

Kinetics of nanosecond discharges at high specific energy release



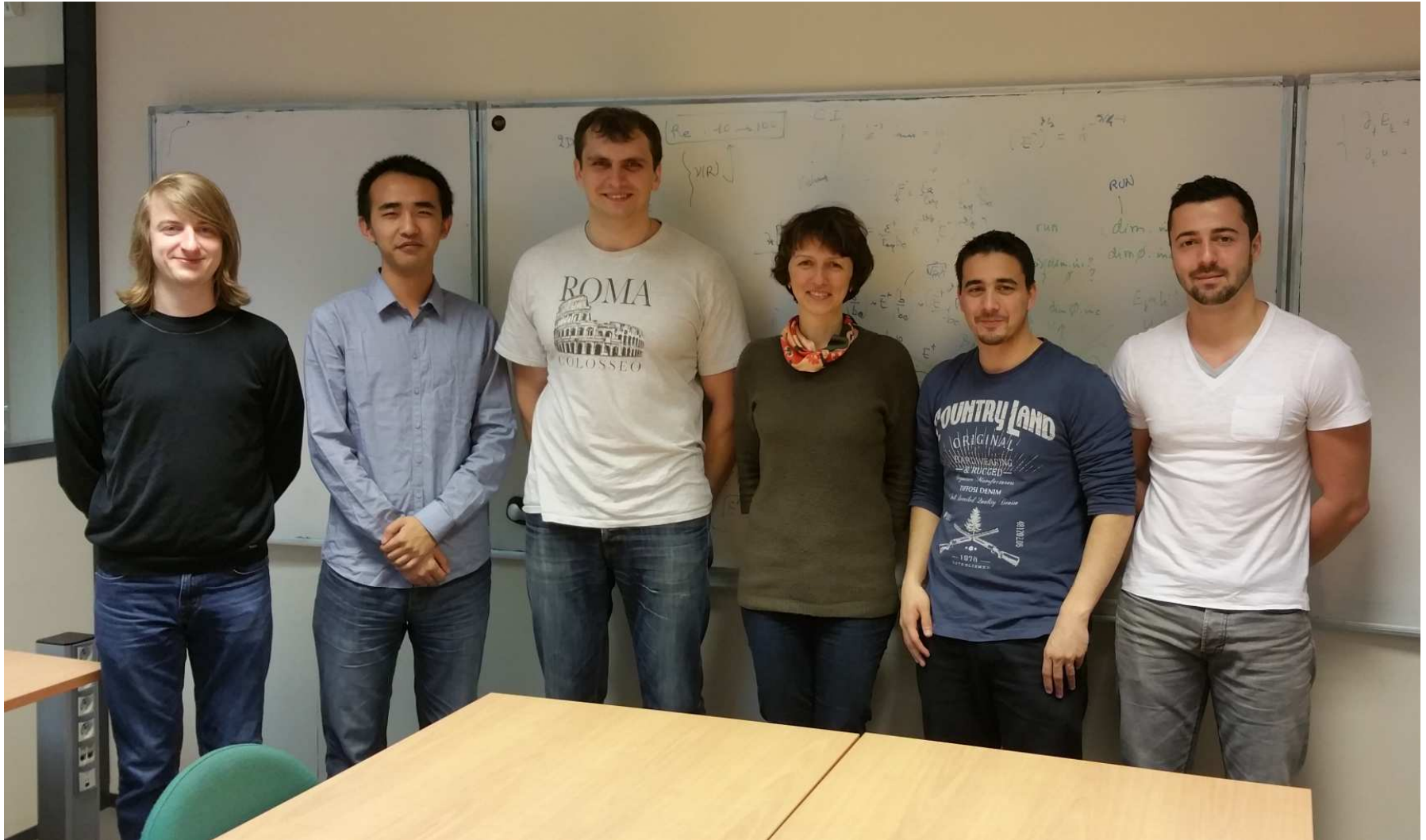
Laboratoire de Physique des Plasmas

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Laboratory of Plasma Physics, Ecole Polytechnique,
Paris, France



Co-authors and collaborators for this work



Plan of the presentation



I. Introduction

II. Problem formulation

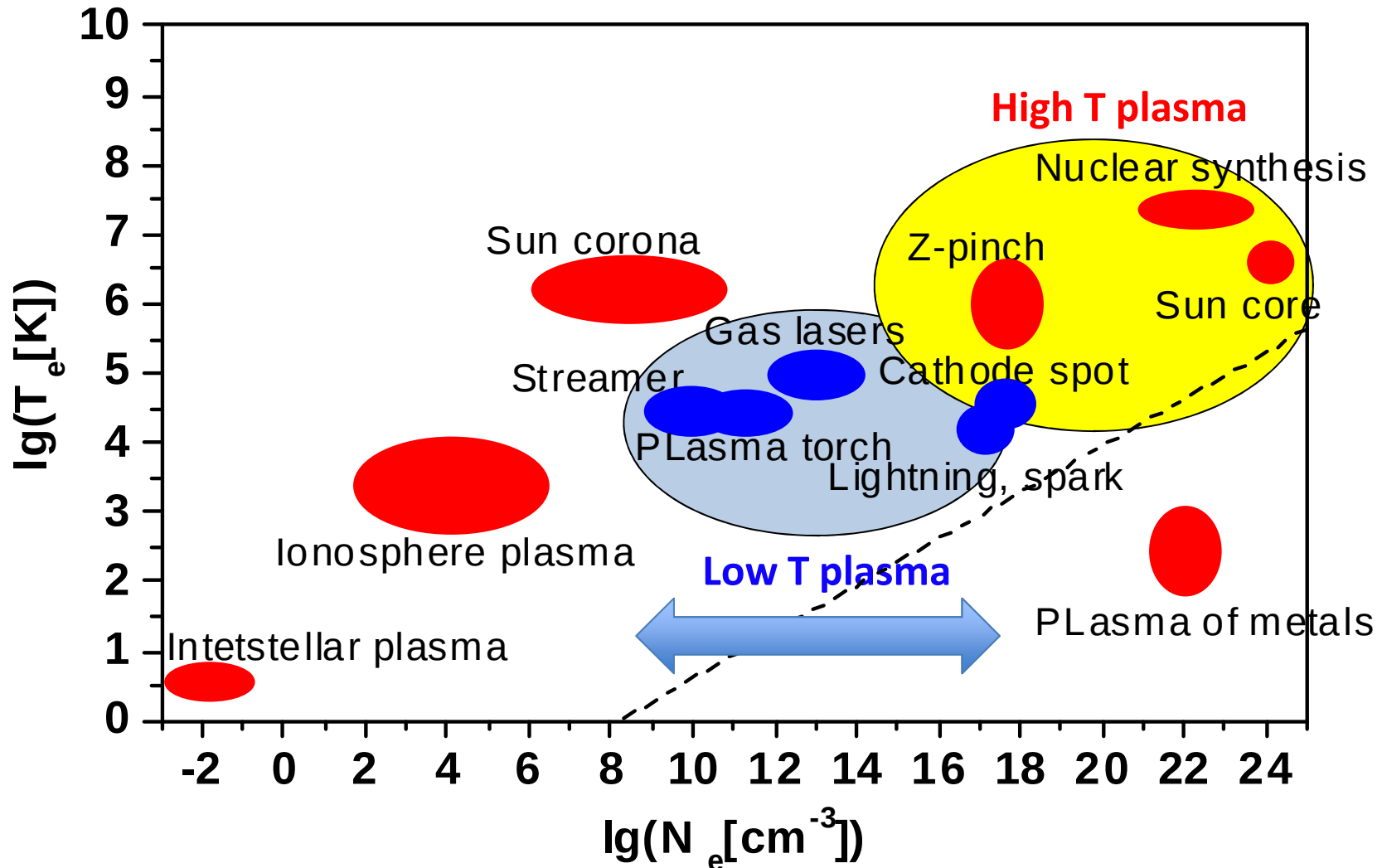
III. Experimental tools

IV. Results and discussion:

- *capillary nanosecond discharge at moderate pressure*
- *surface dielectric barrier discharge (**nSDBD**) at 1 atm*
- *surface dielectric barrier discharge at **high pressure**, **filamentation** in nanosecond single-shot discharge*

V. Conclusion

Low temperature – high temperature plasma: where we are?



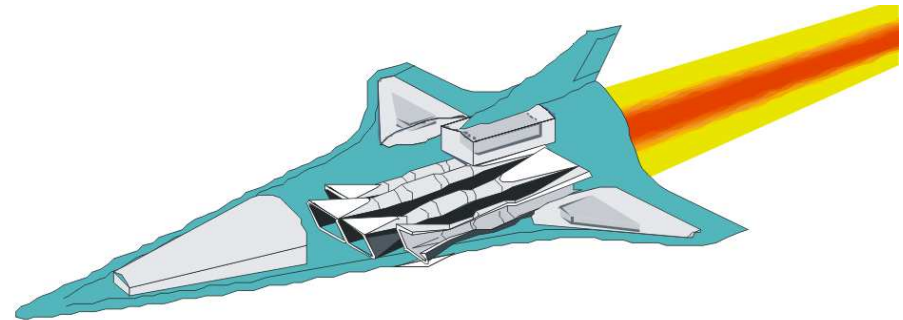
Motivation: plasma-assisted combustion



- Fast flows:

150 ms x 2.5 m/ms (M=8)

L = 375 m



- To estimate the length:

TGV Eurostar:

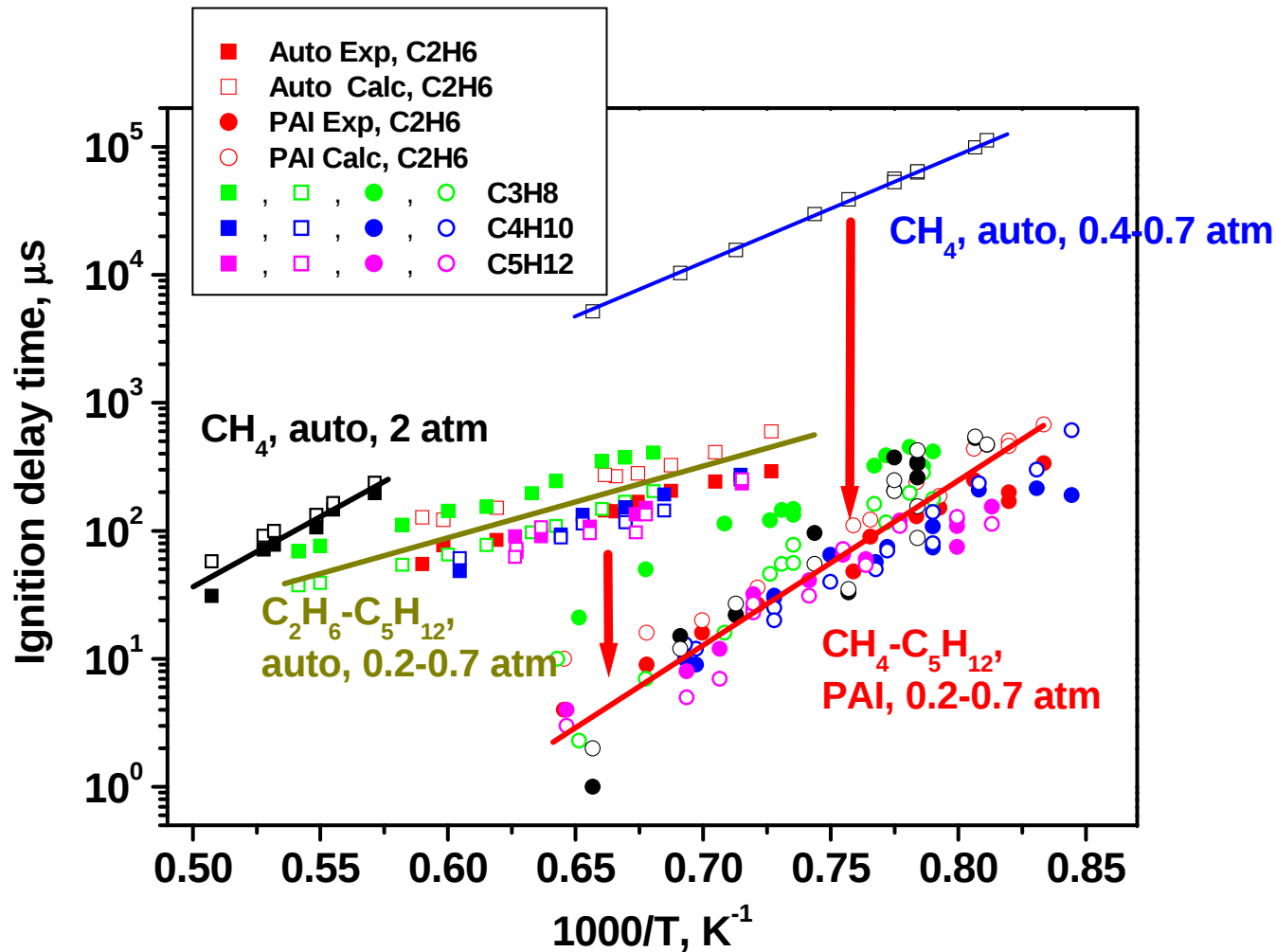
TransManche Super Train

L_{TGV} = 395 m (20 cars)



Need to have shorter ignition delay

Decrease of ignition delay time: moderate gas densities; uniform ns discharge

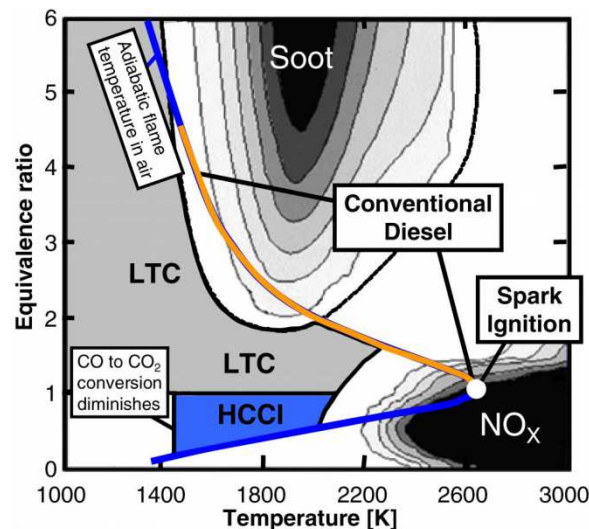


N L Aleksandrov, S V Kindysheva, I N Kosarev, S M Starikovskaia, A Yu Starikovskii,
Proc. of Combustion Institute, 32 (2009) 205-212

High pressure ignition of combustive mixtures



- Ignition of lean mixtures
- Multi-point ignition
- Ignition at lower temperatures
- Ignition of bio-fuels



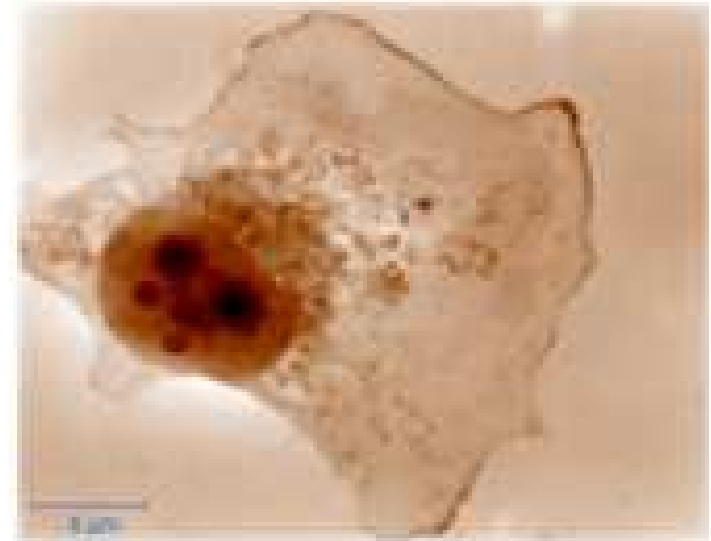
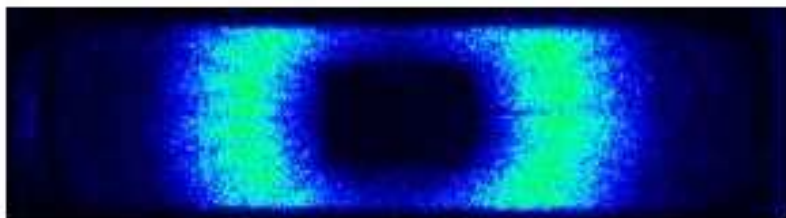
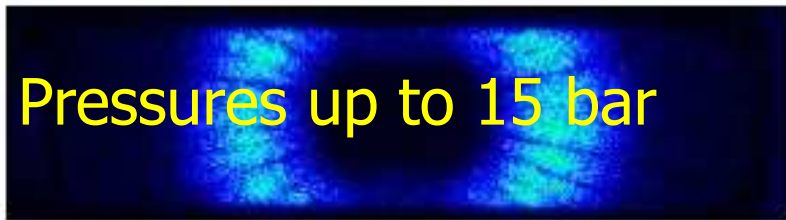
Different potential applications



Flow speed up to 100 m/s

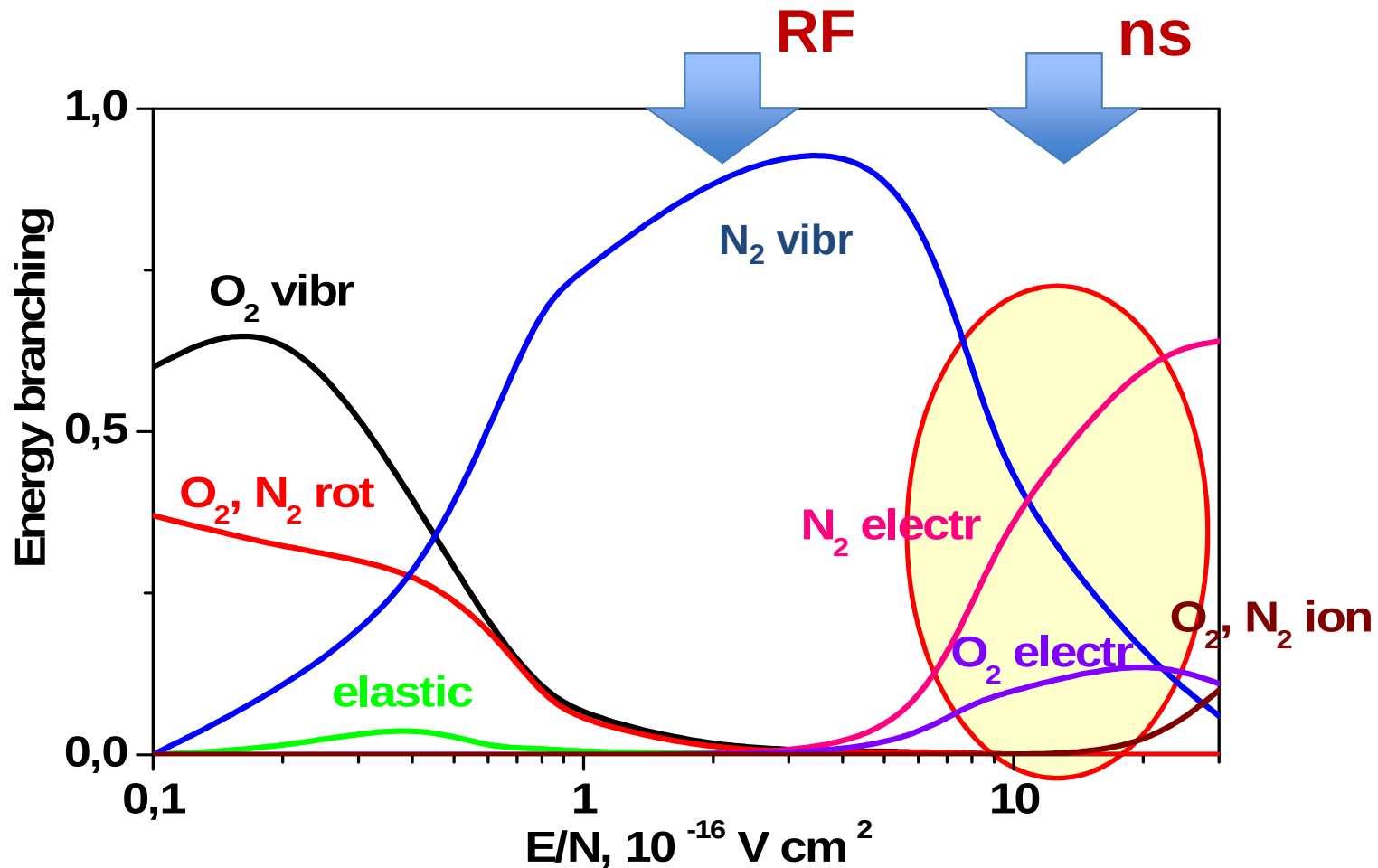


Pressures up to 15 bar



5 min after plasma action

What is peculiar with nanosecond discharges? E-field range

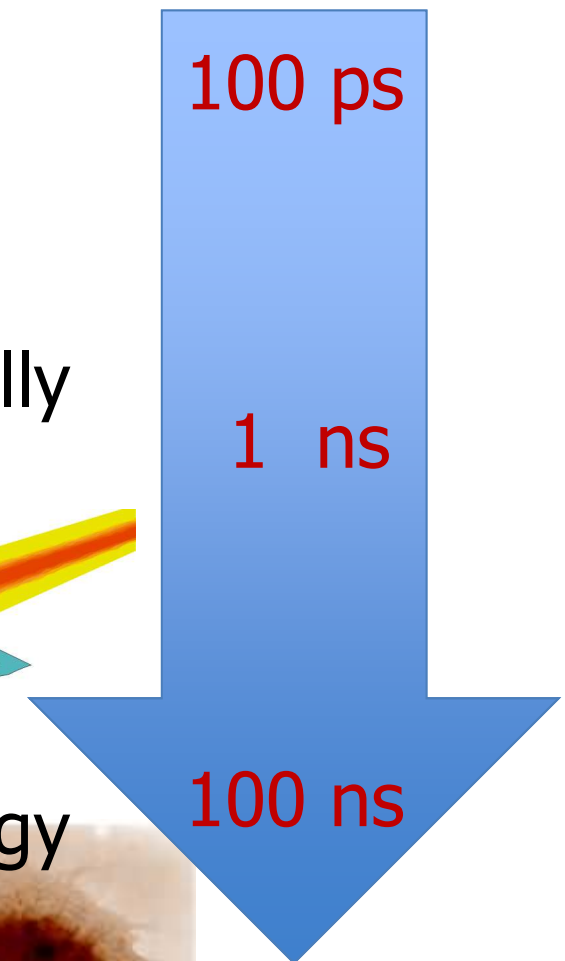
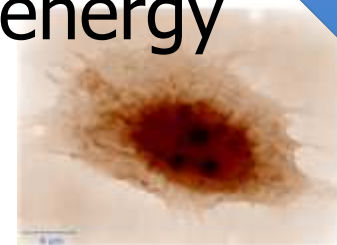
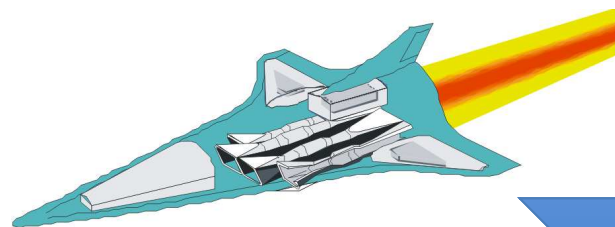


N.L. Aleksandrov, E.E. Son, 1980, in: *Plasma Chemistry*, B.M.Smirnov, ed., Atomizdat Publ., Moscow, V.7, pp. 35-75

Main pathway for initiation [any] chemistry by ns discharges



- high **electric fields**
- excitation by electron impact
- dominant population of electronically excited levels
- **dissociation**
- relaxation with the rest of the energy going to **heat**



Aim of present work

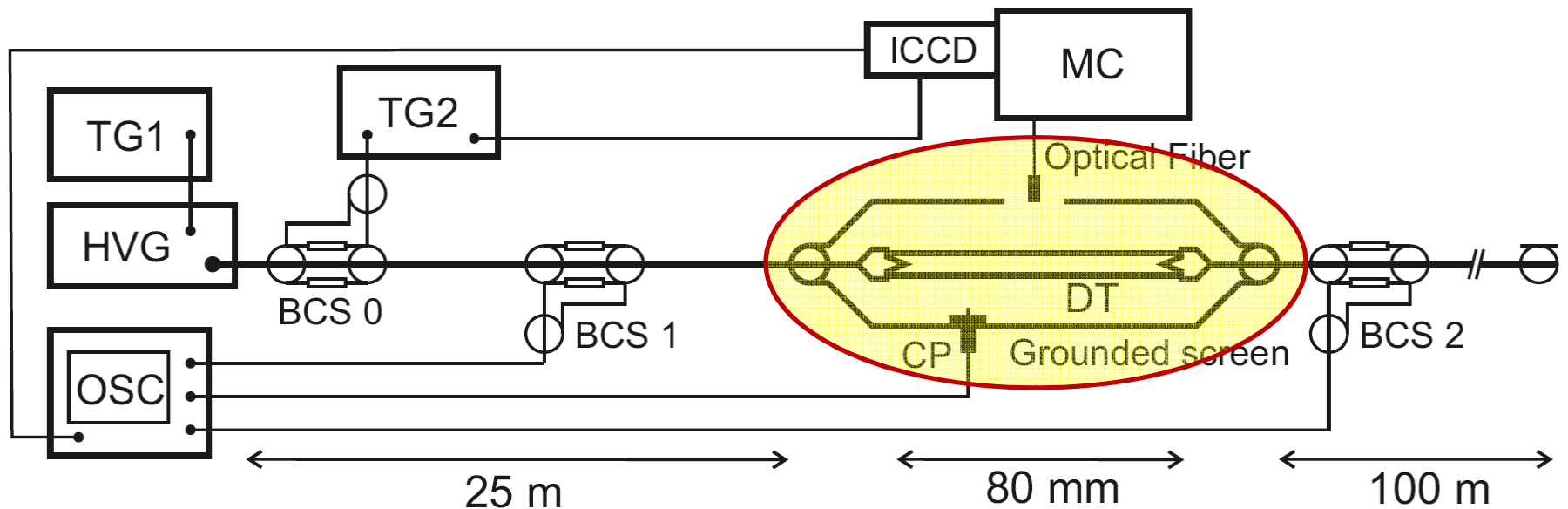


To underline specific features of pulsed nanosecond discharges under conditions of

- high specific energy density;
- high reduced electric fields.

To specify the most important changes in plasma chemical kinetics at the mentioned conditions

Experimental setup: discharge parameters and spectroscopy



DT - Discharge tube; **BCS** - Back Current Shunt;
TG - Triggering generator; **HVG** - High Voltage Generator;
CP - Capacitive Probe; **ICCD** - Intensified CCD Camera;
OSC - Oscilloscope; **MC** - Monochromator

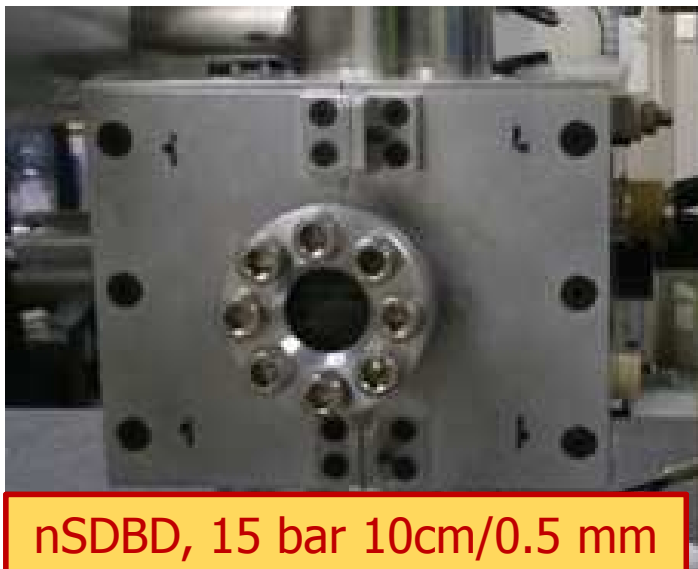
Typical discharges and discharge cells



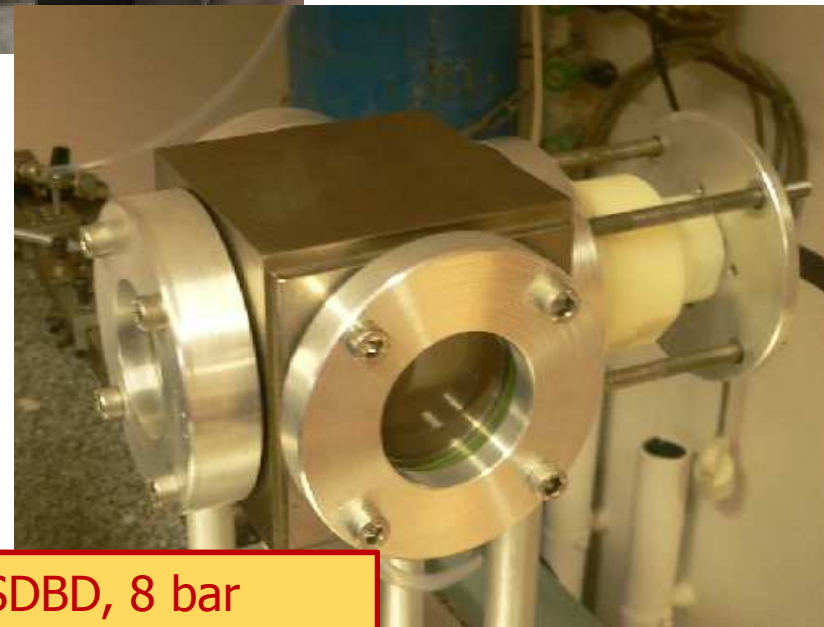
FIW, 1-10 Torr,
 $L=20\text{cm}$



CD, 20 Torr,
8 cm



nSDBD, 15 bar 10cm/0.5 mm
($T < 700\text{ K}$)



nSDBD, 8 bar
10cm/0.5 mm

Experimental tools



$U(t), I(t)$: calibrated custom made back current shunts;

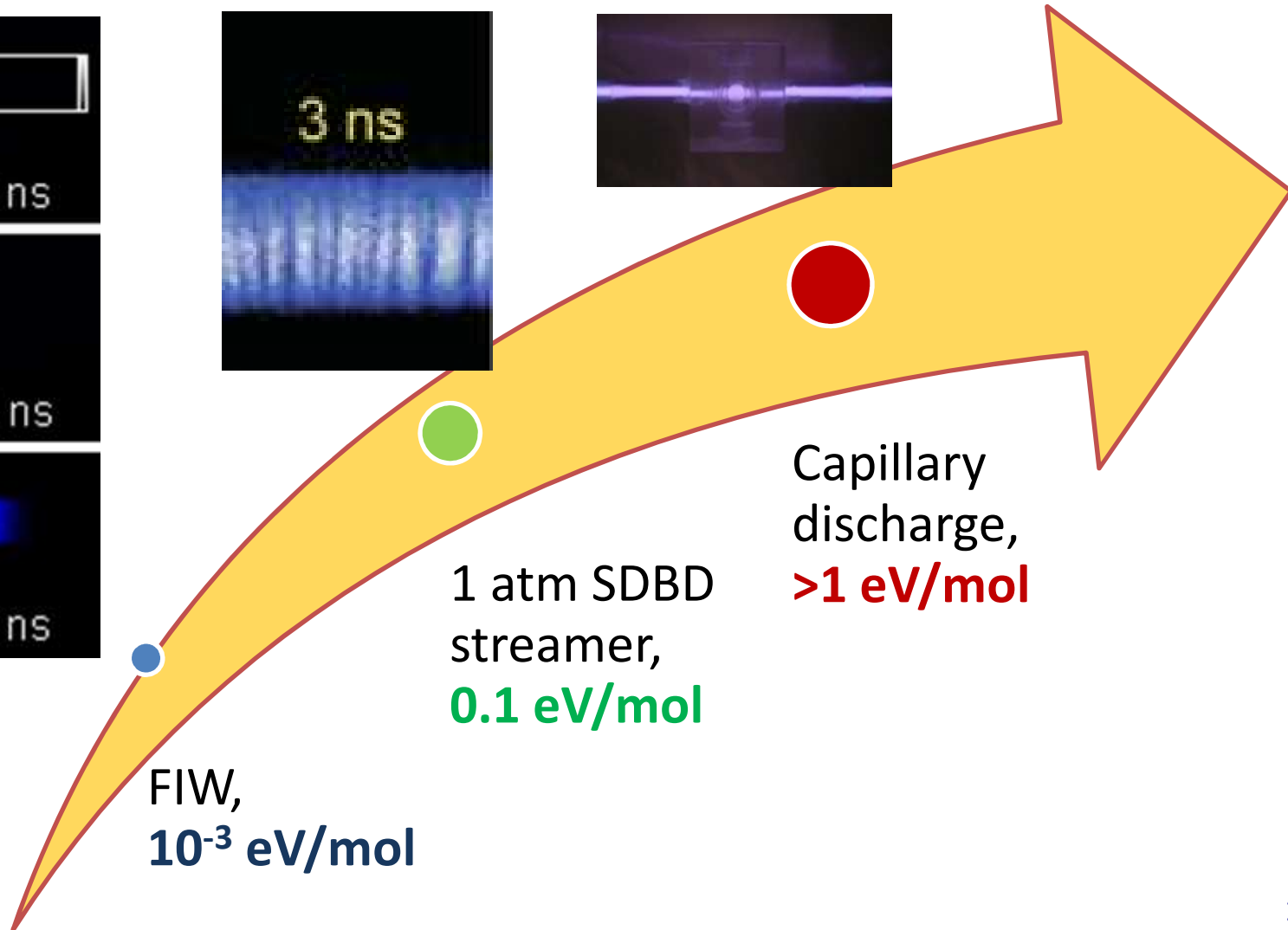
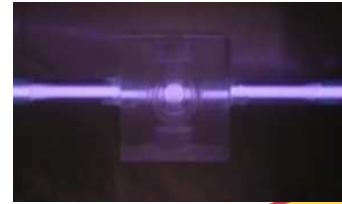
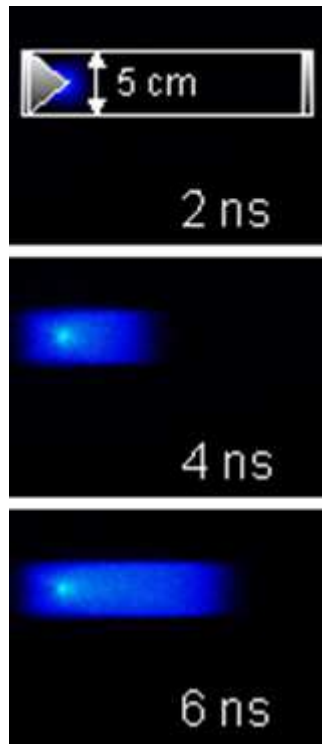
$E/N(t, x)$: calibrated custom made capacitive detectors; emission spectroscopy;

$v(t, x)$, morphology: ICCD (filtered) imaging

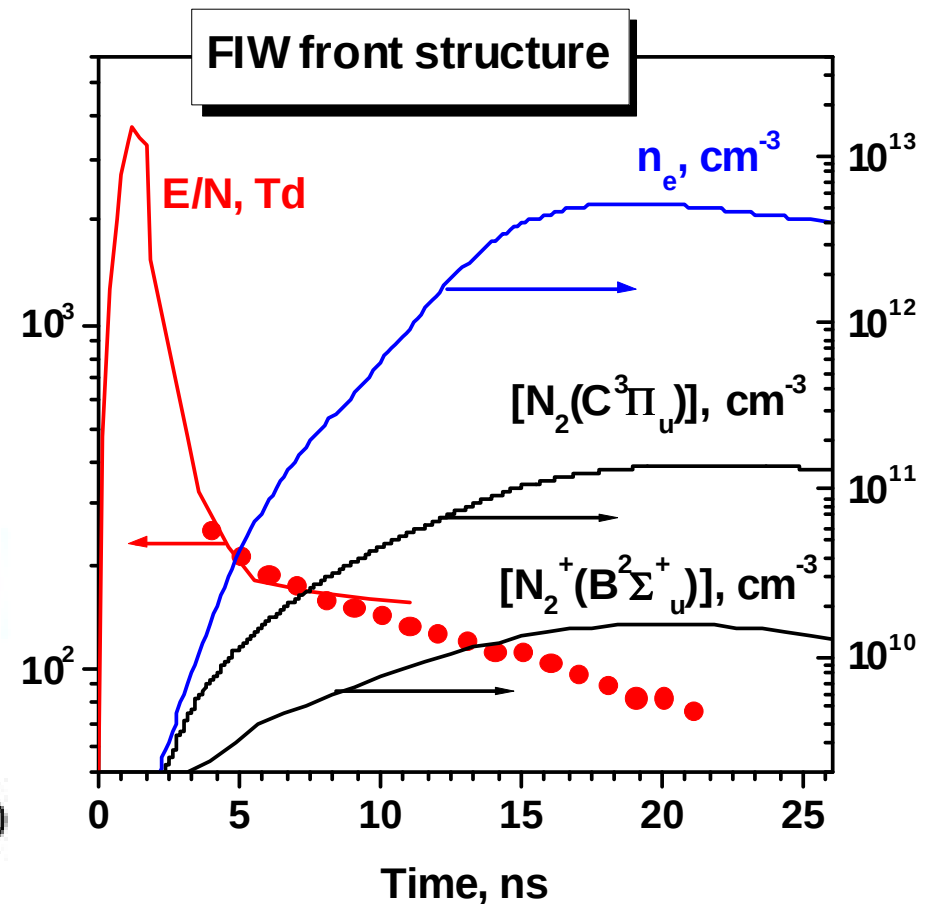
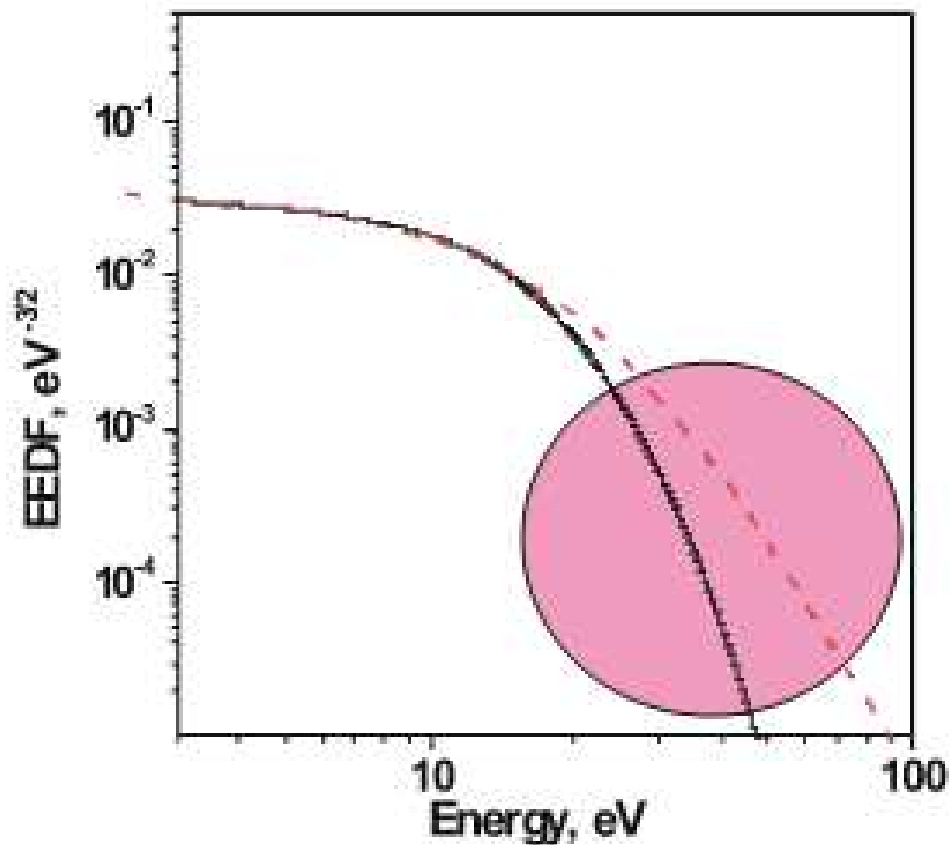
$n_e(t, x)$: electrical current measurements, Stark broadening

$[O](t)$: actinometry, TALIF

Specific deposited energy, eV/mol

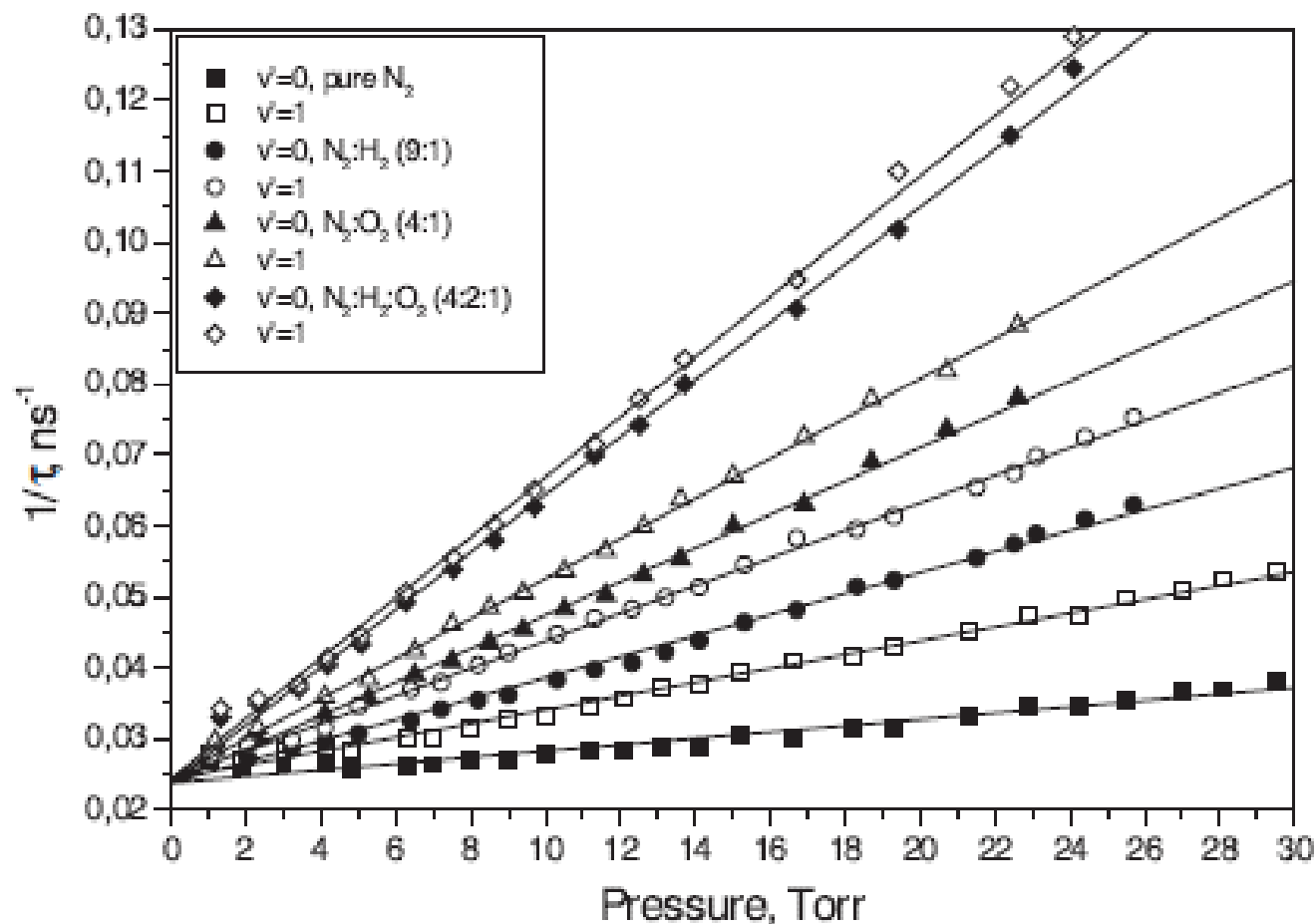


Scientific elegance: “diluted” chemistry in high fields at nanoseconds



S.V.Pancheshnyi et al *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.*, 1999, 32 2219

Example of application: $N_2(C^3\Pi_u)$ quenching rate measurements



S.V.Pancheshnyi et al *Chem. Phys.*, 2000, 262, 349-357

Fast ionization waves

($U=+10$ kV in the cable, FWHM=30 ns)



Discharge in air at 1-10 Torr ($N=10^{17}$ cm $^{-3}$):

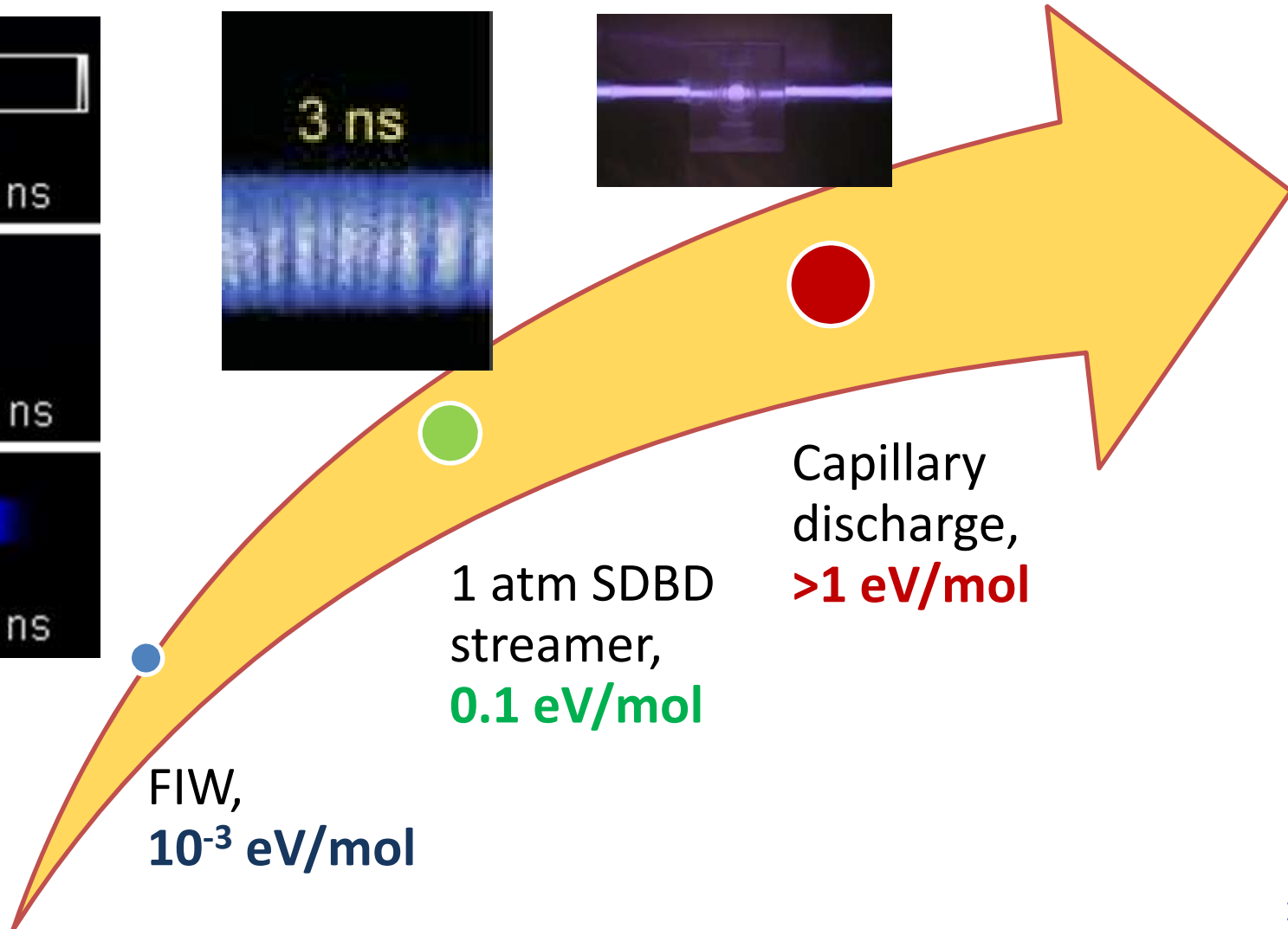
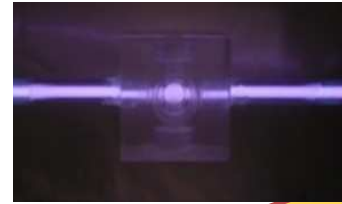
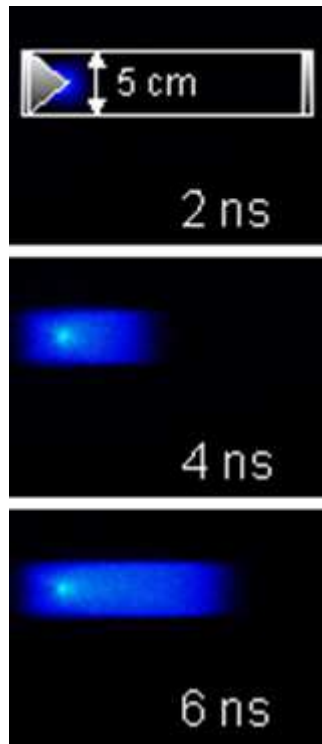
$I(t)$: 60 A (3 A/cm 2);

$v(t,x)$: 50 mm/ns;

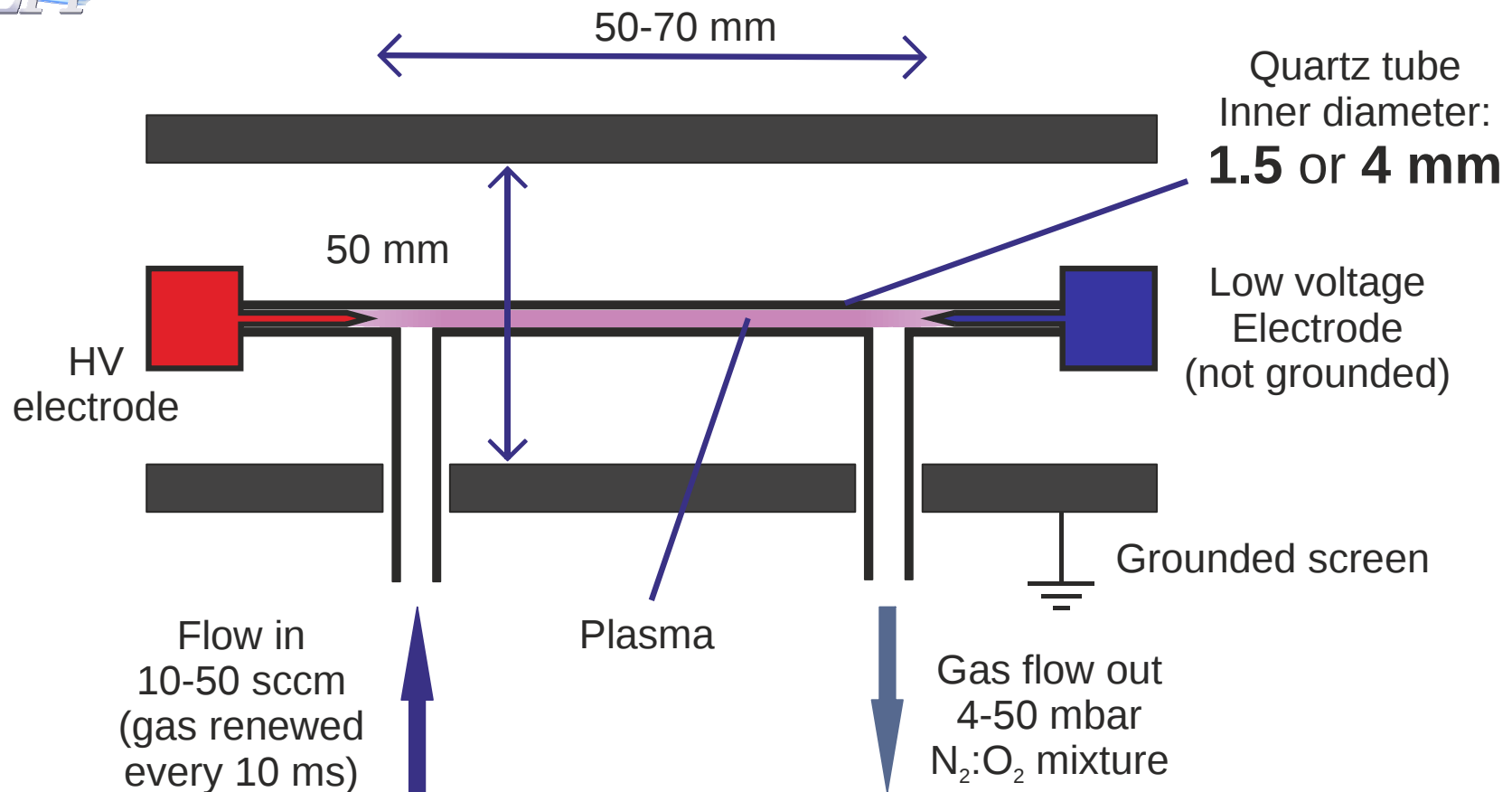
$E/N(t,x)$: 1-5 kTd in the front and 100-300 Td in the region of energy deposition after the front;

$n_e(t,x)$: 10^{12} cm $^{-3}$

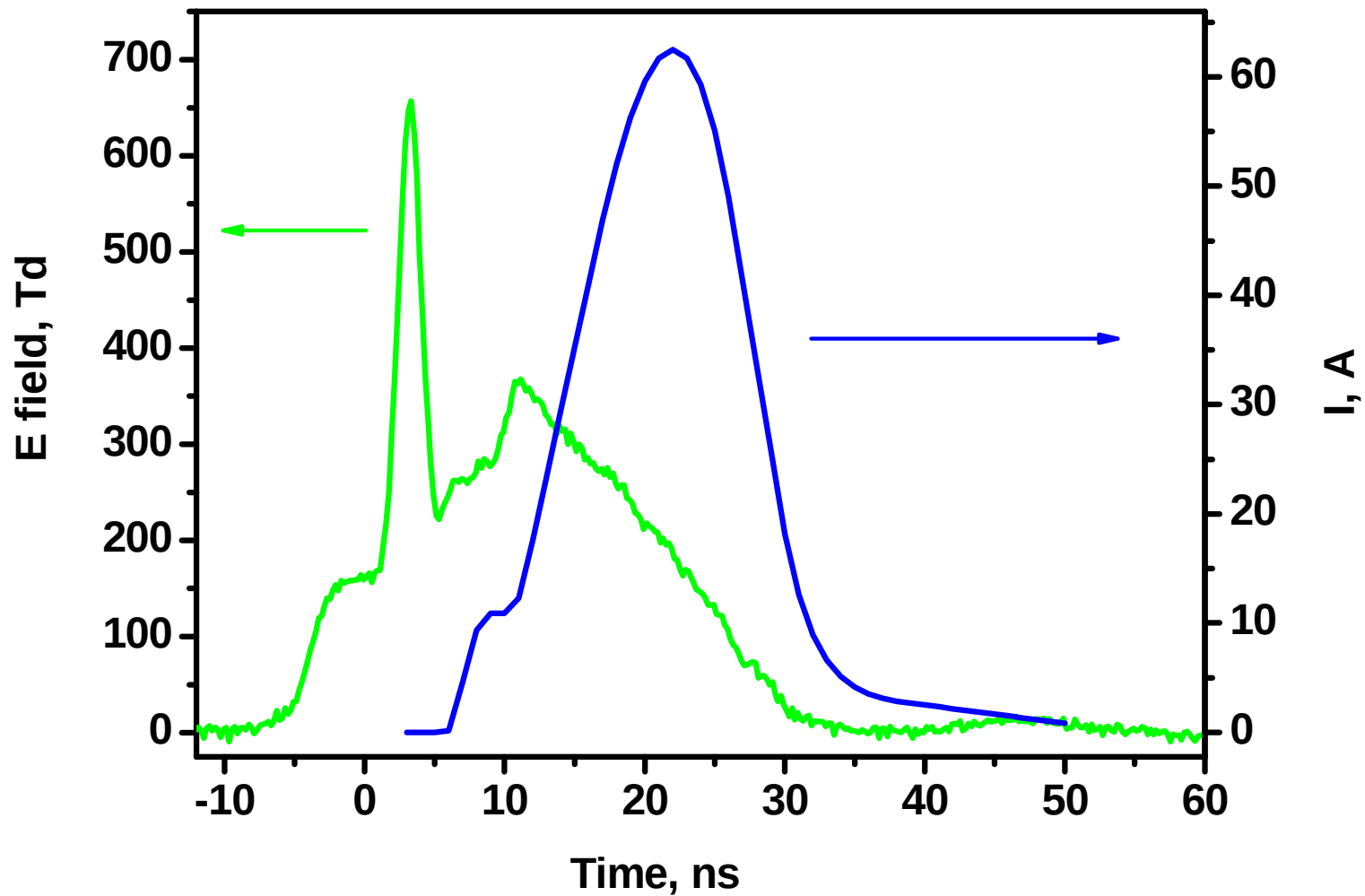
Scale of specific deposited energy



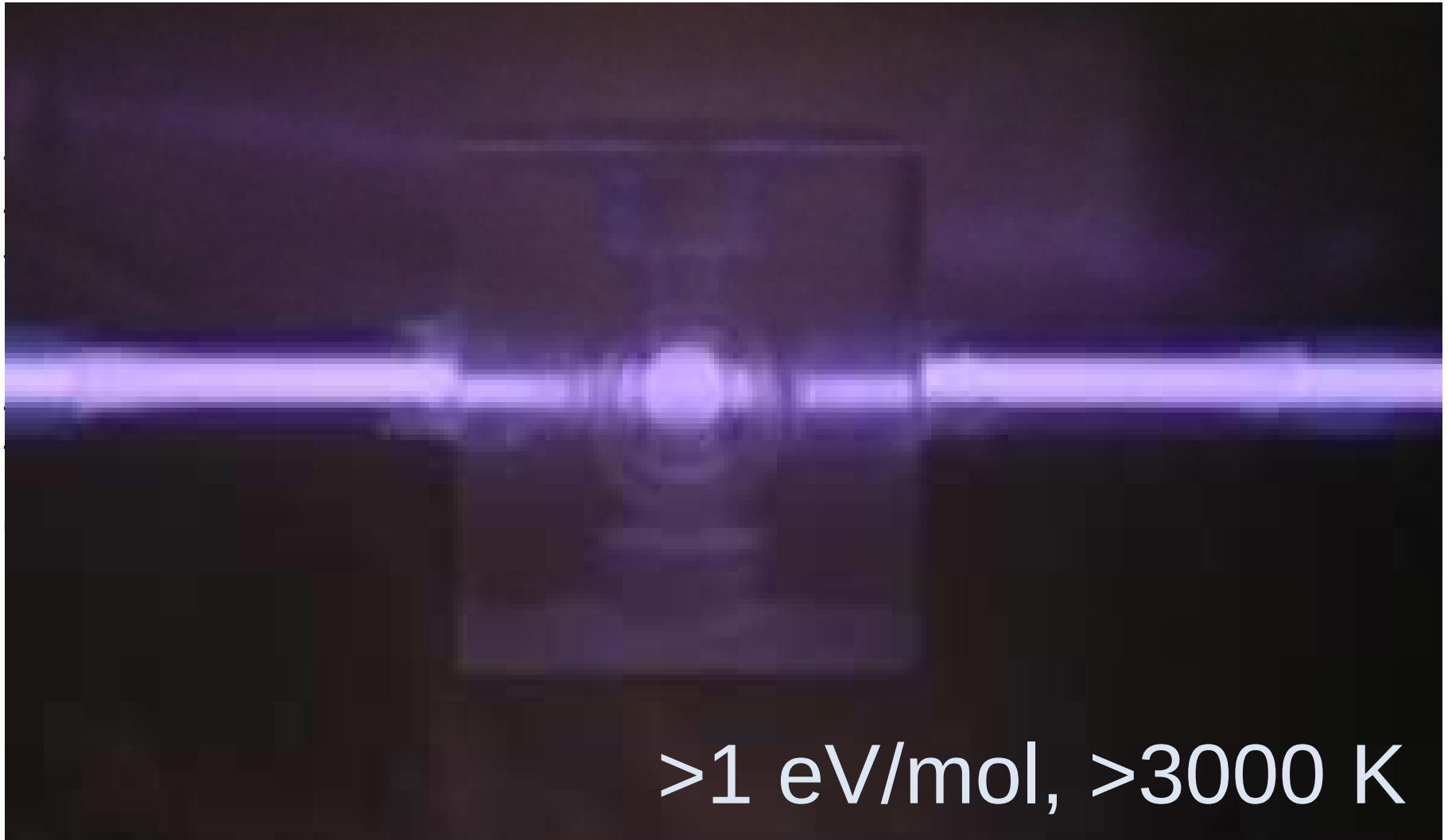
Capillary nanosecond discharge



Electric field and current waveforms

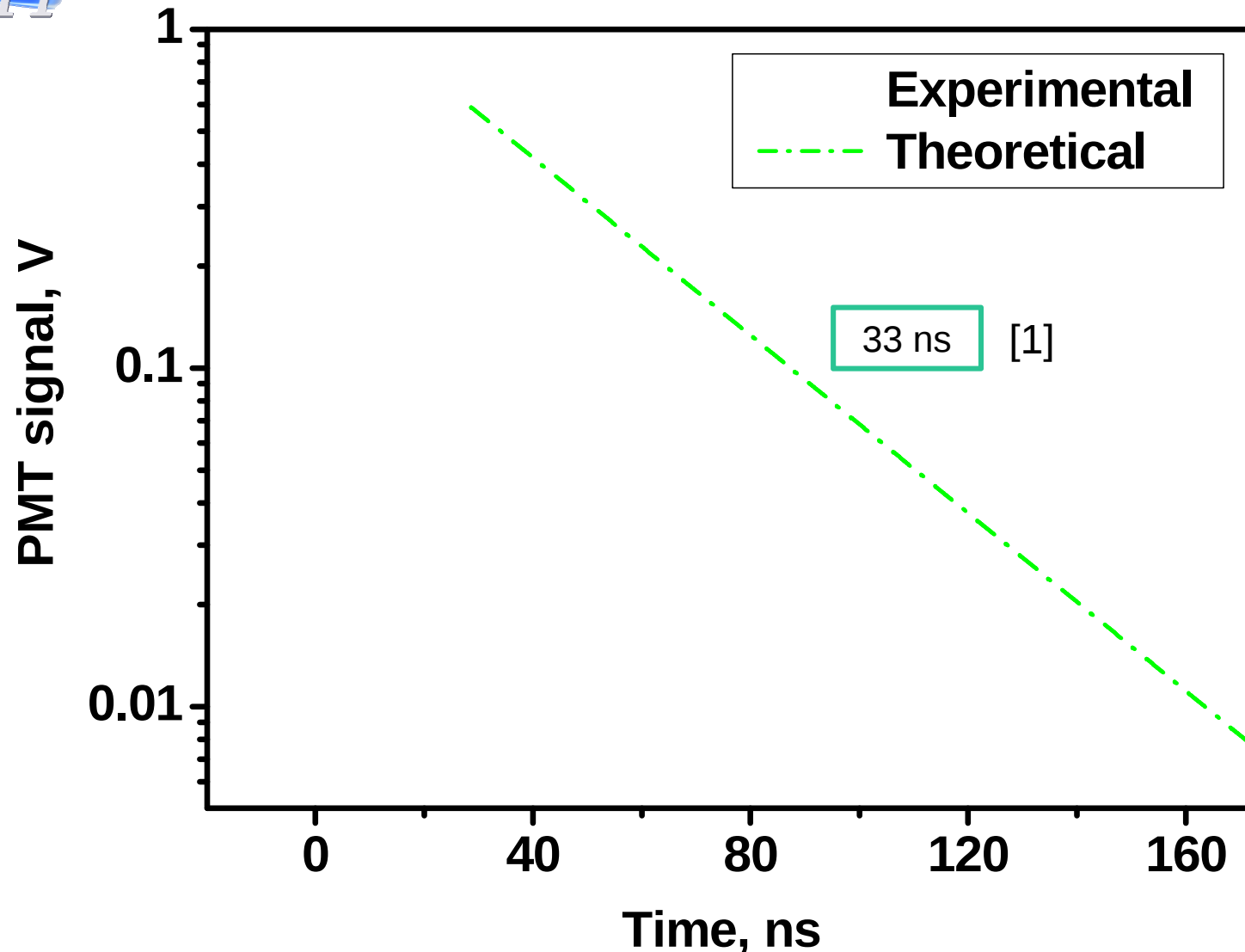


Specific energy and gas heating



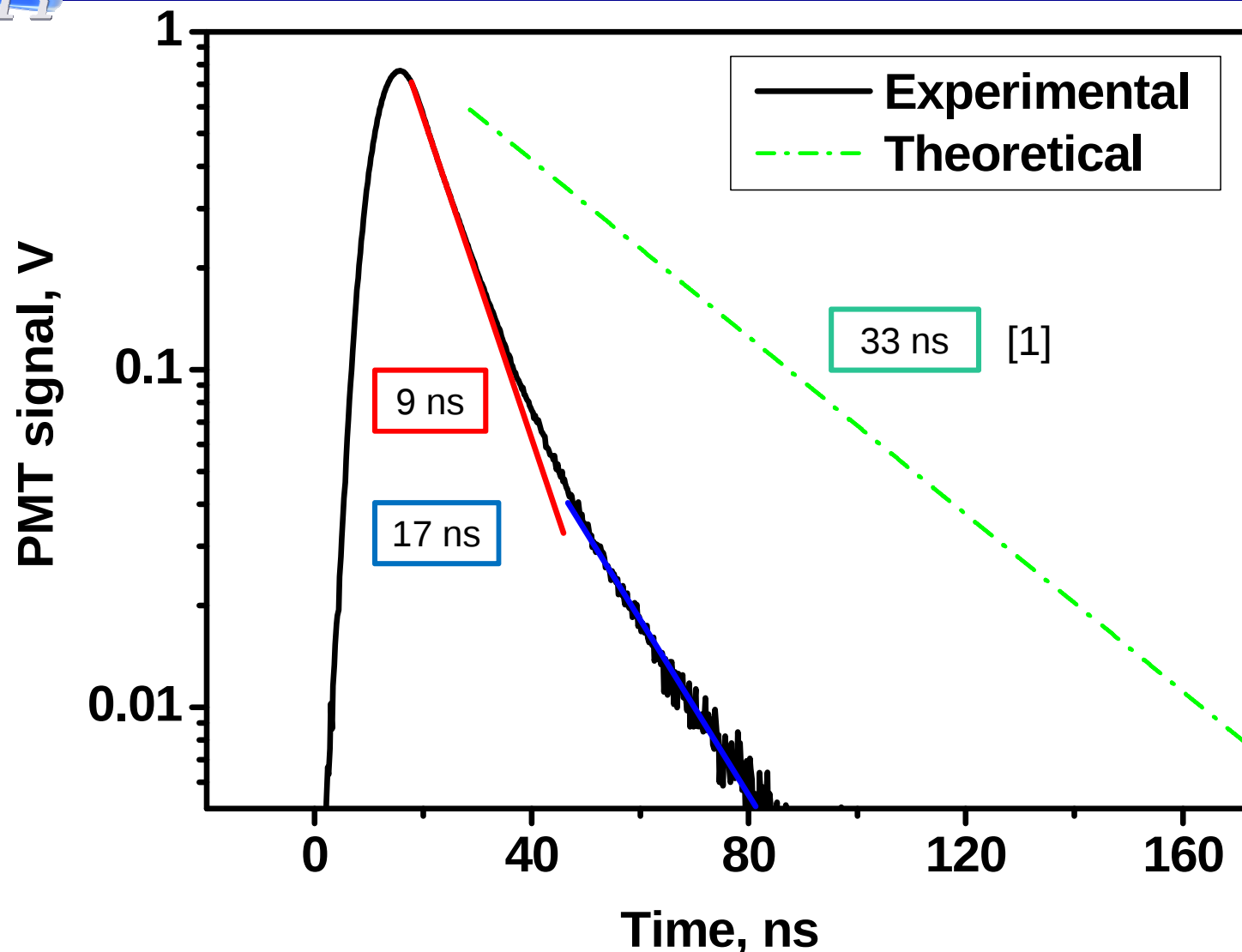
>1 eV/mol, >3000 K

$\text{N}_2(\text{C}^3\Pi_u)$ emission decay in nitrogen



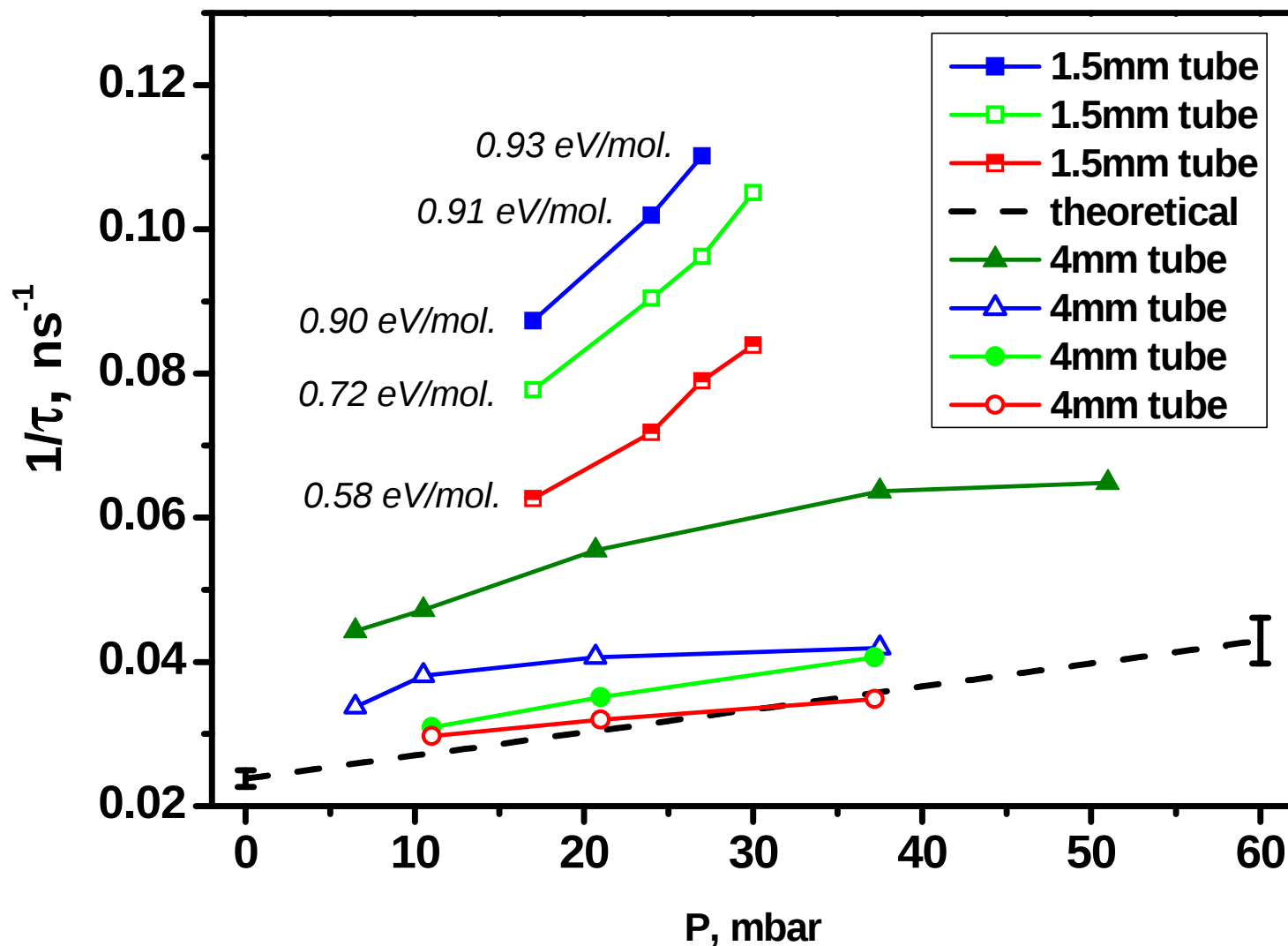
[1] Pancheshnyi, S. V., Starikovskaia, S. M., and Starikovskii, A. Y., *Chemical Physics*, 262 (2000)

$\text{N}_2(\text{C}^3\Pi_u)$ emission decay in nitrogen



[1] Pancheshnyi, S. V., Starikovskaia, S. M., and Starikovskii, A. Yu., *Chemical Physics*, **262** (2000)

$N_2(C^3\Pi_u)$ reverse decay vs pressure



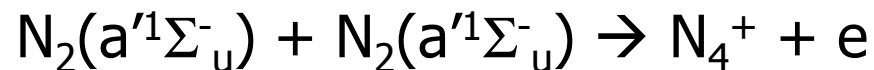
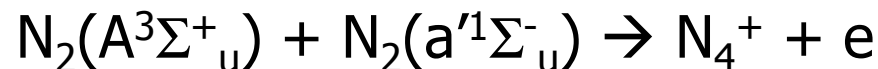
Specific deposited energy decreasing

Analysis of the experimental results

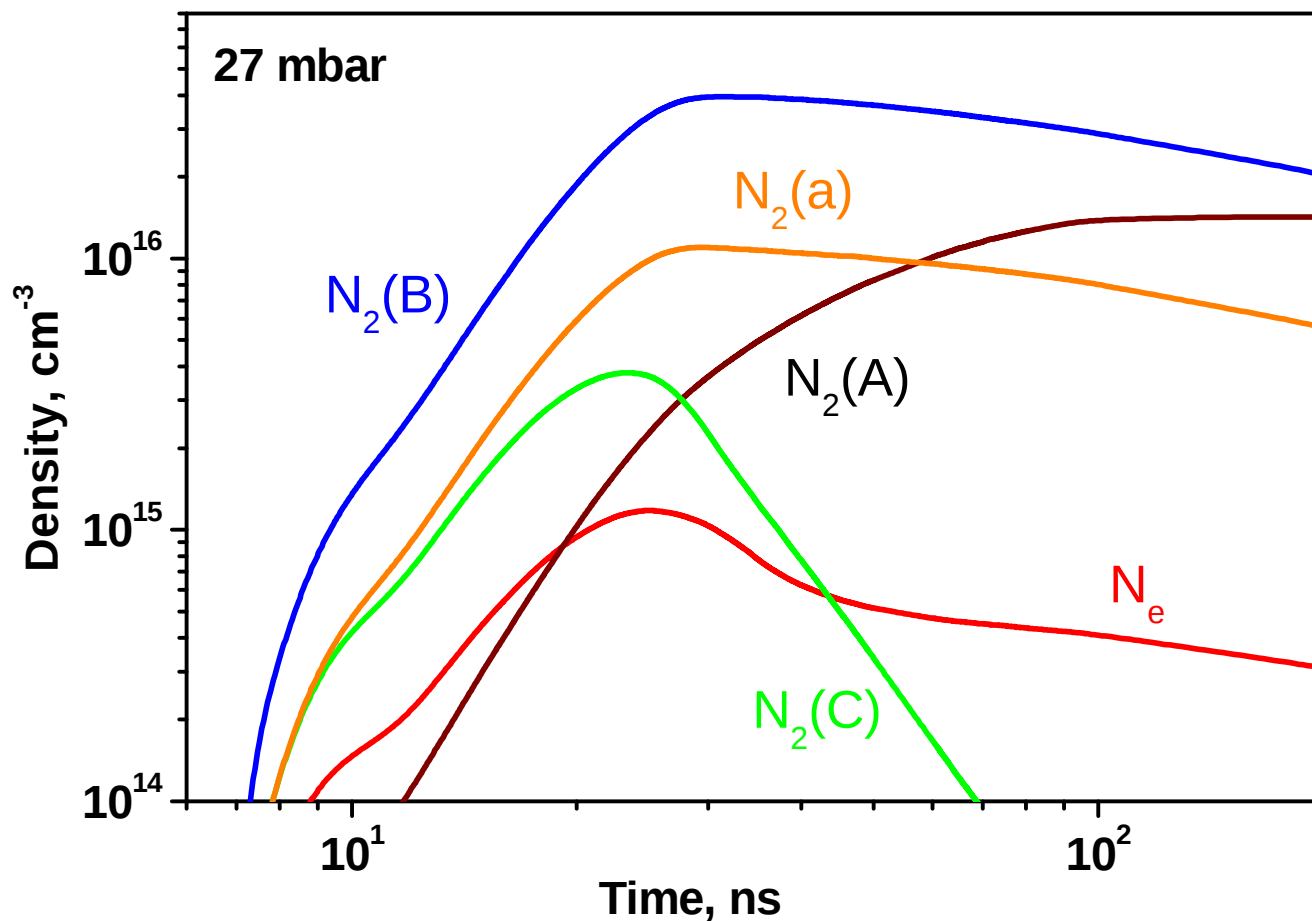


Possible causes:

- Stimulated emission
- Variation of quenching rate with temperature
- Quenching by atoms
- Quenching by excited species (up to 10% of N_2 are electronically excited)
- Quenching by electrons: $n_e = 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- The electron density at $t > 10 \text{ ns}$ is sustained by reactions of associative ionization:

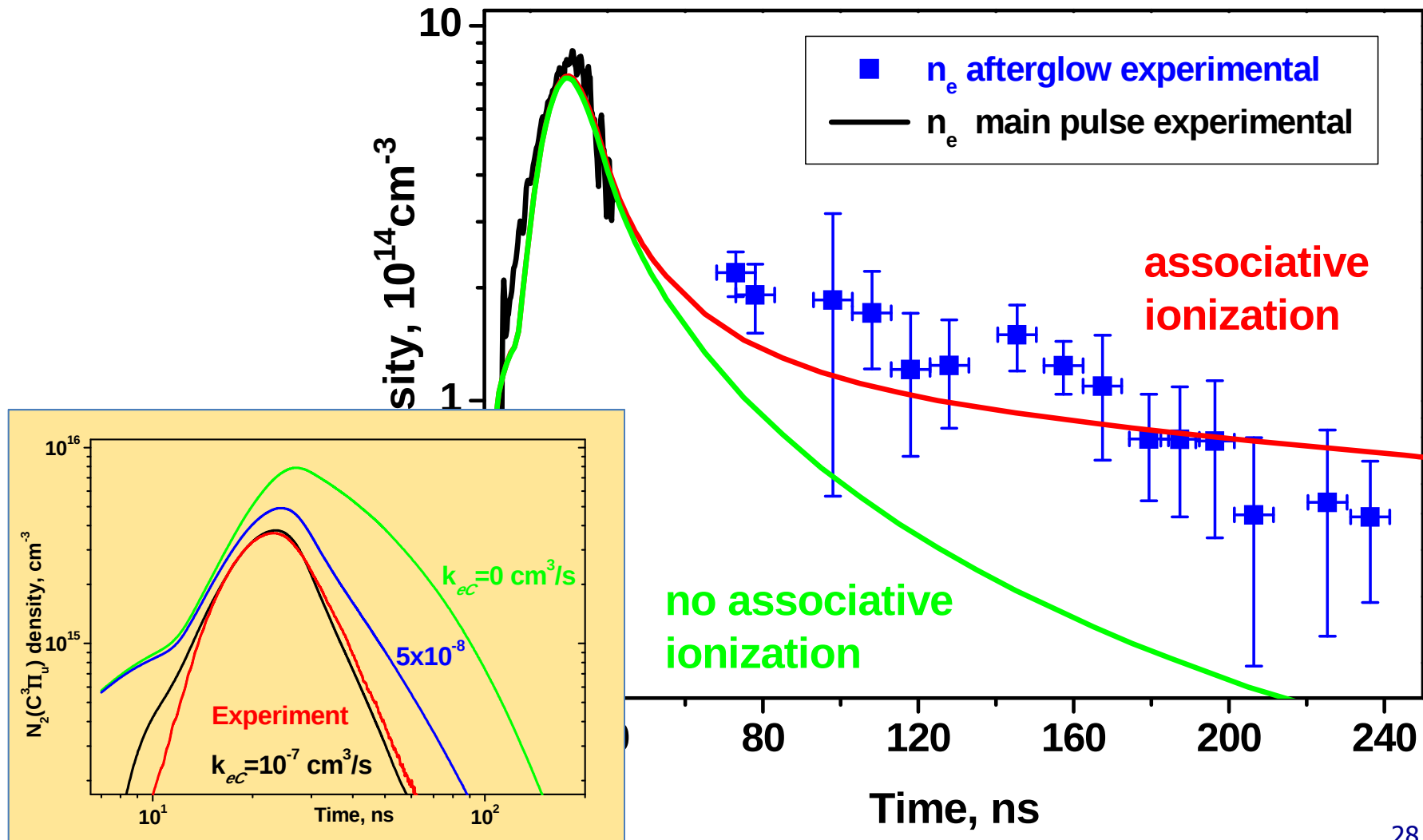


Calculated n_e and excited species densities

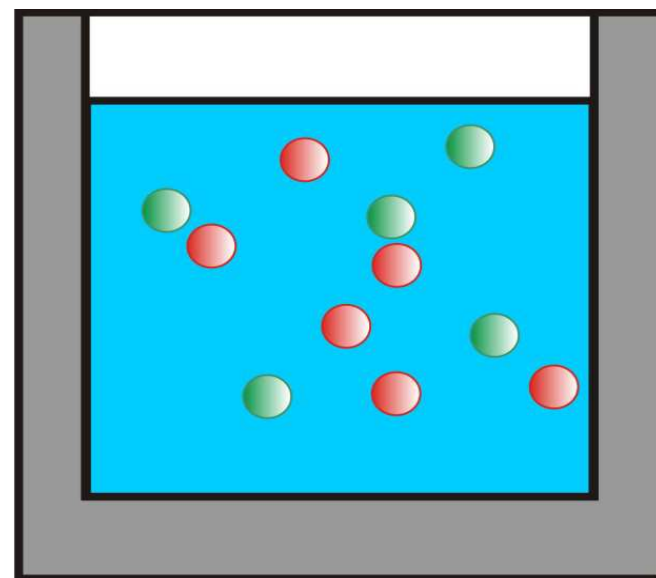
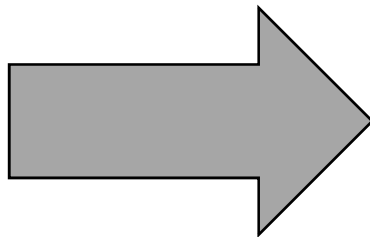
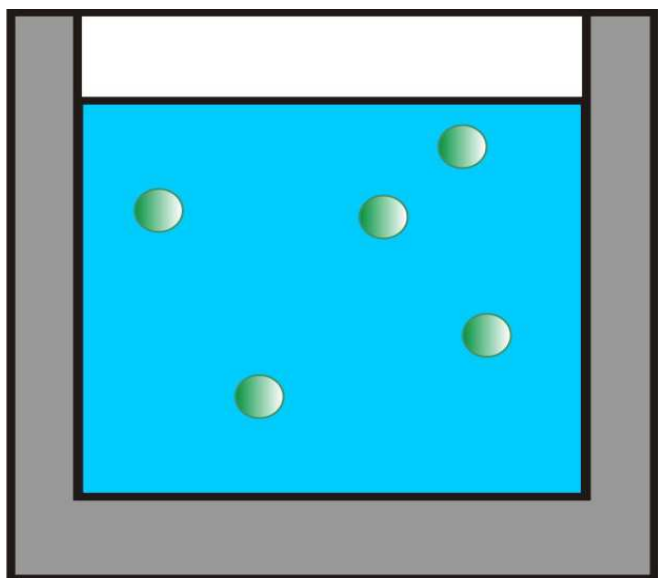
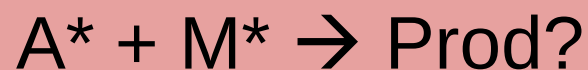
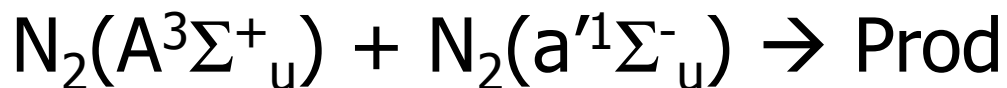


- electron density slightly changes after discharge pulse

Calculated and measured electron density in the afterglow in nitrogen



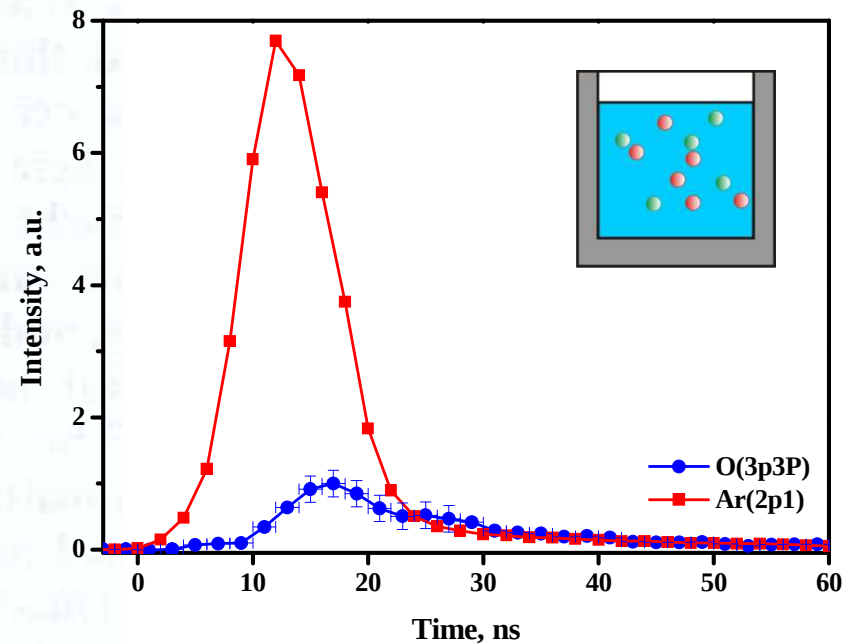
"Non-diluted" plasma chemistry: how this will influence the diagnostics?



Actinometry in nanosecond capillary discharge in air, 20 Torr

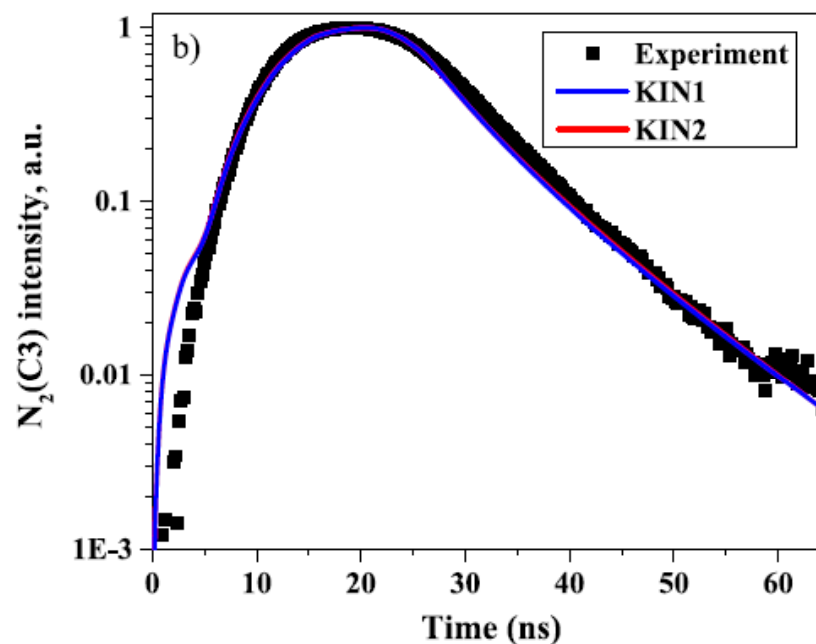
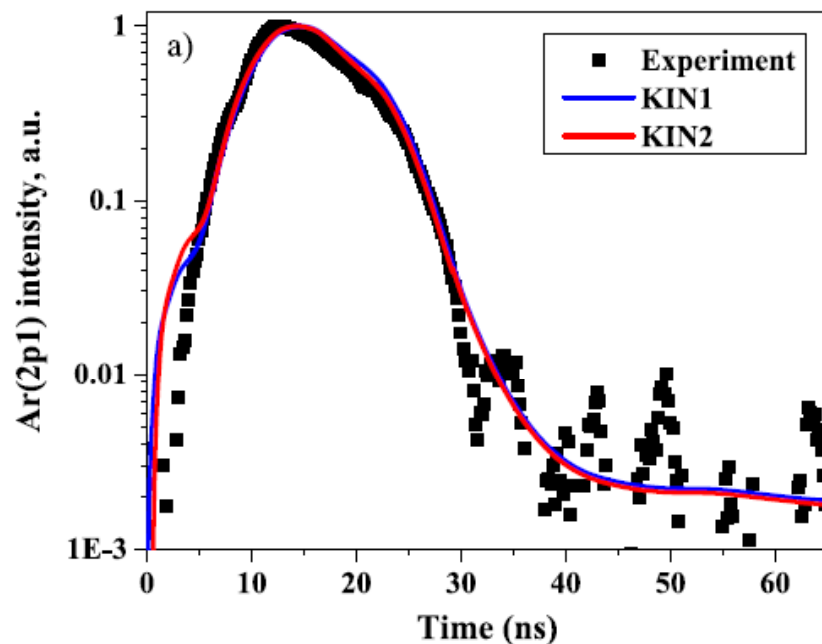


$$\frac{I_{\text{O}(3p^3P)}}{I_{\text{Ar}(2p_1)}} = \alpha \frac{[\text{O}]}{[\text{Ar}]}$$



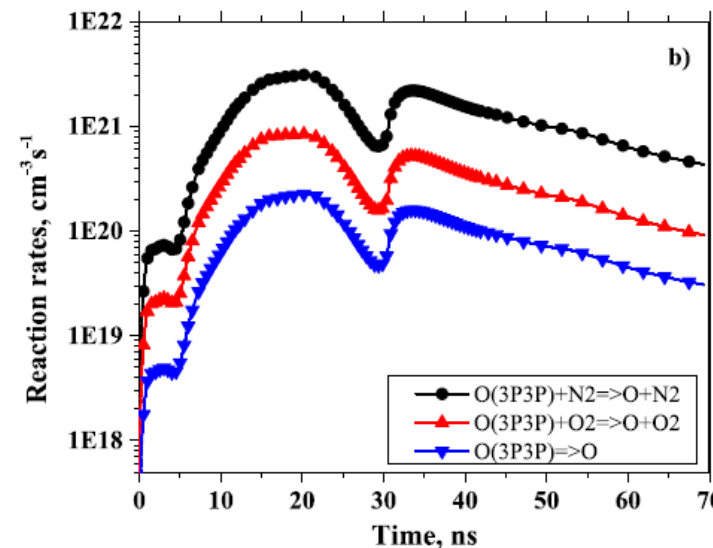
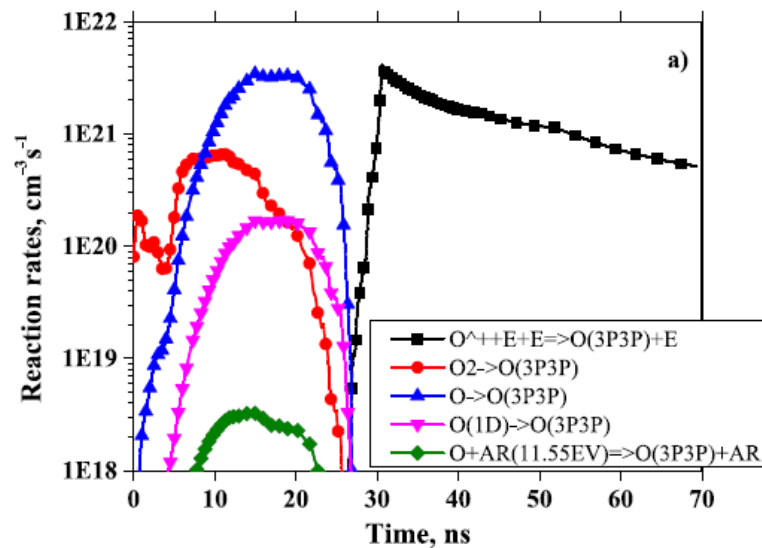
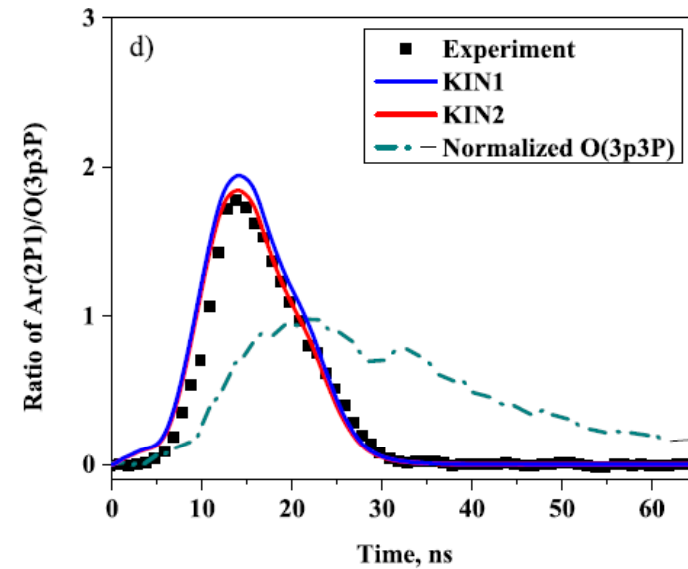
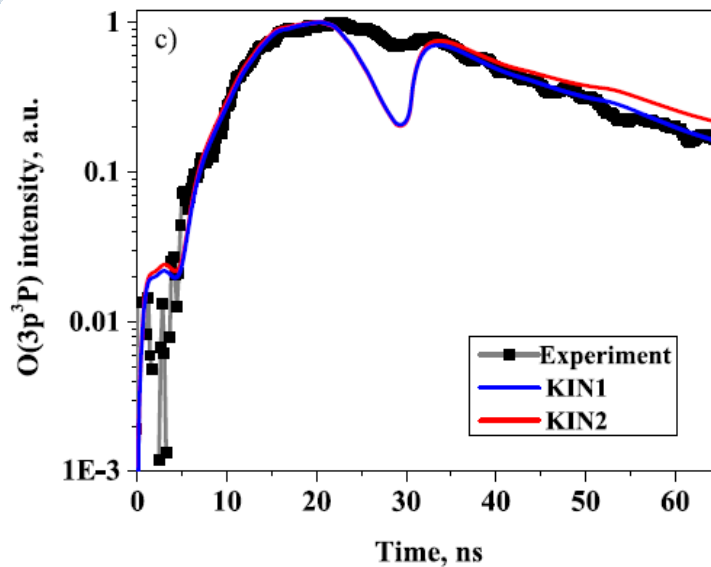
Actinometry: 5.3% Ar in air; OES of Ar(2p₁), 750 nm // O(3p³P), 845 nm

Temporal behavior of Ar* and N₂(C)

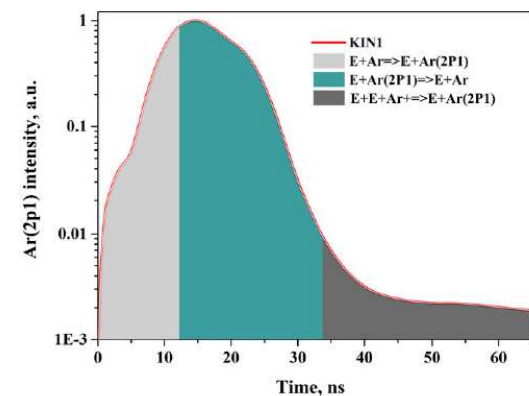
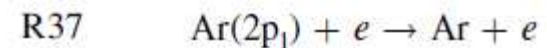
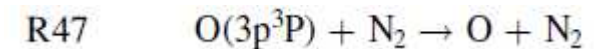
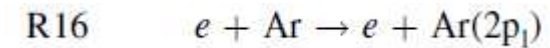
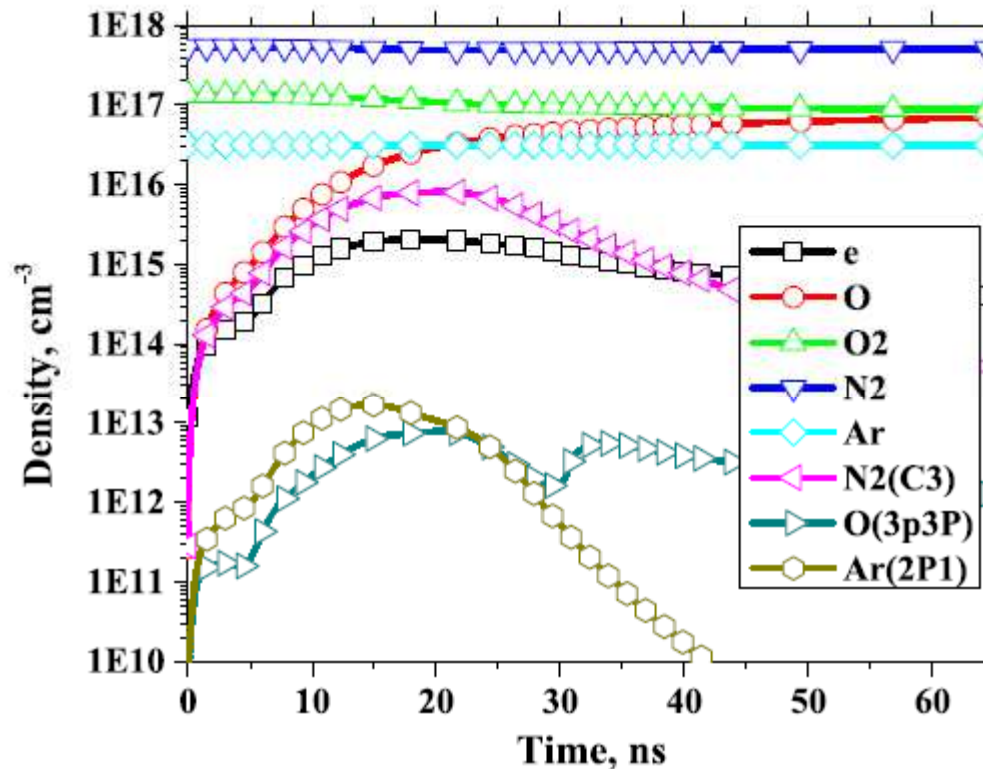


N₂, N₂($v = 1 - 8$), N₂(A³Σ_u⁺), N₂(B³Π_g), N₂(a¹Σ_u⁻), N₂(C³Π_u), N, N(²D), N(²P), N⁺, N₂⁺, N₃⁺, N₄⁺, O₂, O₂($v = 1 - 4$), O₂(a¹Δ_g), O₂(b¹Σ_g⁺), O₂(A³Σ_u⁺), O₂(C³Δ_u), O₂(c¹Σ_u⁻), O, O(¹D), O(¹S), O₃, O⁺, O₂⁺, O₄⁺, O⁻, O₂⁻, O₃⁻, O₄⁻, NO, NO⁺, NO⁻, O₂⁺N₂, N₂O, NO₂, NO₃, N₂O₅, N₂O⁺, NO₂⁺, N₂O⁻, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻, e.

Temporal behavior of O^* , Ar^*/O^* ratio and rates of O^* production/decay

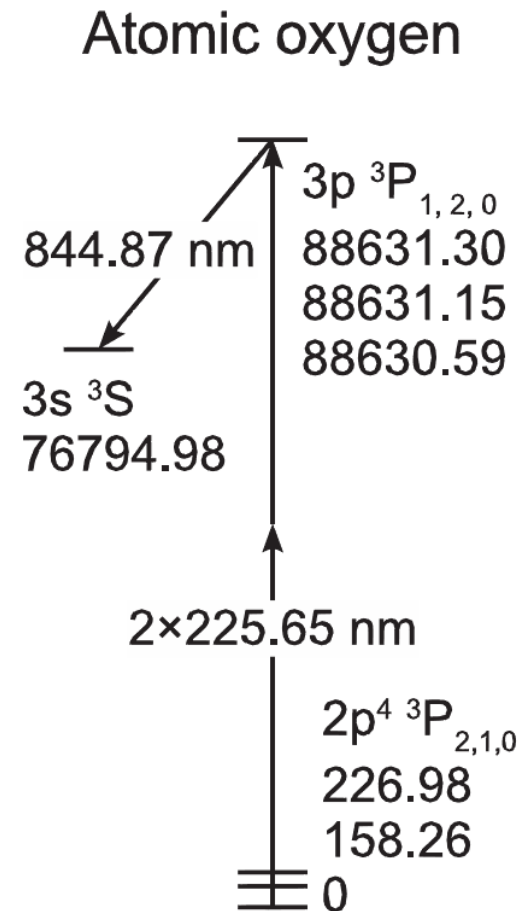
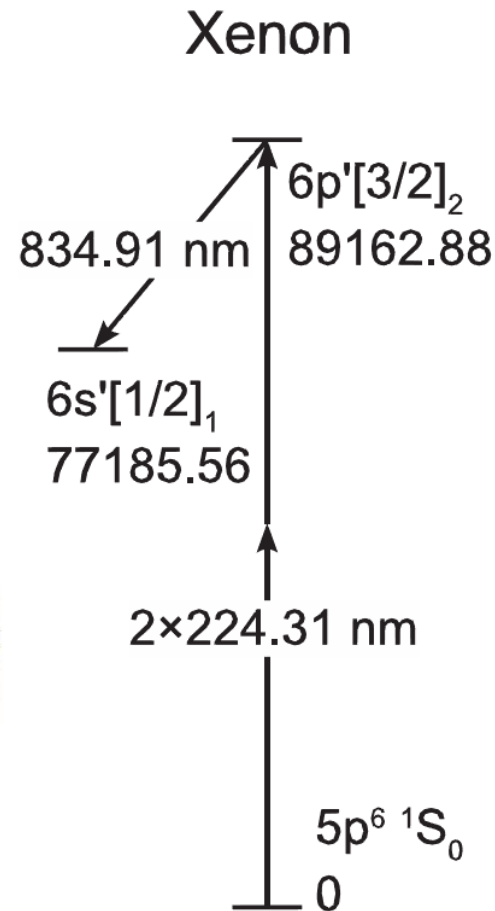
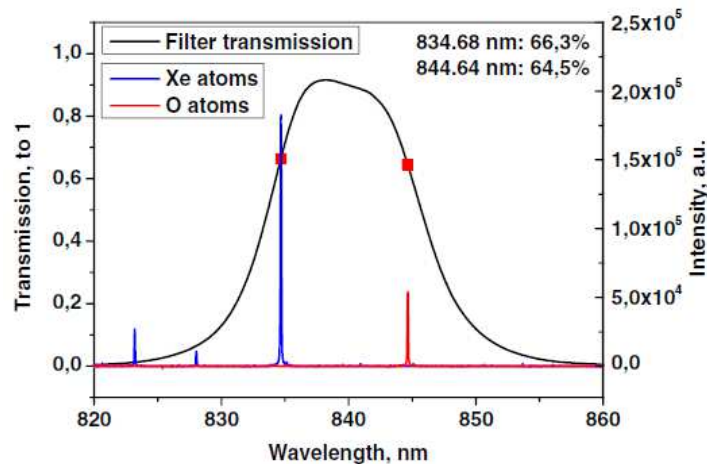


O-density: $3 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$; an expression for the discharge phase



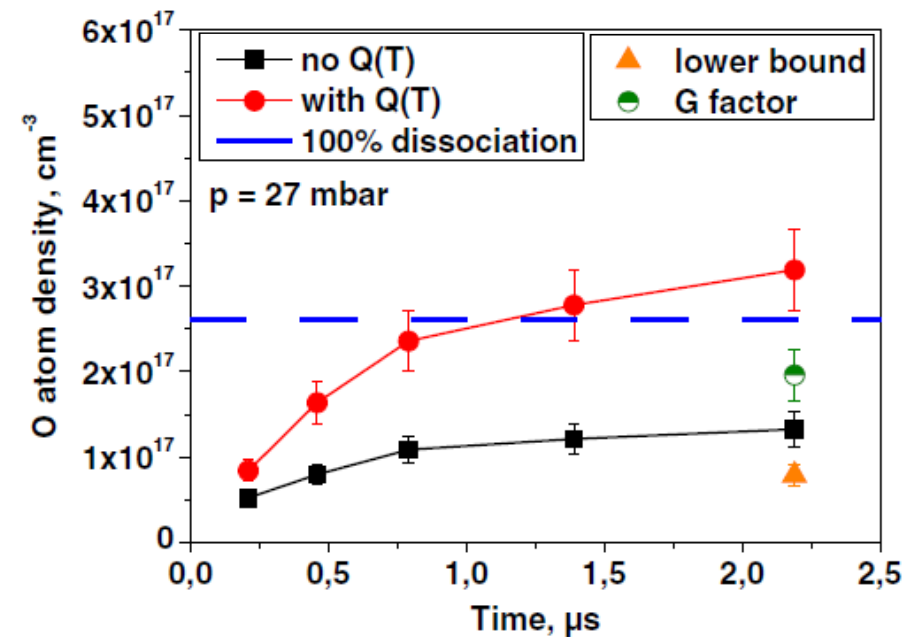
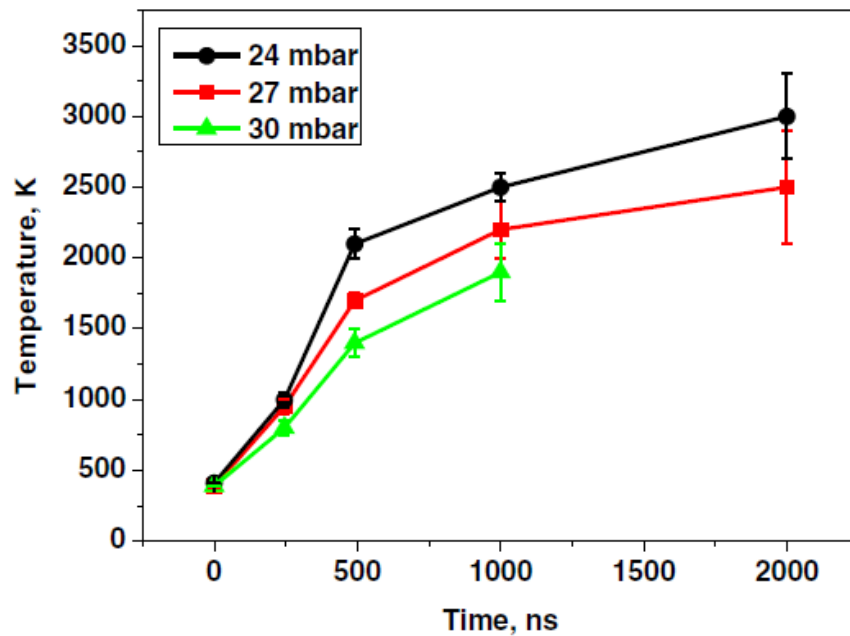
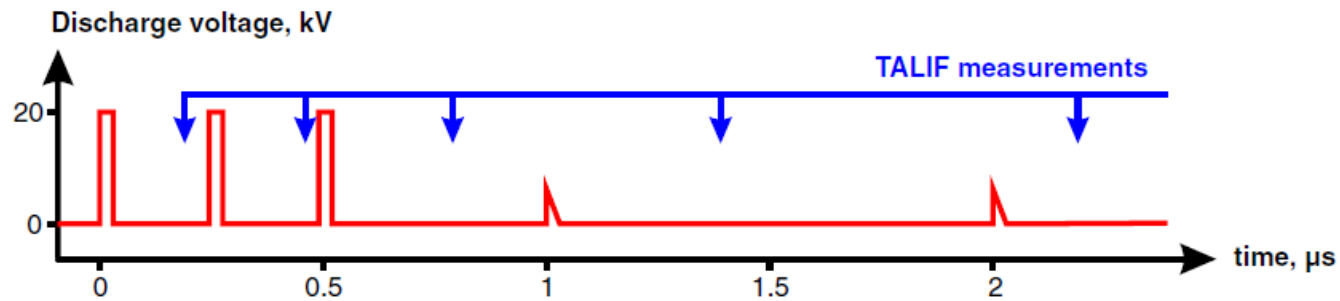
$$[\text{O}] = [\text{Ar}] \cdot \frac{k_{16}}{k_{28}} \cdot \frac{d[\text{O}(3p^3P)]/dt + k_{47}[\text{O}(3p^3P)][\text{N}_2]}{d[\text{Ar}(2p_1)]/dt + k_{37}n_e[\text{Ar}(2p_1)]}$$

O-TALIF: scheme of the levels

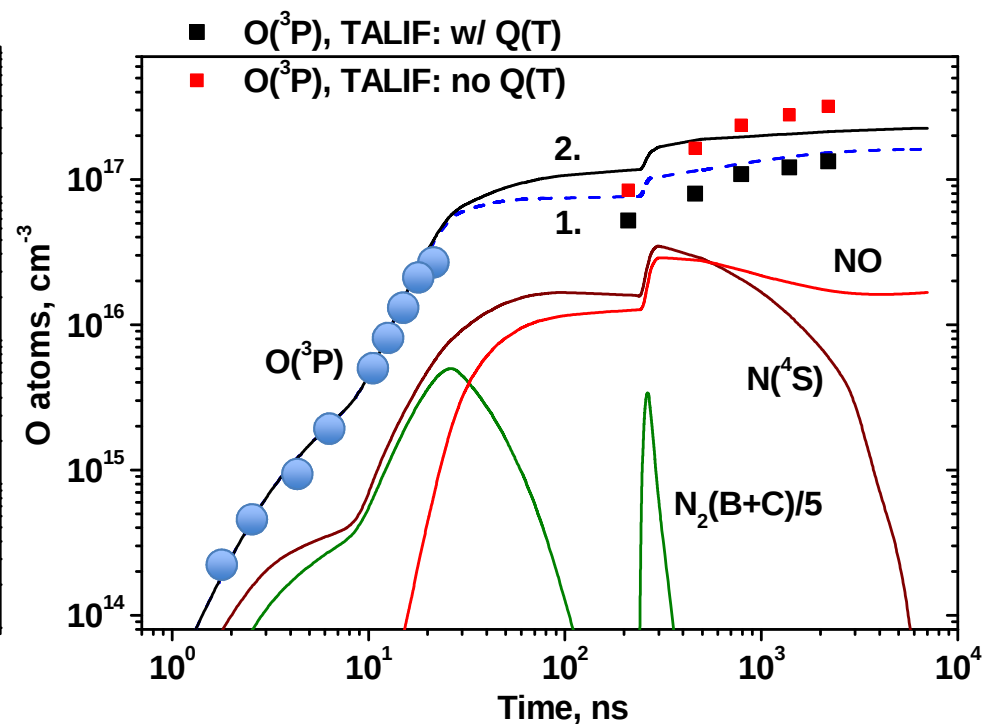
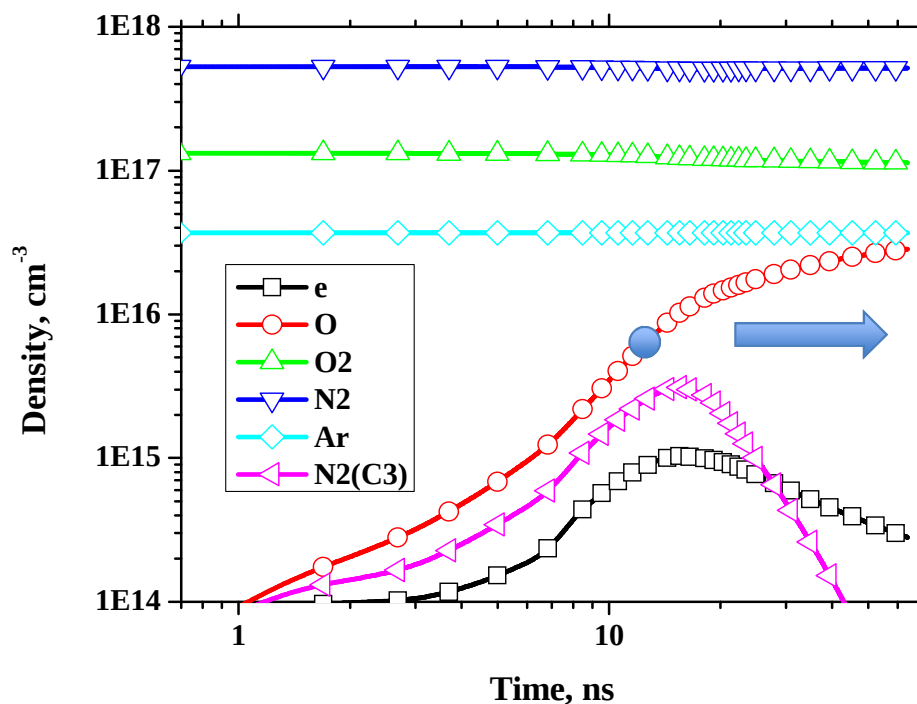


Niemi, K., Schulz-von der Gathen, V., and Döbele, H. F., *Plasma Source Science and Technology*, Vol. **14**, No. 2, 2005, pp. 375-386

TALIF: O-atoms density in the afterglow



Long time trend: actinometry and TALIF



(R4)	$N_2(B^3\Pi_g) + O_2 \rightarrow N_2(v) + 2O(^3P)$	3.0×10^{-10}
(R5)	$N_2(a'^1\Sigma_u^-) + O_2 \rightarrow N_2(v) + O(^3P) + O(^1D)$	2.8×10^{-11}
(R6)	$N_2(C^3\Pi_u) + O_2 \rightarrow N_2 + O(^3P) + O(^1D)$	2.5×10^{-10}

Capillary discharge

(U=+10 kV in the cable, T=30 ns)



Discharge in air at 27 mbar ($N=7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$):

$I(t)$: 60 A (2.5 kA/cm^2);

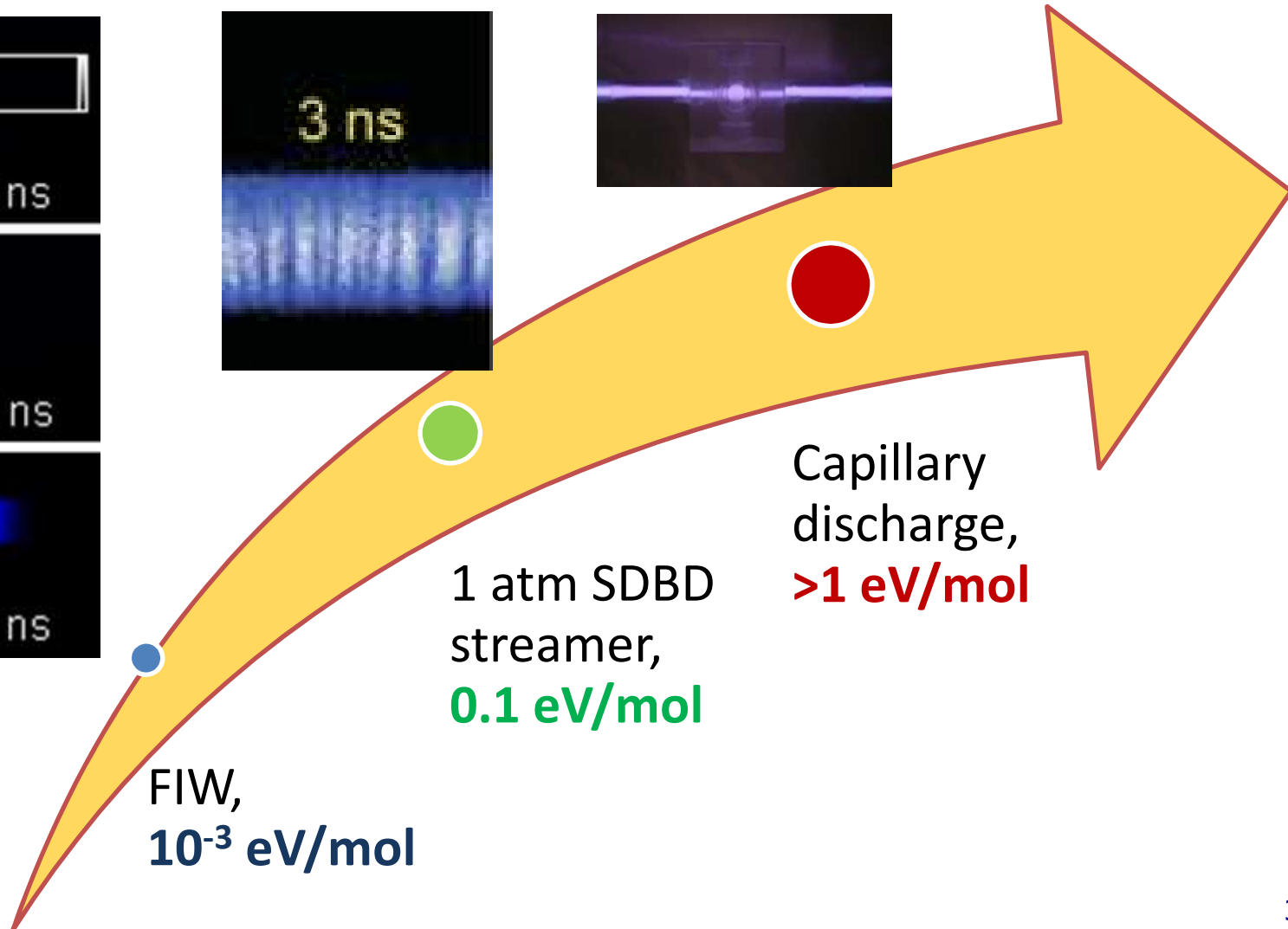
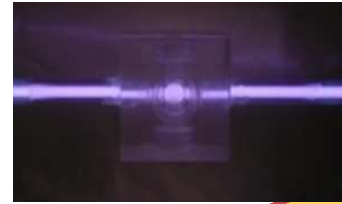
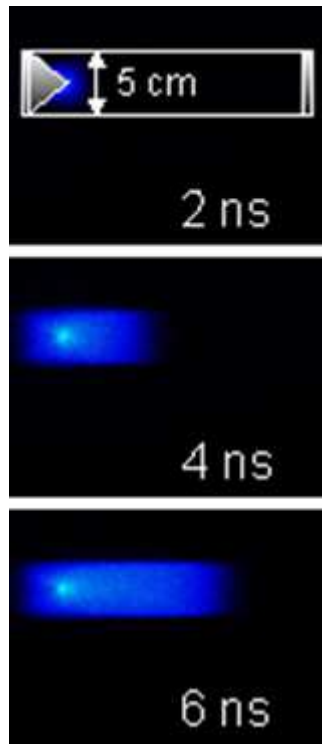
$v(t,x)$: 15 mm/ns;

$E/N(t,x)$: 1-3 kTd in the front and 200-400 Td in the region of energy deposition after the front;

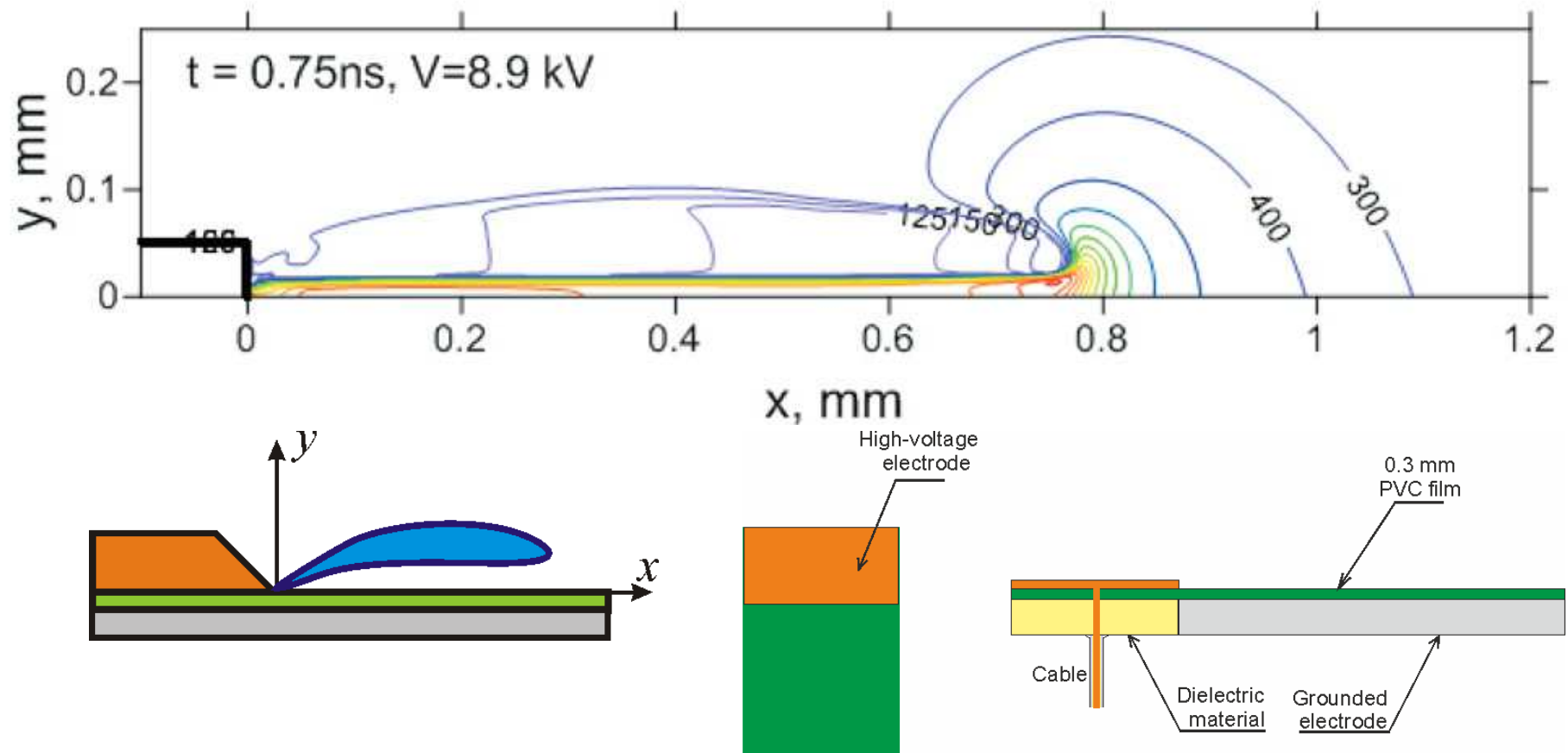
$n_e(t,x)$: 10^{15} cm^{-3} ;

$[O](t)$: 50-100% dissociation of O_2 at $2 \mu\text{s}$

Scale of specific deposited energy

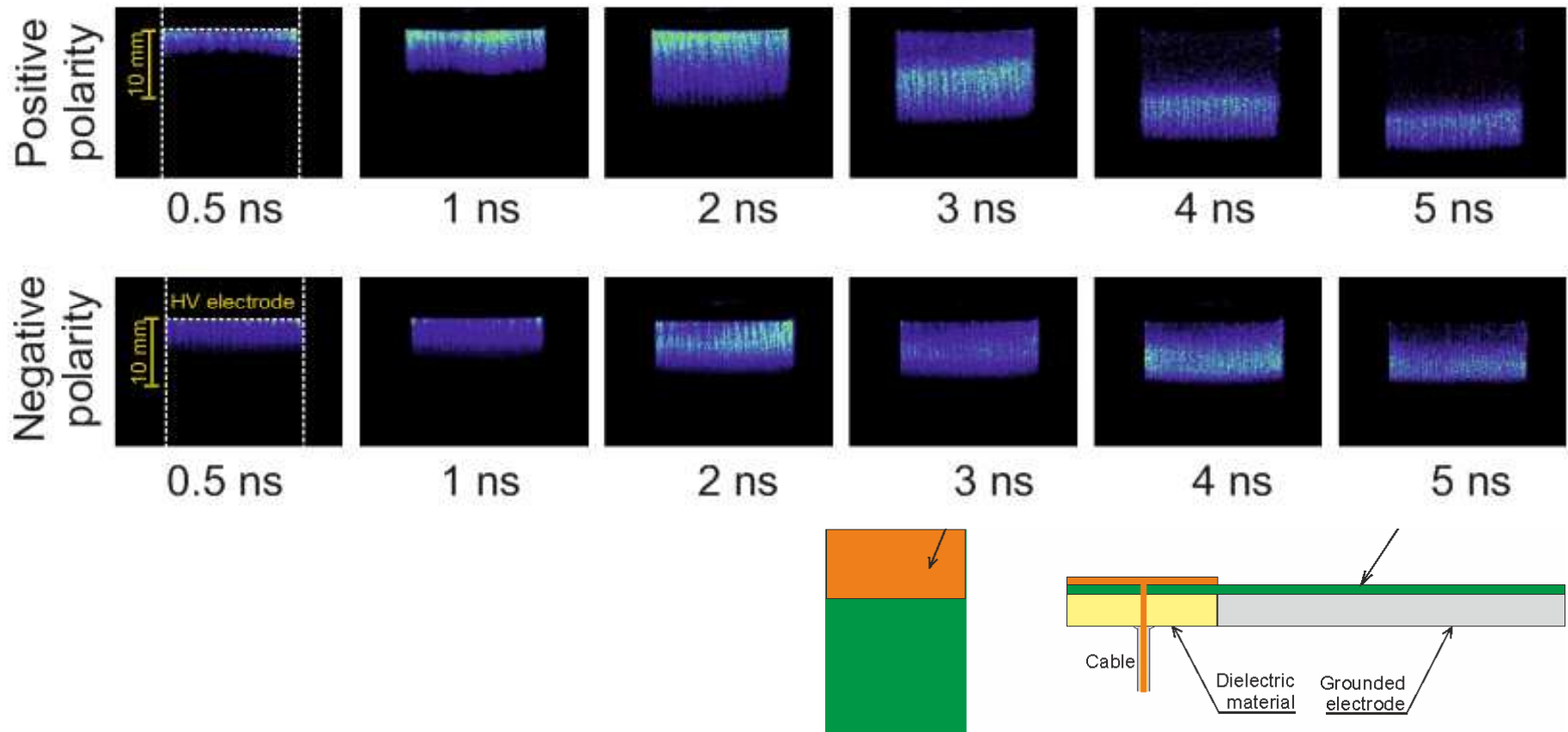


Atmospheric pressure nanosecond SDBD



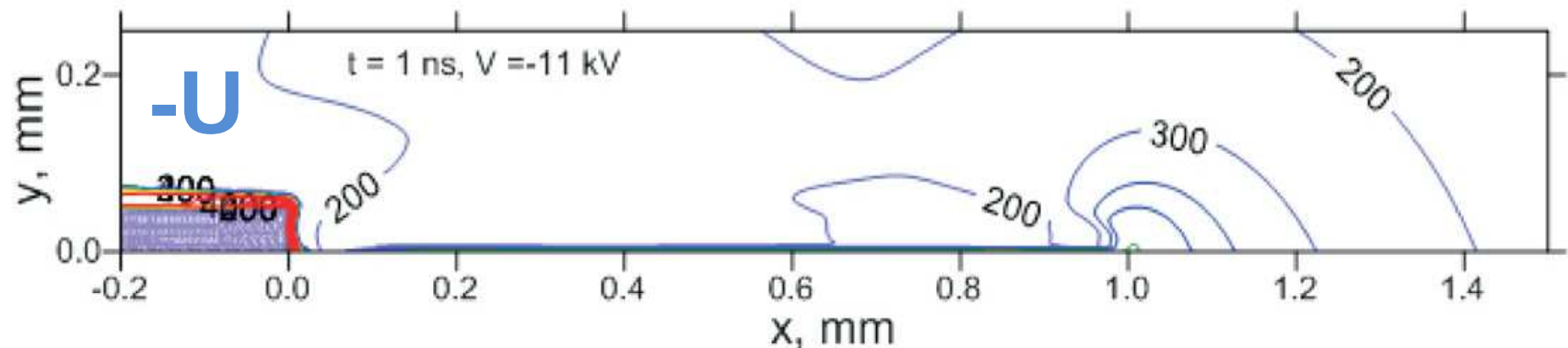
2014 S.A.Stepanyan, **V.R.Soloviev** and S.M.Starikovskaia J.Phys.D.: Appl. Phys, 47, 485201 (13pp)

Propagation by ICCD imaging (ICCD gate is 1 ns, $N_2(C^3\Pi_u)$ emission)

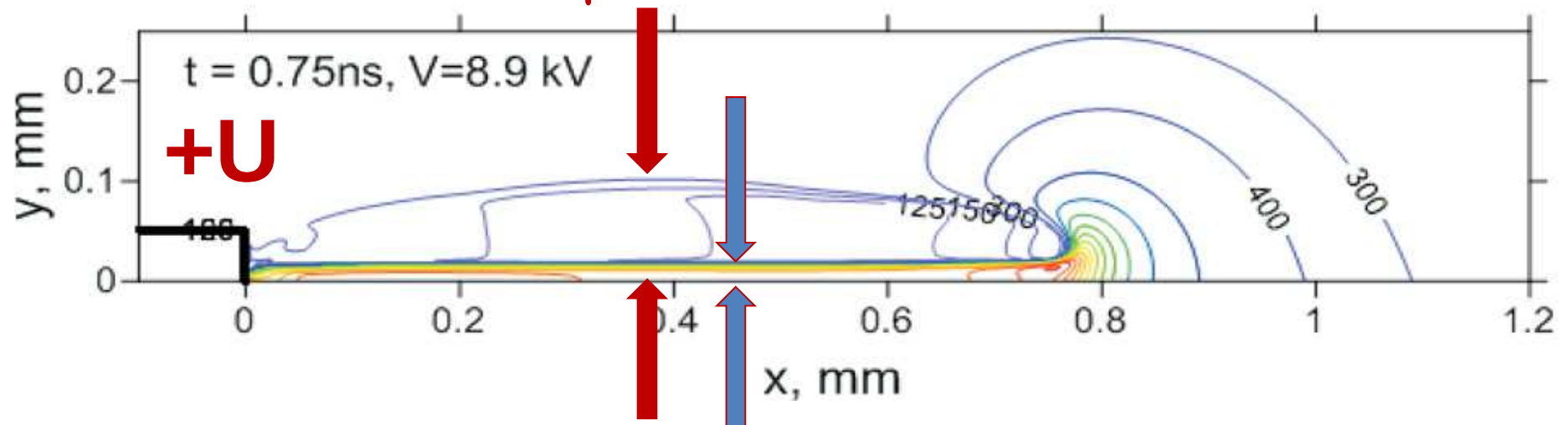


2003 First time: D.V. Roupasov, A.Yu.Starikovskii, MIPT
(GE Project //PhD Thesis)

nSDBD modeling; difference between $-U$ and $+U$

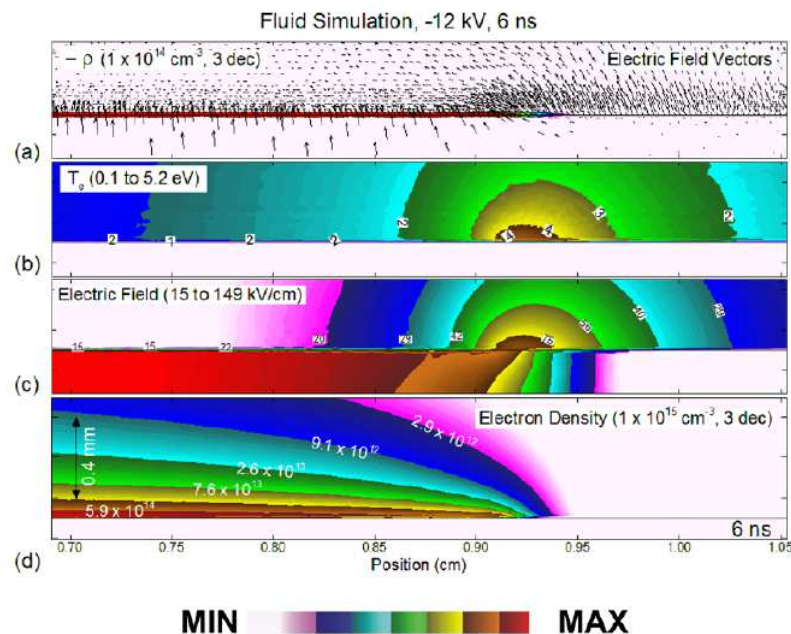


100 μm thickness

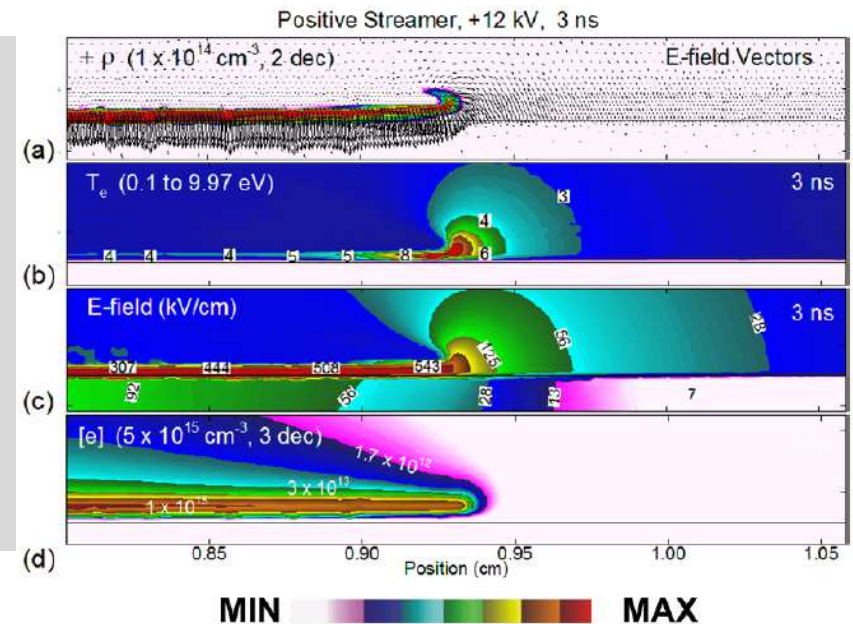


20 μm thickness

Distribution of parameters near the surface streamer head



Q
 T_e
E
 n_e



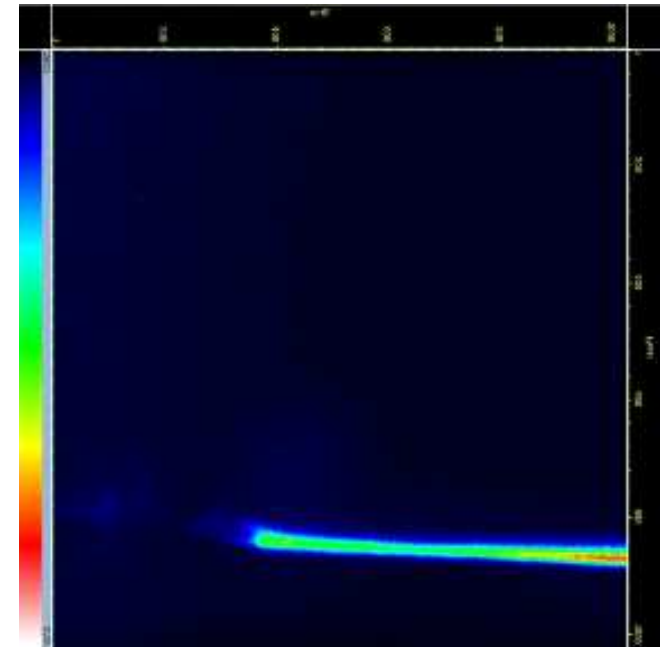
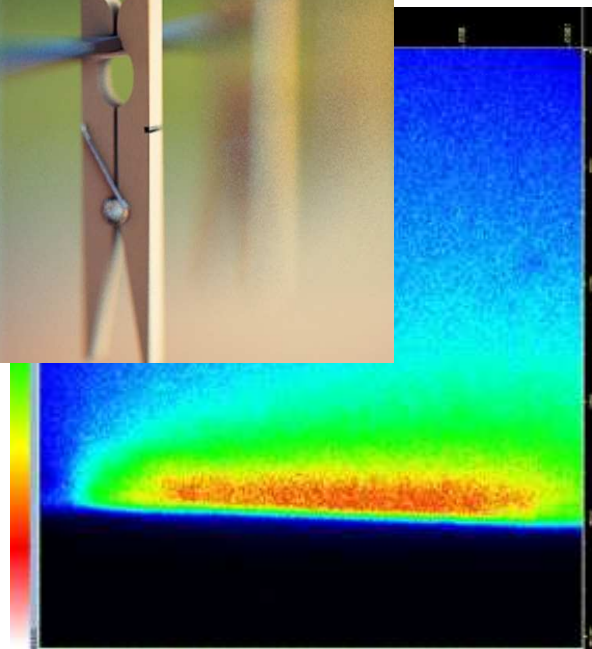
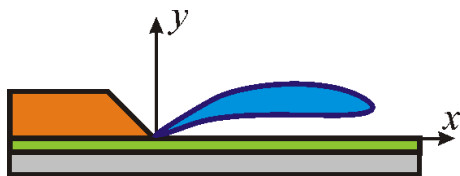
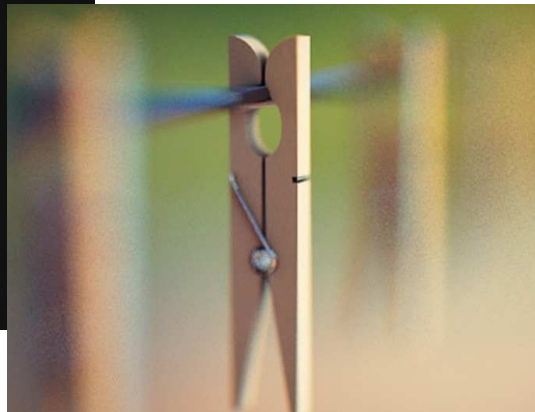
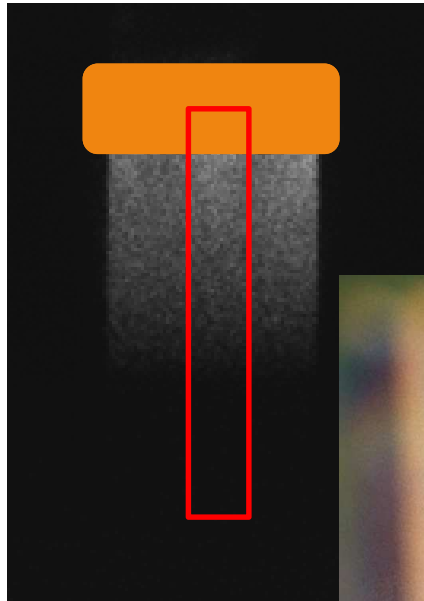
nSDBD ICCD imaging: 2⁺ system of N₂



0.5 ns gate, (7x7) mm per pixel

No diaphragm

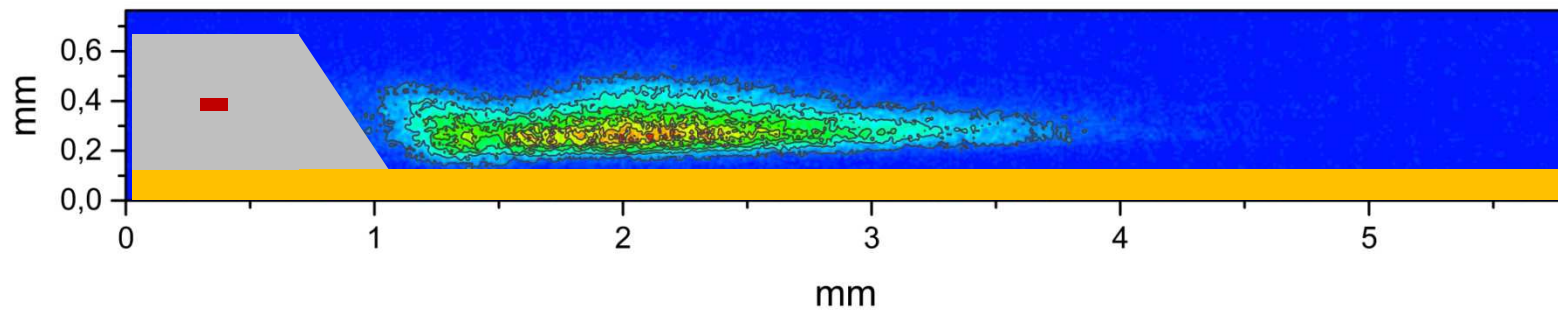
With diaphragm



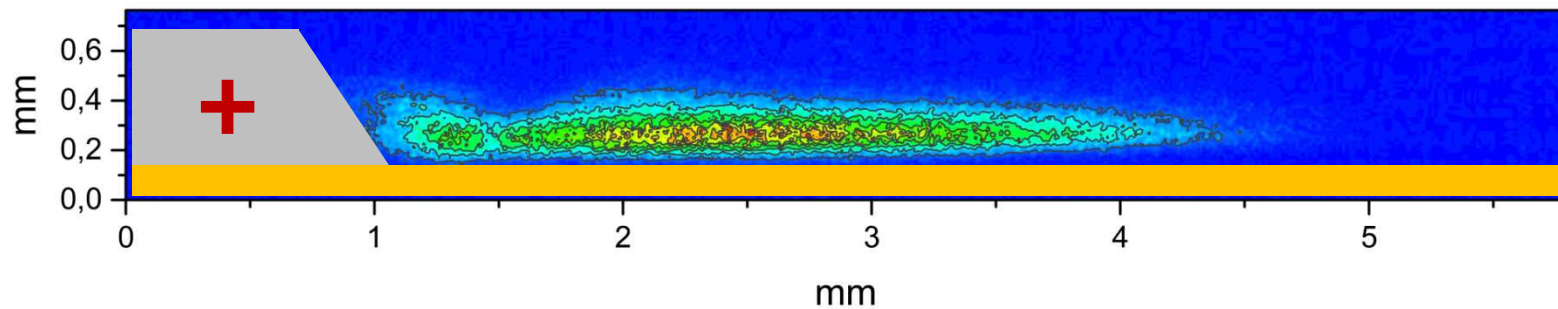
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 0.0 ns



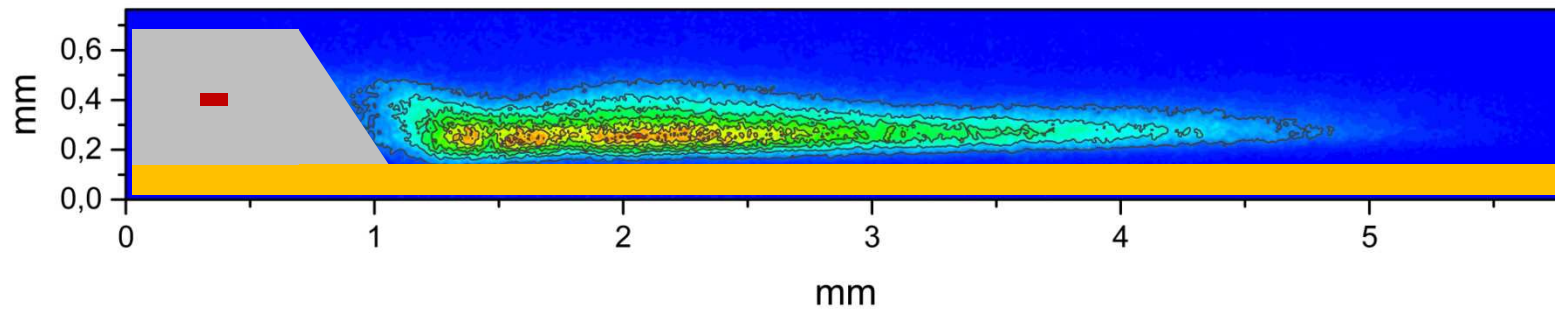
positive 0.0 ns



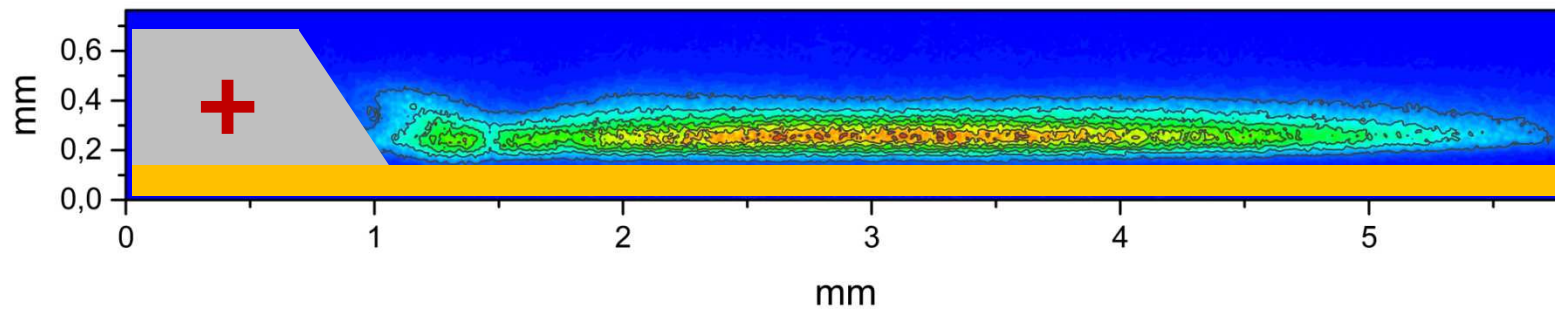
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 0.5 ns



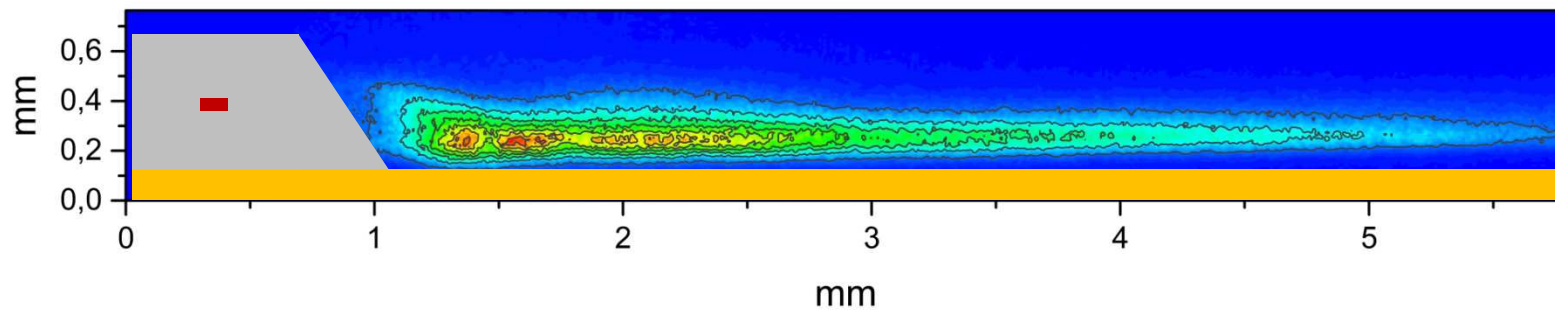
positive 0.5 ns



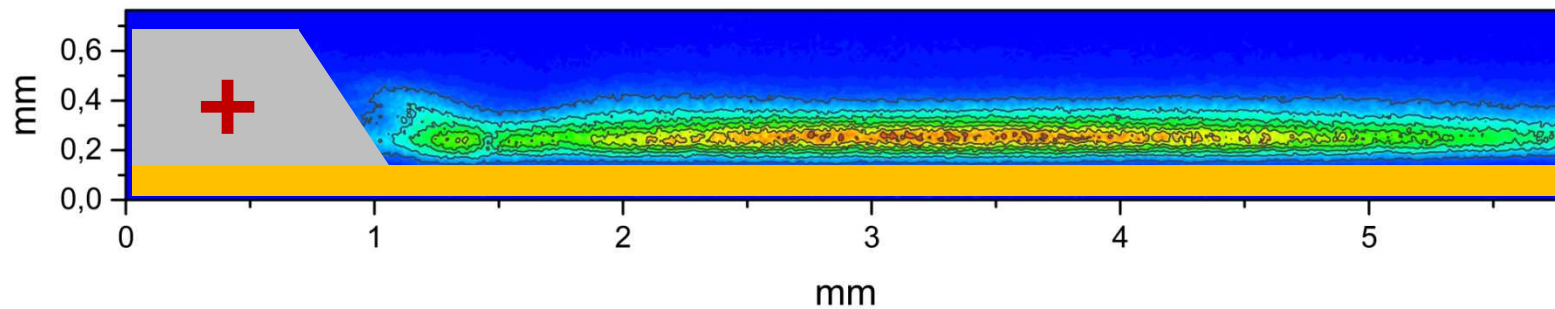
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 1.0 ns



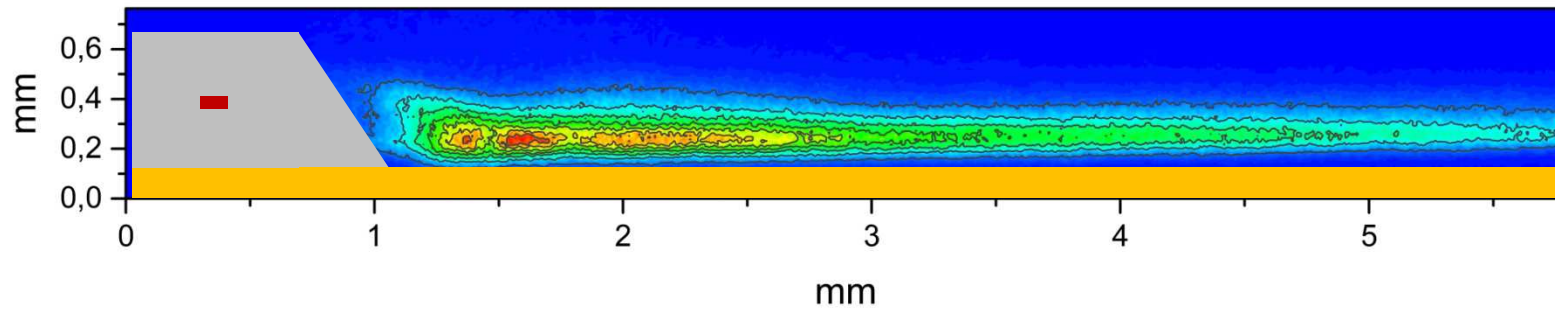
positive 1.0 ns



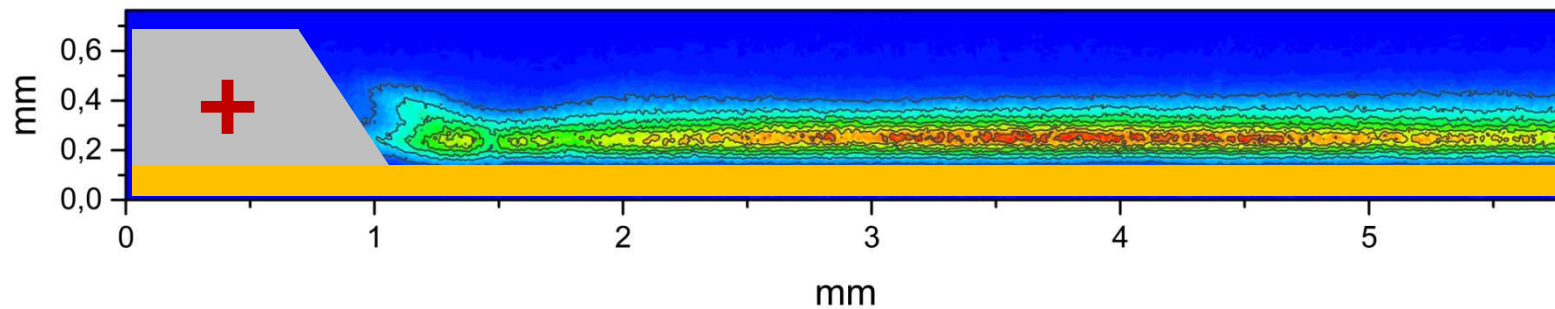
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 1.5 ns



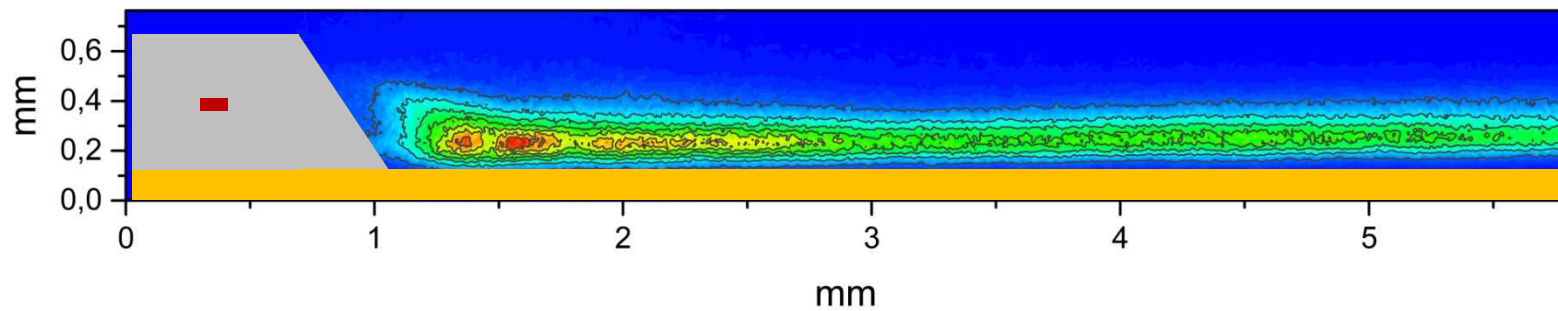
positive 1.5 ns



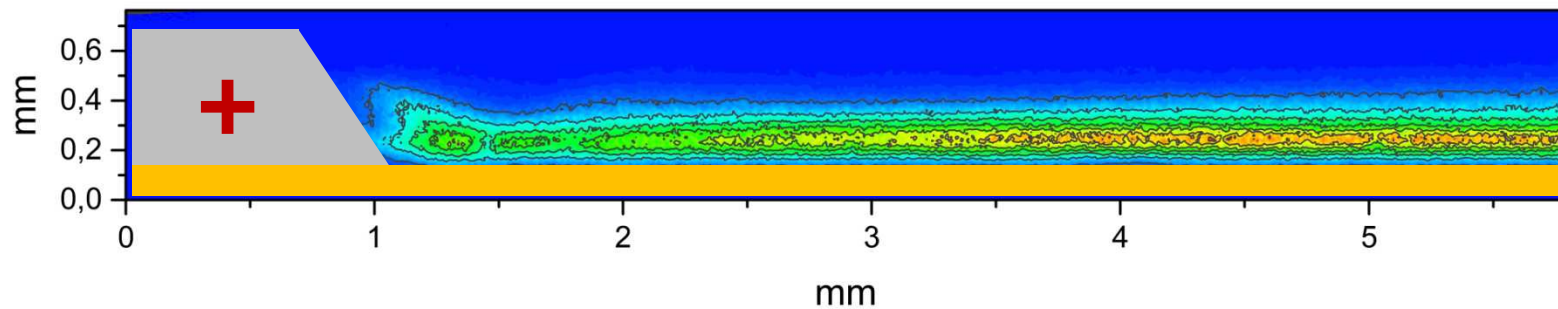
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 2.0 ns



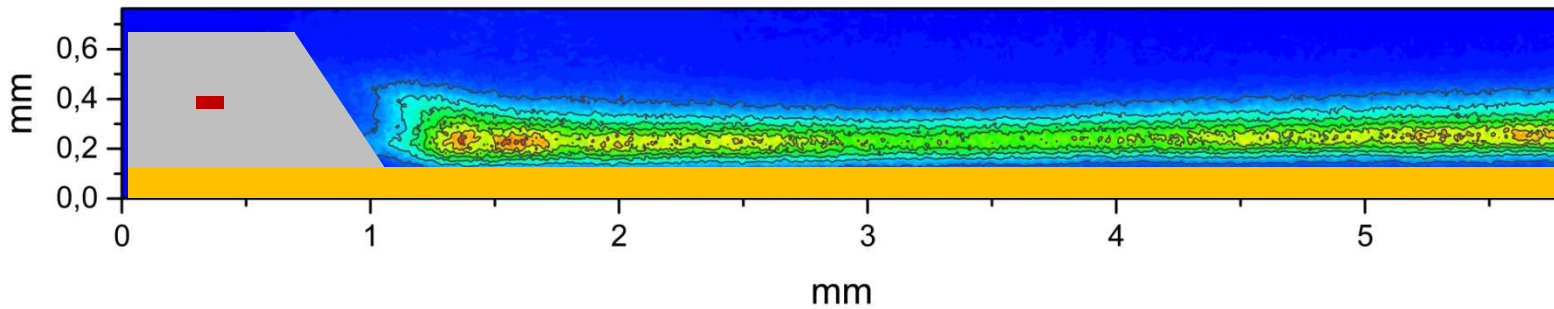
positive 2.0 ns



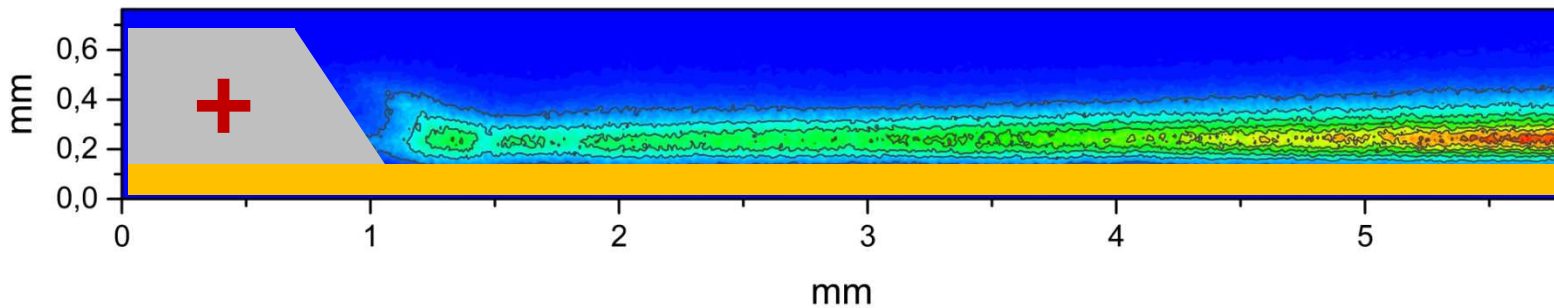
nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV



negative 2.5 ns



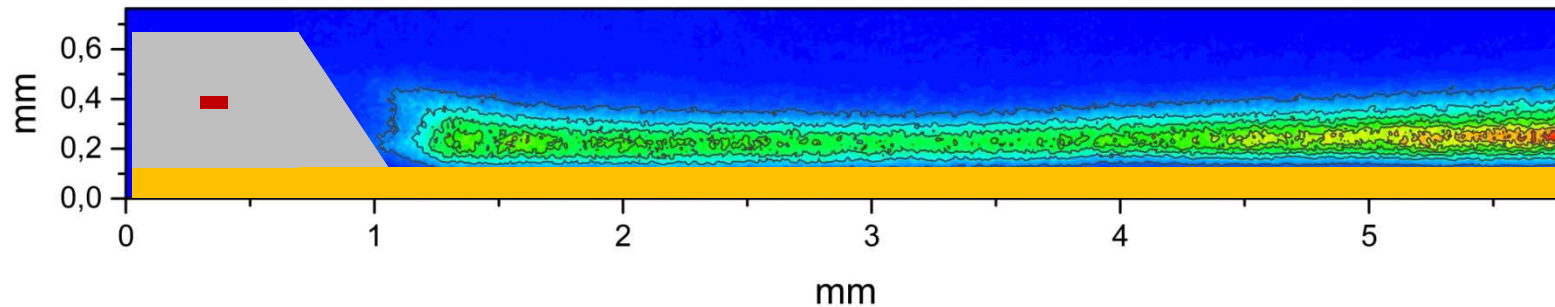
positive 2.5 ns



nSDBD development: 1 atm air, $|U|=24$ kV

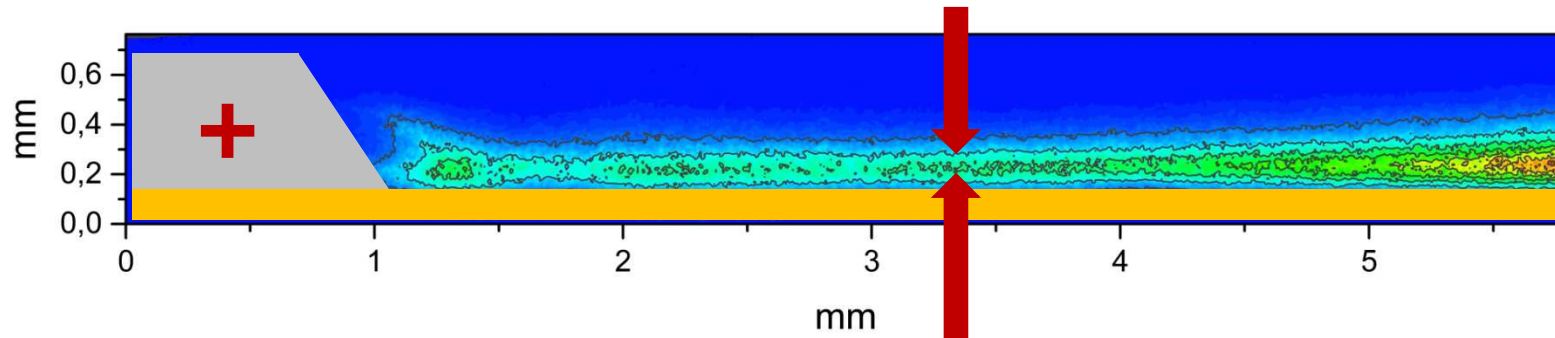


negative 3.0 ns

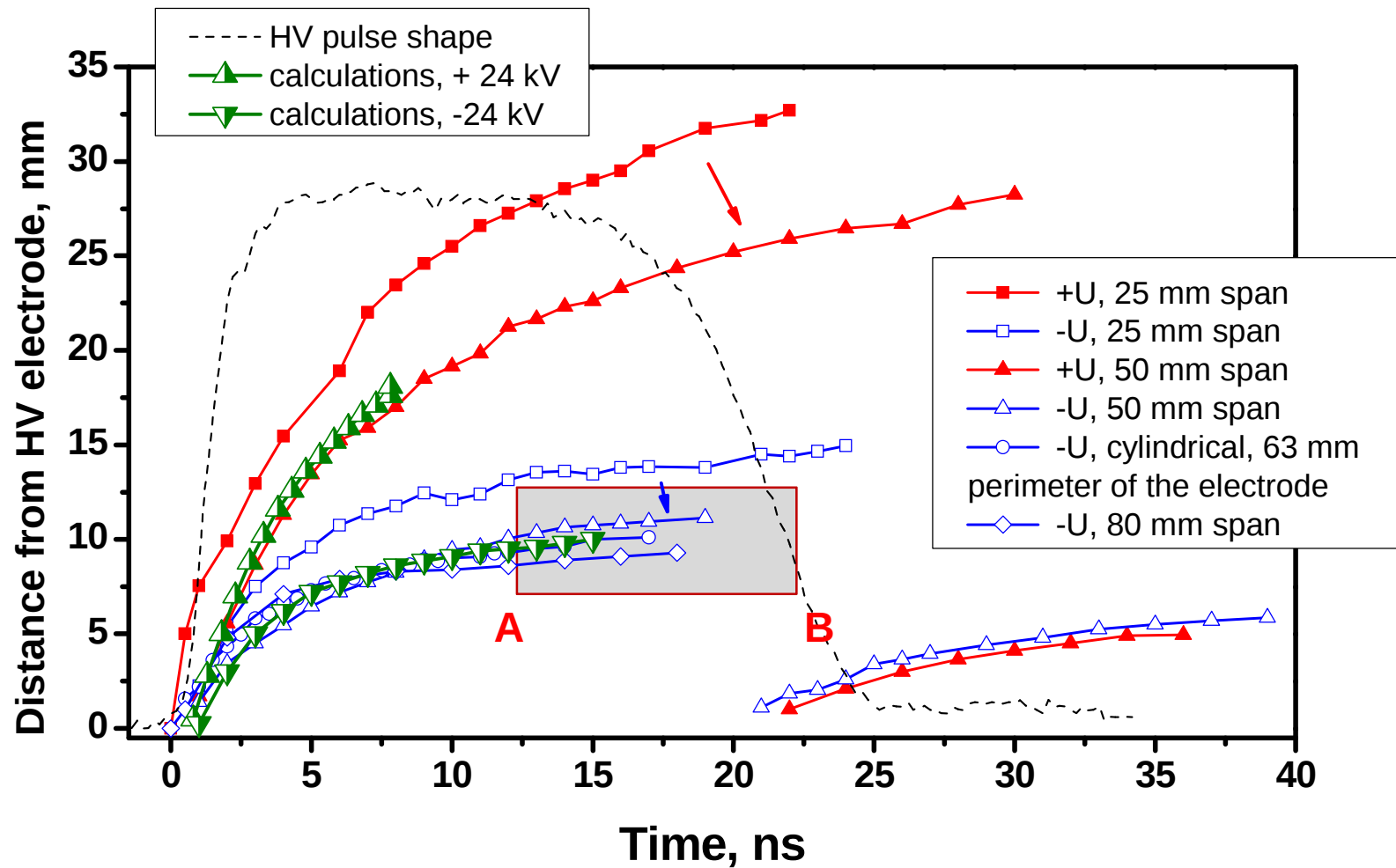


100 μm thickness

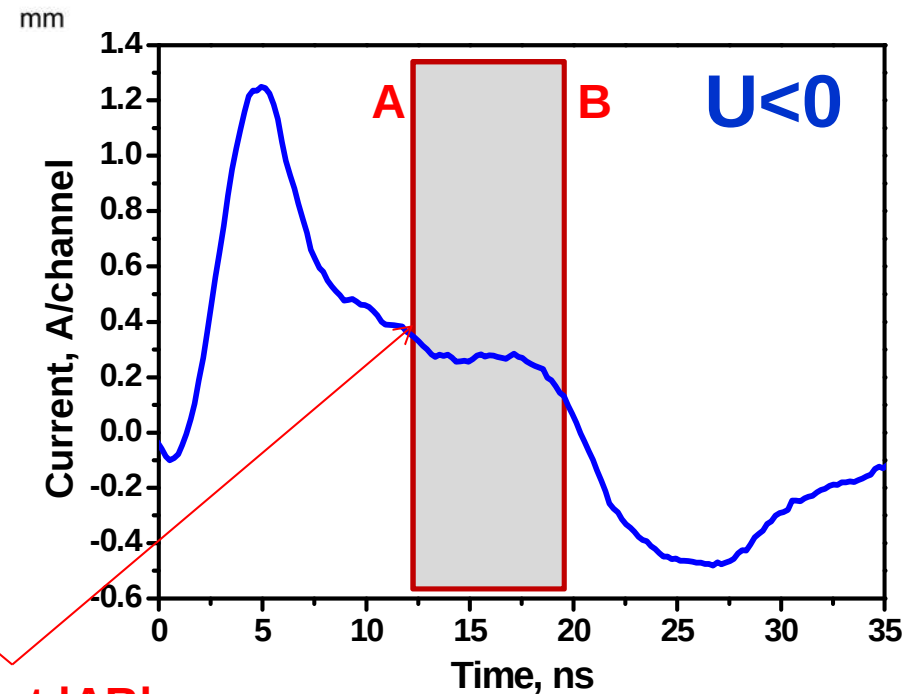
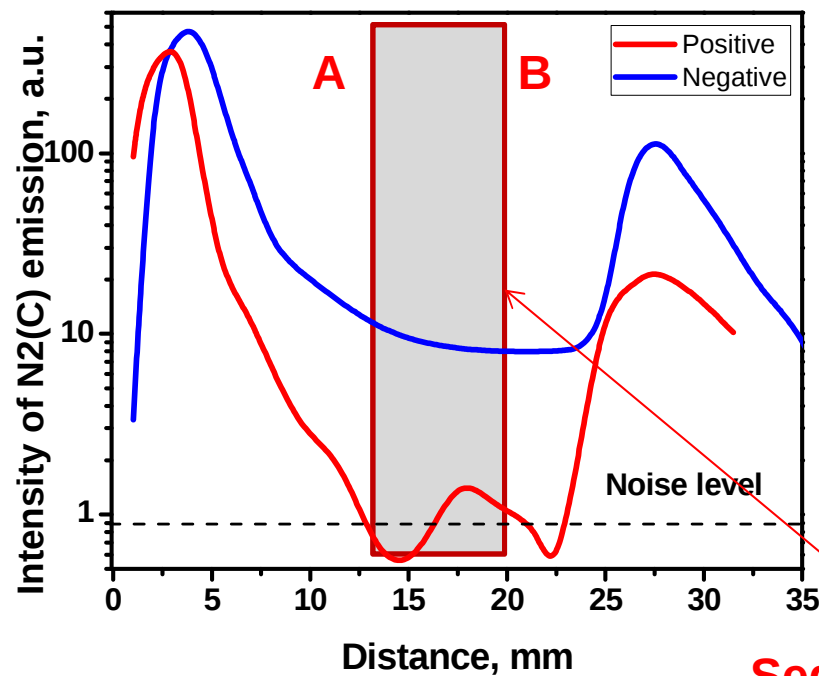
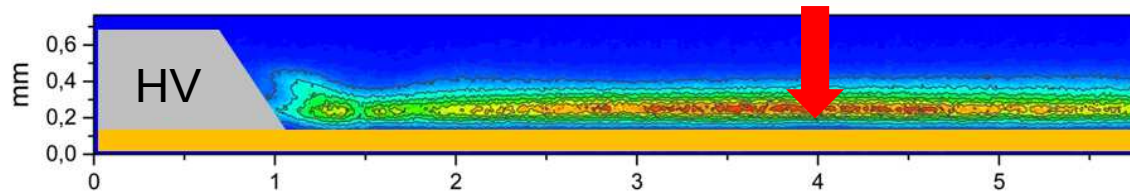
positive 3.0 ns



$x-t$ diagram: streamer head vs time



$N_2(C^3\Pi_u)$ emission 3 mm away from HV electrode and current in the streamer



Segment |AB|

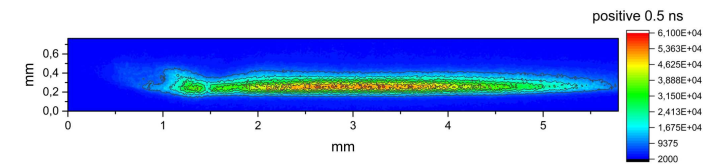
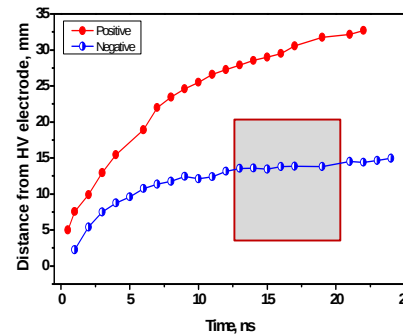
Streamer ($U < 0$) stops after ≈ 10 ns.

Emission intensity and electrical current on |AB| are $\approx \text{const}$

What we can estimate from the experimental data

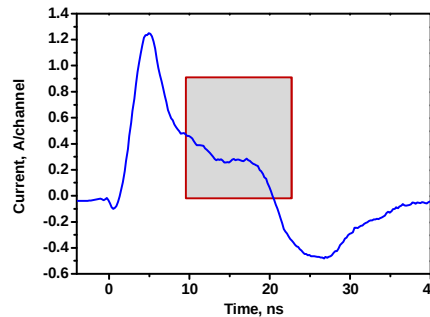


$$E_{ch} = 2U/L_{max}$$

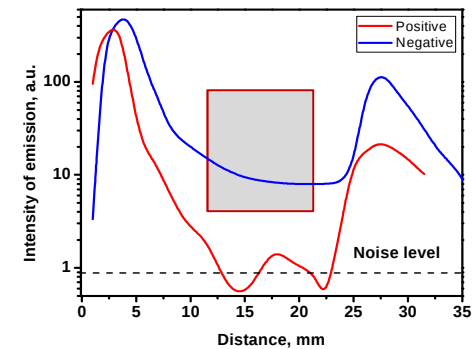


$$\frac{d[N^*]}{dt} = k_{exc} \cdot n_e \cdot [N_2] - [N^*] \left(\frac{1}{\tau_0} + \sum_{i=1} k_q^i [M_q^i] \right) = 0$$

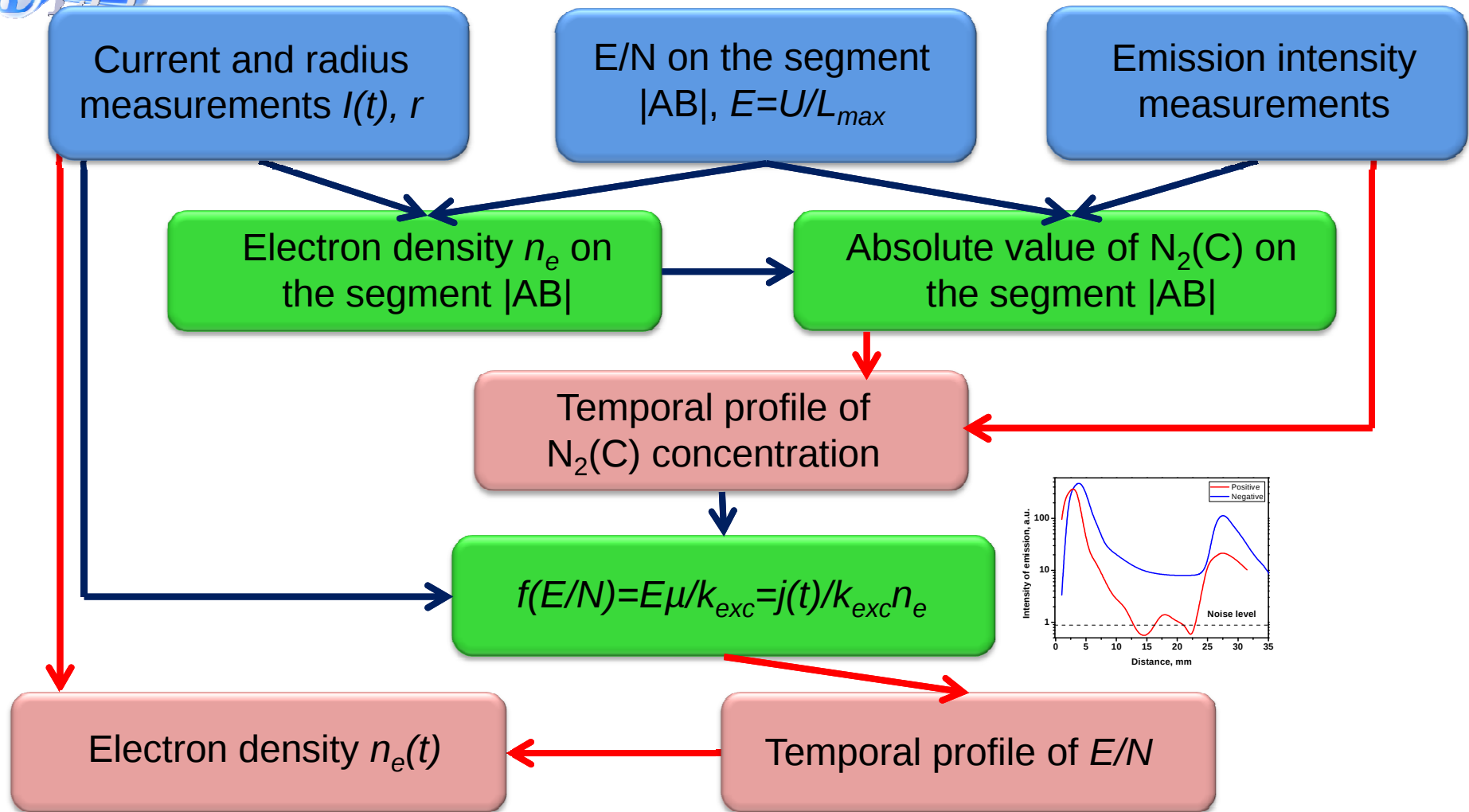
$$n_e = \frac{I}{v_{dr} e S}$$



$$[N_2(C)] = [N_2] \cdot \frac{k_{exc} \cdot n_e}{1/\tau + \sum_{i=1} k_q^i [M_q^i]}$$



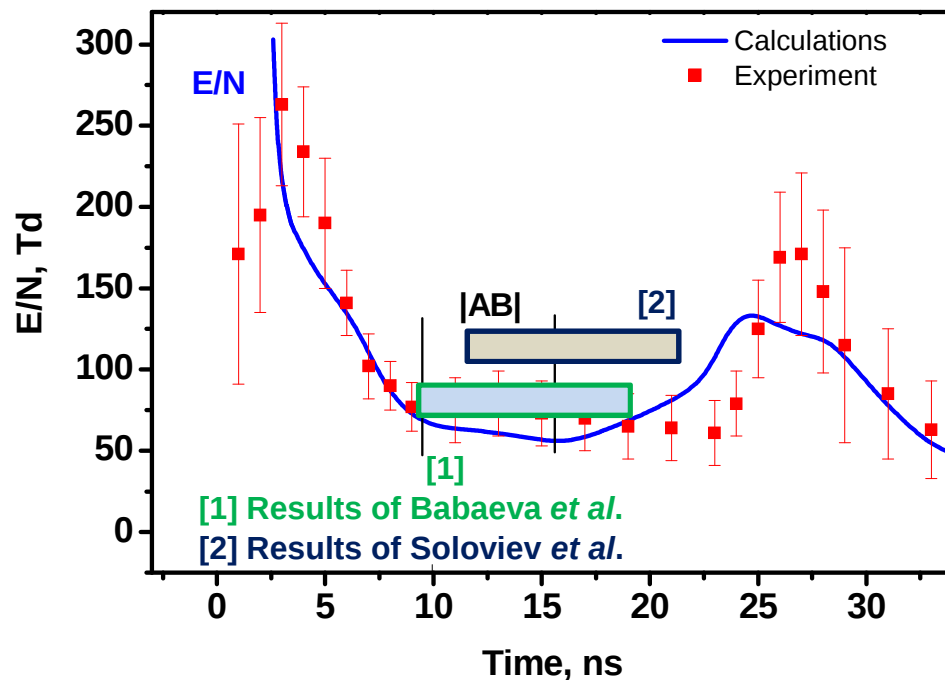
Logics of data treatment



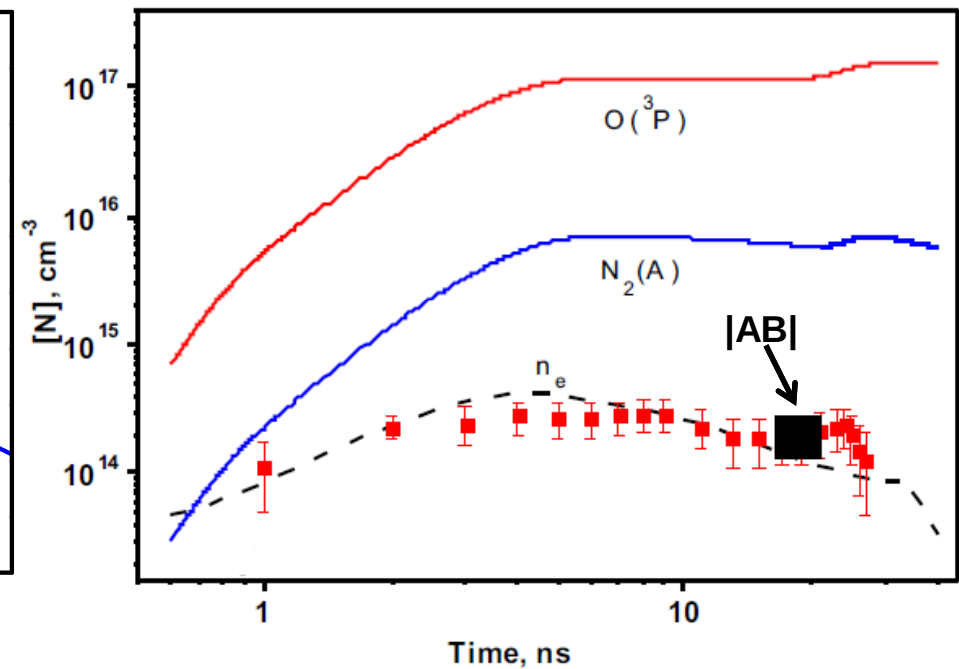
Comparison with results of numerical calculations



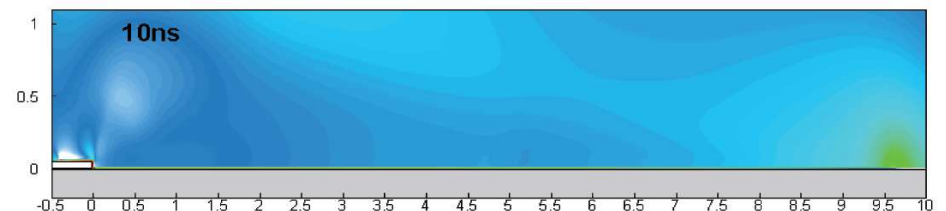
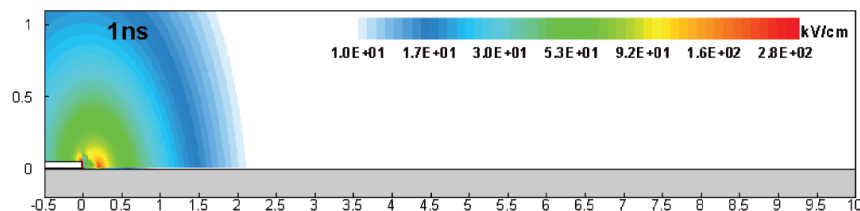
Electric field



Electron density



Lines: 1D kinetic modeling, N.A.Popov (MSU)



Streamer discharge

($U=+10$ kV in the cable, $T=30$ ns)



nSDBD in air at 1 atm:

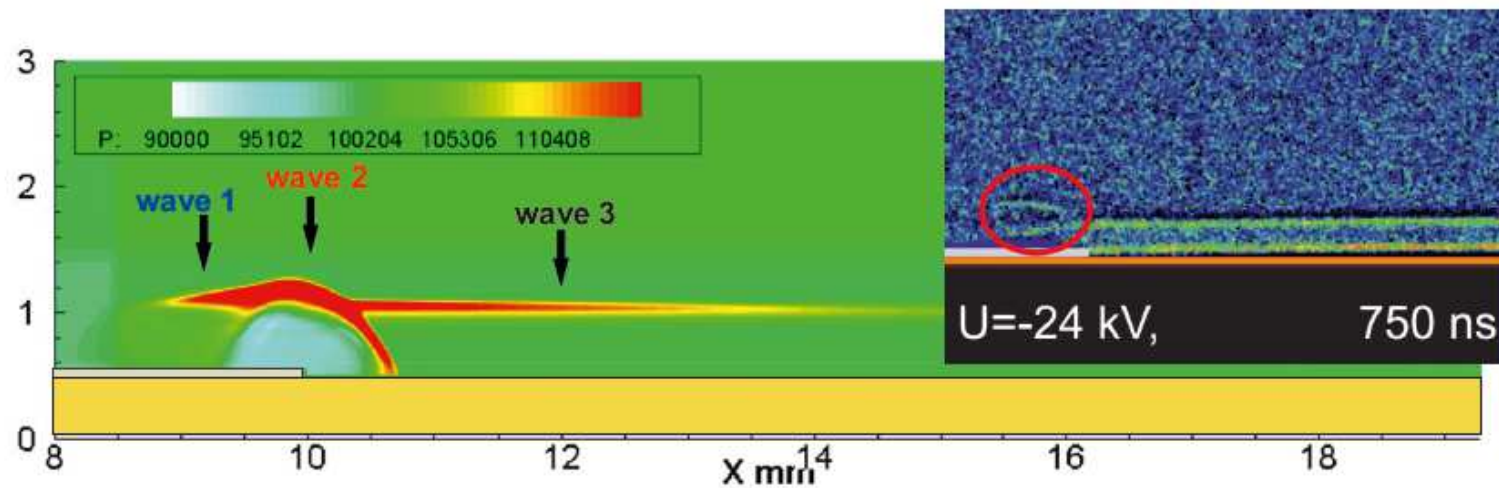
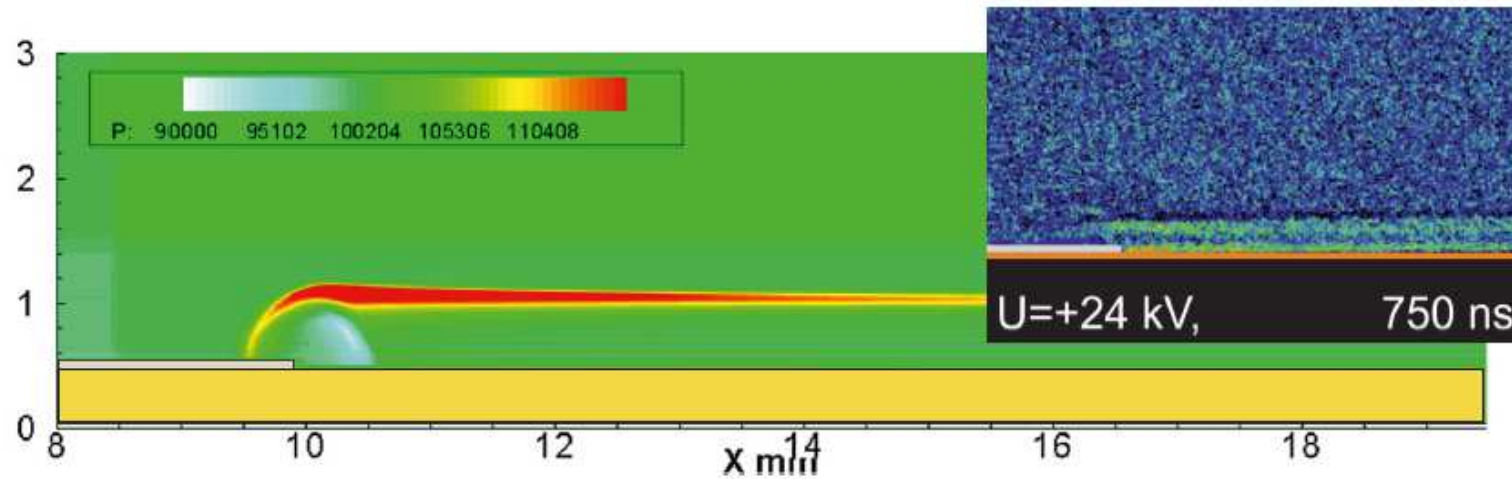
$I(t)$: 0.2 A/streamer (600 A/cm²);

$v(t,x)$: 2-5 mm/ns;

$E/N(t,x)$: 100 Td after the front for $U < 0$,
<< 100 Td for $U > 0$;

$n_e(t,x)$: 10^{14} cm⁻³

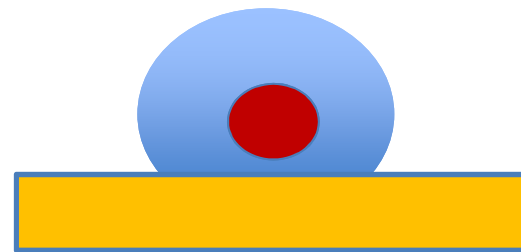
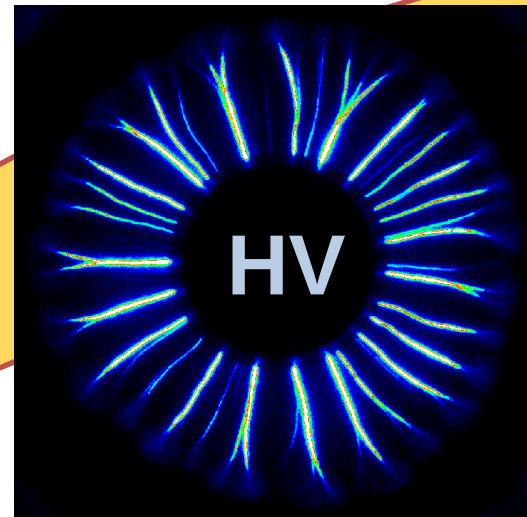
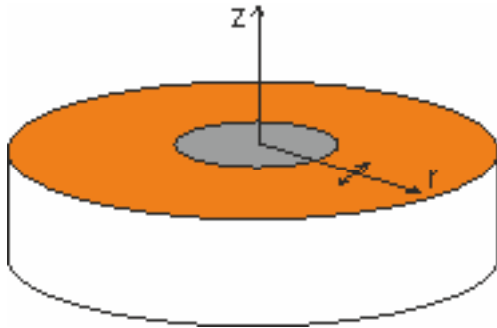
Flow control: 2D modeling and experiments



Scale of specific deposited energy



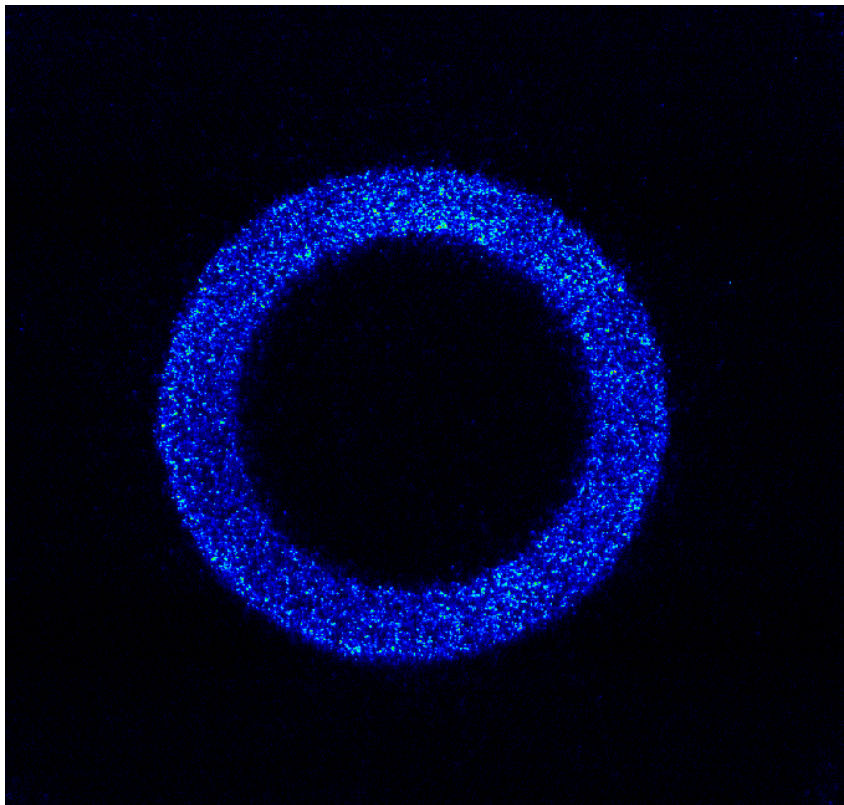
High pressure filamentary SDBD?



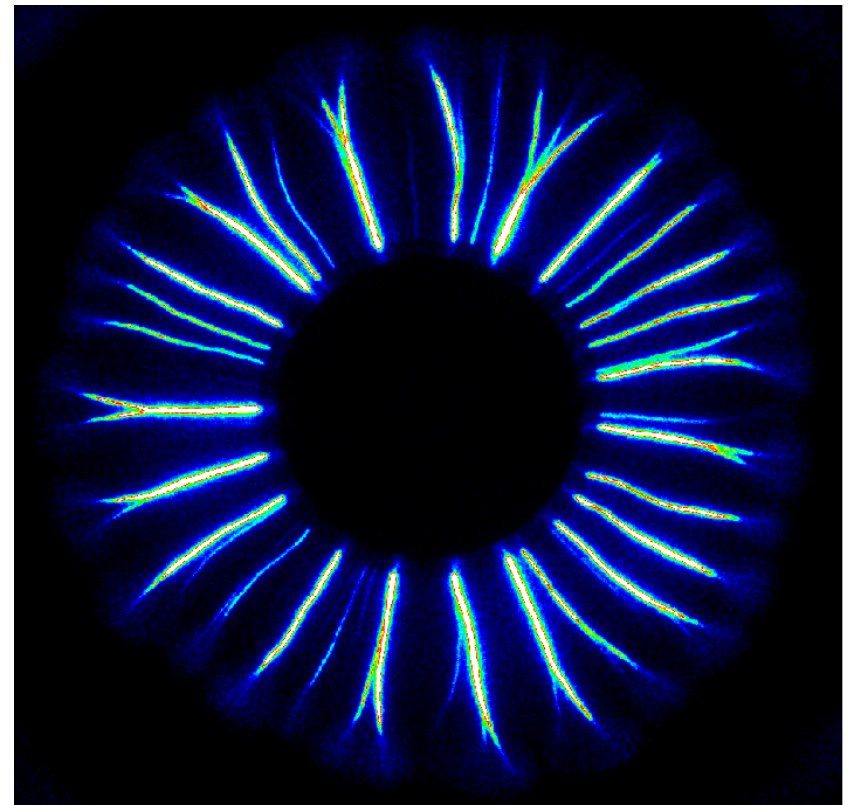
High pressure nSDBD: streamer-to-filament transition



Intensity (filament)=50 x Intensity (streamer)

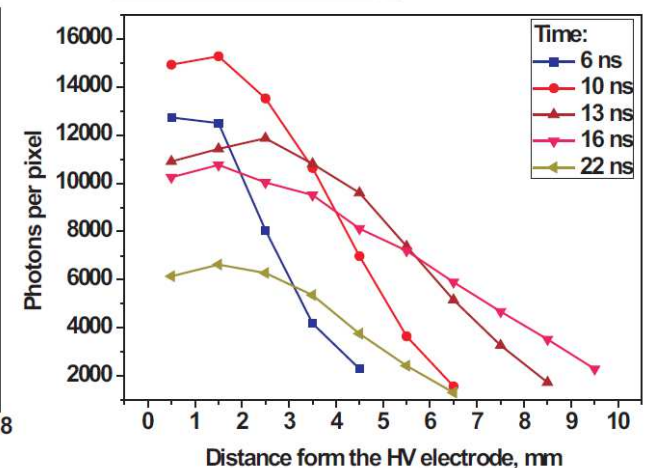
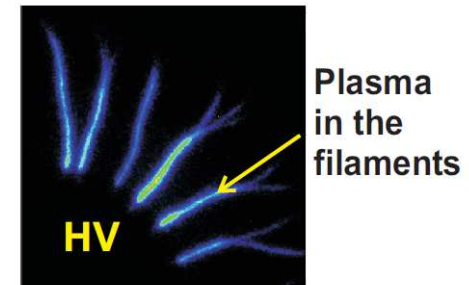
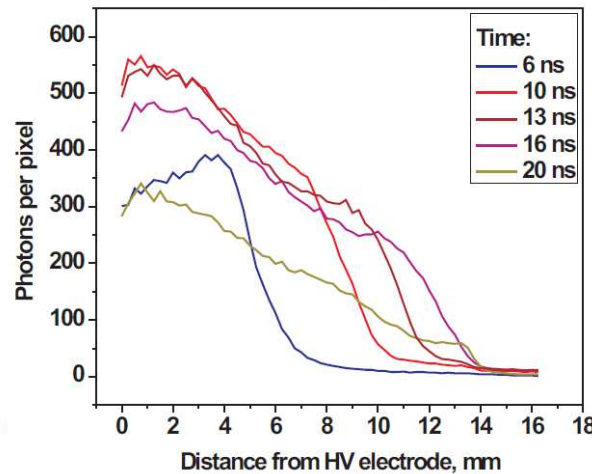
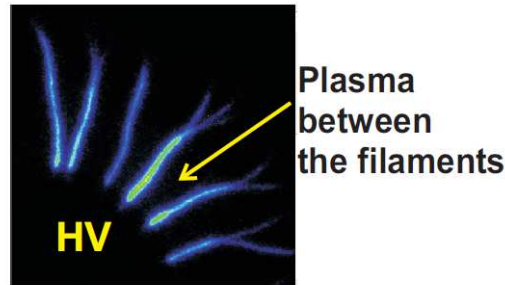
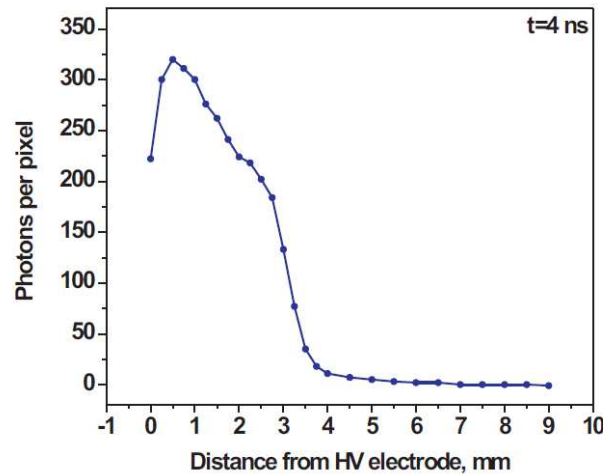
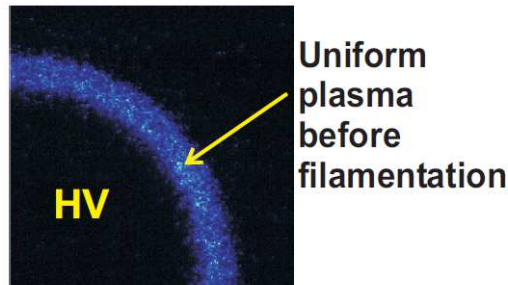


-35 kV, 2 bar, air



-46 kV, 4 bar, air

Analysis of intensities (streamer vs filamentary mode)



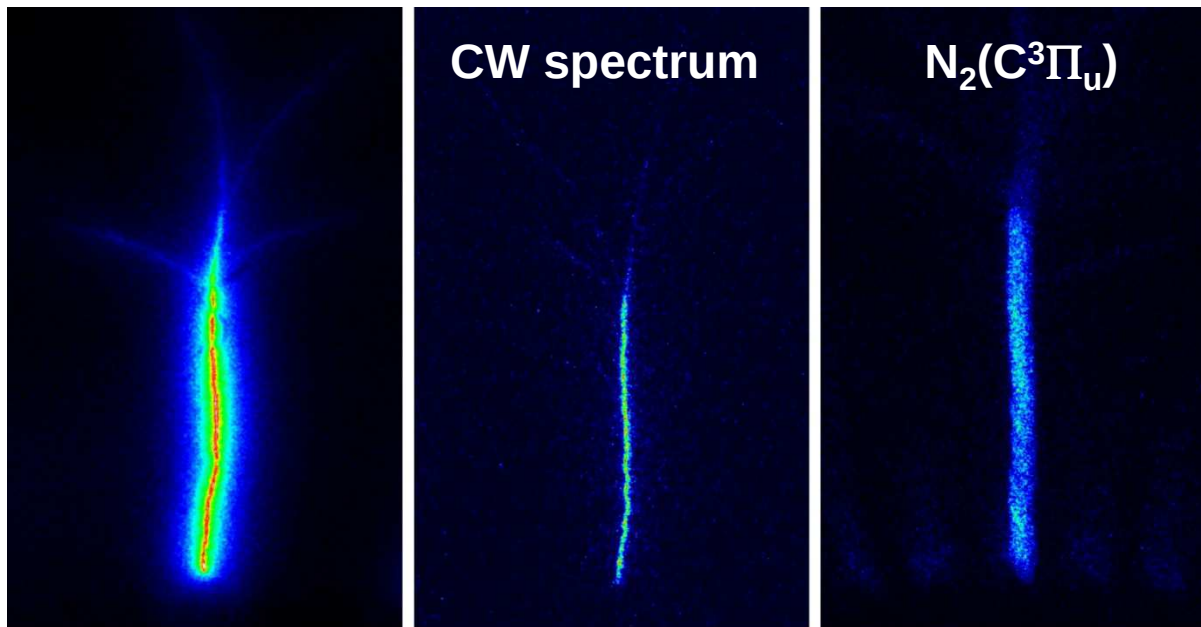
$$I_{11ns}^{fil} / I_{11ns}^{dif} / I_{4ns}^{dif} \sim 50 / 1.5 / 1$$

Radial distribution of the frontal discharge emission; P=3 bar, U=-46 kV

Optical emission in the filaments



ICCD images and radial intensity profiles of single filament: without filter and with (480 ± 5) nm and (340 ± 5) nm narrowband filters

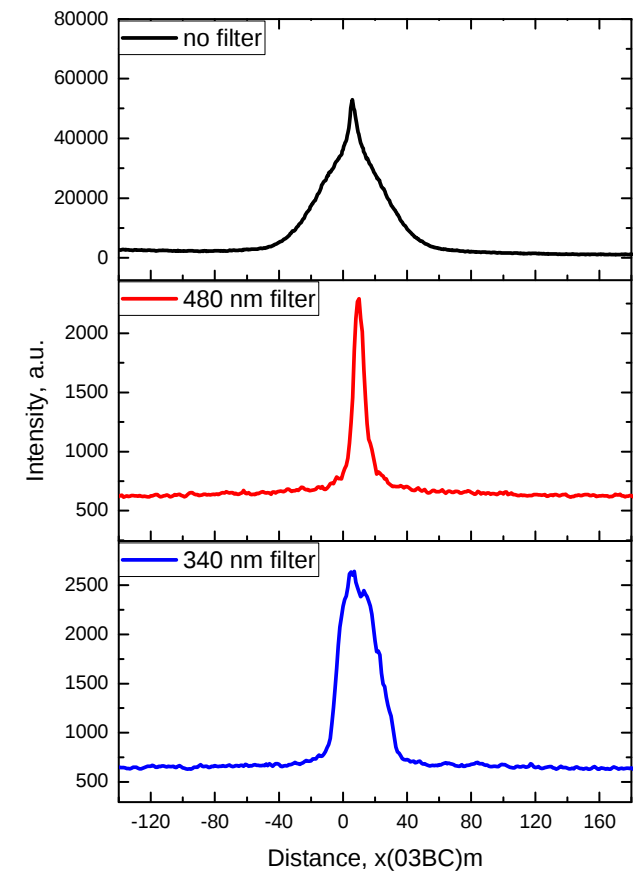


No filter

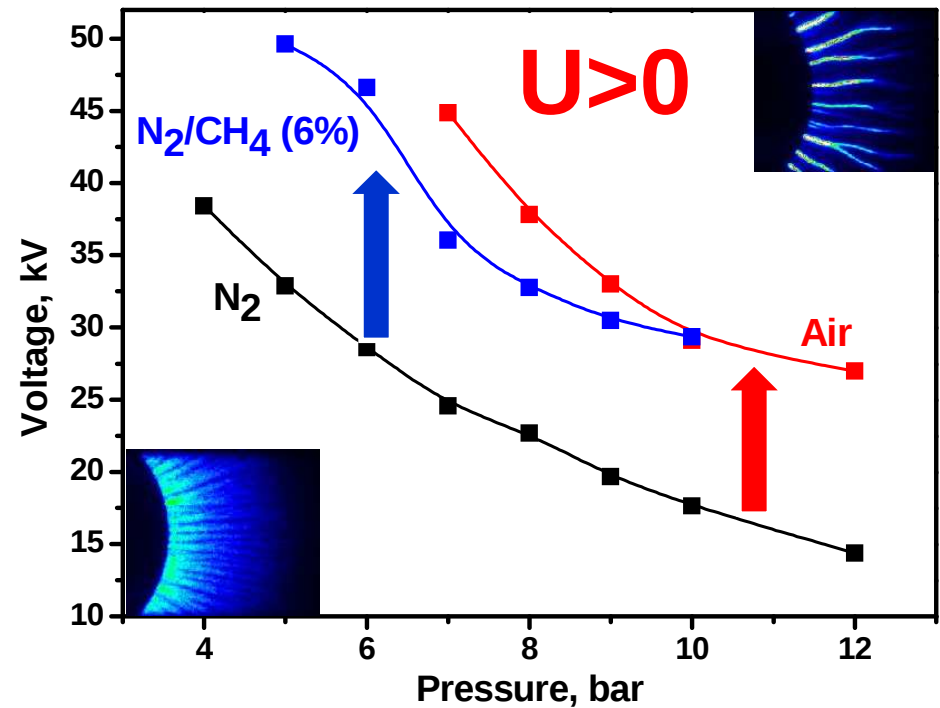
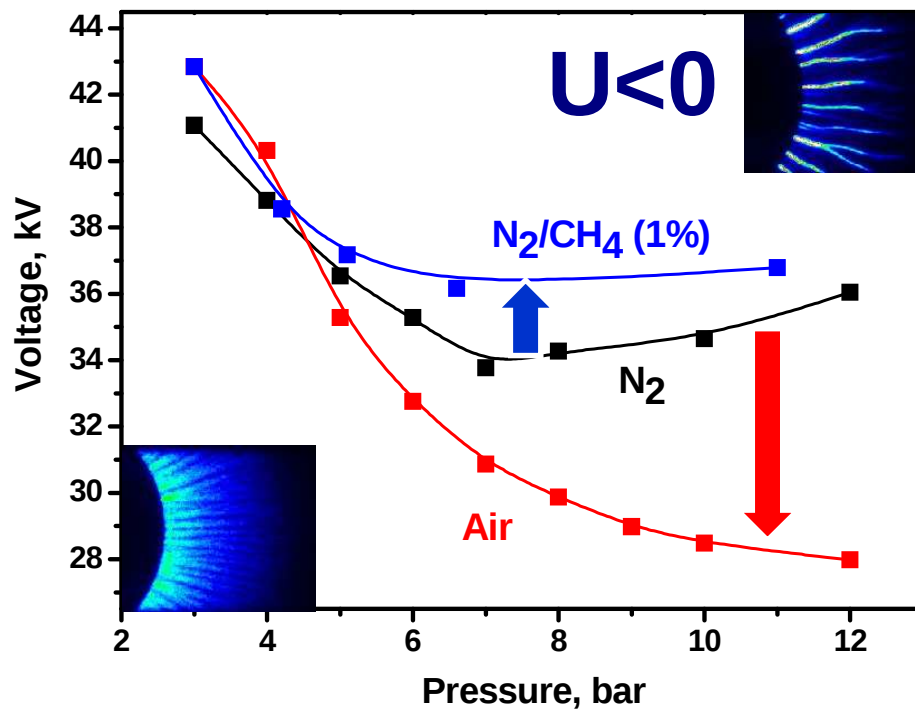
480 nm filter

340 nm filter

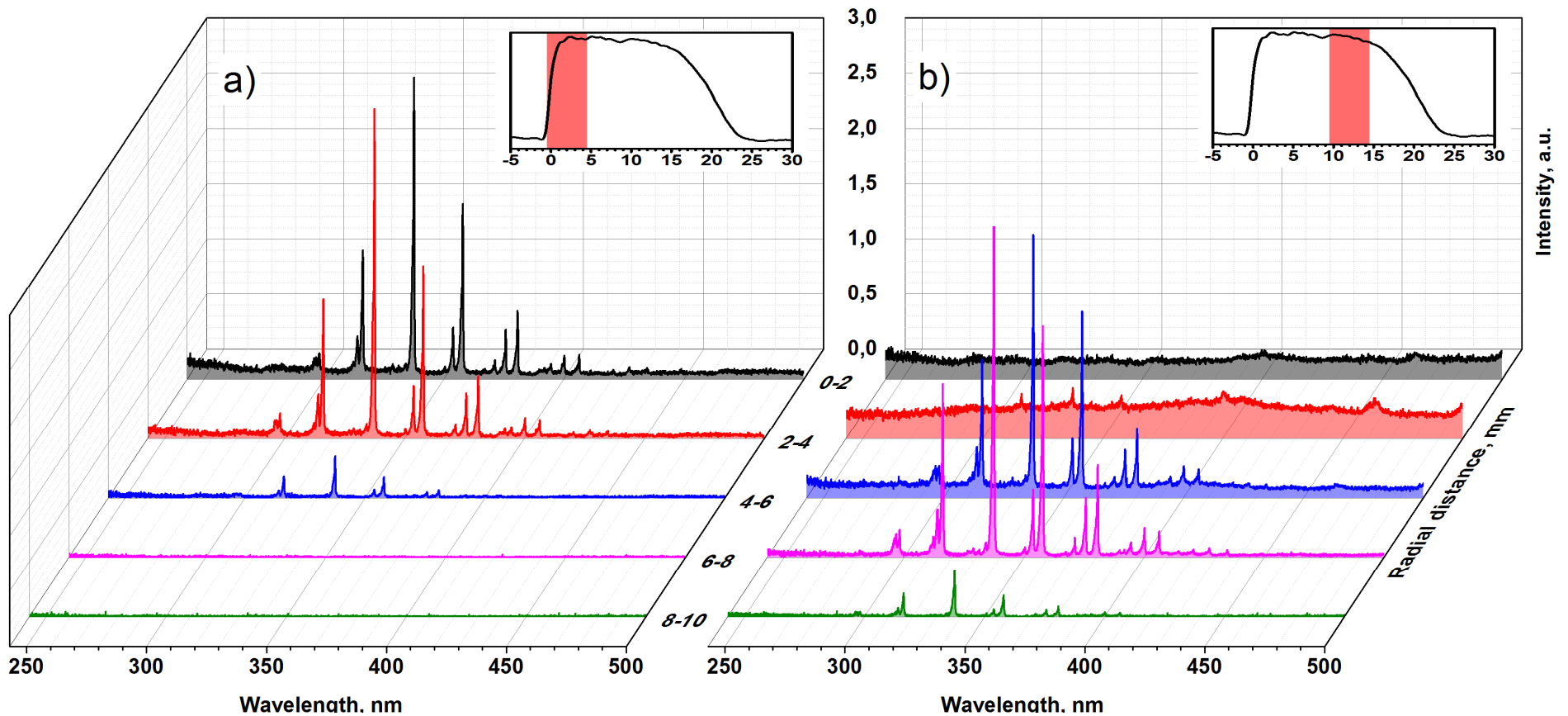
ICCD camera gate is 10 ns



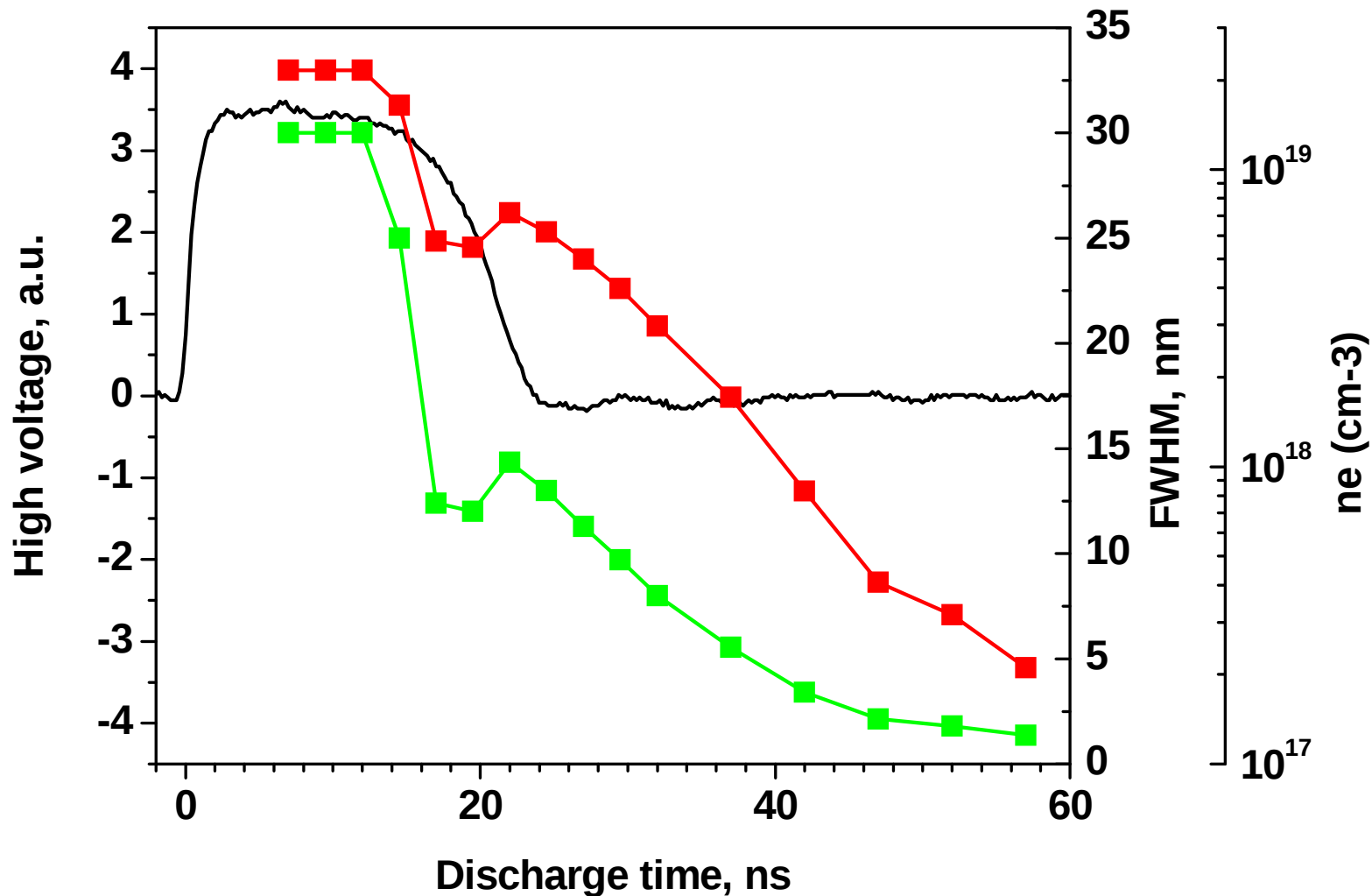
Filamentation curves for nitrogen, air and N₂/CH₄ mixtures



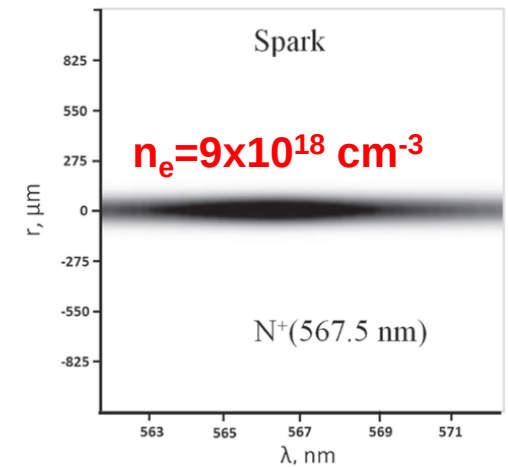
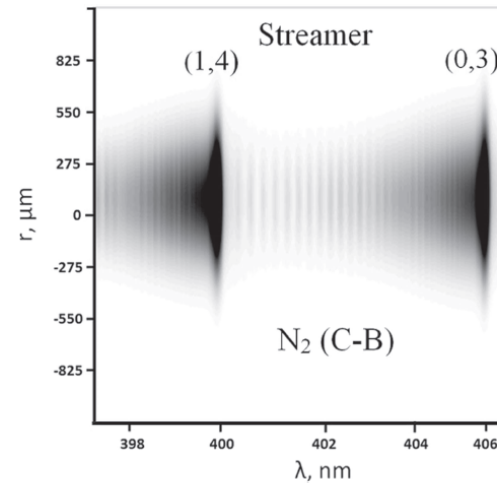
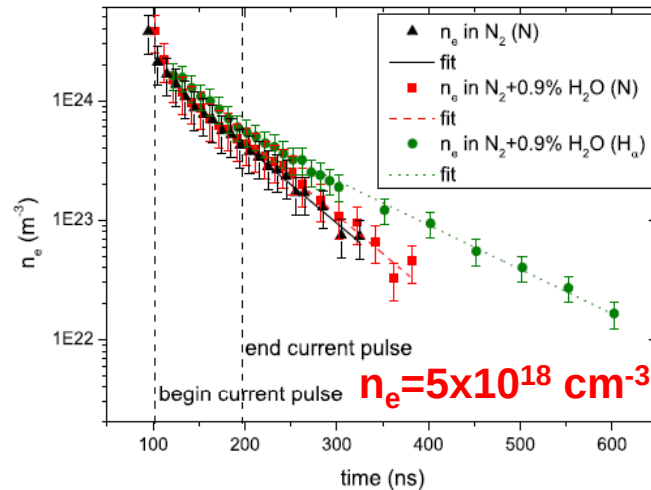
Continuous spectra in filamentary discharge



Electron density in the filaments: H-atom emission at 656 nm

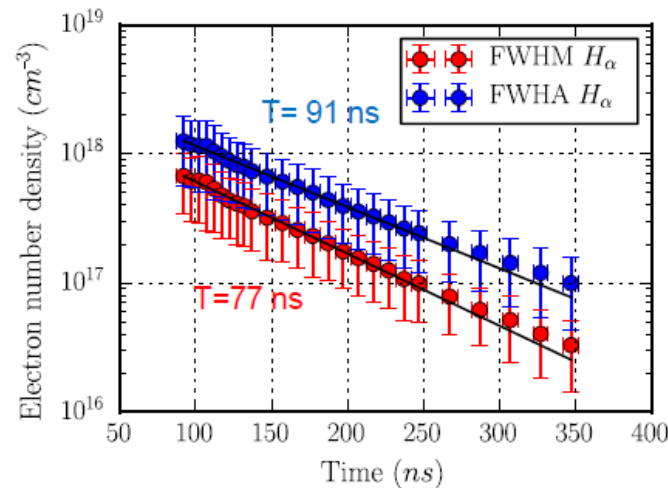


Group of support: for high electron densities!



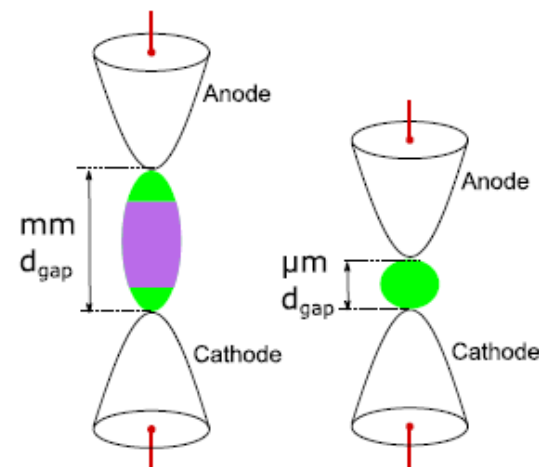
Van der Horst R., Verreycken T, Bruggeman P. et al
J. Phys.D. (2012) 345201

Lo A., Cessou A, Lacour C. et al PSST (2017) 045012

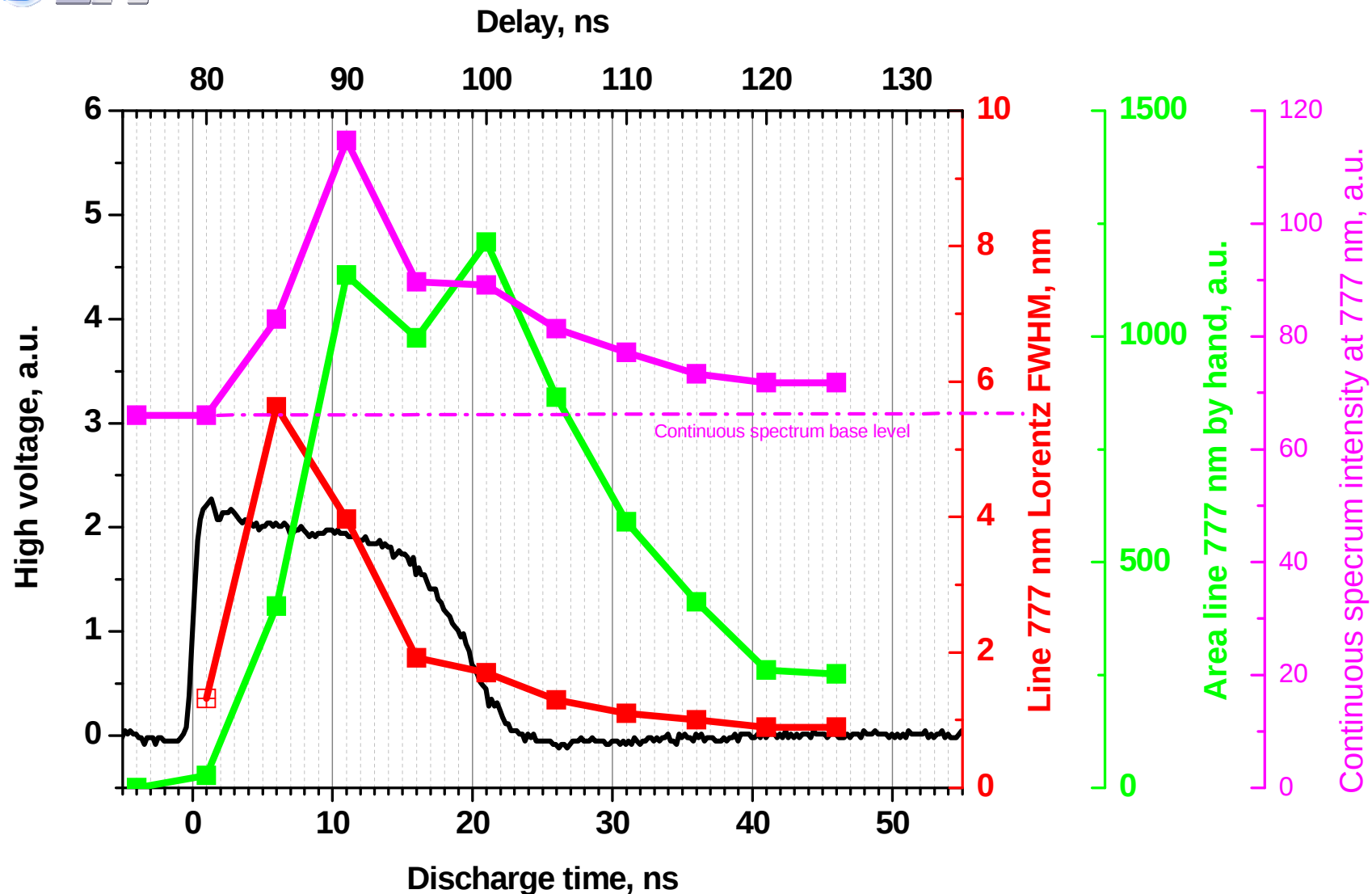


$n_e = 1.5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

D. Pai, GEC 2016



Correlation in time: U-pulse, FWHM of O-line, intensity of CW emission, O* –atom density



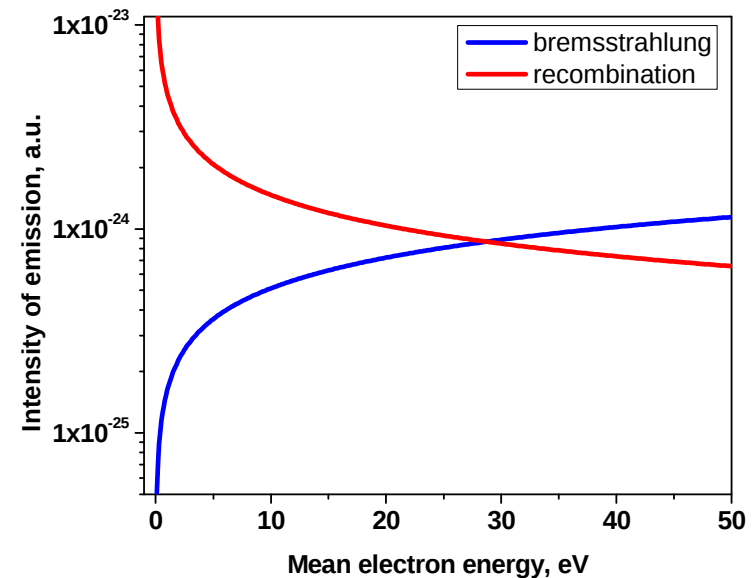
Possible reasons of CW spectrum-1



Bremsstrahlung and recombination radiation

$$Q_{br} \propto N_e \cdot N_{ion} \cdot \sqrt{T_e}$$

$$Q_{rec} \propto \frac{N_e \cdot N_{ion}}{\sqrt{T_e}}$$



Intensity of **bremsstrahlung** and **recombination** radiation is
a strong function of density of **charged species**
and weakly depends on the **electron temperature**

Possible reasons of CW spectrum-2



SPS (337.1 nm) is a reference radiation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} N_2(C) = k_C(E/N) \cdot n_e \cdot N_2 / \nu_q \\ Q_C = N_2(C) \cdot F_{FK} \cdot A_{00} \\ Q_C = 3 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ quantum/cm}^3/\text{s} \end{array} \right.$$

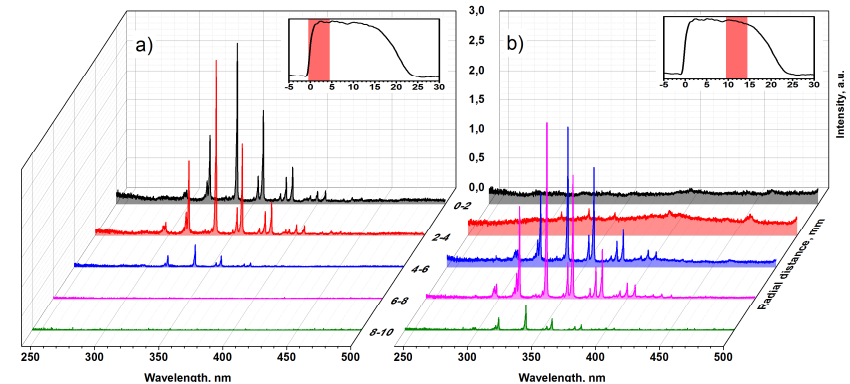
Electron density from recombination emission:

$$Q_{CW}(\omega) = C_0 \cdot \frac{n_e \cdot n_{ion}}{\sqrt{T_e} \cdot \eta \omega} d\omega = 2 \cdot 10^{22} \text{ quantum/cm}^3/\text{s}$$

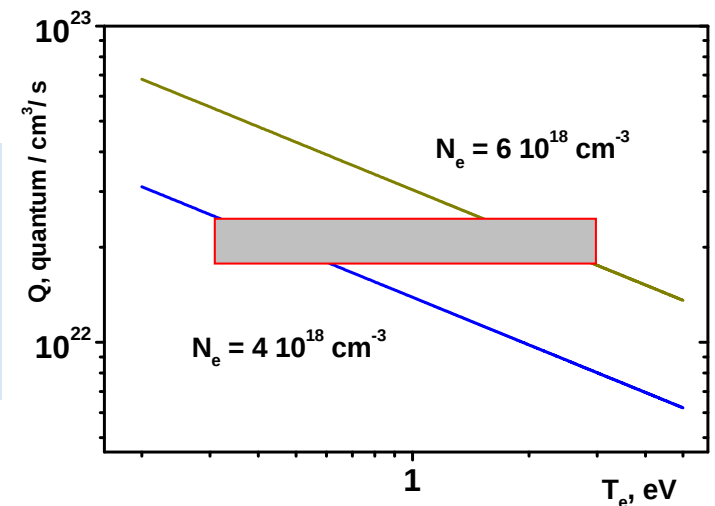
At $\lambda = 337 \text{ nm}$ and $\Delta\lambda = 3 \text{ nm}$, $d\omega = 5 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$

In the discharge $T_e \sim 2-3 \text{ eV} \rightarrow n_e \sim 6 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

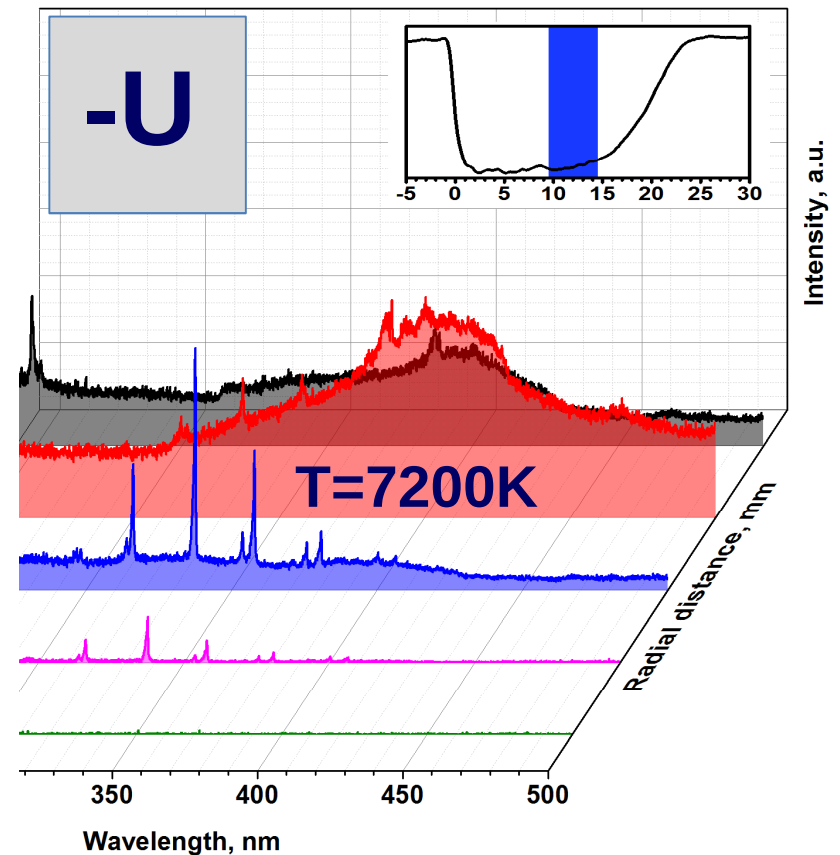
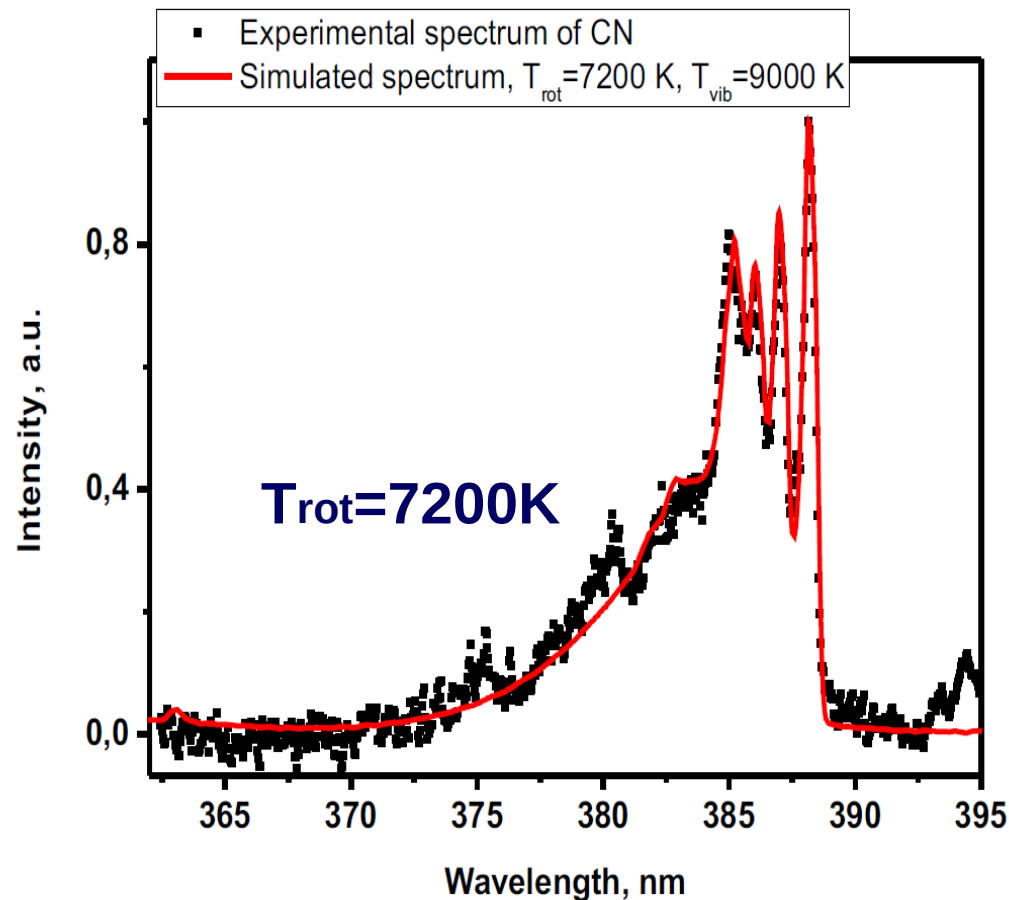
In the afterglow $T_e \sim 0.5 \text{ eV} \rightarrow n_e \sim 4 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$



$$Q_C(t=0 \text{ ns})/Q_{CW}(t=5 \text{ ns}) \sim (1.5-2)$$



Continuous spectra in filamentary discharge: Planck emission so gas heating?



The most typical features of the filament



- the electron density is extremely high, 10^{18} - 10^{19} cm^{-3} at 6 bar, but the decay is slow, tens of ns;
- no molecular emission is observed from the filament, only **cw and atomic lines** (no material of electrodes, no energetic ion lines);
-
- observed cw spectrum is due to **recombination** and **Planck** emission;
- there is strong (**kK**) and fast (**units of ns**) gas heating within the filament

Each feature needs additional analysis: molecular emission

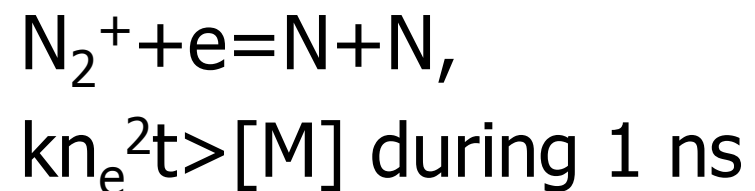


-no molecular emission is observed from the filament, only cw and atomic lines

Quenching by
electrons?

$$n_e = 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3},$$
$$k_q = 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

No molecules,
100% dissociation

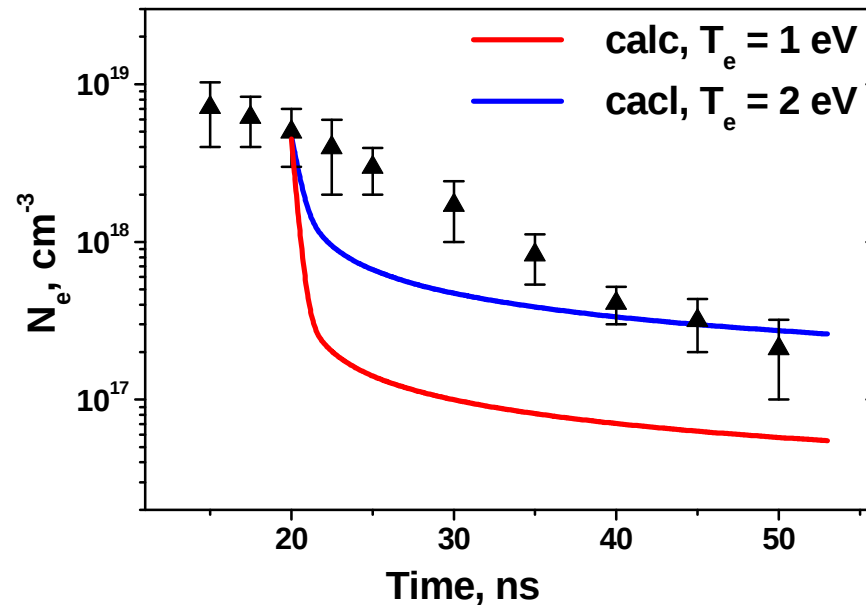


Each feature needs additional analysis: decay time for electrons



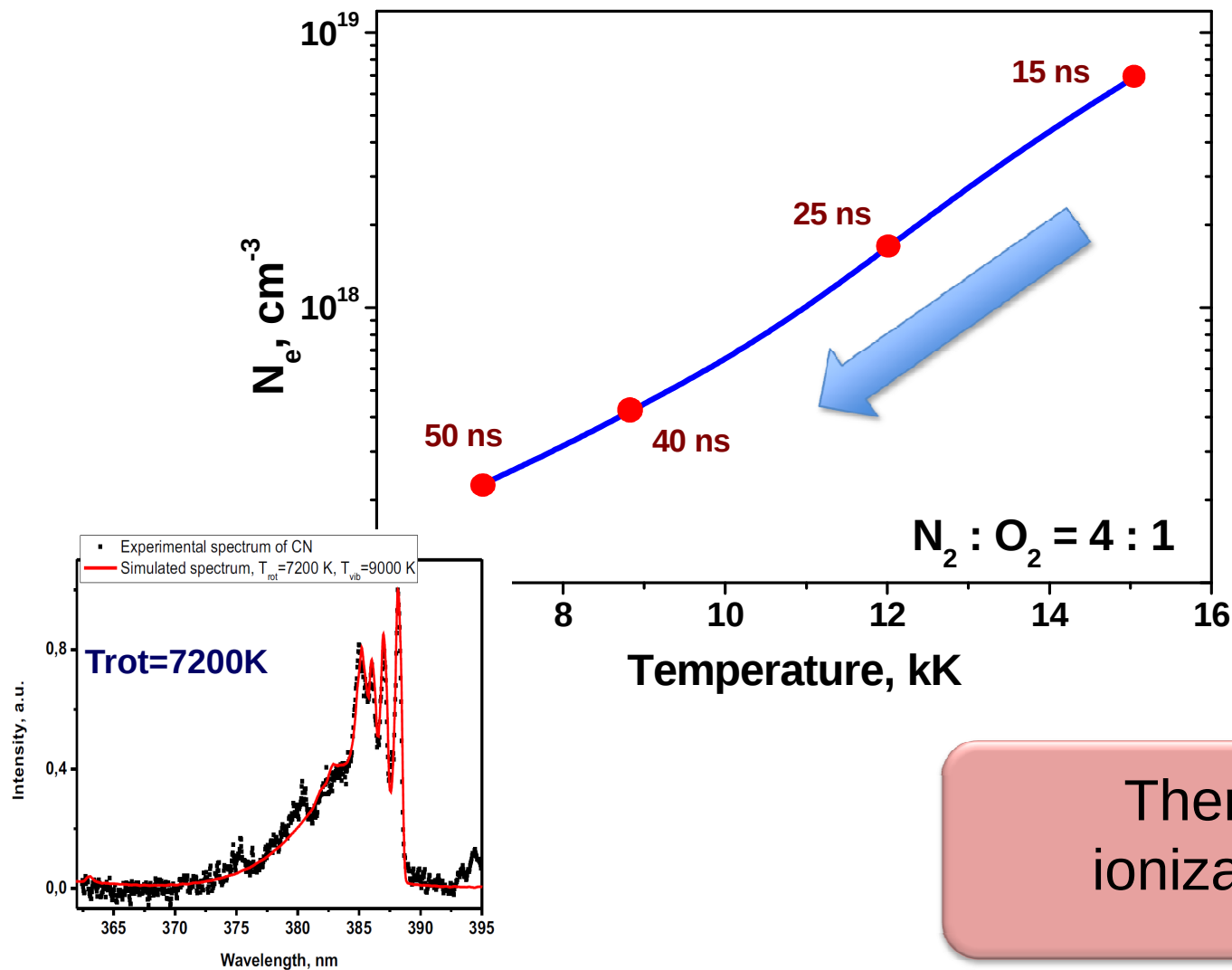
-the electron density is extremely high,
 10^{18} - 10^{19} cm^{-3} at 6 bar, and the decay is low, 10s of ns

Recombination
decay,
 $\text{N}^+ + \text{e} + \text{e}$
is too fast
(parts of
nanoseconds)



Thermal
ionization?

Each feature needs additional analysis: decay time = gas cooling for electrons?

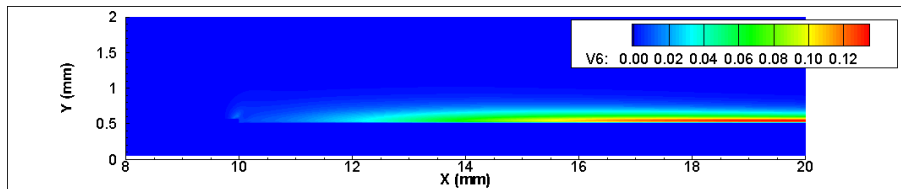


Thermal
ionization?

And finally, how this transition starts?



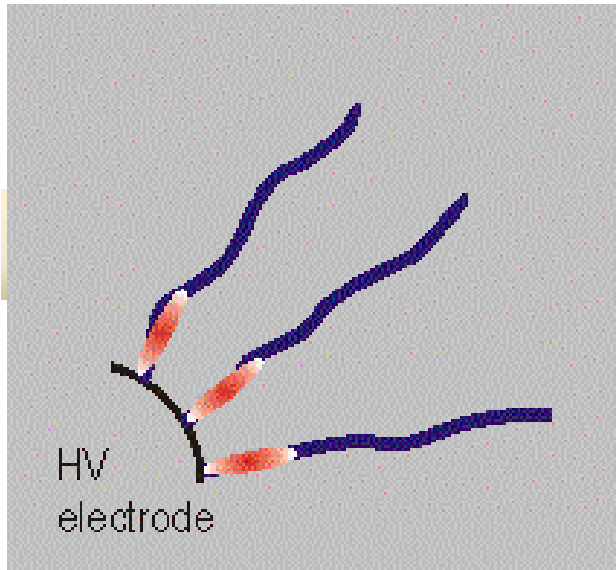
Increase of T by kinetic FGH



$$T \uparrow\uparrow$$

Ionization-
heating
instability?

Decrease of gas density within a few μm distance



$$N \downarrow\downarrow$$

$$\tau_p = 1 - 3 \text{ ns}$$

Increase of E/N

$$\frac{E}{N} \uparrow\uparrow$$



Increase of
ionization

Conclusions



Specific deposited energy in nanosecond microplasmas can be as high as **electronvolts per molecule**. At high reduced electric fields and moderate gas pressures, “**non-diluted chemistry**” in the discharge and early afterglow is important

$\text{N}_2(\text{C}^3\Pi_u)$ emission in **P=1 atm surface streamer discharge**, electrical current and morphology provide important information about the **plasma parameters**

High pressure filamentary nSDBD is characterized by abrupt cw emission and by high electron density. Appearance and physics of **streamer-to-filamentary transition** are studied

Acknowledgments



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- LIA KaPPA (France-Russia)
- LabEx Plas@Par

Thank you for your attention

