



SPACE TRIPS SUMMER SCHOOL



Theme 9: SPACE

Riga Latvia

June 17-20 , 2 0 1 4

MHD GENERATOR

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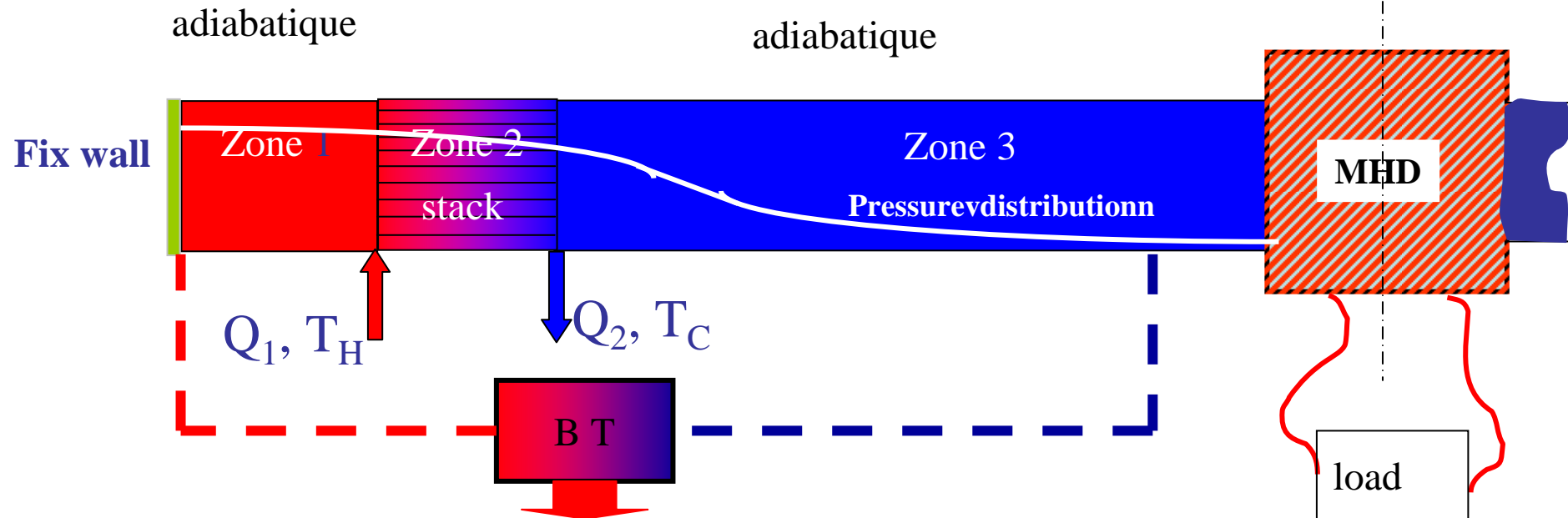
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SCHEDULE OF THE PRESENTATION



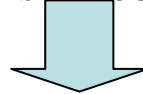
- 1- Problematic of the subject**
- 2 -The governing MHD equations**
- 3- Different types of generators**
- 4- Conducting generator**
- 5- Inducting generators**
- 6- Conclusion**

PROBEMATIC



Direct production of electric energy from thermal energy by

- Connection between Thermo acoustic loop and MHD generator
- Advantage: no moving mechanical part, quasi static engine
- System well adapted for the use on isolated site like in space



Optimisation of efficiency with reduced mass

MAIN MHD EQUATIONS

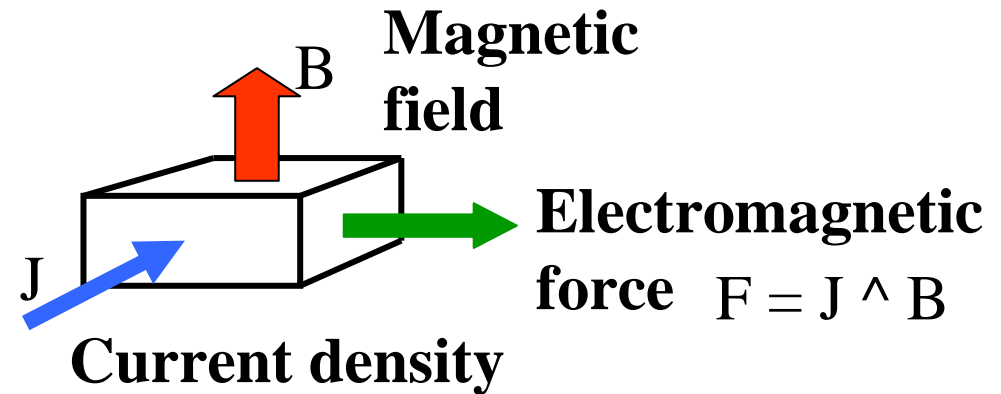
GENERAL PRESENTATION

(MHD Liquid Metal)



Forces acting on the fluid

- Inertia force
- Pressure force
- Viscous force
- Electromagnetic force



$$\frac{D \vec{V}}{Dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} P + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \Delta \vec{V} + \vec{J} \wedge \vec{B}$$

$$\text{Rot } \vec{E} = -\frac{D \vec{B}}{Dt}$$

$$\text{Rot } \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J}$$

$$\vec{J} = \sigma (\vec{E} + \vec{V} \wedge \vec{B})$$

$$\frac{D \vec{B}}{Dt} = (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{V} + \frac{1}{\mu_0 \sigma} \Delta \vec{V}$$

NON DIMENSIONAL NUMBERS



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{D \vec{B}}{Dt} = (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{V} + \frac{1}{Rm} \Delta \vec{V} \\ \frac{D \vec{V}}{Dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \overrightarrow{\text{grad}} P + \frac{1}{Re} \Delta \vec{V} + \frac{M^2}{Re} \vec{J} \wedge \vec{B} \end{array} \right.$$

$$Re = \frac{V_0 l_0}{\nu}$$

Reynolds number Inertia forces/Viscosity forces

$$M = B_0 l_0 \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{\rho \nu}}$$

Hartmann number, E.M. Forces/ Viscosity forces

$$Rm = \frac{V_0 l_0}{\lambda}$$

Magnetic Reynolds number, Diffusion time/convection time

$$N = \frac{M^2}{Re}$$

Interaction parameter E.M.forces/Inertia forces

CHARACTERISTIC NON DIMENSIONAL NUMBERS



Concerned fluids:
 Liquid metal: $\sigma \sim 10^6$
 Electrolyte $\sigma \sim 10$

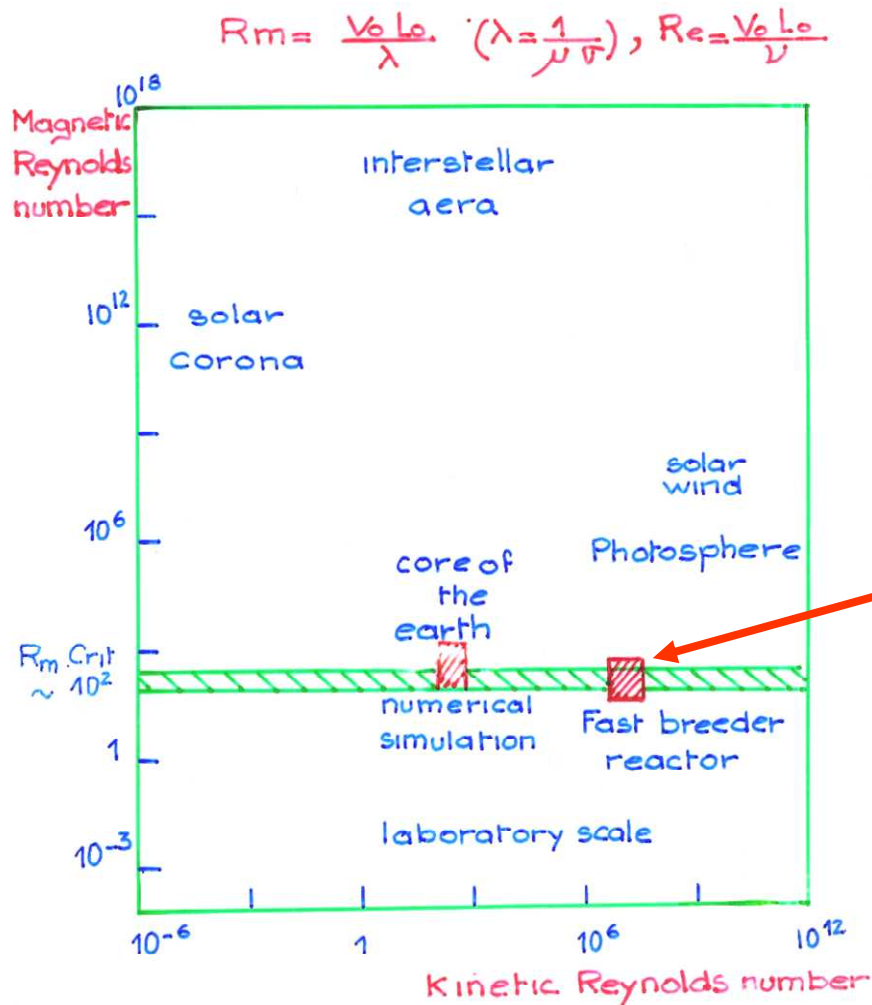
Characteristic scales

Lo (m)	B (T)	Vo (m/s)	ρ	ν
0.1->1	0.1 -> 10	0.1->1	$10^3 > 10^4$	$10^{-6} \rightarrow 10^{-7}$

Characteristic parameters

Re	Rm	M	N
$10^2 > 10^5$	$1 \rightarrow 10^5$	$1 \rightarrow 10^5$	0.1->100

CLASSIFICATION OF MHD PROBLEMS



Experiments performed at the vicinity of the secondary pump of Superphenix (fast breeder reactor) do not reveal any dynamo effect ($Rm \# 30$).

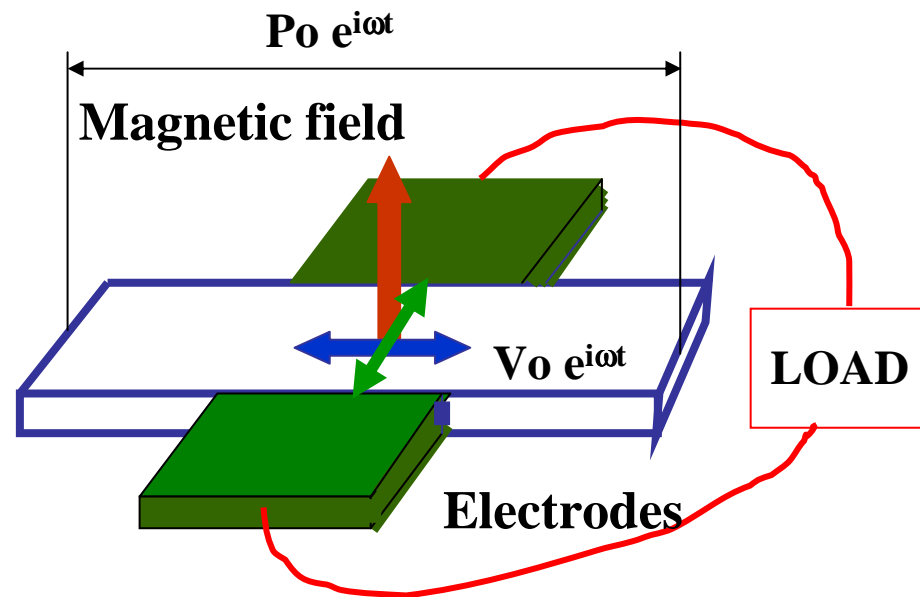
Numerical simulation of the core flow of phenix and superphenix shows some possible dynamo effects but must be confirmed

DIFFERENT TYPES OF GENERATORS

CONDUCTING GENERATOR

INDUCTION GENERATOR

CONDUCTING GENERATOR



Conduction systems

Necessity of electrodes

Low voltage ~ 1 V

High current intensity

Difficulty of adaptation with the load

EQUATIONS AND BOUNDARY CONDITIONS



- Navier-Stokes equation

$$iu'^* = -K_p + \frac{1}{R_\omega} \frac{\partial^2 u'^*}{\partial y^{*2}} + \frac{N}{R_m} \frac{\partial b'_x}{\partial y^*}$$

Electromagnetic force

- Induction equation

$$ib'_x = \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial y^*} + \frac{1}{R_m} \frac{\partial^2 b'_x}{\partial y^{*2}}$$

(Mixing of the Maxwell equations and Ohm law)

- No slip condition

$$1 \quad u^*(y^* = 1) = 0$$

- Symmetry conditions

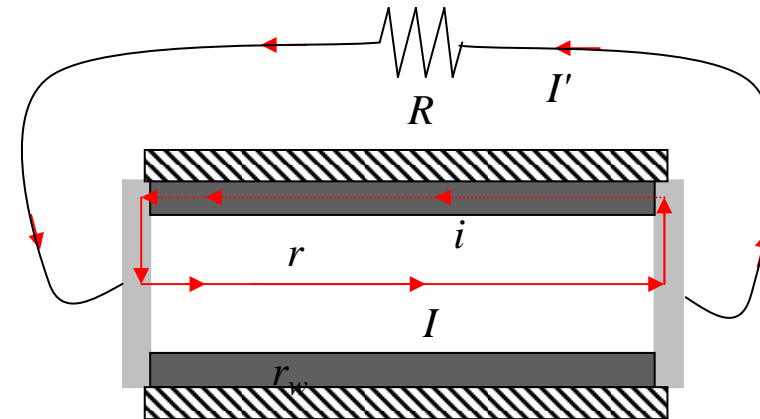
$$2 \quad \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial y}(y = 0) = 0$$

$$3 \quad b'_x(y = 0) = 0$$

- Continuité du courant

$$4 \quad b'_x(y^* = 1) = \frac{K-1}{K} \frac{\partial b'_x}{\partial y^*}(y^* = 1)$$

$$I + I' + i = 0$$



Load factor

$$K = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{r}{R} + C_w}$$

Conductance
ratio

$$C_w = \frac{r}{r_w} = \frac{\sigma_w e_w}{\sigma a}$$

EFFICIENCY



P_e Electrical power P_J

P_J Joule losses

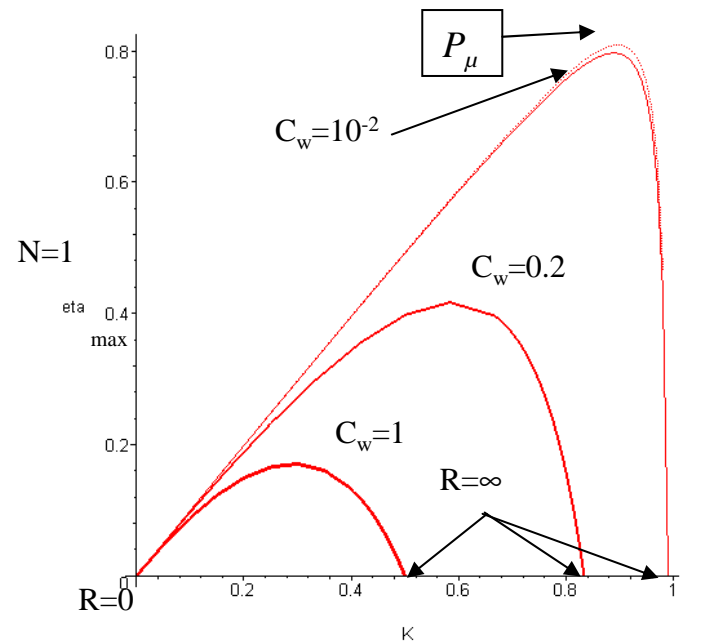
P_μ Friction losses

$$\eta = \frac{P_e}{P_e + P_J + P_\mu}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{r}{R} + C_w}$$

$$C_w = \frac{\sigma_w e_w}{\sigma a}$$

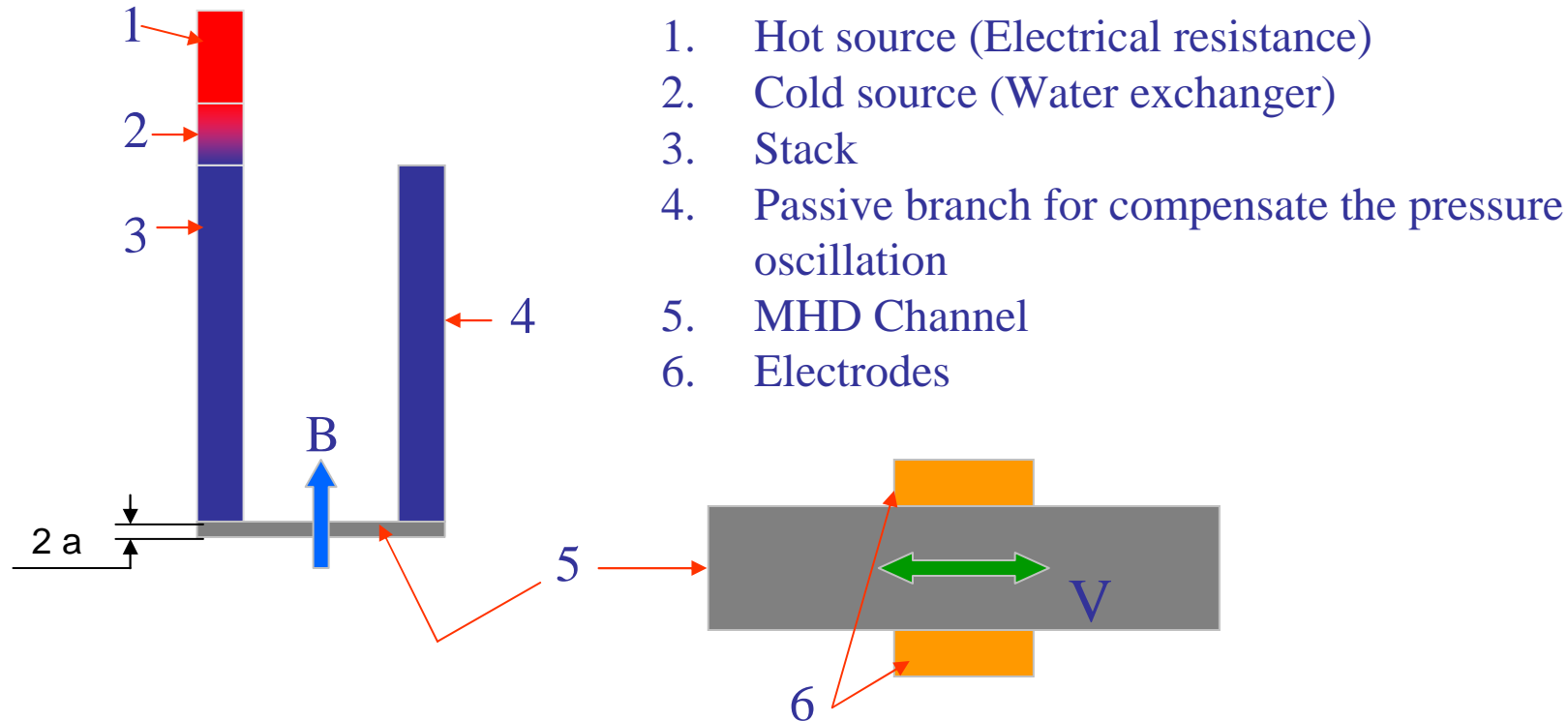
$$N = \frac{B_0^2 \sigma}{\omega \rho}$$



EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY AND RESULTS

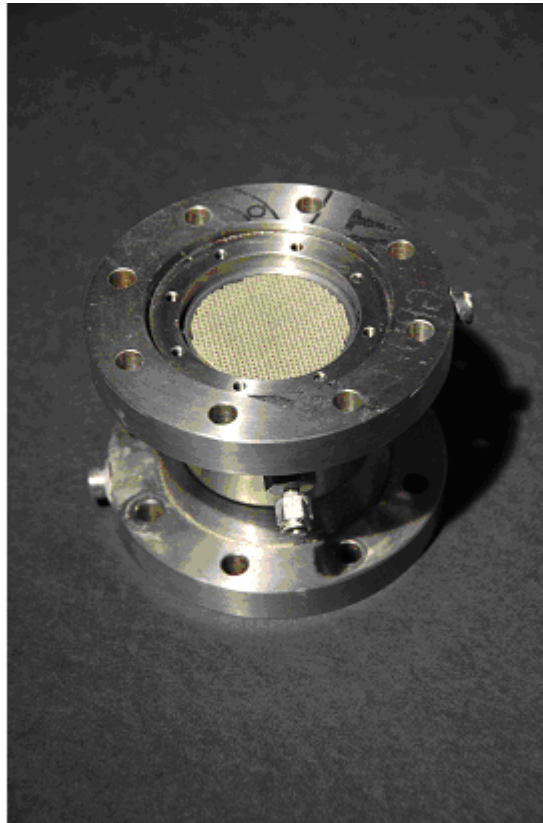
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EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY

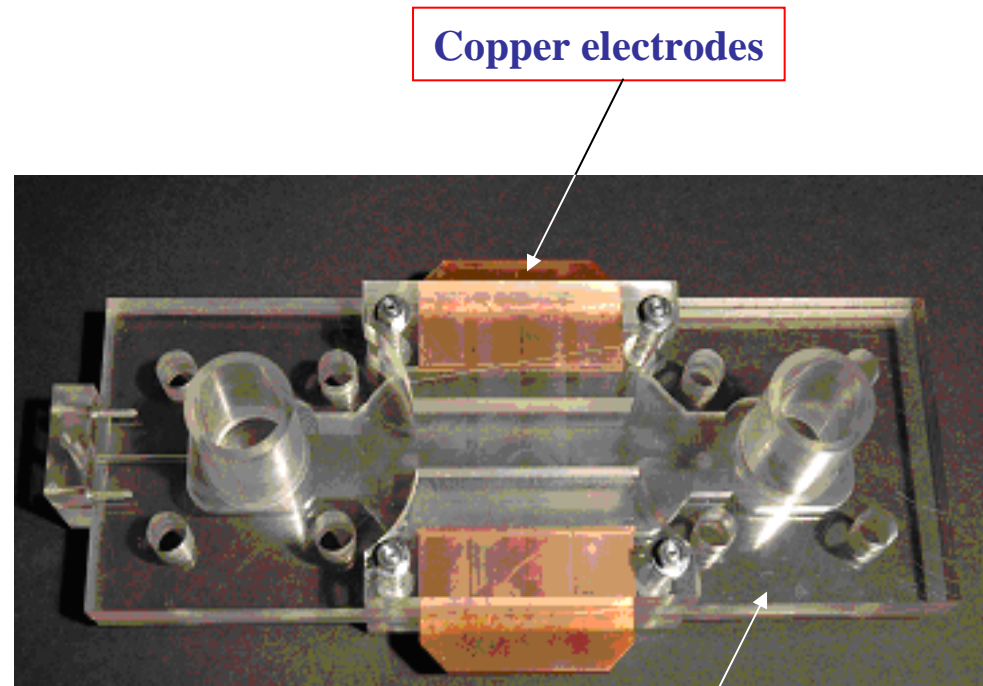


Objective: Validation of the feasibility

ELEMENTS OF THE FACILITY: STACK MHD AND CHANNEL



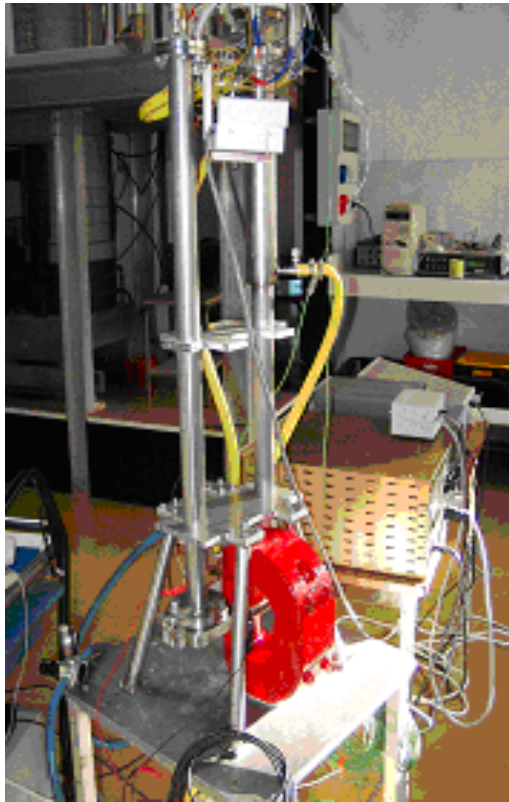
**Stack realised with
Catalytic tube of cars**



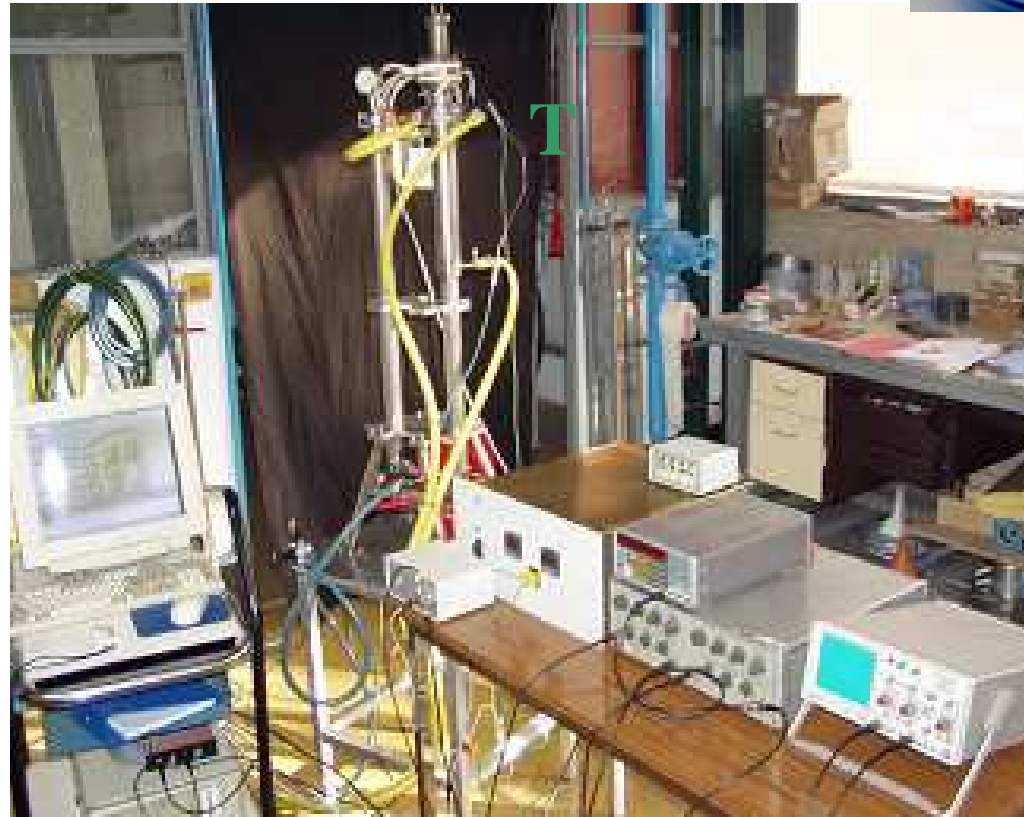
Copper electrodes

MHD Channel

THE FACILITY

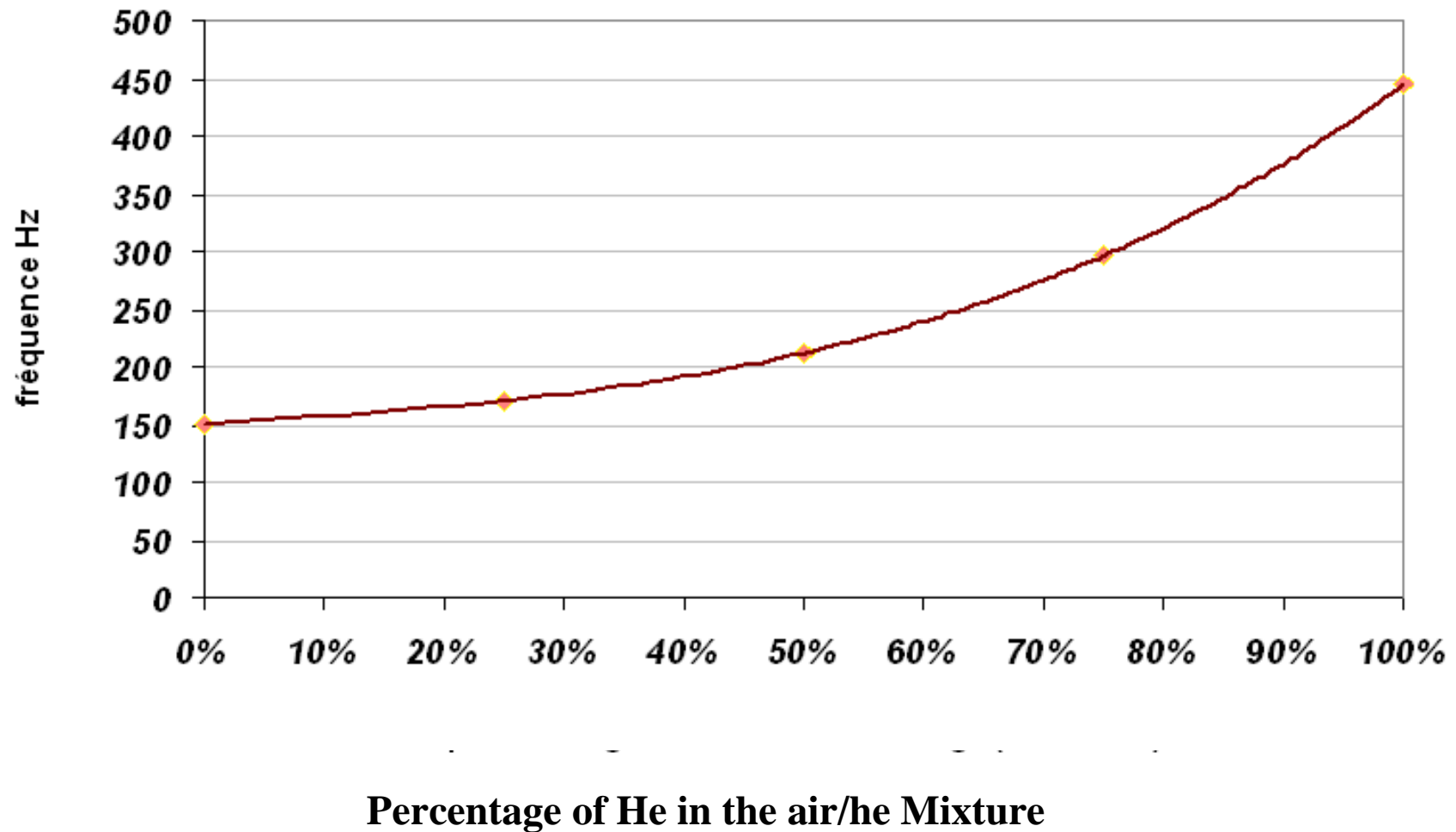


View of the facility. In red the permanent magnet used to obtain the electric signal



Apparatus used to analyse the signal: respectively the power supply, amplifier, filter, oscilloscope and, at the left, the computer with acquisition system

MIXTURE AIR/HELIUM: EVOLUTION OF THE THERMO ACOUSTIC FREQUENCY



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COMPARISON OF THE RESULTS



		stack en inox			stack en pot catalytique		
		Air	helium	melange	Air	helium	melange
3 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,125	X		0,245	0,120	
	fre.p (Hz)	152,50	X		147,50	427,00	
	ΔV (mV)	X	X		X	X	
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X		X	X	
4 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,210	X		0,286	0,200	
	fre.p (Hz)	151,50	X		146,50	427,00	
	ΔV (mV)	X	X		X	X	
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X		X	X	
5 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,272	X		0,229	0,228	0,346
	fre.p (Hz)	151,50	X		146,10	425,00	275,00
	ΔV (mV)	X	X		X	X	
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X		X	X	
6 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,322	X	0,313	0,324	0,259	
	fre.p (Hz)	152,20	X	203,00	145,50	424,00	
	ΔV (mV)	X	X	X	X	X	
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X	X	X	X	
7 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,386	0,094		0,314	0,281	
	fre.p (Hz)	151,70	422,00		145,50	425,00	
	ΔV (mV)	X	X		X	X	
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X		X	X	
8 bar	ΔP (bar)	0,432	0,178	0,520	0,322	0,311	0,937
	fre.p (Hz)	152,60	426,00	208,00	145,50	426,00	208,00
	ΔV (mV)	X	X	X	X	X	X
	fre.v (Hz)	X	X	X	X	X	X

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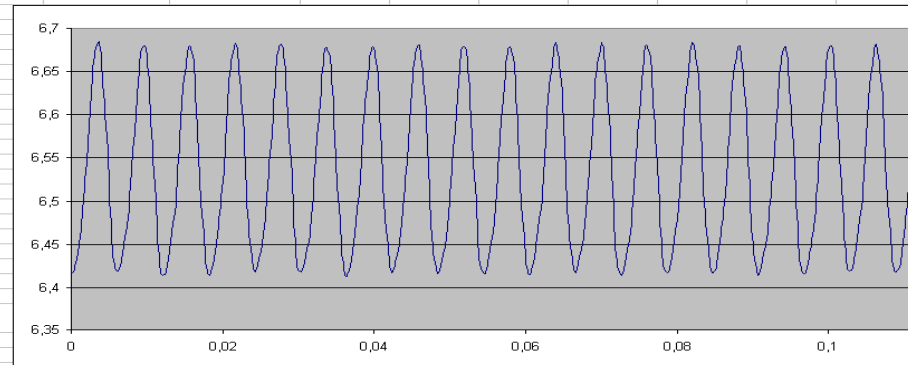
PRESSURE AND VELOCITY SIGNALS



$\Delta P_{\max} = 0,319 \text{ bar}$

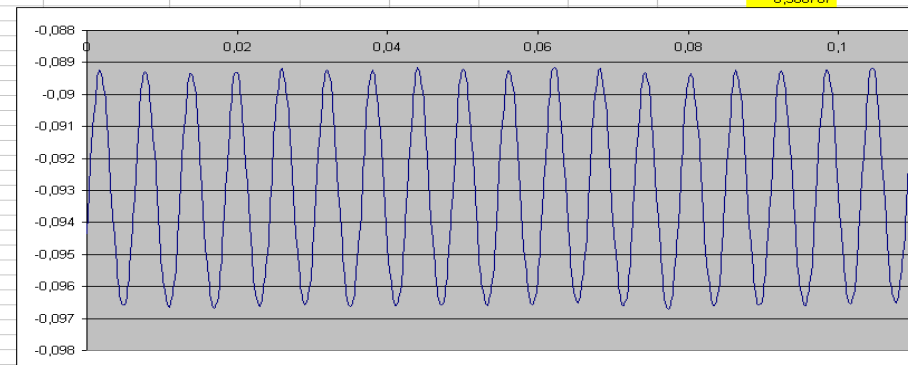
$\Delta V_{\max} = 3,670 \text{ mV}$

P	Fréquence	T	Fréquence	dephasage	Comment
	165,46		165,46	-95,04	



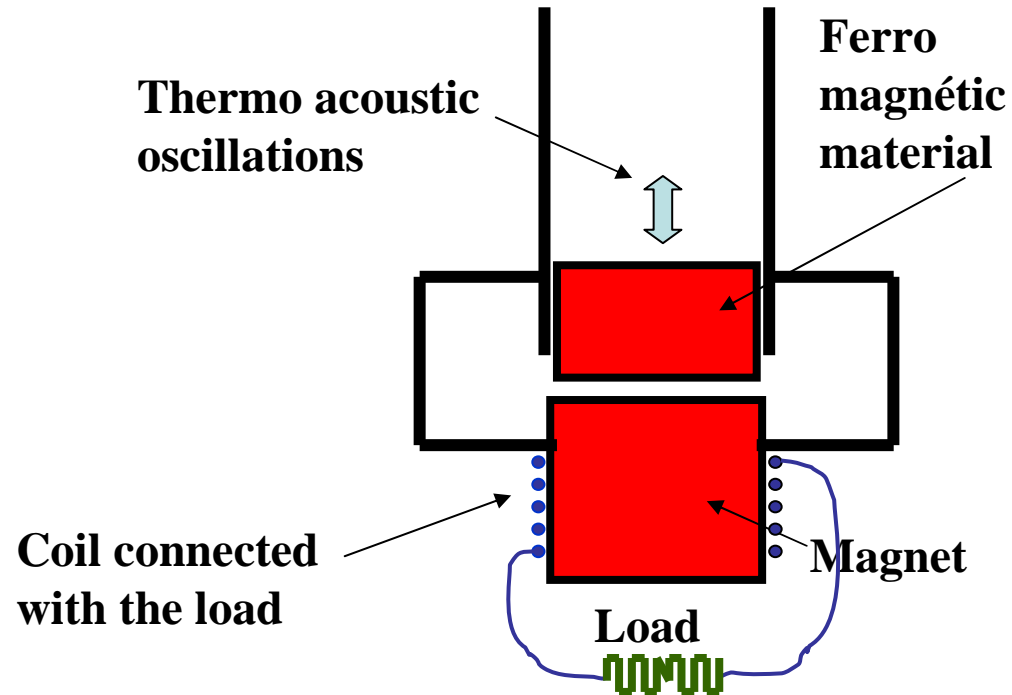
$\Delta P = 0,319$

6,68492
 6,680865
 6,663022
 6,660995
 6,656534
 6,626121
 6,624499
 6,620444
 6,586787



INDUCTION SYSTEM

WITH SOLID PISTON



Induction system

No electrode

Adjustable voltage and intensity

Adaptability with the load

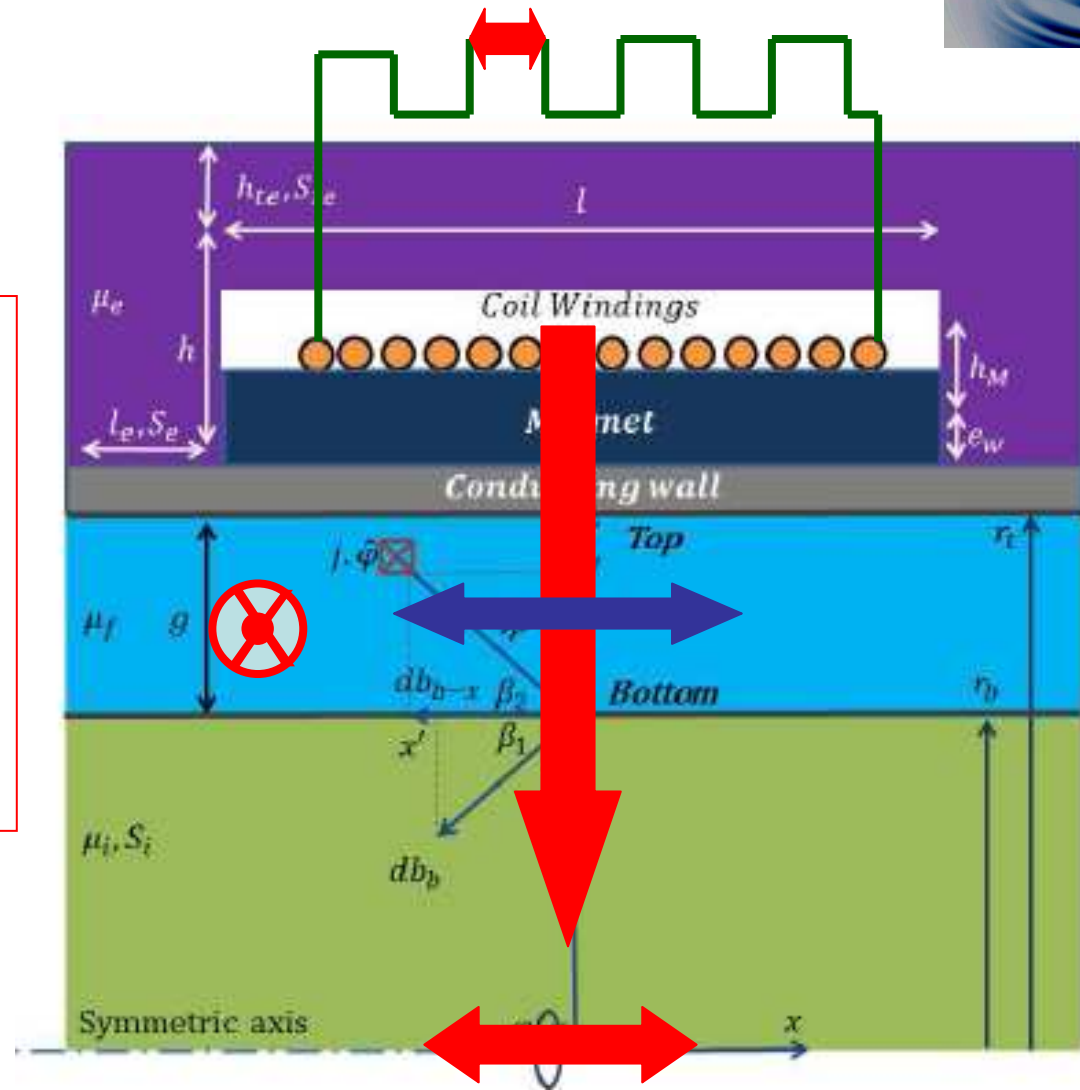
WITH LIQUID PISTON: INDUCTIVE MHD PROCESS

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PRINCIPLES OF THE PROCESS



The interaction between the applied magnetic field with the pulsating flow generates and pulsating electrical current and a pulsating induced magnetic field in the core of the generator. The pulsation of magnetic flux induces an pulsating current in the coil connected with the load



EQUATIONS AND NON DIMENSIONAL NUMBERS



Dimensionless analysis:

Characteristic scales:

$$\text{length} = d$$

$$\text{Magnetic Field} = B_0$$

$$\text{Time} = \frac{1}{\omega}$$

$$\text{Velocity} = \omega d$$

$$\text{Current density} = \frac{B_0}{\mu_0 \cdot d}$$

$$\text{Current} = \frac{B_0 d}{\mu_0}$$

$$\text{Electric field} = B_0 d \omega$$

$$\text{Electrical resistance} = \frac{1}{\sigma d}$$

$$\text{Electrical power} = \frac{B_0^2 d}{\mu_0^2 \sigma}$$

Simplified equations

Navier-Stokes equation:

$$i u^* = -K_p + \frac{1}{R_\omega} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial^2 u^*}{\partial r^{*2}} \right) + \frac{1}{R_\omega} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial u^*}{r^* \partial r^*} \right) + \frac{N}{R_m} \cdot \frac{\partial b_x^*}{\partial r^*}$$

Induction equation:

$$i b_x^* = \frac{u^*}{r^*} + \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial r^*} + \frac{1}{R_m} \cdot \frac{\partial b_x^*}{r^* \partial r^*} + \frac{1}{R_m} \frac{\partial^2 b_x^*}{\partial r^{*2}}$$

$$r = r_{ch} \gg a$$

Constants:

$$K_p = \frac{\Delta p}{L_B \rho \omega^2 d}$$

Dimensionless imposed pressure:

$$R_\omega = \frac{\rho \omega d^2}{\vartheta}$$

Reynolds number:

Ratio of inertia forces to viscous forces

$$R_m = \mu_0 \sigma \omega d^2$$

Magnetic Reynolds number:

Ratio of characteristic time of
Magnetic field diffusion to convection

$$N = \frac{B_0^2 \sigma}{\omega \rho}$$

Interaction parameter:

Ratio of electromagnetic forces
over inertia forces

BOUNDARY CONDITIONS



(1) Lower BC

b_{b-x} consists of:

1. b_{b-x1} : Because of induced current inside the fluid

2. b_{b-x2} : Because of induced current inside the wall

3. b_{b-x3} : Because of current in the load

(2) Upper magnetic BC

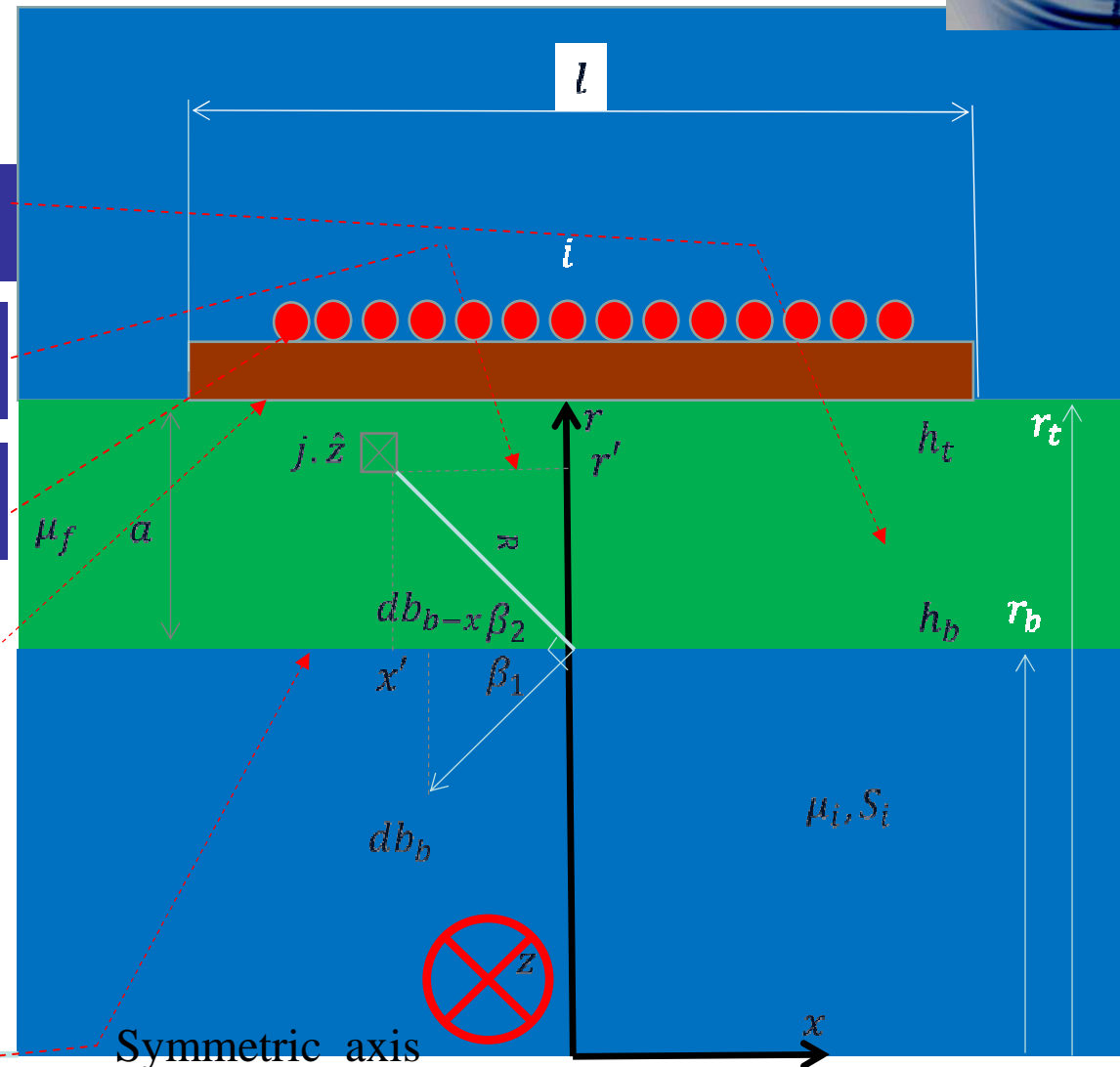
$$b_t = f(b_b)$$

(3) Upper velocity BC

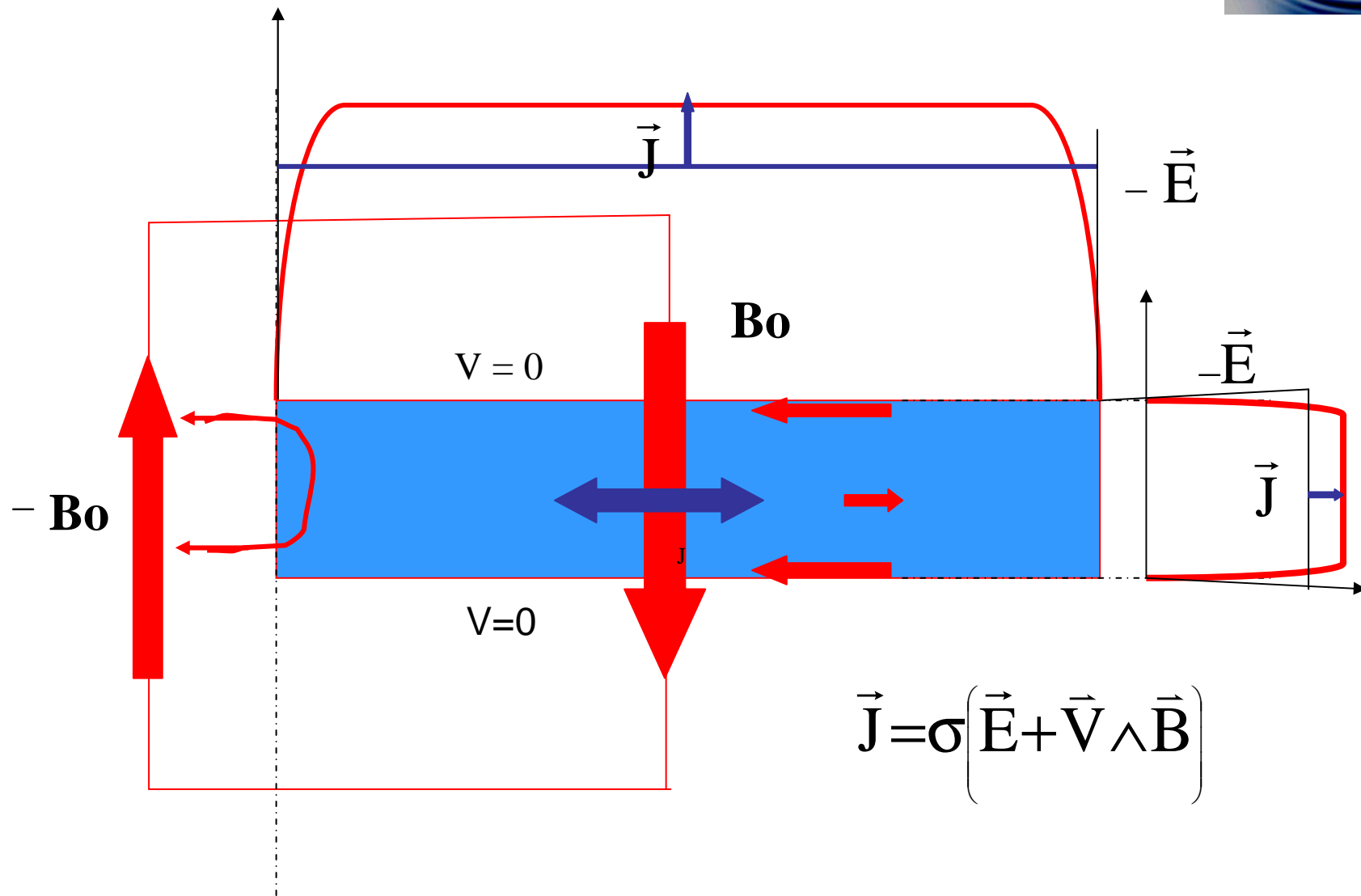
$$u_t = 0$$

(4) Lower velocity BC

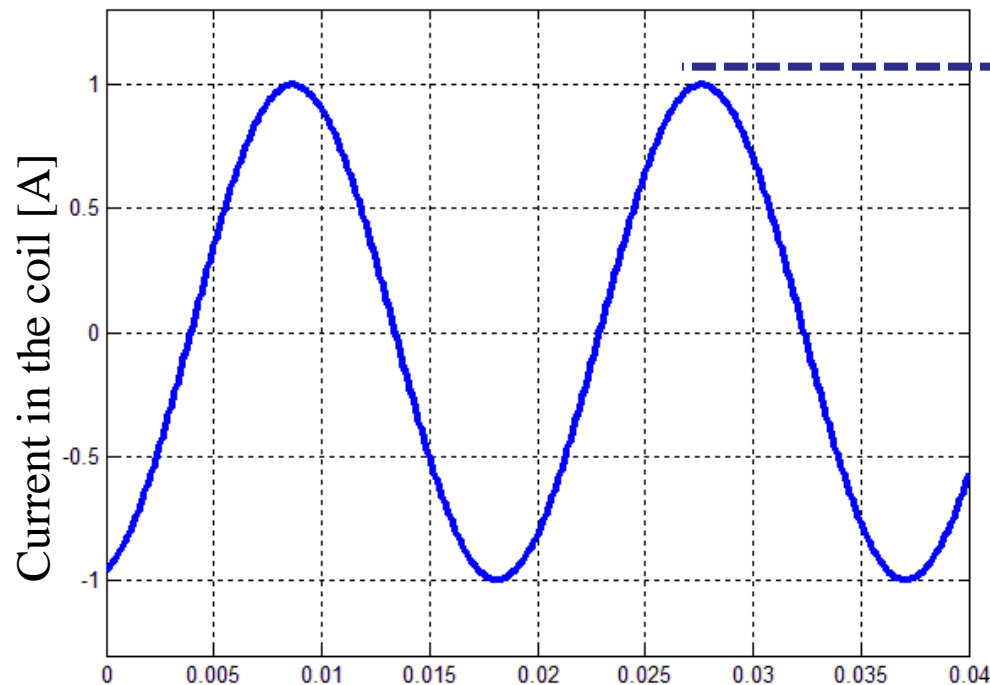
$$u_b = 0$$



REMARKS ABOUT THE END EFFECTS



SOME RESULTS



$$\text{Analytical} = -1.02 - j0.265 \text{ [A]}$$

$$\text{Numerical} = -1.096 - j0.253 \text{ [A]}$$

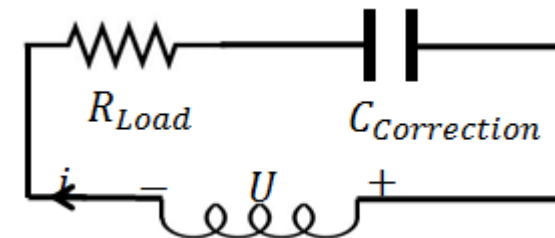
$$R_{Load} = 322\Omega$$

$$r_{Coil} = 21\Omega$$

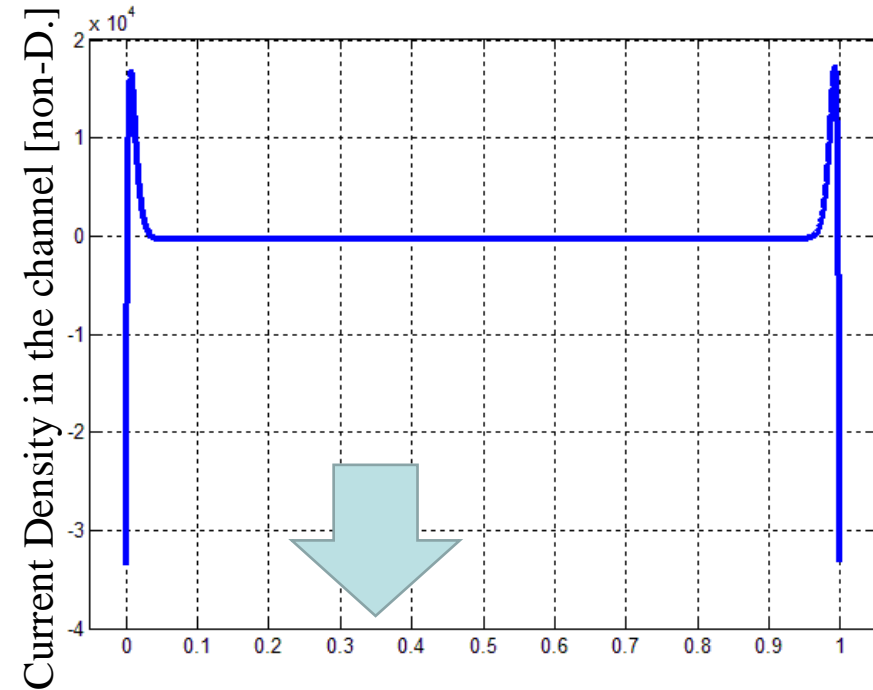
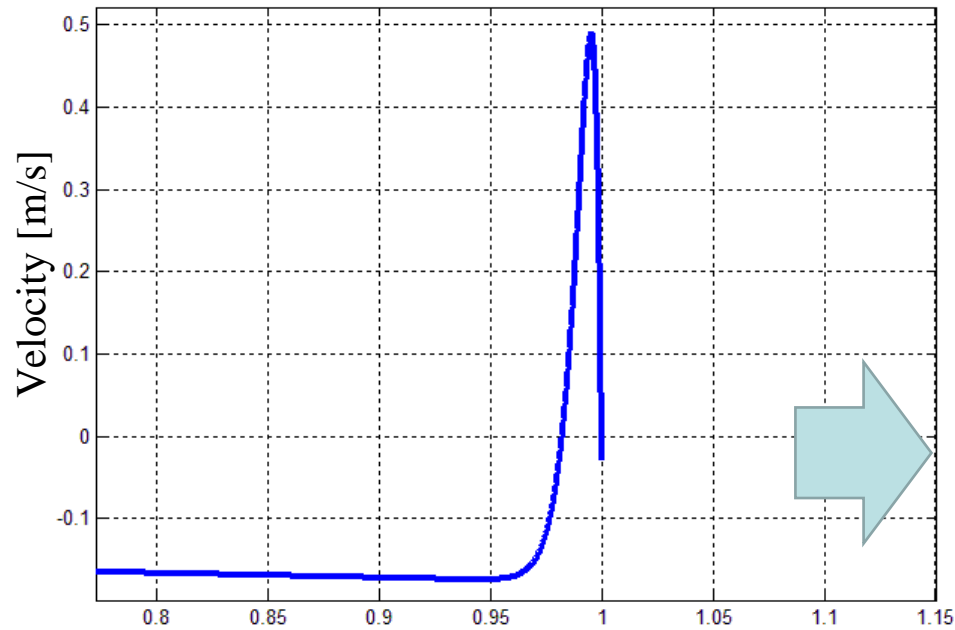
$$C = 39\mu F$$

$$\text{Coil turns} = 400$$

Time [t]

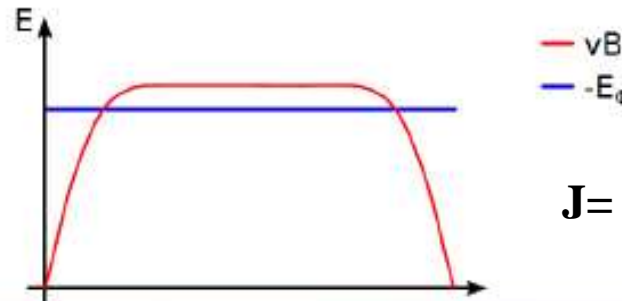


REVERSED FLOW PHENOMENA NOT ACCESSIBLE BY THE NUMERICAL ANALYSIS



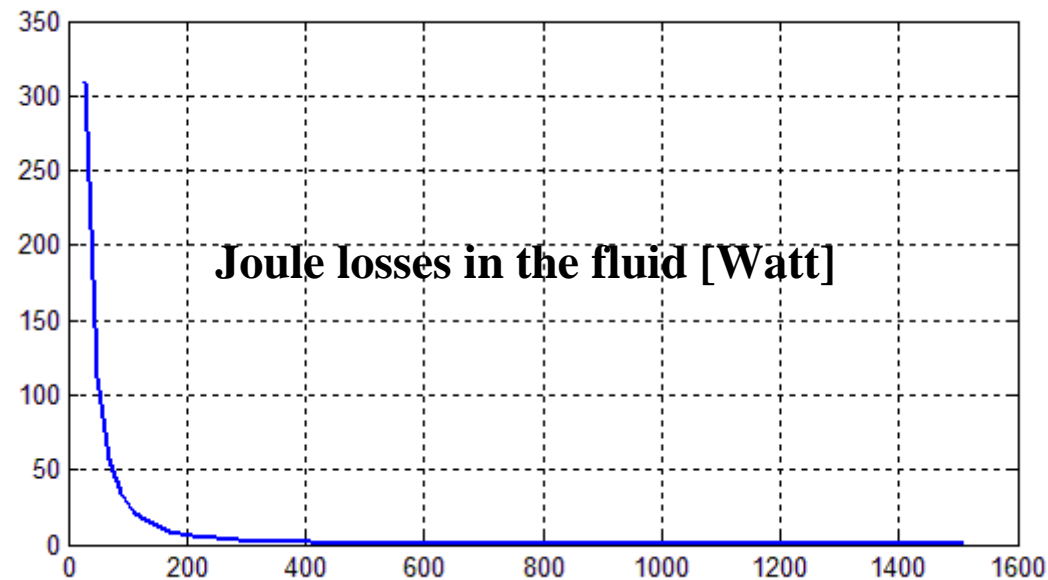
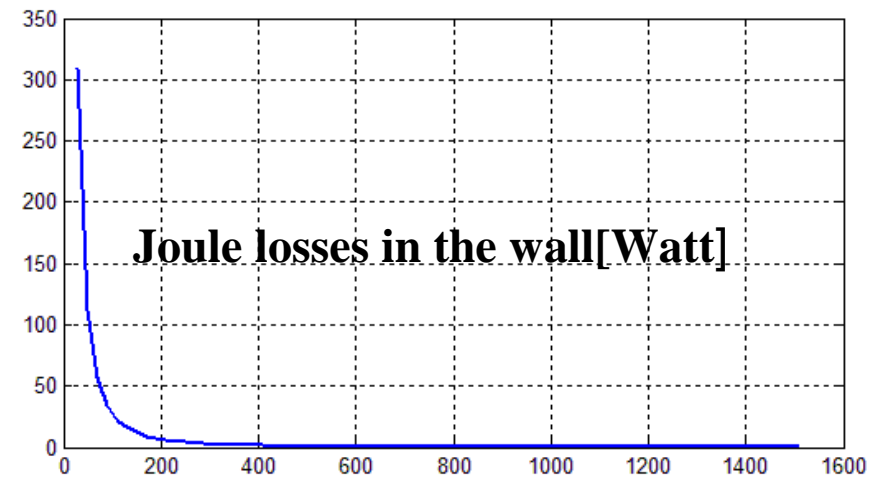
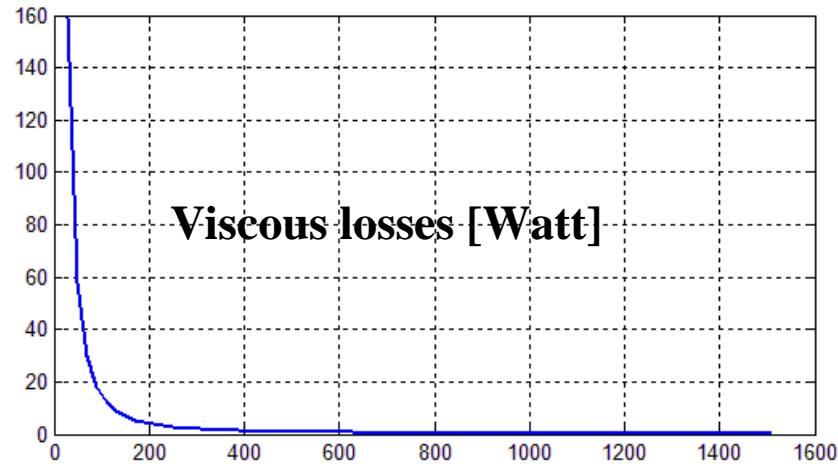
Channel size [non-D.]

Channel [non-D.]

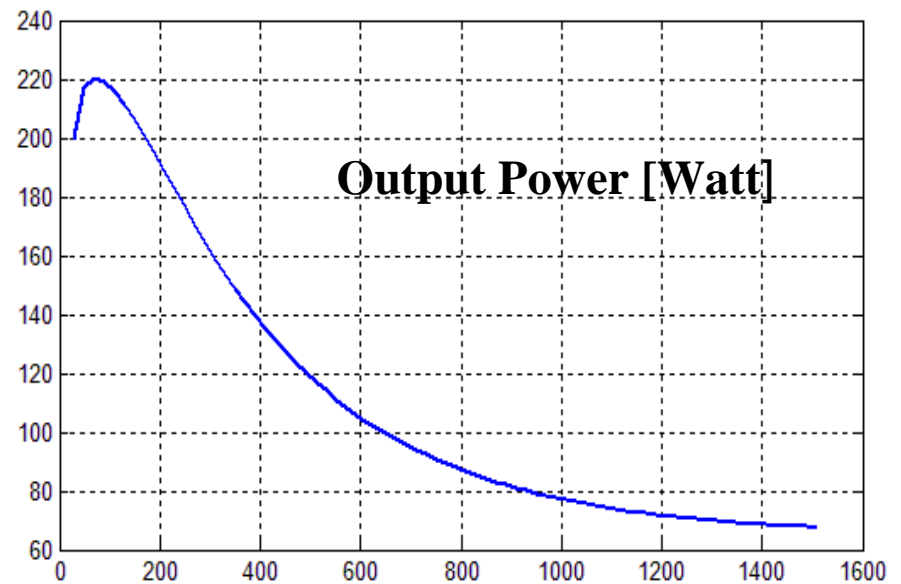
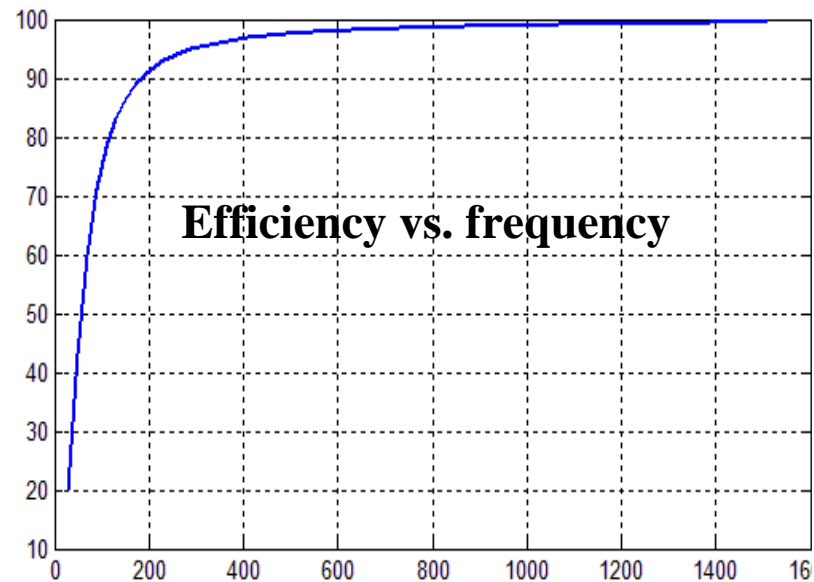


$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{V} \wedge \mathbf{B})$$

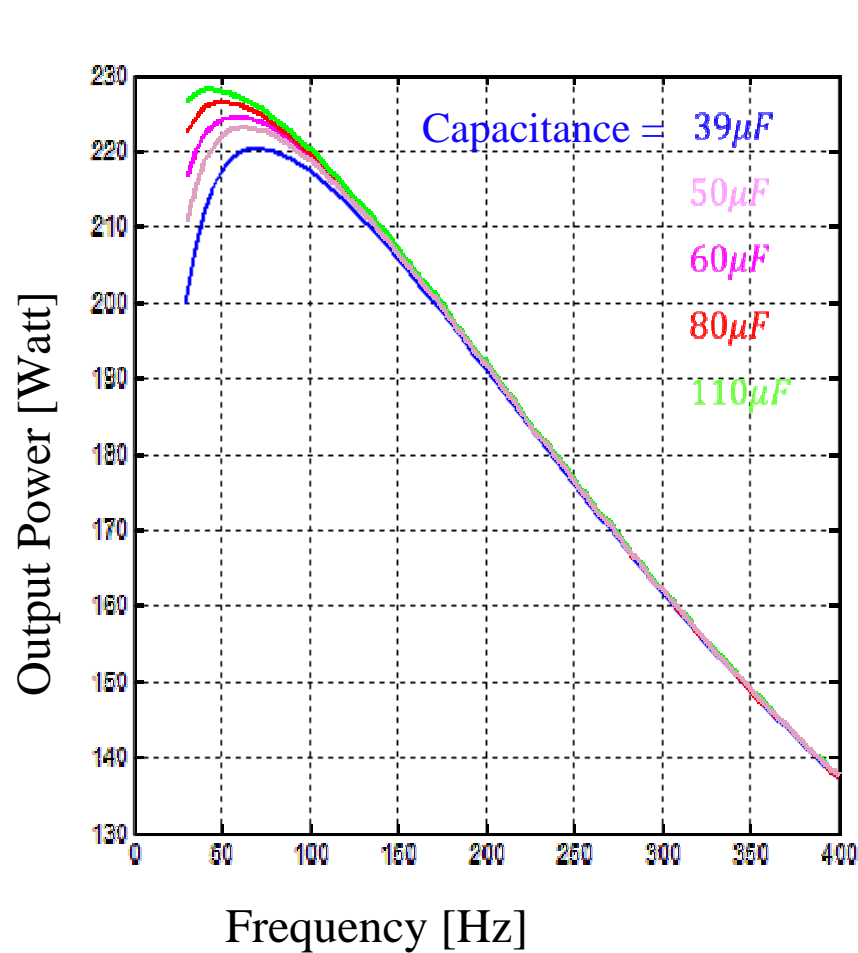
EVOLUTION VERSUS THE FREQUENCY



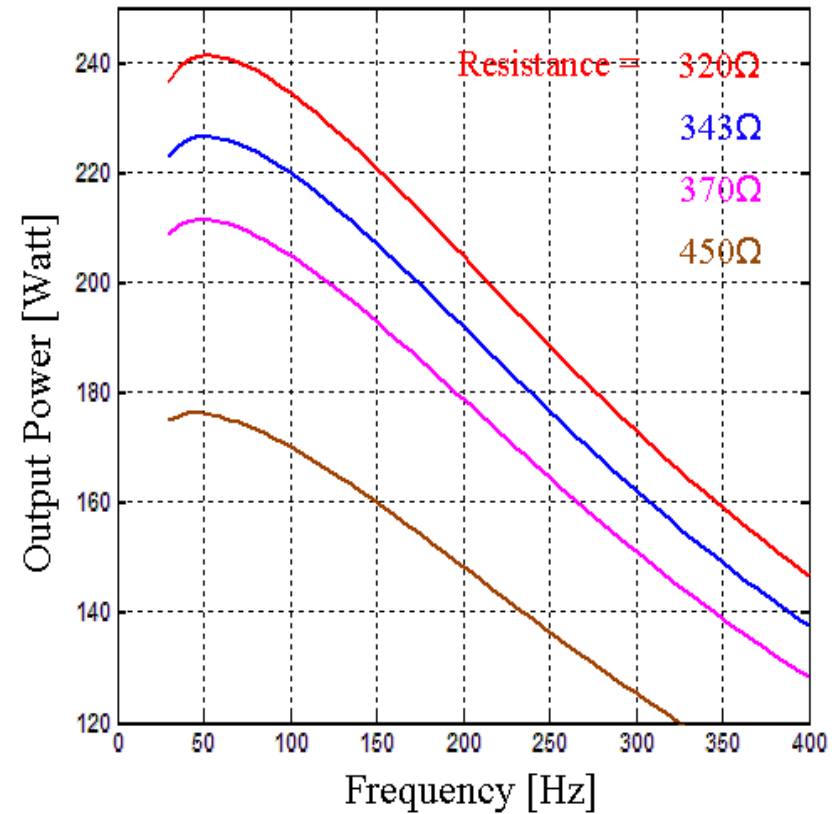
POWER AND EFFICIENCY VERSUS THE FREQUENCY



OUTPUT POWER VERSUS CAPACITANCE AND RESISTANCE VALUES



$C = 80\mu F$



CONCLUSION



- **The MHD generator is exempt of any mechanical moving part**
- **The construction is extremely simple and so the reliability excellent for space**
- **The electricity is generated at useful AC intensity and voltage**
- **The adaptation to the load is easy**
- **The option chosen is certainly non optimised**
- **The possibility of improved efficiency is important**