



Low –Temperature Plasmas :

Basic Fundamentals and Select Applications

Jose L. Lopez, PhD

Seton Hall University

Laboratory of Electrophysics & Atmospheric Plasmas (LEAP)

Department of Physics

South Orange, New Jersey (USA)



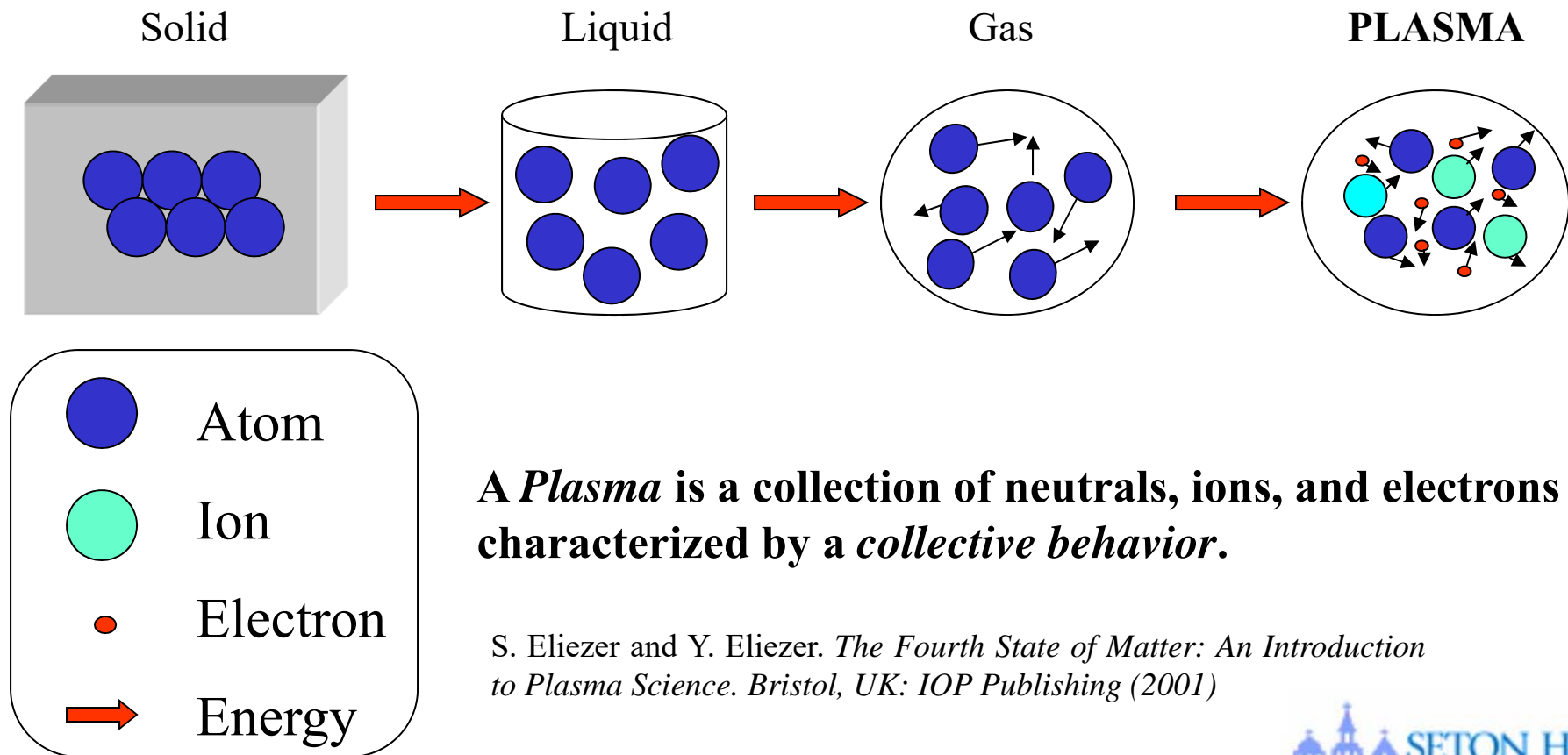
2017 SULI Introductory Course in Plasma Physics





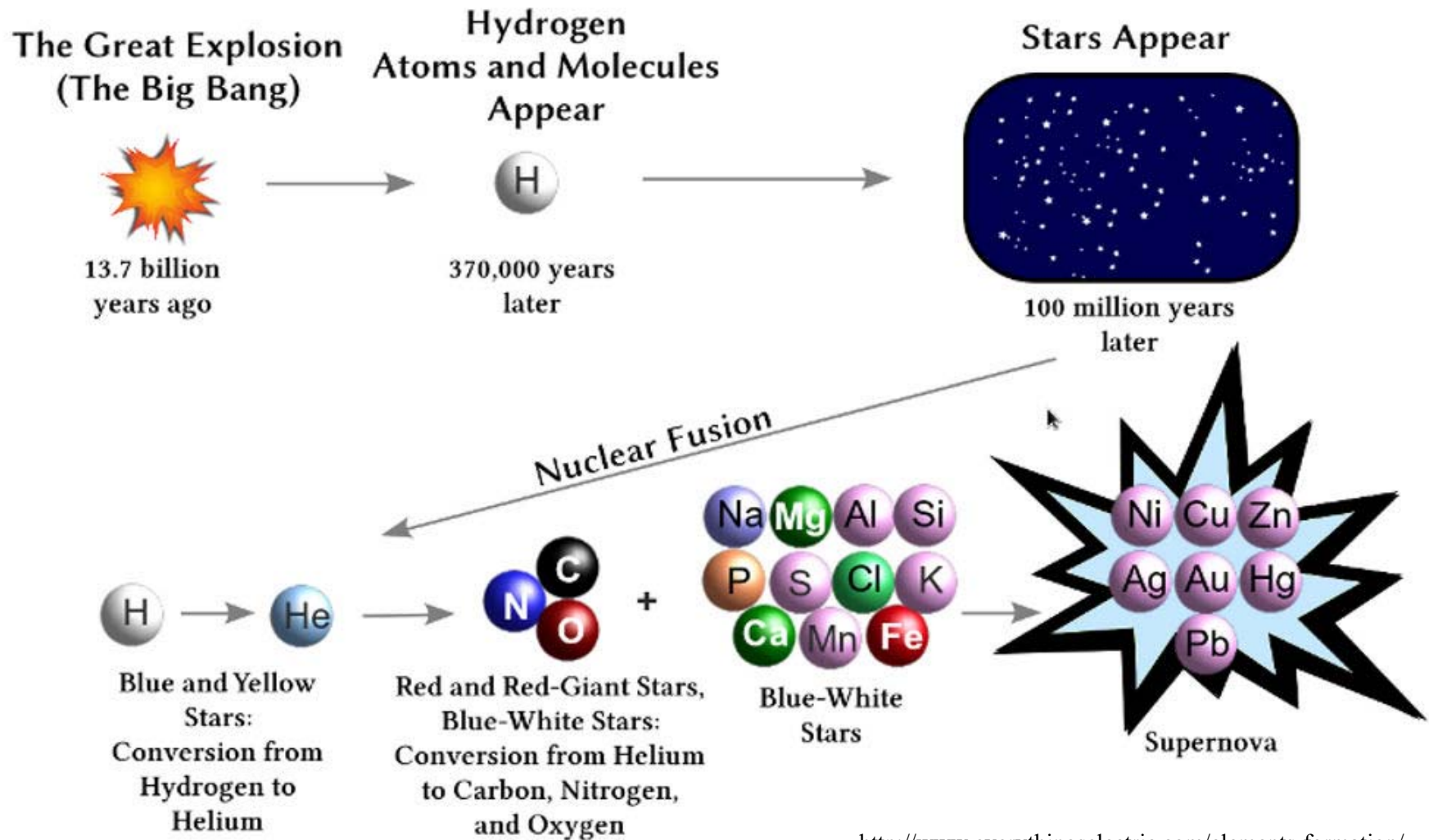
What is a Plasma?

The *Plasma* state is ‘The Fourth State of Matter’ (99%)





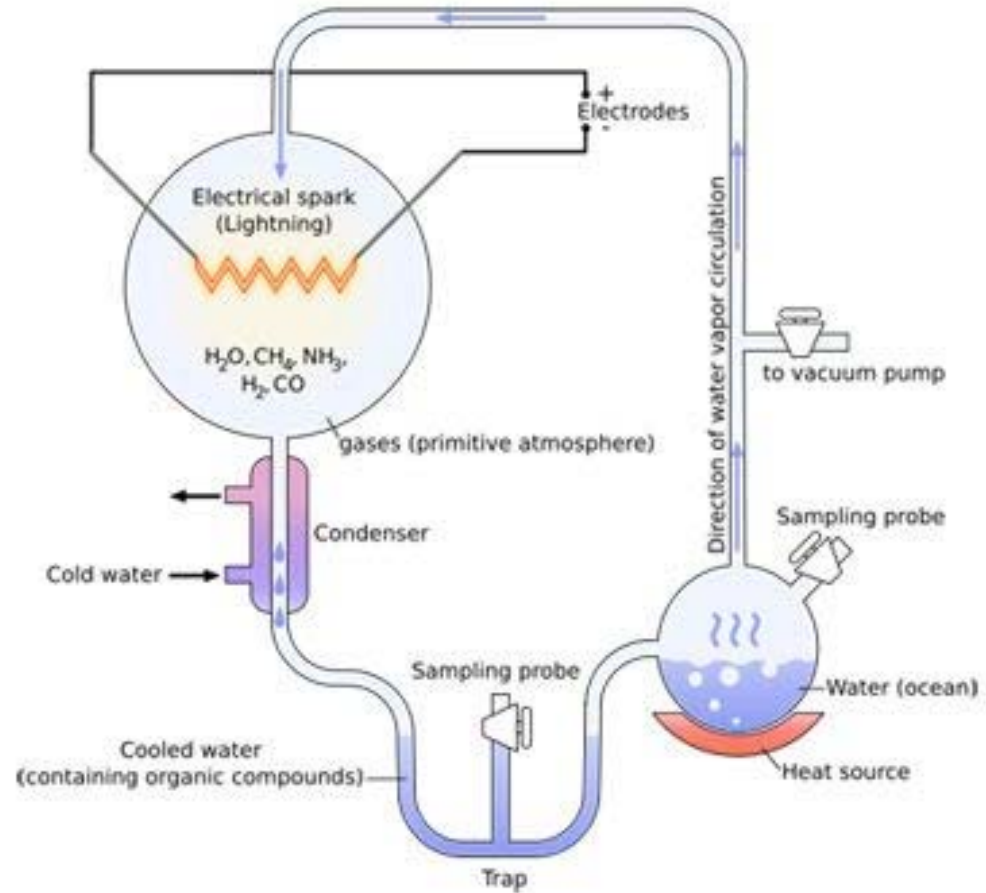
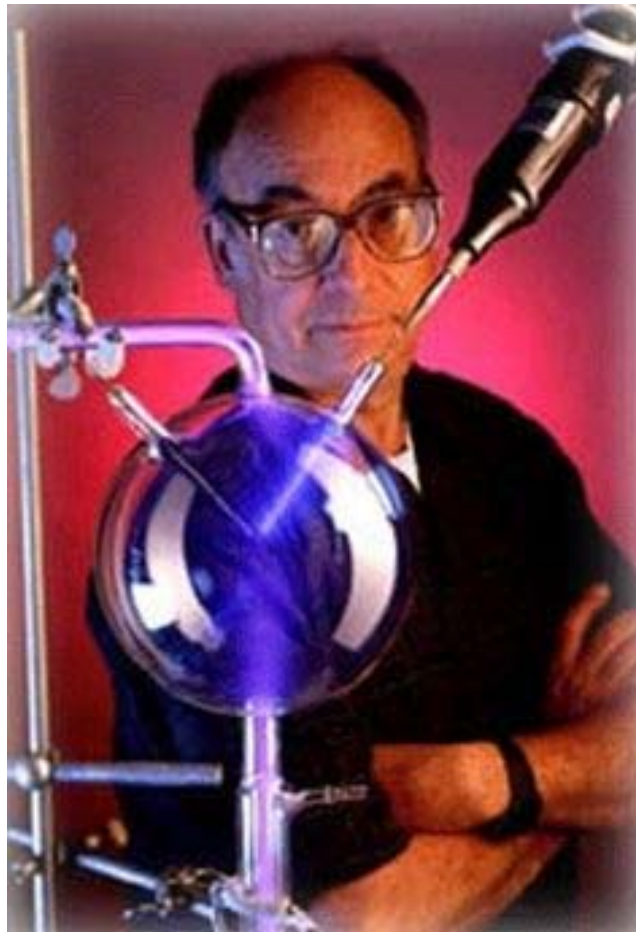
Plasma – 1st State of Matter



<http://www.everythingselectric.com/elements-formation/>



Plasma – Spark of Life?



Urey-Miller Experiment – Origin of Life



The Plasma State – New Jersey

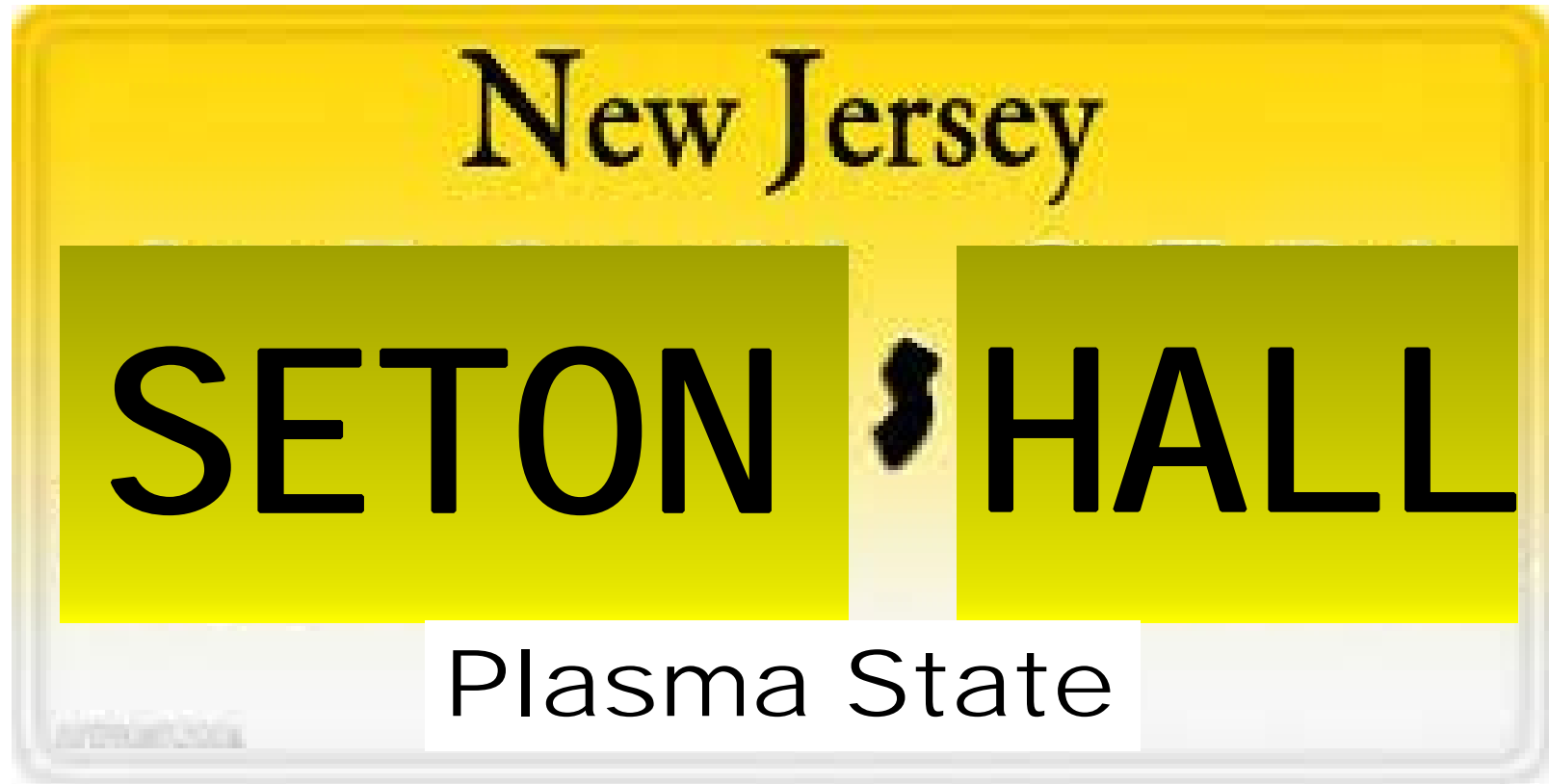


A HOME FOR THE MIND, THE HEART AND THE SPIRIT

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



New Jersey – Plasma State





New Jersey – The birth place of Plasma Science



Irving Langmuir

Birth of Plasma Science

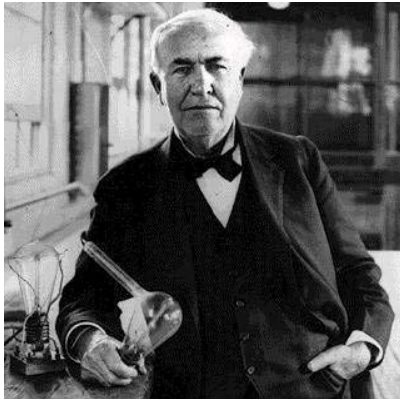
Birthplace: Hoboken, New Jersey

Irving Langmuir was one of the first scientists to work on plasmas and the first to refer to this 4th state of matter as ***plasmas***, because their similarity to blood plasma

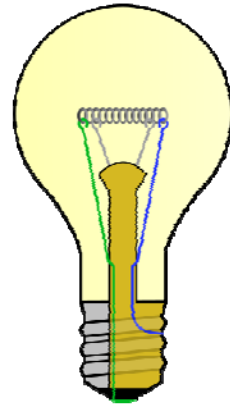




Plasma Lighting Technology



Thomas Edison



Daniel McFarlan Moore

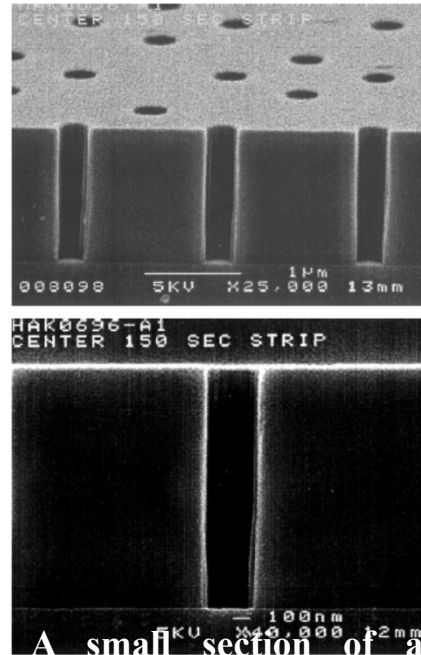
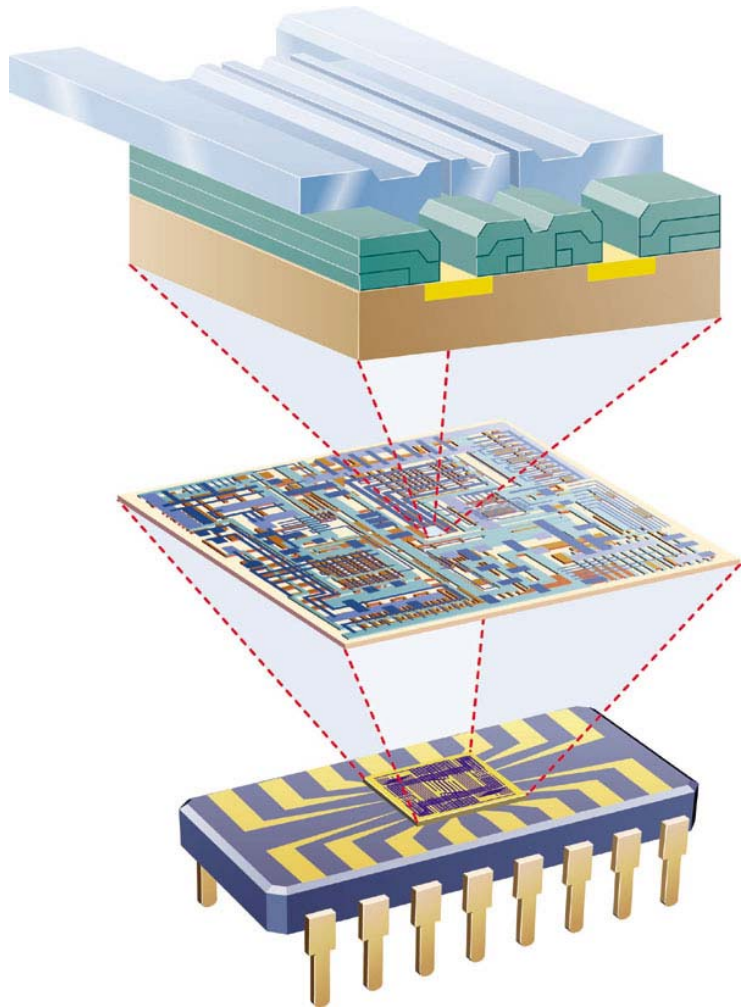


Birthplace of the Fluorescent Light Bulb: Edison (Menlo Park) / West Orange, NJ





Plasma Enhanced Technology

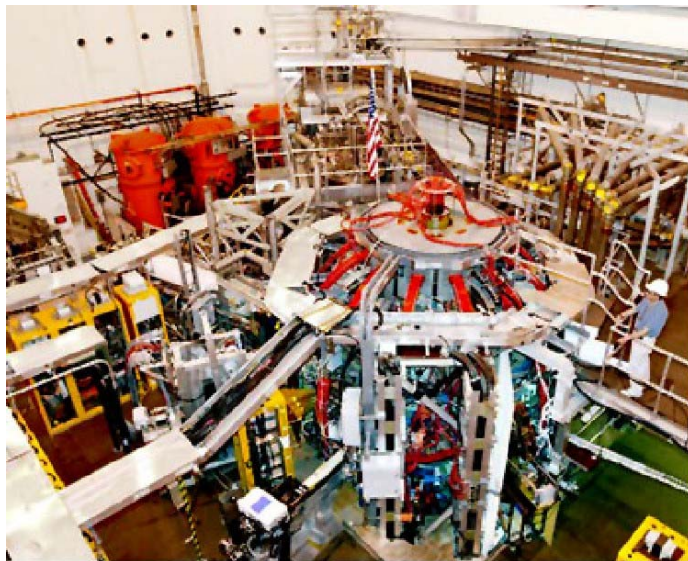


A small section of a

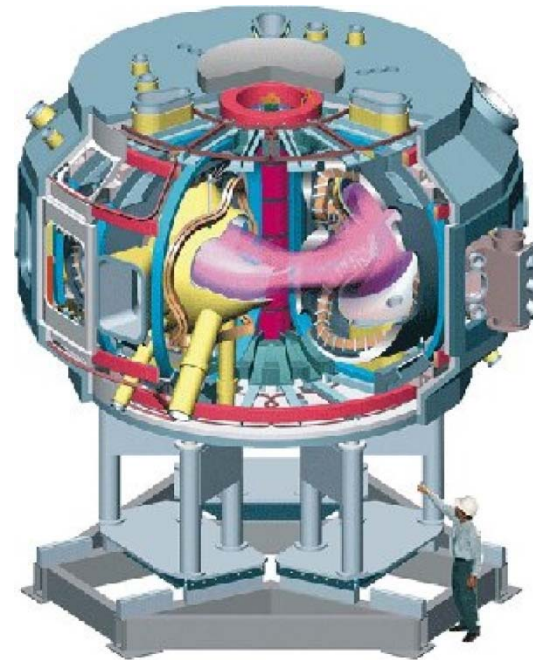
**Birthplace of solid-state microelectronics:
Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ**



The U.S. Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) is a collaborative national center for plasma and fusion science. Its primary mission is to develop the scientific understanding and the key innovations which will lead to an attractive fusion energy source. Associated missions include conducting world-class research along the broad frontier of plasma science and technology, and providing the highest quality of scientific education.



National Spherical Torus Experiment (NSTX)

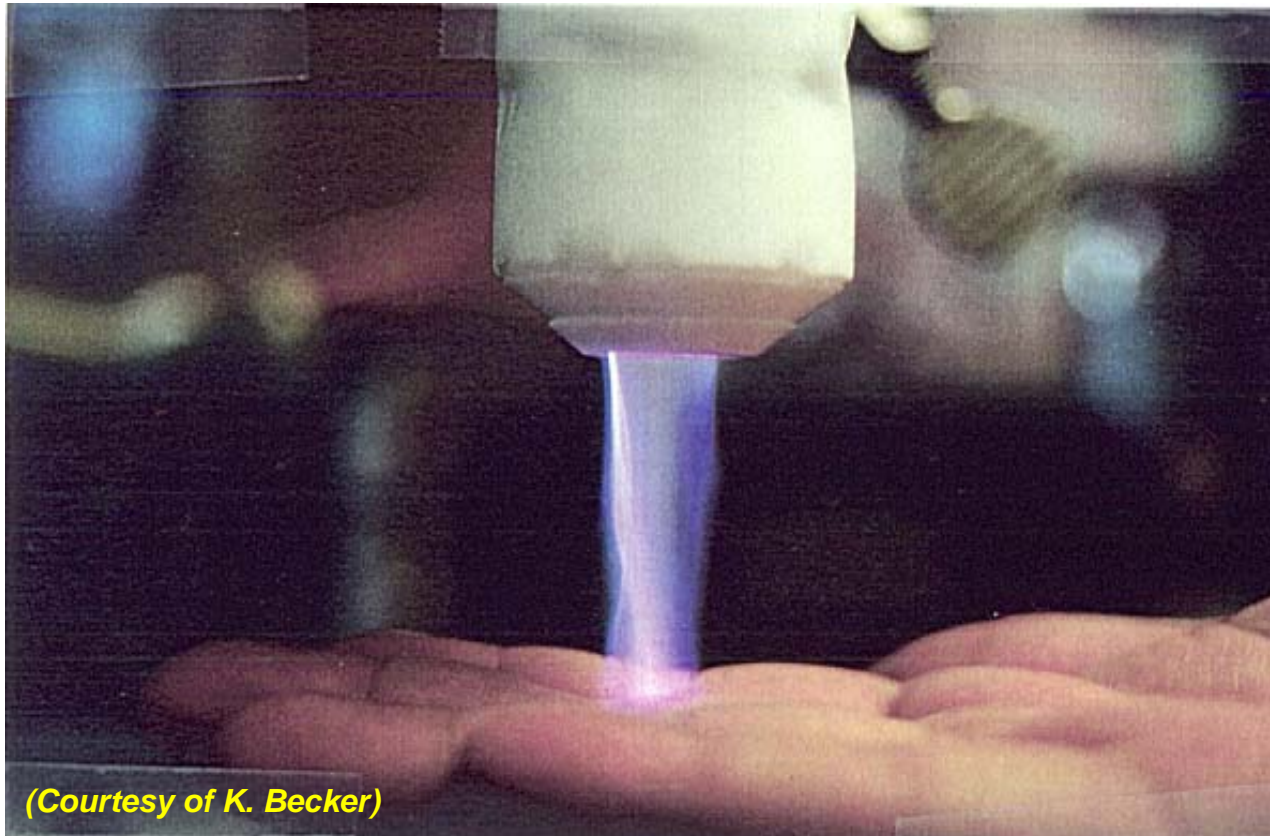




Atmospheric Cold Plasmas

Erich Kunhardt & Kurt Becker

STEVENS
Institute of Technology



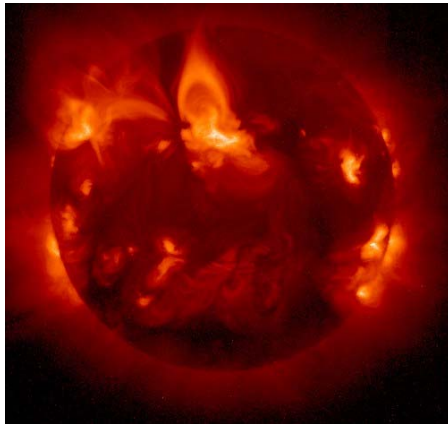
(Courtesy of K. Becker)

**An Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Generated with a
Capillary-Plasma-Electrode Discharge**





Plasmas in Nature



The Sun



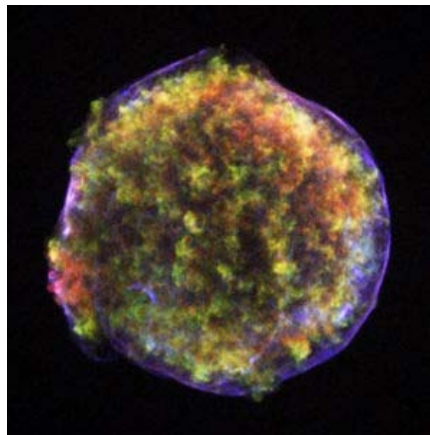
Aurora



Lightning



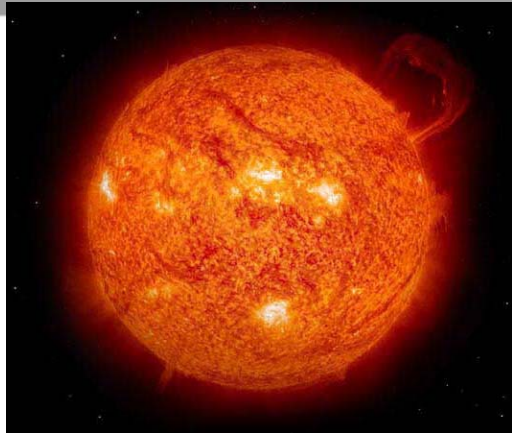
The Comet



Supernova



Plasmas are everywhere!!!



Sun



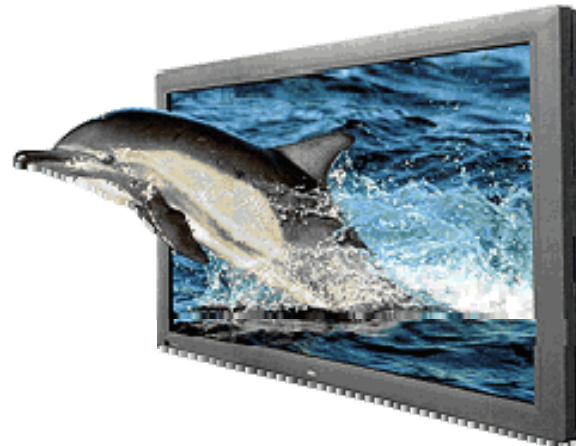
Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights)



Lightning



Fluorescent Lamps



Plasma Display Televisions





Plasma enabled technology



Plasmas in the kitchen. Plasmas and the technologies they enable are pervasive in our everyday life. Each one of us touches or is touched by plasma-enabled technologies every day.

Plasma Science: Advancing Knowledge in the National Interest. Plasma 2010 Committee, Plasma Science Committee, National Research Council. ISBN: 0-309-10944-2, 280 pages, (2007)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 01—Plasma TV | 09—Plasma-aided combustion | 16—Plasma-treated polymers |
| 02—Plasma-coated jet turbine blades | 10—Plasma muffler | 17—Plasma-treated textiles |
| 03—Plasma-manufactured LEDs in panel | 11—Plasma ozone water purification | 18—Plasma-treated heart stent |
| 04—Diamondlike plasma CVD eyeglass coating | 12—Plasma-deposited LCD screen | 19—Plasma-deposited diffusion barriers for containers |
| 05—Plasma ion-implanted artificial hip | 13—Plasma-deposited silicon for solar cells | 20—Plasma-sputtered window glazing |
| 06—Plasma laser-cut cloth | 14—Plasma-processed microelectronics | 21—Compact fluorescent plasma lamp |
| 07—Plasma HID headlamps | 15—Plasma-sterilization in pharmaceutical production | |
| 08—Plasma-produced H ₂ in fuel cell | | |



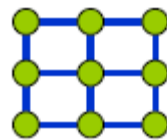


Plasmas 101

Solid, Liquid, Gas and ...*Plasma* -The 4th State of Matter

SOLID

- Molecules fixed in lattice
- Electrons bound to molecules or lattice



ENERGY

LIQUID

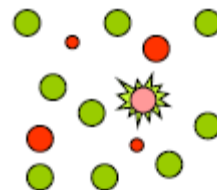
- Molecule bonds are flexible
- Electrons close to molecules



ENERGY

GAS

- Molecules free to move
- Few electrons and ions that are free to move
- Some excited molecules are present



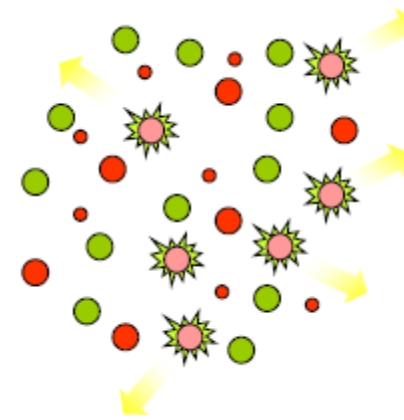
ENERGY



- Molecules
- Excited molecules
- Ions
- Electrons

PLASMA

- Molecules free to move
- Many electrons, ions and excited molecules, all free to move
- often accompanied by light



>99% in Universe

ETON HALL UNIVERSITY

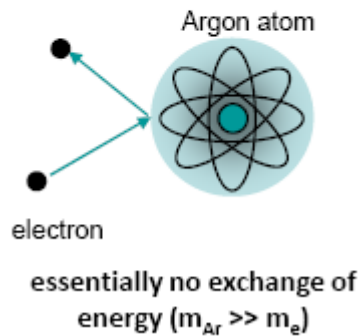


The Eventful Plasma World



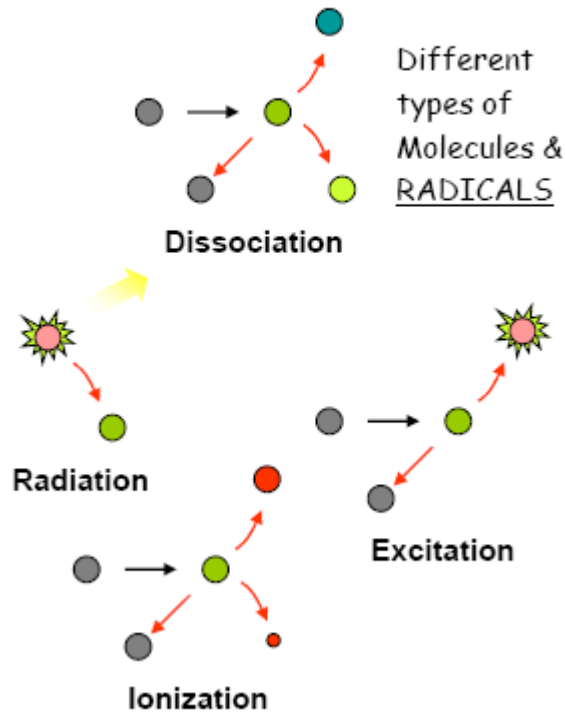
Elastic collisions

Elastic collisions are frequent in gases
No energy exchange



Collisions in a plasma

Inelastic collisions



- Molecules
- Excited molecules
- Ions
- Electrons

Gas

 Plasma

Therefore more and stronger collisions leading to more

ionization, excitation, dissociation and radiation





Two Types of plasmas

High-temperature plasmas or Hot (Thermal) plasmas

$$T_i \approx T_e \geq 10^7 \text{ K}$$

e.g., fusion plasmas

$$T_i \approx T_e \approx T_g \leq 2 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$$

e.g. arc plasma at normal pressure

Low-temperature plasmas or Cold (Non-thermal Plasmas

$$T_i \approx T_g \approx 300 \text{ K}$$

$$T_i \ll T_e \leq 10^5 \text{ K}$$

e.g. low-pressure glow discharge

high-pressure cold plasma





Hot vs. Cold Plasmas

Thermal vs. Non-Thermal Plasmas

The plasma components (electrons, ions, neutrals) are characterized by energy distribution functions or alternatively by an “average” energy or temperature (T_e , T_i , T_n) – not quite correct, only true for Maxwell-Boltzmann distributions !!!

Electrons in general have more complicated energy distributions !!!

Thermal Plasma: $T_e \approx T_i \approx T_n$ (a few thousand Kelvin for e.g. torches to $>10^6$ Kelvin for e.g. fusion plasmas)

Non-Thermal Plasma: $T_e \gg T_i, T_n$ with $T_i \approx T_n$

- high electron temperature (10,000 – 50,000 K)
- low gas temperatures (300 – 1,500 K)
- “high-temperature chemistry” at low ambient temperatures
(through dissociation and ionization & vibrational non-equilibrium)





Low-Temperature (“Cold”) Plasmas [Non-equilibrium, Non-Thermal]

→ $T_e \gg T_i, T_n$ with $T_i \approx T_n$ ←

- **High “electron temperature” (10,000 – 100,000 K)**
 - ❖ T_e from 0.5 eV to 10 eV
 - ❖ Often highly non-Maxwellian EEDF; “bulk” and “beam” electrons
- **Low gas temperature (350 – 2,500 K)**
- **“High-temperature chemistry” at low ambient temperatures**
 - ❖ Electron-driven ionization and dissociation (in molecular plasmas) create reactive radicals
 - ❖ Electron interactions (in molecular plasmas) create a vibrational non-equilibrium





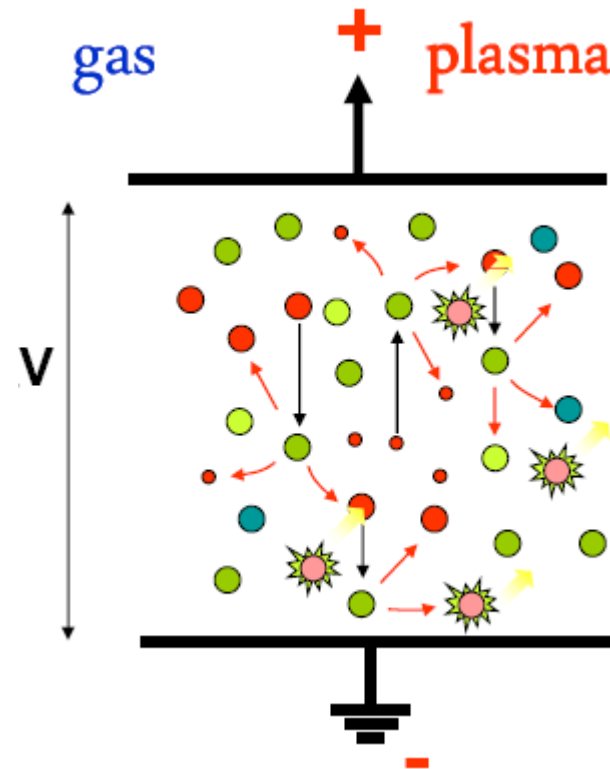
How do we make plasmas?

Supply Energy!!!
e.g. Heat transfer, radiation,
electric power...

For many plasma applications,
an Electric Field is applied to a
gaseous environment

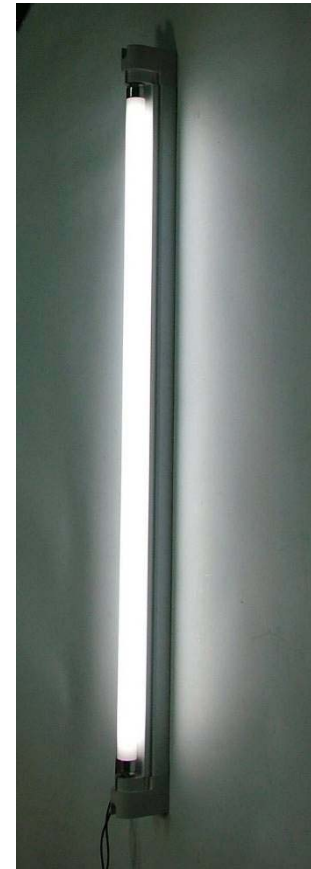
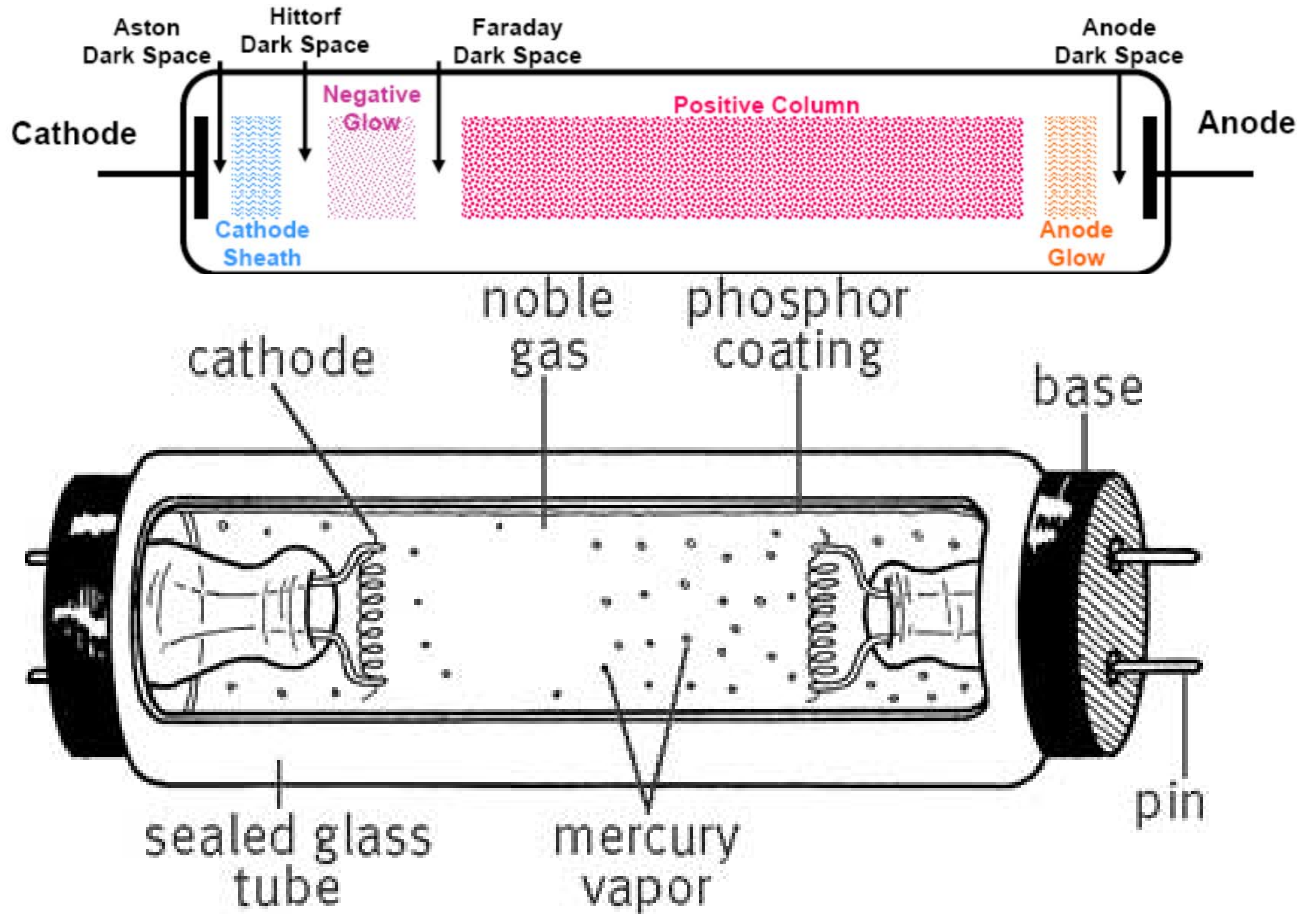
Plasma or Gaseous Discharge

- Molecules
- ☀ Excited molecules
- Ions
- Electrons



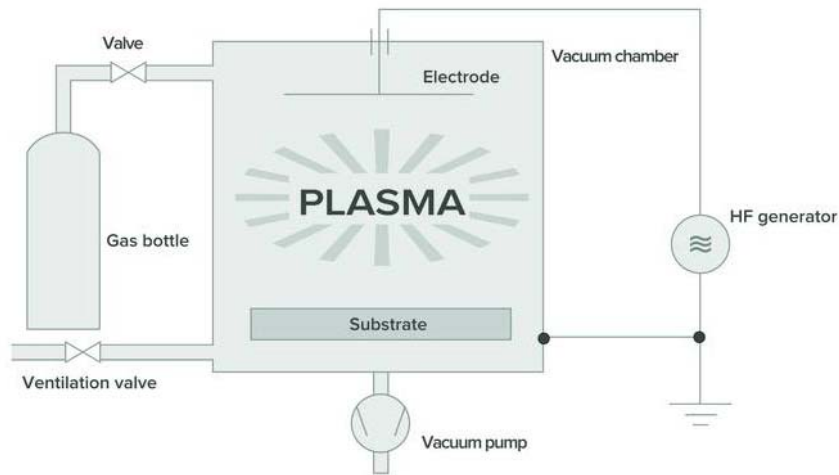


Low-Pressure Glow Discharge Plasmas

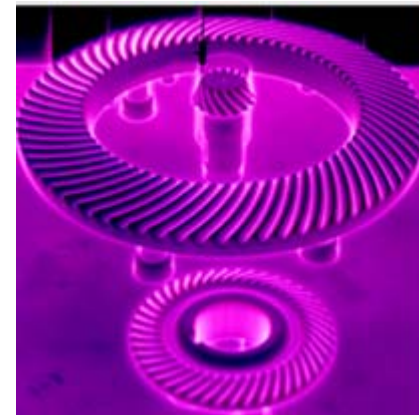
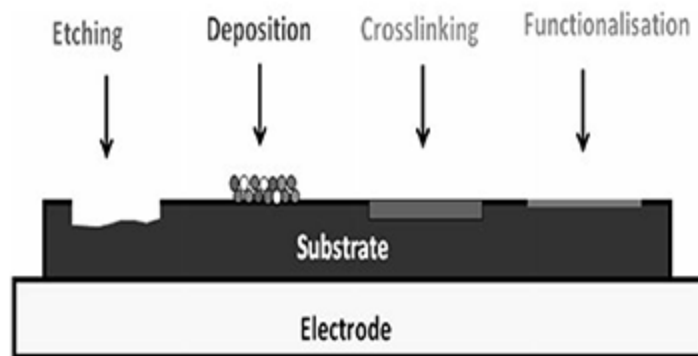
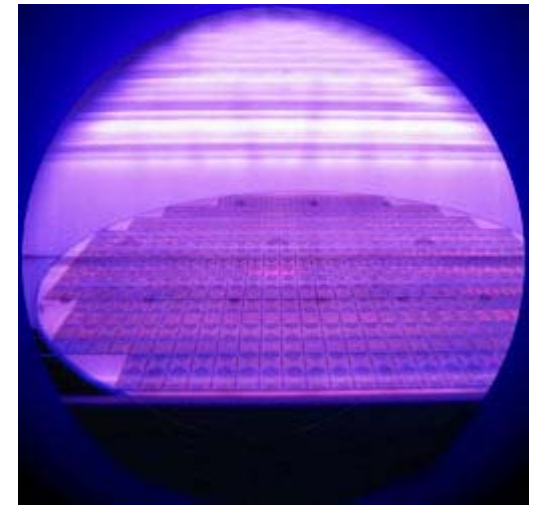




Low-Pressure, Low-Temperature Plasma Systems



Plasma processing of silicon for semiconductor manufacturing.



Plasma processing to harden or coat materials.

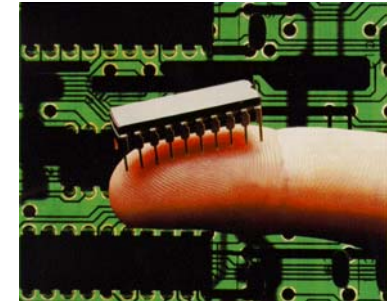
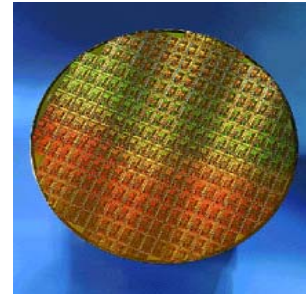




Plasmas are easier to be generated at low pressures

Low pressure plasmas
(1 mTorr ~ a few Torr)

- are well understood
- are used extensively nowadays (e.g. in semiconductor industry for computer chips manufacturing)



However, to generate low pressure plasmas:

- vacuum chambers
- expensive vacuum pumps
- pressure monitoring and pressure control devices



+



+



=



Generate Plasmas at Atmospheric Pressure!!

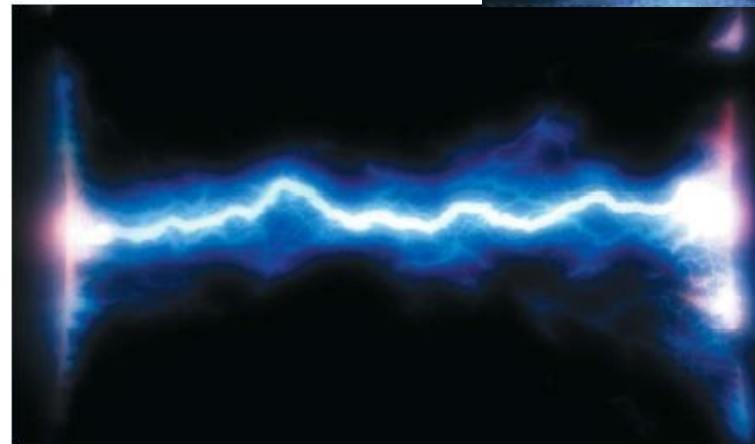


What happens at air pressure?

- No vacuum is involved
- Difficult to generate and sustain
- Run into some challenges such as glow to *arc* transition – Non controllable

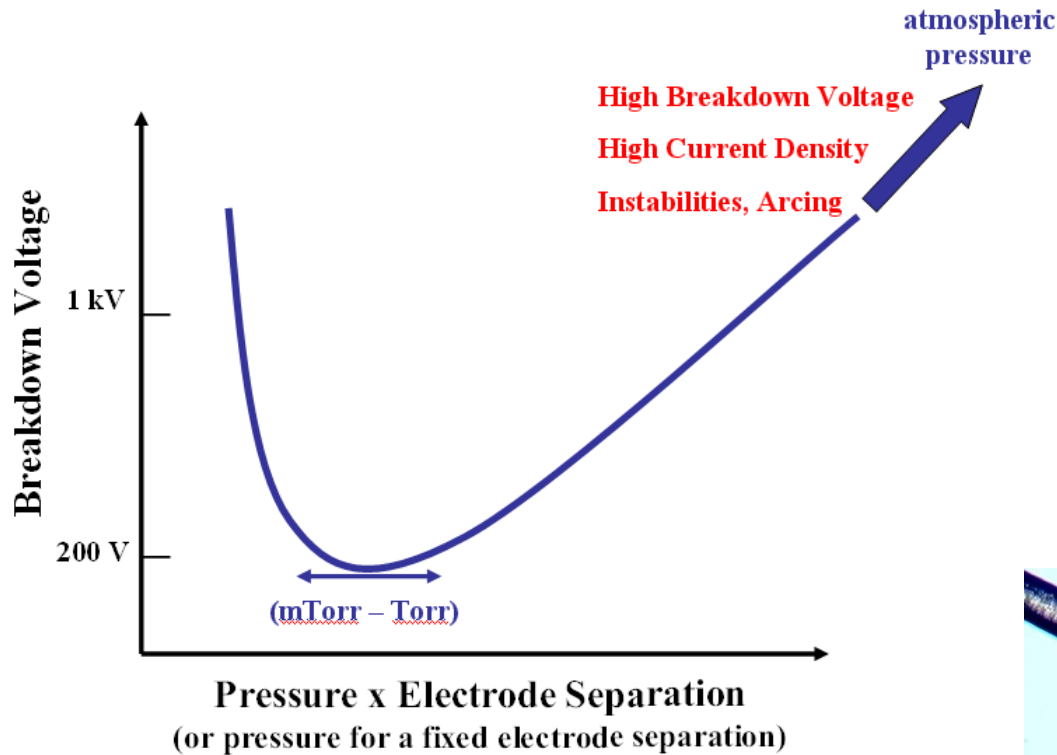
Arc Discharge: thermal plasma

- It's hot and detrimental
- Gas temperature can reach as high as 2×10^4 K
- Low voltage drop at cathode
- High cathode current density





High Pressure Microplasmas



Paschen Breakdown Curve

Stabilization of high-pressure plasmas: “pd scaling”: “p” ↑, so “d” ↓ to keep breakdown voltage low and minimize instabilities after breakdown -

Microplasmas

Dimension: a few millimeter down to and below **100 μm**



Human Hair: 60 – 100 μm





How do we solve this problem?

Transient (pulsed) plasmas: *In atmospheric plasmas, for efficient gas heating at least 100-1000 collisions are necessary. Thus, if the plasma duration is shorter than $10^{-6} - 10^{-5}$ s, gas heating is limited. Of course, for practical purposes such plasma has to be operated in a repetitive mode, e.g., in trains of microsecond pulses with millisecond intervals.*

Micro-confinement: Gas heating occurs in the plasma volume, and the energy is carried away by thermal diffusion/convection to the outside. If the plasma has a small volume and a relatively large surface, gas heating is limited.

Dielectric Barrier Discharges: These plasmas are typically created between metal plates, which are covered by a thin layer of dielectric or highly resistive material. The dielectric layer plays an important role in suppressing the current: the cathode/anode layer is charged by incoming positive ions/electrons, which reduces the electric field and hinders charge transport towards the electrode. DBD also has a large surface-to-volume ratio, which promotes diffusion losses and maintains a low gas temperature.





Advantages of Microplasmas

- Low-cost of implementation
- System flexibility
- Atmospheric pressure operation
- High densities and high reaction rates
- Fast and efficient processes
- Easy to generate and sustain for a variety of gas mixtures
- Glow-like and diffuse
- Non-equilibrium ($T_e > T_g$) *to thermal*
- Unique chemistry

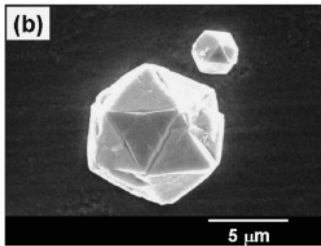
... a new realm of plasma science





What can we do with it?

Material Synthesis



Plasma display



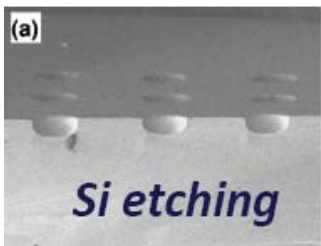
Surface Treatment



Lighting



Material processing

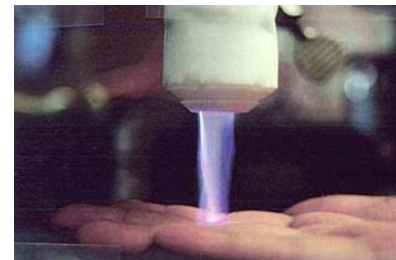


200 μm

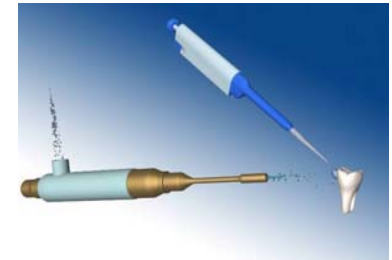
Ozone generation for water cleaning



Bio-application



Dental application

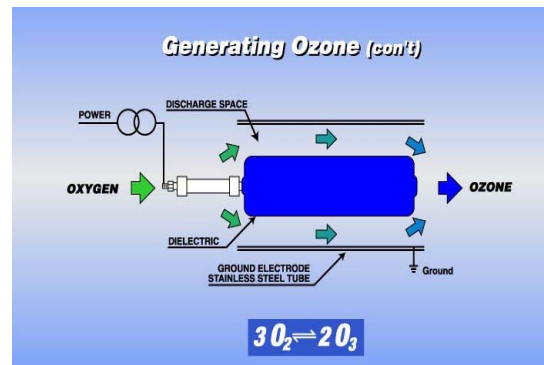
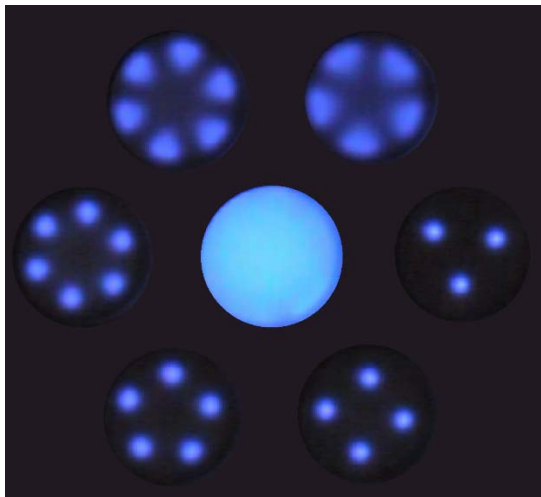
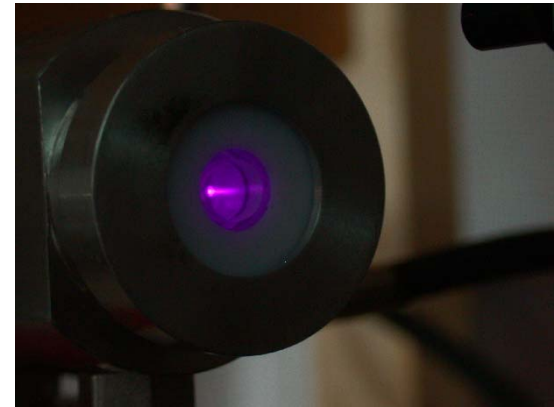
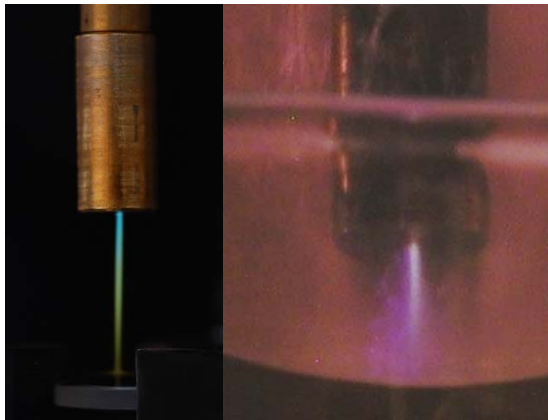


and Many more...



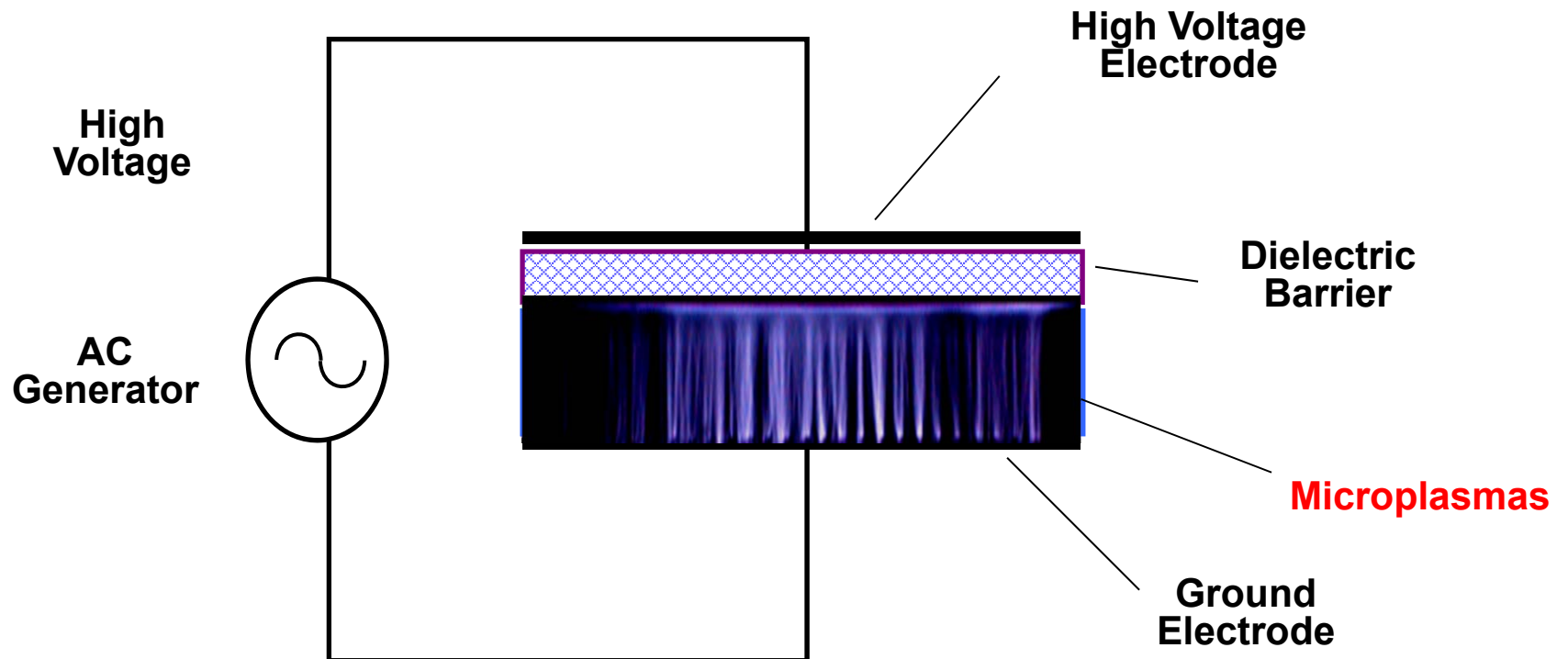


Some examples...





Atmospheric Pressure Cold Plasma





Role of the Dielectric (Insulator)

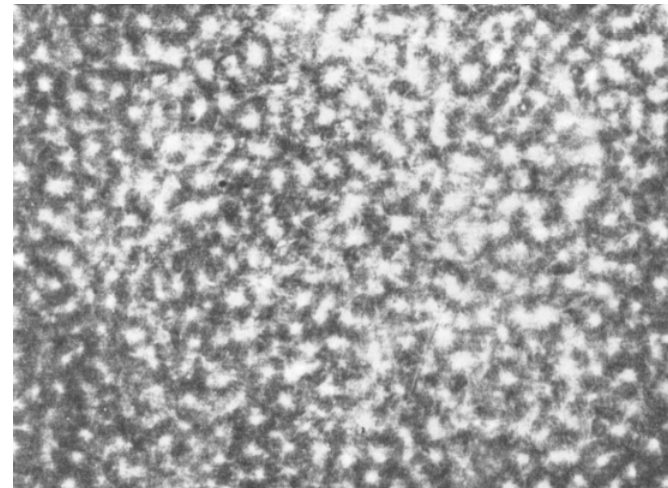
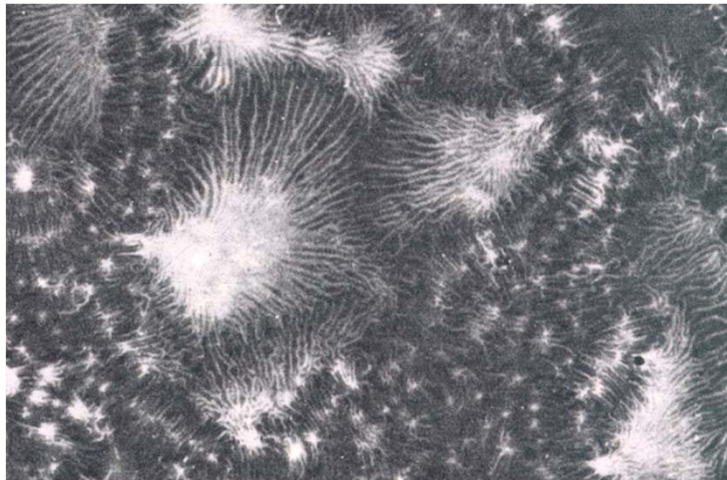
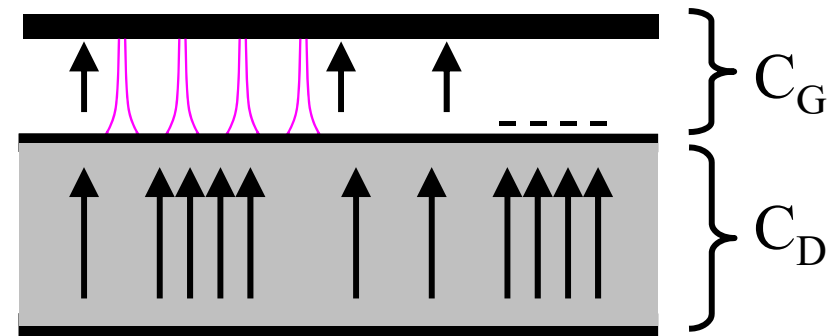
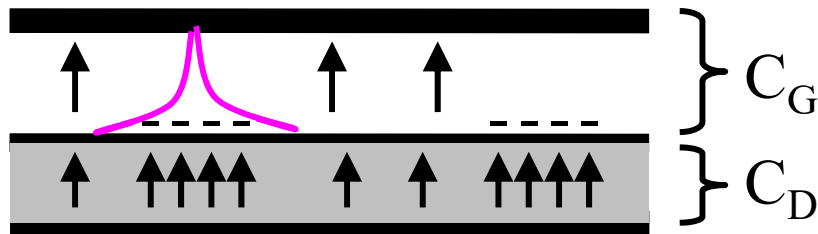
The dielectric is the key for the proper functioning of the discharge.

Serves two functions:

1. Limits the amount of charge transported by a single microplasma
2. Distributes the microplasmas over the entire electrode surface area



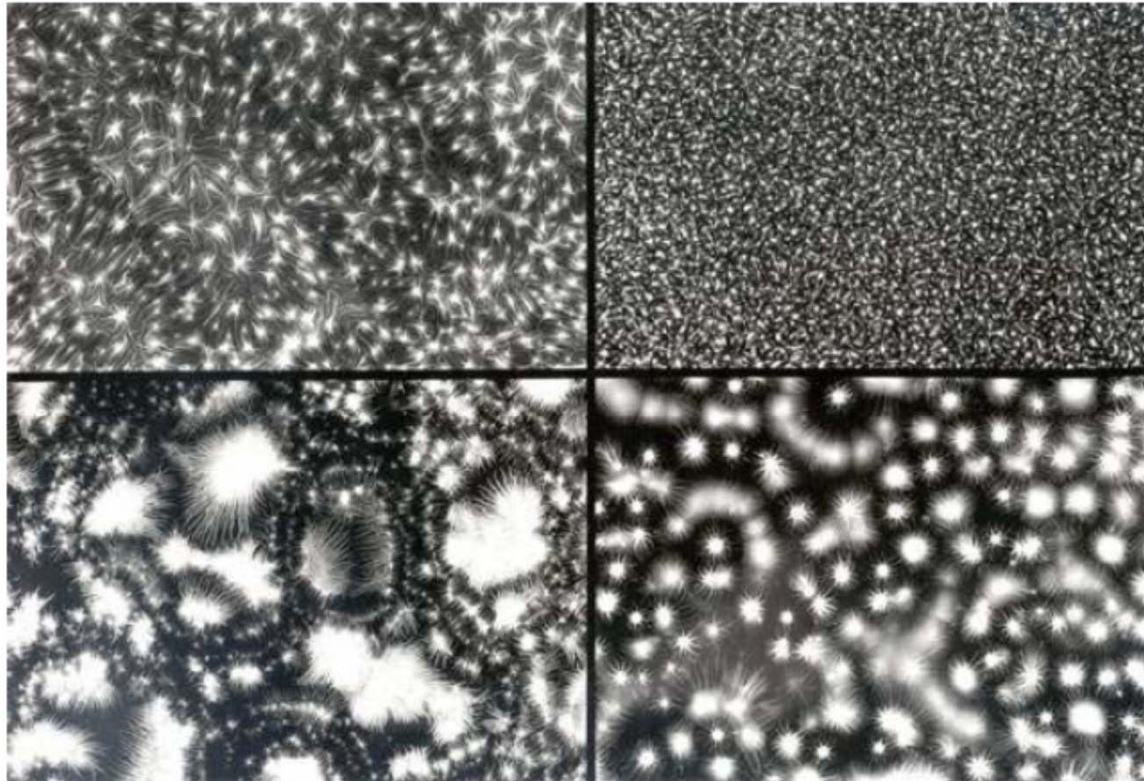
Principals of DBD Microplasmas





Principals of DBD Microplasmas

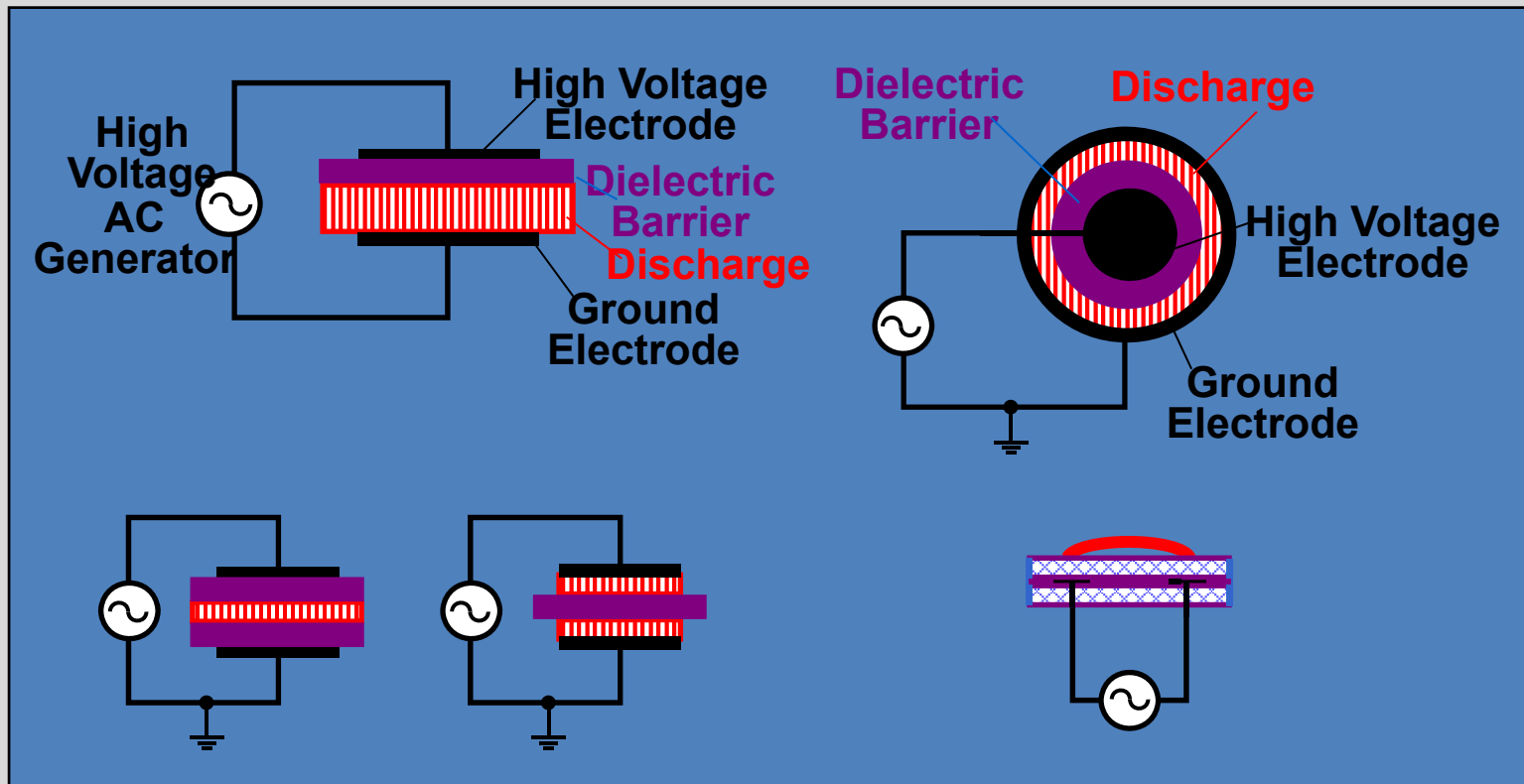
Four Different Gap Widths



B. Eliasson and U. Kogelschatz. *IEEE Trans Plasma Sci.* 19(2) p309 (1991)



Dielectric Barrier Discharge



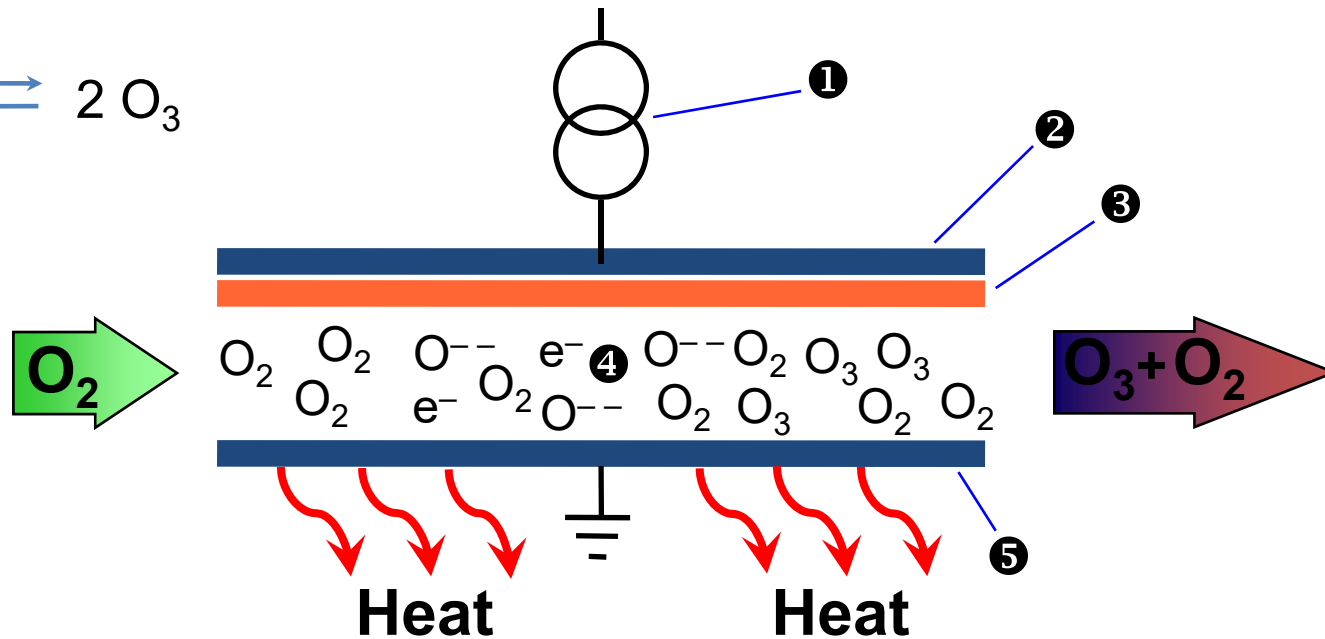
H.E. Wagner, R. Brandenburg, et. al. 'The barrier discharge: basic properties and applications to surface treatment'. *Vacuum*. 71 p417-436 (2003).





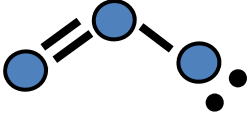
Ozone Generator

Dielectric Barrier Discharge



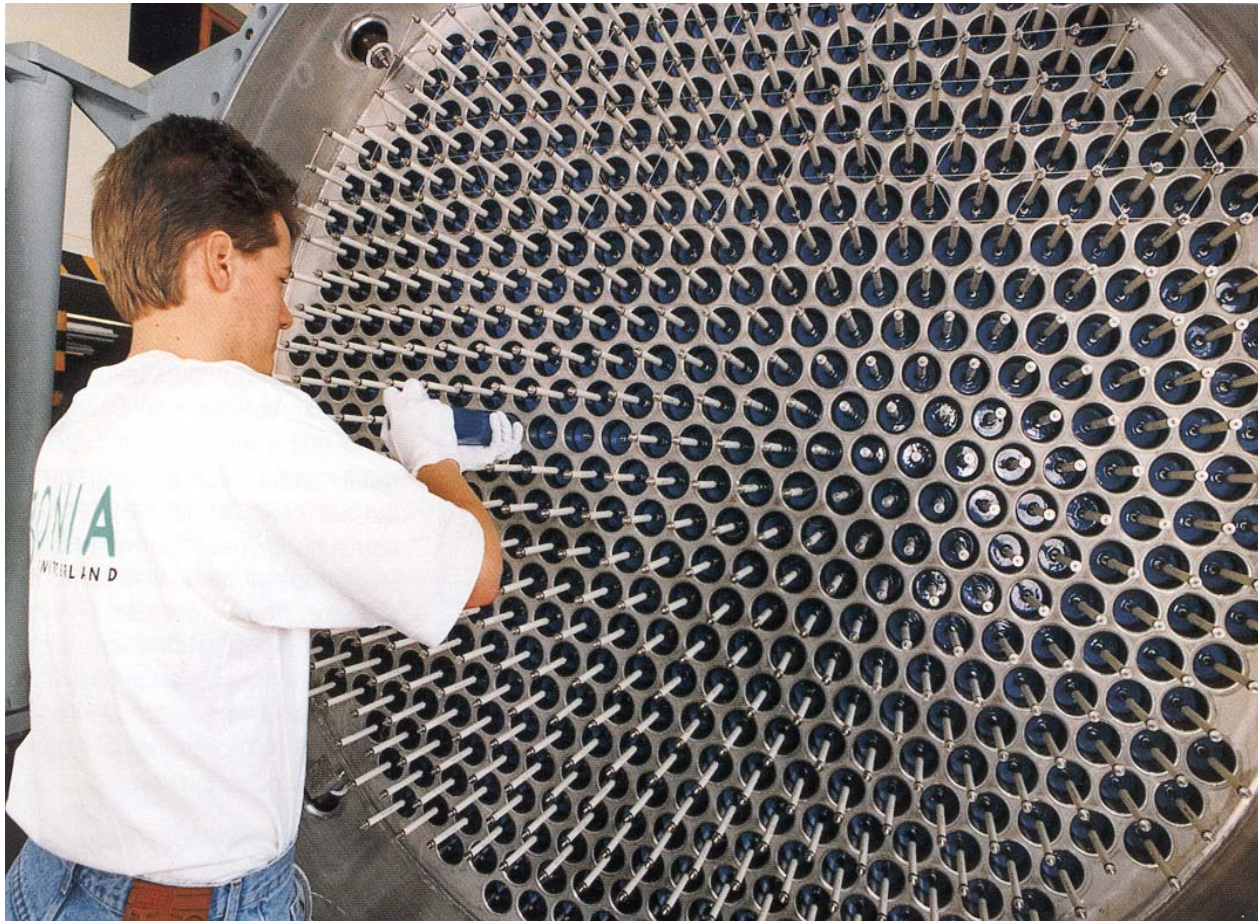


Properties of Ozone (O_3)

- Tri-atomic form of oxygen. 
- Most powerful commercial oxidizing agent
- Unstable - must be generated and used onsite
- Limited solubility in water, but more so than oxygen
- Leaves a dissolved residual which ultimately converts back to oxygen



Ozonia Advanced Technology Ozone Generator





Ozone Water Treatment



Bubble Diffusion

Easy to use

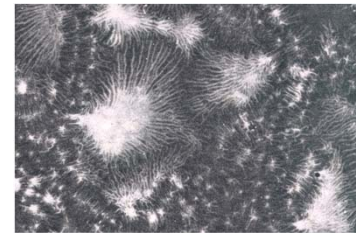
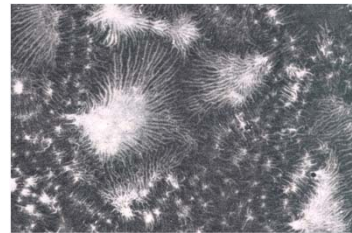
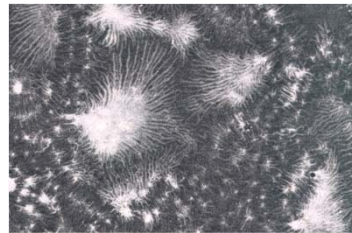
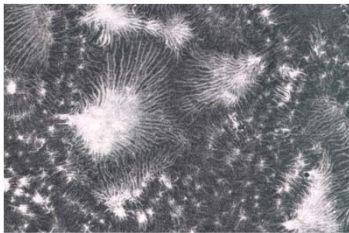
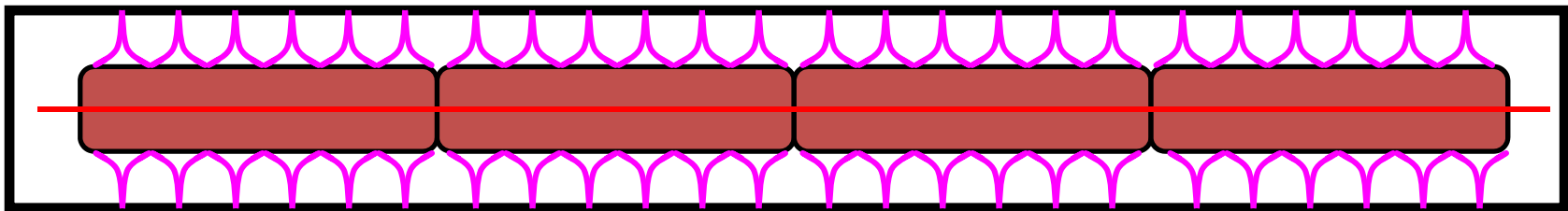
Low energy usage

**Mass transfer
efficiencies to $> 90\%$**



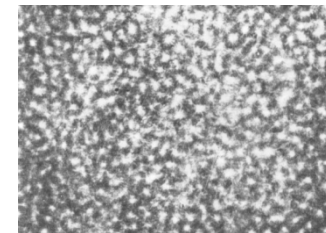
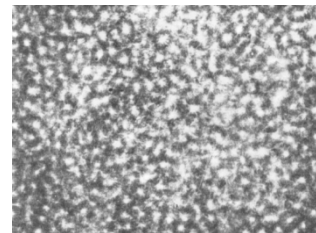
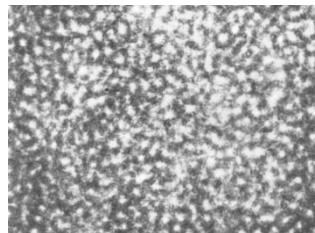
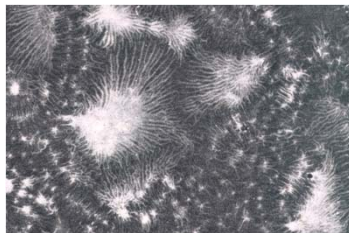
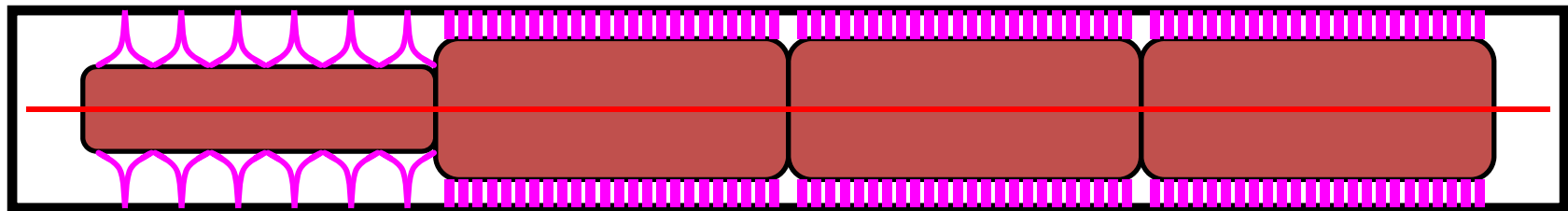


Reference (Traditional) Arrangement



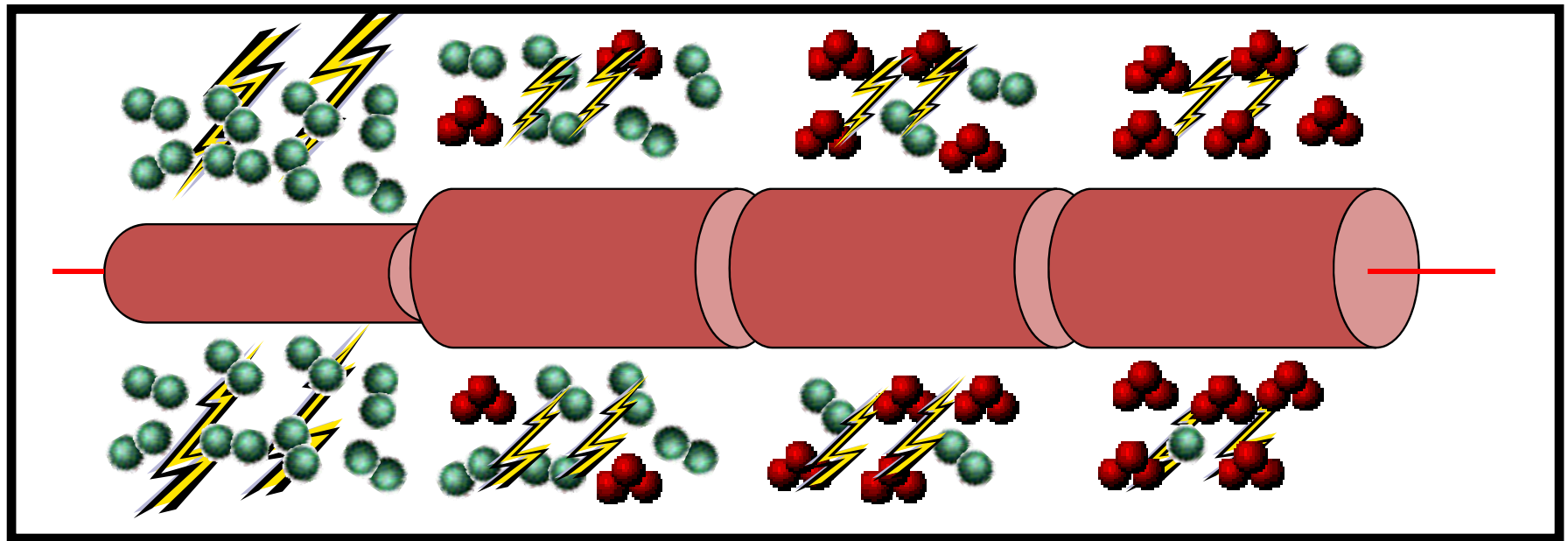


Optimized Arrangement



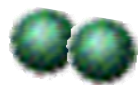


Intelligent Gap System (IGS)



O_2

O_3



Molecular Oxygen (O_2)



Ozone (O_3)



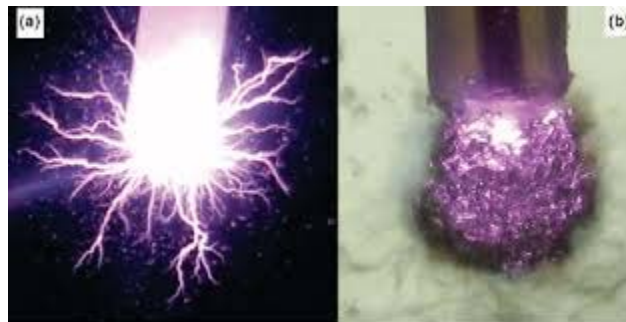
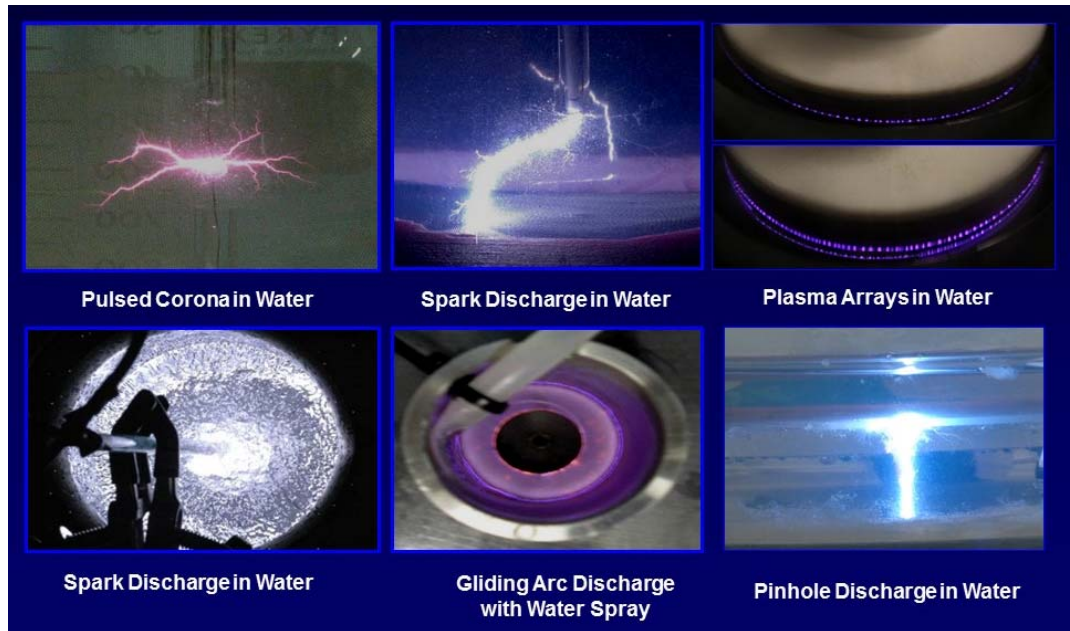
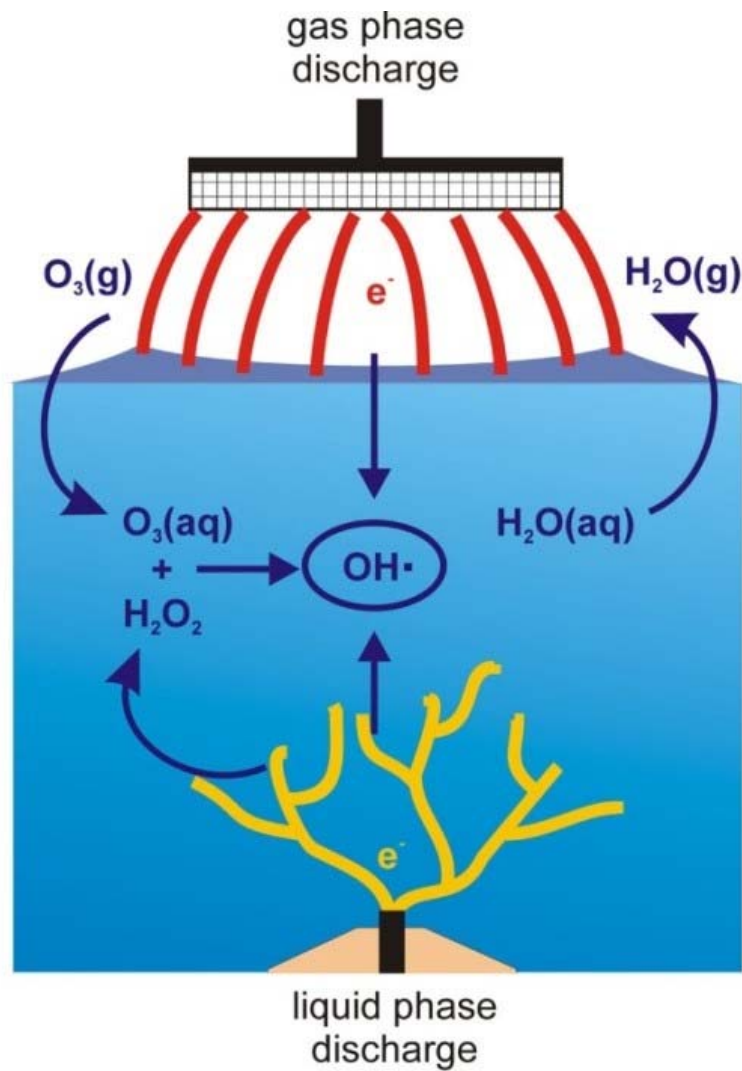


Degrémont Technologies – Ozonia Intelligent Gap System



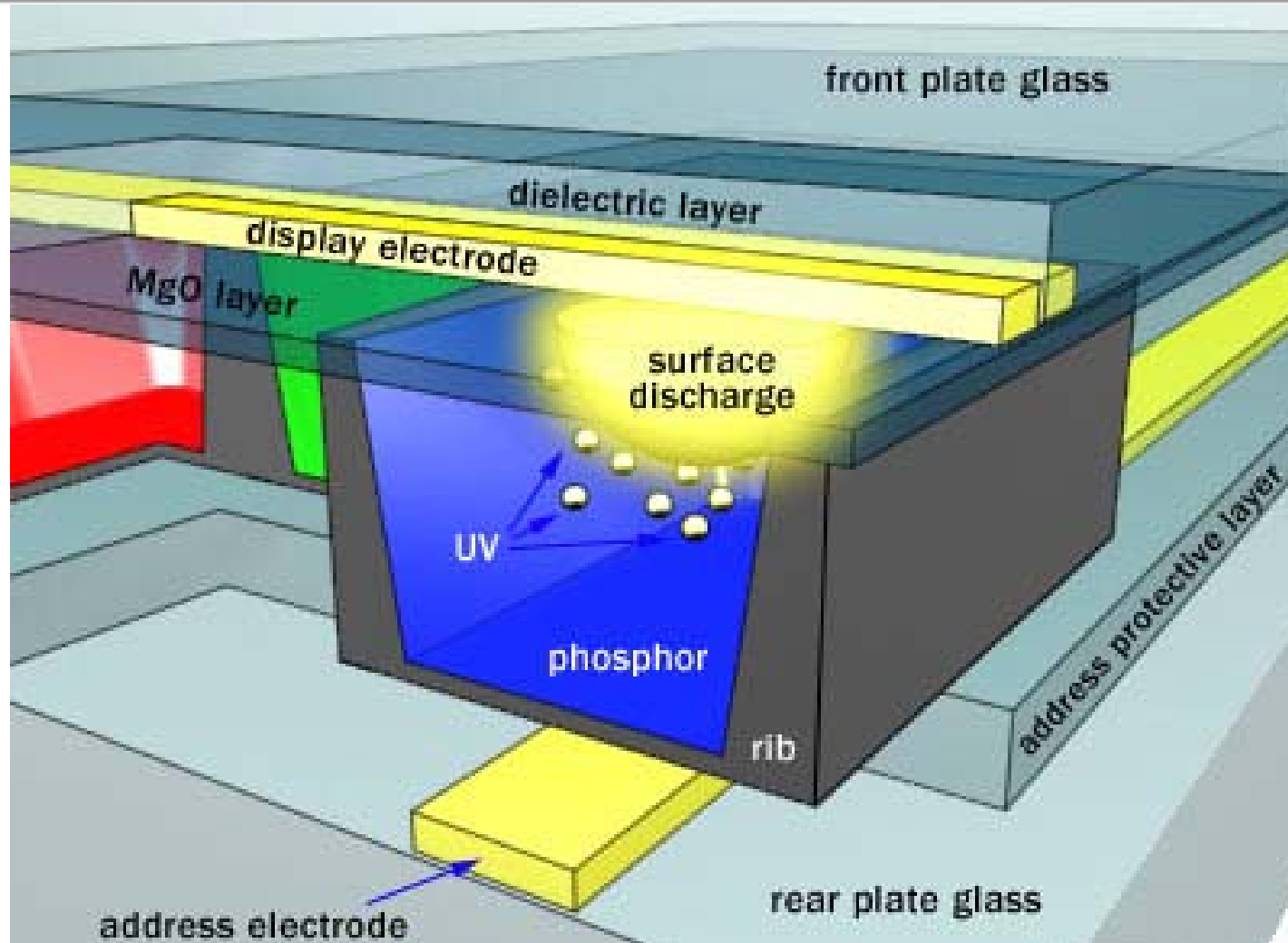


Plasma Discharges in Water



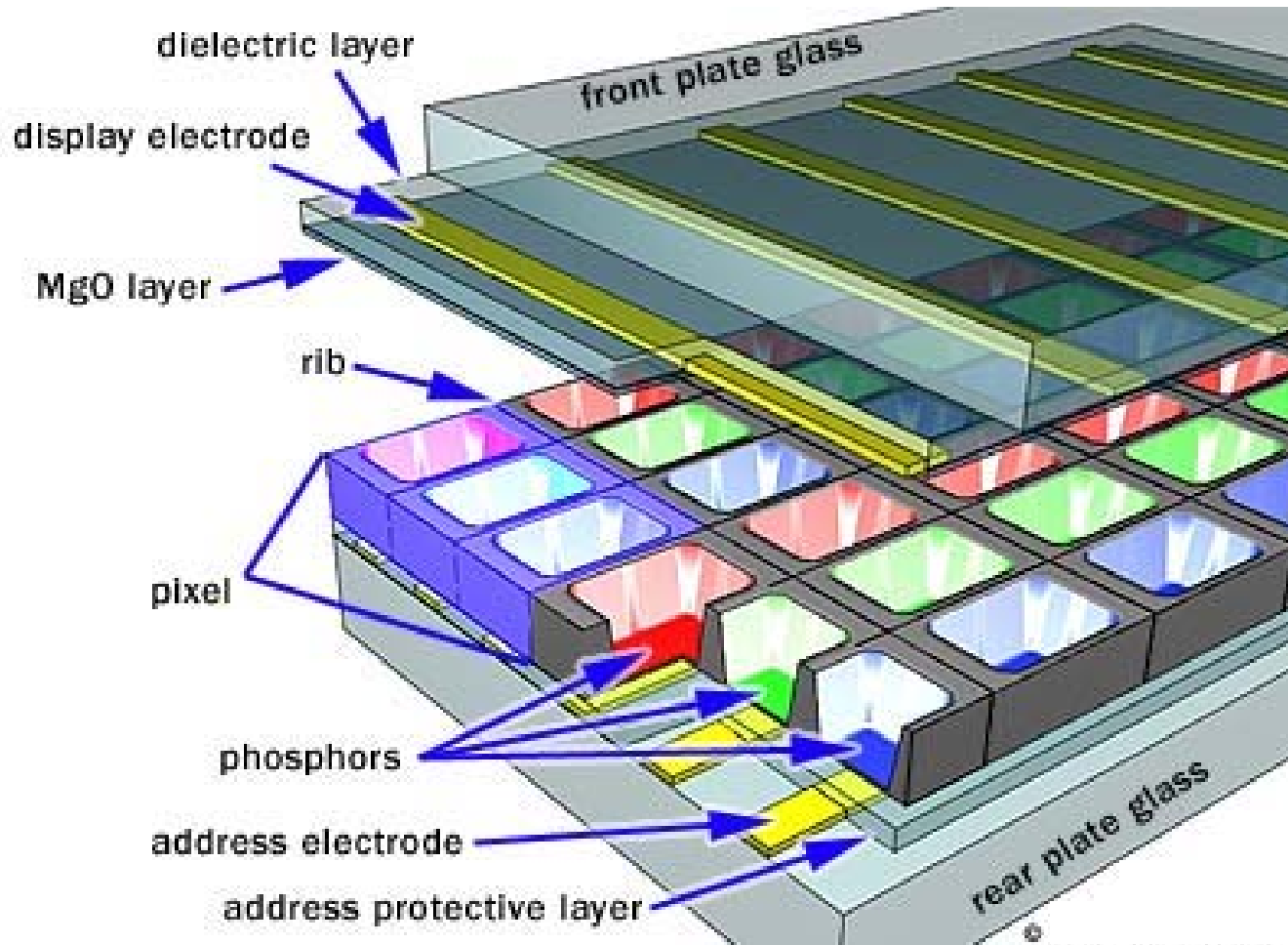


How A Plasma Display Works!





How A Plasma Display Work!





Plasma Display Televisions





Applications of High-Pressure Microplasmas: Light Sources, Photonics, Sensors

Excimer and other non-coherent VUV/UV light sources

- **efficiency**
- **intensity**
- **wavelength selectivity and control; monochromaticity**
- **lifetime and stability**
- **arrays**

Photonic devices

- **semiconductor devices**
 - **photodetectors**
 - **flexible devices and arrays**
 - **devices approaching cellular dimensions**
 - **nano-devices**

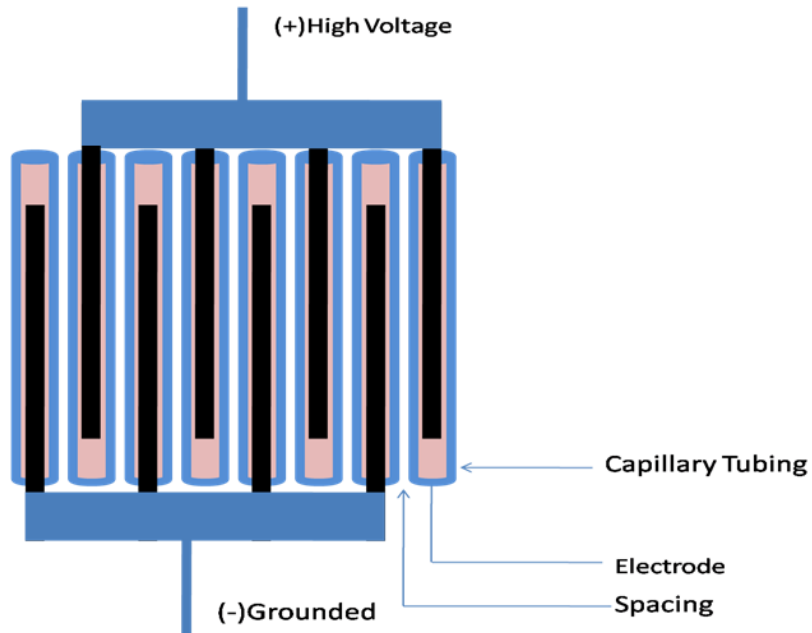
Sensors

- **sensor for chemical and biological agents**
- **sensor for explosives**



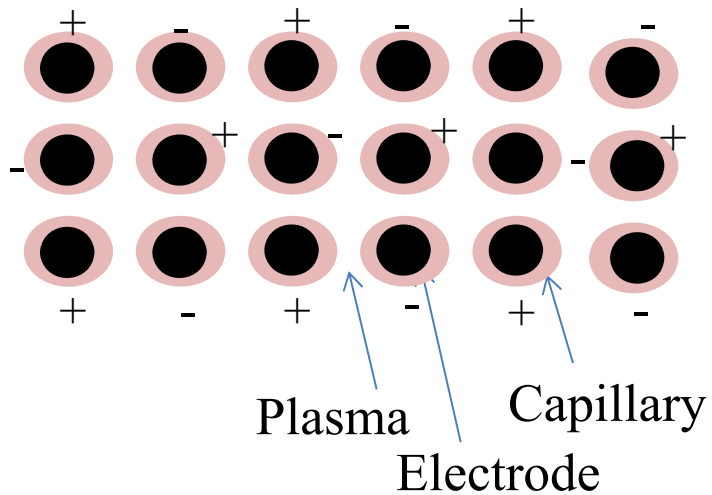


Capillary Dielectric Barrier Discharge



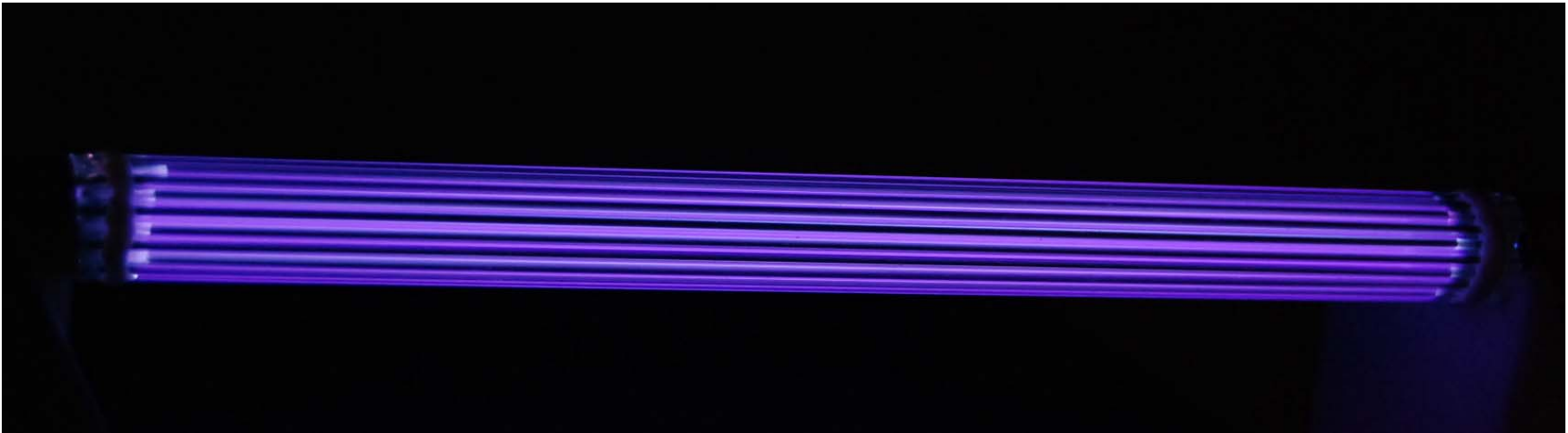
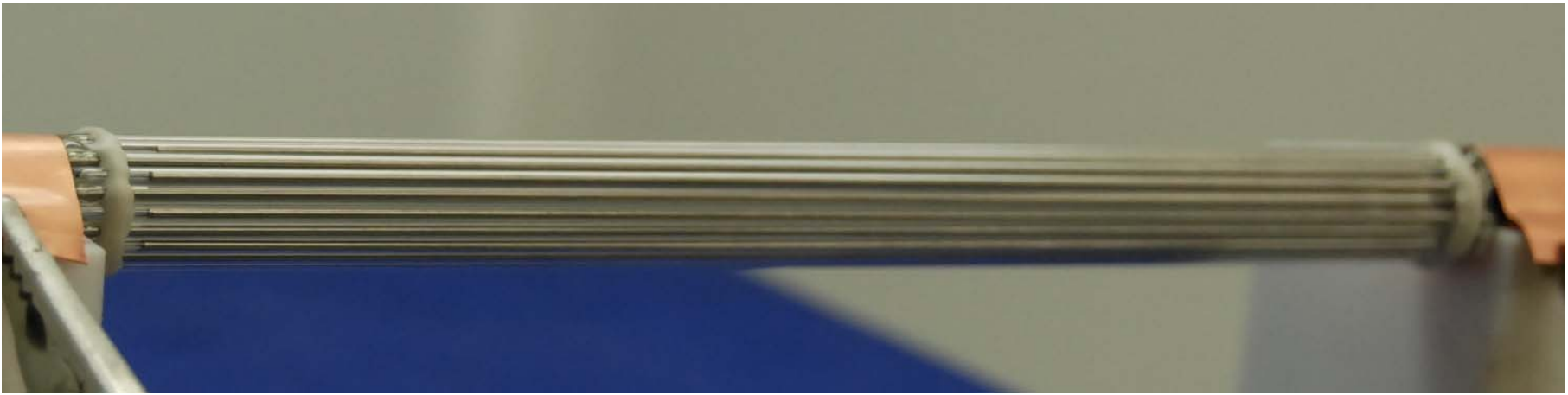


3-D Expansion



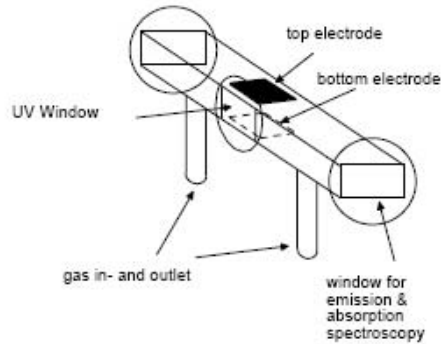


Cylindrical Arrangement





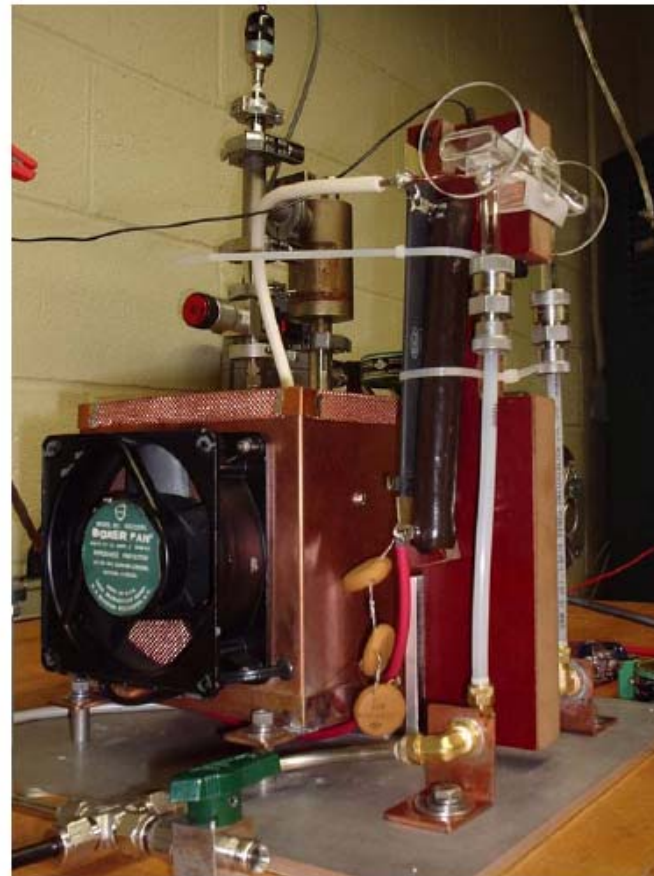
Pulsed DC Homogeneous DBD



The Dielectric Barrier Discharge (DBD) cell.



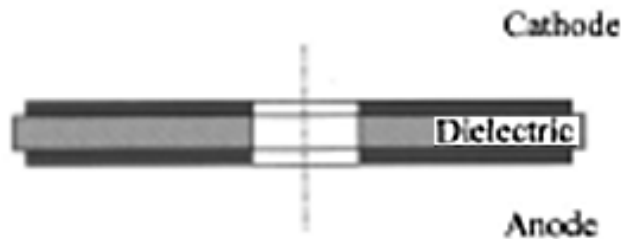
A typical plasma in pure nitrogen environment.



Side view of the DBD cell experiment with the fast high voltage transistor switch connected to the bottom electrode.



Micro Hollow Cathode Discharge (MHCD)



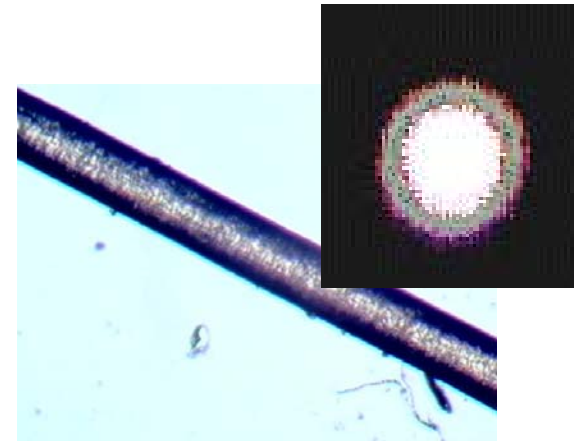
Sandwich Structure:
Electrode – Dielectric - Electrode

Critical dimensions at atmospheric pressure
(static operation):

d : $< 500 \mu\text{m}$

D : $10 - 300 \mu\text{m}$

(assuming at room temperature)

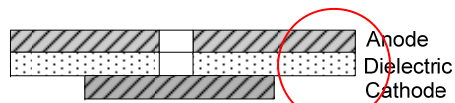
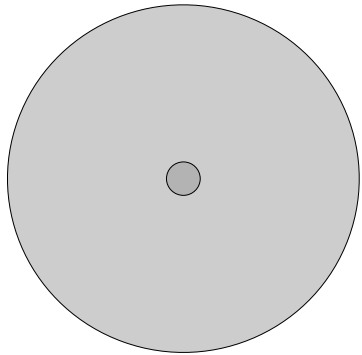


Human Hair: $60 - 100 \mu\text{m}$

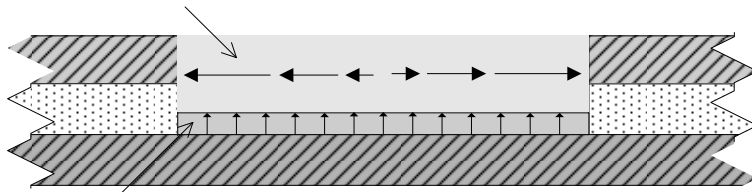
Most of the experimental studies are in rare gases and rare gas halide mixtures, with an increasing interest on atmospheric pressure air .



Cathode Boundary Layer Discharges (CBLD)



Negative
Glow



Cathode
Fall

Anode
Dielectric
Cathode

K.H. Schoenbach, M. Moselhy, and W. Shi, Plasma Sources Sci. Technol. 13, 177 (2004)

Materials:

Electrodes: Molybdenum

Dielectric: Alumina

Dimensions:

Electrode Thickness: 100 μm to 250 μm

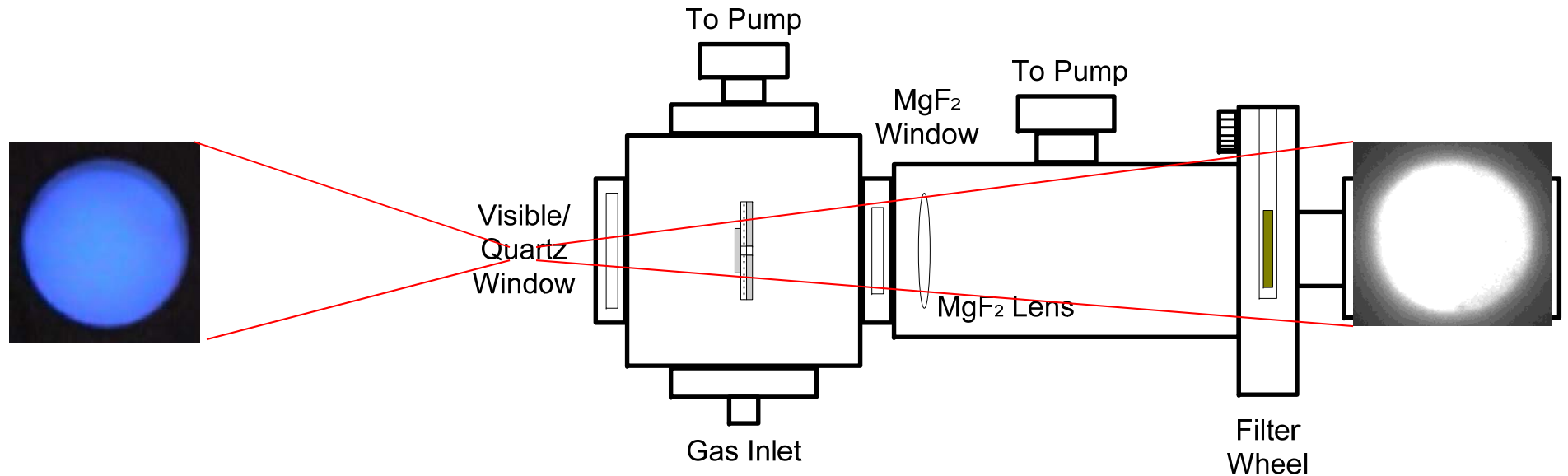
Dielectric Thickness: 100 μm to 250 μm

Opening Diameter: 300 μm to 4.5 mm

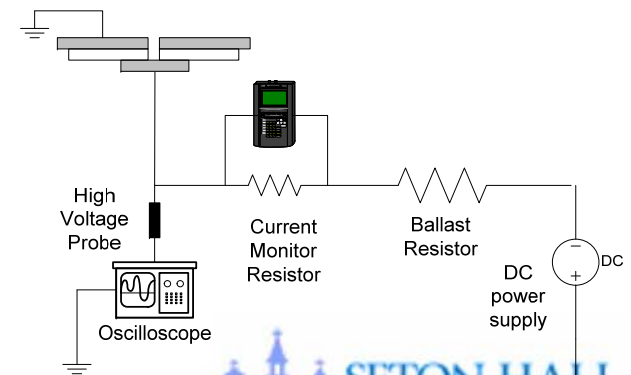




Visible imaging

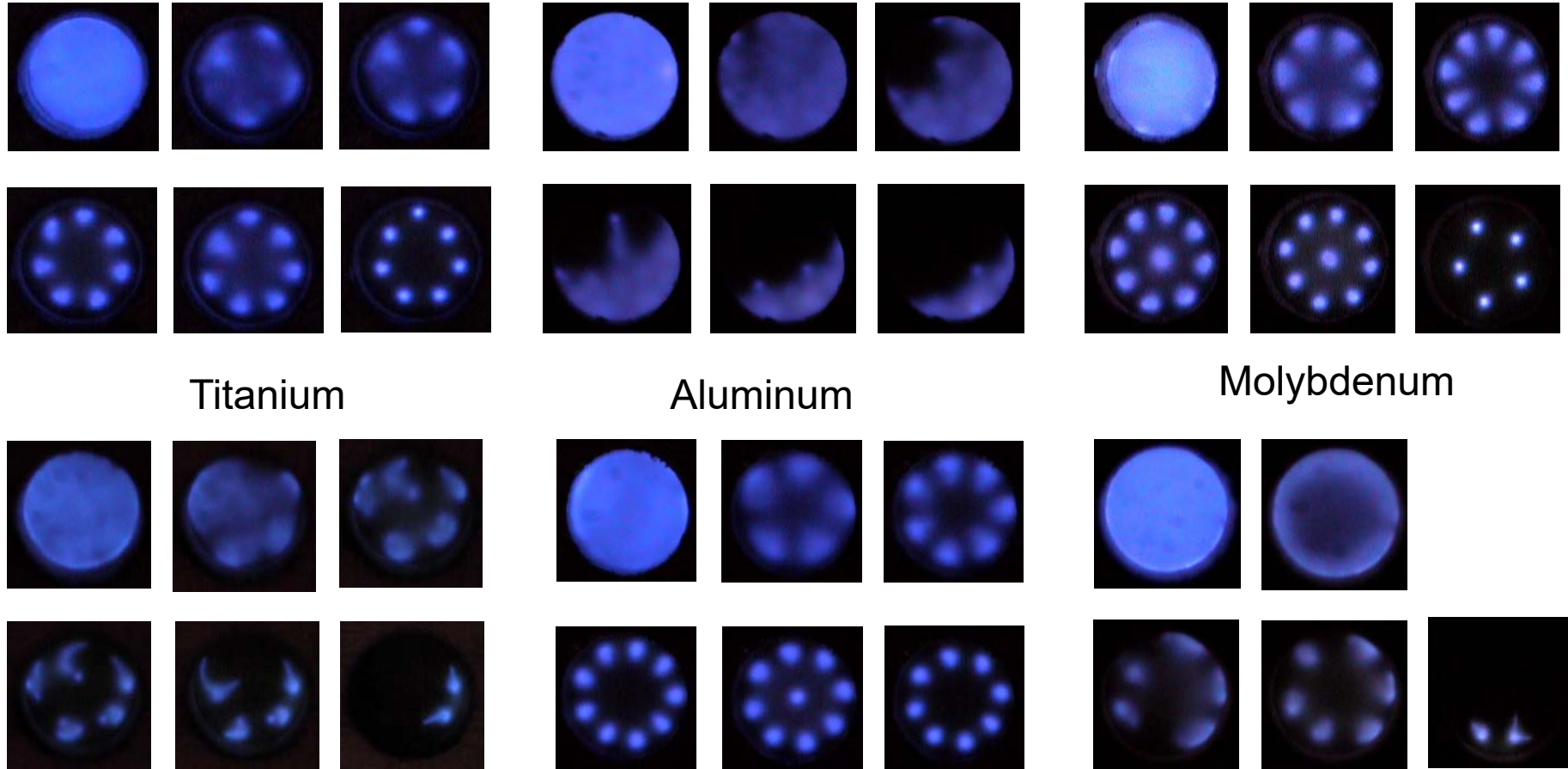


- Gas: Xenon (Scientific grade)
- Spectral filter: 170 nm with FWHM of 26.8 nm
- Sample: Either mechanically assembled at Old Dominion University or plasma sprayed at University of Minnesota





Self-organization on different cathode materials



Titanium

Aluminum

Molybdenum

Hafnium

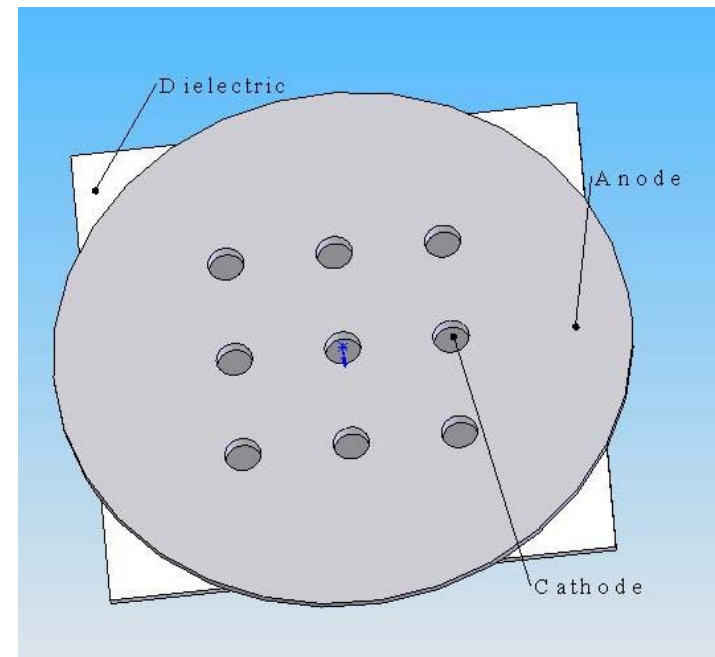
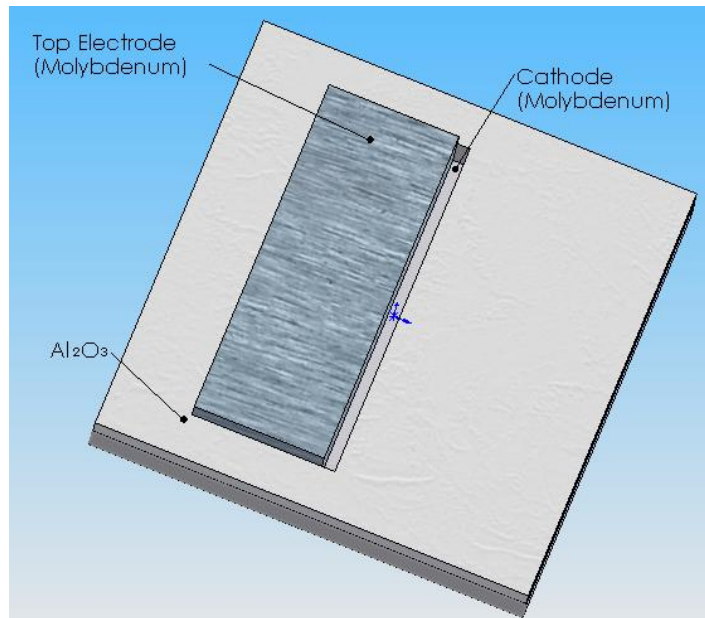
Tungsten





Up Scaling

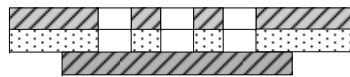
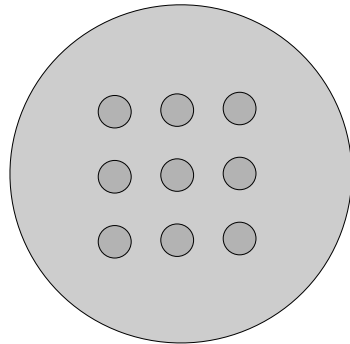
Maintain the sandwich structure and scale up in one direction
– **Micro-slit structure**



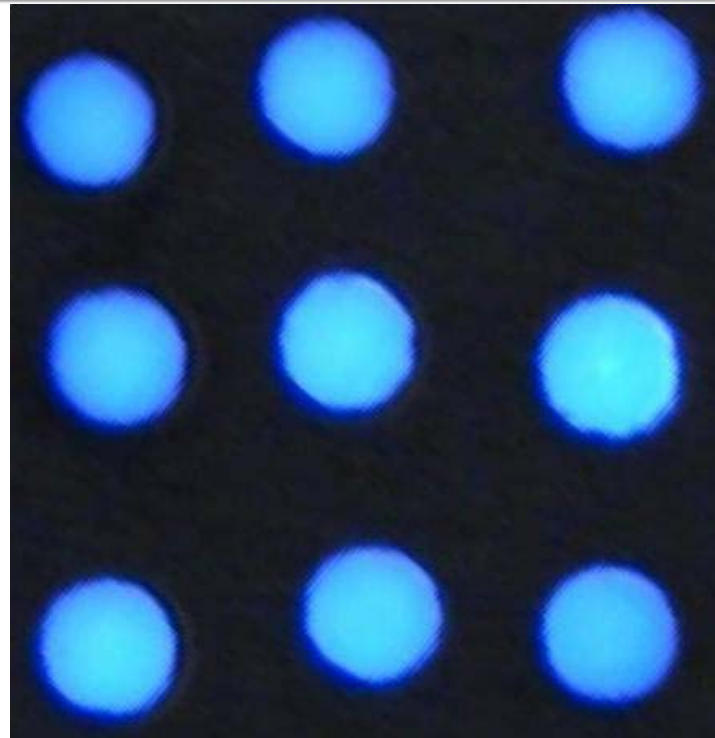
Parallel operation of multiple openings – **Multi-CBL structure**



Parallel operation without individual ballast



- Cathode: Mo ~0.25 mm thick
- Dielectric: Al_2O_3 ~0.25 mm thick
- Anode: Mo ~0.25 mm thick
- Hole diameter: ~0.75 mm
- Center to center distance: ~1.5 mm

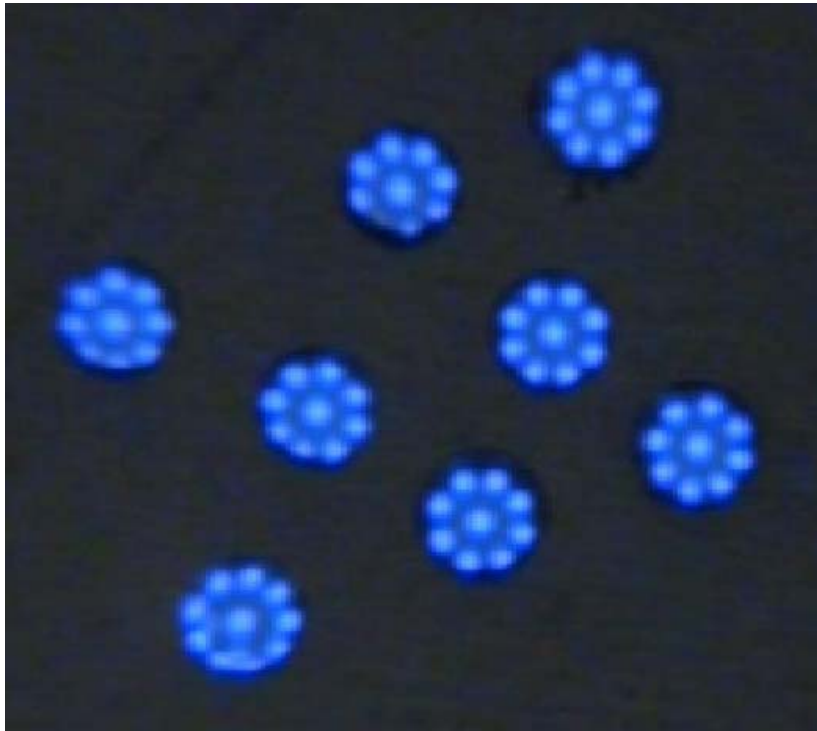


Visible Picture of parallel operation of 9 holes
(Operating gas: xenon (scientific grade)
Base pressure: ~1 mTorr; Working pressure: 200 Torr
Cathode voltage: -398 V; Discharge current: 6 mA)

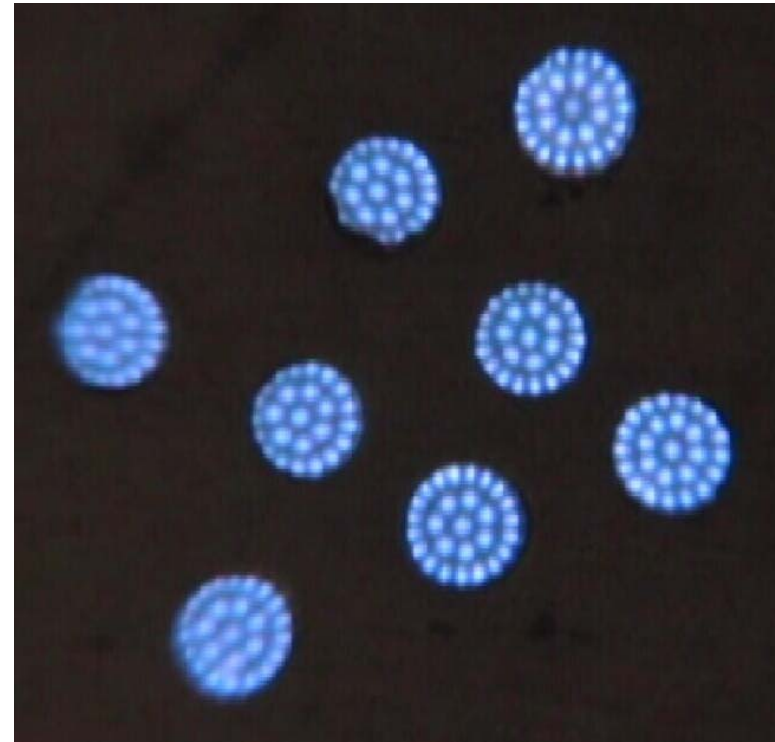




Self-organization



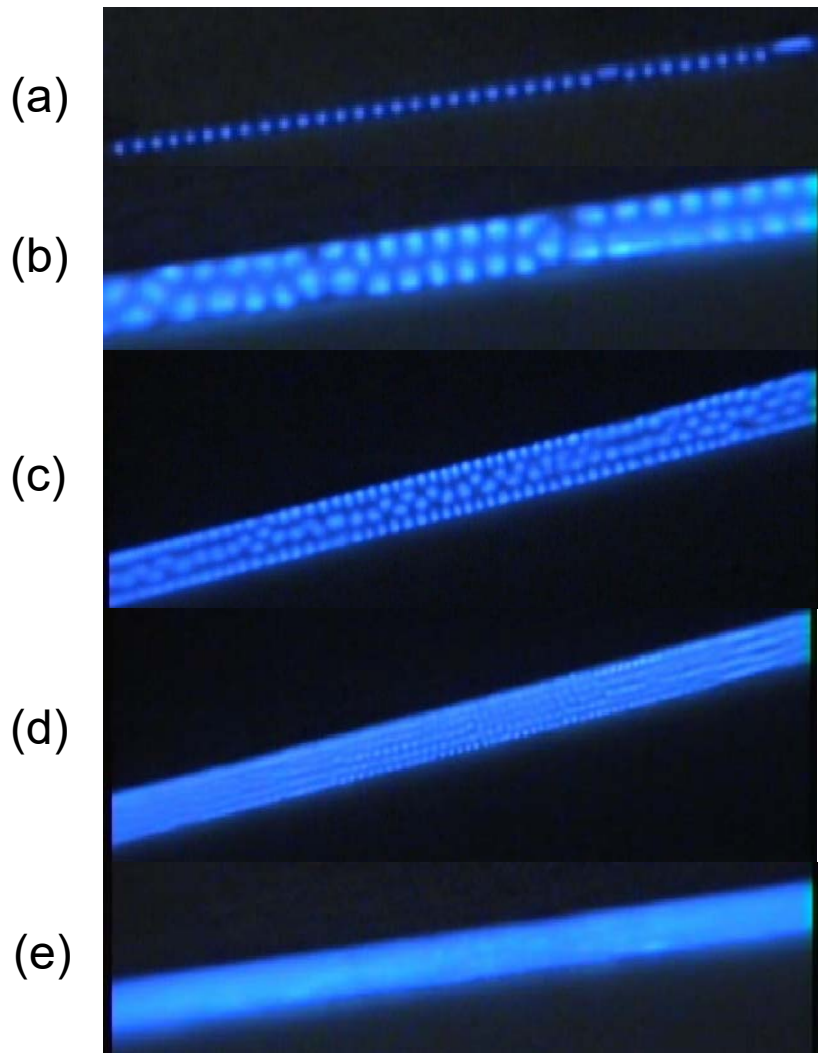
Xenon (100 Torr)



Xenon (250 Torr)
(ignition assisted with mechanical switch)



More on Self Organization



Self-organization (Visible images) of a microslit CBL discharge:

(a) 50 Torr;

(b) 150 Torr;

(c) 245 Torr;

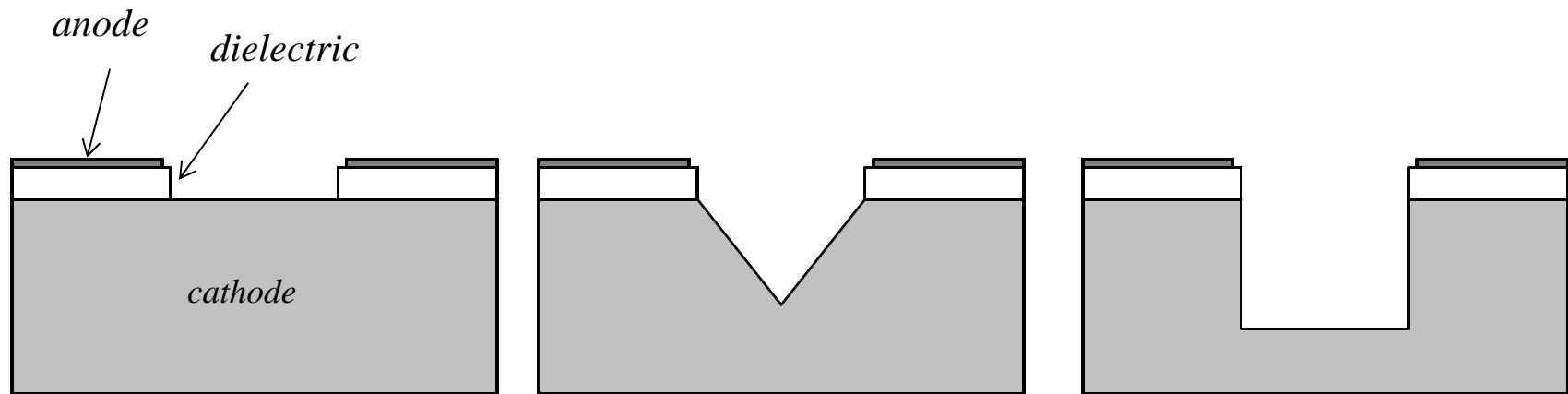
(d) 354 Torr and

(e) homogeneous discharge at 100 Torr (249V and 4 mA)

(The images are at different magnification for a better demonstration purpose)



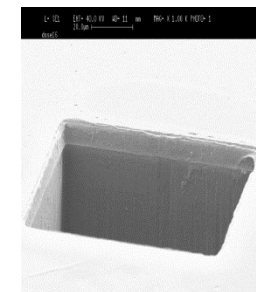
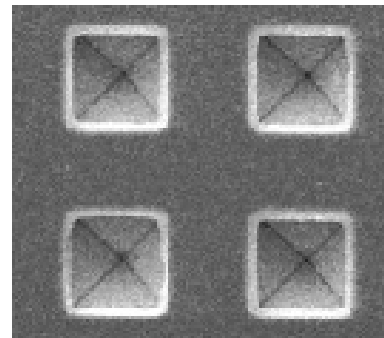
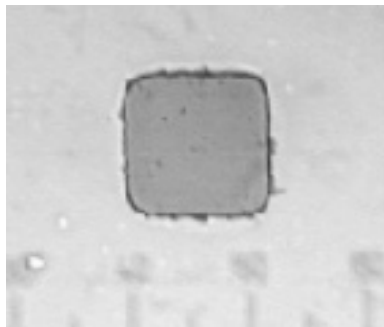
Si MICROCAVITY DEVICE STRUCTURES



Planar Si Electrode

Inverted Pyramidal Electrode

DRIE Electrode





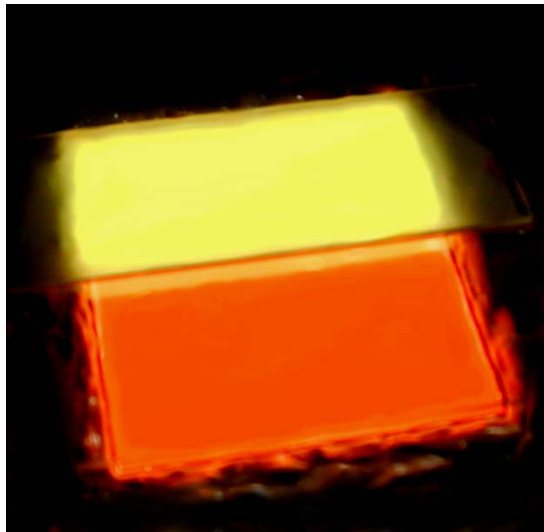
EXCITATION OF A GREEN PHOSPHOR ($\text{Mn:Zn}_2\text{SiO}_4$)



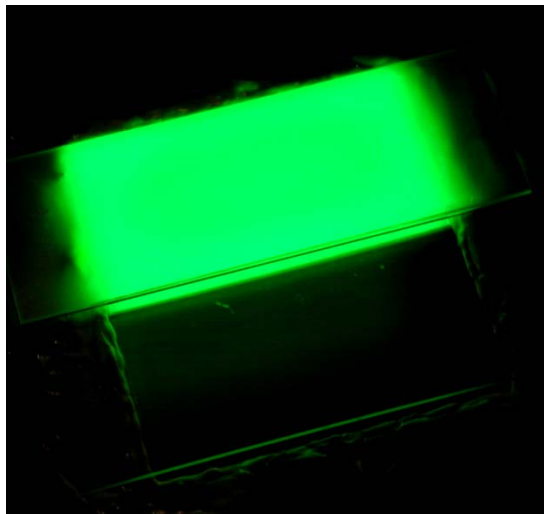
University of Illinois
Laboratory for Optical Physics and Engineering

PHOSPHOR EMBEDDED MICROCAVITY

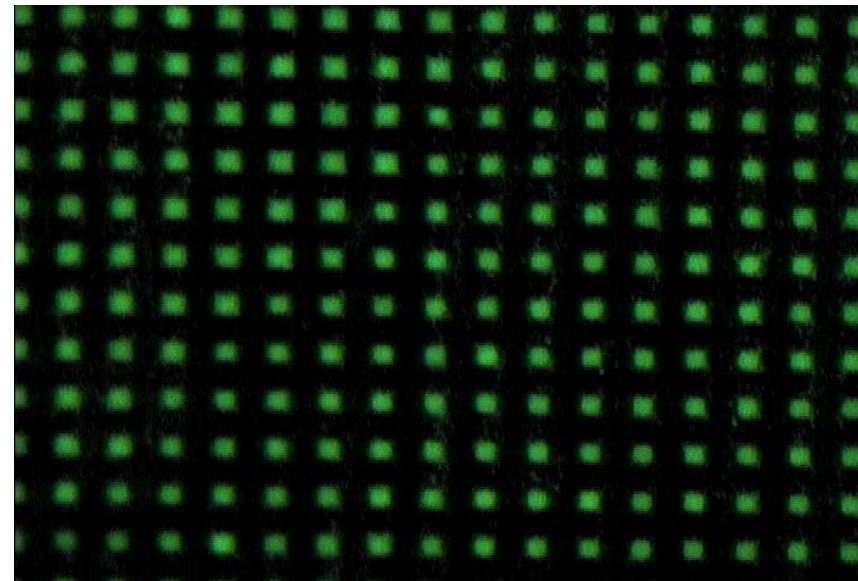
Ne



50% Xe/Ne

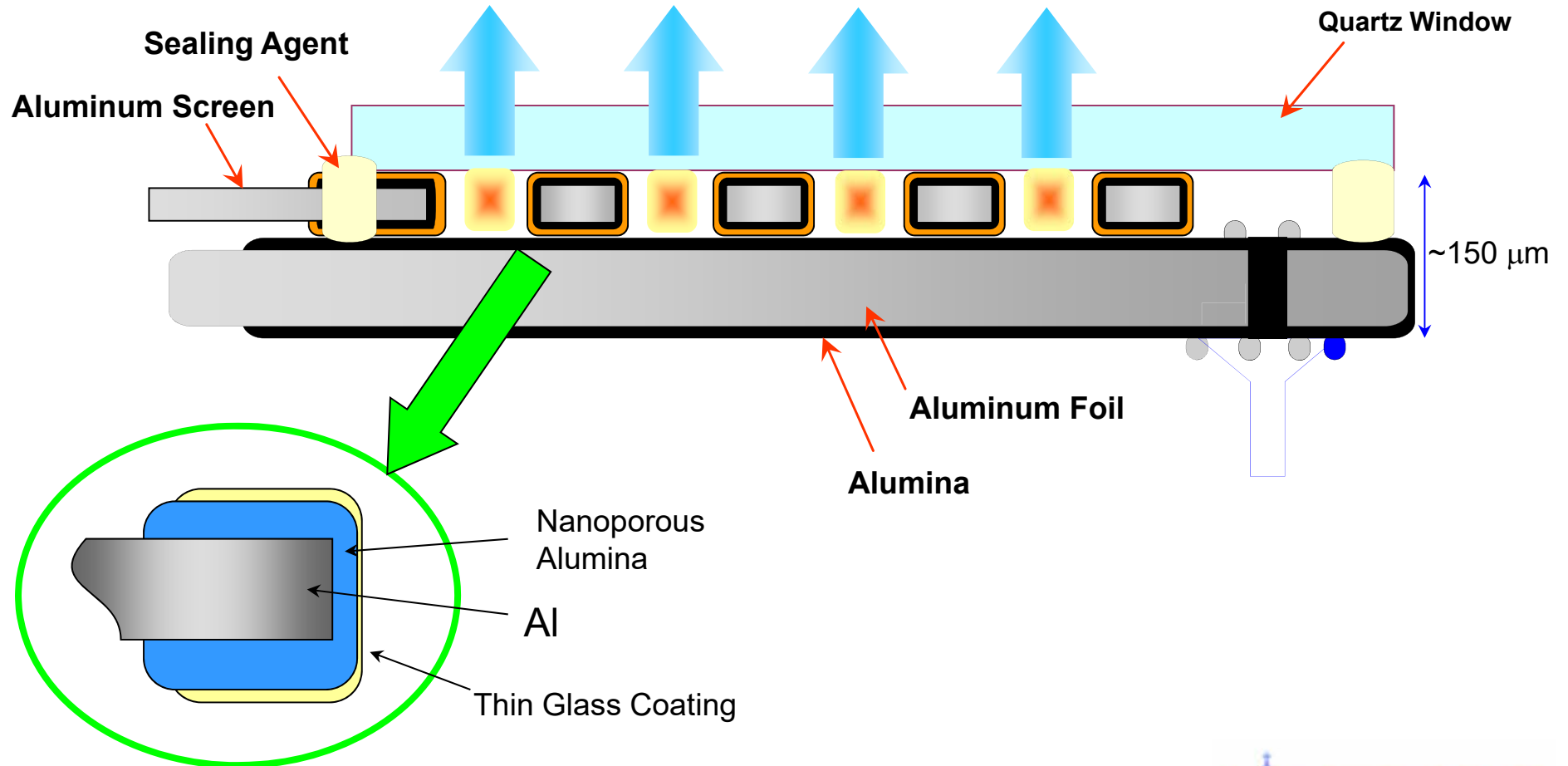


10 % Xe/Ne, 700 Torr



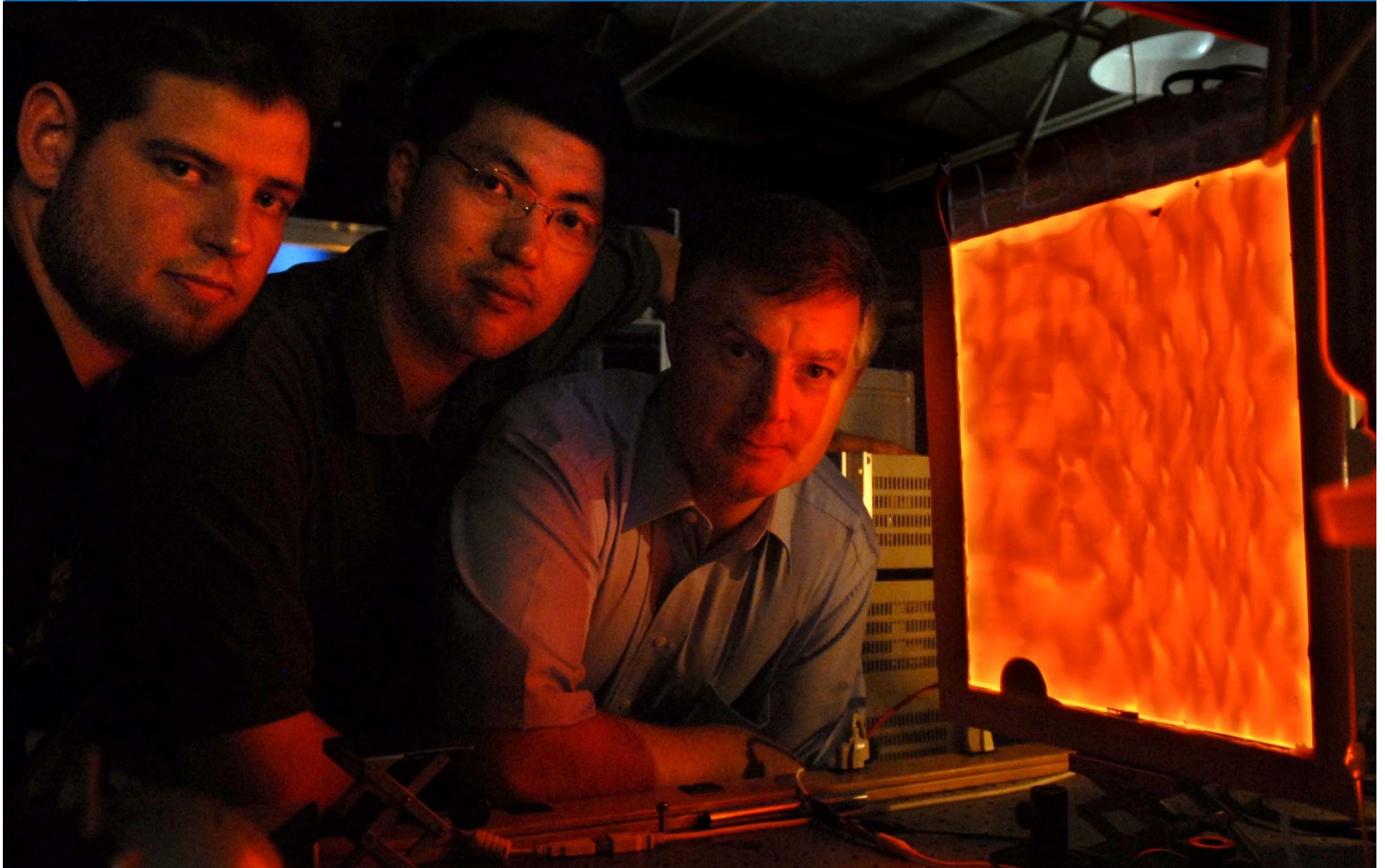


Microdischarge Array Flat Lamp : Basic Design



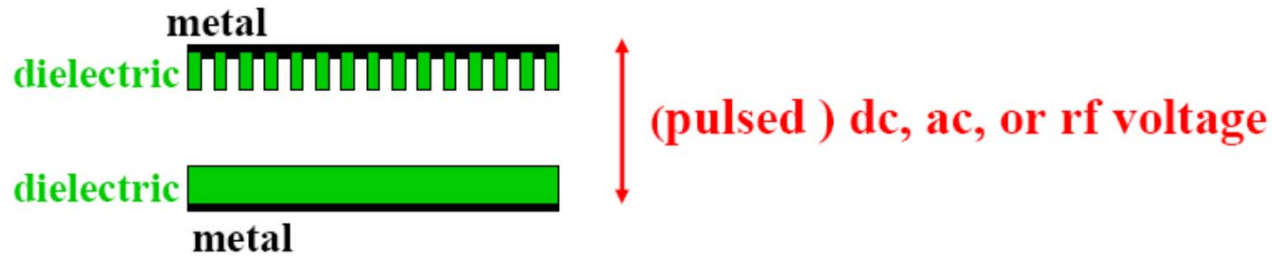


University of Illinois
Laboratory for Optical Physics and Engineering





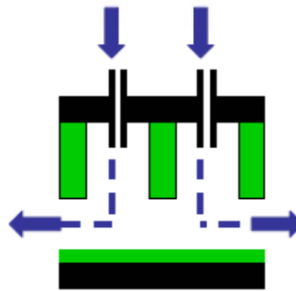
Capillary Plasma Electrode (CPE)



Capillary Plasma Electrode (CPE) Realizations



Solid Pin Electrodes
(Cross Flow)



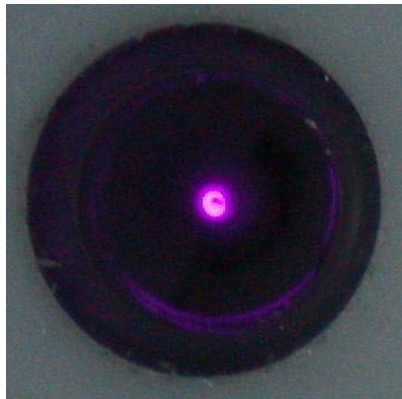
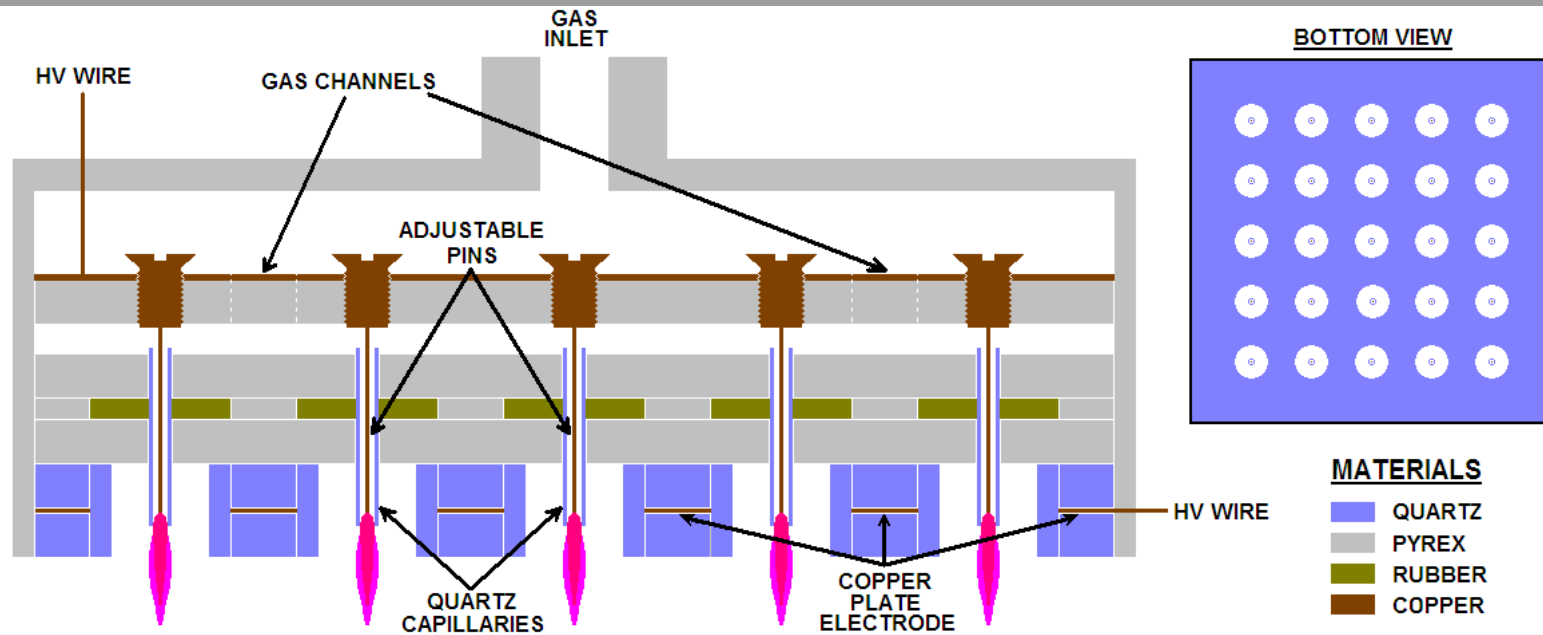
Hollow Pin Electrodes
(Flow-Through)



Cylindrical Electrodes
(Longitudinal Flow)



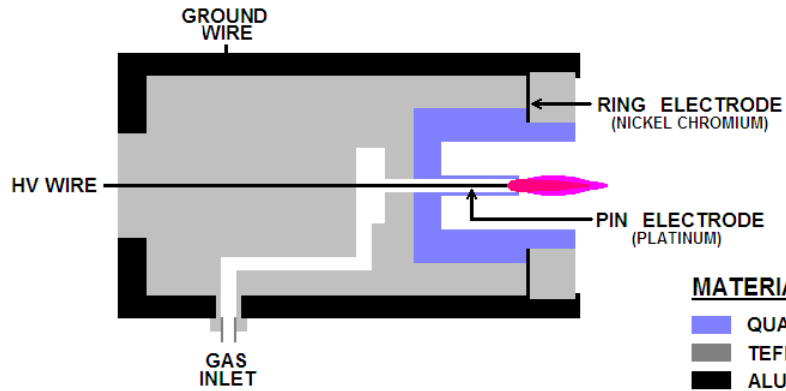
Multi-Capillary Plasma Electrode



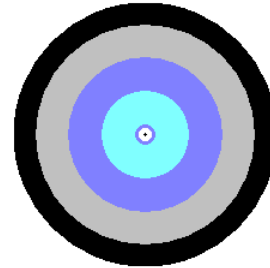


1 Capillary Plasma Electrode

CROSS SECTION VIEW

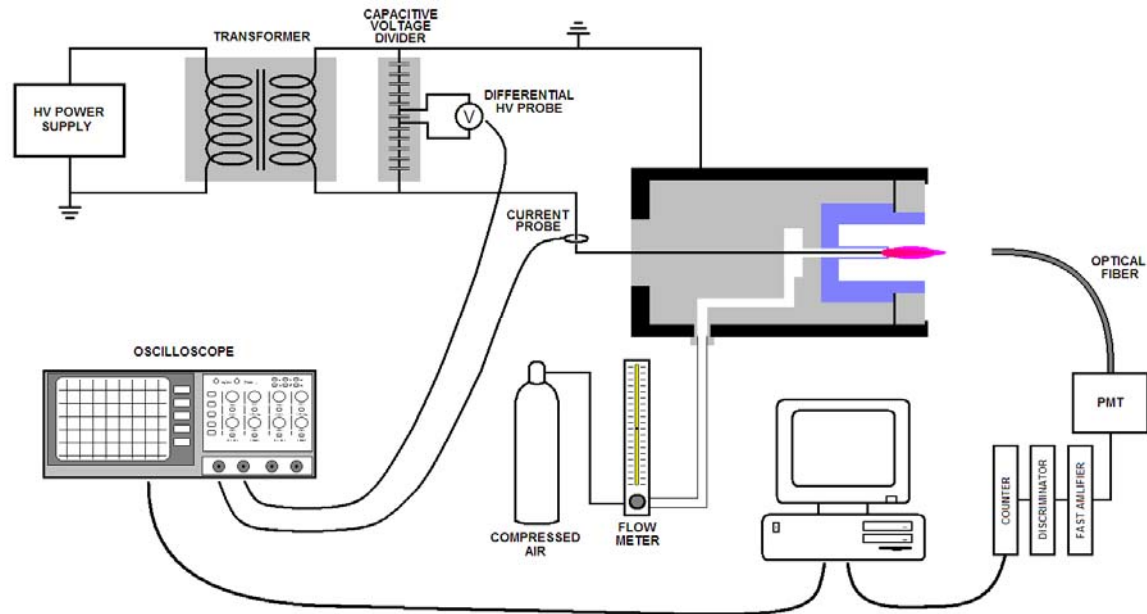


HEAD-ON VIEW



MATERIALS

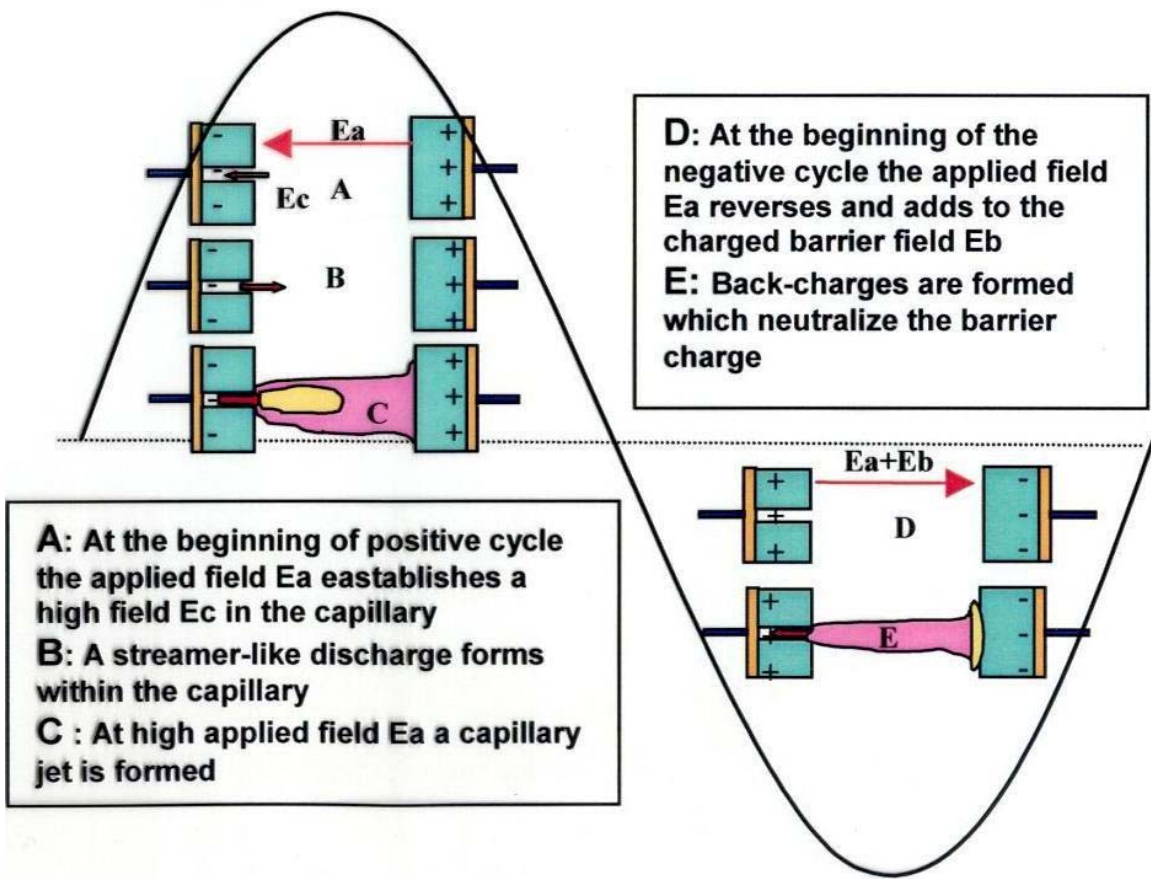
- QUARTZ
- TEFLON
- ALUMINIUM

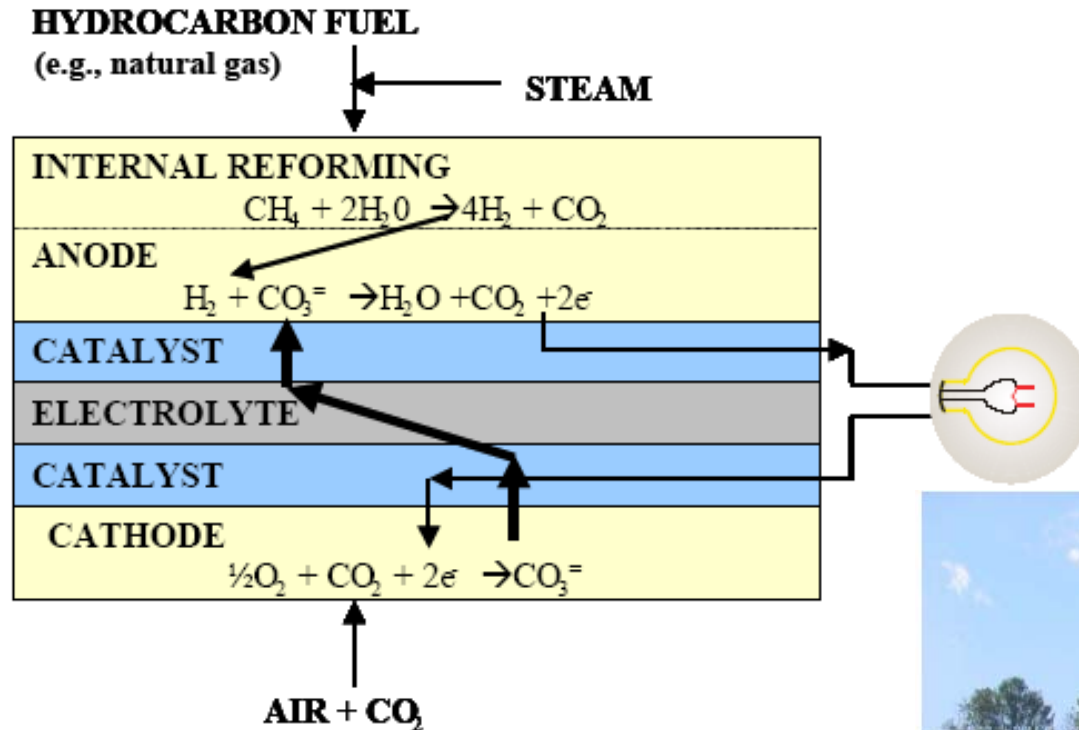




Capillary Plasma Electrode - Operation

Atmospheric Pressure Capillary Electrode Plasma

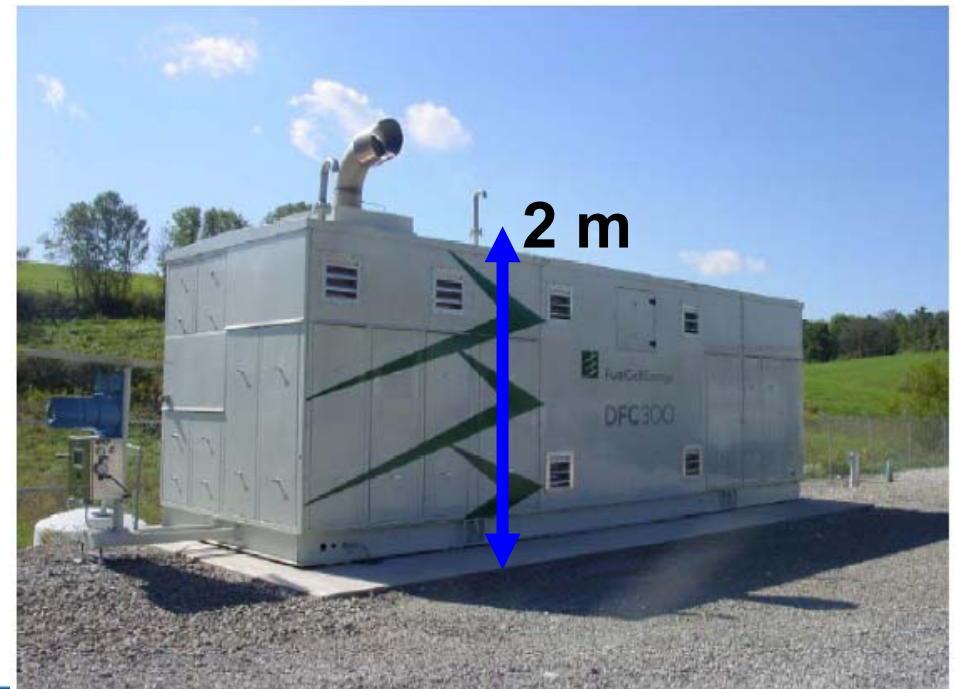




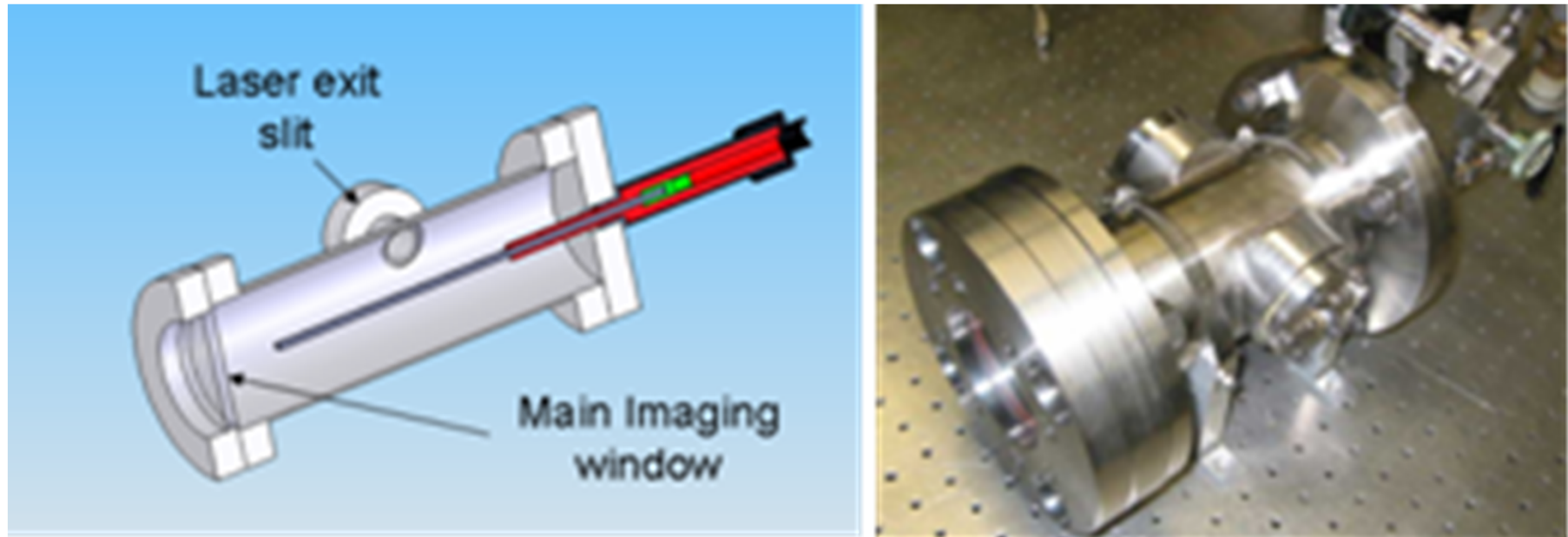
Solid Oxide Fuel Cell Chemistry

300 kW Fuel Cell

Idea:
Use low-T plasma to generate hydrocarbon feed gas for cell



Microplasma-Assisted Combustion



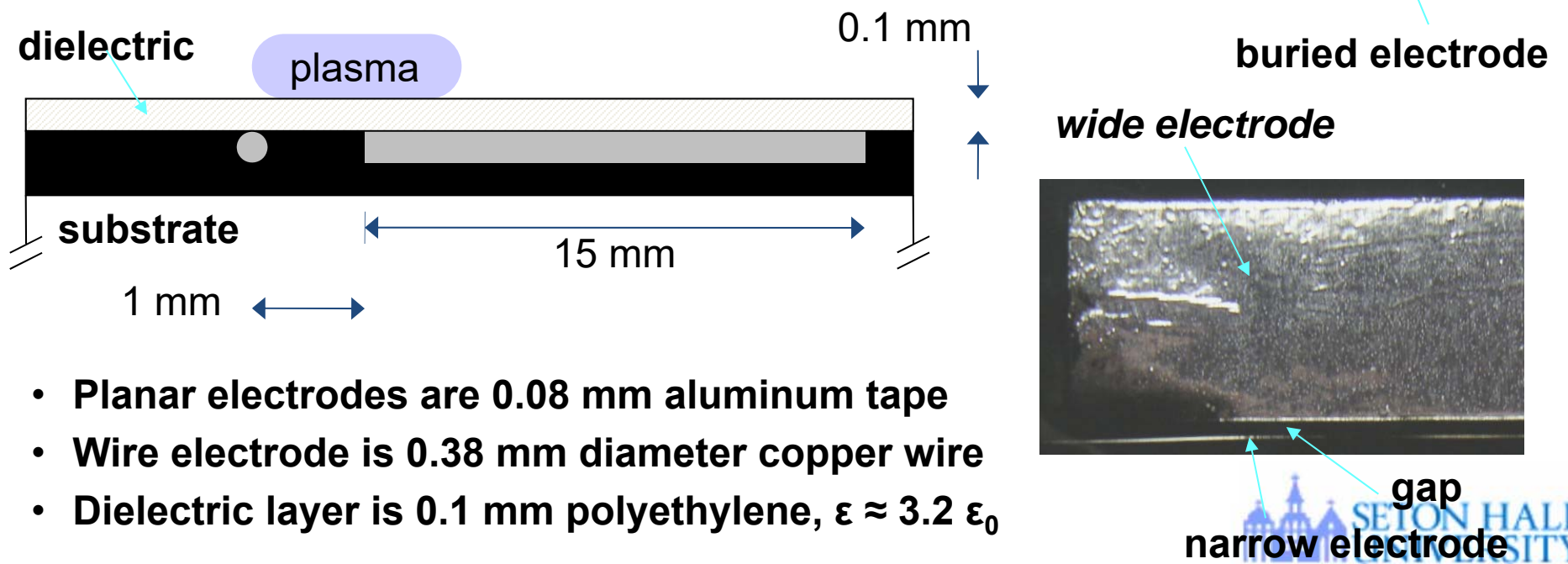
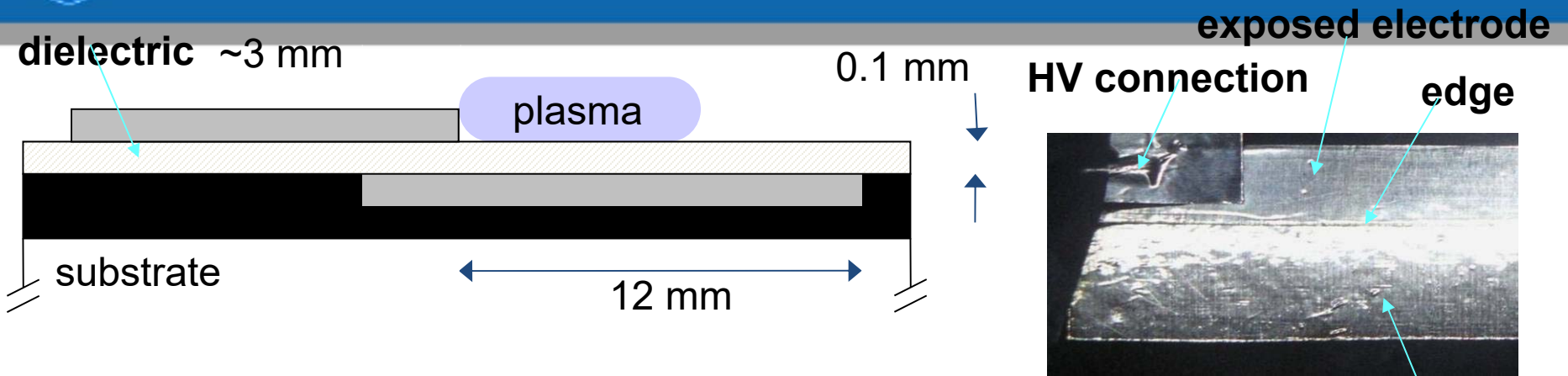
(Courtesy of M. Gundersen – USC)

USC static reactor for studies of pulsed plasma induced ignition



Plasma-Aero Experimental System

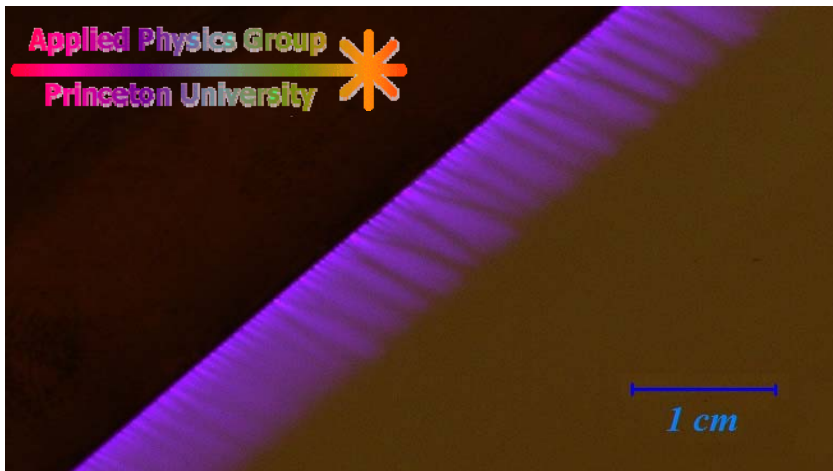
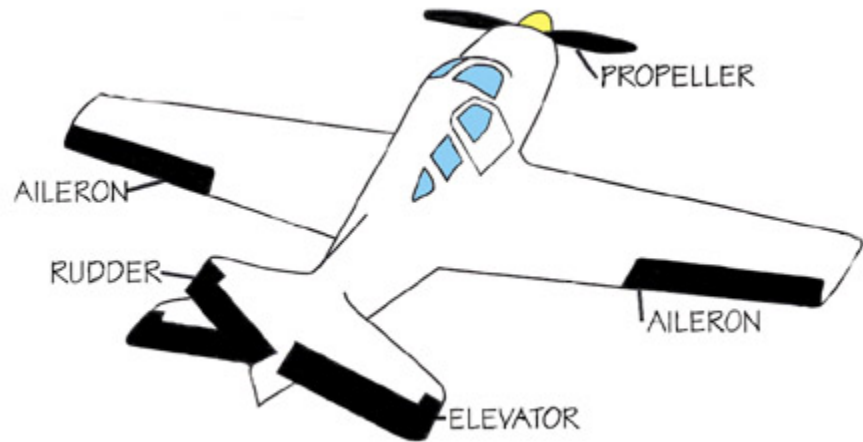
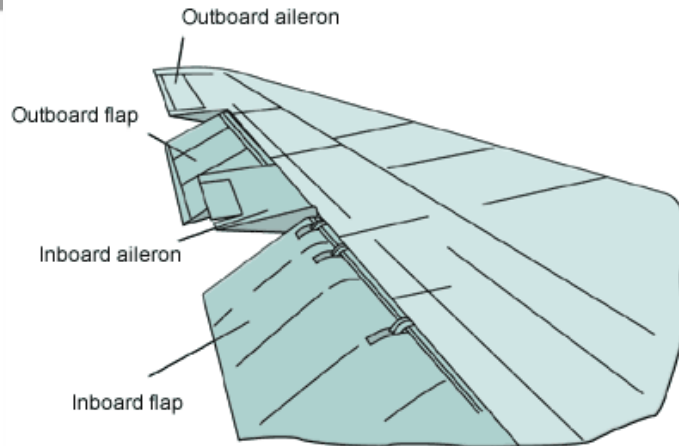
University of Wisconsin (Madison) - Noah Hershkowitz



- Planar electrodes are 0.08 mm aluminum tape
- Wire electrode is 0.38 mm diameter copper wire
- Dielectric layer is 0.1 mm polyethylene, $\epsilon \approx 3.2 \epsilon_0$



Plasma Actuators – The future of Flying!?!





Plasma Actuators – The future of Flying!?!



Wing-less planes!!!



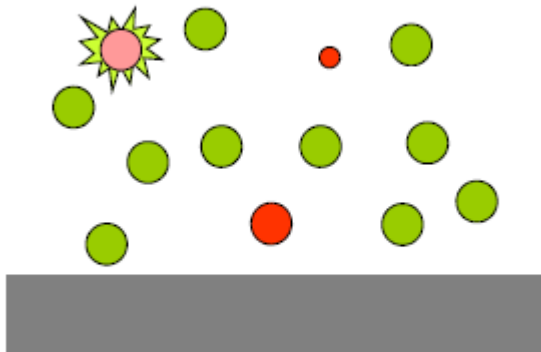


Surface Effects of Microplasmas

For instance, if we want to modify the surface of a material (e.g. a silicon wafer)

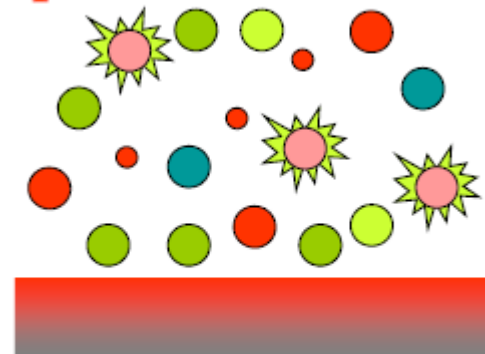
- Molecules
- Excited molecules
- Ions
- Electrons

gas



Small changes at the surface

plasma



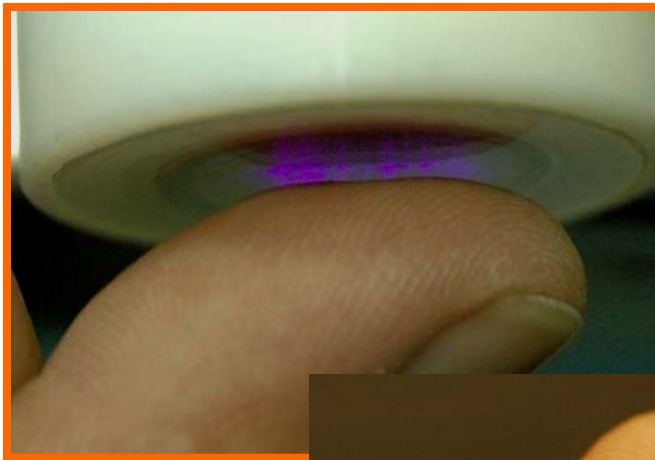
Energy & reactive species can change the surface



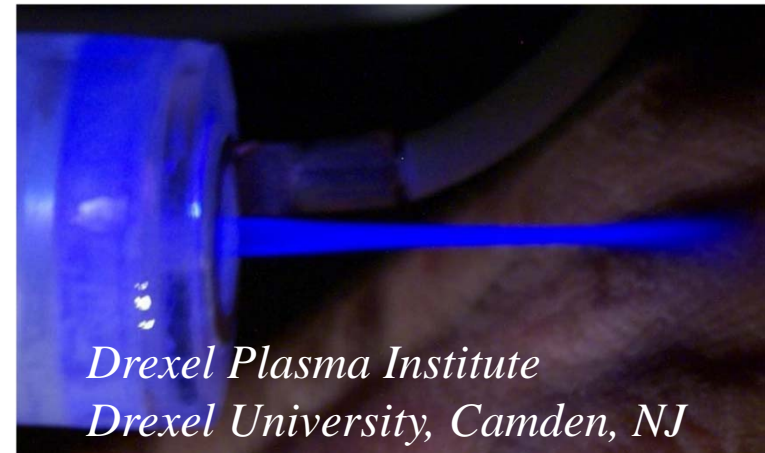


Plasma Application in Medicine

Direct Plasma – Charges on Tissue,
Produced In Air or Oxygen

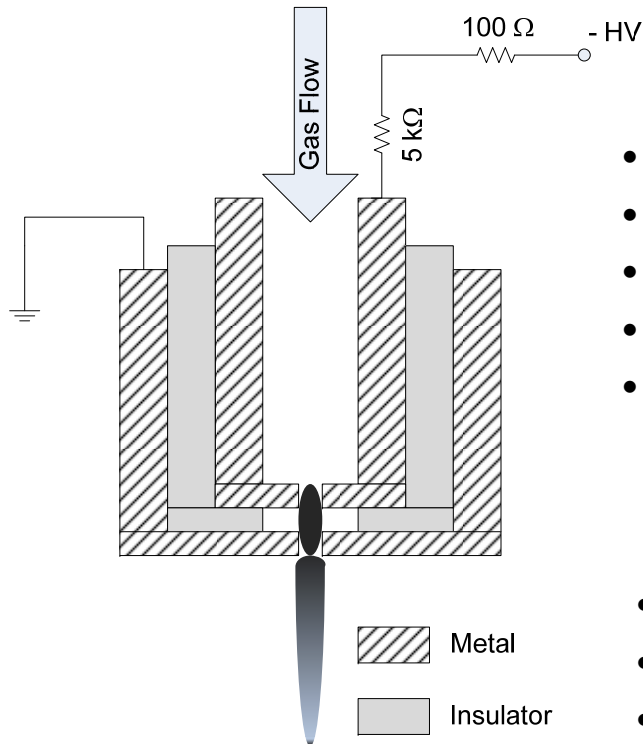


Indirect Plasma – Jet, Often
NOT in OXYGEN





DC MHCD Plasma Micro Jet



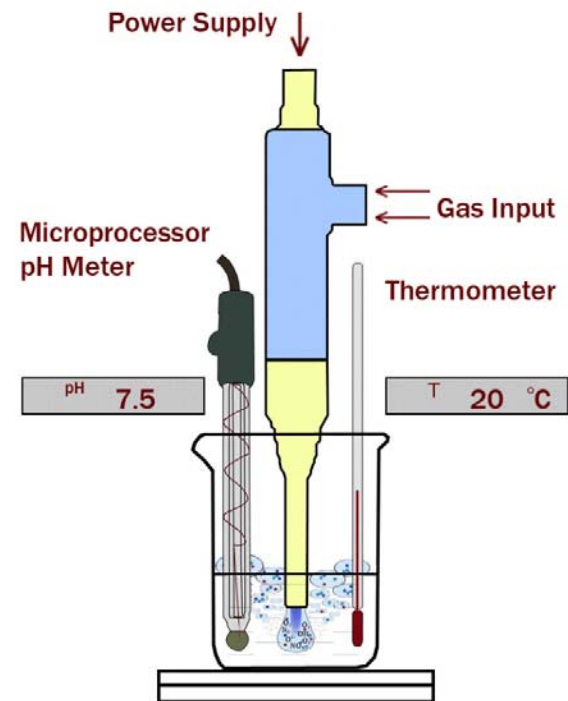
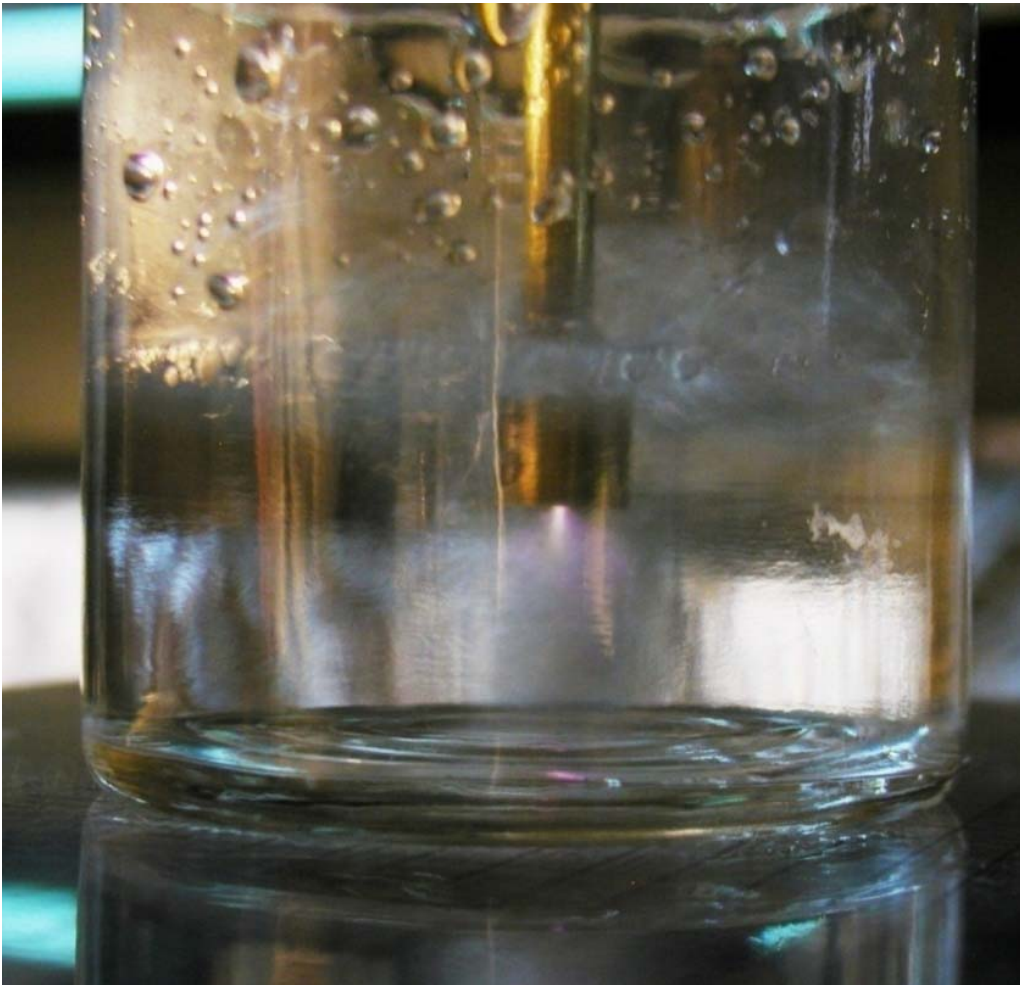
- Dimensions of the device are:
- Opening: 0.8 mm in diameter
- Separation: 0.5 mm
- Depth of exit opening: 1 mm
- Electrode material: copper

- Dimension of the plasma jet are
- ~ 800 μm in diameter
- 8 -10 mm in length
- Flow rate: 2-3 SLM
- Power consumption: 8 W (400 VDC, 20 mA)





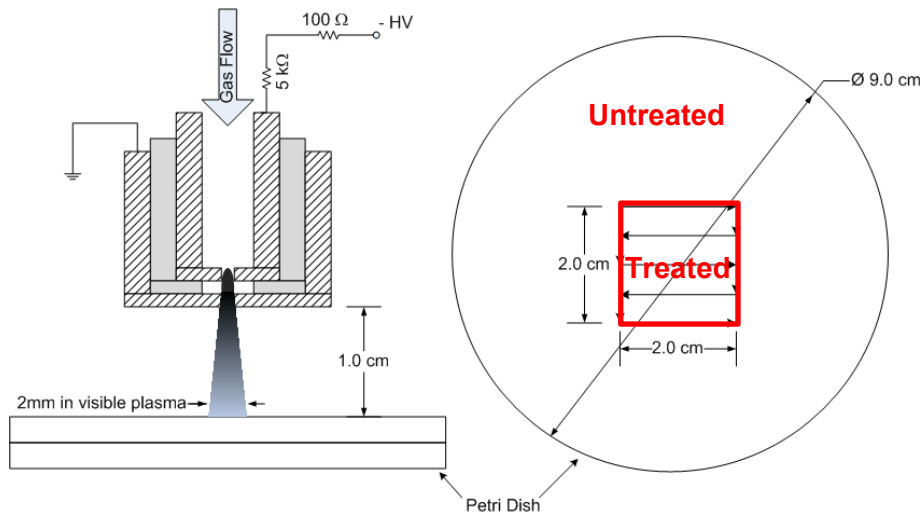
Plasma Micro Jet Inside Water





Inactivation of Bacteria

Experimental Set-up



Experimental Procedure

- Total path length: 120 mm
- Moving speed: 4 mm/s
- Time per path: 30 s
- Total treatment time: 30s / 60s / 90 s
- Area exposure/path: < 1 s (visible plasma), ~10 s (radical exposure)

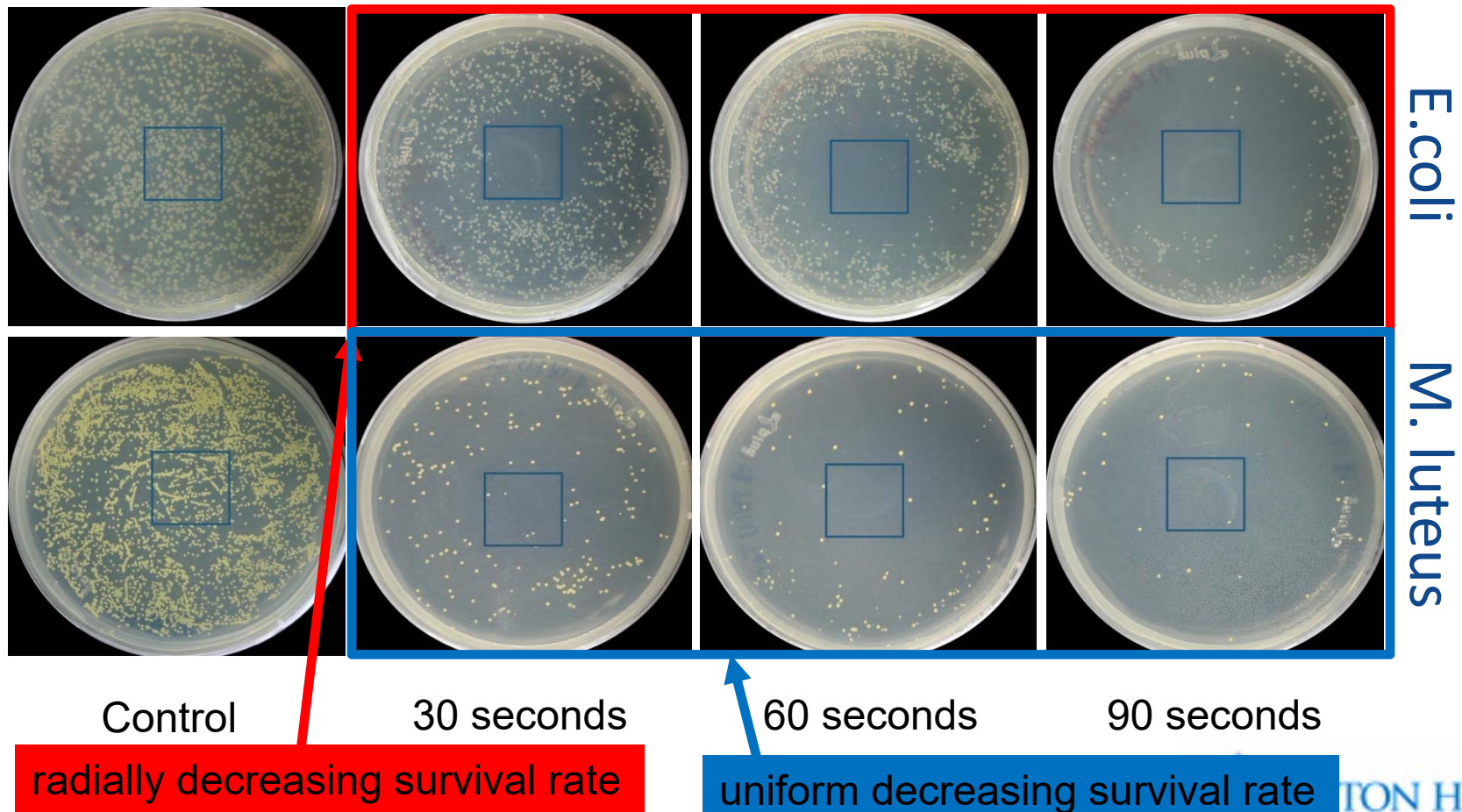
	Bacteria	Gram stain
A	Escherichia coli	Negative
B	Staphylococcus aureus	Positive
C	Micrococcus luteus	Positive
D	Bacillus megaterium	Positive
E	Bacillus subtilis	Positive
F	Bacillus natto	Positive

List of bacteria cultures studied





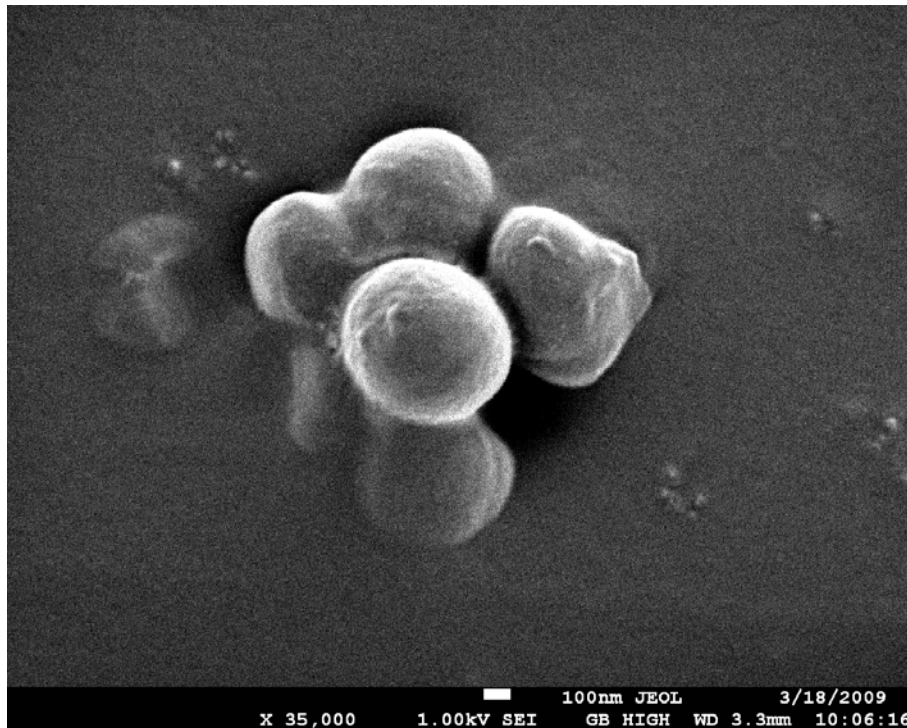
Plasma Dose Effect



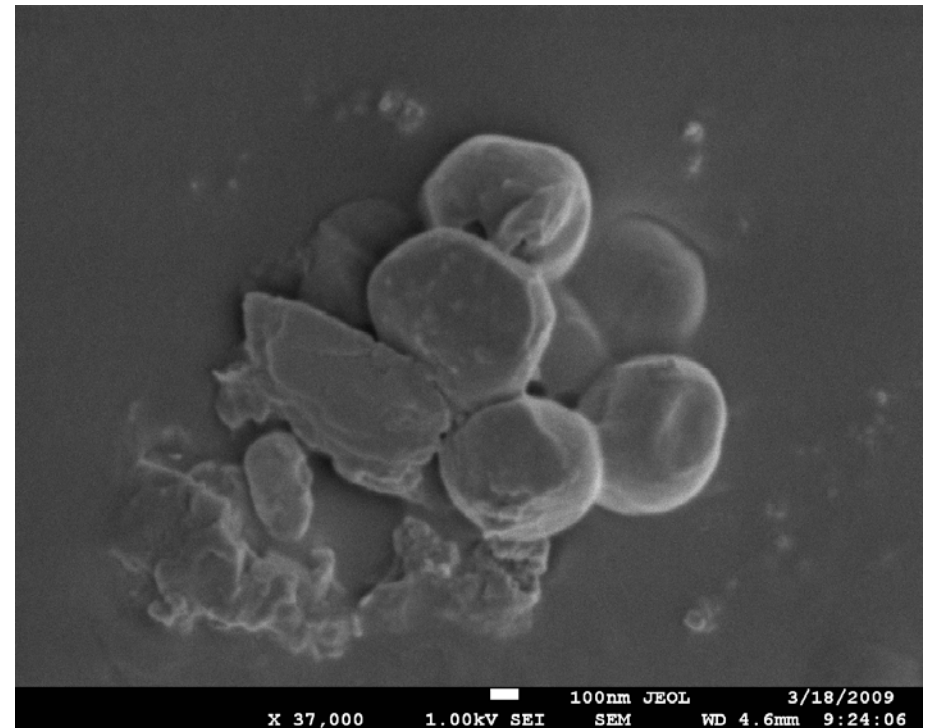


SEM Pictures

SEM pictures of *S. aureus* before and after PMJ treatment



Control



PMJ treatment

SEM of PMJ treated *S. aureus* show clear poration on cell membrane as well as the change of the cell morphology.





Living tissue sterilization without harm: Recent pig experiments



Courtesy: Drexel Plasma Institute





Hemostasis and coagulation in Hairless mice, not immunocompromised (SKH₁)



Saphenous vein cut: without plasma animal continues to bleed for 10-20 minutes.

15 seconds of FE-DBD clots the blood and seals the vessel without damaging tissue, preventing additional bleeding.

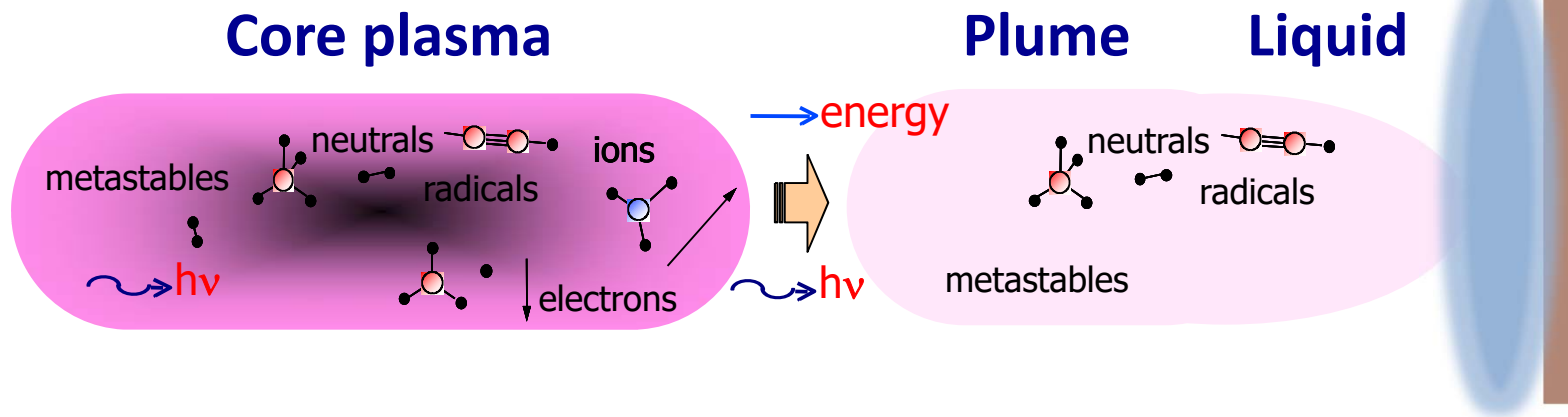
Courtesy: Drexel Plasma Institute





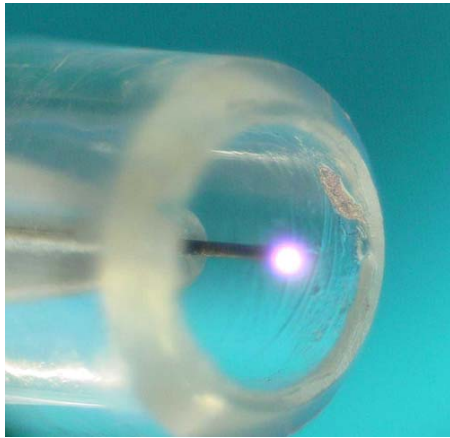
Biological Mechanisms: Plasma Interference into Natural Intracellular Biochemistry

Biological sample





Dental Application



Cleaning of Dental Cavities

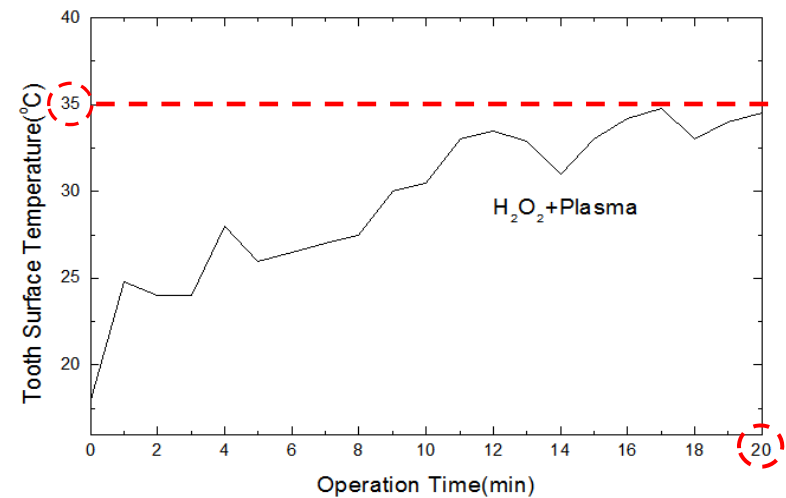
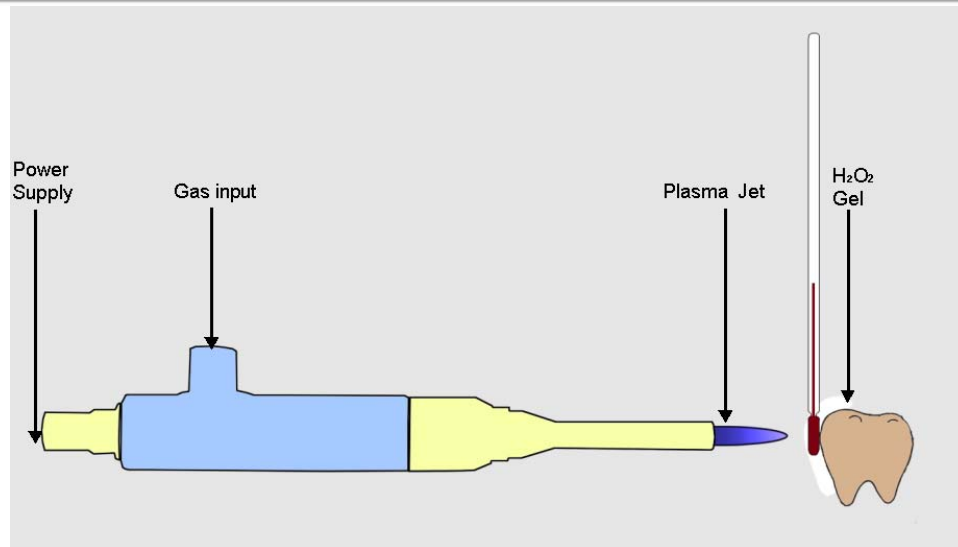
Other Applications

- Bio Decontamination
- Sterilization of Medical Instruments and Wounds





Teeth Whitening with non-thermal plasma



- The plasma jet did not heat tooth surface over **37 degrees**.
- Heating the tooth over **42 degrees** can causes severe damages to the nerves inside a tooth.

“No thermal-damages”



Teeth Whitening with non-thermal plasma



H₂O₂
before

20min

H₂O₂
after



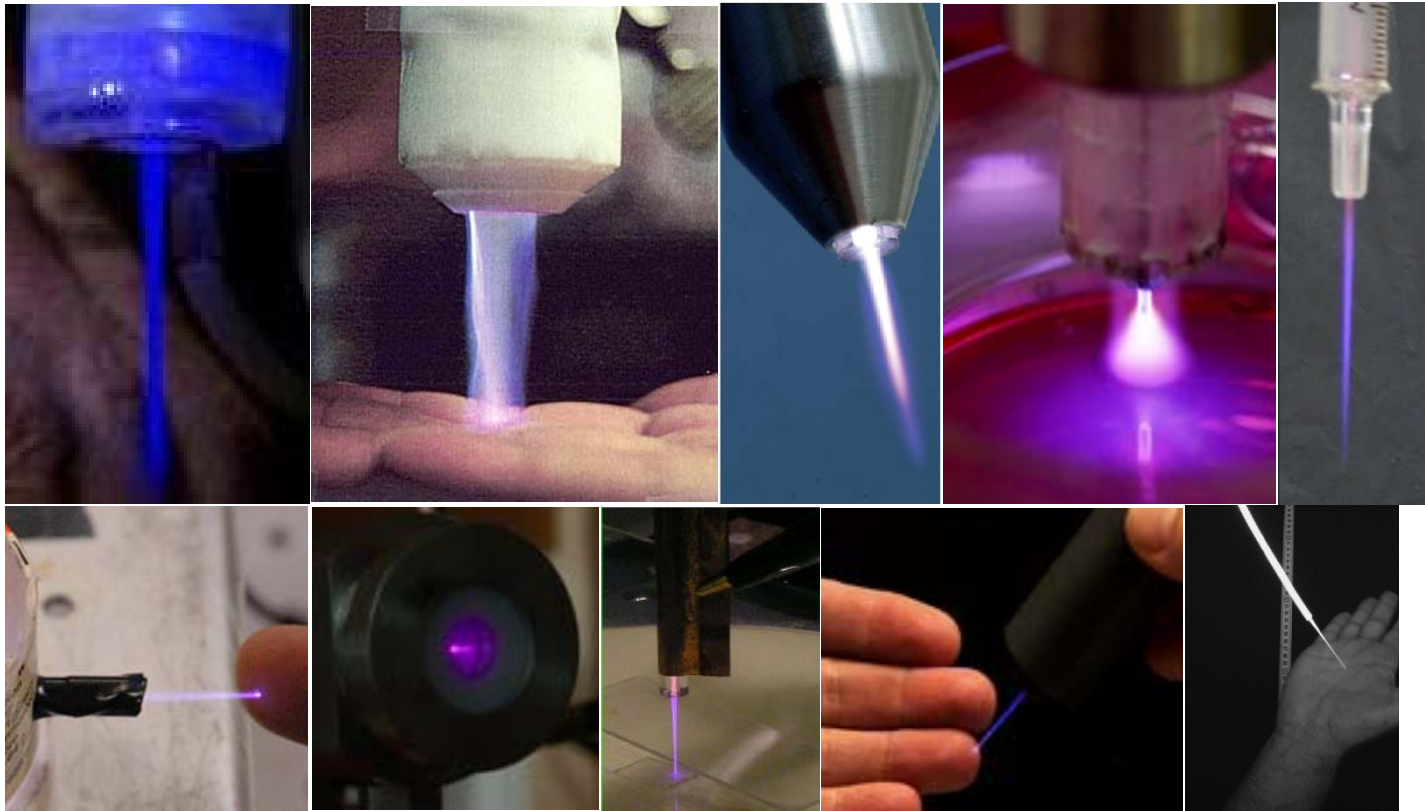
Plasma+H₂O₂
before

20min

Plasma+H₂O₂
after



A Brief Collection of Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Jets (APPJ)



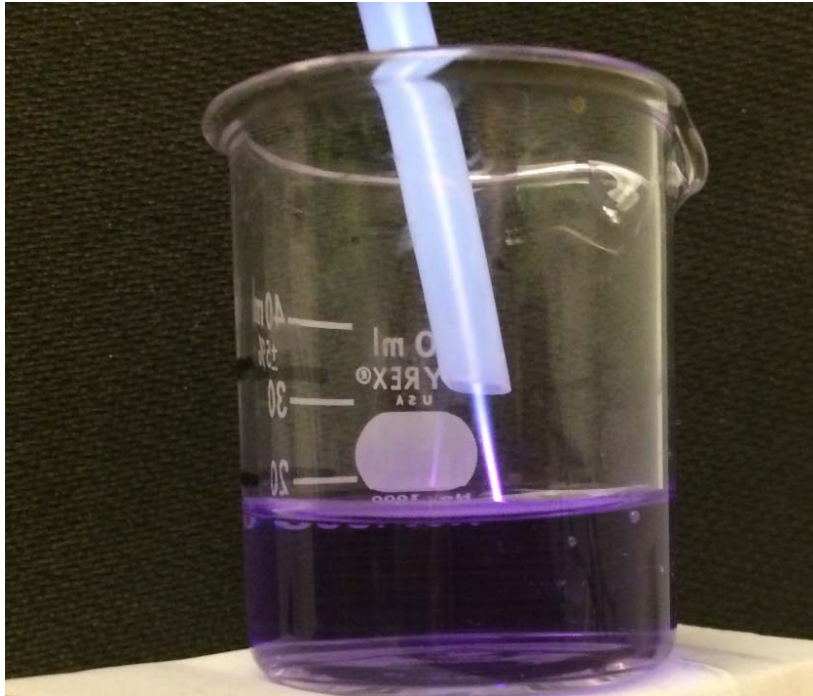
Gases used: Helium, Argon... or mixed with reactive gases (O_2 , CH_4 ...)

AC, pulsed DC, rf or microwave

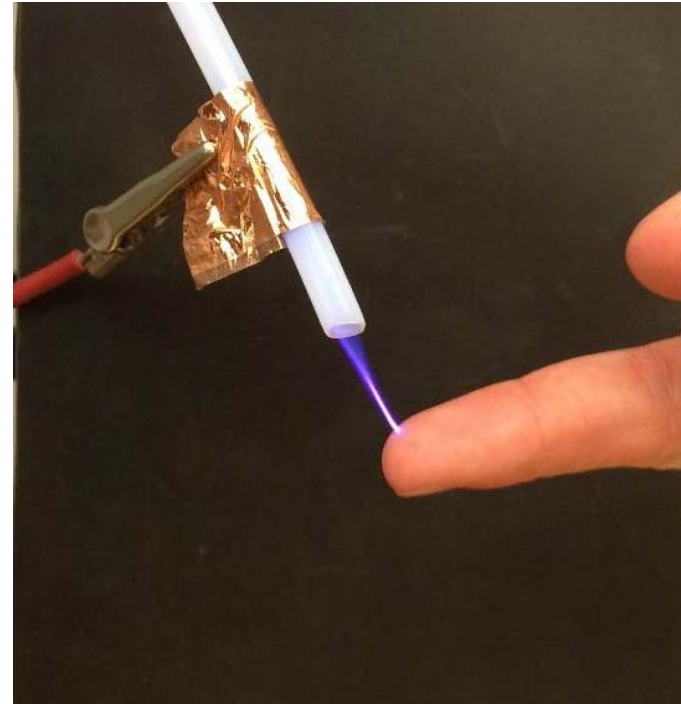




Our Version of the Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Jet



Interaction with aqueous environments



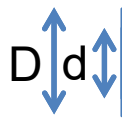
Interaction with organic surfaces



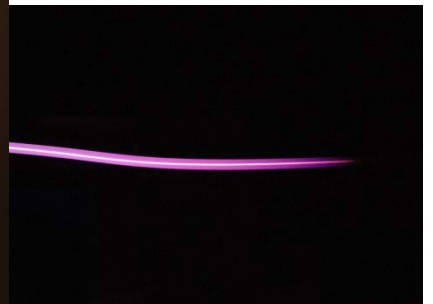
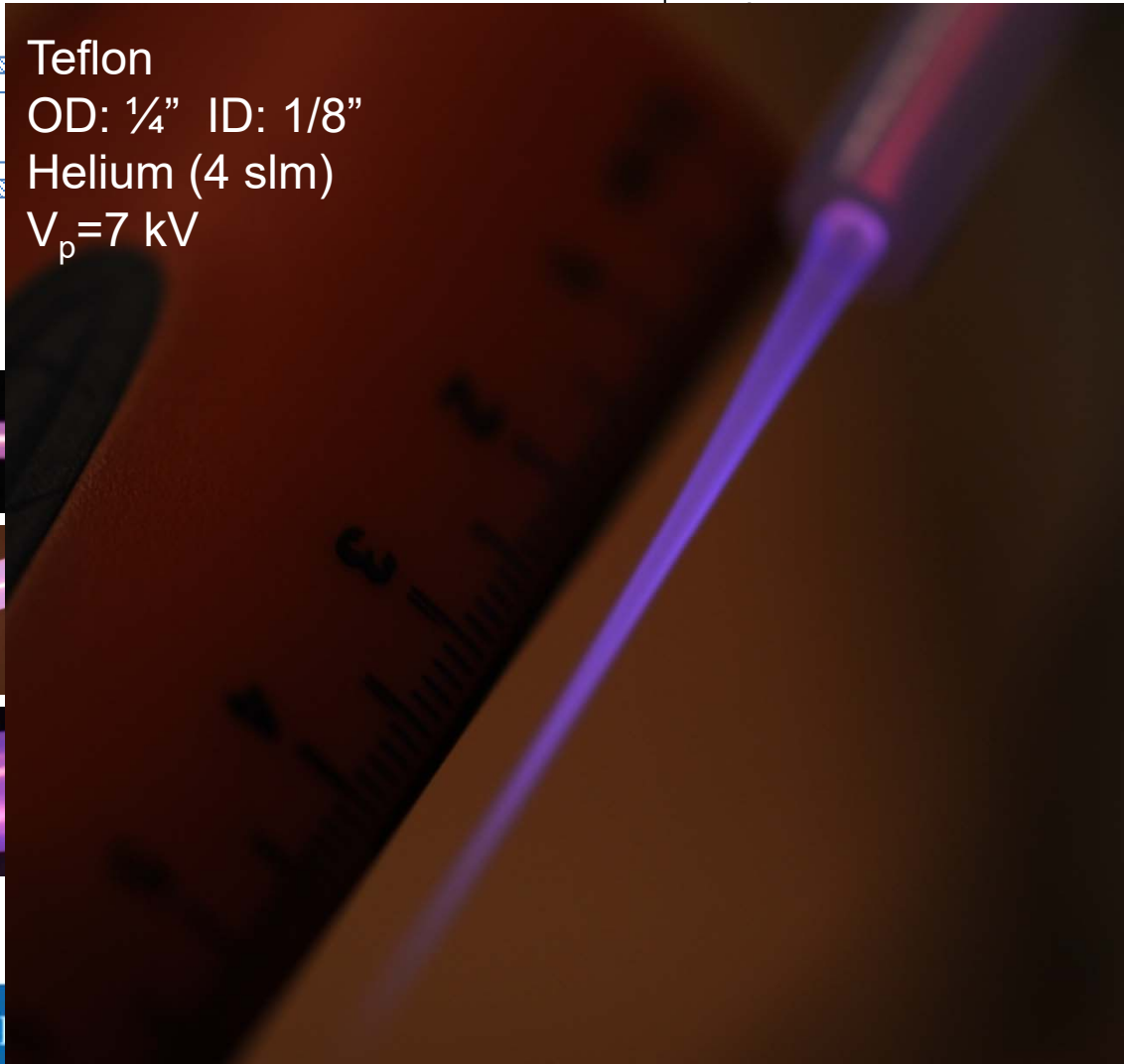
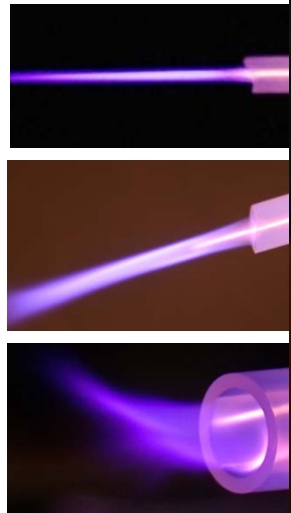
Our Version of Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Jet

We couldn't resist to try it out...

- Tubing material: Glass, Teflon, Peek (D: 0.0625-0.5")
Tape (1" wide) (96%),
(96%)
-15 kV



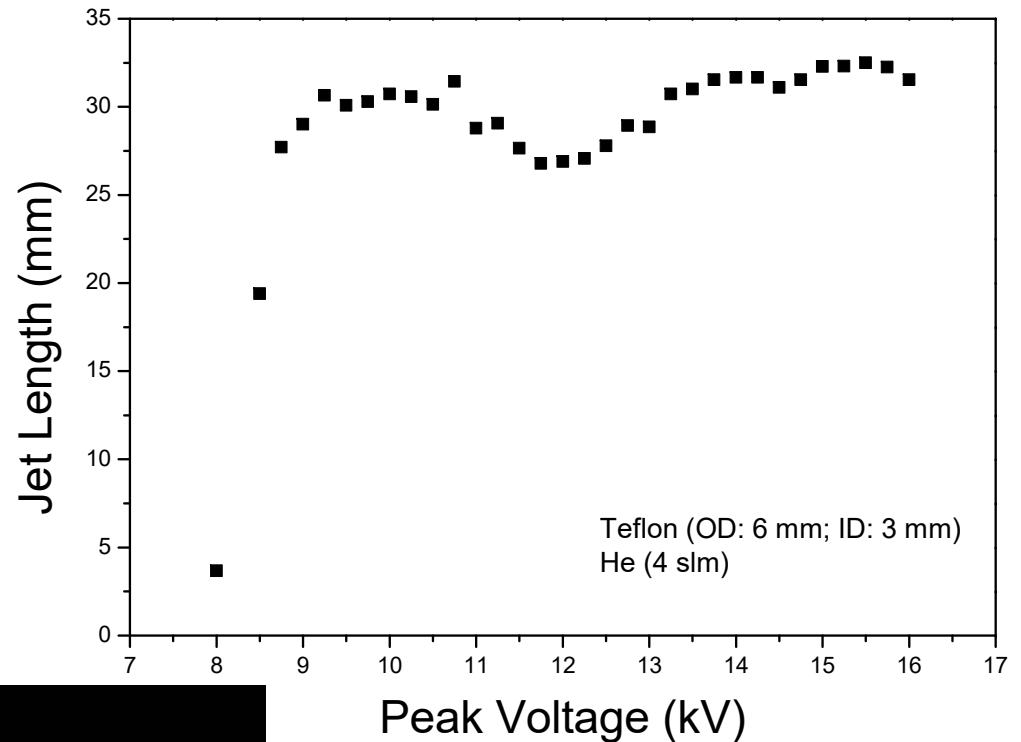
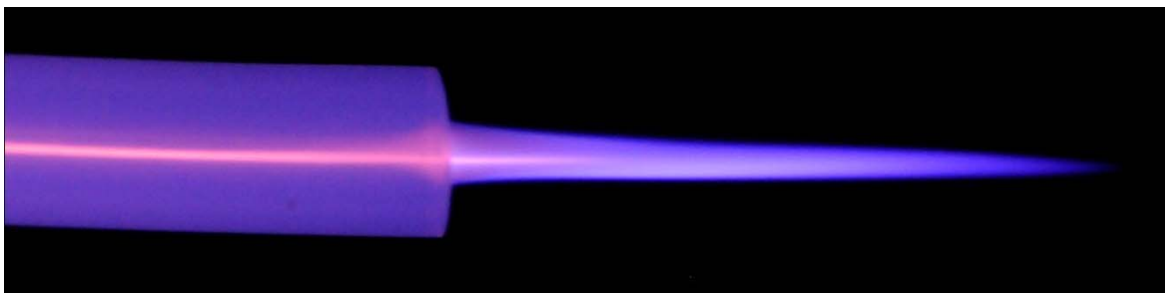
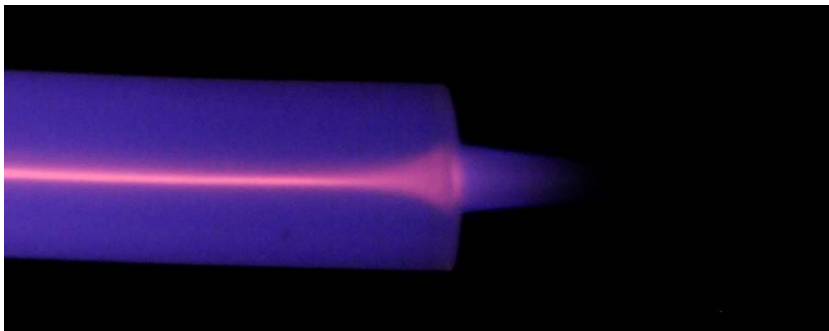
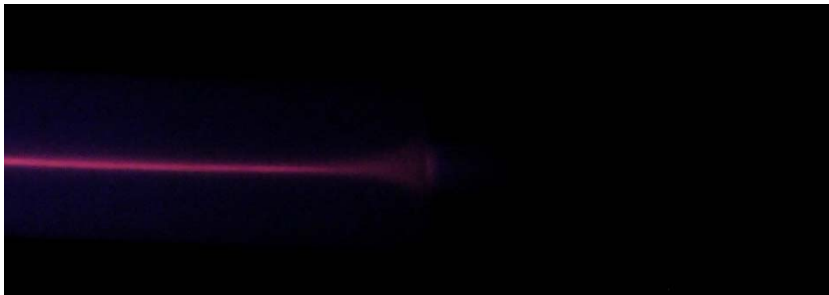
Teflon
 OD: 1/4" ID: 1/8"
 Helium (4 slm)
 $V_p = 7$ kV



and downstream

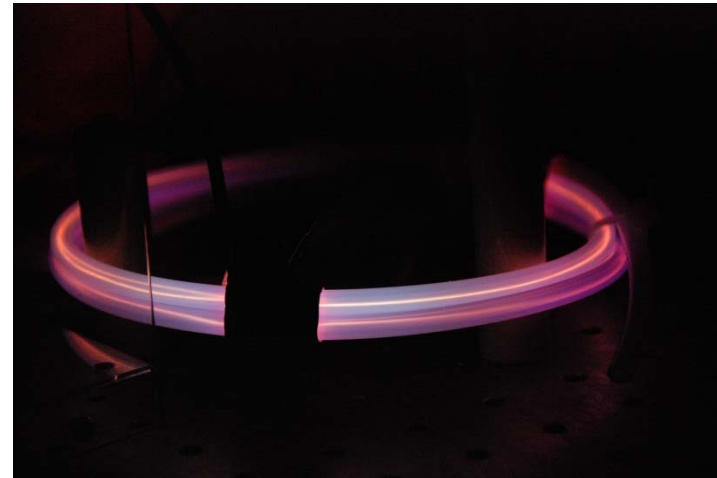
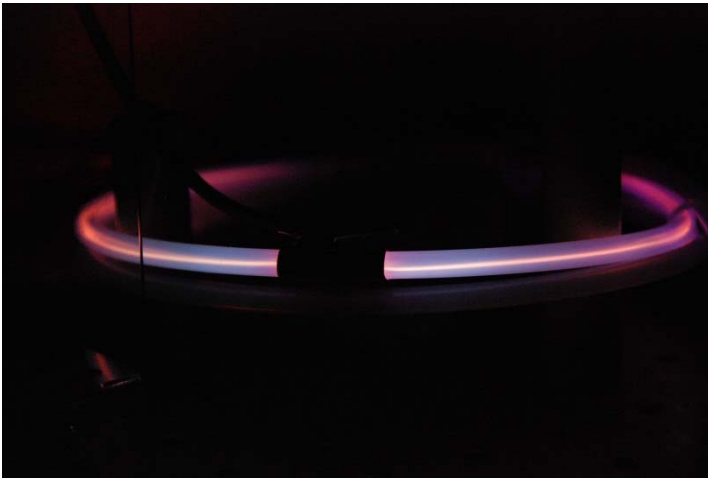


Jet Length vs. applied voltage





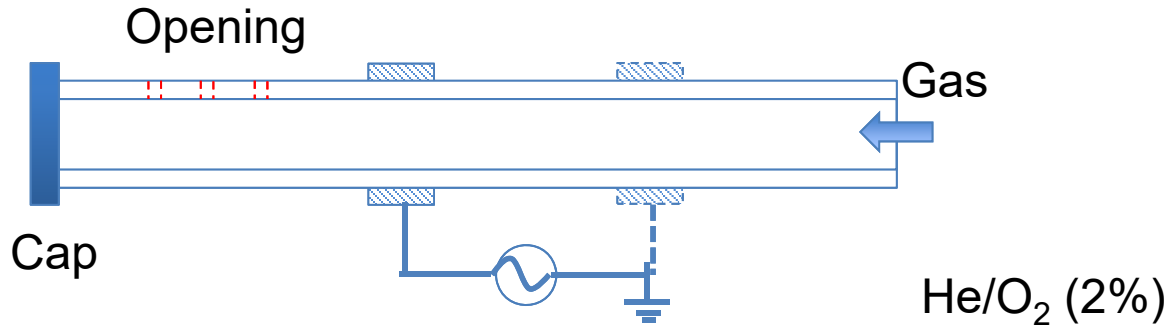
Plasma in a Curved Teflon Tubing



Distance the streamer can travel inside the insulating tubing depends on applied voltage, location of the powered electrode, type of working gas.



Move plasma jets in multiple directions

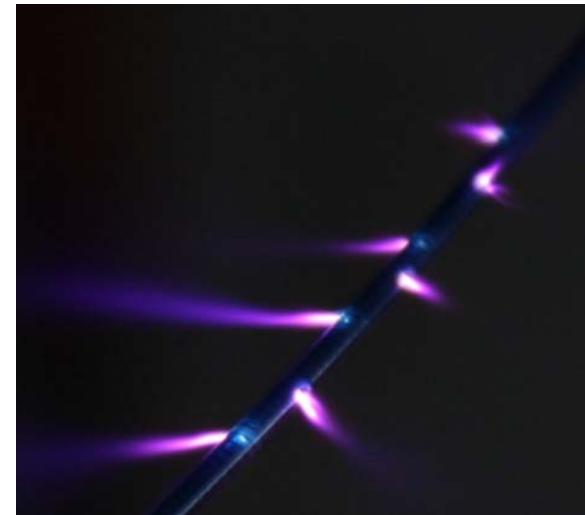


He/O₂ (2%)



Pure helium (8 slm);
Teflon tube (OD=1/2"; ID=1/4")
3 holes (diameter: 1/16") on side wall

3-D Arrays!

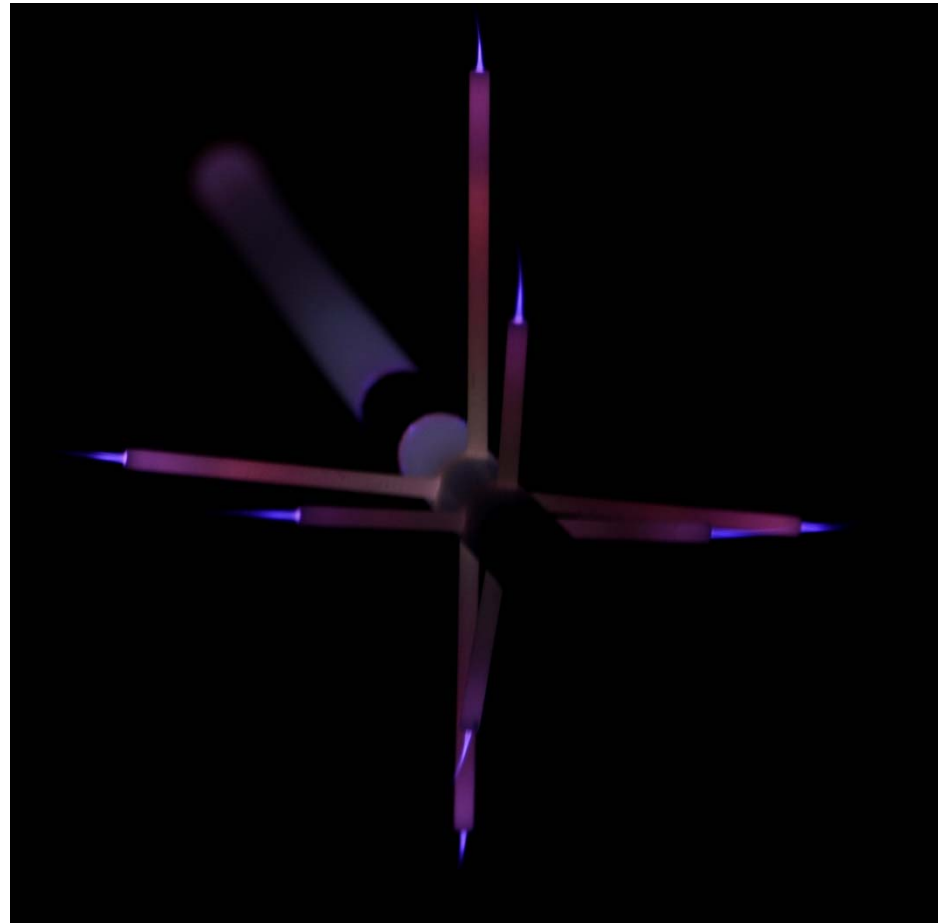
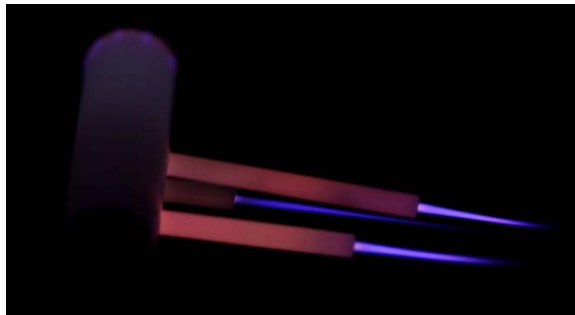
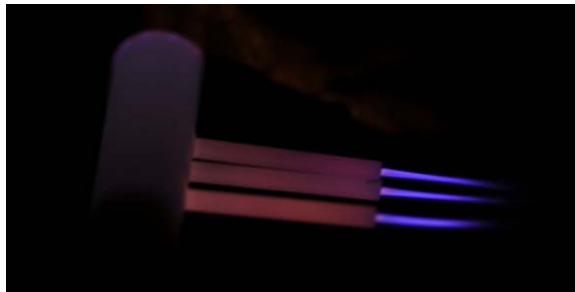


Plasma Jet Array





Further Extension of these Plasma Jets





New Jersey – Garden State

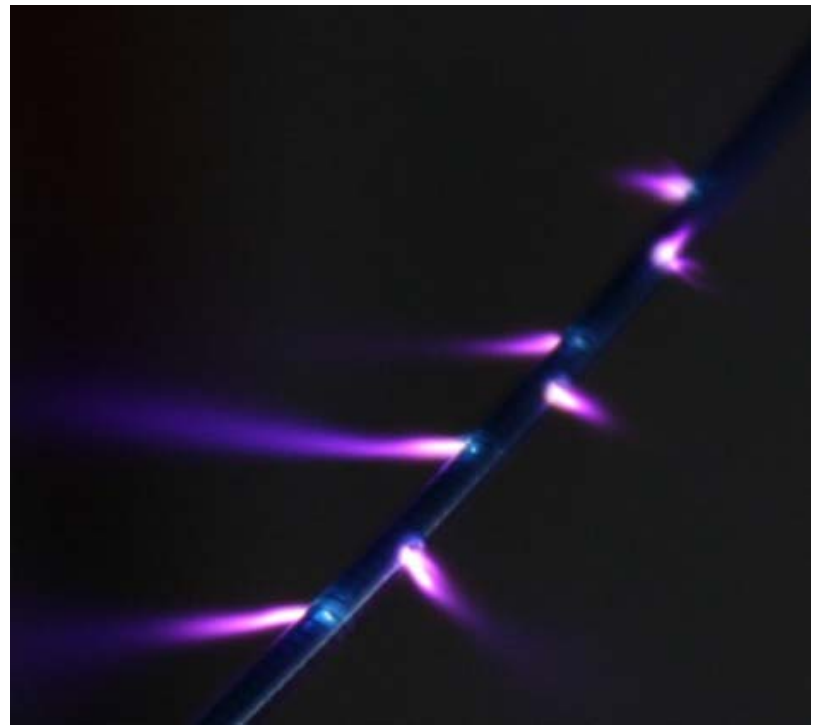




Irrigation: Water & Plasma



Water irrigation in fields and greenhouses

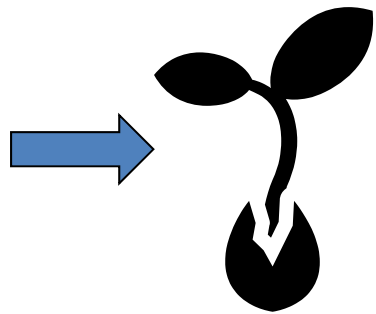


Plasma irrigation for agriculture





Plasma Processing: Experimental Plan



Plasma Treatment

Measure Plants

Harvest



Distillation



Antioxidant Testing

GC-MS





Plasma Seed Treatments



(a) Side-view of basil seedlings grown from plasma treated seeds (left) and untreated seeds (right). (b) Top-view of basil seedlings grown from plasma treated seeds (left) and untreated seeds (right).

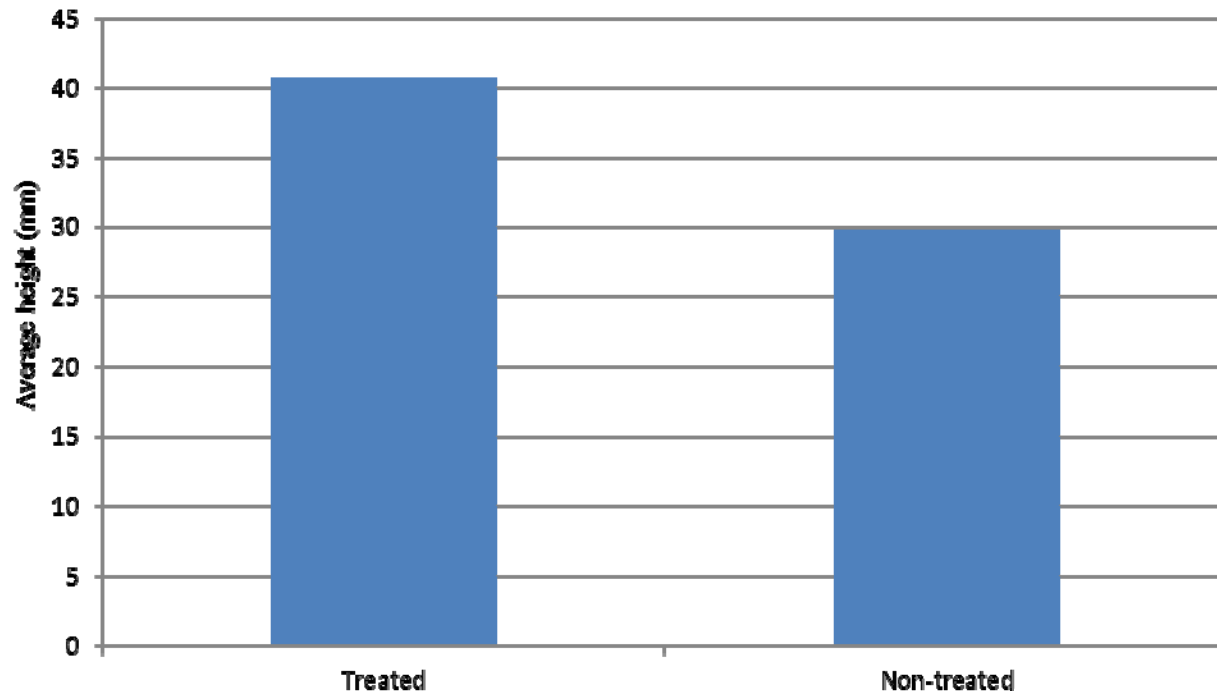


Basil: Plasma Treated vs. Untreated





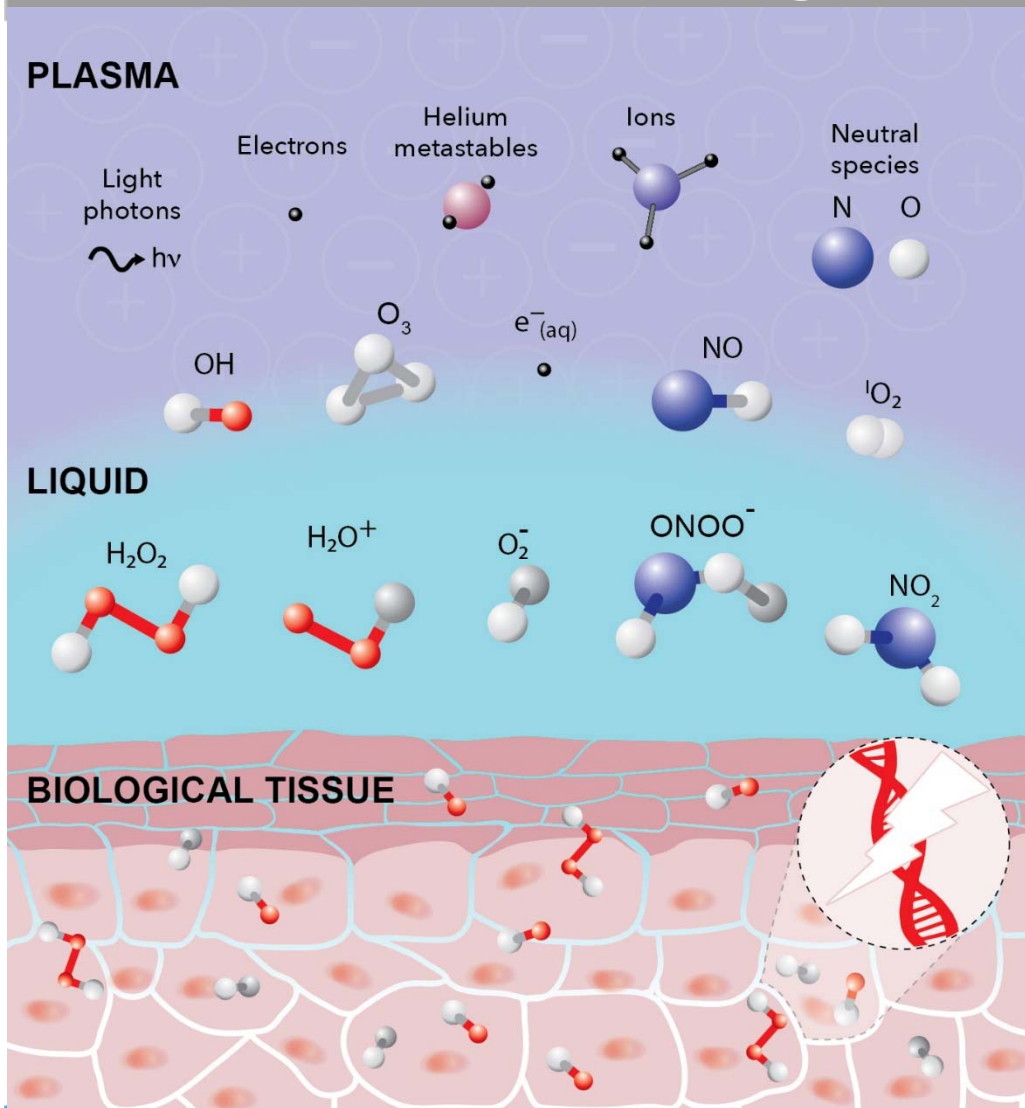
Basil: Plasma Treated vs. Untreated



Graph demonstrating average final height of twelve treated and non-treated sweet basil plants after a month of growth from seeds.



Microplasma interaction with biological materials???



Many unanswered questions as to the role of plasma in the biological interactions with biological materials.

- What are the microplasmas doing to the live biological materials?
- Can microplasma sources be tailored to better control interactions with biological materials?



Many, many Innovative Technologies...



Gas Laser



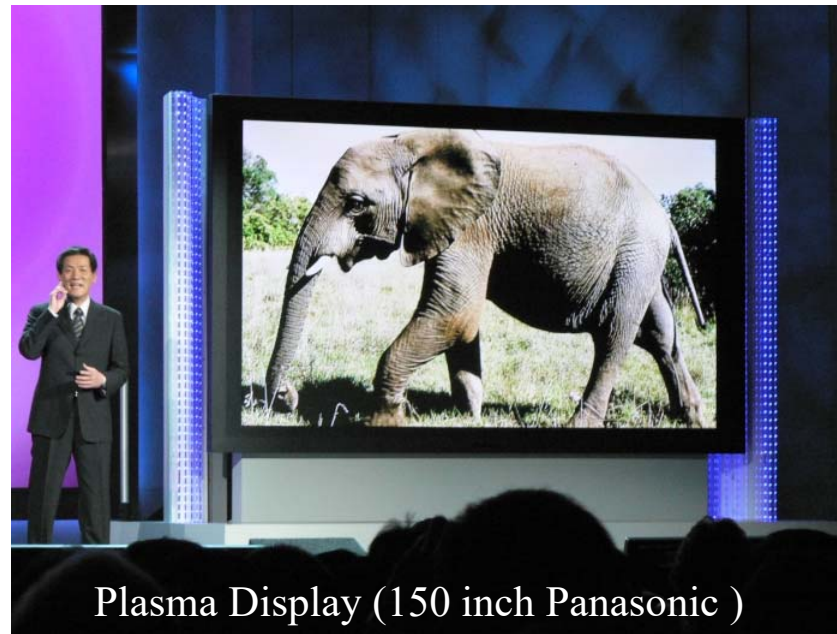
Ozone generator



High Intensity Plasma Arc Lamp



Plasma Surface Treatment



Plasma Display (150 inch Panasonic)



Fluorescent Lamp



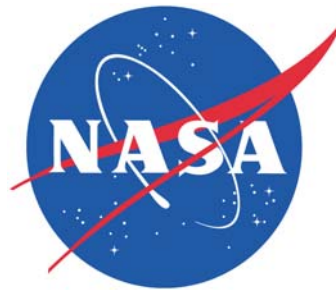
Spark Gap





Acknowledgements

Funding Partners:





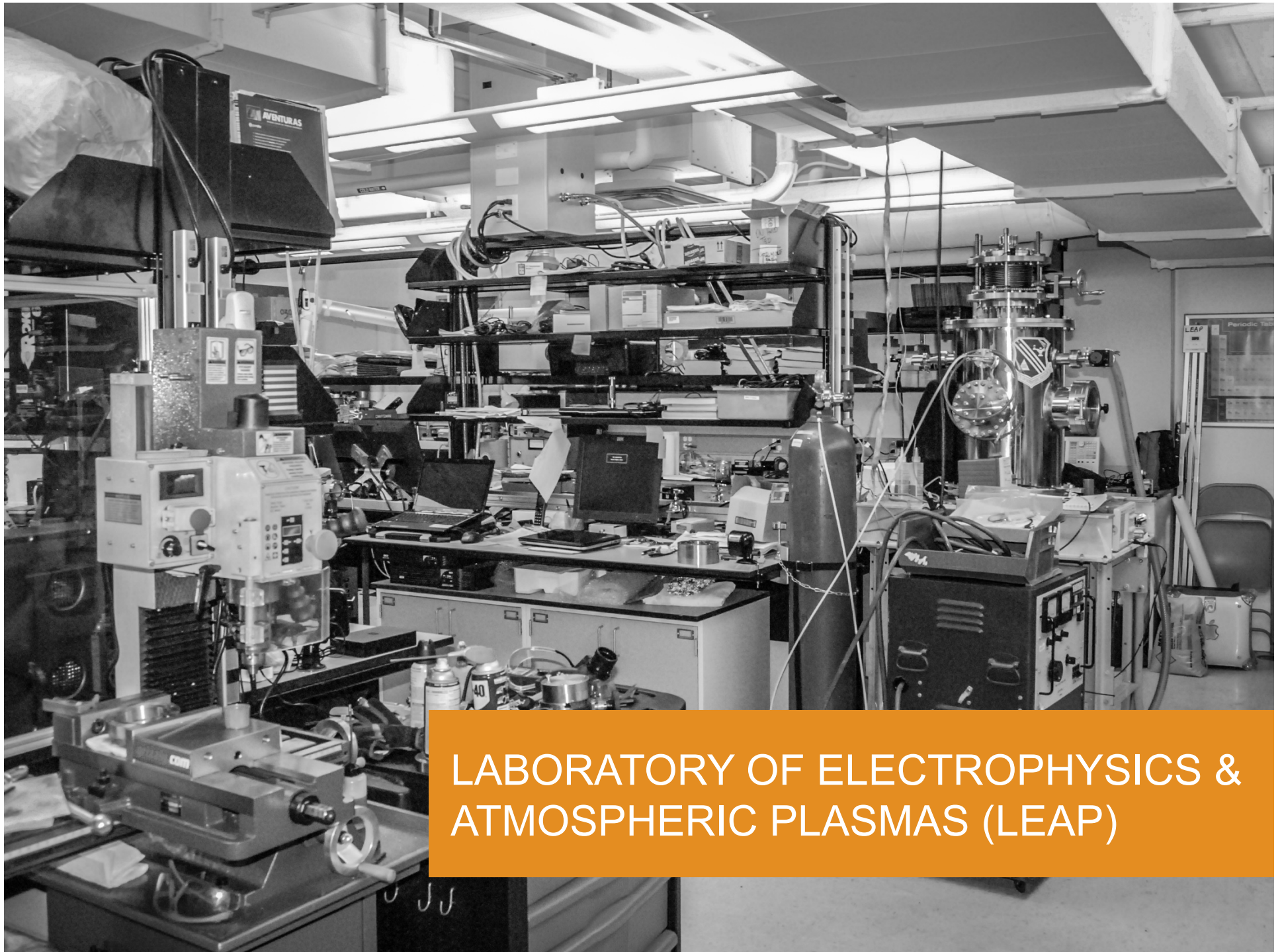
Major Global Challenges

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine have identified major global challenges in the 21st century that science and technology must help solve:

1. Energy
2. Environment
3. Water Resources
4. Agriculture and Food Security
5. Global Health / Population / Human Rights

Plasmas provide some potential solutions to many of these global challenges.





LABORATORY OF ELECTROPHYSICS &
ATMOSPHERIC PLASMAS (LEAP)



The future ain't what it used to be...

....Yogi Berra



A HOME FOR THE MIND, THE HEART AND THE SPIRIT

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



Questions???





Thank You!

Prof. Jose L. Lopez, PhD

Department of Physics

Laboratory of Electrophysics & Atmospheric Plasmas (LEAP)

Telephone: (973) 761-9057

Email: jose.lopez1@shu.edu



Website: www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/physics/

