COMPUTATIONAL OPTICAL AND DISCHARGE PHYSICS GROUP University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign

- The Computational Optical and Discharge Physics Group (CODPG) at the University of Illinois develops computer simulations and computer aided design tools for low temperature plasma processes and equipment.
 - Plasma materials processing for microelectronics fabrication
 - Plasma remediation of toxic gases
 - Pulsed Power
 - Lighting sources and plasma display panels
 - Lasers and laser-materials interactions
- These physics based, design capable models are jointly developed and validated with industrial collaborators. The models may be delivered and licensed to our collaborators.

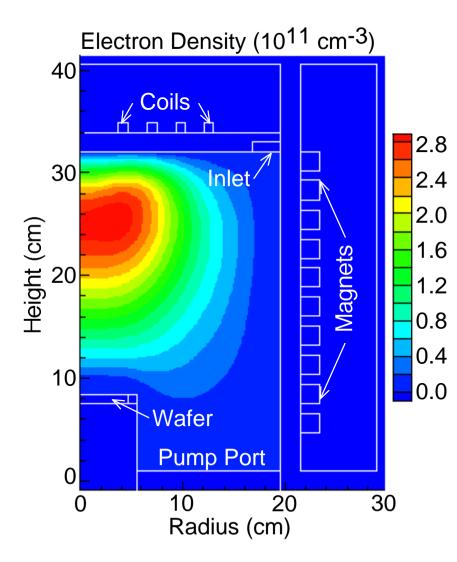
HYBRID PLASMA EQUIPMENT MODEL (HPEM)

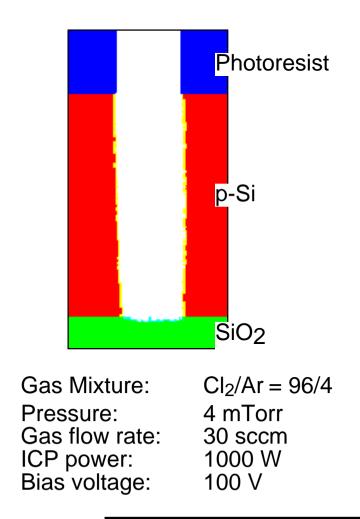
- The Hybrid Plasma Equipment Model (HPEM) is a comprehensive modeling platform developed by the CODPG for low pressure (< 10's Torr) plasma processing reactors. The HPEM is capable of addressing:
 - Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) tools.
 - Reactive Ion Etchers (RIE)
 - Electron Cyclotron Resononance (ECR) sources
 - Magnetron sputter and Ionized Metal Physical Vapor Deposition (IMPVD)
 - Remote Plasma Activated Chemical Vapor Deposition (RPACVD)
 - Dust particle transport in plasma tools
- There are 2-d and 3-d versions of the HPEM.
- The HPEM is linked to profile simulators developed in the CODPG which predict the evolution of submicron features.
- The HPEM is now in use at 10 major semiconductor chip and plasma equipment manufactures.

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Example: HPEM SIMULATION OF p-Si ETCHING

 The HPEM has been applied to analysis of a large variety of plasma etching systems. Here we show the electron density in an Inductively Coupled Plasma p-Si etching tool and the resulting etch profile.

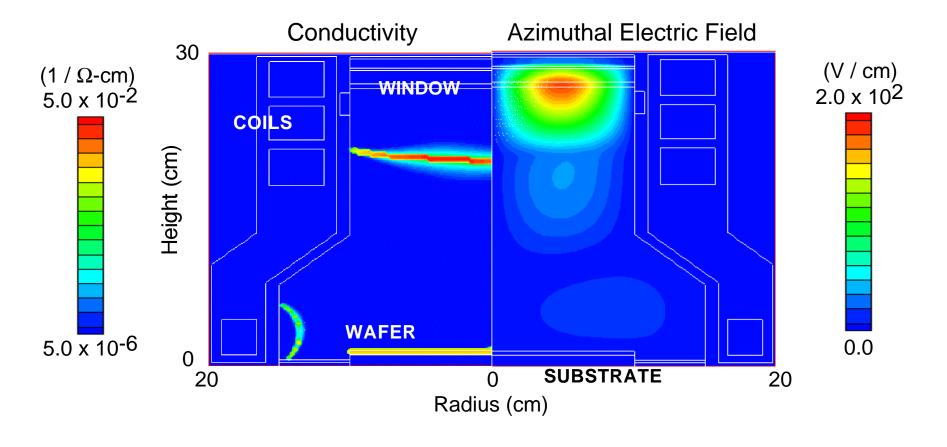




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Example: MICROWAVE ECR PLASMA SOURCE

- A Finite Difference Time Domain (FDTD) module has been developed for the HPEM to address microwave excitation of plasma sources.
- Here we show the plasma conductiviity and microwave field intensity (2.45 GHz) in an Electron Cyclotron Resonance (ECR) reactor. The injected mode is TE₀₁.



• N₂, 750 Watts, 1 mTorr, 10 sccm

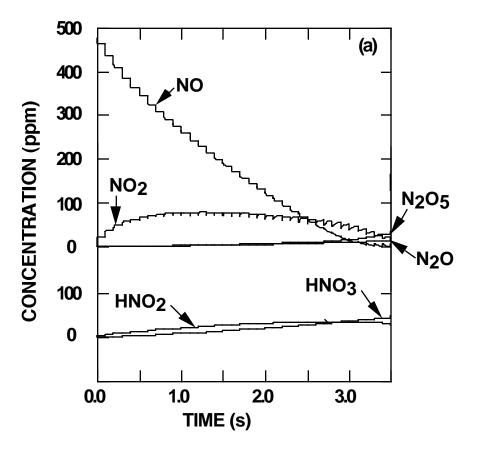
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PLASMA REMEDIATION OF TOXIC GASES

- The CODPG has developed a suite of computer models to investigate the chemistry and hydrodynamics of plasma remediation of toxic gases.
- Remediation of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and NO_X have been studied with the goal of determining reaction pathways and optimizing efficiency.

 Example: Density of nitrogen oxides during plasma remediation of NO_X from humid air in a Dielectric Barrier Discharge

• N₂/O₂/H₂O/NO = 85/5/10/500 ppm 400 K, 1 atm



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