We hope that these few remarks will dispel (at least some of) the confusion that seems to becloud understanding of the ion flow in these systems.

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RESPONSE TO "COMMENTS ON 'ION DEFOCUSING IN MULTICUSP PLASMA CONFINEMENT SYSTEMS'"

My response to Ref. 1 comprises the following points upon which perhaps the authors of Ref. 1 and I can agree:

1. The degree of focusing is related to the sphericity of the electrostatic equipotential surfaces.

2. Surfaces at small radii probably have fairly good sphericity.

3. Multidimensional computations would be needed to define the shapes of the equipotential surfaces.

In summary, we have differing expectations about the results of such computations.

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