



# NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF NO<sub>x</sub> REMOVAL IN POLLUTED AT ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE AND AMBIENT TEMPERATURE

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## Abstract

The aim of this work is to analyse the time evolution of the NO<sub>x</sub> species involved in a corona discharge used for NO pollution control in polluted air at atmospheric pressure and ambient temperature. The model takes into account 20 chemical species (electrons, molecules N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, OH, HNO<sub>3</sub>, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, atoms N, O, H, nitric oxides NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, negative ions (O<sup>-</sup>, O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, O<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) and metastable specie N(2D), in the mixture of a specific flue gas (N<sub>2</sub>: 76%, O<sub>2</sub>: 6%, H<sub>2</sub>O: 6% and CO<sub>2</sub>: 12%, and a few ppm of NO). These chemical species react following 100 selected chemical reactions. The density is analyzed by the continuity equation without diffusion term. We analyze the time evolution (10<sup>-9</sup>-10<sup>-3</sup> s) of the density and the rate coefficient of certain reactions, under different reduced electric fields in the range of 50-300 Td. The obtained results show the contribution of N, O, OH radicals and N(2D) in reduction of NO and NO<sub>2</sub>. So, the NO removal efficiency reached 90% under 300 Td.

## Introduction

Nowadays, gas discharge plasmas and their applications in physics, chemistry, biology, and environmental programs are being widely studied. They can be used for reforming the poisonous pollutants, such as NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub> et CO<sub>x</sub> ... These studies are based on the numerical equations for the reduction of NO<sub>x</sub> gases in reactors.

The common thermal and catalytic techniques used for many years to remove the NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub> present in industrial flue gas or emitted by the vehicles will not permit us to respect the new emission limits which become more and more severe to protect the environment. These effects can also have a direct impact on the targeted applications such as electron beam processes which were particularly studied for treatment of gaseous effluents polluted by nitrogen oxides, sulphur and/or ozone production, medical applications and surface treatment [1].

## Basic formulas

The basic formulas used in the present paper consist of a mathematical system of equations that take into account the variation of the density and the chemical kinetics of the environment.

$$\frac{dN_i}{dt} = \sum_{j=1}^{j_{\max}} Q_{ij} \quad \text{where } j = 1, \dots, j_{\max} \quad \text{where} \quad Q_{ij} = (G_{ij} - L_{ij})$$

Where  $N_i$  represent the vector of all species densities  $i$  considered in the plasma and  $Q_{ij}$  the source term vector depending on the reaction coefficients and corresponding to the contributions from different processes.  $G_{ij}$  and  $L_{ij}$  represent respectively the gain and loss of species  $i$  due to the chemical reactions  $j$ . The algorithm is based on the time integration of the system of equations under consideration.

The total density  $N$  of the gas is given by the ideal gas law:  $P = Nk_B T$

where  $k_B$  Boltzmann constant,  $P$  represent the pressure and  $T$  the absolute temperature

The reactivity of the gas is taken into account in the source term  $Q_{ij}$  of the density conservation

$$G_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha} K_{\alpha}(T) (n_i n_j)_{\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad L_{ij} = \sum_{\beta} K_{\beta}(T) (n_i n_j)_{\beta}$$

$K_{\alpha}(T)$  and  $K_{\beta}(T)$  are the coefficients of the chemical reaction number  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  and  $(n_i n_j)$  is the product of densities of species  $i$  and  $j$  interacting in response to the reaction  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ . These coefficients satisfies Arrhenius formula:

$$K_{\alpha}(T) = A \cdot \exp(-\theta_{\alpha}/T) \quad \text{and} \quad K_{\beta}(T) = B \cdot \exp(-\theta_{\beta}/T)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are the constants factor and  $\theta_{\alpha}$  and  $\theta_{\beta}$  are the activation energy of the reaction and  $T$  the absolute temperature of the species involved in the warm rain that has left the chemical reaction.

## Results

The system of the chemical kinetics equations can be described by a system of ordinary differential equations (i.e., the algorithm is defined by time integration) of the following form Eichwald et al., 2002.

It should be mentioned here that for the initial condition (i.e., the interelectrode separation, temperature, initial number densities of various species, pressure, potential, Rate Constants, chemical reactions) was obtained by Bouzar et al., 2017 [3].

TABLE 1: The main plasma reactions to generate the main radical to remove NO<sub>x</sub> and their rate constants (in cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> for bimolecular reactions and cm<sup>6</sup> molecule<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> for trimolecular reactions, x[y] denotes x × 10<sup>y</sup>)

Reaction	Rate Constants	References
R <sub>1</sub> NO + NO <sub>3</sub> → NO <sub>2</sub> + NO <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>1</sub> = 2.00 [-11]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>2</sub> NO + O <sub>3</sub> → O <sub>2</sub> + NO <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> = 1.80 [-12]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>3</sub> NO + O <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>3</sub> = 2.00 [-12]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>4</sub> NO + O <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> + O	K <sub>4</sub> = 1.00 [-10]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>5</sub> NO + O <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>5</sub> = 2.50 [-10]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>6</sub> NO + HO <sub>2</sub> → NO <sub>2</sub> + OH	K <sub>6</sub> = 13.5 [-11]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>7</sub> = 7.00 [-10]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>8</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> + OH → HNO <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>8</sub> = 13.5 [-11]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>9</sub> = 7.00 [-10]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>10</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> + N → NO + NO	K <sub>10</sub> = 2.30 [-12]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> + OH → HO <sub>2</sub> + NO <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>11</sub> = 2.35 [-11]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>12</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> + HO <sub>2</sub> → HNO <sub>3</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>12</sub> = 4.05 [-12]	Eichwald et al. (2002)
R <sub>13</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> + NO <sub>3</sub> → NO <sub>2</sub> + NO <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>13</sub> = 1.20 [-15]	Sieck et al. (2000)
R <sub>14</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> + O → NO <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>14</sub> = 1.70 [-11]	Sieck et al. (2000)
R <sub>15</sub> N + O <sub>2</sub> → O + NO	K <sub>15</sub> = 8.90 [-17]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>16</sub> N + NO <sub>2</sub> → N <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>16</sub> = 7.00 [-13]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>17</sub> N + NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> → NO + NO <sub>2</sub> + e <sup>-</sup>	K <sub>17</sub> = 5.00 [-10]	Kosy et al. (1992)
R <sub>18</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> + NO <sub>3</sub> + O <sub>2</sub> → N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>18</sub> = 3.70 [-30]	Sieck et al. (2000)
R <sub>19</sub> O <sub>3</sub> + H → OH + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>19</sub> = 2.80 [-11]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>20</sub> OH + H <sub>2</sub> → H <sub>2</sub> O + H	K <sub>20</sub> = 6.70 [-15]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>21</sub> OH + O <sub>3</sub> → HO <sub>2</sub> + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>21</sub> = 6.50 [-14]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>22</sub> OH + HO <sub>2</sub> → H <sub>2</sub> O + O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>22</sub> = 1.10 [-10]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>23</sub> OH + HNO <sub>3</sub> → NO <sub>3</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>23</sub> = 1.30 [-13]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>24</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O + e <sup>-</sup> → OH + H + e <sup>-</sup>	K <sub>24</sub> = 2.60 [-12]	Mok et al. (1999)
R <sub>25</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> + e <sup>-</sup> → CO + O + e <sup>-</sup>	K <sub>25</sub> = 8.70 [-10]	Mok et al. (1999)

Figure1 : Time evolution of different species at 50 Td

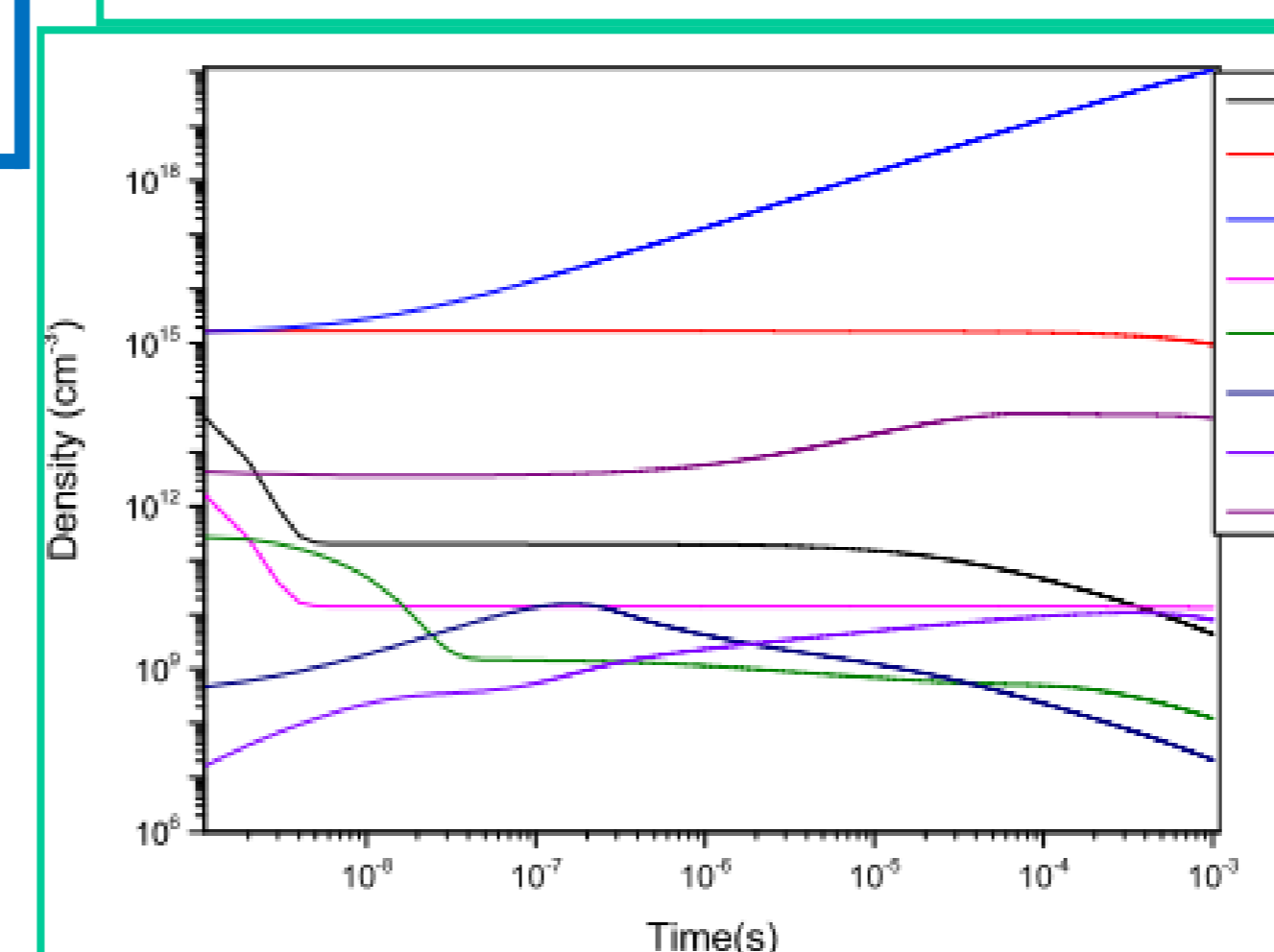


Figure2 : Time evolution of different species at 300 Td

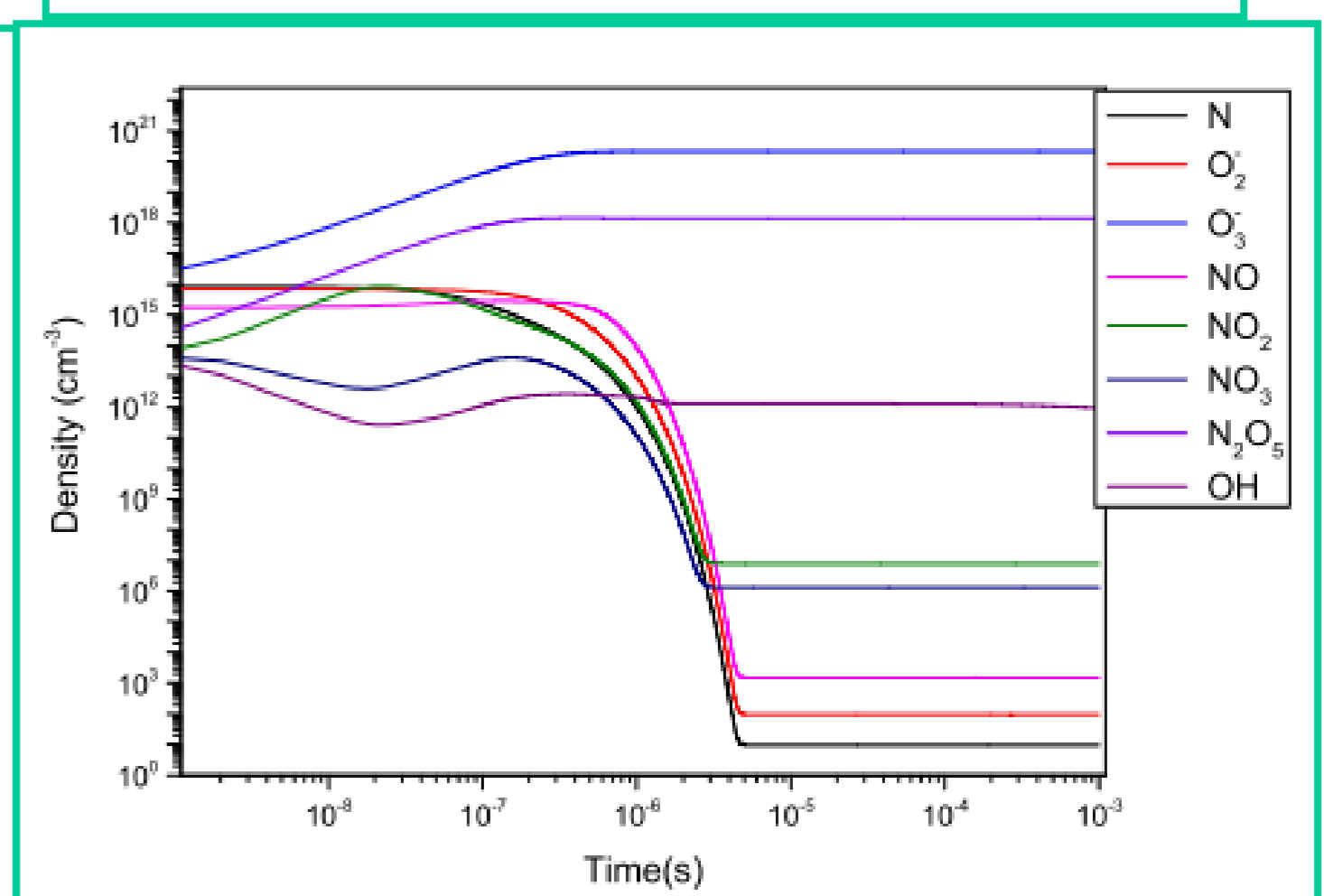


Figure3 : Time evolution of rate depopulation of NO specie for different reduced electric fields [50-300 Td].

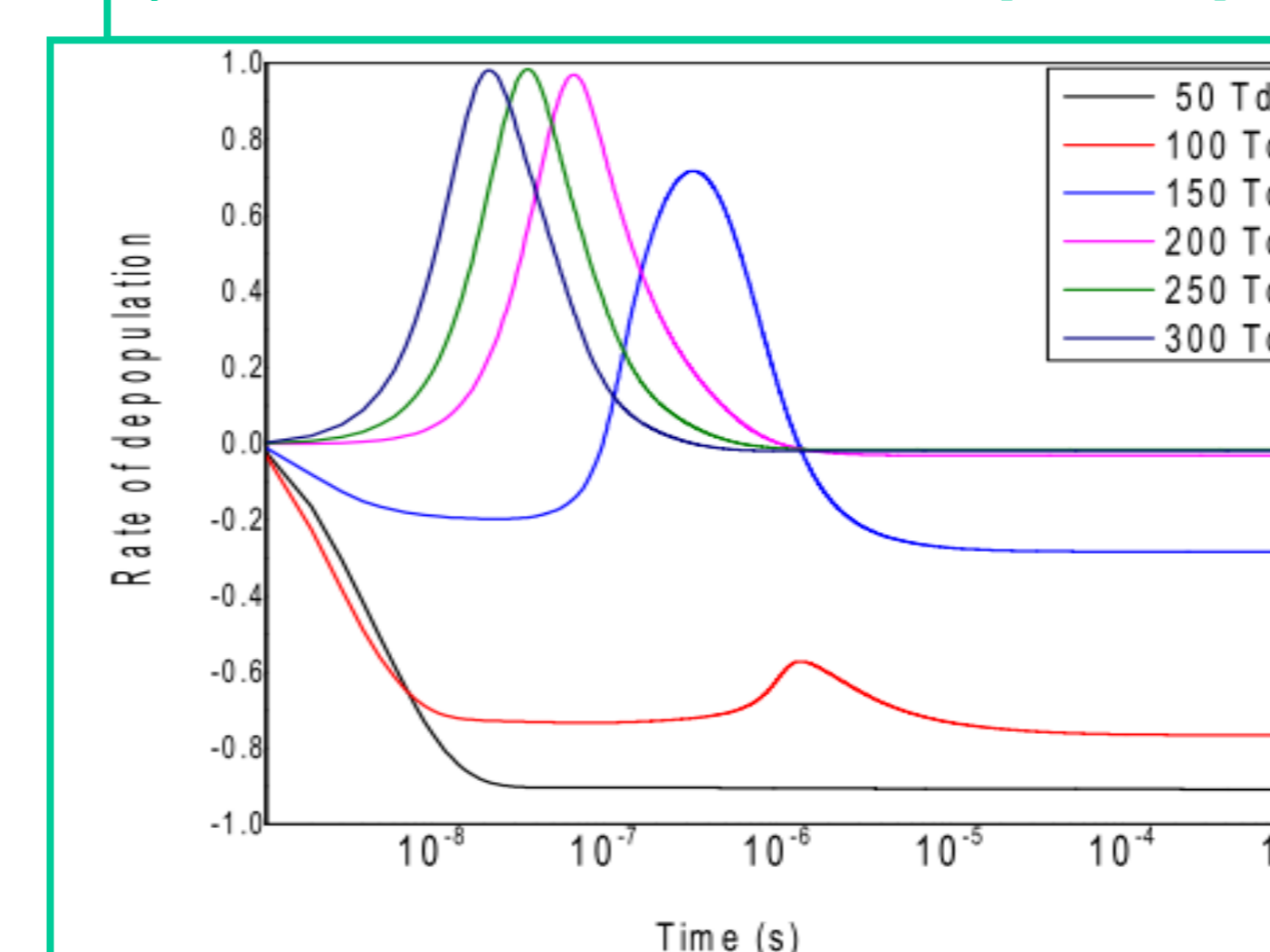
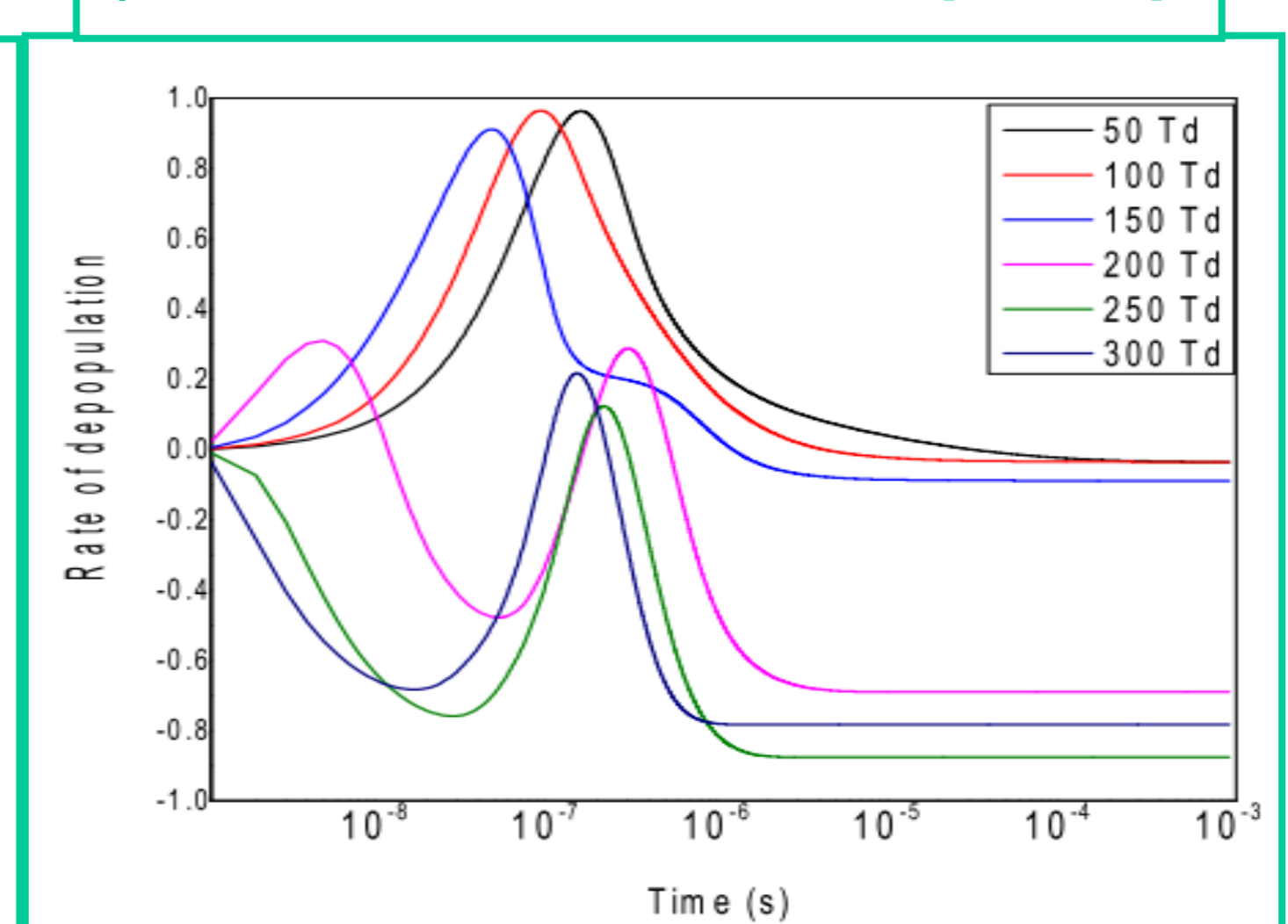


Figure4 : Time evolution of rate depopulation of NO2 specie for different reduced electric fields [50-300 Td].



## Discussion and Conclusions

The problem of removing nitric oxide devoted a lot of work performed for the past 25 years. In this work, we simulate the time behavior of different species and their reaction rates using a zero dimensional model based on chemical kinetic equations. These different species react following 100 selected chemical reactions and the analyze investigates the behavior for different values of the reduced electric field. These results permit us to determine the vital role played by the reduced electric field on species evolution, and to higher perceive the various reaction processes affecting the NO<sub>x</sub> concentration magnitude within the gas mixture. The reduction of oxides of nitrogen is different for all species. In fact, it is observed that the increase and decrease of these species is different and depends strongly on the values of reduced electric fields. Finally, these results permit us to determine the vital role played by the reduced electric field on species evolution, and to more deeply perceive various reaction processes affecting the NO<sub>x</sub> magnitude within a gas mixture.

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