



The Role of Breakdown Data in Atmospheric Studies

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A&M DATA 2023, Palić, Serbia

Motivation

Experiment

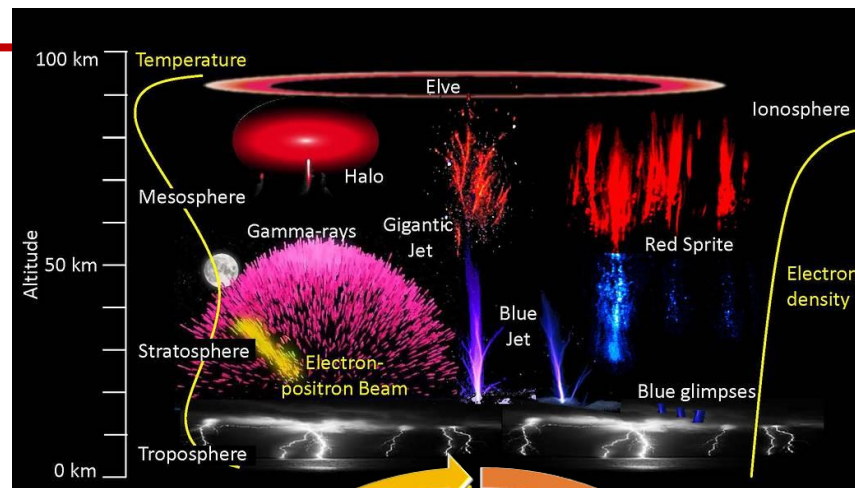
Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

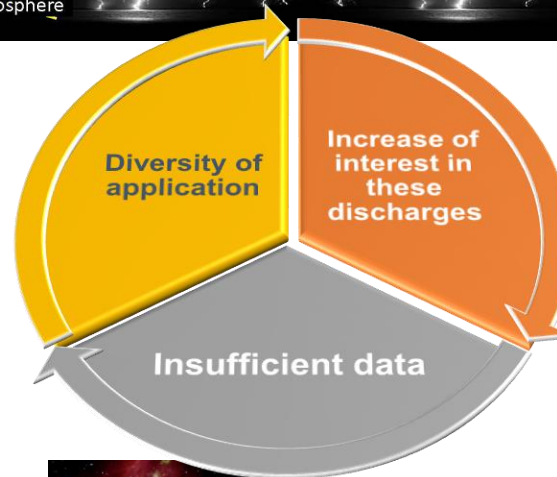
Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

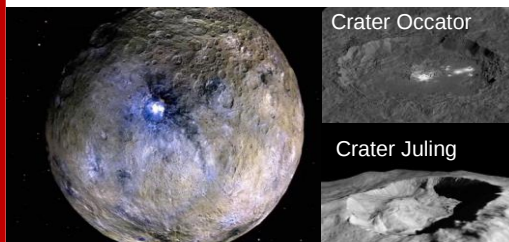
Summary



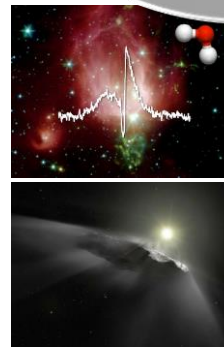
Reproduced from https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2018/04/Electrical_discharges_in_the_atmosphere; Accessed on 7 Septembre 2023.



H₂O footprint in space

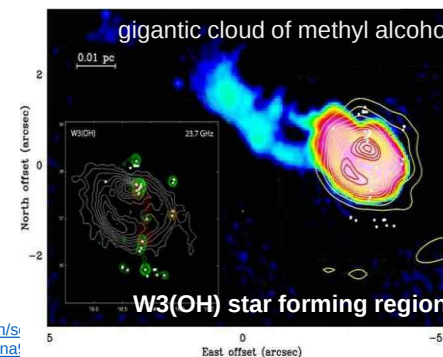


Reproduced from <https://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/>; Image Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/UCLA/MPS/DLR/IDA; Accessed on 7 Septembre 2023.



Reproduced from <https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/asteroids-may-be-spreading-life-across-galaxy-ncna11234567>; Image Credit: ESA/Hubble, NASA, ESO, M. Kornme; Accessed on 7 Septembre 2023.

Alcohol footprint in space



Reproduced from <https://www.universetoday.com/8098/deep-space-alcohol/>; Image Credit: JIVE; Accessed on 7 Septembre 2023.

Experimental Set-up

Motivation

Experiment

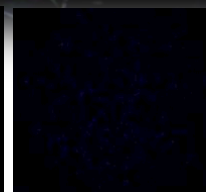
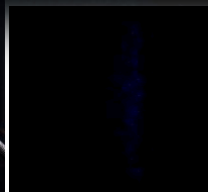
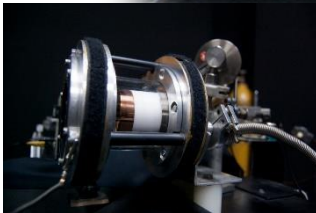
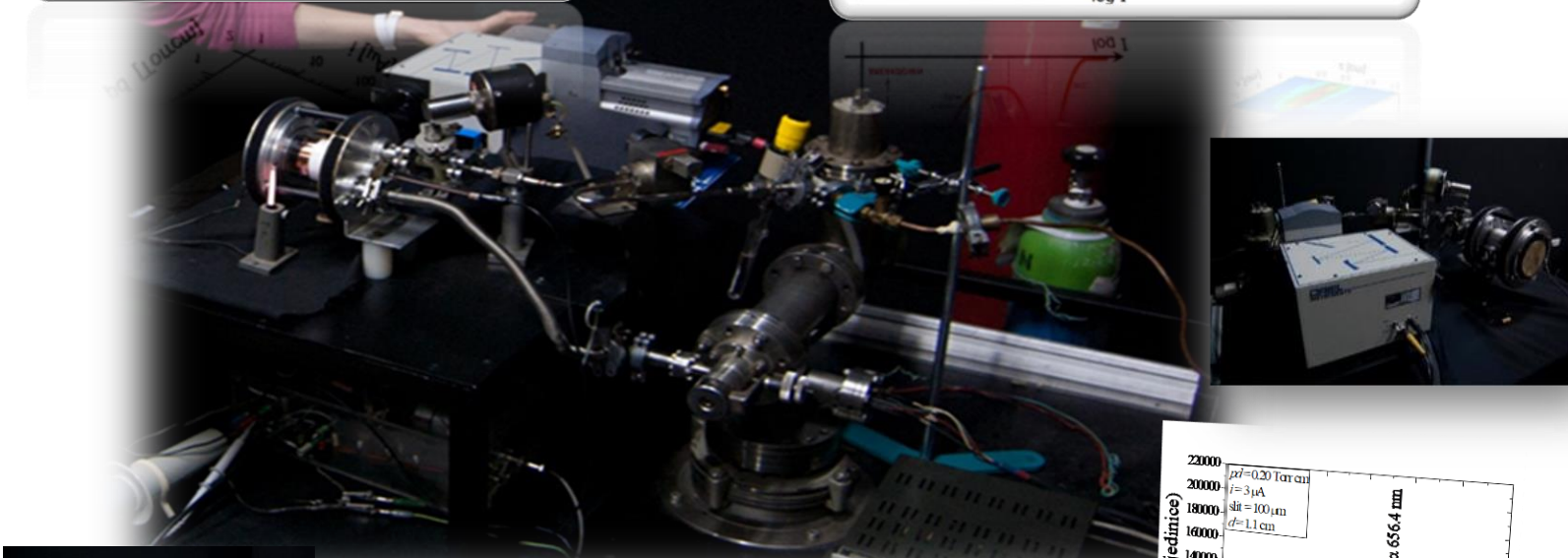
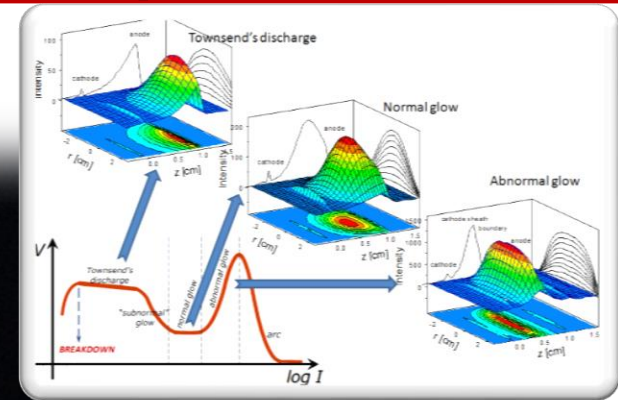
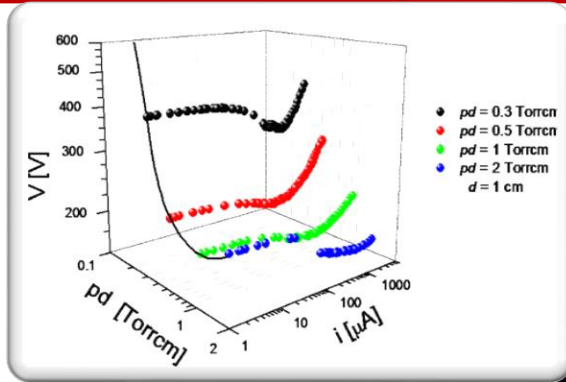
Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

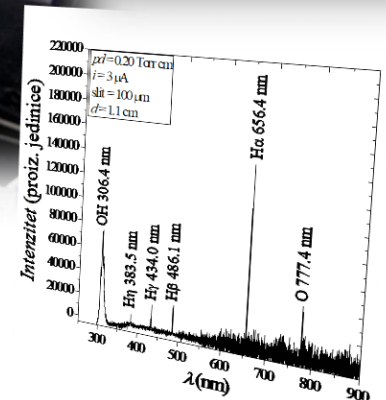
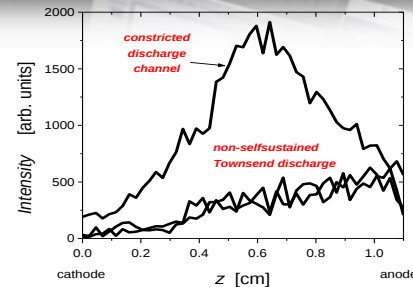
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary



Side-on view

End-on view

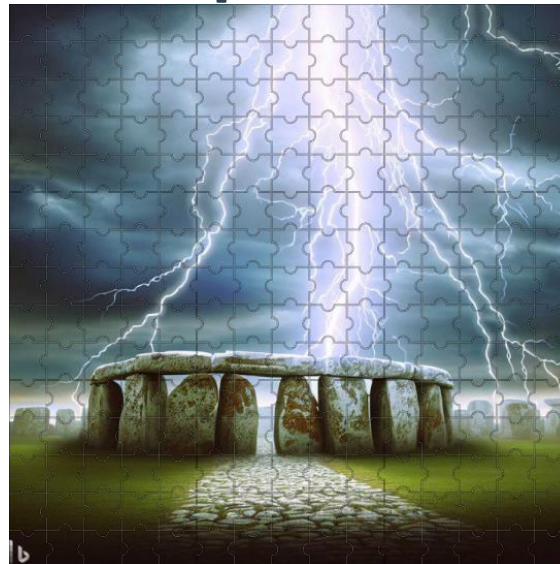


Elementary processes data

Modelling



Experimental measurements of macroscopic observables



Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary

DC Breakdown Measurements

Spatial profiles of H α emission in H $_2$ O discharge – exp vs model

Dominant ions H $_2$ O $^+$, OH $^+$, H $^+$ and H $_3$ O $^+$

Motivation

Experiment

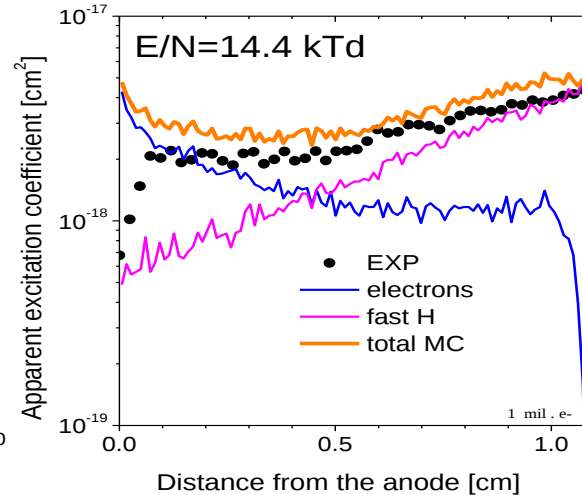
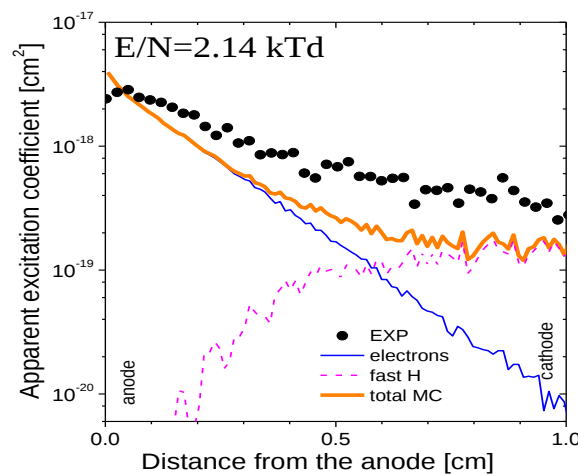
Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

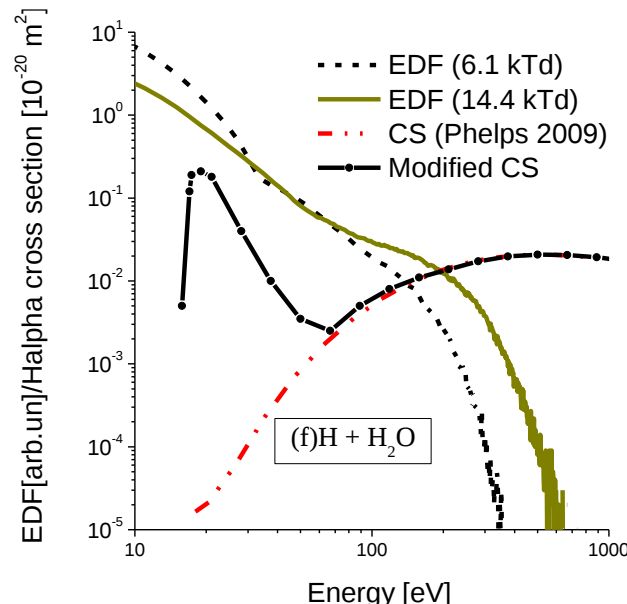
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary



Total H α emission signal obtained from MCS (sum) consists of a sum of electron component **e-(d+b)** direct and including backscattered electrons (b), and fast H component **[(f)H]** which accounts also for all fast H reflected back from the cathode.

H α emission from fast H: CS and EDF



Vladimir Stojanović, Nikola Škoro, Jelena Sivoš, Gordana Malović, Dragana Marić and Zoran Lj. Petrović, Modeling Emission from Water Vapor DC Discharge at Low Pressure
28th Summer School and International Symposium on the Physics of Ionized Gases (SPIG), August 29- September 2, 2016, Belgrade, Serbia, p. 328-331

Cross sections for H α emission/EDF as a function of energy. Energy distribution function (EDF) of fast H particles 0.5 cm from the cathode

Experimental Set-up

Motivation

Experiment

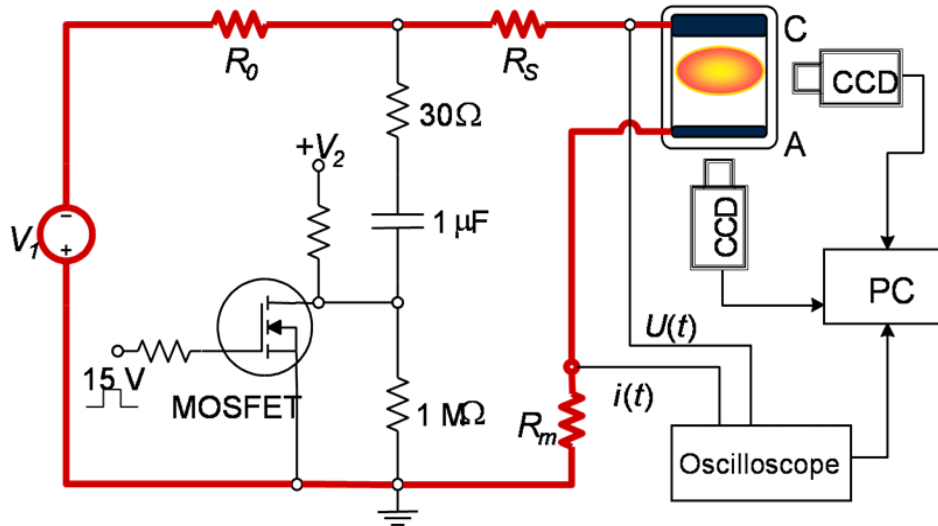
Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary



$$1 \text{ Torr} = 133.32 \text{ Pa} = 1.316 \times 10^{-3} \text{ atm}$$

$$1 \text{ Td} = 10^{-21} \text{ Vm}^2$$

Vapour:

bi-distilled de-ionized water

99 % methanol

95 % ethanol

99 % isopropanol

99 % n-butanol

Gases:

1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane R-134a

2,3,3,3-tetrafluoropropene HFO-1234yf

Vapour pressure:

Methanol @ 25°C, $p = 127 \text{ Torr}$

Ethanol @ 25°C, $p = 59 \text{ Torr}$

Isopropanol @ 25°C, $p = 44 \text{ Torr}$

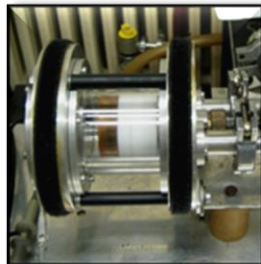
n-Butanol @ 25°C, $p = 7 \text{ Torr}$

Water @ 25°C, $p = 24 \text{ Torr}$

R-134a @ 25°C, $p = 4230 \text{ Torr}$

HFO-1234yf @ 25°C, $p = 5122 \text{ Torr}$

Discharge Chamber → parallel-plate
electrode geometry



Cathode copper

Anode transparent
Pt film
& Al

diameter
5.4 cm

Electrode gaps = 0.5, 1.1 and 3.1 cm



Cathode SST

Anode transparent
ITO film
& Al

diameter
2 mm

Electrode gaps = 0.5 and 1 mm

DC Breakdown Measurements

Emission spectra

$d = 1.1 \text{ cm}$
Slit = 100 μm

Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in alcohol vapors

Discharge in water vapor

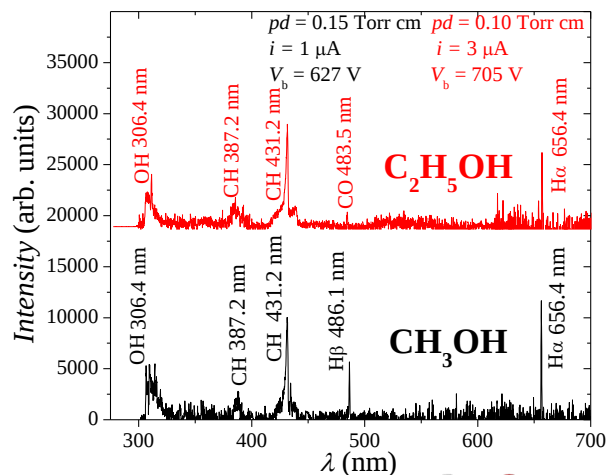
Discharge in low GWP and ODP gases

Summary

$$1 \text{ Torr} = 133.32 \text{ Pa} = 1.316 \times 10^{-3} \text{ atm}$$

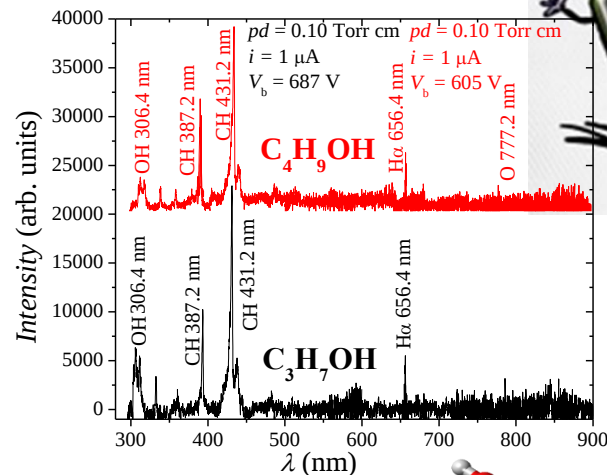
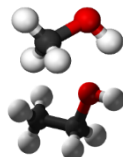
$$1 \text{ Td} = 10^{-21} \text{ Vm}^2$$

Paschen curves



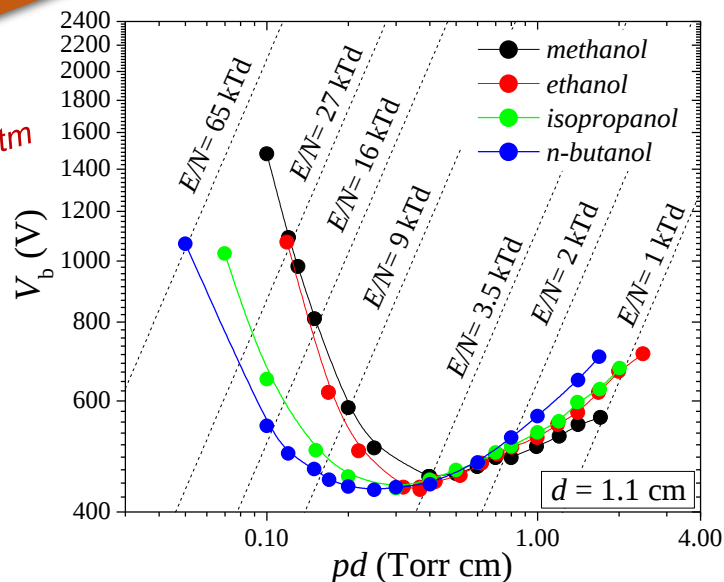
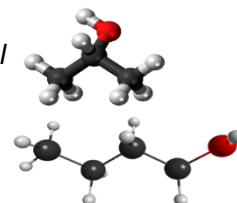
methanol

ethanol



isopropanol

n-butanol



MeOH	$(V_b)_{\min} = 455 \text{ V @ } p_d = 0.40 \text{ Torr cm}$
EtOH	$(V_b)_{\min} = 435 \text{ V @ } p_d = 0.35 \text{ Torr cm}$
Isoprop.	$(V_b)_{\min} = 436 \text{ V @ } p_d = 0.30 \text{ Torr cm}$
n-BuOH	$(V_b)_{\min} = 434 \text{ V @ } p_d = 0.25 \text{ Torr cm}$



DC Breakdown Measurements

Axial emission profiles from Townsend discharge in MeOH vapour

Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

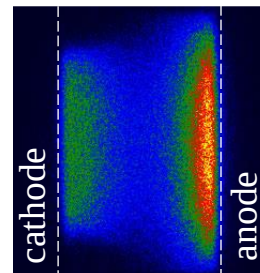
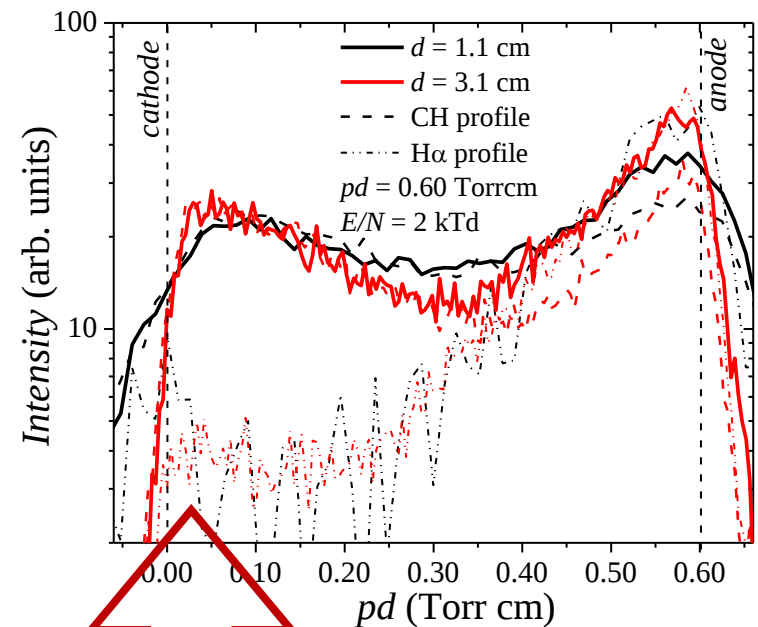
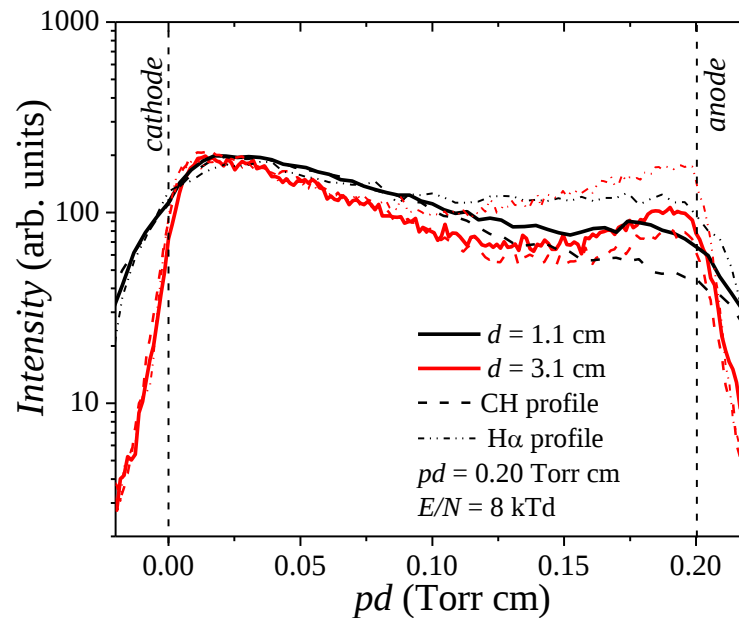
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary

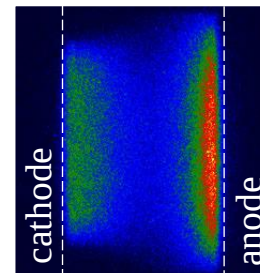


Optical filters

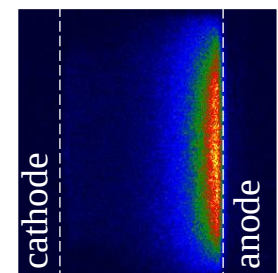
CH band at 431.2 nm
Hα line at 656.4 nm



Integrated
visual



filter at 431 nm



filter at 656 nm

2D structure of discharge in MeOH vapour at $pd = 0.60$ Torr cm,
 $E/N = 2$ kTd & $d = 3.1$ cm

DC Breakdown Measurements

Micro-discharge

Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

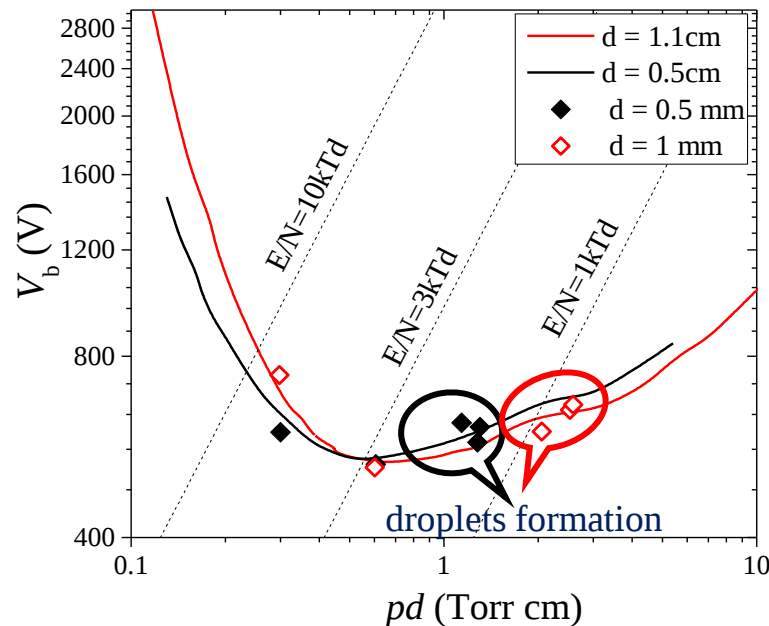
Summary

Pressures above vapor pressure– formation of liquid drops

vapor pressure for water at 22°C → 19.8 Torr

droplet formation at $pd \geq 0.99 \text{ Torr cm}$ & $d = 0.5 \text{ mm}$

$\geq 1.99 \text{ Torr cm}$ & $d = 1 \text{ mm}$



Discharge chamber at room temperature 22°C

DC Breakdown Measurements

Micro-discharge

Pressures above vapor pressure– formation of liquid drops



Motivation

Experiment

Results

vapor pressure for water at 8°C → 8.1 Torr

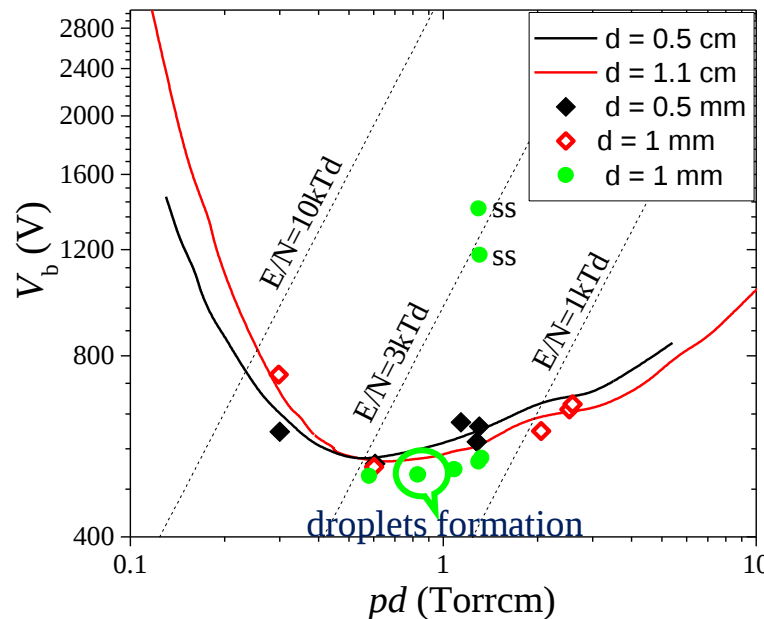
droplet formation at $pd \geq 0.81$ Torr cm & $d = 1$ mm

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

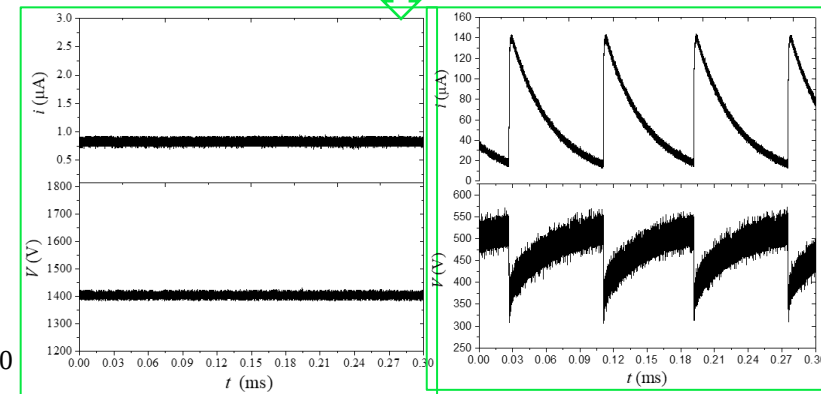
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary



Discharge chamber at 8°C

SS (steady-state) discharge at
1.29 Torr cm; $V_b = 1177$ V
1.33 Torr cm; $V_b = 1405$ V



Motivation

Experiment

Results

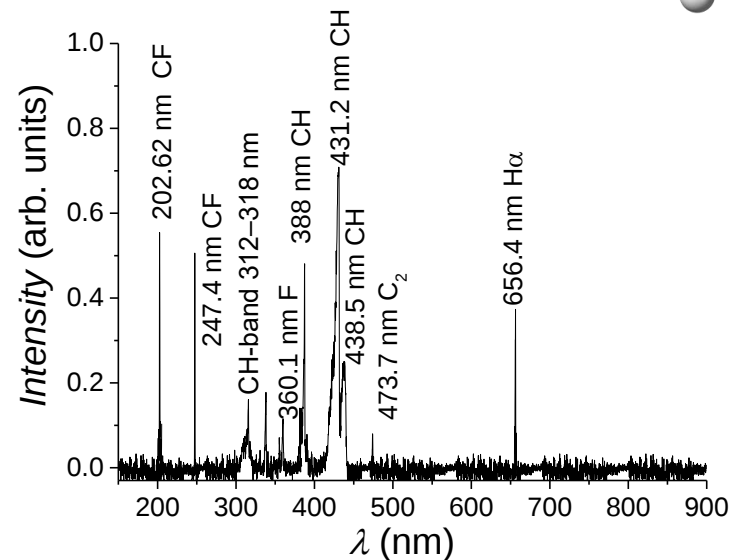
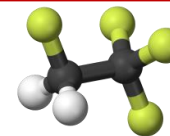
Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

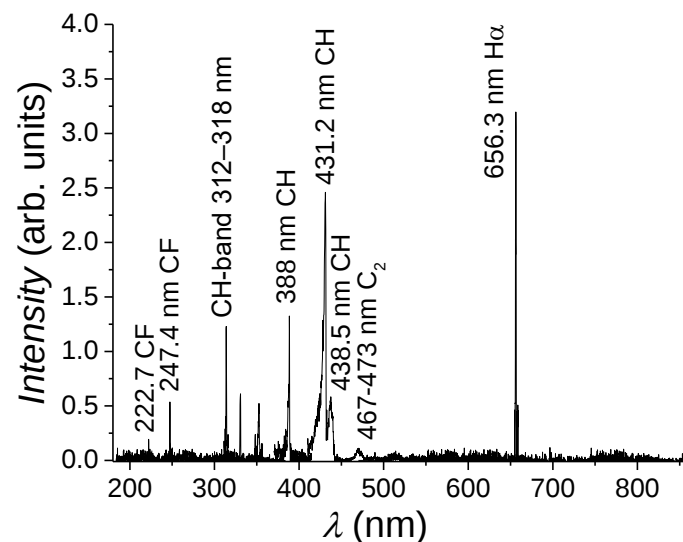
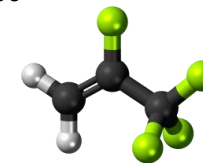
Summary

1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane / R-134a



$d = 1.1$ cm
 $pd = 0.2$ Tor cm
 $Slit = 50$ μ m
 $I = 20$ μ A
 $T = 21$ $^{\circ}$ C

2,3,3,3-tetrafluoropropene / HFO-1234yf



$d = 1.1$ cm
 $pd = 0.2$ Tor cm
 $Slit = 50$ μ m
 $I = 20$ μ A
 $T = 21$ $^{\circ}$ C

Paschen curves

DC Breakdown Measurements

Motivation

Experiment

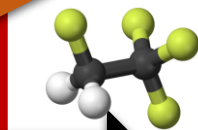
Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

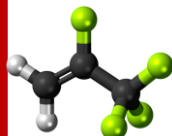
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary



R-134a

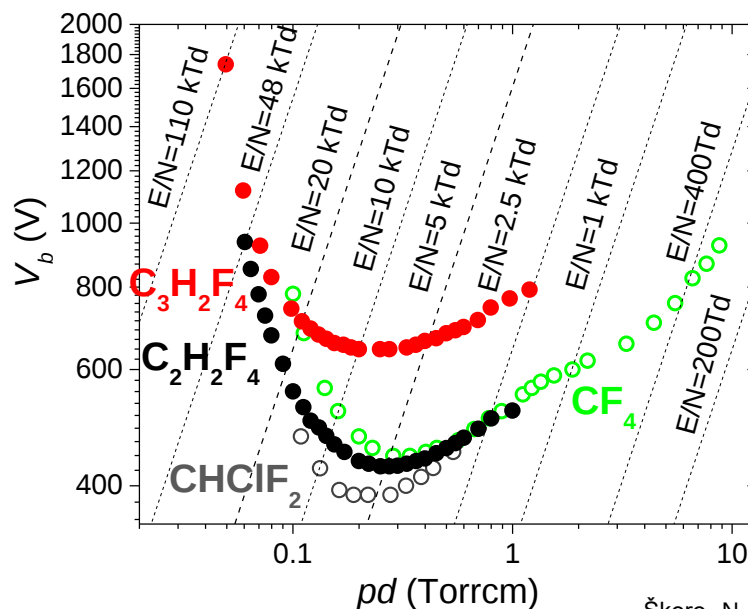
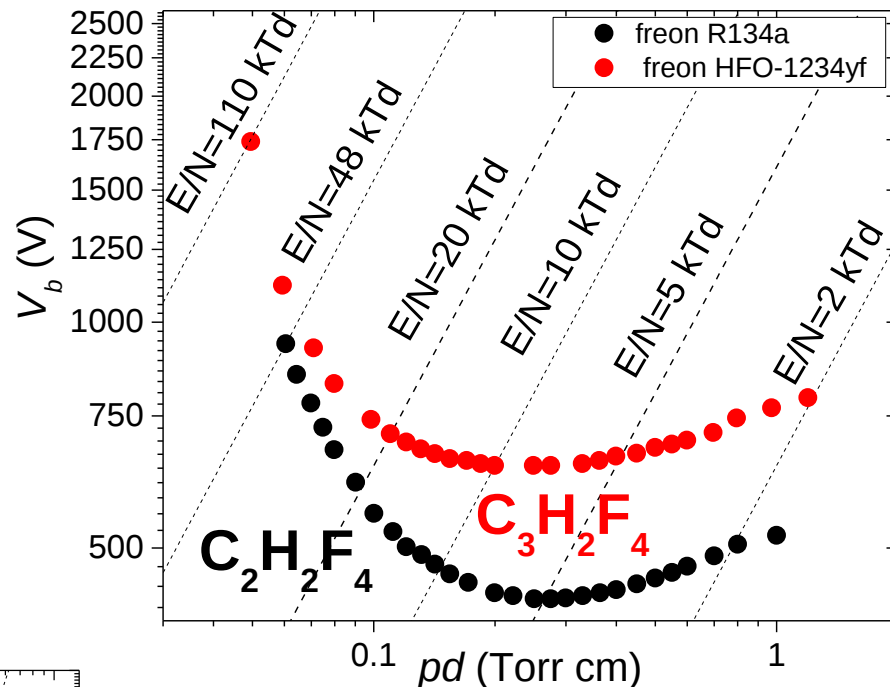
$(V_b)_{\min} = 428 \text{ V @ } pd = 0.28 \text{ Torr cm}$



HFO-1234yf

$(V_b)_{\min} = 644 \text{ V @ } pd = 0.25 \text{ Torr cm}$

$d = 1.1 \text{ cm}$
 $T = 21 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$
 $i = 1 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$



$1 \text{ Torr} = 133.32 \text{ Pa} = 1.316 \times 10^{-3} \text{ atm}$
 $1 \text{ Td} = 10^{-21} \text{ Vm}^2$

DC Breakdown Measurements

Ionization Coefficients and Secondary Electron Yield

Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

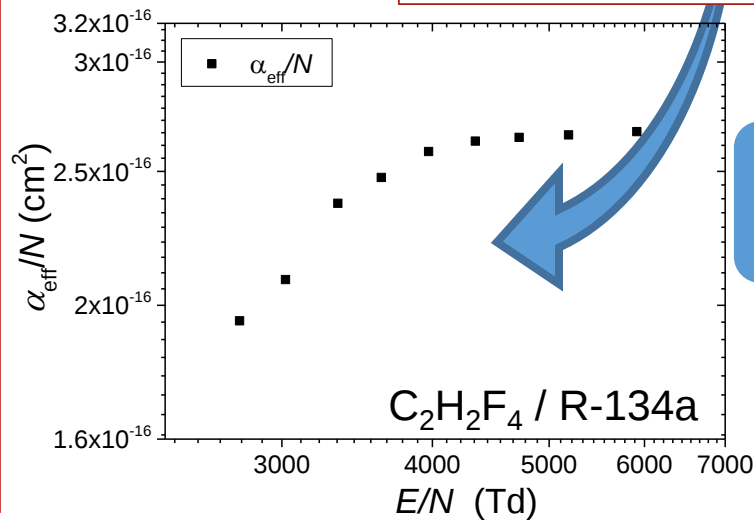
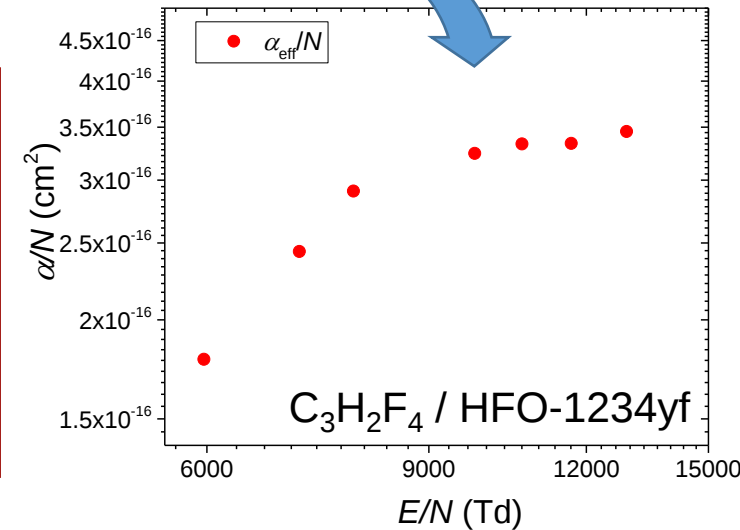
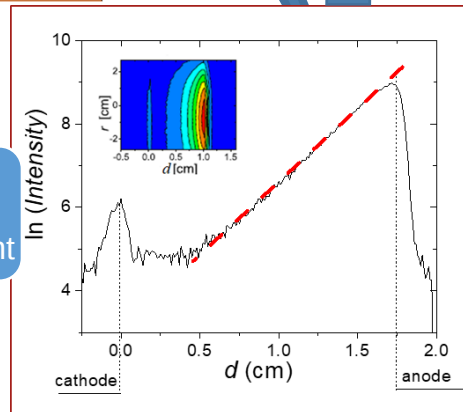
Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary

Determination of ionization coefficient

breakdown
i.e.
no space charge
i.e.
field is uniform!!!

Exponential slope
corresponds to the
ionization coefficient



Ionization coefficient

α_{eff}/N obtained from Ha emission profiles

DC Breakdown Measurements

Ionization Coefficients and Secondary Electron Yield

Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

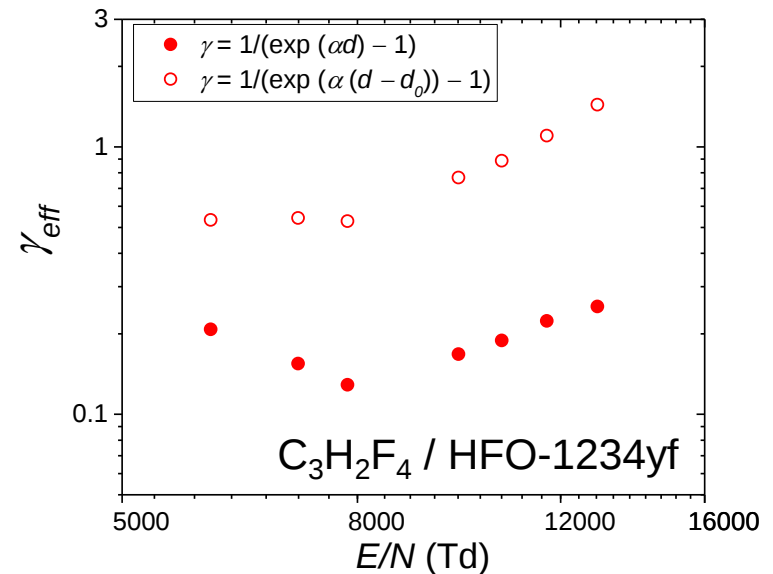
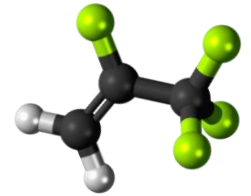
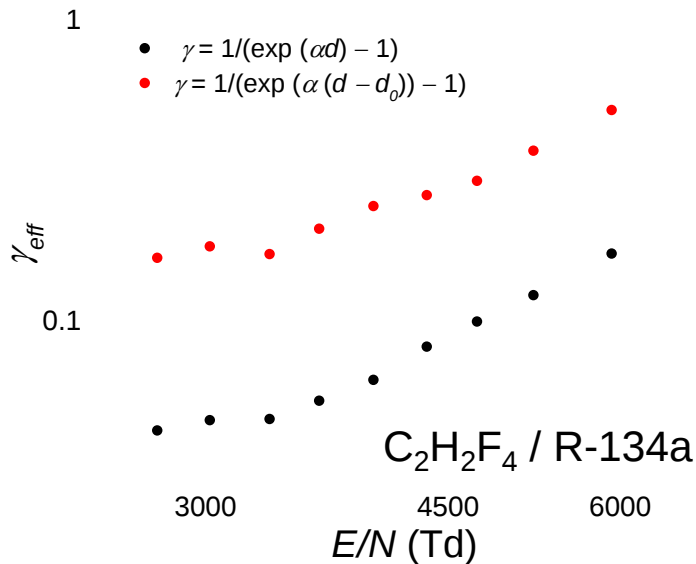
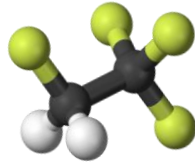
Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
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and ODP gases

Summary

Determination of secondary electron yield

$$\gamma_{eff} = \frac{1}{\exp(\alpha(d-d_0)) - 1}$$





Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases



Breakdown voltages vs pd 's / Paschen curves recorded for H₂O, alcohols, R-134a and HFO-1234yf



Obtained axial emission profiles – enable insight in dominant processes that participate in discharges



Our measurements have enabled extending the range of ionization coefficient towards higher E/N values



Breakdown voltages and ionization coefficients enable obtaining of the secondary electron yields



Emission spectra are recorded from 200 – 900 nm. Some heavier dissociation fragments (OH and CH radicals) and H atoms play main role in heavy particle processes of collisional excitation and ionization



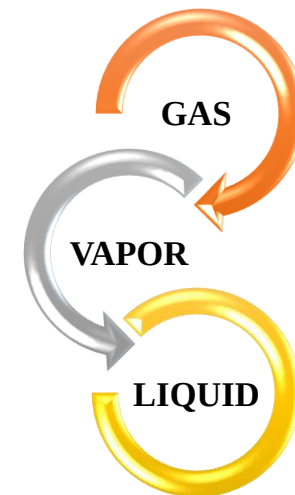
Recordings with optical filters reveal some of elementary processes that participate in breakdown

Summary

providing basis
for describing
breakdown in
vapors of
liquids & low
GWP gases

establishing
the
benchmarks
tests

modelling the
breakdown
and
discharges in
studied
vapors/gases



... next step



RF breakdown measurements





Motivation

Experiment

Results

Discharge in
alcohol vapors

Discharge in
water vapor

Discharge in
low GWP
and ODP gases

Summary

Acknowledgements

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THANK YOU