

**Fundamental Mechanisms, Predictive
Modeling,
and Novel Aerospace Applications of Plasma
Assisted Combustion**

**AFOSR
MURI Kick off meeting**

The Ohio State University

Nov 4, 2009



Report Documentation Page

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Drexel Group: Main Tasks

Thrust 1. Experimental studies of nonequilibrium air-fuel plasma kinetics using advanced non-intrusive diagnostics

Task 1: Low-to-Moderate ($T=300-800$ K) temperature, spatial and time-dependent radical species concentration and temperature measurements in nanosecond pulse plasmas in a variety of fuel-air mixtures pressures ($P=0.5-5$ atm), and equivalence ratios

Task 4: Moderate-to-high ($T=800 - 1800$ K) temperature PAC oxidation kinetics in Discharge Shock Tube Facility at pressures up to 10 bar

Task 5: PAC oxidation and combustion initiation at high pressure, high temperature conditions

Thrust 2. Kinetic model development and validation

Task 8: Development and validation of a predictive kinetic model of non-equilibrium plasma fuel oxidation and ignition

Task 9: Mechanism Reduction and Dynamic Multi-time Scale Modeling of Detailed Plasma-Flame Chemistry

Thrust 3. Experimental and modeling studies of fundamental nonequilibrium discharge processes

Task 10: Characterization and Modeling of Nsec Pulsed Plasma Discharges

Thrust 4. Studies of diffusion and transport of active species in representative two-dimensional reacting flow geometries

Task 13: Ignition and flameholding in high-speed non-premixed flows

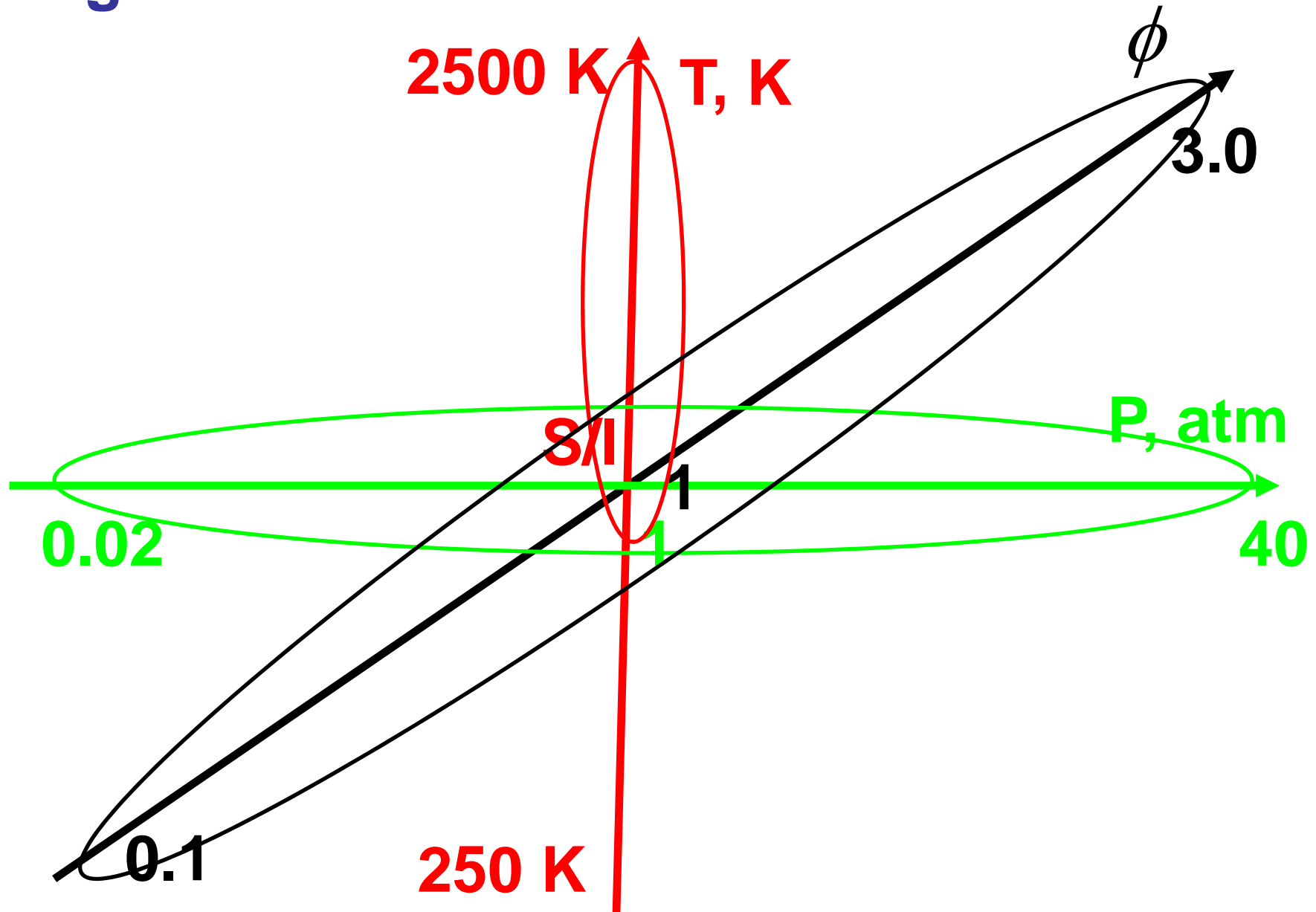
Task 14: High Fidelity Modeling of Plasma Assisted Combustion in Complex Flow Environments

Drexel Group: International Collaboration

International Collaborators

- Svetlana Starikovskaya (Ecole Pol) – Thrust 1
- Alexander Rakitin (NEQLab) – Thrust 1
- Boris Potapkin (KIAE) – Thrust 2
- Alexander Konnov (VUB) – Thrust 2
- Nickolay Aleksandrov (MIPT) – Thrust 3
- Sergey Pancheshnyi (Univ Toulouse) – Thrust 3
- Sergey Leonov (IVTAN) – Thrust 4

Range of Parameters – Combustion Kinetics



Problems of Plasma-Chemical Models

Availability and accuracy of data on electron collision cross sections

+ H₂ CH₄ C₂H₆ C₃H₈
? C₄H₁₀ C₅H₁₂ ...

Availability and accuracy of chemical models below self-ignition point

+ H₂
? CH₄ C₂H₆ C₃H₈ C₄H₁₀ C₅H₁₂ ...

Availability and accuracy of physical and chemical models for non-equilibrium conditions

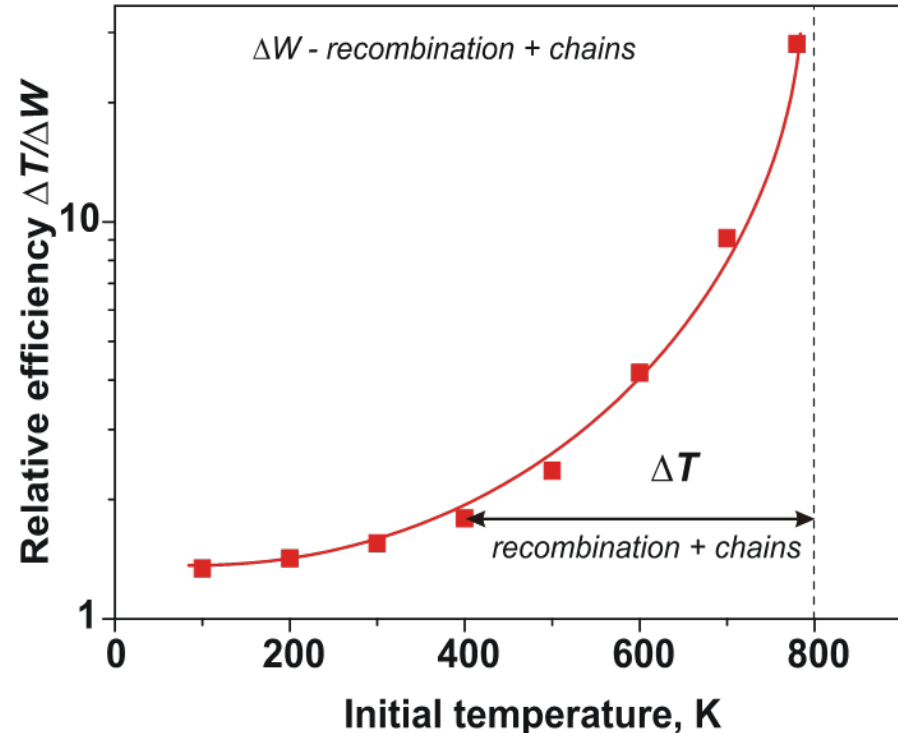
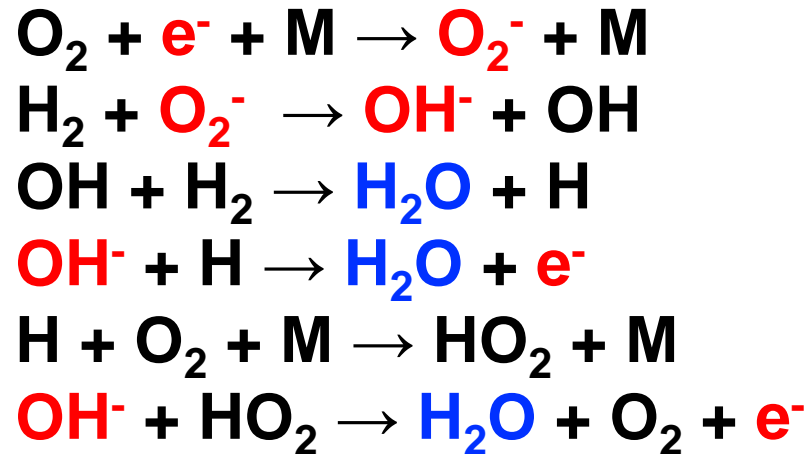
+ Radical's mechanism
? Ionic chain mechanism
? Energy chain mechanism

Models for Low-Temperature Plasma Assisted Combustion

800 K: autoignition gives 1 s

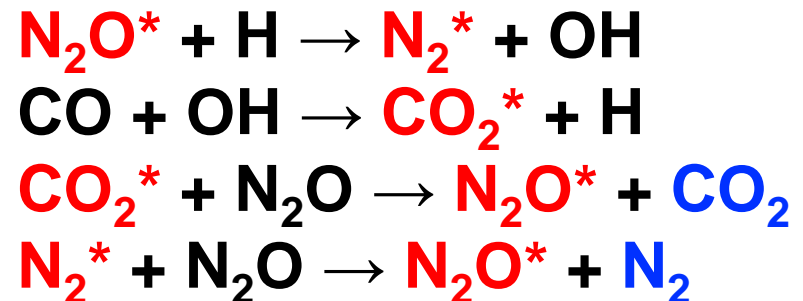
Starikovskii et al.,

Plasma Physics Reports, 2000 (26) 701

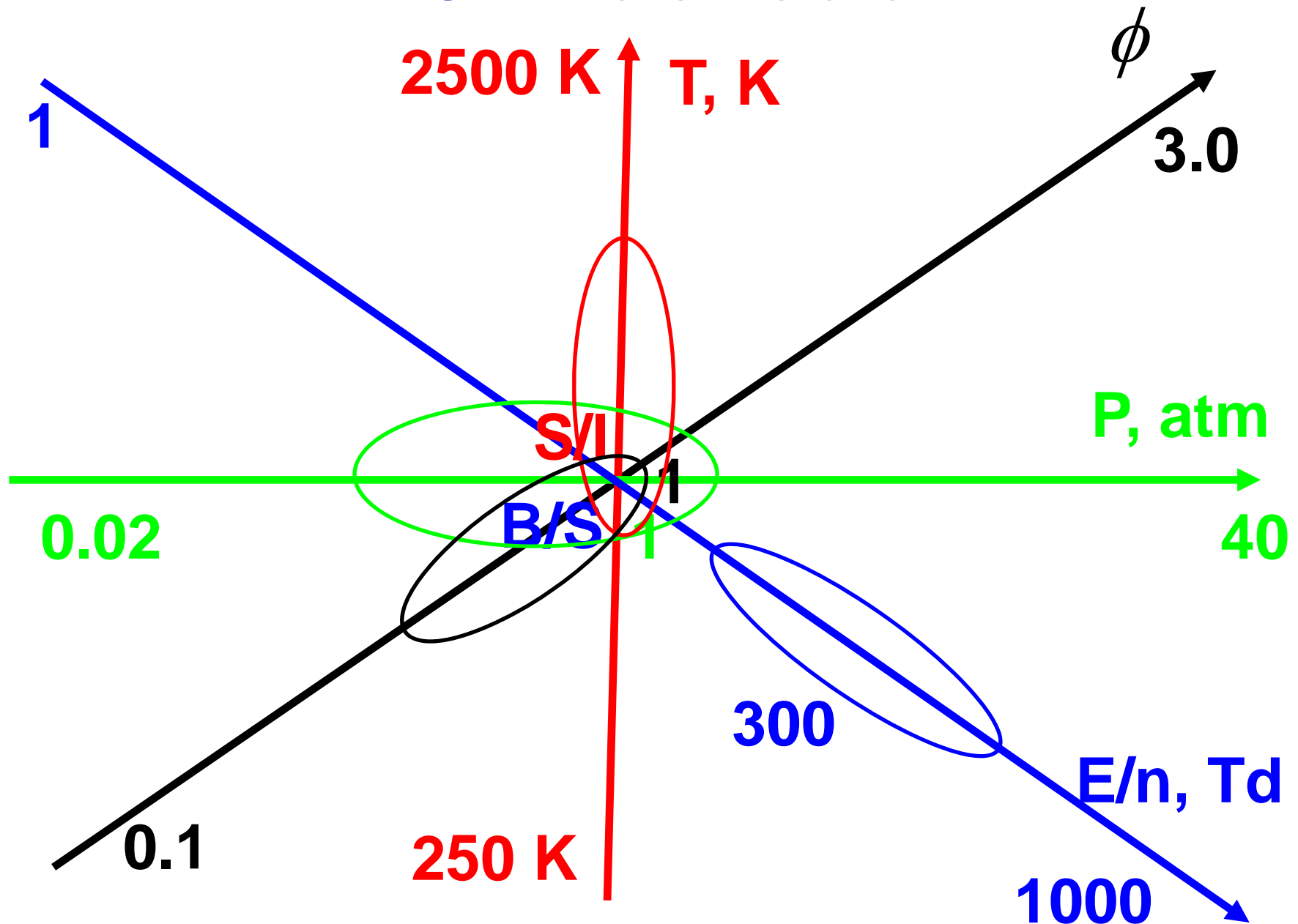


Starikovskii,

Chemical Physics Reports, 2003 (11) 1

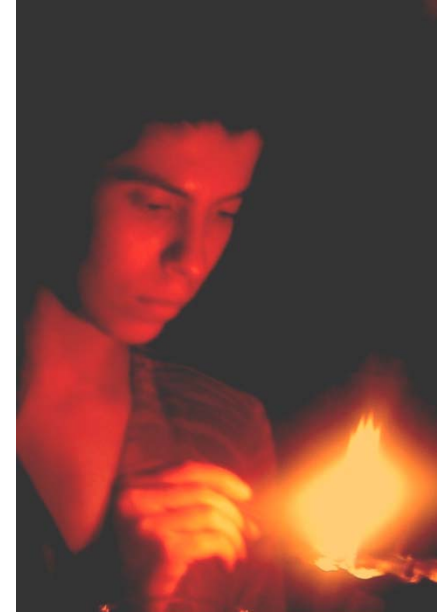
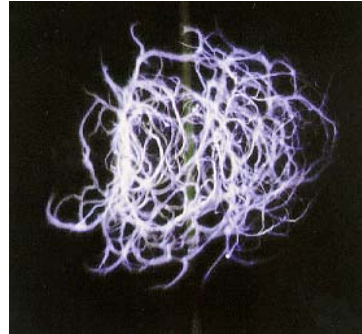
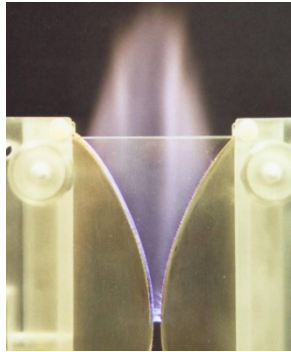


PAC: Where we are



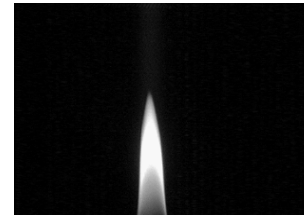
Mechanisms of Plasma Influence

1. Heating

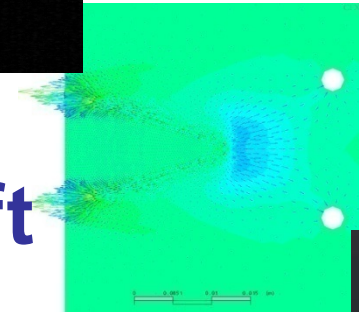


2. Turbulization

3. Momentum Transfer



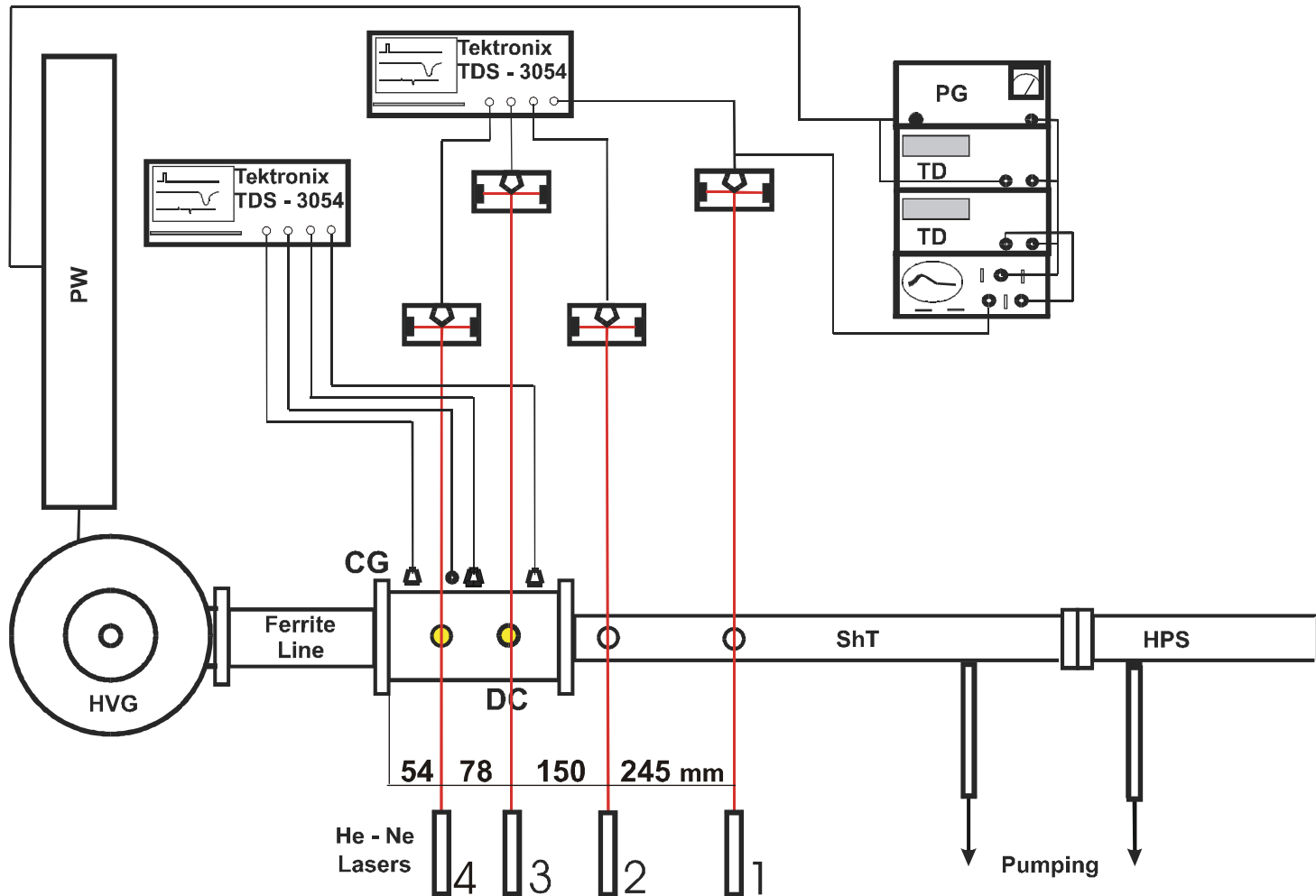
4. Electrons/Ions Diffusion/Drift



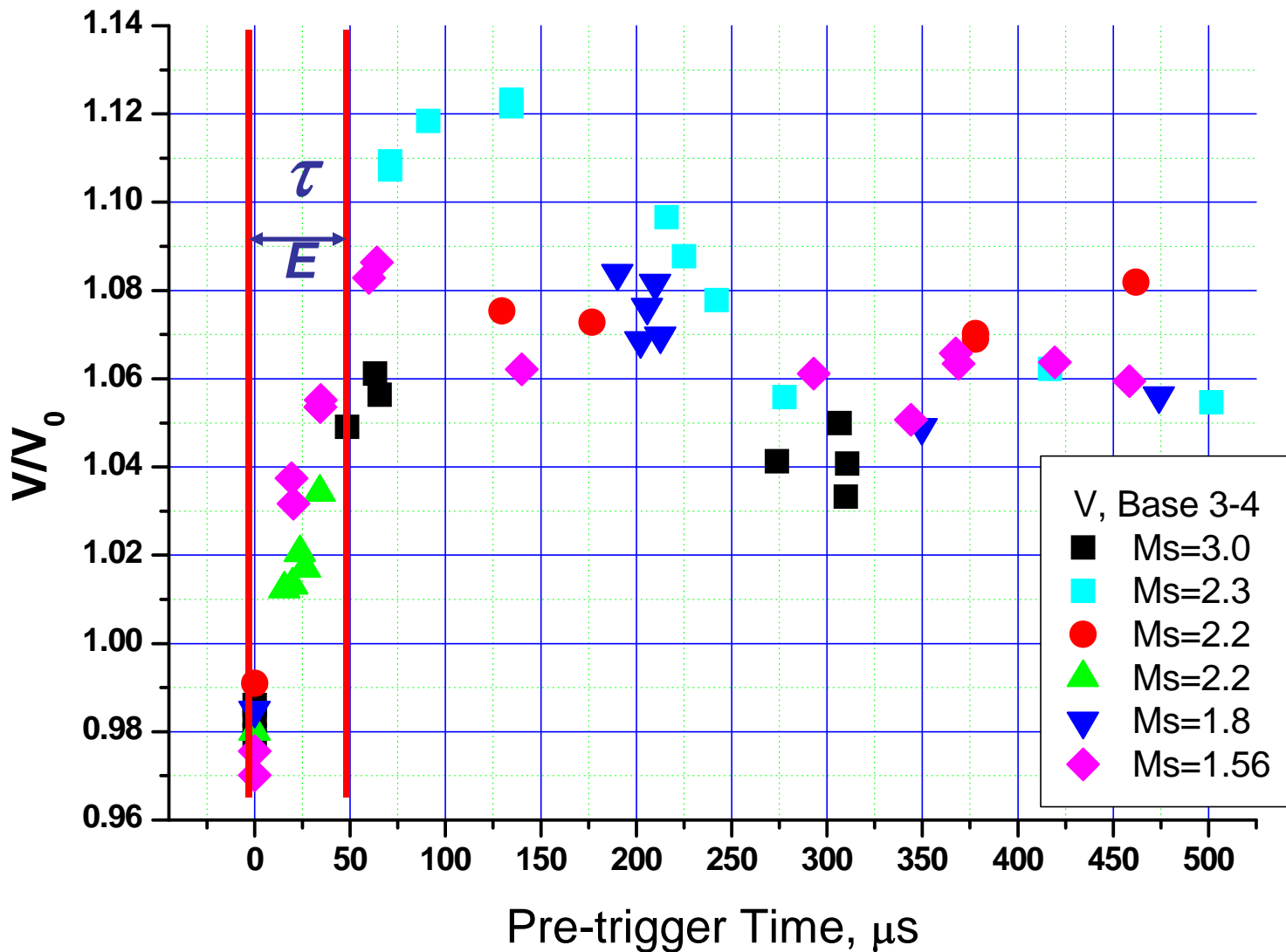
5. Dissociation, Ionization



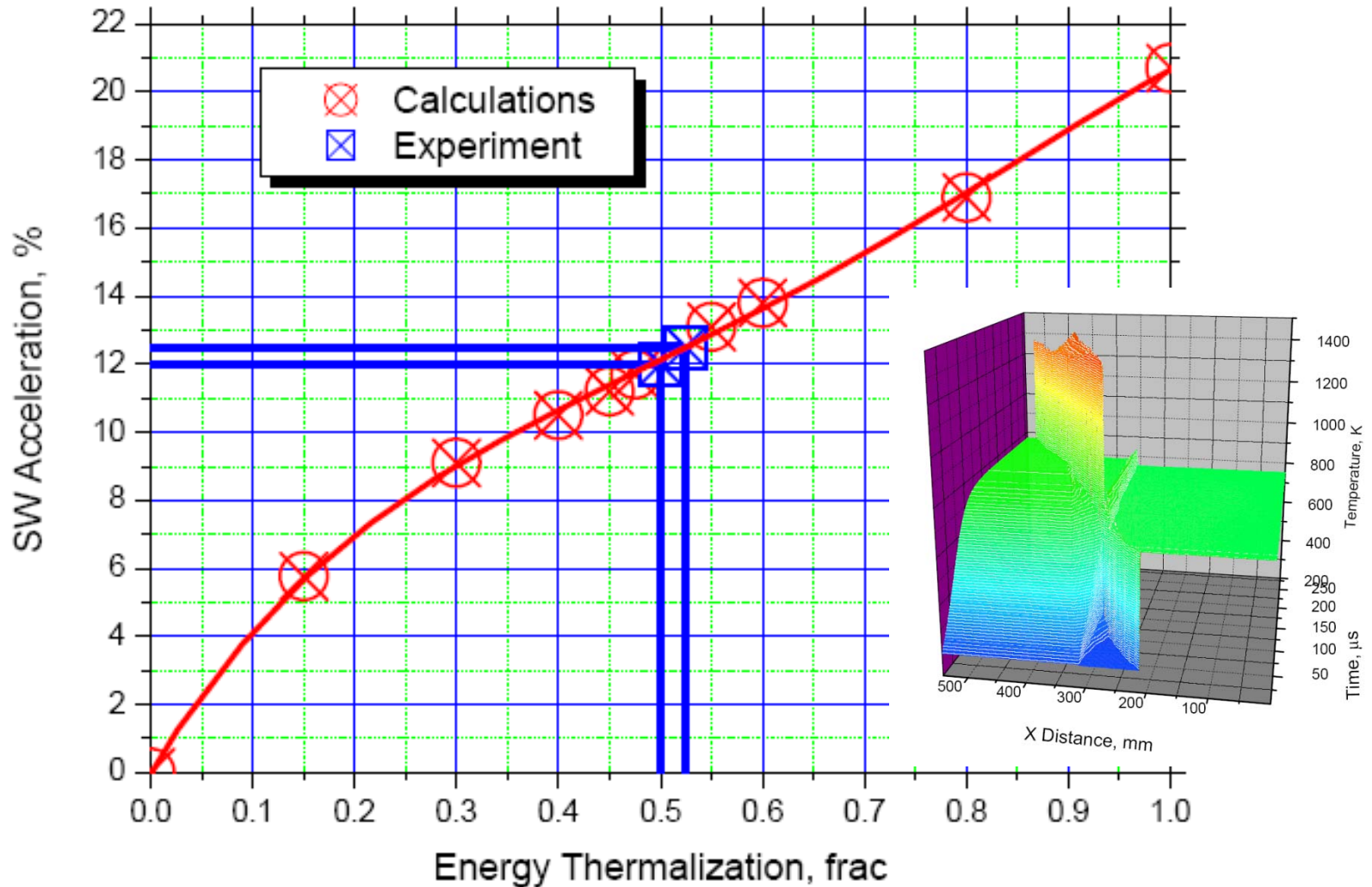
Shock Wave - Nonequilibrium Plasma Interaction



Relaxation of Nonequilibrium Plasma. Air. $P_1 \sim 20$ Torr

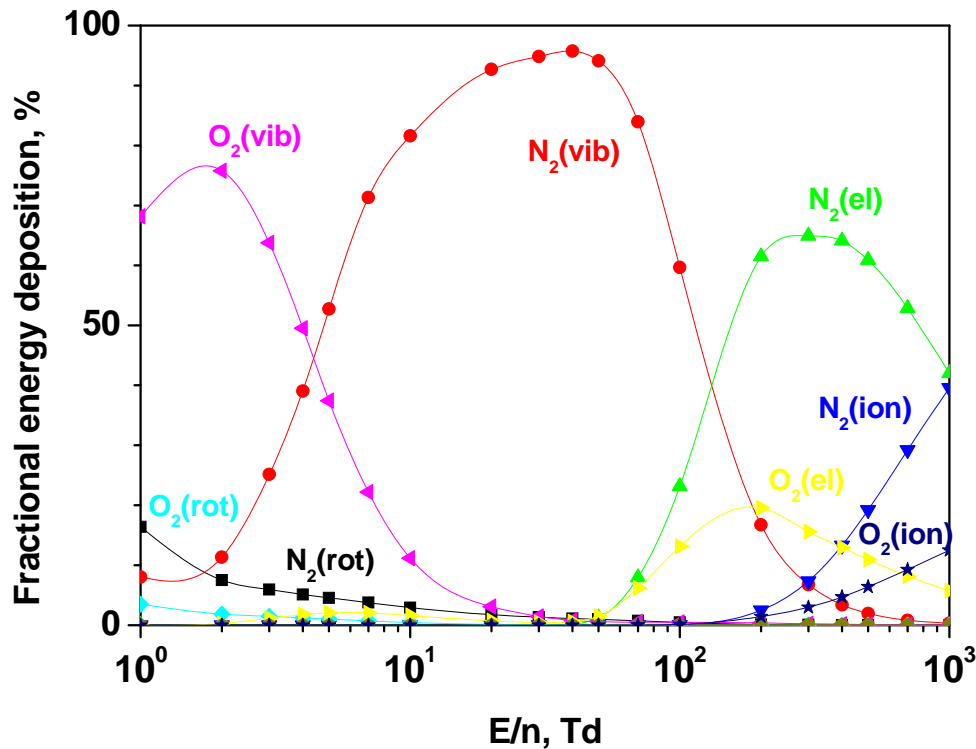


Relaxation of Nonequilibrium Plasma. Air. $P_1 \sim 20$ Torr



Mechanism of fast heating in discharge plasmas (low E/N)

Air



Low (< 20 Td) E/N:

$e + N_2, O_2$

- elastic scattering

- rotational excitation

Mechanism of fast heating in discharges (moderate E/N)

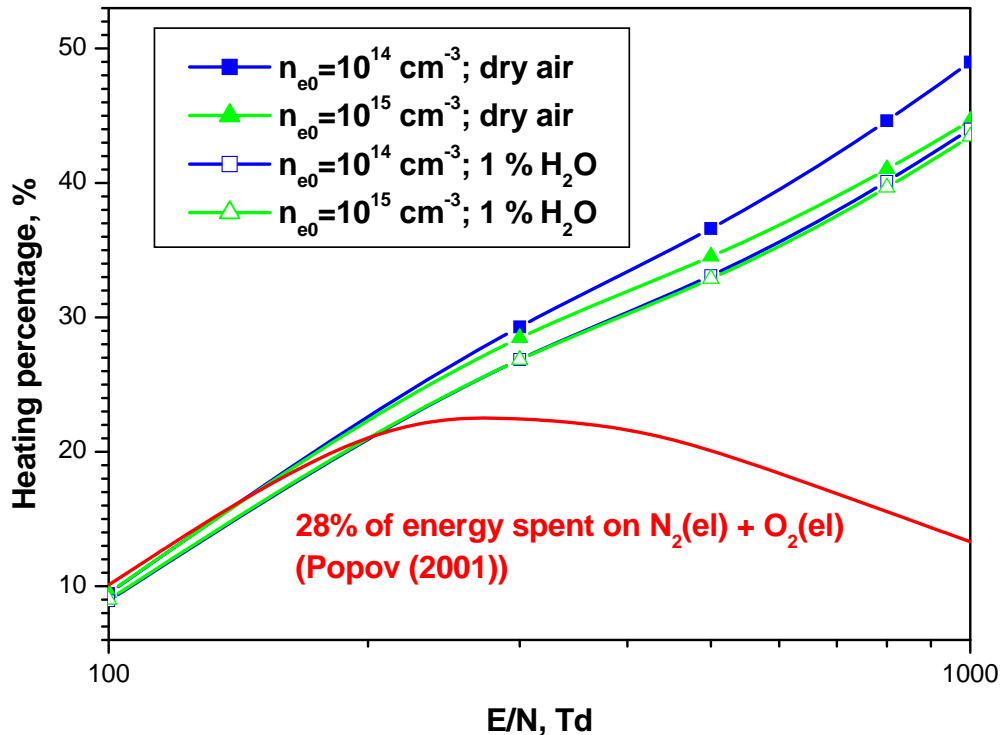
Moderate (20 - 200 Td) E/N:

Popov (2001) heating \rightarrow 28 % of power spent on $N_2^* + O_2^*$



Mechanism of fast heating in discharge plasmas (high E/N)

Aleksandrov et al. (2009)

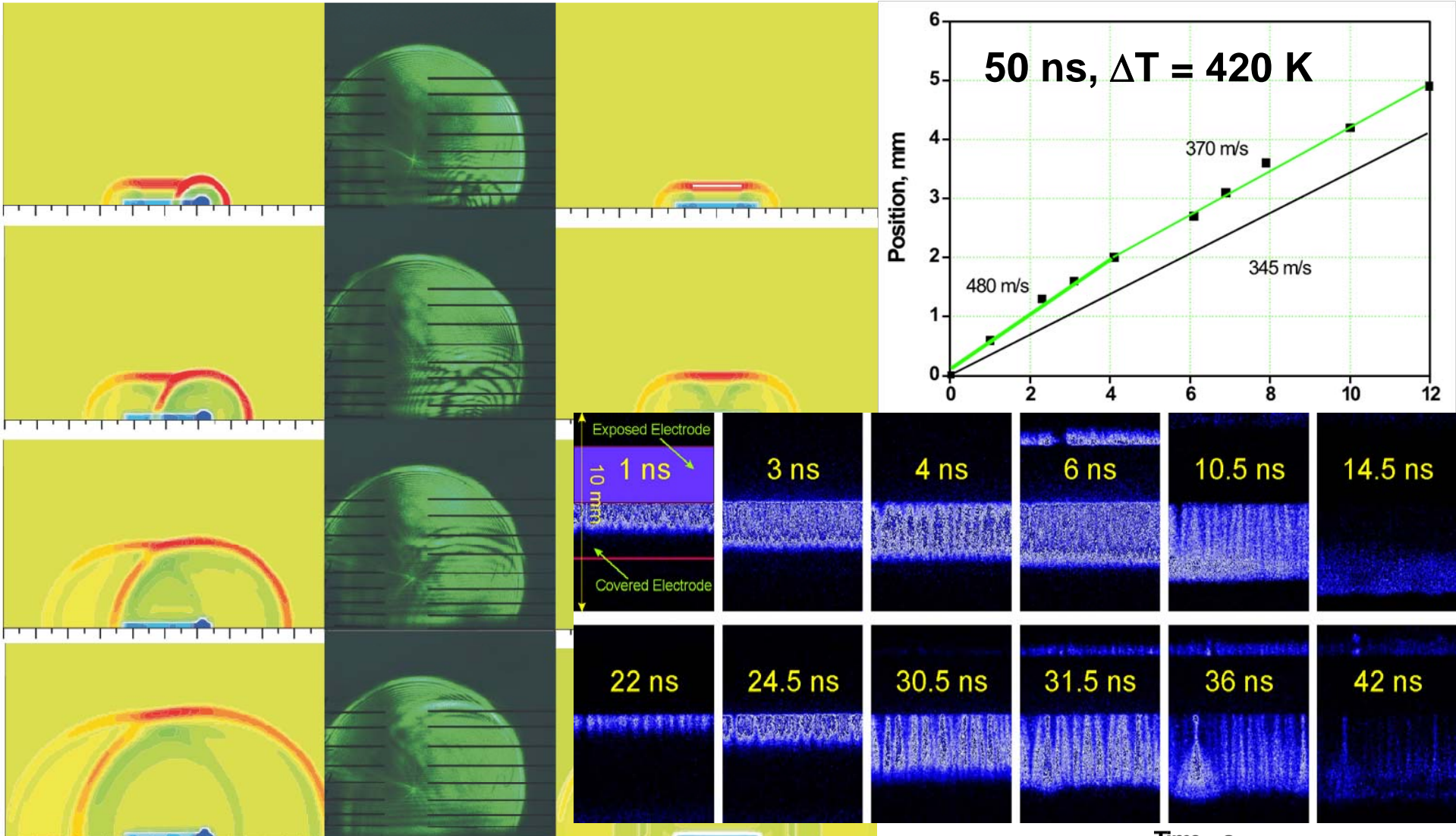


High ($> 200 \text{ Td}$) E/N:

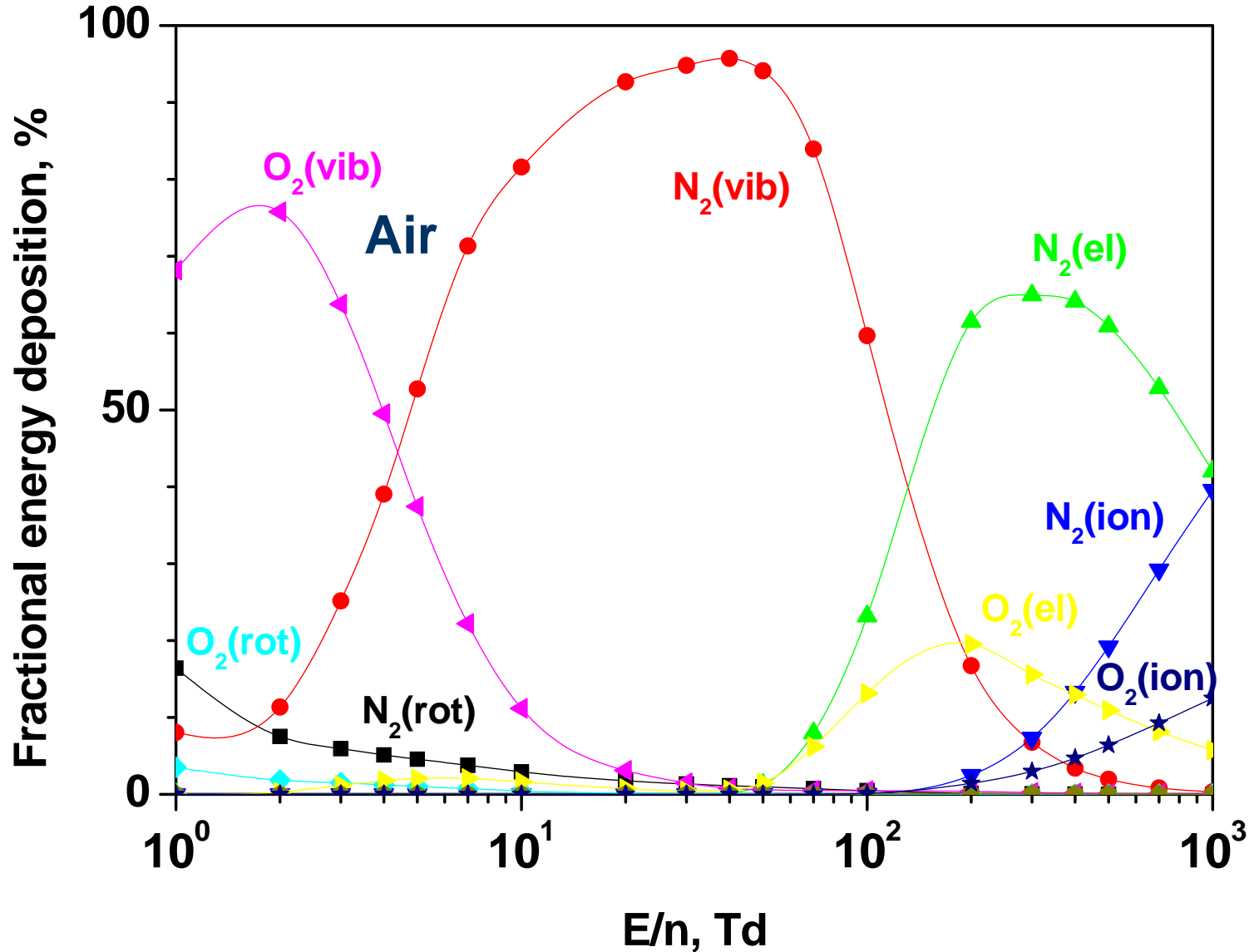
electron-ion and ion-ion recombination kinetics



Heat Release and Shock Waves Formation by “Nonequilibrium” Plasma



Energy Distribution in Gas Discharge



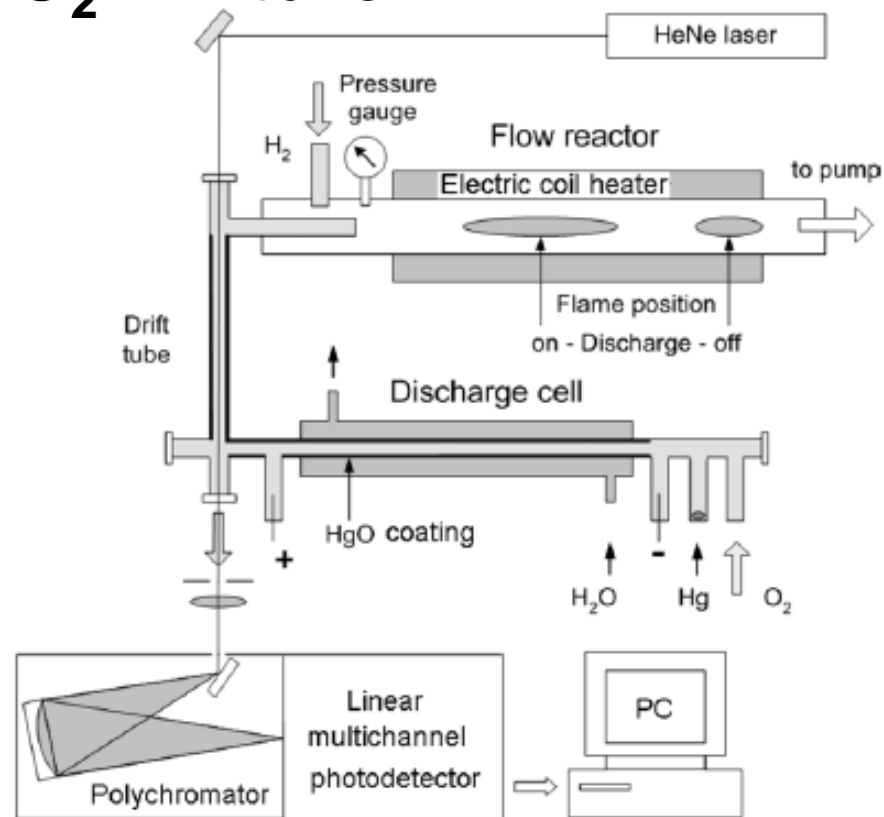
Molecular Oxygen Excitation

To directly observe the influence of SDO on the combustion of $\text{H}_2\text{-O}_2$ mixture

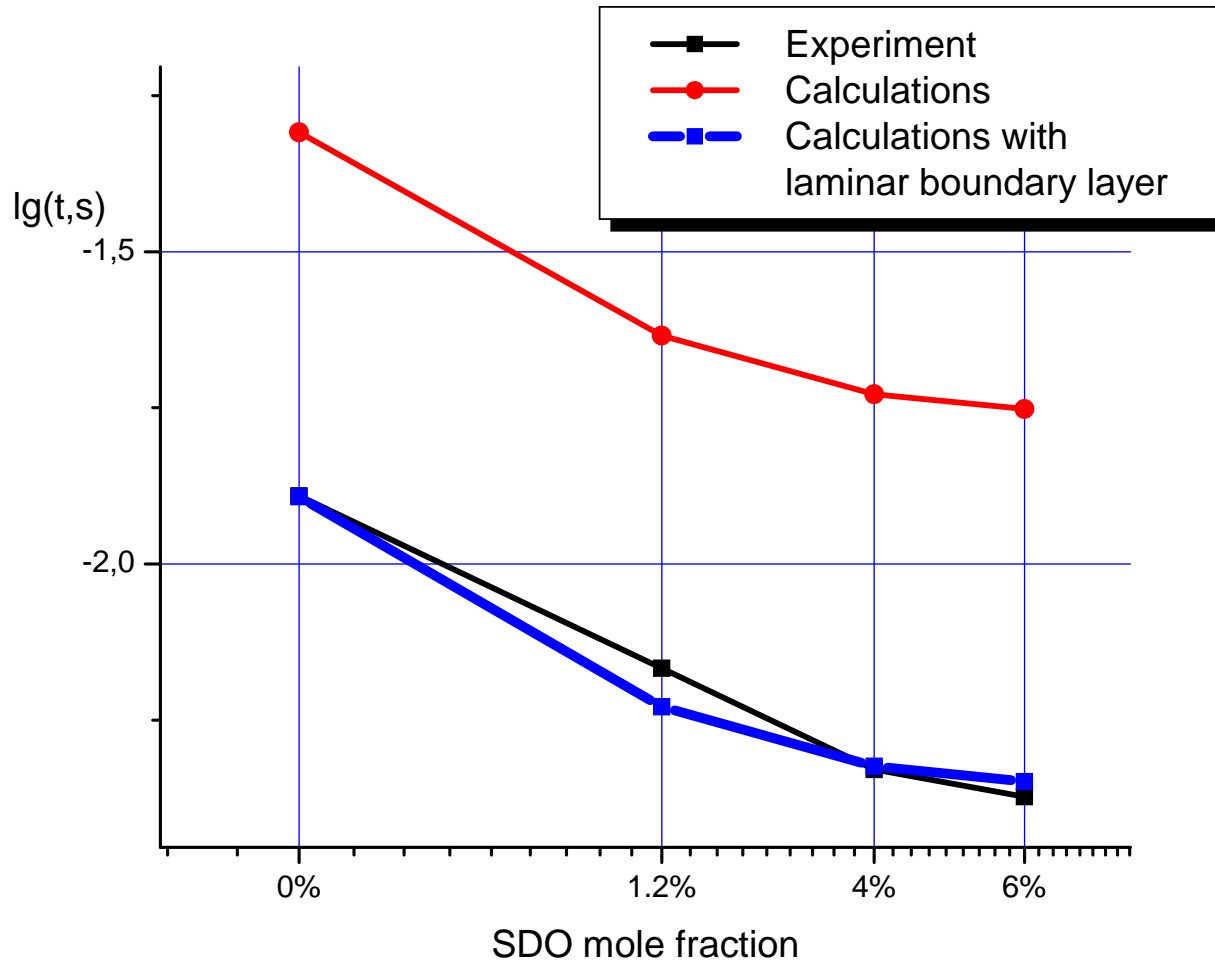
Delivering sufficient amount of SDO

Minimizing the effect of O atom

Lower the inlet temperature

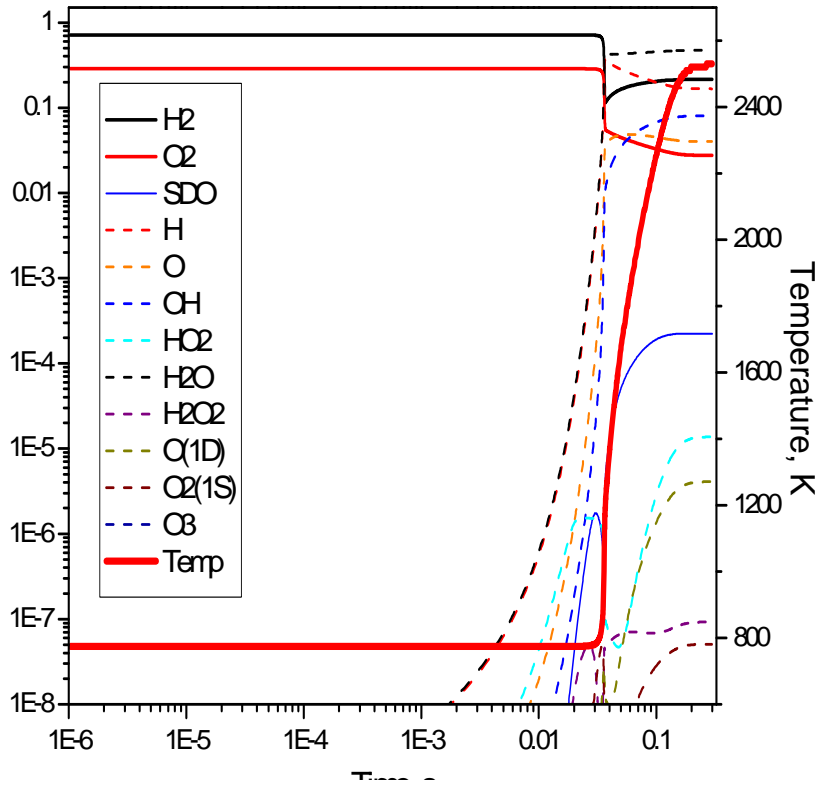


SDO kinetic analysis

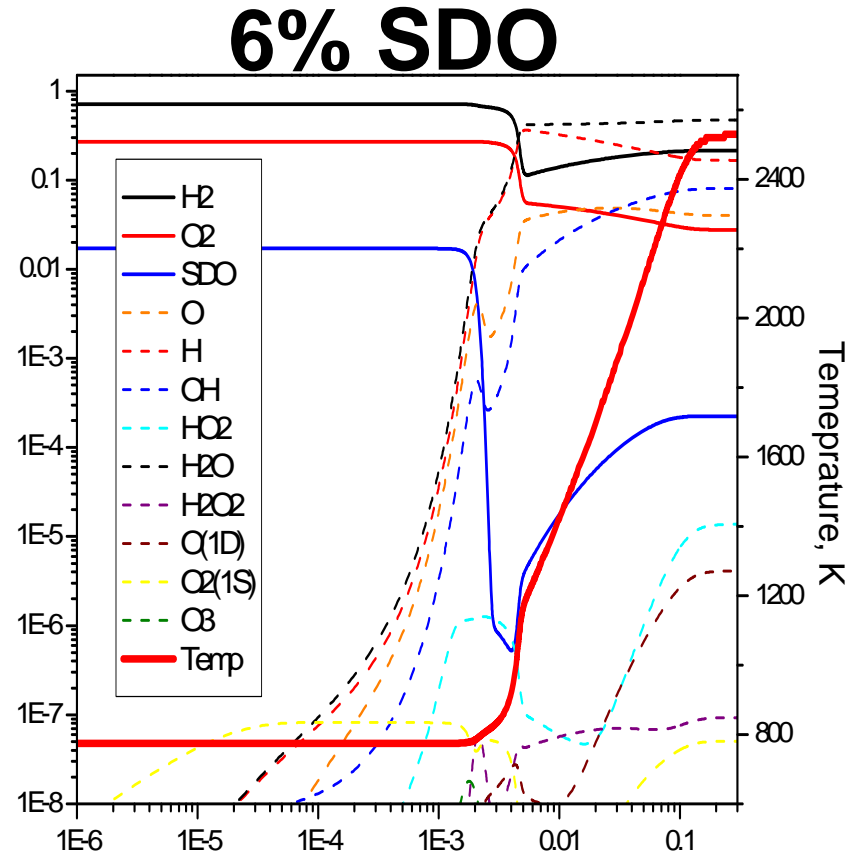


**The ignition time as a function of SDO mole fraction in oxygen.
T=775 K and P=10 Torr in the H₂:O₂=5:2 mixture**

SDO kinetic analysis



Auto-ignition



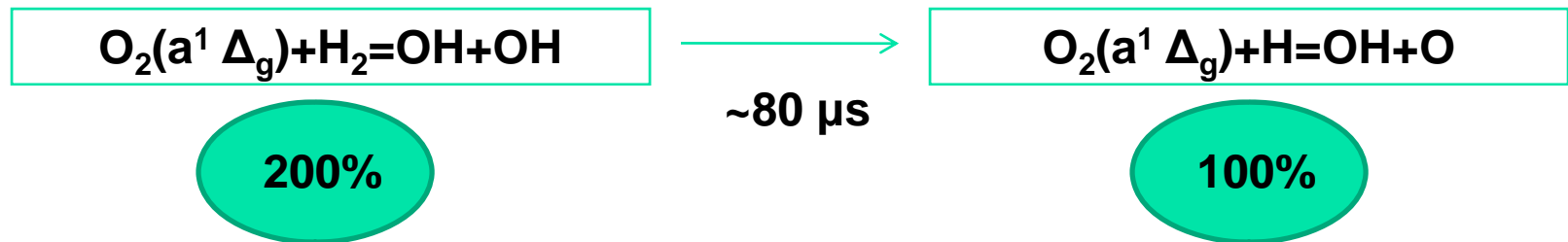
The evolution in time of the mole fractions of the main component for autoignition (a) and ignition with 6% singlet delta oxygen. The gas temperature evolution is represented by the thick red line.

SDO kinetic analysis

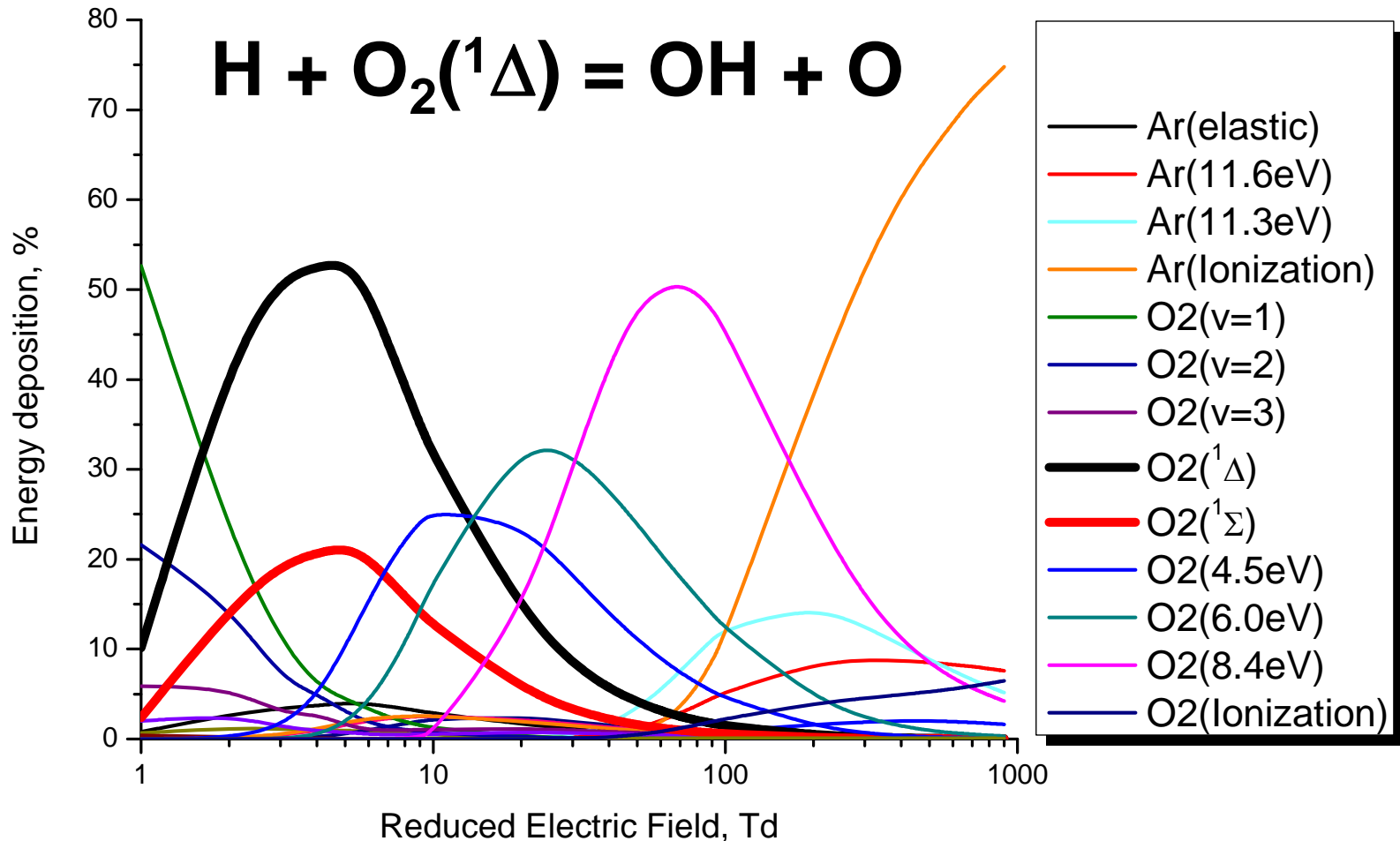
Possible reasons

Auto	SDO
$O_2+M=O+O+M$ (slow)	$O_2(a^1 \Delta_g)+H_2=OH+OH$ (fast)
$H_2+O=OH+H$	$OH+H_2=H_2O+H$
$O_2+H=OH+O$	$O_2(a^1 \Delta_g)+H=OH+O$
$OH+OH=H_2O+O$	$O_2+H=OH+O$
...	$OH+OH=H_2O+O$
...	...

Radical generation efficiency



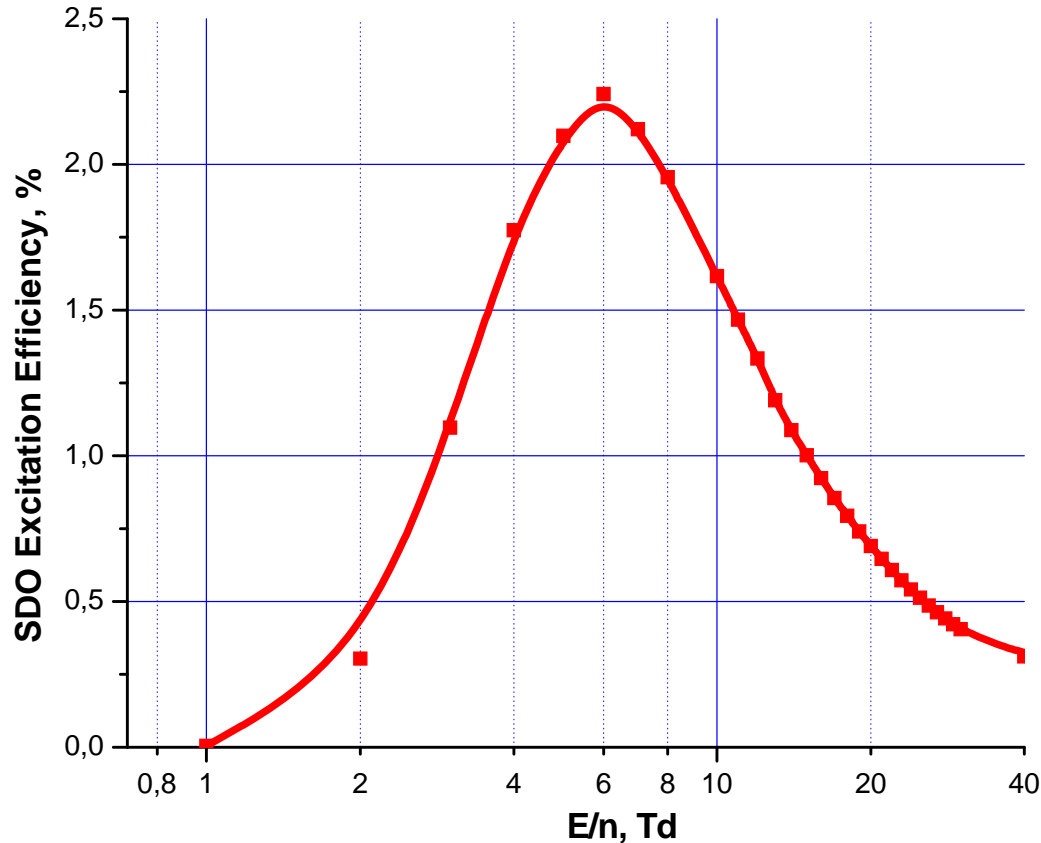
Energy Distribution in O₂-Ar (15%:85%) Mixture



- **74% energy in excitation of singlet oxygen at E/n= 5 Td**
 - **Approximately 53% in singlet delta state**
 - **About 21% in singlet sigma state**

SDO Excitation efficiency in air plasma

$E/n = 6 \text{ Td } (=10^{-17} \text{ Vcm}^2)$



Air Plasma

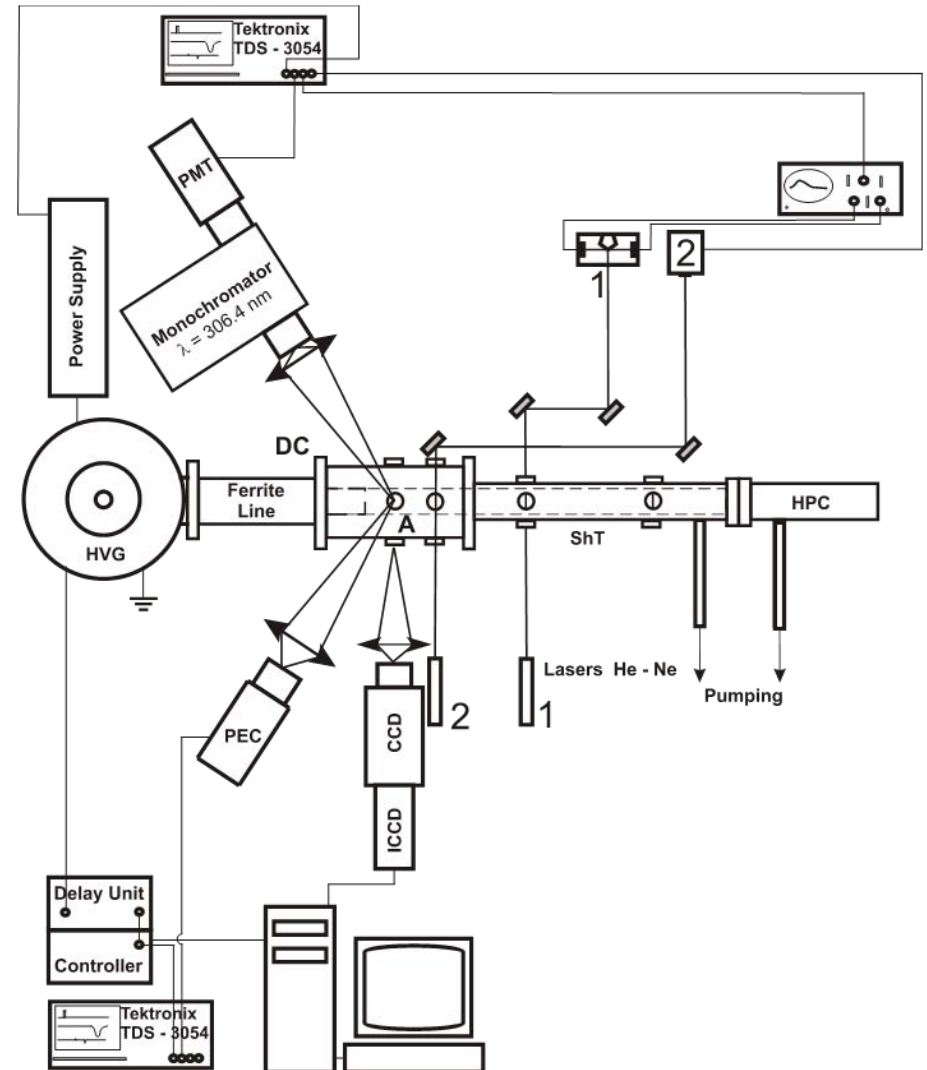
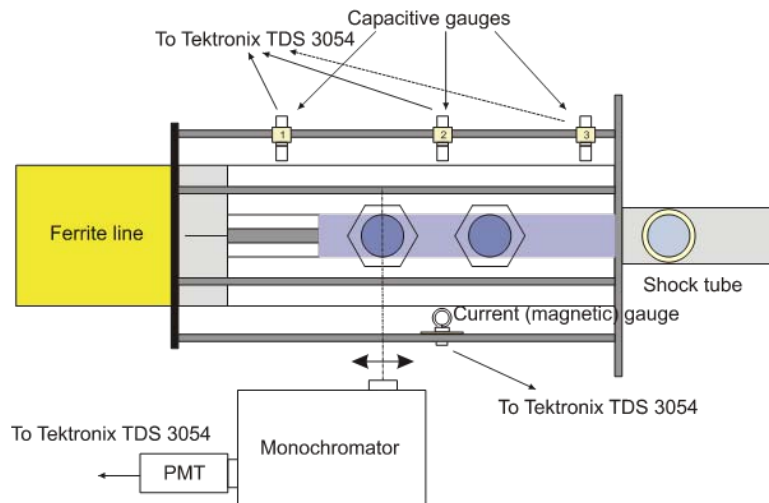
N2 Elastique	1.8 %
N2(ROT)	4 %
N2 (V=1)	49 %
N2 (V=2)	7.3 %
N2 (V=3)	1.4 %
N2 (V=4)	0.2 %
O2 Elastique	0.3 %
O2 (ROT)	0.2 %
O2 (V=1)	17 %
O2 (V=2)	11 %
O2 (V=3)	4.1 %
O2 (V=4)	1.4 %
O2 ($a^1\Delta_g$)	2.2 %
O2 ($b^1\Sigma$)	0.1%

Shock Tube with Discharge Section.

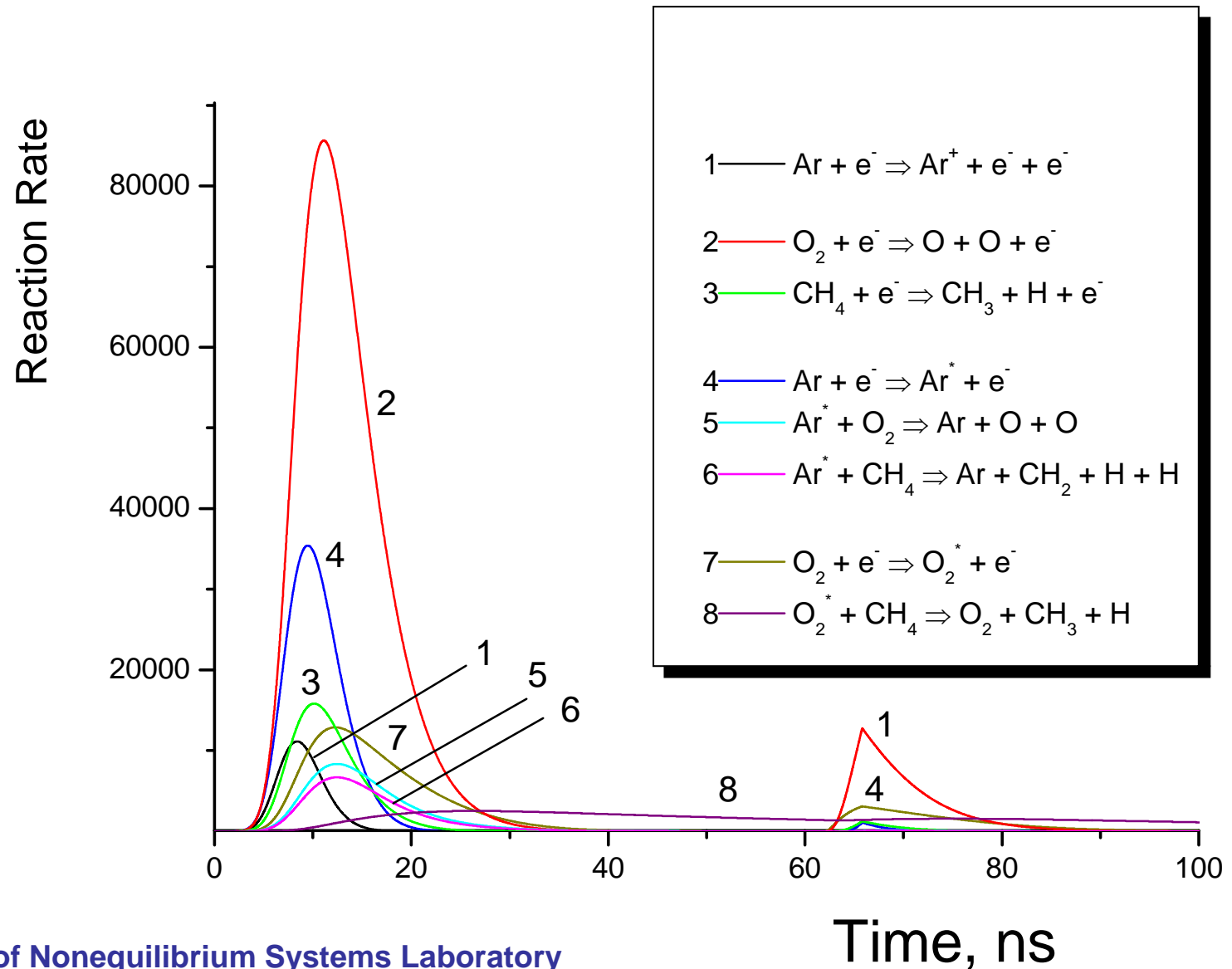
$U \leq 0.3 \text{ MV}$, $M \leq 3$

Starikovskaya et al

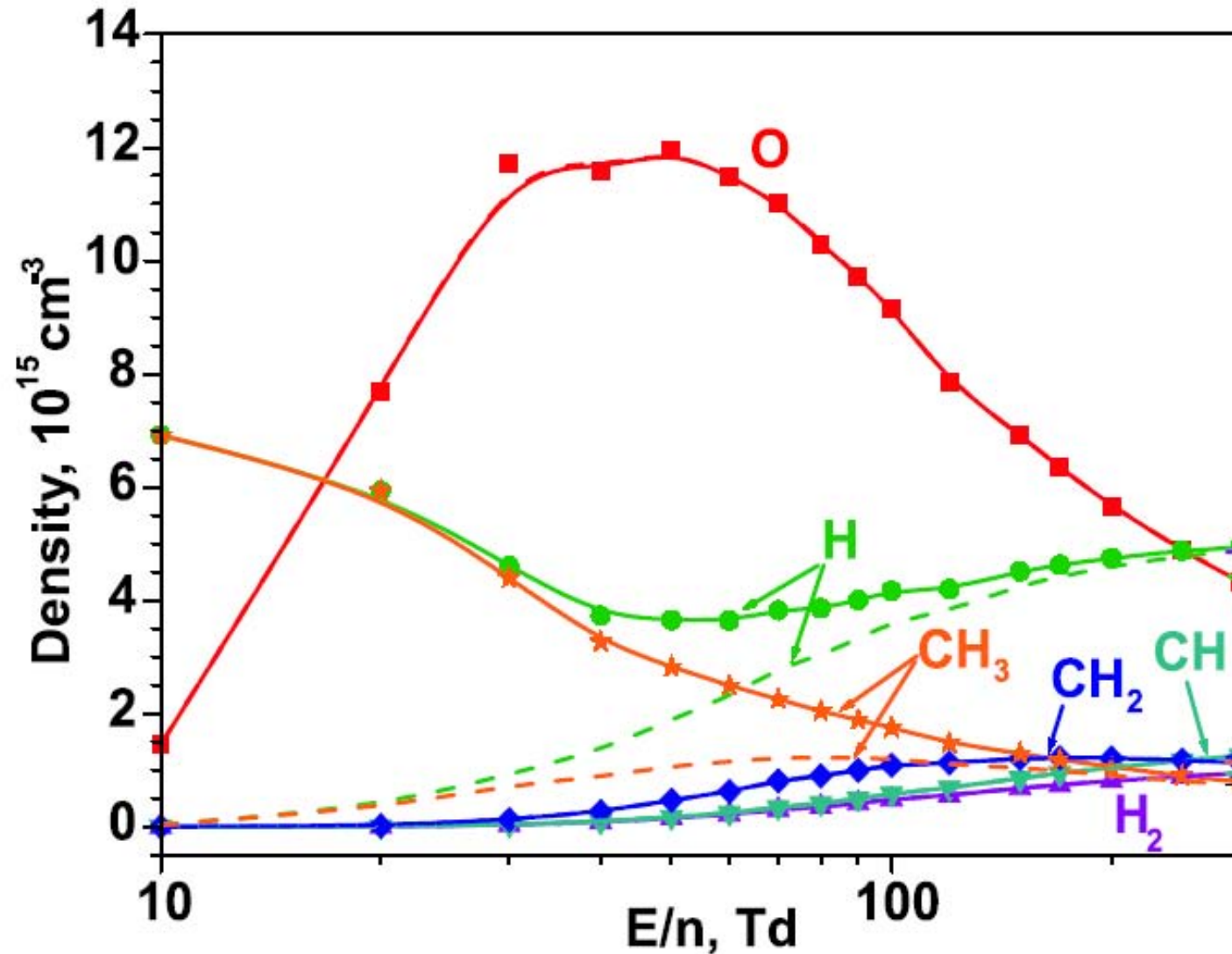
Test Section of the Shock Tube



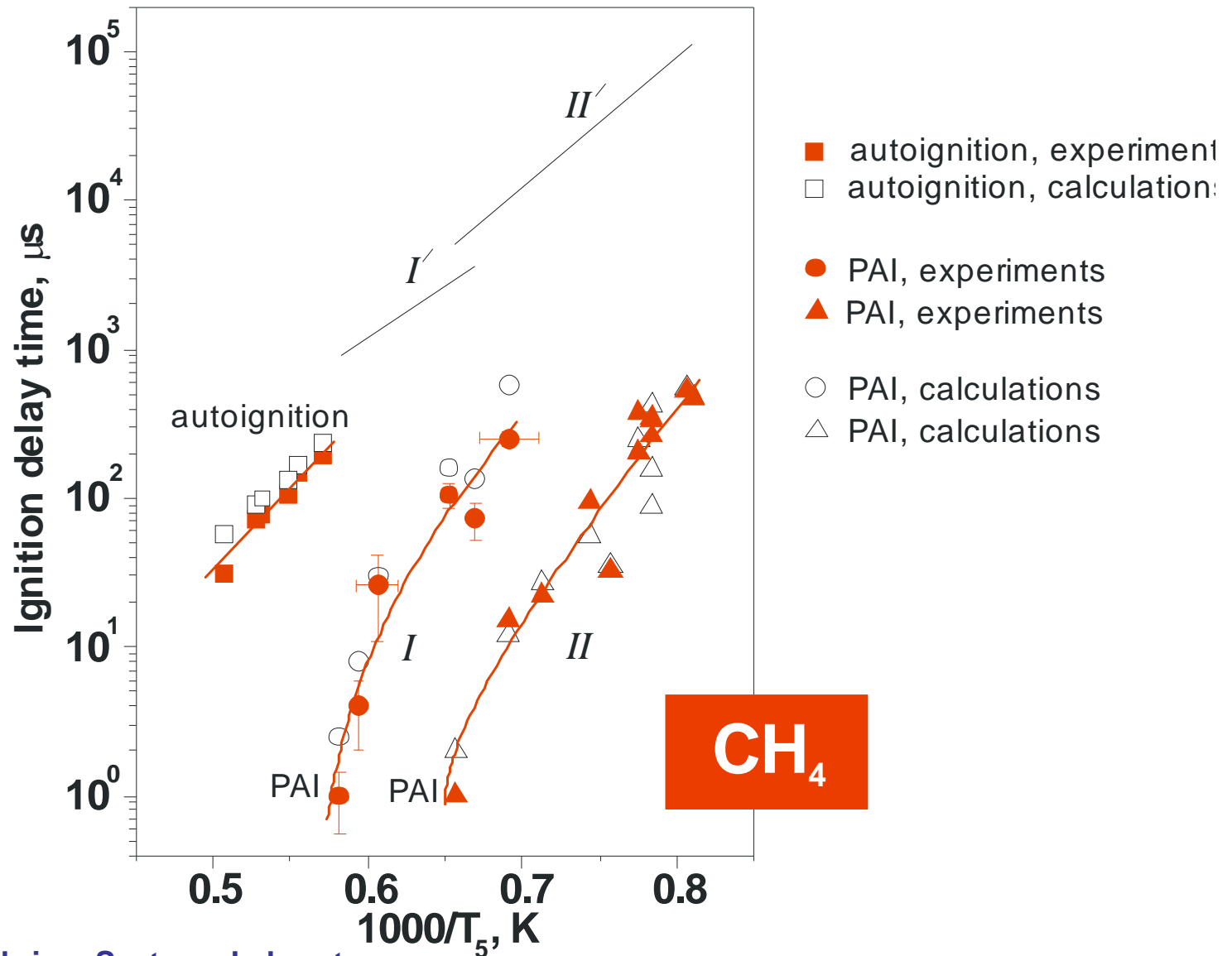
Main Processes During Discharge Phase



Radicals Production in Discharge CH₄-containing mixture

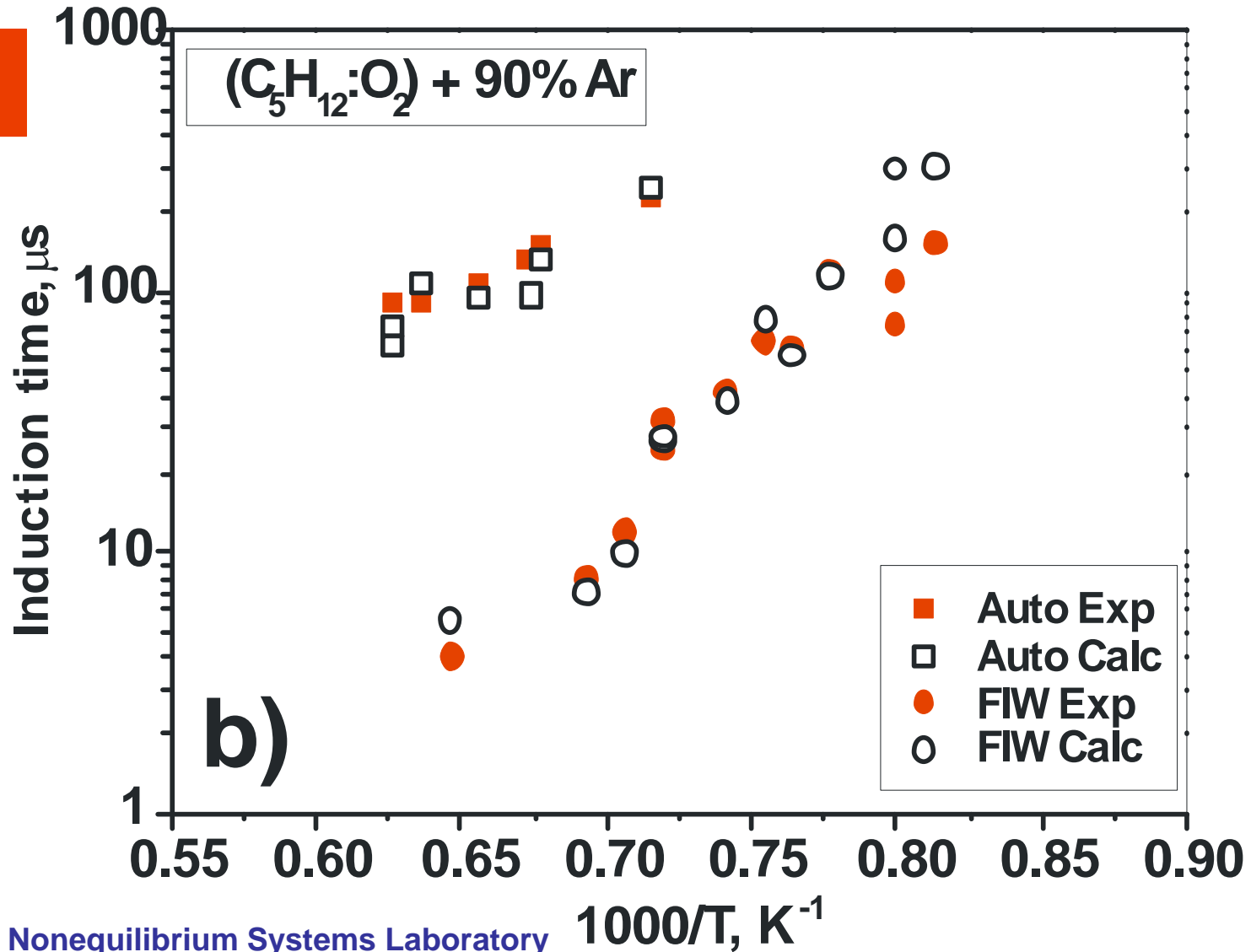


Ignition Delay Time: Methane-Containing Mixture

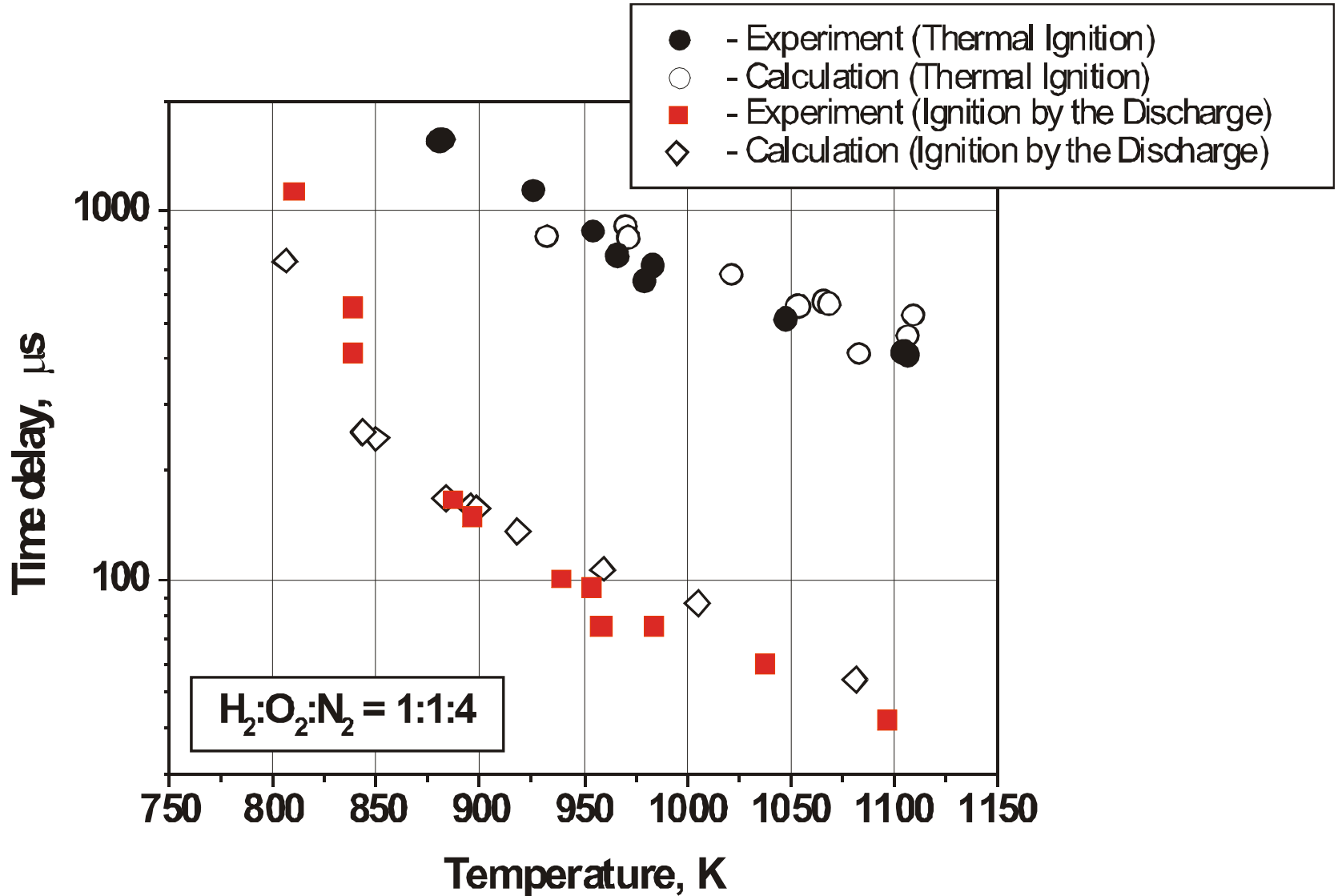


RAMEC (for C1) + Westbrook (C2-C7) + High Pressure Adjustment

C_5H_{12}



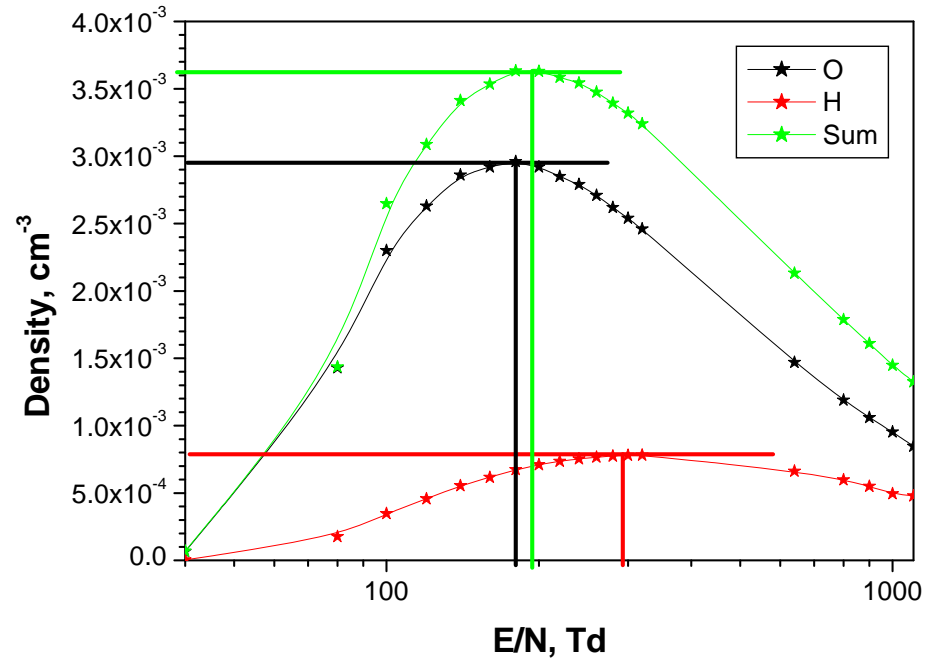
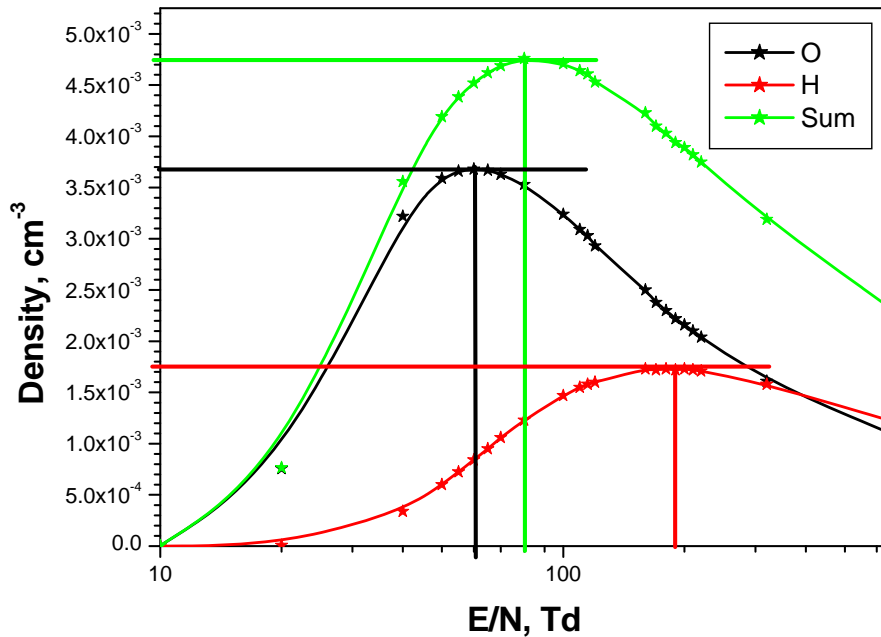
Experiment and Calculations in H₂-Air Mixture



Modeling of Radicals Formation vs E/n ($W=14 \text{ mJ/cm}^3$)

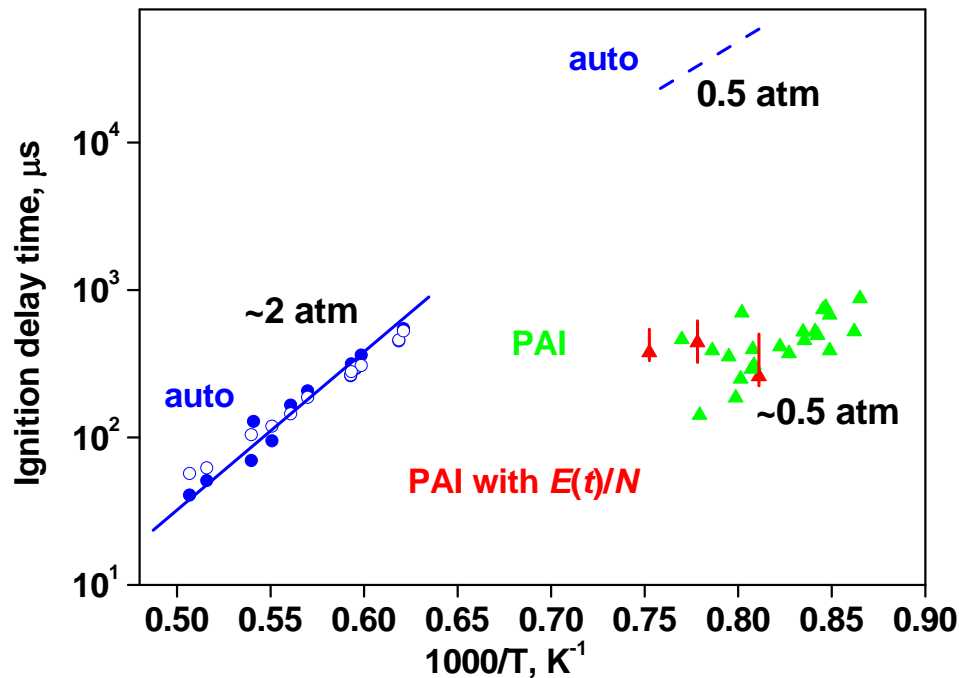
H₂:O₂:N₂=29.5:14.75:55.75

H₂:O₂:Ar=29.5:14.75:55.75

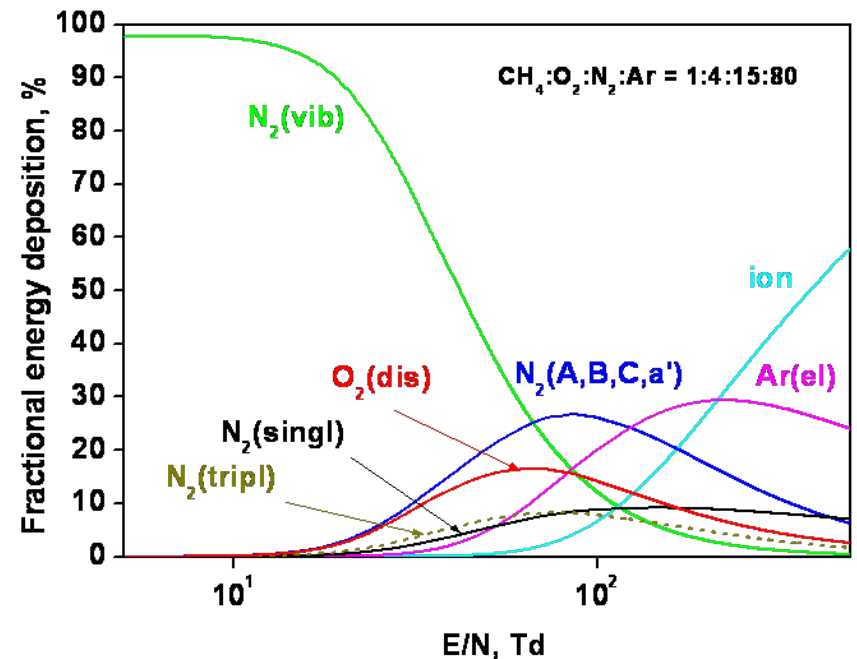


Delay time for autoignition and plasma assisted ignition in CH₄-containing mixture

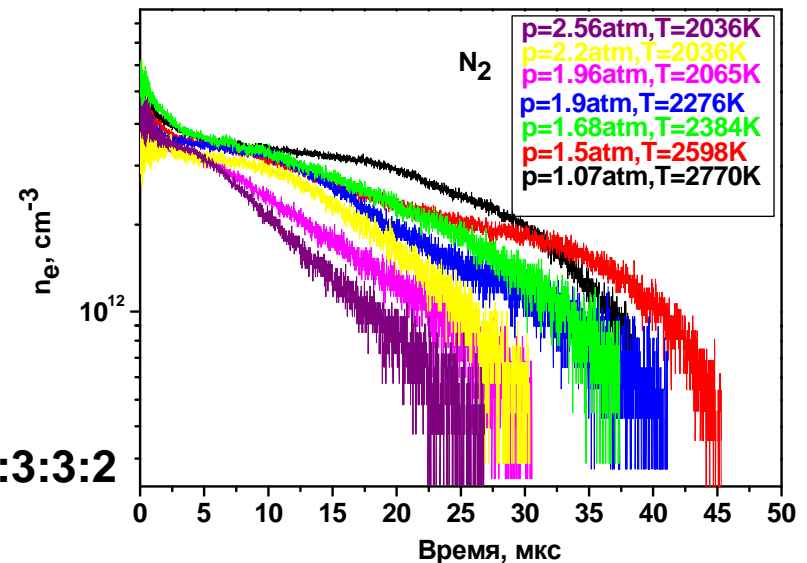
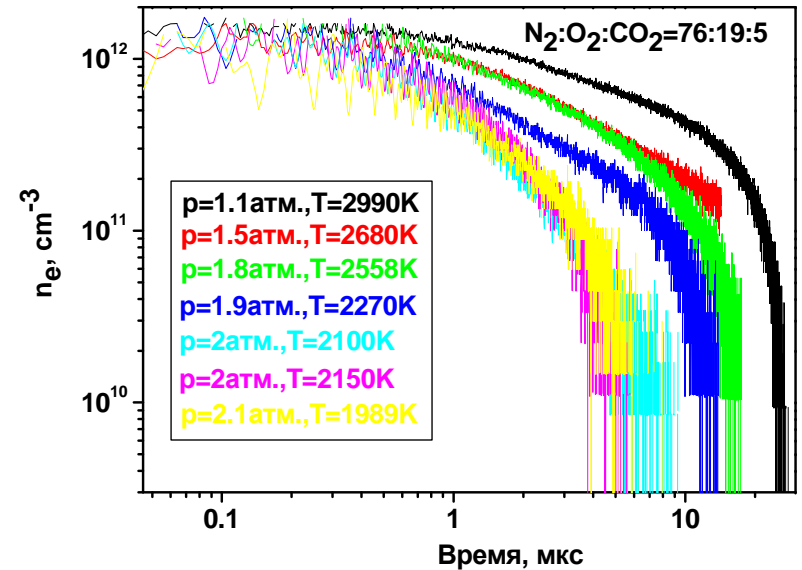
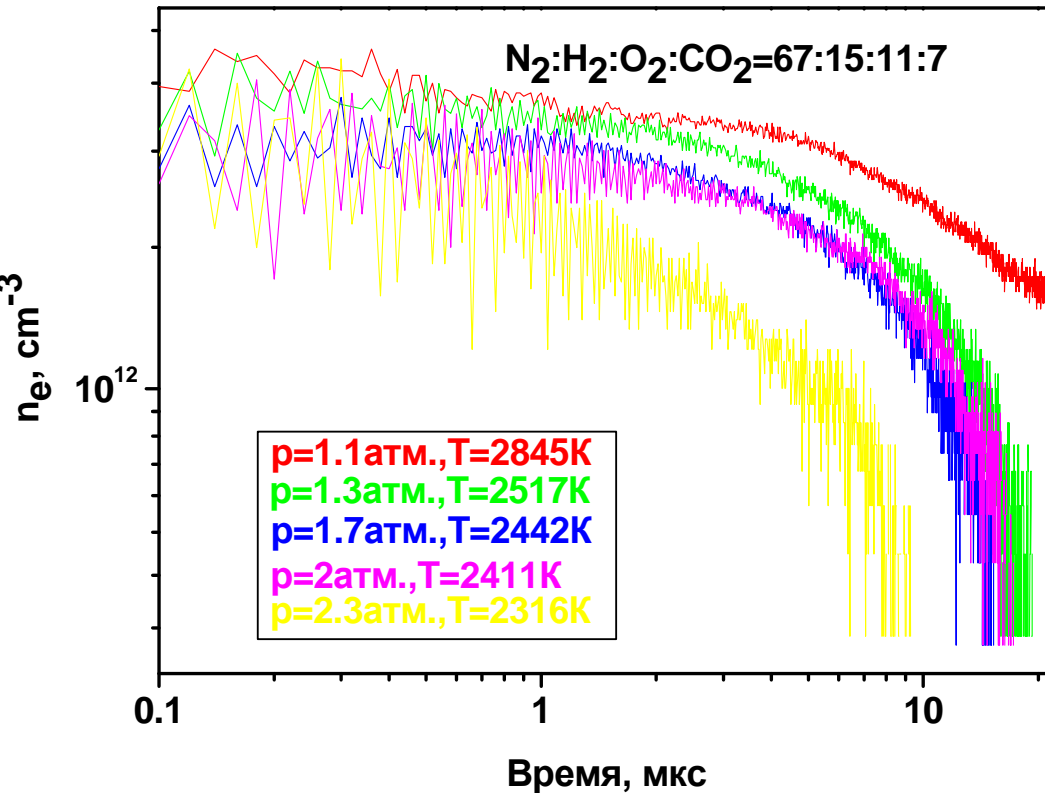
Aleksandrov et al. (2009)



**CH₄:O₂:N₂:Ar =
1:4:15:80**



Plasma Recombination at High Pressures and Temperatures



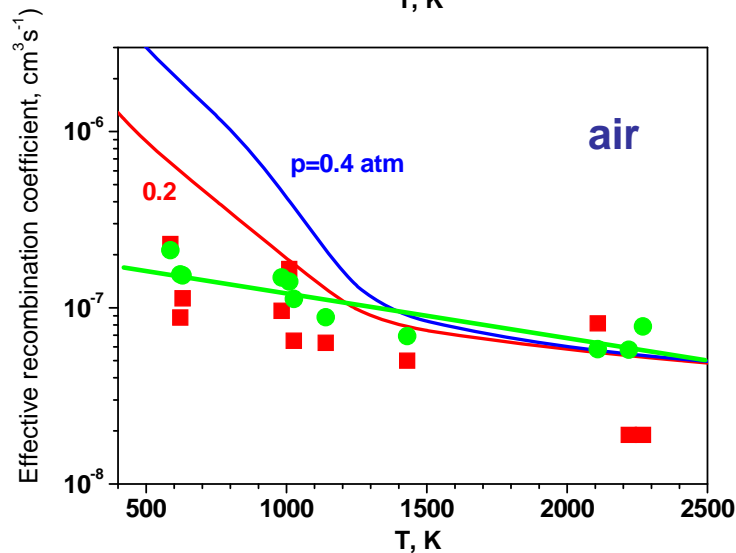
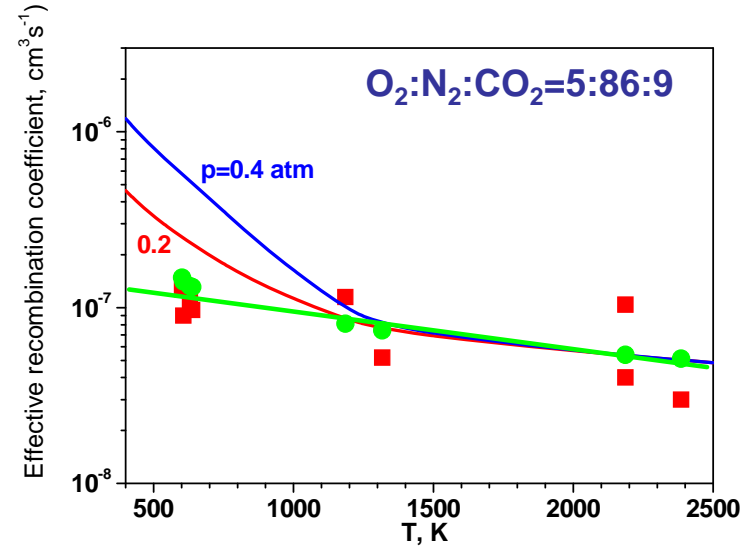
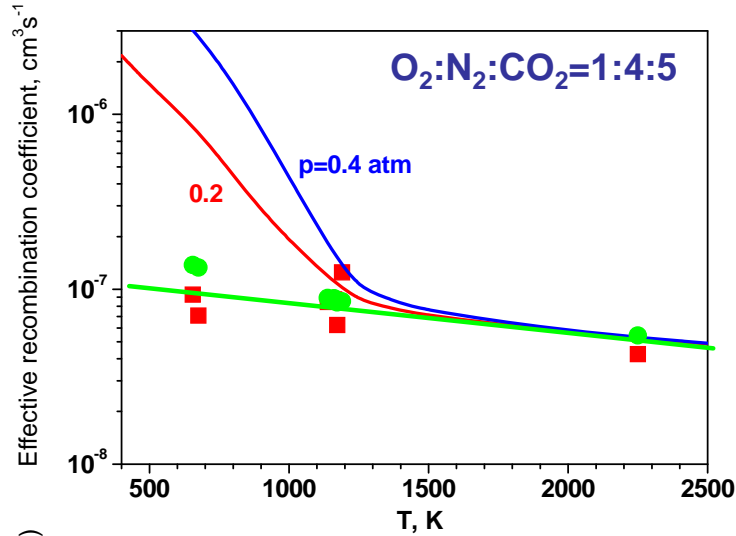
N₂:H₂:O₂:CO₂=67:15:11:7



After 10 μs, at 1atm., 2800K

N₂:H₂O:O₂:OH:CO:CO₂:H:O:H₂=67:10:5:4:3.5:3:3:2

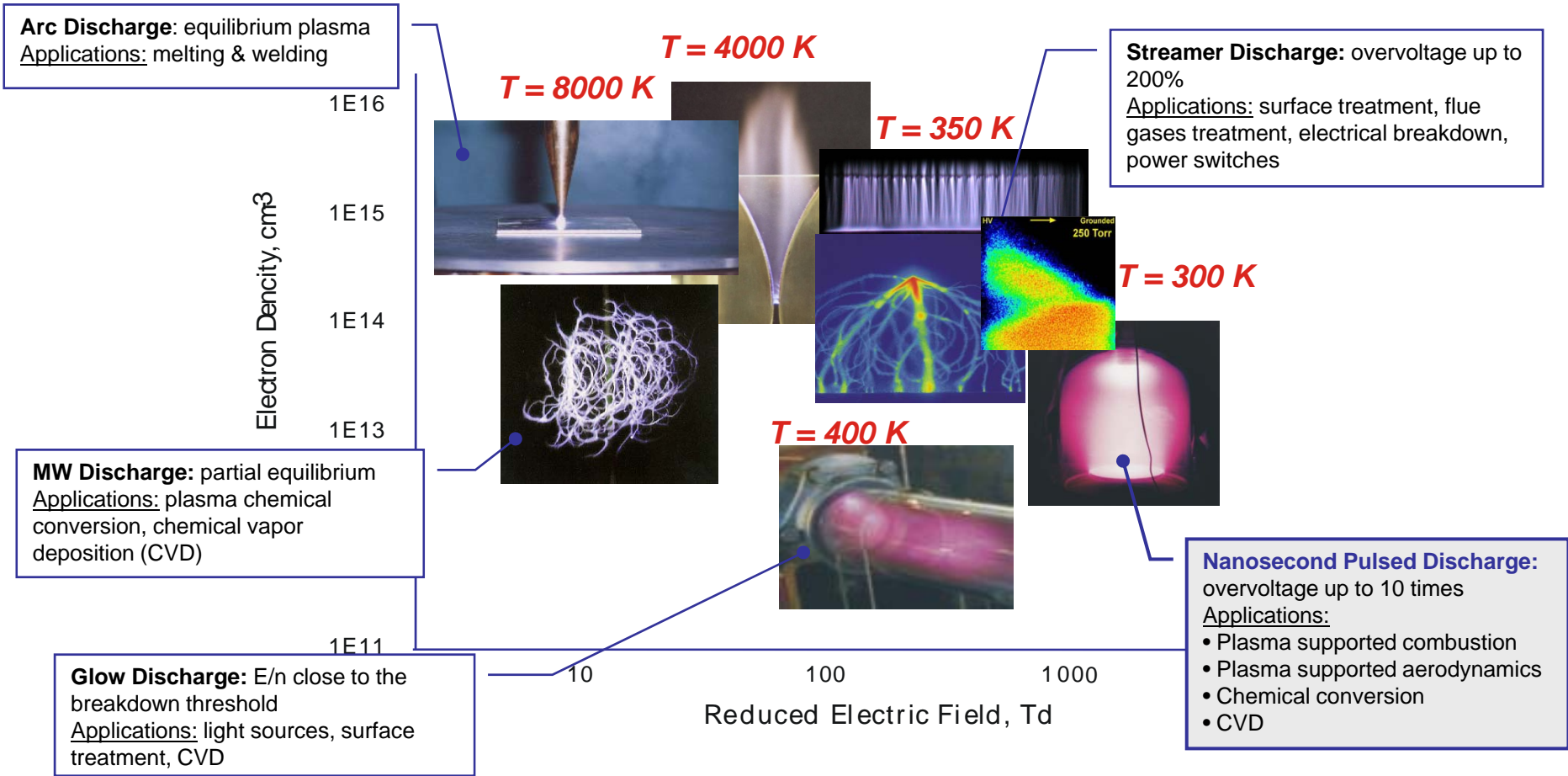
Evolution in Time of Electron Density During Plasma Decay



Dissociative electron-ion recombination
 $e + O_2^+ \rightarrow O + O$

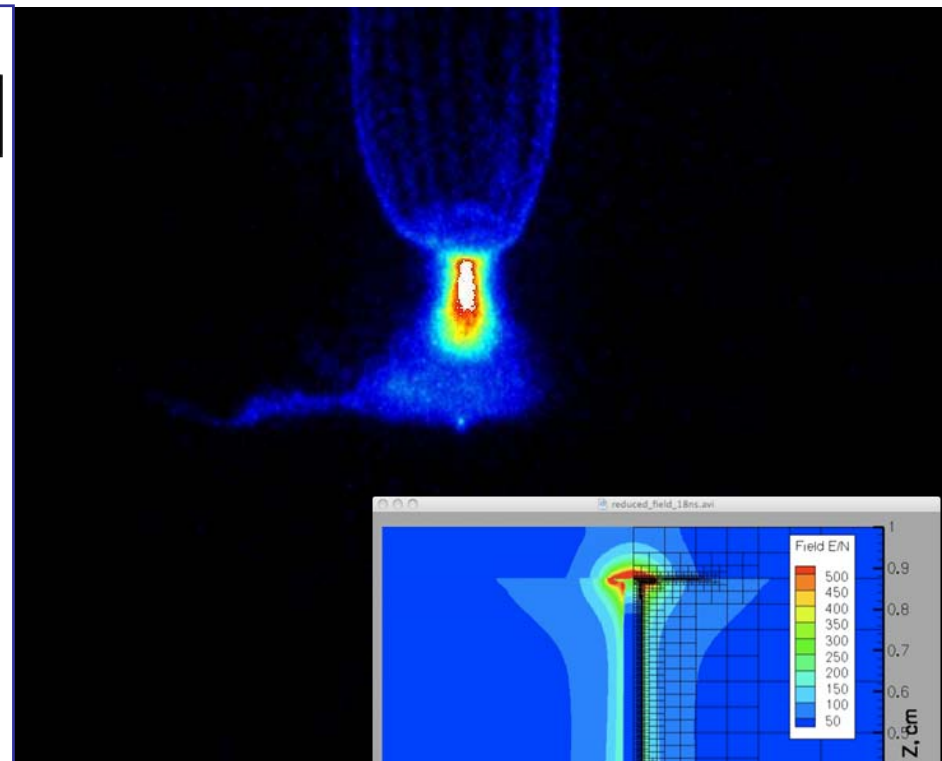
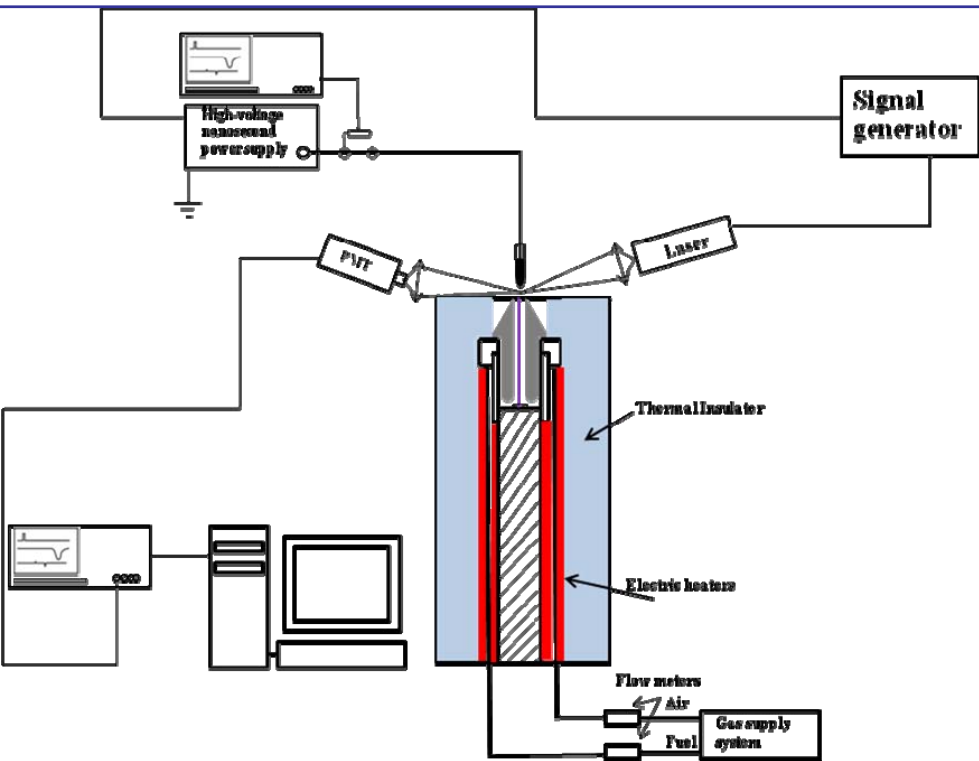
Electron attachment and detachment
 $e + O_2 + M \rightarrow O_2^- + M$
 $O_2^- + O \rightarrow e + O_3$

Types of Gas Discharges and Their Applications



Discharge Development at Different Overvoltage and Plasma Generation

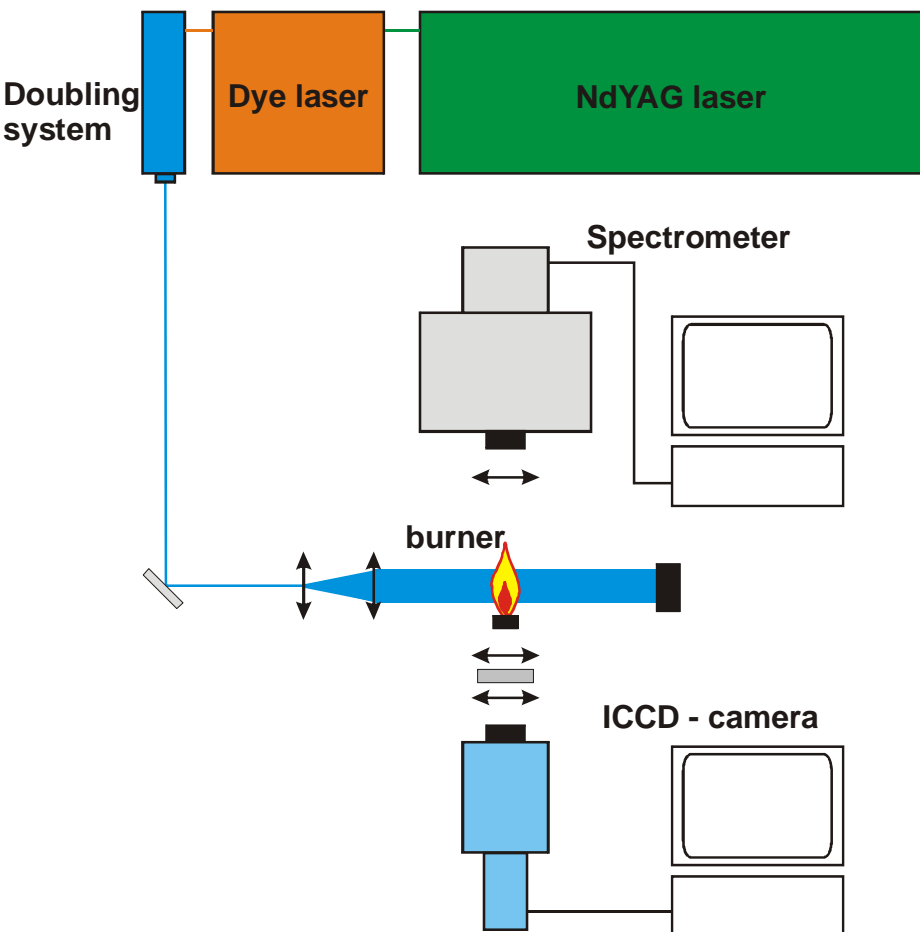
Setup for OH Dynamic Measurements in Streamer Channel Afterglow



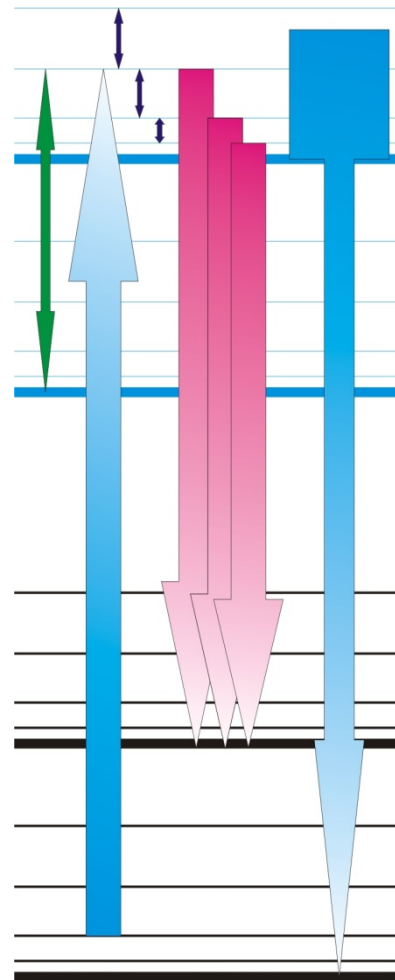
Pancheshnyi et al

LIF Diagnostics Setup: OH Profile Control

LIF OH

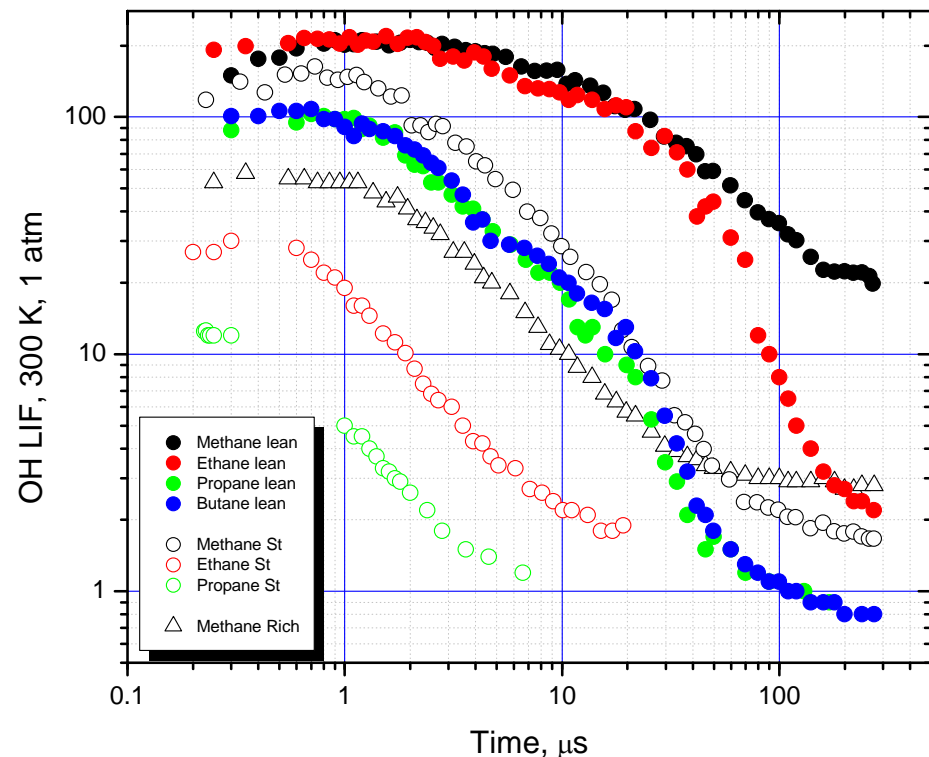
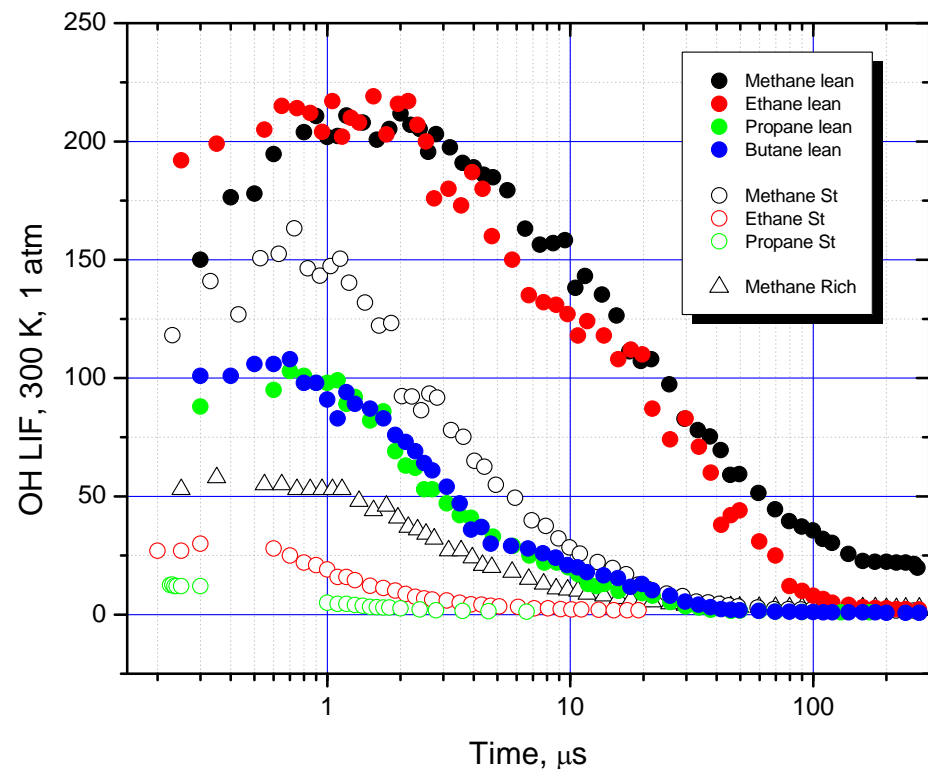


LIF OH

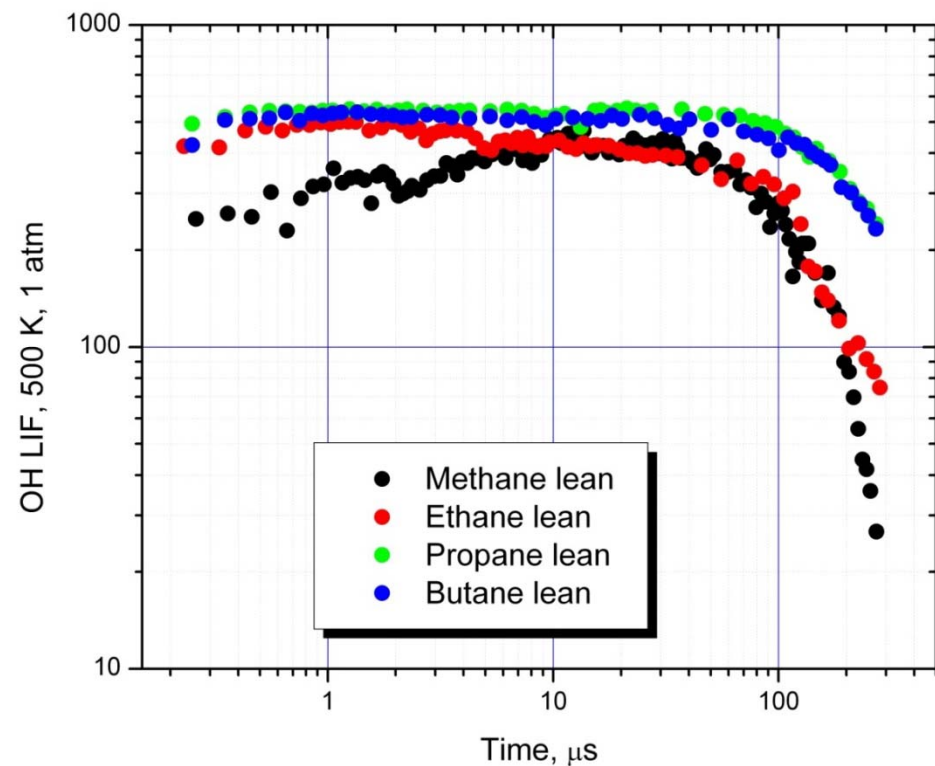
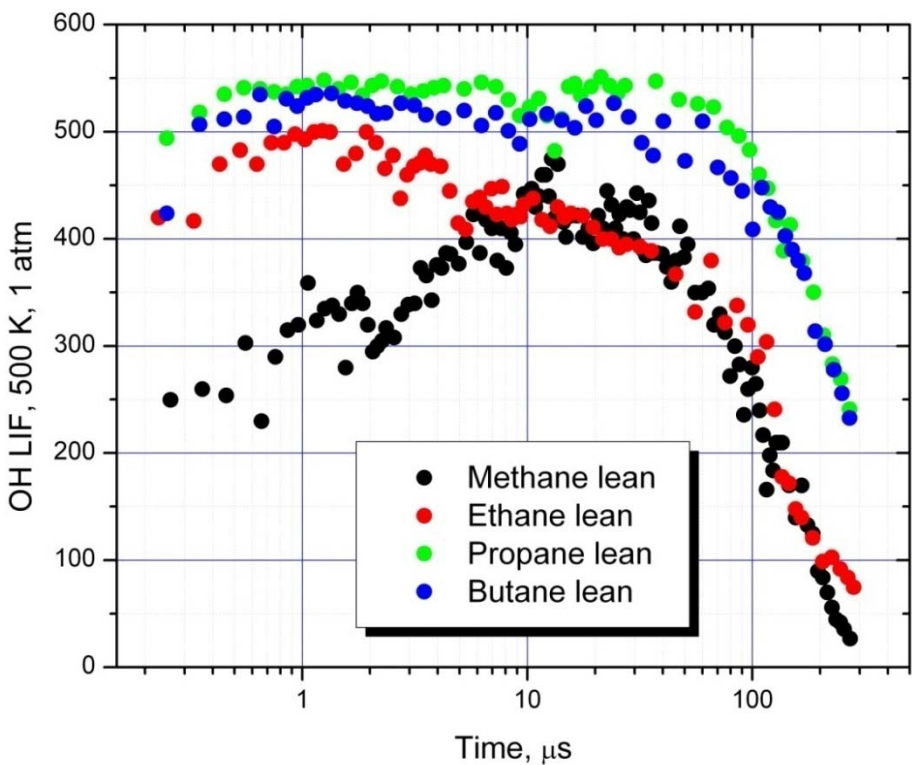


OH (X-A):
Excitation: $Q_1(6)$
282.92 nm;
Emission:
315nm, $\delta\lambda=1.8$ nm;
Registration –
PicoStar LaVision
ICCD camera

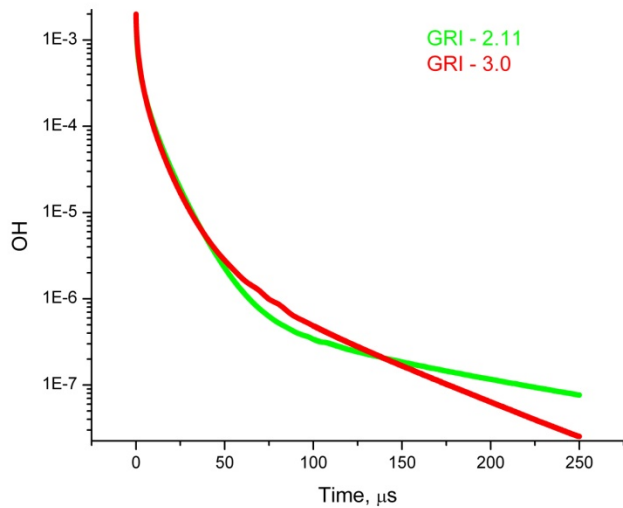
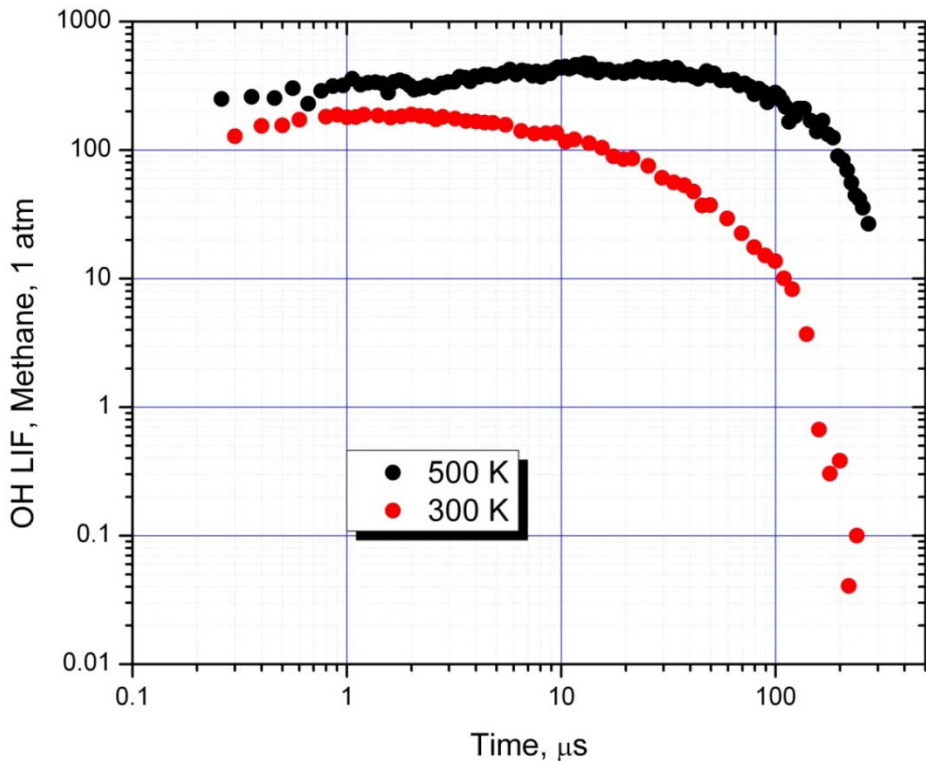
LIF Emission of OH at 300 K



LIF Emission of OH at 500 K

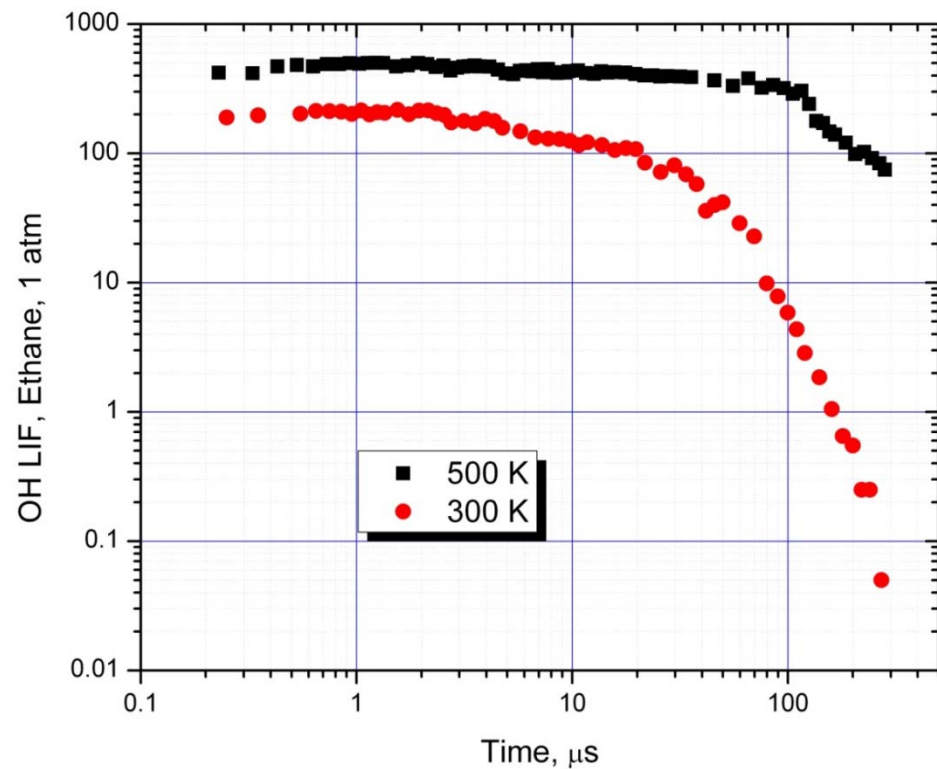


300 K Versus 500 K LIF of OH

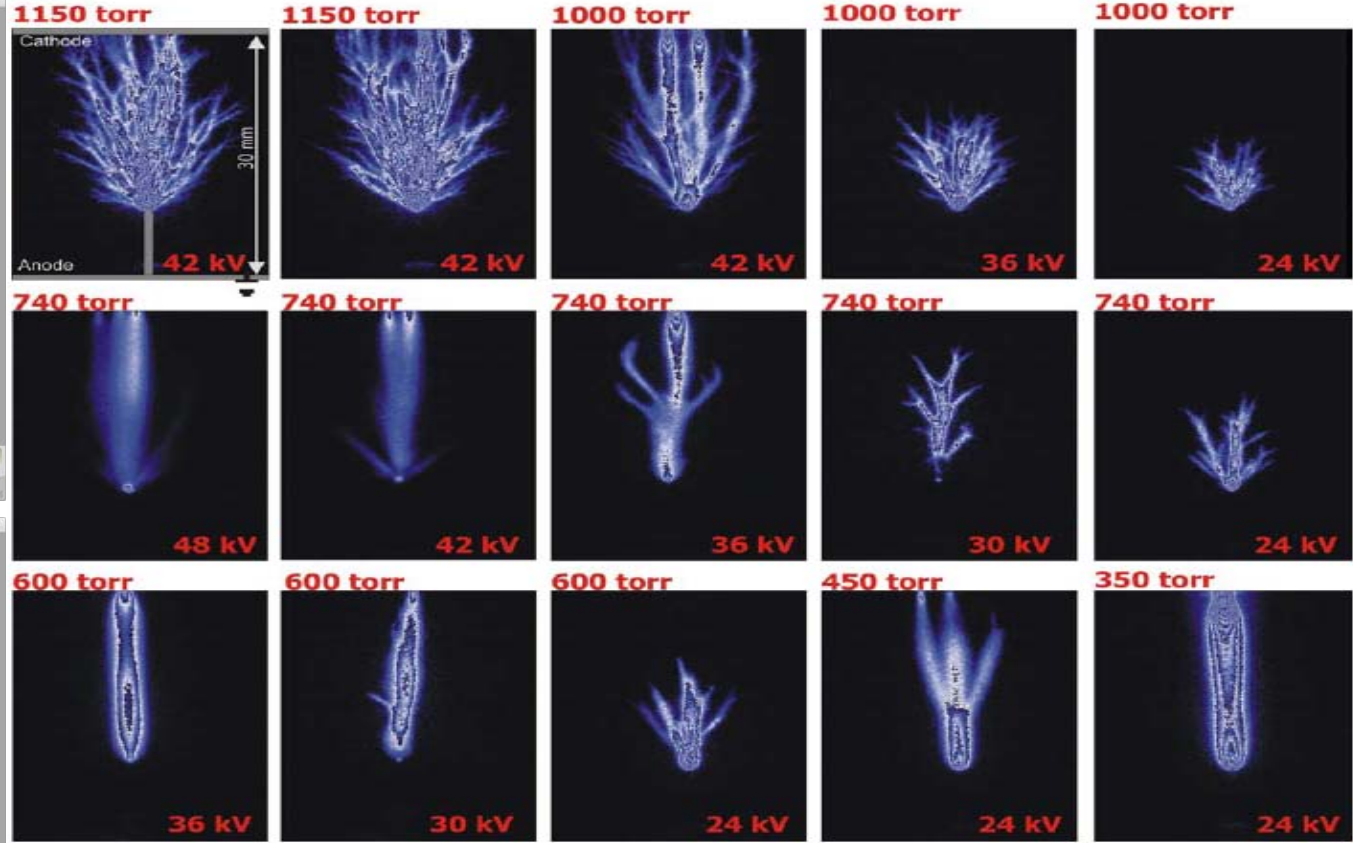
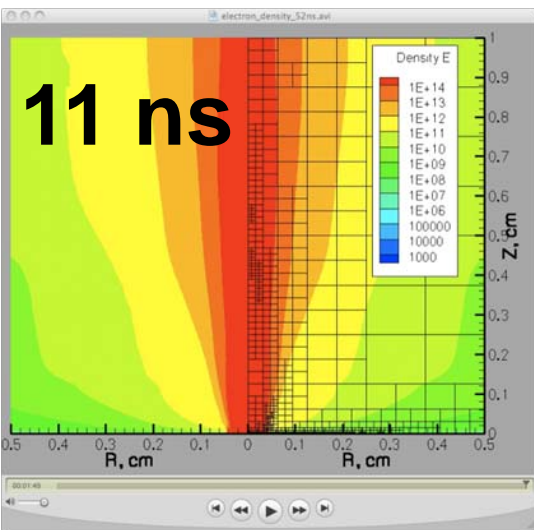
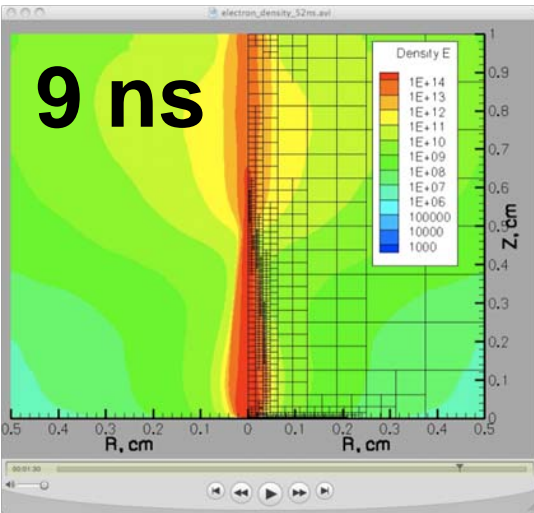


Methane

Ethane

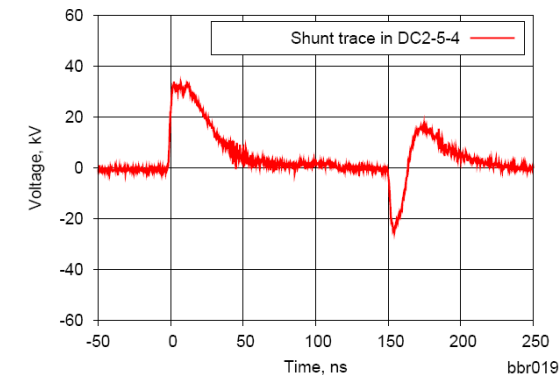
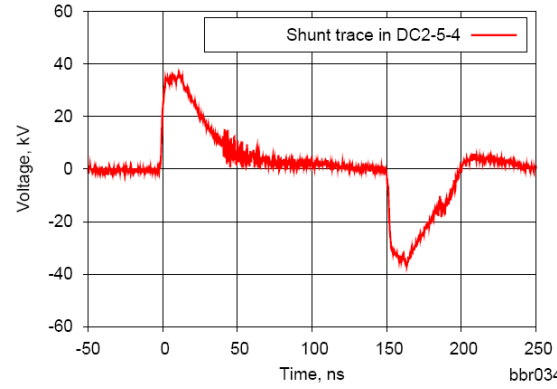
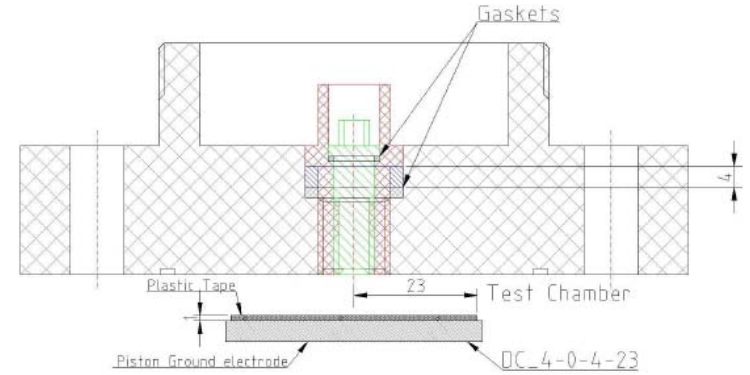
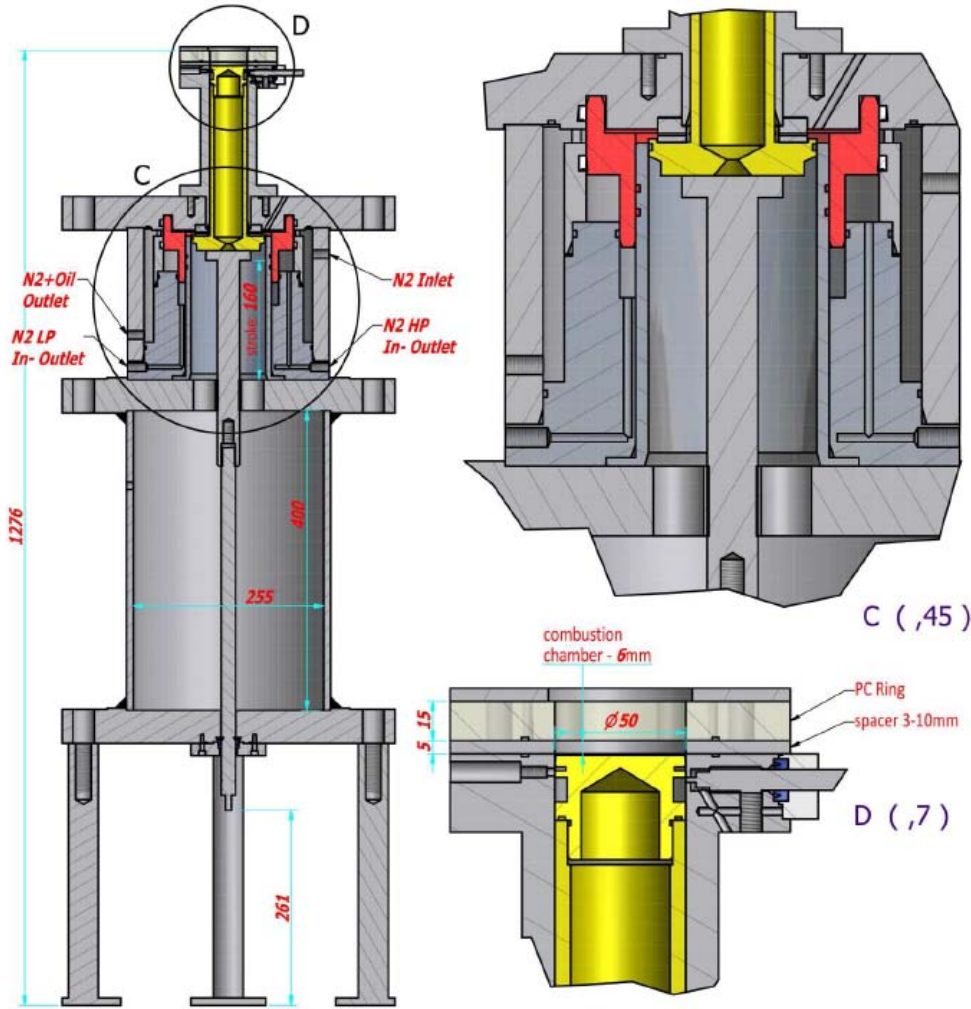


High-pressure Conditions: Always Non-Uniform

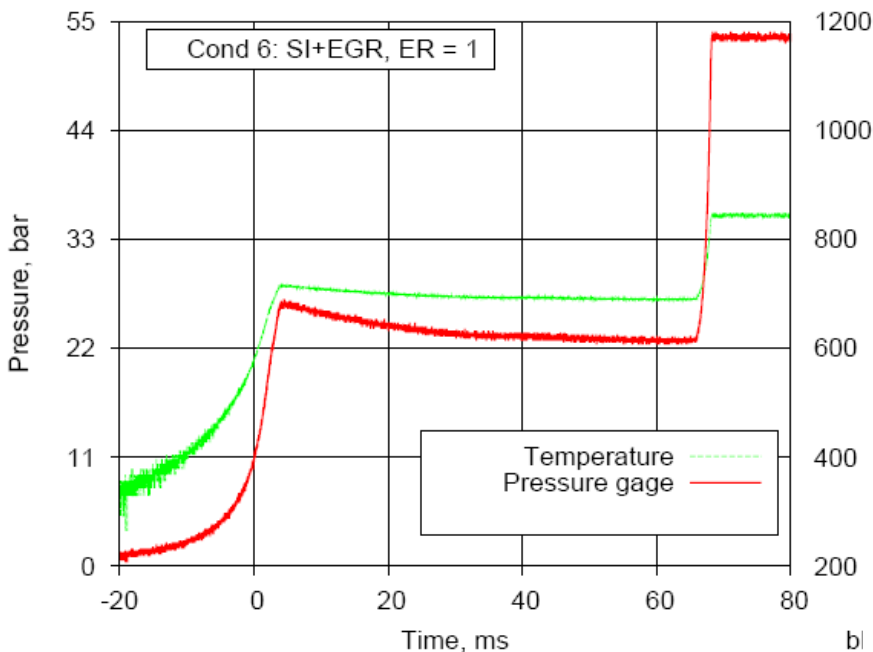


Pancheshnyi et al

Rapid Compression Machine: High-Pressure, Low-Temperature

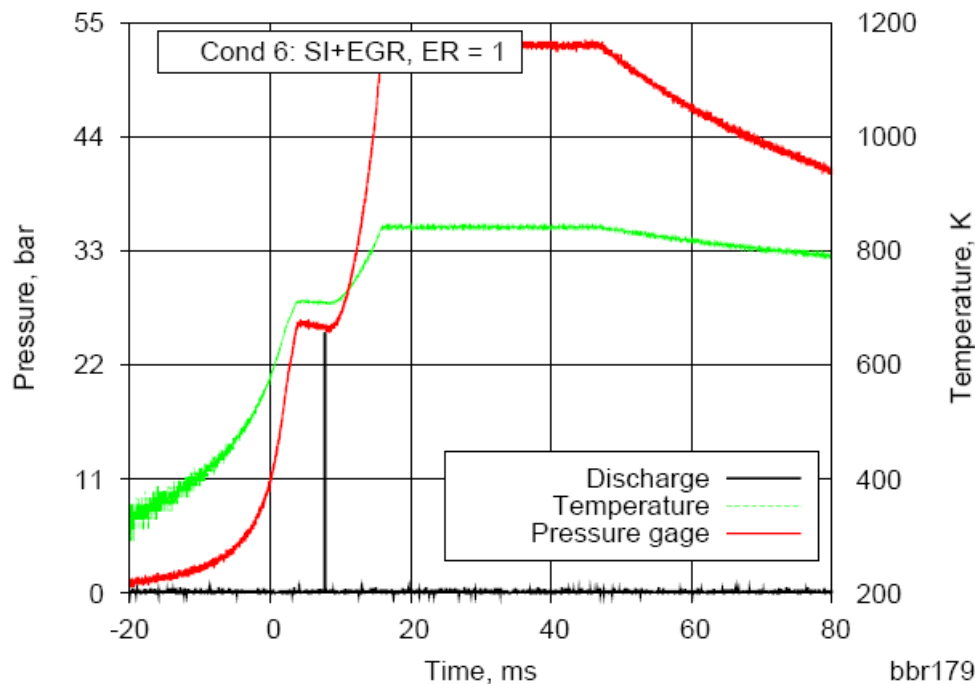


PAC at High Pressure: ER = 1 (Rakitin et al)

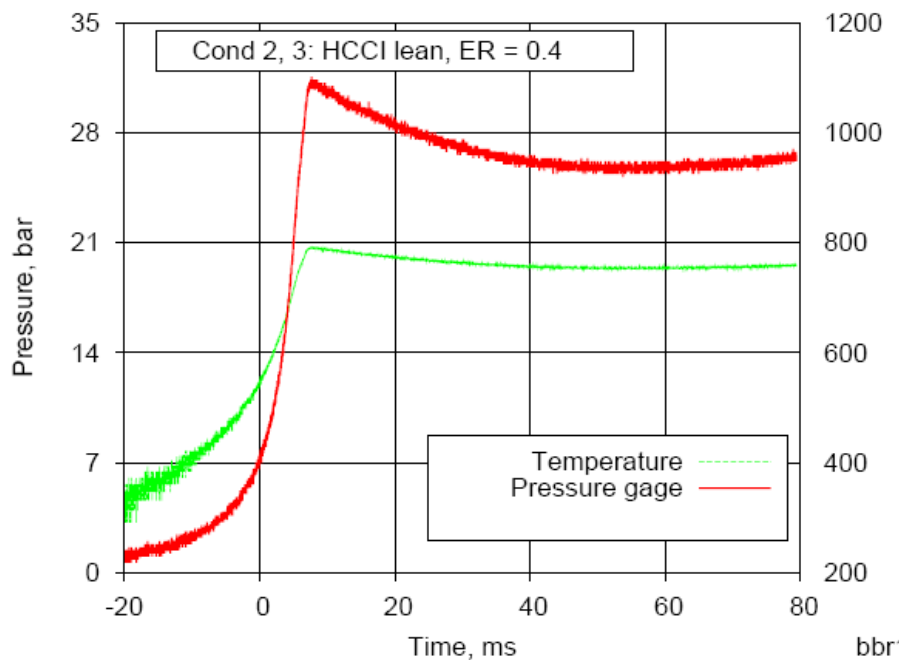


T2 = 713 K
P2 = 26.5 bar

**Propane,
Surface DBD,
< 50mJ**

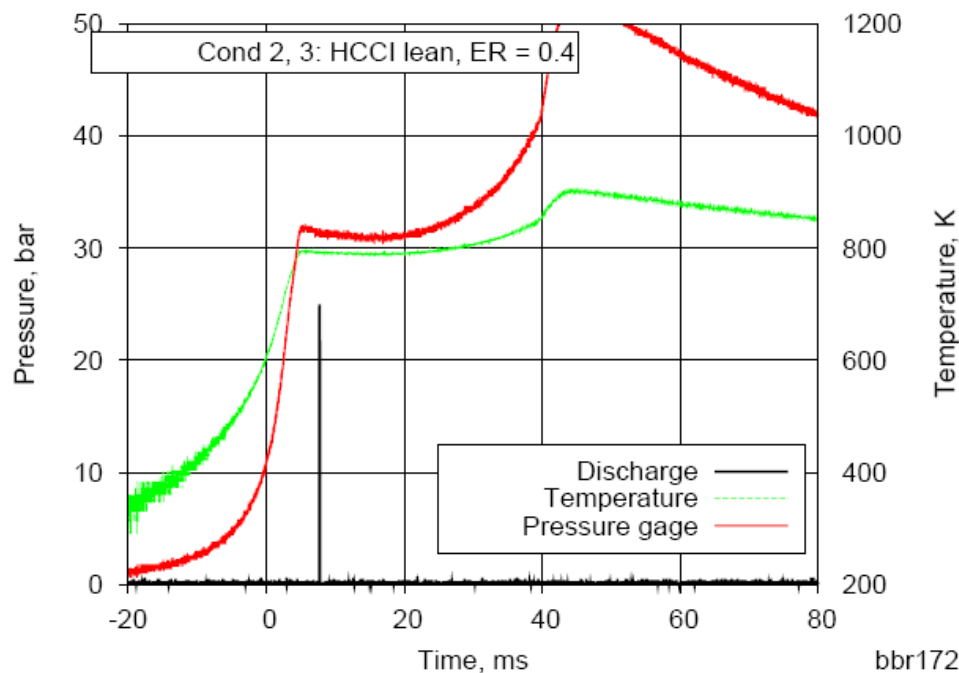


PAC at High Pressure: ER = 0.4 (Rakitin et al)

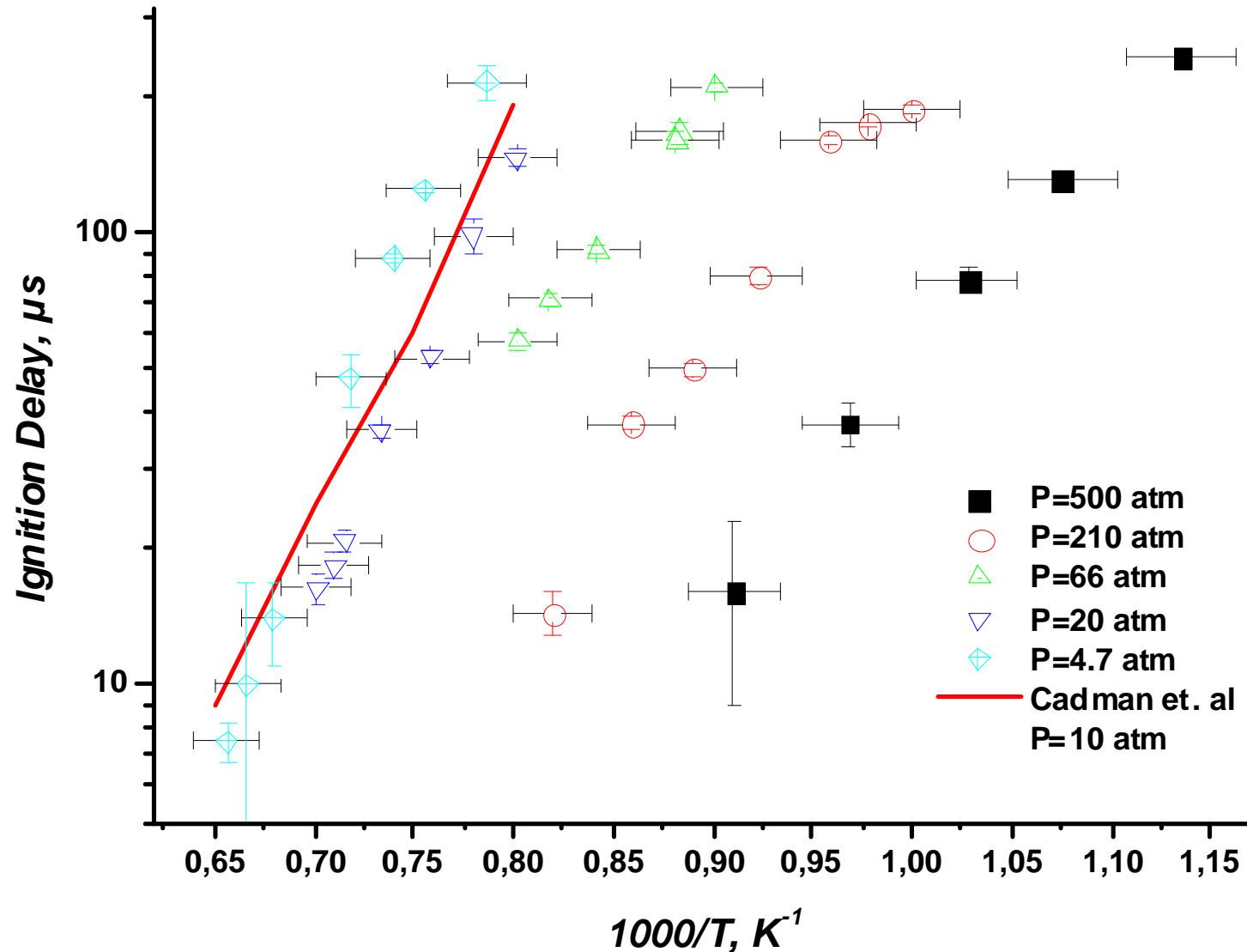


T2 = 794 K
P2 = 32 bar

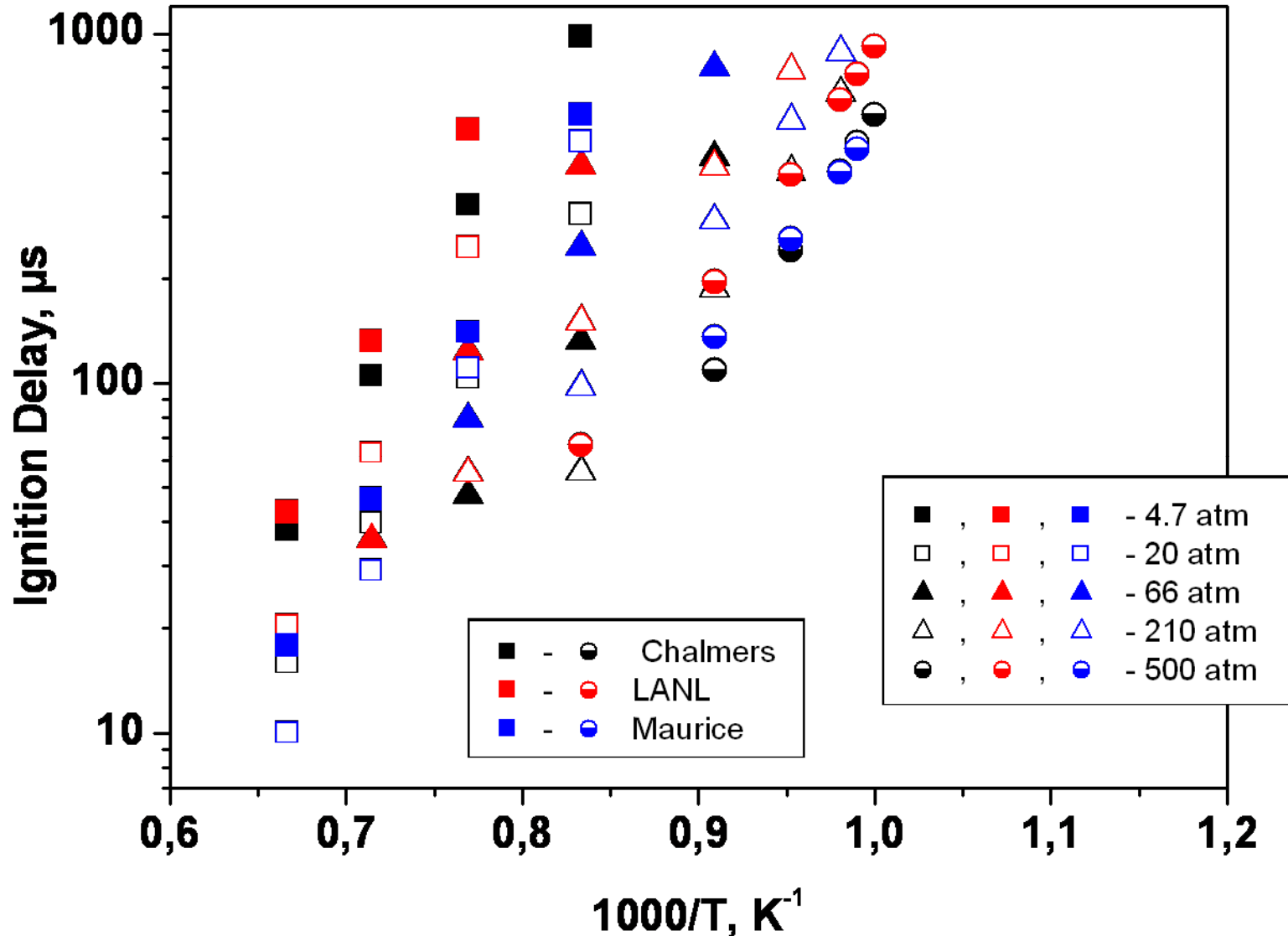
**Propane,
Surface DBD,
< 50mJ**



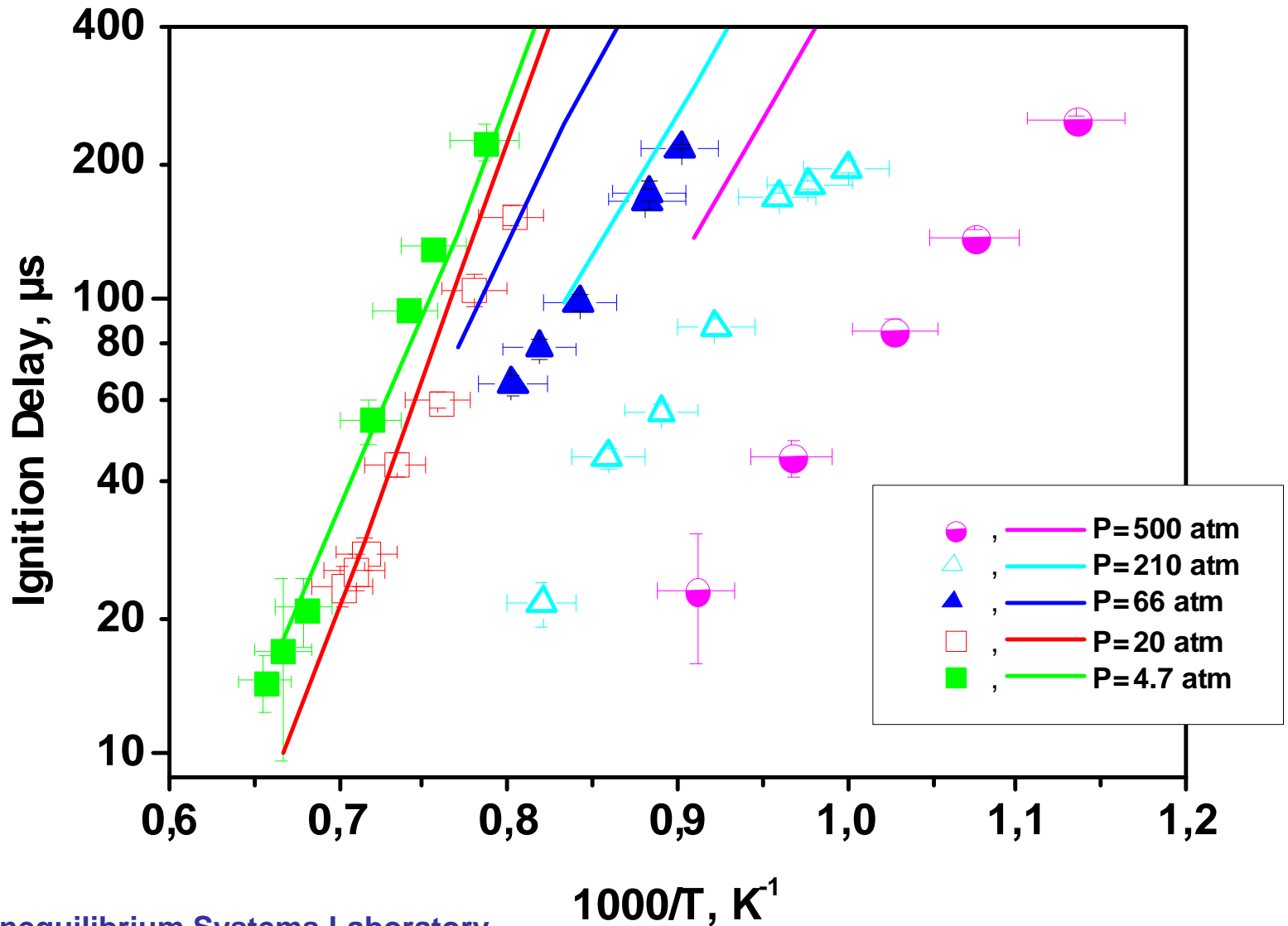
Propane-Butane-Air Lean Mixtures. $\phi = 0.5$ ($C_3:C_4=85:15$)



Propane-Butane-Air Mixture Ignition. $\phi = 0.5$ ($C_3:C_4=85:15$). Calculations



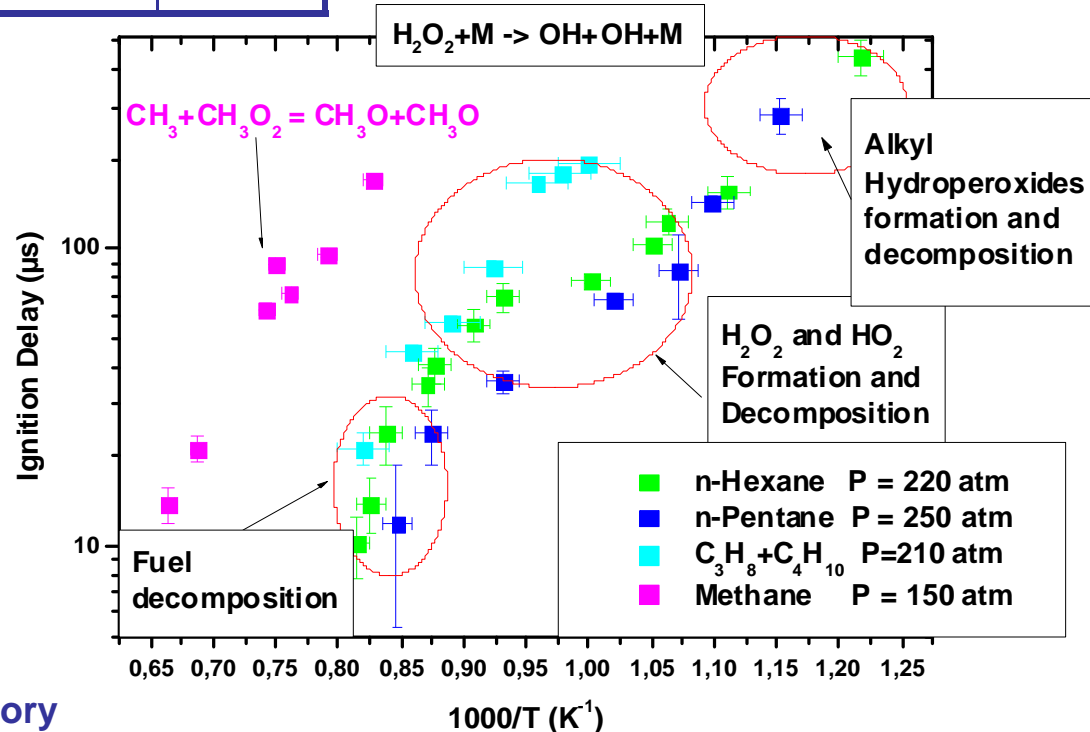
Propane-Butane-Air Mixture Ignition. Experiment vs Calculations.



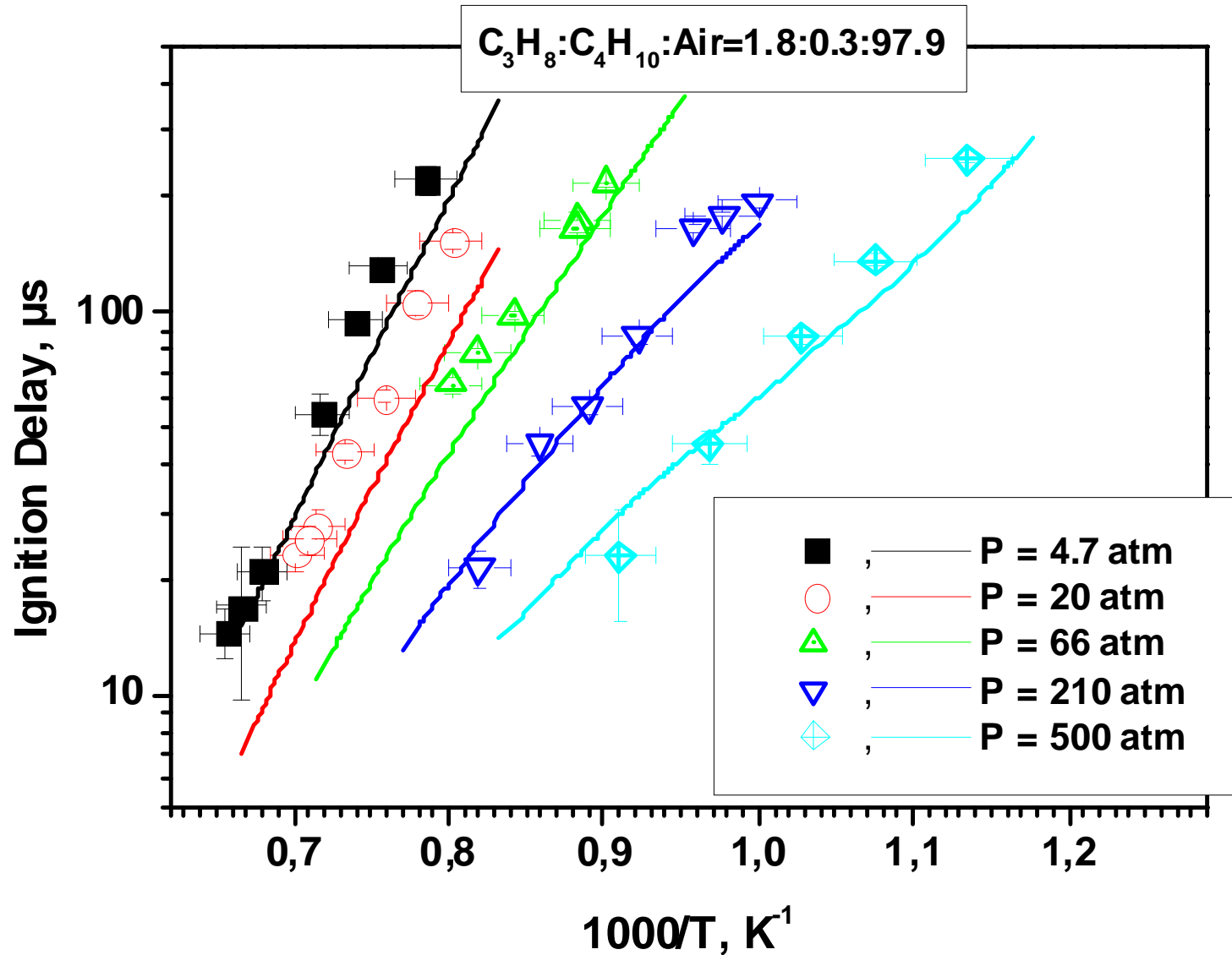
Channels of Kinetic Scheme Optimization

Reaction	T	k
$C_3H_8 + HO_2 = C^{\cdot}H_2C_2H_5 + H_2O_2$	1200	2.5
$C_3H_8 + HO_2 = CH_3C^{\cdot}HCH_3 + H_2O_2$	1200	2.5
$O_2C_3H_7 = HOOCH_2C^{\cdot}HCH_3$	800-1000	0.2
$CH_3CHO_2CH_3 = CH_3CH(OOH)C^{\cdot}H_2$	800-1000	0.2
$OCHCH(OOH)CH_3 = CH_3CHO + HCO + OH$	800	0.2
$OCHCH_2CH(OOH)_2 = CH_2O + CH_2CHO + OH$	800	0.2
$CH_3COCH_2(OOH) = CH_2O + CH_3CO + OH$	800	0.2

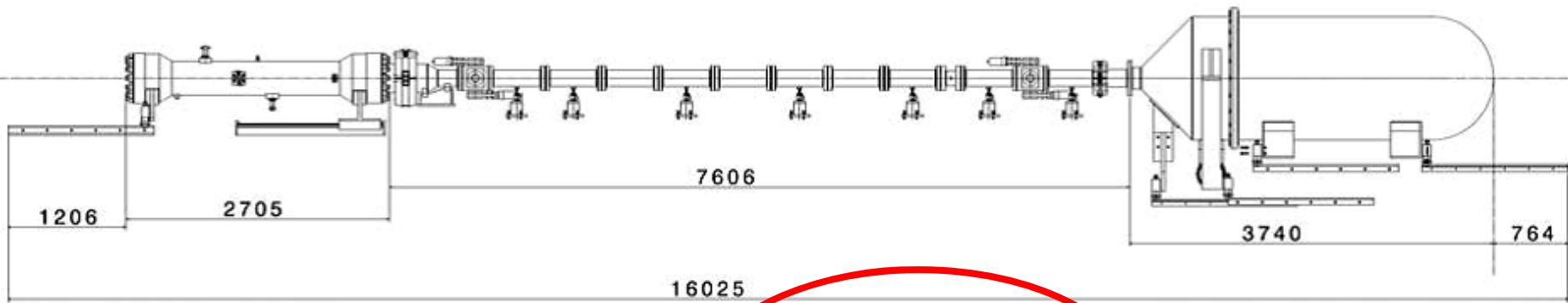
Konnov,
Potapkin



Mixture $C_3H_8:C_4H_{10}:Air = 1.8:0.3:97.9$



Discharge Formation and Flame Stabilization in High Speed Flow



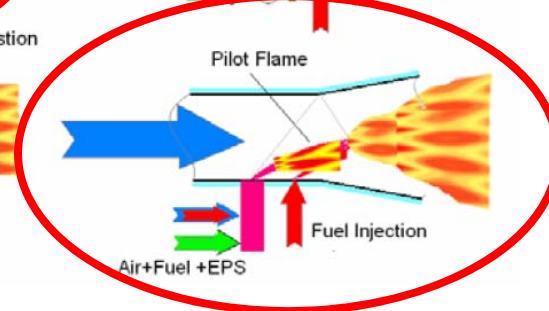
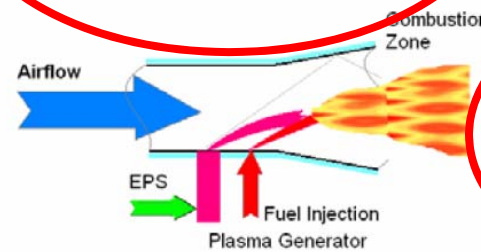
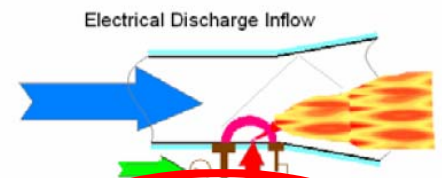
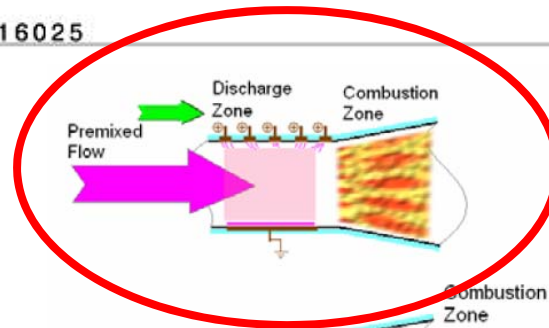
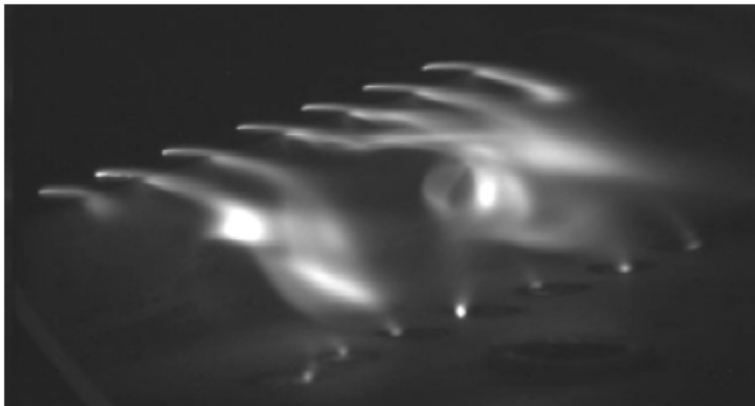
IVTAN (Sergey Leonov):

$M = 2$

Maximal stagnation pressure 1.8 Bar

Stagnation temperature 670 K

Discharge Power ~ 1 kW



DPI Shock Tunnel:

$M = 2-5$

Static pressure 0.1 - 1 Bar

Static temperature 700-1000 K

Discharge Power ~ 1 kW

Summary

Range of Parameters

$P = 0.1 - 70$ atm

$T = 300 - 2000$ K

$M = 0 - 5$

$\phi = 0.01 - 1$

$E/n = 200-500$ Td (Air)

Fuels: H_2 , $C_1 - C_4$

Acetones, Alcohols, CO

Experiment:

Shock Tube

Shock Tunnel

Rapid Compression Machine

Premixed Flow Nozzle

Theory:

Discharge Models

Plasma Models

Chemical Kinetic Models