Abstract Submitted for the GEC09 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Consequences of the local-mean-energy and the local-field approximation on the similarity parameters of abnormal glow discharges¹ GORDON K. GRUBERT, MARKUS M. BECKER, DETLEF LOFFHAGEN, INP Greifswald, Felix-Hausdorff-Str. 2, 17489 Greifswald, Germany — The local-meanenergy approximation and the local-field approximation are commonly applied to include the electron properties like transport and rate coefficients into a hydrodynamic description of gas discharge plasmas. Both the approaches base on the solution of the stationary, spatially homogeneous Boltzmann equation for the electron component, but the consequences of these approaches differ drastically. In particular, the similarity parameters of abnormal glow discharges can be used to illustrate the applicability of both the approximations. Additionally, the influence of rough and extended reaction kinetics has been studied. The analysis of discharges in argon and oxygen as representatives of rare and reactive gases, respectively, leads to the conclusion that the local-mean-energy approximation is to be strongly recommended for the application to hydrodynamic descriptions of discharge plasmas.

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