

H⁻/D⁻ negative-ion surface production on Nanoporous 12 CaO. 7 Al₂O₃ (C12O7) electride surface in low-pressure Cs-free plasmas

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Supervisors: G. Cartry

**Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS, PIIM, UMR 7345, Centre de Saint
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Daishuke Kuwahara (Doshisha University)

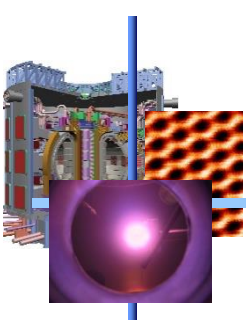
Masumi Kobayashi (Doshisha University)

Takayuki Eguchi (Doshisha University)

Mamiko Sasao (Doshisha University)

Motoi Wada (Doshisha University)

Introduction



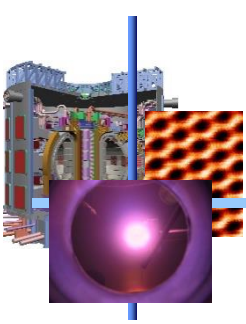
High current H-/D⁻ negative-ion sources are required for fusion (40A D⁻ @ 1MeV)

The ITER caesium-seeded negative-ion source is meeting these requirements

However, caesium is causing many issues: pollution, consumption, stability of long pulse operation...

Reduction of caesium consumption or its elimination would be highly valuable for a fusion reactor (DEMO)

Introduction

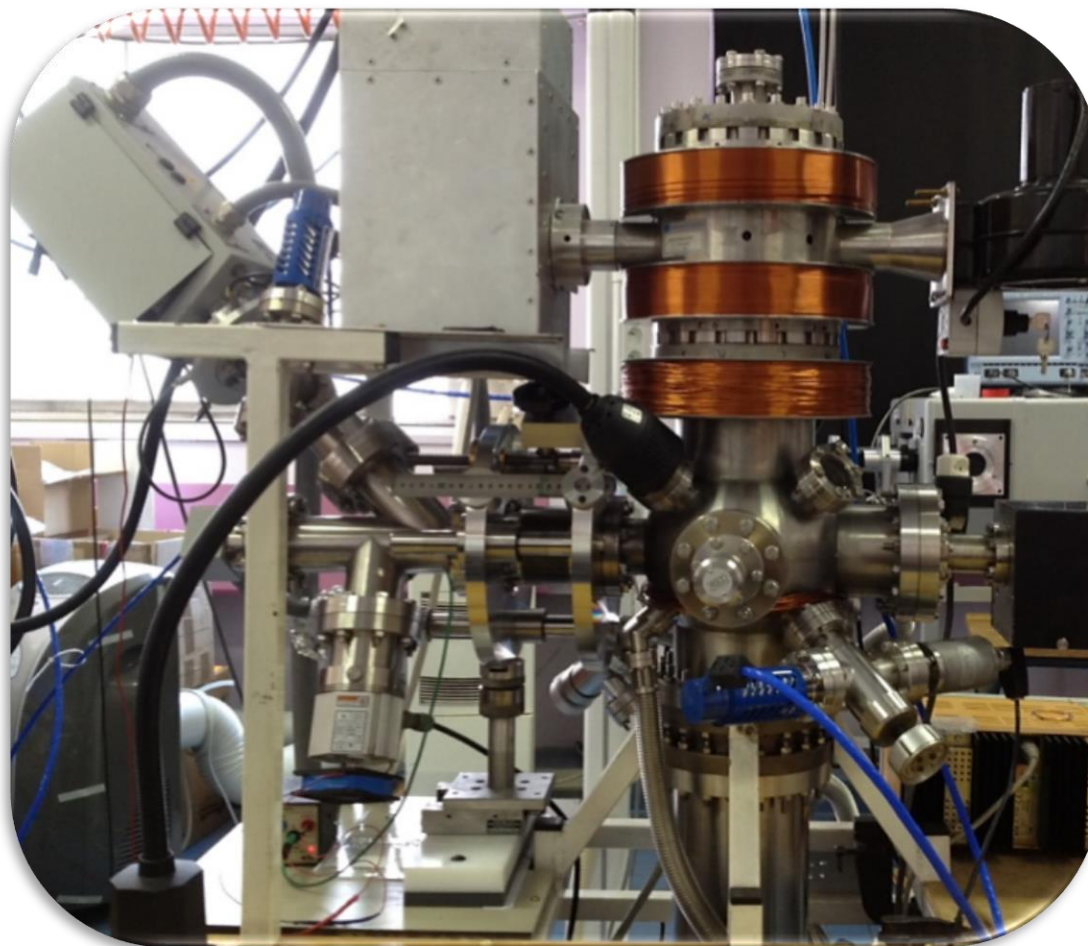
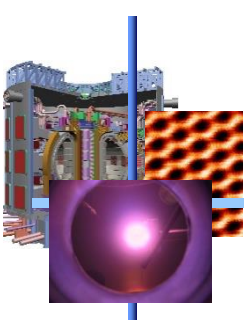


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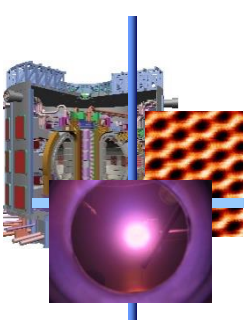
The ITER caesium-seeded negative-ion source is meeting these requirements

Study of negative-ion enhancer materials (other than Cs) in H₂ plasmas

Experimental setup: PHISIS



PHISIS

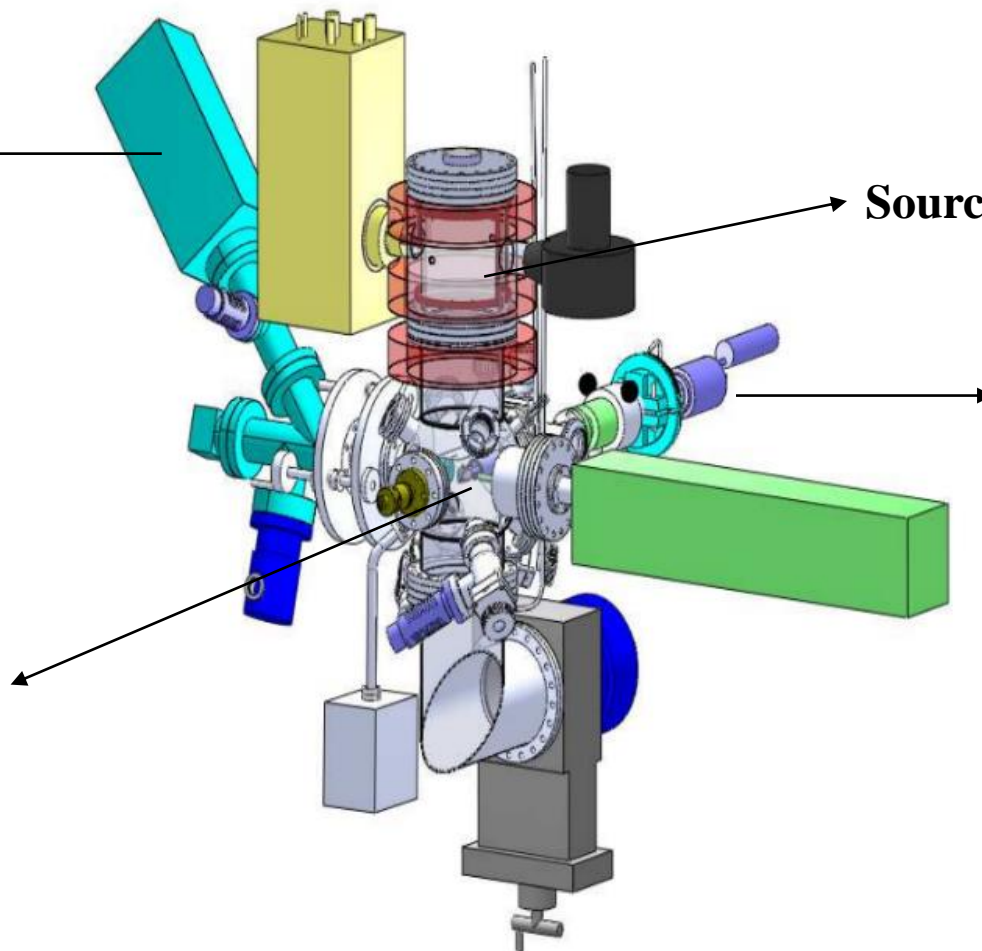


Mass spectrometer

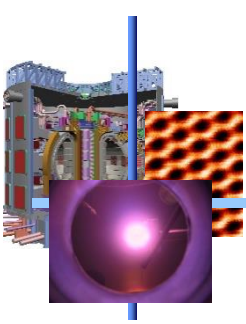
Source Chamber

Transfer rod

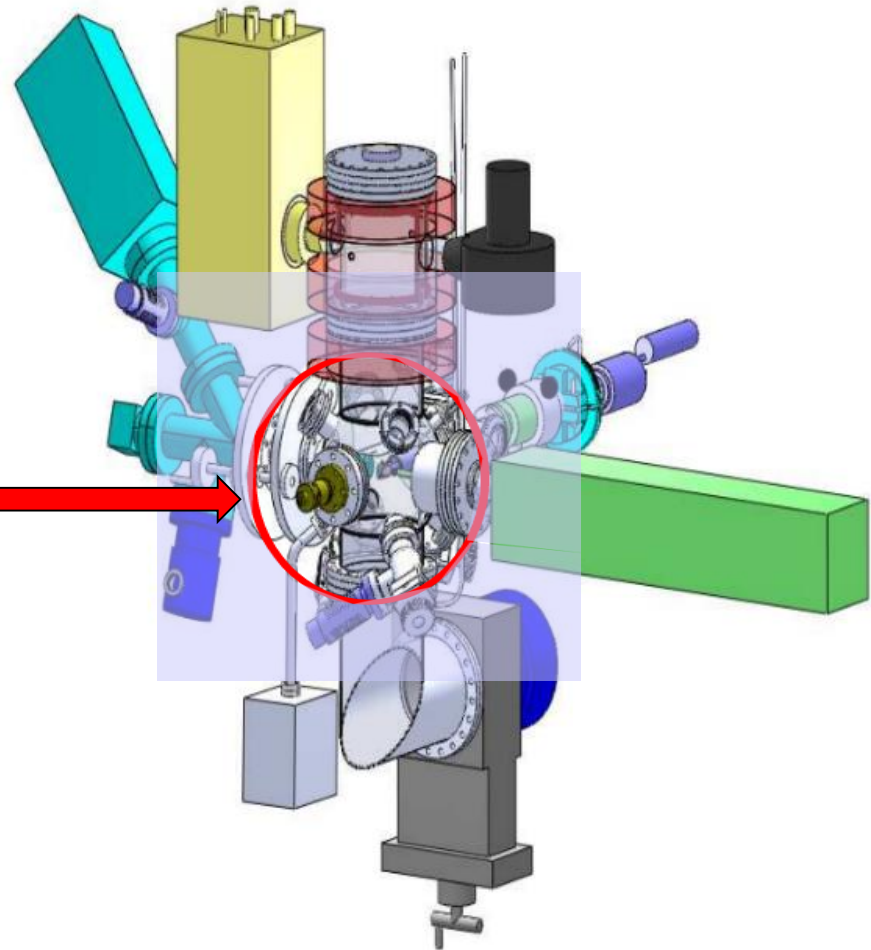
Diffusion Chamber



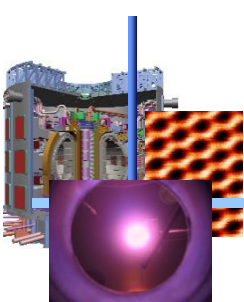
Study method



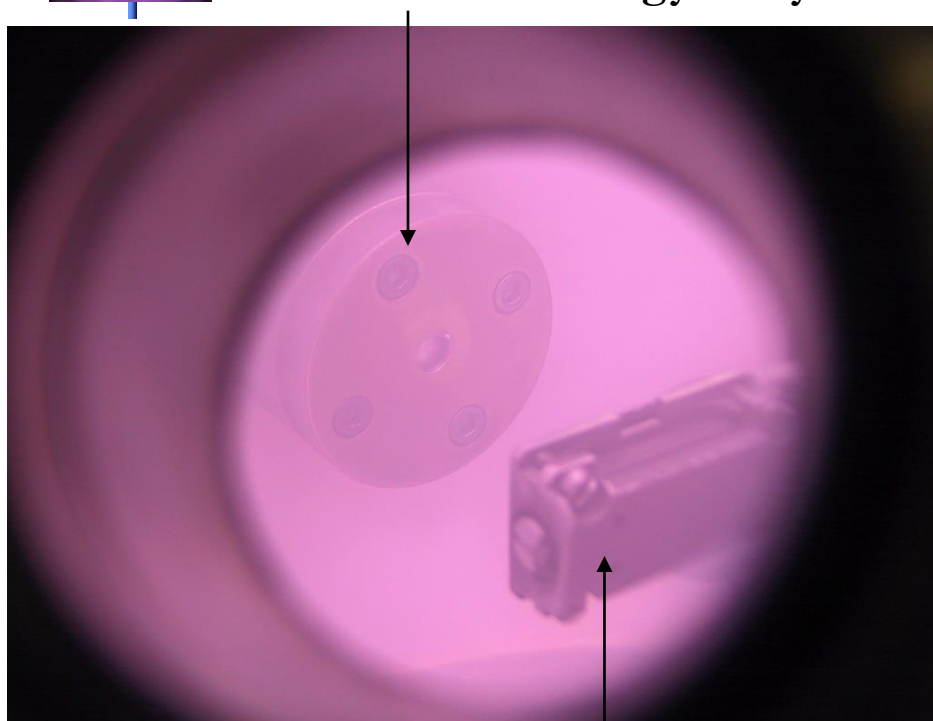
**Zone of interaction
plasma- Sample**



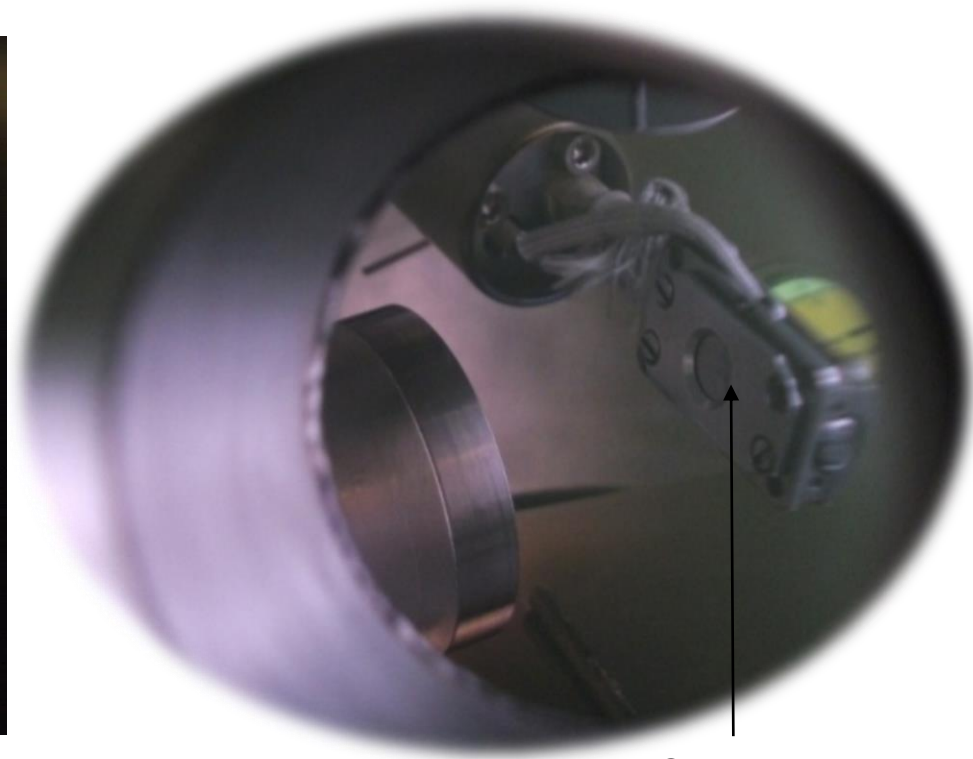
Experimental set-up



Mass and energy analyzer

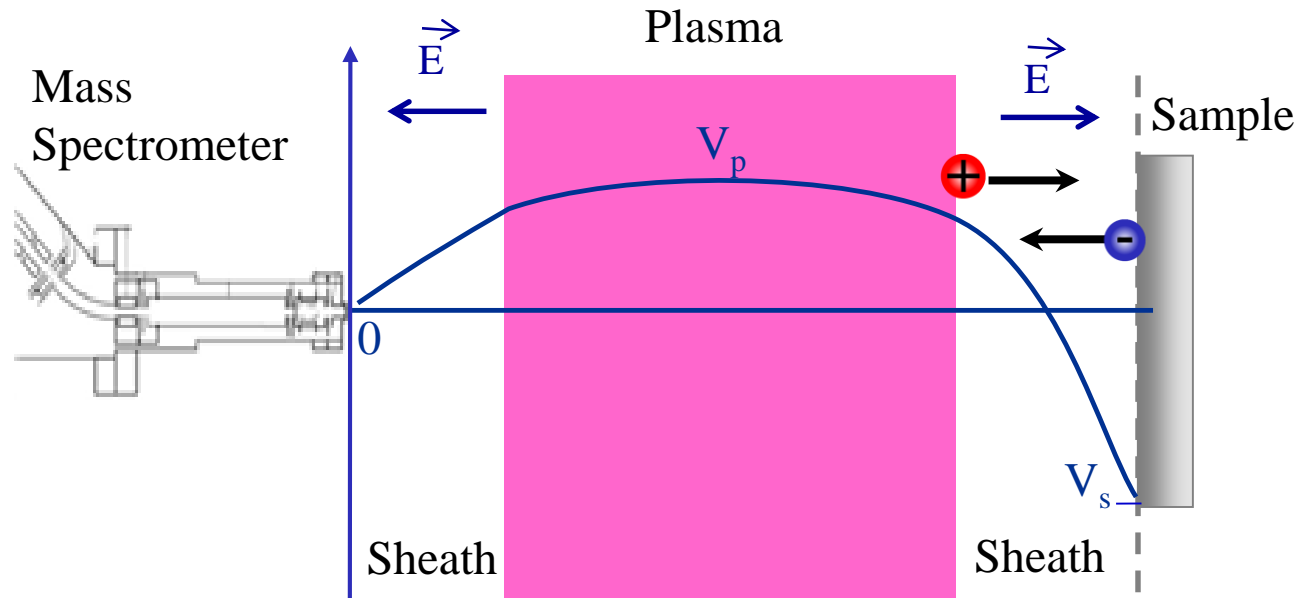
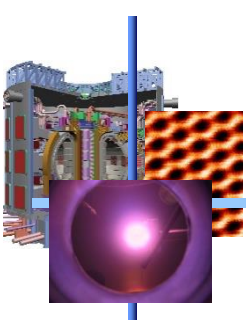


Sample holder

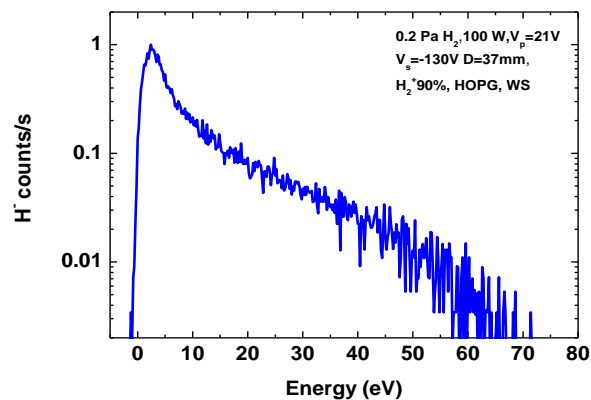
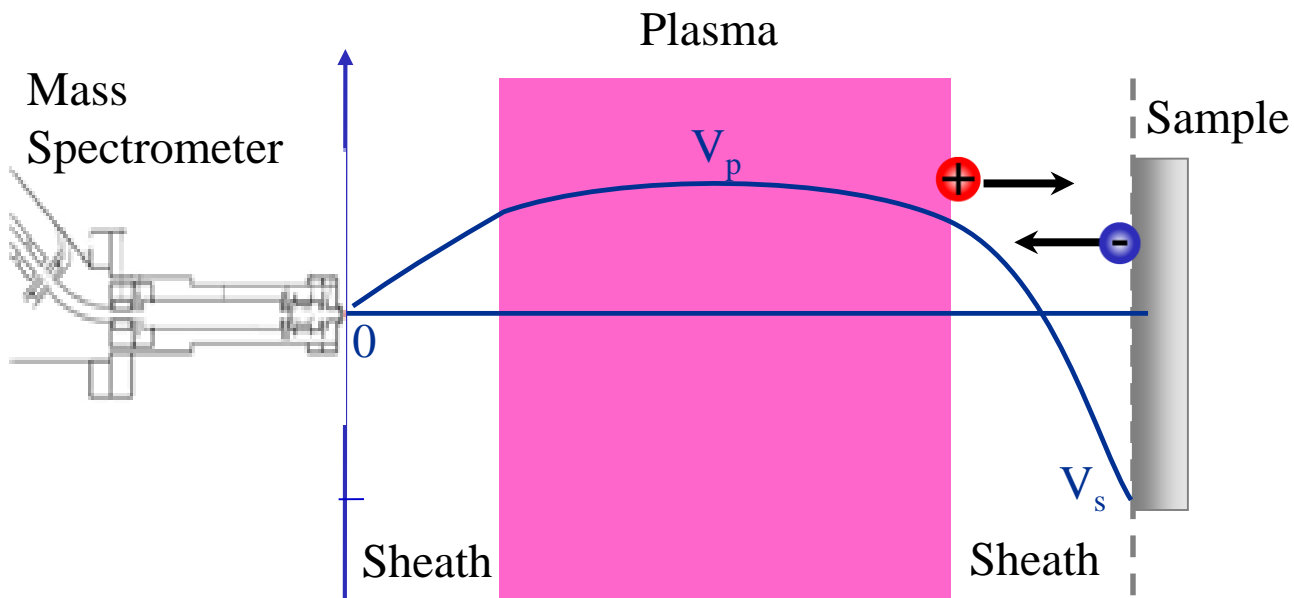
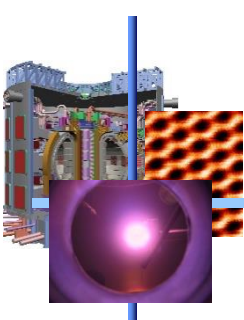


Sample

Experimental set-up

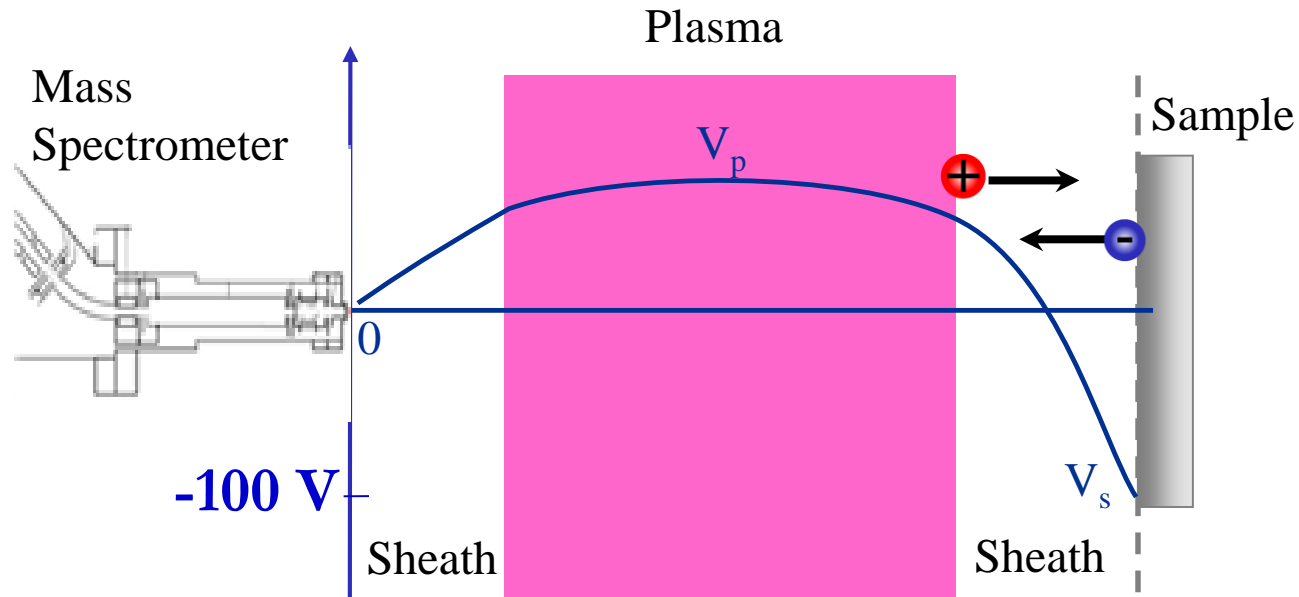


Experimental set-up



**Negative ion
energy
distribution
function
(NIEDF)**

Experimental set-up



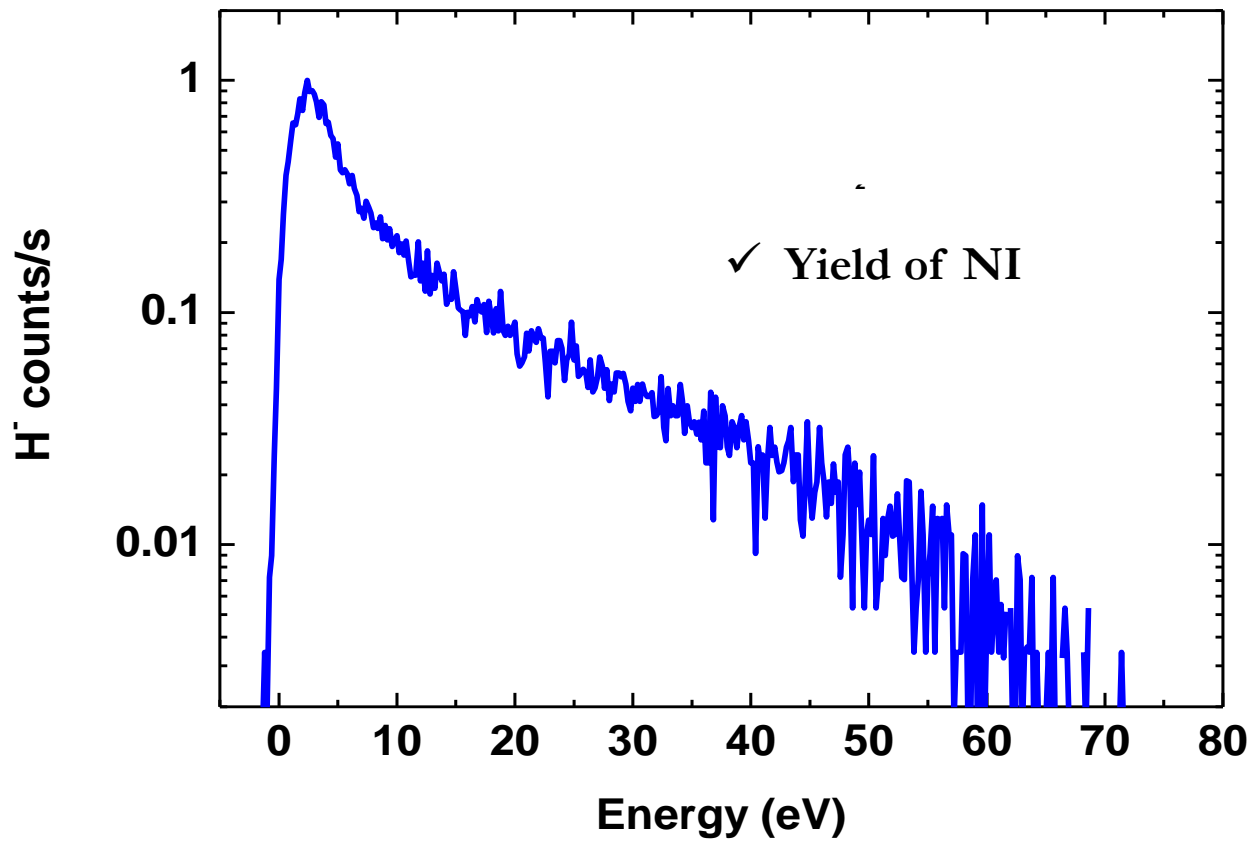
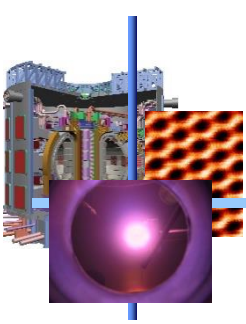
Negative-ions (i^-) are self-extracted:

Advantages: simple extraction, sample materials can be changed easily

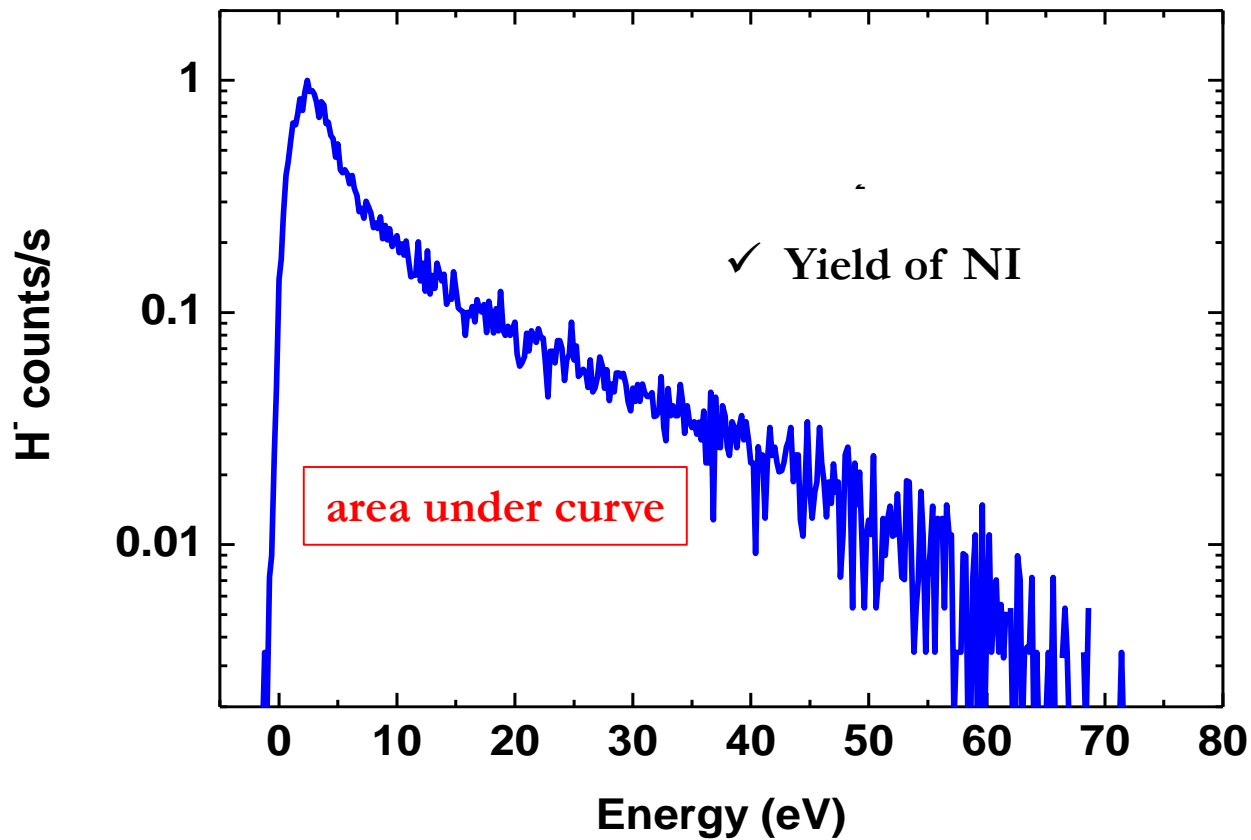
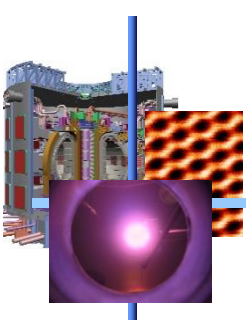
Drawback: Bad control of surface state. It is strongly dependant on plasma conditions and ion bombardment

NIEDF

Negative Ions Energy Distribution Function

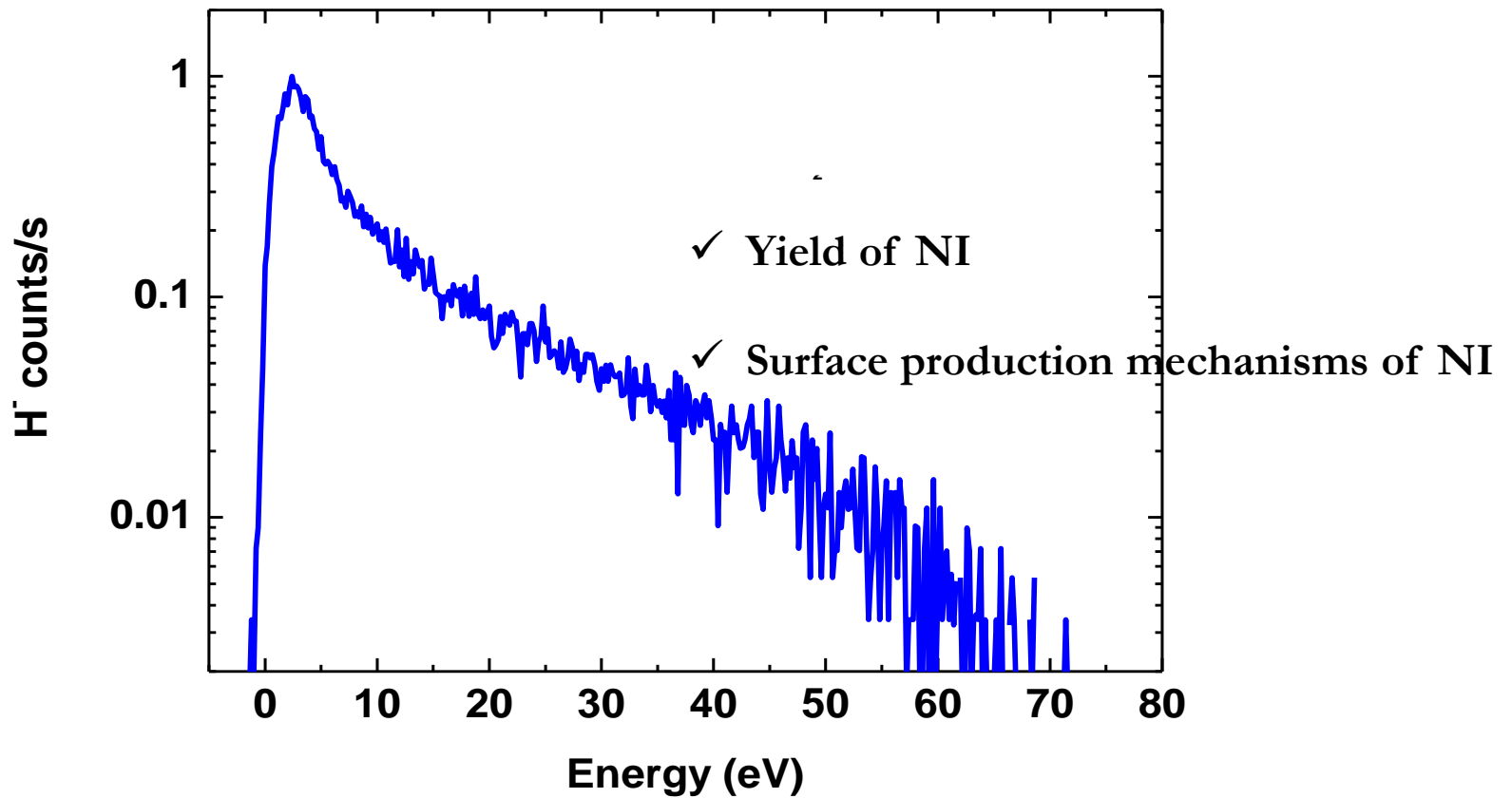
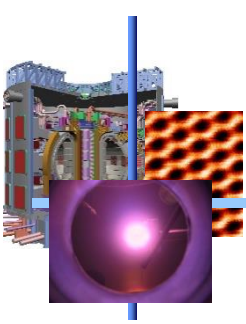


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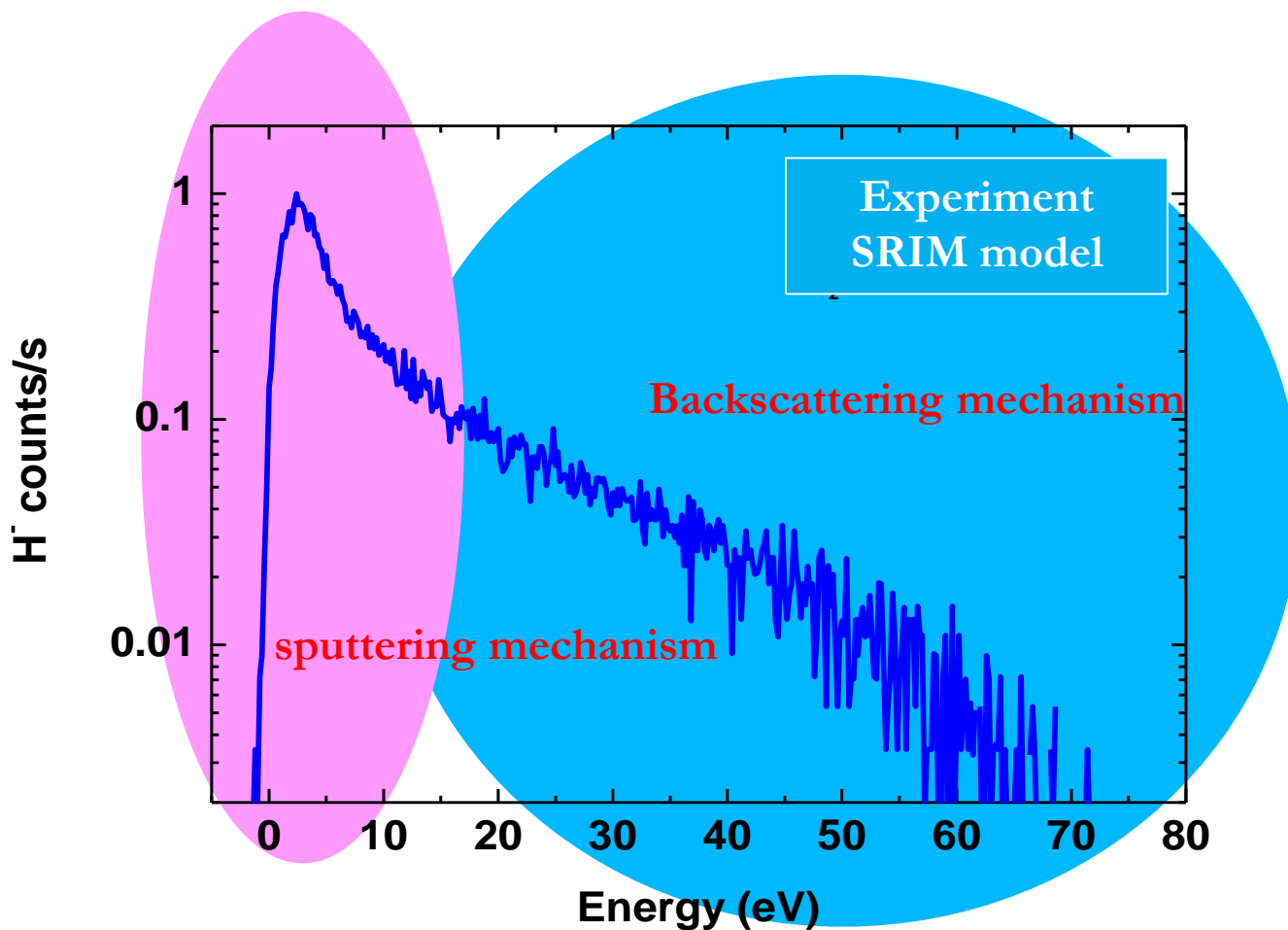
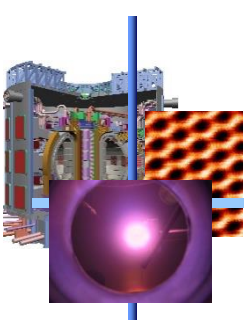
NIEDF

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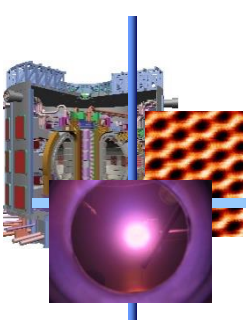
NIEDF

Negative Ions Energy Distribution Function



NIEDF shape is determined by the relative contribution of two production mechanisms sputtering and backscattering.

Experimental conditions



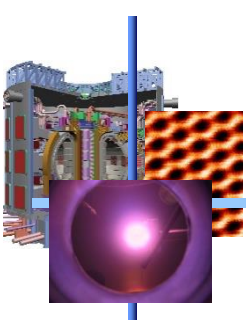
Samples:

- HOPG : Highly Oriented Pyrolytic Graphite
- MCBDD : Micro Crystalline Boron Doped Diamond
- NCD : Nano Crystalline Diamond
- MCD : Micro Crystalline Diamond
- NDD: Nitrogen Doped Diamond
- Nanoporous $12\text{CaO} \cdot 7\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (C12A7)

Plasma Conditions :

- H_2 and D_2 plasma
- No magnetic field
- $P = 30\text{-}900 \text{ W}$
- $P_r = 0.2 - 2 \text{ Pa}$

Experimental conditions



Samples:

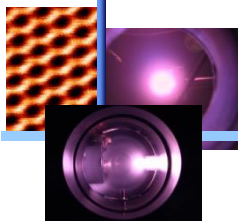
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Collaboration with Doshisha university

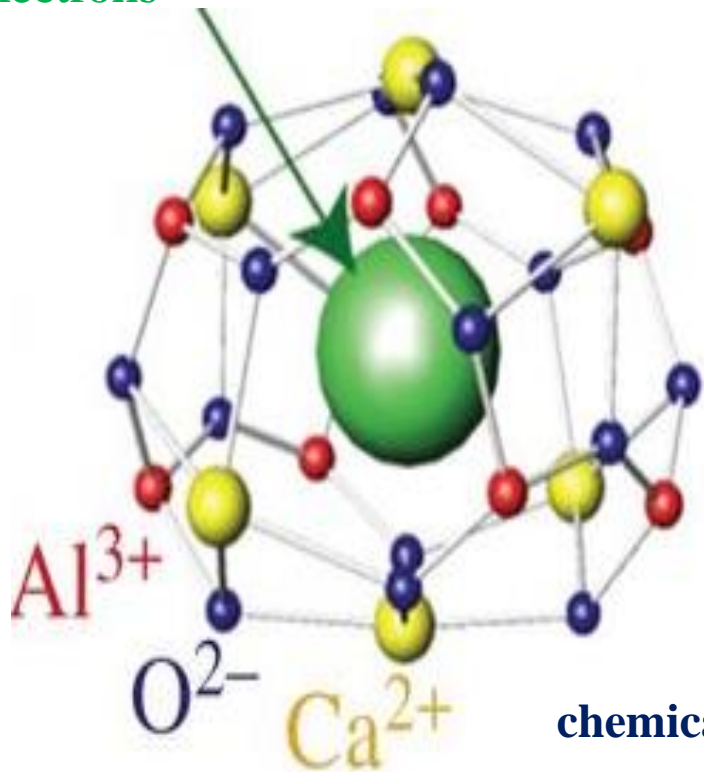
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| ▪ H_2 and D_2 plasma | ▪ No magnetic field |
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C12A7 electride surface



electrons



chemical formula is $[\text{Ca}_{24}\text{Al}_{28}\text{O}_{64}]^{4+} + 4\text{e}^-$

Kitano et al., NATURE CHEMISTRY / VOL 4 / NOVEMBER 934 2012

Conductivity: 1000 Siemens/cm

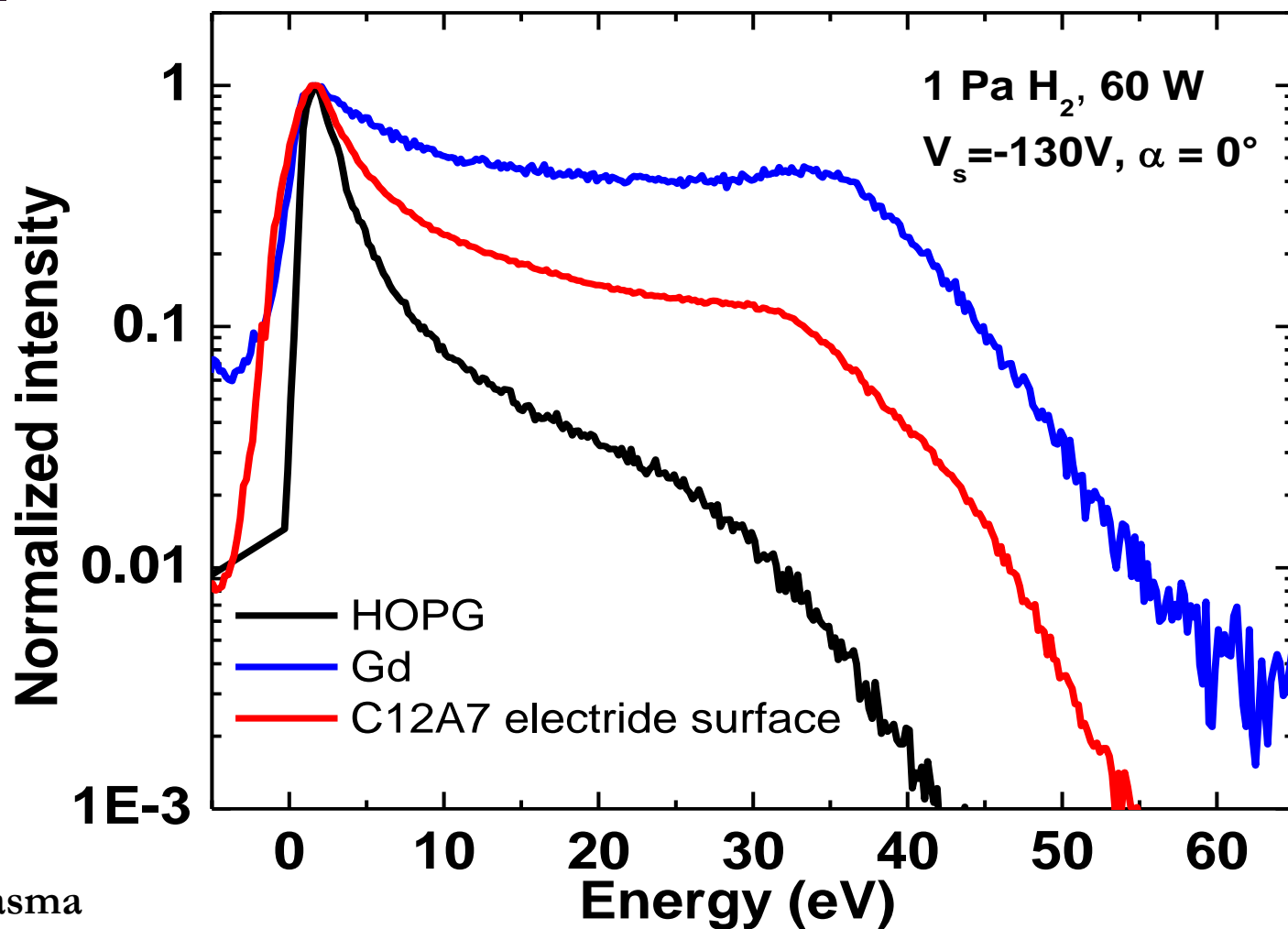
Low work function

Thermal stability

Chemical stability

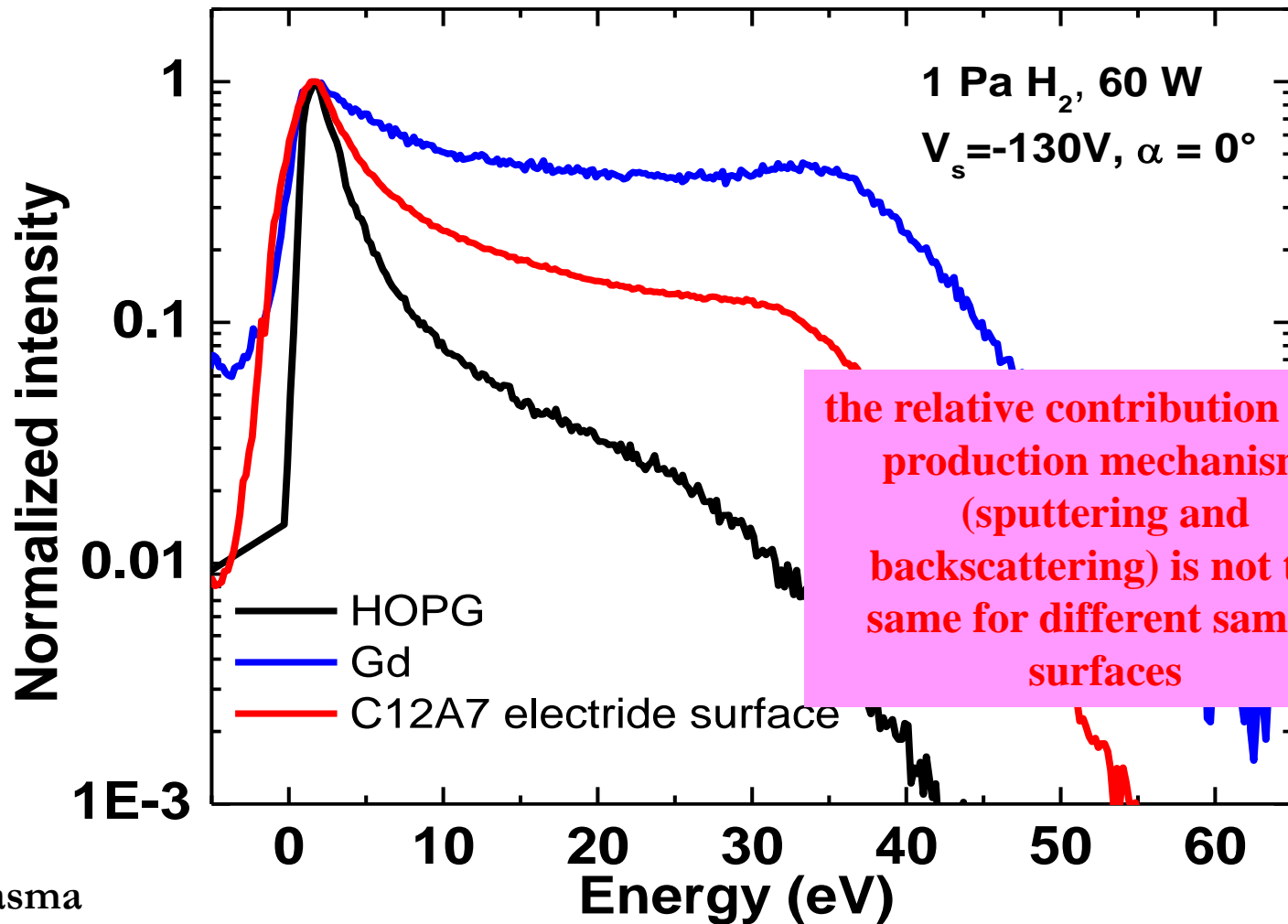
Favorable proprieties for negative ion production

NI surface production mechanisms on C12A7 electride surface



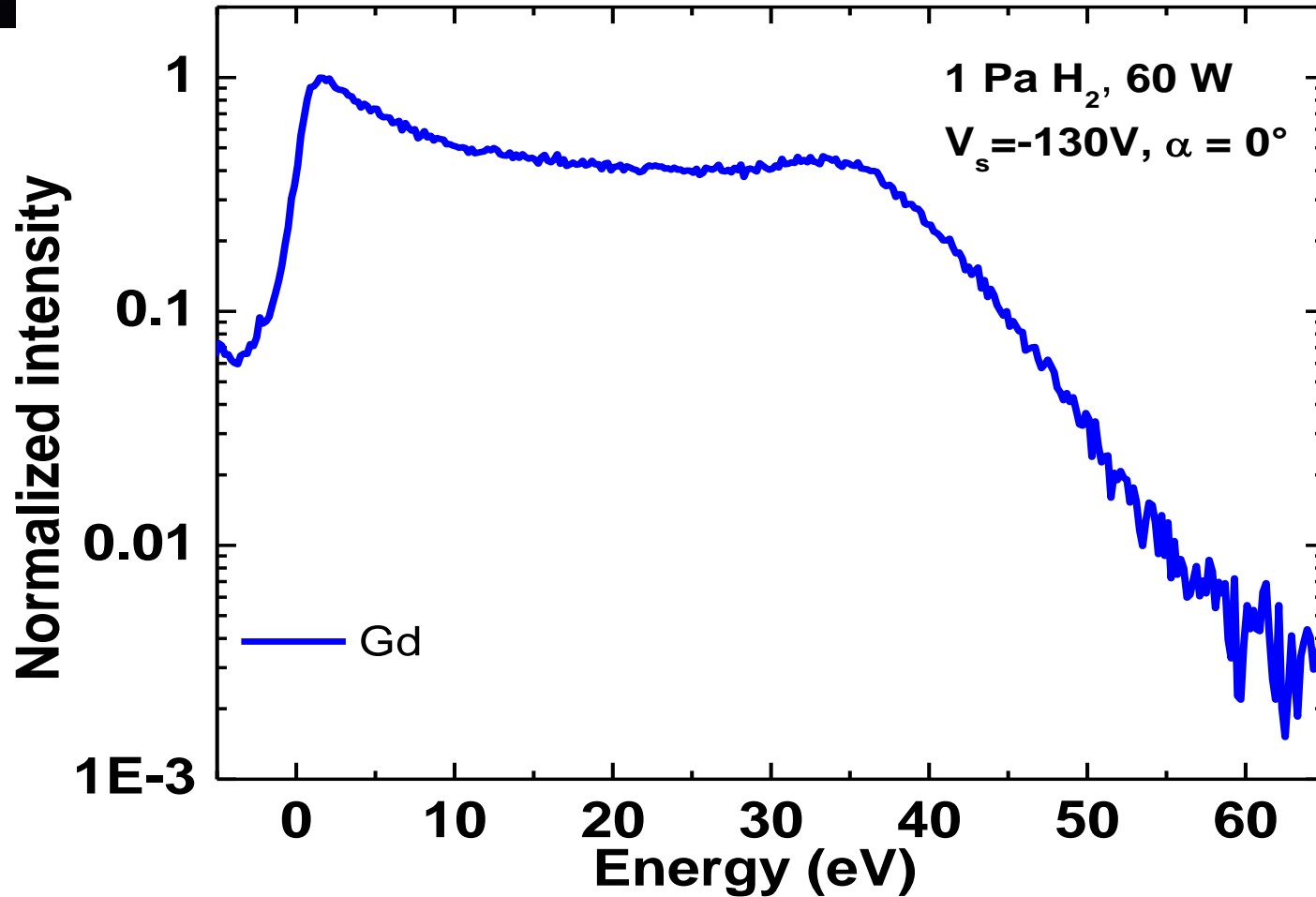
ECR H₂ plasma
n_e = 10⁹ /cm³
T_e = 1 eV

NI surface production mechanisms on C12A7 electride surface



ECR H₂ plasma
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NI surface production mechanisms on C12A7 electrified surface

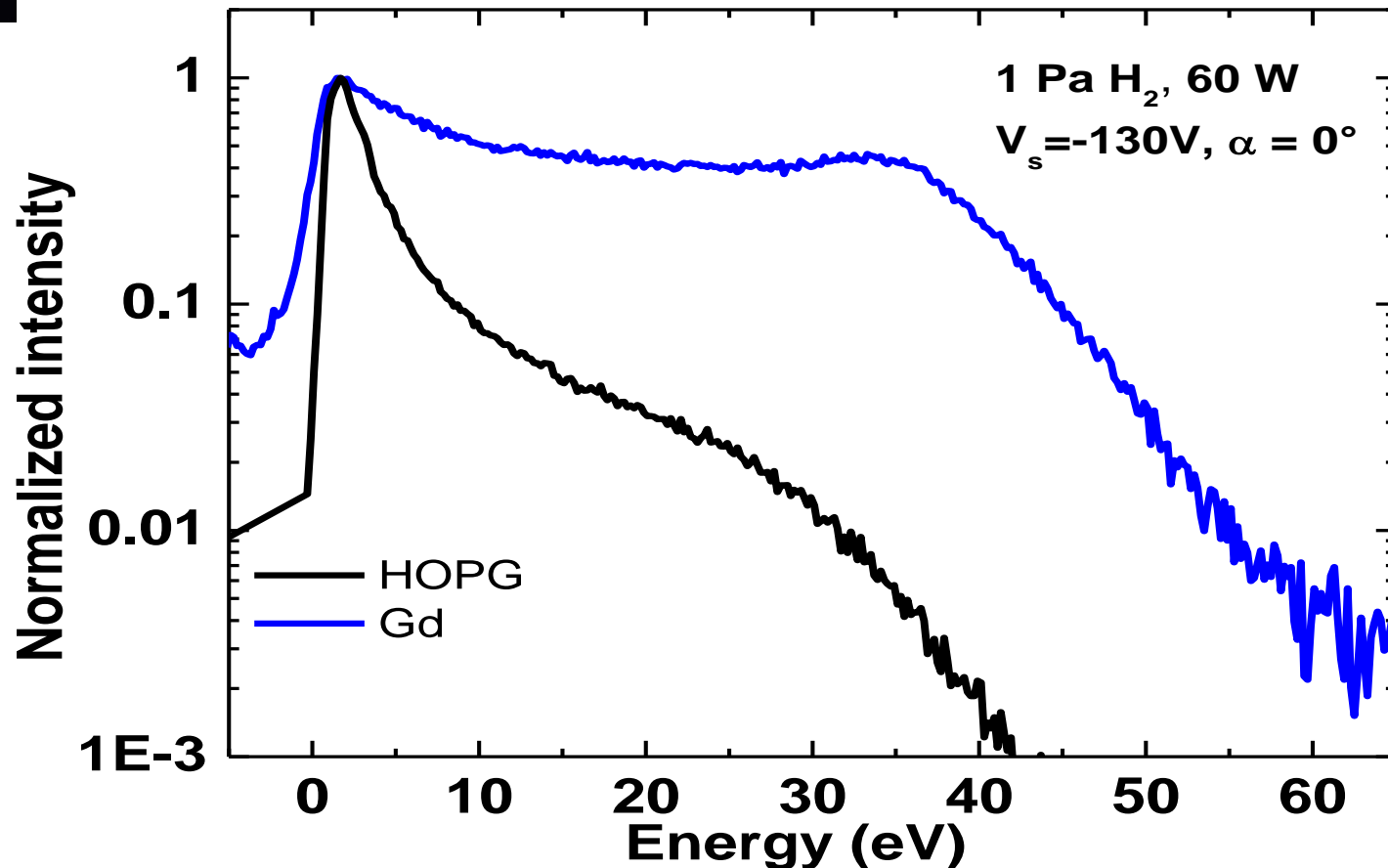


Gd the major process is backscattering of ions with a peak of production at 36 eV

D. Kogut et al., 'Reconstruction of Energy and Angle Distribution Function of Surface-Emitted Negative Ions in Hydrogen Plasmas Using Mass Spectrometry', Plasma Sources Science and Technology 26, no. 4 (7

March 2017): 045006.

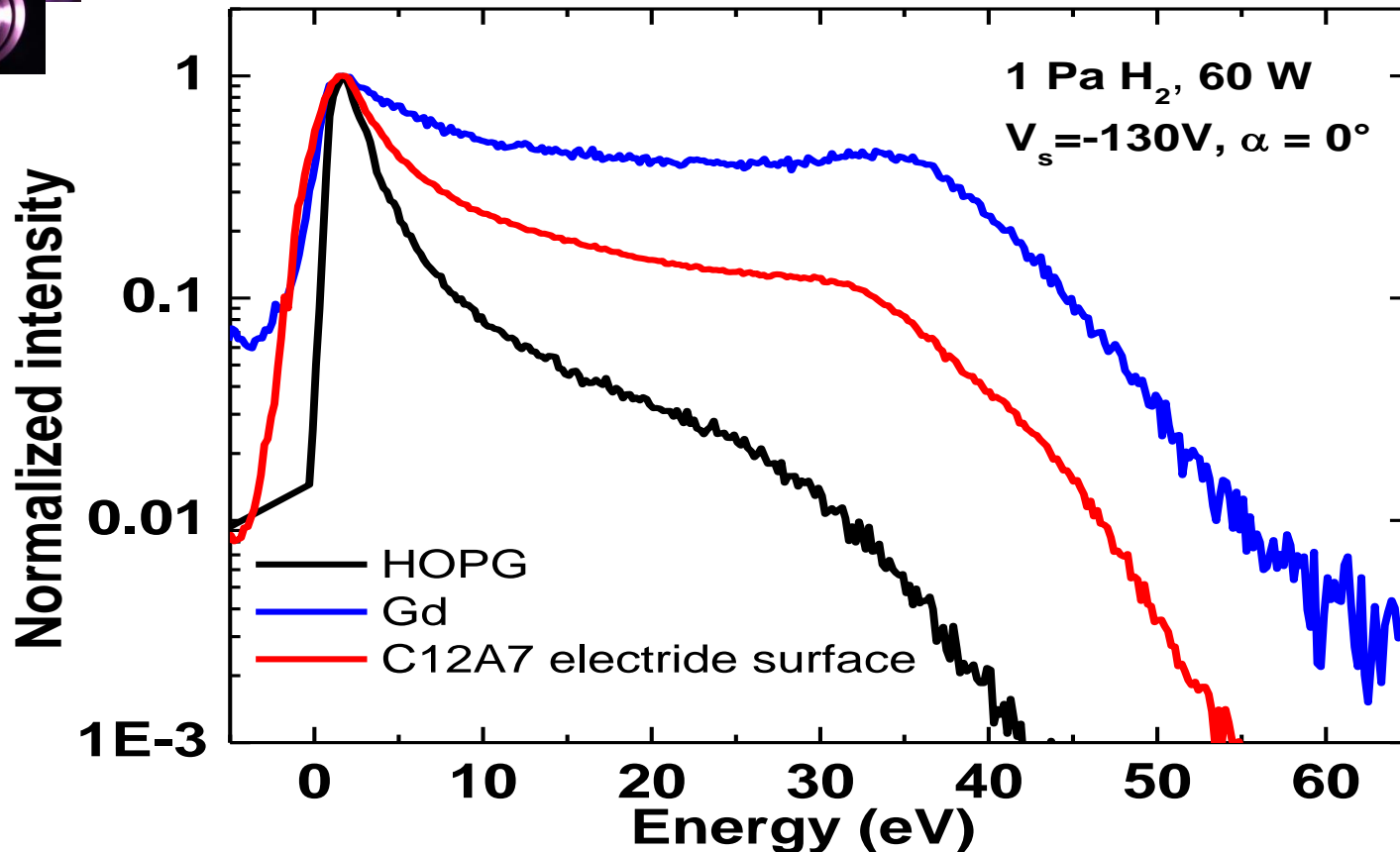
NI surface production mechanisms on C12A7 electrified surface



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HOPG the sputtering contribution due to adsorbed H on the surface is also important and there is production peak at low energy

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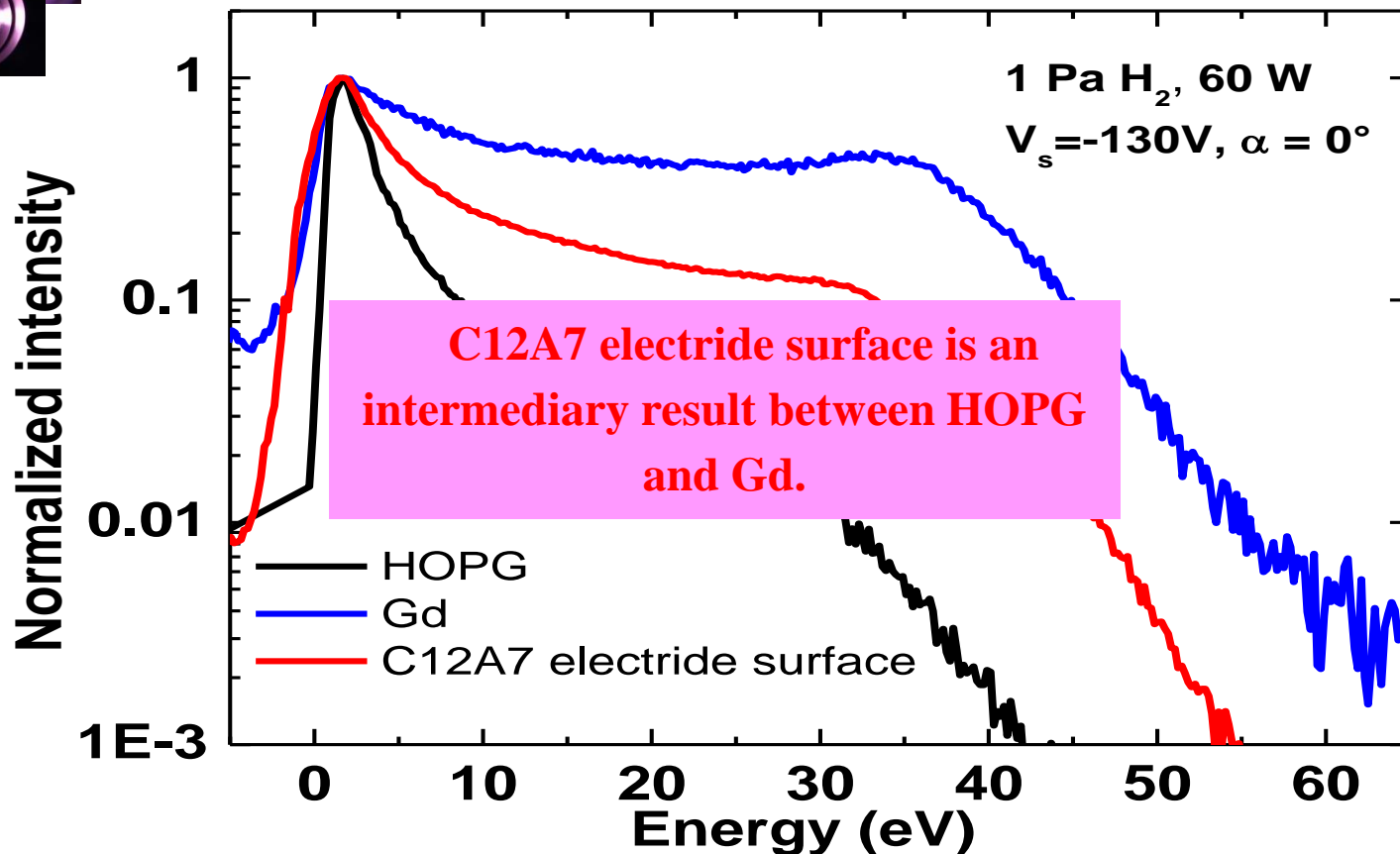


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C12A7 the relative contribution of sputtering to NI production is higher than on Gd and lower than on HOPG

NI surface production mechanisms on C12A7 electride surface

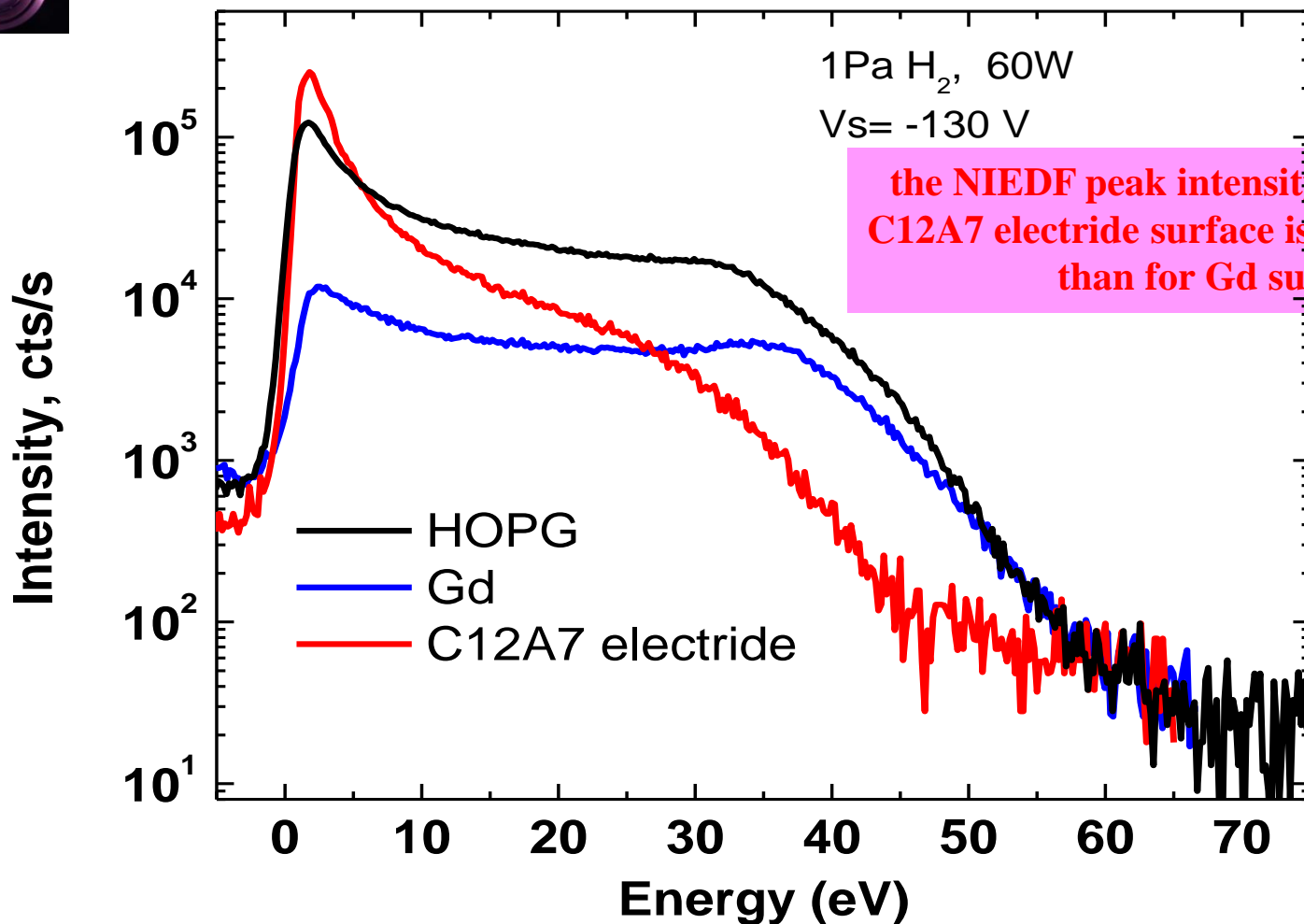


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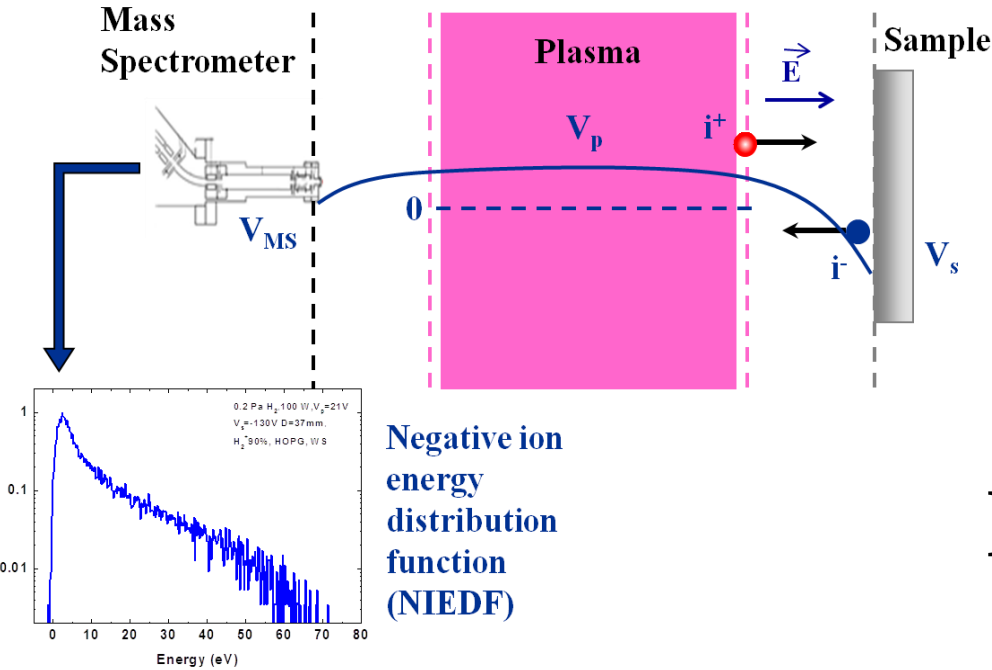
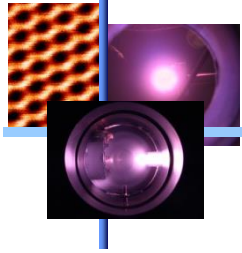
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NI surface production efficiency on C12A7 electrified surface



the NIEDF peak intensity measured for C12A7 electrified surface is 21 times higher than for Gd surface

Effect of positive ion impact energy on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface



1 Pa H₂, 60 W ECR source

$$V_p = 8 \text{ V}$$

H₃⁺ is the dominant ion species

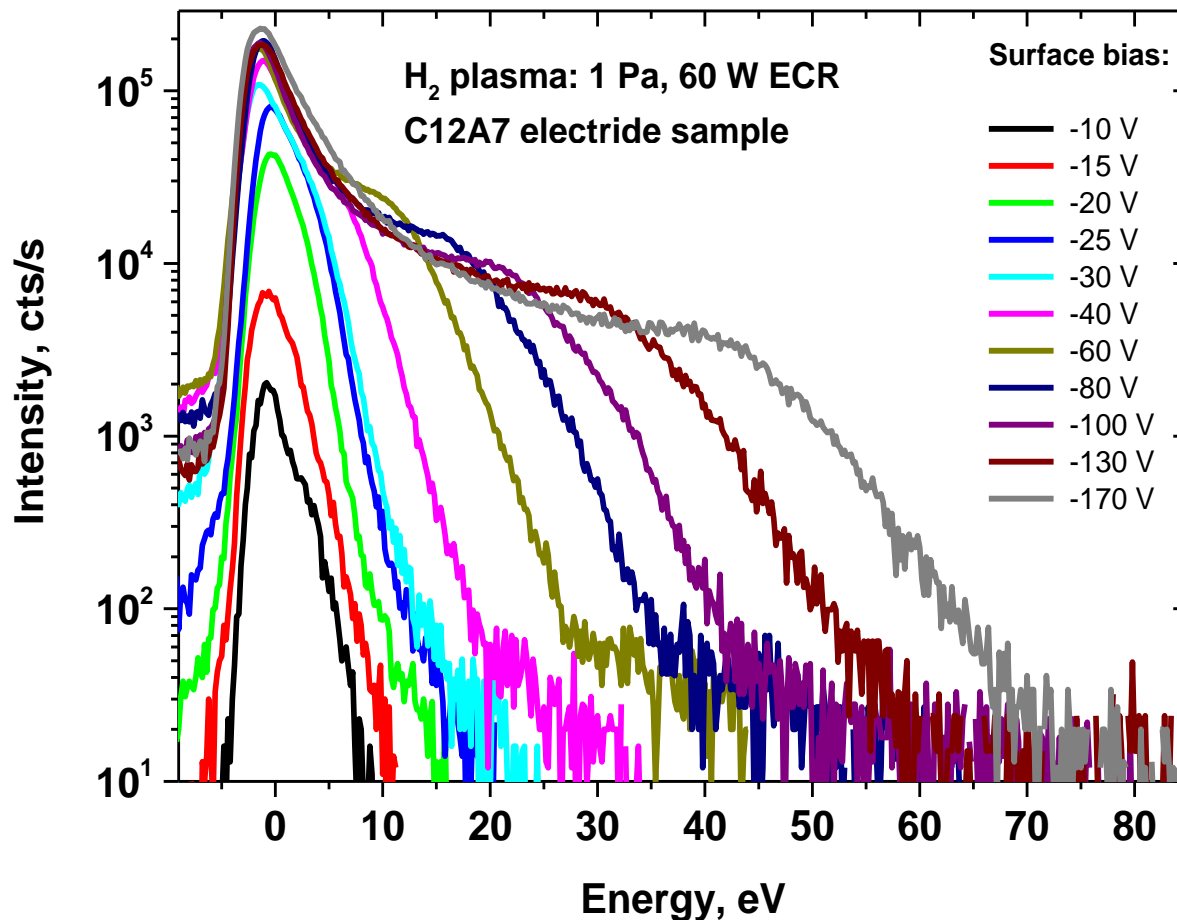
$$E_{H_3^+} = e (V_s - V_p)$$

$$E_{\text{impact}} = e (V_s - V_p)/3$$

V_s is varied from -10 V to -170 V

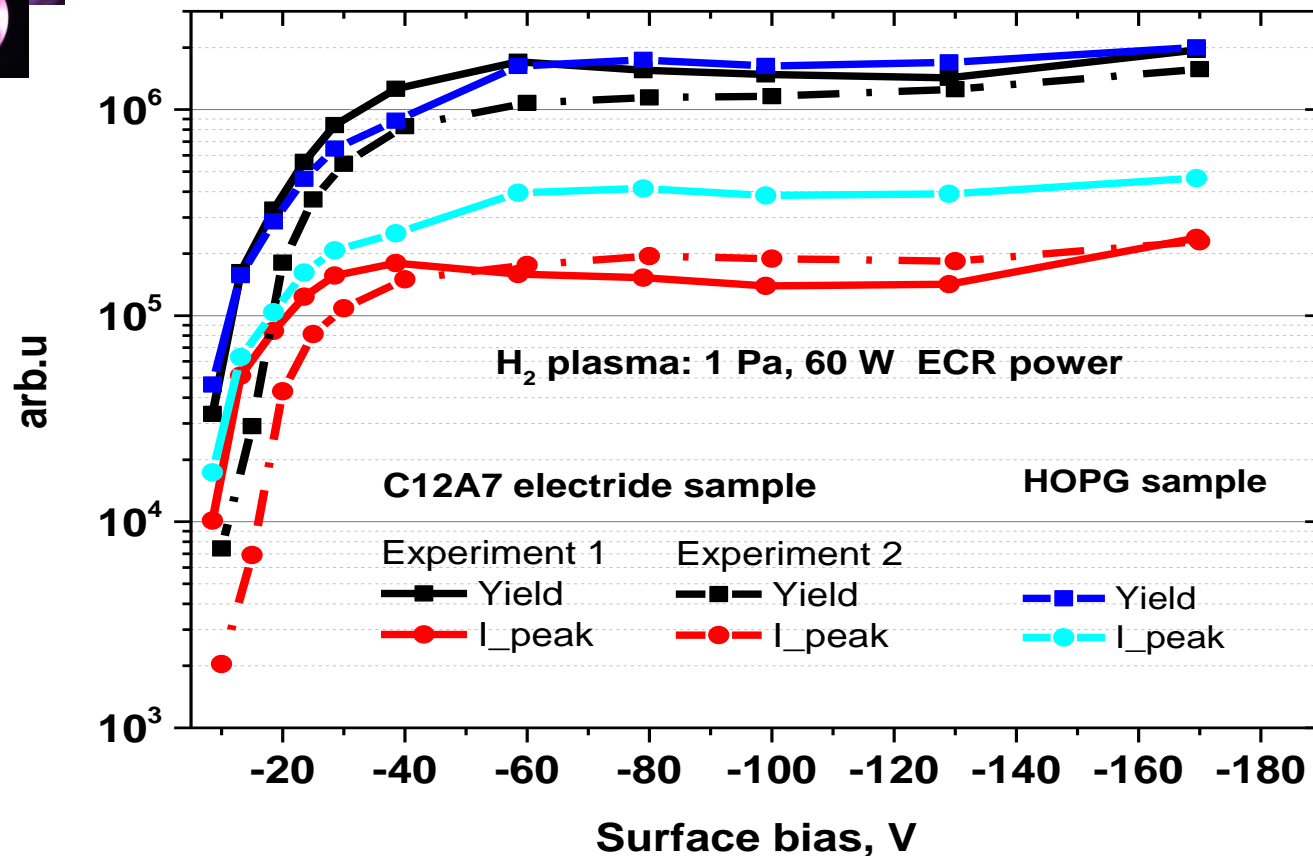
E_{impact} is varied from 6 eV to 60 eV

Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface



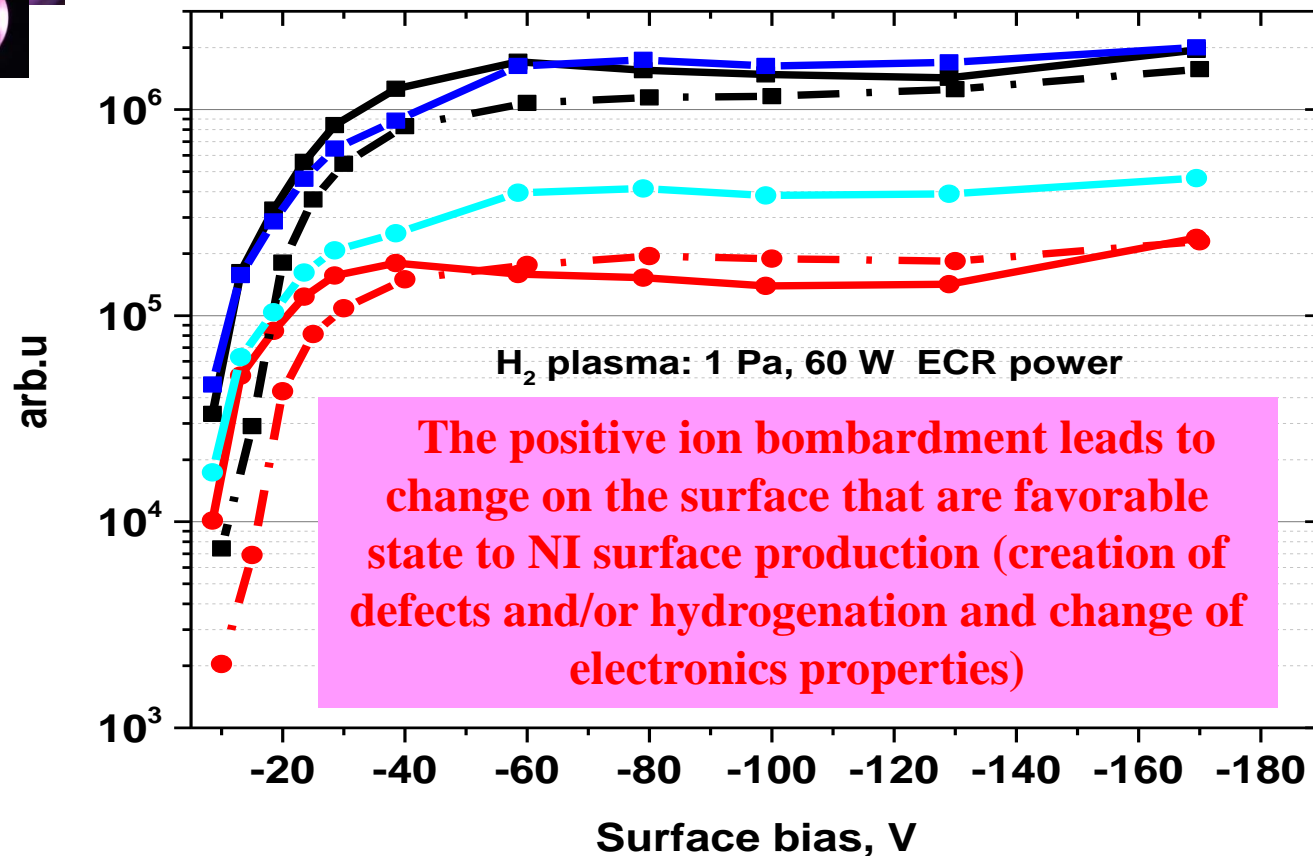
- All measurements presented are performed at steady state
- The NIEDF peak intensity increase with bias (10^3 cts/s at -10 V to $2 \cdot 10^5$ cts/s at -170 V)

Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface



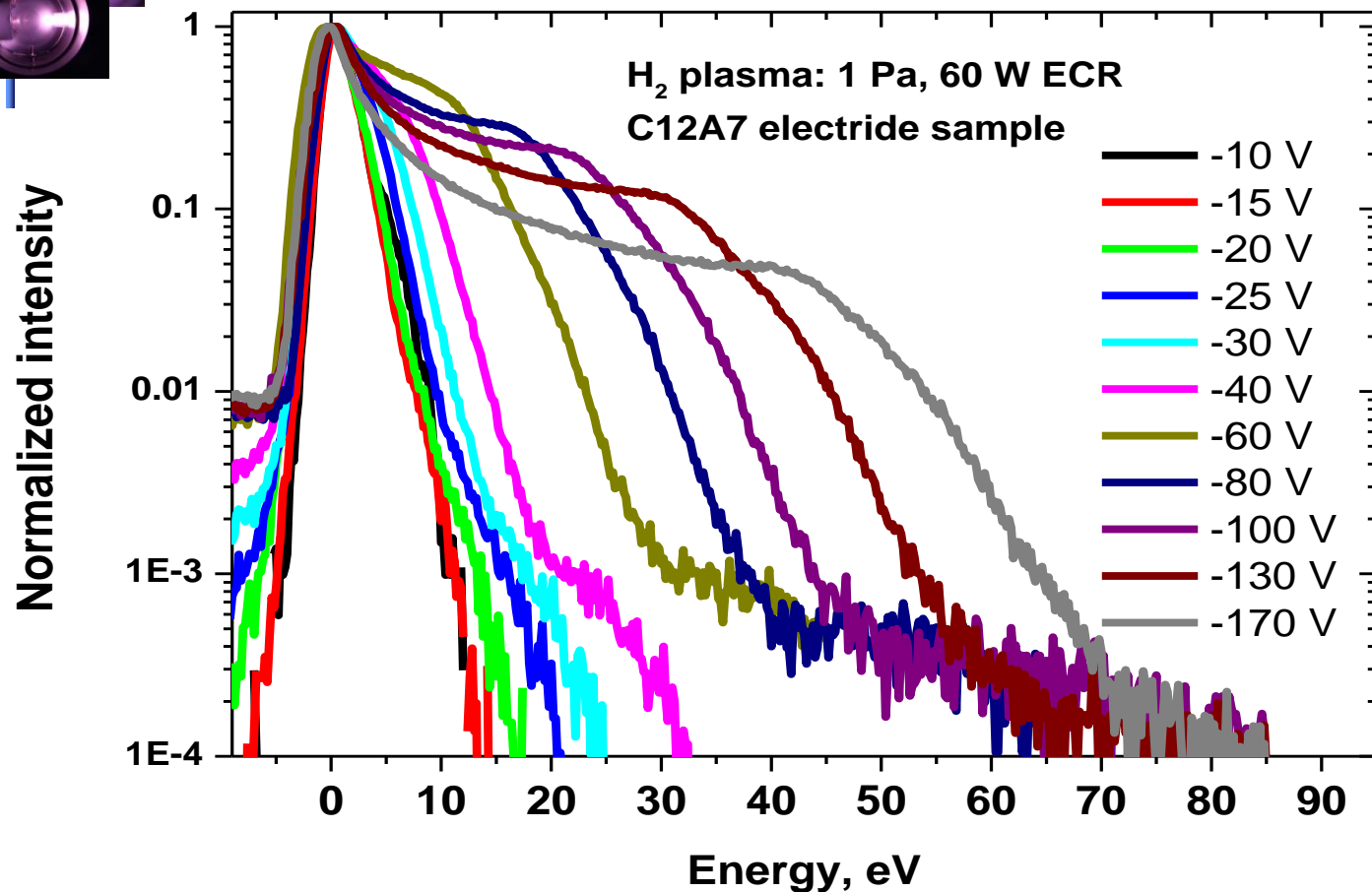
- The influence of surface bias variation on NI surface production in the case of C12A7 electride surface is similar to the case of HOPG surface
- The highest NIEDF peak intensity has been measured at -170 V for HOPG surface, same result is found for C12A7 electride surface where NIEDF peak intensity measured for C12A7 electride surface is 120 times higher than the one measured at -10 V.

Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface



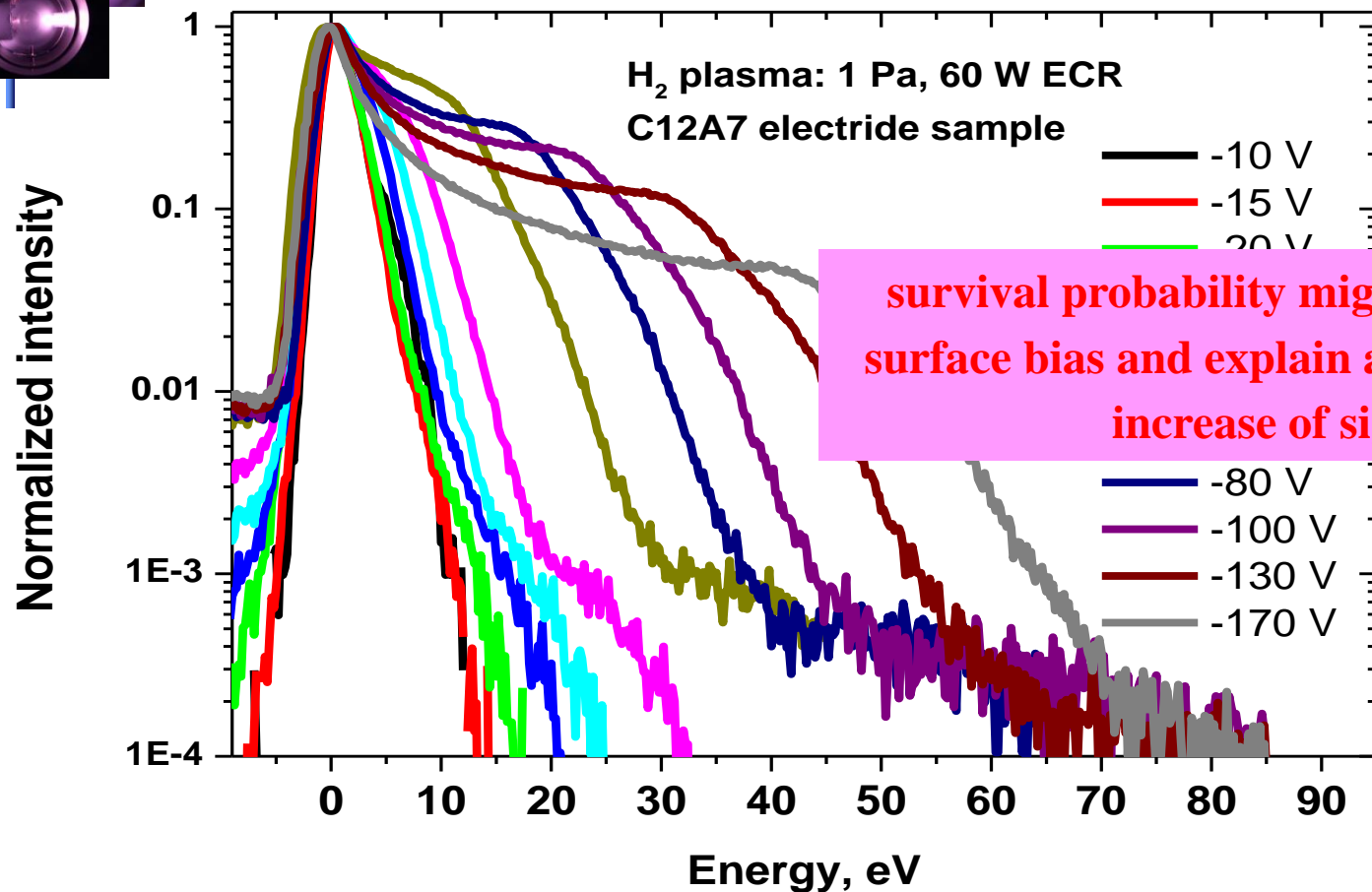
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Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface



- The increase of the NIEDF tail means that mean energy of produced NI increases
- NI surface production on low work function materials is expected to increase with increasing perpendicular velocities of outgoing particles

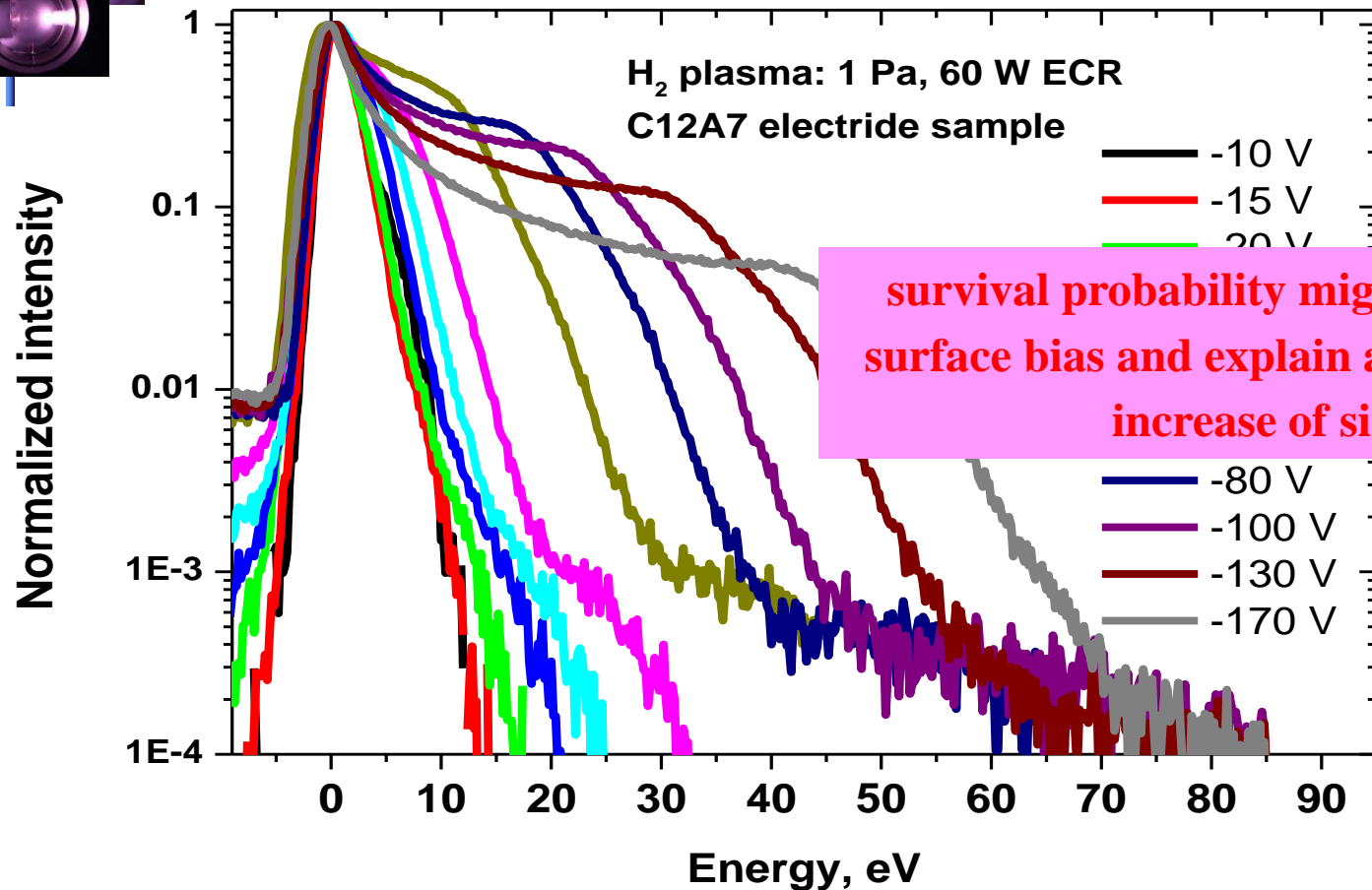
Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface



survival probability might increase with surface bias and explain at least partly the increase of signal.

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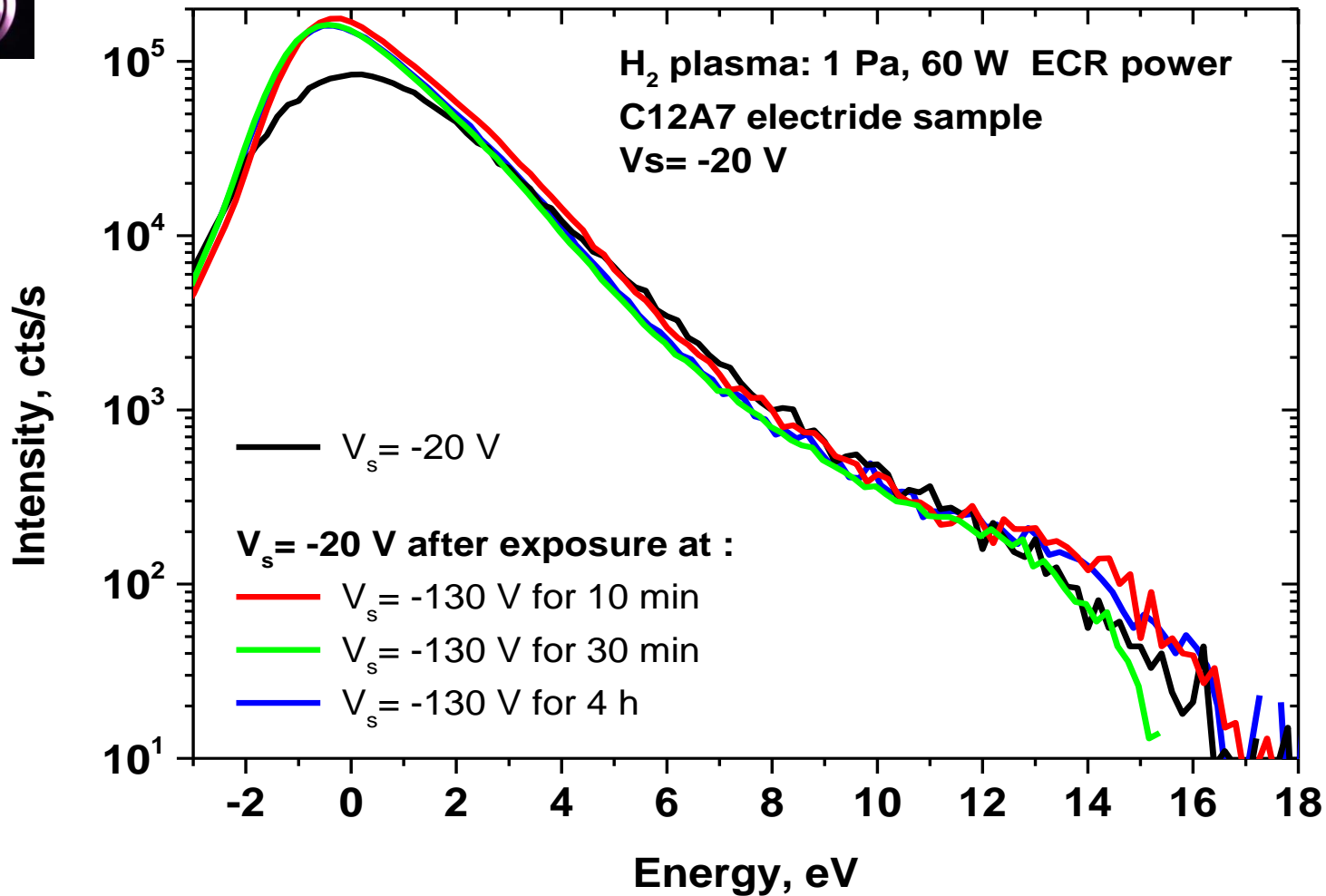
Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface



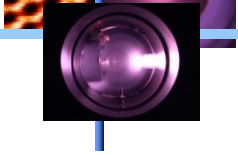
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NIEDF measurements at low bias just after high bias exposure

Effect of surface bias parameters on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface

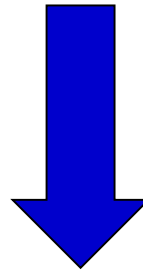


- ✓ The signal is increased by a factor 1.5 after 10 min of bombarding at -130 V
- ✓ 10 min is enough to change surface properties and increase NI surface efficiency.



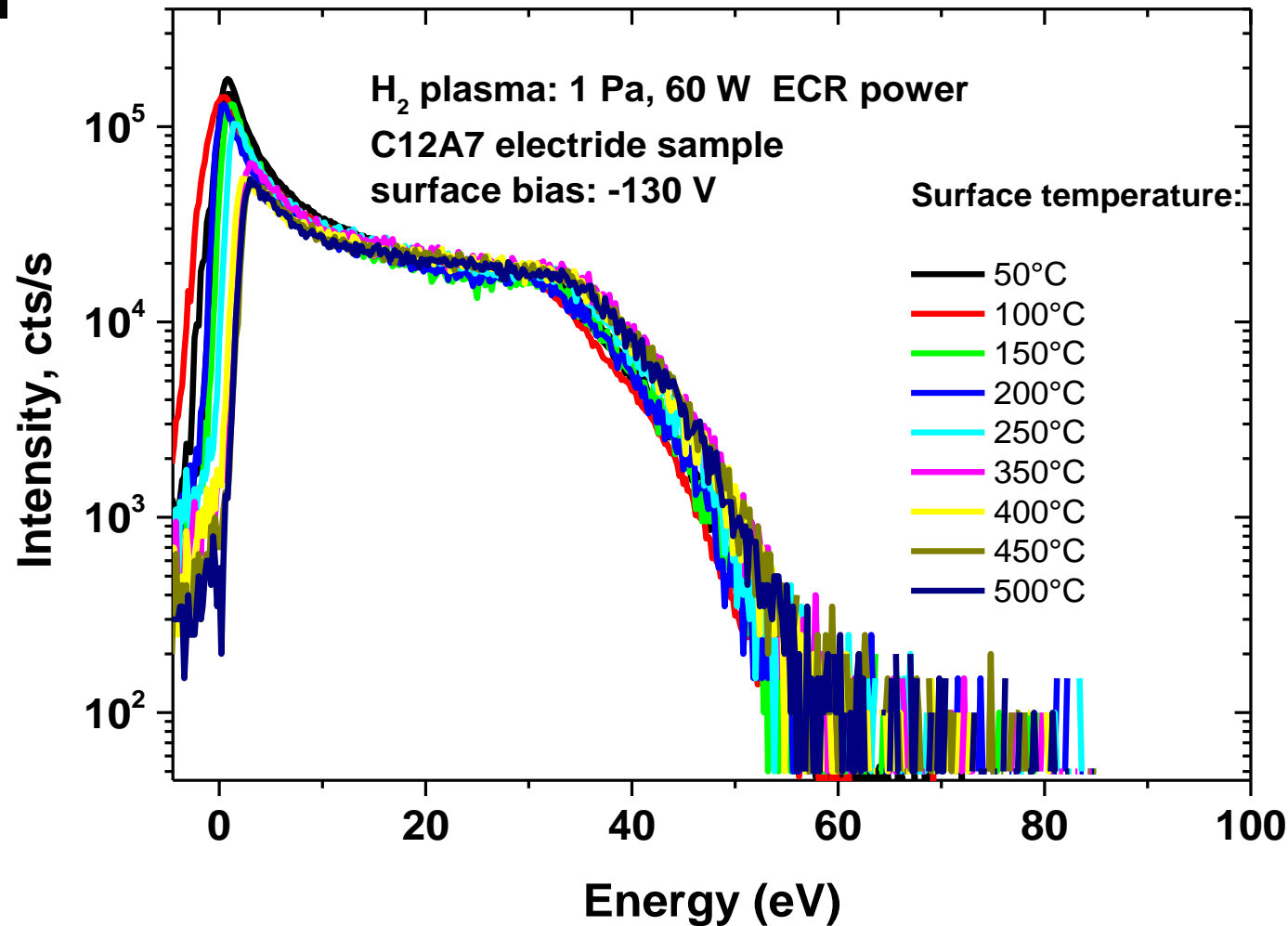
**The increase of sputtering mechanism
contribution to NI surface production can be
related to the variation of hydrogen surface
coverage**

**after a high energy bombardment we
obtain a C12A7 electrified surface with
a higher hydrogen coverage than the
pristine one.**



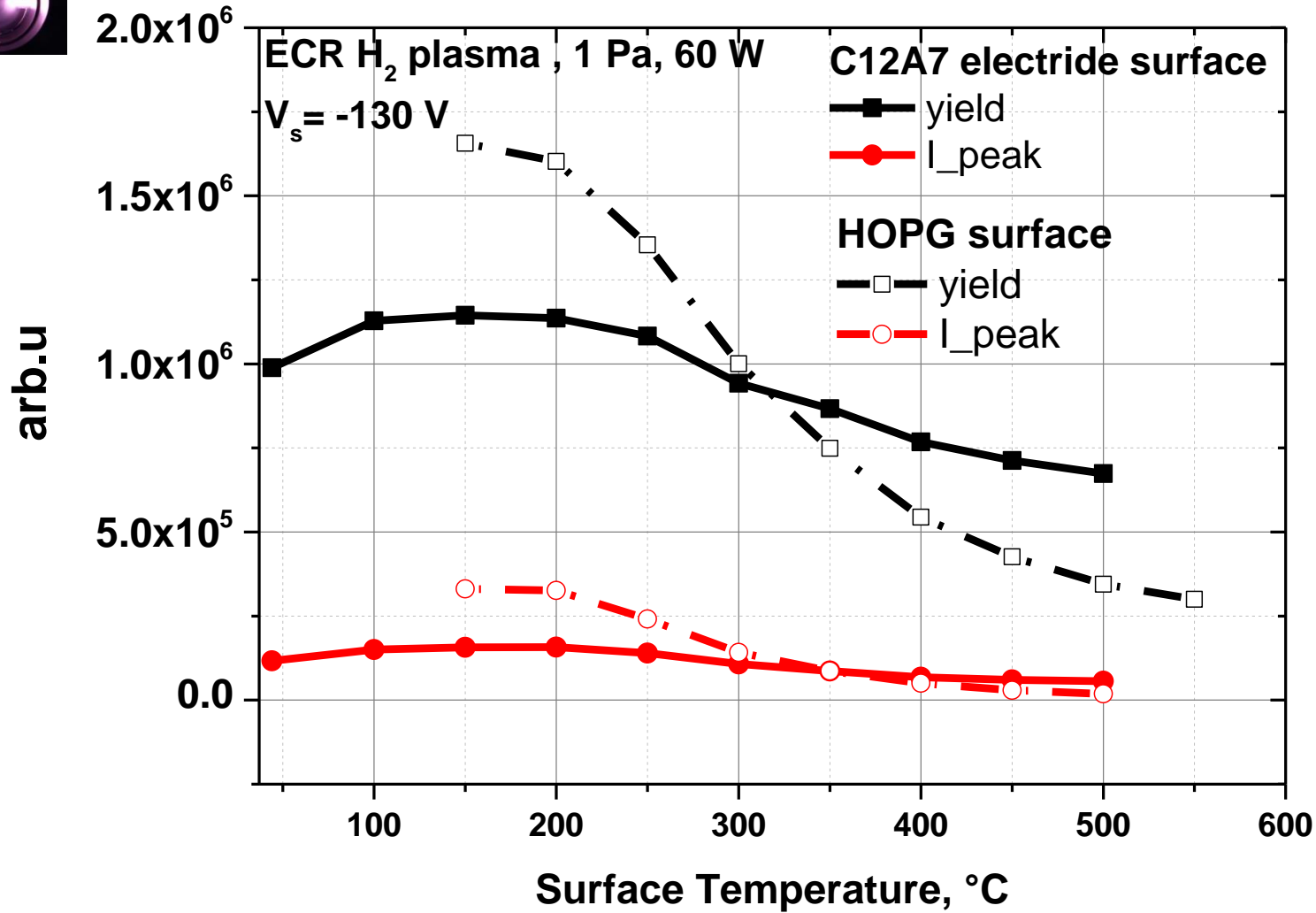
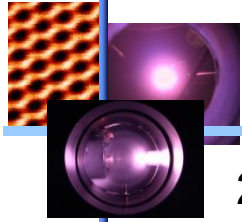
heating experiment

Effect of surface temperature on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electride surface

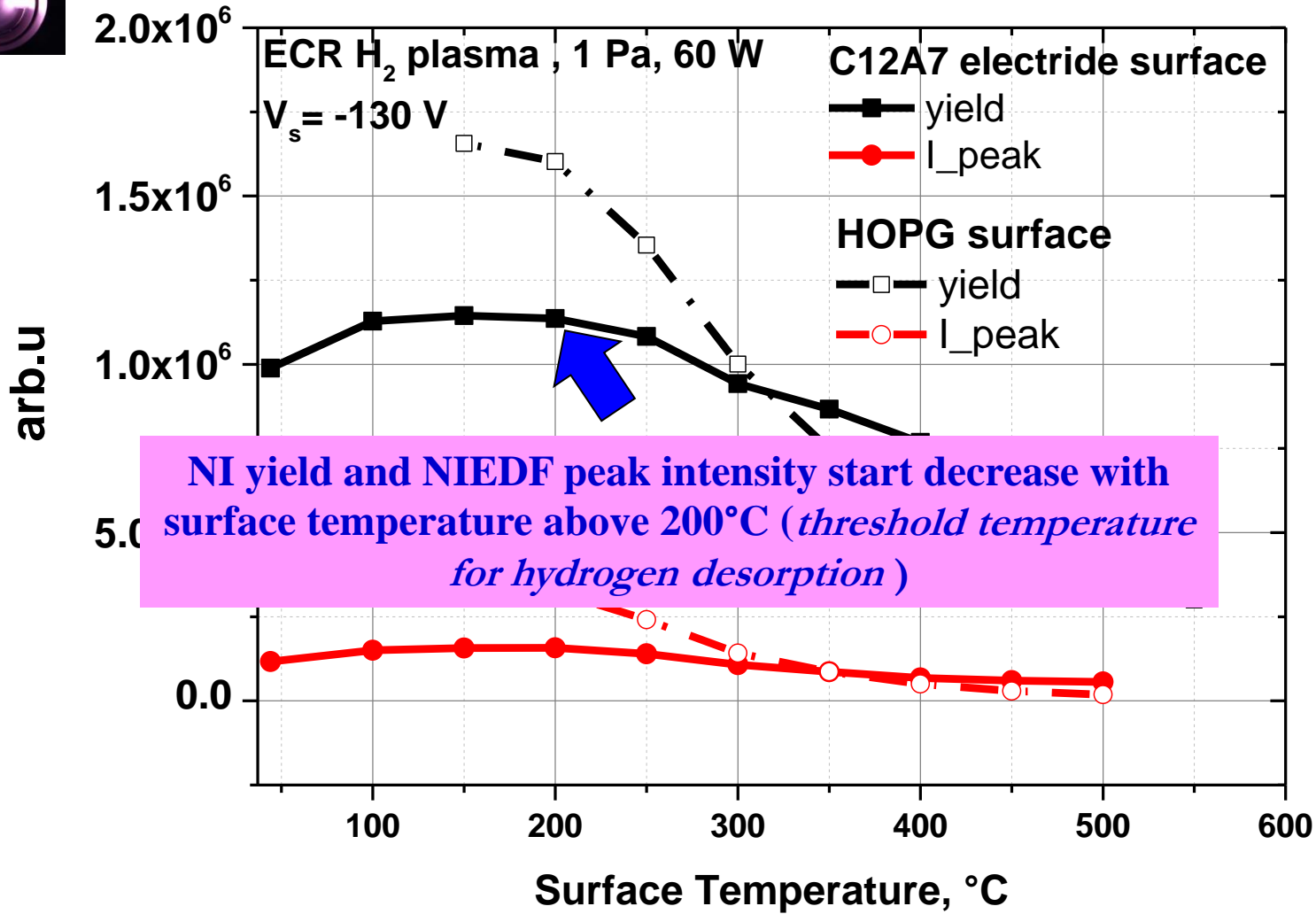
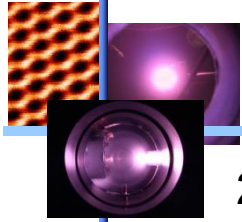


Temperature is scanned from 50° to 500°C

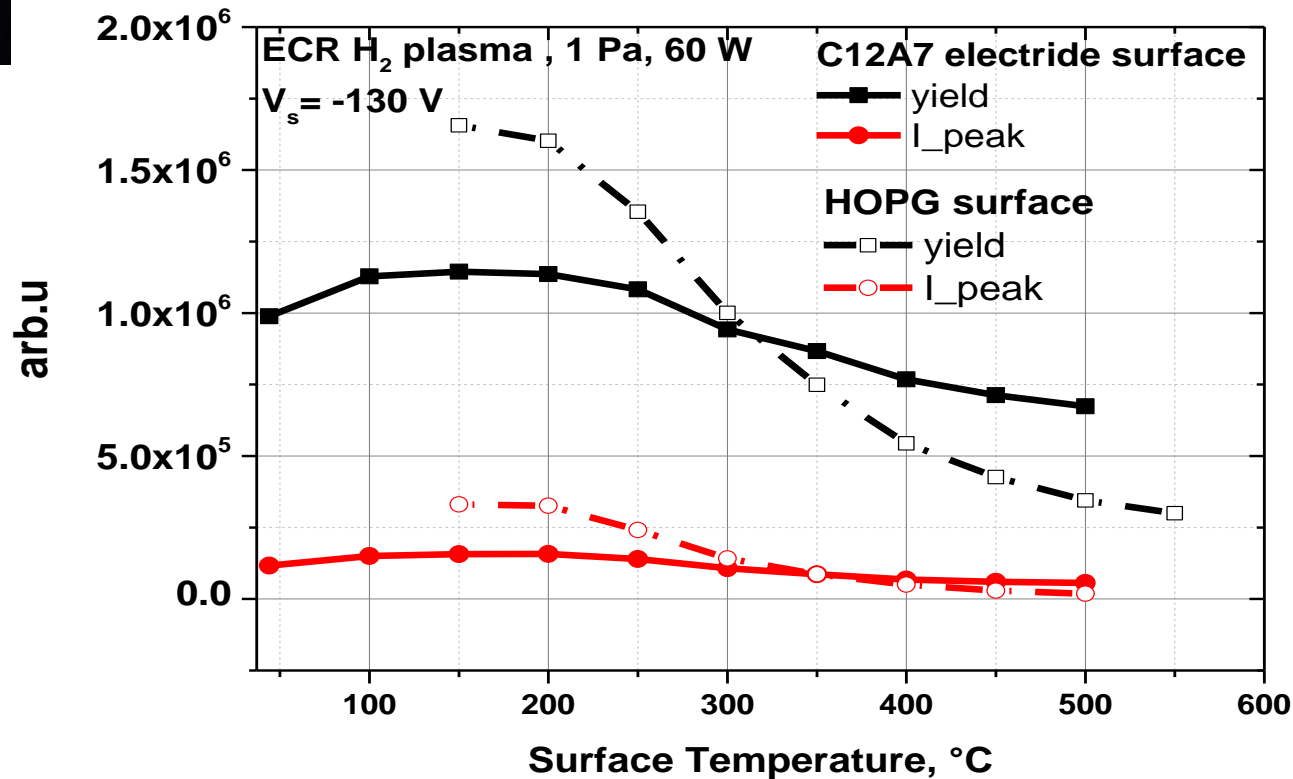
Effect of surface temperature on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface



Effect of surface temperature on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface



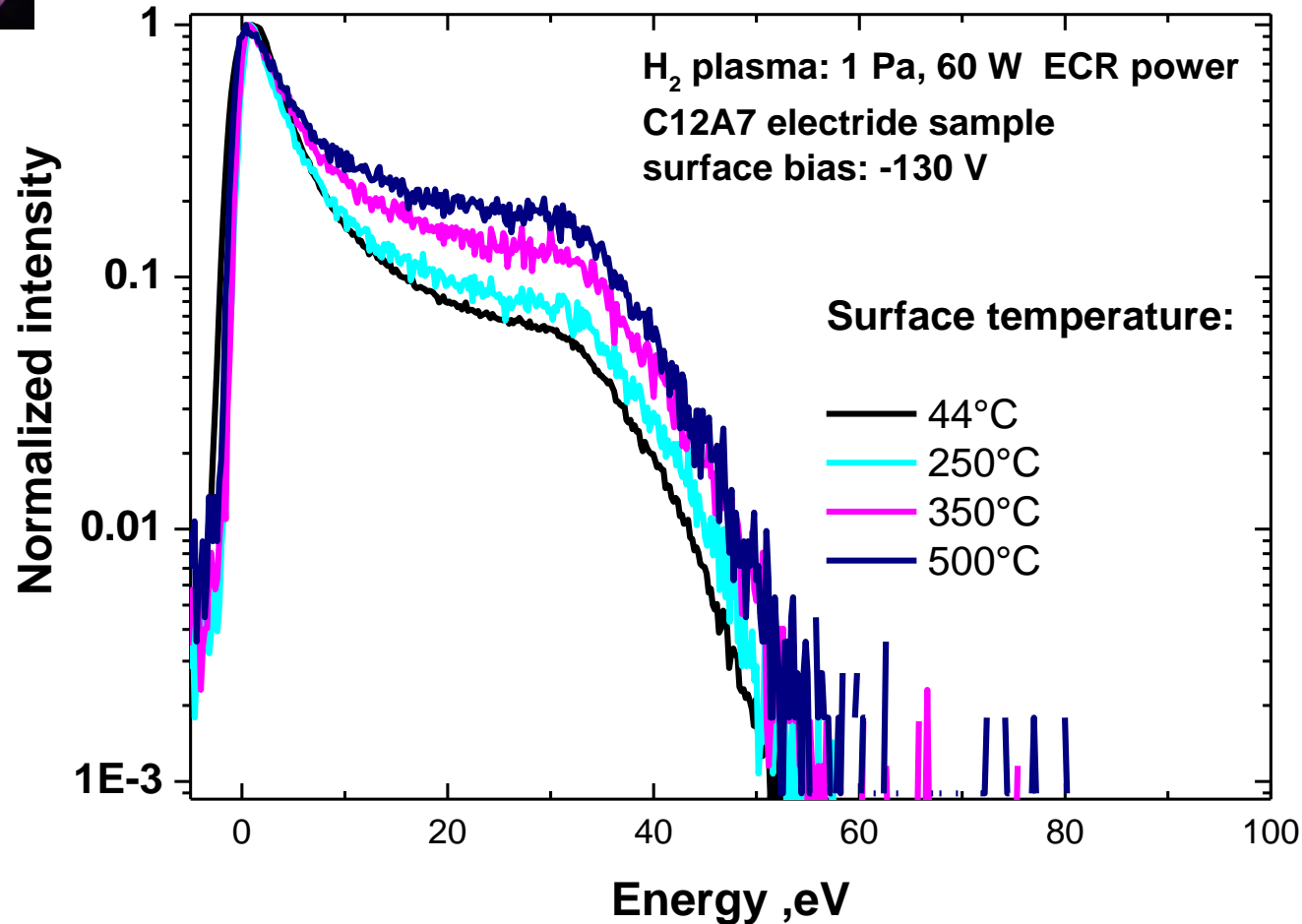
Effect of surface temperature on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrified surface



C12A7 electrified surface behave in a very similar way to NI surface production on HOPG when increasing surface temperature

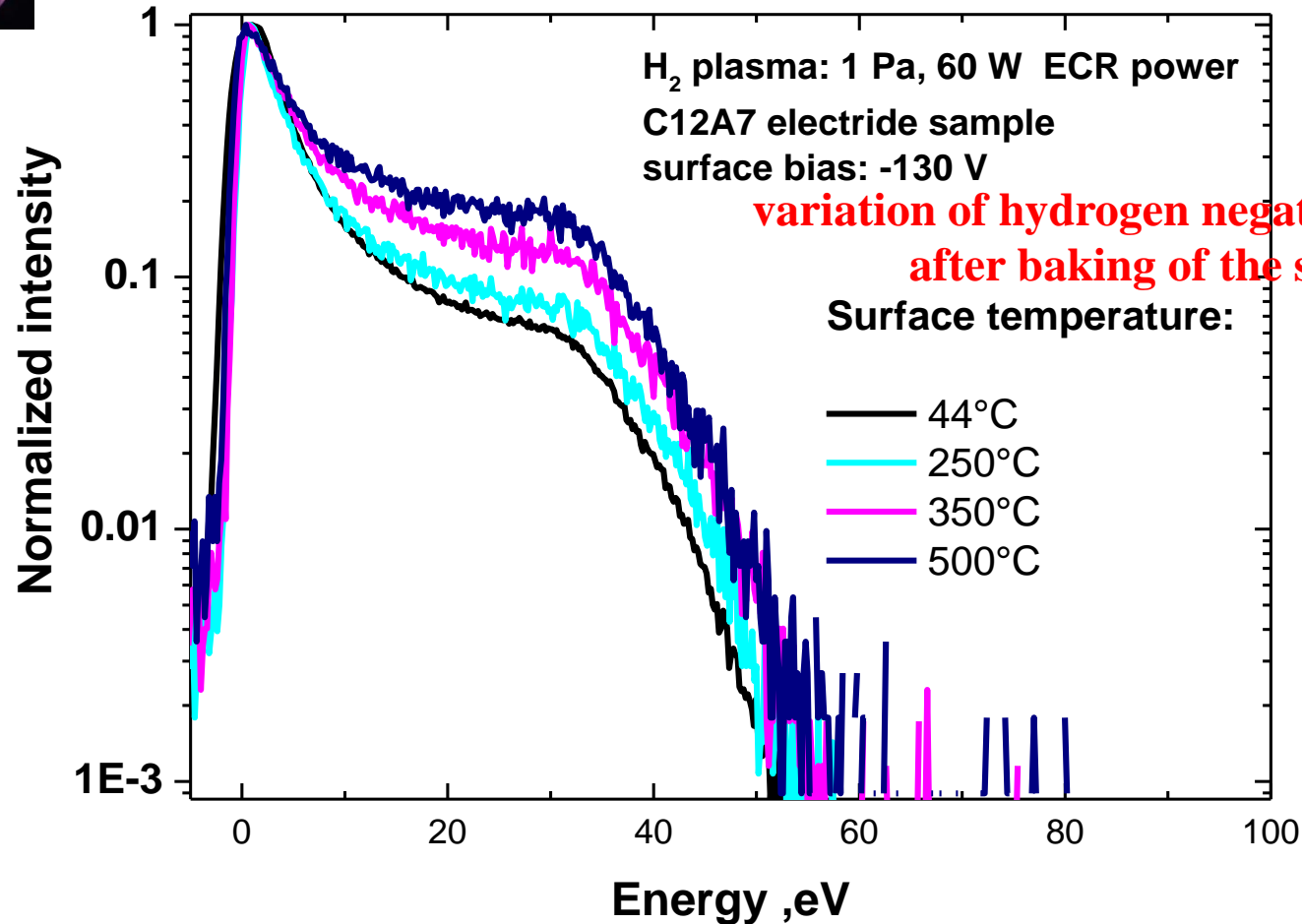
significant decrease of NIEDF signal at 300°C is probably caused by the decrease of the amount of hydrogen on the surface

Effect of surface temperature on NI production efficiency on C12A7 electrode surface



The normalized NIEDF measured at 500°C has a larger tail than the measured one at 44°C indicating a decrease of sputtering contribution

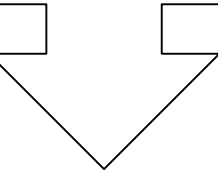
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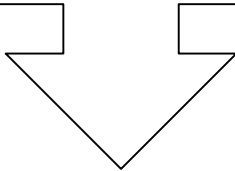
H₂ plasma bombardment

- ☐ ECR plasma (1 Pa H₂, 60 W)
- ☐ V_s= -130 V
- ☐ 2 hours



Baking in vacuum

- ☐ 10⁻⁷ mbar
- ☐ 520°C
- ☐ 50 min



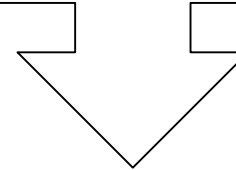
H₂ plasma

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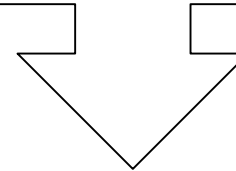
Time evolution

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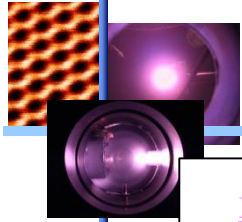
No Baking in vacuum



H₂ plasma

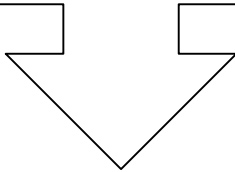
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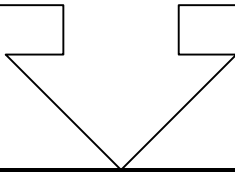
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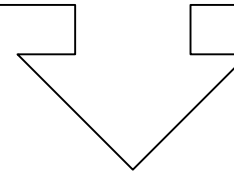
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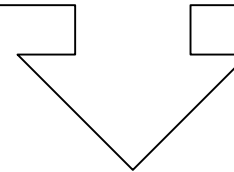
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No Baking in vacuum

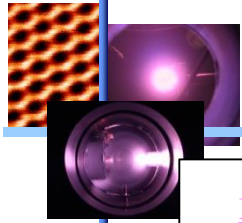


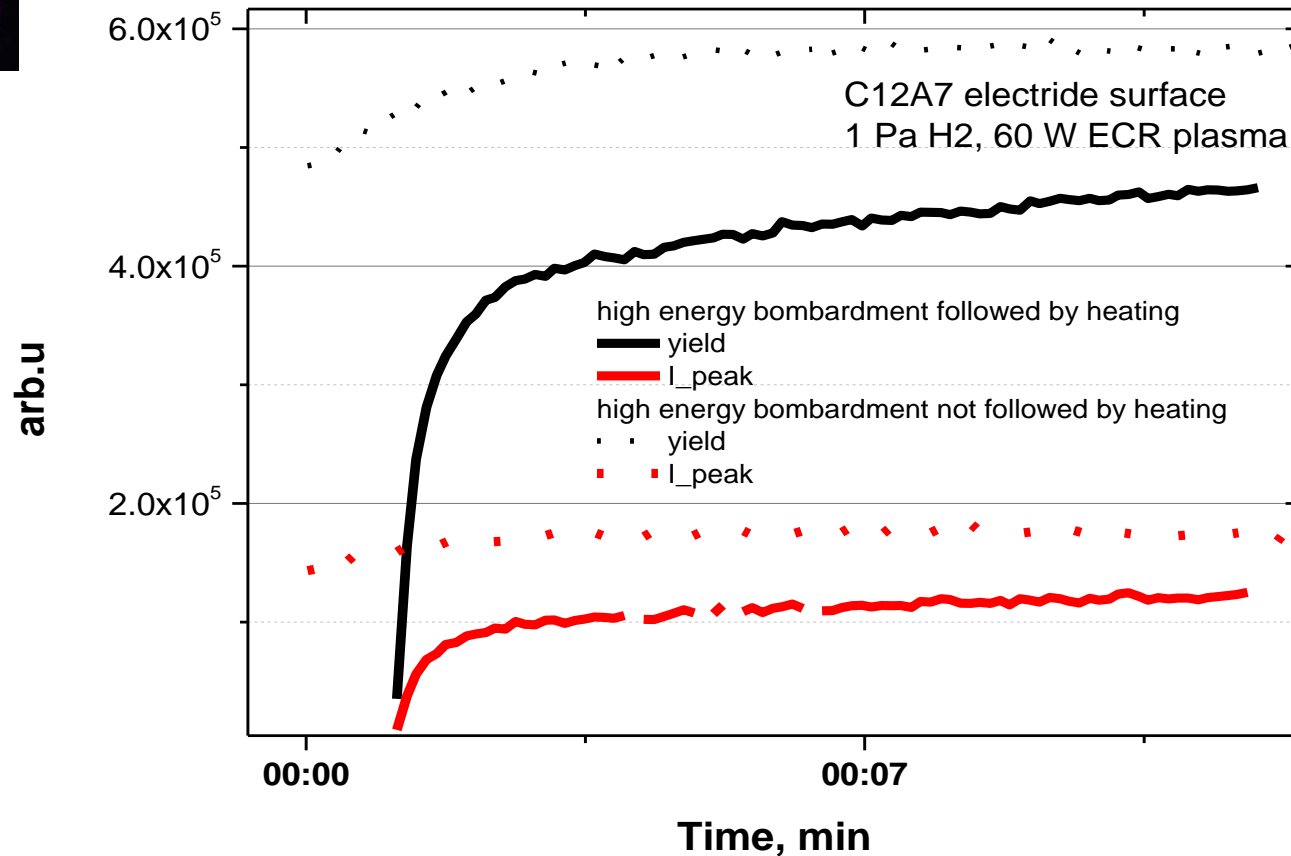
H₂ plasma

- ☐ ECR plasma (1 Pa H₂, 60 W)
- ☐ V_s= -20 V

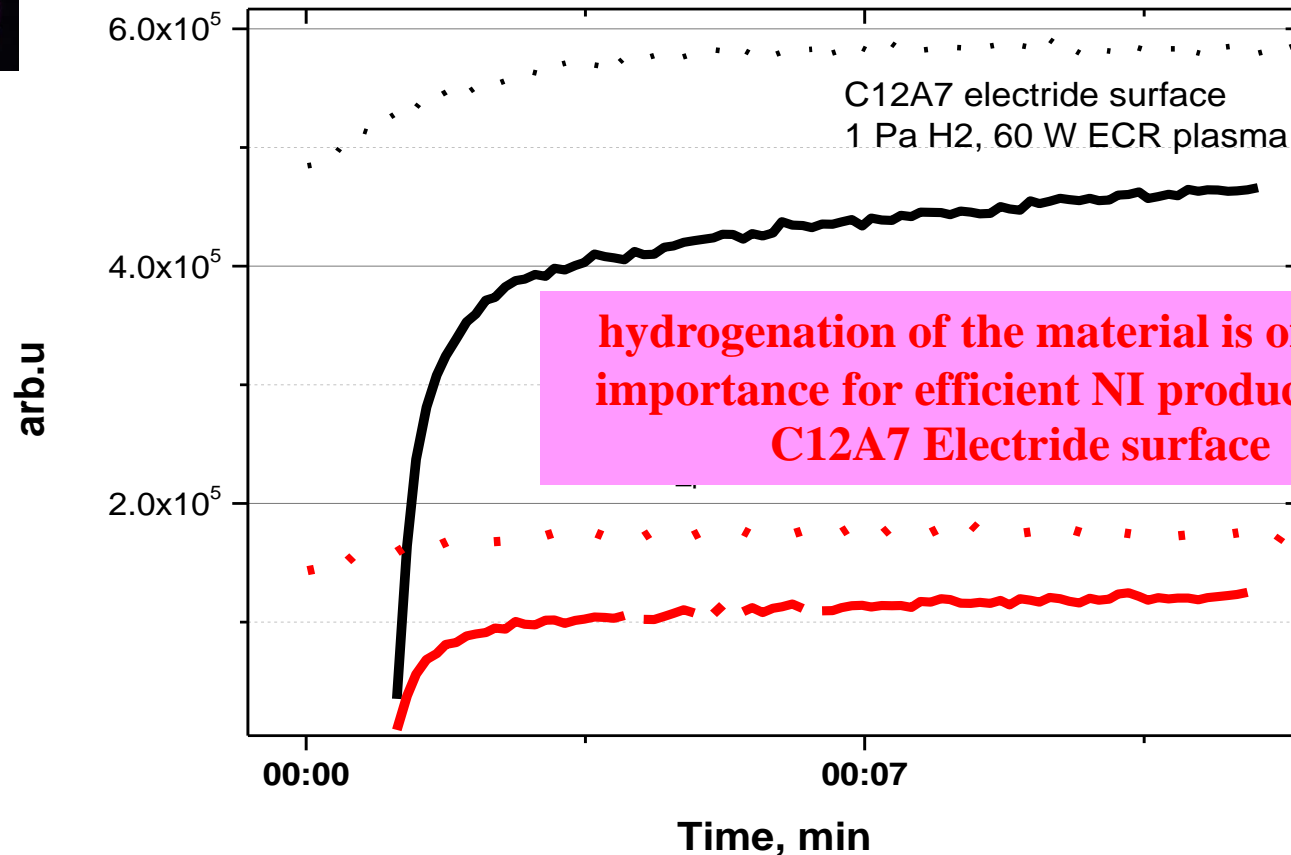
Time evolution

Amount of H₂O increase 24 times
Amount of H increase 2 times



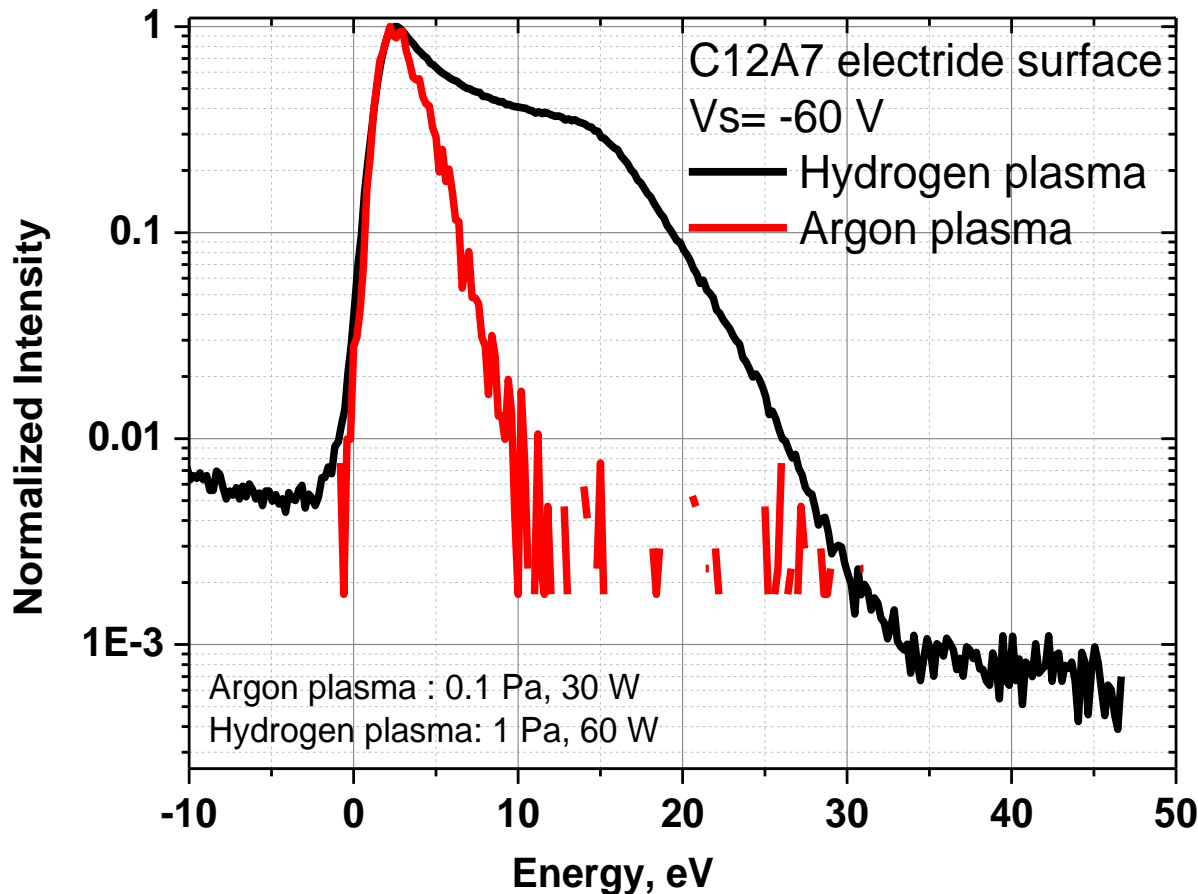


- **Followed by heating:** negative ion peak intensity increased by a factor of 11.7 the first 5 min, and it increased then slowly.
- **Not followed by heating:** the peak intensity increases only by a factor 1.7



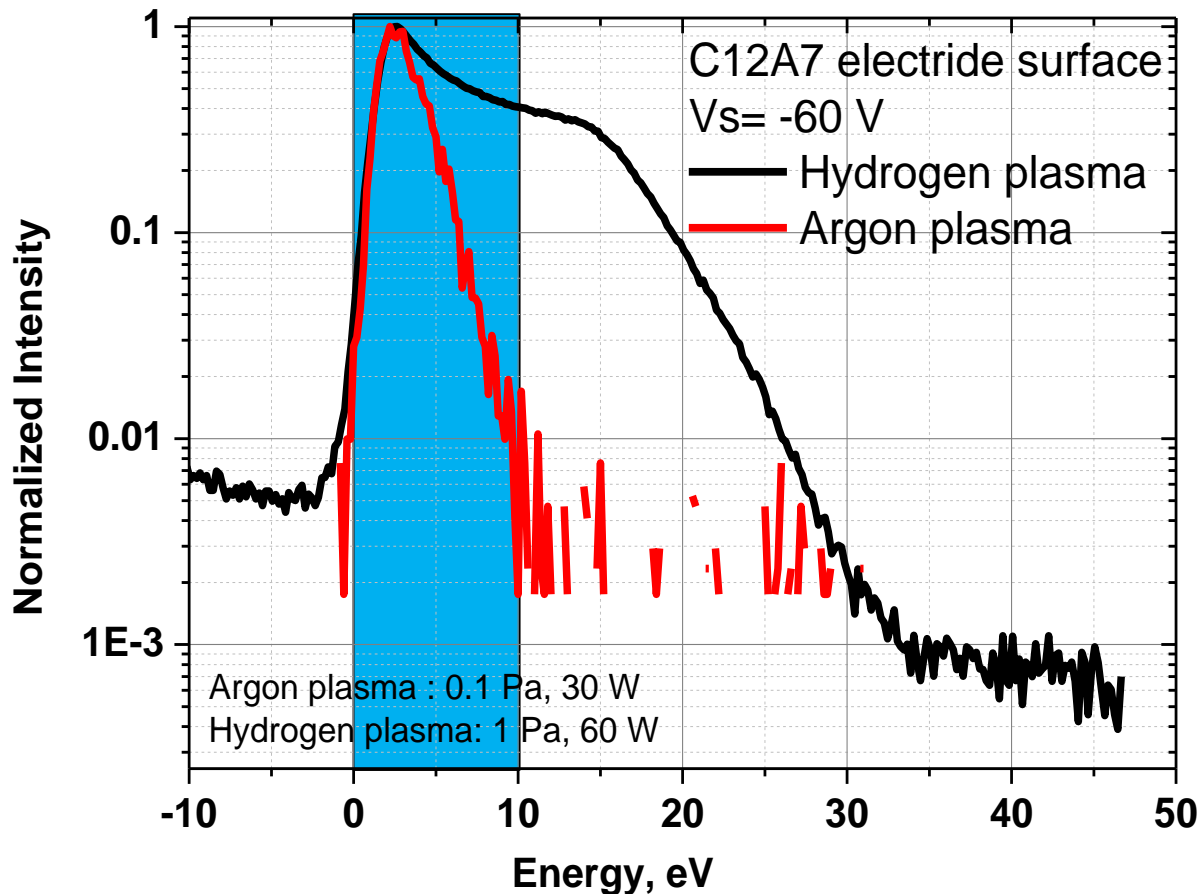
- Followed by heating: negative ion peak intensity increased by a factor of 11.7 the first 5 min, and it increased then slowly.
- Not followed by heating: the peak intensity increases only by a factor 1.7

Importance of sputtering mechanism in NI surface production on C12A7 electrified surface



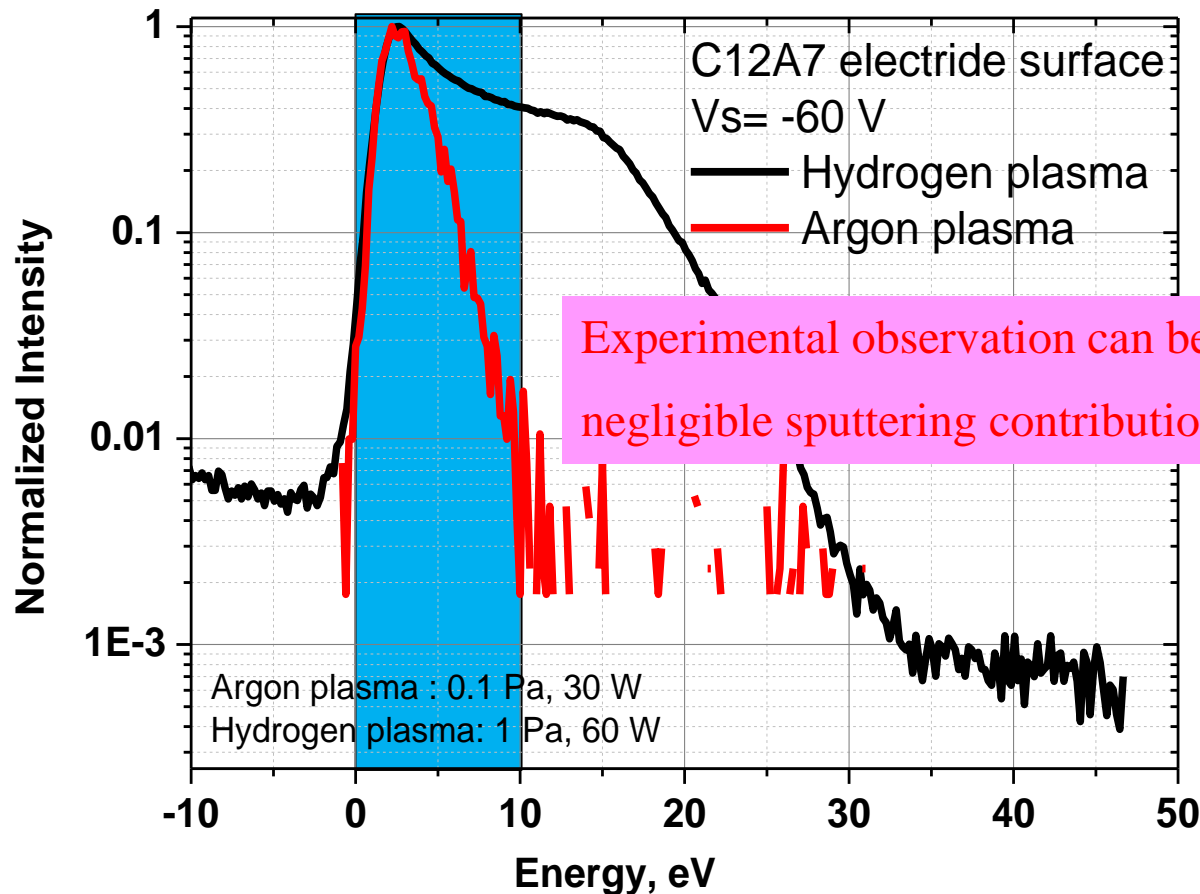
- Normalized energy spectra measured at steady state of hydrogen negative ions from the C12A7 electrified surface bombarded by hydrogen and by argon ions are compared
- In both measurements, the target was pre-treated with an exposure to hydrogen ECR plasma (1 Pa H₂, 60 W) at Vs = -130V for 10 min.

Importance of sputtering mechanism in NI surface production on C12A7 electrified surface



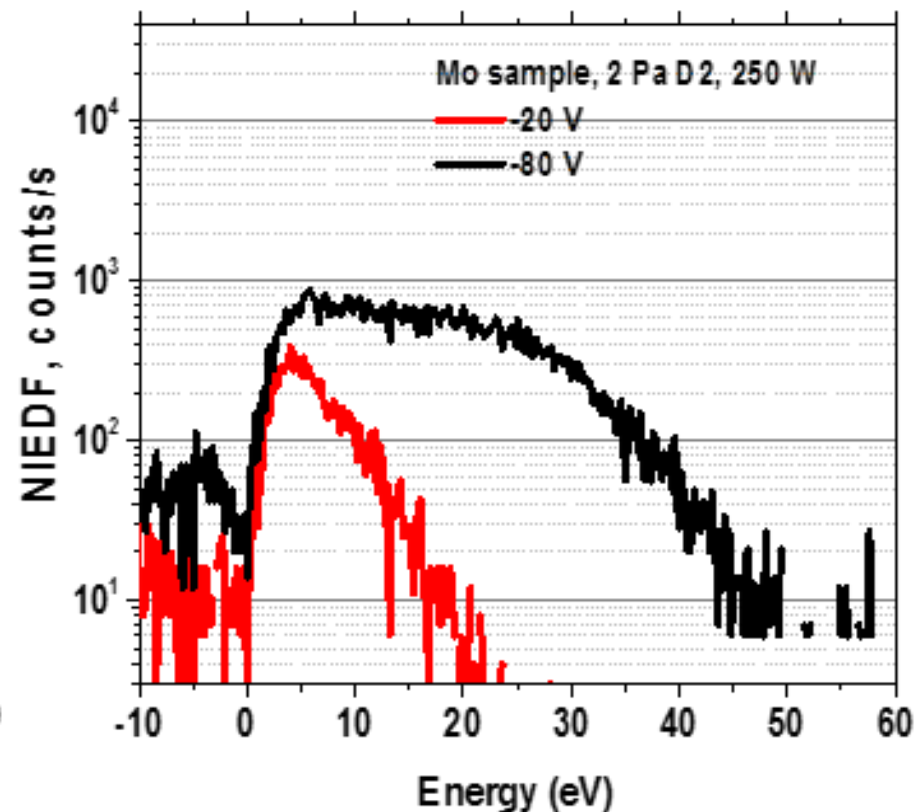
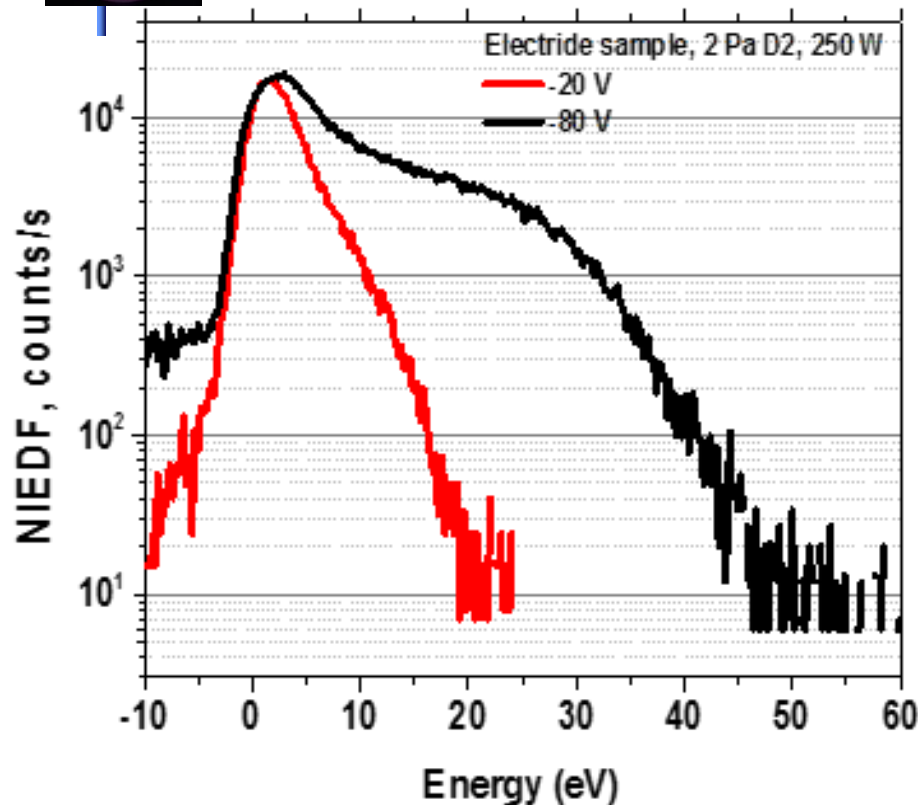
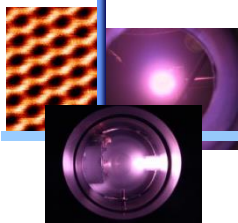
- A dominant peak shown in the low energy region below 10 eV was observed for different surface bias.
- The sputtering of pre-implanted hydrogen particles in C12A7 electrified surface can be the origin of this dominant peak below 10 eV.

Importance of sputtering mechanism in NI surface production on C12A7 electrified surface



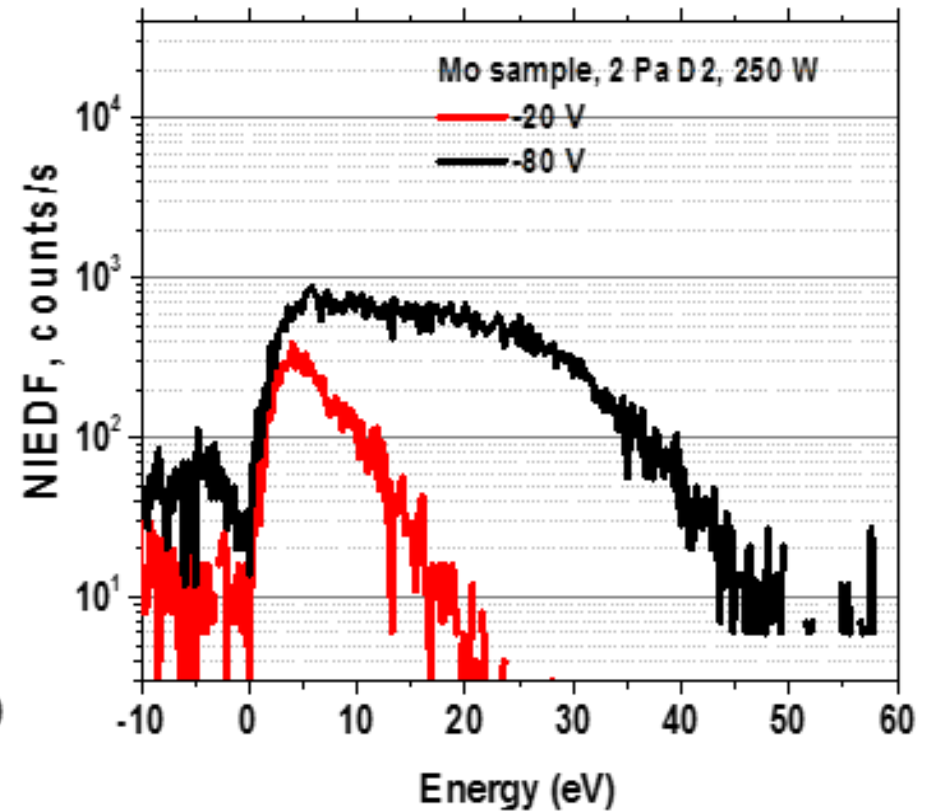
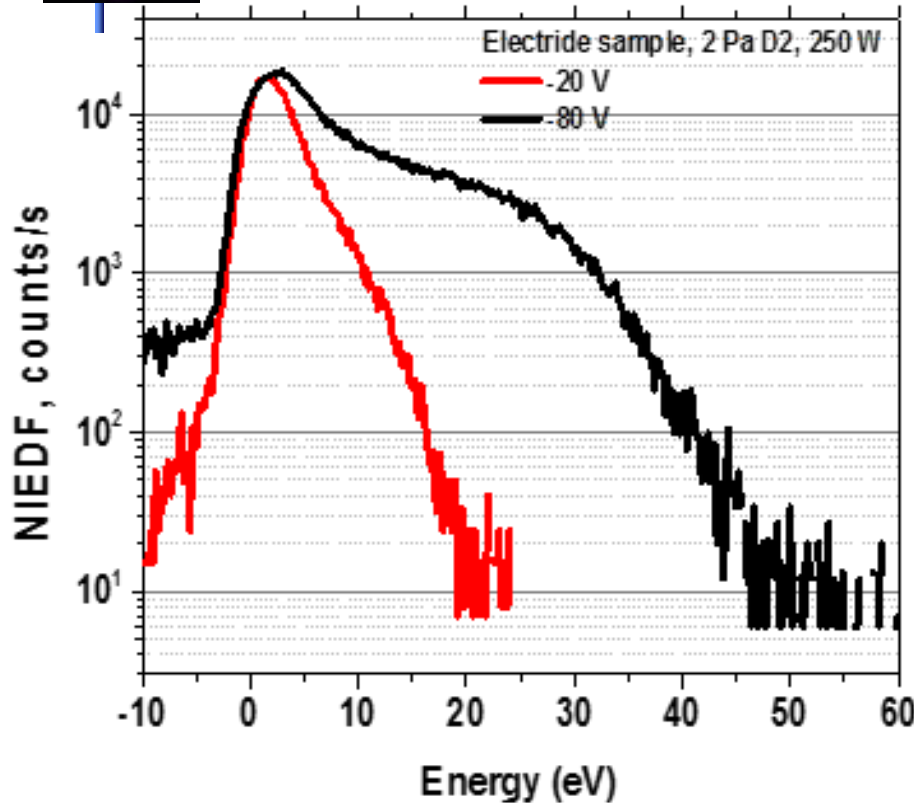
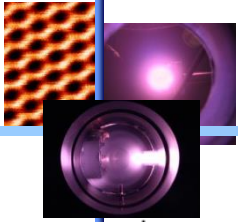
- A dominant peak shown in the low energy region below 10 eV was observed for different surface bias.
- The sputtering of pre-implanted hydrogen particles in C12A7 electrified surface can be the origin of this dominant peak below 10 eV.

Potential of using C12A7 electrified surface in non cesiated NI source



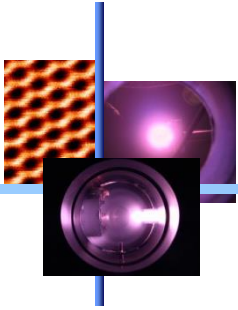
The ratio of the total H⁻ yield from a C12A7 electrified surface bombarded at **-80 V** to that from a clean molybdenum surface is approximately **10**. This ratio increases to **50** at bias voltage **V_s = -20 V**. This value is consistent to previous indirect measurement done in Doshisha University

Potential of using C12A7 electrode surface in non cesiated NI source



In this experiment the electric current due to negative hydrogen ions leaving the C12A7 surface upon the exposure to atomic hydrogen (H^0) flux was measured. This current was at a similar level to that obtained from a low work function bi alkali covered molybdenum surface.

Conclusion

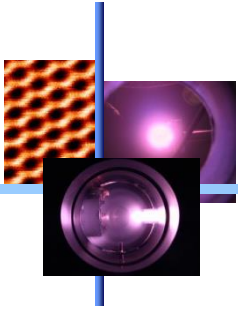


High NI yield production
low work function of this material
Specific nano structure of electride material

**C12A7 electride is air-stable, mechanically robust and
machinable, and has potential to be used as production surface of
cesium-free negative ion sources**

Negative Hydrogen Ion Production from a Nanoporous $12\text{CaO} \cdot 7\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (C12A7) Electride Surface

M. Sasao,¹ R. Moussaoui,² D. Kogut,² J. Ellis,³ G. Cartry,² M. Wada,⁴ K. Tsumori,⁵ and H. Hosono⁶



Thank you for your attention