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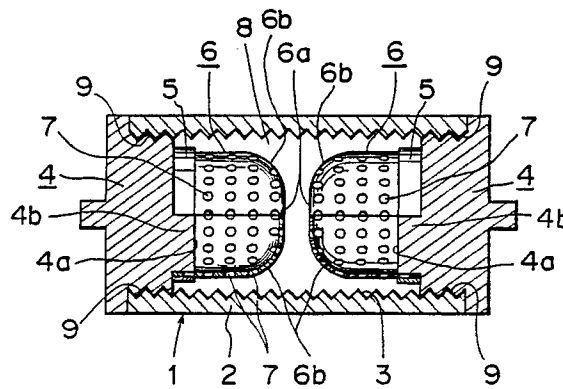
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**Discharge lamp.**

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A discharge tube of the type wherein a voltage is applied across a pair of electrodes to cause a discharge between the anode side electrode and the cathode side electrode. In the new discharge tube, opposing end portions of said pair of electrodes are formed into a non-acute configuration, and a large number of concave or convex portions are formed on a surface at least of said cathode side electrode. A stabilized high discharge voltage can be obtained from an initial stage of discharging with a comparatively small distance between the electrodes. Further, since the surface area of the electrodes is great, exhaustion of the electrodes are dispersed, and the electrodes are superior in durability. Further, since the distance between the electrodes is small, the discharge maintaining voltage is low and the energy loss is decreased.

FIG. 1



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	EP-A-48407 (KRAFTWERK UNION AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) * page 1, lines 16 - 27; figures 1, 2 * * page 4, lines 25 - 33 *	1-3	H01J17/04 H01J17/40
Y	---	5-10, 14	
X	US-A-2720474 (MYERS) * column 1, lines 35 - 46; figure *	1, 3	
Y	INSTRUMENTS AND EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES. vol. 30, no. 2, April 1987, NEW YORK US pages 346 - 349; V S Bosamykin et al.: "Reliable, precisely synchronised 100-keV discharger" * pages 346 - 347; figure 1 *	5, 6	
Y	JOURNAL OF APPLIED PHYSICS. vol. 37, 1966, NEW YORK US pages 1935 - 1937; H M Musal Jr.: "An inverse brush cathode for the negative-glow plasma source" * figure 1 *	7, 8	
Y	US-A-3270232 (BAILEY JR. ET AL.) * column 1, lines 10 - 20; figure 1 * * column 3, lines 23 - 55 *	9, 10, 14	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)  H01J H01T
A	US-A-4493003 (MICKELSON ET AL.) * column 1, lines 5 - 9; figure 1 * * column 3, lines 16 - 25 *	11	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25 JULY 1990	Examiner COLVIN G.G.
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document  T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			