REPETITIVE EMISSION OF TRAVELING FIREBALLS IN MICROWAVE RESONATOR

V. Dikhtyar and E. Jerby* Faculty of Engineering, Tel Aviv University Ramat Aviv 69978, Israel

Observations of fireballs emitted periodically from a germanium bulk in a microwave cavity, and traveling along the cavity toward the magnetron, are reported. The effect is associated with a hot spot evolved on the germanium surface. The luminous fireball is created by the hot spot, and then flies away about \sim 20 cm to the magnetron, and disappears. Immediately after, the next fireball is generated, travels, and disappears. The fireball lifetime cycle is 1-2 sec, repeating periodically tens times. The paper describes this phenomenon in view of Refs. [1, 2], and discusses its practical significance.

REFERENCES

- 1. P. L. Kapitza, Dokl. Acad. Nauk USSR, vol.101, pp. 245-248, 1955.
- 2. Y. H. Ohtsuki, H. Ofuruton, "Plasma fireballs formed by microwave interference in air," Nature, vol. 350, pp. 139-141, 1991.

Correspondence: jerby@eng.tau.ac.il