

AeroAstro 16.851 Special Seminar

Introduction to High-Performance Propulsion Systems for Nano/Micro Satellites

*Dr. Michael Tsay,
Chief Scientist, Busek Electrothermal Propulsion*

**Thursday, September 24, 2015
12:30 pm in 33-218**

Pizza lunch provided on a first-come, first-served basis

The booming market for Nano/MicroSats (such as CubeSats) in recent years has enabled the emergence of highly capable, miniature electric propulsion systems. The first part of the lecture will cover the basics of small Hall effect thrusters and gridded ion thrusters and their impacts to the Nano/MicroSat economics. This will be followed by industrial examples of state-of-the-art, CubeSat-compatible propulsion systems that also include electro-spray thrusters, pulsed plasma thrusters, micro-resistojet, and green monopropellant thruster technologies.

Speaker: Dr. Michael Tsay (course 16 alumni) is the Chief Scientist of Busek Company's Electrothermal Propulsion Group. He has 8 years of space industry experience and is an expert in the field of gridded ion thrusters and green monopropellant thrusters. Dr. Tsay is currently the co-PI of NASA's Lunar IceCube program, providing the mission-enabling iodine ion propulsion system for the deep-space 6U CubeSat.



Questions? Or to schedule time to meet with the speaker, please contact kcahoy@mit.edu

