with a time constant of } \tau = \frac{1}{2}R_L c_S$ => overvoltage across switch S2 drops to V0.
  - => breakdown at an overvoltage across each switch with a delay time less than T is needed.

## The delay between breakdown in each spark gap becomes shorter and shorter



- ∵ overvoltage becomes increasingly large,
  - $\therefore$  easier and easier to breakdown the other spark gaps.



#### **Other considerations**

- To prevent prefire, each switch must be operated with a sufficient safety margin. m $\leq$ 2 is needed, m<<2 for reliable switch.  $m = \frac{V_0}{V_B}$
- To prevent voltage reversal, a crowbar switch at the exit of the generator that fires just when the voltage starts to reverse.



# Discharge of a Marx generator including stray capacitors can be treated as a transmission line/pulse forming network



H : 50 ns/div V : 160 kV/div

Y. Kubota, etc., Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. 20, 2397 (1981) Paul W. Smith, Transient Electronics: Pulsed Circuit Technology.

# Switch can be taken away from the discharge path to reduce system inductance using "LC Marx Generator"



## Switch can be taken away from the discharge path to reduce system inductance using "LC Marx Generator"



- $V_L = 0$  @ time = 0.
- When switches are closed, LC oscillations happen.
- @ time=T/2, V<sub>L</sub> = -nV<sub>0</sub>.  $V(t) = \frac{1}{2}nV_0[1 e^{-t/2\tau}\cos(\omega t)]$   $\omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$   $\tau = \frac{L}{R}$ R: sum of resistance from switches, capacitors, and wires.
- A deserve and a second second second second second Marries.
- Advantage: since switches locate outside the erected Marx circuit, inductance of the system is low!
- Disadvantage: all switches must be fired with very low jitter!

#### Load effects on the Marx discharge



• The current and voltage are in phase and proportional, such as for relativistic e-beam generator or relativistic magnetron.





Relativistic magnetron

R. Chandra, etc., Proceedings of LINAC2014, Geneva, Switzerland

K. J. Thomas, etc., Proceedings of 2005 Particle Accelerator Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee

- The current and voltage are in phase and proportional, such as for relativistic e-beam generator or relativistic magnetron.
- (a)  $L_M$ • If  $L_M = 0$ :  $V_L(t) = V_M e^{-t/(R_L C_M)}$ • In general cases,  $L_M \neq 0$ .  $|V_1|$  $V_1 - L_M \frac{\mathrm{dI}}{\mathrm{dt}} - R_L I = 0$  $V_1 = V_M - \frac{1}{C_M} \int I \, \mathrm{d}t \qquad V_M = \mathrm{N} \mathrm{V}_0$  $\frac{dV_1}{dt} = \frac{I}{C_M} \qquad \qquad \frac{I}{C_M} - L_M \frac{d^2 I}{dt^2} - R_L \frac{dI}{dt} = 0$  $\frac{d^2 I}{dt^2} + \frac{R_L}{L_M} \frac{dI}{dt} + \frac{1}{L_M C_M} I = 0$  $D^{2} + \frac{R_{L}}{L_{M}}D + \frac{1}{L_{M}C_{M}} = 0 \qquad D = -\frac{R_{L}}{2L_{M}} \pm \left| \left(\frac{R_{L}}{2L_{M}}\right)^{2} - \frac{1}{L_{M}C_{M}} \right|^{2}$

For 
$$\frac{1}{L_M C_M} > \left(\frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)^2$$
,  $\omega \equiv \sqrt{\frac{1}{L_M C_M} - \left(\frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)^2}$  (a)  $\frac{L_M}{C_M}$   
 $I(t) = e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} [\alpha \sin(\omega t) + \beta \cos(\omega t)]$   
 $I(0) = 0 => I(0) = \beta = 0$   
 $I(t) = \alpha e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} \sin(\omega t)$   
 $\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha \left[ -\frac{R_L}{2L_M} \alpha e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} \sin(\omega t) + \omega e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} \cos(\omega t) \right]$   
 $L_M \frac{dI}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} = V_M$   $L_M \alpha \omega = V_M$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{V_M}{L_M \omega}$   
 $I = \frac{V_M}{L_M \omega} e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} \sin(\omega t)$ 

For 
$$\frac{1}{L_M C_M} < \left(\frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)^2$$
,  $\gamma \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{L_M C_M}}$  (a)  $L_M$   
 $I(t) = e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} [\alpha e^{\gamma t} + \beta e^{-\gamma t}]$   
 $I(0) = 0 => \alpha + \beta = 0 => \beta = -\alpha$   
 $I(t) = \alpha e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M}t} [e^{\gamma t} - e^{-\gamma t}] = \alpha e^{\left(\gamma - \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)t} - \alpha e^{-\left(\gamma + \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)t}$   
 $\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha \left[ \left(\gamma - \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right) e^{\left(\gamma - \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)t} + \left(\gamma + \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right) e^{-\left(\gamma + \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right)t} \right]$   
 $L_M \frac{dI}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} = \alpha \left[ \left(\gamma - \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right) + \left(\gamma + \frac{R_L}{2L_M}\right) \right] = V_M$   $2L_M \alpha \gamma = V_M$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{V_M}{2L_M \gamma}$   
 $I = \frac{V_M}{2L_M \gamma} e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M t}} [e^{\gamma t} - e^{-\gamma t}] \approx \frac{V_M}{2L_M \gamma} e^{-\frac{R_L}{2L_M t}} e^{\gamma t}$ 



- Pulse compression scheme: a charged capacitor can transfer almost all of its energy to an uncharged capacitor if connected through an inductor.
- Output voltage can be doubled in a peaking circuit.



### Intermediate storage capacitors can be used to compress the pulse



Marx bank

intermediate storage capacitors pulse forming lines water-insulated insulator outer simulation transmission stack MITLs volume lines

#### **Capacitor load**



 $I = \alpha sin(\omega t) + \beta cos(\omega t)$ 

### **Capacitor load**

$$I = \alpha \sin(\omega t) + \beta \cos(\omega t)$$

$$I(t = 0) = 0 => \beta = 0$$

$$I = \alpha \sin(\omega t)$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \alpha \omega \cos(\omega t)$$

$$L_M \frac{dI}{dt}\Big|_{t=0} = L_M \alpha \omega = V_M \qquad \alpha = \frac{V_M}{L_M \omega}$$

$$I(t) = \frac{V_M}{L\omega} \sin(\omega t)$$

$$V_1 = V_M - \frac{1}{C_M} \int_0^t \frac{V_M}{L\omega} \sin(\omega t) dt = V_M - \frac{V_M C_2}{C_M + C_2} [1 - \cos(\omega t)]$$

$$V_2 = \frac{1}{C_2} \int_0^t \frac{V_M}{L\omega} \sin(\omega t) dt = \frac{V_M C_M}{C_M + C_2} [1 - \cos(\omega t)] \qquad \frac{V_2}{V_M}\Big|_{max} = \frac{2C_M}{C_M + C_2}$$
for  $C_2 \sim C_M, \frac{V_2}{V_M} \sim 1$  for  $C_2 << C_M, \frac{V_2}{V_M} \sim 2$ 

#### Peaking circuit, $C_2 << C_M$

**T** 7

**T** 7

1.8

1.6 1.4

1.2 1.0

0.8

0.6 0.4 0.2 0.0

0

1

2

3

ωt

4

Normalized voltage V(t)/V<sub>M</sub>

$$V_{1} = V_{M} - \frac{V_{M}C_{2}}{C_{M} + C_{2}} [1 - \cos(\omega t)] \approx V_{M} - \frac{V_{M}C_{2}}{C_{M}} [1 - \cos(\omega t)]$$

$$V_{2} = \frac{V_{M}C_{M}}{C_{M} + C_{2}} \frac{V_{M}C_{2}}{C_{M}} [1 - \cos(\omega t)] \approx V_{M} [1 - \cos(\omega t)]$$
For  $t = \frac{\pi}{\omega}$ ,  $\cos(\omega t) = \cos(\pi) = -1$ 

$$V_{1} \approx V_{M}$$

$$V_{2} \approx 2V_{M}$$

$$V_{1} = \frac{V_{M}C_{M}}{C_{M}} \frac{V_{2}}{C_{M}} = \frac{V_{M}C_{2}}{C_{M}} V_{2}$$

 $V_{1}(t)$  $-V_2(t)$ 

6

5

- The energy transfer is inefficient. •
- $C_M/C_2 \sim 10$  is normally used. •

( .)]

#### Pulse compression scheme: C<sub>2</sub>~C<sub>M</sub>



$$V_{1} = V_{M} - \frac{V_{M}C_{2}}{C_{M} + C_{2}} [1 - \cos(\omega t)] \approx V_{M} - \frac{V_{M}}{2} [1 - \cos(\omega t)]$$
$$V_{2} = \frac{V_{M}C_{M}}{C_{M} + C_{2}} \frac{V_{M}}{2} [1 - \cos(\omega t)] \approx \frac{V_{M}}{2} \frac{V_{M}C_{M}}{C_{M} + C_{2}} \frac{V_{M}}{2} [1 - \cos(\omega t)]$$

For  $t = \frac{\pi}{\omega}$ ,  $V_1 \approx 0$ ,  $V_2 \approx V_M$ 

### Water is commonly used as the dielectric material for the intermediate capacitor

$$C = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_r\epsilon_0}{\ln(b/a)}l \qquad \text{For } \frac{b}{a} = \frac{1}{0.9} \approx 1.1$$

Air: 
$$\epsilon_r = 1 => \frac{C}{L} = 0.5 \times 10^{-9} F/m$$

Water: 
$$\epsilon_r = 80 => \frac{C}{L} = 6.25 \times 10^{-12} F/m$$

For KALIF: 
$$C_M = \frac{0.5\mu F}{25} = 25nF$$

Using air: 
$$l = \frac{25 \times 10^{-9}}{0.5 \times 10^{-9}} = 40 \text{ m}$$

Using water: 
$$l = \frac{25 \times 10^{-9}}{6.25 \times 10^{-12}} = 0.5 \text{ m}$$

59





### Intermediate storage capacitors can be used to compress the pulse



Marx bank

intermediate storage capacitors

pulse forming lines water-insulated insulator outer simulation transmission stack MITLs volume lines



- Introduction to pulsed-power system
- Review of circuit analysis
- Static and dynamic breakdown strength of dielectric materials
  - Gas Townsend discharge (avalanche breakdown), Paschen's curve
  - Liquid
  - Solid

#### Energy storage

- Pulse discharge capacitors
- Marx generators
- Inductive energy storage



- Capacitive energy storage current amplifier.
- Inductive energy storage voltage amplifier.
- Notice that energy density of the inductive energy storage is 2 order higher than that of the capacitive energy storage.
- If I<sub>o</sub> is large, charging of the inductor must be fast. It is because the energy loss in the resistance of the inductor windy and the opening switch.
- Current source has high internal impedance ( $R_g >> R$ ) and a large power ( $t_{charge} \downarrow$ ).  $I_{max} = I_o \frac{R_g}{R_g + R}$  $I(t) = I_o \frac{R_g}{R_g + R} (1 - e^{-\frac{R + R_g}{L}})$

#### **Output of the inductive storage**

 Assumption: at t=0, inductance is fully charged. Resistance of the inductive storage is neglected.



#### Output of the inductive storage



## Spark plugs in cars are triggered by the inductive energy storage



https://images.saymedia-content.com/.image/t\_share/MTc0Mjk3MzYyODg0MjA4NTA4/diy-auto-service-ignition-systems-operation-diagnosis-and-repair.png

### **Triggering pulse for PGS machine**



#### **Pulsed-plasma thruster**



#### A. Nawaz, etc., Acta Astronautica, 67 (2010) 440-448 67

#### Loop voltage for breakdown is provided by dropping the current of the central solenoid rapidly





- Introduction to pulsed-power system
- Review of circuit analysis
- Static and dynamic breakdown strength of dielectric materials
  - Gas Townsend discharge (avalanche breakdown), Paschen's curve
  - Liquid
  - Solid

#### Energy storage

- Pulse discharge capacitors
- Marx generators
- Inductive energy storage
- Rotors and Homopolar generators

#### **Rotors and Homopolar generators**

- Pulsed current source is needed such that charge time << L/R => using flywheel.  $W_{\rm kin} = \frac{1}{2}\theta\omega^2$
- Energy density ~ 300 MJ/m<sup>3</sup>, total energy > 100 MJ.
- Can transfer its energy only in a time > 10 ms in most cases.
- Homopolar generator: Coil In a self-exciting generator, B is ٠ created by the output current of В the rotor. Centre brush  $V = \alpha I \omega$  $L\frac{\mathrm{dI}}{\mathrm{dt}} + \mathrm{IR} = \alpha \mathrm{I}\omega$ Peripheral brush  $\frac{1}{2}\theta\omega^2 + \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{LI}^2 + \int_0^t I^2 R \,\mathrm{d}t = \frac{1}{2}\theta\omega_0^2$ Rotor (flywheel)

#### Homopolar generators



71