

# THE EMPIRICAL FORMULA OF DEPENDENCE OF FACTOR OF DISINTEGRATION OF NONIDEAL PLASMA FROM ELECTRONS CONCENTRATION

*O.A. Fedorovich, L.M. Voitenko*

*Institute for Nuclear Research NASU, Kiev, Ukraine*

*E-mail: oafedorovich@kinr.kiev.ua*

Empirical formula of the coefficient decay dependence of strongly coupled plasma from the electron density in the range from  $10^{17}$  to  $10^{22}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  is given. The dependence of the coefficients of the decay of NP from the temperature in the range from  $7 \times 10^3$  to  $45 \times 10^3$  K and the degree of nonideality of plasma  $\Gamma$  in the range from 0.2 to 3 was also experimentally studied.

PACS: 52.80.-s

## INTRODUCTION

Recombination processes in a nonideal plasma (NP) is studied too little. This is due to the complexity of the theoretical description of processes in nonideal plasmas [1-3]. Most theoretical models which are valid for an ideal plasma, in dense (nonideal) plasma does not work. In describing the dense plasma is also not true representations of solid state physics. Theory of NP is developed insufficiently, not only because of the complexity of calculations of such plasma, but also because of the lack of reliable experimental data from the properties of the NP and the relationship of its properties with the main parameters of the plasma. The experimental results obtained are also very difficult. Nonideal plasma, under laboratory conditions, exists a very short time – the nano- and micro- and milliseconds. No equipment to measure the basic parameters of the NP for such a short time. There are no methods for measuring the parameters of the NP. In the NP can only be measured the time variation the brightness temperature ( $T_{br}$ ) of the surface layers of plasma. But with measuring the  $T_{br}$  at different wavelengths can be obtained by the difference in the values of  $T_{br}$  to 2 times [4]. This may indicate about the radiation no equilibrium NP. The electron concentration from the broadening of hydrogen lines  $H_\alpha$  (656.3 nm) can be measured only below to values  $N_e \leq 10^{19}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . This requires the adjustment of the contour lines  $H_\alpha$  [5]. In dense inhomogeneous plasma there is always the reabsorption which reduce the intensity contours reabsorbed lines. Correction of the reabsorbed contour lines  $H_\alpha$  is very time-consuming and uncomfortable procedure. At higher concentrations ( $N_e > 4 \times 10^{19}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )  $H_\alpha$  line (656.3 nm) by the influence of microscopic fields of the plasma in the spectrum can not be realized [6]. In recent years, effort have been attempted to determine the concentration of electrons in the plasma on the effect of outage of lines under the influence of microscopic fields of the plasma, the so-called non-realization of the effect of lines, or on the effect of "gap" in NP [8]. This made by the lines of hydrogen and tungsten. This can be done for other compositions of plasma where atoms and ions are sufficiently rich in line emission and absorption spectra. The results of theoretical work on recombination [1-3] – are contradictory. Experimental verification is required for theoretical work on recombination that has appeared

in recent years. This paper studies the influence of various plasma parameters on the rate of decay of coupled plasma and obtaining an empirical formula for the dependence of the decay rate of NP on the electron density.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In recent years have appeared several experimental studies on the decay of NP [7-9]. They presented the results of dependences of the decay of the NP from time. It is of interest to determine the dependences index of the decay from various parameters of the NP: temperature, electron density, the degree of nonideality of plasma pressure, the concentration of atoms in the NP, etc. In most theoretical work with the estimation of recombination coefficients use two basic parameters - electron density and temperature of the plasma [1, 2]. In [3] gives such a dependence from the nonideality parameter of plasma  $\Gamma$ .  $\Gamma$  (Ratio of potential to kinetic energy of the plasma) is written as

$$\Gamma = (4\pi N_e / 3)^{1/3} \cdot (e^2 / k \cdot T),$$

where  $T$  – plasma temperature,  $N_e$  – electron density,  $k$  – Boltzmann constant,  $e$  – electron charge.

In [10, 7] have mentioned that direct measuring the recombination coefficient of the plasma is very difficult because in addition to the recombination processes are processes thermal ionization. Experimentally, we can determine only the coefficient of plasma decay.

It can be seen in Fig. 1 that there is no unique dependence of the decay coefficients of the hydrogen-oxygen plasma from the temperature in the range  $(20 \dots 50) \times 10^3$  K. When the temperature of the plasma in the channel is reduced from  $20 \times 10^3$  to  $8 \times 10^3$  K, the decay coefficient increases from  $3 \times 10^{-16}$  to  $10^{-12}$   $\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$ . At the same chart for comparison is added the results taken from [10]. The decay coefficients value is given for the temperature  $50 \times 10^3$  K, when the electron density is  $2 \times 10^{17}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , requisite value the decay coefficients is  $10^{-12}$   $\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$ . The decay coefficients value at the same temperature is received approximately  $10^{-15}$   $\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$  at concentrations of electrons  $5 \times 10^{19} \dots 10^{21}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  by authors of this paper. The horizontal shape of the curve of the decay coefficient from temperature can apparently be explained by high values of ionization at high temperatures. Therefore, most likely, the temperature is

not the most important parameter is the NP of which depend on the coefficients of decomposition. The dependence of the recombination coefficient from temperature in all theories of theoretical studies is the same, proportional to  $\sim T^{-9/2}$ . Experimentally, the strong dependence of the decay from temperature in the NP is not observed.

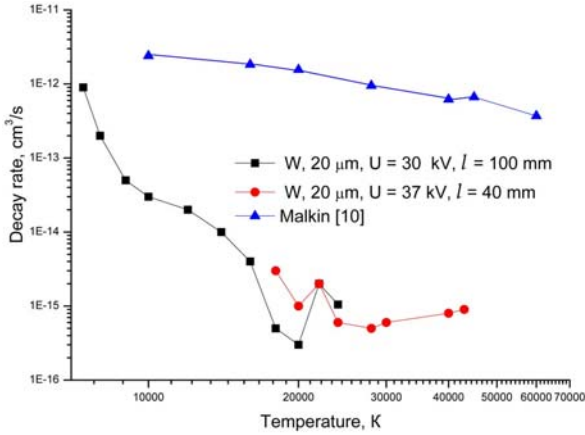


Fig. 1. Dependence of the decay rate of strongly coupled plasma on the temperature

Fig. 2 shows the results of determining the coefficients of plasma decay in depending on the concentration of electrons. Chart based on a double logarithmic scale.

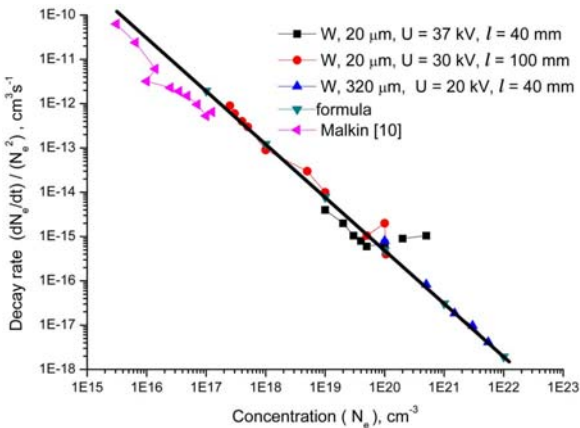


Fig. 2. Dependence of the decay rate of strongly coupled plasma on the concentration

It is seen that with decreasing concentration of electrons in the NP from  $7 \times 10^{21}$  to  $2 \times 10^{17}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  the decay coefficient increases almost linearly from a value of  $3 \times 10^{-18}$  to  $1 \times 10^{-12}$   $\text{cm}^3/\text{s}$ .

The plasma temperature was equal to  $(8 \dots 11) \times 10^3$  K at an electron density  $N_e = 7 \times 10^{21} \dots 10^{20}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  for tungsten plasma and decreased from  $50 \times 10^3$  to  $7 \times 10^3$  K at concentrations of  $N_e = 5 \times 10^{20} \dots 10^{17}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  for the hydrogen-oxygen plasma.

Considering that the almost linear dependence of the decay coefficient from the electron density in the NP experimentally was obtained, an empirical formula for this dependence was picked up and has the form:

$$K = 4,9 \cdot 10^8 (N_e)^{-1,2} = 4,9 \cdot 10^8 N_e^{-6/5},$$

$$\text{where } K = \frac{(dN_e/dt)}{N_e^2} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ decay rate of NP, } N_e \text{ (cm}^{-3}\text{)}$$

– electron concentration in the NP. This formula describes the experimentally obtained dependence of the decay coefficient of NP from the electron density in the range of  $10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \leq N_e \leq 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Temperature range  $(7 \dots 50) \times 10^3$  K.

Data were obtained for the hydrogen-oxygen plasma in the range of electron densities  $10^{17} \dots 10^{21}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  for tungsten in the range of  $10^{20} \dots 10^{22}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ .

The charges value of ions and temperature were not considered. The experimental data of the decay coefficients was obtained of the three modes of discharges. In plasma tungsten is possible second ionization, but it was not considered in the empirical formula.

Some variation in the coefficients of the decay in the concentration range of electrons  $5 \cdot 10^{19} \dots 10^{21}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$  can be attributed to a significant ionization of neutral atoms at high temperature hydrogen-oxygen plasma ( $T \approx (40 \dots 50) \times 10^3$  K).

A comparison of experimental results with theoretical calculations of [1-3] is given.

At comparing the experimental values of the decay coefficients with theoretical work [1] in which is supposed to triple-recombination mechanism (electron - electron - ion), a big difference at high concentrations of electrons were received

With decreasing the concentration of electrons occurs convergence of experimental and theoretical results.

In a theoretical paper [2] predicted a reduction in the decay coefficients with increasing electron concentration. Qualitatively this is consistent with experimental results. But it is assumed binary recombination (electron-ion), but not triple.

In [3] shows the dependence of the recombination coefficient (decay) in depending on the degree of the plasma nonideality  $\Gamma$ . According to this work should exhibit a maximum in the ratio of recombination  $\Gamma \approx 0,6 \dots 1,2$ .

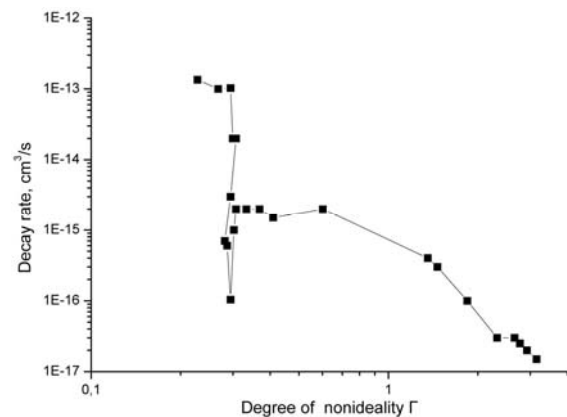


Fig. 3. Dependence of the decay rate of strongly coupled plasma on degree of nonideality

Fig. 3 shows the experimental results of the dependences of the decay coefficient in depending on the degree of the plasma nonideality  $\Gamma$ . The experimental values of the decay coefficients from the degree of plasma

nonideality have really a small peak in the region  $\Gamma = 0,4...2$ . The region with the degree of nonideality  $\Gamma = 0,6...1,5$  yet we have not been investigated. From this dependence follows that nature of the decay process change at  $\Gamma \approx 0,3$ . Perhaps, the binary recombination at large  $N_e$  with a decrease in  $N_e$  ( $N_e \leq 5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) is transformed into a triple.

### CONCLUSIONS

Almost linear relationship (on a double logarithmic scale) the plasma decay coefficient from the electron density for the NP was discovered. An empirical formula for this dependence was obtained. A small maximum the decay coefficients for the degree of nonideality of plasma  $\Gamma \sim 0,6...1,5$  experimentally observed that agrees qualitatively with the results of [3].

### REFERENCES

1. L.M. Biberman, V.S. Vorob'ev, I.T. Yakubov // *Kinetics of Nonequilibrium Low Temperature Plasmas*. Moscow: "Atomizdat", 1982.
2. L.M. Biberman, V.S. Vorob'ev, I.T. Yakubov. The effect of nonideality on the coefficient of recombination of a dense plasma // *Proceedings of the Russian Academy of Sciences*. 1987, v. 296, N 33, p. 576-578.
3. A. Lankin, G. Norman. Density and nonideality effects in plasmas // *Contribution to Plasma Physics*. 2009, v. 49, N 10, p. 723-731.
4. L.L. Pasechnik, P.D. Starchyk, O.A. Fedorovich. Investigation of the continuous radiation of a pulsed discharge in water in the range of 400-700 nm // *Abstracts of the VI All-Union Conference on Low Temperature Plasma Physics*. Leningrad, 1983, v. 1, p. 501-503.
5. O.A. Fedorovich. Methods of restoration contours reabsorbed emission lines in high-pressure plasma // *Proceedings of the XII International Scientific School "Physics of pulsed discharge in Condensed Matter"*. Nikolaev, 2005, p. 26-28; 2007, p. 118-119.
6. O.A. Fedorovich. The empirical formula for the dependence of the "optical gap" in the nonideal plasma for the electron density in the range  $10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \leq N_e \leq 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  // *Proceedings of the XI International Scientific School "Physics of pulsed discharge in Condensed Matter"*. Nikolaev, 2003, p. 11-13.
7. O.A. Fedorovich, L.M. Voitenko. Experimental Researches of the Decay Coefficient of Nonideal Plasma Produced at Pulsed Discharges in Water // *Ukrainian Journal of Physics*. 2008, v. 53, N 5, p. 450-457.
8. O.A. Fedorovich, L.M. Voitenko. About factors disintegration of nonideal plasma of pulse discharges in water at electrons concentration  $2 \cdot 10^{20} \geq N_e \geq 2 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  // *Problems of Atomic Science and Technology. Series "Plasma Electronics and New Methods of Acceleration"*. 2008, N4, p. 288-293.
9. O.A. Fedorovich, L.M. Voitenko. About factors of disintegration of nonideal plasma at explosion of tungsten conductor in water // *Problems of Atomic Science and Technology*. 2010, N 4, p. 354-359.
10. O.A. Malkin. *Pulsed current and relaxation in the gas*. Moscow: "Atomizdat", 1974.

Article received 05.10.10

### ЭМПИРИЧЕСКАЯ ФОРМУЛА ЗАВИСИМОСТИ КОЭФФИЦИЕНТОВ РАСПАДА НЕИДЕАЛЬНОЙ ПЛАЗМЫ ОТ КОНЦЕНТРАЦИИ ЭЛЕКТРОНОВ

*О.А. Федорович, Л.М. Войтенко*

Приводится эмпирическая формула зависимости коэффициентов распада неидеальной плазмы (НП) от концентрации электронов в диапазоне от  $10^{17}$  до  $10^{22} \text{ см}^{-3}$ . Исследованы также экспериментальные зависимости коэффициентов распада НП от температуры в диапазоне  $(7 \times 10^3) \dots (45 \times 10^3)$  К и степени неидеальности плазмы  $\Gamma$  в диапазоне от 0.2 до 3.

### ЕМПІРИЧНА ФОРМУЛА ЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ КОЕФІЦІЄНТІВ РОЗПАДУ НЕІДЕАЛЬНОЇ ПЛАЗМИ ВІД КОНЦЕНТРАЦІЇ ЕЛЕКТРОНІВ

*О.А. Федорович, Л.М. Войтенко*

Наводиться емпірична формула залежності коефіцієнтів розпаду неідеальної плазми (НП) від концентрації електронів в діапазоні від  $10^{17}$  до  $10^{22} \text{ см}^{-3}$ . Досліджено також експериментальні залежності коефіцієнтів розпаду НП від температури у діапазоні  $(7 \times 10^3) \dots (45 \times 10^3)$  К та ступеню неідеальності плазми  $\Gamma$  в діапазоні від 0.2 до 3.