

#### NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY



### New Developments in Combustion Technology

Part III: Making oxy-fuel combustion an advantage

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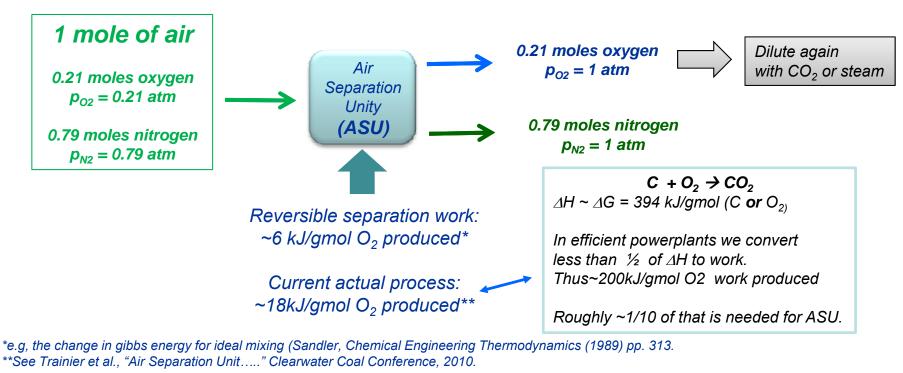
## **Today's presentation**

- New approaches in three ways
  - Inherent carbon capture: chemical looping combustion.
  - Step-change in generator efficiency: pressure gain combustion
  - Frontier approach (?): making oxy-fuel an efficiency advantage.



# Making oxygen for oxy-fuel ...reprise

- Oxygen can be supplied today by commercial Air Separation Units (ASU) based on established cryogenic separation.
- The energy needed to separate oxygen from air is significant (see below)
- In conventional oxy-combustion, we dilute the purified oxygen to maintain the same boiler flame temperature as in air-combustion.

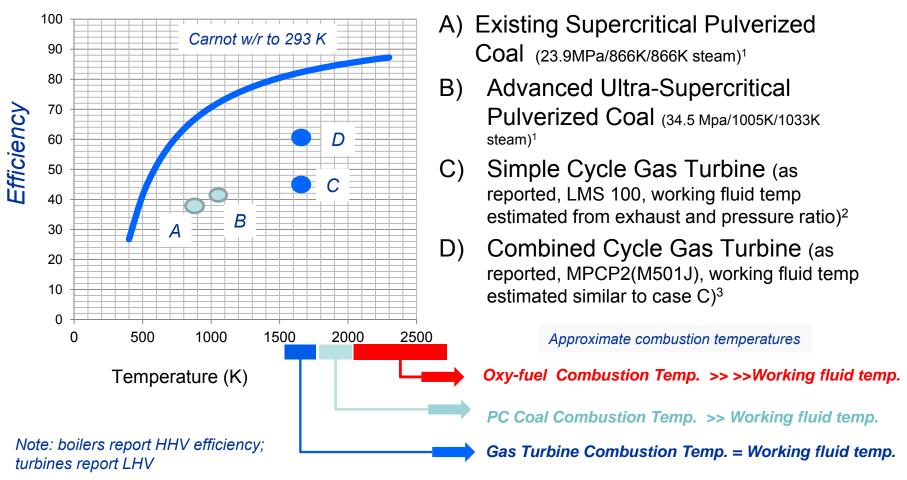


## Making Oxy-fuel an <u>Advantage</u>

- Producing pure oxygen requires a lot of energy!
- If one could find a way to make significant extra power <u>because of the</u> <u>available oxygen</u>, <u>oxy-fuel would be an advantage</u>.
- Oxy-fuel already provides an advantage for process industries that benefit from high temperatures (e.g., glass making, steel).
- Oxy-fuel already provides advantages in propulsion (rocket engines)
- How can you make oxy-fuel an advantage for power generation?



## Efficiency



[1] Current and Future Technologies for Power Generation with Post-Combustion Carbon Capture, DOE/NETL-2012/1557

[2] Gas Turbine World 2012 GTW Handbook, Vol. 29, Pequot Publishing pp74

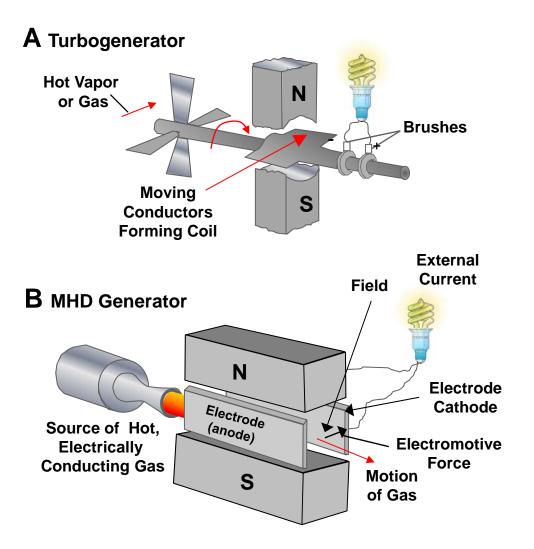
[3] Gas Turbine World 2012 GTW Handbook, Vol. 29, Pequot Publishing pp89

## **Magnetohydrodynamic Power Generation**

- The high temperatures possible with oxy-fuel can be used to operate an MHD "topping" cycle:
  - Topping cycle power possible because of the oxygen
  - MHD exits to conventional steam boiler system ("bottoming cycle").

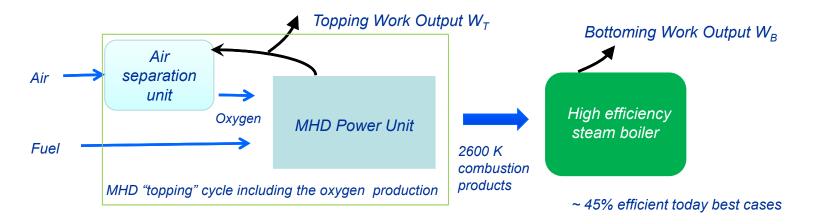
### How does MHD work?

- Conductive, high-temperature gases play the role of an electrical conductor moving through a magnetic field.
- Generates power directly from the moving gases.



## A combined cycle

- For reasons that will be clear later, most MHD concepts only produce power ABOVE ~ 2600K (which is....HOT!).
- Thus, it *needs to be* a combined cycle to extract energy from the whole temperature spectrum.



Enthalpy into the "top" = mass flow of fuel x HHV = Q Work from the top :  $W_T = \eta_T Q$ 

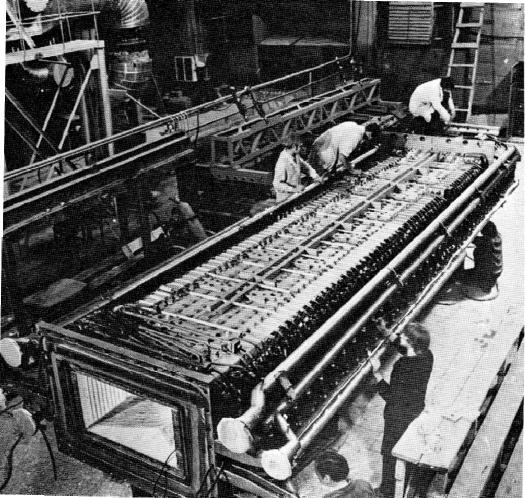
Enthalpy into the "bottom" =  $Q - W_T = Q (1 - \eta_T)$ Work from the bottom:  $W_B = \eta_B$  (Enthalpy into the bottom) =  $Q (\eta_B - \eta_T \eta_B)$ 

Combined cycle efficiency:  $(W_T + W_B)/Q = \eta_T \eta_B - \eta_T \eta_B$ 

 $Example \\ \eta_T = 0.1 (10\%) \\ \eta_B = 0.45 (45\%) \\ Combined \\ Efficiency: \\ .1+.45 - (.1)(.45) \\ = 0.50 (50\%)$ 

# Past MHD topping efforts

- Concept proven in both U.S. and USSR in 70s and 80s
  - US DOE ~680
    million \$ 1978 1993
  - Electricity transferred to grid
- Economic downfall : key factor being materials
  - Electrode damage
  - Seed material use



MHD U25RM diffuser channel (USSR) 1970s From Petrick & Shumyatsky 1978.

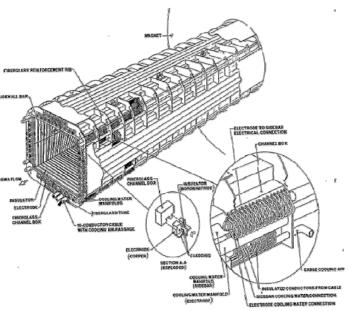
## **Direct Power Extraction** --- then, now, and next....

#### • then:

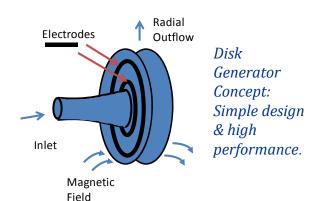
- MHD concept proven in U.S. and USSR in 70s & 80s.
- Electricity transferred to grid.
- Economic downfall : Short electrode life.
- Electrode damage from uncontrolled arcing.
- Seed material use confounded by poor slag control.

#### • now:

- CO<sub>2</sub>-capture-ready is a desired goal.
- Oxyfuel combustion ASU optimization significant energy reduction versus 1980's.
- Availability of magnets (10 Tesla instead of 4.5 Tesla) power per tube ~B<sup>2</sup> implies 4x increase in power!
- Today's slagging combustors may meet slag control goals from 1980s.
- MHD CFD codes enable optimization of generator design with reduced arcing, slag interaction.
- next (?):
  - Disk generator concept.
  - Novel power extraction from unsteady flows (?).



"Advanced MHD Power Train" coal topping generator, US DOE program, 1985



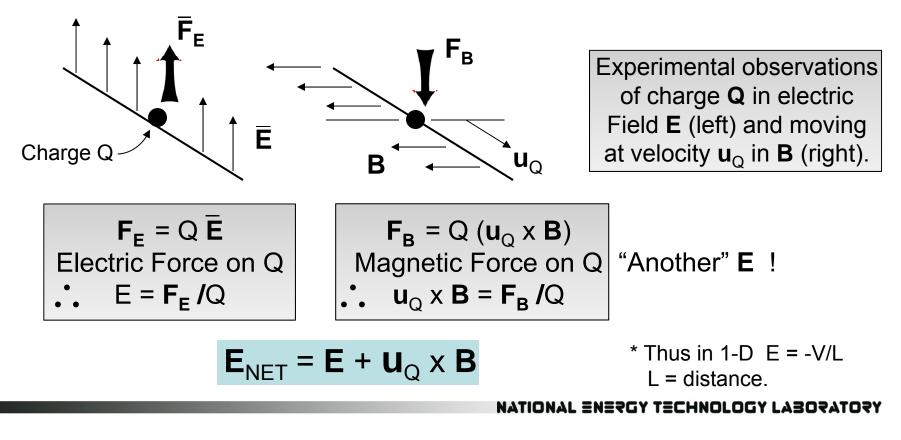
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## **Fundamentals of Electromagnetics**

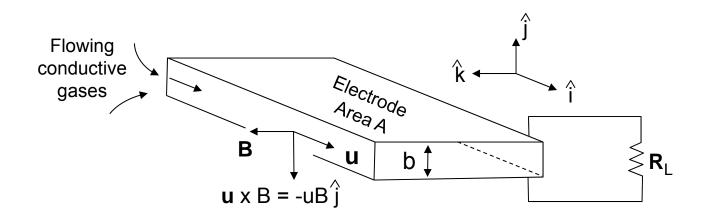
• Electric field **E** is a vector (units: volt/meter)

10

- E can be described by the voltage potential V;  $E = -\nabla V^*$
- By convention, minus sign means **E** points to low voltage
- Magnetic Induction **B** is a vector (units: Tesla = volt·sec/m<sup>2</sup>)

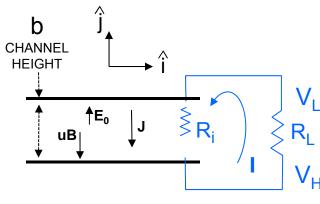


## **A Simple Generator**



- Gas (conductive) flows with bulk velocity  $u\hat{i}$
- Magnetic filed B  $\hat{k}$  is applied as shown.
- The resulting "induced" electric field is  $-uB\hat{j}$
- This field can drive a current flow in the external circuit.
- How is this similar to a conventional generator?

Important Nomenclature Note:  $E_0$  (zero sub) is applied by the external load & does not include magnetic induced field



SIMPLE GENERATOR FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

# **How Much Current Flows?**

#### The current flux is proportioned to E<sub>NET</sub>:

 $J = \sigma E_{NET}$ ;  $\sigma$  = conductivity of media J = current flux vector A = electrode area

[Amps/(volt·meter)] [ Amps/meter<sup>2</sup>] [meter<sup>2</sup>]

 $\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}_{\mathsf{NET}} = \sigma (\mathbf{E}_{0} + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) = \sigma (\mathbf{E}_{0} - \mathsf{uB}) \hat{j}$ 

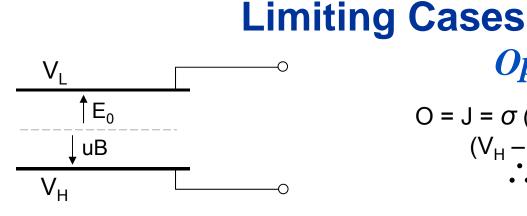
 $R_i = b/\sigma A$  is the resistance to current flow through the plasma – shown "oddly" disconnected since uB drives current in the same place.

From  $\mathbf{E}_0 = -\nabla V$   $\mathbf{E}_0 = - (\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{L}} - \mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{H}}) / b$ ( $\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{L}} = \text{Low Voltage}$   $\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{H}} = \text{High Voltage}$ )  $\mathbf{E}_0 = (\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{H}} - \mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{L}}) / b = I\mathbf{R}_{\mathsf{L}} / b$  (Ohm's Law)

Define open circuit  $R_L \rightarrow$  infinite, then J = 0 implies  $E_0$  = uB from above. Then,  $V_{oc}$  = uBb (open circuit voltage)

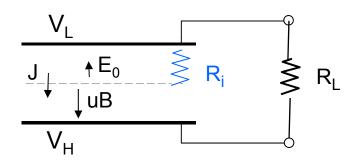
$$I = \frac{uBb}{b/\sigma A + R_L} = \frac{V_{oc}}{R_i + R_L} ; R_i \equiv internal resistance$$

Note : as typical,  $V_{oc}$  is a voltage difference while  $V_H$  and  $V_L$  are measured relative to ground

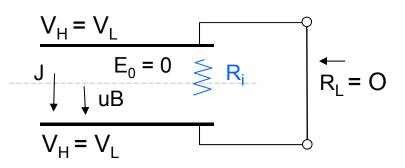


## **Open Circuit**

$$O = J = \sigma (E_0 - uB) \longrightarrow E_0 = uB$$
$$(V_H - V_L)/b = E_0 = uB$$
$$\therefore V_{oc} = uBb$$



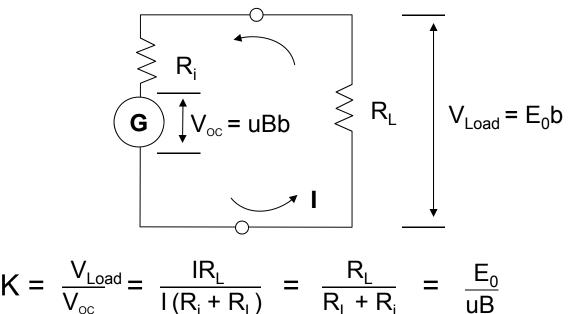
Generating Circuit  $E_0 < uB; J = \sigma (E_0 - uB)$  $\therefore I = V_{oc}/(R_i + R_L)$ 



13

Short Circuit  $E_0 = (V_H - V_L)/b = O$   $I = \frac{V_{oc}}{R_i + R_L = O} = \frac{V_{oc}}{R_i}$ 

# **Electrical Analogy**

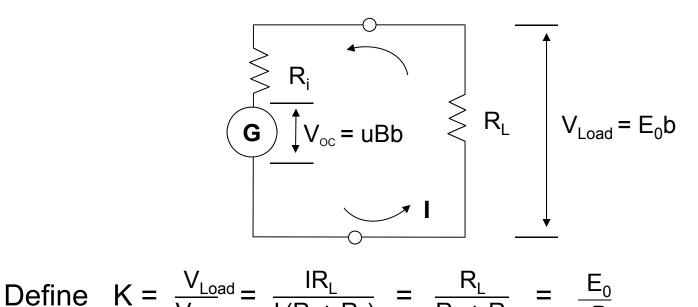


Define 
$$K = \frac{V_{Load}}{V_{oc}} = \frac{II(R_i + R_L)}{I(R_i + R_L)} = \frac{II(R_i - R_L)}{R_L + R_i} = \frac{L}{UE}$$

### **Several interpretations for K:**

- 1. Ratio of load to O.C. voltage
- 2. Ratio of load resistance to total resistance
- 3. An efficiency (why ? Multiply by  $I/I \Rightarrow$  load power/total power)
- 4. A ratio of the "applied" field  $E_0$  to "generated" field uB

## **Electrical Analogy – Power Produced**



$$V_{oc}$$
 I( $R_i + R_L$ )  $R_L + R_i$  uB

#### The power to the load is power = (current x load voltage):

$$I = A J \quad ; I = A \sigma (E_0 - uB) = A \sigma uB (K - 1)$$
$$V_{Load} = b E_0 = b uB K$$
$$Power = I \times V; Power = Ab \sigma u^2B^2 K (K - 1)$$
$$Power density = Power/(Ab) = \sigma u^2B^2 K (K - 1)$$

15

## **Next slides - overview**

What you just heard:

 $J_y = \sigma (E_0 - uB) \rightarrow a simple generator$ 

### What you will hear next:

- A complication arises from the Hall Effect
  - ...the <u>flowing current</u> also interacts significantly with B
- Thus, we find:

$$J_{x} = \frac{\sigma}{1 + \mu_{e}B^{2}} (E_{0x} - \mu_{e} B \{E_{0y} - uB\})$$
$$J_{y} = \frac{\sigma}{1 + \mu_{e}B^{2}} (\{E_{0y} - uB\} + \mu_{e} B E_{0x})$$

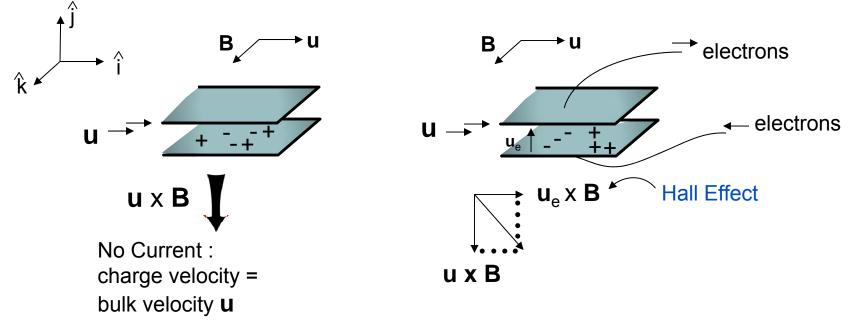
• You can impose  $E_{0x}$  or  $E_{0y}$  by applying different electrical boundary conditions via electrode geometry

## **Complications From the Hall Effect**

- Most MHD: charge is carried by electrons
- By convention, electrons move against E

(17

- The electron current flow has an associate charge velocity  $\mathbf{u}_{e}$
- Must account for the interaction between  $\mathbf{u}_{e}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  (Hall Effect)



## Hall Effect "Tilts" the Field – How Much?

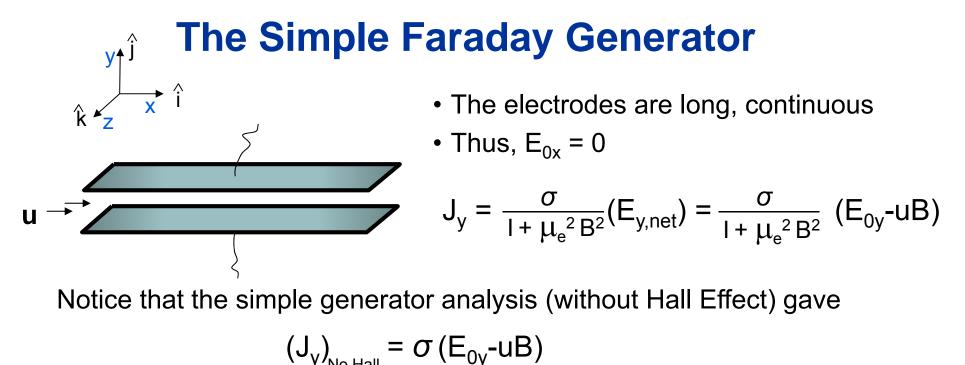
Caution: note this is a simplification for clarity;  $\mathbf{u}_{e}$  may not be aligned with the y-axis

## **Some Cyphering**

- The velocity of electrons in a field is  $\overline{u}_e = -\mu_e (E_{net} + u_e \times B)$  (i)
- The mobility  $\mu_e$  is related to conductivity as  $n_e e \mu_e = \sigma$

18

• The **B** field is assumed independent of current flow **B** = B  $\hat{k}$ 



Thus, the Hall Effect reduces the y-current by:

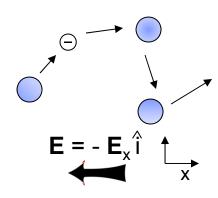
19

$$\frac{1}{I + \mu_e{}^2 B^2}$$

What is the magnitude of meaning of  $J_x$ ?  $J_x = \frac{\sigma}{I + \mu_e^2 B^2} (0 - \mu_e B E_{net,y}) = \frac{\sigma}{I + \mu_e^2 B^2} (-\mu_e B [E_{0y} - uB]) = -\mu_e B J_y$ 

The Hall effect leads to an x-current that is  $\mu_e B$  times the y-current. How big is  $\mu_e B$ ? (Next Slide)

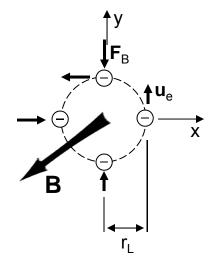
# The Magnitude of $\mu_e B$



Consider the x-direction force on the electron between collisions time  $\, \tau \,$ 

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{e}} &= \mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{e}} \, \frac{\mathsf{d} \mathsf{u}_{\mathsf{e}}}{\mathsf{d} \mathsf{t}} \, ; \, -\mathsf{e}\mathsf{E}_{\mathsf{x}} \, \cong \mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{e}} \, \frac{\mathsf{\mu}_{\mathsf{e}}, \, {}_{\mathsf{mean}}}{\tau} \, ) \quad (\mathsf{i}) \\ \\ \mathsf{But, we also write:} & & (\mathsf{ii}) \\ & - \, \mu_{\mathsf{e}}\mathsf{E}_{\mathsf{x}} = \, \mathsf{u}_{\mathsf{e}, \, \mathsf{mean}} \\ \\ \mathsf{Combining} \, (\mathsf{i}) \, \mathsf{and} \, (\mathsf{ii}) : \, \mu_{\mathsf{e}} = \tau \mathsf{e}/\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{e}} \quad (\mathsf{iii}) \end{split}$$

We can also express a magnetic field in terms of a "cyclotron frequency"  $\omega$ , next:



20

 $\mathbf{F}_{B} = -\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}_{e} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{B})$ 

In the absence of other forces/collisions, the electron will experience a force at right angles to its motion  $\Rightarrow$  circular orbit  $r_L$ , consider the force:

 $F_{B} = -m_{e}u_{e}^{2}/r_{L}$ -eu\_{e}B = -m\_{e}u\_{e}^{2}/r\_{L} \Rightarrow \frac{u\_{e}}{r\_{L}}\frac{m\_{e}}{e} = B Define cyclotron frequency  $\omega = u_{e}/r_{L} \Rightarrow B = \omega m_{e}/e$  (iv)

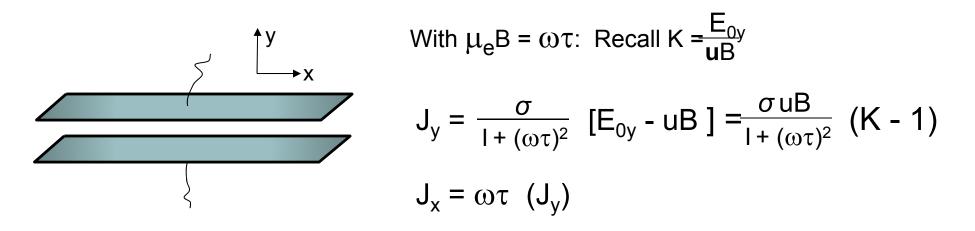
Combine (iii) and (iv) :  $\mu_e B = \omega \tau$  *"Hall parameter"* 

 $\omega \tau >> 1 \Rightarrow$  lots of cycles before collisions

 $\omega \tau ~ \mathbf{1} \Rightarrow$  collide ~ one cycle

 $\omega \tau \ll 1 \Rightarrow$  lots of collisions before a cycle is complete

## **Return to Faraday Generator**



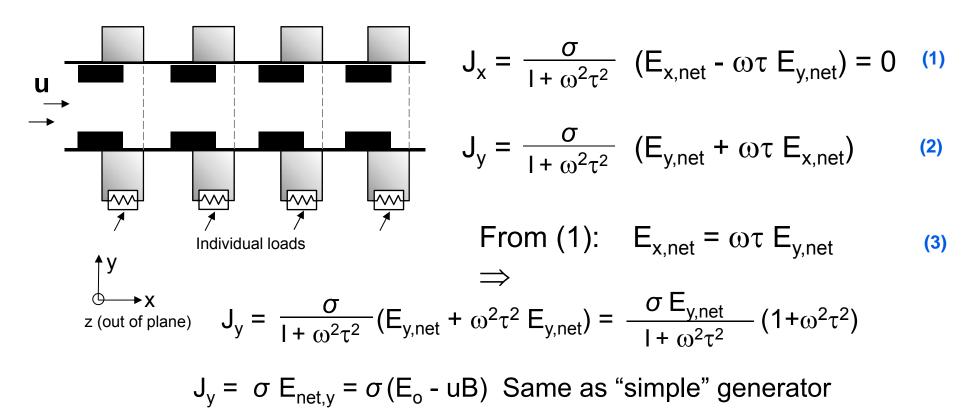
For practical MHD  $1 < \omega \tau < 10...$  implies:

- 1) Significant reduction in J<sub>v</sub> versus "simple" model
- 2) Large axial (x) current flow creates ohmic losses

How could you improve this situation?

## **Segmented Electrodes**

Break up the x-current so that  $J_x = 0$ : (why does this stop the Hall current?)\*



Notice that the axial voltage gradient is potentially very large (eqn. 3)

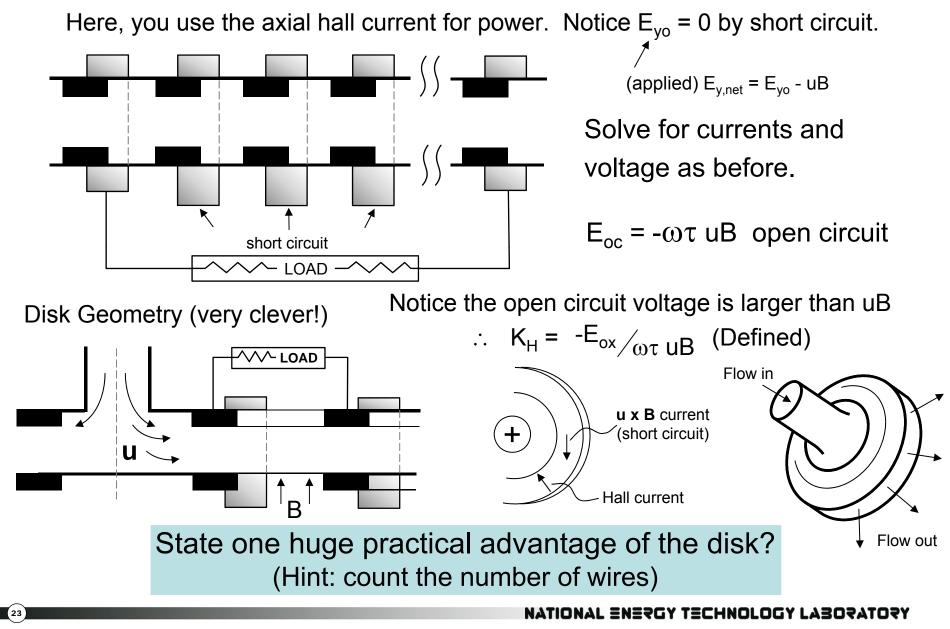
What practical disadvantages exist with this concept?

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\* It has no return path.

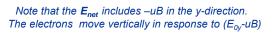
22

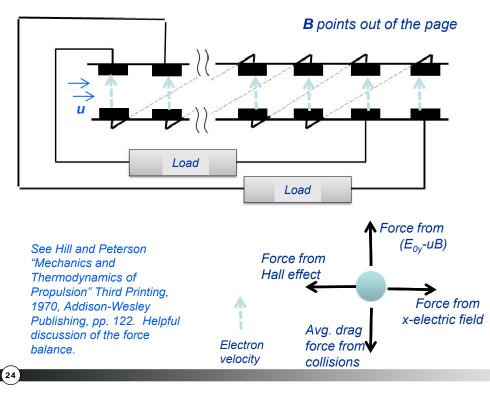
## **Hall Generators**

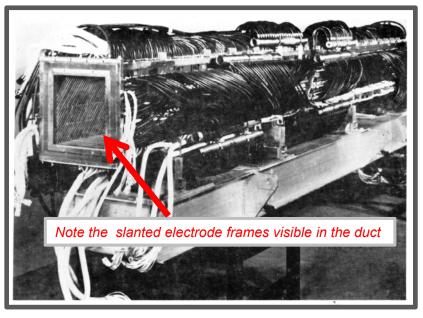


### An intermediate approach: Slanted (diagonal) electrode connections

- Electrode connections establish  $E_{0x}$  and  $E_{0y}$  so that the electrons experience a force from the Hall field that is balanced by the  $E_{0x}$  imposed by the electrodes.
- Thus, the current only flows vertically in the channel.
- Equal Potential line
- This balance exists at just one operating condition.





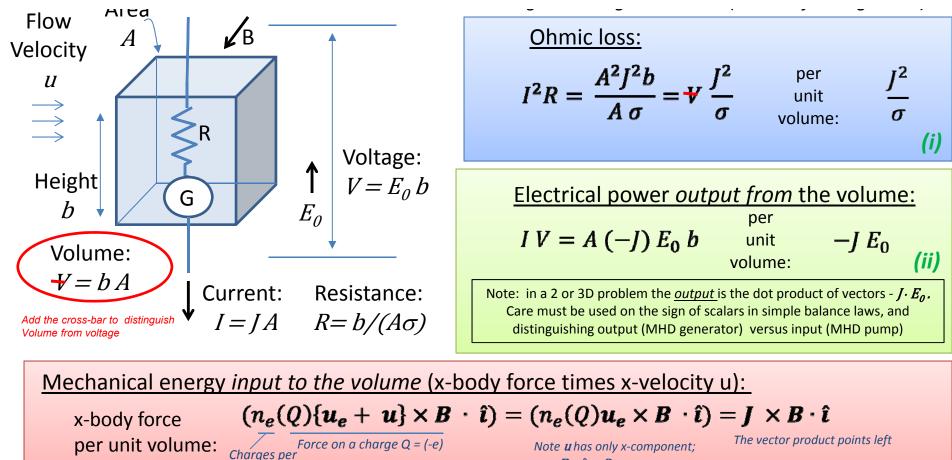


From: Quarterly Technical Progress Report, July 1 – Sept 30, 1985, Component Development and Integration Facility Work performed under DOE DE-AC07-781D01745; Original Reports currently available only at NETL .

## Fluid mechanics and thermodynamics

25

#### 1-D Energy Balance



Thus, mechanical energy input per unit volume: -JBu (iii)

Use the earlier definition of load factor K: recall 0 < K < 1 use (i - iii)

$$K = \frac{E_0}{(u B)} ; J = \sigma u B (K - 1)$$

unit volume

(1) ohmic loss =  $\sigma \ u^2 B^2 (K-1)^2$ (2) electrical power out =  $-\sigma \ u^2 B^2 K (K-1)$ (3) mech power input =  $-\sigma \ u^2 B^2 (K-1)$ As expected : (1) + (2) = (3)

## A summary of mass, momentum and energy

(1-D simplification, steady flow, constant area duct, neglect thermal conduction and viscous effects) For a comprehensive development of the governing equations, see for example: Hughes W.F., Young, F. J. (1989). *The Electrodynamics of Fluids*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Robert E. Krieger Publishing.

### Again, treat J as a negative scalar

 $\frac{d(\rho \, u)}{dx} = 0$ 

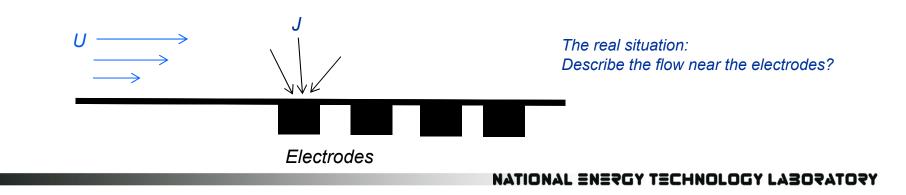
Continuity: Familiar

 $\frac{dP}{dx} + \rho u \frac{du}{dx} = J B$ 

**Momentum eqn:** Note JB is the body force from last page. With negative J, what does this do to pressure along X?

$$\rho u C_p \frac{dT}{dx} + \rho u^2 \frac{du}{dx} = -(-J E_0)$$
$$= - (output)$$

**Energy eqn:** note this is written with the source term (right side) as the negative of the <u>output</u> defined on the last page. What does the source term do to the enthalpy of the flow along X?



## **Conductivity in the gaseous media**

- In conventional electrical generators, a long copper wire moves at a relatively slow speed through a modest magnetic field.
- The conductivity of the gases in MHD is comparatively low, even when "seeded", next slide.
- MHD power extraction is practical only because of the high velocity U, strong field B, large volume conductor, and "adequate" conductivity

Power output density =  $-J \bullet E_0 = -\sigma U^2 B^2 K (K-1)$ 

Copper 
$$\sigma \sim = 6 \times 10^7$$
 Siemen/m

Seeded MHD  $\sigma \sim = 10$  Siemen/m

Siemen = 1/ohm

# **Gas Conductivity: Seeding**

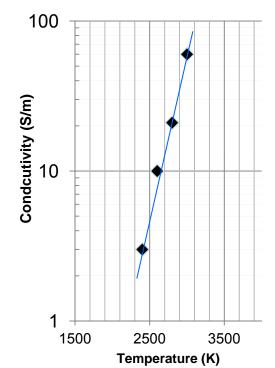
| Current flow depends on conductivity $J = \sigma E$   | Ionization Potentials |                         |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|   | Species               | lonization<br>potential |
| Simple generator: Power density   |                       | E <sub>i</sub> (eV)     |
| $\mathbf{P} = -\mathbf{J} \bullet \mathbf{E}_0 = -\sigma \ \mathbf{U}^2 \mathbf{B}^2 \mathbf{K} \ (\mathbf{K} - 1)$ | Li                    | 5.39                    |
| The power density is maximum at   | Na<br><mark>K</mark>  | 5.14<br><b>4.34</b>     |
| The power density is maximum at   | Cs                    | 3.89                    |
| $K = \frac{1}{2}$ $\therefore$ $P_{max} = \sigma U^2 B^2/4$   | He                    | 24.58                   |
|   | Ne                    | 21.56                   |
| Reasonable Design:  | NC                    | 21.00                   |
|   | Α                     | 15.76                   |
| $10MW/m^3 = P_{max}; UB = 2000V/M$  | $H_2$                 | 15.6                    |
|   | $O_2$                 | 12.05                   |
| $\sigma \approx 10 \text{ S/m} \text{ (S=Siemen = 1/ohm)}$  | 0                     | 13.61                   |
| Trees as a lost a   | $N_2$                 | 15.6                    |
| Two points:   | NŌ                    | 9.26                    |
| 1. The <u>magnitude</u> of the conductivity with  |                       |                         |
|   | CO                    | 14.1                    |
| temperature: operating temp ~ > 2600K   | $CO_2$                | 14.4                    |
| 2. The slope versus temperature: very sensitive   | H₂Ō                   | 12.6                    |
|   | ŌН                    | 13.8                    |
|   | U                     | 6.1                     |
|   |                       |                         |

Electrodes

29

Data from Swithenbank, J, (1974),

Magnetohydrodynamics and Electrodynamics of Combustion Systems, in "Combustion Technology: Some Modern Developments" Palmer, H.B., Beer, J.M. [eds] Academic Press. Conductivity is for JP4-oxygen combustion products with 1% K seed.



*The real situation: Describe the conductivity near the electrodes?* 

## Seeding

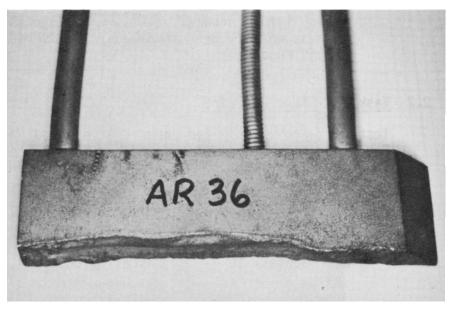
- Seeding is used to raise the conductivity of the combustion products.
- The seed recovery was a major cost item and technical barrier in earlier MHD programs.

30

 Would this change in a carbon capture scenario where the entire flue gas was sought for capture?

## **Electrodes**

- Cooled electrodes must operate with high surface temperature to reduce quenching conductivity and heat loss near the walls.
- Complicated by thermal, chemical, and electrical attack.
- Some tests suggest reasonable life is possible in slag free (gas fuel operation) or with better slag removal.
- Current instability can lead to arcing concentrated current flows – burning the surface.
  - State of the art electronics may reduce this problem

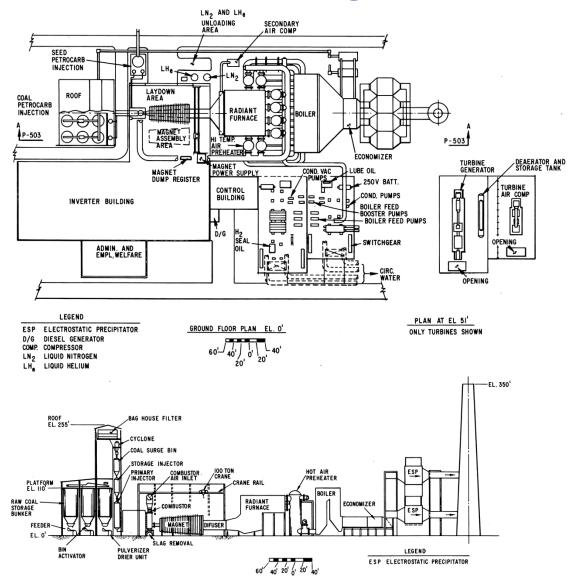


### Layout of a Power Plant Configuration

What would be different in a carbon capture scheme?

What might be removed for future electric grids?

General arrangement plan and elevation view for the MHD plant



Petrick, M., Shumyatsky, Y.A. (1977)

32

## A few comments

- Various literature citations suggest different efficiency benefits of the concept.
  - *Enthalpy extraction* from the combustor to MHD exit is a key.
  - Conductivity vs. temperature in existing concepts limits on the enthalpy extraction.
  - Kayukawa (2004) reviews some interesting options for efficiency gains.
- The actual component behavior and performance needs to be understood before development is pursued.
  - A ideal application for cybercombustion!
  - Validated simulations where do we get the data to validate? Next slide.
- Can we develop a different approach for *Direct Power Extraction*?
  - Unsteady flow (e.g. periodic)?

33

– Non-equilibrium plasmas – how about behind a detonation?

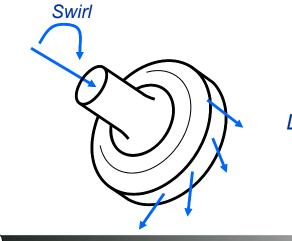
Kayukawa, N. (2004). Open-Cycle magnetohydrodynamic power generation: a review and future perspectives. Progress in Energy and Combustion Science, Vol 30, pp. 33-60.

#### MHD literature background – A source of validation data?

- The legacy MHD program was managed by DOE's PETC (NETL predecessor).
  - In 1994, Congress wanted DOE to archive the information learned in the program so "costs and time to reestablish a viable MHD effort could be minimized"
    - That information is still in more than 90 boxes at NETL
    - Currently being read and selectively scanned at NETL
    - This may be the largest set of information on MHD (for power) anywhere!
  - Contact NETL if you'd like to hear more about this.

## **Discussion/thinking/homework**

1. Show using a simple drawing what can happen to the Hall current in a Disk Generator what you add swirl to the inlet flow?

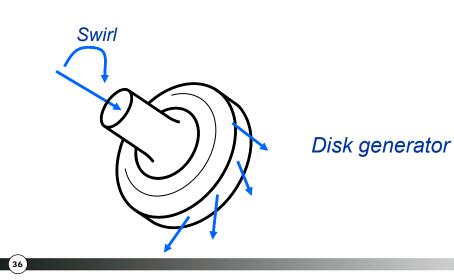


35

Disk generator

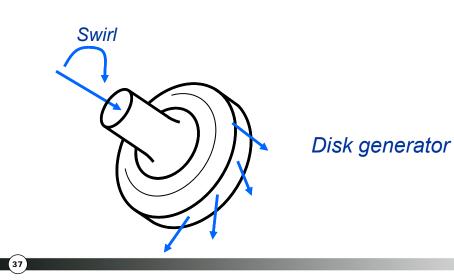
## **Discussion/thinking/homework**

- 1. Using a simple drawing, show what can happen to the Hall current in a Disk Generator what you add swirl to the inlet flow?
- 2. Go to the internet and find the account of Michael Faraday trying to measure MHD voltage in the Thames river.
  - Estimate the voltage he should have measured?
  - Can you think of any other situations in nature where MHD physics might be significant?



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# Summary

- <u>Direct Power Extraction</u> from high-temperature oxy-fuel flames is possible using magnetohydrodyanmics.
- The concept has been explored in the past.

38

- New drivers of CO2 capture and progress in oxy-fuel combustion suggest a "new look" may be worthwhile.
- In a combined cycle, the efficiency could be very high, but:
  - Power extraction is limited by conductivity versus lower temperature for traditional seeded flows
  - Need to address technical challenges of seed recovery, electrode life....or find a new innovation!
- Computational models offer a new approach to development that did not exist in earlier programs.
- In progress: Review of old data for simulation validation cases and exploration of innovative/new approaches.