

# Pulsed nanosecond air discharge in contact with water

## Influence of voltage polarity, amplitude, pulse width, and gap distance

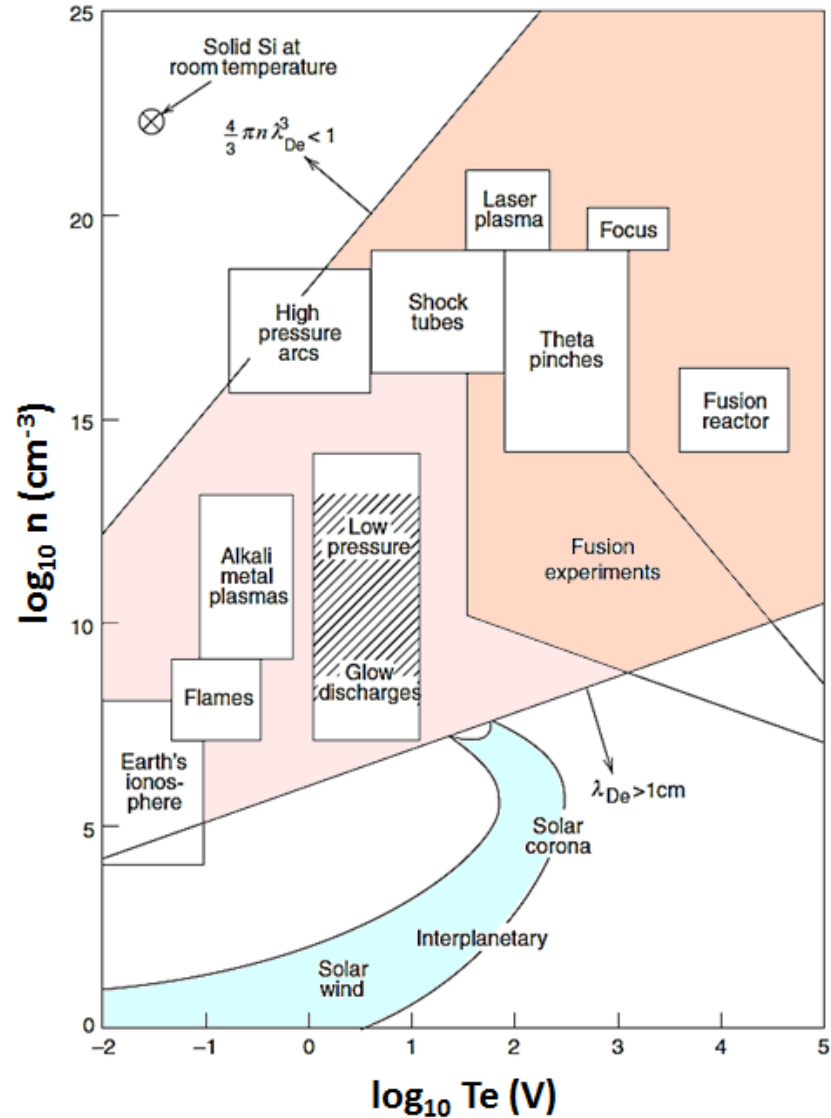
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# Outline

- Introduction
- Experimental Setup
- Results and discussion
- Conclusion

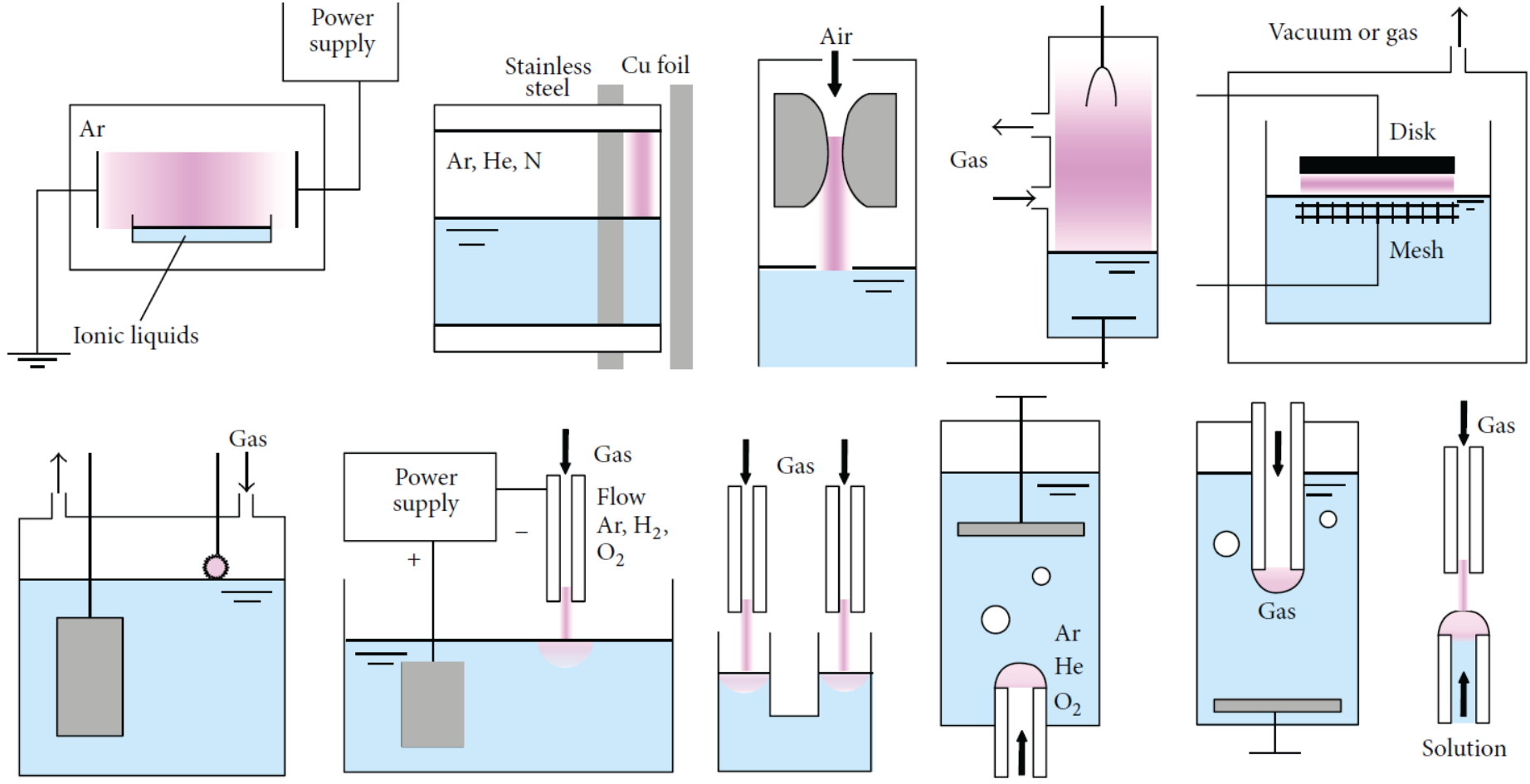
# Introduction



non-equilibrium plasma at atmospheric pressure  
 → For liquid processing, including water treatment

# Plasma in-contact with liquids

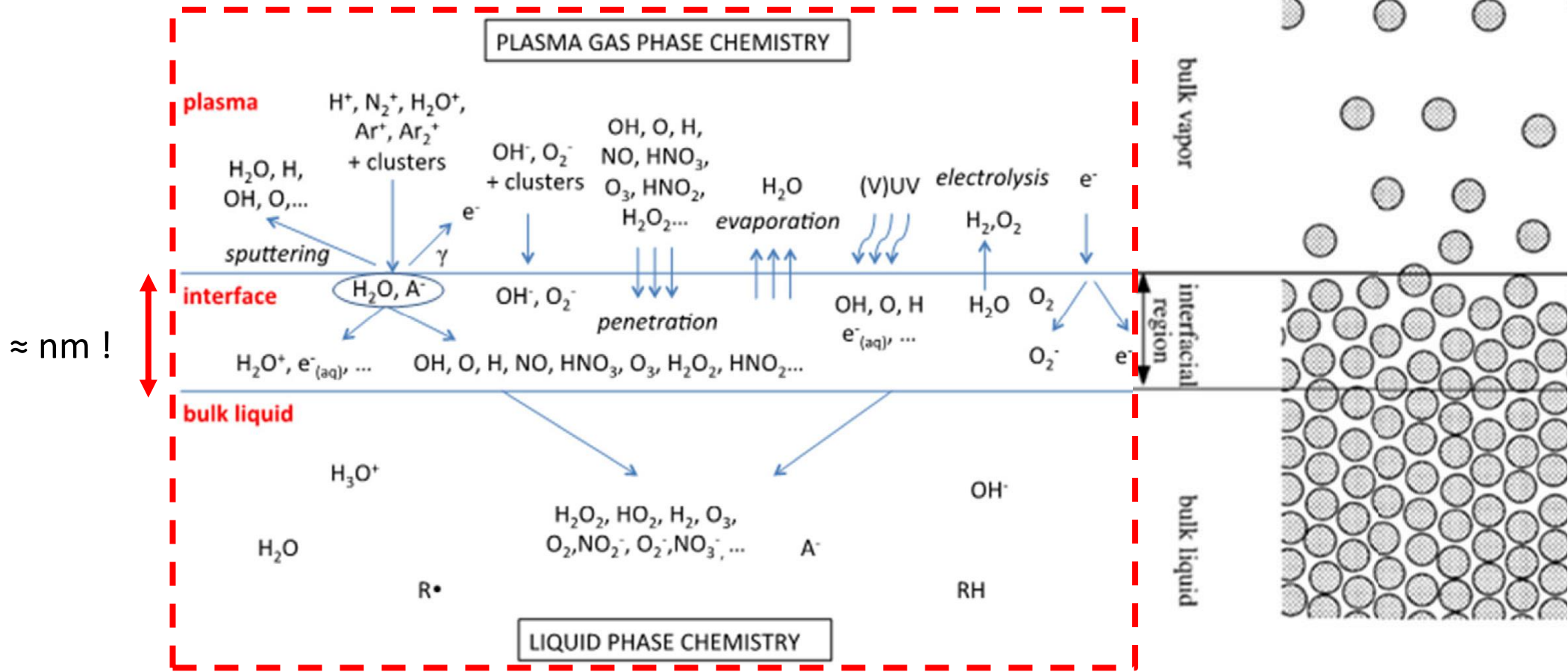
➤ Countless configurations to produce a plasma in-contact with liquids



*Journal of Nanomaterials 123696 (2015)*

# Plasma in-contact with liquids

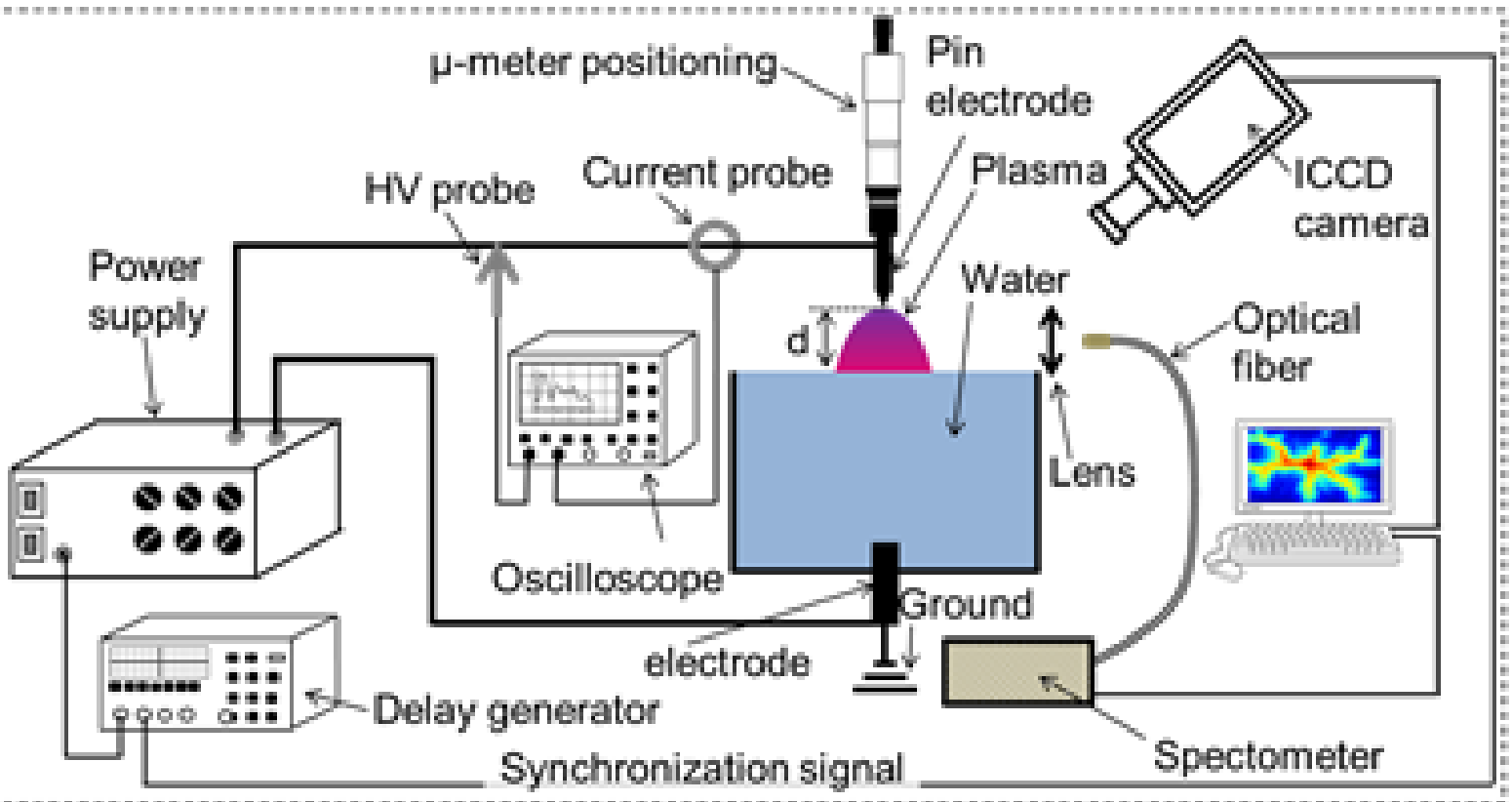
➤ A complex and dynamic interaction on a really small scale



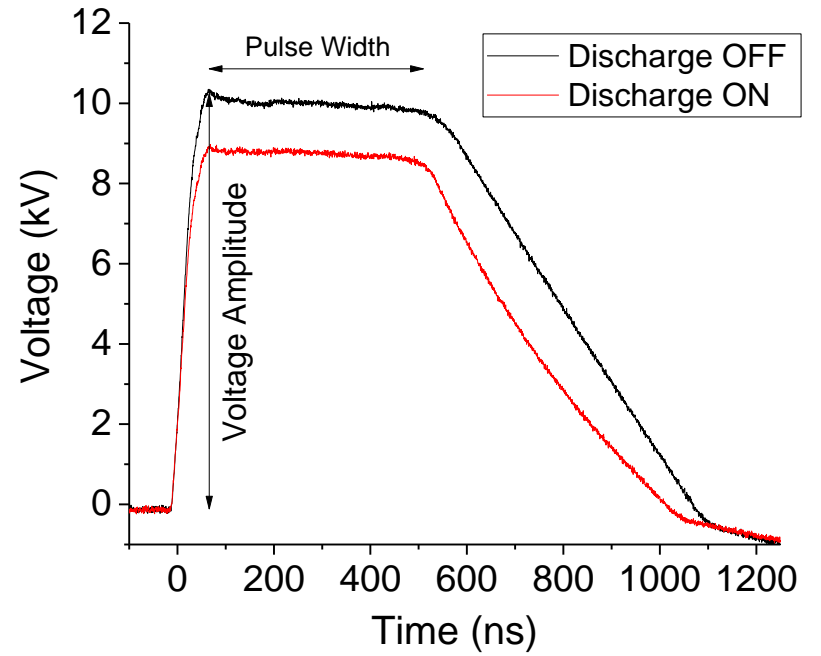
# Obejectives

1. What are the differences between the positive and negative air discharge in contact with water?
2. What is the influence of discharge parameters (polarity, gap distance, pulse width....) on the degradation of an organic pollutant (methylene blue)?

# Experimental setup

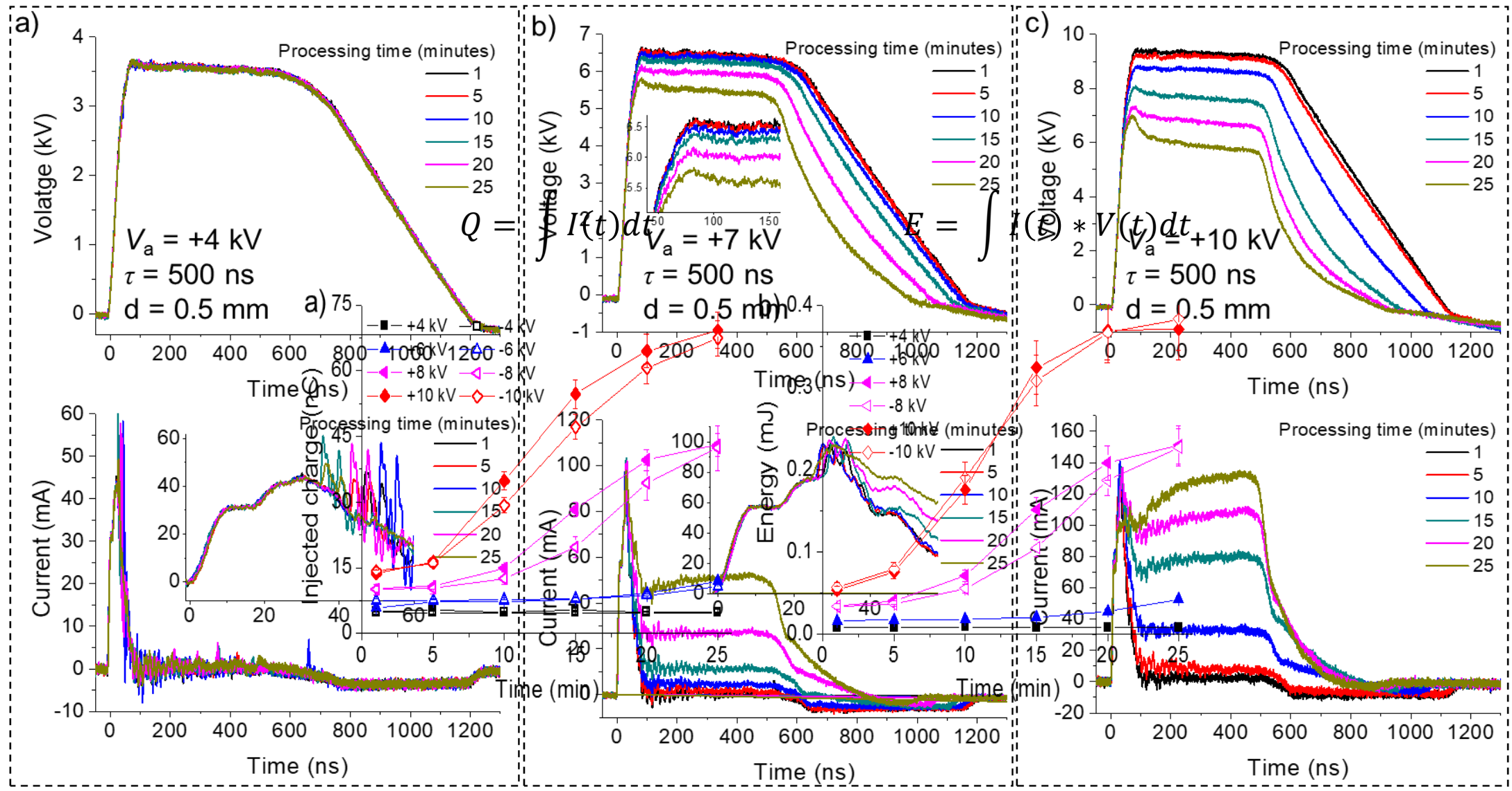


- Parameters:
1. Voltage polarity (+, -)
  2. Voltage amplitude (kV)
  3. Pulse width (ns)
  4. Gap Distance ( $d$ , in mm)



# Results : Electrical Characteristics

$V_a$  positive





# Results : Imaging the surface

**Voltage amplitude:**

**Positive polarity:**

- 4 kV: Small spot at the tip
- 6kV – 8kV: plasma spot + organised filaments
- 10 kV: High intensity filaments with less organisation

**Negative polarity:**

- Disc-like shape with no filaments
- Diameter increases with higher voltage

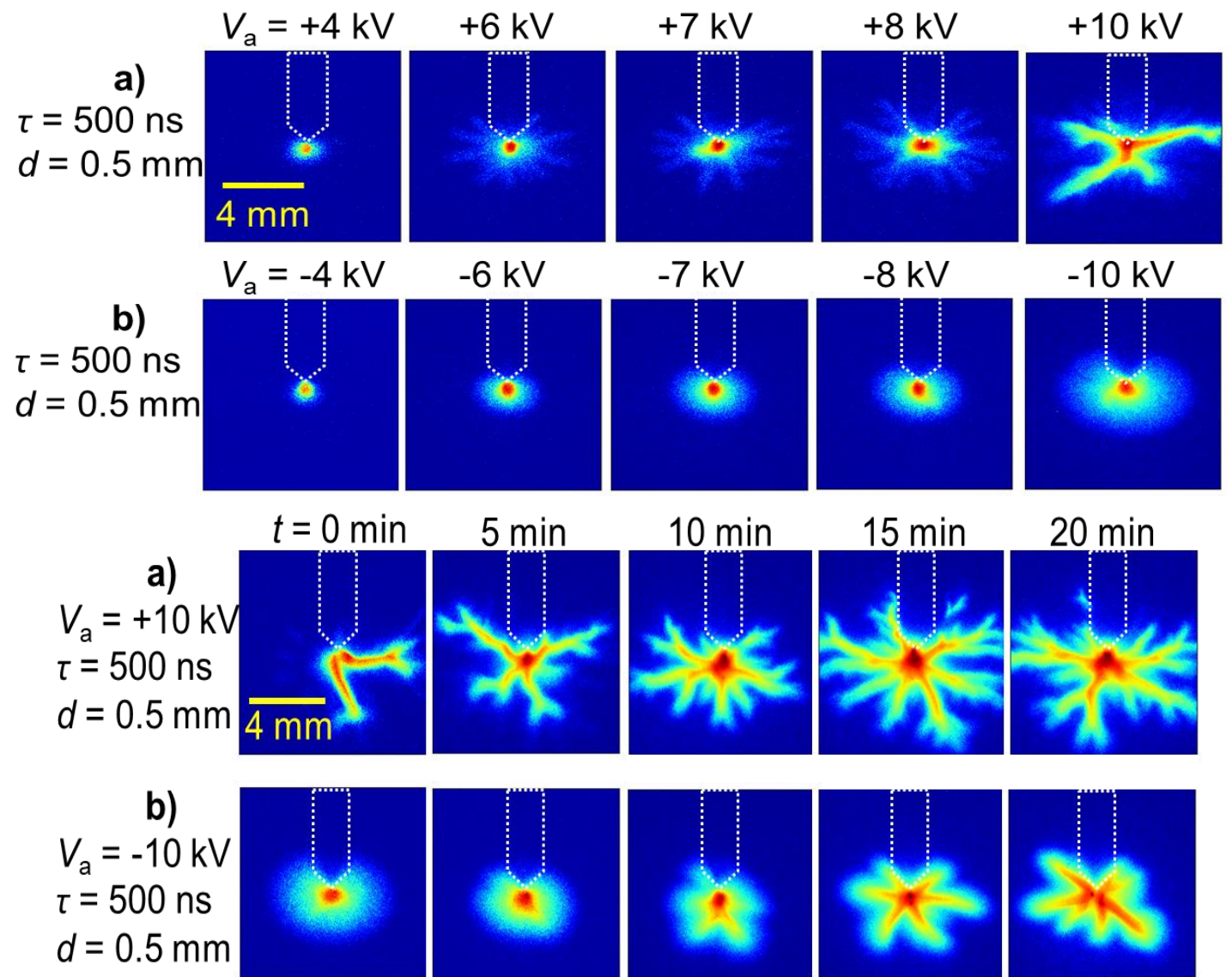
**Processing time evolution:**

**Positive polarity:**

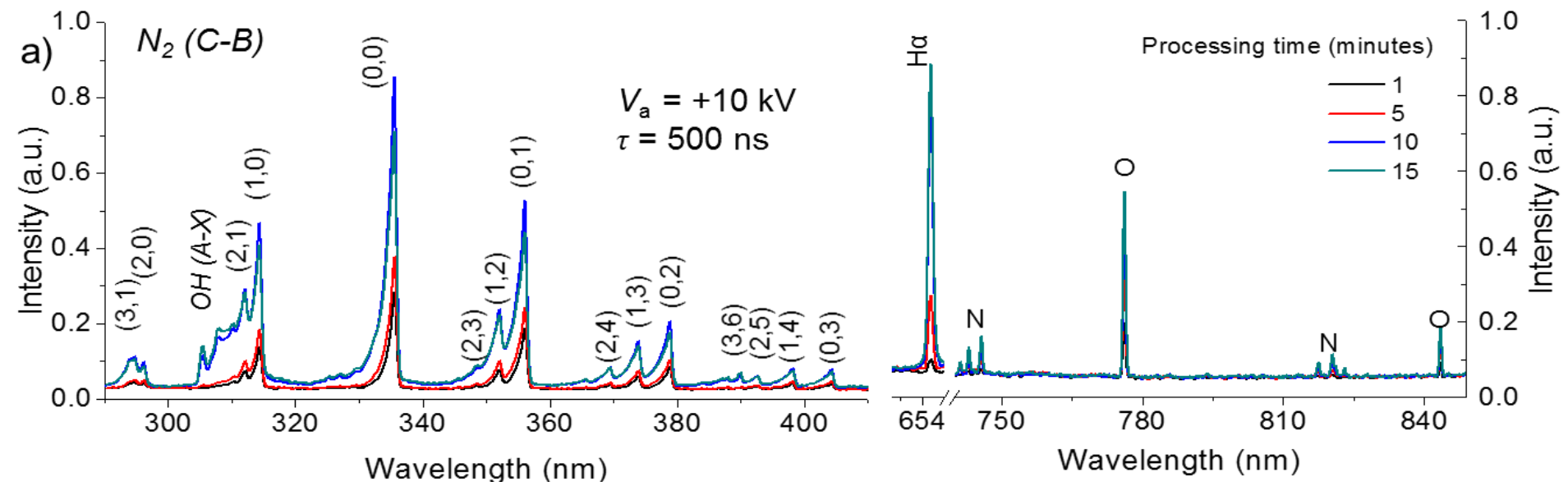
- Number and length of filaments increases

**Negative polarity:**

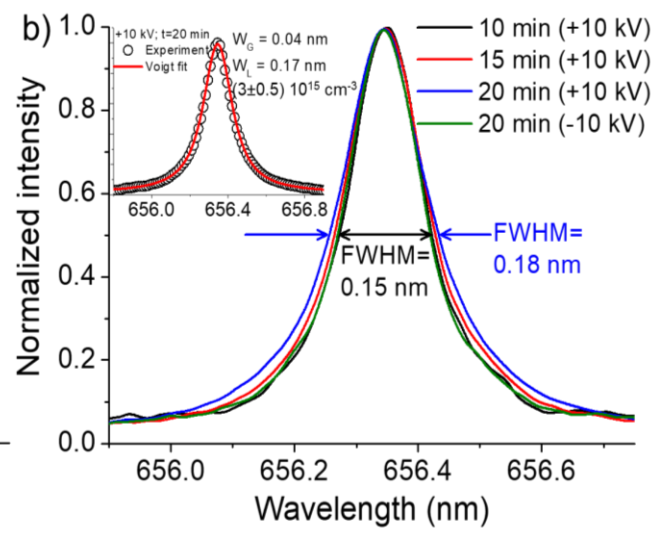
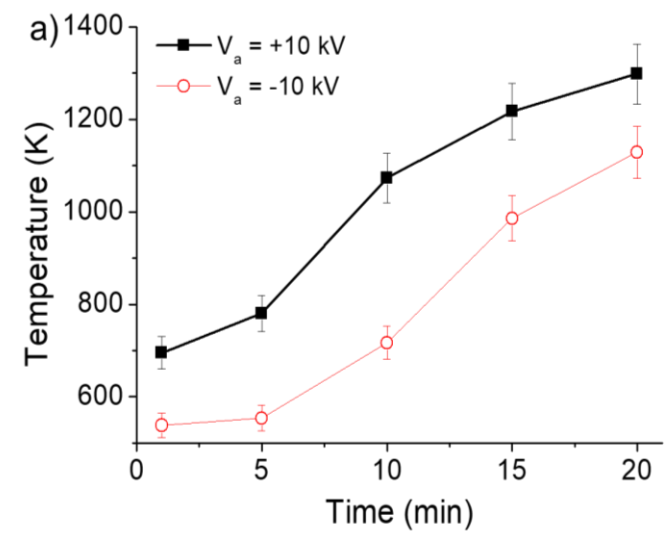
- Disc-like evolve into a filament structure
- Number is smaller and Filaments are shorter and wider than positive polarity



# Results : Spectroscopy

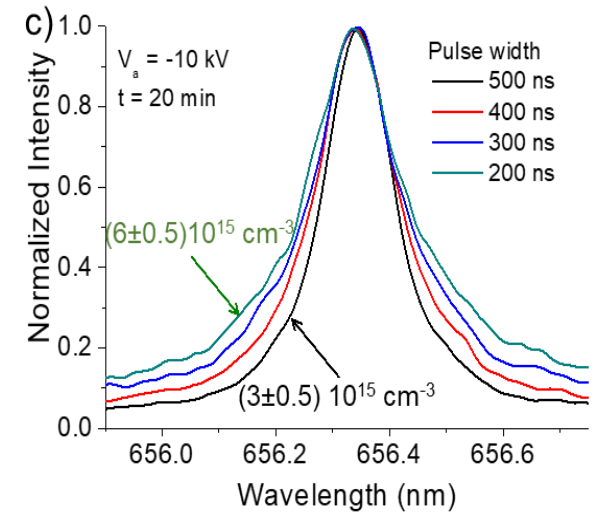
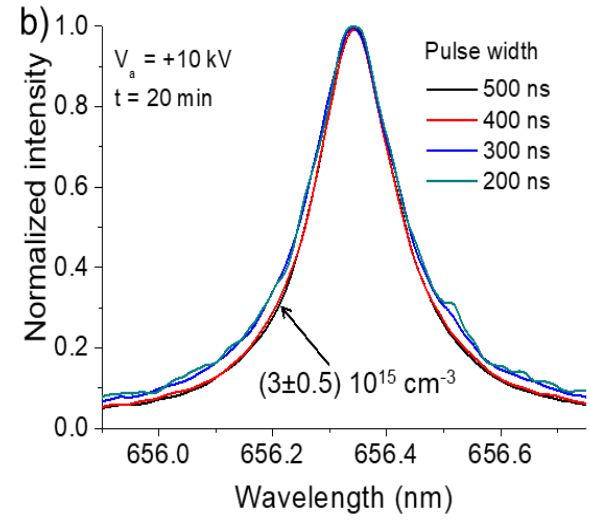
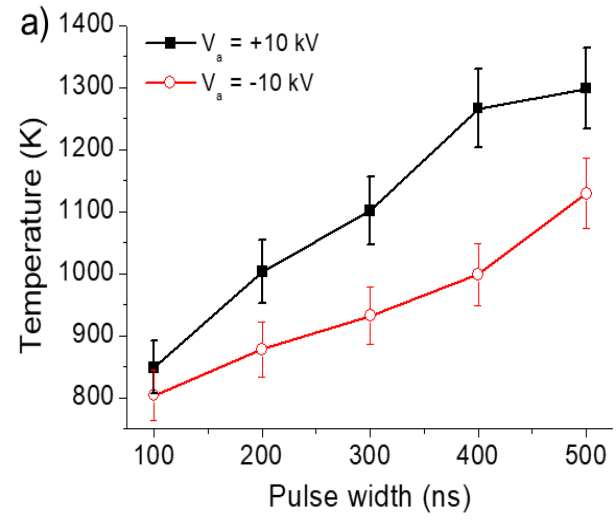
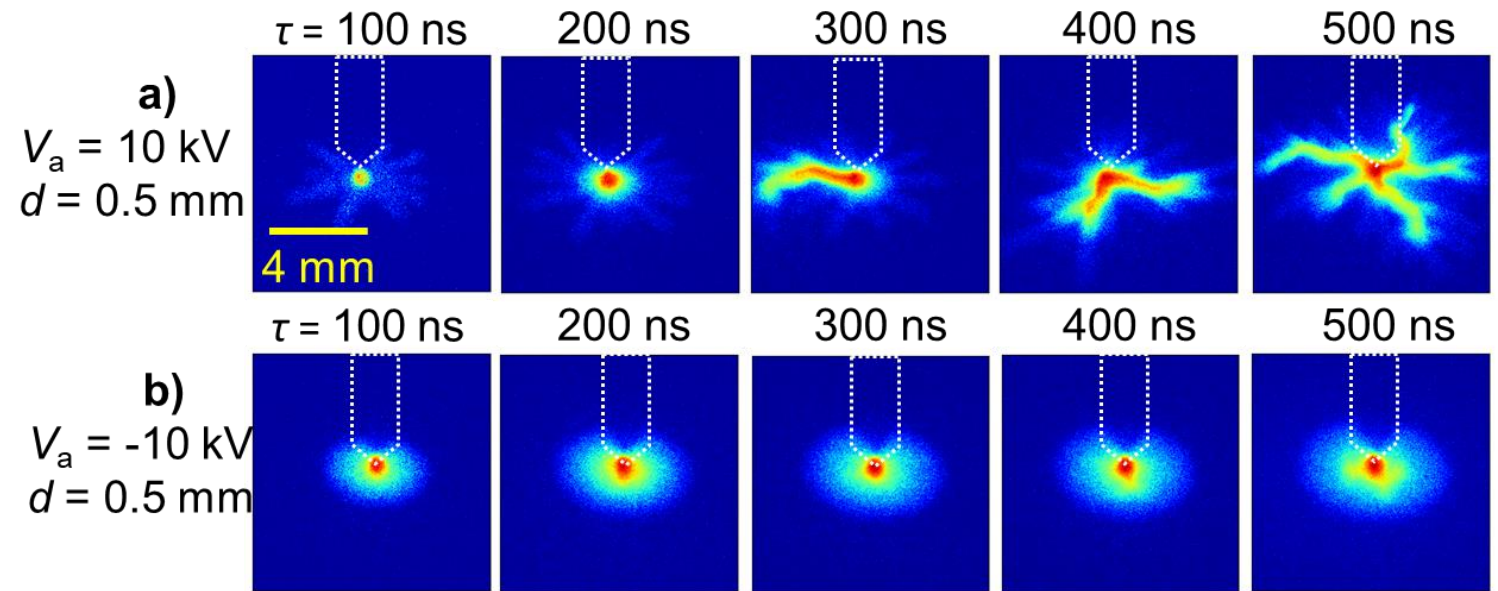


- Calculated from  $N_2$  (C-B) 336 nm without NH

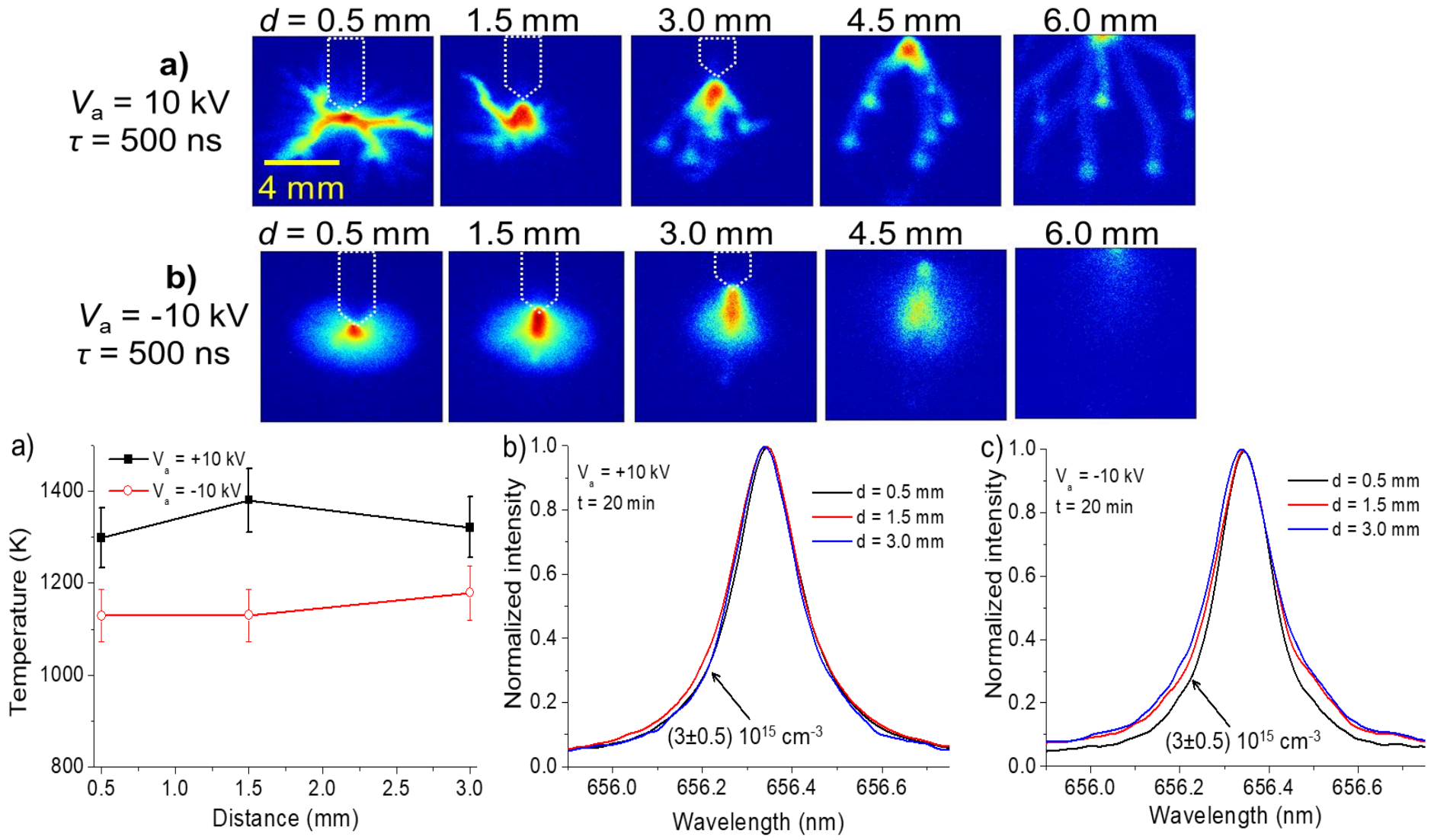


- Stark Broadening  $(3.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

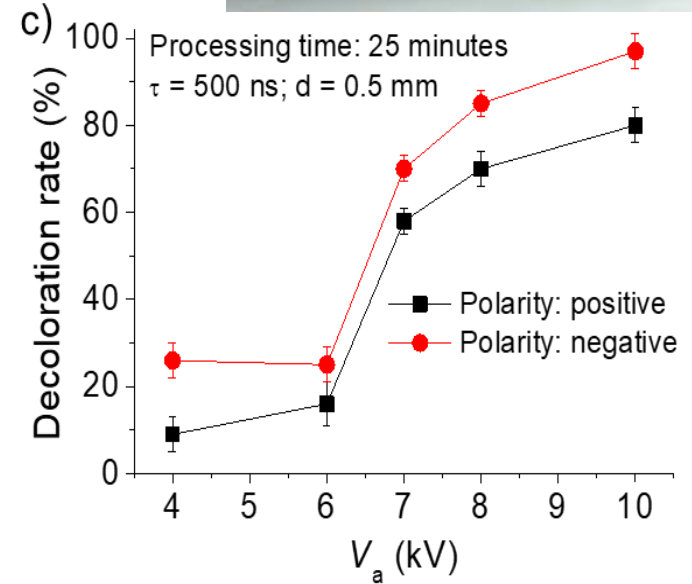
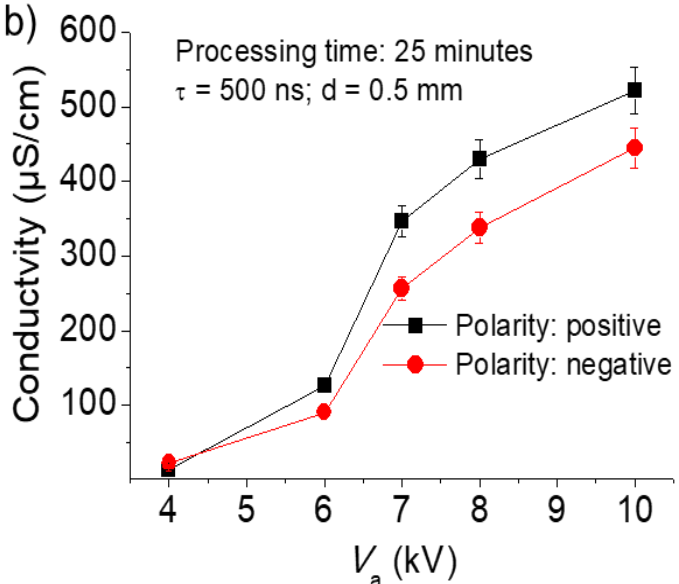
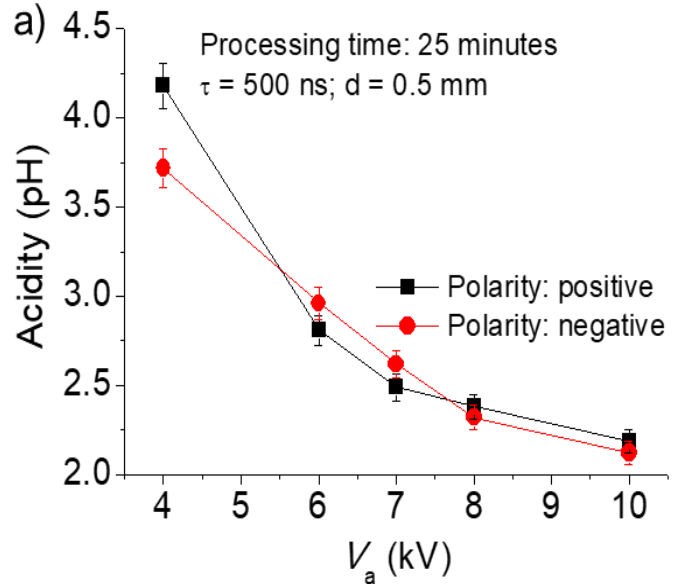
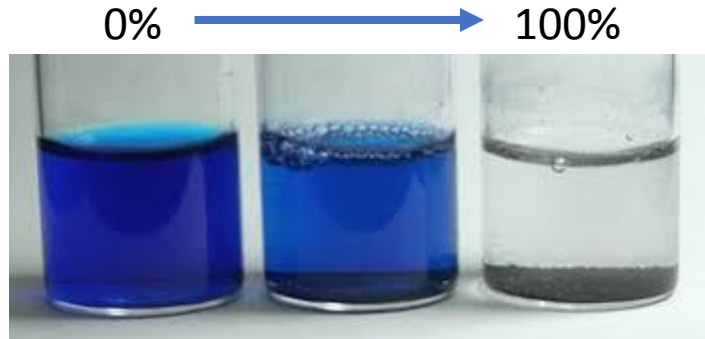
# Results : Pulse Width



# Results : Electrical Characteristics



# Results : Liquid properties

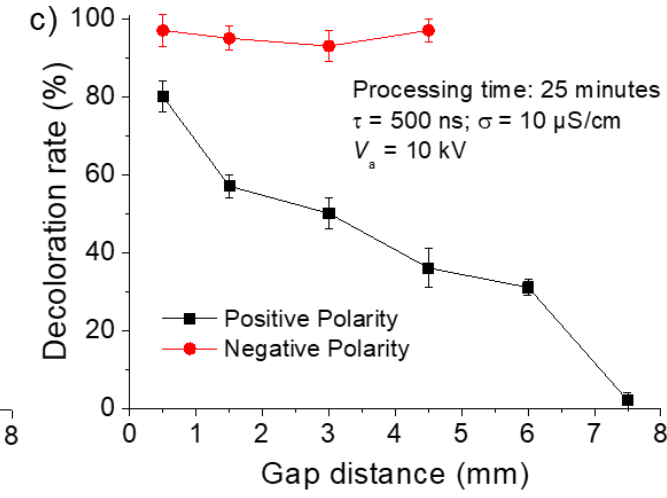
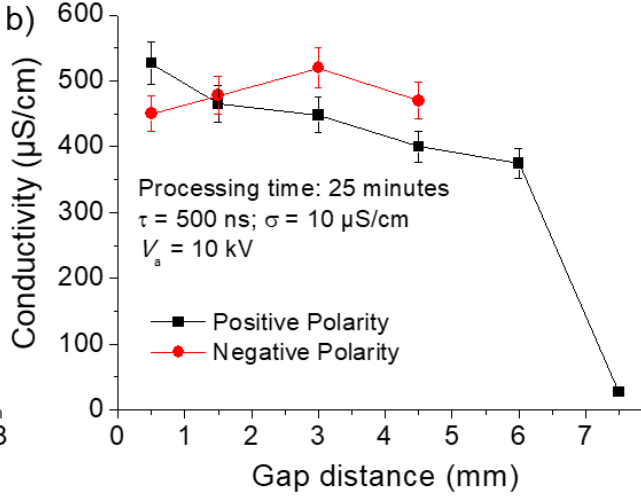
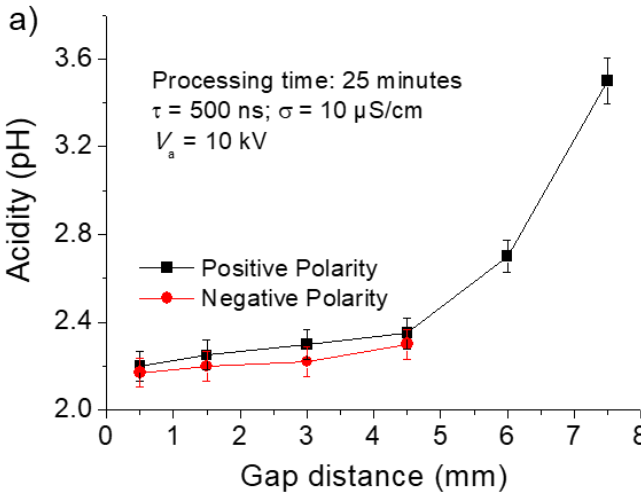
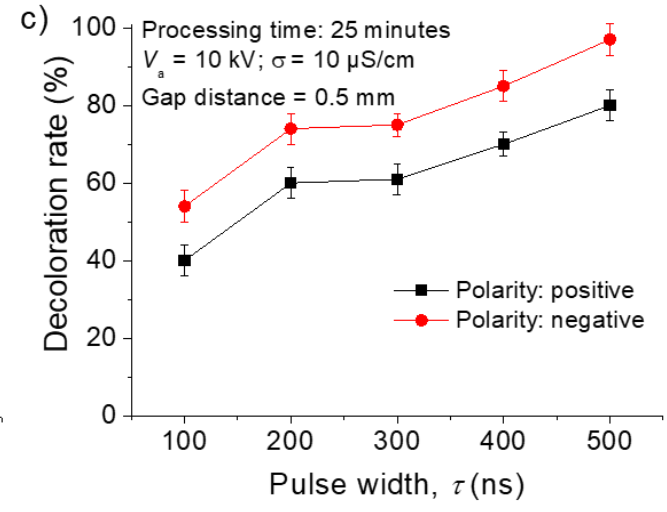
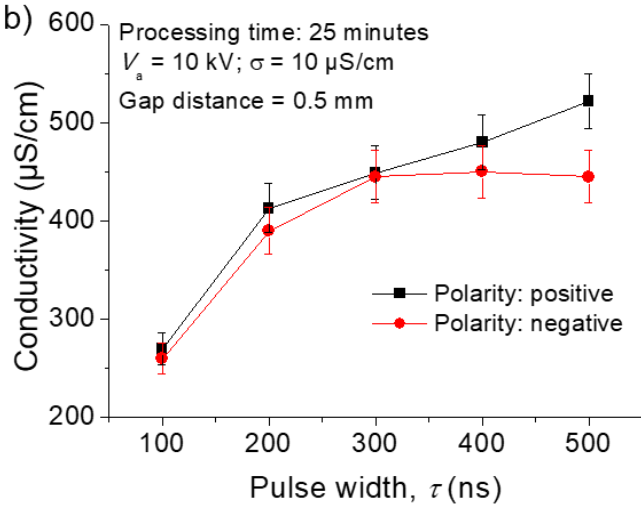
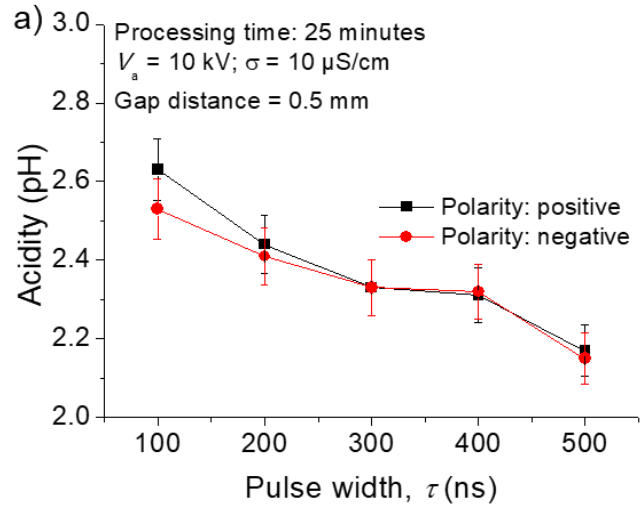


$$\text{Acidity (pH)} = -\log_{10}[H^+]$$

$$\text{Conductivity } \left(\frac{\mu\text{S}}{\text{cm}}\right) = \sum_i \lambda_i * C_i$$

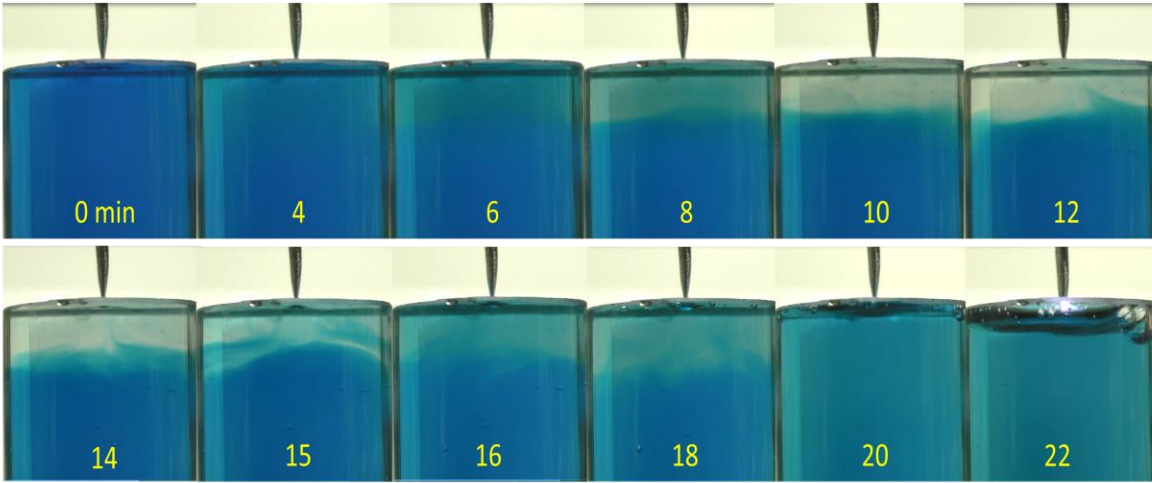
Ions:  $\text{OH}^-$ ,  $\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^+$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  
 $\text{ONO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{NO}^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$ , ...

# Results : Liquid properties

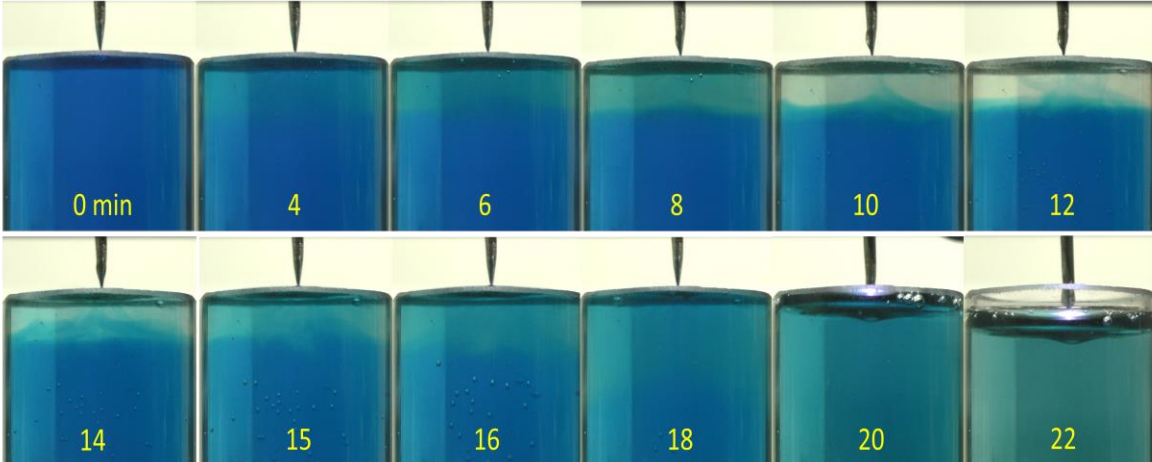


# Results : Electrical Characteristics

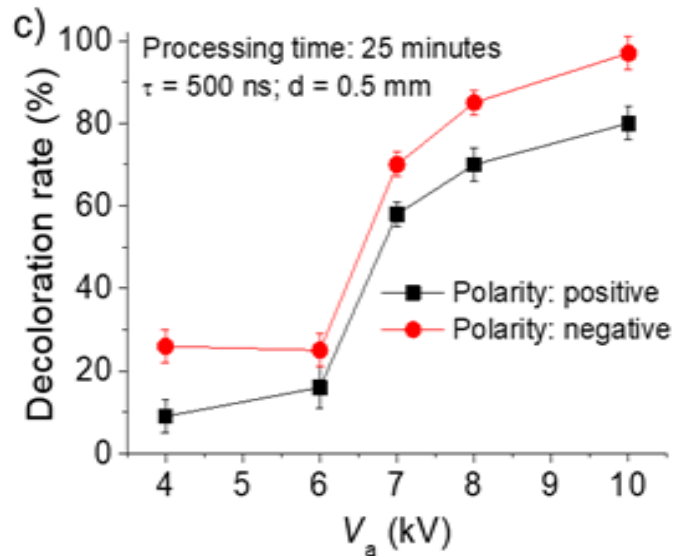
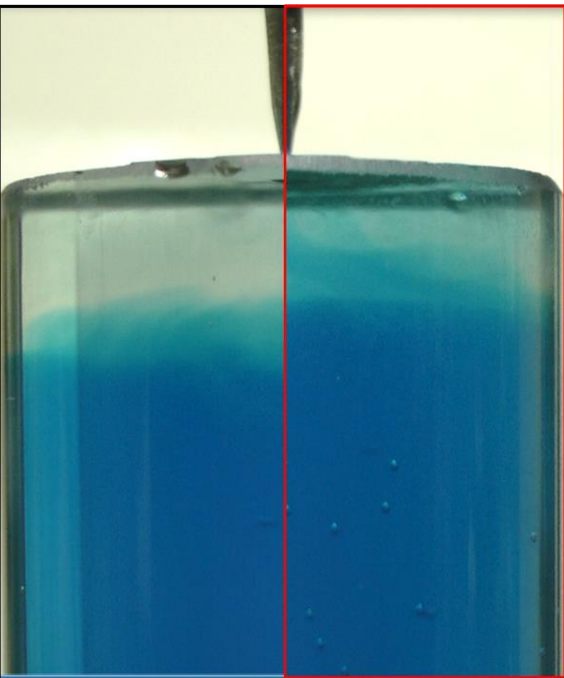
a)  $V_a = +10 \text{ kV}; \tau = 500 \text{ ns}$



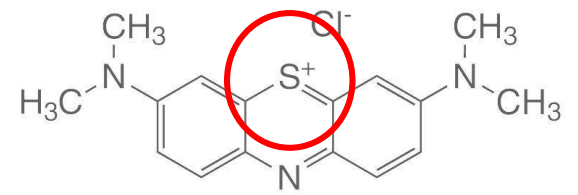
b)  $V_a = -10 \text{ kV}; \tau = 500 \text{ ns}$



c)  $V_a = +10 \text{ kV}; t = 14 \text{ min}$      $V_a = -10 \text{ kV}; t = 14 \text{ min}$

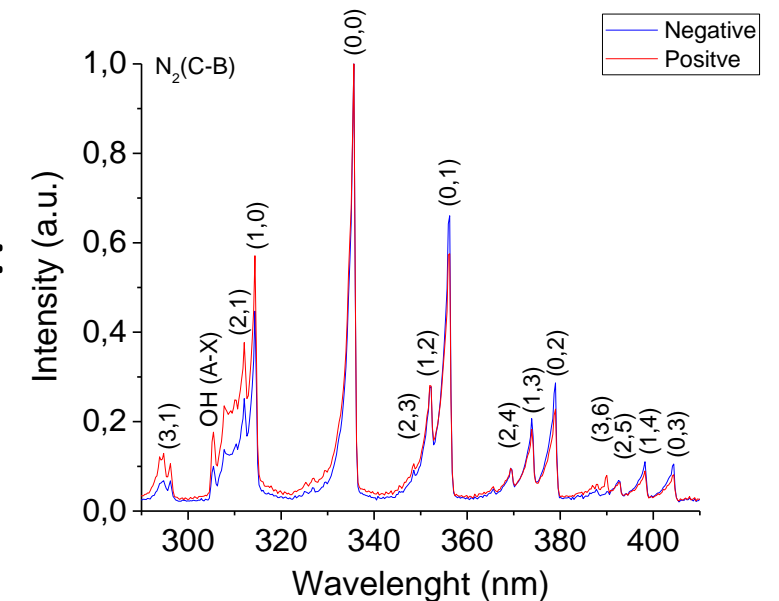


Electrically positive molecule



# Conclusion

- Our results show:
    - The parameters for an optimal methylene blue decoloration are:
      - Negative polarity
      - Higher voltage amplitude
      - longer pulse width
      - Shorter gap distance
    - The reason behind higher efficiency for negative polarity is:
      - Methylene blue is a electrically positive molecule
      - The higher flow of the untreated solution
      - N<sub>2</sub> Vibrational temperature !
- (Matthew J Pavlovich *et al* 2013 *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.* **46** 145202)





# Thank you

More details can be found here:

Hamdan A, Ridani DA, Diamond J and Dagrir R, “ Pulsed nanosecond air discharge in contact with water: influence of voltage polarity, amplitude, pulse width, and gap distance”, J. Phys. D. Appl. Phys. , 2020, doi: [10.1088/1361-6463/ab8fde](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6463/ab8fde)