

Mach Effect Gravitational Assist Drive Drs. Heidi Fearn & J. F. Woodward

MEGA drive



FOUNDATIONS OF INTERSTELLAR STUDIES



Workshop on Interstellar Flight City Tech, CUNY, New York, USA June 13-15 2017





How to get a DC acceleration from oscillating masses ?



$$a_{com} = \ddot{x}_{com} = \left(\frac{1}{m_1 + m_2}\right) \left[2\left(\dot{m}_1\dot{x}_1 + \dot{m}_2\dot{x}_2\right) + \left(m_1\ddot{x}_1 + m_2\ddot{x}_2\right) + \left(\ddot{m}_1x_1 + \ddot{m}_2x_2\right)\right] \\ - \left(\frac{2}{(m_1 + m_2)^2}\right) \left[\dot{m}_1 + \dot{m}_2\right] \left[(m_1\dot{x}_1 + m_2\dot{x}_2) + \left(\dot{m}_1x_1 + \dot{m}_2x_2\right)\right] \\ - \left(\frac{1}{(m_1 + m_2)^2}\right) \left[m_1x_1 + m_2x_2\right] \left[\ddot{m}_1 + \ddot{m}_2\right] + \left(\frac{2}{(m_1 + m_2)^3}\right) \left[m_1x_1 + m_2x_2\right] \left[\dot{m}_1 + \dot{m}_2\right]^2$$

Using $(m_1\ddot{x}_1 + m_2\ddot{x}_2) = 0$ from Eq. (2), the total mechanical momentum p is given by,

$$p = m_1 \dot{x}_1 + m_2 \dot{x}_2$$

$$\dot{p} = (\dot{m}_1 \dot{x}_1 + \dot{m}_2 \dot{x}_2) + (m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + m_2 \ddot{x}_2) = (\dot{m}_1 \dot{x}_1 + \dot{m}_2 \dot{x}_2)$$

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = -k(x_1 - x_2 - L) + F_{12}$$

$$m_2 \ddot{x}_2 = +k(x_1 - x_2 - L) + F_{21}$$

adding these equations gives,

$$\begin{split} m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + m_2 \ddot{x}_2 &= -k(x_1 - x_2 - L) + F_{12} + k(x_1 - x_2 - L) + F_{21} \\ F_{12} &= -F_{21} \\ \implies m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + m_2 \ddot{x}_2 &= 0. \end{split}$$

The COM of this mass-spring arrangement is given by

$$x_{com} = \left(\frac{m_1 x_1 + m_2 x_2}{m_1 + m_2}\right)$$

The acceleration of the COM, for masses taken to be constant, is therefore

$$a_{com} = \ddot{x}_{com} = \left(\frac{m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + m_2 \ddot{x}_2}{m_1 + m_2}\right) = 0$$

$$p = m_1 \dot{x}_1 + m_2 \dot{x}_2$$

$$\dot{p} = \left(\dot{m}_1 \dot{x}_1 + \dot{m}_2 \dot{x}_2\right) + \left(m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + m_2 \ddot{x}_2\right) = \left(\dot{m}_1 \dot{x}_1 + \dot{m}_2 \dot{x}_2\right)$$

We will take the force to be approximated by $F = \dot{m}\dot{x}$ for Eq. (6) where the extension of the stack with six, 2-56 stainless steel bolts, is $\Delta x \sim 5\mu m$ and the resonant frequency of operation is ~ 36 kHz, so the period of oscillation is $\Delta t \sim 2.75 \times 10^{-5}$ seconds. So $\dot{x} = \Delta x / \Delta t = 0.18$ m/s. Using the first term in Eq. (18) the value of $\delta m \sim 6.27 \times 10^{-6}$ kg. Using Power, P = I V, current I = 0.5 A, V=200 volts, density PZT, $\rho = 7.9 \times 10^{-3}$ kg/m³ and $G = 6.674 \times 10^{-11}$ m³kg⁻¹s². We find the force $F \approx 1.09 \,\mu N$. The order of magnitude of this force is correct.

$$\delta m_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\frac{1}{\rho_0 c^2} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} - \left(\frac{1}{\rho_0 c^2} \right)^2 \frac{P^2}{V} \right]$$



The MET being tested mounted in the half-shell of a mu metal lined Faraday cage.





CSUF Balance beam.



On the left, two views of a flexural bearing used to support the beam of the thrust balance. Note the crossed metal strips that provide restoring torque when the balance beam is displaced, causing the bearing parts to rotate. On the right, a closeup of the galinstan (liquid metal) contacts used to transfer power to the device in the Faraday cage.



The thrust balance in the clear acrylic vacuum chamber. Feed-throughs for the electronics are obscured by the vacuum line to the pump.





Neodymium-boron magnetic damper.



Thrust graph (red plot) (Woodward)

Thrust graph (Buldrini)

192

194

Relative Time [s]

200 202

198

196

JFW Average of about 12 runs.

Slides taken from paper of Nembo Buldrini- Estes Park Adv. Propulsion Workshop. Sept 2016.. Free pdf book available ssi.org



0.15µN

186

188

190

The transients seem to give a higher thrust than the steady thrust shown… can we use this??

The on and off transients are in opposite directions can we overcome this problem?

YES.. Chirp the frequency \cdots start off freq. then chirp onto the resonant freq. or vice versa

Chirping with the demo device in preparation for a visitor.

19mm disc SM-111 PZT , 3/4" brass mass & 1/4" Aluminum end masses. Res. freq ~36 kHz.

Color code:

thrust: medvoltage: medvoltage: blue Strain Gauge: brown VCO control voltage: green

Picoscope 4424 data



Green line shows INVERTED sweep of frequency. Starts high and sweeps down to resonance.



Spectrum of the device tested (response to white noise). Arrow points to the 36 KHz resonance used. Standford Research 780 vector network analyzer (VNA).

Picoscope 4424 data… (0.15 V per 1uN)



Several chirps taken sequentially. Green line is inverted. The chirp starts at high frequency come down to resonance.

Picoscope 4424 data (0.15 V per 1 uN)



Shows some thermal drift.

Picoscope 4424 data (0.15 V per 1 uN)



The direction of the device has been reversed.



The first two chirps are with 37.0 KHz as the chirped to frequency (the steady value of the VCO control frequency [green trace]. Realizing the error, the frequency was changed to 35.8 KHz between the second and third chirps. Resonance was 36.3 kHz.

Note the behavior in the third and fourth chirps where the resonant frequency is swept in the chirp.



Last run of the day. Various little tweaks to make things pretty.



Off switching transient is now suppressed. Chirp away from resonance to higher frequency. The switch on transient is apparent.



Estes Park Advanced Propulsion workshop, Sept 19-22, 2016.

One of the developments emerging at the workshop was that there are now three independent labs where Mach effects are seen (in addition to CSUF):

*Nembo Buldrini, FOTEC, Austria
*George Hathaway, Toronto, Canada
*Martin Tajmar, TU Dresden, Germany

Are there improvements we can make ?

Scanning Electron Microscope



3/8" diam cylinder



Improvements ?? The material we are using PZT SM-111 SEM photos of SM-111 material and APC material



Fuji Film - Pressure sensitive film







Improvements ??





Fujifilm pressure sensitive Paper. Records pressure on the stack when clamped at 4 in lbs.

Possible solution: Kapton or lead gasket or Machine a dome on the brass and aluminum end masses.



Dome shape profile;









Results of the theoretical Modal by Jose Rodal 2016-2017





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Voltage to the fourth power law scaling...

• Runs were performed from Aug – mid Sept for both the forward and reversed directions of the device.

• Thrust versus applied voltage data were recorded and plotted each day as a series. The forward direction are shown on the next slide.. The clustering is due to particular amplifier settings.

• Mass fluctuation goes as rate of change of power V²/R and electrostriction goes as electric field squared or V²/d² hence V14 law.

Forward runs (thrust 0.15volts = 1 uN)



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Forward Thrust Thrust vs. Voltage

Forward runs





Reversed runs (0.15 volts = 1 uN)



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Reversed runs



The New "tiny" Lab



My esteemed collaborators on NIAC-

Dr. Marshall Eubanks, Astrophysics, coms./nav. & probe design. • Gary Hudson (ssi.org) coms./nav. & probe design. Dr. Bruce Long, EE, power supply & probe design. Paul March, EE, power & freq. feedback control, cooling, EM drive work. Dr. José Rodal, theoretical model & probe design. Nolan van Rossum BS., student CAD design. Dr. James F. Woodward, theory and experiment, +40 years of work.

240

280

•

40

Proxima

160

The End



Like Columbus, who found the New World while seeking a way to the Old, explorers who make landfall on unexpected continents of ideas are often unprepared to accept what they have found. They keep on seeking what they set out to find.

Frank Wilczek

Wrong theories are not an impediment to the progress of science; they are a central part of the struggle.



Mach Effects for In-Space Propulsion: *An Interstellar Mission*







Dr, Heidi Fearn, Dr. José Rodal, Dr. Marshall Dr. Bruce Long, Dr. James F. Woodward, Paul March and Gary C Hudson



5.2 HN-theory field equation \rightarrow mass change formula

Let's define the HN-field equation (in a smooth fluid) as follows (which agrees with Eq.(16) in reference [4]) by grouping terms together;

$$R_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\alpha\beta}R = -8\pi G(T_{\alpha\beta} + \delta T_{\alpha\beta}) \quad \text{where} -(8\pi G)\delta T_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{2}{m}(g_{\alpha\beta}g^{\mu\nu}m_{;\mu\nu} - m_{;\alpha\beta}) + \frac{4}{m^2}(m_{;\alpha}m_{;\beta} - \frac{1}{4}m_{;\gamma}m^{;\gamma}g_{\alpha\beta})$$
(90)

Now we expand the terms out. Let us put back in c and not set it equal to one, which can be confusing. The terms in μ , ν mix the time and spatial derivatives in an unexpected way.

Consider first the T_{00} and T_{jj} terms separately, using flat metric (+1,-1,-1),

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \delta T_{00} &= \frac{2}{m} \left[g_{00} \left(\frac{g^{00}}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} + g^{jj} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} \right) - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{4}{m^2} \left[\frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{g_{00}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{m} \left[\frac{1}{e^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} - \frac{1}{e^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{1}{m^2} \left[\frac{4}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= -\frac{2}{m} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} + \frac{1}{m^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{m^2 c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

(91)

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \delta T_{jj} &= \frac{2}{m} \left[g_{jj} \left(\frac{g^{00}}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} + g^{jj} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} \right) - \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{4}{m^2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 - \frac{g_{jj}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{2}{m} \left[-\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} - \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} \right] \\ &+ \frac{1}{m^2} \left[4 \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= -\frac{2}{mc^2} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} + \frac{3}{m^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{m^2 c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

where j = 1, 2 or 3. Now take the trace of $T_{\alpha\alpha}$ where $\alpha = 0, 1, 2, 3$ by adding the last two equations.

$$-\frac{8\pi G}{c^4} \operatorname{Tr}(\delta T_{\alpha\alpha}) = -\frac{2}{m} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} + \frac{4}{m^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j}\right)^2 + \frac{4}{m^2 c^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t}\right)^2 - \frac{2}{m c} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2}$$
$$\frac{1}{c^2} \operatorname{Tr}(\delta T_{\alpha\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\left\{ \frac{1}{m} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial t^2} - \frac{2}{m^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t}\right)^2 \right\} + \left\{ \frac{c^2}{m} \frac{\partial^2 m}{\partial x_j^2} - \frac{2c^2}{m^2} \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial x_j}\right)^2 \right\} \right]$$
(93)

Fearn & Woodward

(92)

Maxwell---Linear Gravity in S.I.

$$\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0} \dots \nabla \cdot E_g = -4\pi G\rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot B = 0 \dots \nabla \cdot B_g = 0$$

$$\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} \dots \nabla \times E_g = -\frac{\partial B_g}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times B = \mu_0 J + \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \dots \nabla \times B_g = -\frac{16\pi G}{c^2} J_g + \frac{4}{c^2} \frac{\partial E_g}{\partial t}$$

$$E = -\nabla \phi - \frac{\partial A}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla^2 \phi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = 4\pi G\rho$$

$$E_g = -\nabla \phi_g - \frac{\partial A_g}{\partial t}$$

$$E_g = \nabla \times A_g$$

Woodward's Approach: In 1953 Dennis Sciama [1] the "gravelectric" field is given by:

$$\mathbf{E}_{g} = -\nabla\phi - \frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial\mathbf{A}_{g}}{\partial t}$$

where \mathbf{E}_{g} is the gravelectric field strength, F_g/m and $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ and \mathbf{A}_{g} are the scalar and threevector potentials of the field.

This A_g is fully consistent with the modified PPN approx, where a Lorentz transformation is used on the flat space-time metric, Nordvedt [2,7], Sultana & Kazanas [3], Cook [4].

Woodward: In analogy with electrodynamics where the force per unit charge is given by the electric field, and Div E = $4 \pi \rho$

where ρ is the charge per unit vol. in Gaussian units.

4-force/mass

$$F^{\mu} = -\left(\frac{c}{\rho_o}\frac{\partial\rho_o}{\partial t}, E_g\right)$$

The Divergence of the force/mass for the gravitational field Is given by , $\partial_{\mu} F^{\mu} = A \pi G \rho$

$$\partial_{\mu}F^{\mu} = 4\pi G\rho$$

where ρ is mass per unit vol. (metric - +++). Expanding...

MORE MATH THAN YOU WANTED TO SEE...

$$-\frac{1}{c^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\left(\frac{1}{\rho_o}\frac{\partial E_o}{\partial t}\right) - \nabla \cdot E_g = 4\pi G\rho$$

where E_o is energy density and $E_o = \rho_o c^2$

$$-\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2} \frac{\partial^2 E_o}{\partial t^2} + \left(\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\partial E_o}{\partial t}\right)^2 - \nabla \cdot E_g = 4\pi G\rho$$
$$-\nabla \cdot E_g = \nabla^2 \phi$$
$$E_o = \rho_o \phi$$
$$-\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2} \frac{\partial^2 E_o}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{2}{\rho_o c^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \frac{\partial \rho_o}{\partial t} - \frac{\phi}{\rho_o c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \rho_o}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla^{2}\phi - \frac{1}{c^{2}}\frac{\partial^{2}\phi}{\partial t^{2}} - \frac{2}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}\frac{\partial\rho_{o}}{\partial t} - \frac{\phi}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\frac{\partial^{2}\rho_{o}}{\partial t^{2}} + \left(\frac{1}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\right)^{2}\left(\frac{\partial E_{o}}{\partial t}\right)^{2} = 4\pi G\rho$$

$$E_{o} = \rho_{o}c^{2}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\right)^{2}\left(\frac{\partial E_{o}}{\partial t}\right)^{2} = \left(\frac{1}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\right)^{2}\left(\rho_{o}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t} + \phi\frac{\partial\rho_{o}}{\partial t}\right)^{2} = \frac{1}{c^{4}}\left(\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}\right)^{2} + \frac{2\phi}{\rho_{o}c^{4}}\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}\frac{\partial\rho_{o}}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\phi}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\right)^{2}\left(\frac{\partial\rho_{o}}{\partial t}\right)^{2}$$

$$\nabla^{2}\phi - \frac{1}{c^{2}}\frac{\partial^{2}\phi}{\partial t^{2}} = 4\pi G\rho + \frac{\phi}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\frac{\partial^{2}\rho_{o}}{\partial t^{2}} - \left(\frac{\phi}{\rho_{o}c^{2}}\right)^{2}\left(\frac{\partial\rho_{o}}{\partial t}\right)^{2} - \frac{1}{c^{4}}\left(\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}\right)^{2}$$

$$\nabla^{2}\phi - \frac{1}{c^{2}}\frac{\partial^{2}\phi}{\partial t^{2}} = 4\pi G\rho + \left[-\frac{1}{m^{2}}\left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial t}\right)^{2} + \frac{1}{m}\frac{\partial^{2}m}{\partial t^{2}}\right]$$

Note the transient terms on the RHS of the eqn.

Last of the math!

$$\begin{split} &\delta\rho_o(t) \approx \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\frac{\phi}{\rho_o c^4} \frac{\partial^2 E_o}{\partial t^2} - \left(\frac{\phi}{\rho_o c^4}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\partial E_o}{\partial t}\right)^2 \right] \\ &\delta\rho_o(t) \approx \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2} \frac{\partial^2 E_o}{\partial t^2} - \left(\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\partial E_o}{\partial t}\right)^2 \right] \\ &\rho_o = m_o/V \\ &E_o = \varepsilon/V \\ &\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = P \\ &\frac{\delta m_o(t)}{V} \approx \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\frac{1}{\rho_o V c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon}{\partial t^2} - \left(\frac{1}{\rho_o c^2 V}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t}\right)^2 \right] \end{split}$$

$$\phi = c^2$$

thus can write δm in terms of Power P...

THE "MACH EFFECT" EQUATION

QUANTIFIES THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PREDICTED MASS FLUCTUATIONS IN ACCELERATED OBJECTS:

$$\delta m_0 \approx \frac{1}{4\pi G} \left[\frac{1}{\rho_0 c^2} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} - \left(\frac{1}{\rho_0 c^2} \right)^2 \frac{P^2}{V} \right]$$

- The linear term in P [the power delivered to a capacitor] is the "impulse engine" term.
- The quadratic term in P is the "wormhole" term (because it is always negative), normally a factor of 1/c² smaller than the impulse engine term.
- Note, however, that this is only true for extended objects undergoing "bulk" accelerations. Fearn & Woodward