# VUV emissive properties of the regenerative soot

Shoaib Ahmad

by

Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology, P. O. Nilore, Islamabad, Pakistan

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## Formation of the Carbonaceous Plasma

*He, Ne* discharges
Sooting discharges
Regeneartive soot

#### •Ahmad & Riffat NIM B **152,** 506 (1999)





•EPJ D 15, 349 (2001)

•APL **78,** 1499 (2001)











•The cusp field, hollow cathode cluster source



# Ne Discharge

Ne ⇒ Ne<sup>+</sup>+ e<sup>-</sup>

• Ne<sup>+</sup> 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 graphite  $\Rightarrow$  C<sub>m</sub>+ e













Two modes of the inclusion of carbon into the neon plasma are:

- (1) The first mode is the high T<sub>e</sub> and n<sub>e</sub> regime of the discharge. Higher values of V<sub>dis</sub> and i<sub>dis</sub> initiate the sputtering of the carbon cathode with the subsequent excitation and ionization of the carbon. *The singly ionized C content participates efficiently in the kinetic sputtering of the cathode along with NeII.*
- (2) The second mode of discharge can be classified as the sooting mode which may be associated with high pressure discharges where the density of the ionized species CII and NeII considerably reduces. A constant but gentle surface erosion by potential sputtering dominates this mode.

- •The cusp magnetic fields act as:
- •The traps for high energy electron and low energy ions
- •The lowest field contours define the outer boundaries of the plasma









A histogram in which the cumulative Einstein transition probabilities of the three charged states of C are plotted as a function of the wavelength.

### Conclusions

1. Exploitation of this unique carbonaceous discharge is proposed that is composed of a positive column whose outer boundaries are defined by the cusp magnetic field contours to operate as a source of enhanced *VUV* light and soft x-rays. These contours confine and trap high energy electrons and low energy *C* ions. The graphite hollow cathode acts as a cavity that traps the charged species whose radiative decay can yield a strong *VUV* radiation field that exists between  $\lambda = 20-80$  nm.

- 2. The main contributions to this field are the radiative and dielectronic recombinations of *CII*, *CIII* and *CIV*. When all three ionized states are present then three distinct regimes of wavelength exist;
- (a) below 40 nm, emission from CIV dominate Ephoton~ 40 eV,
- (b) (b) between *40-60 nm* emissions from *CIII*, *Ephoton~ 25 eV*, and
- (c) (c) above 60 nm, emissions from *CII* dominate *Ephoton* ~ 20 eV.

The entrapment of the C ions along the cusp magnet fields and their subsequent collisions with energetic electrons that are similarly trapped but gyrate with different frequencies is the essence of this mechanism.