

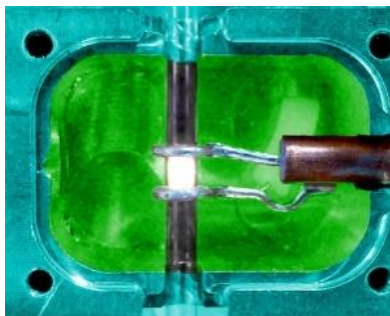


Atomic and Molecular Data Needs for Plasma Applications Workshop

In the aether somewhere, April 2021

Low energy plasma interactions at atmospheric pressure with:
*high concentration H_2O vapour,
water dissociation products &
water clusters*

Paul Maguire
Ulster University



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Davide Mariotti

Sadegh Askari

Atta Haq

David Rutherford

Charles Mahony

Colin Kelsey

Nourhan Hendawy

Mark Tweedie

Manuel Macias-Montero

Harold McQuaid

Fatima Perez-Martin

University of Glasgow

Declan Diver



- Introduction

- Basics of the multiphase plasma systems and environments
- A quick journey through some relevant applications

- Liquid droplet in plasma

- Droplet statistics and flow
- Temperature
- Evaporation
- Plasma structure and chemistry
- Plasma charging of droplet
- Plasma induced chemistry

- Electron flux to particle

- Probe models
- Solvation layer

- Ion, metastable flux

- Recombination, energy transfer
- Secondary electron emission

- New diagnostics

- XPS/UPS/REELS/ISS of plasma treated liquid (then frozen)
- Tunable midIR absorption



- The beginning

- ☞ They say its “a very good place to start...”

- The ELEMENTS of the ancients

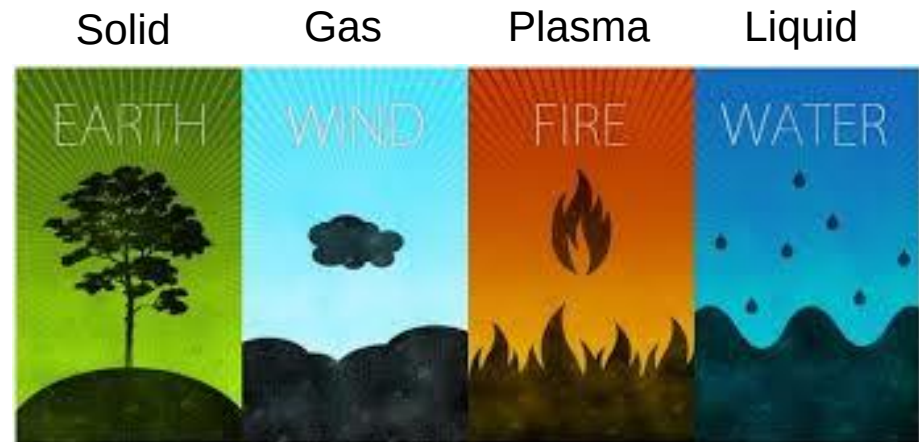
- ☞ In no particular order

- ☞ Earth:

- ☞ Wind:

- ☞ Fire:

- ☞ Water:



- Paper Scissors Rock

- ☞ or

- ☞ Liquid Wets Gas,

- ☞ Gas Dilutes Plasma,

- ☞ Plasma Surrounds Liquid...

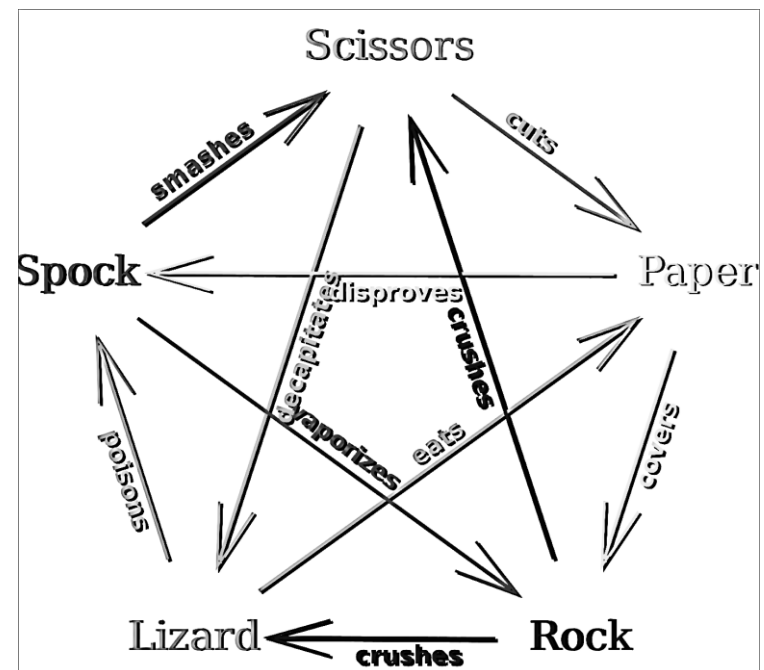
- ☞ and we make Nanorocks

- Multiphase systems

- ☞ Combining

- ☞ Multiphase flow

- ☞ Non-equilibrium Plasmas





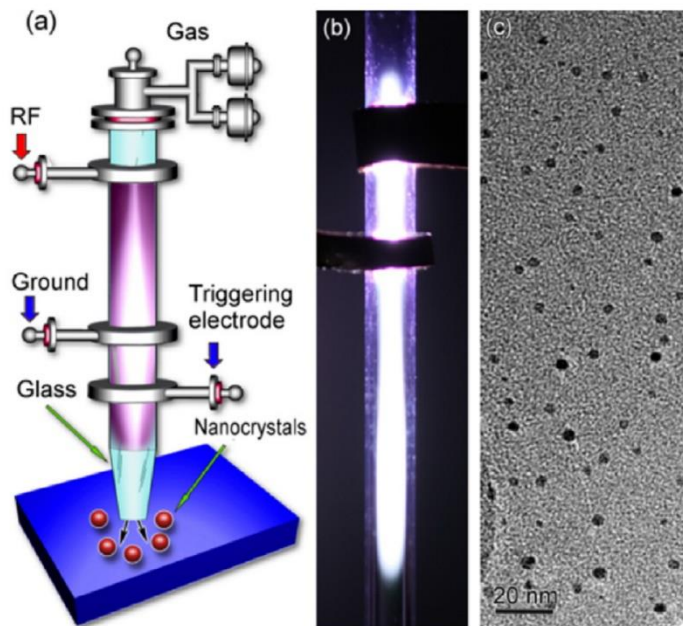
Nanorocks

Solids from gas/plasma, with maybe a little liquid



• Plasma interactions

- SiH_4 monomer dissociation
- Cluster formation
- Solid surface irradiation by charge & radicals
- Surface temperature elevation and melting
- Rapid local annealing and quenching



• Hot nanoparticles – Cold gas

- Tailored semiconductor properties
- Liquid phase present?
- Facilitates mass transfer gas $\rightarrow$ solid ?

• Charge collisional model

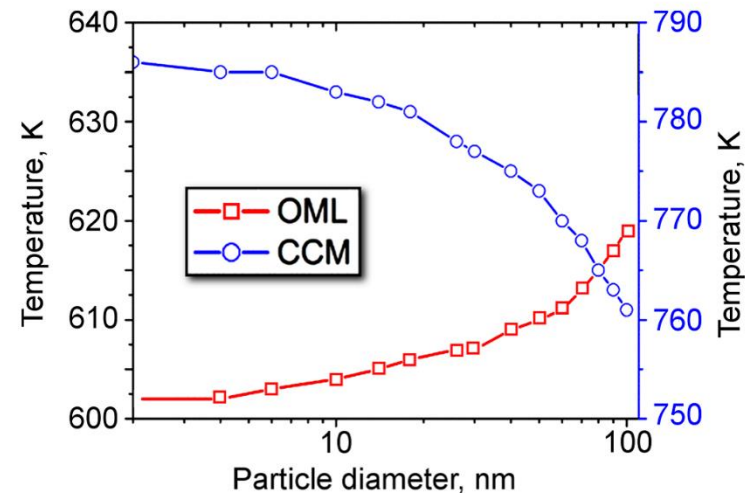


FIG. 4. Particle temperature for a range of nanoparticle diameter according to the two theoretical frameworks, OML, and CCM.

Crystalline Si nanoparticles below crystallization threshold: Effects of collisional heating in non-thermal atmospheric-pressure microplasmas

S. Askari, I. Levchenko, K. Ostrikov, P. Maguire, and D. Mariotti

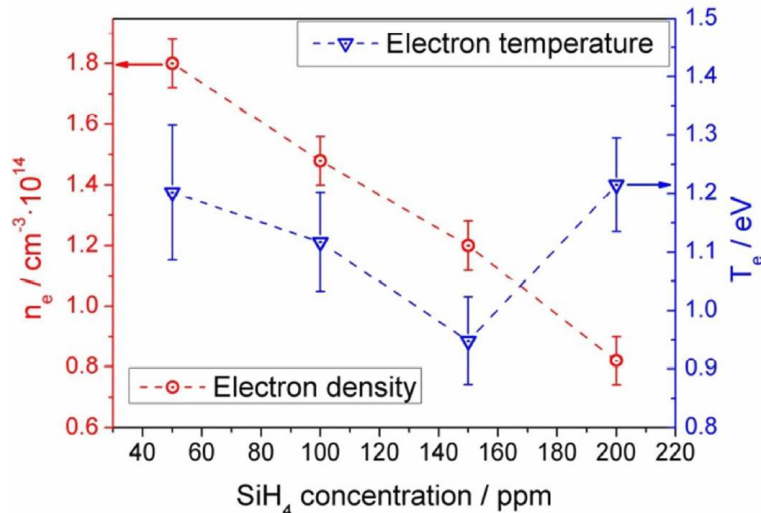
Citation: *Applied Physics Letters* **104**, 163103 (2014); doi: 10.1063/1.4872254

View online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4872254>



• Plasma interactions

- SiH_4 monomer dissociation
- Cluster formation
- Solid surface irradiation by charge & radicals
- Surface temperature elevation and melting
- Rapid local annealing and quenching



Electron density (left axis) and electron temperature (right axis) calculated

• Hot nanoparticles – Cold gas

- Tailored semiconductor properties
- Liquid phase present?
- Facilitates mass transfer gas $\rightarrow$ solid ?

• Charge collisional model

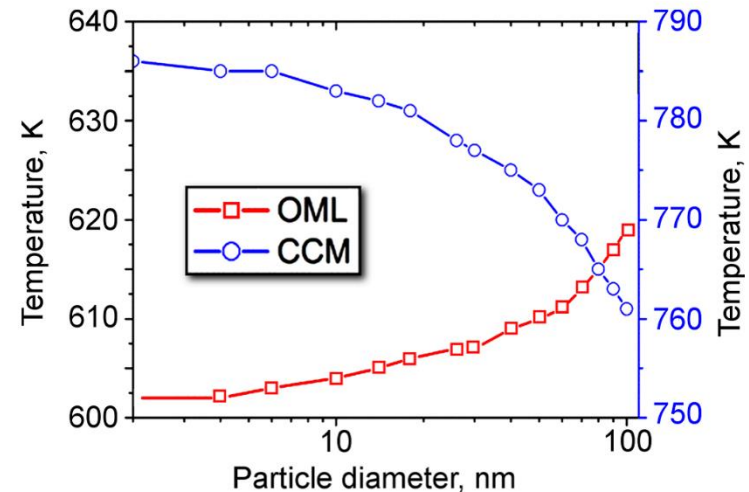


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• Crystallisation

- Amorphous – crystalline temperature contour
- Charge flux – size dependent
- Local surface heating – local melting?
- Facilitates mass transfer from gas/plasma to solid state

• Hot nanoparticles – Cold gas

- Tailored semiconductor properties
- Liquid phase present?
- Facilitates mass transfer gas → solid ?

• Charge collisional model

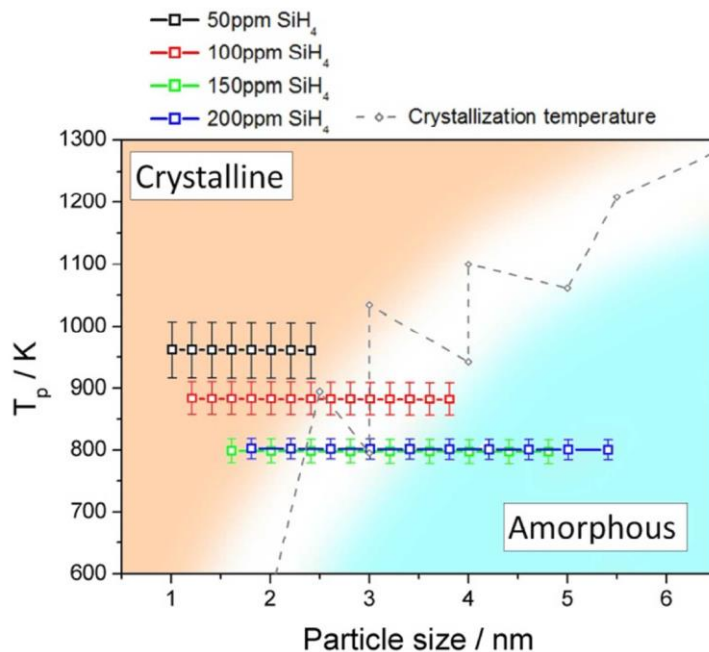


Figure 4. Particle temperature calculated using the collision-corrected model (CCM)

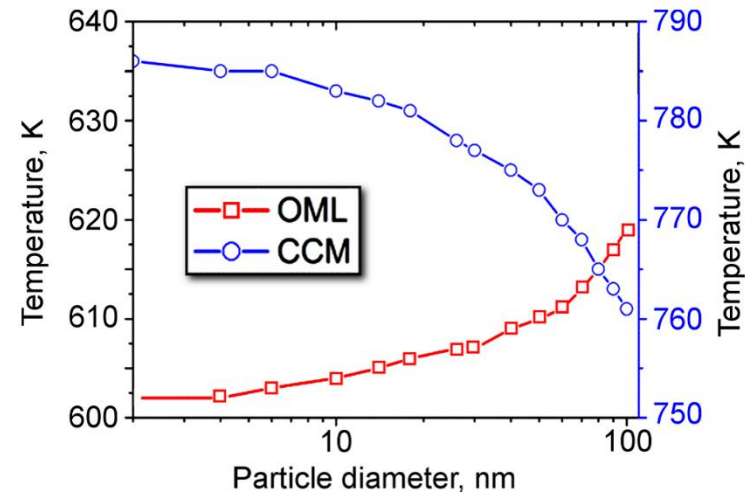


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Crystalline Si nanoparticles below crystallization threshold: Effects of collisional heating in non-thermal atmospheric-pressure microplasmas

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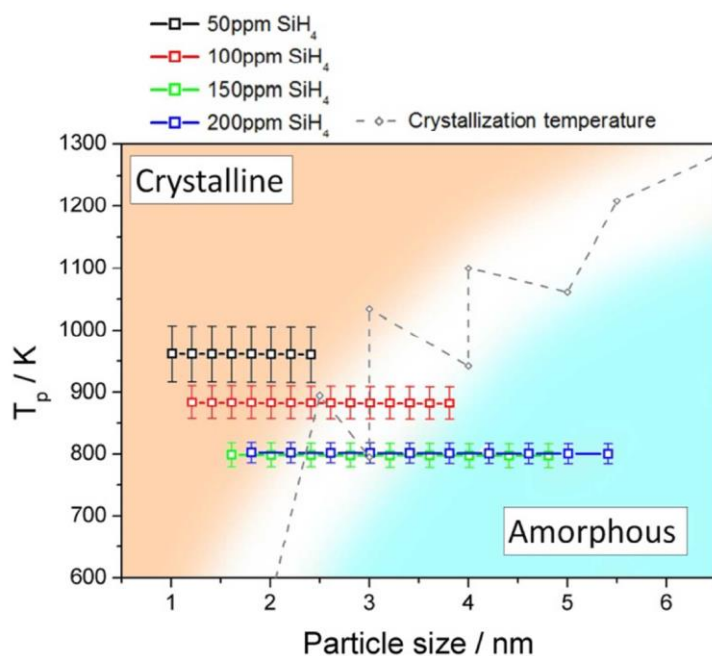


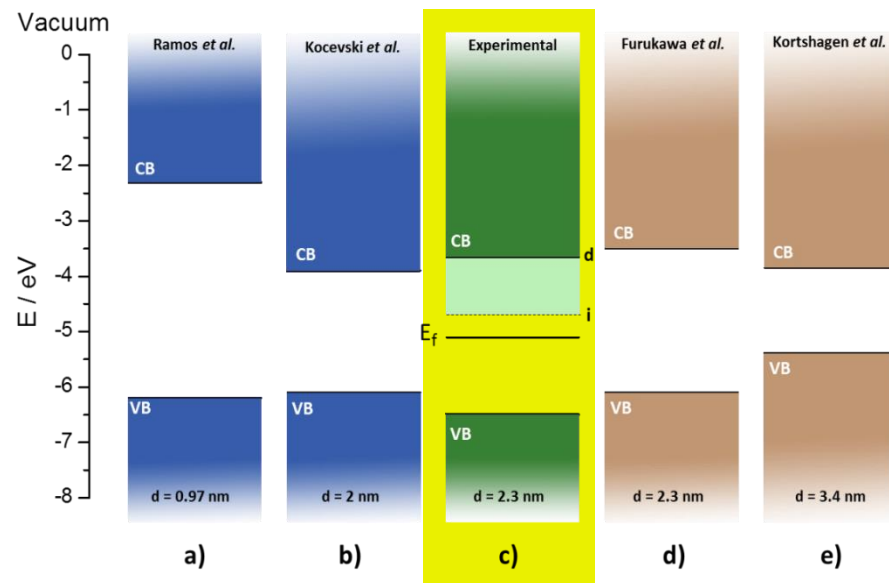
Figure 4. Particle temperature calculated using the collision-corrected model (CCM)

ADVANCED MATERIALS

The Interplay of Quantum Confinement and Hydrogenation in **Amorphous Silicon** Quantum Dots, Askari et al., 2015 10.1002/adma.201503013

• Hot nanoparticles – Cold gas

- Tailored semiconductor properties
- Energy bandgap
- conduction & Valence band edges



First experimental measurements of conduction band, valence band and fermi-level alignments. Comparison with theoretical predictions

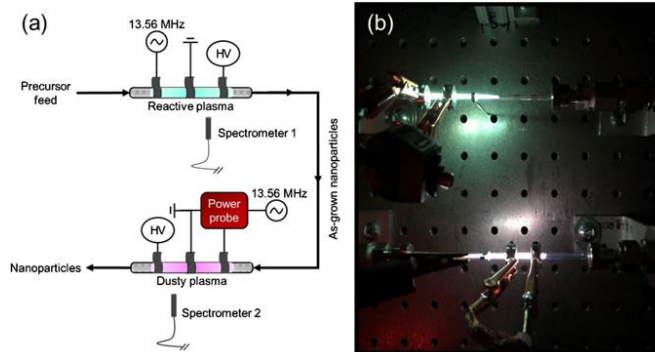
Energy bands diagrams of: a) Ramos *et al.* theoretical calculations of Si quantum dots (QDs) with 85 atoms [26], b) Kocovsky *et al.* theoretical calculations of 2 nm Si QDs [31], c) present experimental measurements of 2.3 nm Si QDs, d) and e) Furukawa *et al.* and Kortshagen *et al.* experimental bandgap with theoretical assignment of bands positions of Si QDs [14,32].



Understanding the depletion of electrons in dusty plasmas at atmospheric pressure

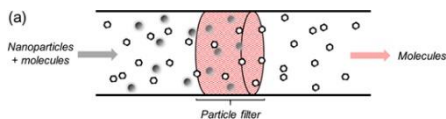
Nabiel H Abuyazid *et al* 2020 *Plasma Sources Sci. Technol.* **29** 075011

Sankaran group

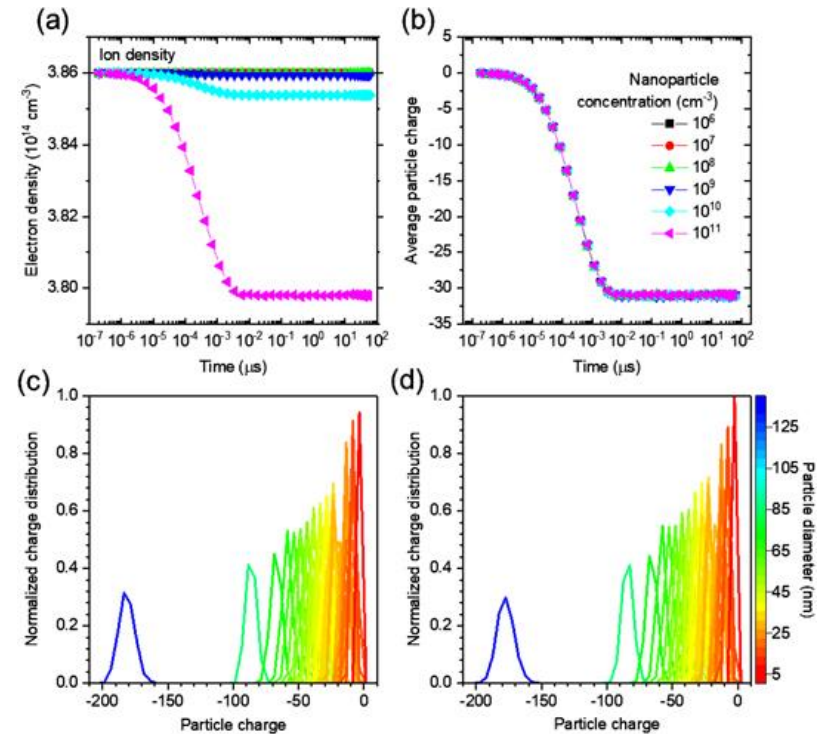
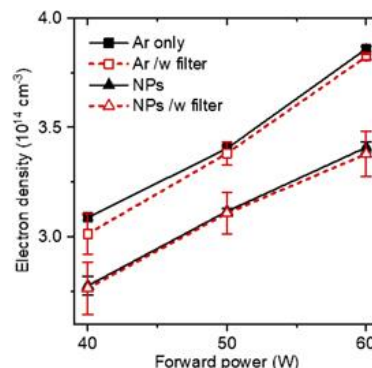


(a) tandem atmospheric-pressure plasma system, and
(b) corresponding image of 'reactive' (top) and 'dusty' (bottom) atmospheric-pressure plasmas during standard particle-containing operation.

(c) Hexane vapour (80ppm) in Ar: C_x NPs (~50nm)



Electron densities measured by power probe for various conditions in the dusty plasma reactor: particle-free (Ar only), nanoparticles (NPs) produced in the reactive plasma, particle-free with inline filter (Ar only), and NPs produced in the reactive plasma with inline filter.



Simulation:

Constant number Monte Carlo

- (a) electron density
- (b) average NP charge vs residence time for different particle concentrations (measured: 10^6 cm^{-3})
- (c) Time-averaged particle charge distribution using measured n_e for particle-free plasma and
- (d) using measured n_e for particle-containing plasma. For measured range of NP diameters

Electron density decrease not due to NPs but to reactions with vapour phase precursor molecules



• Microscale droplets

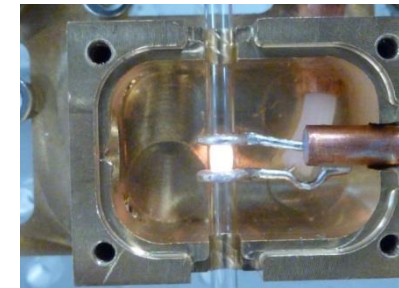
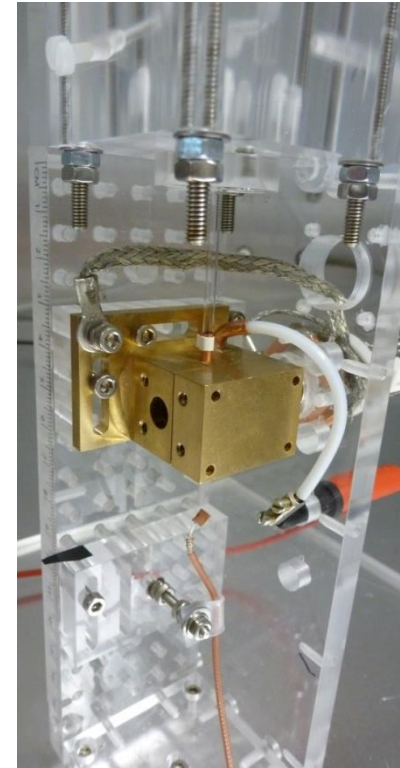
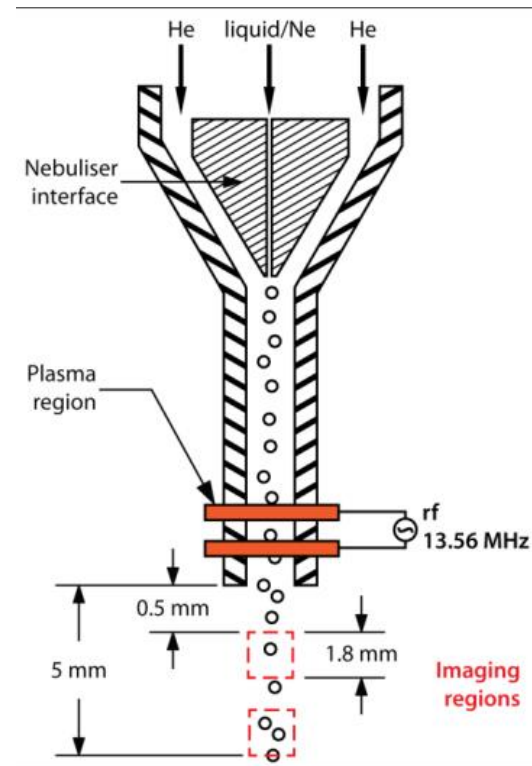
- A stream of microdroplets transported through a low temperature RF plasma.
- Low gas temperature, “large” size of droplet and short residence means evaporation is incomplete

• Non-thermal equilibrium plasma

- Gas, ion temperature $\ll$ electron temperature
- $T_{\text{gas}} \sim T_{\text{ion}} \ll T_e$.

• Plasma - Microdroplets

- Stream of microdroplets flows through plasma
- 50,000 droplets / sec
- Exposed to plasma for $\sim 120 \mu\text{s}$
- Droplet mean velocity $\sim 10 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

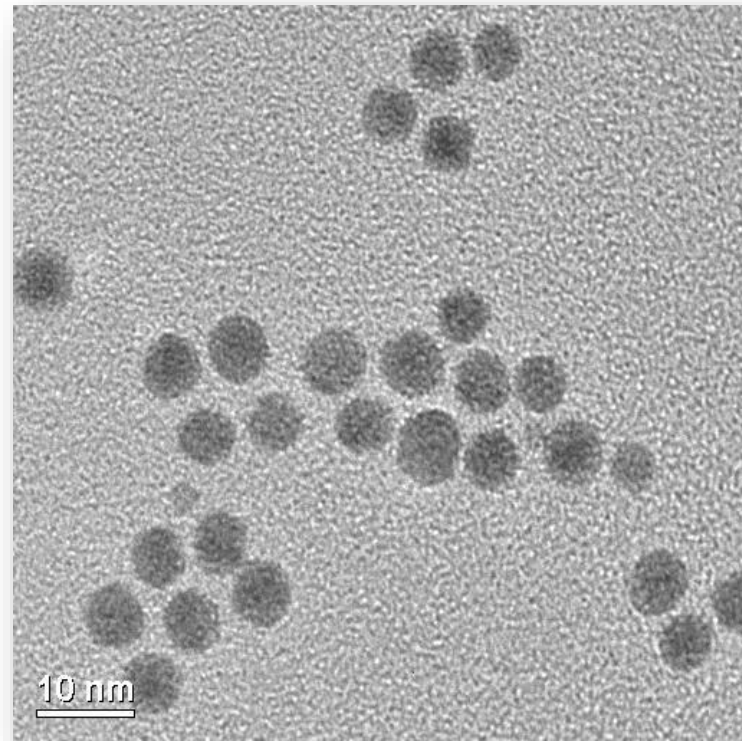


RF 13.56 MHz,
He: 3.5 slm,
Ne (aerosol): 1 slm
or Ar (aerosol): 1 slm

Maguire et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 106, 224101 (2015);



- Sn nanocrystals:
 - new stable crystal phase
- Plasma interactions
 - Solid Sn metal precursor
 - Atomic “sputtering” or molten droplet (?)
 - High density microplasma $\sim 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$.
 - Cluster formation or liquid metal droplet
 - Solid surface irradiation by charge & radicals
 - Surface temperature elevation
 - Rapid local annealing and quenching





Applications



• Unique High Value Materials

- Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Sources
- Collisional
- Non-thermal equilibrium

• Multiple Phases

- Gas-phase synthesis
- Plasma – cluster
- Plasma – molten solid - solid
- Plasma-bulk liquid
- Plasma-droplet (low evaporation)
- H₂O, ethanol, hydrocarbons, monomers

NANO LETTERS

Continuous In-Flight Synthesis for On-Demand Delivery of Ligand-Free Colloidal Gold Nanoparticles

Paul Maguire¹, David Rutherford¹, Manuel Macias-Montero¹, Charles Mahony¹, Colin Kelsey¹, Mark Tweedie¹, Fátima Pérez-Martín¹, Harold McQuaid¹, Declan Diver¹, and Davide Mariotti²

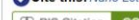
¹ NIBEC, University of Ulster, Belfast, BT37 0QB, Northern Ireland

² SUPA, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, United Kingdom

Nano Lett., 2017, 17 (3), pp 1336–1343

DOI: 10.1021/acs.nanolett.6b03440

Cite this: Nano Lett., 17, 3, 1336–1343



PLASMA PROCESSES AND POLYMERS

Feature Article

Plasma–Liquid Interactions at Atmospheric Pressure for Nanomaterials Synthesis and Surface Engineering

Davide Mariotti[✉], Jenish Patel, Vladimir Švrček, Paul Maguire

First published: 06 August 2012 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppap.201200007> | Cited by: 81

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

Article | OPEN | Published: 26 October 2015

Enhanced Dispersion of TiO₂ Nanoparticles in a TiO₂/PEDOT:PSS Hybrid Nanocomposite via Plasma–Liquid Interactions

Yazi Liu, Dan Sun[✉], Sadegh Askari, Jenish Patel, Manuel Macias-Montero, Somak Mitra, Richao Zhang, Wen-Feng Lin, Davide Mariotti & Paul Maguire

Scientific Reports 5, Article number: 15765 (2015) | Download Citation ↓

nature COMMUNICATIONS

Article | OPEN | Published: 01 August 2017

Charge carrier localised in zero-dimensional (CH₃NH₃)₃Bi₂I₉ clusters

Chengsheng Ni, Gordon Hedley, Julia Payne, Vladimir Švrček, Calum McDonald, Lethy Krishnan Jagadamma, Paul Edwards, Robert Martin, Gunisha Jain, Darragh Carolan, Davide Mariotti, Paul Maguire, Ifor Samuel & John Irvine[✉]

ACS APPLIED MATERIALS & INTERFACES

Microplasma Processed Ultrathin Boron Nitride Nanosheets for Polymer Nanocomposites with Enhanced Thermal Transport Performance

Ri-Chao Zhang^{1†}, Dan Sun¹, Ai Lu², Sadegh Askari¹, Manuel Macias-Montero¹, Paul Joseph³, Dorian Dixon⁴, Kostya Ostrikov^{1*}, Paul Maguire¹, and Davide Mariotti¹

¹ Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, 310002, PR China

² School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Queen's University Belfast, BT9 5AH, U.K.

³ Nanotechnology and Integrated Bioengineering Centre (NIBEC), University of Ulster, Newtownabbey, BT37 0QB, Northern Ireland, U.K.

⁴ Institute of Chemical Materials, China Academy of Engineering Physics, Mianyang 621900, Sichuan People's Republic of China

⁵ Department of Physics, Chemistry and Biology (IFM)/Plasma and Coatings Physics (PLASM), Linköping University, 581 83 Linköping, Sweden

⁶ Centre for Environmental Safety and Risk Engineering (CESARE), College of Engineering and Science, Victoria University, Room 4206, Level 2, Building 4 Hoppers Lane, Werribee Campus Victoria 3030, Melbourne, Australia

⁷ School of Chemistry, Physics, and Mechanical Engineering, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Australia

* Joint CSIRO–QUT Sustainable Materials and Devices Laboratory, CSIRO, P.O. Box 218, Lindfield, New South Wales 2070, Australia

ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces, 2016, 8 (21), pp 13567–13572

DOI: 10.1021/acsami.6b01531

Cite this: ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 8, 21, 13567–13572



Nano Energy

Volume 50, August 2018, Pages 245–255

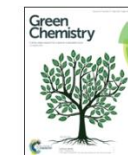


<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nanoen.2018.05.036>

Full paper

Type-I alignment in MAPbI₃ based solar devices with doped-silicon nanocrystals

Conor Rocks[✉], Vladimir Švrček[✉], Tamilselvan Velusamy[✉], Manuel Macias-Montero[✉], Paul Maguire[✉], Davide Mariotti[✉]



Microplasma-assisted electrochemical synthesis of Co₃O₄ nanoparticles in absolute ethanol for energy applications

Chengsheng Ni[✉], Darragh Carolan[✉], Conor Rocks[✉], Jianing Hui[✉], Zeguo Fang[✉], Dilli Babu Padmanaban[✉], Jiupai Ni[✉], Deti Xie[✉], Paul Maguire[✉], John T. S. Irvine[✉] and Davide Mariotti[✉]



DOI: 10.1039/C7SE00158D (Paper) Sustainable Energy Fuels, 2017, 1, 1611–1619

Environmentally friendly nitrogen-doped carbon quantum dots for next generation solar cells†

Darragh Carolan[✉], Conor Rocks[✉], Dilli Babu Padmanaban[✉], Paul Maguire[✉], Vladimir Švrček[✉] and Davide Mariotti[✉]

¹ Nanotechnology & Integrated Bio-Engineering Centre (NIBEC), Ulster University, Jordanstown, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim BT37 0QB, UK. E-mail: d.carolan@ulster.ac.uk

² Research Centre of Photovoltaics, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology-AIST, Central 2, Tsukuba, Japan

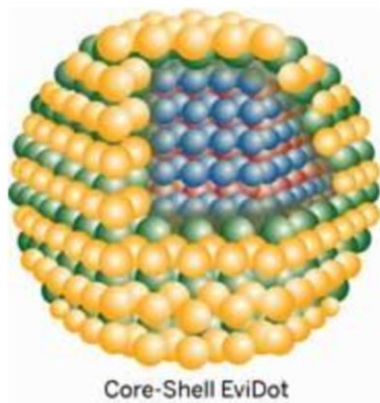
Communication | Open Access

The Interplay of Quantum Confinement and Hydrogenation in Amorphous Silicon Quantum Dots

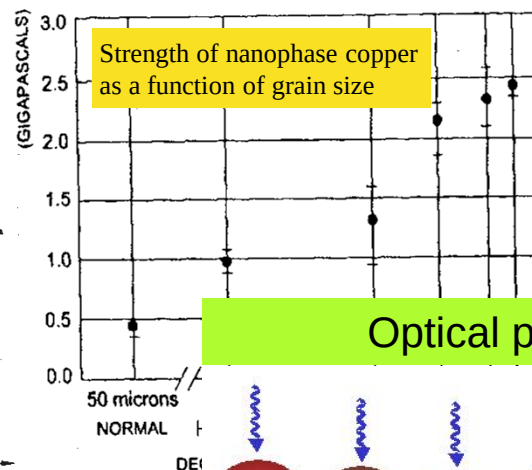
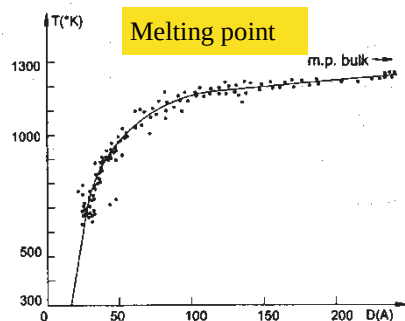
Sadegh Askari[✉], Vladimir Švrček, Paul Maguire, Davide Mariotti[✉]

First published: 02 November 2015 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.201503013> | Cited by: 12

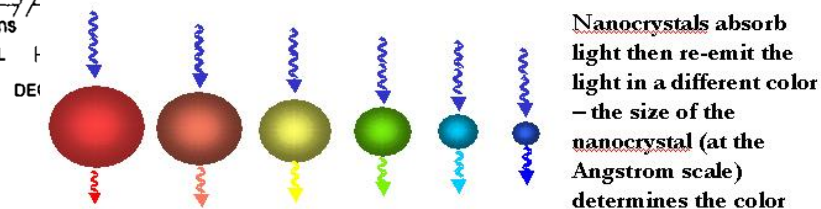
ADVANCED MATERIALS



- Nanocrystals
- 2-10 nm diameter
- semiconductors

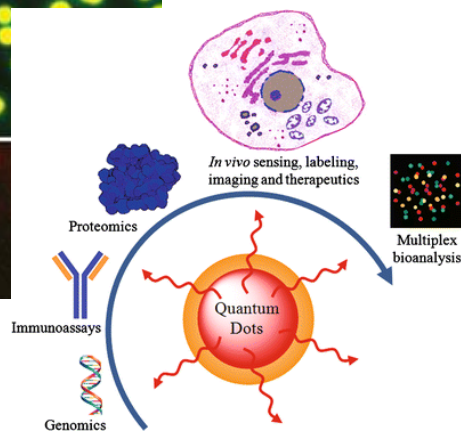
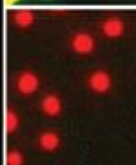
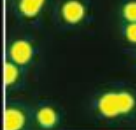
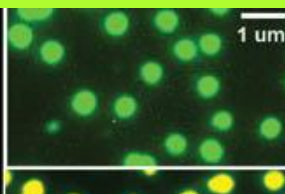
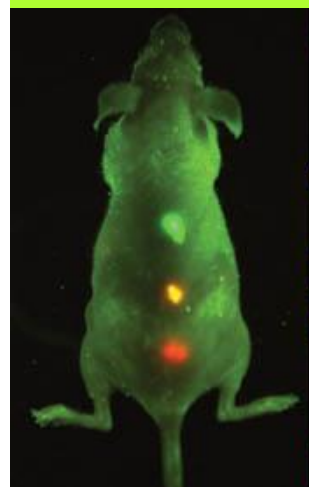


Optical properties v size

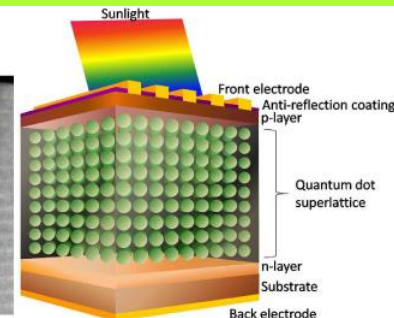
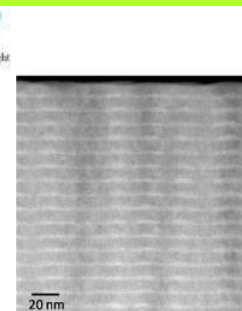
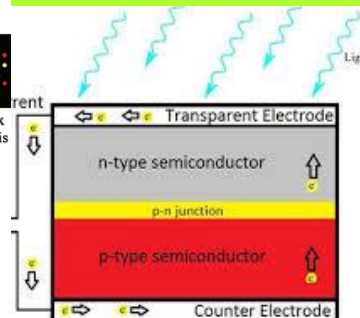


Six different quantum dot solutions are shown excited with a long wave UV lamp

Optical, electrical and chemical for biomedical



Optical and electrical for solar cells



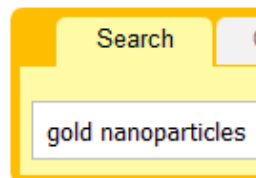


• Gold nanoparticles

- First discovered by Faraday
- Still being researched



Search Results



Results: 1 – 20 of 6990 Filter(s) Applied:

2014 - 2016 ✕

SECTION

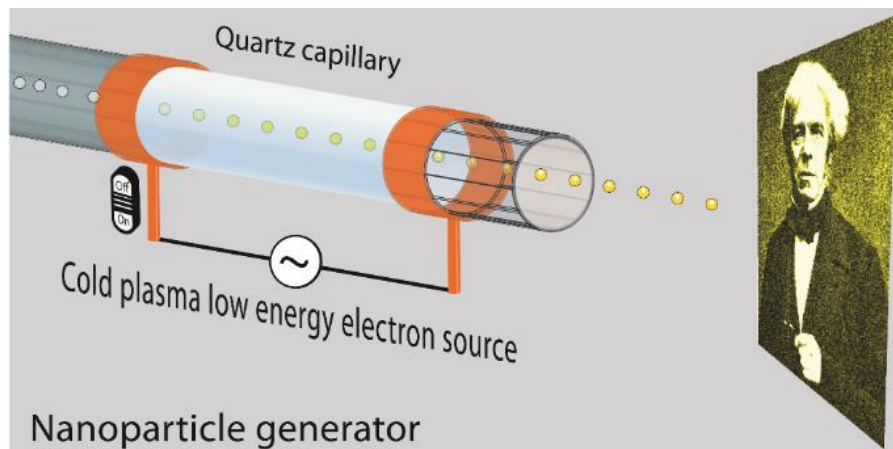
Biochemical Methods	1004
Pharmaceuticals	881
Surface Chemistry And Colloids	814
Optical, Electron, And Mass Spectroscopy And Other Related Properties	760
Electrochemical, Radiational, And Thermal Energy Technology	437
Electric Phenomena	247
Radiation Chemistry, Photochemistry, And Photographic And Other Reprographic Processes	210
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PUBLICATION

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The Journal Of Physical Chemistry C	1018
ACS Nano	705
Analytical Chemistry	592
Langmuir	562
Nano Letters	431
Journal Of The American Chemical Society	351
Chemical Reviews	214
Chemistry Of Materials	191
ACS Catalysis	176



- Solids formed in liquids in gas/plasma

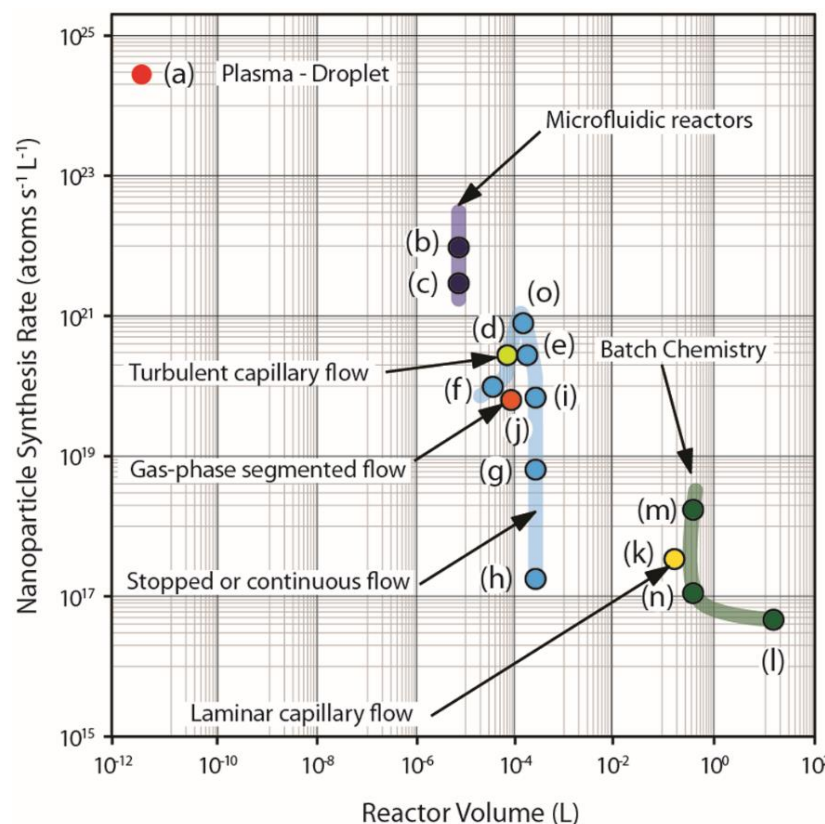
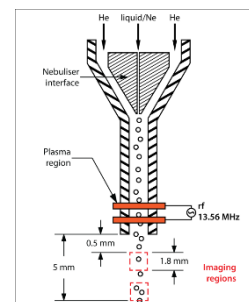


- Nanoparticles: on demand delivery

- HAuCl₄ in H₂O microdroplet
- Passed through plasma
- 120 us time of flight

- Electron flux

- Direct reduction of Au³⁺ ions in liquid by solvated electrons from plasma



Comparison of plasma – droplet synthesis rate with batch and microreaction chemistry



- $\times 10^3 - 10^7$ faster

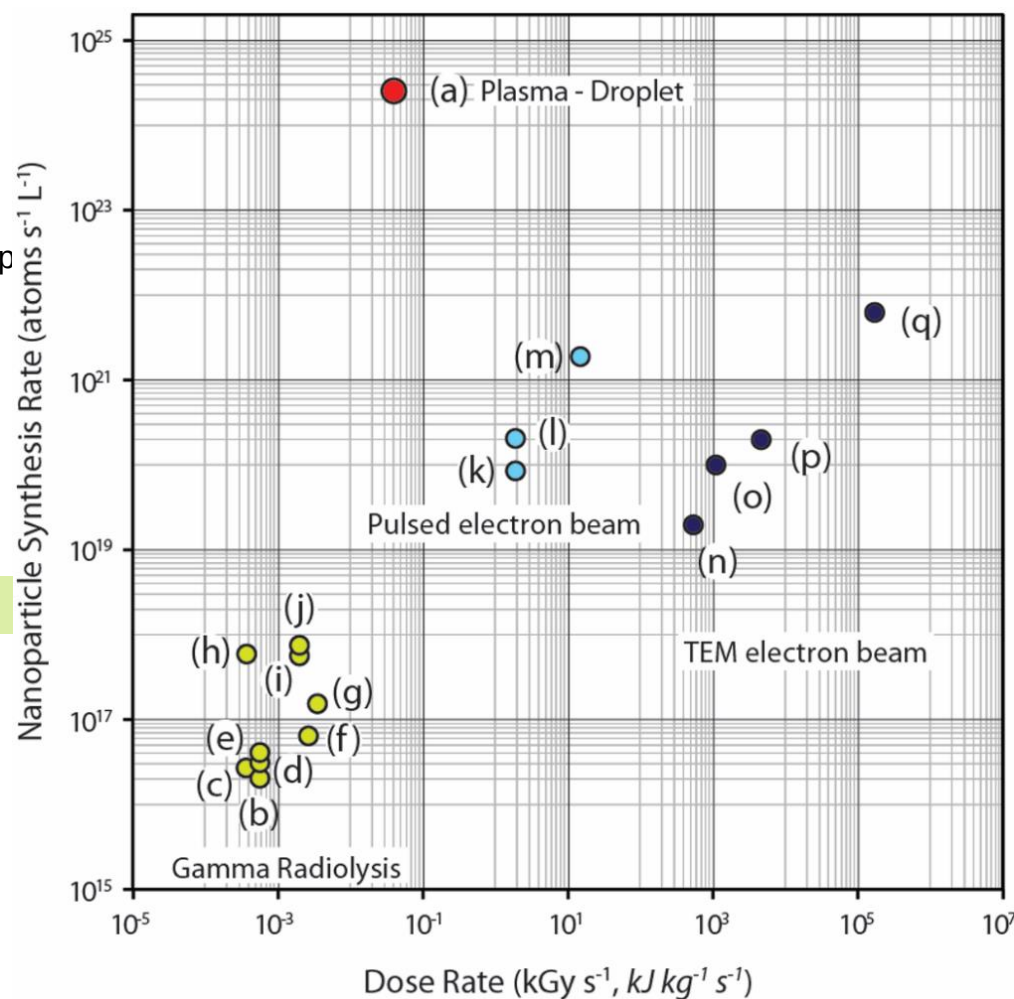
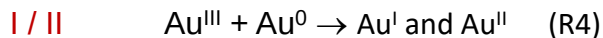
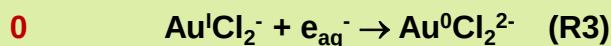
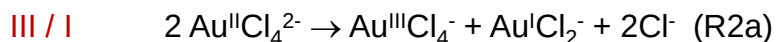
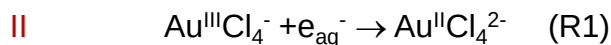
⇒ Similar dose rate as gamma radiation

- Plasma-droplet

⇒ Dose rate assuming x% plasma energy delivered to drop

⇒ $5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kGy s}^{-1}$.

HAuCl₄. The reduction of **Au^{III}** proceeds via reactions as:



Comparison of plasma – droplet synthesis rate with high energy radiolysis or electron beam methods

Maguire et al., 2017, 10.1021/acs.nanolett.6b03440



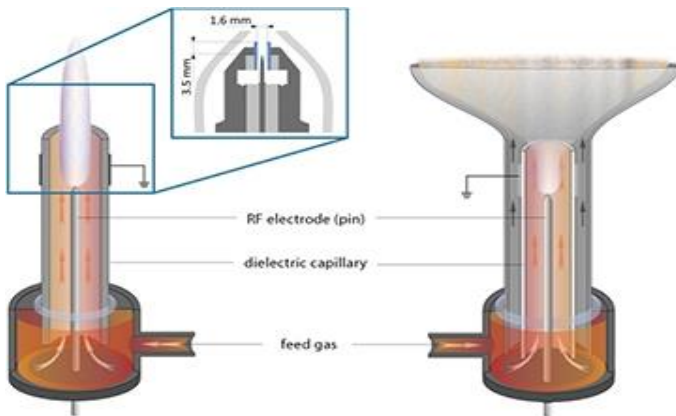
Wound healing
Cancer treatment
Plasma Medicine



• kINPen MED

Plasma generator (handpiece)

- Dimensions $\varnothing \times L$: 20 mm x 180 mm



• SteriPlas



PlasmaDerm®
plasma technology for health



Left: pen, right: large-area treatment principle.
Inset: the kINPen head with gas curtain device

The kINPen—a review on physics and chemistry of the atmospheric pressure plasma jet and its applications

Stephan Reuter et al 2018 *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **51** 233001



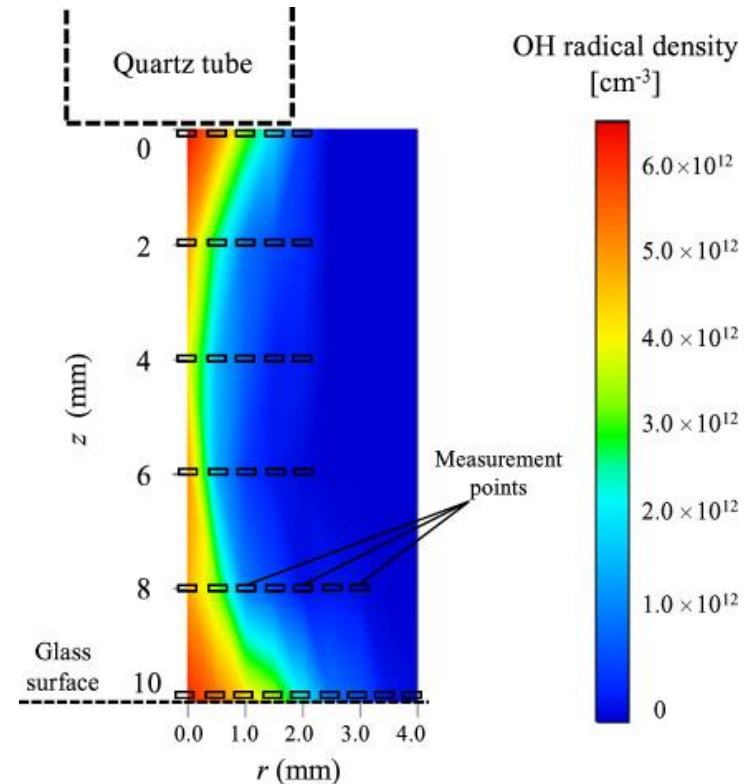
- Direct-contact

- The plasma is in contact with tissue that is “far away” from the power source.
- Plasma species include radicals, UV, charge, ions
- Plasma species are continuously generated along the path.

- Maintains high concentration of active species “far away” at tissue.

- Issues

- Plasma still needs to be quite close
- Plasma very sensitive to local environment
- **Medical approval:** Gas temperature, UV exposure, ozone, current, electric fields – need to be continuously measured and certifiably controlled. **Difficult.**
- Less accessible treatment sites - problematic



Yonemori, S. et al., *J. Phys. D* **2014**, 47, 125401.





- PAL
 - Also known as PAM
 - Plasma treats liquid
 - Liquid stored for use as chemotherapy agent
 - Cocktail of short-, medium-, long-lived ROS, RNS radicals
- Effectiveness unclear
- Very sensitive to shelf-life
 - (< seconds?)
- Droplet in Plasma system
 - Delivers PAL in droplet stream
 - Delivery time < milliseconds
 - Distance > 200 mm



Options?

During open surgery

Minimally invasive techniques

Endoscopy: flexible tubing

Long metal needle

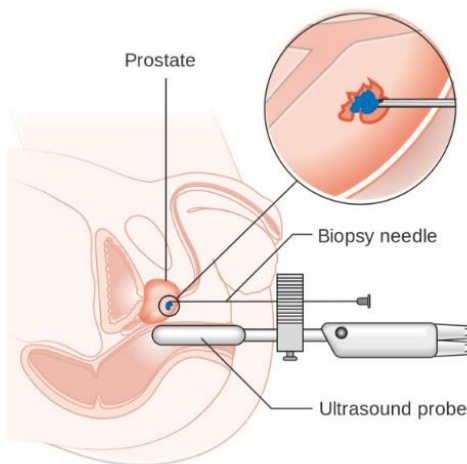
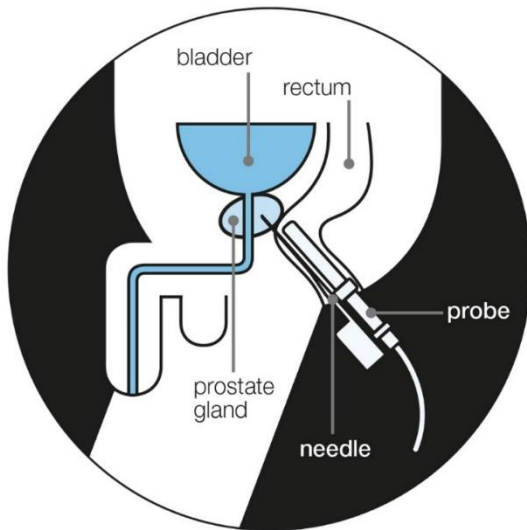
Injection – Plasma Activated Liquids

Plasma Treatment Inside the Body?



- Prostate Biopsy

- Can we integrate with plasma device?



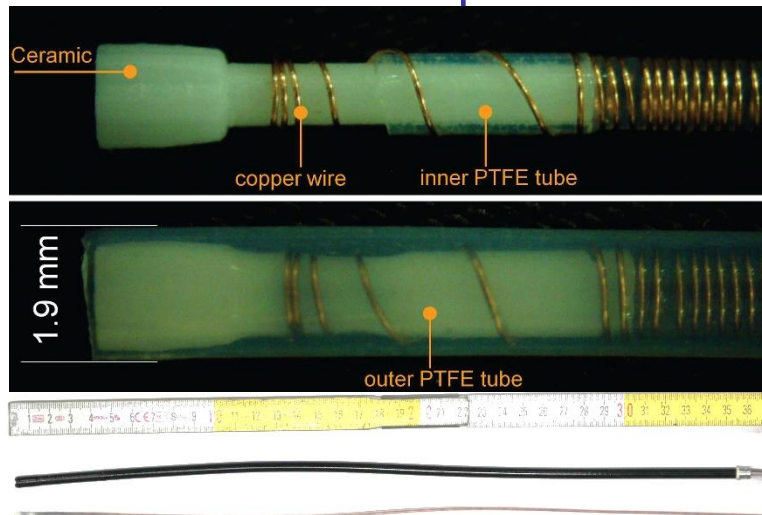
- Endoscope

- Can we integrate with plasma device?





• Plasma Endoscope



On the development of a deployable cold plasma endoscope, [Jörn Winter](#) et al., Contrib. Plasma Phys. (2018) <https://doi.org/10.1002/ctpp.201700127>

• Plasma Gun



• Remote plasma

- Plasma generated at end of long tube

• Challenges

- High voltages inside the body – can they be isolated?
- Possible high temperature arcs
- Jet operation in cavities
- Unwanted tube & parasitic discharges
- Tube erosion

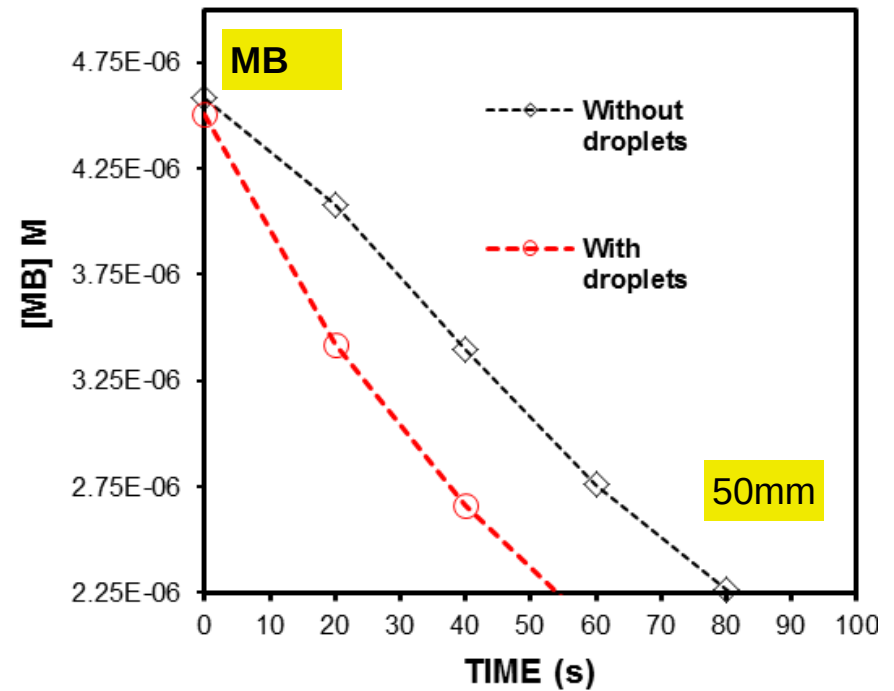
A flexible cold microplasma jet using biocompatible dielectric tubes for cancer therapy, Kim et al, Appl. Phys. Lett. **96**, 203701 (2010); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.3431392>

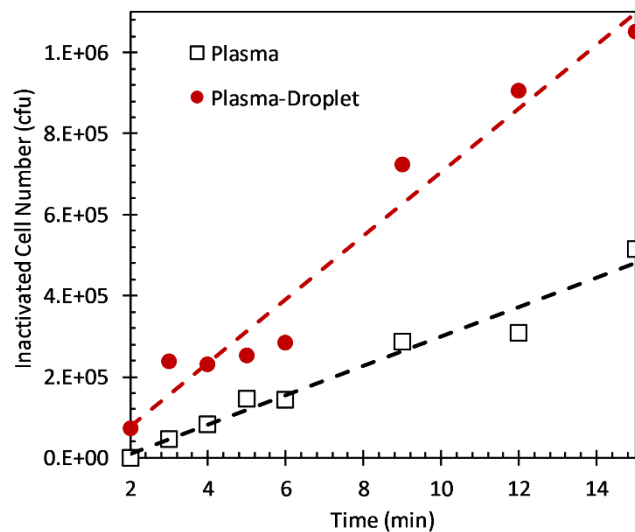
Long, biocompatible and highly flexible cold atmospheric microplasma jet device for precise endoscopic therapies, Tao Wang et al., [2018 IEEE Micro Electro Mechanical Systems \(MEMS\)](#)

Flexible cold plasma jet with controllable length and temperature for hydrophilic modification, Geng et al, Physics of Plasmas **25**, 083508 (2018); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5040331>

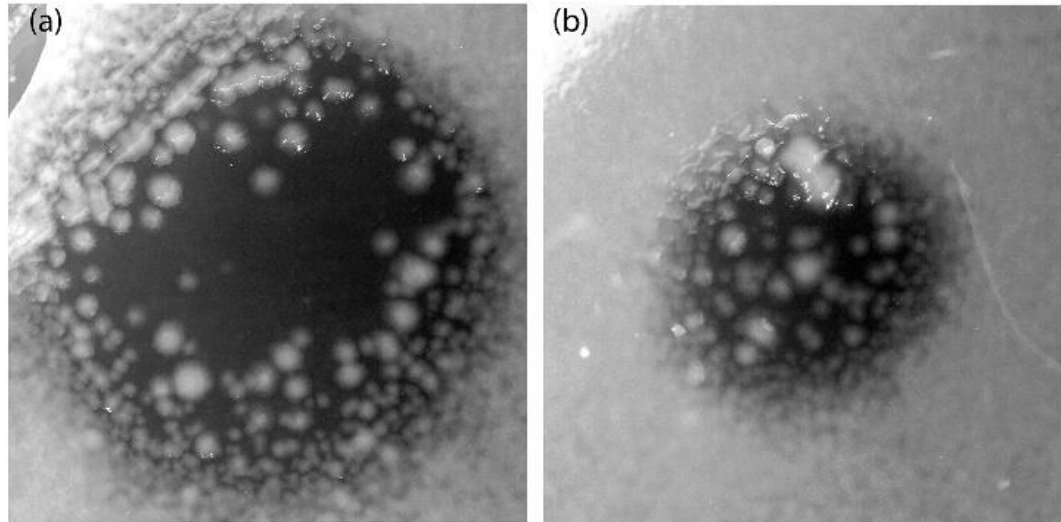


- Significant increase in OH delivered using microdroplets

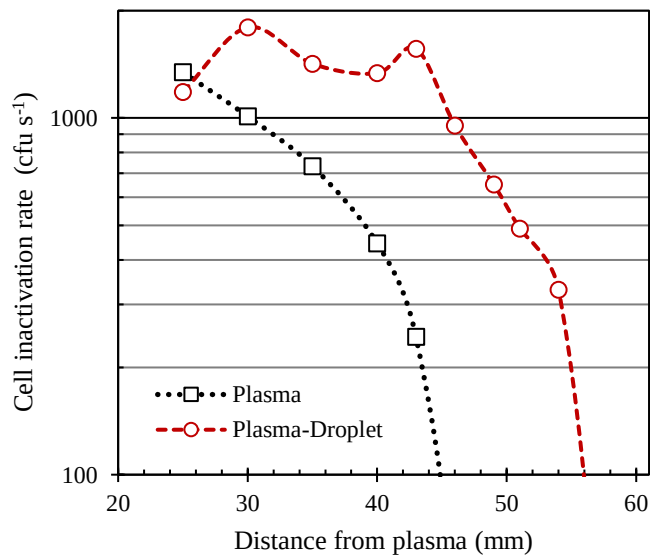




No of cells inactivated versus PE and PED exposure time at a fixed distance of 4.3 cm, calculated from ZoI diameter assuming $\sim 4000 \text{ cfu mm}^{-2}$.



E coli growth inhibition zone (ZoI) at a distance of 40 mm from plasma, after 3 min exposure to
(a) plasma effluent with **droplets** and
(b) plasma effluent



Increased efficacy in killing E coli with distance using droplets

Droplet in Plasma (DiP)



• Microscale droplets

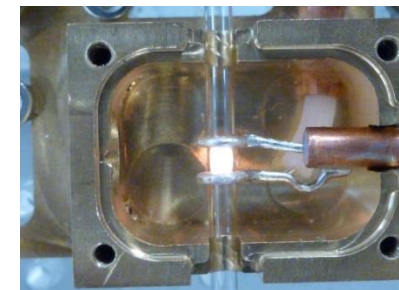
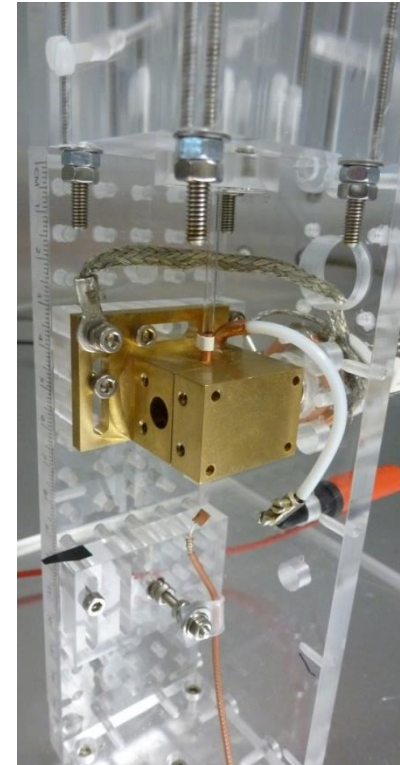
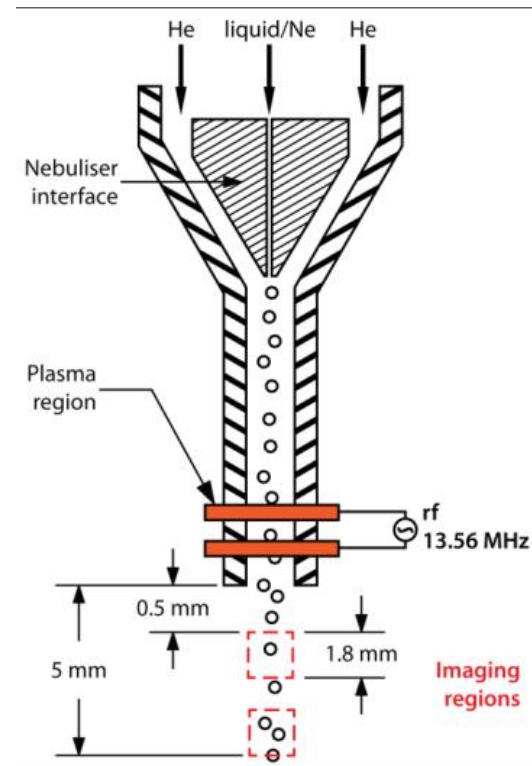
- A stream of microdroplets transported through a low temperature RF plasma.
- Low gas temperature, “large” size of droplet and short residence means evaporation is incomplete

• Non-thermal equilibrium plasma

- Gas, ion temperature $\ll$ electron temperature
- $T_{\text{gas}} \sim T_{\text{ion}} \ll T_e$.

• Plasma - Microdroplets

- Stream of microdroplets flows through plasma
- 50,000 droplets / sec
- Exposed to plasma for $\sim 120 \mu\text{s}$
- Droplet mean velocity $\sim 10 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

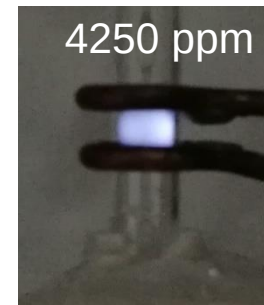
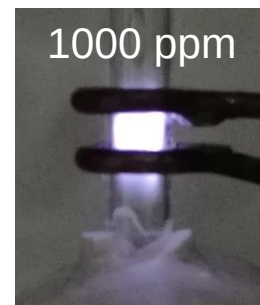
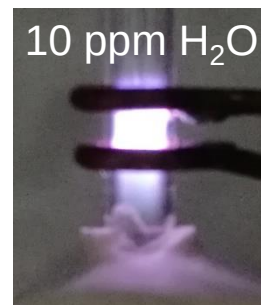


RF 13.56 MHz,
He: 3.5 slm,
Ne (aerosol): 1 slm
or Ar (aerosol): 1 slm

Maguire et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 106, 224101 (2015);

- OH maximum

- ➡ Net input power decreases $> 500\text{ppm}$, as plasma becomes electronegative
- ➡ Power density (emission brightness) decreases at slower rate

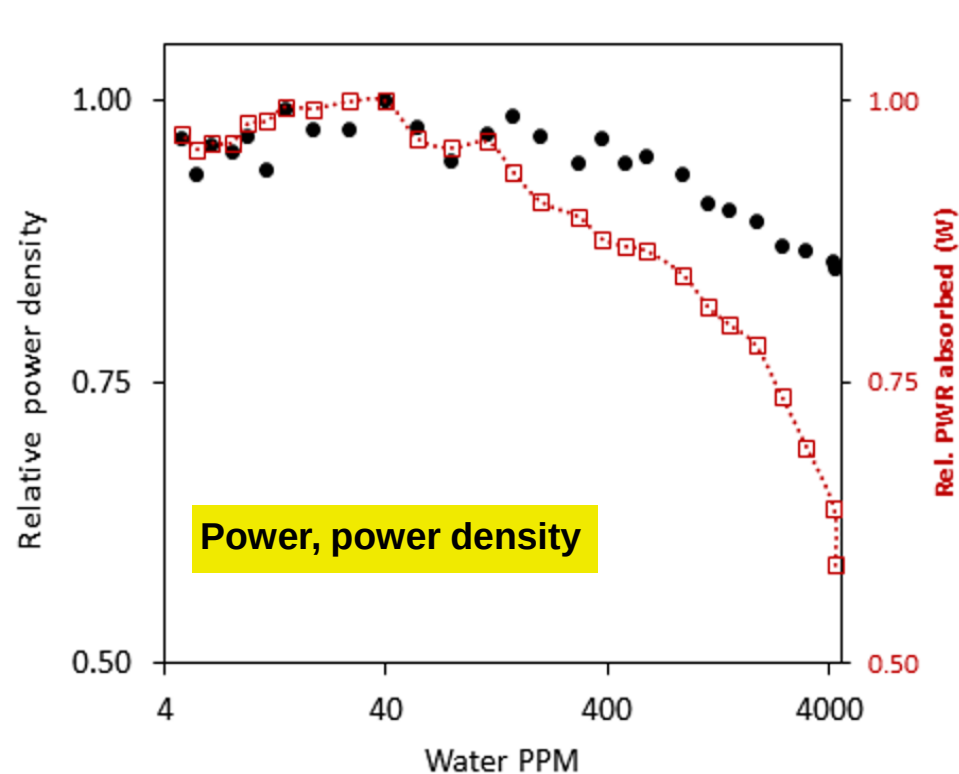
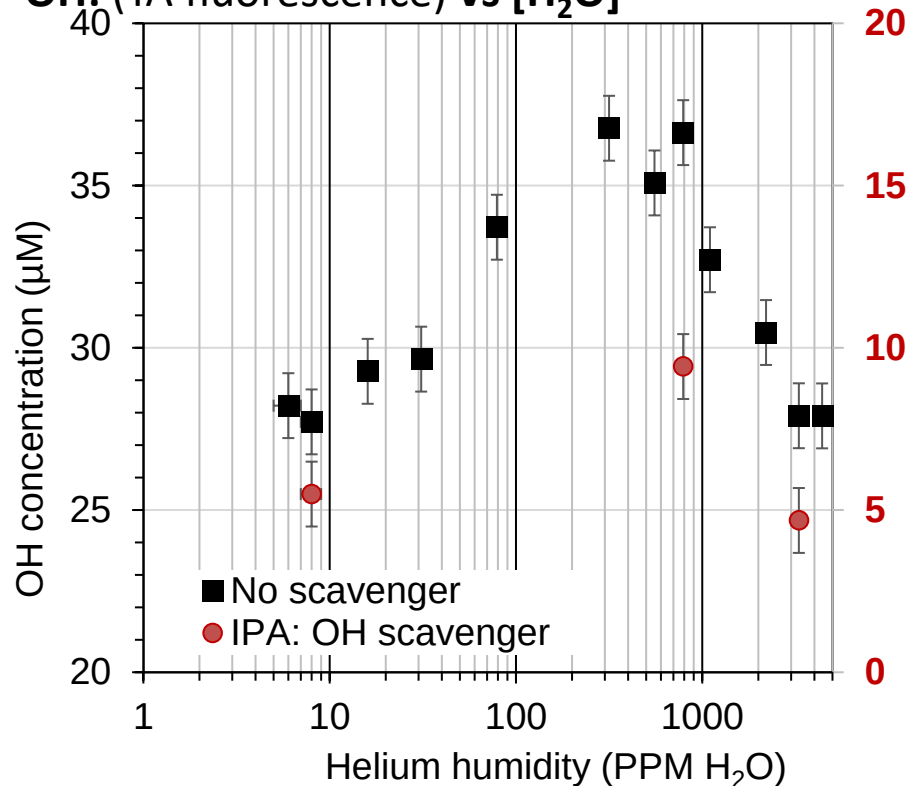


10 ppm H₂O

1000 ppm

4250 ppm

OH₂ (TA fluorescence) vs [H₂O]





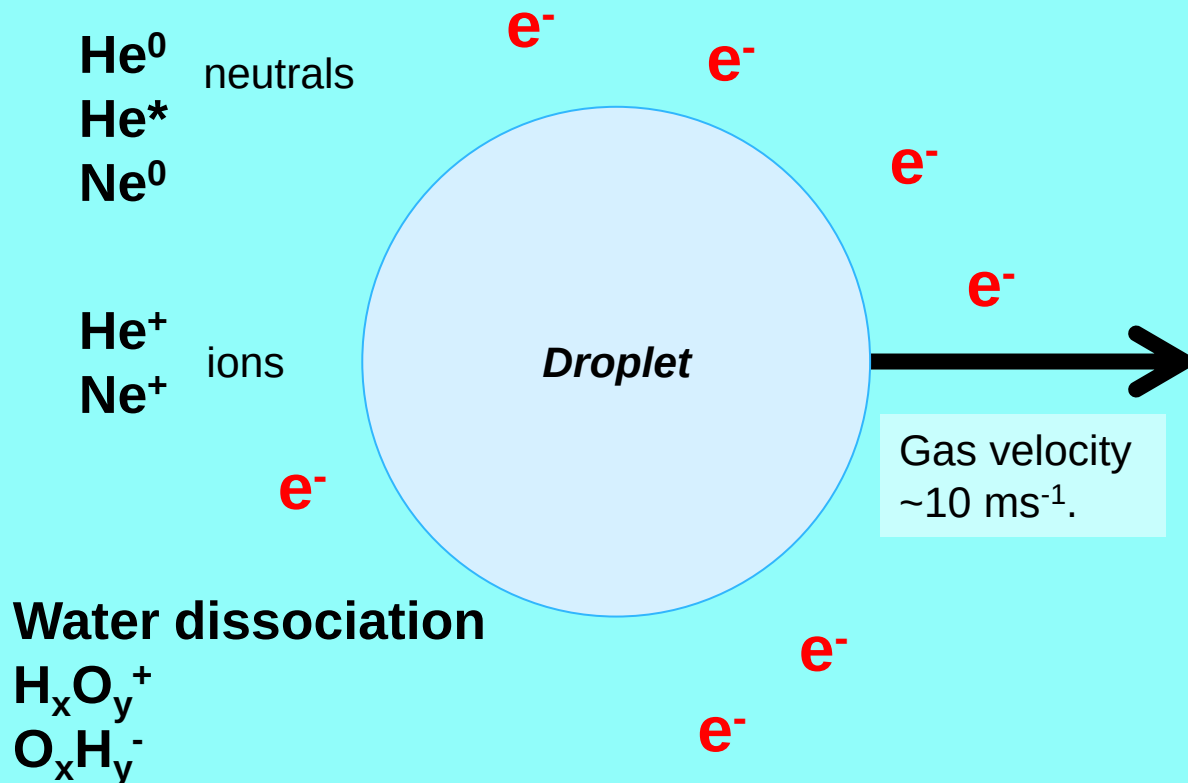
RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.
Reactor diameter:
2mm

HeNe plasma (5:1)
Laminar axial flow
 $\sim 10^4$ droplets per second
Residence time in plasma: $\sim 100 \mu\text{s}$
Droplet diameter average: $15 \mu\text{m}$

High speed imaging



~ 5 droplets in plasma region at any instant



Plasma region

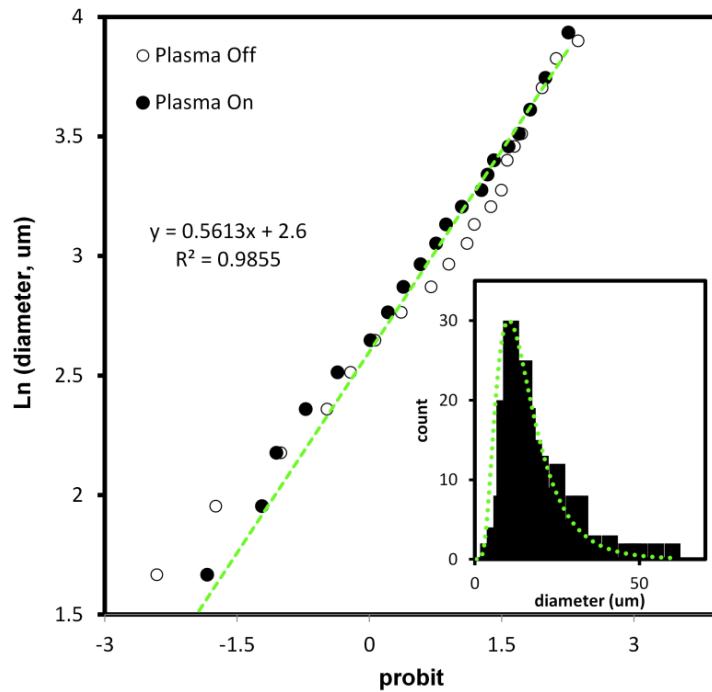


• Evaporation

- ⇒ H₂O production rate, delivered into plasma

• Droplet Size Distribution

- ⇒ Obtained from imaging in flight
- ⇒ 15 μm (CMD), no plasma

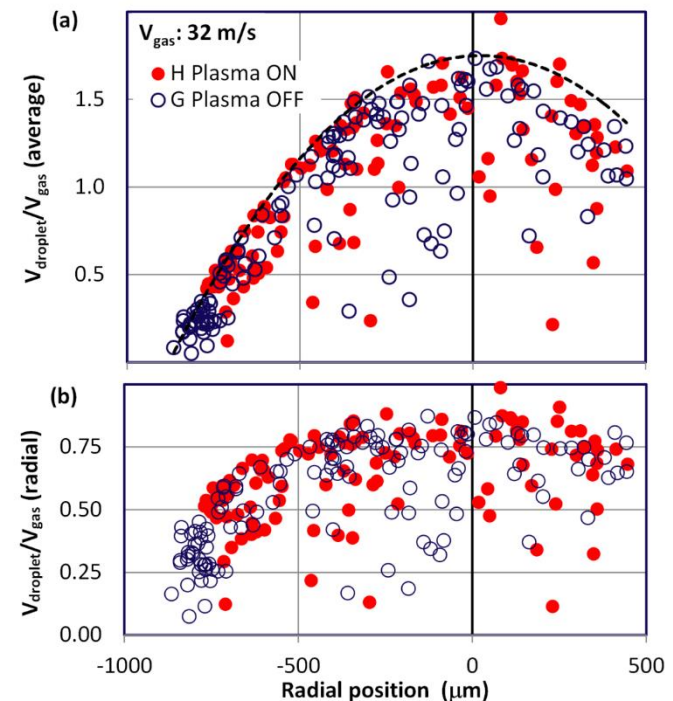


• Velocity Distribution

- ⇒ $V(r)$ measured by imaging (but outside tube)
- ⇒ Drop travelling at 75% velocity of gas
- ⇒ Is this true inside tube?

• Stokes Flow regime

- ⇒ Determines whether convection or diffusion carries H₂O away from droplet into plasma





RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0

He^*

Ne^0

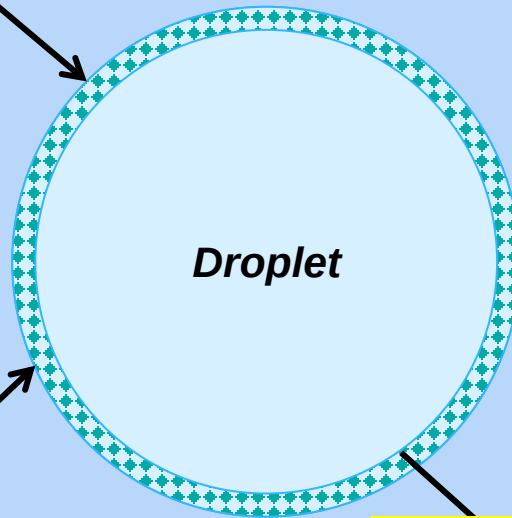
neutrals

He^+

Ne^+

ions

recombination
heating



Droplet

Evaporation

Evaporation

Droplet $15\mu\text{m}$ (CMD) $\rightarrow$ $13\mu\text{m}$ (CMD)

Evaporation $\sim D^2$

Droplet loss by evaporation
Across lognormal distribution

Lose smaller droplets $< 4\mu\text{m}$
 $\sim 5\%$ of the total droplet number and
 $\sim 0.05\%$ of the total liquid flow

Average Evaporation rate: $5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Evaporated vapour per drop: $\rightarrow$ **$< 100\text{ppm}$** in
plasma vol. 10^{-8} m^3 .

Likely vapour density is higher close to droplet

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0

He^*

Ne^0

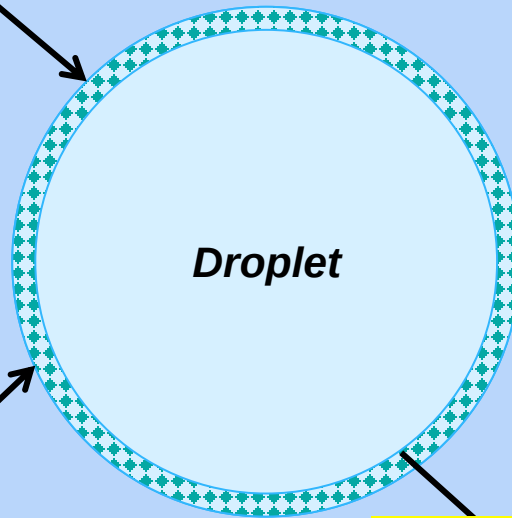
neutrals

He^+

Ne^+

ions

recombination
heating



Droplet

Evaporation

Plasma region

Evaporation

- Average Evaporation rate: $5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$.
- Evaporated vapour per drop: $\rightarrow <100\text{ppm}$ in plasma vol. 10^{-8}m^3 .

H₂O distribution:

If $V_{\text{gas}} \sim V_{\text{droplet}}$: high density vapour halo around droplet. $\sim 40,000 \text{ ppm H}_2\text{O}$.

If $V_{\text{gas}} \gg V_{\text{droplet}}$: evaporated vapour will disperse $\rightarrow$ uniform humidity



- Peak **gas** velocity at plasma entrance is 34 m s^{-1}
- Stoke's flow condition ($v_{\text{drop}}/v_g(r) > 0.95$)
- Droplet acceleration from nebuliser to plasma
- From literature: Nebuliser output velocity
 - $v_{\text{gas}} > 1000 \text{ m s}^{-1}$.
 - $v_{\text{droplet}} > 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ within a few millimetres
- The acceleration of a falling droplet, with local gas speed $v_g(r)$ is given by

$$\frac{dv_d}{dt} = g + \frac{3\rho_g C_{Dr.}}{4\rho_d D} v_g^2(r) \left(1 - \frac{v_d}{v_g(r)} \right)$$

g is acceleration due to gravity, r is the radial distance, ρ_g and ρ_d are gas and droplet density respectively and $C_{Dr.}$ is the drag coefficient of a sphere.

Fraction nebuliser – plasma distance required to reach the Stoke's flow condition

- Depends on initial velocity (v_o) at nebuliser.
 - Diameter $20 \mu\text{m}$: $v_o/v_g > 0.1$,
 - $20 \mu\text{m} < D < 30 \mu\text{m}$: $v_o/v_g > 0.8$
- Across the velocity range, this accounts for ~75% of evaporated vapour

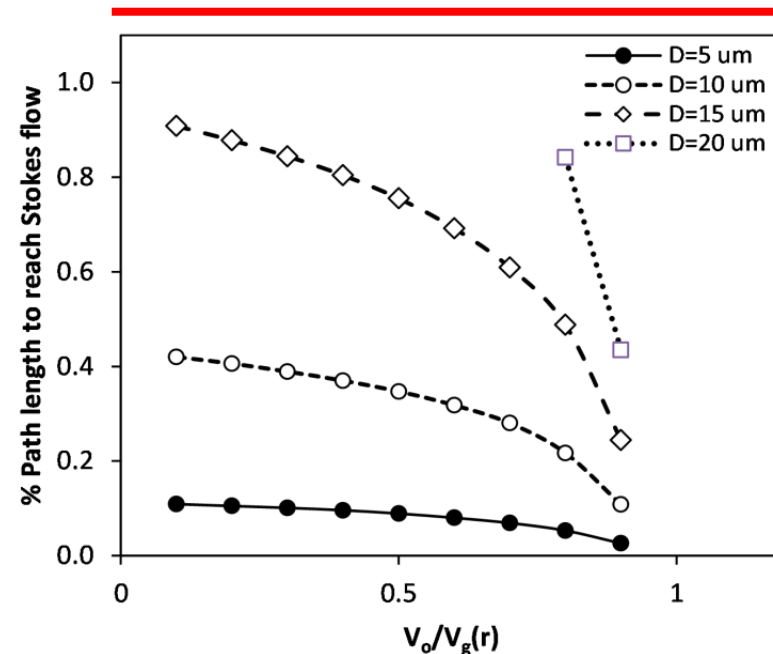
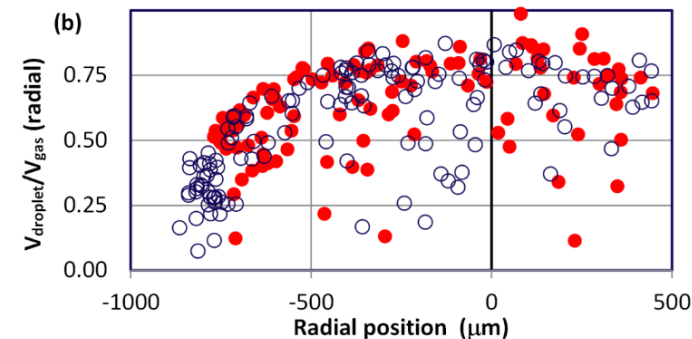


Figure 6. Fraction of path length between nebuliser and plasma (50 mm) required for droplet to reach Stokes flow condition, for various initial velocities, v_o , and diameters.



• Humidity effect on plasma

- With added H_2O ,
- electropositive $\rightarrow$ electronegative plasma
- Plasma impedance increases, NI mobility
- Power density reduced

• Droplet effect

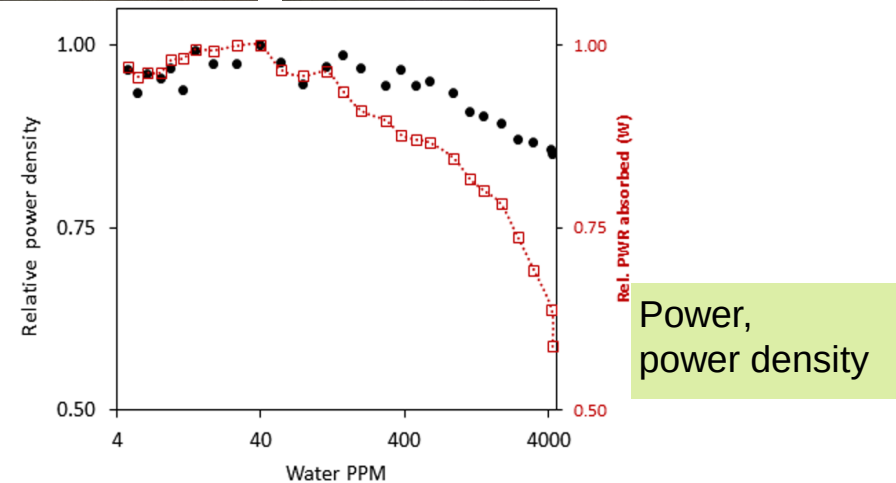
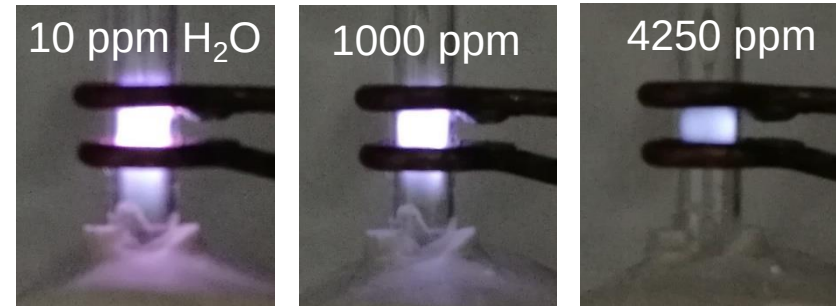
- Addition of droplets
- No increase in impedance (slight reduction)
- No decrease in power absorbed
- Consistent with vapour halo formation

• Gas Temperature

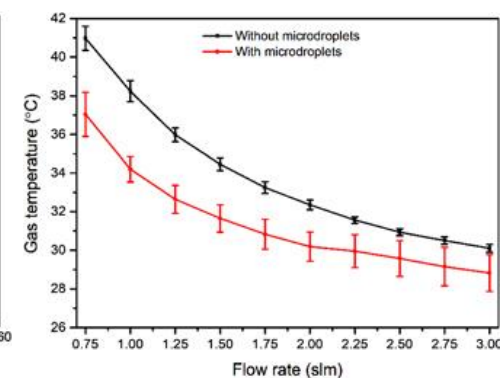
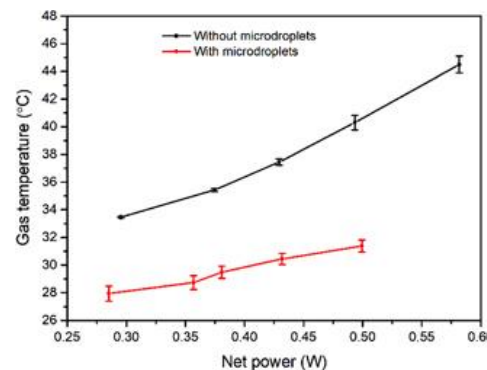
- Temperature generally increases with humidity
- However with droplets T_{gas} is lower
- $\sim 35^\circ\text{C}$.
- Consistent with vapour halo formation

• Simulation

- Evaporation, Stokes flow
- Global
- Characteristic numbers



Power,
power density





RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0

neutrals

Water
dissociation
 H_xO_y^+
 O_xH_y^-

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

recombination
heating

e^-

plasma chemistry

Plasma is set back
from air impurity
contamination

Low ppm H_2O without
droplet. **Measured at**
<500ppm

$\text{O}_2, \text{N}_2: \sim 0$

Saturated vapour layer

Droplet

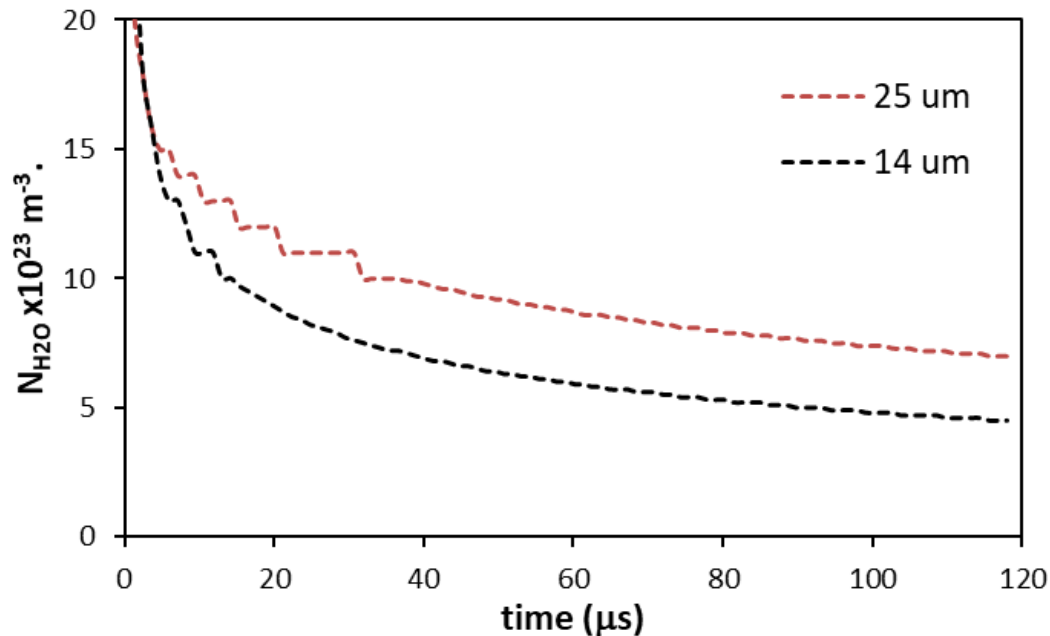
Evaporation

Plasma region



Evaporated H_2O density in halo around droplet against flight time in plasma

$$D^2 = D_0^2 - c_{av}t$$



D_0 : 14 μm and 25 μm,

Diffusion length of $\sqrt{(D_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \cdot t)}$,

Gas temperature: 350 K

Saturated vapour pressure, 350K: $P_{v,\text{sat}} = 41.6$ kPa

Evaporation constant: $c_{av} = 5.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$.

Halo width @ 120 μs = ~100 μm

• Droplet Halo Chemistry

- Noble gas
- Electrons
- Water Dissociation

Chemical Flux to droplet

- e^-
- He^+ , Ne^+ .
- OH , H , H_2O_2 .
- H^+ , OH^+ , Om^+ , $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ clusters
- OH^- , H^- , Om^- , $\text{OH}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ clusters



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

e^-

Droplet charging

heating

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0

neutrals

e^-

plasma chemistry

Droplet

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

recombination
heating

Plasma chemistry

- changes considerably in presence of H_2O
- **H_2O vapour layer**, ~100% sat. 40,000 ppm
- Normally plasma extinguished at ~5,000 – 10,000ppm
- **Possibly a radically different plasma chemistry: Very high H_2O , no O_2 , N_2 .**

**Vapour
layer**

Plasma-induced liquid chemistry

- Surface dependent
- Reaction depth

Electron flux

- e^- interaction with vapour layer chemistry
- e^- direct electron (solvated) chemistry in liquid

Evaporation

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0

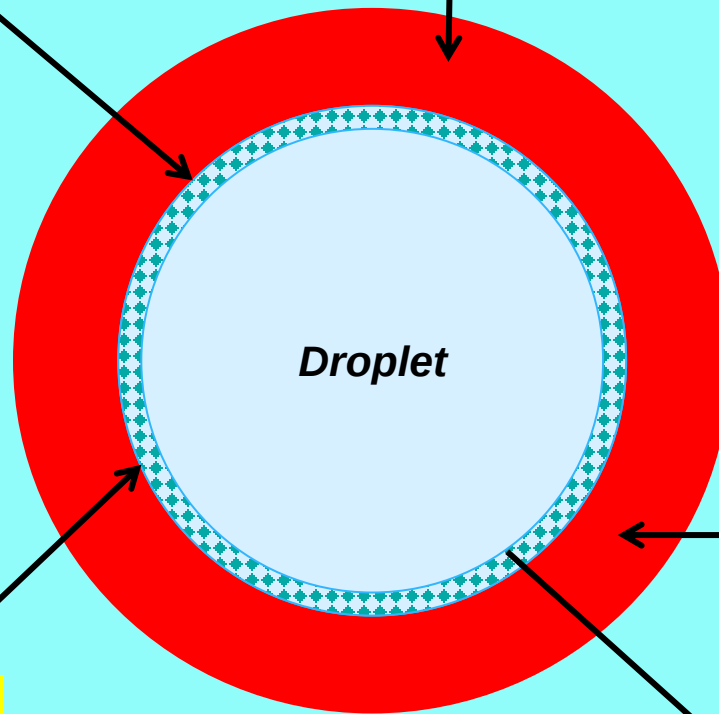
neutrals

Water
dissociation
 H_xO_y^+
 O_xH_y^-

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

recombination
heating

e^- Droplet charging
 e^- plasma chemistry



Plasma structure?

- Electronegative plasma surrounds droplet
- (Cation – Anion plasma?)
- Electropositive plasma surrounds halo
- Injects electrons
- Feed anion, cation H_2O cluster growth – depends on $N_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ and dissociation species
- Charges droplet
- Solvated electron chemistry
- Internal electric field
- Poisson-Boltzmann
- Liquid species redistribution

Saturated vapour layer

Evaporation

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0

neutrals

Water
dissociation
 H_xO_y^+
 O_xH_y^-

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

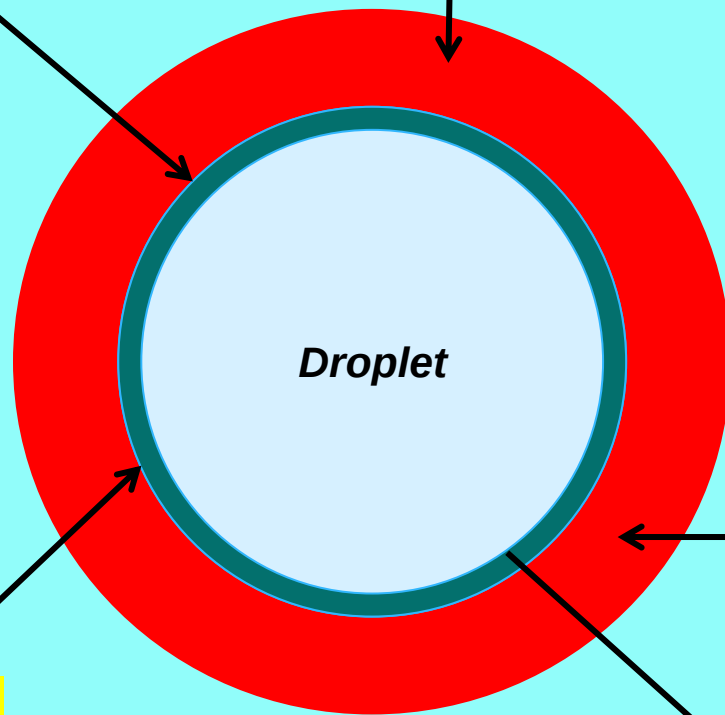
recombination
heating

e^-

Droplet charging

e^-

plasma chemistry



Plasma structure?

- Electronegative plasma surrounds droplet
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- Injects electrons
- Feed anion, cation H_2O cluster growth – depends on $N_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ and dissociation species
- Charges droplet
- Solvated electron chemistry
- Internal electric field
- Poisson-Boltzmann
- Liquid species redistribution

Saturated vapour layer

Droplet sheath

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

heating

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0

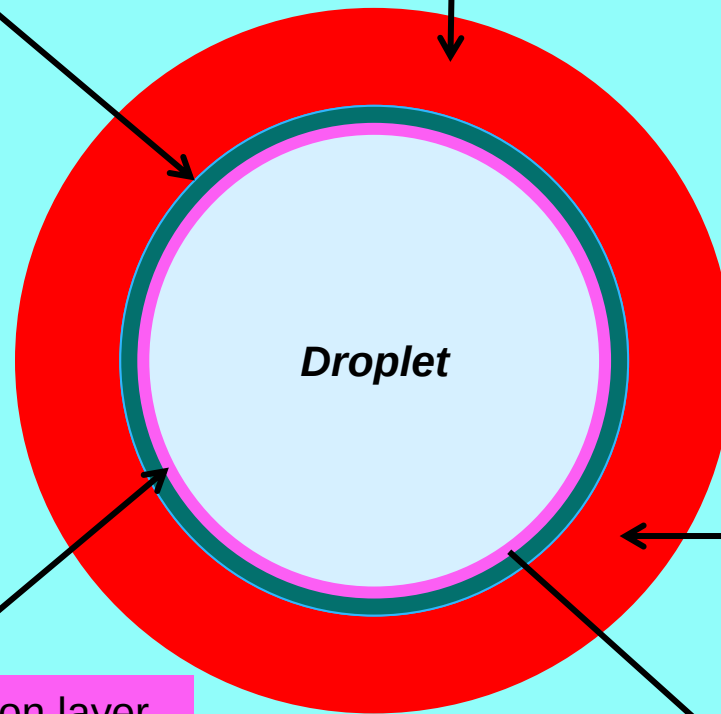
neutrals

Water
dissociation
 H_xO_y^+
 O_xH_y^-

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

Solvated electron layer

e^- Droplet charging
 e^- plasma chemistry



Plasma structure?

- Electronegative plasma surrounds droplet
- (Cation – Anion plasma?)
- Electropositive plasma surrounds halo
- Injects electrons
- Feed anion, cation H_2O cluster growth – depends on $N_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ and dissociation species
- Charges droplet
- Solvated electron chemistry
- Internal electric field
- Poisson-Boltzmann
- Liquid species redistribution

Saturated vapour layer

Droplet sheath

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz

$n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

He^0

He^* neutrals

Ne^0

He^+

Ne^+ ions

Water

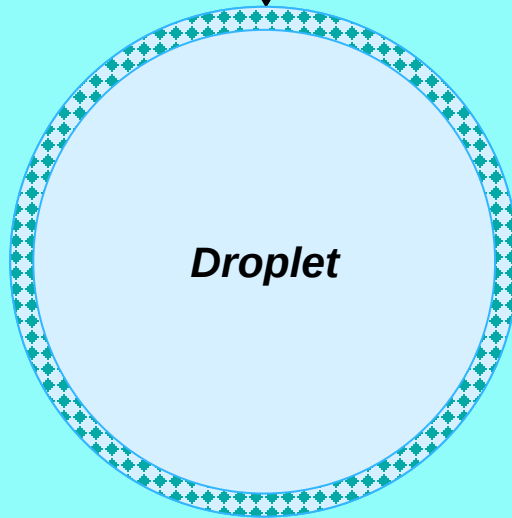
dissociation

H_xO_y^+

O_xH_y^-

e^-

Droplet charging



Net electron flux initially
Droplet charges rapidly until it reaches
Negative floating potential
Then electron flux = ion flux
Timescale ns, (ω_i)

Plasma region



RF 13.56MHz

$n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

He^0

He^* neutrals

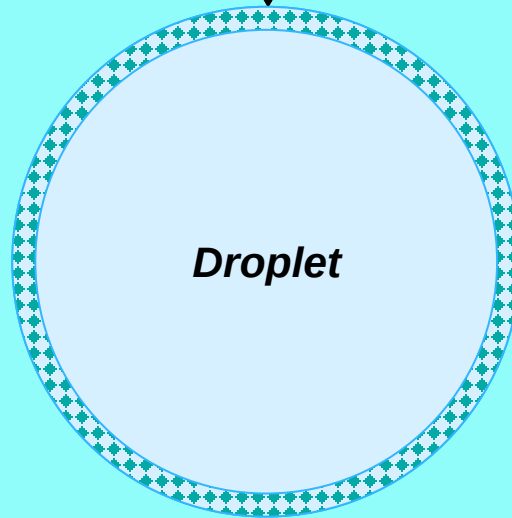
Ne^0

e^-

Droplet charging



He^+
 Ne^+ ions



Net electron flux initially
Droplet charges rapidly until it reaches
Negative floating potential
Then electron flux = ion flux
Timescale ns, (ω_i)

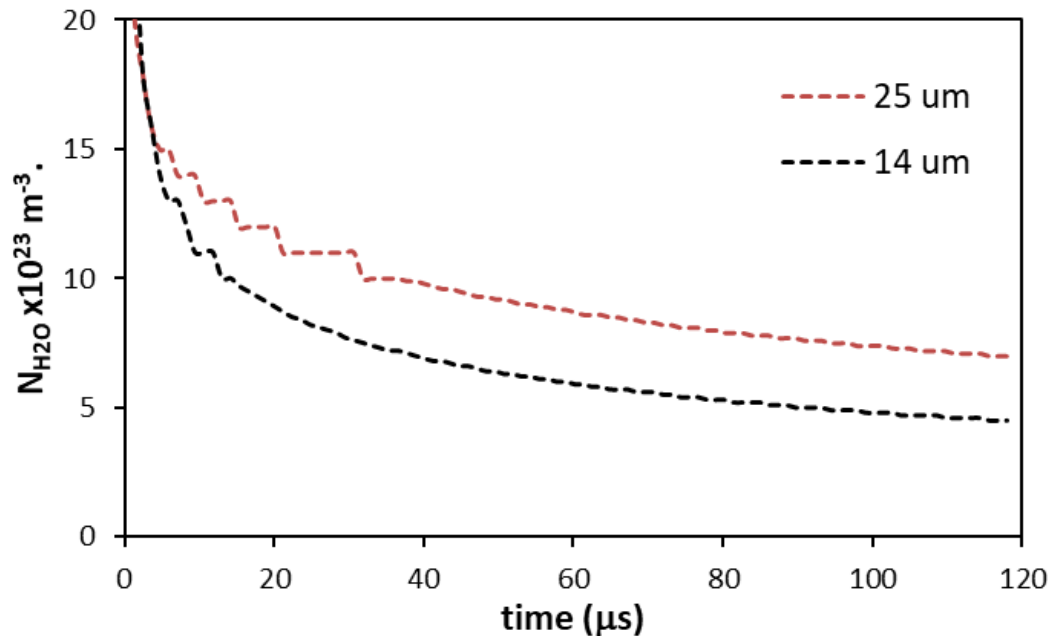
Plasma volume $\sim 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3$.
Total no. electrons: $> 10^{10}$.
Max. electrons lost to droplet 0.1%

Plasma region



Evaporated H_2O density in halo around droplet against flight time in plasma

$$D^2 = D_0^2 - c_{av}t$$



D_0 : 14 μm and 25 μm,

Diffusion length of $\sqrt{(D_{H_2O} \cdot t)}$,

Gas temperature: 350 K

Saturated vapour pressure, 350K: $P_{v,sat} = 41.6 \text{ kPa}$

Evaporation constant: $c_{av} = 5.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$.

Halo width @ 120 μs = ~100 μm

• Droplet Halo Chemistry

- Noble gas
- Electrons
- Water Dissociation

• Species flux to droplet

- e^-
- He^+ , Ne^+ .
- OH , H , O_m , H_2O_2 .
- H^+ , OH^+ , O_m^+ , $H_3O^+(H_2O)_n$ clusters
- OH^- , H^- , O_m^- , $OH-(H_2O)_n$ clusters

• With droplet at floating potential

- e^-
- He^+ , Ne^+ .
- OH , H , O_m , H_2O_2 .
- H^+ , OH^+ , O_m^+ , $H_3O^+(H_2O)_n$ clusters
- OH^- , H^- , O_m^- , $OH-(H_2O)_n$ clusters



- Electron Flux to droplet

- ⇒ Dusty plasma (?)
- ⇒ But collisional
- ⇒ But $D \gg \lambda_i, \lambda_{De}$

- Ion Flux to droplet

- ⇒ Collisional
- ⇒ Very low energy
- ⇒ Water product ions ~ neutrals
- ⇒ Noble gas ions?

- Flux induced droplet chemistry

- ⇒ Charge and chemical species flux to droplet

- Model

- ⇒ Plasma induced chemistry
- ⇒ In liquid
- ⇒ 1D radial
- ⇒ 15 species, including solvated electrons
- ⇒ 100 reactions

- Charge flux (variable n_e)

- Neutral chemical flux

- ⇒ OH, H, H₂O₂, H₂, O₂.

- H₂O → H₂O₂ conversion efficiency

- ⇒ Literature, up to 6000ppm
- ⇒ Across plasma types and conditions
- ⇒ $Y_{H_2O_2} \sim 10^{-3}$, from gas phase measurements
- ⇒ $Y_{H_2O_2} \sim 10^{-4}$, from liquid measurements

- H₂O → OH, H conversion efficiency

- ⇒ OH + OH → H₂O₂. (but some show $N_{OH} \sim N_{H_2O_2}$)



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

e^-

Droplet charging

heating

He^0
 He^* ~~X~~
 Ne^0

neutrals

$\text{O}_x\text{H}_y, \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

$\text{H}_3\text{O}^+(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$
clusters
 OH^+

He^+ ~~X~~
 Ne^+ ~~X~~ ions

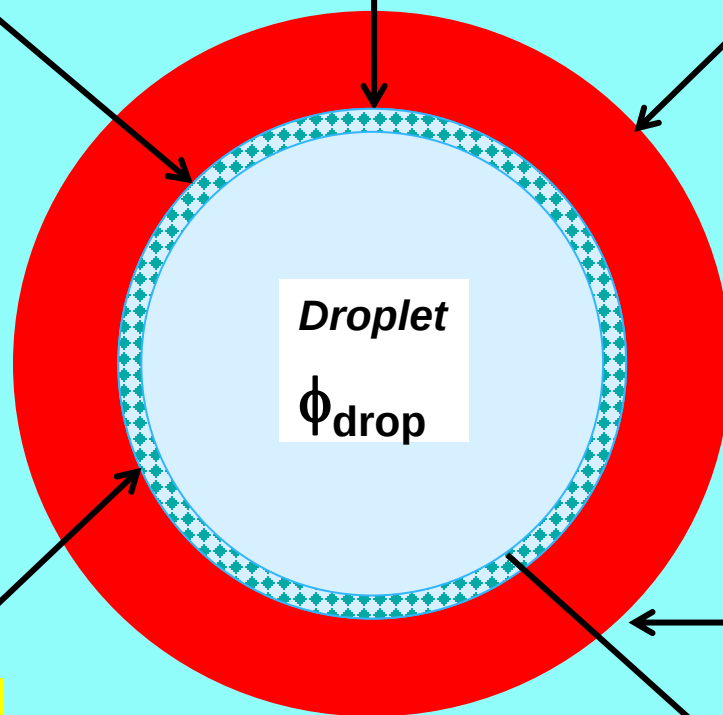
recombination
heating

e^-

plasma chemistry

Plasma chemistry

- Conversion efficiency
- $Y_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2} \sim 10^{-3}$,
- Halo neutral densities
- $N_{\text{H}_2\text{O}_2}, N_{\text{OH}}, N_{\text{H}}$ vary with flight time through plasma



From EEDF:
Electron energy $\sim 0\text{eV}$ in vicinity of
droplet i.e. is dependent on floating
voltage, rather than T_e .

Vapour
layer

Evaporation

$\text{OH}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ anion, clusters X

Plasma region



Diameter
15 μm , 20 μm

Electron flux:
 $10^{20} - 10^{23} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

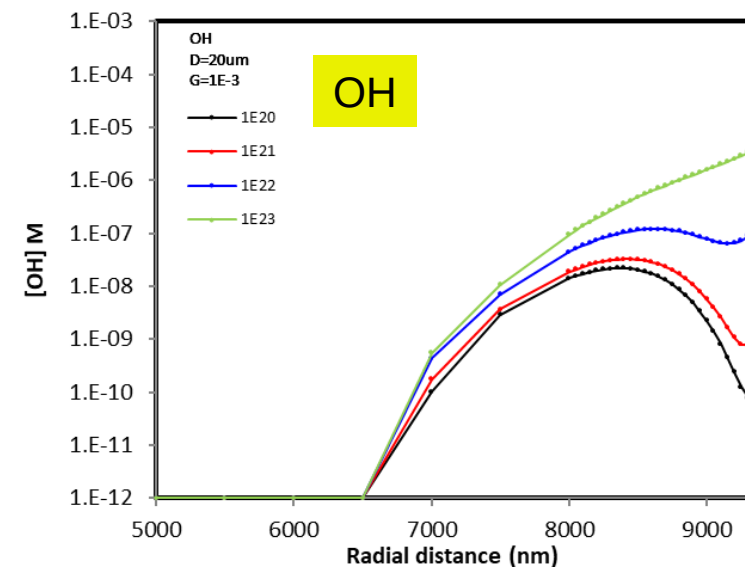
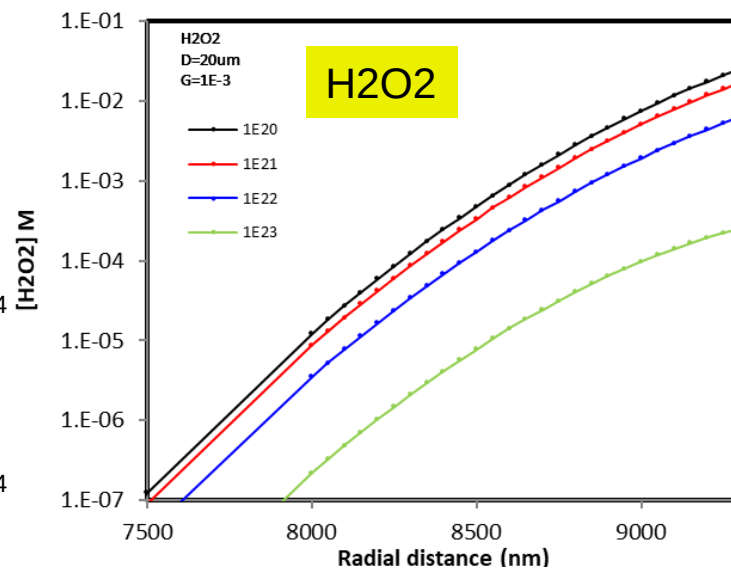
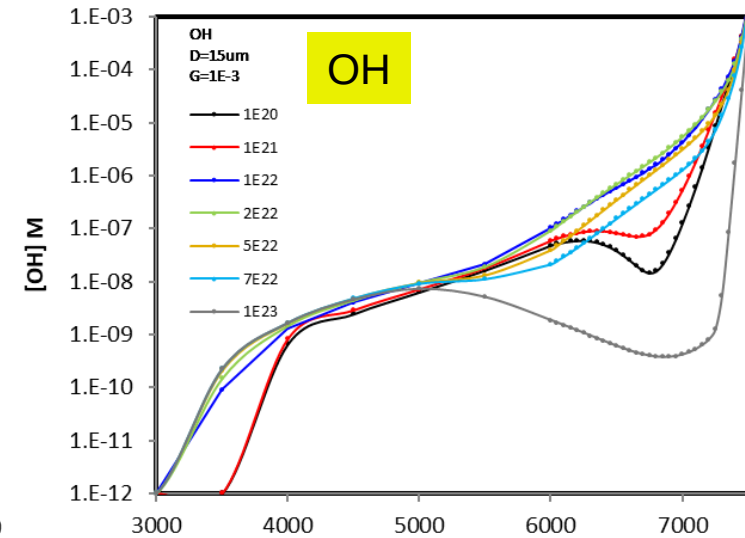
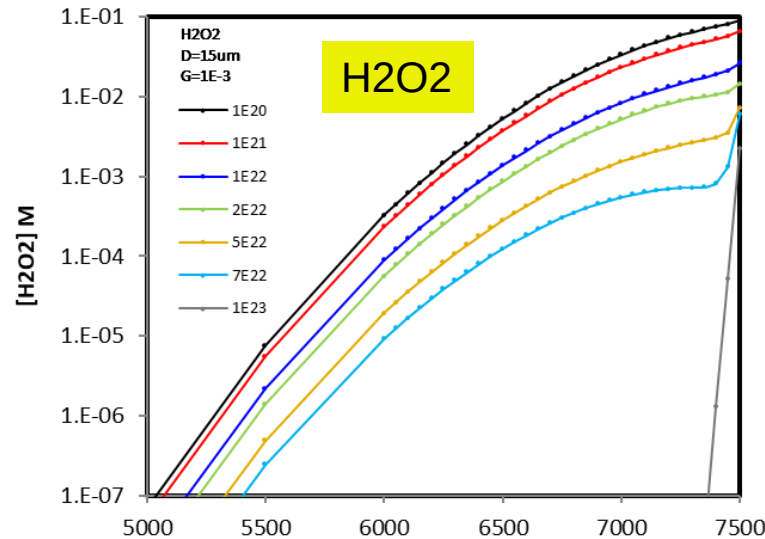
Ions:
no chemical impact

H_2O_2 :
Decreases with increasing electron flux

OH:
Optimum flux at $10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

15 μm : 1mM max conc. Decays by 10^{-4} over 1500nm

20 μm : 1 μM max conc. Decays by 10^{-4} over 2500nm



Droplet temperature dependent Henry's constant for OH and H_2O_2



Diameter
15 μm , 20 μm

Electron flux:
 $10^{20} - 10^{23} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

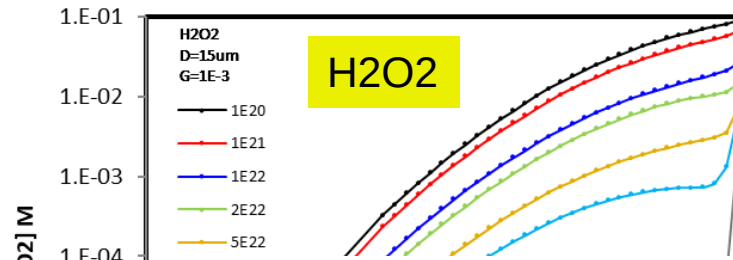
Ions:
no chemical impact

H_2O_2 :
Decreases with increasing electron flux

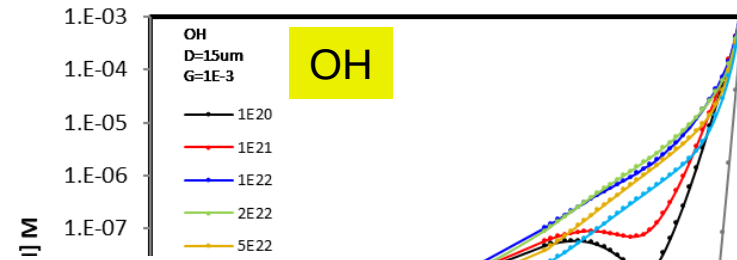
OH:
Optimum flux at $10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

15 μm : 1mM max conc. Decays by 10^{-4} over 1500nm

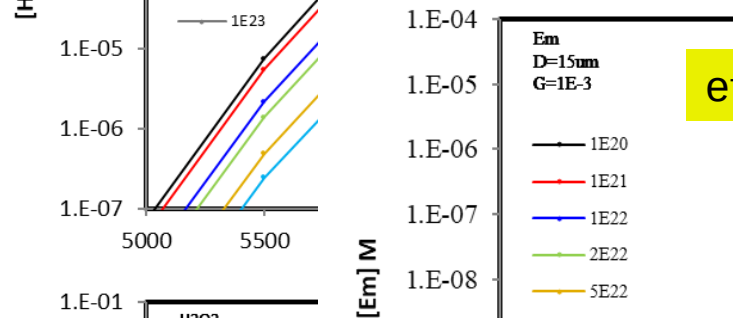
20 μm : 1 μM max conc. Decays by 10^{-4} over 2500nm



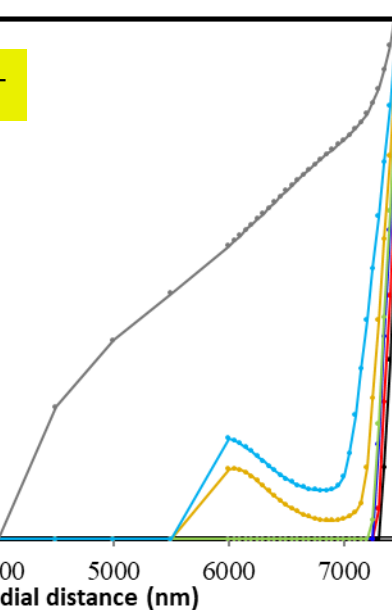
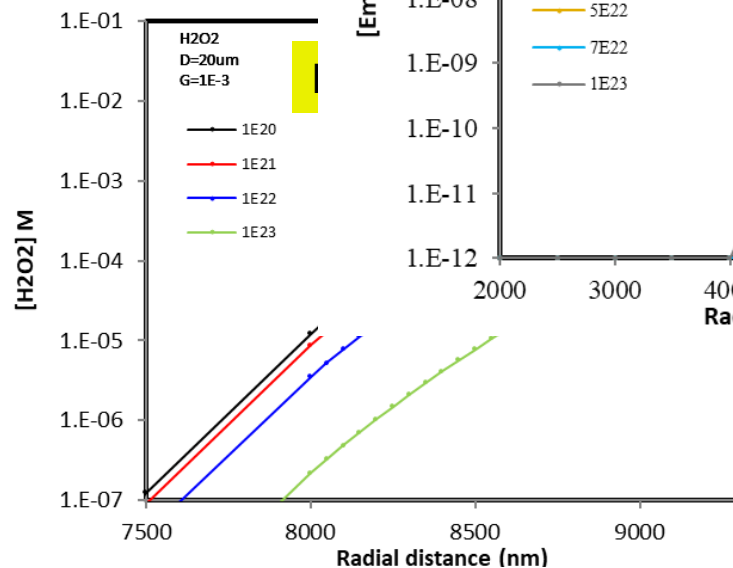
H_2O_2



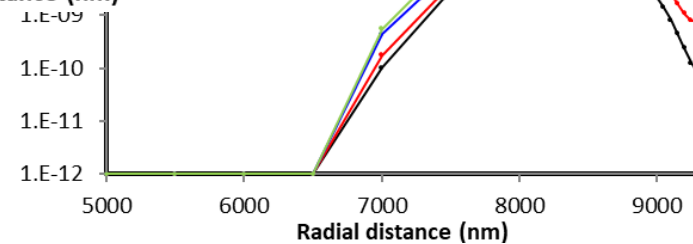
OH



e^-



Radial distance (nm)



Radial distance (nm)

Droplet temperature dependent Henry's constant for OH and H_2O_2

Electron flux to droplet



- Reactor
 - 10^{-3}
- Droplet
 - 10^{-5}
- Sheath?
- Debye?
- Mean free path
 - 10^{-7}
- Solvated electron layer
 - 10^{-8} to 10^{-9}



Standard orbital motion limited (OML) theory

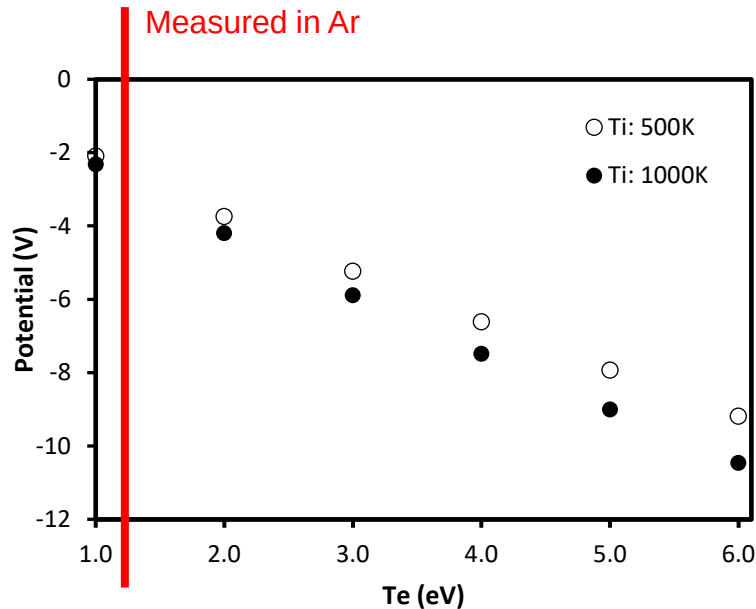
Collisionless

Droplet potential obtained by equating ion and electron currents to and from the droplet i.e.

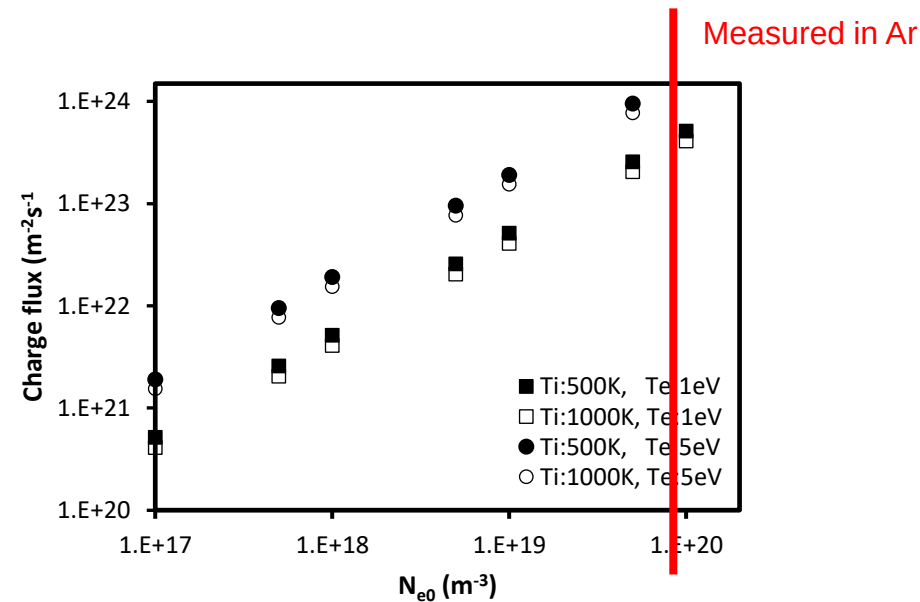
$$\left(\frac{T_e}{m_e}\right)^{1/2} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_e}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{T_i}{m_i}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_i}\right)$$

total flux Γ is given by

$$4\pi r_o^2 Z_i e n_{oi} \left(\frac{K_B T_i}{2\pi m_i}\right)^{1/2} \frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_i}$$



Droplet potential versus electron temperature, for two values of $T_i = 500K$, and $1000K$ calculated using Orbital Motion Limited (OML) theory.



Ion/electron OML flux to $15 \mu m$ droplet versus plasma density (n_{e0}) for $T_i = 500K$, and $1000K$ and upper/lower values of T_e of $1 eV$ and $5 eV$



Standard orbital motion limited (OML) theory

Droplet potential obtained by equating ion and electron currents to and from the droplet i.e.

$$\left(\frac{T_e}{m_e}\right)^{1/2} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_e}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{T_i}{m_i}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_i}\right)$$

total flux Γ is given by

$$4\pi r_o^2 Z_i e n_{oi} \left(\frac{K_B T_i}{2\pi m_i}\right)^{1/2} \frac{e|\varphi_s|}{K_B T_i}$$

High Pressure (Collisional)

In high pressure plasmas, ion and electron collisions with neutrals modify the charge flux to the surface.

Weak collisionality: ion mean free path λ_i , < Debye length λ_{Di} ,

Strong collisionality: electrons also suffer collisions i.e. $\lambda_e \ll \lambda_{De}$.

Simple expression for charge flux to a probe is not available.

1. COMSOL fluid model. 1D radial

2. 1D radial analytical / numerical model for both $\lambda_{i,e}$ and $\lambda_{Di,e} \ll D$, the droplet diameter, based on mobility/diffusion assumptions

$$\nabla \left(-\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{\tau} n_i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = 0$$

$$\nabla \left(-\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial r} + n_e \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = 0$$

$$\nabla \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{1}{\lambda_{De}^2} (n_e - n_i) = 0$$

$$\nabla(x) = 1/r^2 \partial/\partial r (r^2 x)$$

$$\Gamma_i^p = \frac{N_\infty D_i}{R_p} \frac{\partial n_i}{\partial r}(r_p)$$

$$\Gamma_e^p = (N_\infty D_e / R_p) \partial n_e / \partial r(r_p)$$



• Plasma – droplet collisional model

$$\lambda_e \ll \lambda_{De}, \quad \lambda_{De} \ll r_{NP}$$

• Highly collisional

- Hydrodynamic solution
- No analytical approximations
- Simulations
- Asymptotic analytical approximations
- **Not experimentally verified**

$$\nabla \left(-\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{\tau} n_i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = 0$$

$$\nabla \left(-\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial r} + n_e \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = 0$$

$$\nabla \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{1}{\lambda_{De}^2} (n_e - n_i) = 0$$

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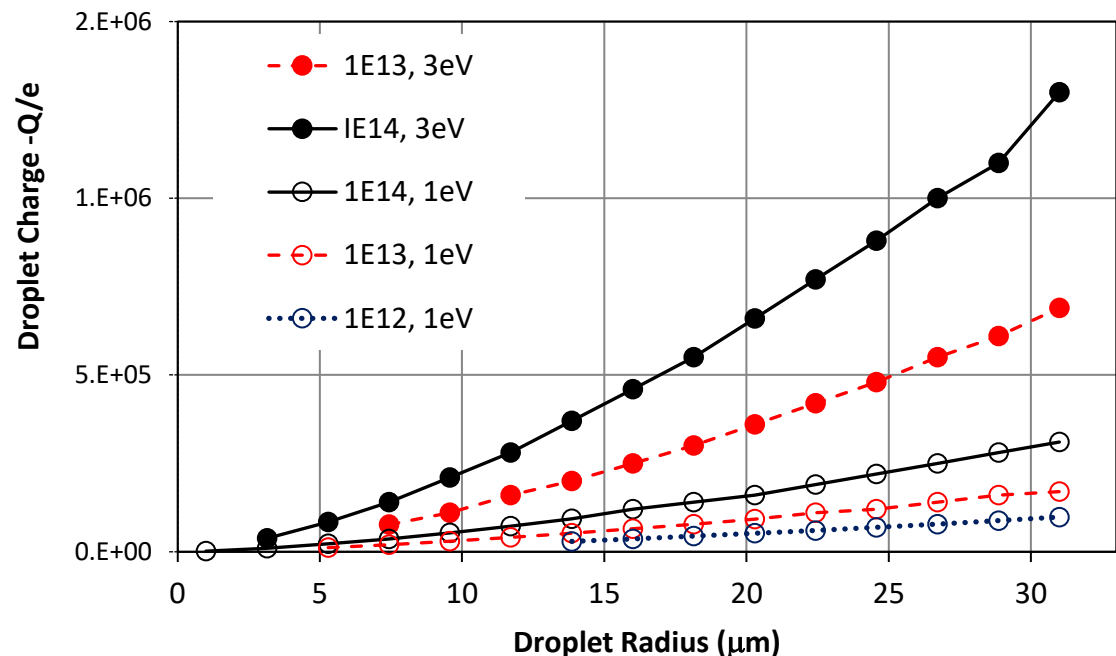
Patacchini, Leonardo, and Ian H. Hutchinson.

“Continuum plasma solution surrounding non-emitting spherical bodies.”
Physics of Plasmas 16.6
(2009): 062101-16

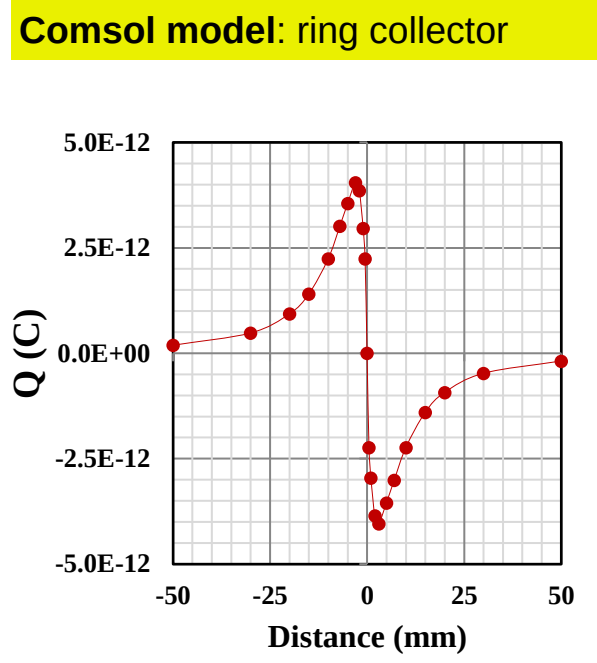
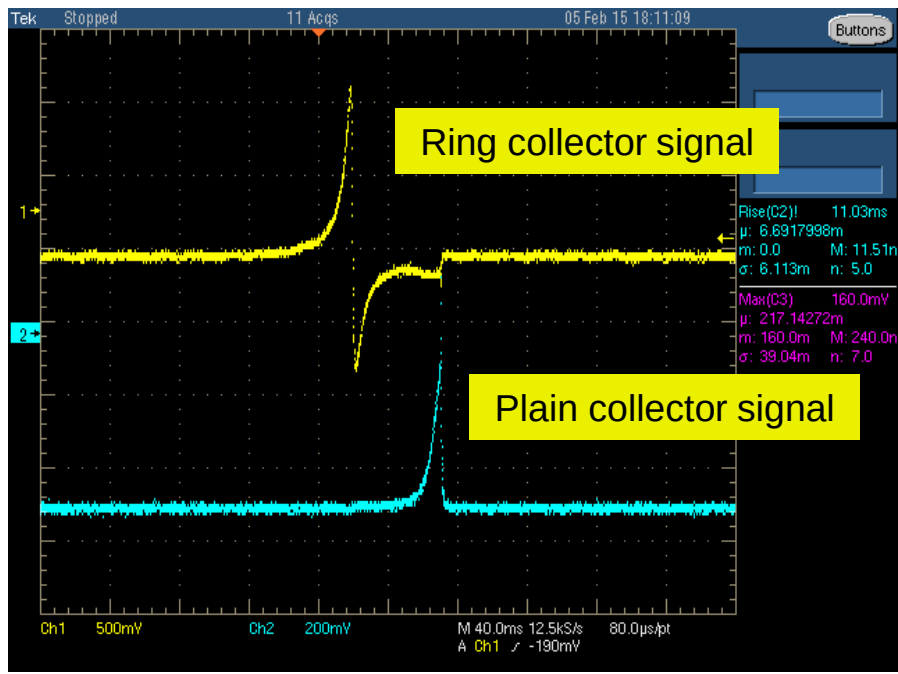
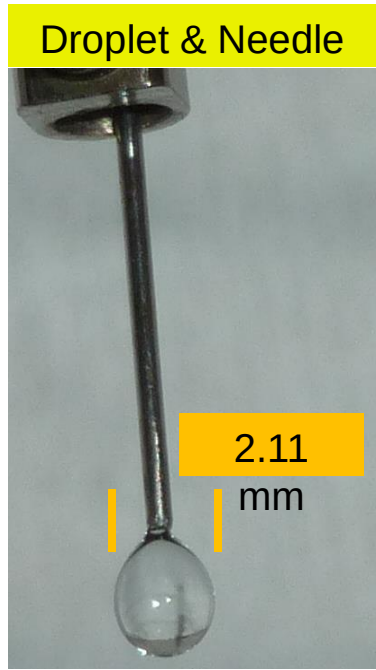
■ Model Output

■ $Q_{drop} \propto R_{drop}$

- ❖ $N_e: 1 \times 10^{12} - 1 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^3$.
- ❖ Average R: $Q_d = \sim 10^5 e$
- ❖ Max. R: $Q_d = \sim 10^6 e$
- ❖ **Electron flux**
- ❖ $10^{20} - 5 \times 10^{23} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- ❖ Nanoparticles (100nm) $\sim 200 e$
- ❖ See simulation Nabil H Abuyazid *et al*
2020 *Plasma Sources Sci. Technol.* **29**
075011

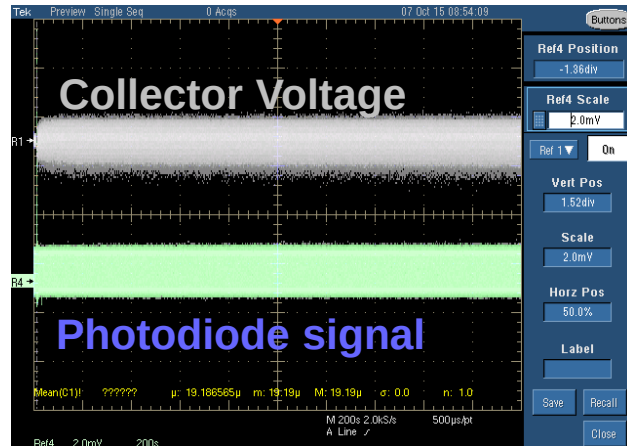


Plasma-induced droplet charge measurement

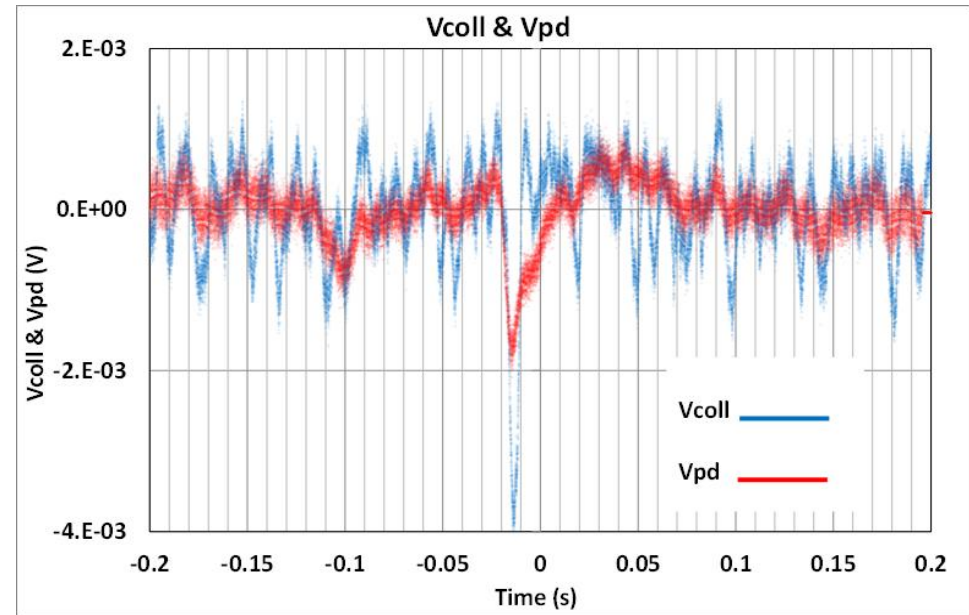


AMPLIFIER GAIN CALIBRATION: $A_{250F} \times -1000 \pm 50$, $A_{250} \times -300 \pm 20$

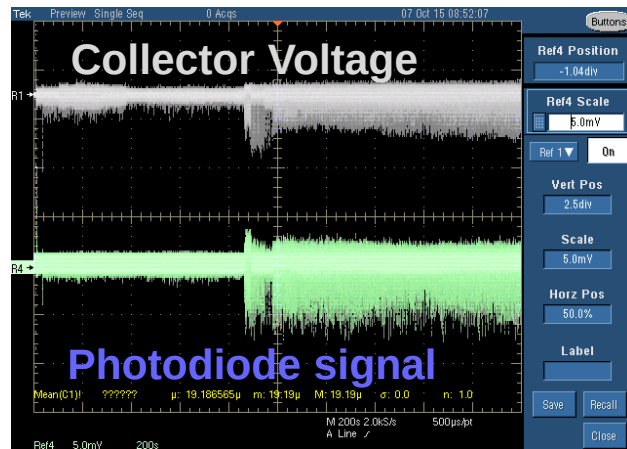
45° Plate Collector Measurements



No droplets: 3.5 slm He, 1 slm Ne, 100 W power, collector 4.5 mm from quartz tube



V_{coll} & V_{pd} waveforms cleaned by filtering 50 Hz & 13.56 MHz.

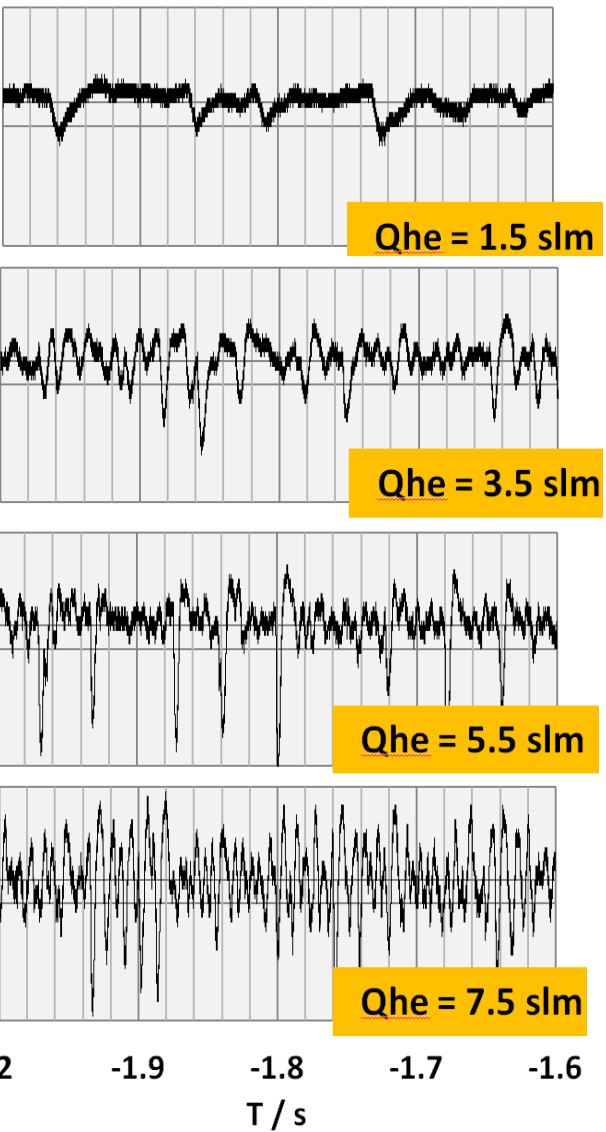


With droplets: H₂O 0.6 mL/h, 3.5 slm He, 1 slm Ne, 100 W power, collector 4.5 mm from quartz tube

- Features in each waveform match.
- Likely indicator of change in plasma parameters
- and / or chemistry as droplet passes.

Plate collector signal – high noise

Variation in pulse rate with gas flow



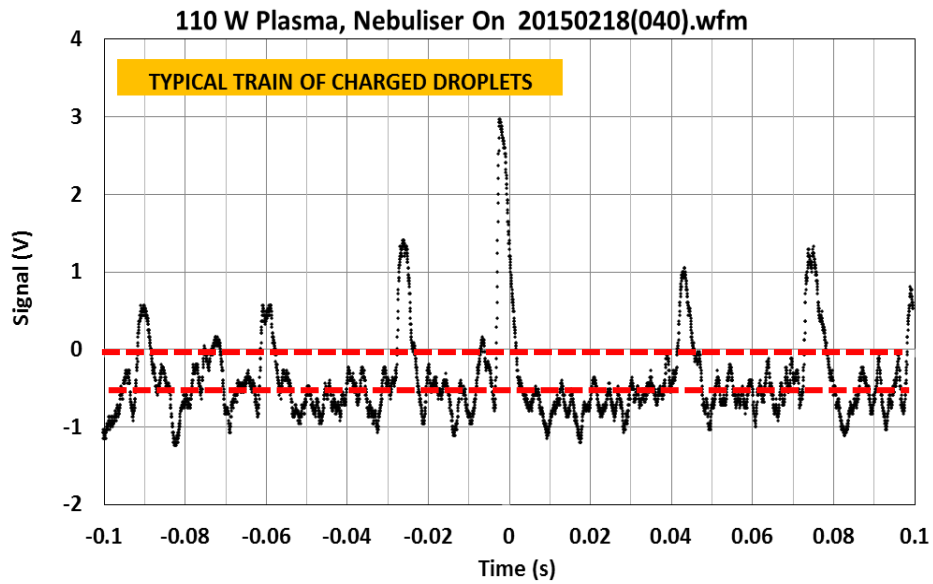
gas velocity x2

peak width ÷2

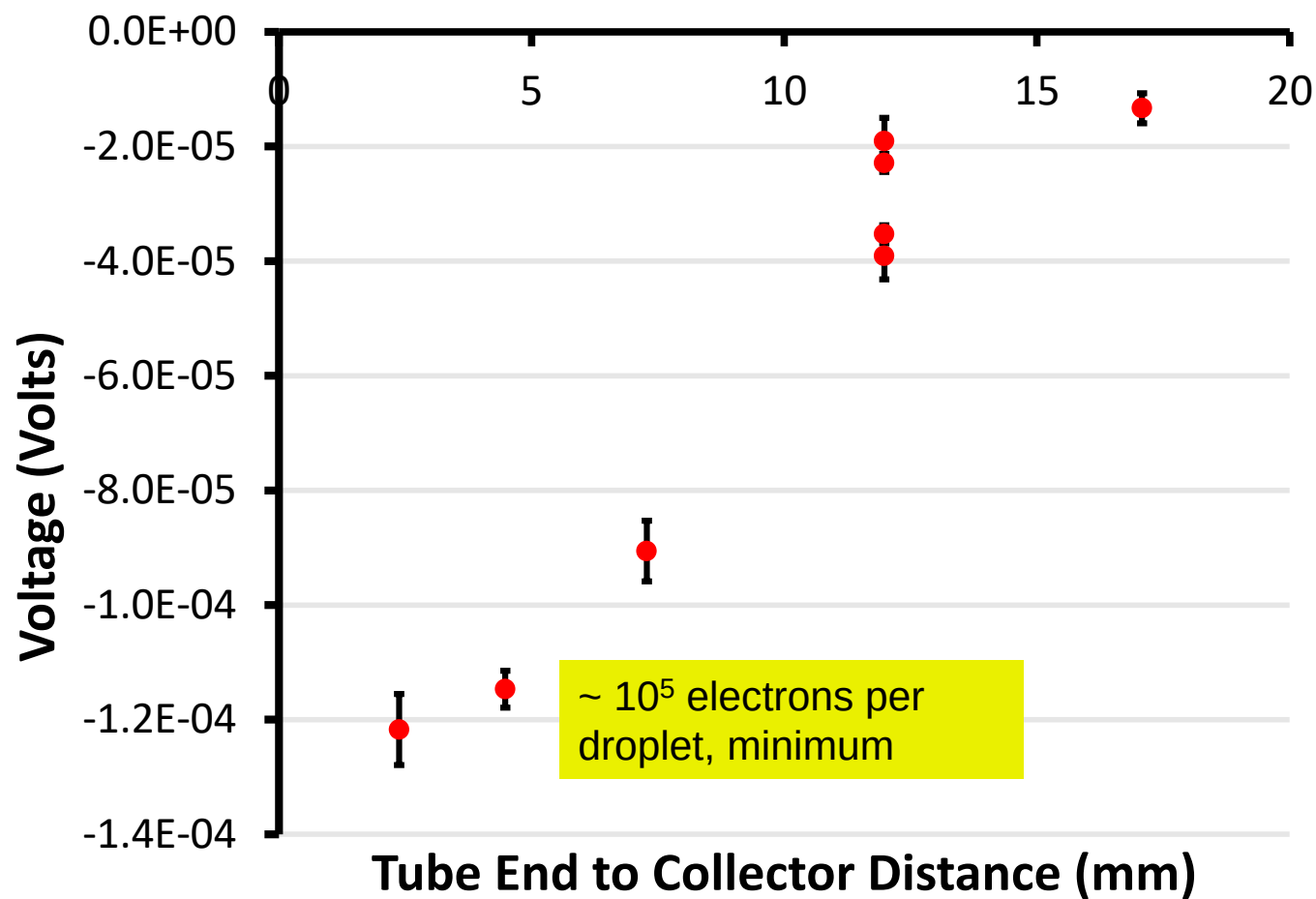
peak height increases

Pulse area (charge) = constant

Un-amplified data
DC voltage shift of - 0.53 mV
- commensurate with
[~ 10⁵ droplets/second] * [with >10⁵ electrons each]
~ 10 - 20 micron diameter

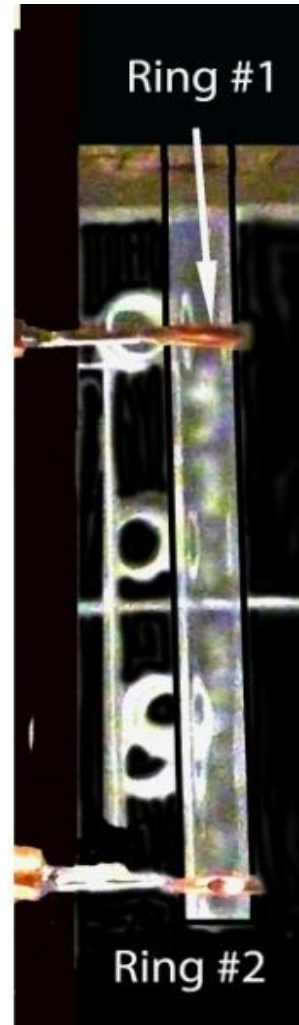


Average charge determined from DC shift in waveform



$$V_{\text{Plasma}} - V_{\text{NoPlasma}} :$$

- Individual charge
 - ⇒ Very fast measurement to separate droplets
 - ⇒ Thin rings
 - ⇒ High accuracy to measure small fast moving charge
- Ring collectors
 - ⇒ Variable distance from plasma
 - ⇒ Variable inter-ring distance
 - ⇒ Is droplet charge neutralised in flight?
- High gain amplifiers
 - ⇒ Requires calibration
 - ⇒ Response time of detector and amplifiers



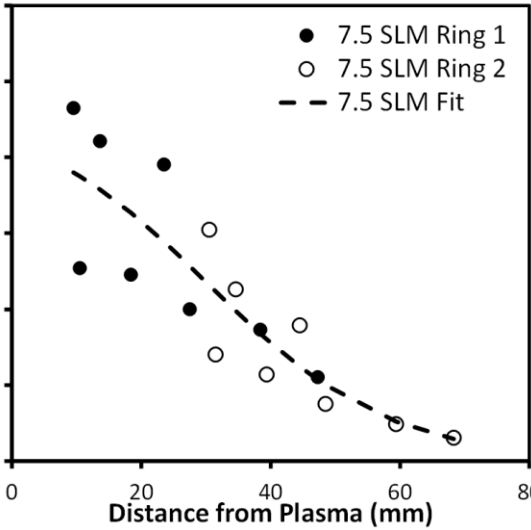
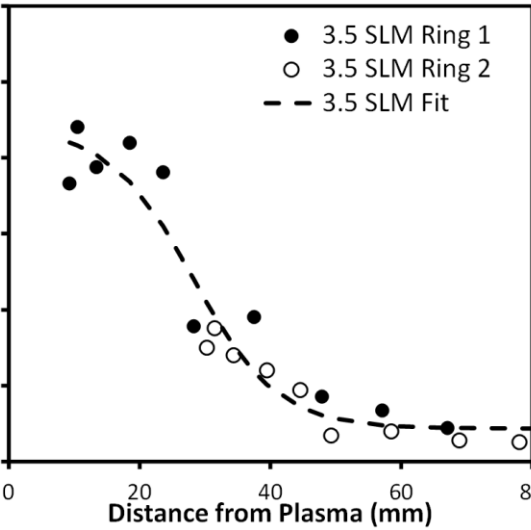
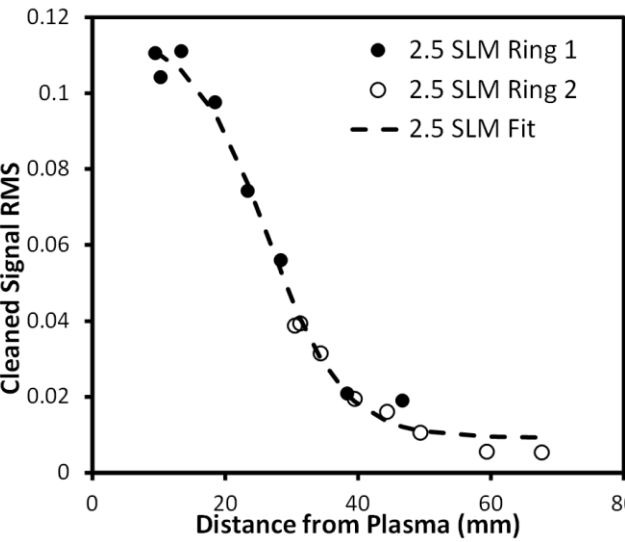
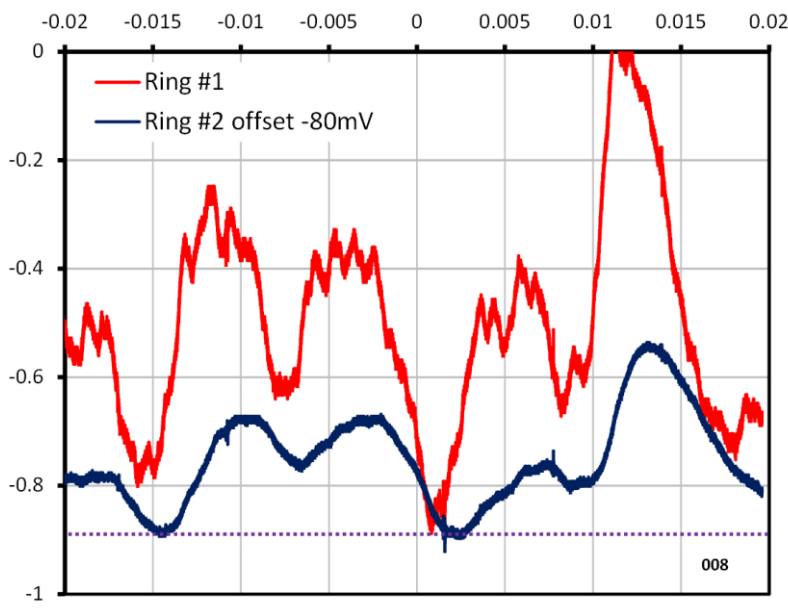
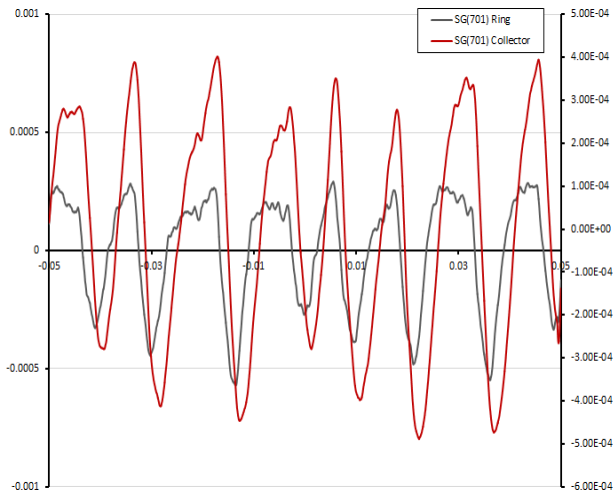
Charge decay with distance

Noise reduction & filtering of 13.56MHz, harmonics, 50Hz

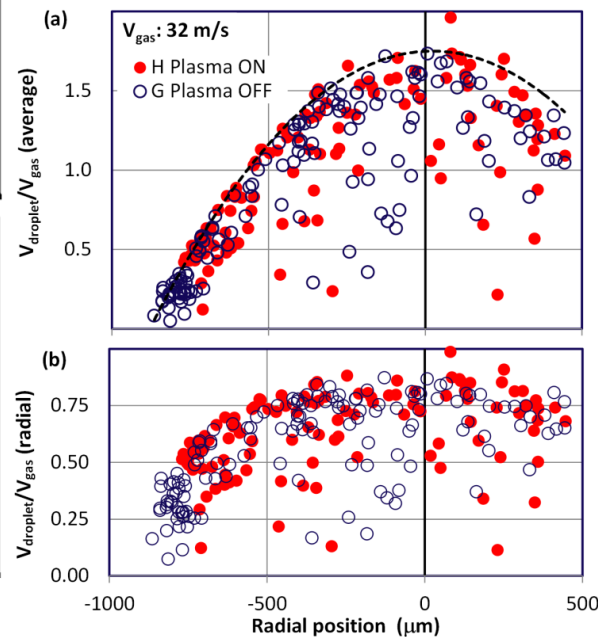
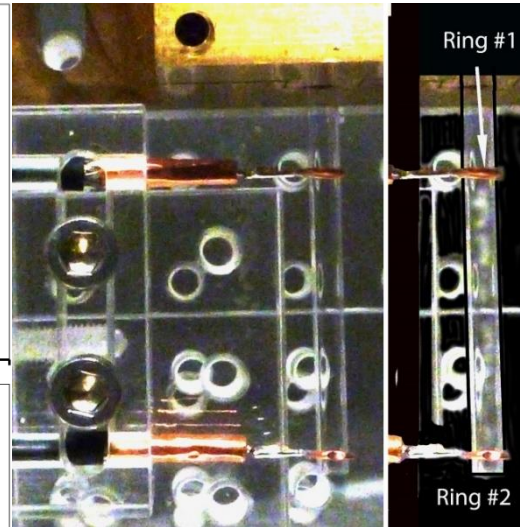
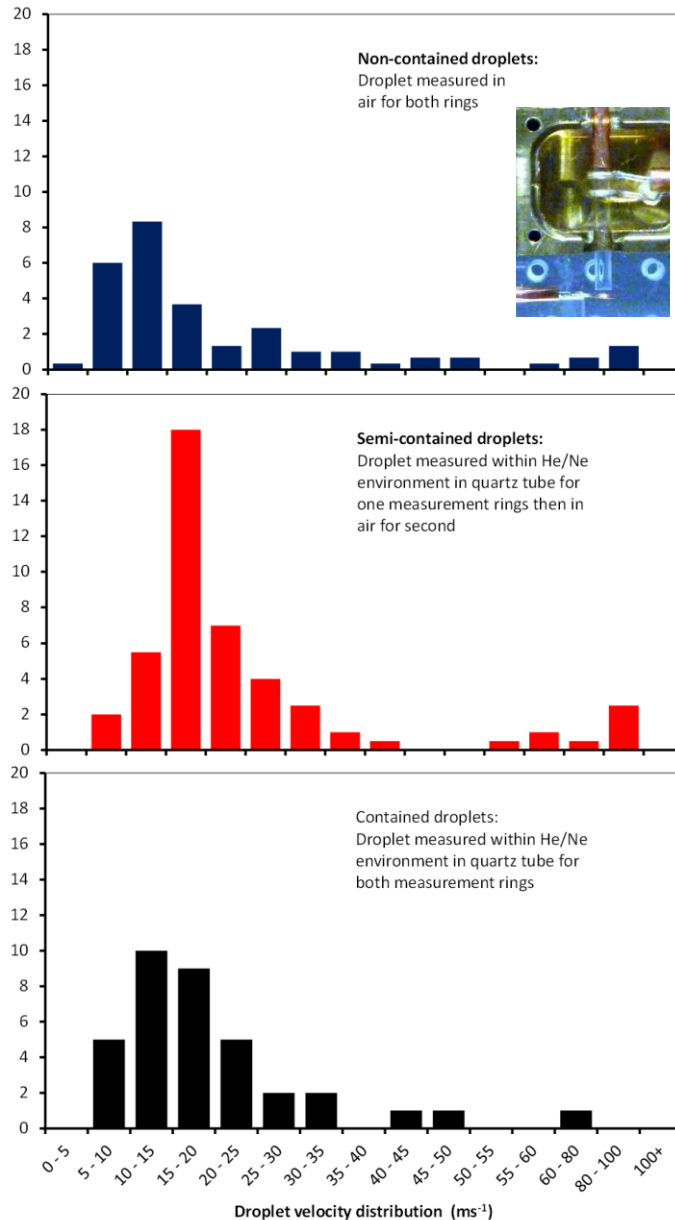
Derivative match ring #1 and ring #2 droplets – droplet speed

V_{rms} roll-off with distance from plasma for different gas velocities (10 ms^{-1} to 32 ms^{-1})

- Signal
- Derivative



Droplet velocity distribution



• Electrical

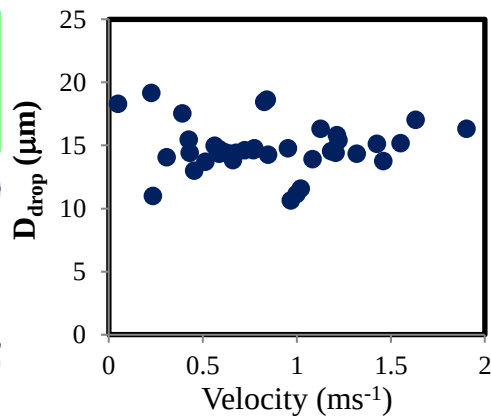
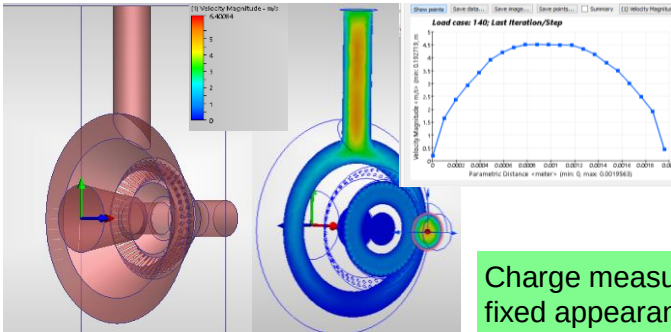
- Far left graphs
- Quartz tube position adjusted
- Speed estimated from pulse delay between rings
- Close to gas speed for droplets contained within quartz tube
- Droplets slower when outside tube

• Optical

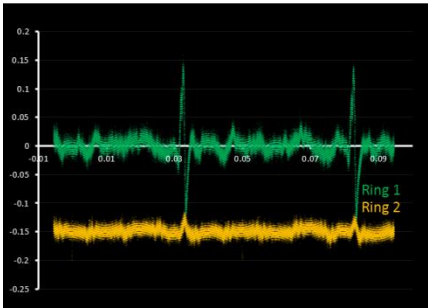
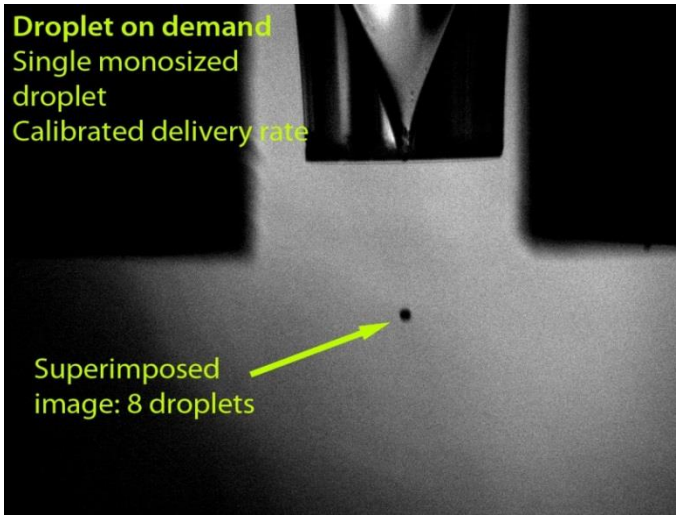
- Left
- From high speed imaging
- Measurement possible outside quartz tube only
- Droplets typically ~75% of gas speed

Single-size droplet charge

Piezoelectric droplet generator coupled to plasma through custom stable directional coaxial laminar flow interface.



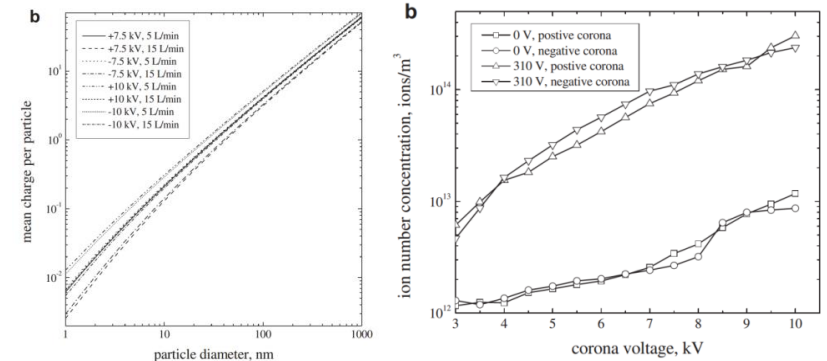
Charge measurement on isolated droplets with a fixed appearance rate. Signal averaging possible.



- Charge estimate: $>10^5 e$.**
- (i) Isolated sphere
 - (ii) Mutual capacitance of point charge and ring
 - (iii) Parasitic and measurement circuit capacitance
 - (iv) Distance off-centre



Droplet in plasma charge: comparison with corona



Corona discharge in a cylindrical triode charger for unipolar diffusion aerosol charging, P. Intra, J. Electrostat. 70 (2012) 136

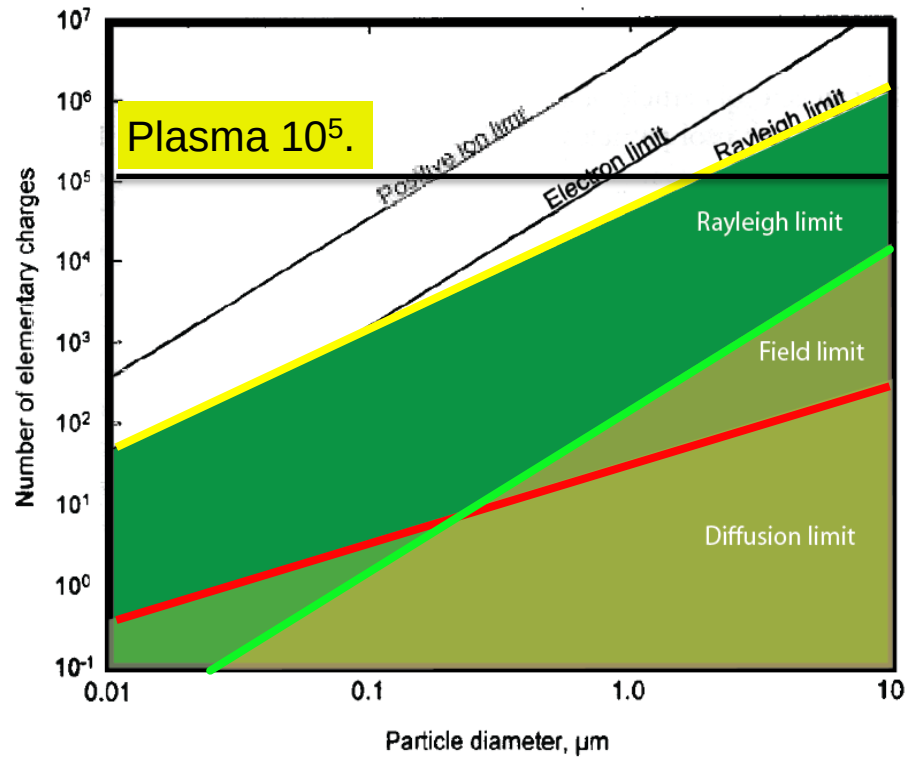
Comparison with unipolar corona charging

Simulation: 10um particles,
 $Q_d = 7000$ (8 kV), 3000 (5kV)

Measured: 1um particles,
 $Q_d = 68$ (5kV)

Design and evaluation of a unipolar aerosol charger to generate highly charged micron-sized aerosol particles

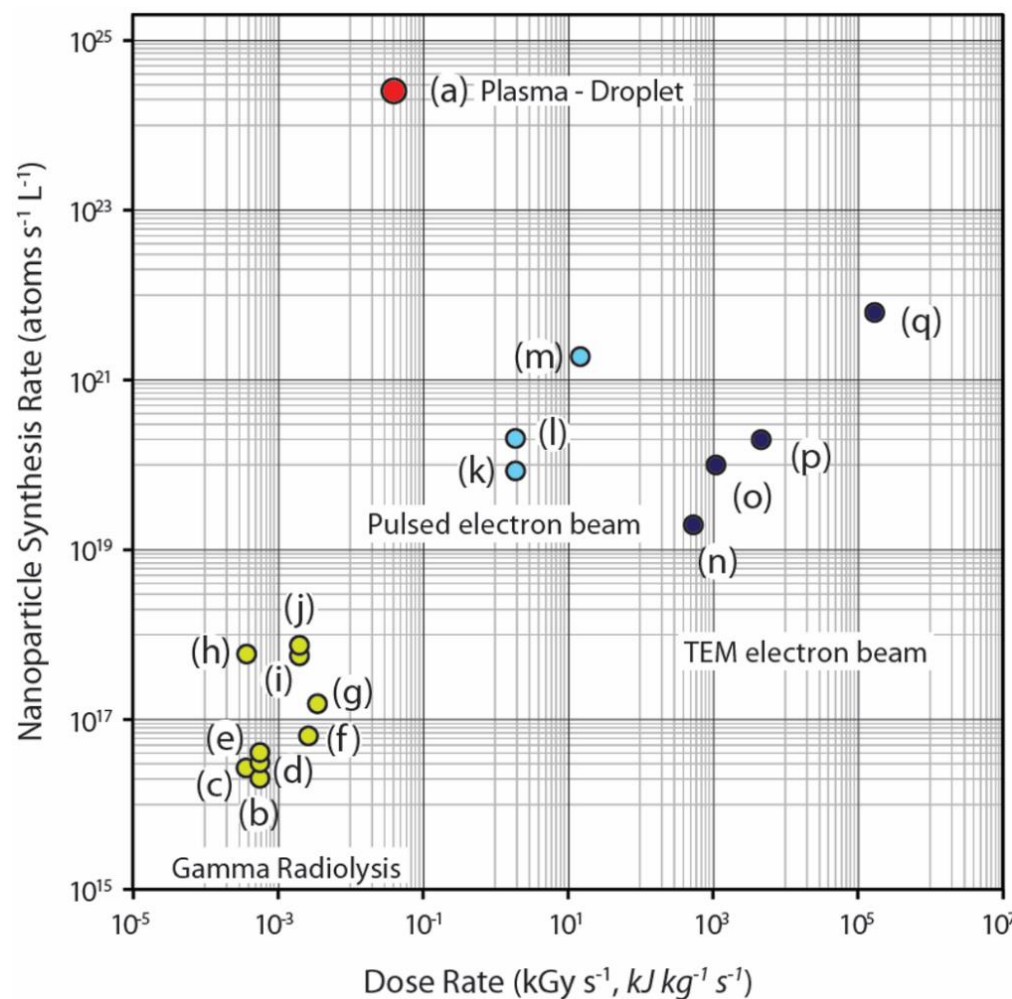
J Park et al., J. Electrostat. 69 (2011) 126



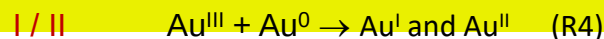
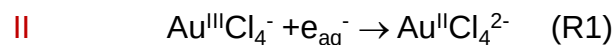
High electron density non-equilibrium atmospheric pressure plasma
($T_e \gg T_{gas}$)

Plasma versus Radiolysis or e-Beam

- $\times 10^3 - 10^7$ faster
 - ⇒ Similar dose rate as gamma radiation
- Plasma-droplet
 - ⇒ Dose rate assuming x% plasma energy delivered to drop according to ratio $VOL_{drop} / VOL_{plasma}$
 - ⇒ $5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kGy s}^{-1}$.
- Solvated Electron Reduction Hypothesis
 - ⇒ Reactions: 2nd order
 - ⇒ Droplet negatively charged
 - ⇒ **Electrons arrive with very low energy**
 - ⇒ **Electrostatically confined**
 - ⇒ **shallow surface layer**
 - ⇒ Very high local concentration



HAuCl₄. The reduction of **Au^{III}** proceeds via reactions as:



Maguire et al., 2017, 10.1021/acs.nanolett.6b03440



RF 13.56MHz
 $n_e: 10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

e^- Droplet charging

heating

e^-

He^+
 Ne^+ ions

Henry's constant ~ 0
Ion arrival energy $\sim 0 \text{ eV}$
because of collisions
KE ~ 0
PE $\sim 24 \text{ eV} (?)$

Electron energy from EEDF:
Electron energy $\sim 0 \text{ eV}$ in vicinity of droplet i.e. is dependent on floating voltage, rather than T_e .

Droplet

ϕ_{drop}

Vapour layer

recombination Heating?

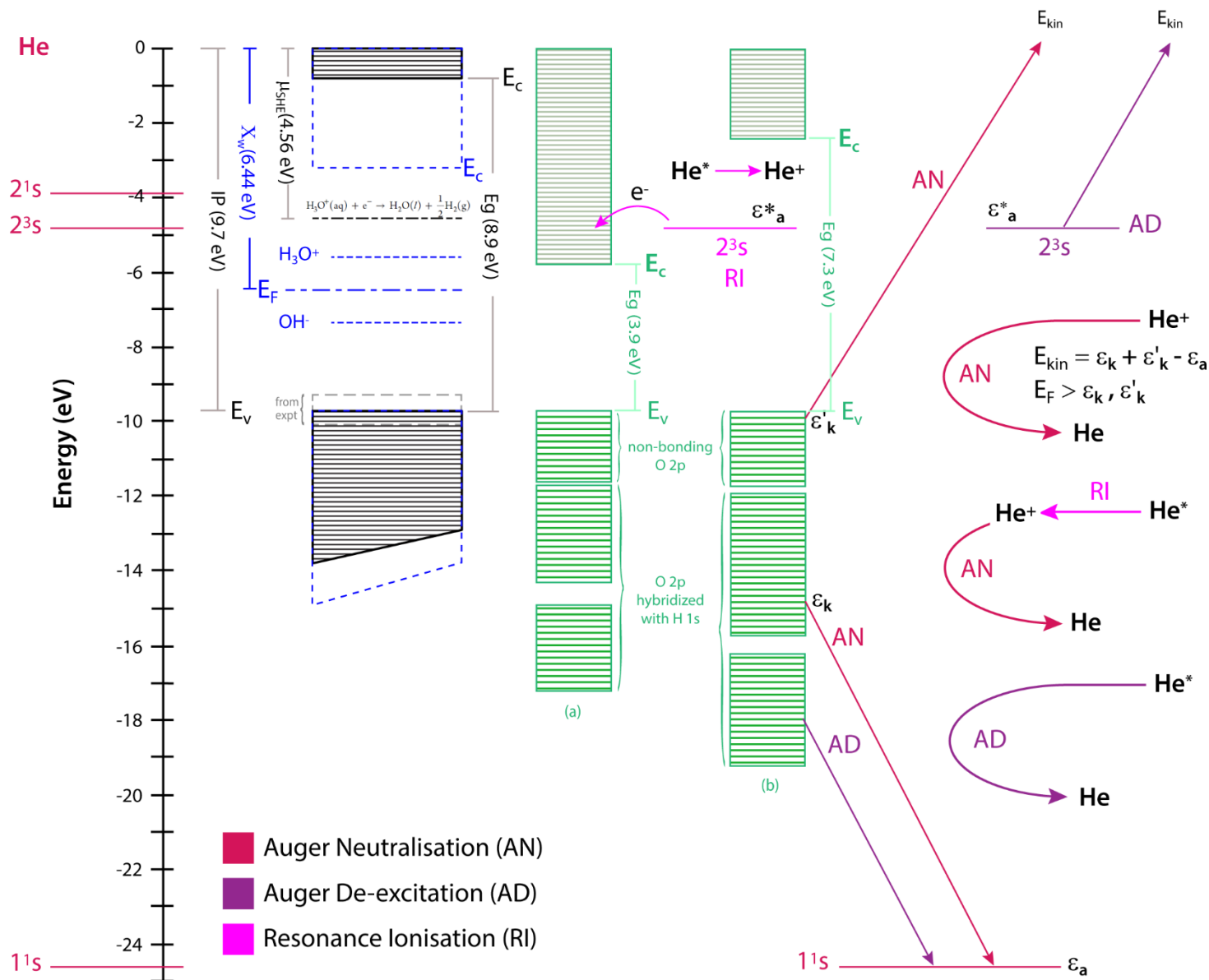
Evaporation

He^0
 He^*
 Ne^0
neutrals

Plasma region



Ions, metastables



Without water ionisation, electrons required for AN would lead to the reduction in the number of surface negative charge, (solvated electrons and anions).

- From the requirement of zero net charge flux, the ion flux is diminished compared to electron flux by a factor of $(1 + \gamma)^{-1}$, where γ is the fraction of AN electrons emitted into the gas phase.
- Assuming emission occurs at random directions, the geometric yield for a droplet, γ_g , is ~50%.
- Remaining $1 - \gamma_g$ electrons penetrate 0.5 – 3 nm into the liquid. Ionisation, dissociation, further secondary emission and backscattering are possible, the latter two increasing the overall γ .
- In the energy range ≤ 25 eV, elastic scattering of electrons has largest cross-section.
- Data for backscattering coefficients in water or at sub-100 eV energies is absent.

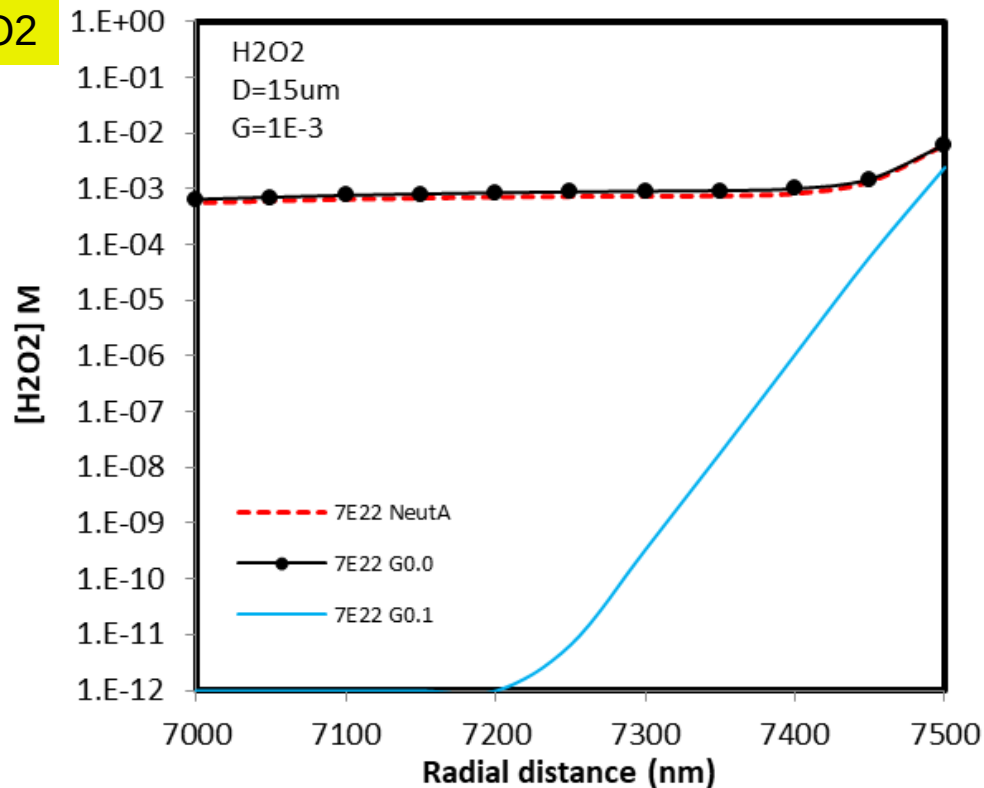
Simulation

- $1 - \gamma$ electrons that enter the droplet participate in similar reactions as solvated electrons.
- In each time step,
- surface solvated electron count is increased by $2(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$
 - negative charge count is decreased by $(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$, where Γ_n is the nominal input flux.

Simulation

- $1 - \gamma$ electrons that enter the droplet participate in similar reactions as solvated electrons. In each time step,
- surface solvated electron count is increased by $2(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$
- negative charge count is decreased by $(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$, where Γ_n is the nominal input flux.

H2O2

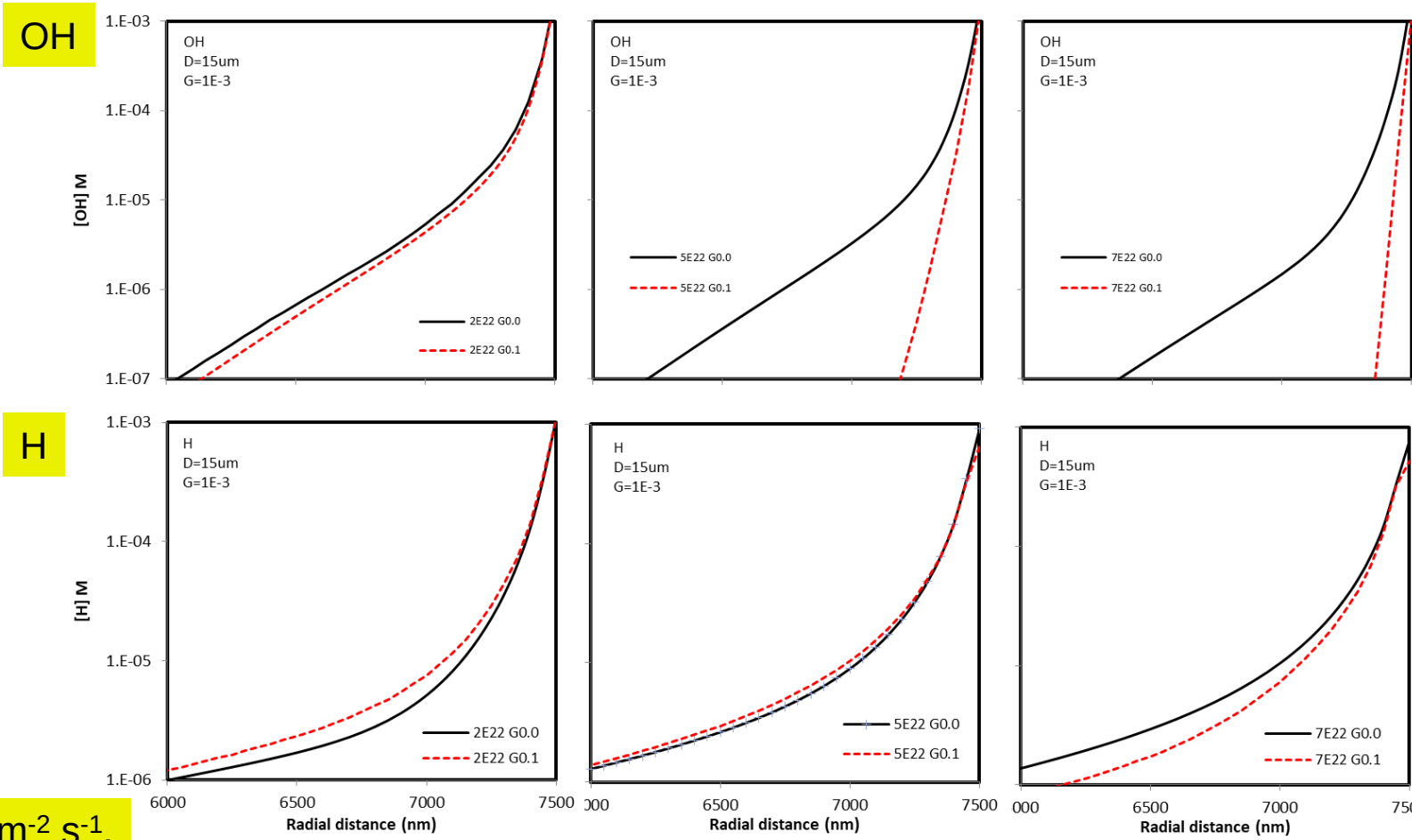


Simulation

- $1 - \gamma$ electrons participate in similar reactions as solvated electrons.
- surface solvated electron count is increased by $2(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$
- negative charge count is decreased by $(1 + \gamma)^{-1} \Gamma_n$, where Γ_n is the nominal input flux.

OH
decreases
with γ
increase

H
Minimum
effect at
5E22



$\Gamma_n = 2 - 7 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}.$



New Diagnostics

1. XPS – UPS / REELS / ISS
2. Tunable mid-IR sources



- MIR absorption
 - ⇒ Supercontinuum broadband laser
 - ⇒ 0.8 – 4μm
 - ⇒ Tunable filter
 - ⇒ Other tunable lasers 4μm – 12μm
- Droplet diagnostics
 - ⇒ In flight?
 - ⇒ Stroboscopic?
 - ⇒ Vapour halo?
 - ⇒ Water clusters?
- Bulk liquid surface
 - ⇒ 10 – 50 ns resolution?
 - ⇒ 10 – 100nm penetration?
- Gas phase
 - ⇒ H₂O₂, H₂O average
 - ⇒ FTIR mode
- Delivered
- 15th March 2020
- Still in boxes!



EPSRC Strategic Equipment

EP/R008841/1

“A multi-function XPS-UPS system with load-locked advanced sample preparation”

Davide Mariotti

Plasma Science &

Nanoscale Engineering Group

www.plasmamate.org

d.mariotti@ulster.ac.uk

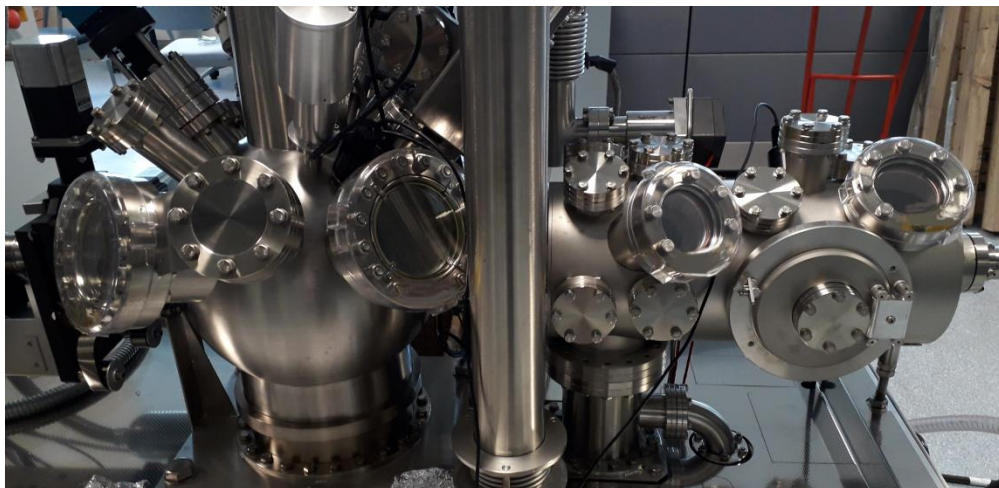
Paul Maguire

Plasma Nanofabrication Group

pd.maguire@ulster.ac.uk



XPS Escalab XI⁺



Sample holder available

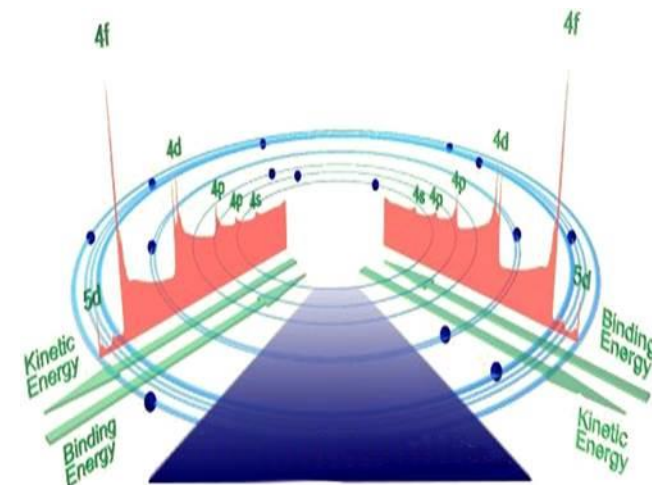
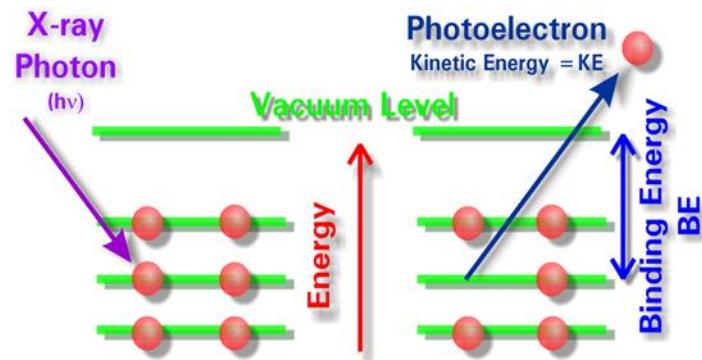


From left to right:

- The normal substrate holder where thin samples lower than 2mm can be loaded
- The sample holder where thick sample can be loaded
- The heat sample holder can be heat until 1000°C
- The cooled sample holder, can be cooled to -50°C

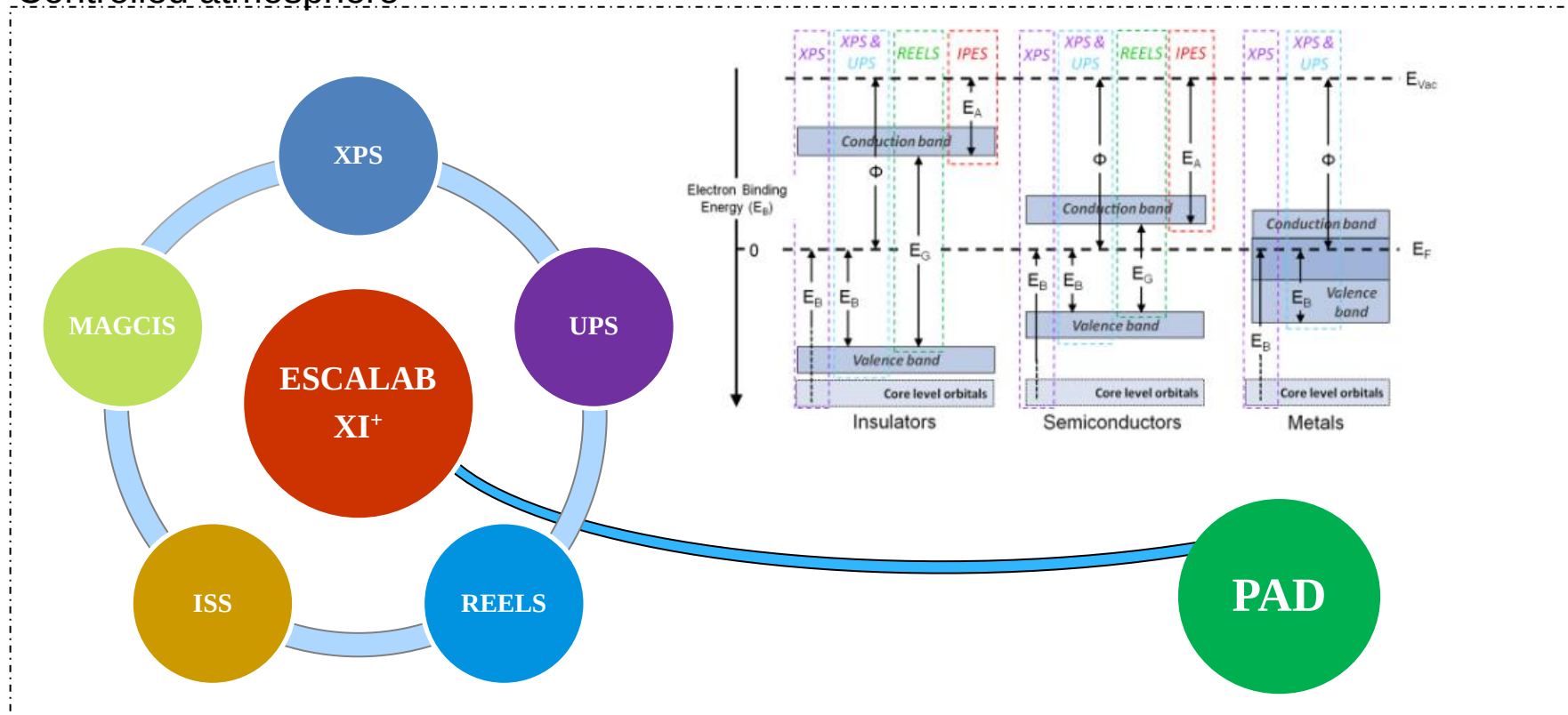
Principle

Source Al $\kappa\alpha$ (1486.7eV)





Controlled atmosphere



XPS : X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

MAGCIS: Mono Atomic/Gas Cluster Ions Source

ISS : Ions Scattering Spectroscopy

REELS : Reflection Electron Energy Losses Spectroscopy

UPS : UV Photoelectron spectroscopy

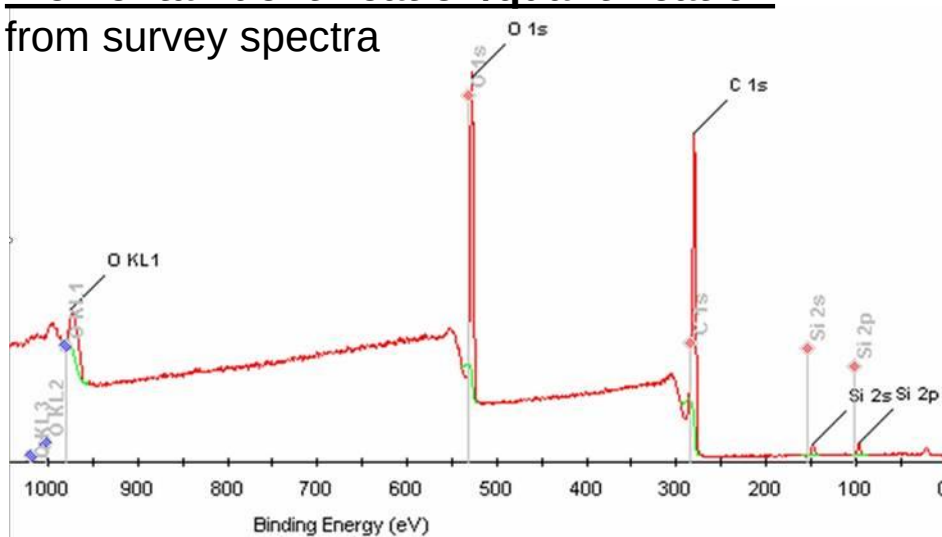
PAD : Plasma station



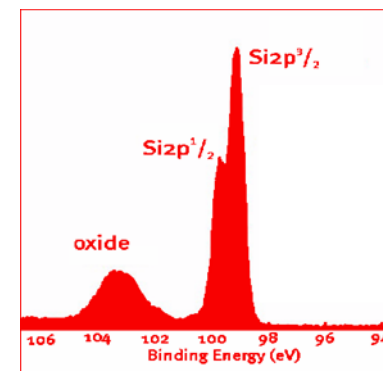
X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS)

- 10 nm surface analysis
- Non destructive
- Quantitative

Elemental identification/quantification: from survey spectra



Chemical bonding quantification: from narrow region

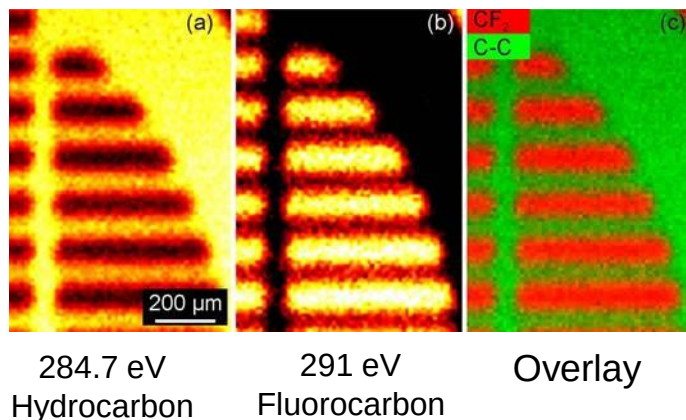


Available analysis

- Small area <20 μ m
- Point/Multipoint/Linescan
- Imaging
- Angle resolved
- Depth profile



Imaging:

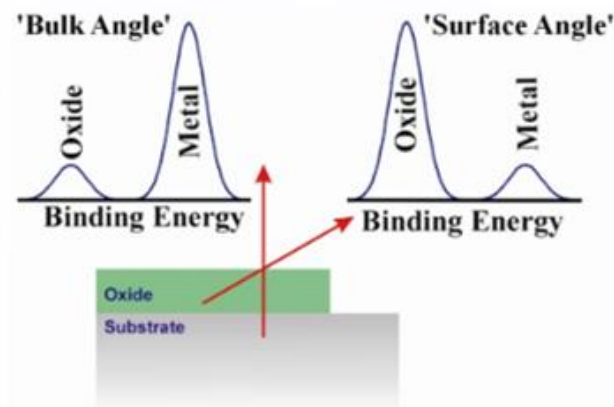


- Spatial localisation of the element

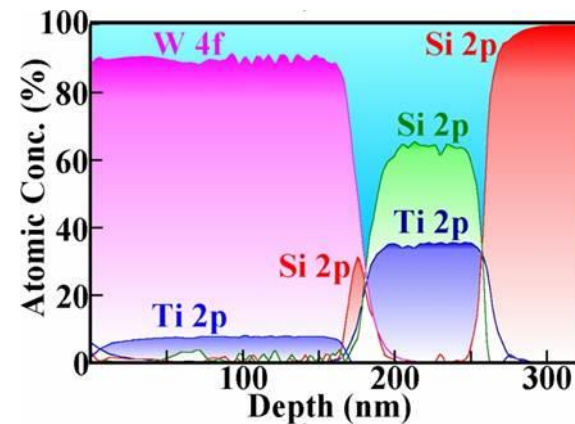
Depth profile:

- Information of the thickness sample
- The sample need to be etched with Ar gun
- Locally destructive analysis

Angular resolved:



- Determination of the oxide layer thickness





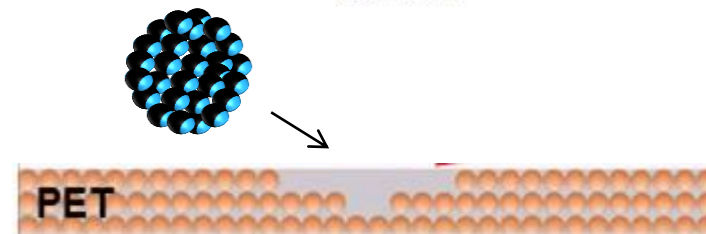
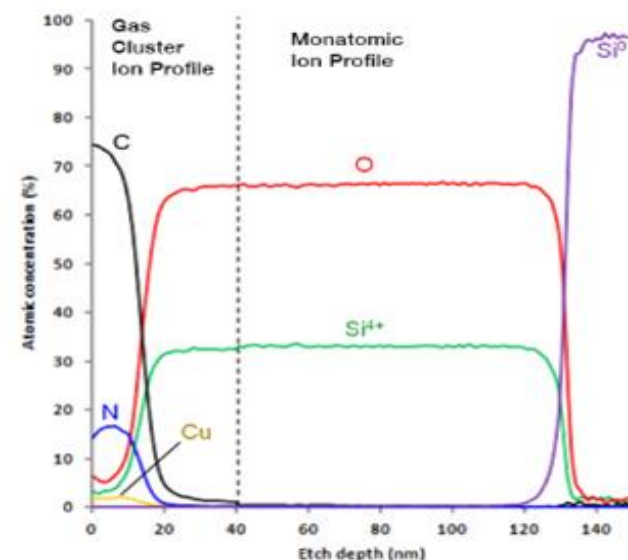
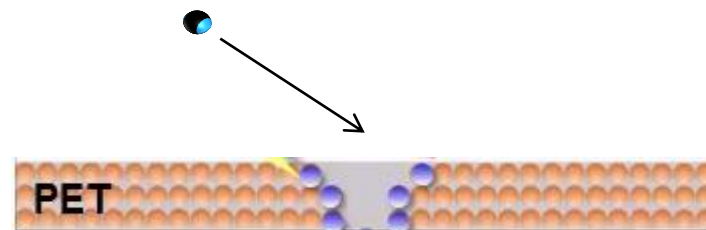
Cleaning/Etching process

* Monoatomic ions (Ar^+) : Used to etch/clean hard material

- High energy per atom (200eV-4keV)
- High etch rate
- Can damage the surface
- Can change the chemistry

* Cluster ions (Ar_n^+): Use for etch/clean soft material

- Low energy per atom (cluster size 300-2000)
- Very low etch rate
- Soft material
- Non damaging to the surface chemistry

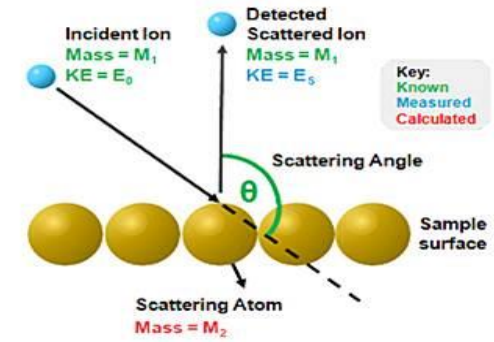




Ion Scattering Spectroscopy (ISS) :

Involves firing a beam of He^+ ions at a surface, and measuring the kinetic energies of the ions that are scattered back.

- Non destructive
- Top surface analysis
- One peak for each element



$$\frac{E_s}{E_0} = \left[\frac{\cos \theta \pm \left[\left(\frac{M_2}{M_1} \right)^2 - \sin^2 \theta \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}}{1 + \left(\frac{M_2}{M_1} \right)} \right]^2$$

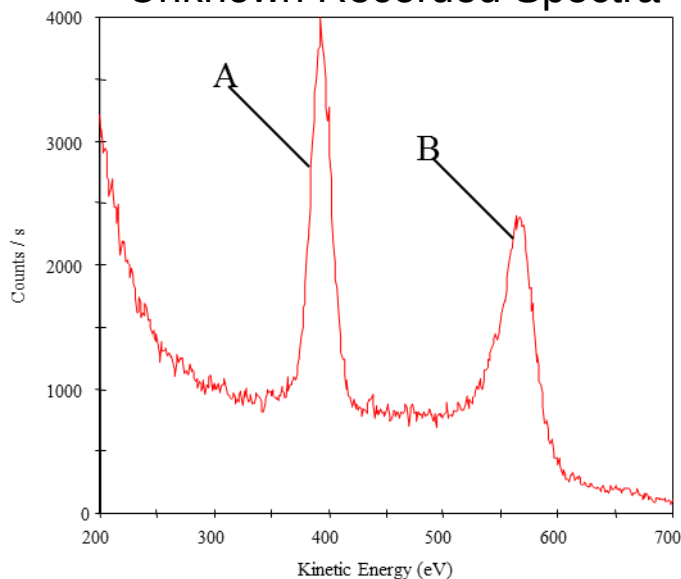
The primary beam energy (E_0) is usually determined by measuring the scattered peak energy (E_s) from a sample of known composition (such as gold $E_0=910$ eV)

Peak A : $E_s = 393$ eV $\Rightarrow M_2 = 16$

Peak B : $E_s = 568$ eV $\Rightarrow M_2 = 28$

Peaks A and B correspond to O and Si respectively.

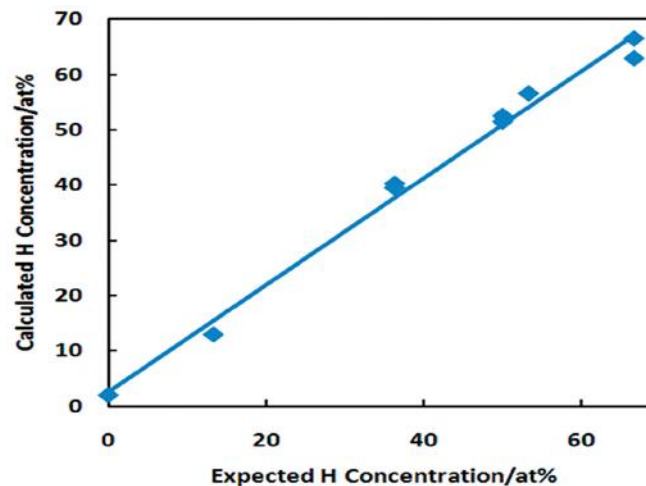
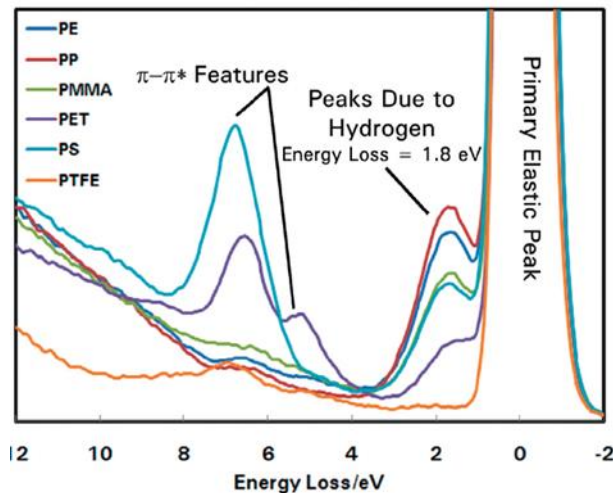
Unknown Recorded Spectra





REELS spectra:

- A. The shape of the scattered background** – this can help understand the scattering processes near the surface of the solid.
- B. The onset of the scattered background** – possible measurement of the electronic band gap of a sample.
- C. Plasmon, shake-up or other loss peaks** – visible without interference from XPS peaks
- D. Peaks due to hydrogen** – allowing semi-quantitative analysis

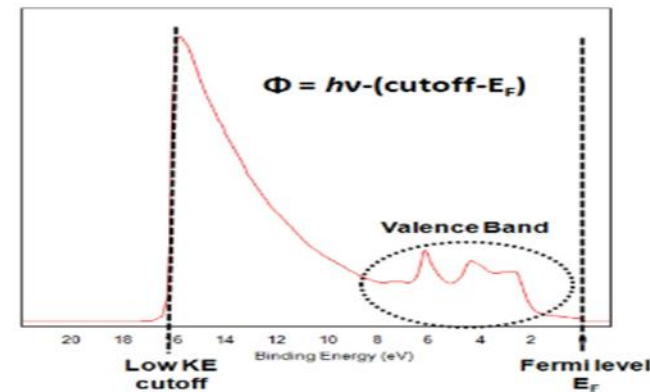
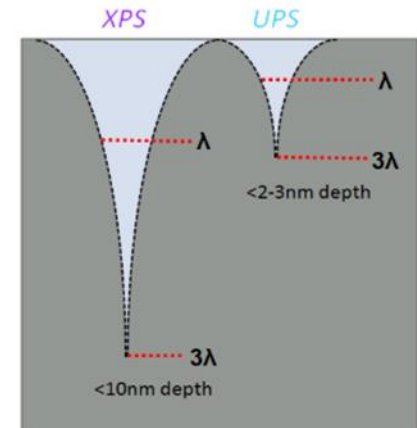
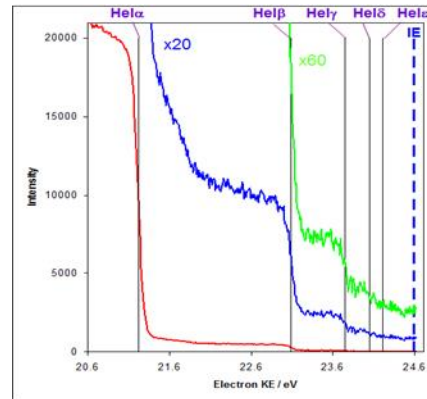


- Surface sensitive 2-3 nm
- Give chemistry and structure of top surface
- Can be used on soft sample



Ultraviolet Photoelectron Spectroscopy (UPS)

- Works on the same principles as XPS with lower photon energy, generally below 50 eV (He (II)) and commonly 21.2 eV (He(I))
- Valence band analysis
- Work function analysis
- Fermi Level



Emission line	Photon Energy / eV	Relative intensity (%)
He (I) α	21.22	97.7
He (I) β	23.09	1.9
He (I) γ	23.74	0.4
He (I) δ	24.04	0.2
He (I) ε	24.21	0



Standard, substrate with no liquid:

- Nanomaterial deposition
- Plasma surface treatment

Plasma - liquid with stopped or continuous flow

- Plasma - liquid treatment
- Nanomaterial synthesis in liquid
- Nanomaterial deposition into liquid
- Plasma – liquid – biological

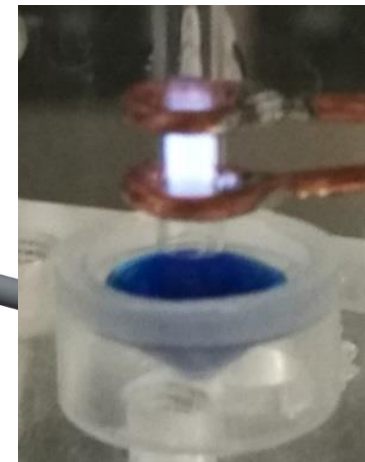
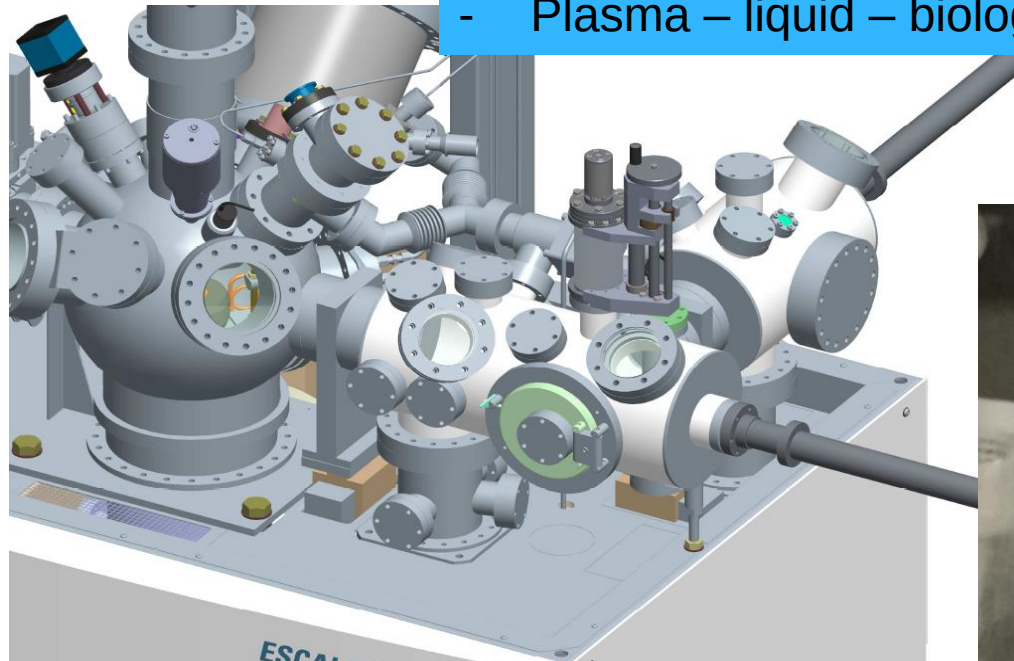
- ❖ **Plasma**
- ❖ Different plasma gases available
- ❖ Low to Radio frequency plasma
- ❖ Easy to transfer to XPS
- ❖ XYZ stage for large surface treatment

Plasma - static liquid

- Plasma - liquid treatment
- Nanomaterial synthesis in liquid
- Nanomaterial deposition into liquid
- Plasma – liquid – biological

Plasma - treated microdroplets

- Plasma - droplet treatment
- Droplet deposition, instant freezing
- Nanomaterial deposition into liquid
- Plasma – liquid – biological



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